

— LECTURE 19 —

* Last time: We formulated the following Theorem:

Weyl-Kac Character Formula: Let $\lambda \in P_+$ be a dominant integral weight of Kac-Moody alg. $g(A)$. Let V be an integrable h.wt. reprn with h. weight λ . Then:

$$\mathrm{ch} V = \sum_{w \in W} \det(w) \cdot \mathrm{ch} M_{w(\lambda + \rho) - \rho} = \sum_{w \in W} \frac{\det(w) \cdot e^{w(\lambda + \rho) - \rho}}{\prod_{\alpha > 0} (1 - e^{-\alpha})^{\mathrm{dim} g_\alpha}}$$

* Let us now prove this theorem.

Lemma 1: Let $\alpha \in P_+$. Then:

a) $W\alpha \subseteq D(\alpha)$, where $D(\alpha) = \{\alpha - \sum n_i \alpha_i \mid n_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$

b) If $D \subseteq D(\alpha)$ is a W -invariant set, then $D \cap P_+ \neq \emptyset$.

► a) Consider the $g(A)$ -module L_α . Last time: $\alpha \in P_+ \Rightarrow L_\alpha$ -integrable $\Rightarrow P(L_\alpha) := \{\text{weights of } L_\alpha\} = W\alpha$ - W -invariant set. As $\alpha \in P(L_\alpha) \xrightarrow{W\text{-inv}} W\alpha \subseteq P(L_\alpha)$. But: $P(L_\alpha) \subseteq D(\alpha) \Rightarrow W\alpha \subseteq D(\alpha)$

► b) Let $\psi \in D$. Choose $w \in W$ so that in the expression $\alpha - w\psi = \sum k_i \alpha_i$ ($k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$), the sum $\sum k_i$ is minimal. We claim that $w\psi \in P_+$. Assume not, i.e. $\exists i: (w\psi, \alpha_i) < 0 \xrightarrow{\text{equiv. } w\psi(h_i), \alpha_i} w\psi(h_i) \cdot \alpha_i < 0$. Then: $\alpha - \tau_i(w\psi) = \sum k_j \alpha_j + m_i \alpha_i \Rightarrow \sum k_j + m_i < \sum k_j \Rightarrow \text{Contradiction with minimality!} \Rightarrow w\psi \in P_+$

Cor 1: If $w \in W \setminus \{1\}$, then $\exists i$ s.t. $w\alpha_i < 0$.

► Choose $\alpha \in P_+$ s.t. $w\alpha \neq \alpha$ (existence of such α follows from $w \neq 1 \leftarrow \text{Exercise!}$)

Then $w^{-1}\alpha = \alpha - \sum k_i \alpha_i$ for some $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ by Lemma 1(a).

Hence: $\alpha = w(w^{-1}\alpha) = w\alpha - \sum k_i w\alpha_i \xrightarrow{\text{Lemma 1a}} (\alpha - \sum k'_i \alpha_i) - \sum k'_i w\alpha_i$ with $k'_i, k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.
 $\Rightarrow \sum k_i \alpha_i + \sum k'_i w\alpha_i = 0$

But: $w\alpha \neq \alpha \Rightarrow \text{At least one } k'_i > 0 \quad \left\{ \Rightarrow \text{it may not happen that all } w\alpha_i > 0 \Rightarrow \exists i: w\alpha_i < 0\right.$

Lemma 2: Let $\varphi, \psi \in P$ satisfy $\varphi(h_i) > 0, \psi(h_i) \geq 0 \quad \forall i$. Then $w\varphi = \psi \Leftrightarrow w = 1, \varphi = \psi$.

$(\varphi(h_i)) > 0 \Leftrightarrow (\varphi, \alpha_i) > 0 \quad \forall i$.

If $w \neq 1$, then by Cor 1: $\exists i$ s.t. $w\alpha_i < 0$.

Hence: $0 < (\varphi, \alpha_i) = (w^{-1}\psi, \alpha_i) \xrightarrow{W\text{-inv.}} (\psi, w\alpha_i) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \text{Contradiction!} \Rightarrow w = 1 \Rightarrow \varphi = \psi$.

