# Chapter 2 Purely arithmetic PDEs

## <span id="page-0-2"></span>2.1 Frobenius automorphisms

We start with the following standard defnition.

<span id="page-0-1"></span>**Definition 2.1.** By a *Frobenius lift* for an A-algebra  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  we understand a ring homomorphism  $\phi: A \to B$  such that the induced homomorphism  $\overline{\phi}: A/pA \to B/pB$ equals the composition of the induced homomorphism  $\overline{\varphi}$  :  $A/pA \rightarrow B/pB$  with the p-power Frobenius on  $A/pA$ . If  $B = A$  and  $\varphi = 1_A$  we say that  $\phi$  is a *Frobenius lift* on A.

For every, not necessarily algebraic, field extension  $F \subset L$  we denote by  $\mathcal{G}(L/F)$ the group of all field automorphisms of  $L$  that are the identity on  $F$ . For every field L we denote by  $\mathfrak{G}_L$  the absolute Galois group  $\mathfrak{G}(L^{\text{alg}}/L)$ , where  $L^{\text{alg}}$  is an algebraic closure of L.

We recall the main setting in  $[12]$ . Consider the field of p-adic numbers with absolute value | | normalized by  $|p| = p^{-1}$ . Let  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$  be an algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ , let  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}$  be the maximum unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  inside  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$ , let K be the metric completion of  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}$  and let  $K^{\text{alg}}$  be the algebraic closure of K in the metric completion  $\mathbb{C}_p$  of  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$ . We still denote by | | the induced absolute value on all of these fields. We denote by  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}}, \mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{alg}}, R$ ,  $R^{\text{alg}}, \mathbb{C}_p^{\circ}$  the valuation rings of  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}, \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}, K$ ,  $K^{\text{alg}}, \mathbb{C}_p$ , respectively. In particular,  $R := \widehat{\mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}}}.$  We set  $k := R/pR$ ; so  $k \simeq \mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}}.$ 

Remark 2.2. The natural ring homomorphism

<span id="page-0-0"></span>
$$
\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}} K \to K^{\text{alg}} \tag{2.1}
$$

is an isomorphism. Indeed, this map is surjective because by Krasner's lemma, we have  $K^{\text{alg}} := K \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$ ; cf. [\[5,](#page--1-1) Proposition 5, page 149]. To check that the map [\(2.1\)](#page-0-0) is injective write and  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}} = \bigcup F_i$  with  $F_i/\mathbb{Q}_p$  finite and let  $F_i^0 \subset F_i$  be the maximum unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  contained in  $F_i$ ; so  $F_i/F_i^0$  is totally ramified and  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}} = \bigcup F_i^0$ . It is enough to check that  $F_i \otimes_{F_i^0} K \to K^{\text{alg}}$  is injective for all *i*. To check this note that  $F_i/F_i^0$  is generated by a root of an Eisenstein polynomial  $f_i$ in  $F_i^0[x]$ ; but every such polynomial is an Eisenstein polynomial in  $K[x]$  and so  $F_i \otimes_{F_i^0} K = K[x]/(f_i)$  is a field, therefore it injects into  $K^{\text{alg}}$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let L be a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}_p$  containing  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . A *Frobenius automorphism* of L is a continuous automorphism  $\phi \in \mathcal{G}(L/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that  $\phi$  induces the p-power Frobenius on the residue field of the valuation ring of L. We denote by  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(L/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ the set of Frobenius automorphisms of L.

More generally the theory of the present memoir can be developed based on the set  $\mathfrak{F}^{(s)}(L/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  of all continuous automorphisms  $\phi \in \mathfrak{G}(L/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that  $\phi$  induces the  $p^s$ -power Frobenius on the residue field of the valuation ring of L where s is some fxed positive integer; for simplicity we will not consider this more general situation in what follows.

Note that if  $\phi$  is a Frobenius automorphism of  $K^{\text{alg}}$  then  $\phi$  sends R into R, induces the Frobenius lift on  $R$ , and induces an automorphism of  $R^{alg}$  (which is however not a Frobenius lift on  $R^{alg}$  in the sense of Definition [2.1\)](#page-0-1). Conversely, every automorphism  $\phi \in \mathfrak{G}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  extending the Frobenius lift on R is a Frobenius automorphism of  $K^{\text{alg}}$ . Indeed, for every finite Galois extension  $L_0$  of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ , the field  $L := L_0K$  is sent onto itself by  $\phi$  and the absolute values  $|\cdot|$  and  $|\phi(\cdot)|$  on L have the same restriction to K, hence must coincide; cf. [\[25,](#page--1-2) page 32]; in particular  $\phi$  is continuous and induces the *p*-power Frobenius on  $k$ .

The set  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is a principal homogeneous space for the absolute Galois group  $\mathfrak{G}_K$  under the action given by  $(\gamma, \phi) \mapsto \gamma \phi$  for  $\phi \in \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  and  $\gamma \in \mathfrak{G}_K$ . On the other hand, by the fact that the homomorphism  $(2.1)$  is an isomorphism we immediately get that the restriction homomorphism  $\mathfrak{G}_K \to \mathfrak{G}_{\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}}$  an isomorphism of topological groups and the restriction map  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p) \to \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is a bijection. Note that  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  has a purely (topological) group characterization as a subset of  $\mathfrak{G}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ ; cf. [\[31,](#page--1-3) Lemma 12.1.8, page 665]. The elements of  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  are referred to in loc.cit. as *Frobenius lifts* but adopting that terminology here would confict with our Defnition [2.1.](#page-0-1)

By the way, the absolute Galois group  $\mathfrak{G}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  is known to have 4 topological generators one of which is in  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ ; the relations among these topological generators are also known, cf. [\[22\]](#page--1-4) or [\[30,](#page--1-5) Theorem 7.5.10, page 360]. We say that a subset of a topological group is a set of *topological generators* if the subgroup generated by this set is dense in the group. One can easily see, by the way, that one can fnd a set of 4 topological generators of  $\mathfrak{G}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  that is contained in  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\mathrm{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . We will not use this observation in what follows. What we will be interested in is the monoid (rather than the group) generated by our Frobenius automorphisms, as explained in the next subsection.

