

Representations and comodules

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Outline

- 1 Representations of group functors
- 2 Comodules
- 3 Relation between representations and comodules
- 4 Affine algebraic groups are linear
- 5 Diagonalizable and unipotent groups

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If V is a vector space, we have k -group functors

$$V_\alpha : k\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \mathbf{Grp}, \quad A \mapsto V \otimes A,$$

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If $\dim V = n$ is finite, the choice of a basis for V defines isomorphisms

$$V_a \simeq \mathbb{G}_a^n = \mathrm{Spec} k[T_1, \dots, T_n],$$

$$\mathrm{GL}_V \simeq \mathrm{GL}_n = \mathrm{Spec} k[\{T_{ij}\}_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}, \det^{-1}].$$

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To give a representation of G on V is to give a natural transformation $G \times V_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha$ such that for all commutative k -algebra A , the induced map

$$G(A) \times (V \otimes A) \rightarrow V \otimes A$$

is an A -linear action of $G(A)$ on $V \otimes A$.

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- 3 Let G be a k -group scheme. The action given by $(g \cdot f)(x) := f(xg)$, for all commutative k -algebra A , $f \in A[G]$ and $x, g \in G(A)$, defines the **regular representation** $G \rightarrow GL_{k[G]}$ of G .

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Let $\mathrm{Hom}_G(V, W)$ be the space of G -module homomorphisms. We then have a category $\mathbf{Rep}_k(G)$ of representations of G .

Let A be a (not necessarily commutative) k -algebra. A (left) A -module is a vector space M equipped with a linear map $\lambda : A \otimes M \rightarrow M$ such that

$$\lambda(a \otimes \lambda(b \otimes m)) = \lambda(ab \otimes m), \quad \lambda(\alpha 1_A \otimes m) = \alpha m$$

for all $a, b \in A$, $m \in M$ and $\alpha \in k$.

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for all $a, b \in A$, $m \in M$ and $\alpha \in k$. If $\mu : A \otimes A \rightarrow A$ denotes the multiplication and $u : k \rightarrow A$ denotes the unit (i.e. $u(\alpha) = \alpha 1_A$), then the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \otimes A \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\mu \otimes \text{id}_M} & A \otimes M \\ \downarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \lambda & & \downarrow \lambda \\ A \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & M \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k \otimes M & & M \\ \downarrow u \otimes \text{id}_M & \searrow \approx & \\ A \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & M \end{array}$$

commute.

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} k \otimes M & & \\ \downarrow u \otimes \text{id}_M & \searrow \cong & \\ A \otimes M & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & M \end{array}$$

commute. Dually, let $(C, \Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes C, \varepsilon : C \rightarrow k)$ be a k -coalgebra. A (right) A -comodule is a vector space V equipped with a linear map $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes C$ (the **coaction**) such that the following diagrams commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{\rho} & V \otimes C \\ \downarrow \rho & & \downarrow \rho \otimes \text{id}_C \\ V \otimes C & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_V \otimes \Delta} & V \otimes C \otimes C \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\rho} & V \otimes C \\ & \searrow \cong & \downarrow 1_V \otimes \varepsilon \\ & & V \otimes k. \end{array}$$

A linear map $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes C$ defines a comodule over (C, Δ, ε) iff

$$\forall v \in V, \quad \rho(v) = \sum_i v_i \otimes c_i, \quad v_i \in V, c_i \in C$$

then

$$\sum_i \rho(v_i) \otimes c_i = \sum_i v_i \otimes \Delta(c_i) \in V \otimes C \otimes C \quad \text{and} \quad v = \sum_i \varepsilon(c_i) v_i.$$

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Example

- 1 C is a comodule over itself via $\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes C$.

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Definition

Let (V, ρ) and (W, σ) be C -comodules. A linear map $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ is called a C -comodule homomorphism if the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{\rho} & V \otimes C \\
 \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \phi \otimes \text{id}_C \\
 W & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & W \otimes C
 \end{array}$$

commutes.

