

## SYSTEMS OF INTEGRABLE DERIVATIONS

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Let  $A$  be a commutative  $k$ -algebra, with  $k$  a subring of  $A$ . We give the definition of  $n$ -dimensional differentiation of  $A$  over  $k$  which formally extends the known one of unidimensional differentiation and we study the group of all  $n$ -dimensional differentiations of  $A$  over  $k$ .

In the second part of the work we give some theorems of strong integrability for systems of derivations in terms of  $n$ -dimensional differentiation.

### Introduction.

Let  $A$  be a commutative  $k$ -algebra and let  $\text{Der}_k(A)$  be the module of the  $k$ -derivations of  $A$  in itself.

If  $D$  is a derivation of  $A$  over  $k$  and  $\text{char}(k) = 0$ , it is known that  $D$  is always strongly integrable over  $k$ , i.e. there exists an iterative unidimensional differentiation of  $A$  over  $k$  which lifts  $D$  ([4]).

If  $\text{char}(k) = p > 0$  and  $A$  is a separable field over  $k$ ,  $D^p = 0$  is a necessary and sufficient condition for the strong integrability ([4]), while if  $A$  is a ring separable over  $k$ , conditions for the integrability of  $D$  such that  $D^p = 0$  are given in [1].

Now, considered a system of derivations  $\underline{D} = \{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$  in the sense of [7], [1], non necessary independent, we say that  $\underline{D}$  is integrable (strongly

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integrable) if there exists a  $n$ -dimensional (iterative) differentiation of  $A$  over  $k$  which lifts  $\underline{D}$ .

If  $\text{char}(k) = 0$ , every commutative system of derivations is strongly integrable, while if  $\text{char}(k) = p > 0$ , systems of strongly integrable derivations are considered in [7].

In this work we study the lifting problem for a system of derivations to a differentiation of dimension  $n$ , where  $n$  is the number of independent derivations of the system of derivations.

Precisely in n. 1 we define a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation and we study its main properties. After having defined a system of integrable and strongly integrable derivations we study the group  $HS_k^n(A)$  of the  $n$ -dimensional differentiations of  $A$  over  $k$ .

In n. 2 we show that by the existence of a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation in the ring we can deduce theoretic properties of the ring (existence of an  $A$ -sequence formed by  $n$  elements, analytic independence of the same  $n$  elements, etc.).

We obtain theorems of structure for  $I$ -adically complete rings,  $I$  ideal of the ring, module the strong integrability of a system of independent derivations of the ring expressed by the existence of a differentiation of dimension  $n$ .

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1.- In this work, all rings are assumed to be commutative, noetherian, with a unit element.

**Definition 1.** Let  $k$  be a ring and  $A$  be a  $k$ -algebra. A  $n$ -dimensional differentiation  $\underline{D}$  (an infinite  $n$ -higher derivation in  $A$ ) of  $A$  is a set of linear maps  $\{D_\alpha : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\}$  such that  $D_0 = \text{id}_A$  and

$$(1) \quad D_\gamma(a \cdot b) = \sum_{\alpha+\beta=\gamma} D_\alpha(a) \cdot D_\beta(b)$$

for  $a, b \in A$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in N^n$ .

Such a definition is a formal extension of the definition of 1-dimensional differentiation  $\underline{D}$  of  $A$  (in the sense of Hasse-Schmidt). The set of  $n$ -dimensional differentiations of  $A$  is denoted by  $HS^n(A)$ .

As for the 1-dimensional differentiations we can associate to a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation, a ring homomorphism  $E$  from  $A$  into  $A[[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]]$  such that  $E(a) \equiv a \pmod{(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)}$  and precisely

$$E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_\alpha(a) X^\alpha$$

with  $\alpha \equiv (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in N^n$ ,  $X^\alpha = X_1^{\alpha_1} X_2^{\alpha_2} \dots X_n^{\alpha_n}$ .

Then  $E$  is a ring homomorphism of  $A$  into  $A[[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]]$ , and conversely any such homomorphism  $E$  comes from a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation of  $A$ . Sometimes we identify  $E$  with  $\underline{D}$ .

Let  $k$  be a ring and  $A$  be a  $k$ -algebra. Given a  $k$ -algebra homomorphism:

$$\Phi_1 : A \rightarrow A[X_1, \dots, X_n]/(X_1, \dots, X_n)^2$$

such that

$$(2) \quad \Phi_1(a) \equiv a \pmod{(X_1, \dots, X_n)}$$

we can associate  $n$  derivations of  $A$ :  $D_1, \dots, D_n$  and condition (2) can be expressed in this way:

$$\Phi_1(a) = a + D_1(a)X_1 + \dots + D_n(a)X_n.$$

**Definition 2.** Let  $k$  a subring of  $A$ . A  $n$ -dimensional differentiation  $\underline{D}$  of  $A$  is called a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation (or  $n$ -differentiation) of  $A$  over  $k$  if  $D_\alpha(a) = 0$  for all  $\alpha \neq 0$  and for all  $\alpha \in k$ .

The set of such  $n$ -differentiations is denote by  $HS_k^n(A)$ .

**Notation.** If  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  then the symbol  $\binom{\gamma}{\alpha}$  denotes the product of the binomial coefficients:  $\binom{\gamma}{\alpha} = \binom{\gamma_1}{\alpha_1} \dots \binom{\gamma_n}{\alpha_n}$ .

