

The underlying geometry of the graphs $CD(k, q)$

Andrew Woldar
Villanova University

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To Ron Solomon, who gave me the gift of knowledge and the rewards of
friendship, "*Semper gratiam habebo.*"

Introduction

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$$\left(\text{Ramanujan} \iff \lambda_2 \leq 2\sqrt{q-1} \right)$$

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They exist for every positive integer k and every prime power q .

— $CD(5, q)$ —

Points: $(p) = (p_1, p_{11}, p_{12}, p_{21}, p_{22}) \subset \mathbb{F}_q^5$

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Adjacency relations:

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— $CD(4, q)$ —

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— $CD(3, q)$ —

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— $CD(2, q)$ —

Points: $(p) = (p_1, p_{11}, \cancel{p_{12}}, \cancel{p_{21}}, \cancel{p_{22}}) \subset \mathbb{F}_q^2$

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Problem: How close to this bound can we come for the remaining values of k ?

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The cases $k = 2, 3, 5$ are realized by the respective incidence graphs of the generalized triangle of type A_2 , the generalized quadrangle of type B_2 , and the generalized hexagon of type G_2 .

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The cases $k = 2, 3, 5$ correspond to $m = 3, 4, 6$ respectively. No other value of m can contribute anything meaningful to our extremal graph theory problem.

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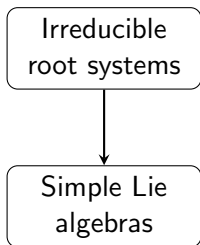
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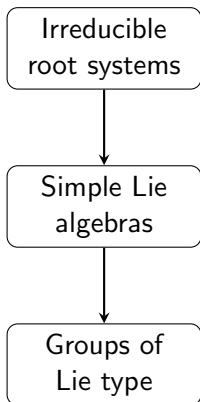
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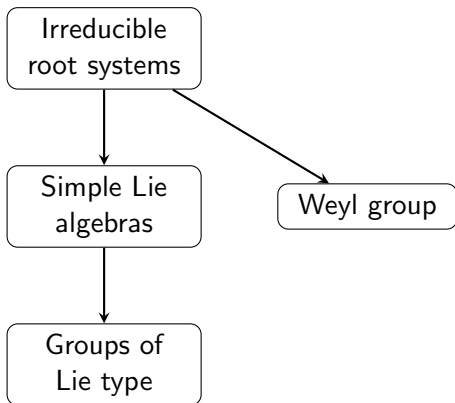
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- 2 The Weyl group
- 3 Dynkin diagrams and the Cartan matrix
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- 7 Embedding buildings into Lie algebras
- 8 Objects of type \tilde{A}_1

