

# On symmetric quivers and their degenerations

Magdalena Boos  
(Ruhr-Universität Bochum)



(Or: *Just pick the right quiver*)

# Structure

- 1 Algebraic Lie-theoretic motivation
- 2 Symmetric Representation Theory
  - Symmetric quivers and algebras*
  - Symmetric representations*
- 3 (Symmetric) degenerations
- 4 Results
  - Dynkin case*
  - Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example*

# 1 Algebraic Lie-theoretic motivation

$$n \in \{2l, 2l+1\}$$

CONJUGATION

$GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  (1) Jordan  
(2) Gerstenhaber

$G$

$N := \{N \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \mid N^2 = 0\}$   
nilp. cone

$\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{B}$   
Boel

(1) B.-Reineke  
(2) B.-Reineke

$G$

$N^{(2)} := \{N \mid N^2 = 0\}$   
2-nilpotent

Questions: (1) orbits  $B \cdot N$   
(2) orbit closures  $\overline{B \cdot N}$

# 1 Algebraic Lie-theoretic motivation

Define

$$Q = \bullet_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \bullet_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_l} \bullet_w \xrightarrow{\alpha_{l^*}} \bullet_{l^*} \xrightarrow{\dots} \bullet_{2^*} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{1^*}} \bullet_{1^*}$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \alpha \\ \downarrow \alpha \end{matrix}$

$$\underline{d} = (1, 2, \dots, l, n, l, \dots, 2, 1)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{C}Q \\ \cup \\ \mathbb{I} = (\alpha_{l^*} \circ \alpha_l, \sum^2) \end{array} \right\} \mathcal{A} := \mathbb{C}Q / \mathbb{I}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{rep} \\ \text{variety} \end{array} \hookrightarrow R_{\underline{d}} \supseteq R_{\underline{d}}^{\circ} := \{ (M_{\alpha})_{\alpha} \mid M_{\alpha_i} \text{ injective, } M_{\alpha_{i^*}} \text{ surjective } \forall i \}$$

