

## REPRESENTATIONS OF QUANTUM GROUPS AT ROOTS OF 1: REDUCTION TO THE EXCEPTIONAL CASE

CORRADO DE CONCINI  
*Scuola Normale Superiore  
Pisa, Italy*

and

VICTOR G. KAC  
*Department of Mathematics, MIT  
Cambridge, MA 02139, USA*

Received September 24, 1991

### ABSTRACT

This paper is a continuation of the papers [DC-K] and [DC-K-P] on representations of quantum groups at roots of 1. Here we show that an irreducible representation of a quantum group at an odd root of 1 can be uniquely induced from an exceptional representation of a smaller quantum group. This reduces the classification of representations, the calculation of their characters and dimensions, etc, to the exceptional case.

§1. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple finite-dimensional Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ , let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be its Cartan subalgebra, let  $R \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$  be the set of roots, let  $Q = \mathbb{Z}R$  be the root lattice, and let  $W \subset \text{Aut } \mathfrak{h}^*$  be the Weyl group. Choose a subset of positive roots  $R^+ \subset R$ , let  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\} \subset R^+$  be the set of simple roots and let  $s_1, \dots, s_n$  be the corresponding simple reflections generating  $W$ . Let  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  be a  $W$ -invariant bilinear form on  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  normalized by the condition that the square length of a short root equals 2. Then

$$(\alpha_i | \alpha_j) = d_i a_{ij}, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, n,$$

where  $d_1, \dots, d_n$  are relatively prime positive integers and  $(a_{ij})$  is the Cartan matrix of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Recall that connected Lie groups with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  are in one-to-one correspondence with lattices  $M$  containing  $Q$  such that  $(\lambda | d_j^{-1} \alpha_j) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Fix such a lattice  $M$  and let  $G$  be the corresponding connected Lie group (so that  $\text{Center } G = M/Q$ ).

Fix an odd positive integer  $l$  greater than  $d := \max_j 2d_j$ , and let  $\varepsilon$  be a primitive  $l$ 'th root of 1.

§2. Recall that the "quantum group at  $\varepsilon$ " is the associative algebra  $U = U_{M,\varepsilon}(\mathfrak{g})$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  on generators  $E_i, F_i (i = 1, \dots, n), K_\alpha (\alpha \in M)$  and the following defining relations ( $\alpha, \beta \in M, i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ):

- (2.1)  $K_\alpha K_\beta = K_{\alpha+\beta}, K_0 = 1,$
- (2.2)  $K_\alpha E_i K_{-\alpha} = \varepsilon^{(\alpha|\alpha_i)} E_i, K_\alpha F_i K_{-\alpha} = \varepsilon^{-(\alpha|\alpha_i)} F_i,$
- (2.3)  $E_i F_j - F_j E_i = \delta_{ij} (K_\alpha - K_{-\alpha_i}) / (\varepsilon^{d_i} - \varepsilon^{-d_i}),$
- (2.4) certain Chevalley-Serre type relations between the  $E_i$  and between the  $F_i$  (see e.g. [L] or [DC-K, (1.2.4 and 5)]).

Let  $\omega$  be a conjugate-linear anti-automorphism of  $U$  defined by:  $\omega E_i = F_i, \omega F_i = E_i, \omega K_\alpha = K_{-\alpha}.$

Let  $U^+, U^-$  and  $U^0$  be the subalgebras of  $U$  generated by the  $E_i$ , by the  $F_i (i = 1, \dots, n)$  and by the  $K_\alpha (\alpha \in M)$  respectively. Then multiplication defines a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space isomorphism [R]

$$(2.5) \quad U = U^- \otimes U^0 \otimes U^+.$$

§3. Recall that the braid group  $B_W$  (associated to  $W$ ) acts by automorphisms of  $U$  defined by [L] ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} T_i K_\alpha &= K_{s_i(\alpha)}, \\ T_i E_i &= -F_i K_i, \quad T_i E_j = \sum_{s=0}^{-a_{ij}} (-1)^{s-a_{ij}} \varepsilon_i^{-s} E_i^{(-a_{ij}-s)} E_j E_i^{(s)} \text{ if } i \neq j, \\ T_i F_i &= -K_i^{-1} E_i, \quad T_i F_j = \sum_{s=0}^{-a_{ij}} (-1)^{s-a_{ij}} \varepsilon_i^s F_i^{(s)} F_j F_i^{(-a_{ij}-s)} \text{ if } i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

