

Gradings on simple Lie algebras

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1 Gradings

2 Characteristic 0

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G abelian group, \mathcal{A} algebra over a field \mathbb{F} .

G -grading on \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g,$$
$$\mathcal{A}_g \mathcal{A}_h \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{gh} \quad \forall g, h \in G.$$

Example: Pauli matrices

$$\mathcal{A} = \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F})$$

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \epsilon^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ϵ a primitive n th root of 1)

$$X^n = 1 = Y^n, \quad YX = \epsilon XY$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{(\bar{i}, \bar{j}) \in \mathbb{Z}_n \times \mathbb{Z}_n} \mathcal{A}_{(\bar{i}, \bar{j})}, \quad \mathcal{A}_{(\bar{i}, \bar{j})} = \mathbb{F} X^i Y^j.$$

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\mathcal{A} becomes a *graded division algebra*.

Example: octonions

Cayley-Dickson process:

$$\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{F}i, \quad i^2 = -1,$$

$$\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{K} \oplus \mathbb{K}j, \quad j^2 = -1,$$

$$\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}l, \quad l^2 = -1,$$

\mathbb{O} is \mathbb{Z}_2^3 -graded with

$$\deg(i) = (\bar{1}, \bar{0}, \bar{0}), \quad \deg(j) = (\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{0}), \quad \deg(l) = (\bar{0}, \bar{0}, \bar{1}).$$

Examples: Lie algebras

- **Cartan grading:** $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Phi} \mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \right)$
(root space decomposition of a semisimple complex Lie algebra).
This is a grading over \mathbb{Z}^n , $n = \text{rank } \mathfrak{g}$.

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- **Jordan systems** \leftrightarrow **\mathbb{Z} -gradings**

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{-n} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{-1} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n.$$

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K. McCrimmon: “Of course, this can be turned around: nine times out of ten, when you open up a Lie algebra you find a Jordan algebra inside which makes it tick.”

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- Finite order automorphisms of simple complex Lie algebras (classified by V. Kac) correspond to gradings over finite cyclic groups:

$$\varphi \in \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}, \varphi^n = 1 \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{\bar{i} \in \mathbb{Z}_n} \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{i}},$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{i}} = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} : \varphi(x) = \epsilon^i x\} \quad (\epsilon = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}).$$

(This is important in the theory of Kac-Moody Lie algebras.)

In what follows:

- \mathbb{F} will denote an algebraically closed ground field, $\text{char } \mathbb{F} \neq 2$.
- The dimension of the algebras considered will always be finite.
- The stress will be put on the methods, and not on the results. Some of them are quite technical.

Let $\Gamma : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g$ and $\Gamma' : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g' \in G'} \mathcal{A}'_{g'}$ be two gradings on \mathcal{A} :

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- Γ is a *refinement* of Γ' if for any $g \in G$ there is a $g' \in G'$ such that $\mathcal{A}_g \subseteq \mathcal{A}'_{g'}$.
Then Γ' is a *coarsening* of Γ .

Basic definitions

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- Γ and Γ' are *equivalent* if there is an automorphism $\varphi \in \text{Aut } \mathcal{A}$ such that for any $g \in G$ there is a $g' \in G'$ with $\varphi(\mathcal{A}_g) = \mathcal{A}'_{g'}$.

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- For $G = G'$, Γ and Γ' are *isomorphic* if there is an automorphism $\varphi \in \text{Aut } \mathcal{A}$ such that $\varphi(\mathcal{A}_g) = \mathcal{A}'_g$ for any $g \in G$.

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Abelian diagonalizable subgroups

Abelian diagonalizable subgroups

- Any grading $\Gamma : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g$ induces a group homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_\Gamma : \hat{G} = \text{Hom}(G, \mathbb{F}^\times) &\longrightarrow \text{Aut } \mathcal{A} \\ \varphi &\longmapsto \eta_\Gamma(\varphi) : x_g \in \mathcal{A}_g \longmapsto \varphi(g)x_g. \end{aligned}$$

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 - $\bar{Q} = \hat{G}$, for $G = \text{Hom}(\bar{Q}, \mathbb{F}^\times)$ (morphisms of algebraic groups).
 - $\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g$ is a grading, with

$$\mathcal{A}_g = \{x \in \mathcal{A} : \varphi(x) = g(\varphi)x \ \forall \varphi \in Q\}.$$

MAD subgroups

- The fine gradings on \mathcal{A} up to equivalence are in bijection with the conjugacy classes of *maximal abelian diagonalizable* (MAD) subgroups of $\text{Aut } \mathcal{A}$. **(Patera-Zassenhaus 1989)**

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- Algebras with isomorphic groups of automorphisms present “the same” classification of fine gradings up to equivalence.

Classical simple Lie algebras ($\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 0$)

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An explicit (and irredundant) description of the corresponding fine gradings has been given for some classical simple Lie algebras of small rank (Patera, Pelantova, Svobodova).

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(The results are involved. For instance, there appear 17 non equivalent fine gradings for D_4 .)

Exceptional simple Lie algebras ($\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 0$)

G_2 : The fine gradings have been classified by Draper and Martín-González (and independently by Bahturin and Tvalavadze), using the results on gradings on the octonions (E. 1998).

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Up to equivalence, there appear only the Cartan grading and the \mathbb{Z}_2^3 -grading induced by the corresponding grading of the octonions.

