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AN EXAMPLE OF THE JANTZEN FILTRATION OF A D-MODULE

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Abstract

We compute the Jantzen filtration of a \mathcal{D} -module on the flag variety of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$. At each step in the computation, we illustrate the $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module structure on global sections to give an algebraic picture of this geometric computation. We conclude by showing that the Jantzen filtration on the \mathcal{D} -module agrees with the algebraic Jantzen filtration on its global sections, demonstrating a famous theorem of Beilinson and Bernstein.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Overview. Jantzen filtrations arise in many situations in representation theory. The Jantzen filtration of a Verma module over a semisimple Lie algebra provides information on characters (the Jantzen sum formula) [Jan79], and gives representation-theoretic significance to coefficients of Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomials (the Jantzen conjectures) [BB93]. The Jantzen filtration of a Weyl module over a reductive algebraic group of positive characteristic is a helpful tool in the notoriously difficult problem of determining irreducible characters [Jan79]. Jantzen filtrations also play a critical role in the unitary algorithm of [AvLTV20], which determines the irreducible unitary representations of a real reductive group.

Though the utility of Jantzen filtrations in applications is primarily algebraic (providing information about characters or multiplicities of representations), establishing deep properties of the Jantzen filtration usually requires a geometric incarnation due to Beilinson and Bernstein. In [BB93], Beilinson and Bernstein introduce a \mathcal{D} -module version of the Jantzen filtration, which provides them with powerful geometric tools to analyze its structure. The constructions in [BB93] require technical and deep machinery in the theory of \mathcal{D} -modules, and as such, may not be easily accessible to a reader unfamiliar with this geometric approach to representation theory. However,



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the persistent utility of Beilinson and Bernstein's results indicates that the geometric Jantzen filtration is a critical tool.

In our experience, it is often enlightening, insightful, and nontrivial to describe a difficult construction in a simple example. The purpose of this paper is to illustrate the construction of Beilinson and Bernstein in the simplest nontrivial example. In doing this, we include simplified proofs of Beilinson and Bernstein's results for the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ and detailed computations that do not appear in the original paper.

The main contribution of our example is to provide algebraic insight into a fundamental geometric construction. Beilinson–Bernstein localization is a powerful bridge between representation theory and algebraic geometry, which has provided geometric proofs of several important algebraic theorems. This strategy of using geometric tools to approach algebraic problems is effective, but it has a drawback—without deep knowledge of the geometry involved, the algebraist using these results is left without a sense of what is happening under the hood and, as a result, geometric results are often used as black boxes.

Our approach in this paper is to shine light into the black box by providing a series of algebraic snapshots of a geometric computation. We do this by computing the global sections of the \mathcal{D} -modules that arise at each step in the computation and illustrating the corresponding $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -representations. Here we mean 'illustrate' in the most literal sense—we include eight figures in which we draw precise pictures of these representations. Our hope is that by giving a concrete visual description, we are able to provide readers with algebraic intuition for the general construction.

This paper is concerned with the example of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$. However, some amount of general theory is helpful to set the scene. We dedicate the remainder of the introduction to orienting the reader with the necessary general theory.

1.2. The algebraic Jantzen filtration. Let $g \supset b \supset b$ be a complex semisimple Lie algebra, a Borel subalgebra, and a Cartan subalgebra, respectively. Denote by $\mathfrak{n} = [\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{b}]$ the nilradical of \mathfrak{b} and by $\overline{\mathfrak{b}}$ the opposite Borel subalgebra. Given a weight $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, let $M(\lambda) = \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{b})} \mathbb{C}_{\lambda}$ be the corresponding Verma module, $I(\lambda)$ the corresponding dual Verma module (defined to be the direct sum of the weight spaces in the \mathfrak{g} -module $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}(\overline{\mathfrak{b}})}(\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}), \mathbb{C}_{\lambda})$), and

$$\psi: M(\lambda) \to I(\lambda),$$

the canonical g-module homomorphism from $M(\lambda)$ to $I(\lambda)$.

The algebraic Jantzen filtration of $M(\lambda)$ involves a deformation of the above set-up in a specified direction $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}^*$. The deformation is constructed as follows. Given $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, let $T = O(\mathbb{C}\gamma)$ be the ring of regular functions on the line $\mathbb{C}\gamma \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$. This can be identified with a polynomial ring $\mathbb{C}[s]$. Denote by $A = T_{(s)}$ the local ring of T at the prime ideal (s).

We use the ring A to construct the corresponding *deformed Verma module*, defined to be the (g, A)-bimodule

$$M_A(\lambda) := \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h})} A_{\lambda}$$

where $A_{\lambda} = A$ is the (\mathfrak{h}, A) bimodule given by

$$h \cdot a = (\lambda(h) + \gamma(h)s)a \tag{1-1}$$

for $h \in \mathfrak{h}$, $a \in A$, extended trivially to $U(\mathfrak{b})$. Equation (1-1) demonstrates that $M_A(\lambda)$ is a 'deformation of $M(\lambda)$ in the direction γ '.

Similarly, the *deformed dual Verma module* $I_A(\lambda)$ is defined to be the sum of deformed weight spaces (see (2-52)) in the (g, A)-bimodule

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathfrak{h}})}(\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}), A_{\lambda}).$$

There is a canonical (g, A)-module homomorphism

$$\psi_A: M_A(\lambda) \to I_A(\lambda).$$
 (1-2)

Setting s = 0 recovers the usual Verma and dual Verma modules, and the canonical morphism ψ .

The A-submodules $s^i M_A(\lambda)$ and $s^i I_A(\lambda)$ are g-stable for all i, so both $M_A(\lambda)$ and $I_A(\lambda)$ have (g,A)-module filtrations given by powers of s. The Jantzen filtration of $M_A(\lambda)$ is the filtration obtained by pulling back the filtration of $I_A(\lambda)$ by powers of s along the canonical homomorphism ψ_A (see (1-2)). Setting s=0 recovers a filtration of $M(\lambda)$. This is the algebraic Jantzen filtration of the Verma module $M(\lambda)$. Analogous constructions yield Jantzen filtrations of the Weyl modules and principal series representations mentioned in Section 1.1 [BB93, Jan79]. Because we focus on Verma modules in our example, we do not define these other Jantzen filtrations precisely.

REMARK 1.1 (Computability of Jantzen filtration). The algebraic Jantzen filtration is traditionally formulated in terms of a contravariant form, which explicitly realizes the canonical map between $M(\lambda)$ and $I(\lambda)$. See, for example, [Jan79, Sha72]. This explicit realization makes the filtration directly computable, which is useful in applications. In contrast, other important representation-theoretic filtrations, such as composition series, are known to exist, but are much more difficult to compute algorithmically.

For $g = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$, the Jantzen filtration coincides with the composition series, as our computations in Section 2 illustrate. However, for larger Lie algebras (already starting at $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$), the Jantzen filtration differs from the composition series, and carries fundamental information about Verma modules and related representations. Jantzen conjectured [Jan79, Section 5.17] that for $\gamma = \rho$ (the half-sum of positive roots), the Jantzen filtration satisfies the following properties.

- (1) Embeddings of Verma modules $M(\mu) \hookrightarrow M(\lambda)$ are strict for Jantzen filtrations.
- (2) The Jantzen filtration coincides with the socle filtration. In particular, the filtration layers are semisimple.

Subsequent work by Barbasch [Bar83], Gabber and Joseph [GJ81], and others revealed that Jantzen's conjectures have deep consequences. In particular, Jantzen's conjectures imply a stronger version of Kazhdan and Lusztig's famous conjecture on

composition series multiplicities of Verma modules [KL79]: multiplicities of simple modules in layers of the Jantzen filtration are given by coefficients of a corresponding Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomial.

Kazhdan and Lusztig's original multiplicity conjecture was proven by Beilinson and Bernstein in [BB81] using \mathcal{D} -module techniques. A proof of Jantzen's conjectures did not appear until 12 years later in [BB93], using a significant extension of the geometric techniques used in [BB81]. In the following section, we outline their approach.

REMARK 1.2 (Algebraic proof of Jantzen's conjectures). In [Wil16], Williamson provided an alternate proof of Jantzen's conjectures using Soergel bimodule techniques, following previous work of Soergel and Kübel [Küb12a, Küb12b, Soe08]. Williamson's proof holds for Verma modules, whereas Beilinson and Bernstein's proof also holds for more general Harish-Chandra modules.

REMARK 1.3 (Deformation direction). The definition of the algebraic Jantzen filtration relies on a choice of deformation direction $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, which also has a geometric manifestation in Beilinson and Bernstein's construction. It is clear from the definitions that this direction should be nondegenerate; that is, that it should not lie on any root hyperplanes. However, it was a long-standing problem (raised in [BB93]) as to whether the deformation direction need be dominant. Williamson showed in [Wil16] that it does, giving examples of nondominant deformation directions resulting in different filtrations for Lie algebras as small as $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_4(\mathbb{C})$.

1.3. The geometric Jantzen filtration. Beilinson and Bernstein's approach to the Jantzen conjectures is to relate the algebraic Jantzen filtration to a natural geometric filtration on the corresponding \mathcal{D} -module under Beilinson–Bernstein localization. They then argue that this *geometric Jantzen filtration* coincides with the weight filtration on the \mathcal{D} -module, providing them access to powerful techniques in weight theory. In this section, we outline Beilinson and Bernstein's construction. More details can be found in [BB93].

1.3.1. Monodromy filtrations. Geometric Jantzen filtrations are intimately related to monodromy filtrations. Given an object A in an abelian category \mathcal{A} and a nilpotent endomorphism $s \in \operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(A)$, the monodromy filtration of A is defined to be the unique increasing exhaustive filtration μ^{\bullet} on A such that $s\mu^n \subset \mu^{n-2}$, and for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, s^k induces an isomorphism $\operatorname{gr}_u^k A \simeq \operatorname{gr}_u^{-k} A$.

The monodromy filtration of A induces a filtration $J_{!}^{\bullet}$ on ker s and a filtration J_{+}^{\bullet} on coker s in the natural way. Moreover, on ker s and coker s, the monodromy filtration can be described explicitly in terms of powers of s. Namely,

$$J_{!}^{i} = \ker s \cap \operatorname{im} \ s^{-i} \quad \text{and} \quad J_{+}^{i} = (\ker s^{i+1} + \operatorname{im} \ s) / \operatorname{im} \ s,$$
 (1-3)

where it is taken that im $s^i = A$ for $i \le 0$ and $\ker s^i = 0$ for $i \le 0$ [BB93, Section 4.1]. (See also [Del80, Section 1.6].)

