

## 1. WEEK 4: REDUCTIVE GROUPS

### 1.1. Definition of a reductive group.

**Proposition/Definition 1.1** ([Spr09, 6.4.14]). Let  $G$  be a connected linear algebraic group over  $k$ .

- (1) There uniquely exists a maximal closed connected normal solvable<sup>1</sup> subgroup of  $G$  defined over  $k$ , which is called the *radical* of  $G$ . We write  $R(G)$  for the radical of  $G$ .
- (2) There uniquely exists a maximal closed connected normal unipotent<sup>2</sup> subgroup of  $G$  defined over  $k$ , which is called the *unipotent radical* of  $G$ . We write  $R_u(G)$  for the unipotent radical of  $G$ .

**Definition 1.2** (semisimple/reductive groups). Let  $G$  be a connected linear algebraic group over  $k$ .

- (1) We say that  $G$  is *semisimple* if  $R(G)$  is trivial.
- (2) We say that  $G$  is *reductive* if  $R_u(G)$  is trivial.

**Remark 1.3.** In general, any unipotent group is solvable (see [Spr09, 2.4.13]). In particular,  $R_u(G)$  is contained in  $R(G)$ . This means that if  $G$  is semisimple, then  $G$  is reductive.

**Remark 1.4.** In general,  $R_u(G_{\bar{k}})$  could be different from the base change of  $R_u(G)$  from  $k$  to  $\bar{k}$ . This means that the condition that a connected linear algebraic  $G$  group over  $k$  is reductive in the above sense is not equivalent to the condition that  $G_{\bar{k}}$  is reductive. However, such a phenomenon does not happen as long as  $k$  is perfect, i.e., we have  $R_u(G)_{\bar{k}} = R_u(G_{\bar{k}})$  for any perfect  $k$ . In the situation where  $k$  is not perfect, a connected linear algebraic group over  $k$  with trivial  $R_u(G)$  is called a *pseudo-reductive* group. See [CGP15, Section 1.1] for details.

The following proposition basically follows from the definition of being solvable/unipotent.

**Proposition 1.5.** *The unipotent radical  $R_u(G)$  is the set of unipotent elements of  $R(G)$ .*

**Proposition 1.6.** *Let  $G$  be a connected reductive group over  $k$ .*

- (1) *The center  $Z(G)$  of  $G$  is finite if and only if  $G$  is semisimple.*
- (2) *The derived subgroup  $G_{\text{der}} := [G, G]$  is a connected semisimple group over  $k$ . Moreover, we have  $G = Z(G) \cdot G_{\text{der}}$ .*

*Proof.* See [Spr09, 7.3.1 and 8.1.6]. □

Now, let us introduce several practical propositions to determine the unipotent radical of a given connected reductive group. As mentioned above, the unipotent radical behaves consistently with the base change of the field  $k$  as long as it is perfect. Thus, in the rest of this section, let us assume that  $k$  is algebraically closed and omit the word “over  $k$ ”. (But sometimes we will temporarily assume that  $k$  is not algebraically closed, e.g., when we discuss the rationality.)

---

<sup>1</sup>Solvability is defined in the same way as in the usual group theory, i.e., an algebraic group  $G$  is said to be solvable when  $G_n = \{1\}$  for sufficiently large  $n$ , where  $G_n := [G_{n-1}, G_{n-1}]$  and  $G_1 := G$ .

<sup>2</sup>i.e., all elements are unipotent

**Definition 1.7** (Borel subgroup). Let  $G$  be a linear algebraic group. A subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  is called a *Borel subgroup* of  $G$  if it is a maximal connected solvable closed subgroup of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.8** (Lie–Kolchin’s theorem, [Spr09, 6.3.1]). *Let  $B$  be a connected solvable closed subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ . Let  $B_n$  be the group of upper triangular matrices of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ . Then  $B$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $B_n$ .*

Note that, in particular,  $B_n$  is a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$  by Lie–Kolchin’s theorem.

