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ON TRANSFORMATIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS  
AND SYSTEMS WITH DEVIATING ARGUMENT

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I. Consider a differential equation or system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  of the form

$$\mathcal{A}_i(x, y_1(x), y_1(\xi(x)), y_2(x), y_2(\xi(x)), \dots, y_m(x), y_m(\xi(x))), \\ y_1'(x), y_1'(\xi(x)), \dots, y_m^{(n)}(x), y_m^{(n)}(\xi(x))) = 0,$$

$i = 1, \dots, m$ , on an interval  $I = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$  with one (bounded or unbounded) deviating argument  $\xi$ . It is supposed  $\xi \in C_n(a_1, b)$ ,  $\xi'(x) > 0$  and  $\xi(x) \neq x$  on  $(a_1, b)$ . Moreover,  $\xi(a_1, b) = (a, b)$ , (i.e.  $\xi(b) = b$ ),  $\xi(a_1) = a$  for  $\xi(x) < x$ , and  $a_1 = a$  for  $\xi(x) > x$ . We do not exclude  $a = -\infty$ ,  $a_1 = -\infty$ , and  $b = \infty$ . With these restrictions, the system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  includes both linear and nonlinear, retarded, advanced, and neutral differential systems as considered, e.g., in [5] or [8].

A system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  is transformed into a system  $B_n(\eta(t))$  by a change of the independent variable  $x \mapsto t = \varphi(x)$ , if for each solution  $y : x \mapsto y(x)$  of  $A_n(\xi(x))$  the function  $z : t \mapsto z(t) = y(x) = y(\varphi^{-1}(t))$  is a solution of  $B_n(\eta(t))$ . Here  $\varphi^{-1}$  denotes the inverse to  $\varphi$ ;  $\varphi^k$  is the  $k$ -th iterate of  $\varphi$  for  $k$  positive, and  $(-k)$ -th iterate of  $\varphi^{-1}$  for  $k$  negative;  $\varphi^0 = \text{id}$ . A system with a deviating argument of the form  $x \mapsto x + c$ , where  $c \neq 0$  is a constant, will be called a *system with a constant deviation*.

We shall prove the following

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  be a constant satisfying  $\text{sign } c = \text{sign}(\xi(x) - x)$ . Any differential system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  on  $I$  can be transformed by a change of the independent variable  $x \mapsto t = \varphi(x) \in C_n(I)$ ,  $\varphi'(x) > 0$  on  $I$ , into a differential system  $B_n(t + c)$  on  $J = \varphi(I)$  with a constant deviation, where  $\varphi(b-) = \infty$ . If the system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  is linear (with respect to the dependent variable and all its derivatives at  $x$  and  $\xi(x)$ ), then the transformed system  $B_n(t + c)$  is also linear.*

*Proof.* Let  $y(x)$  be a solution of the system  $A_n(\xi(x))$ . For a change of the independent variable  $x \mapsto t = \varphi(x)$ , the function  $z(t) = z \circ \varphi(x) = y(x)$  is a solution of a system  $B_n(\eta(t))$  with a deviating argument  $\eta$ . Since any solution  $y$  at  $\xi(x)$  should

be transformed into a solution  $z$  at  $\eta(t)$ , i.e.  $y(\xi(x)) = z(\eta(t))$ , or  $z\varphi \xi(x) = z\eta \xi(x)$ , we put

$$(1) \quad \varphi \xi(x) = \eta \varphi(x).$$

Using (1) we can always express the  $k$ -th derivative of  $y$  at  $\xi(x)$  in terms of derivatives of  $z$  at  $\eta(t)$  of orders  $\leq k$ . This follows from the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} y'(\xi(x)) &= \dot{z}\varphi \xi(x) \cdot \varphi' \xi(x) = \dot{z}\varphi \xi \varphi^{-1}(t) \cdot \varphi' \xi \varphi^{-1}(t) = \\ &= \dot{z}(\eta(t)) \cdot \varphi' \xi \varphi^{-1}(t), \\ y''(\xi(x)) &= \ddot{z} \eta(t) \cdot \varphi'^2 \xi(x) + \dot{z}(\eta(t)) \cdot \varphi'' \xi \varphi^{-1}(t), \end{aligned}$$

and in general

$$y^{(k)}(\xi(x)) \text{ is a linear combination of } z^{(k)}(\eta(t)), z^{(k-1)}(\eta(t)), \dots, z(\eta(t))$$

with coefficients depending on  $t$ .

