

IRREDUCIBLE REPRESENTATIONS OF SOLVABLE LIE SUPERALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. The description of irreducible finite dimensional representations of finite dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras over complex numbers given by V. Kac is refined. In reality these representations are not just induced from a polarization but are twisted ones, as infinite dimensional representations of solvable Lie algebras. Various cases of irreducibility (general and of type Q) are classified.

INTRODUCTION

Hereafter the ground field is \mathbb{C} and all the modules and superalgebras are finite dimensional; $\mathbb{Z}/2 = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}\}$ and $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}$ is a solvable Lie superalgebra.

The description of irreducible representations of solvable Lie superalgebras given in [K] (Theorem 7) contains an error. In reality, to give such a description one has to imitate the description of infinite dimensional solvable Lie algebras [D], i.e., we must consider *twisted* induced representations. In what follows I give a correct description of irreducible representations of solvable Lie superalgebras. I also show where a mistake crept into [K] and give a counterexample to Theorem 7 from [K].

The proof given in what follows was delivered at Leites' *Seminar on Supermanifolds* in 1983 and is preprinted in [L] in a form considerably edited by I. Shchepochkina and D. Leites. My acknowledgements are due to them and also to the Department of Mathematics of Stockholm University that financed publication of [L].

1. MAIN RESULT

1.1. Polarizations. Set $L = \{\lambda \in \mathfrak{g}^* : \lambda(\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}) = 0 \text{ and } \lambda([\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}]) = 0\}$. Recall that a *superspace* is a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded space $V = V_{\bar{0}} \oplus V_{\bar{1}}$ and its *superdimension* is the pair $(\dim V_{\bar{0}}, \dim V_{\bar{1}})$. By the usual abuse of language $\lambda \in L$ denotes a character and also the $(1, 0)$ -dimensional representation of the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$ determined by the character λ . Every functional $\lambda \in L$ determines a symmetric form f_λ on $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}$ by the formula $f_\lambda(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \lambda([\xi_1, \xi_2])$.

A subalgebra $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ is called a *polarization* for $\lambda \in L$ if $\lambda([\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}]) = 0$, $\mathfrak{h} \supset \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$ and $\mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$ is a maximal fully isotropic subspace for f_λ .

Lemma. *For every $\lambda \in L$ there exists a polarization \mathfrak{h} .*

Proof follows from Lemma 2.4.

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1.2. Twisted representations. If \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for $\lambda \in L$, then, clearly, λ determines a $(1, 0)$ -dimensional representation of \mathfrak{h} . Let $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ be a Lie subsuperalgebra that contains \mathfrak{g}_0 . Define a functional $\theta_{\mathfrak{h}} \in L$ by setting

$$\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}(g) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2}\mathrm{tr}_{\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h}}(\mathrm{ad} g) & \text{for } g \in \mathfrak{g}_0 \\ 0 & \text{for } g \in \mathfrak{g}_1. \end{cases}$$

Note that $\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}([\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}]) = 0$. Therefore, $\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$ is a character of a $(1, 0)$ -dimensional representation of \mathfrak{h} .

Let \mathfrak{h} be a polarization for $\lambda \in L$. Define the *twisted* (by the character $\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$) induced and coinduced representations by setting

$$\begin{aligned} I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) &= \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}) = U(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{U(\mathfrak{h})} (\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}); \\ CI_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) &= \mathrm{Coind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}) = \mathrm{Hom}_{U(\mathfrak{h})}(U(\mathfrak{g}), \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}). \end{aligned}$$

Lemma. 1) $I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ is finite dimensional and irreducible.

2) $I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ does not depend on the choice of a polarization \mathfrak{h} ; therefore, notation $I(\lambda)$ ($= I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ for some \mathfrak{h}) is well-defined.

3) $CI(\lambda) \cong I(\lambda)$.

For the proof see Corollaries 3.3 and 4.3.

1.3. Main Theorem. Let $Z = \{(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) : \lambda \in L \text{ and } \mathfrak{h} \text{ is a polarization for } \lambda\}$. Define an equivalence relation on Z by setting

$$(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) \sim (\mu, \mathfrak{t}) \iff \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} = \mu - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}.$$

Clearly, this relation is well-defined.

