

ON TANGENT SPACES TO SCHUBERT VARIETIES

V. LAKSHMIBAI[†]

ABSTRACT. We prove the results on the tangent spaces to Schubert varieties announced in [?] for G classical. We give two descriptions of the tangent space to a Schubert variety at id . The first description is in terms of the root system, and the second one in terms of multiplicities of certain weights in the fundamental representations of G .

INTRODUCTION

Let G be a semi simple, simply connected algebraic group over an algebraically closed field K of characteristic 0. Let T be a maximal torus in G , and W the Weyl group. Let R be the system of roots of G relative to T . Let B be a Borel subgroup of G , where $B \supset T$. Let S (resp. R^+) be the set of simple (resp. positive) roots of R relative to B . For $\alpha \in R$, let s_α be the reflection, and X_α the element of the Chevalley basis for \mathfrak{g} ($= \text{Lie}G$), corresponding to α . For $w \in W$, let us denote the point in G/B corresponding to the coset wB by e_w . Then the set of T -fixed points in G/B for the action given by left multiplication is precisely $\{e_w \mid w \in W\}$. For $w \in W$, let $X(w)$ denote the associated Schubert variety (the Zariski closure of Be_w in G/B). Let $U(\mathfrak{g})$ denote the universal enveloping algebra of \mathfrak{g} , and $U^+(\mathfrak{g})$ the subalgebra of $U(\mathfrak{g})$ generated by $\{X_\alpha, \alpha \in S\}$.

For $\tau \in W$, let $T(w_0, e_\tau)$ denote the tangent space to G/B at e_τ (w_0 being the element of largest length in W). We have

$$T(w_0, e_\tau) := \bigoplus_{\beta \in \tau(R^+)} \mathfrak{g}_{-\beta}.$$

For $\tau \leq w$, let $T(w, \tau)$ be the Zariski tangent space to $X(w)$ at e_τ . Let

$$N(w, \tau) = \{\beta \in \tau(R^+) \mid X_{-\beta} \in T(w, \tau)\}.$$

Since $T(w, e_\tau)$ is a T -stable subspace of $T(w_0, e_\tau)$, we have that $T(w, e_\tau)$ is spanned by $\{X_{-\beta}, \beta \in N(w, \tau)\}$.

For a dominant weight λ , let $V(\lambda)$ be the irreducible G -module with highest weight λ . Let us fix a highest weight vector $u(\lambda)$ in $V(\lambda)$. For $w \in W$, fix a representative n_w for w in $N_T(G)$ (the normalizer of

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T in G), and set $u_w(\lambda) = n_w \cdot u(\lambda)$, $V_w(\lambda) = U^+(\mathfrak{g})\mathbf{u}_w(\lambda)$ (note that $V_{w_0}(\lambda) = V(\lambda)$).

For $w \in W$, we define M_w , a subset of R^+ as follows, G being classical: (We index the roots as in [?].)

- (1) Let G be of type \mathbf{A}_n . Then $M_w = \{\beta \in R^+ \mid w \geq s_\beta\}$.
- (2) Let G be of type \mathbf{C}_n .
 - (a) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i - \epsilon_j$, or $2\epsilon_i$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_\beta$.
 - (b) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i + \epsilon_j$, $i < j \leq n$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_{\epsilon_i + \epsilon_j}$ or $s_{2\epsilon_i}$.
- (3) Let G be of type \mathbf{B}_n .
 - (a) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i - \epsilon_j$, ϵ_n , or $\epsilon_i + \epsilon_n$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_\beta$.
 - (b) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i$, $i < n$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_{\epsilon_i}$ or $s_{\epsilon_i + \epsilon_n}$.
 - (c) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i + \epsilon_j$, $i < j < n$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_{\epsilon_i + \epsilon_j}$ or $s_{\epsilon_i} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$.
- (4) Let G be of type \mathbf{D}_n .
 - (a) Let $\beta = \epsilon_k - \epsilon_l$, or $\epsilon_i + \epsilon_j$, $j = n-1, n$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_\beta$.
 - (b) Let $\beta = \epsilon_i + \epsilon_j$, $i < j < n-1$. Then $\beta \in M_w \iff w \geq s_{\epsilon_i + \epsilon_j}$ or $s_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_i + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_{n-1}}$.

We prove for G classical the following result: (cf. Theorems 3.4,4.6,5.7,6.8)

Theorem 1 . Let $w \in W$. Let e denote the identity element in W . Then $N(w, e) = M_w$.

In particular, we obtain a criterion for smoothness:

Theorem 2 . Let $w \in W$. Then $X(w)$ is smooth if and only if $\#M_w = l(w)$.

We further prove (cf. Theorems 3.5,5.9,6.10)

Theorem 3 . Let G be of type \mathbf{A}_n , \mathbf{B}_n , or \mathbf{D}_n . Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$, where ω_d , $1 \leq d \leq n$ are the fundamental weights of G and $m(\omega_d - \beta)$ (resp. $m_w(\omega_d - \beta)$) denotes the multiplicity of $\omega_d - \beta$ in $V(\omega_d)$ (resp. $V_w(\omega_d)$).

Remark 0.1. It turns out that the above result is not true for Type \mathbf{C}_n (see §4 for details).

Let $w \in W$, $\beta \in R^+$. Consider the following three conditions:

- (1) $w \geq s_\beta$.
- (2) $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$, n being the rank of G .
- (3) $\beta \in N(w, e)$.

We show (cf. Theorem ??) that for G of Type \mathbf{A}_n , the above three conditions are equivalent for all $w \in W$, $\beta \in R^+$. For the types \mathbf{B}_n , \mathbf{C}_n , \mathbf{D}_n , we give precise relationships among the above three conditions (see sections 4,5,6 for details).

The above results are proved using the basis \mathcal{B}_d (cf. [?]) for $V(\omega_d)$, $1 \leq d \leq l$, l being the rank of G , and a Theorem of Polo (cf. [?], Theorem 3.2). All of the results of this paper hold over arbitrary characteristics, since one knows (see [?], Corollary 4.1 for example) that $N(w, \tau)$ is independent of the base field; in Theorem 3 over an algebraically closed field K of arbitrary characteristic, one should replace $V(\omega_d)$ (resp. $V_w(\omega_d)$) by the corresponding Weyl (resp. Demazure) module.

The sections are organized as follows. In §1, we recall the above mentioned result of Polo. In §2, we recall the basis \mathcal{B}_d . In sections §3,4,5,6 we prove Theorems 1&3 for G of type \mathbf{A}_n , \mathbf{C}_n , \mathbf{B}_n , and \mathbf{D}_n respectively.

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1. THE TANGENT SPACE $T(w, \tau)$.

Let G be a semisimple and simply connected algebraic group defined over K . Let $T, B, W, S, R, R^+, e_w, X(w)$ etc be as in the Introduction. We have the well-known Bruhat decomposition

$$G/B = \dot{\cup}_{\{w \in W\}} B e_w, \quad X(\theta) = \dot{\cup}_{\{w \in W \mid w \leq \theta\}} B e_w, \quad \theta \in W,$$

where \leq denotes the Chevalley-Bruhat order. Let P_d be the maximal parabolic subgroup corresponding to the simple root α_d , and W_d be the Weyl group of P_d . We shall denote the *set of minimal representatives of W/W_{P_d}* in W by W^d , namely

$$W^d = \{w \in W \mid l(w w') = l(w) + l(w'), \text{ for all } w' \in W_d\}.$$

1.1. Sing $X(w)$. Let $\text{Sing } X(w)$ denote the singular locus of $X(w)$. If $X(w)$ is not smooth, then $\text{Sing } X(w)$ is a non-empty B -stable closed subvariety of $X(w)$. Given a point $x \in X(w)$, to decide if it is a smooth point or not, it suffices (in view of Bruhat decomposition) to determine if the T -fixed point e_τ of the B -orbit through x is a smooth point or not.

