

Jordan decomposition

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Recall. (Jordan normal form) [Additive]

Let $a \in \text{End}(V)$, where V is a finite-dimensional k -vector space.

Let's view V as a $k[x]$ -mod where $x \cdot v := a(v)$.

Since $\dim_k V < \infty$, it is a f.g. $k[x]$ -mod. By the classification of f.g. modules of a PID, we have

$$V \simeq \bigoplus k[x]/\langle p_i^{n_i} \rangle \quad \text{where } p_i \in k[x] \text{ is irreducible.}$$

Since k is algebraically closed, $p_i = x - \lambda_i$.

[In the basis $1, [x - \lambda], \dots, [x - \lambda]^{n-1}$ of $k[x]/\langle (x - \lambda)^n \rangle$, matrix of multip. by $x - \lambda$ is $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & & 0 \\ 1 & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \lambda \\ 0 & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. So the matrix of multiplication by x is $J_n(\lambda) := \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & & 0 \\ 1 & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \lambda \\ 0 & & 1 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$; this gives the Jordan form of a .]

So $V \simeq \bigoplus_i \bigoplus_j k[x]/\langle (x - \lambda_i)^{n_{ij}} \rangle$, where λ_i 's are distinct elements of k .

Let $E_i: V \rightarrow V$ be the projection

$$E_i(v) = \begin{cases} 0 & v \in k[x]/\langle (x - \lambda_{i'})^{n_{i'j}} \rangle \quad \text{and } i' \neq i \\ v & v \in k[x]/\langle (x - \lambda_i)^{n_{ij}} \rangle \end{cases}$$

We'd like to show $E_i(v) = f_i(x) \cdot v$ for some polynomial f_i .

This happens if and only if $f_i(x) \in \langle x - \lambda_i \rangle^{n_{ij}}$ for $i \neq j$

and $(f_i(x) - 1) \in \langle x - \lambda_i \rangle^{n_{ij}}$;

By Chinese Remainder Theorem,

$$\exists f_i(x) \text{ s.t. } f_i(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{(x - \lambda_i)^{\max_j n_{ij}}}$$

$$\text{and } f_i(x) \equiv 1 \pmod{(x - \lambda_i)^{\max_j n_{ij}}}.$$

Let $f_{\text{sem}}(x) := \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x)$, and $f_{\text{nil}}(x) := x - f_{\text{sem}}(x)$.

Then, for $v \in k[x] / \langle x - \lambda_i \rangle^{n_{ij}}$, we have $f_{\text{sem}}(x) \cdot v = \lambda_i \cdot v$

and so $f_{\text{nil}}(x) \cdot v = (x - \lambda_i) \cdot v$. Therefore

- $a = f_{\text{sem}}(a) + f_{\text{nil}}(a)$
- $f_{\text{sem}}(a)$ is diagonalizable (semisimple element) $\iff a_s$
- $f_{\text{nil}}(a)$ is nilpotent $\iff a_n$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \cdot a_s a_n = a_n a_s \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\cdot C_{\text{End}(V)}(a) = C_{\text{End}(V)}(a_s) \cap C_{\text{End}(V)}(a_n)$$

Ex. $S \subseteq M_n(k)$: a set of pairwise commuting matrices

- ① $\exists x \in GL_n(k)$ s.t. $x S x^{-1} \subseteq$ lower triangular matrices
- ② If S consists of semisimple elements, then

② If S consists of semisimple elements, then

$$\exists x \in GL_n(k) \text{ s.t. } x S x^{-1} \subseteq \text{diagonal matrices.}$$

(Use induction on n .)

Ex. Prove that there is a unique pair (s, n) of a semisimple element s and a nilpotent element n s.t.

① $a = s + n$ ② $sn = ns$.

Corollary. $a \in \text{End}(V)$; $W \subseteq V$; $a(W) \subseteq W$

$$\Rightarrow a_s|_W \text{ and } a_n|_W \text{ give us the Jordan decomposition of } a|_W.$$

(Use the above mentioned uniqueness.)