Recall ([BL]) that the representation of a Lie superalgebra \mathfrak{g} is called irreducible if it has no invariant subspaces; it is called irreducible of *Q-type* if it has no invariant subspaces. Recall also that to every superspace $V = V_0 \oplus V_1$ the change of parity functor Π assigns the superspace $\Pi(V)$ such that $\Pi(V)_{\bar{i}} = V_{i+\bar{1}}$. Observe that the modules $I(\lambda)$ and $\Pi(I(\lambda))$ are not isomorphic as \mathfrak{g} -modules (unless they are of *Q-type*); they are always isomorphic, however, as \mathfrak{g}_0 -modules.

Theorem. 1) Every irreducible finite dimensional representation of \mathfrak{g} is isomorphic up to application of the change of parity functor Π to a representation of the form $I(\lambda)$ for some λ .

2) The map $\lambda \mapsto I(\lambda)$ is (up to Π) a one-to-one correspondence between elements of L and the irreducible finite dimensional representations of \mathfrak{g} .

3) Let $(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}), (\mu, \mathfrak{t}) \in Z$. Then $\mathrm{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) \cong \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$ if and only if $(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) \sim (\mu, \mathfrak{t})$.

4) If $\mathrm{rk} f_{\lambda}$ is even, then $I(\lambda)$ is a *G-type* representation; if $\mathrm{rk} f_{\lambda}$ is odd, then $I(\lambda)$ is a *Q-type* representation.

For the proof see sections 3.3, 3.5, 4.2 and 4.3.

Remark. For examples of irreducible representations of dimension > 1 of solvable Lie superalgebras (and interesting examples of the latter) see [Shch].

2. PREREQUISITES FOR THE PROOF OF MAIN THEOREM

Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ be a subsuperalgebra, $\mathrm{codim} \mathfrak{k} = (0, 1)$, and μ the character of the representation of \mathfrak{g}_0 in $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}$.

2.1. Lemma. μ is a character of \mathfrak{g} .

Proof. Let $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$ and $\xi \notin \mathfrak{k}$. Since in $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}$ there is a \mathfrak{k} -action, it suffices to prove that $\mu([\mathfrak{k}, \xi]) = \mu([\xi, \xi]) = 0$. By the Jacobi identity $[[\xi, \xi], \xi] = 0$ which proves that $\mu([\xi, \xi]) = 0$. Let $\eta \in \mathfrak{k}_1$. Then $[[\eta, \xi], \xi] = \frac{1}{2}[\eta, [\xi, \xi]] \in \mathfrak{k}$ and, therefore, $\mu([\mathfrak{k}_1, \xi]) = 0$. \square

2.2. Corollary. *Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{k}_1$ be subalgebras in \mathfrak{g} such that both contain \mathfrak{g}_0 and such that $\dim \mathfrak{k}_1/\mathfrak{k} = (0, 1)$. Let λ be the character of an irreducible factor of $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}$ considered as a \mathfrak{g}_0 -module. Then λ is a character of \mathfrak{k}_1 .*

Proof. Let $\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k} = (0, l)$; we will induct on l . If $l = 1$, the statement of Corollary holds thanks to Lemma 2.1.

Let $l > 1$ and \mathfrak{k}_2 be a subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} such that $\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}_2 = (0, 1)$ and $\mathfrak{k}_2 \supset \mathfrak{k}_1$. Any irreducible factor of $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}$ is a factor of either $\mathfrak{k}_2/\mathfrak{k}$ or $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}_2$. In the first case Corollary holds by the inductive hypothesis. In the second case let λ be the character of an irreducible factor of $\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k}_2$. Then λ is a character of \mathfrak{k}_2 ; hence, a character of \mathfrak{k}_1 . \square

2.3. Corollary ([K], Prop. 1.3.3, p. 25). *A Lie superalgebra $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$ is solvable if and only if \mathfrak{g}_0 is also.*

Proof. Here is an independent proof. We induct on $l = \dim \mathfrak{g}_1$. If $l = 0$, the statement is obvious. Let $l > 0$. Set

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} = [\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_0] \oplus [\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_1] \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1.$$

Since $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \subset \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$, it suffices to demonstrate that $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ is solvable. Let $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ and $\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h} = (0, 1)$. By Lemma 2.1 we see that $[\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_0, \mathfrak{g}_1] \subset \mathfrak{h}_1$. Hence, $[\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}] \subset \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{h}_1$. By the inductive hypothesis, $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{h}_1$ is a solvable Lie superalgebra, hence, so is $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$.

