1 Revision

Proposition 1.1 (Cor. 1.4 in Talk 8). If $a_n \in \mathbb{Q}_p$, then the series $\sum a_n$ is convergent if and only if $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$, which implies $|\sum a_n| \leq \max_n |a_n|$.

Proposition 1.2 (Prop. 1.5 in Talk 8). Let $b_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ and suppose that $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \ \exists N = N(\varepsilon) : \max\{i, j\} \geq N \implies |b_{ij}| < \varepsilon$, then both series $\sum_{i \geq 0} \left(\sum_{j \geq 0} b_{ij}\right)$ and $\sum_{j \geq 0} \left(\sum_{i \geq 0} b_{ij}\right)$ converge and have equal sum.

Proposition 1.3 (Prop. 2.1 in Talk 8). Let $f(X) \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[X]]$ be a power series, then the radius of convergence is $\rho = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}\right)^{-1}$.

2 Formal Derivatives of Power Series

Definition 2.1. Let $f(X) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n X^n$, we define its **formal derivative** as

$$f'(X) = \sum_{n \ge 1} n a_n X^{n-1},$$

Theorem 2.2. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n X^n$, f'(X) its formal power series, then f'(X) has the properties of the derivative:

- Additivity: (f+g)'(X) = f'(X) + g'(X)
- Product Rule: (fg)'(X) = f(X)g'(X) + f'(X)g(x)
- Chain Rule: $(f \circ g)'(X) = f'(g(X))g'(X)$

Proposition 2.3. Let f(X) be a power series which converges for all $|x| < \rho$, if |a| < 1 and $|b| < \rho$, then g(x) = f(ax + b) is given by a power series g(X) which converges for $|x| < \rho$.

Proof. Since |a| = |1| and $|b| < \rho$, we get

$$|ax + b| \le \max\{|x|, |b|\} < \rho \iff |x| \le b < \rho.$$

Now let $f(X) = \sum_{n>0} c_n X^n$, we want to write g(X) as a power series

$$g(x) = f(ax + b) = \sum_{n \ge 0} c_n (ax + b)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k} x^k$$

Define

$$\alpha_{kn} = \begin{cases} \binom{n}{k} c_n a^k b^{n-k} x^k, & k \le n \\ 0 & k > n \end{cases} \implies \lim_{k \to \infty} |\alpha_{kn}| = 0$$

$$|\alpha_{kn}| = \left| \binom{n}{k} c_n a^k b^{n-k} x^k \right| \leq \left| c_n b^n \left(\frac{x}{b} \right)^k \right| = |c_n b^n| \cdot \left| \left(\frac{x}{b} \right)^k \right| \leq |c_n b^n| \max(1, \left| \frac{x}{b} \right|^n) \leq \max(|c_n b^n|, |c_n x^n|)$$

Since $|x| < \rho, |b| < \rho$ we know that $\sum c_n x^n$ and $\sum c_n b^n$ converge $\iff \lim_{n \to \infty} |c_n x^n| = \lim_{n \to \infty} |c_n b^n| = 0 \implies \lim_{n \to \infty} \alpha_{kn} = 0$. So using Proposition 1.2 we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} c_n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k} x^k = \sum_{k\geq 0} \left(\sum_{n\geq k} \binom{n}{k} c_n a^k b^{n-k} \right) x^k =: g(x).$$

Proposition 2.4. Let f(X) be a power series with radius of convergence ρ , f'(X) its formal derivative, and ρ' its radius of convergence, then $\rho' \geq \rho$.

Proof. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n X^n$, $f'(X) = \sum_{n \geq 1} n a_n X^{n-1}$, then by Prop. 1.3 the radius of convergence of f'(X) must be

$$\rho' = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{\|na_n\|}\right)^{-1} \ge \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{\|a_n\|}\right)^{-1} = \rho$$

Corollary 2.5. Suppose f(X) and g(X) are power series which converge for $|x| < \rho$. If f'(x) = g'(x) for all $|x| < \rho$, then there exists some $c \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ with f(X) = g(X) + c.

