

# **Lie theory**

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# Terminology

$\mathcal{A}$  denotes a hyperplane arrangement which is fixed in the discussion.

$\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$  denotes the poset of faces. It is a monoid under the Tits product. We call this the Tits monoid.

$L[\mathcal{A}]$  denote the set of chambers. It is a left module over  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ .

$\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$  denotes the poset of flats. It is a monoid under the join operation. We call this the Birkhoff monoid.

The support map  $s : \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] \rightarrow \Pi[\mathcal{A}]$  is a morphism of monoids.

This picture can be linearized. Let  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$  denote the Tits algebra,  $L[\mathcal{A}]$  denote the left module of chambers, and  $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$  denote the Birkhoff algebra. In each case, we use the letter  $H$  for the canonical basis.

# 1 Lie elements

Recall the module of chambers  $L[\mathcal{A}]$ . We write a typical element as

$$z = \sum_C x^C H_C.$$

An element  $z \in L[\mathcal{A}]$  is a **Lie element** if

$$(1) \quad \sum_{C: HC=D} x^C = 0 \text{ for all } O < H \leq D.$$

This is a linear system in the variables  $x^C$ .

We denote the set of Lie elements by  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ . It is a subspace of  $L[\mathcal{A}]$ .

- Note that  $H = O$  is excluded from (1): If not, then  $z = 0$  would be the only solution since all its coefficients  $x^C$  would be forced to be zero.
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  has rank zero, then  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}] = L[\mathcal{A}] = \mathbb{k}$ , spanned by  $H_O$ . This is because, in this case,

there is only one chamber namely the central face,  
so (1) is vacuously true.

**Lemma.** *Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  has rank at least one. Then the sum of the coefficients of any Lie element is zero, that is,  $z \in \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  implies*

$$(2) \quad \sum_C x^C = 0.$$

*Proof.* Let  $D$  be any chamber. Since  $\mathcal{A}$  has rank at least one,  $D > O$ . So we may choose  $H = D$  in (1). This yields  $\sum_C x^C = 0$ , as required.  $\square$

## 1.1 Friedrichs primitive part criterion

For any left  $\Sigma$ -module  $\mathfrak{h}$ , let  $\mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$  denote the subspace consisting of the elements  $z$  such that  $H_H \triangleright z = 0$  for all  $H > O$ . We refer to  $\mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$  as the **primitive part** of  $\mathfrak{h}$ .

**Lemma.** *The space of Lie elements is the primitive*

part of the left module of chambers:

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{A}]) = \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

Explicitly,  $z \in \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  iff

$$\mathbf{H}_H \triangleright z = 0$$

for all  $H > O$ .

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be any face of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_H \triangleright \left( \sum_C x^C \mathbf{H}_C \right) &= \sum_C x^C \mathbf{H}_{HC} \\ &= \sum_{D: H \leq D} \left( \sum_{C: HC=D} x^C \right) \mathbf{H}_D. \end{aligned}$$

This equals 0 iff

$$\sum_{C: HC=D} x^C = 0 \text{ for all } D \geq H.$$

The result follows from (1). □

We refer to this characterization of Lie elements as the [Friedrichs criterion](#).

## 1.2 Ree top-lune criterion

Any top-directed face  $(H, D)$  gives rise to a top-lune

$$s(H, D) := \{C \mid HC = D\}.$$

Note that  $D$  always belongs to this top-lune. Further, this top-lune is a singleton (consisting of  $D$ ) iff  $H = O$ . The definition of a Lie element may now be rewritten as follows.

**Lemma.** *We have  $z \in \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  iff*

$$(3) \quad \sum_{C \in V} x^C = 0$$

*for all non-singleton combinatorial top-lunes  $V$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

When  $V$  is the maximum flat, the above equation specializes to (2).

In fact, it suffices to consider only vertex-based top-lunes, since any non-singleton top-lune can be written as a disjoint union of vertex-based top-lunes.

**Lemma.** *We have  $z \in \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  iff (3) holds for all*

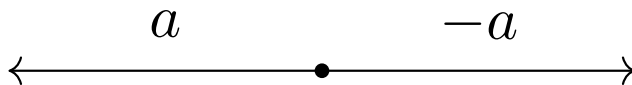
vertex-based combinatorial top-lunes  $V$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , or equivalently, (1) holds for all vertices  $H$ .

We refer to this description of Lie elements as the [Ree criterion](#). A Lie element may be visualized as a scalar assigned to each chamber such that the sum of the scalars in every vertex-based top-lune is zero. (The scalar assigned to  $C$  is  $x^C$ .)

### 1.3 Antisymmetry and Jacobi identity

Let us try to understand Lie elements of arrangements of small rank.

Consider the rank-one arrangement shown below.



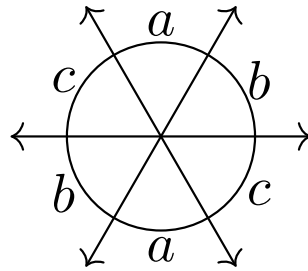
There is only one non-singleton top-lune consisting of the two chambers. It follows that  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is one-dimensional. The coefficients of the two chambers are  $a$  and  $-a$ . The simplest choices are  $a = 1$  and

$a = -1$ . Either of them spans  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ , and their sum is zero. This can be shown as follows.

$$(4) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \textcolor{violet}{1} \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \textcolor{violet}{1} & 1 \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

This is the [antisymmetry relation](#). (By convention,  $\textcolor{violet}{1}$  denotes  $-1$ .)

Now consider the dihedral arrangement of 3 lines.



There are six chambers. A non-singleton top-lune is either one of the six half-spaces or the full ambient space. It follows that  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is two-dimensional. The coefficients of the chambers (read in clockwise cyclic order) are  $a, b, c, a, b$  and  $c$  subject to the condition  $a + b + c = 0$ . For example, one may take  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -1$ , and  $c = 0$ . Other similar choices are  $a = 0$ ,



$b = 1$ , and  $c = -1$ , or  $a = -1$ ,  $b = 0$ , and  $c = 1$ .

Any two of these yield a basis for  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ , and the sum of all three is 0. This can be shown as follows.

(5)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \circ \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ 0 \end{array} & + & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \circ \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ 1 \end{array} & + & \begin{array}{c} \text{pink } 1 \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \circ \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ 0 \end{array} & = & 0. \end{array}$$

This is the [Jacobi identity](#) for the hexagon. (By convention, **pink 1** denotes  $-1$ .)

The above analysis readily generalizes to the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. The hexagon gets replaced by a  $2n$ -gon, and  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional. The coefficients of the chambers (read in clockwise cyclic order) are  $a_1, \dots, a_n, a_1, \dots, a_n$  subject to the condition  $a_1 + \dots + a_n = 0$ . Jacobi identity consists of  $n$  terms adding up to 0. Each term is a  $2n$ -gon whose two adjacent sides (and their opposites) have coefficients 1 and **pink 1**, and the remaining sides have

coefficient 0. For instance:

(6)

$$\text{Octagon 1} + \text{Octagon 2} + \text{Octagon 3} + \text{Octagon 4} = 0.$$

This is the [Jacobi identity](#) for the octagon.

## 1.4 Lie elements and opposition map

**Lemma.** *If  $z \in \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ , then  $x^D$  and  $x^{\overline{D}}$  differ at most by a sign:*

$$(7) \quad x^D = (-1)^{\text{rk}(\mathcal{A})} x^{\overline{D}}.$$

How will you prove this?

## 2 Zie elements

Consider the Tits algebra  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ . We write a typical element as

$$z = \sum_F x^F H_F.$$

An element  $z \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$  is a **Zie element** if

$$(8) \quad \sum_{F: HF=G} x^F = 0 \text{ for all } O < H \leq G.$$

This is a linear system in the variables  $x^F$ .

