

# $n$ -transposition groups and vertex operator algebras

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**Lie algebras, vertex algebras and automorphic forms**

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# $n$ -transposition group

$G = \langle D \rangle$  : group

$D$  : normal subset of involutions in  $G$  (union of conjugacy classes)

**Definition**  $(G, D)$  :  $n$ -transposition group

$$\begin{aligned} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \quad & \forall a, b \in D \quad \exists k \leq n \text{ s.t. } (ab)^k = 1 \\ & (\exists x, y \in D \text{ s.t. order of } xy = n) \end{aligned}$$

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**Targets**

$M$       $(n = 6)$

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$Fi_{24}$       $(n = 3)$

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## Targets

$M$      $(n = 6)$      $\rightsquigarrow$     affine  $E_8$ -diagram

$B$      $(n = 4)$      $\rightsquigarrow$     affine  $E_7$ -diagram

$Fi_{24}$      $(n = 3)$      $\rightsquigarrow$     affine  $E_6$ -diagram

# Outline

- Notation and Terminology
- Automorphisms of VOA
- Miyamoto involutions
- Sakuma's theorem
- $n$ -transposition property ( $n = 6, 4, 3$ )
- Application to the sporadic simple finite groups
- Automorphisms of commutant subalgebras

# Notation and Terminology

$(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{Y}(\cdot, z), \mathbb{1}, \omega)$  : Vertex Operator Algebra (VOA)

$\mathbf{V} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbf{V}_n$  :  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$

$\mathbf{Y}(\cdot, z) : \mathbf{V} \otimes \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{V}((z))$  : vertex operator map

$$\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{a}, z)\mathbf{b} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbf{a}_{(n)}\mathbf{b} z^{-n-1}$$

$\mathbb{1}$  : the vacuum vector       $\mathbf{V}_0 = \mathbb{R}\mathbb{1}$

$\omega$  : the conformal vector       $\omega \in \mathbf{V}_2, \quad \mathbf{Y}(\omega, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbf{L}(n)z^{-n-2}$

$$\implies [\mathbf{L}(m), \mathbf{L}(n)] = (m - n)\mathbf{L}(m + n) + \delta_{m+n,0} \frac{m^3 - m}{12} \mathbf{c}$$

# Notation and Terminology

$$e \in \mathbf{V}_2 : \text{Virasoro vector} \quad \left( Y(e, z) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} e_{(m)} z^{-m-1} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} L^e(n) z^{-n-2} \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} e_{(1)}e = 2e$$

$$\iff Y(e, z)Y(e, w) \sim \frac{c_e}{2(z-w)^4} + \frac{2Y(e, w)}{(z-w)^2} + \frac{\partial_w Y(e, w)}{(z-w)}$$

$$\iff [L^e(m), L^e(n)] = (m-n)L^e(m+n) + \delta_{m+n,0} \frac{m^3 - m}{12} c_e$$

$$(\mathbf{U}, e) : \text{sub VOA} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \begin{cases} \mathbf{U} : \text{subalgebra} \ni \mathbb{1} \\ e \in \mathbf{U}_2 : \text{Virasoro vector} \\ (\mathbf{U}, Y(\cdot, z)|_{\mathbf{U}}, \mathbb{1}, e) : \text{VOA} \end{cases}$$

$e \in \mathbf{V} : \text{Virasoro vector}$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathbf{Vir}(e) : \text{Virasoro sub VOA generated by } e$

# Commutant subalgebra (a.k.a. coset construction)

$\mathbf{V} : \text{VOA} \supset \mathbf{U} : \text{sub VOA}$

$$\mathbf{Com}_{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{U}) := \{a \in \mathbf{V} \mid [\mathbf{Y}(a, z_1), \mathbf{Y}(u, z_2)] = 0 \text{ for } \forall u \in \mathbf{U}\}$$

$$\implies \mathbf{Com}_{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{U}) : \text{sub VOA} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{U} \otimes \mathbf{Com}_{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{U}) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{V}$$

