

The Galois Group of a Picard-Vessiot Extension, Part 2.

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1 Linear algebraic groups.

Let V be a closed subset of $GL(n)$, and let $C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$ be its coordinate ring.

We have the short exact sequence:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{a} \rightarrow C\left[X, \frac{1}{\det X}\right] \xrightarrow{\varphi} C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right] \rightarrow 0, \quad \varphi(X) = \gamma, \quad \varphi\left(\frac{1}{\det X}\right) = \frac{1}{\det \gamma}.$$

A subgroup G of $GL(n)$ that is also a closed subset is called a *closed subgroup* (*linear algebraic group*).

$GL(1)$ is denoted by \mathbb{G}_m

A subgroup G of \mathbb{G}_m is closed if and only if there is a polynomial F in $C[X]$, X an indeterminate, such that $G = V(F)$.

G is the finite set of roots of a polynomial in 1 indeterminate.

The proper subgroups of \mathbb{G}_m are finite groups: the groups of m^{th} roots of unity.

Other examples:

1. The *special linear group* $SL(n) = \{c \in GL(n) : \det c = 1\}$.
2. The *upper triangular group* $T(n) = \{c \in GL(n) : c_{ij} = 0, \quad i > j\}$.
3. The *upper triangular unipotent group* $U(n) = \{c \in T(n) : c_{ii} = 1, i = 1, \dots, n\}$.
4. The *diagonal group* $D(n) = \{c \in GL(n) : c_{ij} = 0, i \neq j\}$.
5. The *orthogonal group* $O(n) = \{c \in GL(n) : c^t c = 1_n\}$, 1_n the $n \times n$ identity matrix. The *special orthogonal group* $SO(n) = O(n) \cap SL(n)$.

6. A closed subgroup of $GL(2n)$ is the *symplectic group* $SP(2n) = \{c \in GL(2n) : c^t j c = 1_{2n}\}$, where

$$j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_n \\ -1_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

These are some of the so-called *classical groups*.

Recall: Let V be a closed subset of $GL(n)$, and W be a closed subset of $GL(m)$.

Let $C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$ be the coordinate ring of V , and $C\left[\varsigma, \frac{1}{\det \varsigma}\right]$ be the coordinate ring of W .

$C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right] \otimes_C C\left[\varsigma, \frac{1}{\det \varsigma}\right]$ is the coordinate ring of $V \times W$.

Therefore, if G and G' are linear algebraic groups, then $G \times G'$ is a linear algebraic group.

Let G be a closed subgroup of $GL(n)$. The following maps are morphisms of affine varieties:

The *multiplication map*

$$\mu : G \times G \rightarrow G, \quad (a, b) \mapsto ab;$$

the *left* and *right multiplication maps*

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_a & : c \mapsto ac \\ \rho_a & : c \mapsto ca, \quad a, c \in G, \end{aligned}$$

and the *inversion map* $\iota : G \rightarrow G$ sending $c \mapsto c^{-1}$. The left and right mul-

tiplication maps, and the inversion map are homeomorphisms of the algebraic variety G .

In particular, λ_a^* and ρ_a^* are C -algebra automorphisms of $C[G]$.

$R = C[G] = C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$ is a Hopf algebra.

We have the following C -algebra homomorphisms:

comultiplication $\mu^* : R \rightarrow R \otimes_C R$, sending γ_{ij} to $\sum_{k=1}^n \gamma_{ik} \otimes \gamma_{kj}$.

$$\gamma \mapsto \gamma \otimes \gamma.$$

augmentation $\epsilon : R \rightarrow C$, sending f to $f(1_n)$.

$$\gamma \mapsto 1_n$$

antipode $\iota^* : R \rightarrow R$, sending γ_{ij} to $(\gamma^{-1})_{ij}$.

We also have the algebra multiplication map $m : R \otimes_C R \rightarrow R$, sending $f \otimes g$ to fg .

