## GRADED MODULES OVER SIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. The paper is devoted to the study of graded-simple modules and gradings on simple modules over finite-dimensional simple Lie algebras. In general, a connection between these two objects is given by the so-called loop construction. We review the main features of this construction as well as necessary and sufficient conditions under which finite-dimensional simple modules can be graded. Over the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , we consider specific gradings on simple modules of arbitrary dimension.

### 1. Introduction

Let G be a non-empty set. A G-grading on a vector space V over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  is a direct sum decomposition of the form

$$(1) V = \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_g.$$

We will sometimes use Greek letters to refer to gradings, for example, we may write  $\Gamma: V = \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_g$ . If such a grading is fixed, V is called G-graded.

Note that the  $V_g$  are allowed to be zero subspaces. The subset  $S \subset G$  consisting of those  $g \in G$  for which  $V_g \neq \{0\}$  is called the *support* of the grading  $\Gamma$  and denoted by Supp  $\Gamma$  or Supp V. The subspaces  $V_g$  are called the *homogeneous components* of  $\Gamma$ , and the nonzero elements in  $V_g$  are called *homogeneous of degree* g (with respect to  $\Gamma$ ). A graded subspace  $U \subset V$  is an  $\mathbb{F}$ -subspace satisfying  $U = \bigoplus_{g \in G} U \cap V_g$  (so U itself becomes G-graded).

Now let  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$ :  $V = \bigoplus_{g' \in G'} V'_{g'}$  be two gradings on V with supports S and S', respectively. We say that  $\Gamma$  is a *refinement* of  $\Gamma'$  (or  $\Gamma'$  is a *coarsening* of  $\Gamma$ ), if for any  $s \in S$  there exists  $s' \in S'$  such that  $V_s \subset V'_{s'}$ . The refinement is *proper* if this inclusion is strict for at least one  $s \in S$ .

An  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra A (not necessarily associative) is said to be graded by a set G, or G-graded if A is a G-graded vector space and for any  $g,h\in G$  such that  $A_gA_h\neq\{0\}$  there is  $k\in G$  (automatically unique) such that

$$(2) A_q A_h \subset A_k.$$

In this paper, we will always assume that G is an abelian group and k in Equation (2) is determined by the operation of G. Thus, if G is written additively (as is commonly done in papers on Lie theory), then Equation (2) becomes  $A_g A_h \subset A_{g+h}$ .

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If G is written multiplicatively, then it becomes  $A_gA_h \subset A_{gh}$ . More generally, one can consider gradings by nonabelian groups (or semigroups). A grading on A is called *fine* if it does not have a proper refinement. Note that this concept depends on the class of gradings under consideration: by sets, groups, abelian groups, etc. It is well known that the latter two classes coincide for simple Lie algebras.

Given a grading  $\Gamma: A = \bigoplus_{g \in G} A_g$  with support S, the universal group of  $\Gamma$ , denoted by  $G^u$ , is the group given in terms of generators and defining relations as follows:  $G^u = \langle S \mid R \rangle$ , where R consists of all relations of the form gh = k with  $\{0\} \neq A_g A_h \subset A_k$ . If  $\Gamma$  is a group grading, then S is embedded in  $G^u$  and the identity map  $\mathrm{id}_S$  extends to a homomorphism  $G^u \to G$  so that  $\Gamma$  can be viewed as a  $G^u$ -grading  $\Gamma^u$ . In fact, any group grading  $\Gamma': A = \bigoplus_{g' \in G'} A'_{g'}$  that is a coarsening of  $\Gamma$  can be induced from  $\Gamma^u$  by a (unique) homomorphism  $\nu: G^u \to G'$  in the sense that  $A_{g'} = \bigoplus_{g \in \nu^{-1}(g')} A_g$  for all  $g' \in G'$ . In this situation, one may say that  $\Gamma'$  is a quotient of  $\Gamma^u$ . In the above considerations, we can replace "group" by "abelian group" and, in general, this leads to a different  $G^u$ . However, there is no difference for gradings on simple Lie algebras.

For example, choose the elements

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad h = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

as a basis of  $L = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  and consider the following grading by  $G = \mathbb{Z}_3$ :

$$\Gamma: L_1 = \langle x \rangle, L_0 = \langle h \rangle, L_2 = \langle y \rangle.$$

The support of  $\Gamma$  is G itself, the universal group is  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and

$$\Gamma^u: L_{-1} = \langle x \rangle, L_0 = \langle h \rangle, L_1 = \langle y \rangle.$$

The following grading by  $G' = \mathbb{Z}_2$  is a coarsening of  $\Gamma$ :

$$\Gamma': L_1 = \langle x, y \rangle, L_0 = \langle h \rangle.$$

Both  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  are quotients of  $\Gamma^u$ , while  $\Gamma'$  is a coarsening but not a quotient of  $\Gamma$ . A left module M over a G-graded associative algebra A is called G-graded if M is a G-graded vector space and

$$A_g M_h \subset M_{gh}$$
 for all  $g, h \in G$ .

A G-graded left A-module M is called graded-simple if M has no graded submodules different from  $\{0\}$  and M. Graded modules and graded-simple modules over a graded Lie algebra L are defined in the same way.

If a Lie algebra L is graded by an abelian group G, then its universal enveloping algebra U(L) is also G-graded. Every graded L-module is a graded left U(L)-module and  $vice\ versa$ . The same is true for graded-simple modules.

A very general problem is the following: given a module V over a G-graded Lie algebra L, determine if V can be given a G-grading that is compatible with the G-grading on L, i.e., one that makes V a graded L-module. In this paper, we restrict ourselves to the case where L is a finite-dimensional simple Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero and focus on simple L-modules.

For finite-dimensional V, the answer is given in [EK15a], where the authors classified finite-dimensional graded-simple modules up to isomorphism and, as a corollary, determined which finite-dimensional simple modules can be made graded and which finite-dimensional modules can be made graded-simple. The classification depends on the so-called graded Brauer invariants (see Subsections 4.3 and

4.4 for definitions), which were computed in [EK15a] for all classical simple Lie algebras except  $D_4$  and for the remaining types in [EK15b, DEK17]. We note that it is difficult to obtain an explicit grading on V using this approach.

If we do not restrict ourselves to finite-dimensional modules, the first question that arises is that, in general, there is no classification of simple modules of arbitrary dimension for any simple Lie algebra, with the exception of  $L = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , for which a classification was suggested by R. Block [Blo81]. Despite this, in a number of more recent papers, the authors still try to give a more transparent description of simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. We refer the reader to the monograph [Maz09]; some other works in this area are [AP74, Bav92, EK15a, PT17, MZpr, Nil15].

We start this paper by reviewing the criteria of [EK15a, EK15b, DEK17] for the existence of a compatible grading on a finite-dimensional simple module V. Then we focus on the case  $L = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , where we give explicit gradings for those V that admit them.

After this we switch to infinite-dimensional simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. We review their construction and determine, for some of these modules, whether they can be made graded or not.

Finally, we turn our attention to reviewing the main results of [EK17]. Therein, it is described how the so-called loop construction could be used for the classification of graded-simple modules of arbitrary dimension. It should be noted that, even in the case  $L = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , this classification remains an interesting open problem.

## 2. FINITE-DIMENSIONAL SIMPLE MODULES OVER FINITE-DIMENSIONAL SIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS

Let L be a finite-dimensional simple Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic 0 and suppose L is graded by an abelian group G. In this section, we will give necessary and sufficient conditions for the finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda$  to admit a structure of G-graded L-module.

All G-gradings on L are known (see e.g. the monograph [EK13, Ch. 3–6]): they have been classified up to isomorphism for all types except  $E_6, E_7$  and  $E_8$ , and for these latter, the fine gradings have been classified ([DV16, Yu16, Eld16]), which gives a description of all G-gradings as follows. Every G-grading  $\Gamma$  on L is a coarsening of at least one fine grading  $\Delta$ , so  $\Gamma$  is induced by a homomorphism  $\nu: G^u \to G$ , where  $G^u$  is the universal group of  $\Delta$ . In other words,  $\Gamma$  is obtained by assigning the degree  $\nu(s) \in G$  to all nonzero elements of L that are homogeneous of degree  $s \in G^u$  with respect to  $\Delta$ . The isomorphism problem for G-gradings on L of types  $E_6, E_7$  and  $E_8$  remains open.

Let  $\widehat{G}$  be the group of characters of G, i.e., group homomorphisms  $\chi: G \to \mathbb{F}^{\times}$ . If W is a G-graded vector space then  $\widehat{G}$  acts on W as follows:

(3) 
$$\chi \cdot w = \chi(g)w \quad \forall \chi \in \widehat{G}, g \in G, w \in W_g$$

(extended by linearity). For the given G-grading on the Lie algebra L, such action defines a homomorphism  $\widehat{G} \to \operatorname{Aut}(L)$  sending  $\chi \mapsto \alpha_{\chi}$  where  $\alpha_{\chi}(x) := \chi \cdot x$  for all  $x \in L$ . The grading is called *inner* if all  $\alpha_{\chi}$  belong to the group of inner automorphisms  $\operatorname{Int}(L)$ , otherwise it is called *outer*. Let  $\tau_{\chi}$  be the image of  $\alpha_{\chi}$  in the outer automorphism group  $\operatorname{Out}(L) := \operatorname{Aut}(L)/\operatorname{Int}(L)$ .

Fixing a Cartan subalgebra and a system of simple roots  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_r$  for L, we may identify  $\operatorname{Out}(L)$  with the group of automorphisms of the Dynkin diagram of

L, which permutes  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_r$  and hence acts on the lattice of integral weights. Let

$$K_{\lambda} = \{ \chi \in \widehat{G} : \tau_{\chi}(\lambda) = \lambda \} \text{ and } H_{\lambda} = K_{\lambda}^{\perp} := \{ h \in G : \chi(h) = 1 \ \forall \chi \in K_{\lambda} \}.$$

Observe that  $|H_{\lambda}| = [\widehat{G} : K_{\lambda}]$  is the size of the  $\widehat{G}$ -orbit of  $\lambda$ . The nontriviality of  $H_{\lambda}$  is the first obstruction for  $V(\lambda)$  becoming a G-graded L-module (see [EK15a, §3.1]).

Denote the fundamental weights of L by  $\pi_1, \ldots, \pi_r$  and write  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i \pi_i$ ,  $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Our numbering of the simple roots is shown for each type of L on the diagrams below. In all cases,  $V(\pi_1)$  has the lowest possible dimension among the nontrivial L-modules (which is the reason why we prefer  $C_2$  over  $B_2$ ). Let  $H = H_{\pi_1}$ . We have  $|H| \leq 2$  for types  $A_r$   $(r \geq 2)$  and  $E_6$ ,  $|H| \leq 3$  for  $D_4$ , and |H| = 1 for all other types.

Consider the homomorphism  $\varrho_{\lambda}: U(L) \to E := \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V(\lambda))$  associated to the L-action on  $V(\lambda)$ . It turns out that there is a unique  $G/H_{\lambda}$ -grading on the simple associative algebra E such that  $\varrho_{\lambda}$  becomes a homomorphism of graded algebras (see [EK15a, §3.2]). For this grading on E, there exist a graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  and a graded right  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $\mathcal{V}$  such that E is isomorphic to  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{V})$  as a G-graded algebra (see e.g. [EK13, Theorem 2.6]), where  $\mathcal{D}$  is unique up to graded isomorphism and  $\mathcal{V}$  up to graded isomorphism and shift of grading (see e.g. [EK13, Theorem 2.10]). Here, a graded-division algebra is a graded unital associative algebra in which every nonzero homogeneous element is invertible, and the shift of grading by an element  $g \in G$  replaces a G-graded vector space W with  $W^{[g]}$ , which equals W as a vector space, but the elements that had degree g' will now have degree g'g, for any  $g' \in G$ . The graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  represents the graded Brauer invariant of  $V(\lambda)$ , and its nontriviality is the second obstruction for  $V(\lambda)$  becoming a G-graded L-module (see [EK15a, §3.2]). A generalization of this analysis is outlined in Subsections 4.3 and 4.4 below, following [EK17].

Group gradings on classical simple Lie algebras were classified by studying  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  associated to the 'natural module'  $V(\pi_1)$ . Since  $\mathcal{D}$  is a graded-division algebra, we can find a  $\mathcal{D}$ -basis  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_k\}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$  that consists of homogeneous elements. Let  $g_1, \ldots, g_k$  be the degrees of the basis elements. If H is nontrivial, we will write  $\bar{g}_1, \ldots, \bar{g}_k$  to remind ourselves that these degrees belong to G/H. Let T be the support of  $\mathcal{D}$ , which is a finite subgroup of G/H. Pick any nonzero elements  $X_t$  of  $\mathcal{D}_t$ ,  $t \in T$ . Note that all homogeneous components of  $\mathcal{D}$  are one-dimensional, because  $\mathcal{D}_e = \mathbb{F}1$  (being a finite-dimensional division algebra over the algebraically closed field  $\mathbb{F}$ ) and hence  $\mathcal{D}_t = \mathcal{D}_e X_t = \mathbb{F} X_t$ . Hence,

$$(4) X_s X_t = \beta(s, t) X_t X_s \quad \forall s, t \in T,$$

where  $\beta: T \times T \to \mathbb{F}^{\times}$  is an alternating bicharacter, i.e.,  $\beta(s_1s_2,t) = \beta(s_1,t)\beta(s_2,t)$ ,  $\beta(t,s_1s_2) = \beta(t,s_1)\beta(t,s_2)$ , and  $\beta(t,t) = 1$  for all  $s_1, s_2, t \in T$ . Bicharacters are analogous to bilinear forms, so we are using the same terminology. In particular, the radical of  $\beta$  is the subgroup  $\{s \in T : \beta(s,t) = 1 \ \forall t \in T\}$ . Since the algebra  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V(\pi_1))$  is central simple, so is  $\mathcal{D}$ , and hence the radical of  $\beta$  must be trivial. Alternating bicharacters with trivial radical are said to be nondegenerate. They admit a 'symplectic basis' (see e.g. [EK13, Ch. 2, §2]), which implies that there exist subgroups P and Q of T such that  $T = P \times Q$ , the restrictions of  $\beta$  to these subgroups are trivial, and the mapping  $P \to \widehat{Q}$  sending  $p \mapsto \beta(p,\cdot)$  is an isomorphism. Therefore,  $|T| = \ell^2$  where  $\ell = |P| = |Q|$ . Note that in our case  $\ell$  is the degree of the matrix algebra  $\mathcal{D}$ , hence  $k\ell = n := \dim V(\pi_1)$ .

The bicharacter  $\beta$  is clearly independent of the choice of the elements  $X_t$ . Even though the k-tuple  $(g_1, \ldots, g_k)$  depends on the choice of the basis  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_k\}$ , the multiset  $\Xi := \{g_1T, \ldots, g_kT\}$  in G/T is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{V}$ . T,  $\beta$  and  $\Xi$  are among the parameters that define the grading on L up to isomorphism. Some other parameters will be introduced later as needed.