Irreducible
root systems

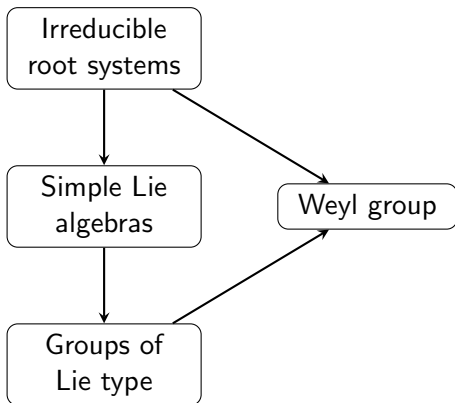




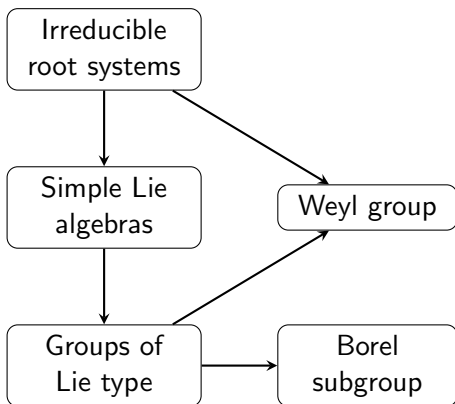
Schematic



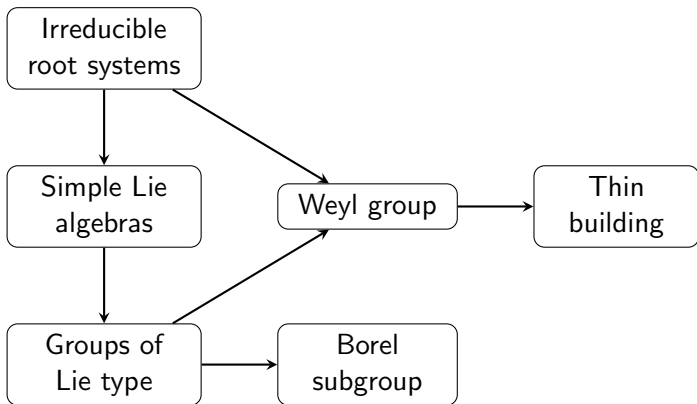
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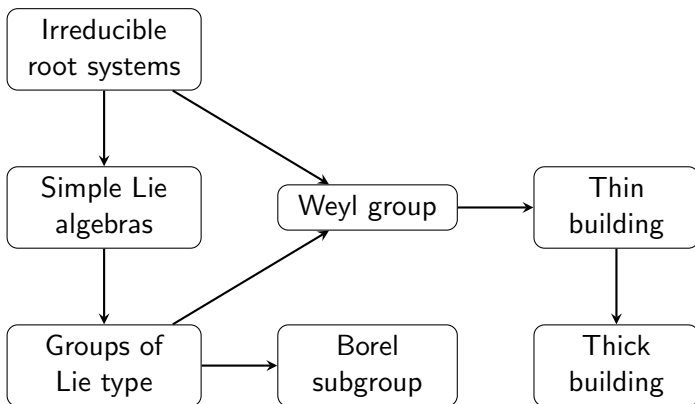
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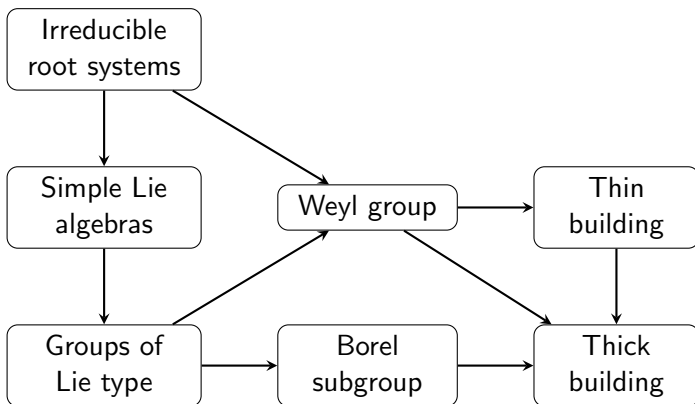
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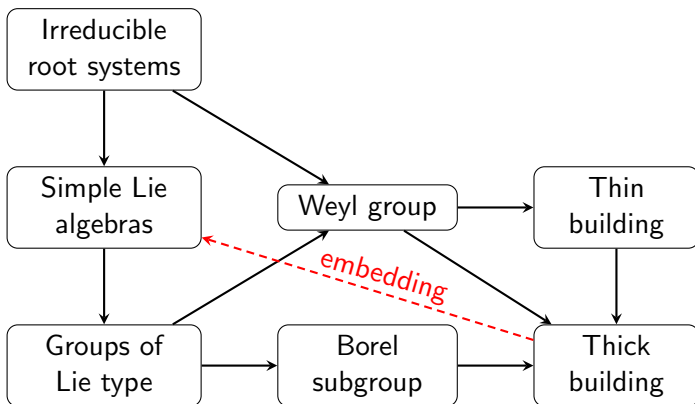
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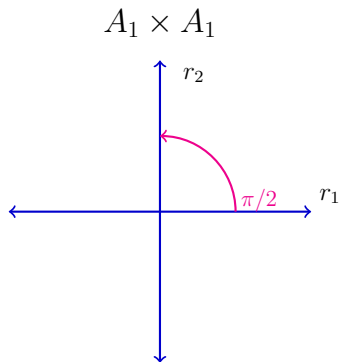
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(Hence $\Phi = \Phi^+ \cup \Phi^-$ where $\Phi^- = -\Phi^+$.)

