

STEINBERG MODULES IN QUANTUM GROUPS

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the Verma modules  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  over the quantum group  $U_\varepsilon(\mathfrak{sl}(n + 1), C)$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is a primitive  $l$ th root of 1 and the socle of  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  is non-zero are studied. Using this concept we obtained the Steinberg module in Quantum Groups.

0. INTRODUCTION

Let  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  be the Drinfel'd – Jimbo quantum group associated to a symmetrizable Kac- Moody algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Thus  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  is a Hopf Algebra the field  $C(q)$  of rational functions of an indeterminate  $q$  and is defined by certain generators and relations.

First constructing  $A = C[q, q^{-1}]$  form  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ , i.e.,  $A$  – subalgebra  $U_A(\mathfrak{g})$  of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  such that  $U_q(\mathfrak{g}) = U_A(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes C(q)$ . Then define  $U_\varepsilon(\mathfrak{g}) = U_A(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_A C$ , via the algebra homomorphism  $A$  to  $C$  that takes  $q$  to  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\varepsilon^2 \neq 1$ .

In the non-restricted form one takes  $U_A(\mathfrak{g})$  to be the  $A$  sub algebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  generated by the Chevalley generators  $E_i, F_i, K_i$  of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ . The finite dimensional representation of the non-restricted  $U_\varepsilon(\mathfrak{g})$  have been studied by De Concini and Kac in [1].

In [1], De Concini and Kac defined the notion of Verma modules over  $U_q$  and  $U_\varepsilon$  (where  $\varepsilon$  is a primitive  $l^{\text{th}}$  root of 1,  $l$  is an odd integer) analogous to the classical Verma modules.

In [2] the Verma module  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  over  $U_\varepsilon(\mathfrak{g})$ , where  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(n + 1)$ , and in particular prove that the socle of  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  over  $U_\varepsilon$  is nonzero. In this paper we obtain the Steinberg modules in quantum groups.

1. PRELIMINARIES

1.1. Let us fix some notations which are standard (see for example, [1]).

For a fixed  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $(a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  be the cartan matrix of type  $A_n$ .

Let  $q$  be an indeterminate and let  $A = C[q, q^{-1}]$  with the quotient field  $C(q)$ .

For any integer  $M \geq 0$ , we define

$$[M] = \frac{q^M - q^{-M}}{q - q^{-1}} \in A, \quad [M]! = [M][M - 1] \dots [1], \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} M \\ j \end{bmatrix} = \frac{[M]!}{[j]![M-j]!} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{for } j \in \mathbb{N}, \begin{bmatrix} M \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 1.$$

Let  $U_q$  be the  $C(q)$  algebra with 1, defined by the generators  $E_i, F_i, K_i^{\pm 1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) with the relations:

- (a)  $K_i K_i^{-1} = K_i^{-1} K_i = 1, K_i K_j = K_j K_i,$
- (b)  $K_i E_j K_i^{-1} = q^{a_{ij}} E_j, K_i F_j K_i^{-1} = q^{-a_{ij}} F_j,$
- (c)  $E_i F_j - F_j E_i = \delta_{ij} \frac{K_i - K_i^{-1}}{q - q^{-1}},$

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- (d)  $E_i E_i = E_i E_i$ , if  $a_{ii} = 0$ ,
- (e)  $E_i^2 E_i - (q + q^{-1}) E_i E_i E_i + E_i E_i^2 = 0$ , if  $a_{ii} = -1$ ,
- (f)  $F_i F_i = F_i F_i$  if  $a_{ii} = 0$ ,
- (g)  $F_i^2 F_i - (q + q^{-1}) F_i F_i F_i + F_i F_i^2 = 0$ , if  $a_{ii} = -1$ ,

