

Last time: - Root systems in $E = \mathbb{R}^2$

- Root system of \mathfrak{sl}_n (type-A Lie algebra)

Today: I. Root system of $\mathfrak{sp}(2l, \mathbb{C}) \stackrel{=: \mathfrak{sp}_{2l}}{=} \text{(type-C Lie algebra)}$

↙ see [og.02.pdf](#), Hum.Ch1, Zw. 12.5.

can be defined from a bilinear form $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_l \\ -I_l & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

Recall that

$$L := \mathfrak{sp}_{2l} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} m & p \\ q & -m^t \end{pmatrix} : \begin{array}{l} m, p, q : l \times l \\ p = p^t, q = q^t \end{array} \right\}.$$

Fact: $H = \{ \text{diag. in } L \} \cap \mathfrak{h}$ Cartan subalgebra of L . (See
Zw
Lem. 12.2)

So the Cartan decomp of L w.r.t. H gives a root system.

We'll compute the Cartan decomp.

$$H = L_0 = \left(e_{ii} - e_{(i+1)(i+1)} : 1 \leq i < l \right) \\ \mathbb{R}\text{-span}$$

Define $m_{ij} := e_{ij} - e_{ij} e_{i+1}$ for $1 \leq i < j \leq l$

$$p_{ij} = e_{i, l+j} + e_{j, l+i} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq l$$

$$q_{ij} = e_{l+i, j} + e_{l+j, i} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq l$$

Then $L = H \oplus \bigoplus_{ij} \langle m_{ij} \rangle \oplus \bigoplus_{ij} \langle p_{ij} \rangle \oplus \bigoplus_{ij} \langle q_{ij} \rangle$
as vector space spaces.

eg. $l=2$. a typical matrix in L looks like

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} & p_{11} & p_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} & p_{12} & p_{22} \\ \hline q_{11} & q_{12} & -m_{11} & -m_{21} \\ q_{12} & q_{22} & -m_{12} & -m_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

and $\langle m_{ij} \rangle, \langle p_{ij} \rangle, \langle f_{ij} \rangle \Rightarrow$ a wt space whenever defined.

$$1 \quad \text{ef. } [h, m_{ij}] = (a_i - a_j) m_{ij} = (\epsilon_i - \epsilon_j)(h) \cdot m_{ij}$$

where $\epsilon_k(\text{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_l, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_l)) = a_k \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq l$.

So we have the root system Φ .

Ex: ① $\Phi = \{ \epsilon_i - \epsilon_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq l, i \neq j \} \cup \pm \{ \epsilon_i + \epsilon_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq l \}$.

② $\Delta := \{ \underbrace{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}_{\alpha_1}, \dots, \underbrace{\epsilon_{l-1} - \epsilon_l}_{\alpha_{l-1}}, \underbrace{2\epsilon_l}_{\beta} \}$ is a base



II. Dynkin diagrams.

Recall the def: $\downarrow \Phi \in E$ a root system. $\Delta \subseteq \bar{\Phi}$ a base

— the graph D with vertices $\overset{\text{bij}}{\longleftrightarrow} \Delta$ (labels of vertices)

— $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Delta$. connect the vertices α, β with

$$d_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \text{ edges}$$

(in particular, α, β are not adjacent in $D \Leftrightarrow \alpha \perp \beta$ as roots)
i.e. $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = 0$

— If α, β are adjacent and differ in length,

then draw an arrow from the longer one to the shorter one.

Also recall: If Δ, Δ' are two bases of $\bar{\Phi}$, they give rise to \mathbb{Z} -graphs. $\left(\begin{array}{c} \exists g \in W \\ \Delta' = g\Delta \end{array} \right)$

the graph
without the
arrow is called
the Coxeter
graph

Prp 1. (Dynkin diagrams determine root systems) Let D_1, D_2 be the

Dynkin diagrams of root systems $\Phi_1 \subseteq E_1$, and $\Phi_2 \subseteq E_2$. If D_1, D_2 are

isomorphic as graphs, then $(E_1, \Phi_1) \cong (E_2, \Phi_2)$ as root systems.

Point: To classify root systems, it suffices to classify Dynkin diagrams.

(root systems $\xleftrightarrow{\text{bij}}$ Dynkin diagrams) up to isos.

Pf: By assumption, \exists bij $\varphi: \Delta_1 \rightarrow \Delta_2$, say $\varphi(\alpha) = \alpha'$ $\forall \alpha \in \Delta_1$. Such

that $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle \alpha', \beta' \rangle \forall \alpha, \beta \in \Delta_1$. Consequently, $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle \alpha', \beta' \rangle$

$\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Delta_1$. Since Δ_1 is a basis of E_1 , φ extends to a

linear isomorphism $\varphi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ (abusing notation for φ here), s.t. to

show that $(E_1, \Phi_1) \cong (E_2, \Phi_2)$ it suffices to show that $\phi(\Phi_1) = \Phi_2$.

Note that $\forall v \in E_1$, say $v = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_1} c_\alpha \alpha$, we have

$$\langle v, \beta \rangle = \langle \phi(v), \beta \rangle \quad \forall \beta \in \Delta_1. \quad (\text{Ex.})$$

and so $S_{\phi(\beta)}(\phi(v)) = \phi(S_\beta(v))$, i.e., the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} v \in E & \xrightarrow{S_\beta} & \bar{v} \\ \phi \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi \\ E' & \xrightarrow{S_{\phi(\beta)}} & E' \end{array}$$

commutes for all $\beta \in \Delta_1$.

Now take $\gamma \in \bar{\Phi}_1$, then $\exists \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k, \alpha \in \Delta$ st.

$$\gamma = s_{\beta_1} \circ \dots \circ s_{\beta_k}(\alpha) \quad \left(\text{Since } \underline{\bar{\Phi}} = W_0 \cdot \Delta. \right)$$

So using the comm diagram repeatedly for β_1, \dots, β_k , we have

$$\varphi(\gamma) = \varphi(s_{\beta_1} \circ \dots \circ s_{\beta_k}(\alpha)) = \underbrace{s_{\beta_1'} \circ \dots \circ s_{\beta_k'}}_{\hat{W}_2} \cdot \underbrace{\alpha'}_{\Delta_2} \in \bar{\Phi}_2$$

Thus, we have $\varphi(\bar{\Phi}_1) \subseteq \bar{\Phi}_2$. We may apply the same argument to


$\varphi^{-1}: \bar{\Phi}_2 \rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_1, \alpha' \mapsto \alpha \forall \alpha' \in \Delta_2$, to obtain $\varphi^{-1}(\bar{\Phi}_2) \subseteq \bar{\Phi}_1$, so

$\bar{\Phi}_2 \subseteq \varphi(\bar{\Phi}_1)$. It follows that $\bar{\Phi}_2 = \varphi(\bar{\Phi}_1)$. \square

Next time: classify root systems via Dynkin diagrams

There's a refinement of the bij $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{root systems} \\ \text{up to } \cong \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Dynkin diag.} \\ \text{up to } \cong \end{array} \right\}.$

namely, a root system is "irreducible" iff its Dynkin diagram is connected.

Def: A root system Φ is irr if it cannot be partitioned into
 a disjoint union of nonempty sets $\Phi = \Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2$ s.t. (1) Φ_1, Φ_2 are root systems themselves and (2) $(\alpha, \beta) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha \in \Phi_1, \beta \in \Phi_2$.

Prop: Every root system can be decomposed into irreducibles. \downarrow
(E.W. 11.7) (So it suffices to study ir. root systems, which clearly correspond to connected Dynkin diagrams) Upshot: Studying conn. Dynkin is enough.