Picard-Vessiot theory of differentially simple rings

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**Abstract**

In Picard-Vessiot theory, the Galois theory for linear differential equations, the Picard-Vessiot ring plays an important role, since it is the Picard-Vessiot ring which is a torsor (principal homogeneous space) for the Galois group (scheme). Like fields are simple rings having only (0) and (1) as ideals, the Picard-Vessiot ring is a differentially simple ring, i.e. a differential ring having only (0) and (1) as differential ideals. Having in mind that the classical Galois theory is a theory of extensions of fields, i.e. of simple rings, it is quite natural to ask whether one can also set up a Picard-Vessiot theory where the base is not a differential field, but more general a differentially simple ring. It is the aim of this article to give a positive answer to this question, i.e. to set up such a differential Galois theory.

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1. Introduction

Differential Galois theory – and also difference Galois theory – is a generalisation of classical Galois theory to transcendental extensions. Instead of polynomial equations, one considers differential resp. difference equations, and even iterative differential equations in positive characteristic. One branch of differential Galois theory is Picard-Vessiot theory, the study of linear differential equations. In this case the Galois group turns out to be a linear algebraic group or more generally an affine group scheme of finite type over the field of constants. As one considers solution fields of the polynomial equations in classical Galois theory, there are solution fields in Picard-Vessiot theory. This however is a flaw in the theory because the Galois group scheme does not act on the solution field but on a subring whose field of fractions is the solution field. This subring, called Picard-Vessiot ring, even has nice properties. For instance, this ring is differentially simple, i.e. it does not have any differential ideals apart from {0} and the ring itself, just as fields are simple rings. This raises the question whether the Picard-
Vessiot theory should be a theory of extensions of differentially simple rings rather than fields.

In this article, we therefore generalise (and modify) the existing Picard-Vessiot theory to extensions of differentially simple rings.

In positive characteristic, differential rings are replaced by rings with an iterative derivation, since the constants of a derivation are too big in positive characteristic (every $p$-th power is a constant in characteristic $p$). On the other hand, in characteristic zero there is a one-to-one-correspondence between derivations and iterative derivations, as long as the ring contains the rational numbers – a condition which is fulfilled for differentially simple rings. Hence, a Picard-Vessiot theory of differentially simple rings in characteristic zero is a special case of a Picard-Vessiot theory for iterative differentially simple rings in arbitrary characteristic.

The whole paper therefore is formulated for iterative differential rings (ID-rings for short) of arbitrary characteristic and iterative differential modules (ID-modules for short). Apart from small modifications, the proofs in this paper also work in more general settings, e.g. for rings with several commuting iterative derivations.

The main results are an existence result for Picard-Vessiot rings even if the constants are not algebraically closed (see Thm. 5.7), the existence of a Galois group scheme $G$ for a Picard-Vessiot ring $R$ (see Cor. 6.4), as well as a Galois correspondence between intermediate Picard-Vessiot rings $S \subseteq T \subseteq R$ and closed normal subgroup schemes $H$ of $G$.

In Section 2, the basic notation, some basic examples and first properties of ID-rings are given. We proceed in Section 3 with giving some properties of ID-simple rings. Section 4 is dedicated to ID-modules over ID-simple rings. In our definition, ID-modules are finitely generated as modules over the ring. A main difference to ID-modules over ID-fields is that ID-modules over ID-rings need not be free as modules. However, we show (see Thm. 4.3) that all ID-modules over ID-simple rings are projective as modules. This also implies (see Cor. 4.4) that ID-stable submodules are again finitely generated modules, although our ID-rings are not assumed to be Noetherian.

In Section 5, we are studying Picard-Vessiot rings for ID-modules over a fixed ID-simple ring $S$. We will define them as minimal ID-simple solution rings (Def. 5.1 and show later on that this definition coincides with the usual one (given for example in [1, Sect. 3]) if the ID-module is free as an $S$-module. Furthermore, we give criteria for the existence of a Picard-Vessiot ring. Namely, if the ID-ring $S$ has a $C_S$-rational point (where $C_S$ denotes the field of constants), then for every ID-module $M$ there exists a Picard-Vessiot ring (cf. 5.7). As in the case of an ID-field as base ring, we show in Thm. 5.6 for a general ID-simple ring that a Picard-Vessiot ring always exists and is even unique up to ID-isomorphisms, if the constants $C_S$ are algebraically closed.

Section 6 is dedicated to the Galois group of a Picard-Vessiot extension and the Galois correspondence. A Galois correspondence is obtained between intermediate PV-rings and closed normal subgroup schemes of the Galois group.
Iterative derivations are extended to localisations by ideals apart from defined by $A$ subset $N$ for all $M$. We will use the following notation (see also [9]). An iterative derivation on a ring $R$ is a homomorphism of rings $\theta : R \to R[[T]]$, such that $\theta^{(0)} = \text{id}_R$ and for all $i, j \geq 0$, $\theta^{(i)} \circ \theta^{(j)} = \left(\frac{i}{i+j}\right)\theta^{(i+j)}$, where the maps $\theta^{(i)} : R \to R$ are defined by $\theta(r) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \theta^{(i)}(r)T^i$. The pair $(R, \theta)$ is then called an ID-ring and $C_R := \{r \in R \mid \theta(r) = r\}$ is called the ring of constants of $(R, \theta)$. An ideal $I \subseteq R$ is called an **ID-ideal** if $\theta(I) \subseteq I[[T]]$ and $R$ is **ID-simple** if $R$ has no ID-ideals apart from $\{0\}$ and $R$. An ID-ring which is a field is called an **ID-field**. Iterative derivations are extended to localisations by $\theta(\overline{r}) := \theta(r)\theta(s)^{-1}$ and to tensor products by

$$\theta^{(k)}(r \otimes s) = \sum_{i+j=k} \theta^{(i)}(r) \otimes \theta^{(j)}(s)$$

for all $k \geq 0$.

A homomorphism of ID-rings $f : S \to R$ is a ring homomorphism $f : S \to R$ s.t. $\theta^{(n)}_R \circ f = f \circ \theta^{(n)}_S$ for all $n \geq 0$. If $\tilde{R}$ is an ID-ring extension of $R$. Then an element $r \in \tilde{R}$ is called **ID-finite** over $R$ if the $R$-submodule of $\tilde{R}$ generated by $\{\theta^{(k)}(r) \mid k \geq 0\}$ is finitely generated.

An **ID-module** $(M, \theta_M)$ over an ID-ring $R$ is a finitely generated $R$-module $M$ together with an iterative derivation $\theta_M$ on $M$, i.e. an additive map $\theta_M : M \to M[[T]]$ such that $\theta_M(rm) = \theta(r)\theta_M(m)$, $\theta^{(0)}_M = \text{id}_M$ and $\theta^{(i)}_M \circ \theta^{(j)}_M = \left(\frac{i}{i+j}\right)\theta^{(i+j)}_M$ for all $i, j \geq 0$.

A subset $N \subseteq M$ of an ID-module $(M, \theta_M)$ is called **ID-stable**, if $\theta^{(n)}(N) \subseteq N$ for all $n \geq 0$. An **ID-submodule** of $(M, \theta_M)$ is an ID-stable $R$-submodule $N$ of $M$ which is finitely generated as $R$-module. For an ID-module $(M, \theta_M)$ and an ID-stable $R$-submodule $N \subseteq M$, the factor module $M/N$ is again an ID-module with the induced iterative derivation.

The free $R$-module $R^n$ is an example of an ID-module over an ID-ring $R$ with iterative derivation given componentwise. An ID-module $(M, \theta_M)$ over $R$ is called **trivial** if $M \cong R^n$ as ID-modules, i.e. if $M$ has a basis of constant elements.