**Proposition 1.9.** *Let  $G$  be a connected linear algebraic group. All Borel subgroups of  $G$  are conjugate.*

*Proof.* See [Spr09, 6.2.7]. □

**Corollary 1.10.** *Let  $G$  be a connected linear algebraic group. Then its radical  $R(G)$  equals the identity component of the intersection of all Borel subgroups of  $G$ .*

*Proof.* By definition,  $R(G)$  is contained in a Borel subgroup. Since  $R(G)$  is normal in  $G$  and all Borel subgroups of  $G$  are conjugate,  $R(G)$  is contained in the intersection of all Borel subgroups of  $G$ . As  $R(G)$  is connected, it must be contained in the identity component of the intersection. Since the identity component of the intersection of all Borel subgroups of  $G$  is closed, connected, normal, and solvable, it must be equal to  $R(G)$  by the maximality of  $R(G)$ . □

## 1.2. Examples of reductive groups.

**Example 1.11** (tori). Any torus  $T$  is reductive. Indeed, since  $T$  is commutative, hence solvable,  $R(T)$  is  $T$  itself. Since all elements of  $T$  are semi-simple,  $R_u(T)$  is trivial.

**Non-Example 1.12** (additive group). The additive group  $\mathbb{G}_a$  is not reductive. Indeed, since  $\mathbb{G}_a$  is commutative, hence solvable,  $R(\mathbb{G}_a)$  is  $\mathbb{G}_a$  itself. However, since  $\mathbb{G}_a$  is a unipotent group<sup>3</sup>,  $R_u(\mathbb{G}_a)$  also equals  $\mathbb{G}_a$ .

**Example 1.13** (general linear group). The general linear group  $\mathrm{GL}_n$  is reductive. To check this, note that  $B_n$  is a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ , hence its any conjugate is also a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ . In particular, the opposite  $\overline{B}_n$  (i.e., the subgroup of lower triangular matrices) is also Borel. Hence their intersection, which is the diagonal subgroup  $T$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ , must contain  $R(\mathrm{GL}_n)$ . This implies that all elements of  $R(\mathrm{GL}_n)$  is semisimple, hence  $R_u(\mathrm{GL}_n)$  is trivial.

**Exercise 1.14.** Prove that  $R(\mathrm{GL}_n) = Z(\mathrm{GL}_n)$ .

**Example 1.15** (symplectic group). The symplectic group  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  is reductive. Indeed, if we put  $B$  to be  $B_{2n} \cap \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  (i.e., the subgroup of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  consisting of matrices of the upper-triangular form), then we can show that  $B$  is a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$ . (See the following exercise.) Similarly, its opposite  $\overline{B} := \overline{B}_{2n} \cap \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  is also a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$ . Thus the same argument as in the case of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$  implies that  $R_u(\mathrm{Sp}_{2n})$  is trivial.

---

<sup>3</sup>For example, this can be seen by choosing an embedding of  $\mathbb{G}_a$  into a general linear group to be  $\mathbb{G}_a \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2 : x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Example 1.16** (orthogonal group). Let us assume that the characteristic of  $k$  is not 2. Let  $J'_n \in \mathrm{GL}_n(k)$  be the anti-diagonal matrix whose anti-diagonal entries are given by 1. Then, by the same argument as in the previous case, we can show that the special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2n} = \mathrm{SO}(J'_n)$  is reductive. (Note that, for any symmetric matrix  $J$ , the special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{SO}(J)$  is reductive. But an explicit description of its Borel subgroups depends on the choice of  $J$  and more complicated.)

