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THE EXPONENTIAL REPRESENTATION OF FLOWS AND THE CHRONOLOGICAL CALCULUS

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ABSTRACT. In this article is developed a calculus which reflects the most general group-theoretic properties of flows and which is based on an exponential representation of flows defined by nonstationary differential equations. Problems of optimization and control have had the greatest influence on the development of this calculus, and the results are intended mainly to treat these problems.

Bibliography: 11 titles.

This paper was written especially in honor of the seventieth birthday of Lev Semenovič Pontrjagin.

We develop here a calculus which is based on the exponential representation of flows defined by nonstationary ordinary differential equations and which reflects the most general group-theoretic properties of flows. The problems of the theory of optimization and control, and especially the numerous efforts to extend Pontrjagin's maximum principle to singular control problems (see [1]–[7]), have all had a decisive influence on our development of this calculus. In accordance with this basic concern, we treat those aspects of the calculus which have immediate applications to these theories.

As is well known, the main difficulty in expressing a flow by specifying its nonstationary vector field arises from the fact that the fields at different moments of time do not commute. This is a difficulty we must overcome in the derivations of all of the basic results in this paper, most of which have well-known analogs in the case of stationary flows. For similar "nonstationary" situations, physicists use the term "chronological," and we have adopted this term to describe the calculus developed here. It is explained briefly in [8].

We do not give a general overview of the content of the paper since it is sufficiently clear from the six section headings. We give here only the principal notation which will be used throughout.

We denote by \mathbf{R}^n n -dimensional real space, whose points are n -dimensional columns, always denoted by Latin letters; row vectors are always denoted by Greek letters. The scalar product of a row vector by a column vector of the same dimension will be written in the form of a matrix multiplication:

$$\xi \cdot x = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \begin{pmatrix} x^1 \\ \vdots \\ x^n \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \xi_\alpha x^\alpha.$$

We denote the Jacobian matrix of an m -dimensional vector-valued function $x \mapsto X(x)$ with respect to the coordinate vector $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ by

$$\text{grad } X = (\partial_\beta X^\alpha), \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, m, \quad \beta = 1, \dots, n, \quad \partial_\beta = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\beta}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ \vdots \\ X^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular, for a scalar function φ we have

$$\text{grad } \varphi = (\partial_1 \varphi, \dots, \partial_n \varphi).$$

The identity mapping of \mathbf{R}^n onto itself will be denoted by E . By the modulus of a vector $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ we understand the quantity $|x| = \max_\alpha |x^\alpha|$, and by the modulus of an n -dimensional row ξ , the quantity $|\xi| = \sum_1^n |\xi_\alpha|$. Similarly, we define the modulus of an $n \times m$ matrix $A = (a_{\beta\alpha}^\alpha)$, $\alpha = 1, \dots, n$, $\beta = 1, \dots, m$, as $|A| = \sum_{\beta=1}^m \max_\alpha |a_{\beta\alpha}^\alpha|$. Finally, the term "smoothness" will mean infinite differentiability.

§1. Preparatory material

We collect in this section the formulas and estimates which will be used in the subsequent development. In most cases they are well known, but we present them in some detail for the benefit of possible readers from the engineering specialties.

1. *Differentiation and formal exponents in algebras.* We consider an arbitrary real algebra \mathcal{Q} , i.e. a real vector space in which a multiplication of elements satisfying a unique bilinearity condition is defined. Thus \mathcal{Q} is not necessarily associative and does not necessarily contain a unit; it can be a Lie algebra, for example, in which multiplication is anticommutative, $ab = -ba$, and the *Jacobi identity*

$$a(bc) + b(ca) + c(ab) = 0 \quad \forall a, b, c \in \mathcal{Q}$$

is satisfied.

As is customary, we denote multiplication in an arbitrary Lie algebra by square brackets, $ab = [a, b]$, and we call it *Lie brackets* or *commutation*.

We denote the algebra of all linear mappings of the vector space \mathcal{Q} into itself by $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$, the product of the elements $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$, i.e., the composition of the linear mappings I_1 and I_2 , by $I_1 \circ I_2$, the identity element (identity mapping) by Id , and powers (iterations) of I by I^m , $m > 0$.

A linear mapping $\delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$ is called a *differentiation in \mathcal{Q}* if it satisfies the formal rule for the differentiation of a product

$$\delta(ab) = (\delta a)b + a(\delta b).$$

We denote the set of all differentiations in an algebra \mathcal{Q} by $\text{Der}(\mathcal{Q})$; it is a subspace, but not a subalgebra, of $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$. However, we convert $\text{Der}(\mathcal{Q})$ into a Lie algebra by defining the product $[\delta_1, \delta_2]$ of two elements $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \text{Der}(\mathcal{Q})$ to be their commutator $\delta_1 \circ \delta_2 - \delta_2 \circ \delta_1$:

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2] = \delta_1 \circ \delta_2 - \delta_2 \circ \delta_1.$$

The fact that the Lie brackets $[b_1, b_2]$ of two differentiations is again a differentiation in \mathcal{Q} , and also the Jacobi identity for the multiplication defined in this way can be verified by direct calculation.

Let Λ be an arbitrary real Lie algebra. There exists a natural linear mapping $\text{ad}: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\Lambda)$ given by

$$(\text{ad } v)w = [v, w] \quad \forall v, w \in \Lambda.$$

We use the generally accepted notation

$$\text{ad}^0 v = \text{Id}, \quad \text{ad}^{m+1} v = \text{ad } v \circ \text{ad}^m v = \text{ad}^m v \circ \text{ad } v$$

for the powers of $\text{ad } v \in \mathcal{L}(\Lambda)$. The mapping ad has the following basic properties: it maps Λ into $\text{Der}(\Lambda)$,

$$\text{ad } v [w_1, w_2] = [\text{ad } v w_1, w_2] + [w_1, \text{ad } v w_2],$$

where this mapping is a homomorphism of the Lie algebra Λ into the Lie algebra $\text{Der}(\Lambda)$, and

$$(\text{ad } [v_1, v_2])w = [\text{ad } v_1, \text{ad } v_2]w.$$

Both of these identities can be verified by direct calculation using the Jacobi identity.

In an arbitrary algebra \mathcal{Q} we may consider a *formal power series over \mathcal{Q} in the variable t* ,

$$a_t = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} t^\alpha a_\alpha, \quad a_\alpha \in \mathcal{Q}.$$

We call the element a_0 the *initial value* of the series a_t . The set of all formal power series over \mathcal{Q} , which we denote by $\mathcal{Q}[[t]]$, can be made into a real algebra in a natural way if we add series and multiply a series by a number in the usual way and if we define the product of two series to be the “Cauchy product,”

$$a_t b_t = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} t^m \sum_{\alpha+\beta=m} a_\alpha b_\beta.$$

The algebra \mathcal{Q} is identified in an obvious canonical way with a subalgebra of $\mathcal{Q}[[t]]$.

We define the linear mapping d/dt of the algebra $\mathcal{Q}[[t]]$ into itself, “*differentiation with respect to t* ,” by means of the usual “termwise differentiation,”

$$\frac{d}{dt} a_t = \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} t^\alpha a_\alpha = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} t^{\alpha-1} (\alpha a_\alpha).$$

It is easy to verify by direct calculation that $d/dt \in \text{Der}(\mathcal{Q}[[t]])$ and that

$$\frac{d}{dt} (a_t b_t) = \left(\frac{d}{dt} a_t \right) b_t + a_t \left(\frac{d}{dt} b_t \right).$$

We call the formal power series

$$e^{tI} = \text{Id} + tI + t^2 \frac{1}{2!} I^2 + \dots = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} t^\alpha \frac{I^\alpha}{\alpha!} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})[[t]]$$

the *formal exponential* of the element $I \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$.

The formal exponential e^{tI} clearly commutes with I , $Ie^{tI} = e^{tI}I$, and satisfies the "differential equation"

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{tI} = Ie^{tI}.$$

It is easy to see that the equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} a_t = I a_t, \quad I \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}),$$

in $a_t \in \mathcal{Q}[[t]]$ with arbitrary initial value $a_0 \in \mathcal{Q}$ has a unique solution a_t given by $a_t = e^{tI}a_0$. This fact will be used below in the following form.

The equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} I_t = I I_t, \quad I \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}),$$

in $I_t \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})[[t]]$ with arbitrary initial value I_0 for I has the unique solution $I_t = e^{tI}I_0$. The validity of this statement becomes evident if we note that I can be considered as a linear mapping of the vector space $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$ into itself:

$$I' \mapsto I \circ I' \quad \forall I' \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q}).$$

For arbitrary elements $I_1, I_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$ which commute, i.e. which satisfy

$$I_1 \circ I_2 - I_2 \circ I_1 = [I_1, I_2] = 0,$$

we have that

$$e^{t(I_1+I_2)} = e^{tI_1}e^{tI_2} = e^{tI_2}e^{tI_1}. \quad (1.1)$$

The formal exponential gives a bijective mapping $e^{tI}: a_t \mapsto e^{tI}a_t$ of $\mathcal{Q}[[t]]$ onto itself, because $e^{t0} = \text{Id}$ and therefore $e^{tI} = e^{t(-I)} = \text{Id} \quad \forall I \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$.

If δ is a differentiation in \mathcal{Q} , then the formal exponential of δ has the following remarkable property.

For each differentiation $\delta \in \text{Der}(\mathcal{Q})$ and for arbitrary $a, b \in \mathcal{Q}$ we have

$$e^{t\delta}(ab) = (e^{t\delta}a)(e^{t\delta}b). \quad (1.2)$$

In fact, since d/dt and δ are differentiations in $\mathcal{Q}[[t]]$, we have the identity

$$\frac{d}{dt} ((e^{t\delta}a)(e^{t\delta}b)) = (\delta e^{t\delta}a)(e^{t\delta}b) + (e^{t\delta}a)(\delta e^{t\delta}b) = \delta((e^{t\delta}a)(e^{t\delta}b)),$$

from which (1.2) follows if we take into consideration that the initial value of the formal power series $(e^{t\delta}a)(e^{t\delta}b)$ is ab .

Multiplying the power series on the right-hand side of (1.2) and equating the coefficients of equal powers of t on both sides of the equation, we get the "Leibniz formula" for the n th power of a differentiation of a product, for a differentiation $\delta \in \text{Der}(\mathcal{Q})$ in an arbitrary algebra \mathcal{Q} ,

$$\delta^m(ab) = \sum_{\alpha+\beta=m} \frac{m!}{\alpha! \beta!} (\delta^\alpha a)(\delta^\beta b). \quad (1.3)$$

In concluding this subsection, we prove the “polarization identity” which we use in making estimates.

Let I_1, \dots, I_m be pairwise commuting elements of $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Q})$, i.e. $[I_j, I_k] = 0$ for all $j, k = 1, \dots, m$. Then

$$I_1 \circ \dots \circ I_m = \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\alpha=1}^m (-1)^{m-\alpha} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_\alpha \leq m} (I_{k_1} + \dots + I_{k_\alpha})^m. \tag{1.4}$$

PROOF. Using the Viète formulas for expressing the coefficients of a polynomial as symmetric functions of its roots, and making use of (1.1), we can represent the formal power series

$$I_t = (e^{tI_1} - \text{Id}) \dots (e^{tI_m} - \text{Id}) = t^m I_1 \circ \dots \circ I_m + \dots$$

in the form

$$\begin{aligned} I_t &= (-\text{Id})^m + \sum_{\alpha=1}^m (-1)^{m-\alpha} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_\alpha \leq m} e^{tI_{k_1}} \dots e^{tI_{k_\alpha}} \\ &= (-\text{Id})^m + \sum_{\alpha=1}^m (-1)^{m-\alpha} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_\alpha \leq m} e^{t(I_{k_1} + \dots + I_{k_\alpha})}. \end{aligned}$$

All of the coefficients of t^j in the series on the right-hand side are equal to zero for $j < m - 1$, and the coefficient of t^m can be calculated directly to be

$$\frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\alpha=1}^m (-1)^{m-\alpha} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_\alpha \leq m} (I_{k_1} + \dots + I_{k_\alpha})^m,$$

which proves (1.4).

2. *The algebras Φ and $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$.* We denote the algebra of all smooth real functions on \mathbf{R}^n by Φ , and the Cartesian product of n copies of the vector space $\Phi = \Phi^1$ by Φ^n . We identify canonically each linear mapping l of Φ into itself with a linear mapping of Φ^n into itself in a canonical way by

$$lX = l \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ \vdots \\ X^n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} lX^1 \\ \vdots \\ lX^n \end{pmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ \vdots \\ X^n \end{pmatrix} \in \Phi^n.$$

An arbitrary differentiation $\delta \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$ in Φ is called a *vector field*, or simply a *field* over \mathbf{R}^n . As is well known, every vector field over \mathbf{R}^n is a first-order differential operator, i.e. there exists a function

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ \vdots \\ X^n \end{pmatrix} \in \Phi^n$$

such that

$$\delta = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n X^\alpha \partial_\alpha, \quad \partial_\alpha = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha}.$$

Therefore in what follows we will denote vector fields over \mathbf{R}^n by \vec{X}, \vec{Y} , etc., putting an arrow over the corresponding function. For *constant fields*, i.e. fields which correspond to constant functions, we use the notation $\vec{h}, h \in \mathbf{R}^n$. A field \vec{X} and its corresponding function X are obviously related by $\vec{X}E = X$.

As usual, we call the m -linear mapping $\mathbf{R}^n \times \dots \times \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ given by

$$(h_1, \dots, h_m) \mapsto \vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_m \varphi(x)$$

the m th-order derivative of $\varphi \in \Phi$ at the point $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$. The symmetry of the mapping follows from the fact that constant fields commute, and the m -linearity is obvious. We get the usual expression for the first-order derivative,

$$h \mapsto \vec{h}\varphi(x) = \text{grad } \varphi(x) \cdot h = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \partial_\alpha \varphi(x) h^\alpha,$$

and the formal Taylor series of a function $\varphi \in \Phi$ at a point x can be written by making use of the formal exponential of \vec{h} :

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} t^m \frac{\vec{h}^m \varphi}{m!}(x) = \left(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} t^m \frac{\vec{h}^m}{m!} \right) \varphi(x) = e^{t\vec{h}} \varphi(x).$$

In this case, (1.2) and (1.3) take the form

$$e^{t\vec{h}}(\varphi_1 \varphi_2) = (e^{t\vec{h}} \varphi_1)(e^{t\vec{h}} \varphi_2), \quad \vec{h}^m(\varphi_1 \varphi_2) = \sum_{\alpha+\beta=m} \frac{m!}{\alpha! \beta!} \vec{h}^\alpha \varphi_1 \vec{h}^\beta \varphi_2. \tag{1.5}$$

For an arbitrary integer $s \geq 0$ and arbitrary $M \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, we consider the seminorm $\|\varphi\|_{s,M}$, which can be either finite or infinite, defined in Φ by

$$\|\varphi\|_{s,M} = \sup_{x \in M} \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} |\vec{h}^\alpha \varphi(x)|.$$

If $M = \mathbf{R}^n$, we will omit the index M , i.e. $\|\varphi\|_{s,\mathbf{R}^n} = \|\varphi\|_s$. For matrix-valued functions, we let

$$\|A\|_{s,M} = \sum_{\beta=1}^n \max_{\alpha} \|a_{\beta}^{\alpha}\|_{s,M}, \quad A = (a_{\beta}^{\alpha}), \quad a_{\beta}^{\alpha} \in \Phi;$$

in particular,

$$\|X\|_{s,M} = \max_{\alpha} \|X^{\alpha}\|_{s,M}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X^1 \\ \vdots \\ X^n \end{pmatrix} \in \Phi^n,$$

$$\|\xi\|_{s,M} = \sum_{\beta=1}^n \|\xi_{\beta}\|_{s,M}, \quad \xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n).$$

The following easily verified inequalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi\|_{s,M} &\leq \|\varphi\|_{s+k,M} \quad \forall k \geq 0, \\ \|\varphi_1\|_{s,M} - \|\varphi_2\|_{s,M} &\leq \|\varphi_1 - \varphi_2\|_{s,M}, \\ \|\varphi_1 \varphi_2\|_{s,M} &\leq \|\varphi_1\|_{s,M} \|\varphi_2\|_{s,M}, \end{aligned} \tag{1.6}$$

and their analogs for matrix-valued functions, of which we note

$$\|AX\|_{s,M} \leq \|A\|_{s,M} \|X\|_{s,M}. \tag{1.7}$$

We prove the inequality

$$\sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}_1| = \dots = |\vec{h}_s| = 1} |\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi(x)| \leq (2s)^s \|\varphi\|_{s,M} \quad \forall \varphi \in \Phi, \tag{1.8}$$

which is important in making subsequent estimates. We use the polarization identity (1.4) and write

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}_j| = 1} |\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi(x)| &\leq \frac{1}{s!} \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \sum_{k_1 < \dots < k_\alpha} \sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}_j| = 1} |(\vec{h}_{k_1} + \dots + \vec{h}_{k_\alpha})^s \varphi(x)| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{s!} \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \frac{s!}{\alpha! (s-\alpha)!} \sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}| \leq \alpha} |\vec{h}^s \varphi(x)| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{s!} \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \alpha^s \frac{s!}{\alpha! (s-\alpha)!} \sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}| = 1} |\vec{h}^s \varphi(x)| \\ &\leq \|\varphi\|_{s,M} S^s \sum_{\alpha=1}^s \frac{s!}{\alpha! (s-\alpha)!} = (2s)^s \|\varphi\|_{s,M}. \end{aligned}$$

We introduce in Φ the topology defined by the family of seminorms $\|\cdot\|_{s,K}$, where $s > 0$ and K is an arbitrary compact set in \mathbf{R}^n . This topology, called the *topology of compact convergence with respect to all derivatives*, makes Φ a Fréchet space (a complete, metrizable, locally convex space), and we will always regard Φ as being furnished with this topology in what follows, unless otherwise specified.