For this type n = r + 1. Note that if  $r \ge 2$  then there are two possibilities for  $\pi_1$ , which lead to L-modules that are dual to one another.

We have |H|=1 if the grading on L is inner and |H|=2 if it is outer. In the latter case, the grading determines a nondegenerate homogeneous  $\varphi_0$ -sesquilinear form  $B: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{D}$ , where  $\varphi_0$  is an orthogonal involution on the G/H-graded matrix algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  (see [EK13, Ch. 2, §4 and Ch. 3, §1]). The existence of  $\varphi_0$  implies that T is an elementary 2-group, so  $\ell$  is a power of 2. The degree  $\overline{g}_0 \in G/H$  of B is another parameter of the grading on L. If n is even, set

(5) 
$$g_{\Xi,\bar{g}_0} := \begin{cases} \overline{g}_0^{n/2} (\overline{g}_1 \cdots \overline{g}_k)^{\ell} & \text{if } \ell \neq 2, \\ (\overline{c}\overline{g}_0)^{n/2} (\overline{g}_1 \cdots \overline{g}_k)^{\ell} & \text{if } \ell = 2, \end{cases}$$

where, for  $\ell = 2$ ,  $\bar{c}$  is the unique element of T such that  $\varphi_0(X_{\bar{c}}) = -X_{\bar{c}}$ .

**Theorem 2.1** ([EK15a, Corollaries 16 and 24]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $A_r$  is given a G-grading with parameters T,  $\beta$ ,  $\Xi$  and, if the grading is outer, also  $\overline{g}_0 \in G/H$  as described above. Consider the finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i \pi_i$ .

- I If the grading on L is inner, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if the number  $\sum_{i=1}^{r} i m_i$  is divisible by the exponent of the group T.
- II If the grading on L is outer (hence  $r \geq 2$ ), then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:
  - 1)  $m_i = m_{r+1-i}$  for all *i*;
  - 2) either r is even or r is odd and at least one of the following holds:
    - (i)  $m_{(r+1)/2}$  is even, or
    - (ii)  $r \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $g_{\Xi,\bar{g}_0}$  is the trivial element of G/H, or
    - (iii)  $r \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , |T| = 1, and  $g_{\Xi,\bar{g}_0}$  is the trivial element of G/H, where  $g_{\Xi,\bar{g}_0}$  is defined by Equation (5).

$$B_r \quad (r \ge 3)$$
 
$$\stackrel{\alpha_1}{\bullet} \quad \stackrel{\alpha_2}{\bullet} \quad \cdots \quad \stackrel{\alpha_{r-1}}{\bullet} \quad \stackrel{\alpha_r}{\bullet}$$

For this type n=2r+1 is odd and |H|=1. The existence of an involution on  $\mathcal{D}$  implies that T is an elementary 2-group, so  $\ell$  is a power of 2 dividing n, hence  $\ell=1$ , k=n and  $\mathcal{D}=\mathbb{F}$ . The grading on L determines a nondegenerate homogeneous symmetric bilinear form  $B:\mathcal{V}\times\mathcal{V}\to\mathbb{F}$ , which may be assumed to have degree e (at the expense of shifting the grading on  $\mathcal{V}$ , see [EK13, Ch. 3, §4]). This implies that the multiset  $\Xi=\{g_1,\ldots,g_n\}$  is 'balanced' in the sense that, for any  $g\in G$ , the multiplicities of g and  $g^{-1}$  in  $\Xi$  are equal to one another. We order the n-tuple

 $(g_1, \ldots, g_n)$  so that  $g_i^2 = e$  for  $1 \le i \le q$  and  $g_i^2 \ne e$  for i > q, where  $1 \le q \le n$  and q is odd. For  $i = 1, \ldots, q$ , set

(6) 
$$\tilde{g}_i := g_1 \cdots g_{i-1} g_{i+1} \cdots g_q.$$

Then  $\tilde{g}_i^2 = e$  and  $\tilde{g}_1 \cdots \tilde{g}_q = e$ . Consider the group homomorphism  $f_{\Xi} : \hat{G} \to \mathbb{Z}_2^q$  given by

(7) 
$$f_{\Xi}(\chi) := (x_1, \dots, x_q) \text{ where } \chi(\tilde{g}_i) = (-1)^{x_i}.$$

It determines the graded Brauer invariant of the *spin module*  $V(\omega_r)$  (see [EK15a, §5]), but here we only state the following:

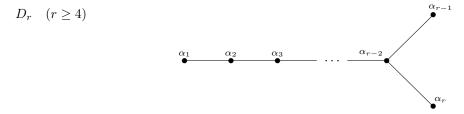
**Theorem 2.2** ([EK15a, Corollary 29]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $B_r$  is given a G-grading with parameter  $\Xi$  as described above. The finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i \pi_i$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if at least one of the following holds:

- (i)  $m_r$  is even, or
- (ii) the elements  $\tilde{g}_1, \ldots, \tilde{g}_q$  of G defined by Equation (6) and the homomorphism  $f_{\Xi}: \hat{G} \to \mathbb{Z}_2^q$  defined by Equation (7) have the following property: for any  $x \in f_{\Xi}(\hat{G}), \ \tilde{g}_1^{x_1} \cdots \tilde{g}_q^{x_q} = e.$

$$C_r \quad (r \ge 2)$$

For this type n = 2r, |H| = 1, and again the existence of an involution on  $\mathcal{D}$  implies that T is an elementary 2-group.

**Theorem 2.3** ([EK15a, Corollary 32]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $C_r$  is given a G-grading with parameter T as described above. The finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i \pi_i$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if either |T| = 1 or  $\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor (r+1)/2 \rfloor} m_{2i-1}$  is even.  $\square$ 



For this type n = 2r and, unless r = 4, |H| = 1. For type  $D_4$ , we have  $|H| \le 3$  and we can avoid the case |H| = 2: if  $\widehat{G}$  interchanges two of the outer vertices of the Dynkin diagram, we label by 1 the fixed outer vertex.

Assume that the grading on L is inner. Then |H|=1 and the grading determines a nondegenerate homogeneous  $\varphi_0$ -hermitian form  $B: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{D}$ , where  $\varphi_0$  is an orthogonal involution on the G-graded matrix algebra  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $g_0 \in G$  be the degree of B. The existence of  $\varphi_0$  again implies that T is an elementary 2-group, so  $\ell$  is a power of 2 dividing n.

We need to take a closer look at  $\varphi_0$ . Since it preserves degree and all components of  $\mathcal{D}$  are one-dimensional, we have

$$\varphi(X_t) = \beta(t)X_t \quad \forall t \in T$$

where  $\beta: T \to \{\pm 1\}$ , and Equation (4) shows that  $\beta(st) = \beta(s)\beta(t)\beta(s,t)$  for all  $s, t \in T$ , i.e.,  $\beta(\cdot)$  is a quadratic form with polar form  $\beta(\cdot, \cdot)$  if we regard T as a vector space over the field  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Moreover, this quadratic form has Arf invariant 0 because  $\varphi_0$  is orthogonal.

The multiset  $\Xi = \{g_1T, \ldots, g_kT\}$  is ' $g_0$ -balanced' in the following sense: if g' and g'' in G satisfy  $g_0g'g'' \in T$  then g'T and g''T have the same multiplicity in  $\Xi$ . We order the k-tuple  $(g_1, \ldots, g_k)$  so that  $g_0g_i^2 \in T$  for  $1 \leq i \leq q$  and  $g_0g_i^2 \notin T$  for i > q, where  $0 \leq q \leq k$  and q has the same parity as k. The cases  $\ell = 1$ ,  $\ell = 2$ ,  $\ell = 4$ , and  $\ell > 4$  require different computations to find the graded Brauer invariants of the half-spin modules  $V(\pi_{r-1})$  and  $V(\pi_r)$  (see [EK15a, §7.3]), so we consider these cases separately. If q = 0, the invariants are trivial, so we assume  $q \geq 1$ .

 $\lfloor \ell = 1 \rfloor$  This case is similar to type  $B_r$ : k = n,  $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{F}$ , and we may assume  $g_0 = e$  at the expense of shifting the grading on  $\mathcal{V}$  (see [EK15a, Remark 42]). For  $i = 1, \ldots, q$ , we have  $g_i^2 = e$ , and it can be shown that  $g_1 \cdots g_q = e$ . Consider the group homomorphism  $f_{\Xi} : \widehat{G} \to \mathbb{Z}_2^q$  given by

(8) 
$$f_{\Xi}(\chi) := (x_1, \dots, x_q) \text{ where } \chi(g_i) = (-1)^{x_i}.$$

It determines the graded Brauer invariants of the half-spin modules, which in this case are equal to one another.

In all remaining cases, these invariants are distinct (although related), and the grading on L can be used to define a specific nonscalar central element of the spin group (see [EK15a, §7.3]), whose action determines the designation of one of the half-spin modules as  $S^+$  and the other as  $S^-$ . For  $i = 1, \ldots, q$ , set

$$t_i := g_0 g_i^2$$
.

These elements of T determine the canonical form of  $B: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{D}$  and satisfy  $\beta(t_i) = 1$  for all i.

 $\ell = 2$  Write  $T = \{e, a, b, c\} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2^2$  where  $\beta(a) = \beta(b) = 1$  and  $\beta(c) = -1$ , so  $t_i \in \{e, a, b\}$ . For any  $t \in T$ , define

$$I_t = \{1 \le i \le q : t_i = t\}.$$

Then  $I_c = \emptyset$  and the sets  $I_e$ ,  $I_a$  and  $I_b$  form a partition of  $\{1, \ldots, q\}$ . It can be seen that  $|I_e|$ ,  $|I_a|$  and  $|I_b|$  have the same parity as r. Set

(9) 
$$g_a = g_0^{(|I_e| + |I_a|)/2} \prod_{i \in I_e \cup I_a} g_i \quad \text{and} \quad g_b = g_0^{(|I_e| + |I_b|)/2} \prod_{i \in I_e \cup I_b} g_i.$$

These elements determine the graded Brauer invariant of  $S^+$  and hence of  $S^-$ .

 $[\ell=4]$  Recall that T has a 'symplectic basis':  $T=\langle a_1,a_2,b_1,b_2\rangle\simeq\mathbb{Z}_2^4$  where  $\beta(a_i,b_j)=(-1)^{\delta_{ij}}$  and the values of  $\beta(\cdot,\cdot)$  on the remaining pairs of basis elements are equal to 1. We choose the basis in such a way that  $\beta(a_j)=\beta(b_j)=1$  for j=1,2 (in other words, with respect to the quadratic form  $\beta(\cdot)$ , the subgroups  $\langle a_1,a_2\rangle$  and  $\langle b_1,b_2\rangle$  are totally isotropic). Then the following  $4\times 4$  matrix with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  determines the graded Brauer invariant of  $S^+$ :

(10) 
$$M_{\Xi,g_0}^+ = \sum_{i=1}^q M^+(t_i),$$

$$M^{+}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & (x_1+1)(x_2+1) & 0 & (x_1+1)(y_2+1) \\ 0 & (x_2+1)(y_1+1) & 1 \\ 0 & (y_1+1)(y_2+1) \\ \text{sym} & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

 $\ell > 4$  In this case, the graded Brauer invariant of  $S^+$  is trivial.

Theorem 2.4 ([EK15a, Corollaries 47 and 49] and [EK15b, Corollary 24]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $D_r$  is given a G-grading and consider the finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{r} m_i \pi_i$ .

- I If the grading on L is inner, with parameters T,  $\beta$ ,  $\Xi$  and  $g_0$  as described above, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - 1) |T| = 1 and at least one of the following holds:
    - (i)  $m_{r-1} \equiv m_r \pmod{2}$ , or
  - (ii) the elements  $g_1, \ldots, g_q$  and the homomorphism  $f_{\Xi}: \widehat{G} \to \mathbb{Z}_2^q$ defined by Equation (8) have the following property: for any  $x\in f_\Xi(\widehat{G}),\ g_1^{x_1}\cdots g_q^{x_q}=e;$ 2)  $|T|>1,\ m_{r-1}\equiv m_r\pmod 2$  and one of the following holds:

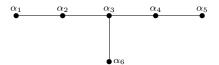
  - (i) r is even and  $\sum_{i=1}^{r/2} m_{2i-1}$  is even, or (ii) r is odd and  $\sum_{i=1}^{(r-1)/2} m_{2i-1} (m_{r-1} m_r)/2$  is even; 3)  $m_{r-1} \not\equiv m_r \pmod{2}$ , r is even,  $\sum_{i=1}^{r/2} m_{2i-1}$  is even, and one of the following holds:
    - (i) |T| = 4 and the elements  $g_a$  and  $g_b$  defined by Equation (9) belong to T, or
    - (ii) |T| = 16 and the matrix  $M_{\Xi,q_0}^+$  defined by Equation (10) is 0, or
    - (iii) |T| > 16,

where in 3) we assume that the numbering of the simple roots is chosen so that  $V(\pi_r) = S^+$ .

- II If the grading on L is outer and, in the case r=4, the  $\widehat{G}$ -action is not transitive on the outer vertices of the Dynkin diagram, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:

1)  $m_{r-1}=m_r$ ; 2) |T|=1 or  $\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} m_{2i-1}$  is even; where in the case r=4 we assume that the numbering of the simple roots is chosen so that  $\pi_1$  is fixed by  $\widehat{G}$ .

III If r=4 and the  $\widehat{G}$ -action is transitive on the outer vertices of the Dynkin diagram, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if  $m_1 = m_3 = m_4$ .



 $E_6$ 

For this type the dimension of  $V(\pi_1)$  is 27 (there are two possibilities for  $\pi_1$ , which lead to dual modules), and we have |H|=1 if the grading on L is inner and |H|=2 if it is outer.

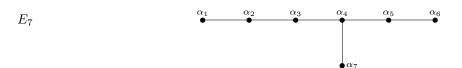
Out of the 14 fine gradings on L (up to equivalence), 5 are inner, with universal groups  $\mathbb{Z}^6$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_3^4$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ , and 9 are outer, with universal groups  $\mathbb{Z}^4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^5$ ,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^4$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^7$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^6$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^4$ . For each of the inner fine gradings on L with  $G^u = \mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_3^4$ ,

there is a distinguished subgroup  $T \simeq \mathbb{Z}_3^2$  of  $G^u$ , which is associated to the graded Brauer invariant of  $V(\pi_1)$ . For all other fine gradings, this invariant is trivial (see [DEK17, §4]).

**Theorem 2.5** ([DEK17, Corollaries 4.2 and 4.5]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $E_6$  is given a G-grading induced by a homomorphism  $\nu: G^u \to G$  from one of the fine gradings. Consider the finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{6} m_i \pi_i$ .

