

CHEVALLEY GROUPS AND INFINITE DIMENSIONAL GENERALIZATIONS

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1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Chevalley groups give an alternate construction of simple Lie groups. Namely, Chevalley defined generators for Lie groups in terms of the root system and automorphisms of the underlying Lie algebra ([Ch]). With some additional external data including the universal enveloping algebra and highest weight representations, this gave the first unified construction of classical and exceptional groups over arbitrary fields, and also over \mathbb{Z} . The Steinberg presentation for Chevalley groups gives a way to describe these groups in terms of generators and relations. The advantage of this approach is that it is able to be generalized to infinite dimensions.

In the affine case, the Chevalley theory was developed in detail by Garland. We study Chevalley groups and the Steinberg presentation for finite dimensional Lie groups, and we build the necessary machinery to generalize the Chevalley construction and Steinberg presentation to infinite dimensions.

Course objectives To obtain a concrete and computational approach to Lie group theory in both finite and infinite dimensions.

Motivation It is useful and computationally effective to have a formulation of Kac-Moody groups as infinite dimensional Chevalley groups. Many questions in both finite and infinite dimensions come directly from physical symmetries of supergravity and superstring theories.

Approach We discuss Chevalley's construction of finite dimensional simple Lie groups over arbitrary fields, including all classical and exceptional types of equal root length (also called 'simply laced' types). We develop the Steinberg presentation in these cases with as many explicit examples as possible. We generalize the Chevalley construction and Steinberg presentation to infinite dimensions in the affine and hyperbolic Kac-Moody cases. In the affine case, the Chevalley theory was developed in detail by Garland. In the hyperbolic case, the topic has been developed by Carbone and Garland [CG2].

We also follow computational methods in [Bri], [BH], [BH2], [CHM], [CMT], [R], who have developed effective techniques for computation in Lie theory including algorithms and implementation for Lie theory computation in the computer algebra system Magma. Most of the algorithms implemented work in finite dimensions.

2. TOPICS IN APPROXIMATE ORDER

- 2.1. **Chevalley bases for simple Lie algebras.** Explicit examples SL_2 , SL_3 , SL_n , E_6 , E_7 , E_8
- 2.2. **Computation of structure constants.** Properties of structure constants, the Frenkel-Kac formula, fast algorithms for computing signs of structure constants, explicit examples SL_3 , SL_n , E_6 , E_7 , E_8
- 2.3. **Chevalley groups.** Adjoint group, highest weight modules, universal enveloping algebra and \mathbb{Z} -form, simply connected group
- 2.4. **Fundamental representations and construction exceptional groups.** 27 dim representation of E_6 , 56 dim representation of E_7 , 248 dim representation of E_8
- 2.5. **Steinberg presentation for Chevalley groups.** Examples SL_2 , GL_2 , E_7 , general reductive groups
- 2.6. **BN -pairs for Chevalley groups.** Parabolic subgroups and Bruhat decomposition
- 2.7. **Chevalley groups over \mathbb{Z} .** Basic construction, criteria for integrality, Steinberg presentation, explicit examples SL_2 , SL_3 , E_7
- 2.8. **Chevalley bases for Kac-Moody algebras.** Affine case, the Frenkel-Kac formula, structure constants for real roots, investigation for imaginary roots, explicit examples $A_1^{(1)}$, E_9
- 2.9. **Kac-Moody groups as infinite dimensional Chevalley groups.** The Tits functor over fields, generators and relations, explicit examples $\mathcal{H}(3)$, $\widehat{A}_1^{(1)}$, E_{10}
- 2.10. **Kac-Moody groups over \mathbb{Z} .** The Tits functor over \mathbb{Z} , generators and relations, E_{10}

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