

## SOLUTIONS

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### Part 0 : Preliminaries

All too trivial. This part will be omitted.

### Part I : The derivations and their elementary properties

1.  $D(u/v) = (u/v)^{-1}(D(u)/u - D(v)/v)$ .  $D(u^n) = nu^{n-1}D(u)$ .  $D(u)/u$  is a homomorphism from  $(K^*, \cdot)$  to  $(K, +)$ . (this explains the name *logarithmic derivative*).
2. Verify for monomials  $P = a_i u^i$ .
3. Let  $G = \prod_{j \in J} Q_j$ . Multiplying both sides by  $Q^2 G$  and expanding, one can see in  $K[X]$ :

$$Q^2 \cdot \text{some polynomial} = G(QD(P) - PD(Q)).$$

By assumption,  $G$  is square-free. Hence even though  $Q$  might divide  $G$ ,  $Q^2$  cannot. Thus  $Q \mid QD(P) - PD(Q)$ , and  $Q \mid D(Q)$ .

Assume that  $Q_i$  is prime to  $Q$ . Let  $S \mid Q_i$  be an irreducible factor. Multiplying both sides by  $Q_i$

$$Q^2(P_i + Q_i \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{P_j}{Q_j}) = Q_i(QD(P) - PD(Q)).$$

Taking quotient modulo  $S$ , noting that all  $Q_j$  except  $Q_i$  is prime to  $S$ , hence invertible modulo  $S$ :

$$Q^2 P_i = 0$$

in  $K[X]/(S)$ . By assumption  $Q \neq 0$ , therefore  $P_i = 0$ . So for each irreducible  $S \mid Q_i$ ,  $S \mid P_i$ . Note that  $Q_i$  is square-free, this implies  $Q_i \mid P_i$ .

### Part II : Derivation on $K(X)$ of logarithmic type

1.  $D(P) = P'D(X) + P^D \in K[X]$ . If the coefficient of the highest-order term in  $P$  is in  $K_{cst}$ .
2.  $Q = 1$ .  $P = cX + g$  with  $c \in K_{cst}$ .
3. Let  $R = A + P/Q$ , with  $A, P, Q \in K[X]$ ,  $\deg P < \deg Q$ .  $D(A) \in K[X]$ ,  $D(R) \in K \subset K[X]$ , so  $D(P/Q) \in K[X]$ . But  $D(P/Q) = (QD(P) - PD(Q))/Q^2$ , and  $\deg P < \deg Q$  implies that  $D(P/Q) = 0$ . The problem is reduced to the previous one.
4. By definition of Liouville sums, one may write

$$f = D(R) + \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(P_i)}{P_i},$$

Write

$$P_i = f_i \prod_{j \in J_i} Q_j^{n_j},$$

with each  $f_i \in K$ ,  $Q_j$  monic irreducible. Note that  $u \mapsto D(u)/u$  is a homomorphism,

$$f = D(R) + \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(f_i)}{f_i} + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J_i} n_j c_i \frac{D(P_j)}{P_j}.$$

The said form can be obtained by combining terms with the same  $P_j$ 's.

Now let  $R = P/Q$  with  $Q$  monic irreducible, then

$$D(P/Q) = \sum_{j \in J} \frac{-d_j D(Q_j)}{Q_j} + (f - \frac{\sum_{i \in I} c_i D(f_i)/f_i}{1})$$

has the form of the proposition above, where the last term is in  $K$  by assumption. So  $Q \mid D(Q)$ , and  $Q = 1$ , which is prime to every  $Q_j$ , so  $Q_j \mid D(Q_j)$ ,  $Q_j = 1$ . Thus

$$f = D(P^*) + \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(f_i)}{f_i} \in K,$$

with  $P^* \in K[X]$ . But the latter term is in  $K$ , hence  $P^* = cX + g$ , with  $c \in K_{cst}$ . The rest is obvious.

5. Direct verification. Note this problem demonstrates the motivation behind the definition of a Liouville sum.

### Part III : Derivation on $K(X)$ of exponential type

1. Let  $D(X) = fX$ ,  $f \in K$ . Then  $D(P) = fXP' + P^D \in K[X]$ .  $\deg D(P) \leq \deg P$ .
2. If  $P \mid D(P)$ , then  $D(P) = kP$  for some  $k \in K^*$ . Let

$$P = \sum_{i \in I} a_i X^i,$$

where  $I \subseteq \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  and each  $a_i \neq 0$ . Then

$$D(P) = \sum_{i \in I} (f \cdot i a_i + D(a_i)) X^i.$$

So one has for each  $i \in I$ ,

$$f \cdot i a_i + D(a_i) = k a_i.$$

This is equivalent to

$$\frac{D(a_i)}{a_i} = k - i f.$$

Let  $i, j \in I$ , by the property of logarithmic derivatives,

$$\frac{D(a_i/a_j)}{a_i/a_j} = (j - i)f = \frac{D(X^{j-i})}{X^{j-i}}.$$

So again by the said property,  $\frac{a_i/a_j}{X^{j-i}}$  has logarithmic derivative 0, and so  $a_i/a_j = gX^{i-j}$  with  $g \in K(X)_{cst}^* \subseteq K^*$ . But  $a_i, a_j \in K^*$ , and this is not possible unless  $i = j$ . Therefore  $I$  is a singleton.

