



Group schemes over LG-rings and applications to cancellation theorems and Azumaya algebras

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In memory of Nikolai Vavilov

Received: 28 June 2024 / Revised: 26 February 2025 / Accepted: 9 April 2025

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Abstract

We prove several results on reductive group schemes over LG-rings, e.g., existence of maximal tori and conjugacy of parabolic subgroups. These were proven in Demazure and Grothendieck (Séminaire de Géométrie Algébrique du Bois Marie: 151–153, 1970) for the special case of semilocal rings. We apply these results to establish cancellation theorems for hermitian and quadratic forms over LG-rings and show that the Brauer classes of Azumaya algebras over connected LG-rings have a unique representative and allow Brauer decomposition.

Keywords LG-rings · Reductive group schemes · Parabolic subgroup schemes · Maximal tori · Cancellation theorems · Azumaya algebras · Wedderburn property · Brauer decomposition

Mathematics Subject Classification 20G35 · 11E39 · 13A20 · 13H99 · 14L15

The first author was supported by the project “Group schemes, root systems, and related representations” founded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU through Romania’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) call no. PNRR-III-C9-2023-I8, Project CF159/31.07.2023, and coordinated by the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalization (MCID) of Romania.

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1 Introduction

In volume III of the fundamental treatise [20] on group schemes over a scheme S , several results are only proven if $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ for R a semilocal ring. In this paper we extend most of these results to the case $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ for R an LG-ring.

LG-rings, an abbreviation of “local-global” rings, axiomatize a basic property of a semilocal ring R . By definition, a ring R is an LG-ring if a polynomial f in several variables represents a unit of R as soon as for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ the canonical image $f_{R/\mathfrak{m}}$ represents a unit over R/\mathfrak{m} . Besides semilocal rings, the class of LG-rings include rings that are von Neumann regular modulo their radical and the ring of algebraic integers, see 2.2 for more examples and a historical background.

Among the results we prove for a reductive group scheme G over an LG-ring R , we highlight the following:

- (1) Every parabolic subgroup of G admits a maximal R -torus, in particular this holds for G itself (3.6, 3.8).
- (2) Two parabolic subgroups of the same type are conjugate under an element of $G(R)$ (4.1).
- (3) If R is a connected LG-ring, then $G(R)$ acts transitively on the set of minimal parabolic subgroups of G , and if G is semisimple, then $G(R)$ also acts transitively on the set of maximal split subtori of G (5.7).

An important ingredient in the proofs of (1)–(3) is a geometric characterization of LG-rings:

- (4) If M is a finite locally free module over an LG-ring R and U is an open quasi-compact subscheme of the scheme $\mathbf{W}(M)$ associated with M , then $U(R) \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$, see 2.4(a).

With (4) in place, our proof strategy often is to recast a claim in terms of an open quasi-compact subscheme of an affine space and then follow the approach of [20].

Our applications are twofold. First, in Sect. 6 we prove several cancellation theorems, based on the cohomological Cancellation Principle 6.1 which says that certain embeddings of reductive group schemes over LG-rings induce injective maps in cohomology. Specializing the groups involved, we easily derive cancellation of modules and Azumaya algebras in tensor products 6.2, cancellation of hermitian forms in 6.4 and Witt cancellation of quadratic forms in 6.5.

Second, we consider Azumaya R -algebras A in Sect. 7 and extend several results from R connected semilocal to R being connected LG. In particular, we show:

- (5) Each two indecomposable finite projective A -modules are isomorphic. Equivalently, the Brauer class of A contains, up to isomorphism, a unique algebra B with $\text{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}$, where $\text{idemp}(B)$ is the set of idempotents of B (7.7).
- (6) Every A with $\text{idemp}(A) = \{0, 1\}$ has a Brauer decomposition (7.9).

We note that (5) says that connected LG-rings have the Wedderburn property in the sense of [1] (or see [27, Section 7.6]).

Organization of the paper. We begin with a short introduction to LG-rings in Sect. 2, list examples, recall some immediate consequences and prove the important characterization (4) of LG-rings, stated above. Our investigation of group schemes over LG-rings starts in Sect. 3, where we prove the crucial result (1). We finish this section by discussing quasi-split and split reductive groups over LG-rings.

We study parabolic subgroups of reductive group schemes over LG-rings in Sect. 4. Besides (2) above and some immediate corollaries on three or two parabolic subgroups (4.2, 4.6), we prove in 4.8(b) that there exists a unique smallest element \mathbf{t}_{\min} in the set of types of parabolic subgroups of a reductive R -group scheme G for R an LG-ring. This allows us to introduce the Tits index in case G is semisimple and R is connected (no new indices occur, 4.9).

We focus on minimal parabolic subgroups and maximal split tori in Sect. 5, in particular prove (3) above. As a consequence, it makes sense to define the anisotropic

kernel of a reductive R -group scheme G , R connected LG, as the derived group of a minimal Levi subgroup, (5.9.1). Finally, Sects. 6 and 7 are devoted to the applications mentioned above.

Notation. We use standard notation and terminology, but note here that $R\text{-alg}$ denotes the category of unital associative commutative R -algebras. An R -scheme is a scheme over $\text{Spec}(R)$. A finite locally free R -module is the same as a finitely generated projective R -module, often abbreviated as finite projective R -module. If M is such a module, $\mathbf{W}(M)$ denotes the R -scheme representing the R -functor $T \mapsto M \otimes_R T$, $T \in R\text{-alg}$. For any unital associative algebra S we write S^\times for the set of invertible elements of S . Given an Azumaya algebra A , over a scheme or over a ring R , we follow [10, 2.4.2.2 and 2.4.2.2] and denote by $\mathbf{GL}_1(A)$ and $\mathbf{PGL}(A)$ the group schemes of invertible elements and of automorphisms of A . Regarding cohomology, $H^1(R, G) = H^1(\text{Spec}(R), G)$ is fppf-cohomology.

References to [20]. Our paper has many references to [20]. For better readability, a reference to [20] will simply be written by specifying the exposé in Roman numbers and the result in arabic numbers, but leaving out [20]. For example, [20, XIV, 3.20] = [XIV, 3.20].

2 LG-rings

This section gives an introduction to LG-rings (definition, examples, immediate consequences of the definition, preliminary results). In particular, we prove the important geometric characterization 2.4 of LG-rings and of rings satisfying the primitive condition.

2.1 LG-rings (definition and some known facts)

For $S \in R\text{-alg}$ we say that a polynomial $g \in S[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ represents a unit over S if there exist $s_1, \dots, s_n \in S$ such that $g(s_1, \dots, s_n) \in S^\times$. We apply this notion for a polynomial $f \in R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ by viewing f as a polynomial over S using the structure homomorphism $R \rightarrow S$. We call R an *LG-ring* if for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $f \in R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ the polynomial f represents a unit over R if and only if one of the following obviously equivalent conditions hold:

- (i) f represents a unit over every localization $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$, \mathfrak{m} a maximal ideal of R ;
- (ii) f represents a unit over every field R/\mathfrak{m} , \mathfrak{m} a maximal ideal of R ;
- (iii) f represents a unit over every field $F \in R\text{-alg}$.

An LG-ring is sometimes called a “local–global ring”, hence the short form LG, or a *ring with many units*.

(a) (*Direct products*) Let R_1, \dots, R_n be rings. Then the direct product $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$ is an LG-ring if and only if every R_i is an LG-ring.

(b) (*Characterization*) Recall that $\text{Jac}(R)$ denotes the Jacobson radical of a ring R , i.e., the intersection of all maximal ideals of R . The following are equivalent for R :

- (i) R is an LG-ring;
- (ii) $R/\text{Jac}(R)$ is an LG-ring.

The equivalence (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) holds because the maximal ideals of R and of $R/\text{Jac}(R)$ are in obvious bijection.

(c) (*Finite modules*) Let M be finitely presented and let N be a finitely generated module over an LG-ring R . Then $M \cong N$ if and only if $M_{\mathfrak{m}} \cong N_{\mathfrak{m}}$ for all maximal ideals $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ [25, Theorem 2.6]. In particular, *any finite projective R -module of constant rank is free* [25, Theorem 2.10], [52, II, Theorem], and therefore

$$\text{Pic}(R) = \{0\}. \quad (2.1.1)$$

We will give a quick proof, different from the published ones, of the last statement in Corollary 2.6 (b).

2.2 Examples of LG-rings and some history

(a) Clearly, $\{0\}$ is an LG-ring and so is every field. It then follows from 2.1 (a) and 2.1 (b) that *every semilocal ring is an LG-ring*.

(b) *If R is an LG-ring and $R' \in R\text{-alg}$ is an integral extension, then R' is also an LG-ring* by [25, Corollary 2.3]. In particular, every finite R -algebra of an LG-ring R is itself an LG-ring. (Recall that an R -algebra S is finite if and only if S is integral and of finite type as R -algebra [65, Tag 00GN].) [25, Section 2].

(c) *If $R/\text{Jac}(R)$ is von Neumann regular, then R is an LG-ring* [52, I, Proposition]. Recall [9, I, Section 2, Exercise 17] that a commutative ring A is von Neumann regular if and only if A is absolutely flat, i.e., all A -modules are flat. Also, *any direct limit of LG-rings is an LG-ring*.

(d) *A zero-dimensional ring is an LG-ring* [52, I, Corollary]. Indeed, a ring R is zero-dimensional if all its prime ideals are maximal. For such a ring the Jacobson radical $\text{Jac}(R)$ equals the nil radical, and so $R/\text{Jac}(R)$ is absolutely flat = von Neumann regular by [9, II, Section 4, Exercise 16(d)] or by [65, Tag 092F]. Therefore R is LG by (2.2).

(e) A polynomial in $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ is called *primitive* if its coefficients generate R as ideal. One says that a ring R *satisfies the primitive criterion* [25, 52] if the following equivalent conditions hold:

- (I) for every primitive polynomial $P \in R[X]$ there exists $r \in R$ such that $P(r) \in R^\times$;
- (II) for every primitive $Q \in R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ there exists $(r_1, \dots, r_n) \in R^n$ such that $Q(r_1, \dots, r_n) \in R^\times$;
- (III) R is LG and all residue fields are infinite.

An example of a ring satisfying the primitive criterion, is the ring $S^{-1}R[X]$ where R is arbitrary and S is the multiplicative subset of all primitive polynomials in the polynomial ring $R[X]$, [67, 1.13].

Another interesting example is the ring of all algebraic integers or of all real algebraic integers is an LG-ring. That these rings are LG-rings, is shown in [16, 17, 25]. Since they do not have finite non-zero homomorphic images, (III) proves our claim.

(f) *Non-examples*: If R is an LG-ring, the polynomial $X^2 + r$, $r \in R$ arbitrary, represents a unit over R . It follows that the rings \mathbb{Z} and $R[X]$, R an integral domain, are not LG-rings [30, Exercise 11.42].

(g) *Some history of LG-rings*. It seems that the concept of an LG-ring goes back to the paper [52] by McDonald and Waterhouse, where the authors refer to such a ring as a “ring in which every polynomial with local unit values has unit values”. The motivation of [52] comes from K -theory, in particular the study of $\mathrm{GL}_2(R)$ and $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{GL}_2(R))$. The name “LG-ring” was introduced in the paper [25] by Estes and Guralnick, which is the first in-depth investigation of LG-rings. Later on, LG-rings were used by Dias [23] in her Ph.D. thesis with the goal of extending some classical theorems on quadratic forms over fields to quadratic forms over LG-rings (her result on Witt cancellation of quadratic forms is generalized in 6.5). The subject seem to have fallen in oblivion until it was recently resurrected by Garibaldi–Petersson–Racine in their paper [29] and book [30].

Our first goal is to give a more geometric approach to LG-rings, see 2.3 and 2.4.

Lemma 2.3 *Let R be an LG-ring and let $n \geq 1$ be an integer. We further assume that U is an open quasi-compact subscheme of $\mathbb{A}_R^n = X$ and let $I \triangleleft R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ be the radical ideal such that $U = X \setminus \mathrm{Spec}(R[X_1, \dots, X_n]/I)$. Hence $U = \bigcup_{f \in I} X_f$.*

(a) *Denoting by I_{prim} the set of primitive polynomials in I , we have*

$$\bigcup_{f \in I_{\mathrm{prim}}} X_f(R) = \bigcup_{f \in I} X_f(R) = U(R).$$

(b) *Moreover, if $U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$, then also $U(R) \neq \emptyset$.*

Proof (a) The first equality is obvious since $X_f(R) = \emptyset$ for $f \in I \setminus I_{\mathrm{prim}}$. The inclusion $\bigcup_{f \in I} X_f(R) \subset U(R)$ is obvious. For the converse we are given $u \in U(R)$ and need to find $f \in I$ such that $u \in X_f(R)$. Since U is quasi-compact, the ideal I is finitely generated [40, I, (1.1.4)], say by f_1, \dots, f_d . Let us introduce the auxiliary linear polynomial in the variables Y_1, \dots, Y_d :

$$P(Y_1, \dots, Y_d) = f_1(u)Y_1 + \dots + f_d(u)Y_d.$$

We claim:

$$\text{for every maximal ideal } \mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R, P \text{ represents a unit in } (R/\mathfrak{m})^\times. \quad (2.3.1)$$

Indeed, fix a maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ and put $\kappa = R/\mathfrak{m}$. We have

$$U(\kappa) = \bigcup_{g \in I \otimes_R \kappa} X_g(\kappa).$$

Hence $u \otimes 1_\kappa \in X_g(\kappa)$ for some $g \in I$, i.e., $g(u \otimes 1_\kappa) \in \kappa^\times$. We can write g in the form $g = f_1 b_1 + \cdots + f_d b_d$ with suitable $b_i \in R$ and then have $P(b_1, \dots, b_d) = f_1(u) b_1 + \cdots + f_d(u) b_d = g(u) \otimes 1_\kappa \in \kappa^\times$, establishing the claim (2.3.1).

The LG-property now applies and says that P represents a unit in R , say $P(a_1, \dots, a_d) \in R^\times$ for suitable $a_i \in R$. Putting

$$f = a_1 f_1 + \cdots + a_d f_d \in I \subset R[X_1, \dots, X_n], \quad (2.3.2)$$

we have $f(u) = a_1 f_1(u) + \cdots + a_d f_d(u) = P(a_1, \dots, a_d) \in R^\times$, i.e., $u \in X_f(R)$.

(b) We consider the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= f_1(X_1, \dots, X_n)Y_1 + \cdots + f_d(X_1, \dots, X_n)Y_d \\ &\in R[X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_d]. \end{aligned}$$

We have seen in (a) that the assumption of (b) implies that Q represents a unit in R/\mathfrak{m} for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$. Hence, since R is LG, the polynomial Q represents a unit in R , i.e., there exist $(u_1, \dots, u_n) \in R^n$ and $(a_1, \dots, a_d) \in R^d$ such that

$$Q(u_1, \dots, u_n, a_1, \dots, a_d) \in R^\times.$$

It then follows that $u \in X_f(R)$ for the polynomial $f \in I$ defined in (2.3.2), in particular $U(R) \neq \emptyset$. \square

Proposition 2.4 *Let R be an LG-ring, let M be a finite locally free R -module, and let $U \subset \mathbf{W}(M)$ be an open quasi-compact subscheme.*

- (a) $U(R) \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$.
 (b) If R satisfies the primitive condition as in 2.2(e) and U is R -dense, then $U(R) \neq \emptyset$.

Proof (a) Of course, only the implication from right to left is to show. To do so, we take a presentation $M \oplus N = R^n$, hence $\mathbf{W}(M) \times_R \mathbf{W}(N) = \mathbb{A}_R^n$. It then follows from [37, IV₁, 1.1.2] (or [65, Tag 01K5]) that $V = U \times_R \mathbf{W}(N)$ is an open quasi-compact R -subscheme of \mathbb{A}_R^n . Moreover, $V(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for each maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} of R since $\mathbf{W}(N)(R/\mathfrak{m}) = N \otimes_R (R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$. Now 2.3(b) shows that $U(R) \times N = V(R) \neq \emptyset$, so that also $U(R) \neq \emptyset$.

(b) Let \mathfrak{m} be a maximal ideal of R , and put $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$. By R -denseness, the k -variety U_k is an open dense subvariety of the affine k -space $\mathbf{W}(M_k)$, in particular U_k is a rational non-empty subvariety of \mathbb{A}_k^n . Since k is an infinite field by 2.2(e), it follows that $U_k(k) = U(k) \neq \emptyset$. Now (a) implies that $U(R) \neq \emptyset$. \square

Remark Proposition 2.4(a) characterizes LG-rings. More precisely, if R is any base ring such that for every finite locally free R -module M and every open quasi-compact $U \subset \mathbf{W}(M)$ we have the equivalence (a), then R is an LG-ring.

Indeed, it suffices to evaluate the condition for a free R -module M of finite rank and a principal open affine $U \subset U(M)$.

2.5 Faithfully projective modules

Recall that an R -module M is *faithful* if the structure map $R \rightarrow \operatorname{End}_R(M)$, $r \mapsto r \operatorname{Id}_M$, is injective. It is a standard fact in commutative algebra, see for example [6, IX, Proposition 4.6, p.476], that the following conditions are equivalent for a finite projective R -module P :

- (i) P is faithful;
- (ii) every localization $P_{\mathfrak{p}}$, $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Spec}(R)$, is non-zero;
- (iii) $P_{R/\mathfrak{m}} \neq \{0\}$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$;
- (iv) P is faithfully flat;
- (v) there exists an R -module Q such that $P \otimes_R Q \cong R^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$.

In this case, P is called *faithfully projective*.

The following corollary is a first application of Proposition 2.4. An element m of a finite projective R -module M is called *unimodular* if $m \otimes_R 1_{\kappa(\mathfrak{p})} \neq 0$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Spec}(R)$, equivalently, $R \cdot m$ is a free R -module of rank 1 and a direct summand of M ([30, 9.17], [49, 0.3]).

Corollary 2.6 *Let R be an LG-ring and let M be a finite locally free R -module.*

- (a) *If M is faithfully projective, M contains a unimodular element.*
- (b) *If M has constant rank, then M is free.*

Proof (a) We consider the open subset $U = \mathbf{W}(M) \setminus \operatorname{Spec}(R)$, that is, the punctured affine space associated with the R -module M . Thus $U(R)$ consists of the unimodular elements of $\mathbf{W}(M)(R) = M$. We have $\mathbf{W}(M) = \operatorname{Spec}(\operatorname{Sym}(M^*))$ where $\operatorname{Sym}(M^*)$ is the symmetric algebra of M , and $R \cong \operatorname{Sym}(M^*)/I$ where I is the ideal generated by finitely many linear forms $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ spanning M^* . Hence, by [40, I, (1.1.4)], U is quasi-compact. Clearly, $U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$. Therefore Proposition 2.4(a) shows that $U(R)$ is not empty.

(b) We prove the statement by induction on the rank d of M , starting with the obvious case $d = 0$. In the following we will assume that $d \geq 1$. Then M is faithfully projective and therefore contains a unimodular element $m \in M$. Thus $M = Rm \oplus M'$ with M' being a finite projective R -module of rank $d - 1$. By the induction hypothesis, M' is free of rank $d - 1$, so M is free of rank d . \square

3 Existence of maximal tori

In this section our goal is to generalize Grothendieck's Theorem on the existence of maximal tori in reductive group schemes [20, XIV, 3.20(*)] from the semilocal case to the LG case, see Theorem 3.6. Our proof is a mild modification of the original proof, and is based on the exposés XIII and XIV of [20].

Throughout this section G is a reductive group scheme defined over an arbitrary ring R , unless specified otherwise. We abbreviate $\mathfrak{g} = \operatorname{Lie}(G)(R)$, which is a Lie R -algebra whose underlying module is finite projective.

3.1 The conditions (C_0) , (C_1) , (C'_1) and (C_2) of [XIV, 2.9] hold for $\mathrm{Lie}(G)$

The exposés XIII and XIV of [20] are written in a more general setting than the reductive case. For example, several results of *loc. cit.* assume the conditions (C_0) , (C_1) , (C'_1) and/or (C_2) of [XIV, 2.9]. We claim: *These conditions are fulfilled in the reductive case.* Indeed, the nilpotent rank equals the reductive rank in this case, which is locally constant by [XIX, 2.6], i.e., (C_0) holds. Moreover, the proof of [XIV, 3.7] shows that quasi-regular sections are regular for Lie algebras of reductive groups, which proves (C_2) , and thereby also (C_1) and (C'_1) in view of [XIV, 2.9].

Lemma 3.2 *For $A \in R\text{-alg}$ and $\mathfrak{g}_A = \mathfrak{g} \otimes_R A$ we denote by $\mathfrak{g}_A^{\mathrm{reg}}$ the set of regular elements of the Lie A -algebra \mathfrak{g}_A , defined in [XIV, 2.5]. Then the R -functor $A \mapsto (\mathfrak{g}_A)^{\mathrm{reg}}$ is representable by an open quasi-compact R -subscheme U of $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$. Furthermore, U is R -dense in $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$.*

Proof Since the condition (C_0) holds for \mathfrak{g} , the representability of the given R -functor by an open subscheme of $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ follows from [XIV, 2.10].

Because $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ is an affine scheme, the structure morphism $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(R)$ is quasi-compact [65, Tag 01K3]. Hence, if the immersion $\iota: U \rightarrow \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ is also a quasi-compact morphism, then so is the structure morphism $U \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(R)$ since quasi-compact morphisms respect composition [65, Tag 01K6]. It is therefore sufficient to show that ι is a quasi-compact morphism.

To do so, we will apply noetherian reduction, writing $R = \varinjlim_{i \in I} R_i$ as the direct limit of its finitely generated, hence noetherian \mathbb{Z} -subalgebras. It follows from [VI_B, 10.1, 10.3] and [13, 3.1.11] that there exist $i \in I$ and a reductive R_i -group scheme G_i such that $G = G_i \times_{R_i} R$. Let $\mathfrak{g}_i = \mathrm{Lie}(G_i)(R_i)$ and let U_i be the open subscheme of $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g}_i)$ representing regular elements. Since the formation of U commutes with base change, we can assume $U = U_i \times_{R_i} R$. Furthermore, the open immersion ι is obtained by base change from the open immersion $\iota_i: U_i \rightarrow \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g}_i)$. Because quasi-compact morphisms respect base change [65, 01K5], it is now sufficient to show that ι_i is a quasi-compact morphism. This is indeed true: Since R_i is noetherian, $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g}_i)$ is a noetherian scheme and the open immersion ι_i is a quasi-compact morphism by [65, Tag 01OX]. Thus, U is indeed quasi-compact.

Finally, since Lie algebras of reductive groups over infinite fields admit regular elements [XIV, 2.11 (b)], U is R -dense in $\mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$. \square

3.3 Cartan subalgebras and regular elements

Let $S = \mathrm{Spec} R$. A *Cartan subalgebra* of the Lie algebra $\mathrm{Lie}(G)$ over S is a Lie subalgebra D of $\mathrm{Lie}(G)$ which is locally a direct summand and whose geometric fibres $D_{\bar{s}}$ are Cartan subalgebras of $\mathrm{Lie}(G_{\bar{s}})$ for all $s \in S$ [XIV, 2.4]. The concept of a Cartan subalgebra of a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over an infinite field, is defined in [XIII, after 4.5]. In this special case, they are the nil spaces of regular elements, and therefore always exist since regular elements exist.

One can use the equivalence of quasi-coherent \mathcal{O}_S -modules and R -modules to translate the definition of a Cartan subalgebra of $\mathrm{Lie}(G)$ to that of a Cartan subalgebra

of the R -Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g} = \mathrm{Lie}(G)(R)$. In particular, a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} is always a direct summand of the finite projective Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} .

The R -functor, associating with $A \in R\text{-alg}$ the set of Cartan algebras of \mathfrak{g}_A , is representable by a quasi-projective finitely presented R -scheme \mathcal{D} [XIV, 2.16]. Also, the R -subfunctor X of $\mathcal{D} \times_R \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$, defined by

$$X(A) = \{(\mathfrak{h}, y) \in \mathcal{D}(A) \times \mathfrak{g}_A : y \in \mathfrak{h}\}$$

for each R -algebra A , is representable by a quasi-projective R -scheme \mathcal{X} . Furthermore, the first projection $p_1: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is a vector bundle.

We denote by $\psi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ the second projection, and recall that the restriction $\psi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U$ is an isomorphism, where $U \subset \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ is the open scheme of 3.2. In particular, this implies that a regular element of \mathfrak{g}_A is contained in a unique Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g}_A .

Theorem 3.4 *We assume that R is an LG-ring and that one of the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *R satisfies the primitive criterion;*
- (ii) *G is adjoint.*

Then \mathfrak{g} admits a regular element and hence a Cartan R -subalgebra.

Proof By 3.3, a regular element is contained in a (unique) Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} . It is therefore enough to prove that \mathfrak{g} contains regular elements.

Case (i): Regular elements always exist in finite-dimensional Lie algebras over infinite fields [XIII, 4.2], i.e., $U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for all infinite residue fields of R . Since $U \subset \mathbf{W}(\mathfrak{g})$ is open and quasi-compact by 3.2, Proposition 2.4(b) shows that $U(R) \neq \emptyset$.

