

# TRRT Final Hand-In (PQ3)

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# Some Lie Algebra Cohomology



Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra and  $V$  an  $L$ -module. Recall that this means that we have a bilinear map  $L \times V \rightarrow V$ , sending  $(x, v) \mapsto x \cdot v$ , satisfying

$$x \cdot (y \cdot v) - y \cdot (x \cdot v) = [x, y] \cdot v. \quad (*)$$

We define vector spaces  $C^p(L; V)$ , for  $p = 0, 1, 2, 3$ , by declaring  $C^0(L; V) = V$  and

$$C^1(L; V) = \{\text{linear } L \rightarrow V\}$$

$$C^2(L; V) = \{\text{alternating bilinear } L \times L \rightarrow V\}$$

$$C^3(L; V) = \{\text{alternating trilinear } L \times L \times L \rightarrow V\}.$$

(One can continue in the obvious way, but we will not need to go beyond trilinear maps in this question.) In particular, this means that if  $\varphi \in C^2(L; V)$ , then for all  $x, y \in L$ ,  $\varphi(x, y) = -\varphi(y, x) \in V$ . Similarly if  $\psi \in C^3(L; V)$ , then for all  $x, y, z \in L$ , we have  $\psi(x, y, z) = -\psi(x, z, y) = -\psi(y, x, z) \in V$ .

We define linear maps  $\partial_p: C^p(L; V) \rightarrow C^{p+1}(L; V)$  for  $p = 0, 1, 2$  as follows:

$$(\partial_0 v)(x) = x \cdot v$$

$$(\partial_1 \zeta)(x, y) = x \cdot \zeta(y) - y \cdot \zeta(x) - \zeta([x, y])$$

$$(\partial_2 \varphi)(x, y, z) = -x \cdot \varphi(y, z) - \varphi(x, [y, z]) + \text{cyclic in } x, y, z,$$

for all  $x, y, z \in L, v \in V, \zeta \in C^1(L; V)$  and  $\varphi \in C^2(L; V)$ .



**Problem 1.** Prove the following:

**a)**  $\partial_1 \circ \partial_0 = 0$ .

**b)**  $\partial_2 \circ \partial_1 = 0$ .

*Proof of a).* We have

$$C^0(L; V) = V \xrightarrow{\partial_0} C^1(L; V) \xrightarrow{\partial_1} C^2(L; V),$$

where

$$v \xrightarrow{\partial_0} \partial_0 v \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \partial_1(\partial_0 v).$$

Then, for  $x, y \in L$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_1(\partial_0 v)(x, y) &= x \cdot (\partial_0 v)(y) - y \cdot (\partial_0 v)(x) - (\partial_0 v)([x, y]) \\
 &= x \cdot (y \cdot v) - y \cdot (x \cdot v) - [x, y] \cdot v \\
 &= 0.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{By (*)}$$

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*Proof of b).* This time we have

$$C^1(L; V) \xrightarrow{\partial_1} C^2(L; V) \xrightarrow{\partial_2} C^3(L; V),$$

where

$$\zeta \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \partial_1 \zeta \xrightarrow{\partial_2} \partial_2(\partial_1 \zeta).$$

Then, for  $x, y, z \in L$ , we get the following mess:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_2(\partial_1 \zeta)(x, y, z) &= -x \cdot (\partial_1 \zeta)(y, z) - (\partial_1 \zeta)(x, [y, z]) \dots \\
 &\quad \dots - y \cdot (\partial_1 \zeta)(z, x) - (\partial_1 \zeta)(y, [z, x]) \dots \\
 &\quad \dots - z \cdot (\partial_1 \zeta)(x, y) - (\partial_1 \zeta)(z, [x, y]) \\
 &= -x \cdot \{y \cdot \zeta(z) - z \cdot \zeta(y) - \zeta([y, z])\} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots - \{x \cdot \zeta([y, z]) - [y, z] \cdot \zeta(x) - \zeta([x, [y, z]])\} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots + \text{cyclic mumbo jumbo} \\
 &= -x \cdot y \cdot \zeta(z) + x \cdot z \cdot \zeta(y) + \underbrace{x \cdot \zeta([y, z]) - x \cdot \zeta([y, z])}_{=0} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots + [y, z] \cdot \zeta(x) + \underbrace{\zeta([x, [y, z]])}_{j_1} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots - y \cdot z \cdot \zeta(x) + y \cdot x \cdot \zeta(z) + \underbrace{y \cdot \zeta([z, x]) - y \cdot \zeta([z, x])}_{=0} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots + [z, x] \cdot \zeta(y) + \underbrace{\zeta([y, [z, x]])}_{j_2} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots - z \cdot x \cdot \zeta(y) + z \cdot y \cdot \zeta(x) + \underbrace{z \cdot \zeta([x, y]) - z \cdot \zeta([x, y])}_{=0} \dots \\
 &\quad \dots + [x, y] \cdot \zeta(z) + \underbrace{\zeta([z, [x, y]])}_{j_3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the sum  $j_1 + j_2 + j_3$  (as I labeled on the above messy equation) vanishes, since  $\zeta$  is linear and thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 \zeta([x, [y, z]]) + \zeta([y, [z, x]]) + \zeta([z, [x, y]]) &= \zeta([x, [y, z]] + [y, [z, x]] + [z, [x, y]]) \\
 &= \zeta(0) \tag{By the Jacobi identity of the bracket} \\
 &= 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we are left with

