

LAG 21 2026-04-07

Semi-simple & Reductive

G connected LAG, $T \subseteq G$ max. torus.

$N, N' \triangleleft G$ normal $\Rightarrow NN' \triangleleft G$ normal.

N, N' also solvable $\Rightarrow NN'$ solvable.

$\therefore \exists!$ max. closed connected solvable normal subgp.

$R(G) \triangleleft G$ (radical of G)

Unipotent radical: $R_u(G) = R(G)_u$

$R_u(G) =$ unique max. closed connected unipotent normal subgroup of G .

Def G is semi-simple $\Leftrightarrow R(G) = e$.

G is reductive $\Leftrightarrow R_u(G) = e$.

Note: $G/R(G)$ is semi-simple.

$G/R_u(G)$ is reductive.

Note: $R(G) = \left(\bigcap_{B \in \mathcal{B}} B \right)^\circ$

Soon: $R_u(G) = \left(\bigcap_{B \in \mathcal{B}^T} B_u \right)^\circ$.

$\pi: G \longrightarrow \bar{G} = G/R(G)$ semi-simple quotient.

Claim: $\bar{T} = \pi(T) \subseteq \bar{G}$ max. torus.

Proof: \exists max. torus $\bar{S} \subseteq \bar{G}$ with $\bar{T} \subseteq \bar{S}$.

$H \subseteq \pi^{-1}(\bar{S})$ connected closed subgroup.

$H/R(G) \subseteq \bar{S}$ commutative $\Rightarrow H$ solvable.

\square $H = T \times H_u \Rightarrow \bar{S} = \pi(H) = \pi(T) = \bar{T}$.

Weyl groups

$$W = N_G(T)/Z_G(T) \xrightarrow{\pi} N_{\bar{G}}(\bar{T})/Z_{\bar{G}}(\bar{T}) = \bar{W}$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ B \in G \text{ Borel} \} \xrightarrow{\cong/\pi} \bar{\mathcal{B}} = \{ \bar{B} \in \bar{G} \text{ Borel} \}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \pi(B) \\ \pi^{-1}(B) & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \bar{B} \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{B}^T \xrightarrow{\cong/\pi} \bar{\mathcal{B}}^T$$

\cup

W

π

\bar{W}

Simply transitive actions

$$\Rightarrow \pi: W(G, T) \xrightarrow{\cong} W(\bar{G}, \bar{T})$$

Def $\text{rank}(G) = \dim(T)$.

$\text{ssrank}(G) = \text{rank}(G/R(G))$. (semi-simple rank).

• $\text{rank}(G) = 0 \Leftrightarrow G$ unipotent.

Note: $W \subseteq \text{Aut}(T) = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}^n)$, $n = \dim(T)$.

• $\text{ssrank}(G) = 0 \Leftrightarrow G$ solvable $\Rightarrow W = e$.

• $\text{ssrank}(G) = 1 \Rightarrow |W| \leq 2$.

Example: $G = GL_n$.

Borel: $B = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & \\ * & * & \\ * & * & * \end{bmatrix}$. $B_u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $B/B_u \cong G_m^n$.

Max torus: $T = \begin{bmatrix} * & & \\ & * & \\ & & * \end{bmatrix}$. Opposite Borel: $B^- = \begin{bmatrix} * & & \\ & * & \\ & & * \end{bmatrix}$

$R(G) \subseteq B \cap B^- = T$. $R_u(G) = e$.

Exer: $R(G) = Z(G) \cong G_m$.

GL_n is reductive, not semi-simple.

$SL_n \subseteq GL_n$ and $PGL_n = GL_n/Z(GL_n)$ are semi-simple.

Exer: $SL_n = Z(\det=1) \subseteq GL_n$ is connected.

$PGL_n = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}^{n-1})$.

Example $G = \begin{bmatrix} * & * \\ & * \end{bmatrix} \subseteq GL_n. \quad R_u(G) = \begin{bmatrix} I & * \\ & I \end{bmatrix}.$

$$R(G) = Z(G) \times R_u(G) \cong \mathbb{G}_m \times R_u(G)$$

Notes

(1) X SWF. $X \ni G$ action by automorphisms.

$$G \curvearrowright \mathcal{O}(X), \quad (g \cdot f)(x) = f(x.g).$$

$$X/G \text{ SWF. } \mathcal{O}(X/G) = \mathcal{O}(X)^G = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(X) \mid g \cdot f = f \ \forall g \in G\}.$$

(2) X affine variety, $X \ni \mathbb{G}_m$.

