

## $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code vertex operator algebras

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**Abstract.** We introduce a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type associated with a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code for  $k \geq 2$ . Our argument is based on the  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -symmetry among the simple current modules for the parafermion vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ . We show that it is naturally realized as the commutant of a certain subalgebra in a lattice vertex operator algebra. Furthermore, we construct all the irreducible modules inside a module for the lattice vertex operator algebra.

### 1. Introduction.

The parafermion vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{g}, k)$  associated with a finite dimensional simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  and a positive integer  $k$  is by definition the commutant of the Heisenberg vertex operator algebra generated by the Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  in  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}}(k, 0)$ , where  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}}(k, 0)$  is the simple affine vertex operator algebra associated with the affine Kac–Moody Lie algebra  $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$  at level  $k$ . In the case where  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$  and  $k \geq 2$ ,  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  is isomorphic to a minimal series principal  $W$ -algebra of type  $A$  which is a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type [2], and has exactly  $k$  simple currents  $M^j$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ , with  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -symmetry. That is, those simple currents form a cyclic group of order  $k$  with respect to the fusion product,  $M^i \boxtimes_{M^0} M^j = M^{i+j}$  for  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$  with  $M^0 = K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ .

In this article we introduce a vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  associated with a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code  $D$  of length  $\ell$ . Here, a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code  $D$  is an additive subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . For each codeword  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in D$ , we associate the tensor product  $M_\xi = M^{\xi_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes M^{\xi_\ell}$  of simple current  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules  $M^{\xi_r}$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ . Then the direct sum

$$M_D = \bigoplus_{\xi \in D} M_\xi$$

has a structure of an abelian intertwining algebra [14, Theorem 4.1]. Furthermore,  $M_D$  becomes a vertex operator algebra if each  $M_\xi$  has integral conformal weight [14, Theorem 4.2]. Being a  $D$ -graded simple current extension of  $M_{\mathbf{0}} = K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)^{\otimes \ell}$ , the vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  is simple, self-dual, rational,  $C_2$ -cofinite, and of CFT-type with central charge  $2\ell(k-1)/(k+2)$  (Theorem 7.3). Such a construction of  $M_D$  was initiated in [35] for the case  $k = 2$ , and the properties of the vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  for  $k = 2$  have been studied extensively, see [6], [31], [36], [37] and the references

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therein. The vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  for  $k = 3$  was constructed by a slightly different method in [23], and its irreducible modules were studied in [25].

We realize the vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  inside a vertex operator algebra  $V_{\Gamma_D}$  associated with a certain positive definite even lattice  $\Gamma_D$ . Moreover, every irreducible  $M_D$ -module is explicitly described inside a module for the lattice vertex operator algebra  $V_{\Gamma_D}$ .

More precisely, consider the lattice vertex operator algebra  $V_{\sqrt{2}A_{k-1}}$ , which is an extension of the vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k) \otimes K(\mathfrak{sl}_k, 2)$ . There are cosets  $N^{(j)}$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ , of  $\sqrt{2}A_{k-1}$  in the dual lattice  $(\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\circ$  such that  $N^{(i)} + N^{(j)} = N^{(i+j)}$ , and  $V_{N^{(j)}}$  contains  $M^j$ . For  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in D$ , we consider a coset  $N(\xi) = N^{(\xi_1)} \times \dots \times N^{(\xi_\ell)}$  of  $(\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\ell$  in  $((\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\circ)^\ell$ . The union  $\Gamma_D$  of those cosets is a positive definite even lattice if and only if  $(\xi|\xi) = 0$  for all  $\xi \in D$  (Lemma 7.1), where  $(\cdot|\cdot)$  is the standard inner product on  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . Then  $M_D$  is realized as the commutant of  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_k, 2)^{\otimes \ell}$  in the lattice vertex operator algebra  $V_{\Gamma_D}$  (Equation (7.4)).

We also consider a necessary and sufficient condition on the code  $D$  for which  $\Gamma_D$  is a positive definite odd lattice, and  $M_D$  is a vertex operator superalgebra.

Using the representation theory of simple current extensions (Section 2.2), we construct all the irreducible  $M_D$ -modules inside  $V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$ , where  $(\Gamma_D)^\circ$  is the dual lattice of  $\Gamma_D$  (Theorems 8.7, 8.9, and 8.10). Any linear character  $\chi$  of the finite abelian group  $D$  naturally induces an automorphism of the vertex operator algebra  $M_D$ . We discuss irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules as well. In particular, we obtain the number of inequivalent irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules (Theorem 8.12). We also study the irreducible  $M_D$ -modules in the case where  $M_D$  is a vertex operator superalgebra (Theorem 9.1).

The construction of  $M_D$  as a commutant of  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_k, 2)^{\otimes \ell}$  in the lattice vertex operator algebra  $V_{\Gamma_D}$  was previously discussed in [3]. However, the treatment of the simple current  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules  $M^j$  in  $V_{N^{(j)}}$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ , was slightly different, and the method there is not suitable for all the irreducible  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules in  $V_{(\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\circ}$ . In the present paper, we use decompositions of certain irreducible  $V_{\sqrt{2}A_{k-1}}$ -modules (Proposition 6.3), from which we know how the irreducible  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules appear in  $V_{(\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\circ}$  (Proposition 6.4), and it enables us to describe the irreducible  $M_D$ -modules inside  $V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$ .

This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is devoted to preliminaries, where we recall the representation theory of simple current extensions. In Section 3, we review the properties of the parafermion vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  for later use. In Sections 4, 5, and 6, we describe the cosets of  $N = \sqrt{2}A_{k-1}$  in  $N^\circ = (\sqrt{2}A_{k-1})^\circ$ , and study how irreducible  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules appear in the irreducible  $V_N$ -modules. The vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  is defined in Section 7. In Section 8, we study the irreducible twisted and untwisted modules for  $M_D$ , including the classification of irreducible modules, and realizations of the irreducible modules in  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$ . In Section 9, we discuss the irreducible  $M_D$ -modules in the case where  $M_D$  is a vertex operator superalgebra. Finally, in Section 10, we mention some known examples of  $M_D$ . We calculate the minimal norm of elements in each coset of  $N$  in  $N^\circ$  in Appendix A.

As to the  $P(z)$ -tensor product  $\boxtimes_{P(z)}$  of [19] for a vertex operator algebra  $V$ , we only use it with  $z = 1$ . We write  $\boxtimes_V$  for  $\boxtimes_{P(1)}$ , and call it the fusion product. We also use  $\otimes$  to denote the tensor product of vertex operator algebras and their modules as in [15].

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**2. Preliminaries.**

In this section, we recall some basic properties of simple current extensions of vertex operator algebras and their irreducible modules. Our notations for vertex operator algebras and their modules are standard [15], [16], [32].

**2.1. Simple current modules.**

Let  $V$  be a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type. Then a fusion product  $M \boxtimes_V N$  over  $V$  of any  $V$ -modules  $M$  and  $N$  exists [20], [34]. The fusion product is commutative and associative [18, Theorem 3.7].

