

LECTURE #19

"Contragredient Lie algebras"

04/01/2021

A - $n \times n$ \mathbb{C} -valued matrix \leftarrow Input

Let Q ("root lattice") be a free abelian gp of rank n with basis $\{d_i\}_{i=1}^n$.

$$Q = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z} d_i$$

Def 1: A contragredient Lie alg. corresponding to A is a Q -graded, \mathbb{C} -Lie alg $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(A)$ generated by $\{e_i, h_i, f_i\}_{i=1}^n$ satisfying:

$$\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$$

(1) $[h_i, h_j] = 0$, $[h_i, e_j] = a_{ij} \cdot e_j$, $[h_i, f_j] = -a_{ij} f_j$, $[e_i, f_j] = \delta_{ij} \cdot h_i$.

(2) \mathfrak{g}_0 has a basis $\{h_i\}_{i=1}^n$, $\mathfrak{g}_{d_i} = \mathbb{C} e_i$, $\mathfrak{g}_{-d_i} = \mathbb{C} f_i$

(3) Any nonzero Q -graded ideal of \mathfrak{g} has a nonzero intersection with $\mathfrak{g}_0 = \mathfrak{h}$.

Cor 1: Simple f.d. Lie algs are contragredient!

Thm 1: $\forall A \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C})$ There exists a unique, up to isom., contragredient Lie alg \mathfrak{g} corresponding to A .



notation $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ is unambiguous.

Proof of Thm 1

As in the previous class, let $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)$ be the Lie alg. gen'd by $\{e_i, h_i, f_i\}_{i=1}^n$ subject to rel-s (1).

Claim = Thm 2

$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A) = \tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_- \oplus \tilde{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_+ \cong \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ has a basis $\{h_i\}_{i=1}^n$

$\tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_-$ Lie subalg. gen'd by f_i 's
 $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ generated by h_i 's
 $\tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_+$ gen'd by e_i 's
 $\tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_+$ is the free Lie alg. on $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$
 $\tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_-$ is the free Lie alg. on $\{f_i\}_{i=1}^n$.

Claim \Rightarrow Thm 1

$A \rightsquigarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)$ satisfies (1) + (2).

Let I be the sum of all \mathbb{Q} -graded ideals of $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)$ which do not intersect $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ due to "Q-graded" condition.

$\rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{g}(A) := \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)/I$ (*)

$\mathfrak{g}(A)$ satisfies (1) ✓
 $\dashv\!\!\dashv\!\!\dashv$ (2) $\leftarrow \nexists e_i \in I \Rightarrow [f_i, e_i] \in I \Rightarrow \nexists \nabla \nabla$
 $\dashv\!\!\dashv\!\!\dashv$ (3) by construction $\Downarrow \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{Z}i} = \mathbb{C}e_i$ ✓

Conclusion: $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ - contragredient Lie alg. assoc. to A .

Uniqueness

Assume \mathfrak{g}' - another contragr. Lie alg. associated to A .

$$(1) \Rightarrow \begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A) & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}' \\ \cup & & \\ \mathfrak{I} & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array} \Rightarrow \boxed{\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)/\mathfrak{I} & & \\ \parallel & & \\ \mathfrak{g}(A) & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}' \end{array}}$$

due to condition (3) for \mathfrak{g}'

BUT: if it was not surjective, its kernel \mathfrak{J} would be a \mathbb{Q} -graded ideal which must (by (3)) intersect

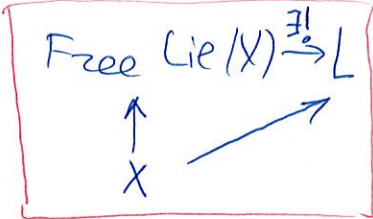
$$\underline{\mathfrak{h}}_{\mathfrak{g}(A)} \Rightarrow \dim \underline{\mathfrak{h}}_{\mathfrak{g}'} < \dim \underline{\mathfrak{h}}_{\mathfrak{g}(A)} \Rightarrow \text{Y}$$

use condition (2) of Def 1.