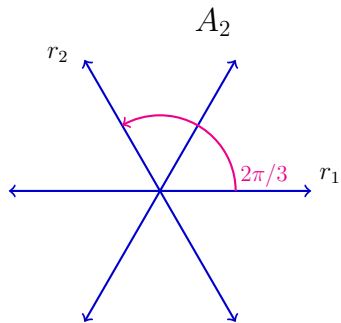
Root systems

rank 2 case



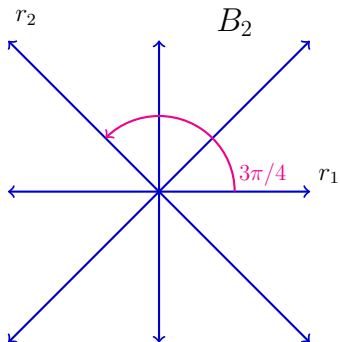
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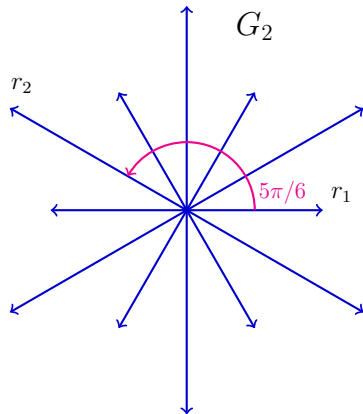
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The **Weyl group** is generated by all fundamental reflections, i.e.,

$$W = \langle w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n \rangle$$

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- $W(G_2) \cong D_{12}$ ($m = 6$)

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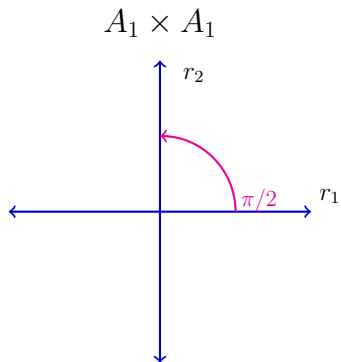
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Nodes of diagram \longleftrightarrow fundamental reflections
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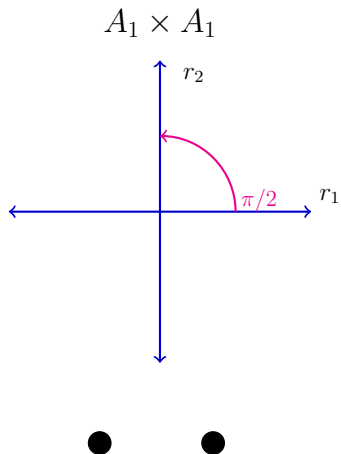
Dynkin diagrams

rank 2 case



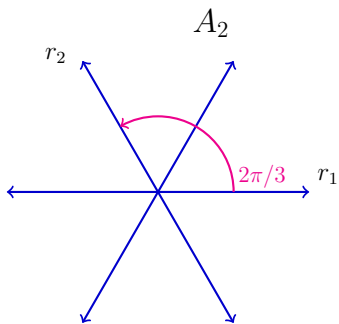
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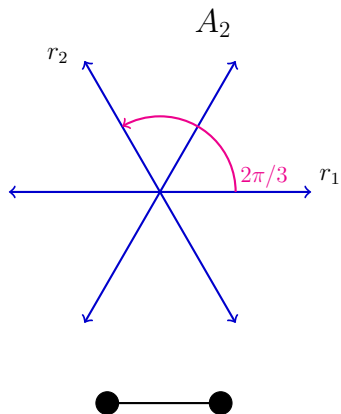
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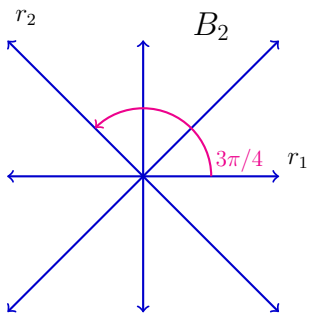
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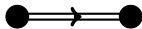
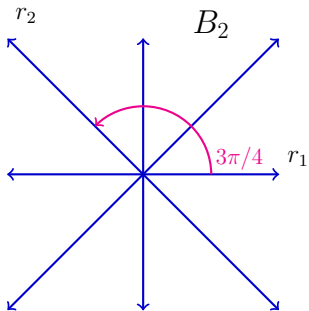
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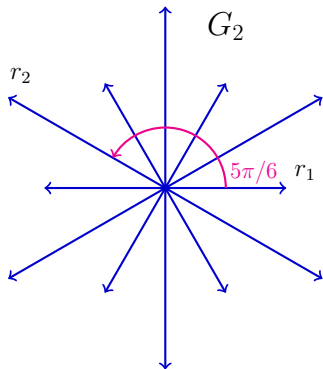
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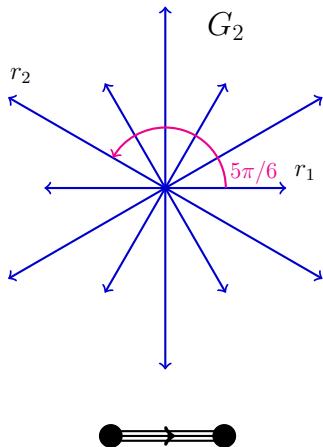
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The Cartan matrix

