

K –structure of the $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ –module $U(\mathfrak{g})$ for simple Lie
algebras $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{su}(n, 1)$ and $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{so}(n, 1)$

Hrvoje Kraljević

University of Zagreb, Croatia

Let \mathfrak{g} be a simple real Lie algebra, $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ its Cartan decomposition, G the adjoint group of \mathfrak{g} , K its maximal compact subgroup with Lie algebra \mathfrak{k} . Further, denote by $U(\mathfrak{g})$ and $U(\mathfrak{k}) \subseteq U(\mathfrak{g})$ the complexified universal enveloping algebras of \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{k} and let $Z(\mathfrak{g})$ and $Z(\mathfrak{k})$ be its centers. Let $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ be the subalgebra of K –invariants in $U(\mathfrak{g})$. Then obviously we have a morphism of algebras $Z(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes Z(\mathfrak{k}) \longrightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ defined by the multiplication. Knop has proved that for noncompact \mathfrak{g} this morphism is always injective and that its image is exactly the center of the algebra $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$. Furthermore, the algebra $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ is commutative, i.e. isomorphic to $Z(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes Z(\mathfrak{k})$, if and only if \mathfrak{g} is either $\mathfrak{su}(n, 1)$ or $\mathfrak{so}(n, 1)$. In these cases $U(\mathfrak{g})$ is free as a $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ –module. We show that in these cases the multiplication defines an isomorphism of K –modules and $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ –modules $U(\mathfrak{g})^K \otimes H \longrightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})$, where H is the subspace of $U(\mathfrak{g})$ spanned by all powers x^k , $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, $x \in \mathcal{N}_K$, and \mathcal{N}_K is the variety of all nilpotent elements in $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{C}}$ whose projection to $\mathfrak{k}^{\mathbb{C}}$ along $\mathfrak{p}^{\mathbb{C}}$ is nilpotent in the reductive Lie algebra $\mathfrak{k}^{\mathbb{C}}$. Furthermore, we study the structure of the K –module H and show that the multiplicity of every irreducible representation δ of K in it equals its dimension $d(\delta)$. In other words, as a K –module H is equivalent to the regular representation of K . A simple consequence is that for any finitedimensional K –module V the space $(U(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes V)^K$ is a free $U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ –module of rank $\dim V$.