The commutative diagrams expressing associativity, the properties of the identity element and inverses have their counterparts in the Hopf algebra.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \times & G \times G \xrightarrow{\mu \times id} G \times G \\ id \times \mu & \downarrow & \downarrow \mu \\ G & \times & G \xrightarrow{\mu} G \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} R & \otimes & R \otimes R \xleftarrow{\mu^* \otimes id} R \otimes R \\ id \otimes \mu^* & \uparrow & \uparrow \mu^* \\ R & \otimes & R \xleftarrow{\mu^*} R \end{array}$$

$$(id, 1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{(1, id)} & G \times G \\ \downarrow & \searrow id & \downarrow \mu \\ G \times G & \xrightarrow{\mu} & G \end{array} \qquad m \circ (id \otimes \epsilon) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} R & \xleftarrow{m \circ (\epsilon \otimes id)} & R \otimes R \\ \uparrow & \swarrow id & \uparrow \mu^* \\ R \otimes R & \xleftarrow{\mu^*} & R \end{array}$$

$$(id, \iota) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{(\iota, id)} & G \times G \\ \downarrow & \searrow id & \downarrow \mu \\ G \times G & \xrightarrow{\mu} & G \end{array} \qquad m \circ (id \otimes \iota^*) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} R & \xleftarrow{m \circ (\iota^* \otimes id)} & R \otimes R \\ \uparrow & \swarrow id & \uparrow \mu^* \\ R \otimes R & \xleftarrow{\mu^*} & R \end{array}$$

Let G be a closed subgroup of $GL(n)$.

A morphism φ of algebraic varieties that is a homomorphism of algebraic groups

is called a *morphism of algebraic groups*.

Example 1 1. The map $\det : GL(n) \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$ is a surjective morphism of algebraic groups, with kernel $SL(n)$.

2. Let G be a closed subgroup of $GL(n)$, and let $A \in G$. The group automorphism

$$\tau_A : Z \mapsto AZA^{-1}$$

(conjugation by A) is an algebraic group automorphism.

Proposition 2 Let G be a closed subgroup of $GL(n)$, and, let H be a subgroup of G .

Let U and V be open dense subgroups of G .

1. $G = UV$.
2. \overline{H} is a subgroup of G .
3. If H contains a dense open subset of \overline{H} then $H = \overline{H}$.

Proof. We use the fact that the inversion, and left and right multiplication maps are homeomorphisms of the affine variety G .

Since λ_x and inversion are homeomorphisms of affine varieties,

if $x \in G$, xV^{-1} is a dense open subgroup of G . Therefore, $U \cap xV^{-1}$ is nonempty. Let $u = xv^{-1}$ be in the intersection. Then, $x = uv$.

So, we have established 1.

Since inversion is a homeomorphism of affine varieties, $\overline{H}^{-1} = \overline{H^{-1}} = \overline{H}$. So, \overline{H} is closed under inversion.

Now, let $x \in H$. Since λ_x is a homeomorphism of affine varieties, $x\overline{H} = \overline{xH} = \overline{H}$. Therefore, $H\overline{H} \subseteq \overline{H}$. Let $x \in \overline{H}$. Since ρ_x is a homeomorphism of affine varieties, $\overline{H}x = \overline{Hx} \subseteq \overline{H}$. Therefore, $\overline{H}\overline{H} \subseteq \overline{H}$.

So, we have established 2.

Let $U \subseteq H$ be a dense open subset of \overline{H} . By 2, \overline{H} is a closed subgroup of G . Therefore, $\overline{H} = UU \subseteq H$.

So, we have established 3. ■

Proposition 3 Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow G'$ be a morphism of algebraic groups. Then, the kernel of φ is a normal closed subgroup of G ,

and the image of φ is a closed subgroup of G' .

Proof. By Corollary 20 (Chevalley), $\varphi(G)$ contains a dense open subgroup of $\varphi(G)$.

By Part 2 of the previous proposition, $\overline{\varphi(G)}$ is a closed subgroup of G' .

Therefore, by Part 3, $\varphi(G) = \overline{\varphi(G)}$. Clearly, the kernel of φ is closed. ■

Proposition 4 1. The connected component G^0 of G containing the identity matrix 1_n

is a closed normal subgroup of G of finite index in G .

Its cosets are the connected components (and irreducible components) of G .

2. Every closed subgroup of G of finite index in G contains G^0 .

Proof. We turn to the proof of part 1. Let a be in G^0 .