**Definition 3.** A  $n$ -differentiation  $\underline{D}$  is said to be iterative if:

$$D_\alpha \circ D_\beta = \binom{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha} D_{\alpha + \beta} \quad \text{for all } \alpha, \beta \in N^n.$$

**Remark 1.** We note that, in characteristic 0, for any commutative set of  $n$  derivations  $D_1, \dots, D_n$ , if we put  $D_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} = \frac{1}{h_1! \dots h_n!} D_1^{h_1} \dots D_n^{h_n}$ , we get a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation and we have  $D_\alpha \circ D_\beta = \binom{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha} D_{\alpha + \beta}$ . (In substance, the Definition 3 is a generalization of that one given in [4]).

**Definition 3'.** We say that a  $n$ -differentiation  $\underline{D}$  is iterative if the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{E_X} & A[[X]] \\ E_{X+Y} \downarrow & & \downarrow E_Y \\ A[[X+Y]] & \xrightarrow{i} & A[[X, Y]] \end{array}$$

is commutative, where  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ ,  $Y = (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)$ ,  $i$  is the inclusion map and  $E_Y(X) = X$ .

Definitions 3 and 3' are equivalent because the usual check in the classic case holds this case too; more generally, the equivalence follows by the relation

$$(X + Y)^\alpha = \sum \binom{\alpha}{\beta} X^\beta Y^{\alpha-\beta},$$

even if  $X, Y, \alpha, \beta$  are  $n$ -tuples.

**Definition 4.** Given  $n$  independent derivations  $D_1, \dots, D_n \in \text{Der}(A)$  we say that they form a  $n$ -integrable set if there exists a ring homomorphism  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]]$  such that

$$E(a) = a + D_1(a)X_1 + \dots + D_n(a)X_n + \dots$$

Such an homomorphism  $E$  is called  $n$ -dimensional integral of  $D_1, \dots, D_n$ .

**Definition 5.** Given  $n$  independent derivations  $D_1, \dots, D_n \in \text{Der}(A)$  we say that they form a  $n$ -integrable set over  $k$  if there exists a differentiation  $\underline{D} = \{D_\alpha : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\} \in HS_k^n(A)$  with  $D_{(0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)} = D_i$ .

**Definition 6.** We say that differentiations  $\underline{D} = \{D_\alpha : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\}$  and  $\underline{D}' = \{D'_\beta : A \rightarrow A; \beta \in N^n\}$  commute if  $D_\alpha$  and  $D'_\beta$  commute for every pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let  $k$  be a ring. If  $A$  is a smooth  $k$ -algebra then every set of  $n$  independent derivations of  $A$  can be lifted to a  $n$ -differentiation.

*Proof.* If  $D_1, \dots, D_n$  is a set of independent derivations of  $A$  over  $k$  there exists a  $k$ -algebra homomorphism:

$$\Phi_1 : A \rightarrow A[X]/(X)^2$$

(where  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ ), such that  $\Phi_1(a) \equiv a \pmod{(X)}$ .

Since  $A$  is a smooth  $k$ -algebra, we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\Phi_1} & A[X]/(X)^2 = A[X]/(X)^3/(X)^2/(X)^3 \\
 \uparrow & \searrow \Phi_2 & \uparrow \\
 k & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A[X]/(X)^3
 \end{array}$$

For the formal smoothness there exists  $\Phi_2 : A \rightarrow A[X]/(X)^3$  and so, for  $\Phi_n : A \rightarrow A[X]/(X)^{n+1}$  such that  $\Phi_{n-1}(a) \equiv \Phi_n(a) \pmod{(X)^n}$ ; for all  $n$ .

Since  $A[[X]] = \varprojlim A[X]/(X)^n$ ,  $\Phi_1$  can be lifted to a  $k$ -algebra homomorphism  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$  such that

$$E(a) = a + \sum_{i=1}^n D_i(a)X_i + \dots = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a)X^{\alpha},$$

and so the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Remark 2.** In characteristic 0, every set commutative of  $n$  derivations  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n$  is  $n$ -integrable and its integral is:

$$E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha_1! \dots \alpha_n!} D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_n^{\alpha_n}(a) X_1^{\alpha_1} X_2^{\alpha_2} \dots X_n^{\alpha_n},$$

with  $\alpha \equiv (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in N^n$ , by Remark 1.

**Remark 3.** If  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in N^n$ , then  $|\alpha|$  stands for  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$ .

Let  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  be a  $k$ -algebra morphism so defined:

$$E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a)X^{\alpha},$$

with  $D_0 = \text{id}_A$ , then  $D_{\alpha} : A \rightarrow A$  is a  $k$ -derivations  $\forall \alpha \in N^n$  with  $|\alpha| = 1$ .

**Remark 4.** If  $\underline{D} = \{D_\alpha : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\}$  is a differentiation and  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]] = A[[X]]$  is the corresponding ring homomorphism ( $E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_\alpha(a)X^\alpha$ ) then  $E$  can be extended to a map  $A[[X]] \rightarrow A[[X]]$ , by:

$$(3) \quad E \left( \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} X^{\alpha} \right) = \sum_{\alpha} E(a_{\alpha}) X^{\alpha}.$$

It is easy to see that this is an endomorphism of the ring  $A[[X]]$ .