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**Example** [GKO] (unitary Virasoro VOAs)

$$\mathbf{V}_{k+1}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \subset \mathbf{V}_k(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \otimes \mathbf{V}_1(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{Com}_{\mathbf{V}_k(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \otimes \mathbf{V}_1(\mathfrak{sl}_2)}(\mathbf{V}_{k+1}(\mathfrak{sl}_2)) \simeq \mathbf{L}(c_k, 0) \text{ (simple Virasoro VOA)}$$

$$\text{where } c_k = 1 - \frac{6}{(k+2)(k+3)}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad c_2 = \frac{7}{10}, \quad c_3 = \frac{4}{5}, \quad c_4 = \frac{6}{7}, \quad \dots$$

# Automorphisms of VOA

$\mathbf{V}$  : simple VOA       $\mathbf{G} < \mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{V})$  : finite subgroup

$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}$  :  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant subalgebra

$\chi \in \text{Irr}(\mathbf{G})$        $\mathbf{M}_{\chi}$  : irr  $\mathbf{G}$ -mod affording  $\chi$

$$\implies \mathbf{V} = \bigoplus_{\chi \in \text{Irr}(\mathbf{G})} \mathbf{M}_{\chi} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{M}_{\chi}, \mathbf{V}) \quad \curvearrowright \quad \mathbf{G} \otimes \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}$$

$\mathbf{V}_{\chi} := \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{M}_{\chi}, \mathbf{V})$  :  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}$ -module

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**Theorem** [Dong-Li-Mason]

$$(1) \mathbf{V}_{\chi} \neq \mathbf{0} \quad (\forall \chi \in \text{Irr}(\mathbf{G})) \quad (2) \mathbf{V}_{\chi} \simeq \mathbf{V}_{\mu} \iff \chi = \mu$$

$$(3) \mathbf{V}_{\chi} : \text{irr } \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}\text{-module} \quad (\implies \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}} : \text{simple subalgebra})$$

# Galois theory

**Theorem** [Dong-Mason, Hanaki-Miyamoto-Tambara]

$\{ \text{subgroups of } \mathbf{G} \} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \{ \text{subalgebras of } \mathbf{V} \supset \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}} \}$

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The simplest case :  $\mathbf{G} = \langle g \rangle$  let  $\zeta = e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}/|g|}$

$$\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}^0 \oplus \mathbf{V}^1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{V}^{|g|-1}$$

$$g : 1 \quad \zeta \quad \dots \quad \zeta^{|g|-1}$$

$\mathbf{V}^0 = \mathbf{V}^{\langle g \rangle}$  : simple sub VOA

$\mathbf{V}^i$  : ineq irr  $\mathbf{V}^0$ -submod

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathbf{V} & = & \mathbf{V}^0 & \oplus & \mathbf{V}^1 & \oplus & \dots \oplus \mathbf{V}^{|g|-1} \\ g & : & 1 & & \zeta & & \dots \zeta^{|g|-1} \end{array}$$

$\mathbf{V}^0 = \mathbf{V}^{\langle g \rangle}$  : simple sub VOA       $\mathbf{V}^i$  : ineq irr  $\mathbf{V}^0$ -submod

$\implies$  any finite automorphism of  $\mathbf{V}$  is induced by an irreducible decomposition w.r.t. its simple sub VOA

# Miyamoto involution

**Definition**  $e$  : Ising vector  $\iff \mathbf{Vir}(e) \simeq L(1/2, 0)$

**Fact** irr  $L(1/2, 0)$ -mod :  $L(1/2, 0)$ ,  $L(1/2, 1/2)$ ,  $L(1/2, 1/16)$

Every  $L(1/2, 0)$ -mod is semisimple

$\implies \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_e(0) \oplus \mathbf{V}_e(1/2) \oplus \mathbf{V}_e(1/16)$  (isotypical decomposition)

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Define a linear automorphism  $\tau_e$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  by

$$\tau_e := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{on } \mathbf{V}_e(0) \oplus \mathbf{V}_e(1/2) \\ -1 & \text{on } \mathbf{V}_e(1/16) \end{cases}$$

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**Definition**  $e : \sigma\text{-type on } \mathbf{V} \iff \tau_e = \text{id}_{\mathbf{V}}$

$e \in \mathbf{V}^{\langle \tau_e \rangle} = \mathbf{V}_e(0) \oplus \mathbf{V}_e(1/2) \implies e : \sigma\text{-type on } \mathbf{V}^{\langle \tau_e \rangle}$