$\downarrow \cup$   
 $G_{\underline{d}} = \prod_i GL_{d_i}(k)$

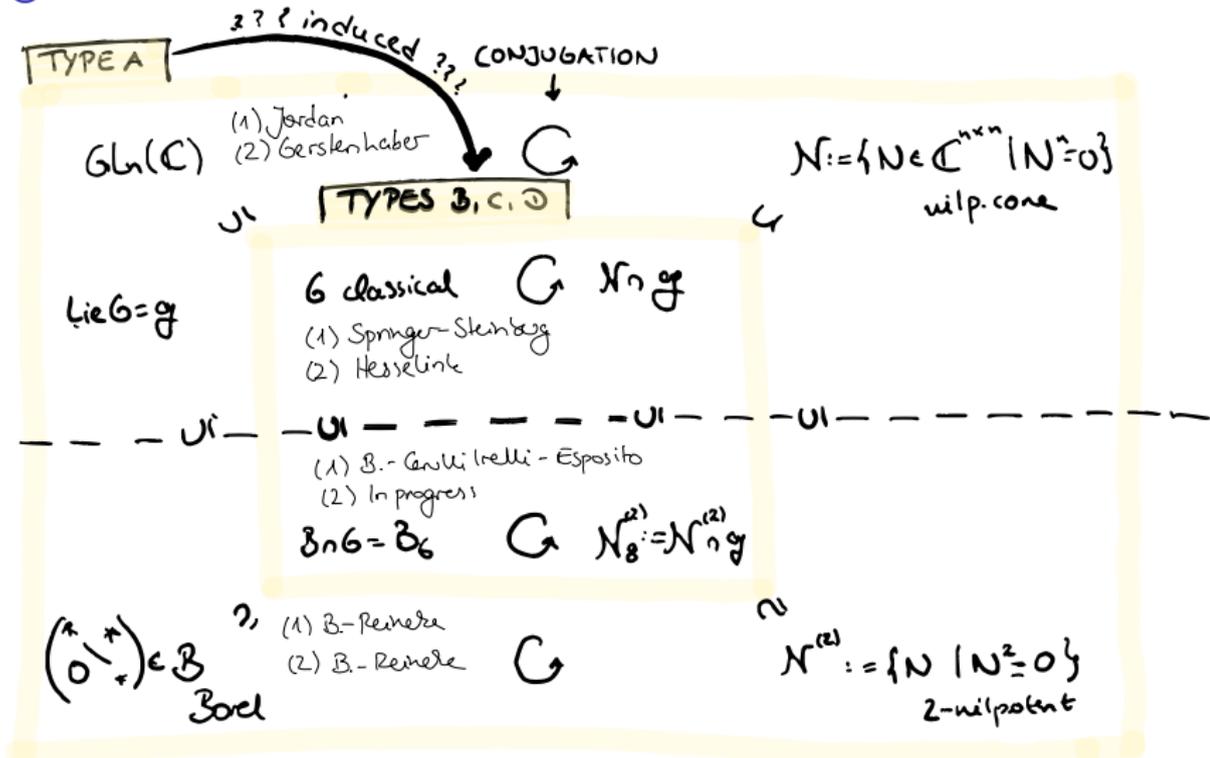
Lemma

$$\{ \mathcal{B}\text{-orbits in } \mathcal{N}^{(2)} \} \xleftrightarrow{\text{bij.}} \{ G_{\underline{d}}\text{-orbits in } R_{\underline{d}}^{\circ} \}$$

$\uparrow$   
 preserves orbit closure relations!

# 1 Algebraic Lie-theoretic motivation

$$n \in \{2r, 2r+1\}$$



Questions: (1) orbits  $B \cdot N$ ,  $B_6 \cdot N$   
 (2) orbit closures  $\overline{B \cdot N}$ ,  $\overline{B_6 \cdot N}$

$$N \in N_g^{(2)}$$

## 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

### Symmetric quivers and algebras

Let  $Q$  be a finite quiver

$$Q_0 = \{\text{vertices}\}$$

$$Q_1 = \{\text{arrows}\} \ni \alpha : s(\alpha) \rightarrow t(\alpha)$$

$$\text{If } \sigma : Q_0 \cup Q_1 \rightarrow Q_0 \cup Q_1 \text{ is} \\ x \mapsto \sigma(x)$$

an involution on  $Q_0$

a reversing involution on  $Q_1$

Then  $Q := (Q, \sigma)$  is called a symmetric quiver

Examples:

## 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

### Symmetric quivers and algebras

Let  $Q$  be a finite quiver

$$Q_0 = \{\text{vertices}\}$$

$$Q_1 = \{\text{arrows}\} \ni \alpha : s(\alpha) \rightarrow t(\alpha)$$

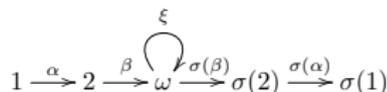
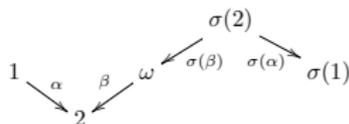
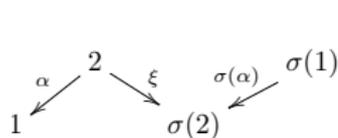
If  $\sigma : Q_0 \cup Q_1 \rightarrow Q_0 \cup Q_1$  is  
 $x \mapsto \sigma(x)$

an involution on  $Q_0$

a reversing involution on  $Q_1$

Then  $Q := (Q, \sigma)$  is called a symmetric quiver

Examples:



## 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

### Symmetric quivers and algebras

Let  $\mathbb{C}Q =$  path algebra of  $Q \rightsquigarrow \sigma$  extends to paths  
 $I \subseteq \mathbb{C}Q$  admissible ideal  
with  $\sigma(I) \subseteq I$

Then

$A := \mathbb{C}Q/I$  finite-dim., associative algebra with 1  
(not commutative)

$\sigma$  induces  
 $\rightsquigarrow$

iso

$$\sigma: A \rightarrow A^{\text{op}} \simeq A$$

self-duality

$$\nabla: \text{Rep } A \rightarrow \text{Rep } A$$

## 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

### Symmetric representations

Fix  $\underline{d} = (d_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Q}_0}$  dim vector with  $d_i = d_{\sigma(i)} \quad \forall i$

$$V = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Q}_0} V_i \quad \dim V_i = d_i$$

$$\varepsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$$

$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \rightarrow V$  non-degenerate bilin. form sth.

