



Algebraic group actions on noncommutative spectra

*Special Session on Brauer Groups, Quadratic Forms, Algebraic
Groups, and Lie Algebras — NCSU 04/04/2009*

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- **Background:** enveloping algebras and quantized coordinate algebras



Overview

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- Tool: the **Amitsur-Martindale ring of quotients**



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- **Rational** and primitive ideals



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- Tool: the **Amitsur-Martindale ring of quotients**
- **Rational** and primitive ideals
- **Stratification** of the prime spectrum (if time)



References

- “*Group actions and rational ideals*”,
Algebra and Number Theory **2** (2008), 467-499
- “*Algebraic group actions on noncommutative spectra*”,
Transformation Groups (to appear)

Both articles & the **pdf file of this talk** available on my web page:

<http://math.temple.edu/~lorenz/>



I will work / base field $\mathbb{k} = \bar{\mathbb{k}}$



Background



Enveloping algebras

Goal: For $R = U(\mathfrak{g})$, the enveloping algebra of a finite-dim'l Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} , describe

$\text{Prim } R = \{\text{primitive ideals of } R\}$

kernels of irreducible (generally infinite-dimensional)

representations $R \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{k}}(V)$



Jacques Dixmier (* 1924)



in Reims, Dec. 2008

- former secretary of Bourbaki
- Ph.D. advisor of A. Connes, M. Duflo, ...
- author of several influential monographs:

Les algèbres d'opérateurs dans l'espace hilbertien: algèbres de von Neumann, Gauthier-Villars, 1957

Les C^ -algèbres et leurs représentations*, Gauthier-Villars, 1969

Algèbres enveloppantes, Gauthier-Villars, 1974



Dixmier's Problem 11

from *Algèbres enveloppantes*, 1974 :

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PROBLÈMES

10. On suppose que $\text{tr ad } x = 0$ pour tout $x \in \mathfrak{g}$. Est ce que $Z(\mathfrak{g}) \neq k$?

11. Soient \mathfrak{f} un idéal de \mathfrak{g} , I un idéal primitif de $U(\mathfrak{g})$. Les propriétés suivantes sont-elles vraies : (a) il existe un idéal primitif de $U(\mathfrak{f})$ générique pour $U(\mathfrak{f}) \cap I$; (b) deux tels idéaux sont conjugués par le groupe adjoint algébrique de \mathfrak{g} ; (c) soit L un tel idéal; il existe une représentation simple σ de \mathfrak{f} de noyau L , et une représentation simple ρ de $\mathfrak{st}(\sigma, \mathfrak{g})$, telles que $\rho|_{\mathfrak{f}}$ soit un multiple de σ et que $\text{ind}(\rho, \mathfrak{g})$ soit simple de noyau I . Cf. 4.5.9, 5.4.3, 5.4.4, 5.6.5.



Dixmier's Problem 11

- Problem 11 for \mathfrak{k} solvable, $\text{char } \mathbb{k} = 0$

Dixmier, *Sur les idéaux génériques dans les algèbres enveloppantes*,
Bull. Sci. Math. (2) **96** (1972), 17–26. \rightsquigarrow existence: (a)

Borho, Gabriel, Rentschler, *Primideale in Einhüllenden auflösbarer Lie-Algebren*,
Springer Lect. Notes in Math. 357 (1973). \rightsquigarrow uniqueness: (b)

- for noetherian or Goldie rings $R / \text{char } \mathbb{k} = 0$:
Mœglin & Rentschler

Orbites d'un groupe algébrique dans l'espace des idéaux rationnels d'une algèbre enveloppante, Bull. Soc. Math. France **109** (1981), 403–426.

Sur la classification des idéaux primitifs des algèbres enveloppantes, Bull. Soc. Math. France **112** (1984), 3–40.

Sous-corps commutatifs ad-stables des anneaux de fractions des quotients des algèbres enveloppantes; espaces homogènes et induction de Mackey, J. Funct. Anal. **69** (1986), 307–396.

Idéaux G -rationnels, rang de Goldie, preprint, 1986.



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Idéaux G -rationnels, rang de Goldie, preprint, 1986.



- under weaker Goldie hypotheses / $\text{char } \mathbb{k}$ arbitrary:
N. Vonesen

Actions of algebraic groups on the spectrum of rational ideals,
J. Algebra **182** (1996), 383–400.

