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*Remark 3.2.* There are more precise formulations of Artin's approximation theorem (due to Artin [1] in the algebraic case, and John Wavrik [17] in the analytic case) which assert that for every positive integer  $\alpha$  there is a positive integer  $\beta(\alpha)$  such that for each  $\beta \geq \beta(\alpha)$ , every  $\beta$ -order formal solution  $\bar{y}(x)$  of  $f(x, y) = 0$  (i.e.  $\bar{y}(x)$  such that  $f(x, \bar{y}(x)) \equiv 0 \pmod{m^{\beta+1}}$ ) may be approximated to order  $\alpha$  by an algebraic or convergent solution. The method of our proof of Theorem B also provides invariant versions of these results. The one point worth noting is that for every positive integer  $\gamma$ , there exists a positive integer  $\beta(\gamma)$  such that if  $\bar{\eta}(u(x))$  is a  $\beta(\gamma)$ -order solution of

$$\sum_{j=1}^t h_j(u(x), \eta) G_j(x) = 0$$

(we are using the above notation), then there exist  $\bar{\phi}^k(u)$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, m$ , such that  $(\bar{\eta}(u), \bar{\phi}(u))$  is a  $\gamma$ -order solution of

$$h_j(u, \eta) = \sum_{k=1}^m \phi^k h_j^k(u), \quad 1 \leq j \leq t.$$

This statement follows from a simple extension of a theorem of Chevalley [14, 30.1].

#### 4. A PROJECTION FORMULA

Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group and  $M = L^2(G, dg)$  the space of complex-valued functions on  $G$  which are square integrable with respect to the normalized Haar measure  $dg$ . The mapping  $f \rightarrow f^T$  from  $M$  into a space of continuous matrix-valued functions on  $G$ , defined for each irreducible complex representation  $T$  of  $G$  by the formula

$$\begin{aligned} f^T(h) &= \int_G f(g^{-1}h) T(g) dg \\ &= T(h) \cdot \int_G f(g^{-1}) T(g) dg, \end{aligned}$$

where  $h \in G$ , is a generalized Fourier transform [10, Section 12] (cf. our proof of Theorem B in the complex analytic case). The Peter-Weyl theorem gives

$$f(h) = \sum_T \dim T \cdot \text{tr } f^T(h),$$

where the sum is taken over all finite dimensional inequivalent irreducible complex representations  $T$ . Moreover, the mapping  $\pi_T : M \rightarrow M$  defined by

$$(\pi_T f)(h) = \dim T \cdot \operatorname{tr} f^T(h),$$

where  $h \in G$ , is the projection onto the largest invariant subspace of  $M$  whose irreducible invariant subspaces are all equivalent to the representation space of  $T$ .

Now let  $G$  be a reductive algebraic group defined over a field  $\mathbf{k}$  of characteristic zero. A vector space  $M$  on which  $G$  acts linearly will be called a  $G$ -module. We will obtain projection formulas similar to the above in the following cases:

- (a)  $M$  is a finite dimensional  $G$ -module;
- (b)  $M = \mathbf{k}[x]$  or  $\mathbf{k}[[x]]$ ;
- (c)  $M = \mathbf{k}\{x\}$ , with  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$ ;

where, in cases (b) and (c),  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  denotes a coordinate system in a finite dimensional  $G$ -module  $V$ , and  $M$  has the induced action of  $G$ .

If  $L, M$  are  $G$ -modules, then the space  $M^L = \operatorname{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, M)$  of  $\mathbf{k}$ -linear mappings  $A : L \rightarrow M$  is a  $G$ -module, with the action of  $G$  defined by  $g \cdot A = gAg^{-1}$ . If  $L$  is an irreducible  $G$ -module, then  $\mathbf{F}^L = \operatorname{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, L)^G$  is a field (in general not commutative). It is clear that  $\mathbf{k}$  is a subfield of  $\mathbf{F}^L$ , and that the action of  $G$  on  $L$  commutes with the multiplication of elements of  $L$  by elements of  $\mathbf{F}^L$ .