For ID-modules $(M, \theta_M), (N, \theta_N)$, the **direct sum** $M \oplus N$ is an ID-module with iterative derivation given componentwise, and the **tensor product** $M \otimes_R N$ is

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1 Since $R$ may not be Noetherian, $R$-submodules of finitely generated modules may not be finitely generated.
an ID-module with iterative derivation \( \theta_0 \) given by

\[
\theta_0^{(k)}(m \otimes n) := \sum_{i+j=k} \theta_M^{(i)}(m) \otimes \theta_N^{(j)}(n) \quad \text{for all } k \geq 0.
\]

For ID-modules \((M, \theta_M), (N, \theta_N)\), a morphism \( f : (M, \theta_M) \rightarrow (N, \theta_N) \) of ID-modules is a homomorphism \( f : M \rightarrow N \) of the underlying modules such that \( \theta_N^{(k)} \circ f = f \circ \theta_M^{(k)} \) for all \( k \geq 0 \). For a morphism \( f : (M, \theta_M) \rightarrow (N, \theta_N) \), the kernel \( \ker(f) \) and the image \( \text{Im}(f) \) are ID-stable \( R \)-submodules of \( M \) resp. \( N \). The image \( \text{Im}(f) \) is indeed an ID-submodule, since it is isomorphic to \( M/\ker(f) \). Also the cokernel \( \text{Coker}(f) \) is an ID-module.

**Example 2.1.**

i) For any field \( C \) and \( R := C[t] \), the homomorphism of \( C \)-algebras \( \theta_t : R \rightarrow R[[T]] \) given by \( \theta_t(t) := t + T \) is an iterative derivation on \( R \) with field of constants \( C \). This iterative derivation will be called the **iterative derivation with respect to** \( t \). \( R \) is indeed an ID-simple ring, since for any polynomial \( 0 \neq f \in R \) of degree \( n \), \( \theta^{(n)}(f) \) equals the leading coefficient of \( f \), and hence is invertible in \( R = C[t] \).

ii) For any field \( C \), \( C[[t]] \) also is an ID-ring with the iterative derivation with respect to \( t \), given by \( \theta_t(f(t)) := f(t + T) \) for \( f \in C[[t]] \). The constants of \( (C[[t]], \theta_t) \) are \( C \), and \( (C[[t]], \theta_t) \) also is ID-simple, since for \( f = \sum_{i=n}^\infty a_it^i \in C[[t]] \) with \( a_n \neq 0 \), one has

\[
\theta_t^{(n)}(f) = \sum_{i=n}^\infty a_i \left( \frac{i}{n} \right) t^{i-n} \in C[[t]]^\times.
\]

Hence, every non-zero ID-ideal contains a unit. This ID-ring will play an important role, since every ID-simple ring can be ID-embedded into \( C[[t]] \) for an appropriate field \( C \) (comp. Thm. [3.4]).

iii) For any ring \( R \), there is the **trivial** iterative derivation on \( R \) given by \( \theta_0 : R \rightarrow R[[T]], r \mapsto r \cdot T^0 \). Obviously, the ring of constants of \( (R, \theta_0) \) is \( R \) itself.

iv) Given a differential ring \((R, \partial)\) containing the rationals (i.e. a \( \mathbb{Q} \)-algebra \( R \) with a derivation \( \partial \)), then \( \theta^{(n)} := \frac{1}{n!} \partial^n \) defines an iterative derivation on \( R \). On the other hand, for an iterative derivation \( \theta \), the map \( \theta^{(1)} \) always is a derivation. Hence, differential rings containing \( \mathbb{Q} \) are special cases of ID-rings.

Since for a differentially simple ring in characteristic zero, its ring of constants always is a field (same proof as for ID-simple rings), we see that the Picard-Vessiot theory for ID-simple rings, we provide here, contains a Picard-Vessiot theory for differentially simple rings in characteristic zero as a special case.

**Remark 2.2.** We will not assume our rings to be Noetherian. Hence, for an ID-module over an ID-ring \( R \), there might exist \( R \)-submodules which are stable under the iterative derivation, but are not finitely generated as \( R \)-module, and therefore are not ID-modules in our definition. In particular, the kernel of a
morphism of ID-modules is not an ID-module in general.

Another problem that might occur is concerned with ID-finiteness of elements. In general, the set of ID-finite elements in a ring extension $R$ does not have any extra structure (sums and products of ID-finite elements may be not ID-finite).

Furthermore, there might be elements $r \in R$ which are not ID-finite over $R$, since the ideal generated by all $\theta^{(k)}(r) (k \geq 0)$ does not need to be finitely generated. For ID-simple rings, however, both points will work out fine as we will see in Cor. 4.4 resp. in Prop. 3.2 and Cor. 4.5.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let $(R, \theta)$ be an ID-ring, $C := C_R$ its ring of constants, and let $D/C$ be a ring extension such that $D$ is free as $C$-module. Moreover, let $D$ be equipped with the trivial iterative derivation $\theta_D(d) = d \in D[[T]]$ for all $d \in D$. Then the constants of $R \otimes C D$ are exactly the elements $1 \otimes d, d \in D$.

**Proof.** By definition all elements $1 \otimes d$ are constant. For proving that there are no others, let $(d_i)_{i \in I}$ be a basis of $D$ as $C$-module, and consider an arbitrary constant element $\sum_{i \in I} r_i \otimes d_i \in R \otimes C D$ (almost all $r_i$ equal to 0). Then for all $k \geq 0$,

$$0 = \theta^{(k)}(\sum_{i \in I} r_i \otimes d_i) = \sum_{i \in I} \theta^{(k)}(r_i) \otimes d_i.$$

Therefore, all $r_i$ are constant, i.e. $r_i \in C$. Hence, $\sum_{i \in I} r_i \otimes d_i = 1 \otimes (\sum_{i \in I} r_i d_i)$. \qed

3. Properties of ID-simple rings

Since our basic objects will be ID-simple rings, we will now summarize some properties of ID-simple rings:

**Proposition 3.1.** Let $(S, \theta)$ be an ID-simple ring. Then

i) $S$ is an integral domain.

ii) The field of fractions of $S$ has the same constants as $S$.

iii) The ring of constants of $S$ is a field.

**Proof.** i) and ii) are proved in [3, Lemma 3.2]. However, ii) also follows as a special case of Prop. 3.2, since constants are ID-finite elements. Part iii) follows from ii), since the inverses of constants are constants, and hence the ring of constants of an ID-field is indeed a field. \qed

**Proposition 3.2.** Let $(S, \theta)$ be an ID-simple ring. Then an element $x \in \text{Quot}(S)$ is ID-finite over $S$ if and only if $x \in S$.

**Proof.** If $x \in S$, then $I := \langle \theta^{(n)}(x) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S$ is an ID-ideal of $S$, hence $I = \{0\}$ or $I = S = \langle 1 \rangle_S$. In both cases $I$ is finitely generated, and hence $x$ is ID-finite.

Now assume $x \in \text{Quot}(S)$ is ID-finite over $S$, so by definition the $S$-module $M := \langle \theta^{(n)}(x) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \subseteq \text{Quot}(S)$ is finitely generated. $M$ is also stable under the iterative derivation, as is easily verified by calculation. The ideal $I := \{ s \in S \mid sm \in S \forall m \in M \}$ is non-zero, since it contains the product of the
denominators of generators of $M$.
We will show that $I$ is an ID-ideal. From this the claim follows, since by ID-simplicity of $S$, this will imply $I = S$, and hence $1 \cdot x \in S$.
For all $s, m \in \text{Quot}(S), n \in \mathbb{N}$ the equation
\[
\theta^{(n)}(s \cdot m) = \sum_{i+j=n} \theta^{(i)}(s) \theta^{(j)}(m) = \theta^{(n)}(s) \cdot m + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \theta^{(i)}(s) \theta^{(n-i)}(m)
\]
holds. In particular, for all $s \in I, m \in M$ we inductively obtain for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$:
\[
\theta^{(n)}(s) \cdot m = \theta^{(n)}(s \cdot m) - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \theta^{(i)}(s) \theta^{(n-i)}(m) \in S,
\]
and hence, $\theta^{(n)}(s) \in I$. Therefore, $I$ is an ID-ideal.

**Proposition 3.3.** Let $(S, \theta)$ be an ID-simple ring and $C := C_S$ its field of constants, and let $D$ be a finitely generated $C$-algebra equipped with the trivial iterative derivation. Then there is a bijection
\[
I(D) \leftrightarrow I^{\text{ID}}(S \otimes_C D),
\]
\[
I \leftrightarrow S \otimes_C I,
\]
\[
J \cap (1 \otimes_C D) \leftrightarrow J
\]
between the ideals of $D$ and the ID-ideals of $S \otimes_C D$.

