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AFDELING ZUIVERE WISKUNDE

ZW 2/71

FEBRUARY

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TRANSCENDENCE PROPERTIES OF THE CARLITZ-
BESSELFUNCTIONS

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AMSTERDAM

Printed at the Mathematical Centre, 49, 2e Boerhaavestraat, Amsterdam.

The Mathematical Centre, founded the 11-th of February 1946, is a non-profit institution aiming at the promotion of pure mathematics and its applications. It is sponsored by the Netherlands Government through the Netherlands Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (Z.W.O), by the Municipality of Amsterdam, by the University of Amsterdam, by the Free University at Amsterdam, and by industries.

Transcendence-properties of the Carlitz-Besselfunctions.

1. Introduction.

In 1935 L. Carlitz [1] introduced the function

$$\psi(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} (-1)^r \frac{t^{q^r}}{F_r},$$

where

$$F_r = \prod_{j=0}^{r-1} (x^{q^j} - x^{q^j}), \quad r = 1, 2, \dots; \quad (1.1)$$

$$F_0 = 1.$$

It furnishes an explicit example of an entire function in an algebraically closed field with non-archimedian valuation [7]. Let \mathbb{F}_q denote the field of q elements where $q = p^n$ for some prime-number p and natural number n .

We can give $E \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ the non-archimedian valuation

$$|E| = q^{\text{dg } E},$$

where $\text{dg } E$ denotes the degree of E and $\text{dg } 0 = -\infty$.

The quotientfield will be denoted by $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, the completion with respect to $||$ by $\mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))$, and the algebraic closure of $\mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))$ by Φ . The valuation $||$ can be extended to Φ in a unique way (see [9], §78).

An element $\alpha \in \Phi$ is a root of a polynomial with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ and α is said to be an algebraic element. In [5] L.I. Wade proved that for algebraic $\alpha \neq 0$ $\psi(\alpha)$ is transcendental over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$. The function $\psi(t)$ can also be written as the product

$$\psi(t) = t \prod_E \left(1 - \frac{t}{E\xi}\right),$$

where E runs through all non-zero elements of $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ and ξ is given by

$$\xi = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(x^q - x)^{\frac{q^k}{q-1}}}{\prod_{j=1}^k (x^{q^j} - x)}$$

Let $\lambda(t)$ be the inverse function of ψ , hence

$$\psi(\lambda(t)) = \lambda(\psi(t)) = t ;$$

$\lambda(t)$ is determined mod ξ .

In [5] and [6] L.I. Wade proved the transcendence of ξ and in [8] he proved an analogue of the theorem of Gelfond-Schneider:

- If $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, then at least one of the three quantities $\alpha, \beta, \psi(\beta\lambda(\alpha))$ is transcendental. If $\alpha = 0$ and $\lambda(0) = E\xi \neq 0$ then the statement still holds -

In 1960 Carlitz [2] introduced the function

$$J_n(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} (-1)^r \frac{t^{q^{n+r}}}{F_{n+r} F_r^{q^n}} .$$

For all linear functions f , i.e. functions with the properties

$$\begin{cases} f(t+u) = f(t) + f(u) \\ f(ct) = cf(t) \end{cases} \quad \text{for } c \in \mathbb{F}_q,$$

the Δ -operator is defined by

$$\Delta f(t) = f(xt) - xf(t).$$

In this report we shall prove the following

Theorem: let $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ and n be an arbitrary integer then at least one of the elements of the set

$$\{\alpha, \beta, J_n(\alpha), \Delta J_n(\alpha), J_n(\alpha\beta), \Delta J_n(\alpha\beta)\}$$

is transcendental over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$.

2. We shall use several propositions of the previous papers and recall them here without proofs.

Definition 2.1 The function $f(t)$ is called entire if $f(t)$ converges for all $t \in \Phi$.

Definition 2.2 An element $\alpha \in \Phi$ is called an algebraic integer if α is a root of a monic polynomial over $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$.

Definition 2.3 Let f be a linear function then we define the operators Δ^r ($r = 1, 2, \dots$) by

$$\Delta f(t) = f(xt) - xf(t)$$

$$\Delta^r f(t) = \Delta^{r-1} f(xt) - xq^{r-1} \Delta^{r-1} f(t), \quad (r \geq 2).$$

We shall sometimes denote $f(t)$ by $\Delta^0 f(t)$.

Definition 2.4 (see [1]).