We denote the set of Zie elements by  $\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}]$ . It is a subspace of  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ . Similar to Lie elements:

- Note that  $H = O$  is excluded from the defining equations.
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  has rank zero, then  $\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}] = \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] = \mathbb{k}$ .  
This is because, in this case, there is only one face, namely, the central face, so (8) is vacuously true. Hence  $\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}] = \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ , spanned by  $H_O$ .

A Zie element  $z$  is **special** if the coefficient in  $z$  of the central face is 1, that is, if  $x^O = 1$ .

## 2.1 Zie elements in small ranks

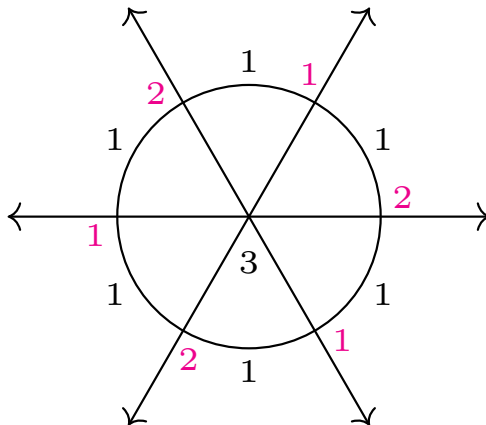
Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the rank-one arrangement consisting of the central face, and chambers  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$ . Then, the ambient space is the only non-singleton lune in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Hence,

$$x^O H_O + x^C H_C + x^{\overline{C}} H_{\overline{C}} \in \text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}] \iff x^O + x^C + x^{\overline{C}} = 0.$$

Thus,  $\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is two-dimensional.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the dihedral arrangement of 3 lines. A Zie element is shown in the diagram below.



The letters in magenta stand for negative numbers.

What is  $\dim(\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}])$ ?

## 2.2 Flat equations and Möbius functions

Let us now concentrate on the equations indexed by  $O < H \leq G$  with  $H = G$ . Put  $X := s(H) = s(G)$ . Then  $X$  is a non-minimum flat, and

$$HF = G \iff s(F) \leq X.$$

This yields:

**Lemma.** *Suppose  $z$  is a Zie element. Then*

$$(9) \quad \sum_{F: s(F) \leq X} x^F = 0 \text{ for all non-minimum flats } X.$$

*In particular, if  $\mathcal{A}$  has rank at least one, then*

$$(10) \quad \sum_F x^F = 0.$$

**Lemma.** *Let  $z \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ . Then  $z$  satisfies (9) and  $x^O = 1$  iff*

$$(11) \quad \sum_{F: s(F)=X} x^F = \mu(\perp, X) \text{ for all flats } X,$$

*iff*

$$s(z) = Q_{\perp},$$

*the  $Q$ -basis element of the Birkhoff algebra.*

*In particular, if  $z$  is a special Zie element, then (11) holds.*

*Proof.* For the first equivalence: Denote the lhs of (11) by  $f(X)$ . The condition  $x^O = 1$  is the same as  $f(\perp) = 1$ , and the equations (9) are equivalent to saying: for any  $Y > \perp$ ,

$$\sum_{X: X \leq Y} f(X) = 0.$$

These together are equivalent to saying

$$f(X) = \mu(\perp, X) \text{ for all } X.$$

For the second equivalence, we only need to recall that

$$Q_{\perp} = \sum_X \mu(\perp, X) H_X. \quad \square$$

## 2.3 Friedrichs primitive part criterion

The space of Zie elements is the primitive part of the Tits algebra (as a left module over itself). This is the [Friedrichs criterion](#). It is elaborated below.

**Lemma.** *We have*

$$\mathcal{P}(\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]) = \text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

*Explicitly,  $z \in \text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}]$  iff*

$$H_H \triangleright z = 0$$

*for all  $H > O$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be any face of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_H \triangleright \left( \sum_F x^F \mathbf{H}_F \right) &= \sum_F x^F \mathbf{H}_{HF} \\ &= \sum_{G: H \leq G} \left( \sum_{F: HF=G} x^F \right) \mathbf{H}_G. \end{aligned}$$

This equals 0 iff

$$\sum_{F: HF=G} x^F = 0 \text{ for all } G \geq H.$$

The result follows from (8). □

**Theorem.** *The first Eulerian idempotent of any complete system of the Tits algebra is a special Zie element.*

*Conversely, all special Zie elements arise in this manner.*

*Proof.* Recall

$$\mathbf{Q}_O = \sum_G \mu(O, G) \mathbf{H}_G.$$



By the noncommutative Weisner formula,  
 $H_F \triangleright Q_O = 0$  for  $F > O$ . Hence, by Friedrichs  
 criterion,  $Q_O$  is a special Zie element.

How will you prove the converse? □

**Lemma.** *Any Zie element is a quasi-idempotent. More  
 precisely, any Zie element  $z$  satisfies*

$$z^2 = x^O z.$$

*A nonzero Zie element is an idempotent iff it is special.*

*Proof.* Let  $z$  be a Zie element. By Friedrichs criterion,

$$z \triangleright z = \left( \sum_F x^F H_F \right) \triangleright z = \sum_F x^F (H_F \triangleright z) = x^O z.$$

This proves the first claim. Note that  $z$  is an idempotent  
 iff  $x^O z = z$ . Assuming  $z$  to be nonzero, this happens  
 precisely when  $x^O = 1$ , that is when  $z$  is special. □

## 2.4 Ree lune criterion

Any directed face  $(H, G)$  gives rise to a lune

$$s(H, G) = \{F \mid HF = G \text{ and } s(F) = s(G)\}.$$

Note that  $G$  always belongs to this lune. Further, this lune is a singleton (consisting of  $G$ ) iff  $H = O$ . The closure, interior and boundary of  $s(H, G)$  are given by

$$\{F \mid HF \leq G\}, \quad \{F \mid HF = G\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{F \mid HF < G\}$$

respectively. This lune  $s(H, G)$  is a flat precisely when  $H = G$ , in which case its closure equals its interior.

For a lune  $V$ , let  $\text{Cl}(V)$ ,  $V^o$  and  $V^b$  denote its closure, interior and boundary.

**Lemma.** *We have  $z \in \text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}]$  iff*

(12)

$$\sum_{F \in V^o} x^F = 0 \text{ for all non-singleton combinatorial lunes } V.$$

When  $V$  runs over non-minimum flats, this statement specializes to (9).

The lemma also hold if  $V^o$  is replaced by  $\text{Cl}(V)$ .

Why?

## 2.5 Image of the action of a Zie element

Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be a left module over the Tits algebra. Let  $\Psi(z)$  denotes the linear operator on  $\mathfrak{h}$  induced by the element  $z \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$ . That is,

$$\Psi(z) : \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}, \quad \Psi(z)(h) := z \triangleright h.$$

Let  $z(\mathfrak{h})$  denote the image of this operator. In other words,  $z(\mathfrak{h})$  consists of all elements of the form  $z \triangleright h$ , as  $h$  varies over elements of  $\mathfrak{h}$ .

