

# Symplectic alternating algebras

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1. Powerful 2-Engel 3-groups.
2. Symplectic alternating algebras.
3. Some general structure theory.
4. Nilpotence, solvability and nil-conditions.

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**Questions**(Caranti).

(a) Does there exist a finite 2-Engel 3-group of class 3 where  $\text{Aut } G = \text{Aut}_c G \cdot \text{Inn } G$ ? (Yes. Abdollahi, Linton and O'Brien (2010))

(b) Let  $G$  be a group for which every element commutes with all its endomorphic images. Is  $G$  nilpotent of class at most 2?

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Symplectic vector spaces play a role in the classification. For one isolated example of rank 5 the associated symplectic vector space turns out to have a richer structure. This leads us to **Symplectic Alternating Algebras**.

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**Definition.** Let  $F$  be a field. A **symplectic alternating algebra** over  $F$  is a triple  $(V, (\ , \ ), \cdot)$  where  $V$  is a symplectic vector space over  $F$  with respect to a non-degenerate alternating form  $(\ , \ )$  and  $\cdot$  is a bilinear and alternating binary operation on  $V$  such that

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**Remark.** The condition above is equivalent to  $(u \cdot x, v) = (u, v \cdot x)$

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The associated symplectic alternating algebra  $L(G)$ . Let  $L(G) = H/G^3$  where

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The map  $L^3 \rightarrow F$ ,  $(u, v, w) \mapsto (u \cdot v, w)$  is an alternating ternary form and that each alternating ternary form defines a unique symplectic alternating algebra. Classifying symplectic alternating algebras of dimension  $2r$  over  $F$  is then equivalent to finding all the  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  orbits of  $\wedge^3 V$ , under the natural action, where  $V$  is the symplectic vectorspace of dimension  $2r$  with non-degenerate alternating form.

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Over the field  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  there are 31 algebras of dimension 6 (T, 2008).



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**Theorem 4.** Either  $L$  contains an abelian ideal or  $L$  is semisimple. In the latter case the direct summands are uniquely determined as the minimal ideals of  $L$

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Proposition 3. (Tota, Tortora, T) Let  $L$  be a symplectic alternating algebra that is abelian-by-(class  $c$ ). We then have that  $L$  is nilpotent of class at most  $2c + 1$ .

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$$W(a, b) = (Fa + Fbx^{k-1}) \oplus_{\perp} (Fax + Fbx^{k-2}) \oplus_{\perp} \dots \oplus_{\perp} (Fax^{k-1} + Fb)$$

where  $(ax^r, bx^{k-1-r}) = 1$ .

**Definition.** We say that  $x \in L$  is a **left nil-element** of nil-degree  $k$  if  $ax^k = 0$  for all  $a \in L$ . We say that  $x$  is a **right nil-element** of nil-degree  $k$  if  $xa^k = 0$  for all  $a \in L$ . A symplectic alternating algebra is a **nil- $k$  algebra** if every element in  $L$  is a left nil-element of nil-degree at most  $k$ .

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**Proposition 4.** (T<sup>3</sup>) Suppose  $x$  is a left nil-element in  $L$ . Then we get a decomposition into a isotropic direct sum of standard  $x$ -invariant subspaces

$$L = W(a_1, b_1) \oplus_{\perp} \dots \oplus_{\perp} W(a_n, b_n).$$

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(a) If  $\text{char } L \neq 2$  then  $L$  is nilpotent of class at most 3.

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**Classification.**(T<sup>3</sup>) Symplectic alternating nil-algebras of dimension up to 8. (All nilpotent).