NILMANIFOLDS AND ASSOCIATED LIE ALGEBRAS
OVER THE INTEGERS

Bohumil Cenkl and Richard Porter

NILMANIFOLDS AND ASSOCIATED LIE ALGEBRAS OVER THE INTEGERS

Bohumil Cenkl and Richard Porter

We consider the correspondence between nilmanifolds and Lie algebras with rational basis, and we define spectral sequences converging to the respective cohomologies. The E_2 terms of the spectral sequences are the cohomolgies of isomorphic graded Lie algebras.

Each nilmanifold gives rise to a Lie algebra with rational basis. We give an example which illustrates that not all such Lie algebras correspond to nilmanifolds. Given a Lie algebra with rational basis we give a construction that produces a nilmanifold with Lie algebra that is rationally equivalent to the starting Lie algebra.

0. Introduction.

In Section 1 we consider the correspondence between groups and Lie algebras over the reals and rationals. A nilmanifold is completely determined by its fundamental group — a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent group. In Section 2 we show how a nilmanifold determines a nilpotent Lie algebra with a finite rational basis; we give an example to illustrate that not every such Lie algebra comes from a nilmanifold. In Section 3 we define a spectral sequence for a nilmanifold. We prove that spectral sequence converges to the integer cohomology of the nilmanifold and has E_2 term isomorphic to the cohomolgy of a graded Lie algebra. In Section 4 we define the corresponding spectral sequence for the Lie algebra associated to a nilmanifold. The spectral sequence converges to the cohomology of the Lie algebra; the E_2 term is the cohomology of a graded Lie algebra, and if $\mathbb{A}$ is the smallest subring of the rationals containing the structure constants of the Lie algebra then with coefficients equal to $\mathbb{A}$ the E_2 terms of the spectral sequences of the nilmanifold and the Lie algebra are isomorphic. In Section 5 we give a construction of a nilmanifold from a nilpotent Lie algebra with finite rational basis; the Lie algebra associated to this nilmanifold is rationally equivalent to the original Lie algebra.

1. Nilmanifolds and corresponding Lie algebras over the reals and the rationals.

A nilmanifold is the quotient of a simply-connected Lie group by a uniform discrete subgroup. A uniform discrete subgroup can be identified with a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent group. We denote such a group by G. Let $\mathcal{G}_\mathbb{R}$ be a k-dimensional, connected, simply-connected, nilpotent Lie group. Then $\mathcal{G}_\mathbb{R}$ can be identified with its real Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{R}$ with bracket $[\ ,\ ]$. With respect to any basis $\{d_1, \ldots, d_k\}$ for $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{R}$, the group $\mathcal{G}_\mathbb{R}$ can be identified with the set of elements $\xi_1 d_1 + \cdots + \xi_k d_k, \xi_j \in \mathbb{R}$, in $\mathbb{R}^k$. The Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{R}$ has real structure constants and the group structure $*$ on $\mathcal{G}_\mathbb{R}$ (as well as on any subgroup) is given by the Campbell-Hausdorff formula:

Using the notation $ad(x)(y) = [x,y], ad^2(x)(y) = ad(x)([x,y]) = [x[x,y]], \ldots$ we can write

(1)
$$x * y = z(x,y),$$

$$z(x,y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} z_n(x,y),$$

$$z_n(x,y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p+q=n} (z'_{p,q} + z''_{p,q}), \qquad \text{where}$$

$$z'_{p,q} = \sum_{\substack{p_1+\cdots+p_m=p \\ q_1+\cdots+q_{m-1}=q-1 \\ p_i+q_i\geq 1, p_m\geq 1}} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{m} \frac{ad^{p_1}(x)ad^{q_1}(y)\cdots ad^{p_m}(x)(y)}{p_1!q_1!\cdots p_m!},$$

$$z''_{p,q} = \sum_{\substack{p_1+\cdots+p_m=p \\ q_1+\cdots+q_{m-1}=q-1 \\ p_i+q_i\geq 1, p_m\geq 1}} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{m} \frac{ad^{p_1}(x)ad^{q_1}(y)\cdots ad^{p_{m-1}}(y)(x)}{p_1!q_1!\cdots q_{m-1}!}.$$

It is easy to find the first three homogeneous components of z. Namely,

$$z_1(x,y) = x + y,$$

$$z_2(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}[x,y],$$

$$z_3(x,y) = \frac{1}{12}[x,[x,y]] + \frac{1}{12}[y,[y,x]].$$

It is clear that $z(x,0) = x, z(0,y) = y$, and $z(z(w,x),y) = z(w,z(x,y))$.

Malcev [3] showed that a group $\mathcal{G}_\mathbb{R}$ contains a uniform discrete subgroup G if and only if there is a basis for $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{R}$ with rational structure constants. Let $\{d_1, \ldots, d_k\}$ be such a *rational basis*. Then the set of elements

$$\xi_1 d_1 + \cdots + \xi_k d_k, \qquad \xi_j \in \mathbb{Q},$$

has the structure of a Lie algebra $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{Q}}$. $\mathcal{L}$ as a subset of $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{R}}$ has group structure given by the Campbell-Hausdorff formula. We denote this group by $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$. Since $\mathcal{L}$ is a nilpotent Lie algebra, a rational basis for $\mathcal{L}$ can be chosen so that $\{d_i, \ldots, d_k\}$ is a basis for an ideal $\mathcal{L}^i$ of $\mathcal{L}$, with $[\mathcal{L}^i, \mathcal{L}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{i+1}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{k+1} = 0$. Such a basis is called a *canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$*. It follows from the Jacobi identity that

$$[\mathcal{L}^i, \mathcal{L}^j] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{i+j} \tag{2}$$

for $i, j \geq 1$. In particular, the bracket on $\mathcal{L}$ induces a graded Lie algebra structure on $\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \mathcal{L}^i / \mathcal{L}^{i+1}$.

Let $\mathcal{G}$ be the group on the set of elements

$$(x_1 d_1) * \cdots * (x_k d_k), \qquad x_j \in \mathbb{Q},$$

with group structure given by the map $*$. The elements

$$(x_i d_i) * \cdots * (x_k d_k)$$

generate a normal subgroup $\mathcal{G}^i$ of the group $\mathcal{G}$.

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}^1 > \mathcal{G}^2 > \cdots > \mathcal{G}^k > 1$$

is a central series. The commutator $(a, b) = a^{-1} b^{-1} ab$ for any $a \in \mathcal{G}$ and $b \in \mathcal{G}^i$ belongs to $\mathcal{G}^{i+1}$, and the quotient groups $\mathcal{G}^i / \mathcal{G}^{i+1}$ are isomorphic to $\mathbb{Q}$.

Proposition 1 ([**3**]). *The groups $\mathcal{G}$ and $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ are isomorphic. The isomorphism is given by the maps*

$$\mathcal{G} \underset{\psi}{\overset{\varphi}{\rightleftarrows}} \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}, \qquad (x_1 d_1) * \cdots * (x_k d_k) \underset{\psi}{\overset{\varphi}{\rightleftarrows}} \xi_1 d_1 + \cdots + \xi_k d_k,$$

where

$$\xi_j = x_j + \varphi_j(x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}) \quad and \quad x_j = \xi_j + \psi_j(\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{j-1})$$

are rational polynomials.

Proof. See [**3**]. □

The explicit formulas for φ and ψ follow from the Campbell-Hausdorff formula.

Note that the maps φ and ψ give one-to-one maps of sets

$$\mathcal{G}^i \underset{\psi}{\overset{\varphi}{\rightleftarrows}} \mathcal{L}^i, \qquad i = 1, 2, \ldots, k.$$

The group $\mathcal{G}$, as a set, can be identified with $\mathbb{Q}^k$ via the map $e : \mathcal{G} \to \mathbb{Q}^k$ given by

$$e : (x_1 d_1) * \cdots * (x_k d_k) \longrightarrow x = (x_1, \ldots, x_k).$$

e induces on $\mathbb{Q}^k$ a group structure by the operation

$$x \cdot y = e(e^{-1} x * e^{-1} y).$$

It follows that

(3) $$x \cdot y = \rho(x, y) = (\rho_1(x, y), \dots, \rho_k(x, y)),$$

where the ρ'_js are rational polynomials of the form

$$\rho_j(x, y) = x_j + y_j + \tau_j(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{j-1})$$
$$= x_j + y_j + \sigma_j(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, y_1, \cdots, y_{j-1}) + \cdots,$$

and where $\sigma_j = \sigma_j(x_1, \dots, y_{j-1})$ denotes the quadratic part of τ_j. Then $\mathbb{Q}^k$ can be given a Lie algebra structure with bracket $[\ ,\ ]$ defined by setting

$$[x, y] = \sigma(x, y) - \sigma(y, x), \quad \text{where } \sigma(x, y) = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k).$$

This bracket on $\mathbb{Q}^k$ induces the original Lie algebra structure on $\mathcal{L}\ (= \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}})$ via the maps e, φ, and ψ.