The converse statement is obvious. \square

2.4. Lemma. *Let W be a finite dimensional \mathfrak{g} -module, f a symmetric \mathfrak{g} -invariant form on W and V a \mathfrak{g} -invariant fully isotropic subspace. Then there exists a maximal \mathfrak{g} -invariant f -isotropic subspace in W containing V .*

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that f is nondegenerate. Suppose first that $\text{rk } f = \dim W = 2l$ is even.

i) Let us prove first that W contains a nonzero isotropic \mathfrak{g} -invariant one-dimensional subspace. Since \mathfrak{g} is solvable, there exists a $w \in W$ such that $xw = \lambda(x)w$ for any $x \in \mathfrak{g}$. If $f(w, w) = 0$, we are done. If $f(w, w) \neq 0$, then the invariance implies that

$$0 = f(xw, w) + f(w, xw) = 2\lambda(x)f(w, w).$$

Therefore, $\lambda(x) = 0$ and w is a \mathfrak{g} -invariant. Furthermore, $W = \text{Span}(w) \oplus W_1$, where $W_1 = \text{Span}(w)^\perp$.

In W_1 , select a one-dimensional \mathfrak{g} -invariant subspace $\text{Span}(w_1)$. If $f(w_1, w_1) = 0$, we are done. If $f(w_1, w_1) \neq 0$, the above arguments show that w_1 is a \mathfrak{g} -invariant. Then $w_2 = w + \alpha w_1$ is an isotropic and \mathfrak{g} -invariant vector for $\alpha = \sqrt{-f(w, w)/f(w_1, w_1)}$.

ii) Now let us induct on l . If $l = 1$, let us apply step i). If $l > 1$ we may assume, thanks to i), that $V \neq 0$. If $V = V^\perp$, we are done. But if $V \neq V^\perp$, then $V \subset V^\perp$, since V is fully isotropic; moreover, the restriction of f onto V^\perp/V is nondegenerate. The equality $\dim V + \dim V^\perp = 2l$ implies that $\dim V^\perp/V$ is even. Therefore, by induction we prove that V^\perp/V contains a maximal \mathfrak{g} -invariant fully

isotropic subspace \bar{U} . But then its preimage U in V^\perp is a maximal fully isotropic \mathfrak{g} -invariant subspace of W containing V .

The case $\text{rk } f = \dim W = 2l + 1$ is treated similarly. \square

2.5. Corollary. *If \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for $\lambda \in L$, \mathfrak{n} the kernel of f_λ and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l$ are characters of irreducible subfactors of $\mathfrak{g}_\bar{1}/\mathfrak{n}$ considered as a \mathfrak{g}_0 -module, then \mathfrak{h} is also polarization for $\mu = \lambda + \alpha_1\lambda_1 + \dots + \alpha_l\lambda_l$ for any $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l \in \mathbb{C}^*$.*

Proof. Since f_λ determines a nondegenerate \mathfrak{g}_0 -invariant pairing $\mathfrak{h}^\perp/\mathfrak{n} \times \mathfrak{g}_\bar{1}/\mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, the characters $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l$ coincide, up to a sign, with characters of irreducible factors of $\mathfrak{g}_\bar{1}/\mathfrak{h}$. But the latter space is a \mathfrak{h} -module, so $\lambda_i([\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}, \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}]) = 0$ and, therefore, $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ is fully isotropic for f_μ .

If $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ is a maximal fully isotropic subspace for f_μ , we are done. Otherwise, i.e., if $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ is not a maximal fully isotropic subspace for f_μ , select a \mathfrak{g}_0 -invariant subspace $\mathfrak{b}_\bar{1}$ of $\mathfrak{g}_\bar{1}$ distinct from $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ containing $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ and isotropic with respect to f_μ .

Next, in the module $\mathfrak{b}_\bar{1}/\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ select a one-dimensional \mathfrak{g}_0 -invariant subspace $\text{Span}(\bar{\xi})$, where $\xi \in \mathfrak{b}_\bar{1}$. Then $\bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1} = \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1} \oplus \text{Span}(\bar{\xi})$ is fully isotropic with respect to f_μ and $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}$ is a subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} . Then $\lambda_i([\bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}, \bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}]) = 0$ by Corollary 2.2. But $\lambda = \mu - \alpha_1\lambda_1 - \dots - \alpha_l\lambda_l$; hence, $\lambda([\bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}, \bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}]) = 0$. In other words, $\bar{\mathfrak{k}}_\bar{1}$ is fully isotropic with respect to f_λ . But this contradicts the maximality of $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$. \square

The following two statements are standard, so their proofs are omitted.