**Proof.** cf. [8, Lemma 10.7].

**Theorem 3.4.** Let $(S, \theta)$ be an ID-simple ring, $m \trianglelefteq S$ a maximal ideal, and $C = S/m$ the residue field. Then $(S, \theta)$ can be embedded into $(C[[t]], \theta_t)$ as ID-ring.

**Proof.** The iterative derivation $\theta$ induces an injective ring homomorphism $\bar{\theta} : S \to S[[t]], x \mapsto \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \theta^{(n)}(x)t^n$, and it is easy to check, that $\bar{\theta}$ is indeed an ID-homomorphism $(S, \theta) \to (S[[t]], \theta_t)$ where $\theta_t$ denotes the iterative derivation with respect to $t$ (comp. Example 2.1ii)). Since $m[[t]]$ is an ID-ideal of $S[[t]]$ and $S$ is ID-simple, also $\bar{\theta} : S \to (S/m)[[t]] = C[[t]]$ is injective which is the desired ID-embedding.

4. ID-modules over ID-simple rings

Throughout the section, let $C$ denote an arbitrary field, and let $(S, \theta)$ denote an ID-simple ring with field of constants $C$.

**Remark 4.1.** For a finitely generated $S$-module $M$, the following conditions are equivalent (see [1, Section II.5.2, Theorem 1]):

i) $M$ is projective.
ii) $M$ is finitely presented and locally free in the weaker sense, i.e. for every prime ideal $P \triangleleft S$ the localisation $M_P = S_P \otimes_S M$ is a free $S_P$-module.

iii) $M$ is locally free in the stronger sense: there exist $x_1, \ldots, x_r \in S$, generating the unit ideal, such that for each $i$, $M[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ is a free $S[\frac{1}{x_i}]$-module.

Furthermore, Cartier showed in [2, Appendice, Lemme 5], that the condition “finitely presented” in ii) is superfluous if $S$ is an integral domain.

Since, ID-simple rings are integral domains by Proposition 3.1, in our situation the conditions projective, locally free in the weaker sense and locally free in the stronger sense are equivalent for finitely generated modules.

**Lemma 4.2.** Assume that $S$ is a local ring and let $m$ denote the maximal ideal. Let $(M, \theta_M)$ be an ID-module over $(S, \theta)$. Then $M$ is a free $S$-module.

**Proof.** Let $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ be a minimal set of generators of $M$, and assume that this set is $S$-linearly independent, i.e. there are $r_i \in S$ (not all of them equal to 0) such that $r_1 x_1 + \cdots + r_n x_n = 0$. Since $S$ is ID-simple, for each $r_i$ there is some $k_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that $\theta^{(k_i)}(r_i) \notin m$, i.e. $\theta^{(k_i)}(r_i) \in S^\times$. Take $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ maximal such that for all $j < k$ and all $i = 1, \ldots, n$: $\theta^{(j)}(r_i) \in m$. W.l.o.g. $\theta^{(k)}(r_1) \in S^\times$.

Then one obtains:

$$0 = \theta^{(k)}(r_1 x_1 + \cdots + r_n x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k} \theta^{(j)}(r_i) \theta^{(k-j)}_{M}(x_i) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \theta^{(k)}(r_i) x_i \mod mM$$

Since $\theta^{(k)}(r_1)$ is invertible, this implies $x_1 \in \langle x_2, \ldots, x_n \rangle + mM$, hence $\langle x_2, \ldots, x_n \rangle + mM = M$, and by Nakayama’s lemma $\langle x_2, \ldots, x_n \rangle = M$ contradicting the assumption that $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ was minimal.

Hence, $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ is linearly independent, and therefore a basis of $M$. \qed

**Theorem 4.3.** If $(M, \theta_M)$ is an ID-module over $(S, \theta)$, then $M$ is a projective $S$-module.

**Proof.** For every prime ideal $P \triangleleft S$ the localisation $S_P$ is a local ring and an ID-simple ring, and $M_P = S_P \otimes_S M$ is an ID-module over $S_P$. By the previous lemma, $M_P$ is free for all $P$, i.e. $M$ is locally free in the weaker sense, hence projective. \qed

**Corollary 4.4.** Let $(M, \theta_M)$ be an ID-module over $(S, \theta)$. Then every ID-stable $S$-submodule of $M$ is a finitely generated $S$-module, and hence an ID-submodule of $M$.

**Proof.** Let $N$ be an ID-stable $S$-submodule of $M$, then the factor module $M/N$ is again an ID-module, and hence a projective $S$-module by the previous theorem. Therefore, the exact sequence of $S$-modules

$$0 \to N \to M \to M/N \to 0$$
splits. Hence, \( N \) is isomorphic to a factor module of \( M \) and therefore finitely generated.

\[ \square \]

**Corollary 4.5.** Let \((R, \theta)\) be an ID-ring extension of \((S, \theta)\). Then the set of elements in \( R \) which are ID-finite over \( S \) is an \( S \)-subalgebra of \( R \).

**Proof.** By Prop. 3.2, all elements in \( S \) are ID-finite over \( S \). So it remains to show that for ID-finite elements \( x, y \in R \) also \( x + y \) and \( x \cdot y \) are ID-finite. Since \( x \) and \( y \) are ID-finite over \( S \), the \( S \)-modules \( \langle \theta(n)(x) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \) and \( \langle \theta(n)(y) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \) are finitely generated. But then also \( M := \langle \theta(n)(x) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S + \langle \theta(n)(y) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \) is finitely generated as well as \( N := \langle \theta(n)(x)\theta(m)(y) \mid n, m \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \). Therefore, \( M \) and \( N \) are ID-modules over \( S \). Using additivity of the \( \theta(n) \) resp. the generalized Leibniz rule, one obtains that \( \langle \theta(n)(x + y) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \) and \( \langle \theta(n)(x \cdot y) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle_S \) are ID-stable \( S \)-submodules of \( M \) resp. of \( N \), and hence by Cor. 4.4 they are both finitely generated as \( S \)-modules. Therefore \( x + y \) and \( x \cdot y \) are ID-finite over \( S \).

\[ \square \]

We end the considerations on the structure of ID-modules by looking at the special case of the ID-simple ring \((S, \theta) = (C[[t]], \theta_t)\) (comp. Example 2.4).

**Theorem 4.6.** Let \( C \) be a field. Then every ID-module over \((C[[t]], \theta_t)\) is trivial.

**Proof.** Let \((M, \theta_M)\) be an ID-module over \((C[[t]], \theta_t)\). Since, \( C[[t]] \) is a local ring, \( M \) is a free \( C[[t]] \)-module by Lemma 4.2. Hence, let \( b = (b_1, \ldots, b_r) \) be a basis of \( M \) and \( A(t, T) \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(C[[t]]) \) be such that \( \theta_M(b) = bA(t, T) \).

Since \( \theta(0) = \text{id}_M \), one has \( A(t, 0) = \mathds{1}_r \in \text{GL}_r(C[[t]]) \) which implies that \( A(t, T) \) is invertible, i.e. \( A(t, T) \in \text{GL}_r(C[[t]]) \). Therefore, also \( Y(t) := A(t, -t) \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(C[[t]]) \) is invertible, since \( Y(0) = A(0, 0) = \mathds{1}_r \in \text{GL}_r(C) \). We claim that \( bY(t) \) is a basis of constant vectors in \( M \), and hence \( M \cong S^r \) as ID-modules. Since, \( \theta_M(bY(t)) = \theta_M(b)\theta_t(Y(t)) = bA(t, T)Y(t + T) \), we have to show that

\[ Y(t) = A(t, T)Y(t + T). \]

Since the iteration rule \( \theta_M^{(i)} \circ \theta_M^{(i)} = \theta_M^{(i+j)} \) holds, one has the following commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
M & \xrightarrow{\theta_M} & M[[U]] \\
\downarrow{T+U\theta_M} & & \downarrow{\theta_M[[U]]} \\
M[[T, U]] & & \\
\end{array}
\]

(which indeed is equivalent to the iteration rule; cf. [6, §27]). Here \( U\theta_M \) and \( T+U\theta_M \) are the iterative derivations on \( M \) with \( T \) replaced by \( U \) resp. by \( T+U \),

\[ \footnote{When we apply \( \theta \) resp. \( \theta_M \) to a tuple or a matrix, it is meant to apply \( \theta \) resp. \( \theta_M \) to each entry. Then the equation has to be read as a matrix identity, i.e. \( \theta_M(b_i) = \sum_{j=1}^r b_j A(t, T)_{ji} \) for \( A(t, T)_{ji} \) being the \((j, i)\)-th entry of \( A(t, T) \).} \]
i.e. \( \theta_M : M \xrightarrow{\theta_M} M[[T]] \xrightarrow{T+U} M[[U]] \). The map \( \theta_M[[U]] \) denotes the extension of \( \theta_M \) to \( M[[U]] \) by applying \( \theta_M \) to each coefficient, i.e. \( \theta_M[[U]](\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} m_i U^i) := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \theta_M(m_i) U^i \in M[[T,U]] \).