Exceptional simple Lie algebras ($\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 0$)

F_4 : Again the fine gradings have been classified by Draper and Martín-González (2009).

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The proof relies on MAD subgroups and on the description of the simple Lie algebra of type F_4 as the Lie algebra of derivations of the exceptional simple Jordan algebra (or Albert algebra)

$$\mathbb{A} = H_3(\mathbb{O}).$$

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Apart from the Cartan grading, there appear three other non-equivalent fine gradings.

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E_7, E_8 : ??

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$$\Gamma : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_\Gamma : \mathcal{A} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{F}G$$

$$x_g \mapsto x_g \otimes g$$

(algebra morphism and comodule structure)

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$$\Gamma_\rho : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g \quad \Leftarrow \quad \rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{F}G$$

$$(\mathcal{A}_g = \{x \in \mathcal{A} : \rho(x) = x \otimes g\})$$

Affine group schemes

Affine group schemes

$$\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{F}G \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \eta_\Gamma : G^D \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut} \mathcal{A}$$

(comodule algebra) (morphism of affine group schemes)

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where

- $G^D = \text{Hom}_{\text{alg}}(\mathbb{F}G, \cdot) : \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{F}} \rightarrow \text{Grp}$,
- $\mathbf{Aut} \mathcal{A} : \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{F}} \rightarrow \text{Grp}, \quad R \mapsto \text{Aut}_{R\text{-alg}}(\mathcal{A} \otimes R)$.

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and ρ is recovered as

$$\rho(x) = \eta_\Gamma(\text{id}_{\mathbb{F}G})(x \otimes 1) \quad \left(\eta_\Gamma(\text{id}_{\mathbb{F}G}) \in \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{F}G\text{-alg}}(\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{F}G) \right)$$

Gradings and affine group schemes

The rational points of the affine group scheme G^D are precisely the characters of G :

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Message:

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If $\text{Aut } \mathcal{A} \cong \text{Aut } \mathcal{B}$, then the problem of the classification of (fine) gradings on \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are equivalent.

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Orthogonal and symplectic Lie algebras

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$$\mathbf{Aut} \mathfrak{sp}_n(\mathbb{F}) \cong \mathbf{Aut}(\mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}), \tau_s), \quad n \text{ even}, \quad n \geq 4.$$

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$$\Gamma : \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}_g \quad (\text{with } \tau(\mathcal{A}_g) = \mathcal{A}_g \quad \forall g \in G)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \rho_\Gamma : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{F}G \quad (\text{'commuting with } \tau')$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \eta_\Gamma : G^D \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{A}, \tau).$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \eta_\Gamma : G^D \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathcal{A}, \tau).$$

It is enough to study gradings on matrix algebras which are compatible with an involution.

Special linear Lie algebras

$$\mathbf{Aut} \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{F}) \cong \mathbf{Aut} \operatorname{Mat}_2(\mathbb{F}),$$

$$\mathbf{Aut} \mathfrak{psl}_n(\mathbb{F}) \cong \overline{\mathbf{Aut} \operatorname{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F})}, \quad n \geq 3, \text{ unless } n = 3 = \operatorname{char} \mathbb{F}$$

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Therefore, the problem of classification of gradings on the classical Lie algebras (other than D_4 and, for $\operatorname{char} \mathbb{F} = 3$, A_2), reduces to a problem about certain gradings on algebras of matrices.

Gradings on matrix algebras

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(\mathcal{D} is a tensor product of matrix algebras graded by Pauli matrices.)

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$$B : V \times V \rightarrow \mathcal{D},$$

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The involution τ imposes severe restriction on \mathcal{D} , which must be a tensor product of quaternion algebras each one graded over \mathbb{Z}_2^2 .

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$$\mathfrak{g}_g = \{x \in \mathcal{A}_{\bar{g}} : -\varphi(x) = \chi(g)x\} \cap [\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}] \quad (\text{mod } Z(\mathcal{A})).$$

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The exceptional case $\mathfrak{psl}_3(\mathbb{F})$ in characteristic 3 is dealt with in an unexpected way, as $\mathfrak{psl}_3(\mathbb{F}) \cong [\mathbb{O}, \mathbb{O}]$, and its gradings are in bijection with the gradings on the octonions. (E. 1998)

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Most of the previous results on the classical simple Lie algebras are due to Bahturin and Kochetov (2010), and use earlier results of a number of authors.

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In characteristic 3 there are no simple Lie algebras of type G_2 .

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Up to equivalence, the fine gradings on \mathfrak{g}_2 are

- the Cartan grading, and
- a \mathbb{Z}_2^3 -grading with $(\mathfrak{g}_2)_0 = 0$ and where $(\mathfrak{g}_2)_g$ is a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g}_2 for any $0 \neq g \in \mathbb{Z}_2^3$.

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Up to equivalence, the fine gradings of the Albert algebra are:

- ① *The Cartan grading (weight space decomposition relative to a Cartan subalgebra of $\mathfrak{f}_4 = \mathfrak{Der}(\mathbb{A})$).*
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All the gradings up to isomorphism on \mathbb{A} and \mathfrak{f}_4 have been classified too (E.-Kochetov).

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- Many interesting gradings on E_6 , E_7 , E_8 are known, some of them are related either to gradings on octonions, the so called Okubo algebras, or the Albert algebra, but a classification is missing. The classification of fine gradings on E_6 in characteristic 0 has been announced by Draper and Viruel.

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That's all. Thanks