

# (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups and Lie algebras with built–in structure constants Lecture 3

Lisa Carbone, Rutgers University lisa.carbone@rutgers.edu

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#### TOPICS

- (1) Overview and introductory comments
- (2) Lie algebras: finite and infinite dimensional
- (3) Weights, representations and universal enveloping algebra
- (4) (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups
- (5) (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , generators and defining relations for (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups

(6) Structure constants for Kac–Moody algebras and Chevalley groups

Today we will answer the question of constructing (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and of associating defining relations to (Kac–Moody) Chevalley groups.

#### LAST TIME: (KAC-MOODY) CHEVALLEY GROUPS

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a symmetrizable Lie algebra or Kac–Moody algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

*Let*  $\mathbb{K}$  *be an arbitrary field. Let*  $\alpha_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , *be the simple roots and*  $e_i$ ,  $f_i$  *the generators of*  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Let  $V_{\mathbb{K}}^{\lambda}$  be a  $\mathbb{K}$ -form of an integrable highest weight module  $V^{\lambda}$  for  $\mathfrak{g}$ , corresponding to dominant integral weight  $\lambda$  and defining representation  $\rho : \mathfrak{g} \to End(V_{\mathbb{K}}^{\lambda})$ .

For  $s, t \in \mathbb{K}$ , let

$$\chi_{\alpha_i}(s) = exp(\rho(se_i)), \ \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) = exp(\rho(tf_i)).$$

Then

 $G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{K}) = \langle \chi_{\alpha_i}(s), \ \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{K} \rangle \leq Aut(V_{\mathbb{K}}^{\lambda})$ 

*is a simply connected (Kac–Moody) Chevalley group corresponding to* g*.* 

## CONSTRUCTING A SIMPLY CONNECTED (KAC–MOODY) CHEVALLEY GROUP

Recall that we chose a lattice  $Q \le \Lambda \le P$  between the root lattice Q and weight lattice P, which can be realized as the lattice of weights of a suitable representation V.

The simply connected group has desirable properties when we choose a highest weight module whose set of weights contains all the fundamental weights.

If we choose  $\Lambda = Q$  then  $G^V$  is the adjoint Chevalley group If we choose  $\Lambda = P$  then  $G^V$  is the simply connected Chevalley group

If Q = P, then a representation whose set of weights contains all the fundamental weights is  $V = V^{\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_\ell}$ , the highest weight module corresponding to the sum of the fundamental weights.

#### The Chevalley group for $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$

Let  $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$  denote the Lie algebra of  $3 \times 3$  matrices of trace 0 over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$  denote the simple roots. The basis of the standard 3 dimensional representation  $\rho : \mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C}) \to End(V)$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$  on  $V = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{\alpha_1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ x_{\alpha_2} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ h_{\alpha_1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ h_{\alpha_2} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ x_{-\alpha_1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ x_{-\alpha_2} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we are using the Chevalley notation where  $x_{\alpha_i} = e_i$ ,  $x_{-\alpha_i} = f_i$ . The weights of  $\rho$  are:

$$\omega_1, \ \omega_2 - \omega_1, \ -\omega_2.$$

The representation  $\rho$  coincides with the highest weight module  $V^{\omega_1}$  with highest weight  $\omega_1$ .

# Lie Algebra $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$ to Chevalley group $SL_3(\mathbb{C})$

Let  $V = V^{\omega_1}$  be the highest weight module for  $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$ . Let  $\rho : \mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C}) \to End(V^{\omega_1})$  be the defining representation. Let  $s, t \in \mathbb{C}$ . In  $Aut(V^{\omega_1})$ , as before, we set

$$\chi_{\alpha_i}(s) = exp(\rho(sx_{\alpha_i})), \quad \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) = exp(\rho(tx_{-\alpha_i}))$$

But 
$$x_{\alpha_1}^2 = x_{-\alpha_1}^2 = 0$$
 and  $x_{\alpha_2}^2 = x_{-\alpha_2}^2 = 0$  thus

$$\chi_{\alpha_1}(s) = Id + \rho(sx_{\alpha_1}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & 0\\ 0 & 1 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \chi_{-\alpha_1}(t) = Id + \rho(tx_{-\alpha_1}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0\\ t & 1 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\chi_{\alpha_2}(s) = Id + \rho(sx_{\alpha_2}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \chi_{-\alpha_2}(t) = Id + \rho(tx_{-\alpha_2}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & t & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The lattice generated by the weights of  $V^{\omega_1}$  is the weight lattice *P*. Thus the Chevalley group  $G^{V^{\omega_1}}$  is simply connected.