We denote by  $\text{Irr}(V)$  the set of equivalence classes of irreducible  $V$ -modules. Then

$$M^1 \boxtimes_V M^2 = \sum_{M^3 \in \text{Irr}(V)} \dim I_V \left( \begin{matrix} M^3 \\ M^1 \ M^2 \end{matrix} \right) M^3$$

for  $M^1, M^2 \in \text{Irr}(V)$ , where  $I_V \left( \begin{matrix} M^3 \\ M^1 \ M^2 \end{matrix} \right)$  is the set of all intertwining operators of type  $\left( \begin{matrix} M^3 \\ M^1 \ M^2 \end{matrix} \right)$ . An irreducible  $V$ -module  $A$  is called a simple current if  $A \boxtimes_V X$  is an irreducible  $V$ -module for any  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ . A set  $\{A^\alpha \mid \alpha \in D\}$  of simple current  $V$ -modules indexed by a finite abelian group  $D$  is said to be  $D$ -graded if  $A^\alpha, \alpha \in D$ , are inequivalent to each other with  $A^0 = V$  and  $A^\alpha \boxtimes_V A^\beta = A^{\alpha+\beta}, \alpha, \beta \in D$ . The set  $\text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}}$  of equivalence classes of simple current  $V$ -modules is graded by a finite abelian group [31, Corollary 1]. The inverse of  $A \in \text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}}$  with respect to the fusion product is its contragredient module  $A'$ . The fusion product by  $A \in \text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}}$  induces a permutation

$$X \mapsto A \boxtimes_V X \tag{2.1}$$

on  $\text{Irr}(V)$ . For a  $V$ -module  $X$ , we denote its conformal weight by  $h(X)$ , which is a rational number [10, Theorem 11.3]. We define a map  $b_V : \text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}} \times \text{Irr}(V) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  by

$$b_V(A, X) = h(A \boxtimes_V X) - h(A) - h(X) + \mathbb{Z} \tag{2.2}$$

for  $A \in \text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}}$  and  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ . The map  $b_V$  was introduced in [14, Section 3] in the case where  $\text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}} = \text{Irr}(V)$ , see also [38, Section 2]. A proof of the following lemma can be found in [42, Section 2].

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $A, B \in \text{Irr}(V)_{\text{sc}}$ , and  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ .*

- (1)  $b_V(A \boxtimes_V B, X) = b_V(A, X) + b_V(B, X)$ .
- (2)  $b_V(A, B \boxtimes_V X) = b_V(A, B) + b_V(A, X)$ .

**2.2. Representations of simple current extensions.**

Let  $V$  be a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type. Let  $\{V^\alpha \mid \alpha \in D\}$  be a  $D$ -graded set of simple current  $V$ -modules for a finite abelian group  $D$  with  $V^0 = V$  and  $h(V^\alpha) \in (1/2)\mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in D$ . Then the direct sum  $V_D = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in D} V^\alpha$  has a structure of either a simple vertex operator algebra or a simple

vertex operator superalgebra which extends the  $V$ -module structure on  $V_D$  [5, Theorem 3.12], see also the references therein. Such a simple vertex operator (super)algebra structure on  $V_D$  is unique [12, Proposition 5.3]. The vertex operator (super)algebra  $V_D$  is called a  $D$ -graded simple current extension of  $V$ . In this section, we only consider the case in which  $h(V^\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in D$ , and  $V_D$  is a vertex operator algebra. It is known that  $V_D$  is simple, self-dual, rational,  $C_2$ -cofinite, and of CFT-type [43, Theorem 2.14].

We recall the representation theory of  $V_D$  from [24], [43]. As to the notion of a  $g$ -twisted module for a vertex operator algebra with respect to its automorphism  $g$ , we adopt the definition in [10]. Thus a  $g$ -twisted module in [43] means a  $g^{-1}$ -twisted module in this paper.

Let  $D^* = \text{Hom}(D, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  be the character group of  $D$ . For  $\chi \in D^*$ , a scalar multiplication by  $\chi(\alpha)$  on  $V^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in D$ , is an automorphism of the vertex operator algebra  $V_D$ . That is,  $D^*$  naturally acts on  $V_D$ , and we can regard  $D^*$  as a subgroup of  $\text{Aut } V_D$ . Let  $M$  be a  $\chi$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module for  $\chi \in D^*$ . We say  $M$  is  $D$ -graded if there is a decomposition  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in D} M^\alpha$  as a  $V$ -module such that  $0 \neq V^\alpha \cdot M^\beta \subset M^{\alpha+\beta}$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in D$ , where we set  $V^\alpha \cdot S = \text{span}\{a_{(n)}v \mid a \in V^\alpha, v \in S, n \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  for a subset  $S$  of  $M$ .

We consider the action of  $D$  on  $\text{Irr}(V)$  in (2.1). Let  $\text{Irr}(V) = \bigcup_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_i$  be the  $D$ -orbit decomposition. Using the map  $b_V$  in (2.2), we define a map  $\chi_X : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  by

$$\chi_X(\alpha) = \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1} b_V(V^\alpha, X))$$

for  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ . The map  $\chi_X$  is a linear character of  $D$  by (1) of Lemma 2.1. For a  $D$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_i$ , (2) of Lemma 2.1 implies that  $\chi_X$  is independent of the choice of  $X \in \mathcal{O}_i$ , as  $h(V^\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $\alpha \in D$ . Thus  $\chi_X$  is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{O}_i$ , so we can write  $\chi_i$  for  $\chi_X$ .

We summarize [24, Theorem 4.4] and [43, Lemma 2.11, Theorems 2.14, 2.19, 3.2, 3.3] as follows.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $V_D$  be a  $D$ -graded simple current extension of  $V$ , and let  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ .*

(1) *There exists a unique structure of a  $D$ -graded  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module on the space  $V_D \boxtimes_V X = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in D} V^\alpha \boxtimes_V X$  which contains  $V^0 \boxtimes_V X \cong X$  as a  $V$ -submodule.*

(2) *If  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in D} M^\alpha$  is a  $D$ -graded  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module such that  $X \subset M^\alpha$  as a  $V$ -submodule for some  $\alpha \in D$ , then  $V_D \cdot X$  is isomorphic to the  $D$ -graded  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  in the assertion (1), where  $V_D \cdot X = \text{span}\{a_{(n)}v \mid a \in V_D, v \in X, n \in \mathbb{Q}\} \subset M$ .*

(3) *Let  $\sigma \in \text{Aut } V_D$  such that  $\sigma$  is the identity on  $V$ . Assume that there is a  $\sigma$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module containing  $X$  as a  $V$ -submodule. Then  $\sigma = \chi_X$ , and there exists a surjective  $V_D$ -homomorphism from  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  onto  $V_D \cdot X$ .*

For a  $D$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_i$  in  $\text{Irr}(V)$ , the structure of a  $D$ -graded  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module on the space  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  in (1) of the above theorem is independent of the choice of  $X \in \mathcal{O}_i$ , and it is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{O}_i$ . The  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  is not necessarily irreducible. The assertion (3) of the above theorem implies that  $V_D \cdot X$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$ .

Since any irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module for  $\chi \in D^*$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  with  $\chi = \chi_X$  for some  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$  by Theorem 2.2, the study of  $\chi$ -twisted  $V_D$ -modules is reduced to the study of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$ .