**Example.** Take  $\mathfrak{h}$  to be the module of chambers  $L$  on the rank-one arrangement. Let  $z = H_O + H_C$ . Then the linear operator  $\Psi(z)$  is given by

$$H_C \mapsto 2H_C, \quad H_{\overline{C}} \mapsto H_{\overline{C}} + H_C.$$

**Proposition.** *Any Zie element sends  $\mathfrak{h}$  to  $\mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$ .*

*Moreover, on  $\mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$  it acts by scalar multiplication by its coefficient of the central face. In particular, any special Zie element projects  $\mathfrak{h}$  onto  $\mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $z$  be a Zie element and let  $h \in \mathfrak{h}$ . Then

$$\mathbf{H}_H \triangleright (z \triangleright h) = (\mathbf{H}_H \triangleright z) \triangleright h = 0$$

for all  $H > O$ . Thus  $z \triangleright h \in \mathcal{P}(\mathfrak{h})$  as required. If  $h$  itself is primitive, then

$$z \triangleright h = \left( \sum_F x^F \mathbf{H}_F \right) \triangleright h = \sum_F x^F \mathbf{H}_F \triangleright h = x^O h.$$

□

**Example.** Let us go back to the rank-one arrangement. A special Zie element is given by

$$H_O - p H_C - (1 - p) H_{\overline{C}},$$

where  $p$  is an arbitrary scalar. Let us compute the action of this element on  $L$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (H_O - p H_C - (1 - p) H_{\overline{C}}) \triangleright H_C &= H_C - p H_C - (1 - p) H_{\overline{C}} \\ &= (1 - p) H_C - (1 - p) H_{\overline{C}}, \end{aligned}$$

which is a Lie element. Further,

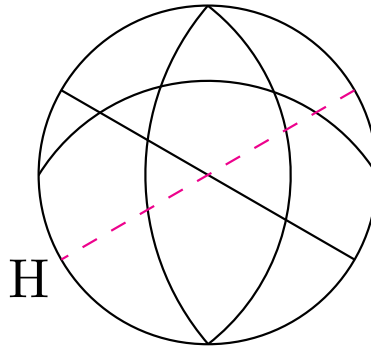
$$(H_O - p H_C - (1 - p) H_{\overline{C}}) \triangleright (H_C - H_{\overline{C}}) = H_C - H_{\overline{C}}.$$

So its action on a Lie element gives back the same Lie element.

## 3 Dynkin elements

### 3.1 Generic hyperplane

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be any arrangement of rank at least 1. A **generic hyperplane** wrt  $\mathcal{A}$  is a codimension-one subspace of the ambient space which contains the central face  $O$  but does not contain any vertex of  $\mathcal{A}$ . For example:



Adding a generic hyperplane, say  $H$ , to  $\mathcal{A}$  yields a new arrangement  $\mathcal{A}'$ . Let us compare the set of faces of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$ . A face of  $\mathcal{A}$  which is not cut by  $H$  remains a face of  $\mathcal{A}'$ . In contrast, a face of  $\mathcal{A}$  which is cut by  $H$  splits into three distinct faces of  $\mathcal{A}'$ : one face consists of those points which lie on  $H$ , while the remaining two consist of those points which lie on either side of  $H$ .

## 3.2 Dynkin element

Let  $H$  be a generic hyperplane wrt  $\mathcal{A}$ . There are two opposite half-spaces with base  $H$ . Fix one of them arbitrarily. Call it  $h$ . We say that  $h$  is **generic** wrt  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Now define

$$(13) \quad \theta_h := \sum_{F: F \subseteq h} (-1)^{\text{rk}(F)} H_F \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}].$$

The sum is over all faces  $F$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  which are contained in the fixed half-space  $h$ . These are precisely those faces of  $\mathcal{A}$  which are not cut by  $H$  and which are on the  $h$ -side of  $H$ .

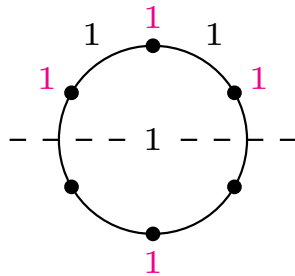
We refer to  $\theta_h$  as the **Dynkin element** associated to the half-space  $h$ . The central face is contained in  $h$  and since its rank is zero, it appears in  $\theta_h$  with coefficient 1.



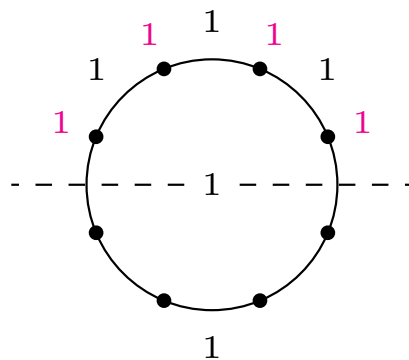
**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the rank-one arrangement, with chambers  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$ . The origin is a generic hyperplane. In this case,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}'$ . Thus, there are two generic half-spaces, and  $H_O - H_C$  and  $H_O - H_{\overline{C}}$  are the two Dynkin elements. Note that they are special Zie elements.

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines, with  $n \geq 2$ . The spherical model is the  $2n$ -gon. A line passing through the origin is generic wrt  $\mathcal{A}$  if it cuts two opposite sides of the  $2n$ -gon. For definiteness, we demand that the lines bisect the two sides that they cut.

A Dynkin element for  $n = 3$  is

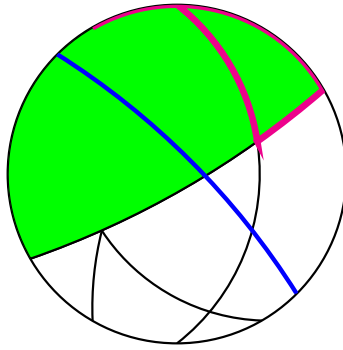


and for  $n = 4$  is



**Proposition.** *For any generic half-space  $h$ , the Dynkin element  $\theta_h$  is a special Zie element. In particular, it is an idempotent.*

This can be checked using the Ree criterion. We do not give a formal proof but illustrate it on an example.



The generic hyperplane is shown in blue, and the half-space  $h$  is the region to the right of it. The lune  $V$  is shown in green. It is bounded by two half-circles and is fully visible. The faces in  $Cl(V) \cap h$  are those on and inside the region defined by the magenta edges (consisting of a triangle and a rectangle). Topologically, this set is a ball with an edge hanging out.

For any arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ , define

$$\mu(\mathcal{A}) := \mu(\perp, \top).$$

We refer to this as the **Möbius number** of  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is a particular value of the Möbius function of the lattice of flats  $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ .

**Corollary.** *The number of chambers contained in any generic half-space wrt  $\mathcal{A}$  is given by  $|\mu(\mathcal{A})|$ .*

*Proof.* Apply (11) to the special Zie element  $\theta_h$  for the flat  $X = \top$ . □

### 3.3 Action on chambers and Lie elements

Recall that the Tits algebra  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$  acts on the left on the module of chambers  $L[\mathcal{A}]$ .

**Proposition.** *The Dynkin element  $\theta_h$  is an idempotent operator which sends  $L[\mathcal{A}]$  onto  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ .*

We now work towards a formula for the action of the Dynkin element on chambers. For a generic half-space  $h$ , and chambers  $C$  and  $D$ , put

$$A = \{H \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] \mid HC = D\}$$

and

$$B = \{H \in \Sigma[\mathcal{A}] \mid H \leq D, H \subseteq h\}.$$

Both  $A$  and  $B$  consist of faces of  $D$ , with  $D \in A$  and  $O \in B$ . Further,

$$(14) \quad \langle \theta_h \triangleright H_C, H_D \rangle = \sum_{H \in A \cap B} (-1)^{\text{rk}(H)}.$$

The lhs denotes the coefficient of  $H_D$  in  $\theta_h \triangleright H_C$ . We

would like to understand the rhs.

For simplicity, we will assume the arrangement to be simplicial.