This amounts to requiring that for any $v \in V$, if

$$\rho(v) = \sum_i v_i \otimes c_i, \quad v_i \in V, c_i \in C$$

then

$$\sigma(\phi(v)) = \sum_i \phi(v_i) \otimes c_i.$$

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Let \mathbf{Comod}_C denote the category of right C -comodules and C -comodule homomorphisms between them.

Let $G = \text{Spec}(k[G], \Delta, \varepsilon)$ be an affine k -group scheme.

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To a $k[G]$ -comodule $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ one associates a representation $r_\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_V$ as follows. Let A be a commutative k -algebra and $g \in G(A)$ (which corresponds to a k -algebra homomorphism $g^* : k[G] \rightarrow A$). Then $r_\rho(g) : V \otimes A \rightarrow V \otimes A$ is the A -linear map induced by the composition

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Let $g, h \in G(A)$. For $v \in V, a \in A$ and v_i, f_i as above, write

$$\rho(v_i) = \sum_j v_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}, \quad \Delta(f_i) = \sum_\ell f'_{i\ell} \otimes f''_{i\ell}, \quad v_{ij} \in V, f_{ij}, f'_{i\ell}, f''_{i\ell} \in k[G].$$

Then $r_\rho(gh) = r_\rho(g) \circ r_\rho(h)$ since $r_\rho(g)(r_\rho(h)(v \otimes a)) = \sum_i r_\rho(g)(v_i \otimes f_i(h)a)$
 $= \sum_{i,j} v_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}(g)f_i(h)a = \sum_{i,\ell} v_i \otimes f'_{i\ell}(g)f''_{i\ell}(h)a = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i(gh)a = r_\rho(gh)(v \otimes a)$.

Let $e_A \in G(A)$ be the identity element. Again, let $v \in V$, $a \in A$ and write

$$\rho(v) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i, \quad v_i \in V, f_i \in k[G].$$

Then $r_\rho(e_A) = \text{id}_{V \otimes A}$ since

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We show functoriality in A . To this end, let $\psi : A \rightarrow B$ be k -algebra homomorphism. Let $g \in G(A)$ corresponding to a k -algebra homomorphism $g^* : k[G] \rightarrow A$ (then $\psi_*g \in G(B)$ corresponds to $\psi \circ g^*$). Then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \otimes A & \xrightarrow{r_\rho(g)} & V \otimes A \\ \downarrow \text{id}_V \otimes \psi & & \downarrow \text{id}_V \otimes \psi \\ V \otimes B & \xrightarrow{r_\rho(\psi_*g)} & V \otimes B \end{array}$$

commutes since $v \otimes a$ maps to $\sum_i v_i \otimes \psi(f_i(g)a)$ by both compositions.

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$$\forall v \in V, \quad \rho_r(v) := r(g^{\mathrm{univ}})(v \otimes 1).$$

Conversely, to a representation $r : G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_V$ one associates a coaction $\rho_r : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ as follows. First, let $g^{\mathrm{univ}} \in G(k[G])$ correspond to the identity $k[G] \rightarrow k[G]$ (the **universal element** of G). Then we define

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then for all commutative k -algebra A , $g \in G(A)$ and $a \in A$, one has

$$r(g)(v \otimes a) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i(g)a \in V \otimes A.$$

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Let us show that ρ_r is indeed a coaction.

Let $A = k[G] \otimes k[G]$ and $g, h \in G(A)$ corresponding to

$$g^* : k[G] \rightarrow A, \quad f \mapsto f \otimes 1,$$

$$h^* : k[G] \rightarrow A, \quad f \mapsto 1 \otimes f$$

respectively. Then $gh \in G(A)$ corresponds to $\Delta : k[G] \rightarrow A$.

