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**GROUP ALGEBRAS AND  
NORMAL BASIS PROBLEM**

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# GROUP ALGEBRAS AND NORMAL BASIS PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT. We formulate the notion of cleft extensions in the Hopf-Galois theory in the framework of algebraic geometry. The unit group scheme of the algebra of a finite flat group scheme plays the key role.

## Introduction

The Kummer theory is an important item in the classical Galois theory to describe explicitly cyclic extensions of a field. We have an elementary way to verify the Kummer theory by the Lagrange resolvents. Serre [7, Ch.VI, 8] formulated this method, combining the normal basis theorem and the algebraic group representing the unit group of a group algebra. More precisely, the following assertion was proved:

— Let  $k$  be a field and  $\Gamma$  a finite group. Then any Galois extension  $K$  of  $k$  with group  $\Gamma$  is obtained by a cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec} K & \longrightarrow & U(\Gamma)_k \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec} k & \longrightarrow & U(\Gamma)_k/\Gamma. \end{array}$$

Here  $U(\Gamma)_k$  is the algebraic group over  $k$  representing the unit group  $k[\Gamma]^\times$ .

It is not difficult to formulate Serre's argument in the framework of group scheme theory over a ring as is done in [8]. In particular we have the following assertion:

— Let  $R$  be a ring,  $\Gamma$  a finite group and  $S$  an unramified Galois extension of  $R$  with group  $\Gamma$ . Then the Galois extension  $S/R$  has a normal basis if and only if there exists a cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec} S & \longrightarrow & U(\Gamma) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec} R & \longrightarrow & U(\Gamma)/\Gamma. \end{array}$$

Here  $U(\Gamma)$  is the unit group scheme of the group algebra of  $\Gamma$ . (A definition of  $U(\Gamma)$  is recalled in Example 2.8.)

In this article we generalize the above assertion to Hopf-Galois extensions as follows:

Theorem(=Corollary 3.2) Let  $R$  be a ring and  $C$  a commutative Hopf  $R$ -algebra such that  $C$  is a projective  $R$ -module of finite rank. Then a commutative  $C$ -comodule algebra  $S$  is cleft over

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$R$  if and only if there exists a cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Spec} S & \longrightarrow & U(G) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec} R & \longrightarrow & U(G)/G. \end{array}$$

Here  $U(G)$  is the unit group scheme of the group algebra of the finite flat group scheme  $G = \mathrm{Spec} C$ . (For the definition of  $U(G)$ , see Definitions 2.5 and 2.7.)

We state and prove our main result in a more general setting. It should be mentioned that, when  $C$  is cocommutative, the theorem is stated in Tsuno [10]. Indeed, the group scheme  $U(G)$  is isomorphic to the Weil restriction  $\prod_{C^\vee/R} \mathbb{G}_{m, C^\vee}$ , where  $C^\vee$  denotes the Cartier dual of  $C$ , as is verified in Example 2.9.

It should be mentioned also that the notion of a cleft  $C$ -comodule algebra was introduced by Doi and Takeuchi [4]. Here  $C$  is a Hopf  $R$ -algebra (not necessarily commutative). They proved that a  $C$ -comodule algebra  $S$  is cleft if and only if  $S/R$  is a  $C$ -Galois extension with normal basis [4, Th.9].

Now we explain the organization of the article. In Section 1, we recall needed facts on coalgebras, bialgebras and comodules. In Section 2, for a finite flat group  $S$ -scheme  $G$ , we define an affine group  $S$ -scheme  $U(G)$ , the unit group scheme of the group algebra of  $G$ . Our main result is mentioned and proved in Section 3.

It should be remarked that related results were established by Aljadeff-Kassel [1] and Kassel-Masuoka [5] in the framework of the Hopf-Galois theory over fields. It would be interesting to generalize our main result, including non-commutative cases and removing the assumption on Hopf algebras to be finite over a base ring, and to give a geometric interpretation of their works as is done in this article.

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## Notation

For a ring  $R$ ,  $R^\times$  denotes the multiplicative group of invertible elements of  $R$ . A ring is commutative unless otherwise mentioned.

For a scheme  $X$  and a group scheme  $G$  over  $X$ ,  $H^1(X, G)$  denotes the set of isomorphism classes of right  $G$ -torsors over  $X$ . (For details we refer to Demazure-Gabriel [3, Ch.III, 4].)

