# Upper Triangular Ladder Matrix Algebras A Preliminary Report

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A k-step ladder on n is a set

 $\mathcal{L} = \{(i_1, j_1), ..., (i_k, j_k)\}$ 

with  $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \ldots < i_k \leq n$  and  $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \ldots < j_k \leq n$ .

 $\blacksquare$  The *ladder matrices on*  $\mathcal L$  is the space

 $M_{\mathcal{L}} :=$ Span  $\{e_{i,j}; (i,j) \in I\} \subseteq M_F^{n \times n}$ 

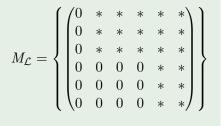
where

$$I = \{(i,j); \exists (i_t,j_t) \in \mathcal{L}, i \le i_t, j \ge j_t\}$$

• A ladder  $\mathcal{L}$  is called *upper triangular* when  $i_t < j_{t+1}$  for t = 1, 2, ..., k - 1.

#### Example

Let  $\mathcal{L} = \{(3,2), (6,5)\}$ , a 2-step ladder on 6.



## Theorem (B— and Huang 2015)

 $M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is closed under matrix multiplication if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is upper triangular.

Introduced by B— and Huang in 2015.

- Came up in the study of derivations of Lie algebras
- Generalize block upper triangular matrix algebras

## Theorem (B— and Huang 2015)

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is upper triangular, then  $M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is zero product determined under matrix multiplication.

### Question

What if matrix multiplication is replaced by the Lie bracket, [x, y] := xy - yx?

Introduced by Brešar, Grašič, and Sáncha Ortega in 2009 to further their study of homomorphisms on certain Banach Algebras.

- An algebra is a pair (A, µ) where A is a vector space and µ : A ⊗ A → A is a linear map.
- $(A, \mu)$  is zero product determined if any  $\varphi: A \otimes A \to X$  satisfying

$$\mu(x\otimes y)=0$$
 implies  $\varphi(x\otimes y)=0$ 

necessarily factors through  $\mu$ .

Theorem (Brešar, Grašič, and Ortega 2009)

 $M_F^{n \times n}$  is zero product determined under both matrix multiplication and the Lie bracket.



# Theorem (Grašič 2010)

The classical Lie algebras are zero product determined.

# Theorem (Wang, Yu, and Chen 2011)

The simple Lie algebras over  $\mathbb C$  and their parabolic subalgebras are zero product determined.

### Theorem (B— and Huang 2015)

 $(A, \mu)$  is zero product determined if and only if the kernal of  $\mu$  has a basis consisting of rank-one tensors.

Theorem (B— unpublished)

The matrix Lie algebra of block form  $\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 

#### Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{L} = \{(i_1, j_1)\}$ .  $M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is zero product determined as a Lie algebra.

If  $i_1 < j_1$ , then  $M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is abelien, and the conclusion is trivial. Assume  $i_1 \ge j_1$ . We partition  $M_{\mathcal{L}}$  into blocks of size  $a = j_1 - 1$ ,  $b = i_1 - a$ , and c = n - a - b. We use the rank-nullity theorem to determine that Ker  $\mu$  has dimension

$$a^{2}b^{2} + 2a^{2}bc + a^{2}c^{2} + 2ab^{3} + 4ab^{2}c + 2abc^{2}$$
$$-ab - ac + b^{4} + 2b^{3}c + b^{2}c^{2} - b^{2} - bc + 1$$

$$M_{\mathcal{L}} = \begin{array}{cc} a & b & c \\ a & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathfrak{l} & \mathfrak{a} \\ 0 & \mathfrak{h} & \mathfrak{r} \\ c & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$M_{\mathcal{L}} = \mathfrak{h} \ltimes \left( (\mathfrak{l} \dot{+} \mathfrak{r}) \ltimes \mathfrak{a} \right)$$

Taking advantage of the strucure of  $M_{\mathcal{L}},$ 

$$\begin{split} [\mathfrak{h},\mathfrak{a}] &= 0 = [\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{h}] \quad 2ab^2c \\ [\mathfrak{l},\mathfrak{a}] &= 0 = [\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{l}] \quad 2a^2bc \\ [\mathfrak{r},\mathfrak{a}] &= 0 = [\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{r}] \quad 2abc^2 \\ [\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{a}] &= 0 \qquad a^2c^2 \\ [\mathfrak{l},\mathfrak{l}] &= 0 \qquad a^2b^2 \\ [\mathfrak{r},\mathfrak{r}] &= 0 \qquad b^2c^2 \\ [\mathfrak{h},\mathfrak{h}] &\cong \mathfrak{sl}_b \qquad b^4 - b^2 + \end{split}$$

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Still need  $2ab^3 + 2ab^2c + 2b^2c - ab - ac - bc.$ 

Following the method used for  $\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$$\begin{split} [\mathfrak{h},\mathfrak{l}] &= \mathfrak{l} = [\mathfrak{l},\mathfrak{h}] \quad 2ab^3 - ab \\ [\mathfrak{h},\mathfrak{r}] &= \mathfrak{r} = [\mathfrak{r},\mathfrak{h}] \quad 2b^3c - bc \end{split}$$

Still need  $2ab^2c - ac$ .

# **Our Preliminary Results**

The missing  $2ab^2c - ac$  rank-one tensors come from  $\mathfrak{l} \otimes \mathfrak{r}$ , and  $\mathfrak{r} \otimes \mathfrak{l}$ , and  $(\mathfrak{l} + \mathfrak{r}) \otimes (\mathfrak{l} + \mathfrak{r})$ .

- 1  $e_{i,a+j} \otimes e_{a+k,a+b+l}$ , with  $1 \le i \le a$ ,  $1 \le j \le b$ ,  $1 \le k \le b$ ,  $1 \le l \le c$  and  $j \ne k$ , giving  $ab^2c - abc$ .
- 2 Commute the above tensors, giving  $ab^2c abc$ .
- **3**  $(e_{i,a+j} e_{i,a+j+1}) \otimes (e_{a+j,a+b+q} + e_{a+j+1,a+b+q}),$ with  $1 \le i \le a, 1 \le j \le b-1$ , and  $1 \le q \le c,$ giving abc - ac.
- 4 Commute the above tensors, giving abc ac.

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$$(e_{i,a+b} + e_{a+b,a+b+q}) \otimes (e_{i,a+b} + e_{a+b,a+b+q})$$
,  
with  $1 \le i \le a$  and  $1 \le q \le c$ ,  
giving  $ac$ .

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