

Leibniz A -algebras

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Introduction

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Every non-abelian nilpotent Lie algebra admits a non-trivial solution of the constant Yang-Mills equations.

Moreover, if a subalgebra of L admits a non-trivial solution of the Yang-Mills equations, then so does L .

It is, therefore, useful to know if a given non-nilpotent Lie algebra has a non-abelian nilpotent subalgebra.

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Residually finite varieties

Let F be a finite field of characteristic $p > 3$. All algebras of the variety B of Lie algebras over F are residually finite if and only if B is generated by one finite Lie A -algebra. (Premet and Semenov, 1988)

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In other words the right multiplication operator $R_x : L \rightarrow L : y \mapsto [y, x]$ is a derivation of L . As a result such algebras are sometimes called **right** Leibniz algebras, and there is a corresponding notion of **left** Leibniz algebra.

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The **Leibniz kernel** of L is the set $\text{Leib}(L) = \text{span}\{x^2 : x \in L\}$. This is a two-sided ideal of L which is the smallest ideal such that $L/\text{Leib}(L)$ is a Lie algebra. Also $[L, \text{Leib}(L)] = 0$.

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We define the following series:

$$L^1 = L, L^{k+1} = [L^k, L] \text{ and } L^{(0)} = L, L^{(k+1)} = [L^{(k)}, L^{(k)}] \text{ for all } k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

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Then L is **nilpotent** (resp. **solvable**) if $L^n = 0$ (resp. $L^{(n)} = 0$) for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. If $L^{(n)} = 0$ but $L^{(n-1)} \neq 0$ we say that L has **derived length** n . The **nilradical**, $N(L)$, (resp. **radical**, $R(L)$) is the largest nilpotent (resp. solvable) ideal of L .

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Example

Let L be the two-dimensional cyclic Leibniz algebra with basis a, a^2 and product $[a^2, a] = a^2$. Then this is a solvable Leibniz algebra which is not nilpotent, but which is an A -algebra.

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Lemma

Let A be an abelian ideal of a Leibniz algebra L and suppose that $x^2 \in A$. Then $L_x^n(A) \subseteq R_x^{n-1}(A)$ for all $n \geq 1$.

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Lemma

Let L be a Leibniz A -algebra and let N be its nilradical. Then

- (i) N is the unique maximal abelian ideal of L ;*
- (ii) if B and C are abelian ideals of L , we have $[B, C] = 0$.*

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Lemma

If L is a Leibniz A -algebra over any field and B is an ideal of L , then L/B is a Leibniz A -algebra.

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Lemma

Let B, C be ideals of the Leibniz algebra L .

- (i) If $L/B, L/C$ are A -algebras, then $L/(B \cap C)$ is an A -algebra.
- (ii) If $L = B \oplus C$, where B, C are A -algebras, then L is an A -algebra.

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The **nilpotent residual**, $\gamma_\infty(L)$, of L be the smallest ideal of L such that $L/\gamma_\infty(L)$ is nilpotent. Clearly this is the intersection of the terms of the lower central series for L . Then the **lower nilpotent series** for L is the sequence of ideals $N_i(L)$ of L defined by $N_0(L) = L, N_{i+1}(L) = \gamma_\infty(N_i(L))$ for $i \geq 0$.

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Lemma

Let L be a Leibniz A -algebra. Then the lower nilpotent series coincides with the derived series.

The non-solvable case

The non-solvable case

Theorem

Let L be a Leibniz A -algebra over a field F . If F has characteristic $\neq 2, 3$ and cohomological dimension ≤ 1 (this means that the Brauer group of any algebraic extension of the underlying field is trivial), then

- (i) $L^2 \cap Z(L) = 0$; and*
- (ii) L has a Levi decomposition and every Levi subalgebra is representable as a direct sum of simple ideals, each one of which splits over some finite extension of the ground field into a direct sum of ideals isomorphic to $sl(2)$.*

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Lemma

Let L be a Leibniz algebra over a field of characteristic different from 2 such that $L/Z(L)$ is a simple three-dimensional Lie algebra. Then $L = L^2 \dot{+} Z(L)$.

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Lemma

Let L be a Leibniz algebra over a field of characteristic different from 2 such that $L/Z(L)$ is a simple three-dimensional Lie algebra. Then $L = L^2 \dot{+} Z(L)$.

Definition

We say that L is **monolithic** with **monolith** W if W is the unique minimal ideal of L .

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Let L be a minimal counter-example. Then it is straightforward to show that L is monolithic with monolith $Z(L)$ and unique maximal ideal M which is abelian and is the radical. Then $L/M = \mathcal{L}$ is simple. It follows from results of Premet and Semenov that \mathcal{L} is a Lie p -algebra.

