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# COMMENTATIONES MATHEMATICAE UNIVERSITATIS CAROLINAE 

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THE CATEGORIES OF FREE METABELIAN GROUPS AND LIE ALGEBRAS
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#### Abstract

Homomorphisms of free metabelian $A_{q} A-g r o u p s$, $q \geq 0$, and free metabelian Lie algebras over a commutative associative unital ground ring $k$ are studied. It is proved that the group of automorphisms of a free metabelian Lie algebra L of rank 2, identical on $L / L$ is isomorphic to the additive group of the polynomial group $k[X, Y]$. Further; If $f: L_{1} \rightarrow$ $\rightarrow L_{2}$ is an epimorphism of free $A_{q} A-g r o u p s$ or metabelian Lie algebras over a ring $k=k_{0}\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{r}, X_{r+1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots, x_{s}^{ \pm 1}\right]$, where $k_{0}$ is $a$ Dedekind ring, $r k L_{1}=n, ~ r k L_{2}=d$, then $L_{1}$ possesses a free generating set $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ such that $f\left(z_{1}\right), \ldots$ $\left.\ldots, f^{( } z_{d}\right)$ is a free generating set for $L_{2}$ and $z_{d+1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ generate Ker $f$ as a normal subgroup or an ideal.

AMS: 17B30, 20E10 Ref. Ž.: $2.723 .533,2.722 .32$ Key words: Free metabelian group, free metabelian Lie algebra, automorphism, free generating set.


The present paper concerns homomorphisms of free metabelian $A_{q} A-g r o u p s, q \geq 0$, and free metabelian Lie algebras over a commutative associative unital ground ring $k$. In § 2 we show that the group of automorphisms of a free metabelian Lie algebra $L$ of rank 2, identical on $L / L^{\prime}$ (IA-automorphisms in terms of [1] ) is isomorphic to the additive group of the polynomial group $k[X, Y]$. For comparison the similar group for a free metabelian $A^{2}$-group consists $0 \perp$ inner a tomorphisms
(see [1]).
In § 3 and 4 we show that if $f: L_{1} \longrightarrow L_{2}$ is an epimorphism of free $A_{q} A-g r o u p s$ or metabelian Lie algebras over a ring $k=k_{0}\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}, x_{r+1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots, x_{s}^{ \pm 1}\right]$, where $k_{0}$ is a Dedekind ring, $\mathrm{rkL}_{1}=\mathrm{n}, \mathrm{rkL}_{2}=\mathrm{d}$, then $\mathrm{L}_{1}$ possesses a free generating set $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ such that $f\left(z_{1}\right), \ldots, f\left(z_{d}\right)$ is a free generating set for $L_{2}$ and $z_{d+1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ generate $\operatorname{Ker} f$ as a normal subgroup or an ideal. In particular, let $P$ be a retract of a free metabelian $A_{q} A-g r o u p ~ o r ~ L i e ~ k-a l g e b r a ~ L ~ w i t h ~ a ~ p r o j e c t-~$ ion $f: L \longrightarrow P, k$ as above with $k_{0}$ a principal ideal ring. Then by [2] $P$ is free and $L$ possesses a free generating set $z_{1}, \ldots$ $\ldots, z_{n}$ such that $f\left(z_{i}\right)=z_{1}$ mod Kerf in addition to the properties mentioned above.

A consideration of metabelian Lie algebras is motivated by the following reason. If $k$ is a field, chark $=0$, then any proper subvariety of metabelian Lie algebras is nilpotent (see [3]). Moreover, this variety is semisimple,[4]. By [5] if L is a free nilpotent algebra over a fifid with a retract $P$ then $P$ is a free factor of $L$. A trivial example in § 3 shows that this does not hold for metabelian lie algebras.

