

HARISH-CHANDRA SUBALGEBRAS AND GELFAND-ZETLIN MODULES

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ABSTRACT. A new framework for the study of some modules over algebras is elaborated and applied to a new class of representations of Lie algebra $\mathcal{GL}(n)$.

1. Abstract Harish-Chandra situation

1.1. COFINITE SPECTRUM OF AN ALGEBRA.

Through the whole chapter we fix a field K . All considered algebras and categories will be K -algebras and K -linear categories. Respectively, all homomorphisms and functors will be K -linear. We shall write Hom , \otimes , \dim etc. instead of Hom_K , \otimes_K , \dim_K etc. For any algebra or category A denote A° the opposite algebra or category.

Denote $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ the *cofinite spectrum* of an algebra Γ , i.e. the set of maximal ideals of finite codimension in Γ . If $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, then $\Gamma/\mathfrak{m} \simeq M_{\nu(\mathfrak{m})}(K(\mathfrak{m}))$ where $K(\mathfrak{m})$ is a finite dimensional division algebra over K . In particular, if K is algebraically closed, then $K(\mathfrak{m}) = K$. Let $S_{\mathfrak{m}}$ be the only simple left Γ/\mathfrak{m} -module and $DS_{\mathfrak{m}} = \text{Hom}(S_{\mathfrak{m}}, K)$ the only simple right Γ/\mathfrak{m} -module. Then $\mathfrak{m} \mapsto S_{\mathfrak{m}}$ (or $DS_{\mathfrak{m}}$) is a 1-1 correspondence between $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ and the set of isomorphism classes of simple left (or, resp., right) finite-dimensional Γ -modules.

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Put $\Gamma_{\mathbf{m}} = \varprojlim_n \Gamma/\mathbf{m}^n$, the \mathbf{m} -adic completion of Γ , and $J_{\mathbf{m}} = \varprojlim_n \mathbf{m}/\mathbf{m}^n$ (this is an ideal in $\Gamma_{\mathbf{m}}$).

Proposition 1.

1. $J_{\mathbf{m}} = \text{Rad}\Gamma_{\mathbf{m}}$ (the Jacobson radical).
2. $\Gamma_{\mathbf{m}} \simeq M_{\nu(\mathbf{m})}(\Delta_{\mathbf{m}})$ where $\Delta_{\mathbf{m}}$ is a local ring.
3. $\Delta_{\mathbf{m}}/R_{\mathbf{m}} \simeq K(\mathbf{m})$ where $R_{\mathbf{m}} = \text{Rad}\Delta_{\mathbf{m}}$.

The proof is evident.

Sometimes the following simple observation is useful.

Proposition 2. *If K is algebraically closed, then*

$$\text{cfs}(\Gamma) \times \text{cfs}(\Lambda) \simeq \text{cfs}(\Gamma \odot \Lambda)$$

Namely, this bijection is given by:

$$(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \longmapsto \mathbf{m} \odot \Lambda + \Gamma \odot \mathbf{n}$$

Moreover, the corresponding simple left (right) $\Gamma \odot \Lambda$ -module is $S_{\mathbf{m}} \odot S_{\mathbf{n}}$ (resp., $DS_{\mathbf{m}} \odot DS_{\mathbf{n}}$).

The proof is immediately reduced to the finite-dimensional case, where it is quite evident.

1.2. QUASI-COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRAS.

Call an algebra Γ *quasi-commutative* provided $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^1(S_{\mathbf{m}}, S_{\mathbf{n}}) = 0$ for all $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, $\mathbf{m} \neq \mathbf{n}$.

Example 3.

1. Of course, any commutative algebra as well as any semi-simple¹ one is quasi-commutative.
2. Let $\Gamma = U(\mathcal{G})$ be the universal enveloping algebra of a finite-dimensional Lie algebra \mathcal{G} . If $\text{char}K = 0$ and \mathcal{G} is either reductive or nilpotent, then Γ is quasi-commutative [1].

Proposition 4. *Let $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, $\mathbf{m} \neq \mathbf{n}$, and suppose that \mathbf{m} is finitely generated as left ideal. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

1. $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^1(S_{\mathbf{m}}, S_{\mathbf{n}}) = 0$

¹“semi-simple” will always mean “semi-simple artinian”.

$$2. \mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{nm}$$

$$3. \mathbf{mn} \subseteq \mathbf{nm}$$

Proof. Remark that $\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{m} = \Gamma$, whence $\mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{nm} + \mathbf{mn}$. Thus $2. \iff 3.$

$1. \implies 2.$ Consider the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbf{m}/\mathbf{nm} \longrightarrow \Gamma/\mathbf{nm} \longrightarrow \Gamma/\mathbf{m} \longrightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

Here $\Gamma/\mathbf{m} \simeq \nu(\mathbf{m})S_{\mathbf{m}}$ and $\mathbf{m}/\mathbf{nm} \simeq kS_{\mathbf{n}}$ for some integer k . Hence, (1) splits and there are left ideals M, N in Γ such that:

$$M + N = \Gamma; \quad M \cap N = \mathbf{nm}; \quad \Gamma/M \simeq \nu(\mathbf{m})S_{\mathbf{m}}; \quad \Gamma/N \simeq kS_{\mathbf{n}}$$

Therefore, $\mathbf{m} \subseteq M, \mathbf{n} \subseteq N$ and

$$\mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m} \subseteq N \cap M = \mathbf{nm} \subseteq \mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m}$$

i.e. $\mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{nm}$.

