

## REPRESENTATIONS OF MOD $p$ LIE ALGEBRAS

ERIC M. FRIEDLANDER AND BRIAN J. PARSHALL

Let  $G$  be a semisimple, simply connected algebraic group defined over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Because any rational  $G$ -module inherits the structure of a restricted module (in the sense of [4, p. 188]) for the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $G$ , the representation theory of  $\mathcal{G}$  has primarily focused on the study of restricted modules. We outline here our recent investigations of the more general—that is, not necessarily restricted—representation theory of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Details will appear in [3].

We approach the representation theory of  $\mathcal{G}$  through that of a family of finite-dimensional quotient algebras of the universal enveloping algebra  $U(\mathcal{G})$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ . As described below, these algebras are parametrized by characters on a certain abelian subalgebra  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $U(\mathcal{G})$ . Because the restricted enveloping algebra  $V(\mathcal{G})$  appears as a distinguished member of this family (the others being thought of as “deformations” of  $V(\mathcal{G})$ ), a better understanding of the representation theory of these algebras may lead to a clearer picture of that of  $V(\mathcal{G})$ .

For a restricted Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G}$ , we employ the central subalgebra  $\mathcal{O} \subset U(\mathcal{G})$  considered by Zassenhaus in his foundational paper [10]. Namely,  $\mathcal{O}$  is the image of the semilinear monomorphism  $S^*(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow U(\mathcal{G})$  defined on the symmetric algebra  $S^*(\mathcal{G})$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  by sending  $X \in \mathcal{G}$  to  $X^p - X^{[p]}$ . Using the Jordan decomposition of the dual  $\mathcal{G}^*$  given in [7], we obtain properties such as “regular”, “semisimple”, or “nilpotent” for characters  $\chi: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow k$  whenever  $\mathcal{G} = \text{Lie}(G)$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a restricted Lie algebra of dimension  $d$  and let  $\chi: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow k$  be a character with associated one-dimensional  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $k_\chi$ . Then  $A_\chi \equiv U(\mathcal{G}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} k_\chi$  is a Frobenius algebra of dimension  $p^d$ . Moreover, for each irreducible  $\mathcal{G}$ -module  $M$ , there is a unique character  $\chi: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow k$  such that the action of  $U(\mathcal{G})$  on  $M$  factors through  $A_\chi$ .*

Of course, if  $\chi = 0$  then  $A_\chi \cong V(\mathcal{G})$ , the restricted enveloping algebra of  $\mathcal{G}$ .

One easily proves that  $\text{Ext}_{U(\mathcal{G})}^i(M, M') = 0$  whenever  $M$  is an  $A_\chi$ -module,  $M'$  is an  $A_{\chi'}$ -module, and  $\chi \neq \chi'$ . On the other hand, nontrivial computations are facilitated by the following spectral sequence.

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $A_\chi$  be as in Proposition 1. If  $M$  and  $N$  are two  $A_\chi$ -modules with  $M$  finite-dimensional, then there is a natural spectral*

---

Received by the editors November 14, 1986.  
1980 *Mathematics Subject Classification* (1985 *Revision*). Primary 17B50; Secondary 17B10, 17B56.

Research supported by the National Science Foundation.

©1987 American Mathematical Society  
0273-0979/87 \$1.00 + \$.25 per page