Last time we also proved:

Lemma 3: $wK = \det(w) \cdot K \quad \forall w \in W$, where $K = e^\rho \prod_{\alpha > 0} (1 - e^{-\alpha})^{\mathrm{dim} g_\alpha}$.

We shall also need the following simple result:

Lemma 4: Let $\mu, \nu \in P_+$ be such that $\mu \in D(\nu)$, $\mu \neq \nu$. Then $(\nu + \rho, \nu + \rho) - (\mu + \rho, \mu + \rho) > 0$.

► Let $\nu - \mu = \sum k_i \alpha_i$, $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $\exists i: k_i > 0$. Then:

$$(\nu + \rho, \nu + \rho) - (\mu + \rho, \mu + \rho) = (\nu, \nu) - (\mu, \mu) + (2\nu, \rho) - (2\mu, \rho) = (\nu - \mu, \nu + \mu + 2\rho) = \sum_i k_i (\nu + \mu + 2\rho, \alpha_i) > 0$$

Recall that $\text{ch } M_\lambda$ form a topological basis of R . More precisely, we have:

Lemma 5: For any $V \in \mathcal{D}$, we have $\boxed{\text{ch}(V) = \sum_x c_x \cdot \text{ch } M_x \text{ with } c_x \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } x \in \bigcup_{\lambda \in P(V)} \mathcal{D}(\lambda)}$

As $V \in \mathcal{D} \Rightarrow \exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \in P$ s.t. $P(V) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{D}(\lambda_i)$.

For $\lambda \in \mathcal{D}(\lambda_i)$ written as $\lambda = \lambda_i - \sum k_i \alpha_i$ ($k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$), we set $h_i(\lambda) := \sum k_i$.

For $\lambda \in \bigcup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{D}(\lambda_i)$, set $h(\lambda) := \sum_i h_i(\lambda)$, where the sum is over those i s.t. $\lambda \in \mathcal{D}(\lambda_i)$.

Finally, we set $h(V) := \min_{\lambda \in P(V)} h(\lambda)$. Let μ_1, \dots, μ_r be all els of $P(V)$ with $h(\mu_i) = h(V)$, and $\{v_{i,1}, \dots, v_{i,k_i}\}$ be a basis of $V|_{M_{\mu_i}}$.

As each $v_{i,j}$ is clearly a highest weight vector, we have a morphism of modules

$\boxed{\varphi: \bigoplus_i M_{\mu_i}^{\oplus k_i} \longrightarrow V \text{ sending } k_i \text{ copies of } v_{i,j} \in M_{\mu_i} \text{ to } v_{i,1}, \dots, v_{i,k_i}}$

Let $K := \text{Ker } (\varphi)$, $C := \text{Coker } (\varphi)$, so that we get an exact sequence:

$\boxed{0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow \bigoplus_i M_{\mu_i}^{\oplus k_i} \xrightarrow{\varphi} V \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0}$

Theorem: a) $\text{ch}(V) = \sum k_i \cdot \text{ch } M_{\mu_i} - \text{ch}(K) + \text{ch}(C)$
 b) $P(K), P(C) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^m \mathcal{D}(\lambda_i)$
 c) $h(K), h(C) > h(V)$

Thus applying this argument to K, C again and proceeding further (may not terminate!), we obtain the result. \square

Let us now get to the proof of the Weil-Kac Theorem.