Corollary.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \xrightarrow{\phi} W & & V \xrightarrow{\phi} W \\ a \downarrow \curvearrowright \downarrow b & \Rightarrow & a_s \downarrow \curvearrowright \downarrow b_s \quad \text{and} \quad a_n \downarrow \curvearrowright \downarrow b_n \\ V \xrightarrow{\phi} W & & V \xrightarrow{\phi} W \end{array}$$

Pf. Using the above corollary, we can assume ϕ is surjective.

$$\Rightarrow V \simeq \bigoplus_{i,j} k[x]/\langle (x-\lambda_i)^{n_{ij}} \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad W \simeq \bigoplus_{i,j} k[x]/\langle (x-\lambda_i)^{m_{ij}} \rangle$$

and $n_{ij} \geq m_{ij}$. So $f_{\text{sem}}^{(V)}$ works as well for $f_{\text{sem}}^{(W)}$.

$$\left(\max_j n_{ij} \geq \max_j m_{ij} \right). \quad \blacksquare$$

Corollary. $a \oplus b \in GL(V \oplus W) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a \otimes b = (a_s \otimes b_s)(a_u \otimes b_u) \\ a \# b = (a \# b_s)(a_u \# b_u) \end{cases}$

$\text{unipotent } \cdot u \oplus 0 \in GL(V \oplus W) \rightarrow \begin{cases} u \oplus 0 = (u_s \oplus 0_s)(u_u \oplus 0_u) \\ a \oplus b = (a_s \oplus b_s)(a_u \oplus b_u) \end{cases}$
 are Jordan decompositions

Theorem (Jordan decomposition: multiplicative version)

$\forall g \in GL(V), \exists! g_s, g_u$ s.t. ① g_s : semisimple; g_u : unipo.
 ② $g_u \cdot g_s = g_s \cdot g_u$

For such g_s and g_u we have:

$$g_s = f_{\text{sem}}(g) \quad \text{and} \quad g_u = f_{\text{uni}}(g)$$

And a similar commuting diagram holds for this decomposition.

Pf. Let $g_u := (I + g_s^{-1} g_n)$. \square

Theorem (Jordan decomp.: locally-finite case)

Suppose $x \in \text{End}(V)$ and $g \in GL(V)$; $\dim V = \infty$;

$\forall v \in V, \exists W \subseteq V$ s.t. ① $v \in W$ ② $\dim W < \infty$

③ $xW, gW \subseteq W$.

$\Rightarrow \exists! x_s, x_n \in \text{End}(V)$ s.t. ① $x_s x_n = x_n x_s$, $x = x_s + x_n$

② $x_s|_W$ is s.s., $x_n|_W$ is nilpot.

for any finite-dim. x -invari. subspace W

$\exists! a, a \in GL(V)$ s.t. ① $a = a a$, $a = a a$

$$\exists! g_s, g_u \in GL(V) \text{ s.t. } \textcircled{1} g_u g_s = g_s g_u, \quad g = g_s g_u$$

$$\textcircled{2} g_s|_W : \text{s.s.}; \quad g_u|_W : \text{unipo.}$$

for any finite-dim. g -invar. subsp. W .

Pf. Using finite-dim. filter. and compati. of Jordan decompositions, prove this. \square

Theorem. (Jordan decomposition: affine algebraic group case)

Let G be an affine algebraic group. Then for any $g \in G$

$$\textcircled{1} \exists! g_u, g_s \in G \text{ s.t. } p(g_s) = p(g)_s \text{ and } p(g_u) = p(g)_u$$

$$\text{where } p(g): k[G] \rightarrow k[G], \quad (p(g)f)(g') = f(g'g)$$

(in particular, $g_u g_s = g$.)

$\textcircled{2}$ If $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$ is an algebraic group homomorphism, then

$$\phi(g_s) = \phi(g)_s \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(g_u) = \phi(g)_u.$$

$\textcircled{3}$ If $G \subseteq GL_n$, then $g_s \cdot g_u$ is the (matrix) Jordan decomposition of g .

Pf. $\textcircled{1}$ Let $p(g)_s \cdot p(g)_u$ be the Jordan decomposition of $p(g)$.

We'd like to find $g_s, g_u \in G(k) = \text{Hom}(k[G], k)$ such that

$$p(g)_s = p(g_s) \iff \forall f \in k[G], \quad p(g)_s(f) = p(g_s)(f)$$

What is the relation between an element $k[G] \xrightarrow{g} k$ and $k[G] \xrightarrow{p(g)} k[G]$?

g is the evaluation map $f \mapsto fg$. So g can be identified with $f \mapsto (p(g) f)(e)$.

