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# Simple Finite-Dimensional Modules and Monomial Bases from the Gelfand-Testlin Patterns

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# Abstract

One of the most important classes of Lie algebras is  $sl_n$ , which are the  $n \times n$  matrices with trace 0. The representation theory for  $sl_n$  has been an interesting research area for the past hundred years and in it the simple finite-dimensional modules have become very important. They were classified and Gelfand and Tsetlin actually gave an explicit construction of a basis for every simple finite-dimensional module. This paper extends their work by providing theorems and proofs, and constructs monomial bases of the simple module.

Keywords: Finite-dimensional; Module; Irreducible; Representation; Monomial basis.

# **1. Introduction**

Let  $K_n$  be a Lie algebra of all matrices of order n. In this paper, we work with finite-dimensional modules and hence finite-dimensional representation of  $sl_n$ . This means for  $g \in sl_n$ , there exists a matrix G of order N defined in such a way that

if  $g \to G$  and  $f \to F$ , then  $\lambda g + \mu f \to \lambda G + \mu F$  and  $[g, f] \to [G, F]$ .

Choose integers  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$  such that the inequality  $m_1 \ge m_2 \ge \dots \ge m_n$  is satisfied. These partitions are quite important because they appear to be the core in constructing representations. These chosen integers are used to construct some index set  $\xi$  (the explicit construction of this index set will be given in the next section). For a Lie algebra with order n, we could construct at least  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  possible number of such  $\xi$  with entries from a given partition. An example will be given in the next section.

Let  $e_{i,j}$  be a matrix of order n which has 1 at the intersection of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row and the  $j^{\text{th}}$  column and zeros in all other places and let  $E_{ij}$  be the matrix of order N from  $K_n$ . Note that  $E_{ij}$ , under our consideration corresponds to elements  $e_{i,j} \in K_n$ . It is easy to see that each matrix  $E_{ij}$  forms a linear combination of  $e_{i,j}$ ; that is  $E_{i,j} = \sum_{i,j} a_{i,j} e_{i,j}$  for some  $a_{i,j}$ . Therefore, the set  $E_{i,j}$  distinctly defines some representation. One could find all such representations by explicitly describing all linear transformations  $E_{i,j}$ .

The quest for irreducible representations of special linear algebra  $sl_n$  was reformulated: one needs matrices  $E_{i,j}$  of order N satisfying the following bracket relations:

$$\begin{aligned} & [E_{i,j}, E_{j,l}] &= E_{i,l} \text{ when } i \neq l, \\ & [E_{i,j}, E_{j,l}] &= E_{i,i} - E_{j,j}, \\ & [E_{i_{1,j_{1}}}, E_{i_{2,j_{2}}}] &= 0 \text{ when } j_{1} \neq i_{2} \text{ and } i_{1} \neq j_{2}. \end{aligned}$$

For irreducibility, the system  $E_{i,j}$  is required to have no invariant subspaces.

The representation theory of  $sl_n$  has a unique nature in choosing a partition. For the classification of simple finite dimensional modules, one sets the last choice  $m_n = 0$  in the partition. This controls differences between subsequent choices in a partition.

A comprehensive theory of infinitesimal transformations was first given by a Norwegian mathematician, Sophus Lie (1842-1899). I. M. Gelfand and M. L. Tsetlin gave an explicit construction of a basis for every simple finitedimensional module of  $sl_n$ . In their work, they gave all the irreducible representations of general linear algebra  $(gl_n)$  but without theorems [1]. Recently, V. Futorny, D. Grantcharov and L. E. Ramirez provided a classification and explicit bases of tableaux of all irreducible generic Gelfand-Tsetlin modules for the Lie algebra  $gl_n$  [2]. In 2016, V. Futorny, D. Grantcharov, and L. E. Ramirez initiated the systematic study of a large class of non-generic Gelfand-Tsetlin modules - the class of 1 – singular Gelfand-Tsetlin modules. An explicit tableaux realization and the action of  $gl_n$  on these modules was provided using a new construction which they call derivative tableaux. Their

### Academic Journal of Applied Mathematical Sciences

construction of 1 –singular modules provides a large family of new irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin modules of  $gl_n$ , and is a part of the classification of all such irreducible modules for n = 3 [3].

