

Summary

(Semi)simple Lie algebras / \mathbb{C}

- Cartan subalgs
- root system

§ Classification of simple Lie algs / \mathbb{C}

$$\mathfrak{g} \text{ semisimple} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \cong \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n$$

\mathfrak{g}_i : simple (no nonzero ideal)

\leadsto We want to understand simple Lie algs.

Ex. $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$ is simple.

How to see: put $\mathfrak{h} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : \text{diag.}\}$

$X, Y \in \mathfrak{h} \Rightarrow \text{ad}_X, \text{ad}_Y$ comm.
diagonalizable.

\leadsto we should find joint eigenvs.

$$E_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & -1 \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{mat. unit.}$$

\mathfrak{h} : span of $H_i = E_{ii} - E_{(i+1)(i+1)} \quad (i=1, \dots, n-1)$

$$\text{ad}_{H_i}(E_{jk}) = [H_i, E_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{i+1,j} - \delta_{k,i} + \delta_{k,i+1})E_{jk}$$

i.e. $(E_{jk})_{j,k}$ are eigenvs. for ad_{H_i}

$(E_{j,k})_{j \neq k}, (H_j)_j$ basis of \mathfrak{g} by joint eigenvs.

$0 \neq \mathfrak{g}' \triangleleft \mathfrak{g} \leadsto \exists j, k \ E_{j,k} \in \mathfrak{g}'$ or $\exists 0 \neq X \in \mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{g}'$
by \mathfrak{h} -invar.

$$[E_{i,j}, E_{j,k}] = E_{i,k} \text{ etc.} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}' = \mathfrak{g} \quad \square$$

Def. Cartan subalg of \mathfrak{g} is

maximally commutative subalg \mathfrak{h} .

s.t. ad_X is diagonalizable for $X \in \mathfrak{h}$.

Rem. $X \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow \pi_X$ is diagonalizable

for any rep. (π, V)

$\therefore \pi(X) = \pi(T)$ by last time, $\text{ad}_{\pi(X)}|_{\pi(\mathfrak{g})} = \text{ad}_{\pi(X)}|_{\pi(\mathfrak{g})}$

$\Rightarrow V$ has a basis by joint eigenvectors.

$$v_1, \dots, v_m, \quad \pi_X v_i = \lambda_i(X) v_i \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}$$

$\lambda_i: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is linear.

$\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$: weights of (π, V)

Def. \mathfrak{g} (semi) simple Lie alg., $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ Cartan.

Roots of \mathfrak{g} : nonzero weights for $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}|_{\mathfrak{g}}$

(w.r.t. \mathfrak{h})

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \text{root}} \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \right) \quad \text{root decomp.}$$

$$\text{so } \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} = \{ Y \in \mathfrak{g} : [X, Y] = \alpha(X)Y \quad \forall Y \in \mathfrak{h} \}$$

$$\text{Ex. } \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) = \underbrace{\mathbb{C}H}_{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{C}E}_{\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{C}F}_{\mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}} \quad \alpha(H) = 2$$

$$[H, E] = 2E, \quad [H, F] = -2F.$$

$$\text{Fin. Dim irreps } V_n = \langle x^n, x^{n-1}y, \dots, y^n \rangle$$

$$(10.01) \quad \text{weights of } V_n: \lambda_k(H) = k \\ k = n, n-2, \dots, -n.$$

Moral:

• weights of reps form a lattice in \mathfrak{g}^*
(like $\mathbb{Z}^n \subset \mathbb{C}^n$)

• Killing form $B_{\mathfrak{g}}(X, Y) = \text{Tr}(\text{ad}_X \text{ad}_Y)$
induces an inner prod.

• roots \subset (weight lattice, inn. prod)
is a complete invariant of \mathfrak{g}

Overview of simple Lie alg $\mathfrak{g} \rightsquigarrow$ root system
 α , root for $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ Ex. for \mathfrak{sl}_n

Fact 1 $\dim \mathfrak{g}_\alpha = 1$ ($\mathfrak{g}_\alpha = \mathbb{C} E_{j,k}$)

Fact 2 $\mathfrak{s}_\alpha = \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha} \oplus [\mathfrak{g}_\alpha, \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}]$
 is a subalg of \mathfrak{g} , $\mathfrak{s}_\alpha \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2$.

$$(\langle E_{j,k}, E_{k,j}, E_{j,j} - E_{k,k} \rangle \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2)$$

choose $E_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$, $F_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}$, $H_\alpha = [E_\alpha, F_\alpha]$
 s.t. $[H_\alpha, E_\alpha] = 2E_\alpha$, $[H_\alpha, F_\alpha] = -2F_\alpha$.

