

GENERALIZED MATRICES

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Introduction. Similar to the multiplication of square matrices one can define multiplications for three dimensional matrices, i.e., for the “cubes” of the vector space

$$\mathcal{W}(I, K) := \{ \mathcal{A} = (\alpha_{xyz})_{x,y,z \in I}; \alpha_{xyz} \in K \}$$

where I denotes a finite set of indices and K is any field. The multiplications shall imitate the matrix multiplication: To obtain the coefficient γ_{xyz} of the product $(\gamma_{xyz}) = (\alpha_{xyz})(\beta_{xyz})$, all coefficients α_{xij} , $i, j \in I$, of the horizontal plane with index x of (α_{xyz}) are multiplied with certain coefficients β_{hgz} of the vertical plane with index z of (β_{xyz}) and the results are added:

$$(M) \quad \gamma_{xyz} := \sum_{i, j \in I} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{h(xyzij), g(xyzij), z}$$

where the mappings $h, g: I^5 \rightarrow I$ determine the multiplication rule (M) in detail.

The aim of this paper is to construct and to interpret all possible multiplications of type (M) on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ which are associative with unit element

$$\mathcal{E} = (\delta_{x,y} \delta_{y,z})_{x,y,z \in I}$$

and to determine the K -algebra structure on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$.

Section 1 deals with the construction. The key result is Proposition 4: Every associative multiplication on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ with unit element \mathcal{E} induces a natural group structure G on I . This allows one to construct all associative multiplications on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ in the following way:

- First impose any group structure G on I .
- Then take any mapping $f: G^3 \rightarrow G$ such that $f(x, y, z)$ is bijective with respect to y and

$$f(e, y, e) = y^{-1}, \quad f(x, e, e) = e, \quad f(x, x, x) = e.$$

(There are $(n!)^{n^2-1} n^{2-2n}$ possibilities to choose f , where $n = |G|$.)

- Finally define the multiplication (M) with the mappings

$$\begin{aligned} h(x, y, z, i, j) &= j, \\ g(x, y, z, i, j) &= f^*(j, f(x, i, j)^{-1} f(x, y, z), z), \end{aligned}$$

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where f^* denotes the inverse of f with respect to its second argument.

(Proposition 1 and Theorem 6.) Theorem 7 describes the structure of $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ as a tensor product: If G is the group induced on I by the multiplication on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$, then

$$\mathcal{W}(I, K) \cong K[G] \otimes_K M(I, K)$$

where $M(I, K)$ is the algebra of square matrices $(\alpha_{xy})_{x,y \in I}$ over K .

Section 2 deals with an algebraic interpretation of the cubes. Matrices give a description, by matrix multiplication, of linear mappings between spaces of column vectors. With this in mind one can interpret the cubes $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(I, K)$ (via cube multiplication) as linear mappings \mathcal{A}^ϕ between spaces of matrices:

$$\phi : \mathcal{W}(I, K) \rightarrow \text{End}_K(M(I, K)), \quad \mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{A}^\phi$$

then becomes an embedding of the $|I|^3$ -dimensional algebra of cubes into the $|I|^4$ -dimensional algebra of endomorphisms of $M(I, K)$, with $\mathcal{A}^\phi \circ \mathcal{B}^\phi = (\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B})^\phi$ being a consequence of the associative law in $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$. To characterize the cubes completely one has to impose $K[G]$ -module structures on $M(I, K)$ (via the regular representation of G) and on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$. The restricted ϕ ,

$$\phi : \mathcal{W}(I, K) \rightarrow \text{End}_{K[G]}(M(I, K))$$

then is an isomorphism (Theorem 11), and \mathcal{A} is invertible in $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ if and only if the (twisted) vertical planes of \mathcal{A} form a $K[G]$ -basis of $M(I, K)$ (Corollary 12); exactly as in the case of square matrices, which are invertible if and only if their columns form a basis of the column space. Finally $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ is embedded into $M(I^2, K)$ (Theorem 14), which allows one to transfer the theory of eigenvalues from the matrices to the cubes. For instance (Proposition 15): $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(I, K)$ is diagonalizable if and only if $M(I, K)$ is the sum of the eigenspaces of \mathcal{A} .

I am grateful to Prof. A. Leutbecher for his suggestion that $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ can be represented as a tensor product.

1. PROPOSITION 1. *If the multiplication (M) on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ is associative with unit element \mathcal{E} , then $h(x, y, z, i, j) = j$.*

Proof. Comparing corresponding entries on both sides of $\mathcal{B}\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{B}$, $\mathcal{B} = (\beta_{xyz})_{x,y,z \in I}$, gives

$$(1) \quad \sum_{\substack{i, j \in I \\ h(xyzij) = g(xyzij) = z}} \beta_{xij} = \beta_{xyz}$$

for all $x, y, z \in I$. $\mathcal{B}\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{B}$ for all $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}(I, K)$ then shows that β_{xyz} has to be the only summand of the left hand sum in (1), hence

$$(2) \quad h(x, y, z, y, z) = g(x, y, z, y, z) = z$$

for all $x, y, z \in I$. The associative law

$$(\mathcal{E}_{xij}\mathcal{B})C = \mathcal{E}_{xij}(\mathcal{B}C)$$

with

$$\mathcal{E}_{xij} = (\delta_{x,u}\delta_{i,v}\delta_{j,w})_{u,v,w \in I} \quad \text{and} \quad C = (1)_{u,v,w \in I}$$

reads in components as

$$\sum_{r,s} \beta_{h(xrsij),g(xrsij),s} = \sum_{r,s} \beta_{h(xyzij),r,s}.$$

This being valid for all $x, y, z, i, j \in I$ and all $\beta_{xyz} \in K$ implies that both sums must contain the same β 's. Now the first β -index shows

$$(3) \quad h(x, r, s, i, j) = h(x, y, z, i, j)$$

for all $r, s \in I$, and hence

$$\begin{aligned} j &= h(x, i, j, i, j) \quad \text{by (2)} \\ &= h(x, y, z, i, j) \end{aligned}$$

by (3), for all $x, y, z, i, j \in I$.