This paper will show that the Gelfand-Tsetlin constructions given in the year 1950 [1] forms all the irreducible representations of special linear algebra  $sl_n$  by providing proofs to results. It will also show that  $sl_n$  -module is simple and also construct monomial basis from these modules. Section 2 discusses some previous work and gives some notations and Section 3 presents proofs to results and shows that  $sl_n$  -module is simple. Then a conclusion is drawn in Section 4.

# 2. Notations and Preliminaries

Definition 1 (Upper Triangular Matrix). This is a matrix with entries (i, j) where  $i \ge j$  are zeros.

From now on, we will denote an upper triangular matrix by  $E_{i,j}$  such that entry (i, j) has a 1 and all others are zeros. Let  $u^+$  be the set of all upper triangular matrices. If  $E_{i_1,j_1}, E_{i_2,j_2} \in u^+$ , then  $[E_{i_1,j_1}, E_{i_2,j_2}] \in u^+$ . Therefore,  $u^+$  is a Lie algebra and  $E_{i,j}$ , i < j is a basis of  $u^+$ . So  $E_{i,i+1}$  acts by zero. Hence  $\{E_{i,i+1}\}$  are generators of  $u^+$ . We will denote a sequence of upper triangular matrices by  $E^{\underline{a}}$  and a sequence of upper triangular matrices in relation to  $\xi$  by  $E^{\underline{a}}(\xi)$ .

Definition 2 (Lower Triangular Matrix). This is a matrix with entries (i, j) where  $i \le j$  are zeros.

Similarly, from now on, we will denote a lower triangular matrix by  $F_{i,j}$  such that entry (i, j) has a 1 and all others are zeros. Let  $u^-$  be the set of all lower triangular matrices. If  $F_{i_1,j_1}, F_{i_2,j_2} \in u^-$ , then  $[F_{i_1,j_1}, F_{i_2,j_2}] \in u^-$ . Therefore,  $u^-$  is a Lie algebra and  $F_{i,j}$ , i > j is a basis of  $u^-$ , with  $F_{i+1,i}$  acting by zero, so  $\{F_{i+1,i}\}$  are generators of  $u^-$ . Similarly, we will denote a sequence of lower triangular matrices by  $F^{\underline{a}}$  and a sequence of lower triangular matrices in relation to  $\xi$  by  $F^{\underline{a}(\xi)}$ .

Definition 3 (Diagonal Matrix). This is a matrix with some non-zero entries on its diagonal while all other entries away from the diagonal are zero.

It is well known that the entries of the diagonals of such a square matrix are the eigenvalues. Let *h* be the set of all diagonal matrices with trace zero. For  $H_{i_1,j_1}, H_{i_2,j_2} \in h$ ,  $[H_{i_1,j_1}, H_{i_2,j_2}] = 0 \in h$ . So  $\{H_{i,i} - H_{i+1,i+1} | 1 \le i \le n - 1\}$  is a basis of *h*. Suppose  $h^* = \{\varphi: h \to \mathbb{C} | \varphi$  is linear}. The map  $\varphi$  is defined by giving the image of  $H_{i,i} - H_{i+1,i+1}$ , for all *i*. By definition,

$$\begin{split} & \omega: h \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \\ & H_{i,i} - H_{i+1,i+1} \rightarrow 1, \\ & H_{j,j} - H_{j+1,j+1} \rightarrow 0, \forall j \neq i. \end{split}$$

Since  $\omega_i$  generates all of *h*, then  $\{\omega_i\}$  is a basis of  $h^*$ .