$2. \implies 1.$ Consider any exact sequence of the form:

$$0 \longrightarrow S_{\mathbf{n}} \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow S_{\mathbf{m}} \longrightarrow 0 \quad (2)$$

Evidently, $\mathbf{nm}M = 0$, i.e. M is a module over the algebra

$$\Gamma/\mathbf{nm} = \Gamma/\mathbf{n} \cap \mathbf{m} \simeq \Gamma/\mathbf{n} \times \Gamma/\mathbf{m}$$

which is semi-simple. Hence, (2) splits and $\text{Ext}_\Gamma^1(S_{\mathbf{m}}, S_{\mathbf{n}}) = 0$ Q.E.D.

Proposition 5. *If Γ is a finitely generated algebra and I is a left ideal of finite codimension in Γ , then I is finitely generated as left ideal.*

Proof. Let G be a generating set of Γ and B be a basis of Γ/I . For each $b \in B$ fix its representative $\bar{b} \in \Gamma$ and for any $x = \sum_i \lambda_i b_i$ with $\lambda_i \in K, b_i \in B$, put $\bar{x} = \sum_i \lambda_i \bar{b}_i$. Then it is easy to check that the set

$$\{ g\bar{b} - \overline{gb} \mid g \in G, b \in B \}$$

generates I as left ideal Q.E.D.

Corollary 6. *If Γ is a finitely generated algebra, then the following conditions are equivalent:*

1. Γ is quasi-commutative.
2. If $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ and $\mathbf{m} \neq \mathbf{n}$, then $\mathbf{m} \cap \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{nm}$.
3. If $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, then $\mathbf{mn} = \mathbf{nm}$.

Corollary 7. *If Γ is quasi-commutative, then so is Γ° .*

1.3. HARISH-CHANDRA SUBALGEBRAS.

Let Γ be a subalgebra of an algebra A . Call Γ *quasi-central* (in A) if for any element $a \in A$ the bimodule $\Gamma a \Gamma$ is finitely generated both as left and as right Γ -module.

Proposition 8. *Suppose that Γ is noetherian and G is a set of generators of the algebra A . Then Γ is quasi-central in A if and only if $\Gamma g \Gamma$ is finitely generated both as left and as right Γ -module for each $g \in G$.*

The proof is evident as $\Gamma(ab)\Gamma \subseteq (\Gamma a \Gamma)(\Gamma b \Gamma)$ and $\Gamma(a + b)\Gamma \subseteq \Gamma a \Gamma + \Gamma b \Gamma$.

Example 9.

1. Of course, if Γ is central (i.e. contained in the centre of A), it is also quasi-central.
2. Let $A = U(\mathcal{G})$ and $\Gamma = U(\mathcal{H})$ where \mathcal{G} is a finite-dimensional Lie algebra and \mathcal{H} its Lie subalgebra. Then one can easily check that $\Gamma \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G} \Gamma$. By PROPOSITION 8, Γ is quasi-central in A .

Now, call the subalgebra $\Gamma \subseteq A$ a *Harish-Chandra subalgebra* provided it is both quasi-central and quasi-commutative.

Example 10.

1. Any central subalgebra is a Harish-Chandra one.
2. Suppose that $\text{char} K = 0$. If $A = U(\mathcal{G})$ for a finite-dimensional Lie algebra \mathcal{G} and $\Gamma = U(\mathcal{H})$ where \mathcal{H} is either reductive or nilpotent Lie subalgebra of \mathcal{G} , then Γ is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of A .
3. One more example - the *Gelfand-Zetlin subalgebra* - will be considered below.

From now on, let Γ be a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of A . Put $\Gamma^\epsilon = \Gamma \odot \Gamma^\circ$. For any $a \in A$ consider the Γ -bimodule epimorphism $\phi_a : \Gamma^\epsilon \longrightarrow \Gamma a \Gamma$ mapping $\beta \odot \gamma^\circ$ to $\beta a \gamma$. Let $I_a = \text{Ker} \phi_a$ (it is a left ideal in Γ^ϵ). Define the subset $X_a \subseteq \text{cfs}(\Gamma)^2$ by the rule:

$$X_a = \{ (\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \mid S_{\mathbf{n}} \text{ is a composition factor of } \Gamma a \Gamma / \Gamma a \mathbf{m} \text{ as of left } \Gamma\text{-module} \}$$

Proposition 11. *The following conditions are equivalent:*

1. $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_a$.
2. $DS_{\mathbf{m}}$ is a composition factor of $\Gamma a \Gamma / \mathbf{n} a \Gamma$ as of right Γ -module.

$$3. \mathbf{n}a\Gamma + \Gamma a\mathbf{m} \neq \Gamma a\Gamma.$$

$$4. \mathbf{n} \otimes \Gamma^o + \Gamma \otimes \mathbf{m}^o + I_a \neq \Gamma^e.$$

Proof. Put $M = \Gamma a\Gamma / \Gamma a\mathbf{m}$. As $\Gamma a\Gamma$ is finitely generated right Γ -module and Γ/\mathbf{m} is finite-dimensional, M is also finite-dimensional. Hence M considered as left Γ -module has a composition series with factors isomorphic to $S_{\mathbf{l}}$ for some ideals $\mathbf{l} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$. But as Γ is quasi-commutative, $S_{\mathbf{n}}$ is a composition factor of M if and only if it is isomorphic to a factor-module of M which means, of course, that $\mathbf{n}M \neq M$. Therefore, $1. \iff 3.$

Quite analogously, $2. \iff 3.$ At last, $3. \iff 4.$ is evident, Q.E.D.