1.2. The space $T(w, \tau)$. For $\tau \leq w$, let $T(w, \tau)$ be the Zariski tangent space to $X(w)$ at e_τ . Let

$$N(w, \tau) = \{\beta \in \tau(R^+) \mid X_{-\beta} \in T(w, \tau)\}.$$

Then as remarked in the Introduction, $T(w, \tau)$ is spanned by $\{X_{-\beta}, \beta \in N(w, \tau)\}$.

Recall the following:

Theorem 1.3. ([?], Theorem 3.2) *Let $w, \tau \in W$, $w \geq \tau$. Let $\beta \in \tau(R^+)$. Then $\beta \in N(w, \tau)$ if and only if $X_{-\beta}u_\tau(\omega_d) \in V_w(\omega_d)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq l$, l being the rank of G .*

2. BASES \mathcal{B} AND \mathcal{B}^* FOR $V_k(\omega_d)$ AND $H^0(G/B, L_{\omega_d})$.

Let G be classical. For $1 \leq d \leq l$ (l being the rank of G), let P_d, W_d, W^d be as in §1. For $w \in W^d$, we shall denote the associated Schubert variety in G/P_d by $X_{P_d}(w)$ ($= \overline{BwP_d}(\text{mod } P_d)$). Let $\omega_d, 1 \leq d \leq l$ be the fundamental weights of G . Note that $(\omega_d, \beta^*) \leq 2$, for all $\beta \in R^+$.

We recall below the basic results from [?].

2.1. Chevalley multiplicity. Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$ be such that $X_{P_d}(\phi)$ is a Schubert divisor in $X_{P_d}(\tau)$. Let $\phi = s_\beta \tau$, where $\beta \in R^+$. Let $m(\tau, \phi) = (\phi(\omega_d), \beta^*)$ (note that $(\phi(\omega_d), \beta^*) > 0$). We refer to $m(\tau, \phi)$ as the *Chevalley multiplicity of $X_{P_d}(\phi)$ in $X_{P_d}(\tau)$* .

2.2. Admissible pairs. A pair of elements $\tau, \phi \in W^d$, $\tau \geq \phi$ is called an *admissible pair*, if either $\tau = \phi$ (in which case we call (τ, τ) as a *trivial admissible pair*), or there exists a chain $\tau = \tau_0 > \tau_1 > \cdots > \tau_r = \phi$ such that $X_{P_d}(\tau_{i+1})$ is a divisor in $X_{P_d}(\tau_i)$, and $m(\tau_i, \tau_{i+1}) = 2$, $0 \leq i \leq r-1$.

Proposition 2.3. *Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$ be a non-trivial admissible pair, and $\tau = \tau_0 > \tau_1 > \cdots > \tau_r = \phi$ any chain (so that $X_{P_d}(\tau_{i+1})$ is a divisor in $X_{P_d}(\tau_i)$). Let $\tau_{i+1} = s_{\beta_i} \tau_i$, $\beta_i \in R^+$, $0 \leq i \leq r-1$. Define $v \in V(\omega_d)$ as $v = X_{-\beta_0} X_{-\beta_1} \cdots X_{-\beta_{r-1}} u_\phi(\omega_d)$, $u_\phi(\omega_d)$ being as in the introduction with $\lambda = \omega_d$. Then v is independent of the chain chosen and depends only on τ and ϕ . Further, v is a weight vector of weight $\frac{1}{2}(\tau(\omega_d) + \phi(\omega_d))$.*

2.4. The sets \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{B}_w . Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$ be such that (τ, ϕ) is an admissible pair. If $\tau = \phi$, then set $q_{\tau, \tau}$ (or just q_τ) equal to $u_\tau(\omega_d)$. If $\tau > \phi$, then set $q_{\tau, \phi}$ as the vector v as given by Proposition ???. Set $\mathcal{B} = \{q_{\tau, \phi}, (\tau, \phi) \text{ an admissible pair}\}$. For $w \in W^d$, set $\mathcal{B}_w = \{q_{\tau, \phi} \in \mathcal{B} \mid w \geq \tau\}$.

Theorem 2.5. *With notations as above, the set \mathcal{B} is a basis for $V(\omega_d)$. Further, for $w \in W^d$, the set \mathcal{B}_w is a basis for $V_w(\omega_d)$.*

2.6. **The sets \mathcal{B}^* and \mathcal{B}_w^* .** Define \mathcal{B}^* to be the basis of $H^0(G/P_d, L_{\omega_d})$ ($= V_K(\omega_d)^*$) dual to \mathcal{B} (here, L_{ω_d} denotes the ample generator of $\text{Pic}(G/P_d)$ ($\simeq \mathbb{Z}$)). Let us denote the elements of \mathcal{B}^* by $\{p_{\tau, \phi}, (\tau, \phi) \text{ an admissible pair}\}$. For $w \in W^d$, set $\mathcal{B}_w^* = \{p_{\tau, \phi}|_{X_{P_d}(w)}, p_{\tau, \phi} \in \mathcal{B}^* \mid p_{\tau, \phi}|_{X_{P_d}(w)} \neq 0\}$.

Theorem 2.7. *For $w \in W^d$, the set \mathcal{B}_w^* is a basis of $H^0(X_{P_d}(w), L_{\omega_d})$.*

3. THE LINEAR GROUP $SL(n)$

Let $G = SL(n)$, the special linear group of rank $n - 1$. Let T be the maximal torus consisting of all the diagonal matrices in G , and B the Borel subgroup consisting of all the upper triangular matrices in G . It is well-known that W can be identified with S_n , the symmetric group on n letters. Any $w \in S_n$ is usually written as $(w(1), w(2), \dots, w(n))$.

Following [?], we denote the simple roots by $\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}$, $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ (note that $\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}$ is the character sending $\text{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ to $t_i t_{i+1}^{-1}$). Then $R = \{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n, i \neq j\}$, and the reflection $s_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_j}$ may be identified with the transposition (i, j) in S_n .

3.1. **The partially ordered set $I_{d,n}$.** Fix d , $1 \leq d \leq n - 1$. We have,

$$P_d = \left\{ A \in G \mid A = \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0_{(n-d) \times d} & * \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad W_d = \mathcal{S}_{\lceil} \times \mathcal{S}_{\lfloor -\lceil}$$

and W^d may be identified with

$$I_{d,n} := \{\underline{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_d) \mid 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_d \leq n\}.$$

Given $\underline{i}, \underline{j} \in I_{d,n}$, let $X_{\underline{i}}, X_{\underline{j}}$ be the associated Schubert varieties in G/P_d . We have

$$X_{\underline{i}} \supseteq X_{\underline{j}} \iff \underline{i} \geq \underline{j} \iff i_t \geq j_t, \text{ for all } 1 \leq t \leq d.$$

(see [?] for details)). In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \dots a_n) \in W^d$ by just $(a_1 \dots a_d)$.

3.2. **The Chevalley-Bruhat order on S_n .** For $(a_1 \dots a_n), (b_1 \dots b_n) \in S_n$,

$$(a_1 \dots a_n) \geq (b_1 \dots b_n) \iff (a_1 \dots a_d) \uparrow \geq (b_1 \dots b_d) \uparrow, \text{ for all } 1 \leq d \leq n-1$$

(here, for a d -tuple $(t_1 \dots t_d)$ of distinct integers, $(t_1 \dots t_d) \uparrow$ denotes the ordered d -tuple obtained from $\{t_1, \dots, t_d\}$ by arranging its elements in ascending order).