Case (ii): Applying Proposition 2.4(a) and Lemma 3.2, it suffices to show that $U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$. As mentioned in (i), this is always true if R/\mathfrak{m} is infinite. But it is also true if R/\mathfrak{m} is finite and (ii) holds, according to a result of Chevalley–Serre [XIV, Appendix]. \square

3.5 Groups of type (C) and Cartan subalgebras

Let $S = \mathrm{Spec}(R)$. We recall that a smooth R -subgroup $H \subset G$ with connected geometric fibers is a *subgroup of type (C)* if $\mathrm{Lie}(H)$ is a Cartan \mathcal{O}_S -Lie subalgebra of $\mathrm{Lie}(G)$. The map $H \mapsto \mathrm{Lie}(H)(R)$ is a bijection between subgroups of type (C) of G and the R -Cartan subalgebras of $\mathrm{Lie}(G)(R)$, [XIV, 3.9]. The inverse map is given by $\mathfrak{h} \mapsto \mathrm{Norm}_G(\mathfrak{h})^0$. We shall use that R -subgroups of type (C) are precisely the maximal tori of G when G is adjoint [XIV, 3.18].

Theorem 3.6 *Let R be an LG-ring and let G be a reductive R -group scheme. Then G admits a maximal R -torus.*

Proof Let $\mathcal{Z}(G)$ be the (schematic) centre of G . The flat quotient $G/\mathcal{Z}(G)$ is represented by a semisimple adjoint R -group scheme G^{ad} , [XXII, 4.3.5 (ii)] or [13, 3.3.5].

Moreover, $T \mapsto T/\mathbb{Z}(G)$ defines a bijective correspondence between the set of maximal tori of G and the set of maximal tori of G^{ad} . Thus, without loss of generality we can assume that G is adjoint. Then Theorem 3.4(ii) provides a Cartan R -algebra of \mathfrak{g} , which by 3.5 “integrates” to a maximal torus of G . \square

Lemma 3.7 (Tori in subgroups of type (RC)) *Let G be a reductive group scheme over a ring R , let $H \subset G$ be a subgroup scheme of G of type (RC) in the sense of [XXII, 5.11.1] and let $\text{rad}^u(H)$ be the unipotent radical of H , [XXII, 5.11.4]. Suppose:*

- (i) *every reductive R -group scheme admits a maximal torus, e.g., assume that R is an LG-ring, and*
- (ii) *$H^1(R, \text{rad}^u(H)) = 0$, e.g., assume that there exists a parabolic subgroup scheme $P \subset G$ such that $\text{rad}^u(H) = \text{rad}^u(P) \cap H$.*

Then G admits a maximal torus contained in H .

Proof (Modelled after the proof of [XXVI, 4.2.7(ii)]) The unipotent radical $U = \text{rad}^u(H)$ is a smooth, finitely presented, and normal subgroup scheme of H , whose geometric fibres are connected and unipotent. Furthermore, by [XXII, 5.11.4], we have an exact sequence of R -group schemes

$$1 \longrightarrow U \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{f} M \longrightarrow 1$$

where M is reductive. The subgroup H is in particular of type (R), so that H and G have the same rank by [XXII, 5.2.2(b)]. By the properties of U , this is then also the rank of M .

The assumption (i) provides us with a maximal R -torus T of M . Let $N = f^{-1}(T)$ be its pre-image. We thus have an induced exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow U \longrightarrow N \xrightarrow{f} T \longrightarrow 1$$

of R -group schemes. The properties of U and T , together with [VI_B, 9.2(viii)], imply that N is a smooth and finitely presented subgroup scheme of G . Moreover, by [XVII, 5.1.1(i)(a)], its geometric fibres $N_{\bar{s}}$, $s \in \text{Spec}(R)$, are connected, solvable and contain a maximal torus of $G_{\bar{s}}$. Thus, N is a subgroup scheme of G of type (R). We have $\text{rank } N = \text{rank } M = \text{rank } G$, and by [XXII, 5.6.9(ii)] also $\text{rad}^u(N) = \text{rad}^u(H) = U$.

By [XXII, 5.6.13], the functor of maximal tori of N is representable by an R -scheme \mathcal{T} , which is a U -torsor. It then follows from assumption (ii) that $\mathcal{T}(R) \neq \emptyset$, i.e., N admits a maximal torus T , which is a maximal torus of G because $\text{rank } N = \text{rank } G$. Hence $T \subset N \subset H$ fulfills our claim.

That $H^1(R, \text{rad}^u(H)) = 0$ in case there exists a parabolic subgroup scheme $P \subset G$ such that $\text{rad}^u(H) = \text{rad}^u(P) \cap H$, is shown in [XXVI, 2.11] (use [XXVI, 2.5]). \square

Corollary 3.8 (Tori in parabolic subgroups) *Let R be an arbitrary ring satisfying the condition 3.7(i), e.g., suppose that R is an LG-ring, and let G be a reductive R -group scheme. Then every parabolic subgroup of G contains a maximal torus of G .*

Proof A parabolic subgroup P of G is a group of type (RC) by [XXVI, 1.5]. The condition 3.7(ii) holds by [XXVI, 2.2]. Hence Lemma 3.7 with $H = P$ proves the claim. \square

Corollary 3.8 is the special case $P = Q$ of Proposition 4.4, whose proof requires however much more work. We will present an immediate application of Corollary 3.8 to quasi-split groups.

3.9 Quasi-split reductive groups

We refer the reader to [XXIV, 3.9] for the definition of a quasi-split reductive group over an arbitrary scheme S . It simplifies greatly if S is an LG-scheme, i.e., $S = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ for R an LG-ring:

- (a) *If S is an LG-scheme, a reductive S -group G is quasi-split if and only if G admits a Borel subgroup.*

Indeed, it is explained in [XXIV, 3.9] that a reductive group G over a scheme S with $\operatorname{Pic}(S) = 0$ is quasi-split if and only if it contains a Killing couple, i.e., a pair (B, T) consisting of a Borel subgroup B of G and a maximal torus T of G contained in T . But, by Corollary 3.8, every Borel subgroup contains a maximal torus of G . We note that (a) is the definition of a quasi-split reductive S -group in [13, 5.2.10].

Recall ([13, Section 7.2] or [10, 2.2.4.9]) that an *inner form* of a reductive S -group scheme G is a twisted form of G under a torsor in the image of $H^1(S, G/\mathbb{Z}(G))$ in $H^1(S, \operatorname{Aut}(G))$.

- (b) *For an LG-scheme S , up to isomorphism every reductive S -group admits a unique quasi-split inner form.*

This is proven in [13, 7.2.12] for semilocal S , but as [13, 7.2.13] states, (b) holds whenever $\operatorname{Pic}(S') = 0$ for any finite étale cover S' of S . By 2.2(b), such a cover is again an LG-scheme, so that (2.1.1) establishes the condition $\operatorname{Pic}(S') = 0$.

In 3.10–3.13 we review some concepts for group schemes over arbitrary schemes.

3.10 Type of a reductive group scheme

Let S be an arbitrary scheme and let G be a reductive S -group scheme. We recall the notion of the type of G [XXII, 2.7].

To each point $s \in S$ we associate the isomorphism class of the root data of the reductive algebraic group $G_{\overline{\kappa(s)}}$ over the algebraically closed field $\overline{\kappa(s)}$, called the *type of G at s* and denoted $\operatorname{type}_s(G)$. The function $s \mapsto \operatorname{type}_s(G)$ is locally constant [XXII, 2.8].

Since the type of a reductive algebraic group is invariant under an arbitrary field extension, it follows that for each morphism $f: S' \rightarrow S$ of schemes and for each point $s' \in S'$ we have $\operatorname{type}_{s'}(G_{S'}) = \operatorname{type}_{f(s)}(G)$.

Let $S' \rightarrow S$ be a surjective morphism (for example a flat cover) such that $G \times_S S'$ is a split reductive S' -group with root data Ψ_0 [XXII, 1.13]. The type function of the S' -reductive group scheme $G \times_S S'$ is constant with value Ψ_0 . The previous compatibility shows that the type function of G is constant and has value Ψ_0 .

3.11 Split reductive S -groups with $\text{Pic}(S) = 0$ ([XXIV, 2.14])

Let S be a scheme for which $\text{Pic}(S) = 0$, and let G be a reductive S -group scheme of constant type. Then G is split if and only if G contains a split maximal torus.

The result applies to $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ for R an LG-ring since by (2.1.1) we know that $\text{Pic}(R) = 0$. Moreover, by Theorem 3.6, a reductive group scheme over an LG-ring R contains a maximal torus.

3.12 Isotrivial reductive groups

A reductive group scheme G over S is *isotrivial* if there exists a finite étale cover (= finite étale surjective) $S' \rightarrow S$ such that $G_{S'}$ is split, see for example [32, 4.5.1 (2)]. By 3.10, an isotrivial reductive S -group scheme G is necessarily of constant type.

Lemma 3.13 *Let G be reductive group scheme G over S of constant type Ψ_0 , and let G_0 be the Chevalley \mathbb{Z} -group scheme of type Ψ_0 . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (a) G is isotrivial;
- (b) the $\text{Aut}(G_0)$ -torsor $\underline{\text{Isom}}(G_{0,S}, G)$ (defined in [XXIV, 1.8]) is isotrivial, i.e., splits after passing to a finite étale cover of S .

Proof (b) \Rightarrow (a). Our assumption is that there exists a finite étale cover S' of S such that $\underline{\text{Isom}}(G_{0,S}, G)(S') \neq \emptyset$, so that $G_{0,S'}$ is isomorphic to $G_{S'}$. Since G_0 is split, it follows that $G_{S'}$ is split. We conclude that G is isotrivial.

(a) \Rightarrow (b). We assume that there exists a finite étale cover S' of S such that $G_{S'}$ is split of type Ψ_0 and so is $G_{0,S'}$. In view of Demazure's unicity theorem [XXIII, 5.3], $G_{S'}$ is isomorphic to $G_{0,S'}$. Thus the $\text{Aut}(G_0)$ -torsor $\underline{\text{Isom}}(G_{0,S}, G)$ has an S' -point and is split by S'/S . Thus the $\text{Aut}(G_0)$ -torsor $\underline{\text{Isom}}(G_{0,S}, G)$ is isotrivial. \square

After this intermezzo on group schemes over arbitrary schemes we come back to the case $S = \text{Spec}(R)$, R an LG-ring. The following is a corollary of Theorem 3.6.

Corollary 3.14 *Let R be an LG-ring and let G be a reductive R -group scheme of constant type which is linear, e.g., G is semisimple [33, Corollary 4.3]. Then G is isotrivial. In particular, if R is connected and simply connected (= does not admit non-trivial finite étale covers), then G is split.*

Proof Theorem 3.6 provides a maximal R -torus T of G . Since T is linear (and of constant rank), T is isotrivial (3.12) according to a result of Grothendieck, see [33, Theorem 3.3]. In other words, there exists a finite étale cover R' of R such that $T_{R'}$ is split. Since R' is an LG-ring as well, 2.2(b), we conclude that $G_{R'}$ is split in view of 3.11. Assume now that R is connected and simply connected. Then $R' = R \times \cdots \times R$, so that T is already split. \square

Example 3.15 The ring $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ of algebraic integers is an LG-ring by 2.2(e). It is also well-known that $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ is simply-connected. Hence, Corollary 3.14 shows that any semisimple group scheme over $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ is split. In particular, this holds for the semisimple $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ -group G

of type G_2 , which is known to be the automorphism group scheme of an octonion algebra \mathcal{O} over $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ ([14, B.15] or [30, 55.4]). As a consequence, \mathcal{O} is split.

Moret–Bailly told us that this is a direct consequence of a theorem of Rumely on the existence of points for “reasonable” schemes over $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ [60, Theorem 1] (see also [55, Theorem 1.3]). For H a flat affine group scheme of finite type over $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ whose generic fiber is (smooth) connected, Rumely’s Theorem implies that any H -torsor has a $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ -point, so it is trivial. Since $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ is simply connected a semisimple $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ -group G is an inner form of its Chevalley form G_0 , that is, is the twist of G_0 by a $G_{0,ad}$ -torsor E where $G_{0,ad}$ is the adjoint group of G_0 . Since E is trivial, it follows that G is split.

Coming back to the example of octonions, Rumely’s Theorem directly does the job, since the automorphism group G_2 of the split octonions is connected. Of course, one could also appeal to the strong approximation theorem to show that $H^1(\overline{\mathbb{Z}}, G_2)$ vanishes. Indeed, a class in $H^1(\overline{\mathbb{Z}}, G_2)$ arises from $\gamma \in H^1(R, G_2)$ where R is the ring of integers of a number field F . Furthermore we can assume that $\gamma_F = 1$ since $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, G_2) = 1$. But then [42, Satz 3.3] proves $\gamma = 1$.

Yet another way to see that any octonion algebra over the LG-ring $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$ is split, has been communicated to us by Skip Garibaldi and works for any simply connected LG-ring R : By [30, 19.16(b)], any octonion algebra over R contains a quadratic étale subalgebra. It is split, since R is simply connected. By [30, 22.9], the algebra \mathcal{O} is therefore reduced. But then it is split by [30, 22.16] and 2.6(b).

4 Parabolic subgroups (conjugacy, relative positions)

A fundamental result of Borel–Tits proves conjugacy of parabolic subgroups of the same type in reductive groups over a field [8, Theorem 4.13(a)]. This was extended by Demazure to reductive group schemes over a semilocal ring [20, XXVI, 5.2, 5.10]. In Theorem 4.1 we prove this result for reductive groups over an LG-ring. In 4.2 and 4.6 we apply this to conjugate parabolic subgroups to a transversal or osculating position.

We use the notion of an opposite parabolic subgroup of a reductive group scheme as defined in [XXVI, 4.3.1]. Over an affine base, every parabolic subgroup admits an opposite parabolic subgroup [XXVI, 4.3.5(i)]. We will also employ the concept of the type $(P) \in \text{Of}(\text{Dyn}(G))(R)$ of a parabolic subgroup P of G , defined in [XXVI, 3.2].

Theorem 4.1 *Let R be an LG-ring, and let G be a reductive R -group scheme with a pair (P, P') of opposite parabolic subgroup schemes of G . We abbreviate the unipotent radicals of P and P' by $U = \text{rad}^u(P)$ and $U' = \text{rad}^u(P')$ respectively.*

- (a) *Any parabolic subgroup Q of G of the same type as P has the form $Q = {}^{uu'}P$ for suitable $u \in U(R)$ and $u' \in U'(R)$. In particular, the group $G(R)$ acts transitively on $(G/P)(R)$.*
- (b) *The map $H^1(R, P) \rightarrow H^1(R, G)$, induced by the inclusion $P \subset G$, is injective.*
- (c) *We have a decomposition $G(R) = U(R)U'(R)P(R)$.*

Proof (a) By [XXVI, 3.6], we have an isomorphism $G/P \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Par}_{\text{type}(P)}(G)$ where $\text{Par}_{\text{type}(P)}(G)$ stands for the smooth projective R -scheme of parabolic subgroups of type $\text{type}(P)$. Hence it suffices to prove the first part of (a).

We consider the R -subfunctor $\underline{\text{Opp}}(/P)$ of $\text{Par}_{\text{type}(P)}(G)$ of parabolic subgroups which are opposite to P . By [XXVI, 2.5] (or [13, 5.4.3]), we have $U \cong \mathbf{W}(E)$ for a locally free R -module of finite type. (That E has finite type, is not explicitly stated in [XXVI, 2.5], but follows for example from the representability of $\mathbf{W}(E)$.) Hence U is an affine smooth R -scheme. Furthermore, according to [XXVI, 4.3.6], we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U & \hookrightarrow & G/P' \\ \downarrow \wr & & \downarrow \wr \\ \underline{\text{Opp}}(/P) & \hookrightarrow & \text{Par}_{\text{type}(P')}(G). \end{array}$$

This implies that $\underline{\text{Opp}}(/P)$ is representable by an affine smooth R -scheme, since this is so for U .

We consider the R -subfunctor $\underline{\text{Opp}}(/P) \cap \underline{\text{Opp}}(/Q)$ of $\text{Par}_{\text{type}(P')}(G)$; it is representable by an open R -subscheme V of U . We claim that it is also quasi-compact. Indeed, we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \underline{\text{Opp}}(/Q) \\ \downarrow a & & \downarrow b \\ \underline{\text{Opp}}(/P) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Par}_{\text{type}(P')}(G) \\ & \searrow c \quad \swarrow d & \\ & \text{Spec}(R) & \end{array}$$

in which the top rectangle is cartesian and c and $d \circ b$ are quasi-compact morphisms since $\underline{\text{Opp}}(/P)$ and $\underline{\text{Opp}}(/Q)$ are affine schemes. As d is a projective, hence separated morphism, cancellation ([37, IV₁, 1.1.2] or [65, Tag 03GI]) says that b is quasi-compact morphism. By base change, a is quasi-compact and so $c \circ a$ is quasi-compact too, i.e., V is a quasi-compact scheme.

For every R -ring A , the set $V(A)$ is the set of A -parabolic subgroups of G_A which are opposite to P and to Q . For a residue field R/\mathfrak{m} of R , two parabolic subgroups of $G_{R/\mathfrak{m}}$ of the same type are conjugate by [8, 4.3], so that [8, 6.27] says that $V(R/\mathfrak{m})$ is non-empty for each maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} of R . Since R is a LG-ring, Proposition 2.4 implies that $V(R) \neq \emptyset$. In other words, P and Q admit a common opposite R -parabolic subgroup Q' . We now use the isomorphism of R -functors [XXVI, 4.3.5.(i)]

$$\underline{\text{Opp}}(/P) \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\text{Lev}}(/P), \quad H \mapsto H \cap P$$

between parabolic subgroups of G opposite to P and Levi subgroups of P , and note that it is P -equivariant. We consider the two Levi subgroups $L = P' \cap P$ and $M = Q' \cap P$

of P . Since P is a subgroup of type (RC), [XXVI, 1.8] says that $M = {}^u L$ for an unique $u \in U(R)$, so that $Q' = {}^u P'$ by using the above bijection. It follows that $P' = {}^{u^{-1}} Q'$ is opposite to P and to ${}^{u^{-1}} Q$. Similarly, there exists a unique $u' \in U'(R)$ such that ${}^{u^{-1}} Q \cap P' = {}^{u'}(P \cap P')$ and ${}^{u^{-1}} Q = {}^{u'} P$. Thus $Q = {}^{uu'} P$.

(b) According to [36, III, 3.3.1], transitivity in (a) implies that the map $H^1(R, P) \rightarrow H^1(R, G)$ has trivial kernel. The classical twisting argument applies and yields the injectivity of the map $H^1(R, P) \rightarrow H^1(R, G)$, see for example the proof of [XXVI, 5.10].

(c) Let $g \in G(R)$ and apply (a) to $Q := {}^g P$. Thus, there exists $u \in U(R)$, and $u' \in U'(R)$ such that $Q = {}^{uu'} P$. It follows that $g^{-1}uu' \in N_G(P)(R) = P(R)$. Thus $g \in U(R)U'(R)P(R)$. \square

We can also extend [XXVI, 5.3] to LG-rings.

Proposition 4.2 *Let R be an LG-ring, and let G be a reductive R -group scheme. Let P, P', Q be three parabolic R -subgroups of G . Then there exists $g \in G(R)$ such that ${}^g Q$ and P as well as ${}^g Q$ and P' are in transversal position.*

Proof We denote by $\text{Gen}(Q/P)$ the open subscheme of G representing the subfunctor which assigns to an S -scheme S' the set of elements $g \in G(S')$ such that ${}^g Q_{S'}$ and $P_{S'}$ are in transversal position [XXVI, 4.2.4(iii)]. We have to show that $X = \text{Gen}(Q/P) \cap \text{Gen}(Q/P') \subset G$ has an R -point.

We claim that $\text{Gen}(Q/P) \rightarrow G$ is quasi-compact. Indeed, since quasi-compact morphisms allow fpqc descent [65, Tag 02KQ] and since (G, P) is splitable étale-locally [XXVI, 1.14], we can assume that G is split and that $P = P_I$ is a standard parabolic subgroup. In this case, $\text{Gen}(Q/P) \rightarrow G$ arises by base change from the analogous morphism over \mathbb{Z} . But the latter is quasi-compact since $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ is noetherian [65, Tag 01OX]. Since quasi-compact morphism allows base change [65, Tag 01K5], we are done. (Alternatively, one can use noetherian reduction as in the proof of 3.2, to prove that $\text{Gen}(Q/P) \rightarrow G$ is quasi-compact.) In any case, since $\text{Gen}(Q/P)$ and $\text{Gen}(Q/P')$ are quasi-compact, so is their fibre product X .

We pick a parabolic subgroup Q' of G which is opposite to Q , [XXVI, 4.3.5(i)], put $U = \text{rad}^u(Q)$ and $U' = \text{rad}^{u'}(Q')$, and let $\iota: U \times_R U' \rightarrow G$, $(u, u') \mapsto uu'$, be the immersion obtained by restricting the open immersion $U \times_R Q' \rightarrow G$ ([XXVI, 4.3.2.b(vi)]). We then consider the fibre product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times_R U' & \xrightarrow{\iota} & G \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ V & \longrightarrow & X = \text{Gen}(Q/P) \cap \text{Gen}(Q/P'). \end{array}$$

The right immersion is open and quasi-compact, hence so is $V \hookrightarrow U \times_R U'$. Moreover, by [XXVI, 2.5], $U = \mathbf{W}(M)$ for some locally free R -module M of finite rank. The analogous fact then holds for $U \times_R U'$.

With the aim of applying Proposition 2.4(a) to $V \subset U \times_R U' = \mathbf{W}(M)$, let $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ be a maximal ideal of R , and put $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$. By [XXVI, 5.3] we know that there exists

$g \in G(k)$ such that g fulfills the claim of the proposition for $R = k$. By 4.1(c) we can write g in the form $g = uu'q$ with $u \in U(k)$, $u' \in U'(k)$ and $q \in Q(k)$. But then $uu' \in V(k)$. Hence, by 2.4(a), we get $V(R) \neq \emptyset$. Thus $X(R) \neq \emptyset$, as desired. \square

Corollary 3.8 is the special case $P = Q$ of the following Proposition 4.4.

4.3 Parabolic subgroups in standard position [XXVI, 4.5.1]

Let S be a scheme and let G be a reductive S -group scheme. Two parabolic subgroups P and Q of G are said to be in *standard position*, if they satisfy the following equivalent conditions (i)–(iv):

- (i) $P \cap Q$ is smooth.
- (ii) $P \cap Q$ is a subgroup of type (R).
- (ii)' $P \cap Q$ is a subgroup of type (RC).
- (iii) $P \cap Q$ contains (fpqc)-locally a maximal torus of G .
- (iv) $P \cap Q$ contains Zariski-locally a maximal torus of G .

Moreover, if $S = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ for a semilocal ring, then (i)–(iv) is equivalent to

- (v) $P \cap Q$ contains a maximal torus.

If S is the spectrum of a field, every pair of parabolic subgroups is in standard position by [XXVI, 4.1.1] or [8, 4.5].

Our goal is to generalize condition (v) to $S = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ for R an LG-ring, see 4.4(c). In order to do so, we need to retake part of the proof of [XXVI, 4.5.1]; at the same time we will add more details.

Regarding the equivalence of the conditions above, we note that the implications (ii)' \Rightarrow (ii) \Rightarrow (i) and (iv) \Rightarrow (iii) are trivial. The implication (i) \Rightarrow (ii)' is easy: because of [XXVI, 4.1.1] and [8, 4.5], every geometric fibre $K_{\bar{s}}$ of $K = P \cap Q$ is connected and contains a maximal torus $T_{\bar{s}}$ of $G_{\bar{s}}$ such that the roots of $K_{\bar{s}}$ with respect to $T_{\bar{s}}$ are a closed subset of the roots of $(G_{\bar{s}}, T_{\bar{s}})$. Thus, if K is smooth, it is a subgroup of type (RC) by definition. We will show the remaining implications (iii) \Rightarrow (i) and (iii) \Rightarrow (iv) in the proof of 4.4, since they easily follow from the arguments in the proof of 4.4. The statements 4.4(a) and 4.4(b) below are used in the proof of (iii) \Rightarrow (iv) in [XXVI, 4.5.1], which is the main point of the proof the equivalences in [XXVI, 4.5.1]

Regarding (4.4.1) we note that $P \cap Q$ is a subgroup of type (RC) by (ii)' and hence has a unipotent radical $\operatorname{rad}^u(P \cap Q)$, defined in [XXII, 5.11.4].

Proposition 4.4 *Let P and Q be two parabolic subgroups of a reductive S -group scheme G such that $P \cap Q$ contains a maximal torus of G (fpqc)-locally, cf. 4.3. Then the following hold.*

- (a) *The (fpqc)-image sheaf of the multiplication morphism*

$$f: \operatorname{rad}^u(P) \rtimes (P \cap Q) \rightarrow G, \quad (u, h) \mapsto uh$$

is representable by a parabolic subgroup P' of G , satisfying

$$P' = (P \cap Q) \cdot \operatorname{rad}^u(P).$$

(b) The induced map $f': \text{rad}^u(P) \rtimes (P \cap Q) \rightarrow P'$ is smooth and

$$\text{rad}^u(P \cap Q) = \text{rad}^u(P') \cap (P \cap Q). \quad (4.4.1)$$

(c) If $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ with R an LG-ring, then $P \cap Q$ contains a maximal S -torus of G .

Proof We put $K = P \cap Q$ and prove (a) and (b) together. These statements are local with respect to the (fpqc)-topology. Hence, after passing to a suitable cover, we can assume that K contains a split maximal torus T and that P and Q have constant type.

