

## 62. Proof of Masser's Conjecture on the Algebraic Independence of Values of Liouville Series

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Let  $f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} z^{k!}$ . Then  $f(z)$  converges in  $|z| < 1$ . If  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number with  $0 < |\alpha| < 1$ , then  $f(\alpha)$  is a transcendental number. Masser conjectured that if  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  are algebraic numbers with  $0 < |\alpha_i| < 1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and no  $\alpha_i/\alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ) is a root of unity, then  $f(\alpha_1), \dots, f(\alpha_n)$  are algebraically independent. In [2], the author proved the  $p$ -adic analogue of the conjecture, and in [3], settled the conjecture for  $n=3$  in complex case. In this paper we shall prove the following theorem by using Evertse's Theorem 1 in [1].

**Theorem.** *Suppose  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  are algebraic numbers with  $0 < |\alpha_i| < 1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and no  $\alpha_i/\alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ) is a root of unity. Then  $f^{(l)}(\alpha_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $0 \leq l$ ) are algebraically independent, where  $f^{(l)}(z)$  denotes the  $l$ -th derivative of  $f(z)$ .*

In what follows,  $K$  will denote an algebraic number field including  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ . By a prime on  $K$  we mean an equivalence class of non-trivial valuations on  $K$ . We denote the set of all primes on  $K$  by  $S_K$  and the set of all infinite primes on  $K$  by  $S_{\infty}$ . For every prime  $v$  on  $K$  lying above a prime  $p$  on  $\mathbf{Q}$ , we choose a valuation  $\|\cdot\|_v$  such that

$$\|\alpha\|_v = |\alpha|_p^{[K_v:\mathbf{Q}_p]} \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \mathbf{Q}.$$

Then we have the product formula :

$$\prod_{v \in S_K} \|\alpha\|_v = 1 \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in K, \alpha \neq 0.$$

For  $X = (x_0 : x_1 : \dots : x_n) \in P^n(K)$ , put

$$H_K(X) = H(X) = \prod_{v \in S_K} \max(\|x_0\|_v, \|x_1\|_v, \dots, \|x_n\|_v).$$

By the product formula, this height is well-defined. Put

$$h_K(\alpha) = h(\alpha) = H(1 : \alpha) \quad \text{for } \alpha \in K.$$

Then so-called fundamental inequality holds,

$$-\log h(\alpha) \leq \sum_{v \in S} \log \|\alpha\|_v \leq \log h(\alpha) \quad \text{for } \alpha \in K, \alpha \neq 0,$$

where  $S$  is any set of primes on  $K$ .

Let  $S$  be a finite set of primes on  $K$ , enclosing  $S_{\infty}$ , and  $c, d$  be constants with  $c > 0$ ,  $d \geq 0$ . A projective point  $X \in P^n(K)$  is called  $(c, d, S)$ -admissible if its homogeneous coordinates  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  can be chosen such that

- (i) all  $x_k$  are  $S$ -integers, i.e.  $\|x_k\|_v \leq 1$  if  $v \in S$

and

- (ii)  $\prod_{v \in S} \prod_{k=0}^n \|x_k\|_v \leq c \cdot H(X)^d$ .