2.6. Lemma. *Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ be a Lie subsuperalgebra, $\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k} = (0, 1)$. If (V, ρ) is an irreducible representation of \mathfrak{k} in a superspace V , then $W = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{k}^\mathfrak{g}(V)$ is reducible if and only if V admits a \mathfrak{g} -module structure that extends ρ .*

2.7. Lemma (see [K], Lemma 5.2.2 b). *Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ be a Lie subsuperalgebra, $\dim \mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{k} = (0, 1)$. If W is an irreducible \mathfrak{g} -module and $V \subset W$ is an irreducible proper \mathfrak{k} -submodule, then $W = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{k}^\mathfrak{g}(V)$.*

3. DESCRIPTION OF IRREDUCIBLE MODULES

3.1. Proposition. *Let $\lambda \in L$, let $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}$ be a polarization for λ , let \mathfrak{n} be the kernel of f_λ and $F \subset \mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}$ a subspace such that $\mathfrak{p}_\bar{1} = F \oplus \mathfrak{n}$. Define ξ_0 as follows. If $\text{rk } f_\lambda$ is even, then we set $\xi_0 = 0$. If $\text{rk } f_\lambda$ is odd, choose ξ_0 from $\mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}^\perp$ so that $\xi_0 \notin \mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}$. Let $xv = \lambda(x)v$ be a one-dimensional representation of \mathfrak{p} in $V = \text{Span}(v)$. Denote $I_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(V)$.*

If $u \in I_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(\lambda)$ and $Fu = 0$, then $u \in \text{Span}(v, \xi_0v)$.

Proof. Induction on $\text{rk } f_\lambda$. If $\text{rk } f_\lambda = 0$, then $F = 0$ and the statement is obvious.

Let $\text{rk } f_\lambda > 0$. Select a subalgebra $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{p}$ such that $\dim \mathfrak{g}_\bar{1}/\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1} = 1$. Then two cases are possible: $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}^\perp \not\subset \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ and $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}^\perp \subset \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$.

i) $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}^\perp \not\subset \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$. Then $\mathfrak{g}_\bar{1} = \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1} \oplus \text{Span}(\xi)$, where $\xi \perp \mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$. Hence, $\xi \perp \mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}$ and $\xi \notin \mathfrak{p}_\bar{1}$. Therefore, we may assume that $\xi = \xi_0$ and $\text{rk } f_\lambda$ is an odd number. Clearly, \mathfrak{p} is a polarization for the restriction f_λ onto $\mathfrak{h}_\bar{1}$ and $\text{rk } f_\lambda$ is an even number. Furthermore,

$$\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{h}(\lambda) \oplus \xi_0 \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(\lambda).$$

Let $u = u_0 + \xi_0 u_1 \in \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{p}^\mathfrak{g}(\lambda)$ and $pu = 0$ for any $p \in F$. Then

$$0 = pu = pu_0 + [p, \xi_0]u_1 + \xi_0 pu_1,$$

therefore, $pu_1 = 0$. By induction, $u_1 \in Span(v)$, where v is the generator of $Ind_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$. Since $\xi_0 \perp \mathfrak{p}_{\bar{1}}$, it follows that $[p, \xi_0]u_1 = f_{\lambda}(p, \xi_0)u_1 = 0$. Therefore, $pu_0 = 0$ and $u_0 \in Span(v)$. Hence, $u \in Span(v, \xi_0 v)$.

ii) Let us show now that the weight of $\xi_0 v$ with respect to $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$ is also equal to λ . If $\bar{\xi}_0 = 0$, all is clear. So let $\xi_0 \neq 0$. Since $[x, \xi_0] \perp \mathfrak{p}_{\bar{1}}$ for any $x \in \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$, it follows that $[x, \xi_0] = \mu(x)\xi_0 + p$ for some $p \in \mathfrak{p}_{\bar{1}}$. Furthermore, $[x, [\xi_0, \xi_0]] = 2[[x, \xi_0], \xi_0]$; hence,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lambda([x, [\xi_0, \xi_0]]) = 2\lambda([\mu(x)\xi_0 + p, \xi_0]) \\ &= 2\mu(x)\lambda([\xi_0, \xi_0]) + 2\lambda([p, \xi_0]) = 2\mu(x)\lambda([\xi_0, \xi_0]). \end{aligned}$$

But $\lambda([\xi_0, \xi_0]) \neq 0$, so, $\mu(x) = 0$ and the weight of $\xi_0 v$ is equal to λ .

iii) $\mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}^{\perp} \subset \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$. Then the restriction of the form f_{λ} onto $\mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$ is of rank two less than that of f_{λ} itself.