Then  $U_q$  is a Hopf algebra over  $C(q)$  which is called the quantum group associated to the matrix  $(a_{ij})$ , with comultiplication  $\Delta$ , antipode  $S$  and counit  $\nu$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_i &= E_i \otimes 1 + K_i \otimes E_i, & \Delta F_i &= F_i \otimes K_i^{-1} + 1 \otimes F_i, & \Delta K_i &= K_i \otimes K_i, \\ S E_i &= -K_i^{-1} E_i, & S F_i &= -F_i K_i, & S K_i &= K_i^{-1} \\ \nu E_i &= 0, & \nu F_i &= 0, & \nu K_i &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Also introduce the elements

$$[K_i; n] = \frac{(K_i q^n - K_i^{-1} q^{-n})}{q - q^{-1}} \text{ in } U_q.$$

**1.2** It is well known that one can introduce a root system associated to the matrix  $(a_{ij})$ . We briefly describe the construction here. For details refer to [1, 5].

Let  $P$  be a free abelian group with basis  $\omega_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  ( $P$  is usually called the lattice of weights). Let  $P^+$  denote the subgroup of non-negative integral combinations of  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n$  and any element of  $P^+$  is called a dominant weight. Define the following elements in  $P$ :

$$\rho = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i, \quad \alpha_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} \omega_i \quad (j = 1, \dots, n)$$

let  $Q = \sum_i Z \alpha_i, \quad Q_+ = \sum_i Z_+ \alpha_i.$

Define a bilinear pairing  $P \times Q \rightarrow Z$  by

$$(1.2.1) \quad (\omega_i | \alpha_j) = \delta_{ij}.$$

Then  $(\alpha_i | \alpha_j) = a_{ij}$ , so that we get a symmetric  $Z$ -valued bilinear form on  $Q$  such that  $(\alpha | \alpha) \in 2Z$ .

Define automorphisms  $r_i$  of  $P$  by  $r_i \omega_j = \omega_j - \delta_{ij} \alpha_i \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ .

Then  $r_i \alpha_i = \alpha_i - a_{ii} \alpha_i$ . Let  $W$  be the (finite) subgroup of  $GL(P)$  generated by  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ . Then  $Q$  is  $W$ -invariant and the pairing  $P \times Q \rightarrow Z$  is  $W$ -invariant.

Let  $\Pi = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ ,  $R = W[\Pi]$  and denote  $R \cap Q_+$  by  $R^+$ . Then  $R$  is a root system corresponding to the cartan matrix  $(a_{ij})$  with Weyl group  $W$  and  $R^+$  the system of positive roots. Clearly  $\rho$  is half the sum of positive roots. We introduce a partial ordering of  $P$  by  $\lambda \geq \mu$

if  $\lambda - \mu \in Q_+$ . Let  $w_0$  be the unique element of  $W$  such that  $w_0(R^+) = -R^+$ .

**1.3.** Let  $U_A$  be the  $A$ -subalgebra of  $U_q$  generated by the elements  $E_i, F_i, K_i^{\pm 1}, [K_i; 0] \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ . Let  $U_A^+$  (respectively  $U_A^-$ ) be the  $A$ -subalgebra of  $U_A$  generated by the  $E_i$  (respectively  $F_i$ ) and  $U_A^0$  the subalgebra generated by the  $K_i$  and  $[K_i; 0]$ .

**1.4** We shall show how to choose a canonical basis for  $U_q$  from the given set of generators (for details see [1, 5, 6]).

We note that we can define an anti-automorphism  $\omega$  of  $U_q$  defined by

$$(1.4.1) \quad \omega E_i = F_i, \quad \omega F_i = E_i, \quad \omega K_i = K_i^{-1}, \quad \omega q = q^{-1}.$$

For any  $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ , there is a unique algebra automorphism  $T_i$  of  $U_q$  such that

$$(1.4.2) \quad T_i E_i = -F_i K_i, \quad T_i E_i = -E_i E_i + q^{-1} E_i E_i \text{ if } a_{ii} = -1 \text{ and } T_i(E_i) = E_i \text{ if } a_{ii} = 0$$

$$(1.4.3) \quad T_i F_i = -K_i^{-1} E_i, \quad T_i F_i = -F_i F_i + q F_i F_i \text{ if } a_{ii} = -1 \text{ and } T_i(F_i) = F_i \text{ if } a_{ii} = 0$$

$$(1.4.4) \quad T_i K_j = K_j K_i^{-a_{ij}} \quad T_i \omega = \omega T_i.$$

Let  $w \in W$  and let  $r_{i_1}, \dots, r_{i_k}$  be a reduced expression of  $w$ . Then the automorphism  $T_w = T_{i_1} \dots T_{i_k}$  of  $U_q$  is independent of the choice of the reduced expression of  $w$ .

