

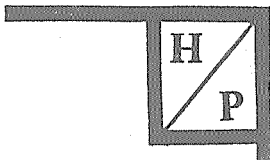
Hadronic Press Monographs in Mathematics  
Number 1

**LIE  
ALGEBRAS  
AND  
FLEXIBLE  
LIE-ADMISSIBLE  
ALGEBRAS**

**HYO CHUL MYUNG**

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## ABOUT THE TOPIC

Lie's theory, with its diversification into algebras, groups and geometries, constitutes one of the most fundamental branches of contemporary mathematics.

In applied mathematics, Lie's theory is equally fundamental. For instance, contemporary physical theories (such as classical mechanics, statistical mechanics and quantum mechanics) constitute different realizations of Lie's theory beginning from their most fundamental dynamical part, the time evolution.

This book deals with a generalization of Lie algebras (beyond grading-supersymmetric extensions) which was proposed by A. A. Albert in 1948 under the name of Lie-admissible algebras, and subsequently developed by a number of mathematicians and theoreticians.

The contents of this book is therefore of fundamental relevance for pure as well as applied mathematics. On the former grounds, the Lie-admissible algebras permit the broadening of the mathematical structure of all branches of mathematics dealing with Lie algebras. On the latter grounds, the Lie-admissible algebras permit the generalization of physical theories for a deeper understanding of nature.

The book is authored by one of the foremost mathematical leaders in the field.

The book is indispensable for all mathematicians interested in fundamental advances, as well as for all theoreticians interested in the broadening of the structure of contemporary physical theories.

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*TO*

*Karen, Peggy, Jane, and Michael*





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## PREFACE

Following the long history of Lie algebras in physics, and since the introduction of Jordan algebras by physicist P. Jordan, there have been considerable efforts to generalize the formalism of quantum mechanics by means of other nonassociative algebras, such as Jordan, noncommutative Jordan, and octonion algebras.

Since A. A. Albert introduced Lie-admissible algebras in 1948, very little has been known about the structure of these algebras until the recent emergence of Lie-admissible algebras as a fundamental methodological tool in theoretical physics and mechanics. As far as I am aware, R. M. Santilli is the first physicist who became interested in Lie-admissible algebras. In an article written in 1967, he states: "As is known, there have been attempts to introduce new algebraic structures in physics other than Lie algebras (L.A.). One of the most interesting attempts is the Jordan investigation on the  $r$ -number algebras today called (commutative) Jordan algebras (C.J.A.), which however have not been successful in their physical applications. We personally think that a possible reason for this disappointment in elementary particle physics may be the want of L.A. content in the C.J.A. In other words, L.A. should not be abandoned, but might be expanded. For instance, the validity of L.A. for free particles is well known. It may be interesting to investigate the possible validity of new algebraic structures of an interacting or decaying region but only in such a way that the standard procedures corresponding to the free states remain unchanged, that is, preserving in any case a well-defined L.A. content."

Both nonflexible and flexible Lie-admissible algebras arise in classical and quantum mechanics as a generalization of conventional mechanics. However, the general Lie-admissible algebras are too broad and diversified to provide at this moment a fruitful structure theory. On the other hand, the structure of certain classes of flexible Lie-admissible algebras is closely related to the theory

of Lie algebras of characteristic zero. Especially, the structure and representation of semisimple Lie algebras of characteristic zero serve as a reasonable model in the classification of certain classes of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras.

This monograph is based on lectures delivered for a first year graduate course at Seoul National University while I was visiting under the project of the SNU-U.S.AID Graduate Program for Basic Sciences in 1979–1980. My intention was to provide elements of Lie algebras and flexible Lie-admissible algebras. The subject matter in Lie algebras was designed to set up the groundwork for the structure of certain classes of flexible Lie-admissible algebras rather than to provide a comprehensive account of the general theory of Lie algebras. Realizing that the majority of the audience had different motivations and backgrounds, and had no experience in Lie algebras, I tried to convey the material in a self-contained manner, without unnecessary difficulty. Accordingly, the amount of material in Lie algebras grew up to a moderate book length.

The treatment of Lie algebras followed the three well-known books: N. Jacobson, *Lie algebras* (Interscience, New York, 1962); D. J. Winter, *Abstract Lie algebras* (MIT Press, 1972); J. E. Humphreys, *Introduction to Lie algebras and representation theory* (Springer-Verlag, New York, 1972). The basic classical theorems, including the theorems of Weyl and Levi, are drawn from Winter's book which provides quick access to the classification of split semisimple Lie algebras of characteristic zero. The classification and construction of simple Lie algebras were treated as in Jacobson's book. The discussion for root systems followed the classical approach rather than the abstract one. The exposition of representation theory was based on Humphreys' book.

I had to omit many standard topics in Lie algebras, such as cohomology, theorems of Ado and Iwasawa, classification over non-algebraically closed fields, character formulas, and multiplicity formulas, which the interested reader

can pursue in the books of Jacobson and Humphreys, cited above. For the discussion of certain flexible Lie–admissible algebras of prime characteristic in Chapter 7, I stated some elementary results on classical Lie algebras without proof which can be found in G. B. Seligman’s book, *Modular Lie algebras* (Springer–Verlag, New York, 1967).

Chapters 6 and 7 are devoted to the structure of some special classes of flexible Lie–admissible algebras. The main objective in Chapter 6 is to classify finite–dimensional flexible Lie–admissible algebras over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero whose associated Lie algebras are reductive. The central idea for this classification is the notion of adjoint operators which was first introduced by E. P. Wigner in 1941, for the Lie algebra of the  $SU(2)$  group. The general case of adjoint operators was later studied in particle physics, notably by Okubo. The main result is that simple Lie algebras of type  $A_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) alone allow a non–zero symmetric adjoint operator and otherwise, all adjoint operators are multiples of the adjoint mapping. Thus, only simple Lie algebras of type  $A_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) result in new simple flexible Lie–admissible algebras.

Chapter 7 is concerned with the structure of flexible Lie–admissible algebras of arbitrary characteristic. It is shown that the algebras turn out to be Lie algebras when their associated Lie algebras are classical in the sense of Seligman or generalized Witt algebras. In the final section, we investigate some basic structure of the mutation of an associative algebra which originated from Santilli’s generalization of classical and quantum mechanics. When the mutation parameters are invertible, flexibility in a mutation of an associative algebra is virtually equivalent to all other nonassociative identities.

The material presented here is far from complete. I have had to omit many recent advances made for the structure of flexible Lie–admissible algebras which is at present quite diversified in nature. It is hoped that a collective

work on Lie-admissible algebras will be published in a readable form in the near future.

In writing this monograph, I am indebted to a number of people. I should like to express my gratitude to R. M. Santilli who first brought to my attention the relevance of Lie-admissible algebras to physics in 1977. Since that time, his continual encouragement has been most influential in pursuing the study of Lie-admissible algebras. It is his suggestion to publish this monograph. I also owe a great debt to S. Okubo for making available the current developments in physics relating to Lie-admissible algebras and for many invaluable communications. The majority of material in Chapters 6 and 7 is drawn from joint works with Okubo. I wish to thank my friend and teacher M. L. Tomber who first aroused my interest in Lie-admissible algebras. I thank G. M. Benkart and J. M. Osborn for numerous conversations which have been immensely helpful in writing the last two chapters.

To the SNU-U.S.AID Graduate Program for Basic Sciences and the Department of Mathematics of Seoul National University who arranged my visit during which the majority of this monograph was written, I express my sincere thanks for financial support and generous hospitality. I would like to acknowledge also occasional support from DOE contract DE-AC02-80ER10651, and extensions A001, and A002. Special thanks are also due to J. S. Cross for a careful reading of the manuscript. It is a pleasure to acknowledge the great help provided by the editorial staff of the Hadronic Press.

I am, of course, solely responsible for the errors or shortcomings that remain.

*November 1, 1982*

*Cedar Falls*

**Hyo C. Myung**



## 1. NONASSOCIATIVE ALGEBRAS

### 1.1. Basic definitions

An (nonassociative) algebra  $A$  over a field  $F$  is a vector space over  $F$  with a multiplication  $A \times A \rightarrow A$ , denoted by  $xy$ , such that

$$(\alpha x + \beta y)z = \alpha(xz) + \beta(yz),$$

$$z(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha(zx) + \beta(zy).$$

$\alpha, \beta \in F$ ,  $x, y, z \in A$ .

Denote the associator  $(x, y, z)$  and commutator  $[x, y]$  in  $A$  by

$$(x, y, z) = (xy)z - x(yz),$$

$$[x, y] = xy - yx.$$

If  $A$  is finite-dimensional over  $F$ , let  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  be a basis for  $A$ . Let

$$u_i \cdot u_j = \sum_{k=1}^n \gamma_{ij}^k u_k. \quad (1.1)$$

The  $n^3$  constants  $\gamma_{ij}^k \in F$  are called the structure constants for  $A$ , which determine a unique element in the space  $F^{n^3} = F \times \dots \times F$  ( $n^3$  times). Conversely any element  $(\gamma_{ij}^k) \in F^{n^3}$  determines a unique nonassociative algebraic structure on the underlying vector space  $A$  via (1.1). Thus the set of algebras with underlying vector space  $A$  over  $F$  is identified with  $F^{n^3}$ .

Problem 1.1.1. Determine all algebras of dimension 1 or 2.

The definitions of the terms, such as left or right ideal (two-sided) ideal, homomorphism, kernel, quotient algebra, isomorphism theorems, and direct sum in an algebra can be stated exactly the same as in an associative algebra. An element  $1 \in A$  is called a unit element for  $A$  if  $1x = x1 = x$  for  $x \in A$ . For an algebra  $A$  over  $F$ , let  $A_1 = F \oplus A$  be the vector space direct sum of  $F$  and  $A$ . Define a multiplication in  $A_1$  by

$$(\alpha + a)(\beta + b) = \alpha\beta + (\beta a + \alpha b + ab), \quad (1.2)$$

$\alpha, \beta \in F$ ,  $a, b \in A$ . Then  $A_1$  becomes an algebra over  $F$  with unit element  $1 \in F$ .

Let  $A, B$  be algebras over  $F$  and let  $B \otimes_F A = B \otimes A$  be the tensor product of  $A$  and  $B$ .

Defining a multiplication in  $B \otimes A$  by

$$(y_1 \otimes x_1)(y_2 \otimes x_2) = (y_1 y_2) \otimes (x_1 x_2), \quad x_i \in A, y_i \in B$$

makes  $B \otimes A$  into an algebra over  $F$ . If  $B$  has  $1$ ,  $1 \otimes A$  is a subalgebra of  $B \otimes A$  which is isomorphic to  $A$  and is identified with  $A$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are finite-dimensional over  $F$ ,

$$\dim_F B \otimes A = (\dim B)(\dim A).$$

In particular, if  $B = K$  is an extension field of  $F$ , then in  $A_K \equiv K \otimes A$  we identify  $x$  with  $1 \otimes x$ ,  $x \in A$ , and  $A_K$  becomes an algebra over  $K$  via

$$\alpha(\sum \beta_i x_i) = \sum \alpha \beta_i x_i,$$

$\alpha, \beta_i \in K, x_i \in A$ . If  $A$  is finite-dimensional over  $F$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  is a basis for  $A$  over  $F$ , it is readily seen that it is also a basis for  $A_K$  over  $K$  and so  $\dim_K A_K = n$ .  $A_K$  is called the scalar extension of  $A$  to  $K$ . While the scalar extension  $A_K$  is often useful, it should be stressed that some algebraic properties in  $A$  may be collapsed in  $A_K$ . An algebra  $A$  is called simple if  $AA \neq 0$  and  $A$  has no proper ideals.

Exercise 1.1.1. Give an example of an algebra  $A$  such that  $A$  is simple over  $F$  but  $A_K$  is not over  $K$  for some extension  $K$  of  $F$ .

1.2. Modules

Definition 1.2.1. Let  $S$  be a set. An  $S$ -module over  $F$  is a vector space  $V$  over  $F$  together with a mapping  $V \times S \rightarrow V$ , denoted by  $(x,s) \rightarrow xs$ , such that  $(\alpha x + \beta y)s = \alpha(xs) + \beta(ys)$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ ,  $x, y \in V$ ,  $s \in S$ . //

For an  $S$ -module  $V$  over  $F$  and a subset  $W \subset V$  we let  $WS$  be the subspace of  $V$  spanned by  $xs$ ,  $x \in W$ ,  $s \in S$ . An  $S$ -submodule of  $V$  is a subspace  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $WS \subset W$ . If  $W$  is an  $S$ -submodule of  $V$ , the vector space  $V/W$  becomes an  $S$ -module over  $F$  via  $(x + W)s = xs + W$ ,  $x \in V$ ,  $s \in S$ . An  $S$ -homomorphism from an  $S$ -module  $V$  into an  $S$ -module  $V'$  over  $F$  is a linear transformation  $f: V \rightarrow V'$  over  $F$  such that  $f(xs) = f(x)s$ ,  $x \in V$ ,  $s \in S$ . The isomorphism theorems for  $S$ -modules are straightforward generalizations of the usual ones.

Definition 1.2.2. (1) An  $S$ -complement of an  $S$ -submodule  $W$  of  $V$  is an  $S$ -submodule  $W'$  of  $V$  such that  $V = W \oplus W'$ .

(2) An  $S$ -module  $V$  is  $S$ -completely reducible if  $VS = V$  and every  $S$ -submodule of  $V$  has an  $S$ -complement.

(3)  $V$  is  $S$ -irreducible if  $VS = V$  and  $V$  has no proper  $S$ -submodules. //

Lemma 1.2.1. Let  $V$  be  $S$ -completely reducible and let  $W$  be an  $S$ -submodule of  $V$ . Then  $W$  and  $V/W$  are  $S$ -completely reducible.

Proof. (1) Let  $W_0$  be an  $S$ -submodule of  $W$  and let  $W'_0$  be an  $S$ -complement of  $W_0$  in  $V$ , so that  $V = W_0 \oplus W'_0$ . One sees that  $W = W \cap (W_0 \oplus W'_0) = W_0 \oplus (W \cap W'_0)$ . Since  $VS = WS \oplus W'S = V = W \oplus W'$ ,  $WS = W$ . Thus  $W$  is  $S$ -completely reducible.

(2) Let  $\bar{V} = V/W$  and let  $\bar{P}$  be an  $S$ -submodule of  $\bar{V}$ . If  $P$  denotes the inverse image of  $\bar{P}$  under the natural  $S$ -homomorphism  $V \rightarrow \bar{V}$ ,  $V = P \oplus P'$  for an  $S$ -submodule  $P'$  of  $V$ . Thus  $\bar{V} = \bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}'$  since  $P \supset W$ . Clearly  $VS = V$  implies  $\bar{V}S = \bar{V}$  and so  $\bar{V}$  is  $S$ -completely reducible. //

Lemma 1.2.2. Every nonzero  $S$ -completely reducible module  $V$  has a nonzero  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodule.

Proof. Pick an  $x \neq 0$  in  $V$ . If every nonzero  $S$ -submodule of  $V$  contains  $x$ , the proof is done. If there is an  $S$ -submodule not containing  $x$ , by Zorn's lemma one chooses a maximal  $S$ -submodule  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $x \notin W$ . Thus  $V = W \oplus W'$ ,  $W'$  an  $S$ -complement, and  $W' \neq 0$ . Then  $W'$  is  $S$ -irreducible, since if not,  $W' = W_1 \oplus W_2$  for some proper  $S$ -submodules  $W_1, W_2$  (Lemma 1.2.1); but then  $x \in (W + W_1) \cap (W + W_2)$  by the maximality of  $W$ , so that  $x \in W$ , a contradiction. //

Theorem 1.2.3. The following are equivalent.

- 1)  $V$  is  $S$ -completely reducible ;
- 2)  $V = \Sigma V_i$  for some family  $\{V_i\}$  of  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$  ;
- 3)  $V = \Sigma \oplus V_i$  for some family  $\{V_i\}$  of  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$ .

Proof. 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2): Assume  $V$  is  $S$ -completely reducible and let  $W = \Sigma V_i$  where  $\{V_i\}$  is the collection of all  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$ . Let  $V = W \oplus W'$ ,  $W'$  an  $S$ -complement of  $W$ . Since  $W'$  has no nonzero  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules, by Lemmas 1.2.1 and 1.2.2,  $W' = \{0\}$ . Thus  $V = \Sigma V_i$ .

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) : Let  $\{W_i\}$  be a family of  $S$ -submodules. Call  $\{W_i\}$  direct if  $\Sigma W_i$  is direct. Now, assume  $V = \Sigma V_i$  for some family  $\{V_i\}$  of  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$ . By Zorn's lemma, one can choose a maximal direct family  $\{V_k\}$  of  $S$ -submodules from the family  $\{V_i\}$ . Thus  $V = \Sigma \oplus V_k$ , for otherwise  $V_i \not\subseteq \Sigma \oplus V_k$  for some  $i$ . But then  $V_i \cap \Sigma \oplus V_k \neq V_i$  and so  $V_i \cap \Sigma \oplus V_k = \{0\}$  since  $V_i$  is  $S$ -irreducible. Thus  $V_i \oplus \Sigma \oplus V_k$  is direct and this contradicts the maximality of  $\{V_k\}$ .

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) : Let  $V = \Sigma \oplus V_i$  for some family of  $S$ -irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$ . Let  $W$  be an  $S$ -submodule of  $V$ . By Zorn's lemma, one can pick a maximal  $S$ -submodule  $W'$  with  $W \cap W' = 0$ . For each  $i$ ,  $(W \oplus W') \cap V_i = 0$  or  $V_i$ . In the first case,  $W \oplus W' \oplus V_i$  is direct and so  $W \cap (W' \oplus V_i) \neq 0$ , so  $V_i = \{0\}$  by the maximality of  $W'$ . In the second case,  $V_i \subset W \oplus W'$  and so  $V = W \oplus W'$ . //

### 1.3. Jordan and Fitting decompositions

If  $V$  is an  $S$ -module over  $F$ , then for  $T \in S$ ,  $T_V$  denotes the linear transformation of  $V$  defined by  $xT_V = xT$ ,  $x \in V$ . We say that  $T \in S$  (or  $T_V$ ) is split over  $F$  if the eigenvalues of  $T_V$  are in  $F$  or equivalently the minimum polynomial of  $T_V$  is factored over  $F$  into linear factors. Also,  $S$  is split over  $F$  if every element in  $S$  is split over  $F$ .

Definition 1.3.1. For  $T \in S$  and  $\alpha \in F$ , let  $V_\alpha(T) = \{x \in V \mid x(T_V - \alpha)^n = 0 \text{ for some } n > 0\}$ . //

Theorem 1.3.1. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional  $S$ -module over  $F$ . If  $T \in S$  is split over  $F$  then

$$V = \sum_{\alpha \in F} \oplus V_{\alpha}(T) .$$

Proof. Let  $f(X)$  be the minimum polynomial of  $T_V$  and let  $f(X) = \prod (X - \alpha_i)^{e_i}$  with  $\alpha_i \in F$  distinct. Setting  $h_i(X) = f(X)/(X - \alpha_i)^{e_i}$ , since the  $h_i(X)$  are relatively prime, one finds polynomials  $g_i(X)$  such that  $\sum g_i(X)h_i(X) = 1$ . Let

$$V_i = Vh_i(T_V) .$$

Since  $x = \sum (xg_i(T_V)) h_i(T_V)$  for  $x \in V$ , we have  $V = \sum V_i$ . Also,  $V_i \subset V_{\alpha_i}(T)$  since  $V_i(T_V - \alpha_i)^{e_i} = Vh_i(T_V)(T_V - \alpha_i)^{e_i} = Vf(T_V) = \{0\}$ .

Thus  $V = \sum V_{\alpha_i}(T)$  and it remains to show that the sum is direct. Let  $x \in V_{\alpha_i}(T) \cap \sum_{j \neq i} V_{\alpha_j}(T)$ . Then the ideal  $J = \{h(X) \in F[X] \mid xh(T_V) = 0\}$  contains  $(X - \alpha_i)^{k_i}$  and  $\prod_{j \neq i} (X - \alpha_j)^{k_j}$  for some  $k_i, k_j$ . Since these polynomials are relatively prime,  $J = F[X]$  and  $1 \in J$ , so  $x = x1 = 0$ . //

Remark 1.3.1. In fact we have shown that  $Vh_i(T_V) = V_{\alpha_i}(T)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  . //



Definition 1.3.2. Let  $\dim V < \infty$  and let  $T$  be an element in  $\text{Hom } V$  which is split over  $F$ . Then the semisimple part of  $T$  is the element  $T_s \in \text{Hom } V$  such that  $T_s |_{V_\alpha(T)} = \alpha I_{V_\alpha(T)}$  for  $\alpha \in F$ . The nilpotent part of  $T$  is  $T_n = T - T_s$ . The decomposition  $T = T_s + T_n$  is called the Jordan decomposition of  $T$ . If  $T = T_s$ ,  $T$  is called semisimple. If  $T = T_n$ ,  $T$  is called nilpotent. //

Let  $W$  be a  $T$ -stable subspace of  $V$ . It is evident that  $W = \sum W_\alpha(T)$  where  $W_\alpha(T) = V_\alpha(T) \cap W$ . Hence if  $T$  is semisimple on  $V$  then so is  $T|_W$  on  $W$ .

Since  $xT_n = x(T - \alpha)$ ,  $x \in V_\alpha(T)$ ,  $T_n$  and  $T_s$  stabilize each  $V_\alpha(T)$  and so  $T_n$  and  $T_s$  commute. Note that  $T$  is nilpotent if and only if  $T^n = 0$  for some  $n > 0$ .

Lemma 1.3.2. Let  $T \in \text{Hom } V$  be split over  $F$ . Let  $T = S + N$ , where  $S$  is semisimple,  $N$  is nilpotent, and  $SN = NS$ . Then  $S = T_s$  and  $N = T_n$ .

Proof. Since  $SN = NS$ ,  $N$  and  $S$  stabilize each  $V_\alpha(T)$ . If  $xS = \beta x$  for  $x \in V_\alpha(T)$ ,  $xN = x(T - \beta)$  and so  $S$  has only one eigenvalue  $\alpha$  on  $V_\alpha(T)$ . Since  $S$  is semisimple, this implies  $S |_{V_\alpha(T)} = \alpha I_{V_\alpha(T)}$ ,  $\alpha \in F$  and  $S = T_s$ . Thus  $N = T - S = T - T_s = T_n$ . //

Theorem 1.3.3. Let  $T \in \text{Hom } V$  be split over  $F$ . Define  $\text{ad } T \in \text{Hom}(\text{Hom } V)$  by

$$S \text{ ad } T = [S, T] = ST - TS, \quad S \in \text{Hom } V.$$

Then  $\text{ad } T$  is split over  $F$ , and  $(\text{ad } T)_S = \text{ad } T_S$  and  $(\text{ad } T)_n = \text{ad } T_n$ .

Proof. First, note that  $\text{ad}[S, T] = [\text{ad } S, \text{ad } T]$ . Thus  $\text{ad } T_S \text{ ad } T_n = \text{ad } T_n \text{ ad } T_S$  since  $T_S T_n = T_n T_S$ . In view of Lemma 1.3.2, it suffices to show that  $\text{ad } T_S$  is split over  $F$  and semisimple, and  $\text{ad } T_n$  is nilpotent. One can choose a basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  for  $V$  consisting of eigenvectors for  $T_S$ , so that  $e_i T_S = \alpha_i e_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Let  $\{E_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$  be the basis for  $\text{Hom}_F V$  such that  $e_k E_{ij} = \delta_{ik} e_j$  where  $\delta_{ik}$  is the Kronecker delta. Since  $T_S = \sum \alpha_i E_{ii}$ , we have  $E_{ij} \text{ ad } T_S = (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) E_{ij}$ . Thus  $\text{ad } T_S$  is split over  $F$  and semisimple. Let  $T_n^q = 0$ . Since  $Y (\text{ad } T_n)^m = \sum T_n^r Y T_n^{m-r}$ ,  $(\text{ad } T_n)^{2q} = 0$  and  $\text{ad } T_n$  is nilpotent. //

Definition 1.3.3. Let  $T \in \text{Hom}_F V$ ,  $\dim V < \infty$ . Let  $V_0 = V_0(T) = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} \ker T^i$  and  $V_* = V_*(T) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} VT^i$ . Then  $V_0$  and  $V_*$  are called the Fitting 0-component and 1-component of  $V$  with respect to  $T$ . //

Fitting Lemma 1.3.4. For any  $T \in \text{Hom}_F V$ ,  $V = V_0 \oplus V_*$ ,  $V_0$  and  $V_*$  are  $T$ -stable, and  $T$  is bijective on  $V_*$ .

Proof. Note that  $V \supset VT \supset VT^2 \supset \dots$  and  $\ker T \subset \ker T^2 \subset \dots$ . Since  $\dim V < \infty$ , there exist  $p, q$  such that  $VT^p = VT^{p+1} = \dots$  and  $\ker T^q = \ker T^{q+1} = \dots$ . If  $t = \max(p, q)$  then  $V_0 = \ker T^t$  and  $V_* = VT^t$ . For  $x \in V$ , one gets  $sT^t = yT^{2t}$  for some  $y \in V$  and  $x = (x - yT^t) + yT^t$  with  $x - yT^t \in V_0$  and  $yT^t \in V_*$ , so  $V = V_0 + V_*$ . If  $z \in V_0 \cap V_*$ ,  $z = uT^t$ ,  $u \in V$ , and  $0 = zT^t = uT^{2t}$ . Since  $\ker T^t = \ker T^{2t}$ ,  $uT^t = z = 0$  and so  $V = V_0 \oplus V_*$ . Since  $V_*T = VT^{t+1} = VT^t = V_*$ ,  $T$  is surjective on  $V_*$  and so bijective on  $V_*$ . //

Let  $f(X)$  be the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  on  $V$  and let  $f(X) = \prod f_i(X)^{e_i}$  be the prime factorization of  $f(X)$  with  $f_1(X) = x^{e_1}$ . Put

$$V_i = \{x \in V \mid xf_i(T)^k = 0 \text{ for some } k > 0\}.$$

Then, as in the proof of Theorem 1.3.1, we see that

$$V = \Sigma \oplus V_i. \tag{1.3}$$

The decomposition (1.3) is called the primary decomposition of  $V$  relative to  $T$ . It is routine to check that  $T$  is bijective on each  $V_i$  for  $i \geq 2$ ,  $V_1 = V_0(T)$  and

$\sum_{i \geq 2} V_i = V_*(T)$  . Since  $V = V_0 \oplus V_*$  is direct,  $f(X)$  is the product of the characteristic polynomials of  $T$  on  $V_0$  and  $V_*$  . Thus  $\dim V_0 = e_1$  , the multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $0$  in  $f(X)$  . //

#### 1.4. Derivations

Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$  . For  $a \in A$  , let  $L_a$  and  $R_a$  be the elements in  $\text{Hom}_F A$  defined by  $xL_a = ax$ ,  $xR_a = xa$  for  $x \in A$  . We call  $L_a$  and  $R_a$  the left and right multiplications in  $A$  by  $a$  . The adjoint mapping  $\text{ad } a$  by  $a$  is the element in  $\text{Hom } A$  defined by  $x \text{ ad } a = [x, a] = xa - ax$ ,  $x \in A$  . If  $S$  is a subset of  $A$  , denote  $L_S = \{L_a \mid a \in S\}$  .

For an algebra  $A$  over  $F$  , denote by  $A^-$  the algebra with multiplication  $[x, y] = xy - yx$  defined on the same vector space as  $A$  . If  $\text{char } F \neq 2$ , define  $A^+$  as the algebra over  $F$  with multiplication  $x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx)$ , called the Jordan product, with the same underlying space as  $A$  .

Definition 1.4.1. An algebra  $A$  over a field  $F$  with multiplication  $[xy]$  is called a Lie algebra if  $A$  satisfies

- 1)  $[xx] = 0, x \in A,$
- 2) the Jacobi identity  $[xy]z + [yz]x + [zx]y = 0$   
 $x, y, z \in A. \quad //$

Note that if  $\text{char } F \neq 2, [xx] = 0$  is equivalent to the anticommutative law  $[xy] = -[yx]$ . Various types of Lie algebras will be discussed later.

Definition 1.4.2. An algebra  $A$  is said to be Lie-admissible if the associated algebra  $A^-$  is a Lie algebra, that is,  $A^-$  satisfies the Jacobi identity

$$[[x, y], z] + [[y, z], x] + [[z, x], y] = 0. \quad //$$

It is readily seen that any Lie and associative algebras are Lie-admissible. Various classes of (nonassociative) Lie-admissible algebras will be explored later. To express the Lie-admissible condition into a more convenient form, we introduce the notation

$$S(x, y, z) \equiv (x, y, z) + (y, z, x) + (z, x, y)$$

where  $(x, y, z)$  is the associator of  $x, y, z$  in  $A$ . Then, by a direct computation, one checks that the identity

$$[xy, z] + [yz, x] + [zx, y] = S(x, y, z) \quad (1.4)$$

holds in any algebra  $A$ . Thus  $A$  satisfies the identity

$$S(x, y, z) - S(x, z, y) = [[x, y], z] + [[y, z], x] + [[z, x], y]$$

Therefore, we have

Lemma 1.4.1. An algebra  $A$  over  $F$  is Lie-admissible if and only if  $A$  satisfies  $S(x, y, z) = S(x, z, y), x, y, z \in A$ . //

While the algebraic origin of Lie-admissible algebras arises as a byproduct of the study of nonassociative algebras defined by identities, the analytic origin of Lie-admissibility stems from a nonassociative product formed in terms of partial differential equations in a space of differentiable functions which are defined on a  $C^\infty$ -manifold. Lie-admissible algebras have been utilized to construct a nonassociative quantization of forces or couplings not derivable from a potential. Thus Lie-admissible algebras have direct physical relevances in both classical and quantum mechanics (see R.M. Santilli, "Lie-admissible approach to the hadronic structure," Vol. 1,2, Hadronic Press, Nonantum, Mass. 1979).

It has been observed that the general Lie-admissible algebras are too broad to obtain a fruitful structure theory (see H.C. Myung, "On nonflexible Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 1,(1978), 1021-1143).

Definition 1.4.3. A Lie-admissible algebra  $A$  is called flexible Lie-admissible if  $A$  is a flexible algebra, that is,  $A$  satisfies the flexible law

$$(xy)x = x(yx) \quad // \quad (1.6)$$

Note that the associative and Lie algebras are flexible Lie-admissible. The flexible law is also written as  $(x,y,x) = 0$  which is equivalent to

$$(x,y,z) = -(z,y,x) \quad (1.7)$$

if  $\text{char } F \neq 2$ . The study of flexible Lie-admissible algebras was first initiated by A.A.Albert ("Power-associative rings" Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 64(1948), 552-597), and the structure of these algebras have been investigated by Laufer and Tomber, Myung, and Okubo (for a review, see H.C.Myung, "Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 1(1978), 169-193). Applications of flexible Lie-admissible algebras to physics have been recently pointed out in particular reference to a generalization of the Heisenberg equation by a number of authors

(see Santilli's monographs cited above; C.N. Ktorides, H.C. Myung and R.M. Santilli, "Elaboration of the recently proposed test of Pauli's principle under strong interactions", Phys. Rev. D22 (1980), 892-907; H.C. Myung and R.M. Santilli, "Further studies on the recently proposed experimental test of Pauli's exclusion principle for the strong interactions", Proc. of the 2nd Workshop on Lie-admissible Formulations, held at Harvard University, August 1979, Hadronic J. 3(1979), 194-255, S. Okubo, "Non-associative quantum mechanics via flexible Lie-admissible algebras, Proc. of the 3rd Workshop on Current Problems in High Energy Particle Theory, held at Florence, Italy, 1979, Edit. R. Casabuni, G. Domokos and S.K. Domokos, John Hopkins Univ. Press, (1979), 103-120, and "A generalization of Hurwitz theorem and flexible Lie-admissible algebras", Proc. of the 2nd Workshop on Lie-admissible Formulations, Hadronic J. 3(1979), 1-52).

Definition 1.4.3. Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  $F$ . Then an element  $D \in \text{Hom}_F A$  is called a derivation of  $A$  if

$$(xy)D = (xD)y + x(yD) \quad , \quad x, y \in A \quad . \quad (1.8)$$

Denote by  $\text{Der } A$  the set of derivations of  $A$ . //



In terms of the left and right multiplications  $L_x$  and  $R_x$ , (1.8) is expressed as

$$L_x D = L_{xD} + DL_x \quad \text{or} \quad L_{xD} = [L_x, D], \quad (1.9)$$

$$R_y D = DR_y + R_{yD} \quad \text{or} \quad R_{yD} = [R_y, D] \quad (1.10)$$

for  $x, y \in A$ . Since the Jacobi identity in  $A^-$  is equivalent to the fact that all adjoint mappings  $\text{ad } x$  are derivations of  $A^-$ , in view of (1.9) or (1.10)  $A$  is Lie-admissible if and only if

$$\text{ad}[x, y] = [\text{ad } x, \text{ad } y] \quad (1.11)$$

for all  $x, y \in A$ . In this case, notice that  $\text{ad } x$  is not necessarily a derivation of  $A$  (why?) .

Suppose that  $A$  is an algebra over a field  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$ . For  $x \in A$ , define  $T_x \in \text{Hom } A$  by  $T_x = \frac{1}{2}(R_x + L_x)$ . We contend that the following identities are equivalent.

$$(xy)x = x(yx) ; \text{ the flexible law ,} \quad (1.12)$$

$$(x, y, z) + (z, y, x) = 0 , \quad (1.13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (x, y, z) + (z, y, x) + (x, z, y) + (y, z, x) \\ & = (y, x, z) + (z, x, y) , \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

$$[x, y \cdot z] = [x, y] \cdot z + y \cdot [x, z] . \quad (1.15)$$

As noted earlier, (1.12)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1.13) . Clearly,  
 (1.13)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1.14), while (1.14)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1.12) with  $x = z$  .  
 By a direct expansion, one sees (1.14)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (1.15) .  
 Since (1.15) is to say that each  $\text{ad } x$  is a derivation  
 of  $A^+$  , we can state

Lemma 1.4.2. Let  $\text{char } F \neq 2$  . Then  $A$  is  
 flexible if and only if  $\text{ad } A \subseteq \text{Der } A^+$  if and only if  
 $T_{[x,y]} = [T_x, \text{ad } y]$   $x, y \in A$  . //

Theorem 1.4.3. Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  
 $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$  . Then  $A$  is flexible Lie-admissible  
 if and only if  $\text{ad } A \subseteq \text{Der } A$  .

Proof. If  $A$  is flexible and Lie-admissible, then,  
 in view of (1.11) and Lemma 1.4.2, we have

$$\text{ad}[x,y] + 2T_{[x,y]} = [\text{ad } x, \text{ad } y] + [2T_x, \text{ad } y]$$

which implies

$$R_{[x,y]} = [R_x, \text{ad } y] \tag{1.16}$$

for  $x, y \in A$  , so, by (1.10),  $\text{ad } A \subseteq \text{Der } A$  .

If  $\text{ad } A \subseteq \text{Der } A$  ,  $\text{ad } A \subseteq \text{Der } A^-$  and  $A$  is  
 Lie-admissible. Also, (1.16) implies the flexible law  
 with  $x = y$  . //

Theorem 1.4.4. For any algebra  $A$  over  $F$ ,  $\text{Der } A$  is a subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F A)^-$ . That is,  $\text{Der } A$  is closed under the Lie product  $[D, E] = DE - ED$ .

Proof. By the Jacobi identity and (1.9),

$$\begin{aligned} [L_x, [D, E]] &= [[L_x, D], E] + [D, [L_x, E]] \\ &= [L_{xD}, E] + [D, L_{xE}] \\ &= L_{xDE} - L_{xED} \\ &= L_x[D, E] \quad // \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1.4.5. For  $D \in \text{Der } A$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ ,

$$(xy)(D - \alpha - \beta)^n = \sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} x(D - \alpha)^m y(D - \beta)^{n-m}$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and  $x, y \in A$ .

Proof. By induction, if  $n = 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (xy)(D - \alpha - \beta) &= (xD)y - \alpha(xy) + x(yD) - \beta(xy) \\ &= x[y(D - \beta)] + [x(D - \alpha)]y \end{aligned}$$

Assume  $(xy)(D - \alpha - \beta)^{n-1} = \sum \binom{n-1}{m} x(D - \alpha)^m y(D - \beta)^{n-m-1}$ .

Then  $(xy)(D - \alpha - \beta)^n$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum \binom{n-1}{m} x(D - \alpha)^{m+1} y(D - \beta)^{n-(m+1)} \\ &+ \sum \binom{n-1}{m} x(D - \alpha)^m y(D - \beta)^{n-m} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum \binom{n}{m} x(D - \alpha)^m y(D - \beta)^{n-m}$$

since  $\binom{n-1}{m-1} + \binom{n-1}{m} = \binom{n}{m}$  for  $n > m$ . //

Corollary 1.4.6. (Leibniz's rule). For  $D \in \text{Der } A$ ,

$$(xy)D^n = \sum \binom{n}{m} xD^m yD^{n-m}. //$$

Let  $p > 0$  be a prime. Since  $p \mid \binom{p}{i}$

for  $1 \leq i < p$ , we have from Corollary 1.4.6

Corollary 1.4.7. If  $\text{char } F = p > 0$  then  $D^p \in \text{Der } A$  for  $D \in \text{Der } A$ . //

Corollary 1.4.8. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional algebra over  $F$ . Let  $D \in \text{Der } A$ . Then  $A_\alpha(D) A_\beta(D) \subseteq A_{\alpha+\beta}(D)$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in F$  and  $A_0(D)$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . If  $D$  is split over  $F$ , then  $A_0(D)A_*(D) \subseteq A_*(D)$  and  $A_*(D)A_0(D) \subseteq A_*(D)$ .

Proof. Let  $x \in A_\alpha(D)$ ,  $y \in A_\beta(D)$  and pick an  $r$  such that  $x(D - \alpha)^r = y(D - \beta)^r = 0$ . Letting  $n = 2r$  in Lemma 1.4.5,  $(xy)(D - \alpha - \beta)^n = 0$  and  $A_\alpha(D)A_\beta(D) \subseteq A_{\alpha+\beta}(D)$ . So,  $A_0(D)$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . If  $D$  is split over  $F$ , by the remark following the primary decomposition we have  $A_*(D) = \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} A_\alpha(D)$  and the second assertion follows from this. //

Lemma 1.4.9. Let  $A$  be finite-dimensional over  $F$  and let  $D \in \text{Hom}_F A$  be semisimple and split over  $F$ . Then  $D \in \text{Der } A$  if and only if  $A_\alpha(D)A_\beta(D) \subseteq A_{\alpha+\beta}(D)$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ .

Proof. Let  $x \in A_\alpha(D)$ ,  $y \in A_\beta(D)$ . If  $xy \in A_{\alpha+\beta}(D)$  then since  $D$  is semisimple,  $(xy)D = (\alpha + \beta)xy = (\alpha x)y + x(\beta y) = (xD)y + x(yD)$ . Since  $A = \sum_\alpha A_\alpha(D)$ ,  $D \in \text{Der } A$ . The converse follows from Corollary 1.4.8. //

Corollary 1.4.10. Let  $\dim A < \infty$  and let  $D \in \text{Der } A$  be split over  $F$ . Then  $D_s$  and  $D_n$  are in  $\text{Der } A$ .

Proof. If  $D$  is split over  $F$ , so is  $D_s$ . Since  $A = \sum_\alpha A_\alpha(D) = \sum_\alpha A_\alpha(D_s)$  and  $A_\alpha(D) \subset A_\alpha(D_s)$ ,  $A_\alpha(D) = A_\alpha(D_s)$ . Thus  $D_s \in \text{Der } A$  by Lemma 1.4.9, and  $D_n = D - D_s \in \text{Der } A$ . //

Lemma 1.4.11. Let  $D \in \text{Der } A$  be nilpotent and let  $\text{char } F = 0$ . Then  $\exp D = e^D = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} D^m/m!$  is an automorphism of  $A$ .

Proof. Let  $n$  be such that  $D^{n+1} = 0$ . Then

$$xe^D ye^D = \sum_{m=0}^{2n} \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{x D^i}{i!} \frac{y D^{m-i}}{(m-i)!} .$$

By Leibniz's rule

$$\begin{aligned}
 (xy)e^D &= \sum_{m=0}^n (xy) \frac{D^m}{m!} = \sum_{m=0}^n \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{1}{i!} \binom{m}{i} xD^i yD^{m-i} \\
 &= \sum_{m=0}^{2n} \sum_{i=0}^m \frac{xD^i}{i!} \frac{yD^{m-i}}{(m-i)!}
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $xD^i = yD^i = 0$  for  $i > n$ . //

### 1.5. Solvability and radical

Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$ . For subspaces  $B, C$  of  $A$ , denote by  $BC$  the subspace of  $A$  spanned by  $bc, b \in B, c \in C$ .

Definition 1.5.1. The subalgebras  $A^{(i)}$ ,  $i \geq 0$ , are recursively defined by  $A^{(0)} = A, A^{(i)} = A^{(i-1)}A^{(i-1)}$  for  $i > 1$ . For a subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$ ,  $B^{(i)}$  is similarly defined. Then  $B$  is called solvable if  $B^{(i)} = 0$  for some  $i > 0$ . //

Note that if  $A$  is Lie or associative,  $A^{(i)}$  is an ideal of  $A$  by the Jacobi identity.

Lemma 1.5.1. Let  $B$  be an ideal of  $A$ . Then  $A$  is solvable if and only if  $B$  and  $A/B$  are solvable.

Proof. Clearly  $(A/B)^{(i)} = (A^{(i)} + B)/B$  and  $B^{(i)} \subseteq A^{(i)}$ . Thus if  $A$  is solvable then so are  $B$  and  $A/B$ . If  $B$  and  $A/B$  are solvable, choose  $i, j$  such that  $(A/B)^{(i)} = 0$  and  $B^{(j)} = 0$ . Thus  $A^{(i)} \subseteq B$  and  $A^{(i+j)} = (A^{(i)})^{(j)} = 0$ . //

As an immediate consequence of Lemma 1.5.1, we have

Corollary 1.5.2. If  $B$  is a solvable ideal of  $A$  and  $C$  is a solvable subalgebra then  $B + C$  is solvable. //

If  $B$  and  $C$  are maximal solvable ideals of  $A$ , then by Corollary 1.5.2,  $B + C$  is solvable, so  $B = B + C = C$ . Therefore, if  $A$  is finite-dimensional,  $A$  contains a unique maximal solvable ideal which is called the (solvable) radical of  $A$  and denoted by  $\text{Rad } A$ .

Definition 1.5.2. An algebra  $A$  over  $F$  is called semisimple if  $A$  has no nonzero solvable ideal. //

If  $A$  is finite-dimensional, then  $A/\text{Rad } A$  is semisimple and  $A$  is semisimple if and only if  $\text{Rad } A = 0$ . Denote by  $M(A)$  the (associative) subalgebra of  $\text{Hom}_F A$  generated by  $L_x, R_x, x \in A$ .

Lemma 1.5.3.  $A$  is simple if and only if  $A$  is  $M(A)$ -irreducible.  $A$  is the direct sum of simple ideals of  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is  $M(A)$ -completely reducible.

Proof. The first assertion as well as one direction of the second is obvious. Let  $A$  be  $M(A)$ -completely reducible. Then  $A = \Sigma \oplus A_i$  where the  $A_i$  are  $M(A)$ -irreducible  $M(A)$ -submodules of  $A$ . So,  $A_i$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Note that  $A_i A_j = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  since  $A_i A_j \subset A_i \cap A_j$ . Thus an ideal of  $A_i$  is an ideal of  $A$  and  $A_i^2 = A_i A \neq 0$  since  $A_i M(A) = A_i$ . Hence each  $A_i$  has no proper ideal and  $A_i^2 = A_i$ , so  $A_i$  is simple. //

Corollary 1.5.4. Let  $\dim A < \infty$  and let  $A = \Sigma \oplus A_i$  with  $A_i$  simple ideals of  $A$ . Then every ideal  $B$  of  $A$  is a sum of some  $A_i$ 's. In particular, the  $A_i$  are the only simple ideals of  $A$ .

Proof. By Lemma 1.5.3,  $A$  is  $M(A)$ -completely reducible. Thus  $B$  has an  $M(A)$ -complement  $C$ , so that  $C$  is an ideal of  $A$  and  $A = B \oplus C$ . Since  $A = A^2$ ,  $A = BA \oplus CA$  and  $B = BA = \Sigma BA_i$ . Since  $B \cap A_i$  is an ideal of  $A_i$ ,  $B \cap A_i = 0$  or  $A_i$ . Thus  $B$  is the sum of those  $A_i$ 's with  $B \cap A_i = A_i$  ( $B \cap A_i = A_i$  implies  $BA_i = A_i$ ). //

If  $A$  is a direct sum of simple ideals,  $A$  is semisimple by Corollary 1.5.4. The converse is not true; however, we will see in the next section that the converse holds when  $A$  has a suitable nondegenerate bilinear form.



1.6. Algebras with invariant forms

Let  $( , )$  be symmetric bilinear form on a vector space  $V$  over  $F$ . For  $S \subseteq V$ , define  $S^\perp = \{x \in V \mid (x,y) = 0 \text{ for all } y \in S\}$ . Call  $V^\perp$  the radical of  $V$ . If  $V^\perp = 0$ ,  $( , )$  is nondegenerate. If we define  $( , )'$  on  $V/V^\perp$  by  $(x + V^\perp, y + V^\perp)' = (x,y)$ ,  $x,y \in V$ ,  $( , )'$  is nondegenerate on  $V/V^\perp$ .

Definition 1.6.1. Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$ . An invariant form  $( , )$  on  $A$  is a symmetric bilinear form on  $A$  satisfying the associative law

$$(xy,z) = (x,yz), \quad x,y \in A. \quad (1.17)$$

If  $( , )$  is nondegenerate, call  $A$  a symmetric algebra.

Note that if  $( , )$  is an invariant form on  $A$ , then  $A/A^\perp$  is a symmetric algebra. Observe that if  $B$  is an ideal of  $A$ , so is  $B^\perp$  by (1.17).

Theorem 1.6.1(Dieudonné). Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional symmetric algebra over a field  $F$  such that there is no nonzero ideal  $B$  with  $B^2 = 0$ . Then  $A = \Sigma \oplus A_i$  where the  $A_i$  are simple ideals of  $A$  and symmetric with  $(A_i, A_j) = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Proof. Let  $(, )$  be a nondegenerate invariant form on  $A$ . Let  $B$  be any ideal of  $A$ . First we show that  $C = B \cap B^\perp = 0$ . Since  $C \subseteq B$  and  $CA \subseteq B^\perp$ , by (1.17)  $(xy, z) = (x, yz) = 0$  for  $x, y \in C$  and  $z \in A$ . Thus  $C^2 \subseteq A^\perp = 0$  and  $C^2 = 0$ , so  $C = 0$ . Since  $\dim A = \dim B + \dim B^\perp$ , this proves  $A = B \oplus B^\perp$ . Hence  $A$  is  $M(A)$ -completely reducible and by Lemma 1.5.3  $A = A_1 \oplus \dots \oplus A_n$  where the  $A_i$  are simple ideals of  $A$ . Since  $(A_i, A_j) = (A_i^2, A_j) = (A_i, A_i A_j) = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ , each  $A_i$  is symmetric too. //

If  $A = \Sigma \oplus A_i$  where the  $A_i$  are simple symmetric ideals of  $A$  then  $A$  is semisimple by Corollary 1.5.4 and is symmetric.

Exercise 1.6.1. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional symmetric algebra with  $(, )$  over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$ . Prove :

(1) If  $A$  satisfies third-power-associativity  $xx^2 = x^2x$  for all  $x \in A$  then  $A$  is flexible.

(2) If  $\text{char } F \neq 2, 3, 5$  and  $A$  satisfies  $xx^2 = x^2x$  and  $x^2x^2 = xx^3$  for all  $x \in A$  then  $A$  satisfies the Jordan identity

$$(x^2y)x = x^2(yx) . \quad (1.18)$$

A flexible algebra satisfying (1.18) is called a noncommutative Jordan algebra

Exercise 1.6.2. Let  $\text{char } F \neq 2$ . An algebra  $A$  over  $F$  is called Jordan-admissible if the algebra  $A^+$  is a Jordan algebra; that is,  $A^+$  satisfies  $x^2 \cdot (y \cdot x) = (x^2 \cdot y) \cdot x$ . Prove that  $A$  is a noncommutative Jordan algebra if and only if  $A$  is flexible Jordan-admissible.

Definition 1.6.2. Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over  $F$  and  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over  $F$ . Then a representation  $f$  of  $L$  acting on  $V$  is a homomorphism of  $L$  into  $(\text{Hom}_F V)^-$ . That is,  $f([xy]) = [f(x), f(y)]$ ,  $x, y \in L$ . Also, define  $(x, y) = (x, y)_f = \text{Tr} f(x)f(y)$  and call  $(x, y)$  the trace form of  $L$  with respect to  $f$ . The mapping  $\text{ad} : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom } L)^-$  defined by  $x \rightarrow \text{ad } x$  becomes a representation acting on  $L$ , called the adjoint representation of  $L$ . The trace form  $K(, )$  of  $L$  with respect to  $\text{ad}$  is called the Killing form of  $L$ . //

Lemma 1.6.2. The trace form  $(, ) = (, )_f$  is an invariant form on  $L$ .

Proof. 
$$([x, y], z) = \text{Tr } f([xy]) f(z)$$

$$= \text{Tr } [f(x), f(y)] f(z)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \text{Tr } f(x) f(y) f(z) - \text{Tr } f(y) f(x) f(z) \\
 &= \text{Tr } f(x) f(y) f(z) - \text{Tr } f(x) f(z) f(y) \\
 &= \text{Tr } f(x) [f(y), f(z)] \\
 &= (x, [yz]) . \quad //
 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1.6.3. Let the Killing form  $K( , )$  be nondegenerate on  $L$ . Then  $L = \Sigma \oplus L_i$  where the  $L_i$  are simple ideals of  $L$  and  $K( , )$  is nondegenerate on each  $L_i$ . In particular,  $L$  is semisimple.

Proof. Let  $B$  be an ideal of  $A$  with  $B^2 = 0$ . Then  $B \text{ ad } B \text{ ad } L = 0$  and  $L \text{ ad } B \text{ ad } L \subset B$ . Thus  $K(b, x) = \text{Tr}(\text{ad } b \text{ ad } x) = 0$  for all  $b \in B, x \in L$  and so  $B \subset L^\perp = 0$ . The result then follows from Theorem 1.6.1. //

## 2. POLYNOMIAL MAPPINGS

### 2.1. The Zariski topology

Let  $V$  and  $V'$  be vector spaces over a field  $F$  and let  $\dim V = m$ ,  $\dim V' = n$ . Let  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{e'_j\}$  be basis for  $V$  and  $V'$ , respectively. A mapping  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  is called a polynomial mapping with respect to  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $\{e'_j\}$  if

$$f(\sum \alpha_i e_i) = \sum f_j(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) e'_j,$$

where  $f_j \in F[X_1, \dots, X_m]$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . A polynomial mapping  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  is called a polynomial function on  $V$ . Note that  $\text{Hom}_F(V, V')$  consists of polynomial mappings. Denote by  $F[V]$  the set of polynomial functions on  $V$ . Then  $F[V]$  becomes a commutative associative algebra over  $F$  with multiplication defined by  $(fg)(x) = f(x)g(x)$ ,  $x \in V$ .

Henceforth we assume that  $F$  is infinite. Thus  $F[V]$  is an  $F$ -algebra which is an integral domain.

If  $f \in F[V]$ , define  $V_f = \{x \in V \mid f(x) \neq 0\}$ .

Then  $V_1 = V$ ,  $V_0 = \phi$ , and  $V_{f_1} \cap \dots \cap V_{f_n} = V_{f_1 f_2 \dots f_n}$ .

The Zariski topology in  $V$  is the topology for  $V$  having the  $V_f$ ,  $f \in F[V]$ , as a basis of open sets.

Note that this topology is not Hausdorff. Let  $P$  be a subset of  $F[X_1, \dots, X_m]$  and identify  $V$  with  $F^m$ .

Let

$$\mathcal{Z}(P) = \{x = (x_1, \dots, x_m) \in V \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in P\}.$$

Then the Zariski closed sets in  $V$  are the sets  $\mathcal{Z}(P)$ .

Let  $I$  be the ideal of  $F[X_1, \dots, X_m]$  generated by  $P$ .

Clearly  $\mathcal{Z}(P) = \mathcal{Z}(I) = \mathcal{Z}(\{f_1, \dots, f_r\})$  by the Hilbert Basis Theorem, where  $f_1, \dots, f_r \in I$ . Thus the closed sets are the affine varieties in  $V$  over  $F$ .

Lemma 2.1.1. Every nonempty open set in  $V$  is dense in  $V$ .

Proof. Let  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  be nonempty open sets in  $V$ . It is enough to show  $U_1 \cap U_2 \neq \phi$ . Assume  $U_i \neq V$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , and let  $f_1, f_2$  be nonconstant polynomials such that  $U_i \supset V_{f_i}$ .

Then  $V_{f_1 f_2} = V_{f_1} \cap V_{f_2} \neq \emptyset$  since  $f_1 f_2 \neq 0$  and  $F$  is infinite. Thus  $U_1 \cap U_2 \neq \emptyset$ . //

Lemma 2.1.2. Any polynomial mapping of  $V$  into  $V'$  is continuous with respect to the Zariski topology.

Proof. Let  $\dim V = m$  and  $\dim V' = n$ , and let  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  be a polynomial mapping. Let  $S$  be a closed subset of  $V'$ , so  $S = \mathcal{Z}(\{g_1, \dots, g_r\})$ . Let  $f(x) = \sum_j f_j(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) e'_j$ , where  $x = \sum \alpha_i e_i \in V$ . Put

$$h_i(X_1, \dots, X_m) = g_i(f_1(X_1, \dots, X_m), \dots, f_n(X_1, \dots, X_m)),$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, r.$$

It is routine to check that  $f^{-1}(S) = \mathcal{Z}(\{h_1, \dots, h_r\})$  and hence  $f^{-1}(S)$  is closed. //

## 2.2. Differentials

Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  and  $\{e'_1, \dots, e'_n\}$  be basis for  $V$  and  $V'$ , respectively.





Definition 2.2.2. Let  $p : V \rightarrow V'$  be a polynomial mapping. Define the mapping  $\sigma_p : F[V'] \rightarrow F[V]$  by  $(\sigma_p(f))(x) = f(p(x))$ ,  $x \in V$ ,  $f \in F[V']$ . //

Clearly,  $\sigma_p$  is an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism. Let  $\pi_i$  be the element in  $F[V]$  given by  $\pi_i(\sum \alpha_j e_j) = \alpha_i$ . Call  $\pi_i$  the  $i$ -th projection. Then  $F[V]$  is generated by  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m$ , i.e.,

$$F[V] = F[\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m]. \quad (1.21)$$

For each  $y \in V$ , define the mapping  $\tau_y : F[V] \rightarrow F$  by  $\tau_y(f) = f(y)$ ,  $f \in F[V]$ . Then  $\tau_y$  is an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism. Any  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\lambda : F[V] \rightarrow F$  is described in this way. Indeed, let  $\alpha_i = \lambda(\pi_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , and let  $y = \sum \alpha_i e_i$ . By (1.21) any  $f \in F[V]$  is of the form  $f = f(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m)$  and hence  $\lambda(f) = f(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) = \tau_y(f)$ . Also,  $\tau_x = \tau_y$  if and only if  $x = y$ . Thus we have

Lemma 2.2.1. For any  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\lambda : F[V] \rightarrow F$ , there is a unique  $y \in V$  such that  $\tau_y = \lambda$ . //

Lemma 2.2.2. Let  $F$  be a perfect field. Let  $p : V \rightarrow V'$  be a polynomial mapping. If  $d_a p$  is surjective for some  $a \in V$  then  $\sigma_p : F[V'] \rightarrow F[V]$  is an isomorphism.

Proof. Let  $\dim V = m$  and  $\dim V' = n$ . Write  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$  and  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$ , so that  $g(\beta) = g(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$ ,  $g \in F[X] = F[X_1, \dots, X_m]$ . Suppose that  $\sigma_p$  is not injective. Then, there is an  $f = f(Y_1, \dots, Y_n) \neq 0$  such that  $\sigma_p(f) = 0$ , so that  $0 = f(p(y)) = f(p_1(\beta), \dots, p_n(\beta))$  for all  $y = \sum \beta_i e_i \in V$  where  $p(y) = \sum p_i(\beta) e_i$ . Since  $F$  is infinite, this implies  $f(p_1(X), \dots, p_n(X)) = 0$  and so  $p_1(X), \dots, p_n(X)$  are algebraically dependent. Let  $f$  be of minimal degree giving the algebraic dependence. By the chain rule we have

$$0 = \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y_j} \right) (p_1(X), \dots, p_n(X)) \frac{\partial p_j}{\partial X_i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m. \quad (1.22)$$

Since  $d_a p$  is surjective,  $n \leq m$  and the matrix  $(\partial p_j / \partial X_i)$  has rank  $n$ . Thus the system (1.22) has the only trivial solution,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial Y_j} (p_1(X), \dots, p_n(X)) = 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Since  $\deg(\partial f / \partial Y_j) < \deg f$ , it follows that  $\partial f / \partial Y_j = 0$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Thus, if  $\text{char } F = 0$ ,  $f$  is a nonzero constant, which is absurd. If  $\text{char } F = p > 0$ ,  $f$  is a polynomial in  $Y_1^p, \dots, Y_n^p$  and so  $f = g^p$  since  $F$  is perfect. This contradicts the minimality of  $f$ . //

2.3. Extension of homomorphisms

Theorem 2.3.1. Let  $A'$  be an  $F$ -algebra which is an integral domain,  $K$  be an algebraically closed extension field of  $F$  and  $R$  be an  $F$ -subalgebra of  $A'$  containing  $1$ . Let  $S = R[z_1, \dots, z_n]$ ,  $z_i \in A'$ . Let  $f$  be any nonzero element in  $S$ . Then there exists a nonzero element  $g \in R$  such that if  $\delta : R \rightarrow K$  is any  $F$ -algebra homomorphism with  $g\delta \neq 0$ , then  $\delta$  can be extended to an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\tau : S \rightarrow K$  such that  $f\tau \neq 0$ .

Proof.(Chevalley). To proceed by induction, let  $S = R[z]$ .

Case 1 :  $z$  is transcendental over  $R$ . Since  $f \in R[z]$ ,  $f = a_0 + \dots + a_k z^k$  with  $a_k \neq 0$ . Put  $g = a_k$  and let  $\delta : R \rightarrow K$  be an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism with  $g\delta \neq 0$ . Let  $\bar{f}(X) = a_0\delta + \dots + (a_k\delta) X^k \in K[X]$ . Then  $\bar{f}(X) \neq 0$  and there is an  $\alpha \in K$  such that  $\bar{f}(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Since  $z$  is transcendental over  $R$ , the mapping  $\tau : R[z] \rightarrow K$  defined by  $(\sum b_i z^i)\tau = \sum (b_i\delta)\alpha^i$  gives an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism such that  $\tau|_R = \delta$  and  $f\tau = \bar{f}(\alpha) \neq 0$

Case 2 :  $z$  is algebraic over  $R$  . Let  $p(x)$  be a polynomial in  $R[X]$  of minimal degree with  $p(z) = 0$  and let  $p(X) = a_0 + \dots + a_n X^n$  with  $a_n \neq 0$  . Then  $p(X) = a_n h(X)$  where  $h(X)$  is monic in  $Q[X]$  ,  $Q$  the quotient field of  $R$  . Thus  $h(X)$  is the minimum polynomial of  $z$  over  $Q$  . Let  $k(X) = b_0 + \dots + b_m X^m$  be a minimum polynomial of  $f$  over  $R$  .

Then  $b_0 \neq 0$  and set  $g = ab_0 \neq 0$  . We show that  $g$  is a desired element. Let  $\delta : R \rightarrow K$  be an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism with  $g\delta \neq 0$  . Let  $\alpha \in K$  be a root of  $p^\delta(X) = a_0\delta + \dots + (a_n\delta)X^n \neq 0$  . For each  $q(z) = \sum q_i z^i \in R[z]$  , define  $\tau : R[z] \rightarrow K$  by

$q(z)\tau = q^\delta(\alpha) = \sum (q_i\delta)\alpha^i$  . Then  $\tau|_R = \delta$  . We show that  $\tau$  is well-defined. Suppose that  $q(z) = 0$  for some  $q(X) \in R[X]$  . Then  $q(x) = c(X)h(X)$  ,  $c(X) \in Q[X]$  and so

$$a_n q(X) = c(X)a_n h(X) = c(X)p(X) . \quad (1.23)$$

Letting  $c(X) = c_0 + c_1 X + \dots + c_t X^t$  and  $q(X) = q_0 + q_1 X + \dots + q_s X^s$  , one computes from (1.23)

$$a_n q_s = a_n c_t \Rightarrow q_s = c_t \in R ,$$

$$a_n q_{s-1} = c_{t-1} a_n + c_t a_{n-1} \Rightarrow c_{t-1} a_n \in R ,$$

$$a_n q_{s-2} = c_{t-2} a_n + c_t a_{n-2} + c_{t-1} a_{n-1} .$$

Multiplying the last equation by  $a_n$ ,  $c_{t-2}a_n^2 \in R$  and continuing this we have that  $c_{t-i}a_n^i \in R$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$ .

Since  $a_n \in R$ , this gives  $c_j a_n^{t+1} \in R$  for all

$j = 0, 1, \dots, t$ . Thus

$$a_n^{t+2}q(X) = a_n^{t+1}c(X)p(X) = \bar{c}(X)p(X) \in R[X]$$

and  $[a_n^{t+2}q(z)] \tau = (a_n \delta)^{t+2}(q^\delta(\alpha)) = \bar{c}^\delta(\alpha)p^\delta(\alpha) = 0$ .

Since  $a_n \delta \neq 0$ ,  $q^\delta(\alpha) = q(z)\tau = 0$ , so  $\tau$  is well-defined. Evidently,  $f\tau \neq 0$  since  $b_0 \neq 0$ .

Suppose that the result holds for  $n - 1$  and let  $B = R[z_n]$ . Then  $S = B[z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}]$ . Let  $f \neq 0$  be in  $S$ . Then there is a  $v \neq 0$  in  $B$  such that if  $\rho : B \rightarrow K$  is any  $F$ -algebra homomorphism with  $v\rho \neq 0$ ,  $\rho$  can be extended to an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\tau : S \rightarrow K$  with  $f\tau \neq 0$ . The case  $n = 1$  applied to  $B$  with  $v \neq 0$  gives the desired homomorphism  $\tau$ . //

Theorem 2.3.2. Let  $F$  be algebraically closed and perfect. Let  $p : V \rightarrow V'$  be a polynomial mapping such that  $d_a p$  is surjective for some  $a \in V$ . For any nonzero  $f \in F[V]$ , there exists a nonzero element  $g \in F[V']$  such that  $p(V_f) \supseteq V'_g$ , or equivalently, there exists  $0 \neq g \in F[V']$  such that if  $g(y) \neq 0$  then  $p(x) = y$  for some  $x \in V$  with  $f(x) \neq 0$ .

Proof. Let  $R = F[V'] \sigma_p$  where  $\sigma_p : F[V'] \rightarrow F[V]$  is an  $F$ -algebra isomorphism by Lemma 2.2.2. Then  $S \equiv F[V] = F[\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m] = R[\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m]$ . By Theorem 2.3.1, there exists a nonzero  $g' \in R$  such that any homomorphism  $\delta : R \rightarrow F$  with  $g'\delta \neq 0$  is extended to an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism  $\tau : S \rightarrow F$  such that  $f\tau \neq 0$ .

Choose a  $g \neq 0$  in  $F[V']$  with  $g\sigma_p = g'$ . Let  $y \in V'$  be any element such that  $g(y) \neq 0$ , i.e.,  $y \in V'_g$ .

Define  $\delta : R \rightarrow F$  by  $(h\sigma_p)\delta = h(y)$ ,  $h \in F[V']$ .

Then  $\delta$  is an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism with  $g'\delta \neq 0$ .

Let  $\tau$  be an extension of  $\delta$  to an  $F$ -algebra homomorphism :  $S \rightarrow F$  such that  $f\tau \neq 0$ . By Lemma 2.2.1  $\tau = \tau_x$  for some  $x \in V$ , so that  $f\tau = \tau_x(f) = f(x) \neq 0$ . For any  $h \in F[V']$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (h\sigma_p)\tau &= (h\sigma_p)\delta = h(y) \\ &= (h\sigma_p)\tau_x = h\sigma_p(x) = h(p(x)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $p(x) = y$  and  $y \in p(V_f)$ . //

Exercise 2.3.1. Let  $K$  be an algebraically closed field containing  $F$  and let  $F[X] = F[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be the polynomial ring in  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  over  $F$ . Let  $S$  be a subset of  $F[X]$ . The set  $\mathcal{Z}_K(S) = \{v \in K^n \mid f(v) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in S\}$  is called an (Zariski)  $F$ -closed set in  $K^n$ .

If  $I$  is an ideal of  $F[X]$ , the radical  $\sqrt{I}$  of  $I$  is defined by  $\sqrt{I} = \{f \in F[X] \mid f^m \in I \text{ for } m > 0\}$ .

Clearly,  $\sqrt{I}$  is an ideal of  $F[X]$  containing  $I$ . Using

Theorem 2.3.1 prove the Hilbert Nullstellensatz : For any

ideal  $I$  of  $F[X]$ ,  $\sqrt{I} = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Z}_K(I))$  where  $\mathcal{J}(E)$

$= \{f \in F[X] \mid f(v) = 0 \text{ for all } v \in E\}$  for a subset  $E$

of  $K^n$ .

### 3. LIE ALGEBRAS OF CHARACTERISTIC 0

#### 3.1. Introduction

The theory of Lie algebras of characteristic 0 is an outgrowth of the Lie theory of continuous groups in which local problems concerning Lie groups are reduced to corresponding problems on Lie algebras. During the development of the structure of Lie algebras for many years, Lie algebras brought applications to many branches of mathematics, such as group theory, differential geometry, differential equations, topology, and physics. Besides being useful in many parts of mathematics, the theory of Lie algebras is the most widely and successfully studied area of nonassociative algebras, mainly because of the elegance and completeness of the structure and representation theories for semisimple Lie algebras of characteristic 0 .



