

## Construction of simple Lie algebras

$$R \subset E^* \setminus \{0\} \text{ root system} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \{\alpha_i\}_{i \in I} \text{ simple roots} \\ \nu: \mathfrak{g}^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{g} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} h_i = \alpha_i^\vee \\ = \frac{2\nu(\alpha_i)}{(\alpha_i, \alpha_i)} \end{array}$$

$\rightsquigarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}: \text{Lie Algebra}$

-generators:  $\mathfrak{g} = E \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ ,  
 $\{e_i, f_i\}_{i \in I}$

-relations:  $\mathfrak{h}$  is abelian,

•  $\text{ad}(h) e_i = \alpha_i(h) e_i$   
 $\text{ad}(h) f_i = -\alpha_i(h) f_i \quad \forall i \in I$

•  $[e_i, f_j] = \delta_{ij} h_i$

Prop  $\exists!$  max ideal  $\tilde{\mathfrak{r}} \subsetneq \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{g} := \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} / \tilde{\mathfrak{r}} \quad \text{simple Lie alg.}$

$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} = \tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \tilde{\mathfrak{n}}_+ \quad \text{triangular decomposition.}$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \uparrow \\ \text{gen by } \{f_i\}_{i \in I} \end{array} \right.$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \uparrow \\ \text{gen by } \{e_i\}_{i \in I} \end{array} \right.$

root spaces

filter  $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\gamma = \{x \in \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \mid [h, x] = \gamma(h)x \quad \forall h \in \mathfrak{h}\}$   
 $(\forall \gamma \in \mathfrak{g}^*)$

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_{\pm} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_+ \setminus \{0\}} \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{\pm\alpha} \quad (Q_+ = \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \alpha_i \subset \mathfrak{g}^*)$$

If  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$  is an ideal then

$$\mathfrak{a} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_+ \setminus \{0\}} \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{\pm\alpha} \cap \mathfrak{a} \quad \text{is a direct sum of ideals.}$$

$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{\alpha}$  is finite dimensional,

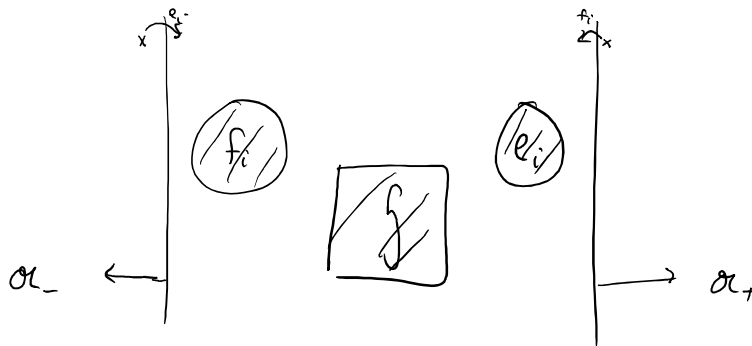
$$\dim \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{\alpha} = \dim \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{-\alpha}$$

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{\pm\alpha_i} = \begin{cases} \mathbb{C} e_i & \text{for } + \\ \mathbb{C} f_i & \text{for } - \end{cases}$$

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{k\alpha_i} = 0 \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } |k| \geq 2.$$

(proper)

ideals in  $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$       $\mathfrak{a} \subset \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{a}_{\pm} = \mathfrak{a} \cap \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_{\pm}$



## Remark

(i)  $\mathfrak{a}_\pm$  are ideals

$$\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{a}_- \oplus \mathfrak{a}_+ .$$

$$[e_i, \mathfrak{a}_+] \subset \mathfrak{a}_+$$

$$[f_i, \mathfrak{a}] \subset \mathfrak{a}_+$$

(ii) if  $x \in \mathfrak{a}_\alpha$  and  $\alpha$  is of smallest height s.t.  $\mathfrak{a}_\alpha \neq 0$ ,

$$\text{Then } [f_i, x] = 0 \quad \forall i \in I$$

(iii) Conversely if  $x \in \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_+$  is s.t.