Fix a reduced expression  $r_{i_1}, r_{i_2}, \dots, r_{i_N}$  of the longest element of  $W$ , where  $N = |R^+|$ . Then this gives us an enumeration of the elements of  $R^+$

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

We define the roots vectors:

$$E_{\beta_s} = T_{i_1} T_{i_2} \dots T_{i_{s-1}} E_{i_s}, \quad F_{\beta_s} = T_{i_1} T_{i_2} \dots T_{i_{s-1}} F_{i_s} \text{ which is the same as } \omega E_{\beta_s}.$$

For  $j = (j_1, j_2, \dots, j_N) \in Z_+^N$  let the elements  $F^j K_j^{m_1} \dots K_n^{m_n} E^r$  where  $j, r \in Z_+^N, (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in Z^n$  form a basis of  $U_q$  over  $C(q)$ .

**1.5** Given  $\varepsilon \in C^*$ , we now consider the specialization  $U_\varepsilon = U_A / [(q-\varepsilon)U_A]$ . We take  $\varepsilon$  in such way that  $\varepsilon^2 \neq 1$ .

Then  $U_\varepsilon$  is an algebra over  $C$  with generators  $E_i, F_i, K_i^{\pm 1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) (identifying these vectors with their images), and defining relations ,

$$(a') \quad K_i K_i^{-1} = K_i^{-1} K_i = 1, \quad K_i K_j = K_j K_i,$$

$$(b') \quad K_i E_j K_i^{-1} = \varepsilon^{a_{ij}} E_j, \quad K_i F_j K_i^{-1} = \varepsilon^{-a_{ij}} F_j,$$

$$(c') \quad E_i F_j - F_j E_i = \delta_{ij} \frac{K_i - K_i^{-1}}{\varepsilon - \varepsilon^{-1}},$$

$$(d') \quad E_i^2 E_i - (\varepsilon + \varepsilon^{-1}) E_i E_i E_i + E_i E_i^2 = 0, \text{ if } a_{ii} = -1$$

$$(e') \quad F_i^2 F_i - (\varepsilon + \varepsilon^{-1}) F_i F_i F_i + F_i F_i^2 = 0, \text{ if } a_{ii} = -1,$$

$$(f') \quad E_i E_i = E_i E_i, \text{ if } a_{ii} = 0, \quad F_i F_i = F_i F_i \text{ if } a_{ii} = 0.$$

**1.6** We denote by  $U_\varepsilon^+, U_\varepsilon^-, U_\varepsilon^0$  the images of  $U_A^+, U_A^-,$  and  $U_A^0$  in  $U_\varepsilon$ . The automorphism  $T_i$  of  $U_q$  defined in (1.4) clearly induces an automorphism  $T_i$  of  $U_\varepsilon$ . The vectors  $E^j, F^j$  of  $U_q$  defined in (1.4.5) can then be taken to represent their

images in  $U_\varepsilon$ . Then the elements  $E^j, j \in Z_+^N$  form a basis of  $U_\varepsilon^+$  over  $C$ , and the elements  $F^j K_j^{m_1} \dots K_n^{m_n} E^r$  where  $j, r \in Z_+^N, (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in Z^n$  form a basis of  $U_\varepsilon$  over  $C$ .

## 2. VERMA MODULES

**2.1.** The notion of Verma modules over  $U_q$  and  $U_\varepsilon$  was introduced by De Concini and Kac in [1, 6]. In the rest of the paper, we shall be concerned only with Verma modules over  $U_\varepsilon$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is a primitive  $l$ th root of unity.

