

On 2-plectic Lie groups

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Abstract. A 2-plectic Lie group is a Lie group endowed with a 2-plectic structure which is left invariant. In this paper we provide some interesting examples of 2-plectic Lie groups. Also we study the structure of the set of Hamiltonian covectors and vectors of a 2-plectic Lie algebra. Moreover, the existence of i -isotropic and i -Lagrangian subgroups are investigated. At last we obtain some results about the reduction of some 2-plectic structures.

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1 Introduction

A k -plectic manifold (M, ω) is a smooth manifold M endowed with a $(k + 1)$ -form ω which is closed and nondegenerate in the sense that $\iota_X \omega = 0$, $X \in TM$, implies that $X = 0$. In this case ω is called a k -plectic structure. These structures are general version of symplectic structures and they naturally appear in the Hamiltonian formulation of classical fields (see [4] and references therein). Mathematically, in spite of general case, symplectic structures are very interesting and so they have been studied extensively. However, in recent years, 2-plectic structures also have been considered and these structures also are studied extensively ([1], [8]). An important class of 2-plectic manifolds are 2-plectic Lie groups. Similar to symplectic case, a 2-plectic Lie group is defined as follows.

Definition 1.1. A 2-plectic Lie group (G, ω) is a Lie group G endowed with a 2-plectic structure ω which is left invariant.

In contrast to the symplectic case, there are a lot of canonical 2-plectic structures which are induced by quadratic forms and bialgebra structures (see below). However, symplectic Lie groups have been studied extensively ([2] and references therein). In this article we study 2-plectic Lie groups and since for simply connected Lie groups, the study of 2-plectic Lie groups reduces to the study of 2-plectic Lie algebras, we will study 2-plectic Lie algebras.

Definition 1.2. A 2-plectic Lie algebra (\mathfrak{g}, ω) is a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} equipped with a 2-plectic structure ω which is closed, in the sense that $\omega : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\omega(x, y, u, v) &= \omega([x, y], u, v) - \omega([x, u], y, v) + \omega([x, v], y, u) \\ &\quad - \omega([y, u], x, v) + \omega([y, v], x, u) - \omega(x, y, [u, v]) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

for all $x, y, u, v \in \mathfrak{g}$.

The structure of the paper is as follows: In section 2 we provide some important examples. In section 3 we introduce Hamiltonian covectors and vectors and study their structures. In section 4 we study the existence of isotropic and Lagrangian ideals and subalgebras. In the last section we consider the reduction of some 2-plectic structures.

2 Examples

In this section we provide some important examples of 2-plectic Lie groups.

Definition 2.1. Let $(\mathfrak{g}, [,]) be a Lie algebra. A bilinear form $B : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called$

- i) symmetric if $B(x, y) = B(y, x)$, for all $x, y \in \mathfrak{g}$,
- ii) nondegenerate if $B(x, y) = 0$, for all $y \in \mathfrak{g}$ implies $x = 0$,
- iii) invariant if $B([x, y], z) = -B(y, [x, z])$, for all $x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$.

If B is a bilinear form on \mathfrak{g} , which is symmetric, nondegenerate and invariant, then it is called a quadratic form and the pair (\mathfrak{g}, B) is called a quadratic Lie algebra. Quadratic form is a generalization of the Killing form. In general, a Lie algebra may not have a quadratic form. However, the existence and classifying quadratic forms on low dimensional Lie algebras has been studied extensively ([7], [6], [3]). Let (\mathfrak{g}, B) be a quadratic non Abelian Lie algebra and define the 3-form ω on \mathfrak{g} by

$$(2.1) \quad \omega(x, y, z) = B([x, y], z), \quad x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Since B is symmetric and invariant, then ω is totally skew symmetric and closed. But, in general, ω is not nondegenerate. Indeed, if $\omega(x, y, z) = 0$, for all $y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$, then $[x, y] = 0$, for all $y \in \mathfrak{g}$. So

$$\text{Ker } \omega = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} : \iota_x \omega = 0\} = \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}),$$

where $\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$ is the centre of \mathfrak{g} . However, ω induces a 2-plectic structure on $\bar{\mathfrak{g}} = \frac{\mathfrak{g}}{\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})}$.

Theorem 2.1. *The 3-form $\bar{\omega}$ on $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, defined by*

$$(2.2) \quad \bar{\omega}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = \omega(x, y, z), \quad x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$$

is a 2-plectic structure, where $\bar{x} = x + \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$.

Proof. Let $x_2 = x_1 + x_0, y_2 = y_1 + y_0, z_2 = z_1 + z_0$, where $x_0, y_0, z_0 \in \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\omega(x_2, y_2, z_2) &= \omega(x_1 + x_0, y_1 + y_0, z_1 + z_0) \\ &= \omega(x_1, y_1, z_1) + \omega(x_1, y_1, z_0) + \omega(x_1, y_0, z_1) \\ &\quad + \omega(x_1, y_0, z_0) + \omega(x_0, y_1, z_1) + \omega(x_0, y_1, z_0) \\ &\quad + \omega(x_0, y_0, z_1) + \omega(x_0, y_0, z_0).\end{aligned}$$

Since $x_0, y_0, z_0 \in \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$ and $\omega(x, y, z) = B([x, y], z)$, then all terms of the last equation, except the first one, are zero. Hence, $\omega(x_2, y_2, z_2) = \omega(x_1, y_1, z_1)$. This shows that $\bar{\omega}$ is well-defined. Moreover, if $\bar{\omega}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = 0$, for all $\bar{y}, \bar{z} \in \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, then $B([x, y], z) = \omega(x, y, z) = 0$, for all $y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$. Thus $x \in \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$ and hence $\bar{x} = 0$. At last, since ω is closed then $\bar{\omega}$ is closed. \square

In the following, we will denote this 2-plectic Lie algebra by $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$. Using this theorem, we provide some important examples.