- $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{V_i \times V_j} = 0$  unless  $i = \sigma(j)$
- $\langle v, w \rangle = \varepsilon \langle w, v \rangle$

# 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

Symmetric representations

? induced ?  
?

$\Sigma$ -REPRESENTATIONS

REPRESENTATIONS

$$\{(M_\kappa)_\kappa \mid M_\kappa^* = -M_{\sigma(\kappa)}\} =: R_\Sigma^\varepsilon \subseteq R_\mathbb{C} \subseteq \bigoplus_{\kappa \in Q_\kappa} \text{Hom}(V_{\sigma(\kappa)}, V_{\varepsilon(\kappa)})$$

adjoint wrt  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$   $\uparrow$

$\cup$   $\cup$  base change

$$\{(g_i) \mid g_i = g_{\sigma(i)}^*{}^{-1}\} =: G_\Sigma^\varepsilon \subseteq G_\mathbb{C} = \prod_{i \in Q_0} GL_{d_i}(\mathbb{C})$$

$\Sigma = 1$  : orthogonal

$\Sigma = -1$  symplectic

orbits  $\equiv$  iso classes in rep cat  
 $\leftarrow$  denote both  $M \leftarrow$

self-dual

$$M \cong \nabla M$$

## 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

### Symmetric representations

First answer: Orbits are induced!

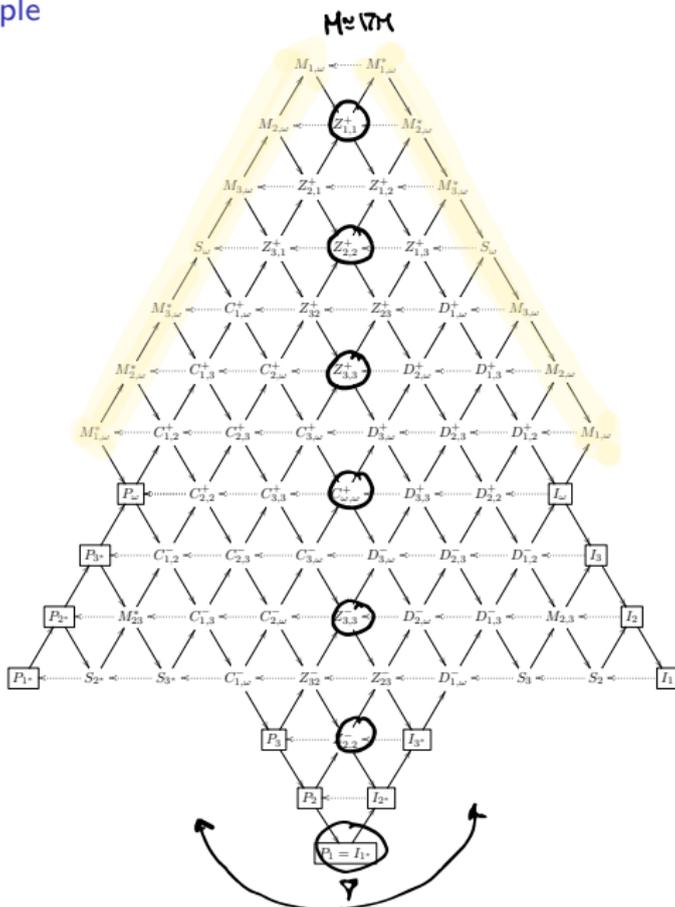
Theorem (MW 2000, DW 2002)

$$M, N \in \mathbb{R}_\geq^e \quad G_d^e M = G_d^e N \iff G_d M = G_d N$$



# 2 Symmetric Representation Theory

Our motivating example



### 3 Degenerations

Let  $M, N \in \mathcal{R}_d$

$$M \leq_{\text{deg}} N \iff \overline{G_d N} \subseteq \overline{G_d M} \subseteq \mathcal{R}_d \quad \text{"degeneration"}$$

$$M \leq_{\text{hom}} N \iff \dim \text{Hom}(U, M) \leq \dim \text{Hom}(U, N) \quad \text{"hom order"}$$

