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# Kähler differentials and $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extensions

par LAURENT BERGER

**RÉSUMÉ.** Soit  $K$  un corps  $p$ -adique, et soit  $K_\infty/K$  une extension galoisienne qui est presque totalement ramifiée, et dont le groupe de Galois est un groupe de Lie  $p$ -adique de dimension 1. Nous montrons que  $K_\infty$  n'est pas dense dans  $(\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+/\mathrm{Fil}^2 \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+)^{\mathrm{Gal}(\bar{K}/K_\infty)}$ . De plus, la restriction de  $\theta$  à l'adhérence de  $K_\infty$  est injective, et l'image de celle-ci via  $\theta$  est l'ensemble des vecteurs du complété  $p$ -adique de  $K_\infty$  qui sont  $C^1$  de dérivée nulle pour l'action de  $\mathrm{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ . L'ingrédient principal pour montrer ces résultats est la construction d'un réseau explicite de  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$  qui est commensurable avec  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ , où  $d : \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  est la différentielle canonique.

**ABSTRACT.** Let  $K$  be a  $p$ -adic field, and let  $K_\infty/K$  be a Galois extension that is almost totally ramified, and whose Galois group is a  $p$ -adic Lie group of dimension 1. We prove that  $K_\infty$  is not dense in  $(\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+/\mathrm{Fil}^2 \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+)^{\mathrm{Gal}(\bar{K}/K_\infty)}$ . Moreover, the restriction of  $\theta$  to the closure of  $K_\infty$  is injective, and the image of the closure via  $\theta$  is the set of vectors of the  $p$ -adic completion of  $K_\infty$  that are  $C^1$  with zero derivative for the action of  $\mathrm{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ . The main ingredient for proving these results is the construction of an explicit lattice of  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$  that is commensurable with  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ , where  $d : \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is the canonical differential.

## Introduction

Let  $K$  be a  $p$ -adic field, namely a finite extension of  $W(k)[1/p]$  where  $k$  is a perfect field of characteristic  $p$ . Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be the  $p$ -adic completion of an algebraic closure  $\bar{K}$  of  $K$ . Let  $K_\infty/K$  be a Galois extension that is almost totally ramified, and whose Galois group is a  $p$ -adic Lie group of dimension 1. Let  $\widehat{K}_\infty$  denote the  $p$ -adic completion of  $K_\infty$ , let  $\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}(\widehat{K}_\infty) = \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}(\mathbf{C})^{\mathrm{Gal}(\bar{K}/K_\infty)}$  be Fontaine's field of periods attached to  $K_\infty/K$ , and for  $n \geq 1$ , let  $\mathbf{B}_n(\widehat{K}_\infty) = \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+(\widehat{K}_\infty)/\mathrm{Fil}^n \mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{dR}}^+(\widehat{K}_\infty)$ .

This note is motivated by Ponsinet's paper [7], in which he relates the study of universal norms for the extension  $K_\infty/K$  to the question of whether  $K_\infty$  is dense in  $\mathbf{B}_n(\widehat{K}_\infty)$  for  $n \geq 1$ . The density result holds for  $n = 1$  since  $\mathbf{C}^{\mathrm{Gal}(\bar{K}/K_\infty)} = \widehat{K}_\infty$  by the Ax–Sen–Tate theorem.

Our main result is the following.

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**Theorem A.** *The field  $K_\infty$  is not dense in  $\mathbf{B}_2(\widehat{K}_\infty)$ .*

By the constructions of Fontaine and Colmez (see [2] and [4]),  $\mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{B}_{\text{dR}}^+(\mathbf{C})/\text{Fil}^2 \mathbf{B}_{\text{dR}}^+(\mathbf{C})$  is the completion of  $\overline{K}$  for a topology defined using the Kähler differentials  $\Omega_{\overline{K}/\mathcal{O}_K}$ . Some partial results towards Theorem A have been proved by Iovita–Zaharescu in [6], by studying these Kähler differentials. Let  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  be the Kähler differentials of  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K$  and let  $d : \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  be the differential. Our main technical result is the construction of a lattice of  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$  that is commensurable with  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ . Since the inertia subgroup of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$  is a  $p$ -adic Lie group of dimension 1, there exists a finite subextension  $K_0/K$  of  $K_\infty$  such that  $K_\infty/K_0$  is a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension. Let  $K_n$  be the  $n$ -th layer of this  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension.