## 1. Cleft extensions

In the section,  $A$  denotes a commutative ring. We refer to [4] and [6] for detailed argument on coalgebras, bialgebras and comodules.

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $C$  be an  $A$ -module, and let  $\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes_A C$  and  $\varepsilon : C \rightarrow A$  be homomorphisms of  $A$ -modules. The triple  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  is called an  $A$ -coalgebra if  $(\Delta \otimes I_C) \circ \Delta = (I_C \otimes \Delta) \circ \Delta$  and  $(\varepsilon \otimes I_C) \circ \Delta = I_C = (I_C \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \Delta$  hold. The maps  $\Delta$  and  $\varepsilon$  are called the comultiplication and the counit, respectively, of the coalgebra  $C$ .

An  $A$ -coalgebra  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  is called cocommutative if  $T \circ \Delta = \Delta$  holds. Here  $T : C \otimes_A C \rightarrow C \otimes_A C$  denotes the twist map defined by  $T(a \otimes b) = b \otimes a$ .

Let  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  and  $(C', \Delta', \varepsilon')$  be  $A$ -coalgebras. A homomorphism of  $A$ -modules  $\varphi : C \rightarrow C'$  is called a homomorphism of  $A$ -coalgebras if  $(\varphi \otimes \varphi) \circ \Delta = \Delta' \circ \varphi$  and  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon' \circ \varphi$  hold.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  be an  $A$ -coalgebra,  $M$  an  $A$ -module and  $\rho : M \rightarrow M \otimes_A C$  a homomorphism of  $A$ -modules. The pair  $(M, \rho)$  is called a right  $C$ -comodule if  $(\rho \otimes I_C) \circ \rho = (I_M \otimes \Delta) \circ \rho$  and  $(I_M \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \rho = I_M$  hold.

Let  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  be an  $A$ -coalgebra, and let  $(M, \rho)$  and  $(M', \rho')$  be right  $C$ -comodules. A homomorphism of  $A$ -modules  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is called a homomorphism of right  $C$ -comodules if  $(f \otimes I_C) \circ \rho = \rho' \circ f$  holds.

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $C$  be an  $A$ -coalgebra and  $B$  an  $A$ -algebra (not necessarily commutative). For  $\varphi, \psi \in \text{Hom}_A(C, B)$ , the convolution product  $\varphi * \psi$  is defined by  $\varphi * \psi = \mu_B \circ (\varphi \otimes \psi) \circ \Delta_C$ . Here  $\mu_B : B \otimes_A B \rightarrow B$  denotes the multiplication of the algebra  $B$ . The  $A$ -module  $\text{Hom}_A(C, B)$  is an  $A$ -algebra equipped with the multiplication  $*$ . The neutral element of the algebra  $\text{Hom}_A(C, B)$  is given by the composite  $u \circ \varepsilon : C \rightarrow B$ , where  $u : A \rightarrow B$  is the structure map.

**Definition 1.4.** An  $A$ -coalgebra  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  is called an  $A$ -bialgebra if  $C$  is an  $A$ -algebra (not necessarily commutative) and the maps  $\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes_A C$  and  $\varepsilon : C \rightarrow A$  are homomorphisms of  $A$ -algebras. Moreover, the bialgebra  $C$  is called an Hopf algebra over  $A$  if there exists an  $A$ -homomorphism  $S : C \rightarrow C$  such that  $\mu \circ (S \otimes I_C) \circ \Delta = u \circ \varepsilon = \mu \circ (I_C \otimes S) \circ \Delta$  holds. The map  $S$  is called the antipode of the Hopf algebra  $C$ .

Here is an important example of a bialgebra or a Hopf algebra.

**Example 1.5.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite semi-group. Put  $C = \text{Hom}_A(A[\Gamma], A)$ , where  $A[\Gamma]$  denotes the semi-group algebra of  $\Gamma$  over  $A$ . Then  $C$  has a structure of  $A$ -bialgebra. More precisely, an addition and a multiplication of  $C$  are defined by the addition and the multiplication of  $A$ , respectively. On the other hand, a comultiplication and a counit of  $C$  are defined by the multiplication of  $A[\Gamma]$  and by the structure homomorphism  $A \rightarrow A[\Gamma]$ , respectively. The semi-group scheme  $\text{Spec } C$  is nothing but the constant semi-group scheme over  $A$  defined by  $\Gamma$ . By abbreviation we denote by  $\Gamma$  also the constant semi-group scheme  $\text{Spec } C$ .