2. Finitely-generated torsion-free nilpotent groups.

Let G be a torsion-free, nilpotent group on k generators. A set of elements $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ of G is called a *canonical basis for G* if every element of G can be expressed in the form

$$g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k}, \qquad x_j \in \mathbb{Z},$$

so that the elements of the form $g_i^{x_i} \cdots g_k^{x_k}$ generate a normal subgroup G^i of G, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, with the quotients G^i/G^{i+1} being infinite cyclic.

Any such group is isomorphic to a uniform discrete subgroup of the real Lie group $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{R}}$. This isomorphism is given as the composition of maps

$$G \xrightarrow{\ i\ } \mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\ \varphi\ } \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\text{inclusion}} \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{R}},$$

where

$$i(g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_k^{x_k}) = x_1 g_1 * \cdots * x_k g_k,$$

and

$$\varphi(x_1 g_1 * \cdots * x_k g_k) = \xi_1 g_1 + \cdots + \xi_k g_k.$$

As in Proposition 1, it follows that $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ is a canonical basis for the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$. Note that while the x'_js are integers the ξ'_js are rational numbers in general. Furthermore, recall that $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathcal{L}$ and $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{R}} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{R}}$ as sets. We identify G with its image $i(G)$ in $\mathcal{G}$. Thus we have:

(i) G is the subgroup of $\mathcal{G}$ consisting of the elements

$$(x_1 g_1) * \cdots * (x_k g_k), \qquad x_j \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

(ii) The groups $\mathcal{G}_i = G \cap \mathcal{G}^i$ of the elements

$$(x_i g_i) * \cdots * (x_k g_k), \qquad x_j \in \mathbb{Z}$$

are normal subgroups of G.

(iii) The quotient groups $\mathcal{G}_i/\mathcal{G}_{i+1}$ are infinite cyclic.
(iv) The $\mathbb{Z}$ module $\bigoplus_{i\geq 1} \mathcal{G}_i/\mathcal{G}_{i+1}$ has a graded Lie algebra structure induced by the commutators on G. This Lie algebra structure is induced from that on $\bigoplus_{i\geq 1} \mathcal{L}^i/\mathcal{L}^{i+1}$ by the map $\varphi \circ i : G \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}$.
(v) The group G, as a set, can be identified with $\mathbb{Z}^k \subset \mathbb{Q}^k$ via the map $i \circ e$. The group structure on $\mathbb{Z}^k$ in (3) is induced by e. Therefore, the rational polynomials ρ_j are $\mathbb{Z}$-valued polynomials when restricted to $\mathbb{Z}^k \times \mathbb{Z}^k$. Each polynomial $\rho_j(x,y)$ can be written as a sum (over $\mathbb{Z}$) of binomials

$$\binom{x_1}{a_1}\binom{x_2}{a_2}\cdots\binom{x_r}{a_r}\binom{y_1}{b_1}\binom{y_2}{b_2}\cdots\binom{y_s}{b_s},$$

with a_u, b_v nonnegative integers, $r, s \leq j$, where not all a'_us and not all b'_vs are equal to zero and also as sum (over $\mathbb{Q}$) of polynomials (see [1]).

Thus, we can consider the group $\mathbb{Z}^k$ with the group operation given by (3). We denote by $\mathbb{G}$ the image of $\mathbb{Z}^k$ in $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ under the one-to-one map

$$ch = \varphi \circ e^{-1} : \mathbb{Z}^k \longrightarrow \mathbb{G} \subset \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

Recall that, given a canonical basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ for G, $\mathcal{G}^k$ is the set of elements $\xi_1 g_1 + \cdots + \xi_k g_k$, where $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$ are certain rational numbers. $\mathcal{G}^k$ with the operation $*$ given by the Campbell-Hausdorff formula is a group. It is important to note that the sequence of rational numbers $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$ is not an arbitrary sequence of rational numbers; it depends on the choice of a canonical basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ for G. Once a canonical basis is chosen then $\xi_j = x_j + \varphi_j(x_1, \dots, x_{j-1})$, where the x_u's are integers and the rational polynomials φ_j are determined by the Lie algebra bracket.

We summarize our observations as follows:

Proposition 2. *Let G be a torsion-free nilpotent group on k generators, and let $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ be a canonical basis for G. Then the group G is isomorphic to the group $\mathbb{Z}^k$ with the group operation defined by*

$$(4) \qquad\qquad x \cdot y = ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y)),$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k), y = (y_1, ..., y_k)$ and where $*$ is given by the Campbell-Hausdorff formula (1).

In order to illustrate the type of rational numbers $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$ that can occur, we look again at a classical example.

Example 1 (The Heisenberg group)**.** Let G be the group of matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_3/k \\ 0 & 1 & a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{where } a_j \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } k \text{ is a fixed integer} > 0.$$

Then

$$\left\{ g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \; g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \; g_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1/k \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

is a canonical basis, and

$$g_1^{x_1} g_2^{x_2} g_3^{x_3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & (x_3/k) + x_1 x_2 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}$ is a canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$, $[g_1, g_2] = kg_3$, and $[g_i, g_j] = 0$ otherwise. We have

$$ch(x) = x_1 g_1 + x_2 g_2 + \left(x_3 + \frac{k}{2} x_1 x_2 \right) g_3, \qquad x = (x_1, x_2, x_3);$$

therefore,

$$\xi_1 = x_1, \quad \xi_2 = x_2, \quad \xi_3 = x_3 + \frac{k}{2} x_1 x_2.$$

It can be checked that the group structure on $\mathbb{Z}^3$ is given by (4). Namely,

$$\begin{aligned} ch(x) * ch(y) =& (x_1 + y_1)g_1 + (x_2 + y_2)g_2 \\ & + \left((x_3 + y_3 - ky_1 x_2) + \frac{k}{2}(x_1 + y_1)(x_2 + y_2) \right) g_3 \\ =& \varphi\big(((x_1 + x_2)g_1) * ((y_1 + y_2)g_2) * ((x_3 + y_3 - ky_1 x_2)g_3) \big) \\ =& \varphi \circ e^{-1}(x \cdot y) \\ =& ch(x \cdot y). \end{aligned}$$

As was mentioned above, a canonical basis for G determines a canonical basis for the rational Lie algebra. However, the converse is not always true. A canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$ is not always a canonical basis for G. This fact is demonstrated by the next example. We will see later that given a canonical basis for a Lie algebra, there is always a *rationally* equivalent basis that is induced by a canonical basis of the corresponding group.

Example 2. Let $\mathcal{L}$ be the Lie algebra over $\mathbb{Z}$ with generators $g_1, \ldots, g_7$ and with product given by

$$\begin{aligned} &[g_1, g_2] = g_4 - g_5, \\ &[g_1, g_3] = g_4 + g_5, & [g_2, g_3] = g_5, \\ &[g_1, g_4] = g_6, & [g_2, g_4] = g_6, & [g_3, g_4] = g_7, \\ &[g_1, g_5] = g_6, & [g_2, g_5] = g_7, \\ &[g_1, g_5] = g_6, \\ &[g_i, g_j] = 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{L}$ is a nilpotent finitely-generated Lie algebra with no torsion elements. The set $\{g_1, \ldots, g_7\}$ forms a canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$ with $\{g_i, \ldots, g_7\}$ a basis for the ideal $\mathcal{L}^i$. We want to show that $\{g_1, \ldots, g_7\}$ can not be a canonical

basis for a finitely-generated torsion-free nilpotent group whose associated Lie algebra is $\mathcal{L}$. The idea is the following. Assuming that $\{g_1, \ldots, g_7\}$ is such a canonical basis we show that there are elements $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^7$ such that $ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y))$ fails to be a sequence of seven integers.

Let $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_7) \in \mathbb{Z}^7$. Then $ch(x) \in \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
ch&(x) \\
&= \varphi(x_1 g_1 * \cdots * x_7 g_7) \\
&= x_1 g_1 + x_2 g_2 + x_3 g_3 \\
&\quad + (x_4 + 1/2(x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3)) g_4 + (x_5 + 1/2(-x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_3)) g_5 \\
&\quad + (x_6 + 1/12(-x_1 x_2^2 + 2x_1^2 x_3 + 2x_1 x_2 x_3 + 6x_1 x_4 + 6x_2 x_4 + 6x_2 x_5)) g_6 \\
&\quad + (x_7 + 1/12(x_1 x_2^2 - x_1 x_3^3 + x_2^2 x_3 - 2x_1 x_2 x_3 + 6x_3 x_4 + 6x_2 x_5)) g_7
\end{aligned}
$$

and there is a similar formula when x is replaced by $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_7)$.

