

1. SPACE GROUPS AND THEIR SUBGROUPS

The use of the affine and Euclidean normalizers of a space group \mathcal{R} is described in Part 15 of *IT A*. The *affine normalizer*

$$\mathcal{N} := \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{A}_n}(\mathcal{R}) = \{g \in \mathcal{A}_n \mid g\mathcal{R}g^{-1} = \mathcal{R}\}$$

of an n -dimensional space group $\mathcal{R} \leq \mathcal{A}_n$ acts on the set of all minimal t -supergroups \mathcal{S} of \mathcal{R} by conjugation.

Theorem 1.4.8.5. \mathcal{N} has finitely many orbits on the set of (minimal) t -supergroups \mathcal{S} of \mathcal{R} . \square

Proof. Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_m$ be representatives of the \mathcal{A}_n -orbits on the set of n -dimensional space groups, i.e. of the types of n -dimensional space groups. For $1 \leq i \leq m$ let

$$\mathcal{M}_i := \{\mathcal{R}_{ij} \mid 1 \leq j \leq a_i\}$$

denote the set of all (maximal) t -subgroups of \mathcal{S}_i that are isomorphic to \mathcal{R} .

If \mathcal{S} is a (minimal) t -supergroup of the space group \mathcal{R} , then there is some $g \in \mathcal{A}_n$ and $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ such that $g\mathcal{S}g^{-1} = \mathcal{S}_i$ and $g\mathcal{R}g^{-1} = \mathcal{R}_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_i$, hence the pair of space groups $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}) = (g^{-1}\mathcal{R}_{ij}g, g^{-1}\mathcal{S}_i g)$ for some $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, $\mathcal{R}_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_i$ and $g \in \mathcal{A}_n$.

If \mathcal{S}' is a second supergroup of \mathcal{R} and $h \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}') = (h^{-1}\mathcal{R}_{ij}h, h^{-1}\mathcal{S}_i h)$ for the same i, j , then $h^{-1}g \in \mathcal{N}$ normalizes \mathcal{R} . Hence there are at most $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i$ orbits of \mathcal{N} on the set of (minimal) t -supergroups of \mathcal{R} . QED

This proof also provides an algorithm to determine representatives of the \mathcal{N} -orbits of minimal t -supergroups of a given space group \mathcal{R} , provided that one knows representatives of all affine classes of space groups and their maximal t -subgroups. For dimensions 2 and 3 these are given in this volume. Since maximal t -subgroups of three-dimensional space groups have index 2, 3 or 4, this also holds for the minimal t -supergroups of these groups.

Up to dimension $n \leq 4$, the minimal t -supergroups and the minimal k -supergroups of a given space group $\mathcal{R} \leq \mathcal{A}_n$ can be obtained with the commands *TSupergroups* and *KSupergroups* in *CARAT* [see also Heidbüchel (2003)].

References

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