$\mathbb{G}_m \curvearrowright k[X]$ locally rational rep.

$$k[X] = \bigoplus_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} k[X]_d \text{ graded ring.}$$

$$k[X]_d = \{f \in k[X] \mid t \cdot f = t^d f\}$$

$$\mathcal{O}(X/\mathbb{G}_m) = k[X]_0$$

(3) $k[GL_n] = k[x_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n]_{\det}.$

$$k[PG L_n] = k[GL_n]_0$$

$$= k \left[\frac{x_{i_1 j_1} \dots x_{i_\ell j_\ell}}{\det} \mid i_\ell, j_\ell \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, 1 \leq \ell \leq n \right]$$

Example

$$\phi: SL_2 \xrightarrow{\cong} GL_2 \twoheadrightarrow PGL_2 \text{ group hom.}$$

$$\text{Ker}(\phi) = Z(SL_2) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{bmatrix} \mid x^2 = 1 \right\}.$$

$$\text{Char}(k) \neq 2: |Z(SL_2)| = 2, \quad PGL_2 = SL_2/Z(SL_2).$$

$$\text{Char}(k) = 2: \phi: SL_2 \twoheadrightarrow PGL_2 \text{ bijective, purely inseparable.}$$

Def G LAG, X G -variety.

An equivariant projective embedding of X is an embedding $\psi: X \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \mathbb{P}^n$ together with a alg. group hom. $\rho: G \rightarrow GL_{n+1}$ such that $\psi(g \cdot x) = \rho(g) \cdot \psi(x) \quad \forall x \in X, g \in G.$

Thm (Sumihiro 1973)

G connected LAG, X quasi-projective normal G -variety. Then \exists equiv. proj. embedding of X .

Proof for $X = G/H$, $H \subseteq G$ closed subgroup: LAG 14.

Prop $T \neq e$ torus, X irred. projective T -variety with equiv. proj. embedding.

- (1) $\exists \mathbb{G}_m \subseteq T: X^{\mathbb{G}_m} = X^T$
- (2) $|X^T| = 1 \iff X = \{\text{point}\}.$
- (3) $|X^T| = 2 \iff \dim(X) = 1$ and $X^T \neq X.$

Cor G connected LAG, $B \subseteq G$ Borel, W Weyl group.

- (1) $W = e \iff G$ solvable $\iff \text{ssrank}(G) = 0.$
- (2) $|W| = 2 \iff \dim(G/B) = 1 \iff G/B = \mathbb{P}^1 \iff \text{ssrank}(G) = 1.$

Proof: $W \longleftrightarrow (G/B)^T.$

Proof of Prop:

$X \subseteq \mathbb{P}(V)$ equiv. embedding, $T \rightarrow GL(V)$ nat. rep.

$V = \bigoplus V_\chi, \quad \chi \in X^*(T) = \{T \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m\}$

Choose $\lambda \in X_*(T) = \{\mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T\}:$

$$0 \neq V_\chi \neq V_{\chi'} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \langle \lambda, \chi - \chi' \rangle \neq 0.$$

$$\mathbb{P}(V)^T = \coprod \mathbb{P}(V_\chi) = \mathbb{P}(V)^{\lambda(\mathbb{G}_m)} \Rightarrow X^T = X^{\lambda(\mathbb{G}_m)}.$$

WLOG: $T = \mathbb{G}_m$, $V = \bigoplus_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} V_d$, $V_d = \{v \in V \mid t.v = t^d v \forall t \in T\}$.

Given $x \in X$, set

$$x_0 = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t.x, \quad x_\infty = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t.x.$$

Note: (a) $x_0, x_\infty \in X^T$, (b) $x_0 = x_\infty \Leftrightarrow x \in X^T$.

$$x = [u], \quad u = \sum u_d \in V. \quad t.x = [\sum t^d u_d]$$

$$m = \min \{d : u_d \neq 0\}, \quad M = \max \{d : u_d \neq 0\}.$$

$$\text{Then } x_0 = [u_m], \quad x_\infty = [u_M].$$

$$\therefore |X^T| = 1 \Leftrightarrow X = \{\text{point}\}.$$

Assume $|X^T| = 2$.

Choose $x = [u] \in X \setminus X^T$.

$\ell_m: V \rightarrow k$ linear, $\ell_m(u_m) \neq 0$, $\ell_m(v_d) = 0$ for $d \neq m$.

$\ell_M: V \rightarrow k$ linear, $\ell_M(u_M) \neq 0$, $\ell_M(v_d) = 0$ for $d \neq M$.

If $y = [v] \in X \setminus X^T$, then

$$y_0 = x_0 \Rightarrow \ell_m(v) \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad y_\infty = x_\infty \Rightarrow \ell_M(v) \neq 0.$$

$$\phi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1, \quad \phi([u]) = [\ell_m(u) : \ell_M(u)].$$

$$T\text{-equiv. morphism: } t.[a:b] = [t^m a : t^M b].$$

$\phi^{-1}(0) \subseteq X$ closed and T -stable.

$$(\phi^{-1}(0))^T = \{x_0\} \Rightarrow \phi^{-1}(0) = \{x_0\}.$$

$$\therefore \dim(X) = 1.$$

If $\dim(X) = 1$ and $x \in X \setminus X^T$, then $X = T.x \cup \{x_0, x_\infty\}$.

□