PROCEEDINGS OF THE
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY
Volume 126, Number 7, July 1998, Pages 1885–1896
S 0002-9939(98)04421-9

ONCE MORE NICE EQUATIONS FOR NICE GROUPS

SHREERAM S. ABHYANKAR AND PAUL A. LOOMIS

(Communicated by Ronald M. Solomon)

ABSTRACT. In a previous paper, nice quintinomial equations were given for unramified coverings of the affine line in nonzero characteristic p with the projective symplectic isometry group $\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q)$ and the (vectorial) symplectic isometry group $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$ as Galois groups where $m>2$ is any integer and $q>1$ is any power of p. Here we deform these equations to get nice quintinomial equations for unramified coverings of the once punctured affine line in characteristic p with the projective symplectic similitude group $\mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$ and the (vectorial) symplectic similitude group $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ as Galois groups.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $m>2$ be any integer, let $q>1$ be any power of a prime p, and consider the polynomial $F=F(Y)=Y^n+T^qY^u+XY^v+TY^w+1$ in indeterminates T,X,Y over a field k of characteristic p, where $n=1+q+\cdots+q^{2m-1}$, $u=1+q+\cdots+q^m$, $v=1+q+\cdots+q^{m-1}$, $w=1+q+\cdots+q^{m-2}$, and consider its Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(F,k(X,T))$ and the Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi,k(X,T))$ of its subvectorial associate $\Phi=\Phi(Y)=F(Y^{q-1})$. Also consider the deformation $F^\sharp=F^\sharp(Y)=Y^n+T^qY^u+XY^v+S^{v-w}TY^w+S^v$ of F together with its subvectorial associate $\Phi^\sharp=\Phi^\sharp(Y)=F^\sharp(Y^{q-1})$, where S is another indeterminate, and their Galois groups $\mathrm{Gal}(F^\sharp,k(X,S,T))$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi^\sharp,k(X,S,T))$. In the "More Nice Equations" paper [A06] it was shown that if k is algebraically closed, then $\mathrm{Gal}(F,k(X,T))=$ the projective symplectic isometry group $\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q)$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi,k(X,T))=$ the (vectorial) symplectic isometry group $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$.[1] By modifying the proof given in [A06], we shall show that if $\mathrm{GF}(q)\subset k$, then $\mathrm{Gal}(F^\sharp,k(X,S,T))=$ the projective symplectic similitude group $\mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi^\sharp,k(X,S,T))=$ the (vectorial) symplectic similitude group $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$.[2] The said proof given in [A06], as well as the proofs of the corresponding unitary and orthogonal group equations given in

Received by the editors December 1, 1996.

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 12F10, 14H30, 20D06, 20E22.

The first author's work was partly supported by NSA grant MDA 904-97-1-0010, and the second author's work was partly supported by a PRF grant at Purdue University.

[1]Here we regard $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$ as acting on nonzero vectors. For the vectorial associate $\widehat{\Phi}(Y)=Y\Phi(Y)$ we then have $\mathrm{Gal}(\widehat{\Phi},k(X,T))=\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$ regarded as acting on the entire vector space $\mathrm{GF}(q)^{2m}$. For generalities about the Galois groups of projective, subvectorial, and vectorial polynomials see [A09].

[2]Again here we regard $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ as acting on nonzero vectors. For the vectorial associate $\widehat{\Phi}^\sharp(Y)=Y\Phi^\sharp(Y)$ we then have $\mathrm{Gal}(\widehat{\Phi}^\sharp,k(X,S,T))=\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ regarded as acting on the entire vector space $\mathrm{GF}(q)^{2m}$.

[A05] and [A07] respectively, involved very intricate factorizations for some multivariate polynomials. At the end of [A08] these factorizations were codified into a Mantra. By invoking this Mantra, we shall give here a very short and transparent derivation for the factorization of [A06] and its generalizations needed for the GSp equations.

As a by-product of the present modified proof, we shall show that the above results about the Galois groups of Φ and F continue to hold when we replace the assumption of k being algebraically closed by the weaker assumption that $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k$. As another by-product of the present modified proof, we shall show that if $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k$, then, for every divisor d of $q-1$, upon letting $\Phi^{(d)}$ be obtained by substituting S^d for S in $\Phi^\sharp$ we have $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi^{(d)}, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ where we define $\mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ by the condition that $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q) \lhd \mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q) \lhd \mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ with $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)/\mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q) = Z_d$,[3] and upon letting $F^{(d)}$ be obtained by substituting S^d for S in $F^\sharp$ we have $\mathrm{Gal}(F^{(d)}, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ where we define $\mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q) =$ the image of $\mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ under the canonical epimorphism of $\mathrm{GL}(2m,q)$ onto $\mathrm{PGL}(2m,q)$, and we note that then $\mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q) = \mathrm{PSp}(2m,q)$ or $\mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$ according as d is even or odd.[4] As noted in [A06], the polynomials Φ and F are specializations of more general polynomials ϕ_e and f_e whose Galois groups are $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$ and $\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q)$ respectively, and which are special cases of the families of polynomials giving unramified coverings of the affine line in characteristic p written down in [A02]. In Section 2 we shall formulate the corresponding more general deformations $\phi_e^\sharp, \phi_e^{(d)}, f_e^\sharp, f_e^{(d)}$ whose Galois groups, under certain conditions, will turn out to be $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$, $\mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$, $\mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$, $\mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ respectively, and which may be regarded as giving unramified coverings of the once punctured affine line.

In addition to factorization, as in [A03] to [A07], here the basic techniques of calculating Galois groups will be MTR (= the Method of Throwing away Roots) and RTG (= Recognition Theorems for Groups). On the RTG side we shall again use Kantor's characterization of Rank 3 groups in terms of their subdegrees [Kan], supplemented by the Cameron-Kantor Theorem IV [CaK] on antiflag transitive collineation groups. Note that Kantor's Rank 3 characterization depends on the Buekenhout-Shult characterization of polar spaces [BuS] which itself depends on Tits' classification of spherical buildings [Tit]. Recall that the Rank of a transitive permutation group is the number of orbits of its 1-point stabilizer and the sizes of these orbits are called subdegrees. It is a pleasure to thank Nick Inglis and Ganesh Sundaram for stimulating conversations concerning the material of this paper.