**Theorem B.** *The lattices  $\sum_{n \geq 0} p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$  are commensurable.*

In order to prove this, we use Tate’s results on ramification in  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extensions. As a corollary of Theorem B, we can say more about the completion of  $K_\infty$  in  $\mathbf{B}_2(\widehat{K}_\infty)$ . The field  $\widehat{K}_\infty$  is a Banach representation of the  $p$ -adic Lie group  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ . Let  $c : \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K_0) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p$  be an isomorphism of  $p$ -adic Lie groups. If  $x \in \widehat{K}_\infty$ , we say that  $x$  is  $C^1$  with zero derivative for the action of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$  if  $g(x) - x = o(c(g))$  as  $c(g) \rightarrow 0$ .

Let  $\theta : \mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  be the usual map from  $p$ -adic Hodge theory.

**Theorem C.** *The completion of  $K_\infty$  in  $\mathbf{B}_2(\widehat{K}_\infty)$  is isomorphic via  $\theta$  to the set of vectors of  $\widehat{K}_\infty$  that are  $C^1$  with zero derivative for the action of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ .*

*This is a field, and it is also the set of  $y \in \widehat{K}_\infty$  that can be written as  $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} p^n y_n$  with  $y_n \in K_n$  and  $y_n \rightarrow 0$ .*

We also prove that  $d(\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty})$  contains no nontrivial  $p$ -divisible element (Corollary 3.5), and that  $d : \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is not surjective (Corollary 3.6). These two statements are equivalent to Theorem A by the results of [6]; using our computations, we give a short independent proof.

## 1. Kähler differentials

Let  $K$  be a  $p$ -adic field. If  $L/K$  is a finite extension, let  $\mathfrak{d}_{L/K} \subset \mathcal{O}_L$  denote its different.

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $K$  be a  $p$ -adic field, and let  $L/K$  be an algebraic extension.*

- (1) *If  $L/K$  is a finite extension, then  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K} = \mathcal{O}_L/\mathfrak{d}_{L/K}$  as  $\mathcal{O}_L$ -modules.*
- (2) *If  $M/L/K$  are finite extensions, then the map  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_M/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is injective.*

- (3) If  $L/K$  is an algebraic extension, and  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$ , then there exists  $x \in \mathcal{O}_L$  such that  $\omega_2 = x\omega_1$  if and only if  $\text{Ann}(\omega_1) \subset \text{Ann}(\omega_2)$ .

*Proof.* See for instance [3, §2].  $\square$

Recall (see [1, §2]) that an algebraic extension  $L/K$  is deeply ramified if the set  $\{\text{val}_p(\mathfrak{d}_{F/K})\}_F$  is unbounded, as  $F$  runs through the set of finite extensions of  $K$  contained in  $L$ . Alternatively ([8, Remark 3.3]),  $L/K$  is deeply ramified if and only if  $\widehat{L}$  is a perfectoid field. An extension  $K_\infty/K$  as in the introduction is deeply ramified.