Corollary 12. For any $\mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ and $a \in A$ the set

$$X_a(\mathbf{m}) = \{ \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma) \mid (\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_a \}$$

is finite.

Denote \prec the least preorder relation on $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ containing all X_a (i.e. such that $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_a$ implies $\mathbf{m} \prec \mathbf{n}$) and Δ the least equivalence relation containing all X_a . Put also $\nabla = \prec \cap \prec^{-1}$ (the equivalence relation associated with the preorder \prec). Let $\Delta\mathbf{m}$ (resp., $\nabla\mathbf{m}$) denotes the equivalence class of Δ (resp., ∇) containing \mathbf{m} and $\Delta(A, \Gamma)$ (resp., $\nabla(A, \Gamma)$) denotes the set of all equivalence classes of Δ (resp., ∇).

1.4. HARISH-CHANDRA MODULES.

Remind that we consider a fixed Harish-Chandra subalgebra $\Gamma \subseteq A$. For an A -module M and an ideal $\mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ put

$$M(\mathbf{m}) = \{ x \in M \mid \exists k(\mathbf{m}^k x = 0) \}$$

Call M a *Harish-Chandra module (with respect to Γ)* if $M = \coprod_{\mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)} M(\mathbf{m})$. Of course, as Γ is quasi-commutative, M is a Harish-Chandra module if and only if it is a sum of finite-dimensional Γ -submodules. Remark that any submodule or factor-module of a Harish-Chandra module is also a Harish-Chandra module.

Example 13. Let $\text{char} K = 0$, $A = U(\mathcal{G})$ and $\Gamma = U(\mathcal{H})$ where \mathcal{G} is a finite-dimensional Lie algebra and \mathcal{H} its semi-simple Lie subalgebra. Then the notion of Harish-Chandra modules coincides with the usual definition of Harish-Chandra \mathcal{G} -modules with respect to \mathcal{H} (cf. [1]).

Denote $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma)$ the category of all Harish-Chandra A -modules with respect to Γ and $\text{Irr}(A, \Gamma)$ the set of isomorphism classes of simple modules from $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma)$.

Proposition 14. For any $a \in A$ and $\mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$

$$aM(\mathbf{m}) \subseteq \coprod_{\mathbf{n} \in X_a(\mathbf{m})} M(\mathbf{n})$$

Proof. If $x \in M(\mathbf{m})$, then Γx has a composition series with all factors isomorphic to $S_{\mathbf{m}}$. Of course, $ax \in \Gamma a \Gamma x$. The last module is an epimorphic image of $\Gamma a \Gamma \otimes_{\Gamma} \Gamma x$. But $\Gamma a \Gamma \otimes_{\Gamma} S_{\mathbf{m}}$ has a composition series with the factors isomorphic to $S_{\mathbf{n}}$ for $\mathbf{n} \in X_a(\mathbf{m})$. Hence, the same is true for $\Gamma a \Gamma \otimes_{\Gamma} \Gamma x$ and for $\Gamma a \Gamma x$. As Γ is quasi-commutative, we obtain that

$$\Gamma a \Gamma x \subseteq \coprod_{\mathbf{n} \in X_a(\mathbf{m})} M(\mathbf{n})$$

Q.E.D.

For any $D \subseteq \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, put $M(D) = \coprod_{\mathbf{m} \in D} M(\mathbf{m})$. If $R \subseteq \text{cfs}(\Gamma)^2$ is a relation on $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$, call D R -closed provided $\mathbf{m} \in D$ and $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in R$ implies $\mathbf{n} \in D$. Call the *support* of M the set

$$\text{Supp} M = \{ \mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma) \mid M(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0 \}$$

Corollary 15. Let $M \in \mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma)$.

1. If $D \subseteq \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ is \prec -closed, then $M(D)$ is a submodule of M .
2. $M = \coprod_{D \in \Delta(A, \Gamma)} M(D)$ as A -module.
3. If M is indecomposable and $M(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$, then $\text{Supp} M \subseteq \Delta \mathbf{m}$.
4. If M is irreducible and $M(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$, then $\text{Supp} M \subseteq \nabla \mathbf{m}$.

Denote $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma, D)$ the full subcategory of $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma)$ consisting of all modules M with $\text{Supp}(M) \subseteq D$ and $\text{Irr}(A, \Gamma, D)$ the set of isomorphism classes of simple modules from $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma, D)$.

Corollary 16.

1. $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma) = \coprod_{D \in \Delta(A, \Gamma)} \mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma, D)$ (the direct sum of categories).
2. $\text{Irr}(A, \Gamma) = \bigsqcup_{D \in \nabla(A, \Gamma)} \text{Irr}(A, \Gamma, D)$ (the disjoint union of sets).

1.5. CATEGORY \mathcal{A} .

Define a new category $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{A,\Gamma}$ in the following way. The set of objects $\text{Ob}\mathcal{A} = \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$. The set of morphisms from \mathbf{m} to \mathbf{n} is

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) = \varprojlim_{n,m} A/(\mathbf{n}^n A + A\mathbf{m}^m)$$

To define the multiplication $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{l}) \times \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{l})$, take any two elements $a, b \in A$ and consider the left Γ -module $M = \Gamma a \Gamma / \Gamma a \mathbf{m}^m$ and the right Γ -module $L = \Gamma b \Gamma / \Gamma^\ell b \Gamma$. Both of them are finite-dimensional as Γ is quasi-central. Moreover, as Γ is quasi-commutative,

$$M = M_0 \oplus M_1 \text{ where } \mathbf{n}^n M_0 = 0 \text{ and } \mathbf{n} M_1 = M_1$$

and

$$L = L_0 \oplus L_1 \text{ where } L_0 \mathbf{n}^n = 0 \text{ and } L_1 \mathbf{n} = L_1$$

for some natural n .