In this chapter, we briefly discuss the classical theorems on Lie algebras which are essential for the general structure, the classification and representations of semisimple Lie algebras of characteristic 0 . The development of the material is designed to set up the groundwork for the structure of flexible Lie-admissible algebras rather than to provide the general theory of Lie algebras for a comprehensive account.

Definition 3.1.1. Let  $B, S$  be subsets of a Lie algebra  $L$  over a field  $F$  . The centralizer of  $S$  in  $B$  is the set  $C_B(S) = \{x \in B \mid [xS] = 0\}$  . The centralizer of  $S$  is  $C_L(S)$  and the center of  $L$  is  $C(L) = C_L(L)$  . For a subspace  $B$  of  $L$  , the normalizer of  $B$  (in  $L$ ) is the set  $N_L(B) = N(B) = \{x \in L \mid [xB] \subset B\}$  . //

Definition 3.1.2. A Lie module  $V$  for  $L$  is an  $L$ -module over  $F$  such that  $v[xy] = (vx)y - (vy)x$  ,  $v \in V$  ,  $x, y \in L$  . If  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  is a representation of  $L$  , then  $V$  together with the module operation  $vx = vf(x)$  for  $v \in V$  ,  $x \in L$  is a Lie module for  $L$  . The Lie module obtained in this way is called the Lie module afforded by  $f$  . By an irreducible representation  $f$  of  $L$  , we mean that the  $L$ -module  $V$  afforded by  $f$  is  $L$ -irreducible.

Conversely, if  $V$  is a Lie module for  $L$  over  $F$ , then the mapping  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  defined by  $vf(x) = vx$  for  $x \in L$  becomes a representation of  $L$  acting on  $V$ , which is called the representation afforded by  $V$ . //

Henceforth, for a Lie algebra  $L$ , all  $L$ -modules are referred to as Lie modules for  $L$ . Note that the kernel of the  $\text{ad}$  representation of  $L$  is the center  $C(L)$ . Also, a subalgebra  $B$  of  $L$  is an ideal of  $N_L(B)$ , and if  $B$  and  $C$  are ideals of  $L$  then so is  $[BC] = [CB]$ . These are consequences of the Jacobi identity.

Let  $V$  be an  $L$ -module and suppose that  $V$  is also a Lie algebra such that  $[vv']x = [(vx)v'] + [v(v'x)]$ .  $v, v' \in V, x \in L$ . Define a product in  $L \oplus V$  by

$$[x + v, x' + v'] = [xx'] + (vx' - v'x + [vv'])$$

for  $x, x' \in L$  and  $v, v' \in V$ . Then  $L \oplus V$  becomes a Lie algebra. Indeed, clearly  $L \oplus V$  is anticommutative.

If  $x \in L$ ,  $R_x|_L$  and  $R_x|_V$  are derivations. Thus, to see  $R_x \in \text{Der}(L \oplus V)$ , one checks

$$\begin{aligned} [[v, y], x] &= (vy)x = (vx)y + v[yx] \\ &= [[v, x], y] + [v, [y, x]] \end{aligned}$$

for  $v \in V, x, y \in L$ . For  $v \in V, R_v|_V$  is clearly a derivation and it remains to check that

$$[[x, y], v] = -v[xy] = -(vx)y + (vy)x = [[x, v], y] + [x, [y, v]]$$

and likewise  $R_v$  acts on  $v'y$  as a derivation. Thus  $R_{L \oplus V} \subseteq \text{Der}(L \oplus V)$  and  $L \oplus V$  is a Lie algebra which is called the split extension of  $L$  by  $V$ . In particular, the split extension of  $\text{Der } L$  by  $L$  is called the holomorph of  $L$ . The Lie algebra  $L \oplus V$  with  $[VV] = 0$  is the split null extension of  $L$  by  $V$ .

### 3.2. Nilpotent Lie algebras

The structure of Lie algebras can be described in terms of certain nilpotent subalgebras (Cartan subalgebra). In this section we develop some fundamental properties of nilpotent Lie algebras. Here we assume that the characteristic of  $F$  is arbitrary.

Definition 3.2.1. For a Lie algebra  $L$ , the descending central series  $L \supseteq L^2 \supset \dots \supset L^n \supset \dots$  is recursively defined by  $L^1 = L, L^{i+1} = [L^i, L], i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

If  $L^i = 0$  for some  $i$ ,  $L$  is called nilpotent. //

The derived series  $L^{(i)}$  and the descending central series  $L^i$  are analogous to those of a group. If  $B$  is an ideal of  $L$ , then  $B^{(i)}$  and  $B^i$  are ideals of  $L$ . Note also that any homomorphic images of nilpotent Lie algebras are nilpotent. By induction, one easily sees that  $[L^i L^j] \subset L^{i+j}$  for integers  $i, j \geq 0$ . This implies that the products of  $n$  elements of  $L$  in any association are contained in  $L^n$ . In particular,  $L^{(n)} \subset L^{2^n}$  and hence any nilpotent Lie algebra is solvable; however the convers is not true (why?). If  $C$  is the center of  $L$  and  $L/C$  is nilpotent then  $L$  is nilpotent since  $L^i \subset C$  implies  $L^{i+1} = 0$ . Since  $C$  is the kernel of  $\text{ad}$ , we have

Lemma 3.2.1.  $L$  is nilpotent if and only if  $\text{ad } L$  is nilpotent. //

A stronger version of Lemma 3.2.1 is the celebrated theorem of Engel that  $L$  is nilpotent if and only if  $\text{ad } L$  consists of nilpotent linear transformations, which we show below.

Definition 3.2.2. The ascending central series of  $L$  is the sequence  $C^j(L)$ ,  $i \geq 0$ , defined recursively by

$$C^0(L) = 0, C^i(L) = \{x \in L \mid [xL] \subset C^{i-1}(L)\} \quad i \geq 1.$$

Obviously,  $C^1(L) = C(L)$  and  $C^i(L)/C^{i-1}(L)$   
 $= C(L/C^{i-1}(L))$  . //

Lemma 3.2.2.  $L^{i+1} = 0$  if and only if  $C^i(L) = L$   
for  $i \geq 0$  .

Proof. If  $L^{i+1} = 0$  ,  $L^i \subset C^1(L)$  and so  
 $L^{i-1} \subset C^2(L)$  ,  $L \subset C^i(L)$  . If  $C^i(L) = L$  ,  $L^2 \subset C^{i-1}(L)$   
and continuing this gives  $L^{i+1} \subset C^0(L) = 0$  . //

Definition 3.2.3. Let  $N$  be a subalgebra of  $L$  .  
Then  $C_L^i(N)$  is the series of subspaces of  $L$  defined  
inductively by

$$C_L^0(N) = 0 , C_L^i(N) = \{x \in L \mid [xN] \subset C_N^{i-1}(N)\} .$$

Clearly,  $C^i(L) = C_L^i(L)$  . //

Lemma 3.2.3. Let  $T$  be a nilpotent linear  
transformation on  $V$  . If  $W \subset U$  are  $T$ -stable  
subspaces of  $V$  then  $W \subset U$  can be refined as  
 $W = U_0 \subset U_1 \subset \dots \subset U_{r-1} \subset U_r = U$  with  $U_i T \subset U_{i-1}$  ,  
 $i = 1, \dots, r$  .

Proof. If we let  $\bar{U} = U/W$  ,  $T$  induces a nilpotent  
transformation  $\bar{T}$  on  $\bar{U}$  by  $(a + W)\bar{T} = aT + W$  ,  $a \in U$  .  
Thus  $\bar{U} \bar{T}^r = \bar{0}$  for some  $r > 0$  and, letting  
 $\bar{U}_i = \bar{U} \bar{T}^{r-i}$  ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r$  , we have  $\bar{0} \subset \bar{U}_1 \subset \dots \subset \bar{U}_r$

$= \bar{U}$  with  $\bar{U}_i \bar{T} = \bar{U}_{i-1}$ . Let  $U_i$  be the inverse image of  $\bar{U}_i$  by the natural homomorphism. Then  $W \subset U_1 \subset \dots \subset U_r =$   
with  $U_i T \subset U_{i-1}$ , as desired. //

Theorem 3.2.4. Let  $N$  be a subalgebra of  $L$  such that  $\text{ad}_L N$  consists of nilpotent linear transformations. Then  $C_L^i(N) = L$  for some  $i$ .

Proof. If  $\dim N = 1$ , it is trivial. Assume that the result holds for such subalgebras of dimension  $< \dim N$ . Let  $H$  be a maximal proper subalgebra of  $N$ . Then there exists an  $m > 0$  such that  $C_L^m(H) = L$ , so  $C_N^m(H) = N$  since  $C_L^m(H) \cap N = C_N^m(H)$ . Thus one can choose a  $j$  such that  $C_N^j(H) \subset H$  but  $C_N^{j+1}(H) \not\subset H$ , and let  $x \in C_N^{j+1}(H) - H$ . Then  $Fx \oplus H$  is a subalgebra of  $N$  since  $[xH] \subset H$ , so  $N = Fx + H$  and  $H$  is an ideal of  $N$ . We show by induction on  $i$  that  $C_L^i(H)$  is  $\text{ad } x$ -stable. Thus, if  $C_L^{i-1}(H)$  is  $\text{ad } x$ -stable,  $y \in C_L^i(H)$  and  $h \in H$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} [[yx]h] &= [[yh]x] + [y[xh]] \\ &\in [C_L^{i-1}(H)x] + [C_L^i(H)[xh]] \subset C_L^{i-1}(H) \end{aligned}$$

since  $[xH] \subset H$ , so  $y \text{ ad } x \in C_L^i(H)$ . Finally, since  $\text{ad } :$  is nilpotent and stabilizes the spaces in the chain

$$0 = C_L^0(H) \subset \dots \subset C_L^m(H) = L, \text{ by Lemma 3.2.3 this chain}$$

has a refinement  $0 = B^0 \subset B^1 \subset \dots \subset B^n = L$  such that

$[B^i x] \subset B^{i-1}$ . Moreover,  $[B^i H] \subset B^{i-1}$  since

$[C_L^i(H)H] \subset C_L^{i-1}(H)$ . It follows that  $[B^i N] \subset B^{i-1}$

for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Thus  $C_L^n(N) = L$ . //

If  $L$  is nilpotent, clearly  $\text{ad } x$  is nilpotent for all  $x \in L$ . If  $\text{ad } L$  consists of nilpotent transformations then by Theorem 3.2.4  $L = C_L^i(L) = C^i(L)$  for some  $i$  and by Lemma 3.2.2  $L$  is nilpotent. Therefore we have the following theorem of Engel.

Theorem 3.2.5 (Engel).  $L$  is nilpotent if and only if  $\text{ad } L$  consists of nilpotent transformations. //

Remark. Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$ . For a subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$  and a positive integer  $n$ , define  $B^n$  as the linear span of all product of  $n$  elements in  $B$  in all possible associations. Then  $B$  is called nilpotent if  $B^n = 0$  for some  $n > 0$ . We have observed that a nilpotent Lie algebra is also nilpotent in this sense. An algebra  $A$  is called power-associative if the subalgebra generated by  $x \in A$  is associative for every  $x \in A$ , or equivalently,  $x^m x^n = x^{m+n}$  for all integers  $m, n \geq 0$ ,  $x \in A$ . Then, an element  $x \in A$  is said to be nilpotent if  $x^m = 0$  for some  $m > 0$ , and

$A$  is called nil if every element is nilpotent. An anticommutative algebra  $A$  is trivially nil with  $x^2 = 0$ ,  $x \in A$ . An algebra  $A$  is called alternative if it satisfies the alternative laws  $x^2y = x(xy)$  and  $yx^2 = (yx)x$  for all  $x, y \in A$ . Unlike anticommutative algebras (so Lie algebras), for other nonassociative algebras such as Jordan or alternative algebras  $A$ , the nilpotence of  $x$ ,  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  are equivalent. Moreover, if  $A$  is finite-dimensional ( $\text{char } F \neq 2$ ), solvability, nilpotence and nility of  $A$  are equivalent (R.D.Schafer, "An introduction to nonassociative algebras", Academic Press, N.Y., 1966). Therefore, for finite-dimensional alternative and Jordan algebras, Engel's Theorem holds. A.A.Albert conjectured in 1948 that the solvability and nilpotence are equivalent in a commutative power-associative algebra. However, D.Suttles disproved this conjecture in 1972 by constructing a 5-dimensional commutative power-associative algebra  $A$  which is solvable but not nilpotent. The algebra  $A$  has a basis  $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  with multiplication given by  $ab = c$ ,  $ac = d$ ,  $ae = -c$ ,  $bc = e$ ,  $bd = c$  and all other products are 0. It is easily seen that  $A^2A^2 = 0$  but  $A$  is not nilpotent. Subsequently, M. Gerstenhaber and H. C. Myung showed that dimension 5 is least possible by demonstrating that any commutative



power-associative nil algebra of dimension  $\leq 4$  is nilpotent ("On commutative power-associative nilalgebras of low dimension", Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 48(1975), 29-32). In particular, Suttles' example shows that Engel's Theorem does not hold for commutative algebras. //

If one takes  $N = L$  in Theorem 3.2.4 then the proof establishes the following result.

Corollary 3.2.6. A maximal proper subalgebra of a nilpotent Lie algebra  $L$  is an ideal of  $L$  of codimension 1. //

Definition 3.2.4. Let  $N$  be a set and let  $B$  be an  $N$ -module. Then  $B_0^i(N)$  is defined recursively by

$$B_0^0(N) = 0, \quad B_0^i(N) = \{x \in B \mid xN \subset B_0^{i-1}(N)\}. \quad //$$

If  $N$  is a subalgebra of  $L$  and  $B = L$  then  $B_0^i(\text{ad } N) = C_L^i(N)$ . In the following we prove two variants of Engel's Theorem.

Theorem 3.2.7. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over  $F$ . Let  $N$  be a subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  consisting of nilpotent linear transformations. Then  $V_0^i(N) = V$  for some  $i$ . Thus, relative to a suitable basis for  $V$ , the subalgebra  $N$  is represented by nil triangular matrices.

Proof. Since  $y(\text{ad } x)^n$  is a linear combination of terms  $x^m y x^{n-m}$  for  $x, y \in \text{Hom}_F V$ ,  $x^{2n} = 0$  implies  $(\text{ad } x)^n = 0$ . Thus,  $\text{ad}_N N$  consists of nilpotent linear transformations. Let  $L = N \oplus V$  be the split null extension of  $N$  by  $V$ . Then  $\text{ad}_L N$  also consists of nilpotent linear transformations. Thus by Theorem 3.2.4  $L = C_L^i(N) = L_0^i(N)$  for some  $i$ , where  $L_0^i(N) = L_0^i(\text{ad } N)$ . Since  $V \subset L$ , it follows by induction that  $V \cap L_0^i(N) = V_0^i(N)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Therefore,  $V = V_0^i(N)$ , and this gives a chain  $V_0^1(N) \subset \dots \subset V_0^{i-1}(N) \subset V_0^i(N) = V$  such that  $V_0^k(N)N \subset V_0^{k-1}(N)$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, i$ . Hence one can choose a basis for  $V$  relative to which  $N$  is represented by nil triangular matrices. //

Theorem 3.2.8. (Engel). Let  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  be a representation where  $V$  is finite-dimensional. Suppose that  $f(x)$  is nilpotent for  $x \in L$ . Then there exists a nonzero vector  $v \in V$  such that  $vf(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in L$ .

Proof. In Theorem 3.2.6, take  $f(L) = N$ . Since  $V = V_0^i(N)$  for some  $i$ ,  $V_0^1(N) \neq 0$  and any nonzero vector in  $V_0^1(N)$  gives the desired condition. //

Definition 3.2.5. Let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module over  $F$ . For a function  $a : L \rightarrow F$ , define  $B_a(L) = \{x \in B \mid x(T - a(T))^{n(T)} = 0 \text{ for } T \in L\}$ .

If  $L$  is a nilpotent Lie algebra and  $B_a(L) \neq 0$ , then  $B_a(L)$  is called the weight space for  $L$  in  $B$  with respect to  $a$  and  $a$  is called a weight of  $L$  in  $B$ . Note that  $B_a(L) = \bigcap_{T \in L} B_a(T)$  for any function  $a : L \rightarrow F$ . Let  $B_*(L) = \sum_{T \in L} B_*(T)$ . Then  $B_0(L)$  and  $B_*(L)$  are called the Fitting components of  $B$  with respect to  $L$ . //

Theorem 3.2.9. Let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module over  $F$ . Suppose that  $L$  is nilpotent and that each  $x \in L$  is split over  $F$ . Then  $B$  is a direct sum  $B = \sum_a B_a(L)$  of weight spaces for  $L$  in  $B$  and each  $B_a(L)$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $B$ .

Proof. The proof is by induction on  $\dim B$ . If  $\dim B = 1$ , there is nothing to prove. One may take  $L$  to be a subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F B)^-$ . Then  $\text{ad}_L x$  is nilpotent for  $x \in L$ . Thus  $0 = (\text{ad}_L x)_s = \text{ad}_L x_s$  by Theorem 1.3.3 and  $[y, x_s] = 0$  for  $x, y \in L$ . If  $x_s$  for each  $x \in L$  acts on  $B$  as a single scalar  $a(x)$ , then  $B = B_a(L)$  since  $x - a(x) = x_n$ . Thus we may assume that there is an  $x_s$  which is not a scalar on  $B$ .

Hence  $B = \sum B_{\alpha_i}(x_s)$  and  $B_{\alpha_i}(x_s) \equiv B_i \neq 0$ ,

$1 \leq i \leq m$  with  $m > 1$ , so  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  are distinct.

Since  $[L, x_s] = 0$ , each  $B_i$  is  $L$ -stable and by induction applied to  $B_i$ , we have  $B_i = \Sigma_a \oplus B_{ia}(L)$  where  $B_{ia}(L)$  is  $L$ -stable. Since  $\Sigma_i B_{ia}(L) \subset B_a(L)$ ,  $B = \Sigma_a B_a(L)$ . Note that  $B_i = B_{\alpha_i}(x_s) = B_{\alpha_i}(x)$ . Since the  $\alpha_i$  are distinct, it follows from this that if  $B_a(L) \neq 0$ ,  $a(x) = \alpha_i$  for some  $i$  since  $a(x)$  is an eigenvalue of  $x$ . Thus  $B_a(L) \subset B_i$  for some  $i$  and moreover it is easily seen that  $B_a(L) = B_{ia}(L)$ . //

In view of Theorem 3.2.9, if  $B$  is finite-dimensional, there are only finitely many weights for  $L$  in  $B$ .

Theorem 3.2.10. Let  $N$  be a nilpotent subalgebra of  $L$  and let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Regard  $L$  as an  $N$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ . Then  $B_a(N)L_b(N) \subset B_{a+b}(N)$  for all functions  $a, b : N \rightarrow F$ .

Proof. Let  $\bar{B} = L \oplus B$  be the split null extension of  $L$  by  $B$ . Regard  $\bar{B}$  as an  $N$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ . Since  $L$  and  $B$  are  $N$ -submodules of  $\bar{B}$ ,  $\bar{B}_a(N) = L_a(N) \oplus B_a(N)$ . Noting that  $[\bar{B}_a(N), \bar{B}_b(N)] \subset \bar{B}_{a+b}(N)$  by Corollary 1.4.8, we have

$$[\bar{B}_a(N), \bar{B}_b(N)] = [L_a(N)L_b(N)] + B_a(N)L_b(N) + B_b(N)L_a(N) \\ \subset L_{a+b}(N) \oplus B_{a+b}(N) .$$

Since  $B$  is an ideal of  $\bar{B}$ , this in particular implies  $B_a(N)L_b(N) \subset B_{a+b}(N)$ . //

Exercise 3.2.1. Let  $N$  be a nilpotent ideal in  $L$  and let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Prove that  $B_a(N)$  is an  $L$ -submodule for every  $a : N \rightarrow F$ .

### 3.3. Cartan subalgebras

The Cartan subalgebras of a Lie algebra  $L$  are certain nilpotent subalgebras that are central objects for the structure of  $L$ . We show here that they exist if  $F$  is infinite and that the decomposition of  $L$  into weight spaces for a split Cartan subalgebra provides a rough description of a multiplication table for  $L$ .

Definition 3.3.1. A subalgebra  $H$  of  $L$  is a Cartan subalgebra (CSA) of  $L$  if  $H$  is nilpotent and  $H = L_0(\text{ad } H)$ , the Fitting 0-component of  $L$  relative to  $\text{ad } H$ . //

The following characterization of a CSA is often convenient.

Theorem 3.3.1. A subalgebra  $H$  of  $L$  is a CSA of  $L$  if and only if  $H$  is nilpotent and  $H = N_L(H)$ .

Proof. Let  $N = N_L(H)$ . Suppose that  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$ , so  $H = L_0(\text{ad } H)$ . It follows that  $N(\text{ad } x)^n = 0$  for  $x \in H$  and  $n > 0$ , since  $N \text{ ad } x \subset H$  for  $x \in H$ . Thus  $N \subset L_0(\text{ad } H) = H$  and  $N = H$ . For the converse, show that if  $H \subsetneq L_0(\text{ad } H)$ ,  $H \subsetneq N$ . Let  $L_0 = L_0(\text{ad } H)$ . Since  $\text{ad } H$  stabilizes  $L_0$  and  $H$ , and  $\text{ad } x (x \in H)$  is nilpotent on  $L_0$  and  $H$ ,  $\text{ad } H$  gives rise to a Lie algebra of nilpotent linear transformations on  $L_0/H \neq 0$ . Thus by Engel's Theorem 3.2.8 there exists  $\bar{0} \neq x + H \in L_0/H$  such that  $(x + H) \text{ ad } H = 0$  and hence  $x \in N$  but  $x \notin H$ , i.e.,  $H \subsetneq N$ . //

Exercise 3.3.1. Show that a CSA  $H$  of  $L$  is a maximal nilpotent subalgebra of  $L$ .

Definition 3.3.2. An element  $h \in L$  such that  $\dim L_0(\text{ad } h)$  is minimal is called a regular element. Denote by  $L_{\text{reg}}$  the set of regular elements in  $L$ . //

Note that  $\dim L_0(\text{ad } h) \geq 1$  since  $[hh] = 0$  and that  $L_{\text{reg}} \neq \emptyset$ . Henceforth we assume that  $F$  is infinite.

Theorem 3.3.2. If  $x \in L_{\text{reg}}$  then  $H = L_0(\text{ad } x)$  is a CSA of  $L$ .

Proof. Let  $L = H \oplus L_*(\text{ad } x)$  be the Fitting decomposition of  $L$  relative to  $\text{ad } x$ . Let  $L_* = L_*(\text{ad } x)$ . By Corollary 1.4.8  $L_* \cap \text{ad } H \subset L_*$ . Thus if we let  $f(y) = \det(\text{ad } y|_{L_*})$  for  $y \in H$ , then  $f$  is a polynomial function on  $H$ , and  $H_f = \{y \in H | f(y) \neq 0\}$  is a nonempty Zariski open set in  $H$  since  $\text{ad } x$  is nonsingular on  $L_*$  by Lemma 1.3.4 and so  $f(x) \neq 0$ . Hence  $H_f$  is dense in  $H$ . Since  $L = L_* \oplus H$  and  $\text{ad } y$  stabilizes  $H$  and  $L_*$  for  $y \in H$ , it follows that  $L_0(\text{ad } y) \subseteq L_0(\text{ad } x) = H$  for  $y \in H_f$ . (Note that  $\text{ad } y$  is nonsingular for  $y \in H_f$ ). Since  $\dim H$  is minimal,  $L_0(\text{ad } y) = H$  for all  $y \in H_f$ . Thus if  $\dim H = n$ ,  $(\text{ad } y|_H)^n = 0$  for  $y \in H_f$ . If we let  $g(y) = (\text{ad } y|_H)^n$  for  $y \in H$ ,  $g$  is a polynomial mapping of  $H$  into  $\text{Hom}_F H$  and so is continuous by Lemma 2.1.2. Since each point is closed in  $\text{Hom } H$ ,  $\{y \in H | g(y) = 0\}$  is a closed subset of  $H$  containing  $H_f$  and coincides with  $H$  since  $H_f$  is dense in  $H$ . Thus  $(\text{ad } y|_H)^n = 0$  for all  $y \in H$  and by Engel's Theorem  $H$  is nilpotent. Since  $x \in H$ , this implies that  $H = H_0(\text{ad } H) \subset L_0(\text{ad } H) \subset L_0(\text{ad } x) = H$ . Thus  $L_0(\text{ad } H) = H$  and  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$ . //

Corollary 3.3.3. Let  $H$  be a CSA of  $L$ . If  $a \in H \cap L_{\text{reg}}$  then  $H = L_0(\text{ad } a)$ .

Proof. Since  $H$  is nilpotent,  $H \subset L_0(\text{ad } a)$ . But by Theorem 3.3.2  $L_0(\text{ad } a)$  is a CSA of  $L$  and  $H = L_0(\text{ad } a)$  since a CSA of  $L$  is a maximal nilpotent subalgebra of  $L$  (Exercise 3.3.1). //

In view of Corollary 3.3.3, if two CSA of  $L$  have a regular element in common, they coincide.

Corollary 3.3.4. If  $F$  is infinite,  $L$  has a CSA.

Proof. Since  $L_{\text{reg}} \neq \phi$ , the result follows from Theorem 3.3.2. //

Remark. It can be shown that any solvable Lie algebra over an arbitrary field  $F$  has a CSA (D.J. Winter, "Abstract Lie algebras", MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1972). Also, C.W. Barnes has shown that if  $F$  has at least  $\dim L$  elements,  $L$  has a CSA ("On Cartan subalgebras of Lie algebras", Math. Z., 101(1967), 350-355). //

Theorem 3.3.5. If  $F$  is infinite,  $L_{\text{reg}}$  is a Zariski open set in  $L$ .

Proof. Note that  $L_{\text{reg}} \neq \phi$  and  $x \in L_{\text{reg}}$  if and only if  $\dim L_*(\text{ad } x)$  is maximal since  $L = L_0(\text{ad } x) \oplus L_*(\text{ad } x)$ .



Let  $s = \max \{ \dim L_*(\text{ad } x) \mid x \in L \}$  and let  $n = \dim L$ . Then  $L_*(\text{ad } x) = L(\text{ad } x)^n$  (see the proof of Fitting Lemma 1.3.4). Thus  $x \in L_{\text{reg}}$  if and only if  $s = \text{rank}(\text{ad } x)^n$  if and only if  $\det_B M(x) \neq 0$  for some  $s \times s$  minor  $M(x)$  of  $(\text{ad } x)^n$  where  $B$  is a fixed basis for  $L$ . Since the mapping  $x \rightarrow \det_B M(x)$  is a polynomial function on  $L$ , it is continuous and  $\{x \in L \mid \det_B M(x) \neq 0\}$  is open in  $L$ . Let  $M_1(x), \dots, M_r(x)$  be all the  $s \times s$  minors of  $(\text{ad } x)^n$  and let  $U_i = \{x \in L \mid \det_B M_i(x) \neq 0\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . Then  $L_{\text{reg}} = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_r$  and  $L_{\text{reg}}$  is open. //

Since  $L_{\text{reg}}$  is dense in  $L$ , almost all elements in  $L$  are regular. If  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$ , we always regard  $L$  as an  $H$ -module via the  $\text{ad}$  representation.

Definition 3.3.3. We say that a CSA  $H$  of  $L$  is split over  $F$  if  $\text{ad}_L x$  is split over  $F$  for  $x \in H$ . Also,  $L$  is split over  $F$  if  $L$  has a split CSA over  $F$ . If  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$ , a root of  $H$  in  $L$  is a function  $\alpha : H \rightarrow F$  such that  $L_\alpha(H) (= L_\alpha(\text{ad } H)) \neq 0$ . //

Thus, the roots of  $H$  in  $L$  are the weights of  $H$  in  $L$  where  $L$  is regarded as an  $H$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ . We will show later that the roots of a split CSA are linear functions if the characteristic is 0.

Theorem 3.3.6. Let  $H$  be a split CSA of  $L$ . Then

1)  $[L_a(H) L_b(H)] \subset L_{a+b}(H)$  for all  $a, b : H \rightarrow F$  ;

2)  $[H L_a(H)] \subset L_a(H)$  for all  $a : H \rightarrow F$  and if

$a \neq 0$  then  $[H L_a(H)] = [L_a(H) H] = L_a(H)$  ;

3)  $K(L_a(H), L_b(H)) = 0$  for  $a, b : H \rightarrow F$  with

$a + b \neq 0$  ;

4)  $L = \Sigma_a \oplus L_a(H)$  where  $a$  ranges over the roots

of  $H$  in  $L$  ;

5)  $K(H, L_a(H)) = 0$  for all  $a : H \rightarrow F$  with

$a \neq 0$  .

Proof. 1) and the first part of 2) are consequences of Theorem 3.2.10 while 4) follows from Theorem 3.2.9. For the second part of 2), let  $h \in H$  with  $a(h) \neq 0$ . If  $x \text{ ad } h = 0$  for some  $x \in L_a(H)$ , then  $x(\text{ad } h - a(h))^n = 0$  implies  $a(h)^n x = 0$  or  $x = 0$ , so  $\text{ad } h$  is injective. For 3), let  $a + b \neq 0$  and let  $L = \Sigma_c \oplus L_c(H)$ . Let  $B = \bigcup_c B_c$  be a basis for  $L$  such that  $B_c$  is a basis of  $L_c(H)$ . For  $x \in L_a(H)$  and  $y \in L_b(H)$ ,  $L_c(H) \text{ ad } x \text{ ad } y \subset L_{a+b+c}(H)$  where  $L_{a+b+c}(H) = 0$  or  $c \neq a + b + c$ . Thus the matrix of  $\text{ad } x \text{ ad } y$  relative to  $B$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & * & & * \\ * & 0 & & \\ & & & \\ * & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence  $\text{Tr}(\text{ad } x \text{ ad } y) = K(x,y) = 0$  . 5) is a special case of 3). //

### 3.4. Solvable Lie algebras

In this section we assume that  $B$  is a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module over a field  $F$  of characteristic 0 .

Theorem 3.4.1. Let  $h \in L$  be such that  $h \in (L_0(\text{ad } h))^{(1)}$  . Then  $B = B_0(h)$  .

Proof. We may assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed. Indeed, for the scalar extension  $B_K$  of  $B$  to the algebraic closure  $K$  of  $F$  we have  $B \cap (B_K)_0(h) = B_0(h)$  . Let  $h = \Sigma [x_i y_i]$  where  $x_i, y_i \in L_0(\text{ad } h)$  . By Theorem 3.2.10  $B_\alpha(h)L_0(\text{ad } h) \subset B_\alpha(h)$  where  $B = \Sigma_\alpha \oplus B_\alpha(h)$  . Hence each  $B_\alpha(h)$  is stable under  $x_i, y_i$  .

Let  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F B)^-$  be the representation of  $L$  afforded by  $B$ . Then

$$f(h) |_{B_\alpha(h)} = \Sigma f([x_i y_i]) |_{B_\alpha(h)} = \Sigma [f(x_i), f(y_i)] |_{B_\alpha(h)}$$

and hence  $\text{Tr } f(h) |_{B_\alpha(h)} = \alpha \cdot \dim B_\alpha(h) = 0$ . Since  $\text{char } F = 0$ , this implies  $\alpha = 0$  unless  $B_\alpha(h) = 0$ , so  $B = B_0(h)$ . //

Corollary 3.4.2. If  $\text{ad } h$  is nilpotent and  $h \in L^{(1)}$  then  $B = B_0(h)$ . //

Theorem 3.4.3. Let  $L$  be solvable. Then  $B = B_0(L^{(1)})$ .

Proof. Suppose not and take a counterexample with  $\dim L + \dim B$  minimal. Choose  $n$  maximal such that  $L^{(n)} \neq 0$ , and let  $A = L^{(n)}$ . Then  $A$  is an abelian ideal of  $L$ . If  $n = 0$ ,  $L^{(1)} = 0$  and so  $B_0(L^{(1)}) = B$ , contrary to the supposition. Thus  $n \geq 1$ . Also  $L \text{ ad } [xy] \subset L^{(n)}$  for  $x, y \in L^{(n-1)}$  and hence  $L(\text{ad } [xy])^2 = 0$  since  $A$  is abelian. Therefore  $L = L_0(\text{ad } [xy])$  and by Corollary 3.4.2  $B = B_0([xy])$  for  $x, y \in L^{(n-1)}$ . Since  $A$  is abelian, this implies that  $B = B_0(A)$ . Let  $W = \{v \in B | vA = 0\}$ . Since  $B = B_0(A) \neq 0$ ,  $W \neq 0$  by Engel's Theorem 3.2.8.

Suppose  $W = B$ . Then  $BA = 0$  and  $B$  is regarded as an  $L/A$ -module with  $v(x + A) = vx$ ,  $x \in L$  and  $v \in B$ . By the minimality of  $\dim B + \dim L$ , we must have  $B = B_0((L/A)^{(1)})$  and this implies  $B = B_0(L^{(1)})$ , a contradiction. If  $W \neq B$  then since  $(WL)A \subseteq (WA)L + W[LA] = 0$ ,  $W$  is  $L$ -stable and  $B/W$  becomes an  $L$ -module with  $(v + W)x = vx + W$ ,  $v \in B$ ,  $x \in L$ . Thus  $W = W_0(L^{(1)})$  and  $B/W = (B/W)_0(L^{(1)})$  by the minimality of  $\dim B + \dim L$ . For  $v \in B$ ,  $(v + W)x^m = 0$  for some  $m > 0$  and  $vx^m \in W$ , so  $vx^{m+n} = 0$  for  $x \in L^{(1)}$ . Hence  $B = B_0(L^{(1)})$ , a contradiction. //

Corollary 3.4.4. Let  $L$  be solvable. Then the set  $N = \{x \in L \mid B = B_0(x)\}$  is an ideal of  $L$  which contains  $L^{(1)}$ .

Proof. By Theorem 3.4.3,  $L^{(1)} \subset N$ . Let  $H$  be a maximal subalgebra of  $L$  such that  $L^{(1)} \subset H$  and  $B = B_0(H)$ . Thus, in view of Theorem 3.2.7,  $B_0^m(H) = B$  for some  $m > 0$ . We show that  $N = H$ , whence  $N$  is an ideal of  $L$  since  $[NL] \subseteq L^{(1)} \subset N$ . So, let  $x \in N$  be any element and consider the series  $0 = B_0^0(H) \subset \dots \subset B_0^m(H) = B$ . For  $v \in B_0^i(H)$ ,

$$(vx)H \subset (vH)x + v[Hx] \subset B_0^{i-1}(H)x + vH \text{ since } [Hx] \subset L^{(1)} \subset H.$$

Thus by induction we see that each  $B_0^i(H)$  is  $x$ -stable.

By Lemma 3.2.3 this series has a refinement

$0 = B^0 \subset B^1 \subset \dots \subset B^n = B$  such that  $B^i x \subset B^{i-1}$  and  $B^i H \subset B^{i-1}$  (since  $B_0^i(H)H \subset B_0^{i-1}(H)$ ). Hence

$B^i(Fx + H) \subset B^{i-1}$  for all  $i$  and  $B(Fx + H)^n = 0$ ,

so  $B = B_0(Fx + H)$ . By the maximality of  $H$  we have

$H = Fx + H$  and  $H = N$ . //

Theorem 3.4.5.(Lie). Let  $L$  be a solvable Lie algebra over  $F$  and let  $B \neq 0$  be a finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -module over  $F$ . Suppose that  $L$  has a split CSA  $H$  such that every  $x \in H$  is split on  $B$  over  $F$ . Then  $\dim B = 1$ .

Proof. In view of Theorem 3.4.3,  $B = B_0(L^{(1)})$  and so by Theorem 3.2.7  $B_0^1(L^{(1)}) \equiv W \neq 0$ . Since  $L^{(1)}$  is an ideal of  $L$ ,  $W$  is an  $L$ -submodule and hence  $W = B$  by the  $L$ -irreducibility of  $B$ . Thus  $BL^{(1)} = 0$  and  $B$  is regarded as an  $A$ -module with  $v(x + L^{(1)}) = vx$ ,  $v \in B$  and  $x \in L$ , where  $A = L/L^{(1)}$ . Put  $L_* = \sum_{a \neq 0} L_a(\text{ad } H)$ . Then by Theorem 3.3.6  $L = H \oplus L_*$  and  $[HL_*] = L_* = [L_*H]$ . Thus  $L = H + L^{(1)}$  and  $A = (H + L^{(1)})/L^{(1)}$ , so every element in  $A$  is split on  $B$  over  $F$ . By Theorem 3.2.9  $B = \Sigma \oplus B_a(A)$  where each  $B_a(A)$  is an  $A$ -submodule. But then since

$BL^{(1)} = 0$  , every  $A$ -submodule of  $B$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $B$  , so  $B = B_a(A)$  for  $B_a(A) \neq 0$  . Now, let  $x \in A$  be any element. Then there is a  $v \neq 0$  in  $B$  such that  $vx = a(x)v$  and so  $B_x \equiv \{v \in B | vx = a(x)v\} \neq 0$  . It follows that  $B_x$  is an  $A$ -submodule of  $B$  , since  $A$  is abelian. Thus  $B_x = B = B_a(A)$  for  $x \in A$  and this happens only if  $\dim B = 1$  , since  $B$  is  $A$ -irreducible. //

Definition 3.4.1. Let  $V$  be an  $S$ -module where  $S$  is a set. An  $S$ -composition series of  $V$  is a sequence of  $S$ -submodules of  $V$

$$0 = V_0 \subsetneq V_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq V_n = V$$

such that each  $V_i/V_{i-1}$  is  $S$ -irreducible. //

If  $V$  is a finite-dimensional  $S$ -module,  $V$  has an  $S$ -composition series. Indeed, let  $V_m$  be a proper  $S$ -submodule of  $V$  of maximal dimension. Then  $0 \subset V_m \subset V$  and continuing this with  $V_m$  , one arrives at an  $S$ -composition series.

Let  $L$  be a solvable subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F B)$  such that each  $x \in L$  is split on  $B$  over  $F$  where  $B$  is a finite-dimensional vector space over  $F$  . Now that each  $\text{ad}_L x$  is split over  $F$  by Theorem 1.7.7

Then  $B$  has an  $L$ -composition series

$$0 = B_0 \subsetneq B_1 \subsetneq \dots \neq B_m = B .$$

Since each  $B_i/B_{i-1} \neq 0$  is  $L$ -irreducible, by Theorem 3.4.5  $\dim B_i/B_{i-1} = 1$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Thus  $\dim B_i = i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Therefore, one can choose a basis for  $B$  relative to which the matrix of each  $x \in L$  is in an upper triangular form :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & & & & & \\ & \alpha_2 & & * & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & \alpha_m \end{bmatrix} . \tag{1.24}$$

We refer to this situation as the simultaneous triangulability of  $L$ . We state this as

Theorem 3.4.6. (Lie). Let  $B$  be a finite-dimension vector space over a field  $F$  of characteristic 0. Suppose that  $L$  is a "split" solvable subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F B)^-$ . Then  $L$  is simultaneously triangulable. //

Corollary 3.4.7. Let  $L$  be a "split" nilpotent Lie algebra and let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Then each weight of  $L$  in  $B$  is linear and vanishes on  $L^{(1)}$ . In particular, each root of a split CSA of a Lie algebra is linear. ( $\text{char } F = 0$ ).





Proof. We may assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed, since solvability is preserved under scalar extension. Since  $\text{ad } L$  is a solvable subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom } L)^-$ ,  $[\text{ad } L, \text{ad } L] = \text{ad } L^{(1)}$  is nilpotent and so is  $L^{(1)}$  by Lemma 3.2.1. //

Corollary 3.4.10. Let  $L$  be the same as in Corollary 3.4.8. Then  $L$  has a common eigenvector  $v \in B$ , that is,  $vx = \lambda(x)v$ ,  $x \in L$ ,  $\lambda(x) \in F$ .

Proof. This is clear from Theorem 3.4.6. //

### 3.5. Conjugacy of Cartan subalgebras

In this section we assume that  $F$  is of characteristic 0. If  $H$  is a split CSA of  $L$  then by Theorem 3.3.6  $L$  is expressed as a direct sum of root spaces for  $H$  in  $L$ ;

$$L = H \oplus L_{\alpha} \oplus L_{\beta} \oplus \dots \oplus L_{\rho} \quad (1.25)$$

where  $L_{\alpha} = L_{\alpha}(H)$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \dots, \rho$  are the nonzero roots of  $H$  in  $L$ .

We refer to (1.25) as the Cartan decomposition of  $L$  relative to  $H$ . Note also that the roots of  $H$  in  $L$  are linear (Corollary 3.4.7) and so polynomial functions on  $H$ . Let

$$H^0 = \{h \in H \mid \alpha(h)\beta(h) \dots \rho(h) \neq 0\} .$$

Then  $H^0$  is a nonempty Zariski open set in  $H$ . Letting  $L_* = L_\alpha + \dots + L_\rho$ ,  $L_*$  is  $\text{ad } h$ -stable for  $h \in H$  and if  $h \in H^0$  then all the eigenvalues of  $\text{ad } h|_{L_*}$  are nonzero and so  $\text{ad } h|_{L_*}$  is nonsingular. Therefore we have  $H = L_0(\text{ad } h)$  for  $h \in H^0$ . Conversely, if  $H = L_0(\text{ad } h)$  for  $h \in H$  then  $\text{ad } h|_{L_*}$  is nonsingular since  $L = H \oplus L_*$ , and hence  $h \in H^0$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lemma 3.5.1. } H^0 &= \{h \in H \mid \text{ad } h|_{L_*} \text{ is nonsingular}\} \\ &= \{h \in H \mid H = L_0(\text{ad } h)\} . \quad // \end{aligned}$$

If  $\text{ad } x$  is nilpotent for  $x \in L$  then  $\exp \text{ad } x$  is an automorphism of  $L$ . Denote by  $\text{Aut}_e(L)$  the group of automorphisms of  $L$  generated by  $\exp \text{ad } x$  for  $x \in L$  where  $\text{ad } x$  is nilpotent. Each element in  $\text{Aut}_e(L)$  is called an invariant automorphism of  $L$ . For a nonzero root  $\alpha$  of  $H$ , let  $x \in L_\alpha$ . Since  $L_\beta(\text{ad } x)^n \in L_{\beta+n\alpha}$  and there are only finitely many roots of  $H$ ,  $L_\beta(\text{ad } x)^n = 0$  for some  $n > 0$  and any root  $\beta$  of  $H$ .

Thus  $\exp \text{ ad } L_\alpha \subset \text{Aut}_e(L)$  for nonzero roots  $\alpha$  of  $H$ .

Theorem 3.5.2. Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of characteristic 0. Let  $H$  and  $H_1$  be any CSA of  $L$ . Then there exists an invariant automorphism  $\eta$  of  $L$  such that  $H = H_1\eta$ .

Proof. Let  $L = H + L_\alpha + L_\beta + \dots + L_\rho$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $L$  relative to  $H$  and let  $L_* = L_\alpha + L_\beta + \dots + L_\rho$ . Let  $\{h_1, \dots, h_\ell, e_{\ell+1}, \dots, e_n\}$  be a basis for  $L$  where  $\{h_1, \dots, h_\ell\}$  is a basis of  $H$  and the  $e_j$  consist of basis of  $L_\alpha, \dots, L_\rho$ . For indeterminates  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} & (\sum_i X_i h_i) \exp(\text{ad } X_{\ell+1} e_{\ell+1}) \dots \exp(\text{ad } X_n e_n) \\ &= \sum_i p_i(X_1, \dots, X_n) h_i + \sum_j p_j(X_1, \dots, X_n) e_j. \end{aligned}$$

Then the mapping  $p : L \rightarrow L$  defined by

$$p(\sum \alpha_i h_i + \sum \alpha_j e_j) = \sum p_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) h_i + \sum p_j(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) e_j$$

is a polynomial mapping. For any elements  $h_0 \in H^0 = \{x \in H \mid \alpha(x) \dots \rho(x) \neq 0\}$  and  $e \in L_*$  with  $e = \sum \alpha_j e_j$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(h_0 + t(h + e)) &= (h_0 + th) \exp(\text{ad } t\alpha_{\ell+1} e_{\ell+1}) \dots \exp(\text{ad } t\alpha_n e_n) \\ &\equiv h_0 + th + t[h_0 e] \pmod{t^2} \end{aligned}$$

where  $h \in H$  and  $t$  is an indeterminate. But then the Taylor formula applied to  $p(h_0 + t(h + e))$  implies that

$$(d_{h_0} p)(h + e) = h + [h_0 e] . \text{ Since } \text{ad } h_0|_{L_*} \text{ is}$$

nonsingular by Lemma 3.5.1, this shows that  $d_{h_0} p$  is

nonsingular on  $L$  and so is surjective. Since  $H^0 + L_*$  is a nonempty open set in  $L$ , by Theorem 2.3.2

$p(H^0 + L_*) \supset U$  for some open set  $U \neq \phi$  in  $L$ , so

$U \subset H^0 \text{Aut}_e(L)$ . The same argument applied to  $H_1$  assures

that  $U_1 \subset H_1^0 \text{Aut}_e(L)$  for some nonempty open set  $U_1$ .

Since  $U \cap U_1 \neq \phi$ , we see that  $h = k\eta$  for some  $h \in H^0$ ,

$k \in H_1^0$  and  $\eta \in \text{Aut}_e(L)$ . But by Lemma 3.5.1,  $H = L_0(\text{ad } h)$

$$= L_0(\text{ad } (k\eta)) = L_0(\text{ad } k)\eta = H_1\eta . \quad //$$

Theorem 3.5.2 in particular implies that all CSA of  $L$  have the same dimension. Thus by Corollary 3.3.3 and Lemma 3.5.1 we have

Corollary 3.5.3.  $H \cap L_{\text{reg}} = H^0 . \quad //$

### 3.6. Cartan's criteria

We discuss important criteria for solvability and semisimplicity of  $L$  in terms of a trace form. These criteria give the basis for the structure of semisimple Lie algebras. We assume that all  $L$ -modules are finite-dimensional over a field  $F$  of characteristic 0 and  $f$  denotes the representation of  $L$  afforded by  $B$ .

Theorem 3.6.1. Let  $x, y, h$  be elements in  $L$  such that  $[xy] = h$ ,  $x \in L_{-\alpha}(\text{ad } h)$  and  $y \in L_{\alpha}(\text{ad } h)$  where  $\alpha \in F$ . Suppose that  $B \neq B_0(h)$ . Then  $\text{Tr } f(h)^2 \neq 0$  and  $\text{Tr } f(h)^2 = r \alpha^2$  for a positive rational number  $r$ . In particular,  $\alpha \neq 0$ .

Proof. As in Theorem 3.4.1. we assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed. Let  $B = \Sigma \oplus B_{\beta}(h)$ . Then  $\beta$  is the only eigenvalue of  $f(h)|_{B_{\beta}(h)}$  if  $B_{\beta}(h) \neq 0$ .

Letting  $W_{\beta} = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \oplus B_{\beta+i\alpha}(h)$ , by Theorem 3.2.10  $W_{\beta}$  is stable under  $x$  and  $y$ . Thus

$$0 = \text{Tr}[f(x), f(y)]|_{W_{\beta}} = \text{Tr } f(h)|_{W_{\beta}} = \sum d_i(\beta + i\alpha)$$

where  $d_i = \dim B_{\beta+i\alpha}$ . Hence  $\beta = -\frac{\sum id_i}{\sum d_i} \alpha$

and  $\beta = r_\beta \alpha$  for some rational  $r_\beta$ . Since  $B \neq B_0(h)$ ,  $\dim B_\beta(h) \neq 0$  for some  $\beta \neq 0$  and, for such  $\beta$ ,  $r_\beta \neq 0$  and so  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Since  $\beta^2$  is the only eigenvalue of  $f(h)^2|_{B_\beta(h)}$ , we now have  $\text{Tr } f(h)^2 = \sum_\beta d_\beta \beta^2 = \sum d_\beta (r_\beta \alpha)^2$  where  $d_\beta = \dim B_\beta(h)$ . //

Let  $K$  be an extension field of  $F$  and  $L_K$  be the scalar extension of  $L$  to  $K$ . Then we note that  $L_K^{(i)} = (L_K)^{(i)}$  and so  $L$  is solvable if and only if  $L_K$  is. Note also that  $f$  has a unique extension  $f_K$  to  $L_K$ , which is afforded by  $B_K$ , and that  $\ker f_K = (\ker f)_K$ .

Theorem 3.6.2. (Cartan's criterion for solvability).

Let  $(x,y) = \text{Tr } f(x)f(y)$ . Then  $L$  is solvable if and only if  $\ker f$  is solvable and  $(x,y) = 0$  for all  $x,y \in L^{(1)}$ .

Proof. By the foregoing remark, we can assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed. If  $L$  is solvable,  $\ker f$  and  $f(L)$  are solvable. Since  $f(L)$  is a solvable subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_F B)^-$ , by Lie's Theorem 3.4.6  $f(L)$  is simultaneously triangulable. Thus, relative to some basis for  $B$ , the elements of  $f(L)^{(1)} = f(L^{(1)})$  are upper triangular nilpotent matrices, so  $(x,y) = \text{Tr } f(x)f(y) = 0$  for  $x,y \in L^{(1)}$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\ker f$  is solvable and  $(x,y) = 0$  for  $x,y \in L^{(1)}$ . We proceed by induction on  $\dim L$ . If  $\dim L = 1$ , the assertion is trivial. It suffices to show that  $f(L)$  is solvable since  $f(L) \cong L/\ker f$  and  $\ker f$  is solvable (Lemma 1.5.1). Thus, we assume that  $L$  is a subalgebra of  $(\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}} B)^{-}$  and  $f(x) = x$  for  $x \in L$ . Let  $H$  be a CSA of  $L$  and let  $L = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha}$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $L$  relative to  $H$ . Let  $x \in L_{-\alpha}$ ,  $y \in L_{\alpha}$ ,  $h = [xy]$ . Then  $[xy] = h \in H$  and since  $h \in L^{(1)}$ ,  $(h,h) = \text{Tr } h^2 = 0$ . Thus by Theorem 3.6.1  $B = B_0(h)$  and  $h$  is nilpotent. So,  $[L_{-\alpha} L_{\alpha}] \subset N \equiv \{x \in H \mid x \text{ is nilpotent}\}$  for all roots  $\alpha$ . Now, by Corollary 3.4.4,  $N$  is an ideal of  $H$ . Letting  $J = N + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha}$ ,  $J$  is an ideal of  $L$  since  $[HJ] \subset J$  and  $[L_{-\alpha} L_{\alpha}] \subset N$ . If  $J \neq L$ , by induction  $J$  is solvable and  $L/J = (H + J)/J \cong H/(H \cap J) = H/N$  is solvable, so is  $L$ . If  $J = L$  then  $H = N$  and  $x$  is nilpotent for  $x \in H$ , so  $\text{ad } x$  is nilpotent by Theorem 1.3.3. Thus  $L = L_0(\text{ad } H) = H$  since  $H$  is a CSA. //

Notice that, in Theorem 3.6.2,  $(x,y) = 0$  for  $x,y \in L^{(1)}$  if and only if  $(x,x) = 0$  for  $x \in L^{(1)}$ .

Theorem 3.6.3 (Cartan's criterion for semisimplicity).

If  $L$  is semisimple then the trace form of any 1 - 1 representation of  $L$  is nondegenerate.



$L$  is semisimple if and only if the Killing form is nondegenerate.

Proof. If  $f$  is a 1 - 1 representation of  $L$ , let  $(x,y) = \text{Tr } f(x)f(y)$ . Thus  $\ker f = 0$ , and  $L^\perp = \{x \in L \mid (x,y) = 0 \text{ for } y \in L\}$  is an ideal of  $L$ . Since  $(x,y) = 0$  for  $x,y \in (L^\perp)^{(1)}$ , by Theorem 3.6.2.  $L^\perp$  is solvable. Hence if  $L$  is semisimple,  $(\ , \ )$  is nondegenerate. Note that if  $L$  is semisimple, ad representation of  $L$  is 1 - 1. The converse follows from Lemma 1.6.3. //

Corollary 3.6.4. Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $L$ . Then  $L/J$  is semisimple if and only if  $\text{Rad } L \subset J$ .

Proof. If  $L/J$  is semisimple, then  $(J + \text{Rad } L)/J$  is a solvable ideal of  $L/J$  and so  $\text{Rad } L \subset J$ . Suppose that  $\text{Rad } L \subset J$ . Let  $\bar{L} = L/\text{Rad } L$  and  $\bar{J} = J/\text{Rad } L$ . Then  $L/J \cong \bar{L}/\bar{J}$  and since  $\bar{L}$  is semisimple by Lemma 1.5.1, the Killing form on  $\bar{L}$  is nondegenerate by Theorem 3.6.3. Lemma 1.6.3 then assures that  $\bar{L}$  is a direct sum of simple ideals  $\bar{L}_i$  of  $\bar{L}$ . On the other hand, by Corollary 1.5.4  $\bar{J}$  is a sum of some  $\bar{L}_j$ 's and hence  $\bar{L}/\bar{J}$  is a direct sum of simple ideals. In fact,  $\bar{L}/\bar{J}$  is a direct sum of simple ideals  $(\bar{L}_i + \bar{J})/\bar{J}$  where  $\bar{L}_i \not\subset \bar{J}$ . Thus  $L/J$  is semisimple. //

Corollary 3.6.5. Any homomorphic image of a semisimple Lie algebra is semisimple.

Proof. Let  $f : L \rightarrow f(L)$  be a homomorphism of a semisimple Lie algebra. Then  $f(L) \cong L/\ker f$  is semisimple by Corollary 3.6.4. //

Let  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  be a basis of  $L$ . Then we note that the Killing form  $K(, )$  of  $L$  is nondegenerate if and only if the matrix  $(K(x_i, x_j))$  is nonsingular. For an extension field  $K$  of  $F$ , since  $K(, )$  is regarded as the Killing form on  $L_K$  and  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a basis for  $L_K$ , by Theorem 3.6.3 we have

Corollary 3.6.6. If  $L$  is a semisimple Lie algebra over  $F$  (of char 0), then any scalar extension  $L_K$  of  $L$  is semisimple. //

### 3.7. The theorems of Weyl and Levi

In this section we prove two important theorems on the existence of complements. One is the Weyl's theorem

that any finite-dimensional  $L$ -module for a semisimple Lie algebra  $L$  is  $L$ -completely reducible. Another one is the Levi's theorem that if  $L$  is a finite-dimensional Lie algebra then  $L$  contains a semisimple subalgebra  $S$  such that  $L = S \oplus \text{Rad } L$ . Here we assume that the characteristic is 0. As before,  $B$  denotes a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module and  $f$  is the representation afforded by  $B$ .

Suppose also that  $L$  has a nondegenerate invariant form  $(\ , \ )$ , and let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  and  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  be dual bases for  $L$ , that is,  $(e_i, f_j) = \delta_{ij}$ .

Definition 3.7.1. The Casimir operator for  $L$  with respect to  $(\ , \ )$ ,  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{f_j\}$  is the element

$$T = \sum f(e_i)f(f_i) \text{ in } \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}} B. \quad //$$

Lemma 3.7.1. The Casimir operator  $T$  commutes with every element in  $f(L)$ .

Proof. For  $x \in L$ , let  $[xe_i] = \sum_j \alpha_{ij} e_j$  and  $[xf_i] = \sum_j \beta_{ij} f_j$ . Then  $\alpha_{ik} = \sum_j \alpha_{ij} (e_j, f_k) = ([xe_i], f_k)$   
 $= - ([e_i x], f_k) = - (e_i, [xf_k]) = - \sum_j \beta_{kj} (e_i, f_j)$   
 $= - \beta_{ki}$ . Using this, we compute

$$[f(x), T] = \sum_i [f(x), f(e_i)f(f_i)]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_i f(e_i) [f(x), f(f_i)] + \sum_i [f(x), f(e_i)] f(f_i) \\
 &= \sum_{i,j} \alpha_{ij} f(e_j) f(f_i) + \sum_{i,j} \beta_{ij} f(e_i) f(f_j) \\
 &= 0 \quad //
 \end{aligned}$$

Assume now that  $L$  is a nonzero semisimple Lie algebra and the representation  $f$  is faithful, that is,  $\ker f = 0$ . Then the trace form  $(x,y) = \text{Tr } f(x)f(y)$  is nondegenerate by Theorem 3.6.3. Let  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{f_j\}$  be dual basis for  $L$  relative to  $(\ , \ )$  and let  $T$  be the corresponding Casimir operator  $T = \sum f(e_i)f(f_i)$ . Then  $\text{Tr } T = \sum \text{Tr } f(e_i)f(f_i) = \sum (e_i, f_i) = \dim L = n \neq 0$ . We use this to prove

Fitting's Lemma 3.7.2. (for semisimple Lie algebras).

Let  $L$  be semisimple and let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Then  $B$  is a unique direct sum  $B = B_0 \oplus B_*$  where  $B_0$  and  $B_*$  are  $L$ -submodules of  $B$  such that  $B_0 L = 0$  and  $B_* L = B_*$ .

Proof. We prove by induction on  $\dim B$ . If  $B = 0$ , it is trivial, while if  $L = 0$ , we set  $B_0 = B$  and  $B_* = 0$ . Assume that  $B \neq 0$  and  $L \neq 0$ . We may further assume that the representation  $f$  afforded by  $B$  is faithful. Indeed, letting  $J = \ker f$ , we make  $B$  an  $L/J$ -module via  $v(x + J) = vx, v \in B, x \in L$ .

The decomposition of  $B$  for  $L/J$  gives the desired conditions for  $L$ . Note also that  $L/J$  is semisimple by Corollary 3.6.5. For brevity, we set  $f(x) = x$ ,  $x \in L$ . Let  $T$  be the Casimir operator for  $L$  as above. Let  $B = B^0 \oplus B^*$  be the Fitting decomposition of  $B$  relative to  $T$ . Thus  $B^0 = B_0(T)$  and  $B^* = B_*(T)$ . Since  $\text{Tr } T \neq 0$ ,  $T$  is not nilpotent on  $B$  and hence  $\dim B_0 < \dim B$ . Since  $[T, L] = 0$  by Lemma 3.7.1,  $B^0$  and  $B^*$  are  $L$ -submodules, so by induction we have  $B^0 = B_0 \oplus W$  with  $B_0 L = 0$  and  $W L = W$ . If we let  $B_* = W \oplus B^*$ , then  $B = B_0 \oplus B_*$  and  $B_* L = B_*$  since  $B^* T = B^*$  and  $B^* T \subset (B^* L) L \subset B^* L$ .

The uniqueness of  $B_*$  follows from  $B L = B_*$  while that of  $B_0$  amounts to  $\{v \in B_* \mid v L = 0\} = 0$ . Noting  $\dim W < \dim B$ , by induction we have  $\{u \in W \mid u L = 0\} = 0$  since  $W L = W$ , so  $W_0 = 0$ . Since  $B_* = W \oplus B^*$  and  $T$  is bijective on  $B^*$ , it follows that  $\{v \in B_* \mid v L = 0\} = 0$ . //

Theorem 3.7.3. Let  $B$  be an  $L$ -module and let  $\text{Rad } L$  be abelian. Suppose that  $U$  is a proper  $L$ -submodule of  $B$  such that  $U \text{ Rad } L = 0$  and  $B \text{ Rad } L \subset U$ . Then there exists a projection  $\pi : B \rightarrow U$  such that  $L = C_\pi + \text{Rad } L$  and  $C_\pi \cap \text{Rad } L = (\ker f) \cap \text{Rad } L$ , where  $C_\pi = \{x \in L \mid [\pi, f(x)] = 0\}$  and  $f$  is the representation afforded by  $B$ .

Proof. Let  $A = \text{Rad } L$  and  $N = \{g \in \text{Hom}_F(B, U) \mid g|_U = k \cdot \text{id}_U\}$ . We make  $N$  an  $L$ -module with  $gx = gf(x) - f(x)g = [g, f(x)]$ ,  $g \in N$ ,  $x \in L$ . It suffices to find a  $\pi \in N$  such that  $\pi|_U = \text{id}_U$  and  $\pi L = \pi A$ . Indeed, let  $C_\pi = \{x \in L \mid \pi x = [\pi, f(x)] = 0\}$ . If  $x \in L$ ,  $\pi x = \pi y$  for some  $y \in A$ , so  $x - y \in C_\pi$  and  $L = C_\pi + A$ . To see  $C_\pi \cap A = (\ker f) \cap A$ , clearly  $(\ker f) \cap A \subseteq C_\pi \cap A$  and if  $x \in C_\pi \cap A$  then, for  $v \in B$ , we have  $vx = (v\pi)x + vx - (v\pi)x = (v\pi)x + vx - (v\pi)f(x) = (v\pi)x + vx - (vx)\pi = (v\pi)x + vx(1 - \pi) \in Ux + U(1 - \pi) = 0$ . To find such a  $\pi$ , let  $M = f(A)$ . Then  $M$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $N$  with  $MA = 0 (= [M, f(A)])$ . Make  $\bar{N} \equiv N/M$  an  $\bar{L}$ -module via  $(g + M)(x + A) = gx + M$ ,  $g \in N$ ,  $x \in L$ , where  $\bar{L} = L/A$ . By Fitting's Lemma 3.7.2,  $\bar{N} = \bar{N}_0 \oplus \bar{N}_*$  where  $\bar{N}_0 \bar{N} = 0$  and  $\bar{N}_* \bar{L} = \bar{N}_*$ . Letting  $N_0 = \{g_0 \in N \mid g_0 L \subseteq M\}$ , it follows that  $N = N_0 + NL + M$ . Since  $NL = [N, f(L)]$  and each element in  $N$  is a scalar on  $U$ ,  $M$  and  $NL$  are contained in  $M' = \{g \in N \mid g|_U = 0\}$ . Thus  $N = N_0 + M'$  and since  $N \neq M'$ ,  $N_0 \neq 0$ . One chooses a  $\pi \neq 0$  in  $N_0$ . Then  $\pi|_U = c \text{id}_U$  and we may assume  $c = 1$ , so  $\pi$  is a projection from  $B$  onto  $U$ . By choice,  $\pi L \subseteq M$ . For  $x \in A$ ,  $\pi x = \pi f(x) - f(x)\pi = -f(x)$  since  $B f(x) \subseteq U$  and  $\pi|_U = \text{id}_U$ . Hence  $M \subseteq \pi A$  and  $M = \pi A$  since  $\pi A \subseteq \pi L \subseteq M$ . Thus  $\pi A = \pi L$ , as desired. //

Corollary 3.7.4. Let  $L$  be semisimple and let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Then, for any proper  $L$ -submodule  $U$  of  $B$ , there is a projection  $\pi$  from  $B$  onto  $U$  such that  $[\pi, f(L)] = 0$ .

Proof. If  $\text{Rad } L = 0$  then  $C_\pi = L$  in Theorem 3.7.3. //

Theorem 3.7.5. (Weyl). Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional semisimple Lie algebra over a field of characteristic 0. Then any finite-dimensional  $L$ -module  $B$  is  $L$ -completely reducible.

Proof. Let  $U$  be any proper  $L$ -submodule. By Corollary 3.7.4 there exists a projection  $\pi$  from  $B$  onto  $U$  such that  $L = C_\pi$  or  $[\pi, f(L)] = 0$ . Letting  $U' = B(1 - \pi)$ ,  $U'$  is an  $L$ -complement of  $U$  in  $B$ . //

Theorem 3.7.6. (Levi). Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over a field of characteristic 0. Then there exists a semisimple subalgebra  $S$  of  $L$  such that  $L = S \oplus \text{Rad } L$ .

Proof. Case 1 :  $\text{Rad } L$  is abelian. Let  $A = \text{Rad } L$  and let  $C$  be the center of  $L$ . By Theorem 3.7.3 there exists a projection  $\pi$  from  $L$  onto  $A$  such that  $L = C_\pi + A$  and  $C_\pi \cap A = A \cap \ker \text{ad} = C$ . Note that  $C_\pi/C$  is semisimple, since  $L/A = (C_\pi + A)/A \cong C_\pi/C_\pi \cap A$ .

Regard  $C_\pi$  as a  $C_\pi/C$ -module via  $x(y + C) = [xy]$ ,  $x \in C_\pi$ ,  $y + C \in C_\pi/C$ . In view of Theorem 3.7.5,  $C_\pi$  has a  $C_\pi/C$ -complement  $S$  of  $C$ . It follows that  $S$  is a semisimple subalgebra of  $L$ , since  $C_\pi = S \oplus C$  and  $C_\pi/C \cong S$ . Also,  $L = C_\pi + A = S \oplus C + A = S \oplus A$ , since  $A \cap S$  is a solvable ideal of  $S$ .

Case 2 :  $A = \text{Rad } L$ . Show by induction on  $\dim L$ . If  $L = 0$  or  $A = 0$ , there is nothing to prove. Thus, we may assume that  $A^{(1)} \neq 0$ . Noting that  $\text{Rad}(L/A^{(1)}) = A/A^{(1)}$  is abelian, by Case 1, we have  $L/A^{(1)} = B/A^{(1)} \oplus A/A^{(1)}$  where  $B$  is a subalgebra containing  $A^{(1)}$  and  $B/A^{(1)}$  is semisimple. By Corollary 3.6.4  $\text{Rad } B = A^{(1)}$  and by induction  $B = S \oplus A^{(1)}$  for some semisimple subalgebra  $S$ . But then  $L = B + A + A^{(1)} = B + A = S \oplus A$ . //

The decomposition  $L = S \oplus \text{Rad } L$  in Theorem 3.7.6 is called a Levi decomposition for  $L$  and the semisimple subalgebra  $S$  is called a Levi factor of  $L$ . It is known that all Levi factors of  $L$  are conjugate; that is, if  $S_1, S_2$  are Levi factors, there exists an invariant automorphism  $\eta$  of  $L$  such that  $S_1 = S_2^\eta$  (Theorem of Malcev-Harish-Chandra).

Corollary 3.7.7. Let  $\text{Rad } L$  be the center  $Z$  of  $L$ . Let  $B$  be an  $L$ -module where each element in  $Z$  is



split on  $B$  over  $F$  and is semisimple. Then  $B$  is  $L$ -completely reducible.