It is worthy of mention that the similar results for absolutely free linear algebras were exhibited in [6].
§ 1. Homomorphisms of free metabelian Lie algebras. First we need a representation of free metabelian Lie algebras of finite rank $n$. Let $K=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right]$ be a polynomial ring with the augmentation ideal $m=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ and $M$ a free
$K$-module with the base $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Define an epimorphism of K-modules

$$
\ell: M \rightarrow m, \ell\left(e_{i}\right)=x_{i} .
$$

Then $M$ can be regarded as a k-algebra with the multiplication
(1)

$$
a b=\mathscr{L}(b)_{a}-\mathcal{L}(a)_{b}, a, b \in M .
$$

A direct calculation shows that $M$ is a metabelian Lie algebra. Put

$$
L=\left\{a \in M \mid \ell(a)=\sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_{i} X_{i}, \quad \alpha_{i} \in k\right\}
$$

Theorem. 1 is a subalgebra in $M$ and a free metabelian Lie algebra with the base $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$.

The proof under assumption that $k$ is a field was given in [7]. But this restriction on $k$ was not used in the proof and is not necessary.

Corollary. $\quad L^{\prime}=$ Kerl.
Proof. If $a, b \in L$, then by (1) $\ell(a b)=0$. Conversely, if

$$
n=\sum \alpha_{i} e_{i} \bmod L^{\prime}, \quad \alpha_{i} \in k,
$$

and $h(a)=0$, then $h(a)=\Sigma \alpha_{i} X_{i}$ implies $\alpha_{1}=\ldots=$ $=\alpha_{n}=0$ and $a \in L^{\prime}$.

Consider now.two free metabelian Lie algebras $L_{1}, L_{2}$ over $k$ with the bases $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$ and $u_{1}, \ldots, u_{d}$. Let

$$
K_{1}=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right], \quad K_{2}=k\left[Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{d}\right]
$$

and $M_{i}, K_{i}, m_{i}, l_{i}$ be associated with $L_{i}, 1=1,2$, by Theo-
rem 1. Given any homomorphism $\varphi: K_{1} \longrightarrow K_{2}$ of $k$-algebras such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi\left(x_{i}\right)=\Sigma \varphi_{i j} Y_{j}, \quad \varphi_{i j} \in k, \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

consider a $\varphi$-semilinear homomorphism $h: M_{1} \longrightarrow M_{2}$ of modules making commutative the following diagram


Proposition 1. $h$ is a homomorphism of Lie algebras, defined by ( 1 ), and $h\left(L_{1}\right) \subseteq L_{2}$.

Proof. If $a, b \in M_{1}$ then by (1) and ( $2^{\prime}$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
& h(a b)=h\left(\ell_{1}(b)_{a}-\ell_{1}(a) b\right)=\varphi\left(\ell_{1}(b)\right) h(a)-\varphi\left(\ell_{1}(a)\right)_{h}(b)= \\
& =\ell_{2}(h(b))_{h(a)}-\ell_{2}(h(a))_{h(b)}=h(a) h(b) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Also by (2) and Theorem 1 we have $h\left(L_{1}\right) \subseteq L_{2}$.
Now we show that every homomorphism $\mathrm{f}: \mathrm{L}_{1} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~L}_{2}$ can be extended to a unique semilinear homomorphism ( $h, \varphi$ ) with the properties (2), (2'). In order to do this define $\varphi: K_{1} \rightarrow K_{2}$ as $\varphi\left(X_{i}\right)=l_{2}\left(f\left(e_{i}\right)\right)$. Note that by ( $2^{\prime}$ ) and Theorem 1 this is the unique way of defining $\varphi$. Define also $\mathrm{h}: \mathrm{M}_{1} \rightarrow \mathrm{M}_{2}$ by $h\left(e_{i}\right)=f\left(e_{i}\right)$.

Proposition 2. If $a \in L_{1}$, then $f(a)=h(a)$.
Proof. The case $a=e_{i}$ follows from definition. If $f\left(a_{j}\right)=h\left(a_{j}\right)$, then $f\left(\sum \propto_{j} a_{j}\right)=h\left(\sum \propto_{j} a_{j}\right)$. Now let $f(a)=$ $=h(a), f(b)=h(b)$. In this case
$f(a b)=f(a) f(b)=\ell_{2}(f(b)) f(a)-\ell_{2}(f(a)) f(b)=$ $=\ell_{2}(h(b)) h(a)-\ell_{2}(h(a)) h(b)=h(a) h(b)=h(a b)$
by Proposition 1.
Thus we have proved
Theorem 2. Each semilinear map (h, $\varphi$ ) with (2),(2') defines a homomorphism $f: L_{1} \longrightarrow L_{2}$ of free metabelian Lie algebras and conversely every homomorphism $f: L_{1} \longrightarrow L_{2}$ of Lie algebras has a unique representation by a semilinear morphism of modules.

