

# A filtration on the ring of Laurent polynomials and representations of the general linear Lie algebra

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**ABSTRACT.** We first present a filtration on the ring  $L_n$  of Laurent polynomials such that the direct sum decomposition of its associated graded ring  $grL_n$  agrees with the direct sum decomposition of  $grL_n$ , as a module over the complex general linear Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ , into its simple submodules. Next, generalizing the simple modules occurring in the associated graded ring  $grL_n$ , we give some explicit constructions of weight multiplicity-free irreducible representations of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ .

## 1. Introduction

In this section, we give a brief summary of our results.

### 1.1. The ring of polynomials

The ring  $P_n = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  of polynomials in  $n$  indeterminates over the complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded algebra

$$P_n = \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} P_n^{(m)} \tag{1.1}$$

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where  $P_n^{(m)}$  is the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $m$ . As a vector space,  $P_n$  becomes a module over the complex general linear Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{gl}(n) = \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{C})$  under the action

$$A \cdot f = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} x_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \quad \text{for } A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathfrak{gl}(n) \text{ and } f \in P_n. \quad (1.2)$$

Then, the direct sum decomposition (1.1) of  $P_n$  as a graded ring agrees with the decomposition of  $P_n$  as a  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ -module into its simple submodules  $P_n^{(m)}$ . They are the finite dimensional representations of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  labeled by Young diagrams with single rows.

## 1.2. The ring of Laurent polynomials

The first goal of this paper is to obtain an analogous result of the above observation for the ring of Laurent polynomials

$$L_n = \mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm 1}, x_2^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}].$$

It turns out that a filtration and its associated graded structure give us an answer. Note that (1.1) can be seen as the graded ring associated with the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -filtration of  $P_n$  given by degree.

We will define a filtration on  $L_n$  by a partially ordered monoid constructed from integers and subsets of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$$L_n = \bigcup_{(m,J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n} L_n^{\leq(m,J)}$$

and show that the direct sum decomposition of its associated graded ring

$$gr L_n = \bigoplus_{(m,J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n} L_n^{\leq(m,J)} / L_n^{<(m,J)}$$

provides the decomposition of  $gr L_n$ , as a  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ -module, into its simple submodules.

Extending the space with the action (1.2) of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  from  $P_n$  to  $L_n$ , we identify Laurent monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n}$  with integral points  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Note that they are weight vectors with respect to the Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  consisting of diagonal matrices. Since this action preserves the degree of monomials, we can focus on integral points on the hyperplane  $k_1 + \cdots + k_n = m$  for each  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

One of main difficulties in studying the  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ -module structure of  $L_n$  is that the symmetric behavior of raising and lowering operators we had

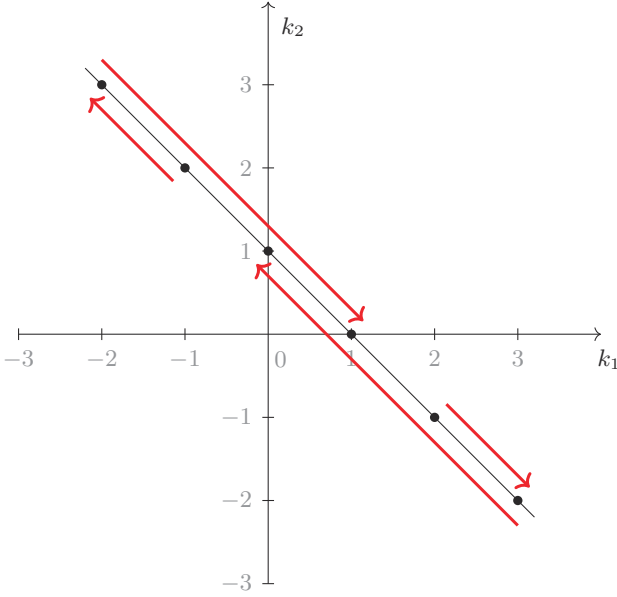


FIGURE 1. The action of  $\mathfrak{gl}(2)$  on  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2}$  with  $k_1 + k_2 = 1$ .

when working with  $P_n$  is not trivial anymore. For example, when  $n = 2$  as in Figure 1,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot x_1^{k_1} x_2^{m-k_1} = k_1 x_1^{k_1-1} x_2^{m+1-k_1},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot x_1^{m-k_2} x_2^{k_2} = k_2 x_1^{m+1-k_2} x_2^{k_2-1}.$$

The cases  $k_1 = 0$  and  $k_2 = 0$  divide the line  $k_1 + k_2 = m$  into three parts. The monomials with  $k_1 \geq 0$  and  $k_2 \geq 0$  can be obtained by applying some elements of  $\mathfrak{gl}(2)$  to monomials with  $k_1 k_2 < 0$ . However, monomials with  $k_1 k_2 < 0$  cannot be obtained from the ones with  $k_1 \geq 0$  and  $k_2 \geq 0$ .

More generally, the planes  $k_j = 0$  divide the hyperplane  $k_1 + k_2 + \cdots + k_n = m$  into regions labeled by the signs of the coordinates  $k_i$ . Then, for each  $i$ , we can obtain weight vectors  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  with  $k_i \geq 0$  starting from the ones with  $k_i < 0$  by successively applying some elements of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ , but the opposite way is not possible. See Figure 2.

Therefore, our indecomposable submodules in  $L_n$  and simple modules obtained from their quotients are labeled by degree  $m$  of  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  and subsets  $J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  indicating the position of possible negative components

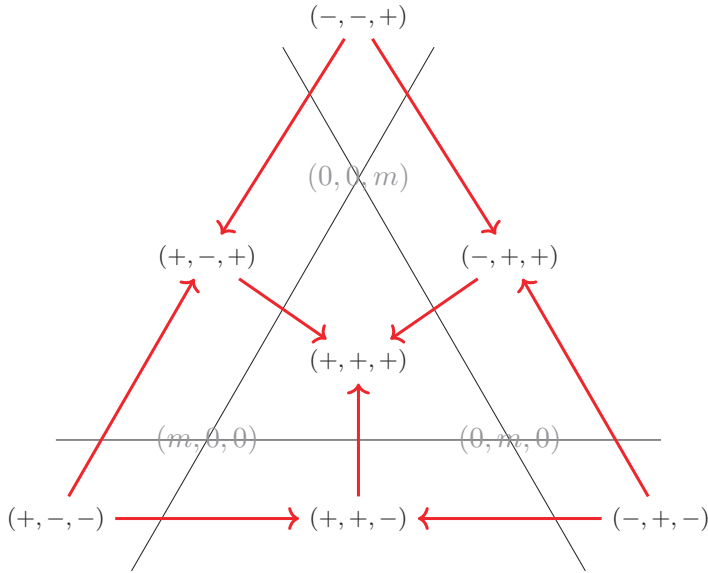


FIGURE 2. The action of  $\mathfrak{gl}(3)$  on  $x_1^{k_1}x_2^{k_2}x_3^{k_3}$  with  $k_1 + k_2 + k_3 = m$  ( $m > 0$ ).

in  $\mathbf{k}$ . Their structures depend heavily on  $m$  and the cardinality of  $J$ . We will give a clear case-by-case analysis of them.