Actions of algebraic groups on the spectrum of rational ideals. II,
J. Algebra **208** (1998), 216–261.



Quantum groups

Goal: For $R = \mathcal{O}_q(\mathbb{k}^n)$, $\mathcal{O}_q(M_n)$, $\mathcal{O}_q(G) \dots$ a quantized coordinate ring, describe

$$\text{Spec } R = \{\text{prime ideals of } R\} \supseteq \text{Prim } R$$



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Typically, some algebraic torus T acts rationally by \mathbb{k} -algebra automorphisms on R ; so have

$$\text{Spec } R \longrightarrow \text{Spec}^T R = \{T\text{-stable primes of } R\}$$

$$P \longmapsto P : T = \bigcap_{g \in T} g.P$$





T -stratification of $\text{Spec } R$

(Goodearl & Letzter, ... ; see the monograph by Brown & Goodearl)

$$\text{Spec } R = \bigsqcup_{I \in \text{Spec}^T R} \text{Spec}_I R$$

$$\{P \in \text{Spec } R \mid P : T = I\}$$





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Notation

For the remainder of this talk,

R denotes an associative \mathbb{k} -algebra (with 1)

G is an affine algebraic \mathbb{k} -group acting rationally on R ;
so R is a $\mathbb{k}[G]$ -comodule algebra.

Equivalently, we have a rational representation

$$\rho = \rho_R: G \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}_{\mathbb{k}\text{-alg}}(R) \subseteq \mathbf{GL}(R)$$



Tool: The Amitsur-Martindale ring of quotients



Original references

for prime rings R :

W. S. Martindale, III, *Prime rings satisfying a generalized polynomial identity*, J. Algebra **12** (1969), 576–584.

for general R :

S. A. Amitsur, *On rings of quotients*, Symposia Math., Vol. VIII, Academic Press, London, 1972, pp. 149–164.



The definition

In brief,

$$Q_r(R) = \varinjlim_{I \in \mathcal{E}} \text{Hom}(I_R, R_R)$$

where $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(R)$ is the filter of all $I \trianglelefteq R$ such that $l.\text{ann}_R I = 0$.



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Explicitly, elements of $Q_r(R)$ are equivalence classes of right R -module maps

$$f: I_R \rightarrow R_R \quad (I \in \mathcal{E}),$$

the map f being equivalent to $f': I'_R \rightarrow R_R$ ($I' \in \mathcal{E}$) if $f = f'$ on some $J \subseteq I \cap I'$, $J \in \mathcal{E}$.



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Addition and multiplication of $Q_r(R)$ come from addition and composition of R -module maps.



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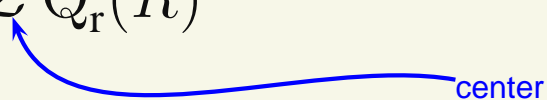
where $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(R)$ is the filter of all $I \trianglelefteq R$ such that $\text{l.ann}_R I = 0$.

Sending $r \in R$ to the equivalence class of $\lambda_r: R \rightarrow R, x \mapsto rx$, yields an embedding of R as a subring of $Q_r(R)$.



Extended centroid

Defⁿ: The **extended centroid** of R is defined by

$$\mathcal{C}(R) = \mathcal{Z} Q_r(R)$$


Fact: If R is prime then $\mathcal{C}(R)$ is a \mathbb{k} -field.



Examples

- If R is **simple**, or a finite product of simple rings, then

$$Q_r(R) = R$$



Examples

- If R is **simple**, or a finite product of simple rings, then

$$Q_r(R) = R$$

- For R **semiprime right Goldie**,

$$Q_r(R) = \{q \in Q_{\text{cl}}(R) \mid qI \subseteq R \text{ for some } I \triangleleft R \text{ with } \text{ann}_R I = 0\}$$

In particular,

$$C(R) = ZQ_{\text{cl}}(R)$$

classical quotient ring of R



Examples

- $R = U(\mathfrak{g})/I$ a semiprime image of the enveloping algebra of a finite-dimensional Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} . Then

$$Q_r(R) = \{ \text{ad } \mathfrak{g}\text{-finite elements of } Q_{cl}(R) \}$$



Rational Ideals



Definition

Want: an **intrinsic** characterization of “primitivity”, ideally

in detail . . .



Definition

Definition:

- Recall that $\mathcal{C}(R/P)$ is a \mathbb{k} -field for any $P \in \text{Spec } R$. We call P **rational** if $\mathcal{C}(R/P) = \mathbb{k}$.