Remark 2.2. In this paper all Lie algebras are real. However, if a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is a complex Lie algebra and B is a complex valued quadratic form on \mathfrak{g} , then $Im B$ (imaginary part of B) is a quadratic form on \mathfrak{g} , when it is considered as a real Lie algebra. So, in this case we can define ω and $\bar{\omega}$ by $Im B$ on \mathfrak{g} (as a real Lie algebra).

Example 2.3. Suppose \mathfrak{g} is a semisimple Lie algebra and $B = K$ is its Killing form. Since $\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then K induces a 2-plectic structure on \mathfrak{g} itself, defined by (2.1). We will show this 2-plectic Lie algebra by $(\mathfrak{g}, \omega, K)$.

Example 2.4. Let $(\mathfrak{g}, [,])$ be a Lie bialgebra, i.e, a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} whose dual \mathfrak{g}^* also has a Lie algebra structure $\{ , \}$ which satisfies in a compatibility condition (see [5]). Then $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*$ has a Lie algebra structure $[,]_{\mathfrak{d}}$ defined by

$$[x + \alpha, y + \beta]_{\mathfrak{d}} = [x, y] + \{\alpha, \beta\} + ad_{\beta}^* x - ad_x^* \beta - ad_{\alpha}^* y + ad_y^* \alpha,$$

for all $x + \alpha, y + \beta$, where $ad_{\alpha} : \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$ is the adjoint operator. The Lie algebra $(\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*, [,]_{\mathfrak{d}})$ is called the double of \mathfrak{g} and it is denoted by $(\mathfrak{d}, [,]_{\mathfrak{d}})$. There is a natural symmetric and nondegenerate bilinear form B on \mathfrak{d} defined by

$$B(x + \alpha, y + \beta) = \alpha(y) + \beta(x), \quad \forall x + \alpha, y + \beta.$$

It is well known that B is also invariant (see [5]). Therefore, (\mathfrak{d}, B) is a quadratic Lie algebra and hence $(\bar{\mathfrak{d}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ is a 2-plectic Lie algebra. When \mathfrak{g} is semisimple, \mathfrak{d} itself is a 2-plectic Lie algebra ([9]).

Example 2.5. Let $(\mathfrak{g}, [,])$ be a simple Lie algebra and denote its Killing form by K . For $n > 1$, define $[,]_n$ on $\mathfrak{g}^n = \mathfrak{g} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}$ by

$$[x, y]_n = (z_1, \dots, z_n), \quad z_k = \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} [x_j, y_{k-j}],$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n), y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ are in \mathfrak{g}^n . Then $(\mathfrak{g}^n, [,]_n)$ is a nilpotent Lie algebra ([7]). Define the bilinear form B on \mathfrak{g}^n by

$$B(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^n K(x_j, y_{n-j+1}), \quad x, y \in \mathfrak{g}^n.$$

The bilinear form B is a quadratic form on \mathfrak{g}^n ([7]). Thus $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}^n, \bar{\omega}, B)$ is a 2-plectic Lie algebra.

Example 2.6. Assume that (\mathfrak{g}_i, B_i) , $i = 1, \dots, n$, is a quadratic Lie algebra. On $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n$ consider the bilinear form $B = B_1 \oplus \dots \oplus B_n$ defined by

$$B(x_1 + \dots + x_n, y_1 + \dots + y_n) = B_1(x_1, y_1) + \dots + B_n(x_n, y_n).$$

Obviously, (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic Lie algebra. Suppose that \mathfrak{g}_i contains a central isotropic element z_i , i.e, $B_i(z_i, z_i) = 0$. Let \mathfrak{j} be an ideal in \mathfrak{g} spanned by the elements: $z_1 - z_n, \dots, z_{n-1} - z_n$, and \mathfrak{j}^\perp be the orthogonal complement of \mathfrak{j} with respect to B . Put $\mathfrak{g}' = \frac{\mathfrak{j}^\perp}{\mathfrak{j}}$ and define the bilinear form B' on \mathfrak{g}' by

$$B'(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = B(x, y), \quad x, y \in \mathfrak{j}^\perp.$$

Then (\mathfrak{g}', B') is a quadratic Lie algebra ([6]) which is called amalgamated product of quadratic Lie algebras. So, $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}', \bar{\omega}, B')$ is a 2-plectic Lie algebra.