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Solvable Leibniz A -algebras

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Lemma

Let L be any solvable Leibniz algebra with nilradical N . Then $C_L(N) \subseteq N$

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Let L be any solvable Leibniz algebra with nilradical N . Then $C_L(N) \subseteq N$

Theorem

Let L be a solvable Leibniz A-algebra. Then L splits over each term in its derived series. Moreover, the Cartan subalgebras of $L^{(i)}/L^{(i+2)}$ are precisely the subalgebras that are complementary to $L^{(i+1)}/L^{(i+2)}$ for $i \geq 0$.

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Corollary

Let L be a solvable Leibniz A-algebra of derived length $n + 1$. Then

- (i) $L = A_n \dot{+} A_{n-1} \dot{+} \dots \dot{+} A_0$ where A_i is an abelian subalgebra of L for each $0 \leq i \leq n$;
and*
- (ii) $L^{(i)} = A_n \dot{+} A_{n-1} \dot{+} \dots \dot{+} A_i$ for each $0 \leq i \leq n$*

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Let L be a solvable Leibniz A -algebra. Then $Z(L) \cap L^2 = 0$.

Proof.

Let L be a minimal counter-example. Then, again, a straightforward argument shows that L is monolithic with monolith $Z(L)$ and has a unique maximal ideal M that is abelian. It follows that $L = M + Fx$ for some $x \in L$. Let $L = L_0 + L_1$ be the Fitting decomposition of L relative to R_x . Then $L_1 = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} R_x^i(L) \subseteq M$, and $[L_1, L_0] \subseteq L_1$, so L_1 is a right ideal of L . Now

$$[x, [L, x]] \subseteq [[x, L], x] + [x^2, L] \subseteq [L, x] + [x^2, M + Fx] \subseteq [L, x]$$

since $x^2 \in \text{Leib}(L) \subseteq M$, so $[x^2, M] = 0$. Then an induction argument shows that $[x, R_x^k(L)] \subseteq R_x^k(L)$. It follows that $[L, L_1] = [x, L_1] \subseteq L_1$ and L_1 is an ideal of L .

If $L_1 \neq 0$ then $Z(L) \subseteq L_1 \cap L_0 = 0$, a contradiction. Hence $L_1 = 0$ and R_x is nilpotent. But then $L = M + Fx$ is nilpotent and hence abelian, and the result follows. \square

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras

Lemma

Let L be a solvable Leibniz A -algebra of derived length $\leq n + 1$, and suppose that $L = B \dot{+} C$ where $B = L^{(n)}$ and C is a subalgebra of L . If D is an ideal of L then $D = (B \cap D) \dot{+} (C \cap D)$.

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Theorem

Let L be a solvable Leibniz A -algebra of derived length $n + 1$ with nilradical N , and let K be an ideal of L and A a minimal ideal of L . Then, with the same notation as in the Corollary above,

- (i) $K = (K \cap A_n) \dot{+} (K \cap A_{n-1}) \dot{+} \dots \dot{+} (K \cap A_0)$;
- (ii) $N = A_n \oplus (N \cap A_{n-1}) \oplus \dots \oplus (N \cap A_0)$;
- (iii) $Z(L^{(i)}) = N \cap A_i$ for each $0 \leq i \leq n$; and
- (iv) $A \subseteq N \cap A_i$ for some $0 \leq i \leq n$.

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In particular, over a field of characteristic zero every solvable Leibniz A -algebra is metabelian.

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A Leibniz algebra L is *completely solvable* if $L^{(1)}$ is nilpotent.

Clearly completely solvable Leibniz A -algebras are metabelian.

In particular, over a field of characteristic zero every solvable Leibniz A -algebra is metabelian.

This is not the case, however, if the ground field has characteristic $p > 0$.

Completely solvable Leibniz A -algebras

General case

Completely solvable case

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$L = A_n \dot{+} A_{n-1} \dot{+} \dots \dot{+} A_0$
where A_i is an abelian subalgebra of L ;

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$$L = L^{(1)} \dot{+} A_0$$

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If A is a minimal ideal of L then

$$A \subseteq N \cap A_i.$$

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(i) $A \subseteq A_0$ or $A \subseteq L^{(1)}$

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Completely solvable case

$$L = L^{(1)} \dot{+} A_0$$

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- (i) $A \subseteq A_0$ or $A \subseteq L^{(1)}$
- (ii) $A \subseteq A_0$ if and only if $A \subseteq Z(L)$

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$$L = L^{(1)} \dot{+} A_0$$

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- (i) $A \subseteq A_0$ or $A \subseteq L^{(1)}$
- (ii) $A \subseteq A_0$ if and only if $A \subseteq Z(L)$
- (iii) $A \subseteq L^{(1)}$ if and only if $[A, L] = A$.

Completely solvable Leibniz A -algebras (continued)

Lemma

Let L be a completely solvable Leibniz A -algebra, and let U be a maximal nilpotent subalgebra of L . Then $U = (U \cap L^{(1)}) \oplus (U \cap C)$ where C is a Cartan subalgebra of L .