Now we assume that there is a sequence of integers $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_7) \in \mathbb{Z}^7$ such that $ch(z) = ch(x) * ch(y)$. A routine computation shows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
z_i &= x_i + y_i, \qquad i = 1, 2, 3, \\
z_4 &= x_4 + y_4 - x_2 y_1 - x_3 y_1, \\
z_5 &= x_5 + y_5 + x_2 y_1 - x_3 y_1 - x_3 y_2, \\
z_6 &= x_6 + y_6 - x_4 y_1 - x_4 y_2 - x_5 y_1 \\
&\quad + x_2 y_1 y_2 + x_3 y_1 y_2 + x_3 y_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} x_2^2 y_1 \\
z_7 &= x_7 + y_7 - x_5 y_2 - x_4 y_3 - x_2 y_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1 y_2 \\
&\quad + x_3 y_1 y_3 + x_2 x_3 y_1 + \frac{1}{2} x_3^2 y_1 - \frac{1}{2} x_2^2 y_1 \frac{1}{2} x_3 y_2^2.
\end{aligned}
$$

From here it is immediate that for x and y such that $x_2 = 1, x_j = 0, j \neq 2$ and $y_1 = 1, y_i = 0, i \neq 1$ we get $z_6 = 1/2$ and $z_7 = -1/2$. Thus, the cannonical basis $\{g_1, \ldots, g_7\}$ for $\mathcal{L}$ is not induced by a cannonical basis for any group.

However, it is possible to find a nilpotent torsion-free Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}'$ on seven generators $e_1, \ldots, e_7$ over $\mathbb{Z}$ such that $\mathcal{L}$ and $\mathcal{L}'$ are isomorphic over $\mathbb{Q}$ (but not over $\mathbb{Z}$) and that the generators $e_1, \ldots, e_7$ are induced by a canonical basis for a torsion-free nilpotent group on 7 generators and that $\mathcal{L}'$ is the corresponding Lie algebra. Such a Lie algebra is the following:

Example 3. Let $\mathcal{L}'$ be the Lie algebra over $\mathbb{Z}$ with generators $e_1, \dots, e_7$ and products

$$[e_1, e_2] = 2e_4 - 2e_5,$$
$$[e_1, e_3] = 4e_4 + 4e_5, \qquad [e_2, e_3] = 2e_5,$$
$$[e_1, e_4] = 2e_6, \qquad\qquad [e_2, e_4] = e_6, \quad [e_3, e_4] = 2e_7,$$
$$[e_1, e_5] = 2e_6, \qquad\qquad [e_2, e_5] = e_7,$$
$$[e_i, e_j] = 0 \qquad\qquad\quad \text{otherwise.}$$

In this case for $x = (x_1, \dots, x_7)$ and $y = (y_1, \dots, y_7)$ from $\mathbb{Z}^7$, $ch(x)$ and $ch(y)$ belong to $\mathbb{G}^7 \subset \mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$,

$ch(x)$

$= x_1 e_1 + x_2 e_2 + x_3 e_3$

$\quad + (x_4 + 2x_1 x_3 + x_1 x_2)e_4 + (x_5 + 2x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_3 - x_1 x_2)e_5$

$\quad + 1/12(12x_6 + 12x_1 x_4 + 6x_2 x_4 + 12x_1 x_5 + 8x_1 x_2 x_3 + 16x_1^2 x_3 - 2x_1 x_2^2)e_6$

$\quad + 1/12(12x_7 + 12x_3 x_4 + 6x_2 x_5 - 8x_1 x_2 x_3 - 8x_1 x_3^2 + 2x_2^2 x_3 + 2x_1 x_2^2)e_7$.

There are similar formulas for $ch(y)$. The group structure on $\mathbb{Z}^7$ is given by the formula $z = ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y))$,

$z_1 = x_1 + y_1,$

$z_2 = x_2 + y_2,$

$z_3 = x_3 + y_3,$

$z_4 = x_4 + y_4 - 2x_2 y_1 - 4x_3 y_1$

$z_5 = x_5 + y_5 + 2x_2 y_1 - 4x_3 y_1 - 2x_3 y_1$

$z_6 = x_6 + y_6 - 2x_4 y_1 - x_4 y_2 - 2x_5 y_1 + 2x_2 y_1 y_2 + 4x_3 y_1 y_2 + 8x_3 y_1^2 + x_2^2 y_1$

$z_7 = x_7 + y_7 - x_5 y_2 - x_4 y_3 - 2x_2 y_1 y_2 + 4x_2 y_1 y_3 + 4x_3 y_1 y_2 + 8x_3 y_1 y_3$

$\qquad + 4x_2 x_3 y_1 + 4x_3^2 y_1 - x_2^2 y_1 + x_3 y_2^2.$

Thus, the group G' whose Lie algebra is $\mathcal{L}'$ is the set of elements of the form $e_1^{x_1} * \cdots * e_7^{x_7}$ with the product given by the above formulas.

Given a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent Lie Algebra over the integers, there is a family of Lie algebras over the integers that are equivalent to it over the rationals. All such algebras can be provided with canonical bases. However, as we have seen in Example 2, not all such bases are determined by a canonical basis for a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent group. It seems natural to ask the following question: Suppose that we are given a finitely-generated nilpotent Lie algebra over the integers. Can we find a finitely-generated torsion-free nilpotent group and a canonical basis for such a group so that its associated Lie algebra is a Lie algebra over the integers that is rationally equivalent to the original one? It turns out that it

is possible. In the last part of this paper we describe a procedure for finding such a group.

3. The spectral sequence for polynomial cochains.

In this part we start with a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent group G with a canonical basis. The induced Lie algebra is a Lie algebra over the rationals together with the induced canonical basis. In [**1**] we proved that the integral cohomology of G is isomorphic to the cohomology of the differential algebra $P(G)$ of rational polynomial maps from $\mathbb{Z}^k$ to $\mathbb{Z}$, where k is the number of generators of the group G. The differential on $P(G)$ is induced by the group structure on $\mathbb{Z}$. In this section we use the structure of the group G to define a filtration on $P(G)$, and study the resulting spectral sequence. Starting with the sequence of normal subgroups of G, $G = G^1 > G^2 > \cdots > G^k > 1$, denote by i_1 the largest positive integer such that G^1/G^{i_1+1} is a torsion-free, abelian group and by i_2 the largest positive integer such that G^{i_1+1}/G^{i_2+1} is a torsion-free, abelian group. Inductively, let $0 = i_0 < i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_{N-1} < i_N = k$ be the largest positive integers such that $G^{i_{j-1}+1}/G^{i_j+1}, j = 1, 2, \ldots, N-1$, are torsion-free, abelian groups. Then

$$G = G_1 > G_2 > \cdots > G_{N+1} = 1, \quad G_{j+1} = G^{i_j+1}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, N-1$$

is the shortest central series with torsion-free quotients. Then φ maps this sequence of normal subgroups to a sequence of ideals of the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 \supset \mathcal{L}_2 \supset \cdots \supset \mathcal{L}_{N+1} = 0, \qquad \mathcal{L}_{j+1} = \mathcal{L}^{i_j+1},$$
$$\varphi\,(G_j) \subset \mathcal{L}_j, \qquad j = 1, 2, \ldots, N.$$

From (4) it follows that the commutators induce a Lie algebra structure on the $\mathbb{Z}$-module gr $G = \oplus_{j \geq 1} G_j/G_{j+1}$. The Lie bracket $[\,,\,]$ on $\mathcal{L}$ induces a Lie algebra structure on the $\mathbb{Q}$-module gr $\mathcal{L} = \oplus_{j \geq 1} \mathcal{L}_j/\mathcal{L}_{j+1}$. In addition the graded Lie algebras gr $G \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ and gr $\mathcal{L}$ are isomorphic. The isomorphism is induced by φ.

For the remainder of this paper, we assume that the canonical basis $\{g_1, \ldots, g_k\}$ for G is such that $\{g_1, \ldots, g_{i_1}\}$ projects to a basis for G_1/G_2; $\{g_{i_1+1}, \ldots, g_{i_2}\}$ projects to a basis for G_2/G_3; and in general

$$\{g_{i_{j-1}+1}, \ldots, g_{i_j}\} \quad \text{projects to a basis for } G_j/G_{j+1}.$$

To each basis element g_j of g we assign a *weight* as follows. If g_j projects to a basis element for G_r/G_{r+1}, then its weight is $|g_j| = r$. In particular, $|g_{i_{r-1}+1}| = \cdots = |g_{i_r}| = r$ for $r = 1, 2, \ldots$, and for every rational number q we set

$$|qg_j| = |g_j|.$$

Furthermore,

$$|g_r + g_s| = \max\{|g_r|, |g_s|\}.$$

Since a canonical basis for G induces a canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$, we set the weight of an element g_j of $\mathcal{L}$ to be the weight of g_j considered as an element of G.