Any element  $\xi$  of  $A[[X]] = A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  can be written

$$\xi = \xi_r + \xi_{r+1} + \dots,$$

where  $\xi_i$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $i$  in  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  with coefficients in  $A$ . If  $\xi_r \neq 0$  then  $\xi_r$  is called the *initial form* and is denoted by  $\text{In}(\xi)$ . Its degree  $r$  is called the *initial degree* and is denoted by  $v(\xi) (\in N)$ .

Then, for  $\xi \in A[[X]]$  we have

$$(4) \quad \text{In}(E(\xi)) = \text{In}(\xi)$$

or equivalently

$$(5) \quad v(E(\xi) - \xi) > v(\xi).$$

Formula (4) shows that  $E(\xi) \neq 0$  if  $\xi \neq 0$ , i.e. that  $E$  is injective. We claim that  $E$  is also surjective (hence an automorphism of  $A[[X]]$ ). To prove this, take  $\eta = \eta_0 + \eta_1 + \dots \in A[[X]]$ , and construct  $\xi = \xi_0 + \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \dots$  (where  $\xi_i$  is a form of degree  $i$ ) such that  $E(\xi) = \eta$  inductively by

$$\xi_0 = \eta_0,$$

$$\xi_i = \text{the homogeneous part of degree } i \text{ of } \eta - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} E(\xi_j).$$

Then  $v\left(\eta - \sum_{j=0}^i E(\xi_j)\right) > i$ , and so  $E\left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \xi_i\right) = \eta$ .

The set  $G$  of all such automorphisms of  $A[[X]]$  is characterised by formula (4). Therefore it is easy to see that

$$1) \quad E, E' \in G \Rightarrow E \cdot E' \in G$$

2)  $E \in G \Rightarrow E^{-1} \in G$ .

Therefore  $G$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(A[[X]])$ .

Explicitly, if  $E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a)X^{\alpha}$ ,  $E'(a) = \sum_{\beta} D'_{\beta}(a)X^{\beta}$ ,  $(EE')(a) = \sum_{\gamma} D''_{\gamma}(a)X^{\gamma}$ , then

$$(EE')(a) = E(E'(a)) = \sum_{\beta} X^{\beta} E(D'_{\beta}(a)) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} X^{\alpha+\beta} (D_{\alpha}(D'_{\beta}(a)))$$

hence

$$D''_{\gamma} = \sum_{\alpha+\beta=\gamma} D_{\alpha} D'_{\beta} = \sum_{\alpha \leq \gamma} D_{\alpha} D'_{\gamma-\alpha}$$

(where if  $\alpha, \beta \in N^n$ ,  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ ,  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$ , then we write  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if  $\alpha_i \leq \beta_i \forall i$ , and  $\alpha < \beta$  if  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ ).

Let us write  $D_i$  for  $D_{(0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)}$ . Then we have  $D''_i = D_i + D'_i$ .

The explicit form of  $E^{-1}$  can be obtained as follows. Set  $E^{-1} = E^*$ ,  $E^*(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}^*(a)X^{\alpha}$  ( $a \in A$ ). Then  $D_{\alpha}^*$ 's are obtained by solving the equations

$$\sum_{\alpha \leq \gamma} D_{\alpha} D'_{\gamma-\alpha} = 0 \quad (\gamma \neq 0).$$

Hence inductively

$$D_0^* = \text{id}, \quad D_{\gamma}^* = - \sum_{0 < \alpha \leq \gamma} D_{\alpha} D'_{\gamma-\alpha}.$$

For instance

$$D_i^* = -D_i \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n),$$

$$D_{(2,0,\dots,0)}^* = -D_{(2,0,\dots,0)} - D_1 D_1^* = D_1^2 - D_{(2,0,\dots,0)},$$

$$D_{(1,1,0,\dots,0)}^* = -D_1 D_2^* - D_2^* D_1 - D_{(1,1,0,\dots,0)} = D_1 D_2 + D_2 D_1 - D_{(1,1,0,\dots,0)}.$$

**Definition 7.** Let  $\underline{D} = \{D_{\alpha} : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\}$  and  $\underline{D}' = \{D'_{\alpha} : A \rightarrow A; \alpha \in N^n\}$  be  $n$ -dimensional differentiations. If  $E$  and  $E'$  are their corresponding homomorphisms, we define  $\underline{D} \cdot \underline{D}'$  as the  $n$ -dimensional differentiations corresponding to  $E \circ E'$ . As a consequence of Remark 4, we have:  $(D \circ D')_{\gamma} = \sum_{0 < \alpha \leq \gamma} D_{\alpha} D'_{\gamma-\alpha}$ .

Moreover, the set of all  $n$ -dimensional differentiations is a group.

**Example.** Let  $A = k[T_1, \dots, T_r] = k[T]$  and let  $\Psi_1(\underline{X}), \Psi_2(\underline{X}), \dots, \Psi_r(\underline{X}) \in A[[X]] = A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  be such that  $\Psi_i(0) = T_i$ , ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ). Then there exists one and only one homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$  such that:

$$E(T_i) = \Psi_i = T_i + \sum_{j=1}^n f_{ij} X_j + \sum_{j,k=1}^n f_{ijk} X_j X_k + \dots$$

This is the  $n$ -dimensional differentiation which lifts  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n \in \text{Der}_k(A)$ , where  $D_j = \sum_{i=1}^r f_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial T_i}$ .