Example 2.7. Consider the set $\mathcal{E} = \{e_j = -\frac{1}{2}i\lambda_j : j = 1, \dots, 8\}$ as a basis for the Lie algebra $su(3)$ where,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \lambda_4 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \lambda_7 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_8 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\{e^1, \dots, e^8\}$ is the corresponding dual basis, then its easy to see that $\omega = \delta(e^1 \wedge e^8)$ is a 2-plectic structure. Since $su(3)$ is simple, then every quadratic form is a scalar multiple of the Killing form. This fact implies that ω is not induced by a quadratic form. ω is exact, whereas the 2-plectic structure induced by the Killing form is not exact.

3 Hamiltonian covectors and vectors

Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a 2-plectic Lie algebra. A covector $\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ is called Hamiltonian if there is a vector $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ such that

$$(3.1) \quad \delta(\alpha) = \iota_x \omega.$$

The vector x satisfying in (3.1) is also called Hamiltonian and this vector is unique if it exists. We denote by $Ham(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ the space of all Hamiltonian vectors and by

$Ham^*(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ the space of all Hamiltonian covectors. Let $\alpha \in \wedge^p \mathfrak{g}^*$ and $x \in \mathfrak{g}$, we recall that $d_x \alpha$ is defined by

$$d_x \alpha(y_1, \dots, y_p) = \alpha([x, y_1], y_2, \dots, y_p) + \dots + \alpha(y_1, \dots, y_{p-1}, [x, y_p]), \quad y_i \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Suppose $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ are Hamiltonian covectors and x, y are Hamiltonian vectors related to α, β respectively. Define

$$(3.2) \quad \{\alpha, \beta\} = \iota_y \iota_x \omega.$$

Lemma 3.1. *Suppose (\mathfrak{g}, ω) is a 2-plectic Lie algebra and x, y are Hamiltonian vectors. Then*

$$(3.3) \quad d_x \omega(y, u, v) = 0, \quad \forall u, v \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Proof. Choose Hamiltonian covectors α_x, α_y related to x, y , respectively. Using (3.2), it is easy to see that $\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\} = d_y \alpha_x$. So

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \delta(\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\})(u, v) &= \{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\}([u, v]) \\ &= d_y \alpha_x([u, v]) \\ &= \omega(x, y, [u, v]). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \delta(\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\})(u, v) &= \delta \circ (d_y \alpha_x)(u, v) \\ &= d_y \circ \delta \alpha_x(u, v) \\ &= d_y \circ \iota_x \omega(u, v) \\ &= \omega(x, [y, u], v) + \omega(x, u, [y, v]). \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.4) and (3.5), we have

$$(3.6) \quad \omega(x, y, [u, v]) = -\omega([y, u], x, v) + \omega([y, v], x, u).$$

Since $\delta \omega(x, y, u, v) = 0$, then (3.6) proves the statement. \square

Theorem 3.2. *Suppose x, y are Hamiltonian vectors in (\mathfrak{g}, ω) and α_x, α_y are Hamiltonian covectors related to x, y respectively. Then $[x, y]$ is a Hamiltonian vector related to Hamiltonian covector $\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\}$. In particular, $Ham(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ is a Lie subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} .*

Proof. Since x, y are Hamiltonian, then by (3.3) we have

$$d_x \omega(y, u, v) = 0 = d_y \omega(x, u, v), \quad \forall u, v \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \omega([x, y], u, v) &= -\omega(y, [x, u], v) - \omega(y, u, [x, v]), \\ \omega([y, x], u, v) &= -\omega(x, [y, u], v) - \omega(x, u, [y, v]). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 = \omega([x, y], u, v) + \omega([y, x], u, v) &= -\omega(y, [x, u], v) - \omega(y, u, [x, v]) \\ &\quad -\omega(x, [y, u], v) - \omega(x, u, [y, v]) \\ &= \omega([x, u], y, v) - \omega([x, v], y, u) \\ &\quad + \omega([y, u], x, v) - \omega([y, v], x, u). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\delta\omega = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \delta\omega(x, y, u, v) &= \omega([x, y], u, v) - \omega([x, u], y, v) + \omega([x, v], y, u) \\ &\quad - \omega([y, u], x, v) + \omega([y, v], x, u) - \omega(x, y, [u, v]) \\ &= \omega([x, y], u, v) - \omega(x, y, [u, v]) \quad (\text{by (3.7)}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\omega([x, y], u, v) = \omega(x, y, [u, v])$. Now

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\})(u, v) &= \delta(\iota_y \circ \iota_x \omega)(u, v) \\ &= \omega(x, y, [u, v]) \\ &= \omega([x, y], u, v) \\ &= \iota_{[x, y]} \omega(u, v). \end{aligned}$$

□

Definition 3.1. Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a 2-plectic Lie algebra. A vector x in \mathfrak{g} is called 2-plectic if $\iota_x \omega$ is closed.

Proposition 3.3. *If x and y are 2-plectic, then $[x, y]$ is Hamiltonian.*

Proof. Since $\delta(\iota_x \omega)(y, u, v) = 0$, then

$$(3.8) \quad \omega(x, [y, u], v) - \omega(x, [y, v], u) + \omega(x, [u, v], y) = 0.$$

Similarly, since $\delta(\iota_y \omega)(x, u, v) = 0$, then

$$(3.9) \quad \omega(y, [x, u], v) - \omega(y, [x, v], u) + \omega(y, [u, v], y) = 0.$$

Adding equations (3.8) and (3.9) implies that

$$-\omega([y, u], x, v) + \omega([y, v], x, u) - \omega([x, u], y, v) + \omega([x, v], y, u) = 0.$$

Thus $\delta\omega(x, y, u, v) = 0$ implies that $\omega(x, y, [u, v]) = \omega([x, y], u, v)$. Now, an argument similar to Theorem 2 proves the statement. □

Let $\text{Symp}_2(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ denote the set of all 2-plectic vectors in \mathfrak{g} .

