

# A NOTE ABOUT RATIONAL REPRESENTATIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL GALOIS GROUPS.

MARC REVERSAT

ABSTRACT. We give a description of the rational representations of the differential Galois group of a Picard-Vessiot extension.

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We give a description of the rational representations of the differential Galois group of a Picard-Vessiot extension (theorems 1.1 and 2.1). This gives a new description of the differential Galois correspondence. More results will be given for abelian differential extensions in a forthcoming paper [1], especially the analog of the Artin correspondence.

## 1. ON REPRESENTATIONS OF GALOIS GROUPS OF PICARD-VESSIOT EXTENSIONS.

In all this note we consider differential fields with algebraically closed fields of constants, denoted by  $C$ . The derivative will be denoted by a dash.

Let  $K$  be a differential field. Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer,  $M_n(K)$  and  $GL_n(K)$  are the usual notations for algebra and group of  $n \times n$  matrices with entries in  $K$ . The group  $GL_n(K)$  acts on  $M_n(K)$  by the following rule:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} GL_n(K) \times M_n(K) & \longrightarrow & M_n(K) \\ (U, A) & \longmapsto & U'U^{-1} + UAU^{-1} \end{array}$$

where if  $U = (u_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ , then  $U' = (u'_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ . This action can be defined in an other way, maybe more comprehensible. Consider the group

$$H_n(K) := M_n(K) \times GL_n(K),$$

the law being defined by the following formula: for all  $A, B$  in  $M_n(K)$  and all  $F, G \in \mathrm{GL}_n(K)$

$$(A, F)(B, G) = (A + FBF^{-1}, FG).$$

It admits the subgroups

$$\Delta_n(K) := \{(U'U^{-1}, U) \mid U \in \mathrm{GL}_n(K)\},$$

$\{0\} \times \mathrm{GL}_n(K)$  and  $M_n(K) \times \{1\}$ , this last one being normal. We set

$$Z_n(K) := \Delta_n(K) \backslash H_n(K) / (\{0\} \times \mathrm{GL}_n(K)).$$

The group  $\mathrm{GL}_n(K)$  acts on  $M_n(K) \times \{1\}$  by the following rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{GL}_n(K) \times (M_n(K) \times \{1\}) &\longrightarrow (M_n(K) \times \{1\}) \\ (U, (A, 1)) &\longmapsto (U'U^{-1}, U)(A, 1)(0, U^{-1}) \\ &= (U'U^{-1} + UAU^{-1}, 1) \end{aligned}$$

With the identification  $M_n(K) = (M_n(K) \times \{1\})$  and inclusion  $(M_n(K) \times \{1\}) \subset H_n(K)$ , it induces a canonical bijection

$$(1) \quad \mathrm{GL}_n(K) \backslash M_n(K) \simeq \Delta_n(K) \backslash H_n(K) / (\{0\} \times \mathrm{GL}_n(K)) = Z_n(K).$$

We will use below these two definitions of  $Z_n(K)$ .

Let  $A$  be in  $M_n(K)$  and  $F$  be in  $\mathrm{GL}_n(K)$ , we denote by  $[(A, F)]$ , resp.  $[A]$ , the class in  $Z_n(K)$  of  $(A, F) \in H_n(K)$ , resp. of  $A \in M_n(K)$ .

Let  $L/K$  be a Picard-Vessiot extension. The inclusion  $H_n(K) \subset H_n(L)$  gives rise to a map  $\alpha(L/K) : Z_n(K) \rightarrow Z_n(L)$ . We set

$$Z_n(L/K) := \{a \in Z_n(K) \mid \alpha(L/K)(a) = [0]\}.$$

For any group  $G$  we denote by  $\mathrm{Rep}_n(G)$  the set of equivalent classes of representations of  $G$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_n(C)$ , if  $G = d\mathrm{Gal}(L/K)$  is the differential group of  $L$  over  $K$ , we set  $\mathrm{Rep}_n(L/K) := \mathrm{Rep}_n(G)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $L/K$  be a Picard-Vessiot extension, then there exists a natural bijection between  $Z_n(L/K)$  and  $\mathrm{Rep}_n(L/K)$ .*

*Proof.* First of all we recall some facts that are of main importance in our proof.