$\forall U \in \text{Rep } A$

$$M \leq_{\text{Ext}} N \iff \exists M_1, \dots, M_k \in \text{Rep } A \text{ and } \quad \text{"Ext order"}$$

short ex. seq.

$$0 \rightarrow U_i \rightarrow M_{i+1} \rightarrow V_i \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$M_1 \cong M, M_k \cong N, M_i \cong U_i \oplus V_i$$

GENERAL:  $\leq_{\text{Ext}} \stackrel{\text{Bongartz}}{=} \leq_{\text{deg}} \stackrel{\text{Abraçis-De Frá Riccio}}{\iff} \leq_{\text{hom}}$

A REP-FINITE:  $\leq_{\text{deg}} \iff \leq_{\text{hom}}$   
Zwara

DYNKIN  $\leq_{\text{Ext}} \stackrel{\text{Bongartz}}{=} \leq_{\text{deg}} \iff \leq_{\text{hom}}$

### 3 Symmetric Degenerations

Let  $M, N \in \mathbb{R}_d^c$

$$M \leq_{\text{deg}}^{\varepsilon} N \iff G_d^{\varepsilon} M \leq \overline{G_d^{\varepsilon} N} \quad \text{"}\varepsilon\text{-degenerate"}$$

$$M \leq_{\text{Ext}}^{\varepsilon} N \iff \exists \Sigma\text{-reps } M_1, \dots, M_k \text{ and "}\varepsilon\text{-Ext"}$$

short ex. seq.

$$0 \rightarrow L_i \hookrightarrow M_{i+1} \rightarrow V_i \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$M_1 \cong M, M_k \cong N, M_i \cong L_i \oplus \nabla L_i \oplus L_i^+ / L_i$$

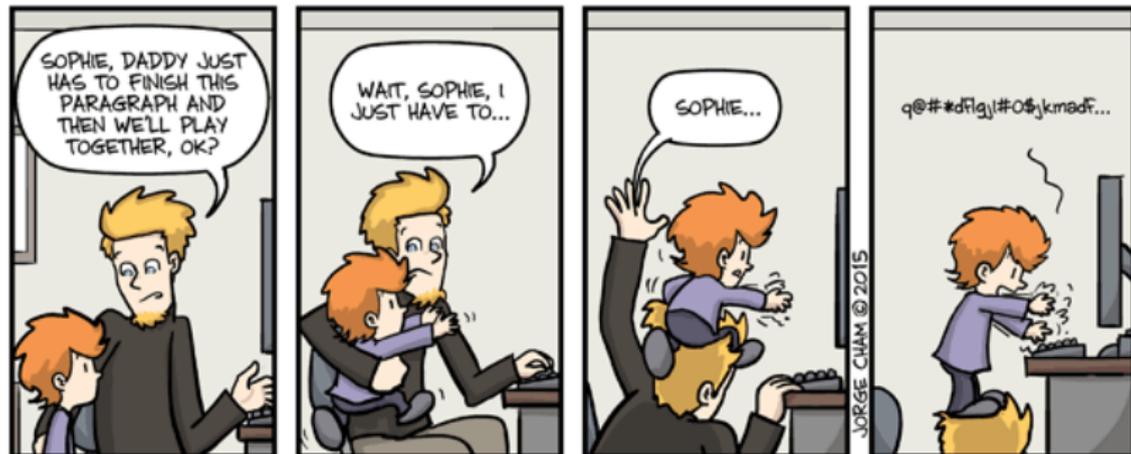
$L_i$  isotropic in  $M_{i+1}$

$$\text{GENERAL} \quad \leq_{\text{Ext}}^{\varepsilon} \stackrel{\text{b.-cyclic}}{\implies} \leq_{\text{deg}}^{\varepsilon} \implies \leq_{\text{deg}}^{\varepsilon} \left( \implies \leq_{\text{hom}} \right)$$