“coeur”

“Herz”

“heart”

“core”



Definition

Definition:

- Recall that $\mathcal{C}(R/P)$ is a \mathbb{k} -field for any $P \in \text{Spec } R$. We call P **rational** if $\mathcal{C}(R/P) = \mathbb{k}$.
- Put $\text{Rat } R = \{P \in \text{Spec } R \mid P \text{ is rational}\}$; so

$$\text{Rat } R \subseteq \text{Spec } R$$

“coeur”

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Connection with irreducible representations

Given an irreducible representation $f: R \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{k}}(V)$, let $P = \text{Ker } f$ be the corresponding primitive ideal of R .



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$$\mathcal{C}(R/P) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\text{End}_R(V))$$



Connection with irreducible representations

Given an irreducible representation $f: R \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{k}}(V)$, let $P = \text{Ker } f$ be the corresponding primitive ideal of R .

- There **always** is an embedding of \mathbb{k} -fields

$$\mathcal{C}(R/P) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\text{End}_R(V))$$

- **Typically**, $\text{End}_R(V) = \mathbb{k}$ (“weak Nullstellensatz”); in this case

$$\text{Prim } R \subseteq \text{Rat } R$$



Examples

The weak Nullstellensatz holds for

- R any affine \mathbb{k} -algebra, \mathbb{k} uncountable Amitsur
- R an affine PI-algebra Kaplansky
- $R = U(\mathfrak{g})$ “Quillen’s Lemma”
- $R = \mathbb{k}\Gamma$ with Γ polycyclic-by-finite Hall, L.
- many quantum groups: $\mathcal{O}_q(\mathbb{k}^n)$, $\mathcal{O}_q(M_n(\mathbb{k}))$, $\mathcal{O}_q(G)$, \dots



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- many quantum groups: $\mathcal{O}_q(\mathbb{k}^n)$, $\mathcal{O}_q(M_n(\mathbb{k}))$, $\mathcal{O}_q(G)$, ...

In fact, in all these examples except the first, it has been shown that, under mild restrictions on \mathbb{k} or q ,

$$\text{Prim } R = \text{Rat } R$$



Group action: G -prime and G -rational ideals

The G -action on R induces actions on $\{\text{ideals of } R\}$, $\text{Spec } R$, $\text{Rat } R$,
.... As usual, $G \backslash ?$ denotes the orbit sets in question.

Definition: A proper G -stable ideal $I \triangleleft R$ is called **G -prime** if
 $A, B \trianglelefteq_{G\text{-stab}} R$, $AB \subseteq I \Rightarrow A \subseteq I$ or $B \subseteq I$. Put

$$G\text{-Spec } R = \{G\text{-prime ideals of } R\}$$



Group action: G -prime and G -rational ideals

Propⁿ The assignment $\gamma: P \mapsto P : G = \bigcap_{g \in G} g.P$ yields
surjections

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec } R & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & G\text{-Spec } R \\ \text{can.} \downarrow & & \nearrow \\ G \backslash \text{Spec } R & & \end{array}$$



Group action: G -prime and G -rational ideals

Definition: Let $I \in G\text{-Spec } R$. The group G acts on $\mathcal{C}(R/I)$ and the invariants $\mathcal{C}(R/I)^G$ are a \mathbb{k} -field. We call I **G -rational** if $\mathcal{C}(R/I)^G = \mathbb{k}$. Put