In these expressions the highest degree of the derivatives of  $\varphi$  is equal to  $k \leq n$ . This also ensures the linearity of  $B_n(\eta(t))$  provided the system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  was linear.

For  $\eta(t) = t + c$ , the relation (1) becomes

$$(2) \quad \varphi(\xi(x)) = \varphi(x) + c.$$

First let us consider the case  $\xi(x) > x$ . Due to Choczewski [4] (see also Kuczma [6, p. 87]), (2) has a solution of the class  $C_n(a, b)$ . It depends on an arbitrary function defined on any interval of the form  $[x_0, \xi(x_0)]$  and satisfying certain boundary conditions at  $x_0$  and at  $\xi(x_0)$ . Moreover, if  $c > 0$ , in accordance with Barvínek [2], there exists a solution  $\varphi \in C_n(a, b)$  whose derivative is positive:  $\varphi'(x) > 0$  on  $(a, b)$ .

Under our conditions on  $\xi$ , iterations of all positive orders of  $\xi$  exist and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \xi^n(x_0) = b$  for any  $x_0 \in (a, b)$ , see [6, p. 21]. Since  $\varphi \xi^n(x_0) = \varphi(x_0) + nc$ , we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi \xi^n(x_0) = \varphi(b-) = \infty$ .

It remains to consider the case  $\xi(x) < x$ . In this situation  $\xi^{-1}(x) > x$ , and the relation (2) can be rewritten as

$$(3) \quad \varphi(\xi^{-1}(u)) = \varphi(u) - c$$

for  $u = \xi(x)$ . We again use the results of Choczewski, Kuczma, and Barvínek to ensure the existence of a solution  $\varphi$  defined on  $(\xi(a_1), b) = (a, b)$ , being of the class  $C_n$  here. Moreover, if  $c < 0$ , then there exists a solution  $\varphi$  of (3) that in addition to the above conditions satisfies also  $\varphi'(x) > 0$  on  $(a, b)$  and  $\varphi(b-) = \infty$ .

Summarizing, we have constructed a function  $\varphi \in C_n(a, b)$ ,  $\varphi'(x) > 0$  on  $(a, b)$ ,  $\varphi : (a, b) \rightarrow {}^{\text{onto}}(\varphi(a), \infty)$ , satisfying (2). This function considered as a change of the independent variable  $x \mapsto t = \varphi(x)$  transforms the differential system  $A_n(\xi(x))$  with a deviating argument  $\xi$  and defined on  $(a, b)$  into a differential system  $B_n(t + c)$  with the deviating argument  $t + c$  and defined on  $(\varphi(a), \infty)$ . Q.E.D.

Example. Consider

$$(4) \quad y'(x) = \gamma y(x^\alpha),$$

where  $\gamma \neq 0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\alpha \neq 1$ ,  $x \in (1, \infty)$ ; see, e.g., [7]. In our notation  $\xi(x) = x^\alpha$ . For  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  we have  $\xi(x) < x$ , and  $\alpha \in (1, \infty)$  implies  $\xi(x) > x$ . Hence  $\text{sign}(\xi(x) - x) = \text{sign}(\ln \alpha)$ . The relation (2) reads

$$(5) \quad \varphi(x^\alpha) = \varphi(x) + c,$$

where  $\text{sign } c = \text{sign}(\ln \alpha)$ . For  $\varphi(x) = \beta \cdot \ln \ln x$  we have

$$\beta \cdot \ln(\alpha \ln x) = \beta \cdot \ln \ln x + c, \quad \text{or} \quad \beta = \frac{c}{\ln \alpha}.$$