- I If the grading on L is inner, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

  - 1)  $G^u$  is not one of the groups  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_3^4$ ; 2)  $G^u$  is  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^2$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_3^4$  and at least one of the following holds:
    - (i)  $m_1 m_2 + m_4 m_5 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , or
    - (ii)  $\nu$  is not injective on the distinguished subgroup  $T \subset G^u$ .
- II If the grading on L is outer, then  $V(\lambda)$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if  $m_1 = m_5$  and  $m_2 = m_4$ .



For this type the dimension of  $V(\pi_1)$  is 56 and we have |H|=1. There are 14 fine gradings on L (up to equivalence), with universal groups  $\mathbb{Z}^7$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_3^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4^2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^4$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^4$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^4$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2^8$ .

For the fine gradings on L with  $G^u = \mathbb{Z}^7$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_3^3$ , the graded Brauer invariant of  $V(\pi_1)$  is trivial. For each of the remaining fine gradings, this invariant gives a distinguished subgroup  $T \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2^2$  of  $G^u$  (see [DEK17, §5]).

**Theorem 2.6** ([DEK17, Corollary 5.7]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $E_7$  is given a G-grading induced by a homomorphism  $\nu: G^u \to G$  from one of the fine gradings. The finite-dimensional simple L-module  $V(\lambda)$  of highest weight  $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{7} m_i \pi_i$  admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- 1)  $G^u$  is  $\mathbb{Z}^7$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_2^3$  or  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_3^3$ ;
- 2)  $G^u$  is not one of the groups  $\mathbb{Z}^7$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}^3_2$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}^3_3$  and at least one of the following holds:
  - (i)  $m_1 + m_3 + m_7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , or
  - (ii)  $\nu$  is not injective on the distinguished subgroup  $T \subset G^u$ .

For the remaining types, the algebraic group  $\operatorname{Aut}(L)$  is connected and simply connected, which implies that every dominant integral weight  $\lambda$  is fixed by  $\widehat{G}$  and the graded Brauer invariant of  $V(\lambda)$  is trivial (see [EK15b, Appendix A]).

**Theorem 2.7** ([EK15b, Corollary 22]). Suppose a simple Lie algebra L of type  $E_8$ ,  $F_4$  or  $G_2$  is given a G-grading. Then any finite-dimensional L-module admits a G-grading making it a graded L-module.

## 3. Group gradings of $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules

In this section we restrict our attention to modules over the Lie algebra of type  $A_1$ , which can be realized as  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

3.1. Group gradings of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . All group gradings on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  are well-known, see e.g [EK13]. We will use the following bases:

(11) 
$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad h = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(12) A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = h, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Up to equivalence, there are precisely two fine gradings on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  (see [EK13, Theorem 3.55]):

(1) the Cartan grading with the universal group  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\Gamma^1_{\mathfrak{sl}_2}:\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})=L_{-1}\oplus L_0\oplus L_1 \text{ where } L_0=\langle h\rangle, L_1=\langle x\rangle, L_{-1}=\langle y\rangle;$$

(2) the Pauli grading with the universal group  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ ,

$$\Gamma_{\mathfrak{sl}_2}^2 : \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) = L_{(1,0)} \oplus L_{(0,1)} \oplus L_{(1,1)} \text{ where } L_{(1,0)} = \langle A \rangle, L_{(0,1)} = \langle B \rangle, L_{(1,1)} = \langle C \rangle.$$

Hence, up to isomorphism, any G-grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  is a coarsening of one of the two gradings: Cartan or Pauli.

Note that any grading  $\Gamma$  of a Lie algebra L uniquely extends to a grading  $U(\Gamma)$  of its universal enveloping algebra U(L). The grading  $U(\Gamma)$  is a grading in the sense of associative algebras but also as L-modules where U(L) is either a (left) regular L-module or an adjoint L-module. In our study of gradings on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules we will often consider a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -coarsening of  $U(\Gamma^2_{\mathfrak{sl}_2})$ , in which the component of the coarsening labeled by 0 is the sum of components of the original grading labeled by (0,0) and (1,0) while the component labeled by 1 is the sum of components labeled by (0,1) and (1,1).

3.2. **Algebras**  $U(I_{\lambda})$ . Let  $c \in U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  be the Casimir element for  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . With respect to the basis  $\{h, x, y\}$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , this element can be written as

(13) 
$$c = (h+1)^2 + 4yx = h^2 + 1 + 2xy + 2yx.$$

It is well-known that the center of  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  is the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{C}[c]$ . Note that c is a homogeneous element of degree zero, with respect to the Cartan grading of  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . One can write the Casimir element with respect to the basis  $\{h, B, C\}$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

Namely,

$$c = 2xy + 2yx + h^{2} + 1$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{B+C}{2}\right)\left(\frac{B-C}{2}\right) + 2\left(\frac{B-C}{2}\right)\left(\frac{B+C}{2}\right) + h^{2} + 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(B^{2} + CB - BC - C^{2}) + \frac{1}{2}(B^{2} + BC - CB - C^{2}) + h^{2} + 1,$$

and so

$$c = B^2 - C^2 + h^2 + I = A^2 + B^2 - C^2 + 1.$$

It follows that c is also homogeneous, of degree (0,0), with respect to the Pauli grading of  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ .

Let R be an associative algebra (or just an associative ring), and V be a left R-module. The annihilator of V, denoted by  $\operatorname{Ann}_R(V)$ , is the set of all elements r in R such that, for all v in V, r.v=0:

$$\operatorname{Ann}_R(V) = \{ r \in R \mid r.v = 0 \text{ for all } v \in V \}.$$

Given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , let  $I_{\lambda}$  be the two-side ideal of  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ , generated by the central element  $c - (\lambda + 1)^2$ .

**Theorem 3.1** ([Maz09, Theorem 4.7]). For any simple  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ -module M, there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $I_{\lambda} \subset \operatorname{Ann}_{U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))}(M)$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** Let R be a graded algebra and M be a graded R-module, then  $Ann_R(M)$  is graded.

Proof. Let  $I = \operatorname{Ann}_R(M) = \{x \in R \mid x.M = 0\}$ , and  $0 \neq x \in I \subseteq R$ , then  $x = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots x_k$ , where  $x_i$  are homogeneous elements in R (belonging to different homogeneous components). Let  $v \in M$  be an arbitrary homogeneous element, then  $0 = x.v = x_1.v + x_2.v + \cdots x_k.v$ . Since the components  $x_i.v$  belong to different homogeneous subspaces, it follows that  $x_i.v = 0$  for all i. and since v is an arbitrary homogeneous element, then  $x_i \in I$  for all i.

**Proposition 3.3.** The ideal  $I_{\lambda}$  is both  $\mathbb{Z}$ - and  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded ideal.

*Proof.* Since  $c - (\lambda + 1)^2$  is homogeneous of degree 0 (resp., (0,0)) with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -grading (resp.,  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ - grading), then  $I_{\lambda}$  is graded.

Now for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , we write  $U(I_{\lambda}) := U(\mathfrak{sl}_{2}(\mathbb{C}))/I_{\lambda}$ . Using Proposition 3.3,  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded algebra and  $\mathbb{Z}_{2}^{2}$ -graded algebra. It is well-known (see e.g. [Maz09]) that the algebra  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is a free  $\mathbb{C}[h]$ -module with basis

$$\mathcal{B}_0 = \{1, x, y, x^2, y^2, \ldots\},\$$

and so it is free over  $\mathbb{C}$  with basis  $\mathcal{B} = \{1, h, h^2, \ldots\} \mathcal{B}_0$ . Note that the basis  $\mathcal{B}$  is a basis of  $U(I_{\lambda})$  consisting of homogeneous elements with respect to the Cartan grading by  $\mathbb{Z}$ . A basis of  $U(I_{\lambda})$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  consisting of homogeneous elements with respect to the Pauli grading by  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$  can be computed as follows. Set

$$\widehat{B}_0 = \{1, B, C, BC, B^2, B^2C, B^3, B^3C, \ldots\}.$$

Then easy calculations, using induction by the natural filtration in B and the relation  $C^2 = h^2 + B^2 - \lambda^2 - 2\lambda$  show that the set  $\widehat{B} = \{1, h, h^2, \ldots\} \cdot \widehat{B}_0$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -homogeneous basis of  $U(I_{\lambda})$ .

Let  $p(t) = \frac{1}{4}((\lambda^2 + 2\lambda) - 2t - t^2) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ . Then, inside  $U(I_{\lambda})$ , for any  $q(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ , we have the following relations:

$$x^{k}q(h) = q(h-2k)x^{k}$$
  
$$y^{j}q(h) = q(h+2j)y^{j}.$$

If  $k \geq j$  then

$$x^{k}y^{j} = p(h-2k)\cdots p(h-2(k-j+1))x^{k-j}$$
  
 $y^{j}x^{k} = p(h+2(j-1))\cdots p(h)x^{k-j}$ .

If  $j \geq k$  then

$$x^{k}y^{j} = p(h-2k)\cdots p(h-2)y^{j-k}$$
$$y^{j}x^{k} = p(h+2(j-1))\cdots p(h+2(j-k))y^{j-k}.$$

Moreover,  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is a generalized Weyl algebra (see e.g [Bav92]) and has the following properties.

**Theorem 3.4** ([Maz09, Theorem 4.15]).

- (1)  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is both left and right Noetherian.
- (2)  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is a domain.
- (3) The algebra  $U(I_{\lambda})$  is simple for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (4) For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , the algebra  $U(I_n)$  has a unique proper ideal.

One more property that is important for us is the following.

**Theorem 3.5** ([Maz09, Theorem 4.26]). For any non-zero left ideal  $I \subset U(I_{\lambda})$ , the  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -module  $U(I_{\lambda})/I$  has finite length.

3.3. Weight modules over  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Let V be an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module,  $\mathfrak{h} = \langle h \rangle$  be the Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Since  $\dim(\mathfrak{h}) = 1$ , we can think of  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  as  $\mathbb{C}$ . We call

$$V_{\mu} = \{ v \in V \mid h.v = \mu v \}, \text{ for } \mu \in \mathbb{C},$$

the weight spaces for V, and if  $V_{\mu}$  is nontrivial we call  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  the weight of V. If V is the direct sum of these weight spaces, we say that V is a weight module. The set of all weights is called the support of V, denoted  $\mathrm{Supp}(V)$ . In the case of a weight module, if  $\lambda \in \mathrm{Supp}(V)$  and  $\lambda + 2 \notin \mathrm{Supp}(V)$ ,  $\lambda$  is called the highest weight of V, and the elements of the space  $V_{\lambda}$  are called highest weight vectors. Similarly, if  $\lambda \in \mathrm{Supp}(V)$  and  $\lambda - 2 \notin \mathrm{Supp}(V)$ , then  $\lambda$  is called the lowest weight and the elements of the space  $V_{\lambda}$  are called lowest weight vectors. If the weight module is generated by  $v_{\lambda}$ , where  $v_{\lambda}$  is a highest (resp., lowest) weight vector, then V is called highest (resp., lowest) weight module of weight  $\lambda$ .

**Lemma 3.6.** Any h-invariant subspace of a weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module is spanned by weight vectors.

*Proof.* Let V be a weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module and W an h-invariant subspace of V. Let  $w \in W \subset V$ , so  $w = v_1 + v_2 + \cdots + v_k$ , where  $v_i$  is a nonzero weight vector of weight  $\mu_i \in \mathbb{C}$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ , where we may assume that  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \ldots, \mu_k$  are distinct. Define the elements  $h_i \in U(\mathfrak{h})$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, k$ , by

$$h_i = \prod_{l \neq i} (h - \mu_l).$$

Then

$$h_i.v_j = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j; \\ \prod_{l \neq i} (\mu_i - \mu_l) v_i & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

Hence.

$$W \ni h_i.w = \sum_{j=1}^k h_i.v_j = h_i.v_i = \prod_{l \neq i} (\mu_i - \mu_l)v_i,$$

which means that  $v_i \in W$ .

3.3.1. Simple finite-dimensional  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. Let V=V(n) be a finite - dimensional simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module of dimension n+1, with a highest weight vector  $v_0 \in V_n$  and highest weight n. Define  $v_i = \frac{1}{i!}y^i.v_0$  for  $i=0,1,\ldots,n$ . This is a basis of V. It is convenient to set  $v_{-1}=0$ . The module action is given by

(14) 
$$h.v_i = (n-2i)v_i, x.v_i = (n-(i-1))v_{i-1}, y.v_i = (i+1)v_{i+1},$$

hence

$$V(n) = V_n \oplus V_{n-2} \oplus ..... \oplus V_{-(n-2)} \oplus V_{-n}.$$

Note that any finite-dimensional simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module is a highest weight module of weight  $n = \dim(V) - 1$ , see e.g [Hum78, Maz09].

3.3.2. Verma modules of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . The general construction for the Verma modules over a semisimple Lie algebra L is given by the following: consider  $B(\Delta) = \mathfrak{h} \oplus N$  be the standard Borel subalgebra of the semisimple Lie algebra L, where  $\mathfrak{h}$  is the Cartan subalgebra of L,  $\Delta$  is the basis of the root system of L with respect to  $\mathfrak{h}$ , and N the sum of the positive root spaces. For any  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ , start with a 1-dimensional  $B(\Delta)$ -module, say  $D_{\lambda}$ , with trivial N-action and  $\mathfrak{h}$  acting through  $\lambda$ , and set  $Z(\lambda) = U(L) \otimes_{U(B(\Delta))} D_{\lambda}$ . Then  $Z(\lambda)$  is a U(L)-module called the Verma module of weight  $\lambda$ . In the case of  $L = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , we have  $B(\Delta) = \langle h, x \rangle$  and  $N = \langle x \rangle$ . In view of the general Definition of the Verma module, Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module of highest weight  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , is

$$Z(\lambda) = U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})) \otimes_{U(B(\Delta))} D_{\lambda}.$$

In [Maz09], Mazorchuk introduces the Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module explicitly, he just uses the mathematical induction to generalize from the case of simple finite-dimensional  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules to the Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules, and takes  $v_i = \frac{1}{i!}y^i.v_0$ , for  $i \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then

$$Z(\lambda) = \langle v_0, v_1, v_2, \ldots \rangle$$

and the action is given by the formulas (14). Thus,

$$Z(\lambda) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0} V_{\lambda - 2i},$$

where  $V_{\lambda-2i} = \mathbb{C}v_i$ .

The module  $Z(\lambda)$  is a simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module if and only if  $\lambda \notin \mathbb{N}_0$ . If n is a non-negative integer, then Z(n) is indecomposable and has a unique nontrivial submodule Z(-n-2), with  $V(n) \cong Z(n)/Z(-n-2)$ . It is well-known see e.g. [Maz09] that  $I_{\lambda}$  is the annihilator of the Verma module  $Z(\lambda)$ .