3.3. The bases \mathcal{B}_d and \mathcal{B}_d^* . Let $G = SL(n)$, and $V = K^n$. We denote the standard basis for K^n by $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$. Given a positive root $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$, the element $X_{-\beta}$ of the Chevalley basis of \mathfrak{g} is given by $X_{-\beta} = E_{kj}$, where E_{kj} is the elementary matrix with 1 at the (k, j) -th place, and 0's elsewhere. For $1 \leq d \leq l (= n-1)$, we have, $V(\omega_d) = \wedge^d V$, and $q_{id} (= u(\omega_d)) = e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_d$ (more generally, given $w = (a_1 \dots a_n) \in W$, denoting by $w^{(d)}$ the element in W^d which represents the coset wW_d , we have, $q_{w^{(d)}} (= u_w(\omega_d)) = e_{a_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{a_d}$ (up to ± 1)). We have,

$$X_{-\beta} e_i = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i \neq j \\ e_k, & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

From this it follows that $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \neq 0$ if and only if $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$, and $k \notin \{1, \dots, d\}$, i.e., if and only if $j \leq d < k$; further, for $j \leq d < k$, we have,

$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \pm e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_{j-1} \wedge e_{j+1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_d \wedge e_k$. Hence we obtain

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}.$$

This implies that $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}, j \leq d < k$, i.e., if and only if $w \geq s_\beta$ (note that for $d < j$, or $d \geq k$, $s_\beta^{(d)} = (1 \dots d)$), where e denotes the identity element in S_n . Hence we obtain (cf.[?])

Theorem 3.4. *Let $G = SL(n)$, and $w \in S_n$. Then $T(w, e)$ is spanned by $\{X_{-\beta}, \beta \in R^+ \mid w \geq s_\beta\}$.*

Theorem 3.5. *Let $w \in S_n$, and $\beta \in R^+$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq l (= n-1)$, where $m(\omega_d - \beta)$ (resp. $m_w(\omega_d - \beta)$) denotes the multiplicity of $\omega_d - \beta$ in $V(\omega_d)$ (resp. $V_w(\omega_d)$).*

Proof. Given $d, 1 \leq d \leq l$, and $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$, from our discussions above, we see easily that

$$m(\omega_d - \beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \text{ or } d \geq k \\ 1, & \text{if } j \leq d < k. \end{cases}$$

Hence we obtain that $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq l$ if and only if for all $d, j \leq d < k, w \geq s_\beta^{(d)}$, i.e., if and only if $w \geq s_\beta$. This together with Theorem ?? implies the required result. \square

3.6. Let $w \in W, \beta \in R^+$. Consider the following three conditions:

- (1) $w \geq s_\beta$.
- (2) $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq l$, l being the rank of G .

(3) $\beta \in N(w, e)$.

Theorem 3.7. *Let G be of Type \mathbf{A}_1 . Let $w \in W$, $\beta \in R^+$. Then the three conditions in §?? are equivalent.*

Proof. The result follows from Theorems ?? and ??. □

4. THE SYMPLECTIC GROUP $Sp(2n)$.

Let $V = K^{2n}$ together with a nondegenerate, skew-symmetric bilinear form $(,)$. Let $H = SL(V)$ and $G = Sp(V) = \{A \in SL(V) \mid A \text{ leaves the form } (,) \text{ invariant}\}$. Taking the matrix of the form (with respect to the standard basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2n}\}$ of V) to be

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & J \\ -J & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where J is the anti diagonal $(1, \dots, 1)$ of size $n \times n$, we may realize $Sp(V)$ as the fixed point set of a certain involution σ on $SL(V)$, namely $G = H^\sigma$, where $\sigma : H \rightarrow H$ is given by $\sigma(A) = E(A)^{-1}E^{-1}$. We note that the following hold (cf. [?]):

(I) Denoting by W_G the Weyl group of G , we have

$$W_G = \{(a_1 \dots a_{2n}) \in S_{2n} \mid a_i = 2n + 1 - a_{2n+1-i}, 1 \leq i \leq 2n\}.$$

Thus $w = (a_1 \dots a_{2n}) \in W_G$ is known once $(a_1 \dots a_n)$ is known.

In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \dots a_{2n})$ in W_G by just $(a_1 \dots a_n)$.

(II). We shall index the simple roots in G as in [?]. Let us denote the simple reflections in W_G by $\{s_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. We have (cf. [?]),

$$s_i = \begin{cases} r_i r_{2n-i}, & \alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}, 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \\ r_n, & \alpha_i = 2\varepsilon_n \end{cases}$$

where r_i denotes the transposition $(i, i+1)$ in S_{2n} , $1 \leq i \leq 2n-1$.

(III). For $1 \leq d \leq n$, W_G^d can be identified with

$\{(a_1 \dots a_d) \mid (1) 1 \leq a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_d \leq 2n(2) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq 2n, \text{ if } i \in \{a_1, \dots, a_d\} \text{ then } 2n +$

In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \dots a_{2n})$ in W_G^d by just $(a_1 \dots a_d)$.

(IV). For $w_1 = (a_1 \dots a_n)$, $w_2 = (b_1 \dots b_n)$, $w_1, w_2 \in W_G$, we have $w_2 \geq w_1 \Leftrightarrow$ the d -tuple $\{b_1, \dots, b_d \text{ arranged in ascending order}\} \geq$ the d -tuple $\{a_1, \dots, a_d \text{ arranged in ascending order}\}$, $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. [?]). In particular, the partial order on W_G is induced by the partial order on W_H (cf. [?]).

4.1. Chevalley Basis. For $1 \leq i \leq 2n$, set $i' = 2n + 1 - i$. The involution $\sigma : SL(2n) \rightarrow SL(2n)$, $A \mapsto E({}^t A)^{-1} E^{-1}$, induces an involution $\sigma : sl(2n) \rightarrow sl(2n)$, $A \mapsto -E({}^t A) E^{-1} (= E({}^t A) E)$, since $E^{-1} = -E$. In particular, we have, for $1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$

$$\sigma(E_{ij}) = \begin{cases} -E_{j'i'}, & \text{if } i, j \text{ are both } \leq n \text{ or both } > n \\ E_{j'i'}, & \text{if one of } \{i, j\} \text{ is } \leq n \text{ and the other } > n. \end{cases}$$

where E_{ij} is the elementary matrix with 1 at the (i, j) th place and 0 elsewhere. Further

$$\text{Lie } G = \{A \in sl(2n) \mid E({}^t A) E = A\}.$$

The Chevalley basis $\{H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}}, 1 \leq i < n, H_{2\epsilon_n}, X_{\pm 2\epsilon_m}, 1 \leq m \leq n, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)}, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)}, 1 \leq j < k \leq n\}$ for Lie G may be given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}} &= E_{ii} - E_{i+1, i+1} + E_{(i+1)', (i+1)'} - E_{i'i'}, \quad H_{2\epsilon_n} = E_{nn} - E_{n'n'}, \\ X_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k} &= E_{jk} - E_{k'j'}, \quad X_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k} = E_{jk'} + E_{kj'}, \quad X_{2\epsilon_m} = E_{mm'}, \\ X_{-(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)} &= E_{kj} - E_{j'k'}, \quad X_{-(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)} = E_{k'j} + E_{j'k}, \quad X_{-2\epsilon_m} = E_{m'm}. \end{aligned}$$

Definition 4.2. Let $\phi = (a_1 \cdots a_d) \in W^d$, and let i , $1 \leq i \leq n$ be such that $i, (i+1)' \in \{a_1, \dots, a_d\}$. Let $\tau = (b_1 \cdots b_d)$ be the element of W^d obtained from $(a_1 \cdots a_d)$ by replacing i by $i+1$, and $(i+1)'$ by i' . In this situation, we say that τ is obtained from ϕ by a *Type I* operation.