By uniqueness the correspondence between morphisms of Lie algebras and semilinear morphisms is functorial. Starting from now we identify homomorphism $\mathrm{P}: \mathrm{L}_{1} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~L}_{2}$ with its semilinear representation ( $h, \varphi$ ).
§ 2. Automorphismg of free metabelian Lie algebras. In this part we consider the case $L_{1}=L_{2}=L$ and $f=(h, \varphi) \in$ $\epsilon$ Aut L. By the corollary from Theorem 1 an automorphism $f$ is identical on $L / L^{\prime}$ iff $\varphi=1$. Let $G$ be a group of all these automorphisms (IA-automorphisms in terms of [1]). It is clear that $G \subset$ Aut $L$ and by [5] Aut $L$ is a semidirect product of $G L(n, k)$ and $G$. By ( $\left.2^{\prime}\right) f=(h, 1) \in G$ iff $h$ is an automorphism of $M$ as $K$-module, that is $h \in G L(n, K)$, and $\ell(a)=$ $=\ell(f(a))$ for all $a \in M$. If $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$ is a base of $M, \ell\left(e_{i}\right)=$ $=X_{i}$, then $h=\left(h_{i j}\right)$, where $h\left(e_{i}\right)=\sum_{j=1}^{m} e_{j} h_{j i}$ and

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{i}=\ell\left(e_{1}\right)=\ell\left(h\left(e_{i}\right)\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{j} h_{j i} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

This implies $h_{i j}=\sigma_{i j}+g_{i j}$, where $\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_{i} g_{i j}=0, j=1, \ldots$ ...., n. Hence,

$$
h=E+T E S L(n, K), T=\left(g_{i j}\right)
$$

In particular for $n=2$ we have

$$
T=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
x_{2} t_{1} & x_{2} t_{2} \\
-x_{1} t_{1} & -x_{1} t_{2}
\end{array}\right) \quad t_{1}, t_{2} \in k\left[x_{1}, x_{2}\right]
$$

and
$I=\operatorname{det}(E+T)=\left(1+X_{2} t_{1}\right)\left(1-X_{1} t_{2}\right)+X_{1} X_{2} t_{1} t_{2}=1+$ $+X_{2} t_{1}-X_{1} t_{2}$, that is $t_{1}=X_{1} t^{\prime} t_{2}=X_{2} t$.Hence,

$$
T=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
x_{1} x_{2} t & x_{2}^{2} t \\
-x_{1}^{2} t & -x_{1} x_{2} t
\end{array}\right)=T(t)
$$

Note that $T(t) T\left(t^{\prime}\right)=0$ and thus for $E+T(t), E+T\left(t^{\prime}\right) \in G$ we have

$$
(E+T(t))\left(E+T\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)=E+T\left(t^{4} t^{\prime}\right)
$$