Proposition 1 shows that (M) can be simplified to

$$(M') \quad \gamma_{xyz} := \sum_{i,j \in I} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,g(xyzij),z}$$

with $g: I^5 \rightarrow I$. If such a mapping g is given, $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ will denote the vector space $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ together with the multiplication (M') on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$.

Let $\mathcal{G}(I)$ be the set of all mappings $g: I^5 \rightarrow I$ such that the multiplication on $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ is associative with unit element \mathcal{E} . To survey all these multiplications entails an analysis of the set $\mathcal{G}(I)$. The next proposition gives a first characterisation for the elements of $\mathcal{G}(I)$:

PROPOSITION 2. $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ if and only if

- (G1) $g(x, y, z, *, z): I \rightarrow I$ is bijective,
- (G2) $g(x, y, z, i, j) = g(l, g(x, y, z, k, l), z, g(x, i, j, k, l), j)$,
- (G3) $g(x, x, x, x, x) = x$.

COROLLARY 3. (G1)–(G3) imply

- (G4) g is bijective in its second and its fourth argument,

(G5) $g(x, y, z, y, z) = z,$

(G6) $g(x, y, z, x, x) = y.$

Proof. Eq. (1) in the proof of Proposition 1 shows that \mathcal{E} is a right unit if and only if

(4) $g(x, y, z, i, z) = z$ is equivalent to $i = y.$

Similarly,

$$\mathcal{E}(\beta_{xyz}) = (\beta_{x,g(yzxx),z})_{x,y,z}$$

shows that \mathcal{E} is a left unit if and only if

(5) $g(x, y, z, x, x) = y$

for all $x, y, z \in I.$ The associative law holds in $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ as soon as one has

$$(\mathcal{E}_{xij}\mathcal{B})\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{E}_{xij}(\mathcal{B}\mathcal{C})$$

for all $x, i, j \in I$ and all $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{W}(I, K),$ and this reads in components as

$$\begin{aligned} (6) \quad & \sum_{r,s} \beta_{j,g(xrsij),s} \gamma_{s,g(yzrs),z} \\ & = \sum_{r,s} \beta_{jrs} \gamma_{s,g(j, g(yzij), z, r, s), z} \cdot \end{aligned}$$

First we prove that $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ implies (G1)–(G3): (4) with $x = y = z = i$ yields (G3).

Both sums in (6) must contain the same β 's. Hence for all $x, s, i, j \in I$ the mappings $r \mapsto g(x, r, s, i, j)$ are one-to-one, i.e., g is bijective in its second argument, and one can substitute $g(x, r, s, i, j)$ for r in the right hand side of (6). Comparing the second γ -index proves (G2).

Suppose that there are indices x, y, z, i_1, i_2 in I such that

$$g(x, y, z, i_1, z) = g(x, y, z, i_2, z) = : u.$$

Then by (G2) for $\nu = 1, 2$

$$g(x, i_2, z, y, z) = g(z, g(x, i_2, z, i_\nu, z), z, u, z).$$

The bijectivity of g in its second argument and (4) yield

$$g(x, i_2, z, i_1, z) = g(x, i_2, z, i_2, z) = z.$$

But then $i_1 = i_2$ by (4), which shows (G1).

Now we prove the corollary: (G2) with $j = z$ is

$$g(x, y, z, i, z) = g(l, g(x, y, z, k, l), z, g(x, i, z, k, l), z).$$

The left hand side is bijective in i by (G1) and hence the right hand side is it, too. This implies that g must be bijective in its second argument.

Suppose that there are indices x, i, j, z, k_1, k_2 in I such that

$$g(x, i, j, k_1, z) = g(x, i, j, k_2, z) = : w.$$

(G2) with $l = z$ is

$$g(x, y, z, i, j) = g(z, g(x, y, z, k, z), z, g(x, i, j, k, z), j).$$

The left hand side is independent of k , hence

$$g(z, g(x, y, z, k_1, z), z, w, j) = g(z, g(x, y, z, k_2, z), z, w, j).$$

The bijectivity of g in its second argument implies

$$g(x, y, z, k_1, z) = g(x, y, z, k_2, z),$$

and (G1) yields $k_1 = k_2$, i.e., g is bijective in its fourth argument. This proves (G4).

Choose in (G2) $i = y, j = l = z$, and k such that

$$g(x, y, z, k, z) = z$$

which is possible because of (G1). Then

$$g(x, y, z, y, z) = g(z, z, z, z, z) = z$$

by (G3), and this is (G5).

(G2) with $i = j = k = l = x, w = g(x, y, z, x, x)$ and (G3) show

$$w = g(x, w, z, x, x)$$

for all $w \in I$, because $g(x, y, z, x, x)$ is bijective in y by (G4). This is (G6).

Conversely, we prove that (G1)–(G6) imply (4), (5), and (6): (4) is a consequence of (G1) and (G5). (5) is (G6). To prove (6) we substitute $g(x, r, s, i, j)$ for r in the right hand side of (6), which is admissible because of (G4), and then we use (G2) in the second γ -index.

Remarks. (1) (G1), (G2), (G3) are independent: $g(x, y, z, i, j) = j$ satisfies (G2) and (G3) but not (G1). $g(x, y, z, i, j) = i$ satisfies (G1) and (G3) but not (G2). And if $I = G$ is a group and $c \neq e$ is an element of its center, then

$$g(x, y, z, i, j) = cyi^{-1}j$$

satisfies (G1) and (G2) but not (G3).

(2) In particular (G4) implies that for all $x, y, z \in I$ the mappings

$$I^2 \rightarrow I^2, \quad (i, j) \mapsto (j, g(x, y, z, i, j))$$

are bijective. Hence the coefficient

$$\gamma_{xyz} = \sum_{i, j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j, g(xyzij), z}$$

of $C = \mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}$ not only depends on all coefficients of the x th horizontal plane of \mathcal{A} (which is so by definition) but also on all coefficients of the z th vertical plane of \mathcal{B} ; in accordance with the matrix multiplication.

