

summary

• Root system

- axioms
- canonical copies of \mathfrak{sl}_2 .

• Root system.

Goal (after some time...)

complex simple Lie alg. \mathfrak{g} , \mathfrak{h} : Cartan subalg
 roots (eigenvals of $\text{ad}|_{\mathfrak{h}}$ or \mathfrak{g})

\rightsquigarrow Killing form on $\mathfrak{g} \rightsquigarrow$ on $\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}^*$) \rightsquigarrow root system

\rightsquigarrow Dynkin diagram encoding (length) of roots
 angle

\rightsquigarrow classification of cplx simple Lie algs

Recap. \mathfrak{g} : simple Lie alg. over \mathbb{C} (e.g. $\mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$)

\mathfrak{h} : Cartan subalg. of \mathfrak{g} maximal diagonalizable
 commutative. ($X, Y \in \mathfrak{h} \Rightarrow [X, Y] = 0$)

\exists faithful rep / \forall rep $\pi \quad \forall X \in \mathfrak{h} \quad \pi(X)$ diag'ble

e.g. $\mathfrak{h} = \{X \in \mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C}) : \text{diag}\} \subset \mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$

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

$\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ "root" $\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : \forall Y \in \mathfrak{h} [Y, X] = \alpha(Y)X\}$

Fact 1. (for $\alpha \neq 0$) $\dim \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \leq 1$.

2. $\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha} \oplus [\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha}, \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}] \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$
 is a subalg of \mathfrak{g} , isom to $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$

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

(π, V) rep of $\mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow V = \bigoplus_{\beta} V_{\beta}$

$\beta \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ "weight" $V_{\beta} = \{v \in V : \forall Y \in \mathfrak{h} \pi(Y)v = \beta(Y)v\}$

$\{0\} \cup \text{roots} = \text{weights of } \pi = \text{ad}$

$\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{R})$ & knowing weights of \mathfrak{sl}_2

$\Rightarrow \forall$ weight β , $\beta(H\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

weight lattice $\Lambda_w = \{ \beta \in \mathfrak{h}^* : \beta(H\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z} \}$

root lattice Λ_R : subgroup of Λ_w generated by roots.

$E = \mathbb{R} \cdot \Lambda_w$ (real) dual sp. of $\mathfrak{h}_0 = \langle H\alpha : \alpha \text{ root} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}}$

Killing form $B_{\mathfrak{g}}(X, Y) = \text{Tr}(\text{ad}_X \text{ad}_Y)$

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

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

$\Rightarrow B_{\mathfrak{g}}(\sigma_{\alpha} X, \sigma_{\beta} Y) \neq 0$ iff $\alpha = -\beta$ (incl. $\alpha = 0$)
(nondeg. on $\mathfrak{h} (= \mathfrak{g}_0)$)

Fact 4 $X \in \mathfrak{h}_0 \Rightarrow B_{\mathfrak{g}}(X, X) \geq 0$, $= 0$ only if $X = 0$

Write (σ, μ) ($\sigma, \mu \in E$) for the Euclidean inn. prod. on E .

Fact 3 $\alpha : \text{root} \Rightarrow H\alpha = \frac{2}{B_{\mathfrak{g}}(H\alpha, H\alpha)} H\alpha$ is the elem

s.t. $B_{\mathfrak{g}}(T\alpha, H) = \alpha(H)$

(img of iso $\mathfrak{h}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ corr. to $B_{\mathfrak{g}}$)

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

Fact 5 α root. $k \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{ \pm 1 \} \Rightarrow k\alpha$ not root.

$s_{\alpha}(v) = v - \frac{2(\alpha, v)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \alpha$ reflection along α^{\perp} .

Rem. (π, V) rep. β weight $\Rightarrow \bigoplus_n V_{\beta+n\alpha}$ subrep
of $\mathfrak{sl}_2 = \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha} \oplus [\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha}, \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}]$.

$\Rightarrow \text{supp}(V) = \{ \beta : \text{weight } V_{\beta} \neq 0 \}$ is closed under s_{α}
 $\because \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ rep. has "symmetric" weights.