Proposition 4.3. (cf. [?]) *Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$, $\tau \geq \phi$. Then (τ, ϕ) is an admissible pair if and only if either $\tau = \phi$, or τ is obtained from ϕ by a sequence of Type I operations.*

4.4. The G -module $V(\omega_d)$. For $1 \leq d \leq n$, we have $\omega_d = \epsilon_1 + \cdots + \epsilon_d$, where $\{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{2n}\}$ is the canonical basis of $\text{Hom}(D_{2n}, \mathbf{G}_m)$ (D_{2n} being the maximal torus in $\text{GL}(2n)$ consisting of all the diagonal matrices). If $d = 1$, then $V(\omega_d) = V(= K^{2n})$. Let us then suppose that $d \geq 2$. Consider the 2-form $f \in \wedge^2 V$ given by

$$f = e_1 \wedge e_{2n} + e_2 \wedge e_{2n-1} + \cdots + e_n \wedge e_{n+1}$$

(here $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2n}\}$ is the standard basis in V). We have

$$\begin{aligned} V(\omega_d) &= \{ \text{the primitive vectors in } \wedge^d V \} \\ &= \{ v \in \wedge^d V \mid v \wedge f^{n+1-d} = 0 \}. \end{aligned}$$

The extremal weight vectors $\{q_\tau, \tau \in W^d\}$, say $\tau = (a_1 \cdots a_d)$ are given by

$$q_\tau = e_{a_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{a_d}$$

Proposition 4.5. (cf. [?]) *Let $\beta \in R^+$.*

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \text{ or } d \geq k \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k. \end{cases}$$

(2) Let $\beta = 2\epsilon_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$. Then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d \leq n. \end{cases}$$

(3) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k \\ \pm q_{\tau, \phi}, & \text{if } k \leq d \leq n \end{cases}$$

where $\tau = (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 \cdots dj')$ and $\phi = (12 \cdots k - 1 k + 1 \cdots dk')$.

Theorem 4.6. Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$.

- (1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$, or $2\epsilon_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \geq s_\beta$.
- (2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \geq$ either s_β or $s_{2\epsilon_j}$.

Proof. If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$, or $2\epsilon_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$, then the result is immediate from (1) and (2) of Proposition ?? (in view of Theorem ??).

Let then $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. We have (from (3) of Proposition ??),

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, \quad j \leq d < k. \quad (*)$$

For $k \leq d \leq n$, we have $X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \pm q_{\tau, \phi}$, τ, ϕ being as in Proposition ??,(3). We have $s_{2\epsilon_j} = (12 \cdots j - 1 j' j + 1 \cdots n)$, and hence we obtain

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \pm q_{s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}, \phi}, \quad k \leq d \leq n \quad (**)$$

Hence from (*) and (**) we obtain (in view of Theorem ??) that $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}, j \leq d < k$ and $w^{(d)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}, k \leq d \leq n$.

Claim. $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}, j \leq d < k$ and $w^{(d)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}, k \leq d \leq n$ if and only if $w \geq$ either s_β or $s_{2\epsilon_j}$.

If $w \geq$ either s_β or $s_{2\epsilon_j}$, then clearly $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}, j \leq d < k$ and $w^{(d)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}, k \leq d \leq n$ (note that $s_\beta^{(d)} > s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}, k \leq d \leq n$, and $s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)} > s_\beta^{(d)}, j \leq d < k$).

Let now w be such that $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}$, $j \leq d < k$ and $w^{(d)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}$, $k \leq d \leq n$. Further, let $w \not\geq s_\beta$. We shall now show that $w \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}$. Let $w = (a_1 \cdots a_n)$. The facts that $w^{(d)} \geq s_\beta^{(d)}$, $j \leq d < k$, and $w \not\geq s_\beta$ imply that

$$w^{(k)} \not\geq s_\beta^{(k)}. \quad (\dagger)$$

On the other hand, we have $w^{(k)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(k)}$ (since $w^{(d)} \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}^{(d)}$, $k \leq d \leq n$). This implies that there is an entry, say x , in $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$ such that $x \geq j'$. In fact, this entry x belongs to $\{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$; for, if $x \notin \{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$, then this would imply that there is an entry say y , in $\{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$ such that $y \geq k'$ (since $w^{(j)} \geq s_\beta^{(j)}$), which in turn would imply that $w^{(k)} \geq s_\beta^{(k)}$ (since $x, y \in \{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$, and $x \geq j', y \geq k'$) and this is not true (cf. (\dagger)). It follows that $w \geq s_{2\epsilon_j}$. This completes the proof of the Claim and also of Theorem ???. \square

Proposition 4.7. *Let $\beta \in R^+$.*

(1) *Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then*

$$m(\omega_d - \beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j, \text{ or } d \geq k \\ 1, & \text{if } j \leq d < k. \end{cases}$$

(2) *Let $\beta = 2\epsilon_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Then*

$$m(\omega_d - \beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ 1, & \text{if } j \leq d \leq n. \end{cases}$$

(3) *Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then*

$$m(\omega_d - \beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ 1, & \text{if } j \leq d < k \\ n + 1 - d, & \text{if } k \leq d \leq n. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Fix d , $1 \leq d \leq n$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$ or $d \geq k$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d < k$. Then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

(2) Let $\beta = 2\epsilon_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. If $d < j$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d \leq n$. Then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

(3) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d \leq n$. If $d < k$, then clearly $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$. If $k \leq d \leq n$, then using the description of admissible pairs (cf. Proposition ??) and the fact that $q_{\theta, \delta}$ is a weight vector of

weight $\frac{1}{2}(\theta(\omega_d) + \delta(\omega_d))$, it is easily checked that there are precisely $n + 1 - d$ vectors in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$, namely

$q_{\tau, \phi}, q_{\theta_i, \delta_i}, 0 \leq i \leq n - d - 1$ where

$$\tau = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots dj'), \phi = (1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots dk'),$$

$$\theta_0 = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots d \ d + 1 \ k'),$$

$$\delta_0 = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots d(d + 1)'),$$

$$\theta_i = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots (d + i + 1)(d + i)'),$$

$$\delta_i = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots (d + i)(d + i + 1)'), 1 \leq i \leq n - d - 1.$$

□

Corollary 4.8. *Let $w \in W$ and $\beta \in R^+$.*

- (1) *Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, j < k \leq n, 2\epsilon_m, 1 \leq m \leq n$. Then $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ if and only if $w \geq s_\beta$.*
- (2) *Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ if and only if $w \geq s_\beta$ or $s_{2\epsilon_j} s_{\epsilon_k - \epsilon_n}$ ($= (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j' \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ nk + 1 \ k + 2 \cdots n - 1 \ k)$).*

Proof. (1) If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, j < k \leq n, 2\epsilon_m, 1 \leq m \leq n$, then the result follows from (1), (2) in the proof of Proposition 4.7.

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. We have that if $d < j$, then $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$, and if $j \leq d < k$, then $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 1$ ($q_{id(d)}$ being the only weight vector in $V(\omega_d)$ of weight $\omega_d - \beta$). For $k \leq d \leq n$, we have from the proof of (3) in Proposition ?? that the weight space in $V(\omega_d)$ of weight $\omega_d - \beta$ has a basis consisting of the vectors $q_{\tau, \phi}, q_{\theta_i, \delta_i}, 0 \leq i \leq n - d - 1$ (notations being as in the proof of (3) in Proposition ??). Hence we obtain that $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ if and only if $w^{(j)} \geq \{1, 2, \dots, j - 1, k'\}$ and $w^{(d)} \geq \tau$ and $\theta_i, 0 \leq i \leq n - d - 1, k \leq d \leq n$. It is now easily checked $w^{(d)} \geq q_{\tau, \phi}, q_{\theta_i, \delta_i}, 0 \leq i \leq n - d - 1, k \leq d \leq n$, if and only if $w^{(k)} \geq \{1, 2 \cdots j - 1 \ j' \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ n\}$. The required result now follows from this. □

Remark 4.9. Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$.