## 2.2 Monomial independence

In what follows monoids will not necessarily be commutative. Let  $\mathbb{M}_n$  be the free (non-commutative) monoid with identity generated by the set  $\{1, \ldots, n\}$ ,

$$
\mathbb{M}_n := \{0\} \cup \{i_1 \dots i_s \mid l \in \mathbb{N}, i_1, \dots, i_s \in \{1, \dots, n\}\};
$$

its elements will be referred to as *words*, the *length*  $|\mu|$  of a word  $\mu := i_1 \dots i_s$  is defined by  $|\mu| = s$ , 0 is called the *empty word* and its length is defined by  $|0| = 0$ . Multiplication is given by concatenation  $(\mu, \nu) \mapsto \mu \nu$  and 0 is the identity element. For all  $r \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  let  $\mathbb{M}_n^r$  be the set of all elements in  $\mathbb{M}_n$  of length  $\leq r$ . Set  $\mathbb{M}_n^+ := \mathbb{M}_n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{M}_n^{r,+} := \mathbb{M}_n^r \setminus \{0\}.$ 

**Definition 2.4.** A family of distinct elements  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n$  in a monoid  $\mathcal G$  with identity 1 is called *monomially independent* if the monoid homomorphism

$$
\mathbb{M}_n \to \mathfrak{S}, \ \mu = i_1 \dots i_l \mapsto \phi_\mu := \phi_{i_1} \dots \phi_{i_l}, \text{ for } l \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } 0 \mapsto 1
$$

is injective.

**Remark 2.5.** Note that in our notation above we have the formula  $\phi_{\mu} \phi_{\nu} = \phi_{\mu\nu}$  for  $\mu, \nu \in \mathbb{M}_n$ . Note also that if  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a group and  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n \in \mathfrak{G}$  are monomially independent in  $\mathcal G$  then the subgroup of  $\mathcal G$  generated by  $\phi_1,\ldots,\phi_n$  is not necessarily freely generated by  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n$ ; an example that naturally occurs in our context is given in Remark [2.9.](#page-4-0)

The following lemma follows trivially from the well known "algebraic independence of feld automorphisms" but, for convenience, we provide a proof.

<span id="page-2-0"></span>**Lemma 2.6.** Let L be a field of characteristic zero and let  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n$  be monomially *independent elements in*  $\mathfrak{S}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $F = F(\ldots, x_{\mu}, \ldots)$  be a polynomial with L*coefficients in the variables*  $x_{\mu}$  *with*  $\mu \in M_n$  *and consider the function*  $f: L \to L$ *defned by*

$$
f(\lambda) = F(\ldots, \phi_{\mu}(\lambda), \ldots), \ \lambda \in L.
$$

Let A be a subring of L and assume  $f(\lambda) = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in A$ . Then  $F = 0$ .

*Proof.* By Artin's independence of characters, cf. [\[26,](#page--1-6) page 283], if  $\mathfrak{A}$  is a monoid then every family of distinct monoid homomorphisms  $\mathfrak{A} \to L^{\times}$  is L-linearly independent in the L-linear space of all maps  $\mathfrak{A} \to L$ . Let  $\mathfrak{A} = A \setminus \{0\}$ . Then by Artin's independence of characters it is enough to check that for distinct vectors  $e := (e_{\mu})_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n}$ with entries non-negative integers, almost all zero, the maps  $f_e: A \rightarrow L$  defined by

$$
f_e(\lambda) := \prod_{\mu} (\phi_{\mu}(\lambda))^{e_{\mu}}, \quad \lambda \in A
$$

are distinct. Assume  $f_e = f_{e'}$  and let us show that  $e = e'$ . For all integers  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have

$$
\prod_{\mu} (m + \phi_{\mu}(\lambda))^{e_{\mu}} = \prod_{\mu} (m + \phi_{\mu}(\lambda))^{e'_{\mu}}, \ \lambda \in A.
$$

Since  $L$  has characteristic zero we have an equality

$$
\prod_{\mu}(t+\phi_{\mu}(\lambda))^{e_{\mu}} = \prod_{\mu}(t+\phi_{\mu}(\lambda))^{e'_{\mu}}, \ \lambda \in A
$$

in the ring of polynomials L[t]. Looking at degrees in t we get  $\sum_{\mu} e_{\mu} = \sum_{\mu} e'_{\mu} =: d$ . Picking out the coefficient of  $t^{d-1}$  we get

$$
\sum_{\mu} e_{\mu} \phi_{\mu}(\lambda) = \sum_{\mu} e'_{\mu} \phi_{\mu}(\lambda), \ \lambda \in A.
$$

By monomial independence of the  $\phi_i$ 's and, again, by Artin's independence of characters, the family  $(\phi_{\mu})_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n}$  is L-linearly independent in the L-linear space of maps  $\mathfrak{A} \to L$  so, since L has characteristic zero, we conclude that  $e_{\mu} = e'_{\mu}$  for all  $\mu$ .

**Example 2.7.** In what follows we show that the set  $\mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  of Frobenius automorphisms of  $K<sup>alg</sup>$  contains large subsets of monomially independent elements that remain monomially independent on "small" (abelian) extensions of K. We recall some standard constructions from Iwasawa theory; cf. [\[21\]](#page--1-7). Let  $l \neq p$  be a prime. Consider sequences  $\pi_m \in K^{\text{alg}}$  and  $\zeta_{lm} \in K$  with  $m \geq 0$  such that

$$
\pi_0 = p, \ \zeta_{l^0} = 1, \ \pi_{m+1}^l = \pi_m, \ \zeta_{l^{m+1}}^l = \zeta_{l^m}, \ m \ge 0.
$$

Since the polynomial  $x^{l^m} - p$  is Eisenstein over K and  $\pi_m$  is one of its roots we have that the field  $K_{\pi_m} := K(\pi_m)$  generated by  $\pi_m$  is isomorphic to  $K[x]/(x^{l^m} - p)$ and  $K_{\pi_m}$  is Galois over K with cyclic Galois group of order  $l^m$  generated by the automorphism  $\tau_m$  satisfying  $\tau_m \pi_m = \zeta_{lm} \pi_m$ . Define

$$
K^{(l)} := \bigcup_{m \ge 0} K_{\pi_m}.\tag{2.2}
$$

Clearly the automorphisms  $\tau_m$  are compatible and yield an automorphism  $\tau_{(l)}$   $\in$  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{(l)}/K)$ . For all  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_l$  one defines  $\tau_{(l)}^{\gamma} \in \mathfrak{G}(K^{(l)}/K)$  as follows: if  $\gamma \equiv b_m$ mod  $l^m$  with  $b_m \in \mathbb{Z}$  then one lets  $\tau_{(l)}^{\gamma}$  to be  $\tau_{(l)}^{b_m}$  on  $K(\pi_m)$ . Then the map  $\mathbb{Z}_l \to$  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{(l)}/K)$  given by  $\gamma \mapsto \tau_{(l)}^{\gamma}$  is an isomorphism. On the other hand the fields  $K_{\pi_m}$ possess compatible automorphisms extending the Frobenius lift on  $R$  and fixing the  $\pi_m$ 's; they induce an automorphism  $\phi_{(l)}$  on  $K^{(l)}$ . One trivially checks that  $\phi_{(l)}\tau_{(l)}$ . and  $\tau_{(1)}^p \phi_{(1)}$  coincide on all roots of unity in K (and hence on K) and also on all  $\pi_m$ 's; so  $\phi_{(l)}\tau_{(l)} = \tau_{(l)}^p \phi_{(l)}$  in  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{(l)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . For each  $\gamma \in \mathfrak{B}$  we set  $\phi_{(l)}^{(\gamma)} := \tau_{(l)}^{\gamma} \phi_{(l)} \in$  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{(l)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ , and we let  $\phi^{(\gamma)} \in \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  be an arbitrary extension of  $\phi^{(\gamma)}_{(l)}$ .