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_2(\partial_1\zeta)(x, y, z) &= -x \cdot y \cdot \zeta(z) + x \cdot z \cdot \zeta(y) + [y, z] \cdot \zeta(x) \dots \\
&\dots - y \cdot z \cdot \zeta(x) + y \cdot x \cdot \zeta(z) + [z, x] \cdot \zeta(y) \dots \\
&\dots - z \cdot x \cdot \zeta(y) + z \cdot y \cdot \zeta(x) + [x, y] \cdot \zeta(z) \\
&= 0 + 0 + 0 \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

(By  $(*)$ )

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Let  $p = 0, 1, 2$  and define the subspaces  $Z^p(L; V) = \ker \partial_p$ ,  $B^0(L; V) = 0$ , and  $B^p(L; V) = \text{im } \partial_{p-1}$  for  $p = 1, 2$ . By Q1, we have  $B^p(L; V) \subset Z^p(L; V)$ . Define  $H^p(L; V) = Z^p(L; V)/B^p(L; V)$ .

**Problem 2.** Take  $V = \mathbb{C}$  to be the trivial module. Prove that

**a)**  $H^0(L; \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}$ .

**b)**  $H^1(L; \mathbb{C}) \cong (L/L')^*$ , where  $L' = [L, L]$  is the derived ideal and  $*$  denotes the dual vector space.

*Proof of a).* We have

$$\begin{aligned}
H^0(L; \mathbb{C}) &= Z^0(L; \mathbb{C})/B^0(L; \mathbb{C}) \\
&= \ker \partial_0/0 \\
&\cong \ker \partial_0,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\ker \partial_0 = \{v \in \mathbb{C} \mid x \cdot v = 0 \ \forall x \in L\}.$$

But since we are using the trivial representation,  $x \cdot v = 0$  not only for all  $x \in L$ , but also for all  $v \in V = \mathbb{C}$ . Thus we have that  $\ker \partial_0 = \mathbb{C}$ , and this proves the statement. Victoria!

*Proof of b).* We have

$$\begin{aligned}
H^1(L; \mathbb{C}) &= Z^1(L; \mathbb{C})/B^1(L; \mathbb{C}) \\
&= \ker \partial_1/\text{im } \partial_0.
\end{aligned}$$

But  $\text{im } \partial_0 = \{x \cdot v\}$  vanishes for all  $x \in L$  and  $v \in \mathbb{C}$ , since we are using the trivial representation. Meanwhile the kernel of  $\partial_1$  consists of all  $\zeta \in C^1$  satisfying, for all  $x, y \in L$ ,

$$x \cdot \zeta(y) - y \cdot \zeta(x) - \zeta([x, y]) = 0.$$

In the trivial representation  $V = \mathbb{C}$ , we have  $\zeta: L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , i.e.,  $\zeta \in L^*$ . Whence we have

$$\underbrace{x \cdot \zeta(y) - y \cdot \zeta(x)}_{x \cdot \zeta(-) - y \cdot \zeta(-) = \text{linear combination} \in L^*} = \underbrace{\zeta([x, y])}_{\zeta \in L'^*}.$$

Thus  $\ker \partial_1$  consists of elements of the form  $\xi + L'^*$ , with  $\xi \in L^*$ , and so we have

$$\begin{aligned} H^1(L; \mathbb{C}) &= \ker \partial_1 / \text{im } \partial_0 \\ &= (L^* / L'^*) / 0 \\ &\cong (L / L')^* / 0 \\ &\cong (L / L')^*. \end{aligned}$$