Let  $D_X = \{\alpha \in D \mid V^\alpha \boxtimes_V X \cong X\}$  be the stabilizer of  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$  for the action of  $D$  on  $\text{Irr}(V)$  in (2.1). For a  $D$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_i$ , the stabilizer  $D_X$  is independent of the choice of  $X \in \mathcal{O}_i$ , and it is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{O}_i$ . Hence we can write  $D_i$  for  $D_X$ .

In the case where  $D_X = 0$ , the following assertion holds [39, Proposition 3.8].

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** *If  $D_X = 0$ , then  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  is an irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module.*

If  $D_X$  is non-trivial, then the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  is reducible, and we need to take some 2-cocycles of  $D_X$  into account to obtain its irreducible decomposition as discussed in [24], [43]. Let  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$ , and assume that  $D_X \neq 0$ . We consider the  $D_X$ -graded simple current extension  $V_{D_X} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in D_X} V^\alpha$  of  $V$ . Set  $V_{\beta+D_X} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \beta+D_X} V^\alpha$  for a coset  $\beta + D_X \in D/D_X$ . Then  $V_D = \bigoplus_{\beta+D_X \in D/D_X} V_{\beta+D_X}$  is a  $D/D_X$ -graded simple current extension of  $V_{D_X}$ . Note that  $V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X \cong X^{\oplus |D_X|}$  as  $V$ -modules. Set  $Q = \text{Hom}_V(X, V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X)$ . Then  $\dim Q = |D_X|$ , and we have a canonical isomorphism

$$V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X \cong X \otimes Q. \tag{2.3}$$

It is shown in [24, Theorem 3.10] and [43, Theorems 2.14, 2.19] that there exists a 2-cocycle  $\epsilon \in Z^2(D_X, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  such that the space  $Q$  carries a structure of a module for a twisted group algebra  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$  associated with  $\epsilon$  [22, Chapter 2]. Indeed,  $Q$  is isomorphic to the regular representation of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ . If  $R$  is a  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ -submodule of  $Q$ , then the subspace  $X \otimes R$  of  $X \otimes Q$  in (2.3) is a  $V_{D_X}$ -submodule of  $V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X$ . Thus the irreducible decomposition of  $V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X$  as a  $V_{D_X}$ -module is obtained by the irreducible decomposition of  $Q$  as a  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ -module.

Let  $T$  be an irreducible  $V_{D_X}$ -submodule of  $V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X$ . Then  $T$  is also a direct sum of some copies of  $X$  as a  $V$ -module, and  $V_{\beta+D_X} \boxtimes_V T$ ,  $\beta + D_X \in D/D_X$ , are inequivalent irreducible  $V_{D_X}$ -modules. Hence the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_{V_{D_X}} T$  is irreducible by Proposition 2.3. The  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module structure of  $V_D \boxtimes_{V_{D_X}} T$  is uniquely determined by  $T$ . Therefore, the irreducible decomposition of  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  as a  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module is in one-to-one correspondence with the irreducible decomposition of  $Q$  in (2.3) as a  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ -module.

The determination of the 2-cocycle  $\epsilon$  requires more information on the associativity constraints of the fusion products of  $V$ -modules [24], [43]. However, we will only deal with the case where  $D_X$  can be regarded as a binary code in this paper. So we make the following assumption on  $D_X$ .

**HYPOTHESIS 2.4.** (1)  $M^0$  is a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type.

(2)  $M^1$  is a self-dual simple current  $M^0$ -module such that the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded simple current extension  $M^0 \oplus M^1$  of  $M^0$  is either a simple vertex operator algebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z}$  or a simple vertex operator superalgebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z} + 1/2$ .

(3) For any irreducible  $M^0$ -module  $P$ , the direct sum  $P^0 \oplus P^1$  with  $P^0 = P$  and  $P^1 = M^1 \boxtimes_{M^0} P$  has a unique structure of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded either untwisted or  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -twisted  $M^0 \oplus M^1$ -module.

(4)  $V = (M^0)^{\otimes n}$  for some  $n > 0$ .

(5)  $X \in \text{Irr}(V)$  with  $D_X \neq 0$ . Moreover,  $D_X$  has a structure of a binary code of length  $n$ , and  $V^\alpha \cong M^{\alpha_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes M^{\alpha_n}$  for  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in D_X$ . In particular,

$$V_{D_X} = \bigoplus_{\alpha=(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in D_X} M^{\alpha_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes M^{\alpha_n} \subset (M^0 \oplus M^1)^{\otimes n}$$

as an extension of  $V = (M^0)^{\otimes n}$ .

Suppose  $V_{D_X}$  satisfies Hypothesis 2.4. Under this assumption, we can describe the 2-cocycle  $\epsilon \in Z^2(D_X, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  explicitly. We divide our argument into two cases.

**Case 1.** Suppose  $M^0 \oplus M^1$  is a simple vertex operator algebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z}$ . By (3) of Hypothesis 2.4, the 2-cocycle  $\epsilon \in Z^2(D_X, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  is cohomologous to a 2-coboundary by [22, Chapter 2, Corollary 2.5]. Hence  $Q$  is the regular representation of an ordinary group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[D_X]$ , so that  $Q$  is a direct sum of  $|D_X|$  inequivalent irreducible  $\mathbb{C}[D_X]$ -modules. Therefore,  $V_{D_X} \boxtimes_V X$  decomposes into a direct sum of  $|D_X|$  inequivalent irreducible  $V_{D_X}$ -submodules. By considering  $V_D$  as a  $D/D_X$ -graded simple current extension of  $V_{D_X}$ , we see that the irreducible decomposition of  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  as a  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module is as follows.

**PROPOSITION 2.5.** *Suppose  $D_X \neq 0$  and  $V_{D_X}$  satisfies Hypothesis 2.4. Suppose further that  $M^0 \oplus M^1$  in (2) of Hypothesis 2.4 is a simple vertex operator algebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then the irreducible decomposition of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  is given as*

$$V_D \boxtimes_V X = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{|D_X|} U^j,$$

where  $U^j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq |D_X|$ , are inequivalent irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -modules. Furthermore,  $U^j \cong \bigoplus_{W \in \mathcal{O}_i} W$  as  $V$ -modules, where  $\mathcal{O}_i$  is the  $D$ -orbit in  $\text{Irr}(V)$  containing  $X$ .

**Case 2.** Suppose  $M^0 \oplus M^1$  is a simple vertex operator superalgebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z} + 1/2$ . In this case,  $D_X$  is an even binary code, as the conformal weight of  $V^\alpha \cong M^{\alpha_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes M^{\alpha_n}$  is an integer for  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in D_X$ . By (3) of Hypothesis 2.4, we can find the 2-cocycle  $\epsilon$  inside  $Z^2(D_X, \{\pm 1\})$  which satisfies

$$\epsilon(\alpha, \alpha) = (-1)^{\text{wt}(\alpha)/2}, \quad \epsilon(\alpha, \beta)\epsilon(\beta, \alpha) = (-1)^{(\alpha|\beta)} \tag{2.4}$$

for  $\alpha, \beta \in D_X$ , where  $\text{wt}(\alpha)$  is the Hamming weight of  $\alpha$ , and  $(\cdot|\cdot)$  is the standard inner product on  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^n$  [31, Section 4.1], see also [35], [36]. The conditions above uniquely determine the class of  $\epsilon$  in  $H^2(D_X, \{\pm 1\})$  [16, Proposition 5.3.3].

