

ON THE NOTION OF GENUS FOR
DIVISION ALGEBRAS AND ALGEBRAIC GROUPS

(joint work with V. Chernousov and I. Rapinchuk)

Andrei S. Rapinchuk
University of Virginia

AMITSUR SYMPOSIUM – June 24, 2020

- 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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Can one prove Amitsur's Theorem using only splitting fields of finite degree, or just maximal subfields?

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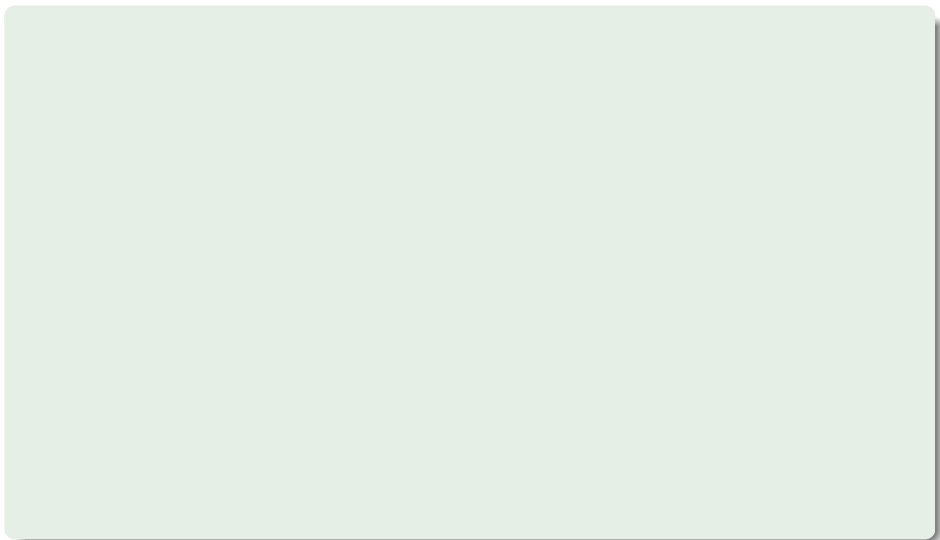
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One shows that

- ① For any $\varepsilon', \varepsilon''$ as above, $D(\varepsilon')$ and $D(\varepsilon'')$ have **same** finite-dimensional splitting fields,
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Bottom line: one would like to know A_Γ in all cases

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So, when one cannot say much about Γ (which is typically the case for non-arithmetic Γ), one would like to know at least A_Γ .

Bottom line: one would like to know A_Γ in all cases (although maybe for different reasons)

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Theorem (A. Reid, 1992)

If two arithmetically defined Riemann surfaces are length-commensurable then they are commensurable.

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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).*

- 1 Division algebras with the same maximal subfields
- 2 Genus of a division algebra
- 3 Genus of a simple algebraic group
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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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$$\text{Br}(K)_V = \{ x \in \text{Br}(K) \mid x \text{ is unramified at all } v \in V \}.$$

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In fact, in this case one can give an estimate on size of $\mathbf{gen}(D)$ that depends on size of ${}_n\mathrm{Br}(K)_V$ for a fixed V :

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It is based on finiteness of certain subgroups of ${}_2\mathrm{Br}(K)_V$.

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- The answer is **not** known for *any* finitely generated K .
- One can construct examples where ${}_2\mathrm{Br}(K)_V$ is “large.”

- 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 $|\mathbf{gen}_K(G)| = 1$;

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(2) If G is not of type A_n , D_{2n+1} or E_6 , then $|\mathbf{gen}_K(G)| = 1$.

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 $|\mathrm{gen}_K(G)| = 1$.

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

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Then special fiber (reduction)

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

is a connected simple group of same type as G .

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A. R., I. Rapinchuk, *Linear algebraic groups with good reduction*,
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Variations: one can consider only groups of a specific type, only inner forms, impose restrictions on characteristic etc.

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One expects that divisorial sets are as required.

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These and other connections shift focus of current work to
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General case is work in progress ...

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- Finiteness Conjecture is known for inner forms of type A_{n-1} over all finitely generated K provided that $(\text{char } K, n) = 1 \Rightarrow \iota_{\text{PSL}_n, V}$ is proper
- Over $K = k(C)$, function field of an irreducible curve C over a number field k , Finiteness Conjecture is known for spinor groups, some unitary groups and groups of type G_2

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Finiteness of $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ is derived from results on Finiteness Conjecture

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However, proving finiteness of unramified cohomology groups $H^i(K, \mu_n^{\otimes j})_V$ is a very difficult problem for $i \geq 3$ resolved only in special cases!

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So, to handle general case in Finiteness Conjecture one will need to develop an *intrinsic approach* to analysis of forms with good reduction.

- 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

Question. *What happens to genus under base change?*

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Using (ABHN), one can construct a *cubic* division algebra D over \mathbb{Q} and finite extensions F_1 and F_2 of \mathbb{Q} such that

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However, for *purely transcendental* extensions we have:

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In above notations, if $\mathbf{gen}_K(G)$ is finite, then so is $\mathbf{gen}_{K(x)}(G \times_K K(x))$.

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In particular, the latter is finite if K is a number field.

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$$\mathbf{gen}(D \otimes_K K(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}))$$

consists of $D' \otimes_K K(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ where $\langle [D'] \rangle = \langle [D] \rangle$ in $\mathrm{Br}(K)$.

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Can one extend this phenomenon to all simple algebraic groups?

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General case remains open.