# SIMPLY CONNECTED CHEVALLEY GROUP CORRESPONDING TO $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$

The simply connected Chevalley group is the group  $G^{V^{\omega_1}} \leq Aut(V^{\omega_1})$ , generated by the automorphisms  $\chi_{\pm \alpha_i}$ :

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{G}^{\boldsymbol{V}^{\boldsymbol{U}\mathbf{1}}}\left(\mathbb{C}\right) &= \langle \chi_{\alpha_{i}}(s), \chi_{-\alpha_{i}}(t) \mid i = 1, 2, \, s, t \in \mathbb{C} \rangle \\ &= \langle \exp(\rho(\mathbf{s}\boldsymbol{x}_{\alpha_{i}})), \, \exp(\rho(t\boldsymbol{x}_{-\alpha_{i}})) \mid i = 1, 2, \, s, t \in \mathbb{C} \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ t & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \, \left( s, t \in \mathbb{C} \right\rangle \end{split}$$

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This is the simple Lie group  $SL_3(\mathbb{C})$ .

# ARITHMETIC SUBGROUP $G^V(\mathbb{Z})$

The arithmetic subgroup  $SL_n(\mathbb{Z})$  of  $SL_n(\mathbb{C})$  is obtained by taking  $\mathbb{Z}$ -entries in the matrix representation of  $SL_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

This corresponds to taking 'Z-points'

$$G^{V}(\mathbb{Z}) = \langle \chi_{\alpha_{i}}(s), \chi_{-\alpha_{i}}(t) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{Z}, \ i \in I \rangle$$

of the Chevalley group  $G^V(\mathbb{C})$ .

For  $G^V(\mathbb{C}) = SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ , this is the subgroup  $G^V(\mathbb{Z}) = SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  generated by the matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & s \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ t & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

This is well known, but does not generalize to exceptional groups or to Kac–Moody groups.

A crucial fact for generalizing this construction is the following.

The subgroup  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  is also the stabilizer of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -form  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of the standard representation  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\Box \to A \otimes \mathbb{R}$  is the stabilizer of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -form  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of the standard representation  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\Box \to A \otimes \mathbb{R}$  is the stabilizer of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -form  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of the standard representation  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\Box \to A \otimes \mathbb{R}$  is the stabilizer of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -form  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of the standard representation  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

#### HIDDEN STRUCTURE

**Proposition** The subgroup  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  is the stabilizer of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -form  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of the standard representation  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

*Proof:* Take  $V_{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  and  $V_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ . Then  $SL_2(\mathbb{Q})$  acts on  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ax + by \\ cx + dy \end{pmatrix}.$$

Suppose now that  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  stabilizes  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot V_{\mathbb{Z}} \subseteq V_{\mathbb{Z}}, \text{ that is } \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix},$$

where ad - bc = 1,  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $u = ax + by \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $v = cx + dy \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Take  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then u = ax + by implies  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and v = cx + dy implies  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Take  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then u = ax + by implies  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and v = cx + dy implies  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus if  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot V_{\mathbb{Z}} \subseteq V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  then  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ .  $\Box$ 

# 'ARITHMETIC SUBGROUP' OF A (KAC–MOODY) CHEVALLEY GROUP

For finite dimensional Chevalley groups, Chevalley defined the arithmetic subgroup  $G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{Z})$  as follows:

 $G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{Z}) = \{g \in G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{C}) \mid g(V_{\mathbb{Z}}) = V_{\mathbb{Z}}\} \le Aut(V_{\mathbb{Z}}).$ 

This is the subgroup of  $G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{C})$  preserving the lattice  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\lambda}$  in the representation space  $V^{\lambda}$ .

How does this compare with the 'group of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -points'

$$G_{\mathbb{Z}} = \langle \chi_{\alpha_i}(s), \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in I \rangle$$

of

$$G_{\mathbb{C}} = \langle \chi_{\alpha_i}(s), \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{C}, \ i \in I \rangle?$$

When g is finite dimensional, it is straightforward to prove that

$$G^{V^{\lambda}}(\mathbb{Z})\cong G_{\mathbb{Z}}.$$

When  $\mathfrak{g}$  is an infinite dimensional Kac–Moody algebra, this is a difficult and substantial theorem, proven by C-Liu.