3.3.3. Anti-Verma modules of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Let V be the formal vector space with the basis  $\{v_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ . Now set  $v_{-1} = 0$  and define the action on V for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  as:

(15) 
$$h.v_{i} = (\lambda + 2i)v_{i}, x.v_{i} = v_{i+1}, y.v_{i} = -i(\lambda + i - 1)v_{i-1},$$

then V is a lowest weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with lowest weight  $\lambda$ , denoted by  $\overline{Z}(\lambda)$  and called *anti-Verma module*.

The support of the anti-Verma module is

$$\operatorname{Supp}(\overline{Z}(\lambda)) = \{\lambda + 2i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$$

and the Casimir element acts on it as the scalar  $(\lambda - 1)^2$ . The module  $\overline{Z}(\lambda)$  is a simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module if and only if  $-\lambda \notin \mathbb{N}_0$ . If n is a negative integer, then  $\overline{Z}(n)$  has a unique maximal submodule  $\overline{Z}(-n+2)$ , with  $V(n) \cong \overline{Z}(n)/Z(-n+2)$ .

3.3.4. Dense modules of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . A weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module is called a dense module if it has no highest nor lowest weights. In other words, the weight module V is dense if  $\mathrm{Supp}(V) = \lambda + 2\mathbb{Z}$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Now we will study a big class of the dense modules.

For  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ , consider V to be the formal vector space with the basis  $\{v_{\mu} \mid \mu \in \xi\}$ . Define the action on V as:

(16) 
$$x.v_{\mu} = \frac{h.v_{\mu}}{\frac{1}{4}(\tau - (\mu + 1)^{2})v_{\mu+2}}, \\ y.v_{\mu} = v_{\mu-2},$$

then V is a dense weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module, denoted by  $V(\xi,\tau)$ . In this case the module  $V(\xi,\tau)$  is simple if and only if  $\tau \neq (\lambda+1)^2$  for all  $\lambda \in \xi$ , but if the module  $V(\xi,\tau)$  is not simple, then it contains a unique maximal submodule isomorphic to a Verma module for some highest weight.

**Theorem 3.7** ([Maz09, Theorem 3.32]). Up to isomorphism, any simple weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module is one of the following modules

- (1) V(n) for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
- (2)  $Z(\lambda)$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \backslash \mathbb{N}_0$ ;
- (3)  $\overline{Z}(-\lambda)$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \backslash \mathbb{N}_0$ ;
- (4)  $V(\xi,\tau)$  for some  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $\tau \neq (\lambda+1)^2$  for all  $\lambda \in \xi$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.8** ([Maz09]). Let  $J_n := \operatorname{Ann}_{U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))}(V(n))$ , where V(n) is a finite-dimensional simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module. Then

- (1)  $I_n \subset J_n$ .
- (2)  $\operatorname{Ann}_{U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))}(\overline{Z}(\lambda)) = I_{\lambda-2}.$
- (3) Let  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau = (\lambda + 1)^2 \in \mathbb{C}$ , then  $\operatorname{Ann}_{U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))}(V(\xi, \tau)) = I_{\lambda}$ .

# 3.4. Torsion-free modules over $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

**Definition 3.9.** Let M be an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module, then the module M is called torsion if for any  $m \in M$  there exists non-zero  $p(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$  such that p(h).m = 0. The module M is torsion-free if  $M \neq 0$  and  $p(h).m \neq 0$  for all  $0 \neq m \in M$  and all non-zero  $p(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ . If M a torsion-free  $\mathbb{C}[h]$ -module of rank n, we say that M is of rank n.

**Theorem 3.10** ([Maz09, Theorem 6.3]). A simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module is either a weight or a torsion-free module.

Theorem 3.10 means that if h has at least one eigenvector on M, then M is a weight module.

As a consequence of Theorem 3.1, it is sufficient to describe simple torsion-free  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -modules instead of simple  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_{2}(\mathbb{C}))$ -modules (see e.g [Maz09]).

A further reduction can be achieved as follows. We consider the field of rational functions in h,  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}(h)$ , and set  $\mathbb{A}$  to be the algebra of skew Laurent polynomials over K, that is

$$\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{K}[X, X^{-1}, \sigma] = \bigg\{ \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} q_i(h) X^i \mid q_i(h) \in \mathbb{K}, \text{ almost all } q_i(h) = 0 \bigg\},$$

with the usual addition and scalar multiplication, and the product

$$(\sum_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}p_i(h)X^i)(\sum_{j\in\mathbb{Z}}q_j(h)X^j)=\sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{Z}}p_i(h)\sigma^i(q_j(h))X^{i+j},$$

where  $\sigma(h) = h - 2$ . Note that A is an Euclidean domain and it is isomorphic to  $S^{-1}U(I_{\lambda})$ , the localization of the generalized Weyl algebra  $U(I_{\lambda})$ , where S= $\mathbb{C}[h]\setminus\{0\}$ . An embedding of  $\Phi_{\lambda}:U(I_{\lambda})\to\mathbb{A}$  is the unique extension of the following map:

$$\Phi_{\lambda}(h) = h, \ \Phi_{\lambda}(x) = X, \ \Phi_{\lambda}(y) = \frac{(\lambda + 1)^2 - (h + 1)^2}{4} X^{-1}.$$

Thanks to this embedding,  $\mathbb{A}$  becomes a  $\mathbb{A} - U(I_{\lambda})$ -bimodule and given an  $U(I_{\lambda})$ module M one can define an A-module  $\mathcal{F}(M)$  by

$$\mathcal{F}(M) = \mathbb{A} \underset{U(I_{\lambda})}{\otimes} M.$$

**Theorem 3.11** ([Maz09, Theorem 6.24]).

- (i) The functor  $\mathcal{F}$  induces a bijection  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}$  between the isomorphism classes of simple torsion-free  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -modules to the set of isomorphism classes of sim $ple \ A-modules;$
- (ii) The inverse of the bijection from (i) is the map that sends a simple Amodule N to its  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -socle  $\operatorname{soc}_{U(I_{\lambda})}(N)$ .

**Theorem 3.12** ([Bav90, Proposition 3]). Let M be a simple torsion-free  $U(I_{\lambda})$ module, them  $M \cong U(I_{\lambda})/(U(I_{\lambda}) \cap \mathbb{A}\alpha)$ , for some  $\alpha \in U(I_{\lambda})$  which is irreducible as an element of  $\mathbb{A}$ .

Many examples of torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules have been introduced, see e.g. [Maz09, PT17, Nil15]. We will highlight those of them for which we can decide if those modules are graded or not.

Let us define a family of  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -modules modules, as follows. Given two polynomials  $p(t), g(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ , we set

$$M(p(t), g(t), \lambda) := U(I_{\lambda})/U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)x + p(h))$$

and

$$M'(p(t), g(t), \lambda) := U(I_{\lambda})/U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)y + p(h).$$

**Theorem 3.13** ([Maz09, Theorem 6.50]). Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , and g(t), p(t) be non-zero polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}[t]$  such that if  $r \in \mathbb{C}$  is a root of p(t) then

- (1) r + n is not a root for g(t) for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , (2)  $(\lambda + 1)^2 \neq (r + n + 1)^2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then the  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -modules  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  and  $M'(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  are simple. 

The so called Whittaker modules are a special case of Theorem 3.13. They are defined as follows:

**Definition 3.14.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , then the Whittaker modules are the modules  $M_{\alpha} = U(I_{\lambda})/U(I_{\lambda})(1-\alpha x) = U(I_{\lambda})/U(I_{\lambda})(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}B-\frac{\alpha}{2}C)$ .

A full description of torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules of rank 1 (over  $\mathbb{C}[h]$ ) was given in [Nil15].

**Definition 3.15.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$ . Let us define an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $N(\alpha, \beta)$  as a vector space  $\mathbb{C}[h]$  equipped with the following action: for  $f(h) \in \mathbb{C}[h]$ 

(17) 
$$h.f(h) = hf(h),$$
$$x.f(h) = \alpha(\frac{h}{2} + \beta)f(h-2),$$
$$y.f(h) = -\frac{1}{\alpha}(\frac{h}{2} - \beta)f(h+2).$$

Note that  $N(\alpha, \beta)$  is simple if and only if  $2\beta \notin \mathbb{N}_0$ , see [Nil15].

**Definition 3.16.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\text{Re}(\beta) \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ . Let us define an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $N'(\alpha,\beta)$  as a vector space  $\mathbb{C}[h]$  equipped with the following action: for  $f(h) \in \mathbb{C}[h]$ 

(18) 
$$h.f(h) = hf(h), x.f(h) = \alpha f(h-2), y.f(h) = -\frac{1}{\alpha}(\frac{h}{2} + \beta + 1)(\frac{h}{2} - \beta)f(h+2).$$

**Definition 3.17.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $\text{Re}(\beta) \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ . Let us define an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $\bar{N}(\alpha,\beta)$  as a vector space  $\mathbb{C}[h]$  equipped with the following action: for  $f(h) \in \mathbb{C}[h]$ 

(19) 
$$h.f(h) = -hf(h), x.f(h) = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\frac{h}{2} + \beta + 1) (\frac{h}{2} - \beta) f(h+2), y.f(h) = -\alpha f(h-2).$$

Note that the Whittaker modules are torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules of rank 1 with type  $N'(\frac{1}{\alpha}, \frac{\lambda}{2})$ .

**Theorem 3.18** ([Nil15, Theorem 9, Lemma 12]). Each simple torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ module of rank 1 is isomorphic to one of the following (pairwise non-isomorphic) modules:

- (1)  $N(\alpha, \beta)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $2\beta \notin \mathbb{N}_0$ .
- (2)  $N'(\alpha, \beta)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(\beta) \ge -\frac{1}{2}$ . (3)  $\bar{N}(\alpha, \beta)$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(\beta) \ge -\frac{1}{2}$ .

### 3.5. Gradings on the weight modules

3.5.1. Gradings on simple finite-dimensional  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. It is obvious that every simple finite-dimensional module of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  is a weight module, i.e., it decomposes as the direct sum of weight spaces and this decomposition is a grading compatible with the Cartan grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . In [EK15a], the authors show that the finite-dimensional simple modules with even highest weight have a grading compatible with the Pauli grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , while those ones with the odd highest weight do not. Here we will give an explicit construction of the grading in the even case.

Let V = V(n) be a simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with an even highest weight n = 2mand basis  $\{v_0, v_1, ..., v_n\}$ . To construct a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -grading on V, we first define a new basis of V as follows. Set

$$e_i = v_i + v_{n-i}$$
 for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$ ,

and

$$d_i = v_i - v_{n-i}$$
 for all  $i = 0, 1, ..., m - 1$ .

Then  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_m, d_0, d_1, \dots, d_{m-1}\}$  is a basis of V and the module action is given as follows.

$$h.e_{i} = (n-2i)d_{i} \text{ for all } i = 0, 1, \dots, m;$$

$$B.e_{i} = \begin{cases} (n-i+1)e_{i-1} + (i+1)e_{i+1}, & \text{if } i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1; \\ 2(m+1)e_{m}, & \text{if } i = m; \end{cases}$$

$$C.e_{i} = \begin{cases} (n-i+1)d_{i-1} - (i+1)d_{i+1}, & \text{if } i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1; \\ 2(m+1)d_{m-1}, & \text{if } i = m; \end{cases}$$

$$h.d_{i} = (n-2i)e_{i} \text{ for all } i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1;$$

$$B.d_{i} = (n-i+1)d_{i-1} + (i+1)d_{i+1} \text{ if } i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1;$$

$$C.d_{i} = (n-i+1)e_{i-1} - (i+1)e_{i+1} \text{ if } i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Let  $V_{(0,0)} = \langle e_i \mid i \text{ even} \rangle$ ,  $V_{(0,1)} = \langle e_i \mid i \text{ odd} \rangle$ ,  $V_{(1,0)} = \langle d_i \mid i \text{ even} \rangle$ , and  $V_{(1,1)} = \langle d_i \mid i \text{ odd} \rangle$ . One now easily checks the following.

**Proposition 3.19.** The above formulas provide a  $\mathbb{Z}_{2}^{2}$ -grading

$$\Gamma: V = V_{(0,0)} \oplus V_{(1,0)} \oplus V_{(0,1)} \oplus V_{(1,1)}$$

on the highest weight module V = V(n), n even, which is compatible with the Pauli grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ .

3.5.2. Gradings on Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. As we mentioned above, any weight  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module has a grading compatible with the Cartan grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  via the weight decomposition. As a special case, we will explicitly describe the Cartan gradings on the Verma modules.

Let  $\{v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_k, \ldots\}$  be a basis of  $V(\lambda)$ , as described in Subsection 3.3.2. Consider the canonical basis  $\{x, y, h\}$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  with the Cartan grading by  $\mathbb{Z}$ , that is,  $\deg(x) = 1$ ,  $\deg(y) = -1$ ,  $\deg(h) = 0$ . The action of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  on V is the following:

	$v_0$	$v_1$	$v_2$	 $v_k$	
h	$\lambda v_0$	$(\lambda-2)v_1$	$(\lambda - 4)v_2$	 $(\lambda - 2k)v_k$	
x	0	$\lambda v_0$	$(\lambda-1)v_1$	 $(\lambda - k + 1)v_{k-1}$	
y	$v_1$	$2v_2$	$3v_3$	 $(k+1)v_{k+1}$	

Let  $V_{-k} = \langle v_k \rangle$  for k = 0, 1, 2, ..., and  $V_k = \{0\}$  for k = 1, 2, ..., then the grading  $V = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} V_{-k}$  makes V a graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

**Theorem 3.20.** Let V be a Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with highest weight  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus 2\mathbb{N}_0$ . Then V is not a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

*Proof.* Let  $V = \bigoplus_{\mu \in \mathbb{C}} V_{\mu}$ , with a maximal vector  $v_0 \in V_{\lambda}$ . Then V has a basis

 $\{v_0,v_1,v_2,\ldots\}$  given in Subsection 3.3.2. Assume that V has a grading compatible with the Pauli grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , so it can written as  $V=V_{(0,0)}\oplus V_{(1,0)}\oplus V_{(0,1)}\oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . Now let  $V^0=V_{(0,0)}\oplus V_{(1,0)}$ , and  $V^1=V_{(0,1)}\oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . The modules  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are thus h-invariant, with the action of B sending  $V^0$  to  $V^1$  and vice versa. By Lemma 3.6,  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are spanned by weight vectors. Since  $V_\lambda=\mathbb{C}v_0$ , we must have either  $v_0\in V^0$  or  $v_0\in V^1$ .

