

# A Class of Irreducible Modules over Witt Algebra $W_n (n > 1)$

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**Abstract** – In this paper, by taking tensor products of modules over  $W_n$  we obtain a class of new irreducible modules over  $W_n$ .

**Keywords** – Witt Algebra, Non-weight Module, Irreducible Module.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper, we denote by  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}_+, \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{C}^*$  the sets of all integers, non-negative integers, positive integers, complex numbers and non-zero complex numbers, respectively. All vector spaces are over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $A_n = \mathbb{C}[t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}]$  be the Laurent polynomial algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$ . The Witt algebra of rank  $n$  is the Lie algebra of all derivations of  $A_n$ , and is denoted by  $W_n$ , that is,  $W_n = \text{Der}(A_n)$ . Denote by  $\partial_i = t_i \frac{\partial}{\partial t_i}$ . For  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  and  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , let  $t^r = t_1^{r_1} \dots t_n^{r_n}$ ,  $D(u, r) = t^r \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \partial_i$ . Then  $W_n$  is the linear span of the set  $\{D(u, r) | u \in \mathbb{C}^n, r \in \mathbb{Z}^n\}$ . The Lie bracket in  $W_n$  is defined by  $[D(u, r), D(v, s)] = D(w, r + s)$  where  $u, v \in \mathbb{C}^n, r, s \in \mathbb{Z}^n, w = (u|s)v - (v|r)u$  and  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  is the standard symmetric bilinear form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . It is known that  $\mathfrak{h} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{C} \partial_i$  is the Cartan subalgebra of  $W_n$ . A  $W_n$  module  $V$  is called a weight module provided that the action of  $\mathfrak{h}$  on  $V$  is diagonalizable. If the action of  $\mathfrak{h}$  on  $V$  is not diagonalizable,  $V$  is a non-weight module.

The weight representation theory over  $W_n$  is well studied, especially, Billig and Futorny classified the Harish-Chandra modules over  $W_n$  in [1]. There are also examples of weight modules with weight spaces to be infinite-dimensional (see [2]). In [4], a lot of non-weight modules over  $W_n$  are constructed and studied, and one class of them are defined as follows.

**Example 1.** Let  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be the polynomial associative algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$  in  $n$  commuting indeterminates  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . For any  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\Lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  we define the action of  $W_n$  on  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  by

$$t^r \partial_i \cdot f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \Lambda^r (x_i - r_i a_i) f(x_1 - r_1, \dots, x_n - r_n)$$

where  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n, f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $\Lambda^r = \lambda_1^{r_1} \dots \lambda_n^{r_n}$ . The corresponding  $W_n$ -module is denoted by  $\Omega(\Lambda, a)$ . From [4] we know that  $\Omega(\Lambda, a)$  is irreducible if and only if  $a \neq 0$ .

The main purpose of the present paper is to construct new irreducible  $W_n$ -modules by taking tensor products of finite  $W_n$ -modules  $\Omega(\Lambda, a)$ . More precisely, we will prove the following

**Theorem 2.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $\Lambda_j = (\lambda_{1j}, \dots, \lambda_{nj}) \in$

$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n, a_j \in \mathbb{C}, 1 \leq j \leq m$  with  $\lambda_{ji} \neq \lambda_{j'i}, j \neq j', 1 \leq i \leq n$ . Let  $\Omega(\Lambda_j, a_j)$  be the irreducible  $W_n$ -modules as in

Example 1. Then the tensor product

$$\Omega(\Lambda_1, a_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \Omega(\Lambda_m, a_m)$$

is an irreducible  $W_n$ -module.

This theorem will be proved in Section II. This theorem tells us that from the known irreducible  $W_n$ -modules  $\Omega(\Lambda_j, a_j)$  we can construct irreducible  $W_n$ -modules as long as the  $\Lambda_j$ 's satisfy the conditions mentioned in the theorem. Clearly, these modules are not isomorphic to the modules obtained in [4]. So **Theorem 2** provides a method of finding irreducible modules over Witt algebra  $W_n (n > 1)$ .

## II. PROVING THEOREM 2

In this section, we will prove Theorem 2. To prove the theorem, we need the following crucial lemma which is Lemma 2 in [3].

**Lemma 3.** Let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \in \mathbb{C}, s_1, \dots, s_n, s \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $s_1 + \dots + s_n = s$ . Define a sequence of functions on  $\mathbb{Z}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(n) &= \lambda_1^n, f_2(n) = n\lambda_1^n, \dots, f_{s_1}(n) = n^{s_1-1}\lambda_1^n, \\ f_{s_1+1}(n) &= \lambda_2^n, \dots, f_{s_1+s_2}(n) = n^{s_2-1}\lambda_2^n, \\ &\dots, f_s(n) = n^{s-1}\lambda_m^n. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $Y = (y_{pq})$  be the  $s \times s$  matrix with  $y_{pq} = f_q(p-1), q = 1, \dots, s, p = r+1, \dots, r+s$  where  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Then

$$\det(Y) = \prod_{j=1}^m (s_j - 1)!! \lambda_j^{s_j(s_j+2r-1)/2} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} (\lambda_i - \lambda_j)^{s_i s_j}$$

where  $s_j!! = s_j! \times (s_j-1)! \times \dots \times 1!$  with  $0!! = 1$ , for convenience.

Now we can prove our main theorem.