We define a  $\mathbf{k}$ -homomorphism

$$J : \mathbf{F}^L \rightarrow \operatorname{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{F}^L, \mathbf{F}^L)$$

by

$$J(\lambda)(\mu) = \lambda \cdot \mu,$$

where  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbf{F}^L$ , and let

$$\operatorname{tr}_L : \operatorname{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, L) \rightarrow \mathbf{k},$$

$$\operatorname{tr}_{\mathbf{F}^L} : \operatorname{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{F}^L, \mathbf{F}^L) \rightarrow \mathbf{k}$$

be the trace homomorphisms. It is not difficult to check that

$$\operatorname{tr}_L(\lambda) = m_L \operatorname{tr}_{\mathbf{F}^L}(J(\lambda))$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}^L$ , where  $m_L$  is the dimension of  $L$  over  $\mathbf{F}^L$ .

For each  $v^* \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, \mathbf{k})$  and  $f \in M$ , we denote by  $v^* \otimes f \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, M)$  the mapping  $(v^* \otimes f)(w) = v^*(w) \cdot f$ ,  $w \in L$ . We also define a generalized trace homomorphism

$$\text{Tr} : \text{End}_{\mathbf{F}^L}(L, \mathbf{F}^L) \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, \mathbf{k})$$

by the formula

$$(\text{Tr } v^\#)(w) = \text{tr}_{\mathbf{F}^L} J(v^\#(w)),$$

where  $v^\# \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{F}^L}(L, \mathbf{F}^L)$  and  $w \in L$ .

In the following,  $E_M$  will denote a Reynolds operator for a  $G$ -module  $M$ ; i.e.  $E_M$  is an invariant projection operator from  $M$  onto  $M^G$  [13, Definition 1.5].

**PROPOSITION 4.1.** *Suppose  $L$  is a finite dimensional irreducible  $G$ -module. Let  $\{v_{j,L}\}_{1 \leq j \leq m_L}$  be a basis for  $L$  over  $\mathbf{F}^L$ , and  $\{v_{j,L}^\#\}_{1 \leq j \leq m_L}$  be its dual basis. We consider one of the following  $G$ -modules  $M$ :*

- (a)  $M$  is a finite dimensional  $G$ -module;
- (b)  $M = \mathbf{k}[x]$  or  $\mathbf{k}[[x]]$ ;
- (c)  $M = \mathbf{k}\{x\}$ ,  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$ .

(In the latter two cases, the action of  $G$  is induced by a linear action on the space of coordinates  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .) We define  $\pi_L \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(M, M)$  by

$$\pi_L(f) = m_L \sum_{j=1}^{m_L} E_{M^L}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^\# \otimes f)(v_{j,L}),$$

where  $f \in M$ . Then

(1)  $\pi_L$  is a projection from  $M$  onto an invariant subspace whose irreducible invariant subspaces are all equivalent to  $L$ ;

(2) for each  $f \in M$ .

$$f = \sum_L \pi_L(f),$$

where the sum is taken over all finite dimensional inequivalent irreducible  $G$ -modules  $L$  (in cases (b) and (c) the sum converges in the Krull topology);

(3) if  $I$  is an invariant ideal in  $M$ , in cases (b) and (c), then  $\pi_L(f) \in I$  and

$$E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^\# \otimes f) \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I)$$

for all  $f \in I$ .

*Remark 4.2.* For each of the  $G$ -modules  $M$  of Proposition 4.1, there is a unique Reynolds operator  $E_{ML}$ , and the mapping  $M \rightarrow E_{ML}$  is functorial. If  $M$  is finite dimensional, then this follows from the definition of “reductive”. If  $M = \mathbf{k}[x]$  or  $\mathbf{k}[[x]]$  it follows from Cartier’s lemma [13, p. 25]. If  $M = \mathbf{C}\{x\}$  we define

$$E_{ML}(f) = \int_H h \cdot f \, dh,$$

where  $f \in M^L$  and  $H$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $G$ . Finally if  $M = \mathbf{R}\{x\}$ , we put  $E_{ML}(f) = \text{Re } E(f)$  for  $f \in M^L$ , where  $E$  is the Reynolds operator for the action of the complexification  $G^{\mathbf{C}}$  of  $G$  on  $\mathbf{C} \otimes_{\mathbf{R}} M^L$ , and  $\text{Re}: \mathbf{C} \otimes_{\mathbf{R}} M^L \rightarrow M^L$  is the mapping  $\text{Re}(f) = \frac{1}{2}(f + \bar{f})$ .