The linear polynomial $\psi_k(t)$, ($k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) is defined by

$$\psi_k(t) = \prod_{\deg E < k} (t-E) = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{k-j} \frac{F_k}{F_j L_{k-j}^{q^j}} t^{q^j},$$

where F_j is defined by (1.1),

$$L_k = \prod_{j=1}^k (x^{q^j} - x), \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots),$$

$$L_0 = 1 \text{ and}$$

E runs through all polynomials (including 0) of degree $< k$.

Lemma 2.1 (expansion formula)

Let f be an entire linear function over Φ then for $M \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ with degree $\leq m$ we have

$$f(Mt) = \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{\psi_k(M)}{F_k} \Delta^k f(t).$$

Proof: see [1], §4.

Definition 2.5 Let f be the power-series defined by

$$f(t) = a_h t^h + a_{h+1} t^{h+1} + \dots \quad (2.1)$$

$$(a_i \in \Phi, h \in \mathbb{N}, a_h \neq 0),$$

then define

$$r_1 = \min_{i>h} \left| \frac{a_h}{a_i} \right|^{\frac{1}{i-h}} \quad \text{if this minimum exists}$$

and

$$i_1 = \max \{i \mid \left| \frac{a_h}{a_i} \right|^{\frac{1}{i-h}} = r_1\} \quad \text{if this maximum exists.}$$

Furthermore inductively

$$r_k = \min_{i>i_{k-1}} \left| \frac{a_{i_{k-1}}}{a_i} \right|^{\frac{1}{i-i_{k-1}}} \quad \text{if this minimum exists}$$

and

$$i_k = \max \{i \mid \left| \frac{a_{i_{k-1}}}{a_i} \right|^{\frac{1}{i-i_{k-1}}} = r_k\} \quad \text{if this maximum exists.}$$

We now have the following

Lemma 2.2 The power series $f(t)$ of (2.1) has $i_1 - h$ zeros t in Φ with $|t| = r_1$, and $i_k - i_{k-1}$ zeros t in Φ with $|t| = r_k$ ($k \geq 2$) and 0 is a zero of multiplicity h . These are the only zeros of $f(t)$.
Proof: see [7], theorem 1 and [4], II §3.

Theorem 2.2 (maximum - modulus theorem)

Let f be defined by (2.1) and let $f(t)$ be convergent for all t with $|t| < R$, then for all r , $0 < r < R$

$$\max_{\substack{a \in \Phi \\ |a| \leq r}} |f(a)| \text{ exists and}$$

$$\max_{\substack{a \in \Phi \\ |a| \leq r}} |f(a)| = \max_{n \geq h} |a_n| r^n.$$

Proof: see [4], II §2.

Lemma 2.3 If the function f of (2.1) is an entire function then f is either a polynomial or there exists an infinite sequence of different zeros b_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$), $b_i \neq 0$ such that f can be written in the form

$$f(t) = a_h t^h \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{t}{b_i}\right)^{j_i},$$

where j_i denotes the multiplicity of the zero b_i .

Proof: See [4], III (22).

Lemma 2.4 An entire function of the form (2.1) is either a polynomial or a transcendental function.

Proof: see [7], theorem 5.

Corollary 2.5 An entire transcendental function is not identically zero.

Proof: f can be written as

$$f(t) = a_h t^h \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{t}{b_i}\right)^{j_i}.$$

Let $r > 0$ be such that $|b_i| > r$ for all i , then for all t with $|t| = r$ we have

$$|f(t)| = |a_h| r^h > 0.$$

Hence $f \neq 0$.

3. Properties of $J_n(t)$

The definition of the function

$$J_n(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} (-1)^r \frac{t^{q^{n+r}}}{F_{n+r} F_r^q},$$

which is initially defined for all non-negative rational entiers n , $t \in \Phi$, can be extended to all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ if we define

$$\frac{1}{F_{-n}} = 0 \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

It follows immediately that

$$J_{-n}(t) = (-1)^n \{J_n(t)\}^{q^{-n}} \quad (3.1)$$

Furthermore we have

$$\Delta^r J_n(t) = J_{n-r}^{q^r}(t) \quad (3.2)$$

for all $r \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Hence the expansion formula for $J_n(t)$ ($n \in \mathbb{Z}$) becomes

$$J_n(Mt) = \sum_{r=0}^m \frac{1}{F_r} \psi_r(M) J_{n-r}^{q^r}(t) \quad (3.3)$$

From $J_n(xt) - x J_n(t) = J_{n-1}^q(t)$

and

$$J_n(xt) - x^{q^n} J_n(t) = -J_{n+1}(t)$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ we get the recurrence formula

$$J_{n+1}(t) - (x^{q^n} - x) J_n(t) + J_{n-1}^q(t) = 0. \quad (3.4)$$

We also have

$$J_n(x^2t) - (x^{q^n} + x) J_n(xt) + x^{q^{n+1}} J_n(t) = -J_n^q(t) \quad (3.5)$$

Lemma 3.1 $J_{2n}(t)$ and $J_{2n+1}(t)$ are linear polynomials in $J_0(t)$ and $\Delta J_0(t)$ of degree q^n with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ of degree $< q^{2n}$ resp. $< q^{2n+1}$.