It is shown in [16, Theorem 5.5.1] that each irreducible representation of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$  is induced from an irreducible representation of its maximal commutative subalgebra, and

the equivalence classes of irreducible  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ -modules are distinguished by their central characters. Let  $D_X^\perp = \{\alpha \in (\mathbb{Z}_2)^n \mid (\alpha|D_X) = 0\}$  be the dual code of the binary code  $D_X$ , and let  $E$  be a maximal self-orthogonal subcode of  $D_X$ . It follows from (2.4) that the center of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$  is  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X \cap D_X^\perp]$ , and  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[E]$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ . Since  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X \cap D_X^\perp] \cong \mathbb{C}[D_X \cap D_X^\perp]$  is an ordinary group algebra, the number of inequivalent irreducible representations of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$  is equal to that of  $\mathbb{C}[D_X \cap D_X^\perp]$ , which coincides with the order  $|D_X \cap D_X^\perp|$  of  $D_X \cap D_X^\perp$ . Each irreducible  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ -module has dimension  $[D_X : E] = [E : D_X \cap D_X^\perp]$ , namely,  $[D_X : D_X \cap D_X^\perp]^{1/2}$  [16, Theorem 5.5.1]. Since the space  $Q$  in (2.3) is isomorphic to the regular representation of  $\mathbb{C}^\epsilon[D_X]$ , the irreducible decomposition of  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  as a  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module is as follows.

**PROPOSITION 2.6.** *Suppose  $D_X \neq 0$  and  $V_{D_X}$  satisfies Hypothesis 2.4. Suppose further that  $M^0 \oplus M^1$  in (2) of Hypothesis 2.4 is a simple vertex operator superalgebra with  $h(M^1) \in \mathbb{Z} + 1/2$ . Then the irreducible decomposition of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -module  $V_D \boxtimes_V X$  is given as*

$$V_D \boxtimes_V X = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{|D_X \cap D_X^\perp|} (U^j)^{\oplus m},$$

where  $m = [D_X : D_X \cap D_X^\perp]^{1/2}$ , and  $U^j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq |D_X \cap D_X^\perp|$ , are inequivalent irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $V_D$ -modules. Furthermore,  $U^j \cong \bigoplus_{W \in \mathcal{O}_i} W^{\oplus m}$  as  $V$ -modules, where  $\mathcal{O}_i$  is the  $D$ -orbit in  $\text{Irr}(V)$  containing  $X$ .

### 3. Parafermion vertex operator algebra $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ .

In this section, we recall the properties of the parafermion vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  for  $2 \leq k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $k = 2$ , then  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, 2)$  is isomorphic to the Virasoro vertex operator algebra  $L(1/2, 0)$  of central charge  $1/2$ . So we assume that  $k \geq 3$  for the rest of this section.

Let  $\{h, e, f\}$  be a standard Chevalley basis of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ . Let  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$  be the simple affine vertex operator algebra associated with  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2$  and level  $k$ . Then  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  is defined to be the commutant of the Heisenberg vertex operator algebra generated by  $h(-1)\mathbf{1}$  in  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$  [7], [8], [9].

We follow the notations in [8, Section 4]. Let  $L = \mathbb{Z}\alpha_1 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}\alpha_k$  with  $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = 2\delta_{i,j}$  and  $\gamma = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_k$ . Let  $H, E$ , and  $F \in V_L$  be as in [8, Section 4]. Then the component operators  $H_{(n)}, E_{(n)}, F_{(n)}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , give a level  $k$  representation of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2$  under the correspondence  $h(n) \leftrightarrow H_{(n)}, e(n) \leftrightarrow E_{(n)}, f(n) \leftrightarrow F_{(n)}$ , and the subalgebra  $V^{\text{aff}}$  of the vertex operator algebra  $V_L \cong L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(1, 0)^{\otimes k}$  generated by  $H, E$ , and  $F$  is isomorphic to  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$ . We identify  $V^{\text{aff}}$  with  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$ . We also identify  $H_{(n)}, E_{(n)}$ , and  $F_{(n)}$  with  $h(n), e(n)$ , and  $f(n)$ , respectively. Let

$$M^j = \{v \in L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0) \mid H_{(n)}v = -2j\delta_{n,0}v \text{ for } n \geq 0\}.$$

Then  $M^0 = K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ , and  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0) = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{k-1} M^j \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma-j\gamma/k}$  as  $M^0 \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}$ -modules [8, Lemma 4.2]. The index  $j$  of  $M^j$  can be considered to be modulo  $k$ .

Let  $L^\circ = (1/2)L$  be the dual lattice of  $L$ , and let  $v^i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq k$ , and  $v^{i,j}$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq i$ , be as in [8, Section 4]. Then the  $V^{\text{aff}}$ -submodule  $V^{\text{aff}} \cdot v^i$  of  $V_{L^\circ}$  generated by  $v^i$  is isomorphic to an irreducible  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$ -module  $L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, i)$  with top level  $\text{span}\{v^{i,j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq i\}$  of conformal weight  $i(i+2)/4(k+2)$  [17], [32, Section 6.2]. Let

$$M^{i,j} = \{v \in V^{\text{aff}} \cdot v^i \mid H_{(n)}v = (i-2j)\delta_{n,0}v \text{ for } n \geq 0\}$$

for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ . Then

$$L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, i) = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{k-1} M^{i,j} \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma + (i-2j)\gamma/2k} \quad (3.1)$$

as  $M^0 \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}$ -modules [8, Lemma 4.3]. The index  $j$  of  $M^{i,j}$  can be considered to be modulo  $k$ . Note that  $M^{0,j} = M^j$ .

The  $-1$  isometry of the lattice  $L$  lifts to an automorphism  $\theta$  of the vertex operator algebra  $V_L$  of order 2. Actually,  $\theta(H) = -H$ ,  $\theta(E) = F$ , and  $\theta(F) = E$ .

We summarize the properties of  $M^0 = K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  [1], [2], [7], [8], [13].

(1)  $M^0$  is a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type with central charge  $2(k-1)/(k+2)$ .

(2)  $\text{ch } M^0 = 1 + q^2 + 2q^3 + \dots$ .

(3)  $M^0$  is generated by its conformal vector  $\omega$  and a primary vector  $W^3$  of weight 3.

(4) The automorphism group  $\text{Aut } M^0$  of  $M^0$  is generated by  $\theta$ , and  $\theta(W^3) = -W^3$ .

(5) The irreducible  $M^0$ -modules  $M^{i,j}$ 's are not always inequivalent. In fact,

$$M^{i,j} \cong M^{k-i, j-i}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq k, \quad 0 \leq j \leq k-1. \quad (3.2)$$

(6)  $M^{i,j}$ ,  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$ , form a complete set of representatives of the equivalence classes of irreducible  $M^0$ -modules.

(7) The top level of  $M^{i,j}$  is a one dimensional space  $\mathbb{C}v^{i,j}$ , and its weight is

$$h(M^{i,j}) = \frac{1}{2k(k+2)} (k(i-2j) - (i-2j)^2 + 2k(i-j+1)j) \quad (3.3)$$

for  $0 \leq j \leq i \leq k$ . Note that (3.3) is valid even when  $j = i$ . Any irreducible  $M^0$ -module except for  $M^0$  itself has positive conformal weight.