#### SUBTLE ISSUES

If  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  is written in terms of the generators

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \chi_{\pm \alpha}(t_1)\chi_{\pm \alpha}(t_2)\ldots\chi_{\pm \alpha}(t_k)$$

then it is not necessarily the case that the scalars  $t_i$  are all integers:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \chi_{\alpha}(\frac{1}{2})h_{\alpha}(\frac{1}{2})\chi_{-\alpha}(\frac{1}{2}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

However, since  $g \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  and the  $\chi_{\pm\alpha}(t)$  generate  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  for  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exist integers  $s_1, \ldots, s_n$  such that

$$g = \chi_{\pm \alpha}(s_1) \chi_{\pm \alpha}(s_2) \dots \chi_{\pm \alpha}(s_n).$$

## The Chevalley group $E_7(\mathbb{Z})$

Hull and Townsend, following Cremmer and Julia, discovered the following form of  $E_7(\mathbb{Z})$ :

 $E_{7(+7)}(\mathbb{Z}) = E_{7(+7)}(\mathbb{R}) \cap Sp(56,\mathbb{Z})$ 

in the framework of type II superstring theory. Soulé gave a rigorous mathematical proof that the  $E_{7(+7)}(\mathbb{Z})$  of Hull and Townsend coincides with the Chevalley  $\mathbb{Z}$ -form of  $G = E_7$  given by

 $E_7(\mathbb{Z}) = \{g \in E_7(\mathbb{C}) \mid g(V_{\mathbb{Z}}) = V_{\mathbb{Z}}\} \le Aut(V_{\mathbb{Z}}).$ 

Here  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is the stabilizer of the standard lattice in the unique 56–dimensional fundamental representation of  $E_7$ .



#### GENERATING SETS

**Theorem ([CL])** Let *R* be a commutative ring with 1. Let  $\lambda$  be a dominant integral weight and let  $V^{\lambda}$  be the corresponding integrable highest weight module with simply connected Kac–Moody Chevalley group

 $G^{V^{\lambda}}(R) = \langle exp(\rho(se_i)), exp(\rho(tf_i)) \mid s, t \in R \rangle$ 

Let  $s, t \in R$ ,  $u \in R^{\times}$  and set

 $\chi_{\alpha_i}(s) = exp(\rho(se_i)), \quad \chi_{-\alpha_i}(t) = exp(\rho(tf_i)),$ 

 $\widetilde{w}_{\alpha_i}(u) = \chi_{\alpha_i}(u)\chi_{-\alpha_i}(-u^{-1})\chi_{\alpha_i}(u), \quad h_{\alpha_i}(u) = \widetilde{w}_{\alpha_i}(u)\widetilde{w}_{\alpha_i}(1)^{-1}.$ 

Then  $G^{V^{\lambda}}(R)$  has the following generating sets: (1)  $\chi_{\alpha_i}(s)$  and  $\chi_{-\alpha_i}(t)$ , and (2)  $\chi_{\alpha_i}(s)$  and  $\widetilde{w}_{\alpha_i}(1) = \chi_{\alpha_i}(1)\chi_{-\alpha_i}(-1)\chi_{\alpha_i}(1)$ .

### GENERATING SETS FOR $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$

The simply connected Chevalley group  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  has the following generating sets

(1)  $\chi_{\alpha}(1)$  and  $\chi_{-\alpha}(1)$ , corresponding to matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(2)  $\chi_{\alpha}(1)$  and  $\tilde{w}_{\alpha}(1) = \chi_{\alpha}(1)\chi_{-\alpha}(-1)\chi_{\alpha}(1)$ , corresponding to matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 

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where  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

# GENERATORS AND RELATIONS FOR CHEVALLEY GROUPS

Steinberg gave a defining presentation for finite dimensional Chevalley groups over commutative rings *R*, using the generating sets that we have described.

Tits gave generators and relations for Kac–Moody groups, generalizing the Steinberg presentation.