Proof: this is an immediate consequence of the recurrence-formula (3.4) for $J_n(t)$.

Remark From the linearity of $J_0(t)$ and the fact that $J_0'(t) \equiv 1$ we get: $J_0(t)$ has only singular zeros and if t_0 is a zero of $J_0(t)$ then so is ct_0 with $c \in \mathbb{F}_q$.

From (3.1) we see that we can write

$$J_n(t) = \{G_n(t)\}^{q^n}, \quad (n \geq 0),$$

where $G_n(t)$ is a linear function with

$$G_n'(t) \equiv \text{non-zero constant.}$$

Hence all zeros of $G_n(t)$ are single and therefore all zeros of $J_n(t)$, ($n \geq 0$) have multiplicity q^n .

Let us denote $dg \alpha = {}^q\log |\alpha|$ for all $\alpha \in \Phi$.

As a consequence of lemma 2.2 we have

Lemma 3.2 $J_n(t)$, ($n \geq 0$) has a zero of order q^n in 0 and $q^{n+k} - q^{n+k-1}$ zeros of degree $n + 2(k-1) + \frac{2q}{q-1}$, ($k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$).

Remark From lemma 3.2 we can deduce that if t_0 is a zero of $J_n(t)$ for some $n > 0$ then t_0 is neither a zero of $J_{n-1}(t)$ nor a zero of $J_{n+1}(t)$.

4. Transcendence properties of $J_0(t)$

In his book "Einführung in die Transzendenten Zahlen", Schneider discussed some transcendence properties of the Besselfunctions. Here we can use the method of the proof of the analogue of the Gelfond-Schneider theorem to prove the transcendence of at least one of the elements $\{\alpha, \beta, J_0(\alpha), \Delta J_0(\alpha), J_0(\alpha\beta), \Delta J_0(\alpha\beta) \mid \alpha \neq 0, \beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}\}$.

Definition 4.1 Let $\alpha \in \Phi$ be algebraic over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ of degree s . Then by $\alpha = \alpha^{(1)}, \alpha^{(2)}, \dots, \alpha^{(s)}$ we denote the conjugate elements of α . Let $K(\alpha)$ denote the extension of $\mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))$ in which we have the extended valuation $||$, where

$$dg \alpha = {}^q\log |\alpha|.$$

Define

$$d^*(\alpha) = \max_{j=1, \dots, s} dg(\alpha^{(j)}).$$

Lemma 4.1 Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $0 < m < n$; the system of linear equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^n A_{ki} X_i = 0, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m) \quad (4.1)$$

where $A_{ki} \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ and $\max_{k,i} \deg(A_{ki}) \leq a$ ($a \in \mathbb{N}$), has a non-trivial solution X_1, \dots, X_n with

$$X_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x],$$

such that

$$\deg X_i < \left[\frac{ma}{n-m} + 1 \right], \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

Proof: Define

$$Y_k := \sum_{i=1}^n A_{ki} X_i, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m)$$

then for $X_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$, Y_k is a polynomial. Let U be an arbitrary natural number. The cube $\{(X_i)_{i=1}^n \mid \deg X_i < U\}$ contains q^{Un} grating points. If $\deg X_i < U$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) then

$$\deg Y_k \leq \max_i (\deg A_{ki} + \deg X_i) < a + U, \quad (k = 1, \dots, m).$$

Every grating point $(X_i)_i$ corresponds with a grating-point of the cube $\{(Y_k)_{k=1}^m \mid \deg Y_k < a + U\}$ which contains $(q^{a+U})^m$ points.

If we choose

$$U = \left[\frac{ma}{n-m} + 1 \right]$$

then at least two different points $(X_i^{(1)})_i$ and $(X_i^{(2)})_i$ induce the same point $(Y_k)_k$.