$$G\text{-Rat } R = \{G\text{-rational ideals of } R\}$$



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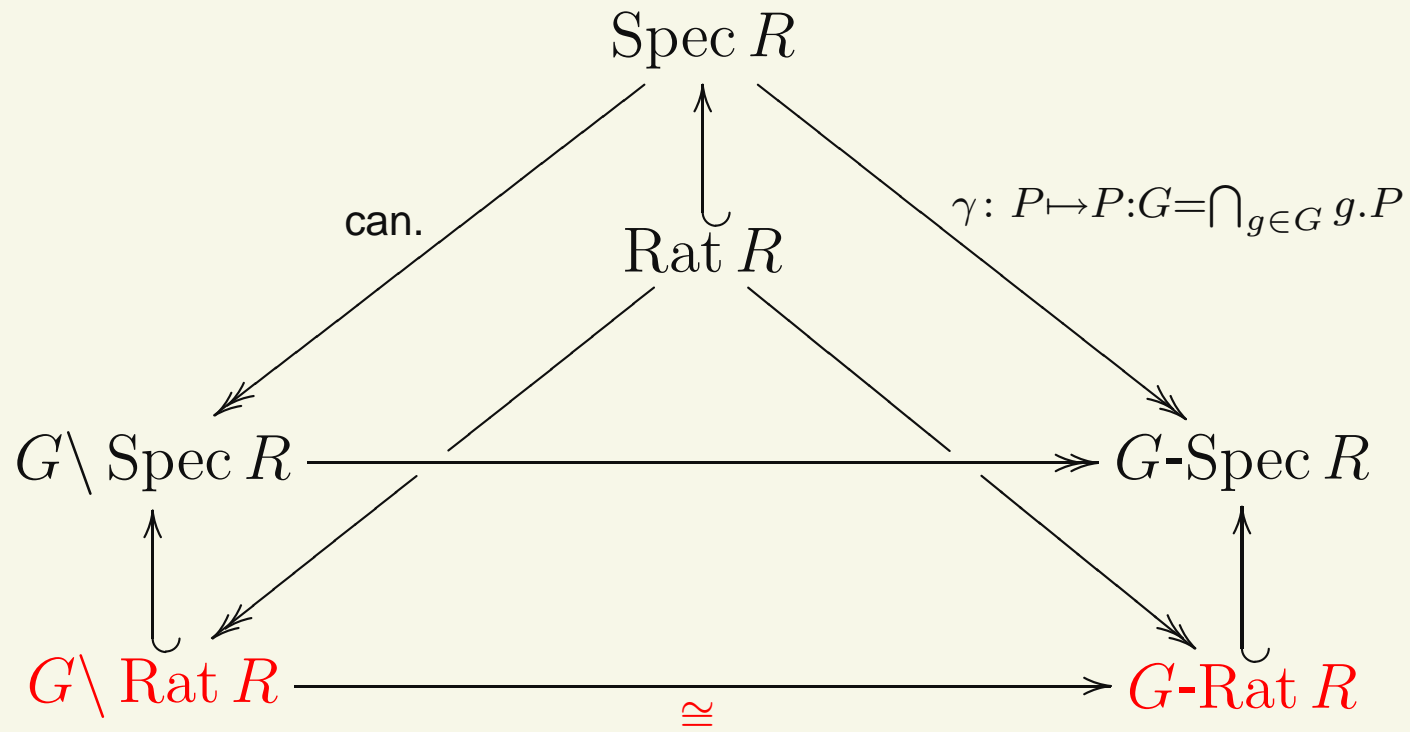
The following result solves Dixmier's Problem # 11 (a),(b) for arbitrary algebras.