Proof. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n X^n$, $g(X) = \sum b_n X^n$ and f'(X), g'(X) their respective formal derivatives. We know that whenever $|x| < \rho$ we have

$$\sum_{n\geq 1} na_n x^{n-1} = \sum_{n\geq 1} nb_n x^{n-1} \implies a_n = b_n \forall n \geq 1 \implies f(X) = g(X) + c$$

3 Strassman's Theorem

Theorem 3.1 (Strassman). Let $f(X) \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[X]]$ and suppose we have $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$, so that f(x) converges $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$. Define $N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ by the following conditions

$$|a_N| = \max_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} |a_n| \ and \ |a_n| < |a_N|, \forall n > N$$

then the function f has at most N zeros.

Proof. induction on N.

• Base case: if N = 0, then $|a_0| > |a_n|, \forall n \ge 1$, we want to show that there are no zeros: $f(x) \ne 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, if we had f(x) = 0, then

$$0 = f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots$$

$$\implies |a_0| = |a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots| \le \max_{n \ge 1} |a_n x^n| \le \max_{n \ge 1} |a_n|$$

But this contradicts the assumption that $|a_0| > |a_n|, \forall n \geq 1$, so there are no zeros in this case.

• Induction step: Suppose N was defined like before, and $\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_p : f(\alpha) = 0$, then we have for any $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$

$$f(x) = f(x) - f(\alpha) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \alpha^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x^n - \alpha^n) \stackrel{\text{2.1}}{=} (x - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} a_n x^j \alpha^{n-1-j}$$
$$= (x - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_{nj}, \quad c_{nj} := \begin{cases} a_n x^j \alpha^{n-1-j} & j < n, \\ 0 & j \ge n. \end{cases}$$

We can use Proposition 1.2 to change the order of the summation but first we have to show the conditions of the proposition:

- 1. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \lim_{j \to \infty} c_{nj} = 0$: Clear, since we have $c_{nj} = 0, \forall j \geq n$.
- 2. $\lim_{n\to\infty} c_{nj} = 0$ uniformly in j: This is also easy to see, because we have $|a_n x^j \alpha^{n-1-j}| \le |a_n| \to 0$ unrelated to j.

So we can switch the sums and then we have

$$(x - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_{nj} = (x - \alpha) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{nj}$$

since $\forall j \geq n : c_{nj} = 0$, we need to only consider when n > j so its equal to

$$= (x - \alpha) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=j+1}^{\infty} a_n x^j \alpha^{n-1-j} = (x - \alpha) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} x^j \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+j+1} \alpha^n$$
=:b_j

$$=(x-\alpha)g(x), \quad g(x):=\sum_{j=0}^{\infty}b_jx^j$$

Now we check if g(X) fits the assumptions of the theorem, to use the induction steps. We need to show that g(X) is non zero and that $b_j \to 0$

- -g(X) is non zero: clear since if g(X) was the zero power series then f(X) would also be zero, which is a contradiction
- $-b_j \to 0$: Consider $|b_j| = |\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+j+1} \alpha^n| \le \max_n |a_{n+j+1} \alpha^n| \le \max_n |a_{n+j+1}| \xrightarrow{j \to \infty} 0$

Now we look for $\max_{i} |b_{i}|$, note that

$$|b_j| \le \max_n |a_{n+j+1}| \le |a_N|, \forall j$$

So we have

$$|b_{N-1}| = \left| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right| = \left| a_N + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right|$$

By 1.3 we have

$$\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right| \le \max_{n \ge 1} |a_{N+n}| < a_N$$

$$\implies |a_N| \neq \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right| \implies \left| a_N + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right| \stackrel{\text{Prop 2.2}}{=} \max \left\{ |a_N|, \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{N+n} \alpha^n \right| \right\} = |a_N| = |b_{N-1}|$$

Finnaly, if j > N - 1, then

$$|b_j| \le \max_k |a_{j+k+1}| \le \max_{j>N} |a_j| < |a_N| = |b_{N-1}|$$

So the index at which the maximum coefficient b_n is reached is N-1, if we assume that g(X) has at most N-1 zeros in \mathbb{Z}_p then f(X) has at most N zeros (g's zeros and α), this proves the theorem.