This differentiation is not iterative because it doesn't check the diagram of Definition 3'.

2.- We extend, some results relative to unidimensional differentiations and contained in [7] to the  $n$ -dimensional differentiations.

From now on, if  $E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a) X^{\alpha}$  is a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation, we always denote  $D_{(0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)_i}$  by  $D_i$ .

**Proposition 2.** Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation. Put  $A_0 = \{a \in A \mid E(a) = a\}$ . Let  $x \in A$  such that

$$E(x) = x + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i$$

with some  $a_i$  invertible and  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n A = (0)$ .

Then, if  $z \in A$  and  $xz \in A_0$ , we have  $z = 0$ . Consequently  $x$  is not a zero-divisor of  $A$  and  $A_0 \cap xA = (0)$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} xz &= E(xz) = E(x)E(z) = \left(x + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X_i\right) \left(z + \sum_{i=1}^n D_i(z) X_i + \dots\right) = \\ &= xz + \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(a_i z + x D_i(z)) + \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \left(a_i D_i(z) + x D_{(0, \dots, 2, \dots, 0)_i}\right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$



Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_i z + x D_i(z) &= 0, \\ a_i D_i(z) + x D_{(0, \dots, 2, \dots, 0)}(z) &= 0, \\ \dots\dots\dots & \\ a_i D_{(0, \dots, n, \dots, 0)}(z) + x D_{(0, \dots, n+1, \dots, 0)}(z) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

and so on. It follows that, if  $a_i$  is invertible,  $z \in x^n A$  for all  $n > 0$ . Therefore  $z = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $A$  be a noetherian ring and let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r$  be elements of the Jacobson radical  $\text{Rad}(A)$  of  $A$ . We put  $I = Ax_1 + \dots + Ax_r$ . Suppose either:*  
 ( $\alpha$ )  *$A$  contains  $Q$ , and there exist  $r$  derivations  $D^{(1)}, \dots, D^{(r)} \in \text{Der}(A)$  such that  $\det(D^{(i)}(x_j)) \in U(A) = \{\text{units of } A\}$  and  $[D^{(i)}, D^{(j)}] = 0$ ; or*  
 ( $\beta$ ) *there exists a  $r$ -dimensional differentiation  $E : A \rightarrow A[[Y_1, \dots, Y_r]]$  such that*

$$E(x_j) = x_j + \sum_{i=1}^r D^{(i)}(x_j) Y_i$$

*$j = 1, \dots, r$ , and  $\det(D^{(i)}(x_j)) \in U(A)$ . Put  $F = \{a \in A \mid D^{(1)}a = \dots = D^{(r)}a = 0\}$  in case  $\alpha$ , and  $F = \{a \in A \mid E(a) = a\}$  in case  $\beta$ . Then  $F$  is a subring of  $A$  and  $F \cap I = (0)$ .*

*Proof.* In case  $\alpha$ , replacing  $D^{(i)}$  by suitable linear combinations we may assume that  $D^{(i)}(x_i) = \delta_{ij}$ . Then the iterative differentiation:

$$E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha_1! \dots \alpha_r!} D^{(1)\alpha_1} D^{(2)\alpha_2} \dots D^{(r)\alpha_r}(a) Y_1^{\alpha_1} Y_2^{\alpha_2} \dots Y_r^{\alpha_r}$$

satisfies condition ( $\beta$ ). Since the condition ( $\alpha$ ) implies ( $\beta$ ), it suffices to prove the proposition by hypothesis ( $\beta$ ). We proceed by induction on  $r$ . When  $r = 1$  the assertion is true by [7] Theorem 2.

We consider the differentiation  $E^*$  constructed by  $D^{(2)}, \dots, D^{(r)}$ . Since  $D^{(2)}(x_1) = \dots = D^{(r)}(x_1) = 0$ ,  $\overline{D}^{(2)}, \dots, \overline{D}^{(r)}$  are derivations of the quotient. Thus  $E^*$  passes to the quotient  $\text{mod } x_1 A$ .  $E^*(x_1) = x_1 \in x_1 A$  and we have

$$\overline{E}^*(x_j) = x_j + \overline{D}^{(2)} x_j Y_2 + \dots + \overline{D}^{(r)} x_j Y_r.$$

Now let  $y \in F \cap I$ ,  $y \in F$ . It results then  $\overline{E}^*(\overline{y}) = \overline{y}$  and  $\overline{y} \in (\overline{x}_2, \dots, \overline{x}_r)$ . Therefore  $\overline{y} = 0$  by the induction hypothesis. Thus  $y = x_1 z$  with some  $z \in A$ . Since

$$E(x_1) = x_1 + D^{(1)}(x_1) Y_1 + \dots + D^{(r)}(x_1) Y_r$$

and since  $x_1 \in \text{Rad}(A)$ , we can apply Proposition 2 to conclude  $z = 0, y = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $A$  be a noetherian ring, let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \text{Rad}(A)$  and let  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  be a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation such that  $\det(D_i(x_j)) \in U(A)$ , where  $D_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  are the derivations associated to  $E$ . Then  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is a regular sequence.*