REP FINITE } Don't want to spoil it now ☺  
DYNKIN }

## 4 Results

$$? \leq \text{deg} \Rightarrow \leq^{\varepsilon} \text{deg} ?$$



"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham  
[www.phdcomics.de](http://www.phdcomics.de)

## 4 Dynkin case

$Q = (Q, \sigma)$  connected symm. quiver of finite type

$$A = \mathbb{C}Q$$

$\varepsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$   $\in$  symm. dim vector

Theorem (B. - Gotti-Irelli)

Let  $M, N \in \mathbb{R}_{\pm}^{\varepsilon}$

Then  $M \leq_{\text{Ext}}^{\varepsilon} N \iff M \leq_{\text{deg}}^{\varepsilon} N \iff M \leq_{\text{deg}} N$

Strategy of proof  $\leq_{\text{deg}} \Rightarrow \leq_{\text{Ext}}^{\varepsilon}$

$L$  indec sth  $[L, N]^{\varepsilon} = 0 \rightsquigarrow L \hookrightarrow M$   
can be chosen isotypically!

$\rightsquigarrow$  different cases  $L = \nabla L$   
 $L \oplus \nabla L$

$\rightsquigarrow$  symmetry of  $ARQ$ , in part. generic quotients  
 $\rightarrow$  inductive argument

## 4 Dynkin case

$$A_2 = \begin{array}{ccc} & \mathfrak{g}(\lambda) & \\ & \downarrow \alpha & \\ \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ 1 & & \mathfrak{g}(\lambda) \end{array}$$

$$\mathfrak{d} = (n, n) \quad \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} / \text{GL}_n \times \text{GL}_n \quad \text{only inv. = rk}$$

$$\varepsilon = -1$$

$\langle , \rangle$  symplectic form on  $\mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}^n$

$$\varepsilon\text{-reps} : \{ M \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \mid M_x^* = -M_x \} = \mathbb{R}_{\pm}^{\varepsilon}$$

$$\{ (g_1, g_2) \mid g_1 = (g_2^*)^{\varepsilon} \} = \mathbb{G}_{\varepsilon}^{\varepsilon}$$

orbits = symplectic matrices / sympl. congruences

Thus  $\implies$  closure ordering by rk

# 4 Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example

Orthogonal types B and D

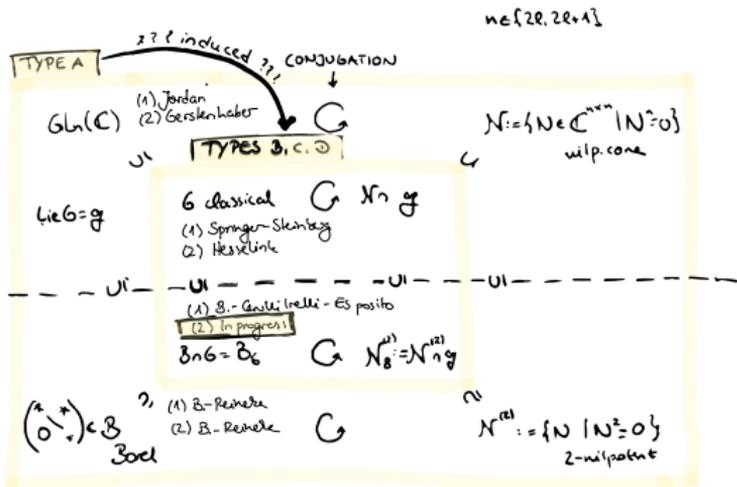
$$\Sigma = 1$$

$$Q = \begin{matrix} & & & \xi \\ & & & \uparrow \\ & & \circ & \\ \circ & \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} & \circ & \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} & \circ \\ 1 & & 2 & & 3 \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{G(\alpha_2)} \\ \xrightarrow{G(\alpha_1)} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \circ \\ \circ \end{matrix}$$