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mathfrak{g}(A) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{g}'}$$



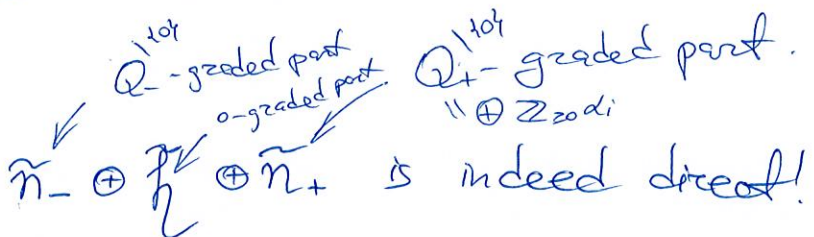
Proof: Given a set X , the free Lie alg. on X is a unique (up to isom) Lie alg. $\text{Free Lie}(X)$ together with a set map $X \rightarrow \text{Free Lie}(X)$, s.t.
 \forall Lie alg. $L \quad \forall$ set map $X \rightarrow L \quad \exists!$ Lie alg. hom.



Exercise: $\mathcal{U}(\text{Free Lie } X) = \text{Free Assoc. Alg on the set } X$.
universal enveloping

Proof of Thm 2

First, we claim that



$$\mathfrak{g}(A) = \langle e_i, h_i, f_i \rangle_{i=1}^n$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} [h_i, h_j] = 0 \\ [h_i, e_j] = a_{ij} e_j \\ [h_i, f_j] = -a_{ij} f_j \\ [e_i, f_j] = \delta_{ij} h_i \end{array} \right)$$

\mathfrak{Q} -graded with
 $\deg(e_i) = \alpha_i = -\deg(f_i)$
 $\deg(h_i) = 0$
 (as all defining reals are homogeneous)

The inclusion " \subseteq " is obvious!

Actually: $\mathfrak{n}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+ = \mathfrak{g}(A)$

ψ_{f_i, h_i} ψ_{h_i, h_i} ψ_{e_i, f_i}

For " \supseteq " it Suffices to show: LHS is stable under adjoint action of e_i, h_i, f_i .

Easy Exercise Obvious

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{e.g. } [h_i, [e_k, e_l]] = a_{ik} \cdot [e_k, e_l] + a_{il} [e_k, e_l] \\ [f_i, [e_k, e_l]] = [f_i, e_k] \cdot e_l + [e_k, [f_i, e_l]] = \delta_{ik} \cdot a_{il} \cdot e_l + \delta_{il} \cdot a_{ik} e_k \end{array} \right)$$

Hwk Problem :

(a) Construct $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A) \hookrightarrow U(\mathfrak{h} \rtimes \text{FreeLie}(e_i)_{i=1}^n)$
v. space w/ basis $\{h_i, e_i\}$
 $[h_i, e_j] = a_{ij} e_j$.

Note : this is "universal free Verma module" for $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}(A)$.

(b) Deduce $\tilde{\mathfrak{m}}_+ \simeq \text{FreeLie}(e_i)_{i=1}^n$, $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}} \simeq \mathfrak{h}$.

(c) $\dots - \tilde{\mathfrak{m}}_- \dots$

! This concludes the proof of Thm 2. ■

So: $A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C}) \rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{g}(A)$ - contragredient Lie alg.

Lemma 1 : (a) $\text{If } A' = \sigma A \sigma^{-1}$, σ - permutation matrix $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}(A') \simeq \mathfrak{g}(A)$

Hwk Problem (b) $\text{If } A' = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} A_1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & A_2 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}(A') \simeq \mathfrak{g}(A_1) \oplus \mathfrak{g}(A_2)$

Def 2: $A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ is called a generalized Cartan matrix if:

(1) $a_{ii} = 2 \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq n.$

(2) $\forall i \neq j: a_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0} \quad \& \quad a_{ij} = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_{ji} = 0.$

(3) A -symmetrizable, more precisely, \exists diagonal $D = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix}$ $d_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ s.t. $(DA)^T = DA$

Rmk: A -usual Cartan $\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} A\text{-generalized Cartan} \\ DA\text{-positive definite} \end{cases}$ AND

Example (n=2) $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -m \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, is a generalized Cartan matrix (take $D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix}$)

For $m=1$: $\mathfrak{g}(A) \simeq \mathfrak{sl}_3$

$m=2$: $\mathfrak{g}(A) \simeq \mathfrak{sp}_4 \simeq \mathfrak{so}_5$

$m=3$: $\mathfrak{g}(A) \simeq \mathfrak{g}_2$

$m=4$: $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ - "twisted version" of $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2 = A_2^{(2)}$ \leftarrow we will not discuss these in our course

$m \geq 5$: $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ - too big \leftarrow we shall not discuss these in class
(has exponential growth)

Def 3: If A -gen. Cartan \Rightarrow $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ - symmetrizable kac-Moody alg.

