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COLLEGE ON
REPRESENTATION THEORY OF LIE GROUPS
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BASIC STRUCTURE THEORY OF COMPACT LIE GROUPS AND SEMISIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS
OVER IR, C (E. CARTAN)

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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants.

G compact connected abelian Lie group. A compact connected abelian Lie group is a torus is isomorphic to a direct product of a finite number of circle groups. A maximal torus H of G is a torus $\Leftrightarrow H \leq A \leq G$ and A is a torus, then $H=A$. Any subtorus is contained in a maximal one ($H_1 \subset H_2 \subset \dots$ gives $\mathfrak{H}_1 \subset \mathfrak{H}_2 \subset \dots$)

Lemma

- (i) The maximal tori in G are the maximal connected abelian subgroups.
- (ii) H is a maximal torus of G iff \mathfrak{H} is a maximal abelian subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} .

Proof

(i) Let H be a maximal torus of G . If A is connected abelian containing H , $H \leq A \leq \bar{A}$ the closure of A ; then as \bar{A} is closed, connected and abelian we have $H=\bar{A}$. Also if A is maximal connected abelian then $A=\bar{A} \Rightarrow A$ is compact.

(ii) Follows from (i) using the correspondence $G \leftrightarrow$
connected subgroups, subalgebras

(ii) Let B be the closure of the subgroup of G generated by A and g (this is compact abelian) and B_0 the identity component of B . $A \leq B_0$ and $\#B_0$ is a torus \Rightarrow if $g \in B_0$ we are done. So suppose $g \notin B_0$. Now B/B_0 is a finite abelian group (since it is compact discrete) therefore $g^k \in B_0$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Also $g^k = \exp(\lambda k)$ for some $\lambda \in \mathfrak{g}$. Let $h = \exp(\lambda/k) \in B_0$ and put $h_i = g^i h^{-i}$; then $h_i^k = e$. Let $t \in B_0$ be a generator (ie the cyclic subgroup generated by t is dense in B_0) $t = \exp(\beta)$ for some $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}$. Set $h_2 = h_i \exp(\lambda/k)$ and let B_1 be the closure of the cyclic subgroup generated by h_2 . Then $B \leq B_1$, hence the result follows from (i). \square

Ex

For any torus A the centralizer of A in G , $C_G(A)$ is the union of all maximal tori containing A . If H is a maximal torus then $C_G(H) = H$ ie H is a maximal abelian subgroup.

Proof

Clearly if H is a max torus containing A then $H \leq C_G(A)$. Also if $g \in C_G(A)$ then A and g lie in a max torus. \square

N.B. A maximal abelian subgroup need not be a torus eg. in $SL(3)$ the matrices of the form $\begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & & \\ & \pm 1 & \\ 0 & & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix}$ Klein 4-group form a max abelian subgroup which is not a torus.

Proposition

(i) Any $g \in G$ lies in a maximal torus.

(ii) Let A be a torus in G and $g \in G$ with $gag^{-1} = a$ for all $a \in A$ then there is a maximal torus in G containing A and g .

(iii) Every $g \in G$ lies on a 1-parameter subgroup and therefore lies in the torus which is the closure of this one parameter subgroup.

$SL(n)$ A maximal torus is $\text{diag}(e^{\sqrt{-1}a_1}, \dots, e^{\sqrt{-1}a_n})$,
 $\sum_i a_i = 0$.

$$SO(3) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \cos b & \sin b \\ -\sin b & \cos b \end{pmatrix}, b \in \mathbb{R} \quad SO(4) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \cos b & \sin b & 0 \\ -\sin b & \cos b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$b, c \in \mathbb{R}$.

The adjoint action and its orbits. c.f. R. Bott⁴
 Recall that for G linear $\text{Ad}_g \mathfrak{z} = g \mathfrak{z} g^{-1}$, $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{g}$
 eg in $SO(3)$ taking the basis of infinitesimal rotations
 about the x, y, z axes $\mathfrak{x}_1, \mathfrak{x}_2, \mathfrak{x}_3$ with $[\mathfrak{x}_i, \mathfrak{x}_j] = \mathfrak{x}_k$ and cyclic permutations, the adjoint representation becomes $g\mathfrak{x}_i$, $g \in SO(3)$,
 $\mathfrak{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$. The non-trivial orbits are the 2-spheres centred at the origin, and every sphere cuts a line through 0 in two points.

G a compact, connected Lie group. Take an inner product $(,)$ on the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} so the adjoint reps of G is orthogonal. For $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{g}$ let

$\mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}} = \{\mathfrak{y} \in \mathfrak{g}; [\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}] = 0\} = \text{Ker ad } \mathfrak{z}$ the centralizer of \mathfrak{z} in \mathfrak{g} ,
 and $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathfrak{z}} = [\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{g}] = \text{Im ad } \mathfrak{z}$. $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}}$ is the Lie algebra of
 $G_{\mathfrak{z}} = \{g \in G; \text{Ad}_g \mathfrak{z} = \mathfrak{z}\}$ the stabilizer of \mathfrak{z} .

