

## On Locally Finite Split Lie Triple Systems<sup>#</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

Lie triple systems appear as the natural ternary extension of Lie algebras. The classification in the finite-dimensional setup (over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero) is well-known [Lister, W. G. (1952). A structure theory of Lie triple systems. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 72:217–242]. In order to suggest a possible approach to a structure theory of infinite-dimensional Lie triple systems, we introduce and study split and locally finite Lie triple systems, stating that under certain conditions the standard embedding of a split Lie triple system is a split Lie algebra and that the standard embedding of a locally finite Lie triple system is a locally finite Lie algebra. We also give a description of certain locally finite simple split Lie triple systems.

*Key Words:* Lie triple systems; Split Lie algebras; Locally finite Lie algebras.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The main tool used by Lister (1952) to study finite-dimensional Lie triple systems is the standard embedding, this one being a two-graded Lie algebra  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$ , with  $L^0$  the span of  $\{\mathcal{L}(x, y) : x, y \in T\}$ , where  $\mathcal{L}(x, y)$  denotes the left multiplication operator in  $T$ ,  $L^1 := T$ , and where the product is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 & [(\mathcal{L}(x, y), z), (\mathcal{L}(u, v), w)] \\
 & := (\mathcal{L}([u, v, y], x) - \mathcal{L}([u, v, x], y) + \mathcal{L}(z, w), [x, y, w] - [u, v, z]).
 \end{aligned}$$

Later, Faulkner (1980) gives an alternative approach to the classification of Lie triple systems, also in the finite-dimensional setup, by introducing a Cartan subalgebra  $H^0$  of the even part of the standard embedding, and a decomposition of  $T$  as the direct sum of certain root spaces relative to  $H^0$ .

In the framework of infinite-dimensional Lie algebras, Neeb, Stumme and other authors have successfully developed over the recent years a theory of split and locally finite Lie algebras (c.f. Bakhturin and Benkart, 1997; Bakhturin and Strade, 1995a,b; Dimitrov and Penkov, 1999; Neeb, 2000, 2001; Neeb and Stumme, 2001; Stumme, 1999).

In this paper, we combine all the above ideas in order to introduce and study split Lie triple systems of arbitrary dimension in Secs. 2 and 3, the main result being Theorem 3.1 which states that under certain conditions the standard embedding of a split Lie triple system is a split Lie algebra. In Sec. 4 we also state that the standard embedding of a locally finite Lie triple system is a locally finite Lie algebra (Proposition 4.1), and obtain in Theorem 4.1 a description of an important class of locally finite split simple Lie triple systems.

### 2. BASIC DEFINITIONS

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field of characteristic zero and let  $T$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{K}$ . We say that  $T$  is a *triple system* if it is endowed with a trilinear map

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot, \cdot \rangle : T \times T \times T \rightarrow T,$$

called the *triple product* of  $T$ .

A triple system  $T$  is called a *Lie triple system* if its triple product, denoted by  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$ , satisfies

- (1)  $[x, x, y] = 0$ .
- (2)  $[x, y, z] + [y, z, x] + [z, x, y] = 0$  (Jacobi identity).
- (3)  $[x, y, [a, b, c]] - [a, b, [x, y, c]] = [[x, y, a], b, c] + [a, [x, y, b], c]$ .

for any  $x, y, z, a, b, c \in T$ .

An *ideal* of a Lie triple system  $T$  is a subspace  $I$  for which  $[I, T, T] \subseteq I$ . Let us observe that  $[I, T, T] \subseteq I$  implies that  $[T, I, T] \subseteq I$  and  $[T, T, I] \subseteq I$ . A Lie triple system  $T$  is called *simple* if the product is nonzero and its only ideals are  $\{0\}$  and  $T$ .



A *two-graded*  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra which splits into the direct sum  $A = A^0 \oplus A^1$  of subspaces (called the even and the odd part, respectively) satisfying  $A^\alpha A^\beta \subseteq A^{\alpha+\beta}$  for any  $\alpha, \beta$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . A homomorphism  $f$  between two-graded algebras  $A$  and  $B$  is a homomorphism which preserves gradings i.e.,

$$f(A^\alpha) \subseteq B^\alpha$$

for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ . A *graded ideal* of a two-graded algebra  $A = A^0 \oplus A^1$  is an ideal  $I$  of  $A$  such that there exist two subspaces  $I^0$  and  $I^1$  with  $I = I^0 \oplus I^1$  and  $I^\alpha \subseteq A^\alpha$  for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ . A two-graded algebra  $A$  is *graded-simple* if the product is nonzero and its only graded ideals are  $\{0\}$  and  $A$ .