In the finite dimensional case, there is a Chevalley type commutation relation of the form

$$(\chi_{\alpha}(u),\chi_{\beta}(v))=\prod_{m,n}\chi_{m\alpha+n\beta}(C_{mn\alpha\beta}u^{m}v^{n})$$

#### between every pair of elements $\chi_{\alpha}$ , $\chi_{\beta}$ .

Here  $u, v \in R$ ,  $C_{mn\alpha\beta}$  are integers and the  $\chi_{\alpha}$  are viewed as formal symbols in

$$U_{\alpha} = \{\chi_{\alpha}(u) \mid \alpha \in \Delta, \ u \in R\} \cong (R, +).$$

However, in the infinite dimensional case, Tits' presentation of Kac–Moody groups has infinitely many Chevalley commutation relations.

# DETERMINING TITS' KAC–MOODY GROUP PRESENTATION

In the infinite dimensional Kac–Moody case, Tits determined that whenever a pair of real roots is 'prenilpotent', then there is a Chevalley commutation relation necessary for defining the Kac–Moody group. In order to make Tits' presentation complete, we need to:

Explicitly describe the infinite set of prenilpotent pairs of roots.

This usually requires us to:

Explicitly describe the infinite set of positive real roots.

There is no guarantee that either of these tasks can be carried out in practice.



#### PRENILPOTENT PAIRS

Let  $(\alpha, \beta)$  be a pair of real roots and let *W* denote the Weyl group. Then  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is called a *prenilpotent pair*, if there exist  $w, w' \in W$  such that

 $w\alpha, w\beta \in \Delta^{re}_+ \text{ and } w'\alpha, w'\beta \in \Delta^{re}_-.$ 

A pair of roots  $\{\alpha, \beta\}$  is prenilpotent if and only if  $\alpha \neq -\beta$  and

 $(\mathbb{Z}_{>0}\alpha + \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\beta) \cap \Delta_+^{re}$ 

is a finite set. For every prenilpotent pair of roots  $\{\alpha, \beta\}$ , Tits defined the Chevalley commutation relation

 $(\chi_{\alpha}(u),\chi_{\beta}(v)) = \prod_{m\alpha+n\beta\in(\mathbb{Z}_{>0}\alpha+\mathbb{Z}_{>0}\beta)\cap\Delta_{+}^{re}}\chi_{m\alpha+n\beta}(C_{mn\alpha\beta}u^{m}v^{n})$ 

where  $u, v \in R$  and  $C_{mn\alpha\beta}$  are integers.

If  $\mathfrak{g}$  is finite dimensional, every pairs  $(\alpha, \beta)$  of roots is prenilpotent.

#### THE TITS–STEINBERG PRESENTATION

Let *R* be a commutative ring with 1. Let g be a finite dimensional simple Lie algebra or symmetrizable Kac–Moody algebra. We may associate to g a group *G* over *R*, generated by the set of symbols { $\chi_{\alpha}(u) \mid \alpha \in \Delta^{re}, u \in R$ } satisfying relations (R1)–(R7) below. Let  $i, j \in I$ ,  $u, v \in R$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Delta^{re}$ .

(R1) 
$$\chi_{\alpha}(u+v) = \chi_{\alpha}(u)\chi_{\alpha}(v);$$

(R2) For each prenilpotent pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$ ,

$$(\chi_{\alpha}(u),\chi_{\beta}(v)) = \prod_{\substack{m,n>0\\m\alpha+n\beta \in \mathbb{Z}\alpha \oplus \mathbb{Z}\beta}} \chi_{m\alpha+n\beta}(C_{mn\alpha\beta}u^{m}v^{n})$$

where  $C_{mn\alpha\beta}$  are integers.

(R3) 
$$\widetilde{w}_i \chi_\alpha(u) \widetilde{w}_i^{-1} = \chi_{w_i \alpha}(\eta_{\alpha,i} u)$$

(R4) 
$$h_i(u)\chi_{\alpha}(v)h_i(u)^{-1} = \chi_{\alpha}(vu^{\langle \alpha, \alpha_i^{\vee} \rangle})$$
 for  $u \in R^*$ ,

(R5) 
$$\widetilde{w}_i h_j(u) \widetilde{w}_i^{-1} = h_j(u) h_i(u^{-a_{ji}}),$$

(R6) 
$$h_i(uv) = h_i(u)h_i(v)$$
 for  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^*$ , and

(R7) 
$$(h_i(u), h_j(v)) = 1$$
 for  $u, v \in R^*$ .