Therefore, $a = a_0 + a_1$, $b = b_0 + b_1$ where:

$$\mathbf{n}^n a_0 \in A\mathbf{m}^m; a_1 \in \mathbf{n}^n A + A\mathbf{m}^m; b_0 \mathbf{n}^n \in \Gamma^\ell A; b_1 \in \Gamma^\ell A + A\mathbf{n}^n$$

Now it is obvious that the class of $b_0 a_0$ in $A/(\Gamma^\ell A + A\mathbf{m}^m)$ depends only on the classes of a and b in $A/(\mathbf{n}^n A + A\mathbf{m}^m)$ and in $A/(\Gamma^\ell A + A\mathbf{n}^n)$ respectively. Of course, it makes possible to define the needed multiplication.

Suppose that M is a Harish-Chandra module. If $x \in M(\mathbf{m})$, then $\mathbf{m}^m x = 0$ for some m . For an element $a \in A$ and an ideal $\mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ choose n as above. Then the projection of ax onto $M(\mathbf{n})$ again depends only on the class of a in $A/(\mathbf{n}^n A + A\mathbf{m}^m)$. Therefore, for any element $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ we are able to define the product $\alpha x \in M(\mathbf{n})$. In other words, the correspondence $\mathbf{m} \mapsto M(\mathbf{m})$ becomes a functor from the category \mathcal{A} to the category \mathbf{Vect} of vector spaces over K . Moreover, this functor is continuous if we consider the discrete topology on vector spaces and the natural topology of the inverse limite on the sets $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$. Call such functors *discrete \mathcal{A} -modules* or simply *\mathcal{A} -modules*.

If N is any \mathcal{A} -module, then we can construct the corresponding Harish-Chandra module as $\coprod_{\mathbf{m}} N(\mathbf{m})$. To define the product ax for $a \in A$, $x \in N(\mathbf{m})$, put $ax = \sum_{\mathbf{n}} a_{\mathbf{n}} x$ where $a_{\mathbf{n}}$ denotes the image of a in $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$. This sum is finite due to COROLLARY 12.

Hence, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 17. *The category $\mathbf{H}(A, \Gamma)$ of Harish-Chandra modules is equivalent to the category $\mathcal{A} - \mathbf{mod}$ of discrete \mathcal{A} -modules.*

Of course, the image of a in $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ is non-zero if and only if $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_a$. Therefore,

$$\mathcal{A} = \coprod_{D \in \Delta(\mathcal{A}, \Gamma)} \mathcal{A}(D)$$

where $\mathcal{A}(D)$ is the full subcategory of \mathcal{A} consisting of all objects $\mathbf{m} \in D$.

The following result from *general nonsense* seems to be rather known though we have never seen it published.

Theorem 18. *For any object $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{A}$ let $\text{Irr}(\mathbf{m})$ denotes the set of isomorphism classes of simple \mathcal{A} -modules M such that $M(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$. Then there is a 1-1 correspondence between $\text{Irr}(\mathbf{m})$ and the set $\text{Irr } \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ of isomorphism classes of simple (discrete)² $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -modules.*

Proof. Let M be an \mathcal{A} -module and let $U(\mathbf{m})$ be a non-trivial $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -submodule of $M(\mathbf{m})$. Put $U(\mathbf{n}) = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})U(\mathbf{m})$ for any object \mathbf{n} . Then we obtain a non-trivial submodule U of M . Hence, if M is simple and $M(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$, then $M(\mathbf{m})$ is a simple $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -module.

On the other hand, let $N(\mathbf{m})$ be a simple $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -module. Put

$$N(\mathbf{n}) = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \odot_{\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})} N(\mathbf{m})$$

Then the set $\{N(\mathbf{n})\}$ can be evidently viewed as an \mathcal{A} -module N . We claim that N contains the only maximal submodule N' and $N'(\mathbf{m}) = 0$. Really, if $L \subseteq N$ is a submodule and $L(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$, then $L(\mathbf{m}) = N(\mathbf{m})$ as the last one is a simple $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -module. But $N(\mathbf{m})$ generates N , hence, $L = N$. Therefore, if we denote N' the sum of all proper submodules $L \subset N$, then $N'(\mathbf{n}) = 0$ and N' is the only maximal submodule of N . Thus $M = N/N'$ is a simple \mathcal{A} -module with $M(\mathbf{m}) = N(\mathbf{m})$.

Moreover, if M' is any \mathcal{A} -module and $\phi : N(\mathbf{m}) \rightarrow M'(\mathbf{m})$ is a homomorphism of $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ -modules, then it prolongs uniquely to a homomorphism of \mathcal{A} -modules $N \rightarrow M'$. In particular, if M' is simple with $M'(\mathbf{m}) \simeq M(\mathbf{m})$, then we obtain an epimorphism $\pi : N \rightarrow M'$. The kernel of π is a maximal submodule of N , hence it coincides with N' and $M' \simeq N/N' \simeq M$ Q.E.D.

Call the subalgebra Γ *big at the point \mathbf{m}* provided $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ is finitely generated as $\Gamma(\mathbf{m})$ -module (left or right or as bimodule which is equivalent as Γ is quasi-central).