### 1.3. Representations of the general linear Lie algebra

Our next goal is to provide explicit constructions of weight multiplicity-free irreducible representations of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  obtained by twisting the action (1.2). For a general theory on weight multiplicity-free representations of simple Lie algebras, see [1] and references therein.

Motivated by works on weight modules of the Lie algebra of diffeomorphisms of the  $n$ -dimensional torus (see, for example, [3, 4, 6]), for each  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we will define a representation  $L_n^\alpha$  of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  on the vector space  $L_n$  (see Definition 3.2). Then, we investigate two families of its submodules,  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  and  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ , parameterized by integers  $m, j$ , and subsets  $J$  of  $\{i : \alpha_i = 0\}$ . We can obtain explicit simple  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ -modules from the decomposition of the quotient modules

$$L_n^\alpha(m, j) / L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1) = \bigoplus_{J:|J|=j} W_n^\alpha(m, J)$$

where  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  are simple modules defined by

$$W_n^\alpha(m, J) = (V_n^\alpha(m, J) + L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1)) / L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1).$$

Among these simple modules, there are highest weight modules with highest weights of the form  $\psi^\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  where

$$\lambda = (-1, \dots, -1, z, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

including the finite dimensional ones having integral dominant weights with  $\lambda = (k, 0, \dots, 0)$  and  $(-1, \dots, -1, \ell)$  for  $k \geq 0$  and  $\ell \leq -1$ .

## 2. A filtration on $L_n$ and simple modules in $gr L_n$

In this section, we impose a filtration on the ring

$$L_n = \mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]$$

of Laurent polynomials in  $n$  indeterminates over the complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$ , and then show that the graded structure of its associated graded ring is compatible with the module structure of  $L_n$  over the complex general linear Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{gl}(n) = \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

Recall that  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  is the Lie algebra of  $n \times n$  complex matrices with the usual matrix addition and the Lie bracket given by the commutator of two matrices. We will write  $\mathcal{U}_n = \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{gl}(n))$  for the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ .

### 2.1. Submodules of $L_n$

The complex vector space  $L_n$  is spanned by monomials

$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n}$$

for  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . We define some subspaces of  $L_n$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $m$  be an integer,  $j$  be an integer with  $0 \leq j \leq n$ , and  $J$  be a subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

- 1) Let  $V_n(m, J)$  be the subspace of  $L_n$  spanned by all the monomials  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n}$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n k_i = m \quad \text{and} \quad \{i : k_i < 0\} \subseteq J.$$

- 2) Let  $L_n(m, j)$  be the sum of the subspaces  $V_n(m, J)$  of  $L_n$

$$L_n(m, j) = \sum_{J: |J|=j} V_n(m, J)$$

over all subsets  $J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  having  $j$  elements.

It follows directly from the definition that

$$V_n(m, J_1) \subseteq V_n(m, J_2) \quad \text{for all } J_1 \subseteq J_2.$$

Then, we have

$$L_n(m, j-1) \subseteq L_n(m, j)$$

and their quotient can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} L_n(m, j)/L_n(m, j-1) &= \left( \sum_{J:|J|=j} V_n(m, J) \right) / L_n(m, j-1) \\ &= \sum_{J:|J|=j} (V_n(m, J) + L_n(m, j-1)) / L_n(m, j-1). \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.2.** For an integer  $m$  and a subset  $J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  having  $j$  elements, we let  $W_n(m, J)$  denote the subspace

$$W_n(m, J) = (V_n(m, J) + L_n(m, j-1)) / L_n(m, j-1)$$

of the quotient space  $L_n(m, j)/L_n(m, j-1)$ .

The spaces  $V_n(m, J)$ ,  $L_n(m, j)$ , and  $W_n(m, J)$  are special cases of the ones defined in Definition 3.5 and Definition 6.1 with  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$  and  $I_\alpha = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , and they are modules over  $\mathcal{U}_n$  with respect to

$$A \cdot f = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} x_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}$$

for  $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathfrak{gl}(n)$  and  $f \in L_n$ . See Theorems 4.4, 4.5, 5.4, and 5.5. Moreover,  $W_n(m, J)$  are simple modules. See Theorem 6.2.

**Lemma 2.3.** For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and a subset  $J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  having  $j$  elements, as a  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -module,

$$W_n(m, J) \cong V_n(m, J) / \sum_{J'} V_n(m, J')$$

where the summation is over all subsets  $J'$  of  $J$  having  $j-1$  elements

*Proof.* Note that

$$\begin{aligned} W_n(m, J) &= (V_n(m, J) + L_n(m, j-1)) / L_n(m, j-1) \\ &\cong V_n(m, J) / (V_n(m, J) \cap L_n(m, j-1)). \end{aligned}$$

Then, the statement follows from the following observation

$$V_n(m, J) \cap L_n(m, j-1) = \sum_{J'} V_n(m, J')$$

where the sum is over all subsets  $J'$  of  $J$  having  $j-1$  elements.  $\square$

## 2.2. Filtration by a partially ordered monoid

Let  $\mathcal{P}_n$  be the set of all subsets of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . On the set  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$ , we define the partial order  $(m_1, J_1) \leq (m_2, J_2)$  if  $m_1 \leq m_2$  and  $J_1 \subseteq J_2$ , and the multiplication

$$(m_1, J_1) * (m_2, J_2) = (m_1 + m_2, J_1 \cup J_2).$$

With  $\leq$  and  $*$ ,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$  becomes a partially ordered monoid with the identity  $(0, \emptyset)$ , and using this monoid we want to impose a filtration on  $L_n$ . For basic properties of a filtration of a ring given by a partially ordered monoid, we refer to [2, §I.12].

**Definition 2.4.** For each  $(m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$ , we define

$$L_n^{\leq(m, J)} = \sum_{(m_1, J_1)} V_n(m_1, J_1) \quad \text{and} \quad L_n^{<(m, J)} = \sum_{(m_2, J_2)} V_n(m_2, J_2)$$

where the first summation is over all  $(m_1, J_1)$  such that

$$(m_1, J_1) \leq (m, J),$$

and the second summation is over all  $(m_2, J_2)$  such that

$$(m_2, J_2) \leq (m, J) \text{ but } (m_2, J_2) \neq (m, J).$$

**Proposition 2.5.** The family  $\{L_n^{\leq(m, J)} : (m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n\}$  of subspace of  $L_n$  defines a filtration on  $L_n$  by the partially ordered monoid  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$ .

*Proof.* We need to check the following conditions (see [2, §I.12]).