We denote the algebra of continuous linear mappings of Φ into itself by $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. We show that $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ contains all vector fields. It is obviously sufficient to establish the inequality

$$\|\vec{X}\varphi\|_{s,M} \leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s,M} \|\varphi\|_{s+1,M},$$

and its immediate consequences,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{X}A\|_{s,M} &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s,M} \|A\|_{s+1,M}, \\ \|\vec{X}Y\|_{s,M} &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s,M} \|Y\|_{s+1,M}, \\ \|\text{grad } \varphi\|_{s,M} &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|\varphi\|_{s+1,M}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.9}$$

Making use of (1.8), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \|\partial_k \varphi\|_{s,M} &\leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{x \in M, |\vec{h}_j| = 1} |\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_{\alpha+1} \varphi(x)| \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} (2\alpha+2)^{\alpha+1} \|\varphi\|_{\alpha+1,M} \leq 3(2s+2)^{s+1} \|\varphi\|_{s+1,M}, \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{X}\varphi\|_{s,M} &= \left\| \sum_{\alpha=1}^n (\partial_\alpha\varphi) X^\alpha \right\|_{s,M} \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \|\partial_\alpha\varphi\|_{s,M} \|X^\alpha\|_{s,M} \\ &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s,M} \|\varphi\|_{s+1,M}. \end{aligned}$$

Above we put into correspondence with each function $X \in \Phi^n$ the field of X . Now we put into correspondence with each function $P \in \Phi^n$ another operator \hat{P} in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$, which we call a *smooth mapping*; to distinguish it from the field generated by the same function P , we will put a caret over the letter instead of an arrow. We define the action of \hat{P} on $\varphi \in \Phi$ by

$$\hat{P}\varphi = \varphi \circ P,$$

where the circle on the right-hand side denotes composition of functions. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{P}(\lambda\varphi_1 + \mu\varphi_2) &= \lambda\hat{P}\varphi_1 + \mu\hat{P}\varphi_2, \quad (\hat{P}_1 + \hat{P}_2)\varphi = \hat{P}_1\varphi + \hat{P}_2\varphi, \\ \hat{P}E &= E \circ P = P. \end{aligned}$$

To prove that \hat{P} is continuous, we have the estimate

$$\|\hat{P}\varphi\|_{s,M} \leq (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P\|_{s,M})^s \|\varphi\|_{s,P(M)},$$

and its consequences,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{P}A\|_{s,M} &\leq (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P\|_{s,M})^s \|A\|_{s,P(M)}, \\ \|\hat{P}X\|_{s,M} &\leq (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P\|_{s,M})^s \|X\|_{s,P(M)}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.10}$$

The proof is by induction on s . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{P}\varphi\|_{0,M} &= \sup_{x \in M} |\varphi \circ P(x)| = \|\varphi\|_{0,P(M)}, \\ \|\varphi \circ P\|_{s,M} &\leq \|\varphi \circ P\|_{s-1,M} + \frac{1}{s!} \sup_{x \in M, |h|=1} |\vec{h}^{s-1} \circ \vec{h}\varphi \circ P(x)| \\ &\leq \|\varphi \circ P\|_{s-1,M} + \|(\text{grad } \varphi) \circ P\|_{s-1,M} \|\vec{h}P\|_{s-1,M}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, putting $C_s = (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s$ and using the induction assumption and the second of the estimates (1.9), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\text{grad } \varphi) \circ P\|_{s-1,M} &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \|(\partial_\alpha\varphi) \circ P\|_{s-1,M} \\ &\leq C_{s-1} (1 + \|P\|_{s-1,M})^{s-1} \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \|\partial_\alpha\varphi\|_{s-1,P(M)} \\ &\leq 3n(2s)^s C_{s-1} (1 + \|P\|_{s-1,M})^{s-1} \|\varphi\|_{s,P(M)}, \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi \circ P\|_{s,M} &\leq \|\varphi \circ P\|_{s-1,M} + 3n(2s)^s C_{s-1} (1 + \|P\|_{s-1,M})^{s-1} \|\vec{hP}\|_{s-1,M} \|\varphi\|_{s,P(M)} \\ &\leq C_{s-1} (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s} (1 + \|P\|_{s,M})^s \|\varphi\|_{s,P(M)}) \leq C_s (1 + \|P\|_{s,M})^s \|\varphi\|_{s,P(M)}. \end{aligned}$$

We prove one more estimate which we will need:

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\hat{P}_1 - \hat{P}_2)X\|_{s,M} &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P_1\|_{s,M} \\ &\quad + \|P_2\|_{s,M})^s \|P_1 - P_2\|_{s,M} \|\varphi\|_{s+1,\tilde{M}}, \end{aligned} \tag{1.11}$$

$$\tilde{M} = \{y \mid y = P_2(x) + r(P_1(x) - P_2(x)), x \in M, 0 \leq r \leq 1\}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} (\hat{P}_1 - \hat{P}_2)\varphi &= \varphi \circ P_1 - \varphi \circ P_2 = \varphi \circ (P_2 + (P_1 - P_2)) - \varphi \circ P_2 \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dr} \varphi \circ (P_2 + r(P_1 - P_2)) dr = \int_0^1 ((\text{grad } \varphi) \circ (P_2 + r(P_1 - P_2))) \cdot (P_1 - P_2) dr, \end{aligned}$$

and, on the basis of (1.10) and (1.9),

$$\begin{aligned} &\|(\text{grad } \varphi) \circ (P_2 + r(P_1 - P_2))\|_{s,M} \\ &\leq (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P_1\|_{s,M} + \|P_2\|_{s,M})^s \|\text{grad } \varphi\|_{s,\tilde{M}} \\ &\leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s (1 + \|P_1\|_{s,M} + \|P_2\|_{s,M})^s \|\varphi\|_{s+1,\tilde{M}}, \end{aligned}$$

whence the desired estimate follows.

In what follows, all of the smooth mappings P will, as a rule, be diffeomorphisms of \mathbf{R}^n . We will also call the corresponding operators $\hat{P} \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi^n)$ *diffeomorphisms*.

It is easy to see that if the operator $\mathcal{I} \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ satisfies

$$\mathcal{I}\varphi = \varphi \circ \mathcal{I}E \quad \forall \varphi \in \Phi$$

and is invertible in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$, then $\mathcal{I}E$ is a diffeomorphism of \mathbf{R}^n . Indeed, for all $\varphi \in \Phi$,

$$\varphi = \varphi \circ (\mathcal{I} \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E) = \varphi \circ (\mathcal{I}^{-1}E \circ \mathcal{I}E) = (\varphi \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E) \circ \mathcal{I}E = \mathcal{I}(\varphi \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E),$$

and consequently $\mathcal{I}^{-1}\varphi = \varphi \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E$. Therefore the smooth mappings $P = \mathcal{I}E$ and $Q = \mathcal{I}^{-1}E$ are inverses of each other since

$$P \circ Q = \mathcal{I}E \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E = \mathcal{I}^{-1} \circ \mathcal{I}E = E, \quad Q \circ P = \mathcal{I}^{-1}E \circ \mathcal{I}E = \mathcal{I} \circ \mathcal{I}^{-1}E = E.$$

Conversely, if P and Q are smooth diffeomorphisms of \mathbf{R}^n which are inverses of each other, then

$$(\hat{P})^{-1} = \hat{Q}.$$

We also note the obvious fact that if P_1 and P_2 are two smooth mappings of \mathbf{R}^n into itself, and if $Q = P_1 \circ P_2$ is their composition, then

$$\hat{Q} = \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1.$$

If \hat{P} is a diffeomorphism, we can verify by direct calculation that for any field $\vec{X} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$ the composition $\hat{P} \circ \vec{X} \circ \hat{P}^{-1}$ is also a field. We consider the function $\vec{X} \mapsto \hat{P} \circ \vec{X} \circ \hat{P}^{-1} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$ as a linear mapping of $\text{Der}(\Phi)$ into itself defined by the

diffeomorphism P , and we denote it by $\text{Ad } P$:

$$(\text{Ad } \hat{P}) \vec{X} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \hat{P} \circ \vec{X} \circ \hat{P}^{-1} \in \text{Der}(\Phi) \quad \forall \vec{X}. \quad (1.12)$$

3. *Families of functions and operators.* In what follows, we will constantly be concerned with families φ_t , $t \in \mathbf{R}$, of elements of Φ , to which the basic constructions of analysis carry over in a natural way if we use the topology in Φ . We note here only the most essential ones.

It is not necessary to give special definitions of continuity and differentiability with respect to t of a family φ_t , since Φ is a topological vector space. We will say that a family φ_t , $t \in \mathbf{R}$, is *measurable* if $\forall x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ the scalar function $t \mapsto \varphi_t(x)$ is measurable, and a measurable family is *locally integrable* or *uniformly integrable*, respectively, if, for any given $t_1, t_2, s > 0$ and for any compact set $K \subset \mathbf{R}^n$,

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \|\varphi_\tau\|_{s,K} d\tau < \infty,$$

or

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \|\varphi_\tau\|_{s,K} d\tau \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } |t_1 - t_2| \rightarrow 0,$$

respectively. (The measurability of $\|\varphi_t\|_{s,K}$ follows easily from the measurability of φ_t .)

We call the function

$$x \mapsto \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \varphi_\tau(x) d\tau, \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^n,$$

the *integral* of the locally integrable family φ_t , $t \in \mathbf{R}$, between the limits t_1 and t_2 . We prove by induction on s that it belongs to Φ and that, for arbitrary constant fields $\vec{h}_1, \dots, \vec{h}_s$,

$$\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \varphi_\tau d\tau = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi_\tau d\tau.$$

Let K be a compact neighborhood of an arbitrarily given point $x_0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$. From (1.8) we have that

$$|\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi_t(x)| \leq (2s)^s \|\varphi_t\|_{s,K} \quad \forall x \in K,$$

where the function on the right is integrable over $[t_1, t_2]$ by hypothesis. Applying the induction assumption and the theorem concerning differentiation under the integral sign at x_0 we get

$$\vec{h}_1 (\vec{h}_2 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \varphi_\tau d\tau) = \vec{h}_1 \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{h}_2 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi_\tau d\tau = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_s \varphi_\tau d\tau.$$

The statement just proved implies directly that

$$\left\| \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \varphi_\tau d\tau \right\|_{s,K} \leq \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \|\varphi_\tau\|_{s,K} d\tau,$$

from which it follows that $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \varphi_\tau d\tau$ depends continuously on (t_1, t_2) .

We call the family $\varphi_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, *absolutely continuous* if there exists a locally integrable family ψ_t such that $\varphi_t = \varphi_{t_0} + \int_{t_0}^t \psi_\tau d\tau$. Using the fact that there exists a countable set which is everywhere dense in Φ , we can prove, just as for scalar functions, that for almost all t

$$\frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{t_0}^t \psi_\tau d\tau = \psi_t.$$

We now pass to a consideration of families of operators $I_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$, where all of the concepts of analysis defined above for families φ_t carry over automatically to families of operators if the corresponding concept is defined for I_t in the “weak” sense. For the sake of convenience in the formulation, we introduce the vector topology of simple (pointwise) convergence in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$: a sequence of operators $I_m, m = 1, 2, \dots$, converges to zero if and only if $I_m \varphi \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$ for all $\varphi \in \Phi$.

We define *measurability, continuity, differentiability, local integrability, uniform integrability, and absolute continuity* of the family $I_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, by requiring that the family $I_t \varphi$ have the corresponding property for all $\varphi \in \Phi$.

We define the *derivative* of a family I_t which is differentiable at t_0 to be the linear operator

$$I'_{t_0} = \lim_{\delta t_m \rightarrow 0} \frac{I_{t_0 + \delta t_m} - I_{t_0}}{\delta t_m},$$

the convergence here, as in all that follows, being in the topology of simple convergence in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. By the Banach-Steinhaus theorem, the limit of a sequence of continuous linear operators in a Fréchet space is a continuous operator; consequently $I'_{t_0} \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$.

The *integral* of a locally summable family I_t from t_1 to t_2 is defined to be the linear operator which acts thus:

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} I_\tau d\tau \varphi = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} I_\tau \varphi d\tau.$$

We prove that this operator is continuous.

We denote by $I_t^{(m)}, t_1 < t < t_2$, the “truncation” of a family I_t , defined as follows for each $m = 1, 2, \dots$. We take a sequence of numbers $C_m \rightarrow \infty$ and an increasing sequence of compact sets K_m whose union is all of \mathbf{R}^n . We fix s and K and put

$$I_t^{(m)} = I_t, \quad \text{if } \|I_t \varphi\|_{s,K} \leq C_m \|\varphi\|_{s+m,K_m} \quad \forall \varphi \in \Phi,$$

and $I_t^{(m)} = 0$ otherwise. We denote by \mathcal{E}_m the set of all points of $[t_1, t_2]$ at which $I_t^{(m)} = I_t$; obviously $\text{mes } \mathcal{E}_m \rightarrow t_2 - t_1$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. Finally, we denote by $\Phi_{s,K}$ the vector space Φ furnished with the topology generated by the single seminorm $\|\cdot\|_{s,K}$, and by $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, \Phi_{s,K})$ the vector space of continuous linear mappings from Φ into $\Phi_{s,K}$. For each fixed m , the family $I_t^{(m)}, t_1 < t < t_2$, is bounded in the topology of simple convergence, i.e., for any φ, s , and K we can find a constant $C(\varphi, s, K)$ such that

$$\|I_t^{(m)} \varphi\|_{s,K} \leq C(\varphi, s, K) \quad \forall t \in [t_1, t_2].$$

Therefore by the Banach-Steinhaus theorem it is equicontinuous, and consequently $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} l_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \Phi_{s,K})$, whence (again by the Banach-Steinhaus theorem)

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} l_\tau^{(m)} d\tau = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathcal{E}_m} l_\tau d\tau = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} l_\tau d\tau \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \Phi_{s,K}).$$

Since s and K are arbitrary here, $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} l_\tau d\tau \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$.

We call the family $l_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, *absolutely continuous* if there exists a locally integrable family \tilde{l}_t such that $l_t = l_{t_0} + \int_{t_0}^t \tilde{l}_\tau d\tau$. From the analogous statement for the family φ_t it follows at once that $dl_t/dt = \tilde{l}_t$ for almost all t .

It is easy to see that if a family m_t is locally integrable and the family l_t is continuous, then $l_t \circ m_t$ is locally integrable.

In conclusion, we prove that if l_t and m_t are continuous families of operators in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ which are differentiable at t_0 , then $(l_{t_1} \circ m_{t_2})$ depends continuously on $(t_1, t_2) \in \mathbf{R}^2$, the family $l_t \circ m_t$ is differentiable at t_0 , and we have the Leibniz formula for the derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dt} (l_t \circ m_t)_{t_0} = \left(\frac{d}{dt} l_t \right)_{t_0} \circ m_{t_0} + l_{t_0} \circ \left(\frac{d}{dt} m_t \right)_{t_0}.$$

To prove the continuity, we form the difference

$$(l_{t_1+\delta t_1} \circ m_{t_2+\delta t_2} - l_{t_1} \circ m_{t_2})\varphi = l_{t_1+\delta t_1} \circ (m_{t_2+\delta t_2} - m_{t_2})\varphi + (l_{t_1+\delta t_1} - l_{t_1}) \circ m_{t_2}\varphi.$$

As $\delta t_1, \delta t_2 \rightarrow 0$, the second term $(l_{t_1+\delta t_1} - l_{t_1}) \circ m_{t_2}\varphi \rightarrow 0$ by definition, and $(m_{t_2+\delta t_2} - m_{t_2})\varphi$ lies in any preassigned neighborhood of zero in Φ . Furthermore the family $l_{t_1+\delta t_1}, |\delta t_1| \leq \text{const}$, is continuous and therefore bounded in the topology of simple convergence; consequently it is equicontinuous by the Banach-Steinhaus theorem, and therefore

$$l_{t_1+\delta t_1} \circ (m_{t_2+\delta t_2} - m_{t_2})\varphi \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \delta t_1, \delta t_2 \rightarrow 0.$$

The statement concerning differentiability follows from identical arguments if we write

$$\frac{1}{\delta t} (l_{t+\delta t} \circ m_{t+\delta t} - l_t \circ m_t) = \frac{1}{\delta t} (l_{t+\delta t} - l_t) \circ m_t + \frac{1}{\delta t} l_{t+\delta t} \circ (m_{t+\delta t} - m_t).$$

From what we have proved it follows easily that the composition $l_t \circ m_t$ of two absolutely continuous families is absolutely continuous, and also that the family $l_t \varphi_t$ is absolutely continuous if φ_t is absolutely continuous, and that the formula for the differentiation of a product holds for it.

4. *Nonstationary fields and flows.* The main objects of our study are two classes of families of operators in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. They are nonstationary fields and flows.

We will call an arbitrary locally integrable family $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, of vector fields over \mathbf{R}^n a *nonstationary field over \mathbf{R}^n* , or simply a *field*. Each additional property of a field will be stated explicitly.

We will call an arbitrary absolutely continuous family of diffeomorphisms \hat{P}_t which are defined for values of t in a given interval J a *flow over \mathbf{R}^n* . The interval J can be replaced by the entire axis \mathbf{R} in this definition (see Proposition 1.2); we prefer, however, for purely technical reasons to leave it unspecified.

We also call the family of diffeomorphisms $P_t = \hat{P}_t E$ of \mathbf{R}^n corresponding to the flow \hat{P}_t a *flow*. It is easy to see that P_t , together with all of its derivatives with respect to x , is continuous with respect to the collection of variables (t, x) and is absolutely continuous with respect to t for fixed $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, and that it satisfies

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \left\| \frac{d}{d\tau} P_\tau \right\|_{s,K} d\tau < \infty.$$

Conversely, every family of smooth diffeomorphisms P_t of \mathbf{R}^n with these properties generates a flow \hat{P}_t in the above sense.

We consider the linear differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathfrak{F}_t = \mathfrak{F}_t \circ \vec{X}_t \tag{1.13}$$

with the initial conditions

$$\mathfrak{F}_{t_0} = \mathfrak{F}_0 \tag{1.14}$$

for the unknown family $\mathfrak{F}_t, t \in J_{t_0}$, of operators in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. Here \vec{X}_t is a given non-stationary field, and J_{t_0} is an interval containing t_0 . Every absolutely continuous family $\mathfrak{F}_t, t \in J_{t_0}$, of operators in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ which satisfies (1.13) for almost all $t \in J_{t_0}$ and which satisfies (1.14) will be called a *solution of (1.13) under the conditions (1.14)*. The absolute continuity of the unknown solution guarantees the equivalence of (1.13)–(1.14) and the integral equation

$$\mathfrak{F}_t = \mathfrak{F}_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \mathfrak{F}_\tau \circ \vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \tag{1.15}$$

We will call the linear differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathfrak{G}_t = -\vec{X}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t \tag{1.16}$$

the *adjoint* of (1.13); the integral equation

$$\mathfrak{G}_t = \mathfrak{G}_0 - \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau \circ \mathfrak{G}_\tau d\tau \tag{1.17}$$

corresponds to it. We will call (1.13), (1.15), (1.16), and (1.17) *linear operator equations*.

We will call an absolutely continuous family I_t *invertible* if for all t the operator $I_t \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ has an inverse $I_t^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ and I_t^{-1} is also absolutely continuous. In this case we will call I_t and I_t^{-1} *mutual inverses*. Every flow \hat{P}_t is invertible, since it is possible to prove by the implicit function theorem that P_t^{-1} depends absolutely continuously on t .

PROPOSITION 1.1. 1) *If the operator \mathfrak{F}_0 in (1.15) is a left inverse of \mathfrak{G}_0 in (1.17), then every solution \mathfrak{F}_t of (1.15) is a left inverse of every solution \mathfrak{G}_t of (1.17), i.e. $\mathfrak{F}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t = \text{Id}$ for all $t \in J_{t_0}$.*

2) *If \mathfrak{F}_0 is a left inverse of \mathfrak{G}_0 and either one of the equations (1.15) or (1.17) has an invertible solution, then each equation has a unique solution, and the solutions are mutually inverse flows. Consequently if a solution of one of the equations is a flow, then the inverse flow is a solution of the other, and the solutions are unique.*

PROOF. Part 1) can be verified by direct differentiation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\mathfrak{F}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t) = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \mathfrak{F}_t \right) \circ \mathfrak{G}_t + \mathfrak{F}_t \circ \left(\frac{d}{dt} \mathfrak{G}_t \right) = \mathfrak{F}_t \circ \vec{X}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t - \mathfrak{F}_t \circ \vec{X}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t = 0;$$

consequently by virtue of the absolute continuity of $\mathfrak{F}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t$ we have that $\mathfrak{F}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t = \mathfrak{F}_0 \circ \mathfrak{G}_0 = \text{Id}$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$.

For the proof of part 2), we note first of all that a similar check shows that if ι_t , $t \in J_{t_0}$, is an invertible solution of (1.15) or (1.17), then ι_t^{-1} is a solution of (1.17) or (1.15), respectively, and the equations have unique solutions.

Finally, from the invertibility and uniqueness it follows that \mathfrak{F}_t and \mathfrak{G}_t are flows. In fact, the family of operators ι_t defined by

$$\iota_t \varphi = \varphi \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E \quad \forall \varphi \in \Phi$$

satisfy (1.16):

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{d}{dt} \iota_t \right) \varphi &= \frac{d}{dt} (\varphi \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E) = ((\text{grad } \varphi) \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E) \cdot (-\vec{X}_t \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E) \\ &= -\vec{X}_t (\varphi \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E) = -\vec{X}_t \circ \iota_t \varphi; \end{aligned}$$

therefore $\iota_t = \mathfrak{G}_t$ and consequently \mathfrak{G}_t and \mathfrak{F}_t are flows, since $\mathfrak{G}_t \varphi = \varphi \circ \mathfrak{G}_t E \quad \forall \varphi \in \Phi$, and $\mathfrak{G}_t^{-1} = \mathfrak{F}_t$.