Definition 4 (Representation [4]). Suppose *L* is a Lie algebra and let  $x, y \in L$ . The operation

 $\rho: L \to \operatorname{End}(K_n)$ 

$$\rho([x, y]) = [\rho(x), \rho(y)] \equiv \rho(x)\rho(y) - \rho(y)\rho(x).$$

is a Lie algebra representation. The vector space  $K_n$  is the representation space. The bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  is bilinear and also an endomorphism. That means

 $[\cdot,\cdot]$ : End $(K_n)$  × End $(K_n)$   $\rightarrow$  End $(K_n)$ .

It is easy to see that the Lie algebra  $sl_n = u^- \oplus h \oplus u^+$ . If  $K_n$  is a finite dimensional  $sl_n$  -module, then  $H \in h$ (where  $H = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} H_i$ ) acts on  $K_n$  such that

$$K_n = H_1 \cdot \xi_1 + \dots + H_n \cdot \xi_n = \bigoplus_{\lambda} (K_n)_{\lambda},$$

where  $\lambda$  runs over  $H^*$  (a dual) and

 $(K_n)_{\lambda} = \{r \in (K_n) | H \cdot \xi = \lambda(H)\xi \ \forall H \in h\}.$ The weight spaces  $(K_n)_{\lambda}$  are infinitely many and different from zero when  $K_n$  is infinite dimensional.  $(K_n)_{\lambda}$  is called a weight space,  $\xi$  a weight vector and we called  $\lambda$  a weight of  $K_n$ . A highest weight vector (maximal vectors) in  $sl_n$  -module is a non-zero weight vector  $\beta$  in weight space  $(K_n)_{\lambda}$  annihilated by the action of all upper triangular matrices. We will prove in this paper that a highest weight vector is indeed maximal and hence a generator.

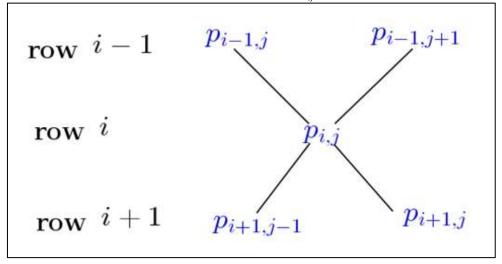
The index set,  $\xi$  is an interesting construction and we will show how it is built.  $K_n$  is a vector space with bases  $\xi$  [1]. These bases depend on the choice of integer partition

$$m_{1}, m_{2}, \cdots, m_{n} \text{ with } (m_{1} \ge m_{2} \ge \cdots \ge m_{n})$$
  
$$\xi = \begin{pmatrix} p_{1,i}, i = 1, \dots, n-1 \\ p_{2,i}, i = 1, \dots, n-2 \\ \vdots \\ p_{j,i}, \{1 \le j \le n-1 \\ 0 \le i \le n-j \end{pmatrix}.$$
(1)

In order to understand the construction of this basis vector quite well, let us consider rows (i - 1), i and (i + 1) and entry  $p_{i,j}$  in  $\xi$ . For all  $p_{i,j}$ , if j < 1 or j > n - i, then  $p_{i,j}$  is not an entry in the index set. Otherwise, the relations of the three rows and specifically the entry  $p_{i,j}$  are

$$\begin{cases} p_{i-1,j} \ge p_{i,j} \ge p_{i-1,j+1}, \\ p_{i+1,j-1} \ge p_{i,j} \ge p_{i+1,j}, \\ p_{0,j} := m_j. \end{cases}$$

Below is a pictorial representation of  $p_{i,i}$ .



Let  $m_1 = 1$ ,  $m_2 = 1$  and  $m_3 = 0$ . All possible bases from this partition, as given by the construction of Figure 1, are

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, we discuss the module structure on  $K_n$ . Our representation space  $K_n$  is a  $sl_n$  -module. Although this is true, we will not prove it. It is a  $sl_n$  -module via actions of upper triangular matrices, lower triangular matrices and the diagonal matrices on  $\xi$  [1].