1.3.2. Geometric Jantzen filtrations. Certain \mathcal{D} -modules come equipped with nilpotent endomorphisms, and thus acquire monodromy filtrations. In particular, the maximal extension functor provides a recipe for constructing \mathcal{D} -modules with nilpotent endomorphisms from \mathcal{D} -modules on open subvarieties using a deformation procedure. (See Section 2.4 for the precise definition of this functor.)

More precisely, if Y is a smooth algebraic variety with a fixed regular function $f: Y \to \mathbb{A}^1$, the maximal extension $\Xi_f \mathcal{M}_U$ of a holonomic \mathcal{D}_U -module \mathcal{M}_U on $U = f^{-1}(\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\})$ is constructed by deforming \mathcal{M}_U by the ring $\mathbb{C}[s]/s^n$ using the function f, then pushing forward the deformed \mathcal{M}_U along the inclusion map $j: U \hookrightarrow Y$. The resulting \mathcal{D}_Y -module is an object in the abelian category of holonomic \mathcal{D}_Y -modules, which has a natural nilpotent endomorphism s arising from the deformation of \mathcal{M}_U . Hence, it has a monodromy filtration.

The construction of the maximal extension functor guarantees that

$$\ker(s:\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U\to\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U)=j_!\mathcal{M}_U$$

and

$$\operatorname{coker}(s:\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U\to\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U)=j_+\mathcal{M}_U,$$

so the (nondeformed) !-standard and +-standard \mathcal{D}_Y -modules $j_!\mathcal{M}_U$ and $j_+\mathcal{M}_U$ appear as sub and quotient modules of the maximal extension $\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U$ [BB93, Lemma 4.2.1]. In this way, we obtain filtrations of the \mathcal{D}_Y -modules $j_!\mathcal{M}_U$ and $j_+\mathcal{M}_U$ from the monodromy filtration of $\Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U$. These are the *geometric Jantzen filtrations*.

Note that analogously to the algebraic Jantzen filtration, the geometric Jantzen filtration depends on a choice of deformation parameter, given by the regular function $f: Y \to \mathbb{A}^1$. Moreover, the explicit realization in equation (1-3) in terms of powers of *s* means that like the algebraic Jantzen filtration, the geometric Jantzen filtration is explicitly computable.

1.3.3. Geometric Jantzen filtrations on Harish-Chandra sheaves. The \mathcal{D} -modules corresponding to Verma modules and dual Verma modules under Beilinson-Bernstein localization can be made to fit into the framework of Section 1.3.2, and thus acquire geometric Jantzen filtrations. Such \mathcal{D} -modules manifest as Harish-Chandra sheaves, which are a class of \mathcal{D} -modules equivariant with respect to a certain group action. We explain this connection below.

Let G be the simply connected semisimple Lie group associated to \mathfrak{g} , $B \subset G$ the Borel subgroup corresponding to \mathfrak{b} , and $N \subset B$ its unipotent radical. Set H := B/N to be the abstract maximal torus of G [CG97, Lemma 6.1.1], and identify \mathfrak{h} with Lie H. Let $\widetilde{X} := G/N$ be the base affine space and X := G/B the flag variety. The projection $\pi : \widetilde{X} \to X$ is a principal G-equivariant H-bundle with respect to the right action of H on \widetilde{X} by right multiplication.

REMARK 1.4 (*H*-monodromic $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules). In [BB93], Beilinson and Bernstein work with *H*-monodromic \mathcal{D} -modules on the base affine space \widetilde{X} instead of modules over sheaves of twisted differential operators (TDOs) on the flag variety X, as they do in

[BB81]. Working over \widetilde{X} has several advantages: it allows one to study entire families of representations at once (see Figures 1 and 2 in Section 2.3 for an illustration of this phenomenon), and it allows one to study g-modules with generalized infinitesimal characters. In contrast, modules over TDOs can only be used to study g-modules with strict infinitesimal character. There is a precise relationship between H-monodromic $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules and modules over TDOs; see Remark 2.5.

For an N-orbit (that is, a Bruhat cell) Q in X, denote by $\widetilde{Q} = \pi^{-1}(Q)$ the corresponding union of N-orbits in \widetilde{X} . A choice of dominant regular integral weight $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ (the 'deformation direction') determines a regular function $f_{\gamma}: \overline{\widetilde{Q}} \to \mathbb{A}^1$ on the closure of \widetilde{Q} such that $f_{\gamma}^{-1}(\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}) = \widetilde{Q}$ [BB93, Lemma 3.5.1]. This function extends to a regular function on \widetilde{X} , which, by the process outlined in Section 1.3.2, determines a maximal extension functor $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}: \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_U) \to \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$. Here, U is the preimage in \widetilde{X} of $\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}$ under the extension of f_{γ} . Restricting $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}$ to the category of holonomic \mathcal{D}_U -modules supported on \widetilde{Q} results in a functor

$$\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}: \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{Q}}) \to \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{\widetilde{Q}}}).$$

Let $O_{\widetilde{Q}}$ be the structure sheaf on \widetilde{Q} and $j_{\widetilde{Q}}:\widetilde{Q}\hookrightarrow\overline{\widetilde{Q}}$ the inclusion of \widetilde{Q} into its closure. Via the construction in Section 1.3.2, the modules $j_{\widetilde{Q}!}O_{\widetilde{Q}}$ and $j_{\widetilde{Q}+}O_{\widetilde{Q}}$ acquire from $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}O_{\widetilde{Q}}$ geometric Jantzen filtrations. Because $\overline{\widetilde{Q}}$ is closed in \widetilde{X} , a theorem of Kashiwara [Mil, Theorem 12.6] allows one to lift these filtrations to filtrations of the standard N-equivariant $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules $i_{\widetilde{Q}!}O_{\widetilde{Q}}$ and $i_{\widetilde{Q}+}O_{\widetilde{Q}}$, for $i_{\widetilde{Q}}:\widetilde{Q}\hookrightarrow\widetilde{X}$ the inclusion.

$$\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}),$$

obtained by differentiating the G-action on \widetilde{X} that endows global sections of $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules with the structure of $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules. In Section 2.1, we explicitly compute this map for $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$. As $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules, the global sections of $i_{\overline{Q}!}O_{\overline{Q}}$ and $i_{\overline{Q}+}O_{\overline{Q}}$ are direct sums of all integral Verma modules and dual Verma modules, respectively. In Section 2.3, we illustrate this structure in our example.

REMARK 1.5 (Other Harish-Chandra pairs). Note that this construction works for many Harish-Chandra pairs (g, K), not just the pair (g, N). In [BB93, Section 3.4], the specific conditions on K necessary for such a construction to hold are discussed. In particular, these constructions can be applied to any symmetric pair [BB93, Lemma 3.5.2], so they can be used in the study of admissible representations of real reductive groups.

REMARK 1.6 (Comparison with [Rom21]). It is interesting to contrast the computations of the current paper to those in Romanov's previous paper [Rom21], whose goal was to illustrate four families of \mathcal{D} -modules corresponding to well-known families of representations (finite-dimensional, Verma/dual Verma, principal series,

There is a natural map

and Whittaker). Our approach in the current paper is to study all integral Verma/dual Verma modules simultaneously by working over base affine space, as explained above. In contrast, [Rom21, Section 6] analyzes Verma/dual Verma modules one at a time using modules over varying TDOs on the flag variety. (Compare Figures 1 and 2 to [Rom21, Figures 2 and 3].) Our techniques in this paper are not specific to Verma modules: by working over base affine space, we could recover each family of examples in [Rom21] using a single *H*-monodromic \mathcal{D} -module.

Our current approach is not merely stylistic—it is necessary for our goal. Because the deformed Verma modules arising in the construction of the Jantzen filtration do not have a strict infinitesimal character as Verma modules do, they cannot be studied as modules over TDOs on the flag variety. However, deformed Verma modules can be approximated by g-modules with generalized infinitesimal characters (see Section 2.4.1, and, in particular, (2-43) and (2-42)), so a \mathcal{D} -module approach to their study must necessarily work over \widetilde{X} instead of X; see Remark 1.4.

1.3.4. Relationship between monodromy and weight filtrations. The geometric Jantzen filtration of $i_{\overline{Q}!}O_{\overline{Q}}$ constructed in the previous section is computable via (1-3), but it is not clear that it should satisfy the properties of Jantzen's conjectures. The key idea of Beilinson and Bernstein's proof is to relate the monodromy filtration on $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}O_{\overline{Q}}$ to the weight filtration on the corresponding perverse sheaf under the Riemann–Hilbert correspondence, which has strong functoriality and semisimplicity properties.

Weight filtrations on objects in derived categories of constructible \mathbb{Q}_{ℓ} -sheaves are a deep generalization of filtrations on cohomology rings of algebraic varieties. Explicitly constructing weight filtrations is extremely difficult outside of the most basic examples, but they can be shown to exist for complexes built from simple examples via sheaf functors. In particular, the perverse sheaf corresponding to the maximal extension $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}O_{\overline{Q}}$ admits a 'mixed structure', and hence a weight filtration, as it is the quotient of a push-forward of a \mathcal{D} -module of 'geometric origin'.

REMARK 1.7. Beilinson and Bernstein's results could also be formulated in the more modern language of Saito's mixed Hodge modules [Sai88, Sai90], but because the initial draft of their paper was written in 1986 before Saito's work was published, they instead used the technology of mixed ℓ -adic sheaves [Del80].

Beilinson and Bernstein's strategy was to use a theorem of Gabber [BB93, Theorem 5.1.2], which establishes that on a perverse sheaf obtained by a nearby cycles functor (of which the maximal extension functor is a special instance), the monodromy filtration agrees with the weight filtration. Passing Gabber's theorem to \mathcal{D} -modules via the Riemann–Hilbert correspondence lets them conclude that the geometric Jantzen filtration on $i_{\widetilde{O}}O_{\widetilde{O}}$ agrees with the weight filtration.

Weight filtrations have two important properties: (1) they are functorial with respect to morphisms of mixed perverse sheaves; and (2) the associated graded object is semisimple. These properties are exactly what is needed to prove Jantzen's

conjectures: the functoriality implies the strictness of the Jantzen filtration with respect to embeddings of Verma modules, and the semisimplicity of the associated graded object implies (with some additional pointwise purity arguments) the agreement of the Jantzen filtration with the socle filtration.

The power of Beilinson and Bernstein's proof comes from the connection between two very different filtrations—the Jantzen filtration, which is explicitly computable but has no obvious structure, and the weight filtration, which is very difficult to compute but satisfies remarkable properties.