The condition that $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ need not be equivalent to the condition that $\beta \in N(w, e)$. For example, take $w = s_{2\epsilon_j}$ for some $j < n - 1, \beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$ for some $k, j < k \leq n - 1$. We have (cf. Theorem ??) $\beta \in N(w, e)$, but $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) \neq m(\omega_d - \beta), k \leq d < n$ (note that $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = 1, k \leq d \leq n$, while $m(\omega_d - \beta) = n + 1 - d, k \leq d \leq n$).

Also, the condition that $w \geq s_\beta$ need not be equivalent to the condition that $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$. For example, take $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, for some $j < k \leq n$, and $w = s_{2\epsilon_j} s_{\epsilon_k - \epsilon_n}$. We have, $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. Corollary ??), but $w \not\geq s_\beta$.

Of course, for $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $j < k \leq n$, $2\epsilon_m$, $1 \leq m \leq n$, and any $w \in W$, all the three conditions of §?? are equivalent.

5. THE ORTHOGONAL GROUP $SO(2n + 1)$

Let $V = K^{2n+1}$ together with a non degenerate symmetric bilinear form $(,)$. Taking the matrix of the form $(,)$ (with respect to the standard basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2n+1}\}$ of V) to be E , the $2n + 1 \times 2n + 1$ anti-diagonal matrix with 1 all along the anti-diagonal except at the $n + 1 \times n + 1$ -th place where the entry is 2 (note that the associated quadratic form Q on V is given by $Q(\sum_{i=1}^{2n+1} x_i e_i) = x_{n+1}^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_{2n+2-i}$), we may realize $G = SO(V)$ as the fixed point set $SL(V)^\sigma$, where $\sigma : SL(V) \rightarrow SL(V)$ is given by $\sigma(A) = E^{-1}({}^t A)^{-1} E$. Set $H = SL(V)$.

We note that the following hold (cf. [?]):

(I). Denoting by W_G the Weyl group of G , we have

$$W_G = \{(a_1 \dots a_{2n+1}) \in S_{2n+1} \mid a_i = 2n + 2 - a_{2n+2-i}, 1 \leq i \leq 2n + 1\}.$$

Thus $w = (a_1 \dots a_{2n+1}) \in W_G$ is known once $(a_1 \dots a_n)$ is known (note that $a_{n+1} = n + 1$, for all $w \in W_G$).

In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \dots a_{2n+1})$ in W_G by just $(a_1 \dots a_n)$.

(II). We shall index the simple roots in G as in [?]. Let us denote the simple reflections in W_G by $\{s_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. We have (cf. [?]),

$$s_i = \begin{cases} r_i r_{2n+1-i}, & \alpha_i = \epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \\ r_n r_{n+1} r_n, & \alpha_i = \epsilon_n \end{cases}$$

where r_i denotes the transposition $(i, i + 1)$ in S_{2n+1} , $1 \leq i \leq 2n$.

(III). For $1 \leq d \leq n$, W_G^d can be identified with

$$\{(a_1 \dots a_d) \mid (1) 1 \leq a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_d \leq 2n + 1, a_i \neq n + 1, 1 \leq i \leq d(2) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq 2n + 1\}$$

In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \dots a_{2n+1})$ in W_G^d by just $(a_1 \dots a_d)$.

(IV). For $w_1 = (a_1 \dots a_n)$, $w_2 = (b_1 \dots b_n)$, $w_1, w_2 \in W_G$, we have $w_2 \geq w_1 \Leftrightarrow$ the d -tuple $\{b_1, \dots, b_d$ arranged in ascending order $\} \geq$ the d -tuple $\{a_1, \dots, a_d$ arranged in ascending order $\}$, $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. [?]). In particular, the partial order on W_G is induced by the partial order on W_H .

5.1. Chevalley Basis. For $1 \leq k \leq 2n + 1$, set $k' = 2n + 2 - k$. The involution $\sigma : SL(2n + 1) \rightarrow SL(2n + 1)$, $A \mapsto E^{-1}({}^t A)^{-1} E$, induces an involution $\sigma : sl(2n + 1) \rightarrow sl(2n + 1)$, $A \mapsto -E^{-1}({}^t A)E$. In particular,

we have, $\sigma(E_{ij}) = -E_{j'i'}$, $1 \leq i, j \leq 2n+1$, where E_{ij} is the elementary matrix with 1 at the (i, j) th place and 0 elsewhere. Further

$$\text{Lie } G = \{A \in \mathfrak{sl}(2n+1) \mid E^{-1}({}^t A)E = -A\}.$$

The Chevalley basis $\{H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}}, 1 \leq i < n, H_{\epsilon_n}, X_{\pm \epsilon_m}, 1 \leq m \leq n, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)}, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)}, 1 \leq j < k \leq n\}$ for Lie G may be given as follows:

$$H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}} = E_{ii} - E_{i+1, i+1} + E_{(i+1)', (i+1)'} - E_{i'i'}, \quad H_{\epsilon_n} = 2(E_{nn} - E_{n'n'}),$$

$$X_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k} = E_{jk} - E_{k'j'}, \quad X_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k} = E_{jk'} - E_{kj'}, \quad X_{\epsilon_m} = 2E_{mn+1} - E_{n+1m'},$$

$$X_{-(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)} = E_{kj} - E_{j'k'}, \quad X_{-(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)} = E_{k'j} - E_{j'k}, \quad X_{-\epsilon_m} = 2E_{n+1m} - E_{m'n+1}.$$

Definition 5.2. Let $\phi = (a_1 \cdots a_d) \in W^d$, $1 \leq d \leq n-1$, and let $n \in \{a_1, \dots, a_d\}$. Let $\tau = (b_1 \cdots b_d)$ be the element of W^d obtained from $(a_1 \cdots a_d)$ by replacing n by n' . In this situation, we say that τ is obtained from ϕ by a *Type II* operation.

Remark 5.3. *Type I* operation is defined exactly as in Definition ??

Proposition 5.4. (cf. [?]) Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$, $1 \leq d \leq n-1$, $\tau \geq \phi$. Then (τ, ϕ) is an admissible pair if and only if either $\tau = \phi$, or τ is obtained from ϕ by a sequence of operations of *Type I* or *II*.

5.5. **The G -module $V(\omega_d)$.** For $d = n$, $V(\omega_d)$ is the spin representation, and the extremal weight vectors, $q_\tau, \tau \in W^d$ form a basis for $V(\omega_d)$. For $1 \leq d < n$, we have $V(\omega_d) = \wedge^d V$ (here, $V = K^{2n+1}$). The extremal weight vectors $\{q_\tau, \tau \in W^d\}$, say $\tau = (a_1 \cdots a_d)$ are given by

$$q_\tau = e_{a_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{a_d}$$

Proposition 5.6. (cf. [?]) Let $\beta \in R^+$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \text{ or } d \geq k \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k. \end{cases}$$

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$.

(a) If $j = n$, then

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < n \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } d = n. \end{cases}$$

(b) If $j < n$, then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_{\beta}^{(d)}}, & \text{if } d = n \\ \pm q_{s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}, s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n}^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < n. \end{cases}$$

(3) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$.

(a) If $k = n$, then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_{\beta}^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d. \end{cases}$$

(b) If $k < n$, then

$$X_{-\beta}q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_{\beta}^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k \text{ or } d = n \\ \pm(\sum_{i=0}^{n-d} c_i q_{\theta_i, \delta_i} + a q_{\tau, \phi}), & \text{if } k \leq d < n \end{cases}$$

where $c_i = \pm 2, i < n - d, c_{n-d} = \pm 1 = a$,

$\tau = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots dj')$, $\phi = (1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots dk')$,

$\theta_0 = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots d \ d + 1 \ k')$,

$\delta_0 = (1 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots d(d + 1)')$,

$\theta_i = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots (d + i + 1)(d + i)')$,

$\delta_i = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots (d + i)(d + i + 1)'), 1 \leq i < n - d$,

$\theta_{n-d} = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots n'(n - 1)'),$

$\delta_{n-d} = (12 \cdots j - 1 \ j + 1 \cdots k - 1 \ k + 1 \cdots n - 1n)$.