Hence $(X_i^{(1)} - X_i^{(2)})_i$ is a solution of (4.1) and

$$\deg (X_i^{(1)} - X_i^{(2)}) \leq \max (\deg X_i^{(1)}, \deg X_i^{(2)}) < \left[\frac{ma}{n-m} + 1 \right],$$

$$(i = 1, \dots, n).$$

Lemma 4.2 Let K be a separable extension of $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ of degree σ . Let $r, s \in \mathbb{N}$ with $0 < r < s$. Then the system of linear equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_{ki} \xi_i = 0, \quad (k = 1, \dots, r) \quad (4.2)$$

where α_{ki} are algebraic integers in K and $a = \max_{k,i} d^*(\alpha_{ki})$ has a

non-trivial solution $(\xi_i)_{i=1}^r$ with

$$\xi_i \in \mathbb{F}_q[x],$$

such that

$$d^*(\xi_i) < \frac{cs + ra}{s - r}, \quad (i = 1, \dots, s)$$

where c is a positive constant only depending on the field K .

Proof: Let $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\sigma$ be a base of algebraic integers for K over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, then

$$\xi_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\sigma} X_{ij} \beta_j, \quad (i = 1, \dots, s) \quad (4.3)$$

where $X_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$.

Substituting (4.3) in (4.2) we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_{ki} \xi_i = \sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{j=1}^{\sigma} \alpha_{ki} \beta_j X_{ij} = 0, \quad (k = 1, \dots, r). \quad (4.4)$$

Here $\alpha_{ki} \beta_j$ are algebraic integers, hence

$$\alpha_{ki} \beta_j = \sum_{l=1}^{\sigma} M_{kijl} \beta_l, \quad (k=1, \dots, r; i=1, \dots, s; j=1, \dots, \sigma) \quad (4.5)$$

with $M_{kijl} \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$.

Substituting (4.5) in (4.4) we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{j=1}^{\sigma} \sum_{l=1}^{\sigma} M_{kijl} \beta_l X_{ij} = 0, \quad (k = 1, \dots, r). \quad (4.6)$$

The $(\beta_l)_{l=1}^{\sigma}$ form a base over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ and therefore (4.6) becomes

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \sum_{j=1}^{\sigma} M_{kijl} X_{ij} = 0, \quad (k=1, \dots, r; l=1, \dots, \sigma). \quad (4.7)$$

This is a system of $r\sigma$ linear equations in $s\sigma$ variables with polynomial coefficients. Considering the conjugated forms of (4.5):

$$(\alpha_{ki} \beta_j)^{(v)} = \sum_{l=1}^{\sigma} M_{kijl} \beta_l^{(v)}, \quad (v = 1, \dots, \sigma)$$

we can express M_{kijl} as a linear combination of $(\alpha_{ki} \beta_j)^{(v)}$ with coefficients that only depend on the field K and therefore

$$\deg M_{kijl} < c_1 + \max_{i,j,k} d^*(\alpha_{ki} \beta_j) < c_2 + a,$$

where c_1, c_2 are positive constants only depending on K . We can choose c_2 such that $c_2 + a \in \mathbb{N}$.

Now we can use lemma 4.1 and (4.7) has a solution in polynomials $(X_{ij})_{i,j}$, $(i = 1, \dots, s; j = 1, \dots, \sigma)$ such that

$$\deg X_{ij} < \left[\frac{r\sigma(c_2 + a)}{s\sigma - r\sigma} + 1 \right] = \left[\frac{r(c_2 + a)}{s - r} + 1 \right].$$

Hence from (4.3) we deduce that the system (4.2) has a non-trivial solution ξ_1, \dots, ξ_s such that

ξ_i is an algebraic integer and

$$\begin{aligned} d^*(\xi_i) &\leq \max_{\substack{j=1, \dots, \sigma \\ i=1, \dots, s}} d^*(X_{ij} \beta_j) < \\ &< c_3 + \left[\frac{r(c_2 + a)}{s - r} + 1 \right] < \frac{cs + ar}{s - r}, \end{aligned}$$

where $c > 0$ only depends on K .

Theorem 4.3 Let $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, then at least one of the elements of the set

$$V = \{\alpha, \beta, J_0(\alpha), \Delta J_0(\alpha), J_0(\alpha\beta), \Delta J_0(\alpha\beta)\}$$

is transcendental over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$.

