

# On the Finite Generation of Relative Cohomology for Lie Superalgebras

Andrew Maurer

Categorical Methods in Representation Theory  
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## ON THE FINITE GENERATION OF RELATIVE COHOMOLOGY FOR LIE SUPERALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, the author establishes finite-generation of the cohomology ring of a classical Lie superalgebra relative to an even subsuperalgebra. A spectral sequence is constructed to provide conditions for when this relative cohomology ring is Cohen-Macaulay. With finite generation established, support varieties for modules are defined via the relative cohomology, which generalize those of [5].

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Establishing finite generation of cohomology rings is a powerful result in representation theory which links cohomology theory with commutative algebra and algebraic geometry. For example, Evens [11] and Venkov [26] each independently proved that the cohomology ring of a finite group is finitely generated. This result was used by Quillen [25], Carlson [7], Chouinard [9], and Alperin-Evens [1] to study the cohomology variety of the finite group. This allowed those listed, among others, to use techniques from classical algebraic

# Overview

- 1 Introduction & Motivation
- 2 Spectral Sequence
- 3 Algebra
- 4 Geometry

# Notation

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These grow polynomially, as opposed to  $\bigwedge^p(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}/\mathfrak{a})$  which are finite. So Lie superalgebras can have infinite cohomology.



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## Theorem (Fuks-Leites)

*There are isomorphisms:*

$$H^\bullet(\mathfrak{osp}(m|2n), 0; \mathbb{C}) \cong \begin{cases} H^\bullet(\mathfrak{o}(m), 0; \mathbb{C}) & \text{if } m \geq 2n \\ H^\bullet(\mathfrak{sp}(2n), 0; \mathbb{C}) & \text{if } m < 2n \end{cases}$$

$$H^\bullet(\mathfrak{gl}(m|n), 0; \mathbb{C}) \cong H^\bullet(\mathfrak{gl}(\max(m, n)), 0; \mathbb{C})$$

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## Theorem (Restated)

*Regular Lie superalgebra cohomology usually doesn't have interesting geometry.*

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## Theorem (Boe, Kujawa, Nakano 2006)

*Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}$  be a classical Lie superalgebra. The relative cohomology ring  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; \mathbb{C})$  is isomorphic to  $S^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}^*)^{G_{\bar{0}}}$ , and is thus a finitely generated  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra.*

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## Theorem (Restated)

*Cohomology of a classical Lie superalgebra relative to its even subsuperalgebra has interesting geometry determined by invariant theory.*

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## Theorem (M–)

Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}$  be a classical Lie superalgebra,  $\mathfrak{a} \leq \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$  a subalgebra, and  $M$  a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module. There exists a spectral sequence  $\{E_r^{p,q}(M)\}$  which computes cohomology and satisfies

$$E_2^{p,q}(M) \cong H^p(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; M) \otimes H^q(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C}) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; M).$$

Moreover, when  $M$  is finite-dimensional,  $E_2^{\bullet,\bullet}(M)$  is a Noetherian  $E_2^{\bullet,\bullet}(\mathbb{C})$ -module.



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## Corollary

The relative cohomology ring  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$  is a finitely-generated  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra.

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① Decompose:

$$C^n(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; M) = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} C^i\left(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{a}; \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}\left(\bigwedge_s^j (\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}), M\right)\right)$$

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② Filter:

$$C^n(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; M)_{(p)} = \bigoplus_{\substack{i+j=n \\ i \leq n-p}} C^i \left( \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{a}; \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}} \left( \bigwedge_s^j (\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}), M \right) \right)$$

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We are guaranteed a spectral sequence of  $\mathfrak{a}$ -modules:

$$E_r^{p,q}(M) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; M).$$



①  $E_0^{p,q}(M) \cong C^q(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{a}; \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(\bigwedge_s^p(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}), M))$ : Just a quotient.