Thm 3 (Gabber-Kac): For a Kac-Moody alg. $\mathfrak{g}(A)$, the kernel

$$\text{Ker}(\bar{\sigma}(A) \rightarrow \sigma(A))$$

as an ideal is generated by

$$\left\{ \underbrace{\text{ad}(e_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(e_j)}, \quad \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j) \mid i \neq j \right\}$$

$$\underbrace{[e_i, \underbrace{[\dots [e_i, e_i, e_j] \dots]}_{1-a_{ij}}]}_{1-a_{ij}}$$

Alternatively: $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ is gen-d by $\{e_i, f_i, h_i\}_{i=1}^n$ subject to defining rels

(1) together with Serre rels

So: For generalized Cartan matrices A , $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ can be explicitly defined by generators and relations, similar to the case of simple f.d. Lie algs

Partial Proof of Thm 3

We will only show that given el's are indeed in the kernel.

Let's show that $\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j) \in \ker(\dots)$



$$\boxed{\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j) = 0 \text{ in } \mathfrak{g}(A)} \quad (\dagger)$$

Claim: $[e_k, \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j)] = 0 \quad \forall k.$

\Downarrow the ideal gen-d by $\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j)$ is not intersecting \mathfrak{h}
(b/c it lives in \mathbb{Q} -degrees) $\xrightarrow{(3)}$ must be a zero ideal

So: Claim implies (\dagger) .

$$\boxed{\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j) = 0}$$

Proof of Claim

Case 1: $k \neq i, j$

$$[e_k, f_i] = 0 = [e_k, f_j] \Rightarrow [e_k, \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j)] = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

Case 2: $k = j$

$$[e_j, f_i] = 0, [e_j, f_j] = h_j \Rightarrow [e_j, \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(f_j)] = \underbrace{\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}}(h_j)}_{\text{we claim to be 0.}}$$

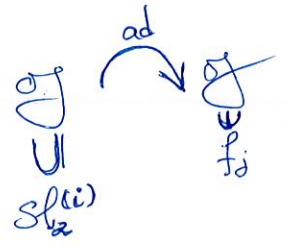
• If $a_{ij} < 0 \Rightarrow a_{ij} \leq -1 \Rightarrow [f_i, \underbrace{[f_i, h_j]}_{a_j \cdot f_i}] = 0 \Rightarrow \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_j}(f_j) = 0$



• If $a_{ij} = 0 \Rightarrow a_{ji} = 0 \Rightarrow [f_i, h_j] = a_{ji} \cdot f_i = 0$

Case 3 : $k=i$ (in this case the direct argument is not feasible)
 Instead: use sl_2 -theory

Consider $sl_2^{(i)} = \langle e_i, h_i, f_i \rangle$



$i \neq j \Rightarrow [e_i, f_j] = 0$
 $[h_i, f_j] = -a_{ij} f_j$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} [e_i, f_j] = 0 \\ [h_i, f_j] = -a_{ij} f_j \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow f_j \text{ - h.w.t vector for } sl_2^{(i)} \Rightarrow \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} f_j \text{ - singular vector.}$

$[e_i, \text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} f_j] = 0$

Note: don't claim here $\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} f_j$ is ZERO yet!
 nevertheless it follows at the end.

Def 4: A generalized Cartan matrix A is affine if $D \cdot A \geq 0$, but $DA \neq 0$
 ↑ positive semidefinite. ↑ not positive definite.
Rmk: $\det(A) = 0$ for A as in Def 4.

Def 5: A -affine \Rightarrow $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ -affine Kac-Moody

! This agrees with our construction of Lecture 1!

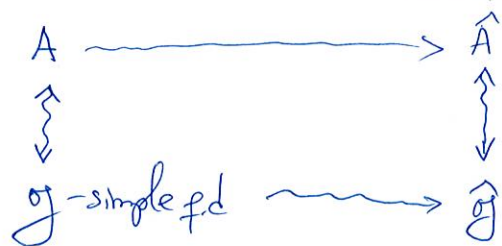
untwisted affine alg-s.

Thm 4: \mathfrak{g} -simple f.d. Lie alg, i.e. $\mathfrak{g} \cong \mathfrak{g}(A)$, A -Cartan $n \times n$ matrix.