We recapitulate the definition below:

For each  $\lambda \in P$  the Verma module  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  over  $U_\varepsilon$  is the vector space  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  in which there exists a non-zero distinguished vector  $v_\lambda$  such that  $U_\varepsilon^+ v_\lambda = 0, K v_\lambda = \varepsilon^{(\lambda|\alpha)} v_\lambda, K \in U_\varepsilon^0$  where  $(|)$  is the pairing from  $P \times W \rightarrow Z$  defined in (1.2) and  $\{ F^j v_\lambda (j \in Z_+^N) \}$  is a basis of  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$ . Let  $L_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  denote the unique irreducible quotient of  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  by its unique maximal submodule.

Then we have

$$(2.1.1) \quad K v_\lambda = \varepsilon^{(\lambda|\alpha)} v_\lambda.$$

Also for each  $h = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ,  $F_h v_\lambda$  is a weight vector of weight  $\lambda - \alpha_h$  as easily seen below.

$$\begin{aligned} K F_h v_\lambda &= \mathcal{E}^{-(\alpha|\alpha_h)} F_h K v_\lambda \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{-(\alpha|\alpha_h)} \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda|\alpha)} F_h v_\lambda \quad (\text{since } (\alpha_h|\alpha) = (\alpha|\alpha_h)) \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{-(\lambda-\alpha_h|\alpha)} F_h v_\lambda \end{aligned}$$

(2.1.2) This shows that for any  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $F_h^r v_\lambda$  is a weight vector of weight  $\lambda - r\alpha_h$  and therefore each  $F^j v_\lambda (= F_i^{j_1} \dots F_N^{j_N} v_\lambda)$  is a weight vector of weight  $\lambda - \sum_{h=1}^N j_h \alpha_h$ .

**2.2 VERMA MODULES OVER SOME SUBALGEBRAS OF  $U_\varepsilon$ .**

We first define the subalgebras  $U_r, U_r^+, U_r^-$ , of  $U_\varepsilon$  generated by

$$\left\{ F^j, \prod_{i=1}^n K_i^{m_i}, E^r, 0 < j_i, r_i < l^r, (m_1 \dots m_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n \right\}, \left\{ E^r, \prod_{i=1}^n K_i^{m_i}, 0 < r_i < l^r, (m_1 \dots m_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n \right\} \\ , \left\{ F^j, 0 \leq j_i < l^r \right\} \text{ respectively.}$$

The set

(2.2.1)  $\{F_1^{j_1} \dots F_N^{j_N} K_1^{m_1} \dots K_n^{m_n} E_1^{r_1} \dots E_N^{r_N}, 0 \leq j_i, r_i < l^r, (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n\}$  is a basis of  $U_r$  and the set

(2.2.1)  $\{F_1^{j_1} \dots F_N^{j_N}, 0 \leq j_i < l^r\}$  is a basis of  $U_r^-$ .

We can then define the Verma modules  $M_{\varepsilon,r}(\lambda)$  of weight  $\lambda$  over  $U_r$  analogously to  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  over  $U_\varepsilon$ , that is, there exists a non-zero vector (say)  $\widehat{v}_\lambda$  such that  $U_r^+ \widehat{v}_\lambda = 0, K \widehat{v}_\lambda = \varepsilon^{(\lambda|\alpha)} \widehat{v}_\lambda$  for  $K \in U_r^0$  and  $\{F^j \widehat{v}_\lambda, 0 \leq j_i < l^r\}$  form a basis of  $M_{\varepsilon,r}(\lambda)$ .

There is a natural injective homomorphism  $f_r: M_{\varepsilon,r}(\lambda) \rightarrow M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  given by

(2.2.3)  $f_r(F^j \widehat{v}_\lambda) = F^j v_\lambda$

**2.3** We next introduce certain elements defined by  $I_r$  of  $U_r^-$ , which play an important role in our future study of the socles of Verma modules and homomorphisms between Verma modules.