Assume now that  $\Gamma$  is a group. Then  $C$  has a structure of Hopf  $A$ -algebra. Indeed, the correspondence  $\gamma \mapsto \gamma^{-1}$  gives rise to an automorphism of  $A$ -module  $A[\Gamma]$ , which defines an antipode of  $C$ . The group scheme  $\text{Spec } C$  is nothing but the constant group scheme over  $A$  defined by  $\Gamma$ .

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $(C, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  be an  $A$ -bialgebra and  $(B, \rho)$  a right  $C$ -comodule. We say that  $B$  is a  $C$ -comodule algebra or that  $C$  coacts to the right on  $B$  if  $B$  is an  $A$ -algebra (not necessarily commutative) and the map  $\rho : B \rightarrow B \otimes_A C$  is a homomorphism of  $A$ -algebras. Put  $B^C = \{b \in B ; \rho(b) = b \otimes 1\}$ . Then  $B^C$  is a sub- $A$ -algebra of  $B$ .  $B^C$  is called the invariant subring of the  $C$ -comodule algebra  $B$ .

**Example 1.7.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite semi-group,  $C = \text{Hom}_A(A[\Gamma], A)$  and  $(B, \rho)$  a  $C$ -comodule algebra. For  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  we define  $e_\gamma \in C$  by

$$e_\gamma(\gamma') = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \gamma' = \gamma \\ 0 & \text{if } \gamma' \neq \gamma. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\{e_\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a basis of the  $A$ -module  $C$ .

Furhtermore, for  $b \in B$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , we define  $\gamma(b) \in B$  by

$$\rho(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \gamma(b) \otimes e_\gamma.$$

It is readily seen that  $(\gamma, b) \mapsto \gamma(b) : \Gamma \times B \rightarrow B$  is a left action of  $\Gamma$  on  $B$  and that the invariant subring  $B^C$  of the  $C$ -comodule algebra  $B$  coincides with the invariant subring  $B^\Gamma$  of  $B$  by the action of  $\Gamma$ .

**Definition 1.8.** Let  $C$  be an  $A$ -bialgebra. A  $C$ -comodule algebra  $B$  is called *cleft* if there exists  $\varphi : C \rightarrow B$  a homomorphism of  $A$ -module which is compatible with the coactions by  $C$  and invertible for the convolution product.

**Example 1.9.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite group,  $C = \text{Hom}_A(A[\Gamma], A)$  and  $(B, \rho)$  a  $C$ -comodule algebra (not necessarily commutative). Then  $B$  is cleft if and only if  $B$  is a  $\Gamma$ -Galois extension with normal basis. (For detailed accounts, we refer to [6] and [4].) Recall that, by definition, a  $\Gamma$ -Galois extension  $B/A$  admits a normal basis if there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $\{\gamma(b)\}_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is a basis of the  $A$ -module  $B$ .

Assume now that  $B$  is commutative. Then  $B$  is a  $\Gamma$ -Galois extension if and only if  $\text{Spec } B$  has a structure of  $\Gamma$ -torisor over  $\text{Spec } A$ .

**Remark 1.10.** Let  $S$  be a scheme. We can generalize the definitions mentioned above in the category of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -modules. In particular, the functor  $\mathcal{C} \mapsto \text{Spec } \mathcal{C}$  gives rise to anti-equivalences of categories

$$\{\text{quasi-coherent commutative } \mathcal{O}_S\text{-bialgebras}\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{\text{semi-group } S\text{-schemes affine over } S\}$$

and

$$\{\text{quasi-coherent commutative Hopf } \mathcal{O}_S\text{-algebras}\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{\text{group } S\text{-schemes affine over } S\}.$$

**Definition 1.11.** Let  $S$  be a scheme,  $G$  a group  $S$ -scheme affine over  $S$  and  $X$  a right  $G$ -torsor over  $S$ . We shall say that the  $G$ -torsor  $X$  is cleft if the  $\mathcal{O}_G$ -comodule algebra  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is cleft.

## 2. $A(G)$ and $U(G)$

First we recall a definition of the group algebra  $A(G)$  of an affine group scheme  $G$ . We refer to [2] for generalities on group algebras. We follow the notations of [3] and [11] concerning affine group schemes.

**2.1.** Let  $S$  be a scheme and  $(\mathcal{C}, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  an  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -coalgebra. Let  $S(\mathcal{C})$  denote the symmetric  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra associated to the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then  $S(\mathcal{C})$  has a structure of an  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -bialgebra.

