

LIE TRIPLE DERIVATION ALGEBRA OF VIRASORO-LIKE ALGEBRA

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ABSTRACT. Let \mathfrak{L} be the Virasoro-like algebra and \mathfrak{g} its derived algebra, respectively. We investigate the structure of the Lie triple derivation algebra of \mathfrak{L} and \mathfrak{g} . We prove that they are both isomorphic to \mathfrak{L} , which provides two examples of invariance under triple derivation.

1. Introduction

Let A be a Lie algebra over the complex number field \mathbb{C} . Recall that a \mathbb{C} -linear mapping $\phi : A \rightarrow A$ is called a Lie derivation if

$$\phi([a, b]) = [\phi(a), b] + [a, \phi(b)] \quad (\forall a, b \in A).$$

If ϕ satisfies

$$(1.1) \quad \phi([[a, b], c]) = [[\phi(a), b], c] + [[a, \phi(b)], c] + [[a, b], \phi(c)]$$

for all $a, b, c \in A$, it is called a Lie triple derivation.

A derivation is a triple derivation. Like derivation algebra, the set of triple derivations is a Lie algebra under the usual bracket. It is denoted by $\text{Der}^{(3)}A$. For some algebra, the derivation algebra $\text{Der}A$ is a proper subalgebra of $\text{Der}^{(3)}A$, see [7]. Lie triple derivation algebra of some kinds of operator algebras have been studied in [1, 4].

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Recently, Virasoro algebra, as a universal central extension of Witt algebra, has played an important role in mathematics and physics[9]. The q -analog Virasoro algebra was introduced by Kirkman et al as a derivation subalgebra of quantum torus (see [6]). On one hand, Virasoro-like algebra is the generalization of Virasoro algebra. On the other hand, it can be regarded as a special case of q -analog Virasoro algebra when $q = 1$. Lin and Tan [8] and Wang and Zhao[11] studied the nonzero level Harish-Chandra modules and Verma module of Virasoro-like algebra, respectively. Jiang and Meng[5] gave the structure of its derivation algebra and the automorphism group. Song *et al.* got the quantization of generalized Virasoro-like algebra in [10]. As early as in 1957, Herstein in [3] proved that any Jordan triple derivation is an ordinary derivation on a prime ring of characteristic different from 2. In this paper, we will prove that the Lie triple derivation of Virasoro-like algebra \mathfrak{L} is isomorphic to \mathfrak{L} . Meanwhile we obtain that any Lie triple derivation of Virasoro-like algebra is a Lie derivation, i.e.,

$$(1.2) \quad \text{Der}\mathfrak{L} = \text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}.$$

The paper is arranged as follows. In Section 2, we give some notations and recall some basic facts on \mathfrak{L} . In Section 3, we study the graded version of $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$, which is a generalization of [2]. In Section 4, we give the main result of this paper.

2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper we use \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{Z} to denote the set of complex numbers, and integers, respectively. We assume that \mathcal{U} is a 2-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} . We choose

$$e_1 = (1, 0), \quad e_2 = (0, 1)$$

as the basis of \mathcal{U} and let (\cdot, \cdot) be the standard bilinear form on \mathcal{U} , i.e.,

$$(e_i, e_j) = \delta_{ij}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq 2.$$

Let $A = \mathbb{C}[x_1^\pm, x_2^\pm]$ be a Laurent polynomial with 2 commuting variables x_1, x_2 over \mathbb{C} .

The elements of A are denoted by $x^r = x_1^{r_1} x_2^{r_2}$ for $r = (r_1, r_2)$. Set $D_i(r) = x^r x_i (\partial / \partial x_i)$ for $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. For all $u = (u_1, u_2) \in \mathcal{U}$, we define

$$D(u, r) = u_1 D_1(r) + u_2 D_2(r).$$

The space $\text{Der}A$ is a Lie algebra under the following bracket:

$$[D(u, r), D(u', r')] = D(u'', r + r'),$$

where $u'' = (u, r')u' - (u', r)u$.

A subalgebra \mathfrak{L} of $\text{Der}A$ is called (centerless) Virasoro-like algebra if it satisfies

$$\mathfrak{L} = \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathfrak{L}_r,$$

where $\mathfrak{L}_r = \{D(u, r) \mid (u, r) = 0\}$. Let $\mathfrak{g} = [\mathfrak{L}, \mathfrak{L}]$ be the derived algebra of \mathfrak{L} , then $\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{h}$, where

$$\mathfrak{g}_r = \begin{cases} \mathfrak{L}_r, & r \neq 0 \\ 0 & r = 0 \end{cases}$$

and \mathfrak{h} is the Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{L} .

In this paper we study the centerless Virasoro-like algebra.