**Example 1.17** (unitary group). Here, let us assume that  $k$  is not algebraically closed and take a quadratic extension  $k'$  of  $k$ . Let  $\sigma$  be the nontrivial element of  $\mathrm{Gal}(k'/k)$ . Let  $J \in \mathrm{GL}_n(k')$  be a hermitian matrix, i.e.,  ${}^t\sigma(J) = J$ . We define the *unitary group*  $\mathrm{U}(J)$  by

$$\mathrm{U}(J)(R) := \{g \in \mathrm{GL}_n(R \otimes_k k') \mid {}^t\sigma(g)Jg = J\}.$$

(In particular, we have  $\mathrm{U}(J)(k) := \{g \in \mathrm{GL}_n(k') \mid {}^t\sigma(g)Jg = J\}$ .) Then, by the same argument as in the previous cases, we can show that the special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{U}(J)$  is reductive.

**Exercise 1.18.** We put  $B := B_{2n} \cap \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$ . Then prove that  $B$  is a Borel subgroup of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$ . Hint: let's discuss as follows:

- (1) By definition of a Borel subgroup, there exists a Borel subgroup  $B'$  of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  containing  $B$ . (So our goal is to show that  $B'$  is in fact equal to  $B$ .) Show that there exists a Borel subgroup  $B'_{2n}$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_{2n}$  containing  $B'$  which is given by  $B'_{2n} = xB_{2n}x^{-1}$  for some  $x \in \mathrm{GL}_{2n}$ . (Use: Lie-Kolchin's theorem and the fact that all Borel subgroups are conjugate.)
- (2) Check that the following matrix is an element of  $B$ .

$$g := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ & 0 & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(Diagonal entries are 1, the entries above the diagonal are 1, and all other entries are 0.)

- (3) By (2), in particular, we have  $g \in B'_{2n} = xB_{2n}x^{-1}$ . From this, deduce that  $x$  must belong to  $B_{2n}$ , hence  $B'_{2n}$  equals  $B_{2n}$ .
- (4) Show that  $B' = B$ .

**1.3. Classification of connected reductive groups via root data.** Over an algebraically closed field, isomorphism classes of connected reductive groups can be classified in terms of linear algebraic data called *root data*.

**Theorem 1.19** ([Spr09, 9.6.2, 10.1.1]). *There exists a bijection between*

- *the set of isomorphism classes of connected reductive groups and*
- *the set of isomorphism classes of reduced root data.*

Let us introduce the definition of a root datum.

**Definition 1.20** (root datum). A *root datum* is a quadruple  $(X, R, X^\vee, R^\vee)$ , where

- $X$  and  $X^\vee$  are free abelian groups of finite rank equipped with a perfect pairing  $\langle -, - \rangle: X \times X^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  and
- $R$  and  $R^\vee$  are finite subsets of  $X$  and  $X^\vee$  (called the sets of *roots* and *coroots*) equipped with a bijection  $R \leftrightarrow R^\vee: \alpha \mapsto \alpha^\vee$

satisfying

- (1) for any  $\alpha \in R$ , we have  $\langle \alpha, \alpha^\vee \rangle = 2$ ,
- (2) for any  $\alpha \in R$ , we have  $s_\alpha(R) = R$  and  $s_\alpha^\vee(R^\vee) = R^\vee$ .

Here,  $s_\alpha$  and  $s_\alpha^\vee$  denote the automorphisms of  $X$  and  $X^\vee$  given by

$$s_\alpha(x) = x - \langle x, \alpha^\vee \rangle \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad s_\alpha^\vee(x^\vee) = x^\vee - \langle \alpha, x^\vee \rangle \alpha^\vee.$$

We say that a root datum  $(X, R, X^\vee, R^\vee)$  is *reduced* if for any  $\alpha \in R$ , we have  $R \cap \mathbb{Q}\alpha = \{\pm\alpha\}$ .

In the following, we explain how to construct the map in Theorem 1.19. Thus our aim is to construct a root datum from a given connected reductive group  $G$ . Here, we follow the construction given in [Car85, Section 1.9].