Proof. By Theorem 4.2.9, decompose  $B = \sum_a \oplus B_a(Z)$  as the direct sum of weight spaces relative to  $Z$ . Since each element in  $Z$  is semisimple, each  $x \in Z$  is the scalar  $a(x)$  on  $B_a$ . Let  $L = S \oplus Z$  be a Levi decomposition of  $L$ . Since  $[LZ] = 0$ , each  $B_a(Z)$  is  $L$ -stable. Thus, by Weyl's Theorem  $B_a(Z)$  is  $S$ -completely reducible. Since each element in  $Z$  is a scalar on  $B_a(Z)$ , every  $S$ -irreducible submodule of  $B_a(Z)$  is  $L$ -stable and so is an  $L$ -irreducible submodule of  $B_a(Z)$ . The result then follows from Theorem 1.2.3. //

Schur's Lemma 3.7.8. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over an algebraically closed field  $F$  and let  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  be an irreducible representation of  $L$ . If  $P$  is an element in  $\text{Hom}_F V$  such that  $[P, f(L)] = 0$  then  $P$  is a scalar on  $V$ .

Proof. Let  $v \neq 0$  be an eigenvector of  $P$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda \in F$ . Then  $(vx)P = (vP)x = \lambda(vx)$ ,  $x \in L$ . Let  $V_0$  be the subspace of  $V$  spanned by  $v$  and the elements obtained by repeated application of the elements in  $L$  to  $v$ . Then  $V_0$  is  $L$ -stable and  $V_0 = V$  since  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible. Since  $[P, f(L)] = 0$ ,  $P$  acts on  $V_0$  as the scalar  $\lambda$ . //

Therefore, if  $f$  is an irreducible representation of a semisimple Lie algebra  $L$  then, by Lemma 3.7.1, the Casimir operator of  $L$  is a scalar.

Theorem 3.7.9. (Zassenhaus). If the Killing form of  $L$  is nondegenerate (in arbitrary characteristic), then  $\text{Der } L = \text{ad } L$ .

Proof. Let  $D \in \text{Der } L$ . Then  $x \mapsto \text{Tr}(\text{ad } x)D$  is a linear mapping of  $L$  into  $F$ . Since  $K(, )$  is nondegenerate, there exists an element  $d \in L$  such that  $K(d,x) = \text{Tr}(\text{ad } x)D$  for all  $x \in L$ . Let  $E = D - \text{ad } d$ . Then  $\text{Tr}(\text{ad } x)E = \text{Tr}(\text{ad } x)D - K(d,x) = 0$  and so  $\text{Tr}(\text{ad } x)E = \text{Tr } E(\text{ad } x) = 0$  for  $x \in L$ . We now compute  $K(xE,y) = \text{Tr}(\text{ad } xE)\text{ad } y = \text{Tr}[\text{ad } x,E]\text{ad } y$  (since  $E \in \text{Der } L$ )  $= \text{Tr}\{(\text{ad } x)E \text{ad } y - E \text{ad } x \text{ad } y\}$   
 $= \text{Tr}(E \text{ad } y \text{ad } x - E \text{ad } x \text{ad } y) = -\text{Tr } E \text{ad}[xy] = 0$   
 for  $x,y \in L$ . Thus  $xE = 0$  for  $x \in L$  and  $E = 0$   
 or  $D = \text{ad } d \in \text{ad } L$ . //

A derivation of  $L$  in  $\text{ad } L$  is called inner. In view of Theorem 3.6.3 we have

Corollary 3.7.10. If  $L$  is semisimple and of characteristic 0 then all derivations of  $L$  are inner. //

Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of characteristic  $0$ . To ascertain the semisimplicity of  $L$ , there is often a much simpler method than Theorem 3.6.3. A Lie algebra  $L \neq 0$  is called reductive if  $\text{Rad } L = Z(L)$ . Abelian and semisimple Lie algebras are obvious examples for this. Also,  $(\text{Hom } V)^-$  is reductive.

Theorem 3.7.11. (1) Let  $L$  be reductive. Then  $L = [LL] \oplus Z(L)$  and  $[LL]$  is semisimple or  $0$ .

(2) Let  $L \subset (\text{Hom } V)^-$  be a Lie algebra acting irreducibly on  $V$ . Then  $L$  is reductive with  $\dim Z(L) \leq 1$ . If, in addition,  $\text{Tr } x = 0$  for  $x \in L$ , then  $L$  is semisimple.

Proof. (1) Suppose that  $L$  is reductive but not abelian, so  $L' = L/Z(L)$  is semisimple. Since  $\text{ad } L \cong L'$ , by Weyl's Theorem  $\text{ad } L$  acts completely reducibly on  $L$  and hence  $L = M \oplus Z(L)$ ,  $M$  an ideal of  $L$ . In particular,  $[LL] = [MM] \subset M$ . But since  $L' = [L'L']$ ,  $[LL]\pi = L' \cong M$  where  $\pi$  is the natural map  $: L \rightarrow L'$ . Hence  $M = [LL]$  and  $L = [LL] \oplus Z(L)$ .

(2) Let  $A = \text{Rad } L$ . By Corollary 3.4.10 there is a vector  $v \neq 0$  in  $V$  such that  $vz = \lambda(z)v$ ,  $z \in A$ ,  $\lambda(z) \in F$ . If  $x \in L$  then  $[xz] \in A$ ,  $z \in A$

and so (\*)  $(vx)z = v[xz] + (vz)x = \lambda(z)vx + \lambda([xz])v$  .  
 Since  $L$  acts irreducibly,  $V$  is spanned by  $v$  and the elements obtained by repeated application of the elements of  $L$  to  $v$  . It therefore follows from (\*) that the matrices of all  $z \in A$  relative to a suitable basis of  $V$  are triangular with  $\lambda(z)$  the only diagonal entry. Since  $[AL] \subset A$  have trace 0 , this implies that  $\lambda([AL]) = 0$  . Thus by (\*) we conclude that  $z \in A$  acts diagonally on  $V$  as the scalar  $\lambda(z)$  . In particular,  $A = Z(L)$ ,  $L$  is reductive and  $\dim A \leq 1$  . If  $\text{Tr } x = 0$  for  $x \in L$  then  $L$  contains no nonzero scalars and hence  $A = 0$  , so  $L$  is semisimple. //

We remark that Theorem 3.7.11 (1) is also a consequence of the Levi's Theorem (why?).

For example, let  $\mathfrak{sl}(V) = \{x \in \text{Hom } V \mid \text{Tr } x = 0\}$  . Then  $\text{Hom } V = \mathfrak{sl}(V) \oplus F1$  . Since  $\text{Hom } V$  acts irreducibly on  $V$  (why?) , so does  $\mathfrak{sl}(V)$  on  $V$  . Thus by Theorem 3.7.11 (2)  $\mathfrak{sl}(V)$  is semisimple. In fact, it can be seen that  $\mathfrak{sl}(V)$  is simple.

## 4. SPLIT SEMISIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS OF CHARACTERISTIC 0

### 4.1. Introduction

In this chapter we discuss the classification of simple Lie algebras over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of characteristic 0. This classification was first given by Killing and E. Cartan, and its simplification was later made by Weyl, Coxeter, and Dynkin. The restriction on the base field  $F$  can be relaxed by assuming that a semisimple Lie algebra  $L$  has a split CSA  $H$ . This is due to the fact that the algebraically closedness in classical treatments is used only to ensure the existence of the Cartan decomposition  $L = H \oplus L_{\alpha} \oplus \dots \oplus L_{\delta}$  relative to  $H$ . The classification is carried out by obtaining more stringent information on the Cartan decomposition and then by associating a simple system of roots with each split semisimple Lie algebra. The classification is then reduced to that of simple systems of roots. We finally outline the existence of a simple Lie algebra corresponding to each type of simple system of roots.

Throughout this chapter we assume that  $L$  denotes a split semisimple Lie algebra over a field  $F$  of characteristic 0 and all  $L$ -modules and representations of  $L$  are finite-dimensional.

#### 4.2. Maximal tori

We first describe the CSA of  $L$  as maximal tori in  $L$ . Let  $x$  be an element in  $L$  such that  $\text{ad } x$  is split over  $F$ . Since the Jordan components  $(\text{ad } x)_s$  and  $(\text{ad } x)_n$  are derivations of  $L$  by Corollary 1.4.10, in view of Corollary 3.7.10, there exist elements  $x_s, x_n \in L$  such that  $(\text{ad } x)_s = \text{ad } x_s$  and  $(\text{ad } x)_n = \text{ad } x_n$ . Since  $L$  has center 0, we have

$$x = x_s + x_n \tag{1.26}$$

and clearly  $[x_s, x_n] = 0$ . The decomposition (1.26) is unique subject to the fact that  $\text{ad } x_s$  is semisimple,  $\text{ad } x_n$  is nilpotent and  $[x_s, x_n] = 0$ , or equivalently,  $\text{ad } x_s = (\text{ad } x)_s$  and  $\text{ad } x_n = (\text{ad } x)_n$  in view of Lemma 1.3.2. The decomposition (1.26) is referred to as the abstract Jordan decomposition of  $x$ .

If  $x = x_s$ ,  $x$  is called semisimple while  $x$  is nilpotent if  $x = x_n$ .

Lemma 4.2.0. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over  $F$  (of arbitrary char.). Let  $x \in \text{Hom } V$  split over  $F$ . Then there exist polynomials  $p(T)$ ,  $q(T)$  without constant terms such that  $x_s = p(x)$  and  $x_n = q(x)$  where  $x = x_s + x_n$  is the (usual) Jordan decomposition of  $x$ . Moreover, if  $U \subset W \subset V$  are subspaces of  $V$  and  $Wx \subset U$  then  $x_s$  and  $x_n$  map  $W$  into  $U$  also.

Proof. Let  $\Pi(T - a_i)^{m_i}$  be the characteristic polynomial of  $x$ , with the  $a_i$  distinct. Let  $V = \Sigma \oplus V_i$  be the primary decomposition of  $V$  relative to  $x$ , so that  $V_i = \ker(x - a_i)^{m_i}$  (see Section 1.3), being  $x$ -stable. By the Chinese Remainder Theorem, we find a polynomial  $p(T)$  satisfying the congruences :  
 $p(T) \equiv a_i \pmod{(T - a_i)^{m_i}}$ ,  $p(T) \equiv 0 \pmod{T}$  (if 0 is an eigenvalue of  $x$ , the last congruence is superfluous).  
 Set  $q(T) = T - p(T)$  and  $x_s = p(x)$ ,  $x_n = q(x)$ , so  $x$ ,  $x_s$ ,  $x_n$  all commute with each other. Hence the  $V_i$  are  $x_s$ -,  $x_n$ -stable. From  $p(T) \equiv a_i \pmod{(T - a_i)^{m_i}}$ , it follows that  $V_i(x_s - a_i) = 0$ , so  $x_s|_{V_i} = a_i \text{id}$  and  $x_s$  is semisimple. Hence  $x = x_s + x_n$  is the Jordan decomposition of  $x$  (Lemma 1.3.2).

By definition,  $x_n = x - x_s$  is nilpotent. The last part is now obvious. //

Theorem 4.2.0. Let  $L \subset (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  be a semisimple Lie algebra where  $V$  is finite-dimensional over  $F$  (of char 0). Let  $x \in L$  be split over  $F$ . Then  $L$  contains the semisimple part  $x_s$  and the nilpotent part  $x_n$  of  $x$ .

Proof. Let  $E = \text{Hom}_F V$ . Note that  $\text{ad } x = \text{ad } x_s + \text{ad } x_n$  is the (usual) Jordan decomposition for  $\text{ad } x$  (Theorem 1.3.3). Set  $N = N_E(L)$ , the normalizer of  $L$  in  $E$ . Since  $L \text{ ad } x \subset L$ , by Lemma 4.2.0  $L \text{ ad } x_s \subset L$  and  $L \text{ ad } x_n \subset L$ , so  $x_s, x_n \in N$ . Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be the family of  $L$ -submodules of  $V$ . If  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ , define  $L_W = \{y \in E \mid Wy \subset W \text{ and } \text{Tr } y|_W = 0\}$ . Since  $L = [LL]$ , clearly  $L \subset L_W$  for all  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ . Set  $L_0 = N \cap (\bigcap_{W \in \mathcal{W}} L_W)$ . Then  $L_0$  is a subalgebra of  $N$  and contains  $L$  as an ideal (since  $L$  is an ideal of  $N$ ). Note that  $x_s, x_n \in L_0$  by Lemma 4.2.0 (since  $Wx \subset W$  for all  $W \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $\text{Tr } x_s|_W = \text{Tr } (x - x_n)|_W = 0$ ).

We contend that  $L = L_0$ . Regard  $L_0$  as an  $L$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ , so by Weyl's Theorem we have  $L_0 = L \oplus M$  with  $[L, M] \subset M$ . But since  $[L, L_0] \subset L$  (since  $L_0 \subset N$ ),  $[L, M] = 0$ . Let  $W$  be any irreducible  $L$ -submodule of  $V$ . If  $y \in M$ , then  $[L, y] = 0$ , so Schur's Lemma implies that  $y|_W$  is a scalar.



But  $\text{Tr } y|_W = 0$  as  $y \in L_W$ , so  $y|_W = 0$ . Since  $V$  is a direct sum of irreducible  $L$ -submodules of  $V$  (Weyl's Theorem),  $y = 0$  for  $y \in M$ , so  $L = L_0$  and  $x_s, x_n \in L$ . //

Corollary 4.2.0. Let  $L$  be the same as in Theorem 4.2.0 and let  $x \in L$  be split over  $F$ . Then the usual and abstract Jordan decompositions of  $x$  coincide.

Proof. Let  $x = x'_s + x'_n = x_s + x_n$  be respectively the abstract and usual Jordan decompositions of  $x$ . Then  $\text{ad } x'_s = \text{ad } x_s$  and  $\text{ad } x'_n = \text{ad } x_n$  (Lemma 1.3.2; uniqueness, and Theorem 1.3.3). Since  $x_s, x_n \in L$  by Theorem 4.2.0,  $x'_s = x_s$  and  $x'_n = x_n$ . //

Theorem 4.2.1. Let  $f$  be a representation of  $L$ . Let  $x$  be an element in  $L$  such that  $\text{ad } x$  is split over  $F$ . Then  $f(x_s) = f(x)_s$  and  $f(x_n) = f(x)_n$ , that is,  $f(x) = f(x_s) + f(x_n)$  is the usual Jordan decomposition of  $f(x)$ . Thus the usual and abstract Jordan decompositions of  $f(x)$  coincide.

Proof. Since  $\text{ad } x_s = (\text{ad } x)_s$  is semisimple on  $L$ ,  $L$  is spanned by eigenvectors of  $\text{ad } x_s$ . Thus  $f(L)$  is spanned by eigenvectors of  $\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x_s)$ . Since  $\text{ad } x_n$  is nilpotent on  $L$ , so is  $\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x_n)$  on  $f(L)$ .

From  $[x_s x_n] = 0$ , we have  $[\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x_s), \text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x)_n] = 0$  and thus by Lemma 1.3.2,

$$\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x_s) = (\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x))_s, \quad \text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x)_n = (\text{ad}_{f(L)} f(x))_n.$$

Since  $f(L)$  is semisimple by Corollary 3.6.5, we have that  $f(x_s) = f(x)_s$  and  $f(x)_n = f(x)_n$ , where  $f(x)_s$  and  $f(x)_n$  are the abstract Jordan components of  $f(x)$ . It follows from Corollary 4.2.0 that these are in fact the usual Jordan components. //

Definition 4.2.1. Let  $T$  be a subalgebra of  $L$  such that  $\text{ad}_L x$  is split over  $F$  for  $x \in T$ . Then  $T$  is called a torus of  $L$  if  $T$  is abelian and consists of semisimple elements. //

Theorem 4.2.2. A subalgebra  $T$  of  $L$  is a maximal torus of  $L$  if and only if  $T$  is a split CSA of  $L$ .

Proof. It suffices to show that any maximal torus  $T$  of  $L$  is contained in a CSA of  $L$  and a split CSA of  $L$  is a torus of  $L$ .

Suppose that  $T$  is a maximal torus of  $L$ . Let  $C = C_L(T) = \{x \in L \mid [xT] = 0\}$ , the centralizer of  $T$  in  $L$ . Let  $H$  be a CSA of  $C$ . By Theorem 3.3.1  $T \subset N_C(H) = H$  and so  $L_0(\text{ad } H) \subset L_0(\text{ad } T)$ . Noting that  $C_L(T) \subset L_0(\text{ad } T)$  and each element in  $\text{ad } T$  is

semisimple, we see that  $L_0(\text{ad } T) = C_L(T)$  . Thus  $L_0(\text{ad } H) \subset C_0(\text{ad } H) = H$  since  $H$  is a CSA of  $C$  . Hence  $L_0(\text{ad } H) = H$  and  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$  .

Suppose that  $H$  is a split CSA of  $L$  and  $T$  is the set of semisimple elements in  $H$  . We show that  $T$  is a torus and  $H = T$  . Let  $x \in H$  . Since  $\text{ad } x|_H$  is nilpotent, so is  $\text{ad } x_s|_H = (\text{ad } x)_s|_H$  on  $H$  . Thus  $\text{ad } x_s|_H = 0$  and  $x_s \in C_L(H) \subset N_L(H) = H$  . In particular,

$$T \subset C_L(H) \text{ or } [TH] = 0 . \quad (1.27)$$

Hence  $x_s \in T$  for all  $x \in H$  . Let  $x, y \in T$  . Since  $[xy] = 0$  by (1.27),  $x$  and  $y$  span an abelian subalgebra  $A$  . By Theorem 3.2.9,  $L$  is decomposed into  $L = \Sigma \oplus L_a(\text{ad } A)$  as an  $A$ -module via  $\text{ad}$  . Since  $\text{ad } x$  and  $\text{ad } y$  are semisimple, they are scalars on  $L_{a(x)}(\text{ad } x)$  and  $L_{a(y)}(\text{ad } y)$  . Noting that  $L_a(\text{ad } A) \subset L_{a(x)}(\text{ad } x)$  , we find that the matrices of  $\text{ad } x$  and  $\text{ad } y$  are diagonal. Thus any linear combination of  $x$  and  $y$  is semisimple and  $T$  is an abelian subalgebra. Let  $N = \{x \in H \mid \text{ad}_L x \text{ is nilpotent}\} = \{x \in H \mid x \text{ is nilpotent}\}$  . By Corollary 3.4.4  $N$  is an ideal of  $H$  . If  $x \in H$  ,  $x_n = x - x_s \in H$  and so  $H = T \oplus N$  . It remains to show  $N = 0$  . Since  $\text{ad}_L N$  is simultaneously nil triangulable by Engel's Theorem,  $K(N, N) = 0$  . Noting that  $[\text{ad } x , \text{ad } y] = 0$  for  $x \in N$  and  $y \in T$  , we see that

$K(N, T) = 0$  since  $\text{ad } x$  is nilpotent. But since  $K(, )$  is nondegenerate on  $H$  by Theorem 3.3.6,  $N = 0$  and  $H = T$ . //

Corollary 4.2.3. Let  $H$  be a split CSA of  $L$  and  $L = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha}$  be the Cartan decomposition. Then

(1)  $L_{\alpha} = \{x \in L \mid [xh] = \alpha(h)x, h \in H\}$  for each root  $\alpha$  of  $H$ .

(2)  $H = C_L(H)$ .

Proof. (1) By Theorem 4.2.2  $\text{ad } h$  ( $h \in H$ ) is semisimple, so  $(\text{ad } h)|_{L_{\alpha}}$  is the scalar  $\alpha(h)$ .

(2) Clearly  $H \subset C_L(H)$  since  $H$  is abelian.

Let  $x \in C_L(H)$  and let  $x = \sum_{\alpha} x_{\alpha}$ ,  $x_{\alpha} \in L_{\alpha}$ . If  $\alpha \neq 0$ , choose an  $h \in H$  with  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$ . Thus  $[xh] = 0$  implies  $x_{\alpha} = 0$  since the sum is direct. //

### 4.3. Representations of $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$

Let  $S$  be the 3-dimensional Lie algebra with basis  $\{x, y, h\}$  such that

$$[xh] = 2x, [yh] = -2y, [xy] = h . \quad (1.28)$$

Assume that  $F$  is a field of characteristic 0 . Then  $S$  is simple and is isomorphic to the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, F)$  of  $2 \times 2$  trace 0 matrices over  $F$  . In fact,  $S$  is a simple Lie algebra of least dimension (why ?) . Clearly,  $H = Fh$  is a CSA of  $S$  . The 3-dimensional Lie algebra given by (1.28) is called the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra .

Let  $V$  be an  $S$ -module with the afforded representation  $f \neq 0$  . We first suppose that  $F$  is algebraically closed. Henceforth, we denote by  $\lambda, \mu, \dots$  weights of a CSA  $H$  in  $V$  . For brevity, we identify  $vt = vf(t)$ ,  $v \in V$ ,  $t \in S$  . Let

$$V = \sum_{\lambda} \oplus V_{\lambda}(h) \quad (1.29)$$

be the weight space decomposition of  $V$  relative to  $H = Fh$  . In view of Theorem 4.2.1  $h(= f(h))$  is semisimple, so  $V = V_{\lambda}(h) = \{v \in V \mid vh = \lambda v\}$  .

Lemma 4.3.1. If  $v \in V_{\lambda}$  then  $vx \in V_{\lambda+2}$  and  $vy \in V_{\lambda-2}$  .

Proof.  $(vx)h = v[xh] + (vh)x = (2 + \lambda)vx$  and likewise  $(vy)h = (\lambda - 2)vy$  . //

Since  $V$  is finite-dimensional, in view of (1.29) there exists  $V_{\lambda} \neq 0$  such that  $V_{\lambda+2} = 0$  . For such  $\lambda$ ,

any nonzero element in  $V_\lambda$  is called a maximal vector of the weight  $\lambda$ . Note that  $vx = 0$  for all  $v \in V_\lambda$  by Lemma 4.3.1.

Lemma 4.3.2. Let  $v_0 \in V_\lambda$  be a maximal vector,  $v_{-1} = 0$  and let  $v_i = (1/i!)v_0 y^i$  ( $i \geq 0$ ). Then

$$(1) \quad v_i h = (\lambda - 2i)v_i,$$

$$(2) \quad v_i y = (i + 1)v_{i+1},$$

$$(3) \quad v_i x = (i - \lambda - 1)v_{i-1} \quad (i \geq 0).$$

Proof. (1) follows from Lemma 4.3.1 while (2) is just the definition of  $v_i$ . For (3), use induction on  $i$ . If  $i = 0$  then it is clear since  $v_{-1} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} i v_i x &= (v_{i-1} y) x \\ &= v_{i-1} [y x] + (v_{i-1} x) y \\ &= -v_{i-1} h + (i - 2 - \lambda) v_{i-2} y \quad (\text{induction and (2)}) \\ &= -(\lambda - 2(i - 1)) v_{i-1} + (i - 1)(i - 2 - \lambda) v_{i-1} \\ &\hspace{15em} ((1) \text{ and } (2)) \\ &= i(i - \lambda - 1) v_{i-1}. \quad // \end{aligned}$$

In view of Lemma 4.3.2 (1), the nonzero  $v_i$  are linearly independent. Since  $\dim V < \infty$ , one can choose the least integer  $m$  such that  $v_m \neq 0$  but  $v_{m+1} = 0$ ;

evidently  $v_{m+i} = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ . Lemma 4.3.2 (1) - (3) show that  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m$  span an  $S$ -submodule of  $V$ . Suppose that  $V$  is  $S$ -irreducible. Then  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m$  form a basis for  $V$ . Since  $v_{m+1} = 0$  and  $v_m \neq 0$ , it follows from (3) that  $\lambda = m$ . Thus the weight  $m$  of a maximal vector is a nonnegative integer, called the highest weight of  $h$  in  $V$ . Each weight space  $V_\mu$  is one-dimensional and so  $\lambda = m = \dim V - 1$  is uniquely determined by  $V$ . Since  $\dim V_\lambda = 1$ ,  $v_0$  is unique up to scalar multiple. It follows from (1) that the weights of  $h$  form an arithmetic progression with difference 2; that is, the weights are  $m, m - 2, \dots, -(m - 2), -m$  with the lowest weight  $-m$ . Therefore, if  $m$  is even, the weight 0 occurs once and only once while if  $m$  is odd, 1 occurs as a weight once and only once. It is clear that both 0 and 1 cannot occur as weights.

Since any irreducible  $S$ -module of dimension  $m + 1$  is described by Lemma 4.3.2 (1) - (3), irreducible  $S$ -modules are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension. For any nonnegative integer  $m$ , let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$  with a basis  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m$ . Define the actions of  $S$  on  $V$  by the relations (1) - (3) in Lemma 4.3.2. It is easy to check that  $V$  becomes an irreducible  $S$ -module (Exercise 4.3.1). We summarize these in

Theorem 4.3.3. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional irreducible  $S$ -module. Then

(1)  $V$  is the direct sum of weight spaces  $V_\mu$  of  $h$ ,  $\mu = m, m-2, \dots, -(m-2), -m$ , where  $m+1 = \dim V$ ,  $\dim V_\mu = 1$  for each  $\mu$  and  $m$  is the highest weight of  $h$ .

(2)  $V$  has, up to nonzero scalar multiple, a unique maximal vector whose weight is  $m$  and highest.

(3) Exactly one of  $0$  and  $1$  occurs as a weight once and only once.

(4) For any nonnegative integer  $m$ , there exists a unique irreducible  $S$ -module of dimension  $m+1$ . This module is described by (1) - (3) in Lemma 4.3.2. //

Note that any nonzero weight vector  $v$  of  $h$  with  $vx = 0$  is a maximal vector of  $V$ .

Corollary 4.3.4. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional  $S$ -module. Then the eigenvalues of  $h$  on  $V$  are all integers and if  $k$  is an eigenvalue of  $h$  then the arithmetic progression  $k, (k-2), \dots, -(k-2), -k$  are all eigenvalues of  $h$ . Moreover, the number of irreducible  $S$ -submodules in  $V$  is precisely  $\dim V_0(h) + \dim V_1(h)$ .



Proof. By Weyl's Theorem 3.7.5,  $V$  is decomposed as a direct sum of irreducible  $S$ -modules. Thus by Theorem 4.3.3 all eigenvalues of  $h$  are integers. If  $k$  is an eigenvalue of  $h$  on  $V$ ,  $k$  occurs as an eigenvalue of  $h$  on an irreducible summand of  $V$  and hence  $k, k - 2, \dots, -(k - 2), -k$  are all eigenvalues of  $h$ . Since each weight space in an irreducible  $S$ -module is one-dimensional, by Theorem 4.3.3 (3), the number of irreducible  $S$ -submodules is  $\leq \dim V_0(h) + \dim V_1(h)$ . If  $v \in V_0(h)$  then  $vh = 0$  and, by Lemma 4.3.2 (1),  $v$  is a linear combination of eigenvectors of  $h$  having 0 as eigenvalues. Thus  $\dim V_0(h)$  equals the number of irreducible  $S$ -submodules of  $V$  in which 0 occurs as weight. Likewise,  $\dim V_1(h)$  is the number of irreducible  $S$ -submodule of  $V$  in which 1 occurs as weight. //

Remark. If  $F$  is not algebraically closed, let  $K$  be the algebraic closure of  $F$ . Regard  $V_K$  as an  $S_K$ -module. Then the above discussion shows that the eigenvalues of  $h$  in  $V_K$  are all integers; but these are also the eigenvalues of  $h$  in  $V$ . //

Exercise 4.3.1. Let  $V(m)$  be the irreducible  $S$ -module with basis  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m$  given by Lemma 4.3.2 (1) - (3). Find the matrices of  $x (= f(x))$ ,  $y$  and  $h$  relative to this basis. Utilize these matrices to verify

that the relations (1) - (3) of Lemma 4.3.2 define an  $(m + 1)$ -dimensional irreducible  $S$ -module.

Notice that the matrix of  $f(h)$  is diagonal, while those of  $f(x)$  and  $f(y)$  are respectively upper and lower nil triangular matrices, so nilpotent.

Exercise 4.3.2. Let  $U$  and  $W$  be  $L$ -modules where  $L$  is any Lie algebra. Prove that the tensor product  $U \otimes W$  becomes an  $L$ -module via

$$(u \otimes w)x = (ux) \otimes w + u \otimes (wx), \quad u \in U, w \in W, x \in L.$$

Let  $V(m)$  be the irreducible  $S$ -module as in Exercise 4.3.1. Prove that the  $S$ -module  $V(3) \otimes V(7)$  is decomposed into the direct sum of irreducible  $S$ -modules :

$V(4) \otimes V(6) \otimes V(8) \otimes V(10)$  . The general case of this is the Clebsch-Gordan formula : If  $n \leq m$  then  $V(m) \otimes V(n) \cong V(m+n) \otimes V(m+n-2) \otimes \dots \otimes V(m-n)$  ,  $n+1$  summands in all.

This formula plays a role in elementary particle physics, angular momentum, spin, etc.

4.4. Properties of roots and root spaces

Let  $H$  be a split CSA of  $L$  and let

$$L = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha} \tag{1.30}$$

be the Cartan decomposition of  $L$  relative to  $H$ . Henceforth, we denote the Killing form  $K(,)$  by  $(,)$ . Let  $H^*$  be the dual space of  $H$ . Since  $(,)$  is nondegenerate on  $H$ , the mapping  $h \rightarrow (h,)$  is an isomorphism of  $H$  onto  $H^*$ . Thus, for each  $\phi \in H^*$ , there exists a unique  $t_{\phi} \in H$  such that  $\phi = (t_{\phi},)$ . Also, the mapping  $\phi \rightarrow t_{\phi}$  is an isomorphism of  $H^*$  onto  $H$ , and

$$\psi(t_{\phi}) = (t_{\psi}, t_{\phi}), \quad \psi \in H^* . \tag{1.31}$$

Denote by  $\Phi$  the set of all nonzero roots of  $H$  in  $L$ . We define a bilinear form  $(,)$  on  $H^*$  by  $(\phi, \psi) = (t_{\phi}, t_{\psi})$ . Then  $(,)$  is nondegenerate on  $H^*$  since  $(,)$  is nondegenerate on  $H$ .

Theorem 4.4.1. (1)  $\Phi$  spans  $H^*$ .

(2) If  $\alpha \in \Phi$  then  $-\alpha \in \Phi$ .

(3) For  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , let  $x \in L_{\alpha}$  and  $y \in L_{-\alpha}$ .

Then  $xy = -(x, y)t_{\alpha}$ .

(4) If  $\alpha \in \Phi$  then  $[L_\alpha, L_{-\alpha}]$  is one-dimensional with basis  $t_\alpha$ .

(5)  $\alpha(t_\alpha) = (\alpha, \alpha) = (t_\alpha, t_\alpha) \neq 0$  for  $\alpha \in \Phi$ .

(6) For  $\alpha \in \Phi$  and each nonzero  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$ , there exists an element  $y_\alpha \in L_{-\alpha}$  such that  $x_\alpha, y_\alpha, h_\alpha = [x_\alpha, y_\alpha]$  span the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra where  $h_\alpha = 2t_\alpha / (\alpha, \alpha)$  with  $h_\alpha = -h_{-\alpha}$ . In particular,  $h_\alpha$  is uniquely determined by  $\alpha$ .

Proof. (1) Let  $\bar{H}$  be the subspace of  $H^*$  spanned by  $\Phi$ . Let  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r\} \subset \Phi$  be a basis for  $\bar{H}$ . Then the mapping  $h \rightarrow \phi(h) = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i(h) \alpha_i$  gives a linear mapping of  $H$  into  $\bar{H}$ . Thus, if  $\dim \bar{H} < \dim H$ , there exists a nonzero  $h \in H$  such that  $\phi(h) = 0$ , so  $\alpha_1(h) = \dots = \alpha_r(h) = 0$  and  $\alpha(h) = 0$  for  $\alpha \in \Phi$ . This, by Corollary 4.2.3 (1), implies that  $h$  is in the center of  $L$ . This is absurd since  $L$  is semisimple.

(2) Suppose that  $-\alpha \notin \Phi$ . Then  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$  for all  $\beta \in \Phi$  and hence  $(L_\alpha, L_\beta) = 0$  for  $\beta \in \Phi$  by Theorem 3.3.6(3). Therefore,  $(L_\alpha, L) = 0$  and this is impossible since  $(, )$  is nondegenerate.

(3) Let  $x \in L_\alpha$  and  $y \in L_{-\alpha}$ . For  $h \in H$ , we have  $(h, [xy]) = (-[xh], y) = -\alpha(h)(x, y) = -(t_\alpha, h)(x, y) = -(x, y)t_\alpha, h$ . The nondegeneracy of  $(, )$  on  $H$  then implies  $[xy] = -(x, y)t_\alpha$ .

(4) In view of (3), it suffices to show  $[L_\alpha, L_{-\alpha}] \neq 0$ . Let  $x \neq 0$  be in  $L$ . Suppose that  $(x, L_{-\alpha}) = 0$ . Then by Theorem 3.3.6 (3),  $(x, L_\beta) = 0$  for  $\beta \in \Phi$  and so  $(x, L) = 0$ , contrary to the nondegeneracy of  $(\ , \ )$ . Thus there exists a  $y \neq 0$  in  $L_{-\alpha}$  with  $(x, y) \neq 0$  and  $[xy] \neq 0$  by (3).

(5) Suppose that  $\alpha(t_\alpha) = (\alpha, \alpha) = 0$ . Then  $[xt_\alpha] = [yt_\alpha] = 0$  for all  $x \in L_\alpha$  and  $y \in L_{-\alpha}$ . As in (3), find  $x \in L_\alpha$  and  $y \in L_{-\alpha}$  with  $(x, y) \neq 0$ . We may assume that  $(x, y) = -1$ . Then, by (3),  $[xy] = t_\alpha$  and  $x, y, t_\alpha$  span a solvable Lie algebra  $N$ . But then  $\text{ad}_L z$  is nilpotent for  $z \in [NN]$  by Corollary 3.4.4. Since  $[NN] = Ft_\alpha \subset H$ ,  $\text{ad}_L t_\alpha$  is both semisimple and nilpotent, so  $\text{ad}_L t_\alpha = 0$  and  $t_\alpha \in \text{center of } L$ , contrary to the semisimplicity of  $L$ .

(6) Given  $x_\alpha \neq 0$  in  $L_\alpha$ . As in (4), choose a  $y \neq 0$  in  $L_{-\alpha}$  such that  $(x_\alpha, y) \neq 0$ . Since  $(\alpha, \alpha) \neq 0$ , we set

$$y_\alpha = \frac{-2y}{(x_\alpha, y)(\alpha, \alpha)}, \quad h_\alpha = \frac{2t_\alpha}{(\alpha, \alpha)}. \quad (1.32)$$

Then

$$(x_\alpha, y_\alpha) = \frac{-2}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \quad (1.33)$$

and hence  $[x_\alpha y_\alpha] = -(x_\alpha, y_\alpha)t_\alpha = 2t_\alpha/(\alpha, \alpha) = h_\alpha$  by (3),

(1.32) and (1.33). Also,  $[x_\alpha h_\alpha] = (2/(\alpha, \alpha)) [x_\alpha t_\alpha] = 2x_\alpha$  and likewise  $[y_\alpha h_\alpha] = -2y_\alpha$ . Since  $\alpha(h) = (t_\alpha, h)$  for  $h \in H$  and  $(, )$  is nondegenerate on  $H$ , we have  $t_{-\alpha} = -t_\alpha$  and so  $h_{-\alpha} = -h_\alpha$ . Since  $t_\alpha$  is uniquely determined by  $\alpha$ , so is  $h_\alpha$ , by (1.32). //

Corollary 4.4.1. Let  $H$  be a split CSA of  $L$  and  $V$  be an  $L$ -module. Then  $V$  is a split  $H$ -module and  $V_\lambda(H) = \{v \in V \mid vh = \lambda(h)v, h \in H\}$ . Thus  $f(h)$ ,  $h \in H$ , is split over  $F$  and semisimple where  $f$  is the representation afforded by  $V$ .

Proof. By Theorem 4.4.1(6), there is a basis  $h_{\alpha_1}, \dots, h_{\alpha_\ell}$  of  $H$  such that  $x_{\alpha_i}, y_{\alpha_i}, h_{\alpha_i}$  span a split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra  $S_i$ . Regard  $V$  as an  $S_i$ -module. Then the eigenvalues of  $f(h_{\alpha_i})$  are integers, so  $f(h_{\alpha_i})$  is split over  $F$  and acts diagonally on  $V$  (Section 4.3, Remark). Since  $H$  is abelian, by a standard argument in linear algebra there is a basis  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  of  $V$  relative to which every  $f(h_{\alpha_i})$  has a diagonal matrix. Since the  $h_{\alpha_i}$  form a basis of  $H$ , it follows that every  $f(h)$  ( $h \in H$ ) has a diagonal matrix relative to  $\{v_j\}$ . Thus  $v_j h = \lambda_j(h)v_j$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . For each weight  $\lambda$  of  $H$ , it is easily seen that  $V_\lambda(H)$  is spanned by the  $v_i$  such that  $\lambda = \lambda_i$ . //

Theorem 4.4.2. (1)  $\alpha \in \Phi$  implies that  $\dim L_\alpha = 1$ . In particular,  $S_\alpha = L_\alpha + L_{-\alpha} + H_\alpha$  is the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra and, for any nonzero  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$ , there is a unique  $y_\alpha \in L_{-\alpha}$  such that  $[x_\alpha y_\alpha] = h_\alpha$ , where  $H_\alpha = [L_\alpha L_{-\alpha}]$ .

(2) If  $\alpha \in \Phi$  then the only scalar multiples of  $\alpha$  which are roots are  $\alpha$  and  $-\alpha$ .

Proof. For a fixed  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , let  $M = H + \sum_{c \in F^*} L_{c\alpha}$  where  $F^* = F - \{0\}$ . Let  $S_\alpha$  be the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra spanned by  $x_\alpha, y_\alpha, h_\alpha$  given in Theorem 4.4.1 (6). Regard  $M$  as an  $S_\alpha$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ . Then by Corollary 4.3.4 the weights of  $h_\alpha$  in  $M$  are integers which must be 0 and  $c\alpha(h_\alpha)$  for  $L_{c\alpha} \neq 0$ ,  $c \in F^*$ . But then by (1.32)  $\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2$  and so

$$0 \neq c\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2c = \text{an integer} \tag{1.34}$$

for  $c \in F^*$  with  $L_{c\alpha} \neq 0$ . If we let  $H' = \ker \alpha$  then  $H = H' \oplus Fh_\alpha$ . since  $\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2$ , and  $H'$  is an  $S_\alpha$ -submodule of  $M$  in which all  $S_\alpha$ -irreducible summands are one-dimensional with the only weight 0. Also,  $S_\alpha$  itself is an irreducible  $S_\alpha$ -submodule having the weights 0,  $\pm 2$  of  $h_\alpha$ . By (1.34),  $H' \oplus S_\alpha$  exhausts the occurrence of weight 0. Thus, in view of Theorem 4.3.3, the even weights of  $h_\alpha$  in  $M$  must occur in  $H' \oplus S_\alpha$ .

Thus  $0, \pm 2$  are the only even weights of  $h_\alpha$  in  $M$ . Therefore,  $2\alpha$  is not a root; for, if it is a root then  $2\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2 \cdot 2 = 4$  would be an even weight of  $h_\alpha$ . It follows from this that  $\frac{1}{2}\alpha$  is not a root. This in turn implies that  $1$  can not be a weight of  $h_\alpha$ . Indeed, if it is a weight then  $L_{c\alpha} \neq 0$  for some  $c \in F^*$  and by (1.34)  $2c = 1$ , so  $\frac{1}{2}\alpha$  is a root, a contradiction. Therefore,  $M_1(\text{ad } h_\alpha) = 0$  and by Corollary 4.3.4  $M = H + S_\alpha$ , so  $L_{c\alpha} = 0$  unless  $c = \pm 1$ . Thus the only roots of the form  $c\alpha$  are  $\pm\alpha$ . Since  $L_\alpha, L_{-\alpha} \subset M = H + S_\alpha$ ,  $L_\alpha = Fx_\alpha$  and  $L_{-\alpha} = Fy_\alpha$ ;  $\dim L_\alpha = 1$ . By Theorem 4.4.1 (4)  $[L_\alpha L_{-\alpha}] = H_\alpha = Fh_\alpha$  and  $[xy] \neq 0$  for  $x \neq 0$  in  $L_\alpha$  and  $y \neq 0$  in  $L_{-\alpha}$ . This proves (1) and (2). //

Theorem 4.4.3. Let  $V$  be an  $L$ -module and let  $\lambda$  be any weight of  $H$  in  $V$ . For  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , let  $r$  and  $q$  be the largest integers for which  $\lambda - r\alpha$  and  $\lambda + q\alpha$  are weights. The set of all weights of the form  $\lambda + i\alpha$  forms an arithmetic progression with first term  $\lambda - r\alpha$ , difference  $\alpha$ , and last term  $\lambda + q\alpha$ . Also,  $r, q \geq 0$  and

$$\frac{2(\lambda, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} = r - q. \quad (1.35)$$

If we let  $\lambda' = \lambda - [2(\lambda, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha)]\alpha$  then  $\lambda'$  is also a weight and  $\dim V_{\lambda'}(H) = \dim V_\lambda(H)$ .



Proof. Let  $S_\alpha$  be the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra spanned by the canonical basis  $x_\alpha, y_\alpha, h_\alpha$  as in Theorem 4.4.1 (6). Set  $L^{(\alpha)} = H + S_\alpha$  and let  $H_0 = \ker \alpha$ . Then  $L^{(\alpha)} = H_0 \oplus S_\alpha$  and  $Z(L^{(\alpha)}) =$  center of  $L^{(\alpha)}$  is  $H_0$ . Regard  $V$  as an  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -module. Then by Corollary 4.4.1 each  $h \in H$  is split over  $F$  and semisimple. Thus by Corollary 3.7.7  $V$  is the direct sum of irreducible  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -submodules and, furthermore, each  $h \in H_0$  is a scalar on every irreducible summand  $W$  of  $V$  (see the proof of Corollary 3.7.7). Thus  $W$  is  $S_\alpha$ -irreducible also. Let  $v_0$  be a maximal vector of  $W$ , so that  $v_0 x_\alpha = 0$  and  $v_0 h_\alpha = m v_0$  where  $m = \dim W - 1$  (see Theorem 4.3.3). Since  $h \in H_0$  is a scalar on  $W$ , we can let  $v_0 h = \mu(h) v_0$  for  $h \in H$  where  $\mu$  is a weight of  $H$ . Thus

$$v_0 h_\alpha = \mu(h_\alpha) v_0 = \frac{2(\mu, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} v_0$$

by (1.31) and (1.32), so that  $2(\mu, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = m$ . Then, as in Lemma 4.3.2,  $v_0 y_\alpha^i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$ , form a basis for  $W$ . An easy induction on  $i$  shows

$$(v_0 y_\alpha^i) h = (\mu - i\alpha)(h) v_0 y_\alpha^i, \quad h \in H. \quad (1.36)$$

Hence  $\mu - i\alpha$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$ , are distinct weights of  $H$  in  $W$  and since  $\dim W = m + 1$ , these are all the weights in  $W$ . Therefore, any weight  $\lambda$  of  $H$  in  $W$  is of the form  $\mu - i\alpha$  and

$$\dim W_\lambda(H) = 1 . \quad (1.37)$$

Let  $\lambda$  be any weight in  $V$  and let  $V = \Sigma \oplus V_i$  be the direct sum of irreducible  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -submodules  $V_i$  of  $V$ . Then  $\lambda$  is a weight in one of the  $V_i$ . Indeed, if  $vh = \lambda(h)v$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $v \neq 0$  then  $v = \Sigma v_i$  and  $vh = \Sigma v_i h = \lambda(h)v = \Sigma \lambda(h)v_i$ , so that  $v_i h = \lambda(h)v_i$ ,  $h \in H$ . Thus  $\lambda$  is a weight in  $V_i$  where  $V_\lambda(H) \cap V_i \neq 0$  and hence by (1.37)  $\dim V_\lambda(H)$  is the number of  $V_i$ 's in which  $\lambda$  is a weight. Let  $W$  be an irreducible  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -submodule of  $V$  in which  $\lambda$  is a weight. As before,  $v_0 h = \mu(h)v_0$  where  $v_0$  is a maximal vector of  $W$  and  $2(\mu, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = m = \dim W - 1$ , so  $\lambda = \mu - k\alpha$  with  $0 \leq k \leq m$  by (1.36). Let  $q$  be the largest integer such that  $\lambda + q\alpha$  is a weight, so  $q \geq 0$  since  $\lambda$  is a weight. Let  $W'$  be an irreducible  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -submodule of  $V$  in which  $\lambda + q\alpha$  is a weight. Choose a weight vector  $v'_0 \neq 0$  in  $W'$  such that  $v'_0 h = (\lambda + q\alpha)(h)v'_0$ . Since  $\lambda + (q+1)\alpha$  is not a weight  $v'_0 x = 0$  and so  $v'_0$  is a maximal vector of  $W'$  with the highest weight  $(\lambda + q\alpha)(h_\alpha) = 2(\lambda + q\alpha, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = 2(\lambda, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) + 2q \equiv s = \dim W' - 1$  of  $h_\alpha$ . Since  $\mu = \lambda + k\alpha$  is a weight,  $0 \leq k \leq q$  and  $m = 2(\mu, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = 2(\lambda + k\alpha, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = 2(\lambda, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) + 2k$ . Thus

$$k - m = - \frac{2(\lambda, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} - k ,$$

$$q - s = - \frac{2(\lambda, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} - q ,$$

so  $k - m \geq q - s$ . In view of (1.36), the weights of  $H$  in  $W$  and  $W'$  are respectively

$$\mu = \lambda + k\alpha, \lambda + (k - 1)\alpha, \dots, \lambda + (k - m)\alpha, \quad (1.38)$$

$$\lambda + q\alpha, \lambda + (q - 1)\alpha, \dots, \lambda + (q - s)\alpha. \quad (1.39)$$

Since  $k \leq q$  and  $q - s \leq k - m$ , (1.38) is contained in (1.39). Thus all weights of the form  $\lambda + i\alpha$  are in (1.39). Indeed, if  $\lambda + i\alpha$  is a weight, then let  $j$  be the largest integer such that  $\lambda + i\alpha + j\alpha$  is a weight; but then  $i + j = q$ . Thus  $\lambda + i\alpha$  is in (1.39). Letting  $r = -(q - s)$ ,  $r \geq 0$  since  $q - s \leq k - m \leq 0$  and the last term in (1.39) is  $\lambda - r\alpha$ , so that  $r$  is the largest integer such that  $\lambda - r\alpha$  is a weight.

$$\text{Let } \lambda' = \lambda - [2(\lambda, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha)]\alpha = \lambda + (2q - s)\alpha.$$

Since  $-r = q - s \leq 2q - s = q + (q - s) \leq q(q - s \leq 0)$ ,  $\lambda'$  occurs in (1.39). The argument just used shows that  $\lambda$  is a weight in an irreducible  $L^{(\alpha)}$ -submodule  $W$  if and only if  $\lambda'$  is a weight in  $W$ . Then, by (1.37) and the foregoing remark,  $\dim V_\lambda(H) = \dim V_{\lambda'}(H)$ . //

Notice that  $\lambda - i\alpha$  is a weight for any integer  $i$  between 0 and  $r - q$  where  $r, q$  are as in (1.35).

Corollary 4.4.4. (1) Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  with  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$ . Let  $r$  and  $q$  be respectively the largest integers for which  $\beta - r\alpha$  and  $\beta + q\alpha$  are roots. Then all  $\beta + i\alpha \in \Phi$

for  $-r \leq i \leq q$  with  $r, q \geq 0$  and

$$\beta(h_\alpha) = \frac{2(\beta, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} = r - q . \quad (1.40)$$

(2) If  $\alpha \in \Phi$  then  $\beta - \beta(h_\alpha)\alpha \in \Phi$  .

(3) If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  and  $\alpha + \beta \in \Phi$  then  $[L_\alpha L_\beta] = L_{\alpha+\beta}$  .

(4)  $L$  is generated by the root spaces  $L_\alpha$  ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$  .

Proof. Since  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$  ,  $\beta + i\alpha$  can not be zero.

Thus (1) and (2) are consequences of Theorem 4.4.3 when one notes that if  $\beta = \pm\alpha$  ,  $\beta - \beta(h_\alpha)\alpha = \pm\alpha$  .

For (3), let  $K = \sum_{i=-r}^q L_{\beta+i\alpha}$  and regard  $K$  as an  $S_\alpha$ -module. Then the weights of  $h_\alpha$  are integers which must be  $\beta(h_\alpha) + i\alpha(h_\alpha) = \beta(h_\alpha) + 2i$  . Since these are all distinct, not both 0 and 1 can occur as a weight of  $h_\alpha$  . Therefore, by Corollary 4.3.4,  $K$  is  $S_\alpha$ -irreducible with highest weight  $\beta(h_\alpha) + 2q$  . Let  $0 \neq x \in L_{\beta+q\alpha}$  be a maximal vector in  $K$  . By Lemma 4.3.2,  $\frac{1}{i!} x(\text{ad } y_\alpha)^i$  ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, \beta(h_\alpha) + 2q = r + q$  , form a basis for  $K$  and these elements respectively span the weight spaces  $L_{\beta+q\alpha}, \dots, L_\beta, \dots, L_{\beta-r\alpha}$  . In particular,  $(1/q!)x(\text{ad } y_\alpha)^q$  spans  $L_\beta$  and we have

$$\frac{1}{q!} x(\text{ad } y_\alpha)^q \text{ad } x_\alpha = - (r + 1) \frac{1}{(q-1)!} x(\text{ad } y_\alpha)^{q-1}$$

by Lemma 4.3.2 (3). Since  $\alpha + \beta \in \Phi$  ,  $q \geq 1$  and the

right side is nonzero. Thus  $[L_\alpha L_\beta] \neq 0$  and  $[L_\alpha L_\beta] = L_{\alpha+\beta}$  since  $\dim L_{\alpha+\beta} = 1$ .

(4) Since  $\alpha \rightarrow t_\alpha$  is an isomorphism of  $H^*$  onto  $H$ , by (1.32) and Theorem 4.4.1 (1) the  $h_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \in \Phi$  span  $H$ . //

Definition 4.4.1. For roots  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$ , the integers  $\beta(h_\alpha)$  given by (1.40) are called the Cartan integers. The arithmetic progression of roots

$$\beta - r\alpha, \beta - (r-1)\alpha, \dots, \beta, \beta + \alpha, \dots, \beta + q\alpha \quad (1.41)$$

in Corollary 4.4.1 (1) is called the  $\alpha$ -string through  $\beta$ . //

Theorem 4.4.5. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$ , the  $\alpha$ -string through  $\beta$  contains at most four roots. Hence the Cartan integer  $2(\beta, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$ .

Proof. If  $\beta = \pm\alpha$ , The result is trivial. Suppose that  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$  and that the  $\alpha$ -string through  $\beta$  contains at least five roots. By relabelling these, we may assume that  $\beta - 2\alpha, \beta - \alpha, \beta, \beta + \alpha, \beta + 2\alpha$  are roots. Then  $2\alpha = (\beta + 2\alpha) - \beta$  and  $2(\beta + \alpha) = (\beta + 2\alpha) + \beta$  are not roots. Hence the  $\beta$ -string through  $\beta + 2\alpha$  consists of the one term  $\beta + 2\alpha$ . Thus the Cartan integer  $2(\beta + 2\alpha, \beta)/(\beta, \beta) = 0$  since  $r = q = 0$ . Similarly  $\beta - 2\alpha - \beta$  and  $\beta - 2\alpha + \beta$  are not roots, so that

$2(\beta - 2\alpha, \beta)/(\beta, \beta) = 0$  . Adding these gives a contradiction, since  $(\beta, \beta) \neq 0$  by Theorem 4.4.1 (5). Since the  $\alpha$ -string through  $\beta, \beta - r\alpha, \dots, \beta, \dots, \beta + q\alpha$  , contains exactly  $r + q + 1$  roots,  $r + q + 1 \leq 4$  and so  $0 \leq r$  ,  $q \leq 3$  . This implies that  $2(\alpha, \beta)/(\alpha, \alpha) = r - q = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$  . //

Since the characteristic of  $F$  is zero, we may identify the prime field of  $F$  with the rational number field  $Q$  .

Definition 4.4.2. Denote by  $H_0^*$  the  $Q$ -subspace of  $H^*$  spanned by  $\Phi$  . Thus  $H_0^*$  is a vector space over  $Q$  spanned by  $\Phi$  . For convenience, denote  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = 2(\beta, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha)$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in H^*$  when  $(\alpha, \alpha) \neq 0$  . //

Notice that  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$  is linear only in the first variable.

Theorem 4.4.6.  $\dim H_0^* = \dim H^*$  .

Proof. Let  $\dim H^* = \ell$  . Since  $\Phi$  spans  $H^*$  ,  $\Phi$  contains a basis  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell$  of  $H^*$  . For  $\beta \in \Phi$  , let  $\beta = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} c_i \alpha_i$  ,  $c_i \in F$  . It suffices to show that all  $c_i$  are in  $Q$  . We have

$$(\beta, \alpha_j) = \sum_i c_i (\alpha_i, \alpha_j) ,$$

$$\langle \beta, \alpha_j \rangle = \sum_i \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle c_i , \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell . \quad (1.42)$$

Since all  $\langle \beta, \alpha_j \rangle$  and  $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle$  are integers, it remains to show that the system (1.42) has a solution. But then, since  $(, )$  is nondegenerate,  $\det (\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle)$

$$= [2^{\ell} / \prod_j (\alpha_j, \alpha_j)] \cdot \det ((\alpha_i, \alpha_j)) \neq 0 .$$

Thus (1.42) has a solution . //

Theorem 4.4.7.  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is rational for all  $\alpha, \beta \in H_0^*$  and  $(, )$  is positive definite on  $H_0^*$  ; that is,  $(\beta, \beta) > 0$  for all  $\beta \neq 0$  in  $H_0^*$  .

Proof. Let  $h, k \in H$  . Since  $H$  is abelian and  $\text{ad } h, \text{ad } k$  are semisimple,  $(h, k) = \text{Tr ad } h \text{ ad } k$

$$= \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} \alpha(h)\alpha(k) .$$

Thus we have for  $\lambda, \mu \in H^*$

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda, \mu) &= (t_\lambda, t_\mu) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} \alpha(t_\lambda)\alpha(t_\mu) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} (t_\alpha, t_\lambda)(t_\alpha, t_\mu) && \text{(by (1.31))} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} (\alpha, \lambda)(\alpha, \mu) . && \text{(1.43)} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if  $\beta \in \Phi$  then

$$(\beta, \beta) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} (\alpha, \beta)^2 . \tag{1.44}$$

Let the  $\beta$ -string through  $\alpha$  be  $\alpha - r_{\alpha\beta}\beta, \dots, \alpha, \dots, \alpha + q_{\alpha\beta}\beta$  . Then  $p_{\alpha\beta} \equiv 2(\alpha, \beta) / (\beta, \beta) \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2} p_{\alpha\beta} (\beta, \beta)$  . It follows from this and (1.44) that  $(\beta, \beta) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} p_{\alpha\beta}^2 (\beta, \beta)^2$  .

Since  $(\beta, \beta) \neq 0$ ,  $\sum_{\alpha} p_{\alpha\beta}^2 \neq 0$  and so  $(\beta, \beta) = 4/\sum_{\alpha} p_{\alpha\beta}^2$  is rational. Thus  $(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2}p_{\alpha\beta}(\beta, \beta)$  is rational for  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$ . Since  $\Phi$  spans  $H_0^*$ , it follows from (1.43) that  $(\lambda, \mu) \in \mathbb{Q}$  for  $\lambda, \mu \in H_0^*$ . By (1.43),  $(\lambda, \lambda) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi} (\alpha, \lambda)^2 \geq 0$  for  $\lambda \in H_0^*$ . Thus if  $(\lambda, \lambda) = 0$ ,  $(\alpha, \lambda) = 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi$  and so  $\lambda = 0$ . Hence  $(\lambda, \lambda) > 0$  for  $0 \neq \lambda \in H_0^*$ . //

Corollary 4.4.8. Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  and let  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$ . If  $(\alpha, \beta) < 0$  then  $\alpha + \beta \in \Phi$ . If  $(\alpha, \beta) > 0$  then  $\alpha - \beta \in \Phi$ .

Proof. This is immediate from Corollary 4.4.4 (1).

#### 4.5. Simple systems of roots

Let  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{\ell}$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -basis of roots of  $H_0^*$ . A vector  $\rho = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} c_i \alpha_i \in H_0^*$  is called positive if the first nonzero  $\lambda_i$  is positive. If  $\sigma, \rho \in H_0^*$ , we write  $\sigma > \rho$  if  $\sigma - \rho > 0$ . Then  $H_0^*$  is totally ordered in this way and we refer to this ordering in  $H_0^*$  as the lexicographic ordering determined by the ordered set  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{\ell})$  of roots.



Lemma 4.5.1. Let  $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_k \in H_0^*$  and suppose that the  $\rho_i > 0$  and  $(\rho_i, \rho_j) \leq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . Then  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  are linearly independent over  $Q$ .

Proof. Suppose  $\rho_k = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \rho_i = \sum c'_q \rho_q + \sum c''_s \rho_s$

where  $1 \leq q, s \leq k-1$ ,  $c'_q > 0$ ,  $c''_s \leq 0$ . Set  $\sigma = \sum c'_q \rho_q$

and  $\tau = \sum c''_s \rho_s$ . Since  $\rho_k > 0$ ,  $\sigma \neq 0$  and we have

$(\sigma, \tau) = \sum c'_q c''_s (\rho_q, \rho_s) \geq 0$ . Thus  $(\rho_k, \sigma) = (\sigma, \sigma) + (\sigma, \tau) > 0$  ;

but  $(\rho_k, \sigma) = \sum c'_q (\rho_k, \rho_q) \leq 0$ , a contradiction. Hence the  $\rho_i$  are linearly independent. //

Definition 4.5.1. A root  $\alpha \in \Phi$  is called simple (relative to the given ordering of  $H_0^*$ ) if  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\alpha$  can not be expressed in the form  $\beta + \gamma$  where  $\beta, \gamma$  are positive roots. Denote by  $\Pi$  and  $\Phi^+$  the sets of simple roots and of positive roots, respectively. //

Thus the set  $\Phi^-$  of negative roots is equal to  $-\Phi^+ = \{-\alpha \mid \alpha \in \Phi^+\}$  and  $\Phi = \Phi^+ \cup \Phi^-$ .

Theorem 4.5.2. (1) If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$  then  $\alpha - \beta$  is not a root.

(2) If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$  then  $(\alpha, \beta) \leq 0$ .

(3)  $\Pi$  is a basis for  $H_0^*$  over  $Q$ . If  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  then  $\beta = \sum_{\alpha \in \Pi} k_\alpha \alpha$  where the  $k_\alpha$  are nonnegative integers.

(4) If  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  and  $\beta \notin \Pi$  then there exists an  $\alpha \in \Pi$  such that  $\beta - \alpha \in \Phi^+$ .

Proof. (1) Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi$ . If  $\alpha - \beta \in \Phi^+$ ,  $\alpha = \beta + (\alpha - \beta)$ , contrary to the simplicity of  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha - \beta \in \Phi^-$  then we write  $\beta = (\beta - \alpha) + \alpha$  to obtain a contradiction.

(2) Let  $\alpha - r\alpha, \dots, \beta, \dots, \beta + q\alpha$  be the  $\alpha$ -string through  $\beta$ . Then  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = r - q$ . Thus  $(\alpha, \beta) \leq 0$ , since  $r = 0$  by (1) and  $(\alpha, \alpha) > 0$ .

(3) It follows from Lemma 4.5.1 and (2) that  $\Pi$  is linearly independent. Since  $\Phi^+$  is a finite set, by induction we may assume that every  $\gamma \in \Phi^+$  with  $\beta > \gamma > 0$  is of the desired form and that  $\beta \notin \Pi$ . Thus  $\beta = \beta_1 + \beta_2$ ,  $\beta_i \in \Phi^+$  and since  $\beta > \beta_i > 0$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{\alpha \in \Pi} k_\alpha \alpha$ ,  $k_\alpha$  nonnegative integers. It follows from this that every  $\beta \in \Phi^-$  is of the form  $\sum_{\alpha} k_\alpha \alpha$ ,  $k_\alpha$  nonpositive integers. Since  $\Phi$  spans  $H_0^*$ , this implies that  $\Pi$  is a basis for  $H_0^*$ .

(4) Suppose that  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  and  $\beta \notin \Pi$ . In view of Lemma 4.5.1, (2) and (3), there must exist an  $\alpha \in \Pi$  such that  $(\beta, \alpha) > 0$ . Thus  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = r - q > 0$  and  $r > 0$ , so  $\beta - \alpha \in \Phi$ . If  $\beta - \alpha < 0$  then  $\alpha - \beta > 0$  and  $\alpha = \beta + (\alpha - \beta)$ . Thus  $\beta - \alpha \in \Phi^+$  and  $\beta = (\beta - \alpha) + \alpha$ . //

Definition 4.5.2. If  $\Pi$  contains  $l$  elements then

we denote  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  and call this the simple system of roots for  $L$  relative to  $H$  and the given ordering in  $H_0^*$ . //

The classification of simple Lie algebras reduces to that of simple systems of roots. Theorem 4.5.2(3) in fact characterizes a simple system of roots.

Corollary 4.5.3. Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be an ordered set of roots where  $\ell = \dim H$ . Then  $\Pi$  is a simple system of roots relative to a certain ordering in  $H_0^*$  if and only if every  $\beta \in \Phi$  has the form  $\sum k_i \alpha_i$  where the  $k_i$  are integers and either all  $k_i \geq 0$  or all  $k_i \leq 0$ .

Proof. One direction is simply Theorem 4.5.2(3). For the other direction, we first note that  $\Pi$  is a basis for  $H_0^*$ , since  $\Phi$  spans  $H_0^*$ . We introduce an ordering in  $H_0^*$  by:  $\sum c_i \alpha_i > 0$  if  $c_1 = \dots = c_k = 0$ ,  $c_{k+1} > 0$ ,  $k < \ell$ . Then  $\Phi^+$  consists of those roots  $\beta = \sum k_i \alpha_i$  with the  $k_i \geq 0$  and some  $k_i > 0$ . Since  $\Pi$  is a basis for  $H_0^*$ , the  $\alpha_i$  are simple. Since any simple system consists of  $\ell$  roots,  $\Pi$  is the simple system of roots defined by the ordering. //

Definition 4.5.3. Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots and let  $A_{ji} = \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle$ . Then the matrix  $(A_{ji})$  is called the Cartan matrix of  $\Phi$  (or  $\Pi$ ). If  $\beta = \sum k_i \alpha_i \in \Phi$ , we define the level of  $\beta$  as  $|\beta| = |\sum k_i|$ . //

If  $\Phi$  has more than one root length ( $||\alpha|| = \sqrt{(\alpha, \alpha)}$  = length of  $\alpha$ ), we speak of longer and shorter roots. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  the angle  $\theta$  between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is given by  $||\alpha|| ||\beta|| \cos \theta = (\alpha, \beta)$ . Hence  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = 2(\beta, \alpha) / (\alpha, \alpha) = 2(||\beta|| / ||\alpha||) \cos \theta$  and  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = 4 \cos^2 \theta$ . This shows that  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$  and  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$  have the same sign, and if  $\alpha \neq \pm \beta$  then  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle < 4$  since  $\alpha, \beta$  are linearly independent and so  $0 \leq \cos^2 \theta < 1$ . Since  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle, \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$  are integers, they must be  $0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$ . Thus, assuming  $||\beta|| \geq ||\alpha||$ , we have the following possibilities

$\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$	$\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$	$\theta$	$  \beta  ^2 /   \alpha  ^2$
0	0	$\pi/2$	undetermined
1	1	$\pi/3$	1
-1	-1	$2\pi/3$	1
1	2	$\pi/4$	2
-1	-2	$3\pi/4$	2
1	3	$\pi/6$	3
-1	-3	$5\pi/6$	3

In particular, if  $\alpha_i, \alpha_j$  are in  $\Pi(i \neq j)$  then  $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = A_{ji} \leq 0$  (Theorem 4.5.2(2)) and both  $A_{jj}$  and  $A_{ji}$  are 0, or one is -1 while the other is -1, -2, or -3. Hence we have

Lemma 4.5.4. Any Cartan matrix  $(A_{ji})$  has all diagonal entries  $A_{ii} = 2$  and if  $i \neq j$  then either

$A_{ij}A_{ji} = 0$  or one of  $A_{ij}, A_{ji}$  is  $-1$  while the other is  $-1, -2,$  or  $-3$ . If  $i \neq j$  then the angle  $\theta_{ij}$  between  $\alpha_i, \alpha_j$  is  $90^\circ, 120^\circ, 135^\circ,$  or  $150^\circ$ . //

For each  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ , choose the canonical basis  $x_{\alpha_i}, y_{\alpha_i}, h_{\alpha_i}$  as in Theorem 4.4.1(6) and denote

$$x_i = x_{\alpha_i}, \quad y_i = y_{\alpha_i}, \quad h_i = h_{\alpha_i}.$$

Then  $[x_i, h_i] = 2x_i, [y_i, h_i] = -2y_i$  and  $[x_i, y_i] = h_i$ . Since  $\alpha_i - \alpha_j$  is not a root for  $i \neq j$ ,  $[x_i, y_j] = 0$  and  $[x_i, h_j] = \alpha_i(h_j)x_i = A_{ji}x_i$  and  $[y_i, h_j] = -A_{ji}y_i$  by (1.32). Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [h_i, h_j] &= 0, \\ [x_i, y_j] &= \delta_{ij}h_i, \\ [x_i, h_j] &= A_{ji}x_i, \\ [y_i, h_j] &= -A_{ji}y_i, \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell. \end{aligned} \tag{1.45}$$

Theorem 4.5.5.  $\Phi$  is determined by the simple system  $\Pi$  and the Cartan matrix  $(A_{ji})$ . That is, the sequences  $(k_1, \dots, k_\ell)$  such that  $\sum k_i \alpha_i \in \Phi$  are determined by  $(A_{ji})$ .