**Corollary 1.2.** *If  $L/K$  is deeply ramified, then  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K} = L/\mathcal{O}_L$  as  $\mathcal{O}_L$ -modules.*

**Proposition 1.3.** *If  $L/K$  is deeply ramified, then  $d : \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is surjective if and only if  $d(\mathcal{O}_L)$  is  $p$ -divisible.*

*Proof.* Since  $L/K$  is deeply ramified,  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is isomorphic to  $L/\mathcal{O}_L$  by Corollary 1.2. The claim now follows from the fact that a nonzero  $\mathcal{O}_L$ -submodule of  $L/\mathcal{O}_L$  is equal to  $L/\mathcal{O}_L$  if and only if it is  $p$ -divisible.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.4.** *Let  $L/K$  be a deeply ramified extension, and let  $K' \subset L$  be a finite extension of  $K$ .*

- (1)  $d : \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is surjective if and only if  $d' : \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_{K'}}$  is surjective.
- (2)  $\mathcal{O}_L^{d=0}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_L^{d'=0}$  are commensurable.

*Proof.* We have an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_L$ -modules, compatible with  $d$  and  $d'$

$$\mathcal{O}_L \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K'}/\mathcal{O}_K} \xrightarrow{f} \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K} \xrightarrow{g} \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_{K'}} \rightarrow 0.$$

Let us prove (1). If  $d : \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is surjective, then clearly  $d' : \mathcal{O}_L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_{K'}}$  is surjective. Conversely, there exists  $r \geq 0$  such that  $p^r \cdot \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K'}/\mathcal{O}_K} = \{0\}$ . If  $\omega \in \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$ , write it as  $\omega = p^r \omega_r$ . By hypothesis, there exists  $\alpha_r \in \mathcal{O}_L$  such that  $\omega_r = d' \alpha_r$  in  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_{K'}}$ . Hence  $p^r(\omega_r - d\alpha_r) = 0$  in  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K}$  so that  $\omega = d(p^r \alpha_r)$ . We now prove (2). The exact sequence above implies that  $\mathcal{O}_L^{d=0} \subset \mathcal{O}_L^{d'=0}$ . Conversely, if  $x \in \mathcal{O}_L^{d'=0}$ , then  $dx \in \ker g = \text{im } f$ , so that  $p^r \cdot dx = 0$ . Hence  $p^r \cdot \mathcal{O}_L^{d'=0} \subset \mathcal{O}_L^{d=0}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.5.** *In order to prove Theorem B, we can replace  $K$  by any finite subextension  $K'$  of  $K$ . In particular, we can assume that  $K_\infty/K$  is a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension.*

## 2. Ramification in $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extensions

Let  $K_\infty/K$  be a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension. We recall some of the results of [9, §3.1] concerning the ramification of  $K_\infty/K$  and the action

of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$  on  $K_\infty$ . Let  $K_n$  denote the  $n$ -th layer of  $K_\infty/K$ , so that  $[K_n : K] = p^n$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *There are constants  $a, b$  such that for all  $n \geq 0$ , we have  $|\text{val}_p(\mathfrak{d}_{K_n/K}) - n - b| \leq p^{-n}a$ .*

*Proof.* See [9, §3.1].  $\square$

The notation  $\sum_{n \geq 0} p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$  denotes the set of elements of  $K_\infty$  that are finite sums of elements of  $p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ .

**Corollary 2.2.** *There exists  $n_0 \geq 0$  such that  $\sum_{n \geq 0} p^{n+n_0} \mathcal{O}_{K_n} \subset \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ .*

**Proposition 2.3.** *There exists  $c(K_\infty/K) > 0$  such that for all  $n, k \geq 0$  and  $x \in \mathcal{O}_{K_{n+k}}$ , we have  $\text{val}_p(\text{Nm}_{K_{n+k}/K_n}(x)/x^{[K_{n+k}:K_n]} - 1) \geq c(K_\infty/K)$ .*

*Proof.* The result follows from the fact (see [10, 1.2.2]) that the extension  $K_\infty/K$  is strictly APF. One can then apply 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 of [10].  $\square$

If  $n \geq 0$  and  $x \in K_\infty$ , then  $R_n(x) = p^{-k} \cdot \text{Tr}_{K_{n+k}/K_n}(x)$  is independent of  $k \gg 0$  such that  $x \in K_{n+k}$ , and is the normalized trace of  $x$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** *There exists  $c_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$  such that  $\text{val}_p(R_n(x)) \geq \text{val}_p(x) - c_2$  for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $x \in K_\infty$ .*