**Proof of Theorem 2.** For convenience, we denote by  $M = \Omega(\Lambda_1, a_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \Omega(\Lambda_m, a_m)$ . Let  $1_j$  be the identity element of  $\Omega(\Lambda_j, a_j)$  and denote by

$$\bar{1} = 1_1 \otimes \dots \otimes 1_m \in M.$$

For  $K_j = (k_{j1}, \dots, k_{jn}) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$  we denote by  $X_j^{K_j} =$

$\prod_{i=1}^n x_{ji}^{k_{ji}}$  and denote by  $X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} = X_1^{K_1} \otimes \dots \otimes X_m^{K_m}$ . We define the degree of  $X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m}$  to be  $\sum_{j=1}^m |K_j|$

where  $|K_j| = \sum_{i=1}^n k_{ji}$ . For  $0 \neq f \in M$ , the degree of  $f$  is defined to be the degree of its terms with maximal degree and is denoted by  $\deg(f)$ . Note that  $\deg(\bar{1}) = 0$ .

Firstly, we have the following

**Claim 1.**  $\bar{1}$  generates the whole module  $M$ .

Let  $W$  be the submodule of  $M$  generated by  $\bar{1}$ . We need only to show  $X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} \in W$  for all  $K_1, \dots, K_m \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$ . For fixed  $K_j \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ , noting that

\* H. Tan is partially supported by NSF of Jilin Province (Grant 20160520111JH)

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^{r_i} \partial_i \cdot X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} &= \sum_{j=1}^m X_1^{K_1} \dots (t_i^{r_i} \partial_i \cdot X_j^{K_j}) \dots X_m^{K_m} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m X_1^{K_1} \dots (\lambda_{ji}^{r_i} x_{j1}^{k_{j1}} \dots (x_{ji} \\ &\quad - r_i a_i) (x_{ji} - r_i)^{k_{ji}} \dots x_{jn}^{k_{jn}}) \dots X_m^{K_m} \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_{ji}^{r_i} x_{ji} \right) X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} + A \end{aligned}$$

where  $A$  has degree  $\sum_{j=1}^m |K_j|$ . Taking  $r_i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$  and  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , respectively, and by induction on  $\sum_{j=1}^m |K_j|$  we see that  $X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} \in W$  for all  $K_1, \dots, K_m \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$ . Thus the claim holds.

The claim means that to prove the theorem is to prove that  $\bar{1} \in W$  for any nonzero submodule  $W$ . Let  $W$  be a nonzero submodule of  $M$  and let  $0 \neq f \in M$  with minimal degree. We have

**Claim 2.**  $\deg(f) = 0$ , that is,  $f = c\bar{1}$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ .

To the contrary, assume  $\deg(f) > 0$ . For finding a contradiction we define a partial order on  $\mathbb{Z}_+^n$  by  $(k_1, \dots, k_n) < (r_1, \dots, r_n)$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\exists i \geq 0) (k_j = r_j, \forall j < i) (k_i < r_i)$$

where  $(k_1, \dots, k_n), (r_1, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$ , and define a partial order on the set  $\{X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} | K_1, \dots, K_m \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n\}$  by

$$X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m} < X_1^{R_1} \dots X_m^{R_m}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\exists i \geq 0) (K_j = R_j, \forall j < i) (K_i < R_i)$$

where  $K_j, R_j \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ .

Denote by  $f = \sum_{\bar{K} \in S} c_{\bar{K}} X^{\bar{K}}$  where  $S$  is a finite subset of  $\mathbb{Z}_+^{n \times m}$  and  $\bar{K} = (K_1, \dots, K_m) \in S$  with  $K_j \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ ,  $c_{\bar{K}} \in \mathbb{C}^*$  and  $X^{\bar{K}} = X_1^{K_1} \dots X_m^{K_m}$ . Let  $c_{\bar{K}_0} X_1^{K_{01}} \dots X_m^{K_{0m}}$  be the maximal nonzero term of  $f$  with respect to the partial order defined above. Clearly,  $K_{0j} = (k_{0j1}, \dots, k_{0jn}) > 0$  for some  $j$ . So some  $k_{0ji} > 0$ . Letting  $t_i^{r_i} \partial_i$  act on  $f$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^{r_i} \partial_i \cdot f &= \sum_{\bar{K} \in S} \sum_{j=1}^m c_{\bar{K}} X_1^{K_1} \dots (t_i^{r_i} \partial_i \cdot X_j^{K_j}) \dots X_m^{K_m} \\ &= \sum_{\bar{K} \in S} \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{l=0}^{k_{ji}+1} r_i^l \lambda_{ji}^{r_i} b_{\bar{K},j,l} X_1^{K_1} \dots (x_{j1}^{k_{j1}} \dots x_{ji}^{k_{ji}+1-l} \dots x_{jn}^{k_{jn}}) \dots X_m^{K_m} \end{aligned}$$

where  $b_{\bar{K},j,l} = c_{\bar{K}} (-1)^l \binom{k_{ji}}{l} + \binom{k_{ji}}{l-1} a_i$  and  $r_i \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ .

From Lemma 3 we see that the coefficient of  $r_i^l \lambda_{ji}^{r_i}$  belongs to  $W$  for all  $j, l$ . In particular, the coefficient of  $r_i^{k_{0ji}+1} \lambda_{ji}^{r_i}$  is

$$g = (-1)^{k_{0ji}+1} c_{\bar{K}_0} X_1^{K_{01}} \dots (x_{j1}^{k_{0j1}} \dots x_{ji}^0 \dots x_{jn}^{k_{0jn}}) \dots X_m^{K_{0m}} + \text{lower terms}$$

which has lower degree than  $c_{\bar{K}_0} X_1^{K_{01}} \dots X_m^{K_{0m}}$ . This is contrary to the choice of  $f$ . Thus  $\deg(f) = 0$ , as desired.

**Claim 2** means that  $\bar{1} \in W$  and the theorem follows from **Claim 1**. ■

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