

# $q$ -Analog of Gelfand–Graev basis for the noncompact quantum algebra $U_q(u(n, 1))^*$

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## Abstract

For the quantum algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1))$  in its reduction on the subalgebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n))$  an explicit description of a Mickelsson–Zhelobenko reduction algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  is given in terms of the generators and their defining relations. Using this  $Z$ -algebra we describe Hermitian irreducible representations of a discrete series for the quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n, 1))$  which is a real form of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n))$ . Namely, an orthonormal Gelfand–Tsetlin basis is constructed in explicit form.

## 1 Introduction

In 1950 I.M. Gelfand and M.L. Tsetlin [1] proposed a formal description of finite-dimensional irreducible representations (IR) for the compact Lie algebra  $u(n)$ . This description is a generalization of results for  $u(2)$  and  $u(3)$  on the case  $u(n)$ . It is the following. In the IR space of  $u(n)$  there is a orthonormalized basis which is numerated by the following formal schemes

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{1n} & & m_{2n} & & \dots & & m_{n-1,n} & & m_{nn} \\ & m_{1,n-1} & & m_{2,n-1} & & \dots & & m_{n-1,n-1} & \\ & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & \\ & & & m_{12} & & m_{22} & & & \\ & & & & m_{11} & & & & \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1)$$

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where all numbers  $m_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ) are nonnegative integers and they satisfy the standard inequalities, "between conditions":

$$m_{ij+1} \geq m_{ij} \geq m_{i+1j+1} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n-1. \quad (1.2)$$

The first line of this scheme is defined by the components of the highest weight of  $u(n)$  IR, the second line is defined by the components of the highest weight of  $u(n-1)$  IR and so on.

Later this basis was constructed in many papers (for example, see [2, 3, 4]) by using one-step lowering and raising operators.

In 1965 I.M. Gelfand and M.I. Graev [5] using analytic continuation of the results for  $u(n)$  obtained some results for non-compact Lie algebra  $u(n, m)$ . They shown that some class of Hermitian IR of  $u(n, m)$  is characterized by a "extremal weight" parametrized by a set of integers  $m_N = (m_{1N}, \dots, m_{NN})$  ( $N = n + m$ ) such that  $m_{1N} \geq m_{1N} \geq \dots \geq m_{NN}$ , and by a representation type which is defined by a partition of  $n$  in the sum of two nonnegative integers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $n = \alpha + \beta$  (also see [6]).

For simplicity we consider the case  $u(2, 1)$ . In this case we have three type of scheme

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{13} & m_{23} & m_{33} \\ m_{12} & m_{22} & \\ m_{11} & & \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } (\alpha, \beta) = (2, 0), \quad (1.3)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{13} & m_{23} & m_{33} \\ m_{12} & & m_{22} \\ & m_{11} & \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } (\alpha, \beta) = (1, 1), \quad (1.4)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{13} & m_{23} & m_{33} \\ & m_{12} & m_{22} \\ & & m_{11} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } (\alpha, \beta) = (0, 2). \quad (1.5)$$

The numbers  $m_{ij}$  of the first scheme satisfy the following inequalities

$$m_{12} \geq m_{13} + 1, \quad m_{13} + 1 \geq m_{22} \geq m_{23} + 1, \quad m_{12} \geq m_{11} \geq m_{22}. \quad (1.6)$$

The numbers  $m_{ij}$  of the second scheme satisfy the following inequalities

$$m_{12} \geq m_{13} + 1, \quad m_{13} - 1 \geq m_{22}, \quad m_{12} \geq m_{11} \geq m_{22}. \quad (1.7)$$

The numbers of the third scheme satisfy the following inequalities

$$m_{23} - 1 \geq m_{12} \geq m_{33} - 1, \quad m_{33} - 1 \geq m_{22}, \quad m_{12} \geq m_{11} \geq m_{22}. \quad (1.8)$$

Construction of Gelfand–Graev basis for  $u(n, m)$  in terms of one-step lowering and raising operators is more complicated then in the compact case  $u(n + m)$ .

In 1975 T.J. Enright and V.S. Varadarajan [7] obtained some classification of discrete series of non-compact Lie algebras. Later A. Molev [8] shown that for the case  $u(n, m)$  Gelfand–Graev modules are some part of Enright–Varadarajan modules and Molev constructed Gelfand–Graev basis for  $u(n, m)$  in terms of Mickelsson S-algebra [9].

A goal of this work to obtain analogous results for the non-compact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n, m))$ . Because the general case is very complicated we at first consider the case  $U_q(u(n, 1))$ . It should be noted that the special case  $U_q(u(2, 1))$  was considered in [10, 11].