Every associative multiplication g of type (M') on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ induces a natural group structure on the index set I , as the next proposition will show. Therefore we require that I contains an element e which will always become the unit element as soon as this group structure is imposed on I . Further, any multiplication of elements in I will be carried out in this group.

A mapping $\mu: I^2 \rightarrow I$ will be called a group mapping for I , if I together with the multiplication $xy := \mu(x, y)$ on I is a group with unit element e . Then we say that μ induces a group structure on I and denote this group by G_μ .

PROPOSITION 4. For every $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$

$$\mu_g(x, y) := g(e, x, e, g(e, e, e, y, e), e)$$

induces a group structure on I .

COROLLARY 5. $g(e, x, e, y, e) = xy^{-1}$.

Proof. (G2), (G5), and (G6) imply for

$$\nu: I^2 \rightarrow I, \quad \nu(x, y) := g(e, x, e, y, e):$$

$$(G2') \quad \nu(x, y) = \nu(\nu(x, z), \nu(y, z)),$$

$$(G5') \quad \nu(x, x) = e,$$

$$(G6') \quad \nu(x, e) = x.$$

The multiplication on I , defined by μ_g , is

$$xy = \nu(x, \nu(e, y)).$$

Unit element:

$$\begin{aligned} ex &= \nu(e, \nu(e, x)) \\ &= \nu(\nu(x, x), \nu(e, x)) && \text{by (G5')} \\ &= \nu(x, e) && \text{by (G2')} \\ &= x && \text{by (G6')}. \end{aligned}$$

Inverse:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu(e, x)x &= \nu(\nu(e, x), \nu(e, x)) \\ &= e && \text{by (G5')}. \end{aligned}$$

Associative law:

$$\begin{aligned} (7) \quad \nu[\nu(x, \nu(e, y)), y] &= \nu[\nu(x, \nu(e, y)), \nu(y, e)] && \text{by (G6')} \\ &= \nu[\nu(x, \nu(e, y)), \nu(e, \nu(e, y))] && \text{by (G2'), (G5')} \\ &= \nu(x, e) && \text{by (G2')} \\ &= x && \text{by (G6')}. \\ (8) \quad \nu[e, \nu(y, \nu(e, z))] &= \nu[\nu(\nu(e, z), \nu(e, z)), \nu(y, \nu(e, z))] && \text{by (G5')} \\ &= \nu[\nu(e, z), y] && \text{by (G2')}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (xy)z &= \nu[\nu(x, \nu(e, y)), \nu(e, z)] \\ &= \nu[\nu[\nu(x, \nu(e, y)), y], \nu[\nu(e, z), y]] && \text{by (G2')} \\ &= \nu[x, \nu[e, \nu(y, \nu(e, z))]] && \text{by (7), (8)} \\ &= x(yz). \end{aligned}$$

And concerning the corollary:

$$\begin{aligned} g(e, x, e, y, e)y &= \nu(x, y)y \\ &= \nu[\nu(x, y), \nu(e, y)] \\ &= \nu(x, e) && \text{by (G2')}. \\ &= x && \text{by (G6')}. \end{aligned}$$

The group structure $G = G_{\mu_g}$ on I , induced by the group mapping μ_g , $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$, plays the central part in the description of the set $\mathcal{G}(I)$. The group structure

itself deals with only two of the five dimensions of the domain I^5 of g . The remaining three are taken care of by a mapping

$$f: G^3 \rightarrow G$$

with the following simple properties:

- (F1) $f(x, *, z): G \rightarrow G$ is bijective,
- (F2) $f(e, y, e) = y^{-1}$,
- (F3) $f(x, e, e) = e$,
- (F4) $f(x, x, x) = e$.

Let $\mathcal{F}(I)$ denote the set of all pairs (μ, f) such that $\mu: I^2 \rightarrow I$ is a group mapping for I and $f: G_\mu^3 \rightarrow G_\mu$ satisfies (F1)–(F4). $\mathcal{F}(I)$ represents all associative multiplications (M) on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$:

THEOREM 6. For $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ define

$$f_g: G_{\mu_g}^3 \rightarrow G_{\mu_g}$$

by

- (M'') $f_g(x, y, z) = g(z, g(x, e, e, y, z), e, e, e)$.
- (i) $f(x, y, z) = f(x, i, j)f(j, g(x, y, z, i, j), z)$

holds for $f = f_g$. This equation reflects exactly the position of the indices in the cube multiplication (M').

- (ii) $\Phi: \mathcal{G}(I) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(I)$, $\Phi(g) = (\mu_g, f_g)$

is bijective.

(iii) In particular if $(\mu, f) \in \mathcal{F}(I)$ is given, then Eq. (M''), to be read in G_μ , determines $g = \Phi^{-1}((\mu, f))$ uniquely.

Proof. (i) Let

$$\omega(x, y) = g(x, y, e, e, e).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (9) \quad g(zyeie) &= g[e, g(zyeee), e, g(zieee), e] \quad \text{by (G2)} \\ &= \omega(z, y)\omega(z, i)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

by Corollary 5, and hence

$$\begin{aligned} (10) \quad \omega(x, y) &= g(xyeee) \\ &= g[z, g(xyeiz), e, g(xeeiz), e] \quad \text{by (G2)} \\ &= \omega(z, g(xyeiz))\omega(z, g(xeeiz))^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

by (9). This shows

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xyz) &= \omega[z, g(xeeyz)] \\ &= \omega[z, g[j, g(xeeij), e, g(xyzij), z]] && \text{by (G2)} \\ &= \omega[j, g(xeeij)]\omega[z, g[j, e, e, g(xyzij), z]] && \text{by (10)} \\ &= f_g(xij)f_g(j, g(xyzij), z). \end{aligned}$$

(ii) First we show that f_g satisfies (F1)–(F4):

(F1) is an immediate consequence of (G4).

