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**CHARACTERIZATION OF POLYNOMIALS
IN ALGEBRAIC OPERATORS WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS**

In this paper a characterization of polynomials in algebraic operators with constant coefficients is given. We solve two types of operator equations which will be called linear algebraic equations, namely equations of the form

$$P(X) = Y \quad \text{and} \quad P(A)X - XQ(B) = Y,$$

where $P(t)$ and $Q(t)$ are polynomials; A and B are algebraic elements.

1. Let X be an algebra (a linear ring) with unit I over the field of complex numbers. Let A be an algebraic element in X with the characteristic polynomial

$$(1.1) \quad P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n (t-t_j)^{\vartheta_j}, \quad t_i \neq t_j, \quad i \neq j,$$

$$\vartheta_1 + \vartheta_2 + \dots + \vartheta_n = N.$$

(cf. [1]).

The element A has the following properties important in our further considerations:

Proposition 1.1. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial (1.1) and let $Q_i(t)$ be a polynomial in variable t with complex coefficients, satisfying the condition

$$(1.2) \quad Q_i(t_i) \neq 0.$$

If $P(t) = (t-t_i)^{\alpha_i} Q_i(t)$, $0 \leq \alpha_i < \nu_i$, then $P(A) \neq 0$.

Proof. Suppose that there exists a polynomial $Q_{j_0}(t)$ and an integer α_{j_0} in the interval $0 \leq \alpha_{j_0} < \nu_{j_0}$ such that

$$(1.3) \quad P(t) = (t-t_{j_0})^{\alpha_{j_0}} Q_{j_0}(t) \quad \text{and} \quad P(A) = 0,$$

Without loss of generality, we can admit

$$Q_{j_0}(t) = \prod_{j \neq j_0} (t-t_j)^{\nu'_j} Q(t)$$

where $Q(t_j) \neq 0$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $\nu'_j > \nu_j$.

Thus the element $[Q(A)]^{-1}$ exists (cf. [1]). Thus, $P(A) = 0$ if and only if $P_1(A) = 0$, where

$$P_1(t) = (t-t_{j_0})^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} (t-t_j)^{\nu_j}.$$

Consider the polynomial

$$P_2(t) = P_1(t) + P_A(t).$$

We know from the above discussion that

$$P_2(A) = 0,$$

$$P_2(t) = (t-t_{j_0})^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} (t-t_j)^{\nu_j} P_3(t),$$

where

$$P_3(t) = (t-t_{j_0})^{\nu_{j_0} - \alpha_{j_0}} + \prod_{j \neq j_0} (t-t_j)^{\nu'_j - \nu_j}.$$

For each $j, 1 \leq j \leq n$ we have $P_3(t_j) \neq 0$. Hence $P_3(A)$ is invertible. Thus $P_2(A) = 0$ if and only if

$$P_4(A) = 0$$

where

$$P_4(t) = (t - t_{j_0})^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} (t - t_j)^{\beta_j}.$$

On the other hand, $\deg P_4(t) < \deg P_A(t)$, which contradicts our assumption.

Lemma 1.1. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial (1.1) and let $G(t) = g_0 t^s + g_1 t^{s-1} + \dots + g_s$ be a polynomial of degree s in t , satisfying the conditions

$$(1.4) \quad \begin{cases} G(t_i) \neq G(t_j), & i \neq j \\ G'(t_j) \neq 0, & i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

If $V = G(A)$ then

$$(1.5) \quad P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n (t - G(t_j))^{\beta_j}.$$

Proof. Write $P(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n [t - G(t_j)]^{\beta_j}$. Then

$$P(V) = \prod_{j=1}^n [G(A) - G(t_j)]^{\beta_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n (A - t_j I)^{\beta_j} \prod_{j=1}^n [G(A, t_j)]^{\beta_j},$$

where

$$(1.6) \quad \begin{cases} G(t, t_j) = g_0 \sigma_{s-1}(t, t_j) + g_1 \sigma_{s-2}(t, t_j) + \dots + g_{s-1} \sigma_k(t, t_j) \\ \sigma_k(t, t_j) = t^k + t_j t^{k-1} + \dots + t_j^k. \end{cases}$$

Thus the characteristic roots of the element $V = G(A)$ are $G(t_1), G(t_2), \dots, G(t_n)$.

Let $Q(t) = [(t - G(t_{j_0}))]^{\alpha_{j_0}} Q_1(t)$ and $Q(V) = 0$, where $Q_1[G(t_{j_0})] \neq 0$, $\alpha_{j_0} \leq v_{j_0}$, j_0 fixed, $0 \leq j_0 \leq n$.

Without loss of generality we can admit

$$Q(t) = [t - G(t_{j_0})]^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} [t - G(t_j)]^{v'_j}, \quad v'_j > v_j$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} Q(V) &= [G(A) - G(t_{j_0})I]^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} \{[A - t_j I]G(A, t_j)\}^{v'_j} = \\ &= (A - t_{j_0} I)^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} [A - t_j I]^{v_j} [G(A, t_{j_0})]^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} [G(A, t_j)]^{v'_j} \end{aligned}$$

where $G(t, t_j)$ are given by formula (1.6).

We put

$$G_1(t) = [G(t, t_{j_0})]^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} [G(t, t_j)]^{v'_j}.$$

We shall show that

$$(1.7) \quad G_1(t_\mu) \neq 0, \quad \mu = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

The proofs are based on the identity

$$\sigma_k(t_\mu, t_j) = \begin{cases} \frac{t_\mu^{k+1} - t_j^{k+1}}{t_\mu - t_j} & \text{when } \mu \neq j \\ (k+1)t_j & \text{when } \mu = j. \end{cases}$$

By (1.4)

$$G(t_i, t_j) \neq 0 \text{ if } i \neq j$$

and

$$G(t_j, t_j) = G'(t_j) \neq 0,$$

therefore (1.7) holds.

