

## Restrictions from $\mathfrak{gl}_n$ to $\mathfrak{sl}_n$

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Communicated by M. Schlichenmaier

**Abstract.** Let  $K$  be an algebraically closed field, let  $n$  be a positive integer. Consider the general linear Lie algebra of all  $(n \times n)$ -matrices over  $K$  and its subalgebra of all matrices with trace equal to 0, the special linear Lie algebra. If the characteristic of  $K$  does not divide  $n$ , then the larger Lie algebra is the direct product of the smaller Lie algebra with a one dimensional Lie algebra; in this case each finite dimensional simple module for the general linear Lie algebra restricts to a simple module for the special linear Lie algebra. This is no longer the case when the characteristic of  $K$  divides  $n$ ; the purpose of this paper is to describe what happens in this situation.

*Mathematics Subject Classification 2010:* 17B10, 17B50.

*Key Words and Phrases:* Lie algebras. representations.

### Introduction

Let  $K$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ , let  $n$  be a positive integer. We denote by  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  the general linear Lie algebra of all  $(n \times n)$ -matrices over  $K$  and by  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  its subalgebra of all matrices with trace equal to 0, the special linear Lie algebra. One of our results is:

**Proposition 1.** *The restriction of a simple  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -module to  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  is either simple or has length  $p$  with all composition factors isomorphic to each other.*

In order to get a more precise statement, we need some extra notation. Since  $K$  is algebraically closed, each simple  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -module  $E$  has a  $p$ -character. This means that there exists a linear form  $\chi$  on  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  such that each  $X^p - X^{[p]} - \chi(X)^p$  with  $X \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  annihilates  $E$ . Here  $X^p$  is the  $p$ -th power of  $X$  in the enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  while  $X^{[p]}$  is the  $p$ -th power of  $X$  as a matrix.

The map  $(X, Y) \mapsto \text{tr}(XY)$  is a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form on  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ . So for each  $\chi \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)^*$  there exists a unique matrix  $C_\chi \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  such that  $\chi(X) = \text{tr}(C_\chi X)$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ .

**Proposition 2.** *If all blocks in the Jordan normal form of  $C_\chi$  have size divisible by  $p$ , then there is a unique (up to isomorphism) simple  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -module  $E$  with*

$p$ -character  $\chi$  such that the restriction of  $E$  to  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  is not simple. Otherwise all simple  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -modules with  $p$ -character  $\chi$  restrict to simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$ -modules.

A simple  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -module is called restricted if it has  $p$ -character 0. Since  $C_0 = 0$  has all Jordan blocks of size 1, the proposition says in particular that simple restricted  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -modules restrict to simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$ -modules. This is well-known as the simple restricted modules for  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  and  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  come from simple modules for the algebraic groups  $GL_n(K)$  and  $SL_n(K)$  respectively and since simple modules for  $GL_n(K)$  restrict to simple modules for  $SL_n(K)$ .

*Acknowledgment.* I thank Rolf Farnsteiner for pointing out that two results in the original draft of this paper are a special case or an easy generalisation of results proved by him.

### 1. Induction and Restriction

**1.1.** Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic  $p > 0$ , let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a finite dimensional restricted Lie algebra over  $K$ . See [5] for basic properties of restricted Lie algebras and their representations.

Let  $\mathfrak{g}' \subset \mathfrak{g}$  be a restricted subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Any  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $M$  restricts to a  $\mathfrak{g}'$ -module; we denote this module by  $\text{res } M$  if we want to emphasize that we regard  $M$  as a  $\mathfrak{g}'$ -module.

Fix a linear form  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  and consider the reduced enveloping algebras  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ ; here we write  $\chi$  also for the restriction of  $\chi$  to  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . Then  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$  is a subalgebra of  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ . Each simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module is a composition factor of  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ , which is a  $\mathfrak{g}'$ -submodule of  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ . Therefore each simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$  for some simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $E$ .

**1.2.** Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be a basis for a complement to  $\mathfrak{g}'$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Set  $x^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n}$  and  $|\alpha| = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i$  for each  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  in  $\mathbf{N}^n$ . Let  $I$  denote the set of all  $\alpha \in \mathbf{N}^n$  with  $\alpha_i < p$  for all  $i$ . Then all  $x^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \in I$  are a basis for  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$  considered as a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module under left as well as under right multiplication.

We see in particular that  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$  is a direct summand of  $\text{res } U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ . Therefore each indecomposable direct summand of  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$  (i.e., each principal indecomposable  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module) is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\text{res } Q$  for some principal indecomposable  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $Q$ .