Here and further  $E_i^{(a)}$  and  $F_i^{(a)}$  stand for  $E_i^a/[a]_{d_i}!$  and  $F_i^a/[a]_{d_i}!$ , where  $[a]_d! = [a]_d[a-1]_d \dots [1]_d$  and  $[a]_d = (\varepsilon^{da} - \varepsilon^{-da}) / (\varepsilon^d - \varepsilon^{-d})$ . Note that  $T_i \omega = \omega T_i$ .

Choosing a reduced expression  $s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \dots s_{i_N}$  of the longest element of  $W (N = |R^+|)$ , we get a total ordering of  $R^+$ :

$$\beta_1 = \alpha_{i_1}, \beta_2 = s_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2}, \dots, \beta_N = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_{N-1}} \alpha_{i_N},$$

and the corresponding root vectors ( $k = 1, \dots, N$ ):

$$E_{\beta_k} = T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_{k-1}} E_{i_k}, \quad F_{\beta_k} = T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_{k-1}} F_{i_k} = \omega E_{\beta_k}$$

(they depend on the choice of the reduced expression).

For  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_N) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^N$  we let

$$E^k = E_{\beta_{k_1}}^{k_1} \dots E_{\beta_{k_N}}^{k_N}, \quad F^k = \omega E^k.$$

**Lemma 3.1.** [L] (a) Elements  $E^k$  (resp  $F^k$ ),  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^N$ , form a basis of  $U^+$  (resp.  $U^-$ ) over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

(b) Elements  $F^k K_\alpha E^r$ , where  $k, r \in \mathbb{Z}_+^N, \alpha \in M$ , form a basis of  $U$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ . □

**Lemma 3.2.** [L-S] For  $i < j$  one has:

$$(3.1) \quad E_{\beta_j} E_{\beta_i} - \varepsilon^{(\beta_i, \beta_j)} E_{\beta_i} E_{\beta_j} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^N} c_k E^k,$$

where  $c_k \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $c_k \neq 0$  only when  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_N)$  is such that  $k_s = 0$  for  $s \leq i$  and  $s \geq j$ . □

§4. Let  $Z$  denote the center of the algebra  $U$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** [DC-K] Elements  $E_\alpha^l, F_\alpha^l$  and  $K_\beta^l$  ( $\alpha \in R^+, \beta \in M$ ) lie in  $Z$ . □

Let  $Z_0$  (resp.  $Z_0^0$  or  $Z_0^+$  or  $Z_0^-$ ) be the subalgebra of  $Z$  generated by all the elements  $E_\alpha^l, F_\alpha^l$  and  $K_\beta^l$  (resp.  $K_\beta^l$  or  $E_\alpha^l$  or  $F_\alpha^l$ ). By (2.5) we have:

$$Z_0 = Z_0^- \otimes Z_0^0 \otimes Z_0^+.$$

Now Lemma 3.1 implies

**Lemma 4.2.** [DC-K] The algebra  $U$  is a free  $Z_0$ -module on the basis  $\{F^k K_\alpha E^r\}$ , where  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_N)$  and  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_N)$  are such that  $0 \leq k_i < l, 0 \leq r_i < l$  and  $\alpha$  runs over a basis of  $M \bmod lM$ . □

Given a homomorphism  $\chi : Z_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , let

$$U_\chi = U / (z - \chi(z), \text{ where } z \in Z_0).$$

**Corollary 4.1.**  $U_\chi$  is an algebra of dimension  $l^{\dim \mathfrak{g}}$  with a basis over  $\mathbb{C}$  described by Lemma 4.2. □