2. Notation and outline

Let k_p be a field of characteristic $p > 0$, let $q > 1$ be any power of p, and let $m > 0$ be any integer.[5] To abbreviate frequently occurring expressions, for every

[3]Since $\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q) \lhd \mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ with $\mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)/\mathrm{Sp}(2m,q) = Z_{q-1}$ (see 2.1.2, 2.1.B and 2.1.C of [KLi]), this uniquely characterizes the intermediate group $\mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$. Note that, as usual, $<$ and $\lhd$ denote subgroup and normal subgroup respectively, and Z_d denotes a cyclic group of order d.

[4]In view of the previous footnote, this follows from the fact that $\mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)/\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q) = Z_2$ or Z_1 according as q is odd or even (see 2.1.D of [KLi]). Note that if q is even, then $\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q) = \mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$.

[5]In the Abstract and the Introduction we assumed $m > 2$. But in the rest of the paper, unless stated otherwise, we only assume $m > 0$.

integer $i \geq -1$ we put

$$\langle i \rangle = 1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^i \quad \text{(convention: } \langle 0 \rangle = 1 \text{ and } \langle -1 \rangle = 0\text{)}.$$

Let

$$f^\flat = f^\flat(Y) = S^{r(m)} X Y^{\langle m-1 \rangle} + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{\langle m-1+i \rangle} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{\langle m-1-i \rangle} \right)$$

where $r = (r(0), \ldots, r(2m))$ is a sequence of nonnegative integers with

$$(*) \qquad r(2m) = 0$$

such that for some nonnegative integer t we have

$$(**) \qquad q^i r(m-i) = r(m+i) + t q^m \langle i-1 \rangle \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq m$$

and note that then $f^\flat$ is a polynomial of degree $\langle 2m-1 \rangle = 1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^{2m-1}$ in Y with coefficients in the polynomial ring $k_p[X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_m]$ and in it the coefficient of the highest Y-degree term is $T_m^{q^m}$. Let $\phi^\flat$ and $\widehat{\phi}^\flat$ be the subvectorial and vectorial associates of $f^\flat$ respectively, i.e., let

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^\flat &= \phi^\flat(Y) = f^\flat(Y^{q-1}) \\ &= S^{r(m)} X Y^{q^m - 1} + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{q^{m+i} - 1} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{q^{m-i} - 1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\phi}^\flat &= \widehat{\phi}^\flat(Y) = Y \phi^\flat(Y) \\ &= S^{r(m)} X Y^{q^m} + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{q^{m+i}} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{q^{m-i}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

For $0 \leq e \leq m-1$, let $f_e^\sharp$ be obtained by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in $f^\flat$, i.e., let

$$\begin{aligned} f_e^\sharp = f_e^\sharp(Y) = & Y^{\langle 2m-1 \rangle} + S^{r(0)} + S^{r(m)} X Y^{\langle m-1 \rangle} \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^{e} \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{\langle m-1+i \rangle} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{\langle m-1-i \rangle} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and note that then $f_e^\sharp$ is a monic polynomial of degree $\langle 2m-1 \rangle = 1 + q + q^2 + \cdots + q^{2m-1}$ in Y with coefficients in the polynomial ring $k_p[X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e]$. Now the constant term of $f_e^\sharp$ is $S^{r(0)}$ and the Y-exponent of every other term in $f_e^\sharp$ is 1 modulo p, and hence $f_e^\sharp - Y f_{eY}^\sharp = S^{r(0)}$ where $f_{eY}^\sharp$ is the Y-derivative of $f_e^\sharp$. Therefore[6] $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(f_e^\sharp) = S^{r(0) q \langle 2m-2 \rangle}$ where $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(f_e^\sharp)$ is the Y-discriminant of $f_e^\sharp$, and hence the Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(f_e^\sharp, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e))$ is well-defined as a subgroup of the symmetric group $\mathrm{Sym}_{\langle 2m-1 \rangle}$, and the equation $f_e^\sharp = 0$ gives an unramified covering of the once punctured affine line over $k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)$. Since $f_e^\sharp$ is linear in X, by the Gauss Lemma it follows that $f_e^\sharp$ is irreducible in $k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e)[Y]$, and

[6] See the formulas on page 104 of [A03]. As a misprint correction, in line 13 of page 2979 of [A06] $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi) = \mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi_e) = 1$ should be changed to $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi) = \mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi_e) = (-1)^{q^{2m}-1}$.

hence its Galois group is transitive. Let $\phi_e^\sharp$ and $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp$ be obtained by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in $\phi^\flat$ and $\widehat{\phi}^\flat$ respectively, and note that then

$$\phi_e^\sharp = \phi_e^\sharp(Y) = f_e^\sharp(Y^{q-1}) = Y^{q^{2m}-1} + S^{r(0)} + S^{r(m)}XY^{q^m-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{e}\left(S^{r(m+i)}T_i^{q^i}Y^{q^{m+i}-1} + S^{r(m-i)}T_iY^{q^{m-i}-1}\right)$$

and

$$\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp = \widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y) = Y\phi_e^\sharp(Y) = Y^{q^{2m}} + S^{r(0)}Y + S^{r(m)}XY^{q^m} + \sum_{i=1}^{e}\left(S^{r(m+i)}T_i^{q^i}Y^{q^{m+i}} + S^{r(m-i)}T_iY^{q^{m-i}}\right)$$

are the subvectorial and vectorial associates of $f_e^\sharp$ respectively. By a similar calculation, $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi_e^\sharp) = (-1)^{q^{2m}-1}S^{r(0)(q^{2m}-2)}$ and $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp) = S^{r(0)q^{2m}}$, and hence the Galois groups $\mathrm{Gal}(\phi_e^\sharp, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e))$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e))$ are well-defined as subgroups of the symmetric groups on $q^{2m}-1$ and q^{2m} letters respectively, and the equations $\phi_e^\sharp = 0$ and $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp = 0$ give unramified coverings of the once punctured affine line over $k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)$. For every divisor d of $q-1$, let $f_e^{(d)}, \phi_e^{(d)}, \widehat{\phi}_e^{(d)}$ be obtained by substituting S^d for S in $f_e^\sharp, \phi_e^\sharp, \widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp$ respectively and note that then, as above, the Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(f_e^{(d)}, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e))$ is a well-defined transitive subgroup of $\mathrm{Sym}_{\langle 2m-1\rangle}$, the Galois groups