*Proof.* See [9, §3.1] (including the remark at the bottom of p. 172).  $\square$

In particular,  $R_n(\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}) \subset p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . Let  $K_0^\perp = K_0$  and for  $n \geq 1$ , let  $K_n^\perp$  be the kernel of  $R_{n-1} : K_n \rightarrow K_{n-1}$ , let  $R_n^\perp = R_n - R_{n-1}$ , and  $R_0^\perp = R_0$ . Note that  $K_n^\perp = \text{im}(R_n^\perp : K_\infty \rightarrow K_n)$ . If  $x \in K_\infty$  and  $i \geq 0$ , then  $R_n^\perp(x) = 0$  for  $n \gg 0$ , and  $x = (\sum_{n \geq i+1} R_n^\perp(x)) + R_i(x)$ . Proposition 2.4 implies that  $R_n^\perp(\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}) \subset p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . Let  $\mathcal{O}_{K_n}^\perp = \mathcal{O}_{K_n} \cap K_n^\perp$ .

**Corollary 2.5.** *If  $i \geq 0$ , we have  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \subset (\bigoplus_{m \geq i+1} p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}^\perp) \oplus p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_i}$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \in \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$ , write  $x = \sum_{m \geq i+1} R_m^\perp(x) + R_i(x)$ .  $\square$

For  $n \geq 0$ , let  $g_n$  denote a topological generator of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K_n)$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** *There exists a constant  $c_3$  such that for all  $n \geq 1$  and all  $x \in K_{n+1}^\perp$ , we have  $\text{val}_p(x) \geq \text{val}_p((1 - g_n)(x)) - c_3$ .*

*Proof.* See [9, §3.1] (including the remark at the bottom of p. 172).  $\square$

### 3. The lattice $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$

We now prove Theorem B. Thanks to Corollary 1.5, we assume that  $K_\infty/K$  is a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension. Let  $\{\rho_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be a norm compatible sequence of uniformizers of the  $K_n$ . Let  $m_c \geq 0$  be the smallest integer such that  $p^{m_c} \cdot c(K_\infty/K) \geq 1/(p-1)$  (where  $c(K_\infty/K)$  was defined in Proposition 2.3).

**Proposition 3.1.** *We have  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n+1}^{pk} - \rho_n^k) \geq \mathrm{val}_p(k) - m_c$ .*

*Proof.* Note that if  $x, y \in \mathbf{C}$  with  $\mathrm{val}_p(x - y) \geq v$ , then  $\mathrm{val}_p(x^p - y^p) \geq \min(v+1, pv)$ . Let  $c = c(K_\infty/K)$  and  $m = m_c$ . We have  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n+1}^p - \rho_n) \geq c$  by Proposition 2.3, so that  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n+1}^{p^{j+1}} - \rho_n^{p^j}) \geq p^j c$  if  $p^{j-1}c \leq 1/(p-1)$ .

In particular,  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n+1}^{p^{m+1}} - \rho_n^{p^m}) \geq p^m c \geq 1/(p-1)$ , so that we have  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n+1}^{p^{m+j+1}} - \rho_n^{p^{m+j}}) \geq j + 1/(p-1)$  if  $j \geq 0$ . This implies the result.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *There exists  $n_1 \geq 0$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0} \subset \sum_{m \geq n_1} p^{m-n_1} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}$ .*