Proof. It suffices to determine  $\Phi^+$ . The proof proceeds by induction on level. The roots in  $\Phi^+$  of level one are the  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . Suppose that the roots in  $\Phi^+$  of level  $\leq n$  are determined by  $(A_{ij})$ . By Theorem 4.5.2(4)

any root  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  of level  $n + 1$  is of the form  $\alpha = \alpha + \alpha_j$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$  of level  $n$ ,  $\alpha_j \in \Pi$ . Since if  $\alpha = \alpha_j$  then  $\beta$  is not a root, we may assume that  $\alpha = \sum k_i \alpha_i$  with some  $k_i > 0$  for  $i \neq j$  and the  $k_i$  are determined by  $A_{ij}$ . Let  $\alpha - r\alpha_j, \dots, \alpha, \alpha + \alpha_j, \dots, \alpha + q\alpha_j$  be the  $\alpha_j$ -string through  $\alpha$ . Since  $\beta$  is in this string, it suffices to show that  $r$  and  $q$  are determined by  $A_{ij}$ . Since  $\alpha - \alpha_j, \dots, \alpha - r\alpha_j$  are positive roots of level  $< n$ , these are determined by  $A_{ij}$  and so is  $r$  by  $A_{ij}$ . Thus  $q = r - \langle \alpha, \alpha_j \rangle = r - \sum k_i A_{ji}$  is determined by  $A_{ij}$ . //

Since  $\alpha + \alpha_j$  is a root if and only if  $q > 0$ , the last step in the proof gives a method of ascertaining whether or not  $\alpha + \alpha_j$  is a root.

Theorem 4.5.6. Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots for  $L$  relative to  $H$  and let  $x_i, y_i, h_i$  be as in (1.45). Then the  $2\ell$  elements  $x_i, y_i$  generate  $L$ . For each  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  we can choose an expression of  $\beta = \alpha_{i_1} + \alpha_{i_2} + \dots + \alpha_{i_k}$ , so that  $\alpha_{i_1} + \dots + \alpha_{i_m} \in \Phi^+$  for every  $m \leq k$ . Then the elements

$$h_i, [x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_k}], [y_{i_1} y_{i_2} \dots y_{i_k}] \tag{1.46}$$

determined by the  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  form a basis for  $L$ , where

$$[\dots [x_1 x_2] \dots x_r] = [x_1 x_2 \dots x_r].$$

Proof. By induction on level, the second conclusion follows from Theorem 4.5.2(4). Let  $\beta$  be any positive root. In view of this and Corollary 4.4.4(3), the expression for  $\beta$  implies that  $[x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_k}] \neq 0$  and  $[y_{i_1} \dots y_{i_k}] \neq 0$ ; hence these elements respectively

span  $L_\beta$  and  $L_{-\beta}$ . Thus the elements in (1.46) form a basis of  $L$  since the  $h_i$  form a basis of  $H$ . //

Notice that if there is no positive root of level  $n$  then  $\Phi^+$  contains no roots of level  $n + i$  for  $i \geq 0$ . This is due to the fact that if  $\beta \in \Phi^+$  is of level  $n + 1$ , by Theorem 4.5.2(4)  $\alpha = \beta - \alpha_j \in \Phi^+$  for some  $\alpha_j \in \Pi$  and  $|\alpha| = n$ .

Example. Let  $L$  be a semisimple Lie algebra with the Cartan matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_1 \rangle & \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rangle \\ \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_1 \rangle & \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_2 \rangle \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.47)$$

We determine  $\Phi$  from this matrix. By (1.47)  $2(\alpha_2, \alpha_1) / (\alpha_1, \alpha_1) = -3$  and  $2(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) / (\alpha_2, \alpha_2) = -1$ . Since  $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2$  is not a root, these imply that the  $\alpha_1$ -string through  $\alpha_2$  and the  $\alpha_2$ -string through  $\alpha_1$  are respectively

$$\alpha_2, \alpha_2 + \alpha_1, \alpha_2 + 2\alpha_1, \alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1,$$

$$\alpha_1, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$$

by (1.40). The only root in  $\Phi^+$  of level 2 is  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ . Since  $\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 \notin \Phi$ ,  $\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_1$  is the only positive root of level 3. Similarly,  $\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1$  is the only one in  $\Phi^+$  of level 4. Since  $2(\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1, \alpha_2)/(\alpha_2, \alpha_2) = 2 - 3 = -1$ ,  $(\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1) + \alpha_2 = 3\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2$  is a root. Noting that  $\alpha_1 + 4\alpha_2$  is not a root,  $3\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2$  is the only root in  $\Phi^+$  of level 5. In view of Theorem 4.5.2(4), there are no roots of level  $\geq 6$ . Hence  $\Phi$  consists of

$$\begin{aligned} & \pm\alpha_1, \pm\alpha_2, \pm(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2), \pm(\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_1) \\ & \pm(\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1), \pm(3\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2) \end{aligned} \tag{1.48}$$

and thus  $\dim L = 14$ . //

In general, this procedure applies to construct  $\Phi$  from any given Cartan matrix.

Exercise 4.5.1. Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots. Let  $x_i, y_i, h_i$  be the generators for  $L$  as in (1.45) and let  $L$  have the basis as in (1.46).

Then the multiplication table for this basis has rational coefficients which are determined by the Cartan matrix  $(A_j$

Exercise 4.5.2. (The isomorphism theorem). Let  $L$  and  $L'$  be semisimple Lie algebras with split CSA  $H$  and  $H'$  of the same dimension  $\ell$ . Let  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  and  $(\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_\ell)$  be simple systems of roots for  $L$  and  $L'$  respectively. Suppose the Cartan matrices  $(\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle)$  and  $(\langle \alpha'_i, \alpha'_j \rangle)$



are identical. Let  $x_i, y_i, h_i, x'_i, y'_i, h'_i$  be the generators for  $L$  and  $L'$  as in (1.45). Then there exists a unique isomorphism of  $L$  onto  $L'$  mapping  $x_i$  on  $x'_i, y_i$  on  $y'_i, h_i$  on  $h'_i$ .

Exercise 4.5.3. Let  $F$  be algebraically closed. Then  $L$  has a basis  $h_i, x_\alpha, \alpha \in \Phi, i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell = \dim H$  such that if  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  then

$$[x_\alpha, x_\beta] = N_{\alpha\beta} x_{\alpha+\beta}$$

where  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$  and  $N_{\alpha\beta} \in F$  satisfies the condition  $N_{\alpha\beta} = N_{-\alpha, -\beta}$ .

Definition 4.5.4. A simple system of roots  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  is called irreducible if it is impossible to partition  $\Pi$  into the disjoint union of proper subsets  $\Pi', \Pi''$  such that  $A_{ij} = 0$  for every  $\alpha_i \in \Pi', \alpha_j \in \Pi''$ . //

Theorem 4.5.7.  $L$  is simple if and only if the associated simple system  $\Pi$  of roots is irreducible.

Proof. Suppose that  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \cup (\alpha_{k+1}, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$ .  $1 \leq k < \ell$ , so that  $A_{ij} = 0, i \leq k, j > k$ . Let  $L_1$  be the subalgebra generated by the  $x_j, y_j, h_j, j \leq k$ , as in (1.45). One easily checks that  $L_1 = H_1 + \sum L_\gamma$  where  $H_1$  is the subspace spanned by  $h_1, \dots, h_k$  and the summation

runs over the roots  $\gamma$  which are linearly dependent on the  $\alpha_j$ . Thus  $0 \neq L_1 \neq L$ . If  $r > k$  and  $j \leq k$  then  $A_{jr} = 0$  and since  $\alpha_j - \alpha_r$  is not a root, this implies that  $\alpha_j + \alpha_r$  is not a root. Hence  $[x_j x_r] = [y_j x_r] = 0$

as well as  $[h_j x_r] = 0$  since  $(\alpha_r, \alpha_j) = 0$ . Therefore,  $x_r$  is in  $N(L_1)$ , the normalizer of  $L_1$  and likewise  $y_r \in N(L_1)$ . Since the  $x_i, y_i$  generate  $L$ , it follows that  $L \subset N(L_1)$ , so  $L_1$  is an ideal of  $L$  and  $L$  is not simple. Conversely, suppose that  $L$  is not simple and

$L = L_1 \oplus L_2$  where the  $L_i$  are proper ideals of  $L$ . Let  $\alpha \in \Phi$  and  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$ . Then  $x_\alpha = x_\alpha^{(1)} + x_\alpha^{(2)}$ ,  $x_\alpha^{(i)} \in L_i$

and since  $[x_\alpha h] = \alpha(h)x_\alpha$ , we have  $[x_\alpha^{(i)} h] = \alpha(h)x_\alpha^{(i)}$ .

Since  $\dim L_\alpha = 1$ , this implies that  $L_\alpha \subset L_1$  or  $L_\alpha \subset L_2$

Noting that  $[L_1 L_2] = 0$  and  $[L_\alpha L_{-\alpha}] \neq 0$ , we have

either  $L_\alpha + L_{-\alpha} \subset L_1$  or  $L_\alpha + L_{-\alpha} \subset L_2$ . Thus we may

order the generators  $x_i, y_i$ , so that  $x_1, y_1, \dots, x_k, y_k \in L_1$ ,  $x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}, \dots, x_\ell, y_\ell \in L_2$ . Since the  $L_i$  are proper,

$1 \leq k < \ell$  and  $0 = [x_j [x_r y_r]] = [x_j h_r] = A_{rj} x_j$  for

$j \leq k, r > k$ . Hence  $A_{jr} = A_{rj} = 0$  and  $\Pi$  is not

irreducible. //

4.6. Classification

In view of the results in the previous section, determination of the simple Lie algebras reduces to that of the Cartan matrices associated with irreducible simple systems of roots. Instead, we classify all connected Dynkin diagrams corresponding to irreducible simple systems of roots. It is readily seen that a Dynkin diagram essentially determines the associated Cartan matrices. Throughout we fix a lexicographic ordering in  $H_0^*$  determined by  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$ .

We call  $||\alpha||^2 = (\alpha, \alpha) (\alpha \in \Phi)$  the weight of  $\alpha$ . If we let a shortest root  $\alpha$  have weight 1 then the weight of any root  $\beta$  with  $(\alpha, \beta) \neq 0$  is 1, 2, or 3 (see the remark following Definition 4.5.3).

Definition 4.6.1. The Coxeter graph of  $\Phi$  (or  $\Pi$ ) is a graph having  $\ell$  vertices, the  $i$ th joined (connected) to the  $j$ th ( $i \neq j$ ) by  $A_{ij}A_{ji}$  lines. The Dynkin diagram of  $\Phi$  (or  $L$ ) is the Coxeter graph having vertices  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell$ , together with weight attached to each vertex. //

For example,

$$A_2 : \text{O} \text{---} \text{O} ,$$

$$B_2 : \text{O} \text{=} \text{O} ,$$

$$G_2 : \text{O} \text{=} \text{=} \text{O} ,$$

are Coxeter graphs having two vertices while their associated Dynkin diagrams are

$$A_2 : \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & 1 \\ \text{O} & \text{---} & \text{O} \\ \alpha_1 & & \alpha_2 \end{array} ,$$

$$B_2 : \begin{array}{ccc} & 2 & 1 \\ \text{O} & \text{=} & \text{O} \\ \alpha_1 & & \alpha_2 \end{array} ,$$

$$G_2 : \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & 3 \\ \text{O} & \text{=} & \text{O} \\ \alpha_1 & & \alpha_2 \end{array} .$$

By virtue of Lemma 4.5.4, it is possible to determine the Cartan matrix  $(A_{ji})$  from the Dynkin diagram. Indeed, if  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$  are not joined then  $A_{ij} = A_{ji} = 0$ . If  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$  are connected then  $A_{ij} \neq 0$ ,  $A_{ji} \neq 0$  and hence  $A_{ji}/A_{ij} = (\alpha_i, \alpha_i)/(\alpha_j, \alpha_j)$  and  $A_{ij}A_{ji}$  can be

determined from the diagram. For example, the Dynkin diagram of  $G_2$  gives  $A_{12}/A_{21} = (\alpha_2, \alpha_2)/(\alpha_1, \alpha_1) = 3$  and  $A_{12}A_{21} = 3$ , which imply  $A_{21} = -1$ ,  $A_{12} = -3$  by Lemma 4.5.4. Hence the Cartan matrix is the matrix in (1.47). Likewise, the Cartan matrix for  $A_2$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Definition 4.6.2. Let  $E$  be a Euclidian space over the reals. A set  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $\ell$  linearly independent unit vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_\ell$  in  $E$  is called an admissible set (a.s.) if it satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} (u_i, u_j) \leq 0, \quad 4(u_i, u_j)^2 = 0, 1, 2, \text{ or } 3, \\ i \neq j, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \ell. \quad // \quad (1.49) \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathcal{O}$  is an a.s. then we can attach a graph  $\Gamma$  to  $\mathcal{O}$  which has  $\ell$  vertices  $u_1, \dots, u_\ell$ , the  $i$ th joined to the  $j$ th by  $4(u_i, u_j)^2$  lines ( $i \neq j$ ). A simple system of roots  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  gives rise to an a.s. when we set  $u_i = \alpha_i / \|\alpha_i\|$ , since  $A_{ij}A_{ji} = 4(u_i, u_j)$ . Thus the Coxeter graph of  $\Pi$  is regarded as a graph of an a.s. An a.s. is said to be irreducible if it satisfies the conditions in Definition 4.5.4. The graph of an a.s.  $\mathcal{O}$  is called connected if, for any  $u, v \in \mathcal{O}$ , there

exists a sequence  $u = u_{i_1}, u_{i_2}, \dots, u_{i_k} = v$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $u_{i_j}$  and  $u_{i_{j+1}}$  are joined in the graph. This definition of connectedness applies to Coxeter graphs and Dynkin diagrams. It is easily seen that the graph of an a.s.  $\mathcal{A}$  is connected if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  is irreducible. Recall that the classification of simple Lie algebras is equivalent to that of connected Dynkin diagrams. Since the weights can be re-introduced, it suffices to classify the graphs of irreducible a.s. This classification proceeds in several steps. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an a.s. with graph  $\Gamma$ .

D 1. If some of the  $u_i$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  are discarded then the remaining ones still form an admissible set whose graph is obtained from  $\Gamma$  by omitting the corresponding vertices and all incident lines. //

D 2. The number of pairs of vertices in  $\Gamma$  connected by at least one line is less than  $\ell$ .

Proof. Let  $u = \sum_1^\ell u_i$ . Then  $0 < (u, u) = \ell + 2 \sum_{i < j} (u_i, u_j)$  by (1.49). If  $(u_i, u_j) \neq 0$ ,  $2(u_i, u_j) \leq -1$ . Hence the number of pairs  $u_i, u_j$  with  $(u_i, u_j) \neq 0$  is less than  $\ell$ . //

D 3.  $\Gamma$  contains no cycles (a cycle is a sequence of vertices  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  such that  $u_i$  is joined to  $u_{i+1}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ , and  $u_1$  is joined to  $u_k$ .)

Proof. A cycle is a graph of an a.s. by D 1, which violates D 2. //

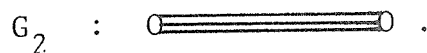
D 4. The number of lines issuing from a vertex in  $\Gamma$  does not exceed three.

Proof. Let  $u$  be a vertex and let  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  be the vertices joined to  $u$ . No two  $v_i$  are connected since there are no cycles. Hence  $(v_i, v_j) = 0$ ,  $i \neq j$ . Set  $v'_0 = u - \sum_1^k (u, v_i)v_i$  and  $v_0 = v'_0 / \|v'_0\|$ . Then  $(v_0, v_0) = 1$  and  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k$  are mutually orthogonal. Thus  $u = \sum_0^k (u, v_i)v_i$  where  $(u, v_0) \neq 0$ , since  $u$  and the  $v_i$  are linearly independent. It follows from this that

$$(u, u) = (u, v_0)^2 + (u, v_1)^2 + \dots + (u, v_k)^2 = 1.$$

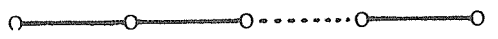
Hence  $\sum_1^k (u, v_i)^2 < 1$  and  $\sum_1^k 4(u, v_i)^2 < 4$ . Since  $4(u, v_i)^2$  is the number of lines joining  $u$  and  $v_i$ , we have the desired result. //

D 5. The only connected graph  $\Gamma$  of an a.s. which contains a triple line is the Coxeter graph



Proof. This follows from D 4. //

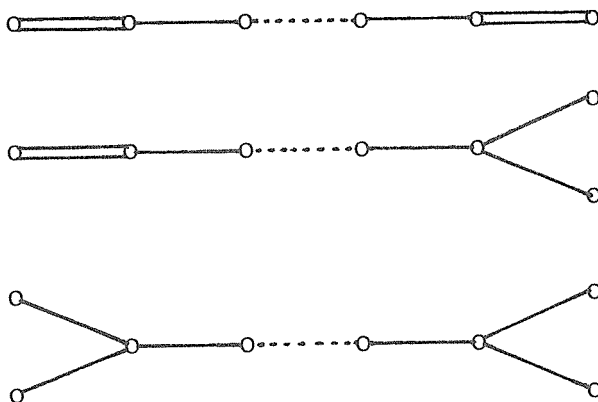
D 6. Let  $\{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \subset \mathcal{A}$  have subgraph

 (a simple chain in  $\Gamma$ ). If  $\mathcal{A}' = (\mathcal{A} - \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}) \cup \{u\}$ ,  $u = \sum_1^k u_i$ , then  $\mathcal{A}'$  is an a.s.

Proof. We have  $2(u_i, u_{i+1}) = -1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k - 1$ . Thus  $(u, u) = k + 2\sum_{i < j} (u_i, u_j)$ . Since there are no cycles,  $(u_i, u_j) = 0$  if  $i < j$  unless  $j = i + 1$ . Hence  $(u, u) = k - (k - 1) = 1$  and  $u$  is a unit vector. Let  $v \in \mathcal{A}'$ ,  $v \neq u_i$ . Since there are no cycles,  $v$  is joined to at most one of the  $u_i$ , say  $u_j$ . Then

$$(v, u) = (v, \sum_1^k u_i) = (v, u_j) \text{ and } 4(v, u)^2 = 4(v, u_j)^2 = 0, 1, 2, \text{ or } 3. \text{ Hence } \mathcal{A}' \text{ is an a.s. } //$$

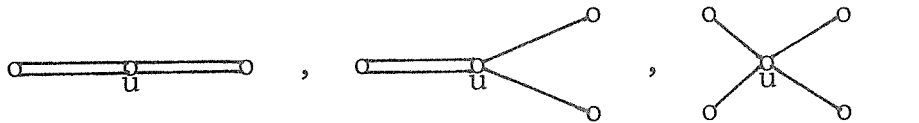
D 7.  $\Gamma$  contains no subgraph of the form



Proof. These graphs contain simple chains whose vertices are denoted by  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  as in D 6. Also, let

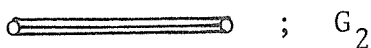
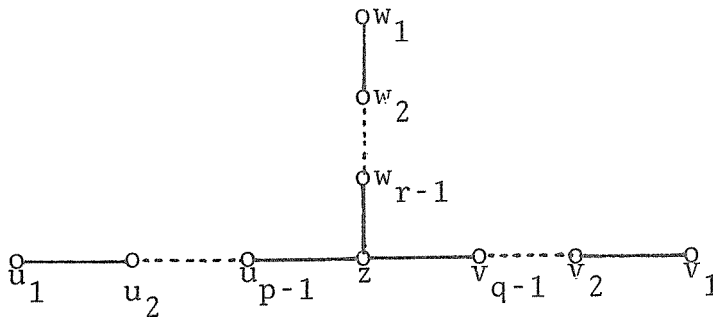
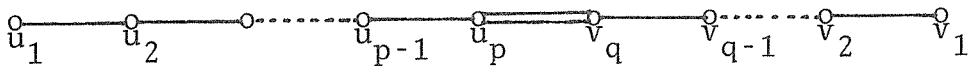


$u = \sum_1^k u_i$ . As in the proof of D 6, if  $v \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $v \neq u_i$  and  $v$  is joined to  $u_j$  then  $4(v,u)^2 = 4(v,u_j)^2$ . Hence the graph of  $\mathcal{A}'$  in D 6 contains subgraphs of the form

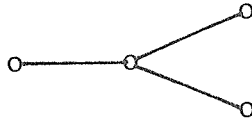


Since  $\mathcal{A}'$  is an a.s., this violates D 4. //

D 8. Any conncted graph  $\Gamma$  of an a.s. has one of the following forms

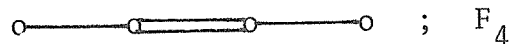


Proof. If  $\Gamma$  contains a triple line, it must be  $G_2$  by D 5. If  $\Gamma$  contains a double line, it contains only one such line by D 7. If  $\Gamma$  has a double line, it can not have a node (branch point)



(again by D 7). Let  $\Gamma$  have only single line ; if  $\Gamma$  has no node, it must be a simple chain since there are no cycles. Also, by D 7  $\Gamma$  cannot contain more than one node. Thus the four graphs above are the only possibilities

D 9. The only connected  $\Gamma$  of the second type in D 8 are the Coxeter graphs  $B_\ell (= C_\ell)$  and  $F_4$  :



Proof. Set  $u = \sum_1^p i u_i$  and  $v = \sum_1^q j v_j$  . Since

$$2(u_i, u_{i+1}) = 2(v_j, v_{j+1}) = -1, \quad (u, u) = \sum_1^p i^2 - \sum_1^{p-1} i(i+1)$$

$$= p^2 - p(p-1)/2 = p(p+1)/2. \quad \text{Likewise } (v, v) = q(q+1)$$

Also,  $(u, v) = pq(u_p, v_q) = (pq/2)2(u_p, v_q)$  . Since

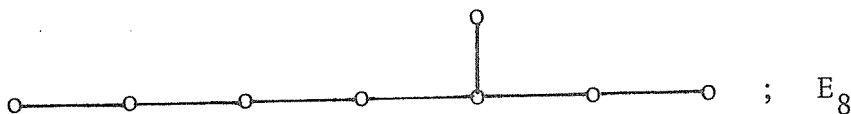
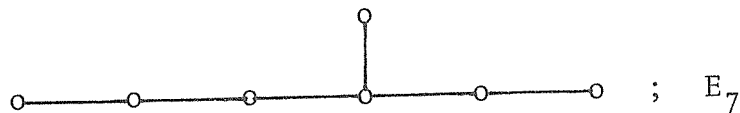
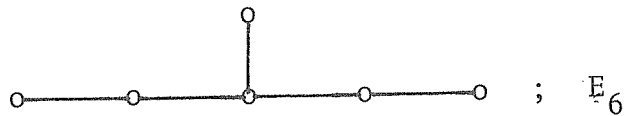
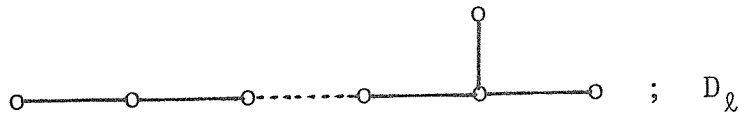
$4(u_p, v_q)^2 = 2$  , this gives  $(u, v)^2 = p^2 q^2 / 2$  . Thus by Schwarz's inequality,  $p^2 q^2 / 2 < [p(p+1)/2][q(q+1)/2]$  . Since  $pq > 0$  , this gives  $(p+1)(q+1) > 2pq$  , which is equivalent to  $(p-1)(q-1) < 2$  . Hence the only possibilities for  $p, q > 0$  are

$$p = 1, q \text{ arbitrary} ; q = 1, p \text{ arbitrary},$$

$$p = q = 2 .$$

The first two cases give the Coxeter graphs  $B_\ell = C_\ell$  while the second gives  $F_4$  . //

D 10. The only connected  $\Gamma$  of the third type in D 8 are Coxeter graphs  $D_\ell$  ,  $E_6$  ,  $E_7$  and  $E_8$  :



Proof. Set  $u = \sum_1^{p-1} i u_i$ ,  $v = \sum_1^{q-1} j v_j$  and

$w = \sum_1^{r-1} k w_k$ . Then  $u, v, w$  are mutually orthogonal and  $z, u, v, w$  are linearly independent. As in the proof of D 4, find a unit vector  $u_0$  orthogonal to  $u, v, w$ . Then  $z = (z, u_0)u_0 + [(z, u)/(u, u)]u + [(z, v)/(v, v) + [(z, w)/(w, w)]w$  where  $(z, u_0) \neq 0$ . Since  $(z, z) = 1$ , this implies  $1 = (z, u_0)^2 + \cos^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_3$  or  $\cos^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_3 < 1$  where  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3$  are respectively angles between  $z$  and  $u, v$  and  $w$ . Now  $\cos^2 \theta_1 = (u, z)^2 / (u, u) = \frac{1}{4}(p-1)^2 / (p(p-1)/2)$  (in the proof of D 9, replace  $p$  by  $p-1$ )  $= (p-1)/2p = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \frac{1}{p})$ . Similarly,  $\cos^2 \theta_2 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - 1/q)$  and  $\cos^2 \theta_3 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - 1/r)$ , so that we have

$$\frac{1}{2}(1 - 1/q + 1 - 1/q + 1 - 1/r) < 1 \quad \text{or} \quad p^{-1} + q^{-1} + r^{-1} > 1$$

We may assume  $p \geq q \geq r (\geq 2)$ . Then  $p^{-1} \leq q^{-1} \leq r^{-1}$  and so  $3r^{-1} > 1$ . Since  $r \geq 2$ , this gives  $r = 2$ . Thus  $p^{-1} + q^{-1} > \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $2q^{-1} > \frac{1}{2}$  and  $q < 4$ . Hence  $2 \leq q < 4$ . If  $q = 2$  then  $p^{-1} > 0$  which holds for all  $p$ . If  $q = 3$  then  $p^{-1} + q^{-1} > \frac{1}{2}$  gives  $p^{-1} > 1/6$  and  $p < 6$ . Hence, in this case,  $p = 3, 4, 5$ . Thus the possible triples  $(p, q, r)$  are :  $(p, 2, 2)$  for  $D_\ell$ ;  $(3, 3, 2)$  for  $E_6$ ;  $(4, 3, 2)$  for  $E_7$ ;  $(5, 3, 2)$  for  $E_8$ . //

D 1 - D 10 show that the connected graphs of a.s. of vectors in E are among the Coxeter graphs of types A - G . In particular, the Coxeter graph of an irreducible simple system of roots  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  must be one of these types. Therefore, for the classification of the connected Dynkin diagrams, it remains to introduce the weights.

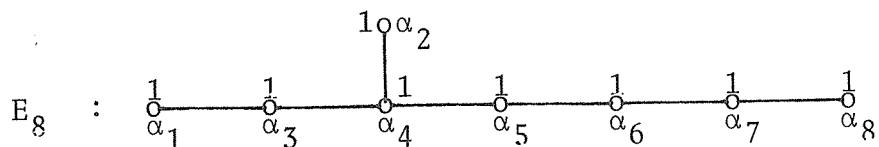
As before, let a shortest root in  $\Pi$  have weight 1 . If the Coxeter graph has only single lines then  $A_{ij}A_{ji} = (\alpha_i, \alpha_i)/(\alpha_j, \alpha_j) = 1$  if  $\alpha_i$  is joined to  $\alpha_j$  . Thus all  $(\alpha_i, \alpha_i) = 1$  by the connectedness of the graph. Hence the Dynkin diagrams for  $A_\ell, D_\ell, E_6, E_7, E_8$  are

$$A_\ell : \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_3} \text{---} \dots \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_{\ell-1}} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_\ell} \end{array}, \quad \ell \geq 1$$

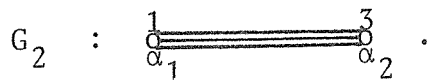
$$D_\ell : \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \text{---} \dots \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_{\ell-2}} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_{\ell-1}} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_\ell} \\ | \\ \frac{1}{\alpha_\ell} \end{array}, \quad \ell \geq 4$$

$$E_6 : \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \\ | \\ \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_3} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_4} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_5} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_6} \end{array}$$

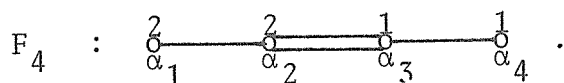
$$E_7 : \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \\ | \\ \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_3} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_4} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_5} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_6} \text{---} \frac{1}{\alpha_7} \end{array}$$



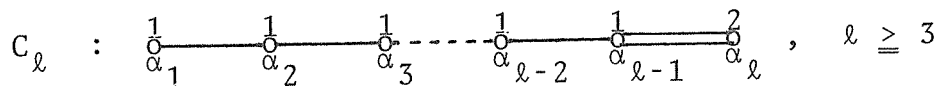
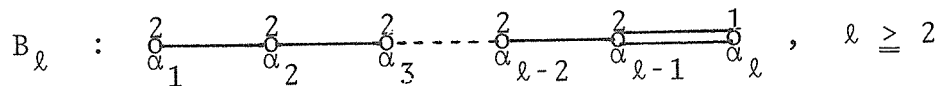
For  $G_2$ , if we let  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_2) = 3$ ,  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_1) = 1$ . Thus



For  $F_4$ , if we let  $(\alpha_3, \alpha_3) = 1$  then  $A_{23}A_{32} = 2$  implies  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_2)/(\alpha_3, \alpha_3) = 2$  or  $(\alpha_2, \alpha_2) = 2$ . Hence



For  $B_\ell$  and  $C_\ell$ , we have



We summarize these in

Theorem 4.6.1. The only connected Dynkin diagrams are  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 1)$ ,  $B_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ ,  $C_\ell (\ell \geq 3)$ ,  $D_\ell (\ell \geq 4)$  and the five "exceptional" ones,  $G_2, F_4, E_6, E_7, E_8$ . //



	Cartan matrix	determinant
$E_7$ :	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	2
$E_8$ :	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	1
$F_4$ :	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	1
$G_2$ :	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	1

#### 4.7. Construction of the algebras

Having classified all connected Dynkin diagrams, we here construct simple Lie algebras whose Dynkin diagrams



are those types described in Section 4.6. We first construct the simple algebras of types  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 1)$ ,  $B_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ ,  $C_\ell (\ell \geq 3)$  and  $D_\ell (\ell \geq 4)$  which are called classical, because they correspond to the linear Lie groups that Weyl has called the classical groups. These algebras are the only infinite classes of simple Lie algebras. The construction of the five exceptional simple Lie algebras of types  $G_2$ ,  $F_4$ ,  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$ ,  $E_8$  is more sophisticated and related to simple alternative and Jordan algebras. The treatment here follows Jacobson (Lie algebra, Interscience, New York, 1962).

In each of the constructions, we first show that the algebra is semisimple. The simplicity then follows from irreducibility of simple system of roots, or equivalently, from the connectedness of the corresponding Dynkin diagram (Theorem 4.5.7). For this, Theorem 3.7.11 and the following are fundamental. Let  $L$  be semisimple and let  $L$  contain an abelian subalgebra  $H$  such that  $L = H \oplus \sum_{\alpha} Fx_{\alpha}$  where  $\alpha$  represents a nonzero mapping of  $H$  into  $F$  such that  $[x_{\alpha} h] = \alpha(h)x_{\alpha}$ ,  $h \in H$ . Then  $H$  is a split CSA of  $L$ . This follows from the fact that the centralizer of  $H$  in  $L$  is  $H$  and hence  $H$  is a maximal torus of  $L$  (see Theorem 4.2.2).

$A_\ell (\ell \geq 1)$ . Let  $V$  be an  $(\ell + 1)$ -dimensional vector space over  $F$ . We identify  $\text{Hom}_F V = F_{\ell+1}$ , the algebra

of  $(\ell + 1) \times (\ell + 1)$  matrices over  $F$ . Let  $L = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell + 1, F) = \{x \in F_{\ell+1} \mid \text{Tr } x = 0\}$ . By comparing dimension, one sees that  $\text{Hom } V = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell + 1, F) \oplus F1$ . We have observed in Section 3.7 that  $\mathfrak{sl}(\ell + 1, F) = L$  is semisimple. Choose a basis for  $L$  as

$$h_k = e_{kk} - e_{\ell+1, \ell+1}, \quad k \leq \ell; \quad e_{ij}, \quad i \neq j = 1, \dots, \ell+1.$$

Set  $h = \sum_1^\ell \omega_k h_k$ . Then the set of the  $h$ 's is an abelian subalgebra  $H$  of dimension  $\ell$  and we have

$$[e_{rs}, h] = (\omega_s - \omega_r) e_{rs},$$

$$[e_{\ell+1, r}, h] = (\gamma + \omega_r) e_{\ell+1, r}, \quad \gamma = \sum_1^\ell \omega_i,$$

$$[e_{r, \ell+1}, h] = -(\gamma + \omega_r) e_{r, \ell+1}, \quad r \neq s = 1, \dots, \ell,$$

where the  $e_{ij}$  are the usual matrix units. The  $\ell^2 + \ell$  linear functions  $h \rightarrow \omega_s - \omega_r$ ,  $h \rightarrow \gamma + \omega_r$ ,  $h \rightarrow -(\gamma + \omega_r)$  are distinct and are nonzero weights of  $\text{ad}_L H$ . This gives  $L = H + \sum_\alpha L_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$  running over these weights. It then follows that  $H$  is a split CSA and the  $\alpha$  are now the nonzero roots. Set

$$\alpha_1 = \omega_1 - \omega_2, \quad \alpha_2 = \omega_2 - \omega_3, \dots, \alpha_{\ell-1} = \omega_{\ell-1} - \omega_\ell,$$

$$\alpha_\ell = \gamma + \omega_\ell.$$

Then  $\alpha_k + \alpha_{k+1} + \dots + \alpha_\ell = \gamma + \omega_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \ell-1$  and  $\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1} + \dots + \alpha_j = \omega_i + \omega_{j+1}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq \ell - 1$ .

This shows that every root has the form  $\sum k_i \alpha_i$  where the  $k_i$  are integers and  $k_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$  or  $k_i \leq 0$  for all  $i$ . Thus the  $\alpha_i$  form a simple system of roots by

Corollary 4.5.3. The same relation also shows that

$\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1}$  is a root,  $1 \leq i \leq \ell - 1$ , while  $\alpha_i + 2\alpha_{i+1}$  is not a root and  $\alpha_i + \alpha_j$  is not a root for  $j > i + 1$ .

Hence  $A_{j+1,i} = A_{i,i+1} = -1$ ,  $1 \leq i < \ell$  and  $A_{ij} = 0$  for  $j > i + 1$  or  $j < i - 1$ . Thus the Dynkin diagram is the connected simple chain of type  $A_\ell$  and  $L$  is simple by Theorem 4.5.7.

$B_\ell (\ell \geq 1)$ . Let  $\dim V = 2\ell + 1$  and let  $(x,y)$  be a symmetric nondegenerate bilinear form on  $V$  whose matrix is

$$s = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1_\ell \\ 0 & 1_\ell & 0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

The orthogonal algebra  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  or  $\mathcal{O}(2\ell + 1, F)$  consists of all elements  $a$  in  $\text{Hom } V$  such that  $(va, w) = -(v, wa)$  for  $v, w \in V$ . Denote  $L = \mathcal{O}(V)$  and partition any element  $a \in L$  in the same way as  $s$ :

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & v_1 & v_2 \\ u_1 & a_{11} & a_{12} \\ u_2 & a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} .$$

The orthogonal condition is equivalent to the relation  $as = -sa'$  which in turn translates into the following set of conditions, where  $a'$  denotes the transpose of  $a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= -v_2', & u_2 &= -v_1', & a_{22} &= -a_{11}', \\ a_{12}' &= -a_{12}, & a_{21}' &= -a_{21}, & \alpha_{11} &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{1.50}$$

In particular, (1.50) shows that  $\text{Tr } a = 0$  for  $a \in L$  where we have identified  $\text{Hom } V = F_{2\ell+1}$ . The relations (1.50) imply that  $L$  has a basis consisting of the elements

$$h_i = e_{i+1,i+1} - e_{i+\ell+1,i+\ell+1}, \tag{1.51a}$$

$$e_{\omega_i - \omega_j} = e_{j+1,i+1} - e_{i+\ell+1,j+\ell+1}, \quad i \neq j \tag{1.51b}$$

$$e_{\omega_i + \omega_j} = e_{i+\ell+1,j+1} - e_{j+\ell+1,i+1}, \quad i < j \tag{1.51c}$$

$$e_{-\omega_i - \omega_j} = e_{j+1,i+\ell+1} - e_{i+1,j+\ell+1}, \quad i < j \tag{1.51d}$$

$$e_{\omega_i} = e_{1,i+1} - e_{i+\ell+1,1}, \tag{1.51e}$$

$$e_{-\omega_i} = e_{i+1,1} - e_{1,i+\ell+1} \tag{1.51f}$$

where  $i, j = 1, \dots, \ell$  and we have set  $h = \sum_1^\ell \omega_k h_k$ .

In fact (1.51a) comes from the relation  $a_{22} = -a_{11}'$ . (1.51e) and (1.51f) correspond to  $u_2 = -v_1'$  and  $u_1 = -v_2'$ . (1.51b) is from  $a_{22} = -a_{11}'$  while (1.51c)

follows from  $a'_{21} = -a_{21}$ . Finally, (1.51d) is obtained by  $a'_{12} = -a_{12}$ . The total number of basis elements is  $2\ell^2 + \ell$ .

We show that  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible. Note that a subspace  $W$  of  $V$  is  $L$ -stable if and only if  $W$  is stable under the (associative) subalgebra  $L^*$  of  $\text{Hom } V$  generated by  $1$  and  $L$ . Since  $\text{Hom } V$  acts irreducibly on  $V$ , it suffices to show that  $L^* = \text{Hom } V$ . From the unit matrix  $1$  we get all scalars. From the matrices in (1.51a) we can then generate all diagonal matrices. Then multiplying various matrices in (1.51b-f) by suitable  $e_{ii}$  gives all the off-diagonal matrix units  $e_{ij}$ . Hence  $L^* = \text{Hom } V$  and by Theorem 3.7.11(2)  $L$  is semisimple since  $L \subset \mathfrak{sl}(V)$ .

The linear forms which are subscripts in (1.51) can be identified with the linear mappings  $h \rightarrow \alpha(h)$ , where  $h = \sum \omega_i h_i$  and we get  $[e_\alpha h] = \alpha(h)e_\alpha$  where  $\alpha = \omega_i - \omega_j$ ,  $\omega_i + \omega_j$ , etc. Thus  $H$  is a split CSA and the  $\alpha$  are the nonzero roots. We now assume  $\ell \geq 2$  and we set

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \omega_1 - \omega_2, \\ \alpha_2 &= \omega_2 - \omega_3, \\ &\dots\dots\dots \\ \alpha_{\ell-1} &= \omega_{\ell-1} - \omega_\ell, \\ \alpha_\ell &= \omega_\ell. \end{aligned}$$

One checks that this is a simple system of roots with

Dynkin diagram of type  $B_\ell$ . Hence  $L$  is simple of type  $B_\ell$  ( $\ell \geq 2$ ).

$C_\ell$  ( $\ell \geq 1$ ). Let  $\dim V = 2\ell$ , with basis  $(v_1, \dots, v_{2\ell})$ . Define a nondegenerate skew-symmetric form  $(x, y)$  on  $V$  by the matrix

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_\ell \\ -1_\ell & 0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

(It can be shown that even dimensionality is a necessary condition for existence of such a form). Denote by  $L \equiv \text{sp}(V)$  or  $\text{sp}(2\ell, F)$ , called the symplectic algebra, the set of elements  $a \in \text{Hom } V$  such that  $(va, w) = -(v, wa)$   $v, w \in V$ . If we identify the elements  $a \in L$  with the matrix

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} , \quad a_{ij} \in F_\ell ,$$

then the symplectic condition is equivalent to the condition  $aq = -qa'$ , which implies

$$a_{22} = -a'_{11} , \quad a'_{12} = a_{12} , \quad a'_{21} = a_{21} .$$

Hence  $\text{Tr } a = 0$  for  $a \in L$  and  $L$  has the basis

$$h_i = e_{ii} - e_{\ell+i, \ell+i} ,$$

$$e_{\omega_j - \omega_i} = e_{ij} - e_{j+\ell, i+\ell}, \quad i \neq j$$

$$e_{-\omega_i - \omega_j} = e_{i, j+\ell} + e_{j, i+\ell}, \quad i < j$$

$$e_{\omega_i + \omega_j} = e_{i+\ell, j} + e_{j+\ell, i},$$

$$e_{-2\omega_i} = e_{i, i+\ell},$$

$$e_{2\omega_i} = e_{i+\ell, i},$$

where  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ . As before, we can show that  $H = \{\sum \omega_i h_i\}$  is a split CSA of  $L$  and  $\alpha = \omega_j - \omega_i$ ,  $-\omega_j - \omega_i$ , etc. are the nonzero roots. As for  $B_\ell$ ,  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible and  $L$  is semisimple. If  $\ell \geq 3$  then the roots

$$\alpha_1 = \omega_1 - \omega_2, \dots, \alpha_{\ell-1} = \omega_{\ell-1} - \omega_\ell,$$

$$\alpha_\ell = 2\omega_\ell$$

form a simple system of roots whose Dynkin diagram is connected and of type  $C_\ell$ . Hence  $L$  is simple of type  $C_\ell$ .

$D_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ . Let  $\dim V = 2\ell$ , with basis  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2\ell})$ . The construction is identical with that for  $B_\ell$ , except that  $\dim V = 2\ell$  is even. Thus the orthogonal algebra  $L \cong \mathcal{O}^\nu(2\ell, F)$  consists of matrices  $a \in F_{2\ell}$  such that  $at = -ta'$  where

$$t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_\ell \\ 1_\ell & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence  $L$  is the set of matrices

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad a_{ij} \in F_\ell$$

such that  $a_{22} = -a'_{11}$ ,  $a'_{12} = -a_{12}$  and  $a'_{21} = -a_{21}$ .

Thus  $L$  has the basis

$$\begin{aligned} h_i &= e_{ii} - e_{\ell+i, \ell+i}, \\ e_{\omega_i - \omega_j} &= e_{ji} - e_{i+\ell, j+\ell}, \quad i \neq j \\ e_{\omega_i + \omega_j} &= e_{i+\ell, j} - e_{j+\ell, i}, \quad i < j \\ e_{-\omega_i - \omega_j} &= e_{j, i+\ell} - e_{i, j+\ell}, \quad i < j \end{aligned}$$

where  $i, j = 1, \dots, \ell$ .  $H = \{\sum \omega_i h_i\}$  is a split CSA and the subscripts are the nonzero roots. As before, we can show that  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible and so  $L$  is semisimple since  $\text{Tr } a = 0$  for  $a \in L$ . If  $\ell \geq 4$  then

$$\alpha_1 = \omega_1 - \omega_2, \dots, \alpha_{\ell-1} = \omega_{\ell-1} - \omega_\ell, \quad \alpha_\ell = \omega_{\ell-1} + \omega_\ell$$

form a simple system of roots which has the Dynkin diagram  $D_\ell$ . Hence  $L$  is simple of type  $D_\ell$ .

Each algebra of types  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 1)$ ,  $B_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ ,  $C_\ell (\ell \geq 3)$  and  $D_\ell (\ell \geq 4)$  is unique up to isomorphism and no two of these algebras are isomorphic.



This follows from Exercise 4.5.2 and the classification of connected Dynkin diagrams. When the restriction on  $\ell$  is relaxed, we have the following isomorphism relations for the low dimensional orthogonal and symplectic algebras.

Exercise 4.7.1. Prove that  $A_1 \simeq B_1 \simeq C_1$ ,  $B_2 \simeq C_2$ ,  $A_3 \simeq D_3$  and  $D_2 \simeq A_1 \oplus A_1$ .

The construction of the five exceptional simple algebras is related to simple alternative and Jordan algebras. Thus a complete discussion will take us too far afield. Here we outline the construction for  $G_2$ ,  $F_4$ , and  $E_6$ . The situation for  $E_7$  and  $E_8$  is more complicated; however, we intend to state the results of a "remarkable" uniform method by Tits for the construction of the exceptional algebras.

To proceed, we state some definitions in order. Recall that an algebra  $A$  is called alternative if it satisfies the alternative law  $x^2y = x(xy)$  and  $yx^2 = (yx)x$ . An algebra  $A$  over  $F$  with unit element 1 is called a composition algebra if it has a nondegenerate quadratic form  $n(x)$  on  $A$  satisfying the composition law  $n(xy) = n(x)n(y)$ ,  $x \in A$ .

Exercise 4.7.2. Prove that any composition algebra  $A$  (of char  $\neq 2$ ) is a quadratic algebra with involution

$x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  in the sense that every element  $x \in A$  satisfies the quadratic equation

$$x^2 - t(x)x + n(x)1 = 0 ,$$

$x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  linear,  $\overline{xy} = \bar{y}\bar{x}$  and  $\overline{\bar{x}} = x$  , where  $t(\alpha 1) = 2\alpha$  and  $n(\alpha 1) = \alpha^2, \alpha \in F$  . In this case,  $t : A \rightarrow F$  is linear and is called the trace form of  $A$  .

Exercise 4.7.3. Prove that any simple alternative quadratic algebra ( $\text{char} \neq 2$ ) of finite dimension is necessarily a composition algebra.

We construct a well-known simple alternative algebra. Let  $V$  be a 3-dimensional vector space over  $F$  with basis  $i, j, k$  . Let  $(, )$  be the inner product on  $V$  and define an anticommutative multiplication  $a \times b$  on  $V$  by

$$i \times i = j \times j = k \times k = 0 ,$$

$$i \times j = k , \quad j \times k = i , \quad k \times i = j .$$

In this way,  $V$  becomes a simple Lie algebra. Now, let  $C$  be the set of  $2 \times 2$  matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & a \\ b & \beta \end{pmatrix} , \quad \alpha, \beta \in F , \quad a, b \in V .$$

Define a multiplication in  $C$  as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & a \\ b & \beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & c \\ d & \delta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha\gamma - (a,d) & \alpha\delta + \delta a + bxd \\ \gamma b + \beta d + axc & \beta\delta - (b,c) \end{pmatrix} .$$

The remaining operations are defined in the obvious manner. The 8-dimensional algebra  $C$  so defined is called the split Cayley algebra or vector matrix algebra.

Exercise 4.7.4. (1) Prove that  $C$  is a simple alternative quadratic algebra with trace  $t(x) = \alpha + \beta$  where  $\alpha, \beta$  are the diagonal entries of  $x$ .

(2) Show that  $C_0 = \{x \in C \mid t(x) = 0\}$  is equal to  $[C, C] = \{[x, y] = xy - yx \mid x, y \in C\}$ .

Due to the following famous theorem of Hurwitz,  $C$  is the only nonassociative composition algebra.

Exercise 4.7.5. Any composition algebra  $A$  over  $F$  (of char  $\neq 2$ ) is one of the following :  $F1$  ;  $F \otimes F$  ; a separable quadratic field  $K$  over  $F$  ; a quaternion algebra  $Q$  over  $F$  ; a Cayley algebra  $C$  over  $F$  . Hence the possible dimensions for  $A$  are 1, 2, 4, 8 .

Exercise 4.7.6. Show that, in any alternative algebra  $A$ , the mappings

$$D_{a,b} = [L_a, L_b] + [L_a, R_b] + [R_a, R_b] , \quad a, b \in A$$

are derivations on  $A$  and that  $D_{a,b} = -D_{b,a}$ .

Exercise 4.7.7. Let  $V$  be the 3-dimensional space defined above. Let  $T \in \text{Hom } V$  be of trace 0 and let  $T^*$  be the adjoint of  $T$  relative to  $(\ , \ )$ . Prove that the mapping

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha & a \\ b & \beta \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & aT \\ -bT^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a derivation on  $C$  and the set  $L_0$  of these derivations is isomorphic to  $A_2 = \mathfrak{sl}(3, F)$ .

G<sub>2</sub>. We retain the previous notations. Let  $L = \text{Der } C$ , the Lie algebra of derivations on  $C$ . Since  $C_0 = [C, C]$  (Exercise 4.7.4),  $C = C_0 \oplus F1$  and  $C_0 L \subset C_0$ . Also,  $CL \subset C_0$  since  $1L = 0$ . Thus  $L$  acts faithfully on the 7-dimensional space  $C_0$ . Moreover, it is shown that  $L$  acts irreducibly on  $C_0$  and that any derivation in  $L$  has the form  $D_{e_1, a_{12}} + D_{e_2, b_{21}} + D_0$  where

$$e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$a_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ b & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $D_{a,b}$  and  $L_0$  are the same as in Exercises 4.7.6 and 4.7.7, respectively. Then  $\text{Tr } D = 0$  for  $D \in L$  and hence  $L$  is semisimple by Theorem 3.7.11. We identify  $L_0$  with  $A_2 = \mathfrak{sl}(3, F)$ . If  $H$  is a CSA of  $L_0$ ,  $H$  is also a CSA of  $L$ . Therefore, we can take  $H$  to be the set of matrices of the form  $\omega_1 h_1 + \omega_2 h_2$ ,  $h_1 = e_{11} - e_{33}$ ,  $h_2 = e_{22} - e_{33}$ . Then  $H$  is a CSA of  $L$  and the nonzero roots are:  $\pm\omega_1$ ,  $\pm\omega_2$ ,  $\pm(\omega_1 - \omega_2)$ ,  $\pm(\omega_1 + \omega_2)$ ,  $\pm(2\omega_1 + \omega_2)$ ,  $\pm(\omega_1 + 2\omega_2)$ . The roots  $\alpha_1 = \omega_1 - \omega_2$ ,  $\alpha_2 = \omega_2$  form a simple system of roots with Dynkin diagram  $G_2$ . Hence  $L$  is simple of type  $G_2$ .

Recall that an algebra  $J$  over  $F$  is called Jordan if it is commutative, i.e.,  $x \cdot y = y \cdot x$ , and satisfies the Jordan identity  $[(x \cdot x) \cdot y] \cdot x = (x \cdot x) \cdot (y \cdot x)$ . Note that the Cayley algebra  $C$  has an involution  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  such that  $\bar{\bar{1}} = 1$  and  $\bar{\bar{x}} = -x$  for  $x \in C_0$ . Let  $M_3^8$  be the set of  $3 \times 3$  matrices of the form

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 & c & \bar{b} \\ \bar{c} & \xi_2 & a \\ b & \bar{a} & \xi_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \xi_i \in F, \quad a, b, c \in C$$

which are hermitian relative to the involution. If  $x, y \in M_3^8$ , then  $x \cdot y \equiv \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx) \in M_3^8$  where  $xy$  is the usual matrix product. It is shown that  $M_3^8$  with

$x \cdot y$  becomes a central simple Jordan algebra. An algebra  $A$  over  $F$  is called central simple if  $A_K$  is simple for any scalar extension  $K$  of  $F$ .  $M_3^8$  is the only "exceptional" central simple Jordan algebra (of char  $\neq 2$ ), because all other central simple Jordan algebras are isomorphic to subalgebras of  $A^+$  for some associative algebra  $A$  but  $M_3^8$  is not.

Exercise 4.7.8. In any Jordan algebra  $J$ , the mapping  $D_{x,y} = [R_x, R_y]$  for  $x, y \in J$  is a derivation on  $J$ .

Exercise 4.7.9. Let  $L_0$  be the set of derivations on  $M_3^8$  which kill  $e_1 = \text{diag}(1,0,0)$ ,  $e_2 = \text{diag}(0,1,0)$ ,  $e_3 = \text{diag}(0,0,1)$ . Show that the Lie algebra  $L_0$  is isomorphic to  $D_4$ , the orthogonal algebra  $\mathcal{O}(8, F)$ .

Exercise 4.7.10. Prove that  $\text{Tr } R_x = 9\text{Tr } x$  for  $x \in M_3^8$  where  $\text{Tr } x = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3$ . Use this to show that  $M_3^8 D \subset J_0$  for all  $D \in \text{Der } M_3^8$ , where  $J_0 = \{x \in M_3^8 \mid \text{Tr } x = 0\}$ .

Exercise 4.7.11. Prove that every derivation  $D$  on  $M_3^8$  is inner (char  $\neq 2, 3$ ):

$$D = \sum [R_{x_i}, R_{y_i}] , \quad x_i, y_i \in M_3^8 .$$

F<sub>4</sub>. Let  $L = \text{Der } M_3^8$  and let  $J_0$  be the same as in Exercise 4.7.10. Then it is shown that  $L$  acts faithfully and irreducibly on  $J_0$ . In view of Exercise 4.7.11,  $\text{Tr } x = 0$  for  $x \in L$  and by Theorem 3.7.11  $L$  is semisimple. When  $L_0$  is identified with  $D_4$  by Exercise 4.7.9, then the CSA  $H$  of  $L_0$  corresponding to the CSA of  $D_4$  is a split CSA for  $L$ . Then the nonzero roots of  $H$  in  $L$  are  $\pm\omega_i, \pm\omega_i \pm \omega_j, \pm\Lambda_i, \pm M_i$ , where

$$\Lambda_i = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 + \omega_4) - \omega_i,$$

$$M_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 + \omega_4),$$

$$M_2 = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 - \omega_4),$$

$$M_3 = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 - \omega_2 + \omega_3 - \omega_4),$$

$$M_4 = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3 + \omega_4).$$

The roots  $\alpha_1 = \omega_4, \alpha_2 = \omega_3 - \omega_4, \alpha_3 = \omega_4,$   
 $\alpha_4 = \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3 - \omega_4)$  form a simple system of roots with Dynkin diagram of type  $F_4$ . Thus  $L$  is simple of type  $F_4$ . Note that there are exactly 48 roots and  $\dim L = 52$ .

Exercise 4.7.12. Prove that  $\text{Der } M_3^8 + R_{J_0}$  acts irreducibly on  $M_3^8$  ( $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$ ) where  $J_0$  is as in Exercise 4.7.10 and  $R_{J_0} = \{R_x \mid x \in J_0\}$ .

E<sub>6</sub>. Let  $L = \text{Der } M_3^8 + R_{J_0}$ . By Exercise 4.7.8,  $[R_x, R_y] \in \text{Der } M_3^8$  for  $x, y \in M_3^8$  and  $[R_x, D] = R_{xD}$  for  $D \in M_3^8$ . Thus  $[L, L] \subset L$  and  $L$  is a Lie algebra. Since  $\text{Tr } z = 0$  for  $z \in L$ , by Exercise 4.7.12  $L$  is semisimple. Let  $H$  be the CSA of  $\text{Der } M_3^8$  (of  $F_4$ ). Then  $H' = \text{FR}_{e_1 - e_3} + \text{FR}_{e_2 - e_3} + H$  is a split CSA of  $L$  where  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  are the same as in Exercise 4.7.9. The nonzero roots of  $H'$  in  $L$  are  $\pm\omega_i \pm\omega_j$ ,  $i < j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,  $\pm(\omega_i \pm \frac{1}{2}(\omega_6 - \omega_5))$ ,  $\pm(\Lambda_i \pm \frac{1}{2}(\omega_7 - \omega_5))$ ,  $\pm(M_i \pm \frac{1}{2}(\omega_7 - \omega_6))$ , where  $M_i$  and  $\Lambda_i$  are as in type  $F_4$ . The roots  $\alpha_1 = -\omega_1 + \frac{1}{2}(\omega_6 - \omega_5)$ ,  $\alpha_2 = \omega_3 - \omega_4$ ,  $\alpha_3 = \omega_1 - \omega_2$ ,  $\alpha_4 = \omega_2 - \omega_3$ ,  $\alpha_5 = \omega_3 + \omega_4$ ,  $\alpha_6 = -M_1 + \frac{1}{2}(\omega_7 - \omega_6)$  form a simple system of roots with Dynkin diagram of type  $E_6$ . Hence  $L$  is simple of type  $E_6$ . Notice that there are 72 roots and  $\dim L = 78$ .

Let  $B$  be a finite-dimensional algebra over  $F$  with a nonzero linear form  $t$  and let  $B$  have a unit element  $1$ . Assume  $t(1) \neq 0$ . Thus if we let  $B_0 = \{x \in B \mid t(x) = 0\}$ , then we have the vector space direct sum  $B = B_0 + F1$ . Hence, for  $x, y \in B$ ,  $xy$  is uniquely expressed as

$$xy = \frac{1}{t(1)} t(xy)1 + x*y \tag{1.52}$$



where  $x*y \in B_0$  , since  $t(x*y) = 0$  .

The Tits' construction. We outline a partial results of the Tits' construction. Let  $A$  be a composition algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2,3$  , so that  $A$  is a quadratic algebra with trace form  $t$  . Let  $A$  have a unit element  $u$  . Let  $J = M_3^8$  with unit element  $e$  . Set

$$A_0 = \{a \in A \mid t(a) = 0\} , \quad J_0 = \{x \in J \mid \text{Tr } x = 0\} .$$

Note that  $t(u) = 2$  and  $\text{Tr } e = 3$  , and the bilinear forms  $\langle x,y \rangle = \text{Tr } x \cdot y$  and  $(a,b) = t(ab)$  are respectively nondegenerate on  $J$  and  $A$  . The relation (1.52) turns out as

$$ab = \frac{1}{2} t(ab)u + a*b , \quad a,b \in A ,$$

$$x \cdot y = \frac{1}{3} (\text{Tr } x \cdot y)e + x*y , \quad x,y \in J .$$

It is easy to check that  $a*b$  defines an anticommutative product in  $A_0$  while  $x*y$  defines a commutative one in  $J_0$  . Let

$$L \equiv \text{Der } A + A_0 \otimes_F J_0 + \text{Der } J \tag{1.53}$$

be the vector space direct sum of  $\text{Der } A$  ,  $\text{Der } J$  and the tensor product  $A_0 \otimes J_0$  over  $F$  . We define a multiplication  $[ , ]$  in  $L$  which is bilinear and anticommutative, which agrees with the ordinary Lie product in  $\text{Der } A$  and  $\text{Der } J$  , and which satisfies

$$[\text{Der } A, \text{Der } J] = 0,$$

$$[a \otimes x, D] = aD \otimes x, \quad D \in \text{Der } A, \quad a \in A_0, \quad x \in J_0,$$

$$[a \otimes x, D] = a \otimes xD, \quad D \in \text{Der } J, \quad a \in A_0, \quad x \in J_0,$$

$$[a \otimes x, b \otimes y] = \frac{1}{12} \text{Tr}(xy) D_{a,b} + (a*b) \otimes (x*y)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} t(ab) [R_x, R_y],$$

$$a, b \in A_0; \quad x, y \in J_0,$$

where  $D_{a,b}$  is as in Exercise 4.7.6. Utilizing the fact that  $D_{a,b} = -D_{b,a}$  and  $a*b = -b*a$  for  $a, b \in A_0$ , it can be shown that  $L$  is a Lie algebra under the product just defined.

Let  $K$  be the algebraic closure of  $F$ . By Exercise 4.7.5 the composition algebra  $\bar{A} \equiv A_K$  is one of the following:  $Ku$ ,  $Ku \oplus Kv_1$  with  $v_1^2 = u$ , a split quaternion algebra  $Q$ , a split Cayley algebra  $C$ . Then the corresponding Lie algebra  $L_K$  formed by (1.53) is listed as:

	Ku	Ku + Kv <sub>1</sub>	Q	C
L <sub>K</sub>	F <sub>4</sub>	E <sub>6</sub>	E <sub>7</sub>	E <sub>8</sub>

Hence  $L$  is central simple. Here we note that

$\text{Der}(Ke) = \text{Der}(Ku + Kv_1) = 0$  while  $\text{Der}(Q) \cong \mathfrak{sl}(2)$  and  $\text{Der } C \cong G_2$ . Thus when  $A = Ku + Kv_1$  (so  $A_0 = Kv_1$ ),  $L$  in (1.53) corresponds to  $E_6$ . In fact,  $L = Kv_1 \otimes J_0 + \text{Der } J$  is isomorphic to  $E_6 = R_{J_0} + \text{Der } J$  via  $v_1 \otimes x + D \rightarrow R_x + D$ .

In (1.53),  $J$  can be replaced by other central simple Jordan algebras. For example, if  $J = Ke$  and  $A = C$  then  $L$  in (1.53) corresponds to  $G_2$ . The relation (1.53) enables us to enumerate  $\dim L$  via

$$\dim L = \dim \text{Der } A + (-1 + \dim A)(-1 + \dim J) + \dim \text{Der } J .$$

In particular,

$$\dim E_6 = 0 + 1 \cdot 26 + 52 = 78 ,$$

$$\dim E_7 = 3 + 3 \cdot 26 + 52 = 133 , \text{ and}$$

$$\dim E_8 = 14 + 7 \cdot 26 + 52 = 248 .$$

The dimensions of irreducible representations we presented here for  $A_\ell - D_\ell$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $F_4$  and  $E_6$  are minimal. In fact, E. Cartan has computed the minimal dimension of irreducible representations of the exceptional algebras.

L	dim L	minimal dim. of irreducible representation
$A_\ell$	$\ell(\ell+2)$	$\ell + 1$
$B_\ell$	$\ell(2\ell+1)$	$2\ell + 1$
$C_\ell$	$\ell(2\ell+1)$	$2\ell$
$D_\ell$	$\ell(2\ell-1)$	$2\ell$
$G_2$	14	7
$F_4$	52	26
$E_6$	78	27
$E_7$	133	56
$E_8$	248	248

Thus the "simplest" matrix realization of  $E_8$  will involve  $248 \times 248$  matrices.

Jacobson first identified  $G_2$  with  $\text{Der } C$ ,  $C$  a split Cayley algebra (Cayley numbers and normal simple Lie algebras of type  $G$ , Duke Math. J. 5(1939), 775-783), while the description of  $F_4$  and  $E_6$  as  $\text{Der } M_3^8$  and  $R_{J_0} + \text{Der } M_3^8$  is due to Chevalley and Schafer (The exceptional simple Lie algebras  $F_4$  and  $E_6$ , Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 36(1950), 137-141). The Tits' construction has been reinvestigated many times ;

1. J. Tits, "Algèbres alternatives, algèbres Jordan et algèbres de Lie exceptionnelles, I.", Nederl. Akad.

Wetensch, Proc. Ser. A 69 = Indag. Math. 28(1966), 223-237.

2. J. R. Faulkner and J. C. Ferrar, "Exceptional Lie algebras and related algebraic and geometric structures", Bull. London Math. Soc., 9(1977), 1-35.

3. N. Jacobson, "Exceptional Lie algebras", Lecture Notes in Pure and Appl. Math. I, Marcel Dekker, Inc. N.Y., 1971.

4. R. D. Schafer, "An introduction to nonassociative algebras", Academic Press, New York, 1966.

5. R. D. Schafer, "On the simplicity of the Lie algebras,  $E_7$  and  $E_8$ ", Nederl. Akad. Wetensch. Proc. Ser. A 69 = Indag. Math. 28(1966), 64-69.

The Tits' construction allowed Schafer (Paper 5. cited above) to show that there are indeed simple Lie algebras of types  $E_7$  and  $E_8$ .

## 5. REPRESENTATIONS OF SEMISIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS

### 5.1. Universal enveloping algebras

We discuss an associative algebra defined by a universal property. This algebra has a unit element and is generated by a Lie algebra  $L$ . The purpose is to prove the Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt Theorem (PBW Theorem) that this algebra has a basis consisting of 1 and the "standard" monomials in an ordered basis of  $L$ . Universal enveloping algebras along with PBW Theorem are basic tools for representation theory of Lie algebras. In this section,  $L$  denotes a Lie algebra (not necessarily finite-dimensional) over an arbitrary field  $F$ .

Definition 5.1.1. An (nonassociative) algebra  $A$  is said to be graded if  $A = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \oplus A^i$ , where the  $A^i$

are subspaces of  $A$  and  $A^i A^j \subseteq A^{i+j}$ . The elements of  $A^i$  are called homogeneous of degree  $i$ . Every element  $a \in A$  is uniquely expressed as  $a = \sum a_i$ ,  $a_i \in A^i$ ,  $a_i = 0$  for all but a finite number of  $i$ . Then  $a_i$  is called the homogeneous part of  $a$  of degree  $i$ . A left (right) ideal  $B$  of  $A$  is called homogeneous if  $B = \sum_i (B \cap A^i)$ . An algebra  $A$  is said to be filtered if for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  = the set of nonnegative integers, there is defined a subspace  $A_i$  such that  $A_i \subset A_j$  if  $i \leq j$ ,  $A = \bigcup_i A_i$  and  $A_i A_j \subset A_{i+j}$ . //

If  $A$  is graded as  $A = \sum_i A^i$  and we set  $A_i = \sum_{j \leq i} A^j$  then this defines a filtration in  $A$ . Let  $A$  now be an algebra with unit element 1 and let  $A$  be generated by a subspace  $V$ . Denote by  $V^n$  the subspace spanned by all the products of any  $n$  elements in  $V$  in all possible associations. Thus  $A = F1 + V + V^2 + \dots + V^n + \dots$ . If we set  $A_i = F1 + \dots + V^i$  with  $A_0 = F1$  then these  $A_i$  define a filtration in  $A$ .

Suppose that  $A$  is filtered by subspaces  $A_i$ . We set  $G^m \equiv G^m(A) = A_i/A_{i-1}$  and take the vector space direct sum  $G \equiv G(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} G^i$  where we set  $A_{-1} = 0$ . A multiplication in  $G$  is defined by

$$(x_i + A_{i-1})(x_j + A_{j-1}) = x_i x_j + A_{i+j-1} \tag{1.54}$$

for  $x_i \in A_i$ ,  $x_j \in A_j$ . If  $x_i \equiv y_i \pmod{A_{i-1}}$  and  $x_j \equiv y_j \pmod{A_{j-1}}$  then clearly  $x_i x_j \equiv y_i y_j \pmod{A_{i+j-1}}$  and hence (1.54) is well-defined. This makes  $G$  a graded algebra, called the graded algebra associated with  $A$ .