In Gelfand [1], a comprehensive construction was presented for the action of upper triangular, lower triangular and diagonal matrices on basis vector  $\xi$ . For upper triangular matrices in general, suppose  $\xi_{k-1,k}^{j}$  is the pattern obtained from  $\xi$  by replacing  $m_{i,k-1}$  with  $m_{i,k-1} + 1$ , the upper triangular matrix  $E_{k-1,k}$  acts on  $\xi$  as

$$E_{k-1,k}(\xi) = \sum_{j} a_{k-1,k}^{j} \, (\xi_{k-1,k}^{j}). \tag{2}$$

For a 3 × 3matrix, the action of  $E_{i,j}$  on  $\xi$  raises the  $i^{th}$  row in the basis  $\xi$  by 1 on every entry in that row accordingly. For the case n = 3, the formulas for computing the action can be found in Gelfand [1]. In general,  $E_{i,j}$  is generated by  $E_{i,i+1}$ .

The action of  $F_{i,j}$  on  $\xi$  reduces the entries of the  $i^{th}$  row in  $\xi$  by 1 accordingly. This is done in such a way that rules governing the size of entries are observed. Suppose  $\overline{\xi}_{k,k-1}^{j}$  is the pattern obtained from  $\xi$  by replacing  $m_{i,k-1}$  with  $m_{i,k-1} - 1$ . The lower triangular matrix  $F_{k,k-1}$  acts on  $\xi$  as

$$F_{k,k-1}(\xi) = \sum_{j} b_{k,k-1}^{j} (\xi_{k,k-1}^{j}).$$
(3)

The formulas for n = 3 can be found in Gelfand [1]. In general,  $F_{i+1,i}$  generates all  $F_{i,j}$  and other actions can be computed using the Lie bracket operation.

The diagonal matrices can also be generated by  $E_{i,i+1}$  and  $F_{i+1,i}$ . Some coefficients from the action of  $H_{i,i}$  can be zero but not all coefficients. In general

$$H_{i,i}(\xi) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} m_{i,k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} m_{i,k-1}\right)(\xi) \text{ where } \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} m_{i,k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} m_{i,k-1}\right)$$
(4)

is the coefficient of  $\xi$ . The formulas for computing the action of diagonal matrices ( $H_{i,i}$ ) when n = 3 can be found in Gelfand [1].

Theorem 5 (sln\_module). The representation space  $K_n$  is a  $sl_n$  -module.

A highest weight vector is the weight vector that is annihilated by every  $(n \times n)$  upper triangular matrix (that is  $E_{i,j}$  with i < j). We fixed  $\xi$  as our basis vector in  $K_n$ , the representation space where q is any integer depending on some conditions [1]. The nature of each basis vector depends on the dimension n of operator  $E_{i,j}$  acting on it and the partition. For n = 2, we choose some integers  $m_1, m_2(m_1 \ge m_2)$  such that the condition  $m_1 \ge q \ge m_2$  is satisfied. When n = 3, we choose three integers  $m_1, m_2, m_3 (m_1 \ge m_2 \ge m_3)$ . The bases vectors in the representation space are now numbered by triples,  $p_1, p_2, q$ . The representation is given by  $m_1 \ge p_1 \ge m_2 \ge p_2 \ge m_3$  and  $p_1 \ge q \ge p_2$ . We have our bases vectors of the form

$$\xi = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \\ & q \end{pmatrix}$$

Every weight vector has a corresponding weight. The bases vectors are the weight vectors. Constructing these bases depends on the choices of  $m_1 \ge m_2 \ge \cdots \ge m_n$  as defined above.