The *standard embedding* of a Lie triple system  $T$  is the two-graded Lie algebra  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$ ,  $L^0$  being the  $\mathbb{K}$ -span of  $\{\mathcal{L}(x, y) : x, y \in T\}$ , where  $\mathcal{L}(x, y)$  denotes the left multiplication operator in  $T$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(x, y)(z) := [x, y, z]$ ;  $L^1 := T$  and where the product is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 & [(\mathcal{L}(x, y), z), (\mathcal{L}(u, v), w)] \\
 & := (\mathcal{L}([u, v, y], x) - \mathcal{L}([u, v, x], y) + \mathcal{L}(z, w), [x, y, w] - [u, v, z]).
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us observe that  $L^0$  with the product induced by the one in  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  becomes a Lie algebra.

By using the same arguments as in the finite dimensional case, (see Lister, 1952, Theorem 2.13), we can prove the following propositions

**Proposition 2.1.** *A Lie triple system  $T$  is simple if and only if its standard embedding is graded-simple.*

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be a graded-simple two-graded Lie algebra. Then either*

- (1)  $L$  is simple (in the ungraded sense) and the grading is given by

$$L = \text{Sym}(L, \xi) \oplus \text{Skw}(L, \xi)$$

where  $\xi$  is an involutive automorphism of  $L$ , or

- (2)  $L$  is isomorphic to  $L' \oplus L'$  where  $L'$  is a simple Lie algebra and the product is

$$[(a, b), (c, d)] = ([a, c] + [b, d], [a, d] + [b, c]).$$

### 3. SPLIT LIE TRIPLE SYSTEMS

#### 3.1. Definitions and Basic Properties

Given an element  $x$  of a Lie algebra  $L$ , we denote by  $ad(x)$  the *adjoint mapping* defined as  $ad(x)(y) = [x, y]$  for any  $y \in L$ .



Following Neeb (2000), Stumme (1999) and Schue (1960, 1961), we recall that a *splitting Cartan subalgebra*  $H$  of a Lie algebra  $L$  is defined as a maximal abelian subalgebra, (MASA), of  $L$  satisfying that the adjoint mappings  $ad(h)$  for  $h \in H$  are simultaneously diagonalizable. If  $L$  contains a splitting Cartan subalgebra  $H$ , then  $L$  is called a *split Lie algebra*. This means that we have a *root decomposition*  $L = H \oplus (\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Lambda} L_\alpha)$  where  $L_\alpha = \{v_\alpha \in L : [h, v_\alpha] = \alpha(h)v_\alpha \text{ for any } h \in H\}$  for a linear functional  $\alpha \in H^*$  and  $\Lambda := \{\alpha \in H^* \setminus \{0\} : L_\alpha \neq 0\}$ . The subspaces  $L_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \in H^*$  are called *root spaces* of  $L$  (respect to  $H$ ) and the elements  $\alpha \in \Lambda \cup \{0\}$  are called *roots* of  $L$  respect to  $H$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $T$  be a Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding, and let  $H^0$  be a MASA of  $L^0$ . Following the ideas in Faulkner (1980), for a linear functional  $\alpha \in (H^0)^*$  we define the root space of  $T$  (respect to  $H^0$ ) associated to  $\alpha$  as the subspace  $T_\alpha := \{t_\alpha \in T : [h, t_\alpha] = \alpha(h)t_\alpha \text{ for any } h \in H^0\}$ . The elements  $\alpha \in (H^0)^*$  satisfying  $T_\alpha \neq 0$  are called roots of  $T$  respect to  $H^0$  and we denote  $\Lambda^1 := \{\alpha \in (H^0)^* \setminus \{0\} : T_\alpha \neq 0\}$ .

Let us observe that  $T_0 = \{t_0 \in T : [h, t_0] = 0 \text{ for any } h \in H^0\}$ . In the following, we shall denote by  $\Lambda^0$  the set of all nonzero  $\alpha \in (H^0)^*$  such that  $L_\alpha^0 := \{v_\alpha^0 \in L^0 : [h, v_\alpha^0] = \alpha(h)v_\alpha^0 \text{ for any } h \in H^0\} \neq 0$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $T$  be a Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding, and let  $H^0$  be a MASA of  $L^0$ . If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}$  and  $\delta \in \Lambda^0 \cup \{0\}$ . Then,

- (1) If  $[T_\alpha, T_\beta] \neq 0$  then  $\alpha + \beta \in \Lambda^0 \cup \{0\}$  and  $[T_\alpha, T_\beta] \subseteq L_{\alpha+\beta}^0$ .
- (2) If  $[L_\delta^0, T_\alpha] \neq 0$  then  $\delta + \alpha \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}$  and  $[L_\delta^0, T_\alpha] \subseteq T_{\delta+\alpha}$ .
- (3) If  $[T_\alpha, T_\beta, T_\gamma] \neq 0$  then  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}$  and  $[T_\alpha, T_\beta, T_\gamma] \subseteq T_{\alpha+\beta+\gamma}$ .

*Proof.* (1) For any  $x \in T_\alpha$ ,  $y \in T_\beta$  and  $h \in H^0$ , we have  $[h, [x, y]] = -[[h, y], x] + [[h, x], y] = (\alpha + \beta)(h)[x, y]$ . Therefore,  $[T_\alpha, T_\beta] \subseteq L_{\alpha+\beta}^0$ .