Theorem 5.7. Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n, \epsilon_n$, or $\epsilon_i + \epsilon_n, 1 \leq i \leq n$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \geq s_{\beta}$.

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j, j < n$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \geq$ either s_{β} or $s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$.

(3) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k < n$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \geq$ either s_{β} or $s_{\epsilon_j} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_n}$.

Proof. If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n, \epsilon_n$, or $\epsilon_i + \epsilon_n, 1 \leq i \leq n$, then the result follows from 1, 2(a), and 3(a) of Proposition ?? (in view of Theorem ??).

Let $\beta = \epsilon_j, j < n$. If $w \geq$ either s_{β} or $s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$, then clearly, $X_{-\beta}q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$, and hence $\beta \in N(w, e)$ (in view of Theorem ??). Let then w be such that $X_{-\beta}q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$. Further, let $w \not\geq s_{\beta}$. We shall now show that $w \geq s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$. Let $w = (a_1 \cdots a_n)$. Now the fact that $w \not\geq s_{\beta}$ implies that $w^{(j)} \not\geq s_{\beta}^{(j)}$. On the

other hand, we have $w^{(j)} \geq s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}^{(j)}$. Hence we obtain that there exists an entry, say x in $\{a_1 \cdots a_j\}$ such that $n' \leq x < j'$. Also, the fact that $w^{(n)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(n)}$ implies that there exists an entry, say y in $\{a_1 \cdots a_n\}$ such that $y \geq j'$. Denoting $\eta = s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} w^{(j)} &\geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 n') (= \eta^{(j)}), \\ w^{(n)} &\geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 \cdots n - 1 n' j') (= \eta^{(n)}). \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows that $w \geq s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$.

Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k < n$. If $w \geq$ either s_{β} or $s_{\epsilon_j s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_n}}$, then clearly $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, for all d , and hence $\beta \in N(w, e)$. Let now $\beta \in N(w, e)$, and let $w \not\geq s_{\beta}$. We shall now show that $w \geq s_{\epsilon_j s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_n}}$. We have, $w^{(d)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(d)}$, $j \leq d < k$. This implies in particular that $w^{(j)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(j)}$. Hence there exists an entry p in $\{a_1 \cdots a_j\}$ such that $p \geq k'$. Also, the facts that $w \not\geq s_{\beta}$, $w^{(j)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(j)}$ imply that

$$w^{(k)} \not\geq s_{\beta}^{(k)}. \quad (\dagger)$$

On the other hand, since $\beta \in N(w, e)$, we have, $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. Theorem ??), and hence we obtain, $w^{(k)} \geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 \cdots j') (= \tau)$ (cf. Proposition ??, 3(b)). Hence there exists an entry q in $\{a_1 \cdots a_k\}$ such that $q \geq j'$. We have in fact $q \in \{a_1 \cdots a_j\}$, and $q = p$ (otherwise, we would obtain $w^{(k)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(k)}$ contradicting (\dagger)). Further, we have, there exists an entry r in $\{a_1 \cdots a_k\}$ such that $r \geq n'$ (in view of Proposition ??, 3(b)), and $r < k'$ (since $w^{(k)} \not\geq s_{\beta}^{(k)}$). Also, the fact that $w^{(n)} \geq s_{\beta}^{(n)}$ implies that there exists an entry s in $\{a_1 \cdots a_n\}$ such that $s \geq k'$. Thus we obtain, denoting $\xi = s_{\epsilon_j s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_n}}$,

$$\begin{aligned} w^{(j)} &\geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 j') (= \xi^{(j)}), \\ w^{(k)} &\geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 \cdots k n' j') (= \xi^{(k)}), \\ w^{(n)} &\geq (12 \cdots j - 1 j + 1 \cdots k - 1 k + 1 \cdots n - 1 n' k' j') (= \xi^{(n)}). \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows that $w \geq s_{\epsilon_j s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_n}}$. \square

Proposition 5.8. *Let $\beta \in R^+$. Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k < n$, and $k \leq d < n$. Then $m(\omega_d - \beta) = n - d + 2$. In all other cases, we have, $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$ or 1*

Proof. Fix d , $1 \leq d \leq n$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$ or $d \geq k$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d < k$. Then $q_{s_{\beta}^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$. If $d < j$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d \leq n$. If $d = n$, then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$. If $j \leq d < n$, then using the description of admissible pairs (cf. Proposition ??) and the fact that $q_{\theta, \delta}$ is a weight vector of weight $\frac{1}{2}(\theta(\omega_d) + \delta(\omega_d))$, it is easily seen that $q_{s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}^{(d)}, s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n}^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

(3) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d \leq n$. If $d = n$, or $k = n$, or $j \leq d < k$, then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$. Let then $k \leq d < n$. Then it is easily checked as in (2) (by weight considerations) that $q_{\theta_i, \delta_i}, 0 \leq i \leq n - d$, and $q_{\tau, \phi}$ (as in Proposition ??, 3(b)) are the only vectors in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

The required result follows from (1), (2) and (3). \square

Theorem 5.9. *Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$.*

Proof. The required result follows from Proposition 5.6, Theorem ??, and (1), (2) and (3) in the proof of Proposition ?? \square

Remark 5.10. Let $\beta \in R^+, w \in W$.

If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, j < k \leq n, \epsilon_n$, or $\epsilon_m + \epsilon_n, 1 \leq m \leq n - 1$, then the three conditions in §?? are equivalent.

For all $\beta \in R^+, w \in W$, the condition that $\beta \in N(w, e)$ is equivalent to the condition $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. Theorem ??).

The condition that $w \geq s_\beta$ need not be equivalent to the condition that $\beta \in N(w, e)$. For example, take $\beta = \epsilon_j$ for some $j < n$ and $w = s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n}$; we have (cf. Theorem ??, (2)), $\beta \in N(w, e)$, but $w \not\geq s_\beta$.

6. THE ORTHOGONAL GROUP $SO(2n)$

Let $V = K^{2n}$ together with a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form $(,)$. Taking the matrix of the form $(,)$ (with respect to the standard basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2n}\}$ of V) to be E , the anti-diagonal $(1, \dots, 1)$ of size $2n \times 2n$, we may realize $G = SO(V)$ as the fixed point set $SL(V)^\sigma$, where $\sigma : SL(V) \rightarrow SL(V)$ is given by $\sigma(A) = E({}^t A)^{-1} E$. Set $H = SL(V)$.

We note that the following hold (cf. [?]):

(I). Denoting by W_G the Weyl group of G , we have

$$W_G = \{(a_1 \cdots a_{2n}) \in S_{2n} \mid (1) a_i = 2n + 1 - a_{2n+1-i}, 1 \leq i \leq 2n (2) \#\{i, 1 \leq i \leq n\} \text{ is even}\}.$$

Thus $w = (a_1 \dots a_{2n}) \in W_G$ is known once $(a_1 \dots a_n)$ is known.

In the sequel, we shall denote an element $(a_1 \cdots a_{2n})$ in W by just $(a_1 \cdots a_n)$.

(II). We shall index the simple roots in G as in [?]. Let us denote the simple reflections in W_G by $\{s_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. We have (cf. [?]),

$$s_i = \begin{cases} r_i r_{2n-i}, & \alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}, 1 \leq i \leq n-1, \\ r_n r_{n-1} r_{n+1} r_n, & \alpha_i = \varepsilon_{n-1} + \varepsilon_n. \end{cases}$$

where r_i denotes the transposition $(i, i+1)$ in S_{2n} , $1 \leq i \leq 2n-1$.

(III). For $1 \leq d \leq n$, $d \neq n-1$, W_G^d can be identified with (*).