We first take a maximal torus  $T$  of  $G$ . We put  $X := X^*(T)$  and  $X^\vee := X_*(T)$ . Note that then  $X$  and  $X^\vee$  have a natural perfect pairing  $\langle -, - \rangle: X \times X^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .

Suppose that  $U$  is a minimal nontrivial closed unipotent subgroup of  $G$  normalized by  $T$ . Then, in fact,  $U$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{G}_a$ . By fixing an isomorphism  $\iota: \mathbb{G}_a \xrightarrow{\cong} U$ , we get an element  $\alpha \in X$  satisfying

$$t \cdot \iota(x) \cdot t^{-1} = \iota(\alpha(t) \cdot x)$$

for any  $x \in \mathbb{G}_a$ . This element  $\alpha$  is independent of the choice of  $\iota$ . Furthermore, if  $U'$  is another (different to  $U$ ) minimal nontrivial closed unipotent subgroup of  $G$  normalized by  $T$ , then the associated element of  $X$  is also different. Thus it makes sense to write  $U_\alpha$  for  $U$ . We call  $\alpha$  a *root of  $T$  in  $G$*  and  $U_\alpha$  its *root subgroup*. We put  $R$  to be the set of roots of  $T$  in  $G$ .

It can be proved that  $-\alpha$  is also a root when  $\alpha$  is a root. Moreover, the subgroup  $\langle U_\alpha, U_{-\alpha} \rangle$  generated by  $U_\alpha$  and  $U_{-\alpha}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{SL}_2$  or  $\mathrm{PGL}_2 := \mathrm{SL}_2 / \{\pm 1\}$ . Furthermore, in any case, there exists a homomorphism  $\phi: \mathrm{SL}_2 \rightarrow \langle U_\alpha, U_{-\alpha} \rangle$  satisfying

$$\phi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = U_\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \phi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ * & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = U_{-\alpha}.$$

This homomorphism  $\phi$  maps any diagonal element of  $\mathrm{SL}_2$  into  $T$ . Thus, we can define a cocharacter  $\alpha^\vee \in X^\vee$  by

$$\alpha^\vee(y) := \phi\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & y^{-1} \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

We call  $\alpha^\vee$  the *coroot associated to  $\alpha$* . We put  $R^\vee$  to be the set of all coroots obtained in this way.

**Proposition 1.21.** *For any connected reductive group  $G$ , the quadruple  $(X, R, X^\vee, R^\vee)$  forms a reduced root datum.*

**Example 1.22.** Let  $G := \mathrm{GL}_n$ . We take  $T$  to be the diagonal maximal torus. Then we can choose a basis of  $X^*(T)$  to be  $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , where  $e_i: \mathrm{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mapsto t_i$ . In other words, we have

$$X = X^*(T) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z}e_i.$$

Similarly, we can choose a basis of  $X_*(T)$  to be  $\{e_i^\vee\}_{i=1}^n$ , where  $e_i^\vee: t \mapsto \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, t, 1, \dots, 1)$ , where  $t$  is put on the  $i$ -th entry. In other words, we have

$$X^\vee = X_*(T) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z}e_i^\vee.$$

Any minimal nontrivial closed unipotent subgroup  $U$  normalized by  $T$  is of the form

$$U_{ij} := \{u_{ij}(x) \mid x \in k\},$$

where  $u_{ij}(x)$  denotes the matrix such that the diagonal entries are 1,  $(i, j)$ -entry is  $x$ , and all other entries are 0. We define an isomorphism between  $U_{ij}$  and  $\mathbb{G}_a$  by

$$\iota: \mathbb{G}_a \rightarrow U_{ij}: x \mapsto u_{ij}(x).$$

We can easily check that the action of  $T$  on  $U_{ij}$  is given by

$$t \cdot u_{ij}(x) \cdot t^{-1} = u_{ij}(x \cdot t_i/t_j),$$

where  $t = \text{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ . In other words, the root determined by the subgroup  $U_{ij}$  is  $e_i - e_j$ . We can also check that its corresponding coroot is  $e_i^\vee - e_j^\vee$ . Therefore we have

$$R = \{e_i - e_j \mid 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n\}, \quad R^\vee = \{e_i^\vee - e_j^\vee \mid 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n\}.$$