§5. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the algebra of rational functions in  $q$  that have no poles at  $\varepsilon$ . Let  $U_{\mathcal{A}}$  be the algebra over  $\mathcal{A}$  on generators  $E_i, F_i$  and  $K_\alpha$  and defining relations (2.1)-(2.4) where  $\varepsilon$  is replaced by  $q$ , so that  $U = U_{\mathcal{A}} / (q - \varepsilon)$ . Suppose that we have an element  $b \in U_{\mathcal{A}}$  with the property that  $[b, a] \in (q - \varepsilon)U_{\mathcal{A}}$  for all  $a \in U_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Then of course the image of  $b$  in  $U$  is central. Moreover one can also define a derivation  $P_b$  of  $U$  by

$$P_b(a) = (q - \varepsilon)^{-1} [b, \hat{a}] \bmod (q - \varepsilon),$$

where  $\hat{a}$  is a preimage of  $a$  in  $U_{\mathcal{A}}$ . In particular, we have derivations  $e_i$  and  $f_i$  of  $U$  given by [DC-K] (in a slightly different normalization):

$$e_i = P_{E_i^l}, \quad f_i = P_{F_i^l}.$$

It was shown in [DC-K] that the series  $\exp t e_i$  and  $\exp t f_i$  ( $t \in \mathbb{C}$ ) converge to analytic automorphisms of certain analytic completion  $\hat{U}$  of the algebra  $U$ . Denote by  $\hat{G}$  the group of automorphisms of  $\hat{U}$  generated by all these 1-parameter groups.

The group  $\tilde{G}$  leaves the completion of  $Z_0$  invariant [DC-K]. Hence it acts on  $\text{Spec } Z_0$  by  $(\tilde{g}\chi)(z) = \chi(\tilde{g}^{-1}(z))$ ,  $\tilde{g} \in \tilde{G}$ , and we have an isomorphism of algebras:

$$(5.1) \quad \tilde{g} : U_\chi \xrightarrow{\sim} U_{\tilde{g}(\chi)}, \quad \tilde{g} \in \tilde{G}.$$

This induces a canonical bijection (for the definition of  $\text{Spec}$  see below)

$$(5.2) \quad \tilde{g} : \text{Spec } U_\chi \rightarrow \text{Spec } U_{\tilde{g}(\chi)},$$

where  $(\tilde{g}\sigma)(u) := \sigma(\tilde{g}^{-1}u)$ ,  $u \in U_\chi$ .

§6. Let  $G'$  be the connected cover of  $G$  with fundamental group  $\pi_1(G') = \pi_1(G)/\pi_1(G)^2$ . Denote by  $\text{Spec } A$  the set of all equivalence classes of irreducible finite-dimensional representations of an algebra  $A$ . Recall that we have the following sequence of canonical maps:

$$(6.1) \quad \text{Spec } U \xrightarrow{X} \text{Spec } Z \xrightarrow{\tau} \text{Spec } Z_0 \xrightarrow{\pi} G'.$$

Here  $X$  is the map of taking central characters,  $\tau$  is the restriction map and  $\pi$  is a map constructed in [DC-K-P]. The maps  $X$  and  $\tau$  are surjective, the map  $\chi$  is bijective over a Zariski open dense subset of  $\text{Spec } Z$  and has finite fibers, the map  $\tau$  is finite with fibers of order  $\leq l^n$ , which are explicitly described ([DC-K],[DC-K-P]). Note also that a representation  $\sigma \in \text{Spec } U$  with  $\chi = X(\sigma)$  is actually a representation of the algebra  $U_\chi$ .

In order to describe properties of the map  $\pi$  which will be needed in the sequel, introduce some notation. Let  $T$  (resp.  $T'$ ) be the maximal torus of  $G$  (resp.  $G'$ ) corresponding to  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ , and let  $N_-$  and  $N_+$  be maximal unipotent subgroups of  $G'$  corresponding to  $-R^+$  and  $R^+$  respectively. We shall identify  $\text{Spec } Z_0^0$  with  $T$  via the isomorphism  $M \xrightarrow{\sim} lM$  given by multiplication by  $l$ . Recall that multiplication in  $G'$  defines a biregular isomorphism  $N_- \times T' \times N_+ \xrightarrow{\sim} N_- T' N_+ = G'^0$ , where  $G'^0$  is a Zariski open dense subset of  $G'$  (called the big cell of  $G'$ ). Given a conjugacy class  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $G'$  we let  $\mathcal{O}^0 = \mathcal{O} \cap G'^0$ ; this is a Zariski open dense subset of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