Proof: Suppose all elements of the set V are algebraic over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, then they generate an algebraic extension of $\mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))$ of exponent e . Let K be the separable extension of $\mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))$ generated by the p^e -th powers of the elements of V and let $[K : \mathbb{F}_q((x^{-1}))] = s$. Also the

q^e -th powers of the elements of V are elements of K and there exists a polynomial $\Gamma \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ of degree c_0 such that

$$\Gamma \alpha^{q^e}, \Gamma \beta^{q^e}, \Gamma \{J_0(\alpha)\}^{q^e}, \Gamma \{\Delta J_0(\alpha)\}^{q^e}, \Gamma \{J_0(\alpha\beta)\}^{q^e}, \Gamma \{\Delta J_0(\alpha\beta)\}^{q^e}$$

are algebraic integers of K .

Let k and l be natural numbers which will be determined later. Define the function

$$L(t) := P_1(t) + P_2(t) J_0^{q^e}(t\alpha) + \dots + P_{\frac{2k}{q}}(t) \{J_0(t\alpha)\}^{q^e(q^{2k}-1)},$$

where

$$P_i(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{q^{2l}-1} X_{ij} t^{jq^e}, \quad (i = 1, \dots, q^{2k}). \quad (4.8)$$

We now proceed in several steps.

Denote $m := k + l - 1$ and $k < \frac{1}{3} l$. (4.9)

Step 1; Assertion: we can determine the coefficients X_{ij} ($0 \leq j \leq q^{2l}-1$; $1 \leq i \leq q^{2k}$) of the polynomials P_i such that

(1) all X_{ij} are algebraic integers, not all zero

(2) for all $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ with $\deg A < m$, $\deg B < m$

$$L(A + \beta B) = 0.$$

Proof: Since $\alpha \neq 0$ $J_0(t\alpha) \neq 0$. Hence substituting $t = A + \beta B$ ($\deg A < m$, $\deg B < m$) in (4.8) we get a non-trivial system of q^{2m} equations in $q^{2(k+l)}$ variables X_{ij} :

$$L(A + \beta B) = \sum_{i=0}^{q^{2k}-1} \sum_{j=0}^{q^{2l}-1} (A + \beta B)^{jq^e} J_0(\alpha(A + \beta B))^{iq^e} X_{ij} = 0,$$

$$(\deg A < m, \deg B < m). \quad (4.10)$$

Since $J_0(t)$ is a linear function we have

$$J_0(\alpha(A + \beta B)) = J_0(\alpha A) + J_0(\alpha \beta B).$$

Using the expansion formula (3.3) and the formulae (3.1) and (3.2) we obtain

$$J_0(\alpha A) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m \frac{(-1)^\mu}{F_\mu} J_\mu(\alpha) \psi_\mu(A).$$

Notice that $\frac{\psi_\mu(A)}{F_\mu}$ is the polynomial $AL_\mu \prod'_{dg E < \mu} (A^{q-1} - E^{q-1})$,

where the product is taken over all primary polynomials E and L_μ is defined in def. 2.4.

According to lemma 3.1 $J_\mu(\alpha)$ is a polynomial of degree $q^{\lfloor \frac{\mu}{2} \rfloor}$ in $J_0(\alpha)$ and $\Delta J_0(\alpha)$ with coefficients of degree $< q^\mu$ in $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} dg J_0(\alpha A) &\leq mq^m + \max_{\mu} dg J_\mu(\alpha) \leq \\ &\leq mq^m + q^m + 2q^{\frac{m}{2}} \max(dg J_0(\alpha), dg \Delta J_0(\alpha)). \end{aligned}$$

The coefficients of X_{ij} in the linear equations (4.10) are polynomials in

$$\begin{aligned} &\beta^{q^e} \text{ of degree } q^{2l-1} \\ &J_0^{q^e}(\alpha), (\Delta J_0(\alpha))^{q^e}, J_0^{q^e}(\alpha\beta), (\Delta J_0(\alpha\beta))^{q^e} \text{ of degree } (q^{2k-1})q^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} \end{aligned}$$

with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$.

Since $q^{2l-1} + 2(q^{2k-1})q^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} < q^{2l+2}$ by multiplying the equations (4.10) with

$\Gamma^{q^{2l+2}}$ we get a system of q^{2m} equations in $q^{2(k+1)}$ variables X_{ij} :

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^{q^{2l+2}} L(A + \beta B) &= \sum_{i=0}^{q^{2k-1}-1} \sum_{j=0}^{q^{2l-1}-1} D_{ij} X_{ij} = 0, \\ &(dg A < m, dg B < m), \quad (4.11) \end{aligned}$$

were the D_{ij} are algebraic integers of K .