The left multiplication morphism $\lambda_{a^{-1}}$ permutes the connected components of G .

Since $\lambda_{a^{-1}}(G^0)$ contains 1_n , $\lambda_{a^{-1}}(G^0) = G^0$. Similarly, $\iota(G^0) = (G^0)^{-1} = G^0$.

It follows that G^0 is a closed subgroup of G . Furthermore, if $a \in G$, $\tau_a(G^0) = G^0$.

Thus, G^0 is a normal closed subgroup of G .

Since left multiplication is a homeomorphism of affine varieties,

the left cosets of G^0 are connected components of G .

Let G^i be a connected component of G , and let $a \in G^i$.

Then, $\lambda_{a^{-1}}(G^i) = G^0$, and $G^i = \lambda_a(G^0)$. So, every connected component is a left coset of G^0 .

We now show that the connected components are the irreducible components of G .

Let V and W be irreducible components containing 1_n .

The multiplication morphism $\mu : V \times W \rightarrow G$ has image the product VW .

Therefore, VW and \overline{VW} are irreducible. $V \subseteq \overline{VW}$ and $W \subseteq \overline{VW}$. Therefore, $V = W = \overline{VW}$.

So, there is a unique irreducible component containing the identity matrix, and it is closed under multiplication.

$\iota(V)$ is closed and irreducible, and contains 1_n . So, $\iota(V) \subseteq V$.

The unique irreducible component containing the identity matrix is a closed subgroup of G .

For the same reasons, it is a normal subgroup of G .

It is easy to see that the irreducible components are mutually disjoint, and equal the left cosets of V .

G^0 is a union of irreducible components of G .

Since they are mutually disjoint and finite in number, they are both open and closed in G^0 .

Since G^0 is connected, there is a unique irreducible component of G contained in G^0 .

G^0 is irreducible, and equals V . Thus, every connected component of G is irreducible.

We turn now to part 2.

Let H be a closed subgroup of G of finite index in G .

Then H^0 is contained in G^0 . Let $a \in G^0$. aH^0 is a left coset of H^0 in G .

Therefore, the index of H^0 in G^0 is \leq the index of H^0 in G . So, H^0 has finite index in G^0 .

Therefore, H^0 is both open and closed in G^0 . Thus, $H^0 = G^0$, and $H \supseteq G^0$. ■

Corollary 5 A linear algebraic group is connected if and only if it equals its identity component.

1.1 The commutator subgroup of a linear algebraic group

Let V be an irreducible closed subset of \mathbb{A}^n .

$$\dim V := \text{tr deg}_C C(V)$$

Lemma 6 *Let V and W be irreducible closed subsets of \mathbb{A}^n , with $W \subseteq V$.*

1. $\dim W \leq \dim V$;
2. *If W is a proper subset of V , then $\dim W < \dim V$.*

Proof. Write $C[V] = C[\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n]$ and let \mathfrak{p} be the defining ideal of W in $C[V]$.

Write $C[W] = C[\varsigma_1, \dots, \varsigma_n]$, where ς_i is the residue class of $\gamma_i \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}$.

Suppose $\varsigma_1, \dots, \varsigma_d$ is a transcendence basis over C of $C[W]$.

Then, $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d$ are algebraically independent over C . So, we have established 1.

Suppose $\dim V = \dim W = d$, but $V \neq W$. Then there exists $f \in \mathfrak{p}$, $f \neq 0$.

f is algebraic over $C(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d)$. Therefore, there exists $H \neq 0$ in the polynomial ring $C[\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d, T] = C[\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d][T]$ such that $H(f) = 0$.

WOLOG, we can assume that H is irreducible over $C(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d)$, and, therefore, $T \nmid H$.

$$\begin{aligned} H &= a_m(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d)T^m + \dots + a_0(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d) \\ H(0) &= a_0(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d) \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\varphi : C[\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n] \rightarrow C[\varsigma_1, \dots, \varsigma_n]$ be the surjective C -homomorphism with

kernel \mathfrak{p} . Then, $0 = \varphi(H(f)) = H(\varphi(f)) = H(0) = a_0(\varsigma_1, \dots, \varsigma_d)$, which contradicts the algebraic independence of $\varsigma_1, \dots, \varsigma_d$. ■

Proposition 7 Let G be a closed subgroup of $GL(n)$,

and let $(V_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family of irreducible closed subsets of $GL(n)$.

