

Title	Another proof of Ostrowski-Kolchin-Hardouin theorem in difference algebra
Sub Title	差分代数におけるOstrowski-Kolchin-Hardouin定理の別証明
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Publisher	慶應義塾大学湘南藤沢学会
Publication year	2013
Jtitle	Keio SFC journal Vol.13, No.2 (2013. ) ,p.99- 102
JaLC DOI	10.14991/003.00130002-0099
Abstract	
Notes	自由論題#研究ノート
Genre	Journal Article
URL	<a href="https://koara.lib.keio.ac.jp/xoonips/modules/xoonips/detail.php?koara_id=0402-1302-0009">https://koara.lib.keio.ac.jp/xoonips/modules/xoonips/detail.php?koara_id=0402-1302-0009</a>

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# Another Proof of Ostrowski-Kolchin-Hardouin Theorem in Difference Algebra

## 差分代数における Ostrowski-Kolchin-Hardouin 定理の別証明

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This paper gives another proof of an analog of Ostrowski-Kolchin theorem in difference algebra, which was proved by Hardouin. Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic 0 and  $(L, \tau)$  a difference extension of a difference field  $(K, \tau)$ . Denote the invariant field of  $(L, \tau)$  and that of  $(K, \tau)$  by  $C_L, C$  respectively. Suppose  $C$  is an algebraically closed field. Suppose  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  are nonzero elements of  $L$  satisfying  $\tau(x_i) = u_i x_i, \tau(y_j) = y_j + v_j$ , where  $u_1, \dots, u_m, v_1, \dots, v_n \in K$ . Then the analog states that if  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  are algebraically dependent over  $KC_L$ , there exists a nonzero element  $a \in K$  satisfying  $\tau(a) = (\prod_{i=1}^m u_i^{k_i}) a$  for a nonzero element  $(k_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  or  $\tau(a) = a + \sum_{j=1}^n a_j v_j$  for a nonzero element  $(a_j) \in C^n$ .

本論文では Hardouin による Ostrowski-Kolchin の定理の差分化の別証明を与えた。 $K$  を標数 0 の体、 $(L, \tau)$  を  $(K, \tau)$  の差分拡大とする。 $(L, \tau)$  と  $(K, \tau)$  の不変体をそれぞれ  $C_L, C$  と表記し、 $C$  は代数閉体とする。 $L$  の 0 でない元  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  が  $u_1, \dots, u_m, v_1, \dots, v_n \in K$  に対して  $\tau(x_i) = u_i x_i, \tau(y_j) = y_j + v_j$  を満たすと仮定する。このとき差分化された定理は次のように記述される： $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  が  $KC_L$  上代数的従属ならば、ある 0 でない元  $a \in K$  が存在して  $\tau(a) = (\prod_{i=1}^m u_i^{k_i}) a$  となる 0 でない  $(k_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  が存在する、または  $\tau(a) = a + \sum_{j=1}^n a_j v_j$  となる 0 でない  $(a_j) \in C^n$  が存在する。

**Mathematics Subject Classification (2010).** Primary 12H10; Secondary 65Q10

**Keywords:** Difference algebra, Linear difference equations, Module of differentials

## 1 Introduction

In [1], Hardouin has proved an analog of Ostrowski-Kolchin theorem with one derivation operator [2] using difference Galois theory. The purpose of this paper is to give another proof in difference algebra, in which we use module of differentials and its fundamental propositions instead.

To state our theorem we prepare some notions in difference algebra (cf. [4, pp.103-115]). We always regard any ring (field) as a commutative ring (field) with characteristic 0. Let  $K$  be a field and  $\tau_K$  an isomorphism from  $K$  to itself. We call the pair  $(K, \tau_K)$  a *difference field* and  $\tau_K$  the *transforming operator* of  $K$ . Let  $L$  be an extension of  $K$  which is also a difference field with a transforming operator  $\tau_L$ . We call  $(L, \tau_L)$  a *difference extension* of  $(K, \tau_K)$  if  $\tau_L|_K = \tau_K$ . By  $C_K$ , we denote the *invariant field* of  $(K, \tau_K)$ , that is, the field of invariant elements of  $\tau_K$ . For  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r) \in K^r$  and  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \mathbb{Z}^r$ , we put  $\alpha^k = \prod_{i=1}^r \alpha_i^{k_i}$ . Then we shall show the following theorem:

**Theorem** Let  $(L, \tau)$  be a difference extension of a difference field  $(K, \tau)$  and the invariant field  $C = C_K$  an algebraically closed field. Suppose  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  are nonzero elements of  $L$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(x_i) &= u_i x_i, \\ \tau(y_j) &= v_j + y_j, \end{aligned}$$

where  $u_1, \dots, u_m, v_1, \dots, v_n \in K$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  are algebraically dependent over  $KC_L$ , then there exists a nonzero element  $a \in K$  satisfying

$$\tau(a) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^m u_i^{k_i} \right) a \quad (1)$$

for a nonzero element  $(k_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  or

$$\tau(a) = a + \sum_{j=1}^n a_j v_j \quad (2)$$

for a nonzero element  $(a_j) \in C^n$ .