• Applying Lemma 5 (and its proof) to V of theorem, we get $\boxed{\text{ch } V = \sum_{\psi \in \mathcal{D}(\lambda)} c_\psi \cdot \text{ch } M_\psi, c_\lambda = 1}$

• Next, we obtain a restriction on ψ s.t. $c_\psi \neq 0$:

Lemma 6: If $c_\psi \neq 0$, then $(\psi + \rho, \psi + \rho) = (x + \rho, x + \rho)$

• The action of the Casimir operator Δ on M_ψ and V is by $\frac{(\psi, \psi + 2\rho)}{(\psi + \rho, \psi + \rho) - (\rho, \rho)}$ and $\frac{(x, x + 2\rho)}{(x + \rho, x + \rho) - (\rho, \rho)}$.
 Following our proof of Lemma 5 and recalling that Δ commutes with $g(A)$ -action, we immediately get $(\psi + \rho, \psi + \rho) = (x + \rho, x + \rho)$ (otherwise no nontrivial λ s.t. $M_\psi \rightarrow V$ exists).
Note: Both K, C have the same action of Δ as M_ψ and V . \square

• Next, we compute c_ψ for $\psi = w(x + \rho) - \rho$.

Lemma 7: If $\psi + \rho = w(x + \rho)$, $w \in W$, then $c_\psi = \det(w) \cdot c_x$

• Applying Lemma 5 with f-la for $\text{ch } M_\lambda$, we get $\text{ch}(V) \cdot K = \sum_\psi c_\psi \cdot e^{\psi + \rho}$

But $\text{ch}(V)$ is W -invariant (as a character of an integrable module), K is W -anti-invariant (Lemma 3)
 $\Rightarrow \sum_\psi c_\psi e^{\psi + \rho}$ is W -anti-invariant $\Rightarrow \det(w) \cdot \sum_\psi c_\psi e^{\psi + \rho} = \sum c_{w\psi} \cdot w^\ast \psi \cdot e^{\psi + \rho}$, where $w^\ast \psi = w'(\psi + \rho) - \rho$
 $\Rightarrow c_{w\psi} = \det(w) \cdot c_\psi \Rightarrow c_{w\psi} = \det(w) \cdot c_\psi$ \square

• Finally, let us describe $D := \{ \psi \in P \mid c_{\psi - \rho} \neq 0 \}$.

Lemma 8: $D = W(x+\rho) - \text{W-orbit of } x+\rho$.

- By Lemma 7: $W(x+\rho) \subseteq D$. By the proof of Lemma 7, it is clear that D is \bar{W} -invariant.
But due to Lemma 1(b): $D \cap P_+ \neq \emptyset$ and $(D - W(x+\rho)) \cap P_+ \neq \emptyset$ if $D \neq W(x+\rho)$.
In the latter case: $\exists \beta \in (D - W(x+\rho)) \cap P_+$. By definition of D , we get $\beta - \rho \in D(x)$.
Now let us apply Lemma 4 (or its slight upgrade) for $\nu = x$, $\mu = \beta - \rho$:

$$\langle x+\rho, x+\rho \rangle - (\beta, \beta) = \sum_i k_i \underbrace{\langle x+\rho + \beta - \rho, \alpha_i \rangle}_{>0} > 0$$

However, this contradicts Lemma 6 which asserts $\langle x+\rho, x+\rho \rangle = (\beta, \beta) \quad \forall \beta \in D$.
Contradiction! So $W(x+\rho) = D$.

- According to Lemma 2, the map $\bar{W} \rightarrow P$, $w \mapsto w(x+\rho)$, is bijective.

Combining this with Lemmas 7-8 and $c_\chi = 1$, we get:

$$\text{ch}(V) = \sum_{w \in W} \det(w) \cdot \text{ch} M_{w(x+\rho)-\rho}$$



This completes our proof of the Weyl-Kac character formula!

* * *

* Weyl-Kac formula for $g(\Lambda) = \widehat{g}$ (particular case of interest: $g = \mathfrak{sl}_2$)

- Let g be a simple f.d. Lie algebra $\rightsquigarrow \text{Lie}g = g[t, t^{-1}]$, $\widehat{g} = \text{Lie}g \oplus CK$, $\widetilde{g} = \text{Lie}g \oplus CK \oplus Cd$.

[Note: The extension \widetilde{g} is smaller than $\text{Lie}(\widehat{g})$, but is equivalent for the purpose of defining category Θ , Verma modules M_λ , irreducibles L_λ , and even Weyl-Kac char. f-la!]