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Proposition 2.8. *The following hold:*

- (1)  $\phi_{(l)}^{(0)}, \ldots, \phi_{(l)}^{(p-1)}$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{S}(K^{(l)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ *. In particular,*  $\phi^{(0)}, \ldots, \phi^{(p-1)}$  are monomially independent in  $\mathcal{G}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ .
- (2) Let  $\gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_n \in \mathbb{Z}_l$  be  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linearly independent. Then  $\phi_{(l)}^{(\gamma_1)}, \ldots, \phi_{(l)}^{(\gamma_n)}$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{S}(K^{(l)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ ; in particular  $\phi^{(\gamma_1)}, \ldots, \phi^{(\gamma_n)}$  are *monomially independent in*  $\mathcal{G}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ *.*

*Proof.* We will prove Part 2. Part 1 is proved similarly. Write  $\phi_{i,l} := \phi_{(l)}^{(\gamma_i)}$  for  $i \in$  $\{1,\ldots,n\}$ . Let  $\mu = i_1 \ldots i_s$  where  $i_1,\ldots,i_s \in \{1,\ldots,n\}$  and similarly  $\mu' = i'_1$  $i'_{1} \ldots i'_{s'}$ where  $i'_1$  $i'_1, \ldots, i'_{s'} \in \{1, \ldots, n\}.$  Assume

$$
\phi_{i_1,l}\ldots\phi_{i_s,l}=\phi_{i'_1,l}\ldots\phi_{i'_{s'},l}
$$

and let us prove that  $\mu = \mu'$ . We first note that for all integers  $j \ge 0$  we have  $\phi_{(l)} \tau_{(l)}^j =$  $\tau_{(l)}^{pj} \phi_{(l)}$ ; this follows by induction on j. We conclude that  $\phi_{(l)} \tau_{(l)}^{\gamma} = \tau_{(l)}^{py} \phi_{(l)}$  for all  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_l$ ; this equality holds because it holds on every  $K_{\pi_m}$ . Next note that for all integers  $i \ge 1$  and for all  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_l$  we have  $\phi^i_{(l)} \tau^\gamma_{(l)} = \tau^{\rho^i \gamma}_{(l)} \phi^i_{(l)}$ ; this follows by induction on  $i$ . Using the latter equalities we get

$$
\phi_{i_1,l}\ldots\phi_{i_s,l}=\tau_{(l)}^{\gamma_{i_1}}\phi_{(l)}\ldots\tau_{(l)}^{\gamma_{i_s}}\phi_{(l)}=\tau_{(l)}^{\gamma_{i_1}+p\gamma_{i_2}+\cdots+p^{s-1}\gamma_{i_s}}\phi_{(l)}^s
$$

and similarly for  $\mu'$ , so we get

$$
\tau_{(I)}^{\gamma_{i_1}+p\gamma_{i_2}+\cdots+p^{s-1}\gamma_{i_s}}\phi_{(I)}^s=\tau_{(I)}^{\gamma_{i'_1}+p\gamma_{i'_2}+\cdots+p^{s'-1}\gamma_{i_{s'}}}\phi_{(I)}^{s'}.
$$

Since  $\phi_{(l)}$  has infinite order on K we get  $s = s'$ . Since  $\tau_{(l)}$  has infinite order on  $K^{(l)}$ we get

<span id="page-4-1"></span>
$$
\gamma_{i_1} + p\gamma_{i_2} + \dots + p^{s-1}\gamma_{i_s} = \gamma_{i'_1} + p\gamma_{i'_2} + \dots + p^{s-1}\gamma_{i'_s}
$$
 (2.3)

in  $F$ . We will be done if we prove the following.

*Claim.* An equality of the form [\(2.3\)](#page-4-1) implies that  $i_j = i'_j$ *f* for all  $j \in \{1, ..., s\}$ .

The claim can be proved by induction on s. The case  $s = 1$  is trivial. The induc-tion step follows if we show that the equality [\(2.3\)](#page-4-1) implies that  $i_1 = i'_1$  $i_1$ . Assume  $i_1 \neq i_1'$ 1 and seek a contradiction. Recalling that  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_n$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linearly independent write the left-hand side of [\(2.3\)](#page-4-1) as a sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \gamma^i$  with  $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  and write the right-hand side of [\(2.3\)](#page-4-1) as a sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i'$  $i'\gamma_i$  with  $c'_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So  $c_i = c'_i$ '<sub>i</sub> for all *i*. Since  $\gamma_{i_1} \neq \gamma_{i'_1}$ we get that  $c_{i_1} \equiv 1 \mod p$  while  $c_i'$  $i_1 \equiv 0 \mod p$ , a contradiction. This ends the proof of our claim and hence of our proposition.

<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Remark 2.9.** Note that, in spite of the fact that  $s_1 := \phi_{(l)}^{(0)} = \phi_{(l)}$  and  $s_2 := \phi_{(l)}^{(1)} = \phi_{(l)}^{(2)}$  $\tau_{(l)}\phi_{(l)}$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{S}(K^{(l)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  we have that the subgroup of  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{(i)}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  generated by  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  is not freely generated by  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ ; indeed we have the following relation:

$$
s_1(s_2s_1^{-1}) = (s_2s_1^{-1})^p s_1.
$$

#### 2.3  $\pi$ -Frobenius lifts

Throughout the memoir we denote by  $\Pi$  the set of all elements  $\pi \in \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$  such that there exists a finite Galois extension  $E/\mathbb{Q}_p$  with the property that  $\pi$  is a prime element in  $\mathcal{O}_E$ . Note that  $\Pi$  consists exactly of those elements  $\pi \in \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$  which are roots of Eisenstein polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}}$  and for which  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}(\pi)/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is Galois. We have  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}} = \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}(\Pi)$ . For any  $\pi \in \Pi$  write  $K_\pi = K(\pi)$  and let  $R_\pi = R[\pi]$ which equals the valuation ring of  $K_{\pi}$ . We write  $\pi'|\pi$  if and only if  $K_{\pi} \subset K_{\pi'}$ . Note that  $K^{\text{alg}} = K(\Pi)$ . Clearly for  $\pi \in \Pi$  the field  $K_{\pi}$  is mapped into itself by every Frobenius automorphism  $\phi$  of  $K^{\text{alg}}$ . By continuity of  $\phi$  we have an induced automorphism  $\phi_{\pi}: R_{\pi} \to R_{\pi}$  (which we sometimes still denote by  $\phi$ ) inducing the p-power Frobenius on  $R_\pi/\pi R_\pi = k$ .