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}} \oplus \mathfrak{g}^{\mathfrak{z}}$$
 an orthogonal direct sum.

An element $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{g}$ is said to be regular if $\dim \mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}} \leq \dim \mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{y}}$ for all $\mathfrak{y} \in \mathfrak{g}$ ie if the centralizer of \mathfrak{z} has minimum dimension.

Lemma

- (i) If $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{g}$ is a regular element then $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}}$ is a maximal abelian subalgebra.
- (ii) If \mathfrak{n} is maximal abelian then there is $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{n}$ with $\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{g}_{\mathfrak{z}}$.

Proof

- (i) Let $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}$ and $\gamma \in \mathfrak{g}_\beta$, then for small t , $\text{ad}(\beta + t\gamma)$ is a linear isomorphism on \mathfrak{g}^β ; thus $\mathfrak{g}^\beta \subseteq \mathfrak{g}^{\beta+t\gamma}$ and taking orthogonal complements $\mathfrak{g}_{\beta+t\gamma} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}_\beta$. Now if $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}_\beta$ with $[\beta\beta] \neq 0$ then $\dim \mathfrak{g}_{\beta+t\gamma} < \dim \mathfrak{g}_\beta$ (as \mathfrak{g}_β is abelian) thus \mathfrak{g}_β is abelian for β regular.
Also if $\mathfrak{g}_\beta \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$ with \mathfrak{n} abelian, then $[\beta\beta] = 0$ for $\beta \in \mathfrak{n}$.

- (ii) Take \mathfrak{g}_β , $\beta \in \mathfrak{n}$ of minimal dimension, and $\gamma \in \mathfrak{n}$ in the proof of (i). □

Conjugacy theorem.

Let \mathfrak{n} be a maximal abelian subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} , then for each $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}$ the adjoint orbit $O(\beta) = \text{Ad } G \beta$ intersects \mathfrak{n} .

Proof

$\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{g}_\beta$ for some $\beta \in \mathfrak{n}$. Define $f: O(\beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(\gamma) = (\beta, \gamma)$. Each orbit is compact so f attains a critical value at $\gamma \in O(\beta)$ say. For each $\gamma \in \mathfrak{g}$ take the curve $\gamma_\gamma(t) = f(\text{Ad}(\exp t\gamma)\beta)$ through $f(\beta)$, then $\gamma'_\gamma(0) = 0$ ie $0 = ([\gamma\beta], \gamma) = (\beta, \gamma^2)$ so $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}_\beta$. □

We call \mathfrak{g}_β , β regular a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} .

Corollary 1

Let \mathfrak{n}_1 and \mathfrak{n}_2 be maximal abelian subalgebras then there exists $g \in G$ s.t. $\text{Ad } g \mathfrak{n}_1 = \mathfrak{n}_2$. The Cartan subalgebras in \mathfrak{g} are the maximal abelian subalgebras (all have the same dimension)

Corollary 2

Any two maximal tori are conjugate i.e given H_1, H_2 there exists $g \in G$ s.t. $gH_1g^{-1} = H_2$.

Proof

Conjugacy is transitive so we may take $\mathfrak{n}_1 = \mathfrak{g}_\beta$ with β regular. There exists $g \in G$ with $\text{Ad } g \beta \in \mathfrak{n}_2$, then as $\text{Ad } g$ is an automorphism $\mathfrak{n}_2 = \text{Ad } g \mathfrak{n}_1$ (if $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}_\beta$ then $[\text{Ad } g \beta, \text{Ad } g \beta] = \text{Ad } g [\beta\beta] = 0$ i.e $\text{Ad } g \mathfrak{g}_\beta = \mathfrak{g}_{\text{Ad } g \beta}$ and $\text{Ad } g \beta$ is regular.)

From $g \exp \beta g^{-1} = \exp \text{Ad } g \beta$ one sees that $gH_1g^{-1} \subseteq H_2$. □

The normalizer of a maximal torus H in G , $N_G(H) = \{g \in G; ghg^{-1} \subseteq H\}$ contains $C_G(H) = H$ as a normal subgroup. This is also the normalizer of \mathfrak{n} in G i.e all $g \in G$ s.t. $\text{Ad } g \mathfrak{n} \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$, then $\text{Ad } g$ depends only on the exact gH and $\text{Ad } g|_{\mathfrak{n}} = I$ iff $g \in H$. Let \mathfrak{n} be the Lie algebra of $N_G(H)$, then $[\mathfrak{n}, \mathfrak{n}] \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$ which implies that $\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{n}$. Hence, because it is compact discrete, $W(G, H) = N_G(H)/H$ is a finite group called the Weyl group, which is a group of linear transformations of \mathfrak{n} (independent of H , by conjugacy, up to isomorphism)

$W(H) = N(H)/H$ is a finite group called the Weyl group, which can be identified with a group of linear transformations of \mathbb{R}^n . $O(3) \cap H$ is an orbit of the Weyl group. (Note that $W(H)$ is independent of H , being conjugate, up to isomorphism.)