We let R be the root system of (G, T) , choose an order on R and denote by U_r , $r \in R$, the associated root subgroups. First some general reminders. For each closed subset R_0 of R , we have an S -subgroup H_{R_0} of type (R), which is characterized by its Lie algebra: $\text{Lie}(H_{R_0}) = \text{Lie}(T) \oplus \bigoplus_{r \in R_0} \text{Lie}(U_r)$, [XXII, 5.4.2, 5.4.7]. The multiplication map

$$\prod_{r \in R_0 \cap R_+} U_r \times_S T \times_S \prod_{r \in R_0 \cap -R_+} U_r \longrightarrow H_{R_0}$$

is an open immersion, [XXII, 5.4.4], whose image we denote by Ω_{R_+, R_0} , the so-called *big cell* of H_{R_0} . We claim that Ω_{R_+, R_0} is schematically dense in H_{R_0} . Indeed, each fibre $H_{R_0, s}$, $s \in S$, is an integral scheme in which $\Omega_{R_+, R_0} \cap H_{R_0, s}$ is open and nonempty, hence dense, so that the reference [37, IV₃, 11.10.10] proves our claim.¹

Coming back to the situation at hand, in view of [XXVI, 1.14] we can assume that $P = H_{R_1}$ and $Q = H_{R_2}$ for parabolic subsets R_1 and R_2 of R . Since according to [8, Corollary 4.5], the group K has geometrically connected fibers, it is shown in [XXII, 5.4.5] that

$$K = H_{R_1 \cap R_2}, \quad (4.4.2)$$

and that K is S -smooth and of type (R). Since $R_1 \cap R_2$ is a closed subset of R , it follows from the definition of groups of type (RC) that K is such a group. Note that our arguments so far show the implication (iii) \Rightarrow (i) of 4.3 (as well as (iii) \Rightarrow (ii)', which is however not needed).

We denote by $R_1^s = R_1 \cap -R_1$ the symmetric part of R_1 and let $R_1^a = R_1 \setminus R_1^s$ so that $U_{R_1^a} = \text{rad}^u(P)$, [XXVI, 1.12]. Thus, using the notation established so far, the map f of (a) is defined on

$$\text{rad}^u(P) \rtimes K = U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2}. \quad (4.4.3)$$

We put

$$R' = (R_1 \cap R_2) \cup R_1^a = (R_1^s \cap R_2) \cup R_1^a. \quad (4.4.4)$$

¹ This argument is taken from the web version of [XXII, 5.6.7, N.D.E. (38)]

One easily shows, see [8, 4.4], that R' is a closed subset of R satisfying $R' \cup (-R') = R$, i.e., R' is a parabolic subset of R . Therefore $P' = H_{R'}$ is a parabolic subgroup of G , [XXVI, 1.4]. Keeping in mind (4.4.3), we now claim that

$$\begin{aligned} &f \text{ factorizes through an } S\text{-homomorphism} \\ &f': U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2} \rightarrow P', \quad (u, h) \mapsto uh. \end{aligned} \quad (4.4.5)$$

In other words, we contend that the induced map $f_{\#}: U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2} \rightarrow G/P'$ is the trivial map. Since $R_1^a \subset R'$, this is equivalent to $f_b: H_{R_1 \cap R_2} \rightarrow G/P'$ being the trivial map. This is the case when we restrict f_b to the big open cell $\Omega_{R_+, R_1 \cap R_2}$ of $H_{R_1 \cap R_2}$ which is a schematically dense in $H_{R_1 \cap R_2}$. Hence, by [65, Tag 01RH], it follows that f_b and therefore also $f_{\#}$ is trivial, finishing the proof of (4.4.5). Note that (4.4.5) is part of the claim (a) (surjectivity will be established later). Next we show the first part of (b), namely

$$f' \text{ is smooth.} \quad (4.4.6)$$

It follows from (4.4.4) and the definition of $U_{R_1^a}$, $H_{R_1 \cap R_2}$ and P' that $\text{Lie}(f'): \text{Lie}(U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2}) \rightarrow \text{Lie}(P')$ admits a section (as \mathcal{O}_S -module map), so is in particular surjective. The reference [37, IV₄, 17.11.1 (d)] then shows that f' is smooth along the unit section, so is smooth everywhere. We have thus proven the first part of (b).

It follows, see e.g. [37, IV₄, 17.5.1], that $\text{Ker}(f')$ is smooth and hence in particular flat, so that the quotient $(U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2})/\text{Ker}(f')$ is representable by an S -group scheme H' which is locally of finite presentation and equipped with a monomorphism $h': H' \rightarrow P'$, [XVI, 2.3]. We consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H' \\ & \searrow f' & \swarrow h' \\ & P' & \end{array}$$

The quotient map $U_{R_1^a} \rtimes H_{R_1 \cap R_2} \rightarrow H'$ is smooth surjective and f' is smooth, hence $h': H' \rightarrow P'$ is smooth in view of [37, IV₄, 17.7.7] (or see [65, Tag 02K5]). According to [37, IV₄, 17.9.1], the smooth monomorphism h' is an open immersion. Since P' has smooth connected fibers, h' is surjective and we conclude that h' is an isomorphism. This then proves (a) in full.

To finish the proof of (b), it remains to show (4.4.1), i.e., $\text{rad}^u(K) = \text{rad}^u(P') \cap K$. In view of (4.4.2) and the definition of P' , this boils down to the equality

$$(R_1 \cap R_2)^a = R'^a \cap R_1 \cap R_2,$$

which is a special case of Lemma 4.5.

Once (b) established, the implication (iii) \Rightarrow (iv) of 4.3 follows: we apply [XXVI, 2.11] to the parabolic subgroup P' and its subgroup K of type (RC) (recall

4.3(iii) \Rightarrow 4.3(ii)', and get that K admits a Levi subgroup, hence contains Zariski-locally a maximal torus of G by [XIV, 3.20].

(c) By (b), the parabolic subgroup scheme P' and its subgroup K of type (RC) satisfy the assumptions of Lemma 3.7, so that (c) follows by applying that lemma. \square

The notation of the following Lemma 4.5 is the same as that in the proof of 4.4, except that we consider subsets of an arbitrary free \mathbb{Z} -module M : For a subset $N \subset M$ we put $N^s = N \cap (-N)$ and $N^a = N \setminus N^s = N \setminus (-N)$.

Lemma 4.5 *Let A and B be subsets of a free \mathbb{Z} -module M . We consider $C = (A \cap B) \cup A^a = (A^s \cap B) \cup A^a$. Then*

$$C^a \cap A \cap B = (A \cap B)^a.$$

Proof We will first establish several auxiliary statements, starting with

$$(A^s \cap B)^a = A^s \cap B^a. \quad (4.5.1)$$

Indeed, since $A^s = -A^s$ we have $x \in (A^s \cap B)^a \Leftrightarrow x \in A^s \cap B$ and $-x \notin (A^s \cap B) \Leftrightarrow x \in A^s \cap B$ and $-x \notin B \Leftrightarrow x \in A^s \cap B^a$. Next, we claim

$$C^a = (A^s \cap B)^a \cup A^a = (A^s \cap B^a) \cup A^a. \quad (4.5.2)$$

Because of (4.5.1) we only need to prove the first equality. By definition of C^a , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \in C^a &\iff x \in (A^s \cap B) \cup A^a \\ &\quad \text{and } -x \notin A^s \cap B \text{ and } -x \notin A^a. \end{aligned} \quad (4.5.3)$$

This easily implies the inclusion $A^a \subset C^a$: if $x \in A^a$, then $x \in A$ and $-x \notin A = A^s \cup A^a$, in particular $-x \notin A^s \cap B$ and $-x \notin A^a$. We also see that $(A^s \cap B)^a = A^s \cap B^a \subset C^a$ since $x \in A^s \cap B^a \Leftrightarrow x \in A^s \cap B$ and $-x \notin B$. Moreover $-x \in A^s$, so that $-x \notin A^a$ also holds. We have now proved $(A^s \cap B)^a \cup A^a \subset C^a$. For the proof of the other inclusion, consider $x \in A^s \cap B$, but $-x \notin A^s \cap B$ and $-x \notin A^a$, cf. (4.5.3). Since $A^s = \pm A^s$ we get $x \notin B^s$, thus $x \in A^s \cap B^a = (A^s \cap B)^a$ by (4.5.1). This finishes the proof of (4.5.2). Next we observe

$$(A \cap B)^a = (A^a \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^a) \quad (4.5.4)$$

since $x \in (A \cap B)^a \Leftrightarrow x \in A \cap B$, but $-x \notin A$ or $-x \notin B \Leftrightarrow x \in A^a \cap B$ or $x \in A \cap B^a$. Finally, by (4.5.2) and (4.5.4),

$$\begin{aligned} C^a \cap A \cap B &= ((A^s \cap B^a) \cup A^a) \cap (A \cap B) \\ &= ((A^s \cap B^a) \cup A^a) \cap B = (A^s \cap B^a) \cup (A^a \cap B) \\ &= (A \cap B^a) \cup (A^a \cap B) = (A \cap B)^a. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

With Propositions 4.2 and 4.4 in place, we can now also extend [XXVI, 5.4] to LG-rings.

Corollary 4.6 *Let R be an LG-ring, let G be a reductive R -group scheme, and let P, Q be two parabolic subgroups of G . Then there exists $g \in G(R)$ such that ${}^gP \cap Q$ is a parabolic subgroup of G .*

Proof Our proof follows the proof of [XXVI, 5.4]. We include it for the convenience of the reader.

Let P' be an opposite parabolic R -subgroup of G . Proposition 4.2, applied to the triple (P', P, Q) provides an R -parabolic R -subgroup P'_1 of G of same type as P' such that P'_1 and P (resp. P'_1 and Q) are in transversal position, hence in particular in standard position. By Proposition 4.4(c), there exists a maximal torus T of G such that $T \subset P'_1 \cap Q$. Let P_1 be the opposite parabolic R -subgroup of P'_1 related to T , [XXVI, 4.3.3]. It follows that $P_1 \cap Q$ is an R -parabolic subgroup [XXVI, 4.4.5]. Since P and P_1 are both opposite to P'_1 , they have same type, so that $P_1 = {}^gP$ for some $g \in G(R)$, according to Theorem 4.1 (a). Thus ${}^gP \cap Q$ is an R -parabolic subgroup of G as desired. \square

Having established Corollary 4.6 for LG-rings, we also get [XXVI, 5.5 and 5.7] for LG-rings replacing semilocal rings in *loc. cit.*

Corollary 4.7 ([XXVI, 5.5 (i)] for semilocal rings) *Let G be a reductive group scheme over an LG-ring, and let P and Q be two parabolic subgroups of G such that $\mathfrak{t}(P) \subset \mathfrak{t}(Q)$. Then there exists $g \in G(S)$ such that ${}^gP \subset Q$.*

Corollary 4.8 ([XXVI, 5.7 (i)] for semilocal rings) *Let G be a reductive group scheme over an LG-ring.*

- (a) *Let $t, t' \in \text{Of}(\text{Dyn}(G))(S)$. If there exist parabolic subgroups of type t and t' , then there also exists a parabolic subgroup of type $t \cap t'$.*
- (b) *There exists a smallest element \mathfrak{t}_{\min} in the set of types $\mathfrak{t}(P)$, P any parabolic subgroup of G .*

4.9 The Tits index

Let G be a semisimple group scheme over a *connected* LG-ring. In view of 4.8(b), we can define the Tits index of G as $(\text{Dyn}(G), \mathfrak{t}_{\min})$, following [66] for fields and the generalization to the semilocal case [58, pp. 202–203]. Moreover, as the diligent reader will verify, all the facts used in [58] for semilocal rings hold in fact for LG-rings. In particular, [58, Theorem 3] extends to connected LG-rings: *The Tits index of G is one of those listed in Tits' original table [66, Table II], reproduced in [58, Appendix].*

5 Minimal parabolic subgroups, maximal split subtori

The topic of this section is minimal parabolic subgroups, their Levi subgroups and maximal split tori in reductive group schemes over a *connected* scheme S . We investigate the relations between these subjects in Proposition 5.3 and in Lemma 5.6 for

arbitrary connected S . In case $S = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ for R a connected LG-ring and G a reductive R -group scheme, we show in Theorem 5.7 that the group $G(R)$ acts transitively on the minimal parabolic subgroups and on the maximal split tori of G . This allows us to define the anisotropic kernel of G in 5.9.

For perspective we note here that Appendix B contains results on parabolic and Levi subgroups based on the dynamic method.

We start by reviewing the concepts used in Proposition 5.3.

5.1 Isotropic and irreducible reductive groups

Let G be a reductive group scheme over an arbitrary scheme S .

Generalizing the well-known concept of an (an)isotropic reductive group over a field [8, 4.23] or over a connected semilocal scheme [XXVI, 6.13], we call G *isotropic* if it admits a subgroup isomorphic to $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}$; otherwise, G is said to be *anisotropic*, [32, 7.1.1]. Because of B.3, these concepts coincide with those defined in [58, Section 5] for semisimple group schemes over a connected semilocal scheme.

Following [32, 3.5.1], we say that G is *reducible* (as reductive group scheme) if G admits an everywhere proper parabolic subgroup P , i.e., $P_s \subsetneq G_s$ for all $s \in S$, and P admits a Levi subgroup; otherwise, G is said to be *irreducible*. The two notions are related by [32, Theorem 7.3.1 (2)]:

- (a) *A reductive S -group scheme G is isotropic if and only if G is reducible or the central torus $\operatorname{rad}(G)$ is isotropic. In particular, a semisimple S -group scheme is isotropic if and only if it is reducible.*

If S is affine, the notion of reducibility of G is equivalent to the existence of an everywhere proper parabolic subgroup [XXVI, 2.3], so the definition here agrees with the terminology of [34, 3.2].

We will generalize the concepts of (an)isotropic and (ir)reducible reductive group schemes in B.2, and the criterion (a) in B.3.

5.2 Maximal split subtori, minimal parabolics, and faithful representations

A *maximal split subtorus* / of G is a split subtorus of G which is maximal among all split subtori of G . By [XXIV, 2.11], such a torus always exists if S is a scheme with trivial Picard group, e.g., S is an LG-scheme, and G has constant type. Existence is also assured in the setting of Proposition 5.3.

A parabolic subgroup of a reductive S -group G is a *minimal parabolic subgroup* if for all parabolic subgroups Q of G with $Q \subset P$ we have $Q = P$, [XXVI, 5.6].

We use the term *faithful linear representation* of an S -group scheme G in the sense of [33], i.e., it is a group monomorphism $G \rightarrow \operatorname{GL}(E)$ where E is a locally free \mathcal{O}_S -module of finite rank.

Now that we have explained all the concepts used in the following Proposition 5.3, we can finally state it. In fact, Proposition 5.3 is a refinement of [32, Proposition 7.4.1], which proves the implications (5.3.1).

Proposition 5.3 *Let S be a connected scheme, G a reductive S -group scheme, and T_0 a split subtorus of G . Moreover, let P be a parabolic subgroup of G for which $C_G(T_0) := \text{Cent}_G(T_0)$ is a Levi subgroup of P ; such a parabolic subgroup exists by [XXVI, 6.2]. We consider the following assertions:*

- (i) T_0 is a maximal split S -subtorus of G ;
- (ii) T_0 is a maximal split S -subtorus of $C_G(T_0)$;
- (iii) The reductive S -group $C_G(T_0)/T_0$ is anisotropic;
- (iv) The reductive S -group $C_G(T_0)/T_0$ is irreducible;
- (v) The reductive S -group $C_G(T_0)$ is irreducible;
- (vi) P is a minimal parabolic subgroup of G .

We then have the implications

$$(i) \iff (ii) \iff (iii) \implies (iv) \iff (v) \iff (vi) \quad (5.3.1)$$

Furthermore, if G admits a faithful linear representation, then $(ii) \iff (iii)$.

Proof It suffices to prove the implication $(ii) \implies (iii)$ under the assumption that G admits a faithful linear representation. Let T_0 be a maximal split S -subtorus of $C_G(T_0)$. We argue by contradiction and therefore assume that $C_G(T_0)/T_0$ contains a subtorus $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}$. Denoting by $E \subset C_G(T_0)$ the preimage of this subtorus $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}$ under the quotient map, we get an exact sequence of S -group schemes

$$1 \longrightarrow T_0 \longrightarrow E \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \longrightarrow 1. \quad (5.3.2)$$

By [XVII, 7.1.1], E is of multiplicative type. Clearly, it is also of finite type and it has a faithful linear representation. Therefore, by [33, 3.3], the group scheme E is isotrivial, i.e., it is split by a finite étale cover, which we can assume to be a (connected) Galois cover $S' \rightarrow S$, whose Galois group we denote by Γ^2 . According to the dictionary [X, 1.1], the extension (5.3.2) corresponds to an extension

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \widehat{E}(S') \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\Gamma^0} \longrightarrow 0$$

of Γ -modules, where $\mathbb{Z}^{\Gamma^0} = \text{Hom}_{S',\text{-gr}}(E, \mathbb{G}_{m,S'})$. The Γ -module \mathbb{Z} is the trivial module. Hence $H^1(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Groups}}(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ because Γ is finite. Thus, this extension splits, so that E is a split S -subtorus of $C_G(T_0)$. This contradicts the maximality of T_0 . \square

Remark 5.4 (a) The implication $(ii) \implies (iii)$ is false without an additional assumption. Indeed, according to [X, 1.6], there exists a non-split rank 2 torus T over a singular projective connected complex curve S such that T admits a split subtorus $T_0 \cong \mathbb{G}_m$

² We use here: Given a finite étale cover $T \rightarrow S$ of a connected scheme S , there exists a connected Galois cover $S' \rightarrow S$ dominating $T \rightarrow S$. Proof: Since finite étale covers form a Galois category with respect to the base change functor induced by any geometric point of S [65, Tag 0BNB], the axioms of a Galois category [65, Tag 0BMZ] imply that $T \rightarrow S$ is a product of finite étale connected covers. The existence of a Galois cover as claimed then follows from [65, Tag 0BN2], see the discussion in [65, Tag 03SF].

and an S -exact sequence $1 \rightarrow T_0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow 1$. Thus, T_0 is a maximal split subtorus of the reductive S -group $T = C_T(T_0)$, yet $C_T(T_0)/T_0$ is isotropic. We note that T is locally split in the sense of 1.

(b) The implication (iv) \Rightarrow (iii) is already false for $G = \mathbb{G}_m = T$ and the obvious split subtorus $T_0 = \{1\}$. One may then be tempted to conjecture that (iv) \Rightarrow (iii) holds at least in the semisimple case. But this is false too: indeed, let $G = \mathrm{SL}_3$ and let T_0 be the image of $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}$ under the diagonal homomorphism $t \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(t, t^2, t^{-3})$. The centralizer $C_G(T_0)$ is the standard diagonal maximal torus of G of rank 2. Hence $C_G(T_0)/T_0 \cong \mathbb{G}_{m,S}$ is irreducible, but also isotropic.

(c) The reader may have noticed that our proof of (ii) \Rightarrow (iii) in 5.3 only uses that $C_G(T_0)$ has a faithful linear representation. This is however equivalent to our assumption on G : if $C_G(T_0)$ has a faithful linear representation, then so does $\mathrm{rad}(G)$, the unique maximal torus of the centre $\mathcal{Z}(G)$ of G , and therefore also G by [33, Theorem 4.1].

5.5 The dynamic description of parabolic and Levi subgroups

Let S be a scheme and let H be a reductive S -group scheme. We recall the “dynamic method” in the sense of [13, 4.1, 5.2].

We will refer to a homomorphism $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow H$ of S -groups as a *cocharacter* (or a *1-parameter subgroup* [13, Definition 4.1.6]). Any cocharacter gives rise to a conjugation action of \mathbb{G}_m on H , and so for a fixed $h \in H(S)$ to an orbit map $\mathrm{orb}_h: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow H$, which assigns to an S -scheme T and $t \in \mathbb{G}_m(T)$ the element $\lambda(t)h|_T \lambda(t)^{-1} \in H(T)$. If orb_h extends to a morphism $\mathbb{G}_a \rightarrow H$, i.e., an element of $H(\mathbb{G}_a)$, such a morphism is unique (since H is separated) and we will abbreviate this by “ $\lambda(t)h\lambda(t)^{-1} \in H(\mathbb{G}_a)$ ” (the abbreviation “ $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t)h\lambda(t)^{-1}$ exists” is used in [13, Section 4.1]). One then defines an S -functor $\underline{P}_H(\lambda)$ which assigns to an S -scheme T the group

$$\underline{P}_H(\lambda)(T) = \{h \in H(T) : \lambda(t)h_{\mathbb{G}_{m,T}}\lambda(t)^{-1} \in H(\mathbb{G}_{a,T})\}.$$

It is known that $\underline{P}_H(\lambda)$ is represented by a parabolic subgroup scheme of H , denoted $P_H(\lambda)$. The centralizer $\mathrm{Cent}_H(\lambda) = C_H(\lambda)$ of λ is a Levi subgroup of $P_H(\lambda)$; its unipotent radical is given by those elements for which the limit is 1 [13, 4.1.7].

If S is a connected scheme, and (P, L) is a pair consisting of a parabolic subgroup of G and a Levi subgroup L of P , then there exists a cocharacter λ such that $(P, L) = (P_G(\lambda), C_G(\lambda))$, [32, Theorem 7.3.1 (1)]. We will refine this result in B.1. We point out that even over a connected S there may exist parabolic subgroups which do not contain Levi subgroups and hence are not amenable to a dynamic description, [13, Example 5.4.9]. However, this cannot happen if S is affine [XXVI, 2.3] (or [13, 5.4.8]). Thus, over an affine base every parabolic subgroup P has the form $P = P_H(\lambda)$ for a suitable cocharacter λ [32, 7.3.2].

In 5.6, we will use the dynamic method to describe minimal parabolic subgroups and their Levi subgroups over a connected base.

Lemma 5.6 (Minimal parabolic subgroups and their Levi subgroups) *Let G be a reductive group scheme over a connected scheme S .*

- (a) G admits a minimal parabolic subgroup.
- (b) Let L be a Levi subgroup of a minimal parabolic R -subgroup P of G , and let T_0 be a maximal split S -subtorus of the torus $\text{rad}(L)$; it is unique by Lemma A.6(b). Then $L = \text{Cent}_G(T_0)$.
- (c) We assume furthermore that G admits a faithful linear representation, and let T_0 be a maximal split subtorus of G . Then $\text{Cent}_G(T_0)$ is a Levi subgroup of a minimal parabolic subgroup of G .

Proof Since S is connected, the type of G is constant [XXII, 2.8], and so is the type of any parabolic subgroup of G .

(a) The length of a strictly increasing chain of parabolic subgroups of G is bounded by the relative dimension of G . So it is obvious that a minimal S -parabolic subgroup of G exists.

(b) According to [32, Theorem 7.3.1], there exists an S -group homomorphism $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow G$ such that $P = P_G(\lambda)$ and $L = C_G(\lambda)$ (notation of 5.5). We can suppose that λ is non-trivial. Hence, by A.3, $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}/\text{Ker}(\lambda) \cong \mathbb{G}_{m,S}$. Without loss of generality, we can then assume that λ is a monomorphism. In particular, λ factors through the unique maximal split S -subtorus T_0 of $\text{rad}(L)$. We have $L \subset C_G(T_0) \subset C_G(\lambda) = L$ so that $L = C_G(T_0)$ as desired.

(c) This follows from Proposition 5.3, (i) \Rightarrow (vi). \square

Theorem 5.7 (Transitivity of $G(R)$ on minimal parabolic subgroups and maximal split tori) *Let R be a connected LG-ring, and let G be a reductive R -group scheme.*

- (a) *The group $G(R)$ acts transitively on the minimal R -parabolic subgroups of G .*
- (b) *We assume furthermore that G admits a faithful linear representation (e.g. G is semisimple). Then the group $G(R)$ acts transitively on the maximal split R -subtori of G .*

Proof (a) Let P and Q be minimal parabolic subgroups of G . Corollary 4.6 shows that there exists $g \in G(R)$ such that ${}^gP \cap Q$ is an R -parabolic subgroup of G . By minimality, we have ${}^gP \cap Q = Q = {}^gP$.

(b) Let T_1 and T_2 be maximal split R -subtori of G . We want to show that T_1 and T_2 are $G(R)$ -conjugate. According to Lemma 5.6(c), the centralizers $L_i = C_G(T_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, are Levi subgroups of minimal parabolic subgroups P_i of G . Applying (a), reduces to the case $P_1 = P_2$. Since Levi subgroups of a fixed parabolic subgroup are $G(R)$ -conjugate by [XXVI, 1.8], we can further assume that $L_1 = L_2$. According to Proposition 5.3, (i) \Rightarrow (ii), T_1 and T_2 are maximal R -split tori of $L_1 = L_2$ and a fortiori a maximal split tori of the torus $\text{rad}(L_1)$. Since we have uniqueness for maximal split subtori of a given subtorus (Lemma A.6(b)), we conclude that $T_1 = T_2$. \square

Theorem 5.7(b) is proven in [XXVI, 6.16] for a reductive R -group scheme over a connected semilocal R .

Remark 5.8 (Witt–Tits decomposition) Let R be a connected LG-ring, and let G be a reductive R -group scheme. Then the conclusions of [32, 4.3.1, 4.4.3, 5.2.1] regarding the Witt–Tits decomposition of $H^1(\text{Spec}(R), G)$ hold.