Let  $\text{Des}(C, D)$  denote the smallest face  $H$  of  $D$  such that  $HC = D$ . In other words,

$$HC = D \iff \text{Des}(C, D) \leq H \leq D.$$

We say that  $\text{Des}(C, D)$  is the **descent** of  $D$  wrt  $C$ .

Note that

$$\text{Des}(C, D) = D \iff \overline{C} = D$$

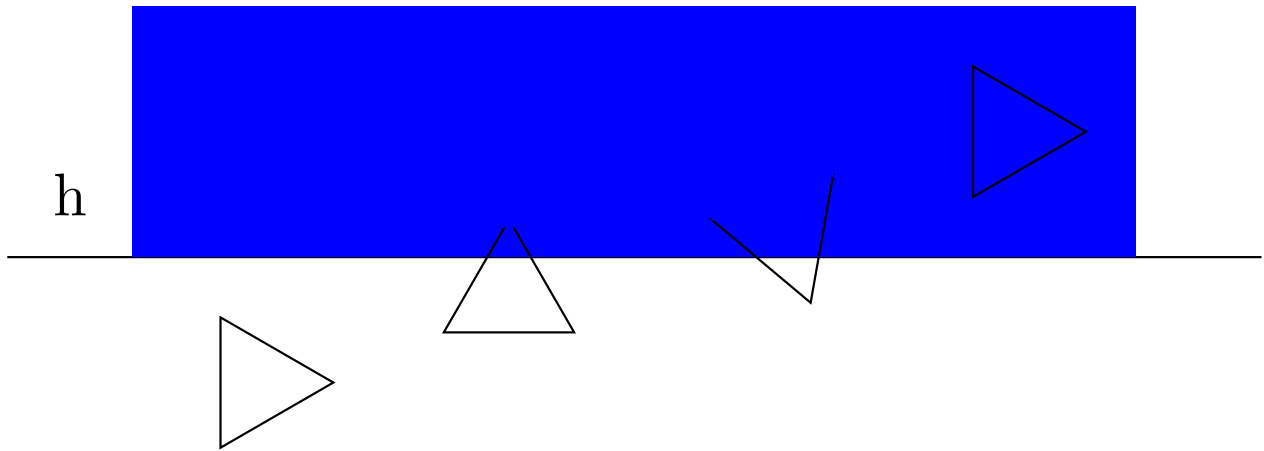
and

$$\text{Des}(C, D) = O \iff C = D.$$

Thus,

$$A = \{H \mid \text{Des}(C, D) \leq H \leq D\}.$$

For a generic half-space  $h$  and a chamber  $D$ , let  $h(D)$  denote the largest face of  $D$  which is contained in  $h$ .



This is illustrated above in rank 3. The half-space  $h$  is shaded in light blue. Since the arrangement is simplicial, each chamber  $D$  is a triangle, and there are four possibilities for  $h(D)$  depending on how the vertices of  $D$  lie wrt  $h$ . Each case is shown separately with the face  $h(D)$  marked in dark blue.

Thus,

$$B = \{H \mid H \leq h(D)\}.$$

**Lemma.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a simplicial arrangement. Then*

$$\theta_h \triangleright H_C = \sum_{D: \text{Des}(C,D)=h(D)} (-1)^{\text{rk}(h(D))} H_D.$$

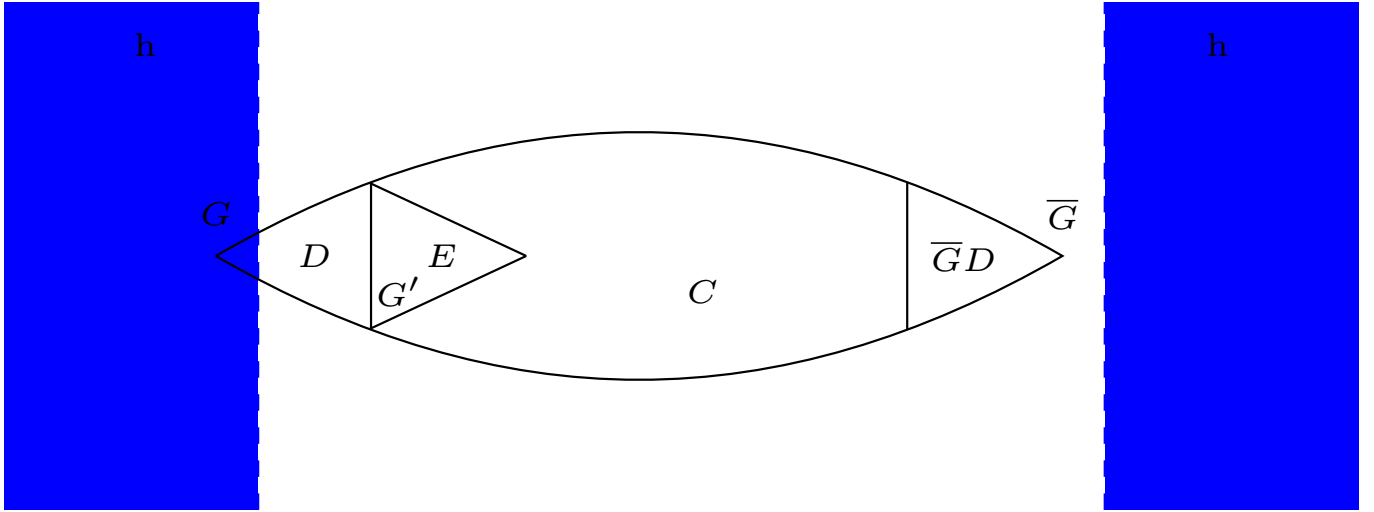
*Proof.* In the simplicial case, (14) simplifies to

$$\langle \theta_h \triangleright H_C, H_D \rangle = \sum_{H: \text{Des}(C,D) \leq H \leq h(D)} (-1)^{\text{rk}(H)}.$$

The indexing set (which could be empty) is a Boolean poset. So the sum will be zero unless the set is a singleton, that is,  $\text{Des}(C, D) = h(D)$ . □



**Lemma.** *If  $\text{Des}(C, D) = h(D)$ , then  $\overline{C} \subseteq h$ .*



*Proof.* For simplicity of notation, put  $G := h(D)$ . Let  $G'$  be the face of  $D$  complementary to  $G$ . Then observe that

$$\text{Des}(C, D) = h(D) \iff C \text{ lies in the gallery interval } [E, \overline{GD}],$$

where  $E$  is the chamber opposite to  $D$  in the star of  $G'$ . But this entire gallery interval lies in the interior of  $\overline{h}$ . (In the figure, the latter is the region between the two dotted lines.) So if  $\text{Des}(C, D) = h(D)$ , then  $\overline{C}$  is contained in  $h$ . □

**Proposition.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a simplicial arrangement. Then*

(15)

$$\theta_{\mathfrak{h}} \triangleright H_C = \begin{cases} H_C + (-1)^{\text{rk}(\mathcal{A})} H_{\overline{C}} + \sum_D \pm H_D & \text{if } \overline{C} \subseteq \mathfrak{h}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*The sum is over chambers  $D$  which are cut by the base of  $\mathfrak{h}$  (so that part of  $D$  lies in  $\mathfrak{h}$  and part in  $\overline{\mathfrak{h}}$ ) and which satisfy  $\text{Des}(C, D) = \mathfrak{h}(D)$ .*

*Proof.* The second case follows from previous Lemmas. So suppose that  $\overline{C} \subseteq \mathfrak{h}$ . Then

$$\text{Des}(C, D) = \mathfrak{h}(D) = O \iff D = C$$

and

$$\text{Des}(C, D) = \mathfrak{h}(D) = D \iff D = \overline{C}.$$

This yields the terms  $H_C$  and  $(-1)^{\text{rk}(\mathcal{A})} H_{\overline{C}}$ . In the remaining cases,  $O < \mathfrak{h}(D) < D$  and hence  $D$  is cut by the base of  $\mathfrak{h}$ . □