## 2 Quantum algebra $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$ and its noncompact real forms $U_q(u(n, m))$ ( $n + m = N$ )

The quantum algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  is generated by the Chevalley elements  $q^{\pm e_{ii}}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, N$ ),  $e_{i,i+1}, e_{i+1,i}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$ ) with the defining relations:

$$q^{e_{ii}} q^{-e_{ii}} = q^{-e_{ii}} q^{e_{ii}} = 1, \quad (2.1)$$

$$q^{e_{ii}} q^{e_{jj}} = q^{e_{jj}} q^{e_{ii}}, \quad (2.2)$$

$$q^{e_{ii}} e_{jk} q^{-e_{ii}} = q^{\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}} e_{jk} \quad (|j - k| = 1), \quad (2.3)$$

$$[e_{i,i+1}, e_{j+1,j}] = \delta_{ij} \frac{q^{e_{ii} - e_{i+1,i+1}} - q^{e_{i+1,i+1} - e_{ii}}}{q - q^{-1}}, \quad (2.4)$$

$$[e_{i,i+1}, e_{j,j+1}] = 0 \quad \text{for } |i - j| \geq 2, \quad (2.5)$$

$$[e_{i+1,i}, e_{j+1,j}] = 0 \quad \text{for } |i - j| \geq 2, \quad (2.6)$$

$$[[e_{i,i+1}, e_{j,j+1}]_q, e_{j,j+1}]_q = 0 \quad \text{for } |i - j| = 1, \quad (2.7)$$

$$[[e_{i+1,i}, e_{j+1,j}]_q, e_{j+1,j}]_q = 0 \quad \text{for } |i - j| = 1. \quad (2.8)$$

where  $[e_\beta, e_\gamma]_q$  denotes the  $q$ -commutator:

$$[e_\beta, e_\gamma]_q := e_\beta e_\gamma - q^{(\beta, \gamma)} e_\gamma e_\beta. \quad (2.9)$$

The definition of a quantum algebra also includes operations of a comultiplication  $\Delta_q$ , an antipode  $S_q$ , and a co-unit  $\varepsilon_q$ . Because explicit formulas of these operations will not be used in our later calculations, they are not given here.

For construction of the composite root vectors  $e_{ij}$  for  $|i - j| \geq 2$  we fix the following normal (convex) ordering of the positive root system  $\Delta_+$  (see [12])

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2 \prec \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_3 \prec \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_3 \prec \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_4 \prec \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_4 \prec \epsilon_3 - \epsilon_4 \prec \dots \prec \\ \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_k \prec \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_k \prec \dots \prec \epsilon_{k-1} - \epsilon_k \prec \dots \prec \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_N \prec \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_N \prec \dots \prec \epsilon_{N-1} - \epsilon_N. \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

According to this ordering we set

$$e_{ij} := [e_{ik}, e_{kj}]_{q^{-1}}, \quad e_{ji} := [e_{jk}, e_{ki}]_q, \quad (2.11)$$

where  $1 \leq i < k < j \leq N$ . It should be stressed that the structure of the composite root vectors does not depend on the choice of the index  $k$  in the r.h.s. of the definition (2.10). In particular, we have

$$\begin{aligned} e_{ij} &:= [e_{i,i+1}, e_{i+1,j}]_{q^{-1}} = [e_{i,j-1}, e_{j-1,j}]_{q^{-1}}, \\ e_{ji} &:= [e_{j,i+1}, e_{i+1,i}]_q = [e_{j,j-1}, e_{j-1,i}]_q, \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

where  $2 \leq i + 1 < j \leq N$ .

Using these explicit constructions and the defining relations (2.1)–(2.8) for the Chevalley basis it is not hard to calculate the following relations between the Cartan–Weyl generators  $e_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ):

$$q^{e_{kk}} e_{ij} q^{-e_{kk}} = q^{\delta_{ki} - \delta_{kj}} e_{ij} \quad (1 \leq i, j, k \leq N), \quad (2.13)$$

$$[e_{ij}, e_{ji}] = \frac{q^{e_{ii} - e_{jj}} - q^{e_{jj} - e_{ii}}}{q - q^{-1}} \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq N), \quad (2.14)$$

$$[e_{ij}, e_{kl}]_{q^{-1}} = \delta_{jk} e_{il} \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq k < l \leq N), \quad (2.15)$$

$$[e_{ik}, e_{jl}]_{q^{-1}} = (q - q^{-1}) e_{jk} e_{il} \quad (1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq N), \quad (2.16)$$

$$[e_{jk}, e_{il}]_{q^{-1}} = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq j < k \leq l \leq N), \quad (2.17)$$

$$[e_{kl}, e_{ji}] = 0 \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq k < l \leq N), \quad (2.18)$$

$$[e_{il}, e_{kj}] = 0 \quad (1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq N), \quad (2.19)$$

$$[e_{ji}, e_{il}] = e_{jl} q^{e_{ii} - e_{jj}} \quad (1 \leq i < j < l \leq N), \quad (2.20)$$

$$[e_{kl}, e_{li}] = e_{ki} q^{e_{kk} - e_{ll}} \quad (1 \leq i < k < l \leq N), \quad (2.21)$$

$$[e_{jl}, e_{ki}] = (q^{-1} - q) e_{kl} e_{ji} q^{e_{jj} - e_{kk}} \quad (1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq N). \quad (2.22)$$

If we apply the Cartan involution ( $e_{ij}^* = e_{ji}$ ) the formulas above, we will get all relations between elements of the Cartan–Weyl basis.