*Proof.* Replacing  $D_i$  with  $\sum c_{ij} D_j$ , where  $c_{ij}$  are elements of the inverse matrix of  $(D_i(x_j))$ , we may assume that  $D_j(x_j) = \delta_{ij}$ . In particular we have  $D_1(x_1) = 1, D_2(x_1) = \dots = D_n(x_1) = 0$ . We consider the homomorphism  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  such that

$$E(x_j) = x_j + \sum_{i=1}^n D_i(x_j) X_i;$$

it results  $E(x_1) = x_1 + X_1$ , then by Proposition 2,  $x_1$  is regular. In the ring  $A/(x_1)$  we can consider the derivations of the quotient  $\bar{D}_2, \dots, \bar{D}_n$  and the differentiation

$$\bar{E}(\bar{x}_j) = \bar{x}_j + \bar{D}_2 \bar{x}_j X_2 + \dots + \bar{D}_n \bar{x}_j X_n.$$

Since  $\bar{D}_2 \bar{x}_2 = 1$ , by the same reasoning, we can find that  $\bar{x}_2$  is regular in  $A/(x_1)$  and  $\bar{D}_3 \bar{x}_2 = \dots = \bar{D}_n \bar{x}_2 = 0$ . Proceeding by induction, we deduce that  $\forall i, x_i$  is regular in  $A/(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$ , i.e.  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an  $A$ -regular sequence.  $\square$

**Proposition 5.** *Given  $n$  1-dimensional differentiations*

$$E_i : A \rightarrow A[[X_i]], \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

*there exists a  $n$ -dimensional differentiation*

$$E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$$

*such that the following diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{E} & A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]] \\ & \searrow E_i & \downarrow \pi_i \\ & & A[[X_i]] \end{array}$$

*(where  $\pi_i$  is the projection of  $A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  into the residue class ring*

$$A[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]/(X_1, \dots, \hat{X}_1, \dots, X_n) \cong A[[X_i]])$$

*is commutative for all  $i, i = 1, \dots, n$ .*

*Moreover, if the homomorphisms  $E_i$  are iterative and commute then  $E$  is iterative too.*

*Proof.* Using the  $n$  unidimensional differentiations  $E_i$  defined by  $E_i(a) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} X_i^n D_n(a)$ , we set  $E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a) X^{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ , where  $D_{\alpha} = D_{\alpha_1}^{(1)} \circ D_{\alpha_2}^{(2)} \circ \dots \circ D_{\alpha_n}^{(n)}$ . Obviously,  $E \equiv E_i \pmod{(X_1, \dots, \widehat{X}_i, \dots, X_n)}$ . Let us prove that  $E$  is an  $n$ -dimensional differentiation. The only non trivial fact is the equality  $E(ab) = E(a)E(b)$ . Let us use induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 1$ , there is nothing to prove; so, let us suppose the equality true for  $n - 1$ . This means that  $E^*(a) = \sum D_{\alpha_2}^{(2)} \dots D_{\alpha_n}^{(n)}(a) X^{(\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)}$  satisfies  $E^*(ab) = E^*(a)E^*(b)$ .

But, put  $X_i^{\alpha_i} = X^{\alpha_i}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} E(a) &= \sum_{\alpha_1} D'_{\alpha_1} \left( \sum_{(\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)} D_{\alpha_2}^{(2)} \dots D_{\alpha_n}^{(n)}(a) X^{\alpha_2} \dots X^{\alpha_n} \right) X^{\alpha_1} = \\ &= \sum_{\alpha_1} D'_{\alpha_1} (E^*(a)) X^{\alpha_1} \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} E(ab) &= \sum_{\alpha_1} D'_{\alpha_1} (E^*(ab)) X_1^{\alpha_1} = \sum_{\alpha_1} D'_{\alpha_1} (E^*(a)E^*(b)) X_1^{\alpha_1} = \\ &= \sum_{\alpha_1} \sum_{\gamma_1 + \delta_1 = \alpha_1} D'_{\gamma_1} (E^*(a)) D'_{\delta_1} (E^*(b)) X^{\alpha_1} \\ E(a)E(b) &= \sum_{\gamma_1} D'_{\gamma_1} E^*(a) X^{\gamma_1} \sum_{\delta_1} D'_{\delta_1} E^*(b) X^{\delta_1} = \\ &= \sum_{\alpha_1} \sum_{\gamma_1 + \delta_1 = \alpha_1} D'_{\gamma_1} (E^*(a)) D'_{\delta_1} (E^*(b)) X^{\alpha_1}. \end{aligned}$$

If the homomorphisms  $E_i$  are iterative and commute then the differentiation constructed above is iterative too. In fact:

