

Classification: Cartan Matrix of Φ : [214]

Notations: Φ root system, W Weyl group of Φ ,

$\Delta = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$ ordered base of Φ , $l = \dim(E)$

E Euclidean space containing Φ with inner prod.
 (\cdot, \cdot) .

Def. The Cartan matrix of Φ is $[\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle]$
made from the Cartan integers, $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \frac{2(\alpha_i, \alpha_j)}{(\alpha_j, \alpha_j)}$
so $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle = 2$, $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle \leq 0$ for $i \neq j$,
 $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = 0$ iff $(\alpha_i, \alpha_j) = 0$ iff $\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle = 0$.

Ex. $A_1 \times A_1 : \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $A_2 : \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $B_2 : \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$,
 $G_2 : \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $A_1 : \begin{bmatrix} 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Note: $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle$ iff $(\alpha_i, \alpha_i) = (\alpha_j, \alpha_j)$ [215]
 means $\|\alpha_i\| = \|\alpha_j\|$, but $|\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle| > |\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle| > 0$
 means $\frac{2|\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle|}{(\alpha_j, \alpha_j)} > \frac{2|\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle|}{(\alpha_i, \alpha_i)}$ iff $\|\alpha_i\| > \|\alpha_j\|$.

So in type B_2 , $\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rangle = -2$ and $\langle \alpha_2, \alpha_1 \rangle = -1$
 means $\|\alpha_1\| > \|\alpha_2\|$ so α_1 is long, α_2 is short.

In type G_2 , $\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rangle = -1$ and $\langle \alpha_2, \alpha_1 \rangle = -3$
 so $\|\alpha_2\| > \|\alpha_1\|$ and α_2 is long, α_1 is short.

These are Humphreys' choices of the order
 of simple roots, made to match older
 literature.

Note: Choice of Δ does not affect the [216] Cartan matrix (up to permutation of rows/columns) since W acts transitively on bases. Also, the Cartan matrix is invertible since $[(\alpha_i, \alpha_j)]$ is invertible matrix of the inner product.

Prop. Let $\Phi' \subset E'$ be another root system with base $\Delta' = \{\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_l\}$ s.t. $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \langle \alpha'_i, \alpha'_j \rangle$ for $1 \leq i, j \leq l$. Then map $\Delta \rightarrow \Delta'$ by $\alpha_i \mapsto \alpha'_i$ extends uniquely to an isom. $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$ s.t. $\phi(\Phi) = \Phi'$ and $\langle \phi(\alpha), \phi(\beta) \rangle = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$, $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Phi$. The Cartan matrix of Φ determines Φ up to isomorphism.

Pf. Since Δ is a basis of E and Δ' is a basis of E' , $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$ vector space isom. is uniquely determined

by $\phi(\alpha_i) = \alpha'_i$, $1 \leq i \leq l$. $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Delta$ we have [217]

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\phi(\alpha)}(\phi(\beta)) &= \sigma_{\alpha'}(\beta') = \beta' - \langle \beta', \alpha' \rangle \alpha' = \phi(\beta) - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \phi(\alpha) \\ &= \phi(\beta - \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \alpha) = \phi(\sigma_\alpha(\beta)). \end{aligned}$$

It means that the diagram

$$E \xrightarrow{\phi} E'$$

commutes $\forall \alpha \in \Delta$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow \sigma_\alpha & & \downarrow \sigma_{\phi(\alpha)} \\ E & \xrightarrow{\phi} & E' \end{array}$$