From (2) it follows that for any two elements of the canonical basis $g_r \in \mathcal{L}_a$, $g_s \in \mathcal{L}_b$ the Lie bracket is

$$[g_r, g_s] = \sum_{j \geq r+s} q_j^{r,s} g_j,$$

where $q_j^{r,s} \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $g_j \in \mathcal{L}_{a+b}$. Thus,

$$\big|[g_r, g_s]\big| \geq |g_r| + |g_s|.$$

The above summation goes over all j such that

$$|g_j| \geq |g_r| + |g_s|.$$

Next we assign a weight to each binomial map $\mathbb{Z}^k \to \mathbb{Z}$ according to the rules:

$$|x_j| = |g_j|,$$

$$\left| \binom{x_j}{a} \right| = a|x_j|, \qquad a = 0, 1, 2, \ldots,$$

$$\left| p\binom{x_j}{a} \right| = \left| \binom{x_j}{a} \right| \quad \text{for any integer } p \neq 0,$$

$$|u + v| = \max\{|u|, |v|\},$$

$$|uv| = |u| + |v|.$$

Analogously, we assign a weight to each monomial map $\mathbb{Z}^k \to \mathbb{Z}$ as follows:

$$|x_j| = |g_j|,$$

$$|x_j^a| = a|x_j|,$$

$$|qx_j| = |x_j| \quad \text{for any rational number } q \neq 0,$$

$$|u + v| = \max\{|u|, |v|\},$$

$$|uv| = |u| + |v|.$$

Observe that each binomial of weight w is a sum of monomials of weight $\leq w$ and that each monomial of weight w is a sum of binomials of weight $\leq w$.

Lemma 1. *Let the group structure on G be induced by the $\cdot$-product (3). Then each $\rho_j(x, y)$ is a sum (over $\mathbb{Z}$) of binomials. $\rho_j(x, y)$ can be also expressed as a sum (over $\mathbb{Q}$) of monomials of weight $\leq |g_j|$, $j = 1, 2, \ldots$.*

Proof. Because the group structure on $\mathbb{Z}^k$ is given by restricting the $*$-product from $\mathcal{G}$ to $e^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}^k)$, it follows that the statement is proved if we verify that

$$|\rho_j(x, y)| \leq |g_j|, \qquad j = 1, 2, \ldots, k$$

for every $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^k$.

Equivalently, it suffices to show that the above inequality is satisfied in the product formula on $\mathcal{G}$,

$$((x_1g_1) * \cdots * (x_kg_k)) * ((y_1g_1) * \cdots * (y_kg_k)) = (\rho_1(x,y)g_1 * \cdots * \rho_k(x,y)g_k).$$

But the maps $\varphi, \psi; \mathcal{G} \overset{\varphi}{\underset{\psi}{\rightleftarrows}} \mathcal{L}$ are such that

$$\psi(\xi_1g_1 + \cdots + \xi_kg_k)$$
$$= (\xi_1g_1) * \cdots * (\xi_j + \psi_j(\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{j-1}))g_j * \cdots * (\xi_k + \psi_k(\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{k-1}))g_k,$$
$$\varphi(x_1g_1 * \cdots * x_kg_k)$$
$$= x_1g_1 + \cdots + (x_j + g_j(x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}))g_j + \cdots + (x_k + g_k(x_1, \ldots, x_{k-1}))g_k,$$

where

$$|\xi_j + \psi_j(\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{j-1})| \leq |\xi_j| = |g_j|$$

and

$$|x_j + \varphi_j(x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1})| \leq |x_j| = |g_j|.$$

It follows that the statement is proved if we show that the product in $\mathcal{L}$, given by (1)

$$\xi * \eta = (\xi_1g_1 + \cdots + \xi_kg_k) * (\eta_1g_1 + \cdots + \eta_kg_k)$$
$$= (\beta_1(\xi, \eta)g_1 + \cdots + \beta_k(\xi, \eta)g_k)$$

holds with $\beta_j(\xi, \eta) = \beta_j(\xi_1, \ldots, \xi_{j-1}, \eta_1, \ldots, \eta_{j-1})$ and $|\beta_j(\xi, \eta)| \leq |g_j|$ for $j = 1, 2, \ldots, k$. But

$$\beta_j(\xi, \eta) = \xi_j + \eta_j + \frac{1}{2}[\xi, \eta]_j + \cdots.$$

Hence, it is enough to verify that $|[\xi, \eta]_j| \leq |g_j|$ if $|\xi_j| \leq |g_j|$ and $|\eta_j| \leq |g_j|$ for all $j = 1, 2, \ldots$.

Since

$$[g_r, g_s] = \sum_{j \geq r+s} a_j^{r,s} g_j, \qquad a_j^{r,s} \in \mathbb{Q},$$

where the sum is over all $g'_j s$ such that $|g_j| \geq |g_r| + |g_s|$ and

$$[\xi, \eta] = \sum_{r,s=1}^{k} \sum_{j \geq r+s} \xi_r \eta_s a_j^{r,s} g_j,$$

the result follows from the identities

$$\left|[\xi, \eta]_j\right| = \left| \sum_{\substack{1 \le r,s \le k \\ r+s \le j}} \xi_r \eta_s a_j^{r,s} \right|$$
$$\le \max_{\substack{1 \le r,s \le k \\ r+s \le j}} \{|\xi_r \eta_s a_j^{r,s}|\}$$
$$= \max\{|\xi_r \eta_s|\}$$
$$= \max\{|\xi_r| + |\eta_s|\}$$
$$\le \max\{|g_r| + |g_s|\} \le |g_j|.$$

$\square$

Recall from [1] that an element of $P^n(G)$, $n \ge 1$, is given as a linear combination, with integral coefficients, of the binomials

$$\prod_{\substack{1 \le i \le k \\ 1 \le j \le n}} \binom{x_{ij}}{a_{ij}},$$

where the a'_{ij}s are nonnegative integers. $P^0(G) = \mathbb{Z}$. The differential d on $P(G)$, as a derivation, is completely determined by its values on $P^1(G)$. On a typical binomial

$$u = \binom{x_1}{a_1}\binom{x_2}{a_2}\cdots\binom{x_k}{a_k}$$

in $P^1(G)$

$$(5) \qquad du = \binom{y_1}{a_1}\cdots\binom{y_k}{a_k} + \binom{z_1}{a_1}\cdots\binom{z_k}{a_k} - \binom{\rho_1}{a_1}\cdots\binom{\rho_k}{a_k},$$

where $\rho_j = y_j + z_j + \tau_j$, or more explicitly

$$\rho_j(y_1, \dots, y_j, z_1, \dots, z_j) = y_j + z_j + \tau_j(y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}, z_1, \dots, z_{j-1}),$$

where τ_j is a polynomial of degree ≥ 2. To each polynomial cochain u in $P(G)$ we assign a nonnegative integer $\|u\|$ called its *norm*, according to the following rules:

$$\|q g_i\| = \|g_i\| \quad \text{for any rational number } q,$$
$$\left\|\binom{x_i}{a}\right\| = a\|x_i\| \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k,$$
$$\left\|p\binom{x_i}{a}\right\| = \left\|\binom{x_i}{a}\right\| \quad \text{for any integer } p,$$
$$\|uv\| = \|u\| + \|v\|,$$
$$\|u + v\| = \max\{\|u\|, \|v\|\} \quad \text{for any } u \in P^i(G), v \in P^j(G).$$

Lemma 2. *The polynomial functions ρ_j and τ_j have their norms bounded from above. Namely,*

$$\|\rho_j(x_1,\dots,x_j,y_1,\dots,y_j)\| \le |g_j| - 1,$$
$$\|\tau_j(x_1,\dots,x_{j-1},y_1,\dots,y_{j-1})\| \le |g_j| - 2.$$

Proof. $\rho_j(x_1,\dots,x_j,y_1,\dots,y_j) = x_j + y_j + \tau_j(x_1,\dots,x_{j-1},y_1,\dots,y_{j-1})$, where τ_j is a sum of binomials

$$\beta = \binom{x_{i_1}}{a_{i_1}} \cdots \binom{x_{i_r}}{a_{i_r}} \binom{y_{j_1}}{b_{j_1}} \cdots \binom{y_{j_s}}{b_{j_s}},$$

$r \ge 1$, $s \ge 1$, with integer coefficients. The norm of such a binomial β is