$$\mathrm{Gal}(\phi_e^{(d)}, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e)) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathrm{Gal}(\widehat{\phi}_e^{(d)}, k_p(X, S, T_1, \ldots, T_e))$$

are well-defined subgroups of the symmetric groups on $q^{2m}-1$ and q^{2m} letters respectively, and the equations $f_e^{(d)} = 0$, $\phi_e^{(d)} = 0$, $\widehat{\phi}_e^{(d)} = 0$ give unramified coverings of the once punctured affine line over $k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)$.

For $0 \le e \le m-1$, let ϕ_e and f_e be obtained by putting $S = 1$ in $\phi_e^\sharp$ and $f_e^\sharp$ respectively. Note that, for $1 \le e \le m-1$, these ϕ_e and f_e are the same as those considered in [A06], and if $m > 1$, then ϕ_{m-1} and f_{m-1} respectively coincide with ϕ and f of [A06]. For $0 \le e \le m-1$, let $K_e = k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)$, let G_e and PG_e be the Galois groups of ϕ_e and f_e over K_e respectively, and let $G_e^\sharp$ and $PG_e^\sharp$ be the Galois groups of $\phi_e^\sharp$ and $f_e^\sharp$ over $K_e(S)$ respectively. Likewise, for $0 \le e \le m-1$, and for every divisor d of $q-1$, let $G_e^{(d)}$ and $PG_e^{(d)}$ be the Galois groups of $\phi_e^{(d)}$ and $f_e^{(d)}$ over $K_e(S)$ respectively.

In Section 3, we apply the Mantra of [A08] to the twisted derivative of $f^\flat$ and thereby we prove the Symplectic Rank Theorem (3.6) which says that $PG_e^\sharp$ is a Rank 3 group with subdegrees 1, $q\langle 2m-3\rangle$ and q^{2m-1}. By again applying the Mantra of [A08] in the Root Extraction Theorem (3.12) of Section 3 we show that, for $0 \le e \le m-1$, the splitting field of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp$ over $K_e(S)$ contains a $(q-1)$-th root of its modified constant term S^{tq^m}; this is an analogue of the $(q-1)$-th root extraction trick given in (2.5)(iii) of [A04] which was used there to go from an SL (= special linear group) covering to a GL (= general linear group) covering. In Section 4, from Theorems (3.6) and (3.12) we deduce Theorem (4.2), which says that if $m > 2$ and $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$ and $\mathrm{GCD}(t, q-1) = 1$, then, for $1 \le e \le m-1$ and for every divisor d of $q-1$, in a natural manner we have $\mathrm{Sp}(2m, q) = G_e \triangleleft \mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m, q) = G_e^{(d)} \triangleleft G_e^\sharp = \mathrm{GSp}(2m, q)$

and $\mathrm{PSp}(2m,q) = PG_e \triangleleft \mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q) = PG_e^{(d)} \triangleleft PG_e^\sharp = \mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$. Note that

$$(') \qquad \begin{cases} \text{if } r(i) = \langle 2m-1\rangle - \langle i-1\rangle \text{ for } 0 \le i \le 2m, \\ \text{then conditions (*) and (**) are satisfied with } t = q^m + 1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$('') \qquad \begin{cases} \text{if } r(m+i) = 0 \text{ and } r(m-i) = q^{m-i}\langle i-1\rangle \text{ for } 0 \le i \le m, \\ \text{then conditions (*) and (**) are satisfied with } t = 1. \end{cases}$$

Case $(')$ arises when we homogenize f_e, i.e., when we put $f_e^\sharp(Y) = S^{\langle 2m-1\rangle} f_e(Y/S)$, and so we may call it the *homogeneous case*; we shall deal with this in greater detail elsewhere. By analogy, case $('')$ may be called the *twisted homogeneous case*. In the twisted homogeneous case $('')$, if $m > 2$ and $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then by taking $k = k_p$ and $T_1 = T$ in $\phi_1^\sharp$ and $f_1^\sharp$ we get $\Phi^\sharp$ and $F^\sharp$ respectively, and hence by the above result we have $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi^\sharp, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{GSp}(2m,q)$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(F^\sharp, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{PGSp}(2m,q)$, and for every divisor d of $q-1$ we have $\mathrm{Gal}(\Phi^{(d)}, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{GSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(F^{(d)}, k(X,S,T)) = \mathrm{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m,q)$. By applying the above result to case $('')$ we also see that if $m > 2$ and $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then for $1 \le e \le m-1$ we have $G_e = \mathrm{Sp}(2m,q)$ and $PG_e = \mathrm{PSp}(2m,q)$ which shows that the results of [A06] remain valid without assuming k_p algebraically closed.

3. Twisted derivative and its factorization

Solving the equation $f^\flat = 0$ we get

$$S^{r(m)}X = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{\langle m-1+i\rangle} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} \right)}{-Y^{\langle m-1\rangle}}$$