Thus the element $G_1(A)$ is invertible and $Q(V) = 0$ (or $\neq 0$) if and only if

$$(A - t_{j_0} I)^{\alpha_{j_0}} \prod_{j \neq j_0} (A - t_j I)^{\beta_j} = 0 \quad (\text{respectively } \neq 0).$$

By Proposition 1.1 this implies that $Q(V) = 0$, which contradicts our assumption.

Lemma 1.2. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial (1.1). Let $G(t) = g_0 t^s + g_1 t^{s-1} + \dots + g_s$ be a polynomial, satisfying the conditions

$$(1.8) \quad G(t_i) \neq G(t_j), \quad i \neq j$$

$$(1.9) \quad G'(t_j) = \dots = G^{(s_j)}(t_j) = 0, \quad G^{(s_j+1)}(t_j) \neq 0$$

$$j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

If $V = G(A)$, then

$$(1.10) \quad P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n [t - G(t_j)]^{\delta_j},$$

where

$$\delta_j = \begin{cases} \theta_j & \text{when } \theta_j \text{ is an integer} \\ [\theta_j] + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\theta_j = \frac{\nu_j}{s_j + 1}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

P r o o f. The method of proof is similar to that of Lemma 1.1. From (1.8) - (1.9) we obtain

$$(1.11) \quad \begin{cases} G(t, t_j) = (t - t_j)^{\nu_j} G_j(t, t_j), \quad \text{where} \\ G_j(t_\mu, t_j) \neq 0, \quad \mu, j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

Thus $G(A, t_j) = (A - t_j I)^{\nu_j} G_j(A, t_j)$, where elements $G_j(A, t_j)$ are invertible.

Write $P(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n [t - G(t_j)]^{\alpha_j}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(V) &= \prod_{j=1}^n [G(A) - G(t_j)T]^{\alpha_j} = \prod_{j=1}^n (A - t_j I)^{\alpha_j} \prod_{j=1}^n [G(A, t_j)]^{\alpha_j} = \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^n (A - t_j I)^{(1+s_j)\alpha_j} \prod_{j=1}^n G_j(A, t_j)^{\alpha_j}. \end{aligned}$$

By (1.11) the element $\prod_{j=1}^n [G_j(A, t_j)]^{\alpha_j}$ is invertible.

From the above discussion we conclude that $P(V) = 0$ if and only if

$$\prod_{j=1}^n (A - t_j I)^{(1+s_j)\alpha_j} = 0.$$

By Proposition 1.1 we know that $(1+s_j)\alpha_j \geq \nu_j$; $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Thus $\alpha_j \geq \delta_j$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. This implies formula (1.10).

C o r o l l a r y 1.1. Let $G(t_i) \neq G(t_j)$; $i \neq j$. Then

$$n \leq \deg P_V(t) \leq N, \quad V = G(A)$$

and

$$\deg P_V(t) = n \text{ if only if } s_j+1 \geq v_j$$

$$\deg P_V(t) = N \text{ when } v_j = 1, j = 1, 2, \dots, n \text{ on } G'(t_j) \neq 0, \\ j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Lemma 1.3. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial (1.1) and let

$$G(t) = g_0 t^s + g_1 t^{s-1} + \dots + g_s$$

be a polynomial satisfying the conditions

$$(1.12) \quad \begin{cases} G(t_1) = G(t_n), \\ G(t_i) \neq G(t_j) \text{ when } i \neq j \text{ and } (i, j) \neq (1, n) \\ G'(t_j) \neq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

If $V = G(A)$ then

$$P_V(t) = [t - G(t_1)]^{\alpha_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [t - G(t_j)]^{v_j}$$

where $\alpha_1 = \max(v_1, v_n)$.

Proof. According to the assumption (1.12) we have

$$(1.13) \quad G(t) - G(t_1) = (t - t_1)(t - t_n)G(t, t_1, t_n)$$

where

$$G(t, t_1, t_n) = g_0 \sigma_{s-2}(t, t_1, t_n) + g_1 \sigma_{s-3}(t, t_1, t_n) + \dots +$$

$$+ g_{s-2} \sigma_k(t, t_1, t_n) = \sum_{\alpha+\beta+\gamma=k} t^\alpha t_1^\beta t_n^\gamma = \frac{\sigma_k(t, t_1)}{t_1 - t_n} - \frac{\sigma_k(t, t_n)}{t_1 - t_n},$$

$\sigma_k(t, t_j)$ given by the formula (1.6).