Corollary 3.4. *$\text{Ham}(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ is an ideal in $\text{Symp}_2(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$.*

Theorem 3.5. *If the first cohomology group $H^1(\mathfrak{g})$ is trivial and $\text{Ham}(\mathfrak{g}, \omega) = \mathfrak{g}$, then ω is induced by a symmetric, invariant and nondegenerate bilinear form.*

Proof. Since $\text{Ham}(\mathfrak{g}, \omega) = \mathfrak{g}$ and $H^1(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then for every $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ there is a unique $\alpha_x \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ with $\delta\alpha_x = \iota_x \omega$. Thus we define the bilinear form B as follows

$$B(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_x(y) + \alpha_y(x)), \quad x, y \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Obviously, B is symmetric and for $x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} B([x, y], z) &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_{[x, y]}(z) + \alpha_z([x, y])) \\ (3.10) \quad &= \frac{1}{2}(\{\alpha_x, \alpha_y\}(z) + \delta\alpha_z((x, y))) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\omega(x, y, z) + \omega(x, y, z)) \\ &= \omega(x, y, z). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $B(y, [x, z]) = -\omega(x, y, z)$. Then

$$B([x, y], z) + B(x, [y, z]) = 0,$$

and hence B is invariant. Now, let $B(x, y) = 0$ for all $y \in \mathfrak{g}$. Thus $\alpha_x([y, z]) = -\alpha_{[y, z]}(x)$ and hence $\omega(x, y, z) = -\omega(y, z, x)$, for all $y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$. Since ω is nondegenerate, then $x = 0$. At last (3.10) shows that $\omega(x, y, z) = B([x, y], z)$. \square

Corollary 3.6. *If (\mathfrak{g}, ω) is a 2-plectic Lie algebra with $\text{Ham}(\mathfrak{g}, \omega) = \mathfrak{g}$ and $H^1(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then \mathfrak{g} has trivial centre.*

Proof. Since $H^1(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then \mathfrak{g} is perfect. Therefore, if \mathfrak{g} has nontrivial centre, it can not admit a quadratic form. \square

The following result and Theorem 3.1 show that $\text{Ham}^*(\mathfrak{g}, \omega)$ is also a Lie algebra.

Proposition 3.7. *suppose α, β, γ are Hamiltonian covectors. Then*

$$\{\alpha, \{\beta, \gamma\}\} + \{\beta, \{\gamma, \alpha\}\} + \{\gamma, \{\alpha, \beta\}\} = 0.$$

Proof. Assume that x, y, z are Hamiltonian vectors related to α, β, γ respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \{\alpha, \{\beta, \gamma\}\}(u) &= -d_x(\{\beta, \gamma\})(u) \\ &= \{\beta, \gamma\}([u, x]) \\ &= \delta(\{\beta, \gamma\})(u, x) \\ &= \omega([y, z], u, x). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} (\{\alpha, \{\beta, \gamma\}\} + \{\beta, \{\gamma, \alpha\}\} + \{\gamma, \{\alpha, \beta\}\})(u) &= \omega([y, z], u, x) \\ &\quad + \omega([z, x], u, y) \\ &\quad + \omega([x, y], u, z) \\ &= \delta\omega(x, y, z, u) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

In the last equation we use (3.3). \square

We end this section by some examples.

Example 3.2. Let \mathfrak{g} be a semisimple Lie algebra and ω be the 2-plectic structure on \mathfrak{g} induced by the Killing form K . Since K induces an isomorphism $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$, defined by $x \rightarrow K(x, \cdot)$, then $\text{Ham}(\mathfrak{g}, \omega) = \mathfrak{g}$ and $\text{Ham}^*(\mathfrak{g}, \omega) = \mathfrak{g}^*$.

Example 3.3. Let (\mathfrak{g}, B) be a non-Abelian quadratic Lie algebra with centre \mathfrak{z} and $\omega, \bar{\omega}$ be as in (2.1) and (2.2) respectively. For $x \in \mathfrak{g}$, assume that $\alpha_x : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by $\alpha_x(y) = B(x, y)$ and Let

$$\text{ann}(\mathfrak{z}) = \{x \in \mathfrak{g} : \alpha_x|_{\mathfrak{z}} = 0\}.$$

