

$K \ni h. \Rightarrow$ Since GL_n is connected, $GL_n = K$.

Given any matrix $g \in M_n$, we can find $h \in GL_n$ s.t. $I + h - g \in GL_n$, since GL_n is open and dense in M_n .

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 0 &= \sum_i P(A_1, \dots, (h-g)A_i - A_i(h-g), \dots, A_k) \\ &= \sum_i P(A_1, \dots, hA_i - A_ih - gA_i + A_i g, \dots, A_k) \\ &= \sum_i P(A_1, \dots, hA_i - A_ih, \dots, A_k) + \sum_i P(A_1, \dots, A_i g - gA_i, \dots, A_k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_i P(A_1, \dots, A_i g - gA_i, \dots, A_k) = 0 \quad \dots \quad (**)$$

Thus $(**)$ is valid for any matrix $g \in M_n$. \Rightarrow

Now we can prove Part 2. Let D, \tilde{D} be two connections on E , with local connection and curvature matrices θ_α and $\tilde{\theta}_\alpha$, Θ_α and $\tilde{\Theta}_\alpha$. In terms of the trivialization φ_α , we have

$$D\zeta_\alpha = d\zeta_\alpha + {}^t\theta_\alpha \zeta_\alpha, \quad \tilde{D}\zeta_\alpha = d\zeta_\alpha + {}^t\tilde{\theta}_\alpha \zeta_\alpha;$$

consequently the operator $\eta = D - \tilde{D}$ is linear over $C^\infty(M)$, and so it is given in terms of the trivialization φ_α as multiplication by the transpose of the matrix $\eta_\alpha = \theta_\alpha - \tilde{\theta}_\alpha$, which transform by the rule

$$\eta_\alpha = g_{\alpha\beta} \eta_\beta g_{\alpha\beta}^{-1},$$

where $g_{\alpha\beta} = \varphi_\alpha \cdot \varphi_\beta^{-1}$. Consider the homotopy

$$D_t = \tilde{D} + t\eta, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$