

ON THE NOTION OF GENUS FOR
DIVISION ALGEBRAS AND ALGEBRAIC GROUPS
(joint work with V. Chernousov and I. Rapinchuk)

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- 1 Division algebras with the same maximal subfields
- 2 Genus of a division algebra
- 3 Genus of a simple algebraic group
- 4 “Killing” the genus

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Underlying algebraic fact:

*Let D_1 and D_2 be two quaternion division algebras over a number field K . If D_1 and D_2 have same maximal subfields **then** $D_1 \simeq D_2$.*

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- Some properties of M can be understood in terms of the *associated quaternion algebra*.

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(Note that for general Fuchsian groups, K_Γ is not necessarily a number field.)

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- *geometrically*: a closed geodesic $c_\gamma \subset M$,
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- *algebraically*: a maximal etale subalgebra $K_\Gamma[\gamma] \subset A_\Gamma$.

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Definition.

Riemannian manifolds M_1 and M_2 are

- *iso-length spectral* if $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$;
- *length-commensurable* if $\mathbb{Q} \cdot L(M_1) = \mathbb{Q} \cdot L(M_2)$.

Let $M_i = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) be Riemann surfaces.

- ① $K_{\Gamma_1} = K_{\Gamma_2} =: K$;
- ② Given closed geodesics $c_{\gamma_i} \subset M_i$ for $i = 1, 2$ such that

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(Not all - but we will ignore it in this talk ...)

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Theorem

Let $M_i = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma_i$ ($i \in I$) be a family of length-commensurable Riemann surfaces where $\Gamma_i \subset \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is Zariski-dense. Then quaternion algebras A_{Γ_i} ($i \in I$) split into finitely many isomorphism classes (over common center).

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Amitsur's Theorem

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- Proof of Amitsur's Theorem uses *generic splitting fields* (function fields of Severi-Brauer varieties), which are **infinite** extensions of K .
- *What happens if one allows only splitting fields of finite degree, or just maximal subfields?*

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- Same over $K = k(x)$, k a number field

(S. Garibaldi - D. Saltman)

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(Follows from Albert-Hasse-Brauer-Noether Theorem.)

Theorem 1 (Stability Theorem)

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Meyer constructed quaternion algebras over “large” fields with
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Tikhonov extended construction to algebras of prime degree.

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Otherwise, pick $K(\sqrt{d_1}) \hookrightarrow D_1$ such that $K(\sqrt{d_1}) \not\hookrightarrow D_2$.

(E.g., $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{11}) \hookrightarrow D_1$ but $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{11}) \not\hookrightarrow D_2$.)

• Find K_1/K such that

① $D_1 \otimes_K K_1 \not\cong D_2 \otimes_K K_1$;

② $K_1(\sqrt{d_1}) \hookrightarrow D_2 \otimes_K K_1$.

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Then (2) is obvious, and (1) follows from the fact that

$$x_0^2 + x_1^2 - 21x_2^2 - 21x_3^2$$

remains anisotropic over K_1 .

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Note that \mathcal{K} is **infinitely generated**.

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If D_1 and D_2 are central division K -algebras of degree n having same maximal subfields, then either both algebras are ramified at v or both are unramified.

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- One can construct nonisomorphic D_1 and D_2 that have same ramification everywhere.

- 1 Division algebras with the same maximal subfields
- 2 Genus of a division algebra
- 3 Genus of a simple algebraic group
- 4 “Killing” the genus

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$\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ = set of isomorphism classes of K -forms G' of G having same K -isomorphism classes of maximal K -tori.

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Conjecture. (1) For $K = k(x)$, k a number field, and G an absolutely almost simple simply connected K -group with $|Z(G)| \leq 2$, we have $|\mathbf{gen}_K(G)| = 1$;

(2) If G is an absolutely almost simple group over a finitely generated field K of "good" characteristic then $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ is finite.

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- (1) Let D be a central division algebra of exponent 2 over $K = k(x_1, \dots, x_r)$ where k is a *number field* or a *finite field* of characteristic $\neq 2$. Then for $G = \mathrm{SL}_{m,D}$ ($m \geq 1$) we have $|\mathbf{gen}_K(G)| = 1$.

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- (2) Let $G = \mathrm{SL}_{m,D}$, where D is a central division algebra over a *finitely generated* field K with $\mathrm{char} K$ prime to degree of D . Then $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ is finite.

Theorem 5.

Let $K = k(C)$ where C is a geometrically integral smooth curve over a number field k , and let G be either

- $\mathrm{Spin}_n(q)$, q a quadratic form over K and n is odd, or
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Let G be an absolutely almost simple algebraic group over K , v be a discrete valuation of K .

G has good reduction at v if there exists a reductive group scheme \mathcal{G} over valuation ring \mathcal{O}_v with generic fibre G and special fiber (reduction)

$$\underline{G}^{(v)} = \mathcal{G} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_v} K^{(v)}$$

a connected simple group of same type as G .

- $G = \mathrm{SL}_{1,D}$ has good reduction if there exists Azumaya \mathcal{O}_v -algebra \mathcal{A} such that $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_v} K \simeq D$

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Then *every* $G' \in \mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ *has good reduction at v , and reduction* $\underline{G}'^{(v)} \in \mathbf{gen}_{K^{(v)}}(\underline{G}^{(v)})$.

Let K be a finitely generated field equipped with a set V of discrete valuations such that:

- (I) for any $a \in K^\times$, set $V(a) := \{v \in V \mid v(a) \neq 0\}$ is finite;
- (II) for every $v \in V$, residue field $K^{(v)}$ is finitely generated.

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Corollary.

Let G be an absolutely almost simple simply connected K -group. There exists a finite subset $S \subset V$ (depending on G) such that every $G' \in \mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ has good reduction at all $v \in V \setminus S$.

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- To prove above finiteness theorems for $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$, we constructed such V in special situations.

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Presumably, V should be independent of type of G
 (divisorial set of places)

Theorem 8.

Suppose V satisfies (I) & (Φ). Then map

$$H^1(K, \bar{G}) \longrightarrow \prod_{v \in V} H^1(K_v, \bar{G})$$

for adjoint group \bar{G} is proper. In particular, its kernel $\text{III}(\bar{G})$ is finite.

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Corollary.

In above notations, if $\mathbf{gen}_k(G_0)$ is finite, then so is $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$.

In particular, $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ is finite if k is a number field.

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Let G be a group of type G_2 over a finitely generated field k of characteristic zero. Set $F = k(x_1, \dots, x_6)$. Then $|\mathbf{gen}_F(G \otimes_k F)| = 1$.

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Proof uses properties of Pfister forms.

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Corollary

Let D be a quaternion algebra over a field k of char $\neq 2$. Then $\mathbf{gen}(D \otimes_k k(x))$ is trivial.