If we put

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= dg \Gamma \\ c_1 &= dg \beta \\ c_2 &= \max \{ dg J_0(\alpha), dg \Delta J_0(\alpha), dg J_0(\alpha\beta), dg \Delta J_0(\alpha\beta) \}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{dg } D_{ij} \leq c_0 q^{2l+2} + q^{2l+e}(m + c_1) + q^{2k+e+m}(m + c_2).$$

According to (4.9) this becomes

$$\text{dg } D_{ij} \leq q^{2l+e}(2m + c_3),$$

and

$$d^* D_{ij} \leq q^{2l+e}(2m + c_4).$$

Now we can apply lemma 4.2 with $\sigma = s$, $r = q^{2m}$, $s = q^{2k+2l}$ and $a = \max_{i,j} d^* D_{ij}$ and we can determine a set $\{X_{ij}; 0 \leq j \leq q^{2l}-1; 1 \leq i \leq q^{2k}\}$ such that (1) and (2) are satisfied and furthermore

$$d^* X_{ij} < (2m + c_5) q^{2l+e} \quad \text{for } l > l_0, \quad (4.12)$$

where $c_5 > 0$ only depends on the field K .

Let $\mu \geq m$ be a natural number and define:

$$\eta = \mu - k + 1, \quad (4.13)$$

hence $\eta > 1$; furthermore define

$$\mathcal{B}(\mu) := \{A + \beta B \mid \text{dg } A < \mu, \text{dg } B < \mu; A \text{ and } B \text{ not both } 0\}.$$

Step 2; Assertion: if $L(t) = 0$ for all $t \in \mathcal{B}(\mu)$, then $L(t) = 0$ for all $t \in \mathcal{B}(\mu + 1)$.

Proof: Suppose $L(t) = 0$ for all $t \in \mathcal{B}(\mu)$ and take

$$\xi \in \mathcal{B}(\mu + 1) \setminus \mathcal{B}(\mu)$$

then $d\xi = \mu + c_1$.

Let $l > l_1 \geq l_0$ be chosen such that $m > c_1$, then

$$d\xi < 2\mu.$$

From (4.8) and (4.10) we get

$$\max_{\text{dgt}=2\mu} \text{dg } L(t) \leq d^* X_{ij} + q^{2l+e} 2\mu + q^{2k+e} \max_{\text{dgt}=2\mu} \text{dg } J_0(\alpha t).$$

From the explicit formula for $J_0(\alpha t)$ and theorem 2.2 we obtain

$$\max_{dgt=2\mu} dg J_0(\alpha t) \leq \max_{r \geq 0} \{q^r(2\mu + dg\alpha - 2r)\} \leq c_6 q^\mu.$$

Substituting this and using (4.12) and (4.13) we get

$$\max_{dgt=2\mu} dg L(t) \leq q^{2\eta+e} (4\mu + c_7 q^{4k}) \quad (4.14)$$

where $c_7 > 0$ only depends on K .

Since $L(t)$ is an entire function with zeros for all $t \in \mathcal{B}(\mu)$ the function

$$\frac{L(t)}{\prod_{\mathcal{B}(\mu)} (t - A - \beta B)} \text{ is an entire function, hence we can}$$

apply theorem 2.2 and therefore we have

$$dg \left(\frac{L(\xi)}{\prod_{\mathcal{B}(\mu)} (\xi - A - \beta B)} \right) \leq \max_{dgt=2\mu} dg \left(\frac{L(t)}{\prod_{\mathcal{B}(\mu)} (t - A - \beta B)} \right).$$

Using (4.14) and substituting $d\xi = \mu + c_1$ we obtain

$$dg L(\xi) - q^{2\mu}(\mu + c_1) \leq q^{2\eta+e}(4\mu + c_7 q^{4k}) - 2\mu q^{2\mu},$$

hence

$$dg L(\xi) \leq q^{2\eta+e} [4\mu + c_7 q^{4k} + (c_1 - \mu)q^{2k-2}]. \quad (4.15)$$

Since we have chosen $\xi \in \mathcal{B}_e(\mu + 1)$ and since the X_{ij} are polynomials $L(\xi)$ is a polynomial in β^q of degree q^{21-1} and in $J_0(\alpha)^{q^e}, (\Delta J_0(\alpha))^{q^e}, J_0(\alpha\beta)^{q^e}, (\Delta J_0(\alpha\beta))^{q^e}$ of degree $(q^{2k-1}) q^{\lfloor \mu/2 \rfloor}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } q^{21-1} + 2(q^{2k-1})q^{\lfloor \mu/2 \rfloor} &< q^{2\eta} + 2q^{2k+(\eta+k-1)} \\ &< 3q^{2\eta}, \end{aligned}$$

$\Gamma^{2\eta} L(\xi)$ is an algebraic integer and hence if N denotes the norm of an element of K over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ we have:

$N(\Gamma^{2\eta} L(\xi))$ is a polynomial and therefore

$\deg N(\Gamma^{2\eta} L(\xi))$ is either ≥ 0 or $-\infty$.

