# **Problem Set 5**

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## 1 4.3

#### Proposition 1.1.

Suppose  $\lambda + \rho \in \Lambda^+$ . Then  $M(w \cdot \lambda) \subset M(\lambda)$  for all  $w \in W$ . Thus all  $[M(\lambda) : L(w \cdot \lambda)] > 0$ .

More precisely, if  $w = s_n \cdots s_1$  is a reduced expression for w in terms of simple reflections corresponding to roots  $\alpha_i$ , then there is a sequence of embeddings:

$$M(w \cdot \lambda) = M(\lambda_n) \subset M(\lambda_{n-1}) \subset \cdots \subset M(\lambda_0) = M(\lambda)$$

Here

$$\lambda_0 := \lambda, \lambda_k := s_k \cdot \lambda_{k-1} = (s_k \dots s_1) \cdot \lambda \implies \lambda_n = s_n \cdot \lambda_{n-1} = w \cdot \lambda$$
$$w \cdot \lambda = \lambda_n \le \lambda_{n-1} \le \dots \le \lambda_0 = \lambda \text{with} \quad \langle \lambda_k + \rho, \alpha_{k+1}^{\vee} \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \text{ for } k = 0, \dots, n-1.$$

Assume  $\lambda + \rho \in \Lambda^+$ .

- a. Prove that the unique simple submodule of  $M(\lambda)$  is isomorphic to  $M(w_{\diamond} \cdot \lambda)$ , where  $w_{\diamond}$  is the longest element of W.
- b. In case  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ , show that the inclusions obtained in the above proposition are all proper.

### 2 4.6

Theorem 2.1(Verma).

Let  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^{\vee}$ . Given  $\alpha > 0$ , suppose  $\mu := s_{\alpha} \cdot \lambda \leq \lambda$ . Then there exists an embedding  $M(\mu) \subset M(\lambda)$ .

Work through the steps of Verma's Theorem in the special case discussed in the previous problem

#### 2.1 Solution

Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(3,\mathbb{C})$  and identify its root system  $A_2$  with  $\Delta = \{\alpha,\beta\}$  and  $\Phi^+ = \{\alpha,\beta,\gamma \coloneqq \alpha+\beta\}$ We can also identify the Weyl group as  $W = \{1,s_{\alpha},s_{\beta},s_{\alpha}s_{\beta},s_{\beta}s_{\alpha},s_{\gamma}\}$  where there is a reduced expression  $s_{\gamma} = w_0 = s_{\alpha}s_{\beta}s_{\alpha}$ .

We can begin by letting  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  be an arbitrary integral weight and let  $\mu \neq \lambda$  be an arbitrary weight linked to  $\lambda$ , where WLOG apply some Weyl group element to  $\mu$  to place it in the dominant chamber and assume

$$\mu \coloneqq s_{\alpha} \cdot \lambda < \lambda$$

(where the inequality is strict).

#### 2.1.1 Part 1

Since  $\mu$  is assumed integral, we can find some  $w \in W$  such that

$$\mu' := w^{-1} \cdot \mu \in \Lambda^+ - \rho.$$

Claim:  $w = s_{\alpha}s_{\beta}$ , so  $w^{-1} = s_{\beta}s_{\alpha}$  and thus

$$\mu' = s_{\beta} s_{\alpha} \cdot \mu$$

As in Proposition 4.3, we then write

$$\mu_0 = \mu'$$

$$\mu_1 = s_\beta \cdot \mu'$$

$$\mu_2 = s_\alpha s_\beta \cdot \mu' = w \cdot \mu' = \mu$$

which satisfies

$$\mu = \mu_2 \le \mu_1 \le \mu_0 = \mu'$$
  
$$\mu = s_{\alpha}s_{\beta} \cdot \mu' \le s_{\beta}\mu' \le \mu'.$$

which (by the proposition) gives a sequence of embeddings

$$\begin{split} M(\mu) &= M(\mu_2) \hookrightarrow M(\mu_1) \hookrightarrow M(\mu_0) = M(\mu') \\ \text{i.e.} \\ M(\mu) &= M(s_\alpha s_\beta \cdot \mu') \hookrightarrow M(s_\beta \cdot \mu') \hookrightarrow M(\mu'). \end{split}$$

2 4.6

#### 2.1.2 Step 2

We now define

$$\lambda' := w^{-1}\lambda = s_{\beta}s_{\alpha} \cdot \lambda$$

and the parallel list of weights

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda'$$

$$\lambda_1 = s_{\beta} \cdot \lambda'$$

$$\lambda_2 = s_{\alpha} s_{\beta} \cdot \lambda' \coloneqq \lambda.$$

We can similarly use the fact that  $\lambda \neq \mu \implies \mu_k \neq \lambda_k$  for any k.

### 2.1.3 Step 3

To relate  $\mu_k$  to  $\lambda_k$ , We now define  $w_k = s_n \cdots s_{k+1}$ :

$$w_0 = s_{\alpha} s_{\beta}$$

$$w_1 = s_{\alpha}$$

$$w_2 = 1$$

and  $\beta_k = \left| w_k^{-1} \right| \in \Phi^+$ :

$$\beta_0 = ?$$

$$\beta_1 = ?$$

$$\beta_2 = ?$$

and since  $\mu_k = w_k^{-1} s_{\alpha} w_k \cdot \lambda_k = s_{\beta_k} \lambda_k$ , we have

$$\mu_0 = ?$$
 $\mu_1 = ?$ 
 $\mu_2 = ?.$ 

## 3 4.11

In the case of  $\mathfrak{sl}(3,\mathbb{C})$ , what can be said at this point about Verma modules with a singular integral highest weight?

Aside from the trivial case  $-\rho$ , a typical linkage class has 3 elements. For example, if  $\lambda$  lies in the  $\alpha$  hyperplane and is antidominant, the linked weights are  $\lambda$ ,  $s_{\beta} \cdot \lambda$ ,  $s_{\alpha} s_{\beta} \cdot \lambda$ .