

## Summary

- Semisimple Lie algebras

- complete reducibility ; unitary trick

- Nondegeneracy of Killing form.

- Semisimple Lie algs.

⚠ Generally reps of Lie algs don't have complete reducibility. (and don't behave well with " $X = D + N$ ")

Ex  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathbb{K} \curvearrowright V = \mathbb{K}^2$  by  $\pi_t = \begin{bmatrix} t & t \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  ( $t \in \mathbb{K}$ )

$V' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{K} \right\}$  is the only nontriv. invar. subsp.  $\Rightarrow$  doesn't have complement

also  $\begin{bmatrix} t & t \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & t \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

diag.  $\nwarrow$  nilpot.

is not of the form  $\pi_t$

$\leadsto$  But all is good for semisimple algs

(Recall = semisimple  $\equiv$  no solvable ideals)

$\mathfrak{g}$  : Lie alg over  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $\mathbb{K} \subset \mathbb{C}$ .

Prop.  $\mathfrak{g}$  is semisimple  $\Leftrightarrow$  Killing form  $B$  is nondegenerate ( $\forall X \neq 0 \exists Y B(X, Y) \neq 0$ )

Step 1  $\mathfrak{I} = \{ X \in \mathfrak{g} : \forall Y \in \mathfrak{g} B(X, Y) = 0 \}$  is ideal of  $\mathfrak{g}$

$\therefore B([Z, X], Y) + B(X, [Z, Y]) = 0$  (invariance)

implies  $X \in \mathfrak{I}, Z \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow [Z, X] \in \mathfrak{I}$

Invariance: LHS =  $\text{Tr}(ad_{[Z, X]} ad_Y + ad_X ad_{[Z, Y]})$

$$= \text{Tr}(ad_Z ad_X - ad_X ad_Z) ad_Y + ad_X(ad_Z ad_Y - ad_Y ad_Z)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(ad_Z ad_X ad_Y) - \text{Tr}(ad_X ad_Y ad_Z) = 0$$

(cf. "Step 2" of Cartan's criterion)

Step 2 " $\Rightarrow$ " of the claim.

$\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}$  : im of  $\mathfrak{g}$  in  $\text{End}(\mathfrak{g})$ .  $B(\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}, \text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}) = 0$

Cartan's criterion  $\Rightarrow \text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}$  is solvable

$\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}) \cap \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  also solvable (ideal)

$\mathfrak{g}$  s.s.  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{g} = 0$  i.e.  $B$  is nondegen.

Step 3  $\mathfrak{h} \triangleleft \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathfrak{h}) \triangleleft \mathfrak{g}$

$$\because [X, [Y, Z]] = [Z, [X, Y]] + [Y, [Z, X]]$$

from (antisymm &) Jacobi identity

$Y, Z \in \mathfrak{h}, X \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow$  right hand side is in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathfrak{h})$

Step 4  $\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g}) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  contains a comm. ideal.

$\because \text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g})$  solvable  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}^k(\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g})) \searrow 0$ .

if  $\mathcal{D}^k(\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g})) \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{k+1}(\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g})) = 0$

$\mathfrak{a} = \mathcal{D}^k(\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g}))$  is comm.  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{D}^k(\text{Rad}(\mathfrak{g})))$

Step 5 " $\Leftarrow$ " of the claim. (works for any  $K$ )

Want:  $B$  nondeg  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  has no nonzero comm. ideal

Suppose  $\mathfrak{a} \triangleleft \mathfrak{g}$  comm.

$Y \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow \text{ad}_X \text{ad}_Y$

so matrix pres looks like

$X \in \mathfrak{a}$   
 $\mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{\text{ad}_X} \mathfrak{a}$  (ideal),  $\mathfrak{a} \xrightarrow{\text{ad}_X} 0$  (comm.)

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  on  $\mathfrak{a}$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} & \\ \mathfrak{a} & \text{compl.} \end{bmatrix}$  on complement

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(\text{ad}_X \text{ad}_Y) = 0$$

So  $B(X, Y) = 0$  if  $X \in \mathfrak{a} \Rightarrow X = 0$ .  $\square$   
 nondeg.

Ex.  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2(K)$   $E = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $F = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\text{ad}_E$ :  $E \mapsto 0$ ,  $F \mapsto H$ ,  $H \mapsto -2E$

$\text{ad}_F$ :  $E \mapsto -H$ ,  $F \mapsto 0$ ,  $H \mapsto 2F$

$\text{ad}_H$ :  $E \mapsto 2E$ ,  $F \mapsto -2F$ ,  $H \mapsto 0$

so  $B(X, Y)$  is

$Y \backslash X$	E	F	H
E	0	4	0
F	4	0	0
H	0	0	8

Cor  $\mathfrak{g}$  semisimple  $\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_i$ : simple

$\therefore \Rightarrow \mathfrak{h} \triangleleft \mathfrak{g}$ , set  $\mathfrak{h}^\perp = \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : \forall Y \in \mathfrak{h} \ B(X, Y) = 0\}$

$\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{h}^\perp$  solv. by Cartan's criterion

$\mathfrak{g}$  s.s.  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{h}^\perp = 0$

invar. of  $B \Rightarrow \mathfrak{h}^\perp$  also ideal.

$\leadsto \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{h}^\perp$  as Lie alg.