and substituting this in $\frac{f^\flat(Z) - f^\flat(Y)}{Z-Y}$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} f'^\flat(Y,Z) &= \frac{f^\flat(Z) - f^\flat(Y)}{Z-Y} \quad \text{(def of the twisted derivative } f'^\flat \text{ of } f^\flat) \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{\langle m-1+i\rangle} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} \right)}{-Y^{\langle m-1\rangle}} \\ &\quad \times \frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle} - Y^{\langle m-1\rangle}}{Z-Y} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^m \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} \frac{Z^{\langle m-1+i\rangle} - Y^{\langle m-1+i\rangle}}{Z-Y} \right. \\ &\qquad \left. + S^{r(m-i)} T_i \frac{Z^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} - Y^{\langle m-1-i\rangle}}{Z-Y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
g^\flat = g^\flat(Y,Z) =& Y^{\langle 2m-1\rangle -1} f'^\flat(1/Y, Z/Y) \quad \text{(def of polynomial } g^\flat \text{ obtained} \\
&\qquad \text{by dividing roots of } f' \text{ by } Y \text{ and then changing } Y \text{ to } 1/Y) \\
=& \sum_{i=1}^{m} S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} \left(\frac{Z^{\langle m-1+i\rangle}-1}{Z-1} - \frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1}{Z-1} \right) Y^{\langle 2m-1\rangle - \langle m-1+i\rangle} \\
&- \sum_{i=1}^{m} S^{r(m-i)} T_i \left(\frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1}{Z-1} - \frac{Z^{\langle m-1-i\rangle}-1}{Z-1} \right) Y^{\langle 2m-1\rangle - \langle m-1-i\rangle}.
\end{aligned}$$

By simplifying $g^\flat$ we get

$$\begin{aligned}
g^\flat =& \sum_{i=1}^{m} S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} \left(\frac{Z^{\langle m-1+i\rangle} - Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}}{Z-1} \right) Y^{\langle 2m-1\rangle - \langle m-1+i\rangle} \\
&- \sum_{i=1}^{m} S^{r(m-i)} T_i \left(\frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle} - Z^{\langle m-1-i\rangle}}{Z-1} \right) Y^{\langle 2m-1\rangle - \langle m-1-i\rangle} \\
=& \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle} \left(Z^{q^m \langle i-1\rangle} - 1 \right) Y^{q^{m+i}\langle m-1-i\rangle} S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i}}{Z-1} \\
&- \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{Z^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} \left(Z^{q^{m-i}\langle i-1\rangle} - 1 \right) Y^{q^{m-i}\langle m-1+i\rangle} S^{r(m-i)} T_i}{Z-1} \\
=& \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{Z^{\langle m-1\rangle} \left(Z^{\langle i-1\rangle} - 1 \right)^{q^m} Y^{q^{m+i}\langle m-1-i\rangle} S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i}}{Z-1} \\
&- \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{Z^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} \left(Z^{\langle i-1\rangle} - 1 \right)^{q^{m-i}} Y^{q^{m-i}\langle m-1+i\rangle} S^{r(m-i)} T_i}{Z-1} \\
=& \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{G_i^{q^i\langle m-1-i\rangle} H_i^{q^i} \left(Z(Z-1)^{q-1} \right)^{\langle i-1\rangle} Y^{q^m\langle m-1+i\rangle} S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i}}{Y^{(1+q^m)q^m\langle i-1\rangle}} \\
&- \sum_{i=1}^{m} G_i^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} H_i Y^{q^{m-i}\langle m-1+i\rangle} S^{r(m-i)} T_i
\end{aligned}$$

where for $1 \le i \le m$ we have

$$G_i = Z\left(Z^{\langle i-1\rangle} - 1 \right)^{q-1} \qquad \text{and} \qquad H_i = \frac{Z^{\langle i-1\rangle}-1}{Z-1} = 1 + Z + Z^2 + \cdots + Z^{\langle i-1\rangle - 1}.$$

Hence in view of (**) we see that

$$g^\flat = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(A^{*\langle i-1\rangle} B_i^{*q^i} - B_i^* \right) \qquad \text{where} \qquad A^* = \frac{Z(Z-1)^{q-1}}{\left(Y^{q^m+1} S^t \right)^{q^m}}$$

and for $1 \le i \le m$ we have

$$B_i^* = G_i^{\langle m-1-i\rangle} H_i Y^{q^{m-i}\langle m-1+i\rangle} S^{r(m-i)} T_i$$

and therefore by the Mantra on page 19 of [A08] we get

$$g^\flat = A^*\Gamma^{*q} - \Gamma^* = \Gamma^*(A^*\Gamma^{*q-1} - 1) \quad \text{where} \quad \Gamma^* = \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} A^{*\langle j-1\rangle} B_i^{*q^j}.$$

Now, for $0 \le j < i \le m$, we clearly have

$$G_i^{q^j\langle m-1-i\rangle} H_i^{q^j} \left(Z(Z-1)^{q-1}\right)^{\langle j-1\rangle} = G_i^{\langle m-1-i+j\rangle} H_i.$$

Hence upon letting

$$g'^\flat = \frac{\Gamma^*}{(Y^{q^m+1}S^t)^{q^{m-1}}}$$

we get

$$g'^\flat = \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} G_i^{\langle m-1-i+j\rangle} H_i Y^{a(i,j)} S^{b(i,j)} T_i^{q^j}$$

where, for $0 \le j < i \le m$, the integers $a(i,j)$ and $b(i,j)$ are given by

$$\begin{cases} a(i,j) = q^{m+j}\langle m-2-j\rangle + q^{m-i+j}\langle i-j-2\rangle \\ \text{and} \\ b(i,j) = q^j r(m-i) - tq^m\langle j-1\rangle - tq^{m-1} \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

and out of these $a(i,j)$ is obviously nonnegative and $b(i,j)$ is also nonnegative because by (**) we have

$$b(i,j) = q^{j-i}r(m+i) + tq^{m+j-i}\langle i-j-2\rangle \ge 0.$$

It follows that

$$g'^\flat \in \mathrm{GF}(p)[Z, Y, S, T_1, \ldots, T_m]$$

and hence upon letting

$$g''^\flat = Z(Z-1)^{q-1}(g'^\flat)^{q-1} - Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1}} S^{tq^{m-1}}$$

we have

$$g''^\flat \in \mathrm{GF}(p)[Z, Y, S, T_1, \ldots, T_m]$$

and, in view of the defining equations of A and $g'^\flat$, by the factorization $g^\flat = \Gamma(A\Gamma^{q-1} - 1)$ we get the factorization

$$g^\flat = g'^\flat g''^\flat.$$

By the definitions of G_i and H_i we see that

$$\deg_Z G_m^{\langle m-2\rangle} H_m = q\langle 2m-3\rangle > q\langle m-2+j\rangle = \deg_Z G_i^{\langle m-1-i+j\rangle} H_i$$