Thus, we have proved
Theorem 3. If $L$ is a free metabelian Lie algebra of rank 2, then Aut $L$ is a semidirect product of $G L(2, k)$ and a group $G$ of IA-automorphisms isomorphic to the additive group of $k\left[X_{1}, X_{2}\right]$.
§ 3. Epimorphisms of free metabelian Lie algebras. In this part we assume that for all $s, r$ the group $G L\left(s, k\left[X_{1}, \ldots\right.\right.$ $\left.\ldots, X_{r}\right]$ ) acts transitively on unimodular rows (see [81). This is equivalent to the following fact: if $R=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{s}\right]$ and $M$ is $R$-module such that $R^{s} \simeq M \oplus R^{p}$ then $M \simeq R^{s-p}$. The fundamental result of [8] shows that this condition is satisfied when $k=k_{0}\left[Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{n}, Z_{1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots, Z_{r}^{ \pm 1}\right]$, where $k_{0}$ is a Dedekind
ring.
Let $L_{i}, K_{i}, M_{i}, m_{i}, \ell_{i}, i=1,2$, be as in $\S 1$ and $f$ : $: L_{1} \rightarrow L_{2}$ an epimorphism, $f=(h, \varphi), r L_{1}=n, r k L_{2}=d$. Since $L_{2}$ is projective it can be regarded as a retract of $L_{1}$, that is $L_{2}$ is a subalgebra in $L_{1}$ and there is a projection $f: L_{1} \rightarrow L_{2}$ identical on $L_{2}$, i.e. $f^{2}=$ f. By (2), Theorem 2 and the remark made after this theorem $\rho$ is an idem potent endomorphism of $K_{1}=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right]$, where $\varphi\left(X_{1}\right)=$ $=\sum \varphi_{i j} X_{j}, \quad \varphi_{i j} \in k$. Thus $\varphi$ is an idempotent endomorphism of a free $k$-module $k X_{1}+\ldots+k X_{n} \simeq k^{n}$ and $\operatorname{Im} \varphi \simeq k^{d}$ since $L_{2}$ is free. By the remark made above $\operatorname{Ker} \varphi \simeq k^{n-d}$ and thus

$$
K=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right]=k\left[Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{n}\right]
$$

for some $Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{n}$, where

$$
\varphi\left(Y_{1}\right)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
Y_{1}, i=1, \ldots, d  \tag{4}\\
0, i=d+1, \ldots, n
\end{array}\right.
$$

Let $\propto=\left(\alpha_{i j}\right) \in \operatorname{GL}(n, k) \subseteq$ Aut $K$ and $Y_{1}=\alpha\left(X_{i}\right)=\sum_{j} \alpha_{i j} X_{j}$, $i=1, \ldots, n$. Then the map $g, g\left(e_{i}\right)=\sum_{j} \propto_{i j} e_{j}$ defines an $\propto$-semilinear map $(g, \propto)$ for

$$
\ell_{1}\left(g\left(e_{i}\right)\right)=\Sigma \alpha_{i j} X_{j}=Y_{i}=\propto\left(X_{i}\right)=\propto\left(\ell_{1}\left(e_{i}\right)\right) .
$$

Thus without loss of generality we can suppose from the very beginning that in (4)

$$
\varphi\left(x_{1}\right)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
x_{1}, \quad 1=1, \ldots, d ; \\
0, \quad 1=d+1, \ldots, n
\end{array}\right.
$$

Let $M_{2}$ be the augmentation ideal $\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{d}\right)=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots\right.$ $\left.\ldots, X_{d}\right], \operatorname{Imh}=M_{2}$, and $J=\left(X_{d+1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right) \triangleleft k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right]$, $f=(h, \varphi)$, where $\varphi$ from (4'). Then the diagram (2') looks
as


Note that by ( $4^{\prime}$ ) $J M_{1} \subseteq$ Ker $h$ and hence (5) induces a commutative diagram


Now $M_{1}^{\prime}$ is a free $K_{2}=k\left[X_{1}, \ldots, X_{d}\right]$-module with the base $e_{i}^{\prime}=$ $=e_{i}+J M_{1}, l \leqslant i \leqslant n$, and by $\left(5^{\prime}\right) h^{\prime}$ is an epimorphism of free $K_{2}$-modules. As we have already noticed Ker $h$ is a free $K_{2}$-module of rank $n-d$. Now we can identify $M_{1}^{\prime}$ with $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} K_{2} e_{i} \subseteq M_{1}$. Thus we choose in $M_{1}$ a new base $w_{1}, \ldots, w_{n} \in \sum_{i=1}^{m} K_{2} e_{i}$ such that $h\left(w_{1}\right), \ldots, h\left(w_{d}\right)$ is a base for $M_{2}$ and $w_{d+1}, \ldots, w_{n} \in \operatorname{Ker} h$. Moreover, $\operatorname{Ker} \varphi=J$. Since $X_{i}+m_{1}^{2}, 1=1, \ldots, n$ is a base of a free k-module $m_{1} / m_{1}^{2}$ by ( $4^{\circ}$ ) we can also assume that