**Lemma 6.1.** [DC-K-P] (a) We have:

$$\pi = \pi^- \times \pi^0 \times \pi^+ : \text{Spec } Z_0^- \times \text{Spec } Z_0^0 \times \text{Spec } Z_0^+ \xrightarrow{\sim} N_- \times T' \times N_+ \simeq G'^0 \subset G',$$

where  $\pi^\pm : \text{Spec } Z_0^\pm \rightarrow N_\pm$  is a biregular isomorphism and  $\pi^0 : T \rightarrow T'$  is a homomorphism given by the square map.

(b) The set  $F$  of fixed points of  $\tilde{G}$  in  $\text{Spec } Z_0$  is  $(\pi^0)^{-1}$  (Center  $G'$ )  $\subset T = \text{Spec } Z_0^0$ .

(c) If  $\mathcal{O}$  is a conjugacy class of a non-central element of  $G'$ , then  $\pi^{-1}(\mathcal{O}^0)$  is a single  $\tilde{G}$ -orbit and  $(\text{Spec } Z_0) \setminus F$  is a union of these  $G$ -orbits.

(d) If  $\chi_- \in \text{Spec } Z_0^-$  and  $\chi_0 \in \text{Spec } Z_0^0$  are such that  $\pi^-(\chi_-)$  and  $\pi^0(\chi_0)$  are commuting elements of  $G'$  and  $\chi_0(K_\alpha^{2l}) \neq 1$  for some  $\alpha \in R^+$ , then  $\chi_-(F_\alpha^l) = 0$ .  $\square$

§7. We call a semisimple element  $g$  of the algebraic group  $G'$  exceptional if its centralizer in  $G'$  has a finite center. All semisimple exceptional elements are classified by the following lemma which can be easily deduced from [K, Chapter 8]:

**Lemma 7.1.** (a) Let  $\theta = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i$  be the highest root in  $R^+$ . Define elements  $\omega_m^\vee \in \mathfrak{h}$  ( $m = 1, \dots, n$ ) by

$$\langle \alpha_j, \omega_m^\vee \rangle = \delta_{jm}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Then elements  $s_m := \exp(2\pi i \omega_m^\vee / a_m) \in T' \subset G'$  and  $s_0 = 1$  are exceptional semisimple elements and any exceptional semisimple element is conjugate to one of the  $s_m$  ( $m = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ).

(b) Up to multiplication by a central element the  $s_m$  give a complete non-redundant list of representatives of exceptional semisimple elements for the following  $m$  (the numbering of simple roots is taken from [K, Chapter 4]):

$$\begin{array}{ll} A_n & m = 0 \\ B_n & 1 \leq m \leq n \\ C_n & 0 \leq m \leq [n/2] \\ D_n & 0 \leq m \leq [(n-1)/2] \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{ll} E_6 & 3 \leq m \leq 6 \\ E_7 & 3 \leq m \leq 7 \\ E_8, F_4, G_2 & 0 \leq m \leq n \end{array} \right.$$

□

An element  $g$  of  $G'$  is called exceptional if its semisimple part is exceptional. In other words a complete set of representatives of conjugacy classes of exceptional elements is given by  $\{s_m u\}$ , where  $u$  are representatives of conjugacy classes of unipotent elements in the centralizer of the  $s_m$ . Note that the number of conjugacy classes of exceptional elements in  $G'$  is finite.

§8. Let  $\varphi = \pi \circ \tau \circ X : \text{Spec } U \rightarrow G'$  be the composition of maps of the sequence (6.1). A finite-dimensional irreducible representation of  $U$  is called exceptional if its image in  $G'$  under the map  $\varphi$  is an exceptional element.