1.4. Relationship between algebraic and geometric Jantzen filtrations Beilinson and Bernstein's proof of Jantzen's conjectures relies on the fact that the geometric and algebraic Jantzen filtrations align under the global sections functor. Though both constructions involve similar ingredients, such as deformations and relationships between standard and costandard objects, it is not immediately obvious from the definitions that they should yield the same filtration on Verma modules. This crucial relationship is given minimal justification in [BB93].

Because of the critical nature of this relationship, we dedicate Section 2.6 of our paper to explicitly describing the relationship between the two filtrations for $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$, and illustrating it for a fixed infinitesimal character in Figure 8. Our arguments easily generalize to any Lie algebra.

- **1.5. Structure of the paper.** The remainder of the paper is dedicated to the computation of the geometric Jantzen filtration for the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$. The computation is structured as follows.
- Section 2.1: We establish an algebra homomorphism from the extended universal enveloping algebra to global differential operators on base affine space. This algebra homomorphism is what allows us to view the global sections of $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -modules as modules over the (extended) universal enveloping algebra.
- Section 2.2: We give some background on H-monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -modules, and explain their relationship to modules over twisted sheaves of differential operators.
- Section 2.3: We introduce the $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -modules whose global sections contain Verma modules and dual Verma modules—these are the $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -modules that we endow with geometric Jantzen filtrations. We illustrate the $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module structure on their global sections in Figures 1 and 2.
- Section 2.4: We introduce the maximal extension functor, which gives the deformation necessary for the Jantzen filtration. We compute the maximal extension of the structure sheaf on an open subset of \widetilde{X} , and illustrate in Figures 3 and 4 how deformed Verma modules and deformed dual Verma modules arise geometrically. We illustrate in Figures 5 and 6 the global sections of the maximal extension, identifying them with the big projective in category O.
- Section 2.5: We define the geometric Jantzen filtration using monodromy filtrations. We compute the monodromy filtration of the maximal extension, and illustrate its

global sections in Figure 7. This specializes to the geometric Jantzen filtration on certain sub- and quotient sheaves.

Section 2.6: We introduce the algebraic Jantzen filtration on a Verma module in Section 2.6.1, then explain why the global sections of the geometric Jantzen filtration align with the algebraic Jantzen filtration in Section 2.6.2. Figure 8 illustrates this relationship in our example.

2. Example

Now we proceed with our example. For the remainder of this paper, set $G = SL_2(\mathbb{C})$, and fix subgroups

$$B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \middle| a \in \mathbb{C}^*, \ b \in \mathbb{C} \right\}, \quad N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \middle| b \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

and

$$H = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \middle| a \in \mathbb{C}^* \right\}.$$

Let g, b, π , and π be the corresponding Lie algebras, and $\bar{\pi}$ the opposite nilpotent subalgebra to π . Denote by

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (2-1)

the standard basis elements of g, so $\mathfrak{n} = \mathbb{C}e$, $\mathfrak{h} = \mathbb{C}h$, and $\bar{\mathfrak{n}} = \mathbb{C}f$. Denote by $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ the center of the universal enveloping algebra $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$. The algebra $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ is generated by the Casimir element

$$\Omega = h^2 + 2ef + 2fe. \tag{2-2}$$

Let

$$\gamma_{\mathrm{HC}}: \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \to \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h})$$
 (2-3)

be the projection onto the first coordinate of the direct sum decomposition

$$\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \oplus (\bar{\mathfrak{n}}\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) + \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})\mathfrak{n}).$$

The restriction of γ_{HC} to $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ is an algebra homomorphism.

Set X = G/B and X = G/N. Then, X is the flag variety of g, and we refer to X as base affine space. We identify X with the complex projective line \mathbb{CP}^1 via

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & * \\ x_2 & * \end{pmatrix} B \mapsto (x_1 : x_2),$$
 (2-4)

and \widetilde{X} with $\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$ via

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & * \\ x_2 & * \end{pmatrix} N \mapsto (x_1, x_2).$$
 (2-5)

There are left actions of G on X and \widetilde{X} by left multiplication. Under the identifications (2-4) and (2-5), these actions are given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot (x_1 : x_2) = (ax_1 + bx_2 : cx_1 + dx_2)$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot (x_1, x_2) = (ax_1 + bx_2, cx_1 + dx_2). \tag{2-6}$$

Because H normalizes N, there is also a right action of H on G/N by right multiplication. Under the identification (2-5), this action is given by

$$(x_1, x_2) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = (ax_1, ax_2).$$
 (2-7)

The natural G-equivariant quotient map

$$\pi: \widetilde{X} \to X$$
 (2-8)

is an *H*-torsor over *X*. In the language of [BB93, Section 2.5], this provides an '*H*-monodromic structure' on *X*.

For an algebraic variety Y, we denote by O_Y the structure sheaf on Y, and by $O(Y) = \Gamma(Y, O_Y)$ the algebra of global regular functions. We denote by \mathcal{D}_Y the sheaf of differential operators on Y, and $\mathcal{D}(Y) = \Gamma(Y, \mathcal{D}_Y)$ the global differential operators.

Base affine space \widetilde{X} is a quasi-affine variety, with affine closure $\widetilde{X} = \mathbb{A}^2$. Throughout this text, we make use the following facts about quasi-affine varieties. Let Y be an irreducible quasi-affine variety, openly embedded in an affine variety \overline{Y} .

- If Y is normal with $\operatorname{codim}_{\overline{Y}}(\overline{Y} \setminus Y) \ge 2$, then $O(Y) = O(\overline{Y})$ and $\mathcal{D}(Y) = \mathcal{D}(\overline{Y})$ [LS06, Section 2]. (In particular, for $Y = \widetilde{X}$, this implies that global differential operators are nothing more than the Weyl algebra in two variables.)
- Because the variety \overline{Y} is affine, it is also *D*-affine, meaning that the global sections functor induces an equivalence of categories between the category of quasi-coherent $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{Y}}$ -modules and the category of modules over $\mathcal{D}(\overline{Y})$.
- Since the inclusion $i: Y \to \overline{Y}$ is an open immersion, the restriction functor i^+ on the corresponding categories of \mathcal{D} -modules is exact, and commutes with pushforwards from open affine subvarieties [Mil, Remark 3.1].

The facts listed above allow us to move freely between $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules and $\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{A}^2)$ -modules. We do this periodically in computations.

REMARK 2.1. Outside of $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$, the global differential operators on base affine space are no longer given by the Weyl algebra. For a Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g} \neq \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})^m$, the affine closure of the corresponding base affine space is singular, and the ring of global differential operators can be quite complicated; see, for example, [LS06].

2.1. The map $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$. Our strategy for gaining intuition about the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules arising in the construction of the Jantzen filtration is to illustrate the g-module structure on their global sections. This gives us an algebraic snapshot as to what is happening at each step in the construction sketched in Section 1.3. The first step is to differentiate the actions (2-6) and (2-7) to obtain a map $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$. This map provides the g-module structure on the global sections of $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules. We dedicate this section to the computation of this map.

By differentiating the left action of G in (2-6), we obtain an algebra homomorphism

$$L: \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{Y}}), \quad g \mapsto L_g$$
 (2-9)

given by the formula

$$L_g f(x) = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} f(\exp(tg)^{-1} x)$$

for $g \in G$, $f \in \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, O_{\widetilde{X}})$, $x \in \widetilde{X}$. Computing the image of the basis (2-1) under the homomorphism (2-9) is straightforward. For example, the image of e is given by the following computation using (2-6):

$$e \cdot f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} f\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -t \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot (x_1, x_2)\right)$$
$$= \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} f(x_1 - tx_2, x_2)$$
$$= -x_2 \partial_1 f(x_1, x_2).$$

Similar computations determine the images of f and h:

$$L_e = -x_2 \partial_1, \quad L_f = -x_1 \partial_2, \quad L_h = -x_1 \partial_1 + x_2 \partial_2.$$
 (2-10)

It is also useful to compute the image of the Casimir element (2-2) under the homomorphism L:

$$L_{\Omega} = x_1^2 \partial_1^2 + 3x_1 \partial_1 + 3x_2 \partial_2 + x_2^2 \partial_2^2 + 2x_1 x_2 \partial_1 \partial_2.$$
 (2-11)

Similarly, the right action of H determines an algebra homomorphism

$$R: \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}), \quad g \mapsto R_g.$$
 (2-12)

Under this homomorphism, h is sent to the Euler operator

$$R_h = x_1 \partial_1 + x_2 \partial_2. \tag{2-13}$$

Combining the homomorphisms L in (2-9) and R in (2-12), we obtain an algebra homomorphism

$$\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}); \quad g \otimes g' \mapsto L_g R_{g'}.$$
 (2-14)

LEMMA 2.2. The homomorphism (2-14) factors through the quotient

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{U}} := \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}),$$
 (2-15)

where $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ acts on $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h})$ via the Harish-Chandra projection γ_{HC} in (2-3).

PROOF. Direct computation shows that the images of $\Omega \otimes 1$ and $1 \otimes \gamma_{HC}(\Omega)$ agree. Indeed,

$$1 \otimes \gamma_{\text{HC}}(\Omega) = 1 \otimes (h^2 + 2h) \mapsto R_h^2 + 2R_h$$

$$= (x_1 \partial_1 + x_2 \partial_2)^2 + 2(x_1 \partial_1 + x_2 \partial_2)$$

$$= x_1^2 \partial_1^2 + 3x_1 \partial_1 + 2x_1 x_2 \partial_1 \partial_2 + x_2^2 \partial_x^2 + 3x_2 \partial_x$$

$$= L_{\Omega}.$$

We refer to the algebra $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ as the *extended universal enveloping algebra*. By Lemma 2.2, we have an algebra homomorphism

$$\alpha: \widetilde{\mathcal{U}} \to \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}); \quad g \otimes g' \mapsto L_g R_{g'}.$$
 (2-16)

Global sections of $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules have the structure of $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -modules via α .

2.2. Monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -modules. The \mathcal{D} -modules that play a role in our story have an additional structure: they are 'H-monodromic'. It is necessary for our purposes to work with H-monodromic \mathcal{D} -modules on base affine space instead of \mathcal{D} -modules on the flag variety. This is due to the fact that the g-modules in the construction of the Jantzen filtration have generalized infinitesimal characters, so they do not arise as global sections of modules over twisted sheaves of differential operators on the flag variety.

The machinery of H-monodromic \mathcal{D} -modules is rather technical, and the details of the construction are not strictly necessary for our computation of the Jantzen filtration below. However, we thought that it would be useful to describe this construction in a specific example to illustrate that the equivalences established in [BB93, Section 2.5] are quite clear for $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$. In this section, we describe the construction of H-monodromic \mathcal{D} -modules for $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ and explain how it relates to representations of Lie algebras. More details on the general construction can be found in [BB93, BG99].