Indeed, the reader will easily check that the proofs of the quoted references, stated in [32] for semilocal rings, only require that R is a connected ring for which $G(R)$ acts transitively on the set of minimal parabolic subgroups of G . But this is 5.7(a).

5.9 The anisotropic kernel

Let R be a connected LG-ring and let G be a reductive R -group scheme.

By 5.6(a), G admits minimal parabolic subgroups and by 5.7(a), they are all conjugate. Let us fix one of them, say P_{\min} . Levi subgroups of P_{\min} exist by [XXVI, 2.3], and they are all conjugate by [XXVI, 1.8]. Let us fix one of them, say L_{\min} . The derived subgroup $\mathcal{D}(L_{\min})$ of L_{\min} is a semisimple R -group scheme. It follows from [XXVI, 1.20] and [32, Lemma 3.2.1 (2)] that $\mathcal{D}(L_{\min})$ is irreducible, hence anisotropic by 5.1(a). Summarizing, up to isomorphism, there exists up to isomorphism a unique semisimple anisotropic R -subgroup of G , defined as

$$G_{\text{an}} = \mathcal{D}(L_{\min}) \quad (5.9.1)$$

and called the *anisotropic kernel* of G . The terminology follows Tits [66] for the case of a field and Petrov–Stavrova [58] for the case of semilocal rings.

5.10 Example

Let G be a reductive group scheme over a connected LG-ring, and suppose T_0 is a split subtorus of G for which $\text{Cent}_G(T_0)/T_0$ is anisotropic. Then

- (i) T_0 is a maximal split subtorus of G ;
- (ii) there exist parabolic subgroups of G admitting $\text{Cent}_G(T_0)$ as Levi subgroup, and any such parabolic subgroup is minimal;
- (iii) $\mathcal{D}(\text{Cent}_G(T_0))$ is an anisotropic kernel of G .

Indeed, Proposition 5.3 implies (i) and (ii), while (iii) follows from the definition (5.9.1) of an anisotropic kernel. We will specialize this example in 7.13 to determine the anisotropic kernel of $\mathbf{GL}_1(A)$, A an Azumaya R -algebra.

In the remainder of this section we investigate the interplay between arbitrary parabolic subgroups of a reductive group over a connected LG-ring, Levi subgroups and split subtori.

Proposition 5.11 ([XXVI, 6.8] for R semilocal connected) *Let R be a connected LG-ring, let G be a reductive R -group scheme, let $P \subset G$ be a parabolic subgroup scheme and let L be a Levi subgroup of P , which exists by [XXVI, 2.3]. We put $Q = \text{rad}(L)$ and let Q_0 the maximal split subtorus of Q , which exists by A.6(d). Then*

$$L = \text{Cent}_G(Q_0). \quad (5.11.1)$$

The proof of 5.11 for a connected LG-scheme is the same as the proof of [XXVI, 6.8], up to replacing the reference [XXVI, 3.20] by 3.6. We leave the details to the reader.

Recall [XXVI, 6.2]: *If S is any scheme, and Q a split subtorus of a reductive S -group scheme, then there exists a parabolic subgroup of G for which $\text{Cent}_G(Q)$ is a Levi subgroup.*

Combining this result with 5.11, we get the following corollary, which is [XXVI, 6.9] in the semilocal case.

Corollary 5.12 *Let S be a connected LG-scheme, G a reductive S -group, and T a critical subtorus in the sense that $T = \text{rad}(\text{Cent}_G(T))$. We denote the maximal split subtorus of T by T_0 . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i) $\text{Cent}_G(T)$ is a Levi subgroup of a parabolic subgroup of G ;
- (ii) $\text{Cent}_G(T) = \text{Cent}_G(T_0)$;
- (iii) $\text{Lie}(G)^T = \text{Lie}(G)^{T_0}$.

More corollaries of Proposition 5.11 are established in [XXVI, 6.10–6.12] for reductive groups over a connected semilocal scheme. Their proofs carry over without change to groups over a connected LG-scheme. We state these corollaries below for the reader's convenience.

Corollary 5.13 ([XXVI, 6.10] for Rsemilocal connected) *Let S be a connected LG-scheme, and let G be a reductive S -group. Then the following conditions are equivalent for a subgroup scheme L of G :*

- (i) *There exists a parabolic subgroup with Levi subgroup L .*
- (ii) *There exists a split subtorus of G whose centralizer is L .*
- (iii) *There exists a cocharacter $\mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow G$ whose centralizer is L .*

Corollary 5.14 ([XXVI, 6.11] for Rsemilocal connected) *Let S be a connected LG-scheme, and let G be a reductive S -group. Given a torus T , we denote by T_0 its unique maximal split subtorus, whose existence is guaranteed by A.6(d). Then the maps*

$$L \mapsto \text{rad}(L)_0, \quad Q \mapsto \text{Cent}_G(Q)$$

are order-reversing inverse bijections between the set of Levi subgroups of parabolic subgroups of G and the set of split subtori Q of G satisfying $Q = \text{rad}(\text{Cent}_G(Q))_0$.

6 Cancellation theorems

In this section we prove several cancellation theorems that are classically known over fields, in some cases even over semilocal rings, but that we establish here over LG-rings: cancellation of modules and Azumaya algebras in tensor products 6.2, cancellation of hermitian forms in 6.4 and cancellation of quadratic forms in 6.5. All of these cancellation results are applications of the cohomological injectivity result of Theorem 4.1 (b). We start with presenting the principle 6.1 that describes the basis of cancellation.

Cancellation Principle 6.1 *Let R be an LG-ring. We consider the diagram (6.1.1) of R -group schemes and R -group homomorphisms*

$$G \xrightarrow{\Delta} L \xrightarrow{\text{inc}_L} P \xrightarrow{\text{inc}_P} H \quad (6.1.1)$$

where G and H are reductive R -group schemes, P is a parabolic subgroup of H with Levi subgroup L , the map Δ is split as group homomorphism, and where inc_L and inc_P are the natural inclusions. Then the canonical map

$$\alpha: H^1(R, G) \longrightarrow H^1(R, H), \quad (6.1.2)$$

induced by the composition of the maps in (6.1.1), is injective.

Proof The sequence (6.1.1) of group homomorphisms induces maps in cohomology:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^1(R, G) & \xhookrightarrow{\Delta^*} & H^1(R, L) \\ \downarrow \text{dotted} & & \downarrow \cong \text{inc}_L^* \\ H^1(R, H) & \xleftarrow{\text{inc}_P^*} & H^1(R, P). \end{array} \quad (6.1.3)$$

In the diagram (6.1.3) the map Δ^* is injective since Δ is a split group homomorphism, the map inc_L^* is a bijection by [XXVI, 2.3] and the map inc_P^* is injective by Theorem 4.1 (b). \square

As a first application of Cancellation Principle 6.1, we prove a cancellation result for finite projective modules and for Azumaya algebras over LG-rings. Cancellation of Azumaya algebras was proven for semilocal rings by Roy–Sridharan [59, Proposition 3.2], later by Knus [45, Theorem 3.3] and again by Ojanguren–Sridharan in [57, Corollary 1], see also [46, III, 5.2.3 (2)].

Application 6.2 (Cancellation of modules and Azumaya algebras) *Let R be an LG-ring.*

- (a) *Let M_1 and M_2 be finite projective R -modules, and let N be a faithfully projective R -module. Then*

$$M_1 \otimes_R N \cong M_2 \otimes_R N \implies M_1 \cong M_2 \quad (6.2.1)$$

(isomorphism of R -modules). In particular, for any $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$,

$$M_1^{(n)} \cong M_2^{(n)} \implies M_1 \cong M_2. \quad (6.2.2)$$

- (b) *Let A , B and C be Azumaya R -algebras. Then*

$$A \otimes_R C \cong B \otimes_R C \implies A \cong B. \quad (6.2.3)$$

In particular, for $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$,

$$M_n(A) \cong M_n(B) \implies A \cong B. \quad (6.2.4)$$

Proof (a) We apply Principle 6.1 with the following choices:

- (i) $G = \mathbf{GL}_d$ is the R -group scheme representing the R -functor which associates with $T \in R\text{-alg}$ the group $\mathrm{GL}_d(T)$ of invertible matrices in $M_d(T)$;
- (ii) $H = \mathbf{GL}_{nd}$;
- (iii) L the subgroup scheme of \mathbf{GL}_{nd} , representing the R -functor which associates with $T \in R\text{-alg}$ the subgroup

$$L(T) = \{\mathrm{diag}(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in \mathrm{GL}_d(T)\}$$

of $\mathbf{GL}_{nd}(T)$;

- (iv) P is the product of L and upper triangular matrices in \mathbf{GL}_{nd} ;
- (v) Δ is the diagonal group homomorphism

$$\Delta : \mathbf{GL}_d \rightarrow L, \quad x \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(x, \dots, x)$$

which is split by the projection onto the first factor

$$\mathrm{pr}_1 : L \rightarrow \mathbf{GL}_d, \quad \mathrm{diag}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto x_1.$$

We first prove (6.2.2). In view of the rank decomposition of finite projective modules and of 2.1 (a), it is no harm to assume that M_1 and hence also M_2 have constant rank, say they are both of rank d . Thus, they represent cohomology classes $[M_1]$ and $[M_2]$ in $H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_d)$. The assumption in (6.2.2) is that $\alpha([M_1]) = \alpha([M_2]) \in H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_{nd})$. Therefore $[M_1] = [M_2]$ by injectivity of α .

We now prove (6.2.1) as a consequence of (6.2.2). Let Q be an R -module such that $N \otimes_R Q$ is free of finite rank, say $N \otimes_R Q \cong R^{(n)}$, see 2.5. Observe that $M_1 \otimes_R N \otimes_R Q \cong M_1 \otimes_R R^{(n)} \cong M_1^{(n)}$. Therefore, the assumption in (6.2.1) implies $M_1^{(n)} \cong M_2^{(n)}$, which forces $M_1 \cong M_2$ by (6.2.2).

(b) The proof of (b) is a straightforward modification of the proof of (a). Quotienting the sequence

$$\mathbf{GL}_d \xrightarrow{\Delta} L \xrightarrow{\mathrm{inc}_L} P \xrightarrow{\mathrm{inc}_P} \mathbf{GL}_{nd}$$

of (a) by the central \mathbb{G}_m , we obtain the sequence of R -group schemes

$$\mathbf{PGL}_d \xrightarrow{\bar{\Delta}} \bar{L} = L/\mathbb{G}_m \xrightarrow{\mathrm{inc}_{\bar{L}}} \bar{P} = P/\mathbb{G}_m \xrightarrow{\mathrm{inc}_{\bar{P}}} \mathbf{PGL}_{nd}$$

which satisfies the assumptions of Principle 6.1, cf. [32, 3.2.1]. Thus the canonical map $\bar{\alpha} : H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_d) \rightarrow H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_{nd})$ is injective. The cohomology set $H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_d)$ represents the isomorphism classes of Azumaya algebras of constant degree d . The

map $\bar{\alpha}$ sends the class of an Azumaya R -algebra D of degree d to the class $[M_n(D)] \in H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_{nd})$.

For the proof of (6.2.4) we can assume that A and B have constant rank, say rank d . Then (6.2.4) follows from injectivity of the map $\bar{\alpha}$ above. To prove (6.2.3), we can suppose that C has constant rank n . Then $C \otimes_R C^{\text{op}} \cong \text{End}_R(C)$, where on the right-hand side we view C as projective R -module of rank n . Since $C \cong R^n$ by 2.6(b), we get $C \otimes_R C^{\text{op}} \cong M_n(R)$. Now (6.2.3) follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A \otimes_R C \cong B \otimes_R C &\implies A \otimes_R C \otimes_R C^{\text{op}} \cong B \otimes_R C \otimes_R C^{\text{op}} \\ &\implies M_n(A) \cong M_n(B) \implies A \cong B. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Based on 6.2(b), we will be able to say more about Azumaya algebras over LG-rings in Sect. 7.

Remark 6.3 (Additive Cancellation of modules) The additive version of (6.2.1) is known to be true too, even in a more general setting than modules over LG-rings [25, Theorem 2.5]: Let R be an LG-ring, let $S \in R\text{-alg}$ be a direct limit of finite R -algebras, and let M_1, M_2 and N be S -modules. If N is finitely generated, then

$$M_1 \oplus N \cong M_2 \oplus N \implies M_1 \cong M_2. \quad (6.3.1)$$

The proof of *loc. cit.* establishes that $\text{End}_S(N)$ has 1 in the stable range of $\text{End}_R(N)$ and then applies a result of Evans [26, Theorem 2] to show (6.3.1). Additive cancellation goes back to the classical results of Bass [5, 6.6, 9.3]; in the semilocal case it is proven in [46, VI; (1.3.3)].

The point of this remark is that the special case $S = R$ and M_1, M_2 and N finite projective R -modules of (6.3.1) can easily be proven using Cancellation Principle 6.1. Indeed, there exists a finite projective R -module N' such that $M \oplus N' \cong R^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$. Therefore $M_1 \oplus R^n \cong M_2 \oplus R^n$. By induction on n , it suffices to prove the case $n = 1$,

$$M_1 \oplus R \cong M_2 \oplus R \implies M_1 \oplus M_2. \quad (6.3.2)$$

It follows that $\text{rank}_R M_1 = \text{rank}_R M_2$. Applying the standard rank decomposition of finite projective modules and 2.1(a), we can assume that M_1 and M_2 have constant rank r .

Let L be the Levi subgroup of the parabolic subgroup P of the reductive R -group scheme $H = \mathbf{GL}_{r+1}$, given with obvious meaning by

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{GL}_r & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{G}_m \end{pmatrix}, \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{GL}_r & * \\ 0 & \mathbb{G}_m \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can apply Cancellation Principle 6.1 with $\Delta: G = \mathbf{GL}_r \rightarrow L$ the obvious embedding and $L \subset P \subset \mathbf{GL}_{r+1} = H$ as above. Hence, we get an injective map

$$H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_r) \hookrightarrow H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_{r+1}), \quad (6.3.3)$$

which sends the isomorphism class of a finite projective R -module Q of rank r to the isomorphism class of $Q \oplus R$. Thus, injectivity of (6.3.3) yields a proof of (6.3.2).

The final two results of this section concern cancellation of hermitian and quadratic forms. For the convenience of the reader, Appendix C reviews the concepts needed for 6.4 and 6.5 and their proofs.

Application 6.4 (Cancellation of hermitian forms) *Let R be an LG-ring, and let S/R be a quadratic étale extension with standard involution σ . Then cancellation holds for (S, σ) -hermitian spaces: if h_1, h_2 and h_3 are hermitian spaces such that $h_1 \perp h_3$ and $h_2 \perp h_3$ are isometric, then already h_1 and h_2 are isometric:*

$$h_1 \perp h_3 \cong h_2 \perp h_3 \implies h_1 \cong h_2. \quad (6.4.1)$$

Proof The form $h_3 \perp (-h_3)$ is hyperbolic [46, I; 3.7.3]. Since the assumption implies that $h_1 \perp (h_3 \perp -h_3) \cong h_2 \perp (h_3 \perp -h_3)$, it is no harm to assume that h_3 is hyperbolic, say $h_3 = \mathbb{H}(U_3)$. We can then apply Cancellation Principle 6.1 with the following choices:

- (i) $G = \mathbf{U}(h_1)$ and $H = \mathbf{U}(h_1 \perp h_3)$ are the unitary R -group schemes of the regular hermitian forms h_1 and $h_1 \perp h_3$ respectively, which are reductive R -group schemes by C.6(d).
- (ii) $L = \mathbf{U}(h_1) \times_R \mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}(U_3))$;
- (iii) P is the stabilizer of U_3 in H , which by C.7 is a parabolic subgroup of H with Levi subgroup L .
- (iv) $\Delta: \mathbf{U}(h_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{U}(h_1) \times_R \mathbf{U}(h_3)$ is the canonical embedding.

Thus the natural map $H^1(R, \mathbf{U}(h_1)) \rightarrow H^1(R, \mathbf{U}(h_1 \perp h_3))$ is injective. Taking the bijection of C.6(e) as identification, it sends the isometry class of a hermitian space h' to the isometry class of $h' \perp h_3$, which implies (6.4.1). \square

Remark For a semilocal ring R , a more general result than 6.4 is proven in [44, (3.4)] and reproduced in [46, VI; (5.7.5)] — it concerns cancellation of unitary (= hermitian) spaces over unitary rings.

Application 6.5 (Cancellation of quadratic forms) *Let R be an LG-ring, let q_1 and q_2 be nonsingular quadratic forms and let q_3 be a regular quadratic form. Then*

$$q_1 \perp q_3 \cong q_2 \perp q_3 \implies q_1 \cong q_2. \quad (6.5.1)$$

Proof Applying the rank decomposition C.8(g) of the quadratic forms q_i , $i = 1, 2, 3$, together with 2.1(a), we can assume that the q_i have constant rank. We can further suppose that all three ranks are positive, since otherwise the claim is obvious. Moreover,

because the quadratic form $q_3 \perp -q_3$ is hyperbolic by [4, I, (4.7)], we can assume that q_3 is hyperbolic. In particular, q_3 is regular, so that $q := q_1 \perp q_3$ is nonsingular by (C.8.3).

At this point, the reader might be inclined to apply Principle 6.1 to $\mathbf{O}(q_1)$ and $\mathbf{O}(q)$, which by C.15 describe the isometry classes of nonsingular quadratic forms. This is however not possible because $\mathbf{O}(\cdot)$ is not reductive in general. A way out of this problem is to use $\mathbf{SO}(q_1)$ and $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ instead, which are indeed reductive group schemes by C.17, and then investigate the relation between $H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(\cdot))$ and $H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(\cdot))$.

Following this approach, we apply 6.1 with $G = \mathbf{SO}(q_1)$ and $H = \mathbf{SO}(q)$, using the parabolic and Levi subgroups of H exhibited in C.17. Hence

$$\alpha: H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(q_1)) \rightarrow H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(q))$$

is injective. To link $H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(\cdot))$ and $H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(\cdot))$, we use that there exist an R -group scheme A , an R -group homomorphism D and an exact sequence of R -group schemes

$$1 \longrightarrow \mathbf{SO}(q) \xrightarrow{i} \mathbf{O}(q) \xrightarrow{D} A \longrightarrow 1 \quad (6.5.2)$$

where i is the canonical inclusion and where

$$A = \begin{cases} \mu_{2,R}, & \text{if } q \text{ has odd rank,} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}_R, & \text{if } q \text{ has even rank.} \end{cases}$$

Indeed, this follows from C.17(c) in the odd rank case and from (C.16.5) in the even rank case.

Part of the long exact cohomology sequence associated with (6.5.2) is the sequence of pointed sets

$$\mathbf{O}(q) \xrightarrow{D(R)} A(R) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(q)) \xrightarrow{i^*} H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(q)),$$

in which $D(R)$ is surjective by C.13(b), implying that i^* has trivial kernel. Since the parities of the ranks of q_1 and q agree, we have the analogous exact sequence (6.5.2) for q_1 replacing q , with the same A . Moreover, we get a commutative diagram of pointed sets

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(q_1)) & \xrightarrow{i_1^*} & H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(q_1)) & \xrightarrow{D^*} & H^1(R, A) \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \beta & & \parallel \\ H^1(R, \mathbf{SO}(q)) & \xrightarrow{i^*} & H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(q)) & \xrightarrow{D^*} & H^1(R, A) \end{array}$$

where i_1^* is associated to the inclusion $i_1: \mathbf{SO}(q_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{O}(q_1)$ and where β maps the isometry class of q_2 to that of $q_2 \perp q_3$ (recall C.15). Our claim then is that β has

trivial kernel. But this follows from a simple diagram chase, using that α is injective and that i^* has trivial kernel. \square

Remark For regular quadratic forms over fields of characteristic not 2, the result 6.5 goes back to Witt, and is therefore referred to as *Witt cancellation*, even in more general settings.

Witt cancellation is proven in [24, Theorem 8.4] for quadratic forms over arbitrary fields, in [4, III, Corollary 4.3] for regular quadratic forms q_1 , q_2 and q_3 over semilocal rings, and in [23, II, 6.4] for LG-rings, again for regular forms, following Baeza's approach which in turn goes back to Knebusch.

Witt cancellation is not true if all q_i are merely nonsingular, see [24, p.49] for a counterexample.

7 Azumaya algebras over LG-rings

In this section we consider Azumaya algebras over rings. One of its goals is Corollary 7.9 on the Brauer decomposition of Azumaya algebras over connected LG-rings. This is a consequence of Theorem 7.7 which says that indecomposable finite projective modules of Azumaya algebras over a connected LG-ring are isomorphic. Another highlight of this section is Proposition 7.2 proving that an Azumaya algebra A of constant degree over an LG-ring admits a splitting ring which is a maximal étale subalgebra of A .

We start this section with Corollary 7.1, which is an application of cancellation of tensor products of Azumaya algebras and establishes “Hilbert 90”. In this corollary, $\text{Br}(R)$ denotes the Brauer group of a ring R as defined in [27, Section 7.3], which is the Brauer–Azumaya group of [12, 3.1.3].

Corollary 7.1 *Let R be an LG-ring, and let A be an Azumaya R -algebra.*

- (a) *If B is another Azumaya R -algebra with $\deg A = \deg B$, then A and B are isomorphic as R -algebras if and only if their Brauer classes agree,*

$$A \cong B \iff [A] = [B] \in \text{Br}(R). \quad (7.1.1)$$

- (b) (“Hilbert 90”) $H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_1(A)) = \{1\}$.

Proof (a) It suffices to prove that $[A] = [B] \Rightarrow A \cong B$. The equality $[A] = [B]$ means that there exist faithfully projective R -modules P and Q such that $A \otimes_R \text{End}_R(P) \cong B \otimes_R \text{End}_R(Q)$ as R -algebras. Using the rank decomposition of P and Q , we can easily reduce to the case that both P and Q have constant rank. Hence, by 2.6(b), there exist $m, n \in \mathbb{N}_+$ such that $M_m(A) \cong M_n(B)$ (isomorphism of R -algebras). Comparing degrees, we get $m = n$, hence $A \cong B$ by (6.2.4).

(b) Let $\mathbf{PGL}(A)$ be the automorphism group scheme of A , [10, 2.4.4.2]. The standard exact sequence of $\text{Spec}(R)$ -group schemes,

$$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow \mathbf{GL}_1(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{PGL}(A) \rightarrow 1$$

gives rise to a long exact sequence of pointed cohomology sets, part of which is

$$H^1(R, \mathbb{G}_m) \rightarrow H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_1(A)) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}(A)) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^2(R, \mathbb{G}_m). \quad (7.1.2)$$

On the left end, $H^1(R, \mathbb{G}_m) = \text{Pic}(R) = 0$ by (2.1.1), which implies that α has trivial kernel. The set $H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}(A))$ classifies twisted forms of A . If B is such a twisted form, it has the same degree as A . By [36, 4.2.12.(iii)], the map δ sends the isomorphism class of B to $[A] - [B] \in \text{Br}(R) \subset H^2(R, \mathbb{G}_m)$. Hence, part (a) implies that δ has trivial kernel, i.e., α has trivial image. This implies (b). \square

Proposition 7.2 *Assume that R is LG-ring. Let A be an Azumaya R -algebra of constant degree d .*

- (i) *A admits a maximal étale R -subalgebra S of finite degree d and $A \otimes_R S \cong M_d(S)$.*
- (ii) *If R is connected, then A admits a connected finite étale R -subalgebra S' such that $A \otimes_R S' \cong M_d(S')$.*

Proof (i) According to Theorem 3.6, the reductive R -group scheme $\mathbf{GL}_1(A)$ admits a maximal torus T . By [33, Proposition 3.2], T occurs from an embedding $S \hookrightarrow A$ of a maximal finite étale algebra S of degree d and $T = \mathbf{GL}_1(S)$. The canonical S -module A is finite projective of constant rank d and $A \otimes_R S \cong \text{End}_S(A)$ as Azumaya S -algebras ([27, 7.4.2], [48, III, Proposition 6.1]). In particular, $A \otimes_R S$ is a neutral Azumaya S -algebra of degree d . Next, S is an LG-ring by Example 2.2(b). Since $A \otimes_R S$ and $M_d(S)$ are both neutral Azumaya S -algebras of the same degree, Corollary 7.1(a) enables us to conclude that $A \otimes_R S \cong M_d(S)$.

(ii) Because R is connected, we have a decomposition $S = S_1 \times \cdots \times S_c$ with S_i finite étale connected. Since $A \otimes_R S \cong M_d(S)$, we obtain that $A \otimes_R S' \cong M_d(S')$ for $S' = S_1$. \square

7.3 Indecomposable finite projective modules

Let R be an arbitrary ring and let A be an Azumaya R -algebra. Recall that an A -module M is called *decomposable* if there exists a family $(M_i)_{i \in I}$, $|I| \neq 1$, of submodules of M such that $M = \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$ and every $M_i \neq 0$. Otherwise, it is called *indecomposable*. Hence $M = \{0\}$ is decomposable by taking $I = \emptyset$, and an A -module M is indecomposable if and only if $M \neq 0$ and $\text{idemp}(\text{End}_A(M)) = \{0, 1\}$. Here $\text{idemp}(B) = \{b \in B : b^2 = b\}$ is the set of idempotents of an R -algebra B .