Let

$$P_1(t) = [t - G(t_1)]^{\alpha_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [t - G(t_j)]^{\alpha_j}.$$

From (1.13) we obtain

$$P_1(V) = [(A - t_1 I)(A - t_n I)]^{\alpha_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} (A - t_j I)^{\alpha_j} [G(A, t_1, t_n)]^{\alpha_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [G(A, t_j)]^{\alpha_j}.$$

Thus $P_1(V) = 0$. By Proposition 1.1 we know that, for each $P_2(t)$ with $\deg P_2(t) < \deg P_1(t)$ we have $P_2(A) \neq 0$. Without loss of generality we can admit

$$P_2(t) = [t - G(t_1)]^{\alpha'_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [t - G(t_j)]^{\alpha'_j}, \quad \alpha'_j \geq \alpha_j, \quad \alpha'_1 < \alpha_1.$$

Let $P_2(V) = 0$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [G(A) - G(t_1)]^{\alpha_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [G(A) - G(t_j)]^{\alpha_j} = \\ &= (A - t_1 I)^{\alpha_1} (A - t_n I)^{\alpha'_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} (A - t_j I)^{\alpha_j} [G(A, t_1, t_n)]^{\alpha'_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [G(A, t_j)]^{\alpha_j}. \end{aligned}$$

When $1 < j < n$ and

$$G(t_j, t_1, t_n) = \frac{1}{t_1 - t_n} [G(t_j, t_1) - G(t_j, t_n)] = \frac{G(t_j) - G(t_1)}{(t_j - t_1)(t_j - t_n)} \neq 0.$$

If $j = 1$, then

$$G(t_1, t_1, t_n) = \frac{1}{t_1 - t_n} [G(t_1, t_1) - G(t_1, t_n)] = \frac{G'(t_1)}{t_1 - t_n} \neq 0.$$

Similarly, if $j = n$, then

$$G(t_n, t_1, t_n) = \frac{G'(t_n)}{t_1 - t_n} \neq 0.$$

Thus $G(A, t_1, t_n)$ is invertible.

According to the proof of Lemma 1.1 we find that $G(A, t_j)$, $j = 2, 3, \dots, n-1$, are invertible. Hence $P_2(A) = 0$ if and only if

$$(A - t_1 I)^{\alpha'_1} (A - t_n I)^{\alpha'_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} (A - t_j I)^{\alpha_j} = 0$$

which contradicts our assumption.

Lemma 1.4. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n (t - t_j)^{\delta_j}.$$

Let $G(t) = g_0 t^s + g_1 t^{s-1} + \dots + g_s$ be a polynomial satisfying conditions:

- 1) $G(t_1) = G(t_n),$
- (1.14) 2) $G(t_1) \neq G(t_j) \neq G(t_i)$, $i \neq j$, $i, j = 2, 3, \dots, n-1$
- 3) $G'(t_j) = \dots = G^{(s_j)}(t_j) = 0$, $G^{(s_j+1)}(t_j) \neq 0$,
 $j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

If $V = G(A)$, then

$$(1.15) \quad P_V(t) = [t - G(t_1)]^{\alpha'_1} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [t - G(t_j)]^{\delta_j},$$

where

$$\alpha'_1 = \begin{cases} \theta_1 & \text{when } \theta_1 \text{ is an integer} \\ [\theta_1] + 1 & \text{when } \theta_1 \text{ is not an integer} \end{cases}$$

$$\theta_1 = \max \left(\frac{s_1}{s_1 + 1}, \frac{s_n}{s_n + 1} \right)$$

and

$$(1.16) \quad \delta_j = \begin{cases} \theta_j & \text{when } \theta_j \text{ is an integer} \\ [\theta_1] + 1 & \text{when } \theta_j \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} \quad j = 2, 3, \dots, n-1,$$

where

$$\theta_j = \frac{s_j}{s_j + 1}.$$

Proof. According to Lemma 1.2, if $j \in \{2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$, then δ_j is given by the formula (1.16).

By Proposition 1.1 there is an integer α such that $P(V) = 0$ where

$$P(t) = [t - G(t_1)]^\alpha \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} [t - G(t_j)]^{\delta_j}.$$

According to the proof of the Lemma 1.3, for $1 < j < n$

$$G(t_j, t_1, t_n) \neq 0$$

and from (1.14)

$$G(t, t_1, t_n) = (t - t_1)^{s_1} (t - t_n)^{s_n} G_1(t, t_1, t_n)$$

where

$$G_1(t_j, t_1, t_n) \neq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Thus $G_1(A, t_1, t_n)$ is invertible. This implies that $P(V) = 0$ if and only if

$$[(A - t_1 I)(A - t_n I)]^\alpha (A - t_1 I)^{\alpha s_1} (A - t_n I)^{\alpha s_n} \prod_{j=2}^{n-1} (A - t_j I)^{\delta_j} = 0.$$

Hence α satisfies the conditions

$$\alpha + \alpha s_1 \geq v_1,$$

$$\alpha + \alpha s_n \geq v_n$$

and

$$\alpha \geq \frac{1}{1 + s_n}, \quad \alpha \geq \frac{n}{1 + s_n}.$$

From this $\alpha = \alpha_1$ and the proof is complete.

For the general case we prove the following theorem.

Proposition 1.2. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$(1.17) \quad P_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j_i=1}^{n_i} (t - t_{ij_i})^{s_{ij_i}}, \quad t_{ij} \neq t_{\lambda\mu},$$

whenever $(i, j) \neq (\lambda, \mu)$.

Let $G(t)$ be a polynomial in the variable t with complex coefficients satisfying the conditions

$$(1.18) \quad \begin{cases} G(t_{kj_k}) = n_k, & k=1, 2, \dots, m, \quad j_k=1, 2, \dots, n_k, \\ G'(t_{kj_k}) = \dots = G^{(s_{kj_k})}(t_{kj_k}) = 0, & k=1, 2, \dots, m, \\ & j_k=1, 2, \dots, n_k, \\ G^{(s_{kj_k}+1)}(t_{kj_k}) \neq 0. & \end{cases}$$

If $V = G(A)$, then

$$(1.19) \quad P_V(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m (t - r_i)^{\delta_i}$$

where

$$(1.20) \quad \delta_i = \begin{cases} \alpha_i & \text{when } \alpha_i \text{ is an integer,} \\ [\alpha_i] + 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha_i = \max \left[\frac{\nu_{i1}}{s_{i1} + 1}, \frac{\nu_{i2}}{s_{i2} + 1}, \dots, \frac{\nu_{in_i}}{s_{in_i} + 1} \right]$.