$$
H=\left(\begin{array}{c}
\ell_{1}\left(w_{1}\right) \\
\vdots \\
\vdots \\
\ell_{n}\left(w_{n}\right)
\end{array}\right) \equiv X \bmod J, \text { where } X=\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{1} \\
\vdots \\
\vdots \\
x_{n}
\end{array}\right)
$$

for we can al ways suppose that $\ell_{2}\left(h\left(w_{i}\right)\right)=X_{i}, i=1, \ldots, d$, and $w_{j} \in \operatorname{Ker} h$ implies $\ell_{l}\left(w_{j}\right) \in J$. Thus $H$ is $\mathbb{M}_{1}$-modular (sea
[2],[7]).
Consider now a subgroup $D \subseteq G L\left(n, K_{1}\right)$ generated by $G L\left(n, K_{1}, J\right)$ (see [9]) and all matrices
$\left(\begin{array}{ll}A & U \\ 0 & B\end{array}\right), A \in G L\left(d, K_{1}\right), B \in G L\left(n-d, K_{1}\right)$.
Proposition 3. There exists $C \in D$ such that $C H=X$.
The proof in a more general situation will be given in Proposition 4.

Since $W_{d+1}, \ldots, W_{n} \in K e r h, J_{1} \subseteq K e r h$ by Proposition 3 for a new base $u_{i}=C w_{i}, i=1, \ldots, n$ in $M_{1}$ we have

$$
\ell_{1}\left(u_{i}\right)=X_{i}, i=1, \ldots, n ; u_{j} \in \operatorname{Kerh}, j=d+1, \ldots, n
$$ and $h\left(u_{1}\right), \ldots, h\left(u_{d}\right)$ is a base for $M_{2}$. Thus we have proved

Theorem 4. Let $k$ be a ring such that GL(s,k[X,$\ldots$ $\left.\ldots, X_{1}\right]$ ) acts transitively on sets of unimodular columns for all $s$, r. If $f: L_{1} \longrightarrow I_{2}$ is an epimorphism of free metabelian Lie algebras over $k, r k L_{1}=n, r k L_{2}=d$, then $L_{1}$ possesses a free base $u_{1}, \ldots, u_{n}$ such that $f\left(u_{1}\right), \ldots, f\left(u_{d}\right)$ is a base for $L_{2}$ and $u_{d+1}, \ldots, u_{n}$ generate Kerf as an ideal. In particular, the theorem holds for $k=k_{0}\left[Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{c}, Z_{1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots, Z_{p}^{ \pm 1}\right]$, where $k_{0}$ is a Dedekind ring (see [8]).

Corollary. Let $k$ be as above with $k_{0}$ a principal ideal ring, $L$ a free metabelian Lie algebra over $k, r k L=n$, and $P$ a retract of $L$, $r k P=d$ (see [2],[7]). If $f: L \longrightarrow P$ is a prom jection, then $L$ possesses a free base $u_{1}, \ldots, u_{n}$ with the properties of Theorem 4 such that in addition $f\left(u_{i}\right) \equiv u_{i}$ mod Kerf, $i=1, \ldots, d$.

Proof. By [2] $P$ is free and $f(a)-a \in K e r f$ for all $a \in L$
since $f^{2}=f$.
Now we need to prove Proposition 3. Following [2] consider a more general situation: let $A_{0} \subset A_{1} \subset \ldots \subset A_{n} \subset \ldots$ be $a$ chain of commutative rings, $l \in A_{0}$ and for all $i$

1) $A_{i}$ is a retract of $A_{1+1}$ with kernel $\left(X_{i+1}\right)$;
2) each $X_{i}$ is not a zero divizor;
3) if $m_{1}=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{i}\right) \triangleleft A_{i}$, then $m_{i} / m_{i}^{2}$ is a free $A_{0}-$ module of rank $1 ;$
4) GL( $t, A_{i}$ ) acts transitively on sets of unimodular columns for all $t \geq 1$.