Following [22, V, p. 131], we define an equivalence relation \sim on the set of indecomposable finite projective left A -modules by $P \sim Q \Leftrightarrow$ there exists an invertible R -module E such that $P \cong Q \otimes_R E$ as (left) A -modules. Obviously, if $\text{Pic}(R) = \{0\}$, then “equivalence” reduces to “isomorphism”. We will use the following result.

Theorem 7.4 ([22, V; Theorem 1.1]) *Let A be an Azumaya algebra over a connected ring R . Then*

$$P \mapsto \text{End}_A(P)^{\text{op}}$$

induces a bijection between the set of equivalence classes of indecomposable finite projective A -modules and the set of isomorphism classes of Azumaya R -algebras B satisfying

$$A \sim_{\text{Br}} B \text{ and } \text{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}, \quad (7.4.1)$$

where \sim_{Br} indicates Brauer equivalence.

The inverse map assigns to B satisfying (7.4.1) the module P constructed as follows: By definition of $A \sim_{\text{Br}} B$ there exists a faithfully projective R -module P satisfying

$$A \otimes_R B^{\text{op}} \cong \text{End}_R(P). \quad (7.4.2)$$

We use the canonical R -algebra homomorphism $A \rightarrow A \otimes_R B^{\text{op}}$ and (7.4.2) to endow P with an A -module structure. It is finite projective as A -module by [27, 4.4.1]. Viewing B as a subalgebra of $\text{End}_R(P)$ the double centralizer theorem implies

$$B \cong \text{End}_A(P). \quad (7.4.3)$$

Hence $\text{idemp}(\text{End}_A(P)) = \{0, 1\}$ which says that P is an indecomposable A -module by the characterization of indecomposability mentioned in 7.3.

Corollary 7.5 *Let R be a connected ring. Then every Brauer class $\alpha \in \text{Br}(R)$ has a representative B satisfying $\text{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}$.*

Proof By Theorem 7.4, it suffices to show that for every Azumaya R -algebra A there exists an indecomposable finite projective A -module. This can be seen by decomposing the finite “projective” left A -module ${}_A A$. \square

Lemma 7.6 *Let R be a connected ring and let A be an Azumaya R -algebra. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) Any two indecomposable finite projective A -modules are equivalent.
- (ii) Up to isomorphism, the Brauer class of A contains a unique B satisfying $\text{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}$.

If these conditions hold, then, for B as in (ii), we have that

- (iii) $\deg(B) = \text{ind}([A])$, in particular $\deg(B) \mid \deg(A)$.
- (iv) Up to equivalence, the left B -module ${}_B B$ is the unique indecomposable finitely generated projective left B -module.
- (v) In addition to (i) and (ii), suppose $\text{Pic}(R) = \{0\}$, and let M and N be finite projective A -modules satisfying $\text{rank}_R M \geq \text{rank}_R N$. Then N is a homomorphic image of M .

Proof The equivalence (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) is a special case of Theorem 7.4.

(iii) We can write A as a finite sum of indecomposable finitely generated projective A -modules, say $A = P_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus P_n$. By (i) we can assume that there exists an indecomposable finite projective A -module P such that $P_i = P \otimes_R E_i$ for some invertible R -module E_i . Thus, $\text{rank}_R P_i = \text{rank}_R P$ and we get

$$\text{rank}_R A = n \text{rank}_R P \quad \text{and} \quad \text{rank}_R A \cdot \text{rank}_R B = (\text{rank}_R P)^2 \quad (7.6.1)$$

where the second equation in (7.6.1) follows from (7.4.2). The two equations in (7.6.1) imply

$$\text{rank}_R P = n \text{rank}_R B, \quad \text{rank}_R A = n^2 \text{rank}_R B. \quad (7.6.2)$$

The second equation then forces $\deg B \mid \deg(A)$.

Let $[A] = \alpha \in \text{Br}(R)$. Recall that by definition $\text{ind}(\alpha) = \gcd\{\deg A' : A' \sim_{\text{Br}} A\}$. The equivalence (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) shows that the condition (i) also holds for A' . Since $A \sim_{\text{Br}} A' \Rightarrow B \sim_{\text{Br}} A'$, it then follows that $\deg(B) \mid \deg(A')$, and therefore $\deg(B) = \text{ind}(\alpha)$.

(iv) As observed in (iii), the condition (i) holds for B replacing A . Hence we get (7.6.2) for $A = B$, which forces $n = 1$ and therefore (iv).

(v) Since $\text{Pic}(R) = 0$, “equivalence” in (i) becomes “isomorphism”. We fix an indecomposable finite projective A -module K , and then get $M \cong K^a$ and $N \cong K^b$ for positive integers a and b . The rank assumption on M and N implies that $a \geq b$. The claim then follows. \square

Theorem 7.7 ([21, Theorem 1] for R semilocal) *Let R be a connected LG-ring. Then the condition 7.6(i) holds with “equivalence” replaced by “isomorphism”. Hence the conditions (ii)–(v) of 7.6 are satisfied too.*

Proof Let P and Q be indecomposable finite projective A -modules. Since R is connected, $\text{rank}_R P$ and $\text{rank}_R Q$ are constant, so that Corollary 2.6 says that P and Q are free as R -modules. Without loss of generality we can therefore suppose that $\text{rank}_R P \geq \text{rank}_R Q$. We claim:

$$Q \text{ is a homomorphic image of } P. \quad (7.7.1)$$

Assuming (7.7.1) for a moment, we can quickly finish the proof. Indeed, because Q is projective, any epimorphism $P \rightarrow Q$ splits. But P is indecomposable. Therefore $P \cong Q$.

It remains to prove (7.7.1). This can be done by observing that 7.6(i) and hence 7.6(v) holds for the localization $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$ in a maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$, thanks to [21, Theorem 1]. Applying then [25, Theorem 2.6(i)], proves the claim. A more direct proof of (7.7.1) goes as follows. Since P and Q are free of finite rank as R -modules, $\text{Hom}_R(P, Q)$ is an affine space; it contains the open quasi-compact subscheme $U' = \{\varphi \in \text{Hom}_R(P, Q) : \varphi \text{ is surjective}\}$ (note that the complement of U' is given by the vanishing of finitely many minors). The A -linear maps $\text{Hom}_A(P, Q)$ is a subspace of $\text{Hom}_R(P, Q)$, hence is again an affine space. It contains $U = \{\varphi \in$

$\text{Hom}_A(P, Q) : \varphi \text{ is surjective} \} = \text{Hom}_A(P, Q) \cap U'$ as an open quasi-compact subscheme. If $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ is any maximal ideal of R , it is well-known that 7.6(i) and hence 7.6(v) hold for R replaced by the field R/\mathfrak{m} , i.e., $U(R/\mathfrak{m}) \neq \emptyset$. But then Proposition 2.4(a) shows that $U(R) \neq \emptyset$, which is (7.7.1). \square

7.8 The Wedderburn property

One says that a connected ring R has the *Wedderburn property* if for every Azumaya R -algebra A there is up to isomorphism a unique representative B in the Brauer class of A such that $\text{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}$ and $B^{\text{op}} \cong \text{End}_A(M)$ for some A -progenerator module M , [1] or [27, Section 7.6]. Condition (ii) of 7.6 and Theorem 7.7 say that a connected LG-ring R has the Wedderburn property. This was previously known for connected semilocal rings [21, Corollary 1].

Obvious examples of rings having the Wedderburn property are connected rings for which every Azumaya algebra is a matrix algebra, i.e., connected rings R with $H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_n) = 1$. An example of such a ring is any connected ring R satisfying the two conditions (i) and (ii) below,

- (i) $\text{Br}(R) = 1$ and
- (ii) any finitely generated projective R -module (necessarily of constant rank n) is free, i.e., $H^1(R, \mathbf{GL}_n) = 1$.

Indeed, let A be an Azumaya R -algebra of degree n . Since $[A] = 0 \in \text{Br}(R)$, the algebra A is Brauer equivalent to R so that $A \cong \text{End}_R(P)$ for a projective R -module P of rank n by [48, Proposition III.5.6]. Since P is free by (ii), we conclude that $A \cong M_n(R)$. Thus $H^1(R, \mathbf{PGL}_n) = 1$.

For example, any PID satisfies condition (ii), while condition (i) is fulfilled for $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ([38, Proposition 2.4], see also [27, 14.3.8]) and $R = k[X]$, k an algebraically closed field (see for example [27, 7.5.1, 13.6.2(a)]).

Examples of rings that do not have the Wedderburn property are given in [1, Example 1.5], [5, p. 46] and [11].

The existence of a Brauer decomposition, which we address in Corollary 7.9 for LG-rings, is established over fields in [35, Proposition 2.8.13].

Corollary 7.9 (Brauer Decomposition for LG-rings) *Let R be a connected LG-ring, let A be an Azumaya R -algebra with $\text{idemp}(A) = \{0, 1\}$, and let $\text{ind}([A]) = p_1^{m_1} \cdots p_c^{m_c}$ be the prime factor decomposition of $\text{ind}([A])$. Then there exist Azumaya R -algebras B_1, \dots, B_c satisfying*

$$\deg(B_i) = p_i^{m_i} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{idemp}(B_i) = \{1, 0\} \quad (7.9.1)$$

for $i = 1, \dots, c$, as well as

$$A \cong B_1 \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R B_c. \quad (7.9.2)$$

The conditions (7.9.1) and (7.9.2) determine the family (B_1, \dots, B_c) up to isomorphism.

Proof We first prove the existence of a Brauer decomposition writing $\alpha = [A]$ and $\text{per}(\alpha) = |\langle \alpha \rangle|$, the order of the finite subgroup of $\text{Br}(R)$ generated by α . Let $\text{per}(\alpha) = q_1^{\ell_1} \cdots q_d^{\ell_d}$ be the prime factor decomposition of $\text{per}(\alpha)$, i.e., q_1, \dots, q_d are distinct primes and $\ell_i \in \mathbb{N}_+$. The prime factor decomposition in finite cyclic subgroups yields $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_d$ with $\alpha_i \in \langle \alpha \rangle$ and $\text{per}(\alpha_i) = q_i^{\ell_i}$. By [2, Theorem 6], $\text{per}(\alpha_i)$ and $\text{ind}(\alpha_i)$, have the same prime divisors, so that $\text{ind}(\alpha_i) = q_i^{n_i}$ for some $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$. But by [3, Theorem 3] we have

$$\text{ind}(\alpha) = \text{ind}(\alpha_1) \cdots \text{ind}(\alpha_d) = q_1^{n_1} \cdots q_d^{n_d}, \quad (7.9.3)$$

and therefore $d = c$, $q_i = p_i$ and $n_i = m_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq c$.

Next, by 7.7, we can apply 7.6. Thus, there exist Azumaya algebras B_i satisfying $[B_i] = \alpha_i$, $\text{idemp}(B_i) = \{0, 1\}$ and $\deg(B_i) = \text{ind}(\alpha_i) = p_i^{m_i}$ for $i = 1, \dots, c$, proving (7.9.1). (The existence of such Azumaya algebras is a special case of Gabber's Theorem [28, II, Theorem 1]). Observe that $\deg(A) = \text{ind}(A)$ by 7.6(iii). We then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(B_1 \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R B_c) &= \prod_{i=1}^c \deg(B_i) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^c \text{ind}(\alpha_i) \stackrel{(7.9.3)}{=} \text{ind}(\alpha) = \deg(A) \end{aligned}$$

where (*) holds by [3, Theorem 3]. Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} [A] = \alpha &= \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_c = [A_1] + \cdots + [A_c] \\ &= [B_1] + \cdots + [B_c] = [B_1 \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R B_c], \end{aligned}$$

so that Corollary 7.1 (a) yields the isomorphism (7.9.2).

Unicity: Let (B'_1, \dots, B'_c) be a family of Azumaya R -algebras satisfying (7.9.1) and (7.9.2). By 7.6(iii) we then get $\text{ind}([B'_i]) = \deg(B'_i) = p_i^{m_i}$, thus $\text{per}([B'_i]) = p_i^{\ell_i}$ for some $\ell_i \leq m_i$ [2, Theorem 3]. It follows that $[A] = [B'_1] + \cdots + [B'_c]$ is the decomposition of $[A]$ into primary components. Hence $[B'_i] = [B_i]$ for $i = 1, \dots, c$. As $\deg(B'_i) = p_i^{m_i} = \deg(B_i)$, another application of Corollary 7.1 (a) yields $B'_i \cong B_i$. \square

Remark on generalization. The Brauer decomposition holds for arbitrary Azumaya algebras in a modified form.

Namely, let A be an Azumaya algebra over a connected LG-ring. By 7.4 and 7.7 we know $A = A_0 \otimes_R M_n(R)$ for a unique (up to isomorphism) Azumaya algebra A_0 with $\text{idemp}(A_0) = \{0, 1\}$ and a unique $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We then apply 7.9 to A_0 and get B_1, \dots, B_c satisfying (7.9.1) and (7.9.2). Hence $A \cong M_n(R) \otimes_R B_1 \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R B_c$.

The results in 7.4–7.9 show the importance of Azumaya algebras A satisfying $\text{idemp}(A) = \{0, 1\}$. While this is a purely algebraic condition, it is perhaps not surprising that these algebras also have a natural group theoretic characterization, which

in fact holds beyond the case of connected LG-rings. We will prove this in 7.12, using the following Lemmas 7.10 and 7.11 which (in our view) are of independent interest.

For an Azumaya algebra \mathcal{A} over a scheme S , the S -group scheme $\mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is for example defined in [10, 2.4.2.2].

Lemma 7.10 *Let \mathcal{A} be an Azumaya algebra over a connected scheme S , and let e be an idempotent of $A = \mathcal{A}(S)$.*

(a) *Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_e: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A}) =: G, \\ t \in \mathbb{G}_{m,S}(T) &\mapsto te_T + t^{-1}(1_{\mathcal{A}(T)} - e_T) \end{aligned} \quad (7.10.1)$$

(T an S -scheme) is a cocharacter such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_e \text{ is central} &\iff e \in \{0, 1\} \\ &\iff G = P_G(\lambda) = C_G(\lambda). \end{aligned} \quad (7.10.2)$$

(b) $e = 0 \iff e_T = 0$ for some S -scheme $T \neq \emptyset$; analogously for $e = 1$.

Proof (a) It is immediate that λ_e is a cocharacter, which is central if $e \in \{0, 1\}$. In general, let \mathcal{A}_{ij} , $i, j \in \{1, 0\}$ be the Peirce spaces of \mathcal{A} with respect to the orthogonal idempotents $e_1 = e$ and $e_0 = 1 - e$. Thus $\mathcal{A}_{ij} = e_i \mathcal{A} e_j$. The centralizer of λ_e in \mathcal{A} is $C_{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda_e) = \mathcal{A}_{11} \oplus \mathcal{A}_{00}$.

Assume now that λ_e is central. Then $\mathcal{A} = C_{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) = \mathcal{A}_{11} \times \mathcal{A}_{00}$. It follows that \mathcal{A}_{11} and \mathcal{A}_{00} are ideals of \mathcal{A} . They induce ideals \mathcal{J}_1 and \mathcal{J}_0 of \mathcal{O}_S by $\mathcal{J}_i = \mathcal{A}_{ii} \cap \mathcal{O}_S$, $i = 1, 0$, which satisfy $\mathcal{A}_{ii} = \mathcal{J}_i \mathcal{A}$. Since $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{11} \times \mathcal{A}_{00}$ we have $\mathcal{O}_S = \mathcal{J}_1 \times \mathcal{J}_0$. Because S is connected, either $\mathcal{J}_i = \mathcal{O}_S$, i.e., $e = 1$, or $\mathcal{J}_1 = 0$, i.e., $e = 0$.

Clearly, λ_e is central $\iff G = C_G(\lambda)$. Since $C_G(\lambda) \subset P_G(\lambda) \subset G$ in general, this proves the second equivalence.

(b) The parabolic subgroup $P_G(\lambda_e)$ has constant type since S is connected [XXVI, 3.3]. Hence, if $e_T = 0$, then $P_G(\lambda_e)(T) = G(T)$. Because $P_G(\lambda_e)$ has constant type, we get $P_G(\lambda) = G$ and therefore $e \in \{0, 1\}$ by (7.10.2). The assumption $e = 1$ contradicts $e_T = 0$. Thus $e = 0$. The other direction is obvious. \square

Lemma 7.11 *Let \mathcal{A} be an Azumaya algebra over a connected scheme S , and suppose $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow \mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is a non-central cocharacter. Then $\{0, 1\} \subsetneq \text{idemp}(\mathcal{A}(S))$.*

Proof Let $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}^\lambda$ be the subalgebra of \mathcal{A} centralizing the image of λ , and let \mathcal{C} be the centre of \mathcal{B} . By [33, Proposition 3.2] we know that \mathcal{C} is a finite étale \mathcal{O}_S -algebra of positive rank. We will eventually show that $\mathcal{C}(S)$ contains a nontrivial idempotent e defined by using the decomposition of \mathcal{C} into its connected components. But first we need to eliminate the case that \mathcal{C} is connected.

By construction of \mathcal{C} , the image of λ lies in \mathcal{C} , and this also holds for the central cocharacter Δ . Thus $\lambda, \Delta \in \text{Hom}_{S\text{-gr}}(\mathbb{G}_{m,S}, \mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{C}))$. To compare the two cocharacters, let C be the scheme associated with the finite étale \mathcal{O}_S -algebra \mathcal{C} and let $\mathfrak{R}_{C/S}(\cdot)$ be the Weil restriction. Then $\mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{C}) = \mathfrak{R}_{C/S}(\mathbb{G}_m, C)$, $(\mathbb{G}_{m,S})_C = \mathbb{G}_{m,C}$ and the

fundamental identity of the Weil restriction $\mathfrak{R}_{C/S}$ becomes (after a canonical identification)

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{S\text{-gr}}(\mathbb{G}_{m,S}, \mathfrak{R}_{C/S}(\mathbb{G}_{m,C})) = \mathrm{Hom}_{C\text{-gr}}(\mathbb{G}_{m,C}, \mathbb{G}_{m,C}).$$

Suppose that C is connected. Then $\mathrm{Hom}_{C\text{-gr}}(\mathbb{G}_{m,C}, \mathbb{G}_{m,C}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ with basis Δ . Therefore $\lambda = \Delta^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, in particular λ is central, contradiction. Therefore C , equivalently \mathcal{C} , is not connected.

Let $\mathcal{C}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{C}_m$ be the decomposition of \mathcal{C} corresponding to the decomposition of C into its connected components, and let e_1, \dots, e_m be the identity elements of the algebras $\mathcal{C}_i(S)$. Then the e_i are non-zero idempotents of \mathcal{A} since $\mathcal{C}_i(S) \neq 0$, and $e_1 \neq 1$ because $m \geq 2$. \square

We use the concepts of (ir)reducible and (an)isotropic group schemes as defined in 5.1. For an Azumaya algebra \mathcal{A} over a scheme S the S -group scheme $\mathbf{SL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is for example defined in [10, 3.5.0.91]; it is semisimple by [10, 3.5.0.92]. The S -group scheme $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{A})$ is a semisimple S -group scheme by [10, 3.0.5.82].

Proposition 7.12 *Let \mathcal{A} be an Azumaya algebra over a connected scheme S . The following are equivalent:*

- (i) $\mathbf{SL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is isotropic,
- (ii) $\mathbf{SL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is reducible,
- (iii) $\mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ is reducible,
- (iv) $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{A})$ is reducible,
- (v) $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{A})$ is isotropic,
- (vi) $\mathrm{idemp}(\mathcal{A}(S)) \supsetneq \{0, 1\}$.

Proof By 5.1 (a), the equivalences (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) and (iv) \Leftrightarrow (vi) hold since $\mathbf{SL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ and $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{A})$ are semisimple S -group schemes. The equivalences (ii) \Leftrightarrow (iii) \Leftrightarrow (iv) are special cases of [32, 3.5.3 (b)³ and 3.2.1 (2)].

If e is an idempotent as in (vi), then λ_e is not central by (7.10.1). Hence $G = \mathbf{GL}_1(\lambda_e) \neq C_G(\lambda_e)$ and a fortiori $G \neq P_G(\lambda_e)$, which proves (iii).

Conversely, if (iii) holds, then G contains a proper parabolic subgroup P with a Levi subgroup L . By [32, 7.3.1 (1)] we have $(P, L) = (P_G(\lambda), C_G(\lambda))$ for a non-central cocharacter λ . Thus (vi) follows from Lemma 7.11. \square

Corollary 7.13 (Anisotropic kernel of $\mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A})$) *Let R be a connected LG-ring and let \mathcal{A} be an Azumaya R -algebra. By 7.4 and 7.7 there exist unique $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and an Azumaya algebra B with $\mathrm{idemp}(B) = \{0, 1\}$ such that $\mathcal{A} = M_n(B)$. Then a minimal parabolic subgroup P_{\min} of $G = \mathbf{GL}_1(\mathcal{A})$ and a minimal Levi subgroup L_{\min} are*

$$P_{\min} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{GL}_1(B) & * & * \\ 0 & \ddots & * \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{GL}_1(B) \end{pmatrix}, \quad L_{\min} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{GL}_1(B) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{GL}_1(B) \end{pmatrix}.$$

³ The reference refers to the web version of the article: <https://hal.science/hal-01063601v2/document>. The published version does not distinguish between H and $H^{\mathrm{ss}} = H/\mathrm{rad}(H)$.

A maximal split torus T_0 of G and an anisotropic kernel G_{an} of G are

$$T_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{G}_m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbb{G}_m \end{pmatrix}, \quad G_{\text{an}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{SL}_1(B) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{SL}_1(B) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof It is clear that T_0 as displayed above is a split torus whose centralizer in G has the form of the matrix group L_{\min} . The quotient L_{\min}/T_0 can be identified with

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{PGL}(B) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{PGL}(B) \end{pmatrix}$$

which is anisotropic by 7.12. Example 5.10 can therefore be applied and yields that the matrix groups displayed above are a minimal parabolic subgroup, a minimal Levi subgroup, a maximal split torus and an anisotropic kernel respectively. \square

A Appendix: Maximal split subtori of groups of multiplicative type

In this appendix, we study maximal split and maximal locally split S -subtori of groups of finite multiplicative type. We prove their existence in A.6, and show in Example A.9(b) that the two notions are different in general.

A.1 Basic notions, review

We mainly use the terminology and notation of [20, VIII, IX], as before abbreviated by [VIII] and [IX], see also [13, Appendix B] and [56]. Throughout this appendix, S is an arbitrary scheme.

Given an abelian group M , one denotes by $D_S(M) = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_S[M])$ the abelian S -group scheme representing the functor of characters of the constant S -group M_S . An S -group scheme G is called *split*, equivalently *diagonalizable*, if G is isomorphic to an S -group $D_S(M)$ for some abelian group M . A possible confusion with the notion of a split reductive S -group cannot occur, if the reader takes the context into account. A *split S -torus* is an S -group T isomorphic to $D_S(\mathbb{Z}^r)$ for some $r \in \mathbb{N}_+$. We call an S -group scheme G *locally split* if there exists a family $(S_i)_{i \in I}$ of open subschemes S_i of S such that $S = \bigcup_{i \in I} S_i$ and every $G|_{S_i} = G \times_S S_i$ is diagonalizable. If in this case all $G|_{S_i}$ are split tori, we call T a *locally split torus*.

An S -group G has *multiplicative type* if G is locally diagonalizable for the fpqc topology, i.e., for every $s \in S$ there exists an open affine neighbourhood U of s in G and a finite family $(X_i)_{i \in I}$ of affine schemes together with flat morphisms $f_i: X_i \rightarrow U$ such that $U = \bigcup_i f_i(X_i)$ and every $G|_{X_i}$ is diagonalizable. In this case, we call G a *torus*, if all G_{X_i} are split tori. A group of *finite multiplicative type* is a group of multiplicative type which is also of finite type.

Let G be a group of multiplicative type. For $s \in S$ let G_s be the fibre of s . There exists an extension k of the residue field of s such that $(G_s)_k$ is diagonalizable, say $\cong D_S(M_s)$ for some abelian group M_s . The isomorphism class of M_s is independent of the choice of k , and called the *type* of G at s , [IX; 1.4]. The function on the underlying topological space S_{top} of S , associating with $s \in S$ the type of G in s , is locally constant. Assume now that G has finite multiplicative type. For every $s \in S$ the type of G is a finitely generated abelian group M_s . Hence we get a well-defined, locally constant function $\text{rank } G: S_{\text{top}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, associating with $s \in S$ the rank of the finitely generated abelian group M_s . It follows that we obtain a partition $S = \bigsqcup_{r \geq 0} S_r$ such that every S_r is an open and closed subscheme of S and $G|_{S_r}$ is of constant rank r . If $G = T$ is a torus, this is the so-called *partition by type*, [56, 5.4].

A *subtorus* of a group G of multiplicative type is a monomorphism $T \rightarrow G$ where T is torus. By [IX; 2.5] or [13, B.1.3] in the finite type case, $T \rightarrow G$ is a closed immersion. Obviously, T is called a *split subtorus* or a *locally split subtorus*, if T is a split torus or a locally split torus. We say T is a *maximal split subtorus* or *maximal locally split subtorus*, if the image of T in G is maximal with respect to inclusion among all split subtori or locally split subtori respectively.