Hence (5) is satisfied for  $\varphi(x) = c/\ln \alpha \cdot \ln \ln x$ . Put  $t = \varphi(x)$ ,  $y(x) = z(t) = z \varphi(x)$ . Then  $y(x^\alpha) = y \varphi^{-1} \varphi(x^\alpha) = z(\varphi(x) + c) = z(t + c)$ , and  $y'(x) = dz(t)/dt \cdot d\varphi(x)/dx = \dot{z}(t) \cdot (d\varphi^{-1}(t)/dt)^{-1} = z(t) \cdot \exp(\exp(\ln \alpha/c) \cdot t) \cdot \exp((\ln \alpha/c) \cdot t) \cdot (\ln \alpha/c)$ . The equation (4) becomes

$$\dot{z}(t) = f(t) \cdot z(t + c),$$

where  $f(t) = \gamma/\beta \cdot \exp(\exp(t/\beta)) \cdot \exp(t/\beta)$ ,  $\beta = c/\ln \alpha$ .

II. Let a differential system involve several deviating arguments, say  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ). The problem of transformation of the system by a change of the independent variable into a system with deviating arguments  $t + c_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) leads to a simultaneous solution  $\varphi$  of  $k$  functional equations

$$(6) \quad \varphi \xi_i(x) = \varphi(x) + c_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

In terms of continuous iterations (see Aczél [1] and Kuczma [6]), an equivalent formulation asks for conditions under which a function  $F$  exists, satisfying the so called *Translation Equation*

$$F(F(x, u), v) = F(x, u + v)$$

for which  $F(x, c_i) = \xi_i(x)$ .

Another formulation of the same problem is the following: When can all  $f_i$ 's ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) be extended into a one-parameter continuous group of transformations of a line whose conjugator is of the class  $C_n$ ? Cf. Borůvka's treatise on the one-parameter continuous group of transformations [3].

To this problem we can give some necessary conditions in

**Theorem 2.** *If there exists a solution  $\varphi \in C_1$ ,  $\varphi' \neq 0$ , of a system of functional equations (6) with  $\xi_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , then each  $\xi_i$  and  $\xi_j$  commute, and for any (positive, negative, or 0) integers  $r_i$  and  $s_i$  either  $\xi_1^{r_1} \xi_2^{r_2} \dots \xi_k^{r_k} \equiv \xi_1^{s_1} \xi_2^{s_2} \dots \xi_k^{s_k}$  or  $\xi_1^{r_1} \xi_2^{r_2} \dots \xi_k^{r_k}(x_0) \neq \xi_1^{s_1} \xi_2^{s_2} \dots \xi_k^{s_k}(x_0)$  for each  $x_0$  where the expression is defined.*

Proof. Since  $\xi_i = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x) + c_i)$  and  $\xi_j = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x) + c_j)$ , we have  $\xi_i \xi_j = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x) + c_i + c_j) = \xi_j \xi_i$ . If  $\xi_1^{r_1} \xi_2^{r_2} \dots \xi_k^{r_k}(x_0) = \xi_1^{s_1} \xi_2^{s_2} \dots \xi_k^{s_k}(x_0)$ , then  $\varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x_0) + \sum_{i=1}^k r_i c_i) = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x_0) + \sum_{i=1}^k s_i c_i)$ , or  $\sum_{i=1}^k r_i c_i = \sum_{i=1}^k s_i c_i$ .

Hence  $\varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x) + \sum_{i=1}^k r_i c_i) = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(x) + \sum_{i=1}^k s_i c_i)$ , or  $\xi_1^{r_1} \xi_2^{r_2} \dots \xi_k^{r_k} \equiv \xi_1^{s_1} \xi_2^{s_2} \dots \xi_k^{s_k}$ .

Q.E.D.

Transformations of several deviating arguments were considered by Melvin [7] who used a little different approach, introducing the notion of compatibility of a system of  $k$  functions  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$  with respect to  $\varphi$  if  $\varphi(x) = \vartheta(\varphi(\xi_i(x)))$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

Transformations of linear functional differential equations are considered also in [9], where the form of the most general transformation that converts any linear functional differential equation of the first order into an equation of the same form is derived.

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