for $0 \le j < i \le m$ with $(i,j) \ne (m, m-1)$, and also $a(m, m-1) = 0$, and by (*) and (**) we have $b(m, m-1) = 0$, and hence by the double summation expression for $g'^\flat$ we see that $g'^\flat$ is a polynomial of degree $q\langle 2m-3\rangle$ in Z with coefficients in $\mathrm{GF}(p)[Y, S, T_1, \ldots, T_m]$ and in it the coefficient of the highest Z-degree term is $T_m^{q^{m-1}}$. By the definition of $g''^\flat$ it now follows that $g''^\flat$ is a polynomial of degree $1+(q-1)+(q-1)q\langle 2m-3\rangle = q^{2m-1}$ in Z with coefficients in $\mathrm{GF}(p)[Y, S, T_1, \ldots, T_m]$ and in it the coefficient of the highest Z-degree term is $T_m^{(q-1)q^{m-1}}$. Now, upon

letting $g_e^\sharp, g_e'^\sharp, g_e''^\sharp$ be obtained by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in $g^\flat, g'^\flat, g''^\flat$ respectively, we see that

$$\begin{cases} \text{for } 0 \le e \le m-1 \text{ we have} \\ g_e^\sharp = g_e'^\sharp g_e''^\sharp \text{ where } g_e'^\sharp \text{ and } g_e''^\sharp \text{ are monic polynomials} \\ \text{of degrees } q\langle 2m-3\rangle \text{ and } q^{2m-1} \text{ in } Z \\ \text{with coefficients in } \mathrm{GF}(p)[Y, S, T_1, \dots, T_e]. \end{cases} \tag{3.2}$$

By uniqueness the above factorizations must match with the factorization obtained in [A06].[7] To get an explicit match, by splitting the first summation in the expression of $g'^\flat$ into two pieces $1 \le i \le m-1$ and $i = m$, and then putting $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in the first piece and putting $T_m = 1$ and $j = m-1-\mu$ in the negative of the second piece, we see that

$$\begin{cases} \text{for } 0 \le e \le m-1 \text{ we have} \\ g_e'^\sharp = E_e' - N' \\ \text{where } E_e' = \sum_{i=1}^{e} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} G_i^{\langle m-1-i+j\rangle} H_i Y^{a(i,j)} S^{b(i,j)} T_i^{q^j} \\ \text{and } N' = -\sum_{\mu=0}^{m-1} G_m^{\langle m-2-\mu\rangle} H_m Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1-\mu}\langle \mu-1\rangle} S^{b(m,m-1-\mu)}. \end{cases} \tag{3.3}$$

Substituting $g_e''^\sharp$ and $g_e'^\sharp$ for $g''^\flat$ and $g'^\flat$ in the defining equation of $g''^\flat$ we see that

$$g_e''^\sharp = Z\left((Z-1)g_e'^\sharp\right)^{q-1} - Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1}} S^{tq^{m-1}}.$$

Upon letting $E_e'' = (Z-1)E_e'$ and $N'' = (Z-1)N'/\left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)$, by the first equation in (3.3) we get $(Z-1)g_e'^\sharp = E_e'' - \left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)N''$, and hence by the above equation for $g_e''^\sharp$ we see that

$$g_e''^\sharp = Z\left(E_e'' - \left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)N''\right)^{q-1} - Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1}} S^{tq^{m-1}}.$$

Using the geometric series identity

$$(X-Y)^{q-1} = (X^q - Y^q)/(X-Y) = \sum_{l=1}^{q} Y^{l-1} X^{q-l}$$

with $X = E_e''$ and $Y = \left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)N''$, by the above equation for $g_e''^\sharp$ and the equations for E_e' and N' given in (3.3) we see that

$$\begin{cases} \text{for } 0 \le e \le m-1 \text{ we have} \\ g_e''^\sharp = \left(\sum_{l=1}^{q} Z\left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)^{l-1} N''^{l-1} E_e''^{q-l}\right) - Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1}} S^{tq^{m-1}} \\ \text{where } E_e'' = \sum_{i=1}^{e} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} G_i^{\langle m-1-i+j\rangle} \left(Z^{\langle i-1\rangle}-1\right) Y^{a(i,j)} S^{b(i,j)} T_i^{q^j} \\ \text{and } N'' = -\sum_{\mu=0}^{m-1} G_m^{\langle m-2-\mu\rangle} Y^{(q^m+1)q^{m-1-\mu}\langle \mu-1\rangle} S^{b(m,m-1-\mu)}. \end{cases} \tag{3.4}$$

If $m > 1$, then the values of g' and g'' given in (3.2) to (3.6) of [A06] visibly coincide with the values obtained by putting $e = m-1$ and $S = 1$ in $g_e'^\sharp$ and $g_e''^\sharp$ respectively. Since, for $1 \le e \le m-1$, the polynomials g_e' and g_e'' of [A06] were obtained by putting $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in the polynomials g' and g'' respectively, it follows that g_e' and g_e'' can also be obtained by putting $S = 1$ in $g_e'^\sharp$ and $g_e''^\sharp$ respectively.

[7] As a misprint correction, in (3.3) on page 2985 of [A06] the exponent of $\left(Z^{\langle m-1\rangle}-1\right)$ should be changed from $q-1$ to $l-1$, and the exponent of Y should be changed from $(q^m+1)(q^{m-1}-1)$ to $(q^m+1)q^{m-1}$.