The explicit formula for the extremal projector for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  has the form [13]

$$\begin{aligned} p(U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))) &= p(U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N-1)))(p_{1N} p_{2N} \cdots p_{N-2N} p_{N-1N}) \\ &= p_{12} (p_{13} p_{23}) \cdots (p_{1i} \cdots p_{ii+1}) \cdots (p_{1N} \cdots p_{N-1N}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

where the elements  $p_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq N$ ) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} p_{ij} &= \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^s}{[r]!} \varphi_{ij,r} e_{ij}^r e_{ji}^r, \\ \varphi_{ij,r} &= q^{-(j-i-1)r} \left\{ \prod_{s=1}^N [e_{ii} - e_{jj} + j - i + s] \right\}^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

The extremal projector  $p := p(U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N)))$  satisfies the relations:

$$e_{i,i+1} p = p e_{i+1,i} = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq N-1), \quad p^2 = p. \quad (2.25)$$

The extremal projector  $p$  belongs to the Taylor extension  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  of the universal enveloping algebras  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$ . The Taylor extension  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  is an associative algebra generated by formal Taylor series of the form

$$\sum_{\{r'\}, \{r\}} C_{\{r'\}, \{r\}} (q^{e_{11}}, \dots, q^{e_{NN}}) e_{21}^{r'_{12}} e_{31}^{r'_{13}} e_{32}^{r'_{23}} \cdots e_{N-1,N-1}^{r'_{N-1,N}} e_{12}^{r_{12}} e_{13}^{r_{13}} e_{23}^{r_{23}} \cdots e_{N-1,N}^{r_{N-1,N}} \quad (2.26)$$

provided that nonnegative integers  $r'_{12}, r'_{13}, r'_{23}, \dots, r'_{N-1,N}$  and  $r_{12}, r_{13}, r_{23}, \dots, r_{N-1,N}$  are subject to the constraints

$$\left| \sum_{i < j} r'_{ij} - \sum_{i < j} r_{ij} \right| \leq \text{const} \quad (2.27)$$

for each formal series and the coefficients  $C_{\{r'\}, \{r\}}(q^{e_{11}}, \dots, q^{e_{NN}})$  are rational functions of the  $q$ -Cartan elements  $q^{e_{ii}}$ . The quantum universal enveloping algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  is a subalgebra of the Taylor extension  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$ ,  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N)) \subset TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$ .

The noncompact quantum algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{u}(n, m))$  can be considered as the quantum algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(N))$  ( $N = n + m$ ) endowed with the additional Cartan involution (\*):

$$h_i^* = h_i, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n + m), \quad (2.28)$$

$$e_{i,i+1}^* = e_{i+1,i}, \quad e_{i+1,i}^* = e_{i+1,i} \quad \text{for } i \neq n, \quad (2.29)$$

$$e_{n,n+1}^* = -e_{n+1,n}, \quad e_{n+1,n}^* = -e_{n+1,n}, \quad (2.30)$$

$$q^* = q \quad \text{or} \quad q = q^{-1}. \quad (2.31)$$

Below we will consider the real form  $U_q(\mathfrak{u}(n, 1))$ , i.e. the case  $N = n + 1$ .

### 3 The reduction algebra $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$

In the linear space  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1))$  we separate out a subspace of "two-sided highest vectors" with respect to the subalgebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n)) \subset U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1))$ , i.e.

$$\tilde{Z}_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n)) = \{x \in TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1)) \mid e_{ij}x = xe_{ji} = 0, \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}. \quad (3.1)$$

It is evident that if  $x \in \tilde{Z}_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  then

$$x = p x p, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $p := p(U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n)))$ . Again, using the annihilation properties of the projection operator  $p$  we have that any vector  $x \in \tilde{Z}_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  presents a formal Taylor series on the following monomials

$$p e_{n+1,1}^{r'_1} \cdots e_{n+1,n}^{r'_n} e_{n,n+1}^{r_n} \cdots e_{1,n+1}^{r_1} p. \quad (3.3)$$

It is evident that  $\tilde{Z}_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  is a subalgebra in  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1))$ . We consider a subspace  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  generated by finite series on the monomials (5.3). It is clear that  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  is a subalgebra in  $\tilde{Z}_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n + 1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ .

We set

$$z_i := p e_i p, \quad (i = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm n), \quad (3.4)$$

where  $e_i = e_{j,n+1}$ ,  $e_{-i} = e_{n+1,j}$  ( $1 = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ).

**Theorem 3.1** *The elements  $z_i$  ( $i = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm n$ ) generates the associative algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  and satisfies the following relations*

$$z_i z_j = A_{ij} z_j z_i \quad \text{for } i + j \neq 0, \quad (i, j = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm n), \quad (3.5)$$

$$z_i z_{-i} = \sum_{j=1}^n B_{ij} z_{-i} z_i + \gamma_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (3.6)$$

where

$$A_{ij} = 1 \quad \text{for } \text{sgn } i \neq \text{sgn } j, \quad (3.7)$$

$$A_{ij} = A_{-j-i} = \frac{[\varphi_{ij} + 1]}{[\varphi_{ij}]} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \quad (3.8)$$

$$B_{ij} = -\frac{b_i^- b_j^+}{[\varphi_{ij} - 1]}, \quad \gamma_i = b_i^- [\varphi_{i, n+1} - 1], \quad (3.9)$$

$$b_i^\pm = \prod_{s=i+1}^n \frac{[\varphi_{is} \pm 1]}{[\varphi_{is}]}, \quad \varphi_{ik} = e_{ii} - e_{kk} + k - i. \quad (3.10)$$

A proof of the theorem by direct calculations.