Remark 2.10. We take the opportunity to correct here a typo in [\[12\]](#page--1-0): in the defnition of  $\Pi$  of Section [2.1](#page-0-2) the exponent "ur" in the condition " $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}(\pi)/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is Galois" was inadvertently dropped.

More generally we will need the following.

**Definition 2.11.** Let A be an  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra. By a  $\pi$ -*Frobenius lift* for an A-algebra  $\varphi : A \to B$  we understand a ring homomorphism  $\varphi : A \to B$  such that the induced homomorphism  $\overline{\phi}: A/\pi A \rightarrow B/\pi B$  equals the composition of the induced homomorphism  $\overline{\varphi}$ :  $A/\pi A \rightarrow B/\pi B$  with the p-power Frobenius on  $A/\pi A$ . If  $B = A$  and  $\varphi = 1_A$  we say that  $\phi$  is a  $\pi$ -Frobenius lift on A.

In particular, for every Frobenius automorphism  $\phi$  of  $K^{\text{alg}}$  and every  $\pi \in \Pi$  the induced automorphism  $\phi_{\pi}$  of  $R_{\pi}$  is a  $\pi$ -Frobenius lift.

## 2.4 Rings of symbols

**Definition 2.12.** Consider a family  $\Phi := (\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n), \phi_i \in \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  of distinct Frobenius automorphisms and let  $\pi \in \Pi$ . Let  $\mathbb{M}_{\Phi}$  be the free monoid with identity on the set  $\Phi$ ; so we have an isomorphism  $\mathbb{M}_n \simeq \mathbb{M}_{\Phi}$ ,  $i \mapsto \phi_i$ . We define the *ring of symbols*  $K_{\pi,\Phi}$  to be the free  $K_{\pi}$ -module with basis  $\mathbb{M}_{\Phi}$  equipped with multiplication defned by

$$
\phi_i \cdot \lambda = \phi_i(\lambda) \cdot \phi_i \tag{2.4}
$$

for  $\lambda \in K_{\pi}$ ,  $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ . If in the above definition we replace  $K_{\pi}$  we obtain a ring  $R_{\pi,\Phi}$ .

So every element in  $K_{\pi,\Phi}$  (respectively  $R_{\pi,\Phi}$ ) can be uniquely written as

$$
\sum_{\mu\in\mathbb{M}_n}\lambda_\mu\phi_\mu
$$

with  $\lambda_{\mu}$  in  $K_{\pi}$  (respectively in  $R_{\pi}$ ). These rings have filtrations "by order" given by the subgroups:

$$
K_{\pi,\Phi}^r := \left\{ \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r} \lambda_{\mu} \phi_{\mu} \mid \lambda_{\mu} \in K_{\pi} \right\} \subset K_{\pi,\Phi},
$$
  

$$
R_{\pi,\Phi}^r := \left\{ \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r} \lambda_{\mu} \phi_{\mu} \mid \lambda_{\mu} \in R_{\pi} \right\} \subset R_{\pi,\Phi}.
$$

The ring  $K_{\pi,\Phi}$  is a  $K_{\pi}$ -linear space with left multiplication by scalars but, of course, it is not a  $K_{\pi}$ -algebra. If End<sub>or</sub> $(K^{alg})$  denotes the ring of all group endomorphisms of  $K^{\text{alg}}$  then we have a natural  $K_{\pi}$ -linear ring homomorphism

<span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
K_{\pi,\Phi} \to \text{End}_{\text{gr}}(K^{\text{alg}}), \ \ \theta \mapsto \theta^{\text{alg}}.
$$

**Remark 2.13.** Note that if  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n \in \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  then, by Lemma [2.6](#page-2-0) (and in fact directly from Artin's "independence of characters") the natural ring homomorphism  $(2.5)$  is injective.

**Remark 2.14.** One can also consider the free ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{\Phi}$  generated by  $\Phi$  which we refer to as the ring of *integral symbols*; as an abelian group it is the free abelian group with basis  $M_{\Phi}$ . So every element of this ring can uniquely be written as

$$
w = \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n} m_{\mu} \phi_{\mu}, \quad m_{\mu} \in \mathbb{Z}.
$$

This ring has an order (with non-negative elements defned as those with non-negative coefficients) and has a filtration "by order" given by the subgroups  $\mathbb{Z}_\Phi^r$  consisting of Z-linear combinations of elements  $\phi_{\mu}$  with  $\mu \in M_n^r$ . Then for all  $\lambda \in R_\pi^\times$  and all  $w \in \mathbb{Z}_{\Phi}$  we write

$$
\lambda^w = \prod_{\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n} (\phi_\mu(\lambda))^{m_\mu} \in R_\pi^\times.
$$

For every  $w = \sum m_{\mu} \phi_{\mu} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\Phi}$  we define the *degree* of w to be deg $(w) = \sum m_{\mu}$ .

#### 2.5 Partial  $\pi$ -jet spaces

For  $\pi \in \Pi$  let  $C_p(X, Y) \in \mathbb{Z}[X, Y]$  be the polynomial

$$
C_p(X,Y) := \frac{X^p + Y^p - (X+Y)^p}{p}.
$$

Following [\[6,](#page--1-8) [7,](#page--1-9) [23\]](#page--1-10) a  $\pi$ -*derivation* from an  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra A into an A-algebra B is a map  $\delta_{\pi}: A \to B$ ,  $x \mapsto \delta_{\pi} x$ , such that  $\delta_{\pi}(1) = 0$  and

$$
\delta_{\pi}(x + y) = \delta_{\pi}x + \delta_{\pi}y + \frac{p}{\pi}C_p(x, y),
$$

$$
\delta_{\pi}(xy) = x^{p} \cdot \delta_{\pi} y + y^{p} \cdot \delta_{\pi} x + \pi \cdot \delta_{\pi} x \cdot \delta_{\pi} y,
$$

for all x,  $y \in A$ . Given a  $\pi$ -derivation as above and denoting by  $\varphi : A \to B$  the structure map of the A-algebra B we always denote by  $\phi_{\pi}: A \rightarrow B$  the map  $\phi(x) =$  $\varphi(x)^p + \pi \delta_\pi x$ ; then  $\phi_\pi$  is a  $\pi$ -Frobenius lift. If  $\pi$  is a non-zero divisor in B then the above formula gives a bijection between the set of  $\pi$ -derivations from A to B and the set of  $\pi$ -Frobenius lifts from A to B.

**Definition 2.15.** By a *partial*  $\delta_{\pi}$ -ring we understand an  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra A equipped with an *n*-tuple  $(\delta_{\pi,1},\ldots,\delta_{\pi,n})$  of  $\pi$ -derivations  $A \to A$ . (We do *not* assume any "commutation relation" between them.)