(F2):

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(eye) &= g(e, g(eeeye), e, e, e) \\ &= g(eeeye) && \text{by (G6)} \\ &= y^{-1} && \text{by Corollary 5.} \end{aligned}$$

(F3):

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xee) &= g(e, g(xeeee), e, e, e) \\ &= g(xeeee) && \text{by (G6)} \\ &= e && \text{by (G5).} \end{aligned}$$

(F4):

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xxx) &= f_g(x, g(xxxxx), x) && \text{by (G3)} \\ &= f_g(xxx)^{-1}f_g(xxx) && \text{by (M'')} \\ &= e. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $(\mu_g, f_g) \in \mathcal{F}(I)$ for every $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$.

Now we show that Φ is injective: Assume that there are $g_1, g_2 \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ such that

$$\mu_{g_1} = \mu_{g_2} = : \mu \quad \text{and} \quad f_{g_1} = f_{g_2} = : f.$$

Then (M'') yields

$$\begin{aligned} \mu[f(xij), f(j, g_1(xyzij), z)] &= f(xyz) \\ &= \mu[f(xij), f(j, g_2(xyzij), z)]. \end{aligned}$$

μ is injective in its second argument because it is a group mapping, and f is injective in its second argument by (F1). Hence $g_1 = g_2$.

To prove that Φ is surjective, take any $(\mu, f) \in \mathcal{F}(I)$. We will define $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ in the group G_μ such that $\Phi(g) = (\mu, f)$. By definition of $\mathcal{F}(I)$, $f: G_\mu^3 \rightarrow G_\mu$ satisfies (F1)–(F4). In particular, (F1) implies that the equation

$$(M''') \quad f(j, g(xyzij), z) := f(xij)^{-1}f(xyz)$$

determines a mapping $g: I^5 \rightarrow I$. Now we show that

(I) g satisfies (G1)–(G3), and hence $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$,

(II) $\mu_g = \mu$,

(III) $f_g = f$.

ad (I): The definition of g in (M''') shows that (F1) implies (G1).

$$\begin{aligned} & f[j, g[l, g(xyzkl), z, g(xijkl), j], z] \\ &= f(l, g(xijkl), j)^{-1} f(l, g(xyzkl), z) \quad \text{by } (M''') \\ &= [f(xkl)^{-1} f(xij)]^{-1} [f(xkl)^{-1} f(xyz)] \quad \text{by } (M''') \\ &= f(xij)^{-1} f(xyz) \\ &= f[j, g(xyzij), z] \end{aligned}$$

by (M''') , and the injectivity of f in its second argument yields (G2).

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, g(xxxxx), x) &= e \quad \text{by } (M''') \\ &= f(xxx) \end{aligned}$$

by (F4), hence with (F1), $g(xxxxx) = x$, i.e., (G3).

ad (II): We have to show $\mu_g(x, y) = xy$ in G_μ with μ_g as defined in Proposition 4.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_g(x, y)^{-1} &= f(e, \mu_g(x, y), e) && \text{by (F2)} \\ &= f[e, g[e, x, e, g(eeeye), e], e] && \text{by definition of } \mu_g \\ &= f(e, g(eeeye), e)^{-1} f(exe) && \text{by } (M''') \\ &= [f(eye)^{-1} f(eee)]^{-1} f(exe) && \text{by } (M''') \\ &= f(eye) f(exe) && \text{by (F4)} \\ &= y^{-1} x^{-1} && \text{by (F2)}. \end{aligned}$$

ad (III): We have $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$ by (I). Hence (i) shows that in G_{μ_g} Eq. (M'') holds for f_g , and further $G_{\mu_g} = G_\mu$ as shown in (II).

$$\begin{aligned} (11) \quad f_g(xye) &= f_g(xee)^{-1} f_g(xye) \quad \text{by (F3)} \\ &= f_g(e, g(xyeee), e) \quad \text{by } (M'') \\ &= g(xyeee)^{-1} \quad \text{by (F2) for } f_g \\ &= f(e, g(xyeee), e) \quad \text{by (F2) for } f \\ &= f(xee)^{-1} f(xye) \quad \text{by } (M''') \\ &= f(xye) \quad \text{by (F3)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now finally

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xij)^{-1} f_g(xye) &= f_g(j, g(xyeij), e) \quad \text{by } (M'') \\ &= f(j, g(xyeij), e) \quad \text{by (11)} \\ &= f(xij)^{-1} f(xye) \end{aligned}$$

by (M'''), and (11) yields

$$f_g(xij)^{-1} = f(xij)^{-1},$$

hence $f_g = f$.

The proof of (iii) is contained in the proof of (ii).

Remarks. (1) Theorem 6 shows that all associative multiplications of type (M') on $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$ with unit element \mathcal{E} can be constructed by

- first imposing any group structure G on I ,
- then taking any mapping $f: G^3 \rightarrow G$ which satisfies (F1)–(F4),
- finally calculating $g: I^5 \rightarrow I$ out of (M'').

(2) *Examples.* Let G be a finite group. The following table lists all mappings $f: G^3 \rightarrow G$ of the form

$$f(x, y, z) = \prod_{1 \leq m \leq 4} X_m^{\epsilon_m}, \quad X_m \in \{x, y, z\}, \epsilon_m \in \{0, 1, -1\},$$

which satisfy (F1)–(F4). The column beside it contains the corresponding mappings g :