**1.3.** We have an induction functor  $\text{ind}_\chi$  and a coinduction functor  $\text{cnd}_\chi$ , both from the category of all  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -modules to the category of all  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules, defined by

$$\text{ind}_\chi M = U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')} M \quad \text{and} \quad \text{cnd}_\chi M = \text{Hom}_{U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')} (U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}), M). \tag{1}$$

In the definition of  $\text{cnd}_\chi M$  one regards  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$  as a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module under left multiplication and one lets any  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  act on the Hom-space via  $(x\varphi)(u) = \varphi(ux)$ . These functors are left or right adjoint to the restriction functor, i.e., we have for each  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $M$  and each  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $V$  canonical isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\text{ind}_\chi M, V) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, V) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(V, \text{cnd}_\chi M) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(V, M). \tag{2}$$

The basis property of all  $x^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in I$ , yields for each  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $M$  direct sum decompositions as vector spaces that

$$\text{ind}_\chi M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in I} x^\alpha U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}') \otimes_{U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')} M \text{ and } \text{cnd}_\chi M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in I} \text{Hom}_{U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')} (U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}') x^\alpha, M). \quad (3)$$

Each summand is isomorphic to  $M$  as a vector space: Map any  $m \in M$  to  $x^\alpha \otimes m$  in the first case; in the second case map  $\varphi: U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}') x^\alpha \rightarrow M$  to  $\varphi(x^\alpha)$ . We get in particular

$$\dim \text{ind}_\chi M = p^{\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'} \dim M = \dim \text{cnd}_\chi M. \quad (4)$$

**1.4. Lemma.** *If  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is a restricted ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$ , then we have for any  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $M$  an isomorphism  $\text{ind}_\chi M \simeq \text{cnd}_\chi M$*

This follows from the fact that for each  $x \in \mathfrak{g}'$  the trace of  $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(x)$  is equal to the trace of  $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}(x)$ . See, e.g., [6], 1.14(6) combined with [6], 1.12(1) or [6], 1.15(1).

**1.5.** The following result is a special case of Lemma 2.14 in [1]. We include a proof for the convenience of the reader.

**Proposition.** *Suppose that  $\mathfrak{g}'$  a restricted ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $M$  be a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module. Then the  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $\text{res}_\chi M$  has a filtration with all quotients of subsequent terms isomorphic to  $M$ .*

**Proof.** We have for all  $u \in U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$  and all  $\alpha \in I$

$$x^\alpha u = \sum_{\beta} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} \text{ad}(x_1)^{\alpha_1 - \beta_1} \circ \text{ad}(x_2)^{\alpha_2 - \beta_2} \circ \dots \circ \text{ad}(x_n)^{\alpha_n - \beta_n}(u) x^\beta$$

and

$$ux^\alpha = \sum_{\beta} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} x^\beta \text{ad}'(x_n)^{\alpha_n - \beta_n} \circ \dots \circ \text{ad}'(x_2)^{\alpha_2 - \beta_2} \circ \text{ad}'(x_1)^{\alpha_1 - \beta_1}(u)$$

where we sum over all  $\beta \in I$  with  $\beta_i \leq \alpha_i$  for all  $i$ , where the binomial coefficient is the product of all  $\binom{\alpha_i}{\beta_i}$ , and where  $\text{ad}'(x)(y) = [y, x] = -\text{ad}(x)(y)$ .

If  $u \in U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ , then  $\text{ad}(x_i)(u) \in U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$  for all  $i$ . It then follows that

$$x^\alpha u \in ux^\alpha + \sum_{|\beta| < |\alpha|} U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}') x^\beta \quad \text{and} \quad ux^\alpha \in x^\alpha u + \sum_{|\beta| < |\alpha|} x^\beta U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}'). \quad (*)$$

Choose a numbering  $\alpha(1), \alpha(2), \dots, \alpha(p^n)$  for the elements of  $I$  such that  $|\alpha(i)| < |\alpha(j)|$  implies  $i < j$ . Now (\*) implies for each  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq p^n$ , that

$$Z_i := \sum_{j=1}^i x^{\alpha(j)} U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}') \otimes M$$

is a  $\mathfrak{g}'$ -submodule of  $\text{ind}_\chi M$ . We have clearly  $Z_i \subset Z_{i+1}$  for  $i < p^n$ . Using (\*) once more, we get that  $Z_{i+1}/Z_i$  is isomorphic to  $M$ . This yields the claim since  $Z_0 = 0$  and  $Z_{p^n} = \text{ind}_\chi M$ . ■

*Remark:* The proposition implies that the exact functors  $\text{res} \circ \text{ind}_\chi$  and  $\text{res} \circ \text{cnd}_\chi$  induce multiplication by  $p^{\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'}$  on the Grothendieck group of all finite dimensional  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -modules.

**1.6. Corollary.** *Suppose that  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is a restricted ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $L$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module and  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module.*

(a) *If  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ , then each composition factor of  $\text{res } E$  is isomorphic to  $L$ .*

(b) *If  $L$  is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$ , then  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ ; each composition factor of  $\text{res } E$  is isomorphic to  $L$ .*

**Proof.** (a) If  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ , then  $\text{res } E$  is a subquotient of  $\text{res ind}_\chi L$ . The proposition implies that each composition factor of  $\text{res ind}_\chi L$  is isomorphic to  $L$ . The claim follows.

(b) There exists a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $L'$  with  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(L', E) \neq 0$ . Then 1.3(2) implies  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\text{ind}_\chi L', E) \neq 0$ , so  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L'$ . The claim in (a) now implies that  $L$  is isomorphic to  $L'$ . This yields the first part of (b). The second part follows by applying (a) once more. ■

**1.7.** We assume again that  $\mathfrak{g}'$  a restricted ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . If  $E$  and  $E'$  are simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules, let us write  $E \approx E'$  if there exists a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $L$  that is a composition factor both of  $\text{res } E$  and of  $\text{res } E'$ . Then  $\approx$  defines an equivalence relation on the isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules. Corollary 1.6 shows that there is a bijection from the set of equivalence classes for this relation and the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -modules: One maps the class of some  $E$  to the class of all composition factors of  $\text{res } E$ .