Corollary 19. *Suppose that Γ is big at the point \mathbf{m} . Then:*

1. *The set $\text{Irr}(\mathbf{m})$ is finite.*

²in the same sense as above

2. For any simple Harish-Chandra module M the vector space $M(\mathbf{m})$ is finite-dimensional.

Proof. Put $B = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$, $J = J_{\mathbf{m}}$ (cf. section 1.1). Then B/BJ is finite-dimensional, hence $J^n B \subseteq BJ$ for some n . If I is a maximal right ideal in B , then $I \supseteq J^n B$ (otherwise $I + BJ \supseteq I + J^n B = B$, whence $I = B$ by Nakayama's lemma). Therefore, $\text{Rad} B \supseteq J^n B$ and $B/\text{Rad} B$ is finite-dimensional, which implies both 1. and 2. Q.E.D.

2. Gelfand-Zetlin modules

2.1. GELFAND-ZETLIN SUBALGEBRA.

In this section we suppose that K is algebraically closed of characteristic 0 and denote $\mathcal{G}_m = \mathcal{GL}(m, K)$, $U_m = U(\mathcal{G}_m)$ and Z_m the centre of U_m . Put $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_n$, $U = U_n$ and identify \mathcal{G}_m for $m \leq n$ with the Lie subalgebra of \mathcal{G} generated by the matrix units $\{\epsilon_{ij} \mid i, j = 1..m\}$. Then we obtain the inclusions: $\mathcal{G}_1 \subset \mathcal{G}_2 \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{G}_n = \mathcal{G}$ and $U_1 \subset U_2 \subset \dots \subset U_n = U$. Let Γ be the subalgebra of U generated by $\{Z_m \mid m = 1..n\}$. Call Γ the *Gelfand-Zetlin subalgebra* of U or *GZ-subalgebra*. In this case the Harish-Chandra U -modules with respect to Γ are called the *Gelfand-Zetlin modules* (or *GZ-modules*) [2]. Respectively, we shall denote \mathbf{GZ} and $\mathbf{GZ}(D)$ the categorie of GZ-modules and that of GZ-modules with the support in D (where $D \subseteq \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$). We shall also write in this case \mathcal{U} for the category $\mathcal{A}_{U, \Gamma}$ (cf. section 1.5).

Proposition 20. Z_m is the polynomial algebra in m variables $\{c_{km} \mid k = 1..m\}$ where

$$c_{km} = \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k=1..m} \epsilon_{i_1 i_2} \epsilon_{i_2 i_3} \dots \epsilon_{i_k i_1}$$

(cf. [3]).

Put $\mathcal{L} = K^{n(n+1)/2}$. The elements of \mathcal{L} will be called "tableaux" and considered as double indexed families:

$$\ell = (\ell_{im} \mid m = 1..n; i = 1..m)$$

Denote \mathcal{L}^+ the subset of \mathcal{L} consisting of all tableaux ℓ such that $\ell_{im} \in \mathbf{Z}$ and $\ell_{im} \geq \ell_{i, m-1} > \ell_{i+1, m}$ for all possible values of i, m . For any vector $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in K^n$ let

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha = \{ \ell \in \mathcal{L} \mid \ell_{im} = \alpha_i \text{ for } i = 1..n \}$$

and $\mathcal{L}_\alpha^+ = \mathcal{L}_\alpha \cap \mathcal{L}^+$. Clearly, $\mathcal{L}_\alpha^+ \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $\alpha_i \in \mathbf{Z}$ and $\alpha_i > \alpha_{i+1}$ for all possible i .

It is well-known that all finite-dimensional U -modules are Gelfand-Zetlin ones. Namely, the following statement holds (cf. [3]).

Proposition 21. *Let M be a finite-dimensional simple U -module. Then M possesses a base $\{[\ell] \mid \ell \in \mathcal{L}_\alpha^+\}$ for some $\alpha \in K^n$ such that:*

$$c_{km}[\ell] = c_{km}(\ell)[\ell],$$

$$E_m^\pm[\ell] = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{im}^\pm(\ell)[\ell \pm \delta^{im}]$$

where $E_m^+ = \epsilon_{m,m+1}$; $E_m^- = \epsilon_{m+1,m}$ ($m = 1..n-1$);

$$c_{km}(\ell) = \sum_{i=1}^m (\ell_{im} + m)^k \prod_{j \neq i} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\ell_{im} - \ell_{jm}}\right)$$

$$a_{im}^\pm(\ell) = \mp \frac{\prod_j (\ell_{j,m \pm 1} - \ell_{im})}{\prod_{j \neq i} (\ell_{jm} - \ell_{im})}$$

(here $\delta^{im} \in \mathcal{L}$ is the Kronecker symbol: $\delta_{jk}^{im} = 1$ if $i = j, m = k$ and 0 otherwise).

This base is called the *Gelfand-Zetlin base* of M . To precise α , we shall denote $M = M^\alpha$. Remark that the dominant weight of M^α is $(\alpha_1 + 1, \alpha_2 + 2, \dots, \alpha_n + n)$.

We shall also widely use the following *Harish-Chandra Theorem* (cf. [1]).

Proposition 22. *Let $u \in U$ is such that $uM = 0$ for any finite-dimensional simple U -module M . Then $u = 0$.*

Consider the polynomial algebra Λ in $n(n+1)/2$ variables λ_{im} where $m = 1..n$; $i = 1..m$. Identify Λ with the algebra of polynomial functions on \mathcal{L} putting $\lambda_{im}(\ell) = \ell_{im}$. Then \mathcal{L} is identified with $\text{cfs}(\Lambda)$. PROPOSITION 21 allows to define the homomorphism $\iota : \Gamma \rightarrow \Lambda$ which maps

$$c_{km} \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^m (\lambda_{im} + m)^k \prod_{j \neq i} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\lambda_{im} - \lambda_{jm}}\right)$$

It is not difficult to check that it is really a polynomial of degree k in λ_{im} of the form $\sum_i \lambda_{im}^k + h$ with $\deg h < k$.

