

# ON THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE FIVE-DIMENSIONAL LIE SUPERALGEBRAS

ANARGYROS G. FELLOURIS and LINA K. MATIADOU

## Abstract

The purpose of this contribution is to initiate a classification of Lie superalgebras (LS) of dimension **5**, over the field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 17B70.

**Key words:** Lie superalgebra

## 1 Introduction - Preliminaries

In this section we give some definitions which are very useful for the sequel.

**Definition 1.1** A *Lie superalgebra*  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  is a superalgebra over a base field  $K = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ , with a bilinear bracket operation  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  satisfying the following axioms:

$$(i) [x, y] = -(-1)^{\alpha\beta}[y, x], \quad (\text{graded skew-symmetry})$$

for all  $x \in L_\alpha$ ,  $y \in L_\beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}\} = \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

$$(ii) (-1)^{\alpha\gamma}[[x, y], z] + (-1)^{\alpha\beta}[[y, z], x] + (-1)^{\beta\gamma}[[z, x], y] = 0,$$

(*graded Jacobi identity*) for all  $x \in L_\alpha$ ,  $y \in L_\beta$ ,  $z \in L_\gamma$ ,  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

**Definition 1.2**  $L_0$  is called the *even* part of  $L$  and is a Lie algebra.  $L_1$  is called the *odd* part of  $L$  and is a  $L_0$ -module.

**Definition 1.3** We say that  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  and  $L' = L'_0 \oplus L'_1$  are *equivalent*, if there are isomorphisms  $L_0 \leftrightarrow L'_0$  and  $L_1 \leftrightarrow L'_1$ , which preserve the bracket multiplication.

We can ask the question: given a Lie algebra  $L_0$  and a  $L_0$ -module  $M$ , how many LS  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  can we construct where  $L_1$  and  $M$  are isomorphic as  $L_0$ -modules? Answering this question is the basis for the classification scheme.

**Definition 1.4** A LS  $L$  is *trivial*, if  $[L_1, L_1] = \{0\}$ ; otherwise,  $L$  is *non-trivial*.

**Definition 1.5** We say that  $L$  is a  $(m, n)$ -Lie superalgebra and has dimension  $m+n$ , if  $\dim L_0 = m$  and  $\dim L_1 = n$ . Here we consider  $m+n = 5$ , in particular only the  $(1, 4)$  and  $(4, 1)$  cases.

Finally, we make a usefull remark.

**Remark 1.6** From graded skew-symmetry and graded Jacobi identity, we obtain the following relations, which hold for all  $a, b, c \in L_0$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in L_1$ :

$$[a, b] = -[b, a], \quad (1.1)$$

$$[a, \alpha] = -[\alpha, a], \quad (1.2)$$

$$[\alpha, \beta] = [\beta, \alpha], \quad (1.3)$$

$$[[a, b], c] + [[b, c], a] + [[c, a], b] = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

$$[[a, b], \alpha] + [[b, \alpha], a] + [[\alpha, a], b] = 0, \quad (1.5)$$

$$[[a, \alpha], \beta] + [[\alpha, \beta], a] - [[\beta, a], \alpha] = 0, \quad (1.6)$$

$$[[\alpha, \beta], \gamma] + [[\beta, \gamma], \alpha] + [[\gamma, \alpha], \beta] = 0. \quad (1.7)$$

## 2 The Method

In this section we present the method that we applied, in order to get the results. First, for the

### I. (4,1)-dimensional Lie superalgebras

Let  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  be a  $(4, 1)$ -LS over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4; \alpha\}$  a set of generators. In particular  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  are the generators of the even part  $L_0$  and  $\alpha$  is the generator of the odd part  $L_1$ . The one-dimensional representation  $\rho: L_0 \rightarrow L_1$  is defined by:

$$\rho(a_i)(\alpha) \equiv [a_i, \alpha] = \lambda_i \alpha, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4.$$

Then, we either have one of the following two cases:

- (1)  $\lambda_i = 0$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , or
- (2) there exists at least one  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ , for example  $\lambda_4$ .

#### A. (4,1)-TRIVIAL LS

In case (1), any  $(4, 1)$ -trivial LS is an ordinary Lie algebra of dimension four (see J Patera, R T Sharp, P Winternitz and H Zassenhaus, (1976)).