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where $v_i, v_{ij} \in V$ and $f_i, f_{ij} \in k[G]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i v_i \otimes \Delta(f_i) &= r(gh)(v \otimes 1 \otimes 1) = r(g)(r(h)(v \otimes 1 \otimes 1)) = \sum_i r(g)(v_i \otimes f_i(h)) \\ &= \sum_i r(g)(v_i \otimes 1 \otimes f) = \sum_{i,j} v_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}(g)(1 \otimes f_i) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} v_{ij} \otimes (f_{ij} \otimes 1)(1 \otimes f_i) = \sum_{i,j} v_{ij} \otimes f_{ij} \otimes f_i = \sum_i \rho_r(v_i) \otimes f_i. \end{aligned}$$

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Since the identity element $e \in G(k)$ corresponds to $\varepsilon : k[G] \rightarrow k$, one has

$$v = r(e)(v) = \sum_i \varepsilon(f_i)v_i.$$

Theorem

Let $G = \text{Spec } k[G]$ be an affine k -group scheme. The constructions $r \mapsto \rho_r$ and $\rho \mapsto r_\rho$ above are inverse to each other.

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Proof. Let $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ be a coaction. Then the coaction ρ' corresponding to the representation $r_\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_V$ is given by $\rho'(v) = r_\rho(g^{\text{univ}})(v \otimes 1)$ for all $v \in V$, where $g^{\text{univ}} \in G(k[G])$ corresponds to the identity $k[G] \rightarrow k[G]$. Write

$$\rho(v) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i, \quad v_i \in V, f_i \in k[G].$$

Then $\rho' = \rho$, since

$$\rho'(v) = r_\rho(g^{\text{univ}})(v \otimes 1) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i(g^{\text{univ}}) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i = \rho(v).$$

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Conversely, let $r : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_V$ be a representation. Then the representation r' corresponding to the coaction $\rho_r : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ is described as follows. Let A be a commutative k -algebra and $g \in G(A)$. For $v \in V$ and $a \in A$, write

$$\rho_r(v) = r(g^{\text{univ}})(v \otimes 1) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i, \quad v_i \in V, f_i \in k[G].$$

Then, for $v \in V$ and $a \in A$, one has

$$r'(g)(v \otimes a) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i(g)a = r(g)(v \otimes a).$$

It follows that $r = r'$. □

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Proof. It remains to show that if (V, r) and (W, s) are representations of G , then a linear map $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ is a G -module homomorphism iff it is a $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphism. Let $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ and $\sigma : W \rightarrow W \otimes k[G]$ be the corresponding coactions.

Theorem

Let $G = \text{Spec } k[G]$ be an affine k -group scheme. The categories $\text{Rep}_k(G)$ and $\text{Comod}_{k[G]}$ are isomorphic.

Proof. It remains to show that if (V, r) and (W, s) are representations of G , then a linear map $\phi : V \rightarrow W$ is a G -module homomorphism iff it is a $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphism. Let $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ and $\sigma : W \rightarrow W \otimes k[G]$ be the corresponding coactions. Suppose that ϕ is a G -module homomorphism. Then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{\quad v \mapsto v \otimes 1 \quad} & V \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{\quad r(g^{\text{univ}}) \quad} & V \otimes k[G] \\
 \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \phi \otimes \text{id}_{k[G]} & & \downarrow \phi \otimes \text{id}_{k[G]} \\
 W & \xrightarrow{\quad w \mapsto w \otimes 1 \quad} & W \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{\quad s(g^{\text{univ}}) \quad} & W \otimes k[G]
 \end{array}$$

ρ (top arc) and σ (bottom arc)

commutes (where $g^{\text{univ}} \in G(k[G])$ is the universal element), i.e. ϕ is a $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphism.

Theorem

Let $G = \text{Spec } k[G]$ be an affine k -group scheme. The categories $\mathbf{Rep}_k(G)$ and $\mathbf{Comod}_{k[G]}$ are isomorphic.