Keep decomposing.  $\square$

o Complete reducibility of semisimple Lie algs

$(\pi, V)$ : rep of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,  $W \subset V$ :  $\mathfrak{g}$ -invar. subsp.

$\mathfrak{g}$  semisimple  $\Rightarrow \exists W' \subset V$   $\mathfrak{g}$ -inv. complement

Analytic proof for  $K = \mathbb{C}$  (Weyl's unitary trick)

Sketch for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

1  $(\mathfrak{su}_n)_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathfrak{sl}_n \mathbb{C}$  ( $\mathfrak{sl}_n \mathbb{C}$  is the complexification of  $\mathfrak{su}_n$ )

so  $\mathfrak{sl}_n \mathbb{C} \curvearrowright V \cong \mathfrak{su}_n \curvearrowright V$  (by cplx lin. transforms)

2  $\mathfrak{su}_n \curvearrowright V$  by cplx lin.  $\cong$   $SU(n) \curvearrowright V$  by cplx lin. i.e. rep. of  $SU(n)$  on  $V$

3  $SU(n)$  is compact  $\Rightarrow \exists \tilde{\pi}$ -invar. Herm. inn. prod. on  $V$

$\therefore$  Haar measure  $\mu$  on  $SU(n)$   $\int f(gh) d\mu(g) = \int f d\mu$

$(v, v')$ , any inn. prod  $\leadsto (v, v') = \int (\tilde{\pi}_g v, \tilde{\pi}_g v') d\mu(g)$  is invar.

4.  $W \subset V$  invar.  $\Rightarrow W^\perp = \{v \in V : \forall v' \in W \ (v, v') = 0\}$   
 is  $\tilde{\pi}$ -invar.
5.  $W^\perp$  is a rep of  $su_n$ . (by cplx lin. transf.)
6.  $W^\perp$  is also a rep of  $sl_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

Algebraic proof (still requires  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ ) of  $\mathfrak{g}$  on  $V$

Step 0 we may assume  $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{gl}(V)$   
 (img of semisimple is still semisimple)

Step 1  $B_V$  is nondeg. on  $\mathfrak{g}$

$\therefore \mathfrak{I} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : \forall Y \in \mathfrak{g} \ B_V(X, Y) = 0\}$  ideal  
 $\leadsto \mathfrak{I}$  solvable by Cartan's criterion  
 $\Rightarrow$  should be 0 by semisimplicity

Step 2  $(X_i)_{i=1}^n$  basis of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,  $(X^i)_{i=1}^n$  dual basis  
 of  $\mathfrak{g}$  rel. to  $B_V$   $B_V(X_i, X^j) = \delta_{ij}$   
 $C_V = \sum X_i X^i \in E_n \otimes (V)$  Casimir operator  
 $\Rightarrow C_V$  is an intertwiner.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore [Y, C_V] &= \sum [Y, X_i] X^i + X_i [Y, X^i] \\ &= \sum \underbrace{B_V([Y, X_i], X^j)}_{\substack{= \\ \delta_{ij}}} X_j X^i + \underbrace{B_V(X_j, [Y, X^i])}_{\substack{= \\ -\delta_{ij}}} X_i X^j \end{aligned}$$

invariance of  $B_V \Rightarrow$  RHS is 0.  
 $\&$  relabel  $i \leftrightarrow j$

Step 3 Claim for  $\dim W = \dim V - 1$ ,  $W$  irred.

- $C_V|_W$  is scalar (eigenspace would be subrep)
- $\mathfrak{g} \curvearrowright V/W$  is trivial ( $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{D}(\mathfrak{g})$  acts trivially)
- $\text{Tr}(C_V) = \sum B_V(X_i, X^i) = \dim(\mathfrak{g})!$

$$\Rightarrow C_V|_W = \alpha I|_W, \quad \alpha \neq 0, \quad V = W \oplus \text{Ker}(C_V)$$

Step 4 Claim for  $\dim W = \dim V - 1$

Ind. on  $\dim W$ .

$$0 \neq Z \subset W \text{ inv.} \xrightarrow{\text{ind.}} V/Z \simeq W/Z \oplus Y_{1-\dim}$$

$Z$ : inv. img of  $\gamma$  splits as  $Z \oplus \gamma_1$ .  
 $\leadsto V \simeq W \oplus \gamma_1$

Step 5  $\dim W$  general,  $W$  irred

$\text{End}_{\sigma}(W)$  is 1-dim., triv. rep. of  $\sigma$ .

$\text{Hom}_K(V, W) \xrightarrow{\text{res.}} \text{End}_K(W)$  surjective,  $\sigma$  acts by ad

$\cup \rightarrow \text{End}_{\sigma}(W)$  surj.  
 inv. img of  $\text{End}_{\sigma}(W)$

$\text{Ker}(\text{res}|_{\cup})$  is codim 1  $\sigma$ -inv. subsp

$\Rightarrow \cup \simeq \text{Ker}(\text{res}|_{\cup}) \oplus \cup_0$ .  $\cup_0$ : triv.

i.e.  $\text{Hom}_K(V, W)$  has  $\sigma$ -inv. elem  
 which restr. to  $\text{Id}_W$ .

this is  $V \xrightarrow{p} W$  prj. intertwiner.

$V = W \oplus \text{Ker}(p)$ . as  $\sigma$ -rep.