If $x, y \in \text{ann}(\mathfrak{z})$, then

$$\alpha_{[x,y]}(z) = B([x, y], z) = -B(y, [x, z]) = -\alpha_y([x, z]) = 0,$$

for all $z \in \mathfrak{z}$. Therefore, $\text{ann}(\mathfrak{z})$ is a sub Lie algebra of \mathfrak{g} . For $x \in \text{ann}(\mathfrak{z})$ define $\tilde{\alpha}_x : \bar{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $\tilde{\alpha}_x(\bar{y}) = \alpha_x(y)$. If $y_2 - y_1 = y_0 \in \mathfrak{z}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_x(y_2) &= \alpha_x(y_1 + y_0) \\ &= \alpha_x(y_1) + \alpha_x(y_0) \\ &= \alpha_x(y_1). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\tilde{\alpha}_x$ is well-defined. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\tilde{\alpha}_x(\bar{y}, \bar{z}) &= \tilde{\alpha}_x([\bar{y}, \bar{z}]) \\ &= \alpha_x([y, z]) \\ &= \delta\alpha_x(y, z) \\ &= \omega(x, y, z) \\ &= \bar{\omega}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\delta\tilde{\alpha}_x = \iota_{\bar{x}}\bar{\omega}$. Hence, for $x \in \text{ann}(\mathfrak{z})$, \bar{x} is a Hamiltonian vector in $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$. So, we can define the map $F : \text{ann}(\mathfrak{z}) \rightarrow \text{Ham}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega})$ by $F(x) = \bar{x}$. This map is a Lie homomorphism. We claim that it is also onto. To prove this, let $\bar{x} \in \text{Ham}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega})$ and $\tilde{\alpha}_{\bar{x}}$ be a Hamiltonian covector related to \bar{x} . Define the covector α by $\alpha(y) = \tilde{\alpha}_{\bar{x}}(\bar{y})$. It is trivial that $\alpha|_{\mathfrak{z}} = 0$. Furthermore, there is a vector x_0 in \mathfrak{g} such that $\alpha(y) = B(x_0, y)$ and $F(x_0) = \bar{x}$.

Example 3.4. Suppose ω is the 2-plectic structure of Example 2.5 on $su(3)$. Then $\text{Ham}(su(3), \omega) = \text{span}\{e_1, e_8\}$.

4 Isotropic and Lagrangian ideals and Lie subalgebras

Let (V, ω) be a 2-plectic vector space and $U \subseteq V$ be a subspace. Put

$$\begin{aligned} U^{\perp,1} &= \{v \in V : \omega(v, u, \cdot) = 0, \forall u \in U\}, \\ U^{\perp,2} &= \{v \in V : \omega(v, u, w) = 0, \forall u, w \in U\}. \end{aligned}$$

For $i = 1, 2$, the subspace U is called

- 1) i -isotropic if $U \subseteq U^{\perp,i}$,
- 2) i -coisotropic if $U^{\perp,i} \subseteq U$,
- 3) i -Lagrangian if $U^{\perp,i} = U$.

In this section we study existence of ideals and Lie subalgebras, which are i -isotropic, i -coisotropic or i -Lagrangian. We start by the following easy result.

Proposition 4.1. *Suppose (\mathfrak{g}, ω) is a 2-plectic Lie algebra and \mathfrak{j} is an ideal.*

- 1) *If \mathfrak{j} is 1-isotropic, then \mathfrak{j} is Abelian.*

- 2) $\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,1}$ is a subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} .
 3) If $\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,1}$ is an ideal, then $[\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,1}, \mathfrak{j}] = 0$.
 4) If \mathfrak{j} is 2-coisotropic, then $\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,2}$ is a sub Lie algebra. In this case, the quotient $\frac{\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,2}}{\mathfrak{j}}$ carries a natural 2-plectic structure.

Proof. These results are easy consequences of the fact that ω is exact. \square

Theorem 4.2. Let \mathfrak{g} be a semisimple Lie algebra and ω be the 2-plectic structure induced by the Killing form.

- 1) \mathfrak{g} has no 2-coisotropic ideal and Lie subalgebra.
 2) \mathfrak{g} has a 1-lagrangian Lie subalgebra.

Proof. 1) Consider the decomposition $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n$, where \mathfrak{g}_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ is a simple Lie algebra. Then every ideal \mathfrak{j} of \mathfrak{g} is a direct sum of \mathfrak{g}_i s. Suppose $A \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and $\mathfrak{j} = \bigoplus_{i \in A} \mathfrak{g}_i$ is an ideal. Since $[\mathfrak{g}_i, \mathfrak{g}_i] = \mathfrak{g}_i$, then $\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,2} = \bigoplus_{i \in A^c} \mathfrak{g}_i$, where A^c is the complement of A . This shows that \mathfrak{j} is not 2-coisotropic. Similarly, every Lie subalgebra L of \mathfrak{g} is a direct sum of Lie subalgebras L_i of \mathfrak{g}_i . So, Let A be as above and $L = \bigoplus_{i \in A} L_i$ be a Lie subalgebra. Since $L \subseteq \bigoplus_{i \in A} \mathfrak{g}_i$, then $L^{\perp,2} \supseteq (\bigoplus_{i \in A} \mathfrak{g}_i)^{\perp,2} = \bigoplus_{i \in A^c} \mathfrak{g}_i$. So $L^{\perp,2}$ is not contained in L .

2) If L is a Lie subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} , then its easy to see that $L^{\perp,1}$ is the centralizer of L . So, if L is 1-Lagrangian, then it is Abelian. In particular, every maximal Abelian Lie subalgebra is 1-Lagrangian. Hence the maximal Abelian Lie subalgebra containing the Cartan subalgebra is 1-Lagrangian. \square

Example 4.1. Suppose L is the Lie subalgebra of $su(n)$ generated by all diagonal traceless matrices. Then L is a maximal Abelian Lie subalgebra and hence L is 1-Lagrangian. Similarly, Lie subalgebra L of $sl(2n, \mathcal{C})$ consisting of all matrices of the form $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, with A any $n \times n$ matrix, is a maximal Abelian Lie subalgebra. So, L is a 1-Lagrangian Lie subalgebra with respect to the 2-plectic structure on $sl(2n, \mathcal{C})$ induced by the imaginary part of the Killing form.