(2) and (3) The proof is similar to 1. □

Let us observe that if  $[T_\alpha, T_0] \neq 0$  then  $\alpha$  is a root of  $L^0$  relative to  $H^0$  and if  $[L_\alpha^0, T_0] \neq 0$  then  $\alpha$  is a root of  $T$  relative to  $H^0$ .

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $T$  be a Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding, and let  $H^0$  be a MASA of  $L^0$ . We shall call that  $T$  is a *split Lie triple system* (respect to  $H^0$ ) if:

- (1)  $T = T_0 \oplus (\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Lambda^1} T_\alpha)$ .
- (2)  $[T_0, T_0, T] = 0$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system respect to  $H^0$ , then  $L^0$  is a split Lie algebra respect to the splitting Cartan subalgebra  $H^0$ .

*Proof.* We first prove that  $\sum_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0$  is a direct sum, (let us note that we can also apply Moody and Pianzola, 1995, 2.1 Prop.1). If  $x \in L_\alpha^0 \cap \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} L_\beta^0$ , we can write

$x = \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} x_\beta$  with  $x_\beta \in L_\beta^0$ , and  $x = x_\alpha$  with  $x_\alpha \in L_\alpha^0$ . From Lemma 3.1, we deduce for any  $y \in T_\gamma$  and  $\gamma \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}$ , that

$$[x, y] \in T_{\alpha+\gamma} \cap \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} T_{\beta+\gamma}$$

and therefore  $[x, y] = 0$  for any  $y \in T$ . As  $x$  is a linear map on  $T$ , satisfying  $x(y) = [x, y]$ , we deduce that  $x = 0$ . Let us also check that  $H^0 + (\bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0)$  is a direct sum. If  $x \in H^0 \cap (\bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0)$  we can write  $x = \sum_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} x_\beta$ , with  $x_\beta \in L_\beta^0$ , and  $x = h^0 \in H^0$ . For  $h \in H^0$ , we have

$$0 = [h, h^0] = [h, x] = \sum_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} [h, x_\beta] = \bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} \beta(h)x_\beta,$$

so  $\beta(h)x_\beta = 0$  and  $x_\beta = 0$ , since  $\beta(H^0) \neq 0$ . We conclude  $x = 0$ . Thus  $H^0 \oplus (\bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0) \subseteq L^0$ .

Let us observe that the maximal abelian character of  $H^0$  in  $L^0$  implies  $H^0 = L_0^0$ . Finally, as

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^0 = [T, T] &= \sum_{\alpha, \gamma \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}} [T_\alpha, T_\gamma] \\
 &\subseteq \sum_{\alpha, \gamma \in \Lambda^1 \cup \{0\}} L_{\alpha+\gamma}^0 \subseteq H^0 \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0 \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

the proof is complete. □

### 3.2. Types of Roots–Integrable Roots

In this subsection we distinguish the various types in the root system of a split Lie triple system, taking particular notice of the integrable roots.

**Lemma 3.2.** *For nonzero root vectors  $t_{\pm\alpha} \in T_{\pm\alpha}$  the subalgebra of the standard embedding,*

$$L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}) := \text{span}_{\mathbb{K}}\{t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}, [t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]\}$$

is of one of the following types:

- (1) If  $[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}] = 0$ , then  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  is two dimensional abelian. We say that  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  is of abelian type.
- (2) If  $[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}] \neq 0$  but  $\alpha([t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]) = 0$ , then  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  is a three dimensional algebra. We say that  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  is of nilpotent type.
- (3) If  $\alpha([t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]) \neq 0$ , then  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}) \approx sl(2, \mathbb{K})$ . We say that  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  is of simple type.

*Proof.* This is an easy verification (cf. Stumme, 1999, Lemma I.2). □



**Definition 3.3.** For a root  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  the subalgebras  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  are called test algebras associated to  $\alpha$ . We say that a root  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  is of nilpotent type if all test algebras associated to  $\alpha$  are of abelian or nilpotent type. Note that a root  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  with  $-\alpha \notin \Lambda^1$  is of nilpotent type. We call a root  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  of simple type if there exists an associated test algebra of simple type. A root  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  of simple type is called integrable if there exists an associated test algebra  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  of simple type such that the middle multiplication operators of  $T$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}(t_{\epsilon\alpha}) : T \rightarrow T,$$

$\mathcal{M}(t_{\epsilon\alpha})(t) := [t_{\epsilon\alpha}, t, t_{\epsilon\alpha}]$ ,  $\epsilon \in \{+, -\}$ , are locally nilpotent. We denote by  $\Lambda_i^1$  the set of all integrable nonzero roots of  $T$  relative to  $H^0$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding and let  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$ . then we have:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{M}(t_\alpha)(t) = -ad^2(t_\alpha)(t)$ , for any  $t_\alpha \in T_\alpha$  and for any  $t \in T$ .
- (2)  $ad^{3+2n}(t_\alpha)([t, t']) = (-1)^n \mathcal{M}^{n+1}(t_\alpha)([t, t', t_\alpha])$ , for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $t_\alpha \in T_\alpha$  and  $t, t' \in T$ .