The Weyl groups
 $W = \langle \sigma_\alpha | \alpha \in \Delta \rangle$ and
 $W' = \langle \sigma_{\alpha'} | \alpha' \in \Delta' \rangle$

are isomorphic by conjugation by ϕ . From above,
 $\phi^{-1} \circ \sigma_{\phi(\alpha)} \circ \phi = \sigma_\alpha$ so $\sigma_{\phi(\alpha)} = \phi \circ \sigma_\alpha \circ \phi^{-1}$ so $\forall \alpha \in W$
 $\phi \circ \sigma_\alpha \circ \phi^{-1} \in W'$ defines an isomorphism from W to W' sending generators $\sigma_\alpha, \alpha \in \Delta$, to W' generators $\sigma_{\phi(\alpha)}, \phi(\alpha) \in \Delta'$. Since each $\beta \in \Phi$ is W -conjugate to a simple root, $\beta = \sigma(\alpha)$, get

$\phi(\beta) = (\phi \circ \sigma \circ \phi^{-1})(\phi(\alpha)) \in \Phi'$, and ϕ bijective [218]

implies $\phi(\Phi) = \Phi'$. Finally, $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Phi$, we have

$$\sigma_{\phi(\beta)}(\phi(\alpha)) = \phi(\sigma_\beta(\alpha)) \text{ so}$$

$$\phi(\alpha) - \langle \phi(\alpha), \phi(\beta) \rangle \phi(\beta) = \phi(\alpha) - \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \phi(\beta) \text{ gives}$$

$$\langle \phi(\alpha), \phi(\beta) \rangle = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle. \quad \square$$

Algorithm to get Φ from $[\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle]$:

Enough to get Φ^+ . Here $\Delta = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$ all roots with height 1. For $1 \leq i \neq j \leq l$, find the α_j -string through $\alpha_i; \alpha_i, \alpha_i + \kappa_j, \dots, \alpha_i + q \kappa_j$ since $\alpha_i - \kappa_j \notin \Phi$ so $r=0$, $\langle \alpha_i, \kappa_j \rangle = r-q = -q$.

If $q > 0$, $\alpha_i + \kappa_j \in \Phi$ and $ht(\alpha_i + \kappa_j) = 2$ and all

roots of height 2 are obtained that way. [219]

Then you will have all Cartan integers $\langle \alpha, \alpha_j^\vee \rangle$ for $\text{ht}(\alpha) = 2$, and you will know the α_j -string through $\alpha; \alpha - r\alpha_j, \dots, \alpha, \dots, \alpha + q\alpha_j$ for $\langle \alpha, \alpha_j^\vee \rangle = r - q$. Knowing r from roots of lower height and knowing $r - q = \langle \alpha, \alpha_j^\vee \rangle$ gives q . If $q > 0$, get roots of height 3, etc.

All $\alpha \in \Phi^+$ are eventually obtained.

Alternative: After finding α_j -string through α_i , apply W to get more roots, positive and negative. For all pairs of distinct roots, one simple (α_j), one found (α), repeat process until no new roots are found.

Ex: Find all positive roots Φ^+ for type A₃

A_3 where the Cartan matrix is $A = [a_{ij}] = [\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle]$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \Delta = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3\}$$

$$\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rangle = -1 \text{ so } \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \in \Phi^+$$

$$\langle \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \rangle = -1 \text{ so } \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \in \Phi^+$$

$$\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_3 \rangle = 0 \text{ so } \alpha_1 + \alpha_3 \notin \Phi.$$

$$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \rangle = \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_3 \rangle + \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \rangle = -1 \text{ so}$$

$$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \in \Phi$$

$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \alpha_1 \rangle = 2 - 1 = 1$. $\alpha_2, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ is the α_1 -string through $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ with $r = 1, q = 0$.

$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \alpha_2 \rangle = -1 + 2 = 1$. $\alpha_1, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ is the α_2 -string through $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ with $r = 1, q = 0$.

So far Φ^+ contains $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \alpha_2 + \alpha_3, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3\}$. Look for $ht(\alpha) = 4$ roots:

$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3, \alpha_1 \rangle = 2 - 1 + 0 = 1$ so α_1 -string through $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ is $\alpha_2 + \alpha_3, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ with $r=1, g=0$.

