

Cartan matrices, Dynkin diagrams and Quiver data

A symmetrizable Cartan matrix is

$$A = (a_{ij}) \text{ with } a_{ii} = 2,$$

$$a_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0} \text{ and } a_{ij} = 0 \iff a_{ji} = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j,$$

such that there exists a diagonal matrix

$$D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_r) \text{ with } d_i = \frac{\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle}{2}$$

and

$$a_{ij} = \langle \alpha_i^\vee, \alpha_j \rangle = \frac{2 \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle}{\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle}$$

so that DA is the matrix of a symmetric bilinear form

$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with respect to a basis $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ of \mathfrak{g}^* .

Defn, following Requier [RO, ???],

$$Q_{ij}(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i=j, \\ 1, & \text{if } \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = 0, \\ -u^{-\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle} + v^{-\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle}, & \text{if } \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle < 0 \text{ and } i \rightarrow j, \\ u^{-\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle} - v^{-\langle \alpha_j, \alpha_i \rangle}, & \text{if } \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle < 0 \text{ and } i \leftarrow j. \end{cases}$$

Examples of Cartan matrices

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A_n :

$$\begin{matrix} \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\ 1 & 2 & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & v \end{matrix} \text{ has } A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & & & \\ & & -1 & 2 & & & & & & \\ & & & & \ddots & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & & & & 2 & -1 & & \\ & & & & & & -1 & 2 & & \end{pmatrix}$$

with $\mathcal{B} = \{ \lambda_1 e_1 + \dots + \lambda_{r+1} e_{r+1} \mid \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_{r+1} = 0 \}$

and $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$.

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v-u & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ u-v & 0 & v-u & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & u-v & 0 & v-u & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & u-v & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ i & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 & v-u \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 1 & u-v & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } \begin{matrix} \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\ 1 & 2 & & & & \\ & & & & & v \end{matrix}$$

A_2 : $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ $Q(u,v) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v-u \\ u-v & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v-u \\ -(u-v) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for $u > v$

$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u-v \\ (v-u) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for $v > u$

$B_n: \begin{matrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & n \end{matrix}$ has

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 2 & \dots & \\ & & & \dots & 2 & -1 \\ & & & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 2 & & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & \dots & \\ & & & & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$DA = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & & & \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & & \\ & -2 & 4 & -2 & \\ & & -2 & 4 & -2 \\ & & & \dots & \\ & & & & 4 & -2 \\ & & & & -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{is the matrix of}$$

$\langle, \rangle: \mathfrak{h}^n \otimes \mathfrak{h}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ~~given by $\langle \epsilon_i, \epsilon_j \rangle$~~ on $\mathfrak{h}^n = \text{span}\{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n\}$ given by

$\langle \epsilon_i, \epsilon_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ in the basis $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ where

$$\alpha_1 = \epsilon_1, \quad \alpha_2 = \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1, \quad \alpha_3 = \epsilon_3 - \epsilon_2, \quad \dots, \quad \alpha_n = \epsilon_n - \epsilon_{n-1}.$$

then

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v-u^2 & | & 1 & - & - & | \\ u-v^2 & 0 & v-u & | & & & | \\ 1 & u-v & 0 & v-u & & & | \\ 1 & 1 & u-v & 0 & & & | \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & & & \vdots \\ & & & & 0 & v-u & | \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 & u-v & 0 & | \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } 0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow$$

$\underline{C}_n: \overset{0}{1} \overset{0}{2} \dots \overset{0}{n}$ has

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & \\ -2 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 2 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 2 & -1 \\ & & & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$DA = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & & & \\ -2 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & & -1 & 2 & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is the matrix of}$$

$\langle, \rangle: \mathcal{L}^* \otimes \mathcal{L}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ on $\mathcal{L}^* = \text{span}\{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n\}$ given by

$\langle \epsilon_i, \epsilon_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ in the basis $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ where

$$\alpha_1 = 2\epsilon_1, \alpha_2 = \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1, \alpha_3 = \epsilon_3 - \epsilon_2, \dots, \alpha_n = \epsilon_n - \epsilon_{n-1}$$

Then

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v^2 - u & | & 1 & - & \dots & | \\ u^2 - v & 0 & v - u & | & & & | \\ 1 & u - v & 0 & v - u & & & | \\ 1 & 1 & u - v & & & & | \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & & | \\ \vdots & & & & & & | \\ 1 & - & - & & & 0 & v - u \\ & & & & & 1 & u - v & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_n \rightarrow 0$$

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F: ~~0 → 0~~ has

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & -2 & 2 & -1 \\ & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & \\ & 2 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$DA = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & & \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & \\ & -2 & 2 & -1 \\ & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

G₂ $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ has $D = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

so that

$$DA = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$