3. Let  $R = P/Q$  with  $\gcd(P, Q) = 1$  and  $Q$  monic.  $D(R) = (QD(P) - PD(Q))/Q^2 \in K[X]$ , thus  $Q \mid D(Q)$ , and  $Q = X^n$ . Then  $R$  is a Laurent polynomial, i.e.,  $R = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_i X^i$ . Note that  $D(a_i X^i) \neq 0$  (because  $K(X)_{cst} = K_{cst}$ ) and has degree  $i$ , one sees that  $R \in K[X]$  and that  $\deg R = \deg D(R)$ .
4. If  $f \in K$  is a Liouville sum in  $E$ , then  $f$  is a Liouville sum in  $K$ . Indeed, by the proof of the problem in the previous section, one has

$$f = D(P/Q) + \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(f_i)}{f_i} + \sum_{j \in J} d_j \frac{D(Q_j)}{Q_j}$$

with  $Q, Q_j$  irreducible and  $Q \mid D(Q)$ , hence  $Q = X$  or  $Q = 1$ . If  $Q = 1$ , every  $Q_j$  is prime to  $Q$ , so  $Q_j \mid D(Q_j)$ . If on the other hand  $Q = X$  and  $Q_j$  is not prime to  $Q$ , then  $Q_j = X$ . Either way, the sum actually consists of only one term,  $d \frac{D(X)}{X} \in K$ . Therefore  $D(R) \in K$ , and  $R = g \in K$ . It follows that

$$f - d \frac{D(X)}{X} = D(g) + \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(f_i)}{f_i}$$

is a Liouville sum in  $K$ .

### Part IV : Norm, trace and reduction in extension fields of finite dimension

1.  $uu^\# = (-1)^{n-1}(\chi_u(u) - \chi_u(0))$ . By Cayley-Hamilton theorem,  $\chi_u(u) = 0$ .  $\chi_u(0) = (-1)^{n-1} \det u$ , so  $uu^\# = \det u$ , and  $A^\#$  is the transpose of cofactor matrix of  $A$  if  $u$  is invertible. This is an algebraic identity that holds on the Zariski open set of all invertible matrices, and hence on the space of all matrices.
2.  $\text{tr}(\lambda) = n\lambda$ ,  $N(\lambda) = \lambda^n$  when  $\lambda \in K$ . Consider the case  $x \neq 0$ . Let  $x^\# = N(x)/x$ . For all  $y \in E$ ,  $(m_x)^\#(y) = \det m_x \cdot (m_x)^{-1}(y) = x^\# y$  as shown above. The uniqueness is direct.

3. Let  $A^{ij}$  denote the cofactor matrix of  $(i, j)$ -entry in  $A$ . For each  $\sigma \in S_n$  with  $\sigma(i) = j$ , one can assign a  $\sigma' \in S_{n-1}$ , removing  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ j \end{pmatrix}$  in the permutation, and one easily verify that  $\text{sgn } \sigma = (-1)^{i+j} \text{sgn } \sigma'$ . Also it is well-known that  $\text{tr}(A^T B) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} b_{ij}$ . One now has

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(\det A) &= D \left( \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i\sigma(i)} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{\sigma} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} \sum_i D(a_{i\sigma(i)}) \prod_{k \neq i} a_{k\sigma(k)} \\
 &= \sum_{i,j} D(a_{ij}) \sum_{\substack{\sigma \in S_n \\ \sigma(i)=j}} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} \prod_{k \neq i} a_{k\sigma(k)} \\
 &= \sum_{i,j} D(a_{ij}) (-1)^{i+j} \sum_{\sigma' \in S_{n-1}} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma'} \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (A^{ij})_{k\sigma'(k)} \\
 &= \sum_{i,j} D(a_{ij}) (-1)^{i+j} \det A_{ij} \\
 &= \text{tr}(A^\# D(A)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Sorry about the mess, but I did not find a more clear proof.

4. To show that Eq. (\*) holds, one observes that all terms involved are linear, and verifies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\Delta \circ m_x + m_x^D)(e_j) &= \Delta \left( \sum_i a_{ij} e_i \right) + \sum_i D(a_{ij}) e_i \\
 &= \sum_i a_{ij} D(e_i) + \sum_i D(a_{ij} e_i) \\
 &= D \left( \sum_i a_{ij} e_i \right) \\
 &= D(m_x(e_j)) = D(xe_j) \\
 &= xD(e_j) + D(x)e_j = (m_x \circ \Delta + m_{D(x)})(e_j).
 \end{aligned}$$

Taking traces of both sides and note that  $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$  yields the desired relation.