#### 1.4. Classification of reductive groups: more concrete version.

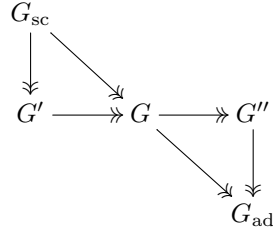
**Definition 1.23** (isogeny). We say that a homomorphism  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  of algebraic groups is an *isogeny* if it is surjective and has finite kernel. We say that two algebraic groups  $G$  and  $G'$  are *isogenous* if there exists an isogeny between  $G$  and  $G'$ .

Recall that, any connected reductive group  $G$  can be written as  $G = Z(G) \cdot G_{\text{der}}$ , where  $G_{\text{der}}$  is semisimple. Especially, we have a surjective homomorphism  $f: Z(G) \times G_{\text{der}} \rightarrow G: (z, g) \mapsto zg$ . Since  $Z(G) \cap G_{\text{der}}$  is contained in  $Z(G_{\text{der}})$ , which is finite,  $f$  is an isogeny. In other words, any connected reductive group is realized as the quotient of  $Z(G) \times G_{\text{der}}$  by its finite subgroup. Thus, let us discuss how to classify semisimple groups in the following. (Being semisimple can be expressed in terms of root data: a connected reductive group  $G$  is semisimple if and only if  $R$  spans  $X_{\mathbb{Q}} := X \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space.)

We say that a semisimple group  $G$  is *adjoint* if its center  $Z(G)$  is trivial. In fact, for any semisimple group  $G$ , its quotient  $G/Z(G)$  is the unique adjoint group isogenous to  $G$ ; this is denoted by  $G_{\text{ad}}$ . The adjoint quotient  $G_{\text{ad}}$  is a semisimple group whose center is minimal (trivial) among all semisimple groups isogenous to  $G$ .

On the other hand, for any semisimple group  $G$ , there uniquely exists a semisimple group " $G_{\text{sc}}$ " such that any isogeny to  $G$  can be lifted to an isogeny from  $G_{\text{sc}}$  to  $G$ ; this group is called *the simply-connected cover of  $G$* . The simply-connected cover  $G_{\text{sc}}$  is a semisimple group whose center is maximal among all semisimple groups

isogenous to  $G$ .



**Proposition 1.24.** *Let  $G$  be a semisimple group.*

- (1) *We say that  $G$  is simply-connected if  $R^\vee$  spans  $X^\vee$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .*
- (2) *We say that  $G$  is adjoint if  $R$  spans  $X$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Example 1.25.** Let  $G := \mathrm{GL}_n$  and  $Z$  be its center. We put  $\mathrm{SL}_n := \{g \in G \mid \det(g) = 1\}$  and  $\mathrm{PGL}_n := \mathrm{GL}_n/Z$ .<sup>4</sup> Then we obviously have a natural map  $\mathrm{SL}_n \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_n$ , which is surjective. Moreover, this map has finite kernel; it is given by  $\{z \in Z \mid \det(z) = 1\}$ , which is isomorphic to the group of  $n$ -th roots of unity. Hence  $\mathrm{SL}_n \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_n$  is an isogeny. On the other hand, the quotient map  $\mathrm{GL}_n \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_n$  is not an isogeny since its kernel is given by  $Z$ , which is not finite. In fact,  $\mathrm{SL}_n$  is simply-connected and  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  is adjoint.

**Definition 1.26** (almost simple group). We say that a semisimple group  $G$  is *almost simple* if it does not contain any nontrivial closed normal subgroup of positive dimension.

