

- DEFINITION 0.1. (1) Let \mathfrak{g} be a semi-simple Lie algebra of a connected algebraic \mathbb{C} -group G which acts by conjugation on \mathfrak{g} . We denote by \mathcal{B} the *flag variety* of Borel subalgebras of \mathfrak{g} .
- (2) For any $\mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ we denote by $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathfrak{b}}$ the quotient of \mathfrak{b} by the unipotent radical.
- (3) For any $\mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ we denote by $B_{\mathfrak{b}} \subset G$ the stabilizer of \mathfrak{b} in G . Then $B_{\mathfrak{b}}$ is a Borel subgroup of G .
- (4) For any pair $\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{b}' \in \mathcal{B}$ there exist $g \in G$ such that $Ad(g)(\mathfrak{b}') = \mathfrak{b}$ and such element g defines an isomorphism i_g between $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathfrak{b}}$ and $\mathfrak{h}'_{\mathfrak{b}'}$. Since g is uniquely defined up to a left multiplication by an element of the Borel subgroup $B_{\mathfrak{b}}$ which acts trivially on the quotient $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathfrak{b}}$ we see that the isomorphism i_g does not depend on a choice of g . So we have a canonical identification of commutative Lie algebras $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathfrak{b}}, \mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{B}$. We denote this Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ and call it the *abstract Cartan algebra*. The Weyl group W acts on $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ and $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ is isomorphic to any Cartan subalgebra $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ and the isomorphism is well defined up to a composition with $w \in W$.
- (5) As well known the characteristic polynomial of $ad(x) \in \text{End}(\mathfrak{g}), x \in \mathfrak{g}$ is divisible by $t^r, r := \dim(\tilde{\mathfrak{h}})$ and so has a form $t^r D(x, t)$ where $D(x, t)$ is a polynomial in t of degree $\dim(\mathfrak{g}) - r$. Moreover [please check] $D(x, t)$ is polynomial function on $\mathfrak{g} \times \mathbb{A}^1$ and we define $D(x) := D(x, 0)$.
- (6) We define $\mathfrak{g}_{rs} := \{x \in \mathfrak{g} | D(x) \neq 0\}, \mathfrak{h}_{rs} := \mathfrak{g}_{rs} \cap \mathfrak{h}$ and use the identification of \mathfrak{h} with the abstract Cartan algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ to define the open subset $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_{rs}$ of $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$. Please check that

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}_{rs} = \{h \in \tilde{\mathfrak{h}} | St_W(h) = \{e\}\}$$

- (7) We define $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ as the subvariety in $\mathfrak{g} \times \mathcal{B}$ of pairs $(x, \mathfrak{b}) \in \mathfrak{g} \times \mathcal{B}$ such $x \in \mathfrak{b}$ and denote by $\pi : \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ and by $\tau : \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$ the natural projections. Since the space \mathcal{B} is compact we see that the morphism π is proper.
- (8) We define $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{rs} := \pi^{-1}(\mathfrak{g}_{rs})$ and denote by π_{rs}, τ_{rs} the restrictions of π and τ on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{rs}$.

CLAIM 0.2. (1) *The Weyl group W acts freely on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{rs}$ and π_{rs} is a W -torsor [that is W acts simply-transitively on fibers of π_{rs}].*

- (2) *The projection τ_{rs} is W -equivariant.*

Let \mathfrak{g} be a semi-simple Lie algebra of an algebraic \mathbb{C} -group $G, \mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ a Cartan subalgebra, W the Weyl group of $\mathfrak{g}, S(\mathfrak{g}^{\vee})$ and $S(\mathfrak{h}^{\vee})$ be the rings of polynomial functions on \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{h} . We denote by $A \subset S(\mathfrak{g}^{\vee})$ the subring of Ad -invariant polynomials and by $C_{\mathfrak{h}} \subset S(\mathfrak{h}^{\vee})$ the subring of W -invariant polynomials. As we know we can identify the ring $C_{\mathfrak{h}}$ with the ring C of polynomial functions on the abstract Cartan algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$. It is clear [please check] that

- (1) the restriction map defines a ring homomorphism $r_{\mathfrak{h}} : A \rightarrow C_{\mathfrak{h}}$.

- (2) The induced ring homomorphism $r : A \rightarrow C$ does not depend on a choice of a Cartan subalgebra $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$.

THEOREM 0.3 (Chevalley). *The ring homomorphism $r : A \rightarrow C$ is an isomorphism.*

PROOF. Since the set of semi simple elements is dense in \mathfrak{g} and any semi simple element is conjugate to one in \mathfrak{h} we see that r is injective. To prove the surjectivity consider the ring \hat{A} of Ad -invariant regular on \mathfrak{g}_{rs} and the ring \hat{C} of W -invariant regular functions on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_{rs}$. As before we have a ring homomorphism $\hat{r} : \hat{A} \rightarrow \hat{C}$.

LEMMA 0.4. *The ring homomorphism \hat{r} is an isomorphism.*

PROOF. We want to show that any $f \in \hat{C}$ is of the form $\hat{r}(F)$ for $F \in \hat{A}$. Let $F' := \tau_{rs}^*(f)$. As follows from Claim 2 the function F' is W -invariant and therefore has a form $F' = \pi_{rs}^*(F_f), F_f \in \hat{A}$. But this implies that $f = \hat{r}(F_f)$. \square

To finish the proof of the theorem it is sufficient to show that the function F_f on \mathfrak{g}_{rs} extends to a regular function on \mathfrak{g} in the case when f extends to a regular function on $\tilde{\mathfrak{h}}$. But this follows immediately from the properness of π and the following well known result.

CLAIM 0.5. *Let X be a smooth algebraic variety, $Y \subset X$ a proper closed subvariety F a regular function on $X - Y$ which is bounded [as an analytic function] near any point $y \in Y$. Then F extends to a regular function on X .*

[Please check that you know a proof of this Claim.] \square