Proof. By the hypothesis (1.18) we obtain the characteristic roots of V are r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m . Hence the characteristic polynomial of V is a polynomial of the form

$$P_V(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m (t - r_i)^{\delta'_i}.$$

According to Lemma 1.4 and Proposition 1.1 we have

$$\delta'_1 + \delta'_1 s_{i1} \geq \nu_{i1},$$

$$\delta'_1 + \delta'_1 s_{i2} \geq \nu_{i2}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

.....

$$\delta'_1 + \delta'_1 s_{in_i} \geq \nu_{in_i}.$$

This implies

$$\delta'_1 \geq \frac{\nu_{i1}}{1 + s_{i1}},$$

$$\delta'_1 \geq \frac{\nu_{i2}}{1 + s_{i2}}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

⋮

$$\delta'_1 \geq \frac{\nu_{in_i}}{1 + s_{in_i}}.$$

Hence $\delta'_1 = \delta_1$.

Corollary 1.2. Let A be an algebraic element with single characteristic roots, i.e.

$$r_1 = r_2 = \dots = r_n = 1$$

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} (t - t_{ij}).$$

Let $G(t)$ be a polynomial satisfying the conditions

$$G(t_{11}) = \dots = G(t_1 n_1) = n_1,$$

$$G(t_{21}) = \dots = G(t_2 n_2) = n_2,$$

$$\dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$$

$$G(t_{m1}) = \dots = G(t_m n_m) = n_m.$$

If $V = G(A)$, then V is an algebraic element with single characteristic roots and

$$P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - t_j).$$

Proof. According to Proposition 1.2 $P_V(t)$ is a polynomial of the form

$$P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - r_j)^{\delta_j}.$$

From (1.20) we obtain $\delta_j = 1$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Corollary 1.3. Let A be an algebraic element with single characteristic roots. Then there exists a polynomial $G_0(t)$ such that $V_0 = G_0(A)$ is an involution of order N .

Proof. Let $P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^N (t - t_j)$. Denote $\varepsilon = \exp \frac{2\pi i}{N}$ and we take

$$G_0(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N \prod_{\substack{v=1 \\ v \neq j}}^N \frac{\varepsilon^j (t - t_v)}{t_j - t_v}.$$

By the Lagrange interpolation formula

$$P_{V_0}(t) = \prod_{j=1}^N (t - \varepsilon^j) = t^N - 1.$$

Hence $V_0^N = I$ and V_0 is an involution of order N .

Corollary 1.4. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n (t - t_j)^{s_j}.$$

Let $G(t)$ be a polynomial satisfying the conditions

$$G(t_j) = n, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

$$G'(t_j) = \dots = G^{(s_j)}(t_j) = 0, \quad G^{(s_j+1)}(t_j) \neq 0.$$

Then

$$P_V(t) = (t - r)^\delta, \quad V = G(A)$$

where

$$\delta = \max \left[\frac{s_1}{s_1 + 1}, \frac{s_2}{s_2 + 1}, \dots, \frac{s_n}{s_n + 1} \right].$$

The proof follows immediately from Proposition 1.2.

The corresponding results for an arbitrary function follow immediately by virtue of the Hermite interpolation formula.

Proposition 1.3. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j_1=1}^{n_i} (t - t_{ij_1})^{s_{ij_1}}, \quad t_{ij} \neq t_{\mu}, \quad (i, j) \neq (\mu, \mu).$$

Let the function $g(t)$ has the $(s_{ij_1} - 1)$ -th derivative in points t_{ij_1} ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n_i$) and satisfies conditions

$$(1.21) \quad \begin{cases} g(t_{kj_k}) = n_k, \\ g'(t_{kj_1}) = \dots = g^{(s_{kj_k})}(t_{kj_k}) = 0 \\ g^{(s_{kj_k}+1)}(t_{kj_k}) \neq 0, \quad k=1,2,\dots,m, \quad j_k=1,2,\dots,n_k, \end{cases}$$

where $0 \leq s_{kj_k} \leq \nu_{kj_k} - 1$.

If $U = g(A) \in \mathbb{X}$, then

$$(1.22) \quad P_U(t) = \prod_{i=1}^m (t - n_i)^{\delta_i}$$

where

$$\delta_i = \begin{cases} \alpha_i & \text{when } \alpha_i \text{ is an integer} \\ [\alpha_i] + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$\alpha_i = \max \left\{ \frac{\nu_{i1}}{s_{i1} + 1}, \frac{\nu_{i2}}{s_{i2} + 1}, \dots, \frac{\nu_{in_i}}{s_{in_i} + 1} \right\}.$$

Proof. The Hermite interpolation formula (cf. [1]) and our assumptions together imply that there is a polynomial $G(t)$ such that

$$G(A) = g(A).$$

On the other hand, according to Proposition 1.2, we can admit in (1.20) without loss of generality that s_{ij} satisfy conditions

$$s_{ij_i} + 1 \leq \nu_{ij_i} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad j_i = 1, 2, \dots, n_i)$$

i.e. $s_{ij_i} < \nu_{ij_i} - 1$ (in the case where $s_{ij_i} > \nu_{ij_i} - 1$, we can admit $\frac{\nu_{ij_i}}{s_{ij_i} + 1}$ equal 1).