Without loss of generality, suppose  $v_0 \in V^0$  (otherwise apply the shift of grading), then  $V^1 \ni B.v_0 = v_1$ , so  $v_1 \in V^1$ . Hence  $V^0 \ni B.v_1 = \lambda v_0 + 2v_2$ . Since  $v_0 \in V^0$  we get  $v_2 \in V^0$ . Again  $V^1 \ni B.v_2 = (\lambda - 1)v_1 + 3v_3$ , which implies  $v_3 \in V^1$ , and so on. We have shown that  $V^0$  is spanned by the set  $\{v_0, v_2, v_4, \ldots\}$  and  $V^1$  by  $\{v_1, v_3, v_5, \ldots\}$ . Now let  $0 \neq v \in V_{(0,0)} \subseteq V^0$ . Then v can be written as  $v = \alpha_0 v_0 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \cdots + \alpha_{2k} v_{2k}$ ,

Now let  $0 \neq v \in V_{(0,0)} \subseteq V^0$ . Then v can be written as  $v = \alpha_0 v_0 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \cdots + \alpha_{2k} v_{2k}$ , for some non-negative integer k, and some  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . Since  $V_{(0,0)}$  is  $h^2$ -invariant, the elements

$$h^{2}.v = \alpha_{0}\lambda^{2}v_{0} + \alpha_{2}(\lambda - 4)^{2}v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k}(\lambda - 4k)^{2}v_{2k},$$

$$h^{4}.v = \alpha_{0}\lambda^{4}v_{0} + \alpha_{2}(\lambda - 4)^{4}v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k}(\lambda - 4k)^{4}v_{2k},$$

$$\dots$$

$$h^{2k}.v = \alpha_{0}\lambda^{2k}v_{0} + \alpha_{2}(\lambda - 4)^{2k}v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k}(\lambda - 4k)^{2k}v_{2k}$$

all belong to  $V_{(0,0)}$ . In order to use the Vandermonde's argument, we have to show that  $\lambda^2, (\lambda-4)^2, \ldots, (\lambda-4k)^2$  are all distinct. Assume that we have two different weights,  $(\lambda-4n)$  and  $(\lambda-4m)$  such that  $(\lambda-4n)^2=(\lambda-4m)^2$ . Then  $|\lambda-4n|=|\lambda-4m|$ . Hence either  $\lambda-4n=\lambda-4m$  or  $\lambda-4n=4m-\lambda$ , the first case being impossible. This means that  $\lambda=2(n+m)\in 2\mathbb{N}_0$ , which is a contradiction. Hence,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \lambda^2 & (\lambda - 4)^2 & \dots & (\lambda - 4k)^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \lambda^{2k} & (\lambda - 4)^{2k} & \dots & (\lambda - 4k)^{2k} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

It follows that  $V_{(0,0)}$  is spanned by the weight vectors, which means that there is  $v_s \in V_{(0,0)}$  for some s. Then  $h.v_s = (\lambda - 2s)v_s \in V_{(1,0)}$ , a contradiction.

Corollary 3.21. Let V be a Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with a non-negative even integer highest weight n. Then V cannot be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded module.

*Proof.* Assume that V is  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded module. Since the highest weight is an integer number then V is not simple and has a unique maximal submodule Z(-n-2), which therefore must be a graded submodule. But (-n-2) is a negative number, so we get a contradiction with Theorem 3.20.

3.5.3. Gradings on Anti-Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. From what we said above about  $\mathbb{Z}$ -gradings on the weight modules, it follows that  $\overline{Z}(\lambda)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module. Let  $V = \overline{Z}(\lambda)$  with the basis  $\{v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_k, \ldots\}$ . Consider the basis  $\{x, y, h\}$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  with the Cartan grading by  $\mathbb{Z}$ , that is,  $\deg(x) = 1$ ,  $\deg(y) = -1$ ,  $\deg(h) = 0$ . The action of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  on V is the following:

	$v_0$	$v_1$	$v_2$	 $v_k$	
h	$\lambda v_0$	$(\lambda+2)v_1$	$(\lambda+4)v_2$	 $(\lambda + 2k)v_k$	
x	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	 $v_{k+1}$	
y	0	$-\lambda v_0$	$-2(\lambda+1)v_1$	 $-k(\lambda+k-1)v_{k-1}$	

Let  $V_k = \mathbb{C}v_k$  for k = 0, 1, 2, ..., and  $V_k = 0$  for k = -1, -2, ..., then the grading  $V = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k$  makes V a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

**Theorem 3.22.** Let V be an anti-Verma  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with lowest weight  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Then V cannot be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Let  $V = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} V_k$  where  $V_k = \mathbb{C}v_k$  for k=0,1,2,..., and  $\{v_0,v_1,v_2,...\}$  be the basis of V. Assume that V has a grading compatible with the Pauli grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , so it can written as  $V = V_{(0,0)} \oplus V_{(1,0)} \oplus V_{(0,1)} \oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . Now let  $V^0 = V_{(0,0)} \oplus V_{(1,0)}$ , and  $V^1 = V_{(0,1)} \oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . We have that  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are thus h-invariant, with the action of B and C sending  $V^0$  to  $V^1$  and vice versa. By Lemma 3.6,  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are spanned by the weight vectors. Since  $V_0 = \mathbb{C}v_0$ , we must have  $v_0 \in V^0$  or  $v_0 \in V^1$ .

Without loss of generality, suppose  $v_0 \in V^0$  (otherwise apply the shift of grading), then  $V^1 \ni B.v_0 = v_1$ , so  $v_1 \in V^1$ . Hence  $V^0 \ni B.v_1 = v_2 - \lambda v_0$ . Since  $v_0 \in V^0$  we get  $v_2 \in V^0$ . Again  $V^1 \ni B.v_2 = v_3 - 2(\lambda + 1)v_1$ , which implies  $v_3 \in V^1$ , and so on. We have shown that  $V^0$  is spanned by the set  $\{v_0, v_2, v_4, \ldots\}$  and  $V^1$  by  $\{v_1, v_3, v_5, \ldots\}$ .

Now let  $0 \neq v \in V_{(0,0)} \subseteq V^0$ . Then v can be written as  $v = \alpha_0 v_0 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \cdots + \alpha_{2k} v_{2k}$  for some non-negative integer k and some  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . But since  $V_{(0,0)}$  is  $h^2$ -invariant, the elements

$$h^{2} \cdot v = \alpha_{0} \lambda^{2} v_{0} + \alpha_{2} (\lambda + 4)^{2} v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k} (\lambda + 4k)^{2} v_{2k},$$

$$h^{4} \cdot v = \alpha_{0} \lambda^{4} v_{0} + \alpha_{2} (\lambda + 4)^{4} v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k} (\lambda + 4k)^{4} v_{2k},$$

$$\dots$$

$$h^{2k} \cdot v = \alpha_{0} \lambda^{2k} v_{0} + \alpha_{2} (\lambda + 4)^{2k} v_{2} + \dots + \alpha_{2k} (\lambda + 4k)^{2k} v_{2k},$$

all belong to  $V_{(0,0)}$ .

Now we have two cases:

Case 1 Assume that  $-\lambda \notin 2\mathbb{N}_0$ . In order to use the Vandermonde's argument, we need to show that  $\lambda^2, (\lambda+4)^2, \dots, (\lambda+4k)^2$  are all distinct. Assume that we have two different weights,  $(\lambda+4n)$  and  $(\lambda+4m)$  such that  $(\lambda+4n)^2=(\lambda+4m)^2$ . Then  $|\lambda+4n|=|\lambda+4m|$ . Hence either  $\lambda+4n=\lambda+4m$  or  $\lambda+4n=-4m-\lambda$ , but the first case is impossible. Therefore  $-\lambda=2(n+m)\in 2\mathbb{N}_0$ , a contradiction. Hence,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \lambda^2 & (\lambda+4)^2 & \dots & (\lambda+4k)^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \lambda^{2k} & (\lambda+4)^{2k} & \dots & (\lambda+4k)^{2k} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

It follows that  $V_{(0,0)}$  is spanned by the weight vectors, which means that there is  $v_s \in V_{(0,0)}$  for some s. Note that  $h.v_s = (\lambda + 2s)v_s \in V_{(1,0)}$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2 Assume that  $-\lambda \in 2\mathbb{N}_0$ . Then V is not simple and has a unique maximal submodule  $\overline{Z}(-\lambda+2)$ . If V is graded by  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , then the unique maximal submodule of V must be graded. However, this contradicts Case 1 since  $(-(-\lambda+2)) \notin 2\mathbb{N}_0$ .  $\square$ 

3.5.4. Gradings on dense  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules. As usual, the weight modules are graded by  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ , and let  $V = V(\xi, \tau)$  with basis  $\{v_{\mu} \mid \mu \in \xi\}$  as in Definition 3.3.4, and consider the basis  $\{x, y, h\}$  of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$  with a Cartan grading by  $\mathbb{Z}$ , that is,  $\deg(x) = 1$ ,  $\deg(y) = -1$ ,  $\deg(h) = 0$ . Now, since  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  then  $\xi = \lambda + 2\mathbb{Z}$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and hence, for any  $\mu \in \xi$ ,  $\mu = \lambda + 2i$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $V_i = \mathbb{C}v_{\lambda+2i}, i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then the grading  $V = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} V_i$  makes V a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module with  $\deg(V_i) = i$ .

As for the grading by  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , some of the dense modules can be graded while some others can not.

Let us study the case where  $\xi = \bar{0}$ .

**Proposition 3.23.** Let  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$  be such that the module  $V = V(\bar{0}, \tau)$  is simple, then V can be made a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Since  $\xi = \overline{0}$ , we can choose  $\lambda = 0 \in \xi$ . Then  $V = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} V_i$ , where  $V_i = \mathbb{C}v_{2i}$ , being  $\{v_{2i} \mid i \in \mathbb{Z} \dots\}$  the basis of V. We set  $e_0 = v_0, e_{-1} = 0$  and  $e_k = \frac{1}{4^k}(\prod_{j=0}^k (\tau - (2j-1)^2))v_{2k} + v_{-2k}$ , and also  $d_0 = 0$  and  $d_k = \frac{1}{4^k}(\prod_{j=0}^k (\tau - (2j-1)^2))v_{2k} - v_{-2k}$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since V is simple, the set  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, d_1, d_2, \dots\}$  is a basis for V with a module action given by:

(20) 
$$h.e_{k} = 2kd_{k},$$

$$h.d_{k} = 2ke_{k},$$

$$B.e_{k} = e_{k+1} + \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (2k-1)^{2})e_{k-1},$$

$$B.d_{k} = d_{k+1} + \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (2k-1)^{2})d_{k-1},$$

$$C.e_{k} = d_{k+1} - \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (2k-1)^{2})d_{k-1},$$

$$C.d_{k} = e_{k+1} - \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (2k-1)^{2})e_{k-1},$$

Let  $V_{(0,0)} = \langle e_i \mid i \text{ is even} \rangle$ ,  $V_{(0,1)} = \langle e_i \mid i \text{ is odd} \rangle$ ,  $V_{(1,0)} = \langle d_i \mid i \text{ is even} \rangle$ , and  $V_{(1,1)} = \langle d_i \mid i \text{ is odd} \rangle$ . Then  $\Gamma : V = \bigoplus_{g \in \mathbb{Z}_2^2} V_g$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -grading of V making V a

graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

**Theorem 3.24.** Let  $\bar{0} \neq \xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$  be such that the module  $V = V(\xi, \tau)$  is simple. Then V is not a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. If  $\lambda \in \xi$  then  $V = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} V_k$ , where  $V_k = \mathbb{C} v_{\lambda+2k}$  being  $\{v_{\lambda+2i} \mid i \in \mathbb{Z} \dots\}$  the basis of V given in Definition 3.3.4. Assume that V has a grading compatible with the Pauli grading on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , so it can written as  $V = V_{(0,0)} \oplus V_{(1,0)} \oplus V_{(0,1)} \oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . Now let  $V^0 = V_{(0,0)} \oplus V_{(1,0)}$ , and  $V^1 = V_{(0,1)} \oplus V_{(1,1)}$ . Then  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are thus h-invariant, with the action of B and C sending  $V^0$  to  $V^1$  and vice versa. By Lemma 3.6,  $V^0$  and  $V^1$  are spanned by the weight vectors. Since  $V_{\lambda} = \mathbb{C} v_{\lambda}$ , we must have  $v_{\lambda} \in V^0$  or  $v_{\lambda} \in V^1$ .

Without loss of generality, suppose  $v_{\lambda} \in V^0$  (otherwise apply the shift of grading), then  $V^1 \ni B.v_{\lambda} = \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (\lambda + 1)^2)v_{\lambda + 2} + v_{\lambda - 2}$  and  $V^1 \ni C.v_{\lambda} = \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (\lambda + 1)^2)v_{\lambda + 2} - v_{\lambda - 2}$ , and since V is simple then  $(\tau - (\lambda + 1)^2 \ne 0$  and hence  $v_{\lambda + 2}, v_{\lambda - 2} \in V^1$ . Now  $B.v_{\lambda + 2} = \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (\lambda + 3)^2)v_{\lambda + 4} + v_{\lambda}$  and  $B.v_{\lambda - 2} = \frac{1}{4}(\tau - (\lambda - 1)^2)v_{\lambda} + v_{\lambda - 4}$  are both in  $V^0$ . Since V is simple and  $v_{\lambda \in V^0}$  then  $v_{\lambda + 4}, v_{\lambda - 4} \in V^0$ . Apply B again to  $v_{\lambda + 4}, v_{\lambda - 4}$  to get that  $v_{\lambda + 6}, v_{\lambda - 6} \in V^1$ , and so on. We have shown that  $V^0$  is spanned by the set  $\{\dots, v_{\lambda - 8}, v_{\lambda - 4}, v_{\lambda}, v_{\lambda + 4}, v_{\lambda + 8}, \dots\}$  and  $V^1$  by  $\{\dots, v_{\lambda - 6}, v_{\lambda - 2}, v_{\lambda + 2}, v_{\lambda + 6}, \dots\}$ . Now let  $0 \ne v \in V_{(0,0)} \subseteq V^0$ . Then v can be written as  $v = \alpha_{-m}v_{\lambda - 4m} + \dots + \alpha_{-1}v_{\lambda - 4} + \alpha_0v_{\lambda} + \dots + \alpha_nv_{\lambda + 4n}$  for some non-negative integers m, n and some  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . But since  $V_{(0,0)}$  is  $h^2$ -invariant, the elements

$$h^{2}.v = \alpha_{-m}(\lambda - 4m)^{2}v_{\lambda - 4m} + \dots + \alpha_{0}\lambda^{2}v_{\lambda} + \dots + \alpha_{n}(\lambda + 4n)^{2}v_{\lambda + 4n},$$

$$h^{4}.v = \alpha_{-m}(\lambda - 4m)^{4}v_{\lambda - 4m} + \dots + \alpha_{0}\lambda^{4}v_{\lambda} + \dots + \alpha_{n}(\lambda + 4n)^{4}v_{\lambda + 4n},$$

$$\dots$$

$$h^{2(m+n)}.v = \alpha_{-m}(\lambda - 4m)^{2(m+n)}v_{\lambda - 4m} + \dots + \alpha_{0}\lambda^{2(m+n)}v_{\lambda} + \dots$$

$$+\alpha_{n}(\lambda + 4n)^{2(m+n)}v_{\lambda + 4n}.$$

are in  $V_{(0,0)}$ . Now, to use the Vandermonde's determinant we have to show that  $(\lambda-4m)^2,\ldots,\lambda^2,(\lambda+4)^2,\ldots,(\lambda+4n)^2$  are all distinct. Assume that we have two different weights,  $(\lambda+4k_1)$  and  $(\lambda+4k_2)$ , such that  $(\lambda+4k_1)^2=(\lambda+4k_2)^2$ , then  $|\lambda+4k_1|=|\lambda+4k_2|$ . Hence either  $\lambda+4k_1=\lambda+4k_2$  or  $\lambda+4k_1=-4k_2-\lambda$ , but the first one is impossible. This means that  $\lambda=-2(k_1+k_2)\in 2\mathbb{Z}$ , which is not the case since  $\xi\neq \bar{0}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ (\lambda - 4m)^2 & \dots & \lambda^2 & \dots & (\lambda + 4n)^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ (\lambda - 4m)^{2(m+n)} & \dots & \lambda^{2(m+n)} & \dots & (\lambda + 4n)^{2(m+n)} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

It follows that  $V_{(0,0)}$  is spanned by weight vectors, which means that there is  $v_{\lambda+4s} \in V_{(0,0)}$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , but  $h.v_s = (\lambda + 4s)v_s \in V_{(1,0)}$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$ 

Corollary 3.25. Let  $\bar{0} \neq \xi \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ . Then the module  $V = V(\xi, \tau)$  cannot be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

*Proof.* Theorem 3.5.4 covers the case where V is simple, so it is enough to prove this fact when V is non-simple. Suppose that V is a non-simple  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module; then V has a unique maximal Verma submodule (see e.g. [Maz09, Theorem 3.29]), which has to be graded; this is a contradiction since Verma modules cannot be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules.