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\alpha} \circ D_{\beta}(a) &= D_{\alpha}(D_{\beta}(a)) = D_{\alpha}(D_{\beta_1}^{(1)} D_{\beta_2}^{(2)} \dots D_{\beta_n}^{(n)}(a)) = \\ &= D_{\alpha_1}^{(1)} D_{\alpha_2}^{(2)} \dots D_{\alpha_n}^{(n)}(D_{\beta_1}^{(1)} D_{\beta_2}^{(2)} \dots D_{\beta_n}^{(n)}(a)) = \\ &= D_{\alpha_1}^{(1)} \circ D_{\beta_1}^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ D_{\alpha_n}^{(n)} \circ D_{\beta_n}^{(n)}(a) = \\ &= \frac{(\alpha_1 + \beta_1)!}{\alpha_1! \beta_1!} \dots \frac{(\alpha_n + \beta_n)!}{\alpha_n! \beta_n!} D_{(\alpha_1 + \beta_1)}^{(1)} \dots D_{(\alpha_n + \beta_n)}^{(n)}(a). \end{aligned}$$

$$D_{\alpha + \beta}(a) = D_{(\alpha_1 + \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n + \beta_n)}(a) = D_{(\alpha_1 + \beta_1)}^{(1)} D_{(\alpha_2 + \beta_2)}^{(2)} \dots D_{(\alpha_n + \beta_n)}^{(n)}(a). \quad \square$$

**Remark 5.** We can reformulate Lipman's theorem using differentiations instead of derivations.

Let  $(A, m)$  be a noetherian local ring containing the rational number field  $Q$  and let  $x_1, \dots, x_r \in m$ ,  $I = (x_1, \dots, x_r)$ .

Suppose that

- (1)  $A$  is  $I$ -adically complete,
- (2) there exists a  $r$ -dimensional differentiation

$$E : A \rightarrow A[[Y_1, \dots, Y_r]] = A[[Y]],$$

associated to a commutative set of independent derivations, such that

$$E(x_j) = x_j + \sum_{i=1}^r D_i(x_j) Y_i$$

and  $\det(D_i(x_j)) \notin m$ .

Then  $A_0 = \{a \in A \mid E(a) = a\}$  is a subring of  $A$  such that  $A = A_0[[x_1, \dots, x_r]]$ , with  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  analytically independent over  $A_0$ .

Since we are in characteristic 0, every commutative set of  $r$  derivations  $D_1, \dots, D_r$ , associated to a  $r$ -dimensional  $E$ , is  $r$ -integrable and its integral is

$$E(a) = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha_1! \dots \alpha_r!} D_1^{\alpha_1} D_2^{\alpha_2} \dots D_r^{\alpha_r} (a) Y_1^{\alpha_1} Y_2^{\alpha_2} \dots Y_r^{\alpha_r}.$$

**Proposition 6.** Let  $K$  be a separable extension field of a field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $D_1, \dots, D_n \in \text{Der}_k(K)$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in K$  such that  $\det(D_i(x_j)) \neq 0$ .

Then there exists an iterative  $n$ -dimensional  $E : K \rightarrow K[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$  associated to the system of derivations  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} [D_i, D_j] &\in \sum_{\alpha=1}^n K D_{\alpha}, & D_i^p &\in \sum_{\alpha=1}^n K D_{\alpha} \\ 1 \leq i, j \leq n & & 1 \leq i \leq n. & \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* It follows by Theorem 1 of [1] and by Proposition 4.  $\square$

**Definition 8.** Let  $S$  be a ring of characteristic  $p$  and  $S^p$  denote the subring  $\{x^p \mid x \in S\}$ . Let  $S'$  be a subring of  $S$ . A subset  $\Gamma$  of  $S$  is said to be  $p$ -independent over  $S'$ , if the monomials  $b_1^{e_1} \dots b_n^{e_n}$ , where  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are distinct elements of  $\Gamma$  and  $0 \leq e_i \leq p-1$ , are linearly independent over  $S^p[S']$ .  $\Gamma$  is called a  $p$ -basis of  $S$  over  $S'$  if it is  $p$ -independent over  $S'$  and  $S^p[S', \Gamma] = S$ .

Let  $B$  be a subring of  $A$ . We denote the differential module of  $A$  over  $B$  by  $\Omega_B(A)$  and the canonical  $B$ -derivation by  $d : A \rightarrow \Omega_B(A)$ . For the definition and elementary properties we refer to [5], par. 25. It is not difficult to verify that if  $\Gamma$  is a  $p$ -basis of  $A$  over  $B$  then  $\Omega_B(A)$  is a free  $A$ -module with  $\{dy, y \in \Gamma\}$  as a basis. Not every rings have a  $p$ -basis and there are sets  $p$ -independent which cannot be extended to a  $p$ -basis.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $(A, m)$  be a local ring containing a field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $A$  be separable over  $k$ . Let  $D_1, \dots, D_n \in \text{Der}_k(A)$ . Set  $A_0 = \{a \in A \mid D_i(a) = 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$ . Suppose that*

- 1) *there exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A / \det(D_i(x_j)) \notin m$ ,*
- 2)  *$\Omega_k(A_0)$  is a free  $A_0$ -module and  $A_0$  is finite over  $k[A_0^p]$ ,*
- 3) *there exists a  $p$ -basis  $B_0$  of  $A_0$  over  $k$  containing  $x_1^p, \dots, x_n^p$ .*
- 4)  $[D_i, D_j] \in \sum_{\alpha=1}^n AD_\alpha, \quad D_i^p \in \sum_{\alpha=1}^n AD_\alpha$   
 $1 \leq i, j \leq n \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$

*Then the system of derivations  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  can be prolonged to an iterative  $n$ -dimensional differentiation.*

*Proof.* Let  $(c_{ij})$  be the inverse matrix of  $(D_i x_j)$  and put  $\partial_i = \sum_j c_{ij} D_j$ .