1.0.1. *The representation  $c_A$ .* Consider the differential equation  $Y' = AY$ , with  $A \in M_m(K)$ , and let  $E/K$  be a corresponding Picard-Vessiot extension, i.e.  $E$  is generated over  $K$  by the coefficients of a fundamental matrix  $F_A$  of the equation. The rational representation  $c_A$  is

$$\begin{aligned} d\mathrm{Gal}(E/K) &\longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_m(C) \\ \sigma &\longmapsto c_A(\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_A(\sigma)$  is such that  $\sigma(F_A) = F_A c_A(\sigma)$ . Note that  $c_A$  depends only on the class  $[A]$  of  $(A, 1)$  in  $Z_m(K)$ , because if  $B = U'U^{-1} + UAU^{-1}$  with  $U \in \mathrm{GL}_m(K)$ , a fundamental matrix of the equation  $Y' = BY$  is  $UF_A$  and we see that  $c_B = c_A$ . Note also that another fundamental matrix is of the form  $F_A\gamma$ , with  $\gamma \in \mathrm{GL}_m(C)$ , then it gives the representation  $\gamma^{-1}c_A\gamma$  equivalent to  $c_A$ .

We will write equivalently  $c_A$ ,  $c_{[A]}$  or  $c_E$  for this class of representations.

1.0.2. *The Galois group  $dGal(E/K)$ .* Let  $A \in M_m(K)$  and

$$R = K[(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] / q = K[(x_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}]$$

be a Picard-Vessiot ring over  $K$  for the equation  $Y' = AY$ . In these formulas the  $X_{i,j}$  are indeterminates, the ring  $K[(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}]$  is equipped by the derivation satisfying  $(X'_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m} = A(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$ , “det” is the determinant of the matrix  $(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$ ,  $q$  is a maximal differential ideal and  $x_{i,j}$  is the image of  $X_{i,j}$ . Let  $E = \text{Quot}(R)$  and  $\mathfrak{U} = dGal(E/K)$ , consider

$$\begin{aligned} K[(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] &\subseteq E[(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] \\ &= E[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] \supseteq C[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}], \end{aligned}$$

where  $(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$  is defined by  $(X_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m} = (x_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m} (Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$ . Note that  $Y'_{i,j} = 0$ . We know that

$$\mathfrak{U} = dGal(E/K) = \text{Spec} C[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] / J$$

where  $J = qE[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] \cap C[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}]$  ([2] proof of prop. 1.24 or the beginning of §1.5). We denote by  $y_{i,j}$  the image of  $Y_{i,j}$ , then we have

$$\mathfrak{U} = dGal(E/K) = \text{Spec} C[(y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}]$$

1.0.3.  $\mathfrak{U} = dGal(E/K)$  as a torsor. We continue with the previous notations. Set  $\mathcal{T} = \text{Spec} R$ , we know that  $\mathcal{T}$  is an  $\mathfrak{U}$ -torsor over  $K$  ([2] theorem 1.30), moreover, we know that there exists a finite extension  $\tilde{K}$  of  $K$  such that  $\mathcal{T} \times_K \tilde{K} = \text{Spec}(R \otimes_K \tilde{K})$  is a trivial  $\mathfrak{U}$ -torsor over  $\tilde{K}$  ([2] cor. 1.31), this means that there exists  $\underline{b} \in \mathcal{T}(\tilde{K})$  such that the following map is an isomorphism of  $\tilde{K}$ -schemes

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : \quad \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{T} \times_K \tilde{K} \\ (c_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m} &\longmapsto \underline{b}(c_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m} \end{aligned}$$

( $\underline{b}$  can be seen as a matrix, on the right this is a product of matrices; see the definition of  $R$  above).