*Proof.*

- (1) It is clear.
- (2) 
$$\begin{aligned} ad^{3+2n}(t_\alpha)([t, t']) &= -ad^{2+2n}(t_\alpha)([t, t', t_\alpha]) \\ &= -(-\mathcal{M}(t_\alpha))^{n+1}([t, t', t_\alpha]) \\ &= (-1)^n \mathcal{M}^{n+1}(t_\alpha)([t, t', t_\alpha]). \end{aligned}$$
 □

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding and let  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$ . Then, for any  $t_\alpha \in T_\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{M}(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $T$  if and only if  $ad(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $L$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\mathcal{M}(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $T$ . Let be  $x = x^0 + x^1 \in L$ , with  $x^0 \in L^0$  and  $x^1 \in L^1$ . There exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}^m(t_\alpha)(x^1) = 0$ . By Lemma 3.3-1 we also have  $ad^{2m}(t_\alpha)(x^1) = 0$ . As  $x^0 = \sum_{i=1}^q [t_i, t'_i]$  with  $t_i, t'_i \in T$ , if we consider for each  $[t_i, t'_i]$  the element  $[t_i, t'_i, t_\alpha] \in T$ , there exists  $m_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}^{m_i}([t_i, t'_i, t_\alpha]) = 0$ , and by Lemma 3.3-2,  $ad^{3+2(m_i-1)}(t_\alpha)([t_i, t'_i]) = 0$ . By denoting  $r = \max\{2m, \bigcup_{i=1, \dots, q} 3 + 2(m_i - 1)\}$ , we conclude that  $ad^r(t_\alpha)(x) = 0$  and therefore  $ad(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $L$ .

By Lemma 3.3-1, it is clear that if  $ad(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $L$ , then  $\mathcal{M}(t_\alpha)$  is locally nilpotent on  $T$ . □

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding and let  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  be a test algebra associated to  $\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  such that  $\mathcal{M}(t_{\pm\alpha})$  are locally nilpotent. Then  $L$  is a locally finite  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -module with respect to the adjoint representation.*

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.2, the adjoint mappings  $ad(t_{\pm\alpha})$  are locally nilpotent on  $L$ . By using now the same arguments as for  $sl(2, \mathbb{K})$  (cf. Moody and Pianzola, 1995, Proposition 2.4.7) we complete the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system, let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding and let  $\alpha \in \Lambda_i^1$ . Then we have:*

- (1)  $\dim T_\alpha = 1$ .
- (2)  $T_{\pm(2n-1)\alpha} = L_{\pm 2n\alpha}^0 = 0$  for  $n > 1$  and  $m \geq 1$ .
- (3) If  $\alpha \in \Lambda_0$ , then  $-\alpha \in \Lambda_0$  and  $\dim L_\alpha^0 = \dim L_{-\alpha}^0$ .
- (4) If  $\alpha \notin \Lambda_0$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha \cap \Lambda^1 = \pm\alpha$  and  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha \cap \Lambda^0 = \emptyset$ .
- (5) There exists a unique element  $h_\alpha = [t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]$  with  $\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2$ .
- (6) For each  $\beta \in \Lambda^1$  we have  $\beta(h_\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (7)  $\mathbb{K}\alpha \cap \Lambda^1 \subseteq (\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z})\alpha$ .
- (8)  $\mathbb{K}\alpha \cap \Lambda_i^1 \subseteq \{\pm \frac{1}{2}\alpha, \pm\alpha, \pm 2\alpha\}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\alpha$  is integrable, we find  $t_{\pm\alpha} \in T_{\pm\alpha}$  such that

$$L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}) \approx sl(2, \mathbb{K})$$

and  $\mathcal{M}(t_{\pm\alpha})$  are locally nilpotent. We may w.l.o.g. assume that  $\alpha([t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]) = 2$ , and denote  $h_\alpha := [t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]$ .

(1) and (2) We consider the  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -submodule of  $L$

$$V := \mathbb{K}t_{-\alpha} + H^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_{(2n-1)\alpha} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} L_{2n\alpha}^0.$$

By Proposition 3.3,  $L$  is a locally finite  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -module and, as a submodule of a locally finite module,  $V$  is also locally finite. In particular,  $V$  is a sum of finite dimensional simple  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -submodules by Weyl's theorem. Hence the representation theory of  $sl(2, \mathbb{K})$  implies that the set of  $h_\alpha$ -eigenvalues on  $V$  is symmetric with

$$\dim V^\mu(h_\alpha) = \dim V^{-\mu}(h_\alpha)$$

for each  $\mu \in \mathbb{K}$ . Now  $V^{-2}(h_\alpha) = \mathbb{K}t_{-\alpha}$  implies that  $\dim V^2(h_\alpha) = \dim T_\alpha = 1$  and furthermore that

$$\dim V^{2(2n-1)}(h_\alpha) = \dim T_{(2n-1)\alpha} = 0$$

for  $n > 1$ , and  $\dim V^{2(2n)}(h_\alpha) = \dim L_{2n\alpha}^0 = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Likewise we obtain  $\dim T_{-(2n-1)\alpha} = 0$  for  $n > 1$ , and  $\dim L_{-2n\alpha}^0 = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

(3) We have

$$V' := T_\alpha + T_{-\alpha} + H^0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} T_{\pm 2n\alpha} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} L_{\pm(2n-1)\alpha}^0$$

is an  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -submodule of  $L$ . By arguing as in (1), we prove (3).