### 3.4 Dynkin basis

**Proposition.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be any arrangement. For any generic half-space  $h$  wrt  $\mathcal{A}$ , the set*

$$(16) \quad \{\theta_h \triangleright H_C \mid \overline{C} \subseteq h\}$$

*is a basis of  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ .*

*Proof.* We prove this assuming that  $\mathcal{A}$  is simplicial. For  $\overline{C} \subseteq h$ , by the first case of formula (15), the term  $H_C$  only occurs in  $\theta_h \triangleright H_C$ , so these elements are linearly independent. Further, by Proposition 3.3, these elements span  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ . Hence they form a basis.  $\square$

**Corollary.** *The dimension of  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is  $|\mu(\mathcal{A})|$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from the previous result and Corollary 3.2.  $\square$

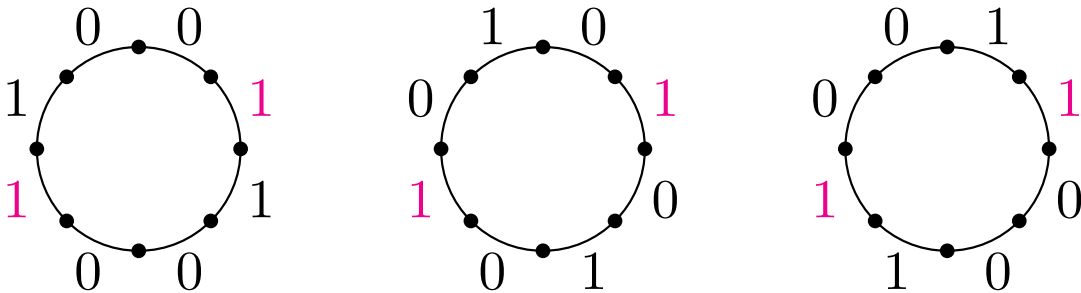
We call (16) the **Dynkin basis** associated to  $h$ .

**Example.** Consider the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. In this case, we know independently that dimension of  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  and  $|\mu(\mathcal{A})|$  are both  $n - 1$ .

Now fix any two opposite chambers, say  $D$  and  $\overline{D}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be one of the two half-spaces whose base bisects  $D$  and  $\overline{D}$ . Then the set

$$\{\mathbf{H}_C + \mathbf{H}_{\overline{C}} - \mathbf{H}_D - \mathbf{H}_{\overline{D}} \mid \overline{C} \subseteq \mathfrak{h}\}$$

is a basis for  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ . It has  $n - 1$  elements. This is precisely the Dynkin basis associated to  $\mathfrak{h}$  and also to  $\overline{\mathfrak{h}}$ . For instance, for  $n = 4$ , a choice for the Dynkin basis is shown below.



## 4 A little homological algebra

### 4.1 Chain complexes and homology

A **chain complex** is a sequence of vector spaces equipped with linear maps

$$\cdots \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{k+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{k+1}} \mathcal{C}_k \xrightarrow{\partial_k} \mathcal{C}_{k-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{k-1}} \cdots$$

such that the composite of two consecutive maps is 0, that is,  $\partial_{k-1}\partial_k = 0$  for all  $k$ .

The  $\mathcal{C}_k$  are called **chain groups** and  $\partial_k$  are called **boundary maps**.

Given a chain complex  $\mathcal{C}$ , for each  $k$ , define

$$\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{C}) := \frac{\ker \partial_k}{\text{image } \partial_{k+1}}.$$

This is called the  **$k$ -th homology group** of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Given a chain complex  $\mathcal{C}$ , one can dualize it to obtain

$$\cdots \leftarrow \mathcal{C}_{k+1}^* \xleftarrow{\partial_{k+1}^*} \mathcal{C}_k^* \xleftarrow{\partial_k^*} \mathcal{C}_{k-1}^* \xleftarrow{\partial_{k-1}^*} \cdots$$

Let us write  $\mathcal{C}^k$  instead of  $\mathcal{C}_k^*$  and  $\delta_k$  instead of  $\partial_k^*$ .

That is,

$$\cdots \leftarrow \mathcal{C}^{k+1} \xleftarrow{\delta_{k+1}} \mathcal{C}^k \xleftarrow{\delta_k} \mathcal{C}^{k-1} \xleftarrow{\delta_{k-1}} \cdots$$

This is called a **cochain complex**. The  $\mathcal{C}^k$  are called **cochain groups** and  $\delta_k$  are called **coboundary maps**.

The identity  $\delta_k \delta_{k-1} = 0$  holds. We define

$$\mathcal{H}^k(\mathcal{C}) := \frac{\ker \delta_k}{\text{image } \delta_{k-1}}.$$

This is called the  **$k$ -th cohomology group** of  $\mathcal{C}$ . It is isomorphic to the dual of  $\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{C})$ , with the duality induced by the duality between the chain and cochain complexes.

## 4.2 (Co)homology of the lattice of flats

Fix an arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ . Put  $r := \text{rk}(\mathcal{A})$ . We now associate a chain complex to the lattice of flats  $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ .

For  $-1 \leq k \leq r - 2$ , the chain group  $\mathcal{C}_k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  is the vector space over  $\mathbb{k}$  with basis consisting of chains

$$\perp < X_1 < \cdots < X_{k+1} < \top.$$

The remaining chain groups are 0. Note that

- $\mathcal{C}_{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  has a basis of maximal chains, while
- $\mathcal{C}_{-1}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  is one-dimensional and spanned by the chain  $\perp < \top$ .

The boundary operator

$$\partial_k : \mathcal{C}_k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{k-1}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$$

is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial_k(\perp < X_1 < \cdots < X_{k+1} < \top) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (-1)^i (\perp < X_1 < \cdots < \hat{X}_i < \cdots < X_{k+1} < \top), \end{aligned}$$

where by standard convention,  $\hat{X}_i$  means that  $X_i$  has been deleted from the chain.

One can readily check that  $\partial_{k-1}\partial_k = 0$ .

We write  $\mathcal{H}_k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  for the homology group in position  $k$ .



The cochain complex is obtained by dualizing the chain complex. We denote the cochain groups by  $\mathcal{C}^k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  and the coboundary operators by

$$\delta_k : \mathcal{C}^k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{k+1}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]).$$

Explicitly,

$$(17) \quad \delta_k(\perp < X_1 < \dots < X_{k+1} < \top)^* =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+2} (-1)^i \sum_{X_{i-1} < X < X_i} (\perp < X_1 < \dots < X_{i-1} < X < X_i < \dots < X_{k+1} < \top)^*,$$

with the convention that  $X_0 = \perp$  and  $X_{k+2} = \top$ .

The superscript  $*$  stands for the dual basis.

We write  $\mathcal{H}^k(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  for the cohomology group in position  $k$ .

**Proposition.** *For any arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ , the lattice of flats  $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$  has (co)homology only in position  $r - 2$ , and further*

$$\dim \mathcal{H}_{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) = \dim \mathcal{H}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) = |\mu(\mathcal{A})|.$$

This is a result of Folkman. We omit the proof. We only mention that the second claim can be deduced from the first using the fact that  $\mu(\mathcal{A})$  is the Euler characteristic of the (co)chain complex of  $\Pi[\mathcal{A}]$ .

The top homology  $\mathcal{H}_{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  is a well-studied object. Björner and Wachs have constructed a basis for it starting with a generic half-space  $h$ .