Similarly to the case of gl_n (discussed in Lecture 12), the algebra \widetilde{g} can be endowed with an invariant symmetric nondegenerate form as follows:

- For $a(t), b(t) \in \text{Lie}g$, set $(a(t), b(t)) := \text{Res}_{t=0} (a(t), b(t)) \frac{dt}{t}$
- Also set $(K, d) = 1$, $(K, K) = (d, d) = (K, \text{Lie}g) = (d, \text{Lie}g) = 0$. this is the standard pairing on g applied coefficient-wise

As in [Lecture 12, Lemma 2], we have:

Lemma 9: This defined symmetric pairing on \widetilde{g} is invariant & nondegenerate.

Exercise: Prove that any symm. inv. nondeg. form on \widetilde{g} with $(d, d) = 0$ is a multiple of the above one.

- Let G be the simply connected \mathbb{C} -Lie group with $\text{Lie}G = g$. (e.g. $g = \mathfrak{sl}_n \rightsquigarrow G = SL_n$).
 G may be realized as an alg. subgp $\subseteq \text{Mat}_{N \times N}(\mathbb{C})$ by certain algebraic equations
 $\rightsquigarrow \boxed{\text{Lie}G = G[t, t^{-1}]}$ - defined by the same alg. equations in $\text{Mat}_{N \times N}(\mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}])$.

Note $G \xrightarrow{\text{Ad}} g \rightsquigarrow \text{Lie}G \xrightarrow{\text{Ad}} \text{Lie}g$.

Lemma 10: The action $\text{Lie}G \curvearrowright \text{Lie}g$ uniquely extends to $\text{Lie}G \curvearrowright \text{Lie}g \oplus Cd$ via

$$g(t)(d) = d + g(t) \cdot t \frac{d}{dt} (g^{-1}(t)) = d - t \cdot g'(t) \cdot g(t)^{-1}$$

Note: Viewing $g(t)$ as an algebraic map $\mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow G$, it is clear that $\forall t, t' \in \mathbb{C}^*$: $g(t')g(t)^{-1} = g(t't)^{-1}$

Exercise: Explain!

- For $g \in G$, $a \in \text{Lie}g$: $[g(d), g(a)] = [d - tg' \cdot g^{-1}, gag^{-1}] \stackrel{[d, b(t)] = t \frac{db}{dt}(t)}{=} t \cdot d + (gag^{-1}) - t \cdot g'ag^{-1} + t \cdot gag^{-1}g'g^{-1}$
 $= t \cdot g'ag^{-1} + t \cdot ga'g^{-1} + t \cdot ga \cdot g^{-1} - tg'ag^{-1} - t \cdot ga \cdot g^{-1} = g(ta') = g([d, a])$

• Also clear: $(g(t)h(t))(d) = g(t)(h(t)d)$. (3)

Thus, the action $LG \curvearrowright \mathfrak{Lg}$ extends to $LG \curvearrowright \mathfrak{Lg} \oplus \text{Cd}$

meaning that two LG -actions are compatible under the Lie alg. homom. $\mathfrak{Lg} \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{Lg} \oplus \text{Cd}$.

The latter can be upgraded to $LG \curvearrowright \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$

meaning that two LG -actions are compatible under the Lie alg. homom. $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{Lg} \oplus \text{Cd}$ ($K \mapsto 0$)

Prop 1: There is an action of LG on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ given by

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} g(K) &= K \\ g(a) &= gag^{-1} + \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g'ag^{-1})dt \cdot K \\ g(d) &= d - tg'g^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Res}_{t=0} (tg'g^{-1}, tg'g^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} \cdot K \end{aligned}}$$

Here $g \in LG$, $a \in \mathfrak{Lg}$ and viewing $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq \text{Mat}_{N \times N}(\mathbb{C}) \Rightarrow g \in \mathfrak{gl}_N \Rightarrow \text{tr}(X)$ is well-defined and may assume $(X, Y) = \text{tr}(XY)$.

Moreover, this action preserves the invariant nondeg. form on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$.