$$[f_i, x] = 0 \quad \forall i \in I,$$

Then ideal gen by  $x$  is again in  $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_+$

(same for  $-$  and  $e_i$ )

Define  $\forall i \neq j \in I$ ;  $\theta_{ij}^+ = \text{ad}(e_i)^{-a_{ij}} e_j \in \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_+$

$$\theta_{ij}^- = \text{ad}(f_i)^{-a_{ij}} f_j \in \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_-$$

Lemma  $\forall k \in I$ ,

$$[e_k, \theta_{ij}^-] = 0$$

$$[f_k, \theta_{ij}^+] = 0$$

Pf  $\cdot$   $k \neq i, j$ ; this is clear.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{ad}(e_k) \cdot f_i = 0 \\ f_j = 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

•  $k=j$   $(\text{ad } e_i) \cdot (\text{ad } f_j)^{-a_{ij}} f_j = (\text{ad } f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} h_j = 0$  if  $a_{ij} \leq -1$

If  $a_{ij} = 0$ , then  $a_{ji} = 0$ ; and

$$(\text{ad } f_i) h_j = [f_i, h_j] = a_{ij} f_i = 0$$

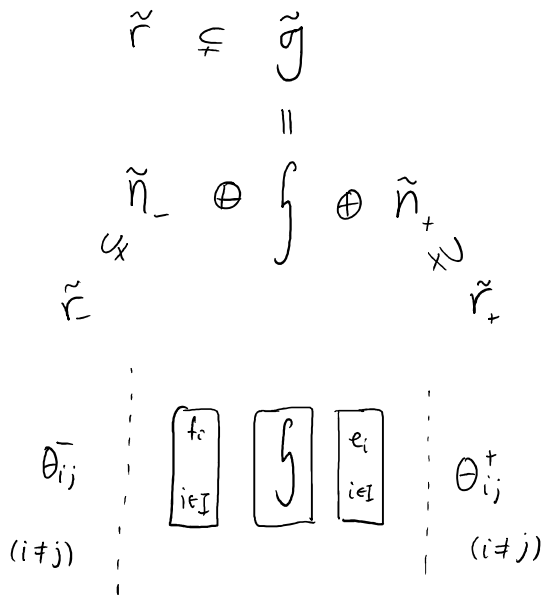
•  $k=i$   $\text{ad}(e_i) \cdot f_j = 0$

$$\text{ad}(h_j) \cdot f_j = -a_{ij} f_j$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{ad}(e_i) \cdot (\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} \cdot f_j) = 0 \text{ by}$$

$$e f^k = f^k e + k f^{k-1} (h - k + 1)$$

□



"Weyl Group Action":

$$\bar{\mathfrak{g}} = \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} / \langle \Theta_{ij}^\pm : i \neq j \rangle$$

$$= \bar{\mathfrak{n}}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g} \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{n}}_-$$

$\bigcup$   
 $\mathfrak{sl}_2^i$  acts locally nilpotently  
 $\parallel$   
 $(e_i, f_i, h_i)$

$\Rightarrow$  we have  $s_i \in \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$

$$s_i = \exp(\text{ad } e_i) \exp(-\text{ad } f_i) \exp(\text{ad } e_i)$$

Remark  $s = \exp(e) \exp(-f) \exp(e)$  makes sense

on any  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -representation where

$e, f$  act locally nilpotently.

Defn  $X \in \text{End}(V)$  acts locally nilpotently if  
 $\forall v \in V, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $X^n \cdot v = 0$ .