Applying this to our setting, we obtain

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{b}A(t, T+U) &= T+U \theta_M(b) = \theta_M[[U]](U \theta_M(b)) \\
&= \theta_M[[U]](\mathbf{b}A(t, U)) = \mathbf{b}A(t, T)A(t + T, U),
\end{align*}
\]

hence \( A(t, T+U) = A(t, T)A(t + T, U) \). Specializing \( U \) to \( -t - T \), we finally get

\[
Y(t) = A(t, -t) = A(t, T)A(t + T, -t - T) = A(t, T)Y(t + T).
\]

\[\square\]

5. Picard-Vessiot rings

Throughout the section, let \( C \) denote an arbitrary field, \( (S, \theta) \) an \( \text{ID-simple ring} \) with \( C_S = C \), and let \( (M, \theta_M) \) denote an \( \text{ID-module over} \ S \).

**Definition 5.1.** A **solution ring** for \( M \) is an \( \text{ID-simple ring} \) \( 0 \neq (R, \theta_R) \) together with a homomorphism of \( \text{ID-rings} \) \( f : S \to R \) s.t.

(i) \( C_R = f(C) \),

(ii) \( R \otimes_S M \) is a trivial \( \text{ID-module over} \ R \).

A **Picard-Vessiot ring** (PV-ring) for \( M \) is a **minimal** solution ring \( 0 \neq (\tilde{R}, \theta_{\tilde{R}}) \), i.e. if \( 0 \neq (R, \theta_R) \) with \( \tilde{f} : S \to \tilde{R} \) is another solution ring, then any \( \text{ID-homomorphism} \ g : \tilde{R} \to R \) (if it exists) is an isomorphism.

**Remark 5.2.**

i) Since the kernel of an \( \text{ID-homomorphism} \) is an \( \text{ID-ideal} \), and \( S \) is \( \text{ID-simple} \), the homomorphism \( f \) is always injective. Therefore, we can view any solution ring \( R \) as an extension of \( S \), and we will omit the homomorphism \( f \).

ii) Assume that \( M \) is a free \( S \)-module with basis \( b = (b_1, \ldots, b_r) \), and \( R \) is a solution ring for \( M \), then there is a matrix \( Y \in \text{GL}_r(R) \) s.t. \( bY \) is a basis of constant elements in \( R \otimes_S M \). Such a matrix will be called a **fundamental solution matrix** for \( M \) (with respect to \( b \)).

The next proposition implies that in case of an \( \text{ID-module} \) \( M \) which is free as \( S \)-module, our definition of PV-ring coincides with the usual one given for example in [7, Sect. 3] (if the constants are algebraically closed) resp. in [9, Def. 2.3].

**Proposition 5.3.** Assume that \( M \) is free as an \( S \)-module, and let \( R \) be a solution ring for \( M \). Then there is a unique Picard-Vessiot ring \( \tilde{R} \) inside \( R \). This is the \( S \)-subalgebra of \( R \) generated by the coefficients of a fundamental solution matrix and the inverse of its determinant.
Proof. Let $Y \in \text{GL}_r(R)$ be a fundamental solution matrix for $M$ with respect to a basis $b$. Then any other fundamental solution matrix for $M$ in $\text{GL}_r(R)$ is obtained as $F \cdot Y \cdot G$ for $F \in \text{GL}_r(S)$ and $G \in \text{GL}_r(C)$ (base change in $M$ resp. $C_{R \otimes_S M}$). Hence, all fundamental solution matrices generate the same $S$-subalgebra $\tilde{R} = S[Y, \det(Y)^{-1}]$ of $R$. And since every solution ring has to contain a fundamental solution matrix, there is no solution ring strictly contained in $\tilde{R}$. It remains to show that $\tilde{R}$ is ID-simple.

Let $C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]$ be the group ring of $\text{GL}_r(C)$ equipped with the trivial iterative derivation, and let $S[X, \det(X)^{-1}]$ be an ID-extension of $S$ with $\theta(X) := \theta(Y)Y^{-1}X$, i.e. $X$ is also a fundamental solution matrix for $M$. Then the $R$-linear map

$$\lambda : R \otimes_S S[X, \det(X)^{-1}] \to R \otimes_C C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}], X \mapsto Y \otimes Z$$

is an ID-isomorphism. Furthermore $\tilde{R} \cong S[X, \det(X)^{-1}]/\bar{I}$ for an appropriate ID-ideal $\bar{I}$. By Proposition 5.43 $\lambda(R \otimes \bar{I}) = R \otimes \bar{J}$ for some ideal $\bar{J} \subseteq C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]$. Hence, we obtain an $R$-linear ID-isomorphism

$$\tilde{\lambda} : R \otimes_S \tilde{R} \to R \otimes_C C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]/\bar{J}.$$**

Now let $I \subseteq \tilde{R}$ be a maximal ID-ideal, then again by Proposition 5.33 there is an ideal $J \subseteq C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]$ containing $\bar{J}$, s.t. $\tilde{\lambda}(\tilde{R} \otimes I) = R \otimes J$, and we again obtain an $R$-linear ID-isomorphism $R \otimes_S (\tilde{R}/I) \to R \otimes_C C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]/J$. The restriction of this map to $1 \otimes_S (\tilde{R}/I)$ therefore, gives an ID-monomorphism $\tilde{R}/I \to R \otimes_C C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]/J$. Choosing a maximal ideal $m$ of $C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]/J$, and letting $D := (C[Z, \det(Z)^{-1}]/J)/m$ (a finite extension of $C$), leads to $\tilde{R}/I \to R \otimes_C D$ which is again injective, since $\tilde{R}/I$ is ID-simple and the kernel is an ID-ideal. On the other hand, its $D$-linear extension $\tilde{R}/I \cdot D \to R \otimes_C D$ has image $\tilde{R} \otimes_C D$ (since $Y = \tilde{\lambda}(YZ^{-1})$). But this means that the transcendence degree of $\tilde{R}/I$ over $S$ has to be at least as big as the one of $\tilde{R}$ over $S$. Hence, $I$ has to have height $0$, i.e. $I = 0$ since, $\tilde{R} \subseteq R$ is an integral domain.

Theorem 5.4. Let $M$ be an ID-module over $S$, $R$ a solution ring for $M$, and $e = (e_1, \ldots, e_r)$ be an $R$-basis of $R \otimes_S M$ consisting of ID-constant elements. Furthermore, let $x_1, \ldots, x_l \in S$ such that $(x_1, \ldots, x_l)_S = S$ and $M[\frac{1}{x_1}]$ is free over $S[\frac{1}{x_1}]$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, l$. For all $i$ let $b_i$ be a basis of $M[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ over $S[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ consisting of elements in $M$, and $Y_i \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(R)$ s.t. $b_i = eY_i$ ($i = 1, \ldots, l$).

Furthermore, choose $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $x_i^{n_i} M \subseteq \langle b_i \rangle_S$.

Then there is a unique Picard-Vessiot ring $\tilde{R}$ for $M$ inside $R$, and it is explicitly given by $\tilde{R} := S[Y_j, \det(x_j^nY^{-1})] \mid j = 1, \ldots, l$.