For each positive integer  $r$ , let  $I_r = F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1}$  which is an element of  $U_r^-$ . It then follows that  $I_r v_\lambda$  is a weight vector of  $U_r v_\lambda$  of weight  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$ , where  $\rho$  is half the sum of the positive roots. In fact,

(2.3.1) 
$$\begin{aligned} K I_r v_\lambda &= K F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda - (l^r-1)\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_N|\alpha)} F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \quad \text{from (2.1.2)} \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda - 2(l^r-1)\rho|\alpha)} F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda + 2\rho|\alpha)} F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \quad [\text{since } \mathcal{E}^{l^r} = 1] \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda - 2l\rho + 2\rho|\alpha)} F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \\ &= \mathcal{E}^{(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho|\alpha)} F_1^{l^r-1} \dots F_N^{l^r-1} v_\lambda \end{aligned}$$

In particular, when  $\lambda = 0$ , we see that  $I_r \widehat{v}_0$  is a weight vector of  $M_{\varepsilon,r}(0)$  with minimal weight  $-2(l-1)\rho$ .

We observe for later use that  $I_r$  is an integral of  $U_r^-$ . In fact, for  $\alpha \in R^+$  and  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 < a < l^r$ ,  $R_\alpha^a I_r$  and  $I_r F_\alpha^a$  are in  $U_r^-$ . Hence  $F_\alpha^a I_r \widehat{v}_0$  and  $I_r F_\alpha^a \widehat{v}_0$  are weight vectors of  $M_{e,r}(0)$  with weight  $-2(l-1)\rho - \alpha$ . By the minimality of the weight  $-2(l-1)\rho$ , it follows that  $F_\alpha^a I_r = I_r F_\alpha^a = 0$ . This shows that  $I_r$  is an integral of  $U_r^-$ , in other words  $uI_r = V(u)I_r$  for all  $u \in U_r^-$ , where  $V: U_r^- \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is the augmentation function.

### 2.4 A HOMOMORPHISM BETWEEN TWO VERMA MODULES

$M_\varepsilon(\lambda), M_\varepsilon(\mu)$  is a map  $\phi: M_\varepsilon(\lambda) \rightarrow M_\varepsilon(\mu)$  such that  $\phi$  is a vector space homomorphism and  $\phi(uv) = u\phi(v)$ ,  $u \in U_\varepsilon$ ,  $v \in M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$ .

**Lemma 2.4.1:** If  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda), M_\varepsilon(\mu)$  are Verma modules over the quantum group  $U_\varepsilon$  and there is an injective  $U_\varepsilon$  module homomorphism  $\phi: M_\varepsilon(\lambda) \rightarrow M_\varepsilon(\mu)$ , then  $\lambda = \mu$  and  $\phi$  is multiplication by some element of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Proof:** Let  $v_\lambda, v_\mu$  be non-zero highest weight vectors of  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda), M_\varepsilon(\mu)$  respectively. Since  $v_\lambda$  generates  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$ ,  $\psi$  is determined by  $\psi(v_\lambda)$ . Say  $\psi(v_\lambda) = uv_\mu$ ,  $u \in U_\varepsilon^-$ . Now by definition,  $U_\varepsilon^-$  is the union of the subalgebras  $U_r^-$  for  $r = 1, 2, \dots$  and so there is some  $r$  for which  $u \in U_r^-$ . Since  $I_r$  is an integral for  $U_r^-$ ,

$$V(u) I_r v_\mu = I_r u v_\mu = I_r \psi(v_\lambda) = \phi(I_r v_\lambda)$$

where  $V: U_r^- \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is the augmentation function and  $I_r v_\lambda$  is an element of the basis for  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$ , so is non-zero, and therefore  $V(u) \neq 0$ . But  $\psi(v_\lambda)$  must have weight  $\lambda$ , so  $uv_\mu$  has weight  $\lambda$ , which contradicts  $V(u) \neq 0$  unless  $\lambda = \mu$ .

Since  $v_\mu$  spans the  $\mu$ -weight space of  $M_\varepsilon(\mu)$ ,  $\psi(v_\lambda) = cv_\mu = cv_\lambda$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\phi$  is just multiplication by  $c$ .

