

Recall Let (K, δ) be a differential field of char 0 and $K\langle Y \rangle = K\langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle$ be the diff poly ring over K in the diff variables Y_1, \dots, Y_n . Let (E, δ) be a fixed diff closed field extension of (K, δ) . The affine space $A^n = E^n$.

Ritt-Raudenbush Basis Theorem

Every radical diff ideal in $K\langle Y \rangle$ is finitely generated as a radical diff ideal.

Differential Nullstellensatz

$$\mathbb{I}(V(S)) = \{S\} = \sqrt{[S]} \quad \text{for } \forall S \subseteq K\langle Y \rangle.$$

In particular, $V(S) = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow 1 \in \{S\}$.

Irreducible decomposition of diff varieties

Every diff variety $V \subseteq E^n$ is a finite intersection of irreducible diff varieties. If $V = \bigcup_{i=1}^t V_i$ is such an irredundant/minimal decomposition, each V_i is called an irreducible component of V .

Let $A \in K\langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle \setminus K$ be an irreducible diff polynomial (irreducible as a poly in $K\langle Y_i^{(j)} : j \in \mathbb{N}, i=1, \dots, n \rangle$). Select an arbitrary ranking R on $\mathcal{O}(Y)$. Let S_A be the separant of A under R . Then

Lemma 3.3.3 $P_A = \{A\}, S_A = \{f \in K\langle Y \rangle \mid S_A f \in \{A\}\}$ is a prime diff ideal and A is a diff characteristic set of P_A under R .

Prop 3.3.4 $\{A\} = P_A \cap \{A, S_A\}$.

Let $\{A, S_A\} = Q_1 \cap \dots \cap Q_t$ be the minimal prime decomposition of $\{A, S_A\}$. Then $\{A\} = P_A \cap Q_1 \cap \dots \cap Q_t$. Suppressing those Q_i with $P_A \subseteq Q_i$ and denote the left Q_i s by P_2, \dots, P_r . Then

$\bigcap \{A\} = P_1 \cap \dots \cap P_r$ is the minimal prime decomposition of $\{A\}$.

Claim For each separant S of A under any arbitrary ranking,
 $S \notin P_1 = \{A\} : S_A$ and $S \in P_2, \dots, P_r$.

Proof. $S \notin P_1$ follows from Lemma 3.3.3 and the fact $A \nmid S$.

Since $\{A, S_A\} \subseteq P_2, \dots, P_r$, $S_A \in P_2, \dots, P_r$.

$S \in P_2, \dots, P_r$ follows from the fact that $\{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$ are the unique irreducible components of $\{A\}$. \square

Remark: A is the ε -characteristic set of $P_1 = \{A\} : S_A = \{A\} : S$
 (S is the separant of A under any other ranking) $\stackrel{!!}{\text{sat}}(A)$.

P_1 or $V(P_1)$ is called the **general component** of $A=0$.

P_2, \dots, P_r are called **singular components** of $A=0$.

Example $n=1$, $A=(y')^2 - 4y$, $S_A = 2y'$

$\{A, S_A\} = \{(y')^2 - 4y, 2y'\} = [y] \leftarrow$ prime diff ideal

$A' = 2y'(y'' - 2) \therefore y'' - 2 \in \{A\} : S_A$, $y'' - 2 \notin [y]$.

$\{A\} : S \supseteq [(y')^2 - 4y, y'' - 2] = \underbrace{[(y')^2 - 4y, y'' - 2, y''', \dots]}_{\text{prime}} = I$ (for $K \{y\} [I \cong K\{y\}/(A)$)

$\Rightarrow \{A\} : S = [(y')^2 - 4y, y'' - 2]$ is the general component of A and

$[y]$ is the singular component of A .

To solve $(y')^2 - 4y$ over $K = (\mathbb{R}(x), \frac{d}{dx})$:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm 2\sqrt{y} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{2\sqrt{y}} = \pm dx \Rightarrow \sqrt{y} = \pm x + C$$

So $y = (x+C)^2$ or $y=0$. (C an arbitrary constant).

Def. A δ -zero $\eta \in E^n$ of A is called a **nonsingular zero** if \exists a separant S of A s.t. $S(\eta) \neq 0$. And if $S(\eta) = 0$ for all separants of A , η is called a **singular solution/zero** of $A=0$.

Nonsingular zeros belong to general component of A , but general component of A may contain singular solutions of A .

Example: $A = (Y')^2 - Y^3 \in K\langle Y \rangle$. $S_A = 2Y'$

Since $V(A, S_A) = \{0\}$, $\eta = 0$ is the only singular solution of $A=0$.

$$A' = 2Y'Y'' - 3Y^2Y' = 2Y'(Y'' - \frac{3}{2}Y^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \{A\} = \{A, Y'' - \frac{3}{2}Y^2\} \cap [Y] = \{A, Y'' - \frac{3}{2}Y^2\} = \text{sat}(A)$$

Thus, $\eta = 0$ is embedded in the general component of $A(=0)$.