Assume we are given a family  $\Phi := (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n) \in \mathfrak{F}^{(1)}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)^n$  of distinct Frobenius automorphisms of  $K^{\text{alg}}$ . Note that for every  $\pi \in \Pi$  we get an induced tuple  $\Phi_{\pi} = (\phi_{\pi,1}, \ldots, \phi_{\pi,n})$  of (not necessarily distinct)  $\pi$ -Frobenius lifts on  $R_{\pi}$ , called the restriction of  $\Phi$  to  $R_{\pi}$ . We therefore get an induced tuple  $(\delta_{\pi,1},\ldots,\delta_{\pi,n})$  of  $\pi$ derivations on  $R_{\pi}$  and hence a structure of partial  $\delta_{\pi}$ -ring on  $R_{\pi}$ .

Following the lead of [\[6\]](#page--1-8) we need to consider the following generalization of the notion of partial  $\delta_{\pi}$ -ring.

**Definition 2.16.** Define a category  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}^*$  as follows. An object of this category is a countable family of p-adically complete  $R_{\pi}$ -algebras  $S^* = (S^r)_{r \geq 0}$  equipped with the following data:

- (1)  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra homomorphisms  $\varphi: S^r \to S^{r+1}$ ;
- (2)  $\pi$ -derivations  $\delta_{\pi,j}: S^r \to S^{r+1}$  for  $1 \le j \le n$ .

We require that  $\delta_{\pi,i}$  be compatible with the  $\pi$ -derivations on  $R_{\pi}$  and with  $\varphi$ , i.e.,  $\delta_{\pi, j} \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ \delta_{\pi, j}$ . Morphisms are defined in a natural way. We denote by  $\phi_{\pi, j}$ :  $S^r \to S^{r+1}$  the corresponding  $\pi$ -Frobenius lifts, defined by  $\phi_{\pi, j}(x) = \varphi(x)^p$ .  $\pi \delta_{\pi, j} x$ . Also, for all  $\mu := i_1 \dots i_l \in \mathbb{M}_n$  and all  $x \in S^r$  we set  $\delta_{\pi, \mu} x := (\delta_{\pi, i_1} \circ$  $\ldots \circ \delta_{\pi,i_l}(x) \in S^{r+l}$  and  $\phi_{\pi,\mu} x := (\phi_{\pi,i_1} \circ \ldots \circ \phi_{\pi,i_l})(x) \in S^{r+l}.$ 

The objects of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}^*$  are called *prolongation sequences* (over  $R_{\pi}$  with respect to  $\Phi$  or  $\Phi_{\pi}$ ). We sometimes identify elements  $a \in S^r$  with the elements  $\varphi(a) \in S^{r+1}$ if no confusion arises. We sometimes write  $S^* = (S^r, \varphi, \delta_{\pi,1}, \ldots, \delta_{\pi,n})$ . We denote by **Prol** $_{\pi,\Phi}$  the full subcategory of **Prol** $_{\pi,\Phi}^*$  whose objects are the prolongation sequences  $(S<sup>r</sup>)$  such that all S<sup>*r*</sup>'s are Noetherian and flat over  $R_{\pi}$ .

**Remark 2.17.** (1) If S is a p-adically complete partial  $\delta_{\pi}$ -ring whose  $\pi$ -derivations are compatible with those on  $R_{\pi}$  then the sequence  $S^* = (S^r)$  with  $S^r = S$  has a natural structure of object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}^*$  with  $\varphi$  the identity and obvious  $\delta_{\pi,j}$ . If in addition S is Noetherian and flat over  $R_{\pi}$  then  $S^*$  is an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$ . The initial object in **Prol**<sup>\*</sup><sub>*n*</sub>, $\Phi$ </sub> (and also of **Prol**<sub>*n*</sub>, $\Phi$ ) is the sequence  $R^*_{\pi} = (R^r_{\pi})$  with  $R^r_{\pi} := R_{\pi}$ .

(2) If  $S^* = (S^r, \varphi, \delta_{\pi,1}, \ldots, \delta_{\pi,n})$  is an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}^*$  then the ring

$$
\lim_{\overrightarrow{\varphi}} S^r
$$

has a natural structure of partial  $\delta_{\pi}$ -ring.

<span id="page-8-1"></span>**Remark 2.18.** For every  $\pi'|\pi$  and every object  $S^*$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$  the sequence

$$
S^* \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'} := (S^r \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'})_{r \geq 0}
$$

is naturally an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi',\Phi}$ ; cf. [\[12,](#page--1-0) Section 4.1].

**Remark 2.19.** For  $\mu = i_1 \dots i_r \in \mathbb{M}_n^r \setminus \mathbb{M}_n^{r-1}$  we define the integral symbol:

$$
w(\mu) := 1 + \phi_{i_1} + \phi_{i_1 i_2} + \phi_{i_1 i_2 i_3} + \cdots + \phi_{i_1 i_2 i_3 \ldots i_{r-1}} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\Phi}.
$$

For every object  $S^* = (S^r)$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}^*$ , every  $r \ge 1$ , every  $\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r \setminus \mathbb{M}_n^{r-1}$  and every  $a \in S^0$  there exists  $a_{\mu} \in S^{r-1}$  such that

<span id="page-8-0"></span>
$$
\phi_{\pi,\mu}a = \pi^{w(\mu)}\delta_{\pi,\mu}a + \varphi(a_{\mu});\tag{2.6}
$$

this is trivially proved by induction on  $r$ .

<span id="page-8-2"></span>**Definition 2.20.** Consider two families of distinct Frobenius automorphisms  $\Phi'$  :=  $(\phi'_1, \ldots, \phi'_{n'})$  and  $\Phi'':=(\phi''_1, \ldots, \phi''_{n'})$  of  $K^{\text{alg}}$ . Also let  $\pi \in \Pi$ . A map of sets

<span id="page-8-3"></span> $\epsilon: \{1, \ldots, n'\} \to \{1, \ldots, n''\}$  (2.7)

is called a *selection map* (with respect to  $(\Phi', \Phi'', \pi)$ ) if for all  $j \in \{1, ..., n'\}$  we have that  $\phi_{\pi,j} = \phi_{\pi,\epsilon(j)}$ . Consider next an object of  $\text{Prol}_{p,\Phi''}^*$ ,

$$
S^* = (S^r, \varphi, \delta''_{\pi,1}, \ldots, \delta''_{\pi,n}),
$$

and let  $\epsilon$  be a selection map as above. One defines the object  $S_{\epsilon}^*$  $\epsilon^*$  in **Prol**<sup>\*</sup><sub>*p*</sub>, $\Phi$ <sup>*i*</sup> by:

$$
S_{\epsilon}^* := (S^r, \varphi, \delta''_{\pi, \epsilon(1)}, \ldots, \delta''_{\pi, \epsilon(n')}).
$$

This construction depends only on the restrictions  $\Phi'_\pi$  and  $\Phi''_\pi$  of  $\Phi'$  and  $\Phi''$  to  $K_\pi$ .