We turn to special cases of graded algebras. Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$ . Let  $T^0 V = F$ ,  $T^1 V = V$ ,  $T^m V = V \otimes \dots \otimes V$  ( $m$  times). Set  $T \equiv T(V) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \oplus T^i V$  and introduce an associative product in  $T$  by the obvious manner,  $(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k)(w_1 \otimes \dots \otimes w_m) = v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k \otimes w_1 \otimes \dots \otimes w_m \in T^{k+m} V$ . This makes  $T(V)$  an associative graded algebra with 1 which is generated by 1 and any basis of  $V$ . Call  $T(V)$  the tensor algebra on  $V$ .  $T(V)$  is the universal associative algebra on a basis of  $V$  in the following sense; given an associative algebra  $A$  with 1 and an  $F$ -linear map  $\phi : V \rightarrow A$ , there exists a unique homomorphism of  $F$ -algebras  $\psi : T(V) \rightarrow A$  such that  $\psi(1) = 1$  and  $\psi i = \phi$  where  $i$  is the inclusion map  $V \rightarrow T(V)$ .

Let  $I$  be the ideal in  $T(V)$  generated by  $x \otimes y - y \otimes x$ ,  $x, y \in V$ . Call the algebra  $S(V) \equiv T(V)/I$  the symmetric algebra on  $V$  and denote by  $\sigma : T(V) \rightarrow S(V)$  the natural map. We note that the generators of  $I$  are in  $T^2 V$  and hence  $I = (I \cap T^2 V) \oplus (I \cap T^3 V) \oplus \dots$ . Thus  $\sigma$  is injective on  $T^0 V = F$ ,  $T^1 V = V$ . Since  $I$  is homogeneous, setting  $S^m V = \sigma(T^m V)$  makes  $S(V)$  a



commutative associative graded algebra  $S(V) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} S^i V$ . Hence  $S(V)$  is the universal commutative associative algebra on a basis of  $V$  in the above sense. Let  $\{x_i \mid i \in P\}$  be a fixed basis of  $V$  and let  $\{z_i \mid i \in P\}$  be a set of indeterminates which is bijective to  $\{x_i\}$ . It is readily seen that  $S(V)$  is canonically isomorphic to the polynomial algebra over  $F$  in  $\{z_i\}$ .

Definition 5.1.2. Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra over  $F$ . A universal enveloping algebra of  $L$  is a pair  $(U, i)$  of an associative algebra  $U$  with 1 and a homomorphism  $i : L \rightarrow U$  satisfying the following property: If  $A$  is any associative algebra with 1 and  $j : L \rightarrow A$  is any homomorphism then there exists a unique homomorphism of algebras  $\phi : U \rightarrow A$  such that  $\phi(1) = 1$  and  $\phi i = j$ . //

Theorem 5.1.1. 1) Let  $(U, i)$  and  $(V, j)$  be universal enveloping algebras of  $L$ . Then there exists a unique isomorphism  $\phi$  of  $U$  onto  $V$  such that  $\phi i = j$ .

2)  $U$  is generated by 1 and  $i(L)$

3) Let  $L_1, L_2$  be Lie algebras with universal enveloping algebras  $(U_1, i_1), (U_2, i_2)$  respectively and let  $\tau$  be a homomorphism of  $L_1$  into  $L_2$ . Then there is a unique homomorphism  $\tau'$  of  $U_1$  into  $U_2$  such that  $i_2 \tau' = \tau' i_1$ .

Proof. Proofs are straightforward and standard. //

We show that there always exists a universal enveloping algebra  $(U, i)$  for  $L$ . Let  $T(L)$  be the tensor algebra on  $L$  and let  $J$  be the ideal in  $T(L)$  generated by all

$$(*) \quad x \otimes y - y \otimes x - [xy], \quad x, y \in L.$$

Set  $U \equiv U(L) = T(L)/J$  and let  $\pi : T(L) \rightarrow U(L)$  be the natural homomorphism. Since  $J \subset \sum_{i>0} T^i L$ ,  $\pi$  is injective on  $T^0 L = F$ . We will show later that  $\pi$  is injective on  $L$  too. Let  $i$  be the restriction of  $\pi$  to  $L$ . We claim that  $(U(L), i)$  is a universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ . Indeed, let  $j : L \rightarrow A$  be as in Definition 5.1.2. By the universal property of  $T(L)$  we have an algebra homomorphism  $\phi' : T(L) \rightarrow A$  which extends  $j$  and sends  $1$  to  $1$ . Since  $\phi'$  vanishes on the elements in  $(*)$ ,  $J \subset \ker \phi'$  and so  $\phi'$  induces an algebra homomorphism  $\phi$  of  $U(L)$  into  $A$  such that  $\phi(a + J) = \phi'(a)$ ,  $a \in U(L)$ , so  $\phi i = j$  and  $\phi$  is unique since  $1$  and  $i(L)$  generate  $U(L)$ .

Note that if  $L$  is abelian then  $I = J$  and  $U(L)$  is just the symmetric algebra  $S(L)$  on  $L$ .

To prove the PBW Theorem we proceed in steps. Let  $\{x_i \mid i \in p\}$  be a fixed ordered basis of  $L$  and let

$\{z_i \mid i \in P\}$  be a set of indeterminates. Thus  $S(L)$  is identified with the polynomial algebra over  $F$  in  $\{z_i\}$ . For brevity, write  $T = T(L)$ ,  $S = S(L)$ ,  $U = U(L)$ ,  $T^m = T^m_L$  and  $S^m = S^m_L$ . For each sequence  $M = (i_1, \dots, i_m)$  of indices, let  $z_M = z_{i_1} \dots z_{i_m} \in S^m$  and let

$x_M = x_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{i_m} \in T^m$  where  $m$  is called the length

of  $M$ . Say that  $M$  is increasing if  $i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_m$  in the given order of  $P$ . View  $\phi$  as increasing and

$z_\phi = 1$ . Thus  $\{z_M \mid M \text{ increasing}\}$  is a basis for  $S$ .

Define filtrations on  $S$  and  $T$  by  $S_m = S^0 \oplus S^1 \oplus \dots \oplus S^m$

and  $T_m = T^0 \oplus T^1 \oplus \dots \oplus T^m$ , respectively. In the

following, write  $i \leq M$  if  $i \leq j$  for all  $j \in M$ .

Lemma 5.1.2. For each  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , there exists a unique linear map  $f_m : L \otimes S_m \rightarrow S$  satisfying ;

$$(A_m). \quad f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) = z_i \cdot z_M \quad \text{for } i \leq M, \quad z_M \in S_m.$$

$$(B_m). \quad f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) \equiv z_i \cdot z_M \pmod{S_k} \quad \text{for } k \leq m, \quad z_M \in S_k.$$

$$(C_m). \quad f_m(x_i \otimes f_m(x_j \otimes z_N)) = f_m(x_j \otimes f_m(x_i \otimes z_N))$$

$$+ f_m([x_i, x_j] \otimes z_N) \quad \text{for all } z_N \in S_{m-1}.$$

Moreover, the restriction of  $f_m$  to  $L \otimes S_{m-1}$  is  $f_{m-1}$ .

Proof. To verify existence and uniqueness of  $f_m$ , we proceed by induction on  $m$ . If  $m = 0$  then only  $z_M = 1$  occurs, so we let  $f_0(x_i \otimes 1) = z_i$ . Then  $f_0$  is extended to a linear map  $: L \otimes S_0 \rightarrow S$  and  $(A_0), (B_0), (C_0)$  are clearly satisfied. The uniqueness of  $f_0$  follows from  $(A_0)$ .

Assume the existence of a unique  $f_{m-1}$  satisfying  $(A_{m-1})-(C_{m-1})$ . We show how to extend  $f_{m-1}$  to  $f_m$ . For this it suffices to define  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_M)$  when  $M$  is an increasing sequence of length  $m$ .

Case 1 :  $i \leq M$ . To meet  $(A_m)$ , we must define  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) = z_i \cdot z_M$ . Then  $(B_m)$  is automatically satisfied.

Case 2 :  $i < M$  fails. In this case, the first index  $j$  in  $M$  is less than  $i$ . Thus if we let  $M = (j, \dots, i, \dots, N)$  then  $j < i$  and  $j \leq N$  where  $N$  has length  $m - 1$ . By  $(A_{m-1})$ ,  $f_{m-1}(x_j \otimes z_N) = z_j z_N = z_M$ , and since  $j \leq N$ , by Case 1  $f_m(x_j \otimes z_i z_N) = z_j z_i z_N$  is already defined. Thus the left side of  $(C_m) = f_m(x_i \otimes f_m(x_j \otimes z_N)) = f_m(x_i \otimes z_M)$ . On the other hand,  $(B_{m-1})$  implies that  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_N) = f_{m-1}(x_i \otimes z_N) \equiv z_i z_N \pmod{S_{m-1}}$ . Thus the right side of  $(C_m)$  is already defined as

$$u \equiv z_j z_i z_N + f_{m-1}(x_j \otimes y) + f_{m-1}([x_i x_j] \otimes z_N), \quad y \in S_{m-1}.$$

If we define  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) = u$  then  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) \equiv z_i z_M \pmod{S_m}$ .

Hence by induction  $(B_m)$  is satisfied.

Therefore, by Cases 1 and 2,  $f_m$  can be defined in a unique way, so as to satisfy  $(A_m)$  and  $(B_m)$  as well as to extend  $f_{m-1}$ . It remains to verify  $(C_m)$  for arbitrary  $i, j$ . If  $j < i$  and  $j \leq N$  then this is the situation treated in Case 2, so that  $f_m(x_i \otimes z_M) = f_m(x_i \otimes f_m(x_j \otimes z_N))$  has been defined to satisfy  $(C_m)$ . If  $i < j$  and  $i \leq N$ , then since  $[x_i x_j] = -[x_j x_i]$ , we can reverse the above case. When  $i = j$ ,  $(C_m)$  is trivial. It remains to consider the case where neither  $i \leq N$  nor  $j \leq N$  is true. Write  $N = (k, R)$  where  $k \leq R$ ,  $k < i$ ,  $k < j$ . For convenience, abbreviate  $f_m(x \otimes z)$  by  $xz$  whenever  $x \in L$ ,  $z \in S_m$ . By induction hypothesis we have that  $x_j z_N = x_j(x_k z_R) = x_k(x_j z_R) + [x_j x_k] z_R$  (by  $(C_{m-1})$ ) and  $x_j z_R = z_j z_R + w$ ,  $w \in S_{m-2}$ , by  $(B_{m-1})$ . Since  $k \leq (j, R)$  and  $k < i$ , by the case treated above  $(C_m)$  applies to  $x_i(x_k(z_j z_R))$ . By induction,  $(C_m)$  also applies to  $x_i(x_k w)$ . Therefore,  $(C_m)$  applies to  $x_i(x_k(x_j z_R)) = x_i(x_k(z_j z_R + w))$

$= x_i(x_k(z_j z_R)) + x_i(x_k w)$ . Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (**) \quad x_i(x_j z_N) &= x_i(x_k(x_j z_R)) + x_i([x_j x_k] z_R) \\
 &= x_k(x_i(x_j z_R) + [x_i x_k] (x_j z_R)) \\
 &\quad + [x_j x_k] (x_i z_R) + [x_i [x_j x_k]] z_R, \text{ by } (C_{m-1}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $i, j$  are interchangeable throughout this argument. Thus if we interchange  $i, j$  in  $(**)$  and subtract the two resulting relations, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & x_i(x_j z_N) - x_j(x_i z_N) \\
 &= x_k \left[ x_i(x_j z_R) - x_j(x_i z_R) \right] + [x_i[x_j x_k]] z_R - [x_j[x_i x_k]] z_R \\
 &= x_k \left( [x_i x_j] z_R \right) + [x_i[x_j x_k]] z_R + [x_j[x_k x_i]] z_R \quad (\text{by } (C_{m-1})) \\
 &= [x_i x_j] (x_k z_R) + \{ [x_k[x_i x_j]] + [x_i[x_j x_k]] + [x_j[x_k x_i]] \} z_R \\
 &= [x_i x_j] z_N
 \end{aligned}$$

by  $(C_{m-1})$ ,  $(A_{m-1})$  and the Jacobi identity.

This proves  $(C_m)$ . //

Lemma 5.1.3. There exists a representation

$g : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F S)^-$  satisfying :

$$(1) \quad z_M g(x_i) = -z_i z_M \quad \text{for } i \leq M.$$

$$(2) \quad z_M g(x_i) = -z_i z_M \pmod{S_m} \quad \text{if } M \text{ has length } m.$$

Proof. Note that  $S = \bigcup_{m=0}^{\infty} S_m$ . By Lemma 5.1.2.

one can define a linear map  $f : L \otimes S \rightarrow S$  by setting

$$f(x \otimes z_M) = f_m(x \otimes z_M), \quad \text{if } M \text{ has length } m.$$

Since  $f_m|_{L \otimes S_{m-1}} = f_{m-1}$ ,  $f$  is well-defined and satisfies

$$(A_m) - (C_m) \quad \text{for all } m. \quad \text{If we define } z_M g(x_i) = -f(x_i \otimes z_M)$$

then it follows from  $(C_m)$  that  $g : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom } S)^-$  is a representation. Also, (1) and (2) are consequences of  $(A_m)$  and  $(B_m)$ . //

Lemma 5.1.4. Let  $t \in T_m \cap J$ . Then the homogeneous part  $t_m$  of  $t$  of degree  $m$  lies in  $I$ , where  $J = \ker \pi$ ,  $\pi : T \rightarrow U$  natural map and  $I = \ker \sigma$ ,  $\sigma : T \rightarrow S$  natural map.

Proof. Write  $t_m = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i x_{M(i)}$ , where each  $M(i)$  is of length  $m$ . Let  $g : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom } S)^-$  be the representation as in Lemma 5.1.3. By the universal property of  $T$ ,  $g$  is extended to an algebra homomorphism  $T \rightarrow \text{Hom } S$ , denoted by the same  $g$ , with  $J \subset \ker g$ . Thus  $g(t) = 0$ . In view of Lemma 5.1.3, the term of highest degree of  $lg(t) = 0$  is precisely  $\pm \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i z_{M(i)} = 0$ . Hence  $t_m \in I$ . //

If we set  $U_m = \pi(T_m)$  with  $U_{-1} = 0$  then  $U$  is filtered by the  $U_m$  since  $U_m U_n \subset U_{m+n}$  and  $U_{m-1} \subset U_m$ .

Let  $G = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \oplus G^i$  be the graded algebra associated with this filtration where  $G^m = U_m / U_{m-1}$  (see (1.54)).

Let  $\phi_m : T_m \xrightarrow{\pi} U_m \xrightarrow{\text{nat}} G^m$  be the composite. Since

$\pi(T_m - T_{m-1}) = \pi(T^m) = U_m - U_{m-1}$ ,  $\phi_m$  is surjective.

Thus the maps  $\phi_m$  combine to yield a linear map  $\phi : T \rightarrow G$  which is surjective and sends 1 to 1 .

Lemma 5.1.5.  $\phi : T \rightarrow G$  is an algebra homomorphism. Moreover,  $\phi(I) = 0$  , so  $\phi$  induces a homomorphism  $\omega$  of  $S = T/I$  onto  $G$  .

Proof. Let  $x \in T^m$  ,  $y \in T^n$  . Then  $\phi(x \otimes y)$   
 $= \phi_{m+n}(x \otimes y) = \pi(x \otimes y) + U_{m+n-1} = (\pi(x) + U_{m-1})(\pi(y) + U_{n-1})$   
 $= \phi(x)\phi(y)$  by (1.54). If  $x, y \in L$  then  $\pi(x \otimes y - y \otimes x) \in U_2$   
 but  $\pi(x \otimes y - y \otimes x) = \pi([xy]) \in U_1$  . Hence  $\phi(x \otimes y - y \otimes x) \in U_1/U$   
 $= 0$  and  $I \subset \ker \phi$  . //

Theorem 5.1.6. The homomorphism  $\omega : S \rightarrow G$  is an isomorphism which sends  $S^m$  isomorphically onto  $G^m$  .

Proof. By Lemma 5.1.5, it suffices to show that  $\omega$  is injective. Let  $\omega(t+I) = \bar{0}$  for  $t \in T^m$  . Then  $\omega(t+I) = \phi(t) = \phi_m(t) = \pi(t) + U_{m-1} = U_{m-1}$  and hence  $\pi(t) \in U_{m-1}$  , so  $\pi(t) = \pi(t')$  for some  $t' \in T_{m-1}$  . Thus  $t-t' \in J$  and  $t-t' \in T_m \cap J$  . By Lemma 5.1.4, the homogeneous part, being  $t$  , of  $t-t'$  of degree  $m$  , must lie in  $I$  . Hence  $\omega$  is injective. //

Corollary 5.1.7. Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $T^m$  . If the natural map  $\sigma : T^m \rightarrow S^m$  maps  $W$  isomorphically onto  $S^m$  , then  $\pi$  is injective on  $W$  and  $U_m = \pi(W) \oplus U_{m-1}$  .



Proof. Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T^m & \xrightarrow{\pi} & U_m \\
 \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{nat.} \\
 S^m & \xrightarrow{\omega} & G^m
 \end{array}$$

Clearly,  $\omega(t+I) = \phi(t) = \pi(t) + U_{m-1}$ ,  $t \in T^m$ , and so the diagram is commutative. Thus, by Theorem 5.1.6,  $\omega\sigma$  isomorphically sends  $W$  onto  $G^m$ . If  $\pi(t) + U_{m-1} = U_{m-1}$  for  $t \in W$  then  $\omega\sigma(t) = \bar{0}$  in  $G^m$  and  $t = 0$ . This in particular implies that  $\pi$  is injective on  $W$  and  $\pi(W) + U_{m-1}$  is direct. Since  $\omega\sigma$  is surjective on  $W$ , so is  $t \in W \rightarrow \pi(t) + U_{m-1}$ , and  $U_m = \pi(W) \oplus U_{m-1}$ . //

Corollary 5.1.8. The natural map  $i : L \rightarrow U(L)$  is injective (so  $L$  may be identified with  $i(L)$ ). Thus any Lie algebra has a faithful representation.

Proof. We have observed that  $\sigma$  isomorphically maps  $W \cong T'(=L)$  onto  $S'$ . Hence the result follows from Corollary 5.1.7. //

Theorem 5.1.9. (PBW Theorem). Let  $\{x_j \mid j \in P\}$  be any given ordered basis for  $L$ . Then the elements  $x_{j_1} x_{j_2} \dots x_{j_m} = \pi(x_{j_1} \otimes x_{j_2} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{j_m})$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $j_1 \leq j_2 \leq \dots \leq j_m$ , form a basis for  $U(L)$ .

Proof. Let  $W$  be the subspace of  $T^m$  spanned by all  $x_{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{j_m}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m$ . Then  $\sigma$  maps isomorphically  $W$  onto  $S^m$ . Hence by Corollary 5.1.1,  $\pi$  is injective on  $W$  and  $U_m = \pi(W) \oplus U_{m-1}$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . //

Definition 5.1.3. For  $j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , the basis element  $x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m}$  is called a standard monomial of degree  $m$ . The standard monomial of degree 0 is 1. A basis of  $U(L)$  consisting of all standard monomials in  $\{x_j \mid j \in P\}$  is referred to as a PBW basis of  $U(L)$ . //

Because of the identification  $i(x) = x$ ,  $x \in L$ , the PBW Theorem can be restated as : For any ordered basis  $\{x_j \mid j \in P\}$  of  $L$ , the standard monomials in this basis form a basis of  $U(L)$ . Also  $U(L)$  is characterized as : If  $\phi$  is any homomorphism of  $L$  into  $A^-$  as in Definition 5.1.2 then  $\phi$  can be extended to a unique homomorphism (denoted by  $\phi$ ) of  $U(L)$  into  $A$ , sending 1 to 1. In particular, if  $f$  is a representation of  $L$  into  $(\text{Hom } V)^-$ ,  $f$  is extended to a unique representation  $f$  of  $U(L)$  into  $\text{Hom } V$  and hence  $f$  affords a unique  $U(L)$ -module structure on  $V$ . Conversely if  $V$  is a  $U(L)$ -module then the restriction of the

module action to  $L$  defines an  $L$ -module structure on  $V$ .

Theorem 5.1.10. Let  $H$  be a subalgebra of  $L$  and extend an ordered basis  $\{h_i\}$  of  $H$  to an ordered basis  $\{h_i, x_j\}$  of  $L$ .

(1)  $U(H)$  is the subalgebra of  $U(L)$  generated by  $1$  and  $H$ . Hence  $U(L)$  is a free  $U(H)$ -module with basis consisting of standard monomials  $x_{j_1} x_{j_2} \dots x_{j_m}$ ,  $j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

(2) Let  $H$  be an ideal of  $L$ . Then  $L/H$  can be identified with  $(L+R)/R$  where  $R$  is the ideal of  $U(L)$  generated by  $H$ , and  $U(L)/R$  is the universal enveloping algebra  $U(L/H)$  of  $L/H$ . Moreover, the standard monomials

$$(***) h_{i_1} \dots h_{i_k} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m}, \quad i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_k, \\ j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m, \quad k > 0, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}^+,$$

form a basis for  $R$ .

Proof. (1) Let  $B$  be the subalgebra of  $U(L)$  generated by  $H$ . Then the standard monomials  $h_{i_1} h_{i_2} \dots h_{i_k}$ ,  $i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , form a basis for  $B$ . Thus by PBW Theorem  $B = U(H)$ .

(2) We first show that  $(U(L)/R, i)$  is a universal enveloping algebra of  $L/H$  where  $i : a + H \rightarrow a + R, a \in L$ . Let  $j : L/H \rightarrow A^-$  be as in Definition 5.1.2. Define  $j' : L \rightarrow A^-$  by  $j'(a) = j(a + H)$ . Then  $j'$  is extended to a unique homomorphism  $j' : U(L) \rightarrow A^-$ . Since  $H \subset \ker j', R \subset \ker j'$ . Thus  $j'$  induces a homomorphism  $\phi : U(L)/R \rightarrow A^-$  such that  $\phi(a + R) = j'(a)$ . Now  $\phi i(a + H) = \phi(a + R) = j'(a) = j(a + H)$ , so  $\phi i = j$ . The uniqueness follows from the fact that  $i(L/H)$  generates  $U(L)/R$ . Thus, by Corollary 5.1.8, we identify  $L/H$  with the subalgebra  $(L+R)/R$  of  $(U(L)/R)^-$ . Hence  $(L+R)/R$  has a basis  $\{x_j + R\}$ . By the PBW Theorem  $x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m} + R, j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , form a basis of  $U(L)/R$ . Therefore, if we let  $D$  be the subspace of  $U(L)$  spanned by the standard monomials  $x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m}, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  then  $R \cap D = 0$ . Noting that the elements in (\*\*\*) lie in  $R$  and these together with  $x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m}, j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m$  form a PBW basis for  $U(L)$ , it follows that the elements in (\*\*\*) form a basis of  $R$ . //

Let  $A$  be an associative algebra with 1. Then an associative algebra  $B$  is called a left quotient division ring for  $A$  if (1)  $B$  is a division ring, (2)  $A$  is a subring of  $B$  and (3) every element of  $B$  has the

form  $a^{-1}b$  ,  $a, b \in A$  .

In a ringtheoretical aspect, a universal enveloping algebra has the following interesting properties.

Exercise 5.1.1. Prove :

(1) The universal enveloping algebra  $U$  of any Lie algebra  $L$  has no nonzero zero divisor.

(2) If  $L$  is finite-dimensional then  $U$  has the a.c.c. on left or right ideals and  $U$  has a left or right quotient division ring. //

## 5.2. Free Lie algebras

A free Lie algebra  $L$  over  $F$  on a set  $X$  is defined by the universal property :

Definition 5.2.1. Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra over  $F$  generated by  $X$  . Then  $L$  is said to be free on  $X$  if, given any mapping  $\phi$  of  $X$  into a Lie algebra  $K$  ,  $\phi$  can be extended to a unique homomorphism  $\psi : L \rightarrow K$  . //

It is easy to verify that such a Lie algebra  $L$  is unique up to isomorphism. For the existence of  $L$ , we let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$  with  $X$  as basis and form the tensor algebra  $T(V)$  on  $V$ . Let  $L$  be the Lie subalgebra of  $T(V)^-$  generated by  $X$ . We claim that  $L$  is free on  $X$ . Thus, let  $\phi$  be any mapping of  $X$  into a Lie algebra  $K$ . Extend  $\phi$  to a linear map  $\phi : V \rightarrow K \subset U(K)$ . Then  $\phi$  is extended to an algebra homomorphism  $\phi' : T(V) \rightarrow U(K)$ . The restriction  $\psi$  of  $\phi'$  to  $L$  gives the desired  $\psi : L \rightarrow K$  since  $\psi$  maps  $X$  into  $K$  and  $L$  is generated by  $X$ . Observe that if  $L$  is free on  $X$  then any vector space  $V$  can be made into an  $L$ -module by assigning to each  $x \in X$  an element of  $(\text{Hom } V)^-$  and extending canonically.

Theorem 5.2.1. (Witt). Let  $X$  be any set and  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$  with  $X$  as basis. Then the Lie subalgebra  $L$  of  $T(V)^-$  generated by  $X$  is the free Lie algebra on  $X$  and the tensor algebra  $T(V)$  is the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ .

Proof. The first part has been proved. Let  $\phi : L \rightarrow A^-$  be as in Definition 5.1.2. Since  $V \subset L$ ,  $\phi|_V$  is extended to a unique algebra homomorphism  $\psi : T(V) \rightarrow A$ , sending 1 to 1. Noting that  $\psi|_X = \phi|_X$  and  $X$  generates  $L$ ,  $\psi|_L = \phi$  since  $\psi : T(V)^- \rightarrow A^-$

is a homomorphism. Thus  $\psi$  is an extension of  $\phi$  and is unique, since  $L$  also generates  $T(V)$ . Hence  $T(V) = U(L)$ . //

A free Lie algebra along with universal enveloping algebras is a basic tool for the construction of semisimple Lie algebras by means of the Cartan matrix, the canonical generators  $x_i, y_i, h_i$  and the relations (1.45). For detail, consult Jacobson's or Humphreys' book.

### 5.3. The Weyl group and roots

We return to a split semisimple Lie algebra  $L$  with split CSA  $H$ . We retain the notations in Chapter 4. Thus  $\phi$  stands for the set of roots  $\neq 0$ ,  $H_0^*$  for the  $Q$ -subspace of  $H^*$  spanned by  $\phi$ ,  $\Pi$  for a simple system of roots relative to a given ordering in  $H_0^*$ ,  $\phi^+$  (more precisely  $\phi_\Pi^+$ ) for the set of positive roots relative to  $\Pi$ , and  $(, )$  for the positive definite form on  $H_0^*$ . Let  $E$  be the Euclidean space of dimension

$\ell = \dim H^*$  that is the scalar extension of  $H_0^*$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ , the reals. Thus  $(, )$  is canonically extended to a positive definite form on  $E$ . Note that  $\Pi$  is a basis of  $E$ . Also,  $\Pi$  defines a partial order in  $E$  which is compatible with the order  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$ ; namely, define  $\alpha \leq \beta$  in  $E$  if  $\beta - \alpha$  is a sum of roots in  $\Pi$  or  $\alpha = \beta$ .

Definition 5.3.1. A hyperplane in  $E$  is a subspace of  $E$  of codimension 1. A reflection in  $E$  is an element in  $\text{Hom } E$  which leaves pointwise fixed some hyperplane  $P$  in  $E$  and sends any vector  $\alpha$  orthogonal to  $P$  to  $-\alpha$ . //

Clearly, a reflection  $\sigma$  is nonsingular with its own inverse and  $\pm 1$  are the only eigenvalues of  $\sigma$ . Also,  $\sigma$  is orthogonal, that is,  $(\sigma\alpha, \sigma\beta) = (\alpha, \beta)$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in E$  (note  $E = \mathbb{R}\alpha \oplus P$  where  $\alpha \perp P$  and  $P$  is a hyperplane fixed pointwise by  $\sigma$ ). Any nonzero vector  $\alpha$  determines a reflection  $\sigma_\alpha$ , with reflecting hyperplane  $P_\alpha = \{\beta \in E \mid (\beta, \alpha) = 0\}$  and  $\sigma_\alpha(\alpha) = -\alpha$ . This  $\sigma_\alpha$  is explicitly given as

$$\sigma_\alpha(\beta) = \beta - \left[ \frac{2(\beta, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \right] \alpha = \beta - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \alpha \quad (1.55)$$

where  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = 2(\beta, \alpha) / (\alpha, \alpha)$ ,  $\alpha \neq 0$ . When  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , the reflection  $\sigma_\alpha$  is particularly important, since  $\sigma_\alpha(\Phi) = \Phi$  by Corollary 4.4.4(2).



Definition 5.3.2. If  $\alpha \in \Phi$ ,  $\sigma_\alpha$  is called the Weyl reflection by  $\alpha$ . The subgroup WG of the general linear group  $GL(E)$  generated by all Weyl reflections  $\sigma_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , is called the Weyl group of  $\Phi$ . //

Since WG permutes  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi$  is finite, we can identify WG with a subgroup of the symmetric group on  $\Phi$ . The Weyl group plays a crucial role in the sequel.

Lemma 5.3.1. (1) If  $\sigma \in GL(E)$  leaves  $\Phi$  invariant, fixes pointwise a hyperplane  $P$  in  $E$ , and sends some nonzero  $\alpha \in \Phi$  to  $-\alpha$  then  $\sigma = \sigma_\alpha$  and  $P = P_\alpha$ .

(2) If  $\sigma \in GL(E)$  leaves  $\Phi$  invariant then  $\sigma\sigma_\alpha\sigma^{-1} = \sigma_{\sigma(\alpha)}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi$  and  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = \langle \sigma(\beta), \sigma(\alpha) \rangle$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$ .

(3) Let  $E'$  be a subspace of  $E$ . If a reflection  $\sigma_\alpha$  leaves  $E'$  invariant then  $\alpha \in E'$  or  $E' \subset P_\alpha$ .

Proof. (1) Let  $\tau = \sigma_\alpha\sigma$ . Then  $\tau(\Phi) = \Phi$  and  $\tau(\alpha) = \alpha$ . Since  $\sigma$  fixes  $P$  pointwise and  $E = P \oplus R\alpha$ , for a suitable basis of  $E$  the matrix of  $\tau$  is upper triangular having all diagonal entries 1. Thus the minimal polynomial of  $\tau$  is of the form  $(T - 1)^m$ . Since  $\Phi$  is finite, for each  $\beta \in \Phi$ , not all

$\beta, \tau(\beta), \tau^2(\beta), \dots$  are distinct, so  $\tau^k(\beta) = \beta$  for some  $k > 0$ . Choose a sufficiently large  $k$  so that  $\tau^k$  fixes all  $\beta \in \Phi$ . Since  $\Phi$  spans  $E$ ,  $\tau^k = 1$ , so the minimal polynomial of  $\tau$  divides  $T^k - 1$ : This forces the minimum polynomial of  $\tau$  to be  $T - 1$ , so  $\tau = 1$ , and  $\sigma = \sigma_\alpha$  since  $\sigma_\alpha^{-1} = \sigma_\alpha$ . //

(2) Since  $\sigma_\alpha(\beta) \in \Phi$ ,  $\sigma\sigma_\alpha\sigma^{-1}(\sigma(\beta)) = \sigma\sigma_\alpha(\beta) \in \Phi$ . But  $\sigma\sigma_\alpha(\beta) = \sigma(\beta - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \alpha) = \sigma(\beta) - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \sigma(\alpha)$ . Since  $\sigma(\Phi) = \Phi$ , this shows that  $\sigma\sigma_\alpha\sigma^{-1}$  leaves  $\Phi$  invariant, while it fixes the hyperplane  $\sigma(P_\alpha)$  pointwise and sends  $\sigma(\alpha)$  to  $-\sigma(\alpha)$ . By (1),  $\sigma\sigma_\alpha\sigma^{-1} = \sigma_{\sigma(\alpha)}$ , but then  $\sigma_{\sigma(\alpha)}(\sigma(\beta)) = \sigma(\beta) - \langle \sigma(\beta), \sigma(\alpha) \rangle \sigma(\alpha)$ . Comparing this with the above equation gives the desired relation.

(3) Suppose that  $\alpha \notin E'$ . For  $\beta \in E'$ ,  $\sigma_\alpha(\beta) = \beta - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \alpha$ . If  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \neq 0$ , one would have  $\alpha \in E'$ . Thus  $E' \subset P_\alpha$ . //

Exercise 5.3.1. Prove that the union of finitely many hyperplanes  $P_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , can not exhaust  $E$ .

Exercise 5.3.2. Let  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_\ell$  be a basis of  $E$  and let  $P_{\gamma_i}^+ = \{\beta \in E \mid (\beta, \gamma_i) > 0\}$  be the positive open half-space,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ . Prove that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\ell} P_i \neq \emptyset$ .

To obtain more stringent information about the

effect of the Weyl group to the root system, we put several terminologies in order. For each vector  $\gamma \in E$ , set  $\Phi^+(\gamma) = \{\alpha \in \Phi \mid (\gamma, \alpha) > 0\}$ . Thus  $\Phi^+(\gamma) = \Phi \cap P_\gamma^+$  (Exercise 5.3.2).

Definition 5.3.3. Let  $K = E - \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Phi} P_\alpha$  ( $\neq \emptyset$ ; Exercise 5.3.2). Any vector  $\gamma \in K$  is called regular. Call  $\alpha \in \Phi^+(\gamma)$  decomposable if  $\alpha = \beta_1 + \beta_2$  for some  $\beta_i \in \Phi^+(\gamma)$ , indecomposable otherwise. If  $\gamma$  is regular then  $\Pi(\gamma)$  denotes the set of all indecomposable roots in  $\Phi^+(\gamma)$ . Each connected component of  $K$  is called a (open) Weyl chamber of  $E$ . Therefore each regular  $\gamma \in E$  belongs to precisely one Weyl chamber, denoted by  $C(\gamma)$ . //

Exercise 5.3.3. (1) Prove that there are only finitely many Weyl chambers of  $E$ .

(2) Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots. Prove that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\ell} P_{\alpha_i}^+$  is a Weyl chamber (compare with Exercise 5.3.2).

Theorem 5.3.2. Let  $\gamma \in E$  be regular. Then  $\Pi(\gamma)$  is a simple system of roots relative to some ordering in  $H_0^*$  (or  $E$ ) and  $\Phi^+(\gamma)$  is the set of positive roots (relative to  $\Pi(\gamma)$ ). Moreover any simple system of roots  $\Pi$  has the form  $\Pi(\gamma)$  for some regular  $\gamma \in E$ .

Proof. (1) Show that each  $\beta \in \Phi^+(\gamma)$  is of the form  $\sum_{\alpha \in \Pi(\gamma)} k_\alpha \alpha$ , where all  $k_\alpha$  are nonnegative integers. Suppose not and let  $\alpha \in \Phi^+(\gamma)$  be a counterexample with  $(\gamma, \alpha)$  minimal. Thus  $\alpha \notin \Pi(\gamma)$  and  $\alpha = \beta_1 + \beta_2$ ,  $\beta_i \in \Phi^+(\gamma)$ . Hence  $(\gamma, \alpha) = (\gamma, \beta_1) + (\gamma, \beta_2)$ . Since  $(\gamma, \beta_i) \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , by the minimality of  $(\gamma, \alpha)$ ,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are nonnegative  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear combinations of  $\Pi(\gamma)$  and so is  $\alpha$ , a contradiction.

(2) Show that  $\Pi(\gamma)$  is linearly independent. First, let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi(\gamma)$  and let  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . By Corollary 4.4.8  $(\alpha, \beta) \leq 0$ . Suppose  $\sum r_\alpha \alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha \in \Pi(\gamma)$ ,  $r_\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Partitioning the indices  $\alpha$  as the disjoint union of  $\alpha$ 's and  $\beta$ 's where  $r_\alpha > 0$  and  $r_\beta < 0$ , we rewrite the sum as  $\sum r_\alpha \alpha = \sum t_\beta \beta$ ,  $r_\alpha > 0$ ,  $t_\beta = -r_\beta > 0$ . Let  $\mu = \sum r_\alpha \alpha$ . Then  $(\mu, \mu) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} r_\alpha t_\beta (\alpha, \beta) \leq 0$  and since  $(\mu, \mu) > 0$ , this is absurd unless all  $r_\alpha$  and  $t_\beta$  are 0.

Since  $\Phi = \Phi^+(\gamma) \cup -\Phi^+(\gamma)$ , in view of Corollary 4.5. (1) and (2) assure that  $\Pi(\gamma)$  is a simple system of roots relative to some ordering in  $H_0^*$  such that  $\Phi^+(\gamma)$  is the set of positive roots.

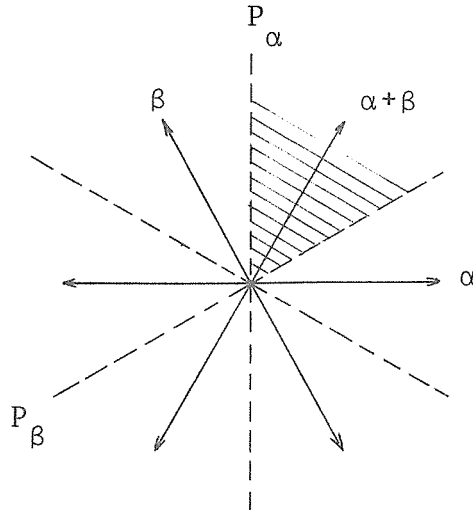
(3) Claim that any simple system of roots  $\Pi$  has the form  $\Pi(\gamma)$  for some regular  $\gamma \in E$ . By Exercise 5.3.

choose a  $\gamma \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Pi} P_{\alpha}^{+}$ , so  $\gamma$  is regular. Clearly,  $\Phi^{+} \subset \Phi^{+}(\gamma)$  and  $\Phi^{-} \subset -\Phi^{+}(\gamma)$ , and hence  $\Phi^{+} = \Phi^{+}(\gamma)$ . Since each root in  $\Pi$  is indecomposable,  $\Pi \subset \Pi(\gamma)$ . But both  $\Pi$  and  $\Pi(\gamma)$  are bases of  $E$ ,  $\Pi = \Pi(\gamma)$ . //

Notice that the map  $\gamma \rightarrow (\gamma, \alpha)$  is continuous for each  $\alpha$  and  $P_{\alpha}^{+}$  or  $P_{\alpha}^{-}$  is an open convex set in  $E$ . Thus if  $C(\gamma) = C(\gamma')$  for regular  $\gamma, \gamma'$  then  $(\gamma, \alpha)$  and  $(\gamma', \alpha)$  have the same sign for each  $\alpha \in \Phi$ . Hence  $\Phi^{+}(\gamma) = \Phi^{+}(\gamma')$  or  $\Pi(\gamma) = \Pi(\gamma')$ . Conversely, if  $\Pi(\gamma) = \Pi(\gamma')$  then by Theorem 5.3.2  $\Phi^{+}(\gamma) = \Phi^{+}(\gamma')$  and so  $\gamma, \gamma'$  lie in the same component, or  $C(\gamma) = C(\gamma')$ . This, in view of Theorem 5.3.2, shows that  $C(\gamma) \rightarrow \Pi(\gamma)$  gives a 1-1 correspondence between the set of Weyl chambers and the set of simple systems of roots. If  $\Pi = \Pi(\gamma)$ , write  $C(\gamma) = C(\Pi)$  and call this the fundamental Weyl chamber relative to  $\Pi$ . Thus if  $\gamma' \in C(\Pi) = C(\gamma)$  then  $(\gamma', \alpha) > 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$  by the above remark. Thus  $\gamma' \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Pi} P_{\alpha}^{+}$  and  $C(\Pi) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Pi} P_{\alpha}^{+}$  (this in particular proves Exercise 5.3.3).

Example. Let  $L$  be of type  $A_2$ , so  $\Phi = \{\pm\alpha, \pm\beta, \pm(\alpha+\beta)\}$  where  $\alpha, \beta$  are simple. Note that  $\Phi$  has only one root length and hence the angle between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is  $120^{\circ}$  (see the table following Definition 4.5.3). Also,  $C(\Pi) = \{\gamma \in K \mid \text{the angle between } \gamma \text{ and } \alpha, \beta \text{ is } < 90^{\circ}\}$ . The Weyl chambers

with the shaded one being fundamental relative to  $\{\alpha, \beta\}$  can be depicted as follows.



Since each  $\sigma \in WG$  is a homeomorphism on  $E$ ,  $\sigma(C(\gamma)) = C(\alpha(\gamma))$  and  $\sigma$  sends a Weyl chamber onto another. Also, we have  $\sigma(\Pi(\gamma)) = \Pi(\sigma(\gamma))$  since  $(\sigma(\gamma), \sigma(\alpha)) = (\gamma, \alpha)$ . Thus these actions of  $WG$  are compatible with the above correspondence between Weyl chambers and simple systems of roots.

Lemma 5.3.3. Let  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . Then  $\sigma_\alpha$  permutes the positive roots other than  $\alpha$ , i.e.,  $\sigma(\Phi^+ - \{\alpha\}) = \Phi^+ - \{\alpha\}$ .

Proof. Let  $\beta \in \Phi^+ - \{\alpha\}$  and  $\beta = \sum_{\gamma \in \Pi} k_\gamma \gamma (k_\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}^+)$

Hence  $k_\gamma \neq 0$  for some  $\gamma \neq \alpha$  and so  $\sigma_\alpha(\beta) = \beta - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \alpha$  has term  $\gamma$  with the coefficient  $k_\gamma > 0$ . This forces  $\sigma_\alpha(\beta)$  to be positive and moreover,  $\sigma_\alpha(\beta) \neq \alpha$  since  $\sigma_\alpha(-\alpha) = \alpha$ . //

Corollary 5.3.4. Let  $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\beta > 0} \beta$ . Then  $\sigma_\alpha(\delta) = \delta - \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . //

Lemma 5.3.4. Let  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_t \in \Pi$  (not necessarily distinct), and set  $\sigma_i = \sigma_{\alpha_i}$ . If  $\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{t-1}(\alpha_t) < 0$  then for some index  $1 \leq s < t$ ,  $\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_t = \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{s-1} \sigma_{s+1} \dots \sigma_{t-1}$ .

Proof. Write  $\beta_i = \sigma_{i+1} \dots \sigma_{t-1}(\alpha_t)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq t-2$ ,  $\beta_{t-1} = \alpha_t$ . Since  $\beta_0 < 0$  and  $\beta_{t-1} > 0$ , we find a smallest index  $s$  for which  $\beta_s > 0$ . Then  $\sigma_s(\beta_s) = \beta_{s-1} < 0$  and by Lemma 5.3.3 we must have  $\alpha_s = \beta_s$ . Set  $\sigma = \sigma_{s+1} \dots \sigma_{t-1}$ . Then  $\sigma(\alpha_t) = \beta_s = \alpha_s$  and the relation  $\sigma_{\sigma(\alpha)} = \sigma \sigma_\alpha^{-1}$  for  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  gives  $\sigma_s = (\sigma_{s+1} \dots \sigma_{t-1}) \sigma_t (\sigma_{t-1} \dots \sigma_{s+1})$  (Lemma 5.3.1(2)), which yields the lemma. //

If  $\sigma = \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_t$  in Lemma 5.3.4 is a shortest expression, then the Lemma forces  $\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{t-1}(\alpha_t) > 0$  and this gives  $\sigma(\alpha_t) < 0$  since  $\alpha_t = -\sigma_t(\alpha_t)$ . Thus we have

Corollary 5.3.5. If  $\sigma = \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_t$  is an expression for  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  in terms of reflections by simple roots with  $t$  minimal then  $\sigma(\alpha_t) < 0$ . //

Theorem 5.3.6. Let  $\Pi$  be a simple system of roots.

(1) Let  $\gamma \in E$  be any regular vector. Then there exists  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  such that  $(\sigma(\gamma), \alpha) > 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ , i.e.,  $\sigma(C(\gamma)) = C(\Pi)$ . Thus WG acts transitively on Weyl chambers.

(2) If  $\Pi'$  is another simple system of roots then  $\sigma(\Pi') = \Pi$  for some  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  (WG acts transitively on simple systems of roots).

(3) If  $\alpha$  is any root,  $\sigma(\alpha) \in \Pi$  for some  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$

(4) WG is generated by all  $\sigma_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Pi$ .

(5) If  $\sigma(\Pi) = \Pi$  for some  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  then  $\sigma = 1$  (WG acts simply transitively on simple systems of roots).

Proof. Let WG' be the subgroup of WG generated by all  $\sigma_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . We prove (1) - (3) for WG' and then show that  $\text{WG} = \text{WG}'$ .

(1) Let  $\delta = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha > 0} \alpha$  and choose  $\sigma \in \text{WG}'$  for which  $(\sigma(\gamma), \delta)$  is maximal. Let  $\alpha \in \Pi$  be any simple



root. By the choice of  $\sigma$ ,  $(\sigma(\gamma), \delta) \geq (\sigma_\alpha \sigma(\gamma), \delta)$   
 $= (\sigma(\gamma), \sigma_\alpha(\delta)) = (\sigma(\gamma), \delta - \alpha) = (\sigma(\gamma), \delta) - (\sigma(\gamma), \alpha)$   
 (Corollary 5.3.4) and so  $(\sigma(\gamma), \alpha) \geq 0$ . But since  $\gamma$   
 is regular, we can not have  $(\sigma(\gamma), \alpha) = 0 = (\gamma, \sigma^{-1}(\alpha))$   
 and so  $(\sigma(\gamma), \alpha) > 0$ ,  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . This means that  
 $\sigma(\gamma) \in C(\Pi)$  or  $\sigma(C(\gamma)) = C(\sigma(\gamma)) = C(\Pi)$ , as desired.

(2) Let  $\Pi' = \Pi(\gamma)$  for some regular  $\gamma$  (Theorem 5.4.2).  
 By (1), there exists  $\sigma \in \text{WG}'$  such that  $C(\sigma(\gamma)) = C(\Pi)$ .  
 Hence  $\Pi(\sigma(\gamma)) = \sigma(\Pi(\gamma)) = \sigma(\Pi') = \Pi$ .

(3) In view of (2), it suffices to show that each  
 root belongs to at least one simple system of roots. If  
 $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$  and  $\beta \in \Phi$  then since  $\alpha, \beta$  are linearly  
 independent,  $P_\alpha \neq P_\beta$  for all  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$ . Indeed, if  
 $P_\alpha = P_\beta$ , write  $E = P_\alpha \oplus R\beta = P_\beta \oplus R\alpha$  and this implies  
 that  $\alpha, \beta$  are linearly dependent. Therefore,  $P_\alpha \neq \bigcup_{\beta \neq \pm\alpha} P_\beta$ ,  
 so we can choose a  $\gamma \in P_\alpha$  but  $\gamma \notin P_\beta$  for all  $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$ .  
 Since  $\gamma \rightarrow (\gamma, \beta)$  is continuous from  $E$  into  $R$ , in  
 a sufficiently small neighborhood of  $\gamma$  we choose a  
 $\gamma' \in E$  such  $(\gamma', \alpha) = \epsilon > 0$  while  $|(\gamma', \beta)| > \epsilon$  for all  
 $\beta \neq \pm\alpha$ . Then  $\gamma'$  is regular and  $\alpha \in \Pi(\gamma')$ ; if  $\alpha = \beta_1 + \beta_2$   
 for  $\beta_i \in \Phi^+(\gamma')$  then  $(\gamma', \alpha) = (\gamma', \beta_1) + (\gamma', \beta_2) > 2\epsilon$ ,  
 a contradiction.

(4) For  $\text{WG}' = \text{WG}$ , it is enough to show that

each  $\sigma_\alpha \in \text{WG}'$  for  $\alpha \in \Phi$ . By (3), find  $\sigma \in \text{WG}'$  such that  $\beta = \sigma(\alpha) \in \Pi$ . Then  $\sigma_\beta = \sigma_{\sigma(\alpha)} = \sigma\sigma_\alpha\sigma^{-1}$  (Lemma 5.3.1) so  $\sigma_\alpha = \sigma^{-1}\sigma_\beta\sigma \in \text{WG}'$ .

(5) Let  $\sigma(\Pi) = \Pi$  and  $\sigma \neq 1$ . By (4), let  $\sigma = \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_t$  be a minimal expression by simple reflections. Then  $t \geq 1$  and by Corollary 5.3.5  $\sigma(\sigma_t) < 0$ ,  $\alpha_t \in \Pi$ , a contradiction. //

Definition 5.3.4. If  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  is expressed as  $\sigma_{\alpha_1} \dots \sigma_{\alpha_t}$  with  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$  and  $t$  minimal, we call the expression reduced and write  $\ell(\sigma) = t$ , called the length of  $\sigma$  relative to  $\Pi$ . View  $\ell(1) = 0$ . Denote by  $n(\sigma)$  the number of  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$  such that  $\sigma(\alpha) < 0$ . /

Lemma 5.3.7.  $\ell(\sigma) = n(\sigma)$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$ .

Proof. If  $\ell(\sigma) = 0$  then  $\sigma = 1$  and  $n(\sigma) = 0$ . To proceed by induction on  $\ell(\sigma)$ , assume that the equality holds for all  $\tau \in \text{WG}$  with  $\ell(\tau) < \ell(\sigma)$ . Express  $\sigma$  in a reduced form as  $\sigma = \sigma_{\alpha_1} \dots \sigma_{\alpha_t}$  and let  $\alpha = \alpha_t$ . By Corollary 5.3.5  $\sigma(\alpha) < 0$ . Since  $\sigma_\alpha$  permutes the positive roots in  $\Phi^+ - \{\alpha\}$  by Lemma 5.3.3, we have  $n(\sigma\sigma_\alpha) = n(\sigma) - 1$ . But clearly  $\ell(\sigma\sigma_\alpha) = \ell(\sigma) - 1 < \ell(\sigma)$ , so by induction  $\ell(\sigma\sigma_\alpha) = n(\sigma\sigma_\alpha)$  and  $\ell(\sigma) = n(\sigma)$ . //

Theorem 5.3.8. Let  $\overline{C(\Pi)}$  be the closure of the fundamental Weyl chamber relative to  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell\}$ .

(1) Let  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$  and let  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  be any element. Then  $\gamma - \sigma(\gamma) = \sum c_i \alpha_i$  where the  $c_i$  are nonnegative real numbers and the  $\alpha_i$  are those simple roots occurring in a reduced form of  $\sigma$ .

(2) If  $\gamma \in C(\Pi)$  and  $\sigma(\gamma) = \gamma$  then  $\sigma = 1$ .

(3) If  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$  and  $\sigma(\gamma) = \gamma$  then  $\sigma = 1$  or  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)} - C(\Pi)$ .

(4)  $\sigma(C(\Pi)) \cap C(\Pi) = \emptyset$  for all  $\sigma \neq 1$  in  $\text{WG}$ .

(5) Let  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$  be such that  $\langle \sigma(\gamma), \alpha \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . Then  $\sigma(\gamma) \leq \gamma$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  (relative to the partial order in  $E$ ). The equality holds only when  $\sigma = 1$  or  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)} - C(\Pi)$ .

(6) Every vector  $\gamma \in E$  is  $\text{WG}$ -conjugate to one and only one vector in  $\overline{C(\Pi)}$ .

Proof. Let  $\sigma$  be any element in  $\text{WG}$  and assume  $\sigma \neq 1$ . Write  $\sigma = \sigma_{i(1)} \cdots \sigma_{i(t)}$  in a reduced form where  $\sigma_i = \sigma_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . Note that if  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$ ,  $(\gamma, \alpha) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$ .

(1) Note that each partial product  $\sigma_{i(t)} \cdots \sigma_{i(s)}$  ( $1 \leq s \leq t$ ) in  $\sigma^{-1}$  is also reduced. Thus, by Corollary 5  $\sigma_{i(t)} \cdots \sigma_{i(s+1)} \alpha_{i(s)} = \sigma_{i(t)} \cdots \sigma_{i(s+1)} \sigma_{i(s)} \alpha_{i(s)} > 0$  and hence  $(\sigma_{i(s+1)} \cdots \sigma_{i(t)} \gamma, \alpha_{i(s)}) = (\gamma, \sigma_{i(t)} \cdots \sigma_{i(s+1)} \alpha_{i(s)})$  is nonnegative real for any  $1 \leq s \leq t$ , since  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$ . Let  $c_{i(s)} = \langle \sigma_{i(s+1)} \cdots \sigma_{i(t)} \gamma, \alpha_{i(s)} \rangle$ . Then we have  $\sigma(\gamma) = \sigma_{i(2)} \cdots \sigma_{i(t)} \gamma - \langle \sigma_{i(2)} \cdots \sigma_{i(t)} \gamma, \alpha_{i(1)} \rangle \alpha_{i(1)}$  and continuing this we get  $\sigma(\gamma) = \gamma - \sum_s c_{i(s)} \alpha_{i(s)}$ .

(2) If  $\sigma(\gamma) = \gamma$  then  $c_{i(t)} = \langle \gamma, \alpha_{i(t)} \rangle = 0$  in (1), so  $(\gamma, \alpha_{i(t)}) = 0$  and  $\gamma \notin C(\Pi)$  unless  $\sigma = 1$ . This also proves (3).

(4) Suppose  $\sigma(C(\Pi)) \cap C(\Pi) \neq \phi$  and let  $\gamma$  be a vector in this intersection. Thus  $\gamma = \alpha(\gamma')$  for some  $\gamma' \in C(\Pi)$ . But then  $C(\Pi) = C(\gamma) = \sigma(C(\gamma'))$  and this corresponds to  $\Pi = \Pi(\gamma) = \sigma(\Pi(\gamma')) = \sigma(\Pi)$ . By Theorem 5.3.6(5) this forces  $\sigma = 1$ .

(5) Under the assumption, we have all  $c_{i(s)} \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  in (1) and hence  $\sigma(\gamma) \leq \gamma$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$ . The second part follows from (3).

(6) Let  $\gamma \in E$ . Then  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\gamma_0)}$  for some regular  $\gamma_0$ . By Theorem 5.3.6(1) there exists a  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  such that  $\sigma C(\gamma_0) = C(\Pi)$  and so  $\sigma \overline{C(\gamma_0)} = \overline{C(\Pi)}$ . Hence  $\gamma$  is

WG-conjugate to a vector in  $\overline{C(\Pi)}$ . For the uniqueness, it suffices to show that  $\sigma(\gamma) = \gamma'$  for  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$ ,  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  only when  $\gamma = \gamma'$ . Since  $\Pi$  is a basis of  $E$ , this follows from (1). //

We call  $\overline{C(\Pi)}$  the fundamental domain for the action of WG (in the sense of Lemma 3.5.8(6)). Recall that the irreducibility of  $\Pi$  is equivalent to the simplicity of  $L$  (Theorem 4.5.7). We show that this is also equivalent to the irreducibility of  $\phi$  in the sense of Definition 4.5.4.

Lemma 5.3.9.  $\Pi$  is irreducible if and only if  $\phi$  is irreducible.

Proof. Let  $\Pi$  be irreducible and let  $\phi = \phi_1 \cup \phi_2$  (disjoint) with  $(\phi_1, \phi_2) = 0$ . Then  $\Pi = (\Pi \cap \phi_1) \cup (\Pi \cap \phi_2)$  and since  $\Pi$  is irreducible,  $\Pi \subset \phi_1$  or  $\Pi \subset \phi_2$ ; but  $\Pi \subset \phi_1$  implies  $(E, \phi_2) = 0$  since  $\Pi$  spans  $E$ . Hence  $\phi_2 = \phi$ . Conversely, suppose that  $\phi$  is irreducible and let  $\Pi = \Pi_1 \cup \Pi_2$  with  $(\Pi_1, \Pi_2) = 0$ . Since each root is WG-conjugate to a simple root, we can write  $\phi = \phi_1 \cup \phi_2$  where  $\phi_i$  is the set of roots having a conjugate in  $\Pi_i$ . Noting that  $(\alpha, \beta) = 0$  implies  $\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta = \sigma_\beta \sigma_\alpha$  and that WG is generated by the  $\sigma_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Pi$ , we can write each  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$  as  $\sigma_1 \sigma_2$  where  $\sigma_i$  is a product of reflections

by roots in  $\Pi_i$ . Since  $\sigma_2$  fixes each root in  $\Pi_1$ ,  $\sigma(\alpha)$  is an integral linear combination of roots in  $\Pi_1$  for each  $\alpha \in \Pi_1$ . This shows that  $\Phi_1 \subset E_1$ , the subspace spanned by  $\Pi_1$ , and likewise  $\Phi_2 \subset E_2$ . Thus we have  $(\Phi_1, \Phi_2) = 0$  and this forces  $\Phi_1 = \phi$  or  $\Phi_2 = \phi$ , so  $\Pi_1 = \phi$  or  $\Pi_2 = \phi$ . //

Lemma 5.3.10. Let  $\phi$  be irreducible. Regard  $E$  as a WG-module. Then  $E$  is WG-irreducible and in particular, the WG-orbit of a root  $\alpha$  spans  $E$  (i.e.,  $WG(\alpha) = E$ ).

Proof. Let  $E'$  be a nonzero WG-stable subspace of  $E$  and let  $E'' = E'^{\perp}$  be the radical of  $E'$  in  $E$  under  $(, )$ . Since  $(, )$  is nondegenerate,  $E = E' \oplus E''$  and  $E''$  is clearly WG-stable. Let  $\alpha \in \phi$ . By Lemma 5.3. either  $\alpha \in E'$  or  $E' \subset P_{\alpha}$ , since  $\sigma_{\alpha}(E') = E'$ . Thus  $\alpha \notin E'$  implies  $\alpha \in E''$ , so each root lies in  $E'$  or  $E''$ . Since  $\phi$  is irreducible and spans  $E$ , this implies that  $E' = E$ . For the second part, note that  $WG(\alpha) \neq 0$  and  $WG(\alpha)$  is WG-stable. //

Lemma 5.3.11. Let  $\phi$  be irreducible. Then at most two root lengths occur in  $\phi$ , and all roots of the same length are WG-conjugate.

Proof. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be any roots. Since the inner product is invariant under WG and  $WG(\alpha) = E$  (Lemma 5.3.10), we may assume  $(\alpha, \beta) \neq 0$ . Then the possible ratios  $||\alpha||^2/||\beta||^2$  are 1, 2, 3,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$  (the table following Definition 4.5.3). Suppose that there are three root lengths and let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  be roots with  $||\alpha||^2 < ||\beta||^2 < ||\gamma||^2$ . Then  $||\beta||^2/||\alpha||^2 = 2, 3$  and  $||\gamma||^2/||\alpha||^2 = 2, 3$ , and these give  $||\gamma||^2/||\beta||^2 = 3/2$ , a contradiction. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  have the same length. As in the above, we may assume that  $(\alpha, \beta) \neq 0$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$  (if  $\alpha = \beta$ , we are done). The same table shows  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle = \pm 1$ . Replacing  $\beta$  by  $-\beta = \sigma_\beta(\beta)$ , if necessary, we may assume  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = 1$ . Hence  $(\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta \sigma_\alpha)(\beta) = \sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta(\beta - \alpha) = \sigma_\alpha(-\beta - \alpha + \beta) = \alpha$ . //

In view of Theorem 5.3.6(3), the first part of Lemma 5.3.11 is also a consequence of the classification of Dynkin diagrams in Section 4.6. If  $L$  is a simple Lie algebra of types  $A_\ell, D_\ell, E_6, E_7, E_8$  then  $\Phi$  has only one root length and for the remaining types  $\Phi$  has two root lengths. If  $\Phi$  has two root lengths then we can now speak of long and short roots.

Theorem 5.3.12. Let  $\Phi$  be irreducible.

(1) Let  $\beta'$  be a positive root such that  $(\beta', \alpha) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . Then  $\beta' = \sum k_\alpha \alpha$  ( $\alpha \in \Pi$ ) with  $k_\alpha > 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ .

(2) Relative to the partial ordering  $<$  in  $E$ , there is a unique maximal root  $\beta$  and  $\beta$  satisfies  $(\beta, \alpha) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . Furthermore,  $\beta$  is the unique positive root of maximal level.

(3) If  $\beta'$  is any positive root with  $(\beta', \alpha) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$  then  $\beta = \beta'$  or  $\beta - \beta' \in \Phi^+$ .

(4)  $\beta$  is long (if  $\Phi$  has one root length, regard all roots long).

Proof. (1) Let  $\beta' = \sum k_\alpha \alpha$  ( $\alpha \in \Pi$ ) and set  $\Pi_1 = \{\alpha \in \Pi \mid k_\alpha > 0\}$  and  $\Pi_2 = \{\alpha \in \Pi \mid k_\alpha = 0\}$ . Suppose  $\Pi_2 \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $\Pi$  is irreducible (Lemma 5.3.9) and  $(\alpha, \alpha') \leq 0$  for all  $\alpha \neq \alpha'$  in  $\Pi$  (Theorem 4.5.2), we have  $(\alpha, \alpha') < 0$  for some  $\alpha \in \Pi_2$  and  $\alpha' \in \Pi_1$ . But this leads to  $(\alpha, \beta') < 0$ , a contradiction.

(2) Let  $\beta$  be maximal in the ordering. Clearly  $\beta > 0$ . If  $(\alpha, \beta) < 0$  for some  $\alpha \in \Pi$ ,  $\alpha + \beta$  would be a root (Corollary 4.4.8) and this contradicts the maximality of  $\beta$ . Thus  $(\alpha, \beta) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$  and  $(\alpha, \beta) > 0$  for some  $\alpha \in \Pi$  since  $\Pi$  spans  $E$ . Let  $\beta_0$



be another maximal root, so  $(\alpha', \beta_0) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha' \in \Pi$  and by (1)  $\beta_0 = \sum k_\alpha \alpha$ ,  $k_\alpha > 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$ . When  $(\alpha, \beta) > 0$  for some  $\alpha \in \Pi$ , we concluded that  $(\beta_0, \beta) > 0$ . It follows from Corollary 4.4.8 that  $\beta - \beta_0 \in \Phi$  or  $\beta = \beta_0$ . If  $\beta - \beta_0 \in \Phi$ , either  $\beta < \beta_0$  or  $\beta_0 < \beta$ , a contradiction. Hence  $\beta$  is unique. Let  $\beta_1$  be a positive root with maximal level. Then  $\beta_1$  is evidently maximal in the ordering (any root  $\beta_2$  with  $\beta_1 < \beta_2$  has level  $> |\beta_1|$ ). Thus  $\beta = \beta_1$ .

(3) As in the last part of the proof of (2), we have  $(\beta, \beta') > 0$  and  $\beta = \beta'$  or  $\beta - \beta' \in \Phi^+$ .

(4) Let  $\alpha$  be any root. In view of Theorem 5.3.8(6) we may assume that  $\alpha \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$ , so that  $(\alpha, \alpha') \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha' \in \Pi$ . By (3)  $\beta - \alpha \geq 0$  and so  $(\gamma, \beta - \alpha) \geq 0$  for any  $\gamma \in \overline{C(\Pi)}$ . By (1)  $(\beta, \beta - \alpha) \geq 0$ , so  $(\beta, \beta) \geq (\alpha, \beta)$  while  $(\alpha, \beta - \alpha) \geq 0$ , showing  $(\alpha, \beta) \geq (\alpha, \alpha)$ . Thus  $(\beta, \beta) \geq (\alpha, \alpha)$ . //

Exercise 5.3.4. Verify that the simple Lie algebras have the following maximal roots :

$$A_\ell : \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_\ell ,$$

$$B_\ell : \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + 2\alpha_\ell ,$$

$$C_\ell : 2\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + 2\alpha_{\ell-1} + \alpha_\ell ,$$

$$D_\ell : \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + 2\alpha_{\ell-2} + \alpha_{\ell-1} + \alpha_\ell ,$$

$$E_6 : \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 + 2\alpha_4 + 2\alpha_5 + \alpha_6 ,$$

$$E_7 : \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_3 + 4\alpha_4 + 3\alpha_5 + 2\alpha_6 + \alpha_7 ,$$

$$E_8 : 2\alpha_1 + 3\alpha_2 + 4\alpha_3 + 6\alpha_4 + 5\alpha_5 + 4\alpha_6 + 3\alpha_7 + 2\alpha_8 ,$$

$$F_4 : 2\alpha_1 + 3\alpha_2 + 4\alpha_3 + 2\alpha_4 ,$$

$$G_2 : 3\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 .$$

Exercise 5.3.5. Depict the root systems  $\Phi$  for  $A_1 \oplus A_1$ ,  $B_2$  and  $G_2$  in the plane. Prove that the Weyl groups of  $A_1 \oplus A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$  and  $G_2$  are respectively dihedral groups of order 4, 6, 8, 12 .

The results discussed in this sections all hold for an "abstract" root system  $\Phi$  . In other words, the only conditions to be imposed on  $\Phi$  are :

(R1)  $\Phi$  is finite, spans  $E$  and does not contain 0

(R2) If  $\alpha \in \Phi$  , the only multiples of  $\alpha$  in  $\Phi$  are  $\pm\alpha$  .

(R3)  $\sigma_\alpha(\Phi) \subset \Phi$  for all reflections  $\sigma_\alpha$  ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$  .

(R4) If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  then  $\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$  .

For details, consult Humphreys' book.

#### 5.4. Integral functions

Let  $H$  be a split CSA of a split semisimple Lie algebra  $L$  and  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots relative to some ordering in  $H_0^*$ . Denote by  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_\ell$  be the basis of  $H$  as in (1.45), corresponding to  $\Pi$  (Section 4.5).

Definition 5.4.1. An element  $\lambda \in H^*$  is called integral if  $\langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi$ . Denote by  $\Lambda$  the set of all integral functions in  $H^*$ . Define  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  to be dominant if  $\langle \lambda, \alpha_i \rangle = \lambda(h_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for all  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$  and to be strongly dominant if all  $\langle \lambda, \alpha_i \rangle$  are positive. Denote by  $\Lambda^+$  the set of dominant integral functions in  $H^*$ . //

One can imitate the proof of Theorem 4.4.6 to ensure that every element in  $\Lambda$  is a rational linear combination of roots in  $\Pi$  and hence  $\Lambda \subset H_0^*$ . Thus  $\Lambda$  is canonically embedded in  $E$  with the inner product  $(\ , \ )$ . An element  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  is often called a weight in  $E$  in the abstract sense (see Humphreys' book). In view of Theorem 4.4.3, any weight of  $H$  in a finite-dimensional

L-module is integral. It will be shown later that any  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  is a weight of  $H$  in some finite-dimensional irreducible L-module.