Select $\xi \notin \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$ and set $F_1 = F \cap Span(\xi)^{\perp}$. Let \mathfrak{n} be the kernel of f_{λ} . Then

$$\dim \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}} + \dim \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}^{\perp} = \dim \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}} + \dim \mathfrak{n},$$

so $\dim \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}^{\perp} = \dim \mathfrak{n} + 1$. Therefore, there exists an element $\eta \in \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}^{\perp} \cap F$ and such that $\eta \notin \mathfrak{n}$. Clearly, $f_{\lambda}(\xi, \eta) \neq 0$ and $\mathfrak{p}_{\bar{1}}^{\perp} \subset \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$. Therefore,

$$F = F_1 \oplus Span(\eta), \quad \xi \perp F_1 \text{ and } f_{\lambda}(\xi, \eta) \neq 0.$$

Let

$$u = u_0 + \xi u_1, \text{ where } u \in Ind_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda), \ u_0, u_1 \in Ind_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{h}}(\lambda) \text{ and } pu = 0 \text{ for any } p \in F.$$

Then

$$0 = pu = pu_0 + [p, \xi]u_1 + \xi pu_1,$$

hence, $pu_1 = 0$ and by induction $u_1 \in Span(v, \xi_0 v)$. Thanks to ii) $[p, \xi]u_1 = f_{\lambda}(p, \xi)u_1$ and if $p \in F_1$, then $f_{\lambda}(p, \xi)u_1 = 0$; hence, $pu_0 = 0$ for any $p \in F_1$. By induction we deduce that $u_0 \in Span(v, \xi_0 v)$. Further on,

$$0 = \eta u = \eta u_0 + \eta \xi u_1 = [\eta, \xi]u_1 = f_{\lambda}(\eta, \xi)u_1$$

and since $f_{\lambda}(\eta, \xi) \neq 0$, then $u_1 = 0$ and $u = u_0 \in Span(v, \xi_0 v)$. □

3.2. Corollary. *If $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}} \oplus \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$ is a polarization for λ , then $Ind_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ is an irreducible module.*

Proof. Observe that irreducibility is equivalent to the absence of vectors annihilated by $\mathfrak{b}_{\bar{1}}$ that do not lie in $Span(v, \xi_0 v)$. □

3.3. Corollary. *Heading 1) of Lemma 1.2 and heading 4) of the Main Theorem 1.3 hold.*

3.4. Corollary. *Let U be an irreducible finite dimensional \mathfrak{g} -module. Then $U = Ind_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ for some $\lambda \in L$ and a polarization \mathfrak{h} .*

Proof. Induction on $\dim \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}$. If $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{0}}$, then this is Lie's theorem. Let $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ and $\dim \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}/\mathfrak{k}_{\bar{1}} = 1$.

Let U be irreducible as a \mathfrak{k} -module. Then there exist $\lambda \in L$ and a polarization $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{k}$ for $\lambda \in L$ such that $U = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{k}}(\lambda)$. If \mathfrak{h} were a polarization for λ in \mathfrak{g} , too, then by Corollary 3.2 the representation

$$\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{k}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{k}}(\lambda))$$

would have been irreducible contradicting Lemma 2.6.

Let $\hat{\mathfrak{h}} \supset \mathfrak{h}$ be a polarization for λ in \mathfrak{g} and $\xi \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}$ so that $\xi \notin \mathfrak{h}$. If v is an element of $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{k}}(\lambda)$ as the one described in 3.1 and $p \in \mathfrak{h}_{\bar{1}}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} p\xi v &= [p, \xi]v = f_{\lambda}(p, \xi)v = 0, \\ \xi\xi v &= \frac{1}{2}[\xi, \xi]v = \frac{1}{2}f_{\lambda}(\xi, \xi)v = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there exists a non-zero \mathfrak{g} -module homomorphism $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}\lambda \rightarrow \text{Ind}_{\hat{\mathfrak{h}}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = U$ and since both modules are irreducible, this is an “odd isomorphism,” i.e., the composition of an isomorphism with the change of parity.