If the flow \hat{P}_t satisfies the operator equation (1.13), then the corresponding flow P_t in \mathbb{R}^n is determined by the ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = X_t(x),$$

since

$$\frac{dP_t}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t E = \hat{P}_t \circ \vec{X}_t E = \hat{P}_t X_t = X_t \circ P_t.$$

If \mathfrak{G}_t is an arbitrary solution of (1.16) with initial condition $\mathfrak{G}_{t_0} = \text{Id}$, then for all φ in Φ the function $(t, x) \mapsto \mathfrak{G}_t \varphi(x) = \omega_t(x)$ satisfies the first-order linear homogeneous partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial \omega_t}{\partial t} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \frac{\partial \omega_t}{\partial x^\alpha} X^\alpha = \frac{\partial \omega_t}{\partial t} + \vec{X}_t \omega_t = 0, \quad \omega_{t_0}(x) = \varphi(x).$$

Conversely, every absolutely continuous family of functions ω_t which satisfies this equation is representable in the form

$$\omega_t = \hat{P}_t^{-1} \omega_{t_0},$$

where \hat{P}_t is a flow satisfying (1.13) and the initial condition $\hat{P}_{t_0} = \text{Id}$, since

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\hat{P}_t \varphi_t) = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t \right) \varphi_t + \hat{P}_t \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t = \hat{P}_t \circ \vec{X}_t \varphi_t - \hat{P}_t \circ \vec{X}_t \varphi_t = 0.$$

In the next section we show that if the field \vec{X}_t in (1.15) and (1.17) is locally integrable, then the equations have invertible solutions which, consequently, are unique, mutually inverse flows; we also give representations of the solutions in the form of "chronological exponentials." We note here only that every flow \hat{P}_t can be represented in the form of a solution to both (1.13) and its adjoint (1.16), since

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t = \hat{P}_t \circ \left(\hat{P}_t^{-1} \circ \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t \right) = - \left(\left(- \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t \right) \circ \hat{P}_t^{-1} \right) \circ \hat{P}_t,$$

and it can be verified by direct calculation that, for any fixed t , the quantities

$$\hat{P}_t^{-1} \circ \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t, \quad \left(\frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t \right) \circ \hat{P}_t^{-1}$$

belong to $\text{Der}(\Phi)$.

PROPOSITION 1.2. Assume that the family of diffeomorphisms $(\hat{P}_{t_0,t})$ is defined for all t_0 and t such that $|t - t_0| < \rho_{t_0}$ (where ρ_{t_0} is an arbitrary function of t_0), that it depends absolutely continuously on t_0 and t , and that it satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t} \circ \vec{X}_t,$$

where \vec{X}_t is an arbitrary (locally integrable) field, and the initial condition

$$\hat{P}_{t,t} = \text{Id} \quad \forall t \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Then it is possible to define $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ as a solution of the given equation for arbitrary values of t_0 and t in \mathbf{R} .

PROOF. Suppose that it is possible to fix a point t_1 between t_0 and t , $t_0 < t_1 < t$, satisfying $|t_1 - t_0| < \rho_{t_0}$ and $|t - t_1| < \rho_{t_1}$. The composition $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t}$ satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{Q}_{t_0,t} = \hat{Q}_{t_0,t} \circ \vec{X}_t$$

and the initial condition $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t_1} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t_1}$ and therefore by Proposition 1.1 does not depend on the choice of t_1 . Similarly, the composition $\hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_{t_m,t}$ does not depend on the choice of t_1, \dots, t_m . Consequently if, for arbitrary given t_0 and t in \mathbf{R} , we choose t_1, \dots, t_m so that $|t_1 - t_0| < \rho_{t_0}, |t_2 - t_1| < \rho_{t_1}, \dots, |t - t_m| < \rho_{t_m}$, and if we put $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_{t_m,t}$, we get a well-defined family of diffeomorphisms $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}, t_0, t \in \mathbf{R}$, which depends absolutely continuously on t_0 and t , which satisfies the given differential equation and the initial condition $\hat{Q}_{t,t} = \text{Id}$ for all t in \mathbf{R} , and which coincides with $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ for $|t - t_0| < \rho_{t_0}$.

In what follows we will represent flows in the form of families of diffeomorphisms $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ which depend absolutely continuously on the parameters t_0 and t , and which reduce to the identity mapping for $t_0 = t, \hat{P}_{t,t} = \text{Id}$. Similarly, we will solve the equations

$$\vec{\mathfrak{F}}_{t_0,t} = \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{\mathfrak{F}}_{t_0,\tau} \circ \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \tag{1.18}$$

$$\mathfrak{G}_{t_0,t} = \text{Id} - \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau \circ \mathfrak{G}_{t_0,\tau} d\tau = \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau \circ \mathfrak{G}_{t_0,\tau} d\tau. \tag{1.19}$$

In the notation we have adopted,

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_{t_m,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t}. \tag{1.20}$$

5. The algebra of formal chronological series. Typical examples of chronological series are so-called Volterra series, which arise if we solve (1.18) and (1.19) formally by means of successive substitutions. As "formal solutions" of (1.18) and (1.19) we get the formal series

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\mathfrak{F}}_{t_0,t} &= \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \vec{X}_{\tau_1} + \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \vec{X}_{\tau_2} \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} + \dots \\ &= \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \\ \mathfrak{G}_{t_0,t} &= \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{Y}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_{\tau_m}. \end{aligned}$$

The general term of the first series is an iterated integral in which the variables of integration in the expression $\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}$ increase from left to right, $t_0 \leq \tau_m \leq \tau_{m-1} < \dots < \tau_1 \leq t$. We call this series a *right formal Volterra chronological series* and denote it by

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \quad (1.21)$$

where the arrow over the \mathcal{V} indicates the direction of increase of the variables in the expression $\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}$. Similarly, we call

$$\overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{Y}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_{\tau_1} \quad (1.22)$$

a *left formal Volterra chronological series*.

We now construct the ring of general formal chronological series.

In an m -dimensional space with points $\tau^{(m)} = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m)$ we denote the simplex

$$\{\tau^{(m)} = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m) \mid t_0 \leq \tau_m \leq \dots \leq \tau_1 \leq t\}$$

by $\Delta_{t_0, t}(\tau^{(m)}) = \Delta(\tau^{(m)}) = \Delta(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m)$. If π is an arbitrary permutation of $1, \dots, m$, then we will denote the simplex

$$\Delta(\pi\tau^{(m)}) = \Delta(\tau_{\pi(1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(m)})$$

by

$$\{(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m) \mid t_0 \leq \tau_{\pi(m)} \leq \dots \leq \tau_{\pi(1)} \leq t\}.$$

The collection of all simplexes $\Delta(\pi\tau^{(m)})$ corresponding to all possible permutations π gives the triangulation of a cube

$$B_{t_0, t}^{(m)} = \{(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m) \mid t_0 \leq \tau_1 \leq t, \dots, t_0 \leq \tau_m \leq t\},$$

as is easy to see. Let $S(j, k)$, $j + k = m$, be the set of all permutations of $1, \dots, m$ which preserve the order of the first j numbers and, separately, of the last k numbers; $S(j, k)$ obviously consists of $m!/j!k!$ elements. It can be verified directly that

$$\Delta(\tau^{(j)}) \times \Delta(\tau^{(k)}) = \bigcup_{\pi \in S(j, k)} \Delta(\pi^{-1}\tau^{(m)}). \quad (1.23)$$

Let $\mathfrak{L}(\tau^{(m)}) = \mathfrak{L}(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m)$ be an integrable function on the cube $B_{t_0, t}^m$ with values in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. Here, as in subsection 3, we understand integrability in the “weak” sense. The obvious equality between the iterated integral and the m -fold integral over the simplex $\Delta(\tau^{(m)})$ holds:

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \mathfrak{L}(\tau^{(m)}) = \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{L}(\tau^{(m)}) d\tau^{(m)}, \quad (1.24)$$

and a change of variables gives

$$\int_{\Delta(\pi^{-1}\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{L}(\tau^{(m)}) d\tau^{(m)} = \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{L}(\pi\tau^{(m)}) d\tau^{(m)} = \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{L}(\tau_{\pi(1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(m)}) d\tau^{(m)}. \quad (1.25)$$

If $\mathfrak{F}(\tau^{(j)})$ and $\mathfrak{G}(\tau^{(k)})$ are two integrable functions, then by (1.23) and (1.24) we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(j)})} \mathfrak{F}(\tau^{(j)}) d\tau^{(j)} \circ \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(k)})} \mathfrak{G}(\tau^{(k)}) d\tau^{(k)} &= \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(j)}) \times \Delta(\tau^{(k)})} \mathfrak{F}(\tau^{(j)}) \circ \mathfrak{G}(\tau^{(k)}) d\tau^{(j)} \otimes d\tau^{(k)} \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} \int_{\Delta(\pi^{-1}\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{F}(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_j) \circ \mathfrak{G}(\tau_{j+1}, \dots, \tau_m) d\tau^{(m)} \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(m)})} \mathfrak{F}(\tau_{\pi(1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(j)}) \circ \mathfrak{G}(\tau_{\pi(j+1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(m)}) d\tau^{(m)}, \end{aligned}$$

and taking (1.24) into account, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{j-1}} d\tau_j \mathfrak{F}(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_j) \circ \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{k-1}} d\tau_k \mathfrak{G}(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k) \\ = \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \mathfrak{F}(\tau_{\pi(1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(j)}) \circ \mathfrak{G}(\tau_{\pi(j+1)}, \dots, \tau_{\pi(m)}). \end{aligned} \tag{1.26}$$

A formal series of the form

$$\mathfrak{C}_t(\vec{X}_\tau) = \mathfrak{P}_0(\vec{X}_t) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_2} d\tau_3 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \mathfrak{P}_m(\vec{X}_t, \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m}), \tag{1.27}$$

where $\mathfrak{P}_m(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_m)$ is a polynomial in the “noncommutative variables” ξ_0, \dots, ξ_m , $m = 1, 2, \dots$, and $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is a vector field, is called a *formal chronological series*.

It is easy to see that the natural definitions of the operations of addition, multiplication by a real number, and integration of formal chronological series from t_0 to t again give chronological series. The “Cauchy product” of chronological series,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{C}'_t(\vec{X}_\tau) \circ \mathfrak{C}''_t(\vec{X}_\tau) &= \mathfrak{P}'_0(\vec{X}_t) \circ \mathfrak{P}''_0(\vec{X}_t) \\ &+ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\alpha+\beta=m} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \mathfrak{P}'_\alpha(\vec{X}_t, \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha}) \\ &\circ \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{\beta-1}} d\tau_\beta \mathfrak{P}''_\beta(\vec{X}_t, \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_\beta}), \end{aligned}$$

reduces by (1.26) to the chronological series (1.27), where

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathfrak{P}_m(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_m) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha+\beta=m} \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} \mathfrak{P}'_\alpha(\xi_0, \xi_{\pi(1)}, \dots, \xi_{\pi(j)}) \circ \mathfrak{P}''_\beta(\xi_0, \xi_{\pi(j+1)}, \dots, \xi_{\pi(m)}). \end{aligned} \tag{1.28}$$

Thus the set of all formal chronological series becomes a real associative algebra with the multiplication given by (1.28).

The right and left Volterra series (1.21) and (1.22) are special cases of formal chronological series. From the obvious identities

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} = \int_{\Delta_{t_0,t}(\tau^{(m)})} \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} d\tau^{(m)}, \quad t_0 \leq t,$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} = \int_{\Delta_{t,t_0}(\tau^{(m)})} (-1)^m \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} d\tau^{(m)},$$

$$t \leq t_0,$$

and the analogous identities

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} = \int_{\Delta_{t_0,t}(\tau^{(m)})} \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} d\tau^{(m)}, \quad t_0 \leq t,$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} = \int_{\Delta_{t,t_0}(\tau^{(m)})} (-1)^m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} d\tau^{(m)}, \quad t \leq t_0,$$

we get the important relation

$$\vec{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t,t_0}(-\vec{X}_\tau), \tag{1.29}$$

i.e., every right Volterra series in the field \vec{X}_t is at the same time a left Volterra series in $-\vec{X}_t$.

In conclusion, we note that if the fields $\vec{X}_{t'}$ and $\vec{X}_{t''}$ commute for arbitrary t' and t'' , and if we put $t_0 < t$ for definiteness, we get that

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} = \int_{\Delta(\tau^{(m)})} \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} d\tau^{(m)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{\pi} \int_{\Delta(\pi\tau^{(m)})} \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} d\tau^{(m)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{m!} \int_{B_{t_0,t}^{(m)}} \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} d\tau^{(m)} = \frac{1}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^m.$$

Consequently in the “commutative” case considered here, left and right Volterra series coincide and are representable as formal power series:

$$\vec{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^m. \tag{1.30}$$

§2. Summation of Volterra series and exponential representation of flows

In this section we prove that the operator equations (1.18) and (1.19) have unique solutions which are flows. We construct flows with the help of a device we call summation of Volterra series.

1. *The case of an analytic field.* We denote by V_σ a complex σ -neighborhood of the real space $\mathbf{R} \subset \mathbf{C}^n$:

$$V_\sigma = \left\{ z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z^n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{C}^n \mid |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq \sigma, \sigma > 0 \right\}, \quad |\operatorname{Im} z| = \max_\alpha |\operatorname{Im} z^\alpha|,$$

and by Ω_σ the set of all real analytic functions ω on \mathbf{R}^n whose domains can be extended to V_σ in such a way that the extended functions are (complex) analytic and bounded on V_σ . We will again denote the extension to a complex neighborhood by the same symbol, ω , although (if we were to be completely precise) we should use some new symbol such as $\tilde{\omega}$, for example; this applies also to the partial derivatives $\partial_\alpha \omega$ and their complex extensions $\tilde{\partial}_\alpha \omega = \partial \tilde{\omega} / \partial z^\alpha$.

We make Ω_σ into a Banach space by defining a norm

$$\|\omega\|_\sigma^{\mathbf{C}^n} = \sup_{z \in V_\sigma} |\omega(z)|, \quad \omega \in \Omega_\sigma,$$

in it. We denote the Cartesian product of n copies of Ω_σ by Ω_σ^n .

We will call the field $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, *bounded analytic* if for some $\sigma > 0$ we have $X_t \in \Omega_\sigma^n$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$; we put

$$\|X_t\|_\sigma^{\mathbf{C}^n} = \max_\alpha \|X_t^\alpha\|_\sigma^{\mathbf{C}^n}.$$

We define a *bounded analytic mapping* analogously, and in particular a *bounded analytic diffeomorphism* $P: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ which corresponds to the operator $\hat{P} \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ with the same name.

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Suppose that $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is a bounded, analytic, uniformly integrable field, and that $X_t \in \Omega_\sigma^n$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$. Then for all $\sigma' < \sigma$ there is a number $\rho > 0$ such that for all $\omega \in \Omega_\sigma$ the series*

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \omega(z) = \omega(z) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \omega(z) \quad (2.1)$$

converges absolutely and uniformly with respect to t_0, t , and z for $|t - t_0| \leq \rho, z \in V_{\sigma'}$, and

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)(\omega_1 \omega_2) = \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \omega_1 \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \omega_2 \quad \forall \omega_1, \omega_2 \in \Omega_\sigma. \quad (2.2)$$

PROOF. Taking into account the analyticity of X_t and making use of the Cauchy integral representation, we prove the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \omega \right\|_{\sigma'}^{\mathbf{C}^n} \\ & \leq \left(\frac{2n}{\sigma - \sigma'} \right)^m \left| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_\sigma^{\mathbf{C}^n} d\tau \right|^m \|\omega\|_\sigma^{\mathbf{C}^n}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

from which the absolute and uniform convergence of (2.1) follows immediately.

The Cauchy formula

$$X_t(z) = \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^n} \int_{C_1} d\omega^1 \dots \int_{C_n} d\omega^n \frac{X_t(z)}{(\omega^1 - z^1) \dots (\omega^n - z^n)},$$

where C_α is a circle with center at z^α and with a sufficiently small radius, allows us to represent \vec{X}_{τ_α} in the form

$$\vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha} = \sum_{k_\alpha=1}^n \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^n} \int_{C_1} d\omega_\alpha^1 \dots \int_{C_n} d\omega_\alpha^n \frac{X_{\tau_\alpha}^{k_\alpha}(\omega_\alpha^1)}{\Pi_{\omega_\alpha}} \partial_{k_\alpha}.$$

Here Π_{ω_α} is a function of z ,

$$\Pi_{\omega_\alpha}(z) = \frac{1}{(\omega_\alpha^1 - z^1) \dots (\omega_\alpha^n - z^n)},$$

where the complex vector ω_α with coordinates $\omega_\alpha^1, \dots, \omega_\alpha^n$ plays the role of a parameter. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \omega &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m=1}^n X_{\tau_m}^{k_m} \partial_{k_m} \circ \dots \circ X_{\tau_1}^{k_1} \partial_{k_1} \omega \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^{n(1+m)}} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m=1}^n \int_{C_1} d\omega_m^1 \dots \int_{C_n} d\omega_m^n \dots \int_{C_1} d\omega_1^1 \dots \int_{C_m} d\omega_1^n \int_{C_1} d\omega^1 \\ &\quad \dots \int_{C_n} d\omega^n X_{\tau_m}^{k_m}(\omega_m) \dots X_{\tau_1}^{k_1}(\omega_1) \omega(\omega) \chi_{\omega_m, \dots, \omega_1, \omega}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

where

$$\chi_{\omega_m, \dots, \omega_1, \omega}^{k_m, \dots, k_1} = \frac{1}{\Pi_{\omega_m}} \partial_{k_m} \frac{1}{\Pi_{\omega_{m-1}}} \partial_{k_{m-1}} \dots \frac{1}{\Pi_{\omega_1}} \partial_{k_1} \frac{1}{\Pi_\omega}.$$

If $|\omega_\alpha - z| \geq \delta, \alpha = 1, \dots, m$, and $|\omega - z| \geq \delta$, then an obvious induction on m gives that

$$|\chi_{\omega_m, \dots, \omega_1, \omega}^{k_m, \dots, k_1}(z)| \leq (2m - 1)!! \frac{1}{\delta^n \delta^{(1+n)m}} < \frac{2^m m!}{\delta^n \delta^{(1+n)m}};$$

therefore, assuming that C_α in (2.4) is a circle of radius $\sigma - \sigma'$ with center at z^α , we get, for all $z \in V_{\sigma'}$,

$$\begin{aligned} &|\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \omega(z)| \\ &\leq \frac{n^m}{(2\pi)^{n(1+m)}} \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \|\omega\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \frac{2^m m! (2\pi (\sigma - \sigma'))^{n(1+m)}}{(\sigma - \sigma')^n (\sigma - \sigma')^{(1+n)m}} \\ &= m! \left(\frac{2n}{\sigma - \sigma'}\right)^m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \|\omega\|_{\sigma}^{C^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\|\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \omega\|_{\sigma'}^{C^n} \leq m! \left(\frac{2n}{\sigma - \sigma'}\right)^m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \|\omega\|_{\sigma}^{C^n};$$

in particular,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} E\|_{\sigma'}^{C^n} &= \max_{\alpha} \|\vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_2} X_{\tau_1}^\alpha\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \\ &\leq (m - 1)! \left(\frac{2n}{\sigma - \sigma'}\right)^{m-1} \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, using the identity

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} = \frac{1}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \|X_{\tau}\|_{\sigma}^{C^n} d\tau \right)^m$$

and taking into account the uniform integrability of \vec{X}_t , we get (2.3).

For the proof of the multiplicative property (2.2) of Volterra series, we note that an obvious induction gives the following generalization of the Leibniz rule for arbitrary fields $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_m$:

$$\vec{Y}_m \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_1(\varphi_1\varphi_2) = \sum_{j+k=m} \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} (\vec{Y}_{\pi(m)} \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_{\pi(j+1)}\varphi_1) (\vec{Y}_{\pi(i)} \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_{\pi(1)}\varphi_2),$$

where $S(j, k)$ is defined in §1.5. Hence we get from (1.26) the following identity for $m = 1, 2, \dots$, from which (2.2) follows immediately:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}(\omega_1\omega_2) \\ &= \sum_{j+k=m} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \sum_{\pi \in S(j,k)} (\vec{X}_{\tau_{\pi(m)}} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_{\pi(j+1)}}\omega_1) \\ & \times (\vec{X}_{\tau_{\pi(i)}} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_{\pi(1)}}\omega_2) = \sum_{j+k=m} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{j-1}} d\tau_j \vec{X}_{\tau_j} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}\omega_1 \\ & \times \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{k-1}} d\tau_k \vec{X}_{\tau_k} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}\omega_2. \end{aligned}$$

The proposition we have just proved allows us to assert that if \vec{X}_t is a bounded analytic and uniformly integrable field, then it is possible to find $\rho > 0$ such that for $|t - t_0| < \rho$ the mapping

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

is also bounded analytic, and the identity

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \omega = \omega \circ \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E \quad \forall \omega \in \Omega_\sigma$$

and its corollary

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) X_t = X_t \circ \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E \tag{2.5}$$

both hold. The analyticity is obvious, and the identities follow from the facts that ω can be expanded in a series in powers of the independent variables, the operator $\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$ can be applied termwise, and the result for each term follows immediately from (2.2).