A weakly H-equivariant $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module is an H-equivariant sheaf V equipped with a $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module structure so that the isomorphism $\operatorname{act}^* V \to p^* V$ given by the equivariant sheaf structure on V is a morphism of $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \boxtimes O_H$ -modules. Here, $\operatorname{act}: \widetilde{X} \times H \to \widetilde{X}$ is the action map and $p: \widetilde{X} \times H \to \widetilde{X}$ is the projection map. For a reference on weakly equivariant \mathcal{D} -modules, see [MP98, Section 4].

DEFINITION 2.3. An *H-monodromic* \mathcal{D}_X -module is a weakly *H*-equivariant $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module.

There is an equivalent characterization of H-monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -modules in terms of H-invariant differential operators, which is established in [BB93, Section 2.5.2]. This perspective makes the structures of our examples more transparent, so we take this approach to monodromicity. Below we describe the construction for $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$.

The right H-action in (2-7) induces a left H-action on $O_{\widetilde{X}}$ and $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$. The H-action on $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ satisfies the following relation: for $g \in H$, $\theta \in \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$, and $f \in O_{\widetilde{X}}$,

$$(g \cdot \theta)(g \cdot f) = g \cdot (\theta(f)). \tag{2-17}$$

The H-action on $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ induces an H-action on the sheaf $\pi_*(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$ by algebra automorphisms, where $\pi: \widetilde{X} \to X$ is the quotient map (2-8). Here, π_* is the O-module direct image. Denote the sheaf of H-invariant sections of $\pi_*\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ by

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{D}} := \left[\pi_* \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}}\right]^H. \tag{2-18}$$

This is a sheaf of algebras on X. Explicitly, on an open set $U \subseteq X$,

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}(U) = \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}(\pi^{-1}(U))^{H}.$$
(2-19)

Note that because π is an H-torsor, $\pi^{-1}(U)$ is H-stable for any set U, so this construction is well defined.

Let $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}, H)_{\text{weak}}$ be the category of weakly H-equivariant $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules, and $\mathcal{M}(\widetilde{\mathcal{D}})$ be the category of $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ -modules. By [BB93, Sections 1.8.9, 2.5.2], there is an equivalence of categories

$$\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}, H)_{\text{weak}} \simeq \mathcal{M}(\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}).$$
 (2-20)

Hence, we can study monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -modules by instead considering $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ -modules. For the remainder of the paper, we take this to be our definition of monodromicity.

DEFINITION 2.4. An *H-monodromic* \mathcal{D}_X -module is a $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ -module, where $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ is as in (2-18).

REMARK 2.5 (Relationship to twisted differential operators). The sheaf $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ is a sheaf of $S(\mathfrak{h})$ -algebras. In our example, the $S(\mathfrak{h})$ -action is given by multiplication by the operator R_h in (2-13). In particular, we can consider $S(\mathfrak{h})$ as a subsheaf of $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$. In fact, it is the center [BB93, Section 2.5]. For $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, denote by $\mathfrak{m}_{\lambda} \subset S(\mathfrak{h})$ the corresponding maximal ideal. The sheaf $\mathcal{D}_{\lambda} := \widetilde{\mathcal{D}}/\mathfrak{m}_{\lambda}\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ is a twisted sheaf of differential operators (TDOs) on X. Hence, $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ -modules on which R_h acts by eigenvalue λ can be naturally identified with modules over the TDO \mathcal{D}_{λ} .

Modules over $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ are directly related to modules over the extended universal enveloping algebra (2-15) via the global sections functor. The relationship is as follows. Because the left G-action and right H-action commute, the differential operators L_e , L_f , and L_h in (2-10) are H-invariant. This can also be shown via direct computation

using (2-10) and (2-13). Hence, the image of the homomorphism (2-16) is contained in H-invariant differential operators:

$$\alpha(\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}) \subseteq \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})^H.$$

Composing α with $\Gamma(\pi_*)$, we obtain a map

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{U}} \to \Gamma(X, \widetilde{\mathcal{D}}).$$
 (2-21)

THEOREM 2.6 [BB93, Lemma 3.2.2]. The map (2-21) is an isomorphism.

PROOF. The theorem holds for general g. We prove the theorem for $g = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ by direct computation.

We start by describing the sheaves $\pi_* \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ and $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ on $X = \mathbb{CP}^1$ by describing them on the open patches

$$U_1 := \mathbb{CP}^1 \setminus \{(0:1)\}$$
 and $U_2 := \mathbb{CP}^1 \setminus \{(1:0)\}$

and giving gluing conditions. Set

$$V_1 := \pi^{-1}(U_1) = \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus V(x_1)$$
 and $V_2 := \pi^{-1}(U_2) = \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus V(x_2)$,

where $V(f(x_1, x_2))$ denotes the vanishing of the polynomial $f(x_1, x_2)$. By definition,

$$\pi_*\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}(U_1)=\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}(V_1)=\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{C}^2)[x_1^{-1}],$$

$$\pi_*\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}(U_2)=\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}(V_2)=\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{C}^2)[x_2^{-1}],$$

with obvious gluing conditions.

Using (2-17), we conclude that the *H*-action on $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ is given by the local formulas

$$g \cdot x_i = gx_i$$
 and $g \cdot \partial_i = g^{-1}\partial_i$,

where $g \in H$ is regarded as an element of \mathbb{C}^{\times} under the identification

$$H \simeq \mathbb{C}^{\times}, \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto a.$$

From this, we obtain a local description of $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$, using (2-19):

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}(U_1) = \langle x_1^{-1} x_2, x_1 \partial_1, x_1 \partial_2, x_2 \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 \rangle \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}}(V_1)$$

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}(U_2) = \langle x_1 x_2^{-1}, x_1 \partial_1, x_1 \partial_2, x_2 \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 \rangle \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{Y}}(V_2).$$

Hence, the global sections are given by

$$\Gamma(X,\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}) \simeq \langle x_1\partial_1, x_1\partial_2, x_2\partial_1, x_2\partial_2 \rangle = \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})^H \subseteq \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}).$$

Now, it is clear that

$$L_e = -x_2\partial_1$$
, $L_f = -x_1\partial_2$, $L_h + R_h = 2x_2\partial_2$ and $L_h - R_h = -2x_1\partial_1$,

so the operators L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h generate $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})^H$. Since $e \otimes 1$, $f \otimes 1$, $h \otimes 1$ and $1 \otimes h$ generate $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$, this shows that the map (2-21) is surjective. Direct computations establish that

$$[L_e, L_f] = x_2 \partial_1 x_1 \partial_2 - x_1 \partial_2 x_2 \partial_1 = x_2 \partial_2 - x_1 \partial_1 = L_h,$$

$$[L_e, L_h] = x_2 \partial_1 (x_1 \partial_1 - x_2 \partial_2) - (x_1 \partial_1 - x_2 \partial_2) x_2 \partial_1 = 2x_2 \partial_1 = -2L_e,$$

$$[L_f, L_h] = x_1 \partial_2 (x_1 \partial_1 - x_2 \partial_2) - (x_1 \partial_1 - x_2 \partial_2) x_1 \partial_2 = -2x_1 \partial_2 = 2L_f,$$

$$[L_e, R_h] = [L_f, R_h] = [L_h, R_h] = 0.$$

Combining these computations with the fact that L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h are linearly independent shows that the relations satisfied by L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h are precisely those satisfied by $e \otimes 1$, $f \otimes 1$, $h \otimes 1$, and $1 \otimes h$. Therefore, the map (2-21) is also injective. \square

The relationships described in this section can be summarized with the following commuting diagrams.

$$\mathcal{M}_{coh}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}, H)_{\text{weak}} \xrightarrow{\text{forget equiv.}} \mathcal{M}_{coh}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}) \xrightarrow{\pi_*} \mathcal{M}_{coh}(\pi_* \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$$

$$\downarrow^{\text{restrict}}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{f.g.}(\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}) \longleftarrow \mathcal{M}_{coh}(\widetilde{\mathcal{D}})$$

The composition of the top two arrows and the right-most arrow is the equivalence (2-20). (See [BB93, Sections 1.8.9, 2.5.3] for more details.)

2.3. Verma modules and dual Verma modules. Using the map (2-16) constructed in Section 2.1, we can describe the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on various classes of $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules. We start by examining the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules j_+O_U and $j_!O_U$, where $j:U\hookrightarrow\widetilde{X}$ is inclusion of the open union of N-orbits

$$U := \mathbb{C}^2 \backslash V(x_2). \tag{2-22}$$

Here the + and ! indicate the \mathcal{D} -module push-forward functors; see [Mil]. These are the $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -modules that are eventually endowed with geometric Jantzen filtrations in Section 2.5. In this section, we describe the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ O_U)$ and $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_! O_U)$. Because j is an open embedding, the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module $j_+ O_U$ is just the sheaf O_U with $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module structure given by the restriction of \mathcal{D}_U to $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_U$. Hence, the global sections of $j_+ O_U$ can be identified with the ring

$$\Gamma(\widetilde{X},j_+\mathcal{O}_U)=\mathbb{C}[x_1,x_2,x_2^{-1}].$$

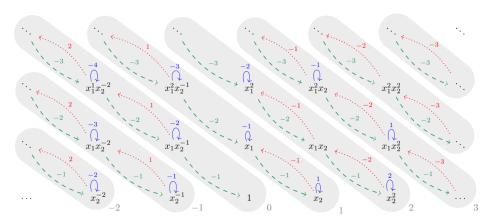


FIGURE 1. Dual Verma modules arise as global sections of j_+O_U .

The operators L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h from (2-10) and (2-13) act on monomials $x_1^m x_2^n$ for $m \ge 0$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ by the formulas

$$L_e \cdot x_1^m x_2^n = -m x_1^{m-1} x_2^{n+1}, \tag{2-23}$$

$$L_f \cdot x_1^m x_2^n = -n x_1^{m+1} x_2^{n-1}, \tag{2-24}$$

$$L_h \cdot x_1^m x_2^n = (n - m) x_1^m x_2^n, \tag{2-25}$$

$$R_h \cdot x_1^m x_2^n = (m+n) x_1^m x_2^n. \tag{2-26}$$

Using (2-23)–(2-26), we can illustrate the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ O_U)$ using nodes and colored arrows. We do this in Figure 1. The monomials $x_1^m x_2^n$ for $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ form a basis for $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ O_U)$. The green (dashed) arrows illustrate the action of the operator L_e on basis elements, the red (dotted) arrows the action of L_f , and the blue (solid) arrows the action of L_h . If an operator acts by zero, no arrow is included. The R_h -eigenspaces are highlighted in gray, with corresponding eigenvalues listed below.