So we should consider $f \mapsto (p(g)_s f)(e)$ and show it is a k -algebra homomorphism $k[G] \rightarrow k$. Let m be the multip. homomorphism. So

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 k[G] \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{m} & k[G] \\
 \downarrow p(g) \otimes p(g) & \wr & \downarrow p(g) \\
 k[G] \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{m} & k[G]
 \end{array}
 \Rightarrow
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 k[G] \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{m} & k[G] \\
 \downarrow p(g)_s \otimes p(g)_s & \wr & \downarrow p(g)_s \\
 k[G] \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{m} & k[G]
 \end{array}$$

as $p(g) \in \text{Aut}(k[G])$

$\Rightarrow p(g)_s \in \text{Aut}(k[G]) \Rightarrow f \mapsto (p(g)_s f)(e)$ is in $\text{Hom}(k[G], k)$;

so we get $g_s \in G$ s.t.

$$(p(g)_s f)(e) = (p(g_s) f)(e).$$

Since $\lambda(x)$ commutes with $p(g)$ we get

$$(p(g)_s f)(x) = (\lambda(x^{-1}) (p(g)_s f))(e)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (p(g)_s (\lambda(x^{-1}) f))(e) \\
&= p(g)_s (\lambda(x^{-1}) f)(e) \\
&= (\lambda(x^{-1}) f)(g_s) \\
&= f(x g_s) = (p(g)_s f)(x)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow p(g)_s f = p(g_s) f.$$

Similarly $p(g)_u = p(g_u)$.

② $G \rightarrow \text{Im } \phi \rightarrow G'$. So it is enough to consider the following cases:

(a) G is a closed subgroup of G'

(b) ϕ is surjective.

Case (a) $G = \{g \in G' \mid p(g) I_G = I_G\}$.

\Rightarrow Let $g_s g_u$ be the Jordan decomp. of $g \in G$ in G' .

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p(g_s) I_G = p(g)_s I_G = I_G \\ p(g_u) I_G = p(g)_u I_G = I_G \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow g_s, g_u \in G.$$

$\Rightarrow g_s g_u$ is the Jordan decomp of g in G as well.

Case (b) $k[G'] \xrightarrow{\phi^*} k[G]$

and $\phi^* k[G']$ is $p(g)$ -invariant

$\Rightarrow \phi^* k[G']$ is $\rho(g)_s$ -invariant

and $k[G'] \xrightarrow{\phi^*} \phi^* k[G']$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rho(g)_s = \rho(g_s) & \downarrow & \downarrow \rho(\phi(g_s)) \\ k[G'] & \xrightarrow{\phi^*} & \phi^* k[G'] \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow \rho(\phi(g_s)) = \rho(\phi(g))_s$ $\left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow \phi(g_s) = \phi(g)_s, \\ \phi(g_u) = \phi(g)_u. \end{array} \right\}$

Similarly we have $\rho(\phi(g_u)) = \rho(\phi(g))_u$

③ Using part ② it is enough to prove it for $G = GL(V)$.

Let $c^*: k[V] \rightarrow k[V] \otimes k[G]$ be the co-map of $V \curvearrowright G$.

Notice that $V^* := \text{Hom}(V, k)$ can be realized as (degree 1)

elements of $k[V]$. So we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V^* \hookrightarrow k[V] & \rightarrow & k[G] \otimes k[V] \\ \downarrow g^* & \curvearrowright & \downarrow \rho(g) \otimes \text{id.} \\ V^* \hookrightarrow k[V] & \rightarrow & k[G] \otimes k[V] \end{array}$$

why is it a commuting diagram?

For $f \in V^*$, suppose $c^*(f) = \sum q_i \otimes f_i$. Then

for any $g \in G$ and $v \in V$ we have $f(vg) = \sum q_i(v) f_i(g)$.

So $g^*(f)(v) = f(vg) = \sum q_i(v) f_i(g)$

$\Rightarrow g^*(f) = \sum f_i(g) q_i$

Suppose $c^*(q_i) = \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}$. Then

$$c^*(g^*(f_i)) = \sum_{i,j} f_i(g) q_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}$$

$$\Rightarrow c^*(g^*(f_i))(v, g') = \sum_{i,j} f_i(g) f_{ij}(g') q_{ij}(v)$$

On the other hand, suppose $m^*(f_i) = \sum_{i,j} f_{ij}^{(l)} \otimes f_{ij}^{(r)}$. Then

$$p(g) f_i = \sum_{i,j} f_{ij}^{(r)}(g) f_{ij}^{(l)} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{id} \otimes p(g)) (c^*(f_i)) &= (\text{id} \otimes p(g)) \left(\sum q_{ij} \otimes f_i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} f_{ij}^{(r)}(g) q_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}^{(l)} \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f & \xrightarrow{c^*} & \sum q_{ij} \otimes f_i \\ \downarrow c^* & \searrow \text{id} \otimes m^* & \downarrow c^* \otimes \text{id} \\ k[V] & \xrightarrow{\quad} & k[V] \otimes k[G] \\ \downarrow c^* & \searrow \text{id} \otimes m^* & \downarrow c^* \otimes \text{id} \\ k[V] \otimes k[G] & \xrightarrow{\quad} & k[V] \otimes k[G] \otimes k[G] \\ \downarrow \text{id} \otimes m^* & \searrow \text{id} \otimes m^* & \downarrow \text{id} \otimes m^* \\ \sum q_{ij} \otimes f_i & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \sum q_{ij} \otimes f_{ij}^{(l)} \otimes f_{ij}^{(r)} = \sum q_{ij} \otimes f_{ij} \otimes f_i \end{array}$$