Proposition 4. Let $H$ be a column of length $t \geq n$, that is an element of a free $A_{n}$-module $A_{n}^{t}, J=\left(X_{d+1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right)<A_{n}$ and

$$
\mathrm{H}=\mathrm{X}=\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{1} \\
\dot{x_{n}} \\
x_{n} \\
\dot{0} \\
\dot{0}
\end{array}\right) \text { modJ }
$$

If $H$ is $M_{n}$-modular then there exists $C \in D$ (definition $D$ as in Proposition 3) such that $\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{X}$.

Proof. The case $d=n$ is trivial. Suppose now that for $\mathrm{n}-1$ the affirmation has been proved. By induction (see [2]) for $n$ we can suppose that $H \equiv X \bmod X_{n}$. Again by [2] there exists $C_{1} \in D$ such that $H_{1}=C_{1} H \approx X \bmod X_{n}^{3}$ and thus for some unimodular $Q \in \mathbb{A}_{n}^{t}$

$$
\left.Q \equiv\left(\begin{array}{c}
0  \tag{6}\\
\dot{i} \\
0 \\
\dot{0}
\end{array}\right)\right\}^{n} \quad \bmod x_{n}
$$

the product

$$
Q^{*} H_{1}=X_{n}
$$

By (6) and 4) as it is well known there exists $C_{2} \in G L\left(t, A_{n}\right.$, $X_{n}$ ) with $Q$ as the $n-t h$ row. Hence by ( $6^{\circ}$ ) the $n$-th element in the column $\mathrm{H}_{2}=\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{1}$ is $\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{n}}$ and still $\mathrm{H}_{2}=\mathrm{X}$ mod $\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{n}}$. Eventually applying matrices

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
U & \nabla \\
0 & W
\end{array}\right), \quad U \in G L\left(d, A_{n}\right), W \in G L\left(t-d, A_{n}\right)
$$

we obtain X. The proof is over.
In [5] it was shown that if $L$ was a free algebra over a field in a nilpotent variety and $P$ retract of $L$, then $P$ was free and $\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{P} * \mathrm{~B}$. The following example shows that this condition is not satisfied in metabelian Lie algebras, though by [3] and [4] they are quite close to nilpotent algebras. Let $L$ be a free metabelian algebra over a ring $k$ with the base $e_{1}, e_{2}$. Define $f: L \longrightarrow L, f=(h, \varphi)$ as in $\S 1$ by (7) $\quad h\left(e_{1}\right)=e_{1}+X e_{2}-Y e_{1}, h\left(e_{2}\right)=0, \varphi(X)=X, \varphi(Y)=0$. Then $\mathrm{f}^{2}=\mathrm{f}$. Suppose that there exists a base $u_{1}=h\left(e_{1}\right), u_{2}$ in $M$ such that $\ell\left(u_{1}\right)=X, \quad \ell\left(u_{2}\right)=Y$ and $h\left(u_{2}\right)=0$. By Theorem 3

$$
u_{1}=\left(1+X Y_{g}\right) e_{1}+Y^{2} g e_{2} \quad g \in k[X, Y]
$$

Via (7) this is not possible. Hence Imf is not a free factor of L .
§ 4. Homomorphisms of free metabelian $A_{q} A$-groups. Let $q \geq 0$ and $q \neq 1$. If $C_{n}$ is a free abelian group with free generators $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ consider a group ring $K=\mathbb{Z} / q \mathbb{Z} \quad C_{n}=$ $=\mathbb{Z} / q \mathbb{Z}\left[x_{1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots, x_{n}^{ \pm 1}\right]$ with the augmentation ideal $m=$ $=\left(x_{1}-1, \ldots, x_{n}-1\right)$. Let $M$ be a free $K$-module with the base $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}$. Define $\ell: M \longrightarrow m$ by $\ell\left(e_{i}\right)=X_{1}$ - 1. Following [1],[2] a free $A_{q} A-g r o u p ~ F$ of rank $n$ is a group of all matrices
(8)

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
a & 0 \\
b & 1
\end{array}\right) \quad a \in C_{n}, \quad b \in M, \quad \ell(b)=a-1
$$

The free generators of $F$ are

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
x_{i} & 0 \\
e_{i} & 1
\end{array}\right) \quad i=1, \ldots, n
$$

Note that by [1] $F^{\prime}$ consists of all matrices (8) with $a=1$, or equally $\ell(b)=0$.