$\Rightarrow R = \{ \beta : \text{root} \} \subset E$ is closed under S_α
 $W = \langle S_\alpha : \alpha \in \text{root} \rangle \subset O(E)$ Weyl group

Fact of R span E ($R \wedge R = R \wedge W$)

Axiom of root system.

E : Euclidean sp. (\mathbb{R} -vec. sp. & pos. def. inn. prod)

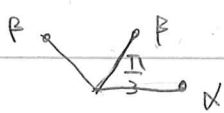
$R \subset E$ is a root system if

- 1) $|R| < \infty$, \mathbb{R} -span of R is E
- 2) $\alpha \in R, k \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow k\alpha \in R$ iff $k = \pm 1$
- 3) $S_\alpha(v) = v - \frac{2(\alpha, v)}{(\alpha, \alpha)}\alpha$ maps R to R
- 4) $n_{\alpha, \beta} = \frac{2(\alpha, \beta)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \in \mathbb{Z}$

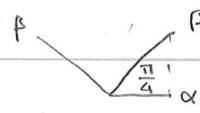
Rem $n_{\alpha, \beta} n_{\beta, \alpha} = 4 \cos^2 \theta$ for θ : angle between α & β .

$4 \cos^2 \theta \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \pm \frac{\sqrt{a}}{2}$ $a = 0, 1, 2, 3$

$a = 1$ ($\cos \theta = \pm \frac{1}{2}$) $a = 2$ $a = 3$



$\|\alpha\| = \|\beta\|$

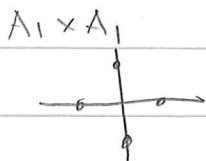


$\|\beta\| = \sqrt{2} \|\alpha\|$

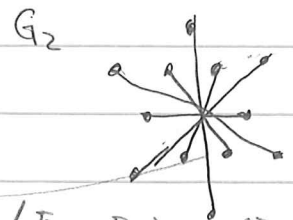
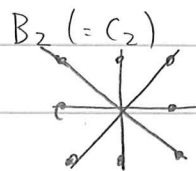
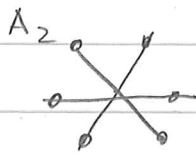


$\|\beta\| = \sqrt{3} \|\alpha\|$

Ex. $\dim E = 2$



"reducible"



irred. (not $(E_1, R_1) \times (E_2, R_2)$)

Motto : simple Lie alg \rightsquigarrow irred root system.
 "remembers everything"

Proof of Fact 6 $\mathbb{R} \wedge \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R} \wedge \mathbb{W}$

Equivalent to $\mathbb{C} \wedge \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^*$.

Take $X \in (\mathbb{C} \wedge \mathbb{R})^\perp \subset \mathfrak{h}$ (we want $X=0$)

$$[X, Y] = \alpha(X)Y = 0 \quad \text{for all } Y \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow [X, Y] = 0 \quad \text{for all } Y \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow X \in \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$$

~~Proof of Facts 1 & 2~~

~~Step 1 $[\mathfrak{g}_\alpha, \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}] \neq 0$~~

~~\therefore Invariance $\Rightarrow B(X, [Y, Z]) = B([X, Y], Z)$
 $= \alpha(X)B(Y, Z)$ for $X \in \mathfrak{h}, Y \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$~~

~~Cartan's criterion (& invar.) $\exists Z \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}$~~

~~$B(Y, Z) \neq 0 \iff$ for this Z $[Y, Z] \neq 0$~~

~~(If $T_\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}$ is s.t. $B(T_\alpha, X) = \alpha(X)$ $X \in \mathfrak{h}$
 $[Y, Z] = B(Y, Z) T_\alpha$ for $Y \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha, Z \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}$~~

~~Step 2 $\alpha(T_\alpha) \neq 0$~~

~~\therefore otherwise $s = \langle Y, Z, T_\alpha \rangle$ solvable~~

~~$\Rightarrow T_\alpha$ nilpot $\Rightarrow T_\alpha = 0$
diag'ble~~

~~Step 3 $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha} \oplus [\mathfrak{g}_\alpha, \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}] \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$~~

~~Step 4~~