### 3. SOCLE OF VERMA MODULES

Denote the socle of the  $U_\varepsilon$  module  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$  by  $\text{Soc}(M_\varepsilon(\lambda))$  and the socle of the  $U_r$  module  $M_{e,r}(\lambda)$  by  $\text{Soc}(M_{e,r}(\lambda))$ . [3].

Since for any  $r > 0$ ,  $M_{e,r}(\lambda)$  is finite dimensional, clearly  $\text{Soc}(M_{e,r}(\lambda)) \neq 0$ . It is interesting to note that even for the infinite dimensional module  $M_\varepsilon(\lambda)$ , its socle is non-zero. We proceed to prove this in this section.

**Lemma 3.1:** If  $0 \neq u \in U_r^-$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $U_r u$  contains  $CI_r$ .

**Proof:** We shall order the positive roots  $\alpha(1), \alpha(2), \dots, \alpha(N)$  in such a way that if

$$\alpha(i) + \alpha(j) = \alpha(k) \text{ then } k < i, j.$$

If  $0 < a < l^r$  then clearly

$$F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(1)}^a = F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1+a} = 0.$$

We shall prove by induction on  $i$ , with  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , that  $F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i)}^{l^r-1} F_\alpha^a = 0$

whenever  $\alpha \in \{\alpha(1), \dots, \alpha(i)\}$  and  $0 < a < l^r$ .

Suppose there exists some  $i, 2 \leq i \leq N$ , such that

$$(3.1.1) \quad F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} F_\alpha^a = 0, \text{ whenever } \alpha \in \{\alpha(1), \dots, \alpha(i-1)\} \text{ and } 0 < a < l^r.$$

Now, suppose that there is some  $\alpha \in \{\alpha(1), \alpha(2), \dots, \alpha(i)\}$  and choose  $a$  such that  $0 < a < l^r$ .

If  $\alpha = \alpha(i)$ , then  $F_{\alpha(i)}^{l^r-1} F_\alpha^a = 0$ , and so

$$F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i)}^{l^r-1} F_\alpha^a = 0.$$

If  $\alpha \neq \alpha(i)$ , then using the commutation relations imply that

$$F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha}^a$$

is a sum of elements of the form

$$F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\beta}^b u$$

with  $\beta \in \{\alpha(1), \dots, \alpha(i-1)\}$ ,  $0 < b < l^r$ ,  $u \in U_{\epsilon}$  and each element of this form equals 0 by (3.1.1). So (3.1.1) holds for all  $i$ .

Using this equation together with the commutation relations if  $1 \leq i \leq N$  and  $0 < a < l^r$ , then

$$(3.1.2) \quad F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(i)}^a - \epsilon^{-1(i-1)(l^r-1)} F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} = 0$$

and so if  $1 \leq i \leq N$  and  $0 < a, b < l^r$  then

$$\begin{aligned} & F_{\alpha(i)}^a F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(i)}^b \\ &= \epsilon^{-1(i-1)(l^r-1)} F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(2)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(i-1)}^{l^r-1} F_{\alpha(i)}^{a+b} \\ &= 0 \text{ if } a + b \geq l^r. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $u$  is a non-zero element of  $U_r^-$ . Then by the basis of  $U_r^-$  the element  $u$  is of the form  $F_{\alpha(1)}^{\alpha(1)} F_{\alpha(2)}^{\alpha(2)} \dots F_{\alpha(N)}^{\alpha(N)}$  with  $0 \leq a(1), \dots, a(N) < l^r$

By repeated use of (3.1.2)  $C F_{\alpha(N)}^{l^r-1-\alpha(N)} \dots F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1-\alpha(1)} u = C F_{\alpha(N)}^{l^r-1} \dots F_{\alpha(1)}^{l^r-1} = C I_r$  as required.

**Corollary 3.2:** Let  $r$  be a positive integer.

$$I_{r+1} \in U_{\epsilon} I_r.$$

**Proof:** Lemma 3.1 implies that  $C I_{r+1} \subseteq U_{r+1} I_r$ , so  $I_{r+1} \in U_{r+1} I_r \subseteq U_{\epsilon} I_r$ .