We are going to show that the results similar to those of $\S 1,3$ hold for metabelian groups. Let $C_{1}$ be a free abelian group with the base $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n} ; C_{2}$ with the base $Y_{1}, \ldots$ $\ldots, Y_{p} ; K_{i}=Z / q \mathbb{Z} C_{i}, M_{i}, m_{i}, \ell_{i}, i=1,2$, correspond to free $A_{q} A-$ groups $F_{1}$ and $F_{2}$. Let $f: F_{1} \rightarrow F_{2}$ be a group homomorphism. As in [1] define $\varphi: K_{1} \longrightarrow K_{2}$ and $h: M_{1} \rightarrow M_{2}$ by

$$
f\left(\begin{array}{ll}
a & 0  \tag{9}\\
b & 1
\end{array}\right)=\binom{\varphi(a), 0}{h(b), 1}
$$

Thus by (9) we define group homomorphism $\varphi: C_{1} \longrightarrow C_{2}$ which

- in its turn determines ring homomorphism $\varphi: K_{1} \rightarrow K_{2}$ an easy calculation based on matrix multiplication shows that $h$ is a $\varphi$-semilinear homomorphism $h: M_{1} \longrightarrow M_{2}$. Note that by ( 9 )

$$
\ell_{2}(h(b))=\varphi(a)-1=\varphi\left(\ell_{2}(b)\right)
$$

or equally, the following diagram is commatative ( $9^{\circ \prime}$ )


Conversely, if $\varphi: C_{1} \longrightarrow C_{2}$ is a group homomorphism, $h:$ $: M_{1} \longrightarrow M_{2}$ is a $\varphi$-semilinear morphism and ( $9^{\circ \prime}$ ) is commutative, then by ( 9 ) the pair ( $h, \varphi$ ) determines group homomorphism $f=(h, \varphi): F_{1} \longrightarrow F_{2}$. It is clear that this correspondence is one-to-one and is functorial.

Theorem 5. Let $f: F_{1} \rightarrow F_{2}$ be an epimorphism of free $A_{q} \AA$-groups, $q \geq 0, q \neq 1, r k F_{1}=n, r k F_{2}=d$. Then there exists a base $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ in $F_{1}$ such that $f\left(z_{1}\right), \ldots, f\left(z_{d}\right)$ is a base for $F_{2}$ and $z_{d+1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ generate Kerf as a normal subgroup.

Corollary. Let $P$ be a retract of a free $A_{q} A-g r o u p ~ F$ with a projection $f: F \rightarrow P$. Then $F$ possesses a base $z_{1}, \ldots$ $\ldots, z_{n}$ as in Theorem 5 and in addition $f\left(z_{i}\right) \equiv z_{i}$ mod Kerf, $i=1, \ldots, d$.

The proof follows immediately from freeness of $P$ (see [2]).

Proof of Theorem 2. First we assume that $q=0$ or $q$ is a prime. If $f: F_{1} \rightarrow F_{2}$ is onto as in $§ 3$ we can assume that

$$
\varphi\left(x_{i}\right)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
x_{i}, i=1, \ldots, d,  \tag{10}\\
1, i=d+1, \ldots, n
\end{array}\right.
$$

Put $J=\left(x_{d+1}-1, \ldots, x_{n}-1\right) \Delta K_{1}$. If $A_{i}=Z / q \mathbb{Z}\left[x_{1}^{ \pm 1}, \ldots\right.$
$\left.\ldots, x_{i}^{ \pm 1}\right]$, then by [8] the conditions 1) - 4) in § 3 , where $X_{i}$ stands for $X_{i}-1$, are satisfied. Hence, as in the proof of Theorem 4 we can choose in $M_{1}$ a new base $u_{1}, \ldots, u_{n}$ such that if $f=(h, \varphi)$, then

$$
\begin{gathered}
\ell_{1}\left(u_{i}\right)=X_{i}-1, i=1, \ldots, n \\
u_{j} \in \operatorname{Kerh}^{\prime}, j=d+1, \ldots, n
\end{gathered}
$$

and $h\left(u_{1}\right), \ldots, h\left(u_{d}\right)$ is the base for $M_{2}$. By $(9),\left(9^{\prime}\right),\left(9^{\prime \prime}\right)$ and (10)

$$
z_{1}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
x_{1} & 0 \\
u_{1} & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$

is the necessary base for $F_{1}$ (see $[1,2]$ ). Thus in the case $q=0$ or $q$ prime the theorem is proved.