Let $\varphi_i : V_i \rightarrow G$ be a morphism. Suppose each $W_i = \varphi_i(V_i)$ contains the identity matrix.

Let H be the smallest closed subgroup of G containing the subsets W_i , $i \in I$.

1. H is connected.

2. There exists an integer $k > 0$ and $j = (j_1, \dots, j_k) \in I^k$ and $\epsilon(j_h) = \pm 1$, $h = 1, \dots, k$, such that $H = W_{j_1}^{\epsilon(j_1)} \dots W_{j_k}^{\epsilon(j_k)}$.

Proof. We can ensure that for each $i \in I$, $\exists j \in I$ such that $V_i^{-1} = V_j$, and $\varphi_j(x_i^{-1}) = (\varphi_i(x_i))^{-1}$.
Thus, $W_i^{-1} = W_j$.

$\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, and $\forall j = (j_1, \dots, j_k) \in I^k$, set $W_j = W_{j_1} \dots W_{j_k}$.

Then, since the variety $V_{j_1} \times \dots \times V_{j_k}$ is irreducible,

and the mapping $V_{j_1} \times \dots \times V_{j_k} \rightarrow G$, sending $(x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_k})$ to $\varphi(x_{j_1}) \dots \varphi(x_{j_k})$ is a morphism of affine varieties,

W_j and $\overline{W_j}$ are irreducible.

It follows from Chevalley's Theorem that W_j contains an open dense subset of $\overline{W_j}$.

Clearly, $W_j W_k \subseteq W_{(j,k)}$.

We now repeat the argument used in the proof of part 2 of Proposition 2. to show that

$$\overline{W_j} \overline{W_k} \subseteq \overline{W(j,k)}.$$

Choose j such that $\dim \overline{W_j}$ is maximal.

$\forall k$ $\overline{W_j} \subseteq \overline{W_j} \overline{W_k} \subseteq \overline{W(j,k)}$ By Lemma 6, $\overline{W(j,k)} = \overline{W_j}$, and, thus $\overline{W_k} \subseteq \overline{W_j}$
 $\forall k$.

Moreover, since $\overline{W_j} \overline{W_j} \subseteq \overline{W(j,j)} = \overline{W_j}$, $\overline{W_j}$ is closed under multiplication.

Taking $W_k = W_j^{-1}$, $\overline{W_j}^{-1} = \overline{W_j^{-1}}$.

Since it contains the identity matrix, $\overline{W_j}$ is a subgroup of G .

Since W_j contains an open dense subset of $\overline{W_j}$, it follows from part 3 of Proposition 2 that $\overline{W_j} = H$ is an irreducible closed subgroup of G .

It follows that H is connected by Proposition 3. ■

Corollary 8 Let $(G_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family of closed connected subgroups of a closed subgroup G of $GL(n)$.

Then, the subgroup generated by the family is closed and connected.

Let G be a group, and let H and K be subgroups of G .
 (H, K) is the subgroup generated by all commutators $hkh^{-1}k^{-1}$,
 $h \in H, k \in K$.
 (G, G) is the commutator subgroup of G .

Corollary 9 If H and K are closed subgroups of a closed subgroup G of $GL(n)$,

one of which is connected, then (H, K) is connected.

Proof. Set the indexing set I of the proposition equal to K ,

and for each index i , set $V_i = H$. Define, $\varphi_i(x) = xix^{-1}i^{-1}$, $x \in H$.

φ_i is a morphism from V_i into G . Then, (H, K) is the subgroup of G generated by H and K .

By Proposition 2, part 2, $\overline{(H, K)}$ is a subgroup of G . By Proposition 7, part 1, $\overline{(H, K)}$ is irreducible, hence connected, since H is irreducible.

A similar argument justifies the conclusion when K is connected. ■

Corollary 10 The commutator subgroup of a connected linear algebraic group is closed and connected.

Remark 11 It is also true that the commutator subgroup of any linear algebraic group is closed, but, it is more difficult to establish.

