

The universal enveloping algebra of an n -Lie algebra

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Definition

Let \mathbb{K} be a field. A \mathbb{K} -Lie algebra is a \mathbb{K} -vector space L with a bilinear operation $[-, -]: L \times L \rightarrow L$ satisfying

$$[x, x] = 0,$$

$$[[y_1, y_2], x] = [y_1, x], y_2] + [y_1, [y_2, x]].$$

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Example

Associative algebras.

Definition

A **Lie algebra representation** over L is a \mathbb{K} -vector space M with a bilinear map $L \times M \rightarrow M, (x, m) \mapsto xm$ such that

$$[x, y]m = x(ym) - y(xm)$$

Representations

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Definition

A **Lie algebra representation** is a \mathbb{K} -vector space M with a Lie algebra structure on $L \oplus M$ such that

- M is an ideal,
- M is abelian,
- L is a subalgebra.

Definition

Let L be a \mathbb{K} -Lie algebra. The **universal enveloping algebra** $U(L)$ is the tensor algebra $T(L)$ quotient by the ideal generated by the elements

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Properties

- (U1) The category of representations over L is isomorphic to the category of modules over $U(L)$.
- (U2) The universal enveloping functor $U: \text{Lie}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{K}}$ is left adjoint of the liezation functor $(-)\text{Lie}: \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow \text{Lie}_{\mathbb{K}}$.
- (U3) The inclusion $i: L \rightarrow U(L)$ is injective.

Definition

An **n -Lie algebra or Filippov algebra** L is a \mathbb{K} -vector space with a multilinear map $[-, \dots, -]: L^{\times n} \rightarrow L$ satisfying

- (i) $[x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_j, \dots, x_n] = 0$ if $x_i = x_j$ for some i, j ,
- (ii)
$$[[x_1, \dots, x_n], y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}] = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, [x_i, y_1, \dots, y_n], x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n].$$

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An **n -Lie algebra representation** is a \mathbb{K} -vector space M with an n -Lie algebra structure on $L \oplus M$ such that

- M is an ideal,
- M is abelian,
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First attempt

Let be the functor $F: n\text{-Lie}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow \text{Lie}_{\mathbb{K}}$, $L \mapsto \Lambda^{n-1}L$, with bracket

$$[x_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{n-1}, y_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1}] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (-1)^{i+1} [x_1, \dots, \widehat{x}_i, \dots, x_{n-1}, [x_i, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]].$$

Consider the universal enveloping algebra of $F(L)$ in the Lie algebras sense.

Attempts

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Consider the universal enveloping algebra of $F(L)$ in the Lie algebras sense.

Second attempt

Let be the functor $G: n\text{-Lie}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow \text{Lie}_{\mathbb{K}}$, $L \mapsto \Lambda^{n-1}L$, with bracket

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{n-1}, y_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1}] = & \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (-1)^{i+1} [x_1, \dots, \widehat{x}_i, \dots, x_{n-1}, [x_i, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]] \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (-1)^{i+1} [y_1, \dots, \widehat{y}_i, \dots, y_{n-1}, [y_i, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}]] \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition

Let L be an n -Lie algebra with abelian $\text{InnDer}(L)$. Then $G(L)$ is a Lie algebra. In particular, if L is simple, $G(L)$ is a Lie algebra.

Proposition

Let \mathbb{K} be a field and let L be a 3-Lie algebra over \mathbb{K} such that $\text{InnDer}(L)$ is not abelian. If $\dim Z(L) \geq 2$ then $G(L)$ is not a Lie algebra.

Definition

Let L an n -Lie algebra, the **universal enveloping algebra** $U(L)$ is the tensor algebra $T(\wedge^{n-1}L)$ quotient by

$$\begin{aligned} (x_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{n-1})(y_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1}) - (y_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1})(x_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{n-1}) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} y_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge [x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_i] \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1, \dots, x_n] \wedge y_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1} \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{n-i} (x_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \widehat{x_i} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_n) (x_i \wedge y_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge y_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

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Justification

$L\text{-Mod}_{\mathbb{K}} \cong \text{Mod}_{\text{End}(L_1)}$, where L_1 is the free object on one generator in the category of n -Lie representations.

Non-existence of adjoint

Theorem

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For $n > 2$ there is no functor $F: n\text{-Lie}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{K}}$ with a right adjoint $G: \text{Alg}_{\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow n\text{-Lie}_{\mathbb{K}}$ such that there is an equivalence of categories between $L\text{-Mod}_{\mathbb{K}}$ and $\text{Mod}_{F(L)}$ for all L .

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Proposition

If L is a simple n -Lie algebra, then $U(L)$ coincides with the algebras generated in the first and second attempts.