(8) The automorphism  $\theta$  of  $M^0$  induces a permutation  $M^{i,j} \mapsto M^{i,j} \circ \theta \cong M^{i, i-j}$  on the irreducible  $M^0$ -modules for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ .

(9)  $M^j$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ , are the simple currents with  $h(M^j) = j(k-j)/k$ , and

$$M^{j'} \boxtimes_{M^0} M^{i,j} = M^{i, j+j'}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq k, \quad 0 \leq j, j' \leq k-1. \quad (3.4)$$

The following lemma is a consequence of (3.2) and (3.4).

LEMMA 3.1.  $M^{j'} \boxtimes_{M^0} M^{i,j} \cong M^{i,j}$  if and only if  $j' = 0$ , or  $k$  is even and  $j' = i = k/2$ .

Let



$$N = \{\alpha \in L \mid \langle \alpha, \gamma \rangle = 0\}.$$

Then  $M^0 = \text{Com}_{V^{\text{aff}}}(V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}) \subset \text{Com}_{V_L}(V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}) = V_N$ . The commutant of  $V^{\text{aff}}$  in  $V_L$  is isomorphic to the parafermion vertex operator algebra  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_k, 2)$  [26]. We denote it by  $T$ . Thus  $T = \text{Com}_{V_L}(V^{\text{aff}}) = \text{Com}_{V_N}(M^0) \cong K(\mathfrak{sl}_k, 2)$ .

#### 4. Cosets $N(j, a)$ of $N$ in $N^\circ$ .

We keep the notations in Section 3. In this section, we describe the cosets of  $N$  in its dual lattice  $N^\circ$ . For  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , set  $\delta_{\mathbf{a}} = (1/2) \sum_{p=1}^k a_p \alpha_p$ . Then  $L^\circ = \bigcup_{\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k} (L + \delta_{\mathbf{a}})$  is the coset decomposition of  $L^\circ$  by  $L$ . Let  $\beta_p = \alpha_p - \alpha_{p+1}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq k-1$ , so  $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{k-1}\}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $N$ . Set  $R = N \oplus \mathbb{Z}\gamma$ . Then  $R \subset L \subset L^\circ \subset R^\circ$  with  $R^\circ = N^\circ \oplus (\mathbb{Z}\gamma)^\circ$  and  $(\mathbb{Z}\gamma)^\circ = \mathbb{Z}\gamma/2k$ . Let

$$\lambda_k = \frac{1}{2k}(\beta_1 + 2\beta_2 + \dots + (k-1)\beta_{k-1}) = \frac{1}{2k}\gamma - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_k.$$

Then  $\langle \beta_p, \lambda_k \rangle = \delta_{p, k-1}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq k-1$ , and  $\langle \lambda_k, \lambda_k \rangle = 1/2 - 1/2k$ . The following lemma holds.

LEMMA 4.1. (1)  $\{\beta_2/2, \dots, \beta_{k-1}/2, \lambda_k\}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $N^\circ$ .  
 (2) The coset decomposition of  $N^\circ$  by  $N$  is given as

$$N^\circ = \bigcup_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq 2k-1 \\ d_2, \dots, d_{k-1} \in \{0, 1\}}} (N + d_2\beta_2/2 + \dots + d_{k-1}\beta_{k-1}/2 + i\lambda_k).$$

(3)  $N^\circ/N \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^{k-2} \times \mathbb{Z}_{2k}$ .

We consider another  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $N^\circ$ . Let

$$\lambda_p = \lambda_k - \frac{1}{2}\beta_p - \dots - \frac{1}{2}\beta_{k-1} = \frac{1}{2k}\gamma - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_p, \quad 1 \leq p \leq k-1.$$

Then  $\lambda_p \in N^\circ$  and  $2\lambda_p \equiv 2\lambda_k \pmod{N}$ . Note that

$$\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_k = 0. \tag{4.1}$$

Lemma 4.1 implies the next lemma.

LEMMA 4.2. (1)  $\{\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{k-1}, \lambda_k\}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $N^\circ$ .  
 (2) The coset decomposition of  $N^\circ$  by  $N$  is given as

$$N^\circ = \bigcup_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq 2k-1 \\ d_2, \dots, d_{k-1} \in \{0, 1\}}} (N + d_2\lambda_2 + \dots + d_{k-1}\lambda_{k-1} + i\lambda_k).$$

The coset decomposition of  $L$  by  $R$  is given as

$$L = \bigcup_{j=0}^{k-1} (R - j\alpha_k) = \bigcup_{j=0}^{k-1} \left( R + 2j\lambda_k - \frac{j}{k}\gamma \right), \quad (4.2)$$

and  $L/R \cong \mathbb{Z}_k$ . Moreover, the coset decomposition of  $R^\circ$  by  $L^\circ$  is given as

$$R^\circ = \bigcup_{j=0}^{k-1} \left( L^\circ - \frac{j}{2k}\gamma \right),$$

and  $R^\circ/L^\circ \cong \mathbb{Z}_k$ .

For  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , the support  $\text{supp}(\mathbf{a})$  is the set of  $p$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq k$ , for which  $a_p \neq 0$ , and the Hamming weight  $\text{wt}(\mathbf{a})$  is the number of nonzero entries  $a_p$ . Then

$$\delta_{\mathbf{a}} = - \sum_{p=1}^k a_p \lambda_p + \frac{\text{wt}(\mathbf{a})}{2k} \gamma.$$

For  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , let

$$N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N - \sum_{p=1}^k a_p \lambda_p + 2j\lambda_k, \quad 0 \leq j \leq k-1. \quad (4.3)$$

Since  $2k\lambda_k \in N$ , we can consider  $j$  to be modulo  $k$ . We have

$$N(j, \mathbf{a}) + N(j', \mathbf{a}') = N(j + j' - (\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) + \text{wt}(\mathbf{a}') - \text{wt}(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}'))/2, \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}'),$$

where  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}'$  is the sum of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{a}'$  as elements of  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^k$ , that is, the symmetric difference as subsets of  $\{0, 1\}^k$ . By the definition of  $\lambda_p$ , we also have

$$N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{p=1}^k a_p \alpha_p - j\alpha_k + \frac{2j - \text{wt}(\mathbf{a})}{2k} \gamma. \quad (4.4)$$

Since  $2\lambda_k - \gamma/k = -\alpha_k$ , this equation implies that

$$R + \delta_{\mathbf{a}} + 2j\lambda_k - \frac{j}{k}\gamma = N(j, \mathbf{a}) + \left( \mathbb{Z}\gamma + \frac{\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) - 2j}{2k}\gamma \right)$$

as subsets of  $R^\circ = N^\circ \oplus (\mathbb{Z}\gamma)^\circ$ . Hence it follows from (4.2) that

$$L + \delta_{\mathbf{a}} = \bigcup_{j=0}^{k-1} \left( N(j, \mathbf{a}) + \left( \mathbb{Z}\gamma + \frac{\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) - 2j}{2k}\gamma \right) \right). \quad (4.5)$$

LEMMA 4.3. (1) For  $0 \leq j, j' \leq k-1$  and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}' \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , we have  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  if and only if one of the following conditions holds.

(i)  $j \equiv j' \pmod{k}$  and  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a}'$ .

(ii)  $j' \equiv j - \text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) \pmod{k}$  and  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}' = (1, \dots, 1)$ .

