

# GABRIEL'S THEOREM

Seminar: Advanced topics in linear algebra  
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## 1. Basic definitions

### 1.1. Quivers

Definition 1.1. A quiver is a directed finite graph  $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, s, t)$ .  
 $Q_0$ : finite set of vertices  
 $Q_1$ : finite set of arrows  
 $s, t$ : two maps  $Q_1 \rightarrow Q_0$  such that an arrow  $\alpha$  starts at  $s(\alpha)$  and ends at  $t(\alpha)$

Definition 1.2. A representation of  $Q$  is a collection  $X = (X_i, X_\alpha)$ ,  $i \in Q_0$ ,  $\alpha \in Q_1$ .

Definition 1.3. A representation  $X$  is called indecomposable if  
 $X \neq 0$  and for  $X = X_1 \oplus X_2 \Rightarrow X_1 = 0$  or  $X_2 = 0$

Definition 1.4. Let  $X$  be an indecomposable representation of  $Q$ . We define  
 $X$  is preprojective if  $X \cong C^r P(i)$  for some vertex  $i$  and some  $r \leq 0$   
 $X$  is preinjective if  $X \cong C^r I(i)$  for some vertex  $i$  and some  $r \geq 0$   
 $X$  is regular if  $C^r X \neq 0$  for all  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$

Remark For the definitions of  $C^r$ , see [1] pages 8-10.

### 1.2. Finite graphs

Definition 1.5. Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite graph with  $n$  vertices. Denote the edges between two vertices  $i$  and  $j$  with  $d_{ij} = d_{ji}$ .  
 $\Gamma$  induces a symmetric bilinear form  $(-, -)$  and a quadratic form  $q$ :

$$(-, -): \mathbb{Z}^n \times \mathbb{Z}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{with} \quad (e_i, e_j) = \begin{cases} -d_{ij} & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 2 - 2d_{ii} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

$$q: \mathbb{Z}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{with} \quad q(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \sum_{i \leq j} d_{ij} x_i x_j.$$

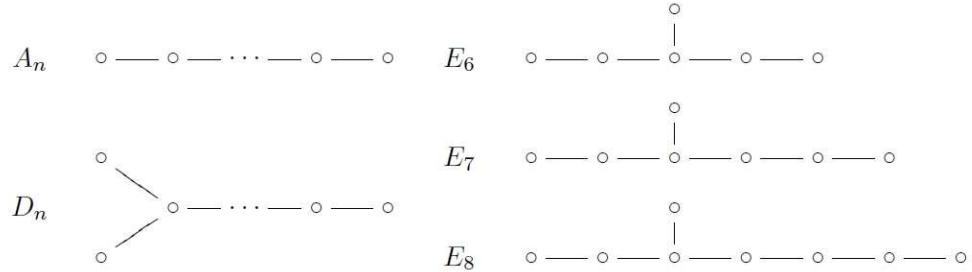
Definition 1.6.  $\text{rad}q = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid (x, -) = 0\}$  is called the radical of  $q$

Definition 1.7. For a quadratic form  $q: \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  we call  
 $q$  positive definite if  $q(x) > 0 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  where  $x \neq 0$   
 $q$  positive semi-definite if  $q(x) \geq 0 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$

### 1.3. Dynkin and Euclidean diagrams

Definition 1.8. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be the number of vertices.

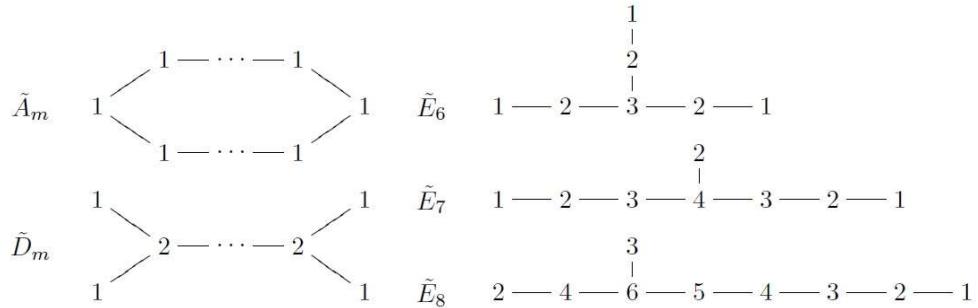
The following diagrams are called Dynkin diagrams:



Definition 1.9. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be the number of vertices.