In case **(2)**, the change of basis in  $L_0$ , defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} a'_i &= a_i - \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_4} a_4, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \\ a'_4 &= a_4, \end{aligned}$$

gives

$$\begin{aligned} [a'_i, \alpha] &= 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \\ [a'_4, \alpha] &= \lambda_4 \alpha, \quad \lambda_4 \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we observe:

- 1)  $\lambda_4$  can be reduced to unity by scaling  $a_4$ .
- 2) In the sequel we use again  $a_i$  instead of  $a'_i$ . It is easy to see that  $h \equiv \ker(\rho)$  is a three-dimensional ideal of  $L_0$ , generated by  $a_1, a_2, a_3$ , with  $a_4$  acting on  $h$  as an external derivation. This means that the following relation holds

$$[a_4, [a_i, a_j]] = [[a_4, a_i], a_j] + [a_i, [a_4, a_j]], \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, i \neq j.$$

- 3) We can also see that the quotient Lie algebra  $L_0/\ker(\rho)$  is isomorphic to the one-dimensional Abelian Lie algebra. Thus, we have:

$$\mathbf{L}_0 = \mathbf{h} + \mathbb{R} \mathbf{a}_4.$$

Finally, using all different forms of the 3-dimensional Lie algebra  $h$  over the reals and the graded Jacobi identity, we find **19** inequivalent trivial (4, 1)-dimensional LS.

### **B. (4,1)- NON TRIVIAL LS**

From the graded Jacobi identity, we have:

$$[a_i, [\alpha, \alpha]] = 2[[a_i, \alpha], \alpha], \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \tag{2.1}$$

$$[\alpha, [\alpha, \alpha]] = 0. \tag{2.2}$$

In case **(1)**, where  $\lambda_i = 0 \forall i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , we obtain that  $L_0$  is a 4-dimensional Lie algebra with  $[L_0, L_1] = 0$ . From (2.1) we get  $[a_i, [\alpha, \alpha]] = 0 \forall i$ . So,  $[\alpha, \alpha]$  belongs to the center  $Z(L_0)$  of  $L_0$ .

In this case, we find **5** different non-trivial (4, 1)-dimensional LS.

In case **(2)**, this means that there is at least one  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ , we conclude that  $[\alpha, \alpha]$  belongs to the center  $Z(h)$  of the ideal  $h$ , since the relation (2.1) gives  $[a_i, [\alpha, \alpha]] = 0 \forall i = 1, 2, 3$ .

In this case, we find **11** different non-trivial (4, 1)-dimensional LS.

## II. (1,4)-dimensional Lie superalgebras

Let  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  be a (4, 1)-LS over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\{a; \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4\}$  a set of generators. In particular,  $a$  is the generator of  $L_0$  and  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$  are the generators of  $L_1$ .

### A. (1,4)- TRIVIAL LS

The action of  $a$  on  $L_1$  is completely determined by a  $4 \times 4$  matrix over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Thus, there exist **15** inequivalent families of (1, 4)-trivial LS, arising from the inequivalent Jordan forms or the rational canonical form over  $\mathbb{R}$ , of  $4 \times 4$  matrix.

### B. (1,4)- NON TRIVIAL LS

From the graded Jacobi identity, we have:

$$[[\alpha_i, \alpha_j], \alpha_k] = 0, \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3, 4. \quad (2.3)$$

Let  $[\alpha_i, \alpha_j] = S_{ij} a$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . and  $S_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then the matrix  $S = (S_{ij})$  is a  $4 \times 4$  real symmetric matrix and by a linear transformation takes a diagonal form  $S = \text{diag}(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4)$ . We distinguish the following cases:

(1) If  $s_i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , then the LS is trivial.

(2) If there is at least one  $s_i \neq 0$ . Let  $[\alpha_1, \alpha_1] = s_1 a$ ,  $s_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $[a, \alpha_1] = 0$ .

Using again the graded Jacobi identity, we have

$$[a, \alpha_i] = 0, \quad i = 2, 3, 4.$$

Therefore, when  $s_2 s_3 s_4 = 0$  the LS decomposes. So, in order to obtain an indecomposable LS we must have  $s_i \neq 0$  for all  $i$ .

