

### § 12.9. Cartan operators

(we shall extend the above construction to the case of a reductive Lie algebra. f.d. lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  it will be more convenient to use here this notation instead of  $\mathfrak{g}$ )

A lie algebra is reductive if its adjoint representation is completely reducible. More concretely, a lie algebra is reductive if it is a direct sum of a semisimple lie algebra and an abelian lie algebra:  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{s} + \mathfrak{A}$

( $\exists$  15) we have the decomposition of  $\mathfrak{g}$  into a direct sum of ideals

$$(12.9.1) \quad \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{(0)} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{(1)} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{(2)} \oplus \dots$$

where  $\mathfrak{g}_{(0)}$  is the center of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}$  with  $i \geq 1$  are simple.

• we fix on  $\mathfrak{g}$  a non-degenerate invariant bilinear form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  so that  $(\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}, \mathfrak{g}_{(j)})$  is an orthogonal decomposition (we shall assume that the restriction of  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  to each  $\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}$  is non-degenerate). Define a normalized invariant form on  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We call it "if  $x \in \mathfrak{g}_{(i)}$ " is the normalized invariant form. Assume  $\langle e_i^1 | e_j^1 \rangle = 1$  where  $e_i^1$  is the basis of  $\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}$ ,  $i \geq 1$ , and that  $\mathfrak{g}_{(0)}$  and the form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  restricted to it are described (in Rem 12.8) positive definite bilinear form. (we call such form a normalized invariant form on  $\mathfrak{g}$ .)

• we let:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}), \text{ where } \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{g}_{(i)}) + \mathbb{C}K_i.$$

also let (c.f. § 7.5)

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) + \text{ad}, \text{ where } \text{ad}/\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(0)}) = \frac{d}{dt} + \frac{d}{dt}, \text{ ad}(K_i) = 0.$$

The lie algebra  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$  are called affine algebras associated to the reductive lie alg.  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

The subalgebra  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(0)})$  (resp.  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(0)}) + \text{ad}$ ) are called components of  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$  (resp.  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ )

• Note that  $\tau = \mathfrak{g}_{(0)} + \sum_{i \geq 1} \mathbb{C}K_i$  is the center of  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ .

As before, we identify  $\mathfrak{g}$  with the subalgebra of  $1 \otimes \mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $\bar{\mathfrak{n}}$  be a Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and let  $\mathfrak{g} = \bar{\mathfrak{n}}^- \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{n}} \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{n}}^+$  be a triangular decomposition of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

The subalgebra  $\mathfrak{n} = \bar{\mathfrak{n}} + \tau + \text{ad}$  is called the Cartan subalgebra of  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ .

The triangular decomposition:  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathfrak{n}^- \oplus \mathfrak{n} \oplus \mathfrak{n}^+$  is defined in the same way as in § 7.6. (P102).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{n}^- &= (\mathbb{C}t \otimes t^{-1}) \otimes (\bar{\mathfrak{n}}^+ + \bar{\mathfrak{n}}) + \mathbb{C}[t^{-1}] \otimes \bar{\mathfrak{n}}^- & \text{since } \mathcal{D}_t^{\text{re}} = \{ \text{ad} \in \mathcal{D}, \text{ with } n_t^{\text{re}} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{C}t \otimes t^{-1} \otimes (\bar{\mathfrak{n}}^- + \bar{\mathfrak{n}}) + \mathbb{C}[t^{-1}] \otimes \bar{\mathfrak{n}}^+ & \in \mathcal{D}_t^{\text{re}} \} \end{aligned}$$

- For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{H}^*$ , (we denote (as before) its restriction to  $\mathfrak{h}$  by  $\tilde{\lambda}$ )  
As before, define  $S \otimes \mathbb{H}^*$  by:  $S|_{\tilde{\lambda} + c} = 0$ ,  $\langle S, d \rangle = 1$
- Given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{H}^*$ , we denote (as before) by  $L(\lambda)$  the irreducible  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g)$ -module which admits a non-zero vector  $v_\lambda$  such that:  $n_f(v_\lambda) = 0$  and  $h(v_\lambda) = \langle \lambda, h \rangle v_\lambda$  for all  $h$ .