Corollary 3.2. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n x^n$ be a non-zero power series which converges on \mathbb{Z}_p , and let $\alpha_1, ..., \alpha_m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ be the roots of f(X) in \mathbb{Z}_p , then there exists another power series g(X) which also converges on \mathbb{Z}_p but has no zeros in \mathbb{Z}_p , for which

$$f(X) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^{m} (X - \alpha_i)\right) g(X)$$

Proof. Clear from the proof of the theorem.

Corollary 3.3. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n x^n$ be a non-zero power series which converges on $p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$, for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then f(X) has a finite number of roots in $p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$.

Proof. Define

$$g(X) = f(p^m X) = \sum a_n p^{mn} X^n,$$

Since f(x) converges for $x \in p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$, $g(x) = f(p^m x)$ converges for $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, applying the theorem to g(X) gives the finiteness of its zeros.

Corollary 3.4. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n x^n$ and $g(X) = \sum b_n X^n$ be two p-adic power series which converge in a disc $p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$. If there exist infinitely many numbers $\alpha \in p^m Z_p$ such that $f(\alpha) = g(\alpha)$, then $a_n = b_n, \forall n \geq 0$

Proof. Define

$$h(X) = f(X) - g(X) = \sum (a_n - b_n)X^n$$

, then h(X) converges also on $p^m\mathbb{Z}_p$, by Corollary 3.3 h(X) has to have finitely many zeros, otherwise it must be the zero power series. Which means that

$$f(X) = g(X) \implies a_n = b_n \forall n \ge 0$$

Corollary 3.5. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n x^n$ be a p-adic power series which converges in some disc $p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$. If the function $p^m \mathbb{Z}_p \to \mathbb{Q}_p$, $x \mapsto f(x)$ is periodic, that is, $\exists \pi \in p^m \mathbb{Z}_p : f(x + \pi) = f(x), \forall \in p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$ then f(X) is constant.

Proof. The series f(X) - f(0) has zeros at $n\pi$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, since $\pi \in p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$ implies $n\pi \in p^m \mathbb{Z}_p$, this gives infinitely many zeros, and hence the series f(X) - f(0) must be identically zero, i.e. f(X) must be constant. \square

Corollary 3.6. Let $f(X) = \sum a_n x^n$ be a p-adic power series which is entire, that is, f(x) converges $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Then f(X) has at most countably many zeros. Furthermore, if the set of zeros is not finite then the zeros form a sequence α_n with $|\alpha_n| \to \infty$.

Proof. This is clear, because the number of zeros in each bounded disk $p^m\mathbb{Z}_p$ is finite.

4 The p-adic Logarithm Function

Definition 4.1 (Formal power series for the logarithm).

$$\log(1+X) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{X^n}{n} = X - \frac{X^2}{2} + \frac{X^3}{3} \mp \dots \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[X]]$$

Since the coefficients are in \mathbb{Q} we can consider it as a power series with coefficients in \mathbb{Q}_p

Remark 4.2. We use log when referring to the formal power series, not the logarithm function itself.

Proposition 4.3. $\log(1+X)$ converges if and only if $|x| < 1 \iff x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$

Proof. $\log(1+X)$ is given by the power series

$$\log(1+X) = f(X) = \sum_{n>1} a_n X^n = \sum_{n>1} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{X^n}{n}, \quad a_n = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$$

So by Proposition 1.3 the radius of convergence is

$$\rho = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}\right)^{-1} = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left|\frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}\right|}\right)^{-1} = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left|\frac{1}{n}\right|}\right)^{-1} = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{p^{-v_p(1/n)}}\right)^{-1}$$

$$= \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{p^{v_p(n) - v_p(1)}}\right)^{-1} = \left(\limsup_{n \to \infty} p^{v_p(n)/n}\right)^{-1}$$

we have

$$\frac{v_p(n)}{n} \le \frac{\log(n)}{\log(p)n} \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} 0 \implies \rho = 1$$

This doesn't tell us the entire story however, we have to determine if $\log(1+X)$ converges for $|x| \le \rho$ or for $|x| < \rho$, so we check if $\lim_{n\to\infty} |a_n| \rho^n$, by Prop. 2.1 - Talk 8, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} |a_n| \rho^n = \lim_{n \to \infty} |a_n| = \lim_{n \to \infty} p^{v_p(n)} \neq 0$$

Since $v_p(n) = 0$ whenever n doesn't divide p.