3.6. Gradings on torsion-free modules. Let V be a G-graded vector space, U a G-graded subspace of V, then V/U is canonically G-graded with  $V/U = \bigoplus_{g \in G} (V/U)_g$ , where  $(V/U)_g = (V_g + U)/U$ .

**Lemma 3.26.** Let V be a G-graded vector space, U a subspace of V such that V/U is canonically G-graded. Then U is graded.

*Proof.* Let  $V = \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_g$ , and  $V/U = \bigoplus_{g \in G} (V/U)_g$ , where  $(V/U)_g = V_g + U/U$ . Now let  $u \in U$ , then u can be written as  $u = v_1 + v_2 + \cdots + v_m$ , where  $v_i \in V_{g_i}$  for some  $g_i \in G$ . Now

$$U = u + U = (v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_m) + U$$
  
=  $(v_1 + U) + (v_2 + U) + \dots + (v_m + U),$ 

but  $\bar{v}_i = (v_i + U) \in (V/U)_{q_i}$ , so in the algebra (V/U)

$$\overline{v_1} + \overline{v_2} + \dots + \overline{v_m} = \overline{0},$$

and since the sum is direct, then  $\overline{v_i} = \overline{0}$  for all  $1 \le i \le m$ , and hence  $v_i \in U$  for all  $1 \le i \le m$ , showing that U is graded.

We will study now the canonical gradings of the modules described in Theorem 3.13. These gradings depend on the degree of the polynomial p(t). Since the gradings of  $M(p(t),g(t),\lambda)$  and  $M'(p(t),g(t),\lambda)$  are similar, we will study only one of them.

**Theorem 3.27.** Let  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  be as in Theorem 3.13, with  $p(t) = \mu$  a non-zero constant. Then  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not a canonically  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Suppose that the left ideal  $I = U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)x + \mu)$  is graded by  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ , then the element  $g(h)x + \mu = g(h)(\frac{B+C}{2}) + \mu = g(h)\frac{B}{2} + g(h)\frac{C}{2} + \mu$  belongs to I. The polynomial g(h) has a linear combination of elements of degrees (0,0) or (1,0), so the term  $g(h)\frac{B}{2}$  is a linear combination of elements of degrees (0,1) or (1,1); similarly  $g(h)\frac{C}{2}$  is a linear combination of elements of degrees (0,1) or (1,1). Since only  $\mu$  has degree (0,0) it follows that  $\mu \in I$  or, in other words,  $1 \in I$ , which means that  $I = U(I_{\lambda})$ , so  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is trivial, a contradiction. As a result, I is not graded. Using Lemma 3.26, we conclude that  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not canonically graded.

**Theorem 3.28.** Let  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  be as in Theorem 3.13, with  $p(t) = \mu$ , a non-zero constant. Then  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not a canonically  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Suppose that the left ideal  $I = U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)x + \mu)$  is graded by  $\mathbb{Z}$ , so that the element  $g(h)x + \mu \in I$ . Then the polynomial g(h) has degree 0, so the term g(h)x has degree 1. As before,  $\mu$  is the only element of degree 0, which implies that  $\mu \in I$ , a contradiction. Using Lemma 3.26 again, we can see that  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not canonically graded by  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Theorem 3.29.** Let  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  be as in Theorem 3.13, with deg  $p(t) \geq 1$ . Then  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not a canonically  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Suppose that the left ideal  $I = U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)x + \mu)$  is graded by  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Since g(h)x has degree 1, p(h) is the only term of degree 0, which implies  $p(h) \in I$ , so for any nonzero generator v of  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$ , p(h).v = 0. Now let we have that  $p(h) = (h - \beta_1)(h - \beta_2) \cdots (h - \beta_k)$ , and let  $(h - \beta_j)$  be the last term with  $(h - \beta_{j+1})(h - \beta_{j+2}) \cdots (h - \beta_k).v \neq 0$ , then  $(h - \beta_j)$  annihilates a nonzero vector and hence h has an eigenvector, which implies that  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  has a weight vector. So  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  now is a simple  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded weight module, which is a contradiction.

**Theorem 3.30.** Let  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  be as in Theorem 3.13, with deg  $p(t) \geq 1$ . Then  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is not a canonically  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Since g(h)x is a linear combination of elements of degrees (0,0) and (1,1), and p(h) is a linear combination of elements of degrees (0,0) and (1,0), it follows that  $p(h) \in I = U(I_{\lambda})(g(h)x + p(h))$ . We can factor the polynomial  $p(t) = (t - \beta_1)(t - \beta_2) \cdots (t - \beta_k)$ , for a generator  $u \in M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$ ,  $p(h).u = (h - \beta_1)(h - \beta_2) \cdots (h - \beta_k).u = 0$ . Now let  $(h - \beta_j)$  be the last term with  $(h - \beta_{j+1})(h - \beta_{j+2}) \cdots (h - \beta_k).u \neq 0$ , which implies that  $h - \beta_j$  annihilates a nonzero vector and hence h has an eigenvector, which means that  $M(p(t), g(t), \lambda)$  is a weight module of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ , a contradiction.

Now we will study the gradings of the torsion-free modules of rank 1.

**Lemma 3.31.** Let M be a G-graded torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module,  $p(h) \in \mathbb{C}[h]$  a homogeneous element in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ , and  $v \in M$  a non-homogeneous element. Then the element  $p(h).v \in M$  is non-homogeneous.

*Proof.* Since p(h) is homogeneous, then  $p(h) \in (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})))_g$  for some  $g \in G$ . Since v is non-homogeneous, then  $v = v_{g_1} + v_{g_2} + \cdots + v_{g_k}$  for some k > 1 and  $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_k$  are distinct in G, where  $v_{g_i} \in M_{g_i}$ , with at least two of them non-zero (say  $v_{g_1}, v_{g_2}$  are non-zero). Now  $p(h).v = p(h).v_{g_1} + p(h).v_{g_2} + \cdots + p(h).v_{g_k}$ ,

where  $p(h).v_{g_i} \in M_{g_i+g}$ . But  $g_1 + g, g_2 + g, \ldots, g_k + g$  are distinct in G. Since M is torsion-free,  $p(h).v_{g_1}, p(h).v_{g_2}$  are non-zero, which means that p(h).v is non-homogeneous.

**Theorem 3.32.** Torsion free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules of rank 1 cannot be  $\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded.

We will prove this theorem for every kind of torsion-free module of rank 1 separately. A useful property is the following.

**Lemma 3.33.** Let M be a torsion-free  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module, and  $0 \neq v \in M$ . Then one of x.v or y.v is non-zero.

*Proof.* Assume that x.v = 0 and y.v = 0, then 0 = (xy - yx).v = h.v, which means that h.v = 0, a contradiction.

**Proposition 3.34.** The module  $N(\alpha, \beta)$ , as in Definition 3.15, is not a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Assume that  $N = N(\alpha, \beta)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module, so that  $N = N_{(0,0)} + N_{(1,0)} + N_{(0,1)} + N_{(1,1)}$ . Given a non-zero homogeneous element  $f(h) \in N$ , we define  $\overline{f}(h)$  to be the same as f(h) but computed in the algebra  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Now  $\overline{f}(h)$  can be written as the sum of a linear combination of monomials in  $h^{2k+1}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ , and a linear combination of the monomials  $h^{2k}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ , of degrees (1,0) and (0,0), respectively. As a result,  $\overline{f}(h)$  is a homogeneous element in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  of degree 0 with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading on  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  given by

$$U(\mathfrak{sl}_2) = (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))^0 \oplus (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))^1,$$

where

$$(U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))^0 = (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))_{(0,0)} \oplus (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))_{(1,0)}$$

and

$$(U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))^1 = (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))_{(0,1)} \oplus (U(\mathfrak{sl}_2))_{(1,1)}.$$

Since f(h) is homogeneous with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -grading, it will be homogeneous in the coarsening grading over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , where  $N=N^0\oplus N^1$ , being  $N^0=N_{(0,0)}+N_{(1,0)}$  and  $N^1=N_{(0,1)}+N_{(1,1)}$ . Thus either  $f(h)\in N^0$  or  $f(h)\in N^1$ . But  $\overline{f}(h).1=f(h)$ . Since  $\overline{f}(h)$  is homogeneous in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ , with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading, and f(h) is homogeneous in N with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading, using Lemma 3.31 we conclude that 1 is homogeneous in N with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading. Now either  $1\in N^0$  or  $1\in N^1$ . Without loss of generality assume that  $1\in N^0$ , which means that  $N=N^0$  and  $N^1$  is trivial. But using Lemma 3.33, we have either  $B.1\neq 0$  or  $C.1\neq 0$ . These elements belong to  $N^1$ , which provides the desired contradiction.

**Proposition 3.35.** The module  $N(\alpha, \beta)$  as in Definition 3.15 is not a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Assume that  $N=N(\alpha,\beta)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module, hence  $N=\bigoplus_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}N_i$ . Let  $f(h)\in N$  be a non-zero homogeneous element, define  $\overline{f}(h)$  to be the same as f(h) but computed in the algebra  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Now  $\overline{f}(h)$  is a homogeneous element in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  of degree 0 with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -grading on  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Now  $\overline{f}(h).1=f(h)$ . Since  $\overline{f}(h)$  is homogeneous in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  and f(h) is homogeneous in N, it follows that 1 is homogeneous in N. Hence  $1\in N_k$  for some  $k\in\mathbb{Z}$ , which

means that  $N = N_k$  and  $N^i$  is trivial for all  $i \neq k$ . But using Lemma 3.33, we have either  $0 \neq x.1 \in N_{k-1}$  or  $0 \neq y.1 \in N_{k+1}$ , a contradiction in any case.

**Proposition 3.36.** The module  $N'(\alpha, \beta)$  as in Definition 3.16 is not a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Assume that  $N=N'(\alpha,\beta)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module. Let  $f(h)\in N$  be a non-zero homogeneous element, and define  $\overline{f}(h)$  to be the same as f(h) but computed in the algebra  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ . It follows that  $\overline{f}(h)$  is a homogeneous element in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  of degree 0 with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading on  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Then  $f(h)\overline{f}(h).1=f(h)$  is homogeneous with respect to the coarsening grading by  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Either  $f(h)\in N^0$  or  $f(h)\in N^1$ . But  $\overline{f}(h)$  is homogeneous in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading, and f(h) is homogeneous in N with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading. Using Lemma 3.31, it follows that 1 is homogeneous in N with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading. Hence either  $1\in N^0$  or  $1\in N^1$ . Without loss of generality assume that  $1\in N^0$ , which means that  $N=N^0$  and  $N^1$  is trivial. But using Lemma 3.33, we have either  $0\neq B.1\in N^1$  or  $0\neq C.1\in N^1$ , a contradiction in both cases.  $\square$ 

**Proposition 3.37.** The module  $N'(\alpha, \beta)$ , as in Definition 3.16, is not a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

Proof. Assume that  $N = N'(\alpha, \beta)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module. Let  $f(h) \in N$  be a non-zero homogeneous element, and let  $\overline{f}(h)$  be the same as f(h) but computed in the algebra  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Now  $\overline{f}(h)$  is a homogeneous element in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  of degree 0 with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -grading on  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ . Now  $\overline{f}(h).1 = f(h)$ , and since  $\overline{f}(h)$  is homogeneous in  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}))$  and f(h) is homogeneous in N then 1 is homogeneous in N. Hence  $1 \in N_k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , which means that  $N = N_k$  and  $N^i$  is trivial for all  $i \neq k$ . But using Lemma 3.33, we have either  $0 \neq x.1 \in N_{k-1}$  or  $0 \neq y.1 \in N_{k+1}$ , which is a contradiction in any case.

**Proposition 3.38.** The module  $\bar{N}(\alpha, \beta)$  is not a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

*Proof.* Use the argument from the proof of Propositions 3.34 and 3.36.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 3.39.** The module  $\overline{N}(\alpha, \beta)$  is not a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

*Proof.* Use the argument from the proof of Propositions 3.35 and 3.37.

In view of Theorem 3.18, the above propositions complete the proof of Theorem 3.32  $\,$ 

Corollary 3.40. The Whittaker modules cannot be  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules.

Corollary 3.41. The Whittaker modules cannot be  $\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ -graded  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules.

3.7. Transition to graded-simple modules. In conclusion, we remark that it is easy to construct a graded  $U(I_{\lambda})$ -module. For example one might consider the module  $M = U(I_{\lambda})/U(I_{\lambda})\alpha$  for some homogeneous element  $0 \neq \alpha \in U(I_{\lambda})$ . For instance, one could take  $\alpha = C$ , in which case also  $U(I_{\lambda})\alpha \neq U(I_{\lambda})$ . Of course, such modules need not be simple. At the same time, using Theorem 3.5, one can construct the series

$$\{0\} \neq U(I_{\lambda})\alpha = J_0 \subset J_1 \subset \cdots \subset J_n = U(I_{\lambda})$$

of graded left ideals, where the quotients  $J_{i+1}/J_i$  are graded-simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -modules. The technique developed for the study of graded-simple modules (the *loop construction*) is provided in the next section of this paper. It describes the connection between graded-simple and simple graded modules.