Example: $U(n)$ the group of unitary matrices with Lie algebra \mathfrak{su}_n , the skew-symmetric matrices. Take \mathbf{t} the diagonal matrices $t = \sqrt{-1} \text{diag}(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ in $U(n)$. Let \mathbf{E}_{ij} be the (ij) transposition matrix, $i \neq j$ implies $[\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{E}_{ij}] = \sqrt{-1}(z_i - z_j) \mathbf{E}_{ij}$. Put $\mathbf{t}_{ij} = (\mathbf{E}_j - \mathbf{E}_i) + \sqrt{-1}(\mathbf{E}_{ij} + \mathbf{E}_{ji})$ instead. \mathbf{t} with \mathbf{t}_{ij} form a basis, then one sees that:

A diagonal ~~matrix~~ transposition matrix is a step. So the \mathbf{t}_{ij} give a set of the diagonal elements a distinct, and the \mathbf{t}_{ij} give a set of a non-zero \mathbf{t}_{ij} distinct from the \mathbf{t}_{kl} ($i \neq l$, $j \neq k$). Then \mathbf{t}_{ij} is a maximal torus of the Weyl group. The Weyl group is the permutations of the diagonal elements. It is obvious that one becomes the \mathbf{t}_{ij} when one takes $\mathbf{t}_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-1}}(\mathbf{E}_{ij} - \mathbf{E}_{ji})$.

$$G = \bigcup_{g \in G} gHg^{-1} \text{ a disjoint union over the conjugacy classes}$$

of a maximal torus H in G . Hence any class function on G is determined by its restriction to H , in particular any character is so determined.

Example: $SU(2)$, let $\mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\sqrt{-1}\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\sqrt{-1}\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$ $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, these form a maximal torus.

consider the polynomial $P(x) = x^{n-2}y^2$ in U_n . Then $(\prod_{i=1}^n h_i P)(x) = P(h_i(x)) = P(e^{\sqrt{-1}\alpha} x, e^{-\sqrt{-1}\alpha} y) = e^{\sqrt{-1}(n-2)\alpha} P(y)$.

Let χ_{n_1} be the character of $\prod_{i=1}^n h_i$, then in H it is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{n_1}(\mathbf{h}) &= \text{trace } \prod_{i=1}^n h_i = \sum_{j=0}^n e^{\sqrt{-1}(n-2j)\alpha} = e^{\frac{\sqrt{-1}n\alpha}{2}} \frac{(1 - e^{-\sqrt{-1}2\alpha})}{1 - e^{-\sqrt{-1}2\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{e^{\frac{\sqrt{-1}(n+1)\alpha}{2}} - e^{-\frac{\sqrt{-1}(n+1)\alpha}{2}}}{e^{\frac{\sqrt{-1}\alpha}{2}} - e^{-\frac{\sqrt{-1}\alpha}{2}}} \end{aligned}$$

Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . \mathfrak{g} is semi-simple if the radical is zero i.e. no non-zero soluble ideals. \mathfrak{g} is simple if no non-trivial ideals and not of dimension 0 or 1; simple implies semi-simple. \mathfrak{g} is reductive if the adjoint rep is completely reducible. Using the correspondence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \mathfrak{g} \\ \text{connected subgroups} & \text{subalgebras} \\ \text{normal} & \text{ideals} \end{array}$$

set definitions for G e.g. G is semi-simple if no connected soluble normal subgroups.

Examples

$GL(n, \mathbb{R})$, $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$, $SL(n)$ are reductive but not semi-simple.

$SL(2, \mathbb{R})$, $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$, $SL(2n, \mathbb{C})$ are semi-simple.

The Killing form of \mathfrak{g} is defined by

$$B(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{z}') = \text{tr}(\text{ad } \mathfrak{z} \circ \text{ad } \mathfrak{z}'), \quad \mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{z}' \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

This is invariant under automorphisms of \mathfrak{g} .

Cartan's Criterion:

\mathfrak{g} is semi-simple iff $B(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{z})$ is non-degenerate.

Then

\mathfrak{g} is \mathfrak{so} iff it is a direct sum of simple ideals.

\mathfrak{g} is reductive iff $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{z} \oplus \mathfrak{g}'$ where \mathfrak{z} is the center and $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ the derived algebra with \mathfrak{g}' semi-simple.

A Cartan subalgebra \mathfrak{h} of \mathfrak{g} is a nilpotent subalgebra that is its own normalizer. Any two If \mathfrak{g} is complex any two are conjugate by an inner automorphism : if σ is real there are finitely many conjugacy classes.