• First, let us check that each $g \in LG$ defines a Lie alg. action on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$. There are only 2 key verifications:

$$\begin{aligned} a, b \in \mathfrak{Lg} &\Rightarrow [a, b]_{\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}} = [a, b]_{\mathfrak{Lg}} + \text{Res}_{t=0} (a', b) dt \cdot K \Rightarrow g([a, b]) = g[a, b]g^{-1} + \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g'a, bg^{-1} + a'b) dt \cdot K \\ [g(a), g(b)]_{\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}} &= [gag^{-1}, gbg^{-1}]_{\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}} = \underbrace{[gag^{-1}, gbg^{-1}]_{\mathfrak{Lg}}}_{= g[a, b]_{\mathfrak{Lg}} g^{-1}} + \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}\left(\frac{d}{dt}(gag^{-1}) \cdot gbg^{-1}\right) dt \cdot K \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But: } \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}\left(\frac{d}{dt}(gag^{-1}) \cdot gbg^{-1}\right) dt = \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}\left((g'ag^{-1} + ga'g^{-1} - gag'g^{-1}) \cdot gbg^{-1}\right) dt$$

$$= \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}\left(g'abg^{-1} + ga'bg^{-1} - gag'bg^{-1}\right) dt = \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}\left(a'b + g'[a, b]g^{-1}\right) dt$$

$$\Rightarrow [g(a, b)] = [g(a), g(b)]$$

$$a \in \mathfrak{Lg} \Rightarrow [d, a] = ta' \Rightarrow g([d, a]) = tga'g^{-1} + \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g \cdot ta' \cdot g^{-1}) dt \cdot K$$

$$[g(d), g(a)] = [d - tg'g^{-1}, gag^{-1}]_{\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}} = \underbrace{[d - tg'g^{-1}, gag^{-1}]_{\mathfrak{Lg} \oplus \text{Cd}}}_{= g(ta')g^{-1} \text{ by Lemma 10}} - \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}((tg'g^{-1})' \cdot gag^{-1}) dt \cdot K$$

$$\text{But: } -\text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}((tg'g^{-1})' \cdot gag^{-1}) dt = -\text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g'ag^{-1} + tg''ag^{-1} - tg'g^{-1}g'ag^{-1}) dt$$

$$= \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(tg'a'g^{-1}) dt - \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}((tg'ag^{-1})') dt = \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(tg'a'g^{-1}) dt$$

$$\Rightarrow [g([d, a])] = [g(d), g(a)]$$

• Exercise: Verify that above map $LG \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\text{Lie-alg}}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}})$ is indeed a group homomorphism.

• Finally, we need to check that this action preserves the inv. nondeg. pairing on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$.
There are only two nontrivial verifications:

$$(g(d), g(a)) = (d - tg'g^{-1} - \dots \cdot K, gag^{-1} + \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g'ag^{-1}) dt \cdot K) = \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(g'ag^{-1}) dt - \text{Res}_{t=0} \text{tr}(tg'g^{-1}g'ag^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} = 0 = (d, a)$$

$$(g(d), g(d)) = (d - tg'g^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Res}_{t=0} (tg'g^{-1}, tg'g^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} \cdot K, d - tg'g^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Res}_{t=0} (tg'g^{-1}, tg'g^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} \cdot K) \\ = (tg'g^{-1}, tg'g^{-1}) - \text{Res}_{t=0} (tg'g^{-1}, tg'g^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} = 0 = (d, d)$$

Exercise: (a) Prove that this is a unique lifting of $LG \curvearrowright \mathfrak{Lg} \oplus \text{Cd}$ to $LG \curvearrowright \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ which preserves pairing
(b) Explain how to rewrite $\text{tr}(g'ag^{-1})$ more invariantly just using (\cdot, \cdot) .

From now on, we shall treat the simplest case of $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$ with $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$.

Identifying $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$ with $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}^*$ using the non-deg. bilinear form (restriction of the inv. form on $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$), we have $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathbb{C}\alpha \oplus \mathbb{C}K \oplus \mathbb{C}d$. The pairing is: $(d, \alpha) = 2, (K, d) = 1, (K, K) = (K, \alpha) = (d, d) = (d, \alpha) = 0$.