Suppose  $H_{i,i}$  is a square diagonal matrix. The action  $H_{i,i}(\xi) = \kappa_i(\xi)$ , where  $\kappa_i$  is the eigenvalue of corresponding weight vector  $\xi$ . There is a map  $\omega$  such that for  $h \in H$ ,  $\omega: h \to \mathbb{C}$  such that  $H_{i,i} \mapsto \kappa$ . The map  $\omega$  is the weight. Now,

### Academic Journal of Applied Mathematical Sciences

for arbitrary partition  $m_1 \ge m_2 \ge \cdots \ge m_n$ ,  $H_{i,i}(\xi) = \kappa_i(\xi)$  has weight  $\omega = \kappa_1 \varepsilon_1 + \kappa_2 \varepsilon_2 + \cdots + \kappa_n \varepsilon_n$  where  $\varepsilon_1$  is the weight for  $\xi_1$ ,  $\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2$  the weight of  $\xi_2$  and so on. Since  $sl_n$  is trace free,  $\varepsilon_1 + \cdots + \varepsilon_n = 0$ . In general,

$$H_{i,i}(\xi) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} m_{i,k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} m_{i,k-1}\right)(\xi).$$

Suppose we let  $m_1 = 3$ ,  $m_2 = 2$  and  $m_3 = 0$ . Then  $E_{1,2}^{i_3} E_{2,3}^{i_2} E_{1,2}^{i_1} \xi_q = \beta$  where  $\beta$  is a highest weight vector and  $l_i$ is the maximum times each operator can act on  $\xi$  while all conditions are observed to either raise the first row or the second row of  $\xi$ . Due to the nature of transitions as a consequence of the action of the sequence, the result is unique (proved later).

The representation space  $K_n$  is simple if for all  $v \in K_n$ , there exist upper triangular square matrices such that  $E^{\underline{a}(\alpha)} \cdot v = \beta$ , a highest weight vector. The weight vectors could be of the form  $v = \sum_{\alpha \text{(patterns)}} a_{\alpha} \alpha$  where  $\alpha$  is a weight vector. We will show that there exists a sequence of upper triangular matrices  $E^{\underline{\alpha}(\alpha)}$  such that its action on any sum of weight vectors annihilates all but one. That resulting weight vector is a highest weight vector.

## 2.1. Main Results

Theorem 6. The representation space  $K_n$  is a simple  $sl_n$  -module.

This theorem requires a proof for many parts so we break it down into two propositions and two lemmas.

Proposition 7. For every given partition there is a highest weight vector,  $\beta$ .

Proof. Suppose for integers  $m_1, m_2, ..., m_n$  with  $(m_1 \ge \cdots \ge m_n)$  that

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & m_2 & m_3 & \cdots & m_n \\ & m_1 & & m_2 & & \cdots & \\ & & \ddots & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & m_1 & & & \end{pmatrix}.$$

Suppose there exists some  $\xi_i$  such that (we have a total ordering)

$$\xi_1 < \xi_2 < \dots < \xi_s$$

and  $E_{i,i+1} \cdot \xi_1 \neq 0$  and  $E_{i,i+1} \cdot \xi_2 \neq 0$  and so on. Also, suppose that entries in both basis vectors  $\xi_1, \xi_2$  are equal at the bottom, except for a certain row such that in that row, the sum of the entries (for  $\xi_1$ , denote the first entry of the row by  ${}^{1}\xi_{1}$  and the second entry by  ${}^{2}\xi_{1}$  and so on)

and that

$${}^{1}\xi_{1} + {}^{2}\xi_{1} + \dots + \xi_{1} < {}^{a_{1}}\xi_{2} + {}^{a_{2}}\xi_{2} + \dots + {}^{a_{s}}\xi_{2}$$

$${}^{1}\xi_{1} < ({}^{2}\xi_{1} + \dots + {}^{s}\xi_{1}) < ({}^{a_{1}}\xi_{2} + {}^{a_{2}}\xi_{2} + \dots + {}^{a_{s}}\xi_{2}).$$

We can write  $\xi_1 = (v - \xi_i)$ , where  $\xi_i$  is some weight vector and  $v = \sum_{i=1}^{s} c_i \xi_i$ ,  $c_i \neq 0$  is a complex number. The action

$$E_{i,i+1} \cdot v = E_{i,i+1} \cdot \xi_1 + E_{i,i+1} \cdot (v - \xi_1) = {}^1\xi_1 + \sum_{\Psi_{i,j} > \xi_1} \Psi_{i,j}$$

where  $\Psi_{i,j}$  is the set of all resulting weight vectors the sum of whose entries in the *nth* row are greater than that of  ${}^{1}\xi_{1}$ . Now, with a sequence of upper triangular matrices which raises the entries of  $\xi_{1}$ ,