1.0.4. *Galois actions.* Let  $\sigma$  be an element of  $\mathfrak{U} = dGal(E/K)$ , the action of  $\sigma$  on  $R$  is given by the images of the  $x_{i,j}$ , which are defined by the matrix formula  $(\sigma(x_{i,j})) = (x_{i,j})c_E(\sigma)$ . We denote by  $\sigma^b$  the morphism induces by  $\sigma$  on  $\mathcal{T}$  or on  $\mathcal{T} \times_K \tilde{K}$ , this is the action of  $\mathfrak{U}$  which defines the torsor structure. An element of  $\mathcal{T}(\tilde{K})$  can be represented by a matrix  $\underline{a} = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$  with  $a_{i,j}$  in  $\tilde{K}$ , its image is  $\sigma^b(\underline{a}) = \underline{a}c_E(\sigma)$ . For any  $\sigma$  in  $\mathfrak{U}$  denote by  $\lambda_\sigma$  the right translation on  $\mathfrak{U}$  by  $\sigma$ , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_\sigma : \quad \mathfrak{U} &\longrightarrow \mathfrak{U} \\ \tau &\longmapsto \tau\sigma \end{aligned}$$

Write again  $\lambda_\sigma$  for  $\lambda_\sigma \times \text{Id}_{\tilde{K}} : \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K} \rightarrow \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K}$ , then the morphism  $\psi$  of (1.0.3) is equivariant, this means that for any  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{U}$  the following diagram is commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathfrak{T} \times_K \tilde{K} \\ \lambda_\sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma^b \\ \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathfrak{T} \times_K \tilde{K} \end{array}$$

*Proof of the theorem, the map  $Z_n(L/K) \rightarrow R_n(L/K)$ .*

Let  $A \in M_n(K)$  such that  $[A] \in Z_n(L/K)$ , then there exists  $U \in \text{GL}_n(L)$  such that

$$A = U'U^{-1},$$

this means that  $U$  is a fundamental matrix of the equation  $Y' = AY$ , as it is with entries in  $L$ , it exists a differential subextension  $E$  of  $L$  which is a Picard-Vessiot extension for the equation  $Y' = AY$ . Denote by  $\rho_A$  the representation

$$(2) \quad \rho_A : d\text{Gal}(L/K) \xrightarrow{\text{restriction}} d\text{Gal}(E/K) \xrightarrow{c_A} \text{GL}_n(C).$$

Now we prove that this representation  $\rho_A$  does not depend on the class of  $A$  in  $Z_n(K)$  and of the choice of  $U \in \text{GL}_n(L)$  such that  $A = U'U^{-1}$ .

Let  $B \in M_n(K)$  such that  $[B] = [A]$  in  $Z_n(K)$ , then there exists  $W, T \in \text{GL}_n(K)$  such that

$$(B, 1) = (W'W^{-1}, W)(A, 1)(0, T),$$

it follows that  $B = W'W^{-1} + WAW^{-1}$ , this means that  $WU$  is a fundamental matrix of the equation  $Y' = BY$ . We see that  $\rho_A = \rho_B$ , and we denote this representation by  $\rho_{[A]}$ .

Let  $V \in \text{GL}_n(L)$  such that  $A = U'U^{-1} = V'V^{-1}$ , then we see that  $(V^{-1}U)' = 0$ , this means that there exists  $\gamma \in \text{GL}_n()$  such that  $U = V\gamma$  and the two representations define as before in (2) are conjugate.

Then to each element  $[A]$  of  $Z_n(L/K)$  we have associated the element  $\rho_{[A]}$  of  $\text{Rep}_n(L/K)$ .

*Proof of the theorem, the map  $R_n(L/K) \rightarrow Z_n(L/K)$ .*

Let  $\rho : d\text{Gal}(L/K) \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(C)$  be a rational representation. Let  $E$  be the fixed field of  $\ker \rho$ , we set  $\mathfrak{U} = d\text{Gal}(E/K)$  and we denote again by  $\rho$  the representation  $\mathfrak{U} \hookrightarrow \text{GL}_n(C)$  coming from the given one. The field  $E$  is a Picard-Vessiot extension corresponding to an equation  $Y' = AY$ , with  $A \in M_m(K)$ . Our aim is to prove that one can chose  $A$  in  $M_n(K)$ , i.e.  $m = n$ , and that this gives the inverse map of  $[A] \mapsto \rho_{[A]}$ .