(4) Since by (1),  $\dim T_\alpha = \dim T_{-\alpha} = 1$ , and by (3)  $L_\alpha^0 = L_{-\alpha}^0 = 0$ , we can check that

$$V'' := T_\alpha + T_{-\alpha} + H^0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} T_{-2n\alpha} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} L_{-(2n-1)\alpha}^0$$

is an  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -submodule of  $L$ . By arguing as in (1), we obtain

$$T_{\pm 2n\alpha} = L_{\pm(2n-1)\alpha}^0 = 0$$

for  $n \geq 1$ . From (2) we complete the proof.

(5) Since both spaces  $T_{\pm\alpha}$  are one dimensional and do not commute, the space  $[T_\alpha, T_{-\alpha}]$  is one dimensional. Hence the element  $h_\alpha$  is uniquely determined by  $\alpha(h_\alpha) = 2$ .

(6) Since  $L$  is a locally finite  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -module and  $\beta(h_\alpha)$  is the eigenvalue of  $ad(h_\alpha)$  on the root space  $T_\beta$ , this is a consequence of the finite dimensional representation theory of  $sl(2, \mathbb{K})$ .

(7) Let  $\beta = c\alpha \in \Lambda^1$  with  $c \in \mathbb{K}$ . Then 5. and 6. imply that  $c \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ .

(8) If, in addition,  $\beta$  is integrable, then we also have that  $1/c \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$  and thus  $4/2c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $2c$  divides 4 it equals 1, 2 or 4, so that we may have  $c \in \{\pm\frac{1}{2}, \pm 1, \pm 2\}$ . □

We have seen that for integrable roots the root spaces  $T_{\pm\alpha}$  are one dimensional, showing that the test algebras  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$  do not depend on the choice of  $t_{\pm\alpha}$ .

**Definition 3.4.** We say that a simple root  $\alpha$  of  $T$  is abelian simple if  $L_\alpha^0 = 0$ . If  $L_\alpha^0 \neq \{0\}$ , (and by Proposition 3.4-3,  $L_{-\alpha}^0 \neq \{0\}$ ),  $\alpha$  is called strongly simple if there exist nonzero elements  $e_{\pm\alpha}^0 \in L_{\pm\alpha}^0$  such that, for any  $\epsilon \in \{+, -\}$ ,  $[t_{\epsilon\alpha}, e_{\epsilon\alpha}^0] = 0$  for some  $0 \neq t_{\epsilon\alpha} \in T_{\epsilon\alpha}$ , and  $[e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0] \neq 0$ . Finally, we say that a simple root  $\alpha$  is weakly simple if  $L_\alpha^0 \neq \{0\}$  and it is not a strongly simple root. We call an abelian simple root  $\alpha$  abelian integrable if  $\alpha$  is also an integrable root. A strongly simple root  $\alpha$  is said to be strongly integrable if  $\alpha$  is also an integrable root and the adjoint mappings  $ad(e_{\pm\alpha}^0)$  are locally nilpotent on  $L^0$ . We denote by  $\Lambda_{a,i}^1$  (resp.  $\Lambda_{s,i}^1$ ) the set of all abelian integrable (resp. strongly integrable) nonzero roots of  $T$  relative to  $H^0$ .

It is clear that if  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{a,i}^1$  (resp.  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ ), then  $-\alpha \in \Lambda_{a,i}^1$  (resp.  $-\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ ).

**Proposition 3.5.** Let  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then there exist nonzero elements  $e_{\pm\alpha}^0 \in L_{\pm\alpha}^0$  such that  $\alpha([e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0]) \neq 0$  and the adjoint mappings  $ad(e_{\pm\alpha}^0)$  are locally nilpotent on  $L^0$ .

