

Subfields of the complete
Picard–Vessiot closure of a
differential field

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F a differential field of characteristic 0 and algebraically closed field of constants C

The *Picard–Vessiot Closure* F_1 of $F_0 = F$ is a differential extension field $F_1 \supseteq F_0$ such that

- F_1 is a union of Picard–Vessiot extensions of F_0
- Every Picard–Vessiot extension of F_0 embeds in F_1

Facts about F_1 :

- $G(F_1/F_0)$ is proaffine and there is a Galois correspondence
- Differential automorphisms of F_0 [ToC] lift to F_1
- F_1 may have proper Picard–Vessiot extensions

Example $C \subset C(x) \subset C(x, \log x) \subset C(x, \log x, \text{Li}(x))$

Define inductively:

$$F_{i+1} = (F_i)_1$$

Then

$$F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq F_2 \subseteq \dots$$

Note inclusions can be proper: $F_0 = C$, $x \in F_1 - F_0$, $\log x \in F_2 - F_1$, $\text{Li}(x) \in F_3 - F_2$, etc [RS]

The *complete Picard–Vessiot closure* of F is

$$F_\infty = \cup_i F_i$$

Automorphisms lift:

$$G(F_\infty/F) \twoheadrightarrow G(F_i/F)$$

$$G(F_\infty/F) = \varprojlim G(F_i/F)$$

$$G(F_{i+1}/F_i) \hookrightarrow G(F_{i+1}/F) \twoheadrightarrow G(F_i/F)$$

$G(F_{i+1}/F_i)$ (pro) algebraic and

$$F_{i+1}^{G(F_{i+1}/F_i)} = F_i \text{ so } F_\infty^{G(F_\infty/F_0)} = F_0$$

Characterization of F_∞

Theorem. *The extension $F_\infty \supseteq F$ satisfies*

1. *The constants of F_∞ are those of F .*
2. *Every every linear homogeneous differential equation over F_∞ has a full set of solutions in F_∞ .*
3. *If $F_\infty \supseteq E \supseteq F$ is an intermediate differential subfield such that every linear homogeneous differential equation over E has a full set of solutions in E then $E = F_\infty$.*

Moreover, any differential field $K \supseteq F$ with the above properties is differentiably F isomorphic to F_∞ .

A trivial consequence of the third condition

Corollary. *Let E be a differential subfield of F_∞ with $F \subseteq E$. Then $F_\infty = E_\infty$. In particular, all the fields E_i can be regarded as subfields of F_∞ .*

Consequence of this:

Automorphisms of E lift to $F_\infty = E_\infty$

Reason for the corollary: E a differential subfield of F_∞ with $F \subseteq E$, and L a monic linear differential operator over E . Then there is a differential subfield $E_L \subseteq F_\infty$ with $E \subseteq E_L$ such that $E_L \supseteq E$ is a Picard–Vessiot extension for L .

An intermediate field $F_\infty \supseteq E \supseteq F$ is *normal* if $\sigma(E) = E$ all $\sigma \in G(F_\infty/F)$.

$E \subset M \subset K$ intermediate fields, with K normal.

$G(F_\infty/E) \rightarrow G(K/E)$ defined by normality, onto by lifting

$$E = F_\infty^{G(F_\infty/E)} = K^{G(K/E)}$$

so

$$M = K^{G(K/M)}$$

semi Galois Theory

$M \mapsto G(K/M)$ is an injection from the set of differential subfields of K containing E to the set of subgroups of $G(K/E)$, with right inverse $H \mapsto K^H$.

Iterated Picard–Vessiot (IPV) E : $F = E_0 \subseteq E_1 \cdots \subseteq E_n = E$ such that for each i E_{i+1} is a Picard–Vessiot extension of E_i .

E_0, E_1, \dots, E_n a defining tower for E .

Theorem. *Let E be a differential subfield of F_∞ finitely generated over F . Then E is contained in an iterated Picard–Vessiot extension of F . Conversely, if $E \supseteq F$ is a subfield of an iterated Picard–Vessiot extension then there is a differential embedding of E over F into F_∞ .*

Locally Iterated Picard–Vessiot (LIPV) extension if every finite subset of E belongs to an iterated Picard–Vessiot subextension of F contained in E .

Fact: a compositum of LIPV's in F_∞ is LIPV.

Theorem. *Let E be a differential subfield of F_∞ . Then E is contained in a locally iterated Picard–Vessiot extension of F . Conversely, if $E \supseteq F$ is a subfield of a locally iterated Picard–Vessiot extension then there is a differential embedding of E over F into F_∞ .*

Proposition. *Let K^1 and K^2 be locally iterated Picard–Vessiot extensions of F inside F_∞ , and suppose $\tau : K^1 \rightarrow K^2$ is an F differential isomorphism. Then there is an F differential automorphism σ of F_∞ which restricts to τ on K^1 .*

Normality Theorem

Theorem. *Let E be a locally iterated Picard–Vessiot extension of F contained in F_∞ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

1. *Every differential automorphism of F_∞ over F carries E to itself.*
2. *For any no new constants extension K of F , all differential embeddings $E \rightarrow K$ over F have the same image.*

Example

$$F = C(t) \quad y \in F_1 \subseteq F_\infty, \quad y' = t^{-1}$$

$$\{z_a \mid a \in C\} \subset F_2 \subseteq F_\infty, \quad z'_a = ((y + a)t)^{-1}.$$

$$F\langle y \rangle = F(y)$$

$$E_a := F\langle z_a \rangle = F(y, z_a)$$

$F \subset F(y)$ and $F(y) \subset E_a$ are Picard–Vessiot extensions, and $F \subset E_a$ is an iterated Picard–Vessiot extension: a defining tower is $F \subset F(y) \subset E_a$.

$$\mathcal{E} = \{E_a \mid a \in C\}.$$

The compositum $E = F(y, \{z_a \mid a \in C\})$ of \mathcal{E} in F_∞ is LIPV

$$\sigma \in G(F_\infty/F). \quad y^\sigma = y + b(\sigma) \text{ for some } b(\sigma) \in C.$$

$$\tau \in G(F_\infty/F) \text{ then } b(\sigma\tau) = b(\sigma) + b(\tau).$$

$$z_a^\sigma = z_{a+b(\sigma)} + c(\sigma, a) \text{ for some } c(\sigma, a) \in C$$

$$c(\sigma\tau, a) = c(\sigma, a + b(\tau)) + c(\tau, a).$$

$$G(E/F) = \text{Map}(C, \mathbb{G}_a) \rtimes \mathbb{G}_a$$

$$\mathbb{G}_a = C \text{ acts on } \text{Map}(C, \mathbb{G}_a) \text{ by } a \cdot f(x) = f(x + a)$$

$$G(E/F) \rightarrow \text{Map}(C, \mathbb{G}_a) \rtimes \mathbb{G}_a \text{ by } \sigma \mapsto (c(\sigma, \cdot), b(\sigma)).$$

$$\mathbb{G}_a \int_r \mathbb{G}_a$$