(Geometrically, $K = (C(t), \frac{d}{dt})$, $\eta_c = \frac{1}{4(t+c)^2}$ is a one-parameter family of nonsingular solutions (C arbitrary constant). $\lim_{C \rightarrow \infty} \eta_c = 0$.)

Ritt's Problem Given $A \in K\langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle$ irreducible with $A(0, \dots, 0) = 0$,
(Still open!) decide whether $(0, \dots, 0) \in V(\text{Sat}(A))$?

With deeper results (Low power theorem) not covered in our course, we have the following Ritt's component theorem.

Theorem 3.35 Let $A \in K\langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle$ be a δ -poly not in K .

Let $\{A\} = P_1 \cap \dots \cap P_r$ be the minimal prime decomposition of $\{A\}$, then $\exists B_i \in K\langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle$ irreducible s.t. $P_i = \text{Sat}(B_i)$, $i=1, \dots, r$.

In particular, if A is irreducible, then $\exists i_0$ s.t. $B_{i_0} = aA$ ($a \in K^*$) and for $i \neq i_0$, A involves a proper derivative of the leader of each B_i w.r.t. any ranking and $\text{ord}(B_i) < \text{ord}(A)$.

Chapter 4 Extensions of differential fields

Let (K, δ) be a differential field of char 0. Let x be an indeterminate over K . Then δ can be extended to a derivation δ_0 on $K[x]$ s.t.

$\delta_0(x) = 0$ given by $\delta_0\left(\sum_{i=0}^n \gamma_i X^i\right) = \sum_{i=0}^n \delta(\gamma_i) X^i$. There is also a derivation on $K[x]$ s.t. $\frac{d}{dx}(K) = 0$ and $\frac{d}{dx}(x) = 1$ given by $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\sum_{i=0}^n \gamma_i X^i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n i \gamma_i X^{i-1}$.

Any derivation δ_1 on $K[x]$ which extends δ is given by

$$\delta_1 = \delta_0 + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}; \text{ Conversely, by defining } \delta_1(x) = p(x) \in K[x],$$

$\delta_1 = \delta_0 + p(x) \frac{d}{dx}$ is a derivation on $K[x]$ extending δ .

Proof. First suppose δ_1 is a derivation on $K[x]$ extending δ . Then

$$\forall f = \sum_{i=0}^n \gamma_i X^i \in K[x], \quad \delta_1(f) = \sum_{i=0}^n \delta(\gamma_i) X^i + \sum_{i=1}^n i \gamma_i X^{i-1} \delta(x) = \delta_0(f) + \delta(x) \frac{d}{dx}(f)$$

So $\delta_1 = \delta_0 + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}$. Now let $\delta_1: K[x] \rightarrow K[x]$ be defined by

$$\delta_1(f) = \delta_0(f) + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}(f). \text{ Then } \forall a \in K, \delta_1(a) = \delta_0(a) + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}(a) = \delta(a);$$

$$\forall f, g \in K[x], \quad \delta_1(f+g) = \delta_0(f+g) + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}(f+g) = \delta_1(f) + \delta_1(g) \Rightarrow \delta_1 \text{ is a derivation which extends } \delta.$$

$$\delta_1(fg) = \delta_0(fg) + \delta_1(x) \frac{d}{dx}(fg) = \delta_1(f)g + f\delta_1(g)$$

Theorem 4.1 Let $K \subseteq L$ be fields of char 0. Then any derivation on K could be extended to a derivation on L . This extension is unique iff L is algebraic over K .

Proof. Let δ be a derivation on K . First suppose $L = K(\alpha)$.

If α is transcendental over K , then there exists a derivation δ_0 on $K[\alpha]$ s.t. $\delta_0|_K = \delta_K$ and $\delta_0(\alpha) = 0$. δ_0 now extends to a derivation on $L = K(\alpha)$.

If α is algebraic over K , let $F(x)$ be the minimal polynomial of α over K . Let $g(x) \in K[x]$ be a polynomial to be determined. δ extends to a derivation δ_0 on $K[x]$ by setting $\delta_0(x) = 0$. So

$$\delta_1 = \delta_0 + g(x) \frac{d}{dx} \text{ is a derivation on } K[x].$$

We want to choose $g(x)$ s.t. δ_1 maps the ideal $F \cdot K[x]$ to itself.

The condition for this is that $\delta_1(F) \subseteq 0$, or

$$\delta_0(F)(\alpha) + g(\alpha) \frac{dF}{dx}(\alpha) = 0.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K[x] & \xrightarrow{\delta} & K[x] \text{ w/ } \delta(F \cdot K[x]) \\ & \downarrow & \cong F \cdot K[x] \\ L = K[\alpha] & \cong & K[x]/F \cdot K[x] \xrightarrow{\bar{\delta}} K[x]/F \cdot K[x] \end{array}$$

Since $\frac{dF}{dx}(\alpha) \neq 0$, $g(\alpha) = -\frac{\delta_0(F)(\alpha)}{\frac{dF}{dx}(\alpha)}$. $K(\alpha) = K[\alpha]$ implies that we can find $g(x) \in K[x]$ with desired property. Choose $g(x) \in K[x]$ s.t.

