

**3.** Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $X = \text{Spec } A$ . Defining an action of  $\mathbb{G}_m$  on  $X$  is equivalent to defining a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -gradation on  $A$ . Prove this correspondence and generalize it to an action of the algebraic torus  $\mathbb{G}_m^r$ .

Recall that given a scheme  $S$ , in the category of  $S$ -schemes an action of a group scheme  $G$  on a scheme  $X$  is a map

$$\sigma : G \times_S X \rightarrow X,$$

satisfying the following two axioms:

1. associativity, i.e.

$$\sigma \circ (\text{Id}_G \times \sigma) = \sigma \circ (m \times \text{Id}_X),$$

where  $m : G \times_S G \rightarrow G$  is the group law on  $G$ ;

2. unitality, i.e.

$$\sigma \circ (e \times \text{Id}_X) = \text{Id}_X,$$

where  $e : S \rightarrow G$  is the identity section of  $G$ .

In our case  $S = \text{Spec } \mathbb{F}$ ,  $G = \mathbb{G}_m$ ,  $X = \text{Spec } A$  for some  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra  $A$ . The map  $\sigma$  corresponds to some map of rings

$$A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[t, t^{-1}] \simeq A[t, t^{-1}].$$

Analyzing further the corresponding maps of rings, we conclude that the associativity axiom says that the maps

$$A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[t, t^{-1}] \xrightarrow{\varphi \otimes \text{Id}} A[t, t^{-1}, s, s^{-1}],$$

$$A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[t, t^{-1}] \xrightarrow{t \mapsto ts} A[t, t^{-1}, s, s^{-1}]$$

have to coincide.

Analogically, the unitality axioms says that the map

$$A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A[t, t^{-1}] \xrightarrow{t \mapsto 1} A$$

must be the identity map of  $A$ .

Now suppose that we have a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -gradation  $A = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} A_n$ . We can define an  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear map  $\varphi : A \rightarrow A \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[t, t^{-1}]$  by putting

$$\varphi(a) = a \otimes t^n \quad \text{for } a \in A_n.$$

The definition of gradations ensures that it is a map of rings and one can easily check that it satisfies the desired axioms.

Conversely, suppose that we have a map  $\varphi : A \rightarrow A \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[t, t^{-1}]$  satisfying the above axioms. The natural way to proceed is to take

$$A_n = \{a \in A : \varphi(a) = a \otimes t^n\}.$$

Clearly  $A_n$ 's are additive groups,  $A_n \cap A_m = \{0\}$  for  $n \neq m$ , and  $A_n A_m \subseteq A_{n+m}$ . It remains to show that  $A = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} A_n$ .

For any  $a \in A$  there are uniquely determined  $a_n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$\varphi(a) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} a_n \otimes t^n.$$

Observe that the associativity axioms implies the identity

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \varphi(a_n) s^n = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} a_n t^n s^n,$$

so  $\varphi(a_n) = a_n \otimes t^n$ , i.e.  $a_n \in A_n$ . Now the unitality axiom implies that

$$a = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} a_n,$$

which completes the proof.

It is easy to see that in a more general situation  $G = \mathbb{G}_m^r$  a group action is equivalent to a  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ -gradation on  $A$ . The above proof works without any change. For a given map  $\varphi : A \rightarrow A[t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}]$  the associated gradation is given by

$$A_{s_1, \dots, s_n} = \{a \in A : \varphi(a) = a t_1^{s_1} \dots t_n^{s_n}\}.$$