Completely solvable Leibniz A -algebras (continued)

Lemma

Let L be a completely solvable Leibniz A -algebra, and let U be a maximal nilpotent subalgebra of L . Then $U = (U \cap L^{(1)}) \oplus (U \cap C)$ where C is a Cartan subalgebra of L .

Lemma

Let L be a metabelian Leibniz algebra, and let U be a maximal nilpotent subalgebra of L . Then $U \cap L^{(1)}$ is an abelian ideal of L and $L^{(1)} = (U \cap L^{(1)}) \oplus K$ where K is an ideal of L and $[U, K] = K$.

Monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebras

Monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebras

Definition

The **Frattini subalgebra**, $F(L)$ of L is the intersection of the maximal subalgebras of L ; the **Frattini ideal**, $\varphi(L)$, of L is the biggest ideal of L inside $F(L)$. We call L **φ -free** if $\varphi(L) = 0$.

Monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebras

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Theorem

Let L be a monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebra of derived length $n + 1$ with monolith W . Then, with the same notation as in the Corollary above,

- (i) W is abelian;
- (ii) $Z(L) = 0$ and either $[L, W] = W$ or $[W, L] = W$;
- (iii) $N = A_n = L^{(n)}$;
- (iv) $N = C_L(W)$; and
- (v) L is φ -free if and only if $W = N$.

Monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebras

Lemma

Let $L = L^2 \dot{+} B$ be a metabelian Leibniz algebra, where B is a subalgebra of L , and suppose that $[L^2, b] = L^2$ for all $b \in B$. Then L is a completely solvable A -algebra.

Monolithic solvable Leibniz A -algebras

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Theorem

Let L be a monolithic Leibniz algebra. Then L is a completely solvable A -algebra if and only if $L = L^2 \dot{+} B$ is metabelian, where B is a subalgebra of L and $[L^2, b] = L^2$ for all $b \in B$ (or, equivalently, R_b acts invertibly on L^2).

Cyclic Leibniz algebras

Cyclic Leibniz algebras

Definition

Cyclic Leibniz algebras, L , are generated by a single element. In this case L has a basis a, a^2, \dots, a^n ($n > 1$) and product $[a^n, a] = \alpha_2 a^2 + \dots + \alpha_n a^n$.

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Let T be the matrix for R_a with respect to the above basis. Then T is the companion matrix for $p(x) = x^n - \alpha_n x^{n-1} - \dots - \alpha_2 x = p_1(x)^{n_1} \dots p_r(x)^{n_r}$, where the p_j are the distinct irreducible factors of $p(x)$.

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Theorem

L is a cyclic Leibniz A -algebra if and only if $\alpha_2 \neq 0$, and then $L = L^2 \dot{+} F(a^n - \alpha_n a^{n-1} - \dots - \alpha_2 a)$ and we can take $p_1(x)^{n_1} = x$.

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Theorem

The cyclic Leibniz A -algebra L is monolithic if and only if $p(x)$ has exactly two irreducible factors (one of which is x).

Cyclic Leibniz algebras

Corollary

The cyclic Leibniz A -algebra L is monolithic and φ -free if and only if $p(x) = xp_2(x)$

Cyclic Leibniz algebras

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Corollary

If the underlying field is algebraically closed, then the cyclic Leibniz A -algebra L is monolithic and φ -free if and only if it is two dimensional with $[a^2, a] = a^2$.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

Over a field of characteristic zero the derived length of a solvable Leibniz A -algebra is at most 2, but over a field of characteristic p it can have any finite length. However, over an algebraically closed field we have the following result.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

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Theorem

Let L be a solvable Leibniz A -algebra over an algebraically closed field F . Then the derived length of L is at most 3.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

Proof.

Suppose that L is a minimal counter-example, so the derived length of L is four.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

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Suppose that L is a minimal counter-example, so the derived length of L is four. Let A be a minimal ideal of L contained in $\text{Leib}(L)$, and put $N = L^{(2)}$. We have that $L^{(3)} = A$.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

Proof.

Suppose that L is a minimal counter-example, so the derived length of L is four. Let A be a minimal ideal of L contained in $\text{Leib}(L)$, and put $N = L^{(2)}$. We have that $L^{(3)} = A$. Put $\bar{L} = L/\text{Leib}(L)$ and for each $x \in L$ write $\bar{x} = x + \text{Leib}(L)$. Then A is an irreducible right \bar{L} -module, and hence an irreducible right U -module, where U is the universal enveloping algebra of \bar{L} .