The symmetric group S_m acts on Λ permuting λ_{im} ($i = 1..m$; m fixed). Thus the direct product $S = \prod_{m=1}^n S_m$ acts on Λ . As the power sums are algebraically independent and generate the algebra of the symmetric polynomials, we obtain the following

Corollary 23. ι is an inclusion and its image coincides with the algebra of invariants Λ^S . In particular, Γ is the polynomial algebra in c_{km} ($m = 1..n$; $k = 1..m$).

From now on identify Γ with its image in Λ . This inclusion induces the surjection $\pi : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ which identifies $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ with the orbit set \mathcal{L}/S . If M is a GZ-module, write $M(\ell)$ instead $M(\pi(\ell))$ for $\ell \in \mathcal{L}$, $\mathbf{GZ}(D)$ instead of $\mathbf{GZ}(\pi(D))$ for $D \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ etc.

Let \mathcal{L}_0 be the subgroup of \mathcal{L} generated by all δ^{im} ($i = 1..m$; $m = 1..n-1$). For two elements $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ put $\mathbf{m} \equiv \mathbf{n}$ provided there exist $\ell, \ell' \in \mathcal{L}$ such that $\mathbf{m} = \pi(\ell)$, $\mathbf{n} = \pi(\ell')$ and $\ell - \ell' \in \mathcal{L}_0$. Of course, it is an equivalence relation on $\text{cfs}(\Gamma)$. Denote Ω the set of equivalence classes of \equiv . Define also two subsets, \mathcal{L}_1 and \mathcal{L}_2 , in \mathcal{L} :

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \{ \ell \mid \ell_{im} - \ell_{jm} \notin \mathbf{Z} \text{ for all } i \neq j \text{ and } m = 2..n-1 \}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_1 \cap \{ \ell \mid \ell_{im} - \ell_{j,m+1} \notin \mathbf{Z} \text{ for all } i, j \text{ and } m = 1..n-1 \}$$

Evidently, \mathcal{L}_1 and \mathcal{L}_2 are stable under the congruence modulo \mathcal{L}_0 and under the action of the group S . So their images in Ω are well-defined. Denote them Ω_1 and Ω_2 respectively. Remark that both \mathcal{L}_1 and \mathcal{L}_2 are dense in Zarisky topology on \mathcal{L} . Moreover, if $K = \mathbf{C}$, they are dense in usual (euclidean) topology as well.

The main theorem of this chapter is the following one.

Theorem 24.

1. The Gelfand-Zetlin subalgebra is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of U .
2. $\mathcal{U} = \coprod_{D \in \Omega} \mathcal{U}(D)$
3. If $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_1$, then there exists the unique simple GZ-module M with $M(\ell) \neq 0$. Moreover, in this module $\dim(M(\ell)) = 1$.
4. If $D \in \Omega_2$, then there exists the unique simple GZ-module M in $\mathbf{GZ}(D)$. Moreover, $\text{Supp}(M) = D$.

2.2. SOME IDENTITIES IN U .

For any element $x \in M^\alpha$ and any tableaux $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_\alpha^+$ let x_ℓ be its $[\ell]$ -coefficient with respect to GZ-basis, i.e.

$$x = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}_\alpha^+} x_\ell [\ell]$$

(cf. PROPOSITION 21). For $u \in U$ denote \mathcal{L}_u the set of all such tableaux $\delta \in \mathcal{L}$ that there exist $\ell \in \mathcal{L}^+$ and $\sigma \in S$ with $(u[\ell])_{\ell+\sigma(\delta)} \neq 0$. As U is generated

by the elements E_m^\pm ($m = 1..n-1$), it follows from PROPOSITION 21 that \mathcal{L}_u is finite and $\mathcal{L}_u \subseteq \mathcal{L}_0$. Say that u relates ℓ with ℓ' provided $\ell' = \sigma(\ell + \delta)$ for some $\sigma \in S$ and $\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u$. Denote $u(\ell)$ the set of all $\ell' \in \mathcal{L}$ such that u relates ℓ with ℓ' . Thus, for any $\ell \in \mathcal{L}^+$ we have:

$$u[\ell] = \sum_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} \theta(u, \ell, \delta)[\ell + \delta]$$

for certain coefficients $\theta(u, \ell, \delta) \in K$ (some of them may be 0).

Any $\delta \in \mathcal{L}$ defines an automorphism $\lambda \mapsto \lambda^\delta$ of Λ where $\lambda_{im}^\delta = \lambda_{im} + \delta_{im}$. For any $z \in \Gamma$ and $u \in U$ form the polynomial

$$F_{u,z}(T, \lambda) = \prod_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} (T - z^\delta)$$

Clearly, $F_{u,z} \in \Gamma[T]$, as \mathcal{L}_u is, by definition, stable under the action of S .

Lemma 25. Let $z \in \Gamma$ and $F_{u,z} = \sum_i T^i \phi_i$ where $\phi_i \in \Gamma$ and i runs through all possible multi-indeces. Then $\sum_i z^i u \phi_i = 0$.