From (4.15) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \deg (N(\Gamma^{2\eta} L(\xi))) &\leq s [q^{2\eta} c_0 + q^{2\eta+e} \{4\mu + c_7 q^{4k} + (c_1 - \mu) q^{2k-2}\}] \\ &< s q^{2\eta+e} \{\mu(4 - q^{2k-2}) + c_8 q^{4k}\}, \end{aligned}$$

where $c_8 > 0$ if $k > k_0$.

Now choose $k > k_1 > k_0$ such that $4 - q^{2k-2} > 0$, and afterwards $1 > 1_1 > 1_0$ such that

$$\mu(4 - q^{2k-2}) + c_8 q^{4k} < 0.$$

Then combining both inequalities for $\deg(N(\Gamma^{2\eta} L(\xi)))$ we get $L(\xi) = 0$. This concludes the proof of step 2.

Step 3: Denote for arbitrary v by π_v the product $\prod_{\mathfrak{P}(v)} (A + \beta B)$ then

$$\deg \pi_v < (v + c_1) q^{2v}.$$

From step 2 we conclude that for all $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ the $A + \beta B$ are zeros of $L(t)$. Since $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ these zeros are all different and therefore the entire functions $L(t)$ has an infinite number of zeros. According to lemma 2.4 $L(t)$ is a transcendental function and hence (corr. 2.5)

$$L(t) \neq 0.$$

Furthermore from lemma 2.3 we have:

$$L(t) = \alpha_h t^h \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{t}{b_i}\right)^{j_i}$$

where the b_i are the zeros of $L(t)$ and j_i is the multiplicity of b_i . From step 2 we conclude that every element of $\mathfrak{P}(v)$ is a zero of $L(t)$.

and we have

$$L(t) = \alpha_h t^h \prod_{b_i \in \mathfrak{B}(v)} \left(1 - \frac{t}{b_i}\right)^{j_i} \prod_{b_i \notin \mathfrak{B}(v)} \left(1 - \frac{t}{b_i}\right)^{j_i}$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{dgt=2v} dg L(t) &\geq c_9 + 2hv + dg \left(\frac{t^q - 1}{\pi_v} \right)_{dgt=2v} \\ &\geq c_9 + 2vh + 2v(q^{2v} - 1) - (v + c_1)q^{2v} \\ &\geq q^{2v}(c_{10}v + c_{11}), \end{aligned}$$

where $c_{10} > 0$.

On the other hand from the explicit formula of $L(t)$ we have

$$\max_{dgt=2v} dg L(t) < (2m + c_5)q^{2l+e} + 2vq^{2l+e} + c_6q^{v+2k+e}.$$

Now let $l > l_1$ and $k > k_1$ be fixed.

Then for all v we have

$$q^{2v}(c_{10}v + c_{11}) < 2vq^v C \quad (4.16)$$

where $c_{10} > 0$ and c_{11} are constants only depending on K and $C > 0$ is a fixed constant only depending on k and l . We can choose $v > v_0$ such that (4.16) is a contradiction. Hence our assumption that all the elements of V are algebraic is false, which proves the theorem.

In the proof of theorem 4.3 we use the formula

$$J_0(\alpha A) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m \frac{(-1)^\mu}{F_\mu} \psi_\mu(A) J_\mu(\alpha),$$

in which we can write $J_\mu(\alpha)$ as a linear polynomial in $J_0(\alpha)$ and $\Delta J_0(\alpha)$ with polynomials in x as coefficients. In the same way the expansion formula (3.3) gives

$$J_n(\alpha A) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m \frac{1}{F_\mu} \psi_\mu(A) J_{n-\mu}^{q^\mu}(\alpha) \quad (4.17)$$

Now we can prove the following

Lemma 4.4 For all $r > 0$ $J_{n-r}^{q^r}(t)$ is a linear polynomial in $J_n(t)$ and $\Delta J_n(t)$ with polynomials in x as coefficients, i.e.

$$J_{n-r}^{q^r}(t) = \mathcal{P}(J_n(t), \Delta J_n(t)).$$

The degree of \mathcal{P} in $J_n(t)$ and $\Delta J_n(t)$ is $\leq q^{\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor}$ and the coefficients of \mathcal{P} have degree $\leq q^{\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \max(rq^n, q^r)$.