2. Examples of applications

In this section we shall solve the equation

$$(2.1) \quad P(X) = V,$$

where $P(t)$ is a polynomial in the variable t with complex coefficients and the equation

$$(2.2) \quad AX - XB = C$$

in the case where A, B are algebraic operators.

The matrix equation (2.2) was solved by Rosenblum [3] (see also Bellman [4]). In the case where A and B are algebraic operators with simple characteristic roots, the equation (2.2) was solved by Przeworska-Rolewicz [1].

We generalize these results to a larger class of equations

$$(2.3) \quad f(A)X = Y$$

$$(2.4) \quad f(A)X - Xg(B) = C$$

in the case where f and g are polynomials with complex coefficients.

Write

$$(2.5) \quad \langle \theta \rangle = \begin{cases} \theta & \text{when } \theta \text{ is an integer} \\ [\theta] + 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In the sequel we assume that $P(t)$ is a polynomial in variable t with complex coefficients.

Theorem 2.1. Let V be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - r_j)^{\delta_j}.$$

Let t_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$, satisfy the equations

$$\begin{aligned} P(t_j) &= r_j, \\ P'(t_j) &= \dots = P^{(s_j)}(t_j) = 0, \\ P^{(s_j+1)}(t_j) &\neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then the solution of the equation

$$P(X) = V$$

is an operator with the characteristic polynomial of the form

$$(2.6) \quad P_X(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - t_j)^{\vartheta_j}$$

where ϑ_j is the smallest number θ , for which

$$\left\langle \frac{\theta}{s_j + T} \right\rangle = \delta_j.$$

Proof. Let t_j be the characteristic roots of the operator X . According to the Proposition 1.2, the numbers $P(t_j)$ are the characteristic roots of the element $P(X)$. Thus

$$(2.7) \quad P(t_j) = r_j.$$

From (2.7) we have $t_i \neq t_j$ if $i \neq j$.

Applying Lemma 1.2 we obtain (2.6).

In the particular case $P(t) = t^n$, we have

Theorem 2.2. Let V be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_V(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - r_j)^{\delta_j}, \quad r_j \neq 0.$$

Let t_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$, satisfy the equations

$$t_j^n = r_j, \quad r_j \text{ is an integer.}$$

Then the solution of the operator equation

$$X^r = V$$

is an algebraic operator with the characteristic polynomial of the form

$$P_X(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - t_j)^{\delta_j}.$$

Proof. Write $Q(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - t_j)^{\delta_j}$ and $X_j = X_0^{n-1} + t_j X_0^{n-2} + \dots + t_j^{n-1} I$, where X_0 has the characteristic roots, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m , $X_0^n = V$. According to Proposition 1.2, the characteristic roots of X_j are numbers of the form

$$t_j = t_j^{n-1} + t_j t_j^{n-2} + \dots + t_j^{n-1} =$$

$$= \begin{cases} n t_j^{n-1} \neq 0 & \text{if } \vartheta = j \\ \frac{n\vartheta - n_j}{t - t_j} & \text{otherwise, where } \vartheta, j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

Thus X_j ($j = 1, 2, \dots, m$) are invertible. Hence $Q(X_0) = 0$ if and only if

$$Q(X_0) \prod_{j=1}^m X_j^{\delta_j} = 0.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} Q(X_0) \prod_{j=1}^m X_j^{\delta_j} &= \prod_{j=1}^m [(X_0 - t_j I) X_j]^{\delta_j} = \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^m (X_0^n - t_j^n I)^{\delta_j} = \prod_{j=1}^m (V - n_j)^{\delta_j} = P_V(V). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $Q(t) = P_{X_0}(t)$, which completes the proof.

For (2.3) we have

Lemma 2.1. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^m (t - t_j)^{\gamma_j}, \quad t_j \neq 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then A is invertible and

$$(2.7) \quad A^{-1} = Q_A(A)$$

where

$$(2.8) \quad Q_A(t) = \frac{P_A(t) - P_A(0)}{t}.$$

Proof. From (2.8) we obtain $P_A(t) - P_A(0) = Q_A(t)t$. Thus

$$P_A(A) - P_A(0)I = Q_A(A)A.$$

By assumption $P_A(0) \neq 0$ and $A^{-1} = \frac{Q_A(A)}{P_A(0)}$.

Corollary 2.1. Let A and $G(t)$ satisfy all assumptions of Proposition 1.2.

If $r = 0$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ (cf. the formula (1.19)), then the element $V = G(A)$ is invertible and

$$(2.9) \quad V^{-1} = Q_V(A), \quad \text{where} \quad Q_V(t) = \frac{P_V(t) - P_V(0)}{t}.$$

Lemma 2.2. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$(2.10) \quad P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (t - t_j)^{v_{t_j} v_n}, \quad t_j \neq 0, \quad j=1, 2, \dots, n-1, \quad t_n = 0.$$

Then a necessary condition for the equation

$$(2.11) \quad AX = Y$$

to have a solution, is

$$(2.12) \quad (A - t_n I)^{v_n - 1} P_n Y = 0.$$

Proof. The equation (2.11) is equivalent to the system of independent equations

$$AP_j X = P_j Y, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (\text{cf. [2], Theorem 5.1}).$$

Thus

$$(A - t_j I)^{v_j - 1} AP_j X = (A - t_j I)^{v_j - 1} P_j Y,$$

provided that $X_j = P_j X$ is a solution of the equation $AX_j = P_j Y$.

For $j = n$

$$A^n P_n X = A^{v_n - 1} P_n Y = 0 \quad (\text{cf. [1] and [2]}).$$

Hence the condition (2.12) is necessary.