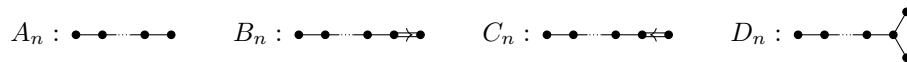
**Proposition 1.27.** *Let  $G$  be a simply-connected (resp. adjoint) group. Then  $G$  is written as a product of almost simple simply-connected (resp. adjoint) subgroups.*

**Definition 1.28.** We say that a root datum  $\Psi = (X, R, X^\vee, R^\vee)$  is *reducible* if there exist nonzero root data  $\Psi_1 = (X_1, R_1, X_1^\vee, R_1^\vee)$  and  $\Psi_2 = (X_2, R_2, X_2^\vee, R_2^\vee)$  such that  $\Psi = \Psi_1 \oplus \Psi_2$  (in the obvious sense) and  $\Psi_1$  and  $\Psi_2$  are orthogonal. We say that  $\Psi$  is *irreducible* if it is not reducible.

**Proposition 1.29.** *Let  $G$  be an almost simple simply-connected (or adjoint) group with root data  $\Psi$ . Then  $G$  is almost simple if and only if  $\Psi$  is irreducible.*

By the discussion so far, the classification problem of semisimple groups is now reduced (“modulo isogeny”) to classifying all almost simple simply-connected semisimple groups. Moreover, it is equivalent to classifying all irreducible reduced root data such that  $R^\vee$  spans  $X^\vee$ .

The miraculous fact is that there are very limited number of such groups! Such groups can be parametrized by combinatorial objects called *Dynkin diagrams*. Among them, the types  $A_n$ ,  $B_n$ ,  $C_n$ , and  $D_n$  are called *classical types*, and the types  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$ ,  $E_8$ ,  $F_4$ , and  $G_2$  are called *exceptional types*.



<sup>4</sup>Here, the quotient is taken as an algebraic group. In general, for any linear algebraic group  $G$  and its closed subgroup  $H$  over  $k$ , we can define and prove the existence of the quotient of  $G$  by  $H$  (see [Spr09, 5.5]). One difficult point to care about is that  $(G/H)(R)$  might not be equal to  $G(R)/H(R)$ . (But at least we have the equality for  $R = \bar{k}$ . Thus, in this example, we may think of  $\mathrm{PGL}_n(\bar{k})$  as the quotient of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{k})$  by its center.)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
E_6 : \bullet \text{---} \bullet \overset{\bullet}{\underset{|}{\bullet}} \text{---} \bullet & E_7 : \bullet \text{---} \bullet \overset{\bullet}{\underset{|}{\bullet}} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \bullet & E_8 : \bullet \text{---} \bullet \overset{\bullet}{\underset{|}{\bullet}} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\
F_4 : \bullet \text{---} \bullet \rightleftarrows \bullet & G_2 : \bullet \rightleftarrows \bullet &
\end{array}$$

**Example 1.30** (type  $A_n$ ). Let  $G := \mathrm{GL}_{n+1}$ . Then we have  $G_{\mathrm{der}} = \mathrm{SL}_{n+1}$ . It's simply-connected, and its adjoint quotient is  $\mathrm{PGL}_{n+1}$ . There are of type  $A_n$ .

**Example 1.31** (type  $A_n$ ). Here let  $k$  be a non-algebraically-closed field. Let  $k'$  be a quadratic extension of  $k$  and  $J \in \mathrm{GL}_{n+1}(k')$  be a hermitian matrix. We put  $G := \mathrm{U}(J)$ . Then we have  $G_{\mathrm{der}} = \mathrm{SU}(J)$  (consisting of determinant 1 matrices). It's simply-connected, and its adjoint quotient is  $\mathrm{PU}(J)$ .<sup>5</sup> There are of type  $A_n$ . Here, note that, the above classification theorem of connected reductive groups is for groups over an algebraically closed field. So the point here is that  $\mathrm{U}(J)$  and  $\mathrm{GL}_{n+1}$  are not isomorphic over  $k$ , but isomorphic over  $\bar{k}$ .