Remark 12 Replace C by a differentially closed (constrainedly closed) Δ -field. The differential algebraic subgroups of $GL(n)$ are varieties defined by differential ideals in $C\{X, \frac{1}{\det X}\}$. Such ideals define the Kolchin topology. The commutator group of a differential algebraic group need not be Kolchin closed.

1.2 The Jordan decomposition of an invertible matrix:

Let $a \in GL(n, C)$, C algebraically closed. Then, there is a matrix $b \in GL(n, C)$ such that bab^{-1} is in *Jordan normal form*: This matrix has square blocks along the diagonal. The diagonal entries are the eigenvalues of a – one eigenvalue for each block. The size of the j th block is the algebraic multiplicity of the

eigenvalue (its multiplicity as a root of the characteristic equation.)

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} a_1 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ & a_1 & 1 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & a_1 & 1 \\ & & & & a_1 \end{array} \right) & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & & & \left(\begin{array}{cccc} a_p & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ & a_p & 1 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & a_p & 1 \\ & & & & a_p \end{array} \right) \\ & & 0 & & \end{array} \right).$$

$$bab^{-1} = su,$$

where s is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the eigenvalues of a , and u is upper triangular unipotent. Moreover,

$$su = us.$$

$$s = \left(\begin{array}{c} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} a_1 & \dots & & 0 \\ & a_1 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & a_1 & a_1 \end{array} \right) & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \left(\begin{array}{cccc} a_p & \dots & & 0 \\ & a_p & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & a_p & a_p \end{array} \right) \end{array} \right)$$

$$u = \left(\begin{array}{c} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & \frac{1}{a_1} & \dots & 0 \\ & 1 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & 1 & \frac{1}{a_1} \end{array} \right) & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & \frac{1}{a_p} & \dots & 0 \\ & 1 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & & & 1 & \frac{1}{a_p} \end{array} \right) \end{array} \right)$$

1.2.1 The semisimple and unipotent parts of an invertible matrix

In general, a diagonalizable invertible matrix is called *semisimple*.

An invertible matrix u is called *unipotent* if $u - 1_n$ is nilpotent, *i.e.*, some positive integer power equals 0.

Equivalently, the eigenvalues of u all equal 1.

For example, here is the general upper triangular 5×5 unipotent matrix.

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} & a_{15} \\ 0 & 1 & a_{23} & a_{24} & a_{25} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & a_{34} & a_{35} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & a_{45} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proposition 13 (Springer, *Linear Algebraic Groups*, section 2.4) Every $n \times n$ matrix a in $GL(n, C)$, C algebraically closed, can be written uniquely

$$a = su,$$

s semisimple, u unipotent, $su = us$, where $su = us$.

Theorem 14 (Kolchin, *On Certain Concepts in the Theory of Algebraic Matrix Groups*, 1948)

Let G be a commutative linear algebraic group.

1. The sets G_s and G_u of semisimple and unipotent matrices in G are closed subgroups.
2. The product map $G_s \times G_u \rightarrow G$ is an isomorphism of linear algebraic groups.

Call G_s the *semisimple part* of G , and G_u the *unipotent part* of G .

Corollary 15 Every commutative linear algebraic group is the direct product of its semisimple and unipotent parts.

Remark 16 A diagonalizable connected commutative linear algebraic group is called a torus. Every torus is isomorphic to $\mathbb{G}_m \times \cdots \times \mathbb{G}_m$

Let \mathbb{G}_a be the additive group of the field C .

\mathbb{G}_a has the natural linear representation as the commutative unipotent group

$$G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid a \in C \right\}.$$

Every unipotent linear algebraic group is isomorphic to $\mathbb{G}_a \times \cdots \times \mathbb{G}_a$.

So, every connected commutative linear algebraic group is isomorphic to

$$(\mathbb{G}_m \times \cdots \times \mathbb{G}_m) \times (\mathbb{G}_a \times \cdots \times \mathbb{G}_a),$$

$\longleftarrow k \longrightarrow$
 $\longleftarrow l \longrightarrow$

where $k + l = \dim G$.