The size of the equivalence classes for  $\approx$  can vary much. For example, when  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a direct product  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}' \times \mathfrak{g}''$  and  $K$  is algebraically closed, then each of these classes is in bijection with the isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}'')$ -modules.

On the other hand, if we take  $\mathfrak{g}' = 0$ , then all simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules form just one equivalence class.

## 2. Codimension 1

**2.1. Assumptions.** We assume in this section that  $K$  is algebraically closed, that  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is a restricted ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$  and that the restricted Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$  is a one dimensional toral algebra.

So our assumptions are a bit stronger than the ‘‘Codimension 1’’ of the header. Note that  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  and  $\mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  satisfy our assumptions on  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}'$ .

**2.2.** The assumption says that  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$  has a basis consisting of one element  $z$  such that  $z^{[p]} = z$ . Any finite dimensional  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$ -module is the direct sum of the eigenspaces for  $z$ ; if the module is restricted, then the eigenvalues belong to  $\mathbf{F}_p$ . We have for each  $a \in K$  a one dimensional  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$ -module  $K_a$  on which  $z$  acts as multiplication by  $a$ . These modules satisfy  $K_a \otimes K_b \simeq K_{a+b}$  for all  $a, b \in K$ . The  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$ -module  $K_a$  is restricted if and only if  $a \in \mathbf{F}_p$ .

We usually regard any  $K_a$  as a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module annihilated by  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . (In our  $\mathfrak{gl}_n - \mathfrak{sl}_n$  example we can choose  $z$  such that  $K_a$  is the one dimensional  $\mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$ -module where each matrix  $X \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  acts as multiplication by  $a$  times the trace of  $X$ .)

**2.3.** Fix a  $p$ -character  $\chi$  for  $\mathfrak{g}$ . If  $M$  and  $N$  are finite dimensional  $\mathfrak{g}$ -modules, then  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N)$  becomes a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module under  $(x\varphi)(m) = x\varphi(m) - \varphi(xm)$  for all  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ ,  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N)$ , and  $m \in M$ . Suppose that both  $M$  and  $N$  are  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules; then  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N)$  is a restricted  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module. Obviously  $\mathfrak{g}'$  annihilates  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N)$ , so  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N)$  is a restricted  $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{g}'$ -module, hence a direct sum of eigenspaces for  $z$  with all eigenvalues in  $\mathbf{F}_p$ . A simple calculation shows that the eigenspace for the eigenvalue  $r$  identifies with

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(M \otimes K_r, N) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(M, N \otimes K_{-r}).$$

We get thus isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(M, N) \simeq \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(M \otimes K_r, N) \simeq \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(M, N \otimes K_r). \quad (1)$$

**2.4.** If  $E$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module, then so is any  $E \otimes K_r$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . As  $(E \otimes K_r) \otimes K_s \simeq E \otimes K_{r+s}$ , we see: If  $E$  is isomorphic to  $E \otimes K_r$  for some  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ , then  $E$  is isomorphic to  $E \otimes K_{mr}$  for all  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ ; in case  $r \neq 0$  we get then that  $E$  is isomorphic to  $E \otimes K_s$  for all  $s \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . We say that

- $E$  has type A if  $E$  is not isomorphic to any  $E \otimes K_r$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ ,  $r \neq 0$ ,
- $E$  has type B if  $E$  is isomorphic to each  $E \otimes K_r$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ .

Each simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $E$  is either of type A or B. If  $E$  is of type A, then so are all  $E \otimes K_r$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ ; these  $p$  modules belong then to  $p$  distinct isomorphism classes.

**2.5. Lemma.** *If  $E$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module of type B, then  $\text{res } E$  is not simple.*

**Proof.** We apply 2.3(1) and get that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(E, E) \simeq \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(E, E \otimes K_r) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(E, E)^p$  has dimension  $p$ . ■

**2.6.** For any simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $E$  denote by  $Q_E$  its projective cover in the category of all  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules. For any simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module  $L$  denote by  $P_L$  its projective cover in the category of all  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -modules.

**Lemma.** *Let  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module and let  $L$  be simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module that is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$ . Then there exists a positive integer  $m(E)$  such that*

$$\text{res } Q_E \simeq P_L^{m(E)}.$$

**Proof.** Since  $\text{res } Q_E$  is a projective finite dimensional  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module, cf. 1.2, it is a finite direct sum of projective covers of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -modules. Suppose that

$M$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module such that  $P_M$  is a direct summand of  $\text{res } Q_E$ . Then  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(P_M, M) \neq 0$  implies

$$0 \neq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(Q_E, M) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(Q_E, \text{ind}_\chi M).$$

This means that  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi M$ . Now Corollary 1.6(a) yields that each composition factor of  $\text{res } E$  is isomorphic to  $M$ , hence that  $L \simeq M$ . So each direct summand of  $\text{res } Q_E$  is isomorphic to  $P_L$ . ■

*Remark:* We shall see below that  $m(E) = 1$  for all  $E$ , i.e., that  $\text{res } Q_E$  is indecomposable. This indecomposability is for  $\chi = 0$  a special case of Thm. 2.1.2 in [2]. The proof given there extends obviously to arbitrary  $p$ -characters and shows that  $\text{res } V$  is indecomposable for any indecomposable  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $V$ . However, we shall see that the claim in the present case has a very simple direct proof.