## 5 Orientation space

We discuss the notion of orientation for any arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $E^\circ[\mathcal{A}]$  denote the space spanned by maximal chains in the poset of faces  $\Sigma[\mathcal{A}]$  subject to the relations: If two maximal chains differ in exactly one position, then they are negatives of each other.

We call  $E^\circ[\mathcal{A}]$  the **orientation space** of  $\mathcal{A}$ . We denote the image of a maximal chain  $f$  in the orientation space by  $[f]$ .

An **orientation** of  $\mathcal{A}$  is an element of  $E^\circ[\mathcal{A}]$  of the form  $[f]$  for some maximal chain of faces  $f$ .

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the rank-one arrangement, with chambers  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$ . There are two maximal chains, namely  $O \triangleleft C$  and  $O \triangleleft \overline{C}$ . Since they differ in exactly one position, we write

$$[O \triangleleft C] = -[O \triangleleft \overline{C}].$$

So  $E^0[\mathcal{A}]$  is one-dimensional. It has two orientations, namely,  $[O \triangleleft C]$  which we call the right orientation, and  $[O \triangleleft \overline{C}]$  which we call the left orientation.

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. A maximal chain has the form  $O \triangleleft F \triangleleft C$ . There are  $4n$  maximal chains. The relations can be expressed as

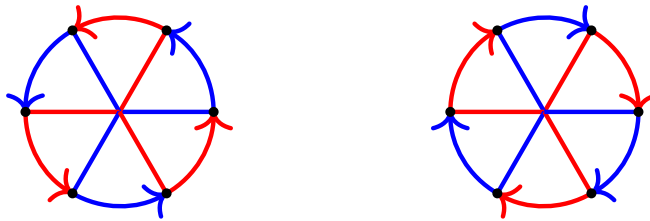
$$[O \triangleleft F \triangleleft C] = -[O \triangleleft G \triangleleft C],$$

where  $F$  and  $G$  are the two vertices of  $C$ , and

$$[O \triangleleft F \triangleleft C] = -[O \triangleleft F \triangleleft D],$$

where  $C$  and  $D$  are the two chambers greater than  $F$ .

Again we note that  $E^0[\mathcal{A}]$  is one-dimensional. There are two orientations, which we can think of as clockwise and anticlockwise. This is illustrated below for  $n = 3$ .



The six maximal chains which give the anticlockwise orientation are shown on the left, while the six which give the clockwise orientation are shown on the right.

**Lemma.** *For any arrangement, the orientation space is one-dimensional. Any arrangement has two orientations.*

The relevant fact is that

- one can pass from one maximal chain to another by a sequence of maximal chains in which two consecutive maximal chains differ in exactly one position, and
- any such journey from a maximal chain back to itself takes an even number of steps.

We will use the letter  $\sigma$  to denote an orientation; the opposite orientation will be  $-\sigma$ .

There is a canonical isomorphism

$$(18) \quad E^\circ[\mathcal{A}] \otimes E^\circ[\mathcal{A}] \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{k}, \quad \sigma \otimes \sigma \mapsto 1,$$

where  $\sigma$  is either of the two orientations of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Changing  $\sigma$  to  $-\sigma$  incurs two minus signs, so the map is well-defined.

For any flat  $X$ , there is an isomorphism

$$(19) \quad E^\circ[\mathcal{A}^X] \otimes E^\circ[\mathcal{A}_X] \xrightarrow{\cong} E^\circ[\mathcal{A}], \quad \sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_2 \mapsto \tau,$$

where  $\tau$  is obtained by “concatenating”  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ :

Suppose  $c_1$  is a maximal chain of faces in  $\mathcal{A}^X$  which represents  $\sigma_1$ . Let  $c'_1$  denote the corresponding chain in  $\mathcal{A}$ . It ends at a face with support  $X$ . Call that face  $F$ .

Similarly, let  $c_2$  be a maximal chain of faces in  $\mathcal{A}_X$  which represents  $\sigma_2$ . It corresponds to a chain  $c'_2$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  which starts at  $F$ . The concatenation of  $c'_1$  and  $c'_2$  is a maximal chain in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Its class is the required  $\tau$ .

Iterating this procedure yields, for any chain of flats

$(\perp < X_1 < \cdots < X_k < \top)$ , an isomorphism

(20)

$$E^{\circ}[\mathcal{A}^{X_1}] \otimes E^{\circ}[\mathcal{A}_{X_1}^{X_2}] \otimes \cdots \otimes E^{\circ}[\mathcal{A}_{X_k}] \xrightarrow{\cong} E^{\circ}[\mathcal{A}].$$



## 6 Joyal-Klyachko-Stanley

Fix an arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$ . Put  $r := \text{rk}(\mathcal{A})$ . We set up some terminology.

For any chain of faces  $f = (F_1 < \cdots < F_k)$ , define its **support** by

$$s(f) := (s(F_1) < \cdots < s(F_k)).$$

This is a chain of flats.

For a maximal chain of faces  $f$ , let  $\text{last}(f)$  denote the last face in the chain  $f$  (which is necessarily a chamber).

For any orientation  $\sigma$  and a maximal chain of faces  $f$ ,

$$(\sigma : f) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma = [f], \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma = -[f]. \end{cases}$$

Recall the cochain group  $\mathcal{C}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  with a basis consisting of maximal chains of flats. We now define a linear map

$$(21) \quad \mathcal{C}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \otimes \mathbf{E}^0[\mathcal{A}] \rightarrow \mathbf{L}[\mathcal{A}].$$

We provide a number of equivalent definitions.

The map (21) is given by

$$(22a) \quad z^* \otimes \sigma \mapsto \sum_{f: s(f)=z} (\sigma : f) \mathbf{H}_{\text{last}(f)},$$

where  $z$  is any maximal chain of flats and  $\sigma$  is an orientation.

The map (21) is given by

$$(22b) \quad z^* \otimes \sigma \mapsto \sum_D \pm \mathbf{H}_D,$$

where  $z$  is any maximal chain of flats and  $\sigma$  is an orientation. The sum is over those chambers  $D$  for which there exists a maximal chain of faces  $f$  with  $\text{last}(f) = D$  and  $s(f) = z$ . The coefficient of  $\mathbf{H}_D$  is

$+1$  if  $[f] = \sigma$  and  $-1$  if  $[f] = -\sigma$ .

The map (21) is given by

$$(22c) \quad s(f)^* \otimes [f] \mapsto (H_{F_1} - H_{G_1}) \triangleright \dots \triangleright (H_{F_r} - H_{G_r}),$$

where  $f = (O \triangleleft F_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft F_r)$  is a maximal chain of faces, and for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ ,  $G_i$  is the face opposite to  $F_i$  in the star of  $F_{i-1}$  (with the convention  $F_0 = O$ ).

**Lemma.** *The image of (21) belongs to  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$ .*

*Proof.* This can be proved from (22c) by using the Friedrichs criterion. For instance, in rank-two, we need to show for  $F > O$ ,

$$H_F \triangleright (H_{F_1} - H_{G_1}) \triangleright (H_{F_2} - H_{G_2}) = 0.$$

In the case when  $F$  is either  $F_1$  or  $G_1$ ,

$H_F \triangleright (H_{F_1} - H_{G_1})$  equals 0. If not, then this is some linear combination of chambers, so multiplying it with  $(H_{F_2} - H_{G_2})$  produces 0, and we are done. This method generalizes to any  $r$ . □

As a consequence, (21) induces a map

$$(23) \quad \mathcal{C}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

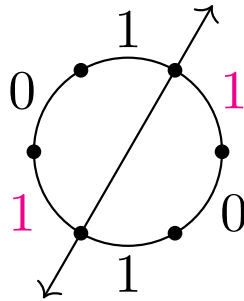
We refer to the image of  $z^* \otimes \sigma$  under (22b) as the **unbracketing** of  $z$  wrt  $\sigma$ . Thus, the unbracketing of a maximal chain of flats (or any linear combination of them) determines, up to sign, a Lie element. The sign can be fixed by choosing an orientation.