$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3, \alpha_2 \rangle = -1 + 2 - 1 = 0$ so $r=0=g$.

$\langle \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3, \alpha_3 \rangle = 0 - 1 + 2 = 1$. $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ is the α_3 -string through $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ with $r=1, g=0$.

Conclusion, $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ is the highest root, and the 6 positive roots listed above are all of Φ^+ .

Count dimensions of root spaces and add dim of max. toral subalg. H ; get 12 roots, α , each L_α has $\dim(L_\alpha) = 1$, $\dim(H) = l = 3$, so $\dim(L) = 15 = \dim(\mathfrak{sl}(4, F))$.

Coxeter graphs and Dynkin diagrams: [222]

For $\alpha \neq \beta$ in Φ^+ , $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \langle \beta, \alpha \rangle \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$.

Def. The Coxeter graph of Φ is the graph with l vertices, and having $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle \langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle$ edges joining vertex i with vertex j for $1 \leq i \neq j \leq l$.

Ex: $A_1: \bullet$ $A_1 \times A_1: \bullet \circ$ $A_2: \text{---}$ $B_2: \text{---}$

$G_2: \text{---}$ $A_3: \bullet - \bullet - \bullet$

When $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle \langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle \in \{0, 1\}$, all roots have the same length and the Coxeter graph determines the Cartan matrix. But if some values are 2 or 3, the Coxeter graph does not tell which simple roots are long and which are short.

When a double or triple edge occurs in 1223
 $\text{Cox}(\Phi)$, we can add an arrow pointing to the
shorter root. That result is the Dynkin
diagram of Φ , for example, B_2 :  and

G_{I_2} : 

Conversely, given Dynkin diagram  with vertices labelled left to right, $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$,

the Cartan matrix would be

$$\|\alpha_1\| = \|\alpha_2\| > \|\alpha_3\| = \|\alpha_4\| \text{ so}$$

$$|\langle \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \rangle| > |\langle \alpha_3, \alpha_2 \rangle|$$

$$\text{and } \frac{\|\alpha_2\|^2}{\|\alpha_3\|^2} = 2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

This type is
called F_4 .

Irreducible components:

R24

Φ is irred. iff Φ (and Δ) cannot be partitioned into proper orthogonal subsets, so this means $\text{Cox}(\Phi)$ is connected. Generally, if $\Delta = \Delta_1 \cup \dots \cup \Delta_t$ is a partition of Δ into mutually orthog. subsets and $E_i = \text{span}(\Delta_i)$, then $E = E_1 \oplus \dots \oplus E_t$ is an orthog. direct sum and $\Phi_i = \Phi \cap \text{span}(\Delta_i) \subseteq E_i$, $\Phi = \Phi_1 \cup \dots \cup \Phi_t$, each Φ_i is a root system with Weyl group $W_i = \langle \sigma_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \Delta_i \rangle \leq W$. $\text{Cox}(\Phi) =$ disjoint union of $\text{Cox}(\Phi_i)$, same for Dynkin diag.

Prop. Φ decomposes uniquely as the union of irred. root systems $\Phi_i \leq E_i \leq E$ s.t. $E = E_1 \oplus \dots \oplus E_t$ is an orthog. direct sum.

Classification Thm. It suffices to (225)
classify all irred. root systems, that is, all
connected Dynkin diagrams.

If Φ is an irred. root system of rank l ,
 $\Delta = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$, then its Dynkin diagram is one
of those listed in Humphreys, page 58, of type
 A_l ($l \geq 1$), B_l ($l \geq 2$), C_l ($l \geq 3$), D_l ($l \geq 4$),
 E_6, E_7, E_8, F_4, G_2 , with vertices labelled
 $1 \leq i \leq l$ corresponding to $\alpha_i \in \Delta$.

The restrictions on l for $A_l - D_l$ avoid
duplications. The corresponding Cartan matrices
are listed in Table 1 on page 59.