3. Gradation of \mathfrak{L} and $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$

In this section, we prove that $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$ and $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g}$ are both graded algebras.

Let G be an abelian group, $L = \bigoplus_{g \in G} L_g$ a G -graded Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field \mathbb{F} . Let V be a G -graded L -module. A linear mapping $\varphi : L \rightarrow V$ is called a triple derivation if

$$(3.1) \quad \varphi([x, [y, z]]) = z.y.\varphi(x) - z.x.\varphi(y) + x.y.\varphi(z) - y.x.\varphi(z)$$

for all $x, y, z \in L$. We say that a triple derivation φ has degree g if $\varphi(L_h) \subseteq V_{g+h}$.

This definition generalizes (1.1): Take the regular module $V = L$, then (3.1) will be (1.1).

Theorem 3.1. *Let L be a finitely generated Lie algebra and V a G -graded L -module. Then*

$$\text{Der}_{\mathbb{F}}^{(3)}(L, V) = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \text{Der}_{\mathbb{F}}^{(3)}(L, V)_g.$$

This theorem can be proved using a similar argument as in [2].

Proof. Let S be a finite generating set of L . For each element $g \in G$ we define two canonical projections $p_g : L \rightarrow L_g$ and $\pi_g : V \rightarrow V_g$. Suppose $\varphi : L \rightarrow V$ is a triple derivation and there are finite subsets $Q, R \subset G$ such that

$$S \subset \sum_{g \in Q} L_g \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(S) \subset \sum_{g \in R} V_g.$$

For $g \in G$ let $\varphi_g := \sum_{h \in G} \pi_{g+h} \circ \varphi \circ p_h$. Now for $x_h \in L_h$, $x_k \in L_k$ and $x_l \in L_l$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_g([[x_h, x_k], x_l]) \\ &= \pi_{g+h+k+l} \circ \varphi([[x_h, x_k], x_l]) \\ &= \pi_{g+h+k+l}(x_l \cdot x_k \cdot \varphi(x_h) - x_l \cdot x_h \cdot \varphi(x_k) + x_h \cdot x_k \cdot \varphi(x_l) - x_k \cdot x_h \cdot \varphi(x_l)) \\ &= x_l \cdot x_k \cdot \pi_{g+h}(\varphi(x_h)) - x_l \cdot x_h \cdot \pi_{g+h}(\varphi(x_k)) \\ & \quad + x_h \cdot x_k \cdot \pi_{g+l}(\varphi(x_l)) - x_k \cdot x_h \cdot \pi_{g+l}(\varphi(x_l)) \\ &= x_l \cdot x_k \cdot (\varphi_g(x_h)) - x_l \cdot x_h \cdot (\varphi_g(x_k)) + x_h \cdot x_k \cdot (\varphi_g(x_l)) - x_k \cdot x_h \cdot (\varphi_g(x_l)), \end{aligned}$$

which follows that φ_g is contained in $\text{Der}_{\mathbb{F}}^{(3)}(L, V)_g$.

Let $T = \{g - h \mid g \in R, h \in Q\}$. For any $y \in S$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(y) &= \sum_{g \in R} \pi_g \circ \varphi(y) = \sum_{g \in R} \sum_{h \in Q} \pi_g \circ \varphi \circ p_h(y) \\ &= \sum_{g \in R} \sum_{h \in Q} \pi_{g-h}(y) \\ &= \sum_{q \in T} \varphi_q(y). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\varphi = \sum_{q \in T} \varphi_q$ on S and subsequently L . \square

Lemma 3.2. *The Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is generated by*

$$D(e_1, \pm e_2), D(e_2, \pm e_1),$$

where e_1, e_2 are defined above.

Note that \mathfrak{L} is generated by \mathfrak{g} and $D(e_1, 0), D(e_2, 0)$, so \mathfrak{L} is also finitely generated with the generators

$$D(e_1, \pm e_2), D(e_2, \pm e_1), D(e_1, 0), D(e_2, 0).$$

Theorem 3.1 and Lemma 3.2 imply that $\text{Der}^{(3)}(\mathfrak{L})$ and $\text{Der}^{(3)}(\mathfrak{g})$ are \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded Lie algebras.

4. Structure of $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g}$ and $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$

4.1. **The Structure of $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g}$.** In this section we will characterize the structure $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g}$ and we will show that $\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g} \cong \mathfrak{L}$.

Lemma 4.1. *For any nonzero $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, $(\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g})_r = \text{ad}\mathfrak{g}_r$.*

Proof. We only need to show that there exists an element $y \in \mathfrak{g}_r$ such that $\text{ad}y = \varphi$ for any $\varphi \in (\text{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g})_r$ and $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$.