For construction and study of discrete series of the non-compact quantum algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{u}(n, 1))$  we need another relations then (3.6). The system (3.6) expresses the elements  $z_i z_{-i}$  in terms of the elements  $z_{-i} z_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) but we would like to express the elements  $z_{-1} z_1, \dots, z_{-\alpha} z_\alpha, z_{\alpha+1} z_{-\alpha-1}, \dots, z_n z_{-n}$  in terms of the elements  $z_1 z_{-1}, \dots, z_\alpha z_{-\alpha}, z_{-\alpha-1} z_{\alpha+1}, \dots, z_{-n} z_n$  for  $\alpha = 0, 1, \dots, n$ <sup>1</sup>. These relations are given by the theorem.

**Theorem 3.2** *The elements  $z_{-1} z_1, \dots, z_{-\alpha} z_\alpha, z_{\alpha+1} z_{-\alpha-1}, \dots, z_n z_{-n}$  are expressed in terms of the elements  $z_1 z_{-1}, \dots, z_\alpha z_{-\alpha}, z_{-\alpha-1} z_{\alpha+1}, \dots, z_{-n} z_n$  by the formulas*

$$z_{-i} z_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} B_{ij}^{(\alpha)} z_j z_{-j} + \sum_{l=\alpha+1}^n B_{il}^{(\alpha)} z_{-l} z_l + \gamma_i^{(\alpha)} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha), \quad (3.11)$$

$$z_k z_{-k} = \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} B_{kj}^{(\alpha)} z_j z_{-j} + \sum_{l=\alpha+1}^n B_{kl}^{(\alpha)} z_{-l} z_l + \gamma_k^{(\alpha)} \quad (k = \alpha + 1, \alpha + 2, \dots, n), \quad (3.12)$$

where

$$B_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{b_i^{(\alpha)+} b_j^{(\alpha)-}}{[\varphi_{ij} + 1]}, \quad B_{il}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{b_i^{(\alpha)+} b_l^{(\alpha)+}}{[\varphi_{il}]}, \quad \gamma_i^{(\alpha)} = -[\varphi_{i, n+1} - \alpha] b_i^{(\alpha)+}, \quad (3.13)$$

$$B_{kj}^{(\alpha)} = -\frac{b_k^{(\alpha)-} b_j^{(\alpha)-}}{[\varphi_{kj}]}, \quad B_{kl}^{(\alpha)} = -\frac{b_k^{(\alpha)-} b_l^{(\alpha)+}}{[\varphi_{kl} - 1]}, \quad \gamma_k^{(\alpha)} = [\varphi_{i, n+1} - \alpha - 1] b_k^{(\alpha)+}, \quad (3.14)$$

$$b_i^{(\alpha)\pm} = \prod_{s=1}^{i-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is} \pm 1]}{[\varphi_{is}]} \prod_{s=\alpha+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is}]}{[\varphi_{is} \pm 1]}, \quad b_l^{(\alpha)\pm} = \prod_{s=1}^{\alpha} \frac{[\varphi_{ls}]}{[\varphi_{ls} \pm 1]} \prod_{s=l+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{ls} \pm 1]}{[\varphi_{ls}]}. \quad (3.15)$$

<sup>1</sup>In the case  $\alpha = 0$  we have the relations (3.6) and for  $\alpha = n$  we obtain the system inverse to (3.6)

Moreover the following power relations are valid

$$z_i^r z_{-j}^s = z_{-j}^s z_i^r \quad \text{for } \forall i, j > 0 \text{ and } r, s \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (3.16)$$

$$z_i^r z_j^s = z_j^s z_i^r \frac{[\varphi_{ij} + r]! [\varphi_{ij} - s]!}{[\varphi_{ij}]! [\varphi_{ij} + r - s]!} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n \text{ and } r, s \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (3.17)$$

$$z_{-i}^r z_{-j}^s = z_{-j}^s z_{-i}^r \frac{[\varphi_{ij}]! [\varphi_{ij} - r + s]!}{[\varphi_{ij} - r]! [\varphi_{ij} + s]!} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n \text{ and } r, s \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (3.18)$$

$$z_{-i} z_i^r = z_i^{r-1} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} B_{ij}^{(\alpha)}(r) z_j z_{-j} + \sum_{l=\alpha+1}^n B_{il}^{(\alpha)}(r) z_{-l} z_l + \gamma_i^{(\alpha)}(r) \right) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha), \quad (3.19)$$