If we put $P_{t_0,t} = \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E$, we can see from (2.5) and the identities

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E = E + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,\tau}(\vec{X}_\theta) \circ \vec{X}_\tau E d\tau = E + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,\tau}(\vec{X}_\theta) X_\tau d\tau, \tag{2.6}$$

that the family $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$, $|t - t_0| < \rho$, satisfies

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau} \circ \vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \tag{2.7}$$

Proposition 2.1 continues to hold if we replace the right Volterra series by a left series. In this case (2.6) must be replaced by

$$\overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E = E + \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau \circ \overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,\tau}(\vec{X}_{t_0}) E d\tau$$

or the equivalent relation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t) E = \vec{X}_t \circ \overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t) E.$$

The family of operators $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$, $|t - t_0| \leq \rho$, which satisfies the integral equation

$$\hat{Q}_{t_0,t} = \text{Id} - \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau \circ \hat{Q}_{t_0,\tau} d\tau$$

corresponds to the family of mappings

$$Q_{t_0,t} = \overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(-\vec{X}_\tau) E : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n, \quad |t - t_0| \leq \rho, \tag{2.8}$$

since

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{Q}_{t_0,t} \varphi = -((\text{grad } \varphi) \circ Q_{t_0,t}) \cdot \vec{X}_t Q_{t_0,t} = -\vec{X}_t(\varphi \circ Q_{t_0,t}) = -\vec{X}_t \circ \vec{Q}_{t_0,t} \varphi.$$

Hence we conclude by Proposition 1.1 that the family $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ is a left inverse of $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$. But $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ is also a right inverse of $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$, as follows at once from the remark following (1.29) which states that a right Volterra series in an arbitrary field \vec{X}_τ is identical to the left Volterra series in $-\vec{X}_\tau$ if we permute t_0 and t .

Thus the families $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$, $|t - t_0| < \rho$, are mutually inverse flows which satisfy (2.7) and (2.8), and which, by Proposition 1.1, are their unique solutions. According to Proposition 1.2, the flows $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$ can be defined for arbitrary t_0 and t so that they are solutions of these equations and

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_{t_m,t} \quad \forall t_1, \dots, t_m \in \mathbf{R},$$

and similarly for $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$. By Proposition 2.1, if $|t_j - t_{j+1}| < \rho$, then $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ is representable as a composition of analytic diffeomorphisms, and therefore is an analytic diffeomorphism for all t_0 and t in \mathbf{R} .

We call the analytic flows $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$, $t_0, t \in \mathbf{R}$, just constructed *right* and *left chronological exponentials* in \vec{X}_t and in $-\vec{X}_t$, respectively, and we denote them by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{P}_{t_0,t} &= \langle \overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) E \rangle = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \\ \hat{Q}_{t_0,t} &= \langle \overleftarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(-\vec{X}_\tau) E \rangle = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau \end{aligned}$$

(because of typographical considerations, we have put the expressions $\overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)E$ and $\overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)E$ in angle brackets instead of putting a caret over them). If \vec{X}_t is "commutative," i.e. if $[\vec{X}_{t'}, \vec{X}_{t''}] = 0$ for all $t', t'' \in \mathbf{R}$, then (1.30) gives

$$\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau E = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau E = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^m E = e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau}$$

In conclusion we note that, in order to assure the existence of chronological exponentials, it is sufficient to require that \vec{X}_t be locally integrable instead of uniformly integrable, as is clear from the proof. In this case the length of the interval of convergence with respect to t_0 and t , $|t - t_0| \leq \rho_{t_0}$, can approach zero as $t_0 \rightarrow \infty$, but this does not interfere with the construction of flows for all t_0 and t (see Proposition 1.2).

2. *The case of an arbitrary field.* If \vec{X}_t is analytic, then, as was shown above, the construction of chronological exponentials is simple: we must apply the appropriate Volterra series to the identity mapping E to get series of analytic mappings which converge to the unknown flows. For nonanalytic fields \vec{X}_t the series $\overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)E$ and $\overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)E$ do not converge, and to obtain flows which give solutions of (2.7) and (2.8) we apply a more complicated procedure. We begin by estimating the seminorm $\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K}$ under the assumption that $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ satisfies (2.7).

PROPOSITION 2.2. *If $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ satisfies (2.7), where \vec{X}_t , $t \in \mathbf{R}$, is an arbitrarily (locally integrable) field, then for all φ in Φ , for $s \geq 0$, and for any compact set $K \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ we have ($t_0 \leq t$)*

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K} &\leq C_1 e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau} \|\varphi\|_{s,M}, \\ C_1 &= (1+s)(2ns)^s \left(1+n+\text{diam } K + 2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau \right)^s, \\ C_2 &= 3n(2s+2)^{s+1}C_1, \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

where $M = O_R(K)$ is a neighborhood of radius $R = \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau$ of the compact set K .

PROOF. We put

$$K_{t_0,t} = \bigcup_{\tau} \{P_{t_0,\tau}(K) \mid \tau \in [t_0, t]\}$$

and introduce the quantity

$$\begin{aligned} N_{t_0,t} &= \sup_{\varphi \in \Phi} \left\{ \frac{\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}}} \mid \|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}} \neq 0 \right\} \\ &= \sup_{\varphi \in \Phi} \{ \|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K} \mid \|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}} = 1 \}, \end{aligned}$$

which, as is easy to see, is measurable in t_0 and t and bounded on $[t_0, t]$. The measurability follows from the fact that the sup on the right-hand side need not be taken over all $\varphi \in \Phi$ but over only an arbitrary countable dense subset of Φ ; the boundedness follows from (1.10) and the obvious inequality $\|\varphi\|_{s,P_{\varphi_0}(K)} \leq \|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{\varphi_0}}$. Let x_0 be a

point at which

$$\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K} = \sup_{x \in K} \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} |\vec{h}^\alpha (\varphi \circ P_{t_0,t})(x)|$$

attains its upper bound, and let m_φ be a polynomial of degree $< s$ whose derivatives of order up to and including s at the point $p_0 = P_{t_0,t}(x_0)$ coincide with the corresponding derivatives of φ at the same point,

$$m_\varphi(x) = \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \overrightarrow{(x-p_0)}^\alpha \varphi(p_0), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

In this case

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K} &= \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} |\vec{h}^\alpha (m_\varphi \circ P_{t_0,t})(x_0)| \leq \|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}m_\varphi\|_{s,K}; \\ \|m_\varphi\|_{s,p_0} &\leq \|\varphi\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

In the finite-dimensional space of all real polynomials of degree $< s$, all norms are equivalent, so there exists a constant C_1 which does not depend on the choice of the polynomial m of degree $< s$ such that

$$\frac{\|m\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}}}{\|m\|_{s,p_0}} \leq C_1. \quad (2.11)$$

The inequalities (2.10) and (2.11) give the estimate

$$\frac{\|P_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|\varphi\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}}} \leq \frac{\|P_{t_0,t}m_\varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|m_\varphi\|_{s,p_0}} \leq C_1 \frac{\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}m_\varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|m_\varphi\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}}} = C_1 \frac{\|P_{t_0,t}m_\varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|m_\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}}} \leq C_1 N_{t_0,t}. \quad (2.12)$$

We show that we can take

$$C_1 = (1+s)(2ns)^s (1+n+\text{diam } K_{t_0,t})^s. \quad (2.13)$$

From the estimate

$$\left| \vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_k \frac{1}{(w^1 - z^1) \dots (w^n - z^n)} \right| \leq \frac{k!}{\sigma^n} \left(\frac{n}{\sigma}\right)^k, \quad |h_j| = 1, \quad |\omega^\alpha - z^\alpha| \geq \sigma,$$

it follows that for $\sigma = n$ (S_α is a circle of radius n with center z^α)

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup_{x \in K_{t_0,t}} |\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_k m(x)| \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \sup_{z \in K_{t_0,t}} |\vec{h}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{h}_k \int_{S_1} d\omega^1 \dots \int_{S_n} d\omega^n \frac{m(\omega)}{(w^1 - z^1) \dots (w^n - z^n)}| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \frac{k!}{\sigma^n} \left(\frac{n}{\sigma}\right)^k (2\pi n)^n \|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{\mathbb{C}^n} = k! \|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{\mathbb{C}^n}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{\mathbb{C}^n} = \sup_{\omega \in V_n(K_{t_0,t})} |m(\omega)|,$$

and $V_n(K_{t_0,t})$ is a complex neighborhood of radius n of the compact set $K_{t_0,t}$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \|m\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}} &= \sup_{x \in K_{t_0,t}} \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} |\vec{h}^\alpha m(x)| \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \alpha! \|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{C_n} = (1+s) \|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{C_n}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \|m\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}} &\leq (1+s) \|m\|_{V_n(K_{t_0,t})}^{C_n} = (1+s) \sup_{z \in V_n(K_{t_0,t})} \left| \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \overrightarrow{(z-p_0)}^\alpha m(p_0) \right| \\ &\leq (s+1) \sup_{z \in V_n(K_{t_0,t})} (1+|z-p_0|)^s \sup_{z \in V_n(K_{t_0,t})} \left| \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \overrightarrow{\left(\frac{z-p_0}{|z-p_0|}\right)}^\alpha m(p_0) \right|. \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

(The symbol

$$\overrightarrow{z-p_0} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n (z^\alpha - p_0^\alpha) \partial_\alpha$$

denotes the differential operator with (constant) complex coefficients $z^\alpha - p_0^\alpha$.)

It is easy to see that

$$\sup_{z \in V_n(K_{t_0,t})} \left| \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \overrightarrow{\left(\frac{z-p_0}{|z-p_0|}\right)}^\alpha m(p_0) \right| \leq (2ns)^s \|m\|_{s,p_0}. \tag{2.15}$$

In fact, if none of the coordinates $w^k, k = 1, \dots, n$, of the complex vector w exceed one in modulus, then, using (1.8), we would get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} (\vec{w})^\alpha m(p_0) \right| &\leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_\alpha=1}^n \left| w^{k_1} \dots w^{k_\alpha} |\partial_{k_1} \circ \dots \circ \partial_{k_\alpha} m(p_0)| \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} n^\alpha (2\alpha)^\alpha \|m\|_{s,p_0} \leq (2ns)^s \|m\|_{s,p_0}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (2.14), we arrive at (2.13).

Equation (2.7), together with (2.12) and (1.9), allow us to write

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{P}_{t_0,t} \varphi\|_{s,K} &\leq \|\varphi\|_{s,K} + \int_{t_0}^t \|\hat{P}_{t_0,\tau} \circ \vec{X}_\tau \varphi\|_{s,K} d\tau \\ &\leq \|\varphi\|_{s,K} + 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} C_1 \int_{t_0}^t N_{t_0,\tau} \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau \|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}}. \end{aligned}$$

Dividing by $\|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}}$, we arrive at

$$\frac{\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t} \varphi\|_{s,K}}{\|\varphi\|_{s+1,K_{t_0,t}}} \leq 1 + 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} C_1 \int_{t_0}^t N_{t_0,\tau} \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau.$$

Since the right-hand side does not depend on φ , we get

$$N_{t_0,t} \leq 1 + C_2 \int_{t_0}^t N_{t_0,\tau} \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau, \quad C_2 = 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} C_1,$$

from which it follows by Gronwall's lemma that

$$N_{t_0,t} \leq e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau}$$

by virtue of the boundedness of $N_{t_0,t}$, or, by (2.12),

$$\|\hat{P}_{t_0,t}\varphi\|_{s,K} \leq C_1 e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau} \|\varphi\|_{s,K_{t_0,t}}.$$

It remains to estimate the set $K_{t_0,t}$ in terms of K and \vec{X}_t . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{diam } K_{t_0,t} &= \max_{\substack{x,y \in K \\ \tau',\tau'' \in [t_0,t]}} \left| x + \int_{t_0}^{\tau'} X_\theta \circ P_{t_0,\theta}(x) d\theta - \left(y + \int_{t_0}^{\tau''} X_\theta \circ P_{t_0,\theta}(y) d\theta \right) \right| \\ &\leq \text{diam } K + 2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau, \quad K_{t_0,t} \subset O_t \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau (K), \end{aligned}$$

which concludes the proof of the proposition.

We assume now that the bounded (locally integrable) field \vec{X}_t is given, i.e., that it satisfies $\|X_t\|_s < \infty$ for all $s > 0$. We consider the entire function of $z \in \mathbf{C}^n$

$$\delta_\varepsilon(z) = \frac{1}{(\varepsilon \sqrt{\pi})^n} e^{-\left(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}\right)^2}, \quad z^2 = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n (z^\alpha)^2,$$

which depends on the parameter $\varepsilon > 0$. Taking its convolution with X_t , we get the entire function of z

$$X_t^\varepsilon(z) = \delta_\varepsilon * X_t(z) = \frac{1}{(\varepsilon \sqrt{\pi})^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} e^{-\left(\frac{z-x}{\varepsilon}\right)^2} X_t(x) dx.$$

Considered on \mathbf{R}^n , for each fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ it belongs to the space Ω_σ^n for all $\sigma > 0$. For real values of the argument, X_t^ε can be calculated from

$$X_t^\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{(\varepsilon \sqrt{\pi})^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} e^{-\left(\frac{x-y}{\varepsilon}\right)^2} X_t(y) dy = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} e^{-y^2} X_t(x - \varepsilon y) dy;$$

consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \|X_t^\varepsilon\|_s &= \sup_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}^n} \left| \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} e^{-y^2} \vec{h}^\alpha X_t(x - \varepsilon y) dy \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} e^{-y^2} dy \sup_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{\alpha=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} \sup_{|h|=1} |\vec{h}^\alpha X_t(x)| = \|X_t\|_s. \end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

Furthermore, the identity

$$\begin{aligned} (X_t^{\varepsilon'} - X_t^{\varepsilon''})(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} dy e^{-y^2} (X_t(x - \varepsilon' y) - X_t(x - \varepsilon'' y)) \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon'' - \varepsilon'}{\sqrt{\pi}^n} \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} dy e^{-y^2} \int_0^1 d\tau \text{grad } X_t(x - \varepsilon'' y + \tau(\varepsilon'' - \varepsilon') y) \cdot y \end{aligned}$$

together with (1.9) gives that

$$\|X_t^{\varepsilon'} - X_t^{\varepsilon''}\|_s \leq |\varepsilon' - \varepsilon''| C_3 \|X_t\|_{s+1}, \tag{2.17}$$

$$C_3 = 3n(2s + 2)^{s+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi^n}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |y| e^{-y^2} dy.$$

In subsection 1 we proved the existence of mutually inverse analytic flows

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon d\tau, \quad \hat{Q}_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon d\tau, \quad t_0, t \in \mathbb{R},$$

which satisfy

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau}^\varepsilon \circ \overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon d\tau, \quad \hat{Q}_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = \text{Id} - \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon \circ \hat{Q}_{t_0,\tau}^\varepsilon d\tau.$$

We show that as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ the flows $P_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon$ and $Q_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon$ converge in the topology of Φ^n to the mutually inverse flows $P_{t_0,t}$ and $Q_{t_0,t}$, $t_0, t \in \mathbb{R}$, where $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$ satisfy (2.7) and (2.8).

From

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon'} - \hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon''} = \int_{t_0}^t \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'} \circ (\overrightarrow{X}_\tau^{\varepsilon'} - \overrightarrow{X}_\tau^{\varepsilon''}) d\tau + \int_{t_0}^t (\hat{P}_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'} - \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon''}) \circ \overrightarrow{X}_\tau^{\varepsilon''} d\tau.$$

(2.16), (2.17), (1.9), (1.10), and (1.11) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon'} - P_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon''}\|_{s,K} &\leq (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s C_3 |\varepsilon' - \varepsilon''| \int_{t_0}^t (1 + \|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'}\|_{s,K})^s \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau \\ &+ 3n(2s + 2)^{s+1} (1 + 9n^2(2s)^{2s})^s \int_{t_0}^t (1 + \|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'}\|_{s,K} + \|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon''}\|_{s,K})^s \\ &\quad \times \|X_\tau\|_{s+1} \|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'} - P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon''}\|_{s,K} d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

The quantities $\|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon'}\|_{s,K}$ and $\|P_{t_0,\tau}^{\varepsilon''}\|_{s,K}$ in this estimate are majorized by a locally integrable function which does not depend on ε , by virtue of (2.16) and Proposition 2.2. Therefore applying Gronwall's lemma to it, we get that

$$\lim_{\varepsilon', \varepsilon'' \rightarrow 0} \|P_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon'} - P_{t_0,t}^{\varepsilon''}\|_{s,K} = 0.$$

The convergence for $Q_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon$ can be proved similarly, or it follows from the convergence just proved for $P_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon$ and the fact that the left flow $Q_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon$ is also a right flow:

$$Q_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = \overleftarrow{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(-\overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon) E = \overrightarrow{\nabla}_{t,t_0}(\overrightarrow{X}_\tau^\varepsilon) E.$$

The limit transformations $P_{t_0,t}$ and $Q_{t_0,t}$ are mutually inverse diffeomorphisms for all $t_0, t \in \mathbb{R}$, since it is easy to get from (1.11) that

$$P_{t_0,t} \circ Q_{t_0,t} = Q_{t_0,t} \circ P_{t_0,t} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} P_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon \circ Q_{t_0,t}^\varepsilon = E.$$

Finally, it is obvious that $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0,t}$ satisfy (2.7) and (2.8) since the limit flows satisfy them.

Thus we have constructed flows $\hat{P}_{t_0, t}$ and $\hat{Q}_{t_0, t}$, $t_0, t \in \mathbf{R}$, which satisfy (2.7) and (2.8); we call them *right* and *left chronological exponentials* in \vec{X}_t and $-\vec{X}_t$, respectively, and we write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{P}_{t_0, t} &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^\tau \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \\ \hat{Q}_{t_0, t} &= \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \text{Id} - \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau \circ \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^\tau -\vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) d\tau, \\ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau &= \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \text{Id}.\end{aligned}\quad (2.18)$$

For arbitrary t_1, \dots, t_m we have

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_{m-1}}^{t_m} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau; \quad (2.19)$$

in particular,

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{t_0} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^{-1} = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{t_0} -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \quad (2.20)$$

In subsection 1, we showed that for all t_0 it is possible to find $\rho_{t_0} > 0$ such that for $|t - t_0| < \rho_{t_0}$ the series

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau^e) E &= \left(\text{Id} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha}^e \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}^e \right) E, \\ \vec{X}_t^e &= \overline{\delta}_e * \vec{X}_t,\end{aligned}$$

converges; we denote the corresponding operator flow by putting the expression under consideration in angle brackets. If t_0 and t are arbitrary, and if we insert points $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = t$ between them such that $|t_j - t_{j+1}| < \rho_{t_j}$, we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \langle \overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t_1}(\vec{X}_\tau^e) E \rangle \circ \langle \overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_1, t_2}(\vec{X}_\tau^e) E \rangle \circ \dots \circ \langle \overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_{m-1}, t}(\vec{X}_\tau^e) E \rangle, \\ \vec{X}_t^e &= \overline{\delta}_e * \vec{X}_t.\end{aligned}\quad (2.21)$$

We call the expression on the right-hand side the operation of “*exponential summation*” of the Volterra series $\overrightarrow{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$. Even in the case where \vec{X}_t is analytic, the Volterra series does not converge in the topology of simple convergence in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ in the usual sense, so we write

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \cong \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \quad (2.22)$$

understanding by the “*asymptotic equality*” the relation which is defined precisely in the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 2.3. Let $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbb{R}$, be a bounded (locally integrable) field and $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ the flow generated by it. Then for all φ in Φ and $m \geq 2$

$$\left\| \left(\hat{P}_{t_0,t} - \left(\text{Id} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \right) \right) \varphi \right\|_{s,K} \tag{2.23}$$

$$\leq C_1 e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau} \left| (3n(2s+2m)^{s+m})^m \frac{1}{m!} \left| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s+m-1} d\tau \right|^m \right\| \varphi \|_{s+m,M}$$

where C_1, C_2 , and M are defined in Proposition 2.2.