## 2 Preliminaries

Let  $A$  be an algebra over a ring  $R$ . There exist an  $A$ -module  $\Omega$  called the *module of differentials* of  $A$  over  $R$  and an  $R$ -linear derivation  $d: A \rightarrow \Omega$  called the *universal  $R$ -linear derivation* if for any  $A$ -module  $M$  and any  $R$ -linear derivation  $D: A \rightarrow M$  there is a unique  $A$ -module homomorphism  $f: \Omega \rightarrow M$  such that  $D = f \circ d$  (cf. [4, pp.91-92]). The following propositions are well-known:

**Proposition 1** (Rosenlicht [6]). Let  $L/K$  be a field extension and  $\Omega$  its module of differentials with the universal  $K$ -linear derivation  $d$ . Then  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_r \in L$  are algebraically independent over  $K$  if and only if  $d\eta_1, \dots, d\eta_r \in \Omega$  are linearly independent over  $L$ .

**Proposition 2** (Rosenlicht [6]). Let  $L/K$  be a field extension and  $\Omega$  its module of differentials with the universal  $K$ -linear derivation  $d$ . Suppose  $a_1, \dots, a_r \in K$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . If  $\eta, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_r \in L$  satisfy

$$d\eta + \sum_{i=1}^r a_i \frac{d\zeta_i}{\zeta_i} = 0,$$

then  $d\eta = d\zeta_1 = \dots = d\zeta_r = 0$ .

**Proposition 3** (Kubota [3]). Suppose  $(L, \tau)$  is a difference extension of a difference field  $(K, \tau)$ . Let  $\Omega$  be the module of differentials of  $L/K$  with the universal  $K$ -linear derivation  $d$ . Then there exists an additive mapping  $\tau^*: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  such that

$$\tau^*(\eta d\zeta) = \tau(\eta)d(\tau(\zeta)) \quad (\eta, \zeta \in L).$$

## 3 Proof of Theorem

From the assumption, we may suppose that  $L$  is finitely generated over  $K$ . In fact, there is a nonzero polynomial  $F \in KC_L[X_1, \dots, X_m, Y_1, \dots, Y_n]$  satisfying

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n) = 0.$$

Let  $L'$  be an extension over  $K$  generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n$  and the elements of  $C_L$  being in the coefficients of  $F$ . Then we have  $\tau(L') \subset L'$ , so that  $(L', \tau)/(K, \tau)$  is a difference extension. Furthermore, we only have to prove our theorem in case  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are linearly independent over  $C$ .

First, suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  are algebraically dependent over  $KC_L$  and take the minimal number  $m'$  such that  $x_1, \dots, x_{m'}$  are algebraically dependent over  $KC_L$ . Let  $\Omega$  be the module of differentials of  $L/KC_L$  with the universal  $KC_L$ -linear derivation  $d : L \rightarrow \Omega$ . Then there is a nontrivial equation of linear dependence over  $L$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m'} a_i \frac{dx_i}{x_i} = 0,$$

where  $a_i \in L$  and  $a_{m'} = 1$ . Applying the additive mapping  $\tau^*$  of Proposition 3 to this equation, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m'} \tau(a_i) \frac{dx_i}{x_i} = 0.$$

Hence we get by  $\tau(a_{m'}) = a_{m'} = 1$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m'-1} (\tau(a_i) - a_i) \frac{dx_i}{x_i} = 0.$$

Since  $dx_1, \dots, dx_{m'-1}$  are linearly independent over  $L$  from Proposition 1, it follows that  $\tau(a_i) = a_i$  for each  $i$ . Hence every  $a_i$  is a member of  $C_L$ . There are elements  $c_1, \dots, c_r \in C_L$  such that they are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and satisfy

$$a_i = \sum_{j=1}^r n_{ij} c_j \quad (n_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

Then not all  $n_{ij}$  are zero. Putting  $z_j = \prod_{i=1}^{m'} x_i^{n_{ij}}$ , we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^r c_j \frac{dz_j}{z_j} = \sum_{j=1}^r c_j \sum_{i=1}^{m'} n_{ij} \frac{dx_i}{x_i} = \sum_{i=1}^{m'} a_i \frac{dx_i}{x_i} = 0.$$

From Proposition 2, each  $z_j$  is algebraic over  $KC_L$ . Take some  $z_j$  of them such that not all  $n_{1j}, \dots, n_{m'j}$  are zero. Considering its minimal polynomial, we can take a nonzero element  $z \in KC_L$  satisfying

$$\tau(z) = u^{(r_z n_z)} z, \tag{3}$$

where  $r_z$  is a positive integer and  $(r_z n_z) = (r_z n_{1j}, \dots, r_z n_{m'j})$ .