REMARK 2.7. We make the following observations about the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module j_+O_U and its global sections.

(1) As a $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module, $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+O_U)$ decomposes into a direct sum of submodules, each of which is an R_h -eigenspace corresponding to an integer eigenvalue:

$$\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ O_U) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ O_U)_n.$$

In Figure 1, these eigenspaces are highlighted in gray.

(2) As a $\mathcal{U}(g)$ -module, the R_h -eigenspace $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+O_U)_n$ of eigenvalue n is isomorphic to the dual Verma module of highest weight n. In particular, it is irreducible if n < 0, and it has a unique irreducible finite-dimensional submodule if $n \ge 0$.

(3) The sheaf $\pi_* j_+ O_U$ is a monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -module because it admits an action of $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ (Definition 2.4). For each positive integer n, $\pi_* j_+ O_U$ has a subsheaf $(\pi_* j_+ O_U)_n$ on which R_h acts locally by the eigenvalue n. These subsheaves are \mathcal{D}_n -modules, where \mathcal{D}_n is the twisted sheaf of differential operators as defined in Remark 2.5. These are exactly the \mathcal{D}_n -modules appearing in [Rom21, Section 6, Figure 4].

Next we describe $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_! O_{\widetilde{X}})$. This is slightly more involved. By definition,

$$j_! = \mathbb{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \circ j_+ \circ \mathbb{D}_U, \tag{2-27}$$

where \mathbb{D} denotes the holonomic duality functor. Explicitly, for a smooth algebraic variety Y and a holonomic \mathcal{D}_Y -module \mathcal{V} ,

$$\mathbb{D}_{Y}(\mathcal{V}) := \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{D}_{Y}}^{\dim Y}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{D}_{X}). \tag{2-28}$$

This is a well-defined functor from the category of holonomic \mathcal{D}_Y -modules to itself [HTT08, Corollary 2.6.8].

The first two steps of the composition in (2-27) are straightforward to compute. The right \mathcal{D}_U -module $\mathbb{D}_U O_U$ is just the sheaf O_U , viewed as a right \mathcal{D}_U -module via the natural right action. Then, since j is an open immersion, $j_+\mathbb{D}_U O_U$ is the sheaf O_U with right $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -module structure given by restriction to $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}} \subset \mathcal{D}_U$.

To apply $\mathbb{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ to $j_+\mathbb{D}_U O_U$, we must take a projective resolution of $j_+\mathbb{D}_U O_U$. First, we make the identification

$$j_+\mathbb{D}_U O_U \simeq \langle \partial_1, \partial_2 \rangle \mathcal{D}_U \backslash \mathcal{D}_U.$$

We take the following free (hence, projective) resolution of $\langle \partial_1, \partial_2 \rangle \mathcal{D}_U \backslash \mathcal{D}_U$:

$$0 \leftarrow \langle \partial_1, \partial_2 \rangle \mathcal{D}_U \backslash \mathcal{D}_U \stackrel{\epsilon}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \stackrel{d_0}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \stackrel{d_1}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \stackrel{d_2}{\leftarrow} 0,$$

where the maps are defined by

$$\epsilon: 1 \mapsto x_2^{-1},$$

$$d_0: (\theta_1, \theta_2) \mapsto \partial_1 \theta_1 - x_2 \partial_2 \theta_2,$$

$$d_1: 1 \mapsto (x_2 \partial_2, \partial_1).$$

Applying $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{Y}},r}(-,\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$ to this complex, we obtain the complex

$$0 \to \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},r}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}) \xrightarrow{d_0^*} \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},r}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}) \xrightarrow{d_1^*} \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},r}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}) \xrightarrow{d_2^*} 0,$$

$$(2-29)$$

where d_i^* sends a morphism f to $f \circ d_i$.

Because the module $j_+\mathbb{D}_U O_U$ is holonomic, the complex (2-29) only has nonzero cohomology in degree 2. This can also be seen by direct computation. By identifying $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},r}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}})\simeq \mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ via $f\mapsto f(1)$ and $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},r}(\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}\oplus \mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}},\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}})\simeq \mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}\oplus \mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ via $f\mapsto (f(1,0),f(0,1))$, we see that

$$\ker d_2^* \simeq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$$
 and $\operatorname{im} d_1^* \simeq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 \rangle$.

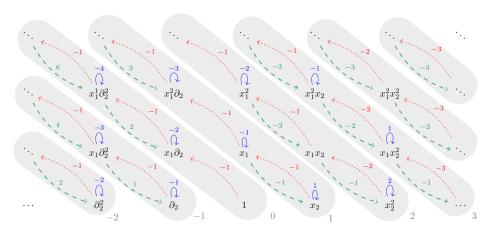


FIGURE 2. Verma modules arise as global sections of j_1O_U .

Hence,

$$j_! \mathcal{O}_U \simeq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} / \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 \rangle.$$

Now we can describe the global sections of $j_!O_U$ and illustrate their $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure, as we did for $O_{\widetilde{X}}$ and j_+O_U . The monomials $x_1^m x_2^n$ and $x_1^m \partial_2^n$ for $m, n \geq 0$ form a basis for $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_!O_U)$. The action of L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h on $x_1^m x_2^n$ for $m \geq 0$ and n > 0 is given by (2-23)–(2-26). The action of L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h on $x_1^m \partial_2^n$ for $m \geq 0$ and n > 0 is given by

$$L_e \cdot x_1^m \partial_2^n = m(n-1)x_1^{m-1} \partial_2^{n-1},$$

$$L_f \cdot x_1^m \partial_2^n = -x_1^{m+1} \partial_2^{n+1},$$
(2-30)

$$L_h \cdot x_1^m \partial_2^n = -(m+n) x_1^m \partial_2^n, \tag{2-31}$$

$$R_h \cdot x_1^m \partial_2^n = (m - n) x_1^m \partial_2^n.$$
 (2-32)

The action of L_e on x_1^m is given by (2-23), the action of L_f on x_1^m is given by (2-30), and the actions of L_h and R_h on x^m are given by either (2-25)–(2-26) or (2-31)–(2-32).

We illustrate the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure of $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_!O_U)$ in Figure 2. The colors (line-styles) indicate the same operators as in the earlier example: green (dashed) is L_e , red (dotted) is L_f , blue (solid) is L_h , and R_h -eigenspaces are highlighted in gray, with corresponding eigenvalues listed below.

REMARK 2.8. We make the following observations about $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_!O_U)$.

(1) As a $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module, $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_! O_U)$ decomposes into a direct sum of submodules, each of which is an R_h -eigenspace corresponding to an integer eigenvalue. Again, these eigenspaces are highlighted in gray.

- (2) As a $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -module, the R_h -eigenspace of $\Gamma(X, j_! O_U)$ of eigenvalue n is isomorphic to the Verma module of highest weight n. In particular, it is irreducible if n < 0, and it has a unique irreducible finite-dimensional quotient if $n \ge 0$.
- (3) The sheaf $\pi_* j_! O_U$ is an H-monodromic \mathcal{D}_X -module. For each positive integer n, $\pi_* j_! O_U$ has a subsheaf $(\pi_* j_! O_U)_n$ on which R_h acts locally by the eigenvalue n. These subsheaves are modules over the TDO \mathcal{D}_n (Remark 2.5). These are exactly the \mathcal{D}_n -modules appearing in [Rom21, Section 6, Figure 3].
- **2.4. The maximal extension** $\Xi_{\rho}O_U$. To describe the geometric Jantzen filtrations on the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules $j_!O_U$ and j_+O_U , it is necessary to introduce the maximal extension functor

$$\Xi_{\rho}: \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_U) \to \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\chi}}).$$

This functor (defined in (2-36) below) extends j_+ and $j_!$ (see (2-37)–(2-38)), so it is a natural way to study both modules $j_!O_U$ and j_+O_U at once. In this section, we give the construction of Ξ_ρ , then describe the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_\rho O_U)$.

To start, we recall the construction of maximal extension for \mathcal{D} -modules, which is a special case of the construction in [Bei87], which produces the maximal extension and nearby cycle functors. Let Y be a smooth variety, $f: Y \to \mathbb{A}^1$ a regular function, and

$$U := f^{-1}(\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}) \stackrel{j}{\hookrightarrow} Y \stackrel{i}{\hookleftarrow} f^{-1}(0)$$
 (2-33)

the corresponding open-closed decomposition of Y. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, denote by

$$I^{(n)} := (O_{\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\}} \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n)t^s \tag{2-34}$$

the free rank-1 $O_{\mathbb{A}^1-\{0\}}\otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n$ -module generated by the symbol t^s . The action $\partial_t \cdot t^s = st^{-1}t^s$ gives $I^{(n)}$ the structure of a $\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{A}^1-\{0\}}$ -module. Any \mathcal{D}_U -module \mathcal{M}_U can be deformed using $I^{(n)}$: set

$$f^s \mathcal{M}_U^{(n)} := f^+ I^{(n)} \otimes_{O_U} \mathcal{M}_U$$

to be the \mathcal{D}_U -module obtained by twisting \mathcal{M}_U by $I^{(n)}$. Note that $f^s \mathcal{M}_U^{(1)} = \mathcal{M}_U$, and that both $I^{(n)}$ and $f^s \mathcal{M}_U^{(n)}$ have a natural action by $s \in \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n$.

Assume that \mathcal{M}_U is holonomic. Denote by

can:
$$j_! f^s \mathcal{M}_{II}^{(n)} \to j_+ f^s \mathcal{M}_{II}^{(n)}$$
 (2-35)

the canonical map between the ! and + pushforwards, and

$$s^1(n): j_! f^s \mathcal{M}_U^{(n)} \to j_+ f^s \mathcal{M}_U^{(n)}$$

the composition of can with multiplication by s. For large enough n, the cokernel of $s^1(n)$ stabilizes; that is, $\operatorname{coker} s^1(n) = \operatorname{coker} s^1(n+k)$ for all k > 0. For $n \gg 0$, define the \mathcal{D}_Y -module

$$\Xi_f \mathcal{M}_U := \operatorname{coker} s^1(n), \tag{2-36}$$

called the *maximal extension* of \mathcal{M}_U . By construction, this module comes equipped with the nilpotent endomorphism s. The corresponding functor

$$\Xi_f: \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_U) \to \mathcal{M}_{\text{hol}}(\mathcal{D}_Y)$$

is exact [BB93, Lemma 4.2.1(i)]. Moreover, there are canonical short exact sequences [BB93, Lemma 4.2.1(ii)']

$$0 \to j_1 \mathcal{M}_U \to \Xi_f \mathcal{M}_U \to \text{coker(can)} \to 0$$
 (2-37)

$$0 \to \operatorname{coker}(\operatorname{can}) \to \Xi_f \mathcal{M}_U \to j_+ \mathcal{M}_U \to 0 \tag{2-38}$$

with $j_! = \ker(s : \Xi_f \to \Xi_f)$ and $j_+ = \operatorname{coker}(s : \Xi_f \to \Xi_f)$.

