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# Poisson slices and Hessenberg varieties

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# Essential ingredients

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•  $\mathfrak{g}$  dim- $n < \infty$ , semisimple, over  $\mathbb{C}$ 



- **g** dim- $n < \infty$ , semisimple, over  $\mathbb{C}$
- $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathfrak{g} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{g} \to \mathbb{C}$  Killing form



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   Note: g ≅ g\* via the Killing form ⇒ g is Poisson
   τ = (e, h, f) ∈ g<sup>⊕3</sup> sl<sub>2</sub>-triple



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- $\mathcal{S}_{ au} := e + \mathfrak{g}_f$  Slodowy slice

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#### Definition

The Poisson variety  $\mu^{-1}(\mathcal{S}_{\tau})$  is called a *Poisson slice*.

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(iii) If X is symplectic, then μ<sup>-1</sup>(S<sub>τ</sub>) is a symplectic subvariety of X.
(iv) If X is log symplectic, then each irreducible component of μ<sup>-1</sup>(S<sub>τ</sub>) is a log symplectic subvariety of X.

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#### Example #1

•  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$  adjoint orbit of G



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•  $\mathcal{O} \cap \mathcal{S}_{\tau}$  is a symplectic subvariety of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

In what follows, we fix a principal  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple  $\tau = (e, h, f)$  and set  $S := S_{\tau}$ .

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# Examples of Poisson slices

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Consider the principal  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple ((e, -e), (h, h), (f, -f)) and associated Slodowy slice  $\mathcal{S} \times (-\mathcal{S}) \subseteq \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}$ .

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- This symplectic subvariety of  $T^*G$  is called the *universal centralizer* and denoted  $\mathcal{Z}_{g}$ .

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- Consider the principal  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple (-e, h, -f) and associated Slodowy slice  $-S \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$ .
### Examples of Poisson slices

#### Example #3

- $G = (\{e\} \times G) \circlearrowright T^*G = G \times \mathfrak{g}$
- Moment map  $\mu_R: G imes \mathfrak{g} o \mathfrak{g}, \ \mu_R(g,\xi) = -\xi$
- Consider the principal  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple (-e, h, -f) and associated Slodowy slice  $-S \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$ .
- $\mu_R^{-1}(-S) = G \times S$ , a symplectic subvariety of  $T^*G$

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• Consider the Grassmannian  $Gr(n, \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})$ .



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# A definition

- Consider the Grassmannian  $\operatorname{Gr}(n, \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})$ .
- $(G \times G) \circlearrowright \operatorname{Gr}(n, \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})$
- We have a  $(G \times G)$ -equivariant locally closed immersion  $\gamma : G \to Gr(n, \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})$  defined by

$$\gamma(g) = \{(\mathrm{Ad}_g(\xi), \xi) : \xi \in \mathfrak{g}\}.$$

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**Note:**  $\overline{G}$  is a  $(G \times G)$ -equivariant projective compactification of G, called the *wonderful compactification*.

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#### Theorem (De Concini-Procesi)

The projective variety  $\overline{G}$  is smooth, and  $D := \overline{G} \setminus G$  is a normal crossings divisor in  $\overline{G}$ .

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#### • $\mathcal{T} \to \operatorname{Gr}(n, \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g})$ tautological bundle

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•  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$  is called the *log cotangent bundle* of  $(\overline{G}, D)$ .



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- (i)  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$  is a log symplectic variety.
- (ii)  $T^*G$  is the unique open dense symplectic leaf in  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$ .

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- (ii)  $T^*G$  is the unique open dense symplectic leaf in  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$ .
- (iii) The action of  $G \times G$  on  $\overline{G}$  canonically lifts to a Hamiltonian  $(G \times G)$ -action on  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$ , and there is an explicit moment map  $\overline{\mu} = (\overline{\mu}_L, \overline{\mu}_R) : T^*\overline{G}(\log(D)) \to \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}$ .

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#### Example #2'

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- $\overline{\mu}^{-1}(\mathcal{S} \times (-\mathcal{S})) = \{(V,\xi) \in \overline{\mathcal{G}} \times \mathfrak{g} : \xi \in \mathcal{S} \text{ and } V \in \overline{\mathcal{G}_{\xi}}\}$

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- This log symplectic subvariety of  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$  is denoted by  $\overline{\mathcal{Z}_g}$ .

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- $\overline{\mu}_R^{-1}(-S) =: \overline{G \times S}$ , a log symplectic subvariety of  $T^*\overline{G}(\log(D))$



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#### Consider the two diagrams



• The former is obtained by pulling the latter back along the inclusion  $S \to \mathfrak{g}$ . In other words, the former is the restriction of the latter to the Poisson slices

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathfrak{g}} = \mu_L^{-1}(\mathcal{S}) \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mathcal{Z}_{\mathfrak{g}}} = \overline{\mu}_L^{-1}(\mathcal{S}).$$

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- Each diagram is a fibrewise compactification.
- The compactifying spaces  $\overline{Z_g}$  and  $\overline{G \times S}$  are related to *Hessenberg* varieties.

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#### • (e, h, f) our principal $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple



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# The basics

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- m annihilator of [u, u] with respect to the Killing form
  Note: m is B-invariant, where B is the Borel subgroup of G with Lie algebra b.

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  Note: m is B-invariant, where B is the Borel subgroup of G with Lie algebra b.
- $\mathfrak{m}$  is a *B*-module  $\rightsquigarrow$  *G*-equivariant vector bundle  $G \times_B \mathfrak{m} \to G/B$

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# The basics

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### Proposition

- (i)  $G \times_B \mathfrak{m}$  is naturally a Poisson variety.
- (ii) The action  $G \circlearrowright G \times_B \mathfrak{m}$  is Hamiltonian with moment map

$$\nu: G \times_B \mathfrak{m} \to \mathfrak{g}, \quad [g, x] \mapsto \mathrm{Ad}_g(x).$$

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- (iii) If  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  is regular and nilpotent, then  $\nu^{-1}(x)$  is isomorphic to the Peterson variety.

Hessenberg varieties

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#### Corollary

If  $x \in S$ , then there is a canonical variety isomorphism  $\nu^{-1}(x) \cong \overline{G_x}$ .

## Some new results

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Hessenberg varieties

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Recall that we have  $\nu : G \times_B \mathfrak{m} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  and  $\overline{\mu}_L : \overline{G \times S} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ .



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Hessenberg varieties

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### Corollary

If  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ , then there is a canonical closed embedding  $\nu^{-1}(x) \to \overline{G}$ .