(2)  $N(j, \mathbf{a})$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ ,  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$  with  $j < \text{wt}(\mathbf{a})$ , are the distinct cosets of  $N$  in  $N^\circ$ .

PROOF. Clearly,  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  if the condition (i) holds. Suppose the condition (ii) holds. Then  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  by (4.1) and (4.3). Set  $i = \text{wt}(\mathbf{a})$  and  $i' = \text{wt}(\mathbf{a}')$ , and assume that  $j < i$ . Then  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$  and  $0 \leq i' \leq j' < k$ . The number of pairs  $(j, \mathbf{a})$  with  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$  and  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$  is  $2^k k$ . Since  $|N^\circ/N| = 2^{k-1} k$ , we see that  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  only if  $j, j', \mathbf{a}$ , and  $\mathbf{a}'$  satisfy the conditions (i) or (ii). Hence the assertions (1) and (2) hold.  $\square$

REMARK 4.4. In Case (ii) of Lemma 4.3 (1), we have  $(\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}') - 2j') - (\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) - 2j) \equiv k \pmod{2k}$ . This agrees with the fact that  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) + (\mathbb{Z}\gamma + (\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) - 2j)\gamma/2k)$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ ,  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , in (4.5) are the distinct cosets of  $R$  in  $L^\circ$ .

The next lemma also holds.

LEMMA 4.5. *The  $-1$  isometry  $N^\circ \rightarrow N^\circ; \alpha \mapsto -\alpha$  transforms  $N(j, \mathbf{a})$  into  $N(\text{wt}(\mathbf{a}) - j, \mathbf{a})$ .*

### 5. Decomposition of $V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})}$ .

We keep the notations in Sections 3 and 4. In this section, we study a decomposition of the irreducible  $V_N$ -module  $V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})}$  as a direct sum of irreducible modules for a tensor product of  $k-1$  Virasoro vertex operator algebras and  $M^0$ . Let

$$c_m = 1 - \frac{6}{(m+2)(m+3)}$$

for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , and let

$$h_{r,s}^m = \frac{(r(m+3) - s(m+2))^2 - 1}{4(m+2)(m+3)}$$

for  $1 \leq r \leq m+1$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m+2$ . Then  $h_{r,s}^m = h_{m+2-r, m+3-s}^m$ , and  $L(c_m, h_{r,s}^m)$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq r \leq m+1$ , form a complete set of representatives of the equivalence classes of irreducible modules for the Virasoro vertex operator algebra  $L(c_m, 0)$  [41]. We denote the conformal vector of  $L(c_m, 0)$  by  $\omega^m$ .

Recall that  $\omega$  is the conformal vector of  $M^0$ . Let  $\omega_T$  be the conformal vector of  $T = \text{Com}_{V_N}(M^0)$ . Then the conformal vector  $\omega_N = \omega_T + \omega$  of  $V_N$  is a sum of mutually orthogonal Virasoro vectors  $\omega^1, \dots, \omega^{k-1}$ , and  $\omega$  [11], [29] with  $\omega_T = \omega^1 + \dots + \omega^{k-1}$ . The vector  $\omega^m$  generates  $L(c_m, 0)$ , so  $T \supset L(c_1, 0) \otimes \dots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, 0)$ . The following decomposition is known [21], [27], [40].

LEMMA 5.1. *For  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$ ,*

$$V_{L+\delta_{\mathbf{a}}} = \bigoplus_{\substack{0 \leq i_s \leq s \\ i_s \equiv b_s \pmod{2} \\ 1 \leq s \leq k}} L(c_1, h_{i_1+1, i_2+1}^1) \otimes \dots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, h_{i_{k-1}+1, i_k+1}^{k-1}) \otimes L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, i_k)$$

as  $L(c_1, 0) \otimes \dots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, 0) \otimes L_{\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2}(k, 0)$ -modules, where  $b_s = \sum_{p=1}^s a_p$ .

Combining the decomposition (3.1) with Lemma 5.1, we have

$$V_{L+\delta_{\mathbf{a}}} = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{k-1} \left( \bigoplus_{\substack{0 \leq i_s \leq s \\ i_s \equiv b_s \pmod{2} \\ 1 \leq s \leq k}} L(c_1, h_{i_1+1, i_2+1}^1) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, h_{i_{k-1}+1, i_k+1}^{k-1}) \right. \\ \left. \otimes M^{i_k, j} \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma+(i_k-2j)\gamma/2k} \right) \quad (5.1)$$

as  $L(c_1, 0) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, 0) \otimes M^0 \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}$ -modules.

Since  $b_k = \text{wt}(\mathbf{a})$ , (4.5) implies that

$$V_{L+\delta_{\mathbf{a}}} = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{k-1} V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})} \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma+(b_k-2j)\gamma/2k} \quad (5.2)$$

as  $V_N \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}$ -modules.

As  $V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma}$ -modules,  $V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma+(b_k-2j)\gamma/2k} \cong V_{\mathbb{Z}\gamma+(i_k-2q)\gamma/2k}$  if and only if  $q \equiv j + (i_k - b_k)/2 \pmod{k}$ . Here, note that  $i_k$  on the right hand side of (5.1) satisfies  $i_k \equiv b_k \pmod{2}$ . Comparing (5.1) and (5.2), we have the following theorem, see [28, Proposition 3.4].

**THEOREM 5.2.** *For  $0 \leq j \leq k - 1$  and  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , the irreducible  $V_N$ -module  $V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})}$  decomposes as a direct sum*

$$V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})} = \bigoplus_{\substack{0 \leq i_s \leq s \\ i_s \equiv b_s \pmod{2} \\ 1 \leq s \leq k}} L(c_1, h_{i_1+1, i_2+1}^1) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, h_{i_{k-1}+1, i_k+1}^{k-1}) \otimes M^{i_k, j+(i_k-b_k)/2} \quad (5.3)$$

of irreducible  $L(c_1, 0) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, 0) \otimes M^0$ -modules, where  $b_s = \sum_{p=1}^s a_p$ .

The next remark is a restatement of [28, Proposition 3.5].

**REMARK 5.3.**  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  for  $j', \mathbf{a}'$  in Case (ii) of Lemma 4.3 (1) corresponds to the following properties of the highest weights  $h_{p,q}^m$  for  $L(c_m, 0)$  and the irreducible modules  $M^{i,j}$  for  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ .

- (1)  $h_{p,q}^m = h_{m+2-p, m+3-q}^m$  for  $1 \leq p \leq m + 1, 1 \leq q \leq m + 2$ .
- (2)  $M^{i,j} \cong M^{k-i, j-i}$  as  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules for  $0 \leq i \leq k, j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ .

We note that for a given  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , the  $L(c_1, 0) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, 0)$ -modules

$$L(c_1, h_{i_1+1, i_2+1}^1) \otimes \cdots \otimes L(c_{k-1}, h_{i_{k-1}+1, i_k+1}^{k-1}),$$

$0 \leq i_s \leq s, i_s \equiv b_s \pmod{2}, 1 \leq s \leq k$ , in (5.3) are inequivalent to each other.