Then  $\partial_i x_j = \delta_{ij}$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^n AD_i = \sum_{i=1}^n A\partial_i$ ,  $[\partial_i, \partial_j] \in \sum A\partial_i$ ,  $\partial_i^p \in \sum A\partial_j$

(this last follows from the Hochschild formula  $(aD)^p = a^p D^p + (aD)^{p-1}(a)D$ , [5], p. 197). But if  $[\partial_i, \partial_j] = \sum_k b_{ijk} \partial_k$  then  $b_{ijk} = [\partial_i, \partial_j]x_k = 0$  for all  $k$ , therefore  $[\partial_i, \partial_j] = 0$ . Similarly  $\partial_i^p = 0$ .

By Theorem 1 of [2],  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is a  $p$ -basis of  $A$  over  $A_0$ . Thus  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are  $p$ -independent over  $A_0$ .

Moreover, with the same process that is found in theorem 7 of [4], for the separability of  $A$  over  $k$ , we can obtain that  $x_i^p \notin A_0^p k$ , and  $x_i^p$  can belong to a  $p$ -basis  $B_0$  of  $A_0$  over  $k$ .

Let  $B_0^* = B_0 \setminus \{x_1^p, \dots, x_n^p\}$ .

Put  $B = B_0^* \cup \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ .

It results  $A = A_0[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  (since  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is a  $p$ -basis of  $A$  over  $A_0$ ).

Set  $y_i = x_i^p$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have

$$A = A_0[X_1, \dots, X_n] / (X_1^p - y_1, \dots, X_n^p - y_n).$$

Set  $I = (X_1^p - y_1, \dots, X_n^p - y_n)$  and  $(\underline{X}) = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ .

Since

$$\Omega_k(A_0[\underline{X}]) \cong (\Omega_k(A_0) \otimes_{A_0} A_0[\underline{X}]) \oplus A_0[\underline{X}]dX_1 \oplus \dots \oplus A_0[\underline{X}]dX_n,$$

$\Omega_k(A_0)$  is a free module with basis  $dB_0$  and the following sequence

$$I/I^2 \rightarrow \Omega_k(A_0[\underline{X}]) \otimes A \rightarrow \Omega_k(A) \rightarrow 0,$$

is exact, we have

$$\Omega_k(A) \cong (\Omega_k(A_0) \otimes_{A_0} A) / (Ady_1 \oplus Ady_2 \oplus \dots \oplus Ady_n) \oplus Adx_1 \oplus \dots \oplus Adx_n,$$

i.e.  $\Omega_k(A)$  is free with differential basis  $B = B_0^* \cup \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ , i.e.  $B$  is a  $p$ -basis of  $A$  over  $k$ .

Since  $A$  is separable over  $k$ ,  $A \otimes_k k^{p^{-1}}$  is reduced and we can settle on the grounds of the theorem of [8].

The homomorphism  $E : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]]$  defined by  $E(x_j) = x_j + \sum_{i=1}^n D_i(x_j)X_i$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$  is the iterative differentiation sought.

The following results concern the case of a set of derivations  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  which aren't necessarily independent.

In such ambit we have the following result:

**Corollary 1.** ([8] Corollary 3.2). *Let  $A$  be a  $k$ -algebra such that the ring  $A \otimes_k k^{p^{-1}}$  is reduced and let  $\Gamma$  be a  $p$ -basis of  $A$  over  $k$ . For any set of  $k$ -derivations  $d_1, \dots, d_m : A \rightarrow A$  there exists a  $m$ -dimensional differentiation  $\underline{D} : A \rightarrow A[[X_1, \dots, X_m]]$*

$$\underline{D}(a) = \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha}(a)X^{\alpha}$$

with  $\alpha \equiv (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m) \in N^m$ ,  $X^{\alpha} = X_1^{\alpha_1} X_2^{\alpha_2} \dots X_m^{\alpha_m}$ , such that  $D_0 = \text{id}_A$  and  $D_{(0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)} = d_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , with 1 on the  $i$ -th position.

**Remark 5.** We notice that the  $d_1, \dots, d_m$  of Corollary 1 are ordinary derivations and they can be dependent or independent. If  $A$  is a field  $K$ ,  $k$  doesn't necessarily coincides with the subfield of the constants  $K_0$ . In general  $k \subseteq K_0$ . The hypothesis  $K$  has a  $p$ -basis (also infinite over  $k$ ) is too strong. In fact we can deduce that  $K$  has a finite  $p$ -basis over  $K_0$ . (Theorem 7 [4]).

If  $d_1, \dots, d_m$  are dependent derivations of which are independent  $s < m$ , by renaming and reordering we can suppose that the first  $s$  derivations are independent. If  $\Gamma = \{x_1, \dots, x_s\}$  is a  $p$ -basis of  $K$  over  $K_0$ , we can define  $d_i(x_j) = \delta_{ij}$   $1 \leq i, j \leq s$ . If  $d_1, \dots, d_m$  are not linearly independent we can't suppose that  $d_i(x_j) = \delta_{ij}$   $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ .

We reformulate Proposition 6 and Theorem 1 in the case of a set of derivations not necessarily independent.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $K$  be a separable extension field of a field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  be a set of derivations of  $K$  over  $k$  such that  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$  with  $r < n$  are independent. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r \in K$  such that

$$\det(D_i(x_j)) \neq 0, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq r.$$

We suppose that  $[D_i, D_j] = 0$  and  $D_i^p = 0$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq r$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq r$ .