Suppose now that  $\sigma$  is a non-exceptional finite-dimensional irreducible representation of the algebra  $U$  in a vector space  $V$ , and let  $\chi = X(\sigma) \in \text{Spec } Z$  so that  $\sigma \in \text{Spec } U_\chi$ . Since the element  $\varphi(\sigma)$  is not exceptional, its conjugacy class in  $G'$  contains an element  $g$  with the following properties:

$$(8.1) \quad g_s \in T', g_u \in N_-,$$

where  $g_s$  and  $g_u$  denote the semisimple and unipotent parts of  $g$ ;

$$(8.2) \quad \mathfrak{h}_g := \text{Lie}(\text{center of Centralizer } G'(g_s)) \neq 0;$$

$$(8.3) \quad R' := \{\alpha \in R \mid \alpha \text{ vanishes on } \mathfrak{h}_g\} = M' \cap R,$$

where  $M' = \mathbb{Z}\Pi'$  is a sublattice of  $M$  spanned by a subset  $\Pi'$  of  $\Pi$  different from  $\Pi$ .

By Lemma 6.1c, there exists an element  $\tilde{g} \in \tilde{G}$  such that  $\varphi(\tilde{g}(\sigma)) = g$ . Replacing  $\sigma$  by  $\tilde{g}(\sigma)$  and  $\chi$  by  $\tilde{g}(\chi)$ , we may assume that  $\sigma$  is an irreducible representation of the algebra  $U_\chi$  in the vector space  $V$ , such that  $g := \varphi(\sigma)$  satisfies (8.1)–(8.3).

Let  $U'$  be the subalgebra of  $U$  generated by  $U^0$  and all the elements  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  such that  $\alpha_i \in \Pi'$ , and let  $U'_\chi = U'/(z - \chi(z))$ , where  $z \in Z_0 \cap U'$ . Let  $U^{\tilde{g}} = U'U^+$  and  $U^{\tilde{g}}_\chi = U^{\tilde{g}}/(z - \chi(z))$ , where  $z \in Z_0 \cap U^{\tilde{g}}$  be the corresponding “parabolic” subalgebras.

Now we are in a position to state the main theorem (Theorem 2 from [W-K] may be viewed as an “infinitesimal” analogue of this theorem).

**Theorem.** (a) The  $U_\chi$ -module  $V$  contains a unique irreducible  $U_\chi^{\bar{g}}$ -submodule  $V'$ , which is in fact a  $U_\chi'$ -module.  
 (b) The  $U_\chi$ -module  $V$  is induced from the  $U_\chi^{\bar{g}}$ -module  $V'$ , i.e.

$$V = U_\chi \otimes_{U_\chi^{\bar{g}}} V',$$

with the action of  $U_\chi$  on  $V$  defined by left multiplication on  $U_\chi$ . In particular,  $\dim V = l^t \dim V'$ , where  $2t = |R \setminus R'|$ .

(c) The map  $V \rightarrow V'$  thus obtained establishes a bijection:  $\text{Spec } U_\chi \rightarrow \text{Spec } U_\chi'$ .

*Remark 8.1.* The representation of  $U_\chi'$  in  $V'$  remains irreducible when restricted to the subalgebra  $U_\chi''$  of  $U_\chi'$  generated by the  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  such that  $\alpha_i \in \Pi'$  and by the  $K_\beta$  such that  $\beta \in M'$ . This representation of  $U_\chi''$  is in fact an exceptional representation of the quantum group  $U_{M',\epsilon}(\mathfrak{g}')$ , where  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is the subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  generated by the Chevalley generators corresponding to  $\alpha_i \in \Pi'$ .

§9. The proof of this theorem is similar to that of Theorem 2 from [W-K] on irreducible representations of simple Lie algebras of characteristic  $p$ . It is based on several lemmas that we prove in this section.

Consider the root system  $R'$ . Let  $R'^+$  be the corresponding subset of positive roots. Let  $w'_0$  be a reduced expression of the longest element of the Weyl group  $W'$  of  $R'$ . We complete  $w'_0$  to a reduced expression of the longest element of  $W$ :

$$(9.1) \quad w_0 = w'_0 s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_t}.$$

Let

$$(9.2) \quad \gamma_1 = \alpha_{i_1}, \gamma_2 = s_{i_1}(\alpha_{i_2}), \dots, \gamma_t = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{t-1}}(\alpha_{i_t}).$$

Let  $R_{(k)}^+ = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_k} R^+$  ( $k = 1, \dots, t$ ).