$$A := \mathbb{C}Q / (\xi^2, G(\alpha_2) \circ \alpha_2)$$

$$\underline{\alpha} = (1, 2, 5, 2, 1) \text{ TYPE B}$$

$$\underline{\alpha} = (1, 2, 4, 2, 1) \text{ TYPE D}$$



Question:  $\leq_{deg} \Leftrightarrow \leq_{deg} ?$

# 4 Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example

Orthogonal types

Type B

Type D

+20

$$11 \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

8

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

5

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

3

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

0

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

ORBIT  
DIMENSION  
IN  $\mathcal{N}_{\mathfrak{g}}$   
(TYPE A) — 6

+16

$$7 \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

6

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

4

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

3

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

0

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

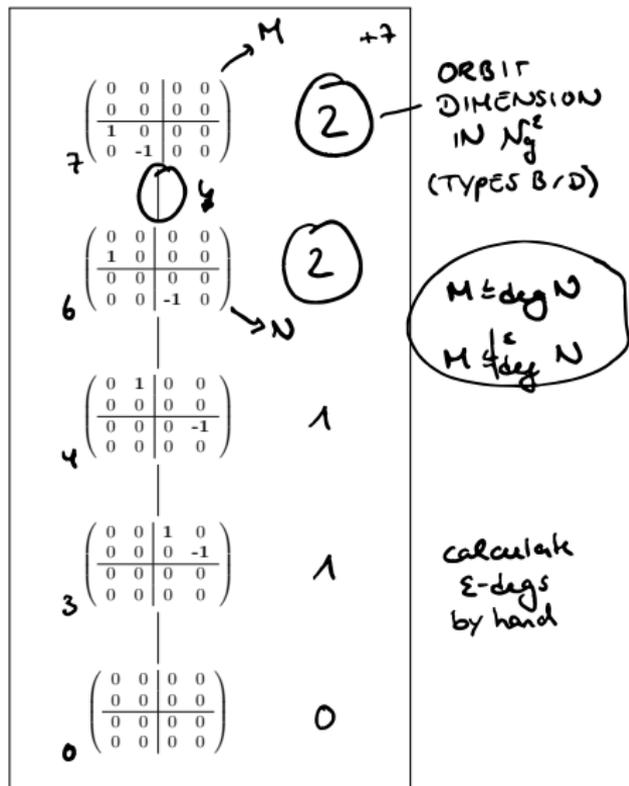
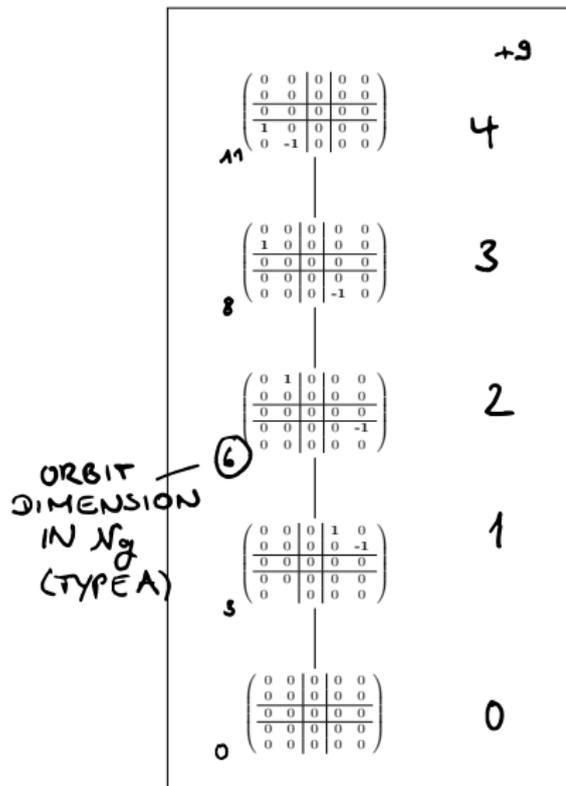
calculate  
 $\leq \deg$   
by  
know