$\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g})$ the automorphisms is a closed subgroup of $GL(\mathfrak{g})$ with Lie algebra $\text{Der}(\mathfrak{g})$ the derivations of \mathfrak{g} ($D(\mathfrak{g}) = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] + [\mathfrak{g}, D\mathfrak{g}]$) and \mathfrak{g} is a subalgebra of $\text{Der}(\mathfrak{g})$, and to it there corresponds the ~~inner~~ automorphisms $\text{Int } \mathfrak{g}$. If G is connected, $\text{Int } \mathfrak{g} = \text{Ad } G$.

Every derivation of a semi-simple Lie algebra is inner, then $\text{Int } \mathfrak{g}$ is the identity component of $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g})$.

~~For~~ For \mathfrak{g} semi-simple, a Cartan subalgebra \mathfrak{h} is a maximal abelian subalgebra consisting of semi-simple elements. $\mathfrak{h}^\perp = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} : [x, h] = 0 \forall h \in \mathfrak{h}\}$.

Let \mathfrak{g} be real reductive with Cartan subalgebra \mathfrak{h} . Then $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{z} \oplus \mathfrak{h}_c$ with \mathfrak{h}_c a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g}' . The adjoint rep of \mathfrak{g} restricted to \mathfrak{h} has the dec

$$\mathfrak{g}_c = \mathfrak{h}_c \oplus \sum_{\alpha \in R^+} \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha \quad \text{where } \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha = \{\mathfrak{x} \in \mathfrak{g} : [\mathfrak{x}, \mathfrak{z}] = \alpha(\mathfrak{z})\mathfrak{x}, \forall \mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{h}\}.$$

the root system $R = \{\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}^* ; \alpha \neq 0 \text{ and } \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha \neq 0\}$. Define $\mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha = 0$ if $\alpha \notin R$. Then

$$(i) \text{ If } \alpha, \beta \in R \text{ with } \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \text{ then } [\mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha, \mathfrak{g}_c^\beta] = \mathfrak{g}_c^{\alpha+\beta}$$

$$(ii) \quad \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha \perp \mathfrak{g}_c^\beta \text{ w.r.t. } B(\cdot, \cdot), \quad \mathfrak{h} \perp \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha.$$

$$(iii) \quad B(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}) = \sum_{\alpha} n_{\alpha} - (\mathfrak{z}) \alpha(\mathfrak{z}), \quad n_{\alpha} = \dim \mathfrak{g}_c^\alpha.$$

(iv) Each root vanishes on \mathfrak{z} . If all roots vanish on an element $\mathfrak{z} \in \mathfrak{h}$, then $\mathfrak{z} = 0$. The root space \mathfrak{h}^α .

(v) The Killing form is non-degenerate on $\mathfrak{h}^\alpha / \mathfrak{h}^\alpha \cap \mathfrak{z}$. Then $n_\alpha > 0$.

If $\alpha \in R$ from (V) there is a unique β_α in $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha^\perp$ s.t. $B(\beta_\alpha, \beta) = \alpha(\beta)$ for all $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}$.
 $\text{ad } \beta_\alpha = \beta_\alpha \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \beta_\alpha$

Lemma $[\mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \mathfrak{g}^{-\alpha}] = C \beta_\alpha$ in fact if $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \gamma \in \mathfrak{g}^{-\alpha}$ then

$$[\beta, \gamma] = B([\beta, \gamma]) \beta_\alpha.$$

Proof $[\beta, \gamma] = \beta_\alpha \cdot \gamma$. If $\beta \in \mathfrak{g}$, $B([\beta, \gamma], \beta) = B(\beta, [\gamma, \beta]) = \alpha(\beta) B(\beta, \gamma)$

Choosing $\varepsilon_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^\alpha$, $\varepsilon^\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}^{-\alpha}$ with $B(\varepsilon_\alpha, \varepsilon^\alpha) = 1$ we see that with $\beta = \varepsilon_\alpha + \varepsilon^\alpha$, $\{\beta_\alpha, \varepsilon_\alpha, \varepsilon^\alpha\} = \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^\alpha$ forms a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha^\alpha$ isomorphic to $A_1 = \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$. Recall that with $\tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\varepsilon_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\varepsilon_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $[\varepsilon_+] = 2\varepsilon_+$, $[\varepsilon_-] = -2\varepsilon_-$ and $[\varepsilon_+, \varepsilon_-] = \beta$. The eigenvalues of τ in any representation form a chain of integers running in steps of 2 from a maximum $+r$ to a minimum $-r$. The α -string of roots through β is $\beta + t\alpha$ $t \in \mathbb{Z}$, only finitely many occur $\alpha, \beta \in R$; denote by $\mathfrak{g}_\beta^\alpha$ the direct sum of the $\mathfrak{g}_{t\alpha}$.

From

(i) The values $B(t\alpha)$ for $\alpha, \beta \in R$ are integers (called Cartan integers) and are denoted by $a_{\beta\alpha}$ (there are non-negative integers $t, t' \geq 0$ the α -string of roots through β is unbroken with $t \leq t \leq t'$, t integer).

$$a_{\beta\alpha} = \frac{2 \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle}{\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle} = t' - t$$

(ii) For $\alpha, \beta \in R$, $w_\alpha(\beta) = \beta - a_{\beta\alpha}\alpha$ again lies in R .

