

MODULAR REPRESENTATIONS OF CLASSICAL LIE ALGEBRAS

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Let K be an algebraically closed field of prime characteristic p . By a classical Lie algebra over K we shall understand a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} obtained from a complex simple Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ by the well-known procedure of Chevalley: see [7] [1], for example. In this note we announce some results on the representation theory of \mathfrak{g} over K ; proofs will appear elsewhere. All modules considered will be finite-dimensional and restricted, unless otherwise specified.

0. Preliminaries. Denote by Σ the root system of $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ relative to a Cartan subalgebra, and let $\Pi = \{\alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_l\}$ be a simple system. Fix a Chevalley basis $\{X_{\alpha}, \alpha \in \Sigma; H_i, 1 \leq i \leq l\}$ of $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$; if $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ is the \mathbb{Z} -span of this basis, then $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes K$. For convenience, we also denote by X_{α}, H_i the corresponding elements of \mathfrak{g} . Write $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes K$ (=span of the H_i in \mathfrak{g}). Kostant's theorem [7, §2] describes the \mathbb{Z} -form $\mathfrak{u}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ of the universal enveloping algebra of $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ generated by all $X_{\alpha}^m/m!$ ($\alpha \in \Sigma, m \geq 0$).

If we let V_{λ} be the irreducible $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ -module of highest weight λ , and let $v_0 \in V_{\lambda}$ be a maximal vector (a nonzero vector annihilated by all $X_{\alpha}, \alpha \in \Pi$), then $\mathfrak{u}_{\mathbb{Z}}v_0$ is an "admissible lattice." Tensoring with K yields a (restricted) \mathfrak{g} -module \overline{V}_{λ} , which is also a module for the simply connected Chevalley group G constructed from $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ over K . If v_0 again denotes the maximal vector $v_0 \otimes 1$ in \overline{V}_{λ} , then v_0 has weight λ .

Let Λ denote the collection of p^l restricted weights λ characterized by the conditions $0 \leq \lambda(H_i) < p, 1 \leq i \leq l$. For each $\lambda \in \Lambda$ let M_{λ} be the irreducible \mathfrak{g} -module of highest weight λ ; it is known that M_{λ} is a homomorphic, but not always isomorphic, image of \overline{V}_{λ} . The collection $\mathfrak{M} = \{M_{\lambda} | \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ exhausts the (isomorphism classes of) irreducible \mathfrak{g} -modules. Let $\mathfrak{u}, \mathfrak{C}$ be the restricted universal enveloping algebras of $\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}$ over K (u -algebras). (Left) \mathfrak{u} -modules correspond precisely to restricted (left) \mathfrak{g} -modules. Every u -algebra is a Frobenius algebra, and \mathfrak{u} is even symmetric.

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