Lemma 2.3. Let conditions (2.10) and (2.12) be satisfied. Then the equation

$$AX = Y$$

has a solution X if and only if

$$(2.13) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (A - t_i I)^{k_i} P_i X = \sum_{j=1}^{j=k_i} (-t_i)^{j-j_i} (A - t_i I)^{j+k_i-1} P_i Y, \\ (i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \quad k_i = 0, 1, \dots, j_i-1) \\ (A - t_n I) P_n X = P_n Y. \end{array} \right.$$

Proof. The equation (2.11) is equivalent to the system of the independent equations

$$AP_j X = P_j Y, \quad X_j = P_j X, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (\text{cf. [2] Theorem 5.1}).$$

Let i be an arbitrary fixed integer in the interval $0 < i < n$. Then

$$AP_i X = (A - t_i I) P_i X + t_i P_i X.$$

Applying the operators $(A - t_i I)^{k_i}$ ($k=0, 1, \dots, j_i-1$) to both sides of the equation

$$(A - t_i I) P_i X + t_i P_i X = P_i Y$$

we obtain the following system of the equations

$$(2.14) \quad \lambda_i (A) X^{(i)} = Y^{(i)},$$

where

$$X^{(i)} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0^{(i)} \\ \vdots \\ x_{j_i-1}^{(i)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad Y^{(i)} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0^{(i)} \\ \vdots \\ y_{j_i-1}^{(i)} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$X_{\mu}^{(i)} = (A - t_i I)^{\mu} P_i X, \quad Y_{\mu}^{(i)} = (A - t_i I)^{\mu} P_i Y$$

and

$$\lambda_i(A) = \begin{bmatrix} t_i & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & t_i & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & t_i \end{bmatrix}.$$

The solution of the system (2.14) assumes the form

$$(2.15) \quad X^{(i)} = [\lambda_i(A)]^{-1} Y^{(i)},$$

where

$$[\lambda_i(A)]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{t_i} & -\frac{1}{t_i^2} & \frac{1}{t_i^3} & \dots & \frac{(-1)^{j_i-1}}{t_i^{j_i}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{t_i} & -\frac{1}{t_i^2} & \dots & \frac{(-1)^{j_i-2}}{t_i^{j_i-1}} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \frac{1}{t_i} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence conditions (2.13) follow immediately.

Conversely, suppose that there exists an element X satisfying conditions (2.13). Hence $X^{(i)}$ satisfy the system (2.15). From (2.15) we obtain (2.14). In particular for $k_i = 0$ the equation

$$(A - t_i I) P_i X + t_i P_i X = P_i Y, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

is satisfied. But we have supposed that the condition (2.12) is satisfied. Hence X is a solution of the equation (2.11).

For the general case we prove the following

Theorem 2.3. Let A be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$P_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} (t - t_{ij})^{ij}, \quad t_{ij} \neq t_{\mu\mu}, \quad (i,j) \neq (\mu, \mu).$$

Let $G(t)$ be a polynomial satisfying conditions

$$G(t_{kj_k}) = n_k, \quad G'(t_{kj_k}) = \dots = G^{(s_{kj_k})}(t_{kj_k}) = 0,$$

and

$$G^{(s_{kj_k}+1)}(t_{kj_k}) \neq 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad j_k = 1, 2, \dots, n_k,$$

where $n_k \neq n_1$ whenever $k \neq 1$.

If $r_m = 0$ and the condition $[G(A)]^{\delta_{m-1}} R_m Y = 0$ is satisfied then the equation

$$(2.16) \quad G(A)X = Y$$

has a solution X if and only if

$$(G(A) - n_1 I)^{k_1} R_1 X = \sum_{j=1}^{\delta_1 - k_1} (-n_1)^{j - \delta_1} [G(A) - n_1 I]^{j + k_1 - 1} R_1 Y; \\ i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1, \quad k_i = 0, 1, \dots, \delta_i - 1,$$

and

$$G(A)R_n X = R_n Y,$$

where R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m are the projectors associated with $G(A)$.

The proof is immediate if we apply Proposition 1.2 and Lemma 2.3.

Remark. The equation of the type (2.16) has been considered by Przeworska-Rolewicz in [2]. The method here is different.

We shall have a similar result for equations (2.2) and (2.4).

Lemma 2.4. Let A and B be algebraic operators with the characteristic polynomials

$$(2.17) \quad P_A(t) = \prod_{j=1}^n (t - t_j)^{\nu_j}, \quad P_B(t) = \prod_{k=1}^m (t - \tau_k)^{\mu_k}.$$

Denote by P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n the projectors associated with A . The corresponding projectors for B will be denoted by Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_m . Then a necessary condition for the equation

$$(2.18) \quad AX - XB = Y$$

to have a solution is

$$(2.19) \quad (A - t_i I)^{\nu_i - 1} P_i Y Q_k (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k - 1} = 0$$

for any i and k such that $\alpha_{ik} = t_i - \tau_k = 0$.

Proof. Let X be a solution of the equation (2.18) and let $\alpha_{ik} = t_i - \tau_k = 0$. Multiplaying both sides of the equation (2.18) by $(A - t_i I)^{\nu_i - 1} P_i$ from the left and by $Q_k (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k - 1}$ from the right we obtain the equality

$$\begin{aligned} A(A - t_i I)^{\nu_i - 1} P_i Y (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k - 1} Q_k - (A - t_i I)^{\nu_i - 1} P_i X B (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k - 1} Q_k = \\ = (A - t_i I)^{\nu_i - 1} P_i Y (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k - 1} Q_k \end{aligned}$$

which along with the equalities

$$(A - t_i I)^{\nu_i} P_i = 0, \quad (B - \tau_k I)^{\mu_k} Q_k = 0$$

imply that

$$\alpha_{ik}(A-t_i I)^{j_i-1} P_i X Q_k (B-\tau_k I)^{\mu_k-1} = (A-t_i I)^{j_i-1} P_i Y Q_k (B-\tau_i I)^{\mu_k-1}$$

which proves the necessity of the condition (2.19).