Since  $\Pi$  is a basis of  $E$ , the vectors  $2\alpha_i/(\alpha_i, \alpha_i)$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ , form a basis of  $E$ . Let  $\Omega = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_\ell\}$  be the dual basis of this basis relative to the inner product, so that  $2(\lambda_i, \alpha_j)/(\alpha_j, \alpha_j) = \delta_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ .

Definition 5.4.2. Call  $\Omega$  the fundamental system of dominant weights (FSDW) relative to  $\Pi$ .

Lemma 5.4.1. The Weyl group  $WG$  leaves  $\Lambda$  invariant and  $\Lambda$  is a free  $Z$ -module with basis  $\Omega$ . Moreover,  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  if and only if  $\lambda = \sum m_i \lambda_i$  with all  $m_i \in Z^+$ .

Proof. Let  $\sigma \in WG$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Then  $\langle \sigma(\lambda), \sigma(\alpha) \rangle = \langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle \in Z$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi$  since  $WG$  preserves the inner product. Noting  $\sigma(\Phi) = \Phi$ , we have  $\sigma(\lambda) \in \Lambda$ . Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and let  $m_i = \langle \lambda, \alpha_i \rangle$ ,  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . Then  $0 = \langle \lambda - \sum m_i \lambda_i, \alpha \rangle$  for each  $\alpha \in \Pi$  and  $(\lambda - \sum m_i \lambda_i, \alpha) = 0$ . Since  $\Pi$  spans  $E$ , we get  $\lambda = \sum m_i \lambda_i$ ,  $m_i \in Z$ . Evidently,  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  if and only if all  $m_i = \langle \lambda, \alpha_i \rangle \in Z^+$ .

Note that  $\Phi \subset \Lambda$ . Let  $\Lambda_r$  be the  $Z$ -span of  $\Pi$  in  $E$ . Clearly,  $\Lambda_r$  is the  $Z$ -span of  $\Phi$  also and

is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with basis  $\Pi$  which is a (additive) subgroup of  $\Lambda$ . Call the quotient group  $\Lambda/\Lambda_r$  the fundamental group of  $\phi$ .

Suppose that  $L$  is simple. Then the order of  $\Lambda/\Lambda_r$  can be directly computed from the Cartan matrix of  $L$  relative to  $\Pi$ . In fact, let  $\alpha_i = \sum m_{ij} \lambda_j$ . Then  $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_k \rangle = \sum_j m_{ij} \langle \lambda_j, \alpha_k \rangle = m_{ik}$ , so  $(m_{ij})$  is the Cartan matrix of  $L$ . Thus each  $\lambda_j$  is expressed as  $\lambda_j = \frac{1}{d} \sum_i k_{ji} \alpha_i$  where  $\frac{1}{d}(k_{ji})$  is the inverse matrix of  $(\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle)$ ,  $d$  is the determinant of the Cartan matrix and  $k_{ji} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . As shown in Exercise 4.6.1,  $d$  is a positive integer and hence is the order of  $\Lambda/\Lambda_r$ . We state this as

Lemma 5.4.2. If  $L$  is simple then the fundamental group  $\Lambda/\Lambda_r$  of  $\phi$  has order :  $\ell + 1$  for  $A_\ell$ ; 2 for  $B_\ell, C_\ell, E_7$ ; 4 for  $D_\ell$ ; 3 for  $E_6$ ; 1 for  $E_8, F_4, G_2$ . //

The explicit expressions of the  $\lambda_i$  in terms of simple roots are useful information for the structure of certain classes of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras, which we discuss later. For examples, the

algebra  $G_2$  has the Cartan matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  with inverse  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , so  $\lambda_1 = 2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2$  and  $\lambda_2 = 3\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2$ . The

Cartan matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  of  $A_2$  has the inverse  $1/3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , so  $\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{3}(2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$  and  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{3}(\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2)$

Through somewhat laborious computations, one can furnish the following table where  $\sum c_i \alpha_i$  is abbreviated  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_\ell)$ .

Exercise 5.4.1. Verify the following table.

$$A_\ell : \lambda_i = \frac{1}{\ell+1} \left[ (\ell-i+1)\alpha_1 + 2(\ell-i+1)\alpha_2 + \dots + (i-1)(\ell-i+1)\alpha_{i-1} + i(\ell-i+1)\alpha_i + i(\ell-1)\alpha_{i+1} + \dots + i\alpha_\ell \right]$$

$$B_\ell : \lambda_i = \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + (i-1)\alpha_{i-1} + i(\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1} + \dots + \alpha_\ell) \quad (i < \ell)$$

$$\lambda_\ell = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + \ell\alpha_\ell)$$

$$C_\ell : \lambda_i = \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + (i-1)\alpha_{i-1} + i(\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_{\ell-1} + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_\ell + \frac{1}{2}i(\alpha_{\ell-1} + \alpha_\ell)) \quad (i < \ell - 1)$$

$$\lambda_{\ell-1} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + (\ell-2)\alpha_{\ell-2} + \frac{1}{2}\ell\alpha_{\ell-1} + \frac{1}{2}(\ell-2)\alpha_\ell)$$

$$\lambda_\ell = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + \dots + (\ell-2)\alpha_{\ell-2} + \frac{1}{2}(\ell-2)\alpha_{\ell-1} + \frac{1}{2}\ell\alpha_\ell)$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_6 : \quad \lambda_1 &= \frac{1}{3}(4, 3, 5, 6, 4, 2) \\ \lambda_2 &= (1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 1) \\ \lambda_3 &= \frac{1}{3}(5, 6, 10, 12, 8, 4) \\ \lambda_4 &= (2, 3, 4, 6, 4, 2) \\ \lambda_5 &= \frac{1}{3}(4, 6, 8, 12, 10, 5) \\ \lambda_6 &= \frac{1}{3}(2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 4) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_7 : \quad \lambda_1 &= (2, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1) \\ \lambda_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(4, 7, 8, 12, 9, 6, 3) \\ \lambda_3 &= (3, 4, 6, 8, 6, 4, 2) \\ \lambda_4 &= (4, 6, 8, 12, 9, 6, 3) \\ \lambda_5 &= \frac{1}{2}(6, 9, 12, 18, 15, 10, 5) \\ \lambda_6 &= (2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 4, 2) \\ \lambda_7 &= \frac{1}{2}(2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 4, 3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_8 : \quad \lambda_1 &= (4, 5, 7, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2) \\ \lambda_2 &= (5, 8, 10, 15, 12, 9, 6, 3) \\ \lambda_3 &= (7, 10, 14, 20, 16, 12, 8, 4) \\ \lambda_4 &= (10, 15, 20, 30, 24, 18, 12, 6) \\ \lambda_5 &= (8, 12, 16, 24, 20, 15, 10, 5) \\ \lambda_6 &= (6, 9, 12, 18, 15, 12, 8, 4) \\ \lambda_7 &= (4, 6, 8, 12, 10, 8, 6, 3) \\ \lambda_8 &= (2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$F_4 : \quad \lambda_1 = (2, 3, 4, 2)$$

$$\lambda_2 = (3, 6, 8, 4)$$

$$\lambda_3 = (2, 4, 6, 3)$$

$$\lambda_4 = (1, 2, 3, 2)$$

$$G_2 : \quad \lambda_1 = (2, 1)$$

$$\lambda_2 = (3, 2)$$

Let  $L$  be simple and regard  $L$  as an  $L$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ . Then the weights of  $H$  are the roots of  $H$ . Let  $\lambda_0$  be the unique maximal root of  $H$  relative to the partial ordering  $<$  in  $E$ . Comparing the list in Exercise 5.3.4 with the table above, one finds the following interesting result.

Theorem 5.4.3. Let  $L$  be a simple Lie algebra with split CSA  $H$  and let  $\lambda_0$  be the maximal root of  $H$  relative to the partial ordering  $<$  in  $E$ . Then

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_1 + \lambda_\ell \quad \text{for } A_\ell (\ell \geq 1),$$

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_1 \quad \text{for } E_7, F_4,$$

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_2 \quad \text{for } B_\ell (\ell \geq 3), D_\ell (\ell \geq 4), E_6, G_2,$$

$$\lambda_0 = 2\lambda_1 \quad \text{for } C_\ell (\ell \geq 2),$$

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_8 \quad \text{for } E_8. \quad //$$



In Theorem 5.4.3 we adopted the ordering of  $\Pi$  as in Theorem 4.6.1.

Exercise 5.4.2. Let  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_\ell$  be an "obtuse" basis of  $E$  (i.e., all  $(\gamma_i, \gamma_j) \leq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ ). Prove that the dual basis  $\gamma_1^*, \dots, \gamma_\ell^*$  is "acute" (i.e.,  $(\gamma_i^*, \gamma_j^*) \geq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ ).

Lemma 5.4.4. Each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  is WG-conjugate to one and only one dominant integral function. If  $\lambda$  is dominant then  $\sigma(\lambda) \leq \lambda$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{WG}$ , and if  $\lambda$  is strongly dominant then  $\sigma(\lambda) = \lambda$  only when  $\sigma = 1$ .

Proof. The first part follows from Theorem 5.3.8(6), since  $\text{WG}(\Lambda) \subset \Lambda$ . Recall that Theorem 5.3.8(1), so (5), requires the only conditions that  $(\lambda, \alpha) \geq 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Pi$  and  $\text{WG}(\Lambda) \subset \Lambda$ . This proves the second part while the last part is immediate from Theorem 5.3.8(2). //

Lemma 5.4.5. Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ . The number of dominant  $\mu \in \Lambda^+$  such that  $\mu \leq \lambda$  is finite.

Proof. Recall that each  $\lambda_i \in \Omega$ , FSDW, is a rational linear combination of the  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . It is easy to see that these rational coefficients are all nonnegative. In fact, let  $\lambda_i = \sum r_{ij} \alpha_j$ . Then  $(\lambda_i, \lambda_k) = \sum r_{ij} (\alpha_j, \lambda_k) = r_{ik} (\alpha_k, \alpha_k)$  and  $r_{ik} \geq 0$

by Exercise 5.4.2. Thus, by Lemma 5.4.1,  $\lambda = \sum r_i \alpha_i$  and  $\mu = \sum s_i \alpha_i$ ,  $r_i, s_i \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . If  $\mu \leq \lambda$  then all  $r_i - s_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . This allows only finitely many possibilities for the  $s_i$  (why?). //

### 5.5. Weights and standard cyclic modules

Let  $L$ ,  $H$ ,  $\Pi$  and  $F$  be the same as in Section 5.4. If  $V$  is a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module, recall that, in view of Corollary 4.2.3(1),  $H$  acts diagonally on  $V = \sum_{\lambda \in H^*} V_\lambda(H)$  where  $V_\lambda = V_\lambda(H) = \{v \in V \mid vh = \lambda(h)v \text{ for all } h \in H\}$ , and that  $\lambda \in H^*$  is called a weight of  $H$  in  $V$  if  $V_\lambda \neq 0$ . We extend the notion of weight to an arbitrary  $L$ -module.

Definition 5.5.1. Let  $V$  be an  $L$ -module of arbitrary dimension and let  $V_\lambda = \{v \in V \mid vh = \lambda(h)v \text{ for all } h \in H\}$ ,  $\lambda \in H^*$ . If  $V_\lambda \neq 0$ , we call  $V_\lambda$  a weight space and call  $\lambda$  a weight of  $H$  in  $V$ . //

Unlike the finite-dimensional case (Theorem 3.2.9), if  $\dim L = \infty$  then there is no guarantee that  $V$  is the sum of its weight spaces. However, the sum  $V'$  of all weight spaces  $V_\lambda$  is direct: The argument is the same as in showing that eigenvectors of distinct eigenvalues for a single linear transformation are linearly independent (check!). If  $V$  is an arbitrary  $L$ -module then various situations can happen, as shown by

Exercise 5.5.1. (1) If  $V$  is an irreducible  $L$ -module having at least one (nonzero) weight space, prove that  $V$  is the direct sum of its weight spaces.

(2) Let  $V$  be an irreducible  $L$ -module. Then  $V$  has a weight space if and only if  $vU(H)$  is finite-dimensional for all  $v \in V$ , or if and only if  $vA$  is finite-dimensional for all  $v \in V$  where  $A$  is the subalgebra with 1 generated by an arbitrary  $h \in H$  in  $U(H)$ , the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{H}$ .

(3) Let  $L = \mathfrak{sl}(2, F)$  with the canonical basis  $x, y, h$  as in (1.28). Show that  $1 - x$  is not invertible in  $U(L)$ , so  $1 - x$  lies in a maximal right ideal  $I$  of  $U(L)$ . Let  $V = U(L)/I$ , so  $V$  is an irreducible  $L$ -module. Prove that  $1 + I, h + I, h^2 + I, \dots$  are all linearly independent in  $V$  (so  $\dim V = \infty$ ),

using the relations

$$(x-1)^r h^s \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{I} , & r > s \\ (-2)^r r! \cdot 1 \pmod{I} , & r = s . \end{cases}$$

Show that  $V$  has no weight spaces. [See F.W.Lemire, Existence of weight space decompositions for irreducible representations of simple Lie algebras, *Canad. Math. Bull.* 14 (1971), 113-115.]

Due to Weyl's Theorem on complete reducibility (Theorem 3.7.5), the determination of finite-dimensional  $L$ -modules reduces to that of finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules. The objective in this section is to prove that there exists a one-one correspondence between the set  $\Lambda^+$  of dominant integral functions in  $H^*$  and the isomorphism classes of finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules. The correspondence is given by assigning to each  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  a cyclic  $L$ -module generated by a single element which has  $\lambda$  as the highest weight. For this, we proceed in steps. A universal enveloping algebra and a maximal solvable subalgebra of  $L$  play main roles.

Definition 5.5.2. A Borel subalgebra of any Lie algebra  $L$  is a maximal solvable subalgebra of  $L$ . //

While we do not intend to elaborate on Borel subalgebras, we are interested in a special type of Borel subalgebra (for detail, e.g., the conjugacy of Borel subalgebras under an invariant automorphism, see Humphreys' book, p. 83).

Let  $\Pi$  be a simple system of roots and let  $L = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha}$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $L$ .

Lemma 5.5.1. Set  $B(\Pi) = H + \sum_{\alpha > 0} L_{\alpha}$ . Then  $B(\Pi)$  is a Borel subalgebra of  $L$ .

Proof. Let  $N = [B(\Pi)B(\Pi)]$ . Then, since  $L$  is semisimple,  $N = \sum_{\alpha > 0} L_{\alpha}$ . We contend that  $N$  is nilpotent. Note that  $[NN] = \sum_{\alpha + \beta > 0} L_{\alpha + \beta}$  and the level of a positive root  $\alpha + \beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi^+$ , increases by at least one. Since  $\Phi^+$  is finite, continuing this brings the descending central series of  $N$  to zero. This in particular implies that  $B(\Pi)$  is solvable. Let  $J$  be a subalgebra of  $L$  properly containing  $B(\Pi)$ . Then the weight space decomposition of  $J$  relative to  $\text{ad } H$  must involve a weight  $\gamma$  (in fact, a root) with  $\gamma \notin \Phi^+$ , so  $\gamma$  is a negative root. But this forces  $K$  to contain the 3-dimensional split simple Lie algebra  $S_{-\gamma}$  as in Theorem 4.4.2(1), so  $K$  can not be solvable. //

Call  $B(\Pi)$  a standard Borel subalgebra relative to  $H$ . Note that  $B(\Pi)$  depends on the choice of  $\Pi$ .

Lemma 5.5.2. Let  $V$  be an arbitrary  $L$ -module.

Then

$$(1) \quad V_{\lambda} L_{\alpha} \subset V_{\lambda+\alpha}, \quad \lambda \in H^*, \quad \alpha \in \Phi.$$

(2) The sum  $V' = \sum_{\lambda \in H^*} V_{\lambda}$  is direct and  $V'$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $V$ .

(3) If  $\dim V < \infty$  then  $V = V'$ .

Proof. If  $x \in L_{\alpha}$ ,  $v \in V_{\lambda}$  and  $h \in H$ , then  $(vx)h = v[xh] + (vh)x = (\alpha(h) + \lambda(h))vx$ , showing  $V_{\lambda} L_{\alpha} \subset V_{\lambda+\alpha}$ . The first part of (2) is just the foregoing remark while the second part follows from (1). (3) is clear from Corollary 4.2.3(1). //

Recall that if  $V$  is an  $L$ -module then the  $L$ -module action on  $V$  is extended to define a unique unital right  $U(L)$ -module  $V$  where  $U(L)$  is the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ .

Definition 5.5.2. Let  $V$  be an arbitrary  $L$ -module. A maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  in  $V$  is defined to be a nonzero vector  $v^+ \in V_{\lambda}$  such that  $v^+ L_{\alpha} = 0$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$  (or just  $\alpha \in \Pi$ ; Theorem 4.5.6). If  $V = v^+ U(L)$

for a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  then  $V$  is called standard cyclic of weight  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda$  is called the highest weight of  $V$ . //

Notice that the notion of maximal vector depends on the choice of  $\Pi$  and the existence of such vectors is not guaranteed in case  $\dim V = \infty$ . However, we have

Lemma 5.5.3. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional  $L$ -module. Then a nonzero  $v^+ \in V$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  if and only if  $v^+$  is a common eigenvector of  $B(\Pi)$ . Hence  $V$  has a maximal vector, and if, in addition,  $V$  is irreducible then  $V$  is standard cyclic of weight  $\lambda$ . If  $L$  is simple and regarded as an  $L$ -module via  $\text{ad}$ , then  $0 \neq v^+ \in L$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\beta$  if and only if  $\beta$  is the unique maximal root and  $v^+ \in L_\beta$ .

Proof. Any maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  is evidently a common eigenvector for  $B(\Pi)$ . Let  $v^+ \neq 0$  be a common eigenvector for  $B(\Pi)$ . Then  $v^+h = \lambda(h)v^+$  for  $h \in H$ , so  $\lambda$  is a weight. Also,  $v^+L_\alpha \subset V_\lambda$ ,  $\alpha > 0$  but by Lemma 5.5.2(1)  $v^+L_\alpha \subset V_{\lambda+\alpha}$ ; this is absurd unless  $v^+L_\alpha = 0$  for  $\alpha > 0$ . Since  $B(\Pi)$  is solvable, by Corollary 3.4.10  $B(\Pi)$  has a common eigenvector in  $V$ . If  $V$  is irreducible then  $v^+U(L)$ , being a nonzero  $L$ -submodule, must be  $V$ . The last part is clear (Theorem 5.3.12). //

Therefore, the study of standard cyclic  $L$ -modules embraces that of finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules. Recall that the partial ordering  $\lambda > \mu$  in  $E$  if and only if  $\lambda - \mu$  is a sum of positive roots. This ordering is also defined in  $H^*$ . We show below that the highest weight  $\lambda$  associated with a maximal vector is highest in the sense that  $\mu \leq \lambda$  for all weights  $\mu$  in  $V$ . Recall also that for a fixed nonzero  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ) there is a unique  $y_\alpha \in L_{-\alpha}$  for which  $[x_\alpha y_\alpha] = h_\alpha$  (Theorem 4.4.2(1)) where  $h_\alpha \in H$  is as in (1.32). The following describes the structure of a standard cyclic module.

Theorem 5.5.4. Let  $V$  be a standard cyclic  $L$ -module with maximal vector  $v^+ \in V_\lambda$ . Let  $\Phi^+ = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m\}$ . Then,

(1)  $V$  is spanned by the vectors  $v^+ y_{\beta_1}^{i_1} \dots y_{\beta_m}^{i_m}$  ( $i_j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ). In particular,  $V$  is the direct sum of its weight spaces (compare with Lemma 5.5.2(3)).

(2) The weights of  $V$  are of the form  $\mu = \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^m k_i \alpha_i$  ( $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ). Thus all weights  $\mu$  satisfy  $\mu \leq \lambda$ .

(3) For each  $\mu \in H^*$ ,  $\dim V_\mu < \infty$  and  $\dim V_\lambda = 1$ .



(4)  $V$  is an indecomposable  $L$ -module.

(5) If  $W$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $V$  then

$W = \sum_{\mu} \theta W \cap V_{\mu}$  is the weight space decomposition for  $W$ . Hence  $V$  contains a unique maximal (proper)  $L$ -submodule.

(6) Every nonzero homomorphic image of  $V$  is also standard cyclic of highest weight  $\lambda$ .

Proof. (1) and (2). Let  $L = B + N_{-}$  where  $N_{-} = \sum_{\alpha < 0} L_{\alpha}$  and  $B = B(\Pi)$ . Note that  $N_{-}$  is a subalgebra of  $L$ . It follows from Theorem 5.1.10(1) that  $V = v^{+}U(L) = v^{+}U(B)U(N_{-}) = Fv^{+}U(N_{-})$ , since  $v^{+}$  is a common eigenvector for  $B$ . By the PBW theorem  $U(N_{-})$  has a basis consisting of the standard monomials

$y_{\beta_2}^{i_1} \dots y_{\beta_m}^{i_m}$ , so the vectors

$$(*) \quad v^{+} y_{\beta_1}^{i_1} y_{\beta_2}^{i_2} \dots y_{\beta_m}^{i_m}, \quad i_j \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$$

form a basis for  $V$ . Thus  $V$  is the direct sum of weight spaces  $V_{\mu}$  and since each vector in  $(*)$  has weight  $\lambda - \sum_j i_j \beta_j$  by Lemma 5.5.2(1), rewriting each  $\beta_j$  as a sum of simple roots, we have (2).

(3) If  $\mu = \lambda - \sum_i k_i \alpha_i$  is a weight then  $\dim V_{\mu}$  is the number of vectors  $(*)$  for which  $\sum_j i_j \beta_j = \sum k_i \alpha_i$  ( $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$ ). This number is finite when  $\sum k_i \alpha_i$  is fixed.

The only vector in (\*) having weight  $\mu = \lambda$  is  $v^+$ , so  $\dim V_\lambda = 1$ .

(4) Suppose that  $V = V_1 \oplus V_2$ ,  $V_i$  L-submodules of  $V$ . Let  $v^+ = v_1^+ + v_2^+$ ,  $v_i^+ \in V_i$ . Then  $v^+x = v_1^+x + v_2^+x$  is a scalar multiple of  $v^+$  for all  $x \in B$  (Lemma 5.5.3). If  $v_i^+ \neq 0$ , this forces  $v_i^+$  to be a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$ . Since  $\dim V_\lambda = 1$  by (3), this in turn implies that  $v_i^+$  is a scalar multiple of  $v^+$ . Since  $V = V_1 + V_2$  is direct, we have  $v_1^+ = 0$  or  $v_2^+ = 0$ , so  $v^+ \in V_2$  or  $v^+ \in V_1$ ; that is,  $V = V_2$  or  $V = V_1$  since  $v^+$  generates  $V$ .

(5) Clearly  $\Sigma_\mu \oplus W \cap V_\mu \subset W$ . Let  $v \in W$ . Then  $v \in W \cap (V_{\mu_1} + \dots + V_{\mu_n}) \equiv W'$  and regard  $W'$  as an H-module. It is clear that any weight of H in  $W'$  is a weight in  $V$  and hence is among  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n$ . This implies that if  $W' = \Sigma \oplus W'_\mu$  is the weight space decomposition (this decomposition exists since  $W'$  is finite-dimensional (Theorem 3.2.9)) then  $W'_\mu = W \cap V_\mu$  and  $W' = \sum_{i=1}^n \Sigma \oplus W \cap V_{\mu_i}$ . Thus  $W \subset \Sigma_\mu \oplus W \cap V_\mu$ . If  $W$  is proper then  $W \cap V_\lambda = 0$  since if  $W \cap V_\lambda \neq 0$ ,  $V_\lambda \subset W$  (by part (3)) and  $W = V$  as  $v^+$  generates  $V$ . Therefore  $W \subset \Sigma_{\mu \neq \lambda} V_\mu$  and the sum of all proper L-submodules of  $V$  is still proper.

(6) Let  $f : V \rightarrow V' = f(V)$  be a nontrivial  $L$ -module homomorphism. Then  $V' = f(v^+)U(L)$  and  $f(v^+) \neq 0$  since  $V' \neq 0$ , and clearly  $f(v^+)$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$ . //

Corollary 5.5.5. Let  $L$  be simple and let  $\beta$  be the maximal root relative to  $\Pi$ . Then  $\alpha \leq \beta$  for all  $\alpha \in \Phi$ .

Proof. Note that  $L$  is standard cyclic of highest weight  $\beta$  (Lemma 5.5.3) and the weights of  $H$  are just the roots in  $\Phi$ . The result follows from Theorem 5.5.4(2). //

Corollary 5.5.6. Let  $V$  be as in Theorem 5.5.4. Suppose, in addition, that  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible. Then  $v^+$  is the unique maximal vector in  $V$  up to nonzero scalar multiples.

Proof. Let  $w^+$  be another maximal vector in  $V$ . Then  $w^+U(L) = V$  since  $V$  is  $L$ -irreducible. If  $w^+$  has weight  $\lambda'$ , Theorem 5.5.4 applied to  $v^+$ ,  $w^+$  implies that  $\lambda' \leq \lambda$  and  $\lambda \leq \lambda'$ , so  $\lambda = \lambda'$ . But then by Theorem 5.5.4(3)  $w^+$  is a scalar multiple of  $v^+$ . //

5.6. Finite-dimensional modules

Since finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules are closely related to standard cyclic  $L$ -modules, it is natural to consider the following basic questions as to :

- (a) Existence of irreducible standard cyclic modules.
- (b) Uniqueness of such modules.
- (c) Which of such modules are finite-dimensional.
- (d) Enumeration of  $\dim V_\mu$  if  $\mu$  is a weight.

In this section we treat Questions (a), (b), (c) and we can obtain the results for these along the expected line. Due to the uniqueness (b), we may denote by  $V(\lambda)$  the irreducible standard cyclic module of highest weight  $\lambda$ . A rigorous treatment of the Question (d) involves a somewhat laborious procedure which we omit here.  $\dim V_\mu$  is known as the multiplicity of  $\mu$  in  $V(\lambda)$ . There are two well-known formulas for this, Freudenthal's formula and Kostant's formula. Related to this is also Weyl's formula which enables us to enumerate  $\dim V(\lambda)$ . Finally, consider the  $L$ -module  $V(\lambda') \otimes V(\lambda'')$  where  $\lambda'$ ,  $\lambda''$  are dominant integral. In view of Weyl's Theorem 3.7.5,  $V(\lambda') \otimes V(\lambda'')$  is the direct sum  $\sum_\lambda \otimes V(\lambda)$

of irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -modules  $V(\lambda)$  .  
 Steinberg's formula is designed to enumerate the number  
 of times  $V(\lambda)$  ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  , occurs in  $V(\lambda') \otimes V(\lambda'')$  .  
 For the development of these formulas in detail, the  
 reader may consult Jacobson's book or Humphreys' book.

We first consider the uniqueness question.

Theorem 5.6.1. Let  $V$  and  $W$  be standard cyclic  
 $L$ -modules of highest weight  $\lambda$  . If  $V$  and  $W$  are  
 irreducible then  $V$  and  $W$  are isomorphic as  $L$ -modules.

Proof. Consider the  $L$ -module  $U = V \oplus W$  and let  
 $v^+$ ,  $w^+$  be respective maximal vectors of weight  $\lambda$  in  
 $V$ ,  $W$  . Clearly,  $u^+ = (v^+, w^+)$  is a maximal vector of  
 weight  $\lambda$  in  $U$  . Let  $X$  be the  $L$ -submodule of  $U$   
 generated by  $u^+$  , so  $X$  is standard cyclic of weight  $\lambda$  .  
 Let  $p : X \rightarrow V$  ,  $p' : X \rightarrow W$  be the maps induced by the  
 projections of  $U$  onto  $V$  and  $W$  . Clearly,  $p$  and  $p'$   
 are  $L$ -module homomorphisms, and since  $p(u^+) = v^+$  and  
 $p'(u^+) = w^+$  ,  $p, p'$  are surjective. Thus, it suffices  
 to verify that  $p, p'$  are injective, so that  $X$  is  
 isomorphic to both  $V$  and  $W$  as  $L$ -modules. Note that  
 $\ker p' = V \cap X$  where  $(v, 0)$  ( $v \in V$ ) is identified  
 with  $v$  . Since  $\ker p'$  is an  $L$ -submodule of  $V$  and  $V$   
 is irreducible,  $V \cap X = 0$  or  $V \cap X = V$  . If  $V \cap X = V$   
 then  $(v^+, 0) \in X$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  in  $X$

(since it is killed by  $B(\Pi)$ ), so  $(v^+, 0)$  is a scalar multiple of  $(v^+, w^+)$  (Theorem 5.5.4(3)). This is impossible, so  $p'$  (and likewise  $p$ ) is injective. //

Since an irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -module of highest weight  $\lambda$  is uniquely determined by the weight  $\lambda$  (up to isomorphism), we denote this module (if exists) by  $V(\lambda)$ . As to the existence question, the central idea stems from the fact that when any standard cyclic  $L$ -module is viewed as a  $B(\Pi)$ -module, it contains a one-dimensional  $B(\Pi)$ -submodule spanned by a maximal vector. Hence we begin with a one-dimensional space in the following existence theorem.

Theorem 5.6.2. For any  $\lambda \in H^*$ , there exists an irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -module  $V(\lambda)$  of weight  $\lambda$

Proof. Let  $D_\lambda = Fv^+$  be a one-dimensional vector space with basis  $v^+$  and let  $B = B(\Pi)$ . Make  $D_\lambda$  a  $B$ -module by the rule  $v^+(h + \sum_{\alpha > 0} x_\alpha) = v^+h = \lambda(h)v^+$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$ ; it is easy to check that this is a  $B$ -module action on  $D_\lambda$ . This also makes  $D_\lambda$  a right  $U(B)$ -module. Regarding  $U(L)$  as a left  $U(B)$ -module, we form the tensor product  $Z(\lambda) = D_\lambda \otimes_{U(B)} U(L)$ . At this moment,  $Z(\lambda)$  is simply an abelian group; however, we make  $Z(\lambda)$  a right  $U(L)$ -module via the natural right action in  $U(L)$ :  $(v^+ \otimes t)t' = v^+ \otimes tt'$ ,  $t, t' \in U(L)$ .

We contend that  $Z(\lambda)$  is standard cyclic of weight  $\lambda$ . Clearly,  $v^+ \otimes 1$  generates  $Z(\lambda)$  and since  $U(L)$  is a free  $U(B)$ -module (Theorem 5.1.10(1)),  $v^+ \otimes 1 \neq 0$ . Therefore  $v^+ \otimes 1$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$ . In view of Theorem 5.5.4(5),  $Z(\lambda)$  contains a maximal (proper)  $L$ -submodule  $Y(\lambda)$  and  $V(\lambda) = Z(\lambda)/Y(\lambda)$  is irreducible standard cyclic of weight  $\lambda$  (Theorem 5.5.4(6)). //

Remark. Let  $Z(\lambda) = D_\lambda \otimes_{U(B)} U(L)$  be the same as above.

(1) By PBW Theorem,  $U(L) \cong U(B) \otimes_F U(N_-)$ , where  $N_- = \sum_{\alpha < 0} L_\alpha$ . Then  $Z(\lambda)$  is viewed as a right  $U(N_-)$ -module, so that  $Z(\lambda) \cong F \otimes U(N_-)$  (as right  $U(N_-)$ -modules) via  $kv^+ \otimes (b \otimes t) \rightarrow k1 \otimes bt$ ,  $k \in F$ ,  $b \in U(B)$ ,  $t \in U(N_-)$  (again by PBW Theorem).

(2) An alternative construction of  $Z(\lambda)$  is as follows. Let  $I(\lambda)$  be the right ideal in  $U(L)$  generated by all  $L_\alpha$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ) and all  $h_\alpha - \lambda(h_\alpha)1$  ( $\alpha \in \Phi$ ). Since  $v^+h = \lambda(h)v^+$  and  $v^+L_\alpha = 0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $v^+I(\lambda) = 0$ . Define a mapping  $g : U(L)/I(\lambda) \rightarrow Z(\lambda)$  by  $g(t + I(\lambda)) = v^+ \otimes t$ ,  $t \in U(L)$ . If  $t \in I(\lambda)$  then  $v^+ \otimes t = v^+ \otimes (\sum b_i t_i) = \sum v^+ b_i \otimes t_i = 0$  where  $b_i \in U(B) \cap I(\lambda)$  (note  $U(L) = U(B)U(N_-)$ ). Thus  $g$  is well-defined, and so a  $U(L)$ -module homomorphism. Suppose that  $v^+ \otimes t = 0$

for  $t \in U(L)$ . Write  $t = \sum b_i t_i$  where the  $t_i$  are  $U(B)$ -basis elements of  $U(L)$  so  $b_i \in U(B)$  (PBW Theorem). Then  $0 = v^+ \otimes t = \sum v^+ b_i \otimes t_i$ , so  $v^+ b_i \otimes t_i = 0$  for all  $i$  since  $U(L)$  is  $U(B)$ -free. This implies that the  $b_i \in U(B) \cap I(\lambda)$ , so  $t \in I(\lambda)$ . Thus  $g$  is injective and an isomorphism. //

Finally, we attack a necessary and sufficient condition for an irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -module  $V(\lambda)$  to be finite-dimensional. Corresponding to each  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ , let  $S_i$  denote the 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra spanned by the canonical basis  $x_i, y_i, h_i$ . As before, let  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^+$  be respectively the integral and dominant integral functions in  $H^*$ . It is easy to see that a necessary condition for  $V(\lambda)$  to be finite-dimensional is that  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ :

Theorem 5.6.3. If  $V$  is a finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -module of highest weight  $\lambda$  then  $\lambda$  is dominant integral.

Proof. For each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ , regard  $V$  as an  $S_i$ -module. Let  $v^+$  be a maximal vector for  $L$  in  $V$  of weight  $\lambda$ . Since  $V$  is a finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -module and  $\lambda(h_i)$  is a weight of  $h_i$ ,  $v^+$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda(h_i)$  in an irreducible



$S_i$ -submodule  $V'$  of  $V$ . Thus  $\lambda(h_i)$  is a nonnegative integer (see Section 4.3). //

Indeed, that  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$  is a sufficient condition also. The proof of this is carried out in steps. Let  $A$  be an associative algebra and let  $x, a \in A$ . One can easily prove by induction the formula

$$(*) \quad a^k x = x a^k - \binom{k}{1} x' a^{k-1} + \binom{k}{2} x'' a^{k-2} - \dots \pm x^{(k)}$$

where  $x^{(0)} = x$ ,  $x' = [x, a]$  and  $x^{(i+1)} = (x^{(i)})'$ .

Lemma 5.6.4. Let  $U(L)$  be the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ . For  $k \geq 0$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq \ell$ , the following identities hold in  $U(L)$ .

$$(1) \quad [y_i^{k+1}, x_j] = 0, \quad i \neq j;$$

$$(2) \quad [y_i^{k+1}, x_i] = (k+1)(k1 - h_i)y_i^k.$$

Proof. (1)  $[y_i, x_j] = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ , since  $\alpha_j - \alpha_i$  is not a root (Theorem 4.5.2(1)).

(2) If  $k = 0$ , it is trivial. Assume that  $[y_i^k, x_i] = k[(k-1)1 - h_i]y_i^{k-1}$ . First, note that  $h_i' = [h_i, y_i] = 2y_i$ ,  $h_i'' = [[h_i, y_i], y_i] = 0$ ,  $h_i^{(t)} = 0$

for  $t \geq 2$  in (\*). Using this, we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 [y_i^{k+1}, x_i] &= y_i^k [y_i, x_i] + [y_i^k, x_i] y_i \\
 &= -y_i^k h_i + k[(k-1)1 - h_i] y_i^k \quad (\text{by induction}) \\
 &= 2ky_i^k - h_i y_i^k + k(k-1)y_i^k - kh_i y_i^k \quad (\text{by } (*)) \\
 &= (k+1)(k1 - h_i) y_i^k. \quad //
 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 5.6.5. Let  $V = V(\lambda)$  be an irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -module of weight  $\lambda$  where  $\lambda$  is dominant integral.

(1) If  $v^+$  is a maximal vector of weight  $\lambda$  then, for each  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ ,  $v^+ y_i^{m_i+1} = 0$  where  $m_i = \lambda(h_i)$ .

(2) For each  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ ,  $V$  is the sum of finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodules.

(3) For any  $v \in V$  and each  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ , there exist positive integers  $r, s$  such that  $vx_i^r = vy_i^s = 0$ .

Proof. (1) Set  $w = v^+ y_i^{m_i+1}$ . The  $m_i$  are nonnegative integers by the assumption. If  $i \neq j$ ,  $w x_j = 0$  by Lemma 5.6.4(1). Using Lemma 5.6.4(2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v^+ y_i^{m_i+1} x_i &= v^+ [y_i^{m_i+1}, x_i] + v^+ x_i y_i^{m_i+1} \\
 &= (m_i + 1)(m_i v^+ - m_i v^+) y_i^{m_i+1} \\
 &= 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $v^+x_i = 0$  and  $v^+h_i = \lambda(h_i)v^+ = m_iv^+$ . Thus  $wx_i = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ . If  $w \neq 0$ ,  $w$  would be a maximal vector in  $V$ . But, by Lemma 5.5.2(1),  $w$  has weight  $\lambda - (m_i + 1)\alpha_i \neq \lambda$ , which is contrary to Corollary 5.5.6. Hence  $w = 0$ .

(2) We first show that  $V$  contains a nonzero finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodule for each  $i$ . Let  $W$  be the subspace spanned by  $v^+, v^+y_i, \dots, v^+y_i^{m_i}$ . By (1),  $W$  is  $y_i$ -stable. Since these vectors are weight vectors in  $V$ ,  $W$  is  $h_i$ -stable. These in turn imply that, in view of Lemma 5.6.4(2),  $W$  is also  $x_i$ -stable, so  $W \neq 0$  is a finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodule. Now, let  $V'$  be the sum of all finite-dimensional  $S_j$ -submodules. Then  $V' \neq 0$ . Let  $W$  be any finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodule and  $W'$  be the span of the subspaces  $WL_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , and  $Wh_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, \ell$ . Then  $W'$  is finite-dimensional, since  $\Phi$  is finite. One can directly check that  $W'$  is  $S_i$ -stable, so  $W' \subset V'$ . This implies that  $V'$  is  $L$ -stable, so  $V = V'$  since  $V$  is irreducible.

(3) Let  $v \in V$  be any vector. By (2), for each  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ ,  $v \in W$  for some finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodule  $W$ . Then, by the discussion in Section 4.3,  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  act on  $W$  as nilpotent linear transformations. //

Lemma 5.6.6. Let  $V$  and  $\lambda$  be the same as in Lemma 5.6.5. Then the set  $\Delta(V)$  of weights in  $V$  is permuted by the Weyl group  $WG$ , i.e.,  $WG(\Delta(V)) \subset \Delta(V)$ .

Proof. Let  $\sigma_i$  be the simple reflection by  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . Since the  $\sigma_i$  generate  $WG$  (Theorem 5.3.6(4)), it suffices to show that  $\sigma_i(\Delta(V)) \subset \Delta(V)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ . Let  $\mu$  be any weight in  $V$ . By Lemma 5.6.5(2),  $\mu$  is a weight of  $h_i$  in a finite-dimensional  $S_i$ -submodule. Hence  $\mu(h_i)$  is an integer.

Let  $v \neq 0$  be a weight vector of  $\mu$  in  $V$ , so that  $vh = \mu(h)v$ ,  $h \in H$ . Suppose that  $\mu(h_i) \geq 0$ . By Lemma 5.6.5(3), choose  $q$  such that  $w = vx_i^q \neq 0$ ,  $vx_i^{q+1} = 0$  and  $m$  such that  $wy_i^m \neq 0$ ,  $wy_i^{m+1} = 0$ . Since  $wx_i = 0$ , as in the proof of Lemma 5.6.5(2) the subspace  $W$  spanned by  $w, wy_i, \dots, wy_i^m$  is  $S_i$ -stable, so  $W$  is an irreducible  $S_i$ -submodule of highest weight  $m$ , i.e.,  $wh_i = mw$  (see Section 4.3). Since  $v \in V_\mu$ , by Lemma 5.5.2(1) we have

$$wh = (vx_i^q)h = (\mu + q\alpha_i)(h)w,$$

$$(**) \quad (wy_i^k)h = (\mu + q\alpha_i - k\alpha_i)(h)wy_i^k,$$

$h \in H$ . Hence  $(\mu + q\alpha_i)(h_i) = \mu(h_i) + 2q = m$  and it follows from  $(**)$  that the sequence

$$\mu + q\alpha_i, \mu + (q-1)\alpha_i, \dots, \mu + (q-m)\alpha_i$$

consists of weights of  $H$  in  $V$ . Since  $\mu(h_i) = m - 2q \geq 0$  and  $q \geq 0$ ,  $q - m \leq 2q - m \leq q$ , so  $\sigma_i(\mu) = \mu - \langle \mu, \alpha_i \rangle \alpha_i = \mu - \mu(h_i) \alpha_i = \mu + (2q - m) \alpha_i$  occurs in the sequence. Thus  $\sigma_i(\mu) \in \Delta(V)$ . If  $\mu(h_i) \leq 0$ , we set  $x_i' = y_i$ ,  $y_i' = x_i$ ,  $h_i' = -h_i$ . Then  $x_i', y_i', h_i'$  form a canonical basis for  $S_i$ . The same argument can be applied to  $x_i', y_i', h_i'$  to show that  $\sigma_i(\mu) \in \Delta(V)$ . //

We are now ready to verify the sufficient condition.

Theorem 5.6.7. If  $\lambda \in H^*$  is dominant integral then the irreducible standard cyclic  $L$ -module  $V = V(\lambda)$  is finite-dimensional.

Proof. Since each weight space  $V_\mu$  is finite-dimensional and  $V = \sum_\mu \theta V_\mu$  (Theorem 5.5.4), we only need to verify that  $\Delta(V)$  is finite. Let  $\Lambda_0^+ = \{\mu_0 \in \Lambda^+ \mid \mu_0 \leq \lambda\}$ . Then, by Lemma 5.4.5,  $\Lambda_0^+$  is finite. Note that  $\Delta(V) \subset \Lambda$  (cf. the proof of Lemma 5.6.6). Since  $WG$  is finite, the set  $WG(\Lambda_0^+)$  of  $WG$ -conjugates of  $\Lambda_0^+$  is finite. By Lemma 5.4.4, each  $\mu \in \Delta(V)$  is  $WG$ -conjugate to an element  $\mu_0 \in \Lambda^+$ , i.e.,  $\mu = \sigma(\mu_0)$ ,  $\sigma \in WG$ . It then follows from Lemma 5.6.6 that  $\mu_0 \in \Delta(V)$ , so  $\mu_0 \leq \lambda$ , since  $\lambda$  is highest. Therefore,  $\mu \in WG(\Lambda_0^+)$  and  $\Delta(V) \subset WG(\Lambda_0^+)$ ; hence  $\Delta(V)$  is finite. //

Corollary 5.6.7. The map  $\lambda \rightarrow V(\lambda)$  induces a one-one correspondence between  $\Lambda^+$  and the isomorphism classes of finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules,

Proof. In view of Theorems 5.6.2 and 5.6.7, the map  $\lambda \rightarrow V(\lambda)$  is well-defined. By Theorem 5.6.3, the map is surjective (cf. Lemma 5.5.3). Finally, it follows from Corollary 5.5.6 that the map is injective. //

## 6. FLEXIBLE LIE-ADMISSIBLE ALGEBRAS WITH $A^-$ SEMISIMPLE

### 6.1. Adjoint operators

In this chapter we classify finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of characteristic 0 when  $A^-$  is semisimple. The central idea for this classification is the notion of adjoint operators which was first introduced by Wigner (E. P. Wigner, "On representations of certain finite groups", Amer. J. Math. 63(1941), 57-63) for the Lie algebra of the  $SU(2)$  group. The general case of adjoint operators has been studied in particle physics, recently by Okubo (S. Okubo, "Gauge groups without triangular anomaly", Phys. Rev. D16(1977), 3528-3534 and "Casimir invariants and vector operators in simple and classical Lie algebras", J. Math. Phys. 18(1977), 2382-2394).

Definition 6.1.1. Let  $L$  be an arbitrary Lie algebra over  $F$  (of any char.). Let  $f : L \rightarrow (\text{Hom}_F V)^-$  be a representation;  $V$  not necessarily finite-dimensional. A linear mapping  $\delta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } V$  is called an adjoint operator (ad-operator ;  $L$ -invariant) of  $L$  in  $f$  (or in  $V$ ) if  $\delta$  satisfies

$$\delta [xy] = [\delta(x), f(y)] \tag{2.1}$$

for all  $x, y \in L$ . The set  $V_f(L, V)$  of all ad-operators of  $L$  in  $f$  forms a subspace of  $\text{Hom}_F (L, \text{Hom}_F V)$ . If  $\dim V = d < \infty$ ,  $V_f(L, V)$  is often denoted by  $V_f(L, d)$ . If  $f = \text{ad}$  then we write  $V_0(L)$  for  $V_f(L, L)$ . //

Note that  $f \in V_f(L, V)$ , so if  $f \neq 0$ ,  $\dim V_f(L, V) \geq 1$ . If  $L$  is finite-dimensional, we let  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  be a basis of  $L$ . Let  $L$  have the multiplication table

$$[x_i, x_j] = \sum_{k=1}^N b_{ij}^k x_k \tag{2.2}$$

where the  $b_{ij}^k \in F$  are the structure constants of  $L$ . For  $\delta \in V_f(L, V)$ , let  $T_i = \delta(x_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Then the ordered  $N$ -tuple  $(T_i) = (T_1, \dots, T_N)$  satisfies the relations

$$[T_i, f(x_j)] = \sum_k b_{ij}^k T_k \tag{2.3}$$



Conversely, let  $(T_i) = (T_1, \dots, T_N) \in (\text{Hom } V)^N$ , the  $N$ -fold Cartesian product space. If  $(T_i)$  satisfies (2.3) then the unique linear mapping  $\delta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } V$  defined by  $\delta(x_i) = T_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ) is, by (2.2) and (2.3), an ad-operator of  $L$  in  $f$ . Thus the mapping  $\delta \rightarrow (\delta(x_i))$  is an isomorphism of  $V_f(L, V)$  to the vector space (the subspace of  $(\text{Hom } V)^N$ ) consisting of  $(T_1, \dots, T_N)$  satisfying (2.3).

When  $L$  is simple and  $f = \text{ad}$ , we can explicitly enumerate  $\dim V_0(L)$ . This virtually leads to the classification of flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  with  $A^-$  semisimple. Accordingly,  $\delta \in V_f(L, V)$  is often identified with  $(\delta(x_1), \dots, \delta(x_N)) \in (\text{Hom } V)^N$ . In case  $f = \text{ad}$ , we have

Definition 6.1.2. Let  $L$  be an arbitrary Lie algebra. An ad-operator  $0 \neq \delta \in V_0(L)$  is said to be symmetric if  $\delta$  satisfies

$$y\delta(x) = x\delta(y), \quad x, y \in L,$$

while  $\delta$  is called skew-symmetric if it obeys

$$y\delta(x) = -x\delta(y), \quad x, y \in L. \quad //$$

Note that any Lie algebra  $L$  has a skew-symmetric ad-operator, since  $\text{ad} \in V_0(L)$  is skew-symmetric.

We will see later that not every Lie algebra possesses a symmetric ad-operator.

Lemma 6.1.1. Let  $L = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell+1, F)$  with  $\ell \geq 2$  be the special linear algebra over  $F$  of char 0. Then the linear mapping  $\theta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom}_F L$  defined by

$$y\theta(x) = xy + yx - \frac{2}{\ell+1} (\text{Tr } xy)I, \quad x, y \in L$$

is a symmetric ad-operator of  $L$ , where  $xy$  is the usual matrix product and  $I$  is the  $(\ell + 1) \times (\ell + 1)$  identity matrix.

Proof. It is clear that  $\theta$  is well-defined and is nonzero. In fact, if  $\theta = 0$  then  $xy + yx = (2/(\ell+1))(\text{Tr } xy)I$  for all  $x, y \in L$ . Since  $\ell \geq 2$ , we can choose matrix units  $e_{ij}, e_{jk}$  with  $i < j < k$ . But then  $e_{ij}e_{jk} = e_{ik}$  while  $e_{jk}e_{ij} = 0$ ; this forces  $e_{ik} \in FI$ , a contradiction. By direct computation one sees that  $z\theta[x, y] = z[\theta(x), \text{ad } y]$  for all  $x, y, z \in L$ , so  $\theta$  is a symmetric ad-operator of  $L$ . //

In contrast, note that if  $\ell = 1$  then  $xy + yx = (\text{Tr } xy)I$  for all  $x, y \in \mathfrak{sl}(2, F)$ . Specifically, it will be shown that the simple Lie algebra of type  $A_\ell$  ( $\ell \geq 1$ ) alone allows a symmetric ad-operator.

Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$ .

Denote by  $R_x$  and  $L_x$  the right and left multiplications in  $A$  by  $x$ . Set

$$\text{ad } x = R_x - L_x \quad \text{and} \quad \tau(x) = R_x + L_x . \quad (2.4)$$

We have observed that  $A$  is Lie-admissible if and only if  $\text{ad } [x, y] = [\text{ad } x, \text{ad } y]$ ,  $x, y \in A$  ((1.11), Section 1.4), and that  $A$  is flexible if and only if  $\tau[x, y] = [\tau(x), \text{ad } y]$  for  $x, y \in A$  (Lemma 1.4.2). Therefore we have

Theorem 6.1.2. Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$ . A necessary and sufficient condition that  $A$  is flexible Lie-admissible is that  $\text{ad}$  is a skew-symmetric ad-operator in  $V_0(A^-)$  and  $\tau$  defined by (2.4) is a symmetric ad-operator in  $V_0(A^-)$ . //

## 6.2. Highest adjoint weights

We utilize representation theory of semisimple Lie algebras to obtain more information on  $V_f(L, V)$  which is useful to enumerate  $\dim V_f(L, V)$ . Let  $L$  be a split semisimple Lie algebra over  $F$  of char 0 and  $H$

be a split CSA of  $L$ . Denote by  $V$  a finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -module with afforded representation  $f \neq 0$ . Henceforth, for brevity, we write  $f(x) = x, x \in L$ .

Let  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_\ell)$  be a simple system of roots and let  $h_i = h_{\alpha_i}, i = 1, \dots, \ell$ . Then the  $h_i$  form a basis of  $H$ . In view of Theorem 4.4.1, for each  $\alpha \in \Phi$  we can choose basis elements  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha, x_{-\alpha} \in L_{-\alpha}$  such that  $[x_\alpha x_{-\alpha}] = t_\alpha$ , where  $t_\alpha$  is uniquely determined by  $\alpha$ . For  $\psi \in H^*$ , we can write  $t_\psi = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \psi^i h_i$  where the  $\psi^i \in F$  are uniquely determined by  $\psi$ . Therefore, by (1.31) we have

$$(\psi, \phi) = (t_\psi, t_\phi) = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \psi^i \phi(h_i) \tag{2.5}$$

for  $\psi, \phi \in H^*$ . The  $x_\alpha (\alpha \in \Phi), h_1, h_2, \dots, h_\ell$  form a basis of  $L$  and have the multiplication table

$$\begin{aligned} [h_i h_j] &= 0, \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell, \\ [x_\alpha h_i] &= \alpha(h_i) x_\alpha, \\ [x_\alpha x_\beta] &= N_{\alpha, \beta} x_{\alpha+\beta}, \quad \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \\ [x_\alpha x_{-\alpha}] &= \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \alpha^i h_i \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

where  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  and  $N_{\alpha, \beta} \in F, N_{\alpha, \beta} = 0$  if  $\alpha + \beta \notin \Phi$ . If  $F$  is algebraically closed then even more can be done.  $N_{\alpha, \beta}$  can be so chosen that  $N_{\alpha, \beta} = N_{-\alpha, -\beta}$  (Exercise 4.5.3)

Denote this basis by a short hand notation

$(t_p) = (h_i, x_\alpha, x_{-\alpha})$  in a fixed order with  $\alpha$  representing all positive roots. Accordingly, we denote by  $(T_p)$   
 $= (H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha})$  an ad-operator of  $L$  in  $V$ . Thus, by (2.3),  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ ),  $E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}$  ( $\alpha \in \Phi^+$ ) are elements in  $\text{Hom}_F V$  satisfying the commutation relations

$$\begin{aligned} [H_i, h_j] &= 0, \\ [E_\alpha, h_i] &= [x_\alpha, H_i] = \alpha(h_i)E_\alpha, \\ [E_{-\alpha}, h_i] &= [x_{-\alpha}, H_i] = -\alpha(h_i)E_{-\alpha}, \\ [E_\alpha, x_\beta] &= N_{\alpha, \beta} E_{\alpha+\beta}, \quad \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \\ [E_\alpha, x_{-\alpha}] &= [x_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}] = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \alpha^i H_i. \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Note that if  $\delta \in V_f(L, V)$ , we can identify  $\delta$  with  $(H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha})$  via  $\delta(h_i) = H_i$ ,  $\delta(x_\alpha) = E_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \Phi$ .

Recall that  $V$  is a standard cyclic  $L$ -module  $V(\lambda)$  of maximal vector  $v^+$  with highest weight  $\lambda$  (Lemma 5.5.3). Let  $(H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}) \in V_f(L, V)$ . Since  $[H_i, h] = 0$  for  $h \in H$ ,

$$(v^+ H_i)h = (v^+ h)H_i = \lambda(h)v^+ H_i, \quad h \in H.$$

Hence  $v^+ H_i$  has weight  $\lambda$ , and since  $\dim V_\lambda = 1$  (Theorem 5.5.4(3)), we have

$$v^+ H_i = \gamma_i v^+, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell \tag{2.8}$$

where  $\gamma_i \in F$  is uniquely determined by  $H_i$ . This leads to

Definition 6.2.1. For an ad-operator  $(T_p) = (H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha})$  in  $V_f(L, V)$ , the highest ad-weight  $\gamma$  of  $(T_p)$  for  $H$  in  $V$  is defined as the element  $\gamma \in H^*$  such that  $\gamma(h_i) = \gamma_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ ) with  $\gamma_i \in F$  in (2.8). Call  $(H_i) = (H_1, \dots, H_\ell)$  the Cartan part of  $(T_p)$  relative to  $\Pi$ . //

If  $\delta \in V_f(L, V)$  then the Cartan part of  $\delta$  is  $(\delta(h_i))$ .

Lemma 6.2.1. Let  $(H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}) \in V_f(L, V)$ . Then, for any  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$ ,  $v^+E_\alpha = 0$  and  $v^+E_{-\alpha} \in V_{\lambda-\alpha}$ .

Proof. In view of (2.7),  $(v^+E_\alpha)h = v^+[E_\alpha, h] + (v^+h)E_\alpha = (\lambda + \alpha)(h)v^+E_\alpha$ . Thus if  $v^+E_\alpha \neq 0$  then  $\lambda + \alpha$  would be a weight and this is absurd since  $\lambda$  is highest. Similarly, one gets  $(v^+E_{-\alpha})h = (\lambda - \alpha)(h)v^+E_{-\alpha}$  so  $v^+E_{-\alpha} \in V_{\lambda-\alpha}$ . //

Lemma 6.2.2. Let  $\gamma$  be the highest ad-weight of  $(H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}) \in V_f(L, V)$ . If  $(\alpha, \lambda) = 0$  for  $\alpha \in \Phi^+$  then  $(\alpha, \gamma) = 0$ .

Proof. Let  $r, q$  be the least nonnegative integers such that  $\lambda - (r + 1)\alpha$  and  $\lambda + (q + 1)\alpha$  are not weight

Since  $\lambda$  is highest and  $\alpha > 0$ , by Theorem 4.4.3  $q = 0$ . Therefore, if  $(\lambda, \alpha) = 0$  then  $\langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle = r - q = r$  gives  $r = 0$ , so that  $\lambda - \alpha$  is not a weight (Theorem 4.4.3). Hence, by Lemma 6.2.1,  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} = 0$  and by (2.5) and (2.7) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (v^+ E_{-\alpha})x = v^+ ([E_{-\alpha}, x_\alpha] + x_\alpha E_{-\alpha}) \\ &= -v^+ (\sum_i \alpha^i H_i) \\ &= -(\sum_i \alpha^i \gamma_i) v^+ \quad (\text{by (2.8)}) \\ &= -(\sum \alpha^i \gamma(h_i)) v^+ \\ &= -(\alpha, \gamma) v^+ \quad (\text{by (2.5)}) \quad // \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 6.2.3. Let  $(T_p) \in V_f(L, V)$ . If  $v^+ T_p = 0$  for all  $p$  then  $(T_p) = 0$ .

Proof. Let  $U(L)$  be the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ . Then  $V = v^+ U(L)$ . Let  $(t_p) = (h_i, x_\alpha, x_{-\alpha})$  be the basis of  $L$ . Since  $T_p t_q - t_q T_p = \sum_k b_{pq}^k T_k$ ,  $v^+ T_p = 0$  for all  $p$  implies that  $(v^+ L) T_p = 0$  for all  $p$ . Noting  $[xy, T_p] = x[y, T_p] + [x, T_p]y$  for  $x, y \in L$ , so  $(v^+ xy) T_p = 0$ , it follows by induction that  $V T_p = v^+ U(L) T_p = 0$ . //

Theorem 6.2.4. Let  $\gamma$  be the highest ad-weight of  $(T_p) \in V_f(L, V)$ . If  $\gamma = 0$  then  $(T_p) = 0$ .

Proof. Let  $(T_p) = (H_i, E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha})$  and let  $N = \sum_{\alpha < 0} L_\alpha$ . We first contend that

$$V_0 \equiv \sum_{\alpha > 0} v^+ E_{-\alpha} U(N)$$

is an  $L$ -submodule of  $V$ . Let  $P = \sum_{\alpha > 0} L_\alpha$ . Then by

PBW Theorem  $U(L) = U(N)U(H)U(P) = U(H)U(P)U(N)$ , so

$V_0 U(L) = \sum_{\alpha > 0} v^+ E_{-\alpha} U(H)U(P)U(N)$ . Observing that

$E_{-\alpha} h = [E_{-\alpha}, h] + hE_{-\alpha} = -\alpha(h)E_{-\alpha} + hE_{-\alpha}$ , by induction we have that  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} U(H) \subset Fv^+ E_{-\alpha}$ , since  $v^+$  is a weight vector of  $H$ . Hence  $V_0 U(L) = \sum_{\alpha > 0} v^+ E_{-\alpha} U(P)U(N)$  and it

remains to show that  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} x_\beta \in V_0$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi^+$ . Since  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} x_\beta = v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\beta] + v^+ x_\beta E_{-\alpha} = v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\beta]$ , it suffices to verify

$$v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\beta] \in V_0 \text{ for } \alpha, \beta \in \Phi^+.$$

If  $\beta - \alpha < 0$  then  $v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\beta] = N_{\beta, -\alpha} v^+ E_{-(\alpha-\beta)} \in V_0$ .

If  $\beta - \alpha > 0$  then  $v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\beta] = N_{\beta, -\alpha} v^+ E_{\beta-\alpha} = 0$

by Lemma 6.2.1. Finally, if  $\alpha = \beta$  then

$$\begin{aligned} v^+ [E_{-\alpha}, x_\alpha] &= -v^+ \sum_i \alpha^i H_i \\ &= -\sum_i \alpha^i v^+ H_i \\ &= -(\alpha, \gamma) v^+ = 0 \end{aligned}$$



since  $\gamma = 0$  by the assumption. This proves that  $V_0$  is an  $L$ -submodule.

Since  $V_0$  is spanned by weight vectors  $v^+ E_{-\alpha}$ ,  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} x_{-\beta}, \dots$  with weights  $\lambda - \alpha$ ,  $\lambda - \alpha - \beta, \dots$  (Lemmas 6.2.1 and 5.5.2) which are lower than  $\lambda$ ,  $V_0$  can not contain  $v^+$ . This implies  $V_0 = 0$ , since  $V$  is irreducible. In particular,  $v^+ E_{-\alpha} = 0$  for  $\alpha > 0$  while  $v^+ E_{\alpha} = 0$  by Lemma 6.2.1. Hence  $v^+ T_p = 0$  for all  $p$  since  $v^+ H_i = \gamma_i v^+ = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ . This, in view of Lemma 6.2.3, proves  $(T_p) = 0$ . //

Therefore, an ad-operator of  $L$  in  $V$  is uniquely determined by its highest ad-weight and so by its Cartan part. Denote by  $H_{\Gamma}^*$  the subspace of  $H^*$  spanned by all highest ad-weights of  $H$  in  $V$ .

Corollary 6.2.5.  $\dim V_f(L, V) = \dim H_{\Gamma}^*$ .

Proof. Let  $\gamma^{(j)} \in H_{\Gamma}^*$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) and let  $\delta_j$  be the ad-operator in  $V_f(L, V)$  with highest ad-weight  $\gamma^{(j)}$ . Suppose that  $\sum_{j=1}^m c_j \gamma^{(i)} = 0$ . Then the Cartan part of  $\delta = \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \delta_j$  is given by

$$\delta(h_k) = \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \delta_j(h_k), \quad k = 1, \dots, \ell.$$

As these act on  $v^+$ , we have  $v^+ \delta(h_k) = \sum_{j=1}^m c_j v^+ \delta_j(h_k) = \sum_j c_j \gamma^{(j)}(h_k) = 0$ . Hence the highest ad-weight  $\gamma$  of  $\delta$  is zero, so by Theorem 6.2.4  $\delta = 0$ .

This proves  $\dim V_f(L,V) \leq \dim H_\Gamma^*$ . Conversely, let  $\sum c_j \delta_j = 0$  for  $\delta_j \in V_f(L,V)$ . Let  $\gamma^{(j)}$  be the highest ad-weight of  $\delta_j$ . Then  $\sum c_j \delta_j(h_k) = 0$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \ell$ , and  $\sum c_j v^+ \delta_j(h_k) = \sum c_j \gamma^{(j)}(h_k) = 0$ , so  $\sum c_j \gamma^{(j)} = 0$ . This proves  $\dim V_f(L,V) \geq \dim H_\Gamma^*$ . //

### 6.3. The adjoint dimension

We utilize the results in Section 6.3 to enumerate  $\dim V_f(L,V)$  in terms of the highest weight of  $H$  in  $V$ .

Definition 6.3.1.  $\dim V_f(L,V)$  is called the adjoint dimension of  $L$  in  $V$  (or in  $f$ ). The adjoint dimension of  $L$  in  $V$  is customarily denoted by  $n_A(f)$  in physics literature. //

It is clear from Corollary 6.2.5 that  $n_A(f) \leq \ell$ ,  $\ell = \dim H^*$ . Since  $V$  is irreducible, it is standard cyclic of highest weight  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda$  is dominant integral (Theorem 5.6.3). Let  $\Omega = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell)$  be the fundamental system of dominant weights (FSDW) relative to  $\Pi$ . Thus  $\langle \lambda_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, \dots, \ell$ ) and

$$\lambda = m_1 \lambda_1 + m_2 \lambda_2 + \dots + m_\ell \lambda_\ell \quad (2.9)$$

where

$$m_j = \langle \lambda, \alpha_j \rangle \quad (2.10)$$

( $j = 1, \dots, \ell$ ) are nonnegative integers (Lemma 5.4.1).

Let  $V_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ) be  $L$ -modules with afforded representations  $f_i$ . Then we can make the tensor product  $V' = V_1 \otimes \dots \otimes V_m$  an  $L$ -module via

$$(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_m)x = \sum_{k=1}^m v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k x \otimes \dots \otimes v_m,$$

$x \in L$  (cf. Exercise 4.3.2). The representation afforded by the  $L$ -module  $V'$  is customarily denoted by

$$f' = f_1 \otimes \dots \otimes f_m.$$

Lemma 6.3.1. Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -module of highest weight  $\lambda$  and let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be dominant integral functions on  $H$  such that  $\lambda = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n$ . Then  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are highest ad-weights of some ad-operators of  $L$  in  $V$ .

Proof. Since the  $\lambda_i$  are dominant integral, by Theorem 5.6.7 there exist finite-dimensional irreducible  $L$ -modules  $V_i$  of highest weights  $\lambda_i$ . Let  $v_i^+$  be a maximal vector in  $V_i$  of weights  $\lambda_i$ . Then  $v_1^+ \otimes \dots \otimes v_n^+$  is clearly a maximal vector in the  $L$ -module  $V' = V_1 \otimes \dots \otimes V_n$

of weight  $\lambda$ . By Weyl's Theorem, write  $V' = \Sigma \otimes W_j$  as a direct sum of irreducible  $L$ -submodules  $W_j$ . Let  $v_1^+ \otimes \dots \otimes v_n^+ = \Sigma w_j^+$ ,  $w_j^+ \in W_j$ . Then any  $w_j^+ \neq 0$  is also maximal vector in  $W_j$  of weight  $\lambda$ . Since  $W_j$  is irreducible, if  $w_j^+ \neq 0$  then  $W_j$  is a standard cyclic  $L$ -module of weight  $\lambda$  generated by  $w_j^+$ . Thus  $W_j$  is isomorphic to  $V$  as  $L$ -module (Theorem 5.6.1). Hence  $V$  can be identified with one of these  $W_j$ . Let  $f$  be the representation afforded by  $V$ .

For each  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , define a linear mapping  $g_j : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } V'$  by

$$(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) g_j(x) = v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_j x \otimes \dots \otimes v_n,$$

$x \in L$ ,  $v_j \in V_j$ . Let  $i : V \rightarrow V'$  be the injection and let  $p : V' \rightarrow V$  be the projection. Then  $i$  and  $p$  are  $L$ -module homomorphisms. Finally, define a linear mapping  $\delta_j : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } V$  by  $\delta_j(x) = i \cdot g_j(x) \cdot p$ ,  $x \in L$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) (\delta_j(x) f(y) - f(y) \delta_j(x)) \\ &= (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_j x \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) p f(y) \\ & \quad - \left( \sum_k v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k y \otimes \dots \otimes v_n \right) \delta_j(x) \\ &= (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_j x \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) f(y) p \\ & \quad - \left[ (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_j x \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) f(y) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_j [xy] \otimes \dots \otimes v_n \right] p \end{aligned}$$

$$= (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) \delta_j[xy]$$

for  $v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n \in V$ . Hence  $\delta_j$  is an ad-operator of  $L$  in  $V$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . It follows that each  $\lambda_j$  is the highest ad-weight of  $\delta_j$ . //

Theorem 6.3.2. (Adjoint Dimension Theorem). The adjoint dimension  $n_A(f)$  of  $L$  in  $V$  is equal to the number  $m^+(f)$  of nonzero  $m_j$ 's in (2.9).