$\Rightarrow \hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{L}\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathbb{C}K$ from Lecture 1 is indeed an affine Kac-Moody alg.

with corresponding matrix \hat{A} being of the form

$$\hat{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & * & \dots & * \\ * & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ * & & & A \end{pmatrix}$$



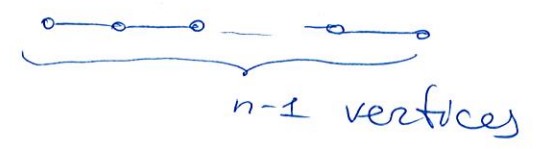
We shall prove this Thm next time.

Rmk: It's exactly the fact that $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ may be realized both combinatorially via \hat{A} as well as $\mathfrak{L}\mathfrak{g} + \mathbb{C}K$ that makes their theory so rich.

Dynkin diagrams for (untwisted affine Kac-Moody) $\cong \hat{\mathfrak{g}}$

1) $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_n = \mathfrak{g}(A_{n-1}), n \geq 2$

$$A_{n-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & & & & -2 \end{pmatrix}_{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$$



$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \hat{\mathfrak{sl}}_n = \mathfrak{g}(A_{n-1}^{(1)})$

$n=2 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightleftharpoons \bullet \rightleftarrows \bullet$

$n > 2 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & \dots & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$



2) $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{so}_{2n+1} = \mathfrak{g}(B_n), n \geq 3$

$$B_n = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & & & & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$



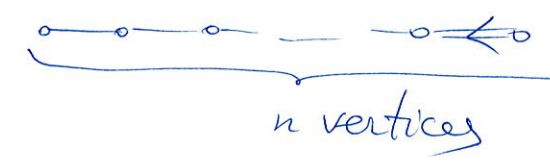
$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \hat{\mathfrak{so}}_{2n+1} = \mathfrak{g}(B_n^{(1)})$

$$B_n^{(1)}: \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 & \\ 0 & & & & & -2 \\ \vdots & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



3) $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sp}_{2n} = \mathfrak{g}(C_n), n \geq 2$

$$C_n: \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & & & & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$



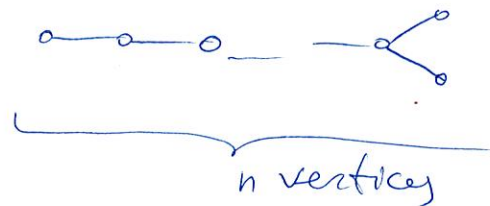
$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \hat{\mathfrak{sp}}_{2n} = \mathfrak{g}(C_n^{(1)})$

$$C_n^{(1)}: \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & & & & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$



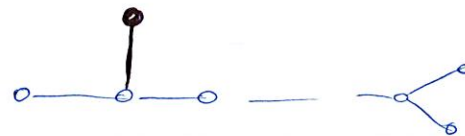
$$4) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{so}_{2n} = \mathfrak{g}(D_n), \quad n \geq 4$$

$$D_n: \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & & & & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & 2 & -1 & & 0 \\ 0 & & & -1 & 2 & & 0 \\ & & & & & 2 & -1 \\ & & & & & -1 & 2 \\ & & & & & & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\widehat{\mathfrak{g}} = \widehat{\mathfrak{so}}_{2n} = \mathfrak{g}(D_n^{(1)})$$

$$D_n^{(1)}: \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & & & & \\ -1 & 2 & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & & & -1 & 2 & & \\ & & & & & 2 & -1 \\ & & & & & -1 & 2 \\ & & & & & & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$



Those were all classical series (A, B, C, D)

But there are also 5 more exceptional types of simple f.d. \mathfrak{g}



$$5) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(E_6)$$

$$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}(E_6^{(1)})$$



$$8) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(F_4)$$

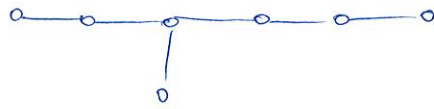


$$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}(F_4^{(1)})$$



$$6) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(E_7)$$

$$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}(E_7^{(1)})$$



$$9) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(G_2)$$

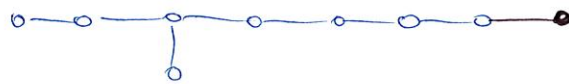


$$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}(G_2^{(1)})$$



$$7) \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(E_8)$$

$$\hat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}(E_8^{(1)})$$



Exceptional types

Huk Problem: Verify all this data.

Note: There also exist twisted affine Kac-Moody alg-s, but we will not discuss these.