

## *Some Properties of Hopf Algebras Attached to Group Varieties*

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In the previous paper [8] we developed a theory of invariant semi-derivations on group varieties defined over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of a positive characteristic  $p$ . Let  $G$  be a group variety defined over  $k$  and  $\mathfrak{g}(G)$  the set of all left invariant semi-derivations of  $G$ . Then the direct sum  $\mathfrak{S}(G) = k \oplus \mathfrak{g}(G)$  is a subalgebra of  $\text{End}_k(k(G))$ , where  $k(G)$  is the field of the rational functions on  $G$  over  $k$ . This structure has a close connection with the group multiplication of  $G$ . On the other hand  $\mathfrak{S}(G)$  may be identified with the set of point distributions of the local ring  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $G$  at the neutral element  $e$ , and then  $\mathfrak{S}(G)$  has a structure of a coalgebra induced dually from that of  $\mathcal{O}$  as an algebra over  $k$ . These structures give to  $\mathfrak{S}(G)$  a Hopf algebra structure over  $k$ . Using this structure we obtained some results on purely inseparable isogenies of group varieties in [8].

In this paper we shall show that our theory of the Hopf algebras  $\mathfrak{S}(G)$  has more applications not only to the theory of purely inseparable isogenies of group varieties, but also to the general theory of algebraic groups over a field of a positive characteristic  $p$ . In particular  $\mathfrak{S}(G)$  may play a similar role to that of the Lie algebra of invariant derivations on a group variety in the case of characteristic zero.

In §1 we give some definitions and results on Hopf algebras over a field which are necessary in the later sections. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the category of commutative and cocommutative Hopf algebras over a field  $k$  which are a union of finite dimensional Hopf subalgebras. Then it is shown that  $\mathcal{C}$  is an abelian category. In the next section we shall obtain a criterion, in the languages of Hopf algebras, for a morphism of a group variety to another to be separable. For this purpose we give a generalization of the theorem in the paper [4] on the existence of convenient pair of local parameters at the neutral elements for a given purely inseparable isogeny of group varieties. As an application of this criterion we give a modification of Serre's results on the group  $\text{Ext}(A, B)$  in §3, where  $A$  and  $B$  are commutative group varieties. He treated in [6] the case of purely inseparable isogenies of exponent 1 making use of the Galois theory for such isogenies. However we obtain the same result for any purely inseparable isogeny of a commutative group variety using our Hopf algebras. Of course this result may be obtained in a different way if we use the fact that the category of commutative algebraic group