Now, we apply this general construction in the setting of our example. Let \widetilde{X} and U be as above (see (2-5) and (2-22)), and let f_{ρ} be the function

$$f_{\rho}: \widetilde{X} \to \mathbb{A}^1; (x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_2.$$

This choice of function corresponds to the deformation direction $\rho \in \mathfrak{h}^*$; see Remarks 1.3 and 2.10.

For a variety Y, set

$$\mathcal{A}_Y := \mathcal{D}_Y \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n$$
.

We compute the maximal extension $\Xi_{\rho}O_U := \Xi_{f_{\rho}}O_U$ of the structure sheaf O_U using the construction above, then describe the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on its global sections. To clarify the exposition, we list each step as a subsection.

2.4.1. Step 1: Deformation. Let $I^{(n)}$ be as in (2-34). The deformed version of O_U is

$$f^sO_U^{(n)}=f^+I^{(n)}=O_U\otimes_{f^{-1}(O_{\mathbb{A}^1-\{0\}})}f^{-1}(I^{(n)}).$$

The global sections of $f^sO_U^{(n)}$ are

$$(\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_2^{-1}] \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n)t^s, \tag{2-39}$$

where the differentials $\partial_1, \partial_2 \in \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}})$ act on the generator t^s by

$$\partial_1 \cdot t^s = 0$$
 and $\partial_2 \cdot t^s = sx_2^{-1}t^s$.

Alternatively, we can identify $f^sO_U^{(n)}$ with a quotient of \mathcal{A}_U :

$$f^{s}O_{U}^{(n)} = \mathcal{A}_{U}/\mathcal{A}_{U}\langle\partial_{1}, x_{2}\partial_{2} - s\rangle. \tag{2-40}$$

Both descriptions are useful below.

2.4.2. Step 2: +-pushforward. Because $j: U \hookrightarrow \widetilde{X}$ is an open embedding, the $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module $j_+ f^s \mathcal{O}_U^{(n)}$ is the sheaf $f^s \mathcal{O}_U^{(n)}$ with $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module structure given by restriction to $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \subset \mathcal{D}_U$. Under the identification (2-40),

$$j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)} = \mathcal{A}_U / \mathcal{A}_U \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle,$$

with $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -action given by left multiplication.

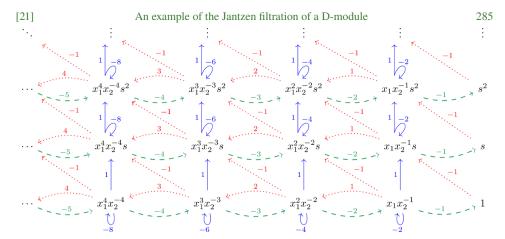


FIGURE 3. Deformed dual Verma modules arise as global sections of $j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)}$.

It is interesting to examine the $\overline{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on the global sections of this module. The operators L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h in (2-10), (2-13) act on the monomial basis elements of (2-39) by the following formulas:

$$L_e \cdot x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s = -k x_1^{k-1} x_2^{\ell+1} s^m t^s; \tag{2-41}$$

$$L_f \cdot x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s = (-s - \ell) x_1^{k+1} x_2^{\ell-1} s^m t^s; \tag{2-42}$$

$$L_h \cdot x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s = (s - k + \ell) x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s; \tag{2-43}$$

$$R_h \cdot x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s = (s + k + \ell) x_2^k x_2^\ell s'^m t^s.$$
 (2-44)

The resulting $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module has a natural filtration given by powers of s, and it decomposes into a direct sum of submodules spanned by monomials $\{x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s\}$ for fixed integers $k+\ell$. Each of these submodules has the structure of a deformed dual Verma module, as illustrated in Figure 3 for $k+\ell=0$. Note that in Figure 3, we omit the generator t^s and the arrows corresponding to the R_h -action for clarity.

Moreover, one can compute that the Casimir element L_{Ω} in (2-11) acts by

$$L_{\Omega} \cdot x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s = ((k+\ell)^2 + 2(k+\ell) + 2s(1+k+\ell) + s^2) x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s. \tag{2-45}$$

Since *s* is nilpotent, we can see from this computation that a high enough power of the operator

$$L_{\Omega} - \gamma_{\text{HC}}(k+\ell) = 2s(1+k+\ell) + s^2$$
 (2-46)

annihilates any monomial basis element. (Here, γ_{HC} is the Harish-Chandra projection in (2-3).) Hence, the global sections of the submodules of $j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)}$ spanned by monomials $\{x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m t^s\}$ for fixed integers $k+\ell$ have generalized, but not strict, infinitesimal character.

2.4.3. Step 3: !-pushforward. Recall that $j_! = \mathbb{D}_{\widetilde{X}} \circ j_+ \circ \mathbb{D}_U$, where \mathbb{D} denotes holonomic duality, as in (2-28). We begin by computing the right \mathcal{D}_U -module $\mathbb{D}_U f^s \mathcal{O}_U^{(n)}$ by

taking a projective resolution of $f^sO_U^{(n)}$ as a left \mathcal{A}_U -module. This is straightforward using the description (2-39). The complex

$$0 \xrightarrow{d_2} \mathcal{A}_U \xrightarrow{d_1} \mathcal{A}_U \oplus \mathcal{A}_U \oplus \mathcal{A}_U \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \mathcal{A}_U / \mathcal{A}_U \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle \to 0,$$

where ϵ is the canonical quotient map, d_0 sends $(\theta_1, \theta_2) \in \mathcal{A}_U \oplus \mathcal{A}_U$ to $\theta_1 \partial_1 - \theta_2(x_2 \partial_2 - s)$, and d_1 sends $1 \mapsto (x_2 \partial_2 - s, \partial_1)$, is a free resolution of the left \mathcal{A}_U -module $f^s O_U^{(n)}$. Applying the functor $Hom_{\mathcal{A}_U}(-, \mathcal{A}_U)$ and making the natural identification

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}_U}(\mathcal{A}_U, \mathcal{A}_U) \simeq \mathcal{A}_U; \varphi \mapsto \varphi(1)$$

of right \mathcal{A}_U -modules, we see that

$$\mathbb{D}_U f^s O_U^{(n)} = \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_U}^2 (f^s O_U^{(n)}, \mathcal{A}_U) = \operatorname{im} \ d_1^* \setminus \ker d_2^* = \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle \mathcal{A}_U \setminus \mathcal{A}_U.$$

Here, $d_i^*(\varphi) = \varphi \circ d_i$ for an appropriate homomorphism φ , and the right \mathcal{A}_U -module structure is given by right multiplication.

To finish the computation of $j_1 f^s O_U^{(n)}$, we must take a projective resolution of this module. We do so following a similar process to the !-pushforward computation in Section 2.3. Denote by I the right ideal $\langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle \mathcal{H}_U$ in \mathcal{H}_U . The complex

$$0 \leftarrow I \backslash \mathcal{A}_U \xleftarrow{\epsilon} \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \xleftarrow{d_0} \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \oplus \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \xleftarrow{d_1} \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \xleftarrow{d_2} 0$$

with maps given by

$$\epsilon: 1 \mapsto Ix_2^{-1};$$

$$d_0: (\theta_1, \theta_2) \mapsto x_2 \partial_1 \theta_1 - (x_2^2 \partial_2 - x_2 s) \theta_2;$$

$$d_1: 1 \mapsto (x_2 \partial_2 - s, \partial_1)$$

is a free resolution of $\mathbb{D}_U f^s O_U^{(n)}$ by right $\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -modules. Applying $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}},r}(-,\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}})$ and making the natural identifications as above,

$$j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} = \ker d_2^* / \operatorname{im} \ d_1^* = \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} / \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle.$$

The left $\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module structure is given by left multiplication.

Again, it is interesting to examine the \mathcal{U} -module structure on the global sections of this module. The global sections of $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$ are spanned by monomials $x_1^kx_2^\ell s^m$ for $k,\ell \geq 0$ and $0 \leq m < n$, and $x_1^a\partial_2^b s^m$ for $a,b \geq 0$ and $0 \leq m < n$. For $\ell > 0$, the L_e,L_f,L_h , and R_h -actions on the monomials $x_1^kx_2^\ell s^m$ are as in (2-41)–(2-44) (where we identify the generator t^s of $j_+f^sO_U^{(n)}$ with the coset containing 1 in $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$), and the actions on the monomials $x_1^a\partial_2^b s^m$ are given by the following formulas:

$$L_{e} \cdot x_{1}^{a} \partial_{2}^{b} s^{m} = a(b-1-s) x_{1}^{a-1} \partial_{2}^{b-1} s^{m};$$

$$L_{f} \cdot x_{1}^{a} \partial_{2}^{b} s^{m} = -x_{1}^{a+1} \partial_{2}^{b+1} s^{m};$$

$$L_{h} \cdot x_{1}^{a} \partial_{2}^{b} s^{m} = (s-a-b) x_{1}^{a} \partial_{2}^{b} s^{m};$$
(2-47)

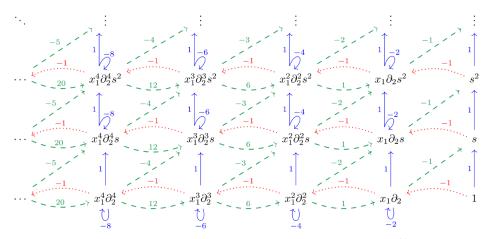


FIGURE 4. Deformed Verma modules arise as global sections of $j_! f^s O_U^{(n)}$.

$$R_h \cdot x_1^a \partial_2^b s^m = (s + a - b) x_1^a \partial_2^b s^m. \tag{2-48}$$

For $\ell = b = 0$, the actions of L_h and R_h are as in (2-47)–(2-48), and the actions of L_e and L_f are given by

$$L_e \cdot x_1^k s^m = -k x_1^{k-1} x_2 s^m; L_f \cdot x_1^k s^m = -x_1^{k+1} \partial_2 s^m.$$

As in Section 2.4.2, this $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module has an n-step filtration by powers of s, and decomposes into a direct sum of $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -submodules, each spanned by the set of monomials $\{x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m\}$ and $\{x_1^a \partial_2^b s^m\}$ such that $k + \ell = a - b$ is a fixed integer. For $k + \ell = a - b = \lambda$, this submodule is isomorphic to a deformed Verma module of highest weight λ . We illustrate the module corresponding to $\lambda = 0$ in Figure 4.