Theorem 1

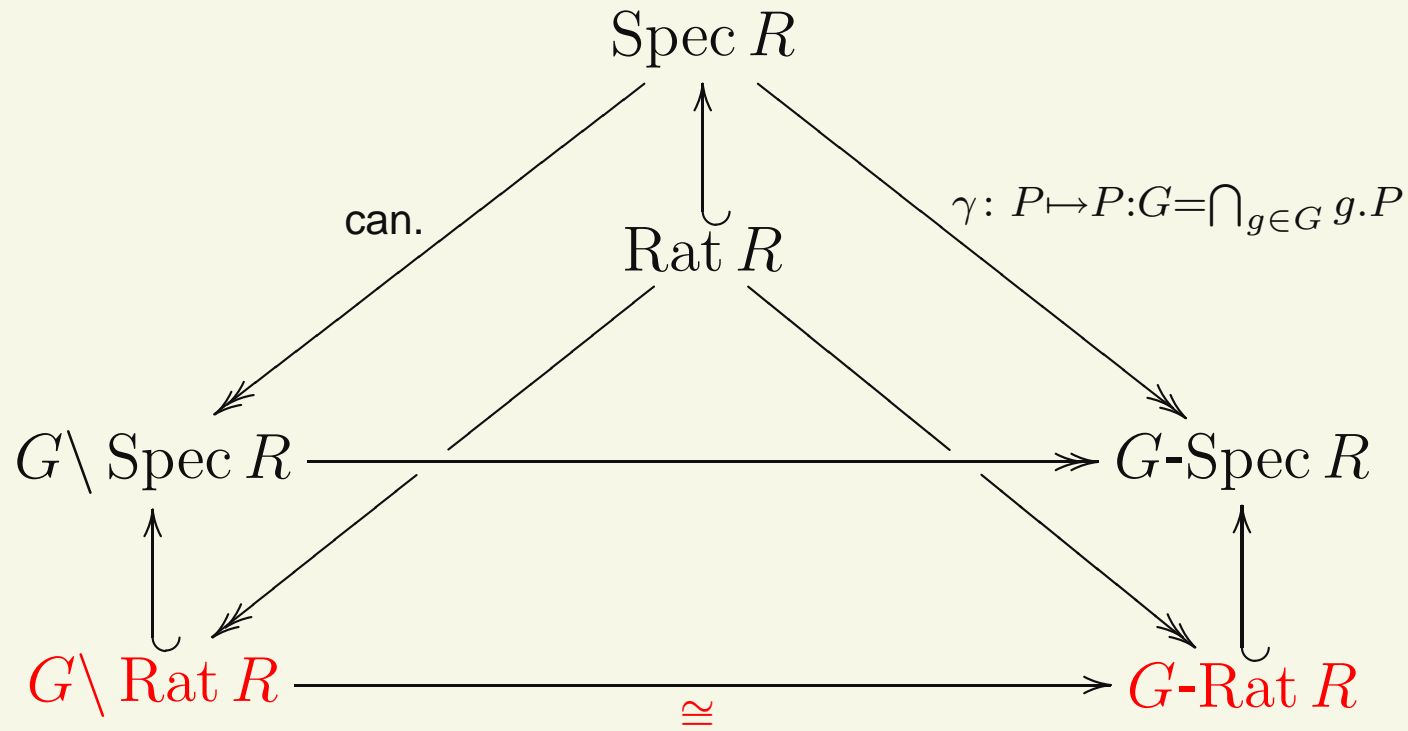
$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \setminus \text{Rat } R & \xrightarrow{\text{bij.}} & G\text{-Rat } R \\ \Psi & & \Psi \\ G.P & \mapsto & \bigcap_{g \in G} g.P \end{array}$$