$\{(a_1 \cdots a_d) \mid (1) 1 \leq a_1 < a_2 < \cdots < a_d \leq 2n (2) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq 2n, \text{ if } i \in \{a_1, \dots, a_d\} \text{ then } 2n+1$

For $d = n-1$, W_G^d gets identified with a certain *proper* subset of (*); in particular, for $w_1 = (a_1 \cdots a_{2n})$, $w_2 = (b_1 \cdots b_{2n})$, $w_1, w_2 \in W_G$, we can have $w_1^{(n-1)} = w_2^{(n-1)}$, with $\{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\} \uparrow$, $\{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}\} \uparrow$ being different. For $w \in W$, say $w = (a_1 \cdots a_{2n})$, we see easily that

$$w^{(d)} = \{a_1, \dots, a_d\} \uparrow, 1 \leq d \leq n, d \neq n-1$$

and

$$w^{(n-1)} = \text{the least (under } \succeq \text{) in the totally ordered set } Y$$

where

$$Y = \{(y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}) \uparrow \mid 0 \leq i \leq n, i \neq n-1\}.$$

$y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}$ being the first $(n-1)$ entries in wu_i , $0 \leq i \leq n$, $i \neq n-1$. (Here, the partial order \succeq is the usual partial order, namely, $(i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}) \succeq (j_1, \dots, j_{n-1})$, if $i_t \geq j_t$, $1 \leq t \leq n-1$, $(i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}), (j_1, \dots, j_{n-1})$ being two increasing sequence of $(n-1)$ -tuples.)

(IV). For $1 \leq i \leq 2n$, let $i' = 2n+1-i$, and $|i| = \min\{i, i'\}$. We shall denote the Bruhat order on $W(G)$ by \succeq . Given $w_1 = (a_1 \cdots a_n)$, $w_2 = (b_1 \cdots b_n)$, $w_1, w_2 \in W_G$, we have $w_2 \succeq w_1$ if and only if the following two conditions hold (cf. [?]).

- (1) For $1 \leq d \leq n$, we have $\{b_1, \dots, b_d\} \uparrow \succeq \{a_1, \dots, a_d\} \uparrow$, for all d .
- (2) Let $\{c_1, \dots, c_d\}$ (resp. $\{e_1, \dots, e_d\}$) be the set $\{a_1, \dots, a_d\} \uparrow$ (resp. $\{b_1, \dots, b_d\} \uparrow$). Suppose for some r , $1 \leq r \leq d$, and some i , $0 \leq i \leq d-r$, $\{|c_{i+1}|, \dots, |c_{i+r}|\} = \{|e_{i+1}|, \dots, |e_{i+r}|\} = \{n+1-r, \dots, n\}$ (in some order). Then $\#\{j, i+1 \leq j \leq i+r \mid c_j > n\}$, and $\#\{j, i+1 \leq j \leq i+r \mid e_j > n\}$ should both be even or both odd.

Thus the Bruhat order \succeq on W_G is not induced from the Bruhat order on W_H . Following the terminology in [?], we shall refer to condition (2) above as

“if $\{c_1, \dots, c_d\}$ and $\{e_1, \dots, e_d\}$ have analogous parts, then they are **D-compatible**”; we shall refer to $\{|c_{i+1}|, \dots, |c_{i+r}|\}$ and $\{|e_{i+1}|, \dots, |e_{i+r}|\}$ as analogous parts.

In the sequel, we shall have occasion to use both of the partial orders \succeq and \geq .

Remark 6.1. (a) Let $(c_1, \dots, c_d), (e_1, \dots, e_d) \in W_G^{P_d}$, where $(c_1, \dots, c_d) \succeq \{e_1, \dots, e_d\}$. Suppose $(c_1, \dots, c_d), (e_1, \dots, e_d)$ have analogous parts. Then it is easily seen that the condition (2) is equivalent to the condition that $\#\{j, 1 \leq j \leq d \mid c_j > n\}$ and $\#\{j, 1 \leq j \leq d \mid e_j > n\}$ are both even or both odd.

(b). Given $\theta \in W$, say $\theta = (a_1 \cdots a_{2n})$, denoting by $y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}$ the first $(n-1)$ entries in θu_i , $0 \leq i \leq n$, $i \neq n-1$, we have

$$(y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}) = \begin{cases} (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}), & 1 \leq i \leq n, i \neq n-1 \\ (a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}), & i = 0 \end{cases}$$

where for $1 \leq i \leq n-2$, (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) is the $(n-1)$ -tuple obtained from (a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) by replacing a_i by a'_n , and for $i = n$, $(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) = (a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a'_n)$. Further, we have $\theta^{(n-1)}$ is the least (under \geq) in $\{(y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}) \uparrow, 0 \leq i \leq n, i \neq n-1\}$.

(c). Given $\theta, w \in W$, say $\theta = (a_1 \cdots a_{2n})$, $w = (b_1 \cdots b_{2n})$, we have (with notations as in (b) above)

$$w^{(n-1)} \succeq \theta^{(n-1)} \Leftrightarrow (b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}) \uparrow \succeq (y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_{n-1}^{(i)}) \uparrow \text{ for some } i, 0 \leq i \leq n, i \neq n-1.$$

6.2. Chevalley Basis. For $1 \leq k \leq 2n$, set $k' = 2n + 1 - k$. The involution $\sigma : SL(2n) \rightarrow SL(2n), A \mapsto E({}^t A)^{-1} E$, induces an involution $\sigma : sl(2n) \rightarrow sl(2n), A \mapsto -E({}^t A) E$. In particular, we have, for $1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$, $\sigma(E_{ij}) = -E_{j'i'}$, where E_{ij} is the elementary matrix with 1 at the (i, j) th place and 0 elsewhere; and for $1 \leq k \leq 2n, k' = 2n + 1 - k$. Further

$$\text{Lie } G = \{A \in sl(2n) \mid E({}^t A) E = -A\}.$$

The Chevalley basis $\{H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}}, 1 \leq i < n, H_{\epsilon_{n-1} + \epsilon_n}, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)}, X_{\pm(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)}, 1 \leq j < k \leq n\}$ for Lie G may be given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}} &= E_{ii} - E_{i+1, i+1} + E_{(i+1)', (i+1)'} - E_{i' i'}, \\ H_{\epsilon_{n-1} + \epsilon_n} &= E_{n-1, n-1} + E_{n, n} - E_{n', n'} - E_{(n-1)', (n-1)'}, \\ X_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k} &= E_{jk} - E_{k' j'}, \quad X_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k} = E_{j k'} - E_{k j'}, \\ X_{-(\epsilon_j - \epsilon_k)} &= E_{kj} - E_{j' k'}, \quad X_{-(\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k)} = E_{k' j} - E_{j' k}. \end{aligned}$$

Definition 6.3. Let $\phi = (a_1 \cdots a_d) \in W^d$, $1 \leq d \leq n - 2$. Further let $n - 1, n \in \{a_1, \dots, a_d\}$. Let $\tau = (b_1 \cdots b_d)$ be the element of W^d obtained from $(a_1 \cdots a_d)$ by replacing $n - 1$ by n' , and n by $(n - 1)'$. In this situation, we say that τ is obtained from ϕ by a *Type II* operation.

Remark 6.4. *Type I* operation is defined exactly as in Definition ??.

Proposition 6.5. (cf. [?]) Let $\tau, \phi \in W^d$, $1 \leq d \leq n - 2$, $\tau \geq \phi$. Then (τ, ϕ) is an admissible pair if and only if either $\tau = \phi$, or τ is obtained from ϕ by a sequence of operations of *Type I* or *II*.