$f(x, y, z)$	$g(x, y, z, i, j)$
$y^{-1}z$	$yi^{-1}j$ (“standard example $\mathcal{W}(G, K)$ ”)
zy^{-1}	$yz^{-1}ji^{-1}z$
$z^{-1}y^{-1}z^2$	$yzj^{-1}i^{-1}j^2z^{-1}$
$z^2y^{-1}z^{-1}$	$yz^{-2}j^2i^{-1}j^{-1}z^2$
$xy^{-1}x^{-1}z$	$j^{-1}xyi^{-1}x^{-1}j^2$
$zx^{-1}y^{-1}x$	$jx^{-1}yxz^{-1}jx^{-1}i^{-1}xzj^{-1}$
$x^{-1}y^{-1}xz$	$jx^{-1}yi^{-1}x$
$zxy^{-1}x^{-1}$	$j^{-1}xyx^{-1}z^{-1}jxi^{-1}x^{-1}zj$
$xy^{-1}zx^{-1}$	$zj^{-1}xz^{-1}yi^{-1}jx^{-1}j$
$x^{-1}zy^{-1}x$	$jx^{-1}yz^{-1}ji^{-1}xj^{-1}z$
$x^{-1}y^{-1}zx$	$zjx^{-1}z^{-1}yi^{-1}jxj^{-1}$
$xzy^{-1}x^{-1}$	$j^{-1}xyz^{-1}ji^{-1}x^{-1}jz$
$xzx^{-1}y^{-1}$	$yxz^{-1}jx^{-1}i^{-1}jzj^{-1}$
$y^{-1}x^{-1}zx$	$j^{-1}zjx^{-1}z^{-1}xyi^{-1}x^{-1}jx$
$x^{-1}zxy^{-1}$	$yx^{-1}z^{-1}jxi^{-1}j^{-1}zj$
$y^{-1}xzx^{-1}$	$jzj^{-1}xz^{-1}x^{-1}yi^{-1}xjx^{-1}$

(3) An easy calculation shows that for a group G of order n there exist $(n!)^{n^2-1}n^{2-2n}$ different mappings $f: G^3 \rightarrow G$ satisfying (F1)–(F4). The next theorem shows that the corresponding K -algebras $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ are all isomorphic:

THEOREM 7. *Let $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$, $\Phi(g) = (\mu, f)$, $G = G_\mu$, and let $f^*: G^3 \rightarrow G$ denote the inverse of f with respect to its second argument, i.e., $f^*(x, f(x, y, z), z) = y$.*

$$\Psi: \mathcal{W}(g, K) \rightarrow K[G] \otimes_K M(G, K),$$

$$\Psi((\alpha_{xyz})) := \sum_{y \in G} y \otimes (\alpha_{x, f^*(xyz), z})_{x, z \in G}$$

is a K -algebra isomorphism from $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ onto the tensor product of the group algebra of G over K and the algebra of square matrices $(\beta_{xz})_{x, z \in G}$ over K .

Proof. Ψ is K -linear and bijective, for f^* is bijective in its second argument by definition. It only remains to prove the multiplicativity of Ψ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\mathcal{A})\Psi(\mathcal{B}) &= \left(\sum_u u \otimes (\alpha_{x, f^*(xuz), z})_{x, z} \right) \left(\sum_v v \otimes (\beta_{x, f^*(xvz), z})_{x, z} \right) \\ &= \sum_{u, v} uv \otimes \left(\sum_j \alpha_{x, f^*(xuj), j} \beta_{j, f^*(jvz), z} \right)_{x, z} \\ &= \sum_y y \otimes \left(\sum_{i, j} \alpha_{x, f^*(xij), j} \beta_{j, f^*(j, i^{-1}y, z), z} \right)_{x, z}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}) &= \Psi \left(\left(\sum_{i, j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j, g(xyzij), z} \right)_{x, y, z} \right) \\ &= \sum_y y \otimes \left(\sum_{i, j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j, g(x, f^*(xyz), z, i, j), z} \right)_{x, z} \\ &= \sum_y y \otimes \left(\sum_{i, j} \alpha_{x, f^*(xij), j} \beta_{j, g(x, f^*(xyz), z, f^*(xij), j), z} \right)_{x, z}. \end{aligned}$$

And, by definition of f^* :

$$\begin{aligned} f(j, f^*(j, i^{-1}y, z), z) &= i^{-1}y \\ &= f(x, f^*(xij), j)^{-1} f(x, f^*(xyz), z) \\ &= f[j, g[x, f^*(xyz), z, f^*(xij), j], z] \end{aligned}$$

by (M''), which, by (F1), yields

$$f^*(j, i^{-1}y, z) = g(x, f^*(xyz), z, f^*(xij), j).$$

COROLLARY 8. For $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$, $\Phi(g) = (\mu_g, f_g)$, and $G = G_{\mu_g}$,

$$\psi_g \left((\alpha_{xyz})_{x,y,z} \right) = (\alpha_{x,z f_g(xy z^{-1}, z)})_{x,y,z}$$

is a K -algebra isomorphism from the standard example $\mathcal{W}(G, K)$ onto $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$.

Proof. Concerning the standard example we have $f(x, y, z) = y^{-1}z$ and hence $f^*(x, y, z) = zy^{-1}$.

$$\Psi_1: \mathcal{W}(G, K) \rightarrow K[G] \otimes M(G, K),$$

$$\Psi_1 \left((\alpha_{xyz}) \right) = \sum_y y \otimes (\alpha_{x,zy^{-1},z})_{x,z},$$

$$\Psi_2: \mathcal{W}(g, K) \rightarrow K[G] \otimes M(G, K),$$

$$\Psi_2 \left((\alpha_{xyz}) \right) = \sum_y y \otimes (\alpha_{x, f_g^*(xyz), z})_{x,z}$$

are isomorphisms by Theorem 7, and

$$\Psi_2^{-1} \left(\sum_y y \otimes (\alpha_{xyz})_{x,z} \right) = (\alpha_{x, f_g(xy z), z})_{x,y,z}.$$

Hence $\psi_g = \Psi_2^{-1} \circ \Psi_1$ is an isomorphism, too.

The cube multiplication (M')

$$\gamma_{xyz} = \sum_{i,j \in I} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,g(xyzi),z}$$

was introduced as an imitation of the matrix multiplication

$$\gamma_{xz} = \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_{xi} \beta_{g_o(xzi),z}, \quad g_o(x, z, i) = i.$$

In fact $g_o(x, z, i) = i$ is the only mapping $I^3 \rightarrow I$ which makes the matrix multiplication associative with unit element $E = (\delta_{x,z})_{x,z}$. Uniqueness arises for the cube multiplication, too, when, in accordance with g_o , one demands that g is independent of its horizontal plane index x and its vertical plane index z . Then the resulting cube algebras are exactly the standard examples $\mathcal{W}(G, K)$.