*Proof.* We prove the result with  $n_1 = [a - b + m_c + 2]$ . Take  $x \in \mathcal{O}_{K_n}^{d=0}$  and write  $x = \sum_{i=0}^{p^n-1} x_i \rho_n^i$  with  $x_i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ , so that  $dx = \sum_{i=0}^{p^n-1} ix_i \rho_n^{i-1} \cdot d\rho_n$ . Since  $\rho_n$  is a uniformizer of  $\mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ , the  $\mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ -module  $\Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_n}/\mathcal{O}_K} = \mathcal{O}_{K_n}/\mathfrak{d}_{K_n/K}$  (see Proposition 1.1) is generated by  $d\rho_n$ . If  $dx = 0$ , then  $\sum_{i=0}^{p^n-1} ix_i \rho_n^{i-1}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{d}_{K_n/K}$  so that by Proposition 2.1 (and since  $\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_n^{p^n}) \leq 1$ ), for all  $i$  we have

$$\mathrm{val}_p(x_i) \geq n - a + b - \mathrm{val}_p(i) - 1.$$

For  $k \geq 1$ , let

$$y_k = \sum_{p \nmid j} x_{p^{k-1}j} \rho_{n-(k-1)}^j + \sum_{\ell} x_{p^k \ell} (\rho_{n-(k-1)}^{p^\ell} - \rho_{n-k}^\ell).$$

Note that  $y_k \in \mathcal{O}_{K_{n-k+1}}$ . Let us bound  $\mathrm{val}_p(y_k)$ . We have

$$\mathrm{val}_p(x_{p^{k-1}j} \rho_{n-(k-1)}^j) \geq n - a + b - k.$$

We also have  $\mathrm{val}_p(x_{p^k \ell}) \geq n - a + b - k - \mathrm{val}_p(\ell) - 1$ , and by Proposition 3.1

$$\mathrm{val}_p(\rho_{n-(k-1)}^{p^\ell} - \rho_{n-k}^\ell) \geq \mathrm{val}_p(\ell) - m_c.$$

Hence  $\mathrm{val}_p(y_k) \geq n - a + b - k - 1 - m_c$  and therefore  $y_k \in p^{n-k+1-n_1} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n-k+1}}$ . Finally, we have  $x = y_1 + \cdots + y_{n-n_1} + \sum_{\ell} x_{p^{n-n_1} \ell} \rho_{n_1}^\ell$ , and  $\sum_{\ell} x_{p^{n-n_1} \ell} \rho_{n_1}^\ell$  belongs to  $\mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}}$ , which implies the result.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** Compare with [5, Lemma 4.3.2].

**Corollary 3.4.** *We have  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0} \subset (\bigoplus_{m \geq n_1+1} p^{m-n_1-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}^\perp) \oplus p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}}$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.2, it is enough to prove that

$$p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n} \subset \left( \bigoplus_{m \geq n_1+1} p^{m-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}^\perp \right) \oplus p^{n_1-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}}$$

for all  $n \geq n_1$ . If  $x \in p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ , write  $x = R_n^\perp(x) + R_{n-1}^\perp(x) + \cdots + R_{n_1+1}^\perp(x) + R_{n_1}(x)$ . We have  $R_{n-k}^\perp(x) \in p^{n-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n-k}}^\perp \subset p^{(n-k)-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n-k}}^\perp$  and likewise  $R_{n_1}(x) \in p^{n-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}} \subset p^{n_1-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *There are no nontrivial  $p$ -divisible elements in  $d(\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty})$ .*

*Proof.* By Propositions 1.3 and 1.4, we can assume that  $K_\infty/K$  is a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension. Let  $\{\alpha_i\}_{i \geq 1}$  be a sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$  such that  $d\alpha_i = p \cdot d\alpha_{i+1}$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .

Using Corollary 2.5, write  $\alpha_i = \sum \alpha_{i,m}$  with  $\alpha_{i,m} = R_m^\perp(\alpha_i) \in p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}^\perp$  for  $m \geq n_1 + 1$  and  $\alpha_{i,n_1} = R_{n_1}(\alpha_i) \in p^{-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_{n_1}}$ . Since  $p^k \alpha_{k+i} - \alpha_i \in \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ , Corollary 3.4 implies that  $p^k \alpha_{k+i,m} - \alpha_{i,m} \in p^{m-n_1-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}$  for all  $m \geq n_1$ . Taking  $k \gg 0$  now implies that  $\alpha_{i,m} \in p^{m-n_1-c_2} \mathcal{O}_{K_m}$  for all  $m \geq n_1$ . Corollary 2.2 gives  $p^{n_0+n_1+c_2} \alpha_i \in \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$ . Taking  $i = n_0 + n_1 + c_2 + 1$  gives  $d\alpha_1 = 0$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6.** *The differential  $d : \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty} \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}/\mathcal{O}_K}$  is not surjective.*