6.6. **The G -module $V(\omega_d)$.** For $d = n - 1, n$, $V(\omega_d)$ is the spin representation, and the extremal weight vectors, $q_\tau, \tau \in W^d$ form a basis for $V(\omega_d)$. For $1 \leq d \leq n - 2$, we have $V(\omega_d) = \wedge^d V$ (here, $V = K^{2n}$), and the extremal weight vectors $\{q_\tau, \tau \in W^d\}$, say $\tau = (a_1 \cdots a_d)$ are given by

$$q_\tau = e_{a_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{a_d}$$

Proposition 6.7. (cf. [?]) Let $\beta \in R^+$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$. Then

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \text{ or } d \geq k \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k. \end{cases}$$

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$.

(a) If $k = n - 1, n$, then

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d. \end{cases}$$

(b) If $k < n - 1$, then

$$X_{-\beta} q_{id} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } d < j \\ \pm q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}, & \text{if } j \leq d < k \text{ or } d = n - 1, n \\ \pm(\sum_{i=0}^{n-d} c_i q_{\theta_i, \delta_i} + a q_{\tau, \phi}), & \text{if } k \leq d < n - 1 \end{cases}$$

where $\tau, \phi, \theta_i, \delta_i, 0 \leq i \leq n - d$ are defined in the same way as in Proposition ??, and $c_i = \pm 2$ or ± 1 according as $i <$ or $\geq n - d - 1$, and $a = 1$.

Theorem 6.8. Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k, 1 \leq j < k \leq n$, or $\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, k = n - 1, n, 1 \leq j < k$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \succeq s_\beta$.

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k, j < k < n - 1$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $w \succeq$ either s_β or $s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}}$.

Proof. If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$, or $\epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $k = n-1, n$, $1 \leq j < k$, then the result follows from Proposition ??, 1 and 2(a).

Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n-2$. If $w \succeq$ either s_β or $s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}}$, then clearly $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$, and hence $\beta \in N(w, e)$ (cf. Theorem ??). Let now $\beta \in N(w, e)$, and let $w \not\succeq s_\beta$. We shall now show that $w \succeq s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}}$. We have, $w^{(d)} \succeq s_\beta^{(d)}$, $j \leq d < k$. This implies in particular that $w^{(j)} \succeq s_\beta^{(j)}$. Hence there exists an entry p in $\{a_1 \cdots a_j\}$ such that $p \geq k'$. Also, the facts that $w \not\succeq s_\beta$, $w^{(j)} \succeq s_\beta^{(j)}$ imply that

$$w^{(k)} \not\succeq s_\beta^{(k)}. \quad (\dagger)$$

On the other hand, since $\beta \in N(w, e)$, we have $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \in V_w(\omega_d)$, $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. Theorem ??) and hence we obtain $w^{(k)} \succeq \tau, \theta$, and δ , where $\tau = (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k j')$, $\theta = (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 n k')$, $\delta = (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 n' (n-1)')$ (cf. Proposition ??, 2(b)). In particular, we obtain (since $w^{(k)} \succeq \tau$) that there exists an entry q in $\{a_1 \cdots a_k\}$ such that $q \geq j'$. We have in fact $q \in \{a_1 \cdots a_j\}$, and $q = p$ (otherwise, we would obtain $w^{(k)} \succeq s_\beta^{(k)}$ contradicting (\dagger)). Thus

$$w^{(j)} \succeq (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 j'). \quad (1)$$

Further we obtain (since $w^{(k)} \succeq \theta, \delta$)

$$w^{(k)} \succeq (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 (n-1)' j') \quad (2)$$

(note that $(12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 (n-1)' j')$ is the smallest (under \succeq) element ϕ in W^k for the property that $\phi \succeq \tau, \theta$, and δ ; note that eventhough the k -tuple $(12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 n' j') \geq \tau, \theta$, and δ , it is $\not\succeq \theta$ (since they have non-compatible analogous parts (cf. (IV) above))). Also, we have

$$w^{(d)} \succeq s_\beta^{(d)}, \quad d = n-1, n. \quad (3)$$

Now it is easily seen that $\xi = (12 \cdots j-1 j' j+1 \cdots k-1 (n-1)' k+1 \cdots n-2 k' n')$ is the smallest (under \succeq) element in W for the properties given in (??), (??), and (??) (note that eventhough $\eta := (12 \cdots j-1 j' j+1 \cdots k-1 (n-1)' k+1 \cdots n-2 n' k')$ is the smallest (under \geq) element in W such that $\eta^{(j)} \geq (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 j')$, $\eta^{(k)} \geq (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 (n-1)' j')$, $\eta^{(n-1)} \geq (12 \cdots j-1 j+1 \cdots k-1 k+1 \cdots n-1 n' k')$ ($= (s_\beta u_j)^{(n-1)}$) (cf. Remark ??), $\eta^{(n)} \geq s_\beta^{(n)}$, we have, $\eta^{(n-1)} \not\succeq s_\beta^{(n-1)}$ (since $\eta^{(n-1)}$ and $(s_\beta u_j)^{(n-1)}$ have non-compatible analogous parts)). From this it follows that $w \succeq s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}}$ (note that $s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}} = \xi$).

□

Proposition 6.9. *Let $\beta \in R^+$. Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$, and $k \leq d \leq n - 2$. Then $m(\omega_d - \beta) = n - d + 2$. In all other cases, we have, $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$ or 1.*

Proof. Fix d , $1 \leq d \leq n$.

(1) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$ or $d \geq k$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d < k$. Then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

(2) Let $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $1 \leq j < k \leq n$. If $d < j$, then clearly $m(\omega_d - \beta) = 0$. Let then $j \leq d \leq n$. If $d = n - 1, n$, or $k = n - 1, n$, or $j \leq d < k$, then $q_{s_\beta^{(d)}}$ is the only vector in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$. Let then $k \leq d \leq n - 2$. Then it is easily checked (by weight considerations) that q_{θ_i, δ_i} , $0 \leq i \leq n - d$, $q_{\tau, \phi}$ (as in Proposition ??, 2(b)) are the only vectors in \mathcal{B}_d of weight $\omega_d - \beta$.

The required result follows from (1) and (2). □

Theorem 6.10. *Let $w \in W$, and $\beta \in R^+$. Then $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$.*

Proof. The required result follows from Proposition 6.7, Theorem ?? and (1), (2) in the proof of Proposition ?? □

Remark 6.11. Let $\beta \in R^+$, $w \in W$.

If $\beta = \epsilon_j - \epsilon_k$, $j < k \leq n$, or $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $k = n - 1, n$, then the three conditions in §?? are equivalent.

For all $\beta \in R^+$, $w \in W$, the condition that $\beta \in N(w, e)$ is equivalent to the condition $m_w(\omega_d - \beta) = m(\omega_d - \beta)$, for all $1 \leq d \leq n$ (cf. Theorem ??).

The condition that $w \geq s_\beta$ need not be equivalent to the condition that $\beta \in N(w, e)$. For example, take $\beta = \epsilon_j + \epsilon_k$, $j < k < n - 1$, and $w = s_{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_j + \epsilon_n} s_{\epsilon_k + \epsilon_{n-1}}$; we have (cf. Theorem ??, (2)), $\beta \in N(w, e)$, but $w \not\geq s_\beta$.

Remark 6.12. The statement (in Theorem 1 in [?]) that $\beta \in N(w, e)$ if and only if $m_w(\rho - \beta) = m(\rho - \beta)$ is incorrect. Although, there is a similarity in the statement of Theorem 1 in [?] and those in Theorems ??, ?? and ??, the property that $m_w(\rho - \beta) = m(\rho - \beta)$ seems to be stronger than the property that $\beta \in N(w, e)$. For example, consider $G = Sp(6)$, $w = s_{2\epsilon_1}$. Then for $\beta = \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2$, we have, $X_{-\beta} q_{id} \in V_{w, \rho}$, but $m_w(\rho - \beta) \neq m(\rho - \beta)$ (we have, $m(\rho - \beta) = 6$, $m_w(\rho - \beta) = 5$.)

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, BOSTON, MA
02115

E-mail address: lakshmibai@neu.edu