Using uniqueness of  $L(\lambda)$ , we clearly have:

$$\lambda_{(i)} = \lambda|_{H \cap \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)})} \quad (12.9.2) \quad L(\lambda) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} L(\lambda_{(i)}) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Is } n_f \text{ of } S \text{ OK?} \\ (\text{OK?}) \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Is } h \text{ of } S \text{ OK?} \\ (\text{OK?}) \end{matrix} \\ (\text{where } \lambda_{(i)} \text{ denotes the restriction of } \lambda \text{ to } H_{(i)} := H \cap \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)})) \\ \text{and } L(\lambda_{(i)}) \text{ is the } \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)})\text{-module with highest weight } \lambda_{(i)}.$$

- we let  $k_i$ , the eigenvalue of  $K_i$  on  $L(\lambda)$ , be the  $i$ -th level of  $\lambda$ , and set  $k = (k_0, k_1, \dots)$ .  
re.  $k_i = \langle \lambda, K_i \rangle$

$$\text{Define } c(k) = \sum_i c(k_i), \quad h_k = \sum_i h_{k(i)}, \quad m_\lambda = \sum_i m_{\lambda(i)}$$

$$T(c(k)) = \frac{k(d + p)}{k + h}, \quad h_k = \frac{(k + p)\lambda}{2(k + h)} \quad \forall V = L(\lambda).$$

(conformal anomaly) (vacuum anomaly)

$$m_\lambda = \frac{1\lambda + p^2}{2(k + h)} - \frac{|p|^2}{2h} \quad (\text{modular anomaly})$$

Due to (12.9.2),  $c(h_{\lambda(i)}) = \overline{\eta} c(h_{\lambda(i)})$  and

$$(12.9.3) \quad \chi_\lambda := e^{-m_\lambda} \chi_{L(\lambda)} = \prod_i \chi_{\lambda(i)} \quad \chi_{V \otimes V} = \chi_V + \chi_{V^*}$$

Prob. normalized character  $\chi_\lambda = e^{-m_\lambda} \chi_{L(\lambda)}$

- let  $V$  be a restricted  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g)$ -module s.t.  $k_i$  acts as  $k_i I$  and  $k_j \neq -h_j^*$  where  $h_j^*$  is the dual Coxeter number of  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(j)})$ .  
let  $T^{(i)}$  be the Sugawara operators for  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)})$ , and let (cf. 8)  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)}) = \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)}) + \text{cd}_i$

$$(12.9.4) \quad L_n^{(i)} = \frac{T^{(i)}}{2(k_i + h_i)}, \quad L_n^g = \sum_i L_n^{(i)}$$

The operators  $L_n^g$  are called the Virasoro operators for the  $g$ -module  $V$ .

Then letting  $d_n \mapsto L_n^g$ ,  $c \mapsto c(k)$   
extends  $V$  to a module over  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g) + \mathbb{C}d$

- Note also the following useful formula (cf. (12.8.5)).

$$(12.9.5) \quad L_0^g = \sum_i \frac{\Omega_i}{2(k_i + h_i)} - d$$

where  $\Omega_i$  is the Casimir operator for  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(g_{(i)})$ .

$$\Gamma \quad L_0^{(i)} = \frac{T_0^{(i)}}{2(k_i + h_i)}, \quad L_0^g = \sum_i \frac{T_0^{(i)}}{2(k_i + h_i)} - d$$

$$\text{from (12.8.5)} \quad T_0 = -2(K + h) d + \Omega$$

$$d = d_0 + d_1 + \dots$$

### §11.9. Coset Vir-module.

In the remainder of this chapter, we let  $g$  be a reductive  $t$ -d. Lie algebra with a normalized invariant form  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  and let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a reductive subalgebra of  $g$  such that  $(\cdot | \cdot)|_{\mathfrak{g}}$  is non-degenerate.