We use the previous notations and descriptions of  $E$ ,  $R$ ,  $\mathfrak{U}$ ,  $\mathfrak{T}$  etc. We set  $\text{GL}_n(C) = \text{Spec}C[(T_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}, (\det)^{-1}]$ , let

$$\rho^\# : C[(T_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}, (\det)^{-1}] \longrightarrow C[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] / J$$

be the comorphism of  $\rho : \mathfrak{U} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(C)$ ;  $\rho^\sharp$  is onto. Set  $I = \ker(\rho^\sharp)$ , then we have an isomorphism induces by  $\rho^\sharp$

$$\bar{\rho} : C[(T_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}, (\det)^{-1}] / I \simeq C[(Y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}, (\det)^{-1}] / J.$$

Let  $t_{r,s}$  be the image of  $T_{r,s}$  in the quotient on the left, and recall that  $y_{i,j}$  are that of  $Y_{i,j}$  in the quotient on the right, then the preceding formula can be written

$$\bar{\rho} : C[(t_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}] \simeq C[(y_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}].$$

Set  $\mathfrak{V} = \mathrm{Spec}(C[(t_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}])$ , this is an algebraic subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(C)$ , it is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{U}$  via the morphism induces by  $\bar{\rho}$ , denoted by abuse of language  $\rho : \mathfrak{U} \simeq \mathfrak{V}$ .

The composed morphism (see (1.0.3))

$$(3) \quad \varphi : \mathfrak{T} \otimes_K \tilde{K} \xrightarrow{\psi^{-1}} \mathfrak{U} \times_C \tilde{K} \xrightarrow{\rho \times \mathrm{Id}_{\tilde{K}}} \mathfrak{V} \times_C \tilde{K}$$

is an isomorphism of  $\tilde{K}$ -schemes, equivariant for the actions of  $\mathfrak{U}$  and  $\mathfrak{V}$ , this means that for any  $\sigma$  in  $\mathfrak{U}$  we have  $\varphi \circ \sigma^\flat = \lambda_{\rho(\sigma)} \circ \varphi$ , where, as before,  $\lambda_{\rho(\sigma)}$  is the endomorphism of  $\mathfrak{V} \times_C \tilde{K}$  coming from the right translation by  $\rho(\sigma)$  on  $\mathfrak{V}$  (1.0.4).

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $\varphi^\sharp$  be the comorphism of  $\varphi$  (see (2)) and for any  $r, s = 1, \dots, n$  set  $z_{r,s} = \varphi^\sharp(t_{r,s})$  (recall that  $\mathfrak{V} = \mathrm{Spec} C[(t_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}]$ ). Then, for all  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{U}$ , there exists a matrix  $a(\sigma) \in \mathrm{GL}_n(C)$  such that we have the equality of matrices:  $(\sigma(z_{r,s}))_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} = (z_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} a(\sigma)$ .*

*Proof.* Denote by  $\lambda_{\rho(\sigma)}^\sharp$  the comorphism of the right translation by  $\rho(\sigma)$  on  $\mathfrak{V} \times_C \tilde{K}$ , we have the equalities of matrices

$$\begin{aligned} (\sigma(z_{r,s}))_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} &= (\sigma(\varphi^\sharp(t_{r,s})))_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} \\ &= \left( \varphi^\sharp \left( \lambda_{\rho(\sigma)}^\sharp(t_{r,s}) \right) \right)_{1 \leq r,s \leq n}, \end{aligned}$$

because  $\varphi$  is equivariant, and

$$\left( \lambda_{\rho(\sigma)}^\sharp(t_{r,s}) \right)_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} = (t_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} a(\rho(\sigma))$$

where for any  $\tau \in \mathfrak{V}$  the matrix  $a(\tau)$  is in  $\mathrm{GL}_n(C)$  and is such that the formula  $(\tau(t_{r,s}))_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} = (t_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} a(\tau)$  defines the images of the  $t_{r,s}$  by the comorphism  $\lambda_\tau^\sharp$  of the right translation on  $\mathfrak{V}$  by  $\tau$ . We have find

$$(\sigma(z_{r,s}))_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} = (z_{r,s})_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} a(\rho(\sigma))$$

with  $a(\rho(\sigma))$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_n(C)$ .  $\square$

The fact that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism implies that  $R \otimes_K \tilde{K}$  is generated over  $\tilde{K}$  by the  $z_{r,s}$ ,  $1 \leq r, s \leq n$ , indeed  $R \otimes_K \tilde{K}$  is generated over  $\tilde{K}$  by the  $C$ -space  $V := \sum_{1 \leq r,s \leq n} C z_{r,s}$  and the lemma shows that this space  $V$  is (globally) invariant under the action of the Galois group  $\mathfrak{U}$ . The (ordinary) Galois group  $\mathrm{Gal}(\tilde{K}/K)$  acts as usual on the right

hand factor of  $R \otimes_K \tilde{K}$  and trivially on the left one, then we see that  $R$  is generated over  $K$  by the  $z_{r,s}$ ,  $1 \leq r, s \leq n$ .