PROPOSITION 9. Let $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$. $g(x, y, z, i, j)$ is independent of x and z if and only if

$$g(x, y, z, i, j) = yi^{-1}j$$

in G_{μ_g} , i.e., if $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ is the standard example $\mathcal{W}(G_{\mu_g}, K)$.

Proof. Assume that $g(x, y, z, i, j)$ is independent of x and z . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xye) &= g(e, g(xeeye), e, e, e) && \text{by definition of } f_g \\ &= g(e, g(eeeye), e, e, e) && \text{by assumption} \\ &= y^{-1} && \text{by Corollary 5.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f_g(xyz) &= f_g(xye)f_g(z, g(xyeyz), e)^{-1} && \text{by } (M'') \\ &= y^{-1}g(xyeyz) \\ &= y^{-1}g(xzyyz) && \text{by assumption} \\ &= y^{-1}z && \text{by (G5).} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, (M'') shows that

$$f_g(x, y, z) = y^{-1}z$$

implies

$$g(x, y, z, i, j) = yi^{-1}j.$$

2. The matrices can be viewed as linear mappings between spaces of column vectors. Similarly we will interpret the cubes as linear mappings between spaces of matrices. Let $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$, $\Phi(g) = (\mu, f)$, $G = G_\mu$, and $n = |G|$. For $u \in G$ one has the canonical (untwisted) embeddings and projections between the matrix algebra $M(G, K)$ and the standard example $\mathcal{W}(G, K)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_u^o: M(G, K) &\rightarrow \mathcal{W}(G, K), \\ \iota_u^o((\beta_{xy})_{x, y \in G}) &:= (\beta_{xy}\delta_{u,z})_{x, y, z \in G}, \\ p_u^o: \mathcal{W}(G, K) &\rightarrow M(G, K), \\ p_u^o((\beta_{xyz})_{x, y, z \in G}) &:= (\beta_{xyu})_{x, y \in G}. \end{aligned}$$

They allow one to define an operation of $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$ on $M(G, K)$ via the multiplication in $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ exactly as $M(G, K)$ operates on K^n :

$$\mathcal{A}(B) := p_u^o(\mathcal{A}\iota_u^o(B)), \quad B \in M(G, K).$$

But computing coefficients shows

$$\mathcal{A}(B) = \left(\sum_{i, j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j, g(xynij)} \right)_{x, y \in G},$$

hence this operation may depend on the choice of $u \in G$, if one does not take the standard multiplication

$$g(x, y, z, i, j) = yi^{-1}j$$

on the underlying set $\mathcal{W}(I, K)$. To avoid this one has to use twisted embeddings and projections, and the adequate twist is the isomorphism ψ_g of Corollary 8:

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_u: M(G, K) &\rightarrow \mathcal{W}(g, K), \\ \iota_u &= \psi_g \circ \iota_u^o, \\ \iota_u((\beta_{xy})) &= (\beta_{x, f(xy)z^{-1}} \delta_{u,z})_{x,y,z}, \\ p_u: \mathcal{W}(g, K) &\rightarrow M(G, K), \\ p_u &= p_u^o \circ \psi_g^{-1}, \\ p_u((\beta_{xyz})) &= (\beta_{x, f^*(x, y^{-1}u, u)})_{x,y}, \end{aligned}$$

where as in Theorem 7 f^* is the inverse of f with respect to its second argument. If $\mathcal{W}(g, K) = \mathcal{W}(G, K)$ is a standard example, then $\iota_u = \iota_u^o$ and $p_u = p_u^o$ and the twist disappears.

The twisted embeddings and projections have the usual properties: Let

$$\mathcal{E}_u := (\delta_{x,u} \delta_{y,u} \delta_{z,u})_{x,y,z}, \quad u \in G,$$

denote the canonical idempotents of $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ and $\mathcal{W}'_u := \mathcal{W}(g, K)\mathcal{E}_u$ the corresponding left ideals. Then

$$(12) \quad \mathcal{E}_u \mathcal{E}_v = \delta_{u,v} \mathcal{E}_u, \quad \sum_{u \in G} \mathcal{E}_u = \mathcal{E},$$

$$(13) \quad p_u \circ \iota_v = \delta_{u,v} \text{id}_{M(G,K)},$$

$$(14) \quad (\iota_u \circ p_u)|_{\mathcal{W}'_v} = \delta_{u,v} \text{id}_{\mathcal{W}'_v},$$

$$(15) \quad \sum_{u \in G} \iota_u \circ p_u = \text{id}_{\mathcal{W}(g,K)}.$$

Now we define the operation of $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$ on $M(G, K)$ by

$$\mathcal{A}^\phi(B) := \left(\sum_{i,j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,yf(xij)} \right)_{x,y}.$$

This yields the desired independence of u and hence corresponds to the matrix situation.

PROPOSITION 10. $\mathcal{A}^\phi(B) = p_u(\mathcal{A} \iota_u(B))$ for all $u \in G$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_u (\mathcal{A} \iota_u(B)) &= p_u ((\alpha_{xyz})(\beta_{x,zf(xy z)^{-1}} \delta_{u,z})_{x,y,z}) \\
 &= p_u \left(\left(\sum_{i,j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,zf(j, g(xyzij), z)}^{-1} \delta_{u,z} \right)_{x,y,z} \right) \\
 &= \left(\sum_{i,j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,uf\{j,g(x, f^*(x, y^{-1}u, u), u, i, j), u\}^{-1}} \right)_{x,y} \\
 &= \left(\sum_{i,j} \alpha_{xij} \beta_{j,yf(xij)} \right)_{x,y},
 \end{aligned}$$

for

$$\begin{aligned}
 y^{-1}u &= f(x, f^*(x, y^{-1}u, u), u) \\
 &= f(xij)f[j, g(x, f^*(x, y^{-1}u, u), u, i, j) u] \text{ by } (M'').
 \end{aligned}$$

