

# Linear Lie Algebras, Block Matrices, and Ladder Matrices

Daniel Brice

Department of Mathematics  
California State University, Bakersfield  
daniel.brice@csub.edu



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$M^n = M^n(F)$  space of  $n \times n$  matrices with entries in  $F$ .

$M^n$  is an algebra under matrix multiplication  $xy$ .

$\mathfrak{m}^n$  is an algebra under the *Lie bracket*  $[x, y]$  (where  $[x, y] = xy - yx$ ).

# Upper Triangular Matrices

$U^n$ , set of upper-triangular matrices, is closed under multiplication (and Lie bracket).

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * & * & * \\ & * & * & * & * & * \\ & & * & * & * & * \\ & & & * & * & * \\ & & & & * & * \\ & & & & & * \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_{2,3}e_{3,4} = e_{2,4}$$

$$e_{2,3}e_{3,5} = e_{2,5}$$

$$e_{i,i+k}e_{j,j+l} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \neq i+k \\ e_{i,j+l} & \text{if } j = i+k \end{cases}$$

Multiply block matrices exactly as you multiply regular matrices.

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & | & * & * \\ * & {}_3A_3 & * & | & {}_3B_2 & * \\ * & * & * & | & * & * \\ \hline * & {}_2C_3 & * & | & {}_2D_2 & * \\ * & * & * & | & * & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & | & * & * \\ * & {}_3E_3 & * & | & {}_3F_2 & * \\ * & * & * & | & * & * \\ \hline * & {}_2G_3 & * & | & {}_2H_2 & * \\ * & * & * & | & * & * \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} {}_3AE_3 + {}_3BG_3 & | & {}_3AF_2 + {}_3BH_2 \\ \hline {}_2CE_3 + {}_2DG_3 & | & {}_2CF_2 + {}_2DH_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Block Upper Triangular Matrices

For any partition  $\pi = (n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k)$  of  $n$ , we have the corresponding algebra  $U_\pi$  of block upper triangular matrices, and the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{u}_\pi$ .

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc|c} * & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & * \\ \hline & & & * & * & * \\ & & & * & * & * \\ \hline & & & & & * \end{array} \right) \quad \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c|cc} * & * & * & * & * & * \\ \hline & * & * & * & * & * \\ & * & * & * & * & * \\ \hline & & & * & * & * \\ \hline & & & & * & * \\ & & & & * & * \end{array} \right)$$

The  $\mathfrak{u}_\pi$  are called the *parabolic subalgebras* of  $\mathfrak{m}^n$ .

# Upper Triangular Ladder Matrices

- A  $k$ -step ladder on  $n$  is a set

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

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

- The ladder matrices on  $\mathcal{L}$  is the space

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

where

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

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

## Example

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

$$M_{\mathcal{L}} = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cccc|cc} 0 & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \end{array} \right) \right\}$$

# Upper Triangular Ladder Matrices

$M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is closed under  $xy$  if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is upper triangular (B— and Huang 2015).

$\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  is closed under  $[x, y]$  whenever  $\mathcal{L}$  is upper triangular. But possible also closed for certain non-upper triangular  $\mathcal{L}$ ?

Structure theory of Lie algebras  
(Humphreys 1972, Serre 1965)

Derivations of parabolic Lie algebras  
(Leger and Luks 1972, Farnsteiner 1988)

Zero product determined algebras  
(Brešar, Grašič, and Ortega 2009, Wang, Yu, and Chen 2011)



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

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cccc} 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cccc|c} 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Partition  $n$  as:

$$n_1 = j_1 - 1$$

$$n_2 = i_1 - n_1$$

$$n_3 = n - n_1 - n_2$$

$$\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} 0 & \mathfrak{l} & \mathfrak{a} \\ \hline 0 & \mathfrak{h} & \mathfrak{r} \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

	$\mathfrak{h}$	$\mathfrak{l}$	$\mathfrak{r}$	$\mathfrak{a}$
$\mathfrak{h}$	$\mathfrak{h}$	$\mathfrak{l}$	$\mathfrak{r}$	$0$
$\mathfrak{l}$	$\mathfrak{l}$	$0$	$\mathfrak{a}$	$0$
$\mathfrak{r}$	$\mathfrak{r}$	$\mathfrak{a}$	$0$	$0$
$\mathfrak{a}$	$0$	$0$	$0$	$0$

$$\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}} = \mathfrak{h} \ltimes ((\mathfrak{l} + \mathfrak{r}) \ltimes \mathfrak{a})$$








## Closing Question

$M_{\mathcal{L}}$  is closed under  $xy$  if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is upper triangular. Which, if any, non-upper triangular  $\mathcal{L}$  give  $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  closed under  $[x, y]$ ?

Block partition and structural decomposition of  $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  for one-step  $\mathcal{L}$  is complete. Need block partition scheme and structural decomposition of  $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $k$ -step  $\mathcal{L}$ .

$\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  is zero product determined for one-step  $\mathcal{L}$ . Show  $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{L}}$  is zero product determined for  $k$ -step  $\mathcal{L}$ .

# References

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