(iii) If $\beta - \alpha \notin R$ then $a_{\beta\alpha} \leq 0$

(iv) For each $\alpha \in R$, $\dim \mathfrak{g}_\alpha^\alpha = 1$. A multiple $t\alpha$ with $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ belongs to R iff $t = \pm 1$.

Proof

(i) $\text{Ad } \beta_\alpha$ acts on $\mathfrak{g}_\beta^\alpha$ via the adjoint rep. The eigenvalues of $\text{ad } \beta_\alpha$ are $\beta(\beta_\alpha) + 2t$.

(ii) From (i) (iii) $t'=0$ in (i)

(iv) Consider the vector space spanned by $\varepsilon_{-\alpha}, \varepsilon_\alpha$ and all β_α for $t=1, 2$; this is invariant under $\text{ad } \varepsilon_\alpha, \text{ad } \varepsilon_{-\alpha}$. Then $\text{ad } \beta_\alpha = \text{ad} [\varepsilon_\alpha, \varepsilon_{-\alpha}] = [\text{ad } \varepsilon_\alpha, \text{ad } \varepsilon_{-\alpha}]$ has zero trace, but the trace is $\alpha(\beta_\alpha) = \alpha(\beta_\alpha)(-1 + n_{\alpha\alpha} + 2n_{2\alpha} + \dots)$. Hence $n_{\alpha\alpha} = 1, n_{2\alpha} = n_{3\alpha} = \dots = 0$.

If $\beta = r\alpha$ is a root, integrality of $B(t\alpha)$ etc implies that $t = \pm 1$ or ± 2 ; but ± 2 has just been excluded. \square

$$\text{ad } \beta_\alpha = \text{ad } \beta + 2(1, \text{ad } \beta, \text{ad } \beta)$$

Let $\mathfrak{n}_{\mathbb{R}}$ be the real span of the $\beta_\alpha, \alpha \in R$; this is a real form of $\mathfrak{n}_\mathbb{C}$ on which the Killing form is true definite and we have an isomorphism $(\mathfrak{n}_{\mathbb{R}}, \langle , \rangle) \longrightarrow (\mathfrak{n}_{\mathbb{R}}, B(\cdot, \cdot))$

$$2 \longmapsto \beta_\alpha$$

Vector Figure

Let V be a real finite-dim vector space with an inner product \langle , \rangle . A vector figure is a finite non-empty subset R in V not containing 0, with $V = \text{span}(R)$ and satisfying

(i) For $\alpha, \beta \in R$, $a_{\beta\alpha} = \frac{2 \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle}{\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle}$ is an integer.

(ii) $w_\alpha(\beta) = \beta - a_{\beta\alpha}\alpha$ is also in R

(iii) If $\alpha, \beta \in R$ and α is a multiple of β then α is also in R iff $t = \pm 1$.

The rank of R is the dimension of V . The reflection of V in the hyperplane orthogonal to α is given by

$$W_\alpha(\lambda) = \lambda - \frac{2\langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle}{\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle} \alpha$$

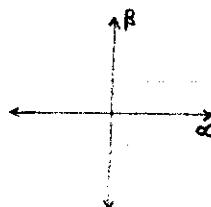
(finite)
The group W of isometries of V generated by the W_α , $\alpha \in R$ is called the Weyl group of R . R is simple if it is not the union of two non-empty subsets that are orthogonal to each other. Any R is expressed uniquely as the union of simple ones.

Vector figures of rank 2.

Let R be a vector figure and take $\alpha, \beta \in R$. Now $\alpha_{\beta\alpha} = \frac{4\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle^2}{|\alpha|^2 |\beta|^2} = 4 \cos^2 \theta$ where θ is the angle between $\alpha + \beta$. The $\alpha_{\beta\alpha}$ being integers, the possible values of $4 \cos^2 \theta$ are 0, 1, 2, 3, 4. We suppose that $\alpha_{\beta\alpha} \leq 0$ (or replace β by $W_\alpha(\beta)$) and $|\alpha| \leq |\beta|$; note that $\alpha_{\beta\alpha} / \alpha_{\alpha\beta} = |\beta|^2 / |\alpha|^2$. We obtain the following table

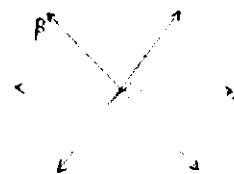
$\alpha_{\beta\alpha}$	$\alpha_{\beta\alpha}$	θ	$ \beta ^2 / \alpha ^2$
-1	-1	$2\pi/3$	1
-1	-2	$3\pi/4$	2
-1	-3	$5\pi/6$	3
0	0	$\pi/2$?

$A_1 \oplus A_1$



$\alpha + \beta$... any ratio $|\alpha| : |\beta|$.