**Corollary 3.3:**

- (i) If  $M$  is a non-zero  $U_r$  submodule of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  and  $\widehat{v}_{\lambda} \in M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$ , then  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \in M$ .
- (ii) If  $M$  is a non-zero  $U_{\epsilon}$  submodule of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$  and  $v_{\lambda} \in M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$ , then  $I_r v_{\lambda} \in M$  for all  $r$ .

**Proof:**

(i) By the basis of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$ ,  $M$  contains some vector  $u \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$  with  $u \in U_r^-$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \in C I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \subseteq U_r u \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \subseteq M$ .

(ii) By the basis of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$ ,  $M$  contains some vector  $u v_{\lambda}$  with  $u \in U_{\epsilon}^-$ , hence  $u \in U_r^-$  for some  $r$ .  
By Lemma 3.1,  $I_r v_{\lambda} \in C I_r v_{\lambda} \subseteq U_{\epsilon} u v_{\lambda} \subseteq M$ .

**Corollary 3.4:**  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is simple.

**Proof:**  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is a non-zero  $U_r$  submodule of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  and by Corollary 3.3 (i) the submodule  $U_r I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$  is contained in every simple component of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  and hence  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  itself is simple.

**Lemma 3.5:** Let  $\lambda \in P^+$ , the set of dominant weights. Then for all  $r > 0$ , the highest weight of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is  $w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)$  and hence is independent of  $r$ .

**Proof:** From (2.3.1), the lowest weight of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  is  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$  for all  $r > 0$ . From Corollary 3.3(i), we have seen that any non-zero submodule of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  contains  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$ . Hence  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  contains  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$  whose weight is  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$ .

Therefore the lowest weight of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$  for all  $r > 0$  and hence the highest weight of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is  $w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho) = w_0(\lambda + 2\rho)$ , which is independent of  $r$ . Hence the result.

**Corollary 3.6:**  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is isomorphic to  $L_{\epsilon,r}(w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho))$  for all  $r > 0$ .

**Proof:** From the corollary 3.4 and the lemma 3.5 we get  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is simple and the highest weight is  $w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)$ . But  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$  is a weight of  $L_{\epsilon,r}(w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho))$  and hence this simple  $U_r$  module is isomorphic to the  $U_r$  module  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$ , for all  $r > 0$ .

We shall proceed to prove our main result concerning the socle of the Verma modules.

**Theorem 3.7:**  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  is non-zero for all  $\lambda \in P^+$ .

**Proof:** Let  $v_{\lambda}, \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$  be non-zero highest weight vectors of the Verma module  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$  over  $U_{\epsilon}$  and  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  over  $U_r$  respectively. Let  $M$  be an arbitrary non-zero  $U_{\epsilon}$  submodule of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$ . Then by Corollary 3.3(ii),  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \in U_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \subseteq M$  for all  $r$  and hence  $U_{\epsilon} I_r v_{\lambda} \subseteq M$ . Now, let  $I$  denote the submodule  $\bigcap_{r>0} U_{\epsilon} I_r v_{\lambda}$  of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$ .

Replacing  $M$  by each simple component of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$ , it immediately follows that  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)) \supseteq I$ .

We proceed to prove that  $I \neq (0)$ . Since  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  is finite dimensional,  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)) \neq 0$ . By Corollary 3.3(i),  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  is simple and we can take  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  to be isomorphic to the simple  $U_r$  module  $L_{\epsilon,r}(\mu)$  (where  $\mu$  is  $w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)$ ). Also by Corollary 3.3(i),  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$  contains  $I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$ . Therefore there is some  $x_r$  in  $U_r$  such that  $x_r I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}$  is in the highest weight space of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))$ .

In other words,  $x_r I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda} \in (M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda))^{\mu}$ , the  $\mu$ th weight space of  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$ . Now let  $f_r$  be the injective  $U_r$  module homomorphism from  $M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  to  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$  described in (3.2.3), then  $f_r(\widehat{v}_{\lambda}) = v_{\lambda}$ .