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**Theorem** [Miyamoto]  $\sigma_e \in \text{Aut}(\mathbf{V}^{\langle \tau_e \rangle})$

**Remark**  $e \in \mathbf{V} \subset \mathbf{W} \implies \tau_e \in \text{Aut}(\mathbf{W}) : \text{well-defined}$

(cf.  $r_\alpha \in \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{h}) \rightsquigarrow \tilde{r}_\alpha = e^{\text{ad}(f_\alpha)} e^{-\text{ad}(e_\alpha)} e^{\text{ad}(f_\alpha)} \in \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}(\mathbf{A}))$ )

However, "e is of  $\sigma$ -type on  $\mathbf{V}$ "  $\not\Rightarrow$  "e is of  $\sigma$ -type on  $\mathbf{W}$ "

# Generalization

$$c_m = 1 - \frac{6}{(m+2)(m+3)}, \quad c_1 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad c_2 = \frac{7}{10}, \quad c_3 = \frac{4}{5}, \quad c_4 = \frac{6}{7}, \dots$$

$e \in \mathbf{V}$  : simple  $c = c_m$  Virasoro vector  $(\mathbf{Vir}(e) \simeq \mathbf{L}(c_m, \mathbf{0}))$

$\mathbf{L}(c_m, \mathbf{0})$ -modules:  $\mathbf{L}(c_m, \mathbf{h}_{r,s}^{(m)})$  where

$$\mathbf{h}_{r,s}^{(m)} := \frac{(r(m+3) - s(m+2))^2 - 1}{4(m+2)(m+3)}, \quad 1 \leq s \leq r \leq m+1$$

$$\implies \mathbf{V} = \bigoplus_{1 \leq s \leq r \leq m+1} \mathbf{V}_e(\mathbf{h}_{r,s}^{(m)}) \quad (\text{isotypical decomposition})$$

$$\text{Define } \tau_e := \begin{cases} (-1)^{r+1} & \text{on } \mathbf{V}_e(\mathbf{h}_{r,s}^{(m)}) \quad (m : \text{even}) \\ (-1)^{s+1} & \text{on } \mathbf{V}_e(\mathbf{h}_{r,s}^{(m)}) \quad (m : \text{odd}) \end{cases}$$

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**Examples**

$(\text{Sym}_r, D = \{(ij) \mid 1 \leq i \neq j \leq r\})$  : 3-transposition group

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$\text{Fi}_{24}$  : Fischer's largest 3-transposition group

$\mathbb{M}$  : Monster ( $n = 6$ )

$\mathbb{B}$  : Babymonster ( $n = 4$ )

## 3-transposition property

$$\mathbf{V} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbf{V}_n : \text{VOA (over } \mathbb{R})$$

If  $\mathbf{V}_1 \neq 0 \implies \langle \mathbf{V}_1 \rangle : \text{affine VOA, } \mathbf{V} : \hat{\mathfrak{g}}\text{-mod, } \exp(\mathfrak{g}) \subset \text{Aut}(\mathbf{V})$

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**Theorem** [Miyamoto]

$\langle \sigma_e \in \mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{V}) \mid e : \sigma\text{-type Ising vector} \rangle : \text{3-transposition group}$

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**Remark** Miyamoto involutions are normal,

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**Theorem** [Matsuo]

$\langle \sigma_e \in \text{Aut}(\mathbf{V}) \mid e : \sigma\text{-type Ising vector} \rangle : \text{symplectic type } (\not\cong \text{Fi}_{24})$

# Sakuma's theorem

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Sub VOA generated by two Ising vectors are classified

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Dihedral VOAs :  $U_{1A}, U_{2A}, U_{3A}, U_{4A}, U_{5A}, U_{6A}, U_{4B}, U_{2B}, U_{3C}$