Lemma A.2 *Let T be a torus and let Q be the quotient of T by a subgroup of multiplicative type. Then Q is a torus. Moreover,*

- (i) *if T is locally split, then Q is a locally split torus.*
- (ii) *If S is connected and T is a split torus, then Q is a split torus with $\text{rank } Q \leq \text{rank } T$.*

Proof We first prove (i). By definition of “locally split”, it suffices to show:

$$\text{If } T \text{ is a split torus, then } Q \text{ is a locally split torus.} \quad (\text{A.2.1})$$

For the proof of (A.2.1) we write T in the form $T = D_S(M)$ with $M \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$ and observe that any torus is a group of finite multiplicative type, so that we can apply [IX; 2.11 (i)]: the group Q is a locally split group of multiplicative type. Hence, Zariski-locally $Q = D_S(N)$ for some abelian group N . Cartier duality [VIII; Section 3] provides a monomorphism $N_S \rightarrow M_S$ of constant group schemes, so that N is torsion free and finitely generated. Therefore, $N \cong \mathbb{Z}^{r'}$ with $r' \leq r$, in particular Q is a split S -torus, proving (A.2.1) and thus also (i).

We next show (ii) by modifying the proof of (A.2.1). Indeed, the reference [IX; 2.11 (i)] also says that Q is a split group of multiplicative type if S is connected. Hence, as the proof of (i) shows, Q is a split torus.

Finally, we can prove the general case: *If T is a torus, then Q is a torus.* Being a torus is local for the fpqc topology. We can therefore assume that T is a split torus. Then Q is locally split by (i), which is all we needed to show. \square

Example A.3 By [13, B.3.3], any fppf-closed subgroup of a group G of multiplicative type is a group of multiplicative type. Hence, Lemma A.2 holds for fppf-closed subgroups of tori.

For example, by A.2(ii), if S is a connected scheme and if $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow H$ is a non-trivial group homomorphism, then $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}/\text{Ker}(\lambda) \cong \mathbb{G}_{m,S}$.

The following lemma is the first step towards the existence of a maximal locally split subtorus.

Lemma A.4 *Let G be an S -group of finite multiplicative type.*

- (a) *Then the family of locally split S -subtori of G is a directed poset with respect to inclusion.*
- (b) *If S is connected, the family of split S -subtori of G is a directed poset with respect to inclusion.*

Proof (a) It suffices to show:

- (i) *If E_1 and E_2 are locally split subtori of G , then there exists a locally split subtorus of G containing E_1 and E_2 .*

To prove this, we consider the S -group scheme $E_1 \times_S E_2$ and claim that $E_1 \times_S E_2$ is a locally split torus. Indeed, Zariski-locally E_1 and E_2 have the form $D_S(M_1)$ and $D_S(M_2)$ for free abelian groups of finite type. Since for arbitrary abelian groups N_1 and N_2 we have

$$D_S(N_1) \times_S D_S(N_2) \cong D_S(N_1 \times N_2), \quad (\text{A.4.1})$$

see e.g. [56, 5.1], it follows that $E_1 \times_S E_2$ is a locally split torus.

Let $h: E_1 \times_S E_2 \rightarrow G$ be the group homomorphism given by multiplication. By [IX; 2.7], its kernel $\text{Ker}(h)$ is a subgroup of multiplicative type, so that $E_3 := (E_1 \times E_2)/\text{Ker}(h)$ is a locally split torus by A.2(i). Moreover, again by [IX; 2.7], the canonical map $E_3 \rightarrow G$ is a monomorphism. Clearly, $E_1 \cap \text{Ker}(h) = \{0\}$. Therefore, $E_1 \rightarrow E_3$ is a closed immersion, and the same holds for $E_2 \rightarrow E_3$. Thus, (i) holds.

The proof of (b) is a straightforward modification of the proof of (a), see [XXVI, 6.5]: If E_1 and E_2 are split tori, then so is $E_1 \times_S E_2$ by (A.4.1). The quotient E_3 is then a split torus by A.2(ii). \square

Lemma A.5 (a) *A monomorphism $T \hookrightarrow T'$ between S -tori with the same rank functions is an isomorphism.*

- (b) *Assume that S is connected and that G is an S -group of finite multiplicative type. Then every family of S -subtori of G , which is a directed poset with respect to inclusion, admits a unique maximal element.*

Proof We can assume that S is non-empty. All statements are local for the fpqc topology, allowing us to deal with split S -tori.

- (a) We are given a monomorphism $f: T = D_S(M) \rightarrow D_S(M') = T'$, where M and M' are free \mathbb{Z} -modules of rank r . Cartier duality provides an epimorphism $\hat{f}: M'_S \rightarrow M_S$ of constant S -schemes. For each point s of S , we obtain a surjective map $\hat{f}_s: M'_s \rightarrow M_s$ between free \mathbb{Z} -modules of same finite rank. The map \hat{f}_s is then an isomorphism, and hence so is \hat{f} by [IX, 2.9], which in turn implies that f is an isomorphism.

- (b) Let $(T_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family as in the statement of (b). Since S is connected, G has of constant rank, say rank r . By the same reason, each T_i has constant rank, say rank $T_i = r_i$. Note $r_i \leq r$. Let r_j be maximal among all r_i , $i \in I$. We claim that T_j

is a maximal element of the given family. Indeed, fix $i \in I$ and let T_k be a member of the family such that $T_i \subset T_k$ and $T_j \subset T_k$. We have $r_j = r_k$ by maximality of r_j . Applying (a) yields $T_j = T_k$, hence $T_i \subset T_j$. Thus T_i is a maximal element; unicity is obvious. \square

We can now prove the existence of maximal (locally) split subtori.

Proposition A.6 *Let G be an S -group of finite multiplicative type.*

- (a) *If E is a maximal locally split S -subtorus of G , then E is unique.*
- (b) *If S is connected, G admits a unique maximal locally split S -subtorus.*
- (c) *G admits a maximal split S -subtorus.*
- (d) *If S is connected, G admits a unique maximal split S -subtorus.*

Proof Lemma A.4 (a) tells us that the family of locally split S -subtori of G is a directed poset, implying (a), while Lemma A.5 (b) shows the existence of a maximal element in case S is connected. Hence (b) holds.

(c) We use the partition $S = \bigsqcup_{r \geq 0} S_r$ by rank, see 1. Up to localizing at some S_r , we can then assume that G has constant rank r and that $S \neq \emptyset$. Since an ascending chain of split tori of bounded rank is stationary, it follows from Lemma A.5 (a) that T admits a maximal split S -subtorus.

(d) The reasoning is the same as for (b), using this time Lemma A.4 (b). \square

Proposition A.6 implies that a torus T over a connected S admits both a maximal split subtorus T_0 and a maximal locally split subtorus T_{l0} . Clearly, $T_0 \subset T_{l0}$. The following Proposition A.7 gives a sufficient criterion for the two subtori to coincide, while the Examples A.9 show that in general the two tori do not coincide.

In Proposition A.7 we denote by $X_*(T) = \text{Hom}_{S\text{-gr}}(\mathbb{G}_m, T)$ the commutative S -group of cocharacters of a torus T ; it is a locally constant S -group scheme. We also recall [65, Tag 033N]: a connected, normal locally noetherian scheme is integral and hence has a field of fractions.

Proposition A.7 *Assume that S is connected, normal and locally noetherian with field of fractions K . By Lemma A.6 (d), the S -torus T has a unique maximal split S -subtorus, denoted T_0 .*

- (a) *We have $X_*(T_0)(K) = X_*(T_0)(S) = X_*(T)(S) = X_*(T)(K)$.*
- (b) *T_0 is the unique maximal locally split S -subtorus of T .*
- (c) *The formation of T_0 commutes with Zariski localization.*

Proof We shall use that T is isotrivial [X, 5.16], that is, there exists a finite étale cover S' of S which splits T . Grothendieck's Galois theory [39, V, Section 8] (or see footnote 2) allows us to assume that the cover S' is a connected Galois cover over S . We denote the Galois group of S'/S by Γ ; this is also the Galois group of K'/K , where K' is the fraction field of S' .

(a) We have $X_*(T)(S') = X_*(T)(K')$; by taking Γ -invariants, we obtain $X_*(T)(S) = X_*(T)(K)$ and, similarly, $X_*(T_0)(S) = X_*(T_0)(K)$. We have the obvious inclusion

$X_*(T_0)(S) \subset X_*(T)(S)$; so it remains to establish the other inclusion. To do so, we are given $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow T$. Its image E is a split S -torus, so that Lemma A.4 (b) implies that $E \subset T_0$. It follows that λ factorizes through T_0 , so that λ comes from $X_*(T_0)(S)$.

(b) Let T_{l_0} be the maximal locally S -split subtorus of T . Clearly T_0 is the maximal S -split subtorus of T_{l_0} . Since $T_{l_0,K}$ is split, applying (a) to T_{l_0} , shows that $X_*(T_0)(K) = X_*(T_{l_0})(K)$. It follows that T_0 and T_{l_0} have the same rank, so that $T_0 = T_{l_0}$ in view of Lemma A.5 (a).

(c) This follows immediately from (a). \square

Remark A.8 (a) That $X_*(T)(S) = X_*(T)(K)$ can be also proven by applying [X, 8.4].

(b) The argument of Proposition A.7 (b) can be generalized as follows. Suppose that S is an integral scheme with field of fractions K and that T is an S -torus. Let T_0 and T_{l_0} be the maximal split and locally maximal split subtorus of T . If $T_{0,K} = T_{l_0,K}$ (this is the crucial assumption), then $T_0 = T_{l_0}$.

Example A.9 Example (a) below shows that A.7 (c) is wrong without the normality assumption, while Example (b) shows that A.7 (b) is wrong without the normality assumption. These examples are taken from [13, Exercise 2.4.12].

Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. For each $n \geq 1$, let $X_n = \text{Spec}(A_n)$ be the k -scheme obtained by gluing 2^n affine lines in a loop, with 0 on the i -th line glued to 1 on the $(i+1)$ -th line ($i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}$). This means that

$$A_n = \left\{ (P_i) \in \prod_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}} k[x_i] \mid P_i(0) = P_{i+1}(1) \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

We have then a canonical k -map $f_n: \tilde{X}_n = \bigsqcup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{A}_k^1 \rightarrow X_n$, obtained by inclusion $A_n \subset \prod_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}} k[x_i]$.

(a) The group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts on X_1 by permuting x_0 and x_1 . Since $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts freely on $X_1(k) = k \sqcup k/\sim$, where the equivalence relation \sim identifies 0 of each summand with 1 of the following summand, the action of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ on X_1 is free [19, Corollary III, 2.2.5]. The algebraic group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \cong \mu_2$ is diagonalizable, so that the fppf quotient $X = X_1/(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ is representable by the affine scheme $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ where $A = (A_1)^{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}} = \{P \in k[x]: P(0) = P(1)\}$, [VIII.5.1]. Furthermore, the quotient map $q: X_1 \rightarrow X$ is a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor. We observe that X is a nodal affine curve. We denote by a its nodal point and note that $X \setminus \{a\} \cong \mathbb{G}_m$. Summarizing, we have a cartesian diagram of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsors

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{A}_k^1 \sqcup \mathbb{A}_k^1 & \xrightarrow{\tilde{q}} & \mathbb{A}_k^1 \\ \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{q} & X. \end{array}$$

Clearly the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor $q: X_1 \rightarrow X$ is trivial once restricted to $X \setminus \{a\}$. We claim:

The $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor $q: X_1 \rightarrow X$ is not trivial at the local ring $\mathcal{O}_{X,a}$. (A.9.1)

Assume to the contrary that there exists a splitting $s_a: \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,a}) \rightarrow X_1$ of q . It extends to a splitting $s: U \rightarrow X_1$ of q defined on an affine open neighborhood U of a in X . Let V be the inverse image of U in \mathbf{A}_k^1 ; this is an affine open neighborhood of 0 and 1. Then s induces a section \tilde{s} of $V \sqcup V \rightarrow V$. Since \mathbf{A}_k^1 is irreducible, V is connected, hence \tilde{s} is the first (or the second) component map. It follows that $\tilde{s}(V)$ contains the two nodal points a_0, a_1 of X_1 , so that $s(a) = a_0 = a_1$. This is a contradiction, proving the claim (A.9.1).

We consider the isotrivial X -torus $T = \mathfrak{R}_{X_1/X}(\mathbb{G}_m)/\mathbb{G}_m$, that is, the quotient of the Weil restriction $\mathfrak{R}_{X_1/X}(\mathbb{G}_m)$ by the diagonal \mathbb{G}_m . Its isomorphism class is determined by $[X_1] \in H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$. Then $T|_{X \setminus \{a\}}$ is split, but $T \times_S \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_{X,a})$ is not split according to (A.9.1).

(b) We now assume $n \geq 2$. The map $\mathbb{Z}/2^{n+1}\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}$, $[i] \mapsto [i]$ induces a morphism

$$\tilde{g}_n: \bigsqcup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^{n+1}\mathbb{Z}} \mathbf{A}_k^1 \rightarrow \bigsqcup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}} \mathbf{A}_k^1$$

which is a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor, where $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ is the kernel of $\mathbb{Z}/2^{n+1}\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}$ and acts by permuting the factors. This map induces a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor $g_n: X_{n+1} \rightarrow X_n$ fitting in the cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{X}_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}_n} & \tilde{X}_n \\ \downarrow \tilde{f}_n & & \downarrow f_n \\ X_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & X_n. \end{array}$$

We claim

The $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -torsor $g_n: X_{n+1} \rightarrow X_n$ is locally trivial for the Zariski topology, but is not trivial. (A.9.2)

Since a section of g_n must come from a section of \tilde{g}_n , the argument of A.9(a) shows that such a section does not exist. For each $i \in [0, 2^n - 2]$, we denote by \tilde{U}_i (resp. \tilde{V}_i) the open subset of \tilde{X}_n (resp. \tilde{X}_{n+1}) which is $\mathbf{A}_k^1 \sqcup \mathbf{A}_k^1$ located at i and $i + 1$. Also, we denote by U_i (resp. V_i) the fiber product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_n & \hookrightarrow & \prod_{j \in \mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z}} k[x_j] \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ k[U_i] & \hookrightarrow & k[x_i] \times k[x_{i+1}]. \end{array}$$

(resp. with $k[V_n] \subset A_{n+1}$). We then get a cartesian square of isomorphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{V}_i & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}_n} & \tilde{U}_i \\ \wr \downarrow \tilde{f}_n & \sim & \downarrow \wr f_n \\ V_i & \xrightarrow{g_n} & U_i. \end{array}$$

Since the U_i 's cover X_n , we obtain that $g_n: X_{n+1} \rightarrow X_n$ admits sections for the Zariski topology, establishing the claim (A.9.2).

We consider the X_n -torus $T_n = \mathfrak{R}_{X_n/X_n}(\mathbb{G}_m)/\mathbb{G}_m$ of rank one, whose isomorphism class is determined by $[X_{2n}] \in H^1(X_n, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$. Then T_n is isotrivial and (A.9.2) shows that T_n is locally split of rank 1, but is not split.

B Appendix: Parabolic subgroups of reductive groups via the dynamic method

In this appendix we consider parabolic and Levi subgroups of a reductive group H over a connected scheme S that can be described by the dynamic method, reviewed in 5.5. The appendix complements Sect. 5 on minimal parabolic subgroups and their Levi subgroups.

We start with an improvement of [32, Theorem 7.3.1]. According to part (2) of that theorem, a reductive S -group scheme H over a connected S is isotropic in the sense of 5.1 if and only if its radical torus $\text{rad}(H)$ is isotropic or H is reducible, also defined in 5.1. This characterization is a consequence of part (1) of [32, Theorem 7.3.1] which proves Theorem B.1 without the important invariance of λ under the S -group scheme $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$, the automorphisms of H normalizing P and L .

Theorem B.1 *Let S be a connected scheme and let P be a parabolic subgroup of the reductive S -group H , equipped with a Levi subgroup $L \subset P$. Then there exists a cocharacter $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow H$ which is fixed by $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$ and which allows a dynamic description of P and L as $P = P_H(\lambda)$ and $L = C_H(\lambda)$.*

Proof Our proof is a refinement of the proof of [32, Theorem 7.3.1].

Because S is connected, the reductive group H has constant type [XXII, 2.8], so it is a form of a Chevalley S -group G equipped with a Killing couple (B, T) and defined over \mathbb{Z} . This gives rise to a root datum and a Dynkin diagram Δ . For $I \subset \Delta$ we let P_I and L_I be the standard parabolic and Levi subgroup associated with I . Since triples of type (H, P, L) allow descent, there exists $I \subset \Delta$ such that (H, P, L) is the twist of (G, P_I, L_I) under the sheaf torsor $E = \underline{\text{Isom}}((G, P_I, L_I), (H, P, L))$.

We now move to the adjoint quotients $H^{\text{ad}} = H/Z_H$ and $G^{\text{ad}} = G/Z_G$ where Z_H and Z_G are the centres of H and G respectively. By [32, Lemma 3.2.1], the pairs $(P^{\text{ad}}, L^{\text{ad}}) = (P/Z_H, L/Z_H)$ and the analogously defined $(P_I^{\text{ad}}, L_I^{\text{ad}})$ are pairs of parabolic subgroups and Levi subgroups of H^{ad} and G^{ad} respectively. Using the last line of [32, Example 7.2], the original proof of B.1 shows that $(P_I^{\text{ad}}, L_I^{\text{ad}})$ has a dynamic description with respect to a cocharacter $\lambda_I^{\text{ad}}: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow G^{\text{ad}}$, which is fixed by

$\text{Aut}(G^{\text{ad}}, P_I^{\text{ad}}, L_I^{\text{ad}})$. Since $(H^{\text{ad}}, P^{\text{ad}}, L^{\text{ad}})$ is a twisted form of $(G^{\text{ad}}, P_I^{\text{ad}}, L_I^{\text{ad}})$, the pair $(P^{\text{ad}}, L^{\text{ad}})$ has a dynamic description with respect to the twist $\lambda^{\text{ad}}: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow H^{\text{ad}}$ of λ_I^{ad} . By construction, λ^{ad} is fixed by

$$\text{Aut}(H^{\text{ad}}, P^{\text{ad}}, L^{\text{ad}}) = \text{Aut}(G^{\text{ad}}, P_I^{\text{ad}}, L_I^{\text{ad}})^E.$$

Next, we consider the derived groups $\mathcal{D}(H)$ and $\mathcal{D}(G)$ and recall that H^{ad} and G^{ad} are quotients of $\mathcal{D}(H)$ and $\mathcal{D}(G)$ respectively. Let n be an integer annihilating the finite diagonalizable S -group scheme $Z_{\mathcal{D}(G)}$. Then n also annihilates the centre $Z_{\mathcal{D}(H)}$ of $\mathcal{D}(H)$. Hence the cocharacter $(\lambda^{\text{ad}})^n: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow H^{\text{ad}}$ uniquely lifts to a cocharacter $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(H)$. The original proof of B.1 shows that (P, L) has a dynamic description with respect to λ . It remains to be shown that λ is fixed by $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$. This follows from the unicity of the lifting of $(\lambda^{\text{ad}})^n$, since the action of $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$ on $\text{Hom}_{S\text{-gp}}(\mathbb{G}_m, H^{\text{ad}})$ factorizes through the map $\text{Aut}(H^{\text{ad}}, P^{\text{ad}}, L^{\text{ad}})$. \square

B.2 Irreducible and anisotropic actions

We extend the notion of a reducible or isotropic reductive group scheme 5.1 to the setting where an S -group scheme M acts on a reductive S -group scheme H by automorphisms of H . In this situation, M acts canonically on the set of pairs (P, L) consisting of an everywhere proper parabolic subgroup P of H in the sense of 5.1 and a Levi subgroup L of P . We say that the action is *reducible* if it normalizes such a pair (P, L) in the sense of [20], see for example [I; 2.3.3] or [VI_B, 6.4.4]. Otherwise, the action is called *irreducible*.

If S is connected, as in B.3 and B.4, then P is everywhere proper if and only if P is proper because the type of a parabolic subgroup is locally constant [XXVI, 3.2].

Similarly, we say that the action of M on H is *isotropic*, if it centralizes an S -subgroup of H isomorphic to $\mathbb{G}_{m,S}$. Otherwise, the action is called *anisotropic*. For S the spectrum of a field and $M = \mathbb{G}_{m,S}$, Corollary B.3 is [8, 4.23].

Corollary B.3 *Assume that S is connected and that an S -group scheme M acts on the reductive S -group H . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i) *The action of M on H is isotropic.*
- (ii) *The action of M on $\text{rad}(H)$ is isotropic or the action of M on H is reducible.*

Proof (i) \Rightarrow (ii): Suppose the image of the non-trivial map $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow H$ is centralized by the action of M , and consider the parabolic subgroup $P = P_H(\lambda)$ together with its Levi subgroup $L = C_H(\lambda)$, see 5.5. If $P = H$, then λ is central and takes values in $\text{rad}(H)$, so that the action of M on $\text{rad}(H)$ is isotropic. Otherwise, P is a proper parabolic subgroup. Since M normalizes (P, L) , its action on H is reducible.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i): If the action of M on $\text{rad}(H)$ is isotropic, so is its action on H . Assume now that the action of M on H is reducible, that is, there exists a pair (P, L) consisting of a proper parabolic subgroup P of H and a Levi subgroup $L \subset P$, such that (P, L) is normalized by M . Theorem B.1 provides a group homomorphism $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow H$

such that $(P, L) = (P_H(\lambda), C_H(\lambda))$ and such that λ is fixed by $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$. In particular, λ is non-central. After quotienting by $\text{Ker}(\lambda)$, we can assume that λ is a monomorphism, A.3. Since M acts on H through $\text{Aut}(H, P, L)$, the image of λ is fixed by M . Thus, the action of M on H is isotropic. \square

The following Proposition B.4 is a complement to Theorem B.1.

Proposition B.4 *Assume that $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ is affine and connected, that M is a flat affine R -group scheme whose geometric fibers are linearly reductive, e.g., M is of multiplicative type, and that M acts on the reductive group H . If M normalizes a parabolic subgroup P of H , there exists an M -invariant group homomorphism $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_{m,S} \rightarrow H$ such that $P = P_H(\lambda)$ and such that $C_H(\lambda)$ is a Levi subgroup of P which is normalized by M .*

Proof Let U be the unipotent radical of P which, according to [XXVI, 2.1], is $\text{Aut}(P)$ -linearizable, that is, U admits a composition series $1 = U_n \subset U_{n-1} \subset \cdots \subset U_1 = U$ which is $\text{Aut}(P)$ -stable and such that $U_i/U_{i+1} = W(E_i)$ where each E_i is a locally free R -module of finite type on which the action of $\text{Aut}(H, P)$ is linear. A fortiori, the action of M on U is linearizable.

By [XXVI, 2.3 and 1.9], the set of sections of $P \rightarrow X := P/U$ is non-empty and is a principal homogeneous space under $U(R)$. For each R -ring A , the group $M(A)$ acts on the A -sections of $P \rightarrow X$. Let $s: X \rightarrow P$ be such a section. For each $m \in M(A)$, there exists a unique $u_A(m) \in U(A)$ such that ${}^m s_A = {}^{u_A(m)^{-1}} s_A$. For $m_1, m_2 \in M(A)$, we apply m_1 to ${}^{m_2} s_A = {}^{u_A(m_2)^{-1}} s_A$ and get

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 m_2 s_A &= {}^{m_1(u_A(m_2))^{-1}} ({}^{m_2} s_A) = {}^{m_1(u_A(m_2))^{-1}} ({}^{u_A(m_1)^{-1}} s_A) \\ &= {}^{m_1(u_A(m_2))^{-1} u_A(m_1)^{-1}} (s_A), \end{aligned}$$

so that $u_A(m_1 m_2) = u_A(m_1) \cdot {}^{m_1} u_A(m_2)$. The map $u_A: M(A) \rightarrow U(A)$, $m \mapsto u_A(m)$, is therefore a 1-cocycle for the action on $M(A)$ on $U(A)$, so that the data of the u_A 's for A running over all R -rings define an Hochschild 1-cocycle (or crossed homomorphism) $u \in Z_{\text{coc}}^1(M, U)$, as defined by Demarche [18, Section 3.2]. Thus, we obtain a cohomology class $[u] \in H_{\text{coc}}^1(M, U)$. We now claim

$$H_{\text{coc}}^1(M, U) = 1. \quad (\text{B.4.1})$$

We postpone the proof of (B.4.1) for the moment. Assuming (B.4.1), we get an element $v \in U(R)$ such that $u_A(m) = v_A^{-1} m v_A$ for all $m \in U(A)$. It follows that ${}^m s_A = {}^{m v_A^{-1} v_A} s_A$, so that $s' = {}^v s$ is an M -invariant section of $P \rightarrow X$. In particular, $s(X)$ is a Levi subgroup of P which is M -invariant. Theorem B.1 then shows that there exists an M -invariant homomorphism $\lambda: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow H$ such that $(P, s(X)) = (P_H(\lambda), C_H(\lambda))$ as desired.

We now come to the proof of (B.4.1). According to [18, Proposition 3.2.8], we have an exact sequence of pointed sets

$$1 \rightarrow H_{\text{coc}}^1(M, U) \rightarrow H_0^1(M, U) \rightarrow H^1(R, U)$$

where $H_0^1(M, U)$ is the set of isomorphism classes of M - U -torsors over R [18, 3.2.6]. We know from [XXVI, 2.2] that $H^1(R, U) = 1$, so that it is enough to show that $H_0^1(M, U) = 1$.