Suppose C is a differentially closed ordinary differential field. A differential algebraic group is defined by a radical differential ideal. If E is the elliptic curve with affine Legendre equation

$$y^2 = x(x-1)(x-t), t \in C,$$

where the derivation operator is $\frac{d}{dt}$, the differential algebraic subgroup structure on E is exactly the same as the differential algebraic subgroup structure on \mathbb{G}_m .. (A. Buium, "Geometry of differential polynomial functions I: Algebraic groups," 1993.)

2 The linear algebraic group structure on the Galois group of a Picard-Vessiot extension.

Recall: K is an ordinary Δ -field of characteristic 0. The field C of constants of K is algebraically closed.

We fix a matrix $A \in M(n, K)$ and a Picard-Vessiot extension $L = K(\alpha)$ for A .

α is called a *fundamental matrix* for A .

$$\alpha' = A\alpha.$$

Gal is the Galois group of L over K .

$$c : \text{Gal} \rightarrow GL(n, C), \quad c(\sigma) = \alpha^{-1}\sigma\alpha.$$

c is an *injective homomorphism of groups*.

The Picard-Vessiot ring P :

$$\begin{aligned} P &= K \left[\alpha, \frac{1}{\det \alpha} \right] \\ D &= (P \otimes_K P)^\Delta = C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right], \quad \gamma = \alpha^{-1} \otimes \alpha. \\ P \otimes_K P &= (P \otimes_K 1) \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right]. \\ 1 \otimes \alpha &= (\alpha \otimes 1) \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Jerry showed (Proposition 26) that the Δ - P -homomorphism

$$P \otimes_C D \rightarrow P \otimes_K P, \quad a \otimes d \mapsto (a \otimes 1)d$$

is a Δ - P -isomorphism.

Lemma 17 $P \otimes_K P$ is reduced.

Proof. Zariski and Samuel, *Commutative Algebra, Vol. I, Theorem 39, p. 195.*

This book contains an excellent study of tensor products of algebras over fields.

■

Let X be an $n \times n$ matrix of indeterminates. Define a surjective C -homomorphism

$$\varphi : C \left[X, \frac{1}{\det X} \right] \rightarrow C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right], \quad X \mapsto \gamma, \quad \frac{1}{\det X} \mapsto \frac{1}{\det \gamma}.$$

Set $\mathfrak{a} = \ker \varphi$. Since $C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right]$ is a subring of $P \otimes_K P$, it is reduced.

Thus, \mathfrak{a} is a radical ideal.

We identify $C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right]$ with $C[V(\mathfrak{a})]$.

Proposition 18 If $\sigma \in \text{Gal}$, $c(\sigma) \in V(\mathfrak{a})$.

Proof. Define a Δ - K -homomorphism

$$\bar{\sigma} : P \otimes_K P \rightarrow P$$

by

$$\bar{\sigma}(a \otimes b) = a\sigma b.$$

Then,

$$\bar{\sigma}(\gamma) = \bar{\sigma}(\alpha^{-1} \otimes \alpha) = \alpha^{-1} \sigma \alpha = c(\sigma).$$

Also,

$$\bar{\sigma} \left(\frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right) = \frac{1}{\det \bar{\sigma} \gamma} = \frac{1}{\det c(\sigma)}.$$

Define a C -homomorphism $\chi_\sigma : C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right] \rightarrow C$ by

$$\chi_\sigma(\gamma) = c(\sigma), \quad \chi_\sigma \left(\frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right) = \frac{1}{\det c(\sigma)}.$$

By Lemma 26, Part I, which identifies $V(\mathfrak{a})$ with $\text{Hom}_C \left(C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right], C \right)$, $c(\sigma) \in V(\mathfrak{a})$. ■

Proposition 19 *The injective group homomorphism $c : Gal \rightarrow V(\mathfrak{a})$ is surjective.*

Proof. *Let $c \in V(\mathfrak{a})$. c defines the evaluation homomorphism, which is a Δ - C -homomorphism:*

$$\chi_c : D = C \left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right] \rightarrow C, \quad \left(\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma} \right) \mapsto \left(c, \frac{1}{\det c} \right).$$

The homomorphism

$$f : P \otimes_C D \rightarrow P \otimes_K P, \quad a \otimes d \mapsto (a \otimes 1) d$$

is a Δ - P -isomorphism.