PROOF. Using Proposition 2.2 and (1.9), we can write

$$\| \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau_m} \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \varphi \|_{s,K}$$

$$\leq C_1 e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau} \left| (3n(2s+2m)^{s+m})^m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_s \|X_{\tau_{m-1}}\|_{s+1} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{s+m-1} \right\| \varphi \|_{s+m,M}$$

$$\leq C_1 e^{C_2 \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_s d\tau} \left| (3n(2s+2m)^{s+m})^m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{s+m-1} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{s+m-1} \right\| \varphi \|_{s+m,M}$$

which proves the proposition if we apply the obvious identities

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} - \left(\text{Id} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \right)$$

$$= \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau_m} \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{X}_{\tau_1},$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{s+m-1} \dots \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{s+m-1} = \frac{1}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s+m-1} d\tau \right)^m.$$

§3. Representation of perturbation flows
(the “variation of constants” formula)

Two concepts in the theory of ordinary differential equations which have basic significance for us are the perturbation flow of a given flow

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \tag{3.1}$$

and the variation of a flow $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$. In this section, we obtain formulas which represent a perturbation flow in terms of input data, and the following two sections are devoted to a study of the variation of a given flow.

1. *Representation of a perturbation flow.* We will assume that the field \vec{X}_t and the flow (3.1) are fixed. We will call an arbitrary field \vec{Y}_t a *perturbation of \vec{X}_t* , and the flow $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau$ the corresponding *perturbed flow*.

We consider the problem: *find flows* $\hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ and $\hat{D}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ *which satisfy*

$$\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau = \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \tag{3.2}$$

$$\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \hat{D}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau).$$

We call $\hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ a *left perturbation flow* for $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ for the perturbation field \vec{Y}_t , and $\hat{D}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ a *right perturbation flow*.

We obtain a solution of the above-stated problem by the method of “variation of constants.”

To this end, we write by (1.12)

$$\left(\text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right) \vec{Z} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t} \circ \vec{Z} \circ \hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{-1} \in \text{Der}(\Phi) \quad \forall \vec{Z} \in \text{Der}(\Phi),$$

regarding $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ as a family of linear transformations of $\text{Der}(\Phi)$ into itself which depends on $t_0, t \in \mathbf{R}$. Differentiation with respect to t gives

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}) \vec{Z} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t} \circ (\vec{X}_t \circ \vec{Z} - \vec{Z} \circ \vec{X}_t) \circ \hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{-1} = (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t} \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_t) \vec{Z}, \tag{3.3}$$

which, by virtue of the arbitrariness of $\vec{Z} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$, may be considered, purely formally, as a linear equation for $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}$:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_t. \tag{3.4}$$

This equation gives a purely formal reason for calling $\text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ a “right chronological exponential in $\text{ad } \vec{X}_t$ ”:

$$\text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \text{ad } \vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \tag{3.5}$$

We note several simple properties of $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ which are completely consistent with the notation of (3.4) and (3.5). First of all, it is clear that $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ is invertible, and

$$(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t})^{-1} = \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{-1}, \tag{3.6}$$

and correspondingly

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t})^{-1} \vec{Z} = -\text{ad } \vec{X}_t \circ (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t})^{-1} \vec{Z}, \tag{3.7}$$

$$(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t})^{-1} = \text{Ad } \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \vec{X}_\tau d\tau.$$

Furthermore, we have

$$\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t_1} \circ \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \dots \circ \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_m,t} = \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t}; \tag{3.8}$$

in particular,

$$(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,t})^{-1} = \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t,t_0} = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_t^{t_0} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \tag{3.9}$$

We define the action of $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2}$ on flows by

$$\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau = \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2}^{-1}.$$

Then we have

$$\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \quad \forall t_1, t_2 \in \mathbf{R}, \tag{3.10}$$

since if we differentiate the flow on the left-hand side with respect to t , we see that it satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau = \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_1,t_2} \vec{Y}_t.$$

Finally we note that if \vec{Z} commutes with \vec{X}_t for all t in \mathbf{R} (i.e. if $\text{ad } \vec{X}_t \vec{Z} = 0$ for all t in \mathbf{R}), then

$$\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Z} = \vec{Z} \quad \forall t_0, t \in \mathbf{R}, \tag{3.11}$$

since

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Z} = \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_t \right) \vec{Z} = 0.$$

We now express the left perturbation flow $\hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ in terms of \vec{X}_t and \vec{Y}_t . To this end, we differentiate (3.2) with respect to t :

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ (\vec{X}_t + \vec{Y}_t) \\ &= \left(\frac{d}{dt} \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \right) \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau + \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \vec{X}_t, \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \circ \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Y}_t \right).$$

This differential equation was obtained by “variation of the constant $\hat{C}_{t_0,t}$ ”; integrating it gives a representation of the left perturbation flow

$$\hat{C}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0,\tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^\tau \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \tag{3.12}$$

and, at the same time, a representation of the perturbed flow

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau. \quad (3.13)$$

To determine $\hat{D}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$, we write the following sequence of equalities (see (3.10), (3.6), (3.8) and (3.9)):

$$\begin{aligned} & \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \\ &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, t}^{-1} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \\ &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t, t_0} \circ \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \\ &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

from which we get

$$\hat{D}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t, \tau}) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau. \quad (3.14)$$

Thus the perturbed flow can be represented with the help of the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \\ &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \\ &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

We call them *generalized "variation of constants" formulas*.

2. *Asymptotic forms of (3.15) and (3.16)*. In these formulas, the expressions $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta$ and $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad } \vec{X}_\theta d\theta$ do more than serve as formal definitions of the operators $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau}$ and $\text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t, \tau}$. In the form in which they are written, (3.15) and (3.16) point to the following two basic facts.

1) If \vec{X}_t and \vec{Y}_t are bounded analytic fields, then if we calculate all of the chronological exponentials on the right-hand sides of (3.15) and (3.16), as well as the corresponding formal Volterra series, and if we carry out the indicated operations, we arrive at formal series which when applied to the identity mapping E give convergent series which determine the perturbed flow.

2) In the case of arbitrary fields \vec{X}_t and \vec{Y}_t , this procedure does not lead to convergent series, but these series give an asymptotic representation of $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau$. We give the precise meanings of these statements in Propositions 3.1 and 3.2.

PROPOSITION 3.1. Assume that $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is a uniformly integrable, bounded, analytic field, and that \vec{Z} is a bounded analytic field: $X_t \in \Omega_\sigma^n$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$ and $Z \in \Omega_\sigma^n$. Then for all $\sigma' < \sigma$ there exists a $\rho > 0$ such that the series

$$\begin{aligned} & (\vec{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\text{ad } \vec{X}_\tau) \vec{Z}) E(z) = Z(z) \\ & + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m (\text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \vec{Z}) E(z) \end{aligned}$$

converges absolutely and uniformly in t_0, t , and z for $|t - t_0| \leq \rho$ and $z \in V_{\sigma'}$, and for these values of t_0, t , and z ,

$$\left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Z} \right) E(z) = (\vec{\nabla}_{t_0,t}(\text{ad } \vec{X}_\tau) \vec{Z}) E(z).$$

The proof can be obtained from the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m (\text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \vec{Z}) E \right\|_{\sigma'}^{\mathbf{C}^n} \\ & \leq 2^m \left(\frac{2n}{\sigma - \sigma'} \right)^m \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{\sigma'}^{\mathbf{C}^n} d\tau \right\|^m \|Z\|_{\sigma'}^{\mathbf{C}^n}, \end{aligned}$$

which follows from the similar estimate (2.3).

PROPOSITION 3.2. If $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is locally integrable, then for $\vec{Z} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Z} \right) E \right. \\ & - \left(Z + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha (\text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha} \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \vec{Z}) \right) E \Big\|_{s,K} \\ & \leq 3n(2s+2)^{s+1} (6n)^m (2s+2m)^{m(s+m)} C_{1e}^{2C_3} \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s+1} d\tau \right\|_{C_3} \\ & \quad \times \|Z\|_{s+M} \frac{1}{m!} \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s-M} d\tau \right\|^m, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= (s+2)(2s+2)^{s+1} n^{s+1} \left(1 + n + \text{diam } K + 4 \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau \right\| \right)^{s+1}, \\ C_2 &= 3n(2s+4)^{s+2} C_1, \quad C_3 = d_K + \text{diam } K + 2 \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau \right\|, \end{aligned}$$

where d_K is the distance of the compact set $K \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ from the origin, and where $M = O_R(K)$ is a neighborhood of radius $R = 2 \left\| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_0 d\tau \right\|$ of the compact set K .

The proof is easy to construct if we take into account the identity

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, t} \vec{Z} &= \left(\vec{Z} + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_\alpha} \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \vec{Z} \right) \\ &= \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \text{Ad } \hat{P}_{t_0, \tau_m} \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_m} \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_{\tau_1} \vec{Z} \end{aligned}$$

and make use of the following estimates, which follow directly from the corresponding estimates (1.9) and (2.9):

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\text{ad } \vec{X} \vec{Z}) E\|_{s, K} &\leq 6n(2s + 2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s+1, K} \|Z\|_{s+1, K}, \\ \|(\text{ad } \vec{X}_1 \circ \cdots \circ \text{ad } \vec{X}_m \vec{Z}) E\|_{s, K} &\leq \\ &\leq (6n)^m (2s + 2)^{m(s+m)} \|X_1\|_{s+m, K} \cdots \|X_m\|_{s+m, K} \|Z\|_{s+m, K}, \\ \left\| \left(\text{Ad } \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \vec{Z} \right) E \right\|_{s, K} &\leq 3n(2s + 2)^{s+1} C_1^2 e^{2C_1 \left| \int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s+1} d\tau \right|} C_3 \|Z\|_{s, M}. \end{aligned}$$

3. *Calculation of the chronological logarithm.* In this and the following subsection, we give two simple examples of the results we have obtained.

Since the field $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is given uniquely in terms of the chronological exponential $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ which it generates by the formula

$$\vec{X}_t = \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^{-1} \circ \frac{d}{dt} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau,$$

it is natural to call the function determined for flows $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ by the correspondence

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \mapsto \vec{X}_t,$$

a *right chronological logarithm* and to denote it by $\overrightarrow{\log}_{t_0}$. Here t_0 plays the role of a parameter, so that the argument of a chronological logarithm is a function $t \mapsto \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ and its values are functions $t \mapsto \vec{X}_t$. Therefore to be perfectly precise we should write

$$\overrightarrow{\log}_{t_0} \left\{ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau; t \in \mathbf{R} \right\} = \{ \vec{X}_\theta; \theta \in \mathbf{R} \},$$

but we will use the less awkward notation

$$\overrightarrow{\log}_{t_0} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \vec{X}_t.$$

We define the *left chronological logarithm* similarly:

$$\overleftarrow{\log}_{t_0} \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = \vec{X}_t.$$

Frequently it is necessary to calculate the field which generates a flow, i.e., the chronological logarithm of a flow when the flow is given not in “canonical” notation but in the form

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(1)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau.$$

To do this, it suffices to write

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{\log}_{t_0} \hat{P}_{t_0,t} &= \hat{P}_{t_0,t}^{-1} \circ \frac{d}{dt} P_{t_0,t} \\ &= \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(1)} d\tau \circ \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_{t_0,t}, \end{aligned}$$

to represent the derivative $d\hat{P}_{t_0,t}/dt$ in the form of an appropriate sum of m terms, and then to use (3.7). As a result, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\overrightarrow{\log}_{t_0} \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(1)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \right) \\ &= \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(2)} d\tau \right) \overrightarrow{Y}_t^{(1)} \\ &+ \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(3)} d\tau \right) \overrightarrow{Y}_t^{(2)} \\ &+ \dots + \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \right) \overrightarrow{Y}_t^{(m-1)} + \overrightarrow{Y}_t^{(m)}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

We find a right chronological logarithm as a solution of

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \hat{P}_{t_0,t} \circ \overrightarrow{X}_t + \overrightarrow{Y}_t \circ \hat{P}_{t_0,t}.$$

We have

$$\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{X}_\tau d\tau;$$

therefore, if we denote the unknown logarithm by \overrightarrow{Z}_t and repeat the computations in the derivation of (3.17), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{Z}_t &= \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^{-1} \circ \frac{d}{dt} \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \overrightarrow{X}_\tau d\tau \right) \\ &= \overrightarrow{X}_t + \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{X}_\tau d\tau \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \overrightarrow{Y}_\tau d\tau \right) \overrightarrow{Y}_t. \end{aligned}$$

4. *The quasistationary field case.* We assume that the field \overrightarrow{X}_t is stationary: $\overrightarrow{X}_t = \overrightarrow{X}$ for all t in \mathbf{R} . We define the exponential of \overrightarrow{X} by

$$e^{\overrightarrow{X}} = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \overrightarrow{X} d\tau. \tag{3.18}$$

The field $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is called *quasistationary* if for some fixed t_0 it commutes with the field $\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ for all t in \mathbf{R} .

PROPOSITION 3.3. *If the field $\vec{X}_t, t \in \mathbf{R}$, is quasistationary,*

$$\left[\vec{X}_t, \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right] = 0 \quad \forall t \in \mathbf{R},$$

then the family of diffeomorphisms

$$e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau}, \quad t \in \mathbf{R},$$

is a flow which satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} = e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \circ \vec{X}_t = \vec{X}_t \circ e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau}; \tag{3.19}$$

consequently in this case

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau &= \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau = e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau}, \\ \left(e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \right)^{-1} &= e^{-\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \quad \forall t \in \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} e^{(t-t_0)\vec{X}} &= e^{(t-t_0)\vec{X}} \circ \vec{X} = \vec{X} \circ e^{(t-t_0)\vec{X}}, \\ (e^{(t-t_0)\vec{X}})^{-1} &= e^{(t_0-t)\vec{X}}. \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. We calculate the expression

$$\frac{1}{\delta t} \left(e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau + \int_t^{t+\delta t} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} - e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \right). \tag{3.20}$$

Putting

$$\vec{Y} = \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau, \quad \vec{Y}_{\delta t} = \int_t^{t+\delta t} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$$

for brevity, and making use of (3.16), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\delta t} (e^{\vec{Y} + \vec{Y}_{\delta t}} - e^{\vec{Y}}) &= \frac{1}{\delta t} \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 (\vec{Y} + \vec{Y}_{\delta t}) d\tau - \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \vec{Y} d\tau \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\delta t} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \vec{Y} d\tau \circ \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \left(\text{Ad} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_1^\tau \vec{Y} d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_{\delta t} d\tau - \text{Id} \right). \end{aligned}$$

For $\delta t \rightarrow 0$, (2.23) (Proposition 2.3) gives, at each point of differentiability of $\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$, that

$$\frac{1}{\delta t} \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \left(\text{Ad} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_1^\tau \vec{Y} d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_{\delta t} d\tau - \text{Id} \right) \rightarrow \int_0^1 \left(\text{Ad} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_1^\tau \vec{Y} d\theta \right) \vec{X}_t;$$

consequently as $\delta t \rightarrow 0$, (3.20) approaches (see (3.11))

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \vec{Y} d\tau \circ \int_0^1 \left(\text{Ad} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_1^\tau \vec{Y} d\theta \right) \vec{X}_t = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^1 \vec{Y} d\tau \circ \vec{X}_t,$$

which proves the first equality of (3.19). If in this proof we use (3.15) in place of (3.16), we get the second equality of (3.19).

For quasistationary fields, (3.5), (3.15) and (3.16) have the form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ad} e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \vec{Z} &= e^{\int_{t_0}^t \text{ad} \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \vec{Z}, \\ e^{\int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau} &\longrightarrow e^{\int_{t_0}^t \text{ad} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta} \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \circ e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \\ &= e^{\int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau} \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t e^{\int_{t_0}^\tau \text{ad} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta} \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau. \end{aligned} \tag{3.21}$$

In particular, for stationary fields we get the identities

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\vec{X}} \circ \vec{Z} \circ e^{-t\vec{X}} &= e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Z}, \\ e^{t(\vec{X} + \vec{Y})} &= \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y} d\tau \circ e^{t\vec{X}} \\ &= e^{t\vec{X}} \circ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{(\tau-t) \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y} d\tau, \end{aligned} \tag{3.22}$$

which are frequently useful.

§4. Variation of flows

We will assume that the flow $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau$, which we will consider here as a perturbation of the identity flow $\text{Id}_t \equiv \text{Id}$ (generated by the zero field), is given, but we will regard \vec{Y}_t as a perturbation of the zero field. We will consider $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau$ as the corresponding (right or left) perturbation flow. We pose the following problem.

For a given flow $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t Y_\tau d\tau$, find a field $V_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ which, in some asymptotic sense to be specified precisely in Proposition 4.1, satisfies

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \cong e^{V_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)}, \tag{4.1}$$

where the function of a stationary field in the exponent is to be understood in the sense defined by (3.18).

If such a field $V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ exists, it is natural to call it the *logarithm* (not chronological!) of the flow $\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau$ and to denote it by

$$V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \ln \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau. \tag{4.2}$$

It turns out that a reasonable solution of the problem stated above requires the extension of the concept of a nonstationary field by the introduction of formal vector fields by means of chronological series.

An explicit algorithm to be described in §5.2 gives a “universal” sequence of polynomials in noncommutative variables

$$g_1(\zeta_1), g_2(\zeta_1, \zeta_2), \dots, g_m(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m), \dots, \tag{4.3}$$

where g_m is homogeneous of degree 1 in each variable. In addition, all of the polynomials g_m have a remarkable property: they are “commutator” polynomials in their variables. A *commutator* polynomial is one which can be expressed as a linear combination of the variables ζ_1, \dots, ζ_m , of their commutators $[\zeta_j, \zeta_k] = \zeta_j \zeta_k - \zeta_k \zeta_j$, of the commutators of these, and so forth. For example, the first three polynomials have the form

$$g_1(\zeta_1) = \zeta_1, \quad g_2(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \frac{1}{2} [\zeta_2, \zeta_1],$$

$$g_3(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3) = \frac{1}{6} ([\zeta_3, [\zeta_2, \zeta_1]] + [[\zeta_3, \zeta_2], \zeta_1]).$$

It is clear that if $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_m$ are arbitrary fields, then the expression $g_m(\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_m)$ will be a field.

With the help of \vec{Y}_i we construct the formal chronological series

$$V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau), \tag{4.4}$$

$$V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m g_m(\vec{Y}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{Y}_{\tau_m}),$$

and we call it the *formal vector field corresponding to the field \vec{Y}_i* . From what was said above, all expressions $V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$, $m = 1, 2, \dots$, represent vector fields in the ordinary sense.

The following proposition gives the precise sense in which the asymptotic relation (4.1) must be understood; the proof is given in §5.1.

PROPOSITION 4.1. *If*

$$\int_{t_0}^t \|Y_\tau\|_{s+m} d\tau \leq 1,$$

then

$$\left\| \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau - e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^m V_{t_0,t}^{(\alpha)}(\vec{Y}_\tau)} \right) \varphi \right\|_{s,K} \leq C_1 \left| \int_{t_0}^t \|Y_\tau\|_{s+2m} d\tau \right|^{m+1} \|\varphi\|_{s+m+1, O_{C_2}(K)}, \tag{4.5}$$

where the constants C_1 and C_2 depend only on s, m , and $\text{diam } K$, and where $O_{C_2}(K)$ is a C_2 -neighborhood of the compact set K .

As an immediate consequence of (4.5) and (2.23), we can conclude that if at a point $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$

$$V_{t_0,t}^{(\alpha)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) E(x) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha = 1, \dots, m-1, \tag{4.6}$$

then

$$\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau E(x) = x + V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) E(x) + O\left(\left(\int_{t_0}^t \|\vec{Y}_\tau\|_{s+2m} d\tau\right)^{m+1}\right), \tag{4.7}$$

since if $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_k$ are arbitrary fields and if \vec{Y}_1 vanishes at x ($\vec{Y}_1(x) = 0$), then the composition $\vec{Y}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_k$ vanishes at x . Thus if all of the functions $V_{t_0,t}^{(\alpha)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) E, \alpha = 1, \dots, m-1$, vanish at x , then the value of the perturbation field $\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau E$ at x can be calculated by means of the expression $x + V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) E(x)$, and the error can be estimated by means of (4.7). This motivates the following terminology.