$$z_k z_{-k}^r = z_{-k}^{r-1} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} B_{kj}^{(\alpha)}(r) z_j z_{-j} + \sum_{l=\alpha+1}^n B_{kl}^{(\alpha)}(r) z_{-l} z_l + \gamma_k^{(\alpha)}(r) \right) \quad (k = \alpha+1, \dots, n), \quad (3.20)$$

where

$$B_{ij}^{(\alpha)}(r) = \frac{[r] b_i^{(\alpha)+}(r) b_j^{(\alpha)-}}{[\varphi_{ij} + r]}, \quad B_{il}^{(\alpha)}(r) = \frac{[r] b_i^{(\alpha)+}(r) b_l^{(\alpha)+}}{[\varphi_{il} + r - 1]}, \quad (3.21)$$

$$\gamma_i^{(\alpha)}(r) = -[r] [\varphi_{i, n+1} - \alpha + r - 1] b_i^{(\alpha)+}(r) \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq \alpha < l \leq n),$$

$$B_{kj}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -\frac{[r] b_k^{(\alpha)-}(r) b_j^{(\alpha)-}}{[\varphi_{kj} - r + 1]}, \quad B_{kl}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -\frac{[r] b_k^{(\alpha)-}(r) b_l^{(\alpha)+}}{[\varphi_{kl} - r]}, \quad (3.22)$$

$$\gamma_k^{(\alpha)}(r) = [r] [\varphi_{k, n+1} - \alpha - r] b_k^{(\alpha)-}(r) \quad (1 \leq j \leq \alpha < k, l \leq n).$$

Here

$$b_i^{(\alpha)+}(r) = \left( \prod_{s=1}^{i-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is} + r]}{[\varphi_{is} + r - 1]} \right) \left( \prod_{s=\alpha+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is} + r - 1]}{[\varphi_{is} + r]} \right) \quad (1 \leq i \leq \alpha), \quad (3.23)$$

$$b_i^{(\alpha)-} = \left( \prod_{s=1}^{i-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is} - 1]}{[\varphi_{is}]} \right) \left( \prod_{s=\alpha+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{is}]}{[\varphi_{is} - 1]} \right) \quad (1 \leq i \leq \alpha), \quad (3.24)$$

$$b_l^{(\alpha)-}(r) = \left( \prod_{s=1}^{\alpha} \frac{[\varphi_{ls} - r + 1]}{[\varphi_{ls} - r]} \right) \left( \prod_{s=l+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{ls} - r]}{[\varphi_{ls} - r + 1]} \right) \quad (\alpha + 1 \leq l \leq n), \quad (3.25)$$

$$b_l^{(\alpha)+} = \left( \prod_{s=1}^{\alpha} \frac{[\varphi_{ls}]}{[\varphi_{ls} + 1]} \right) \left( \prod_{s=l+1}^{n-1} \frac{[\varphi_{ls} + 1]}{[\varphi_{ls}]} \right) \quad (\alpha + 1 \leq l \leq n). \quad (3.26)$$

## 4 Shapovalov's forms on $Z_q^*(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$

We consider on the  $Z$ -algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  two real forms: compact and noncompact.

The compact real form on  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  is defined by the involution  $(*)$  which is given as follows

$$z_{\pm i}^* = z_{\mp i}^* \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n), \quad (4.1)$$

$$e_{ii}^* = e_{ii} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1). \quad (4.2)$$

This involution can be considered as generalization of the Cartan involution in  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1))$  to the Taylor extension,  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1))$ . The  $Z$ -algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  with this involution is called the compact real form and denoted by the symbol  $Z_q^{(c)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ .

The noncompact real form on  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  is defined by the involution  $*$  which is given as follows

$$z_{\pm i}^* = -z_{\pm i}^* \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n), \quad (4.3)$$

$$e_{ii}^* = e_{ii} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1). \quad (4.4)$$

This involution can be considered as generalization of the noncompact involution in  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1))$  to the Taylor extension,  $TU_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1))$ . The  $Z$ -algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  with this involution is called the noncompact real form and denoted by the symbol  $Z_q^{(nc)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ .

Let  $p^{(\alpha)}$  be the extremal projector for  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  satisfying the relations

$$z_{-i} p^{(\alpha)} = p^{(\alpha)} z_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha, \quad (4.5)$$

$$z_k p^{(\alpha)} = p^{(\alpha)} z_{-k} \quad \text{for } k = \alpha + 1, \alpha + 2, \dots, n, \quad (4.6)$$

$$[e_{ii}, p^{(\alpha)}] = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (4.7)$$

This extremal projector depends on the index  $\alpha$ , which defines what elements are considered as "raising" and what elements are considered as "lowering", i.e. in our case the elements  $z_{-1}, z_{-2}, \dots, z_{-\alpha}, z_{\alpha+1}, \dots, z_n$  are raising and the elements  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_\alpha, z_{-\alpha-1}, \dots, z_{-n}$  are lowering. It should be noted that the "raising" and "lowering" subsets generate disjoint subalgebras in  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ . The operator  $p^{(\alpha)}$  can be constructed in explicit form.