So,  $x_r I_r v_{\lambda} = f_r(x_r I_r \widehat{v}_{\lambda}) \in (M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu}$ .

This shows that for each  $r$ ,  $U_{\epsilon} I_r v_{\lambda} \cap (M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu} \neq (0)$  and is a finite dimensional  $C$ -vector space (since  $(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu}$  is finite dimensional).

From Corollary (3.2), we have the descending chain of submodules

$$U_{\epsilon} I_1 v_{\lambda} \cap (M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu} \supseteq U_{\epsilon} I_2 v_{\lambda} \cap (M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu} \supseteq \dots$$

Hence its intersection which is just  $I \cap (M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))^{\mu}$  is non-zero which implies that  $I \neq 0$ . Since  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)) \supseteq I \neq 0$ , it follows that  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)) \neq 0$ .

Hence the theorem.

**Theorem 3.8:**  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  is simple and isomorphic to the simple  $U_{\epsilon}$ - module  $L_{\epsilon}(w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)) = L_{\epsilon}(w_0(\lambda + 2\rho))$ .

**Proof:** From the above theorem we get  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  is a non zero  $U_{\epsilon}$ - module of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$  and by the corollary (3.3.) (ii) the submodule  $U_{\epsilon} I_r v_{\lambda}$  is contained in every simple component of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  and hence  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  itself is simple.

Since  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  contains  $I_r v_{\lambda}$  whose weight is  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$ , the lowest weight of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  is  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$  and the highest weight of  $\text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon}(\lambda))$  is  $w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)$ .

But  $\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho$  is a weight of  $L_{\epsilon}(w_0(\lambda - 2(l-1)\rho)) = L_{\epsilon}(w_0(\lambda + 2\rho))$  and hence this simple  $U_{\epsilon}$ - module is isomorphic to the  $U_{\epsilon}$  module socle of  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda)$ .

#### 4. STEINBERG MODULE IN QUANTUM GROUPS

One can naturally expect to define a Steinberg module in Quantum groups. [6]

We let  $M_{\epsilon}(\lambda), M_{\epsilon}(\mu), M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  to denote the Verma modules over  $U_{\epsilon}$  and  $L_{\epsilon}(\lambda), L_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)$  the corresponding (unique) simple factor modules. From the corollary 3.6 we get

$$(4.1.1) \quad \text{Soc}(M_{\epsilon,r}(\lambda)) \cong L_{\epsilon,r}(w_0(\lambda + 2\rho))$$

Now we take  $\lambda = (l - 1) \rho$  which is in  $P^+$ .

Then (4.1.1) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Soc}(M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)) &\cong L_{\varepsilon,r}(w_0((l - 1) \rho + 2\rho)) \\ &= L_{\varepsilon,r}(w_0(l \rho + \rho)) \\ &= L_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) \quad (\text{since } \varepsilon^{-\rho} = \varepsilon^{l\rho - \rho} = \varepsilon^{(l-1)\rho}) \text{ for all } r > 0. \end{aligned}$$

There is some non zero vector  $v$  in  $\text{Soc}M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)$  with weight  $(l - 1) \rho$ .

But  $M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)_{(l-1)\rho} = Cv_\lambda$ . So  $v_\lambda \in \text{Soc}M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)$  and  $v_\lambda$  generates  $M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)$ .

Hence  $M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) = \text{Soc}M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) \cong L_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho)$  for all  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We call this the Steinberg module  $St_r$ , which is of dimension  $l^N$ , where  $N = |\mathbb{R}^+|$ . At the same time, we know that there exists a natural injective  $U_r$ -homomorphism,

$$f_r : M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) \rightarrow M_\varepsilon((l - 1) \rho) \quad [\text{From ( 2.2.3)}]$$

Hence we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} St_r = M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) &= \text{Soc} M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) \subset \text{Soc}M_{\varepsilon,r}((l - 1) \rho) \\ &\cong L_\varepsilon((l - 1) \rho) \quad [\text{From theorem 3.8}] \end{aligned}$$

We call  $L_\varepsilon((l - 1) \rho)$  the Universal Steinberg module.

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