Therefore by the irreducibility of g'_e and g''_e proved in (4.5) of [A06] we conclude that

$$(3.5)\quad \begin{cases} \text{for } 1 \le e \le m-1, \\ \text{the polynomials } g'^{\sharp}_e \text{ and } g''^{\sharp}_e \text{ are irreducible in } k_p(Y, S, T_1, \dots, T_e)[Z]. \end{cases}$$

For $1 \le e \le m-1$, as we have noted, $f^{\sharp}_e$ is irreducible in $K_e(S)[Y]$ where $K_e = k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_e)$, its twisted derivative is $f'^{\sharp}_e(Y, Z)$, and $g^{\sharp}_e$ is obtained by dividing the Z-roots of $f'^{\sharp}_e(Y, Z)$ by Y and then changing Y to $1/Y$; therefore by (3.2) and (3.5) we get the following:

Symplectic Rank Theorem (3.6). *For $1 \le e \le m-1$, the Galois group $PG^{\sharp}_e$ of $f^{\sharp}_e$ over $K_e(S)$ is a transitive permutation group of Rank 3 with subdegrees 1, $q\langle 2m-3\rangle$ and q^{2m-1}.*

In view of Proposition (3.1) of [A04] we get the following:

Theorem (3.7). *If $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then, for $0 \le e \le m-1$, for the respective Galois groups $G^{\sharp}_e$ and $PG^{\sharp}_e$ of $\phi^{\sharp}_e$ and $f^{\sharp}_e$ over $K_e(S)$, in a natural manner we have $G^{\sharp}_e < \mathrm{GL}(2m, q)$ and $\Theta_{2m}(G^{\sharp}_e) = PG^{\sharp}_e < \mathrm{PGL}(2m, q)$ where Θ_{2m} is the canonical epimorphism of $\mathrm{GL}(2m, q)$ onto $\mathrm{PGL}(2m, q)$.*

Recall that

$$\widehat{\phi}^{\flat}(Y) = S^{r(m)} X Y^{q^m} + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(S^{r(m+i)} T_i^{q^i} Y^{q^{m+i}} + S^{r(m-i)} T_i Y^{q^{m-i}} \right)$$

is the vectorial associate of $f^{\flat}(Y)$, and let

$$\psi^{\flat}(Y, Z) = Y^{q^m} \widehat{\phi}^{\flat}(Z) - Z^{q^m} \widehat{\phi}^{\flat}(Y).$$

Then in view of (**) we see that

$$\psi^{\flat}(Y, Z) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(A^{\flat\langle i-1\rangle} B^{\flat}_i(Y, Z)^{q^i} - B^{\flat}_i(Y, Z) \right) \quad \text{where} \quad A^{\flat} = \frac{1}{S^{tq^m}}$$

and for $1 \le i \le m$ we have

$$B^{\flat}_i(Y, Z) = \left(Z^{q^m} Y^{q^{m-i}} - Y^{q^m} Z^{q^{m-i}} \right) S^{r(m-i)} T_i.$$

Therefore again by the Mantra on page 19 of [A08] we get

$$\psi^{\flat}(Y, Z) = A^{\flat} \Gamma^{\flat}(Y, Z)^q - \Gamma^{\flat}(Y, Z) \quad \text{where} \quad \Gamma^{\flat}(Y, Z) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} A^{\flat\langle j-1\rangle} B^{\flat}_i(Y, Z)^{q^j}.$$

Substituting the values of $A^{\flat}$ and $B^{\flat}_i$ in the defining equation for $\Gamma^{\flat}$ we get

$$\Gamma^{\flat}(Y, Z) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \left(Z^{q^{m+j}} Y^{q^{m-i+j}} - Y^{q^{m+j}} Z^{q^{m-i+j}} \right) S^{b(i,j)+tq^{m-1}} T_i^{q^j}$$

and hence we see that $\Gamma^{\flat}$ is a polynomial of degree q^{2m-1} in Z with coefficients in $\mathrm{GF}(p)[Y, S, T_1, \dots, T_m]$ and in it the coefficient of the highest Z-degree term is $(Y S^t T_m)^{q^{m-1}}$.

Recall that, for $0 \le e \le m-1$, the vectorial associate of $f^{\sharp}_e(Y)$ is $\widehat{\phi}^{\sharp}_e(Y)$ and let

$$(3.8)\qquad \psi^{\sharp}_e(Y, Z) = Y^{q^m} \widehat{\phi}^{\sharp}_e(Z) - Z^{q^m} \widehat{\phi}^{\sharp}_e(Y).$$

Then $\psi_e^\sharp$ can be obtained by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in the defining equation of $\psi^\sharp$, and hence by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in the above expression of $\psi^\flat$ in terms of $\Gamma^\flat$ we get

$$\psi_e^\sharp(Y,Z) = S^{-tq^m}\Gamma_e^\sharp(Y,Z)^q - \Gamma_e^\sharp(Y,Z) \tag{3.9}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_e^\sharp(Y,Z) = &\sum_{i=1}^{e}\sum_{j=0}^{i-1}\left(Z^{q^{m+j}}Y^{q^{m-i+j}} - Y^{q^{m+j}}Z^{q^{m-i+j}}\right)S^{b(i,j)+tq^{m-1}}T_i^{q^j}\\ &+\sum_{j=0}^{m-1}\left(Z^{q^{m+j}}Y^{q^j} - Y^{q^{m+j}}Z^{q^j}\right)S^{tq^j\langle m-j-1\rangle}.\end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

Again, $\Gamma_e^\sharp$ is obtained by putting $T_m = 1$ and $T_i = 0$ for $e < i < m$ in $\Gamma^\flat$, and hence

$$\begin{cases}\text{for } 0 \le e \le m-1 \text{ we have that}\\ \Gamma_e^\sharp \text{ is a polynomial of degree } q^{2m-1} \text{ in } Z\\ \text{with coefficients in } \mathrm{GF}(p)[Y,S,T_1,\dots,T_e] \text{ and in it}\\ \text{the coefficient of the highest } Z\text{-degree term is } (YS^t)^{q^{m-1}}.\end{cases} \tag{3.11}$$