We call the field $V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ the *mth variation of the identity flow corresponding to the perturbation field \vec{Y}_τ* , and we call the formal field $V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ the *complete variation of the identity flow*. We introduce the corresponding notation

$$V_{t_0,t}^{(m)}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \delta^{(m)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau), \quad V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \delta \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$$

and rewrite (4.1) and (4.4) in the form

$$\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \cong e^{\delta \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)} = \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} (\delta \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau))^m, \tag{4.8}$$

$$\delta \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \delta^{(m)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m g_m(Y_{\tau_1}, \dots, Y_{\tau_m}).$$

We call this representation the *Maclaurin expansion* (“in the vicinity of the zero field”) of the perturbation flow $\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau$.

Combining (4.8) and (3.17), we arrive at the following generalization of the Campbell-Hausdorff formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau^{(1)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau &\cong e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_{\alpha} g_{\alpha}(\vec{Z}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{Z}_{\tau_{\alpha}})}, \\ \vec{Z}_t &= \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \vec{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \circ \dots \circ \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \vec{Y}_\tau^{(2)} d\tau \right) \vec{Y}_t^{(1)} \\ &+ \dots + \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \vec{Y}_\tau^{(m)} d\tau \right) \vec{Y}_t^{(m-1)} + \vec{Y}_t^{(m)}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

The usual computational form of this formula, which, as a rule, is stated only for the case where $\vec{Y}_t^{(j)} \equiv \vec{Y}_j$ are stationary fields, $j = 1, 2$, is extremely complicated because the α -fold integrations, only indicated in (4.9), are actually carried out.

The question of convergence of the formal series on the right-hand sides of the asymptotic relations (4.8) and (4.9) and the question of precise equality to the flows on the left-hand sides are treated in the next section.

The expression

$$e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)} = \text{Id} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} \left(V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \right)^m,$$

where $V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ is an arbitrary formal field, is called the *formal flow corresponding to the formal field* $V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$. We can introduce a multiplication operation into the set of all formal flows by means of the relation

$$e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}'_\tau)} e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}''_\tau)} = e^{V_{t_0,t}(\lambda(\vec{Y}'_\tau, \vec{Y}''_\tau))},$$

where (cf. (3.17))

$$\lambda(\vec{Y}'_t, \vec{Y}''_t) = \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t -\text{ad } \vec{Y}_\tau'' d\tau \right) \vec{Y}'_t + \vec{Y}''_t,$$

which then makes it into a multiplicative group, as is easy to see.

One decided advantage of the definitions of variations given here over the usual definitions is that our variations satisfy the asymptotic relations (4.5)–(4.7) and have an invariant form: the expressions $\delta^{(m)}\text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ represent vector fields, which therefore act as “infinitesimal shifts” not only in Φ but also in \mathbf{R}^n .

The “usual variations” of a perturbation flow, successive terms in the “Volterra expansion”

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \cong \text{Id} + \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \vec{Y}_{\tau_1} + \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \vec{Y}_{\tau_2} \circ \vec{Y}_{\tau_1} + \dots,$$

fail to have an invariant meaning beginning with the quadratic term; therefore they act only in Φ , and not in \mathbf{R}^n . By means of the procedure described here (see also the construction of the polynomials g_m in the next section), we actually “extract” the invariant variations $\delta^{(m)}\text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)$ from the “usual” ones

$$\int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{Y}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{Y}_{\tau_1}.$$

Their interrelation is given explicitly by (4.8).

For example,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^{(1)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) &= \int_{t_0}^t \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau, \\ \delta^{(2)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) &= \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \vec{Y}_{\tau_2} \circ \vec{Y}_{\tau_1} - \frac{1}{2} \delta^{(1)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) \circ \delta^{(1)} \text{Id}_{t_0,t}(\vec{Y}_\tau), \end{aligned}$$

and so forth.

In conclusion we note that if \vec{Y}_t is a perturbation of an arbitrary flow $\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ instead of the identity flow, then the corresponding variation of $\hat{P}_{t_0,t}$ must

be defined by

$$\delta^{(m)} \hat{P}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m g_m \left(\left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} \text{ad} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau_m} \text{ad} X_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_{\tau_m} \right),$$

and the complete variation by

$$\delta \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau (\vec{Y}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^\infty \delta^{(m)} \hat{P}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau);$$

we get for the expansion of the perturbation flow in a “Taylor series in the vicinity of X_t ” the expression

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \text{ad} \vec{X}_\theta d\theta \right) \vec{Y}_\tau d\tau \cong e^{\delta \hat{P}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)}.$$

As the “Taylor expansion” of the perturbed flow we get

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau \cong e^{\delta \hat{P}_{t_0, t}(\vec{Y}_\tau)} \hat{P}_{t_0, t}.$$

§5. Calculation of the formal field⁽¹⁾ $V_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \ln \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$

We assume throughout this section that all differentiations and integrations of formal series are to be performed termwise.

1. *Computation in the algebra \mathcal{Q} of chronological series.* In the algebra \mathcal{Q} of formal chronological series, we denote by \mathfrak{N} the ideal consisting of series of the form

$$\mathfrak{G}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^\infty \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m c_m(\vec{X}_{t_0}, \vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m}),$$

i.e., series without zero terms. The k th power of \mathfrak{N} is denoted by \mathfrak{N}^k . We call a series $\mathfrak{G}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$ in \mathfrak{N} *absolutely continuous* if the polynomials $c_m(\zeta_0, \dots, \zeta_m)$ do not depend on ζ_0 . It is clear that absolutely continuous series can be differentiated with respect to t , and the operation d/dt maps the collection of all absolutely continuous series onto all of \mathcal{Q} .

Furthermore, if $\mathfrak{G}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \in \mathfrak{N}$, then

$$e^{\mathfrak{G}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{1}{m!} (\mathfrak{G}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau))^m$$

is obviously a well-defined formal chronological series.

PROPOSITION 5.1. *There exists an absolutely continuous formal chronological series*

$$V_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^\infty \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m g_m(\vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m}),$$

⁽¹⁾ We note that an explicit expression for $\ln \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ is obtained in [9], but it is not in the form of a chronological series. The connection between this formula and the Campbell-Hausdorff formula is also noted there.

such that

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = e^{V_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)}. \quad (5.1)$$

In addition, the polynomials $g_m(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m)$ are commutators (see §4) and are homogeneous of the first degree in each variable.

The series $V_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$ whose existence is asserted in this proposition satisfies all of the hypotheses of Proposition 4.1. Indeed, let

$$V_{t_0, t}^{(m)}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m g_m(\vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m}).$$

Since the commutator polynomial g_m is homogeneous of the first degree in each variable, it follows from the inequality

$$\|[\vec{X}, \vec{Y}]E\|_{s, K} \leq 6n(2s+2)^{s+1} \|X\|_{s+1} \|Y\|_{s+1},$$

which holds for any \vec{X} and \vec{Y} , that

$$\|g_m(\vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m})E\|_{s, K} \leq C(s, m) \|X_{\tau_1}\|_{s+m, K} \dots \|X_{\tau_m}\|_{s+m, K}.$$

Therefore

$$\|V_{t_0, t}^{(m)}(\vec{X}_\tau)E\|_{s, K} \leq \frac{C(s, m)}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \|X_\tau\|_{s+m, K} d\tau \right)^m.$$

But then (4.5) follows at once from the formal equality (5.1) and the asymptotic estimate (2.23).

PROOF OF PROPOSITION 5.1. It is required to find an absolutely continuous chronological series satisfying (5.1). In what follows, we will, as a rule, omit the arguments t_0 and \vec{X}_τ in $V_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$.

We differentiate (5.1) with respect to t . On the left we get $\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \circ \vec{X}_t$. In order to differentiate the right-hand side, we must use the formal variant of the variation formula (3.21). We have

$$e^{V_{t+\varepsilon}} = e^{V_t + \int_t^{t+\varepsilon} \frac{d}{d\tau} V_\tau d\tau} = e^{V_t} \circ \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{0,1} \left(e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} \int_t^{t+\varepsilon} \frac{d}{d\theta} V_\theta d\theta \right).$$

Consequently

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{V_t} = e^{V_t} \circ \int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau \frac{d}{dt} V_t.$$

Thus it follows from (5.1) that

$$\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0, t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \circ \vec{X}_t = e^{V_t} \circ \int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau \frac{d}{dt} V_t.$$

Cancelling the invertible series $\vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = e^{V_t}$ from both sides, we get

$$\vec{X}_t = \int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau \frac{d}{dt} V_t.$$

The series $\int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau$ begins with Id, so it is invertible. The inverse series is the Maclaurin series of the function

$$1 / \int_0^1 e^{-\tau z} d\tau = \frac{-z}{e^{-z} - 1},$$

with the variable z replaced by $\text{ad} V_t$. We put $\varphi(z) = -z/(e^{-z} - 1)$. Our equation takes the form

$$\frac{d}{dt} V_t = \varphi(\text{ad} V_t) \vec{X}_t. \tag{5.2}$$

Here

$$\varphi(\text{ad} V_t) = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi^{(\alpha)}(0)}{\alpha!} \text{ad}^\alpha V_t = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \text{ad} V_t + \sum_{\alpha=2}^{\infty} \frac{B_\alpha}{\alpha!} \text{ad}^\alpha V_t,$$

where B_α is the α th Bernoulli number: $B_2 = \frac{1}{6}$, $B_4 = -\frac{1}{3}$, \dots , and $B_{2\alpha+1} = 0$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots$.

Conversely, we assume that the chronological series V_t of \mathfrak{N} satisfies (5.2). Then

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{V_t} = e^{V_t} \circ \int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau \frac{d}{dt} V_t = e^{V_t} \circ \int_0^1 e^{-\tau \text{ad} V_t} d\tau \varphi(\text{ad} V_t) \vec{X}_t = e^{V_t} \circ \vec{X}_t,$$

and consequently $e^{V_t} = \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$. Thus (5.1) is equivalent to (5.2).

To solve (5.2) it is convenient to introduce a formal Laurent series in the m -dimensional variable $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$ with coefficients in \mathcal{O} . We denote by $\mathcal{O}_m(\lambda)$ the collection of all series of the form

$$\mathfrak{L}(\lambda) = \sum_{\iota \in \mathbf{Z}^{(m)}} Q_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \lambda^\iota, \quad Q_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \in \mathcal{O}.$$

Here $\iota = (\iota_1, \dots, \iota_m)$ is a multi-index, $\lambda^\iota = \lambda_1^{\iota_1} \dots \lambda_m^{\iota_m}$, and $\mathbf{Z}^{(m)}$ is the set of all m -dimensional vectors with integer coordinates.

It is not possible to multiply arbitrary formal Laurent series, as is done with power series. Therefore $\mathcal{O}_m(\lambda)$ does not have a natural ring structure. Nevertheless we can say the following.

Let $\mathcal{O}_m^0(\lambda)$ be the subset of $\mathcal{O}_m(\lambda)$ defined by the following condition: a series

$$\mathfrak{R}(\lambda) = \sum_{\iota \in \mathbf{Z}^{(m)}} R_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \lambda^\iota$$

in $\mathcal{O}_m(\lambda)$ belongs to $\mathcal{O}_m^0(\lambda)$ if and only if the coefficients $R_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \in \mathfrak{N}^{k_\iota}$, where $k_\iota \rightarrow \infty$ as $|\iota| \rightarrow \infty$.

For any

$$\mathfrak{L}(\lambda) = \sum_{\iota \in \mathbf{Z}^{(m)}} Q_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \lambda^\iota \in \mathcal{O}_m(\lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{R}(\lambda) = \sum_{\iota \in \mathbf{Z}^{(m)}} R_{t_0,t}^{(\iota)}(\vec{X}_\tau) \lambda^\iota \in \mathcal{O}_m^0(\lambda)$$

we define the product $\mathfrak{Q}\mathfrak{R}(\lambda) \in \mathfrak{Q}(\lambda)$ by

$$\mathfrak{Q}\mathfrak{R}(\lambda) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}^{(m)}} \left(\sum_{i'+i''=i} Q_{i_0, i}^{(i')} R_{i_0, i}^{(i'')} \right) \lambda^i.$$

The infinite sum

$$\sum_{i'+i''=i} Q_{i_0, i}^{(i')} R_{i_0, i}^{(i'')}$$

has meaning by virtue of the restrictions imposed on the coefficients of the series in $\mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$.

Such a definition of multiplication, together with termwise addition, gives a ring structure in $\mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ and an $\mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ -module structure in $\mathfrak{Q}_m(\lambda)$.

We note that for arbitrary $Q \in \mathfrak{Q}$ the element $\lambda - Q$ is invertible in $\mathfrak{Q}_1^0(\lambda)$, and

$$(\lambda - Q)^{-1} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-m+1} Q^m.$$

Let $\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}^{(m)}} Q^i \lambda^i$ be a series in $\mathfrak{Q}_m(\lambda)$. As usual, we call the coefficient $Q^{(-1, \dots, -1)}$ of $\lambda_1^{-1} \cdot \dots \cdot \lambda_m^{-1}$ the *residue of the series $\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda)$ at zero* and denote it by

$$Q^{(-1, \dots, -1)} = \text{res } \mathfrak{Q}(\lambda).$$

We consider an arbitrary formal power series $G(\lambda) = \sum_0^\infty G_\alpha \lambda^\alpha$ with scalar coefficients. It is clear that such a series belongs, in particular, to an $\mathfrak{Q}_1^0(\lambda)$ -module of $\mathfrak{Q}_1^0(\lambda)$. In addition, as is not difficult to verify,

$$\text{res} \{ G(\lambda) (\lambda - Q)^{-1} \} = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} G_\alpha Q^\alpha = G(Q) \tag{5.3}$$

for any $Q \in \mathfrak{Q}$.

Let $F: \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda) \rightarrow \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ be a mapping of $\mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ into itself. We call the mapping $\partial_Q F: \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda) \rightarrow \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ defined by

$$\partial_Q F(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda)) = \left. \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} F(\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda) + \varepsilon \mathfrak{R}(\lambda)),$$

a *differential of the mapping F at the "point" $\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda) \in \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$* if the derivative on the right-hand side exists for all $\mathfrak{R}(\lambda) \in \mathfrak{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$.

The usual Leibniz rule for the differentiation of a product,

$$\partial_Q (FG)(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda)) = (\partial_Q F(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda))) G(\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda)) + F(\mathfrak{Q}(\lambda)) \partial_Q G(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda)),$$

holds for this differential, and (under suitable assumptions) the rule for differentiating a composition,

$$\partial_Q (F \circ G)(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda)) = \partial_{F(\mathfrak{Q})} F \circ \partial_Q G(\mathfrak{R}(\lambda)).$$

(²) We omit the arguments i_0, i , and \vec{X}_i in the symbol $Q_{i_0, i}(\vec{X}_i) \in \mathfrak{Q}$ for a ring element.

Let F be such that $\mathfrak{L}(\lambda) \in \mathcal{Q}_m^0(\lambda)$ exists for all $F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))^{-1}$. We denote the mapping $\mathfrak{L}(\lambda) \rightarrow F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))^{-1}$ by the symbol $1/F$ (in contrast to the inverse F^{-1}). An application of the Leibniz rule to the identity $F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))^{-1} = \text{Id}$ gives an expression for the differential of $1/F$:

$$\partial_{\mathfrak{L}}(1/F)(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda)) = -F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))^{-1} \mathfrak{L}(\lambda) F(\mathfrak{L}(\lambda))^{-1}. \tag{5.4}$$

We return to (5.2). We denote the mapping of \mathcal{Q} which associates with an arbitrary series $Q_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) \in \mathcal{Q}$ the series $\varphi(\text{ad } Q_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau))\vec{X}_t$ by $\Psi_t: \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}$. Our equation takes the form

$$\frac{d}{dt} V_t = \Psi_t(V_t), \quad V_t \in \mathfrak{N}. \tag{5.5}$$

Finally, we denote by $\vec{\Psi}_t$ the mapping which associates with each differentiable mapping F in the ring $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{Q}_m(\lambda)$ the mapping $Q \rightarrow \partial_Q F(\Psi_t(Q))$ in the same ring. The analogy with ordinary vector fields is obvious.

With the help of $\vec{\Psi}_t$, we can write a solution of (5.5) in precisely the same way as in the case of ordinary differential equations. We have

$$\begin{aligned} V_t &= \int_{i_0}^t \Psi_{\tau_1}(V_{\tau_1}) d\tau_1 = \int_{i_0}^t \Psi_{\tau_1}(0) d\tau_1 + \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} \partial_{V_{\tau_2}} \Psi_{\tau_1} \left(\frac{dV_{\tau_2}}{d\tau_2} \right) d\tau_2 \\ &= \int_{i_0}^t \Psi_{\tau_1}(0) d\tau_1 + \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_2} \Psi_{\tau_1}(V_{\tau_2}) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{\alpha-1}} d\tau_\alpha \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_\alpha} \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_2} \Psi_{\tau_1}(0) \\ &\quad + \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_2} \Psi_{\tau_1}(V_{\tau_m}) \\ &= \dots = \left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_m} \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_{\tau_1} \right) \text{Id}(0) = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_{i_0}^t \vec{\Psi}_\tau d\tau \text{Id}(0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus in order to find the chronological series $V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau)$, it remains to calculate the polynomial

$$\mathfrak{g}_m(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_m) = \vec{\Psi}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_{m-1} \Psi_m(0).$$

The unknown series then takes the form

$$V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_\tau) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \int_{i_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{i_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{i_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \mathfrak{g}_m(\vec{X}_{\tau_1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{\tau_m}).$$

To carry out the calculation, we make use of (5.3). The mapping Ψ_m can be expressed in the form

$$\Psi_m(Q) = \varphi(\text{ad } Q) \vec{X}_m = \text{res } \varphi(\lambda) (\lambda - \text{ad } Q)^{-1} \vec{X}_m.$$

By virtue of (5.4) and the linearity of the operation of taking the residue, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\Psi}_2\Psi_1(Q) &= \partial_Q\Psi_1(\Psi_2(Q)) = \text{res } \varphi(\lambda)(\lambda - \text{ad } Q)^{-1} \text{ad } \Psi_2(Q)(\lambda - \text{ad } Q)^{-1}\vec{X}_1 \\ &= \text{res } \varphi(\lambda_1)\varphi(\lambda_2)(\lambda_1 - \text{ad } Q)^{-1} \text{ad } ((\lambda_2 - \text{ad } Q)^{-1}\vec{X}_2)(\lambda_1 - \text{ad } Q)^{-1}\vec{X}_1. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{g}_1(\vec{X}_1) &= \Psi_1(0) = \varphi(0)\vec{X}_1 = \vec{X}_1, \\ \mathfrak{g}_2(\vec{X}_1, \vec{X}_2) &= \vec{\Psi}_2\Psi_1(0) = \text{res } \frac{\varphi(\lambda_1)\varphi(\lambda_2)}{\lambda_1^2\lambda_2} \text{ad } \vec{X}_2\vec{X}_1 \\ &= \varphi'(0)\varphi(0) \text{ad } \vec{X}_2\vec{X}_1 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ad } \vec{X}_2\vec{X}_1. \end{aligned}$$

If we use (5.4) and Leibniz' rule for differentiating a product, it is not difficult, by means of successive differentiation, to represent $\vec{\Psi}_m \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_2\Psi_1(Q)$ in the form of a residue of some series in $\mathcal{O}_m(\lambda)$ for any given m , and then, putting $Q = 0$ and taking the residue, to find $\mathfrak{g}_m(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_m)$. It is clear from the method of constructing the \mathfrak{g}_m that they satisfy all of the hypotheses of Proposition 5.1.

The procedure for calculating the \mathfrak{g}_m can be simplified considerably. We describe one of the possible algorithms.

2. *Construction of the polynomials \mathfrak{g}_m .* Let $\text{Ass}(\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m)$ be the free associative algebra over \mathbf{R} with generators $\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m$. The elements of this algebra are all possible linear combinations of words made from the alphabet $\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m$.