*Proof.* Let us fix nonzero elements  $e_{\pm\alpha}^0 \in L_{\pm\alpha}^0$  such that, for any  $\epsilon \in \{+, -\}$ ,  $[t_{\epsilon\alpha}, e_{\epsilon\alpha}^0] = 0$  for some  $0 \neq t_{\epsilon\alpha} \in T_{\epsilon\alpha}$ ,  $[e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0] \neq 0$ , and the adjoint mappings  $ad(e_{\pm\alpha}^0)$  are locally nilpotent on  $L^0$ . Since

$$[[e_{-\alpha}^0, t_\alpha], [e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}]] \in [T_0, T_0] = 0,$$





the Jacobi identity gives

$$\begin{aligned} [[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}], e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0] &= [[t_\alpha, [t_{-\alpha}, e_\alpha^0]], e_{-\alpha}^0] \\ &= [t_\alpha, [[t_{-\alpha}, e_\alpha^0], e_{-\alpha}^0]] \\ &= [t_\alpha, [t_{-\alpha}, [e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0]]] \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\alpha([t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}][e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0] = \alpha([e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0])[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]$$

and the proposition follows from here. □

**Proposition 3.6.** *If  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ , then*

- (1)  $\dim L_{\pm\alpha}^0 = 1$ .
- (2)  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha \cap \Lambda^1 = \{\pm\alpha\}$ .
- (3)  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha \cap \Lambda^0 = \{\pm\alpha\}$ .

*Proof.* (1) From Proposition 3.5,  $\alpha$  is an integrable root of the split Lie algebra  $L^0$ , (see Proposition 3.1), in the sense of Stumme (1999, Definition I.3). Then, by Stumme (1999, Proposition I.6) we have  $\dim L_{\pm\alpha}^0 = 1$ .

(2) and (3) As by (1) and Proposition 3.4-1,  $\dim T_{\pm\alpha} = \dim L_{\pm\alpha}^0 = 1$ , we have  $[T_\alpha, L_\alpha^0] = [T_{-\alpha}, L_{-\alpha}^0] = 0$ .

Let us consider

$$V := T_0 + H^0 + T_\alpha + T_{-\alpha} + L_\alpha^0 + L_{-\alpha}^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_{-2n\alpha} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} L_{-(2n-1)\alpha}^0.$$

We can verify that  $V$  is an  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -module, and by arguing as in Proposition 3.4-1, we conclude  $T_{-2n\alpha} = L_{-(2m-1)\alpha}^0 = 0$ , for  $n \geq 1$  and  $m \geq 2$ . Proposition 3.4-2 completes the proof. □

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then we have:*

- (1)  $[T_\alpha, L_{-\alpha}^0] \neq 0$
- (2)  $[T_\alpha, T_0] \neq 0$
- (3)  $[L_\alpha^0, T_0] \neq 0$

*Proof.* (1) and (2) Let us fix  $t_{\pm\alpha} \in T_{\pm\alpha}$  such that  $\alpha([t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}]) = 1$ , and  $0 \neq e_\alpha^0 \in L_\alpha^0$  satisfying  $[t_\alpha, e_\alpha^0] = 0$ .

Let us consider

$$V := \mathbb{K}[[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}] \oplus \mathbb{K}[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}] \oplus \mathbb{K}e_\alpha^0.$$



We assert that  $V$  is an  $L(t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha})$ -submodule of  $L$ . Indeed, this can be verified taking into account the following identities:

Since  $[H_0, T_0] = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 [[[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}], t_\alpha] &= -[[t_{-\alpha}, t_\alpha], [e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}]] - [[t_\alpha, [e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}]], t_{-\alpha}] \\
 &= -[[t_\alpha, [e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}]], t_{-\alpha}] \\
 &= [[[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}], e_\alpha^0], t_{-\alpha}] - [[[t_\alpha, e_\alpha^0], t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}] \\
 &= [[[t_\alpha, t_{-\alpha}], e_\alpha^0], t_{-\alpha}] = [e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}].
 \end{aligned}$$

As  $[t_\alpha, e_\alpha^0] = 0$ ,

$$[[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}], t_\alpha] = e_\alpha^0,$$

and finally, by Proposition 3.6-2,

$$[[[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}] \subset T_{-2\alpha} = 0.$$

By arguing as in Proposition 3.4-1, we conclude that  $[[e_\alpha^0, t_{-\alpha}], t_{-\alpha}] \neq 0$ , and from here (1) and (2)

(3) From Proposition 3.5, we can fix  $e_{\pm\alpha}^0 \in L_{\pm\alpha}^0$  such that  $[t_{\epsilon\alpha}, e_{\epsilon\alpha}^0] = 0$  for some  $0 \neq t_{\epsilon\alpha} \in T_{\epsilon\alpha}$ ,  $\epsilon \in \{+, -\}$ , and satisfying  $\alpha([e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0]) \neq 0$ . By Jacobi identity, we obtain  $[[e_{-\alpha}^0, t_\alpha], e_\alpha^0] = -\alpha([e_\alpha^0, e_{-\alpha}^0])t_\alpha \neq 0$ , and (3) is proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then there exist nonzero elements  $t_\alpha \in T_\alpha$ ,  $t_0 \in T_0$ ,  $e_\alpha^0 \in L_\alpha^0$  such that  $[e_\alpha^0, t_0] = t_\alpha$  and  $[t_\alpha, t_0] = e_\alpha^0$ .*

*Proof.* By Corollary 3.1 there exist  $t'_\alpha \in T_\alpha$ ,  $t'_0, t''_0 \in T_0$  and  $f_\alpha^0 \in L_\alpha^0$  such that  $[t'_\alpha, t'_0] \neq 0$  and  $[f_\alpha^0, t'_0] \neq 0$ . If  $[f_\alpha^0, t'_0] \neq 0$  or  $[t'_\alpha, t''_0] \neq 0$  the proof is clear taking into account that  $\dim T_\alpha = \dim L_\alpha^0 = 1$ .