Proof. First at all, since $(x_1, \ldots, x_l)_S = S$ and therefore $(x_1^{n_1}, \ldots, x_l^{n_l})_S = S$, there exist $a_1, \ldots, a_l \in S$ s.t. $\sum_{i=1}^l a_i x_i^{n_i} = 1$. This also implies that $b_1 \cup \cdots \cup b_l$ supports $M$ projective by Theorem 1.3 hence locally free in the stronger sense.3

---

3The $x_i$ exist, since $M$ is projective by Theorem 1.3 hence locally free in the stronger sense.
Step 1: We show that $\bar{R} = S[Y_j, \det(x_j^nY_j^{-1}) \mid j = 1, \ldots, l] \subseteq R$.
Since $x_j^nM \subseteq \langle b_j \rangle_S$ and $b_jx_j^n = b_jx_j^nY_j^{-1}Y_i$, the matrix $(x_j^nY_j^{-1}Y_i)$ has coefficients in $S$ for all $i, j$. Then

$$e x_j^n = (b_1, \ldots, b_l) \bar{Y} x_j^n = (b_1x_j^n, \ldots, b_lx_j^n) \bar{Y}$$

and $e x_j^n = b_j(x_j^nY_j^{-1})$. Therefore, $x_j^nY_j^{-1} \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(R)$. Therefore we obtain $\bar{R} = S[Y_j, \det(x_j^nY_j^{-1})] \subseteq R$.

Step 2: $\bar{R}$ is a solution ring for $M$:
$\bar{R}$ is ID-simple, since all the localisations $\bar{R}[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ are ID-simple by the consideration of the special case of a free ID-module, because they are just Picard-Vessiot rings for the free $S[\frac{1}{x_i}]$-modules $M[\frac{1}{x_i}]$. $(Y_i^{-1}$ is a fundamental solution matrix for $M[\frac{1}{x_i}])$.

Furthermore, $\bar{R} \otimes_S M$ contains the basis $e$, since

$$e = e \cdot \sum_{j=1}^l a_j x_j^n = \sum_{j=1}^l b_j(x_j^nY_j^{-1})a_j \in \langle b_1 \cup \cdots \cup b_l \rangle = \bar{R} \otimes_S M.$$  

Hence, $\bar{R} \otimes_S M$ is a trivial ID-module and therefore $\bar{R}$ is a solution ring for $M$.

Step 3: $\bar{R}$ is a Picard-Vessiot ring for $M$, and the unique one inside $R$.
The steps 1 and 2 work for any solution ring $R$, in particular for a Picard-Vessiot ring $R' \subseteq R$. In this case, by minimality of $R'$, and $\bar{R} \subseteq R'$, we obtain that $R' = \bar{R}$. Therefore $\bar{R}$ is a Picard-Vessiot ring, and the unique one inside $R$.  

Corollary 5.5. Let $(R, \theta_R)$ be a Picard-Vessiot ring for $M$. Then:

(a) All $r \in R$ are ID-finite over $S$.

(b) $R/S$ is faithfully flat.

Proof. (a) By the previous theorem, $R = S[Y_j, \det(x_j^nY_j^{-1}) \mid j = 1, \ldots, l]$, using the same notation as in the theorem. By Cor. [4.3], the set of ID-finite elements is a subalgebra of $R$, so we only have to show that the entries of $Y_j$ and $\det(x_j^nY_j^{-1})$ are ID-finite over $S$:
Since $b_1 \cup \cdots \cup b_l$ is a generating set of $M$, there is a matrix $A \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(S[[T]])$ s.t. $\theta(b_1, \ldots, b_l) = (b_1, \ldots, b_l) \cdot A$. Hence,

$$e \theta(Y_1, \ldots, Y_l) = \theta(b_1, \ldots, b_l) = e(Y_1, \ldots, Y_l) \cdot A,$$

which implies $\theta(Y_1, \ldots, Y_l) = (Y_1, \ldots, Y_l) \cdot A$. Therefore, all entries of the $Y_j$ are ID-finite over $S$.
In the local case over $S[\frac{1}{x_i}]$, we get $\theta(Y_i) = Y_i \cdot A_i$ for some $A_i \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(S[[T]])$. 


and hence \( \theta(\det(Y_i)) \in \det(Y_i) \cdot (S[\frac{1}{r_i}])[T] \), as well as \( \theta(\det(Y_i^{-1})) \in \det(Y_i^{-1}) \cdot (S[\frac{1}{r_i}])[T] \).

Since \((x_j^m Y_j^{-1} Y_i)\) has coefficients in \( S \) for all \( i, j \) (comp. proof of Thm. 5.4), we obtain that \( \det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1} Y_i) \cdot \det(Y_i^{-1}) \) fulfills \( \theta(\det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1} Y_i)) \) \( \in \det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1} Y_i) \cdot (S[\frac{1}{r_i}])[T] \) for all \( i \), and hence \( \theta(\det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1})) \) \( \in \det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1}) \cdot S[[T]] \). Therefore, \( \det(x_j^m Y_j^{-1}) \) is also ID-finite over \( S \).

(b) By part (a), all elements in \( R \) are ID-finite over \( S \) and therefore, \( R \) is the union of ID-modules over \( S \). In particular, \( R \) is the union of projective (hence flat) \( S \)-modules. Therefore, \( R \) is also a flat \( S \)-module.

Assume \( R/S \) is not faithfully flat. Then there is a maximal ideal \( m \subseteq S \) such that \( mR = R \). Hence, there exist \( a_i \in m \) and \( r_i \in R \) such that \( 1 = \sum_{i=1}^{k} a_i r_i \). Since, all elements of \( R \) are ID-finite, there is an ID-\( S \)-module \( N \subseteq \hat{R} \) containing all \( r_i \). The \( S \)-submodule \( S \cdot 1 \subseteq N \) is an ID-submodule (since \( 1 \) is constant). As \( N/(S \cdot 1) \) is an ID-module over \( S \) and all ID-modules are projective, \( S \cdot 1 \) is a direct summand of \( N \) as \( S \)-modules. This however contradicts \( 1 \in mN \).

5.1. Existence and uniqueness of Picard-Vessiot rings

In Picard-Vessiot theory of ID-modules over ID-fields, it is well known that a Picard-Vessiot ring exists and is unique up to ID-isomorphism if the field of constants is algebraically closed (cf. [7], Lemma 3.4 resp. [13], Prop. 1.20). If the field of constants is not algebraically closed a Picard-Vessiot ring may not exist (see [10]) and if it exists, it may not be unique (cf. [4]). But in [4], Dyckerhoff also gave a criterion for the existence in characteristic zero. This is about the same criterion as we give in Thm. 5.4. Our proof however is different, and works in arbitrary characteristic.

The existence and uniqueness result for algebraically closed constants is also present in our situation:

**Theorem 5.6.** Let \( M \) be an ID-module over \( S \). If the constants \( C \) of \( S \) are algebraically closed, then there exists a Picard-Vessiot ring for \( M \) and it is unique up to ID-isomorphism.

**Proof.** By [7], Lemma 3.4 there exists a PV-ring \( \hat{R} \) for \( \text{Quot}(S) \otimes_S M \) over \( \text{Quot}(S) \). In particular, \( \hat{R} \) is a solution ring for \( M \). Hence by Thm. 5.4 there is a PV-ring \( R \) for \( M \) inside \( \hat{R} \). Uniqueness of the PV-ring \( R \) can be seen as follows: For a PV-ring \( R \), the ID-ring \( \tilde{R} := \text{Quot}(S) \otimes_S R \) is a PV-ring for \( \text{Quot}(S) \otimes_S M \) over \( \text{Quot}(S) \). Since \( R \) is unique for \( \text{Quot}(S) \otimes_S M \) up to ID-isomorphism by [7], Lemma 3.4, and \( R \) is unique inside \( \tilde{R} \) by Thm. 5.4, \( R \) is the unique PV-ring for \( M \) up to ID-isomorphism.

The uniqueness could also be deduced directly from Theorem 6.3 since for algebraically closed constants \( C \), the affine scheme \( \text{Isom}^{ID}_S(R, R') \) always has a \( C \)-rational point \( (R \) and \( R' \) being PV-rings for \( M \)).

**Theorem 5.7.** Let \( S \) have a maximal ideal \( m \) satisfying \( S/m \cong C = C_S \). Then for any ID-module \( M \) over \( S \) there exists a Picard-Vessiot ring \( R \) for \( M \).
Proof. Since $S$ is ID-simple and has a maximal ideal $m$ satisfying $S/m \cong C$, $(S, \theta)$ can be embedded into $(C[[t]], \theta_t)$ by Theorem 3.4. Since $C[[t]]$ is ID-simple, has constants $C$ (comp. Ex. 2.1(b)) and $C[[t]] \otimes_S M$ is a trivial ID-module by Theorem 4.6. $C[[t]]$ therefore is a solution ring for $M$. Hence by Theorem 5.3 there exists a Picard-Vessiot ring for $M$ (even unique inside $C[[t]]$ with respect to this given embedding of $S$ in $C[[t]]$).