The generators h_0, h_1 are explicitly given via $h_1 = \alpha, h_0 = K - d$.

Recall the fundamental weights w_0, w_1 determined by $w_i(h_j) = \delta_{ij}$, $w_i(d) = 0$. Explicitly:

$$w_0 = d, w_1 = \frac{1}{2}\alpha + d$$

Any weight λ can be written as $\lambda = md + \frac{n}{2}\alpha + rK = (m-n)w_0 + nw_1 + rK$.

Then: 1) L_λ is integrable iff $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $m \geq n$

2) L_λ is unitary iff $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, $m \geq n$, and $r \in \mathbb{R}$.

3) The level of L_λ equals m .

We would like to write down very explicitly the Weyl-Kac characters χ_{L_λ} for integrable \mathfrak{sl}_2 -module L_λ . To do that, we need to describe the Weyl group.

Motivated by the definition of the Weyl gp W of alg. gps, $W = N(T)/Z(T)$, we introduce:

Def 1: Let $\widetilde{W} := \{g \in L(\mathbb{G}) | g^\dagger g^{-1} \subseteq \widehat{\mathfrak{g}}\}$ and \underline{W} be the image of \widetilde{W} in $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(\widehat{\mathfrak{g}})$.

Fact: The resulting \underline{W} coincides with the Weyl gp defined last time! (that's not quite trivial)

In the particular case of $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$, we have (by Prop 1) $g(\alpha) = gag^{-1} + \text{Res}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \text{tr}(gag^{-1})dt \cdot K$, hence $g \in \widetilde{W} \Rightarrow gag^{-1} \in \widehat{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathbb{C}d \Rightarrow gag^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} v & 0 \\ 0 & -v \end{pmatrix}$. But $\det(gag^{-1}) = \det(\alpha) = -1 \Rightarrow v = \pm 1$.

• If $v=1 \Rightarrow g \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow g = \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(t) & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha(t)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

• If $v=-1 \Rightarrow g \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow g = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(t) & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha(t)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

Here $\alpha(t), \alpha(t)^{-1} \in \mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}]$

$$\alpha(t) = c \cdot t^k, c \in \mathbb{C}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

And it is clear that these el-s belong to \widetilde{W} as $g(K) = K$, while

• If $g = \begin{pmatrix} ct^k & 0 \\ 0 & c^{-1}t^{-k} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow tg'g^{-1} = t \cdot \begin{pmatrix} ct^{k-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -c^{-1}k \cdot t^{k-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c^{-1}t^k & 0 \\ 0 & ct^k \end{pmatrix} = k \cdot d \Rightarrow g(d) \in \widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$

• If $g = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct^k & 0 \\ 0 & c^{-1}t^{-k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -ct^{k-1} \\ ct^k & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow tg'g^{-1} = t \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & +kc \cdot t^{k-1} \\ kt^{k-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c^{-1}t^k \\ -ct^k & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -k \cdot d \Rightarrow g(d) \in \widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$

From these verifications, we also see that the images of these el-s in W do not depend on $c \in \mathbb{C}^*$, but do depend on $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. As a result, we get the following description of the Weyl gp of \mathfrak{sl}_2 :

$$W = \{t_k, \tau_k | k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

↑ the group structure is also obvious!

$$\tau_k = \text{Ad} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$t_k = \text{Ad} \begin{pmatrix} t^k & 0 \\ 0 & t^{-k} \end{pmatrix}$$

Explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_k: d &\mapsto -d, K \mapsto K, d \mapsto d \\ t_k: d &\mapsto d+2k \cdot K, K \mapsto K, d \mapsto d-k \cdot d - k^2 \cdot K \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \det(\tau_k) &= -1 \\ \det(t_k) &= 1 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \det(\tau_k t_k) = -1$$

Next time we shall start by understanding what the Weyl-Kac character formula gives in the simplest case of \mathfrak{sl}_2 : the result will manifestly feature Jacobi-Riemann theta f-s!