δ_1 maps $F \cdot K[x]$ to itself. Now δ_1 induces a map $\bar{\delta}_1$ on $K[x]/F \cdot K[x]$ by $\bar{\delta}_1(A(x) + F \cdot K[x]) = \delta_1(A(x)) + F \cdot K[x]$ and this $\bar{\delta}_1$ is the desired derivation on $K(\alpha) = K[\alpha]$. ($\bar{\delta}_1(\alpha) = g(\alpha) = -\delta_0(F)(\alpha)/F'(\alpha)$.)

For the general case, let $\mathcal{E} = \{(K_i, \delta_i) \mid K \subseteq K_i \subseteq L \text{ and } \delta_i|_K = \delta_K\}$. Then $\mathcal{E} \neq \emptyset$. Let $(K_1, \delta_1) \subseteq (K_2, \delta_2) \subseteq \dots \subseteq (K_n, \delta_n) \subseteq \dots$ be an ascending chain in \mathcal{E} . Then $(\bigcup_i K_i, \bar{\delta})$ w/ $\forall a \in K_i, \bar{\delta}(a) = \delta_i(a)$ is in \mathcal{E} .

By Zorn's lemma, \exists a maximal elt (M, δ_M) in \mathcal{E} . Clearly, $M = L$.

Uniqueness If L is not algebraic over K , then $\exists \alpha \in L$ trans. over K . There will be more than one derivation on $K[\alpha]$ which extends δ on K . If L is algebraic over K , for each $\alpha \in L$, let $F(x) = \sum_{i=0}^d \gamma_i x^i \in K[x]$ be the minimal polynomial of α over K . Let D be the derivation on L which extends δ on K . $F(\alpha) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = D(F(\alpha)) = D(\sum_{i=0}^d \gamma_i x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^d \delta(\gamma_i) \alpha^i + (\sum_{i=1}^d i \gamma_i \alpha^{i-1}) D(\alpha) \Rightarrow D(\alpha) = -(\sum_{i=0}^d \delta(\gamma_i) \alpha^i) / (\sum_{i=1}^d i \gamma_i \alpha^{i-1})$ which is unique. \square

Corollary 4.2 If $K \subseteq L$ are fields of char 0 and δ be a derivation on L s.t. $\delta(K) \subseteq K$. If $\alpha \in L$ is alg over K , then $\delta(\alpha) \in K(\alpha)$. In particular, if $\alpha \in L$ is alg over a constant subfield of L , then α is a constant ($\alpha' = 0$).

With the language of diff polys, Definition 2.1 can be restated as:

Def 4.3. Let $K \subseteq L$ be differential field extensions and $\sigma \in L$. If $\exists \neq 0 p(y) \in K\{y\}$ s.t. $p(\sigma) = 0$, then σ is said to be differential algebraic over K . Otherwise, σ is called differentially transcendental over K .

Let $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n \in K$. we call $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ differentially algebraically dependent over K if $\exists F(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in K\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}^*$ s.t. $F(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n) = 0$. Otherwise, they are said to be differentially transcendental over K .

Lemma 4.4 Let $K \subseteq L$ be differential fields of char 0 and $\sigma \in L$.

Then σ is diff algebraic over K

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K < \infty.$$

Proof. " \Rightarrow " Spcs σ is diff algebraic over K . Let $A(y) \in K\{y\}$ be a characteristic set of $\Pi(\sigma) \subseteq K\{y\}$. Assume $\text{ord}(A) = n$.

$A(y)$ is of minimal order and minimal degree under the desired order

Claim: $\text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K = n$.

Clearly, $\sigma, \sigma', \dots, \sigma^{(n-1)}$ are alg. indep. over K and $\sigma^{(n)}$ is algebraic over $K(\sigma, \sigma', \dots, \sigma^{(n-1)})$. And $A(\sigma) = 0 \Rightarrow S_A(\sigma) \cdot \sigma^{(n+1)} + T_A(\sigma) = 0$, where

$$T_A(\sigma) \in K(\sigma, \dots, \sigma^{(n)}) \Rightarrow \sigma^{(n+1)} = -T_A(\sigma)/S_A(\sigma) \in K(\sigma, \sigma', \dots, \sigma^{(n)}).$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \sigma^{(n+k)} \in K(\sigma, \dots, \sigma^{(n-1)}, \sigma^{(n)}).$$

So $K\langle\sigma\rangle = K(\sigma, \dots, \sigma^{(n-1)}, \sigma^{(n)})$ and $\text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K = n$.

" \Leftarrow " $n = \text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K < \infty$ implies that $\sigma, \sigma', \sigma'', \dots, \sigma^{(n)}$ are alg. dep. over K .

So σ is diff algebraic over K . \square

Remark: 1) If σ is diff alg over K and $f(y) \neq 0$ is a diff poly of minimal order which vanishes at σ , then $\text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K = \text{ord}(f)$.

2) The result " \Rightarrow " is false in the partial differential case $(K, \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m\})$, where $\text{tr.deg } K\langle\sigma\rangle/K$ might be infinity but the differential type of $K\langle\sigma\rangle$ is $\leq m-1$.