6. The differential Galois group scheme

In this section we establish the Galois correspondence for a Picard-Vessiot extension analogous to the classical ones. The ideas are the same as in [4, Sect. 2] resp. in [8, Sect. 10/11]. But we have to do a bit more work, since our modules are not free.

As in the previous section, let $C$ denote an arbitrary field, $(S, \theta)$ an ID-simple ring with $C_S = C$, and let $(M, \theta_M)$ denote an ID-module over $S$.

**Theorem 6.1.** Let $R'$ be a solution ring for $M$ and $R$ a PV-ring for $M$. Then the map

$$\alpha : R' \otimes_C C_{R' \otimes_S R} \longrightarrow R' \otimes_S R, r \otimes a \mapsto (r \otimes 1) \cdot a$$

is an ID-isomorphism. Furthermore, $C_{R' \otimes_S R}$ is a finitely generated $C$-algebra.

Proof. By definition $\alpha$ is an ID-homomorphism.

First we show injectivity: Since $\alpha$ is an ID-homomorphism, $\ker(\alpha)$ is an ID-ideal of $R' \otimes_C C_{R' \otimes_S R}$. Since $R'$ is ID-simple, $\ker(\alpha)$ is generated by elements in $C_{R' \otimes S R}$ by Proposition 2.3. But $C_{R' \otimes S R}$ embeds into $R' \otimes_S R$. Hence, $\ker(\alpha) = \{0\}$.

For showing surjectivity, we use the notation of Theorem 5.4. So let $x_1, \ldots, x_l \in S$ be such that $(x_1, \ldots, x_l)_S = S$ and $M[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ is free as $S[\frac{1}{x_i}]$-module for all $i = 1, \ldots, l$, and let $b_i$ be a basis of $M[\frac{1}{x_i}]$ consisting of elements of $M$, and $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $x_i^{n_i} M \subseteq \langle b_i \rangle$. Furthermore, let $e$ resp. $e'$ be a basis of constant elements in $R' \otimes_S M$ resp. $R' \otimes_S M$. Additionally, let $Y_i \in \text{Mat}_r(R)$

and $X_i \in \text{Mat}_r(R')$ such that $b_i = eY_i = e'X_i$. Then $R$ is generated over $S$ by the entries of $Y_i$ and $X_i^{n_i}Y_i^{-1}$, and by $R'$-linearity of $\alpha$ it is enough to show that these entries are in $\text{Im}(\alpha)$.

$e$ and $e'$ can also be viewed as bases of the free $(R' \otimes_S R)$-module $(R' \otimes_S R) \otimes_S M$ [4]. Hence, there is a matrix $Z \in \text{GL}_r(R' \otimes_S R)$ such that $eZ = e'$. Since both $e$ and $e'$ consist of constant vectors the entries of $Z$ are also constant, and the same holds for its inverse $Z^{-1} \in \text{GL}_r(R' \otimes_S R)$. Hence, $Z \in \text{GL}_r(C_{R' \otimes S R})$. For all $i$ we have $eY_i = b_i = e'X_i = eZX_i$ and hence $Y_i = ZX_i \in \text{Mat}_r(R' \otimes S R)$, as well as $x_i^{n_i}Y_i^{-1} = (x_i^{n_i}X_i^{-1})Z^{-1}$. Hence, the entries of all $Y_i$ and of all $x_i^{n_i}Y_i^{-1}$ are in the image of $\alpha$.

Finally, as just seen, the restriction of $\alpha$ to $R' \otimes_C C[Z, Z^{-1}] \subseteq R' \otimes_C C_{R' \otimes S R}$ is also surjective. But $\alpha$ is an isomorphism, so $R' \otimes_C C[Z, Z^{-1}] = R' \otimes_C C_{R' \otimes S R}$.
Therefore, \( C[Z, Z^{-1}] = C_{R' \otimes_S R} \), and \( C_{R' \otimes_S R} \) is a finitely generated \( C \)-algebra.

**Proposition 6.2.** Let \( R \) and \( R' \) be PV-rings for \( M \), and let \( D \) be a \( C \)-algebra equipped with the trivial iterative derivation. Then any \((S \otimes_C D)\)-linear ID-homomorphism \( R \otimes_C D \to R' \otimes_C D \) is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** Let \( \beta : R \otimes C D \to R' \otimes C D \) be an \((S \otimes_C D)\)-linear ID-homomorphism. As in the previous proof, \( \ker(\beta) \) is generated by constants and hence is trivial. For the surjectivity, we remark that \( \beta(R) \) and \( R' \) are both PV-rings for \( M \). As in the previous proof, there are bases of constant elements \( e \) and \( e' \) in \( \beta(R) \otimes_S M \) resp. \( R' \otimes_S M \) which can both be viewed as bases of the free \((R' \otimes_C D)\)-module \((R' \otimes_C D) \otimes_S M \).

The same arguments as in the previous proof (with \( R \) and \( R' \) switched) show that \( R' \) is contained in the subring \( \beta(R \otimes C D) = \beta(R) \cdot D \) of \( R' \otimes C D \). Hence by \( D \)-linearity \( \beta \) is surjective.

**Theorem 6.3.** Let \( R \) and \( R' \) be PV-rings for \( M \). Then the functor

\[
\text{Isom}^D_{S}(R, R') : \text{(Algebras/C)} \longrightarrow \text{(Sets)}, \quad D \mapsto \text{Isom}^D_{S}(R \otimes_C D, R' \otimes_C D)
\]

is represented by \( \text{Spec}(C_{R' \otimes_S R}) \). In particular, it is an affine scheme of finite type over \( C \).

**Proof.** Using the previous proposition and theorem, the proof is exactly the same as in [4, Cor. 2.11], or in [8, Prop. 10.9].

As a special case for \( R' = R \) we obtain the representability of \( \text{Aut}^D(R/S) \).

**Corollary 6.4.** For a PV-extension \( R/S \), the group functor \( \text{Aut}^D(R/S) \) is represented by \( G := \text{Spec}(C_{R \otimes_S R}) \), and thus \( G \cong \text{Aut}^D(R/S) \) is an affine group scheme of finite type over \( C \).

**Definition 6.5.** We call \( G = \text{Aut}^D(R/S) \) the ID-Galois group (scheme) of \( R/S \) and denote it by \( \text{Gal}(R/S) \).

**Proposition 6.6.** Let \( R/S \) be a PV-extension and \( G = \text{Gal}(R/S) \) the ID-Galois group. Denote \( G_S := G \times_C \text{Spec}(S) \) the extension of \( G \) by scalars. Then \( \text{Spec}(R) \) is a \( G_S \)-torsor.

**Proof.** The inverse of the isomorphism \( \alpha \) of Theorem 6.1 for \( R' = R \) induces an isomorphism of affine schemes

\[
G_S \times_{\text{Spec}(S)} \text{Spec}(R) = G \times_C \text{Spec}(R) \longrightarrow \text{Spec}(R) \times_{\text{Spec}(S)} \text{Spec}(R).
\]

By bookkeeping of the identifications one verifies that this map is indeed the isomorphism \((g, x) \mapsto (g(x), x)\) indicating that \( \text{Spec}(R) \) is a \( G_S \)-torsor.
For setting up a Galois correspondence, we need a definition of functorial invariants (comp. [8, Sect. 11]):

Let \( H \leq G \) be a subgroup functor, i.e. for every \( C \)-algebra \( D \), the set \( H(D) \) is a group acting on \( R_D := R \otimes_C D \) and this action is functorial in \( D \). An element \( r \in R \) is then called invariant under \( H \) if for all \( D \), the element \( r \otimes 1 \in R_D \) is invariant under \( H(D) \). The ring of invariants is denoted by \( R^H \). (In \([3, I.2.10]\) the invariant elements are called “fixed points”.)