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A **central extension** of a Lie algebra  $L$  is a Lie algebra on the vector space  $\widehat{L} = L \oplus \text{Span}\{Z\}$  with bracket

$$[x, y] = [x, y]_L + \omega(x, y)Z \quad \text{and} \quad [Z, x] = 0, \quad (1)$$

for all  $x, y \in L$ , and where  $[-, -]_L$  denotes the bracket of  $L$  and  $\omega \in C^2(L; \mathbb{C})$  (the quotient Lie algebra  $\widehat{L} / \text{Span}\{Z\}$  is isomorphic to  $L$ ). A central extension  $\widehat{L}$  of  $L$  is said to be **trivial** if  $\widehat{L} = L \oplus \mathbb{C}$  as Lie algebras.

**Problem 3.** Show that  $H^2(L; \mathbb{C})$  classifies isomorphism classes of central extensions of  $L$  as follows:

- a)** Show that  $\omega \in C^2(L; \mathbb{C})$  defines a central extension as in (1) if and only if  $\omega \in Z^2(L; \mathbb{C})$ .
- b)** Show that if  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in Z^2(L; \mathbb{C})$  are such that  $\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \partial_1 \zeta$  for some  $\zeta \in C^1(L; \mathbb{C})$ , then the central extensions defined by  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  are isomorphic. (Hint: use  $\zeta: L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  to build the isomorphism.)

*Proof of a).* If  $\omega \in Z^2(L; \mathbb{C}) = \ker \partial_2$ , then we have, for  $x, y, z \in L$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = (\partial_2 \omega)(x, y, z) &= \underbrace{-x \cdot \omega(y, z)}_{=0} - \omega(x, [y, z]_L) \dots \\ &\dots \underbrace{-y \cdot \omega(z, x)}_{=0} - \omega(y, [z, x]_L) \dots \\ &\dots \underbrace{-z \cdot \omega(x, y)}_{=0} - \omega(z, [x, y]_L), \end{aligned}$$

where the vanishing terms are due to the fact that we are using the trivial representation  $V = \mathbb{C}$ , so that the  $L$ -action acts as an annihilator. Thus we are left with

$$0 = -\omega(x, [y, z]_L) - \omega(y, [z, x]_L) - \omega(z, [x, y]_L),$$

or equivalently,

$$\omega(x, [y, z]_L) + \omega(y, [z, x]_L) + \omega(z, [x, y]_L) = 0,$$

which is the co-cycle condition that needs to be satisfied for any one-dimensional central extension of  $L$ . It is also clear that if  $\omega$  defines the central extension as in (1), then by applying

the Jacobi identity to both sides of (1) we get that  $\omega$  satisfies the co-cycle condition and therefore that it's an element of  $Z^2(L; \mathbb{C})$ . Thus the biconditional statement is satisfied.

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*Proof of b).* Let  $\widehat{L}_{\omega_1}$  and  $\widehat{L}_{\omega_2}$  denote the central extensions defined by  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$ , respectively. Then we have a map

$$\begin{aligned}\psi: \widehat{L}_{\omega_1} &\longrightarrow \widehat{L}_{\omega_2} \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x, y + \zeta(x)),\end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in L$  with both  $y$  and  $y + \zeta(x)$  lying in  $\text{Span}\{Z\}$ . This map is clearly a vector space isomorphism, so we merely need to check that it respects the Lie bracket:

Consider two elements  $(x, y), (x', y') \in \widehat{L}_{\omega_1}$ .<sup>1</sup> Then

$$\begin{aligned}\psi([ (x, y), (x', y') ]) &= \psi([x, x']_L, x \cdot y' - x' \cdot y + \omega_1(x, x')) \\ &= ([x, x']_L, x \cdot y' - x' \cdot y + \omega_1(x, x') + \zeta([x, x'])),\end{aligned}$$

while

$$\begin{aligned}[\psi(x, y), \psi(x', y')] &= ([x, x']_L, x \cdot (y' + \zeta(x')) - x' \cdot (y + \zeta(x)) + \omega_2(x, x')) \\ &= ([x, x']_L, x \cdot y' - x' \cdot y + x \cdot \zeta(x') - x' \cdot \zeta(x) + \omega_2(x, x')).\end{aligned}$$

Note that these two expressions are equal precisely when  $\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \partial_1 \zeta$ . Thus, under this condition, we have that  $\psi$  is indeed a Lie isomorphism between  $\widehat{L}_{\omega_1}$  and  $\widehat{L}_{\omega_2}$ , which is the result we wanted.