Now let U be reducible as a \mathfrak{k} -module. Then by Lemma 2.7 $U = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{k}}^{\mathfrak{g}}V$, and, by induction, $V = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{k}}(\lambda)$ for a polarization $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{k}$ and $\lambda \in L$. If \mathfrak{h} is not a polarization for λ in \mathfrak{g} , then let $\hat{\mathfrak{h}} \supset \mathfrak{h}$ be a polarization. We have a non-zero \mathfrak{g} -module homomorphism $U = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) \rightarrow \text{Ind}_{\hat{\mathfrak{h}}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ and since both modules are irreducible, this is an isomorphism which is impossible because $\dim \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) < \dim \text{Ind}_{\hat{\mathfrak{h}}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$. Therefore, \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for λ in \mathfrak{g} and $U = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$. \square

3.5. Corollary. *Heading 1) of Theorem holds.*

3.6. A subsuperalgebra subordinate for $\lambda \in L$. Recall (see [K] p. 79) that if

$$\mathfrak{g}_{\lambda} = \{g \in \mathfrak{g} \mid \lambda([g, g_1]) = 0 \text{ for all } g_1 \in \mathfrak{g}\},$$

then a subalgebra $\mathfrak{p} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ is called *subordinate to λ* if $\lambda([\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]) = 0$ and $\mathfrak{p} \supset \mathfrak{g}_{\lambda}$.

Corollary. *Let $\lambda \in L$, \mathfrak{p} a subalgebra subordinate to λ . Then $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ is irreducible if and only if \mathfrak{p} is a polarization for λ .*

4. CLASSIFICATION OF MODULES $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$

4.1. Lemma. *If $(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) \sim (\mu, \mathfrak{t})$, then \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for μ .*

Proof. By 2.5 \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for $\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$. Since $\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} = \mu - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}$, then \mathfrak{t} is also a polarization for $\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$. Let \mathfrak{n} be the kernel of $f_{\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}}$, then $\mathfrak{t} \supset \mathfrak{n}$. Hence, $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}/\mathfrak{t}$ is a subfactor of $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}/\mathfrak{n}$. Therefore, by Lemma 2.5 we see that \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for $\mu = (\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}) + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}$. \square

4.2. Proof of heading 3) of Theorem. Let $(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) \sim (\mu, \mathfrak{t})$. We will carry the proof out by induction on $k = \dim \mathfrak{h}/(\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t})$. If $k = 0$ the statement is obvious. Let $k = 1$, then, obviously, $\dim \mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t}) = 1$. Consider the space $\mathfrak{h} + \mathfrak{t}$. By Lemma 4.1 \mathfrak{t} is a polarization for λ and, therefore, the kernel of f_{λ} on the subspace $\mathfrak{h} + \mathfrak{t}$ is equal to $\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t}$.

Let $\xi \in \mathfrak{h}$ and $\eta \in \mathfrak{t}$ be such that $\bar{\xi} \in \mathfrak{h}/(\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t}), \bar{\xi} \neq 0$ and $\bar{\eta} \in \mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t}), \bar{\eta} \neq 0$. We may assume that $f_{\lambda}(\xi, \eta) = 1$.

Let $v \in \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ be as in Proposition 3.1. Then for $r \in \mathfrak{h} \cap \mathfrak{t}$ we have

$$r\eta v = [r, \eta]v = \lambda([r, \eta])v = 0, \quad \eta\eta v = \frac{1}{2}[\eta, \eta]v = \frac{1}{2}\lambda([\eta, \eta])v = 0,$$

i.e., $\mathfrak{t}_1(\eta v) = 0$ and, therefore, there exists a non-zero homomorphism $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\tilde{\mu}) \longrightarrow \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$, where $\tilde{\mu}$ is the weight of ηv .

Since $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ is irreducible and $\dim \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu) = \dim \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$, this homomorphism is an isomorphism. Let $g \in \mathfrak{g}_0$. Then

$$g(\eta v) = \eta(gv) + [g, \eta]v = [\lambda + \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g] \eta v,$$

i.e., $\tilde{\mu} = \lambda + \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g$.

Since $\lambda \in L$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lambda([g, [\xi, \eta]]) = \lambda([[g, \xi], \eta]) + \lambda([\xi, [g, \eta]]) \\ &= (\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g + \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{h}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g) \lambda([\xi, \eta]). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lambda([\xi, \eta]) = 1$, it follows that $\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g = -\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{h}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} \text{ad } g$, and

$$\mu = \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{p}} - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}} = \lambda + \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{t}/(\mathfrak{t} \cap \mathfrak{h})} = \tilde{\mu},$$

i.e., $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu) \cong \pi(\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda))$.