**Remark 6.7.** Let \( \gamma : R \otimes S R \to R \otimes_C C[G] \) denote the inverse of the isomorphism \( \alpha \). The action of \( G := \text{Gal}(R/S) \) on \( R \) is fully described by the \( \text{ID}-\text{homomorphism} \rho := \gamma|_{\otimes R} : R \to R \otimes_C C[G] \). Namely, for a \( C \)-algebra \( D \) and \( g \in G(D) \) with corresponding \( \tilde{g} \in \text{Hom}(C[G], D) \), one has \( g(r \otimes 1) = (1 \otimes \tilde{g})(\rho(r)) \in R \otimes_C D \) for all \( r \in R \).

Furthermore, for a closed subgroup scheme \( H \leq G \), defined by an ideal \( I \subseteq C[G] \), one has \( r \in R^H \) if and only if, \( \rho(r) \equiv r \otimes 1 \mod R \otimes I \), resp. if \( \pi^R_H(\rho(r)) = r \otimes 1 \in R \otimes_C C[H] \) where \( \pi^R_H : C[G] \to C[G]/I = C[H] \) denotes the canonical projection.

**Proposition 6.8.** Let \( R/S \) be a PV-extension and \( G = \text{Gal}(R/S) \) the ID-Galois group. Then \( R^G = S \).

**Proof.** By the previous remark, \( r \in R^G \) if and only if \( \rho(r) = r \otimes 1 \). This means that \( \gamma(r \otimes 1) = r \otimes 1 = \gamma(1 \otimes r) \) which is equivalent to \( r \in \text{Quot}(S) \). Since, \( R/S \) is faithfully flat by Cor. [5.5] we obtain \( r \in S \).

**Remark 6.9.** The converse conclusion to Proposition 6.8, i.e. that \( R^H = S \) for \( H \leq G \) implies \( H = G \), is not true. For example, if \( G = \text{GL}_n(C) \) and \( H \) is taken to be a Borel subgroup, then \( R \cong S[\text{GL}_n] \) by Hilbert 90, and \( R^H \cong S[\text{GL}_n]^H = S \).

The geometrical reason is that \( R^H \) is the ring of global sections of the scheme \( \text{Spec}(R)/\mathcal{H} \). In case of \( H \) being the Borel subgroup this is a projective scheme over \( S \).

Before we come to the Galois correspondence, we need some lemmas and propositions. We start with a condition on an ID-simple ring ensuring that it is a PV-ring.

**Lemma 6.10** (analog of \([8, \text{Prop. 10.12}] \)). Let \( R/S \) be a faithfully flat extension of \( C \)-simple rings with \( C_R = C_S = C \). Assume there exists an affine group scheme \( G \) of finite type over \( C \) such that \( \text{Spec}(R) \) is a \( G_S \)-torsor and the corresponding isomorphism of \( S \)-algebras \( \gamma : R \otimes S R \to R \otimes_C C[G] \) is an \( \text{ID}-\text{isomorphism} \). Here, as usual \( C[G] \) is equipped with the trivial iterative derivation. Then \( R \) is a Picard-Vessiot ring over \( S \).

**Proof.** The proof goes similar to \([12], \text{proof of Thm. 3.3(a)} \Rightarrow \text{(b)} \).

Since, \( \text{Spec}(R) \) is a \( G_S \)-torsor, \( R \) is finitely generated over \( S \), and we can choose \( C \)-linear independent elements \( u_1, \ldots, u_r \in R \) such that \( R \) is generated over \( S \) by these elements. By possibly increasing the set of \( u \)'s we can assume that \( \rho(\langle u_1, \ldots, u_r \rangle_C) \subseteq \langle u_1, \ldots, u_r \rangle_C \otimes_C C[G] \), since by general theory on comodules, every element is contained in a finite dimensional comodule.
Hence, we will show that 

\[
M(\theta) = \det(S) = \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{\partial^i \theta}{\partial \theta_i^{(i)}}
\]

Leibniz determinant formula and the product rule for iterative derivations one

\[
W(1, \ldots, n) = \sum_{i=1}^r u_i \otimes \theta_i
\]

for all \( j = 1, \ldots, r \), or written in matrix notation:

\[
\rho(u_1, \ldots, u_r) = (u_1, \ldots, u_r) \otimes B,
\]

for \( B = (b_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq r} \).

Since, \( \rho \) is a homomorphism of ID-rings, we also obtain for all \( n \in \mathbb{N} \) that

\[
\rho(\theta^{(n)}(u_1), \ldots, \theta^{(n)}(u_r)) = (\theta^{(n)}(u_1), \ldots, \theta^{(n)}(u_r)) \otimes B.
\]

Now, let \( M \subseteq R^r \) be the \( S \)-module generated by all vectors \((\theta^{(n)}(u_1), \ldots, \theta^{(n)}(u_r))\) \((n \geq 0)\). Then \( M \) is an ID-stable subset of \( R^r \) by definition and an \( S \)-module. We will show that \( M \) is finitely generated as \( S \)-module, that \( R \otimes_S M = R \cdot M = R^r \), as well as that for any \( \tilde{R} \not\subseteq R \), the standard basis of \( R^r \) is not contained in \( \tilde{R} \otimes_S M \).

The first shows that \( M \) is indeed an ID-module over \( S \), the second that \( R \) is a solution ring for \( M \), and the third that \( R \) is a minimal solution ring, hence a Picard-Vessiot ring for \( M \).

We consider the matrices

\[
W(k_1, \ldots, k_r) := \begin{pmatrix}
\theta^{(k_1)}(u_1) & \ldots & \theta^{(k_1)}(u_r) \\
\vdots & & \vdots \\
\theta^{(k_r)}(u_1) & \ldots & \theta^{(k_r)}(u_r)
\end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_{r \times r}(R)
\]

for \((k_1, \ldots, k_r) \in \mathbb{N}^r\), and the ideal

\[
I := \langle \det(W(k_1, \ldots, k_r)) \mid (k_1, \ldots, k_r) \in \mathbb{N}^r \rangle \subseteq R
\]

generated by the determinants of all these matrices.

Since \( \{u_1, \ldots, u_r\} \) are \( C \)-linearly independent, \( \{\theta(u_1), \ldots, \theta(u_r)\} \subseteq R[[T]] \) are \( R \)-linearly independent (cf. [12, Prop. 1.5]), and therefore, there is a matrix \( W(k_1, \ldots, k_r) \) having full rank. In particular, \( I \not= \{0\} \). Furthermore, using the Leibniz determinant formula and the product rule for iterative derivations one obtains

\[
\theta^{(n)}(\det(W(k_1, \ldots, k_r))) = \sum_{n_1 + \cdots + n_r = n} \binom{k_1 + n_1}{k_1} \cdots \binom{k_r + n_r}{k_r} \det(W(k_1 + n_1, \ldots, k_r + n_r)).
\]

Hence, \( I \) is an ID-ideal, and since \( R \) is ID-simple, we have \( I = R \). Therefore, there exist matrices \( W_1, \ldots, W_i \in \{W(k_1, \ldots, k_r) \mid (k_1, \ldots, k_r) \in \mathbb{N}^r\} \) and \( a_1, \ldots, a_i \in R \) such that \( 1 = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i \det(W_i) \). Using the adjugate matrices \( W_i^\# \) of the \( W_i \) we get

\[
1_r = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i \det(W_i) 1_r = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i W_i^\# W_i.
\]

\[\text{As in Remark 6.7, } \rho := \gamma |_{r \otimes R} \text{ denotes the coaction of } C[G] \text{ on } R \text{ corresponding to the action of } G.\]
This means that the standard basis of $R^r$ is obtained as an $R$-linear combination of the rows of the $W_i$, and hence $R \cdot M = R^r$.