$\phi: \mathcal{W}(g, K) \rightarrow \text{End}_K M(G, K)$, $\mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{A}^\phi$, is K -linear and injective into the endomorphism algebra of $M(G, K)$, and the multiplication in $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ becomes the composition of mappings in $\text{End}_K M(G, K)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathcal{A}^\phi \circ \mathcal{B}^\phi)(C) &= \mathcal{A}^\phi (p_u(\mathcal{B} \iota_u(C))) \\
 &= p_u[\mathcal{A}(\iota_u \circ p_u)(\mathcal{B} \iota_u(C))] \\
 &= p_u[\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{B} \iota_u(C))] \text{ by (14)} \\
 &= p_u[(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B})\iota_u(C)] \text{ by the associative law in } \mathcal{W}(g, K) \\
 &= (\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B})^\phi(C).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ can be viewed as a n^3 -dimensional subalgebra in the K -algebra $\text{End}_K M(G, K)$ of dimension n^4 . This subalgebra can be characterized by imposing $K[G]$ -module structures on $M(G, K)$ and $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$: Let

$$R: G \rightarrow M(G, K)^\times, \quad R(u) := (\delta_{x,uy})_{x,y \in G}$$

denote the regular representation of G . By

$$Bu := BR(u), \quad B \in M(G, K), \quad u \in G$$

and linear continuation $M(G, K)$ becomes a $K[G]$ -module. Similarly

$$\mathcal{R}: G \rightarrow \mathcal{W}(g, K)^\times, \quad \mathcal{R}(u) := (\delta_{zf(xy z)^{-1}, u} \delta_{x,z})_{x,y,z \in G}$$

is an injective group morphism, and by

$$\mathcal{B}u := \mathcal{B}\mathcal{R}(u), \quad \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K), \quad u \in G$$

and linear continuation $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ becomes a $K[G]$ -module, too.

A straightforward calculation shows that the $K[G]$ -module structures on $\mathcal{W}(G, K)$ and $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ are compatible with the isomorphism

$$\psi_g: \mathcal{W}(G, K) \rightarrow \mathcal{W}(g, K)$$

of Corollary 8:

$$\psi_g(\mathcal{B}u) = \psi_g(\mathcal{B})u.$$

Further, the $K[G]$ -module structures on $M(G, K)$ and $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ are compatible with the twisted embeddings and projections:

$$(16) \quad \iota_v(Bu) = \iota_v(B)u,$$

$$(17) \quad p_v(\mathcal{B}u) = p_v(\mathcal{B})u.$$

Finally the mappings $\mathcal{A}^\phi, \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$, respect the $K[G]$ -module structure on $M(G, K)$:

$$\mathcal{A}^\phi(Bu) = \mathcal{A}^\phi(B)u.$$

This turns out to be a consequence of the associative law in $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^\phi(Bu) &= p_v(\mathcal{A} \iota_v(Bu)) \\ &= p_v(\mathcal{A}(\iota_v(B)\mathcal{R}(u))) \quad \text{by (16)} \\ &= p_v((\mathcal{A} \iota_v(B))\mathcal{R}(u)) \quad \text{by the associative law in } \mathcal{W}(g, K) \\ &= p_v(\mathcal{A} \iota_v(B))u \quad \text{by (17)} \\ &= \mathcal{A}^\phi(B)u. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the cubes in $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ can be interpreted as endomorphisms of the $K[G]$ -module $M(G, K)$.

THEOREM 11. $\phi: \mathcal{W}(g, K) \rightarrow \text{End}_{K[G]}M(G, K), \mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{A}^\phi$, is a K -algebra isomorphism.

COROLLARY 12. Let $\{E_u := (\delta_{u,x}\delta_{u,y})_{x,y}; u \in G\}$ denote the canonical $K[G]$ -basis of $M(G, K)$. Then

$$\mathcal{A}^\phi(E_u) = p_u(\mathcal{A}),$$

i.e., the images of the canonical basis elements under \mathcal{A}^ϕ are the twisted vertical planes of \mathcal{A} . In particular \mathcal{A} is invertible if and only if its twisted vertical planes form a $K[G]$ -basis of $M(G, K)$.

Proof of Theorem 11. It only remains to show that ϕ is surjective. Take $\eta \in \text{End}_{K[G]}M(G, K)$ and define for $u \in G$:

$$(\alpha_{xyu})_{x,y} := \eta(E_u), \quad \mathcal{A} := (\alpha_{xyz}) \in \mathcal{W}(G, K).$$

Then for $\psi_g(\mathcal{A}) \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$,

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi_g(\mathcal{A}))^\phi(E_u) &= p_u(\psi_g(\mathcal{A})\iota_u(E_u)) \\ &= p_u(\psi_g(\mathcal{A})\mathcal{E}_u) \\ &= p_u(\psi_g(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{E}_u)) \quad \text{since } \psi_g(\mathcal{E}_u) = \mathcal{E}_u \\ &= p_u^0(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{E}_u) \quad \text{by definition of } p_u \\ &= (\alpha_{xyu})_{x,y} \\ &= \eta(E_u), \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\psi_g(\mathcal{A})^\phi = \eta.$$

Proof of Corollary 12.

$$\mathcal{A}^\phi(E_u) = p_u(\mathcal{A}\iota_u(E_u)) = p_u(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{E}_u) = p_u(\mathcal{A}).$$

In the case of the standard example the analogy to the matrix situation becomes obvious.

COROLLARY 13. $\mathcal{A} = (\alpha_{xyz}) \in \mathcal{W}(G, K)$ is invertible if and only if the vertical planes $(\alpha_{xyz})_{x,y \in G, z \in G}$, of \mathcal{A} form a basis of the right $K[G]$ -module $M(G, K)$.

Remark. Similarly, one can define the embeddings ι_u and the projections p_u via the horizontal planes of the cubes. If then $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$ operates on $M(G, K)$ from the right side,

$$(A)^\phi \mathcal{B} = p_u(\iota_u(A)\mathcal{B}),$$

one can show that \mathcal{B} is invertible if and only if its (twisted) horizontal planes form a basis of $M(G, K)$ as a left $K[G]$ -module.