Let $k > 1$. On \mathfrak{g}_1 , consider the form f_λ . Let $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g}_0 + \mathfrak{h}_1$ and $\mathfrak{t} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{t}_1$. Select F so that $\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{t}_1 \subset F \subset \mathfrak{h}_1$, $F \neq \mathfrak{h}_1$ and $F \neq \mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{t}_1$, where F is a \mathfrak{g}_0 -submodule in \mathfrak{g}_1 . Set $\mathfrak{r}_1 = F + (F^\perp \cap \mathfrak{t}_1)$. It is not difficult to verify that $\mathfrak{r} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{r}_1$ is a polarization for λ . Set

$$\nu(x) = \lambda(x) - \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)}(\text{ad } x).$$

Since $\mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)$ is a subfactor in $\mathfrak{g}_1/\mathfrak{n}$, where \mathfrak{n} is the kernel of f_λ , it follows from Lemma 2.5 that \mathfrak{n} is a polarization for ν .

Since $\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1 \supset F \supset \mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{t}_1$, then $\dim \mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1) < \dim \mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{t}_1)$.

Further, the diagram of inclusions

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{h}_1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathfrak{r}_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}_1 \end{array}$$

shows that

$$2\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}(x) - \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)} \text{ad } (x) = 2\theta_{\mathfrak{t}}(x) - \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{r}_1 \cap \mathfrak{h}_1)} \text{ad } (x).$$

By duality, there exists a nondegenerate pairing

$$(\mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)) \times (\mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

and since $\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{h}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)} \text{ad}(x) = -\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)} \text{ad}(x)$, then $\text{tr}_{\mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)} \text{ad}(x) = -\theta_{\mathfrak{h}}(x) + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}(x)$.

Thus,

$$\nu(x) - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}(x) = \lambda(x) + \text{tr}_{\mathfrak{r}_1/(\mathfrak{h}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1)} \text{ad}(x) - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}(x) = \lambda(x) - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}(x),$$

i.e., $(\lambda, \mathfrak{h}) \sim (\nu, \mathfrak{r})$ and, by induction, $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{r}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\nu)$. Besides, $\nu - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}} = \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} = \mu - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}$ and $\mathfrak{t}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1 \supset F^\perp \cap \mathfrak{t}_1 \supset \mathfrak{t}_1 \cap \mathfrak{h}_1$, where the latter inclusion is a strict one because $F \neq \mathfrak{h}_1$; therefore,

$$\dim \mathfrak{t}_1/\mathfrak{t}_1 \cap \mathfrak{r}_1 < \dim \mathfrak{t}_1/(\mathfrak{t}_1 \cap \mathfrak{h}_1).$$

By induction, $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{r}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\nu) \cong \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$, therefore, $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$.

Conversely, let $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) \cong \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$. Then $\lambda = \mu + \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_k$, where the λ_i are the weights of $\mathfrak{g}_1/\mathfrak{t}_1$. Therefore, by Lemma 2.5 \mathfrak{t} is a polarization for λ and, thanks to section 4.1, for $\tilde{\mu} = \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}$, too. Since $\tilde{\mu} - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}} = \lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$, then by the above $\text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\tilde{\mu}) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{h}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$. Let $\tilde{v} \in \text{Ind}_\mathfrak{t}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\tilde{\mu})$ be as in Proposition 3.1

and $\mathfrak{t}_1 \tilde{v} = 0$. By 4.1 $\tilde{v} \in \text{Span}(v, \xi_0 v)$, where $v \in \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu)$ be as in Proposition 3.1; therefore, $\tilde{\mu} = \mu$ and $(\mu, \mathfrak{t}) \sim (\lambda, \mathfrak{h})$. \square

4.3. Corollary. *Heading 2) of Theorem and heading 2) of Lemma 1.2 hold.*

Proof. Due to section 2.5 it is clear that \mathfrak{h} is a polarization for $\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}$ and, therefore, $I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ is irreducible. If \mathfrak{t} is another polarization for λ , then by section 4.2

$$I_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}}) = \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}) = I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda).$$

If U is irreducible, then by section 3.4 $U \cong I_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ for some λ and \mathfrak{h} .