Proof. Denote  $q = n^+(f)$ . Reordering the roots in  $\Pi$ , if necessary, we may assume that  $m_j = 0$  in (2.9) for  $q + 1 \leq j \leq \ell$ . Thus  $\lambda$  is expressed as  $\lambda = \sum_{j=1}^q m_j \lambda_j$ . Since  $\langle \lambda_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ , we have  $(\alpha_j, \lambda) = 0$  for  $q + 1 \leq j \leq \ell$ . Let  $\gamma$  be any highest ad-weight. Since  $\Omega$  is a basis of  $H^*$ , one can write  $\gamma = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} c_j \lambda_j$ ,  $c_j \in F$ . Then by Lemma 6.2.2  $(\alpha_j, \gamma) = 0$  for  $q + 1 \leq j \leq \ell$  and this implies  $c_j = 0$ ,  $q + 1 \leq j \leq \ell$ . It follows from Corollary 6.2.5 that  $n_A(f) \leq q = n^+(f)$ .

Since the  $m_j \lambda_j$  are dominant integral and  $m_1 \lambda_1, \dots, m_q \lambda_q$  are linearly independent, it follows from Lemma 6.3.1 that  $n_A(f) \geq q$ . //

Theorem 6.3.2 has been proved over the complex number field by Okubo, employing an analytic method. The present algebraic proof is due to Okubo and Myung ("Adjoint operators in Lie algebras and the classification

of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras", Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 264(1981), 459-472).

Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra over arbitrary  $F$  and let  $U(L)$  be the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$ . A linear mapping  $\delta : L \rightarrow U(L)$  is called an ad-operator of  $L$  (in  $U(L)$ ) if  $\delta$  satisfies

$$\delta [xy] = [\delta(x), y]$$

for all  $x, y \in L$ . Denote by  $V(L)$  the space of all ad-operators of  $L$ . Let  $K$  be the quotient field of the center  $C$  of  $U(L)$  ( $C$  is an integral domain; cf. Exercise 5.1.1). Set  $V(L)_K = K \otimes_C V(L)$ . When  $L$  is a simple Lie algebra over the complex number field, Okubo has shown that  $\dim V(L)_K \geq \dim H$  for the algebra  $L$  of type  $A_n, B_n, C_n, D_n$ , or  $G_2$  ("Casimir invariants and vector operators in simple and classical Lie algebras", J. Math. Phys. 18(1977), 2382-2394). Okubo and Myung have conjectured that  $\dim V(L)_K = \dim H$  over a field of characteristic 0 ("On the classification of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 1(1978), 504-567).

If  $f = \text{ad}$  and  $L$  is simple then Theorem 6.3.2 is strengthened to

Theorem 6.3.3. Let  $L$  be a simple Lie algebra. Then the adjoint dimension  $n_A(\text{ad})$  of  $L$  in  $\text{ad}$  is 1 or 2.

Proof. Since  $\text{ad } \varepsilon \in V_0(L)$  and  $\text{ad } \neq 0$ ,  $\dim V_0(L) = n_A(\text{ad}) \geq 1$ . The highest weight  $\lambda_0$  in  $\text{ad}$  is the unique maximal root (so positive) of  $H$  (Theorem 5.3.12(2) and Corollary 5.5.5). Write

$$\lambda_0 = m_1\lambda_1 + m_2\lambda_2 + \dots + m_\ell\lambda_\ell \quad (2.11)$$

as in (2.9) where  $m_j = \langle \lambda_0, \alpha_j \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Since  $\lambda_0$  is a positive root,  $m_j = 0, 1, 2,$  or  $3$  (Theorem 4.4.5). Let

$$\lambda_0 = c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + \dots + c_\ell\alpha_\ell. \quad (2.12)$$

Then all  $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Since  $\langle \lambda_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ , it follows from (2.12) that  $c_i = 2(\lambda_0, \lambda_i) / (\alpha_i, \alpha_i)$ , so (2.12) becomes

$$\lambda_0 = \sum_i \frac{2(\lambda_i, \lambda_0)}{(\alpha_i, \alpha_i)} \alpha_i,$$

which leads to

$$(\lambda_0, \lambda_0) = \sum_i (\lambda_i, \lambda_0) \langle \lambda_0, \alpha_i \rangle = \sum_i m_i (\lambda_i, \lambda_0)$$

since  $m_i = \langle \lambda_0, \alpha_i \rangle$ . We now rewrite this as

$$2 = \sum_i m_i \langle \lambda_i, \lambda_0 \rangle. \quad (2.13)$$

Since each  $\lambda_i \in \Lambda^+$ ,  $\lambda_i$  is the highest weight in some irreducible  $L$ -module (Theorem 5.6.7). Since  $\lambda_0 \in \Phi^+$ , this implies that  $\langle \lambda_i, \lambda_0 \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ . We further claim that all  $\langle \lambda_i, \lambda_0 \rangle > 0$ . Since  $\lambda_0$  is

the highest weight in  $\mathfrak{ad}$ , each root in  $\Pi$  (being a weight) is expressed as  $\lambda_0 - \sum_i k_i \alpha_i$  with the  $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  (Theorem 5.5.4(2)). Thus each  $c_i$  in (2.12) is positive, so all  $\langle \lambda_i, \lambda_0 \rangle > 0$  since  $c_i = 2(\lambda_0, \lambda_i) / (\alpha_i, \alpha_i)$ . Hence, by (2.13) we have  $\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} m_j \leq 2$  and this with (2.11) allows the only possibilities

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_i, \quad \lambda_0 = 2\lambda_j, \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda_0 = \lambda_p + \lambda_q. \quad (2.14)$$

Thus  $n^+(\mathfrak{ad}) = 1$  or  $2$  and by Theorem 6.3.2  $n_A(\mathfrak{ad}) = 1$  or  $2$ . //

In view of (2.14), one notes that the result in Theorem 5.4.3 is no accident and determines the relations more explicitly. Hence, by virtue of the Adjoint Dimension Theorem and Theorem 5.4.3, we can state

Theorem 6.3.4. Let  $L$  be a split simple Lie algebra over a field  $F$  of char 0. Then the adjoint dimension of  $L$  in  $\mathfrak{ad}$  is 2 for  $L$  of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  and is 1 for all other types. //

When  $L$  is of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ , we have observed that  $V_0(L)$  has two linearly independent operators  $\mathfrak{ad}$  and  $\theta$  defined as in Lemma 6.1.1. Thus  $\mathfrak{ad}$  and  $\theta$  form a basis of  $V_0(L)$ . Moreover, since  $\theta$  is symmetric, we have



Corollary 6.3.5. If  $L$  is of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  then any symmetric ad-operator of  $L$  in  $\text{ad}$  is a scalar multiple of  $\theta$ , constructed in Lemma 6.1.1. Also, any skew-symmetric element in  $V_0(L)$  is a scalar multiple of  $\text{ad}$ . //

Remark. The result of Corollary 6.3.5 agrees with those by Djoković and by Krämer who computed directly the multiplicity of  $\text{ad}$  in the tensor product  $\text{ad} \otimes \text{ad}$  by means of Steinberg's formula or its variant. The relations in Theorem 5.4.3 is noted and utilized by Kac for the classification of simple Lie superalgebras. Also, Okubo has obtained Theorem 5.4.3 by invoking (2.14) and the table in Exercise 5.4.1 with slightly different ordering of  $\Pi$ . References to these are cited below.

1. D. Ž. Djoković, "Classification of some 2-graded Lie algebras", J. Pure and Appl. Algebra, 1(1976), 210-230.
2. M. Krämer, "Eine Klassifikation Bestimmter untergruppen Kompakter Zusammen-Hängender Lie gruppen", Comm. in Algebra, 3(8)(1975), 691-737.
3. V. G. Kac, "Lie superalgebra", Advances in Math. 26(1977), 8-96.
4. S. Okubo, "Gauge groups without triangular anomaly", Phys. Rev. D16(1977), 3528-3534.

#### 6.4. The classification

We show that the classification of flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$  is equivalent to finding all symmetric elements in  $V_0(A^-)$ . The classification under consideration is then an easy consequence of Lemma 6.1.1 and Corollary 6.3.5.

Theorem 6.4.1. Let  $L$  be an arbitrary Lie algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$  and let  $\theta$  be any symmetric element in  $V_0(L)$ . Denote by  $L(\theta)$  the algebra defined on the vector space  $L$  but with multiplication given by

$$xy = \frac{1}{2}(x\theta(y) + [xy]) .$$

Then  $L(\theta)$  is flexible Lie-admissible such that  $L(\theta)^-$  is isomorphic to  $L$ . Moreover,  $\theta(x) = \tau(x)$  in  $L(\theta)$  where  $\tau$  is defined by (2.4).

Proof. Let  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  be the left and right multiplications by  $x$  in  $L(\theta)$ . Then  $\text{ad}_{L(\theta)} x = R_x - L_x$  and clearly  $\text{ad}_{L(\theta)} = \text{ad}_L$ , since  $\theta$  is symmetric. Hence  $L(\theta)$  is Lie-admissible such that  $L(\theta)^- = L$  and  $\theta = \tau$  in  $L(\theta)$ . Noting that

$$L_x R_x = \frac{1}{4}(\theta(x) - \text{ad } x)(\theta(x) + \text{ad } x) ,$$

$$R_x L_x = \frac{1}{4}(\theta(x) + \text{ad } x)(\theta(x) - \text{ad } x) ,$$

we have  $L_x R_x - R_x L_x = \frac{1}{2}[\theta(x), \text{ad } x] = \frac{1}{2}\theta[x, x] = 0$  since  $\theta$  is an ad-operator of  $L$  in  $\text{ad}$ . Thus  $L(\theta)$  is flexible. //

In view of this result, the classification of flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  reduces to the determination of all symmetric elements in  $V_0(A^-)$ . However, at present,  $V_0(A^-)$  is determined only when  $A^-$  is reductive with a simple Levi factor. We first classify  $A$  when  $A^-$  is simple.

Theorem 6.4.2. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra such that  $A^-$  is a split simple Lie algebra over  $F$  of char 0. Then either  $A$  is itself a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $A^-$  or  $A^-$  is simple Lie algebra of type  $A_\ell$  ( $\ell \geq 2$ ). In the latter case,  $A$  is either a Lie algebra or isomorphic to an algebra with multiplication given by

$$x*y = \mu xy + (1 - \mu)yx - \frac{1}{\ell+1} \text{Tr}(xy)I \tag{2.15}$$

which is defined on the space of  $(\ell + 1) \times (\ell + 1)$  trace 0 matrices over  $F$ , where  $xy$  is the matrix product,  $\mu \neq \frac{1}{2}$  is a fixed scalar in  $F$  and  $I$  is the identity matrix.

Proof. If  $A^-$  is not of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$ , then  $\dim V_0(A^-) = 1$ . Since  $0 \neq \text{ad} \in V_0(A^-)$ , the symmetric ad-operator  $\tau(x) = R_x + L_x$  in  $V_0(A^-)$  must be zero for all  $x \in A$ . Thus  $A$  is a Lie algebra. If  $A^-$  is of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  then we set  $A^- = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell+1, F)$ . By Theorem 6.1.2,  $\tau$  defined by  $\tau(x) = R_x + L_x$  is a symmetric element in  $V_0(A^-)$ . It follows from Corollary 6.3.5 that  $\tau = c\theta$  for some  $c \in F$ , where  $\theta$  is given by

$$y\theta(x) = xy + yx - \frac{2}{\ell+1} (\text{Tr } xy)I,$$

$x, y \in \mathfrak{sl}(\ell+1, F)$  and  $xy$  is the matrix product. Thus, by Theorem 6.4.1,  $A$  is isomorphic to an algebra defined on  $A^- = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell+1, F)$  but with multiplication given by

$$\begin{aligned} x*y &= \frac{1}{2}x(c\theta(y) + \text{ad } y) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\{(c+1)xy + (c-1)yx - \frac{2c}{\ell+1} (\text{Tr } xy)I\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $c = 0$  then  $A$  is isomorphic to  $A^- = \mathfrak{sl}(\ell+1, F)$ . If  $c \neq 0$  then, dividing both sides by  $c$  and setting  $\mu = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \frac{1}{c}) \neq \frac{1}{2}$ , we obtain the algebra described by (2.15). //

When  $A^-$  is semisimple, it can be shown that  $A$  is a direct sum of ideals  $A_i$  such that  $A_i^-$  is simple. More generally, we can prove

Theorem 6.4.3. Let  $A$  be a flexible algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$  (not necessarily finite-dimensional) such that  $A^-$  is a direct sum of simple Lie algebras  $A_i^-$ . Then each  $A_i$  is an ideal of  $A$ , so that  $A$  is the direct sum of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A_i$ .

Proof. We first show that each  $A_k$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . Let  $B_k^- = \sum_{i \neq k} A_i^-$ . Then  $A^- = A_k^- \oplus B_k^-$  and  $A_k \subset C_{A^-}(B_k^-)$ , the centralizer of  $B_k^-$  in  $A^-$ , since  $[A_k^-, B_k^-] = 0$ . Noting that each  $\text{ad } x$  is a derivation of  $A$ , the centralizer of any subset of  $A$  in  $A^-$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . Thus it suffices to verify  $A_k = C_{A^-}(B_k^-) \cong C$ . Hence, let  $x \in C$  and let  $x = a + b$ ,  $a \in A_k$ ,  $b \in B_k$ . Then, for every  $b' \in B_k$ ,  $0 = [x, b'] = [a, b'] + [b', b] = [b', b]$ , so  $b \in C$ . Suppose  $b \neq 0$ . Then, write  $b = \sum_{i \neq k} b_i$  with  $b_j \neq 0$  for some  $j \neq k$ . It follows from  $[b, B_k^-] = 0$  that  $[b_j, A_j^-] = 0$ , since  $[A_i^-, A_j^-] = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . This shows that the center of  $A_j^-$  is not 0, and this is absurd since  $A_j^-$  is simple. Therefore  $x = a$  is in  $A_k$ , showing that  $A_k = C$ .

To show that each  $A_k$  is an ideal of  $A$ , observe first that  $[B_k^-, B_k^-] = B_k^-$  since  $[A_i^-, A_i^-] = A_i^-$  for all  $i$ . Let  $a \in A_k$  and  $b \in B_k$ , and write  $b = \sum_i [x_i, y_i]$ ,  $x_i, y_i \in B_k$ . Since  $\text{ad } z$  is a derivation of  $A$ , we have

$$ab = \sum_i a[x_i, y_i] = \sum_i [ax_i, y_i] - \sum_i [a, y_i]x_i = \sum_i [ax_i, y_i] \in B_k$$

since  $B_k^-$  is an ideal of  $A^-$ . Using  $[A_k^-, A_k^-] = A_k^-$ , we can similarly show that  $ab \in A_k^-$ . Hence  $ab = 0$  and  $A_k^-$  is an ideal of  $A^-$ . //

If  $A^-$  is a finite-dimensional semisimple Lie algebra of char 0 then  $A^-$  is a direct sum of simple ideals (Lemma 1.6.3 and Theorem 3.6.3). Therefore, in view of Theorems 6.4.2 and 6.4.3, we have

Corollary 6.4.4. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra over a field  $F$  of char 0 such that  $A^-$  is a split semisimple Lie algebra. Then  $A$  is the direct sum of simple Lie algebras and simple flexible algebras defined by (2.15). //

Corollary 6.4.4 completes the classification of flexible Lie-admissible algebras in the characteristic zero case which was proposed by Albert in 1948.

Theorem 6.4.3 first proved by Weiner when  $A$  is power-associative, and later by Laufer and Tomber when  $F$  is algebraically closed of char 0 and  $A$  is finite-dimensional over  $F$ . The present general form of Theorem 6.4.3 is due to Myung.

The simple algebras described by (2.15) are neither power-associative nor have unit elements. As an application of Theorem 6.4.2 we can easily prove the following result of Laufer and Tomber (the reference cited below).

Corollary 6.4.5. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional power-associative flexible Lie-admissible algebra over a field  $F$  of char 0 such that  $A^-$  is semisimple. Then  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $A^-$ .

Proof. We may assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed since any scalar extension of  $A^-$  is semisimple also (Corollary 3.6.6). By Corollary 6.4.4 it suffices to show that the algebra defined by (2.15) can not be power-associative. Thus, let  $A^- = s\mathcal{L}(\ell + 1, F)$  with  $\ell \geq 2$  and let  $A$  have the multiplication given by (2.15). If  $A$  is power-associative, it is easily checked that  $(x*x)*(x*x) = [(x*x)*x]*x$  implies

$$(\text{Tr } x^2)x^2 - (\text{Tr } x^3)x - \frac{1}{\ell+1}(\text{Tr } x^2)^2I = 0$$

for all  $x \in A$ . This is absurd since, for example, the diagonal matrix  $x = \text{diag}\{1, 2, -3, 0, \dots, 0\}$  does not satisfy this identity. Thus  $A$  can not be power-associative. //

1. A. A. Albert, "Power-associative rings", Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 64(1948), 552-597.

2. P. J. Laufer and M. L. Tomber, "Some Lie admissible algebras", Canad. J. Math. 14(1962), 287-292.

3. H. C. Myung, "Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 1(1978), 169-193.

4. L. M. Weiner, "Lie admissible algebras", Univ. Nac. Tucumán Rev. Ser. A., 11(1957), 10-24.

### 6.5. The reductive case

Recall that a Lie algebra  $L$  of characteristic 0 is called reductive if  $Z(L) = \text{Rad } L$  and that  $L = S \oplus Z$ , where  $Z$  is the center of  $L$  and  $S$  is a semisimple subalgebra (a Levi-factor) of  $L$  (Theorem 3.7.11). Since  $S = [L, L]$ ,  $S$  is the unique Levi factor of  $L$ . The classification in Section 6.4 can be applied to determine all flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  such that  $A^-$  is reductive and the Levi factor of  $A^-$  is simple.

Lemma 6.5.1. Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional simple Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of char 0. Then any invariant bilinear form  $(\ , \ )$  on  $L$  (not necessarily symmetric or nondegenerate) is a scalar multiple of the Killing form; that is,

$$(x, y) = k \text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y, \quad x, y \in L, \quad k \in F.$$



Proof. Recall the invariant condition of  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  :

$$([xy], z) = (x, [yz]) , \quad x, y, z \in L .$$

Let  $x \in L$  be any element. Since the Killing form is nondegenerate, there exists an  $x' \in L$  such that  $(x, y) = \text{Tr ad } x' \text{ ad } y$  for all  $y \in L$ . Then the mapping  $x \rightarrow x'$  defines a linear mapping  $T : L \rightarrow L$ , so that

$$(x, y) = \text{Tr ad } xT \text{ ad } y , \quad x, y \in L .$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} (x, [yz]) &= \text{Tr ad } xT \text{ ad } [yz] \\ &= \text{Tr}(\text{ad } xT \text{ ad } y \text{ ad } z - \text{ad } xT \text{ ad } z \text{ ad } y) \\ &= \text{Tr ad } [xT, y] \text{ ad } z \\ &= ([xy], z) \\ &= \text{Tr ad } [xy]T \text{ ad } z . \end{aligned}$$

Thus the nondegeneracy of the Killing form implies

$$[xy]T = [xT, y] , \quad x, y \in L$$

and this is equivalent to  $[T, \text{ad } y] = 0$  for all  $y \in L$ .

Hence by Schur's Lemma 3.7.8 we have  $T = k$ , a scalar. //

Let  $L$  be a reductive Lie algebra with a simple

Levi factor  $S$  and center  $Z$ . Henceforth we denote the elements of  $S$  by  $x, y, z, \dots$  while those of  $Z$  are labelled by  $a, b, c, \dots$ . Then the symmetric elements in  $V_0(L)$  are determined as follows.

Theorem 6.5.2. Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional reductive Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of char 0 such that the Levi factor  $S$  is simple. Then any symmetric element  $\theta$  in  $V_0(L)$  satisfies the relations

$$x\theta(y) = x\theta_S(y) + [\text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y]c \quad (2.16a)$$

$$x\theta(a) = a\theta(x) = \eta(a)x, \quad (2.16b)$$

$$a\theta(b) = b\theta(a) = \theta_Z(a)b \in Z, \quad (2.16c)$$

where  $\theta_S$  and  $\theta_Z$  are respectively symmetric elements in  $V_0(S)$  and  $V_0(Z)$ ,  $x, y \in S$ ,  $a, b \in Z$ ,  $c$  is fixed in  $Z$ , and  $\eta$  is a linear form on  $Z$ . Conversely, given any symmetric elements  $\theta_S \in V_0(S)$  and  $\theta_Z \in V_0(Z)$ ,  $c$  fixed in  $Z$  and linear form  $\eta$  on  $Z$ , the linear mapping  $\theta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom}_F L$  satisfying (2.16a)-(2.16c) is a symmetric element in  $V_0(L)$ .

Proof. Since  $L = S \oplus Z$ ,  $\text{Hom}_F L = \text{Hom}_F S \oplus \text{Hom}_F (S, Z) \oplus \text{Hom}_F (Z, S) \oplus \text{Hom}_F Z$ . Thus it is convenient to express a linear mapping  $\theta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } L$  by the matrix notation

$$\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_{11} & \theta_{12} \\ \theta_{21} & \theta_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_{11}(x) & \theta_{12}(x) \\ \theta_{21}(x) & \theta_{22}(x) \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.17)$$

for  $x \in L$  where the  $\theta_{ij}$  are the component linear mappings of  $\theta$  :

$$\theta_{11} : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } S, \quad \theta_{12} : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } (S, Z),$$

$$\theta_{21} : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } (Z, S), \quad \theta_{22} : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } Z.$$

In particular,

$$\text{ad } x = \begin{pmatrix} \text{ad}_S x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x \in S \quad (2.18)$$

while  $\text{ad } Z = 0$  since  $Z$  is the center of  $L$ .

Suppose now that  $\theta$  is a symmetric element in  $V_0(L)$ . Equating  $0 = \theta[ax] = [\theta(a), \text{ad } x]$  with (2.17), (2.18), we have

$$(\text{ad}_S x) \theta_{11}(a) = \theta_{11}(a) \text{ad}_S x,$$

$$(\text{ad}_S x) \theta_{12}(a) = 0,$$

$$\theta_{21}(a) \text{ad}_S x = 0.$$

Since  $\text{ad}_S$  is an irreducible representation of  $L$ , by Schur's Lemma the first relation gives

$$\theta_{11}(a) = \eta(a) I_S$$

where  $I_S$  is the identity mapping on  $S$  and  $\eta$  is a linear form on  $Z$ . It follows from the second relation that  $S\theta_{12}(a) = 0$  (since  $[SS] = S$ ), so  $\theta_{12}(a) = 0$ . Similarly,  $\theta_{21}(a) = 0$ . Thus

$$\theta(a) = \begin{pmatrix} \eta(a)I_S & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_{22}(a) \end{pmatrix}, \quad a \in Z \quad (2.19)$$

while  $\theta[ab] = [\theta(a), \text{ad } b] = 0$  is an identity. By (2.17), the symmetric condition  $a\theta(x) = x\theta(a)$  leads to  $a\theta_{21}(x) = x\theta_{11}(a)$  and  $a\theta_{22}(x) = x\theta_{12}(a)$ , which reduce to

$$\theta_{22}(x) = 0, \quad a\theta_{21}(x) = \eta(a)x \quad (2.20)$$

by (2.19). Similarly, equating  $\theta[xy] = [\theta(x), \text{ad } y]$  gives the relations

$$\theta_{11}[xy] = [\theta_{11}(x), \text{ad}_S y], \quad (2.21a)$$

$$\theta_{12}[xy] = -(\text{ad}_S y)\theta_{12}(x), \quad (2.21b)$$

$$\theta_{21}[xy] = \theta_{21}(x) \text{ad}_S y. \quad (2.21c)$$

It follows from  $x\theta(y) = y\theta(x)$  that

$$x\theta_{11}(y) = y\theta_{11}(x), \quad (2.21d)$$

$$x\theta_{12}(y) = y\theta_{12}(x). \quad (2.21e)$$

If we put  $\theta_S = \theta_{11}|_S$  then (2.21a) and (2.21d) show that  $\theta_S$  is a symmetric element in  $V_0(S)$ . Set  $\theta_Z = \theta_{22}|_Z$ . Then  $a\theta(b) = b\theta(a)$  implies that  $\theta_Z$  is a symmetric element in  $V_0(Z)$ . We also have from (2.21b)

$$z\theta_{12}[xy] = -[zy]\theta_{12}(x). \quad (2.22)$$

Note that  $Z$  always has a symmetric nondegenerate bilinear form  $(, )$ . Since  $\theta_{12} : L \rightarrow \text{Hom}(S, Z)$  is linear, one can define a bilinear form  $(, )_a$  on  $S$  by

$$(x, y)_a = (a, y\theta_{12}(x)) \quad (2.23)$$

for each  $a \in Z$ . Then by (2.22) we have

$$\begin{aligned} ([xy], z)_a &= (a, z\theta_{12}[xy]) \\ &= -(a, [zy]\theta_{12}(x)) \\ &= -(x, [zy])_a = (x, [yz])_a, \end{aligned}$$

so  $(, )$  is invariant. Thus, by Lemma 6.5.1,

$$(x, y)_a = \alpha(a) \text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y, \quad (2.24)$$

$\alpha(a) \in F$ . From (2.23) and (2.24) it is easily checked that  $\alpha$  is a linear form on  $Z$ . Since  $(, )$  is nondegenerate on  $Z$ , we have  $\alpha(a) = (a, c)$  for some  $c \in Z$ . Again, by the nondegeneracy of  $(, )$ , this together with (2.23) and (2.24) implies

$$y\theta_{12}(x) = (\text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y)c .$$

Since  $y\theta(x) = y\theta_{11}(x) + y\theta_{12}(x) = y\theta_S(x) + y\theta_{12}(x)$  , this gives (2.16a). We have  $a\theta(x) = a\theta_{21}(x) + a\theta_{22}(x) = a\theta_{21}(x) = \eta(a)x$  by (2.20). On the other hand,  $x\theta(a) = x\theta_{11}(a) + x\theta_{12}(a) = x\theta_{11}(a) = \eta(a)x$  by (2.19). This gives (2.16b). Finally,  $b\theta(a) = a\theta(b) = b\theta_{21}(a) + b\theta_{22}(a) = b\theta_{22}(a) = b\theta_Z(a)$  by (2.19) and this is (2.16c).

Conversely, let  $\theta : L \rightarrow \text{Hom } L$  be a linear mapping satisfying (2.16a)-(2.16c). Then since  $\theta(a)$  is a scalar on  $S$  ,  $[\theta(a), \text{ad } y] = 0$  , so  $\theta[x + a, y + b] = \theta[xy] = \theta_S[xy] = [\theta_S(x), \text{ad } y] = [\theta(x) + \theta(a), \text{ad } (y + b)] = [\theta(x + a), \text{ad } (y + b)]$  . Thus  $\theta \in V_0(L)$  and evidently  $\theta$  is symmetric. //

Theorem 6.5.3. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of char 0 such that  $A^- = S \oplus Z$  is reductive with  $S$  simple. If  $S$  is of type  $A_\ell$  ( $\ell \geq 2$ ) then  $A$  is isomorphic to the algebra defined on  $s\mathfrak{L}(\ell + 1, F) \oplus Z$  with multiplication given by

$$x*y = \mu xy + (1 - \mu)yx - \frac{1}{\ell+1}(\text{Tr } xy)I + (\text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y)c, \quad (2.25a)$$

$$x*a = a*x = \eta(a)x, \quad (2.25b)$$

$$a*b = b*a \in Z. \quad (2.25c)$$

If  $S$  is not of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  then  $A$  is isomorphic to an algebra with multiplication given by

$$x*y = [xy] + (\text{Tr ad } x \text{ ad } y)c \quad (2.25d)$$

and the remaining multiplication is the same as in (2.25b) and (2.25c). Here  $[xy]$  denotes the multiplication in  $S$  while  $xy$  indicates the matrix product. The notations are the same as in Theorem 6.5.2.

Proof. In view of Theorems 6.1.2 and 6.4.1,  $A$  is isomorphic to an algebra defined on the space  $A^-$  but with multiplication given by  $x*y = x\theta(y) + [x, y]$  where  $\theta$  is a symmetric element in  $V_0(A^-)$ . But then  $\theta$  is determined by (2.16a)-(2.16c). Thus if  $S$  is of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  then  $\theta_S$  is determined by Lemma 6.1.1 and (2.25a) follows from (2.16a) and Theorem 6.4.2. Also, (2.25b) and (2.25c) are consequences of (2.16b) and (2.16c). If  $S$  is not of type  $A_\ell (\ell \geq 2)$  then  $\theta_S = 0$  (Theorem 6.3.4). This gives (2.25d). //

Notice that the quaternion algebra and  $\text{Hom}_F V$  are included in the classification of Theorem 6.5.3. It is easy to determine all flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  of dimension  $\leq 4$  such that  $A^-$  is non-solvable.

Corollary 6.5.4. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of char 0

such that  $\dim A \leq 4$  and  $A^-$  is non-solvable. Then

(1)  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $sl(2, F)$ .

(2)  $A$  is a 4-dimensional algebra with basis  $x, h, y$  whose multiplication table is given by

	$x$	$h$	$y$	$a$
$x$	$0$	$2x$	$h - \gamma a$	$\alpha x$
$h$	$-2x$	$2\gamma a$	$2y$	$\alpha h$
$y$	$-h - \gamma a$	$-2y$	$0$	$\alpha y$
$a$	$\alpha x$	$\alpha h$	$\alpha y$	$\beta a$

where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are scalars in  $F$ .

Proof. It is easy to see that if  $\dim A \leq 2$  then  $A^-$  is solvable. Thus  $\dim A = 3$  or  $4$ . If  $\dim A = 3$  then it is routine to check that  $A^-$  is the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra, so  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $sl(2, F)$  (Theorem 6.4.2). If  $\dim A = 4$ , then by a dimension argument we see that  $A^- = S \oplus Fa$  is a Levi decomposition for  $A^-$  where  $S$  is isomorphic to  $sl(2, F)$ . Let  $x, h, y$  be the canonical basis of  $S$ , so that

$$[xh] = 2x, \quad [yh] = -2y, \quad [xy] = h.$$

Then  $A^-$  is reductive (why?). Also,  $\text{ad } x, \text{ad } h, \text{ad } y$  have the matrices (relative to  $x, h, y$ ):



$$\text{ad } x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{ad } h = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{ad } y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus the matrix of the Killing form relative to  $x, h, y$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 8 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The multiplication table given in (2) then follows from (2.25b)-(2.25d), since  $\dim Z = 1$  and  $Z$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . //

The classification in Corollary 6.5.4 has been obtained by Myung under the assumption that  $A$  is a nilalgebra ("A class of almost commutative nilalgebras", *Canad. J. Math.* 26(1974), 1192-1198). The table above also includes the pseudo-quaternion algebra  $P_4$  introduced by Okubo ("Pseudo-quaternion and pseudo-octonion algebras", *Hadronic J.* 1(1978), 1250-1278). For this, let  $S$  be a 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra over the field  $F$  (as in Corollary 6.5.4) with basis  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  such that

$$[x_1 x_2] = x_3, \quad [x_2 x_3] = x_1, \quad [x_3 x_1] = x_2,$$

or

$$[x_i x_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} x_k, \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3$$

where  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  is the totally antisymmetric Levi-Civita symbol with  $\epsilon_{123} = 1$ . Note that  $S$  is isomorphic to the split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra (in fact, this is the unique Lie algebra  $L$  of dimension 3 such that  $[LL] = L$ ) Thus any non-solvable Lie algebra of dimension 4 is of the form  $S \oplus Fe$ . Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra such that  $A^- \simeq S \oplus Fe$ . Then  $A$  is determined by (2.25b)-(2.25d). Compute the matrices relative to  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad } x_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & \text{ad } x_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad } x_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

so that the Killing form of  $S$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus if we set  $\alpha = -\beta = 1$  and  $c = -\frac{1}{2}e$  in the table, we have a 4-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra with multiplication given by

$$x_i * x_j = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} x_k + \delta_{ij} e, \tag{2.26}$$

$$x_j * e = e * x_j = x_j, \quad e * e = -e, \quad j = 1, 2, 3.$$

This algebra is the pseudo-quaternion algebra  $P_4$ .

Remark. (1) Benkart and Osborn ("Flexible Lie-admissible algebras", J. Algebra, 71(1981), 11-31.) have determined all flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  of char 0 such that  $\text{Rad } A^-$  is a direct summand of  $A^-$ . Thus the case  $A^-$  is reductive is included in their classification.

(2) In spite of these results, the classification of the general simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras appears to be very difficult, if not impossible. To support this view, Okubo has recently provided a method to construct a (infinite) class of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras from a given simple algebra ("A generalization of Hurwitz theorem and flexible Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 3(1979), 1-52). These algebras are related to quasi-classical Lie algebras. An arbitrary Lie algebra  $L$  is called quasi-classical if it has a symmetric nondegenerate bilinear form  $(, )$  satisfying the invariant condition  $([xy], z) = (x, [yz])$ ,  $x, y, z \in L$ . It is easy to see that any

reductive Lie algebra is quasi-classical. However, the converse is not true ; in fact, there is a solvable Lie algebra which is quasi-classical.

(3) The material in this chapter is drawn from Okubo and Myung ("Adjoint operators in Lie algebras and the classification of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras", Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 264(1981), 459-472.).

#### 6.6. An extension of the PBW Theorem

We digress to discuss an extension of the PBW Theorem to a flexible Lie-admissible algebra. Specifically, given a Lie algebra  $L$ , we construct a flexible Lie-admissible algebra generated by  $L$  which satisfies a "universal-like" property.

Let  $A$  be any algebra over a field  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$  and let  $\lambda \neq \mu$  be fixed scalars in  $F$ . Denote by  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  the algebra defined on the vector space  $A$  but with multiplication given by

$$xoy = \lambda xy + \mu yx ,$$

$x, y \in A$  , where  $xy$  indicates the product in  $A$  .

Call  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  the  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation of  $A$  . Let  $(x, y, z)^{\circ}$  and  $[x, y]^{\circ}$  be the associator and commutator in  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  .

Thus,

$$(x, y, z)^{\circ} = (xoy)oz - xo(yoz) ,$$

$$[x, y]^{\circ} = xoy - yox .$$

Since  $[x, y]^{\circ} = (\lambda - \mu)[x, y]$  ,  $A$  is Lie-admissible if and only if  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is .

Henceforth, assume that  $A$  is an associative algebra over  $F$  . It is easily checked that  $(x, y, z)^{\circ}$  is written as

$$(x, y, z)^{\circ} = \lambda\mu [[z, x], y] = \frac{\lambda\mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} [[z, x]^{\circ}, y]^{\circ} , \quad (2.27)$$

$x, y, z \in A$  . Setting  $x = z$  in (2.27) implies that  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is flexible. If we put  $x^2 = z$  , (2.27) gives the Jordan identity  $(x, y, xox) = 0$  , so  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is flexible Jordan-admissible (noncommutative Jordan).

Remark. The  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation of an associative algebra is nothing but a quasi-associative algebra introduced by Albert (Ref. 1 cited in Section 6.4). Denote the  $(\lambda, 1-\lambda)$ -mutation of  $A$  by  $A(\lambda)$  . A nonassociative algebra  $A$  over  $F$  is called quasi-associative if there exist an extension field  $K$  of  $F$

and an associative algebra  $B$  over  $K$  such that  $A_K = B(\lambda$   
 for some  $\lambda \in K$ . Note that if  $\lambda = 0, 1$  then  $A_K$  is  
 associative, so is  $A$ . If  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$  then  $A_K$  is Jordan,  
 so is  $A$ . If  $\lambda \neq -\mu$ , the product  $xoy$  in  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is  
 given by

$$xoy = (\lambda + \mu) \left[ \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu} xy + \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu} \right) yx \right].$$

Since an algebra with product  $xy$  is isomorphic to an  
 algebra with product  $\alpha xy$  ( $\alpha \neq 0$  fixed in  $F$ ) via  
 $x \rightarrow \frac{1}{\alpha} x$ , we have that if  $A$  is associative then  $A(\lambda, \mu)$   
 $(\lambda \neq -\mu)$  is quasi-associative. Indeed, the identity  
 (2.27) characterizes quasi-associativity. It is shown  
 that an algebra  $A$  over  $F$ , which is neither associative  
 nor Jordan, is quasi-associative if and only if  $A$   
 satisfies the identity  $(x, y, z) = \alpha [[z, x], y]$  for some  
 $\alpha \neq \frac{1}{2}$  in  $F$  (Y. Ko and H. C. Myung, "On Lie-admissible  
 algebras associated with invariant bilinear forms", Bull.  
 Korean Math. Soc., 16(1980), 77-84.). //

Let  $L$  be any Lie algebra over  $F$  and let  $\lambda, \mu$   
 be fixed scalars in  $F$  with  $\lambda \neq \mu$ . Let  $T \equiv T(L)$   
 $= F1 \otimes L \otimes L \otimes L \otimes \dots$  be the tensor algebra on  $L$ .  
 Take the  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation  $T(\lambda, \mu)$  of  $T$ . Denote by  
 $T_{\lambda, \mu}$  the subalgebra of  $T(\lambda, \mu)$  generated by  $1$  and  $L$ .  
 Let  $R$  be the ideal of  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$  generated by the elements

$$[xy] - [x, y]^0 = [xy] - (\lambda - \mu)(x \otimes y - y \otimes x),$$

$x, y \in L$ , where  $[xy]$  is the product in  $L$  and  $[x, y]^0 = xoy - yox$ . We form the quotient algebra

$$U_{\lambda, \mu} \equiv U(L)_{\lambda, \mu} = T_{\lambda, \mu}/R.$$

Then  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  is flexible Lie-admissible and satisfies (2.27). Let  $\phi : T_{\lambda, \mu} \rightarrow U_{\lambda, \mu}$  be the natural homomorphism. Clearly,  $\phi$  maps  $F$  isomorphically into  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  and hence  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  contains the scalars. In fact, we show that  $\phi$  is injective on  $L$  also.

Theorem 6.6.1. Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra over  $F$  and  $B$  be an associative algebra with unit element over  $F$ . If  $f$  is a homomorphism of  $L$  into  $B^-$  then there exists a unique homomorphism  $g$  of  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  into  $B(\lambda, \mu)$  such that  $g\phi = \frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f$ .

Proof. Since the tensor algebra  $T(L)$  is a universal associative algebra generated by  $1$  and  $L$ , the linear mapping  $\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f$  is extended to a unique homomorphism  $g'$  of  $T(L)$  into  $B$ . Since  $g'$  is a homomorphism of  $T(L)(\lambda, \mu)$  into  $B(\lambda, \mu)$ ,  $g'$  induces a homomorphism of  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$  into  $B(\lambda, \mu)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & g'([xy] - (\lambda - \mu)(x \otimes y - y \otimes x)) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f([xy]) - (\lambda - \mu)g'(x \otimes y - y \otimes x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{\lambda-\mu} [f(x), f(y)] - (\lambda-\mu)(g'(x)g'(y) - g'(y)g'(x)) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\lambda-\mu} [f(x), f(y)] - \frac{1}{\lambda-\mu} [f(x), f(y)] = 0 .
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $R \subset \ker g'$  . Therefore, there is a unique homomorphism  $g : U_{\lambda, \mu} = T_{\lambda, \mu} / R \rightarrow B(\lambda, \mu)$  such that  $g\phi = g'$  . As this is restricted to  $L$  , we have  $g\phi = \frac{1}{\lambda-\mu} f$  . Such  $g$  is unique since  $1$  and  $\phi(L)$  generate  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  . //

Corollary 6.6.2. The natural map  $\phi : T_{\lambda, \mu} \rightarrow U_{\lambda, \mu}$  is injective on  $L$  .

Proof. Take  $B$  in Theorem 6.6.1 to be the universal enveloping algebra  $U(L)$  of  $L$  . By Corollary 5.1.8, the natural map  $i : L \rightarrow U(L)$  is injective. Thus if we set  $f = i$  , it follows from Theorem 6.6.1 that  $\phi$  is injective on  $L$  . //

Due to Theorem 6.6.1,  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  is called a universal enveloping  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation algebra (UE $(\lambda, \mu)$ -MA) of  $L$  . In view of Corollary 6.6.2, we identify  $a = a + R$  ,  $a \in I$  so  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  is generated by  $1$  and  $L$  . Theorem 6.6.1 now reads as : If  $f$  is a representation of  $L$  into an associative algebra  $B$  with unit element then the representation  $\frac{1}{\lambda-\mu} f$  of  $L$  into the flexible Lie-admissible algebra  $B(\lambda, \mu)$  is extended to a unique



homomorphism of  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  into  $B(\lambda, \mu)$ , which we denote by  $\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f$ .

Let  $\{x_i \mid i \in I\}$  be an ordered basis of  $L$ . Then each element in  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  is a linear combination of nonassociative monomials in  $x_i, i \in I$ ,

$$1, x_{i_1} \circ x_{i_2} \circ \dots \circ x_{i_r}, \quad i_k \in I$$

in some association of the product. Thus the unique homomorphism  $\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f$  of  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  into  $B(\lambda, \mu)$  is given by

$$\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu} f(x_{i_1} \circ x_{i_2} \circ \dots \circ x_{i_r}) = \frac{1}{(\lambda - \mu)^r} f(x_{i_1}) \circ f(x_{i_2}) \circ \dots \circ f(x_{i_r})$$

where both sides have the same type of association. In particular, if  $B = U(L)$ , the universal enveloping algebra of  $L$  then there is a unique homomorphism  $g : U_{\lambda, \mu} \rightarrow U(L)(\lambda, \mu)$  such that

$$g(x_{i_1} \circ x_{i_2} \circ \dots \circ x_{i_r}) = \frac{1}{(\lambda - \mu)^r} x_{i_1} \circ x_{i_2} \circ \dots \circ x_{i_r},$$

where the right side is a product in  $U(L)(\lambda, \mu)$ . It is not known whether  $g$  is injective.

Let  $B$  be an associative algebra with  $1$ . If  $b, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k \in B$  then, using the fact that each  $ad x$  is a derivation of  $B$ , one easily checks

$$[b, a_1 a_2 \dots a_k] = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} a_1 \dots a_i [b, a_{i+1}] a_{i+2} \dots a_k \quad (2.28)$$

where  $a_1 a_2 \dots a_i = 1$  if  $i = 0$ . Call an element of the form  $[[a, b], c]$  a double commutator in  $a, b, c$ . Thus we can state

Lemma 6.6.3. Let  $b, c, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  be elements in  $B$ . Then  $[[b, a_1 a_2 \dots a_k], c]$  is a sum of products each of which contains exactly two commutators or one double commutator in  $b, c, a_1, \dots, a_k$ . //

Let  $\{x_i \mid i \in I\}$  be an ordered basis of  $L$ ,  $L$  a Lie algebra. A monomial  $x_{i_1} o x_{i_2} o \dots o x_{i_r}$  in  $T(L)_{\lambda, \mu}$  (or in  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$ ) in some association is called standard if  $i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_r$  and call  $r$  the degree of the monomial. Since the product is not associative, an ordered subset  $\{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_r}\}$  with  $i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_r$  gives rise to different standard monomials in  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$ . For examples,

$$\begin{aligned} & ((x_{i_1} o x_{i_2}) o x_{i_3}) o x_{i_4}, \quad (x_{i_1} o x_{i_2}) o (x_{i_3} o x_{i_4}), \\ & (x_{i_1} o (x_{i_2} o x_{i_3})) o x_{i_4}, \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

To obtain an analogue of the PBW Theorem for  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$ , we first need to develop machinery to interchange two basis elements in a monomial. Let  $u, v$  be monomials in

$T_{\lambda, \mu}$  and let  $x, y$  be basis elements of  $L$ . Then

$$(xou)oy = (uox)oy + [x,u]^0oy = (uox)oy + (\lambda - \mu)[x,u]oy,$$

and by (2.28) the last term is a linear combination of monomials (in  $T(L)$ ) of degree  $\leq 1 + \deg(x)$  modulo  $J$  where  $J$  is the ideal of  $T(L)$  generated by the elements  $[xy] - (x \otimes y - y \otimes x)$ ,  $x, y \in L$ . A similar observation can be made for a product of the form  $(uox) \circ (voy)$ . Thus it suffices to consider the following two types of products in  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$ .

$$(uox)oy, \quad (uox) \circ (yov)$$

where  $u$  and  $v$  are monomials in  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$  of degree  $m$  and  $n$ , and  $x, y$  are basis elements. We make repeated use of (2.27) and the fact that  $\text{ad } a$  is a derivation of  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$  and  $T(L)$ . First we compute

$$\begin{aligned} (uox)oy &= uo(xoy) + \lambda\mu[[y,u],x] \\ &= uo(yox) + uo[x,y]^0 + \lambda\mu[[y,u],x] \\ &= (uoy)ox + uo[\bar{x},y]^0 - \lambda\mu[[x,u],y] \\ &\quad + \lambda\mu[[y,u],x]. \end{aligned}$$

In the last expression, the second term can be written as a sum of standard  $T(L)$ -monomials modulo  $J$  of degree  $\leq m + 1$

and by Lemma 6.6.3 the last two terms are linear combination of standard  $T(L)$ -monomials modulo  $J$  of degree  $\leq m$ .

Similarly, we compute

$$\begin{aligned} (uox)o(voy) &= ((uox)oy)ov - \lambda\mu [[v, uox], y] \\ &= ((uox)oy)ov - \lambda\mu [uo [v, x] + [v, u] ox, y] \\ &= ((uox)oy)ov - \lambda\mu uo [[v, x], y] - \lambda\mu [u, y] o [v \\ &\quad - \lambda\mu [[v, u], y] ox - \lambda\mu [v, u] o [x, y] . \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $x$  and  $y$  in  $((uox)oy)ov$  can be interchanged by the previous calculation. As before, the remaining terms are linear combinations of standard  $T(L)$ -monomials modulo  $J$  of degree  $\leq m + n + 1$ . Note that  $(uox)o(yov)$  is a  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$ -monomial of degree  $m + n + 2$ .

Therefore, we have proved the following generalization of the PBW Theorem

Theorem 6.6.4. Every element in a universal enveloping  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation algebra  $U_{\lambda, \mu}$  of  $L$  is a linear combination of  $R$  cosets of  $1$  and standard  $T_{\lambda, \mu}$ -monomials, and  $J$  cosets of  $1$  and standard  $T(L)$ -monomials. //

Remark. The standard monomial expression in Theorem 6.6.4 is quite crude. However, when

$L = su(2)$  ,  $U(su(2))(\lambda, \mu)$  has physical applications and has been utilized to explain the non-conservative nature of angular momentum under strong interactions (C. N. Ktorides, H. C. Myung and R. M. Santilli, "Elaboration of the recently proposed test of Pauli's principle under strong interactions", Phys. Rev. D22(1980), 892-907.).

## 7. LIE-ADMISSIBLE ALGEBRAS OF ARBITRARY CHARACTERISTIC

### 7.1. Classical Lie algebras

The aim is to classify certain classes of flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$ , according to the structure of the Lie algebras  $A^-$  which closely resembles that of semisimple Lie algebras of  $\text{char } 0$ .

Unlike the characteristic zero case, the classification of simple Lie algebras of prime  $\text{char}$  is a long standing open problem. However, there is a class of Lie algebras over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$ , called classical Lie algebras, which satisfy properties similar to those of semisimple Lie algebras of  $\text{char } 0$ .

Definition 7.1.1. Let  $L$  be a finite-dimensional Lie algebra over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$ . Then  $L$

is called classical if :

(1) the center of  $L$  is  $0$  ;

(2)  $[LL] = L$  ;

(3)  $L$  has an abelian CSA  $H$  (called a classical CSA), relative to which :

(a)  $L$  has the Cartan decomposition  $L = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} L_{\alpha}$  such that  $[xh] = \alpha(h)x$  ,  $x \in L_{\alpha}$  ,  $h \in H$  ;

(b) if  $\alpha \neq 0$  is a root,  $\dim [L_{\alpha}L_{-\alpha}] = 1$  ;

(c) if  $\alpha, \beta$  are roots and  $\beta \neq 0$  then not all  $\alpha + k\beta$  are roots. //

Clearly, split semisimple Lie algebras of char  $0$  are classical in this sense. In fact, it can be shown that if  $F$  is algebraically closed and  $L$  has nondegenerate Killing form then  $L$  is classical relative to any CSA (see G. B. Seligman, "Modular Lie algebras", Springer-Verlag, New York, 1967 ; hereafter this is referred to as [S]). Note that the results in Chapter 1 and in Sections 3.1-3.3 are independent of characteristic. Thus by Lemma 1.6.3 each of the following propositions implies the next :

- (a)  $L$  has nondegenerate Killing form.
- (b)  $L$  is a direct sum of simple Lie algebras.
- (c)  $L$  is semisimple.

In the characteristic zero case, these are all equivalent (Theorem 3.6.3) while all reverse implications fail in prime characteristic (see [S]). However, if  $L$  is classical then (b) and (c) are equivalent ([S], p. 37).

We classify flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A$  when  $A^-$  is classical. In fact, we can do so under slightly weaker conditions. We list, without proofs, some known results about classical Lie algebras. The reader may find proofs in Seligman's book.

Theorem 7.1.1. Let  $L$  be a classical Lie algebra with classical CSA  $H$ . Let  $\Phi$  be the set of nonzero roots of  $H$  in  $L$ . Then

(1) if  $\alpha \in \Phi$  then  $\dim L_\alpha = 1$ ,

(2) Only  $0, \pm\alpha$  are roots among the integral multiples of  $\alpha$ ,

(3) if  $\alpha, \beta \in \Phi$  and  $\alpha + \beta \in \Phi$  then  $[L_\alpha L_\beta] = L_{\alpha+\beta}$ . //

If  $\alpha, \beta$  are roots with  $\beta \in \Phi$  then we let  $r, q$



be the least nonnegative integers such that  $\alpha - (r + 1)\beta$  and  $\alpha + (q + 1)\beta$  are not roots. Then the integer  $r - q$  is called the Cartan integer of the ordered pair of roots  $\alpha, \beta$  and is denoted by  $A_{\alpha, \beta}$ .

Theorem 7.1.2. Let  $A_{\alpha, \beta}$  be the Cartan integer of  $\alpha, \beta$  ( $\beta \neq 0$ ). Then

$$(1) \quad -3 \leq A_{\alpha, \beta} \leq 3 ,$$

$$(2) \quad A_{\alpha, \beta} \leq -2 \text{ implies that } \alpha - \beta \text{ is not a root,}$$

$$(3) \quad A_{\alpha, -\beta} = -A_{\alpha, \beta} = A_{-\alpha, \beta} ,$$

$$(4) \quad A_{0, \beta} = 0 ,$$

$$(5) \quad A_{\alpha, \beta} < 0 \text{ implies that } \alpha + \beta \text{ is a root,}$$

$$(6) \quad \text{if } \alpha, \beta \in \Phi \text{ then } A_{\alpha, \beta} = 0 \text{ implies } A_{\beta, \alpha} = 0 . \quad //$$

Definition 7.1.2. Let  $L$  be a classical Lie algebra with classical CSA  $H$ . Then a set  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m)$  of roots is called a fundamental system of roots relative to  $H$  if :

$$(1) \quad \alpha_i - \alpha_j \text{ is not a root for } i \neq j ,$$

$$(2) \quad \text{if } \alpha \in \Phi \text{ then one of the following holds :}$$

$$(a) \quad \alpha = 0 ;$$

$$(b) \quad \alpha = \alpha_{i_1} + \alpha_{i_2} + \dots + \alpha_{i_k} , \quad \alpha_{i_j} \in \Pi ;$$

and  $\alpha_{i_1} + \dots + \alpha_{i_q}$  is a root for all  $1 \leq q \leq k$ .

(3) every diagonal minor of the matrix  $(A_{ij})$  is positive where  $A_{ij} = A_{\alpha_i, \alpha_j}$ .

We say that two roots  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi$  lie in the same component if there are roots  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k \in \Pi$  such that  $\alpha = \mu_1$ ,  $\beta = \mu_k$  and  $A_{\mu_i, \mu_{i+1}} \neq 0$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ .

This relation is an equivalence relation on  $\Pi$  and the equivalence classes are called the components of  $\Pi$ . If  $\Pi$  consists of a single component the  $\Pi$  is said to be connected. //

Theorem 7.1.3. For each  $\alpha \in \Phi$ , there exist nonzero elements  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha$ ,  $y_\alpha \in L_{-\alpha}$  and  $h_\alpha \in [L_\alpha L_{-\alpha}]$  such that  $[x_\alpha y_\alpha] = h_\alpha$ ,  $[x_\alpha h_\alpha] = x_\alpha$  and  $[y_\alpha h_\alpha] = -y_\alpha$ . If  $\Pi = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m)$  is a fundamental system of roots then for any root  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$  or  $-\alpha$  is a sum of roots in  $\Pi$ , so  $L$  has a basis consisting of elements of the form

$$h_i, [\dots [x_{i_1} x_{i_2}] \dots x_{i_k}], [\dots [y_{i_1} y_{i_2}] \dots y_{i_k}],$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$$

where  $h_i = h_{\alpha_i}$  and  $x_{i_j} = x_{\alpha_{i_j}}$ . //

Theorem 7.1.4. Let  $L$  be a classical Lie algebra. Then  $L$  is a direct sum of simple classical Lie algebras.  $L$  is simple if and only if  $\Pi$  is connected. //

7.2. Flexible Lie-admissible algebras with  $A^-$  classical

Let  $A$  be a flexible algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$ , and denote by  $A^+$  the algebra with multiplication  $x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx)$  defined on the vector space  $A$ . Then the right multiplication  $T(x)$  in  $A^+$  by  $x$  is expressed as  $T(x) = \frac{1}{2}(R(x) + L(x))$  where  $R(x)$  and  $L(x)$  are the right and left multiplications in  $A$  by  $x$ . Recall that  $A$  is flexible if and only if all  $\text{ad } x$  are derivations of  $A^+$  (Lemma 1.4.2); that is,  $[x, y \cdot z] = y \cdot [x, z] + [x, y] \cdot z$  for all  $x, y, z \in A$ . This is also expressed as

$$\text{ad } y \cdot z = (\text{ad } y)T(z) + (\text{ad } z)T(y), \quad (2.29)$$

$x, y, z \in A$ .

Let  $h \in A$  be a power-associative element. Then we get from (2.29)

$$\text{ad } h^2 = 2(\text{ad } h)T(h) = 2T(h)\text{ad } h \quad (2.30)$$

and  $\text{ad } h^3 = (\text{ad } h)T(h^2) + (\text{ad } h^2)T(h)$ , which imply

$$\text{ad } h^3 = (\text{ad } h)(2T(h)^2 + T(h^2)). \quad (2.31)$$

From (2.29) and (2.30) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ad } h^4 &= 2(\text{ad } h^2)T(h^2) = 4(\text{ad } h)T(h)T(h^2) \\
 &= 4T(h^2)T(h)\text{ad } h \tag{2.32} \\
 &= (\text{ad } h)T(h^3) + (\text{ad } h^3)T(h) ,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ad } h^5 = (\text{ad } h^2)T(h^3) + (\text{ad } h^3)T(h^2) . \tag{2.33}$$

Lemma 7.2.1. Let  $A$  be a flexible algebra over  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$  and let  $h \in A$  be a power-associative element. Then

(1) If  $x \in A$  is a common eigenvector of  $\text{ad } h$  and  $\text{ad } h^2$  then  $[x, h^3] = [x, h^4] = 0$  imply  $[x, h^2] = 0$ .

(2) If  $x$  is a common eigenvector of  $\text{ad } h$ ,  $\text{ad } h^2$ ,  $R(h)$ , and  $R(h^2)$  then  $[x, h^4] = [x, h^5] = 0$  imply  $[x, h^3] = 0$ .

Proof. (1) Let  $x \text{ ad } h = \lambda x$  and  $x \text{ ad } h^2 = \mu x$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in F$ . If  $\lambda = 0$  then it follows from (2.30) that  $\mu = 0$ , or  $[x, h^2] = 0$ . Suppose  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Then by (2.31) we get  $xT(h^2) = -2xT(h)^2$  since  $[x, h^3] = 0$ . Hence by (2.32),  $0 = x \text{ ad } h^4 = 4xT(h^2)T(h) \text{ ad } h = -8xT(h)^3 \text{ ad } h = -8\lambda xT(h)^3$ , since  $T(h) \text{ ad } h = (\text{ad } h)T(h)$  (the flexible law is equivalent to the identity  $R(x)L(x) = L(x)R(x)$ ). Thus  $xT(h)^3 = 0$  but by (2.30)  $xT(h) = \mu(2\lambda)^{-1}x$ , so  $\mu = 0$ ;  $[x, h^2] = 0$ .

(2) Let  $x \text{ ad } h = \lambda x$ ,  $x \text{ ad } h^2 = \mu x$ ,  $xR(h) = \nu x$  and  $xR(h^2) = \omega x$ ,  $\lambda, \mu, \nu, \omega \in F$ . If  $\lambda = 0$  then we can use (2.31) to conclude  $[x, h^3] = 0$ . Now suppose  $\lambda \neq 0$ . If  $\mu = 0$  then by (2.30)  $xT(h) = 0$ , so by (2.31) we get  $x \text{ ad } h^3 = x(\text{ad } h)T(h^2) = \lambda\omega x$ , since  $[x, h^2] = 0$ ;  $xR(h^2) = xL(h^2)$ . Hence, by (2.33), this implies that  $0 = x(\text{ad } h^3)T(h^2) = \lambda\omega xT(h^2) = \lambda\omega^2 x$  (recall  $\mu = 0$ ). Thus  $\omega = 0$  and  $[x, h^3] = 0$ . Finally, assume  $\mu \neq 0$ . By (2.32),

$$0 = x \text{ ad } h^4 = 2x(\text{ad } h^2)T(h^2) = 2\mu xT(h^2),$$

so  $xT(h^2) = 0$ . Since  $\lambda \neq 0$ , this gives  $x(\text{ad } h)T(h^2) = 0$ . Therefore, by (2.31), we have

$$x \text{ ad } h^3 = 2x(\text{ad } h)T(h)^2 = 2\lambda xT(h)^2 = 2\lambda\bar{\nu}^2 x$$

since  $xT(h) = \frac{1}{2}hx + \frac{1}{2}xh = \frac{1}{2}(\nu - \lambda)x + \frac{1}{2}\nu x = (\nu - \frac{1}{2}\lambda)x$ , where  $\bar{\nu} = \nu - \frac{1}{2}\lambda$ . Since  $xT(h^2) = 0$ , this and (2.33) imply

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = x \text{ ad } h^5 &= x(\text{ad } h^2)T(h^3) + x(\text{ad } h^3)T(h^2) \\ &= \mu xT(h^3) + 2\lambda\bar{\nu}^2 xT(h^2) \\ &= \mu xT(h^3), \end{aligned}$$

so  $xT(h^3) = 0$  since  $\mu \neq 0$ . Therefore, it follows from (2.32) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= x \operatorname{ad} h^4 = x(\operatorname{ad} h)T(h^3) + x(\operatorname{ad} h^3)T(h) \\
 &= \lambda xT(h^3) + 2\lambda\bar{\nu}^{-2}xT(h) \\
 &= 2\lambda\bar{\nu}^{-3}x
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $xT(h) = \bar{\nu}x$ . Thus  $\bar{\nu} = 0$  and  $x \operatorname{ad} h^3 = 0$  since we have computed  $x \operatorname{ad} h^3 = 2\lambda\bar{\nu}^{-2}x$ . //

In the remainder of this section, we assume that  $A$  is a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra over  $F$ . Let  $H$  be a CSA of  $A^-$ . Then  $H = A_0^-(\operatorname{ad} H)$  and since  $\operatorname{ad} h$  ( $h \in H$ ) is a derivation of  $A$ , we have

Lemma 7.2.2. Any CSA of  $A^-$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ .

If  $H$  is a split CSA of  $A^-$  then let

$$A^- = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} A_{\alpha}$$

be the Cartan decomposition of  $A^-$  relative to  $H$ . Then

$$[A_{\alpha}, A_{\beta}] \subseteq A_{\alpha+\beta}.$$

Since  $\operatorname{ad} H \subset \operatorname{Der} A$  (Theorem 1.4.3), in view of

Corollary 1.4.8  $A_{\alpha(h)}(\operatorname{ad} h)A_{\beta(h)}(\operatorname{ad} h) \subseteq A_{(\alpha+\beta)(h)}(\operatorname{ad} h)$ .

Noting that  $A_{\alpha} = \bigcap_{h \in H} A_{\alpha(h)}(\operatorname{ad} h)$ , we have

Lemma 7.2.3. Let  $A_{\alpha}$  be the root space of  $A^-$

relative to a split CSA  $H$  of  $A^-$ , corresponding to a root  $\alpha$ . Then

$$A_\alpha A_\beta \subseteq A_{\alpha+\beta}, \quad \alpha, \beta, \text{ roots.} \quad //$$

Lemma 7.2.4. Let  $H$  be a split CSA of  $A^-$  such that  $h^2 = hh = 0$  for all  $h \in H$ . If  $\alpha \neq 0$  is a root of  $H$  such that  $\text{ad } h$  is a scalar on  $A_\alpha$  for all  $h \in H$  then  $A_\alpha T(H) = 0$ .

Proof. Let  $h \in H$ . Since  $\alpha(h)$  is the only eigenvalue of  $\text{ad } h$  on  $A_\alpha$ ,  $\text{ad } h = \alpha(h)$  on  $A_\alpha$ . By (2.30)  $(\text{ad } h)T(h) = 0$  for all  $h \in H$ . Hence if  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$ , then  $0 = A_\alpha(\text{ad } h)T(h) = \alpha(h)A_\alpha T(h)$  gives  $A_\alpha T(h) = 0$ . Assume  $\alpha(h) = 0$ . Since  $\alpha \neq 0$ , choose an  $h' \in H$  with  $\alpha(h') \neq 0$ . We linearize  $(\text{ad } h)T(h) = 0$  to get  $(\text{ad } h)T(h') + (\text{ad } h')T(h) = 0$ , so  $0 = A_\alpha(\text{ad } h)T(h') + A_\alpha(\text{ad } h')T(h) = A_\alpha(\text{ad } h')T(h) = \alpha(h')A_\alpha T(h)$ . Thus  $A_\alpha T(h) = 0$ . //

Recall that a power-associative element  $x \in A$  is called nilpotent if  $x^m = 0$  for some  $m > 0$ . If  $\dim A = n$ , then  $x, x^2, \dots$  span a nilpotent commutative associative algebra  $B$  of dimension  $\leq n$ . Thus the right multiplication  $R(x)$  in  $B$  by  $x$  is nilpotent, so  $R(x)^n = 0$  and this gives  $x^{n+1} = 0$ .

We prove the following structure theorem on flexible Lie-admissible algebras.

Theorem 7.2.5. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible algebra over a field  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$ . Suppose that  $A^-$  has a split abelian CSA  $H$  satisfying :

- (1)  $H$  is nil in  $A$  ; that is, every  $h \in H$  is nilpotent in  $A$  ;
- (2)  $\dim A_\alpha = 1$  for each root  $\alpha \neq 0$  ;
- (3) the center  $A^-$  is zero.

Then  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $A^-$ .

Proof. We first show that  $H$  is a nil subalgebra of  $A$  such that  $h^2 = 0$  for all  $h \in H$ . By the foregoing remark there is a positive integer  $t$  such that  $h^t = 0$  for all  $h \in H$  (for example,  $t = 1 + \dim H$ ).