Indeed, a comultiplication of  $S(\mathcal{C})$  is given by the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra homomorphism  $S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C})$ , the unique extension of the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -homomorphism

$$a \mapsto \Delta(a) : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C}),$$

and a counit of  $S(\mathcal{C})$  by the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra homomorphism  $S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_S$ , the unique extension of the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -homomorphism  $\varepsilon : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_S$ . It is readily seen that the canonical inclusion  $i : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C})$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -coalgebras.

The correspondence  $\mathcal{C} \mapsto S(\mathcal{C})$  defines a covariant functor from the category of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -coalgebras to that of commutative  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -bialgebras, which is left-adjoint of the forgetful functor. More precisely, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a commutative  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -bialgebra and  $\varphi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -coalgebras. Then  $\varphi$  is extended to a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -bialgebras  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  by

$$\tilde{\varphi}(a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_r) = \varphi(a_1)\varphi(a_2) \cdots \varphi(a_r).$$

Moreover  $\varphi \mapsto \tilde{\varphi}$  gives rise to a bijection  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S\text{-coalg}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{B}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S\text{-bialg}}(S(\mathcal{C}), \mathcal{B})$ . Indeed, the inverse is given by  $\psi \mapsto \psi \circ i$ .

**2.2.** Assume now  $\mathcal{C}$  is a quasi-coherent commutative  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -bialgebra. Then  $G = \text{Spec } \mathcal{C}$  is an semigroup scheme affine over  $S$ .

Furthermore  $S(\mathcal{C})$  is a quasi-coherent commutative  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra. Put now  $A(G) = \text{Spec } S(\mathcal{C})$ . Then  $A(G)$  is equipped with a ring structure. Indeed, the multiplication of  $A(G)$  is defined by the comultiplication  $\Delta : S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C})$ . Moreover the addition of  $A(G)$  is defined by the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra homomorphism  $S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C})$ , the unique extension of the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -homomorphism

$$a \mapsto a \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes a : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C}).$$

We call the ring  $S$ -scheme  $A(G)$  the group algebra of the group scheme  $G = \text{Spec } \mathcal{C}$ .

Let  $\pi : S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  denote the homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras defined by  $s_1 \otimes s_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes s_j \mapsto s_1 s_2 \cdots s_j$ . Then  $\pi$  is surjective. Let  $\iota : G \rightarrow A(G)$  denote the closed immersion defined by  $\pi$ . The morphism  $\iota : G \rightarrow A(G)$  is a homomorphism of multiplicative semigroups.

The comultiplication  $S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} S(\mathcal{C})$  induces the right coaction  $S(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{C}$ . The canonical injection of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -modules  $i : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{C})$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{C}$ -comodules.

**Remark 2.3.** The ring  $S$ -scheme  $A(G)$  represents the functor defined by  $T \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T)$  equipped with the convolution product.

More precisely, let  $T$  be an affine  $S$ -scheme. Then we have

$$A(G)(T) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S\text{-alg}}(S(\mathcal{C}_G), \mathcal{O}_T) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{O}_G, \mathcal{O}_T).$$

It is readily seen that the addition of  $A(G)(T)$  coincide with the addition of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T)$ . On the other hand, the multiplication of  $A(G)(T)$  is the convolution of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T)$  since, for  $\varphi, \psi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T)$ , the convolution product  $\varphi * \psi$  is defined by  $\varphi * \psi = \mu \circ (\varphi \otimes \psi) \circ \Delta$ .

Furthermore the map  $\iota : G(T) \rightarrow A(G)(T)$  is nothing but the inclusion  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S\text{-alg}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O}_T)$ .

**Example 2.4.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite semigroup. Put  $C = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma], \mathbb{Z})$ . Then  $\text{Spec } C$  is the constant semigroup scheme  $\Gamma$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Now let  $\{e_\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  denote the dual basis for the basis  $\{\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ . The comultiplication on  $C$  is given by

$$\Delta(e_\gamma) = \sum_{\gamma' \gamma'' = \gamma} e_{\gamma'} \otimes e_{\gamma''}.$$

Furthermore we have  $A(\Gamma) = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[T_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma]$ , where the addition of  $A(\Gamma)$  is given by

$$T_\gamma \mapsto T_\gamma \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes T_\gamma$$

and the multiplication by

$$T_\gamma \mapsto \sum_{\gamma' \gamma'' = \gamma} T_{\gamma'} \otimes T_{\gamma''}.$$

For a ring  $R$ ,  $A(\Gamma)(R)$  is nothing but the semigroup algebra  $R[\Gamma]$ .