According to Grothendieck for M of multiplicative type [IX, 3.1] and Margaux in general [51, Theorem 1.2], we have $H_{\text{coc}}^1(M, U_i/U_{i+1}) = 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ so that $H_0^1(M, U_i/U_{i+1}) = 0$ by the exact sequence above applied to U_i/U_{i+1} . On the other hand, by [18, Proposition 3.5.1] for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ we have an exact sequence of pointed sets

$$H_0^1(M, U_{i+1}) \rightarrow H_0^1(M, U_i) \rightarrow H_0^1(M, U_i/U_{i+1}),$$

so that we conclude by “dévissage” that $H_0^1(M, U) = 1$, finishing the proof of (B.4.1). \square

Remark B.5 (a) The proof of Proposition B.4 is clearly inspired by Demarche’s paper [18] and by McNinch’s approach [53].

(b) Let k be a field, let H be a reductive k -group and let $M \subset H$ be a subgroup of H . Following Serre [62, 63], see also [7], the subgroup M is called *H -completely reducible*, if whenever $M \subset P$, where P is a parabolic subgroup of H , then $M \subset L$ for some Levi subgroup of P .

Provisionally, we will use the completely analogous terminology for reductive groups over a scheme S . Specializing Proposition B.4 to the case of M being a subgroup of H acting on H by inner automorphisms, the proposition implies that M is H -completely reducible. This generalizes [43, 11.24], proven there for algebraically closed fields and restated in [7, Lemma 2.6]. In characteristic 0, the result is due to Mostow.

C Appendix: Hermitian and quadratic forms over rings

In this appendix we review the concepts needed for Propositions 6.4 and 6.5, but not more. This appendix is not an introduction to the topics of the section heading, like for example the book [46], nor did the authors strive for the most general setting, i.e., considering forms over schemes instead of base rings. Despite this limitation, the appendix will hopefully still serve as a useful quick introduction to regular hermitian and nonsingular quadratic forms over rings, their associated isometry groups and the link to their flat cohomology sets.

Throughout this appendix, R is an arbitrary base ring, S is an algebra in $R\text{-alg}$, equipped with an R -linear involution σ . This will later be specialized to the *hermitian case*, where S is a quadratic étale extension with standard involution σ , and to the *quadratic case*, where $S = R$ and $\sigma = \text{Id}_R$. The general setting avoids a duplication of definitions.

C.1 Sesquilinear forms

(a) (*Modules*) Unless specified otherwise, all modules considered will be finite projective S -modules, usually considered as right S -modules. Given such a module M , we denote by ${}_{\sigma}M$ its σ -conjugate, i.e., the S -module with the same additive group as M , but with the S -action given by $({}_{\sigma}m) \star s = m\sigma(s)$ for $s \in S$ and $m \in M$, using the given S -action of M on the right-hand side of the equation.

Instead of the usual dual space $\text{Hom}_S(M, S)$ we will use its twisted version

$$M^* := {}_{\sigma} \text{Hom}_S(M, S).$$

One has an isomorphism of S -modules $M^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_S({}_{\sigma}M, S)$, given by $\varphi \mapsto ({}_{\sigma}m \mapsto (\sigma \circ \varphi)(m))$ [46, I; Lemma (2.1.1)].

(b) (*Sesquilinear forms*) A *sesquilinear form*, also called an (S, σ) -*sesquilinear form* is a bi-additive map $h: M \times M \rightarrow S$, which is defined on a finite projective S -module M and which satisfies

$$h(m_1 s_1, m_2 s_2) = \sigma(s_1) h(m_1, m_2) s_2$$

for all $m_i \in M$ and $s_i \in S$. We will denote such a sesquilinear form by (M, h) or simply by h .

Given two sesquilinear forms (M_1, h_1) and (M_2, h_2) , an S -linear map $f: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ is an *isometry* if f is bijective and if $h_2(f(m_1), f(m'_1)) = h_1(m_1, m'_1)$ holds for all $m_1, m'_1 \in M_1$. In this case, we say that (M_1, h_1) and (M_2, h_2) are *isometric*, abbreviated by $(M_1, h_1) \cong (M_2, h_2)$ or simply by $h_1 \cong h_2$.

(c) (*Hermitian and symmetric forms*) A sesquilinear form (M, h) is called (S, σ) -*hermitian* or simply *hermitian*, if $h(m, m') = \sigma(h(m', m))$ holds for all $m, m' \in M$. In the quadratic case, i.e., $(S, \sigma) = (R, \text{Id})$, we say h is *symmetric* instead of hermitian.

(d) (*Adjoints, regularity*) A sesquilinear form (M, h) gives rise to the S -linear map $h^*: M \rightarrow M^*, m \mapsto h(m, -)$, called the *adjoint of* (M, h) . Mapping h to h^* gives rise to a bijection between the S -module of sesquilinear forms on M and $\text{Hom}_S(M, M^*)$. We call h *regular* if h^* is a bijection, hence an isomorphism of S -modules.

(e) (*Orthogonality*) Given two sesquilinear forms (M_1, h_1) and (M_2, h_2) , their *orthogonal sum* is the sesquilinear form $h_1 \perp h_2$ defined on $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ by

$$(h_1 \perp h_2)(m_1 + m_2, m'_1 + m'_2) = h_1(m_1, m'_1) + h_2(m_2, m'_2)$$

for $m_1, m'_1 \in M_1$ and $m_2, m'_2 \in M_2$. The sesquilinear form $h_1 \perp h_2$ is regular if and only if h_1 and h_2 are regular [46, I, (3.6.2.2)]. The analogous statement holds for the property “hermitian”.

(f) (*Base change*) Let $T \in R\text{-alg}$. Then $S_T = S \otimes_R T$ is an object in $R\text{-alg}$ with a T -linear involution $\sigma_T = \sigma \otimes 1_T$, and S_T/T satisfy the assumptions of this appendix. Given a finite projective S -module M we put $M_T = M \otimes_R T = M \otimes_S S_T$, which is

canonically a finite projective S_T -module. The twisted dual respects this base change: the canonical map $\omega: M^* \otimes_R T \xrightarrow{\sim} (M_T)^*$ is an isomorphism because M is finite projective.

Let now (M, h) be an (S, σ) -sesquilinear form. Then (M, h) uniquely extends to an (S_T, σ_T) -sesquilinear form h_T on M_T by requiring

$$h_T(m \otimes t, m' \otimes t') = h(m, m') \otimes tt'$$

for $m, m' \in M$ and $t, t' \in T$. The adjoint maps $(h_T)^*$ and the base change $h^* \otimes 1_R$ are related by the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \otimes_R T & \xrightarrow{h^* \otimes \text{Id}_T} & M^* \otimes_R T \\ & \searrow (h_T)^* \quad \swarrow \omega \cong & \\ & (M_T)^* & \end{array} \quad (\text{C.1.1})$$

Hence, if (M, h) is regular, then so is (M_T, h_T) .

(g) (*Hyperbolic forms* [46, I, (3.5)]) Let U be a finitely generated projective S -module. One defines a hermitian module $\mathbb{H}(U) = (U \oplus U^*, h_{\mathbb{H}(U)})$ by $h_{\mathbb{H}(U)}(u_1 + \varphi_1, u_2 + \varphi_2) = \varphi_1(u_2) + \sigma(\varphi_2(u_1))$ for $u_i \in U$ and $\varphi_i \in U^*$. One calls (M, h) *hyperbolic* if it is isometric to $\mathbb{H}(U)$ for some U .

A hyperbolic space $(M, h) = \mathbb{H}(U)$ is equipped with a natural action of the R -group scheme $\mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}_S(U))$, $\mathfrak{R}(\cdot) = \text{Weil restriction}$, as follows. For each R -ring T , each $g \in \mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}_S(U))(T) = \mathbf{GL}_{S \otimes_R T}(U \otimes_R T)$ and each pair $(u, f) \in (U \otimes_R T) \oplus (U^* \otimes_R T)$, we have $g \cdot (u, f) = (g \cdot u, f \circ g^{-1})$. It follows that we have a closed embedding

$$\mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}_S(U)) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{U}(M, h) \quad (\text{C.1.2})$$

of R -group schemes, where the R -group scheme $\mathbf{U}(M, h)$ represents the R -functor of isometries of (M, h) , cf. C.6(c).

(h) (*Totally isotropic submodules*) Let (M, h) be a hermitian module. A submodule $U \subset M$ is called *totally isotropic* if U is complemented and $U \subset U^\perp$, where, in general,

$$U^\perp = \{m \in M : h(m, U) = 0\}.$$

A vector $m \in M$ is *isotropic* if m is unimodular and $h(m, m) = 0$. In case $(S, \sigma) = (R, \text{Id})$ we also require $q(m) = 0$.

(i) A sesquilinear form (M, h) is *diagonalizable* if there exists a basis (e_1, \dots, e_n) of the S -module M such that $h(e_i, e_j) = 0$ whenever $i \neq j$.

(j) The free S -module $M = S^n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$, carries the *split hermitian form* $h_{0,n}$, defined by

$$h_{0,n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n e_i s_i, \sum_{j=1}^n e_j s'_j \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma(s_i) s'_i. \quad (\text{C.1.3})$$

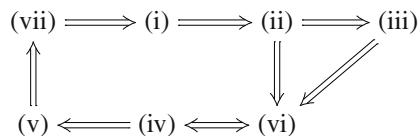
The term “split” will be justified in Lemma C.5 where we consider regular hermitian forms.

We characterize regularity of sesquilinear forms in the following lemma. We call a family (f_1, \dots, f_n) of elements of R a *Zariski cover* if $R = Rf_1 + \dots + Rf_n$. Equivalently, $\{\text{Spec}(R_{f_i}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R)\}_{i=1, \dots, n}$ is a standard Zariski covering of $\text{Spec}(R)$ in the sense of [65, Tag 020R].

Lemma C.2 *Assume $S \in R\text{-alg}$ is finite projective as R -module. Then the following are equivalent for a sesquilinear form h .*

- (i) h is regular;
- (ii) h_T is regular for all $T \in R\text{-alg}$;
- (iii) h_K is regular for all algebraically closed fields $K \in R\text{-alg}$;
- (iv) $h_{R_{\mathfrak{m}}}$ is regular for all maximal $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}(R)$;
- (v) there exists a Zariski cover (f_1, \dots, f_n) of R such that $h_{R_{f_i}}$ is regular for all i ;
- (vi) $h_{R/\mathfrak{m}}$ is regular for all maximal $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}(R)$;
- (vii) h_T is regular for some faithfully flat $T \in R\text{-alg}$.

Proof Let $h = (M, h)$. We will use that the adjoint map $h^*: M \rightarrow M^*$ is bijective as S -linear map if and only if the underlying R -linear map is bijective. Moreover, by transitivity of “finite projective” [27, 1.1.8], M and M^* are finite projective as R -modules. We will use the following scheme to prove C.2.



As already noted in C.1 (f), the implication (i) \Rightarrow (ii) follows from the commutative diagram (C.1.1), while (ii) \Rightarrow (iii) and (ii) \Rightarrow (vi) are trivial. To see (iii) \Rightarrow (vi), let \mathfrak{m} be a maximal ideal of R and let K be an algebraic closure of the field $F = R/\mathfrak{m}$. Then (C.1.1) for (R, S, T) replaced by $(F, S \otimes_R F, K)$ shows that $h_F \otimes 1_K$ is invertible, hence so is h_F . For (iv) \Leftrightarrow (vi) we need $h_{R_{\mathfrak{m}}}^*$ bijective $\Leftrightarrow h_{R/\mathfrak{m}}^*$ bijective, which is [9, II, Section 3.2, Cor. de la Prop. 6].

(iv) \Rightarrow (v): By [9, II, Section 5.1, Proposition 2 (ii)] there exists for every $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ a $g_{\mathfrak{m}} \in R$ such that $h_{g_{\mathfrak{m}}}^*$ is bijective. The existence of a Zariski cover with the stated property then follows as usual: $\{g_{\mathfrak{m}} : \mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}(R) \text{ maximal}\}$ generates R as an ideal; one takes a generating set $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ of this ideal. (v) \Rightarrow (vii): By [9, II, Section 5.1, Proposition 3] the algebra $S = R_{f_1} \times \dots \times R_{f_n}$ is faithfully flat and $h_S^* = \prod_i h_{f_i}^*$ is bijective. Finally, the implication (vii) \Rightarrow (i) follows from [9, I, Section 3.1, Proposition 2]. \square

C.3 Hermitian spaces

In C.3–C.7 we consider the “hermitian case”, i.e.,

$$S \text{ is a quadratic étale } R\text{-algebra with standard involution } \sigma. \quad (\text{C.3.1})$$

A hermitian sesquilinear form will be hermitian with respect to (S, σ) . A *hermitian space* (M, h) is a hermitian module (M, h) with h a regular hermitian form; a *hermitian space of rank r* is a hermitian space (M, h) for which M is a locally free S -module of constant rank r .

Lemma C.4 (LG diagonalizability, hermitian case) *Let R be an LG-ring, let (S, σ) be a quadratic étale R -algebra with standard involution σ , and let (M, h) be a hermitian space with M having constant positive rank. Then (M, h) is diagonalizable, in particular*

$$\{h(m, m) : m \in M\} \cap R^\times \neq \emptyset. \quad (\text{C.4.1})$$

Proof This is [30, Exercise 21.21 (a)]; its proof is given in [31]: one can assume that M has constant rank; one then shows (C.4.1) and finally proves diagonalizability by induction on the rank of M (recall [46, I, (3.6.2.1)] and 2.6(b)). \square

Lemma C.5 *Let R be arbitrary and let (S, σ) be a quadratic étale R -algebra with standard involution σ .*

- (a) (Zariski-diagonalizability) *Let (M, h) be a hermitian space with M being faithfully projective. Then (M, h) is Zariski-locally diagonalizable, i.e., there exists a Zariski cover (f_1, \dots, f_m) of R such that for every $g \in \{f_1, \dots, f_m\}$ the base change $(M, h)_{R_g} := (M_{R_g}, h_{R_g})$ is diagonalizable of rank $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$.*
- (b) *The following are equivalent for a hermitian form (M, h) .*
 - (i) *M is locally free of rank n and h is regular.*
 - (ii) *There exists a flat cover $T \in R\text{-alg}$ such that $(M, h)_T$ is isometric to the split form (C.1.3).*

Proof (a) Let $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$ be a maximal ideal of R . By Lemma C.4, (M, h) is diagonalizable over the local ring $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$. Therefore, since $R_{\mathfrak{m}} \cong \varinjlim_{f \notin \mathfrak{m}} R_f$, there exists $f \notin \mathfrak{m}$ such that h_{R_f} is diagonalizable. Hence the ideal generated by $\{f \in R : h|_{R_f} \text{ is diagonalizable}\}$ is all of R , from which (a) easily follows.

(b) Assume (i). Let (f_1, \dots, f_m) be a Zariski cover as in (a), and put $T' = R_{f_1} \times \dots \times R_{f_m}$. Then T' is a flat cover of R and $(M, h)_T \cong (S^n, h')$ with a diagonalizable h' . Since a flat cover T'' of T' is a flat cover of R , it suffices to prove (ii) under the assumption that $M \cong S^n$ and that h is diagonalizable with respect to the standard basis (e_1, \dots, e_n) of S^n . Note $h(e_i, e_i) = r_i \in R^\times$ since h is supposed to be hermitian and regular. Let $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ be the polynomial ring in n variables. Then

$$T = R[X_1, \dots, X_n] / (X_1^2 - r_1, \dots, X_n^2 - r_n)$$

is a flat cover of R such that $h_T \cong h_{0,n}$, the split rank n form over T .

Conversely, if (ii) holds, then M is locally free of rank n ([9, II, Section 5.3, Proposition 4]) and h is regular by Lemma C.2. \square

Proposition C.6 (Unitary groups) *Let (S, σ) be quadratic étale with standard involution σ , and let (M, h) be a hermitian space. Then the following hold.*

- (a) $A := \text{End}_S(M)$ is an Azumaya S -algebra.
- (b) There exists a unique involution τ_h on A , the adjoint involution, satisfying

$$h(m_1, f(m_2)) = h(\tau_h(f)(m_1), m_2) \quad (\text{C.6.1})$$

for all $m_i \in M$ and $f \in A$. The triple (S, A, τ_h) is an Azumaya algebra with involution of second kind in the sense of [10, 2.7.0.33].

- (c) We define $\mathbf{U}(M, h) := \mathbf{U}(A, \tau_h)$ where $\mathbf{U}(A, \tau_h)$ is the unitary R -group scheme of [10, 3.5.0.84]. Then, for every R -ring T ,

$$\mathbf{U}(M, h)(T) = \{f \in \text{GL}_{S \otimes_R T}(M \otimes_R T) : f \text{ is an isometry of } h_T\}$$

where h_T is the base change of h in the sense of C.1 (f).

- (d) The group $\mathbf{U}(M, h)$ is a reductive R -group scheme. If M has constant rank n , then $\mathbf{U}(M, h)$ has type A_{n-1} .
- (e) Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$. The map $[(M, h)] \mapsto [\text{Isom}((S^n, h_{0,n}), (M, h))]$ is a bijection between the set of isometry classes of hermitian spaces over (S, σ) of rank n and $H^1(R, \mathbf{U}(S^n, h_{0,n}))$. Equivalently, for every hermitian space (M, h) of rank n , the set of twisted forms of (M, h) is in bijection with $H^1(R, \mathbf{U}(M, h))$.

Proof For (a) see for example [27, 7.1.10]. In case S is a field, (b) is proven in [47, 4.1]; the same proof works in our setting. (c) Since $h((\tau_h(f) \circ f)(m_1), m_2) = h(f(m_1), f(m_2))$ by (C.6.1), the equation $\tau_h(f) \circ f = \text{Id}_M$, defining $\mathbf{U}(M, h)(T)$, is equivalent to $h \circ (f \times f) = h$, i.e., f is an isometry. (d) follows from [10, 3.5.0.87].

(e) Using C.5 (b), it is straightforward (but somewhat technical) to define the gerbe of hermitian spaces of rank n over the big affine fppf site of $\text{Spec}(R)$. The claim then becomes a special case of [10, 2.2.4.5]. Alternatively (and more down-to-earth), one can easily adjust the notion of a tensor system of [30, 54.7] to apply to hermitian spaces, cf. C.1 (d). The claim then becomes a consequence of the Descent Theorem [30, 54.15]. \square

Remark Since $\mathbf{U}(M, h)$ is smooth, it is known ([54, III, Remark 4.8] or [10, 2.2.5.15]) that the canonical map $H^1_{\text{ét}}(R, \mathbf{U}(M, h)) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^1(R, \mathbf{U}(M, h))$ is a bijection. Thus, one can replace twisted forms with respect to the flat topology in C.6 (e) by twisted forms in the étale topology. The analogous remark applies to C.5 (b).

Proposition C.7 (Parabolic and Levi subgroups of $\mathbf{U}(M, h)$) *Assume (C.3.1), and let (M, h) be a hermitian space over (S, σ) containing a totally isotropic submodule $U \subset M$.*

(a) Then there exists a totally isotropic submodule V and a submodule M' such that

$$M = (U \oplus V) \perp M', \quad (U \oplus V, h|_{U \oplus V}) \cong \mathbb{H}(U), \quad (\text{C.7.1})$$

in particular $(M', h|_{M'})$ is a hermitian space.

- (b) The subgroup scheme P of $G = \mathbf{U}(M, h)$ which stabilizes U is a parabolic subgroup of the reductive R -group scheme G .
- (c) Consider a decomposition $(M, h) = (U \oplus V) \perp M'$ as in (C.7.1), and the embedding $\mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}(U)) \hookrightarrow G$ defined in (C.1.2). Then the R -group scheme $L = \mathfrak{R}_{S/R}(\mathbf{GL}(U)) \times_R \mathbf{U}(M', h|_{M'})$ is a Levi subgroup of P .

Proof (a) Since the trace map $S \rightarrow R$, $s \mapsto s + \sigma(s)$ is surjective [46, III, (4.2.1)], it follows from [46, I, (3.1.1)] that h is an even hermitian module in the sense of [46, I, (3.1)]. The lemma is therefore a consequence of [46, I, (3.7.1)]. That V can be chosen totally isotropic follows from the proof of [46, I, (3.7.1)].

(b) We will use the dynamic method of 5.5. It is easily verified that

$$\lambda: \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow \mathbf{U}(M, h), \quad t \mapsto t \operatorname{Id}_U + t^{-1} \operatorname{Id}_V + 1_{M'}$$

defines a cocharacter. Writing a $g \in \mathbf{U}(M, h)(T)$, $T \in R\text{-}\mathbf{alg}$, as a matrix $g = (g_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq 3}$ with respect to the submodules (U, V, M') , one finds

$$\lambda(t) (g_{ij}) \lambda(t)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & t^2 g_{12} & t g_{13} t^{-2} g_{21} & g_{22} & t^{-1} g_{23} t^{-1} g_{31} & t g_{32} & g_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence, $g \in P_G(\lambda)(T) \Leftrightarrow 0 = g_{21} = g_{31} = g_{23}$, i.e., g stabilizes U and $U^\perp = U \oplus M'$. Since g is an isometry, the latter conditions are equivalent to g stabilizing U .

(c) The centralizer of the cocharacter λ above consists of those g that are diagonal with respect to (U, V, M') . These are easily seen to be the isometries in $L(T)$. The claim then follows from the dynamic method. \square

Remark (1) That P in C.7(b) is parabolic with Levi subgroup L as in (c), is not surprising and likely folklore. It is in the spirit of Appendix T of Conrad's course [15], which identifies the parabolic subgroups for symplectic and special orthogonal groups over fields.

(2) Suppose that M is free of rank $n \geq 2$ and that U has rank i for some $1 \leq i < n/2$. Then P is of type $A_{n-1} \setminus \{i\}$, while the derived group $..$ has absolute type $A_{i-1} \times A_{n-1-i}$ for $i \geq 2$ and type A_{n-2} for $i = 1$.

C.8 Quadratic forms

From now on until the end of this appendix we consider quadratic forms. Thus, we specialize C.1 to $(S, \sigma) = (R, \operatorname{Id})$. Unless stated otherwise, R is arbitrary and, we recall, M is a finite projective R -module. Below is a quick reminder of the basics of quadratic forms over rings; proofs and more can for example be found in [4].

(a) A *quadratic form (over R)* is a pair (M, q) consisting of a finite projective R -module M and a map $q: M \rightarrow R$ satisfying $q(rm) = r^2q(m)$ for all $r \in R$ and $m \in M$ and for which the *polar form* b_q , defined by $b_q(m, m') = q(m + m') - q(m) - q(m')$ for $m, m' \in M$, is a (symmetric) bilinear form on M . We often abbreviate $(M, q) = q$ and refer to (M, q) as a quadratic module. We call (M, q) a *faithful* quadratic R -module if M is a faithfully projective R -module, 2.5. We say that (M, q) is a quadratic module of rank $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if M has constant rank n .

An *isometry* $f: (M_1, q_1) \rightarrow (M_2, q_2)$ is an R -linear isomorphism $f: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ satisfying $q_2 \circ f = q_1$.

If $(M_1, q_1) = (M_2, q_2) = (M, q)$, the isometries of (M, q) form a group $O(M, q) = O(q)$, the *orthogonal group of q* .

(b) (*Regularity*) By definition, a quadratic form q is *regular*, if b_q is regular in the sense of C.1 (d).

(c) (*Base change*) Let $T \in R\text{-alg}$ and let (M, q) be a quadratic form. Analogous to C.1 (f) we consider the T -module $M_T = M \otimes_R T$. There exists a quadratic form (M_T, q_T) uniquely determined by the condition $q_T(m \otimes t) = q(m)t^2$ for all $m \in M$ and $t \in T$ ([30, 11.5], [61, Theorem 1]). The polar of q_T is the base change of the polar b_q of q , i.e., $b_{q_T} = (b_q)_T$. In particular, if q is regular, then so is q_T .

(d) (*Radical*) The *radical* of a quadratic module (M, q) is the submodule $\text{rad}(q) = \{m \in M : q(m) = 0 = b_q(m, M)\}$ of M . Given $T \in R\text{-alg}$, clearly $\text{rad}(q) \otimes_R T \subset \text{rad}(q_T)$. This inclusion is in general not an equality, cf. (e).

(e) (*Nonsingularity*) A quadratic form (M, q) is called *nonsingular* if $\text{rad}(q_F) = 0$ for all fields $F \in R\text{-alg}$. In this case, we call (M, q) a *quadratic space*. We point out that a “quadratic space” in the sense of [4] or [30] is a quadratic module (M, q) with a regular q .

If q is regular, then $\text{rad}(q) = 0$ and hence C.2(ii) implies

$$q \text{ regular} \implies q \text{ nonsingular.} \quad (\text{C.8.1})$$

The converse of (C.8.1) is not true. For example, any $u \in R^\times$ gives rise to a nonsingular quadratic form $\langle u \rangle: R \rightarrow R$, given by $\langle u \rangle(r) = ur^2$ for $r \in R$. Its polar form is the symmetric bilinear form $b_{\langle u \rangle}(r_1, r_2) = 2ur_1r_2$. Hence, $\langle u \rangle$ is regular if and only if $2 \in R^\times$.