*Remark 4.3.* Proposition 4.1 provides an alternative proof of Theorem B when  $\text{char } \mathbf{k} = 0$ . Let  $I$  be the ideal in  $\mathbf{k}[x]$  of an invariant algebraic subset of  $\mathbf{k}^n$  (respectively the ideal in  $\mathbf{k}\{x\}$  of a germ at 0 of an invariant analytic subset of  $\mathbf{k}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$ ). Then for each  $f \in I$  and  $v^\# \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{F}^L}(L, \mathbf{F}^L)$ , we define a polynomial mapping (respectively a germ at 0 of an analytic mapping)

$$F_{f, v^\#} : \mathbf{k}^n \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, \mathbf{k})$$

by the formula

$$F_{f, v^\#}(x)(w) = (E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^\# \otimes f)(w))(x),$$

where  $x \in \mathbf{k}^n$  and  $w \in L$ . Then  $F_{f, v^\#}$  is equivariant and  $X \subset F_{f, v^\#}^{-1}(0)$ . We may now argue as in our proof of the algebraic case 2.3 of Theorem B. We use the facts that  $(E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^\# \otimes f)(v_{j,L}))(x)$  is a coordinate function of  $F_{f, v_{j,L}^\#}$  and that  $\sum_L \pi_L(f)$  converges to  $f$  in the Krull topology, to show that the ideal  $I$  coincides with the ideal in  $\mathbf{k}[x]$  (respectively  $\mathbf{k}\{x\}$ ) generated by the coordinate functions of all equivariant polynomial mappings (respectively germs at 0 of equivariant analytic mappings)  $F$  such that  $X \subset F^{-1}(0)$ .

*Proof of Proposition 4.1.* We first consider the case (a) that  $M$  is a finite dimensional  $G$ -module. We write  $M$  as a direct sum  $M = \bigoplus_L M_L$  of  $G$ -submodules  $M_L$ , where the sum is taken over inequivalent irreducible  $G$ -submodules  $L$ , in such a way that each nonzero irreducible  $G$ -submodule of  $M_L$  is equivalent to  $L$ . Let  $f = \sum_L f_L$ , where  $f_L \in M_L$ . It is enough to prove that  $\pi_L f = f_L$ ; in other words that  $\pi_L f_{L'} = 0$  if  $L \neq L'$ , and  $\pi_L f_L = f_L$ .

The first condition follows from the fact that  $\text{End}_k(L, L')^G = 0$ . Using the functorial property of the Reynolds operators, we reduce the second to the case  $M = L$ ; i.e. we must prove  $\pi_L f = f$  for all  $f \in L$ . Since

$$f = \sum_{j=1}^{m_L} v_{j,L}^\#(f) \cdot v_{j,L},$$

it is enough to show that

$$m_L \cdot E_{LL}(\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f) = v^\#(f)$$

for all  $f \in L$  and  $v^\# \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}^L}(L, \mathbb{F}^L)$ .

For each  $\beta \in \mathbb{F}^L$ , we define a homomorphism

$$\text{tr}_\beta : \text{End}_k(L, L) \rightarrow k$$

by the formula  $\text{tr}_\beta(A) = \text{tr}_L(\beta \cdot A)$ ,  $A \in \text{End}_k(L, L)$ . Then  $\text{tr}_\beta$  is  $G$ -invariant, so that

$$\text{tr}_\beta \circ E_{LL} = \text{tr}_\beta.$$

By a direct computation, we also check that

$$\text{tr}_\beta(\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f) = \text{tr}_{\mathbb{F}^L} J(v^\#(\beta \cdot f)).$$

Hence for each  $\beta \in \mathbb{F}^L$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}_\beta(m_L E_{LL}(\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f)) &= m_L \text{tr}_{\mathbb{F}^L} J(v^\#(\beta \cdot f)) \\ &= \text{tr}_\beta v^\#(f). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$m_L E_{LL}(\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f) = v^\#(f),$$

because otherwise, letting  $\beta$  be the reciprocal of  $m_L E_{LL}(\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f) - v^\#(f)$  in  $\mathbb{F}^L$ , we would have  $\dim_k L = \text{tr}_L(\text{id}) = 0$ , contradicting  $\text{char } k = 0$ . This completes the proof of Proposition 4.1 in the case (a).

In the case  $M = \mathbf{k}[x]$ , it follows from the functorial property of the Reynolds operators that  $\pi_L(\mathbf{k}[x]_c) \subset \mathbf{k}[x]_c$  for all  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ . Hence properties (1) and (2) of Proposition 4.1 follow from the finite dimensional case (a). Moreover, if  $I$  is an invariant ideal in  $\mathbf{k}[x]$ , then  $I \cap \mathbf{k}[x]_c$  is an invariant subspace of  $\mathbf{k}[x]_c$ , and

$$I = \bigcup_{c \in \mathbf{N}} I \cap \mathbf{k}[x]_c.$$

Therefore  $\pi_L f \in I$  and

$$E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_j^\#, L \otimes f) \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I)$$

as required in property (c).