*Proof.* This follows from Corollary 3.5 and Proposition 1.3.  $\square$

#### 4. The completion of $K_\infty$ in $\mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C})$

We now prove Theorems A and C. Since we are concerned with the completion of  $K_\infty$ , we can once again replace  $K$  with a finite subextension of  $K_\infty$  and assume that  $K_\infty/K$  is a totally ramified  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension. Let  $\widehat{K}_\infty^2$  denote the completion of  $K_\infty$  in  $\mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{B}_{\text{dR}}^+(\mathbf{C})/\text{Fil}^2 \mathbf{B}_{\text{dR}}^+(\mathbf{C})$ , so that  $R = \theta(\widehat{K}_\infty^2)$  is a subring of  $\widehat{K}_\infty$ . Let  $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ , and let  $c : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p$  be an isomorphism of  $p$ -adic Lie groups. Let  $w_2$  be the valuation on  $K_\infty$  defined by  $w_2(x) = \min\{n \in \mathbf{Z} \text{ such that } p^n x \in \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}\}$ . The restriction of the natural valuation of  $\mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C})$  to  $K_\infty$  is  $w_2$  (see [4, §1.4 and §1.5], or [2, Theorem 3.1]; the natural valuation on  $\mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C})$  comes from its definition as the quotient of a certain Banach space, see *ibid.*).

The map  $\theta : \mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  has the following property (see [4, §1.4]).

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $\{x_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  is a sequence of  $K_\infty$  that converges to  $x \in \mathbf{B}_2(\mathbf{C})$  for  $w_2$ , then  $\{x_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  is Cauchy for  $\text{val}_p$ , and  $\theta(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} x_k$  for the  $p$ -adic topology.*

Let  $M = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} p^n \mathcal{O}_{K_n}^\perp$ . Corollary 2.2 and Theorem 3.2 imply that  $M$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}^{d=0}$  are commensurable. Hence  $\widehat{K}_\infty^2$  is the  $M$ -adic completion of  $K_\infty$ . Let  $w'_2$  be the  $M$ -adic valuation on  $K_\infty$ , so that  $w'_2$  and  $w_2$  are equivalent.

**Lemma 4.2.** *If  $x \in K_\infty$ , then  $\text{val}_p(R_n^\perp(x)) \geq w'_2(x) + n$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $x = \sum_{n \geq 0} R_n^\perp(x)$ . If  $x \in p^w M$ , then  $R_n^\perp(x) \in p^{n+w} \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.3.** *Every element  $x \in \widehat{K}_\infty^2$  can be written in one and only one way as  $\sum_{n \geq 0} x_n^\perp$  where  $x_n^\perp \in K_n^\perp$  and  $p^{-n} x_n^\perp \rightarrow 0$  for  $\text{val}_p$ .*

*Proof.* Note that such a series converges for  $w_2$ . The map  $R_n^\perp : K_\infty \rightarrow K_n^\perp$  sends  $p^w M \subset K_\infty$  to  $p^{w+n} \mathcal{O}_{K_n}^\perp$ . It is uniformly continuous for the  $w_2$ -adic topology, so that it extends to a continuous map  $R_n^\perp : \widehat{K}_\infty^2 \rightarrow K_n^\perp$ .