A_2



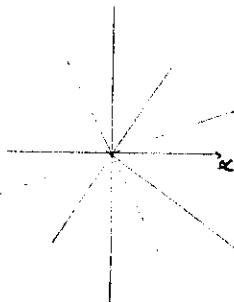
All 6 vectors have the same norm
angle between adjacent vector is $\pi/3$.

B_2



$|\beta| : |\alpha| = \sqrt{2}$, angle between adjacent
vector is $\pi/4$.
8 roots

G_2



$|\beta| : |\alpha| = \sqrt{3}$, angle is $\pi/6$. 12 roots.

Thus there exist up to congruence exactly the following four V.F.s of rank 2

Let R be a vector figure. Choose an element $\alpha^* \in V^*$ that doesn't vanish at any v in R and define an order $I \geq \mu$ if $f(\alpha) \geq f(\mu)$, $\alpha, \mu \in V$. This order divides R into the two subsets R^+, R^- of positive and negative elements. α in R^+ is simple if it is not the sum of two roots in R^+ .

Let $F = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$ be the set of simple roots in R .

Prop.

(i) If α, β are distinct in F then $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \leq 0$.

(ii) F is a linearly independent set.

(iii) Every vector of R^+ is a linear combination of the simple vectors with non-negative integral coefficients, therefore $l = \text{rank } R$.

Prob. Exercise

Fundamental system

in V with $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is a basis F if for any two α_i, α_j in F ,

$$\frac{2\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle}{\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle} = \alpha_{ji} \text{ is a non-positive integer (can only be } 0, -1, -2, -3).$$

(α_{ij}) Cartan matrix. $\alpha_{ii} = 2$.

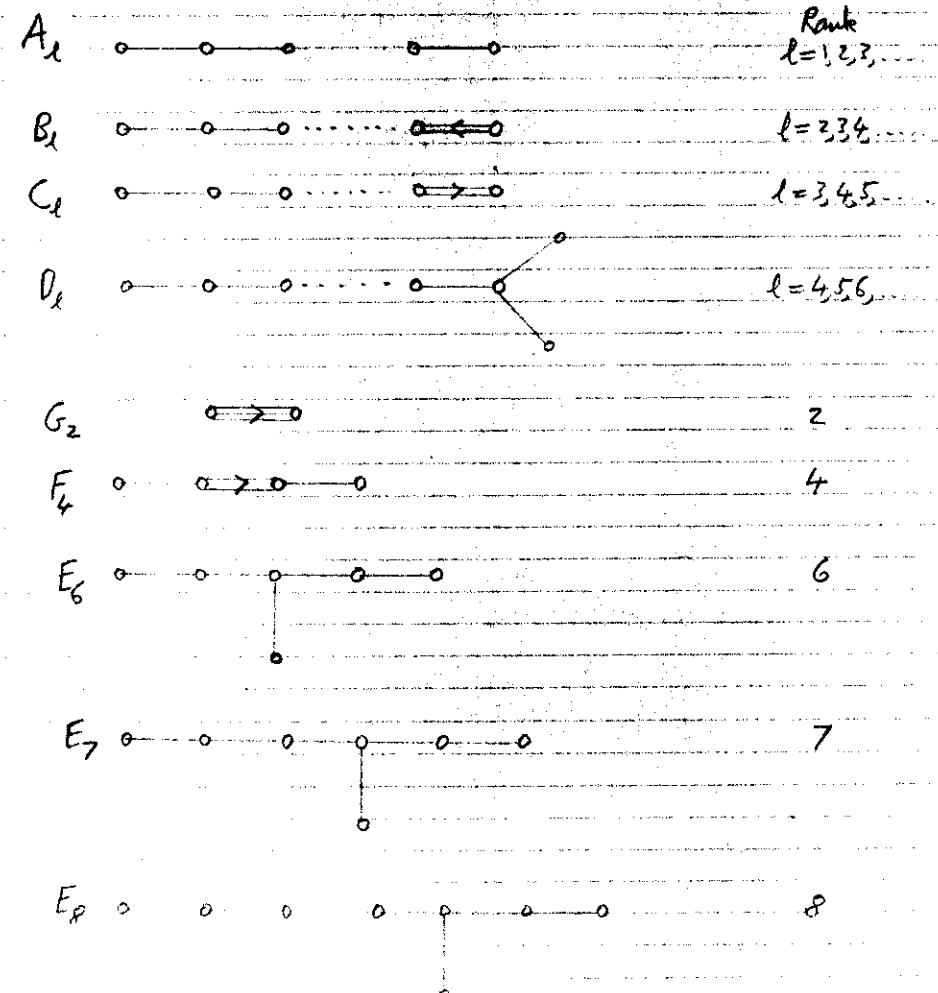
F splits uniquely into mutually orthogonal simple (not decomposable ones). Let $W(F)$ be the Weyl group of F . F determines R by $R = W(F).F$, then $W(R) = W(F)$.