Theorem 2.4. Let the conditions (2.17) and (2.19) be satisfied. Then the equation (2.18) has a solution X if and only if

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 (A-t_i I)^{j_i} P_i X Q_k (B-\tau_k I)^{l_k} = \\
 = \sum_{j=1}^{j_i-j_i} \sum_{l=1}^{\mu_i-l_k} (-\alpha_{ik})^{j+l-(j_i+\mu_k)} (A-t_i I)^{j+j_i-1} \times \\
 \times P_i Y Q_k (B-\tau_k I)^{l+l_k-1} \\
 (i = 1, 2, \dots, n, k = 1, 2, \dots, m, j_i = 0, 1, \dots, j_i-1, \\
 l_k = 0, 1, \dots, \mu_k-1) \text{ when } \alpha_{ik} = t_i - \tau_k \neq 0 \\
 (A-t_i I) P_i X Q_k - P_i X Q_k (B-\tau_k I) = P_i Y Q_k, \text{ when } \alpha_{ik} = 0.
 \end{array} \right. \quad (2.20)$$

We shall prove Theorem 2.4 by means of the additional lemmas:

Lemma 2.5. Let j_i be positive integers and let A_{ik} be $j_i \times j_i$ matrices

$$(2.21) \quad A_{ik} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{ik} & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_{ik} & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \alpha_{ik} \end{bmatrix}, \quad I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If $\alpha_{ik} \neq 0$, then

$$(2.22) \quad A_{ik}^{-s} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{ik}^{-s} & -\frac{s}{1!} \alpha_{ik}^{-s-1} & \dots & (-1)^{v_i-1} \binom{s+v_i-1}{v_i} \alpha_{ik}^{1-s-v_i} \\ 0 & -\alpha_{ik}^{-s} & \dots & (-1)^{v_i-2} \binom{s+v_i-1}{v_i} \alpha_{ik}^{-s-v_i+2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & & \alpha_{ik}^{-s} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof. From (2.21) we have $(A_{ik} - \alpha_{ik} I)^{v_i} = 0$.
Thus

$$\begin{aligned} A_{ik}^{-s} &= \alpha_{ik}^{-s} I - \frac{s}{1!} \alpha_{ik}^{-s-1} (A - \alpha_{ik} I) + \dots \\ &\dots + (-1)^{v_i} \binom{s+v_i-1}{v_i} \alpha_{ik}^{-s-v_i+1} (A_{ik} - \alpha_{ik} I)^{v_i-1}. \end{aligned}$$

This implies (2.22).

Lemma 2.6. Let v_i and μ_k be positive integers and $\alpha(A, B)$ a $(v_i \mu_i) \times (v_i \mu_k)$ matrix:

$$(2.23) \quad \alpha(A, B) = \begin{bmatrix} A_{ik} & I & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & A_{ik} & I & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & A_{ik} \end{bmatrix},$$

where A_{ik} are given by the formula (2.21).

If $\alpha_{ik} \neq 0$ then

$$[\alpha(A, B)]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{ik}^{-1} & -A_{ik}^{-2} & \dots & (-1)^{\mu_i-1} A^{-\mu_k} \\ 0 & A_{ik}^{-1} & \dots & (-1)^{\mu_k-2} A^{-\mu_k+1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & A^{-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof. According to Lemma 2.5 the matrix A_{ik} is invertible. Denote the matrix (2.24) by $\beta(A, B)$; then

$$\alpha(A, B)\beta(A, B) = \beta(A, B)\alpha(A, B) = I.$$

Thus $\beta(A, B) = [\alpha(A, B)]^{-1}$.

Proof of Theorem 2.4. The equation (2.18) is equivalent to the system of independent equations

$$AP_i XQ_k - P_i XQ_k B = P_i YQ_k$$

($X_{ik} = P_j XQ_k$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$). Let i and k be arbitrarily fixed integers, such that

$$\alpha_{ik} = t_i - \tau_k \neq 0.$$

Then $AP_i XQ_k = (A - t_i I)P_i XQ_k + t_i P_i XQ_k$ and $P_i XQ_k B = P_i XQ_k (B - \tau_k I) + \tau_k P_i YQ_k$.

Multiplying both sides of the equation

$$(A - t_i I)P_i XQ_k - P_i XQ_k (B - \tau_k I) + \alpha_{ik} P_i XQ_k = P_i YQ_k$$

by $(A - t_i I)^{j_i}$ ($j_i = 0, 1, \dots, \nu_i - 1$) from the left and by

$(B - \tau_j I)^{l_k}$ ($l_k = 0, 1, \dots, \mu_k - 1$) from the right we obtain the following system of equations

$$\alpha(A, B)X^{(i, k)} = Y^{(i, k)},$$

where

$$X^{(i, k)} = \begin{bmatrix} X_{00}^{(i, k)} \\ X_{10}^{(i, k)} \\ \vdots \\ X_{i-10}^{(i, k)} \\ X_{01}^{(i, k)} \\ \vdots \\ X_{\nu_i-1, \mu_i-1}^{(i, k)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad Y^{(i, k)} = \begin{bmatrix} Y_{00}^{(i, k)} \\ Y_{10}^{(i, k)} \\ \vdots \\ Y_{i-10}^{(i, k)} \\ Y_{01}^{(i, k)} \\ \vdots \\ Y_{\nu_i-1, \mu_i-1}^{(i, k)} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$x_{j_i, l_k}^{(i, k)} = (A - t_i I)^{j_i} P_i X Q_k (B - \tau_k I)^{l_k},$$