(3) If  $s_i \neq 0$  for all  $i$ , then by scaling each  $\alpha_i$  we can take  $s_i = 1$  or  $-1 \forall i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . This leads to 3 inequivalent forms of the matrix  $S = \text{diag}(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4)$ .

So, we finally find **3** different families of (1, 4)-non trivial LS.

## 3 Tabulations

Here we tabulate into families of equivalence classes the real indecomposable LS of dimension four, in particular the (1, 4) and (4, 1) cases, which are not Lie Algebras. For typographical convenience we use the generators  $a, b, c, d$  instead of  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  instead of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ .

**(4,1)-TRIVIAL**

	Relations	Comments
1	$[d, a] = pa, [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = rc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p, q, r \neq 0$
2	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = pa, [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = (p + q)c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p, q \neq 0$
3	$[a, b] = b, [a, c] = \mu c; [d, c] = rc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$r \neq 0, \mu \neq 0, 1$
4	$[a, b] = b, [a, c] = b + c; [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$q \neq 0$
5	$[a, b] = c; [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$q \neq 0$
6	$[a, b] = \kappa b - c, [a, c] = b + \kappa c; [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$q, \kappa \neq 0$
7	$[a, b] = -c, [a, c] = b; [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$q \neq 0$
8	$[d, a] = pa, [d, b] = a + pb, [d, c] = b + pc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p \neq 0$
9	$[a, c] = a, [b, c] = \lambda a + b; [d, b] = a, [d, c] = b; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$\lambda \neq 0$
10	$[a, c] = a, [b, c] = b; [d, b] = a, [d, c] = b; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	
11	$[b, c] = \kappa a; [d, b] = a, [d, c] = b; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$\kappa \neq 0$
12	$[d, a] = pa, [d, b] = a + pb, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p, q \neq 0$
13	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = pa, [d, b] = a + pb, [d, c] = 2pc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p \neq 0$
14	$[b, a] = a + c, [b, c] = \mu c; [d, b] = a; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$\mu \neq 0,  \mu  \leq 1$
15	$[b, a] = \kappa a - \lambda c, [b, c] = \lambda a + \kappa c; [d, b] = a; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$\lambda \neq 0$
16	$[d, a] = pa, [d, b] = qb - rc, [d, c] = rb + qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$p, r \neq 0$
17	$[b, c] = a; [d, a] = 2qa, [d, b] = qb - rc, [d, c] = rb + qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$r \neq 0$
18	$[a, b] = b, [a, c] = c; [d, b] = -rc, [d, c] = rb; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$r \neq 0$
19	$[b, c] = a; [d, b] = -rc, [d, c] = rb; [d, \alpha] = \alpha$	$r \neq 0$

**(4,1)- NON TRIVIAL**

	Relations	Comments
1	$[d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = qb, [d, c] = rc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = a$	$q, r \neq 2$
2	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = pa, [d, b] = (2 - p)b, [d, c] = 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	$p \neq 0, q \neq 2$
3	$[a, b] = c; [d, b] = 2b, [d, c] = 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	
4	$[d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = a + 2b, [d, c] = b + 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = a$	
5	$[d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = a + 2b, [d, c] = qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	$q \neq 0, 2$
6	$[d, a] = pa, [d, b] = a + pb, [d, c] = 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	$p \neq 0, 2$
7	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = a, [d, b] = a + b, [d, c] = 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	
8	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = a, [d, b] = a + b, [d, c] = 2c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = -c$	
9	$[d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = qb - rc, [d, c] = rb + qc; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = a$	$r \neq 0$
10	$[b, c] = a; [d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = b - rc, [d, c] = rb + c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = a$	$r \neq 0$
11	$[b, c] = a; [d, a] = 2a, [d, b] = b - rc, [d, c] = rb + c; [d, \alpha] = \alpha; [\alpha, \alpha] = -a$	$r \neq 0$
12	$[d, a] = 2a, [d, c] = b; [\alpha, \alpha] = b$	
13	$[d, b] = a, [d, c] = b; [\alpha, \alpha] = a$	
14	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = a, [d, b] = -b; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	
15	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = -b, [d, b] = a; [\alpha, \alpha] = c$	
16	$[a, b] = c; [d, a] = -b, [d, b] = a; [\alpha, \alpha] = -c$	