**2.7.** Let  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module. Denote by  $\ell(E)$  the length of  $\text{res } E$ .

**Lemma.** *We have*

$$m(E) \cdot \ell(E) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } E \text{ has type A,} \\ p & \text{if } E \text{ has type B.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Let  $L$  be simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module that is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$ . Lemma 2.6 and equation 2.3(1) show that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(Q_E, E) &\simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(P_L, E)^{m(E)} \\ &\simeq \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(Q_E, E_E \otimes K_r). \end{aligned}$$

The right hand side of the first line has dimension  $m(E) \ell(E)$  since each composition factor of  $\text{res } E$  is isomorphic to  $L$ .

For  $E$  of type A the right hand side of the second line is isomorphic to  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(Q_E, E)$  and has dimension 1. For  $E$  of type B the right hand side of the second line is isomorphic to  $\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(Q_E, E)^p$  and has dimension  $p$ . The claim follows. ■

**2.8. Proposition.** *Let  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module and let  $L$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module that is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$ .*

- (a) *We have  $\text{res } Q_E \simeq P_L$ .*
- (b) *If  $E$  has type A, then  $\text{res } E$  is simple, isomorphic to  $L$ .*
- (c) *If  $E_i$  has type B, then  $\text{res } E$  has length  $p$  and we have  $\dim L = (\dim E)/p$ .*

**Proof.** If  $E$  has type A, then Lemma 2.7 implies  $m(E) = \ell(E) = 1$ , hence (a) in this case and (b).

If  $E$  has type B, then  $\ell(E) > 1$  by Lemma 2.5. Now Lemma 2.6 implies  $m(E) = 1$  and  $\ell(E) = p$  as  $p$  is a prime number. This yields (a) in this case as well as (c) where at the end we use the uniqueness of  $L$ . ■

*Remark:* Note that this result yields Proposition 1 of the introduction.

**2.9. Corollary.** *Let  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module and let  $L$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g}')$ -module that is a composition factor of  $\text{res } E$ .*

(a) *If  $E'$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module, then  $\text{res } E'$  has a composition factor isomorphic to  $L$  if and only if  $E' \simeq E \otimes K_r$  for some  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ .*

(b) *If  $E$  has type A, then  $\text{ind}_\chi L \simeq \bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} E \otimes K_r$ .*

(c) *If  $E$  has type B, then  $\text{ind}_\chi L \simeq E$ .*

**Proof.** We know from Corollary 1.6(b) that  $E$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ . The claim in (c) for  $E$  of type B follows now from  $\dim E = p \dim L = \dim \text{ind}_\chi L$ .

If  $E$  has type A, then we get for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  that

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\text{ind}_\chi L, E \otimes K_r) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}'}(L, E) \neq 0.$$

So the head of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$  contains a direct summand isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} E \otimes K_r$ . The claim in (b) follows as this summand has the same dimension as  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ .

If  $E'$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module, then  $\text{res } E'$  has a composition factor isomorphic to  $L$  if and only if  $E'$  is a composition factor of  $\text{ind}_\chi L$ , see Corollary 1.6(b). Therefore (a) follows from (b) and (c). ■

*Remark:* Part (a) can be restated in the notation from 1.7 as follows: We have  $E \approx E'$  if and only if there exists  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  with  $E' \simeq E \otimes K_r$ .

### 3. Reduction to Jordan Normal Form

**3.1.** Assume from now on that  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}_n(K)$  and  $\mathfrak{g}' = \mathfrak{sl}_n(K)$  where  $K$  is algebraically closed. In order to prove Proposition 2 in the introduction, we now have to ask for each  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ : Are there simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B? If so, how many? Note that  $\mathfrak{g}'$  does not play a role in these questions.

**3.2.** The group  $G = \text{GL}_n(K)$  acts by conjugation on  $\mathfrak{g}$ . This is an action by automorphisms of  $\mathfrak{g}$  as restricted Lie algebra; it is called the adjoint representation of  $G$ . The contragredient representation of  $G$  on  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  is then called the coadjoint representation of  $G$ .

Recall from the introduction that we associate to any  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  the unique matrix  $C_\chi \in \mathfrak{g}$  such that  $\chi(X) = \text{tr}(C_\chi X)$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ . We have then for any  $g \in G$

$$(g\chi)(X) = \chi(g^{-1}Xg) = \text{tr}(C_\chi g^{-1}Xg) = \text{tr}(g^{-1}(gC_\chi g^{-1})Xg) = \text{tr}((gC_\chi g^{-1})X)$$

for all  $X$ , hence  $C_{g\chi} = gC_\chi g^{-1}$ .