Another consequence of the previous lemma is that the matrix

$$D \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (z'_{r,s})_{1 \leq r, s \leq n} (z_{r,s})_{1 \leq r, s \leq n}^{-1},$$

is in  $M_n(K)$ , then, because  $\varphi^\#$  is an isomorphism, the ring  $R$  is generated by the entries of a fundamental matrix of the equation  $Y' = DY$ , we know also that  $R$  is a simple differential ring. It follows that  $R$ , resp.  $E$ , is the Picard-Vessiot ring, resp. field, over  $K$  of this equation.

To a rational representation  $\rho : dGal(L/K) \rightarrow GL_n(C)$  we have associated an element  $[D]$  of  $Z_n(L/K)$ , this is clearly the inverse map of  $[A] \mapsto \rho_{[A]}$ .  $\square$

## 2. A CORRESPONDANCE.

Let  $K^{\text{diff}}$  be a universal Picard-Vessiot extension of  $K$  and set  $G^{\text{diff}} = dGal(K^{\text{diff}}/K)$ . We choose once of all an identification  $GL_n(C) = GL(C^n)$ .

Let  $\text{Rep}_n(G^{\text{diff}})$  be the category of representations of  $G^{\text{diff}}$  in  $GL_n(C)$ : the objects are morphisms  $\rho : G^{\text{diff}} \rightarrow GL_n(C)$ , an arrow  $f : \rho_1 \rightarrow \rho_2$  is a  $C$ -linear map from  $C^n$  into itself such that, for any  $g \in G^{\text{diff}}$ , the following diagram is commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C^n & \xrightarrow{\rho_1(g)} & C^n \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ C^n & \xrightarrow{\rho_2(g)} & C^n \end{array}$$

To define the category  $Z_n(K)$  we need the following remarks. Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two elements of  $M_n(K)$ , we say that they are equivalent if there exists  $U$  and  $V$  in  $GL_n(K)$  such that  $N = VMU$ . We denote by  $\overline{M}$  the equivalent class of  $M$ . Let  $A_i \in M_n(K)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and let  $M \in M_n(K)$  such that

$$(4) \quad M' = A_2M - MA_1.$$

Let  $B_i \in [A_i]$ , let  $U_i \in GL_n(K)$  such that

$$A_i = U_i'U_i^{-1} + U_iB_iU_i^{-1},$$

then an easy calculation shows that

$$(U_2^{-1}MU_1)' = B_2(U_2^{-1}MU_1) - (U_2^{-1}MU_1)B_2.$$

Suppose that  $M \in GL_n(K)$  and satisfies (4), then

$$(M^{-1})' = A_1M^{-1} - M^{-1}A_2.$$

Now we can define the category  $Z_n(K)$ . Its objects are elements of  $Z_n(K)$  (see (1)), an arrow  $[A_1] \rightarrow [A_2]$ , where  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are elements of  $M_n(K)$ , is an equivalence class  $\overline{M}$  in  $M_n(K)$  such that there exists  $M \in \overline{M}$  satisfying (4). The two preceding formulas show that this definition does not depend on the choice of  $A_i$  in  $[A_i]$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , and

that invertible arrows in  $\underline{Z}_n(K)$  correspond to equivalence classes of invertible matrices. We explain the composition of arrows. Let  $\overline{M} : [A_1] \rightarrow [A_2]$  and  $\overline{N} : [A_2] \rightarrow [A_3]$  two arrows of  $\underline{Z}_n(K)$ , choose  $M \in \overline{M}$ ,  $N \in \overline{N}$  such that

$$M' = A_2M - MA_1 \quad \text{and} \quad N' = A_3N - NA_2,$$

then we see that

$$(NM)' = A_3NM - NMA_1.$$

The composed arrow is  $\overline{N} \circ \overline{M} = \overline{NM}$ , for a good choice of representing elements of the different classes of matrices.