**Lemma 9.1.** (a)  $R^+ \setminus R'^+ = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_t\}$ .

(b)  $\gamma_k$  is a simple root of  $R_{(k)}^+$  and  $\gamma_j \in -R_{(k)}^+$  for  $j < k$ .

*Proof.* It is clear that  $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_t\} \subset R^+$  and that  $w'_0\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_t\} \subset R^+$ . This implies that  $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_t\} \subset R^+ \setminus R'^+$ . Since these two sets have equal cardinality, this proves (a).

It is clear by definition that  $\gamma_k$  is simple in  $R_{(k)}^+$ . Since  $(s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{k-1}})^{-1} s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{j-1}} \alpha_{i_j} = s_{i_{k_1}} \cdots s_{i_j} \alpha_{i_j} \in -R^+$ , (b) follows.  $\square$

Note that we have the following important properties of the  $\gamma_i$ :

$$(9.3) \quad K_{\gamma_i}^{2l} \neq 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, t,$$

hence, by Lemma 6.1d,

$$(9.4) \quad F_{\gamma_i}^l = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t.$$

Let  $B$  be the subalgebra of  $U_\chi$  generated by the  $K_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in M$ ) and  $E_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Given  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , let  $P_m$  denote the subalgebra of  $U_\chi$  generated by  $B$  and  $F_m$ . (In the sequel, we shall take  $m = i_1$ .) Taking a reduced expression of  $w_0$  which starts with  $s_m$ , consider the corresponding root vectors  $E_{\beta_1} = E_m, E_{\beta_2}, \dots, E_{\beta_N}$ . Denote by  $N_m$  the subalgebra of  $U_\chi$  generated by  $E_{\beta_2}, \dots, E_{\beta_N}$  and let  $\overline{N}_m$  be its 2-sided ideal generated by  $E_{\beta_2}, \dots, E_{\beta_N}$ .

**Lemma 9.2** (a)  $F_m E_\beta - \varepsilon^{(\alpha_m|\beta)} E_\beta F_m \in \overline{N}_m$  for  $\beta = \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N$ .  
 (b)  $N_m$  is independent of the choice of the reduced expression (which starts with  $s_m$ ).

*Proof.* (a) follows from formula (3.1) for  $E_m$  and  $E_{s_m(\beta)}$  by applying  $T_m$  to both sides.

In order to prove (b) suppose for example that  $w_0 = wr_i r_j r_i w_1 = wr_j r_i r_j w_1$ . Then the corresponding root vectors are respectively:

$$\{\dots, T_w E_i, T_w T_i E_j, T_w T_i T_j E_i = T_w E_j, \dots\},$$

$$\{\dots, T_w E_j, T_w T_j E_i, T_w T_j T_i E_j = T_w E_i, \dots\}.$$

Since  $T_w(T_i E_j)$  lies in the subalgebra generated by  $T_w E_i$  and  $T_w E_j$ , this proves (b). □

Let  $B_{(1)} = B, N_{(1)} = N_m, \overline{N}_{(1)} = \overline{N}_m, P_{(1)} = P_m, F_{(1)} = F_m, K_{(1)} = K_m$ , etc. For a  $B_{(1)}$ -module  $A$ , we let

$$A_{[1]} = \{a \in A | \overline{N}_{(1)} a = 0\}.$$

**Lemma 9.3.** Let  $A$  be a  $B_{(1)}$ -module. Let  $V = P_{(1)} \otimes_{B_{(1)}} A$  be the  $P_{(1)}$ -module induced from the  $B_{(1)}$ -module  $A$ . Then

- (a)  $V_{[1]}$  is  $P_{(1)}$ -stable.
- (b)  $V_{[1]}$  lies in  $\sum_{k=0}^{l-1} F_{(1)}^k A_{[1]}$ .
- (c) If  $E_{(1)} A_{[1]} = 0$  and  $K_{(1)}^{2l} \neq 1$ , then any  $P_{(1)}$ -submodule  $C$  of  $V_{[1]}$  intersects  $A_{[1]}$  non-trivially.

*Proof.* (a) follows from Lemma 9.2a.