**3.3.** Let  $g \in G$ . For any  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $M$  we denote by  ${}^gM$  the  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module that is equal to  $M$  as a vector space and where any  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  acts on  ${}^gM$  as  $g^{-1}Xg$  does on  $M$ . We call  ${}^gM$  the twist of  $M$  by  $g$ .

Twisting by  $g$  is an equivalence of categories; twisting by  $g^{-1}$  is an inverse functor. We have for any  $\mathfrak{g}$ -modules  $M$  and  $N$  a natural isomorphism

$${}^g(M \otimes N) \simeq {}^gM \otimes {}^gN. \tag{1}$$

Any one dimensional  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $K_a$  with  $a \in K$  as in 2.2 — where any  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  acts as multiplication by  $a \operatorname{tr}(X)$  — satisfies  ${}^gK_a = K_a$  for each  $g \in G$ .

**3.4.** Let  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ . If we twist a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module by some  $g \in G$ , then a simple calculation shows that we get a  $U_{g\chi}(\mathfrak{g})$ -module.

**Lemma.** *Let  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  and  $g \in G$ . Then twisting by  $g$  induces a bijection between the isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B and the isomorphism classes of simple  $U_{g\chi}(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B.*

**Proof.** By 3.3 and the observation above, twisting by  $g$  induces a bijection between the isomorphism classes of all simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules and the isomorphism classes of all simple  $U_{g\chi}(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules.

It is left show: A simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module  $E$  has type B if and only if  ${}^gE$  has type B. This follows from

$${}^g(E \otimes K_r) \simeq {}^gE \otimes {}^gK_r = {}^gE \otimes K_r$$

for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ , see 3.3. ■

**3.5.** This lemma and the equation  $C_{g\chi} = gC_\chi g^{-1}$  from 3.2 show that it suffices to consider  $\chi$  with  $C_\chi$  in Jordan normal form.

### 4. The Nilpotent Case

**4.1.** We keep the assumptions from 3.1. We first look at the case where  $C_\chi$  is nilpotent. We assume that  $C_\chi$  has Jordan normal form, so there exists a subset  $I \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$  such that

$$C_\chi = \sum_{i \in I} E_{i, i+1}. \tag{1}$$

Here we denote more generally by  $E_{ij}$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  the matrix in  $\mathfrak{g}$  with  $(i, j)$ -entry equal to 1 and all other entries equal to 0.

The definition of  $C_\chi$  then implies for all  $i$  and  $j$  that

$$\chi(E_{ij}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = j + 1 \text{ and } j \in I, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

This means that  $\chi$  has standard Levi form with respect to the standard triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}^- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}^+$  where  $\mathfrak{n}^+$  ( $\mathfrak{n}^-$ ) is the space of all strict upper (lower) triangular  $(n \times n)$ -matrices over  $K$ , and  $\mathfrak{h}$  the space of all diagonal matrices in  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

The notion of standard Levi form was introduced by Friedlander and Parshall in [4] for Lie algebras of more general reductive groups. There they also proved the results on simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules that we shall state in 4.2 under some restriction on  $p$ . See also the survey in Section 10 of [5] for any  $p$ .

**4.2.** For any  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , denote by  $\varepsilon_i \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  the linear form that maps any diagonal matrix to its  $i$ -th diagonal entry. Set  $\Lambda = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{F}_p \varepsilon_i \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$  and  $\varpi_n = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \cdots + \varepsilon_n$ . Then  $\varpi_n$  maps any diagonal matrix to its trace.

Each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  defines a one dimensional  $(\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n})$ -module where each  $X + Y$  with  $X \in \mathfrak{h}$  and  $Y \in \mathfrak{n}$  acts as multiplication by  $\lambda(X)$ . This module turns out to be a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n})$ -module. We apply to it the induction functor  $\text{ind}_\chi$  as in 1.3 (with  $\mathfrak{g}'$  replaced by  $\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}$ ) and get a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module that we denote by  $Z_\chi(\lambda)$  and usually call a baby Verma module. The “standard Levi” condition implies that any  $Z_\chi(\lambda)$  has a unique simple homomorphic image; we denote it by  $L_\chi(\lambda)$ . It turns out that each simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module is isomorphic to some  $L_\chi(\lambda)$ .

The symmetric group  $S_n$  acts on  $\mathfrak{h}$  by permuting the diagonal entries, hence on  $\Lambda \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$  by permuting the  $\varepsilon_i$ . We write now  $W$  instead of  $S_n$  for this permutation group as it is really the Weyl group of  $G$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$  that is acting. We shall consider its “dot” action  $w \bullet \lambda = w(\lambda + \rho) - \rho$  for all  $w \in W$  and  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  where  $\rho = \sum_{j=1}^n (n - j)\varepsilon_j$ .

Set  $W_I$  the subgroup of  $W$  generated by all transpositions  $(i \ i + 1)$  with  $i \in I$ . We can now complete the classification of the simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules by stating that  $L_\chi(\lambda) \simeq L_\chi(\mu)$  if and only if there exists  $w \in W_I$  with  $\mu = w \bullet \lambda$ .