Conversely, suppose that ϕ is a $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphism. Let A be a commutative k -algebra and $g \in G(A)$. For $v \in V$ and $a \in A$, write

$$\rho(v) = r(g^{\text{univ}})(v \otimes 1) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i, \quad v_i \in V, f_i \in k[G].$$

Then $\sigma(\phi(v)) = s(g^{\text{univ}})(\phi(v) \otimes 1) = \sum_i \phi(v_i) \otimes f_i$. On the other hand, one has

$$r(g)(v \otimes a) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i(g)a \in V \otimes A,$$

$$s(g)(\phi(v) \otimes a) = \sum_i \phi(v_i) \otimes f_i(g) \in W \otimes A.$$

It follows that $(\phi \otimes \text{id}_A) \circ r(g) = s(g) \circ (\phi \otimes \text{id}_A)$ for all $g \in G(A)$, i.e. that $\phi \otimes \text{id}_A$ is $G(A)$ -equivariant. Thus ϕ is a G -module homomorphism.

Example

- 1 Let V be a representation of an affine k -group scheme G corresponding to the coaction $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$. A subspace $W \subseteq V$ is a G -submodule (i.e. the A -submodule $W \otimes A \subseteq V \otimes A$ is $G(A)$ -stable for all commutative k -algebra A) iff it is a $k[G]$ -subcomodule (i.e. $\rho(W) \subseteq W \otimes k[G]$).

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- The standard representation of $G = \mathrm{GL}_n = \mathrm{Spec} k[\{T_{ij}\}_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}, \det^{-1}]$ on $V = k^n$ (with the standard basis (e_1, \dots, e_n)). has the corresponding coaction $\rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ given by

$$\rho(e_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \otimes T_{ij}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

- The regular representation $G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{k[G]}$ has the corresponding coaction given by the comultiplication $\Delta : k[G] \rightarrow k[G] \otimes k[G]$.

Proposition

Let $G = \text{Spec}(k[G], \Delta, \varepsilon)$ be an affine k -group scheme. Then every representation of G is the union of its finite-dimensional subrepresentations.

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$$\rho(v) = \sum_i v_i \otimes f_i, \quad v_i \in V,$$

where $v_i = 0$ for all but finitely many i 's. Then

$$\sum_{\ell} \rho(v_\ell) \otimes f_\ell = \sum_i v_i \otimes \Delta(f_i) = \sum_{i,j,\ell} \alpha_{ij\ell} (v_i \otimes f_j \otimes f_\ell).$$

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By linear independence of the family $(f_\ell)_\ell$, we obtain

$$\rho(v_\ell) = \sum_{i,j} \alpha_{ij\ell} (v_i \otimes f_j).$$

Thus the subspace spanned by v and the v_i 's is a subrepresentation.

Theorem

Let $G = \text{Spec}(k[G], \Delta, \varepsilon)$ be an affine algebraic group over k . Then there is a faithful representation $G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n$ for some positive integer n .

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Proof. Let $V \subseteq k[G]$ be a finite-dimensional subrepresentation of the regular representation such that V generates $k[G]$ as a k -algebra. Choose a basis $(e_i)_{i=1}^n$ for V . The restriction $r : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n$ of the regular representation corresponds to a k -algebra homomorphism $\psi : k[\{T_{ij}\}_{i,j=1}^n, \det^{-1}] \rightarrow k[G]$.

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$$\Delta(e_j) = r(g^{\text{univ}})(e_j \otimes 1) = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \otimes \psi(T_{ij}), \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

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Hence

$$e_j = (\varepsilon \otimes \text{id}_{k[G]})(\Delta(e_j)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon(e_i) \psi(T_{ij}), \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

We deduce from this that ψ is surjective, i.e. that r is a closed immersion. 

Example

Recall that the additive group $\mathbb{G}_a = \text{Spec } k[T]$ has the comultiplication

$$\Delta : k[T] \rightarrow k[T] \otimes k[T], \quad T \mapsto 1 \otimes T + T \otimes 1.$$

It is isomorphic to the subgroup of GL_2 formed by matrices of the form $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

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"Abstract nonsense" proof. One considers the k -algebra homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : k[T_{11}, T_{12}, T_{21}, T_{22}, (T_{11}T_{22} - T_{12}T_{21})^{-1}] &\rightarrow k[T] \\ T_{11} &\mapsto 1, \quad T_{12} \mapsto T, \quad T_{21} \mapsto 0, \quad T_{22} \mapsto 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then ψ is a (surjective) homomorphism of Hopf algebras since

