

GATF

Lecture 14: Classification of Lie algebras and Dynkin diagrams

4.3 - Classification of ^{complex} Lie algebras
 consider $(L, [\cdot, \cdot])$
 \hookrightarrow a \mathbb{C} -vector space.

Example: G a complex lie group
 \hookrightarrow complex manifold (\mathbb{C}^n)

Theorem (Levi): Every finite-dim complex lie algebra $(L, [\cdot, \cdot])$ can be decomposed as:

$$L = R \oplus_s (L_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L_n)$$

where (a) R is a lie subalgebra of L • solvable:

$$\{[r_1, r_2] \mid r_1, r_2 \in R\} =: [R, R] \supseteq \{0\}$$

$$\hookrightarrow [[R, R], [R, R]] \supseteq [\dots, \dots] \supseteq \dots \supseteq \{0\}$$

if this is true R is solvable!

- (b) L_1, \dots, L_n are simple lie algebras
- L_i is non-abelian
 - L_i contains no non-trivial ideal.

(subvector space).

Ideals $(I \subseteq L \text{ such that } [I, L] \subseteq I)$

Trivial ideal: $(0, L)$.

③ direct sum between lie algebras.

$L_1 \oplus L_2 :=$ direct sum of vector space plus:
 $[L_1, L_2] = 0$.

④ Semi-direct sum:

$R \oplus_s L :=$ ~~direct sum~~ direct sum between vector spaces, plus: $[R, L] \subseteq R$

* Remarks: ① hard to classify solvable lie algebras.

② A lie algebra has no solvable part is called semi-simple.

③ Simple lie algebras are the independent building blocks we will classify.

Preparation of the classification.

Def: $(L, [\cdot, \cdot])$ a \mathbb{C} -Lie algebra.
 $h \in L$,

$$\text{ad}(h) : L \xrightarrow{\sim} L$$

$$l \mapsto \text{ad}(h) l := [h, l]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
K(e_i, e_j) &= \text{ad}(e_j)^m \kappa \text{ad}(e_i)^n \in^k(e_n) \\
&= \text{ad}(e_j)^m \kappa \text{ad}(e_i)^n \\
&= C_{jn}^m C_{im}^n \\
&= C_{im}^n C_{jn}^m
\end{aligned}$$

again: L is semi-simple if, and only if, K is a pseudo-inner product.

*Remark: $\text{ad}_\alpha: L \xrightarrow{\sim} L$
 $K: L \times L \xrightarrow{\sim} L$

recall: $\phi: V \otimes V$ is called ~~non-degenerate~~ (anti)symmetric
wrt non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form.
Bil: $B(\phi(v), w) = (\pm) B(v, \phi(w))$

Fact: ad_α is anti-symmetric wrt the Killing form.

(Simple \Rightarrow Semi-simple).

Def: $(L, [\cdot, \cdot])$ Lie algebra, there a Cartan subalgebra H is:

- $H \subseteq L$ vector subspace.
- maximal subalgebra of L such that exists a basis h_1, \dots, h_m of H that can be

that can be extended to a basis

$h_1, \dots, h_m, e_1, \dots, e_{n-m}$ of L .
such that

e_1, \dots, e_{n-m} are eigenvectors for any
 $\text{ad}_h, h \in H$.

$$\text{ad}_h e_\alpha = \lambda_\alpha(h) e_\alpha$$

Theorem: Any finite dimensional possesses a Cartan subalgebra.

Theorem: If L is simple, H is abelian,
 $[H, H] = 0$.

Observation: $[h, e_\alpha] = \lambda_\alpha(h) e_\alpha$
is linear in h thus:

$$\lambda_\alpha: H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \lambda_\alpha \in H^*$$

Def: The $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{n-m} \in H^*$ are called
the roots of the Lie algebra L

Call $\Phi := \{\lambda_i\}$ the root set, $\Phi \subseteq H^*$

* Remark: α is anti-symmetrical wrt (K)
 $\Rightarrow (\lambda \in \Phi \Rightarrow -\lambda \in \Phi)$

\Rightarrow in matrix elements: $\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} & & \\ & \boxed{-1} & \boxed{0} & \\ & & \boxed{0} & \ddots \\ & & & \boxed{0} \end{pmatrix}$

• Φ is not linearly independent.

Def: A set of fundamental roots
 $\text{finite} = \pi_1, \dots, \pi_f$

$\pi \subseteq \Phi$ such that

(a) π is linearly independent

(b) $\forall \lambda \in \Phi: \exists n_1, \dots, n_f \in \mathbb{N}: \lambda = \sum_{i=1}^f n_i \pi_i$

$$\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^f n_i \pi_i$$

Fact: such $\pi \subseteq \Phi$ can always be found.

Theorem: $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}(\pi) = H^*$

* Remark: π is not unique!

Def: (1) $H_{\mathbb{R}}^* := \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}}(\pi)$, Thus:

$$\pi \subseteq \Phi \subseteq \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}}(\pi) \subseteq H_{\mathbb{R}}^* \subseteq H^*$$

(2) Note: $K: L \times L \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{C}$, we can look to

$K|_H : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, we want:

$$K^*_{H^*} : K^* : H^* \times H^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$K^*(\mu, \nu) := K(i^{-1}(\mu), i^{-1}(\nu))$$

def: $i: H \rightarrow H^*$

$$h \mapsto i(h) := K(h, \cdot)$$

i^{-1} exists if
 K is non-degenerated
 L (reductive simple).