Let  $g = \bigoplus_{s \geq 0} g_{(s)}$  and  $\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{s \geq 0} \mathfrak{g}_{(s)}$  be the decompositions  $(12.9.1)$  of  $g$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $(\cdot | \cdot)^*$  be a normalized invariant form on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , which coincides with  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  on  $\mathfrak{g}_{(0)}$ . Due to uniqueness of the invariant bilinear form on simple Lie algebras, we have for  $x, y \in \mathfrak{g}_{(s)}, s \geq 1$

$$(x_{(r)} | y_{(r)}) = j_{sr}(x|y)^* \quad \text{if } x, y \in \mathfrak{g}_{(s)}, \text{ then by definition } (x|y)^* = (x|y) = (x_{(r)} | y_{(r)})$$

where  $x_{(r)}$  denotes the projection of  $x$  on  $\mathfrak{g}_{(r)}$  and  $j_{sr}$  is a (positive) number independent of  $x$  and  $y$ ; we let  $j_{0r} = 1$ .

The numbers  $j_{sr}$  ( $s, r \geq 0$ ) are called Dynkin indices

The inclusion homomorphism  $i_! : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow g$  induces in an obvious way an inclusion homomorphism  $\tilde{i}_!(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \tilde{i}_!(g)$ . This lifts uniquely to a homomorphism  $\tilde{i}_! : \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(g)$  by letting  $\tilde{i}_!(k_s) = \sum_r j_{sr} k_r$ , which extends to a homomorphism  $\tilde{i}_! : \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(g)$  by letting  $\tilde{i}_!(d) = d$ .

(here and further the overdot refers to an object associated to  $\mathfrak{g}$ ).

Let  $V$  be a restricted  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(g)$ -module, i.e.  $K_i$  acts as  $[k_i]$  for all but a finite number of positive roots  $k_i \neq -h_i$ . Via  $\tilde{i}_!$ , this is a  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ -module where  $K_i$  acts as  $[k_i]$ , where:

$$(12.10.1) \quad k_s = \sum_i j_{si} k_{i!} \quad \text{by } \tilde{i}_!(k_s) = \sum_r j_{sr} K_r$$

we shall assume that  $k_i \neq -h_i$ , let (see (12.9.4))

$$L_n^{g, \mathfrak{g}} = L_n^g - L_n^{\mathfrak{g}}$$

prop 12.10.

a) The operators  $L_n^{g, \mathfrak{g}}$  commute with  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ .

Proof: by lem 12.8 one has:  $[x^{(m)}, T_n] = 2(K + h^\vee)m x^{(m+n)}$

then if  $x^{(m)} \in \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g})$ ,  $T(x^{(m)}) = \sum_i t_i x_{(i)}^{(m)}$  where  $x_{(i)}^{(m)} \in \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\mathfrak{g}_{(i)})$

hence  $[T(x^{(m)}), L_n^g] = [T \sum_i t_i x_{(i)}^{(m)}, \sum_j L_j^{(j)}] = \sum_i t_i [T x_{(i)}^{(m)}, L_n^{(i)}]$

$$= \sum_i t_i \frac{T x_{(i)}^{(m)} T_n^{(i)}}{2(K + h^\vee)} = \sum_i t_i m x_{(i)}^{(m+n)} = m x^{(m+n)}$$

similarly:  $[T(x^{(m)}), L_n^{\mathfrak{g}}] = [\sum_i t_i x_{(i)}^{(m)}, \sum_j L_j^{(j)}] = \sum_i t_i [T x_{(i)}^{(m)}, L_n^{(i)}]$

$$= \sum_i t_i \frac{T x_{(i)}^{(m)} T_n^{(i)}}{2(K + h^\vee)} = \sum_i t_i m x_{(i)}^{(m+n)} = m x^{(m+n)}$$

thus  $[L_n^{g, \mathfrak{g}}, x^{(m)}] = 0$ .

b) The map  $\text{ad}_n \mapsto L_n^{g,g}$ ,  $c \mapsto c(k) - \bar{c}(k)$  defines a representation of  $\text{Vir}$  on  $V$ . ( $V$  is a restricted  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(g)$ -module.)  
 Proof: we need to prove  $p: \text{Vir} \rightarrow \text{gl}(V)$  via:  $\text{ad}_n \mapsto L_n^{g,g}$ ,  
 $c \mapsto c(k) - \bar{c}(k)$  is a Lie algebra homomorphism.