Let us introduce on  $Z_q^{(nc)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  the following sesquilinear Shapovalov form. For any elements  $x, y \in Z_q^{(nc)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  we set

$$B^{(\alpha)}(x, y) = p^{(\alpha)} y^* x p^{(\alpha)}. \quad (4.8)$$

Therefore the Shapovalov form also depends on the index  $\alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). We fix  $\alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) and for each set of nonnegative integers  $\{r\} = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n)$  introduce a vector in the space  $Z_q^{(nc)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  by the formula

$$v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)} = z_\alpha^{r_\alpha} \cdots z_1^{r_1} z_{-\alpha-1}^{r_{\alpha+1}} \cdots z_{-n}^{r_n}. \quad (4.9)$$



**Theorem 4.1** For each fixed  $\alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) the vectors  $\{v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}\}$  are pairwise orthogonal with respect to the Shapovalov form (4.8)

$$B^{(\alpha)}(v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}, v_{\{r'\}}^{(\alpha)}) = \delta_{\{r\}, \{r'\}} B^{(\alpha)}(v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}, v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}) . \quad (4.10)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} B^{(\alpha)}(v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}, v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}) &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} \frac{[r_i]![\varphi_{i,n+1} - \alpha + r_i - 1]!}{[\varphi_{i,n+1} - \alpha - 1]!} \prod_{l=\alpha+1}^n \frac{[r_l]![\varphi_{n+1,l} + \alpha + r_l]!}{[\varphi_{n+1,l} + \alpha]!} \right. \\ &\times \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq \alpha} \frac{[\varphi_{ij} + r_i - r_j]![\varphi_{ij} - 1]!}{[\varphi_{ij} + r_i]![\varphi_{ij} - r_j - 1]!} \prod_{\alpha+1 \leq k < l \leq n} \frac{[\varphi_{kl} - r_k + r_l]![\varphi_{kl} - 1]!}{[\varphi_{kl} - r_k - 1]![\varphi_{kl} + r_l]!} \\ &\times \left. \prod_{1 \leq i \leq \alpha < l \leq n} \frac{[\varphi_{il} + r_i - 1]![\varphi_{il} + r_l - 1]![\varphi_{il}]!}{[\varphi_{il} + r_i + r_l]![\varphi_{il} - 1]!} \right) p^{(\alpha)} . \end{aligned} \quad (4.11)$$

As consequence of this theorem we obtain that the Shapovalov form is not degenerate on  $Z_q^{(nc)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ .

In the case of the compact  $Z$ -algebra  $Z_q^{(c)}(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$  the Shapovalov form  $B(x, y)$  is defined by the formula (4.8) where  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $p^{(0)}$  is the standard extremal projector of the subalgebra  $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$  and the involution  $(*)$  is given by the formulas (4.1). It is not difficult to see that

$$B(v_{\{r\}}, v_{\{r'\}}) = \delta_{\{r\}, \{r'\}} B(v_{\{r\}}, v_{\{r\}}) . \quad (4.12)$$

where  $v_{\{r\}} := v_{\{r\}}^{(0)}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} B(v_{\{r\}}, v_{\{r\}}) &= (-1)^{\sum_{i=1}^n r_i} B^{(0)}(v_{\{r\}}^{(0)}, v_{\{r\}}^{(0)}) \\ &= \prod_{l=1}^n \frac{[r_l]![\varphi_{l,n+1} - r_l]!}{[\varphi_{l,n+1}]!} \prod_{1 \leq k < l \leq n} \frac{[\varphi_{kl} - r_k - r_l]![\varphi_{kl} - 1]!}{[\varphi_{kl} - r_k - 1]![\varphi_{kl} + r_l]!} . \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

## 5 Discrete series of representations for $U_q(u(n, 1))$

As well as in the classical case [9] each Hermitian irreducible representation of the discrete series for the noncompact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n, 1))$  is defined uniquely by some extremal vector  $|xw\rangle$ , the vector of extremal weight<sup>2</sup>. This vector should be a highest vector with respect to the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n)) \oplus U_q(u(1))$ . Since the quantum algebra  $U_q(u(1))$  is generated only by one Cartan element  $q^{e_{n+1, n+1}}$  the vector  $|xw\rangle$  should be annihilated by the raising generators  $e_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ) of the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n))$ . So the vector  $|xw\rangle$  satisfies the relations

$$e_{ii}|xw\rangle = \mu_i|xw\rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n+1) , \quad (5.1)$$

$$e_{ij}|xw\rangle = 0 \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq n) , \quad (5.2)$$

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<sup>2</sup>We assume that the vector  $|xw\rangle$  is orthonormalized,  $\langle xw|xw\rangle = 1$

where the weight components  $\mu_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are integers subjected to the condition  $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2 \geq \dots \geq \mu_n$ .

Such weights can be compared with respect to standard lexicographic ordering. Namely,  $\mu > \mu'$ , where  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n)$  and  $\mu' = (\mu'_1, \mu'_2, \dots, \mu'_n)$ , if a first nonvanishing component of the difference  $\mu - \mu'$  is positive.