5. By above propositions,

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(N(x)) &= D(\det m_x) = \text{tr}(m_x^\# m_x^D) \\
 &= \text{tr}(m_{x^\#} (m_x \circ \Delta - \Delta \circ m_x + m_{D(x)})) \\
 &= \text{tr}(m_x \circ m_{x^\#} \circ \Delta) - \text{tr}(m_{x^\#} \circ \Delta \circ m_x) + \text{tr}(m_{x^\#} \circ m_{D(x)}) \\
 &= \text{tr}(m_{x^\#} m_{D(x)}) = \text{tr}(x^\# D(x)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Note the commutativity between  $m_x$  and  $m_{x^\#}$  is necessary:  $\text{tr}(ABC) = \text{tr}(ACB)$  is not true in general.

To obtain the desired conclusion, note that  $N(x) \in K$ ,  $\text{tr}$  is  $K$ -linear and substitute  $x^\# = \frac{N(x)}{x}$ .

6. Let  $E$  be a finite extension field of  $K$ . If  $f \in K$  is a Liouville sum in  $E$ , then  $f$  is a Liouville sum in  $K$ . Indeed, let  $\dim_K(E) = n$ , write

$$f = D(g) + \sum_i \frac{c_i}{D(h_i)} h_i,$$

with  $g, h_i \in E$ . Taking traces,

$$nf = D(\text{tr}(g)) + \sum_i \frac{D(N(h_i))}{N(h_i)}$$

is a Liouville sum in  $K$ , as  $\text{tr}(g), N(h_i) \in K$ , and  $n$  is a constant. Here  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K$  is used.

## Part V : Liouville-Ostrowski Theorem

1. Let  $f \in K[X]$  be the minimal polynomial of  $x$  over  $K$ . Then  $f(x) = 0$ ,  $f'(x) \neq 0$  (this uses  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K$ ). Taking derivative,  $f'(x)D(x) + f^D(x) = 0$ , so  $D(x) = -f^D(x)/f'(x) \in K(x)$ , and it is easy to see that  $D(K(x)) \subseteq K(D(x))$ .
2.  $f = D(g)$  is trivially a Liouville sum in  $E$ . Descend along the tower of field extensions.

## Part VI : $\int e^{t^2} dt$ is not an elementary function

1. One may write, like above,

$$D(P/Q) = Xf - \sum_{i \in I} c_i \frac{D(f_i)}{f_i},$$

and conclude that  $Q = 1$ ,  $|I| = 1$  and  $f_i = X$ . So

$$D(P) = Xf - cD(X)/X.$$

By assumption,  $cD(X)/X \in K$ , and the right hand side has degree 1. Hence  $\deg P = 1$ . Let  $P = Xg + h$ ,  $g, h \in K$ . Comparing  $D(P)$  with  $Xf - cD(X)/X$  as polynomials shows that  $D(Xg) = Xf$ ,  $D(h) = cD(X)/X$ . And

$$f = \frac{D(X)g + XD(g)}{X} = D(g) + gD(X)/X.$$

Let  $g = p/q$ ,  $p, q \in k[T]$ , then

$$q^2 f = qD(p) - pD(q) + pq \frac{D(X)}{X}.$$

Hence  $q \mid D(q)$ . This implies  $q = 1$  under the usual derivative operation.

2. Let  $P \in K[X]$  be the minimal (monic) polynomial of  $v$  over  $K$ .  $P(v) = 0$ , so  $P'(v)D(v) + P^D(v) = 0$ . As  $D(v) \in K$ ,  $D(v)P' + P^D$  is a polynomial in  $K[X]$ , and because  $P$  is monic, it has degree lower than  $P$ , which is impossible.  
Let  $P = \sum_{i \in I} a_i X^i \in K[X]$  be the minimal polynomial of  $e^u$  over  $K$ . Then  $e^u$  satisfies  $D(u)XP' + P^D = 0$ , which leads to  $D(u)ia_i + D(a_i) = D(u)a_i$ . Analogous to the equivalence of  $P \mid D(P)$  and  $P = aX^n$ , one obtains that  $e^{(i-j)u} \in K^*$  for all  $i, j \in I$ . Thus either  $I$  is a singleton  $\{n\}$  and  $e^{nu} = 0$ , which is impossible, or  $v = e^{nu} \in K^*$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , and it is easy to verify that  $nu = \log v$ .
3. If  $\log(f/g) = P/Q$ , namely  $D(P/Q) = D(f)/f - D(g)/g$ , then  $Q \mid D(Q)$  and  $Q = 1$ , hence  $f \mid D(f)$ ,  $g \mid D(g)$ , and  $f = g = 1$ . Then  $D(P/Q) = 0$ .
4.  $e^u$  is transcendental, so  $e^u \mapsto X$  is an isomorphism onto  $K(X)$ . As shown above, the assumption implies that  $Xf$  is a Liouville sum in  $\mathbb{C}(T)$ , and hence  $\exists g \in \mathbb{C}(T)$  such that  $f = g' + gD(X)/X = g' + gu'$ . It is also shown above that if  $f, u$  are polynomials, then  $g$  is a polynomial. Now  $u' = (f - g')/g \in \mathbb{C}[T]$ , and  $\deg g' < \deg g$ , so it must be that  $\deg u' = \deg f - \deg g \leq \deg f$ , and  $\deg u \leq \deg f + 1$ .
5. Take  $f = 1$ ,  $u = t^2$ , then  $\deg u > 1 + \deg f$ .