Proof. By PROPOSITIONS 21 and 22, we need only to prove that $\sum_i z^i u \phi_i[\ell] = 0$ for any $\ell \in \mathcal{L}^+$. But

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i z^i u \phi_i[\ell] &= \sum_i z^i u \phi_i(\ell)[\ell] = \sum_i z^i \phi_i(\ell) \sum_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} \theta(u, \ell, \delta)[\ell + \delta] = \\ &= \sum_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} \theta(u, \ell, \delta) \sum_i z(\ell + \delta)^i \phi_i(\ell)[\ell + \delta] = \sum_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} \theta(u, \ell, \delta) F_{u,z}(z^\delta(\ell), \ell)[\ell + \delta] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

Remark. The same result remains valid for $z \in Z_m$ if we replace $F_{u,z}$ by

$$F_{u,z,m}(T, \lambda_m) = \prod_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_{u,m}} (T - z^\delta)$$

where $\lambda_m = (\lambda_{1m}, \lambda_{2m}, \dots, \lambda_{mm})$ and $\mathcal{L}_{u,m}$ denotes the set of the m -th rows $(\delta_{1m}, \delta_{2m}, \dots, \delta_{mm})$ of all elements $\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u$.

Corollary 26. Γ is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra in U .

Proof. Evidently, $F_{u,z} = T^k + \sum_{i < k} T^i \phi_i$ for $k = \text{card}(\mathcal{L}_u)$. So, by LEMMA 25, $z^k u \in \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} z^i u \Gamma$. As Γ is a finitely generated algebra, it follows that $\Gamma u \Gamma$ is a finitely generated Γ -module. But the standard involution of U (mapping $g \in \mathcal{G}$ to $-g$, cf. [1]) maps Γ to Γ . So $\Gamma u \Gamma$ is also finitely generated as left Γ -module. Q.E.D.

Corollary 27. Suppose that $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_u$ where $\mathbf{m} = \pi(\ell)$, $\mathbf{n} = \pi(\ell')$. Then $\ell' \in u(\ell)$.

Proof. Let $\ell' \notin u(\ell)$, i.e. $\mathbf{n} \neq \pi(\ell + \delta)$ for all $\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u$. Then there exists $z \in \Gamma$ lying in all $\pi(\ell + \delta)$ but not in \mathbf{n} . As $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in X_u$, there exists $v \in \Gamma u \Gamma / \Gamma \mathbf{u} \mathbf{m}$ such that $v \neq 0$ and $\mathbf{n}v = 0$. But we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \sum_i z^i u \phi_i = \sum_i z^i u (\phi_i - \phi_i(\ell)) + \sum_i z^i u \phi_i(\ell) = \\ &= u_0 + \sum_i z^i \phi_i(\ell) u = u_0 + F_{u,z}(z, \ell) u \end{aligned}$$

where $u_0 \in \Gamma \mathbf{u} \mathbf{m}$, whence

$$0 = F_{u,z}(z, \ell) v = F_{u,z}(z(\ell'), \ell) v = \prod_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} (z(\ell') - z(\ell + \delta)) v = z(\ell')^k v$$

This is a contradiction as $v \neq 0$, $z(\ell') \neq 0$ Q.E.D.

Corollary 28. $\Delta \subseteq \equiv$, i.e. $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in \Delta$ implies $\mathbf{m} \equiv \mathbf{n}$.³

COROLLARY 26 coincides with *p.1.* of THEOREM 24 and COROLLARY 28 evidently implies *p.2.* of it. To prove the rest of the theorem, we need the following observations.

PROPOSITION 21 implies that the coefficients $\theta(u, \ell, \delta)$ are rational functions in ℓ_{im} . So they can be considered as elements of the field of fractions Q of Λ which we denote $\theta(u, \lambda, \delta)$. Moreover, the denominator of $\theta(u, \lambda, \delta)$ is a product of some of $\lambda_{im} - \lambda_{jm} - k$ ($i \neq j$), where k is some integer. Thus $\theta(u, \ell, \delta)$ is defined for any $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_1$. Remark that $\theta(u, \ell, 0)$ is obviously S -invariant. Hence, it lies in Q^S which is the field of fractions of $\Lambda^S = \Gamma$.

Lemma 29. Let again $z \in \Gamma$. Put $\theta_u = \theta(u, \lambda, 0) = \beta_u / \gamma_u$ where $\beta_u, \gamma_u \in \Gamma$ and

$$F_{u,z}^0(T) = \prod_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u \setminus 0} (T - z^\delta) = \sum_i T^i \psi_i$$

Then

$$\gamma_u \sum_i z^i u \psi_i = \beta_u \sum_i z^i \psi_i$$

The proof is quite the same as that of LEMMA 25, so we omit it.

³cf. section 1.4 for the definition of the relation Δ .

2.3. MODULES $\mathcal{M}(L)$.

Take a coset $L \in \mathcal{L}/\mathcal{L}_0$ and suppose that $L \subset \mathcal{L}_1$. Consider the vector space $\mathcal{M}(L)$ with the basis $\{[\ell] \mid \ell \in L\}$ and put, for every $u \in U$:

$$u[\ell] = \sum_{\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u} \theta(u, \ell, \delta)[\ell + \delta]$$

PROPOSITIONS 21 and 22 evidently imply then that $\mathcal{M}(L)$ becomes a GZ-module over U with $\text{Supp } \mathcal{M}(L) = L$ and $\dim \mathcal{M}(L)(\ell) = 1$ for all $\ell \in L$.

For any $\ell \in L$ denote \mathcal{M}_ℓ the submodule of $\mathcal{M}(L)$ generated by $[\ell]$.