The component  $\mu_{n+1}$  is also an integer. In a general case for finite-dimensional irreducible representations of the compact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n)) \oplus U_q(u(1))$  the weights  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n)$  and  $\mu_{n+1}$  are not ordering. If we choice some ordering for these weights, for example, as follows  $(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\alpha, \mu_{n+1}, \mu_{\alpha+1}, \dots, \mu_n)$ , then such  $n + 1$ -components weights can be compared.

The extremal vector  $|xw\rangle$  has minimal such weight  $\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} := (\lambda_{1,n+1}, \lambda_{2,n+1}, \dots, \lambda_{n+1,n+1})$  where  $\lambda_{i,n+1} := \mu_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha$ ),  $\lambda_{\alpha+1,n+1} := \mu_{n+1}$ ,  $\lambda_{l+1,n+1} := \mu_l$  ( $l = \alpha + 1, \dots, n$ ).

The vector  $|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}\rangle := |xw\rangle$  with such weight  $\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}$  satisfies the relations

$$z_{-i}|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}\rangle = 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha, \quad (5.3)$$

$$z_k|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}\rangle = 0, \quad \text{for } k = \alpha + 1, \alpha + 2, \dots, n, \quad (5.4)$$

It is evident that any highest weight vector  $|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n\rangle$  with respect to the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n))$  has the form

$$|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n\rangle = z_\alpha^{r_\alpha} \dots z_1^{r_1} z_{-\alpha-1}^{r_{\alpha+1}} \dots z_{-n}^{r_n} |\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}\rangle. \quad (5.5)$$

Here the integers  $\{r\}$  are defined the weights  $\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} = (\lambda_{1,n+1}, \lambda_{2,n+1}, \dots, \lambda_{n+1,n+1})$ , where  $\lambda_{i,n+1} \geq \lambda_{i+1,n+1}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), and  $\Lambda_n = (\lambda_{1,n}, \lambda_{2,n}, \dots, \lambda_{n,n})$ , where  $\lambda_{in} \geq \lambda_{i+1,n}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ ). Namely,

$$r_i = \lambda_{in} - \lambda_{i,n+1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, \alpha), \quad (5.6)$$

$$r_l = \lambda_{l+1,n+1} - \lambda_{ln} \quad (l = \alpha + 1, \dots, n). \quad (5.7)$$

If we would like to calculate the scalar product two such vectors (5.5) then using results for the Shapovalov form we obtain

$$(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} | \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda'_n) = \delta_{\Lambda_n, \Lambda'_n} (\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} | \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n), \quad (5.8)$$

$$(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} | \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n) = B^{(\alpha)}(v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}, v_{\{r\}}^{(\alpha)}) \Big|_{\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}} \quad (5.9)$$

where symbol  $\Big|_{\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}}$  means that we specialize the Shapovalov form for the extremal weight  $\Lambda_{n+1}$ , that is we replace the Cartan elements  $e_{ii}$ ,  $e_{jj}$  in the functions  $\varphi_{ij}$  by corresponding components  $\lambda_{i,n+1}$  and  $\lambda_{j,n+1}$ . From the condition that

$$(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} | \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n) > 0 \quad (5.10)$$

we find all admissible highest weights  $\Lambda_n$  of the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n))$ . We formulate this result as the theorem.

**Theorem 5.1** *Every Hermitian irreducible representation of the discrete series for the noncompact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n, 1))$  with the extremal weight  $\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} = (\lambda_{1,n+1}, \lambda_{2,n+1}, \dots, \lambda_{n+1,n+1})$ , where integer  $\lambda_{i,n+1}$  satisfy the inequalities  $\lambda_{i,n+1} \geq \lambda_{i+1,n+1}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), under the restriction  $U_q(u(n, 1)) \downarrow U_q(u(n))$  contains all multiplicity free irreducible representations of the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n))$  with the highest weights  $\Lambda_n = (\lambda_{1n}, \lambda_{2n}, \dots, \lambda_{nn})$  satisfying the conditions:*

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{1n} &\geq \lambda_{1,n+1} \geq \lambda_{2,n} \geq \lambda_{2,n+1} \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{\alpha n} \geq \lambda_{\alpha,n+1} , \\ \lambda_{\alpha+2,n+1} &\geq \lambda_{\alpha+1,n} \geq \lambda_{\alpha+3,n+1} \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n+1,n+1} \geq \lambda_{nn} . \end{aligned} \quad (5.11)$$

