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REPRESENTATION THEORY/SPRING 2010/ E. Horváth and A. Küronya  
PRACTICE SESSION 8

1. (HW) Let  $L$  be the real vector space  $R^3$ . Define  $[x, y] := x \times y$  (cross product of vectors) for  $x, y \in L$ , and verify that  $L$  is a Lie algebra.

Write down the structure constants relative to the usual basis of  $R^3$ .

Show that this Lie algebra is isomorphic to  $so(3)$ , the special orthogonal Lie algebra, consisting of  $3 \times 3$  antisymmetric matrices of trace zero.

2. Describe all Lie algebras of dimension at most two over the field  $K$ .

3. The Lie algebra  $A_l$ : special linear Lie algebra  $sl(l+1, K)$  consisting of all trace zero matrices over the field  $K$ . Show that this is a subalgebra of  $gl(l+1, K)$ . Determine its dimension, give a basis of it.

4. A bilinear function  $f : V_K \times V_K \rightarrow K$  is called **skew symmetric (or symplectic)** if  $f(u, v) = -f(v, u)$  for all  $u, v \in V$ .

a) Show that a bilinear function is skew symmetric iff its matrix is skew symmetric. A bilinear function  $f$  is called **nondegenerate** if for every nonzero vector  $u \in V$  there exists a vector  $v \in V$  s.t.  $f(u, v) \neq 0$ .

b) Show that a bilinear function  $f$  is nondegenerate iff its matrix is regular.

5. The symplectic Lie algebra  $C_l$ : Let  $\dim_R V = 2l$ . Let  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_l & I_l \\ -I_l & 0_l \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $f(u, v) = u^T J v$  be the antisymmetric, nondegenerate bilinear function with matrix  $J$ . Let  $Sp(2l, R) = \{G \in GL(2l, R) | f(Gu, Gv) = f(u, v)\}$  the group preserving the above symplectic bilinear function.

a) Show that its Lie algebra  $sp(2l, R) = \{X \in gl(2l, R) | X^T J = -JX\}$

b) In general  $sp(2l, K) = \{X \in gl(2l, K) | X^T J = -JX\}$

c) Show that this algebra consists of matrices  $X = \begin{pmatrix} A_l & B_l \\ C_l & D_l \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $A_l^T = -D_l$ ,  $B_l^T = B_l$ ,  $C_l^T = C_l$ .

d) Show that its dimension is  $2l^2 + l$  and give a basis of it!

6.(HW) The orthogonal Lie algebra  $B_l$ : Let  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_l & I_l \\ 0 & I_l & 0_l \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $o(2l+1, K) = \{X \in$

$gl(2l+1, K) | X^T J + JX = 0\}$ . Describe the matrices belonging to this algebra. Show that its dimension is  $2l^2 + l$ .

7. The orthogonal Lie algebra  $D_l$ .  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_l & I_l \\ I_l & 0_l \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $o(2l, K) = \{X \in gl(2l, K) | X^T J + JX = 0\}$ . Describe the matrices belonging to this algebra. Show that its dimension is  $2l^2 - l$ .
- 8.a) Show that  $t(n, K)$  the upper triangular matrices in  $gl(n, K)$  forms a subalgebra.  
 b) Show that the strictly upper triangular matrices  $n(n, K)$  in  $gl(n, K)$  is a subalgebra.  
 c) Show that the diagonal matrices  $d(n, K)$  in  $gl(n, K)$  form a subalgebra.
9. Let  $H, K \leq L$  subalgebras of the Lie algebra  $L$ . Define  $[H, K] := \langle [h, k] | h \in H, k \in K \rangle$  be the subspace generated by commutators  $[h, k]$ .  
 a) Show that  $[d(n, k), n(n, K)] = n(n, K)$ .  
 b) Show that  $[t(n, k), n(n, k)] = n(n, k)$ .
10. Show that the adjoint map  $ad : L \rightarrow (Der, [,])$  is a Lie algebra homomorphism.
11. Show that if a matrix  $x \in gl(n, F)$  has  $n$  distinct eigenvalues  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in F$  then  $adx : gl(n, F) \rightarrow gl(n, F)$  has  $n^2$  not necessarily distinct eigenvalues  $a_i - a_j$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ .
12. Prove that the set of all inner derivations  $adx, x \in L$  is an ideal of  $DerL$ .
13. a) Prove that  $[gl(n, F), gl(n, F)] = sl(n, F)$ .  
 b) Prove that  $Z(gl(n, F))$  is just the set of scalar matrices in  $gl(n, F)$ .  
 c) Show that if  $\text{char}F$  is not a divisor of  $n$ , then  $Z(sl(n, F)) = 0$ .  
 d) Show that if  $\text{char}F$  divides  $n$  then  $Z(sl(n, F))$  consists of all scalar matrices in  $gl(n, F)$ .