Next, suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  are algebraically independent over  $KC_L$ . Take the minimal number  $n'$  such that  $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_{n'}$  are algebraically dependent over  $KC_L$ . There is a nontrivial equation of linear dependence over  $L$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \frac{dx_i}{x_i} + \sum_{h=1}^{n'} b_h dy_h = 0,$$

where  $a_i, b_h \in L$  and  $b_{n'} = 1$ . Applying  $\tau^*$  to this equation, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \tau(a_i) \frac{dx_i}{x_i} + \sum_{h=1}^{n'} \tau(b_h) dy_h = 0.$$

Hence  $a_i, b_h$  are included in  $C_L$ . Take  $c_1, \dots, c_r \in C_L$ ,  $n_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $z_j \in L$  following the same procedure as above. Then we get

$$\sum_{j=1}^r c_j \frac{dz_j}{z_j} + d\left(\sum_{h=1}^{n'} b_h y_h\right) = 0.$$

Hence  $\sum_{h=1}^{n'} b_h y_h$  is algebraic over  $KC_L$ . There is also an element  $w \in KC_L$  satisfying

$$\tau(w) = w - \sum_{h=1}^{n'} r_w b_h y_h \tag{4}$$

for some positive integer  $r_w$ .

We can embed  $C_L$  into the field of formal power

series  $C((t))$  over  $C$  as a field, since  $C_L$  is finitely generated over  $C$ . We see  $C_L$  and  $K$  are linearly disjoint over  $C$ , and so are  $K$  and  $C((t))$ . In fact, suppose  $a_1, \dots, a_r \in C_L$  are linearly dependent over  $K$ . If  $r = 1$ , clearly  $a_1$  is linearly dependent over  $C$ . Assume that  $a_1, \dots, a_{r-1}$  are linearly independent over  $K$ . There are  $k_1, \dots, k_r \in K$  with  $k_r = 1$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^r k_i a_i = 0.$$

Applying  $\tau$  to this, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^r \tau(k_i) a_i = 0.$$

Hence we obtain  $\tau(k_i) = k_i$ , so that  $k_i \in C$ . This means  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  are linearly dependent over  $C$ . Next, suppose  $k_1, \dots, k_r \in K$  are linearly dependent over  $C((t))$ . Then there are formal power series  $\sum_{v=p}^{\infty} c_{1v} t^v, \dots, \sum_{v=p}^{\infty} c_{rv} t^v \in C((t))$  which make a nontrivial equation of linear dependence,

$$\sum_{i=1}^r k_i \sum_{v=p}^{\infty} c_{iv} t^v = \sum_{v=p}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{i=1}^r k_i c_{iv} \right) t^v = 0.$$

So we get  $\sum_{i=1}^r k_i c_{iv} = 0$  for all  $v$ . Since some  $c_{iv}$  is a nonzero element,  $k_1, \dots, k_r$  are linearly dependent over  $C$ .

Hence there is an embedding from  $K C_L$  into the field of formal power series  $K((t))$  over  $K$  as a difference field defining  $\tau(t) = t$  in  $K((t))$ . The above  $z$  can be described in  $K((t))$  as

$$z = \sum_{\mu=p}^{\infty} \alpha_{\mu} t^{\mu} \quad (\alpha_{\mu} \in K, \alpha_p \neq 0).$$

From (3), we see

$$\sum_{\mu=p}^{\infty} \tau(\alpha_{\mu}) t^{\mu} = \sum_{\mu=p}^{\infty} u^{(r_z n_{ij})} \alpha_{\mu} t^{\mu}.$$

Therefore we obtain  $\tau(\alpha_p) = u^{(r_z n_{ij})} \alpha_p$ , the form of (1).

We also put

$$w = \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \gamma_{\mu} t^{\mu}, \quad b_h = \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \beta_{h\mu} t^{\mu},$$

where  $\gamma_{\mu} \in K, \beta_{h\mu} \in C$  and  $\beta_{n'0} = 1$ . From (4), we see

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \tau(\gamma_{\mu}) t^{\mu} &= \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \gamma_{\mu} t^{\mu} - \sum_{h=1}^{n'} r_w v_h \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \beta_{h\mu} t^{\mu} = \\ &= \sum_{\mu=q}^{\infty} \left( \gamma_{\mu} - \sum_{h=1}^{n'} r_w \beta_{h\mu} v_h \right) t^{\mu}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $v_1, \dots, v_{n'}$  are linearly independent over  $C$  from the assumption, we see  $\gamma_0 \neq 0$ . Therefore  $\gamma_0$  is a nonzero element satisfying  $\tau(\gamma_0) = \gamma_0 - \sum_{h=1}^{n'} r_w \beta_{h0} v_h$ , the form of (2).

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[受付日 2013. 7. 19]  
[採録日 2013. 10. 30]