If $I(\lambda) = I(\mu)$, then $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{h}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}}) \cong \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\mu + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}})$ and by section 4.2

$$\lambda = \lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} - \theta_{\mathfrak{h}} = \mu + \theta_{\mathfrak{t}} - \theta_{\mathfrak{t}} = \mu. \quad \square$$

Proof of heading 3) of Lemma 1.2. Let us prove now that $I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) \cong CI_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$. To this end, make use of the isomorphisms $(I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda))^* \cong CI_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(-\lambda)$ and $(I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda))^* \cong I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(-\lambda + 2\theta_{\mathfrak{p}})$. The first of these isomorphisms follows from the definitions of the induced and coinduced modules.

Let us prove the other one. Select a basis ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n in the complement to \mathfrak{p}_1 in \mathfrak{g}_1 and consider the following filtration of $I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$:

$$I_0 = \text{Span}(v) \subset I_1 = \text{Span}(v, \xi_1 v, \xi_2 v, \dots, \xi_n v) \subset \dots \subset I_n = I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda),$$

where v is as in Proposition 3.1. It is clear that the elements $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n$ can be chosen so that each I_k is a \mathfrak{g}_0 -module. Let $l \in (I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda))^*$ be such that $l(I_n) \neq 0$ while $l(I_{n-1}) = 0$. Then it is easy to verify that $\mathfrak{p}_1 l = 0$ and the weight l with respect to \mathfrak{g}_0 is equal to $-\lambda + 2\theta_{\mathfrak{p}}$. Therefore, there exists a nonzero homomorphism $\varphi : I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(-\lambda + 2\theta_{\mathfrak{p}}) \rightarrow (I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda))^*$.

Since the dimensions of these modules are equal and the first of them is irreducible, φ is an isomorphism. Hence,

$$CI(\lambda) = CI_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{p}}) \cong (I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(-\lambda + \theta_{\mathfrak{p}}))^* = I_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda - \theta_{\mathfrak{p}} + 2\theta_{\mathfrak{p}}) = I(\lambda). \quad \square$$

5. AN EXAMPLE

Let $\Lambda(2) = \mathbb{C}[\xi_1, \xi_2]$ be the Grassmann superalgebra on two indeterminates with the natural $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -grading (parity). In $\mathfrak{gl}(\Lambda(2))$, consider the linear hull \mathfrak{g} of the operators

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \xi_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_1}, & y &= \xi_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_1}, & z &= \xi_1 \xi_2, & u &= 1; \\ \eta_1 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_1}, & \eta_2 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_2} - \xi_1 \xi_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_1}, \\ \eta_{-1} &= \xi_1, & \eta_{-2} &= \xi_2, \end{aligned}$$

where $f \in \Lambda(2)$ is identified with the operator of left multiplication by f . It is not difficult to verify that $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$ is a Lie superalgebra. It is solvable since \mathfrak{g}_0 is also. Moreover, $[\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_0] = \text{Span}(y, z)$ and $[\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_1] = \mathfrak{g}_0$.

Let u^*, y^*, z^*, x^* be the basis of \mathfrak{g}_0^* left dual u, y, z, x , respectively, and let $\lambda = u^*$. Then $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \text{Span}(\eta_{-1}, \eta_{-2})$ and $\mathfrak{t} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \text{Span}(\eta_1, \eta_2)$ are polarizations for λ .

As is easy to verify, the characters of the irreducible factors of the \mathfrak{g}_0 -module $I_{\mathfrak{b}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ are λ and $\lambda - x^*$ whereas the characters of the irreducible factors of the \mathfrak{g}_0 -module $I_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$ are λ and $\lambda + x^*$. Hence, $I_{\mathfrak{b}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda) \not\cong I_{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\lambda)$.

Moreover, $\lambda - (\lambda - x^*) = x^*$ but $x^*([\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}}]) \neq 0$ contradicting the statement of Theorem 7 of [K].

The error in the proof of Theorem 7 of [K] is not easy to find: it is an incorrect induction in the proof of heading a) on p. 80. Namely, if, in notations of [K], the subalgebra H is of codimension $(0, 1)$, then the irreducible factors of W considered as G_0 -modules belong by the inductive hypothesis to one class from L/L_0^H , where

$$L_0^H = \{\lambda \in \mathfrak{g}^* : \lambda([H, H]) = 0\},$$

NOT to one class from L/L_0^G as stated on p. 80, line 13 of [K].

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