Theorem 4.3. Let $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ be a 2-plectic Lie algebra, where (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic solvable (or nilpotent) non Abelian Lie algebra. Then $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ has a 2-coisotropic ideal $\bar{\mathfrak{j}}$ such that $\bar{\mathfrak{j}}^{\perp,2}$ is also an ideal.

Proof. At first, let $\bar{\mathfrak{j}} \subseteq \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ be an arbitrary ideal and $\mathfrak{j} = \pi^{-1}(\bar{\mathfrak{j}})$, where $\pi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ is the canonical projection. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathfrak{j}}^{\perp,2} &= \{\bar{x} \in \bar{\mathfrak{g}} : B(x, y, z) = 0, \forall y, z \in \mathfrak{j}\} \\ &= \{\bar{x} \in \mathfrak{g} : x \in [\mathfrak{j}, \mathfrak{j}]^{\perp}\} \\ &= \pi([\mathfrak{j}, \mathfrak{j}]^{\perp}), \end{aligned}$$

where, $[\mathfrak{j}, \mathfrak{j}]^{\perp}$ is the orthogonal complement of $[\mathfrak{j}, \mathfrak{j}]$ with respect to B . So, $\bar{\mathfrak{j}}^{\perp,2}$ is an ideal of $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$. Now, since \mathfrak{g} is solvable (res. nilpotent), then $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ is solvable (res. nilpotent), and hence it has an ideal with codimension 1. Suppose $\bar{\mathfrak{j}}$ is a such ideal. Then $\bar{\mathfrak{j}}$ is 2-coisotropic (see [4]). \square

4.1 Invariant 1-Lagrangian subspaces for nilpotent endomorphisms

Let V be a vector space and $\omega \in \wedge^3(V^*)$. (Here we do not assume that ω is nondegenerate). Consider the following equation on the set of endomorphisms of V ,

$$(4.1) \quad \omega(\varphi^2 u, v, w) + \omega(u, \varphi^2 v, w) + \omega(u, v, \varphi^2 w) + \omega(\varphi u, \varphi v, w) = 0.$$

Lemma 4.4. *Let φ be an endomorphism on V which satisfies $\varphi^k = 0$, for some $k \geq 1$, and it is a solution of the equation (4.1). Then*

$$\omega(u, \varphi v, \varphi^{k-1} w) = 0,$$

for all u, v and w belong to V .

Proof. Define $\tau_{ml} = \omega(\varphi^m u, \varphi^l v, \varphi^{k-(m+l)} w)$, $0 \leq m + l \leq k$. Since φ is a solution of (4.1), the following equations are satisfied,

$$\tau_{21} + \tau_{03} + \tau_{01} + \tau_{12} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{30} + \tau_{12} + \tau_{10} + \tau_{21} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{21} + \tau_{01} + \tau_{03} + \tau_{11} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{12} + \tau_{10} + \tau_{30} + \tau_{11} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{30} + \tau_{10} + \tau_{12} + \tau_{20} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{03} + \tau_{01} + \tau_{21} + \tau_{02} = 0.$$

$$\tau_{20} + \tau_{02} + \tau_{01} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{20} + \tau_{02} + \tau_{10} = 0,$$

$$\tau_{20} + \tau_{02} + \tau_{11} = 0,$$

So $\tau_{01} = 0$. □

Now, define alternating 3-form α on V by

$$\alpha(u, v, w) = \omega(\varphi u, v, w) + \omega(u, \varphi v, w) + \omega(u, v, \varphi w).$$

Proposition 4.5. *Let φ be an endomorphism on V which satisfies $\varphi^k = 0$, for some $k \geq 1$, and it is a solution of the equation (4.1). Then α is degenerate.*

Proof. Let $z \in \text{im}(\varphi^{k-1})$, by Lemma 4.1 we have $\omega(u, \varphi v, z) = 0$, for all $u, v \in V$. So $\alpha(z, u, v) = 0$, for all $u, v \in V$. □

Proposition 4.6. *Let φ be an endomorphism on V which satisfies $\varphi^k = 0$, for some $k \geq 1$, and it is a solution of the equation (4.1). Then the subspace $z^{\perp, 1}$ is invariant by φ , for all $z \in \text{im}(\varphi^{k-1})$.*

Proof. By Lemma 4.1, it is obvious. □

Theorem 4.7. *Let (V, ω) be a vector space with alternating 3-form. Let φ be an endomorphism on V which satisfies $\varphi^k = 0$, for some $k \geq 1$, and it is a solution of the equation (4.1). Then there exists a φ -invariant 1-lagrangian subspace of (V, ω) .*