Definition 4.4. Let $U_1 = B(1,1) = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_p : |x-1| < 1\} = 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$, we define the *p*-adic logarithm of $x \in U_1$ as:

$$\log_p(x) = \log(1 + (x - 1)) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(x - 1)^n}{n}$$

In order to be able to call it a logarithm, it has to fill the usual logarithmic property:

Proposition 4.5. Let $a, b \in 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$, then we have

$$\log_n(ab) = \log_n(a) + \log_n(b)$$

Proof. Let $x, y \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$ such that a = 1 + x, b = 1 + y, and define for $x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$

$$f(x) = \log_p(1+x) = \sum_{n \ge 1} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n}$$
$$f'(x) = \sum_{n \ge 1} (-1)^{n+1} x^{n-1} = \sum_{n \ge 0} (-1)^n x^n = \sum_{n \ge 0} (-x)^n = \frac{1}{1+x}$$
$$g(x) = \log_p((1+x)(1+y)) = \log_p(1+y+(1+y)x) = f(y+(1+y)x)$$

By 165, g(x) converges \iff f(x) converges \iff |x|<1, now we use the Chain Rule from Theorem 2.1 to compute the derivative of g:

$$g'(x) = (1+y)f'(y+(1+y)x) = \frac{1+y}{1+y+(1+y)x} = \frac{1}{1+x} = f'(x)$$

Since both f(x), g(x) are defined by power series that converge for |x| < 1, by Corollary 2.5 it follows that g(x) = f(x) + c, for |x| < 1, to find c, we plug x = 0 and see that

$$c = g(0) = \log_p((1+0)(1+y)) = \log_p(1+y) = f(y)$$

$$\implies g(x) = f(x) + f(y) \implies \log_p((1+x)(1+y)) = \log_p(1+x) + \log_p(1+y) \iff \log_p(ab) = \log_p(a) + \log_p(b).$$

5 Roots of Unity in \mathbb{Q}_p

Proposition 5.1. For $p \neq 2$ we have $\log_p(x) = 0 \iff x = 1$ and for p = 2, we have $\log_p(x) = 0 \iff x = \pm 1$.

Proof. We know that $\log_p(x)$ converges only for $x \in p\mathbb{Z}_p$, not in \mathbb{Z}_p , but we can do a change of variables like in Corollary 3.3, so define $f(X) = \log(1 + px)$, this converges now for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ and we have

$$f(X) = \sum_{n \ge 1} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{p^n X^n}{n} = \sum_{n \ge 1} a_n X^n, \quad a_n = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{p^n}{n}$$

Now we have to look for the N like in Strassman's Theorem.

$$|a_n| = \left| (-1)^{n+1} \frac{p^n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{p^n}{n} \right| = p^{-v_p(p^n/n)} = p^{v_p(n) - v_p(p^n)} = p^{v_p(n) - n}$$

Now by the definition of v_p , we can say that

$$v_p(n) = \lfloor \log_p(n) \rfloor \approx \log_p(n)$$

So we can approximate $p^{v_p(n)-n}$ as

$$p^{v_p(n)-n} \approx p^{\log_p(n)-n} = np^{-n} =: g(n)$$

And now we just have a problem in real analysis, and we need to find the maxima of g, so consider

$$g'(x) = p^{-x}(1 - x\log(p)) = 0 \iff x\log(p) = 1 \iff x = \frac{1}{\log(p)}$$