So $\forall v, g, g'$:

$$\sum q_{ij}(v) f_{ij}^{(l)}(g') f_{ij}^{(r)}(g) = \sum q_{ij}(v) f_{ij}(g') f_i(g)$$

$$\left((\text{id} \otimes p(g)) (c^*(f_i)) \right) (v, g') \qquad c^*(g^*(f_i))(v, g')$$

which shows the above diagram is commutative.

which shows the above diagram is commutative.

\Rightarrow the linear Jordan decomposition is compatible with the algebraic group Jordan decomposition :

• $\rho(g_s) \otimes \text{id} = (\rho(g) \otimes \text{id})_s$ and $(\rho(g) \otimes \text{id})_s$ is the semisimple part of g^* . And we have a similar statement for the unipotent part.

[. Let V be the space of $1 \times n$ matrices; And identify V^* with the space of $n \times 1$ matrices:

$$f(v) := \langle v | f \rangle \quad (\text{matrix multiplication}).$$

$$\forall g \in GL_n(k), \quad \langle v \cdot g | := \langle v | g \quad \text{matrix multiplication.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow g^*(f)(v) &:= f(v \cdot g) = \langle v \cdot g | f \rangle = \langle v | g f \rangle \\ &= \langle v | (g f) \rangle \Rightarrow |g^*(f)\rangle = g |f\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So in this basis g^* can be represented by the matrix g . \square

Theorem. $G \subseteq GL_n(k)$ consists of unipotent elements

$$\Rightarrow \exists x \in GL_n(k) \text{ s.t. } x G x^{-1} \subseteq \text{upper-triangular matrices.}$$

Pf. We proceed by induction on n .

• If $V = k^n$ is NOT an irreducible G -module, then

$\exists 0 \neq W \subsetneq V$ which is G -invariant \Rightarrow by induction

$\exists 0 \neq W \subseteq V$ which is G -invariant \Rightarrow by induction hypoth. used for the actions of G on W and V/W , we get the result.

Suppose $V = k^n$ is irreducible; then let A be the k -span of G . $\Rightarrow V$ is a simple faithful A -module.

$\Rightarrow A = M_n(k)$ (Here one should use a theorem from non-commutative algebra; e.g.

density theorem; or Schur + double centralizer; or ...)

$\Rightarrow \exists g_1, \dots, g_n \in G$ which form a basis of $M_n(k)$.

On the other hand, $\forall g \in G$, $\text{tr}(g) = \text{tr}(I)$ as g is unipotent.

$\Rightarrow \text{tr}((g-I)g_i) = \text{tr}(gg_i) - \text{tr}(g_i) = 0 \quad \forall g \in G, i$.

$\Rightarrow \forall x \in M_n(k)$, $\text{tr}((g-I)x) = 0 \Rightarrow g-I = 0$

$\Rightarrow g = I \Rightarrow n=1$, we are done. \blacksquare

Corollary. A unipotent algebraic group is a nilpotent group.

Corollary. $\left. \begin{array}{l} U \curvearrowright X \\ U: \text{unipotent algebraic gp} \\ X: \text{affine} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{all the orbits are closed.}$

Pf. $\forall x \in X$, $\mathcal{O}_x := U \cdot x$ is open in its closure $\overline{\mathcal{O}_x} \subseteq X$.

$\rightarrow Y = \overline{\mathcal{O}_x} \setminus \mathcal{O}_x$ is a closed subset of the affine variety $\overline{\mathcal{O}_x}$

$\Rightarrow Y := \overline{O_x} \setminus O_x$ is a closed subset of the affine variety $\overline{O_x}$.

Let $I(Y) \triangleleft k[\overline{O_x}] \Rightarrow I(Y)$ is a locally-finite U -mod.

$\Rightarrow \exists f \in I(Y)$ which is U -invariant

$\Rightarrow f|_{O_x}$ is constant $\Rightarrow f|_{\overline{O_x}}$ is constant $\Rightarrow f|_{\overline{O_x}} = 0$

$\mapsto Y = \emptyset \Rightarrow O_x = \overline{O_x}$. ■