# 4 Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example

Orthogonal types

Type B

Type D

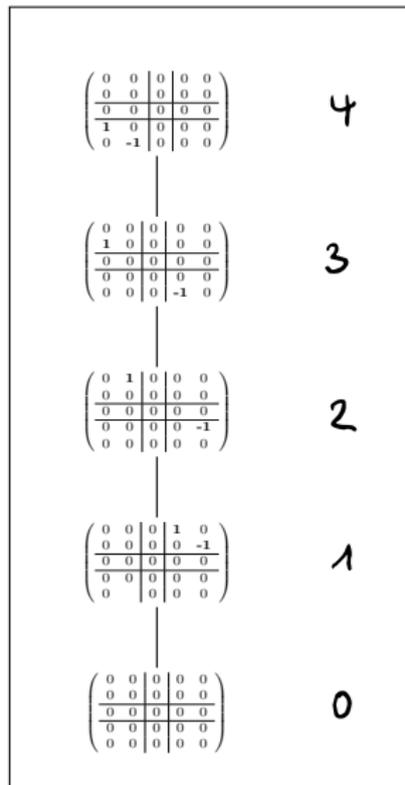


# 4 Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example

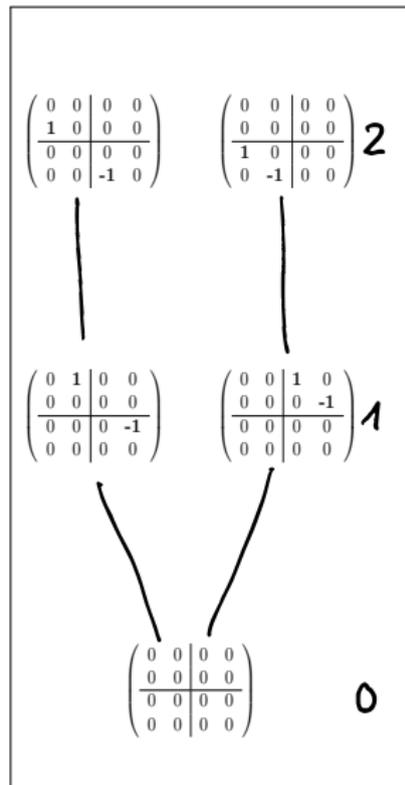
Orthogonal types

ORBIT CLOSURES IN  $N_{\mathfrak{g}}^{(2)}$

TYPE B



TYPE D



## 4 Algebraic Lie-theoretic (counter)example

Orthogonal types B and D

TYPE D:

$\leq_{\text{deg}}$   $\Leftrightarrow$   $\leq_{\text{deg}}^E$  is in general not true.

TYPE B:

not known

(In single  $G$ -orbits (it seems to be true!))

TYPE C:  $\leq_{\text{deg}}$   $(=)$   $\leq_{\text{deg}}^E$  is true  
(in preparation)

## CONCLUSION

GENERAL:  $\leq_{\text{Ext}}^E = \leq_{\text{deg}}^E \Rightarrow \leq_{\text{hom}}$

A REP-FINITE:  $\leq_{\text{deg}}^E \not\Rightarrow \leq_{\text{hom}}$

DYNKIN  $\leq_{\text{Ext}}^E (\Leftrightarrow) \leq_{\text{deg}}^E (\Leftrightarrow) \leq_{\text{hom}}$

## CONJECTURE

A rep-directed  $\leq_{\text{Ext}}^E (\Leftrightarrow) \leq_{\text{deg}}^E (\Leftrightarrow) \leq_{\text{hom}}$

maybe even if all inducts are rigid?!

THANK

YOU



THANK

YOU

S. N.