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

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Suppose that L is a minimal counter-example, so the derived length of L is four. Let A be a minimal ideal of L contained in $\text{Leib}(L)$, and put $N = L^{(2)}$. We have that $L^{(3)} = A$. Put $\bar{L} = L/\text{Leib}(L)$ and for each $x \in L$ write $\bar{x} = x + \text{Leib}(L)$. Then A is an irreducible right \bar{L} -module, and hence an irreducible right U -module, where U is the universal enveloping algebra of \bar{L} . Let ψ be the corresponding representation of U and let $\bar{x} \in \bar{L}$, $n \in N$.

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Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

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Let $n_1, n_2 \in N$. Then $\bar{n}_1^p, \bar{n}_2^p \in Z$, so $\alpha_1 \bar{n}_1^p + \alpha_2 \bar{n}_2^p \in \ker(\psi)$, for some $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in F$, since $\dim \psi(Z) \leq 1$, by Schur's Lemma.

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Suppose that L is a minimal counter-example, so the derived length of L is four. Let A be a minimal ideal of L contained in $\text{Leib}(L)$, and put $N = L^{(2)}$. We have that $L^{(3)} = A$. Put $\bar{L} = L/\text{Leib}(L)$ and for each $x \in L$ write $\bar{x} = x + \text{Leib}(L)$. Then A is an irreducible right \bar{L} -module, and hence an irreducible right U -module, where U is the universal enveloping algebra of \bar{L} . Let ψ be the corresponding representation of U and let $\bar{x} \in \bar{L}$, $n \in N$. Then $[[\bar{x}, \bar{n}], \bar{n}] = \bar{0}$, whence $[\bar{x}, \bar{n}^p] = 0$ and so $\bar{n}^p \in Z = Z(U)$.

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Now we can include $L^{(3)}$ in a chief series for L . So let $0 = A_0 \subset A_1 \subset \dots \subset A_r = L^{(3)}$ be a chain of ideals of L each maximal in the next.

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Now we can include $L^{(3)}$ in a chief series for L . So let $0 = A_0 \subset A_1 \subset \dots \subset A_r = L^{(3)}$ be a chain of ideals of L each maximal in the next. By the above we have $[A_i, L^{(2)}] \subseteq A_{i-1}$ for each $1 \leq i \leq r$. It follows that $L^{(2)}$ is a nilpotent subalgebra of L and hence abelian.

Solvable Leibniz A -algebras over an algebraically closed field

Then $\dim N/C_N(A) \leq 1$. Suppose that $\dim N/C_N(A) = 1$. Put $S = L/C_N(A)$. Then $\dim(S^{(2)}) = 1$. It follows that $S/C_L(S^{(2)}) \subseteq R_S(S^{(2)})$ and so has dimension at most one, giving $[S^{(1)}, S^{(2)}] + [S^{(2)}, S^{(1)}] = 0$. But now $S^{(1)}$ is nilpotent but not abelian. As S must be an A -algebra, this is a contradiction. We therefore have that $\dim(L^{(2)}/C_{L^{(2)}}(A)) = 0$, whence $[A, L^{(2)}] = 0$.

Now we can include $L^{(3)}$ in a chief series for L . So let $0 = A_0 \subset A_1 \subset \dots \subset A_r = L^{(3)}$ be a chain of ideals of L each maximal in the next. By the above we have $[A_i, L^{(2)}] \subseteq A_{i-1}$ for each $1 \leq i \leq r$. It follows that $L^{(2)}$ is a nilpotent subalgebra of L and hence abelian. We infer that $L^{(3)} = 0$, a contradiction. The result follows.

Questions

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Residually finite varieties

Is the following true: "Let F be a finite field of characteristic $p > 3$. All algebras of the variety B of Leibniz algebras over F are residually finite if and only if B is generated by one finite Leibniz A -algebra"?

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Question

Are there analogues of the following results for Lie A -algebras?

Theorem

Let L be a monolithic solvable Lie A -algebra of dimension greater than one over an algebraically closed field F , with monolith W . Then either

- $L = L^2 \dot{+} Fb$ where L^2 is abelian and $L^2(ad b - \lambda 1)^k = 0$ for some $k > 0$ and some $0 \neq \lambda \in F$, and $\dim W = 1$; or
- F has characteristic $p > 0$, $\dim W = p$ and $L = L^{(2)} \dot{+} B$ where $L^{(2)}$ is abelian, $B = Fb + Fn$, $[n, b] = n$, $L^{(2)}(ad n - \lambda 1)^k = 0$ and $L^{(2)}((ad b)^p - ad b - \mu^p 1)^k = 0$ for some $k > 0$ and some $0 \neq \lambda, \mu \in F$.

Questions

Theorem

Let L be a φ -free completely solvable Lie A -algebra over an algebraically closed field F .
Then

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^m Fa_i + \sum_{i=1}^n Fb_i \text{ where } [a_i, b_j] = \lambda_{ij} a_i$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n$, other products being zero.