**Example.** For the rank-one arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$  with chambers  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}^{-1}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}] &\xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}], \\ (\perp < \top)^* \otimes [O < C] &\mapsto H_C - H_{\overline{C}}. \end{aligned}$$

(Both sides are 1-dimensional.)

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. Any maximal chain of flats has the form  $\perp < H < \top$ . So maximal chains correspond to hyperplanes. Unbracketing  $\perp < H < \top$  yields a Lie element of the form  $H_C + H_{\overline{C}} - H_D - H_{\overline{D}}$ , where  $C$  and  $D$  are adjacent, and their common panel has support  $H$ . An example is shown below.



The unbracketing is done wrt the anticlockwise direction.

Let us go back to the general case.

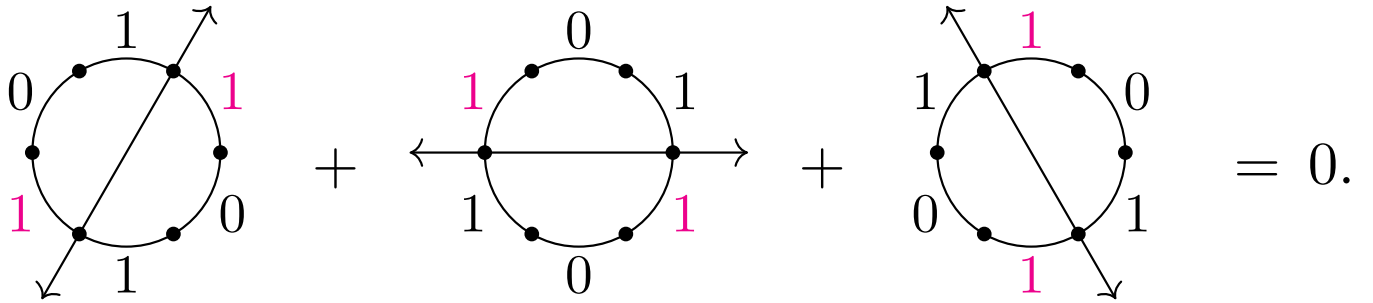
A coboundary relation is an element of  $\mathcal{C}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  of the form  $\delta_{r-3}(z^*)$  for some chain of flats  $z$ . (The coboundary map is given in (17).) Note that the top cohomology group  $\mathcal{H}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  is the quotient of  $\mathcal{C}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  by the subspace spanned by the coboundary relations.

**Example.** Let us return to the rank-two example.

There is only one coboundary relation, namely

$$\sum_H (\perp \triangleleft H \triangleleft \top)^*.$$

The sum is over all hyperplanes. Note that this element after unbracketing produces the Jacobi identity. This is illustrated below for  $n = 3$ .



In the figure, the orientation chosen for unbracketing is the anticlockwise direction. Thus, in this case, we have an induced isomorphism

$$\mathcal{H}^0(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

Let us go back to the general case.

**Lemma.** *The map (23) sends any coboundary relation (tensored with an orientation) to zero.*

*Proof.* Let

$$z = (\perp \triangleleft X_1 \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft X_{i-1} < X_i \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft X_{k+1} \triangleleft \top)$$

be an element of  $\mathcal{C}_{r-3}(\Pi)$ , with

$$\mathrm{rk}(X_i) - \mathrm{rk}(X_{i-1}) = 2. \text{ Then}$$

$$\delta_{r-3}(z^*) = (-1)^i \sum_w w^*,$$

where  $w$  runs over all maximal chains obtained from  $z$  by inserting a flat between  $X_{i-1}$  and  $X_i$ . Put

$$\alpha = \delta_{r-3}(z^*) \otimes \sigma \text{ for some orientation } \sigma. \text{ We need}$$

to show that (21) sends  $\alpha$  to 0. Let us use (22b). If

there is no chain of faces ending in  $D$  with support  $z$ , then the coefficient is clearly zero. So we may assume that

$$f = (O \triangleleft F_1 \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft F_{i-1} < F_i \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft F_{k+1} \triangleleft D)$$

is a chain of faces with support  $z$ . In this case, there



are exactly two faces that can be inserted between  $F_{i-1}$  and  $F_i$ . The resulting maximal chains have opposite orientations, so their contributions cancel.  $\square$

Thus (23) induces a map

$$(24) \quad \mathcal{H}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

By tensoring both sides by  $E^0[\mathcal{A}]$  and using (18), it can be expressed in the equivalent form:

$$(25) \quad \mathcal{H}^{r-2}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}]) \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}] \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}].$$

**Theorem.** *The maps (24) and (25) are isomorphisms.*

We call this the [Joyal-Klyachko-Stanley theorem](#), or JKS for short. We refer to (24) as the JKS isomorphism. Under this isomorphism the dual of the Björner-Wachs basis corresponds to the Dynkin basis. In fact, these two bases can be used to prove JKS.

## 7 Presentation for Lie

Let us slightly alter our viewpoint on the JKS isomorphism (24).

For the rank-one arrangement  $\mathcal{A}$  with chambers  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$ , we have

$$E^0[\mathcal{A}] \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}], \quad [O \triangleleft C] \mapsto H_C - H_{\overline{C}}.$$

(Both spaces are 1-dimensional.)

Now suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  is the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. Then (23) along with the identification (19) can be rewritten as

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^n E^0[\mathcal{A}^{X_i}] \otimes E^0[\mathcal{A}_{X_i}] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}],$$

where the  $X_i$  are the  $n$  lines (one-dimensional flats) of  $\mathcal{A}$ . This map is surjective. The lhs is  $n$ -dimensional while the rhs is  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional. The kernel is

spanned by the element

$$(26) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \tau^i \otimes \tau_i$$

where  $\tau^i$  and  $\tau_i$  are orientations of  $\mathcal{A}^{X_i}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{X_i}$  such that their concatenation is (say) the anticlockwise orientation of  $\mathcal{A}$ . This element corresponds to the Jacobi identity.

Now let  $\mathcal{A}$  be arbitrary. The map (23) can be rewritten as

$$(27) \quad \bigoplus_z E^o[\mathcal{A}^{X_1}] \otimes E^o[\mathcal{A}_{X_1}^{X_2}] \otimes \cdots \otimes E^o[\mathcal{A}_{X_{r-1}}] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}],$$

where the sum is over all maximal chains of flats

$z = (\perp \triangleleft X_1 \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft X_{r-1} \triangleleft \top)$ . (In this rewriting, the second tensor factor  $E^o[\mathcal{A}]$  in the lhs of (23) is identified with the summands in the lhs above via (20).)