another codifying device

Recall that for any pair of roots $r, s \in \Phi$, one has

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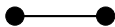
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Lie algebras

definition

A **Lie algebra** is a vector space \mathfrak{L} over some field \mathbb{F} , endowed with a binary operation $[\cdot, \cdot] : \mathfrak{L} \times \mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \mathfrak{L}$ (**Lie product**) which is bilinear, anticommutative, and satisfies the Jacobi identity:

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Lie algebras are examples of non-associative graded algebras.

Subject to a fixed choice of root system and field, one obtains a unique semisimple Lie algebra.

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Cartan decomposition

Let \mathfrak{h} be a self-normalizing nilpotent subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} . We call \mathfrak{h} a **Cartan subalgebra** of \mathfrak{g} .

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This gives $\Phi \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{h}^*$, therefore $\Phi^* \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{h}$.

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If we now append \mathfrak{h} to each of these subspaces, we obtain

$$\mathfrak{L}^U = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{L}_\mathfrak{t}^+ \quad (\text{upper Borel subalgebra})$$

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We are interested in the upper Borel subalgebra $\mathfrak{L}^U = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{t}}^+$.

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Lie algebras

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We may choose our embedding $\Pi^* \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{H}$ as follows:

$$r_1^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad r_2^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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A basis for $\mathfrak{L}^U = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{L}^+$ is

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Subject to our matrix representation, this becomes

$$\mathfrak{L}^U = \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{ccc} a & c & d \\ 0 & b-a & e \\ 0 & 0 & -b \end{array} \right) \mid a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

□

Finite groups of Lie type

the complex Lie group

Given a complex simple Lie algebra \mathfrak{L} , for each $x \in \mathfrak{L}$ we define the exponentiation map

$$\exp(\operatorname{ad} x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\operatorname{ad} x)^k}{k!}$$

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We now define the complex Lie group:

$$G = \{ \exp(\operatorname{ad} x) \mid x \in \mathfrak{L} \}$$

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seminal work of C. Chevalley

Chevalley constructed a basis (**Chevalley basis**) for the universal enveloping algebra of every complex simple Lie algebra with the property that all structure constants of the enveloping algebra are integral with respect to the basis.

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The resulting finite simple groups are termed **Chevalley groups** in his honor.

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Chevalley groups

| Lie type | group | discoverer |
|----------|-------|------------|
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* The case “ q prime” was treated by C. Jordan.

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| ${}^3D_4(q)$ | | Steinberg | |
| ${}^2B_2(2^{2m+1})$ | | Suzuki | |
| ${}^2G_2(3^{2m+1})$ | | Ree | |
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* The family ${}^2E_6(q)$ was discovered independently by J. Tits.

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(2) The diagrams B_2, G_2, F_4 each admit an order 2 automorphism that interchanges long and short roots. The existence of ${}^2B_2(q), {}^2G_2(q), {}^2F_4(q)$ therefore requires that $B_2(q), G_2(q), F_4(q)$ admit graph-field automorphisms that preserve root length. This occurs only for the fields specified above, and certainly not for \mathbb{C} .

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structure and partial subgroup lattice

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The $2^n - 1$ proper subgroups in this lattice are called **parabolic subgroups** of G . Of these, n are maximal subgroups of G . We denote these as P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n (**maximal parabolics**).

Finite groups of Lie type

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As $N_G(T)$ need not split over T , W need not be a subgroup of G .

Finite groups of Lie type

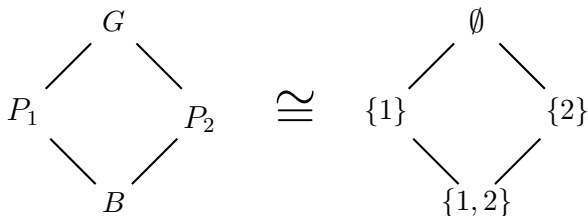
type A_2

EXAMPLE. We illustrate the case $A_2(q) = L_3(q)$ in detail.