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi_1)} \cdot v = E^{\underline{a}(\xi_1)} \cdot \sum_i c_i \xi_i \text{ for } c_i \neq 0.$$

The sequence is actually raising the weight vectors by the series of actions and the supposedly the smallest basis vector becomes a highest weight vector as a consequence. So

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi_1)} \cdot \sum_i c_i \xi_i = \lambda_\beta \beta + \sum_{\Psi_{i,j} > \beta} \Psi_{i,j} = \lambda_\beta \beta \text{ for } \lambda_\beta \neq 0$$

Therefore,  $\beta$  is a highest weight vector.

The weight for  $\beta$  is such that

$$H_{i,i} \cdot \beta = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{l} m_{k,i} - \sum_{k=1}^{l-1} m_{k,i-1}\right) \cdot \beta$$
  
=  $[q + (p_1 + p_2 - q) + (m_1 + m_2 + m_3 - p_1 - p_2) + \dots + q + (p_1 + p_2 - q) + \dots + (m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_{n-1})] \cdot \beta$   
=  $(c_1 \varepsilon_1 + c_2 \varepsilon_2 + c_2 \varepsilon_2 + \dots + c_n - \varepsilon_{n-1} + c_n \varepsilon_n) \cdot \beta$ .

 $= (c_1\varepsilon_1 + c_2\varepsilon_2 + c_3\varepsilon_3 + \dots + c_{n-1}\varepsilon_{n-1} + c_n\varepsilon_n) \cdot \beta.$ So  $\beta$  has weight  $c_1\varepsilon_1 + c_2\varepsilon_2 + \dots + c_{n-1}\varepsilon_{n-1} + c_n\varepsilon_n$ , which is a highest weight. Q.E.D. Proposition 8. For any basis vector  $\xi$ , there exists a set of upper triangular matrices,  $E^{\underline{a}(\xi)}$ , such that

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi)}$$
,  $\xi = \lambda_{\beta}\beta$  for  $\lambda_{\beta} \neq 0$ 

where

 $E^{\underline{a}(\xi)} = E^{a_N}_{1,2}(E^{a_{N-1}}_{2,3}E^{a_{N-2}}_{1,2})\cdots(E^{a_{n-1}}_{n-1,n}\cdots E^{a_2}_{2,3}E^{a_1}_{1,2})$ Proof. From the order  $\xi_1 < \xi_2 < \cdots < \xi_s$  introduced in Proposition 7, we see that  $\xi_1$  is smaller than all other basis vectors. The action

Academic Journal of Applied Mathematical Sciences

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi)}.\xi = E^{\underline{a}(\xi_1)} \cdot \xi_1 + E^{\underline{a}(\xi_1)} \cdot \left(\sum_{\Psi_{i,j} > \xi_1} \Psi_{i,j}\right).$$

But  $(\sum_{\Psi_{i,j}>\xi_1} \Psi_{i,j})$  will be annihilated by the action since its elements are bigger and  $E^{\underline{\alpha}(\xi)}$  will be the sequence that raises  $\xi_i$  to  $\beta$ , which is a highest weight. Q.E.D.

Lemma 9. Suppose v is a non-zero element in  $K_n$ ,

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{s} c_i \xi_i$$
, with  $c_i \neq 0 \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Then there exists a sequence of upper triangular matrices such that  $E^{\underline{a}(v)} \cdot v = \lambda_{\beta}\beta$  where  $\lambda_{\beta} \neq 0$ .