Explicitly, this is to say  $p$  should be a linear map and  
 $p$  should satisfy  $p([x, y]) = [\bar{p}(x), \bar{p}(y)]$  for all  $x, y \in \text{Vir}$ .

• Linear map:

$$\begin{aligned} p([\text{ad}_i, \text{ad}_j]) &= p((i-j)\text{ad}_{i+j} + \frac{1}{12}(i^3-i)\delta_{i,-j}c) \\ &= (i-j)L_{i+j}^{g,g} + \frac{1}{12}(i^3-i)\delta_{i,-j}(c(k) - \bar{c}(k)) \end{aligned}$$

on the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} [\bar{p}(\text{ad}_i), \bar{p}(\text{ad}_j)] &= [\bar{L}_i^{g,g}, \bar{L}_j^{g,g}] = [\bar{L}_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] \quad (\text{since } L_j^{g,g} \in V_{\mathcal{L}(g)}) \\ &= [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] - [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] = [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] - [L_i^{g,g}, L_i^{g,g}] + [L_i^{g,g}] \\ &= [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] - [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{since } [L_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] = [\sum_q L_i^{(q)}, \sum_q L_j^{(q)}] = \sum_q \frac{[LT_i^{(q)}, T_j^{(q)}]}{(2(h_q + h_q))}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{by (7.8)} &= \sum_q \frac{1}{2(h_q + h_q)} ((i-j)T_{i+j}^{(q)} + \delta_{i,-j} \frac{1}{6}(i^3-i)(\dim g_{(q)})h_q) h_q \\ &= (i-j)L_{i+j}^{g,g} + \delta_{i,-j} \frac{1}{6}(i^3-i) \sum_q \dim g_{(q)} h_q \cdot \frac{1}{h_q + h_q} \\ &= (i-j)L_{i+j}^{g,g} + \delta_{i,-j} \frac{1}{12}(i^3-i)c(k) \end{aligned}$$

$$[\text{Recall: (7.8.10)} \quad c(k) = \frac{h \dim g}{k + h}]$$

$$\text{similarly: } [\bar{L}_i^{g,g}, L_j^{g,g}] = (i-j)L_{i+j}^{g,g} + \delta_{i,-j} \frac{1}{12}(i^3-i)\bar{c}(k)$$

$$\text{then } [\bar{p}(\text{ad}_i), \bar{p}(\text{ad}_j)] = (i-j)L_{i+j}^{g,g} + \frac{1}{12}(i^3-i)\delta_{i,-j}(c(k) - \bar{c}(k)) \\ = p([\text{ad}_i, \text{ad}_j]).$$

$$p([\text{ad}_i, c]) = p^{(0)} = 0 = [\bar{p}(\text{ad}_i), p(c)] = [\bar{L}_i^{g,g}, c(k) - \bar{c}(k)]$$

Directly to prove: set  $\text{ad}_n.v := p(\text{ad}_n).v$ ,  $c.v := p(c).v$ .

$$\textcircled{1} \quad (a\text{ad}_n + b\text{ad}_m).v = p(a\text{ad}_n + b\text{ad}_m).v = ap(\text{ad}_n).v + bp(\text{ad}_m).v$$

用到 (7.8.12)

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \text{ad}_n.(av + bw) = p(\text{ad}_n).(av + bw) = L_n^{g,g}.(av + bw)$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad [a\text{ad}_n, b\text{ad}_m].v = p([a\text{ad}_n, b\text{ad}_m]).v = \dots$$

where  $a, b \in F$  (field),  $v, w \in V$ .