Theorem 6 says that the kernel of (27) is the subspace generated by (26). (The latter corresponds to the

coboundary relations.) To summarize:

**Theorem.** *The space  $\text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}]$  is freely generated by the orientation space in rank 1 subject to the Jacobi identities (in rank two).*

## 8 Substitution product of Lie

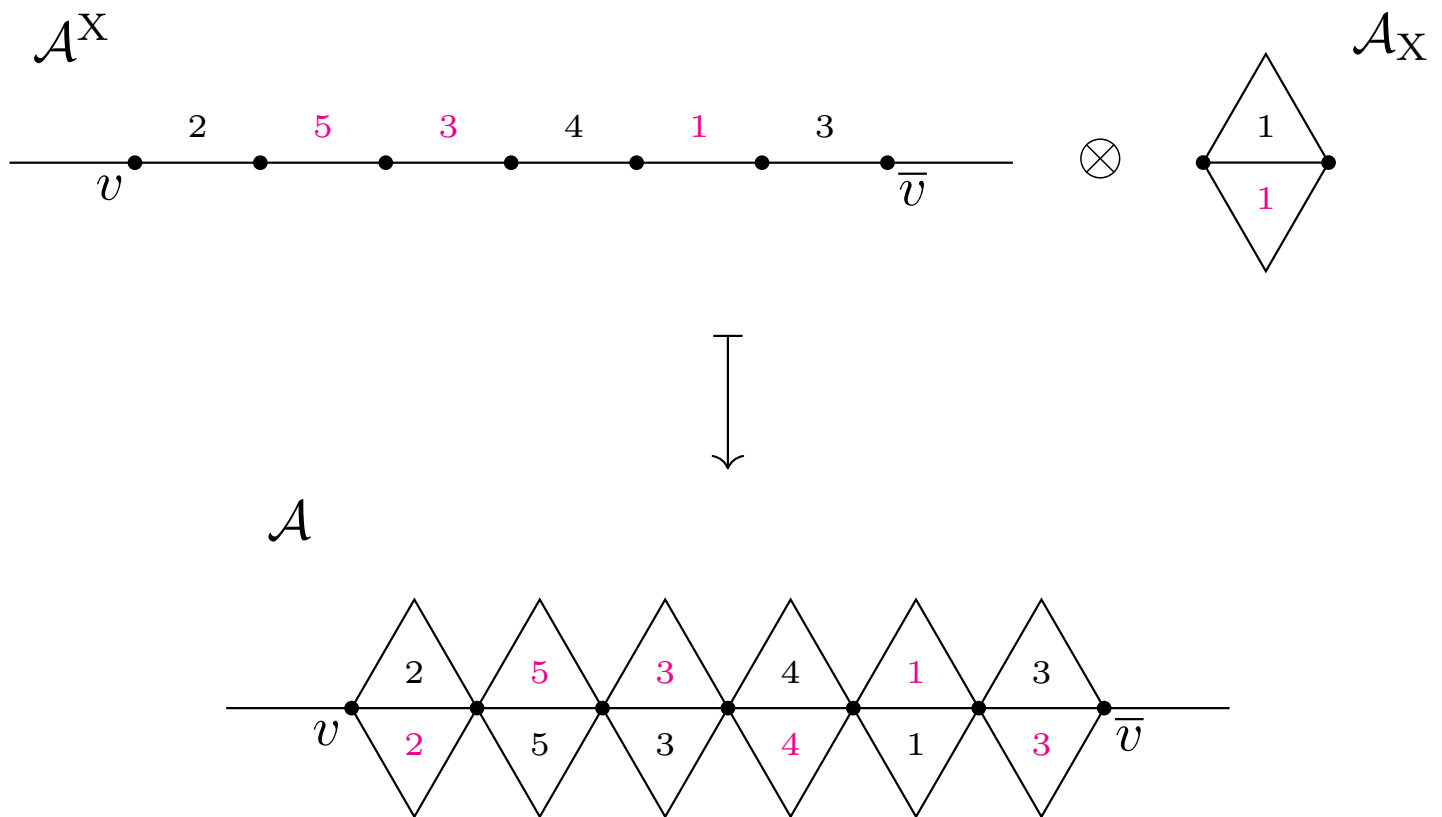
It is convenient to write  $\mathcal{H}^{\text{top}}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$  for the top-dimensional cohomology of the lattice of flats of  $\mathcal{A}$ . For any flat  $X$ , there is a map

$$(28) \quad \mathcal{H}^{\text{top}}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}^X]) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\text{top}}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}_X]) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{\text{top}}(\Pi[\mathcal{A}])$$

obtained by concatenating: A maximal chain of flats in  $\mathcal{A}^X$  can be identified with a chain of flats in  $\mathcal{A}$  ending at  $X$ , while a maximal chain of flats in  $\mathcal{A}_X$  can be identified with a chain of flats in  $\mathcal{A}$  starting at  $X$ . So, concatenating the two yields a maximal chain of flats in  $\mathcal{A}$ . The map (28) is obtained by passing to the homology classes. Combining with (19) and using the JKS isomorphism (24) we obtain: For any flat  $X$ , there is a map

$$(29) \quad \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}^X] \otimes \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}_X] \rightarrow \text{Lie}[\mathcal{A}].$$

We call this the substitution product of Lie. How do we think of this map? An illustration is given below.



## 9 Classical Lie elements

For any letters  $a$  and  $b$ , define

$$[a, b] := a|b - b|a,$$

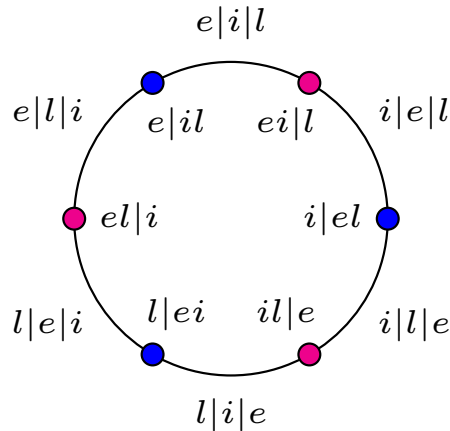
Note that

$$[a, b] = -[b, a].$$

Let us iterate this operation. Thus,

$$[[l, i], e] = [l|i - i|l, e] = l|i|e - i|l|e - e|l|i + e|i|l.$$

Let us visualize this element in the braid arrangement on  $I = \{l, i, e\}$ .



Thus, what we have is the Lie element obtained by unbracketing the maximal chain

$$\{l, i, e\} \triangleleft \{\{l, i\}, \{e\}\} \triangleleft \{\{l\}, \{i\}, \{e\}\}.$$

Note that

$$[[l, i], e] + [[e, l], i] + [[i, e], l] = 0,$$

and this is precisely our Jacobi identity.

Now it will also be clear why we used the term “unbracketing”.



## 10 Problems

**Exercise.** *Prove formula (7).*

**Exercise.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the dihedral arrangement of  $n$  lines. Show that the set of all Dynkin elements form a basis of  $\text{Zie}[\mathcal{A}]$ .*

**Exercise.** *What is the number of generic half-spaces in the rank 3 braid arrangement? (Two generic half-spaces are to be regarded the same if they break the set of chambers in the same way.) Describe these half-spaces as well as you can. Are the corresponding Dynkin elements linearly independent?*

**Exercise.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be complements in the lattice of flats, that is,  $X \wedge Y = \perp$  and  $X \vee Y = \top$ . Each chamber  $F$  in  $\mathcal{A}^X$  is contained in a unique chamber of  $\mathcal{A}_Y$ , which we denote by  $YF$ . Prove or disprove.*

If  $\sum_F x^F H_F$  is a Lie element of  $\mathcal{A}^X$ , then  
 $\sum_F x^F H_{YF}$  is a Lie element of  $\mathcal{A}_Y$ .

**Exercise.** In the braid arrangement on the letters  $a, b, c, d$ , write down the Lie elements obtained by unbracketing the maximal chains

$$(\{abcd\} \triangleleft \{ab, cd\} \triangleleft \{a, b, cd\} \triangleleft \{a, b, c, d\})$$

and

$$(\{abcd\} \triangleleft \{a, bcd\} \triangleleft \{a, bc, d\} \triangleleft \{a, b, c, d\}).$$

Also represent them in the bracket notation.