Finite groups of Lie type

type A_2

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Note: $B = P_1 \cap P_2$. As such, we may denote B as $P_{1,2}$.

Finite groups of Lie type

type A_2

We may choose our Sylow p -subgroup to be

$$U = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

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□

Rank 2 buildings

definition

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We refer to $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{I})$ as a **(thick) rank 2 building**.

Rank 2 buildings

type A_2

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Thus G/P_1 and G/P_2 are the point set and line set of $PG(2, \mathbb{F})$. We conclude that buildings of type A_2 are nothing more than Desarguesian projective planes. □

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

general procedure

Let G be a group of Lie type with fixed Borel subgroup B , fixed maximal torus $T < B$, maximal parabolics P_i , Weyl group W , and Lie algebra \mathfrak{L} .

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Each Borel orbit on G/P_i (**Schubert cell**) contains a unique T -invariant coset gP_i which may be identified with the coset $\alpha = wW_i \in W/W_i$ where $g \in BwB$ and $P_i = BW_iB$. Moreover, every $\alpha \in W/W_i$ is so realized. We denote this orbit by \mathcal{B}_α .

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$$\text{Borel orbits } \mathcal{B}_\alpha \text{ of } G/P_i \xleftrightarrow{\text{one-to-one}} \text{cosets } \alpha \in W/W_i$$

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Hence we need some way of identifying which vectors in $\alpha \oplus \mathfrak{L}^+$ represent embedded objects from \mathcal{B}_α .

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Note: This is a group-free description of the objects in each Borel orbit \mathcal{B}_α . Thus a full determination of the objects in the embedded building depends only on the action of the Weyl group.

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

incidence

Incidence: $\alpha + \mathfrak{a} \in \mathcal{B}_\alpha$ is incident to $\beta + \mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{B}_\beta$ if and only if

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Note: This coincides with the previously defined incidence on the pre-embedded objects of the geometry (nonempty intersection of cosets).

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

type A_2 (projective plane)

EXAMPLE. We illustrate the embedding procedure for the classical projective plane $PG(2, q)$.

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

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| | α | \mathfrak{a} | $ \mathcal{B}_\alpha $ |
|---------------|------------------|---|------------------------|
| \mathcal{P} | r_1^* | 0 | 1 |
| | $-r_1^* + r_2^*$ | $\lambda_{r_1} e_{r_1}$ | q |
| | $-r_2^*$ | $\lambda_{r_2} e_{r_2} + \lambda_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2}$ | q^2 |
| \mathcal{L} | r_2^* | 0 | 1 |
| | $r_1^* - r_2^*$ | $\lambda_{r_2} e_{r_2}$ | q |
| | $-r_1^*$ | $\lambda_{r_1} e_{r_1} + \lambda_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2}$ | q^2 |

Table: Objects of the embedded building of type A_2 in $\mathfrak{L}^U = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{L}^+$
Each embedded object is of the form $\alpha + \mathfrak{a}$ for $\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}$ and $\mathfrak{a} \in \mathfrak{L}^+(\alpha)$

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

type A_2 (projective plane)

| | | lines | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|--|--|
| | | r_2^* | $r_1^* - r_2^* + \gamma_{r_2} e_{r_2}$ | $-r_1^* + \gamma_{r_1} e_{r_1} + \gamma_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2}$ |
| points { | r_1^* | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | $-r_1^* + r_2^* + \lambda_{r_1} e_{r_1}$ | 1 | 0 | δ_{ab} |
| | $-r_2^* + \lambda_{r_2} e_{r_2} + \lambda_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2}$ | 0 | δ_{cd} | δ_{ef} |

Table: Incidence in the embedded building of type A_2 .

Each of δ_{ab} , δ_{cd} and δ_{ef} is the kronecker delta function, where $a = 2\lambda_{r_1}$, $b = 3\gamma_{r_1}$; $c = 2\lambda_{r_2}$, $d = 3\gamma_{r_2}$; and $e = \lambda_{r_1+r_2}$, $f = \gamma_{r_1+r_2} + \lambda_{r_1}\gamma_{r_2}$.

Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

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We perform the computation for incidence between points and lines in the largest Borel orbits. These orbits are $\mathcal{B}_{-r_2^*}$ and $\mathcal{B}_{-r_1^*}$ respectively.