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $S$  be a scheme and  $G$  an affine group scheme over  $S$ . Define a functor  $U(G)$  by  $U(G)(T) = A(G)(T)^\times$ . Then  $U(G)$  is a sheaf of groups for the fppf-topology over  $S$ . The morphism  $\iota : G \rightarrow A(G)$  is factorized as  $G \rightarrow U(G) \rightarrow A(G)$ . We denote also by  $\iota$  the morphism of sheaves  $G \rightarrow U(G)$ . Then  $\iota : G \rightarrow U(G)$  is a homomorphism of groups.

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $S$  be a scheme and  $G$  an affine group scheme over  $S$ . Assume that  $\mathcal{O}_G$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module of finite rank. Then:*

- (1)  $A(G)$  is smooth over  $S$ ;
- (2)  $U(G)$  is represented by an affine open subscheme of  $A(G)$ , and therefore smooth over  $S$ .
- (3)  $\iota : G \rightarrow U(G)$  is a closed immersion.

**Proof.** (1) By locality of the problem, we may assume that  $S = \text{Spec } A$ ,  $G = \text{Spec } C$  and  $C$  is a free  $A$ -module of finite rank. Take a basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  of  $C$  over  $A$ . For each  $j$ , let  $T_j$

denote the image of  $e_j$  by the canonical injection  $C \rightarrow S_A(C)$ . Then  $S_A(C)$  is isomorphic to the polynomial algebra  $A[T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n]$ , which implies that  $A(G) = \text{Spec } S_A(C)$  is smooth over  $A$ .

(2) Define a linear form  $R_{ij}(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) = \sum_{k=1}^n c_{ijk} e_k$  ( $a_{ijk} \in A$ ) for each  $(i, j)$  by

$$\Delta_C(e_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \otimes R_{ij}(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n).$$

The matrix  $(R_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  is nothing but the right regular representation of the bialgebra  $C$  with respect to the basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ .

The multiplication of  $A(G) = \text{Spec } A[T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n]$  is defined by

$$T_j \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n T_i \otimes R_{ij}(T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n),$$

where  $R_{ij}(T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n) = \sum_{k=1}^n c_{ijk} T_k$ .

More precisely, let  $R$  be an  $A$ -algebra. Then the additive group  $A(G)(R)$  is isomorphic to the direct sum  $R^n$ , and the multiplication of  $A(G)(R)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) \\ &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i R_{i1}(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n), \sum_{i=1}^n a_i R_{i2}(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i R_{in}(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) \right). \end{aligned}$$

By the coassociativity of  $\Delta_C$ , we have also

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n R_{1j}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) b_j, \sum_{j=1}^n R_{2j}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) b_j, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^n R_{nj}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) b_j \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in A(G)(R)$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(R_{ij}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n))$  is invertible in  $R$ .

Thus we obtain

$$U(G) = \text{Spec } A[T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n, \frac{1}{\Delta}],$$

where  $\Delta = \det(R_{ij}(T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n))$ . This implies the assertion.

(3) We obtain the conclusion, noting that the composite  $G \xrightarrow{\iota} U(G) \rightarrow A(G)$  is a closed immersion and the embedding  $U(G) \rightarrow A(G)$  is an affine morphism.

**Definition 2.7.** We shall call the group  $S$ -scheme  $U(G)$  the unit group scheme of the group algebra of the finite flat group scheme  $G = \text{Spec } \mathcal{C}$ .

**Example 2.8.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite group. Then  $U(\Gamma)$  is nothing but the unit group scheme of the group algebra of  $\Gamma$ . That is to say, for a ring  $R$ , we have  $U(\Gamma)(R) = R[\Gamma]^\times$ .

More explicitly, we have

$$U(\Gamma) = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[T_\gamma, \frac{1}{\Delta_\Gamma}; \gamma \in \Gamma],$$



where  $\Delta_\Gamma = \det(T_{\gamma\gamma'})$  denotes the determinant of the matrix  $(T_{\gamma\gamma'})_{\gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma}$  (the group determinant of  $\Gamma$ ).

**Example 2.9.** Let  $G$  be an affine commutative group scheme over  $S$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_G$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module of finite rank. Then  $U(G)$  is isomorphic to the Weil restriction  $\prod_{G^\vee/S} \mathbb{G}_{m, G^\vee}$ .

