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**Andrew R. Kustin\*** ([kustin@math.sc.edu](mailto:kustin@math.sc.edu)). *The Generic Hilbert-Burch matrix.*

Let  $X$  be the set of  $3 \times 2$  matrices whose entries are homogeneous forms of degree  $c$  in the polynomial ring  $k[x, y]$  and let  $Y$  be the set of  $3 \times 1$  matrices whose entries are homogeneous forms of degree  $2c$ . Notice that  $X$  may be identified with an ordinary affine space of dimension  $6c + 6$  and  $Y$  may be identified with an ordinary affine space of dimension  $6c + 3$ . The function  $\Phi : X \rightarrow Y$ , which is given by taking the three  $2 \times 2$  minors, induces a polynomial function from  $6c + 6$  space to  $6c + 3$  space. We ask “Does there exist a **polynomial** section of  $\Phi$ ?” That is, does there exist a dense open subset  $U$  of the image of  $\Phi$ , an open cover  $\{U_i\}$  of  $U$ , and **polynomial** functions  $\sigma_i : U_i \rightarrow X$ , so that  $\Phi \circ \sigma_i$  is the identity function on  $U_i$ , for each  $i$ ? (Received January 14, 2011)