#### 4. Graded-simple modules via the loop construction

Let G be an abelian group and let R be a G-graded unital associative algebra, for example, R = U(L), where L is a G-graded Lie algebra. In this section, we review the relation between simple R-modules and graded-simple R-modules given by the so-called loop construction. Under some restrictions, this construction reduces the classification of graded-simple R-modules to that of gradings by certain quotient groups of G on simple R-modules.

4.1. Loop algebras and loop modules. Let  $\pi:G\to \overline{G}$  be an epimorphism of abelian groups and let H be the kernel of  $\pi$ . Any G-graded vector space W (in particular, a G-graded algebra or module) over a field  $\mathbb F$  can be regarded as  $\overline{G}$ -graded using the grading induced by  $\pi$ , i.e.,  $W_{\overline{g}}=\bigoplus_{g\in\pi^{-1}(\overline{g})}W_g$  for any  $\overline{g}\in\overline{G}$ , and this gives us a 'forgetful' functor from the category of G-graded vector spaces (respectively, algebras or modules) to the category of  $\overline{G}$ -graded vector spaces (respectively, algebras or modules). The loop construction, defined as follows, is the right adjoint of this functor (see [EK17, Remark 3.3]). For a given  $\overline{G}$ -graded vector space V, consider the tensor product  $V\otimes \mathbb F G$ , where  $\mathbb F G$  denotes the group algebra of G with coefficients in  $\mathbb F$ . Define  $L_{\pi}(V)$  as the following subspace of  $V\otimes \mathbb F G$ :

$$L_{\pi}(V) := \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_{\pi(g)} \otimes g,$$

which is naturally G-graded:  $L_{\pi}(V)_g = V_{\pi(g)} \otimes g$ .

If A is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebra (not necessarily associative) then  $L_{\pi}(A)$  is a G-graded algebra with respect to the usual product on  $A \otimes \mathbb{F}G$ , defined by  $(a_1 \otimes g_1)(a_2 \otimes g_2) := a_1a_2 \otimes g_1g_2$ . If  $\mathbb{F}$  is infinite, then  $L_{\pi}(A)$  belongs to a given variety of algebras (for example, associative or Lie) if and only if so does A. A classical example is the so-called twisted loop algebra  $L(\mathfrak{g},\Gamma)$  in Lie theory: given a semisimple complex Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  and a  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ -grading  $\Gamma: \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{\bar{k} \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{k}}$ , one defines  $L(\mathfrak{g},\Gamma) := \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{k}} \otimes t^k$ , which is a subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}[t,t^{-1}] := \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathbb{C}[t,t^{-1}]$ , so in our notation  $L(\mathfrak{g},\Gamma) = L_{\pi}(\mathfrak{g})$ , where  $\pi: \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is the natural homomorphism.

Similarly, if R is a G-graded associative algebra and V is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded left R-module (where we regard R as a  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebra) then  $L_{\pi}(V)$  is a G-graded left R-module through  $r(v \otimes g) := rv \otimes g'g$  for all  $g, g' \in G$ ,  $v \in V_{\pi(g)}$ ,  $r \in R_{g'}$ .

Moreover, if  $\psi: V \to V'$  is a homomorphism of  $\overline{G}$ -graded vector spaces (respectively, algebras or modules) then the linear map  $L_{\pi}(\psi): L_{\pi}(V) \to L_{\pi}(V)$  that sends  $v \otimes g \mapsto \psi(v) \otimes g$ , for all  $g \in G$  and  $v \in V_{\pi(g)}$ , is a homomorphism of G-graded vector spaces (respectively, algebras or modules).

If H is finite and  $\mathbb{F}$  is sufficiently good then there is an alternative definition of the loop functor as follows. Recall that the group of characters  $\widehat{G}$  acts on any G-graded vector space (see Equation (3)). Similarly, a  $\overline{G}$ -graded vector space V becomes a module over the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}(H^{\perp})$ , where the subgroup

$$H^{\perp} := \{ \chi \in \widehat{G} : \chi(h) = 1 \ \forall h \in H \}$$

is naturally isomorphic to the group of characters of  $\overline{G}$ . Assume for now that  $|H|=n<\infty$  and that  $\mathbb F$  is algebraically closed and its characteristic does not divide n. Then we have  $|\widehat{H}|=n$  and, moreover, any character of H extends to a character of G. Fix such extensions,  $\chi_1,\ldots,\chi_n$ , for all characters of H, so  $\widehat{H}=\{\chi_1|_H,\ldots,\chi_n|_H\}$ . Then  $\{\chi_1,\ldots,\chi_n\}$  is a transversal of  $H^\perp$  in  $\widehat{G}$  (i.e., a set of coset representatives of  $H^\perp$  in  $\widehat{G}$ ), hence  $\mathbb F\widehat{G}=\chi_1\mathbb F(H^\perp)\oplus\cdots\oplus\chi_n\mathbb F(H^\perp)$ .

If V is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded vector space then we can consider the induced  $\mathbb{F}\widehat{G}$ -module,

$$I_{\pi}(V) := \operatorname{Ind}_{H^{\perp}}^{\widehat{G}}(V) = \mathbb{F}\widehat{G} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}(H^{\perp})} V = \chi_1 \otimes V \oplus \cdots \oplus \chi_n \otimes V,$$

which is clearly  $\overline{G}$ -graded, with the homogeneous component of degree  $\overline{g}$  being  $\chi_1 \otimes V_{\overline{g}} \oplus \cdots \oplus \chi_n \otimes V_{\overline{g}}$ . In fact, this  $\overline{G}$ -grading on  $I_{\pi}(V)$  can be refined to a G-grading:

$$I_{\pi}(V)_{q} := \{ x \in \chi_{1} \otimes V_{\pi(q)} \oplus \cdots \oplus \chi_{n} \otimes V_{\pi(q)} : \chi \cdot x = \chi(g)x \ \forall \chi \in \widehat{G} \}.$$

Now, if A is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebra then  $I_{\pi}(A)$  is a G-graded algebra with multiplication defined by  $(\chi_i \otimes a')(\chi_j \otimes a'') := \delta_{ij}\chi_i \otimes a'a''$  for  $1 \leq i,j \leq n$  and  $a',a'' \in A$ , so each of the direct summands  $\chi_j \otimes A$  is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded ideal isomorphic to A as a  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebra. If R is a G-graded associative algebra and V is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded left R-module then  $I_{\pi}(V)$  is a G-graded left R-module by means of

(21) 
$$r(\chi_j \otimes v) = \chi_j(g')^{-1} \chi_j \otimes rv \quad \forall r \in R_{g'}, v \in V_{\pi(g)}, g, g' \in G, 1 \le j \le n.$$

Note that the direct summands  $\chi_j \otimes V$  are  $\overline{G}$ -graded R-submodules, but they are not necessarily isomorphic. In fact, Equation (21) tells us that, as a left R-module,  $\chi_j \otimes V$  is isomorphic to V twisted by  $\alpha_{\chi_j}^{-1}$ , where  $\alpha_{\chi}$ , for any  $\chi \in \widehat{G}$ , are the automorphisms of R given by the action of  $\widehat{G}$ , and the twists of a module are defined as follows:

**Definition 4.1.** Given an automorphism  $\alpha$  of R and a left R-module V, we define a new left R-module  $V^{\alpha} = (V, *)$  which equals V as a vector space, but with the new action given by  $r * v = \alpha(r)v$ . This module  $V^{\alpha}$  is referred to as V twisted by  $\alpha$ .

It turns out that, under the above assumptions on H and  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $I_{\pi}(V)$  is isomorphic to  $L_{\pi}(V)$  as a G-graded vector space (respectively, algebra or module). An isomorphism  $L_{\pi}(V) \to I_{\pi}(V)$  is given by

$$v \otimes g \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^{n} \chi_j(g)^{-1} \chi_j \otimes v \text{ for all } v \in V_{\pi(g)}, g \in G,$$

it does not depend on the choice of the transversal  $\{\chi_1, \ldots, \chi_n\}$ , and its inverse  $I_{\pi}(V) \to L_{\pi}(V)$  is given by

$$\chi_j \otimes v \mapsto \frac{1}{n} \sum_{h \in H} \chi_j(gh)v \otimes gh \text{ for all } v \in V_{\pi(g)}, g \in G, 1 \leq j \leq n$$

(see [EK17, Proposition 3.8] for the case of R-modules).

4.2. Correspondence Theorem. The loop functor  $L_{\pi}$  associated to an epimorphism  $\pi: G \to \overline{G}$ , as described in the previous subsection, can be used to establish a correspondence between, on the one hand, the class  $\mathfrak{A}(\pi)$  of  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebras that are simple and central (disregarding the grading) and, on the other hand, the class  $\mathfrak{B}(\pi)$  of G-graded algebras that are graded-simple and whose centroid is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}H$  as a graded algebra, where H is the kernel of  $\pi$ . This correspondence was established in [ABFP08, Theorem 7.1.1] over an arbitrary field  $\mathbb{F}$ , but the result is easier to state if  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed (thanks to [ABFP08, Lemmas 4.3.8 and 6.3.4(v)]). Then the above condition on the centroid is equivalent to its identity component being  $\mathbb{F}$  (i.e., the algebra being graded-central) and its support being H, while the Correspondence Theorem says that  $L_{\pi}$  is a functor  $\mathfrak{A}(\pi) \to \mathfrak{B}(\pi)$  that gives a bijection between the isomorphism classes in these categories. (Under some restrictions, the surjectivity was already established in [BSZ01, Theorem 7].) Thus, the classification of G-graded-central-simple algebras reduces to the classification of gradings on central simple algebras by the quotient groups of G.

A similar approach works for graded modules, although with some additional difficulties arising from the fact that the centralizer of a graded-simple module, unlike the centroid of a graded-simple algebra, need not be commutative. The use of the loop construction in this context was started in [MZpr] and the Correspondence Theorem was obtained in [EK17]. Before we state the result, we need to introduce some terminology and notation.

Let R be a G-graded unital associateive algebra. We denote the centralizer of a left R-module V by  $C(V) := \operatorname{End}_R(V)$  and apply the elements of C(V) to the elements of V on the right. Recall that a linear map  $W \to W'$  of G-graded vector spaces is said to be homogeneous of degree g if it sends  $W_k$  to  $W'_{gk}$  for all  $k \in G$ . In particular, for a G-graded left R-module W, let  $C(W)_g$  be the set of all elements of C(W) that are homogeneous of degree g. It is clear from the definition that  $C^{\operatorname{gr}}(W) := \bigoplus_{g \in G} C(W)_g$  is a G-graded algebra and W is a G-graded right  $C^{\operatorname{gr}}(W)$ -module. Moreover, if W is graded-simple then  $C^{\operatorname{gr}}(W) = C(W)$  (see [EK17, Proposition 2.1]).

Note that if V is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded left R-module then  $C^{gr}(V)$  is a  $\overline{G}$ -graded algebra, so  $L_{\pi}(C^{gr}(V))$  is a G-graded algebra, which acts naturally on the G-graded left R-module  $L_{\pi}(V)$ :

$$(v \otimes g)(\delta \otimes g') := v\delta \otimes gg' \quad \forall v \in V_{\pi(g)}, \ \delta \in C(V)_{\pi(g')}, \ g, g' \in G,$$

and this action centralizes that of R. Thus, we can identify  $L_{\pi}(C^{gr}(V))$  with a G-graded subalgebra of  $C^{gr}(L_{\pi}(V))$ .

The classical Schur's Lemma, which says that the centralizer of a simple module is a division algebra, has a graded analog: the centralizer of a graded-simple module is a graded-division algebra (see, for instance, [EK13, Lemma 2.4]), and hence the module is free over its centralizer. Commutative graded-division algebras are called *graded-fields* (not to be confused with fields that are graded!).

A module V is called *central* (or *Schurian*) if  $C(V) = \mathbb{F}1$ , i.e., C(V) consists of the scalar multiples of the identity map. Similarly, a graded module W is called *graded-central* if  $C(W)_e = \mathbb{F}1$ .

We need one more concept, which is a generalization of G-grading and is called G-pregrading or G-covering (see [Smi97] and [BL07]).

**Definition 4.2.** Let V be a left R-module.

- (1) A family of subspaces  $\Sigma = \{V_g : g \in G\}$  is called a G-pregrading on V if  $V = \sum_{g \in G} V_g$  and  $R_g V_k \subset V_{gk}$  for all  $g, k \in G$ .
- (2) Given two pregradings  $\Sigma^i = \{V_g^i : g \in G\}, i = 1, 2, \Sigma^1$  is said to be a refinement of  $\Sigma^2$  (or  $\Sigma^2$  a coarsening of  $\Sigma^1$ ) if  $V_g^1 \subset V_g^2$  for all  $g \in G$ . If at least one of these inclusions is strict, the refinement is said to be proper.
- (3) A G-pregrading  $\Sigma$  is called *thin* if it admits no proper refinement.

**Example 4.3.** Let S be a subgroup of G and suppose  $V = \bigoplus_{\bar{g} \in G/S} V_{\bar{g}}$  is a G/S-graded left R-module. Then the family  $\Sigma := \{V'_g : g \in G\}$ , where  $V'_g = V_{gS}$  for all  $g \in G$ , is a G-pregrading on V, which will be referred to as the G-pregrading associated to the given G/S-grading on V.

The importance of thin coverings in our context stems from the next result:

**Proposition 4.4** ([MZpr, Lemma 27]). Let  $\pi: G \to G/S$  be the natural homomorphism and let V be a G/S-graded left R-module. The following are equivalent:

- (i)  $L_{\pi}(V)$  is G-graded-simple;
- (ii) V is G/S-graded-simple and the G-pregrading on V associated to its G/S-grading is thin.  $\Box$

The Correspondence Theorem we are about to state relates the following two categories.

**Definition 4.5.** Fix a subgroup S of G and let  $\pi: G \to \overline{G} = G/S$  be the natural homomorphism.

- (1)  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$  is the category whose objects are the simple, central,  $\overline{G}$ -graded left R-modules such that the G-pregrading associated to the  $\overline{G}$ -grading is thin, and whose morphisms are the isomorphisms of  $\overline{G}$ -graded modules.
- (2)  $\mathfrak{N}(\pi)$  is the category whose objects are the pairs  $(W, \mathcal{F})$ , where W is a G-graded-simple left R-module and  $\mathcal{F}$  is a maximal graded-subfield of C(W), which is isomorphic to the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}S$  as a G-graded algebra, and the morphisms  $(W, \mathcal{F}) \to (W', \mathcal{F}')$  are the isomorphism of G-graded modules  $\phi: W \to W'$  such that  $\phi \mathcal{F} \phi^{-1} = \mathcal{F}'$ .