By Lemma 3.2, it is enough to prove $\text{ad}y = \varphi$ holds for the generators of \mathfrak{g} .

Suppose $\varphi(D(e_1, e_2)) = D(w, e_2 + r)$, where $w = (w_1, w_2) \in \mathcal{U}$.

Case 1: $r_1 \neq 0$. By choosing

$$u = \left(-\frac{w_2}{r_1}, -\frac{r_1 w_1 + w_2}{r_1^2}\right),$$

we get

$$\varphi(D(e_1, e_2)) = \text{ad}D(u, r)(D(e_1, e_2)).$$

It is convenient to replace φ by $\varphi - \text{ad}D(u, r)$, then $\varphi(D(e_1, e_2)) = 0$.

We assume $\varphi(D(e_1, -e_2)) = D(v, -e_2 + r)$ with $v = (v_1, v_2) \in \mathcal{U}$.

Observe that $[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, -e_2)] = 0$, so

$$\varphi([[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, -e_2)], D(e_1, e_2)]) = 0.$$

However, φ is a triple derivation, so we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi([[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, -e_2)], D(e_1, e_2)]) \\ (4.1) \quad &= [[D(e_1, e_2), D(v, -e_2 + r)], D(e_1, e_2)] \\ &= D(v', e_2 + r) \end{aligned}$$

for some $v' \in \mathbb{C}^2$. Subsequently, $\varphi([[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, -e_2)], D(e_1, e_2)]) = D(v', e_2 + r) = 0$, which forces $v' = 0$.

On the other hand, direction computation of v' gives that

$$\begin{cases} 2r_1 v_2 - r_1^2 v_1 = 0 \\ r_1^2 v_2 = 0, \end{cases}$$

which implies that $\varphi(D(e_1, -e_2)) = 0$.

We prove $\varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = \varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = 0$ in several steps.

We first assume that $\varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = D(\bar{v}, e_1 + r)$ with $\bar{v} = (\bar{v}_1, \bar{v}_2)$.

If $r \neq (-2, r_2)$, by considering the image of φ on the following equality

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_2, e_1)], D(e_1, -e_2)] = D(e_2, e_1),$$

we know $(r_1 + 1)^2 \bar{v} = \bar{v}$. Hence $\bar{v} = 0$.

Similarly if $r \neq (2, r_2)$, by applying φ on

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_2, -e_1)], D(e_1, -e_2)] = -D(e_2, -e_1),$$

we get $\varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = 0$.

So we can conclude that if:

$r = (-2, r_2)$,

$$\varphi(D(e_1, \pm e_2)) = \varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = 0;$$

if $r = (2, r_2)$,

$$\varphi(D(e_1, \pm e_2)) = \varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = 0.$$

Next we consider the case $r = (-2, r_2)$.

If $r_2 \neq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi([[D(e_2, e_1), D(e_2, -e_1)], D(e_1, e_2)]) \\ &= [[D(\bar{v}, e_1 + r), D(e_2, -e_1)], D(e_1, e_2)] \\ &= D(\bar{v}'', e_2 + r) \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{v}'' = -((2r_2 + 1)\bar{v}_1 + r_2\bar{v}_2, 2\bar{v}_1 + 2r_2\bar{v}_2)$, which tells us $\bar{v} = 0$. i.e. $\varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = 0$.

If $r = (-2, 0)$, then

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_2, e_1)], D(e_2, -e_1)] = D(e_1, e_2)$$

also implies $\varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = 0$.

Similar discussion will lead to $\varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = 0$ for $r = (-2, r_2)$ with $r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Case 2: $r_1 = 0$. Suppose $\varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = D(w, e_1 + r)$, we choose an element $D(u', r) \in \mathfrak{g}_r$ with

$$u' = \left(-\frac{w_1}{r_2}, -\frac{w_1 + r_2 w_2}{r_2^2}\right).$$

Then we get

$$(\varphi - adD(u', r))(D(e_2, e_1)) = 0.$$

Now we assume $\varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = D(\check{w}, -e_1 + r)$ with $\check{w} = (\check{w}_1, \check{w}_2)$.

Similarly as before (see (4.1)),

$$[[D(e_2, e_1)D(e_2, -e_1)]D(e_2, e_1)] = 0$$

implies that we also have

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{cases} -r_2^2 \check{w}_1 = 0 \\ -r_2^2 \check{w}_2 + 2r_2 \check{w}_1 = 0. \end{cases}$$

Thus $\varphi(D(e_2, -e_1)) = 0$.

