

Fabio GAVARINI

“Algebraic supergroups of Cartan type”

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INTRODUCTION

A real milestone in classical Lie theory is the celebrated classification theorem for complex finite dimensional simple Lie algebras. A similar key result is the classification of all complex finite dimensional simple Lie superalgebras (cf. [14]); in particular, this ensures that these objects form two disjoint families: those of *classical* type, and those of *Cartan* type. The “classical” ones are strict super-analogue of simple, f.d. complex Lie algebras; the “Cartan” ones instead are a super-analogue of complex Lie algebras of Cartan type, which are simple but *infinite* dimensional.

As in the standard Lie context, one can base upon this classification result to tackle the classification problem of existence, construction and uniqueness of simple Lie supergroups, or even simple algebraic supergroups. A super-analogue of Lie’s Third Theorem solves it for Lie supergroups: but the question remains for construction and for the whole algebraic point of view.

In the standard context, a constructive procedure providing all (f.d., connected) simple algebraic groups was provided by Chevalley, over fields; one starts with a (complex) f.d. simple Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}$ a faithful $\mathfrak{g}$ -module, and eventually realizes a group of requested type as a subgroup of $\mathrm{GL}(V)$. In particular, this yields all connected algebraic groups whose tangent Lie algebra is a (f.d.) simple one; this method (and result) also extends to the framework of reductive $\mathbb{Z}$ -group schemes. By analogy, one might try to adapt Chevalley’s method to the f.d. simple Lie superalgebras of classical type, so to provide connected algebraic supergroup-schemes (over $\mathbb{Z}$) which “integrate” any such Lie superalgebra. This is done in [8] — see also [9] and [11]. In this paper instead I implement Chevalley’s idea to simple Lie superalgebras of Cartan type, with full success: the main result is an existence result, via a constructive procedure, for connected, algebraic supergroup-schemes (over any ring, e.g. $\mathbb{Z}$) whose tangent Lie superalgebra be simple of Cartan type. As a second result, I prove also a uniqueness theorem for algebraic supergroups of the above mentioned type.

Hereafter I shortly sketch how the present work is organized.

The initial datum is a f.d. simple Lie superalgebra of Cartan type, say $\mathfrak{g}$. Basing upon a detailed description of the root spaces (with respect to a fixed Cartan subalgebra), I introduce the key notion of *Chevalley basis*. Then I prove two basic results: the existence of Chevalley bases, and a PBW-like theorem for the “Kostant $\mathbb{Z}$ -form” of the universal enveloping superalgebra of $\mathfrak{g}$.

Next I take a faithful $\mathfrak{g}$ -module V , and I show that there exists a lattice M in V fixed by the Kostant superalgebra and also by a certain integral form $\mathfrak{g}_V$ of $\mathfrak{g}$. I define a functor G_V from the category $(\text{salg})_{\mathbb{k}}$ of commutative $\mathbb{k}$ -superalgebras to the category (groups) of groups as follows: for $A \in (\text{salg})_{\mathbb{k}}$, I let $G_V(A)$ be the subgroup of $\text{GL}(A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} M)$ generated by “homogeneous one-parameter subgroups” associated with the root vectors and with the toral elements in a Chevalley basis. Then I pick the sheafification $\mathbf{G}_V$ (in the sense of category theory) of the functor G_V .

Using commutation relations among generators, I find a factorization of $\mathbf{G}_V$ into direct product of representable (algebraic) superschemes: thus $\mathbf{G}_V$ itself is representable, hence it is an “affine (algebraic) supergroup”. Some extra work shows how $\mathbf{G}_V$ depends on V , that it is independent of the choice M and that its tangent Lie superalgebra is $\mathfrak{g}_V$. So the construction of $\mathbf{G}_V$ yields an *existence theorem* of a supergroup having $\mathfrak{g}_V$ as tangent Lie superalgebra. Right after, I prove the converse, i.e. a *uniqueness theorem* showing that any such supergroup is isomorphic to some $\mathbf{G}_V$.

Finally, I illustrate the example of $\mathbf{G}_V$ for $\mathfrak{g}$ of type $W(n)$ and V its defining representation — i.e. the Grassmann algebra in n odd indeterminates, $W(n)$ being the algebra of its superderivations.

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