If  $[f_\alpha^0, t'_0] = 0$  and  $[t'_\alpha, t''_0] = 0$ , let consider  $t'''_0 := t'_0 + t''_0$ . As  $[t'_\alpha, t'''_0] = \lambda f_\alpha^0$  and  $[f_\alpha^0, t'''_0] = \beta t'_\alpha$  with  $\alpha, \beta$  nonzero elements of  $\mathbb{K}$ , it is easy to check that  $t_0 := \sqrt{(1/\lambda\beta)}t'''_0$ ,  $t_\alpha := \sqrt{(\beta/\lambda)}t'_\alpha$  and  $e_\alpha^0 := f_\alpha^0$  complete the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.7.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system respect to  $H^0$  and let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding. Then  $H^0 \oplus T_0$  is a MASA of  $L$ .*

*Proof.* It is easy to check, taking into account the definition of split Lie triple system and Proposition 3.1.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.8.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system respect to  $H^0$ , let  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  be its standard embedding and let  $\alpha \in \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then there exist two nonzero linear functionals  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 : H^0 \oplus T_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  such that  $L_\alpha^0 \oplus T_\alpha = L_{\alpha_1} \oplus L_{\alpha_2}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.4 we can choose nonzero elements  $t_\alpha \in T_\alpha$ ,  $t_0 \in T_0$ ,  $e_\alpha^0 \in L_\alpha^0$  such that  $[e_\alpha^0, t_0] = t_\alpha$  and  $[t_\alpha, t_0] = e_\alpha^0$ . Since  $\dim T_\alpha = \dim L_\alpha^0 = 1$ , we can determine, for any  $t'_0 \in T_0$ , the unique  $\lambda_{t'_0}, \beta_{t'_0} \in \mathbb{K}$  such that  $[t_\alpha, t'_0] = \lambda_{t'_0} e_\alpha^0$  and  $[e_\alpha^0, t'_0] = \beta_{t'_0} t_\alpha$ .



As  $[T_0, T_0] = 0$  we have

$$0 = [[t'_0, t_0], t_x] = -[[t_0, t_x], t'_0] - [[t_x, t'_0], t_0] = [e_x^0, t'_0] - \lambda_{t'_0}[e_x^0, t_0] = \beta_{t'_0}t_x - \lambda_{t'_0}t_x,$$

and therefore  $\beta_{t'_0} = \lambda_{t'_0}$ .

Thus, we can define the mapping

$$\delta_x : T_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{K} \quad \text{by} \quad \delta_x(t'_0) := \lambda_{t'_0}.$$

Now, if we also define

$$\alpha_1, \alpha_2 : H^0 \oplus T_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$$

by

$$\alpha_1(h^0 + t'_0) := \alpha(h^0) - \delta_x(t'_0) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_2(h^0 + t'_0) := \alpha(h^0) + \delta_x(t'_0),$$

we assert that  $L_{\alpha_1} \oplus L_{\alpha_2} = L_x^0 \oplus T_x$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} [h^0 + t'_0, e_x^0 + t_x] &= \alpha(h^0)(e_x^0 + t_x) - \lambda_{t'_0}t_x - \lambda_{t'_0}e_x^0 \\ &= (\alpha(h^0) - \delta_x(t'_0))(e_x^0 + t_x) = \alpha_1(h^0 + t'_0)(e_x^0 + t_x), \end{aligned}$$

therefore  $\mathbb{K}(e_x^0 + t_x) \subset L_{\alpha_1}$ .

In a similar way we can verify that  $\mathbb{K}(e_x^0 - t_x) \subset L_{\alpha_2}$ . Then we have  $L_x^0 \oplus T_x = \mathbb{K}e_x^0 + \mathbb{K}t_x = \mathbb{K}(e_x^0 + t_x) + \mathbb{K}(e_x^0 - t_x) \subset L_{\alpha_1} \oplus L_{\alpha_2}$ .