2.4.4. Step 4: Image of the canonical map. Set $I_U = \mathcal{A}_U \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle$ and $I_{\widetilde{X}} = \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} \langle \partial_1, x_2 \partial_2 - s \rangle$ to be the left ideals generated by the operators ∂_1 and $x_2 \partial_2 - s$ in \mathcal{A}_U and $\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}$, respectively. The canonical map between the !- and +-pushforwards is given by

$$\begin{split} j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} &= \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} / I_{\widetilde{X}} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{can}} \mathcal{A}_U / I_U = j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)} \\ &1 I_{\widetilde{X}} \longmapsto 1 I_U. \end{split}$$

Since $1\mathcal{H}_{\widetilde{X}}$ generates $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$ as an $\mathcal{H}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -module, its image completely determines the morphism can. On the monomial basis elements $x_1^kx_2^\ell s^m$ and $x_1^k\partial_2^\ell s^m$ of $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$, the canonical map acts by

$$x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m \xrightarrow{\text{can}} x_1^k x_2^\ell s^m \quad \text{and} \quad x_1^a \partial_2^b s^m \xrightarrow{\text{can}} s(s-1) \cdots (s-b+1) x_1^a x_2^{-b} s^m$$
 (2-49)

for b > 1. For b = 1, $x_1^a \partial_2 s^m \stackrel{\text{can}}{\longmapsto} s x_1^a x_2^{-1}$.

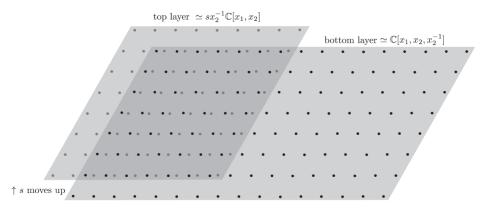


FIGURE 5. Caricature of the maximal extension $\Xi_0 O_U$.

The image of the morphism can is the $\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}$ -submodule

im (can) =
$$\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}/I_U \subset \mathcal{A}_U/I_U$$
.

In the description of the global sections of $j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)}$ in (2-39), the global sections of im (can) can be identified with

$$(\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2] \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^n + \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_2^{-1}] \otimes s\mathbb{C}[s]/s^n)t^s.$$

2.4.5. Step 5: The maximal extension. Composing the canonical map can with s gives

$$s^{1}(n): \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}}/I_{\widetilde{X}} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{can}} \mathcal{A}_{U}/I_{U} \xrightarrow{s} \mathcal{A}_{U}/I_{U}.$$
 (2-50)

The global sections of the image of $s^1(n)$ (as a submodule of (2-39)) are

$$\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \text{im } s^1(n)) \simeq (\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2] \otimes s\mathbb{C}[s]/s^n + \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_2^{-1}] \otimes s^2\mathbb{C}[s]/s^n)t^s.$$

This gives us an explicit description of $\Xi_{\rho}O_U = \operatorname{coker} s^1(n)$:

$$\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_{\rho}O_{U}) = (\mathbb{C}[x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{2}^{-1}] \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^{n})t^{s}/\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \text{im } s^{1}(n))$$

$$= (\mathbb{C}[x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{2}^{-1}] \otimes \mathbb{C}[s]/s^{2})t^{s}/(\mathbb{C}[x_{1}, x_{2}] \otimes s\mathbb{C}[s]/s^{2})t^{s}. \tag{2-51}$$

A caricature of the $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}})$ -module (2-51) is illustrated as in Figure 5. It has two layers, corresponding to the two nonzero powers of s, and action by s moves layers up. As vector spaces, the bottom layer is isomorphic to $\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_2^{-1}]$ and the top layer to $sx_2^{-1}\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2^{-1}]$.

Our final step is to examine the $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module structure on $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_{\rho}O_U)$. The module (2-51) has a basis given by monomials $x_1^k x_2^\ell t^s$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$, and $x_1^k x_2^\ell s t^s$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{< 0}$. The actions of the operators L_e, L_f, L_h , and R_h in (2-10) on these monomials are given by applying the formulas (2-41)–(2-44) and taking the image of the resulting monomials in the quotient (2-51).

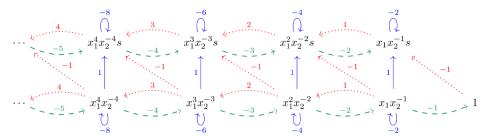


FIGURE 6. Big projective modules arise as global sections of slices of $\Xi_o O_U$.

The $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_\rho O_U)$ splits into a direct sum of submodules spanned by monomials $x_1^k x_2^\ell t^s$ and $x_1^k x_2^\ell s t^s$ such that $k+\ell$ is a fixed integer. We illustrate the submodule for $k+\ell=0$ in Figure 6. For clarity, we drop the generator t^s from our notation in Figure 6. If $\lambda \geq 0$, the submodule corresponding to the integer $\lambda = k+\ell$ has the Verma module of highest weight λ as a submodule, and the dual Verma module corresponding to λ as a quotient. As a $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -module, it is isomorphic to the big projective module $P(w_0\lambda)$ in the corresponding block of category O. (The big projective module is the projective cover of the irreducible highest-weight module $L(w_0\lambda)$, where w_0 is the longest element of the Weyl group. It is the longest indecomposable projective object in the block O_{λ} of category O [Hum08, Section 3.12].)

2.5. The monodromy filtration and the geometric Jantzen filtration. The maximal extension $\Xi_{\rho}O_U$ naturally comes equipped with a nilpotent endomorphism s, giving it a corresponding monodromy filtration. This is the source of the geometric Jantzen filtrations on $j_!O_U$ and j_+O_U . In this section, we use the monodromy filtration on $\Xi_{\rho}O_U$ to compute the geometric Jantzen filtration on $j_!O_U$. Using the computations of Section 2.4, we then describe the corresponding $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ -module filtration on global sections.

We begin by recalling monodromy filtrations in abelian categories, following [Del80, Section 1.6]. Given an object A in an abelian category $\mathcal A$ and a nilpotent endomorphism $s:A\to A$, it follows from the Jacobson–Morosov theorem [Del80, Proposition 1.6.1] that there exists a unique increasing exhaustive filtration μ^{\bullet} on A such that $s\mu^n\subset \mu^{n-2}$, and for $k\in\mathbb N$, s^k induces an isomorphism $\mathrm{gr}_{\mu}^kA\simeq \mathrm{gr}_{\mu}^{-k}A$. This unique filtration is called the *monodromy filtration* of A.

Following Deligne's proof in [Del80, Section 1.6], the monodromy filtration can be described explicitly in terms of powers of *s*. Namely, if we set

$$\mathcal{K}^p A := \begin{cases} \ker s^{p+1} & \text{for } p \ge 0; \\ 0 & \text{for } p < 0 \end{cases}$$

to be the kernel filtration of A and

$$\mathscr{I}^q A := \begin{cases} \text{im } s^q & \text{for } q > 0; \\ A & \text{for } q \le 0, \end{cases}$$

to be the image filtration of A, then μ^{\bullet} is the convolution of the kernel and image filtrations; that is,

$$\mu^r = \sum_{p-q=r} \mathcal{K}^p \cap \mathcal{I}^q. \tag{2-52}$$

The monodromy filtration μ^{\bullet} induces filtrations $J_{!}^{\bullet}$ on ker s and J_{+}^{\bullet} on coker s. By (2-52), these can be seen to be

$$J_1^i = \ker s \cap \mathscr{I}^{-i}$$
 and $J_+^i = (\mathscr{K}^i + \operatorname{im} s)/\operatorname{im} s.$ (2-53)

In the setting of holonomic \mathcal{D} -modules, the filtrations $J_{!}^{\bullet}$ and J_{+}^{\bullet} define the geometric Jantzen filtrations.

DEFINITION 2.9. Let Y be a smooth variety, f a regular function on Y and $U = f^{-1}(\mathbb{A}^1 - \{0\})$ as in (2-34). For a holonomic \mathcal{D}_U -module \mathcal{M}_U , recall that $j_!\mathcal{M}_U = \ker(s: \Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U \to \Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U)$ and $j_+\mathcal{M}_U = \operatorname{coker}(s: \Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U \to \Xi_f\mathcal{M}_U)$ [BB93, Lemma 4.2.1]. The filtrations $J_!^{\bullet}$ of $j_!\mathcal{M}_U$ and J_+^{\bullet} of $j_+\mathcal{M}_U$ are called the *geometric Jantzen filtrations*.

Now we return to our running example. The monodromy filtration μ^{\bullet} on $\Xi_{\rho}O_U$ is

$$\mu^{-2} = 0 \subset \mu^{-1} = \text{im } s \subset \mu^0 = j_! O_U \subset \mu^1 = \Xi_\rho O_U.$$

Restricting this to ker $s = j_!O_U$, we obtain the geometric Jantzen filtration of $j_!O_U$:

$$0 \subset \text{im } s \subset j_1 O_U$$
.

The induced filtration on coker $s = j_+ O_U$ gives the geometric Jantzen filtration on $j_+ O_U$:

$$0 \subset \ker s / \operatorname{im} s \subset j_+ O_U$$
.

REMARK 2.10 (Geometric deformation direction). There are other choices of regular functions on \widetilde{X} that we could have used in the construction of these filtrations. In particular, if $\gamma \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ is dominant and integral such that $\gamma(h) = n$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, then the function $f_{\gamma}: (x_1, x_2) \mapsto x_2^n$ can be used to define an intermediate extension functor $\Xi_{f_{\gamma}}$ and corresponding Jantzen filtrations. Beilinson and Bernstein establish that all such f_{γ} lead to the same filtration. For general Lie algebras \mathfrak{g} , the construction can also be done for other choices of meromorphic functions on \widetilde{X} , but it is unclear geometrically whether these result in different filtrations [BB93, Section 4.3]. This is comparable to the dependence on deformation direction in the algebraic Jantzen filtration; see Remark 1.3.

Using the computations in Section 2.4, we can examine the \mathcal{U} -module filtrations that we obtain on global sections. Recall that $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_\rho O_U)$ decomposes into a direct sum of submodules spanned by monomials $x_1^k x_2^\ell t^s$ and $x_1^k x_2^\ell s t^s$ such that $k + \ell$ is a fixed nonnegative integer. Figure 6 illustrates the submodule corresponding to $k + \ell = 0$. Looking at this figure, it is clear that $\ker s = \operatorname{span}\{x_1^k x_2^\ell s t^s, t^s\}$ is isomorphic to the

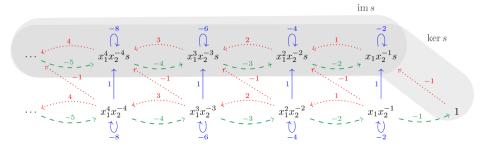


FIGURE 7. Global sections of the monodromy filtration on $\Xi_{\rho}O_U$ are the composition series of the big projective module.