Indeed, let  $T$  be an  $S$ -scheme affine over  $S$ . Then we have functorial isomorphisms of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{O}_G, \mathcal{O}_T) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{O}_G, \mathcal{O}_S) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{O}_T \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{O}_{G^\vee} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{O}_T$$

since  $\mathcal{O}_G$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module of finite rank. It is now sufficient to note that the functors  $T \mapsto \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{O}_G, \mathcal{O}_T)^\times$  and  $(\mathcal{O}_{G^\vee} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{O}_T)^\times$  are represented by  $U(G)$  and  $\prod_{G^\vee/S} \mathbb{G}_{m, G^\vee}$ , respectively.

**Remark 2.10.** Let  $k$  be a field. Takeuchi constructed in [9] a covariant functor  $C \mapsto H(C)$  from the category of  $k$ -coalgebras to that of commutative Hopf  $k$ -algebras, which is a left adjoint of the forgetful functor. The Hopf algebra  $H(C)$  is called the free Hopf algebra generated by  $C$ . Aljadeff and Kassel gave a different description of  $H(C)$  in [1, Appendix B]. They denote by  $S(C)_\Theta$  the free Hopf algebra generated by  $C$ . (We employ here a slightly different notation from theirs.) It is not difficult to verify that, if  $C$  is a finite dimensional Hopf  $k$ -algebra and  $G = \mathrm{Spec} C$ , the affine ring of  $U(G)$  coincides with  $H(C)$ .

### 3. Main theorem

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $S$  be a scheme and  $G$  an affine group scheme over  $S$ . Assume that  $\mathcal{O}_G$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module of finite rank. Then  $U(G)$  is a cleft  $G$ -torsor over  $U(G)/G$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta]$  denote the quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra with  $\mathrm{Spec} S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta] = U(G)$ . We denote by  $i : \mathcal{O}_G \rightarrow S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta]$  also the composite of the canonical injections of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -modules  $\mathcal{O}_G \rightarrow S(\mathcal{O}_G)$  and  $S(\mathcal{O}_G) \rightarrow S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta]$ . Then  $i$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_G$ -comodules. We prove that  $i$  is invertible for the convolution products.

As in the proof of Theorem 2.6, we may assume that  $S = \mathrm{Spec} A$ ,  $G = \mathrm{Spec} C$  and  $C$  is a free  $A$ -module of finite rank. Take a basis  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  of  $C$  over  $A$ . Let  $T_j$  denote the image of  $e_j$  by  $i : \mathcal{O}_G \rightarrow S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta]$  or equivalently  $i : C \rightarrow S_A(C)[1/\Delta]$ .

Furthermore we may assume that  $e_1 = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_C(e_j) = 0$  for  $j > 1$  since the  $A$ -module  $C$  is a direct sum of  $A$  and  $\mathrm{Ker} \varepsilon_C$ . Then we obtain  $R_{1j}(T_1, \dots, T_n) = T_j$  for each  $j$  since we have

$$e_j = (\varepsilon_C \otimes I_C)(\Delta_C(e_j)) = (\varepsilon_C \otimes I_C)\left(\sum_{i=1}^n e_i \otimes R_{ij}(e_1, \dots, e_n)\right) = R_{1j}(e_1, \dots, e_n).$$

For each  $i$ , let  $\Delta_i$  denote the  $(i, 1)$ -cofactor of the matrix  $(R_{ij}(T_1, \dots, T_n))_{i,j}$ . Then we obtain

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i R_{ij}(T_1, \dots, T_n) = \begin{cases} \Delta & (j = 1) \\ 0 & (i \neq 1) \end{cases}.$$

Now define a homomorphism of  $A$ -modules  $\psi : C \rightarrow S_A(C)[1/\Delta]$  by

$$\psi(e_i) = \frac{\Delta_i}{\Delta} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n),$$

Then we have  $\psi * i = i * \psi = I_C$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** *Under the assumption of Theorem 3.1, a  $G$ -torsor  $X$  over  $S$  is cleft if and only if there exists a cartesian diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & U(G) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S & \longrightarrow & U(G)/G. \end{array}$$

**Proof.** Assume that there exists a cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & U(G) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S & \longrightarrow & U(G)/G. \end{array}$$

Then  $X$  is a cleft  $G$ -torsor over  $S$  since  $U(G)$  is a cleft  $G$ -torsor over  $U(G)/G$ .