Motivated by Proposition [2.8,](#page-3-0) introduce variables denoted by  $\delta_{\pi,\mu} y_j$  for  $\mu \in M_n$ ,  $\pi \in \Pi, j \in \{1, ..., N\}$ . Fix an integer N and consider the ring  $R_{\pi}[y_1, ..., y_N]$  and the rings

$$
J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(R_{\pi}[y_1,\ldots,y_N]) := R_{\pi}[\delta_{\pi,\mu}y_j \mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r, j \in \{1,\ldots,N\}] \ . \tag{2.8}
$$

The sequence  $J_{\pi,\Phi}^*(R_{\pi}[y_1,\ldots,y_N]) := (J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(R_{\pi}[y_1,\ldots,y_N]))$  has a unique structure of object in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$  such that  $\delta_{\pi,i}\delta_{\pi,\mu}y := \delta_{\pi,i\mu}y$  for all  $i = 1, ..., n$ . We

have an induced evaluation map  $F_{R_{\pi}} : R_{\pi}^N \to R_{\pi}$ : for  $(a_1, \ldots, a_N) \in R_{\pi}^N$  we let  $F_{R_{\pi}}(a_1,\ldots,a_N) \in R_{\pi}$  be obtained from F by replacing the variables  $\delta_{\pi,\mu} y_j$  with the elements  $\delta_{\pi,\mu} a_i$ . Note that the map

$$
J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(R_{\pi}[y_1,\ldots,y_N]) \to \text{Fun}(R_{\pi}^N,R_{\pi}),\ F \mapsto F_{R_{\pi}} \tag{2.9}
$$

is not injective in general, even if  $\Phi$  is monomially independent. Here and in the following "Fun" stands for the set of set-theoretic maps. For instance if  $\pi = p$  we have  $(\delta_{n,i}y - \delta_{n,i}y)_R = 0$ . This is in stark contrast with [\[12\]](#page--1-0). See, however, Remark [2.34.](#page-14-0)

**Definition 2.21.** For every  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra of finite type  $A := R_{\pi}[y_1, \ldots, y_N]/I$ , we define

$$
J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A) := J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(R_{\pi}[y_1,\ldots,y_N])/(\delta_{\pi,\mu}I \mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r).
$$

This algebra is called the *partial*  $\pi$ -jet algebra of A of order r.

Note that  $J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A)$  is Noetherian and p-adically complete but generally not flat over  $R_{\pi}$ , even if  $\pi = p$  and A is flat over  $R_{\pi}$  as one can see by taking  $A = R[x]/(x^p)$ . It is trivial to see that the sequence  $J^*_{\pi,\Phi}(A) := (J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A))$  has a natural structure of prolongation sequence, i.e., it is an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}^*$  (but, as just noted, it is not generally an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}$ ). Also note that  $J'_{\pi, \Phi}(A)$  depends only on  $r, \pi, A$  and on the restriction  $\Phi_{\pi}$  of  $\Phi$  to  $R_{\pi}$ .

<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Proposition 2.22.** If A is a smooth  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra, and  $u: R_{\pi}[T_1, \ldots, T_d] \rightarrow A$  is an *étale morphism of* R*-algebras, then there is a (unique) isomorphism*

$$
A[\delta_{\pi,\mu}T_j \mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^{r,+}, j \in \{1,\ldots,d\}\widehat{I} \cong J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A)
$$

*sending*  $\delta_{\pi,\mu} T_j$  *into*  $\delta_{\pi,\mu}(u(T_j))$  *for all j and*  $\mu$ *. In particular,*  $J'_{\pi,\Phi}(A)$  *is flat over*  $R_{\pi}$  so the sequence  $J^*_{\pi,\Phi}(A)$  is an object of **Prol**<sub> $\pi,\Phi$ </sub>.

*Proof.* Similar to [\[10,](#page--1-11) Proposition 3.13].

We have the following universal property.

<span id="page-9-1"></span>**Proposition 2.23.** Assume A is a finitely generated (respectively smooth)  $R_{\pi}$ -alge*bra. For every object*  $T^*$  *of*  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}^*$  (respectively in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}$ ) and every  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra map  $u : A \to T^0$  there is a unique morphism  $J^*_{\pi, \Phi}(A) \to T^*$  over  $S^*$  in  $\text{Prol}^*_{\pi, \Phi}$ *(respectively in*  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$ *) compatible with* u.

*Proof.* Similar to [\[10,](#page--1-11) Proposition 3.3].

We next record the existence of "prolongations of derivations." Let S be a ring. Recall that by an S*-derivation* from an S-algebra A to an A-algebra B one understands an S-module endomorphism  $A \rightarrow B$  satisfying the Leibniz rule.

П

**Proposition 2.24.** Let A be a smooth  $R_\pi$ -algebra equipped with an  $R_\pi$ -derivation  $D: A \rightarrow A$ . Then for every  $r \geq 1$  and every  $\mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r$  there exists a unique  $R_{\pi}$ derivation  $D_{\mu}: J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A) \to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A)$  satisfying the following properties:

- (1)  $D_{\mu}\phi_{\mu}a = p^r \cdot \phi_{\mu}Da$  *for all*  $a \in A$ *;*
- (2)  $D_{\mu}\phi_{\nu}a = 0$  for all  $a \in A$  and all  $\nu \in M_n^r \setminus \{\mu\}.$

*Proof.* Similar to [\[10,](#page--1-11) Proposition 3.43]. We recall the argument. Uniqueness is clear. To prove existence let  $u : S := R_{\pi}[T_1, \ldots, T_d] \rightarrow A$  be an étale map and let  $a_i :=$  $DT_i \in A$ . Then consider the derivation

$$
\frac{p^r}{\pi^{w(\mu)}}\sum_{i=1}^d a_i^{\phi_{\mu}}\frac{\partial}{\partial \delta_{\pi,\mu}T_i}: J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(S)=R_{\pi}[\delta_{\pi,\nu}T\mid \nu\in \mathbb{M}_n^r]\to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A).
$$

By Proposition [2.22](#page-9-0) this derivation extends to a derivation  $D_{\mu}: J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A) \to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A)$ . To check properties (1) and (2) it is enough to check them for  $a = T_i$  because if (1) and (2) hold for two elements of  $J'_{\pi,\Phi}(S)$  then (1) and (2) hold for their sum and their product. But for  $a = T_i$  the equalities (1) and (2) hold in view of formula [\(2.6\)](#page-8-0).

The jet construction can be globalized as follows.