**4.3. Lemma.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Then  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B if and only if there exists for each  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  an element  $w_r \in W_I$  with  $w_r \bullet \lambda - \lambda = r\varpi_n$  if and only if there exists  $w \in W_I$  such that  $w \bullet \lambda - \lambda$  is a non-zero  $\mathbf{F}_p$ -multiple of  $\varpi_n$ .*

**Proof.** The restriction of  $K_r$  to  $\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}$  is the one dimensional  $(\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n})$ -module where each  $X + Y$  with  $X \in \mathfrak{h}$  and  $Y \in \mathfrak{n}$  acts as multiplication by  $r\varpi_n(X)$ . Therefore the tensor identity (e.g., 1.12(1) in [6]) implies that  $Z_\chi(\lambda) \otimes K_r \simeq Z_\chi(\lambda + r\varpi_n)$ . It follows that  $L_\chi(\lambda) \otimes K_r \simeq L_\chi(\lambda + r\varpi_n)$ . So  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B if and only if  $\lambda + r\varpi_n \in W_I \bullet \lambda$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ , if and only if there exists  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ ,  $r \neq 0$ , for which  $\lambda + r\varpi_n \in W_I \bullet \lambda$ . ■

**4.4.** The set  $I$  is given by integers

$$1 = k_1 < k_2 < \cdots < k_s < k_{s+1} = n + 1 \tag{1}$$

such that  $I$  is the union of all

$$I_j := \{k_j, k_j + 1, \dots, k_{j+1} - 2\} \tag{2}$$

with  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . Note that  $I_j = \emptyset$  if  $k_{j+1} = k_j + 1$ . Note also that the blocks of  $C_\chi = \sum_{i \in I} E_{i, i+1}$  have size  $k_{j+1} - k_j$  with  $1 \leq j \leq s$ .

**Lemma.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and write  $\lambda + \rho = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i$  with all  $a_i \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . For all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  and for all  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ , set  $N_j(\lambda, r) := \{i \mid k_j \leq i < k_{j+1}, a_i = r\}$ . Then  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B if and only if  $|N_j(\lambda, r)| = |N_j(\lambda, 0)|$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  and for all  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ .*

**Proof.** By definition  $W_I$  is the subgroup of  $W = S_n$  generated by all  $(i \ i + 1)$  with  $i \in I$ . It follows that  $W_I$  consists of all permutations that preserve all subsets

$$N_j := \{k_j, k_j + 1, \dots, k_{j+1} - 1\}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq s. \tag{3}$$

We have for any  $\sigma \in W_I$  that

$$\sigma^{-1}(\lambda + \rho) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{\sigma(i)} \varepsilon_i. \tag{4}$$

So we have  $r\varpi_n = \sigma^{-1} \cdot \lambda - \lambda = \sigma^{-1}(\lambda + \rho) - (\lambda + \rho)$  if and only if

$$a_{\sigma(i)} = a_i + r \quad \text{for all } i, 1 \leq i \leq n. \tag{5}$$

If so, then (5) says that  $\sigma$  maps the set of all  $i$  with  $a_i = 0$  onto the set of all  $k$  with  $a_k = r$ ; and since  $\sigma \in W_I$  preserves all  $N_j$ , we get  $\sigma(N_j(\lambda, 0)) = N_j(\lambda, r)$ . If now  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B, then we get from Lemma 4.3 for each  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  an element  $\sigma \in W_I$  with  $r\varpi_n = \sigma^{-1} \cdot \lambda - \lambda$ ; It follows that  $|N_j(\lambda, r)| = |N_j(\lambda, 0)|$  for all  $r$  and  $j$ .

Suppose conversely that  $|N_j(\lambda, r)| = |N_j(\lambda, 0)|$  for all  $r$  and  $i$ . Since  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is the disjoint union of all  $N_j(\lambda, r)$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  and  $1 \leq j \leq s$ , there exists a permutation  $\tau \in W$  with  $\tau(N_j(\lambda, r)) = N_j(\lambda, r + 1)$  for all  $r$  and  $j$ . Each  $N_j$  is the disjoint union of all  $N_j(\lambda, r)$  with  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . It follows that  $\tau(N_j) = N_j$  for all  $j$ , hence that  $\tau \in W_I$ . Finally a look at (4) and (5) shows that  $\varpi_n = \sigma^{-1} \cdot \lambda - \lambda$ , hence that  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B according to Lemma 4.3. ■

**4.5. Proposition.** *There exists  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  for which  $L_\chi(\lambda)$  has type B if and only if  $p$  divides all  $k_{j+1} - k_j$  with  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . If so, then  $L_\chi(0)$  is up to isomorphism the only simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module of type B.*

**Proof.** If  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  satisfies the condition in Lemma 4.4, then we get for all  $i$ , in the notation from above,  $p \cdot |N_j(\lambda, 0)| = \sum_{r \in \mathbf{F}_p} |N_j(\lambda, r)| = |N_j| = k_{j+1} - k_j, \mathfrak{q}$  hence  $p \mid k_{j+1} - k_j$ .

Suppose conversely that  $p$  divides all  $k_{j+1} - k_j$ . Consider  $\lambda = 0$ , hence  $\lambda + \rho = \sum_{i=1}^n (n - i)\varepsilon_i = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \varepsilon_i$ . For each  $j$  the set of all  $a_i$  with  $i \in N_j$  is the set of the reductions modulo  $p$  of all integers  $n - k$  with  $k_j \leq k < k_{j+1}$ . In this sequence of consecutive numbers each residue class modulo  $p$  has equally many representatives since the number of terms, equal to  $k_{j+1} - k_j$ , is a multiple of  $p$ . It follows that  $|N_j(0, r)| = |N_j(0, 0)|$  for all  $r$  and  $i$ . So  $L_\chi(0)$  has type B.