- 1)  $1 \in L_n^{\leq(0, \emptyset)}$ ,
- 2) for all  $(m_1, J_1) \leq (m_2, J_2)$ ,

$$L_n^{\leq(m_1, J_1)} \subseteq L_n^{\leq(m_2, J_2)},$$

- 3) for all  $(m_1, J_1)$  and  $(m_2, J_2)$ ,

$$L_n^{\leq(m_1, J_1)} L_n^{\leq(m_2, J_2)} \subseteq L_n^{\leq(m_1, J_1) * (m_2, J_2)},$$

- 4) the union of all such subspaces is equal to  $L_n$

$$\bigcup_{(m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n} L_n^{\leq(m, J)} = L_n.$$

All of them follow directly from the definitions of  $L_n^{\leq(m, J)}$  and  $V_n(m, J)$ .  $\square$

For  $(m_1, J_1)$  and  $(m_2, J_2)$  in  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$ , we have

$$L_n^{\leq(m_1, J_1)} L_n^{<(m_2, J_2)} + L_n^{<(m_1, J_1)} L_n^{\leq(m_2, J_2)} \subseteq L_n^{<(m_1, J_1) * (m_2, J_2)}$$

and therefore the quotient spaces  $L_n^{\leq(m, J)} / L_n^{<(m, J)}$  form the homogeneous components of the associated graded ring of  $L_n$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** With the filtration  $\{L_n^{\leq(m, J)} : (m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n\}$  imposed on  $L_n$ , the direct sum decomposition of the associated graded ring

$$gr L_n = \bigoplus_{(m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n} L_n^{\leq(m, J)} / L_n^{<(m, J)}$$

agrees with the decomposition of  $gr L_n$  into its simple submodules over  $\mathcal{U}_n$ . In particular, for each  $(m, J) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{P}_n$ , as a  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -module,

$$L_n^{\leq(m, J)} / L_n^{<(m, J)} \cong W_n(m, J).$$

*Proof.* For an integer  $m$  and a subset  $J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  having  $j$  elements, let us define

$$S = V_n(m, J) \quad \text{and} \quad T = \sum_{J_1 \subset J} V_n(m, J_1) + \sum_{m_1 < m} V_n(m_1, J)$$

where the first summation for  $T$  is over all proper subsets  $J_1$  of  $J$ , and the second summation is over all  $m_1$  strictly less than  $m$ . Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} S \cap T &= V_n(m, J) \cap \left( \sum_{J_1 \subset J} V_n(m, J_1) + \sum_{m_1 < m} V_n(m_1, J) \right) \\ &= V_n(m, J) \cap \left( \sum_{J_1 \subset J} V_n(m, J_1) \right) \\ &= \sum_{J'} V_n(m, J') \end{aligned}$$

where the last summation is over all subsets  $J'$  of  $J$  having  $j-1$  elements. Note that

$$S + T = L_n^{\leq(m, J)} \quad \text{and} \quad T = L_n^{<(m, J)}$$

and then, by the usual module isomorphism theorem  $(S+T)/T \cong S/(S \cap T)$ , we obtain

$$L_n^{\leq(m, J)} / L_n^{<(m, J)} \cong V_n(m, J) / \sum_{J'} V_n(m, J') \quad (2.1)$$



where the summation is over all subsets  $J'$  of  $J$  having  $j - 1$  elements. Now, using the realization of  $W_n(m, J)$  given in Lemma 2.3, we have

$$L_n^{\leq(m, J)} / L_n^{<(m, J)} \cong W_n(m, J). \quad \square$$

In § 6, we will investigate the simple modules  $W_n(m, J)$  in a more general setting.

### 3. Modules $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$ and $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$

In this section, generalizing  $L_n(m, J)$  and  $V_n(m, J)$  discussed in the previous section, we define some submodules of  $L_n$  over the universal enveloping algebra  $\mathcal{U}_n$  of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  parameterized by  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Notation 3.1.** 1) For a finite set  $S$ , we will write  $|S|$  for the cardinality of  $S$ .

2) For  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we write  $\alpha[\ell]$  for the  $\ell$ th component  $\alpha_\ell$  of  $\alpha$ . Then, for  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we let  $\alpha \pm \beta$  be the elements in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that

$$(\alpha \pm \beta)[\ell] = \alpha[\ell] \pm \beta[\ell] \quad \text{for } 1 \leq \ell \leq n.$$

3) We write  $\mathbf{e}_j$  for the element in  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  whose  $j$ th entry is one and all the other entries are zero.

$$\mathbf{e}_j[\ell] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \ell = j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

4) For  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , let  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  be the monomial

$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} = x_1^{\mathbf{k}[1]} x_2^{\mathbf{k}[2]} \dots x_n^{\mathbf{k}[n]}$$

in  $L_n$ . In this setting, we denote the negative part of  $\mathbf{k}$  by

$$\mathbf{k}^{neg} = \{\ell : \mathbf{k}[\ell] < 0\}.$$

We let  $E_{ab} \in \mathfrak{gl}(n)$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix with one in  $(a, b)$  and zero elsewhere.

**Definition 3.2.** For each  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $E_{ab}$  acts on the monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  in the algebra  $L_n$  of Laurent polynomials as

$$E_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} = (\mathbf{k}[b] + \alpha[b]) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{e}_a - \mathbf{e}_b} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq a, b \leq n.$$

With this action, the space  $L_n$  gives rise to a  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -module, which we will denote by  $L_n^\alpha$ , and for  $f \in L_n$  we write  $\langle f \rangle$  for the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^\alpha$  generated by  $f$ .

Informally, we may think of the above action as

$$E_{ab} \cdot f = \mathbf{x}^{-\alpha} x_a \frac{\partial}{\partial x_b} \mathbf{x}^\alpha f \quad \text{for } f \in L_n$$

and then the action in the definition can be considered a generalization of the action (1.2) of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  on the polynomial ring which provides all the finite dimensional representations of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  labeled by Young diagrams with single rows. See Theorem 5.4 (2).

**Lemma 3.3.** For  $\alpha$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , if  $\alpha - \beta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  then, as a  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -module,  $L_n^\alpha$  is isomorphic to  $L_n^\beta$ .

*Proof.* It is enough to show that the linear map  $\psi$  from  $L_n$  to  $L_n$  sending  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  to  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}+\alpha-\beta}$  for  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  gives a  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -module map from  $L_n^\alpha$  to  $L_n^\beta$ . It follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(E_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}) &= (\mathbf{k}[b] + \alpha[b]) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{e}_a-\mathbf{e}_b} \times \mathbf{x}^{\alpha-\beta} \\ &= \{(\mathbf{k} + \alpha - \beta)[b] + \beta[b]\} \mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{k}+\alpha-\beta)+\mathbf{e}_a-\mathbf{e}_b} \\ &= E_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{k}+\alpha-\beta)} = E_{ab} \cdot \psi(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $1 \leq a, b \leq n$ . □

With this lemma, we can focus on the following choice of  $\alpha$ .

**Notation 3.4.** Once and for all, we fix  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^n$  the entries of whose real parts satisfy

$$0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(\alpha[\ell]) < 1 \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq \ell \leq n,$$

and the following subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$$I_\alpha = \{\ell : \alpha[\ell] = 0\}.$$

With this choice of  $\alpha$ , we note that for  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,

$$\mathbf{k}[\ell] + \alpha[\ell] = 0 \quad \text{for some } \ell \tag{3.1}$$

only when  $\mathbf{k}[\ell] = \alpha[\ell] = 0$ .

**Definition 3.5** (Submodules  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  and  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ ).