Proof. From Proposition 7, for  $\xi_1 < \xi_2$ , we established that

$${}^{1}\xi_{1} < ({}^{2}\xi_{1} + \dots + {}^{s}\xi_{1}) < ({}^{a_{1}}\xi_{2} + {}^{a_{2}}\xi_{2} + \dots + {}^{a_{s}}\xi_{2}).$$

Then, for all  $c_i \neq 0$ ,

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi_i)} \cdot v = E^{\underline{a}(\xi_i)} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^{s} c_i \xi_i\right) = E^{\underline{a}(\xi_i)} \cdot \left(c_1^{-1} \xi_1 + \sum_{\xi_i > {}^{-1} \xi_1} c_i \xi_i\right).$$

Since  ${}^{1}\xi_{1}$  is the smallest basis, the action will be

$$E^{\underline{a}(\xi_i)} \cdot v = \lambda_{\beta}\beta + \sum_{\Gamma_{i,j} > \beta} \lambda_i \Gamma_{i,j} = \lambda_{\beta}\beta.$$

Therefore,  $E^{\underline{a}(\xi_i)} \cdot v = \lambda_{\beta}\beta$ . Q.E.D.

This implies

Corollary 10. If  $S \subset K_n$  is a non-zero submodule, then  $\beta \in S$ .

We proved from Proposition 7 that there is a highest weight vector  $\beta \in K_n$ . So if  $S \subset K_n$  is a non-zero submodule, then  $\beta \in S$ .

Let M be a simple finite-dimensional module and v be a highest weight vector, the following result claims that M is generated by v through applying iterative lower triangular matrices on v. We can view this iterated applying as being a product in some algebra (namely the universal enveloping algebra).

Definition 11 (Monomial Basis). For *M* a finite-dimensional module and *v* a highest weight vector, consider the fixed basis  $F_{i,j}$  and the monomials in these  $F_{i,j}$  only. A given set *B* of monomials is called a monomial basis of *M* if  $\{F^{\underline{b}}, v \mid F^{\underline{b}} \in B\}$  is a basis of *M*, where  $F^{\underline{b}}$  is a product (sequence) of some lower triangular matrices.

Lemma 12. Let

$$B = \{F^{\underline{a}(\xi)} \mid \xi \text{ is a basis element}\}\$$

Then

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ F^{\underline{a}(\beta)} \cdot \beta \mid F^{\underline{a}(\beta)} \in B \}$$

is a basis.

Proof. Now, we want to show that  $K_n$  is generated by  $\beta$ . From the ordering in Proposition 7, we see that at least (for the lower triangular matrix  $F_{i+1,i}$ )  $F_{i+1,i} \stackrel{1}{\cdot} \xi_1 < F_{i+1,i} \cdot \xi_2$ .

Also, for  $j \neq i$ 

$$F_{j+1,j} \stackrel{1}{\cdot} \xi_1 < F_{j+1,j} \cdot \xi_2.$$

Therefore, we can write

$$F^{\underline{a}(\beta)} \cdot \beta = \chi_i + \sum_{\gamma_{i,j} > \chi_i} \gamma_{i,j}$$

where  $\xi_1 = \chi_i$  and  $\xi_2 = \sum_{\gamma_{i,j} > \chi_i} \gamma_{i,j}$ . Suppose

$$\int_{1}^{1} c_i F^{\underline{a}(\beta)} \cdot \beta = 0,$$

where *N* is the size of the basis  $\xi_i$ , and all  $c_i \neq 0$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} c_i \left( \chi_i + \sum_{\gamma_{i,j} > \chi_i} \gamma_{i,j} \right) = 0.$$
  
<  $\chi_N$ . So

We can fix  $\chi_i$  such that  $\chi_1 < \chi_2 < \cdots < \chi_N$ . So

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} c_i \left( \chi_i + \sum_{\gamma_{i,j} > \chi_i} \gamma_{i,j} \right) = c_1 \chi_1 + \sum_{i=2}^{N} c_i \left( \chi_i + \sum_{\gamma_{i,j} > \chi_i} \gamma_{i,j} \right) + \gamma_1 = 0.$$

We know  $\chi_1$  is the smallest and  $\{\chi_i\}$  are linearly independent for  $1 \le i \le N$ , then  $c_1 = 0$ . Therefore, the set  $\{F^{\underline{\alpha}(\beta)} \cdot \beta \mid F^{\underline{\alpha}(\beta)} \in B\}$ 

is linearly independent.