Noncommutative spectra



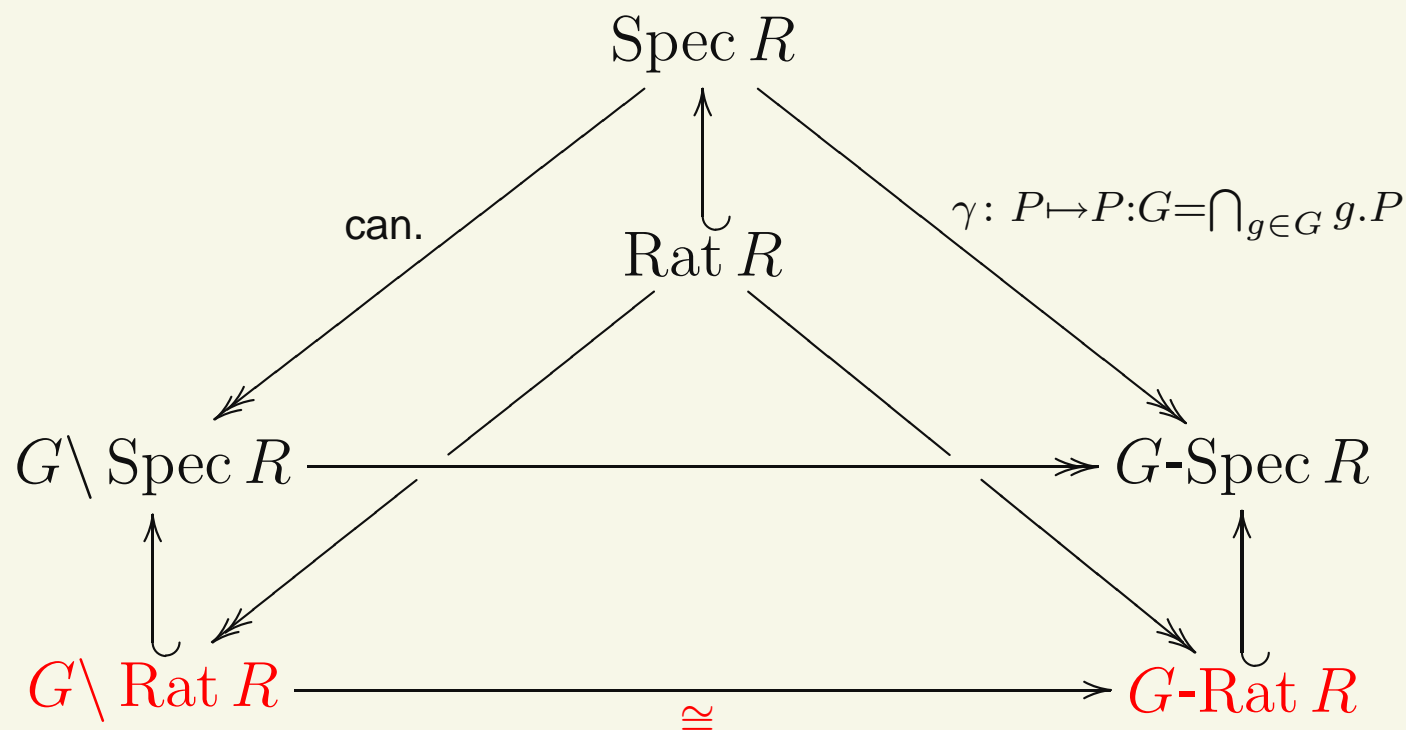
Noncommutative spectra



$\text{Spec } R$ carries the **Jacobson-Zariski topology**: closed subsets are those of the form $\mathbf{V}(I) = \{P \in \text{Spec } R \mid P \supseteq I\}$ where $I \subseteq R$.



Noncommutative spectra



\dashrightarrow is a surjection whose target has the final topology,

\hookrightarrow is an inclusion whose source has the induced topology, and



\cong is a homeomorphism, from Thm 1

Recall: $\text{locally closed} = \text{open} \cap \text{closed}$



Theorem 2 *If $P \in \text{Rat } R$ then:*

$$\{P\} \text{ loc. cl. in } \text{Spec } R \iff \{P:G\} \text{ loc. cl. in } G\text{-Spec } R$$

Cor *If $P \in \text{Rat } R$ is loc. closed in $\text{Spec } R$ then the orbit $G.P$ is open in its closure in $\text{Rat } R$.*



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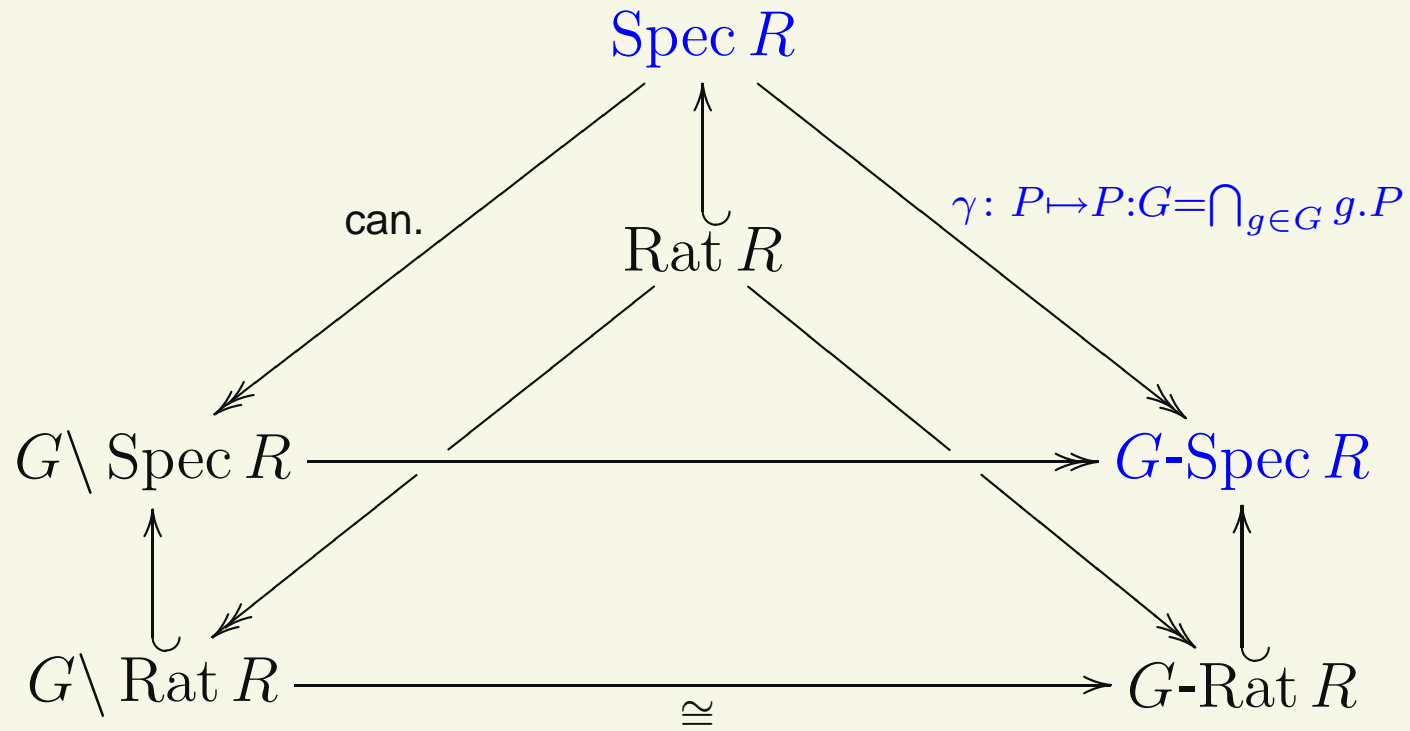
Proof of Cor: $P:G \in G\text{-Spec } R$ is locally closed by Theorem 2, and hence so is its preimage under $f: \text{Rat } R \hookrightarrow \text{Spec } R \xrightarrow{\gamma} G\text{-Spec } R$. Finally, $f^{-1}(P:G) = G.P$ by Theorem 1.