Theorem

Classification of Lie algebras \longleftrightarrow Classification of vector figures \longleftrightarrow Classification of fundamental systems
 simple \leftrightarrow simple R \leftrightarrow simple F

A fundamental system F is determined by its Dynkin diagram: for any two vectors $\alpha, \beta \in F$ the corresponding vertices are connected by an edge $\alpha_{ij} (=0, \pm 1)$ where $\alpha_{ii} = 2$. If $\alpha_{ij} < 0$ then there is no edge. If there are two edges between two vertices pointing from the smaller to the larger one.

The simple fundamental systems F (up to congruence) are the following:



For $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ from (ii) there is a unique β_λ in \mathfrak{h}_C s.t. $B(\beta_\lambda, \gamma) = \lambda(\gamma)$

for all $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}$. With $\langle \gamma, \beta \rangle = (\gamma_2, \beta_2)$ we have an isometry

$$(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{ad}}^{*, \text{real}}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \xrightarrow{\quad} (\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{ad}}, B(\cdot, \cdot))$$

where $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}, \text{ad}}$ is the real span of the β_λ .

		Rank	Dimension
A_l	$sl(l+1, \mathbb{C})$	$l \geq 1$	$l(l+2)$
B_l	$so(2l+1, \mathbb{C})$	$l \geq 2$	$l(2l+1)$
C_l	$sp(l, \mathbb{C})$	$l \geq 3$	$l(2l+1)$
D_l	$so(2l, \mathbb{C})$	$l \geq 4$	$l(2l-1)$
G_2		2	14
F_4		4	52
E_6		6	78
E_7		7	133
E_8		8	248

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of real semi-simple. To find a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g}_C , take the compact real form \mathfrak{h} of \mathfrak{g}_C then a maximal abelian subalgebra \mathfrak{h} of \mathfrak{h} to get \mathfrak{h}_C .

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$A_l = sl(l+1, \mathbb{C})$. Compact real form is $su(l+1)$.

Take \mathfrak{h} consisting of $\beta = \sqrt{-1} \operatorname{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_{l+1})$.

The roots are α_{ij} , $i < j$ with $\alpha_{ij}(\beta) = \sqrt{-1}(a_i - a_j)$, $\beta \in \mathfrak{h}$.

Define an order by the element $-\sqrt{-1} \operatorname{diag}(l+1, l, \dots, 2, 1)$ is the positive roots are α_{ij} , $i < j$ and the fundamental system is $\{\alpha_{12}, \alpha_{23}, \dots, \alpha_{l,l+1}\}$. Consider 'simple' root chains, the only

non-trivial ones are obtained by adding two adjacent simple roots, the Cartan integer is -1. Hence we obtain the C-D diagram A_l . The reflection w_{12} is $(\alpha_{1,2}, \alpha_{1,2})$. $W(R)$ is generated by the 2-cycles $(i, i+1)$ $i=1, \dots, l-1$ as is $\operatorname{Sym}(l+1)$.

$B_l = so(2l+1, \mathbb{C})$. Compact real form is $so(2l+1)$.

Take \mathfrak{h} consisting of $\beta = \operatorname{diag}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & b_1 \\ -b_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b_l \\ -b_l & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right)$, $b_i \in \mathbb{R}$

Roots are $\pm \alpha_i$, $\pm \beta_{ij}$, $i < j$, $\pm \gamma_{ij}$, $i < j$

where $\alpha_i(\beta) = -\sqrt{-1}b_i$, $\beta_{ij}(\beta) = -\sqrt{-1}(b_i - b_j)$, $\gamma_{ij}(\beta) = -\sqrt{-1}(b_i + b_j)$

Define order by $\sqrt{-1}\beta$ with $b_1 = 1, b_2 = l-1, \dots, b_{l-1} = 2, b_l = 1$.

Maximal root, $\gamma_{12} = \beta_{12} + 2(\beta_{23} + \dots + \beta_{l-1,l} + \alpha_l)$

Positive roots are α_i , β_{ij} , $i < j$, γ_{ij} , $i < j$. $F = \{\beta_{12}, \beta_{23}, \dots, \beta_{l-1,l}, \alpha_l\}$.

Consider non-trivial strings of simple roots. Can add two consecutive simple roots $\beta_{i,i+1}$ and $\beta_{i+1,i+2}$. Cartan integer -1 or can add α_l to $\beta_{l-1,l}$ twice Cartan integer is -2. These are the only possibilities. $w_{l-1,l} : \alpha_l \mapsto \alpha_{l-1}$

$W(R)$ is the group of sign changes and permutations on $\{1, \dots, l\}$; order is $2^l l!$

$w_l : \beta_{il} \mapsto \alpha_i$

Propn: If compact Lie group. Then \mathfrak{g} is reductive. The Killing form is negative semi-definite and negative definite on \mathfrak{g}' .

Proof:

Recall that there is an inner product $(,)$ on \mathfrak{g} at the adjoint representation of G is orthogonal; then $\text{ad } z$ is skew. Thus if \mathfrak{z} is an ideal in $\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathbb{C}$ is \mathbb{C}^1 . Hence $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}_+ \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{n}_-$, with \mathfrak{n}_i simple or 1-dim.