Conversely assume that the  $G$ -torsor  $X$  is cleft. Then there exists a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_G$ -comodules  $\varphi : \mathcal{O}_G \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$  which is invertible for the convolution product in  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(\mathcal{O}_G, \mathcal{O}_X)$ . By the universality, the homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -modules  $\varphi$  is extended to a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{O}_G) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ . It is readily seen that  $\tilde{\varphi}$  is compatible with the coactions by  $\mathcal{O}_G$ . We will prove that the homomorphism  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{O}_G) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$  is extended to a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ .

Let  $\psi : \mathcal{O}_G \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$  denote the inverse of  $\varphi$ . Then we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \varphi(R_{ik})\psi(R_{kj}) = \begin{cases} 1 & (i = j) \\ 0 & (i \neq j) \end{cases}$$

since

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{O}_G}(R_{ij}) = \sum_{k=1}^n R_{ik} \otimes R_{kj}$$

and

$$\varepsilon_{\mathcal{O}_G}(R_{ij}) = \begin{cases} 1 & (i = j) \\ 0 & (i \neq j) \end{cases}.$$

Then the matrix  $(\varphi(R_{ij}))$  is invertible with inverse  $(\psi(R_{ij}))$ . This implies that  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{O}_G) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$  is extended to a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras  $\tilde{\varphi} : S(\mathcal{O}_G)[1/\Delta] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ . Hence we obtain a

cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & U(G) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S & \longrightarrow & U(G)/G. \end{array}$$

**Remark 3.3.** Under the assumption of Theorem 3.1, the sequence of sheaves over  $S$  with values in pointed sets

$$1 \longrightarrow G \xrightarrow{\iota} U(G) \longrightarrow U(G)/G \longrightarrow 1,$$

is exact with respect to the fppf-topology. Then we obtain an exact sequence of pointed sets

$$U(G)(S) \longrightarrow (U(G)/G)(S) \longrightarrow H^1(S, G) \longrightarrow H^1(S, U(G))$$

(cf. Demazure-Gabriel [3, Ch.III, Prop.4.6].)

Let  $X$  be a  $G$ -torsor over  $S$ . Then  $[S] \in \text{Im}[(U(G)/G)(S) \rightarrow H^1(S, G)]$  if and only if there exists a cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & U(G) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S & \longrightarrow & U(G)/G. \end{array}$$

Hence it follows from Corollary 3.2 that the  $G$ -torsor  $X$  over  $S$  is cleft if and only if  $[X] \in \text{Ker}[H^1(S, G) \rightarrow H^1(S, U(G))]$ .

**Remark 3.4.** We conclude the article, mentioning related results in the Hopf-Galois theory.

Let  $k$  be a field and  $C$  a Hopf  $k$ -algebra. Aljadeff and Kassel introduced a subalgebra  $\mathcal{B}_C$  of  $S(C)_\Theta = H(C)$  in [1, Sect.5] and a cleft Hopf-Galois extension  $\mathcal{A}_C$  of  $\mathcal{B}_C$  with Hopf algebra  $C$  in [1, Sect.6]. (We employ again slightly different notations from theirs.)

Kassel and Masuoka proved remarkable theorems as follow.

- (1) ([5, Th.3.6]) If  $C$  is of finite dimension over  $k$ , then  $S(C)_\Theta$  is a projective  $\mathcal{B}_C$ -module of finite rank.
- (2) ([5, Th.3.8]) If  $C$  is cocommutative, then  $S(C)_\Theta$  is faithfully flat over  $\mathcal{B}_C$ .
- (3) ([5, Th.3.13]) If  $C$  is commutative, then  $S(C)_\Theta = \mathcal{A}_C$  and  $S(C)_\Theta$  is a free  $\mathcal{B}_C$ -module.

They asserted also an important remark in the last phrase of [5, Sect.1] as follows:

— Let  $K$  be an extension field of  $k$ . Assume that  $S(C)_\Theta$  is faithfully flat over  $\mathcal{B}_C$ . Then any cleft  $C$ -Galois extension  $R$  of  $K$  is obtained by a cocartesian diagram of  $k$ -algebras

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{A}_C \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ K & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{B}_C. \end{array}$$

Corollary 3.2 gives a geometric interpretation a scheme  $S$  of the above results when  $C$  is a commutative Hopf  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -algebra and a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module of finite rank.

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