Let $\pi_2 : P \rightarrow P \otimes_K P$ be the mapping $a \mapsto 1 \otimes a$.

Define $\sigma : P \rightarrow P$ by

$$P \xrightarrow{\pi_2} P \otimes_K P \xrightarrow{f^{-1}} P \otimes_C D \xrightarrow{id \otimes \chi} P \otimes_C C \xrightarrow{mult} P.$$

We equip P with the structure of Δ - K -algebra, $P \otimes_K P$ and $P \otimes_C D$, and $P \otimes_C C$

with the structure of (left) Δ - P -algebra, by defining

$$a(b \otimes c) = ab \otimes c = (a \otimes 1)(b \otimes c).$$

Note: π_2 is a Δ - K -homomorphism,

f^{-1} is a Δ - P -homomorphism, hence is a Δ - K -homomorphism,

$id \otimes \chi$ is a Δ - P -homomorphism, hence is a Δ - K -homomorphism,

$mult$ is a Δ - P -homomorphism, hence is a Δ - K -homomorphism.

So, σ is a Δ - K -homomorphism from P to P .

Since P is Δ -simple, and σ is clearly not the 0 map, σ is injective.

Recall that $P = K \left[\alpha, \frac{1}{\det \alpha} \right]$. What is the effect of σ on α ?

$$\sigma : \alpha \mapsto \mathbf{1}_n \otimes_K \alpha = (\alpha \otimes_K \mathbf{1}_n) \gamma \mapsto \alpha \otimes_C \gamma \mapsto \alpha \otimes_C c \mapsto \alpha c.$$

$$\sigma : \det \alpha \mapsto \frac{1}{\det \alpha} \frac{1}{\det c}$$

Thus,

$$\sigma(P) = K \left[\alpha c, \frac{1}{\det \alpha} \frac{1}{\det c} \right].$$

Since c is in $GL(n, C) \subseteq GL(n, K)$, σ is clearly surjective.

So, σ is a Δ - K -automorphism of P , and extends uniquely to an element σ of Gal .

Since $\sigma(\alpha) = \alpha c$,

$$c = \alpha^{-1} \sigma \alpha = c(\sigma).$$

■

So, we defined on Gal the linear algebraic group structure defined on its image $G = V(\mathfrak{a})$ in $GL(n, C)$

This group structure depends on the choice of the fundamental matrix α for the differential equation

$$Y' = AY$$

that generates the Picard-Vessiot extension. Suppose

$$L = K(\beta), \quad \beta' = A\beta$$

Then, there exists a matrix $c \in GL(n, C)$ with

$$\beta = \alpha c.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} c_\beta(\sigma) &= \beta^{-1} \sigma \beta \\ &= c^{-1} \alpha^{-1} \sigma \alpha \\ &= c^{-1} (\alpha^{-1} \sigma \alpha) c \\ &= c^{-1} c_\alpha(\sigma) c. \end{aligned}$$

So, the linear representations of Gal are conjugate.

Summary 20 Let $L = K(\alpha)$, where $\alpha \in GL(n, L)$, and $\alpha' = A\alpha$, $A \in M(n, K)$.

Assume L is a Picard-Vessiot extension for A .

Let C be the algebraically closed field of constants of K .

Then, $L^\Delta = C$.

Let $P = K\left[\alpha, \frac{1}{\det \alpha}\right]$ be the associated Picard-Vessiot ring.

Then, $P \otimes_K P = P \otimes_C C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$, where $\gamma = \alpha^{-1} \otimes \alpha$.

$D = C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$ is the field of constants of $P \otimes_K P$.

D is the coordinate ring of the representation of Gal as a linear algebraic group.

The group isomorphism $c: \text{Gal} \rightarrow GL(n, C)$

associates with the K -automorphism σ of L the matrix $c(\sigma) = \alpha^{-1}\sigma\alpha$.

$D = C\left[\gamma, \frac{1}{\det \gamma}\right]$ has the structure of a Hopf algebra over C ,

with comultiplication, antipode, and counit induced by the group operations on the Galois group.