- 1) For integers  $m$  and  $j$  with  $0 \leq j \leq |I_\alpha|$ , we let  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  be the subspace of  $L_n^\alpha$  spanned by all the monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  such that

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^n \mathbf{k}[\ell] = m \quad \text{and} \quad |\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha| \leq j.$$

- 2) For a subset  $J$  of  $I_\alpha$  with  $|J| = j$ , we let  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  be the subspace of  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  spanned by all the monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}$  in  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  such that

$$(\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq J.$$

**Example 3.6.** Let  $n = 4$ ,  $\alpha = (0, 1/2, 0, 0)$ , and therefore  $I_\alpha = \{1, 3, 4\}$ .

- 1) Let  $j = 2$ . From the condition  $|\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap \{1, 3, 4\}| \leq 2$ , the space  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  is spanned by all the monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} x_3^{k_3} x_4^{k_4}$  in  $L_n$  such that

$$i) k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + k_4 = m \quad \text{and} \quad ii) k_1 \geq 0 \text{ or } k_3 \geq 0 \text{ or } k_4 \geq 0.$$

- 2) Let  $J = \{1, 4\}$ . From the condition  $(\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap \{1, 3, 4\}) \subset \{1, 4\}$ ,  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is the subspace of  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  spanned by all the monomials of degree  $m$  with  $k_3 \geq 0$ .

See more examples in Example 4.2. The following is easy to check.

**Lemma 3.7.** If  $J = \emptyset$  (therefore  $j = 0$ ) or  $J = I_\alpha$  (therefore  $j = |I_\alpha|$ ), then

$$V_n^\alpha(m, J) = L_n^\alpha(m, j).$$

From Definition 3.5, it immediately follows that

$$L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) \subseteq L_n^\alpha(m, j) \quad \text{and} \quad L_n^\alpha(m, j) = \sum_{J:|J|=j} V_n^\alpha(m, J) \quad (3.2)$$

where the summation runs over all subsets  $J$  of  $I_\alpha$  with  $|J| = j$ . Also, for two subsets  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  of  $I_\alpha$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} V_n^\alpha(m, J_1) &\subset V_n^\alpha(m, J_2) \quad \text{for } J_1 \subset J_2; \\ V_n^\alpha(m, J_1 \cap J_2) &= V_n^\alpha(m, J_1) \cap V_n^\alpha(m, J_2). \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Now we show that  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  and  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  are indeed modules over  $\mathcal{U}_n$ .

**Proposition 3.8.**  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  and  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  are  $\mathcal{U}_n$ -submodules of  $L_n^\alpha$ .

*Proof.* For a monomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} \in V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ , we need to show

$$E_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = (\mathbf{p}[b] + \alpha[b]) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{e}_a - \mathbf{e}_b}$$

are in  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  for all  $1 \leq a, b \leq n$ . Since the action of  $E_{ab}$  preserves the degree of monomials, writing  $\mathbf{q} = (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{e}_a - \mathbf{e}_b)$ , it is enough to show

that for  $a \neq b$  if  $(\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq J$ , then  $(\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq J$  or the coefficient  $(\mathbf{p}[b] + \alpha[b])$  is zero.

For this, because the only element which is not in  $\mathbf{p}^{neg}$  but can possibly appear in  $\mathbf{q}^{neg}$  is  $b$ , it is enough to consider the case

$$b \notin \mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad b \in \mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha.$$

This happens only when  $\mathbf{p}[b] = 0$  and in this case, since  $b \in I_\alpha$ , we have  $\alpha[b] = 0$ . Therefore, the coefficient  $(\mathbf{p}[b] + \alpha[b])$  is zero. Consequently, we have  $E_{ab} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} \in V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  for all  $1 \leq a, b \leq n$ , and  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is a submodule of  $L_n^\alpha$ . Now from (3.2),  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  is a submodule of  $L_n^\alpha$ .  $\square$

#### 4. Structure of $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$

In this section, we investigate the structure of  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ . We first give a technical lemma.

**Lemma 4.1.** For two distinct monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$  in  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  such that

$$(\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq (\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha),$$

there exists  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ .

*Proof.* For simplicity, we let  $\mathbf{p}[\ell] = p_\ell$ ,  $\mathbf{q}[\ell] = q_\ell$ , and  $\alpha[\ell] = \alpha_\ell$  for all  $\ell$ . Consider the difference  $\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} = (p_1 - q_1, \dots, p_n - q_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$  have the same degree  $m$ , we have  $\sum_{\ell=1}^n (p_\ell - q_\ell) = 0$  and therefore we can separate the positive and negative parts of  $\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}$

$$r = \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell > 0} (p_\ell - q_\ell) = \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell < 0} (q_\ell - p_\ell).$$

With Notation 3.1, we define  $1 \leq s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_r \leq n$  and  $1 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots \leq t_r \leq n$  so that

$$\sum_{k=1}^r \mathbf{e}_{s_k} = \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell > 0} (p_\ell - q_\ell) \mathbf{e}_\ell \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^r \mathbf{e}_{t_k} = \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell < 0} (q_\ell - p_\ell) \mathbf{e}_\ell$$

where the summations are over  $\ell$  such that  $p_\ell - q_\ell > 0$  and  $p_\ell - q_\ell < 0$  respectively.

Setting  $\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_k = \mathbf{p}_{k-1} + \mathbf{e}_{t_k} - \mathbf{e}_{s_k}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq r$ , we have  $E_{t_k s_k} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}_{k-1}} = w_k \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}_k}$ . Furthermore, from

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}_r &= \mathbf{p}_0 + \sum_{k=1}^r (\mathbf{e}_{t_k} - \mathbf{e}_{s_k}) \\ &= \mathbf{p}_0 + \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell < 0} (q_\ell - p_\ell) \mathbf{e}_\ell - \sum_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell > 0} (p_\ell - q_\ell) \mathbf{e}_\ell \\ &= \mathbf{p}_0 + (\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{q}, \end{aligned}$$

by setting  $Y = \prod_{k=1}^r E_{t_k s_k} \in \mathcal{U}_n$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Y \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} &= \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} (w_1 x_{t_1} x_{s_1}^{-1}) (w_2 x_{t_2} x_{s_2}^{-1}) \cdots (w_r x_{t_r} x_{s_r}^{-1}) \\ &= \left( \prod_{k=1}^r w_k \right) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}} = \left( \prod_{k=1}^r w_k \right) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} \end{aligned}$$

where the coefficient is

$$\prod_{k=1}^r w_k = \prod_{\ell: p_\ell - q_\ell > 0} (p_\ell + \alpha_\ell)(p_\ell - 1 + \alpha_\ell) \cdots (p_\ell - (p_\ell - q_\ell - 1) + \alpha_\ell).$$

For each  $\ell$  in the above product, if  $\ell \notin I_\alpha$  then  $\alpha_\ell \neq 0$ , and therefore the corresponding factor is not zero by (3.1). Now let  $\ell \in I_\alpha$  and therefore  $\alpha_\ell = 0$ . To derive a contradiction, suppose  $(p_\ell - c)$  in the  $\ell$ th factor of the above product is zero for some  $0 \leq c \leq (p_\ell - q_\ell - 1)$ . Then, from  $p_\ell = c$ , we have

$$0 \leq p_\ell \leq (p_\ell - q_\ell - 1) \quad (4.1)$$

and therefore  $q_\ell \leq -1$ . On the other hand, from the given hypothesis  $(\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq (\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha)$ , we know that  $p_\ell < 0$  whenever  $q_\ell < 0$ , which contradicts to (4.1). Therefore, we have  $\prod_{k=1}^r w_k \neq 0$  and with the element

$$X = \prod_{k=1}^r w_k^{-1} E_{t_k s_k}$$

we see that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ .  $\square$

**Example 4.2.** 1) Let  $\alpha = (1/2, i, 0)$ ,  $I_\alpha = \{3\}$ , and  $J = \emptyset$ . If  $m = 4$  then from the condition

$$\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap \{3\} \subseteq \emptyset,$$

$V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is spanned by all the monomials  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} x_3^{k_3}$  of degree 4 with  $k_3 \geq 0$ .