### 6. Irreducible $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules in $V_{N(j, \mathbf{a})}$ .

In this section, we discuss how irreducible  $K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$ -modules  $M^{i,j}$  appear on the right hand side of (5.3). Since  $h_{p,q}^s = 0$  if and only if  $(p, q) = (1, 1)$  or  $(s + 1, s + 2)$ , the following lemma holds.

LEMMA 6.1. *Let  $1 \leq m < k$ . Then for  $a_1, \dots, a_{m+1} \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $0 \leq i_s \leq s$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m + 1$ , the two conditions  $i_s \equiv b_s \pmod{2}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m + 1$ , and  $h_{i_s+1, i_s+1+1}^s = 0$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m$ , hold only if (i)  $a_s = 0$  and  $i_s = 0$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m + 1$ , or (ii)  $a_s = 1$  and  $i_s = s$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq m + 1$ .*

For an arbitrarily given  $a_1 \in \{0, 1\}$ , each coset of  $N$  in  $N^\circ$  is uniquely expressed as  $N(j, \mathbf{a})$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ ,  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ ,  $a_2, \dots, a_k \in \{0, 1\}$  by Lemma 4.3. For the rest of this section, we take  $a_1 = 0$ . For simplicity of notation, we omit  $\mathbf{1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{1}$  in an equation as

$$\{v \in V_N \mid \omega_{(1)}^s v = 0, 1 \leq s \leq k - 1\} = \mathbf{1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes M^0.$$

The following two propositions are clear from Theorem 5.2 and Lemma 6.1.

PROPOSITION 6.2. *For  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ , we have*

$$\{v \in V_{N(j, (0, \dots, 0))} \mid \omega_{(1)}^s v = 0, 1 \leq s \leq k - 1\} = M^j.$$

PROPOSITION 6.3. *For  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$  and  $d \in \{0, 1\}$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & \{v \in V_{N(j, (0, \dots, 0, d))} \mid \omega_{(1)}^s v = 0, 1 \leq s \leq k - 2\} \\ &= \bigoplus_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq k \\ i \equiv d \pmod{2}}} L(c_{k-1}, h_{1, i+1}^{k-1}) \otimes M^{i, j+(i-d)/2}. \end{aligned} \tag{6.1}$$

The next proposition is a consequence of (3.2).

PROPOSITION 6.4. *Let  $d \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

(1) *If  $k$  is odd, then  $M^{i, j+(i-d)/2}$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $i \equiv d \pmod{2}$ , are inequivalent to each other, and they are the  $k(k+1)/2$  inequivalent irreducible modules  $M^{i, j}$ ,  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$ .*

(2) *If  $k$  is even, then  $M^{i, j+(i-d)/2}$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $i \equiv d \pmod{2}$ , cover twice the set of inequivalent irreducible modules  $M^{i, j}$ ,  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$  with  $i \equiv d \pmod{2}$ . There are  $k(k+2)/4$  (resp.  $k^2/4$ ) inequivalent irreducible modules  $M^{i, j}$ ,  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$  with  $i \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  (resp.  $i \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ). Moreover, for a fixed  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ , the irreducible modules  $M^{i, j+(i-d)/2}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $i \equiv d \pmod{2}$ , are inequivalent to each other.*

### 7. $\Gamma_D$ and $M_D$ for a $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code $D$ .

In this section, we define a vertex operator algebra or a vertex operator superalgebra  $M_D$  for a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code  $D$ . The arguments are essentially the same as in Section 3 of [3].

Let  $\ell$  be a fixed positive integer. A  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code of length  $\ell$  means an additive subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . We denote by  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  the standard inner product  $(\xi | \eta) = \xi_1 \eta_1 + \dots + \xi_\ell \eta_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_k$  for  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell)$ ,  $\eta = (\eta_1, \dots, \eta_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ .

For simplicity of notation, set  $N^{(j)} = N(j, (0, \dots, 0)) = N + 2j\lambda_k$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{Z}_k$ . We consider a coset  $N(\xi)$  of  $N^\ell$  in  $(N^\circ)^\ell$  defined by

$$N(\xi) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_\ell) \mid x_r \in N^{(\xi_r)}, 1 \leq r \leq \ell\} \subset (N^\circ)^\ell \tag{7.1}$$

for  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . Since  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \in -2ij/k + 2\mathbb{Z}$  for  $\alpha \in N^{(i)}, \beta \in N^{(j)}$ , we have

$$\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \in -\frac{2}{k}(\xi|\eta) + 2\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for } \alpha \in N(\xi), \beta \in N(\eta). \tag{7.2}$$

Let  $D$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code of length  $\ell$ . We consider two cases.

Case A:  $(\xi|\xi) = 0$  for all  $\xi \in D$ .

Case B:  $k$  is even,  $(\xi|\eta) \in \{0, k/2\}$  for all  $\xi, \eta \in D$ , and  $(\xi|\xi) = k/2$  for some  $\xi \in D$ .

Let

$$\Gamma_D = \bigcup_{\xi \in D} N(\xi) \subset (N^\circ)^\ell, \tag{7.3}$$

which is a sublattice of  $(N^\circ)^\ell$ , as  $N(\xi) + N(\eta) = N(\xi + \eta)$  and  $D$  is an additive subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . The following lemma holds by (7.2).

- LEMMA 7.1. (1)  $\Gamma_D$  is a positive definite even lattice if and only if  $D$  is in Case A.  
 (2)  $\Gamma_D$  is a positive definite odd lattice if and only if  $k$  is even and  $D$  is in Case B.

If  $D$  is in Case A, then  $V_{\Gamma_D}$  is a vertex operator algebra. If  $k$  is even and  $D$  is in Case B, we set

$$D^0 = \{\xi \in D \mid (\xi|\xi) = 0\}, \quad D^1 = \{\xi \in D \mid (\xi|\xi) = k/2\}.$$

We also set  $\Gamma_{D^p} = \bigcup_{\xi \in D^p} N(\xi)$ ,  $p = 0, 1$ . Then  $D^0$  is a subgroup of the additive group  $D$  of index two, and  $D = D^0 \cup D^1$  is the coset decomposition of  $D$  by  $D^0$ . Moreover,  $\Gamma_{D^p} = \{\alpha \in \Gamma_D \mid \langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle \in p + 2\mathbb{Z}\}$ ,  $p = 0, 1$ , and  $\Gamma_D = \Gamma_{D^0} \cup \Gamma_{D^1}$  with  $\Gamma_{D^0}$  an even sublattice. We have that  $V_{\Gamma_D} = V_{\Gamma_{D^0}} \oplus V_{\Gamma_{D^1}}$  is a vertex operator superalgebra.