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\beta\| &= \sum a_u \|x_u\| + \sum b_v \|y_v\| \\
&= \sum a_u(|x_u| - 1) + \sum b_v(|y_v| - 1) \\
&\le \left(\sum a_u |x_u| + \sum b_v |y_v| \right) - 2 \\
&= |\beta| - 2 \\
&\le |\rho_j| - 2 \\
&\le |g_j| - 2
\end{aligned}$$

according to Lemma 1. Therefore, $\|\tau_j\| \le |g_j| - 2$. Since $\|\rho_j\| = \max\{\|x_j\|, \|\beta\|\}$ over all binomials β in ρ_j, it follows that $\|\rho_j\| = \|x_j\|$. Hence, $\|\rho_j\| = |g_j| - 1$. $\qquad\square$

Using the norm $\| \ \|$, we define a filtration on $P(G)$ by setting

$$F^i = F^i P(G) = \{u \in P(G) | \ \|u\| \le i\}, \qquad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$
$$F^0 \subset F^1 \subset F^2 \subset \cdots F^{i-1} \subset F^i \subset \cdots \subset P(G).$$

This filtration has the following properties:

Lemma 3.   (i) *Under the cup product on chains*

$$F^i \times F^j \longrightarrow F^{i+j}.$$

(ii) *The differential d on $P(G)$ preserves the filtration; i.e.,*

$$dF^i \subset F^i.$$

Proof.   (i) follows immediately from the definition.
(ii) follows once we verify that for every binomial $u \in F^i$, $du \in F^i$.
Let

$$u = \binom{x_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{x_k}{a_k}.$$

Then du is given by formula (5) above. Note that

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} y_k \\ a_k \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j(|g_j| - 1) \leq i$$

and

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} z_k \\ a_k \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j(|g_j| - 1) \leq i.$$

And according to Lemma 2,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} \rho_k \\ a_k \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j \|\rho_j\| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j(|g_j| - 1),$$

which is $\leq i$, by the assumption. Therefore, $\|du\| \leq i$. Hence, $du \in F^i$. $\quad\square$

3.1. E_0 and E_1-terms of the spectral sequence. Let $\{E_r, d_r\}$ be the spectral sequence corresponding to the filtration $\{F^i\}$. In particular, we have

$$E_0 = F^i/F^{i-1}.$$

Let p be the projection $F^i \to E_0$. The next step is to compute E_1. Since $d_0 = pd$ and because each element of F^i is an integral linear combination of binomials, we look more closely at the last term in formula (5) for du, where $u \in F^i$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} \rho_k \\ a_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 + z_1 + \tau_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} y_k + z_k + \tau_k \\ a_k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\prod_{j=1}^{k} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} y_j + z_j \\ a_j \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \tau_j \\ a_j \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{r=1}^{a_j-1} \begin{pmatrix} y_j + z_j \\ r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau_j \\ a_j - r \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Observe that

$$\|\tau_j\| \leq |g_j| - 2$$

by Lemma 2. Therefore,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} \tau_j \\ a_j \end{pmatrix} \right\| = a_j \|\tau_j\| < a_j(|g_j| - 1)$$

and

$$\left\| \sum_{r=1}^{a_j-1} \binom{y_j + z_j}{r} \binom{\tau_j}{a_j - r} \right\|$$

$$= \max_{1 \le r \le a_j - 1} \left\| \binom{y_j + z_j}{r} \binom{\tau_j}{a_j - r} \right\|$$

$$= \max_{1 \le r \le a_j - 1} \{r\|y_j + z_j\| + (a_j - r)\|\tau_j\|\}$$

$$= \max_{1 \le r \le a_j - 1} \{r\|y_j\| + (a_j - r)\|\tau_j\|, r\|z_j\| + (a_j - r)\|\tau_j\|\}$$

$$= \max_{1 \le r \le a_j - 1} \{r\|y_j\| + (a_j - r)\|\tau_j\|\}$$

since $\|y_j\| = \|z_j\|$. Because $\|y_j\| = |g_j| - 1$ and $\|\tau_j\| < |g_j| - 1$, the last term is strictly smaller than

$$\max_{1 \le r \le a_j - 1} \{(r + (a_j - r))(|g_j| - 1)\} = a_j(|g_j| - 1).$$

Therefore, the binomial $\binom{\rho_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{\rho_k}{a_k}$ has the form

$$\binom{\rho_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{\rho_k}{a_k} = \prod_{j=1}^{k} \{X_j + T_j\},$$

where

$$\|X_j\| = a_j(|g_j| - 1), \qquad \|T_j\| < a_j(|g_j| - 1).$$

But

$$\prod_{j=1}^{k} (X_j + T_j) = \prod_{j=1}^{k} X_j + \sum T_{i_1} \cdots T_{i_r} X_{j_1} \cdots X_{j_{k-r}},$$

where the sum is over all sequences $i_1, \ldots, i_r$ of elements from $1, 2, \ldots, k$ of length $r \ge 1$ and where $j_1, \ldots, j_{k-r}$ is the complementary sequence. Observe that

$$\left\| \sum T_{i_1} \cdots T_{i_r} X_{j_1} \cdots X_{j_{k-r}} \right\|$$

$$= \max_{\text{(all sequences)}} \{\|T_{i_1} \cdots X_{j_{k-r}}\|\}$$

$$< \max_{\text{(all sequences)}} \{a_{i_1}(|g_{i_1}| - 1) + \cdots + a_{i_r}(|g_{i_r}| - 1)$$

$$+ a_{j_1}(|g_{j_1}| - 1) + \cdots + a_{j_{k-r}}(|g_{j_{k-r}}| - 1)\}$$

which is strictly smaller than i by the assumption that $u \in F^i$. Therefore,

$$d_0 u = p \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^{k} \binom{y_j}{a_j} + \prod_{j=1}^{k} \binom{z_j}{a_j} - \prod_{j=1}^{k} \binom{y_j + z_j}{a_j} \right\}$$

or $d_0 u = p d_1 u$, where $d_1 u = 0$ for $u = \binom{x_i}{1}$ when $1 \le i \le k$ and

$$d_1 u = -\prod_{j=1}^{k} \prod_{r=1}^{a_j-1} \binom{y_j}{r} \binom{z_j}{a_j - r},$$

when $a_j \ge 2$. But this is the differential on $P^1(A)$, when A is the $\mathbb{Z}$-module $G_1/G_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus G_j/G_{j+1} \oplus \cdots$ considered as an abelian group. Using the results of [**1**], we obtain:

Theorem 1. *The E_1-term of the spectral sequence $\{E_r, d_r\}$ is isomorphic to the exterior algebra $\bigwedge_{\mathbb{Z}}(\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_k)$ on one-dimensional generators.*

3.2. E_2-term of the spectral sequence. Since the terms of the spectral sequence are algebras, it is sufficient to find the value of d_1 on the generators $\overline{x}_j$ of $\bigwedge_{\mathbb{Z}}(\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_k)$. If x_j, $\|x_j\| = i$, is a representative of $\overline{x}_j$ then $d_1 \overline{x}_j$ will be determined by the projection of dx_j into the submodule of $P(G)$ of elements whose norm is $i - 1$.

From the definition of d on $P(G)$ it follows that

$$dx_j = -\tau_j(y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}, z_1, \dots, z_{j-1}),$$

where

$$\tau_j(y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}, z_1, \dots, z_{j-1})$$
$$= \sum c(a_1, \dots, a_{j-1}, b_1, \dots, b_{j-1}) \binom{y_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{y_{j-1}}{a_{j-1}} \binom{z_1}{b_1} \cdots \binom{z_{j-1}}{b_{j-1}},$$

where the coefficients $c(\cdots)$ are integers and at least two of the nonnegative integers $a_1, \dots, b_{j-1}$ are nonzero. Note that

$$\left\| \binom{y_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{z_{j-1}}{b_{j-1}} \right\| = \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t \|y_t\| + b_t \|z_t\|)$$
$$= \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t)(|g_t| - 1)$$
$$= \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t)|g_t| - \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t).$$

We are looking for the sequences of nonnegative integers $a_1, \dots, a_{j-1}$, $b_1, \dots, b_{j-1}$ such that

$$\left\| \binom{y_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{y_{j-1}}{a_{j-1}} \binom{z_1}{b_1} \cdots \binom{z_{j-1}}{b_{j-1}} \right\| = i - 1 = |g_j| - 2.$$

From the above identity, it follows that such sequences satisfy

$$\sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t)|g_t| - \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) = |g_t| - 2.$$