If  $e_{x_1} + e_{x_2} \in L_{\alpha_1} \oplus L_{\alpha_2}$ , we obtain that

$$[h^0, e_{x_1} + e_{x_2}] = \alpha_1(h^0)e_{x_1} + \alpha_2(h^0)e_{x_2} = \alpha(h^0)(e_{x_1} + e_{x_2}),$$

and therefore  $e_{x_1} + e_{x_2} \in L_x^0 \oplus T_x$ . The proof is complete. □

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $T$  be a split Lie triple system respect to  $H^0$  such that  $\Lambda^1 = \Lambda_{a,i}^1 \cup \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then its standard embedding  $L$  is split respect to  $H^0 \oplus T_0$ .*

*Proof.* First, if  $T_0 = 0$  then  $H^0$  is a MASA of  $L$ . We assert that in this case  $\Lambda^0 \cap \Lambda^1 = \emptyset$ . Indeed, if  $\alpha \in \Lambda^0 \cap \Lambda^1$ ,  $\alpha$  must be strongly integrable and by Corollary 3.1-1,  $T_0 \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $\Lambda^0 \cup \Lambda^1$  is the root system of  $L$  respect to  $H^0$ , and we have the splitting decomposition

$$L = H^0 \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda^0} L_\beta^0 \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Lambda^1} T_\alpha \right).$$

Second, if  $T_0 \neq 0$  then  $H^0 \oplus T_0$  is a MASA of  $L$ , and: If either  $\alpha \notin \Lambda^1$  and  $\alpha \in \Lambda^0$ , (then  $[T_0, L_\alpha^0] = 0$ ), or  $\alpha$  is an abelian integrable root of  $T$ , (then  $[T_0, T_\alpha] = 0$ ); we can define the root  $\alpha' : H^0 \oplus T_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  as  $\alpha'(h_0, t_0) := \alpha(h_0)$  for any  $(h_0, t_0) \in H^0 \oplus T_0$ , the associated root space being  $L_{\alpha'} = L_\alpha^0$  in the first case and  $L_{\alpha'} = T_\alpha$  in the second one.



If  $\alpha$  is a strongly integrable root of  $T$  then, by Proposition 3.8, there exists two nonzero roots of  $L$  respect to  $H^0 \oplus T_0$ ,  $\alpha'_1$  and  $\alpha'_2$ , such that  $L_\alpha^0 \oplus T_\alpha = L_{\alpha'_1} \oplus L_{\alpha'_2}$ . As by Proposition 3.1,  $L = H^0 \oplus (\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Lambda_0} L_\alpha^0) \oplus T_0 \oplus (\bigoplus_{\beta \in \Lambda_1} T_\beta)$ , we conclude that  $L$  admits the splitting decomposition respect to  $H^0 \oplus T_0$  given by

$$L = (H^0 \oplus T_0) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{\alpha'} L_{\alpha'} \right).$$

#### 4. LOCALLY FINITE SPLIT LIE TRIPLE SYSTEMS

**Definition 4.1.** A Lie triple subsystem of a Lie triple system  $T$  is a submodule  $U$  such that  $[U, U, U] \subseteq U$ . We say that a Lie triple system  $T$  is locally finite if every finite subset of  $T$  is contained in a finite dimensional subtriple of  $T$ .

We recall that a similar concept is defined for Lie algebras (c.f. Neeb, 2000 or Stumme, 1999).

**Proposition 4.1.** *The standard embedding  $L = L^0 \oplus L^1$  of a locally finite Lie triple system  $T$  is a locally finite Lie algebra.*

*Proof.* Let  $V^0$  be a finite subset of  $L^0$ . By the construction of  $L^0$ , the subset  $V^0$  can be described from a suitable finite subset  $V$  of  $T$ . As  $T$  is locally finite, there exists a finite dimensional subtriple of  $T$ ,  $U$ , such that  $V$  is contained in  $U$ . The Lie subalgebra of  $L$  generated by  $U$  is finite dimensional and  $V^0$  is contained in it. Therefore,  $L^0$  is locally finite. It is easy to conclude that  $L$  is also locally finite. □

Let us note that in a locally finite split Lie triple system all abelian (resp. strongly) simple roots of  $\Lambda^1$  are abelian (resp. strongly) integrable.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $T$  be a locally finite split simple Lie triple system such that  $\Lambda^1 = \Lambda_{a,i}^1 \cup \Lambda_{s,i}^1$ . Then  $T$  is isomorphic to one of the followings:*

- (1)  $T = \mathcal{L}$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a locally finite split simple Lie algebra.
- (2)  $T = Skw(\mathcal{L}, \xi)$  with  $\mathcal{L}$  as in the previous case and  $\xi$  an involutive automorphism of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

*Proof.* By Propositions 2.1 and 2.2, either  $T = L$  or  $T = Skw(L', \xi)$ , where  $L, L'$  are simple Lie algebras and  $\xi$  is an involutive automorphism of  $L'$ . By Proposition 4.1,  $L$  and  $L'$  are locally finite. By Proposition 3.1,  $L$  is split and finally by Theorem 3.1,  $L'$  is split. The proof is complete. □

**Remark 4.1.** If  $T$  is of infinite dimension, following Neeb (2001), the algebra  $\mathcal{L}$  of Theorem 4.1, must be one of the following  $sl(J, \mathbb{K})$ ,  $d(J, \mathbb{K})$  or  $sp(J, \mathbb{K})$  where  $J$  is an infinite set whose cardinality equals the dimension of the Lie algebra.



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