**Definition 2.25.** For every smooth scheme X over  $R_{\pi}$  define the p-adic formal scheme

$$
J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X) = \bigcup \text{Spf}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(\mathcal{O}(U_i))),
$$

called the *partial*  $\pi$ -jet space of order r of X, where  $X = \bigcup U_i$  is (any) affine open cover. The gluing involved in this defnition is well defned because the formation of  $\pi$ -jet spaces is compatible with fractions; cf. Proposition [2.22.](#page-9-0) The elements of the ring  $\mathcal{O}(J'_{\pi,\Phi}(X))$ , identified with morphisms of p-adic formal schemes  $J'_{\pi,\Phi}(X) \to$  $\mathbb{A}^1$ , are called (purely) *arithmetic PDEs* on X over  $R_{\pi}$  of order  $\leq r$ .

For all  $\pi'|\pi$  we write  $X_{\pi'} := X \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}$ . Clearly  $J^0_{\pi',\Phi}(X_{\pi'}) = \widehat{X_{\pi'}}$ . Note also  $J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(X_{\pi'})$  only depends on  $r, \pi', X$  and on the restriction  $\Phi_{\pi}$  of  $\Phi$  to  $R_{\pi}$ . that  $J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(X_{\pi'})$  only depends on  $r, \pi', X$  and on the restriction  $\Phi_{\pi}$  of  $\Phi$  to  $R_{\pi}$ .

<span id="page-10-3"></span>**Proposition 2.26.** Assume A is a smooth  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra. For all  $\pi''|\pi'|\pi$  there are nat*ural homomorphisms*

<span id="page-10-2"></span>
$$
\iota_{\pi'',\pi'}: J^r_{\pi'',\Phi}(A) \to J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi'}} R_{\pi''}
$$
 (2.10)

*such that the homomorphism*

<span id="page-10-0"></span>
$$
\iota_{\pi'',\pi}: J^r_{\pi'',\Phi}(A) \to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi''}
$$
\n(2.11)

*equals the composition*

<span id="page-10-1"></span>
$$
J_{\pi'',\Phi}^r(A) \stackrel{\iota_{\pi'',\pi'}}{\longrightarrow} J_{\pi',\Phi}^r(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi'}} R_{\pi''} \stackrel{\iota_{\pi',\pi} \otimes 1}{\longrightarrow} (J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}) \otimes_{R_{\pi'}} R_{\pi''}, (2.12)
$$

*where the targets of the maps* [\(2.11\)](#page-10-0) *and* [\(2.12\)](#page-10-1) *are naturally identifed. Moreover, the homomorphisms* [\(2.10\)](#page-10-2) *are injective.*

*Proof.* This follows similarly to [\[12,](#page--1-0) Proposition 4.1 (1)] and [\[14,](#page--1-12) Proposition 2.2]. The map  $\iota_{\pi'',\pi'}$  is guaranteed by Proposition [2.23](#page-9-1) as  $(J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi'}} R_{\pi''})$  is naturally an object of  $\text{Prol}_{\pi'',\Phi}$ ; cf. Remark [2.18.](#page-8-1) The factorization [\(2.11\)](#page-10-0) arises from naturality of base change. Finally, to address the injectivity of [\(2.10\)](#page-10-2), pick an étale homomorphism  $R_{\pi}[T_1,\ldots,T_d] \to A$ . Both the source and target of [\(2.10\)](#page-10-2) then embed in the common ring

$$
K_{\pi''}[\![\delta_{\pi'',\mu}T_j\!mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r, j=1,\ldots,d]\!] \cong K_{\pi''}[\![\delta_{\pi',\mu}T_j\mid \mu \in \mathbb{M}_n^r, j=1,\ldots,d]\!]
$$

recovering the natural base change [\(2.10\)](#page-10-2) from which the injectivity is clear.

**Remark 2.27.** For every smooth algebra A over  $R_{\pi}$  and every selection map  $\epsilon$  with respect to  $(\Phi', \Phi'', \pi)$  we get (by the universality property of  $J^r$ ) a natural morphism of prolongation sequences over  $R_{\pi}$  with respect to  $\Phi'$ ,  $J^*_{\pi,\Phi'}(A) \to J^*_{\pi,\Phi''}(A)_{\epsilon}$ , cf. Definition [2.20](#page-8-2) for the subscript notation. Hence for every smooth scheme  $X$  over  $R_{\pi}$  we get morphisms

<span id="page-11-0"></span>
$$
J_{\pi,\Phi''}^r(X) \to J_{\pi,\Phi'}^r(X). \tag{2.13}
$$

We shall be interested later in four special cases of this construction.

(1) Assume  $\pi = p$ ,  $\Phi' = \Phi''$ , and  $\epsilon : \{1, \ldots, n\} \to \{1, \ldots, n\}$  is a bijection. Then the above construction defines an action of the symmetric group  $\Sigma_n$  on  $J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(X)$ .

(2) Assume 
$$
n' = s
$$
,  $n'' = n$ ,  $\Phi' = (\phi'_1, \ldots, \phi'_s)$ ,  $\Phi'' = \Phi = (\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n)$ ,

$$
\phi'_1 = \phi_{i_1}, \ldots, \phi'_s = \phi_{i_s}, \ 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_s \leq n, \ \epsilon(1) = i_1, \ldots, \epsilon(s) = i_s.
$$

Then we get a natural morphism (referred to as a *face* morphism)

$$
J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X) = J_{\pi,\phi_1,\dots,\phi_n}^r(X) \to J_{\pi,\phi_{i_1},\dots,\phi_{i_s}}^r(X).
$$

(3) Assume  $\pi = p$ ,  $n' = n$ ,  $n'' = 1$ ,  $\Phi' = \Phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)$ ,  $\Phi'' = {\phi}$ , and hence  $\epsilon$  is the constant map. Then we get a natural morphism (referred to as the *degeneration* morphism):

$$
J^r_{\pi,\phi}(X) \to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(X).
$$

(4) Assume  $\pi = p$  and  $\Phi = {\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n}$ . Then one trivially checks that for all  $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$  the composition of the face and degeneration morphisms below is the identity:

$$
id: J_{p,\phi_i}^r(X) \to J_{p,\Phi}^r(X) \to J_{p,\phi_i}^r(X).
$$

#### 2.6 Total  $\delta$ -overconvergence

The notion of  $\delta$ -overconvergence was introduced in [\[14\]](#page--1-12) and exploited in [\[12\]](#page--1-0), cf. [\[12,](#page--1-0) Definition 2.5].