But from Lemma 1, it follows that

$$\left| \binom{y_1}{a_1} \cdots \binom{z_{j-1}}{b_{j-1}} \right| = \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t |y_t| + b_t |z_t|) = \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) |g_t| \le |g_j|.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{t-1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) |g_t| = \sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) + |g_j| - 2 \le |g_j|.$$

Hence, we must have

$$\sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) \le 2.$$

But if $\sum_{t=1}^{j-1}(a_t + b_t) \le 1$, then there cannot be two nonzero integers among $a_1, \dots, b_{j-1}$. Hence,

$$\sum_{t=1}^{j-1} (a_t + b_t) = 2.$$

But then exactly one of the a_t's and exactly one of the b_t's must be equal to 1 and all the other integers must be equal to 0. Therefore, $d_1 \overline{x}_j$ is determined by the terms in τ_j of the form

$$\sum_{r,s=1}^{j-1} c_j^{r,s} x_r y_s, \qquad c_j^{r,s} \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where

$$\|x_r y_s\| = \|x_r\| + \|y_s\| = |g_j| - 2.$$

Theorem 2. *The E_2-term of the spectral sequence $\{E_r, d_r\}$ is isomorphic to the integral cohomology of the graded Lie algebra*

$$\mathrm{gr} G = \bigoplus_{j \ge 1} G_j / G_{j+1}.$$

4. The spectral sequence for the Lie algebra cochains.

Let G be a finitely-generated, torsion-free, nilpotent group with canonical basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$. We denote by $\mathbb{A}$ the smallest subring of the rationals containing the structure constants of the corresponding Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$. Let $\{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_k\}$ be the $\mathbb{A}$-dual of the canonical basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ of $\mathcal{L}$. The algebra of $\mathbb{A}$-valued cochains on $\mathcal{L}$ is isomorphic to the exterior algebra

$$\bigwedge (\mathcal{L}^*) = \bigwedge{}_{\mathbb{A}} \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_k\},$$

$\mathcal{L}^* = \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{A}}(\mathcal{L}, \mathbb{A})$. Recall that there is a pairing

$$\langle\,,\,\rangle : \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L}^*) \otimes \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{A},$$

such that for every $v^* = v_1^* \wedge \cdots \wedge v_r^* \in \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L}^*)$ and any $v = v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_r \in \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L})$

$$\langle v^*, v \rangle = \det(\langle v_i^*, v_j \rangle).$$

In particular, for every $f \in \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L}^*)$ and $g \in \bigwedge^s(\mathcal{L}^*)$, $f \wedge g \in \bigwedge^{r+s}(\mathcal{L}^*)$ and

$$\langle f \wedge g, v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_{r+s} \rangle$$
$$= \sum_{r,s \text{ shuffle}} (\operatorname{sgn}\pi)\langle f, v_{\pi(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge v_{\pi(r)} \rangle\langle g, v_{\pi(r+1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge v_{\pi(r+s)} \rangle.$$

For every $\omega = a_1\omega_1 + \cdots + a_k\omega_k$, $a_j \in \mathbb{A}$, the differential $d : \mathcal{L}^* \longrightarrow \bigwedge^2 \mathcal{L}^*$ takes the form

$$d\omega = a_1\omega_1 + \cdots + a_r\omega_k$$

and extends to the map $d : \bigwedge^r(\mathcal{L}^*) \longrightarrow \bigwedge^{r+1}(\mathcal{L}^*)$ as a derivation.

Let $\|\;\|$ be the norm on $\bigwedge_{\mathbb{A}}(\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_k)$ defined by the formulas

$$\|\omega_j\| = |g_j| - 1, \qquad \|q\omega_j\| = \|\omega_j\| \quad \text{for } q \in \mathbb{A},$$
$$\|u^* \wedge v^*\| = \|u^*\| + \|v^*\|,$$
$$\|u^* + v^*\| = \max\{\|u^*\| + \|v^*\|\}.$$

Using this norm, we define an ascending filtration on $\bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*)$ by setting

$$\mathcal{F}^i = \mathcal{F}^i \bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*) = \left\{ v^* \in \bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*) \mid \|v^*\| \leq i \right\}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{F}^0 \subset \mathcal{F}^1 \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{F}^i \subset \mathcal{F}^{i+1} \subset \cdots \subset \bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*).$$

Lemma 4. *The differential d on $\bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*)$ lowers the filtration.*

Proof. Since d is a derivation it suffices to verify that if $\|\omega_j\| = i$, then $\|d\omega_j\| < i$. But

$$\|d\omega_j\| = \max\{\|\omega_r\| + \|\omega_s\|\}$$
$$= \max\{\|g_r\| + \|g_s\|\},$$

where the max is taken over all pairs $\|g_r\| + \|g_s\| \leq \|g_j\| - 1 < \|g_j\| = i$. Thus, $d\mathcal{F}^i \subset \mathcal{F}^{i-1}, i \geq 1$. $\qquad\square$

4.1. $\mathcal{E}_0$, $\mathcal{E}_1$, and $\mathcal{E}_2$ terms of the spectral sequence for Lie algebra cochains. We denote by $\{\mathcal{E}_r, d_r\}$ the spectral sequence associated with the above filtration. In particular, let

$$\mathcal{E}_0^i = \mathcal{F}^i / \mathcal{F}^{i-1},$$

and let $p : \mathcal{F}^i \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^i/\mathcal{F}^{i-1}$ be the projection. Set $\overline{\omega}_j^* = p\omega_j^*$. Then d_0 on the element $\overline{\omega}_j$ with $\|\omega_j\| = i$ is determined by those elements in $d\omega_j$ which have norm exactly equal to i. But $\|\omega_j\| \leq i - 1$. Hence, $d_0 \equiv 0$.

Lemma 5. $\mathcal{E}_1$ *is isomorphic to the exterior algebra* $\bigwedge_{\mathbb{A}}(\overline{\omega}_1, \ldots, \overline{\omega}_k)$ *on generators of dimension one.*

The differential d on $\bigwedge(\mathcal{L}^*)$ is dual to the Lie bracket in the sense that

$$\langle d\omega_j, g_r \wedge g_s \rangle = -\langle \omega_j, [g_r, g_s] \rangle$$
$$= -\sum q_i^{r,s} \langle \omega_j, g_i \rangle$$
$$= -\sum_{u<v} q_j^{u,v} \langle \omega_u \wedge \omega_v, g_r \wedge g_s \rangle.$$

Note that the first summation is always zero if $|g_j| < |g_r| + |g_s|$ because $|g_r| + |g_s| \leq |g_i|$ and $\langle \omega_j, g_i \rangle = 0$ whenever $|g_j| < |g_i|$. Hence,

$$d\omega_j = -\sum_{r<s} q_j^{r,s} \omega_r \wedge \omega_s$$

with $|g_r| + |g_s| \leq |g_j|$ or $|\omega_r| + |\omega_s| \leq |\omega_j|$, when $|\omega_i| = \|\omega_i\| + 1$.

The differential d_1 on $\overline{\omega}_j \in \bigwedge_{\mathbb{A}}(\overline{\omega}_1, \ldots, \overline{\omega}_k)$ is determined by the terms in ω_j of the form

$$\sum_{r<s} q_j^{r,s} \omega_r \wedge \omega_s,$$

where $\|g_r\| + \|g_s\| = \|g_j\| - 1$ or equivalently $|g_r| + |g_s| = |g_j|$. This implies:

Theorem 3. *The $\mathcal{E}_2$-term of the spectral sequence $\{\mathcal{E}_r, d_r\}$ is isomorphic to the cohomology of the graded Lie algebra*

$$\operatorname{gr} \mathcal{L} = \bigoplus_{j \geq 1} (\mathcal{L}_j / \mathcal{L}_{j+1} \otimes \mathbb{A}).$$

Suppose that the group G is two-stage nilpotent, and let $G = G_1 > G_2 > 1$ be the shortest central series with torsion free quotients. Let $\{g_1, \ldots, g_k\}$ be a canonical basis such that $\{g_1, \ldots, g_i\}$ projects to a basis for G_1/G_2 and $\{g_{i+1}, \ldots, g_k\}$ projects to a basis for G_2. Then $\{g_1, \ldots, g_k\}$ determines a canonical basis for the induced Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$. We use the same symbols for the canonical bases of the group and its associated Lie algebra. Then there is a sequence of ideals of $\mathcal{L}$, $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 \supset \mathcal{L}_2 \supset 0$ and the subset $\{g_1, \ldots, g_i\}$ of the canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$ projects to a basis for $\mathcal{L}_1/\mathcal{L}_2$ and the subset $\{g_{i+1}, \ldots, g_k\}$ projects to a basis for $\mathcal{L}_2$.