Then we have the following facts:

- 1)  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$  are strongly integrable.
- 2) We can find integrals of  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(r)}$  of  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$  such that  $E^{(i)}$  and  $E^{(j)}$  commute, for any  $i, j$ .
- 3) There exist integrals of  $D_{r+1}, \dots, D_n$  of the form  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$  where  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r \in K$  and  $E_{\lambda_i}^{(i)}$  is the homomorphism associated to the differentiation

$$\underline{D}_{\lambda_i} = \{1, \lambda_i D_j^{(1)}, \lambda_i^2 D_j^{(2)}, \dots, \lambda_i^n D_j^{(n)}, \dots\}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq r.$$

*Proof.* To integrate  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  we find  $n$  ring homomorphisms  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(n)}$  that lift  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n$  respectively. We observe that  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(r)}$  don't have ties because  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$  are independent. Given two differentiations  $\underline{D}_i = \{1, D_{i_1}, D_{i_2}, \dots\}$  with  $D_{i_1} = D_i$  and  $\underline{D}_j = \{1, D_{j_1}, D_{j_2}, \dots\}$  with  $D_{j_1} = D_j$ , we can define the product  $\underline{D}_i \cdot \underline{D}_j$  by the automorphisms  $E^{(i)}$  and  $E^{(j)}$  associated to  $\underline{D}_i$  and  $\underline{D}_j$  respectively. The differentiation obtained

$$\underline{D}_i \cdot \underline{D}_j = \{1, D_{i_1} + D_{j_1}, \dots\}$$

is an unidimensional differentiation that lifts the sum  $D_{i_1} + D_{j_1}$ .

If  $\underline{D}_i = \{1, D_{i_1}, D_{i_2}, \dots\}$  is an unidimensional differentiation of  $A$  and  $\lambda_i \in A$  then the differentiation  $\underline{D}_{\lambda_i} = \{1, \lambda_i D_{i_1}, \lambda_i^2 D_{i_2}, \dots\}$  is a differentiation that lifts  $\lambda_i D_{i_1}$ . Then there exists an unidimensional differentiation that lifts  $\lambda_1 D_1 + \lambda_2 D_2 + \dots + \lambda_r D_r$ , that one which we obtain putting in order  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)}, \dots, E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$  and thus there exist integrals of  $D_{r+1}, \dots, D_n$  of the form  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 9.** We say that a set  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  of derivations of a field  $K$  is integrable if there are  $s$  unidimensional differentiations  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(s)}$  that commute and integrate  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_s$  if  $s < n$  are independent derivations and  $D_{s+1}, \dots, D_n$  have each one an integral unidimensional that we can obtain from  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(s)}$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $(A, m)$  be a local ring containing a field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $A$  be separable over  $k$ . Let  $D_1, \dots, D_n$  be a set of derivations of  $A$  over  $k$ , such that  $D_1, \dots, D_r$  with  $r < n$  are independent. Set  $A_0 = \{a \in A \mid D_i(a) = 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$ . We suppose that

- 1) there exist  $x_1, \dots, x_r \in A / \det(D_i(x_j)) \notin m$   $1 \leq i, j \leq r$ ,
- 2)  $\Omega_k(A_0)$  is a free  $A_0$ -module and  $A_0$  is finite over  $k[A_0^p]$ ,
- 3) there exists a  $p$ -basis  $B_0$  of  $A_0$  over  $k$  containing  $x_1^p, \dots, x_r^p$ ,
- 4)  $[D_i, D_j] = 0$   $D_i^p = 0$   
 $1 \leq i, j \leq r$   $1 \leq i \leq r$ .

Then

- 1) There exists an iterative  $r$ -dimensional integral  $\underline{E}^{(r)}$  for  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$ .
- 2) For any  $D_{r+1}, \dots, D_n$  there exists an iterative unidimensional integral of the form  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$  where  $E^{(i)}$   $1 \leq i \leq r$  is obtained by  $\underline{E}^{(r)}$  putting  $X_1 = \dots = \widehat{X}_i = \dots = X_r = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\underline{E}^{(r)}$  be the integral relative to  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_r$  (see Theorem 2). Let  $E^{(1)}, \dots, E^{(r)}$  be unidimensional integrals obtained by  $\underline{E}^{(r)}$  putting  $X_1 = \dots = \widehat{X}_i = \dots = X_r = 0$ .

$E^{(1)}$  integrates  $D_1, \dots, E^{(r)}$  integrates  $D_r$ .

Let  $D_i, r+1 \leq i \leq n, D_i = \lambda_1 D_1 + \lambda_2 D_2 + \dots + \lambda_r D_r$ .

We consider  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)}, \dots, E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$ , it is clear that we can get  $E_{\lambda_1}^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ E_{\lambda_r}^{(r)}$  integral of  $D_i, r+1 \leq i \leq n$ .  $\square$

It is allowed to give the following:

**Definition 10.** Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  a set of derivations of a ring  $A$  with  $s < n$  independent derivations. To integrate  $\mathcal{D}$  means to give an integral  $\underline{E}$  of dimension  $r$  for the independent derivations and  $n - r$  integrals of dimension 1 that we can always construct by  $\underline{E}$ .

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