However, if $2 \in R^\times$, then $\text{rad}(q) = \{m \in M : b_q(m, M) = 0\}$ for any quadratic form q and so $\text{rad}(q)$ is stable under base change. Hence,

$$\text{if } 2 \in R^\times, \text{ then } q \text{ is nonsingular} \iff q \text{ is regular.} \quad (\text{C.8.2})$$

(f) (*Orthogonality*) Given two quadratic forms (M_1, q_1) and (M_2, q_2) , their *orthogonal sum* is the quadratic form $q_1 \perp q_2$, defined on $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ by $(q_1 \perp q_2)(m_1, m_2) = q_1(m_1) + q_2(m_2)$ for $m_1 \in M_1$ and $m_2 \in M_2$. The polar form of $q_1 \perp q_2$ is the orthogonal sum $b_{q_1 \perp q_2} = b_{q_1} \perp b_{q_2}$ defined in C.1(e).

By C.1 (e), the quadratic form $q = q_1 \perp q_2$ is regular if and only if q_1 and q_2 are regular. Regarding nonsingularity, one easily sees:

$$\begin{aligned} q_1 \perp q_2 \text{ nonsingular} &\implies q_1 \text{ and } q_2 \text{ nonsingular,} \\ q_1 \text{ regular and } q_2 \text{ nonsingular} &\implies q_1 \perp q_2 \text{ nonsingular.} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.8.3})$$

(g) (*Direct products*) Let $R = R_0 \times \cdots \times R_n$ be a direct product. Every R -module M uniquely decomposes $M = M_0 \times \cdots \times M_n$ as a direct product of R_i -modules $M_i = R_i M$. The R -module M is finite projective if and only if every R_i -module M_i is finite projective.

Let (M, q) be a quadratic R -module. Then $b_q(M_i, M_j) = 0$ for $i \neq j$ and (M_i, q_i) with $q_i = q|_{M_i}$ is a quadratic R_i -module. Thus

$$(M, q) = (M_0, q_0) \perp \cdots \perp (M_n, q_n), \quad q_i = q|_{M_i}.$$

The quadratic R -module (M, q) is regular (nonsingular respectively) if and only if every (M_i, q_i) is a regular (nonsingular respectively) quadratic R_i -module.

A standard way to obtain the situation considered here occurs by letting $M = M_0 \times \cdots \times M_n$ be the *rank decomposition* of a finite projective R -module M for which M_i , $0 \leq i \leq n$, is a finite projective R_i -module of constant rank i .

(h) (*Hyperbolic spaces*) Let U be a finite projective R -module. The associated *hyperbolic space* $\mathbb{H}(U)$ is the quadratic module $(U^* \oplus U, \text{hyp})$ with quadratic form $\text{hyp}_U(\varphi \oplus u) = \varphi(u)$, where $\varphi \in U^*$ and $u \in U$. The quadratic form hyp_U is regular, hence nonsingular by (C.8.1). The polar form of hyp is the hyperbolic symmetric bilinear form of C.1 (g). In general, a *hyperbolic space* is a quadratic module (M, q) isometric to some $\mathbb{H}(U)$.

(i) (*Split quadratic forms*) Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$. The quadratic form $q_{0,2m}$ is the hyperbolic form associated with the free R -module R^m . After identifying $R^{m*} = R^m$, it is given on R^{2m} by

$$q_{0,2m}(r_{-m}, \dots, r_{-1}, r_1, \dots, r_m) = \sum_{i=1}^m r_i r_{-i}. \quad (\text{C.8.4})$$

It is regular, hence also nonsingular by (C.8.1). The quadratic form $q_{0,2m+1} = \langle 1 \rangle \perp q_{0,2m}$ on R^{2m+1} , defined by

$$q_{0,2m+1}(r_{-m}, \dots, r_{-1}, r_0, r_1, \dots, r_m) = r_0^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m r_i r_{-i}, \quad (\text{C.8.5})$$

is nonsingular, e.g., by the even rank case, by (C.8.3) and by nonsingularity of $\langle 1 \rangle$, see (e). We will refer to $q_{0,n}$ for n even or odd as the *split quadratic forms*, see Proposition C.9 for a justification for this terminology.

Proposition C.9 *For a faithful quadratic module (M, q) the following are equivalent:*

- (i) q is nonsingular;
 - (ii) q_T is nonsingular for all $T \in \mathbf{alg}$;
 - (iii) $q_{R/\mathfrak{m}}$ is nonsingular for all maximal ideals $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$;
 - (vi) there exists a flat cover (R_1, \dots, R_n) such that each $M \otimes_R R_i$ is a free R_i -module of finite rank r_i and q_{R_i} is the split quadratic form q_{0,r_i} over R_i defined in C.8 (i);
 - (v) q_S is nonsingular for some faithfully flat $S \in \mathbf{alg}$;
- If M has constant rank $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$, then (i)–(v) are equivalent to
- (vi) q is regular if n is even and q is semiregular in the sense of [46, IV, (3.1)] if n is odd;
- If R is a field, then q is nonsingular if and only if
- (vii) q is nondegenerate in the sense of [24, (7.17)], i.e., one of the following two conditions hold:
 - (a) q is regular, or
 - (b) $\text{char}(R) = 2$, $\text{rad}(q) = 0$, $\dim_R \{m \in M : b_q(m, M) = 0\} = 1$, and $\dim_R M$ is odd.

Proof (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) is easy. It is shown in [64, Proposition 1.1, Corollary 1.3] that (i) \Leftrightarrow (iii) \Leftrightarrow (iv)_{ét}, defined as

- (iv)_{ét} there exists an étale cover (R_1, \dots, R_n) of R such that each $M \otimes_R R_i$ is a free R_i -module of finite rank r_i and q_{R_i} is hyperbolic as in (C.8.4) if r_i is even, while q_{R_i} is the orthogonal sum of a hyperbolic form and a 1-dimensional form $\langle a_i \rangle$ with $a_i \in R_i^\times$ in case r_i is odd.

One shows (iv)_{ét} \Rightarrow (iv) as in the proof of C.5 (b) (i) \Rightarrow (ii). If (iv) holds, then (v) is satisfied with $S = R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$. For (v) \Leftrightarrow (i) see [50, Lemma 6.2]. Thus, we proved that (i)–(v) are all equivalent using the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{(ii)} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{(i)} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{(iv)}_{\text{ét}} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{(iii)} \\
 & & \updownarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & \text{(v)} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{(iv)} & &
 \end{array}$$

If R is a field, then (i) \Leftrightarrow (vii) by [24, 7.16]. Again over a field, (vii) implies that q is semiregular in the odd rank case by [46, IV, (3.1.7)]. Finally, if M has constant rank over an arbitrary R , then q is regular, respectively semiregular, if and only if it is so over all residue fields R/\mathfrak{m} ([46, IV; (3.1.5)] for odd rank, C.2 for even rank). Thus, to prove that (vi) is equivalent to q being nonsingular, we can assume that R is a field, in which case the equivalence (vi) \Leftrightarrow (vii) is easily established using [46, IV, (3.1.7)] for a semiregular q . \square

C.10 Quadratic algebras

We recall [46, I, (1.3.6), and III, Section 4] that a *quadratic R -algebra* is an algebra S in $R\text{-}\mathbf{alg}$ whose underlying R -module is projective of rank 2. Here are some properties of quadratic algebras:

(a) A quadratic R -algebra S has a *standard involution* σ_S . If S is free with basis $\{1, z\}$ and hence $z^2 = az + b$ with $a, b \in R$, it is given by $\sigma_S(z) = a - z$. In general, σ_S is defined by Zariski-descent.

(b) (*Automorphisms*) We denote by $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}_R$ the constant group scheme of locally constant functions with values in $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$. By [46, III, (4.1.2)], there exists a natural R -group homomorphism

$$\psi: \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}_R \longrightarrow \mathbf{Aut}_R(S), \quad (\text{C.10.1})$$

which is an isomorphism if S is étale [46, III, (4.1.2)].

(c) (*Example*) Let $S = S_0 \oplus S_1 \in R\text{-}\mathbf{alg}$ be a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -graded R -algebra. We denote by $\mathbf{Aut}(S, S_1)$ the group of R -linear automorphisms of the R -algebra S , i.e., the automorphisms α of S satisfying $\alpha(S_1) = S_1$, and by

$$\mathbf{Aut}(S, S_1) \quad (\text{C.10.2})$$

the R -group scheme representing the R -functor $T \mapsto \mathbf{Aut}(S_T, (S_1)_T)$.

Suppose now that $S = S_0 \oplus S_1$ satisfies

- (i) $R \xrightarrow{\sim} S_0, r \mapsto r1_S$, and
- (ii) $\theta: S_1 \otimes_R S_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} S_0, s_1 \otimes s'_1 \mapsto s_1 s'_1$ (isomorphism of R -modules).

Thus S is a quadratic R -algebra, (S_1, θ) is a discriminant module in the sense of [46, III, Section 3], and its standard involution σ_S is the grading automorphism,

$$\sigma_S(s_i) = (-1)^i s_i, \quad s_i \in S_i, \quad i = 0, 1, \quad (\text{C.10.3})$$

which follows from the free case by localization. We have isomorphisms of R -group schemes

$$\mathbf{Aut}(S, S_1) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{Aut}(S_1, \theta) \xleftarrow{\sim} \mu_{2,R}, \quad (\text{C.10.4})$$

where the first (obvious) isomorphism is obtained by restriction and where the second isomorphism is $x \mapsto x \text{Id}_{S_1}$ [46, III, (3.2.1)].

C.11 Discriminant algebras

Let (M, q) be a faithful quadratic R -space and let $\mathcal{C}\ell(M, q) = \mathcal{C}\ell(q)$ be its Clifford algebra, [46, IV, Section 1]. It is a $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ -graded R -algebra: $\mathcal{C}\ell(q) = \mathcal{C}\ell_0(q) \oplus \mathcal{C}\ell_1(q)$. The *discriminant algebra* $\mathcal{D}is(q)$ of (M, q) is the subalgebra of $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$ centralizing $\mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)$:

$$\mathcal{D}is(q) = \mathcal{C}\ell(q)^{\mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)}.$$

Some facts that we will use (see [46, IV, Section 4]).

(a) Discriminant algebras respect base change and direct products of base rings.

(b) $\mathcal{D} := \text{Dis}(q)$ inherits the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -grading of $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$,

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_1, \quad \mathcal{D}_j = \mathcal{D} \cap \mathcal{C}\ell_j(q), \quad j = 0, 1.$$

It is a quadratic R -algebra in the sense of C.10.

(c) (*The group homomorphism Dis*) By the universal property of the Clifford algebra $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$, every $g \in \text{O}(q)$ induces an automorphism $\mathcal{C}\ell(g)$ of the algebra $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$ stabilizing $\mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)$ and $\mathcal{C}\ell_1(q)$, and hence an automorphism of the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -graded algebra $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_1$. Thus, we get a homomorphism of groups,

$$\text{Dis}: \text{O}(q) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1), \quad g \mapsto \mathcal{C}\ell(g)|_{\mathcal{D}} =: \text{Dis}(g). \quad (\text{C.11.1})$$

(d) (*Even rank*) Assume M has constant even rank. Thus q is regular by C.9(vi). In this case \mathcal{D} is the centre of $\mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)$, in particular $\mathcal{D}_1 = 0$, and \mathcal{D} a quadratic étale R -algebra. Hence, by (C.10.1),

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}) \xleftarrow{\sim} (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_R. \quad (\text{C.11.2})$$

The standard involution $\sigma_{\mathcal{D}}$ of the quadratic R -algebra \mathcal{D} is (of course) the standard involution of the quadratic étale R -algebra \mathcal{D} .

(e) (*Odd rank*) Assume M has constant odd rank. Then the discriminant algebra \mathcal{D} is the centre of $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$: $\mathcal{D} = \text{Z}(\mathcal{C}\ell(q))$. Moreover, $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_1$ is a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -graded R -algebra satisfying the conditions (i) and (ii) of C.10(c). Thus

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1) \cong \mu_{2,R}. \quad (\text{C.11.3})$$

Lemma C.12 (Realizing the standard involution of $\text{Dis}(q)$) *Let (M, q) be a faithful quadratic space, let $x \in M$ with $q(x) \in R^\times$, and let ρ_x be the associated reflection, given by $\rho_x(m) = m - b_q(m, x)q(x)^{-1}x$ for $m \in M$. Then the automorphism $\text{Dis}(\rho_x) \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1)$, $\mathcal{D} = \text{Dis}(q)$, is the standard involution of \mathcal{D} :*

$$\text{Dis}(\rho_x) = \sigma_{\mathcal{D}}. \quad (\text{C.12.1})$$

Proof The element $x \in M \subset \mathcal{C}\ell_1(q)$ is invertible in $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$ with inverse $x^{-1} = q(x)^{-1}x$. We will use the well-known formula relating $\rho_x(m)$, $m \in M$, with the inner automorphism of $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$ induced by x :

$$\rho_x(m) = -xmx^{-1} \quad (\text{C.12.2})$$

which follows from $xmx^{-1} = (xm)(xq(x)^{-1}) = (-mx + b_q(m, x))(xq(x)^{-1}) = -m + b_q(m, x)q(x)^{-1}x = -\sigma_x(m)$. It implies

$$\text{Dis}(\rho_x)(c_j) = (-1)^j xc_jx^{-1}, \quad c_i \in \mathcal{C}\ell_j(q), \quad j = 0, 1.$$

For the proof of (C.12.1), we can without loss of generality assume that M has constant rank.

Suppose M has constant even rank. By [46, IV, (4.3.1.4)], $\sigma_{\mathcal{D}}(d)x = xd$ holds for $d \in \mathcal{D}$. Since $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)$ we get $\mathcal{D}is(\rho_x)(d) = xd x^{-1} = \sigma_{\mathcal{D}}(d)$.

Suppose M has constant odd rank. Since then $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}\ell(q))$, we obtain for $d_j \in \mathcal{D}_j$, $j = 0, 1$, that $\mathcal{D}is(\rho_x)(d_j) = (-1)^j x d_j x^{-1} = (-1)^j d_j x x^{-1} = (-1)^j d_j = \sigma_{\mathcal{D}}(d_j)$ by C.10(c). \square

Lemma C.13 *Let (M, q) be a quadratic space over an LG-ring R .*

(a) *The following are equivalent:*

- (i) $q(M) \cap R^\times \neq \emptyset$;
- (ii) M is faithfully projective.

(b) *If M is faithfully projective, the group homomorphism*

$$\mathcal{D}is: \mathcal{O}(q) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1)$$

of (C.11.1) is surjective.

Proof (a) The equivalence (ai) \Leftrightarrow (aii) is proven in [30, Lemma 11.26] for a regular q . The proof in the nonsingular case is essentially the same. We reproduce it here for the convenience of the reader.

Assuming (ai), it follows that $q(M) \not\subset \mathfrak{m}$ for every maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft R$. In particular, $M_{R_{\mathfrak{m}}} \neq 0$, which, by 2.5, implies (aii).

Conversely, suppose that M is faithfully projective. We can view q as a quadratic polynomial on the affine scheme $\mathbf{W}(M)$ and define $U = \mathbf{W}(M)_q$, the principal open subscheme determined by q . Let \mathfrak{m} be a maximal ideal of R , put $k = R/\mathfrak{m}$ and observe that $M_k \neq 0$ by 2.5, while $\text{rad}(q_k) = 0$ by nonsingularity of q , in particular $q_k \neq 0$. Hence $U(k) = \{m \in M_k : q_k(m) \neq 0\} \neq \emptyset$, and so $U(R) \neq \emptyset$ by 2.4(a), i.e., (ai) holds.

(b) Applying the rank decomposition of quadratic modules C.8(g) and C.11(a), we see that we can assume that M has constant rank r .

Assume that r is odd. By C.11(e) and (C.10.4), an automorphism $g \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1)$ has the form $g|_{\mathcal{D}_0} = \text{Id}$ and $g|_{\mathcal{D}_1} = x \text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}_1}$ for some $\det(g) = x \in \mu_2(R)$. Observe $x \text{Id}_M \in \mathcal{O}(q)$. By construction of $\mathcal{C}\ell(q)$, the orthogonal map $x \text{Id}_M$ acts on $\mathcal{C}\ell_0(q)$ as identity, and on $\mathcal{C}\ell_1(q)$ as $x \text{Id}$. Thus $\mathcal{D}is(x \text{Id}_M) = g$.

Assume that r is even. By C.11(d) and the proof of [46, III, (4.1.2)], to every $g \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{D})$ one can associate a unique complete system $(\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1 = 1 - \varepsilon_0)$ of orthogonal idempotents ε_i , such that g stabilizes $\varepsilon_i \mathcal{D}$ and satisfies $g|_{\varepsilon_0 \mathcal{D}} = \text{Id}$, $g|_{\varepsilon_1 \mathcal{D}}$ is the standard involution of the quadratic étale $\varepsilon_1 R$ -algebra $\varepsilon_1 \mathcal{D}$. By 2.1(a), $\varepsilon_1 R$ is an LG-ring. Hence, by C.8(g), we can assume that $R = \varepsilon_1 R$, and have to show that there exists $f \in \mathcal{O}(q)$ such that $\mathcal{D}is(f) = \sigma_{\mathcal{D}}$. Since $q(M) \cap R^\times \neq \emptyset$ by (a), this follows from (C.12.1). \square

C.14 Orthogonal group schemes

Let (M, q) be a quadratic form over R . The R -group functor $\mathbf{O}(q)$, assigning to $T \in R\text{-alg}$ the group $\mathbf{O}(q)(T) = \mathbf{O}(q_T)$ is represented by an affine finitely presented R -group scheme $\mathbf{O}(q)$, [10, Definition 4.1.0.2] or [13, p. 364]. Properties that we will use:

(a) (*Direct products*) Let $R = R_0 \times \cdots \times R_n$ be a direct product. Orthogonal groups respect the decomposition of C.8 (g) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{O}(q) &= \mathbf{O}(q_0) \times \cdots \times \mathbf{O}(q_n), \\ \mathbf{O}(M, q) &\cong p_{0*}(\mathbf{O}(M_0, q_0)) \times \cdots \times p_{n*}(\mathbf{O}(M_n, q_n)) \\ &\quad (\text{isomorphism of } R\text{-group schemes}) \end{aligned}$$

where $p_i: \text{Spec}(R_i) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$ is the morphism associated with the canonical projection $R \rightarrow R_i$.

(b) $\mathbf{O}(q)$ is in general not reductive. For example [13, Theorem C.1.5], if (M, q) has constant positive rank n , then $\mathbf{O}(q)$ is smooth if and only if either n is even or n is odd and $2 \in R^\times$.

(c) The homomorphism $\mathcal{D}is$ of (C.11.1) respects base change and thus defines a homomorphism of R -group schemes

$$\mathcal{D}is: \mathbf{O}(q) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1), \quad \mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}is(q), \quad (\text{C.14.1})$$

assigning to $T \in R\text{-alg}$ the map $\mathcal{D}is(T): \mathbf{O}(q_T) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{D}_T, \mathcal{D}_{1,T})$.

Lemma C.15 (Cohomology) Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$. The map

$$[(M, q)] \mapsto [\underline{\text{Isom}}((R^n, q_{0,n}), (M, q))]$$

is a bijection between the set of isometry classes of quadratic spaces over R of rank n and $H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(q_{0,n}))$. Equivalently, for every quadratic space (M, q) of rank n , the set of twisted forms of (M, q) is in bijection with $H^1(R, \mathbf{O}(M, q))$.

Proof This can be proven in the same way as C.6(e), replacing the reference C.5 (b) used there by C.9. \square

It may be appropriate to remind the reader that we are using fppf-cohomology which does in general not coincide with étale cohomology, see C.14 (b). In this respect, the description of the Galois cohomology set $H_{\text{Gal}}^1(R, \mathbf{O}(q))$ in characteristic 2 [47, p. 408] is instructive.

C.17 Special orthogonal group scheme $\mathbf{SO}(q)$

Let (M, q) be a faithful quadratic R -space, and let $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}is(q)$ be its discriminant algebra. We define the R -group scheme as the kernel of the homomorphism $\mathcal{D}is$ of

(C.14.1):

$$\mathbf{SO}(q) = \mathrm{Ker}(\mathrm{Dis}). \quad (\text{C.16.1})$$

Thus, for $T \in R\text{-alg}$ we have $\mathbf{SO}(q)(T) = \{g \in \mathrm{O}(q_T) : \mathrm{Dis}(g) = \mathrm{Id}_{\mathrm{Dis}(q_T)}\}$. Since the inclusion $\mathrm{inc} : \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{D})$ is a monomorphism, this definition coincides with the one of [46, IV, (5.1)], where $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ is defined as the kernel of $\mathrm{inc} \circ \mathrm{Dis}$. The discussion below shows that it also agrees with the definition used in [13, Appendix C]. However, it coincides with the definition of $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ in [10, Section 4.3] only in the even rank case. Following is a list of properties of $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ that we will use.

(a) (*Direct products*) Let $R = R_0 \times \cdots \times R_n$ be a direct product of rings, and let $(M, q) = (M_0, q_0) \times \cdots \times (M_n, q_n)$ be the corresponding decomposition into a direct product of quadratic R_i -modules, C.8 (g). Analogously to C.14 (a), we have

$$\mathbf{SO}(M, q) \cong p_{1*}(\mathbf{SO}(M_1, q_1)) \times \cdots \times p_{n*}(\mathbf{SO}(M_n, q_n)) \quad (\text{C.16.2})$$

into a direct product of R -group schemes. It will follow from this and the discussion below that, in general, $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ is a reductive R -group scheme which is semisimple if $\mathrm{rank} M \geq 3$.

(b) (*SO and determinants*) By [46, IV, (5.1.1)] we have a group homomorphism

$$\det : \mathbf{O}(q) \longrightarrow \mu_{2,R}, \quad g \mapsto \det(g). \quad (\text{C.16.3})$$

We always have $\mathbf{SO}(q) \subset \mathrm{Ker}(\det)$; equality holds if M has constant odd rank or if $2 \in R^\times$. This is proven in [46, IV, (5.1.1)], but note the misprint in (3) of loc. cit., where “ \subset ” should be “ $=$ ”, as one can see from the proof.

(c) (*Odd rank*) Let (M, q) be a quadratic space of odd rank. Then the morphism $z_M : \mu_{2,R} \longrightarrow \mathbf{O}(q)$, $x \mapsto x \mathrm{Id}_M$, is a section of \det . Hence, by (b),

$$\mathbf{O}(q) \cong \mu_2 \times_R \mathbf{SO}(q). \quad (\text{C.16.4})$$

If M has constant rank 1, then $\mathbf{SO}(q) = \{\star\}$, and if M has constant odd rank $2n+1 \geq 3$, then $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ is an adjoint semisimple R -group scheme of type B_n ($B_1 = A_1$ for $n = 1$) [13, Proposition C.3.10].

(d) (*Even rank*) Let (M, q) be a quadratic space of even rank $2n \geq 2$. Then q is regular by C.9, and the following hold.

(i) Since the map ψ of (C.10.1) is an isomorphism, the *Dickson map*

$$\mathrm{Dick} := \psi^{-1} \circ \mathrm{Dis} : \mathbf{O}(q) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}_R$$

is a group homomorphism satisfying $\mathbf{SO}(q) = \mathrm{Ker}(\mathrm{Dick})$. Moreover, by [13, C.2.8] or [46, IV, (5.2.2)], the sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow \mathbf{SO}(q) \longrightarrow \mathbf{O}(q) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Dick}} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}_R \longrightarrow 1 \quad (\text{C.16.5})$$

is exact.

- (ii) If M has constant rank 2, then $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ is a rank one torus. Indeed, by descent, we are reduced to the hyperbolic case $q = xy$ where $\mathbf{SO}(q) = \mathbb{G}_m$ [46, IV, 5.1.3 and V, (2.6.3)].
 - (iii) If M has constant rank $2n \geq 4$, then $\mathbf{SO}(q)$ is a semisimple R -group scheme of type D_n [13, C.3.10].
- (e) Suppose $M = U \oplus V$ such that $q(U) = 0 = q(V)$ and $(M, q) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{H}(U)$ under an isometry identifying V with U^* . Then, associating with $g \in \mathbf{GL}(U)$ the map $M \rightarrow M$, $(u, v) \mapsto (gu, g^{-1}v)$, gives rise to a closed embedding of R -group schemes

$$\mathbf{GL}(U) \longrightarrow \mathbf{SO}(q). \quad (\text{C.16.6})$$

Proposition C.17 (Parabolic and Levi subgroups of $\mathbf{SO}(q)$) *Let (M, q) be a quadratic space, let U and V be faithfully projective submodules and let $M' \subset M$ be a submodule such that*

$$M = (U \oplus V) \perp M', \quad q(U) = 0 = q(V), \quad (U \oplus V, q|_{U \oplus V}) \cong \mathbb{H}(U).$$

- (a) *The subgroup scheme P of $\mathbf{SO}(q)$, which stabilizes U , is a parabolic subgroup of $\mathbf{SO}(q)$.*
- (b) *Moreover, $\mathbf{GL}(U) \times \mathbf{SO}(q|_{M'})$ is a Levi subgroup of P , where the first factor embeds into P using the embedding $\mathbf{GL}(U) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(q|_{U \oplus V}) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(q)$ of (C.16.6).*

Proof This can be shown in the same way as parts (b) and (c) of C.7, using the same cocharacter. \square

Acknowledgements We thank Skip Garibaldi and Holger Petersson for having aroused our interest in LG-rings and for comments on an earlier version of this paper. We also thank Laurent Moret-Bailly for correspondence regarding Example 3.15. Last, not least we thank the referee for a very thorough report.

Declarations

Competing interests The authors declare no competing interests.

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