We call a word made up of the "letters" $\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m$, *regular* if by the introduction of suitable parentheses it can be expressed as a commutator polynomial in ζ_1, \dots, ζ_m with the usual meaning of the symbol ad ,

$$(\text{ad } \zeta_1)\zeta_2 = [\zeta_1, \zeta_2] = \zeta_1\zeta_2 - \zeta_2\zeta_1.$$

For example, the words $\text{ad } \zeta_2\zeta_1$, $\text{ad } \zeta_3\zeta_2\zeta_1 = [[\zeta_3, \zeta_2], \zeta_1]$ are regular, and the words $\text{ad } \zeta_2$, $\text{ad } \zeta_2\zeta_1\zeta_3$ are not regular. We note that the parentheses in a regular word can be inserted in only one way to get the "commutator monomial."

Let w be some word. With each variable ζ_k occurring in w we associate a natural number called the *depth* of ζ_k in w . The depth is defined in the following way. We represent $w = w_1\zeta_k w_2$, where w_1 is a (possibly empty) word which does not contain ζ_k , and we assume that $w = v_1 \dots v_l$, where each v_i is one of the generators of our algebra.

We define the set $J \subset \{1, \dots, l\}$ by means of the following rule: $i \in J$ if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied: 1) the number of occurrences of the generator ad in the word $v_i v_{i+1} \dots v_l$ is $\frac{1}{2}(l - i + 1)$; 2) for each $i' > i$, the number of occurrences of ad in $v_{i'} v_{i'+1} \dots v_l$ does not exceed $(l - i' + 1)/2$. The depth of ζ_k in w is equal (by definition) to the number of elements in J .

We mention an equivalent definition of the depth of a variable in a word which motivates the term "depth." In the terminology developed above, the depth of ζ_k in the word w is the number of regular words of the form $v_i v_{i+1} \dots v_l \zeta_k$, where $i < l$. To prove the equivalence of the two definitions, it suffices to note that the word $v_i \dots v_l \zeta_k$ is regular if and only if $v_i \dots v_l$ satisfies the conditions 1) and 2) above.

With each word w we associate a differentiation $\mathfrak{D}(w)$ of the algebra $\text{Ass}(\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m)$ which acts on the generators according to the rule $\mathfrak{D}(w)\text{ad} = w \text{ad}$, $\mathfrak{D}(w)\zeta_i = w\zeta_i$, and which is extended to the remaining elements of the algebra by

linearity and Leibniz' rule. For example,

$$\mathfrak{D}(\zeta_i) \text{ ad } \zeta_j = \zeta_i \text{ ad } \zeta_j + \text{ ad } \zeta_i \zeta_j.$$

To construct the polynomials g_m we need the sequence $b_0 = 1, b_\alpha = B_\alpha/\alpha!, \alpha = 2, 3, \dots$, of real numbers, where B_α are the Bernoulli numbers.

We consider now the element

$$\mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_m) \circ \dots \circ \mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_2) \zeta_1 \in \text{Ass}(\text{ad}, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m),$$

which is obtained from ζ_1 by successive applications of the differentiations $\mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_2), \dots, \mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_m)$ and which is a sum of $(2m - 3)!!$ regular words:

$$\mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_m) \circ \dots \circ \mathfrak{D}(\text{ad } \zeta_2) \zeta_1 = \omega_1 + \dots + \omega_{(2m-3)!!}. \tag{5.6}$$

We denote the depth of ζ_1 in w_j by v_{ij} , and we put $g_1(\zeta_1) = \zeta_1$ and

$$g_m(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}} \omega_\alpha, \quad m \geq 2.$$

For example,

$$\begin{aligned} g_3(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3) &= \frac{1}{6} \text{ ad } \zeta_3 \text{ ad } \zeta_2 \zeta_1 + \frac{1}{4} \text{ ad ad } \zeta_3 \zeta_2 \zeta_1 + \frac{1}{6} \text{ ad } \zeta_2 \text{ ad } \zeta_3 \zeta_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{6} [\zeta_3, [\zeta_2, \zeta_1]] + \frac{1}{4} [[\zeta_3, \zeta_2], \zeta_1] + \frac{1}{6} [\zeta_2, [\zeta_3, \zeta_1]]. \end{aligned}$$

After simple transformations using the Jacobi identity, we get

$$g_3(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3) = \frac{1}{6} ([\zeta_3, [\zeta_2, \zeta_1]] + [[\zeta_3, \zeta_2], \zeta_1]).$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} g_4(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3, \zeta_4) &= \frac{1}{12} ([[\zeta_1, \zeta_3], [\zeta_2, \zeta_1]] + [[[\zeta_4, \zeta_3], \zeta_2], \zeta_1] + [\zeta_4, [[\zeta_3, \zeta_2], \zeta_1]] \\ &\quad + [\zeta_3, [[\zeta_4, \zeta_2], \zeta_1]]). \end{aligned}$$

This algorithm for the construction of g_m is essentially a formalization of the procedure for calculating the g_m by means of residues described earlier, as can be verified by simple induction on m .

REMARK. Let $\vec{\varphi}$ be an analytic vector field over the straight line corresponding to the function $\varphi(t) = -t/(e^{-t} - 1)$. Using the fact that

$$\vec{\Psi}_1 \circ \dots \circ \vec{\Psi}_{m-1} \Psi_m(0) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}} \omega_\alpha,$$

it is easy to get that

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}} = \vec{\varphi}^m E(0)$$

(here E is the function which gives the identity mapping of the straight line, $E(t) \equiv t$).

Similarly, if

$$\chi(z) = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} |b_{\alpha}| z^{\alpha} = \frac{z}{2} \left(1 - \operatorname{ctg} \frac{z}{2} \right) + 2$$

and $\vec{\chi}$ is the vector field corresponding to the function $\chi(t)$, then

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} |b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}}| = \vec{\chi}^m E(0).$$

Using this result (see also (5.7)), we can estimate the constants C_1 and C_2 in (4.5). We will, however, not pursue this.

3. *Convergence of the series.* In general, the series $\vec{V}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_{\tau})E$ diverges, but in certain situations it can converge.

We assume that B is some subalgebra of the Lie algebra $\operatorname{Der}(\Phi)$ and that a norm $\|\cdot\|$, where $\|[\vec{X}, \vec{Y}]\| \leq \|\vec{X}\| \|\vec{Y}\| \forall \vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in B$, is given on B , making it into a Banach Lie algebra.

PROPOSITION 5.2. *Let \vec{X}_t be a nonstationary field, and let $\vec{X}_t \in B$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. If $\int_{t_0}^t \|X_{\tau}\| d\tau < 0.44$, then $\vec{V}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_{\tau})$ converges absolutely in B .*

PROOF. Suppose that $\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_m \in B$. We estimate $\|g_m(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_m)\|$. We note that each variable $\vec{X}_i, i = 1, \dots, m$, occurs in the word $w_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, (2m - 3)!!)$; see (5.6) precisely once. Consequently $\|w_j\| \leq \|\vec{X}_1\| \dots \|\vec{X}_m\|$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_m(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_m)\| &= \left\| \sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}} w_{\alpha} \right\| \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^{(2m-3)!!} |b_{v_{1\alpha}} \dots b_{v_{m\alpha}}| \right) \|\vec{X}_1\| \dots \|\vec{X}_m\| = \vec{\chi}^m E(0) \|\vec{X}_1\| \dots \|\vec{X}_m\|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the m th term of $\vec{V}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_{\tau})$ is bounded above by

$$\vec{\chi}^m E(0) \int_{t_0}^t d\tau_1 \int_{t_0}^{\tau_1} d\tau_2 \dots \int_{t_0}^{\tau_{m-1}} d\tau_m \|\vec{X}_{\tau_1}\| \dots \|\vec{X}_{\tau_m}\| = \frac{\vec{\chi}^m E(0)}{m!} \left(\int_{t_0}^t \|X_{\tau}\| d\tau \right)^m.$$

It remains to estimate the radius of convergence of $\sum_0^{\infty} (\vec{\chi}^m / m!) E(0) \theta^m$.

The Maclaurin expansion of $\chi(z)$ has radius of convergence 2π . Arguing as in §2.1, we get that, for any $\sigma \in (0, 2\pi)$,

$$\vec{\chi}^m E(0) \leq (m - 1)! \frac{\sigma}{2} \left(\frac{2M(\sigma)}{\sigma} \right)^m, \tag{5.7}$$

where $M(\sigma) = \max_{z \in \mathbb{C}, |z|=\sigma} |\chi(z)|$. Furthermore,

$$|\chi(z)| = \left| \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} |b_{\alpha}| z^{\alpha} \right| \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} |b_{\alpha}| |z|^{\alpha} = \chi(|z|), \quad |z| \leq 2\pi.$$

Consequently $M(\sigma) = \chi(\sigma)$. Thus the series in which we are interested converges for $|\theta| < \max_{0 < \sigma < 2\pi} \sigma / 2\chi(\sigma) = 0.44 \dots$. This proves the proposition.

At the same time we get the estimate

$$\|\vec{V}_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_{\tau})\| \leq e^{\int_{t_0}^t \|\vec{X}_{\tau}\| d\tau} \vec{\chi} E(0).$$

COROLLARY. Under the hypotheses of the proposition, the flow $\hat{P}_{t_0,t} = e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)}$ coincides with $\exp \int_{t_0}^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$.

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)} &= e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)} \circ \int_0^1 e^{-\theta \text{ad} V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)} d\theta \frac{d}{dt} V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t) \\ &= e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)} \circ \varphi(\text{ad} V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t))^{-1} \circ \varphi(\text{ad} V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)) \vec{X}_t = e^{V_{t_0,t}(\vec{X}_t)} \circ \vec{X}_t. \end{aligned}$$

§6. Two examples of applications of the formulas

In subsequent articles we intend to consider applications of the calculus we have developed, mainly to a study of necessary conditions for extremality of high orders. We give here only two simple examples which illustrate possible applications of our results.

1. *Control by means of quasistationary fields.* In this subsection we characterize in invariant terms those controlled equations which, from the point of view of control theory, must be considered as equivalent to linear systems.

First of all, we introduce a criterion for the commutativity of two nonstationary vector fields of a special form.

PROPOSITION 6.1. Let \vec{X} , \vec{Y}_1 , and \vec{Y}_2 be (smooth) vector fields. The field $e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1$ commutes with the field $e^{s \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2$ for all t and s if and only if

$$[\vec{Y}_1, \text{ad}^j \vec{X} \vec{Y}_2] = 0 \text{ for } j = 0, 1, \dots, 2n - 1. \tag{6.1}$$

PROOF. The necessity is obvious: it suffices to differentiate the identity $[\vec{Y}_1, e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2] = 0$ j times with respect to t .

We now establish the sufficiency of (6.1). Because of the identity

$$[e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1, e^{s \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2] = e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} [\vec{Y}_1, e^{(t-s) \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2], \tag{6.2}$$

the sufficiency will be established if we prove 1) the commutativity of \vec{Y}_1 with $e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2$ for all τ and 2) that if (6.1) is satisfied then all of the brackets

$$[\text{ad}^i \vec{X} \vec{Y}_1, \text{ad}^j \vec{X} \vec{Y}_2], \quad 0 \leq i \leq n - 1, \quad 0 \leq j \leq n,$$

vanish.

We get 2) at once if we compare the Taylor series expansions of the right and left sides of (6.2).

For each $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, we denote the largest number such that the vectors $\vec{Y}_1(x)$, $\text{ad} \vec{X} \vec{Y}_1(x), \dots, \text{ad}^{k-1} \vec{X} \vec{Y}_1(x)$ are linearly independent by $k(x)$; similarly, $l(x)$ is the largest number such that $\vec{Y}_2(x), \dots, \text{ad}^{l-1} \vec{X} \vec{Y}_2(x)$ are linearly independent. It is clear that $k(x)$ and $l(x)$ do not exceed n . In addition, $k(x)$ and $l(x)$, which take on finitely many values, are lower semicontinuous and consequently locally constant on some open dense subset of \mathbf{R}^n . To prove the proposition, it suffices to examine each component of this open set separately. Therefore we may assume that $k(x) \equiv k$ and $l(x) \equiv l$ are constants. In this case,

$$\text{ad}^k \vec{X} \vec{Y}_1 = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{k-1} a_\alpha \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X} \vec{Y}_1, \quad \text{ad}^l \vec{X} \vec{Y}_2 = \sum_{\beta=0}^{l-1} b_\beta \text{ad}^\beta \vec{X} \vec{Y}_2,$$

where a_α and b_β are smooth scalar functions. Suppose that $0 < i < n - 1$; then, by virtue of 2),

$$0 = [\text{ad}^i \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1, \text{ad}^i \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2] = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{l-1} ((\text{ad}^i \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1) b_\beta) \text{ad}^\beta \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2.$$

Since the fields $\text{ad}^\beta \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1$, $0 < \beta < k - 1$, are linearly independent, it follows from this that $(\text{ad}^i \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1) b_\beta = 0$, $\beta = 0, 1, \dots, l - 1$. Hence we deduce that $(e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_j = 0$ for all t and $j = 0, 1, \dots, l - 1$.

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dt^k} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_j &= (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \text{ad}^k \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1) b_j = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{k-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} a_\alpha \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1) b_j \\ &= \sum_{\alpha=0}^{k-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} a_\alpha) \circ (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X}\vec{Y}_1) b_j = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{k-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} a_\alpha) \circ \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_j. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $(e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_j$, as a function of t , satisfies a linear differential equation of order k . In addition, the function and its first $k - 1$ derivatives vanish at $t = 0$. Consequently $(e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_j \equiv 0$.

We put $\vec{Z}_t = [\vec{Y}_1, e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_2]$. It is required to prove (see 1)) that the family \vec{Z}_t consists of zero vector fields.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^l}{dt^l} \vec{Z}_t &= \left[\vec{Y}_1, \sum_{\alpha=0}^{l-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} b_\alpha) \circ e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2 \right] \\ &= \sum_{\alpha=0}^{l-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} b_\alpha) \circ [\vec{Y}_1, e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2] + \sum_{\alpha=0}^{l-1} (\vec{Y}_1 \circ e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} b_\alpha) \circ e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \text{ad}^\alpha \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2. \end{aligned} \tag{6.3}$$

Since

$$\vec{Y}_1 \circ e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} b_\alpha = e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \circ (e^{-t \text{ad} \vec{X}} \vec{Y}_1) b_\alpha,$$

the second sum on the right-hand side of (6.3) is equal to zero. Consequently

$$\frac{d^l}{dt^l} \vec{Z}_t = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{l-1} (e^{t \text{ad} \vec{X}} b_\alpha) \frac{d^\alpha}{dt^\alpha} \vec{Z}_t.$$

Since

$$\frac{d^j}{dt^j} \vec{Z}_t |_{t=0} = [\vec{Y}_1, \text{ad}^j \vec{X}\vec{Y}_2] = 0$$

for $j = 0, \dots, l - 1$, it follows that $\vec{Z}_t \equiv 0$.

We now consider the controlled equation

$$x = f(x) + G(x)u, \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^r, \tag{6.4}$$

in \mathbb{R}^n .

The vector-valued and matrix-valued functions $f(x)$ and $G(x)$ are assumed to be smooth and bounded.

In addition, we assume that the vector fields $e^{t \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u$ and $e^{s \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}v$ commute for all t, s and all $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^r$. Proposition 6.1 gives an effective method of verifying this assumption.

We fix a point $x_0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$ (the initial state) and a moment in time $t > 0$. The control theory problem for (6.4) consists in the study of the mapping

$$u(\tau) \mapsto \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t (\vec{f} + \vec{G}u(\tau)) d\tau E(x_0),$$

given on the space $L_1^r[0, t]$ of r -dimensional vector-valued functions which are summable on $[0, t]$, or given on some subset of this space. By virtue of the fact that

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t (\vec{f} + \vec{G}u(\tau)) d\tau = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u(\tau) d\tau \circ e^{t \vec{f}},$$

this reduces to the study of the mapping

$$u(\tau) \mapsto \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u(\tau) d\tau E(x_0), \tag{6.5}$$

which corresponds to the controlled equation

$$\dot{x} = e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}uE(x), \quad 0 \leq \tau \leq t, \tag{6.6}$$

with initial condition $x(0) = x_0$.

We denote by D the corresponding attainable set, i.e. the image of $L_1^r[0, t]$ under the mapping (6.5),

$$D = \left\{ \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u(\tau) d\tau \mid u(\tau) \in L_1^r[0, t] \right\} \subset \mathbf{R}^n.$$

PROPOSITION 6.2. *The attainable set D has an intrinsic commutative Lie group structure, and the fields $e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u$, $0 < \tau < t$, $u \in \mathbf{R}^r$, generate a space of invariant vector fields on this group.*

REMARK. We assume that the dimension of the group is k ($k \leq n$). Since any connected k -dimensional commutative Lie group can be obtained by factoring \mathbf{R}^k by some (perhaps singular) lattice, it follows that the proposition reduces the controlled equation (6.6) to a linear system in \mathbf{R}^k modulo a lattice. For example, the problem of hitting a point for (6.6) is equivalent to the problem of hitting the nodes of an appropriate lattice for a linear system in \mathbf{R}^k .

PROOF OF THE PROPOSITION. From the vector fields $e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}u$, $0 \leq \tau < t$, $u \in \mathbf{R}^r$, we choose fields $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_k$ such that the vectors $Y_1(x_0), \dots, Y_k(x_0)$ form a basis of the linear hull of the vectors $\{e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}uE(x_0), 0 \leq \tau < t, u \in \mathbf{R}^r\}$ (we emphasize that $Y_1(x), \dots, Y_k(x)$ need not generate the linear hull of the vectors $e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \vec{G}uE(x)$ for $x \neq x_0$).

We define a mapping $\mathcal{G} : \mathbf{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ by

$$\mathcal{G}(s_1, \dots, s_k) = e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} E(x_0).$$

Since the fields \vec{Y}_i , $i = 1, \dots, k$, commute with each other, we get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s_j} \mathcal{G}(s_1, \dots, s_k) = e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} Y_j(x_0) = Y_j(\mathcal{G}(s_1, \dots, s_k)), \quad j = 1, \dots, k.$$

The vectors $Y_1(\mathcal{E}(s)), \dots, Y_k(\mathcal{E}(s))$ are linearly independent for any $s = (s_1, \dots, s_k) \in \mathbf{R}^k$. In fact, if we assume that $\sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha Y_\alpha(\mathcal{E}(s)) = 0$, we get for any function $\varphi \in \Phi$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \right) \varphi(x_0) &= \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \right) \circ e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \circ e^{-\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \varphi(x_0) \\ &= e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \circ \left(\sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \right) \circ e^{-\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \varphi(x_0) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \left(e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \varphi \right) (\mathcal{E}(s)) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $\sum_1^k c_\alpha Y_\alpha(x_0)$, which means that $c_\alpha = 0, \alpha = 1, \dots, k$.

Thus the vectors $\partial \mathcal{E}(s) / \partial s_j$ are linearly independent for all $s \in \mathbf{R}^k$; consequently the mapping \mathcal{E} induces a smooth k -dimensional manifold structure on $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$.

Furthermore, the correspondence $(s_1, \dots, s_k) \mapsto e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha}$ defines a transitive operation of the additive group of \mathbf{R}^k on the manifold $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$. Indeed, since the fields $\vec{Y}_i, i = 1, \dots, k$, commute, we have

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^k (s'_\alpha + s''_\alpha) \vec{Y}_\alpha = \sum_{\alpha=1}^k s'_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \circ \sum_{\alpha=1}^k s''_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \quad \text{for all } s'_\alpha, s''_\alpha, \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, k.$$

Since $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$ has dimension k , the kernel of this operation is some discrete subgroup H of \mathbf{R}^k . This means that $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$ is isomorphic to \mathbf{R}^k/H , and the fields $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_k$ form a basis of the space of invariant vector fields over the group $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$.

We show that the restrictions of the vector fields $e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u}, 0 < \tau < t, u \in \mathbf{R}^r$, to the set $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$ are linear combinations (with constant coefficients) of the fields $\vec{Y}_1, \dots, \vec{Y}_k$; hence it will follow that $D \subset \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$.