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\psi(T_{11})) &= \Delta(1) = 1 \otimes 1 = (\psi \otimes \psi)(T_{11} \otimes T_{11} + T_{12} \otimes T_{21}), \\ \Delta(\psi(T_{12})) &= \Delta(T) = 1 \otimes T + T \otimes 1 = (\psi \otimes \psi)(T_{11} \otimes T_{12} + T_{12} \otimes T_{22}), \\ \Delta(\psi(T_{21})) &= \Delta(0) = 0 = (\psi \otimes \psi)(T_{21} \otimes T_{11} + T_{22} \otimes T_{21}), \\ \Delta(\psi(T_{22})) &= \Delta(1) = 1 \otimes 1 = (\psi \otimes \psi)(T_{21} \otimes T_{12} + T_{22} \otimes T_{22}). \end{aligned}$$

Remark

Every algebraic group G over k has the largest affine quotient G^{aff} , and every representation of G factors through G^{aff} .

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Let (V, ρ) be a n -dimensional representation of an affine k -group scheme $G = \text{Spec}(k[G], \Delta, \varepsilon)$. Let V_0 be the underlying vector space of V . Then $V_0 \otimes k[G]$ is a $k[G]$ -comodule with the coaction

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That ρ is a coaction implies $(\rho \otimes \text{id}_{k[G]}) \circ \rho = (\text{id}_{V_0} \otimes \Delta) \circ \rho$ commutes, i.e. that $\rho : V \rightarrow V_0 \otimes k[G]$ is a $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphism. Further, since $(\text{id}_V \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \rho : V \rightarrow V \otimes k$ is the canonical isomorphism, ρ is injective.

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The group-like elements of $k[G]$ are linearly independent.

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Lemma

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Proof. Suppose that $e \in k[G]$ is a group-like element which can be written as $e = \sum_i \alpha_i e_i$, where each $e_i \in k[G]$ is group-like, $e_i \neq e$, and $\alpha_i \in k$. Then

$$\sum_i \alpha_i (e_i \otimes e_i) = \Delta \left(\sum_i \alpha_i e_i \right) = \Delta(e) = e \otimes e = \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j (e_i \otimes e_j).$$

It follows that $\alpha_i = \alpha_i^2$ for all i and $\alpha_i \alpha_j = 0$ for all $i \neq j$. Furthermore, $1 = \varepsilon(e) = \varepsilon \left(\sum_i \alpha_i e_i \right) = \sum_i \alpha_i \varepsilon(e_i) = \sum_i \alpha_i$, thus $\alpha_i = 1$ for exactly one index i , and $\alpha_j = 0$ for $j \neq i$. It follows that $e = e_i$, contradiction.

Definition

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Let M be an abelian group (whose operation is written **multiplicatively**). The group algebra $k[M]$ has a natural Hopf algebra structure given by the comultiplication $e \mapsto e \otimes e$ and the counit $e \mapsto 1$ for all $e \in M$.

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Conversely, an affine k -group scheme G is diagonalizable iff $G \simeq D(X^*(G))$.

Theorem

The constructions $G \mapsto X^*(G)$ and $M \mapsto D(M)$ establish an equivalence

$$\{\text{diagonalizable group schemes over } k\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{abelian groups}\},$$

of categories, under which diagonalizable algebraic groups over k correspond to finitely generated abelian groups.

Example

- 1 If M and N are abelian groups, then $k[M \times N] \simeq k[M] \otimes k[N]$, hence

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$$D(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) = \mu_n.$$

- 4 It follows from the structure theorem for finitely generated abelian groups that every diagonalizable algebraic group over k is a product of copies of \mathbb{G}_m and various μ_n .