We are given that  $\xi_i$  is a basis of  $K_n$  implying  $\xi$  ( $\beta$  in particular) is a basis element. The cardinality of  $\xi$  is D (that is dim  $K_n$ , in other words the number of basis vectors one can make from a given partition). Since  $\xi$  has N linearly independent elements, then dim  $\langle F_{-}^{\alpha(\beta)} \cdot \beta \rangle = \dim K_n = D$ . So  $\{F^{\alpha(\beta)} \cdot \beta \mid F^{\alpha(\beta)} \in B\}$  spans and is a basis in  $K_n$ . Since  $\{F^{\alpha(\beta)} \cdot \beta \mid F^{\alpha(\beta)} \in B\}$  spans  $K_n$  and all its elements are linearly independent, then it is all of  $K_n$ . Therefore, the weight vector  $\beta$  generates all of  $K_n$ . Q.E.D.

From the above proofs, we can make out that if  $\beta$  is a highest weight vector, S a submodule of  $K_n$  (i.e  $\beta \in S$  and S is all of  $K_n$ ) implies  $\beta$  generates all of  $K_n$ . Therefore, there is no invariant subspace of  $K_n$ .

Corollary 13. The representation space  $K_n$  is generated by  $\beta$ , and moreover if  $S \subset K_n$  is a non-zero submodule, then  $S = K_n$ .

This completes the proof for Theorem 6. So, the representation space  $K_n$  is a simple  $sl_n$  -module. Already, a monomial basis is constructed in Lemma 12.

# **3.** Conclusion

In this paper, our representation is actually  $\rho: sl_n \to \text{End}(K_n)$  where  $x \mapsto \rho(x)$ . The map  $\rho$  is linear and also the identity. Suppose  $v \in K_n$  and  $v = \lambda_1 \xi_1 + \dots + \lambda_n \xi_n$ , where  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n$  are basis vectors and  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are non-zero coefficients. Let  $\lambda_1 \neq 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n$ . Then  $F_{i,j} \cdot v = \lambda_1 F_{i,j} \cdot \xi_1$  and  $E_{i,j} \cdot (F_{i,j} \cdot v) = \lambda_1 E_{i,j} \cdot (F_{i,j} \cdot \xi_1)$  are both well defined operations in our representation. Now, let  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_3 = \dots = \lambda_n$  and  $\lambda_2 \neq 0$ . Then  $E_{i,j} \cdot v = \lambda_2 E_{i,j} \cdot \xi_2$  and  $F_{i,j} \cdot (E_{i,j} \cdot v) = \lambda_2 F_{i,j} \cdot (E_{i,j} \cdot \xi_2)$  again are both well defined operations in our representation. The diagonal matrices act by a scalar; that is  $H_{i,i} \cdot \xi = \kappa \xi$ . In all the actions above, the results are all accounted for in formulas of Equations (2), (3) and (4). If  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in S$ , then *S* is all of  $K_n$ . So,  $\rho$  has no invariant subspace. Therefore,  $\rho$  is an irreducible representation of the special linear algebra,  $sl_n$ .

For any partition, we can construct all possible basis vectors and modules as discussed above. We apply total ordering on basis vectors to identify the smallest basis vector. A sequence of upper triangular matrices that acts maximally on the smallest bases vector will eventually act on a set of bases vectors resulting in a total annihilation of all bases vectors but raising the smallest basis vector maximally, to a highest weight vector which has weight  $\omega_i = c_1 \varepsilon_1 + \dots + c_n \varepsilon_n$ . We also proved that every basis vector has a sequence of upper triangular matrices that acts on it maximally to yield a highest weight vector. We proved the existence of monomial basis and gave a construction. Each of these results contributes in proving our main result, that  $sl_n$  -module is simple, and has monomial basis.

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