**Definition 2.28.** Assume A is a smooth  $R_{\pi}$ -algebra. An element  $f_{\pi} \in J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A)$  is called *totally*  $\delta$ *-overconvergent* if it has the following property: for all  $\pi'|\pi$  there exists an integer  $N \geq 0$  such that  $p^N f_\pi \otimes 1$  is in the image of the map

<span id="page-12-0"></span>
$$
\iota_{\pi',\pi}: J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(A) \to J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}.
$$
 (2.14)

Let us denote by  $J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A)^\dagger$  the R-algebra of all totally  $\delta$ -overconvergent elements in  $J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(A)$ . For every smooth scheme  $X/R_{\pi}$  an element (arithmetic PDE),  $f \in$  $\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))$ , will be called *totally*  $\delta$ -overconvergent if for all affine open set  $U \subset X$ (equivalently for every affine open set of a given affine open cover of  $X$ ) the image of f in the ring  $\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(U)) = J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(\mathcal{O}(U))$  is totally  $\delta$ -overconvergent. We denote by  $\mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(X))^{\dagger}$  the ring of all totally  $\delta$ -overconvergent elements of  $\mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(X))$ . A morphism  $J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X) \to \mathbb{A}^1$  will be called *totally*  $\delta$ -overconvergent if the corresponding element in  $\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))$  is totally  $\delta$ -overconvergent.

**Remark 2.29.** We caution the reader about the notation  $\ddot{\tau}$ . It is common for  $\ddot{\tau}$  superscripts to also denote overconvergence in a difference sense. Specifcally, these superscripts are used extensively in the overconvergent Witt vectors or Monsky–Washnitzer algebras of rigid geometry. This memoir is written entirely in the formal setting. There are certainly overlaps between concepts used here and those in rigid geometry, however they remain for now in different realms. We hope this notation causes no confusion. To elucidate, all uses of  $\dagger$  are in reference to  $\delta$ -overconvergence.

Note that, again, the ring  $\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))^{\dagger}$  depends only on  $r,\pi,X$  and on the restriction  $\Phi_{\pi}$  of  $\Phi$  to  $R_{\pi}$ .

Using Proposition [2.22](#page-9-0) one trivially checks the following two propositions.

**Proposition 2.30.** *For every smooth scheme X over*  $R_{\pi}$ *, every*  $r \geq 0$ *, and every map as in* [\(2.7\)](#page-8-3) *the ring homomorphisms*

$$
\mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi'}(X)) \to \mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi''}(X))
$$

*induced by the morphisms* [\(2.13\)](#page-11-0) *induce ring homomorphisms*

$$
\mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi'}(X))^{\dagger} \to \mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi,\Phi''}(X))^{\dagger}.
$$

We will usually view the above ring homomorphisms as inclusions.

**Proposition 2.31.** Assume that  $u : \hat{X} \to \hat{Y}$  is a morphism between the p-adic com*pletions of two smooth*  $R_{\pi}$ -schemes and let  $f: J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(Y) \to \mathbb{A}^1$  be a totally  $\delta$ -over*convergent morphism. Then the composition*

$$
J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(X) \xrightarrow{J^r(\mathfrak{u})} J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(Y) \xrightarrow{f} \widehat{\mathbb{A}^1}
$$

is totally  $\delta$ -overconvergent, where  $J^r(u)$  is the morphism induced by u via the uni*versal property.*

Similarly to [\[12\]](#page--1-0) we make the following definition.

**Definition 2.32.** For every  $f \in \mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))$  and every object  $S^* = (S^r)$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$ the universal property of  $\pi$ -jet spaces yields a map of sets

$$
f_{S^*}: X(S^0) \to S^r. \tag{2.15}
$$

On the other hand, if  $f \in \mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))^{\dagger}$  then for every object  $S^* = (S^r)$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi,\Phi}$ we can defne the map of sets

$$
f_{S^*}^{\text{alg}}: X(S^0 \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R^{\text{alg}}) \to S^r \otimes_{R_{\pi}} K^{\text{alg}} \tag{2.16}
$$

as follows. We may assume  $X = \text{Spec} A$  is affine because the construction below allows gluing in the obvious sense. Let  $P \in X(S^0 \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R^{\text{alg}})$ . Choose  $\pi'|\pi$  such that  $P \in X(S^0 \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'})$  and choose  $N \ge 1$  such that  $p^N f \otimes 1 \in J^r_{\pi,\Phi}(A) \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}$  is the image of some (necessarily unique) element  $f_{\pi',N} \in J^r_{\pi',\Phi}(A)$  via the map [\(2.14\)](#page-12-0). View P as a morphism  $P: A \to S^0 \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}$ . By the universal property of  $\pi'$ -jet spaces we have an induced morphism  $J^r(P) : J^r_{\pi', \Phi}(A) \to S^r \otimes_{R_{\pi}} R_{\pi'}.$  Then we define

$$
f_{S^*}^{\text{alg}}(P) = p^{-N}(J^r(P))(f_{\pi',N}) \in S^r \otimes_{R_{\pi}} K_{\pi'} \subset S^r \otimes_{R_{\pi}} K^{\text{alg}}.
$$

The definition is independent of the choice of  $\pi'$  and N due to the injectivity part of Proposition [2.26.](#page-10-3) On the other hand  $f_{S^*}^{\text{alg}}$  effectively depends on  $\Phi$  (and not only on the restriction  $\Phi_{\pi}$  on  $K_{\pi}$ ). For  $S^* = \overline{R_{\pi}^*}$  we write  $f_{R_{\pi}} := f_{R_{\pi}^*}$  and

$$
falg := falgR\pi := falgR\pialg : X(Ralg) \to Kalg.
$$
 (2.17)

**Proposition 2.33.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))$  and assume the map  $f_{\mathcal{S}^*}$  is the zero map for every object  $S^*$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}$  with the property that  $S^r$  are integral domains and  $\varphi: S^r \to S^{r+1}$  are injective. Then  $f = 0$ . In particular, if  $f \in \mathcal{O}(J^r_{\pi, \Phi}(X))^{\dagger}$  and the map  $f_{S^*}^{\text{alg}}$  is the zero map for every object  $S^*$  in  $\text{Prol}_{\pi, \Phi}$  as above, then  $f = 0$ .

*Proof.* Take  $S^* = (S^r)$ ,  $S^r := \mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(U))$  for various affine open sets  $U \subset X$ ; one gets that the image of f in  $\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(U))$  is 0, hence  $f = 0$ .

<span id="page-14-0"></span>**Remark 2.34.** Assume  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{S}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . It would be interesting to know when/if the ring homomorphism

<span id="page-14-1"></span>
$$
\mathcal{O}(J_{\pi,\Phi}^r(X))^{\dagger} \to \text{Fun}(X(R^{\text{alg}}), K^{\text{alg}}), \quad f \mapsto f^{\text{alg}} \tag{2.18}
$$

is injective. For  $n = 1$  this is true; cf. [\[12,](#page--1-0) proof of Proposition 4.4]. See also Proposition [3.13](#page--1-13) and Proposition [7.38](#page--1-14) for related results. Clearly, if we do not assume  $\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n$  are monomially independent in  $\mathfrak{G}(K^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$  then [\(2.18\)](#page-14-1) is not injective in general: to get an example take X the affine line,  $n = 2$ , and  $\phi_1 = \phi_2$ .