Note that  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = x_1^4$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} = x_1 x_2^{-2} x_3^5$  in  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  satisfy the condition in Lemma 4.1. From

$$\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} = (3, 2, -5) = (3, 2, 0) + (0, 0, -5)$$

we define the element  $Y = E_{31} \cdot E_{31} \cdot E_{31} \cdot E_{32} \cdot E_{32} \in \mathcal{U}_n$  to obtain

$$Y \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = (2 + 1/2)(3 + 1/2)(4 + 1/2)(-1 + i)(0 + i) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}.$$

Therefore there is  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ .

2) Let  $\alpha = (0, 0, 0)$ ,  $I_\alpha = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and  $J = \{1, 3\}$ . If  $m = -2$  then from the condition

$$\mathbf{k}^{neg} \cap \{1, 2, 3\} \subseteq \{1, 3\},$$

$V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is spanned by all the monomials  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} x_3^{k_3}$  of degree  $-2$  with  $k_2 \geq 0$ .

Note that  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = x_1^{-1} x_3^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} = x_1 x_2^2 x_3^{-5}$  in  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  satisfy the condition in Lemma 4.1. From

$$\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} = (-2, -2, 4) = (0, 0, 4) + (-2, -2, 0)$$

we define  $Y = E_{13} \cdot E_{13} \cdot E_{23} \cdot E_{23} \in \mathcal{U}_n$  to obtain

$$Y \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = (-4 + 0)(-3 + 0)(-2 + 0)(-1 + 0) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}.$$

Therefore, there is  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ .

Now we investigate the structure of  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  for  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

**Theorem 4.3** (Structure of  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  with nonzero  $\alpha$ ).

Let  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $J = \{\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j\} \subseteq I_\alpha$ . Then,  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^\alpha$  generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_{J,t} = x_{\ell_1}^{-1} x_{\ell_2}^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell_j}^{-1} x_t^{m+j} \quad \text{for some } t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus I_\alpha.$$

*Proof.* Since  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$ , there exists  $t$  such that  $\alpha[t] \neq 0$ . Write  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  for  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t}$  and let  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$  be an arbitrary monomial in  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ . Since  $(\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq (\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) = J$ , we can apply Lemma 4.1 to obtain  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  generates the module  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ .  $\square$

Next we consider the other cases with  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$ . Let us fix

$$J = \{\ell_1, \dots, \ell_j\} \subseteq I_\alpha = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

**Theorem 4.4** (Structure of  $V_n^0(m, J)$  with nonnegative degree  $m$ ).

- 1) If  $m \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq j \leq n-1$ , then  $V_n^0(m, J)$  is the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^0(m, j)$  generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_{J,t} = x_{\ell_1}^{-1} x_{\ell_2}^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell_j}^{-1} x_t^{m+j} \quad \text{for some } t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus J.$$

- 2) If  $m \geq 0$  and  $j = n$  (therefore,  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ), then

$$\begin{aligned} V_n^0(m, \{1, 2, \dots, n\}) &= L_n^0(m, n) = L_n^0(m, n-1) \\ &= \sum_{J'} V_n^0(m, J') \end{aligned}$$

where the summation is over all the subsets  $J'$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $|J'| = n-1$ .

*Proof.* For Statement (1), we first note that  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t} \in V_n^0(m, J)$ . Write  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{P}}$  for  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t}$  and let  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{Q}}$  be an arbitrary monomial in  $V_n^0(m, J)$ . Since  $\mathbf{q}^{neg} \subseteq \mathbf{p}^{neg} = J$ , applying Lemma 4.1, we see that there exists  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{P}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{Q}}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{Q}}$  belongs to the module generated by  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t}$  and we have  $V_n^0(m, J) = \langle \mathbf{x}_{J,t} \rangle$ .

For Statement (2), if  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n}$  is a monomial in  $L_n^0(m, n)$ , then not all  $k_j$ 's can be negative, because the degree  $m$  is nonnegative. Therefore,  $L_n^0(m, n) = L_n^0(m, n-1)$ . The other equalities follow from Lemma 3.7 and (3.2).  $\square$

**Theorem 4.5** (Structure of  $V_n^0(-m, J)$  with negative degree  $-m$ ).

Let  $1 \leq m < n$ .

- 1a) If  $j = 0$  (therefore,  $J = \emptyset$ ), then

$$V_n^0(-m, \emptyset) = L_n^0(-m, 0) = \{0\}.$$

- 1b) If  $1 \leq j \leq m$ , then  $V_n^0(-m, J)$  is the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^0(-m, j)$  generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_J = x_{\ell_1}^{-1} x_{\ell_2}^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell_{j-1}}^{-1} x_{\ell_j}^{j-1-m}.$$

- 1c) If  $m+1 \leq j \leq n-1$ , then  $V_n^0(-m, J)$  is the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^0(-m, j)$  generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_{J,t} = x_{\ell_1}^{-1} x_{\ell_2}^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell_{j-1}}^{-1} x_{\ell_j}^{j-m} \quad \text{for some } t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus J.$$

1d) If  $j = n$  (therefore,  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ), then

$$\begin{aligned} V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{1, 2, \dots, n\}) &= L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, n) = L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, n-1) \\ &= \sum_{J'} V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, J') \end{aligned}$$

where the summation is over all  $J' \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $|J'| = n-1$ .

Now let  $m \geq n$ .

2a) If  $j = 0$  (therefore,  $J = \emptyset$ ), then

$$V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \emptyset) = L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, 0) = \{0\}.$$

2b) If  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , then  $V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, J)$  is the cyclic submodule of  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$  generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_J = x_{\ell_1}^{-1} x_{\ell_2}^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell_{j-1}}^{-1} x_{\ell_j}^{j-1-m}.$$

*Proof.* Statements 1a) and 2a) follow directly from Definition 3.5. For Statement 1d), note that if  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} \in L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, n)$  then  $\sum_{\ell} \mathbf{k}[\ell] = -m > -n$  and therefore there should be at least one  $\ell$  with  $\mathbf{k}[\ell] \geq 0$ . This implies that  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, n) = L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, n-1)$ . Now the statements follows from Lemma 3.7 and (3.2). The other statements can be shown similarly to Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.4 (1).  $\square$

**Remark 4.6.** Let  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  be the generators  $\mathbf{x}_J$  or  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t}$  of the cyclic modules  $V_n^{\alpha}(m, J)$  given in Theorem 4.3, Theorem 4.4, and Theorem 4.5. We remark that these generators are not unique. This is because, when applying Lemma 4.1, if

$$(\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_{\alpha}) = (\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_{\alpha}), \quad (4.2)$$

then we can exchange the roles of  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ . Therefore, every monomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} \in V_n^{\alpha}(m, J)$  satisfying (4.2) can also generate the module  $V_n^{\alpha}(m, J)$ .