For the finite generation of $M$, we take $W = W(k_1, \ldots, k_r)$ of full rank, and observe that $\rho(W) = W \otimes B$, $\rho(\det(W)) = \det(W) \otimes \det(B)$ and $\rho(W^\#) = (1 \otimes B^\#) (W^\# \otimes 1)$, by using $WW^\# = \det(W) \mathbb{1}_r$. Write $\theta(n) (u) := (\theta(n)(u_1), \ldots, \theta(n)(u_r))$, then we get

$$\gamma(\det(W) \otimes \theta(n)(u)W^\#) = \det(W)(\theta(n)(u) \otimes B)(1 \otimes B^\#)(W^\# \otimes 1)$$

$$= (\det(W)\theta(n)(u) \otimes \det(B)\mathbb{1}_r)(W^\# \otimes 1)$$

$$= \theta(n)(u)W^\# \det(W) \otimes \det(B)$$

$$= \gamma(\theta(n)(u)W^\# \otimes \det(W))$$

Since, $\gamma$ is an isomorphism, we have $\theta(n)(u)W^\# \otimes \det(W) = \det(W) \otimes \theta(n)(u)W^#$, and since the tensor product is taken over $S$, each entry of $\theta(n)(u)W^#$ is a Quot(S)-multiple of $\det(W)$. So there is a vector $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_r) \in S^r$ and $t \in S$ such that $t \cdot \theta(n)(u)W^# = s \det(W)$, and hence

$$t \cdot \theta(n)(u) = s W.$$

This shows that all the vectors $\theta(n)(u)$ are $S$-linearly dependent to the rows of $W$. Recalling that the rows of $W$ were $R$-linearly independent, this show that for any $S$-module $N$ generated by vectors $\theta(n)(u)$ for several $n \in \mathbb{N}$ containing the rows of $W$, one has $R \otimes_S N = R \cdot N$.

Applying this to the $S$-module $M$ and to the $S$-module $N$ generated by the rows of the $W_i$ ($i = 1, \ldots, t$) above, we see that $R \otimes_S N = R^r = R \otimes_S M$. Hence by faithful flatness of $R/S$, $M = N$ and $M$ is a finitely generated $S$-module.

Finally, we observe that for any solution ring $\tilde{R}$ inside $R$, the standard basis of $R^r$ must be contained in $\tilde{R} \otimes_S M \subseteq R^r$, as it is a basis of constant vectors. Since $(u_1, \ldots, u_r) = \sum_{i=1}^r u_i e_i \in M$, we get that $u_i \in \tilde{R}$. Hence, $\tilde{R} = R$. \qed
Proposition 6.11. Let $R/S$ be a PV-extension with Galois group scheme $G$. For an ID-ring $T$ with $S \subseteq T \subseteq R$ the following are equivalent:

i) $T$ is a Picard-Vessiot ring over $S$ for some ID-module.

ii) $T$ is ID-simple and stable under the action of $G$, i.e. $\rho(T) \subseteq T \otimes C[G]$.

iii) There is a normal subgroup scheme $H$ of $G$ such that $T = R^H$.

If the equivalent conditions are fulfilled, the normal subgroup scheme $H$ in iii) can be taken to be $H = \text{Gal}(R/T)$.

Proof. i)⇒ii): (cf. [3, proof of Prop. 3.4]) Since $T$ is a PV-extension over $S$, we obtain a commutative diagram

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
T \otimes_S T & \overset{\sim}{\longrightarrow} & T \otimes C[\text{Gal}(T/S)] = T \otimes_C C_{T \otimes_S T} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
R \otimes_S R & \overset{\sim}{\longrightarrow} & R \otimes_C C[G] = R \otimes_C C_{R \otimes_S R}
\end{array}
$$

where the vertical maps are just the inclusions. But this implies $\rho(T) \subseteq T \otimes C C_{T \otimes_S T} \subseteq T \otimes_C C[G]$, i.e. $T$ is stable under the action of $G$.

ii)⇒iii): Since $R$ also is a PV-ring over $T$ for $T \otimes_S M$, the Galois group $H := \text{Gal}(R/T)$ exists, and by Prop. 6.8 we have $R^H = T$. The group scheme $H$ is indeed a closed subgroup scheme of $G$: $R \otimes_T R$ is a factor ring of $R \otimes_S R$ by an ID-ideal $I$. Since $\gamma : R \otimes_S R \to R \otimes_C C[G]$ is an isomorphism, one has $\gamma(I) = R \otimes_C J$ for an ideal $J \leq C[G]$ by Prop. 5.3 Hence, $C[H] = C_{R \otimes_T R} = C_{(R \otimes_S R)/I} = C[G]/J$. Furthermore, since $T$ is stable under the $G$-action, for all $C$-algebras $D$ and $g \in G(D)$, $h \in H(D) \subseteq G(D)$, also $g^{-1}hg$ fixes the elements of $T \otimes_C D$, i.e. $g^{-1}hg \in H(D)$. Hence, $H$ is a normal subgroup of $G$.

iii)⇒i): (comp. [3, proof of Thm. 11.5(ii)]) First at all we show that $T = R^H$ is ID-simple, that $T$ has constants $C$, and that $T/S$ is faithfully flat. If $I \subseteq T$ is an ID-ideal, then $RI \subseteq R$ is an ID-ideal, and hence, $RI$ equals $\{0\}$ or $R$. So $I = (RI)^H$ is $\{0\}$ or $R^H = T$. Furthermore $C = C_S \subseteq C_T \subseteq C_R = C$, hence $C_T = C$. Faithful flatness is clear by the proof of Cor. 5.5 since $T \subseteq R$ consists of ID-finite elements.

The isomorphism $\gamma : R \otimes_S R \to R \otimes_C C[G]$ is $H$-equivariant, considered by the action of $H$ on the right tensor factor, and hence we get an ID-isomorphism $R \otimes_S R^H \cong R \otimes_C C[G]^H$. Again by taking invariants (this time $H$ is only acting on the first tensor factor), this isomorphism restricts to an isomorphism

$$
R^H \otimes_S R^H \cong R^H \otimes_C C[G]^H.
$$

Since $H$ is normal, $G/H$ is an affine group scheme with $C[G/H] \cong C[G]^H$ (cf. [3, III,§3, Thm. 5.6 and 5.8]). By construction of the isomorphism, it is an ID-isomorphism, and it is the isomorphism corresponding to the map $(G/H)_S \times_S \text{Spec}(R^H) \to \text{Spec}(R^H) \times_S \text{Spec}(R^H)$ indicating that $\text{Spec}(R^H)$ is a $(G/H)_S$-torsor. Therefore, by Lemma 6.10 $T = R^H$ is a PV-ring over $S$.

The statement on the choice of $H$ has already been seen in the proof of the implication ii)⇒iii).
**Theorem 6.12.** (Galois correspondence) Let $R/S$ be a PV-extension for some ID-module and $G = \text{Gal}(R/S)$. Then there is a bijection between

$$\mathcal{T} := \{T \mid S \subseteq T \subseteq R \text{ intermediate PV-ring}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{H} := \{H \mid H \leq G \text{ closed normal subgroup scheme of } G\}$$

given by $\Psi : \mathcal{T} \to \mathcal{H}, T \mapsto \text{Gal}(R/T)$ resp. $\Phi : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{T}, H \mapsto R^H$.

**Remark 6.13.** The maps $\Psi$ and $\Phi$ can be defined between all intermediate ID-rings and all closed subgroups of $G$. But contrary to the Galois correspondences in [8] and others, one does not get a full bijection, as we only consider the rings and not the fields of fractions. Remark 6.9 provides an example that the extension $\Phi$ would not be injective in general. Maybe, one would get a full bijection when considering schemes with ID-simple structure sheaves, because $G/H$, and therefore $\text{Spec}(R)/H$ is a non-affine scheme in general.

**Proof of Thm. 6.12.** Prop. 6.11 already shows most things: If $H$ is a normal subgroup scheme of $G$, then $R^H$ is a PV-ring. Hence $\Phi$ is welldefined. If $T$ is an intermediate PV-ring, the group scheme $H := \text{Gal}(R/T)$ is a closed normal subgroup scheme of $G$. Hence, $\Psi$ is welldefined. Furthermore, $R^{\text{Gal}(R/T)} = T$ showing $\Phi \circ \Psi = \text{id}$.

It remains to show that $\text{Gal}(R/R^H) = H$ for all closed normal subgroup schemes $H$ of $G$. In the proof of Prop. 6.11 it is shown that $\text{Gal}(R^H/S) \cong G/H$. Furthermore, the projection map $G \to G/H$ corresponds to the map $\text{Gal}(R/S) \to \text{Gal}(R^H/S)$ given by restricting the automorphisms in $\text{Gal}(R/S)$ to $R^H$. Hence, $\text{Gal}(R/R^H)$ is the kernel of this map, i.e. equals $H$. \hspace{1cm} \Box

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