**Exercise 1.32.** Let  $k$  be a non-algebraically-closed field. Let  $k'$  be a quadratic extension of  $k$  and  $J \in \mathrm{GL}_n(k')$  be a hermitian matrix. Prove that  $\mathrm{U}(J)$  and  $\mathrm{GL}_n$  are isomorphic over  $\bar{k}$ . More concretely, prove that the group

$$\mathrm{U}(J)(\bar{k}) = \{g \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{k} \otimes_k k') \mid {}^t\sigma(g)Jg = J\}$$

is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{k})$ . Here, if you want, please choose a hermitian matrix  $J$  in any way you prefer.

**Example 1.33** (type  $B_n$ ). Let  $G := \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}$ . Then we have  $G_{\mathrm{der}} = G$ . It's adjoint, and its simply-connected cover is so-called the “spin group”  $\mathrm{Spin}_{2n+1}$  (two-fold cover of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}$ ). There are of type  $B_n$ .

**Example 1.34** (type  $C_n$ ). Let  $G := \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$ . Then we have  $G_{\mathrm{der}} = G$ . It's simply-connected, and its adjoint quotient is  $\mathrm{PSp}_{2n}$  ( $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}$  is its two-fold cover). There are of type  $C_n$ .

**Example 1.35** (type  $D_n$ ). Let  $G := \mathrm{SO}_{2n}$ . Then we have  $G_{\mathrm{der}} = G$ . Its simply-connected cover is  $\mathrm{Spin}_{2n}$  (two-fold cover of  $G$ ), and its adjoint quotient is  $\mathrm{PSO}_{2n}$  ( $\mathrm{SO}_{2n}$  is its two-fold cover). There are of type  $D_n$ .

**1.5. Rationality.** Let us finally discuss the rationality. From now on, let us again assume that  $k$  is a perfect field.

**Definition 1.36.** Let  $G$  and  $G'$  be connected reductive groups over  $k$ . We say that  $G$  is a  $k$ -form of  $G'$  (or  $G'$  is a  $k$ -form of  $G$ ) if they are isomorphic over  $\bar{k}$ .

**Example 1.37.** The previous exercise says that  $\mathrm{U}(J)$  is a  $k$ -form of  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ .

**Definition 1.38.** We say that a connected reductive group  $G$  over  $k$  is *split* if it has a split maximal torus over  $k$ , i.e., a maximal torus which is isomorphic to a product of  $\mathbb{G}_m$ 's over  $k$ .

**Proposition 1.39.** For any connected reductive group  $G$  over  $k$ , there uniquely exists (up to isomorphism) a split connected reductive group  $G'$  over  $k$  such that  $G$  is a  $k$ -form of  $G'$ .

<sup>5</sup>I'm not sure if this is a standard notation.

**Definition 1.40.** We call a finite group a *finite group of Lie type* if it is realized as  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$  for some connected reductive group  $G$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . We say that a finite group of Lie type  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is

- of Chevalley type if  $G$  is split, and
- of Steinberg type if  $G$  is not split.

#### REFERENCES

- [Bor91] A. Borel, *Linear algebraic groups*, second ed., Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. 126, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1991.
- [Car85] R. W. Carter, *Finite groups of Lie type*, Pure and Applied Mathematics (New York), John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1985, Conjugacy classes and complex characters, A Wiley-Interscience Publication.
- [CGP15] B. Conrad, O. Gabber, and G. Prasad, *Pseudo-reductive groups*, second ed., New Mathematical Monographs, vol. 26, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2015.
- [Spr09] T. A. Springer, *Linear algebraic groups*, second ed., Modern Birkhäuser Classics, Birkhäuser Boston, Inc., Boston, MA, 2009.

11:18am, October 3, 2024