Finally, let  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$  both satisfy the condition in Lemma 4.4. We get then  $|N_j(\lambda, r)| = (k_{j+1} - k_j)/p = |N_j(\mu, r)|$  for all  $r$  and all  $j$ . It follows that there exists  $\tau \in W_I$  with  $\tau(N_j(\lambda, r)) = N_j(\mu, r)$  for all  $r$  and  $j$ , hence  $\tau^{-1} \cdot \lambda = \mu$  and  $L_\chi(\lambda) \simeq L_\chi(\mu)$ . ■

*Remark:* Note that Proposition 4.5 proves Proposition 2 of the Introduction in the case where  $C_\chi$  is nilpotent.

**4.6.** Consider in particular the case where  $C_\chi$  is regular nilpotent; this means in the notation above that  $s = 1$ , i.e., that  $C_\chi$  has only one Jordan block (of size  $n$ ). If  $p$  does not divide  $n$ , then work of Friedlander and Parshall (in [3] and [4]) shows that both  $Z_\chi(\lambda)$  and its restriction to  $\mathfrak{g}'$  are simple for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . If  $p$  divides  $n$ , the each  $Z_\chi(\lambda)$  is still simple, cf. [5], Prop. 10.5. Proposition 4.5 now says that in this case the restriction of  $Z_\chi(0)$  to  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is not simple. This was observed in the case  $p = n = 3$  by Xin Wen in [8]; this paper grew out of my wish to understand this behaviour.

### 5. The General Case

**5.1.** We keep the assumptions from 3.1. We need one more special case:

**Lemma.** *The claim in Proposition 2 from the introduction holds for any  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  such that  $C_\chi$  has only one eigenvalue.*

**Proof.** Let  $a \in K$  denote the only eigenvalue of  $C_\chi$ . We may assume that  $C_\chi$  has Jordan normal form. This implies that  $C_\chi = aI + N$  where  $I$  is the identity matrix in  $\mathfrak{g}$  and where  $N$  is a nilpotent matrix in Jordan normal form. The Jordan blocks of  $N$  and of  $C_\chi$  have the same sizes.

Denote by  $\psi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  the linear form with  $N = C_\psi$ . Then  $C_\chi = aI + C_\psi$  implies  $\chi = a \operatorname{tr} + \psi$ . Choose  $b \in K$  with  $b^p - b = a$ . Then the one dimensional  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module  $K_b$  (as in 2.2) has  $p$ -character equal to  $a \operatorname{tr}$ .

Now the functor  $M \mapsto M \otimes K_b$  induces an equivalence from the category of all  $U_\psi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules to the category of all  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules; an inverse is given by  $N \mapsto N \otimes K_{-b}$ .

We have  $(M \otimes K_b) \otimes K_r \simeq (M \otimes K_r) \otimes K_b$  for any  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . If  $M$  is simple, this shows that  $M$  has type B if and only if  $M \otimes K_b$  has type B. So the number of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B is equal to the corresponding number for  $U_\psi(\mathfrak{g})$ . Now the claim follows from Proposition 4.5 applied to  $\psi$  in stead of  $\chi$  and from the comparison of the Jordan blocks of  $C_\chi$  and of  $N = C_\psi$ . ■

**5.2.** Let now  $\chi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  be arbitrary. We assume that  $C_\chi$  has Jordan normal form. So its (additive) Jordan decomposition has the form  $C_\chi = S + N$  where  $S$  is the diagonal matrix with the same entries in the diagonal as  $C_\chi$  and where  $N$  is a strictly upper triangular matrix with the same off-diagonal entries as  $C_\chi$ .

Denote the centraliser in  $\mathfrak{g}$  of the diagonal matrix  $S$  by  $\mathfrak{m}$ . This is a restricted Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  that is the Levi factor of a parabolic subalgebra  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{m} \oplus \mathfrak{u}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  with nilradical  $\mathfrak{u}$ .

**Lemma.** *There is a bijection from the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m})$ -modules  $L$  such that  $L \otimes K_r \simeq L$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  to the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B.*

**Proof.** There exists an equivalence of categories (cf. [5], Prop. 7.4) from  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m})$ -modules to  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules constructed as follows: We first extend any  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m})$ -module to an (“inflated”)  $\mathfrak{p}$ -module  $\operatorname{inf} V$  letting any element in  $\mathfrak{u}$  act as 0. It turns out that  $\operatorname{inf} V$  is a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{p})$ -module. Our equivalence of categories takes now  $V$  to  $\operatorname{ind}_\chi(\operatorname{inf} V)$  with  $\operatorname{ind}_\chi$  as in 1.2 with  $\mathfrak{p}$  in stead of  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . This functor induces a bijection between the isomorphism classes of simple modules. (This goes back to Weisfeiler and Kac in [7] and Friedlander and Parshall in [3].)