We shall write  $E$  and  $F$  in place of  $E_{(1)}$  and  $F_{(1)}$  to simplify notation. In order to prove (b), write  $v \in V_{[1]}$  in the form:

$$v = \sum_{k=0}^s F^k x_k, \quad \text{where } s \leq l-1, x_k \in A.$$

If  $\beta = \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N$ , we have:

$$0 = E_\beta v = E_\beta F^s x_s + \sum_{k=0}^{s-1} E_\alpha F^k x_k$$

$$= \varepsilon^{-s(\alpha_{(1)}|\beta)} F^s E_\beta x_s + \sum_{k=0}^{s-1} F^k y_k, \quad \text{where } y_k \in A,$$

by Lemma 9.2a. Using Corollary 4.1, it follows that  $E_\beta x_s = 0$ , hence  $x_s \in A_{[1]}$ . Since by applying a suitable power of  $F$  (here we use (a)), we can make any  $x_k$  to enter in the last term, this proves (b).

In order to prove (c) note that the subalgebra of  $P_{(1)}$  generated by  $E, F$  and  $K_{(1)}$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Mat}_l(\mathbf{C})$  (cf. [DC-K]). Hence with respect to this subalgebra, the module  $V_{[1]}$  decomposes into a direct sum of  $l$ -dimensional irreducible submodules. Hence the same is true for  $C$  and therefore there exists  $x \in C$  such that  $E^{l-1}x \neq 0$ . Write  $x = \sum_{k=0}^s F^k x_k$ , where  $s \leq l-1$ ,  $x_s \neq 0$  and  $x_k \in A_{[1]}$  (by (b)). Applying  $E^s$ , we obtain:

$$E^s x = E^s F^s x_s = \text{const } x_s, \quad \text{where } \text{const} \neq 0.$$

This proves (c). □

**§10. Proof of the theorem.** Fix the reduced expression (9.1) of the longest element of  $W$ , so that  $R^+ \setminus R'^+ = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_t\}$ , where the  $\gamma_i$  are defined by (9.2). For  $j \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  we let:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{(j)} &= E_{\gamma_j}, & F_{(j)} &= F_{\gamma_j}, \\ B_{(j)} &= T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_{j-1}} B_{(j-1)}, & P_{(j)} &= T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_{j-1}} P_{(j-1)} \\ N_{(j)} &= T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_{j-1}} N_{(j-1)}, \text{ etc.} \end{aligned}$$

Then Lemma 9.3 holds if the index 1 is replaced by  $j$ .

Let  $V^0$  be an irreducible  $U_{\tilde{\chi}}^{\tilde{\beta}}$ -module. Note that the ideal of  $U_{\tilde{\chi}}^{\tilde{\beta}}$  generated by the  $E_\beta$  for  $\beta \in R^+ \setminus R'$  acts on  $V^0$  nilpotently, hence trivially. Thus  $V^0$  is actually a  $U_{\tilde{\chi}}'$ -module.

Let  $\tilde{V} = U_{\tilde{\chi}} \otimes_{U_{\tilde{\chi}}^{\tilde{\beta}}} V^0$ . We shall show that this is an irreducible  $U_{\tilde{\chi}}$ -module.

Let  $V^i = P_{(i)} \otimes_{B_{(i)}} V^{i-1}$  for  $i \geq 1$ . Since (by Lemma 9.1b)  $B_{(i+1)} \subset P_{(i)}$  we have canonical inclusions:

$$V^0 \subset V^1 \subset V^2 \subset \dots \subset V^t = \tilde{V}.$$

Let  $A$  be a  $U_{\tilde{\chi}}$ -submodule of  $\tilde{V}$  different from  $\tilde{V}$ . Then  $A \cap V^{i-1} = 0$  since otherwise  $A \supset V^0$  and hence  $A = \tilde{V}$ . Suppose that  $A \cap V^{i-1} = 0$ . We shall prove that  $A \cap V^i = 0$ , which proves the irreducibility of  $\tilde{V}$ . Assuming the contrary, suppose that  $C$  is an irreducible  $P_{(i)}$ -submodule of  $A \cap V^i$ . Since  $\overline{N}_{(i)}$  acts nilpotently on  $V^i$ , we conclude (using Lemma 9.2a) that  $\overline{N}_i C = 0$ . Hence it suffices to show that

$$(10.1) \quad E_{i+1} V_{[i+1]}^i = 0.$$

Indeed, by Lemma 9.3c (which can be used due to (9.3)) we deduce from (10.1) that  $C \cap V^{i-1} \neq 0$ , a contradiction with  $A \cap V^{i-1} = 0$ .