Stratification of the prime spectrum



Goal



Next, we turn to the map $\gamma \dots$



Goal

Recall: $\gamma: \text{Spec } R \rightarrow G\text{-Spec } R$ yields the **G -stratification** of $\text{Spec } R$

$$\text{Spec } R = \bigsqcup_{I \in G\text{-Spec } R} \text{Spec}_I R$$

Main goal: describe the G -strata

$$\text{Spec}_I R = \gamma^{-1}(I) = \{P \in \text{Spec } R \mid P:G = I\}$$



Goal

For simplicity, I assume G to be **connected**; so $\mathbb{k}[G]$ is a domain.
In particular,

$$G\text{-Spec } R = \text{Spec}^G R = \{G\text{-stable primes of } R\}$$

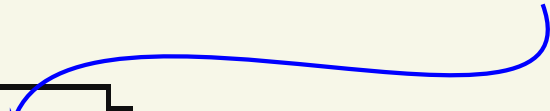


The rings T_I

For a given $I \in G\text{-Spec } R$, put

$$T_I = \mathcal{C}(R/I) \otimes \mathbb{k}(G)$$

Fract $\mathbb{k}[G]$



This is a **commutative** domain, a tensor product of two fields.



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G -actions:

- on $\mathcal{C}(R/I)$ via the given action $\rho: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{k}\text{-alg}}(R)$
- on $\mathbb{k}(G)$ by the right and left regular actions $\rho_r: (x.f)(y) = f(yx)$ and $\rho_\ell: (x.f)(y) = f(x^{-1}y)$
- on T_I by $\rho \otimes \rho_r$ and $\text{Id} \otimes \rho_\ell$ ← commute



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This is a **commutative** domain, a tensor product of two fields.

Put

$$\text{Spec}^G T_I = \{(\rho \otimes \rho_r)(G)\text{-stable primes of } T_I\}$$



Theorem 3 *There is a bijection*

$$c: \operatorname{Spec}_I R \longrightarrow \operatorname{Spec}^G T_I$$

having the following properties:

- (a) *G -equivariance: $c(g.P) = (\operatorname{Id} \otimes \rho_\ell)(g)(c(P))$;*
- (b) *inclusions: $P \subseteq P' \iff c(P) \subseteq c(P')$;*
- (c) *hearts: $\mathcal{C}(T_I/c(P)) \cong \mathcal{C}(R/P \otimes \mathbb{k}(G))$ as $\mathbb{k}(G)$ -fields;*
- (d) *rationality: P is rational $\iff T_I/c(P) = \mathbb{k}(G)$.*



Stratification Theorem

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- (d) ***rationality**: P is rational $\iff T_I/c(P) = \mathbb{k}(G)$.*



Cor: Rational ideals are maximal in their strata

Rudolf Rentschler (PhD 1967 Munich)