Let (V, r) be a representation of an affine k -group scheme G and $\chi \in X^*(G)$. For $v \in V$, the condition that $r(g)(v \otimes 1) = v \otimes \chi(g)$ for all commutative k -algebra A and $g \in G(A)$ is equivalent to $\rho(v) = v \otimes e_\chi$, where $\rho: V \rightarrow V \otimes k[G]$ is the coaction corresponding to r , and $e_\chi \in k[G]$ is the group-like element corresponding to χ . The **eigenspace corresponding to χ** is

$$V_\chi := \{v \in V : \rho(v) = v \otimes e_\chi\}.$$

Theorem

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Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space. Recall that an endomorphism $g : V \rightarrow V$ is called **unipotent** if $g - \text{id}_V$ is nilpotent.

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Theorem (Kolchin)

If $G \subseteq \text{GL}(V)$ is a subgroup consisting of unipotent endomorphisms, then there is a basis for V on which G acts by the matrices in the group

$$\mathbb{U}_n(k) := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In particular, there exists a non-zero vector $v \in V$ fixed by G .

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In particular, there exists a non-zero vector $v \in V$ fixed by G .

Let G be an affine k -group scheme and (V, ρ) a representation of G . We call the eigenspace corresponding to the trivial character of G ,

$$V^G := \{v \in V : \rho(v) = v \otimes 1\}$$

the **fixed subspace** of V by G .

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Theorem

Let $G = \text{Spec}(k[G], \Delta, \varepsilon)$ be an affine algebraic group over k . The following are equivalent.

- 1 G is unipotent.
- 2 For any closed immersion $G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n$ of algebraic groups, G is conjugate to \mathbb{U}_n via an element of $\text{GL}_n(k)$.
- 3 G is isomorphic to a closed subgroup of \mathbb{U}_n for some n .
- 4 The Hopf algebra $k[G]$ is **coconnected**, i.e. there exists a filtration $C_0 \subseteq C_1 \subseteq \dots$ of subspaces of $k[G]$ such that $C_0 = k$, $\bigcup_{r \geq 0} C_r = k[G]$ and $\Delta(C_r) \subseteq \sum_{i=0}^r C_i \otimes C_{r-i}$ for all $r \geq 0$.

Example

- 1 An affine algebraic group is unipotent iff it admits a faithful finite-dimensional representation on which it acts by unipotent matrices.
- 2 A closed subgroup G of GL_n is unipotent iff every $g \in G(k)$ is unipotent.
- 3 Closed subgroups of $\mathbb{G}_a \simeq \mathbb{U}_2$ are unipotents. For example, if k has characteristic $p > 0$, then the group $\alpha_{p^n} := \text{Spec } k[T]/(T^{p^n})$ is unipotent for all $n \geq 1$.
- 4 The group \mathbb{U}_n admits an descending central series of length $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ with successive quotients isomorphic to \mathbb{G}_a . When $n = 3$, the series is

$$\mathbb{U}_3 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \supseteq \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \supseteq \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \supseteq \{e\}.$$

It follows that every unipotent group admits a descending central series with successive quotients isomorphic to closed subgroups of \mathbb{G}_a . In particular, unipotent groups are nilpotent and *a fortiori* solvable.

Theorem

Assume that k has characteristic 0.

- 1 Unipotent algebraic groups over k are connected. In particular, there are no non-trivial finite unipotent algebraic groups over k .
- 2 Let G be a unipotent algebraic group over k . The exponential map $\exp : \mathrm{Lie}(G)_\alpha \rightarrow G$ is an isomorphism of algebraic varieties over k . It is an isomorphism of algebraic groups over k iff G is commutative.
- 3 The constructions $G \mapsto \mathrm{Lie}(G)$ and $V \mapsto V_\alpha$ establish an equivalence between the category of commutative unipotent algebraic groups and that of finite-dimensional vector spaces over k .
- 4 The constructions $G \mapsto \mathrm{Lie}(G)$ and $\mathfrak{g} \mapsto \mathfrak{g}_{\mathrm{BCH}}$ (the group law on $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathrm{BCH}}$ is given by the **Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff series**) establish an equivalence between the category of unipotent algebraic groups and that of finite-dimensional nilpotent Lie algebras over k .

Thank you for paying attention !