By Lemma 9.2a, (10.1) is an immediate consequence of

$$(10.2) \quad V_{[i+1]}^i \subset F_{(i)}^{l-1} \dots F_{(1)}^{l-1} V^0,$$



which we shall prove by induction. Since  $F_{(i)} \in \overline{N}_{(i+2)}$  (by Lemma 9.1b), we have:  $F_{(i)}V_{[i+1]}^i = 0$ . Hence  $V_{[i+1]}^i \subset F_{(i)}^{l-1}V^{i-1}$ . We now prove by induction on  $k \leq i$  that

$$(10.3) \quad V_{[i+1]}^i \subset F_{(i)}^{l-1} \dots F_{(k+1)}^{l-1} V^k,$$

By the inductive assumption, we may write any  $v \in V_{[i+1]}^i$  in the form  $v = F_{(i)}^{l-1} \dots F_{(k+1)}^{l-1} v_0$ , where  $v_0 \in V^k$ . By Lemma 9.1b,  $F_k v = 0$ , hence

$$0 = F_{(k)} F_{(i)}^{l-1} \dots F_{(k+1)}^{l-1} v_0 = \text{const } F_{(i)}^{l-1} \dots F_{(k+1)}^{l-1} F_{(k)} v_0,$$

where  $\text{const} \neq 0$ , by Lemma 3.2 and (9.4). Hence  $F_{(k)} v_0 = 0$  and therefore  $v_0 \in F_{(k)}^{l-1} V^{k-1}$  (since we are in an induced module, monomials are linearly independent due to Corollary 4.1). This completes the proof of irreducibility of the  $U_\chi$ -module  $\tilde{V}$ .

Thus (b) is proved since the  $U_\chi$ -module  $V$  is a non-zero homomorphic image of the irreducible induced module from the  $U_\chi^{\mathfrak{g}}$ -module  $V'$ .

In order to complete the proof of the theorem, we need to show that  $V'$  is a unique irreducible  $U_\chi^{\mathfrak{g}}$ -submodule of  $V$ . To show this we introduce a gradation  $V = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}_+} V_j$  by letting  $V_0 = V'$  and  $\deg F_{(j)} = 1, j = 1, \dots, t$ . Due to (9.4),  $F_{(i)} V_j \subset V_{i+j}$ . If now  $V''$  is another irreducible  $U_\chi^{\mathfrak{g}}$ -submodule of  $V$ , then obviously,  $V' \subset \bigoplus_{j>0} V_j$ , hence  $V = \sum F_{(1)}^{s_1} \dots F_{(t)}^{s_t} V'' \subset \bigoplus_{j>0} V_j$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

### References

- [DC-K] De Concini, C., Kac, V. G., Representations of quantum groups at roots of 1, Colloque Dixmier 1989, Progress in Math. 92, 471–506, Birkhäuser, Boston, 1990.
- [DC-K-P]\* De Concini, C., Kac, V. G., Procesi C., Quantum coadjoint action, preprint.
- [K] Kac, V. G., Infinite dimensional Lie algebras, 3d edition, Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- [L] Lusztig, G., Quantum groups at roots of 1, Geom. Ded. 35 (1990), 89–114.
- [L-S] Levendorskii, S. Z., Soibelman, Ya. S., Algebras of functions on compact quantum groups, Schubert cells and quantum tori, Comm. Math. Phys., 139 (1991), 141–170.
- [R] Rosso, M., Finite dimensional representations of the quantum analogue of the enveloping algebra of a complex simple Lie algebra, Comm. Math. Phys. 117 (1988), 581–593.
- [W-K] Weisfeiler, B. Yu, Kac, V. G., On irreducible representations of Lie  $p$ -algebras, Funct. Anal. Appl. 5:2 (1971), 28–36.

\*This paper has appeared in the first issue of Journal of the AMS of 1992.