

# FQM problem Sheet 14 in WS 2022/2023

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Discussion: 01.02.2023, 14:00 – 16:00

1. **Representation of  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  with maximum weight  $2\mu^1$  (10)**

We consider the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  with the two-dimensional Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  generated by the basis elements  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ . As you already know, the roots ( $\equiv$  weights of the adjoint representation) are given by  $\{\pm\alpha^1, \pm\alpha^2, \pm(\alpha^1 + \alpha^2)\}$ , where  $\alpha^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$  and  $\alpha^2 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$ . The weights of the defining representation are  $\{\mu^1, \mu^2, -(\mu^1 + \mu^2)\}$ , where  $\mu^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\right)$  and  $\mu^2 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\right)$ . [Sorry, there is a consistent sign change in  $\mu_2$  compared to standard terminology. Following the standard terminology we have: The weights of the defining representation are  $\{\mu^1, -\mu^2, \mu^2 - \mu^1\}$ , where  $\mu^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\right)$  and  $\mu^2 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\right)$ .]

(a) **Construct** the representation of  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  with maximum weight  $2\mu^1$ , i.e.  $E_{\alpha^1} |2\mu^1\rangle = E_{\alpha^2} |2\mu^1\rangle = 0$ <sup>1</sup>.

- i. From the lecture you know  $\frac{\alpha \cdot \mu}{\alpha \cdot \alpha} = -\frac{1}{2}(p - q)$ . (What is  $p$  and  $q$ , respectively?)
- ii. Similarly,  $[E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}] \in \mathfrak{h}$ . (lecture)
- iii.  $[E_\alpha, E_\beta] = 0$  if  $\alpha + \beta$  is not a root (and  $[E_\alpha, E_\beta] \simeq E_{\alpha+\beta}$  otherwise)

**Hint:** Construct new states by application of suitable  $E$ 's to the given state. Show the last of the remarks and then use it (among other things) to determine “the  $p$  and  $q$ ” of the new states you construct. Continue the procedure.

2. **Tensor product of two representations (10)**

We consider the tensor product of two defining representations ( $[3]$ ) of  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  ( $\hat{=} [3] \otimes [3]$ ). This is again a representation of the  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  by componentwise operation:

$$h_\nu = h_{1,\nu} + h_{2,\nu} := h_\nu \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes h_\nu$$

$$E_\alpha = E_{1,\alpha} + E_{2,\alpha} := E_\alpha \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes E_\alpha$$

**Show:**  $[3] \otimes [3]$  decomposes into a 6-dim. representation, which starts from  $|\mu^1\rangle \otimes \mu^1 \hat{=} |2\mu^1\rangle$ , and a 3-dim. representation conjugate (i.e. with inverted roots) to  $[3]$ :  $[\bar{3}]$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Normalized basis states to weight  $\mu$  are written as  $|\mu\rangle$ ,