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Dihedral VOAs :  $U_{1A}, U_{2A}, U_{3A}, U_{4A}, U_{5A}, U_{6A}, U_{4B}, U_{2B}, U_{3C}$

$$U_{1A} = L(1/2, 0) \iff C_M(1A) = M$$

$$U_{2A} \supset L(1/2, 0) \otimes L(7/10, 0) \iff C_M(2A) = 2A.B$$

$$U_{3A} \supset L(4/5, 0) \otimes L(6/7, 0) \iff C_M(3A) = 3A.Fi_{24}$$

# 4-transposition property

Fix an Ising vector  $e \in \mathbf{V}$  and set

$$I := \{f \in \mathbf{V} \mid f : \text{Ising vector}, (e|f) = 2^{-5}\}$$

$$\mathbf{G} := \langle \tau_f \in \mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{V}) \mid f \in I \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{W} := \mathbf{Com}_{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{Vir}(e)) \subset \mathbf{V}$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_e : \mathbf{G} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{W}) \\ \mathbf{g} &\longmapsto \mathbf{g}|_{\mathbf{W}} \end{aligned}$$

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**Lemma**  $\varphi_e$  : well-defined group homomorphism

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**Lemma**  $\varphi_e$  : well-defined group homomorphism

**Theorem** [Höhn-Lam-Y]

$\langle \varphi_e(\tau_f) \in \mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{W}) \mid f \in I \rangle$  : 4-transposition group

# 3-transposition property

Fix an Ising vector  $e \in \mathbf{V}$  and set

$$\mathbf{J} := \{f \in \mathbf{V} \mid f : \text{Ising vector, } (e|f) = 13 \cdot 2^{-10}, (\underline{\dots})\}$$

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# Application to the sporadic simple groups

$V^{\natural}$  : the moonshine VOA over  $\mathbb{R}$  [FLM]

$V^{\natural} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} V_n^{\natural}$ ,  $V_0^{\natural} = \mathbb{R}1$ ,  $V_1^{\natural} = 0$ , has a pos def inv form

$\text{Aut}(V^{\natural}) = \mathbb{M}$  : Monster, the largest sporadic finite simple group

There are two conjugacy classes of involutions in  $\mathbb{M}$ :

$$C_{\mathbb{M}}(2A) \simeq 2.B \quad C_{\mathbb{M}}(2B) \simeq 2_{+}^{1+24}.Co_1$$

where  $A.B$  stands for an extension  $1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow A.B \rightarrow B \rightarrow 1$

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**Theorem** [Conway, Miyamoto, Matsuo, Höhn]

Ising vectors in  $V^{\natural} \ni e \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \tau_e \in \mathbb{M}$  : 2A-elements

$(\mathbb{M}, \{\tau_e\}_{e \in V^{\natural}})$  : 6-transposition group [Sakuma]

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Fix an Ising vector  $e \in V^{\natural}$

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Recall  $J = \{f \in V^{\mathfrak{h}} \mid f : \text{Ising vector}, (e|f) = 13 \cdot 2^{-10}, (\underline{\dots})\}$

$\rightsquigarrow a_{e,J} \in V^{\mathfrak{h}} : c = 4/5$  Virasoro vector

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**Proposition** [Höhn-Lam-Y]

$\mathbf{Aut}(\mathbf{VF}^{\natural}) \supset \mathbf{Fi}_{24}$  : the largest Fischer group

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{2C-elements of } \mathbf{Fi}_{24} & \xleftrightarrow{1:1} & \{\psi_{a_{e,J}}(\tau_f) \mid f \in J \subset V^{\natural}\} \\ & \xrightarrow{1:1} & L(6/7, \mathbf{0}) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{VF}^{\natural} \quad (\sigma\text{-type}) \end{array}$$

# McKay's observation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{M} \supset 2A\text{-elements} & \rightsquigarrow & \text{affine } E_8 \text{ diagram} \\ \updownarrow & & \updownarrow \\ \mathbb{L}(1/2, \mathbf{0}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{V}^{\sharp} & \longleftrightarrow & \mathbb{L}(1/2, \mathbf{0}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{V}_{\sqrt{2}E_8} \end{array}$$

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# Automorphisms of commutant subalgebras

$$N_M(5A) = D_{10} \times HN$$

$$\exists VH \subset V^\natural$$



$U_{5A}$  : known ( $W_5$ -algebra)

$$\text{Aut}(VH) \supset HN$$

$$N_M(3C) = \text{Sym}_3 \times Th$$

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To Be Continued!