Note that for the elements of the canonical basis for G and $\mathcal{L}$, the norm is

$$\|g_a\| = 0 \quad \text{for } a = 1, \dots, i; \qquad \|g_b\| = 1 \quad \text{for } b = i + 1, \dots, k,$$

and there are no elements of norm higher than 1. Note that the differential dx_j on x_j in $P^1(G)$ can be written in the form

$$dx_j = \delta_0(x_j) + \delta_1(x_j) + \cdots + \delta_r(x_j) + \cdots,$$

where $\delta_r(x_j)$ is the element of the submodule of $P(G)$ whose norm is $\|x_j\| - r$. The differential d_r in the spectral sequence E_r for the group G is determined by $\delta_r(x_j)$. Thus, in the case of a two-stage nilpotent group $d_r = 0$ for $r \geq 2$. A similar argument shows that the differentials d_r for $r \geq 2$ for the Lie algebra spectral sequence $\mathcal{E}_r$ are also zero. Therefore, the spectral sequence $\{E_r, d_r\}$ converges to

$$H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}); \quad \text{i.e., } E_2 \cong E_\infty \cong \mathrm{gr}H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}),$$

where $\mathrm{gr}H^*(G; \mathbb{Z})$ is the graded module associated with the filtration $\{F^i\}$ of $P(G)$. If the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$ is a Lie algebra over the integers, then $\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{Z}$ and we can also conclude that the spectral sequence $\{\mathcal{E}_r, d_r\}$ converges to $H^*(\mathcal{L}; \mathbb{Z})$; i.e.,

$$\mathcal{E}_2 \cong \mathcal{E}_\infty \cong \mathrm{gr}H^*(\mathcal{L}; \mathbb{Z}).$$

Therefore, from Theorem 2 and Theorem 3 we obtain:

Corollary 1. *Let G be a two-stage, nilpotent, finitely-generated, torsion-free group, and let $\mathcal{L}$ be its Lie algebra such that $\mathcal{L}$ is a Lie algebra over the integers. Then there is an isomorphism of graded modules*

$$\mathrm{gr}H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathrm{gr}H^*(\mathcal{L}; \mathbb{Z}).$$

If we do not assume that G is a two-stage nilpotent group and that the associated Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$ is over the integers, then we get the following:

Corollary 2. *Let $\mathbb{A}$ be the smallest subring of rationals containing the structure constants of the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$. Then there is an isomorphism of $\mathbb{A}$-modules*

$$E_2 \otimes \mathbb{A} \cong \mathcal{E}_2 \cong H^*(\mathrm{gr}\mathcal{L}; \mathbb{A}).$$

The conclusion of Corollary 1 is valid even for certain (perhaps for all) three-stage, nilpotent, finitely-generated, torsion-free groups. However, the argument based only on the length of lower central series used in the proof of the Corollary 1 is not sufficiently strong to prove the statement. An explicit computation of the E_2-term and of the differential d_2 is needed even in the example below.

Example 3 (continued). Let G' and $\mathcal{L}'$ be the group and its associated Lie algebra as stated above. Recall that $\{g_1, \dots, g_7\}$ is a canonical basis for G' and also for $\mathcal{L}'$ (as we keep the same notation for both). The shortest

lower central series with torsion-free quotients is $G = G_1 > G_2 > G_3 > 1$. Then $\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}$ projects to a basis of G_1/G_2, $\{g_4, g_5\}$ projects to a basis of G_2/G_3, and $\{g_6, g_7\}$ projects to a basis of G_3. The Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}'$ is filtered by the ideals $\mathcal{L}' = \mathcal{L}'_1 \supset \mathcal{L}'_2 \supset \mathcal{L}'_3 \supset 0$ with appropriate quotients. The weights are $\|g_1\| = \|g_2\| = \|g_3\| = 0$, $\|g_4\| = \|g_5\| = 1$, $\|g_6\| = \|g_7\| = 2$.

Since the comparison of Theorems 2 and 3 implies that the E_2-term of the spectral sequence for the group G' and the $\mathcal{E}_2$-term of the spectral sequence for the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}'$ are isomorphic $\mathbb{Z}$-modules, it suffices to compute only one of them. We choose to compute the $\mathcal{E}_2$-term for $\mathcal{L}'$.

Let $\{\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_7\}$ be the $\mathbb{Z}$-dual basis of the canonical basis $\{g_1, \ldots, g_7\}$ of $\mathcal{L}'$. Then the exterior algebra

$$\bigwedge = \bigwedge(\mathcal{L}'^* = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathcal{L}', \mathbb{Z})) = \bigwedge(\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_7)$$

is filtered and graded. The elements $\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_7$ have dimension one and filtration $\|\omega_1\| = \|\omega_2\| = \|\omega_3\| = 0$, $\|\omega_4\| = \|\omega_5\| = 1$, $\|\omega_6\| = \|\omega_7\| = 2$. The increasing filtration on the $\mathbb{Z}$-module $\bigwedge^q$ of elements of $\bigwedge$ of dimension q is defined as the sequence of modules

$$\mathcal{F}^p \bigwedge^q = \{\omega \in \bigwedge^q \mid \|\omega\| \leq p\}.$$

Setting $\mathcal{F}_{-p} \bigwedge^q = \mathcal{F}^p \bigwedge^q$, we get a descending filtration

$$\mathcal{F}_0 \bigwedge^q \subset \mathcal{F}_{-1} \bigwedge^q \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{F}_{-p+1} \bigwedge^q \subset \cdots \subset \bigwedge^q.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{E}_0^{-p,q} = \mathcal{F}_{-p} \bigwedge^{q-p} / \mathcal{F}_{-p+1} \bigwedge^{q-p}$$

with $d_0 = 0$. Thus, $\mathcal{E}_1^{-p,q} \cong \mathcal{E}_0^{-p,q}$ and d_1 is determined by the full differential d on $\bigwedge$. From the explicit formulas below we can see that $\|d\omega_j\| = \|\omega_j\| - 1$. Since the differential d is dual to the Lie bracket, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
d\omega_1 &= d\omega_2 = d\omega_3, \\
d\omega_4 &= 2\omega_2\omega_1 + 4\omega_3\omega_1, \\
d\omega_5 &= -2\omega_2\omega_1 + 4\omega_3\omega_1 + 2\omega_3\omega_2, \\
d\omega_6 &= 2\omega_4\omega_1 + 2\omega_5\omega_1 + \omega_4\omega_2, \\
d\omega_7 &= \omega_5\omega_2 + 2\omega_4\omega_3.
\end{aligned}$$

Then an explicit computation shows that

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{0,q} = 0, \qquad 4 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-1,q} = 0, \qquad q = 2, \qquad 5 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-2,q} = 0, \qquad q = 3, \qquad 7 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-3,q} = 0, \qquad q \leq 5, \qquad 9 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-4,q} = 0, \qquad q \leq 7, \qquad 10 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-5,q} = 0, \qquad q \leq 9, \qquad 12 \leq q,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-6,q} = 0, \qquad q \leq 10$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2^{-p,q} = 0, \qquad p \geq 7.$$

d_2 is determined by that part of the differential d that lowers the filtration by two. But in our case d lowers the filtration only by one. Thus $d_2 = 0$, and $\mathcal{E}_\infty \cong \mathcal{E}_2 \cong \mathrm{gr} H^*(\mathcal{L}'; \mathbb{Z})$. But, that is not the case for the differential d on $P(G')$. That differential does have a component that lowers the degree by two. However, since there is an isomorphism $E_2 \cong \mathcal{E}_2$ of the second terms of the spectral sequences for the group G' and for the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}'$, $d_2 = 0$ for dimensional reasons in all cases except possibly for $d_2 : E_2^{-2,4} \longrightarrow E_2^{0,3}$ because $E_2^{-2,4} \cong \mathcal{E}_2^{-2,4} \cong \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$, where α is represented by the element $\omega_5\omega_4 - 4\omega_6\omega_1 - 3\omega_6\omega_2 - 2\omega_6\omega_3 - 4\omega_7\omega_1 - 2\omega_7\omega_2$, and $E_2^{0,3} \cong \mathcal{E}_2^{0,3} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2[\beta]$, where β is represented by $\omega_3\omega_2\omega_1$. In order to compute the differential d_2 we need an explicit form of the isomorphism $E_2 \cong \mathcal{E}_2$. This isomorphism is induced by the map sending ω_j to the polynomial x_j in $P(G')$ and the products $\omega_{j_1}\omega_{j_2} \cdots \omega_{j_s}$ to the monomials $x_{j_1}x_{j_2} \cdots x_{j_s}$ where $j_1 > j_2 > \cdots > j_s$. The technique of [1] is then used to show that $d_2 = 0$. Thus, $E_3 \cong E_2$ and $d_3 = 0$ for dimensional reasons. In fact all the higher differentials are also zero for dimensional reasons. Then we get $E_\infty \cong \mathrm{gr} H^*(G'; \mathbb{Z})$ and the comparison of Theorems 2 and 3 gives $\mathrm{gr} H^*(G'; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathrm{gr} H^*(\mathcal{L}'; \mathbb{Z})$.