THEOREM 14. Let $g \in \mathcal{G}(I)$. Then for every $u \in I$

$$\begin{aligned} \iota: \mathcal{W}(g, K) &\rightarrow M(I^2, K), \\ \iota((\alpha_{xyz})_{x,y,z \in I}) &:= (\alpha_{j,g(uvwij),w})_{(i,j),(v,w) \in I^2} \end{aligned}$$

is an injective K -algebra morphism.

Proof. ι is K -linear, and (G4) implies the injectivity.

$$\begin{aligned} \iota(\mathcal{E}) &= \iota\left(\delta_{x,z}\delta_{y,z}\right) \\ &= (\delta_{j,w}\delta_{g(uvwij),w})(i,j),(v,w) \\ &= (\delta_{j,w}\delta_{g(uw\bar{w}i),w})(i,j),(v,w) \\ &= (\delta_{j,w}\delta_{i,v})(i,j),(v,w), \end{aligned}$$

for $g(u, v, w, i, w) = w$ if and only if $i = v$, by (G5) and (G1).

$$\begin{aligned} \iota(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}) &= \iota\left(\left(\sum_{r,s} \alpha_{xrs}\beta_{s,g(xy\bar{z}rs),z}\right)_{x,y,z}\right) \\ &= \left(\sum_{r,s} \alpha_{jrs}\beta_{s,g(j,g(uvwij),w,r,s),w}\right)_{(i,j),(v,w)} \\ &= \left(\sum_{r,s} \alpha_{j,g(ursij),s}\beta_{s,g(j,g(uvwij),w,g(ursij),s),w}\right) \text{ by (G4)} \\ &= \left(\sum_{r,s} \alpha_{j,g(ursij),s}\beta_{s,g(uvwrs),w}\right)_{(i,j),(v,w)} \text{ by (G2)} \\ &= (\alpha_{j,g(ursij),s})(i,j),(r,s)(\beta_{s,g(uvwrs),w})(r,s),(v,w) \\ &= \iota(\mathcal{A})\iota(\mathcal{B}). \end{aligned}$$

The injection ι can be used to transfer the eigenvalue theory from the square matrices to the cubes. Let us call the monic polynomial

$$\chi_{\mathcal{A}}(X) := \det(XE - \iota(\mathcal{A})) \in K[X]$$

of degree n^2 the characteristic polynomial of $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$. It is invariant with respect to conjugation of \mathcal{A} :

$$\chi_{\mathcal{B}^{-1}\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}}(X) = \chi_{\mathcal{A}}(X).$$

The ‘‘eigenvalues’’ of \mathcal{A} are the roots of $\chi_{\mathcal{A}}(X)$. If $\lambda \in K$ is an eigenvalue of \mathcal{A} , then the eigenspace $E(\mathcal{A}, \lambda)$ of \mathcal{A} , consisting of the eigenmatrices corresponding to λ ,

$$E(\mathcal{A}, \lambda) := \{B \in M(G, K); \mathcal{A}^\phi(B) = \lambda B\}$$

is a non-trivial $K[G]$ -submodule of $M(G, K)$. Different eigenspaces of \mathcal{A} have intersection $\{0\}$. Further we call

$$\det \mathcal{A} := (-1)^{N^2} \chi_{\mathcal{A}}(0) = \det(\iota(\mathcal{A}))$$

the determinant of \mathcal{A} . Then \mathcal{A} is invertible in $\mathcal{W}(g, K)$ if and only if $\det \mathcal{A} \neq 0$.

PROPOSITION 15. $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)$ is diagonalizable if and only if $M(G, K)$ is the sum of the eigenspaces of \mathcal{A} .

Proof. Suppose first that \mathcal{A} is diagonalizable, i.e., that

$$\mathcal{B}^{-1} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{B} = \sum_{z \in G} \lambda_z \mathcal{E}_z, \quad \lambda_z \in K,$$

for some $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}(g, K)^\times$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^\phi(p_u(\mathcal{B})) &= p_u(\mathcal{A}(\iota_u \circ p_u)(\mathcal{B})) \quad \text{by Proposition 10} \\ &= p_u(\mathcal{A} \mathcal{B}) \\ &= p_u\left(\mathcal{B} \left(\sum_z \lambda_z \mathcal{E}_z\right)\right) \\ &= \lambda_u p_u(\mathcal{B}) \end{aligned}$$

by (14), and the twisted vertical planes $p_u(\mathcal{B})$, $u \in G$, of \mathcal{B} form a $K[G]$ -basis of $M(G, K)$ by Corollary 12.

Conversely, if the matrices B_u , $u \in G$, form a $K[G]$ -basis of $M(G, K)$ and

$$\mathcal{A}^\phi(B_u) = \lambda_u B_u, \quad \lambda_u \in K, \quad u \in G,$$

then with

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{B} &:= \sum_u \iota_u(B_u) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{D} := \sum_z \lambda_z \mathcal{E}_z, \\
\mathcal{B}\mathcal{D} &= \left(\sum_u \iota_u(B_u) \right) \left(\sum_z \lambda_z \mathcal{E}_z \right) && \text{by (A2)} \\
&= \sum_u \iota_u(\lambda_u B_u) \\
&= \sum_u \iota(\mathcal{A}^\phi(B_u)) && \text{by Proposition 2} \\
&= \sum_u (\iota_u \circ p_u) (\mathcal{A} \iota_u(B_u)) && \text{by (A4)} \\
&= \sum_u (\iota_u \circ p_u) \left(\mathcal{A} \sum_v \iota_v(B_v) \right) \\
&= \mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}
\end{aligned}$$

by (15), and

$$p_v(\mathcal{B}) = p_v \left(\sum_u \iota_u(B_u) \right) = B_v, \quad v \in G,$$

is a $K[G]$ -basis of $M(G, K)$, hence \mathcal{B} is invertible by Corollary 12.

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