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Now take  $V = L$ , the  $L$ -module corresponding to the adjoint representation.

**Problem 4.** Show that  $H^0(L; L) = Z(L)$ , the centre of  $L$ .

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned}H^0(L; L) &= Z^0(L; L)/B^0(L; L) \\ &= \ker \partial_0 / 0 \\ &\cong \ker \partial_0.\end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_0: C^0(L; L) = L &\longrightarrow C^1(L; L) \\ x &\longmapsto \partial_0 x,\end{aligned}$$

<sup>1</sup>Note that I'm using slightly different notation for this exercise because I find the bracket defined in (1) a bit confusing for computational purposes.

where

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_0 x)(y) &= y \cdot x \\ &= [y, x] \quad (\text{Since the } L\text{-action is now given by the adjoint map}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\ker \partial_0 = \{x \in L \mid [y, x] = 0 \ \forall y \in L\} = Z(L).$$

This proves the result.

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A linear map  $D: L \rightarrow L$  is a **derivation** if  $D[x, y] = [Dx, y] + [x, Dy]$  for all  $x, y \in L$ .

**Problem 5.** Show the following:

- a)** The set  $\text{Der}(L)$  of derivations of  $L$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(L)$ ;
- b)** The image  $\text{ad}(L)$  of the adjoint representation  $\text{ad}: L \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(L)$  is an ideal of  $\text{Der}(L)$ ;
- c)**  $H^1(L; L) = \text{Der}(L)/\text{ad}(L)$ .

*Proof of a).* First of all, to see that  $\text{Der}(L)$  is a subspace of  $\mathfrak{gl}(L)$ , note that the derivations of  $L$  are those maps  $D \in \mathfrak{gl}(L)$  which satisfy  $D[x, y] = [Dx, y] + [x, Dy]$  for all  $x, y \in L$ . For fixed  $x$  and  $y$ , the left hand side of this equation is linear in  $D$ , so that the set of endomorphisms satisfying the equation is a subspace. The set of derivations is the intersection over all  $x, y \in L$  of these subspaces, which is itself a subspace.

Thus to show that  $\text{Der}(L)$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(L)$ , the only thing left to check is that the bracket of two derivations is also a derivation. Let  $x, y \in L$  and  $D_1, D_2 \in \text{Der}(L)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} [D_1, D_2]([x, y]) &= D_1(D_2([x, y])) - D_2(D_1([x, y])) \\ &= D_1([D_2(x), y] + [x, D_2(y)]) - D_2([D_1(x), y] + [x, D_1(y)]) \\ &= D_1([D_2(x), y]) + D_1([x, D_2(y)]) - D_2([D_1(x), y]) - D_2([x, D_1(y)]) \\ &= [D_1(D_2(x)), y] + \underbrace{[D_2(x), D_1(y)]}_{\partial_1} + \underbrace{[D_1(x), D_2(y)]}_{\partial_2} + [x, D_1(D_2(y))] \dots \\ &\quad \dots - [D_2(D_1(x)), y] - \underbrace{[D_1(x), D_2(y)]}_{-\partial_2} - \underbrace{[D_2(x), D_1(y)]}_{-\partial_1} - [x, D_2(D_1(y))] \\ &= [D_1(D_2(x)), y] - [D_2(D_1(x)), y] + [x, D_1(D_2(y))] - [x, D_2(D_1(y))] \\ &= [[D_1, D_2](x), y] + [x, [D_1, D_2](y)]. \end{aligned}$$

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*Proof of b).* First of all, note that by the Jacobi identity

$$[x, [y, z]] = [[x, y], z] + [y, [x, z]], \quad \text{where } x, y, z \in L,$$

it is clear that  $\text{ad}(x)$  is a derivation of  $L$ ; i.e.,  $\text{ad}(L)$  is a subspace of  $\text{Der}(L)$ . Now to prove it is also an ideal, let  $x \in L$  and  $D \in \text{Der}(L)$ . We want to show that  $[D, \text{ad}(x)] \in \text{ad}(L)$ .