If $r_2 \neq -2$, $\varphi(D(e_1, e_2)) = 0$ due to the fact that

$$\varphi([[D(e_2, e_1)D(e_1, e_2)]D(e_2, -e_1)]) = \varphi(-D(e_1, e_2)).$$

If $r_2 = -2$, i.e. $r = (0, -2)$, we also have

$$\varphi([[D(e_2, e_1)D(e_1, e_2)]D(e_1, -e_2)]) = \varphi(D(e_2, e_1)) = 0.$$

Similar discussion on $r_2 = 2$ or $r_2 \neq 2$, gives $\varphi(D(e_1, -e_2)) = 0$.

Therefore $\varphi(D(e_i, e_j)) = 0$, $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$. By Lemma 3.2 we also have $\varphi(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ for all nonzero $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 4.2. $\text{Der}^{(3)} \mathfrak{g} \cong \mathfrak{L}$.

Proof. We first define the action of $D(u, 0) \in \mathfrak{h}$ on \mathfrak{g} as follows:

$$D(u, 0).D(v, s) = [D(u, 0), D(v, s)] = (u, s)D(v, s), \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{0\},$$

which is a 0-homogeneous outer derivation of \mathfrak{g} .

We note that $\varphi(D(e_i, \pm e_j)) = c_{ij}^\pm D(e_i, \pm e_j)$ and

$$[[D(e_i, e_j)D(e_j, e_i)]D(e_j, -e_i)] = D(e_i, e_j), \quad 1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2.$$

By applying φ to both sides it follows that $c_{ij}^+ = -c_{ij}^-$.

We then define

$$h = c_{21}^+ D(e_1, 0) + c_{12}^+ D(e_2, 0).$$

Then we can check $(\varphi - h)(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ when $r = 0$.

Therefore by Section 3 and Lemma 4.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g} &= \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g}_r \\
&\cong \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{0\}} \mathit{ad}\mathfrak{g}_r \oplus \mathfrak{h} \\
&= \mathit{ad}\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{h} \\
&= \mathit{ad}\mathfrak{L} \\
&= \mathfrak{L}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

4.2. The Structure of $\mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$. In this section we will prove $\mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L} \cong \mathfrak{L}$ by introducing the following lemma.

Lemma 4.3. *Suppose $\varphi \in \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}$. If $\varphi(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then $\varphi(\mathfrak{h}) = 0$.*

Proof. We only consider $D(e_1, 0)$.

Assume that $\varphi(D(e_1, 0)) = D(\tilde{u}, r)$, where $\tilde{u} = (\tilde{u}_1, \tilde{u}_2)$.

Case 1: $r \neq 0$.

If $r_1 \neq 0$, applying φ on both sides of

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, 0)], D(e_1, e_2)] = 0,$$

we have

$$(4.3) \quad \begin{cases} 2r_1\tilde{u}_2 - r_1^2\tilde{u}_1 = 0 \\ r_1^2\tilde{u}_2 = 0, \end{cases}$$

which follows that $\tilde{u} = 0$ and $\varphi(D(e_1, 0)) = 0$.

If $r_2 \neq 0$, it follows from

$$[[D(e_2, e_1), D(e_1, 0)], D(e_2, -e_1)] = 0.$$

Case 2: $r = 0$.

Note that

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), D(e_1, 0)], D(e_2, e_1)] = 0.$$

According to our assumption, the operation of φ on the both sides is

$$[[D(e_1, e_2), \tilde{u}_1 D(e_1, 0) + \tilde{u}_2 D(e_2, 0)], D(e_j, e_i)] = 0.$$

By a simple calculation we can get $\tilde{u}_2 = 0$.

The same action on

$$[[D(e_2, e_1), D(e_1, 0)], D(e_1, 0)] = D(e_2, e_1)$$

tells us $\tilde{u}_1 = 0$. This completes the proof. □

We therefore have:

Theorem 4.4. $\mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L} \cong \mathfrak{L}$.

Proof. Let ϕ be a triple derivation of \mathfrak{L} . By Theorem 3.1 we have

$$\phi = \sum_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \phi_r.$$

Repeat the process of Section 4.1, we deduce that there exists an element $x_r \in \mathfrak{L}_r$ such that $(\phi_r - adx_r)(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, for all $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. By Lemma 4.3, we obtain $(\phi_r - adx_r)(\mathfrak{L}) = 0$. So

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L} &= \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L}_r \\ &= \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbb{Z}^2} ad\mathfrak{L}_r \\ &= ad\mathfrak{L} \\ &\cong \mathfrak{L}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 4.5. *Suppose \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{L} are defined as above, Then*

$$\mathbf{Derg} = \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{g} = \mathbf{Derg} = \mathbf{Der}^{(3)}\mathfrak{L} \cong \mathfrak{L}.$$

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