For $0 \le e \le m-1$, since $\deg_Y \widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y) = q^{2m}$ and $\mathrm{Disc}_Y \widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y) = S^{r(0)q^{2m}}$, in view of (3.8), (3.9) and (3.11), we see that there exists a nonzero root y_e of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ in any splitting field $L_e^\sharp$ of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ over $K_e(S)$ where $K_e = k_p(X,T_1,\dots,T_e)$, and given any such y_e there exists a root z_e of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ in $L_e^\sharp$ such that $\Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e,z_e) \ne 0$, and for every such z_e we have $\Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e,z_e)^{q-1} = S^{tq^m}$. Clearly $\mathrm{GCD}(tq^m, q-1) = \mathrm{GCD}(t, q-1)$, and hence for any divisor d of $(q-1)/\mathrm{GCD}(t,q-1)$, we can find integers σ,τ with $\sigma tq^m + \tau(q-1) = (q-1)/d$, and for any such roots y_e, z_e and any such integers σ,τ, upon letting $\widehat{\Lambda}_e = \Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e,z_e)^\sigma S^\tau$ we see that $\widehat{\Lambda}_e^{q-1} = S^{(q-1)/d}$ with $\widehat{\Lambda}_e \in L_e^\sharp$. If also $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then we can find $\lambda \in \mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$ such that upon letting $\Lambda_e = \lambda\widehat{\Lambda}_e$ we have $\Lambda_e^d = S$ with $\Lambda_e \in L_e^\sharp$, and now, because $L_e^\sharp$ is also a splitting field of $\phi_e^\sharp$ over $K_e(S)$, by the Substitution Principle on page 98 of [A03], for the Galois groups $G_e^{(d)}$ and $G_e^\sharp$ of $\phi_e^{(d)}$ and $\phi_e^\sharp$ over $K_e(S)$ respectively, in a natural manner we have $G_e^{(d)} = \mathrm{Gal}(\phi_e^\sharp, K_e(\Lambda_e)) \lhd G_e^\sharp$ with $G_e^\sharp/G_e^{(d)} = \mathrm{Gal}(K_e(\Lambda_e), K_e(S)) = Z_d$.

For $0 \le e \le m-1$, let $R = k_e[X,S,T_1,\dots,T_e]$ and $\overline{R} = k_p[X,T_1,\dots,T_e]$, and let $\alpha : R \to \overline{R}$ be the unique $\overline{R}$-epimorphism which sends S to 1. Then $K_e(S)$ and K_e are the quotient fields of R and $\overline{R}$ respectively, and for every divisor d of $q-1$ we have that $\phi_e^{(d)}$ is a monic polynomial in Y with coefficients in R, and by applying α to the coefficients of $\phi_e^{(d)}$ we get the polynomial ϕ_e which is such that $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\phi_e) \ne 0$, and therefore, for the Galois group G_e of ϕ_e over K_e, in a natural manner we have $G_e < G_e^{(d)}$.[8]

[8]Here we are using the Specialization Principle which follows from the material of Section 2 of [A01] and which says that if U is a monic polynomial in Y with coefficients in a normal integral domain R which is a localization of an affine ring over a field or a pseudogeometric Dedekind domain, and if $\alpha : R \to \overline{R}$ is an epimorphism of R onto an integral domain $\overline{R}$ such that for the polynomial $\overline{U}$ obtained by applying α to the coefficients of U we have $\mathrm{Disc}_Y(\overline{U}) \ne 0$, then, in a natural manner, the Galois group of $\overline{U}$ over the quotient field of $\overline{R}$ is isomorphic (as a permutation group) to a subgroup of the Galois group of U over the quotient field of R. The Specialization Principle is also true when, instead of the above assumptions on R, we assume R to be a UFD; see page 190 of [Wae].

Thus we get the following Theorem which may be considered analogous to part (8) of the Composite Polynomial Lemma (2.4) on pages 13-14 of [A04].

Root Extraction Theorem (3.12). *For $0 \le e \le m-1$, there exists a nonzero root y_e of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ in any splitting field $L_e^\sharp$ of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ over $K_e(S)$ where $K_e = k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_e)$, and given any such y_e there exists a root z_e of $\widehat{\phi}_e^\sharp(Y)$ in $L_e^\sharp$ such that $\Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e, z_e) \ne 0$, and for every such z_e we have $\Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e, z_e)^{q-1} = S^{tq^m}$ (note that for any $y_e \in L_e^\sharp$ and $z_e \in L_e^\sharp$ we obviously have $\Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e, z_e) \in L_e^\sharp$). Moreover, for every divisor d of $(q-1)/\operatorname{GCD}(t, q-1)$, there exist integers σ, τ with $\sigma t q^m + \tau(q-1) = (q-1)/d$, and if $\operatorname{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then, given any such roots y_e, z_e and any such integers σ, τ, there exists $\lambda \in \operatorname{GF}(q) \subset k_p$ such that for $\Lambda_e = \lambda \Gamma_e^\sharp(y_e, z_e)^\sigma S^\tau$ we have $\Lambda_e \in L_e^\sharp$ with $\Lambda_e^d = S$, and for the respective Galois groups $G_e, G_e^{(d)}, G_e^\sharp$ of $\phi_e, \phi_e^{(d)}, \phi_e^\sharp$ over $K_e, K_e(S), K_e(S)$ respectively, in a natural manner we have $G_e < G_e^{(d)} \lhd G_e^\sharp$ with $G_e^\sharp / G_e^{(d)} = Z_d$.*

4. Galois groups

By 2.1.2, 2.1.B and 2.1.C of [KLi] we have

$$\operatorname{Sp}(2m, q) \lhd \operatorname{GSp}(2m, q) \quad \text{with} \quad \operatorname{GSp}(2m, q)/\operatorname{Sp}(2m, q) = Z_{q-1} \tag{4.0}$$

and hence in view of (4.6), (4.7), (5.1), (5.6) and (5.8) of [A06], by our Theorems (3.6), (3.7) and (3.12) we get the following:[9]

Theorem (4.1). *If $m > 2$ and $\operatorname{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then, for $1 \le e \le m-1$ and for every divisor d of $(q-1)/\operatorname{GCD}(t, q-1)$, in a natural manner we have*

$$\operatorname{Sp}(2m, q) \lhd G_e \lhd G_e^{(d)} \lhd G_e^\sharp \lhd \operatorname{GSp}(2m, q) \quad \text{with} \quad G_e^\sharp / G_e^{(d)} = Z_d$$

and

$$\operatorname{PSp}(2m, q) \lhd PG_e \lhd PG_e^{(d)} \lhd PG_e^\sharp \lhd \operatorname{PGSp}(2m, q)$$

where we recall that $G_e, G_e^{(d)}, G_e^\sharp, PG_e, PG_e^{(d)}, PG_e^\sharp$ are the Galois groups of $\phi_e, \phi_e^{(d)}, \phi_e^\sharp, f_e, f_e^{(d)}, f_e^\sharp$ over K_e, $K_e(S)$, $K_e(S)$, K_e, $K_e(S)$, $K_e(S)$ respectively with $K_e = k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_e)$.