If $z \in \mathfrak{g}$, then $(\text{ad } z)^2$ is symmetric with non-positive eigenvalues thus $\text{tr}(\text{ad } z)^2 \leq 0$. If $\text{tr}(\text{ad } z)^2 = 0$, then $\text{ad } z = 0$. \square

$$\text{tr}(M) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_{ii}, \quad \text{tr}(M) = \frac{1}{n} \text{tr}(M \otimes \text{id}_{\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}})$$

\mathfrak{g} complex. A real form is a real subalgebra $\mathfrak{g} \cap \mathbb{C}\mathfrak{g}\mathbb{C}^\ast \cong \mathfrak{g}$.

A real Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is said to be compact if the Killing form is -ve definite (cannot be non-definite). Reason for defn is:

Propn:

Let \mathfrak{g} be compact and G a connected Lie group with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} then G is compact.

Proof:

\mathfrak{g} is semi-simple $\Rightarrow \text{Ad } G = \text{Int } \mathfrak{g}$. \mathfrak{g} is isomorphic to $\text{Der } \mathfrak{g}$ (by $\{ \rightarrow \text{ad } \}$) $\Rightarrow \text{Ad } G$ also has Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} .

Recall that given a real Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} there is a unique connected, simply-connected Lie group \tilde{G} with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} . If G also has Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} then $G \cong \tilde{G}/D$ where D is discrete normal (lies in the center). Now if G is compact and has Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} , then \tilde{G} is compact; hence D is finite and G is compact. \square

A compact connected Lie group is semi-simple iff it has finite center. If \mathfrak{g} is real semi-simple, & a Cartan subalgebra, then there is a compact real form \mathfrak{g}_c of \mathfrak{g}_R containing \mathfrak{n}_R . Any two compact real forms are conjugate by an inner automorphism. Then from conjugacy of Cartan subalg. in the compact case get conjugacy in ~~complex~~ case. Hold in real case $\cong SL(2, \mathbb{R})$

Weyl's theorem

Every finite-dimensional representation of a semi-simple Lie group G is completely reducible.

Proof:

The the fact that G_c has a compact subgroup K with \mathfrak{k} a real form of \mathfrak{g}_c . \square

Structure of compact, connected Lie groups:

Theorem (J. Price)

Every compact connected Lie group G is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \tilde{G}_1 \times \dots \times \tilde{G}_m / E$ where the \tilde{G}_i are compact simple, simply-connected Lie groups and E is a finite subgroup of the center of the product.

Need to find the compact simple simply-connected Lie groups and their centres: G compact simple-connected, $G \cong \tilde{G}/E$

\mathfrak{g}_c	A_1	B_1	C_1	D_1	G_2	F_4	E_6	E_7	E_8
center of G	\mathbb{Z}_{24}	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_2	$\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{\text{tors.}}(2)$	\mathbb{Z}_3	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_3	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_3

\tilde{G} $SU(n)$ $SO(2n)$ $SP(n)$ $SO(2n)$
 $\text{Spin}(2n+1)$ $\text{Spin}(2n)$ $\text{Spin}(2n)$

$\text{SO}(2n+1)$ $\text{SO}(2n)$

A compact connected Lie group is semi-simple iff it has finite center.

If \mathfrak{g} is real semi-simple, & a Cartan subalgebra, then there is a compact real form \mathfrak{g}_c of $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ containing $\mathfrak{n}^+ \cap \mathfrak{n}_P$. Any two compact real forms are conjugate by an inner automorphism. Then from conjugacy of Cartan subalg in the compact case get conjugacy in ~~complex~~ case. Hold in real case e.g. $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$.

Weyl's Theorem

Every finite-dimensional representation of a semi-simple Lie group G is completely reducible.

Proof

Use the fact that G_c has a compact subgroup K with \mathfrak{k} a real form of \mathfrak{g}_c .

Structure of compact, connected Lie groups:

Theorem cf. J. Price

Every compact connected Lie group G is isomorphic to $Z_0 \times \tilde{G}_1 \times \dots \times \tilde{G}_m / E$ where the \tilde{G}_i are compact simple, simply-connected Lie groups and E is a finite subgroup of the center of the product.

Need to find the compact simple simply-connected Lie groups and their centres: G compact simple connected, $G \cong \tilde{G}/E$

\mathfrak{g}_c	A_n	B_n	C_n	D_n	G_2	F_4	E_6	E_7	E_8
Center of G	\mathbb{Z}_{2n+1}	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_2	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, \text{tors. } \{0\}$	$\{0\}$	\mathbb{Z}_2	\mathbb{Z}_2	$\{0\}$	

\tilde{G}	$SU(m)$	$SO(2l+1)$	$SP(2l)$	$SO(2l)$		
		$Spin(2l+1)$	$Spin(2l)$		$P_1(SO(m)) = \mathbb{Z}_2, m \geq 3$	