5. Construction of a group from a Lie algebra.

In his section we describe a method for generating examples of groups starting with Lie algebras. More precisely, let $\mathcal{L}$ be a nilpotent torsion-free Lie algebra over $\mathbb{Z}$ on a finite set of generators $\{g_1, \ldots, g_k\}$. Our aim is to find a torsion-free nilpotent group G on k generators whose associated Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}(G)$ is a Lie algebra over the integers. Then a canonical basis for G induces a canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}(G)$ and the group structure on G is determined via the group structure on $\mathbb{Z}^k$ by the formula $x \cdot y = ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y))$. In some instances $\mathcal{L}(G) = \mathcal{L}$ (see Example 1 and Example 3). Example 2 shows that it is not always the case. We will show below that there is always a

group G such that $\mathcal{L}(G)$ is rationally equivalent to $\mathcal{L}$. However, G is not uniquely determined by $\mathcal{L}$.

Starting with a Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$ with a canonical basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$, we first check to see whether the basis is induced by a canonical basis of some group G.

Assume that G is the set of elements $g_1^{x_1} \dots, g_k^{x_k}$, $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \mathbb{Z}^k$. Then compute $ch(x)$ and $ch(y)$ for $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^k$. Note that $ch(x)$ is completely determined by the Lie algebra via the Campbell-Hausdorff formula (1), and hence, so is the product $ch(x) * ch(y)$. Since $ch : \mathbb{Z}^k \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}^k$ is a one-to-one map, it is enough to check whether or not $ch(x) * ch(y)$ has the form $ch(z)$ for some $z \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and for any choice of x and y. If the answer is yes, then G is the desired group and $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ is a canonical basis for G induced by the given basis $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ for $\mathcal{L}$. This was the case in Example 3.

However, if there are elements $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that $ch(x) * ch(y)$ is not equal to $ch(z)$ for some $z \in \mathbb{Z}^k$, then we proceed as follows: Let $\xi = \xi_1 g_1 + \cdots + \xi_k g_k$ and $\eta = \eta_1 g_1 + \cdots + \eta_k g_k$ be any two elements of $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{Q}$ = the Lie algebra $\mathcal{L}$ over $\mathbb{Z}$, considered as a Lie algebra over $\mathbb{Q}$; i.e., ξ_j, η_j are rational numbers. Then by (1)

$$\xi * \eta = \beta_1(\xi, \eta) g_1 + \cdots + \beta_k(\xi, \eta) g_k;$$
$$\beta_j(\xi, \eta) = \beta_j(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{j-1}, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{j-1}).$$

Let N_j be the smallest positive integer such that

$$\beta_j(\xi, \eta) = \frac{1}{N_j} B_j(\xi, \eta); \quad B_j(\xi, \eta) = B_j(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{j-1}, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{j-1}),$$

where $B_j(\xi, \eta)$ is a polynomial with integer coefficients. $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ is assumed to be a canonical basis for $\mathcal{L}$. Therefore, $\{g_j, \dots, g_k\}$ generates an ideal of $\mathcal{L}$, where $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 \supset \mathcal{L}_2 \supset \cdots$ is the shortest sequence of such ideals with abelian quotients. Then $\{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$ can be grouped into subsets such that $\{g_{i_{j-1}+1}, \dots, g_{i_j}\}$ projects to a basis for $\mathcal{L}_j / \mathcal{L}_{j+1}$, $j = 1, 2, \dots$. Then we define the norm of each such element $g_s, i_{j-1} \le s \le i_j$, to be $\|g_s\| = s - 1$. We assume that the norm satisfies the identities: $\|pg_j\| = \|g_j\|$ for any integer p, $1 \le j \le k$, and $\|u + v\| = \max\{\|u\|, \|v\|\}$ for any $u, v \in \mathcal{L}$.

Furthermore, we set $\|\xi_j\| = \|g_j\|, 1 \le j \le k$ and $\|\xi_r \xi_s\| = \|\xi_r\| + \|\xi_s\|$, for any polynomial variables. Therefore, $\|B_{j+1}(\xi, \eta)\| = \alpha_{i_1+1}\|\xi_{i_1+1}\| + \cdots + \alpha_j \|\xi_j\|$ (note that $\|\xi_1\| = \cdots = \|\xi_{i_1}\| = 0$). Denote the sum of the coefficients by

$$\varepsilon_j = \alpha_{i_1+1} + \cdots + \alpha_j.$$

Now we define the subset D of the $\mathbb{Q}$-vector space $\mathcal{L}_\mathbb{Q}$ to be the set of elements

$$\frac{m_1}{n_1} g_1 + \frac{m_2}{n_2} g_2 + \cdots + \frac{m_k}{n_k} g_k,$$

where $m_1, \ldots, m_k$ are arbitrary integers and

$$n_{j+1} = n_j^{\varepsilon_j} N_{j+1}, \qquad j = 1, 2, \ldots .$$

n_1 can be any nonzero integer. We choose $n_1 = 1$. It follows that the operation $*$ induces on D the structure of a group. D is a uniform discrete subgroup of the real Lie group $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbb{R}}$ and the quotient is a nilmanifold. The above construction of D is similar to that given by Malcev [**3**]. For different choices of a canonical basis for D we get different but rationally equivalent Lie algebras.

Now we make a choice of a canonical basis for D that the associated Lie algebra is a Lie algebra over the integers. Starting with the original canonical basis $\{g_1, \ldots, g_k\}$ for $\mathcal{L}$ we define

$$e_j = \frac{1}{n_j} g_j, \qquad j = 1, 2, \ldots, k.$$

Note that for every r and s, $[g_r, g_s] = \sum q_u^{r,s} g_u$, where the summation is over all u such that $\|g_r\| + \|g_s\| < \|g_u\|$. Therefore, $u > \max\{r, s, \}$. Hence,

$$
\begin{aligned}
[e_r, e_s] &= \frac{1}{n_r n_s}[g_r, g_s] = \frac{1}{n_r n_s} \sum q_u^{r,s} g_u \\
&= \frac{n_u}{n_r n_s} \sum q_u^{r,s} \frac{g_u}{n_u} = \frac{n_u}{n_r n_s} \sum q_u^{r,s} e_u,
\end{aligned}
$$

where the $q_u^{r,s}$ are integers and $\frac{n_u}{n_r n_s}$ is also an integer since $u > \max\{r, s\}$. Therefore, the new Lie algebgra $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}$ is a Lie algebra over the integers that is rationally equivalent to $\mathcal{L}$. Then the group G is defined as the set of elements $\{e_1^{x_1}, \ldots, e_k^{x_k}\}$ with the operation $(e_1^{x_1} \cdots e_k^{x_k}) \cdot (e_1^{y_1} \cdots e_k^{y_k}) = e_1^{z_1} \cdots e_k^{z_k}$ given by the formula $z = ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y))$.

Example 2 (continued). The new Lie algebra $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}$, in this case, has canonical basis $\{e_1 = g_1, e_2 = g_2, e_3 = g_3, e_4 = \frac{1}{2}g_4, e_5 = \frac{1}{2}g_5, e_6 = \frac{1}{12}g_6, e_7 = \frac{1}{12}g_7\}$ and bracket

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
[e_1, e_2] = 2e_4 - 2e_5 & & \\
[e_1, e_3] = 2e_4 + 2e_5 & [e_2, e_3] = 2e_5 & \\
[e_1, e_4] = 6e_6 & [e_2, e_4] = 6e_6 & [e_3, e_4] = 6e_7 \\
[e_1, e_5] = 6e_6 & [e_2, e_5] = 6e_7 & \\
[e_i, e_j] = 0 & \text{otherwise.} &
\end{array}
$$

The group G is the set of elements $\{e_1^{x_1}, \ldots, e_7^{x_7}\}$ with the product induced by the formula $ch^{-1}(ch(x) * ch(y))$.

References

[1] B. Cenkl and R. Porter, *Polynomial cochains on nilmanifolds*, preprint.

[2] P. Hall, *Nilpotent groups*, Queens Mary College, Mathematics Notes, 1969.

[3] A. Malcev, *On a class of homogeneous spaces*, Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR Ser. Mat., **13** (1949), 9-32 (Russian); English transl. in Math. USSR-Izv., **39** (1949).

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
BOSTON, MA 02115-5096
E-mail address: cenkl@neu.edu

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
BOSTON, MA 02115-5096
E-mail address: rdp@neu.edu