Then  $\underline{Z}_n(K)$  is a category, indeed it is easily to see that it is an additive category.

**Theorem 2.1.** *The two categories  $\underline{Z}_n(K)$  and  $\underline{\text{Rep}}_n(G^{\text{diff}})$  are equivalent. On objects, this equivalence is  $[A] \mapsto c_{[A]}$  (see (1.0.1)).*

*Proof.* Note that here to write  $c_{[A]}$  is an abuse of notation, if  $L/K$  is the Picard-Vessiot extension (contained in  $K^{\text{diff}}$ ) associated to the equation  $Y' = AY$ , we denote always  $c_{[A]}$  the representation

$$G^{\text{diff}} \xrightarrow{\text{restriction}} d\text{Gal}(L/K) \xrightarrow{c_{[A]}} \text{GL}_n(C).$$

The map  $[A] \mapsto c_{[A]}$  on objects of the categories has been constructed in the previous theorem, it is one to one. Let  $[A_1]$  and  $[A_2]$  be two objects of  $\underline{Z}_n(K)$  and  $\overline{M} : [A_1] \rightarrow [A_2]$  be an arrow, select  $M \in \overline{M}$  such that  $M' = A_2M - MA_1$ . Let  $F_1, F_2 \in \text{GL}_n(K^{\text{diff}})$  be fundamental matrices for respectively the equations  $Y' = A_1Y$  and  $Y' = A_2Y$ . Then  $F'_i = A_iF_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $f = F_2^{-1}MF_1$ , a priori  $f$  is in  $\text{GL}_n(K)$ , but

$$\begin{aligned} f' &= (F_2^{-1})'MF_1 + F_2^{-1}M'F_1 + F_2^{-1}MF'_1 \\ &= (-F_2^{-1}A_2)MF_1 + F_2^{-1}(A_2M - MA_1)F_1 \\ &\quad + F_2^{-1}MA_1F_1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f = F_2^{-1}MF_1$  is in  $\text{GL}_n(C)$ . Now we prove that  $f$  is a morphism from  $c_{[A_1]}$  to  $c_{[A_2]}$ . Let  $g$  be an element of  $G^{\text{diff}}$ . Applying  $g$  to the relation  $f = F_2^{-1}MF_1$  we find

$$f = g(F_2^{-1})Mg(F_1) = g(F_2^{-1})F_2fF_1^{-1}g(F_1) = c_{[A_2]}(g)^{-1}fc_{[A_1]}(g),$$

(see (1.0.1)) for all  $g$ . This means that  $f : c_{[A_1]} \rightarrow c_{[A_2]}$  is a map in  $\underline{\text{Rep}}_n(G^{\text{diff}})$ .

Conversely let  $f : \rho_1 \rightarrow \rho_2$  be an arrow of  $\underline{\text{Rep}}_n(G^{\text{diff}})$ , then we can see  $f$  as a matrix with coefficient in  $C$ . We know that there exists  $A_i$  in  $M_n(K)$  such that  $\rho_i = c_{[A_i]}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Let as before  $F_i$  be a fundamental matrix for the equation  $Y' = A_iY$ . Set  $M = F_2fF_1^{-1}$ .

- We prove that  $M$  is in  $M_n(K)$ . The fact that  $f$  is a morphism of representations means that for all  $g$  in  $G^{\text{diff}}$  we have

$$fc_{[A_1]}(g) = c_{[A_1]}(g)f,$$

which is equivalent to

$$fF_1^{-1}g(F_1) = F_2^{-1}g(F_2)f,$$

then

$$F_2fF_1^{-1} = g(F_2)fg(F_1^{-1}) = g(F_2fF_1^{-1}).$$

This prove that the entries of  $M$  are in  $K$ .

- We prove the formula  $M' = A_2M - MA_1$ . We have

$$M' = F_2'fF_1^{-1} + F_2f(F_1^{-1})' = A_2F_2fF_1^{-1} + F_2f(-F_1^{-1}A_1)$$

which is the expected formula. □

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INSTITUT DE MATHÉMATIQUES DE TOULOUSE, UNIVERSITÉ PAUL SABATIER,  
118 ROUTE DE NARBONNE, 31062 TOULOUSE CEDEX 9, FRANCE.

*E-mail address:* `marc.reversat@math.ups-tlse.fr`