Let  $m = n - 1$ , with  $m \geq 0$  for  $\tilde{A}_m$  or  $m \geq 4$  for  $\tilde{D}_m$

The following diagrams are called Euclidean diagrams:



Each vertex is labeled with  $\delta_i$  for  $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .

Theorem 1.10. Let  $\Gamma$  be a connected graph with quadratic form  $q$ .

- (i)  $\Gamma$  is Dynkin  $\Leftrightarrow q$  is positive definite
- (ii)  $\Gamma$  is Euclidean  $\Leftrightarrow q$  is positive semi-definite, but not positive definite
- (iii) If  $\Gamma$  is Euclidean, then there is a unique positive vector  $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $\text{rad}q = \mathbb{Z}\delta$ .

*Proof*

[1] page 14

## 2. Roots and Coxeter transformation

### 2.1. Roots

Definition 2.1.  $\Delta = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid q(x) \leq 1\}$   
 $\{x \in \Delta \mid x \neq 0\}$  is the set of all roots.

Proposition 2.2. Let  $\Gamma$  be a Dynkin or Euclidean diagram.

- (i) each standard basis vector  $e_i$  is a root
- (ii)  $x \in \Delta$  and  $y \in \text{rad}q \Rightarrow -x \in \Delta$  and  $x + y \in \Delta$
- (iii) every root is positive or negative
- (iv)  $\Gamma$  Euclidean  $\Rightarrow \Delta/\text{rad}q$  finite
- (v)  $\Gamma$  Dynkin  $\Rightarrow \Delta$  finite

*Proof* [1] page 14

Lemma 2.3. Let  $Q$  be a quiver with a Dynkin or Euclidean graph.  
 $x$  a positive root and  $\sigma_i(x)$  not positive  $\Rightarrow x = e_i$

*Proof* by Prop. 2.3.

### 2.2. Coxeter transformation

Definition 2.4. Let  $Q$  be a quiver without oriented cycles. Fix  $i_1, \dots, i_n$  as an admissible ordering of its vertices.

The automorphism  $c: \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $c(x) = \sigma_{i_n} \dots \sigma_{i_1}(x)$  is called Coxeter transformation.

Lemma 2.5. (i)  $c(\dim P(i)) = -\dim I(i) \forall i$   
(ii)  $\{\dim P(i) \mid i \in Q_0\}, \{\dim I(i) \mid i \in Q_0\}$  are two bases of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$

Lemma 2.6. Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .  
(i)  $\langle \dim P(i), x \rangle = x_i = \langle x, \dim I(i) \rangle \forall$  vertices  $i$   
(ii)  $\langle x, y \rangle = -\langle y, c(x) \rangle = \langle c(x), c(y) \rangle$

Lemma 2.7. Let  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .

$$c(x) = x \Leftrightarrow x \in \text{rad}q$$

Notation In the following part, assume that the graph of  $Q$  is Dynkin or Euclidean.

Remark (i) The map  $c$  induces a permutation of the finite set  $\Delta/\text{rad}q$ .  
(ii)  $e_i \in \Delta \forall i \Rightarrow c^h$  is the identity on  $\mathbb{Z}^n/\text{rad}q$

Lemma 2.8. Let  $Q$  be Dynkin type and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .  
 $\exists r \geq 0$  such that  $c^r(x) \leq 0$ .

Lemma 2.9. Let  $Q$  be Euclidean type and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .

- (i)  $c^r(x) > 0 \forall r \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow c^h(x) = x$
- (ii)  $c^h(x) = x \Rightarrow \langle \delta, x \rangle = 0$

*Proofs*

[1] page 15

### 3. Gabriel's theorem

#### 3.1. Dynkin case

Theorem 3.1. Let  $Q$  be a quiver of Dynkin type.