Theorem 30. *There exists the unique maximal submodule $\mathcal{M}'_\ell \subset \mathcal{M}_\ell$ and the factor-module $V_\ell = \mathcal{M}_\ell/\mathcal{M}'_\ell$ is the unique simple GZ-module with $V_\ell(\ell) \neq 0$.*

Proof. As $\dim \mathcal{M}_\ell(\ell) = 1$, $N(\ell) = 0$ for any proper submodule $N \subset \mathcal{M}_\ell$ which implies the existence and uniqueness of \mathcal{M}'_ℓ . Hence, V_ℓ is really a well-defined simple GZ-module with $\dim V_\ell(\ell) = 1$. Its uniqueness follows from THEOREM 18 and the next fact.

Proposition 31. *If $\mathbf{m} = \pi(\ell)$ and $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_1$, then $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ is isomorphic to a factor-algebra of $\Gamma(\mathbf{m})$.⁴*

Proof. Take any $u \in U$. If $0 \notin \mathcal{L}_u$, then the image of u in $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ is zero by COROLLARY 27. If $0 \in \mathcal{L}_u$, find $z \in \Gamma$ such that $z^\delta \in \mathbf{m}^m$ for all $\delta \in \mathcal{L}_u \setminus 0$ and $z - 1 \in \mathbf{m}^n$. Use LEMMA 29. Here all $\psi_i \in \mathbf{m}^m$ except $\psi_k = 1$ for $k = \text{card}(\mathcal{L}_u \setminus 0)$. So we have $\gamma_u z^k u = \beta_u z^k + u_0$ where $u_0 \in U\mathbf{m}^m$, whence in $U/(\mathbf{m}^n U + U\mathbf{m}^m)$ the images of $\gamma_u u$ and β_u coincide. But as $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_1$, the image of γ_u in $\Gamma(\mathbf{m})$ is invertible. Hence the image of u in $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ coincides with that of β_u/γ_u Q.E.D.

THEOREM 30 implies p.3. of THEOREM 24. At last, p.4. of it is now a consequence of the following theorem.

Theorem 32. *If $D \in \Omega_2$, then all objects in $\mathcal{U}(D)$ are isomorphic.*

Proof. Let $\eta \in \Gamma$ and $u = E_m^- \eta E_m^+$. Denote also $\theta = \theta(u, \lambda, 0) = \beta/\gamma$ with $\beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$. PROPOSITION 21 implies that

$$\theta = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{im}^-(\lambda + \delta^{im}) a_{im}^+(\lambda) \eta(\lambda + \delta^{im})$$

⁴Probably, in the case $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m}) \simeq \Gamma(\mathbf{m})$ but we have no proof of it. At least, $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m}) \neq 0$ as there exist GZ-modules M with $M(\ell) \neq 0$.

(cf. ibid. for notations). Suppose that $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_2$ and put $\mathbf{m} = \pi(\ell)$, $\mathbf{m}_i = \pi(\ell + \delta^{im})$. As $\ell \in \mathcal{L}_1$, we have $\gamma(\ell) \neq 0$. Moreover, the elements ℓ , $\ell + \delta^{im}$, $\ell + \delta^{jm}$, $\ell + \delta^{im} - \delta^{jm}$ ($j \neq i$) lie in different S -orbits. Hence, they have different images under π and we are able to choose η and $z \in \Gamma$ such that:

$$\eta(\ell + \delta^{im}) = 1, \quad \eta(\ell + \delta^{jm}) = 0 \text{ for } j \neq i$$

$$z(\ell) = 1, \quad z(\ell + \delta^{im} - \delta^{jm}) = 0 \text{ for } j \neq i$$

Now use LEMMA 29. Remark that in our case $\mathcal{L}_u \setminus 0 = \{ \delta^{im} - \delta^{jm} \mid j \neq i \}$. Therefore, we obtain that $\gamma(\mathbf{m}) \neq 0$ and all $\psi_s(\mathbf{m}) = 0$ except $\psi_k(\mathbf{m}) = 1$ for $k = \text{card}(\mathcal{L}_u \setminus 0)$. Hence, the image of u in $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m})$ is invertible. Denote e_i^+ the image of E_{im}^+ in $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{m}_i)$ and e_i^- the image of $E_{im}^- \eta$ in $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{m}_i, \mathbf{m})$. It follows then (just as in the proof of PROPOSITION 31) that $e_i^- e_i^+$ is invertible and e_i^+ is left invertible. Quite analogous calculation shows that e_i^+ is right invertible. Thus e_i^+ is invertible and $\mathbf{m} \simeq \mathbf{m}_i$ in \mathcal{U} . As i, m were arbitrary and \mathcal{L}_0 is generated by δ^{im} , it implies the statement Q.E.D.

Corollary 33. *If $L \subset \mathcal{L}_2$, the module $\mathcal{M}(L)$ is the unique simple GZ-module in $\mathbf{GZ}(L)$.*

Now THEOREM 24 is completely proved.

Conjecture. *For any $D \in \Omega$ the set $\text{Irr}(U, \Gamma, D)$ is finite.*

Really, this conjecture would follow from the following two:

1. *For any $\mathbf{m} \in \text{cfs}(\Gamma)$ the subalgebra Γ is big at the point \mathbf{m} , hence the set $\text{Irr}(\mathbf{m})$ is finite (cf. COROLLARY 19).* 2. *For any $D \in \Omega$ there are only finitely many non-isomorphic objects in $\mathcal{U}(D)$.*

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