Proof: From the recurrence formula (3.4) we get

$J_{n-r}^{q^r}(t)$ is a linear polynomial in $J_n(t)$ and $J_{n+1}(t)$ of degree $q^{\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor}$ with polynomial coefficients with

$$dg \leq \max(rq^n, q^r).$$

$$J_{n+1}(t) = (x^{q^n} - x) J_n(t) - \Delta J_n(t).$$

Therefore $J_{n-r}^{q^r}$ is a linear polynomial in $J_n(t)$ and $\Delta J_n(t)$ of degree $q^{\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor}$ with polynomial coefficients with $dg \leq q^{\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \max(rq^n, q^r)$.

This lemma gives us the following generalization of theorem 4.3:

Theorem 4.5 Let $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$, then at least one of the elements of the set

$$W = \{\alpha, \beta, J_n(\alpha), \Delta J_n(\alpha), J_n(\alpha\beta), \Delta J_n(\alpha\beta)\}$$

is transcendental over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$.

Proof: We proceed in the same way as in theorem 4.3 except that we replace J_0 by J_n and instead of (4.9) we have

$$m := k + 1 - 1 \text{ and } k < \frac{1}{6} l. \quad (4.18)$$

Hence we obtain formula (4.10) with J_n instead of J_0 .
According to (4.17) and lemma 4.4 $J_n(\alpha A)$ is a linear polynomial in $J_n(\alpha)$ and $\Delta J_n(\alpha)$ with since $m \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dg } J_n(\alpha A) &\leq m q^m + \max_{0 \leq \mu \leq m} \text{dg } J_{n-\mu}^{q^\mu}(\alpha) \\ &\leq m q^m + q^{\frac{3}{2}m} + 2q^{\frac{m}{2}} \max(\text{dg } J_n(\alpha), \text{dg } \Delta J_n(\alpha)). \end{aligned}$$

If we multiply (4.10*) with $r^{q^{2l+2}}$ using (4.18) we find that the coefficients D_{ij} satisfy

$$\text{dg } D_{ij} \leq q^{2l+e} (n + c_4),$$

and therefore

$$d^* X_{ij} < (2m + c_5) q^{2l+e} \text{ for } l > l_0.$$

Since $\max_{\text{dgt}=2\mu} \text{dg } J_n(\alpha t) \leq \max_r q^{n+r} (2\mu + \text{dg } \alpha - n - 2r) \leq c_6 q^{n+\mu}$

(4.14) is replaced by

$$\max_{\text{dgt}=2\mu} \text{dg } L(t) \leq q^{2n+e} (4\mu + c_7^* q^{4k}) \quad (4.14^*)$$

In the same way as in theorem 4.3 we can conclude that for all $\xi \in \mathcal{O}(\mu)$, where μ is an arbitrary natural number

$$L(\xi) = 0,$$

and furthermore $L(t) \neq 0$.

Similarly we obtain

$$\max_{\text{dgt}=2v} L(t) \geq q^{2v} (c_{10}^* v + c_{11}^*) \text{ where } c_{10}^* > 0$$

and

$$\max_{\text{dgt}=2v} L(t) < (2m + c_5) q^{2l+e} + 2v q^{2l+e} + c_6 q^{n+v+2k+e}$$

which if l and k are chosen suitable for big v leads to a contradiction. Hence at least one of the elements of W is transcendental.

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Abstract.

In this report the following statement on transcendence-properties of the Carlitz-Besselfunctions $J_n(t)$ on fields with characteristic p is proved:

Let \mathbb{F}_q denote the field of q elements where q is a power of the primenumber p and let $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$ be the quotientfield of the polynomial-ring $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$. Let $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta \notin \mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$; then for an arbitrary integer n at least one of the elements of the set

$$\{\alpha, \beta, J_n(\alpha), \Delta J_n(\alpha), J_n(\alpha\beta), \Delta J_n(\alpha\beta)\},$$

where $\Delta J_n(t) = J_n(xt) - xJ_n(t)$, is transcendental over $\mathbb{F}_q\{x\}$.

The proof is based on the method of Schneider's proof of the Gelfond-Schneider theorem.