Proof. We may assume that $\varphi^{k-1} \neq 0$. Now, the statement is proved by induction on dimension of V . Suppose $\dim(V) = n$ and assume that the result is true for all vector spaces with alternating 3-form and with dimension less than n . Choose $0 \neq z \in \text{im}(\varphi^{k-1})$. By Proposition 4.3, the subspace $z^{\perp,1}$ is invariant by φ . Let $W = \frac{z^{\perp,1}}{\langle z \rangle}$ and $\bar{\omega}$ be the alternating 3-form on W induced by ω . Let endomorphism $\bar{\varphi}$ on W induced by φ . By induction hypothesis, W has a subspace U which is 1-lagrangian and $\bar{\varphi}$ -invariant. The preimage of U in $z^{\perp,1}$ is 1-lagrangian subspace of V , which by construction is invariant by φ . \square

4.2 Existence of isotropic ideals

Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a 2-plectic Lie algebra and define the ascending chain $C^i \mathfrak{g}$ and $C_i \mathfrak{g}$ of ideals in \mathfrak{g} by

$$C^0 \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}, C^{i+1} \mathfrak{g} = [\mathfrak{g}, C^i \mathfrak{g}].$$

$$C_0 \mathfrak{g} = \{0\}, C_{i+1} \mathfrak{g} = \{v | [v, \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq C_i \mathfrak{g}\}.$$

Then

$$(4.2) \quad [C^i \mathfrak{g}, C_j \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq C_{j-i-1} \mathfrak{g}.$$

A Lie algebra of \mathfrak{g} is called k -step nilpotent if $C^k \mathfrak{g} = 0$, for some $k \geq 0$ and is called nilpotency class k if $C^k \mathfrak{g} = \{0\}$ and $C^{k-1} \mathfrak{g} \neq \{0\}$. If \mathfrak{g} is of nilpotency class k , we have

$$(4.3) \quad C^{k-i} \mathfrak{g} \subseteq C_i \mathfrak{g}.$$

Lemma 4.8. *Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a 2-plectic Lie algebra. If $C^i \mathfrak{g} \subseteq (C_i \mathfrak{g})^{\perp,1}$, then $C^{i+1} \mathfrak{g} \subseteq (C_{i+1} \mathfrak{g})^{\perp,2}$, for all $i \geq 0$.*

Proof. Consider $z_1, z_2 \in C_{i+1} \mathfrak{g}$, and $w = [u, v] \in C^{i+1} \mathfrak{g}$, where $v \in C^i \mathfrak{g}$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(w, z_1, z_2) &= \omega([u, v], z_1, z_2) = \omega([u, z_1], v, z_2) \\ &+ \omega([z_2, u], v, z_1) + \omega([z_1, v], u, z_2) + \omega([v, z_2], u, z_1) + \omega([z_2, z_1], u, v). \end{aligned}$$

Note that $[z_2, z_1], [u, z_1]$ and $[u, z_2] \in C_i \mathfrak{g}$, so

$$\omega([z_2, z_1], u, v) = \omega([u, z_1], v, z_2) = \omega([z_2, u], v, z_1) = 0.$$

On the other hand, by (4.2), $[z_1, v]$ and $[z_2, v] \in C_{i+1-i-1} \mathfrak{g} = C_0 \mathfrak{g} = 0$. So $\omega([z_1, v], u, z_2) = \omega([v, z_2], u, z_1) = 0$. Therefore, $\omega(w, z_1, z_2) = 0$. \square

Lemma 4.9.

$$[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})^{\perp,2}.$$

Proof. Since $C^0 \mathfrak{g} \subseteq (C_0 \mathfrak{g})^{\perp,1}$, so by Lemma 4.2, we have $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})^{\perp,2}$. \square

Theorem 4.10. *Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a two-step nilpotent 2-plectic Lie algebra. Then the following hold:*

- 1- *The ideal $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ is 2-isotropic.*
- 2- *(\mathfrak{g}, ω) has a 2-lagrangian ideal.*

Proof. Since $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g})$, by Lemma 4.3, we have $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \subseteq [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]^{\perp, 2}$. Any maximally isotropic subspace \mathfrak{a} contains $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ is a 2-lagrangian ideal. \square

Lemma 4.11. *Let $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ be a 2-plectic Lie algebra, where (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic non Abelian Lie algebra. Then $C^i \bar{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq (C_i \bar{\mathfrak{g}})^{\perp, 1}$ for all $i \geq 0$. In particular $[\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\mathfrak{g}}] \subseteq \mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}})^{\perp, 1}$.*

Proof. The proof is by induction. Assume that the statement is true for all $i \leq l-1$. For the induction steps, consider $z_1 \in C_l \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, $w = [u, v] \in C^l \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, where $v \in C^{l-1} \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, and where $z_2 \in \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\omega}(w, z_1, z_2) &= \bar{\omega}([u, v], z_1, z_2) = \bar{\omega}([u, z_1], v, z_2) \\ &+ \bar{\omega}([z_2, u], v, z_1) + \bar{\omega}([z_1, v], u, z_2) + \bar{\omega}([v, z_2], u, z_1) + \bar{\omega}([z_2, z_1], u, v). \end{aligned}$$