Thus  $s_i : \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{g}_{s_i(\alpha)} \quad \forall i \in I$  (on Friday)  
 $\uparrow$   
 isomorphism  
 of vector spaces

Prop  $\tilde{r}_\pm = \langle \theta_{ij}^\pm \mid i \neq j \in I \rangle$   
 $\parallel$   
 $\tilde{r}_\pm \supseteq r_\pm$

"..."  $\leftarrow \mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{\pi} \dots \tilde{\mathfrak{h}} /$

assume  $\text{height}(\alpha)$  is minimum

$$"W" \supset \mathfrak{g} \xrightarrow{\pi} \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}/\tilde{\mathfrak{r}}$$

assume height( $\alpha$ ) is minimum  
s.t.  $\text{Ker}(\pi)_\alpha \neq 0$

$$\text{Ker}(\pi) = \tilde{\mathfrak{r}}/\mathfrak{r} \text{ . if non-zero, let } K \in \text{Ker}(\pi).$$

$$K \in \tilde{\mathfrak{r}}_{+\alpha} \quad (\alpha \in Q_+ \setminus \{0\})$$

Then  $s_i(K) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{r}}_+ \rightsquigarrow s_i(\alpha)$  has larger ht than  $\alpha$ .

$$\alpha - \alpha(h_i)\alpha_i$$

$$\text{so } (\alpha, \alpha_i) \leq 0 \quad \forall i.$$

$$\alpha \in Q_+ \Rightarrow \alpha = \sum_{i \in I} n_i \alpha_i \quad n_i \geq 0$$

$$(\alpha, \alpha) = \sum_{i \in I} n_i (\alpha, \alpha_i) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0, \text{ contradiction!}$$

$(\cdot, \cdot)$  positive def. So  $\tilde{\mathfrak{r}} = \mathfrak{r}$ .

Similar proof gives the following:

$$\mathfrak{g}_\alpha \neq (0) \Rightarrow \alpha \text{ is } W\text{-conjugate to some } \alpha_i \quad (i \in I).$$

$$\mathfrak{g}^+ = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_+ \cap (\cup_{i \in I} W\alpha_i)} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \quad \neq \mathfrak{n}_+$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cor. } \dim \mathfrak{g} &= |I| + |R| \\ &= |I| + 2|R_+| \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_\alpha \neq 0 \xrightarrow[\alpha = w(\alpha_i)]{} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha_i}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim \mathfrak{g}_\alpha = 1.$$

$$\text{So } \mathfrak{g} = \left( \bigoplus_{\alpha \in R_+} \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha} \right) \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{\alpha \in R_+} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \right).$$

Summary: Input  $A = (a_{ij})_{i,j \in I}$  (Cartan matrix of a root system).



output - a f.d. simple lie alg  $\mathfrak{g}(A)$ :

gen's		rels	
$\{h_i, e_i, f_i\}_{i \in I}$		$[h_i, h_j] = 0$	$[e_i, f_j] = \delta_{ij} h_i$
		$[h_i, e_j] = a_{ij} e_j$	$\text{ad}(e_i)^{1-a_{ij}} e_j = 0$
		$[h_i, f_j] = -a_{ij} f_j$	$\text{ad}(f_i)^{1-a_{ij}} f_j = 0$

Classification Theorem (E. Cartan, Weyl, Chevalley, Killing)

Every f.d. simple lie algebra arises this way.

Example  $A_2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow R_+ = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2\}$

$h_1, e_1, f_1$

$h_2, e_2, f_2 \rightsquigarrow n_+$  subalgebra generated by  $e_1, e_2$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_1 & \rightsquigarrow & [e_1, e_2] \\ e_2 & & \parallel \\ & & e_3 \end{array} \rightsquigarrow [e_1, [e_1, e_2]] \parallel (\text{ad}(e_1))^2 e_2 = 0$$

$$n_+ = \text{span} \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{g}(A_2) \cong \mathfrak{sl}_3 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{over } \mathbb{C} \\ 3 \times 3 \text{ matrices} \\ \text{of trace } 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$h_1 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad e_1 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & \\ 0 & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{bmatrix} (= f_1^T)$$

$$h_2 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad e_2 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ 1 & 0 & \\ & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (= f_2^T)$$

$$e_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \\ & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [e_1, e_2]$$