Let $\tau \in [0, t]$ and $u \in \mathbf{R}^r$. By virtue of the choice of the $\vec{Y}_j, j = 1, \dots, k$, the vector $e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u} E(x_0)$ can be expressed linearly in terms of $Y_1(x_0), \dots, Y_k(x_0)$. We show that a relation of the form

$$e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u} E(x_0) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha Y_\alpha(x_0)$$

continues to hold if x_0 is replaced by any point of $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{R}^k)$. We again use the commutativity of the \vec{Y}_j . For any function $\varphi \in \Phi$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u} \right) (\mathcal{E}(s)) &= e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \circ e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u} \varphi(x_0) \\ &= e^{\tau \text{ ad } \vec{f} \vec{G} u} \left(e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \varphi \right) (x_0) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha \left(e^{\sum_{\alpha=1}^k s_\alpha \vec{Y}_\alpha} \varphi \right) (x_0) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^k c_\alpha Y_\alpha(\mathcal{E}(s)). \end{aligned}$$

To complete the proof, it remains to verify that $\mathfrak{G}(\mathbf{R}^k) \subset D$. From Proposition 3.3 we have the identity

$$\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \overrightarrow{G}u(\tau) d\tau = e^{\int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \overrightarrow{G}u(\tau) d\tau}$$

On the other hand, for each j the restriction of \vec{Y}_j to $\mathfrak{G}(\mathbf{R}^k)$ can evidently be expressed in the form

$$\vec{Y}_j|_{\mathfrak{G}(\mathbf{R}^k)} = \int_0^t e^{\tau \text{ad} \vec{f}} \overrightarrow{G}u(\tau) d\tau.$$

2. *The Euler equation for a variational problem.* We need certain standard notation and results involving differential forms which we now recall (for details, see [11]).

Any Φ -multilinear skew symmetric mapping

$$\omega : \text{Der}(\Phi) \times \dots \times \text{Der}(\Phi) \rightarrow \Phi$$

is called a *differential form of degree k over \mathbf{R}^n* .

The linear space of all such forms is denoted by Λ_k^* , and $\Lambda^* = \bigoplus_0^n \Lambda_k^*$. We note that Λ^* is an algebra over $\Phi = \Lambda_0^*$ with respect to the operation of exterior multiplication.

An arbitrary diffeomorphism P induces a mapping $P^* : \Lambda^* \rightarrow \Lambda^*$. In fact, if $\omega \in \Lambda_k^*$, then

$$(P^*\omega)(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_n) = \hat{P}\omega(\text{Ad } \hat{P}^{-1}\vec{X}_1, \dots, \text{Ad } \hat{P}^{-1}\vec{X}_n).$$

To each field $\vec{Y} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$ there corresponds the operator $i_{\vec{Y}} : \Lambda^* \rightarrow \Lambda^*$ of *interior multiplication* of differential forms over the field \vec{Y} . For any $k \geq 0$, $i_{\vec{Y}}$ acts from Λ_k^* to Λ_{k-1}^* according to the rule

$$(i_{\vec{Y}}\omega)(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_n) = \omega(\vec{Y}, \vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_n).$$

We also define in Λ^* the *coboundary operator (exterior differential) d* , which acts from Λ_k^* to Λ_{k+1}^* , for each $k \geq 0$, according to the rule

$$\begin{aligned} (d\omega)(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \vec{X}_{n+1}) &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n+1} (-1)^{\alpha-1} \vec{X}_\alpha \omega(\vec{X}_1, \dots, \overset{0}{\vec{X}}_\alpha, \dots, \vec{X}_n) \\ &+ \sum_{\alpha < \beta} (-1)^{\alpha+\beta} \omega([\vec{X}_\alpha, \vec{X}_\beta], \vec{X}_1, \dots, \overset{0}{\vec{X}}_\alpha, \dots, \overset{0}{\vec{X}}_\beta, \dots, \vec{X}_n) \end{aligned} \tag{6.7}$$

(notation of the form $\dots, \overset{0}{\vec{X}}_\alpha, \dots$ means that the field \vec{X}_α is deleted from the sequence). The mappings P^* and d commute:

$$P^* \circ d = d \circ P^*. \tag{6.8}$$

The operator $L_{\vec{Y}} = i_{\vec{Y}} \circ d + d \circ i_{\vec{Y}}$ is called *Lie differentiation along the field \vec{Y}* . Lie differentiation is actually differentiation in Λ^* , i.e.

$$L_{\vec{Y}}(\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2) = (L_{\vec{Y}}\omega_1) \wedge \omega_2 + \omega_1 \wedge (L_{\vec{Y}}\omega_2).$$

The operators $L_{\vec{Y}}$ and d commute, as follows at once from the identity $d \circ d = 0$.

We can derive the following useful identity, true for all $\omega \in \Lambda_1^*$ and $\vec{Y}, \vec{Z} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$, directly from the definition:

$$(L_{\vec{Y}}\omega)(\vec{Z}) = \vec{Y}\omega(\vec{Z}) - \omega([\vec{Y}, \vec{Z}]). \quad (6.9)$$

Suppose that the nonstationary field \vec{X}_t and the corresponding flow $\hat{P}_t = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau$ are given.

PROPOSITION 6.3. *The family P_t^* of mappings of Λ^* satisfy the equation*

$$\frac{d}{dt} P_t^* = P_t^* \circ L_{\vec{X}_t}.$$

PROOF. Since the operators $L_{\vec{X}_t}$ and $P_t^{*-1} \circ dP_t^*/dt$ are differentiations in Λ^* , it suffices to show that

$$\frac{d}{dt} P_t^*\omega = P_t^* \circ L_{\vec{X}_t}\omega$$

for generators of this algebra, i.e. in the case where ω is a form of degree zero or one. If ω is of zero degree, i.e. $\omega = \varphi \in \Phi$, then $L_{\vec{X}_t}\varphi = X_t\varphi$, and the above equality is obvious. Suppose that $\omega \in \Lambda_1^*$. For any $\vec{Y} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$ we have (see (6.7) and (6.8))

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (P_t^*\omega)(\vec{Y}) &= \frac{d}{dt} \hat{P}_t\omega(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y}) \\ &= \hat{P}_t\omega(-\text{ad } \vec{X}_t \text{ Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y}) + \hat{P}_t \circ \vec{X}_t\omega(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y}) \\ &= \hat{P}_t(-\omega([\vec{X}_t, \text{Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y}]) + \vec{X}_t\omega(\text{Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y})) \\ &= \hat{P}_td\omega(\vec{X}_t, \text{Ad } \hat{P}_t^{-1}\vec{Y}) + \vec{Y} \circ P_t\omega(\vec{X}_t) \\ &= (P_t^* \circ i_{\vec{X}_t} \circ d\omega)(\vec{Y}) + (d \circ P_t^* \circ i_{\vec{X}_t}\omega)(\vec{Y}) \\ &= P_t^* \circ (i_{\vec{X}_t} \circ d + d \circ i_{\vec{X}_t})\omega(\vec{Y}). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\frac{d}{dt} P_t^*\omega = P_t^* \circ L_{\vec{X}_t}\omega.$$

Thus we may write

$$\left(\overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \right)^* = \overrightarrow{\exp} \int_0^t L_{\vec{X}_\tau} d\tau. \quad (6.10)$$

Let μ be an n th-degree differential form which vanishes nowhere. Then any other form in Λ_n^* can be obtained by multiplying μ by some uniquely determined scalar function.

The mapping $\text{div}_\mu: \text{Der}(\Phi) \rightarrow \Phi$ is given by $L_{\vec{Y}}\mu = (\text{div}_\mu \vec{Y})\mu$.

The connection between div_μ for various μ is given by the relation

$$\varphi \text{div}_{\varphi\mu} \vec{Y} = \text{div}_\mu(\varphi\vec{Y}) = \vec{Y}\varphi + \varphi \text{div}_\mu \vec{Y}, \quad (6.11)$$

which holds for any $\varphi \in \Phi$ and $\vec{Y} \in \text{Der}(\Phi)$.

We denote the set of all diffeomorphisms which preserve μ by \mathcal{P}_μ , i.e. $P \in \mathcal{P} \Leftrightarrow P^*\mu = \mu$. From (6.10) it follows that $\exp \int_0^t \vec{X}_\tau d\tau \in \mathcal{P}_\mu$ for an arbitrary nonstationary field \vec{X}_t and for all t if and only if $\operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{X}_t \equiv 0$.

Let $f(x, v)$, $x, v \in \mathbf{R}^n$, be a smooth scalar function. To each vector field \vec{Y} there corresponds a function $f(\vec{Y}) \in \Phi$ defined by the relation $f(\vec{Y})(x) = f(x, Y(x))$. We denote by $d_v f(\vec{X})$ the first-degree differential form given by

$$d_v f(\vec{X})(\vec{Y}) = \left. \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} f(\vec{X} + \varepsilon\vec{Y}).$$

We fix a bounded region $\Omega_0 \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ with a smooth boundary $\partial\Omega_0$, and we define the functional J on the set of flows $P_{0,t}$ which preserve μ ($P_{0,t} \in \mathcal{P}_\mu$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$) in the following way:

$$J(P_{0,\tau}) = \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_{0,t} f(\overrightarrow{\log \hat{P}_{0,t}}) \mu. \tag{6.12}$$

The n th-degree form under the inside integral sign in (6.12) is obtained by applying the diffeomorphism $\hat{P}_{0,t}$ to the function $f(\overrightarrow{\log \hat{P}_{0,t}})$ and multiplying the result by μ .

We find differential equations which are satisfied by the extremals of this functional for two types of boundary conditions:

- 1) fixed diffeomorphism $P_{0,1}$;
- 2) fixed region $\Omega_1 = P_{0,1}(\Omega_0)$

(condition 1) is essentially more restrictive).

We calculate the first variation of J at the "point" $P_{0,1}$. We will denote the flow $P_{0,t}$ simply by P_t . In addition, we denote the result of applying an arbitrary first-degree form ω to some field \vec{Y} by means of angular brackets (as a scalar product) $\omega(\vec{Y}) = \langle \omega, \vec{Y} \rangle$.

Let $\vec{X}_t = \overrightarrow{\log \hat{P}_t}$, $\operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{X}_t = 0 \ \forall t \in \mathbf{R}$. Using (3.16) and (2.20), we get

$$\begin{aligned} J\left(\overrightarrow{\exp \int_0^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau}\right) &= \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \overrightarrow{\exp \int_0^t (\vec{X}_\tau + \vec{Y}_\tau) d\tau} f(\vec{X}_t + \vec{Y}_t) \mu \\ &= J(P_t) + \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \left\{ \langle d_v f(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Y}_t \rangle + \int_0^t \left(\overleftarrow{\exp \int_\tau^t - \operatorname{ad} \vec{X}_\delta d\theta \vec{Y}_\tau \right) d\tau f(\vec{X}_t) \right\} \mu + r, \end{aligned}$$

where $\|r\|_{s,K} = O(\int_0^1 dt (\int_0^t \|Y_\tau\|_{s+1} d\tau)^2)$ for $s = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and any compact set K .

The nonstationary vector field

$$\vec{Z}_t = \int_0^t \overleftarrow{\exp \int_\tau^t - \operatorname{ad} \vec{X}_\delta d\theta \vec{Y}_\tau} d\tau$$

satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} \vec{Z}_t = - \operatorname{ad} \vec{X}_t \vec{Z}_t + \vec{Y}_t, \quad \vec{Z}_0 = 0. \tag{6.13}$$

The first variation δJ of J at the point P_t can be expressed in the following form:

$$\delta J(\vec{Y}_\tau) = \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \left\{ \langle d_v f(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Y}_t \rangle + \vec{Z}_t f(\vec{X}_t) \right\} \mu.$$

Differentiation of the boundary conditions with respect to \vec{Y}_t gives $\vec{Z}_1 = 0$ in case 1), and \vec{Z}_1 is tangent to $\partial\Omega_1$ in case 2).

From this point on, we assume that \vec{X}_t depends absolutely continuously on t . We transform the expression for $\delta J(\vec{Y}_t)$. Using (6.13) and integrating by parts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Y}_t \rangle \mu &= \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \left\langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \frac{d}{dt} \vec{Z}_t + [\vec{X}_t, \vec{Z}_t] \right\rangle \mu \\ &= \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_1 \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_1), \vec{Z}_1 \rangle \mu - \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \left\{ \vec{X}_t \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Z}_t \rangle \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Z}_t \right\rangle - \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), [\vec{X}_t, \vec{Z}_t] \right\} \mu. \end{aligned}$$

Applying (6.9) to the form $d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t)$ and the fields \vec{X}_t and \vec{Z}_t , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Y}_t \rangle \mu &= \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_1 \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_1), \vec{Z}_1 \rangle \mu \\ &\quad - \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_0} \hat{P}_t \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t) + L_{\vec{X}_t} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Z}_t \right\rangle \mu. \end{aligned}$$

If we change the variables of integration and take into account the fact that $P_t^* \mu = \mu$, we arrive at the relation

$$\begin{aligned} \delta J(\vec{Y}_\tau) &= \int_{\Omega_1} \langle d_{vf}(\vec{X}_1), \vec{Z}_1 \rangle \mu \\ &\quad - \int_0^1 dt \int_{\Omega_t} \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t) + L_{\vec{X}_t} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t) - d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Z}_t \right\rangle \mu. \end{aligned}$$

We now suppose that P_t is an extremal of J . Then $\delta J(\vec{Y}_t) = 0$ for all admissible \vec{Y}_t . Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega_t} \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t) + L_{\vec{X}_t} d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t) - d_{vf}(\vec{X}_t), \vec{Z}_t \right\rangle \mu &= 0, \\ \forall t \in [0, 1], \forall \vec{Z}_t, \text{ so that } \operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{Z}_t &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{6.14}$$

LEMMA 1. Assume that the first-degree form ω in the bounded region Ω with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$ satisfies

$$\int_{\Omega} \langle \omega, \vec{Z} \rangle \mu = 0 \quad \forall \vec{Z}, \text{ so that } \operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{Z} = 0. \tag{6.15}$$

Then $\omega = d\varphi$ for some function φ which vanishes on $\partial\Omega$.

PROOF. We show first of all that (6.15) does not depend on the choice of the n th-degree form μ which vanishes nowhere. In fact, any other n th-degree form has the form $\varphi\mu$, where $\varphi \in \Phi$. In addition it follows from (6.11) that $\operatorname{div}_\mu(\varphi\vec{Z}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \operatorname{div}_{\varphi\mu} \vec{Z} = 0$ for every function φ in Φ which vanishes nowhere.

Thus it suffices to prove the lemma for the case where μ is a volume element in \mathbf{R}^n , $\mu = \wedge_1^n dx^i$. In what follows, we will denote the Laplace operator by Δ ,

$$\Delta = \operatorname{div}_\mu \circ \operatorname{grad} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{(\partial x^\alpha)^2};$$

for any vector fields \vec{X} and \vec{Y} the function (\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) in Φ is given by

$$(\vec{X}, \vec{Y})(x) = (X(x), Y(x)) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n X^\alpha(x) Y^\alpha(x), \quad |\vec{X}|^2 = (\vec{X}, \vec{X});$$

ω^T is the vector field dual to ω defined by

$$(\omega^T, \vec{X}) = \langle \omega, \vec{X} \rangle \quad \forall \vec{X} \in \operatorname{Der}(\Phi).$$

The function φ whose existence is asserted in the lemma is uniquely determined by the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\varphi &= \operatorname{div}_\mu \omega^T \text{ in } \Omega, \\ \varphi &= 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

The validity of (6.15) for $d\varphi$ follows easily from the Gauss-Ostrogradskiĭ formula. In fact, if $\operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{Z} = 0$, then $\langle d\varphi, \vec{Z} \rangle = \vec{Z}\varphi = \operatorname{div}_\mu(\varphi\vec{Z})$, and consequently

$$\int_\Omega \langle d\varphi, \vec{Z} \rangle \mu = \int_\Omega \operatorname{div}_\mu(\varphi\vec{Z}) \mu = \int_{\partial\Omega} \varphi \vec{Z} dn = 0.$$

On the other hand, $\operatorname{div}_\mu(\omega^T - \operatorname{grad} \varphi) = 0$. Thus

$$0 = \int_\Omega \langle \omega - d\varphi, \omega^T - \operatorname{grad} \varphi \rangle \mu = \int_\Omega |\omega^T - \operatorname{grad} \varphi|^2 \mu.$$

Therefore $\omega = d\varphi$.

Lemma 1 and (6.14) guarantee the existence, for any $t \in [0, 1]$, of a function φ_t such that

$$\frac{d}{dt} d\varphi_f(\vec{X}_t) + L_{\vec{X}_t} d\varphi_f(\vec{X}_t) = d(f(\vec{X}_t) + \varphi_t) \text{ in } \Omega_t; \tag{6.16}$$

$$\varphi_t = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega_t, \quad \operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{X}_t = 0.$$

These are equations for extremals of J in the case of boundary condition 1). In case 2), both (6.14) and the fact that

$$\int_{\Omega_1} \langle d\varphi_f(\vec{X}_1), \vec{Z} \rangle \mu = 0 \quad \forall \vec{Z} \in \operatorname{Der}(\Phi) \tag{6.17}$$

follow from $\delta J = 0$, so that $\operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{Z} = 0$, and \vec{Z} is tangent to $\partial\Omega_1$.

LEMMA 2. Assume that the first-degree form ω in the bounded region Ω with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$ satisfies

$$\int_\Omega \langle \omega, \vec{Z} \rangle \mu = 0 \quad \forall \vec{Z},$$

where $\operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{Z} = 0$ and \vec{Z} is tangent to $\partial\Omega$. Then $\omega = d\varphi$ for some function φ .

The proof is similar to that of Lemma 1. In fact, it suffices to consider the case where μ is a volume element in \mathbf{R}^n . In this case φ is determined by the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\varphi &= \operatorname{div} \omega^T \text{ in } \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial\varphi}{\partial n} &= \langle \omega, n \rangle \text{ on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

(here n is the exterior unit normal to $\partial\Omega$, and the remaining notation is as in the proof of Lemma 1).

From (6.17) and Lemma 2 it follows that $d_\omega f(\vec{X}_1) = dS_1$ in Ω_1 for some function S_1 .

We put $\omega_t = d_\omega f(\vec{X}_t)$. Then $\omega_1 = dS_1$ and (see (6.16))

$$\frac{d}{dt}\omega_t + L_{\vec{X}_t}\omega_t = d(f(\vec{X}_t) + \varphi_t) \text{ in } \Omega_t. \tag{6.18}$$

The family of forms ω_t is a unique solution of (6.18), since the corresponding homogeneous equation has only one solution (see (6.10) and Proposition 1.1). Making use of the Cauchy formula for the solution of linear differential equations (its validity in this situation can be verified by direct differentiation) and the commutativity of Lie differentiation and exterior differentiation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_t &= \overleftarrow{\exp} \int_1^t -L_{\vec{X}_\tau} d\tau dS_1 + \int_1^t \left\{ \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_\tau^t -L_{\vec{X}_\theta} d\theta \right) d(f(\vec{X}_\tau) + \varphi_\tau) \right\} d\tau \\ &= d \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_1^t -\vec{X}_\tau d\tau S_1 + \int_1^t \left(\overleftarrow{\exp} \int_\tau^t -\vec{X}_\theta d\theta (f(\vec{X}_\tau) + \varphi_\tau) \right) d\tau \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\omega_t = dS_t$ for some function S_t and for all t in $[0, 1]$. After removal of the exterior differential, (6.18) takes the form

$$\frac{d}{dt} S_t + \vec{X}_t S_t = f(\vec{X}_t) + \varphi_t.$$

Since $\varphi_t = 0$ on $\partial\Omega_t$, the complete system of equations for the extremals of J in the case of the boundary conditions 2) is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} S_t + \vec{X}_t S_t &= f(\vec{X}_t) \text{ on } \partial\Omega_t, \\ dS_t &= d_\omega f(\vec{X}_t) \text{ and } \operatorname{div}_\mu \vec{X}_t = 0 \text{ in } \Omega_t. \end{aligned}$$

REMARK. In the case where $n = 3$, $\mu = \wedge_1^3 dx^i$ and f has the form $f(x, v) = \frac{1}{2}\rho|v|^2 - U(x)$, the variational problem for J with boundary conditions of type 1) embodies the principle of least action for the motion of an ideal fluid in a force field with potential $U(x)$, and (6.16) is the corresponding Euler equation (see [10]). The function φ_t plays the role of the pressure, and the boundary is free.

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