## 5. Structure of $L_n^{\alpha}(m, j)$

In this section, we investigate the structure of  $L_n^{\alpha}(m, j)$ . Let us begin with another technical lemma.

**Lemma 5.1.** For an element  $f = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  of  $L_n^{\alpha}$  with distinct monomials and nonzero coefficients, the cyclic module generated by  $f$  includes the cyclic modules generated by the terms of  $f$

$$\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \rangle \subseteq \langle f \rangle \quad \text{for all } i.$$



*Proof.* We want to prove the statement by induction on the number  $r$  of the terms of  $f$ . If  $r = 1$  then we have nothing to prove. Suppose  $r \geq 2$ . We first note that, since  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  are distinct, they are weight vectors with different weights under the action of the Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  spanned by  $E_{aa}$  for  $1 \leq a \leq n$ . Let  $w_i$  be the weight for the monomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$ . Then, there is an element  $H \in \mathfrak{h}$  such that

$$g = w_1(H)f - H \cdot f = \sum_{i:w_i(H) \neq w_1(H)} (w_1(H) - w_i(H)) c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$$

is a non-zero element in  $\langle f \rangle$ . Also, since the number of terms in  $g$  is less than  $r$ , by the induction hypothesis the cyclic modules generated by the terms of  $g$  are included in  $\langle g \rangle$ . This shows that for  $i$  with  $w_i(H) \neq w_1(H)$  we have  $\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \rangle \subseteq \langle f \rangle$ .

Now we note that

$$h = f - \sum_{i:w_i(H) \neq w_1(H)} c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} = \sum_{i:w_i(H) = w_1(H)} c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}.$$

is a nonzero element in  $\langle f \rangle$ . Since the number of the terms of  $h$  is less than  $r$ , again by the induction hypothesis, the cyclic modules generated by the terms of  $h$  are included in  $\langle h \rangle$ . Therefore,  $\langle f \rangle$  contains  $\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \rangle$  for  $i$  with  $w_i(H) = w_1(H)$  as well.  $\square$

As an immediate consequence of the above lemma, we obtain the following result for the special case of Theorem 4.5 with  $J = \{\ell\}$  for  $1 \leq \ell \leq n$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** For  $m \geq 1$  and  $1 \leq \ell \leq n$ ,  $V_n^0(-m, \{\ell\})$  is a simple submodule of  $L_n^0(-m, 1)$  generated by  $x_\ell^{-m}$ .

*Proof.* From Theorem 4.5 1b) and 2b),

$$V_n^0(-m, J) = \langle x_\ell^{-m} \rangle \subseteq L_n^0(-m, 1).$$

For a nonzero  $f \in V_n^0(-m, J)$ , writing  $f = \sum_i c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$ , let us consider the submodule of  $V_n^0(-m, J)$  generated by  $f$ . By Lemma 5.1, it contains the cyclic submodules generated by  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$ .

$$\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \rangle \subseteq \langle f \rangle \subseteq V_n^0(-m, J).$$

On the other hand, for each  $i$ , since  $(\mathbf{k}_i^{neg} \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}) \subseteq \{\ell\}$  and the degree of  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  should be  $-m < 0$ , we have  $\mathbf{k}_i[\ell] < 0$  and  $\mathbf{k}_i[\ell'] \geq 0$  for  $\ell' \neq \ell$ . By Remark 4.6, each of these monomials can generate the whole module  $V_n^0(-m, J)$ . Therefore, we have  $\langle f \rangle = V_n^0(-m, J)$  and conclude that  $V_n^0(-m, \{\ell\})$  has no nonzero proper submodules.  $\square$

Now, we investigate the structure of  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  for  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

**Theorem 5.3** (Structure of  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  with nonzero  $\alpha$ ).

- 1) If  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $0 \leq j \leq |I_\alpha|$ , then  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  is indecomposable.
- 2) In particular, if  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $j = 0$ , then  $L_n^\alpha(m, 0) = V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$  is a nonzero simple module over  $\mathcal{U}_n$ .

*Proof.* For Statement (2), from Lemma 3.7,  $L_n^\alpha(m, 0) = V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$ , and by Theorem 4.3 it is generated by  $\mathbf{x}_{\emptyset, t} = x_t^m$  for some  $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus I_\alpha$ . Let  $f$  be a nonzero element of  $V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$ , then we can write  $f = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  with nonzero coefficients such that  $\mathbf{k}_i^{neg} \cap I_\alpha = \emptyset$  for all  $i$ . By Lemma 5.1, the monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  belong to  $\langle f \rangle$ . On the other hand, by Remark 4.6, each of these monomials generates  $V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$ . Therefore,  $\langle f \rangle = V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$ . This shows that  $L_n^\alpha(m, 0) = V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$  is simple.

For Statement (1), we will show that every nonzero submodule  $M$  of  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  contains  $V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$ , which is nonzero by Statement (2). For a nonzero  $f \in M$ , let  $c\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}}$  be a nonzero term of  $f$ . Then, by Lemma 5.1,  $\langle f \rangle$  includes  $\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} \rangle$ . On the other hand, since every monomial  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} = x_t^m$  for  $t \notin I_\alpha$  satisfies the condition

$$\emptyset = (\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha) \subseteq (\mathbf{p}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha),$$

we can apply Lemma 4.1 to obtain  $X \in \mathcal{U}_n$  such that  $X \cdot \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ . Therefore, we have  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} \in \langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{p}} \rangle \subseteq \langle f \rangle \subseteq M$ , and therefore  $V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset) \subseteq M$ . This shows that  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)$  cannot be written as a direct sum of its proper nonzero submodules.  $\square$

Next, we consider the other cases with  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Theorem 5.4** (Structure of  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, j)$  with nonnegative degree  $m$ ).

- 1) If  $m \geq 0$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, j)$  is indecomposable.
- 2) In particular, if  $m \geq 0$  and  $j = 0$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, 0) = V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, \emptyset)$  is the cyclic module generated by

$$\mathbf{x}_{\emptyset, 1} = x_1^m.$$

It is a finite dimensional simple module over  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  of dimension  $(m + 1)$ .

*Proof.* For Statement (2), observe that for  $m \geq 0$ ,  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, 0)$  is the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree  $m$ ,

$$L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, 0) \cong \text{Sym}^m(\mathbb{C}^n),$$

and that  $x_1^m$  is the highest weight vector with respect to the standard Borel subalgebra of upper triangular matrices in  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ .

For Statement (1), if  $j = n$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, n) = L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, n - 1)$  by Theorem 4.4 (2) and therefore we can assume  $0 \leq j \leq n - 1$ . This case can be shown similarly to Theorem 5.3 (1).  $\square$

**Theorem 5.5** (Structure of  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$  with negative degree  $-m$ ).

- 1) If  $m \geq 1$  and  $j = 0$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j) = V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \emptyset) = \{0\}$ .
- 2) If  $m \geq 1$  and  $j = 1$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$  decomposes into simple submodules

$$L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, 1) = \bigoplus_{\ell=1}^n V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{\ell\}).$$

- 3) If  $m \geq 1$  and  $2 \leq j \leq n$ , then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$  is indecomposable.

*Proof.* Statement (1) is straightforward to check. For Statement (2), from (3.2) and Theorem 4.5 1b) and 2b), the module  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, 1)$  is the sum of the cyclic modules  $V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{\ell\}) = \langle x_\ell^{-m} \rangle$ , which are simple by Proposition 5.2. Also, for  $\ell \neq \ell'$ , by (3.3),

$$V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{\ell\}) \cap V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{\ell'\}) = V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \{\ell\} \cap \{\ell'\})$$

which is  $V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, \emptyset) = \{0\}$  by Statement (1). Hence we obtain the direct sum expression.

For Statement (3), we first consider the case  $2 \leq j \leq n - 1$ . In order to derive a contradiction, suppose  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j) = M \oplus N$  for some submodules  $M$  and  $N$ . From (3.2),  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$  is generated by the generators of  $V_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, J)$  given in Theorem 4.5. We denote these generators  $\mathbf{x}_J$  or  $\mathbf{x}_{J,t}$  by  $g_J$ . For each of these monomials  $g_J \in L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j)$ , if  $g_J = h_1 + h_2$  with  $h_1 \in M$  and  $h_2 \in N$ , then  $g_J$  appears in  $h_1$  or  $h_2$ . Therefore, by Lemma 5.1,  $g_J$  belongs to  $\langle h_1 \rangle \subseteq M$  or  $\langle h_2 \rangle \subseteq N$ .

If all these  $g_J$  are in  $M$  (or  $N$ ), then  $L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(-m, j) = M$  (or  $N$ ). If some of them are in  $M$  and some of them are in  $N$ , then we claim that there are  $J$  and  $J'$  such that  $g_J$  is an element in  $M$ ,  $g_{J'}$  is an element in  $N$ , and  $J \cap J' \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose there are not such  $J$  and  $J'$ . Then we can partition  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  into two nontrivial parts  $S_M$  and  $S_N$  with  $n_1$  elements and  $n_2$  elements such that we have the disjoint union

$$\{J \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : |J| = j\} = \{J \subset S_M : |J| = j\} \cup \{J \subset S_N : |J| = j\}$$

where  $J \subset S_M$  if and only if  $g_J$  belongs to  $M$ ;  $J \subset S_N$  if and only if  $g_J$  belongs to  $N$ . Note that it contradicts to  $\binom{n}{j} > \binom{n_1}{j} + \binom{n_2}{j}$  for

$2 \leq j \leq n-1$ . Therefore, we conclude that there are  $J$  and  $J'$  such that  $J \cap J' \neq \emptyset$ . Now from (3.3) we have

$$V_n^0(-m, J \cap J') \subset V_n^0(-m, J) \subset M$$

and

$$V_n^0(-m, J \cap J') \subset V_n^0(-m, J') \subset N.$$

Therefore,  $V_n^0(-m, J \cap J') \neq \{0\}$  and  $M \cap N$  contains a non-trivial element. Hence,  $L_n^0(-m, j)$  is indecomposable.

Next, let us consider the case  $j = n$ . First, if  $1 \leq m < n$  then from Theorem 4.5 1d) we have  $L_n^0(-m, n) = L_n^0(-m, n-1)$  and therefore it goes back to the previous case. Second, if  $m \geq n$  then  $L_n^0(-m, n) = V_n^0(-m, \{1, 2, \dots, n\})$  by Lemma 3.7 and its generator is  $\mathbf{x}_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}} = x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{n-1}^{-1} x_n^{n-1-m}$  by Theorem 4.5 2b). If  $L_n^0(-m, n) = M \oplus N$ , then  $\mathbf{x}_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}} = h_1 + h_2$  for some  $h_1 \in M$  and  $h_2 \in N$ , and the monomial  $\mathbf{x}_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}}$  appears in  $h_1$  or  $h_2$ . By Lemma 5.1,  $\langle \mathbf{x}_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}} \rangle \subseteq \langle h_1 \rangle \subseteq M$  or  $\langle \mathbf{x}_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}} \rangle \subseteq \langle h_2 \rangle \subseteq N$ . This shows that  $M$  or  $N$  should be equal to  $L_n^0(-m, n)$ . Therefore,  $L_n^0(-m, j)$  is indecomposable.  $\square$

## 6. Simple modules $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$

In this section, we investigate some submodules of the quotients

$$L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1).$$

We will assume  $L_n^\alpha(m, j) = \{0\}$  for  $j \leq -1$ .

**Definition 6.1.** For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and a subset  $J$  of  $I_\alpha$  with cardinality  $j$ , we define the following submodule of the quotient  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$

$$W_n^\alpha(m, J) = (V_n^\alpha(m, J) + L_n^\alpha(m, j-1))/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1).$$

We note that

$$W_n^\alpha(m, J) \cong V_n^\alpha(m, J)/(V_n^\alpha(m, J) \cap L_n^\alpha(m, j-1))$$

and

$$V_n^\alpha(m, J) \cap L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) = \sum_{J'} V_n^\alpha(m, J')$$

where the summation runs over all  $J' \subset J$  with  $|J'| = j-1$ .

In § 5, we saw that nontrivial modules

$$L_n^\alpha(m, 0)/L_n^\alpha(m, -1) \cong L_n^\alpha(m, 0) = V_n^\alpha(m, \emptyset)$$

are simple, and that for  $m \geq 1$  the following quotient decomposes into simple submodules:

$$L_n^0(-m, 1)/L_n^0(-m, 0) \cong \bigoplus_{\ell=1}^n V_n^0(-m, \{\ell\}).$$

Let us generalize these observations.

**Theorem 6.2.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- 1) For  $J \subset I_\alpha$ , the module  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is simple.
- 2) For  $1 \leq j \leq |I_\alpha|$ , the quotient module  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$  decomposes as

$$L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) = \bigoplus_{J:|J|=j} W_n^\alpha(m, J)$$

where the direct sum is taken over all subsets  $J$  of  $I_\alpha$  with cardinality  $j$ .

*Proof.* For Statement (1), for any nonzero element  $\bar{f} \in W_n^\alpha(m, J)$ , we want to show that  $\langle \bar{f} \rangle = W_n^\alpha(m, J)$ . From the definition of  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$ , we can assume that

$$\bar{f} = f + L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$$

where  $f = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \in V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  having distinct monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  in  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$  with  $\mathbf{k}_i^{neg} \cap I_\alpha = J$ . From Lemma 5.1,  $\langle f \rangle$  includes the cyclic modules  $\langle \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i} \rangle$ . On the other hand, by Theorem 4.3, Theorem 4.4, Theorem 4.5, and Remark 4.6, each  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  generates the module  $V_n^\alpha(m, J)$ . This shows that  $\langle \bar{f} \rangle = W_n^\alpha(m, J)$ .