It remains to consider the cases  $M = \mathbf{k}[[x]]$ , and  $M = \mathbf{k}\{x\}$  with  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{C}$ . In each case let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be the maximal ideal and let  $M_c, c \in \mathbf{N}$ , be the invariant subspace of  $M$  of polynomials of degree at most  $c$ . If  $f \in \mathfrak{m}^c$ , then  $\text{Tr } v^\# \otimes f \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, \mathfrak{m}^c)$  for all  $v^\# \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{F}^L}(L, \mathbf{F}^L)$ , so that  $\pi_L f \in \mathfrak{m}^c$ . Likewise if  $f \in M_c$  then  $\pi_L f \in M_c$ . For each  $f \in M$  and  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ , we write

$$f = T^c f + R^c f,$$

where  $T^c f \in M_c$  and  $R^c f \in \mathfrak{m}^{c+1}$ . Then for all  $f \in M$  and  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ ,

$$\pi_L^2 f - \pi_L f = \pi_L^2(R^c f) - \pi_L(R^c f) \in \mathfrak{m}^{c+1},$$

so that  $\pi_L^2 = \pi_L$ .

For each  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ , let  $P_c$  be the natural projection from  $M$  to its subspace of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $c$ . Each  $f \in M$  may be written  $f = \sum_c P_c f$ . Then  $\pi_L \circ P_c = P_c \circ \pi_L$  for every  $c \in \mathbf{N}$  and every irreducible  $G$ -module  $L$ . Suppose that  $N$  is a nonzero irreducible  $G$ -submodule of  $\pi_L(M)$ . Then either  $P_c(N) = 0$  or  $P_c: N \rightarrow P_c(N)$  is an equivalence of  $G$ -modules. Choose  $c \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $P_c(N) \neq 0$ . Then  $N$  is equivalent to  $P_c(N)$  and  $P_c(N) = \pi_L(P_c(N)) \subset \pi_L(M_c)$  is equivalent to  $L$ , by the finite dimensional case (a). This completes the proof of property (1) for  $M = \mathbf{k}[[x]]$  or  $\mathbf{k}\{x\}$ .

To obtain property (2), we let  $N(-1) = \emptyset$  and let  $N(c), c \in \mathbf{N}$ , be the set of all inequivalent irreducible  $G$ -modules appearing in the decomposition of  $M_c$  as a direct sum of irreducible  $G$ -modules. Then for each  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ ,

$$f - \sum_{L \in \mathbf{N}(c)} \pi_L f = R^c f - \sum_{L \in \mathbf{N}(c)} \pi_L R^c f \in \mathfrak{m}^{c+1}.$$

Since  $\pi_L f = 0$  if  $L \notin \cup_c N(c)$ , then  $\Sigma_L \pi_L f$  converges to  $f$  in the Krull topology.

We finally consider property (3) for  $M = \mathbf{k}[[x]]$  or  $\mathbf{k}\{x\}$ . Let  $I$  be an invariant ideal in  $M$ . Then  $I \cap M_c$  is an invariant subspace of  $M_c$ . It follows that if  $f \in I$ , then  $\pi_L f \in I + \mathfrak{m}^{c+1}$  for all  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ , so that  $\pi_L f \in I$  by Krull's theorem [14, 16.7]. Moreover

$$\text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I) = \bigcap_{c \in \mathbf{N}} \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I + \mathfrak{m}^{c+1}).$$

Let  $f \in I$ . Writing  $f = T^c f + R^c f$  and using the functorial property of the Reynolds operators, we have

$$E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^{\#} \otimes T^c f) \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I \cap M_c),$$

$$E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^{\#} \otimes R^c f) \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, \mathfrak{m}^{c+1})$$

for all  $c \in \mathbf{N}$ . Since  $I + \mathfrak{m}^{c+1} = I \cap M_c + \mathfrak{m}^{c+1}$ , it follows that

$$E_{ML}(\text{Tr } v_{j,L}^{\#} \otimes f) \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{k}}(L, I).$$

This completes the proof of Proposition 4.1.

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