Weight lattice $\Lambda_w = \{ \beta \in \mathfrak{h}^* : \beta(H_\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ for all roots } \alpha \}$

(Ex. for \mathfrak{sl}_2 , weights of $(\pi, V) \subset \Lambda_w$)

root lattice $\Lambda_R = \text{span of roots} \subset \Lambda_w$

$E = \mathbb{R} \cdot \Lambda_w \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$, $\mathfrak{h}_0 = \langle H_\alpha : \alpha \text{ roots} \rangle \subset \mathfrak{h}$

Killing form $B_\mathfrak{g}$

- nondeg. on \mathfrak{g} (Cartan's criterion)

- invariant $B_\mathfrak{g}([Z, X], Y) + B_\mathfrak{g}(X, [Z, Y]) = 0$

\rightsquigarrow ($\cdot B_\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{g}_\alpha, \mathfrak{g}_\beta) \neq 0$ iff $\beta = -\alpha$
 \cdot nondeg. on $\mathfrak{h}_0 = "$ $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha = 0$ "

Fact 3 $T_\alpha = \frac{2}{B_\mathfrak{g}(H_\alpha, H_\alpha)} H_\alpha$ satisfies

$B_\mathfrak{g}(T_\alpha, X) = \alpha(X)$ for $X \in \mathfrak{h}$.

\Rightarrow i.e. $\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}_0^* \iff T_\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}_0$

iso. by
 $B_\mathfrak{g}$

s. $(\alpha, \beta) = B_\mathfrak{g}(T_\alpha, T_\beta)$

$$\frac{2(\alpha, \beta)}{(\beta, \beta)} = \frac{2B_\mathfrak{g}(T_\alpha, T_\beta)}{B_\mathfrak{g}(T_\beta, T_\beta)} = B_\mathfrak{g}(T_\alpha, H_\beta) = \alpha(H_\beta) \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Fact 4 $B_{\mathfrak{g}}(X, X) \geq 0$ for $X \in \mathfrak{h}_0$
 $= 0 \Leftrightarrow X = 0$

$\therefore X = \sum_i r_i H_{\alpha_i}$ $r_i \in \mathbb{R}$
 acts by $\sum_i r_i \beta(\alpha_i)$ on \mathfrak{g}_{β}
 0 on \mathfrak{h}_0 .

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(\text{ad}_X^2) = \sum_{\beta} \left(\sum_i r_i \beta(\alpha_i) \right)^2$$

(α, β) Euclidean inn. prod.

Fact 5 α root, $k = \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots \Rightarrow k\alpha$ not root.

Ex. Roots of $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$

$$\mathfrak{h} = \langle H_1 = E_{11} - E_{22}, H_2 = E_{22} - E_{33} \rangle$$

roots α_1 : e-val for e-vec E_{12}
 α_2 : E_{23} .

$$[H_1, E_{12}^{\alpha_1}] = 2E_{12}, [H_2, E_{12}] = -E_{12}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1(H_1) = 2, \alpha_1(H_2) = -1$$

$$\text{similarly } \alpha_2(H_1) = -1, \alpha_2(H_2) = 2$$

other roots : for E_{13} : $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2$

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$$\therefore [H_1, E_{13}] = E_{13} = [H_2, E_{13}]$$

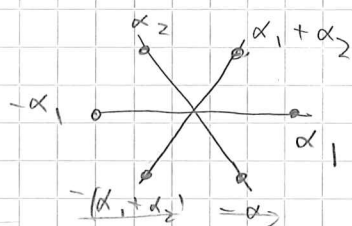
$$-\alpha_1, -\alpha_2, -(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$$

$$B_{\mathfrak{g}}(X, Y) = 6 \text{Tr}(XY) \text{ for } \mathfrak{sl}_3 = \mathfrak{g}$$

$$\Rightarrow B_{\mathfrak{g}}(H_i, H_i) = 12, B_{\mathfrak{g}}(H_1, H_2) = -6$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{\alpha_i} = \frac{1}{6} H_i \quad i=1, 2 \quad (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = -\frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1, \alpha_1)$$

$$(\alpha_2, \alpha_2) = (\alpha_1, \alpha_1)$$



Fact 6. $R = \{ \alpha : \text{roots} \}$ span $E = \mathbb{R} \Lambda_w$.

$$S_\alpha(v) = v - \frac{2(\alpha, v)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \alpha \quad \text{for } v \in E$$

reflection along $\alpha^\perp = \{w \in E : (\alpha, w) = 0\}$

(π, V) rep. of \mathfrak{g} . β weight.

$$E_\alpha V_\beta \subset V_{\beta + \alpha}, \quad F_\alpha V_\beta \subset V_{\beta - \alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Supp}(V) = \{ \beta : \text{wght of } V \}$$

is inv. under S_α .

$$\Rightarrow R \text{ is inv. under } S_\alpha.$$