Suppose now that $q=p^{t}$, where $p$ is a prime, and $f: F_{1} \rightarrow$ $\rightarrow F_{2}$ as in the theorem. Let $N_{1} \triangleleft F_{i}$ be a verbal subgroup in $F_{1}$ corresponding to the subvariety $A_{p} A \subset A_{q} A$. Then $f$ induces $f^{\prime}: F_{1} / N_{1} \rightarrow F_{2} / N_{2}$. By the preceding results there exists a base $z_{1}^{\prime}, \ldots, z_{n}^{\prime}$ in $F_{1} / N_{2}$ associated with $f^{\prime}$. By [2] there is a base $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ in $F_{1}$ such that $z_{i} \equiv z_{i}$ mod $N_{1}$. By the same argument $f\left(z_{1}\right), \ldots, f\left(z_{d}\right)$ is a base for $F_{2}$. Thus,

$$
f\left(z_{j}\right)=g_{j}\left(f\left(z_{1}\right), \ldots, f\left(z_{d}\right)\right), j=d+1, \ldots, n
$$

and hence,

$$
z_{1}, \ldots, z_{d}, z_{j} g_{j}^{-1}\left(z_{1}, \ldots, z_{d}\right), j=d+1, \ldots, n
$$

is the base we need.
Finally we have to consider the case of arbitrary $q>2$. Let $q$ have a prime-power factorization $q=\Pi q_{i}$ with prime powers $q_{i}$. Note that $q_{i}$ are coprime for distinct 1 . Let $f$,
$F_{1}, C_{i}, K_{i}, M_{i}, m_{i}, \ell_{1}, i=1,2$, be as above. Put $s_{i}=q q_{i}^{-1}$ and consider a $\mathbb{Z} / q_{j} \mathbb{Z} C_{i}$-module $s_{j} M_{i}$ with epimorphism of $\mathbb{Z} / q_{j} \mathbb{Z} \quad C_{i}$-modules

$$
s_{j} l_{i}: s_{j} M_{i} \longrightarrow s_{j} m_{i}
$$

As in [2d the group $F_{i j}$ of all matrices

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
a & 0 \\
s_{j} b & 1
\end{array}\right), a \in C_{i}, b \in M_{i}, s_{j}(a-1)=s_{j} l_{i}(b)
$$

forms a free $A_{q_{j}}$ A-group with free generators

$$
\left(\begin{array}{cc}
x_{i} & 0 \\
s_{j} e_{i} & 1
\end{array}\right), i=1, \ldots, n
$$

The epimorphism $f: F_{1} \rightarrow F_{2}$ induces epimorphism $f_{j}: F_{1 j} \rightarrow F_{2 j}$ for all $J$. From a prime power case for every $j$ there is a base $z_{1 j}, \ldots, z_{n j}$ in $F_{l j}$ such that images of the first $d$ of them form a base in $F_{2 j}$, the others generate $\operatorname{Ker} f_{j}$ as a normal subgroup. Moreover, as it follows from the preceding case

$$
z_{i j}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
x_{i} & 0 \\
s_{j} u_{i j} & 1
\end{array}\right), i=1, \ldots, n
$$

By [2] there exist free generators $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{n}$ in $F_{i}$ such that

$$
z_{i}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
x_{i} & 0 \\
u_{i} & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$

and $s_{j} u_{i}=s_{j} u_{i j}$ for all $i, j$. The same argument shows that images of $z_{1}, \ldots, z_{d}$ form a free generating set for $F_{2}$. Thus as in prime-power case we can construct the necessary base
$z_{1}, \ldots, z_{d}, z_{j} g_{j}^{-1}, j=d+1, \ldots, n$, where $g_{j}=g_{j}\left(z_{1}, \ldots\right.$ $\ldots, z_{d}$ ).

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