$$y^{(i, k)} = (A - t_i I)^{j_i} P_i Y Q_k (B - \tau_k I)^{l_k},$$

$$(j_i = 0, 1, \dots, \nu_i - 1, \quad l_k = 0, 1, \dots, \mu_k - 1).$$

The solution of (2.25) is assumed to be

$$(2.26) \quad x^{(i, k)} = [\alpha(A, B)]^{-1} y^{(i, k)},$$

where $[\alpha(A, B)]^{-1}$ is given by the formula (2.24). Hence the conditions (2.20) follow immediately.

Conversely, suppose that there exists an element X satisfying conditions (2.20). Hence $x^{(i, k)}$ satisfy the system (2.26). From (2.26) we obtain (2.25). For $j = l_k = 0$ the equation

$$(A - t_i I) P_i X Q_k - P_i X Q_k (B - \tau_k I) + (t_i - \tau_k) P_i X Q_k = P_i X Q_k,$$

$$(i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m)$$

is satisfied. But we have supposed that the condition (2.19) is satisfied. Hence X is a solution of the equation (2.18).

Theorem 2.5. Let A and B satisfy the condition (2.17). Then the equation

$$(2.27) \quad AX = XB$$

has a solution of the form

$$(2.28) \quad X = a_0 \sigma_s(A, X_0, B) + a_1 \sigma_{s-1}(A, X_0, B) + \dots + a_s X_0, \quad X_0 \in X,$$

where

$$(2.29) \quad \sigma_k(A, X_0, B) = A^k X_0 + A^{k-1} X_0 B + \dots + X_0 B^k$$

and

$$F(t) = a_0 t^{s+1} + a_1 t^s + \dots + a_{s+1}$$

is an arbitrary polynomial satisfying the conditions

$$F(A) = 0, \quad F(B) = 0.$$

Proof. From (2.29) we obtain

$$A\sigma_k(A, X_0, B) - \sigma_k(A, X_0, B)B = A^{s+1}X_0 - X_0B^{k+1}.$$

Denote the sum (2.28) by $P(A, X_0, B)$. Then

$$AP(A, X_0, B) - P(A, X_0, B)B = P(A)X_0 - X_0P(B) = 0.$$

Thus $X = P(A, X_0, B)$ satisfies the equation (2.27) which completes the proof.

Let B be an algebraic element with the characteristic polynomial

$$(2.30) \quad P_B(t) = \prod_{i=1}^s \prod_{j_i=1}^{m_i} (t - \tau_{ij_i})^{\mu_{ij_i}}$$

$$(\tau_{ij} \neq \tau_{\nu\mu} \text{ whenever } (i, j) \neq (\nu, \mu))$$

and let $F(t)$ be a polynomial in variable t with complex coefficients satisfying the conditions:

$$F(\tau_{kj_k}) = \theta_k,$$

$$F'(\tau_{kj_k}) = \dots = F^{(n_{kj_k})}(\tau_{kj_k}) = 0,$$

$$F^{(n_{kj_k}+1)}(\tau_{kj_k}) \neq 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, s; \quad j_k = 1, 2, \dots, m_k.$$

Then, according to Proposition 1.2, we obtain

$$P_U(t) = \prod_{k=1}^s (t - \theta_k)^{\sigma_k}, \quad U = F(B),$$

where $\theta_k = \langle \beta_k \rangle$ ($\langle \cdot \rangle$ is defined as in (2.5)) and

$$\beta_k = \max \left[\frac{\mu_{k1}}{r_{k1} + 1}, \frac{\mu_{k2}}{r_{k2} + 1}, \dots, \frac{\mu_{km_k}}{r_{km_k} + 1} \right].$$

Denote by D_1, D_2, \dots, D_m the projectors associated with $V = G(A)$. The corresponding projector for $U = F(B)$ will be denoted by R_1, R_2, \dots, R_s .

We have a similar result for the equation

$$(2.32) \quad G(A)X - XF(B) = Y.$$

Theorem 2.6. Let A and B be algebraic elements with the characteristic polynomials (1.17) and (2.30), resp. Let $G(t)$ and $F(t)$ be polynomials satisfying the conditions (1.18) and (2.31), resp. Then the equation (2.32) has a solution X if and only if

$$(V - n_i I)^{j_i} D_i X R_k (U - \theta_k I)^{l_k} = \\ = \sum_{j=1}^{\delta_i - j_i} \sum_{l=1}^{\sigma_k - l_k} (-n_i + \theta_k)^{j+1-(\sigma_i - \sigma_k)} (V - n_i I)^{j+j_i-1} D_i Y R_k (U - \theta_k I)^{l+l_k-1}.$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, s, \quad j_i = 0, 1, \dots, \delta_i - 1, \quad l_k = \\ = 0, 1, \dots, \sigma_k - 1, \quad \text{if } n_i \neq \theta_k,$$

$$(V - n_i I) D_i X R_k - D_i X R_k (U - \theta_k I) = D_i Y Q_k \quad \text{if } n_i = \theta_k,$$

where $V = G(A)$, $U = F(B)$.

The proof is immediate if we apply Theorem 2.4 to the elements $V = G(A)$ and $U = F(B)$.

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