In view of (3.7) and (4.0), by taking $d = q-1$ in (4.1) we see that

$$\begin{cases} \text{if } m > 2 \text{ and } \operatorname{GF}(q) \subset k_p \text{ and } \operatorname{GCD}(t, q-1) = 1, \text{ then for } 1 \le e \le m-1 \text{ we have} \\ \operatorname{Sp}(2m, q) = G_e \lhd G_e^\sharp = \operatorname{GSp}(2m, q) \text{ and } \operatorname{PSp}(2m, q) = PG_e \lhd PG_e^\sharp = \operatorname{PGSp}(2m, q) \end{cases}$$

and therefore again by (4.1) we get the following:

Theorem (4.2). *If $m > 2$ and $\operatorname{GF}(q) \subset k_p$ and $\operatorname{GCD}(t, q-1) = 1$, then, for $1 \le e \le m-1$ and for every divisor d of $(q-1)$, in a natural manner we have*

$$\operatorname{Sp}(2m, q) = G_e \lhd \operatorname{GSp}^{(d)}(2m, q) = G_e^{(d)} \lhd G_e^\sharp = \operatorname{GSp}(2m, q)$$

and

$$\operatorname{PSp}(2m, q) = PG_e \lhd \operatorname{PGSp}^{(d)}(2m, q) = PG_e^{(d)} \lhd PG_e^\sharp = \operatorname{PGSp}(2m, q)$$

[9] As a misprint correction, in (5.8) on page 2990 of [A06], $\operatorname{PSp}(2m, q) \lhd \delta^{-1} G \delta$ should be changed to $\operatorname{PSp}(2m, q) \lhd \delta^{-1} G \delta \lhd \operatorname{PGSp}(2m, q)$. As another misprint correction, in (6.1) on page 2990 of [A06], $\operatorname{Gal}(\phi, k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_e))$ and $\operatorname{Gal}(f, k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_e))$ should be changed to $\operatorname{Gal}(\phi, k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_{m-1}))$ and $\operatorname{Gal}(f, k_p(X, T_1, \dots, T_{m-1}))$ respectively.

where we recall that $G_e, G_e^{(d)}, G_e^\sharp, PG_e, PG_e^{(d)}, PG_e^\sharp$ *are the Galois groups of* $\phi_e, \phi_e^{(d)}, \phi_e^\sharp, f_e, f_e^{(d)}, f_e^\sharp$ *over* K_e, $K_e(S)$, $K_e(S)$, K_e, $K_e(S)$, $K_e(S)$ *respectively with* $K_e = k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)$.

Remark (4.3). By applying (4.2) to case ($''$) we see that if $m > 2$ and $\mathrm{GF}(q) \subset k_p$, then, for $1 \le e \le m-1$, in a natural manner we have $\mathrm{Gal}(\phi_e, k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)) = \mathrm{Sp}(2m, q)$ and $\mathrm{Gal}(f_e, k_p(X, T_1, \ldots, T_e)) = \mathrm{PSp}(2m, q)$, which is an improvement on Theorem (6.2) of [A06] as we no longer need the condition that k_p is algebraically closed. We shall discuss the $m \le 2$ case of (4.2) elsewhere.

References

[A01] S. S. Abhyankar, *Local uniformization on algebraic surfaces over ground fields of characteristic* $p \neq 0$, Annals of Mathematics **63** (1956), 491-526. MR **17:**1134d

[A02] S. S. Abhyankar, *Coverings of algebraic curves*, American Journal of Mathematics **79** (1957), 825-856. MR **20:**872

[A03] S. S. Abhyankar, *Galois theory on the line in nonzero characteristic*, Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society **27** (1992), 68-133. MR **94a:**12004

[A04] S. S. Abhyankar, *Nice equations for nice groups*, Israel Journal of Mathematics **88** (1994), 1-24. MR **96f:**12003

[A05] S. S. Abhyankar, *Again nice equations for nice groups*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society **124** (1996), 2967-2976. MR **96m:**12004

[A06] S. S. Abhyankar, *More nice equations for nice groups*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society **124** (1996), 2977-2991. MR **96m:**12005

[A07] S. S. Abhyankar, *Further nice equations for nice groups*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society **348** (1996), 1555-1577. MR **96m:**14021

[A08] S. S. Abhyankar, *Factorizations over finite fields*, Finite Fields and Applications, London Mathematical Society, Lecture Note Series **233** (1996), 1-21. CMP 97:08

[A09] S. S. Abhyankar, *Projective polynomials*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society **125** (1997), 1643–1650. CMP 97:07

[BuS] F. Buekenhout and E. E. Shult, *On the foundations of polar geometry*, Geometriae Dedicata **3** (1974), 155-170. MR **50:**3091

[CaK] P. J. Cameron and W. M. Kantor, *2-transitive and antiflag transitive collineation groups of finite projective spaces*, Journal of Algebra **60** (1979), 384-422. MR **81c:**20032

[Kan] W. M. Kantor, *Rank 3 characterizations of classical geometries*, Journal of Algebra **36** (1975), 309-313. MR **52:**8229

[KLi] P. Kleidman and M. W. Liebeck, *The Subgroup Structure of the Finite Classical Groups*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1990. MR **91g:**20001

[Tit] J. Tits, *Buildings of Spherical Type and Finite BN-Pairs*, Springer Lecture Notes In Mathematics Number 386, 1974. MR **57:**9866

[Wae] B. L. van der Waerden, *Modern Algebra, vol I*, Frederick Ungar Publishing Co., New York, 1949. MR **10:**587b

Department of Mathematics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
E-mail address: ram@cs.purdue.edu

E-mail address: loomisp@math.purdue.edu