The vectors

$$|\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n\rangle = F_-^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}) |\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}\rangle , \quad (5.12)$$

where the "lowering" operator  $F_-^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)})$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} F_-^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}) &= N^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}) z_\alpha^{\lambda_{\alpha n} - \lambda_{\alpha,n+1}} \dots z_1^{\lambda_{1n} - \lambda_{1,n+1}} \times \\ &\times z_{-\alpha-1}^{\lambda_{\alpha+2,n+1} - \lambda_{\alpha+1,n}} \dots z_{-n}^{\lambda_{n+1,n+1} - \lambda_{nn}} , \end{aligned} \quad (5.13)$$

for all highest weights  $\Lambda_n = (\lambda_{1n}, \lambda_{2n}, \dots, \lambda_{nn})$  constrained by the conditions (5.11) form the orthonormal basis in the space of the highest vectors with respect to the compact subalgebra  $U_q(u(n))$ . Here in (5.13) the normalized factor  $N^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)})$  is given as follows

$$\begin{aligned} N^{(\alpha)}(\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}) &= (\Lambda_n; \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} | \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} \frac{[l_{i,n+1} - l_{\alpha+1,n+1} - 2\alpha + n - 1]!}{[l_{in} - l_{i,n+1}]! [l_{i,n} - l_{\alpha+1,n+1} - 2\alpha + n - 1]!} \right. \\ &\times \prod_{l=\alpha+1}^n \frac{[l_{\alpha+1,n+1} - l_{l+1,n+1} + 2\alpha - n - 1]!}{[l_{l+1,n+1} - l_{ln}]! [l_{\alpha+1,n+1} - l_{ln} + 2\alpha - n]!} \\ &\times \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq \alpha} \frac{[l_{in} - l_{j,n+1}]! [l_{i,n+1} - l_{jn} - 1]!}{[l_{in} - l_{jn}]! [l_{i,n+1} - l_{j,n+1} - 1]!} \\ &\times \prod_{\alpha+1 \leq k < l \leq n} \frac{[l_{kn} - l_{l+1,n+1} - 2]! [l_{k+1,n+1} - l_{ln} - 1]!}{[l_{kn} - l_{ln}]! [l_{k+1,n+1} - l_{l+1,n+1} - 1]!} \\ &\left. \times \prod_{1 \leq i \leq \alpha < l \leq n} \frac{[l_{in} - l_{ln}]! [l_{i,n+1} - l_{l+1,n+1} - 2]!}{[l_{in} - l_{l+1,n+1} - 2]! [l_{i,n+1} - l_{ln} - 1]! [l_{i,n+1} - l_{l+1,n+1} - 1]!} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} , \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

( $l_{sp} := \lambda_{sp} - s$ ).

This result coincides with the classical Gelfand–Graev case [5, 6]. Using analogous construction of the Gelfand–Tsetlin basis for the compact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n))$  [12] we obtain a q-analog of the Gelfand–Graev–Tsetlin basis for  $U_q(u(n, 1))$ . Namely, in the  $U_q(u(n, 1))$ -module

with the extremal weight  $\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}$  there is the orthogonal Gelfand–Graev–Tsetlin basis consisting of all vectors of the form

$$|\Lambda\rangle := \left| \begin{array}{c} \Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)} \\ \Lambda_n \\ \dots \\ \Lambda_2 \\ \Lambda_1 \end{array} \right\rangle = F_-(\Lambda_1; \Lambda_2) F_-(\Lambda_2; \Lambda_3) \cdots F_-(\Lambda_{n-1}; \Lambda_n) |\Lambda_{n+1}^{(\alpha)}; \Lambda_n\rangle, \quad (5.15)$$

where  $\Lambda_j = (\lambda_{1j}, \lambda_{2j}, \dots, \lambda_{jj})$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) and the numbers  $\lambda_{ij}$  satisfy the standard "between conditions" for the quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n))$ , i.e.

$$\lambda_{i,j+1} \geq \lambda_{ij} \geq \lambda_{i+1,j+1} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n-1. \quad (5.16)$$

The lowering operators  $F_-(\Lambda_k; \Lambda_{k+1})$ , ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ), are given by

$$F_-(\Lambda_k; \Lambda_{k+1}) = N(\Lambda_k; \Lambda_{k+1}) p(U_q(u(k))) \prod_{i=1}^k (e_{k+1i})^{\lambda_{ik+1} - \lambda_{ik}}, \quad (5.17)$$

$$N(\Lambda_k; \Lambda_{k+1}) = \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{[l_{ik} - l_{k+1,k+1} - 1]!}{[l_{i,k+1} - l_{ik}]! [l_{i,k+1} - l_{k+1,k+1} - 1]!} \times \right. \\ \left. \times \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{[l_{i,k+1} - l_{jk}]! [l_{ik} - l_{j,k+1} - 1]!}{[l_{ik} - l_{jk}]! [l_{i,k+1} - l_{j,k+1} - 1]!} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (5.18)$$

where  $l_{ij} := \lambda_{ij} - i$ . This explicit construction allows to obtain formulas for the action of  $U_q(u(n, 1))$ -generators. These results will be presented in another article.

## 6 Summary

Thus we obtain the explicit description of the Hermitian irreducible representations for the noncompact quantum algebra  $U_q(u(n, 1))$  by the reduction  $Z$ -algebras for description of which we used the standard extremal projectors.

Next step: to obtain an analogous results for the case  $U_q(u(n, 2))$ . For this aim we need construct extremal projector  $p^{(\alpha)}$  which is expressed in terms of the  $Z$ -algebra  $Z_q(\mathfrak{gl}(n+1), \mathfrak{gl}(n))$ .

Final aim: to consider the general case  $U_q(u(n, m))$ . In this case extremal projectors of new type will be used.

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