**Theorem 4.6** ([EK17, Proposition 4.5 and Theorem 4.14]). If V is an object of  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$  then  $(L_{\pi}(V), L_{\pi}(\mathbb{F}1))$  is an object of  $\mathfrak{N}(\pi)$ , and if  $\varphi : V \to V'$  is a morphism in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$ , then  $L_{\pi}(\varphi)$  is a morphism in  $\mathfrak{N}(\pi)$ , so we have the loop functor  $L_{\pi} : \mathfrak{M}(\pi) \to \mathfrak{N}(\pi)$ . This functor has the following properties:

- (i)  $L_{\pi}$  is faithful, i.e., injective on the set of morphisms  $V \to V'$ , for any objects V and V' in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$ .
- (ii)  $L_{\pi}$  is essentially surjective, i.e., any object  $(W, \mathcal{F})$  in  $\mathfrak{N}(\pi)$  is isomorphic to  $(L_{\pi}(V), L_{\pi}(\mathbb{F}1))$  for some object V in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$ .
- (iii) If V and V' are objects in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$  such that their images under  $L_{\pi}$  are isomorphic in  $\mathfrak{N}(\pi)$ , then there is a character  $\chi \in \widehat{S}$  such that V' is isomorphic to  $V^{\chi}$  in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$ .

The definition of the twisted module  $V^{\chi}$ ,  $\chi \in \widehat{S}$ , is technical (see [EK17, Definition 4.10], which is analogous to [ABFP08, Definition 6.3.1]), but if  $\chi$  can be extended to a character of G (which is guaranteed if  $\mathbb F$  is algebraically closed) then  $V^{\chi}$  is isomorphic to  $V^{\alpha_{\chi}}$ , where  $\alpha_{\chi}$  is the automorphism of R given by the action of the extended  $\chi$  (see [EK17, Proposition 4.11]).

If  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed, this Correspondence Theorem gives a classification of G-graded-central-simple R-modules up to isomorphism as follows. The centralizer of any such module contains a maximal graded-subfield  $\mathcal{F}$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}S$  for some subgroup S of G (see [EK17, Proposition 3.5]). We partition all G-graded-central-simple modules according to the graded isomorphism class of their centralizer and, for each class, make a choice of  $\mathcal{F}$  (equivalently, of S) and let  $\pi: G \to \overline{G} = G/S$  be the natural homomorphism. Then for every G-graded-central-simple W with a fixed centralizer, there exists a simple, central,  $\overline{G}$ -graded module V such that  $W \simeq L_{\pi}(V)$ , and this V is unique up to isomorphism of  $\overline{G}$ -graded modules and twisting by the action of  $\widehat{G}$  on R. Thus, we can obtain the classification of G-graded-central-simple modules if we know the classification of gradings on central-simple modules by the quotient groups of G. Finally, we observe that, assuming  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed, the condition of graded-centrality is automatic for graded-simple modules whose dimension (as a vector space) is less than the cardinality of  $\mathbb{F}$  (see [MZpr, Theorem 14]).

4.3. Graded Brauer invariants of graded-simple modules with a semisimple finite-dimensional centralizer. The Brauer invariants that we are going to define belong to the graded version of Brauer group introduced in [PP70]. Given a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and an abelian group G, the group  $B_G(\mathbb{F})$  consists of the equivalence classes of finite-dimensional associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebras that are central, simple, and G-graded, where  $A_1 \sim A_2$  if and only if there exist finite-dimensional G-graded  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector spaces  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that  $A_1 \otimes \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V_1) \simeq A_2 \otimes \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V_2)$  as G-graded algebras. Here, unlike for some more general versions of the graded Brauer group,  $A \otimes B$  denotes the usual (untwisted) tensor product of  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebras, equipped with the natural G-grading:  $(a_1 \otimes b_1)(a_2 \otimes b_2) := a_1a_2 \otimes b_1b_2$  and  $\deg(a \otimes b) := \deg(a) \deg(b)$  for nonzero homogeneous  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . This tensor product induces a group structure on the set of equivalence classes:  $[A][B] := [A \otimes B]$ .

Every class [A] contains a unique graded-division algebra (up to isomorphism). Indeed, recall that there exist a graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  and a graded right  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $\mathcal{V}$  such that A is isomorphic to  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{V})$  as a G-graded algebra, where  $\mathcal{D}$  is unique up to graded isomorphism and  $\mathcal{V}$  up to graded isomorphism and shift of grading. Pick a  $\mathcal{D}$ -basis  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_k\}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$  that consists of homogeneous elements. Let  $\widetilde{\mathcal{V}} = \mathbb{F}v_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}v_k$ . Then  $\widetilde{\mathcal{V}}$  is a G-graded vector space, and the map

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{V}} \otimes \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{V}, \ v \otimes d \mapsto vd,$$

is a graded isomorphism. Thus we can assume  $\mathcal{V}=\widetilde{\mathcal{V}}\otimes\mathcal{D}$  and hence identify

$$\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{V}) \simeq \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{V}}) \otimes \mathcal{D}.$$

Now the isomorphism  $A \simeq \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{V}}) \otimes \mathcal{D}$  implies that  $\mathcal{D}$  is central simple and that  $[A] = [\mathcal{D}]$ , while the uniqueness of  $\mathcal{D}$  mentioned above implies that  $[\mathcal{D}_1] = [\mathcal{D}_2]$  if and only if  $\mathcal{D}_1 \simeq \mathcal{D}_2$  as graded algebras.

In general, the graded Brauer group  $B_G(\mathbb{F})$  can be complicated because it contains the classical Brauer group  $B(\mathbb{F})$  as the classes of central division algebras with trivial G-grading. But if  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed then, for any abelian group G,  $B_G(\mathbb{F})$  is isomorphic to the group of alternating continuous bicharacters of the pro-finite group  $\widehat{G}_0$ , where  $G_0$  is the torsion subgroup of G if char  $\mathbb{F} = 0$  and the p'-torsion subgroup of G if char  $\mathbb{F} = p > 0$  (i.e., the set of all elements whose order is finite and coprime with p)—see [EK15a, §2]. By means of duality, each

such bicharacter corresponds to a pair  $(T,\beta)$  where T is a finite subgroup of G and  $\beta: T \times T \to \mathbb{F}^{\times}$  is a nondegenerate alternating bicharacter. This pair is connected with the corresponding unique graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  as follows: T is the support of  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\beta$  is defined by Equation (4).

From now on, we assume that  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed and restrict our attention to G-graded-simple left R-modules W such that  $\dim C(W)$  is finite and not divisible by char  $\mathbb{F}$ . This is necessary and sufficient to guarantee that  $\mathcal{D}:=C(W)$  contains a maximal graded-subfield  $\mathcal{F}$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}S$  where |S| is finite and not divisible by char  $\mathbb{F}$ ; it also implies that W is semisimple as an ungraded module (see [EK17, Corollary 5.4]). Let T be the support of  $\mathcal{D}$  and let  $\beta: T \times T \to \mathbb{F}^{\times}$  be the alternating bicharacter defined by Equation (4). It is not necessarily nondegenerate: its radical is precisely the support of the center of  $\mathcal{D}$ , which we denote by H. The subgroup S is a maximal isotropic subgroup of T (i.e., a maximal subgroup with the property  $\beta|_{S\times S}=1$ ), and it contains H (see [EK17, Proposition 5.3], where our H is denoted by Z and our S by H; here we follow the notation of [EK15a]).

**Definition 4.7.** Let W be a G-graded-simple left R-module such that  $\dim C(W)$  is finite and not divisible by char  $\mathbb{F}$ .

- (1) The inertia group of W is  $K_W := H^{\perp} \subset \widehat{G}$ , where H is the support of the center of  $\mathcal{D} := C(W)$ .
- (2) The (graded) Brauer invariant of W is the class of the G/H-graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}\varepsilon$  in  $B_{G/H}(\mathbb{F})$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is any primitive central idempotent of  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- (3) The (graded) Schur index of W is the degree of the matrix algebra  $\mathcal{D}\varepsilon$ .

We note that  $\mathcal{D}\varepsilon$  is a G/H-graded-division algebra that is central simple (disregarding the grading), so  $[\mathcal{D}\varepsilon]$  is indeed an element of  $B_{G/H}(\mathbb{F})$ , and this element does not depend on the choice of  $\varepsilon$  (see [EK17, Theorem 5.7]). It corresponds to the pair  $(T',\beta')$ , where T'=T/H and  $\beta'$  is the nondegenerate bicharacter  $T'\times T'\to \mathbb{F}^\times$  induced by  $\beta$  (i.e.,  $\beta'(sH,tH):=\beta(s,t)$  for all  $s,t\in T$ ). The Schur index equals  $|S/H|=\sqrt{|T/H|}$  and has the meaning of the multiplicity of any simple constituent of W. The number of non-isomorphic simple constituents is |H|, they form an orbit under the action of  $\widehat{G}$  on the isomorphism classes of R-modules by twisting, and the inertia group  $K_W$  is the stabilizer of each point in this orbit (see [EK17, Proposition 5.12]). By the Correspondence Theorem,  $W\simeq L_\pi(V)\simeq I_\pi(V)$  for some object V of  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$ , where  $\pi:G\to G/S$  is the natural homomorphism. Disregarding the G/S-grading, V is isomorphic to a simple constituent of W. In fact, any of these constituents can serve as V, since they are twists of each other.

4.4. Finite-dimensional graded-simple modules. We have already seen that the inertia group of a G-graded-simple left R-module W can be expressed in terms of any (ungraded) simple constituent V of W:  $K_W = K_V$ , where

$$K_V := \{ \chi \in \widehat{G} : V^{\alpha_{\chi}} \text{ is isomorphic to } V \}.$$

If W is finite-dimensional then also its Brauer invariant can be expressed in terms of V. In fact, this is the way Brauer invariants were defined in [EK15a] (for the case R = U(L), where L is a semisimple finite-dimensional Lie algebra equipped with a G-grading). We continue assuming that  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed.

**Theorem 4.8** ([EK17, Corollary 6.4]). Let W be a finite-dimensional G-graded-simple left R-module such that char  $\mathbb{F}$  does not divide the dimension of C(W).

Let V be a simple (ungraded) submodule of W and let  $\varrho_V : R \to \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)$  be the associated representation. Let H be the support of the center of C(W). Then there is a unique G/H-grading on  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)$  that makes  $\varrho_V$  a homomorphism of G/H-graded algebras. With respect to this grading, the class of  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)$  is precisely the Brauer invariant of W.

The G-graded-simple module W can be reconstructed from V if we compute the pair  $(T', \beta')$  corresponding to the unique G/H-graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}'$  in  $[\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)] \in B_{G/H}(\mathbb{F})$ . As mentioned in the previous subsection, the support T and bicharacter  $\beta: T \times T \to \mathbb{F}^{\times}$  of the G-graded-division algebra  $\mathcal{D}:=C(W)$  are given by  $T=(\pi')^{-1}(T')$  and  $\beta=\beta'\circ(\pi'\times\pi')$ , where  $\pi':G\to G/H$  is the natural homomorphism. In fact,  $\mathcal{D}\simeq L_{\pi'}(\mathcal{D}')$  by  $[\operatorname{EK}17,\operatorname{Remark}\ 5.10]$ . Now fix any maximal isotropic subgroup S' of T' (with respect to  $\beta'$ ), then  $S:=(\pi')^{-1}(S')$  is a maximal isotropic subgroup of T (with respect to  $\beta$ ), so  $\mathcal{F}:=\bigoplus_{s\in S}\mathcal{D}_s$  is a maximal graded-subfield of  $\mathcal{D}$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}S$ . Hence, it follows from the Correspondence Theorem that V admits a structure of G/S-graded R-module such that V becomes an object in  $\mathfrak{M}(\pi)$  and  $W\simeq L_{\pi}(V)$ , where  $\pi:G\to G/S$  is the natural homomorphism.

**Remark 4.9.** All G/S-gradings that make V a graded R-module are shifts of each other.

*Proof.* Suppose we have two such gradings,  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$ . Since R acts on V through  $\varrho_V$  and the simple, G/S-graded algebra  $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)$  admits a unique G/S-simple-graded module up to isomorphism and shift, there exist  $g \in G$  and an isomorphism of G/S-graded modules  $f:(V,\Gamma)^{[g]} \to (V,\Gamma')$ . Forgetting the gradings, f is an element of  $\operatorname{End}_R(V)$ , so f is a scalar multiple of the identity map and thus  $\Gamma' = \Gamma^{[g]}$ .

**Remark 4.10.** W can be obtained from V by a two-step loop construction: first we get the G/H-graded module  $W' := L_{\pi''}(V)$ , where  $\pi'' : G/H \to G/S$  is the natural homomorphism (so  $\pi = \pi'' \circ \pi'$ ), and then  $W \simeq L_{\pi'}(W')$  (see [EK17, p. 83]). The centralizer of W' is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{D}'$  (the Brauer invariant) as a G/H-graded algebra, and V is the only simple constituent of W', with multiplicity equal to the Schur index. This two-step approach was taken in [EK15a].

There remains the question which simple R-modules appear as simple constituents of G-graded-simple modules. Assume char  $\mathbb{F} = 0$ .

**Theorem 4.11** ([EK17, Theorem 7.1]). A finite-dimensional simple left R-module V is isomorphic to a simple submodule of a finite-dimensional G-graded-simple left R-module if and only if the index  $[\widehat{G}:K_V]$  is finite.

Thus, the loop functor gives a bijection between, on the one hand, the classes of finite-dimensional G-graded-simple R-modules under isomorphism and shift and, on the other hand, the finite  $\widehat{G}$ -orbits of isomorphism classes of finite-dimensional simple R-modules. (Note that W and  $W^{[g]}$  are isomorphic if and only if  $g \in T$ .)

Knowing the structure of G-graded-simple modules allows us to determine which semisimple modules admit a G-grading that makes them graded modules because, with such a grading, the module must be isomorphic to a direct sum of graded-simple modules. Hence, assuming  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed and char  $\mathbb{F} = 0$ , a finite-dimensional semisimple R-module M admits a G-grading if and only if, for each of

its simple constituents V, the  $\widehat{G}$ -orbit is finite and all simple modules in the orbit occur in M with the same multiplicity that is divisible by the Schur index of V.

In the case R = U(L), where L is a semisimple finite-dimensional Lie algebra, all orbits are finite because  $V^{\alpha}$  is isomorphic to V for any inner automorphism  $\alpha$  of L, and the outer automorphism group is finite. The Brauer invariants of finite-dimensional simple modules for all simple finite-dimensional Lie algebras, endowed with all possible G-gradings, were computed in [EK15a, EK15b, DEK17].

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