Note that $[u, z_1], [z_2, z_1] \in C_{l-1} \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, so by induction

$$\bar{\omega}([u, z_1], v, z_2) = \bar{\omega}([z_2, z_1], u, v) = 0.$$

On the other hand,

$$[z_1, v] \in C_{l-l+1-1} \bar{\mathfrak{g}} = C_0 \bar{\mathfrak{g}} = 0.$$

So

$$\bar{\omega}([z_1, v], u, z_2) = 0.$$

Using Jacobi identity, we have

$$\bar{\omega}([z_2, u], v, z_1) = \bar{\omega}([u, z_1], z_2, v) + \bar{\omega}([z_1, z_2], u, v) = 0,$$

and

$$\bar{\omega}([u, z_1], u, z_2) = \bar{\omega}([z_1, z_2], v, u) + \bar{\omega}([z_1, v], z_2, u) = 0.$$

Therefore, $\bar{\omega}(w, z_1, z_2) = 0$. \square

Theorem 4.12. *Let $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ be a 2-plectic Lie algebra, where (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic non Abelian Lie algebra. Also let $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ be a two-step nilpotent. Then the following holds:*

- 1- *The ideal $[\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\mathfrak{g}}]$ is 1-isotropic.*
- 2- *$(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega})$ has a 1-lagrangian ideal.*

Proof. The proof is similar to Theorem 4.4. \square

Theorem 4.13. *Let $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ be a 2-plectic Lie algebra, where (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic non Abelian Lie algebra which is of nilpotency class k . Then*

$C^i \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ is an 1-isotropic ideal of $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ for all i , with $2i \geq k$.

Proof. Recall from (4.3), that $C^i \bar{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq C_{k-i} \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ if $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ has nilpotency class k . Since $C_{k-i} \bar{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq C_i \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$, so $C^i \bar{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq C_i \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$. On other hand, by Lemma 4.4, $[\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\mathfrak{g}}] \subseteq \mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}})^{\perp, 1}$. So $C^i \bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ is an 1-isotropic ideal. \square

5 Reduction

Let (\mathfrak{g}, ω) be a 2-plectic Lie algebra and \mathfrak{j} be a 2-coisotropic ideal in \mathfrak{g} . Then, according to Proposition 3 part 4, the 2-plectic structure ω induces a 2-plectic structure $\tilde{\omega}$ on the Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} = \frac{\mathfrak{j}^{\perp,2}}{\mathfrak{j}}$.

Definition 5.1. The 2-plectic Lie algebra $(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \tilde{\omega})$ is called the 2-plectic reduction of (\mathfrak{g}, ω) with respect to the 2-coisotropic ideal \mathfrak{j} .

In this short section, we obtain some results about 2-plectic reduction.

Theorem 5.1. *If $(\mathfrak{g}, \omega, K)$ is a semisimple 2-plectic Lie algebra, then it has no reduction.*

Proof. This is a consequence of Theorem 4.1. □

Theorem 5.2. *Let $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}, \bar{\omega}, B)$ be a 2-plectic Lie algebra, where (\mathfrak{g}, B) is a quadratic solvable (or nilpotent) non Abelian Lie algebra. Then $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$ has a 2-plectic reduction.*

Proof. This is a consequence of Theorem 4.2. □

Of course, in the above theorem we have to note that the dimension of the quotient space must be greater than 4. Since there is no 2-plectic structure in dimension 4.

Theorem 5.3. *Suppose $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}_1, \bar{\omega}_1, B_1)$ is a 2-plectic Lie algebra. If $\varphi : \mathfrak{g}_1 \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_1$ is an anti-symmetric derivation such that $\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}) \subseteq \text{Ker } \varphi$, then $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}_1, \bar{\omega}_1, B_1)$ is a symplectic reduction of a 2-plectic Lie algebra.*

Proof. Since (\mathfrak{g}_1, B_1) is a quadratic Lie algebra, the Lie algebra $(\bar{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \langle e \rangle \oplus \langle f \rangle, [\cdot, \cdot], \bar{B})$ is a quadratic Lie algebra, where

$$\overline{[x, y]} = [x, y] + B(\varphi(x), y)f, \quad \forall x, y \in \mathfrak{g}_1,$$

$$\overline{[f, \bar{\mathfrak{g}}]} = 0, \quad \overline{[e, x]} = \varphi(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathfrak{g}_1,$$

$$\bar{B}(e, e) = \bar{B}(f, f) = \bar{B}(e, \mathfrak{g}_1) = \bar{B}(f, \mathfrak{g}_1) = 0,$$

$$\bar{B}(e, f) = 1, \quad \bar{B}(x, y) = B_1(x, y), \quad \forall x, y \in \mathfrak{g}_1.$$

If $\mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}_1)$ is the centre of \mathfrak{g}_1 , then $\mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}) = \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}_1) \oplus \langle f \rangle$ is the centre of $\bar{\mathfrak{g}}$. Let $\bar{\omega}$ be the 2-plectic structure induced by \bar{B} on $\frac{\bar{\mathfrak{g}}}{\mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}})}$. Now, it is easy to see that the map $\psi : \frac{\bar{\mathfrak{g}}_1}{\mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}}_1)} \rightarrow \frac{\bar{\mathfrak{g}}}{\mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}})}$ defined by

$$x + \mathfrak{z}(\mathfrak{g}_1) \mapsto x + \mathfrak{z}(\bar{\mathfrak{g}})$$

is a monomorphism with $\psi^*(\bar{\omega}) = \bar{\omega}_1$. □

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