Suppose  $t \geq 3$  and let  $n$  be the least integer such that  $3n \geq t$ . Let  $h$  be any element in  $H$ . Set  $g = h^n$ . Then  $g^3 = 0$ . Since  $\dim A_\alpha = 1$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ , each element of  $A_\alpha$  is a common eigenvector of  $\text{ad } g$  and  $\text{ad } g^2$ . Since  $H$  is abelian and  $g^3 = 0$ , by Lemma 7.2.1(1) we have that  $g^2$  is in the center of  $A^-$ , so  $g^2 = 0$  or  $h^{2n} = 0$ . If  $2n > 4$ , let  $m$  be the



least integer with  $3m \geq 2n$ . Then  $n > m$ , since if  $m \geq n$  then  $3m \geq 3n > 2n$  and  $n = m$ , so  $3(n - 1) = 2n + (n - 3) \geq 2n$  ( $2n > 4$  gives  $n \geq 3$ ), a contradiction. Then the argument just used implies  $h^{2m} = 0$ . Hence, by repeated applications of this, we have either  $h^4 = 0$  or  $h^2 = 0$ . Since  $\dim A_\alpha = 1$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ , by Lemma 7.2.3 every element of  $A_\alpha$  is an eigenvector of  $R(h')$  for all  $h' \in H$ . Therefore, Lemma 7.2.1(2) implies  $h^3 = 0$ , since  $A^-$  has center 0. Thus by the above  $h^2 = 0$ . Hence  $0 = (h_1 + h_2)^2 = h_1^2 + 2h_1h_2 + h_2^2 = 2h_1h_2$  for all  $h_1, h_2 \in H$ , since  $H$  is abelian. That is,  $HH = 0$ . If  $A_\alpha = Fx$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$  and  $[x, h] = \alpha(h)x$ , then by Lemma 7.2.4 we have

$$xh = -hx = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(h)x, \quad h \in H. \quad (2.34)$$

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be any nonzero roots of  $H$ . If  $\alpha + \beta$  is not a root then by Lemma 7.2.3

$$A_\alpha A_\beta = A_\beta A_\alpha = 0. \quad (2.35)$$

Suppose  $\alpha + \beta$  is a root. If  $\alpha + \beta = 0$ , choose an  $h \in H$  with  $\alpha = \alpha(h) \neq 0$  and let  $xh = \sigma x$  and  $A_\beta = Fy$ , so  $hx = (\sigma - \alpha)x$ . Since  $xy$  and  $yx$  are in  $H$ , from the flexible law  $(h, x, y) + (y, x, h) = 0$  (see (1.7)) or  $(hx)y - h(xy) + (yx)h - y(xh) = 0$  we have  $(\sigma - \alpha)xy - \sigma yx = 0$  or  $xy = \sigma\alpha^{-1}[x, y]$ . If  $\alpha + \beta$  is a nonzero root

then by Lemma 7.2.3  $A_\alpha A_\beta \subset A_{\alpha+\beta} = Fz$ . Therefore, for any roots  $\alpha$  and  $\beta \neq 0$ , we can let

$$xy - yx = \lambda z, \quad xy = \mu z, \quad yx = (\mu - \lambda)z \quad (2.36)$$

for  $x \in A_\alpha$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in F$  and some  $z \neq 0$  in  $A_{\alpha+\beta}$ . Choose an  $h \in H$  with  $\beta(h) \neq 0$  and let  $\alpha = \alpha(h)$  and  $\beta = \beta(h)$ . By Lemma 7.2.4 we get

$$xh = -hx = \frac{1}{2}\alpha x, \quad zh = -hz = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta)z \quad (2.37)$$

for  $x \in A_\alpha$  and some  $z \neq 0$  in  $A_{\alpha+\beta}$ . We utilize the flexible law  $(hx)y - h(xy) + (yx)h - y(xh) = 0$  together with (2.36) and (2.37) to obtain

$$\frac{1}{2}[-\alpha\mu + (\alpha+\beta)\mu + (\mu-\lambda)(\alpha+\beta) - \alpha(\mu-\lambda)]z = 0.$$

Since  $z \neq 0$ , this gives  $\beta(2\mu - \lambda) = 0$ , so  $\lambda = 2\mu$ . It therefore follows from (2.34) - (2.37) that  $xy = -yx = \frac{1}{2}[x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in A$ . Thus  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $A^-$ . //

If  $A^-$  is classical then  $A$  satisfies the condition of Theorem 7.2.5(Theorem 7.1.1). Thus we have

Corollary 7.2.6. Suppose that  $A^-$  is a classical Lie algebra having a classical CSA which is nil in  $A$ . Then  $A$  is a Lie algebra isomorphic to  $A^-$ . //

Let  $A$  be a power-associative algebra over  $F$ . An ideal  $I$  of  $A$  is said to be nil if every element of  $I$  is nilpotent. If  $I$  and  $J$  are nil ideals of  $A$  then so is  $I + J$ . In fact, let  $a \in I$ ,  $b \in J$  with  $a^m = 0$ . Then  $(a + b)^m = a^m + c = c \in J$ , so  $(a + b)^{mn} = c^n = 0$  for some  $n > 0$ . Hence  $I + J$  is nil and so  $A$  contains a unique maximal nil ideal  $N(A)$ , called the nil radical of  $A$ . It is shown that if  $A$  is a finite-dimensional flexible strictly power-associative algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$  and  $N(A) = 0$  then  $A$  has a unit element 1 (R. H. Oehmke, "On flexible algebras", Ann. of Math. (2) 68(1958), 221-230). Thus, if, in addition,  $A^-$  is a simple Lie algebra then  $A$  must be a nilalgebra. Suppose that  $A^-$  is a semisimple Lie algebra over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} 0$ . Then  $A^-$  is a direct sum of simple Lie algebras, so by Theorem 6.4.3  $A$  is a direct sum of simple flexible Lie-admissible algebras  $A_i$  with  $A_i^-$  simple. Therefore,  $A$  is a nilalgebra and so Corollary 6.4.5 is also a consequence of Theorem 7.2.5.

Remark. A necessary and sufficient condition that  $A$  be a nilalgebra has been given in terms of a CSA of  $A^-$ . It is shown that a finite-dimensional flexible Lie-admissible power-associative algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} 0$  is a nilalgebra if and only if  $A^-$  contains a CSA  $H$  which

has a basis consisting of nilpotent elements (H. C. Myung, "Flexible Lie-admissible algebras with nil-basis", Hadronic J. 2(1979), 360-369). //

In Theorem 7.2.5, the conditions that  $H$  is abelian,  $\dim A_\alpha = 1$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ , and center  $A^- = 0$  are not strong enough to imply that  $H$  is nil in  $A$ . Let  $A$  be a 3-dimensional algebra over  $F$  with multiplication given by

$$xh = x, \quad yh = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha+1)y, \quad hy = \frac{1}{2}(1-\alpha)y, \quad h^2 = h$$

and all other products are 0, where  $\alpha \neq 0, 1$  in  $F$ . It is easy to see that  $A$  is flexible Lie-admissible and  $A^-$  is given by

$$[x, y] = 0, \quad [x, h] = x, \quad [y, h] = \alpha y,$$

so that  $A^-$  is a solvable Lie algebra. Note that  $A^- = Fh + Fx + Fy$  is the Cartan decomposition of  $A^-$  relative to CSA  $H = Fh$ , and  $A_1 = Fx$ ,  $A_\alpha = Fy$  for roots 1 and  $\alpha$ . The center of  $A^-$  is 0 but  $H$  is not nil in  $A$ . This example also shows that the Lie algebra  $A^-$  in Theorem 7.2.5 need not be semisimple.

Theorem 7.2.7. Let  $A$  be a 4-dimensional flexible algebra over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of char 0 such that  $A^-$  is a non-solvable Lie algebra with a CSA  $H$

which is nil in  $A$ . Then  $A$  is either a Lie algebra or a nil algebra of nil-index 3 with basis  $x, y, h, a$  whose multiplication table is given by

$$xy = h + \frac{1}{2}a, \quad yx = -h + \frac{1}{2}a, \quad xh = -hx = 2x,$$

$$yh = -hy = -2y, \quad h^2 = -a$$

and all other products are 0.

Proof. The general case of  $A$  has been classified in Corollary 6.5.4. Then  $H = Fh + Fa$  is a CSA of  $A^-$  which must be nil in  $A$  by the assumption. Thus  $b^3 = 0$  for all  $b \in H$  since  $\dim H = 2$ , and  $a^2 = \beta a$  implies  $\beta = 0$ , so  $a^2 = 0$ . Using this and  $h^3 = 0$ , we have  $0 = (h + a)^3 = h^2a + (ha)a + (ha)h = \alpha^2h + 2\alpha\gamma a$ , so  $\alpha = 0$ . If  $\gamma = 0$  then  $A$  is a Lie algebra. If  $\gamma \neq 0$  then we replace  $a$  by  $-\frac{1}{2\gamma}a$  to obtain the algebra given in the table. It is easy to check  $u^3 = 0$  for all  $u \in A$ . //

The algebra  $A$  in Theorem 7.2.7 shows that the condition of center  $A^- = 0$  is essential in Theorem 7.2.5.

### 7.3. Embedding of Lie algebras

We discuss a necessary and sufficient condition that a classical Lie algebra is embedded into a flexible Lie-admissible algebra. This condition is given in terms of a Cartan subalgebra of its associated Lie algebra.

Lemma 7.3.1. Any flexible Lie-admissible algebra  $A$  of char  $\neq 2$  satisfies the identity

$$[x, y]y = \frac{1}{2}([x, y^2] + [[x, y], y]) .$$

Proof. Recall  $\text{ad } x$  is a derivation of  $A$  for all  $x \in A$ . The flexible law  $(x, y, y) + (y, y, x) = 0$  implies  $y(yx) = (xy)y - [x, y^2]$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} [[x, y], y] &= (xy)y - (yx)y - y(xy) + y(yx) \\ &= (xy)y - 2y(xy) + y(yx) \\ &= 2(xy)y - [x, y^2] - 2y(xy) \\ &= 2[xy, y] - [x, y^2] \\ &= 2[x, y]y - [x, y^2] , \end{aligned}$$

so  $[x, y]y = \frac{1}{2}([x, y^2] + [[x, y], y])$  . //

Lemma 7.3.2. Let  $L$  be a Lie algebra over an arbitrary field  $F$ . Let  $S$  be a finite-dimensional subalgebra of  $L$  and  $H$  be a CSA of  $S$ . Then, for an ideal  $R$  of  $L$ ,  $[SR] = 0$  if and only if  $[HR] = 0$ .

Proof. We may assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed; if not, one takes the scalar extension of  $S$  to the algebraic closure of  $F$ . Let  $S = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} S_{\alpha}$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $S$  relative to  $H$ . Then, for each  $h \in H$  with  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$  ( $\alpha \neq 0$ ),  $\text{ad } h : S_{\alpha} \rightarrow S_{\alpha}$  is surjective (see the proof of Theorem 3.3.6(2)), so  $[S_{\alpha}h] = S_{\alpha}$ . If  $[HR] = 0$  and  $\alpha \neq 0$  then, by the Jacobi identity,

$$[S_{\alpha}R] = [[S_{\alpha}h]R] \subset [[Rh]S_{\alpha}] + [[S_{\alpha}R]h] = 0$$

since  $R$  is an ideal of  $L$ . Thus  $[SR] = 0$ . //

Theorem 7.3.3. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$ . Let  $S$  be a finite-dimensional subalgebra of the Lie algebra  $A^{-}$  and  $H$  be a CSA of  $S$ . Then  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $A$  if and only if  $HH \subset S$ .

Proof. As before, we may assume that  $F$  is algebraically closed. Let  $S = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} S_{\alpha}$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $S$  relative to  $H$ . Suppose that  $HH \subset S$ .

We first show that  $S_\alpha H \subset S$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Thus, choose an  $h \in H$  with  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$ . Then  $[S_\alpha, h] = S_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$  since  $\text{ad } h : S_\alpha \rightarrow S_\alpha$  is surjective. For any element  $x \in S_\alpha$ , we have by Lemma 7.3.1

$$[x, h]h = \frac{1}{2}([x, h^2] + [[x, h], h]) \in [S, HH] + [[S, H], H] \subset S$$

Since  $[S_\alpha, h] = S_\alpha$ , this implies  $S_\alpha h \subset S$ . Now, let  $k$  be any element in  $H$ . Then one gets

$$\begin{aligned} [x, h]k &= [x, hk] - h[x, k] \\ &= [x, hk] - [h, [x, k]] - [x, k]h \\ &\in [S, HH] + [H, [S, H]] + [S_\alpha, H]h \subset S + S_\alpha h \subset S. \end{aligned}$$

Again, since  $[S_\alpha, h] = S_\alpha$ , this implies  $S_\alpha H \subset S$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Since  $HH \subset S$ , we have  $SH \subset S$ .

For any  $\alpha \neq 0$ , let  $h$  be an element of  $H$  such that  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$ . Let  $x \in S_\alpha$ ,  $y \in S$ . Then

$$y[x, h] = [x, yh] - [x, y]h \in [S, SH] + SH \subset S.$$

Since  $[S_\alpha, h] = S_\alpha$ , this shows that  $SS_\alpha \subset S$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$ . It follows from  $SH \subset S$  that  $SS \subset S$  and  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ . //

In view of the known structure of  $A$  when  $A^-$  is classical, Theorem 7.3.3 enables us to give a condition



for  $A$  that a classical Lie algebra is embedded into  $A$  as a subalgebra.

Corollary 7.3.4. Let  $A$  be the same as in Theorem 7.3.3. Let  $S$  be a finite-dimensional subalgebra of  $A^-$  which is classical and  $H$  be a classical CSA of  $S$ . Then  $S$  is a Lie algebra under the multiplication in  $A$  if and only if  $HH \subset S$  and  $H$  is nil in  $A$  ( $\text{char } F \neq 2, 3$ ).

Proof. One direction is trivial. If  $HH \subset S$  and  $H$  is nil in  $A$  then by Theorem 7.3.3  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ , so the result follows from Corollary 7.2.6. //

In the case of characteristic 0, we have the following stronger result.

Corollary 7.3.5. Let  $F$  be of characteristic 0 and let  $S$  be a finite-dimensional semisimple subalgebra of  $A^-$ . Suppose that  $S$  contains a split CSA  $H$  such that  $HH \subset S$ . Then  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ , and is isomorphic to a direct sum of simple Lie algebras and simple algebras given by (2.15) defined on  $s\ell(\ell+1, F)$  for some  $\ell \geq 2$ .

Proof. This follows from Theorem 7.3.3 and Corollary 6.4.4. //

Note that if, in addition,  $S$  is power-associative then  $S$  is a Lie algebra under the multiplication in  $A$  (Corollary 6.4.5).

In the discussion above, when the classical subalgebra  $S$  of  $A^-$  is complemented by an ideal  $R$  of  $A^-$  (i.e.,  $A^- = S^- \oplus R$  as Lie algebra) then it is possible to determine the multiplication between  $S$  and  $R$ . Note that, by Levi's Theorem 3.7.6, if  $A$  is finite-dimensional of char 0 then  $A^-$  contains a semisimple subalgebra which is complemented by the solvable radical  $\text{Rad } A^-$ .

Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  be Lie algebras over  $F$  of char  $\neq 2$  (each  $S_i$  with multiplication written as  $xy$ ) and let  $R$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra over  $F$ . Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  be linear functionals on  $R$  which vanish on  $[R, R]$ . Let  $S$  be the direct sum of Lie algebras  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ . Form the vector space direct sum  $A = S + R$  and define a multiplication in  $A$  by

$$(*) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + r \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n y_i + s \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_i y_i + f_i(r) y_i + f_i(s) x_i] + x_i, y_i \in S_i, \quad r, s \in R, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then one sees that  $[x + r, y + s] = 2xy + [r, s]$  for  $x, y \in S$  and  $r, s \in R$ . Thus  $A$  is Lie-admissible. We also compute

$$\begin{aligned} & [(x + r)(y + s)](x + r) \\ &= \sum_i [(x_i y_i) x_i + f_i(r) y_i x_i + f_i(s) x_i^2 + f_i(rs) x_i + f_i(r) x_i y_i \\ & \quad + f_i(r) f_i(r) y_i + f_i(r) f_i(s) x_i] + (rs)r \\ &= \sum_i [(x_i y_i) x_i + f_i(rs) x_i + f_i(r)^2 y_i + f_i(r) f_i(s) x_i] + (rs)r \end{aligned}$$

since each  $S_i$  is anticommutative. Likewise we have

$$(x + r) [(y + s)(x + r)] \\ = \sum_i [x_i (y_i x_i) + f_i(sr)x_i + f_i(r)^2 y_i + f_i(r)f_i(s)x_i] + r(sr) .$$

Thus  $[(x + r)(y + s)](x + r) - (x + r)[(y + s)(x + r)] \\ = \sum_i f_i([r,s])x_i = 0$  since each  $S_i$  and  $R$  are flexible and each  $f_i$  vanishes on  $[R,R]$ . Therefore,  $A$  is flexible Lie-admissible.

In fact we can give a condition that a classical Lie algebra  $S$  is embedded into  $A$  in such a way that the multiplication between  $S$  and  $R$  is given by the rule (\*).

Lemma 7.3.6. Let  $M$  be a subset of a flexible Lie-admissible algebra  $A$ . Then the centralizer  $C(M) = \{x \in A \mid [x,M] = 0\}$  of  $M$  in  $A^-$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ .

Proof. Let  $x, y \in C(M)$ . Then  $[xy, M] \subset x[y, M] + [x, M]y = 0$ . //

Theorem 7.3.7. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$  (not necessarily finite-dimensional). Let  $S$  be a finite-dimensional classical subalgebra of  $A^-$  which is complemented by an ideal  $R$  of  $A^-$ . Then  $S$  is a Lie algebra under the multiplication

in  $A$  and is an ideal of  $A$  if and only if  $S$  contains a classical CSA  $H$  which is nil in  $A$  and such that  $HH \subset S$  and  $[H,R] = 0$ . In this case,  $R$  is a subalgebra of  $A$  and the multiplication in  $A$  is given by the rule (\*) where  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  are linear functionals on  $R$  which vanish on  $[R,R]$ , and  $n$  is the number of simple summands in  $S$ .

Remark. By Theorem 7.1.4  $S$  is a direct sum of simple classical Lie algebras. //

Proof. One direction is clear. Suppose that  $S$  contains a classical CSA  $H$  satisfying the conditions. By Lemma 7.3.2  $[H,R] = 0$  implies  $[H,S] = 0$ , while it follows from  $HH \subset S$  that  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $A$  (Theorem 7.3.3). Therefore, by Corollary 7.2.6  $S$  is a Lie algebra under the multiplication in  $A$ . Thus we have  $[x,y] = xy - yx = 2xy$ ,  $x,y \in S$ . Since  $[S,R] = 0$  and  $S$  has center 0 (by definition), we have  $R = C(S)$ . Thus by Lemma 7.3.6  $R$  is a subalgebra of  $A$ .

Let  $x,y \in S$  and let  $r \in R$ . Write  $yr = ry = z + s$  for some  $z \in S$  and  $s \in R$ . Then the flexible law  $(xy)r - x(yr) + (ry)x - r(yx) = 0$  implies  $(xy)r = xz$  since  $S$  is anticommutative and  $[R,S] = 0$ . Thus  $(SS)R \subset S$  and since  $S$  is a direct sum of simple algebras  $SS = S$ . This implies that  $S$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Since

$C_S(H) = H$  and  $HH = [H,H] = 0$  , from  $[h',hr] = [h',h]r + h[h',r] = 0$  for all  $h,h' \in H$  and  $r \in R$  we have

$$HR = RH \subset H . \quad (2.38)$$

Let  $S = H + \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} S_\alpha$  be the Cartan decomposition of  $S$  relative to  $H$  . Recall that  $\dim S_\alpha = 1$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$  (Theorem 7.1.1), and  $xh = \alpha(h)x$  ,  $x \in S_\alpha$  ,  $h \in H$  . For a root  $\alpha \neq 0$  , choose an  $h \in H$  such that  $\alpha(h) \neq 0$  . If  $x \in S$  and  $r \in R$  then from  $(xh)r - x(hr) + (rh)x - r(hx) = 0$  and (2.38) one gets  $xr = \alpha(h)^{-1}\alpha(hr)x$  .

Thus we can put

$$xr = rx = \lambda x , \quad x \in S_\alpha , \quad \alpha \neq 0 \quad (2.39)$$

where  $\lambda \in F$  depends on  $r \in R$  and  $\alpha \neq 0$  . Since  $S$  is classical,  $S_\alpha S_{-\alpha}$  is one-dimensional for  $\alpha \neq 0$  . Thus one can choose nonzero elements  $x \in S_\alpha$  ,  $y \in S_{-\alpha}$  ,  $h \in H$  such that

$$xh = x , \quad yh = -y , \quad xy = h . \quad (2.40)$$

Then by (2.39)  $xr = rx = \lambda x$  and  $yr = ry = \mu y$  ,  $\mu \in F$  ,  $r \in R$  . If we let  $H = Fh + B$  be a vector space direct sum then by (2.38)  $hr = rh = \nu h + b$  ,  $\nu \in F$  ,  $b \in B$  . By the flexible law  $(xy)r - x(yr) + (ry)x - r(yx) = 0$  , it follows from (2.40) that  $2(\nu h + b) = 2\mu h$  , so  $b = 0$  and  $\nu = \mu$  . Similarly, from  $(yx)r - y(xr) + (rx)y - r(xy) = 0$

one gets  $v = \lambda$ . Therefore,

$$xr = rx = f_{\alpha}(r)x, \quad yr = ry = f_{\alpha}(r)y, \quad hr = rh = f_{\alpha}(r)h \quad (2.41)$$

for  $\alpha \neq 0$  and  $r \in R$ , where  $f_{\alpha}$  is a linear functional on  $R$  and  $\{x, y, h\}$  is the canonical basis as in (2.40).

In particular, we have  $f_{\alpha} = f_{-\alpha}$ .

Since  $S$  is a direct sum of simple classical Lie algebras, for the remainder of the proof we may assume that  $S$  is simple. Let  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\}$  be a fundamental system of roots for  $S$ . Then  $\Pi$  is connected (Theorem 7.1. that is, for any roots  $\alpha, \beta \in \Pi$ , there are roots  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_r \in \Pi$  such that  $\alpha = \mu_1, \beta = \mu_r$  and  $A_{\mu_i, \mu_{i+1}} \neq$

$1 \leq i \leq r$ , where  $A_{\alpha, \beta}$  is the Cartan integer. For brevity, denote  $A_{\alpha_i, \alpha_j} = A_{ij}$  and  $f_{\alpha_i} = f_i$ . We

contend that if  $A_{ij} \neq 0$  then  $f_i = f_j$ . If  $A_{ij} < 0$  then  $\alpha_i + \alpha_j$  is a root, so  $S_{\alpha_i} S_{\alpha_j} \neq 0$  (Theorem 7.1.1(3))

and hence one chooses elements  $x \in S_{\alpha_i}, y \in S_{\alpha_j}$  with

$xy \neq 0$ . Then by the flexible law  $(xy)r - x(yr) + (ry)x - r(yx) = 0$ , it follows from (2.41) that  $(xy)r = f_j(r)(xy)$  for all  $r \in R$ . Similarly,  $(yx)r - y(xr) + (rx)y - r(xy) = 0$  gives  $(yx)r = f_i(r)(yx)$ . Thus  $f_i = f_j$ . If

$A_{ij} > 0$  then, using  $A_{\alpha, -\beta} = -A_{\alpha, \beta}$  (Theorem 7.1.2(3)) and  $f_{\alpha} = f_{-\alpha}$ , we argue that  $f_i = f_j$ . Since  $\Pi$  is

connected, this prove that  $f_i = f_j$  for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Denote one of these  $f_i$  by  $f$ .

Let  $x_i, y_i, h_i$  be the canonical basis corresponding to the root  $\alpha_i \in \Pi$ . We have then shown

$$\begin{aligned} x_i r = r x_i = f(r) x_i, \quad y_i r = r y_i = f(r) y_i, \quad h_i r = r h_i = f(r) h_i, \\ r \in R, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned} \tag{2.42}$$

Then  $S$  has a basis consisting of elements of the form

$$\begin{aligned} h_i, \quad (\dots(x_{i_1} x_{i_2}) \dots x_{i_k}), \quad (\dots(y_{i_1} y_{i_2}) \dots y_{i_k}), \\ i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \end{aligned}$$

(Theorem 7.1.3). The flexible law  $(x_i x_j) r - x_i (x_j r) + (r x_j) x_i - r (x_j x_i) = 0$  gives  $(x_i x_j) r = f(r) (x_i x_j)$  by (2.42). Therefore by induction we have

$$x r = r x = f(r) x, \quad x \in S, \quad r \in R.$$

Finally, let  $r, s \in R$  and let  $x$  be a nonzero element of  $S$ . Then  $(rs)x - r(sx) + (xs)r - x(sr) = 0$  gives  $f([r, s]) = 0$ , so  $f$  vanishes on  $[R, R]$ . Thus the multiplication in  $A$  is given by (\*). //

In view of Corollary 6.4.5, the following is immediate from Theorem 7.3.7.

Theorem 7.3.8. Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional

flexible Lie-admissible over  $F$  of char 0 . Let  $R$  be the solvable radical of  $A^-$  and  $S$  be a Levi-factor of  $A^-$  which is power-associative in  $A$  . Then  $S$  is a Lie algebra under the multiplication in  $A$  and is an ideal of  $A$  if and only if  $S$  contains a split CSA  $H$  such that  $HH \subset S$  and  $[H,R] = 0$  . In this case, the multiplication between  $S$  and  $R$  is given by  $(*)$  . //

Corollary 7.3.9. Let  $A, S, R$  be the same as in Theorem 7.3.7 and let  $S$  be embedded into  $A$  as in Theorem 7.3.7. If  $[R,R] = R$  then  $R$  is an ideal of  $A$  . In particular, if  $R^-$  is simple then  $R$  is an ideal of  $A$  .

Proof. The linear functionals  $f_i$  vanish on  $[R,R] = R$  , so  $f_i = 0$  ,  $i = 1,2,\dots,n$  . If  $R^-$  is simple,  $[R,R] = R$  . //

The materials in Sections 7.2 and 7.3 are drawn from Myung :

1. "Some classes of flexible Lie-admissible algebras" Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 167(1972), 79-88.
2. "A subalgebra condition in Lie-admissible algebras", Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 59(1976), 6-8.
3. "Embedding of a Lie algebra into Lie-damissible algebras", Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 73(1979), 303-307.



7.4. Lie-admissible algebras associated with generalized Witt algebras

We discuss in this section an extension of Theorem 7.2.5 which has recently been proved by G. M. Benkart ("The construction of examples of Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 5(1982), 431-493). The idea is to replace the restriction of  $\dim A_\alpha = 1$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$  by the weaker condition that the Cartan subalgebra  $H$  acts diagonally on each root space  $A_\alpha$ . In this way, the conclusion of Theorem 7.2.5 applies to a broader class of flexible Lie-admissible algebras, such as algebras where the attached Lie algebra  $A^-$  is a generalized Witt algebra or a Virasoro algebra. The identity (2.29), which can also be expressed as

$$[x \cdot y, z] = x \cdot [y, z] + [x, z] \cdot y, \quad (2.42)$$

plays a main role.

Theorem 7.4.1. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra with product  $xy$  (not necessarily finite-dimensional) over a field  $F$  of characteristic  $\neq 2$  and let  $H$  be an abelian Cartan subalgebra of  $A^-$ . Assume that  $A^-$  has a Cartan decomposition relative to  $H$  such that each  $\text{ad } h$  ( $h \in H$ ) diagonally acts on the root space  $A_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha$ ; i.e.,  $[h, x] = \alpha(h)x$  for all  $x \in A_\alpha$  and  $h \in H$ .

(1) If  $h \in H$  and  $x \in A_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \neq 0$  then  $hx$  and  $xh$  are multiples of  $x$ .

(2) If  $x \in A_\alpha$ ,  $y \in A_\beta$  and  $\alpha \neq -\beta$  for  $\alpha, \beta \neq 0$  then  $xy$  is a multiple of  $[x,y]$ .

(3) If  $HH = 0$  then  $xy = \frac{1}{2}[x,y]$  for all  $x, y \in A$  and hence  $A$  is a Lie algebra.

(4) If the center of  $A^-$  is zero and  $H$  is power-associative under the product  $xy$  with property that there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $h^n = 0$  for all  $h \in H$ , then  $HH = 0$  and  $A$  is a Lie algebra.

Proof. We first note that, under the assumption, each root  $\alpha$  is a linear functional on  $H$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a nonzero root of  $H$ . For  $h, h' \in H$  and  $x \in A_\alpha$ , by (2.42) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(h \cdot h')x &= [h \cdot h', x] = [h, x] \cdot h' + h \cdot [h', x] \\ &= \alpha(h)x \cdot h' + \alpha(h')h \cdot x. \end{aligned} \tag{2.43}$$

First, we consider the special case where  $h = h'$  and  $h \notin \ker \alpha$ , the kernel of  $\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha(h)^2x = \alpha(h)[h, x] = \alpha(h)(hx - xh)$ , while  $\alpha(h^2)x = \alpha(h)(hx + xh)$  by (2.43). This implies that  $hx$  is a multiple of  $[h, x]$ . If  $h \cdot h = 0$  then  $x \cdot h = 0$  by (2.43) and hence

$$hx = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(h)x = \frac{1}{2}[h, x]. \tag{2.44}$$

Assume that  $h \notin \ker \alpha$  and  $h' \in \ker \alpha$ . Thus, by (2.43),  $\alpha(h \cdot h')x = \alpha(h)x \cdot h'$  and so  $x \cdot h'$  is a multiple of  $x$ .

This proves part (1) . In particular, if  $h \cdot h' = 0$  then by (2.43)  $x \cdot h' = 0$  and so  $h' \cdot x = 0 = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(h')x = \frac{1}{2}[h',x]$  . By the linearity of  $\alpha$  , we conclude that if  $HH = 0$  then (2.44) holds for all  $h \in H, x \in A_\alpha$  .

Suppose now that  $x \in A_\alpha$  and  $y \in A_\beta$  for  $\alpha \neq 0, \beta \neq 0$  with  $\alpha \neq -\beta$  . It follows from (2.42) that

$$[h \cdot x, y] = h \cdot [x, y] + [h, y] \cdot x = \beta(h)y \cdot x + h \cdot [x, y] \quad (2.45)$$

for  $h \in H$  . By part (1), the left side and the second term of right side of (2.45) are multiples of  $[x, y]$  . Since  $\beta \neq 0$  , we see that  $x \cdot y$  is a multiple of  $[x, y]$  and so is  $xy$  . This verifies part (2).

Assume  $HH = 0$  . For nonzero roots  $\alpha, \beta$ , let  $x \in A_\alpha$  ,  $y \in A_\beta$  . In light of (2.44),  $h \cdot x = 0$  for all  $h \in H, x \in A_\alpha$  . This together with (2.45) and Lemma 7.2.3 implies  $\beta(h) x \cdot y = 0$  for all  $h \in H$  . Since  $\beta \neq 0$  , we have  $x \cdot y = 0$  and hence

$$xy = -yx = \frac{1}{2}[x, y] .$$

Therefore, it follows from this and (2.44) that  $A$  is a Lie algebra.

For the proof of part (4), it suffices to show that  $HH = 0$  under the hypotheses. The proof of this is based on the identity (2.42) and hence is the same as the first part of the proof of Theorem 7.2.5 (also see Lemmas 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.4). //

An interesting example of the Lie algebra  $A^-$  satisfying the hypotheses in Theorem 7.4.1 is a generalized Witt algebra. Let  $G$  be any additive subgroup of the field  $F$  and let  $G^{(m)} = Gx \dots xG$

(m copies) be the direct product. Assume that  $W$  is the vector space over  $F$  with basis  $\{e^i\}$  where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $\alpha \in G^{(m)}$ , and define multiplication in  $W$  by

$$[e_\alpha^i, e_\beta^j] = \beta_i e_{\alpha+\beta}^j - \alpha_j e_{\alpha+\beta}^i \quad (2.46)$$

where  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m)$  and  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m)$ .

Then  $W$  becomes a Lie algebra over  $F$  under the product (2.46) and is called a generalized Witt algebra (see Seligman's book and R. Ree, "On generalized Witt algebras", Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 83(1956), 510-546). Note that the elements  $\{e_0^i\}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  span an abelian Cartan subalgebra  $H$  and the span of  $e_\alpha^1, \dots, e_\alpha^m$  determines a root space for  $H$ . Thus  $W$  is not classical for  $m > 1$ .

Since

$$[e_0^i, e_\alpha^j] = \alpha_i e_\alpha^j$$

by (2.46),  $H$  acts diagonally on each root space.

Two special cases of the construction (2.46) are noteworthy. First when  $F$  has characteristic zero and  $G = \{\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots\}$ , the generalized Witt algebra obtained by taking  $m = 1$  has the specialized multiplication

$$[e_j, e_k] = (k - j) e_{j+k} \quad (2.47)$$

where we have set  $e_j^1 = e_j$ . The resulting algebra is called the Virasoro algebra which arises in relativistic string dual model theory (J. Scherk, "An introduction to the theory of dual models and strings", Rev. Mod. Phys. 47(1975), 123-164). For the second special case we

take  $F$  to be a field of characteristic  $p > 0$  and  $G$  to be the integers modulo  $p$ . Then the generalized Witt algebra obtained by (2.46) is the Jacobson - Witt algebra (N. Jacobson, "Classes of restricted Lie algebras of characteristic  $p$ , II," Duke Math. J. 10 (1943), 107-121).

Theorem 7.4.2. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra with product  $xy$  over a field  $F$  of characteristic  $\neq 2$  such that  $A^-$  is isomorphic to a generalized Witt algebra. Then  $xy = \frac{1}{2} [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in A$ , so that  $A$  is a Lie algebra.

Proof. In light of Theorem 7.4.1. and the foregoing remarks, it suffices to show that  $e_0^i e_0^j = 0$  for the basis  $e_0^1, \dots, e_0^m$  of the Cartan subalgebra  $H$ . We first prove that

$$e_0^i e_0^j = \delta_{ij} c_i e_0^i \tag{2.48}$$

where  $c_i \in F$  and  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker delta. Since  $\text{ad } x$  ( $x \in A$ ) is a derivation of  $A$ , we have the equation

$$[e_0^i e_\alpha^j, e_{-\alpha}^k] = e_0^i [e_\alpha^j, e_{-\alpha}^k] + [e_0^i, e_{-\alpha}^k] e_\alpha^j. \tag{2.49}$$

If we let  $j = k$  and choose  $\alpha$  so that  $\alpha_i = 0$  but  $\alpha_j \neq 0$ , then the right side of (2.49) is simply  $-2\alpha_j e_0^i e_0^j$ . By Theorem 7.4.1 (1), the left side of (2.49) is a multiple of  $[e_\alpha^j, e_{-\alpha}^j] = -2\alpha_j e_0^j$ .

Hence if  $i \neq j$  then  $e_0^i e_0^j$  is a multiple of  $e_0^j$ . But since  $e_0^i$  and  $e_0^j$  commute,  $e_0^i e_0^j = e_0^j e_0^i$  and the latter is a multiple of  $e_0^i$ . Thus, for  $i \neq j$ ,  $e_0^i e_0^j = 0$ . Assume that  $i = k$  in (2.49) and that  $\alpha$  is chosen so that  $\alpha_i = 0$ , but  $\alpha_j \neq 0$ . The second term

on the right side of (2.49) vanishes and the first term is  $-\alpha_j e_0^i e_0^i$  whereas the left side of (2.49) is a multiple of  $[e_\alpha^j, e_\alpha^i] = -\alpha_j e_0^i$  by Theorem 7.4.1. Therefore,  $e_0^i e_0^i$  is a multiple of  $e_0^i$ , giving the desired relation (2.48).

Consider the relation

$$[e_0^i e_\beta^i, e_\alpha^i] = [e_0^i, e_\alpha^i] e_\beta^i + e_0^i [e_\beta^i, e_\alpha^i] \quad (2.50)$$

If  $\beta = 0$  then we have from (2.50) that

$$c_i \alpha_i e_\alpha^i = \alpha_i (e_\alpha^i e_0^i + e_0^i e_\alpha^i)$$

which, together with  $[e_0^i, e_\alpha^i] = \alpha_i e_\alpha^i$ , implies that  $e_0^i e_\alpha^i = \frac{1}{2}(c_i + \alpha_i) e_\alpha^i$  and  $e_\alpha^i e_0^i = \frac{1}{2}(c_i - \alpha_i) e_\alpha^i$  for all  $\alpha \neq 0$ . If  $\beta = -\alpha$  in (2.50) then we see that

$$\frac{1}{2}(c_i - \alpha_i)(2\alpha_i) e_0^i = \alpha_i e_\alpha^i e_{-\alpha}^i + 2\alpha_i c_i e_0^i$$

or

$$e_\alpha^i e_{-\alpha}^i = -(c_i + \alpha_i) e_0^i \quad .$$

Using this, we compute

$$\begin{aligned} -(c_i + \alpha_i) \alpha_i e_\alpha^i &= -(c_i + \alpha_i) [e_0^i, e_\alpha^i] \\ &= [e_\alpha^i e_{-\alpha}^i, e_\alpha^i] \\ &= e_\alpha^i [e_{-\alpha}^i, e_\alpha^i] \\ &= e_\alpha^i (2\alpha_i e_0^i) = 2\alpha_i \frac{1}{2}(c_i - \alpha_i) e_\alpha^i \quad . \end{aligned}$$

This gives  $c_i = 0$  for all  $i$ , and it follows from (2.48) that  $HH = 0$ . By Theorem 7.4.1 (3),  $xy = \frac{1}{2} [x,y]$  for all  $x, y \in A$  and hence  $A$  is a Lie algebra. //

The special case of Theorem 7.4.2 where  $A^-$  is a Jacobson - Witt algebra of characteristic  $p > 0$  has been proved by a direct computation in Tomber's paper ("Jacobson - Witt algebras and Lie-admissible algebras, Hadronic J. 4(1981), 183-198). For the construction of new flexible Lie-admissible algebras which are not Lie algebras, Theorem 7.4.2 does not seem useful. In this regard we recall that a flexible Lie-admissible algebra  $A$  with  $A^-$  simple of type  $A_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) alone yields a non-Lie, flexible Lie-admissible algebra (Theorem 6.4.2).

Assume that  $A$  is a flexible Lie-admissible algebra with product  $xy$  and with a prescribed attached Lie algebra  $A^-$ . Then

$$xy = \frac{1}{2} [x,y] + x \cdot y, \quad x, y \in A \quad (2.51)$$

where  $x \cdot y$  is a commutative product defined on the vector space  $A$ . Conversely, if there is defined a commutative product  $x \cdot y$  on  $A$  then the product  $xy$  given by (2.51) defines a Lie-admissible product on  $A$  with the prescribed structure on  $A^-$ . What has been discussed in Chapters 6 and 7 shows that the flexible law imposes constraints on the product  $x \cdot y$  and specifies relations with the Lie product  $[x,y]$ . In fact,  $x \cdot y$  is identically zero, except when  $A^-$  is a simple Lie algebra of type  $A_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) (of char 0). However, there is a well known commutative product that has arisen in an earlier work of L. M. Weiner ("Algebras based on linear

functionals", Math. Mag. 28(1954), 9-12) and in Benkart's paper quoted in the beginning of this section. Let  $A$  be a vector space over  $F$  with a Lie algebra product  $[x,y]$ . Suppose that there is defined a linear functional  $\tau$  on  $A$ . We define a multiplication  $xy$  on  $A$  by

$$xy = \frac{1}{2} [x,y] + \tau(x) y + \tau(y) x . \quad (2.252)$$

Then  $A$  is a Lie-admissible algebra such that  $A^*$  has the product  $[x,y]$ . Furthermore,  $A$  is power-associative, since it is readily seen that  $x^m = 2^{m-1} \tau(x)^{m-1} x$ ,  $x \in A$ . But the product  $xy$  is not in general flexible, as we show in

Lemma 7.4.3. Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$  with an anticommutative product  $xy$  and let  $\tau$  be a linear functional on  $A$ . Define a product  $x * y$  on  $A$  by

$$x * y = xy + \tau(x) y + \tau(y) x .$$

Then the algebra  $(A, *)$  is flexible if and only if  $\tau([A,A]) = 0$ .

Proof. Note that  $x \circ y = \frac{1}{2} (x*y + y*x) = \tau(x) y + \tau(y) x$ . It suffices to show that  $[z, x \circ y] = x \circ [z,y] + [z,x] \circ y$  holds for all  $x, y, z \in A$  if and only if  $\tau([A,A]) = 0$ . For  $x, y, z \in A$ , we have

$$[z, x \circ y] = \tau(x)[z,y] + \tau(y)[z,x] ,$$

$$x \circ [z,y] + [z,x] \circ y = \tau([z,x]) y + \tau(y)[z,x] + \tau(x)[z,y] + \tau([z,y]) x$$



Thus, if  $(A, *)$  is flexible then  $\tau([z,x])y + \tau([z,y])x = 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in A$  and this gives  $\tau([A,A]) = 0$  . //

Let  $V$  be the Virasoro algebra defined by (2.47) and let  $L$  be the subalgebra of  $V$  generated by the basis  $\{e_i \mid i = 0,1,2,\dots\}$  . As an application of Theorem 7.4.1 and the remarks above, we have

Theorem 7.4.4. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie-admissible algebra with product  $xy$  over a field of characteristic 0 such  $A^-$  is the subalgebra  $L$  with basis  $\{e_i \mid i = 0,1,2,\dots\}$  of the Virasoro algebra. Then there is a linear functional  $\tau$  on  $A$  with  $\tau(e_i) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$  such that the multiplication  $xy$  in  $A$  is given by (2.52). Conversely, any such product determines a flexible Lie-admissible algebra on  $L$  .

Proof. Let  $A$  be a flexible Lie admissible algebra such that  $A^-$  is  $L$  and let  $xy = \frac{1}{2} [x,y] + x \cdot y$  , as in (2.51). The element  $e_0$  spans a 1-dimensional Cartan subalgebra of  $L$  , whereas each  $e_k$  ( $k > 0$ ) determines a 1-dimensional root space. Thus by Theorem 7.4.1  $e_j e_k$  is a multiple of  $[e_j, e_k] = (k-j) e_{j+k}$  for all  $j, k$  , and so is  $e_j \cdot e_k$  . Hence we can write  $e_j \cdot e_k = \gamma_{jk} e_{j+k}$  , where  $\gamma_{jk} = \gamma_{kj}$  . Since  $A$  is flexible, we can use (2.42) to compute

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{0k} (k-j) e_{j+k} &= [e_j, e_0 \cdot e_k] \\ &= [e_j, e_0] \cdot e_k + e_0 \cdot [e_j, e_k] \\ &= -j \gamma_{jk} e_{j+k} + (k-j) \gamma_{0,j+k} e_{j+k} . \end{aligned} \tag{2.53}$$

If  $k = 0$  then equation (2.53) implies  $\gamma_{0j} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{00}$  for all  $j \neq 0$ , and, substituting this into (2.53), we have  $\gamma_{jk} = 0$  for all  $j, k \neq 0$ . We define the linear functional  $\tau$  on  $A$  by  $\tau(e_0) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{00}$  and  $\tau(e_i) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ . It is clear that  $x \cdot y = \tau(x) y + \tau(y) x$  for all  $x, y \in A$  and  $\tau([A, A]) = 0$ . In light of Lemma 7.4.3, this proves the Theorem. //

### 7.5. Lie-admissible mutations of an associative algebra

We close this chapter with a mutation type of Lie-admissible algebras constructed from an associative algebra. Let  $A$  be an associative algebra over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2$  with product  $xy$ . Let  $r, s$  be fixed elements in  $A$  and define a product  $x * y$  on the same vector space as  $A$  by

$$x * y = xry - ysx \quad . \quad (2.54)$$

Denote the resulting algebra by  $A(r, s)$ , called the  $(r, s)$  - mutation of  $A$ . The  $(r, s)$  - mutation was originally introduced by Santilli for a formulation of a Lie-admissible time evolution law which generalizes the conventional Heisenberg equation. The structure of  $A(r, s)$  has been studied in a number of physical and mathematical

publications. In this section, we discuss some basic structure of this algebra. The material is largely drawn from the work:

(1) R. H. Oehmke, "Some elementary structure theorems for a class of Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 3(1979), 293-319.

(2) J. M. Osborn, "The Lie-admissible mutation  $A(r,s)$  of an associative algebra  $A$ ", Hadronic J. 5(1982), 904-930.

(3) H. C. Myung, "The exponentation and deformations of Lie-admissible algebras", Hadronic J. 5(1982), 771-903.

Related to the  $(r,s)$  - mutation is the homotope and isotope of an associative algebra. Let  $a$  be a fixed element of an associative algebra  $A$ . The algebra, denoted by  $A^{(a)}$ , with multiplication  $x \underset{a}{\circ} y$  defined by

$$x \underset{a}{\circ} y = xay$$

is called the a-homotope of  $A$ . If  $a$  is invertible in  $A$ , then  $A^{(a)}$  is called the a-isotope of  $A$ . Clearly,  $A^{(a)}$  is associative.

Denote by  $[x,y]^* = x * y - y * x$  the Lie product in  $A(r,s)$ . Since

$$[x,y]^* = xry - ysx - yrx + xsy = x(r+s) - y(r+s)x,$$

we see that  $A(r,s)^-$  is isomorphic to  $A^{(r+s)^-}$ . Since the  $(r+s)$  - homotope  $A^{(r+s)}$  is associative, this implies that  $A(r,s)$  is Lie-admissible. Similarly, we compute the Jordan product in

$A(r,s)$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} (x * y + y * x) &= \frac{1}{2} (xry - ysx + yrx - xsy) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [x(r - s) y + y(r - s) x] . \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A(r,s)^+ \simeq A^{(r-s)^+}$  and hence  $A(r,s)$  is Jordan-admissible also (see p. 12). The  $(r,s)$  - mutation is not in general flexible. We can show that flexibility of  $A(r,s)$  is equivalent to many of the well known identities when  $r$  and  $s$  are invertible in  $A$  (in the original introduction of  $A(r,s)$  in physics,  $r$  and  $s$  are assumed to be invertible operators in a Hilbert space). For this, we need some definitions.

Assume that  $A$  is an associative algebra with unit element 1 over a field  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2,3$ . A nonassociative algebra is called third power-associative if it satisfies the identity

$$(x * x) * x = x * (x * x) , \tag{2.55}$$

which is satisfied by the flexible identity  $(x * y) * x = x * (y * x)$ . Also, any power-associative algebra (see p. 47) clearly satisfies the third power-associative identity (2.55). With the exception of Lie-admissibility and Jordan-admissibility, virtually all the identities that are considered in nonassociative algebras imply (2.55). A non-associative algebra  $B$  is called generalized quasi-associative if, up to isomorphism, it arises from an associative algebra  $A$  under the new product

$$x * y = \alpha xy + \beta yx$$

for some fixed  $\alpha, \beta$  in the center  $Z(A)$  of  $A$ , where  $Z(A)$  is defined as the set  $\{x \mid xy = yx \text{ for all } y \in A\}$ . Thus if  $B$  is generalized quasi-associative, then  $B \simeq A(\alpha, \beta)$ . If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are just scalars then  $B$  is called quasi-associative. Since it can be easily seen that if  $\alpha \neq \beta$  then the mapping  $x \rightarrow (\alpha - \beta)^{-1} x$  is an isomorphism of  $A(r, 1 - r)$  to  $A(\alpha, \beta)$  where  $r = \alpha(\alpha - \beta)^{-1}$ , the present definition agrees with one given in Section 6.6 (see p. 261). It is easy to verify that every generalized quasi-associative algebra is both flexible and power-associative.

Theorem 7.5.1. Let  $r, s$  be invertible elements in  $A$ . The following properties for the algebra  $A(r, s)$  are equivalent:

- (i)  $A(r, s)$  is third power-associative,
- (ii)  $A(r, s)$  is flexible,
- (iii)  $A(r, s)$  is power-associative,
- (iv)  $A(r, s)$  is generalized quasi-associative,
- (v)  $s = \alpha r$  for some invertible  $\alpha$  in the center of  $A$ ,
- (vi)  $A(r, s) \simeq A(1, \beta)$  for some invertible  $\beta$  in the center of  $A$ .

Proof. We have already noted that the implications (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) and (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) hold. Also, the implication (vi)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) is obvious. Assume (v) holds. Then  $x * y = xry - \alpha yrx$ , and since  $r$  is invertible, the mapping  $x \rightarrow xr$  is an isomorphism of the isotope  $A^{(r)}$  to  $A$  which in turn induces the isomorphism  $A(r, s) \simeq A^{(r)}(1, -\alpha) \simeq A(1, \alpha)$ . Setting

$\beta = -\alpha$  , we have established (vi) . It remains to verify that (i) implies (v) .

If (i) holds then, using (2.54), the relation (2.55) gives

$$xr_xrx - xs_xrx - xs_xrx + xs_xsx = xr_xrx - xr_xsx - xr_xsx + xs_xsx .$$

This reduces to

$$xs_xrx = xr_xsx$$

and replacing  $x$  by  $x + 1$  , the terms linear in  $x$  are

$$xsr + s_xr + sr_x = xrs + r_xs + rs_x . \quad (2.56)$$

The special case  $x = 1$  in (2.56) gives  $sr = rs$  or  $r^{-1}s = sr^{-1}$  . Using this, (2.56) reduces to  $s_xr = r_xs$  for all  $x \in A$  . Since  $r$  and  $s$  are invertible, from this we have  $r^{-1}s_x = xsr^{-1} = xr^{-1}s$  for all  $x \in A$  . Thus  $r^{-1}s$  is invertible and is in the center of  $A$  . Letting  $\alpha = r^{-1}s = sr^{-1}$  , we have established (v) . //

In most cases of interest, the algebra  $A$  has the property that the center of  $A$  is scalar multiples of the unit element. This is the case when  $A$  is central simple over  $F$  . In this case, a generalized quasi-associative algebra derived from  $A$  is quasi-associative. It can be shown that if  $A$  is simple then the conditions (i) - (vi) in Theorem 7.5.1 are equivalent, under the assumption that  $r + s$  or  $r - s$  is invertible in  $A$  .

Theorem 7.5.2. Let  $r - s$  or  $r + s$  be invertible in  $A$  .

Assume that  $A$  is simple. Then the conditions (i) - (vi) in Theorem 7.5.1 are equivalent. In this case  $r$  and  $s$  are invertible also.

Proof. Assume that  $r + s$  is invertible. Let  $p = (r + s)^{-1}r$ . Then the mapping  $f : x \rightarrow x(r + s)^{-1}$  is an isomorphism of  $A(p, 1 - p)$  to  $A(r, s)$ . In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) * f(y) &= f(x)rf(y) - f(y)sf(x) \\ &= x(r + s)^{-1}ry(r + s)^{-1} - y(r + s)^{-1}sx(r + s)^{-1} \\ &= [x(r + s)^{-1}ry - y(r + s)^{-1}sx] (r + s)^{-1} \\ &= (xpy - y(1 - p)x) (r + s)^{-1} \\ &= f(x * y) \end{aligned}$$

since  $1 - p = (r + s)^{-1}s$ . Since each of the conditions (ii) - (vi) implies third power-associativity, in light of Theorem 7.5.1 it suffices to show that the condition (i) implies that  $r$  and  $s$  are invertible. Thus, assume that  $A(r, s) \cong A(p, 1 - p)$  is third power-associative. The identity (2.55) in  $A(p, 1 - p)$  implies  $xpx(1 - p)x - x(1 - p)xpx = xpx^2 - x^2px = 0$ . Replacing  $x$  by  $1 + \lambda x$  ( $\lambda \in F$ ) in this, we get  $(1 + \lambda x)^2 p(1 + \lambda x) = (1 + \lambda x)p(1 + \lambda x)^2$  and

$$0 = \lambda(xp - px) + \lambda^2(x^2p - px^2) + \lambda^3(x^2px - xpx^2)$$

for all  $\lambda \in F$ . This gives  $xp = px$  for all  $x \in A$  and hence

$p$  is in the center  $Z(A)$  of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is simple,  $Z(A)$  is a field and so  $p = \alpha$  for some invertible  $\alpha$  in  $Z(A)$ . Thus  $(r + s)^{-1}r = \alpha$  and  $s = (1 - \alpha)\alpha^{-1}r$ , hence  $r$  and  $s$  are invertible. In light of Theorem 7.5.1, this establishes the equivalences.

If  $r - s$  is invertible then we set  $q = (r - s)^{-1}s$  and, as above, the mapping  $x \rightarrow x(r - s)^{-1}$  is an isomorphism of  $A(q, q - 1)$  to  $A(r, s)$ . The identity (2.55) then implies that  $q$  is in the center of  $A$ . This establishes the same conclusion. //

An algebra is called prime if the product of any two nonzero ideals is nonzero. Thus any simple algebra is prime. We note that if the  $(r, s)$ -mutation  $A(r, s)$  is simple then so is  $A$ , since any ideal of  $A$  is an ideal of  $A(r, s)$ . Here, we investigate the converse of this as well as the relation between the primeness of  $A$  and  $A(r, s)$ . The following lemma is useful.

Lemma 7.5.3. Let  $A$  be an associative algebra with unit element over  $F$  of  $\text{char} \neq 2, 3$ . Let  $r$  and  $s$  be invertible in  $A$ .

(1) The subspace  $C$  of  $A$  spanned by all elements of the form  $xry + ysx$  for  $x, y \in A$  contains the ideal  $A(r + s)A$  of  $A$ .

(2) If  $B$  is an ideal of  $A(r, s)$ , then  $B$  contains the subspaces  $B(r - s)C$ ,  $C(r - s)B$ , and  $C(r - s)B(r - s)C$ .

(3) If  $B$  is an ideal of  $A(r, s)$ , then  $A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A$  is an ideal of  $A$  which is contained in  $B$ .

Proof. (1) The subspace  $C$  contains the elements



$$xr(zsy) + (zsy)sx \quad , \quad (ysx)rz + zs(ysx)$$

for  $x, y, z \in A$  , and hence their difference which is  $xrzsy - ysxrz$  .

Setting  $z = r^{-1}$  gives  $xsy - ysx \in C$  , and adding this to

$xry + ysx \in C$  yields  $xry + xsy = x(r + s)y \in C$  . Hence

$$A(r + s)A \subseteq C \quad .$$

(2) Assume that  $B$  is an ideal of  $A(r,s)$  and  $u \in B$  and  $x, z \in A$  . Then

$$(x * u) * z - x * (u * z) = urzsx - usxrz + xrzsu - zsxru \in B \quad ,$$

$$(zsx)ru - us(zsx) \in B \quad ,$$

$$ur(xrz) - (xrz)su \in B \quad .$$

Adding these together, we have

$$urzsx - usxrz + urxrz - uszsx = u(r - s)(xrz + zsx) \in B \quad ,$$

which implies that  $B(r - s)C \subseteq B$  . For  $w \in C$  , we get  $w(r - s)u =$

$u * w + w * u - u(r - s)w \in B$  and hence

$$C(r - s)B(r - s)C \subseteq \{C(r - s)B\} (r - s)C \subseteq B(r - s)C \subseteq B \quad .$$

This proves part (2).

(3) Clearly,  $A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A$  is an ideal of  $A$  and is contained in  $B$  since

$$A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A \subseteq C(r - s)B(r - s)C \subseteq B \quad ,$$

using parts (1) and (2). //

Lemma 7.5.4. Let  $r, s$  be invertible elements in  $A$  such that  $r \neq s$ . If  $A$  is prime then every nonzero ideal of  $A(r, s)$  contains a nonzero ideal of  $A$ .

Proof. Let  $B$  be a nonzero ideal of  $A(r, s)$ . First, assume  $r + s = 0$ . Then  $x * y = xry + yrx$  and  $A(r, s) \simeq (A^{(r)})^+ \simeq A^+$ , since the mapping  $x \rightarrow rx$  is an isomorphism of  $A^{(r)}$  to  $A$ . Thus it suffices to show in this case that every nonzero ideal  $B$  of  $A^+$  contains a nonzero ideal of  $A$ . If  $b \in B$  and  $x \in A$  then

$$b(bx - xb) + (bx - xb)b = b^2x - xb^2 \in B,$$

and  $b^2 \in B$ ,  $b^2x + xb^2 \in B$ , showing that  $b^2x \in B$  and  $xb^2 \in B$ .

Hence  $Ab^2A$  is an ideal of  $A$  which is contained in  $B$ , since

$$xb^2y = [(xb^2)y + y(xb^2)] - (yx)b^2 \in B \text{ for } x, y \in A. \text{ If}$$

$Ab^2A = 0$  then  $b^2 = 0$ , and  $b(bx + xb) + (bx + xb)b = 2bxb \in B$ ,

so  $bAb = 0$ . Therefore,  $AbA$  is an ideal of  $A$  that squares to zero. Since  $A$  is prime,  $bAb = 0$ , giving  $b = 0$ . Thus the proof is complete when  $r + s = 0$ .

Assume  $r + s \neq 0$ . Thus  $A(r + s)A$  is a nonzero ideal of  $A$ . By Lemma 5.7.3(3), the ideal  $A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A$  is an ideal of  $A$  contained in  $B$ . Thus if this ideal is nonzero, we are done. Suppose that  $A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A = 0$ . From this, we see that  $A(r + s)A$  and  $A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A$  are ideals of  $A$  whose product is zero. Since  $A(r + s)A \neq 0$ , we have  $A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A = 0$ . But then  $A(r + s)A$  and  $A(r - s)B(r - s)A$  are two ideals of  $A$  whose product is zero,

hence  $A(r - s)B(r - s)A = 0$  or  $(r - s)B(r - s) = 0$ . Let  $b \in B$  and  $y \in A(r + s)A$ . By Lemma 7.5.3 (1) and (2) we obtain  $b(r - s)y \in B$  and this gives

$$(xr^{-1})r(b(r - s)y) - (b(r - s)y)s(xr^{-1}) \in B$$

for all  $x \in A$ . But the second term is in  $B(r - s)A(r + s)A \subseteq B$ , since  $y \in A(r + s)A$  (see Lemma 7.5.3 (1)). Thus  $xb(r - s)y \in B$  or  $AB(r - s)A(r + s)A = 0$ . Since  $A$  is prime, from this we have  $AB(r - s)A = 0$ , yielding  $B(r - s) = 0$ . Thus for  $b \in B$  and  $x \in A$ ,

$$br(r^{-1}x) - (r^{-1}x)sb = bx - r^{-1}xsb \in B,$$

implying that

$$0 = (bx - r^{-1}xsb)(r - s) = bx(r - s)$$

or  $BA(r - s) = 0$ . Hence the product of ideals  $ABA$  and  $A(r - s)A$  is zero. Since  $B \neq 0$  and  $r - s \neq 0$ , we have a contradiction.

Therefore,  $A(r + s)A(r - s)B(r - s)A(r + s)A$  is a nonzero ideal of  $A$  contained in  $B$ . //

Theorem 7.5.5. Let  $r$  and  $s$  be invertible elements of  $A$  such that  $r \neq s$ . Then,

- (1)  $A(r,s)$  is prime if and only if  $A$  is prime;
- (2)  $A(r,s)$  is simple if and only if  $A$  is simple;
- (3) if  $A(r + s)A = A$  and if  $r - s$  is invertible,

then a subspace of  $A$  is an ideal of  $A(r,s)$  if and only if it is

an ideal of  $A$  .

Proof. (1) It suffices to show that if  $A$  is prime then  $A(r,s)$  is prime. Suppose that  $A$  is prime. Let  $B_1, B_2$  be nonzero ideals of  $A(r,s)$  . By Lemma 7.5.4, we can choose nonzero ideals  $D_1, D_2$  of  $A$  which are contained respectively in  $B_1, B_2$  . Hence  $D = D_1 D_2$  is a nonzero ideal of  $A$  contained in both  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  . Suppose that  $B_1 * B_2 = 0$  . Then, for  $u, v \in D$  , we have  $u * v = urv - vsu = 0$  , and

$$urvr = (vsu)r = ((vsr^{-1})ru)r = (us(vsr^{-1}))r = usvs ,$$

since  $vsr^{-1} \in D$  . Hence  $D(rvr - sv s) = 0$  for  $v \in D$  , showing that  $D$  annihilates the ideal generated by  $rvr - sv s$  . Since  $A$  is prime, it follows from this that  $rvr = sv s$  or  $vrs^{-1} = r^{-1}sv$  for all  $v \in D$  . If  $x \in A$  , then  $xr^{-1}sv = xvrs^{-1} = r^{-1}sxv$  for all  $v \in D$  , or  $(xr^{-1}s - r^{-1}sx)D = 0$  . Since  $A$  is prime, this gives  $xr^{-1}s = r^{-1}sx$  for all  $x \in A$  and hence  $\alpha = r^{-1}s$  is in the center of  $A$  . Thus,  $rvr = sv s = \alpha^2 rvr$  , implying  $0 = r^{-1}(1 - \alpha^2)(rvr)r^{-1} = (1 - \alpha^2)v$  or  $(1 - \alpha^2)D = 0$  . Hence  $\alpha^2 = 1$  and since  $r \neq s$  by hypothesis, we get  $\alpha = -1$  or  $r + s = 0$  . As in the proof of Lemma 7.5.4 we are in the situation where  $A(r,s) \simeq A^+$  . Thus we can think of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  as ideals of  $A^+$  . But then, for  $u, v, w \in D$  we have  $uv + vu = 0$  and  $uvw = -vuw = vwu = -uvw$  , giving  $D^3 = 0$  . This is impossible since  $A$  is prime. We have proved that for any nonzero ideals  $B_1, B_2$  of  $A(r,s)$  , the product  $B_1 * B_2$  is nonzero. Hence  $A(r,s)$  is prime and this proves part (1).

(2) Suppose that  $A$  is simple. Then  $A$  is prime and so, by Lemma 7.5.4, any nonzero ideal  $B$  of  $A(r,s)$  contains a nonzero ideal  $D$  of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is simple,  $D = A$  and hence  $B = A$ . Thus  $A(r,s)$  is simple.

(3) Assume that  $B$  is an ideal of  $A(r,s)$  and that  $A(r + s)A = A$ . Let  $C$  be the subspace of  $A$  spanned by  $xry + ysx$  for  $x, y \in A$ . Then by Lemma 7.5.3 (1)  $C = A$  and  $B(r - s)A \subseteq B$  by Lemma 7.5.3 (2). Since  $r - s$  is invertible,  $(r - s)A = A$ , and hence  $BA \subseteq B$ . Similarly,  $AB \subseteq B$  and  $B$  is an ideal of  $A$ . //

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

Symbol	Meaning	Page
$F^n$	n-fold Cartesian product	2
$A \otimes B$	Tensor product	3
$A_K$	Scalar extension of $A$ to $K$	3
$V_\alpha(T)$	$\{x \in V \mid x(T-\alpha)^n = 0, n > 0\}$	7
$T_s$	Semisimple part of $T$	9
$T_n$	Nilpotent part of $T$	9
$V_0(T)$	Fitting 0-component of $V$	10
$V_*(T)$	Fitting 1-component of $V$	10
$R_x$ (or $R(x)$ )	Right multiplication by $x$	12(or 275)
$L_x$ (or $L(x)$ )	Left multiplication by $x$	12(or 275)
$x \cdot y$	$\frac{1}{2}(xy + yx)$ ; Jordan product	12
$[x, y]$	Commutator ; Lie product	12
$(x, y, z)$	Associator	13
$\text{ad } x$	Adjoint map ; $R_x - L_x$	17
$T_x$	$\frac{1}{2}(L_x + R_x)$	17
$\text{Der } A$	Derivation algebra of $A$	18
$\exp D$	Exponential map	21
$\text{Rad } A$	Solvable radical of $A$	23
$M(A)$	Multiplication algebra	24
$V^\perp$	Radical of $V$ relative to $(, )$	25
$(, )_f$	Trace form relative to $f$	27

Symbol	Meaning	Page
$K( , )$	Killing form	27
$F[V]$	F-algebra of polynomial functions	29
$\mathfrak{Z}(P)$	Zariski closed set	30
$d_a f$	Differential of $f$ at $a$	32
$C_B(S)$	Centralizer of $S$ in $B$	41
$C(L)$	Center of $L$	41
$N_L(B) = N(B)$	Normalizer of $B$ in $L$	41
$C^j(L)$	Ascending central series	44
$C_L^i(N)$		45
$B_0^i(N)$		49
CSA	Cartan subalgebra	53
$L_{\text{reg}}$	The set of regular elements	56
$L_a(H) = L_a$	Root space	56
$V_a(H) = V_a$	Weight space	50
$\text{Aut}_e L$	Group of invariant automorphism	67
$x_s, x_n$	Abstract Jordan components	86
$V(m)$	Irreducible $sl(2)$ -module	98
$t_\phi$		99
$H^*$	Dual space of $H$	99
$\Phi$	Set of roots	99
$S_\alpha$	Split 3-dimensional simple Lie algebra	103
$H_0^*$	$Q$ -subspace of $H^*$ spanned by $\Phi$	110
$\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$	$2(\beta, \alpha) / (\alpha, \alpha)$	110

Symbol	Meaning	Page
$\Phi^+$	Set of positive roots	113
$\Phi^-$	Set of negative roots	113
$\Pi$	Simple system of roots	114
$  \alpha  $	Length of $\alpha$	116
$A_{ji}$	$\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle$ ; Cartan integer	115
$(A_{ji})$	Cartan matrix of $\Pi$	115
$ \beta $	Level of $\beta$	115
$s\ell(\ell+1, F)$	Special linear algebra	138
$O(2\ell+1, F)$	Orthogonal algebra	139
$sp(2\ell, F)$	Symplectic algebra	142
$M_3^8$	Exceptional Jordan algebra	149
$T(V)$	Tensor algebra on $V$	160
$S(V)$	Symmetric algebra on $V$	160
$U(L)$	Universal enveloping algebra	162
PBW	Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt	169
$P_\alpha$	Reflecting hyperplane	176
$\sigma_\alpha$	Reflection by $\alpha$	176
WG	Weyl group	177
$\Phi^+(\gamma)$	$\{\alpha \in \Phi \mid (\gamma, \alpha) > 0\}$	179
$C(\gamma)$	Weyl chamber	179
$C(\Pi)$	Fundamental Weyl chamber	181
$\ell(\sigma)$	Length of $\sigma$	186
$n(\sigma)$	Number of $\sigma \in \Phi^+$ with $\sigma(\alpha) < 0$	186
$\overline{C(\Pi)}$	Fundamental domain	189



Symbol	Meaning	Page
$\Lambda$	Set of integral functions	195
$\Lambda^+$	Set of dominant integral functions	195
$B(\Pi)$	Standard Borel subalgebra	206
$v^+$	Maximal vector	206
$V(\lambda)$	Standard cyclic module	212
$V_f(L, V)$	Set of adjoint operators in $f$	224
$V_0(L)$	Set of adjoint operators in $ad$	224
$H_\Gamma^*$	Set of highest $ad$ -weights	233
$n_A(f)$	Adjoint dimension	234
$\epsilon_{ijk}$	Levi-Civita symbol	258
$A(\lambda, \mu)$	$(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation of $A$	261
$U(L)_{\lambda, \mu}$	Universal enveloping $(\lambda, \mu)$ -mutation algebra	264
$N(A)$	Nilradical of $A$	283
$A(r, s)$	$(r, s)$ -mutation	306
$A^{(a)}$	$a$ -homotope or $a$ -isotope	307

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- Acute basis 201
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## SELECTED COMMENTS

A comment by MARVIN L. TOMBER, Professor of Mathematics,  
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*"This book presents a very readable account of the structure, classification, and representation theories of Lie algebras of characteristic zero. This information is used to give a good treatment of the best understood class of flexible Lie-admissible algebras."*

A comment by RUGGERO M. SANTILLI, President,  
The Institute for Basic Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

*"The material presented in this monograph originated from a graduate course delivered by Professor Myung at the Seoul National University in 1979-1980. The presentation begins with certain foundational aspects of Lie algebras, and then passes to their generalization beyond the graded-supersymmetric level, and known under the name of flexible Lie-admissible algebras. Particular attention is given to the classification of flexible Lie-admissible algebras with attached Lie algebras of reductive, classical, or generalized Witt type. Much of the material is motivated by recent physical applications of the flexible Lie-admissible algebras for the representation of hadrons as extended particles, and the possible interpretation of recent experimental information suggesting a time-asymmetry in nuclear reactions, small deformations of the charge distribution of neutrons under sufficiently intense fields, and other data. The reading of this monograph, which is authored by one of the mathematical leaders in the field, is invaluable for all mathematicians and physicists interested in fundamental advances."*