**(1,4)-TRIVIAL**

	Relations	Comments
<b>1</b>	$[a, \alpha] = \alpha, [a, \beta] = q\beta, [a, \gamma] = r\gamma, [a, \delta] = s\delta$	$0 \leq  s  \leq 1$ $ r  \leq  q  \leq 1$
<b>2</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha + \beta, [a, \beta] = p\beta + \gamma, [a, \gamma] = p\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = p\delta$	$p \neq 0$
<b>3</b>	$[a, \alpha] = \beta, [a, \beta] = \gamma, [a, \gamma] = \delta$	
<b>4</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = p\beta + \gamma, [a, \gamma] = p\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = p\delta$	$p \neq 0$
<b>5</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha + \beta, [a, \beta] = p\beta, [a, \gamma] = p\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = p\delta$	$p \neq 0$
<b>6</b>	$[a, \alpha] = \beta, [a, \gamma] = \delta$	
<b>7</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = p\beta, [a, \gamma] = p\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = p\delta$	$p \neq 0$
<b>8</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = q\beta + \gamma, [a, \gamma] = q\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = q\delta$	$p, q \neq 0, p \neq q$
<b>9</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = \gamma, [a, \gamma] = \delta$	$p \neq 0$
<b>10</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = q\beta, [a, \gamma] = q\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = q\delta$	$p, q \neq 0, p \neq q$
<b>11</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha + \beta, [a, \beta] = p\beta, [a, \gamma] = q\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = q\delta$	$p \neq q$
<b>12</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = p\beta, [a, \gamma] = q\gamma + \delta, [a, \delta] = q\delta$	$p \neq 0, p \neq q$
<b>13</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha + q\beta, [a, \beta] = -q\alpha + p\beta, [a, \gamma] = r\gamma + s\delta, [a, \delta] = -s\gamma + r\delta$	$q, s \neq 0$
<b>14</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha, [a, \beta] = q\beta, [a, \gamma] = r\gamma + s\delta, [a, \delta] = -s\gamma + r\delta$	$s \neq 0,$ $ p  \geq  q  > 0$
<b>15</b>	$[a, \alpha] = p\alpha + \beta, [a, \beta] = p\beta, [a, \gamma] = r\gamma + s\delta, [a, \delta] = -s\gamma + r\delta$	$s \neq 0$

**(1,4)-NON TRIVIAL**

	Relations	Comments
<b>1</b>	$[\alpha, \alpha] = a, [\beta, \beta] = a, [\gamma, \gamma] = a, [\delta, \delta] = a$	
<b>2</b>	$[\alpha, \alpha] = a, [\beta, \beta] = a, [\gamma, \gamma] = a, [\delta, \delta] = -a$	
<b>3</b>	$[\alpha, \alpha] = a, [\beta, \beta] = a, [\gamma, \gamma] = -a, [\delta, \delta] = -a$	

**References**

- [1] N B Backhouse, *On the Construction of Graded Lie Algebras*, Proc. 6th Int. Colloq. Group Theoretical Methods in Physics, Tubingen, 1977.
- [2] N B Backhouse, *A Classification of four dimensional Lie superalgebras*, J. Math. Phys., 19 (1978) 2400-2402.
- [3] Ahmad Hegazi, *Classification of nilpotent Lie superalgebras of dimension five. I*, Int. J. Theoretical Phys., 38 (1999) 1735-1739.
- [4] V G Kac, Ad. Math., 26 (1977) 8-96.
- [5] M Scheunert, W Nahm, and V Rittenberg, J. Math. Phys. 17 (1976) 1626-1644.
- [6] J Patera, R T Sharp, P Winterintz, and H Zassenhaus, J. Math. Phys., 17 (1976) 986-994.

Author's address:

Anargyros G. Fellouris and Lina K. Matiadou

*Department of Mathematics and Physical Sciences,*

*National Technical University of Athens,*

*Zografou Campus, 157 80, Athens, GREECE,*

*email: afellou@math.ntua.gr*