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Convention: We denote the scalar multiple of the root vector $e_{ir_1+jr_2}$ by p_{ij} for each point (p) and by ℓ_{ij} for each line $[\ell]$.

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$$(p) = -r_2^* + p_{01}e_{r_2} + p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2} \in \mathcal{B}_{-r_2^*}$$

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Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

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Thus point (p) is incident to line $[\ell]$ precisely when the projection of $[(p), [\ell]]$ onto $\mathfrak{L}^+(-r_2^*) \cap \mathfrak{L}^+(-r_1^*)$ is zero.

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$$\begin{aligned} [(p), [\ell]] &= [-r_2^*, -r_1^*] + [p_{01}e_{r_2}, -r_1^*] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, -r_1^*] + [-r_2^*, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + \\ &\quad [p_{01}e_{r_2}, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + [-r_2^*, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] + \\ &\quad [p_{01}e_{r_2}, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] \\ &= (p_{11} - p_{01}\ell_{10} - \ell_{11})e_{r_1+r_2} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} [(p), [\ell]] &= [-r_2^*, -r_1^*] + [p_{01}e_{r_2}, -r_1^*] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, -r_1^*] + [-r_2^*, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + \\ &\quad [p_{01}e_{r_2}, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, \ell_{10}e_{r_1}] + [-r_2^*, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] + \\ &\quad [p_{01}e_{r_2}, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] + [p_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}, \ell_{11}e_{r_1+r_2}] \\ &= (p_{11} - p_{01}\ell_{10} - \ell_{11})e_{r_1+r_2} \end{aligned}$$

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Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

type A_2 (projective plane)

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Embedding buildings in Lie algebras

type B_2 (generalized quadrangle)

EXAMPLE. We provide objects of the embedded generalized quadrangle of type B_2 .

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| | α | \mathfrak{a} | $ \mathcal{B}_\alpha $ |
|---------------|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| \mathcal{P} | r_1^* | 0 | 1 |
| | $-r_1^* + 2r_2^*$ | $\lambda_{r_1} e_{r_1}$ | q |
| | $r_1^* - 2r_2^*$ | $\lambda_{r_2} e_{r_2} + \lambda_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2}$ | q^2 |
| | $-r_1^*$ | $\lambda_{r_1} e_{r_1} + \lambda_{r_1+r_2} e_{r_1+r_2} + \lambda_{2r_1+r_2} e_{2r_1+r_2}$ | q^3 |
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Table: Objects in the embedded building of type B_2

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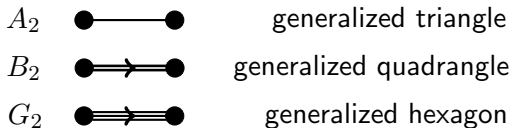
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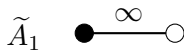
However, the supply is already exhausted:



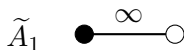
Objects of type \tilde{A}_1

the key to everything

Or is it?

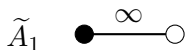


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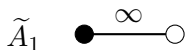
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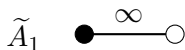


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Hence, the affine Lie algebra $\mathfrak{L}(\tilde{A}_1)$ is infinite-dimensional (although its Cartan subalgebra is 2-dimensional).

In fact, there are two nonisomorphic affine Lie algebras of type \tilde{A}_1 , with respective Cartan matrices:

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From here, we generate the set Φ^+ of positive roots:

$$r_1, r_2, r_1 + r_2, 2r_1 + r_2, r_1 + 2r_2, 2r_1 + 2r_2, \dots, \\ ir_1 + (i-1)r_2, (i-1)r_1 + ir_2, ir_1 + ir_2, \dots$$

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Personally, I believe this to be a plausible explanation as to why there do not exist generalized polygons of arbitrary even girth.

Objects of type \tilde{A}_1

truncating the affine root system

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So, what happens if we truncate $\Phi^+(\tilde{A}_1)$ at increasingly larger initial segments?

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Since the notion of expanse has already eliminated dependence on the Borel subgroup, our affine truncated geometries now have a completely group-free formulation.

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The affine part of the generalized hexagon does not appear in our series (perhaps due to the root space $\mathfrak{L}_{2r_1+2r_2}$ being isotropic ??).

The End
Thank you!

Vasya Ustimenko, Ivar Stakgold, Me, Felix, Joe Hemmeter (seated)