[Gabriel] The function between  $X$  and  $\dim X$  induces a bijection from the isomorphism classes of indecomposable representations of  $Q$  to the positive roots corresponding to the diagram of  $Q$ .

There are only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable representations.

*Proof* [1] page 16

#### 3.2. Defect

Definition 3.2. Let  $Q$  be a quiver of Euclidean type.

For  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $\partial x = \langle \delta, x \rangle = -\langle x, \delta \rangle$  is called defect of  $x$ .

For a representation  $X$ ,  $\partial X = \partial \dim X$  is called defect of  $X$ .

Proposition 3.3. Let  $X$  be an indecomposable representation.

(i)  $X$  is preprojective  $\Leftrightarrow \partial X < 0$

(ii)  $X$  is preinjective  $\Leftrightarrow \partial X > 0$

(iii)  $X$  is regular  $\Leftrightarrow \partial X = 0$

*Proof* [1] page 17

#### 3.3. Euclidean case

Theorem 3.4. Let  $Q$  be a quiver of Euclidean type with a diagram of  $n$  vertices and without oriented cycles.

The function between  $X$  and  $\dim X$  induces a bijection from the isomorphism classes of indecomposable preprojective or preinjective representations of  $Q$  to the positive roots with non-zero defect corresponding to the diagram of  $Q$ . The preprojective and preinjective indecomposables form  $2n$  countably infinite series  $C^{-r}P(i)$  and  $C^rI(i)$  of pairwise non-isomorphic representations, where  $r \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $i \in Q_0$ .

*Proof* [1] pages 17 and 18

Proposition 3.5. Let  $Q$  be a connected quiver.

[Gabriel] There are only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable representations  $\Leftrightarrow$  the underlying graph is a Dynkin diagram

*Proof* [1] page 18

## 4. Example

Let  $S_r$  be the quiver with vertices  $Q_0 = \{1, \dots, r, c\}$  and arrows  $Q_1 = \{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  with  $t(a_i) = i$  and  $h(a_i) = c \forall i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ .

Gabriel's theorem shows, that  $S_r$  has finitely many isomorphism classes of representations for  $r < 4$ .

$r = 1$ : Dynkin diagram  $A_2$

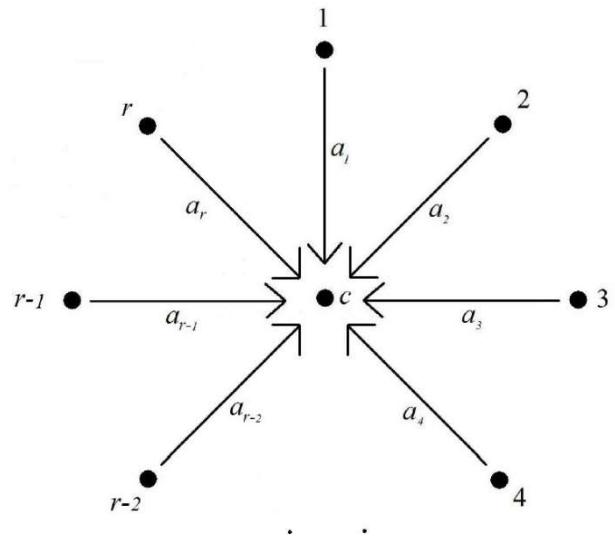
$r = 2$ : Dynkin diagram  $A_3$

$r = 3$ : Dynkin diagram  $D_4$

Gabriel's theorem says, that  $S_r$  has infinitely many isomorphism classes of representations for  $r \geq 4$ .

The underlaying graph is not one of the Dynkin diagrams.

For more details see [2], pages 18-21.



## 5. References

[1] Krause, H., *Representations of quivers via reflection functors*, Universität Paderborn 2007.  
Online available: [https://www2.math.uni-paderborn.de/fileadmin/Mathematik/AG-Krause/publications\\_krause/quiver.pdf](https://www2.math.uni-paderborn.de/fileadmin/Mathematik/AG-Krause/publications_krause/quiver.pdf)

[2] Cummin, E., *Representations of Quivers & Gabriel's Theorem*, 2011.  
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