• The  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module defined by prop 12.10 is called the lowest weight  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module.

• choose Cartan subalgebras  $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$  and  $\dot{\mathfrak{h}}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$  such that  $\dot{\mathfrak{h}} \subset \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ . choose a triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \tilde{n}_- \oplus \tilde{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \tilde{n}_+$ ; then we have the induced triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \dot{n}_- \oplus \dot{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \dot{n}_+$ , where  $\dot{n}_{\pm} = \tilde{n}_{\pm} \cap \mathfrak{g}$ . we have the associated triangular decompositions:  $\hat{L}(g) = n_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus n_+$ ,  $\hat{L}(g) = \dot{n}_- \oplus \dot{\mathfrak{h}} \oplus \dot{n}_+$ , etc. and we have:  $\psi(\mathfrak{h}) \subset \mathfrak{h}$ ,  $\psi(n_{\pm}) \subset n_{\pm}$ , etc.

• let  $P_+ = \{ \lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^* \mid \lambda |_{H \cap \hat{L}(g_{(i)})} \in P_{+(i)} \text{ for } i \geq 1 \text{ and } \lambda |_{H \cap g_{(0)}} \text{ is real and } \langle \lambda, K_0 \rangle > 0 \}$ ,  $P_{(i)} = \{ \lambda \in (H \cap \hat{L}(g_{(i)}))^\# \mid \langle \lambda, \alpha_i^\vee \rangle \in \mathbb{Z} \}$ .

$\xrightarrow{\text{def}} \text{be the set of dominant integral weights for } \hat{L}(g)$ .

let  $P_+^k = \{ \lambda \in P_+ \mid \lambda(K_i) = k_i \text{ } (i=0, 1, \dots, l) \}$ .

• Fix  $\lambda \in P_+^k$ ,

Remarks: (1)  $\hat{L}(g)$ -module  $L(\lambda)$  is unitarizable.

$$\text{Tr by (12.9.2)} \quad L(\lambda) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} L(\lambda_{(i)})$$

• Thm 11.7 b) Every integrable highest-weight module  $L(\lambda)$  over  $\mathfrak{g}(A)$  is unitarizable.

• § 11.12?

(2) viewed as a  $\hat{L}(g)$ -module, then we have  $L(\lambda) = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in P_+^k} \hat{L}(\lambda)$ , where  $\hat{L}(\lambda)$  is a  $\hat{L}(g)$ -modules.

• Recall: Prop 11.8: Let  $A \subset \mathfrak{g}(A)$  be an  $w_0$ -invariant subalgebra which is normalized by an element  $h \in \text{Int } X_0$  (i.e.  $hA \subset A$ ). Then with respect to  $A$ , the module  $L(\lambda)$  ( $\lambda \in P_+$ ) decomposes into an orthogonal direct sum of irreducible  $h$ -invariant submodules.

• not so easy to see  $\hat{L}(g)$  is  $w_0$ -invariant and  $[h, \hat{L}(g)] \subset \hat{L}(g)$  for some  $h \in \text{Int } X_0$ . Actually  $h = d$ .

(3) we denote the multiplicity of occurrence of  $\hat{L}(\lambda)$  in (2) by  $\text{mult}_{\lambda}(\lambda, g)$ , and  $|\text{mult}_{\lambda}(\lambda, g)| < +\infty$ .

• Some of the eigenspaces of  $d$  on  $L(\lambda)$  are finite-dimensional

•  $d \in \text{Int } X_0$ , since  $(d \alpha_i^\vee | d) = 0$  ( $i=1, \dots, l$ ),  $(d \cdot | d) = d$ .

and  $\text{Int } X = \{ h \in H_2 \mid \langle \alpha_i, h \rangle \leq 0 \text{ only for a finite number of } i \in \mathcal{I} \}$

• by Prop 11.8