For Statement (2), with (3.2) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) &= \left( \sum_{J:|J|=j} V_n^\alpha(m, J) \right) / L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) \\ &= \left( \sum_{J:|J|=j} V_n^\alpha(m, J) + L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) \right) / L_n^\alpha(m, j-1). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1) = \sum_{J:|J|=j} W_n^\alpha(m, J)$$

where the summation is over  $J \subset I_\alpha$  with  $|J| = j$ . Now, suppose we have

$$\bar{f} \in W_n^\alpha(m, J_1) \cap W_n^\alpha(m, J_2)$$

with distinct subsets  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  of  $I_\alpha$ . Then, we can assume that  $\bar{f} = f + L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$  where  $f = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  with distinct monomials  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}_i}$  such that  $\mathbf{k}_i^{neg} \cap I_\alpha \subseteq J_1 \cap J_2$  for all  $i$ . Since  $|J_1 \cap J_2| < j$ , this shows that  $f \in L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$  and therefore  $\bar{f}$  is zero in the quotient  $L_n^\alpha(m, j)/L_n^\alpha(m, j-1)$ . Therefore, we obtain the direct sum expression in the statement.  $\square$

Next we investigate the cases when  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  are highest weight modules.

**Theorem 6.3** (Highest weight vector in  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$ ).

- 1) For an integer  $1 \leq \ell \leq n$ , if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is such that  $\alpha[\ell] = c$  is nonzero and  $\alpha[\ell'] = 0$  for all  $\ell' \neq \ell$  and  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, \ell-1\} \subseteq I_\alpha$ , then for every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  the module  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  is a highest weight module having a highest weight vector

$$(x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) + L_n^\alpha(m, \ell-2)$$

with highest weight

$$(-1, -1, \dots, -1, m + \ell - 1 + c, 0, \dots, 0).$$

- 2) Let  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$  and therefore  $I_\alpha = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . For  $1 \leq \ell \leq n$ , if  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, \ell-1\}$  then for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $m + \ell - 1 \geq 0$  the module  $W_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, J)$  is a highest weight module having a highest weight vector

$$(x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) + L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, \ell-2)$$

with highest weight

$$(-1, -1, \dots, -1, m + \ell - 1, 0, \dots, 0).$$

In particular, if  $\ell = 1$  and  $J = \emptyset$  then for  $m \geq 0$ , the module  $W_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, \emptyset)$  is a  $(m+1)$ -dimensional module with highest weight  $(m, 0, \dots, 0)$ .

- 3) Let  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$  and therefore  $I_\alpha = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . For  $1 \leq \ell \leq n$ , if  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, \ell\}$  then for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $m + \ell - 1 < 0$  the module  $W_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, J)$  is a highest weight module having a highest weight vector

$$(x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) + L_n^{\mathbf{0}}(m, \ell-1)$$

with highest weight

$$(-1, -1, \dots, -1, m + \ell - 1, 0, \dots, 0).$$

In particular, if  $\ell = n$  and  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , then for  $m \leq -n$  the module  $W_n^0(m, \{1, 2, \dots, n\})$  is a finite dimensional module with highest weight

$$(-1, -1, \dots, -1, m + n - 1).$$

*Proof.* We first notice that the given elements  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} + L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1)$  generate  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  where  $j = |J|$  (see Theorem 4.3, Theorem 4.4, and Theorem 4.5). It is straightforward to verify their weights under the action of the Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  generated by  $E_{aa}$  for  $1 \leq a \leq n$ . Therefore, now it is enough to show that

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ab} \cdot (\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} + L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1)) &= (\mathbf{k}[b] + \alpha[b])(x_a x_b^{-1}) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}} + L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1) \\ &= L_n^\alpha(m, j - 1) \end{aligned} \quad (6.1)$$

in  $W_n^\alpha(m, J)$  for all  $1 \leq a < b \leq n$ .

For Statement (1), if  $a < b$  and  $b \geq \ell + 1$ , then since  $\mathbf{k}[b] = \alpha[b] = 0$  we have

$$E_{ab} \cdot (x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) = (0 + 0)(x_a^1 x_b^{-1})(x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) = 0.$$

If  $a < b$  and  $b \leq \ell$ , then  $a \leq \ell - 1$  and

$$E_{ab} \cdot (x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) = (\mathbf{k}[b] + \alpha[b])(x_a^1 x_b^{-1})(x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1})$$

where  $\mathbf{k}[b] = -1$  and  $\alpha[b] = 0$  if  $b \leq \ell - 1$ ; and  $\mathbf{k}[b] = m + \ell - 1$  and  $\alpha[b] = c$  if  $b = \ell$ . Writing  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$  for the monomial in the right hand side, we see that  $\mathbf{q}[a] = 0$  because  $a \leq \ell - 1$  and therefore  $|\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_\alpha| < \ell - 1$ . This shows that  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} \in L_n^\alpha(m, \ell - 2)$  and therefore (6.1) is true.

For Statement (2), the first part can be shown similarly to the previous case. The second part with the conditions  $\ell = 1$  and  $J = \emptyset$  follows directly from Definition 6.1 with  $L_n^0(m, -1) = \{0\}$  and Theorem 5.4 (2).

For Statement (3), if  $a < b$  and  $b \geq \ell + 1$ , then since  $\mathbf{k}[b] = \alpha[b] = 0$  we have

$$E_{ab} \cdot (x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1} x_b^{-1}) = (0 + 0)(x_a^1 x_b^{-1})(x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1} x_b^{-1}) = 0.$$

If  $a < b$  and  $b \leq \ell$ , then since  $\alpha[b] = 0$  we have

$$E_{ab} \cdot (x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1}) = \mathbf{k}[b](x_a^1 x_b^{-1})(x_1^{-1} \cdots x_{\ell-1}^{-1} x_\ell^{m+\ell-1})$$

where  $\mathbf{k}[b] = -1$  if  $b \leq \ell - 1$  and  $\mathbf{k}[b] = m + \ell - 1$  if  $b = \ell$ . Again, by denoting the monomial in the right hand side by  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}}$ , we see that  $\mathbf{q}[a] = 0$  because  $a \leq \ell - 1$ , and therefore  $|\mathbf{q}^{neg} \cap I_{\alpha}| < \ell$ . This shows that  $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{q}} \in L_n^{\alpha}(m, \ell - 1)$  and therefore (6.1) is true.  $\square$

We note that the highest weights of  $W_n^{\alpha}(m, J)$  given in Theorem 6.3 are integral dominant (see, for example, [5, §3]) only when

- i)  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $J = \emptyset$ , and  $m \geq 0$ ;
- ii)  $\alpha = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $J = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , and  $m \leq -n$ .

Indeed, one can easily check that these are the only cases when the modules  $W_n^{\alpha}(m, J)$  are finite dimensional.

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