

Extra problems for “Group Theory”

1. If $[A, B] = B$ then calculate $e^{i\alpha A}e^{-i\alpha B}$.
2. Consider A_4 and its subalgebra $su(5)$. Among its representations is one with highest-weight given by the Dynkin labels $[0, 1, 0, 0]$.
 - (a) Construct all the weights corresponding to this representation.
 - (b) Write down the Young tableau for this representation. What does this tableau tell you about the way in which you could construct the $[0, 1, 0, 0]$ representation using fundamental representations?
 - (c) Compute the dimension of this representation using the Young tableau dimension formula.
 - (d) What can you conclude about the multiplicities of the weights obtained above?

3. Consider an algebra defined with N generators t_a which obey a Lie product relation

$$[t_a, t_b] = if_{abc}t_c. \tag{1}$$

Derive the conditions on f_{abc} so that the Lie product is well-defined.

4. The algebra B_2 has Cartan matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2}$$

- (a) Which invariant information about roots is contained in this matrix? Give this information explicitly.
- (b) Write down all non-zero commutation relations of this algebra, using a suitable basis of generators.

5. Argue the following in general, and illustrate using the root system for A_2 :
- (a) The difference $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2$ of two simple roots is not a root.
 - (b) If we extend the set of simple roots with $-\theta$, the negative of the highest root, then removing any root again produces a simple root system.
6. Consider the algebra G_2 .
- (a) Construct the root space of this algebra. Draw the root space diagram.
 - (b) Give an expression for the highest root θ in terms of the simple roots.
 - (c) Consider the extended root system given by the simple roots together with $-\theta$. What would be the corresponding Dynkin diagram? (this diagram is not one of the allowed Dynkin diagrams for finite-dimensional Lie algebras).
 - (d) Argue that $A_1 + A_1$ (the trivial direct sum of two $sl(2)$ algebras) is a (regular) subalgebra of G_2 . Argue the same for A_2 .