Now we know that $\log(p) < 1 \iff p < e, \log(p) > 1 \iff p > e$, since 2 is the only prime which is less than e, we have

$$x = \frac{1}{\log(p)} > 1 \iff p < e \iff p = 2$$

And otherwise

$$x < 1 \iff p > e \iff p \neq 2$$

So we know for sure, that the maximum index is 1 for $p \neq 2$, and 2 for p = 2, applying Strassman's Theorem, we get that \log_p has 2 zeros in \mathbb{Z}_2 , and 1 in $\mathbb{Z}_{p\neq 2}$, we can confirm this by checking

$$\log_p(1+(1-1)) = \sum_{n>1} (-1)^{n+1} (1-1)^n / n = 0$$

And for p = 2, we have to check if -1 is in B(1, 1),

$$|-1-1|_2 = |-2|_2 = p^{-v_2(-2)} = 1/2 < 1 \implies -1 \in B(1,1)$$

$$\log_p(1) = \log_p((-1)^2) = 2\log_p(-1) = 0.$$

Proposition 5.2. Let $p \neq 2, x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ and $x^p = 1$, then x = 1.

Proof.

$$x^p = 1 \implies x \in \mathbb{Z}_p \implies \bar{x}^p = 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_p/p\mathbb{Z}_p$$

$$\implies \bar{x}^p = 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$$

Now by Fermat's little theorem we know that

$$\bar{x}^{p-1} \equiv 1 \mod p \iff \bar{x}^p \equiv x \mod p.$$

and since $\bar{x}^p \equiv 1 \mod p$ we have $x \equiv 1 \mod p$, so $x \in 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$.

$$x \in 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p, x^p = 1 \iff \log_p(x^p) = \log_p(1) \iff \log_p(x) = 0 \iff x = 1.$$

So there are no nontrivial p-th roots of unity in \mathbb{Q}_p , for $p \neq 2$.

Proposition 5.3. If $p = 2, x \in \mathbb{Q}_2$ and $x^4 = 1$ then $x = \pm 1$, which means that there are no fourth roots of unity in \mathbb{Q}_2

Proof. Let $x \neq \pm 1, x \in \mathbb{Q}_2, x^4 = 1$, then we have

$$x \in \mathbb{Z}_2, x \neq \pm 1 \implies x^2 \equiv -1 \mod 4\mathbb{Z}_2 \stackrel{\mathbb{Z}_2/4\mathbb{Z}_2 \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}}{\Longrightarrow} x^2 \equiv -1 \mod 4\mathbb{Z}_2$$

But there is no $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ with $\bar{x}^2 = -1$.

Remark 5.4. We now summarize what we know so far about the roots of unity in \mathbb{Q}_p :

- If p=2, then the only roots of unity are ± 1
- If $p \neq 2$, then \mathbb{Q}_p contains all the p-1-st roots of unity and none other. (their existence was shown in Talk 6)

6 Miscellaneous

Remark 6.1. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring, $x, y \in R$, then we have $x^n - y^n = (x - y) \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} x^j y^{n-1-j}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}_0$

Proof. We do induction on n, Base case: n=2, it's easy to see that

$$(x-y)\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} x^j y^{n-1-j} = (x-y)(x+y) = x^2 - y^2$$

Induction hypothesis: we assume for an arbitrary $n \ge 2$: $x^n - y^n = (x - y) \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} x^j y^{n-1-j}$, Induction step: consider

$$(x-y)\sum_{j=0}^{n} x^{j}y^{n-j} = (x-y)(y^{n} + y^{n-1}x + \dots + x^{n-1}y + x^{n})$$

$$= (x-y)(y(y^{n-1} + y^{n-2}x + \dots + yx^{n-2} + x^{n-1}) + x^{n}) = y\underbrace{(x-y)\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} x^{j}y^{n-1-j}}_{=x^{n}-y^{n}} + x^{n}(x-y)$$

$$= y(x^{n} - y^{n}) + x^{n}(x-y) = yx^{n} - y^{n+1} + x^{n+1} - yx^{n} = x^{n+1} - y^{n+1}.$$

Lemma 6.2. Let $f(X) \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[X]]$ be a non-zero power series which converges $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, then $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that $|a_N| = \max_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} |a_n|$ and $|a_n| < |a_N| \ \forall n > N$

Proof. Since f(X) converges $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, then we have

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p : \lim_{n \to \infty} |a_n x^n| = 0 = \lim_{n \to \infty} |a_n| \cdot |x^n| \implies \lim_{n \to \infty} |a_n| = 0$$

References

[Gou] Fernando Q. Gouvêa: p-adic Numbers.