#### THE DIFFICULTY OF FINDING PRENILPOTENT PAIRS

For  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{e}_{10}$ , work of Allcock has shown that the problem of determining all prenilpotent pairs is tractable but impractical. Namely, Allcock showed that for the number of *W*–orbits of prenilpotent pairs of real roots having inner product equal to *k* grows at least as fast as  $(const)k^7$  as  $k \to \infty$ .

For each such orbit, we then have to enumerate the prenilpotent pairs of real roots.

We need a different approach.



## SIMPLIFYING TITS' PRESENTATION

Tits' presentation is very redundant and can be reduced significantly. In joint work with D. Allcock, we obtained a simplification of Tits' presentation for Kac–Moody algebras that are simply laced and hyperbolic, giving a *finite* presentation for these groups over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

A Dynkin diagram is *simply laced* if it consists only of single bonds between nodes.

This class includes the group  $E_{10}(\mathbb{Z})$ , conjectured to be a discrete symmetry group of Type II superstring theory.

Our result shows that in a simply laced hyperbolic Kac–Moody group, the Chevalley commutation relations arising from *simple roots* imply the Chevalley commutation relations arising from all real roots.



# A finite presentation for $G(\mathbb{Z})$

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simply laced, symmetrizable and hyperbolic Kac–Moody algebra.

Tits' presentation can be reduced to the following *finite* presentation for  $G(\mathbb{Z})$ :

Over  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ , the generators  $X_i(u)$  are obtained from  $X_i = X_i(1)$  via  $X_i(u) = X_i^u$ .

Any i	Each $i = \{1, \ldots, \ell\}$	$i \neq j$ not adjacent	$i \neq j$ adjacent
$S_{i}^{4} = 1$	$[S_i^2, X_i] = 1$	$S_i S_j = S_j S_i$	$S_i S_j S_i = S_j S_i S_j$
	$\mathbf{S}_{i} = \mathbf{Y}_{i}\mathbf{S}_{i}\mathbf{Y}_{i}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{Y}_{i}$	$[S, X_{i}] = 1$	$S_i S_j S_i^{-1} = S_j^{-1}$ $Y_i S_i S_i^{-1} = S_i S_i Y_i$
	$S_l = \Lambda_l S_l \Lambda_l S_j  \Lambda_l$	$[\mathcal{O}_l,\mathcal{M}_j] = 1$	$S_{i}^{2}X_{i}S_{i}^{-2} = X_{i}^{-1}$
		$[X_i, X_j] = 1$	$[X_i, X_j] = S_i X_j S_i^{-1}$
			$[X_i, S_i X_j S_i^{-1}] = 1$

Table: The defining relations for  $G(\mathbb{Z})$ , *G* simply laced and hyperbolic

### COMPARING KAC-MOODY GROUPS

We have been considering the following group constructions:

- Tits' presentation, which defines a Kac-Moody group,
- Our Kac–Moody Chevalley group  $G^{V}(\mathbb{C})$ , for some choice of V

We conjecture that over  $\mathbb{C}$ , Tits' group given by generators and relations coincides with our Kac–Moody Chevalley group  $G^{V}(\mathbb{C})$  for some choice of highest weight module *V*.

This involves the functorial properties of Tits' Kac–Moody group, which are not completely understood.

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In the finite dimensional case, this isomorphism is well known.

# The Feingold–Frenkel hyperbolic Kac–Moody algebra $AE_3$

Consider the hyperbolic Kac–Moody algebra with generalized Cartan matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{rrr} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \end{array}\right)$$

It has been conjectured for some time that this hyperbolic algebra may be an algebra of internal symmetries of Einstein's gravitational equations. The Weyl group W is the  $(3, 2, \infty)$ -triangle group:

$$W = \langle w_1, w_2, w_3 \mid w_i^2 = 1, \ (w_2 w_3)^3 = 1, \ (w_1 w_3)^2 = 1 \rangle,$$

which is isomorphic to  $PGL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . The Dynkin diagram

is not simply laced and hence does not satisfy the conditions to give rise to our finite presentation.

In recent work with Scott Murray, we give a recursive method for determining the infinite set of prenilpotent pairs of real roots in  $AE_3$ .

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