Let  $E$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -module and let  $L$  be a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m})$ -module with  $E \simeq \operatorname{ind}_\chi(\operatorname{inf} L)$ . The tensor identity (e.g., [6], 1.12(1)) implies for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  that

$$E \otimes K_r \simeq \operatorname{ind}_\chi((\operatorname{inf} V) \otimes K_r) \simeq \operatorname{ind}_\chi(\operatorname{inf}(L \otimes K_r))$$

where we use at the second step that the nilpotent matrices in  $\mathfrak{u}$  have trace 0, hence act as 0 on  $K_r$ . It follows that  $E$  has type B if and only if  $L \otimes K_r \simeq L$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$ . ■

**5.3.** Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s \in K$  be the distinct eigenvalues of  $C_\chi$ . So the characteristic polynomial of  $C_\chi$  has the form  $\det(TI - C_\chi) = \prod_{i=1}^s (T - a_i)^{r(i)}$  with suitable integers  $r(i) > 0$ . We may and shall assume that we have arranged the Jordan blocks of  $C_\chi$  such that the first  $r(1)$  entries in the diagonal are equal to  $a_1$ , the next  $r(2)$  entries in the diagonal equal to  $a_2$ , and so on.

Then the centraliser  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $S$  has a direct product decomposition

$$\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{m}_1 \times \mathfrak{m}_2 \times \cdots \times \mathfrak{m}_s \tag{1}$$

where  $\mathfrak{m}_1$  is the span of all  $E_{ij}$  with  $1 \leq i, j \leq r(1)$ , and  $\mathfrak{m}_2$  the span of all  $E_{ij}$  with  $r(1) + 1 \leq i, j \leq r(1) + r(2)$ , and so on. We have thus a natural identification

$$\varphi_i : \mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{m}_i \quad \text{for each } i, 1 \leq i \leq s. \tag{2}$$

We can choose the parabolic subalgebra  $\mathfrak{p}$  in 5.2 such that  $\mathfrak{u}$  is the span of all  $E_{ij}$  with  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  such that  $E_{ij}$  does not belong to  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

**Lemma.** *The set of isomorphism classes of tuples  $(L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s)$  where each  $L_i$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m}_i)$ -module with  $L_i \otimes K_r \simeq L_i$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  is in bijection with the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules of type B.*

**Proof.** The direct product decomposition in (1) implies that there is a bijection from the set of isomorphism classes of tuples  $(L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s)$  where each  $L_i$  is a simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m}_i)$ -module to the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m})$ -modules induced by  $(L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s) \mapsto L_1 \otimes L_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes L_s$ . Note that any  $X_i \in \mathfrak{m}_i$  acts on the right hand side as  $\text{id} \otimes \cdots \otimes \text{id} \otimes X_i \otimes \text{id} \otimes \cdots \otimes \text{id}$ . We have then for each  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  an isomorphism

$$(L_1 \otimes L_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes L_s) \otimes K_r \simeq (L_1 \otimes K_r) \otimes (L_2 \otimes K_r) \otimes \cdots \otimes (L_s \otimes K_r),$$

where  $K_r$  on the left hand side is its restriction to  $\mathfrak{m}$  and on the right hand side its restriction to the appropriate  $\mathfrak{m}_i$ . Because of the bijection induced by (3) we see that  $(L_1 \otimes L_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes L_s) \otimes K_r \simeq L_1 \otimes L_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes L_s$  if and only if  $L_i \otimes K_r \simeq L_i$  for each  $i$ . Now the claim follows from Lemma 5.2. ■

**5.4.** Then the matrix  $C_\chi$  has block form with square blocks  $C_i \in \mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , along the diagonal and all off-diagonal blocks equal to 0. Each  $C_i$  has Jordan normal form with all diagonal entries equal to  $a_i$ .

Denote by  $\chi_i \in \mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)^*$  the linear form with  $C_{\chi_i} = C_i$ . We get then  $\chi_i = \chi \circ \varphi_i$  since  $\chi_i(X) = \text{tr}(C_i X) = \text{tr}(C_\chi \varphi_i(X)) = \chi \circ \varphi_i(X)$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$ .

This shows: If we regard a  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m}_i)$ -module via  $\varphi_i$  as a  $\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$ -module, then we get a  $U_{\chi_i}(\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K))$ -module. Since  $\varphi_i$  is an isomorphism, we get thus a bijection between isomorphism classes of simple modules.

If we regard any  $K_r$  via  $\varphi_i$  as a  $\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$ -module, then we get the analogue of  $K_r$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$  since  $\text{tr}(X) = \text{tr}(\varphi_i(X))$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$ . Therefore  $\varphi_i$  induces a bijection from the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{m}_i)$ -module

with  $L_i \otimes K_r \simeq L_i$  for all  $r \in \mathbf{F}_p$  to the set of isomorphism classes of simple  $U_\chi(\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K))$ -modules of type B.

We can apply Lemma 5.1 to  $\mathfrak{gl}_{r(i)}(K)$  and  $\chi_i$ . Any integer is the size of a Jordan block of  $C_\chi$  if and only if it is the size of a Jordan block of some  $C_i$ . Therefore Proposition 2 in the introduction follows now from Lemma 5.3.

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Received January 5, 2017  
 and in final form March 1, 2017