Let  $x \in \widehat{K}_\infty^2$  be the  $w_2$ -adic limit of  $\{x_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  with  $x_k \in K_\infty$ . For a given  $k$ , the sequence  $\{p^{-n}R_n^\perp(x_k)\}_{n \geq 0} \in \prod_{n \geq 0} K_n^\perp$  has finite support. As  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ , these sequences converge uniformly in  $\prod_{n \geq 0} K_n^\perp$  to  $\{p^{-n}R_n^\perp(x)\}_{n \geq 0}$ , so that  $p^{-n}R_n^\perp(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Hence  $\sum_{n \geq 0} R_n^\perp(x)$  converges for  $w_2$ . Since  $x_k = \sum_{n \geq 0} R_n^\perp(x_k)$  for all  $k$ , we have  $x = \sum_{n \geq 0} R_n^\perp(x)$ . Finally, if  $x = \sum_{n \geq 0} x_n^\perp$  with  $x_n^\perp \in K_n^\perp$  and  $p^{-n}x_n^\perp \rightarrow 0$  for  $\text{val}_p$ , then  $x_n^\perp = R_n^\perp(x)$  which proves unicity.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.4.** *The map  $\theta : \widehat{K}_\infty^2 \rightarrow \widehat{K}_\infty$  is injective.*

*Proof.* If  $x_n^\perp \in K_n^\perp$  and  $x_n^\perp \rightarrow 0$  and  $\sum_{n \geq 0} x_n^\perp = 0$  in  $\widehat{K}_\infty$ , then  $x_n^\perp = 0$  for all  $n$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.5.** *The ring  $R$  is the set of  $y \in \widehat{K}_\infty$  that can be written as  $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} p^n y_n$  with  $y_n \in K_n$  and  $y_n \rightarrow 0$ .*

**Proposition 4.6.** *The ring  $R$  is a field, and  $R = \{x \in \widehat{K}_\infty \text{ such that } g(x) - x = o(c(g)) \text{ as } g \rightarrow 1 \text{ in } \Gamma\}$ .*

*Proof.* The fact that  $R$  is a field results from the second statement, since  $g(1/x) - 1/x = (x - g(x))/(xg(x))$ . Take  $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} p^n y_n$  with  $y_n \in K_n$  and  $y_n \rightarrow 0$ . If  $m \geq 1$ , then for all  $k \gg 0$ , we have  $y_n \in p^{m+n} \mathcal{O}_{K_n}$ . We can write  $y = x_k + \sum_{n \geq k} p^n y_n$  and then  $(g - 1)(y) \in p^{k+m} \mathcal{O}_{K_\infty}$  if  $g \in \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K_k)$ . This proves one implication.

Conversely, take  $x \in \widehat{K}_\infty$  such that  $g(x) - x = o(c(g))$ . Write  $x = \sum_{k \geq 0} x_k$  with  $x_0 = R_0(x) \in K_0$  and  $x_k = R_k^\perp(x) \in K_k^\perp$  for all  $k \geq 1$ . For  $n \geq 0$ , let  $g_n$  denote a topological generator of  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K_n)$ . Take  $m \geq 0$ , and  $n \gg 0$  such that we have  $\text{val}_p((g_n - 1)(x)) \geq m + n$ . We have  $(1 - g_n)(x) = \sum_{k \geq n+1} (1 - g_n)x_k$ , so that by Lemma 2.6 and Proposition 2.4:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{val}_p(x_{n+1}) &\geq \text{val}_p((1 - g_n)(x_{n+1})) - c_3 \\ &\geq \text{val}_p((1 - g_n)(x)) - c_2 - c_3 \\ &\geq n + m - c_2 - c_3. \end{aligned}$$

This implies the result.  $\square$

**Remark 4.7.** Proposition 4.6 says that  $R$  is the set of vectors of  $\widehat{K}_\infty$  that are  $C^1$  with zero derivative (flat to order 1) for the action of  $\Gamma$ .

Theorem A follows from Corollary 4.4 since  $\theta : \mathbf{B}_2(\widehat{K}_\infty) \rightarrow \widehat{K}_\infty$  is not injective. Finally, Corollary 4.4, Corollary 4.5, and Proposition 4.6 imply Theorem C.

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