Theorem: $K^*_{\mathbb{R}} : H^*_{\mathbb{R}} \times H^*_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

then, and $K^*(\alpha, \alpha) \geq 0$ and
 $= 0$ iff $\alpha = 0$.

$K^*_{\mathbb{R}}$ is an inner product.

$H^*_{\mathbb{R}} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Pi)$ we can calculate lengths
 and angles, in particular, one can calculate
 length and angles of (fundamental) roots.

Π is of extremely importance when characterizing
 Lie groups. Can we recover Φ from Π ?
 Yes!

Def: For any $\lambda \in \Phi$ define $S_{\lambda}: H^*_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow H^*_{\mathbb{R}}$

$$S_{\lambda}(\mu) := \mu - 2 \frac{(\lambda, \mu)}{(\lambda, \lambda)} \lambda$$

certainly linear in μ and non-linear in λ .

Any such S_λ is called a Weyl transformation, and

$W := \{ S_\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Phi \}$ called the Weyl group, with the group operation being \circ .

Theorem:

① "The Weyl group is generated by the fundamental roots in π "

$$\forall w \in W: \exists \pi_1, \dots, \pi_n \in \pi: w = S_{\pi_1} \circ S_{\pi_2} \circ \dots \circ S_{\pi_n}.$$

② "Every root can be ~~reduced~~ produced from a fundamental root $\pi_i \in \pi$ by action of the Weyl group"

$$\forall \lambda \in \Phi: \exists w \in W: \exists \pi_i \in \pi: \lambda = w(\pi_i)$$

③ "The Weyl group merely permutes the roots"

$$\forall w \in W: \forall \lambda \in \Phi: w(\lambda) \in \Phi.$$

Now, showdown:

Consider: for any $\pi_i, \pi_j \in \pi$.

$$\Phi \ni S_{\pi_i}(\pi_j) = \pi_j - 2 \frac{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_j)}{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i)} \pi_i$$

best:

$$S_{\pi_i}(\pi_j) = \varepsilon \sum_k n_k \pi_k$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \cdot \pi_j + (-2) \frac{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_j)}{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i)} \pi_i$$

$\in \mathbb{N}$.

for $(i \neq j)$.

$\frac{2 K^*(\pi_i, \pi_j)}{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i)}$ is a non-positive integer

C_{ij} (not symmetric)
cartan matrix,

Clearly: $C_{ii} = 2$.

now define, bond number:

$$n_{ij} := C_{ij} C_{ji} = 4 \frac{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_j)}{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i)} \frac{K^*(\pi_j, \pi_i)}{K^*(\pi_j, \pi_j)}$$

$$n_{ij} = 4 \cos^2(\angle(\pi_i, \pi_j))$$

$$\boxed{0 \leq n_{ij} \leq 4} \quad 0 \leq n_{ij} < 4 \quad i \neq j$$

or n_{ij} must be integer:

$$n_{ij} = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

C_{ij}	C_{ji}	n_{ij}
0	0	0

-1	-1	1
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-1	-2	2
----	----	---

-2	-1	2
----	----	---

-1	-3	3
----	----	---

-3	-1	3
----	----	---

see notes!

$(\pi_i, \pi_j) < (\pi_j, \pi_i)$
or $>$

$C_{ij} < C_{ji}$
 $\Rightarrow K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i) > K^*(\pi_j, \pi_j)$

$C_{ij} = 2 \frac{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_j)}{K^*(\pi_i, \pi_i)}$

Dynkin diagrams:

① for every fundamental root draw a circle: \circ

② if $\circ \circ$ represent $\pi_i, \pi_j \in \Pi$, draw n_{ij} lines between them.

$\circ \circ$, $\circ \text{---} \circ$, $\circ \text{=}\text{=} \circ$, $\circ \text{=}\text{=}\text{=} \circ$,

③ if there are 2 or 3 lines between two roots, use $<$ sign to relate.

$\circ \neq \circ$

Theorem: (Killing, Cartan): Any finite-dim, simple \mathbb{C} -lie algebra, can be reconstructed from its roots α set of fundamental roots and the latter only come in the following form:

$A_1: \circ$, $A_2: \circ \text{---} \circ$, $A_3: \circ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \circ$, ...

$l \geq 2$

B_l : $\begin{array}{c} \circ \rightarrow \circ, \circ - \circ \rightarrow \circ, \circ - \circ - \circ \rightarrow \circ, \dots \end{array}$ at the end =
 B_2, B_3, B_4

$l \geq 3$
 C : $\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ \leftarrow \circ, \circ - \circ - \circ \leftarrow \circ, \dots \end{array}$
 C_3, C_4

$l \geq 4$
 D : $\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \circ \\ \searrow \circ \end{array}, \circ - \circ - \circ \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \circ \\ \searrow \circ \end{array}, \dots \end{array}$
 D_4, D_5, D_6

four classical lie algebras series!

There are more 5 exceptional lie algebras

$\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} E_6$

$\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} E_7$

$\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ - \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} E_8$

$\begin{array}{c} \circ - \circ \rightarrow \circ - \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} F_4$

$\begin{array}{c} \circ \rightarrow \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} G_2$

! These are all the simple lie algebras!

Example

$\begin{array}{c} \circ \\ \swarrow \circ \\ \searrow \circ \end{array}$ is not a simple lie algebra!