Verma module of highest weight 0, and coker $s = \operatorname{span}\{x_1^k x_2^\ell t^s\}$ is isomorphic to the corresponding dual Verma module. Moreover, the global sections of the monodromy filtration on $\Xi_\rho O_U$ restricted to the submodule corresponding to $k+\ell=\lambda$ is the composition series of the corresponding big projective module $P(w_0\lambda)$ when $\lambda \geq 0$. This is illustrated in Figure 7 for $\lambda=0$. We conclude that the filtrations on the Verma module $M(\lambda)$ and dual Verma module $I(\lambda)$ obtained by taking global sections of the geometric Jantzen filtrations are the composition series. Note that this is an $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ phenomenon. For larger groups, this procedure yields a filtration different from the composition series.

2.6. Relation to the algebraic Jantzen filtration. The geometric Jantzen filtrations described above have an algebraic analogue, due to Jantzen [Jan79]. In this section, we recall the construction of the algebraic Jantzen filtration of a Verma module, then explain its relation with the geometric construction in Section 2.5.

2.6.1. The algebraic Jantzen filtration. We follow [Soe08]. Another nice reference for Jantzen filtrations is [IK11].

Let $\mathfrak g$ be a complex semisimple Lie algebra, $\mathfrak b$ a fixed Borel subalgebra, $\mathfrak n=[\mathfrak b,\mathfrak b]$ the nilpotent radical of $\mathfrak b$, and $\mathfrak b$ a Cartan subalgebra so that $\mathfrak b=\mathfrak h\oplus\mathfrak n$. Denote by $\bar{\mathfrak b}$ the opposite Borel subalgebra to $\mathfrak b$. For $\lambda\in\mathfrak h^*$, denote the Verma module of highest weight λ by

$$M(\lambda) := \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{b})} \mathbb{C}_{\lambda}.$$

Denote by $I(\lambda)$ the corresponding dual Verma module, defined to be the direct sum of weight spaces in

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathfrak{b}})}(\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}), \mathbb{C}_{\lambda}).$$

Set $T = O(\mathbb{C}\rho)$ to be the ring of regular functions on the line $\mathbb{C}\rho \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$, where ρ is the half-sum of positive roots in the root system determined by \mathfrak{b} . A choice of linear functional $s : \mathbb{C}\rho \to \mathbb{C}$ gives an isomorphism $T \simeq \mathbb{C}[s]$. Fix such an identification. Set $A := T_{(s)}$ to be the local \mathbb{C} -algebra obtained from T by inverting all polynomials not

divisible by s, and

$$\varphi: O(\mathfrak{h}^*) \to A \tag{2-54}$$

to be the composition of the restriction map $O(\mathfrak{h}^*) \to T$ with the inclusion $T \hookrightarrow A$. Note that under the identification $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{h}) \simeq O(\mathfrak{h}^*)$, $\varphi(\mathfrak{h}) \subseteq (s)$, the unique maximal ideal of A.

Let V be a (g,A)-bimodule on which the right and left actions of \mathbb{C} agree. The deformed weight space V^{μ} of V corresponding to a weight μ is the subspace

$$V^{\mu} := \{ v \in V \mid (h - \mu(h))v = v\varphi(h) \text{ for all } h \in \mathfrak{h} \}. \tag{2-55}$$

The direct sum of all deformed weight spaces of V is a (g, A)-submodule of V [Soe08, Section 2.3].

For $\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}^*$, the deformed Verma module corresponding to λ is the (\mathfrak{g}, A) -bimodule

$$M_A(\lambda) := \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes_{\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{b})} A_{\lambda},$$

where the $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{b})$ -module structure on A_{λ} is given by extending the \mathfrak{h} -action

$$h \cdot a = (\lambda + \varphi)(h)a$$

trivially to b. Here, $h \in \mathfrak{h}$, $a \in A$, and φ is as in (2-54). The deformed Verma module $M_A(\lambda)$ is equal to the direct sum of its deformed weight spaces.

The deformed dual Verma module $I_A(\lambda)$ corresponding to λ is the direct sum of deformed weight spaces in the (\mathfrak{g}, A) -bimodule

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathfrak{b}})}(\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}), A_{\lambda}). \tag{2-56}$$

There is a canonical isomorphism [Soe08, Proposition 2.12]

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{(\mathfrak{g},A)-\operatorname{mod}}(M_A(\lambda),I_A(\lambda)) \simeq A.$$

Under this isomorphism, $1 \in A$ distinguishes a canonical (g, A)-bimodule homomorphism

$$\psi_{A,\lambda}: M_A(\lambda) \to I_A(\lambda).$$
 (2-57)

For any A-module M, there is a descending A-module filtration $M^i := s^i M$ with associated grading $gr^i M = M^i/M^{i+1}$. Hence, there is a reduction map

$$red: M \to gr^0 M = M/sM.$$

For $M_A(\lambda)$ and $I_A(\lambda)$, the layers of this filtration are g-stable, so we obtain surjective g-module homomorphisms

red:
$$M_A(\lambda) \to M(\lambda) = gr^0 M_A(\lambda)$$
 and red: $I_A(\lambda) \to I(\lambda) = gr^0 I_A(\lambda)$. (2-58)

Pulling back the filtration above along the canonical map $\psi_{A,\lambda}$ in (2-57) gives a (g, A)-bimodule filtration of $M_A(\lambda)$.

DEFINITION 2.11. The algebraic Jantzen filtration of $M_A(\lambda)$ is the (\mathfrak{g}, A) -bimodule filtration

$$M_A(\lambda)^i := \{ m \in M_A(\lambda) \mid \psi_{A,\lambda}(m) \in s^i I_A(\lambda) \},$$

where $\psi_{A,\lambda}$ is the canonical map (2-54). By applying the reduction map in (2-58) to the filtration layers, we obtain a filtration $M(\lambda)^{\bullet}$ of $M(\lambda)$.

2.6.2. Relationship between algebraic and geometric Jantzen filtrations. Though the constructions seem quite different at first glance, the geometric Jantzen filtration in Section 2.5 aligns with the algebraic Jantzen filtration described in Section 2.6.1 under the global sections functor. In this final section, we illustrate this relationship through our running example.

Recall the canonical map (2-35):

can:
$$j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} \to j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)}$$
.

As illustrated in Figures 3 and 4, the global sections of $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$ and $j_+f^sO_U^{(n)}$ decompose into direct sums of deformed dual Verma and Verma modules, respectively. The global sections of can are the direct sum of $\psi_{A,\lambda}$ in (2-57) for all integral λ .

REMARK 2.12. To be more precise, the submodules of $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_! f^s O_U^{(n)})$ and $\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_+ f^s O_U^{(n)})$ corresponding to an integer λ are truncated versions of $M_A(\lambda)$ in (2-56) and $I_A(\lambda)$ in (2-56) obtained by taking a quotient so that $s^n = 0$.

There are two natural filtrations of $j_!O_U$ that we have described using this set-up.

Filtration 1: (algebraic Jantzen filtration)

We obtain a filtration of $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$ by pulling back the 'powers of s' filtration along can. This induces a filtration on the quotient

$$j_!(O_U) \simeq j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} / s j_! f^s O_U^{(n)}.$$
 (2-59)

This is exactly the \mathcal{D} -module analogue of the algebraic Jantzen filtration described in Section 2.6.1. On global sections, it is the filtration

$$F^{i}\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_{!}O_{U}) = \{ v \in \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_{!}O_{U}) \mid \Gamma(\operatorname{can})(v) \in s^{i}\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_{+}f^{s}O_{U}^{(n)}) \}. \tag{2-60}$$

Filtration 2: (geometric Jantzen filtration)

There is a unique monodromy filtration on $\Xi_{\rho}O_U = \operatorname{coker}(s \circ \operatorname{can})$. Restricting this to the kernel of s, we obtain a filtration on

$$j_! O_U \simeq \ker(s : \Xi_\rho O_U \to \Xi_\rho O_U).$$
 (2-61)

This is the geometric Jantzen filtration. It can be realized explicitly in terms of the image of powers of s using (2-53). On global sections, this gives

$$G^{i}\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, j_{!}O_{U}) = \{ w \in \ker(s \cup \Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_{o}O_{U})) \mid w \in s^{i}\Gamma(\widetilde{X}, \Xi_{o}O_{U}) \}. \tag{2-62}$$

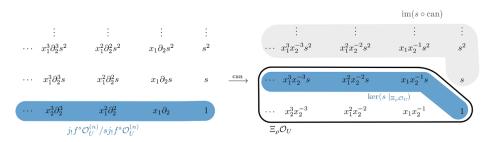


FIGURE 8. Relationship between the algebraic and geometric Jantzen filtrations.

It is helpful to see these filtrations in a picture. Figure 8 illustrates the set-up when restricted to the submodule corresponding to $\lambda = 0$.

The map can is described on basis elements in (2-49). Computing these actions for $\lambda = 0$, we see in Figure 8 that can fixes the right-most column and sends any other monomial on the left to a linear combination of monomials directly above the corresponding monomial on the right. The image of $s_1(n) = s \circ \text{can}$ in (2-50) is highlighted in gray. The quotient by this image is the maximal extension, which is outlined in the black box. The quotient in (2-59) is highlighted in blue (darker shading) in the left hand module, and the submodule in (2-61) is highlighted in blue (darker shading) in the right-hand module.

We see that there are two copies of $j_!O_U$ (each highlighted in blue (darker shading) in Figure 8) in this set-up: one as a quotient of the left-hand module $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$, and one as a submodule of a quotient of the right-hand module $j_+f^sO_U^{(n)}$. These two copies can be naturally identified as follows.

Because the submodule $sj_!f^sO_U^{(n)}$ is in the kernel of the composition of can with the quotient $j_!f^sO_U^{(n)} \to \operatorname{coker}(s \circ \operatorname{can}) = \Xi_pO_U$, the map can descends to a map on the quotient:

$$\overline{\operatorname{can}}: j_! O_U \simeq j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} / s j_! f^s O_U^{(n)} \to \Xi_\rho O_U.$$

By construction, the map $\overline{\operatorname{can}}$ is injective. Its image is exactly $\ker(s:\Xi_\rho O_U \to \Xi_\rho O_U)$. This is immediately apparent in Figure 8. Hence, $\overline{\operatorname{can}}$ provides an explicit isomorphism that can be used to identify the two copies of $j_!O_U$. Under this identification, the algebraic Jantzen filtration in (2-60) and the geometric Jantzen filtration in (2-62) clearly align.

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