

If $f \in K^{\text{rat}} \langle\langle A \rangle\rangle$, it exists a morphism of monoids $\mu: A^* \rightarrow K^{n \times n}$ (square matrices of size $n \times n$), a row λ in $K^{1 \times n}$ and a column ξ in $K^{n \times 1}$ such that, for all word w in A^* , $f(w) = \lambda \mu(w) \xi$. Then

$$f = \sum_{w \in A^*} f(w)w = \sum_{w \in A^*} \lambda \mu(w) \xi w = \lambda \left(\sum_{w \in A^*} \mu(w)w \right) \xi =$$

$$\lambda \left(\sum_{w \in A^*} \mu(w)w \right) \xi = \lambda \left(\sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{|w|=n} \mu(w)w \right) \xi$$

But, as words and scalars commute (it is so by construction of the convolution algebra $K^{n \times n} \langle\langle A \rangle\rangle$), one has

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{|w|=n} \mu(w)w = \sum_{n \geq 0} \left(\sum_{a \in A} \mu(a)a \right)^n = \left(\sum_{a \in A} \mu(a)a \right)^*$$

hence

$$f = \lambda \left(\sum_{a \in A} \mu(a)a \right)^* \xi$$

where the "star" stands for the sum of the geometric series.