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- ③  $E_2^{p,q}(M) \cong H^p(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; M) \otimes H^q(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$ : This uses the fact that  $\mathfrak{g}$  is classical and a vanishing theorem for cohomology.  
 $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(\bigwedge_s^p(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}), M) = \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}}(\bigwedge_s^p(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}), M) \oplus V = C^p(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; M) \oplus V.$

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## Theorem (M–)

*The edge homomorphism  $E_2^{\bullet,0}(M) \rightarrow E_\infty^{\bullet,0}(M)$  is induced by the restriction map*

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## Corollary

*Under this map  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$  is an integral extension of a homomorphic image of  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$ , and thus a finitely generated  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra.*

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## Theorem

*If the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_2$ , then  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$  is a Cohen-Macaulay ring.*

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## Theorem

*Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be classical such that  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; \mathbb{C})$  vanishes in odd degrees,  $l \leq \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$  be a standard Levi.*

$$\dim_{\mathbb{K}r} H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}; \mathbb{C}) = \dim_{\mathbb{K}r} H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, l; \mathbb{C}).$$

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## Example

This result applies to many  $\mathfrak{g}$ . E.g.,  $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{sl}(m|n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{psl}(2n|2n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{osp}(2m+1|2n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{osp}(2m, 2n)$ ,  $P(4\ell-1)$ ,  $D(2, 1; \alpha)$ ,  $G(3)$ , and  $F(4)$ .

# Cohomology varieties

Recall

$$H^{\text{ev}}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H^{2n}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C}).$$

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## Definition

The *relative cohomology variety* of  $\mathfrak{g}$  relative to  $\mathfrak{a}$  is

$$V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(\mathbb{C}) = \text{mSpec}(H^{\text{ev}}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})).$$

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And the *relative support variety* of a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $M$  is

$$V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(M) = Z\left(\text{Ann}_{H^{\bullet}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})} \text{Ext}_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}^{\bullet}(M, M)\right) \subseteq V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(\mathbb{C})$$

# Realization morphism and Natural Modules



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We say a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module is *natural* relative to  $\mathfrak{a}$  if

$$\Phi(V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(M)) = \Phi(V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(\mathbb{C})) \cap V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}})}(M).$$

The subalgebra  $\mathfrak{a}$  is *natural in*  $\mathfrak{g}$  if every  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module is natural relative to  $\mathfrak{a}$ .

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$$V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}})}(M \otimes N) = V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}})}(M) \cap V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}})}(N)$$

for all modules  $M$  and  $N$ .

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For finite group cohomology, this corresponds to Carlson's conjecture, proved by [Alperin-Evens].





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Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$  be classical, stable, and polar, with  $\mathfrak{a} \leq \mathfrak{g}_0$  natural. Suppose  $\Phi(V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(M)) = X \cup Y$  with  $X \cap Y = \{0\}$ . Then there exist modules  $M_1$  and  $M_2$

$$X = \Phi(V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(M_1)) \text{ and } Y = \Phi(V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(M_2)).$$

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The result in the finite groups case is due to [Carlson].

# Realizability

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$  be classical, stable, and polar, with  $\mathfrak{a} \leq \mathfrak{g}_0$  natural. Let  $X$  be a closed, conical, subvariety of  $V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})}(\mathbb{C})$ . There is a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $M$  with*

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- 1 What happens when  $\mathfrak{a} \not\leq \mathfrak{g}_0$ ? Are there cases when  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$  is still finitely-generated?
- 2 We saw that the spectral sequence collapses at  $E_2$  implies  $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a}; \mathbb{C})$  is CM. What about the converse? (It does for  $p$ -nilpotent Lie algebras, [Carlson-Nakano].)
- 3 When is  $\mathfrak{a}$  natural?
- 4 The dimension  $\dim V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}_0)}(M) = \text{atyp } M$  for simple modules when  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$  [Boe-Kujawa-Nakano]. Is there a combinatorial interpretation for  $\dim V_{(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})} M$  for simple  $M$ ?

# Thanks!

Thank you!