Take  $z \in L$ , and apply the bracket:

$$\begin{aligned} [D, \text{ad}(x)](z) &= D(\text{ad}(x)(z)) - \text{ad}(x)(D(z)) \\ &= D([x, z]) - [x, D(z)] \\ &= [D(x), z] && \text{(Since } D \text{ is a derivation)} \\ &= \text{ad}(D(x))(z). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that

$$[D, \text{ad}(x)] = \text{ad}(D(x)) \quad \forall D \in \text{Der}(L), \forall x \in L,$$

and thus  $\text{ad}(L)$  is an ideal of  $\text{Der}(L)$ , as desired.

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*Proof of c).* We have

$$\begin{aligned} H^1(L; L) &= Z^1(L; L)/B^1(L; L) \\ &= \ker \partial_1 / \text{im } \partial_0. \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $\ker \partial_1$  consists of all  $\zeta \in C^1(L; L)$  that satisfy

$$[x, \zeta(y)] - [y, \zeta(x)] - \zeta([x, y]) = 0,$$

or, equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta([x, y]) &= -[y, \zeta(x)] + [x, \zeta(y)] \\ &= [\zeta(x), y] + [x, \zeta(y)] && \text{(By property of the Lie bracket).} \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $\zeta$  is in fact a derivation; i.e.,  $\zeta \in \text{Der}(L)$ . The other inclusion is straightforward: every derivation  $D \in \text{Der}(L)$  by definition satisfies  $D[x, y] = [Dx, y] + [x, Dy]$  for all  $x, y \in L$ . Then working our calculation above backwards we get that  $D$  must satisfy  $[x, D(y)] - [y, D(x)] - D([x, y]) = 0$ , which says precisely that  $D \in \ker \partial_1$ . Thus we conclude that  $\text{Der}(L) = \ker \partial_1$ .

Now, with regards to  $\text{im } \partial_0$ , note that, for  $x, y \in L$ , we have

$$(\partial_0 y)(x) = [x, y],$$

which shows that  $\partial_0$  is actually the adjoint map, and thus  $\text{im}(\partial_0) = \text{ad}(L)$ . Thus we have that  $H^1(L; L) = \text{Der}(L)/\text{ad}(L)$ , as desired.

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From Q5(c),  $H^1(L; L)$  is a Lie algebra. Let  $L$  be the 3-dimensional Lie algebra with basis  $p, q, r$  and only nonzero bracket  $[p, q] = r$ . (In particular,  $r$  is central.)

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**Problem 6.** Show that  $H^1(L; L) \cong \mathfrak{gl}_2$  as Lie algebras.

*Proof.* For an arbitrary  $D \in \text{Der } L$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} D(p) &= d_1p + d_2q + d_3r \\ D(q) &= d_4p + d_5q + d_6r \\ D(r) &= d_1r + d_5r, \end{aligned}$$

for arbitrary constants  $d_i \in \mathbb{C}$  ( $i = \{1, \dots, 5\}$ ).

To see this, note

$$\begin{aligned} D(r) &= D([p, q]) \\ &= [Dp, q] + [p, Dq] \\ &= [d_1p + d_2q + d_3r, q] + [p, d_4p + d_5q + d_6r] \\ &= [d_1p, q] + [p, d_5q] \\ &= d_1[p, q] + d_5[p, q] \\ &= d_1r + d_5r. \end{aligned}$$

So, all outer derivations of  $L$  are linear maps of the form

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & d_4 & 0 \\ d_2 & d_5 & 0 \\ d_3 & d_6 & d_1 + d_5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now we define a projection  $\pi: \text{Der}(L) \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}_2$  by

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 & d_4 & 0 \\ d_2 & d_5 & 0 \\ d_3 & d_6 & d_1 + d_5 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & d_4 \\ d_2 & d_5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, since  $[p, q] = -[q, p] = r$  and  $[p, r] = [q, r] = 0$  (and obviously  $[p, p] = [q, q] = [r, r] = 0$  by properties of the bracket), we have that all the inner derivations  $\text{ad}(x)$  (for  $x \in L$  and with ordered basis  $\{p, q, r\}$ ) are linear combinations of

$$\text{ad}(p) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{ad}(q) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \text{ad}(r) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

Note that the kernel of  $\pi$  consists precisely of linear combinations of these inner derivations; i.e.  $\ker \pi = \text{ad}(L)$ . Therefore, since the projection  $\pi$  is clearly a surjective map, by the *First Isomorphism Theorem* and the result from Q5c) we have

$$H^1(L; L) = \text{Der}(L)/\text{ad}(L) \cong_{\pi} \mathfrak{gl}_2.$$

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