It follows from (7.1) that  $V_{N(\xi)} = V_{N(\xi_1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes V_{N(\xi_\ell)} \subset (V_{N^\circ})^\ell$ . We also have  $V_{\Gamma_D} = \bigoplus_{\xi \in D} V_{N(\xi)}$  by (7.3). Let

$$M_\xi = \{v \in V_{N(\xi)} \mid (\omega_{T^{\otimes \ell}})_{(1)}v = 0\},$$

where  $\omega_{T^{\otimes \ell}}$  is the conformal vector of the vertex operator subalgebra  $T^{\otimes \ell}$  of  $(V_N)^{\otimes \ell}$ . Then  $M_\xi = M^{\xi_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes M^{\xi_\ell}$  for  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  by Proposition 6.2, which is a simple current for  $M_{\mathbf{0}} = (M^0)^{\otimes \ell}$  with  $\mathbf{0} = (0, \dots, 0)$  the zero codeword. Since  $u_{(n)}v \in V_{N(\xi+\eta)}$  for  $u \in V_{N(\xi)}, v \in V_{N(\eta)}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $u_{(n)}v \in M_{\xi+\eta}$  for  $u \in M_\xi, v \in M_\eta, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} M_\eta = M_{\xi+\eta}$  for  $\xi, \eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ , and  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})_{\text{sc}} = \{M_\xi \mid \xi \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell\}$  is  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ -graded. The top level of  $M_\xi$  is one dimensional with  $h(M_\xi) = (\sum_{r=1}^\ell \xi_r) - (\xi|\xi)/k$ , as  $h(M^j) = j - j^2/k$ , where  $\xi_r$  and  $(\xi|\xi)$  are considered to be nonnegative integers.

We have the next proposition by the properties of  $M^0 = K(\mathfrak{sl}_2, k)$  in Section 3.

PROPOSITION 7.2.  $M_{\mathbf{0}} = (M^0)^{\otimes \ell}$  is a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type with central charge  $2\ell(k-1)/(k+2)$ . Any irreducible  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ -module except for  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$  itself has positive conformal weight.

Let  $M_D$  be the commutant of  $T^{\otimes \ell}$  in  $V_{\Gamma_D}$ . Then

$$M_D = \{v \in V_{\Gamma_D} \mid (\omega_{T^{\otimes \ell}})_{(1)}v = 0\} = \bigoplus_{\xi \in D} M_\xi, \tag{7.4}$$

which is a  $D$ -graded simple current extension of  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ . The following theorem holds.

**THEOREM 7.3.** (1) *If  $D$  is in Case A, then  $M_D$  is a simple, self-dual, rational, and  $C_2$ -cofinite vertex operator algebra of CFT-type with central charge  $2\ell(k - 1)/(k + 2)$ .*

(2) *If  $k$  is even and  $D$  is in Case B, then  $M_D = M_{D^0} \oplus M_{D^1}$  is a simple vertex operator superalgebra, whose even part  $M_{D^0}$  and odd part  $M_{D^1}$  are given by  $M_{D^p} = \bigoplus_{\xi \in D^p} M_\xi$ ,  $p = 0, 1$ , and  $h(M_{D^1}) \in \mathbb{Z} + 1/2$ .*

**8. Irreducible  $M_D$ -modules: Case A.**

Let  $k \geq 2$ , and let  $D$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code of length  $\ell$  satisfying the condition of Case A in Section 7, that is,  $(\xi|\xi) = 0$  for all  $\xi \in D$ . In this section, we classify the irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules for  $\chi \in D^*$ . We construct all irreducible untwisted  $M_D$ -modules inside  $V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$  as well.

**8.1. Linear characters of  $D$ .**

Let

$$P(i, j) = k(i - 2j) - (i - 2j)^2 + 2k(i - j + 1)j.$$

Then  $h(M^{i,j}) = P(i, j)/2k(k + 2)$  for  $0 \leq j \leq i \leq k$  by (3.3). In the case where  $0 \leq i \leq j < k$ , we have  $h(M^{i,j}) = P(k - i, j - i)/2k(k + 2)$  by (3.2). We calculate the values of the map  $b_{M^0} : \text{Irr}(M^0)_{\text{sc}} \times \text{Irr}(M^0) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  defined by

$$b_{M^0}(M^p, M^{i,j}) = h(M^p \boxtimes_{M^0} M^{i,j}) - h(M^p) - h(M^{i,j}) + \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $M^p \boxtimes_{M^0} M^{i,j} = M^{i,j+p}$  by (3.4). If  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$ , then  $0 \leq j < j + 1 \leq i \leq k$ , and

$$P(i, j + 1) - P(i, j) = 2(k + 2)(i - 2j - 1),$$

whereas if  $0 \leq i \leq j < k$ , then  $0 \leq j - i < j + 1 - i \leq k - i \leq k$ , and

$$P(k - i, j + 1 - i) - P(k - i, j - i) = 2(k + 2)(i - 2j + k - 1).$$

In both cases, we have  $b_{M^0}(M^1, M^{i,j}) = (i - 2j)/k + \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus

$$b_{M^0}(M^p, M^{i,j}) = \frac{p(i - 2j)}{k} + \mathbb{Z} \tag{8.1}$$

for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $0 \leq j < k$ , and  $0 \leq p < k$  by Lemma 2.1.

For  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \mu_r \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ , and  $\nu = (\nu_1, \dots, \nu_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ , let

$$M_{\mu, \nu} = M^{\mu_1, \nu_1} \otimes \dots \otimes M^{\mu_\ell, \nu_\ell}.$$

Then  $M_{\mathbf{0},\xi} = M_\xi$  and

$$\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}}) = \{M_{\mu,\nu} \mid \mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell), \nu = (\nu_1, \dots, \nu_\ell), 0 \leq \nu_r < \mu_r \leq k, 1 \leq r \leq \ell\}. \quad (8.2)$$

It follows from (3.4) that

$$M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} M_{\mu,\nu} = M_{\mu,\nu+\xi}. \quad (8.3)$$

Let  $b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} : \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})_{\text{sc}} \times \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  be a map defined by

$$b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu}) = h(M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} M_{\mu,\nu}) - h(M_\xi) - h(M_{\mu,\nu}) + \mathbb{Z}$$

for  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \mu_r \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ ,  $\nu = (\nu_1, \dots, \nu_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ , and  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . Then (8.1) implies that

$$b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu}) = \sum_{r=1}^{\ell} \frac{\xi_r(\mu_r - 2\nu_r)}{k} + \mathbb{Z}. \quad (8.4)$$

Although  $\mu_r$  is an integer between 0 and  $k$ , we can treat  $\mu_r$  modulo  $k$  on the right hand side of (8.4). Then (8.4) is written as

$$b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu}) = \frac{1}{k}(\xi|\mu - 2\nu) + \mathbb{Z}, \quad (8.5)$$

where  $(\cdot|\cdot)$  is the standard inner product on  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . In particular,

$$b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_\eta) = -\frac{2}{k}(\xi|\eta) + \mathbb{Z}. \quad (8.6)$$

LEMMA 8.1. *Let  $\xi, \eta, \nu \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ , and let  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \mu_r \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ .*

- (1)  $b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_\eta) = 0$  if  $\xi, \eta \in D$ .
- (2)  $b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_{\xi+\eta}, M_{\mu,\nu}) = b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu}) + b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\eta, M_{\mu,\nu})$ .
- (3)  $b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu+\eta}) = b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_\eta) + b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu})$ .

PROOF. Suppose  $\xi, \eta \in D$ . Then  $\xi + \eta \in D$ , so  $(\xi + \eta|\xi + \eta) = 0$  by our assumption on  $D$ . Since  $(\xi|\xi) = (\eta|\eta) = 0$ , we have  $2(\xi|\eta) = 0$ . Thus the assertion (1) holds by (8.6). The assertions (2) and (3) are clear from (8.5), see also Lemma 2.1.  $\square$

For  $\eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ , let  $\chi(\eta)$  be a linear character of the abelian group  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  given by

$$\chi(\eta) : (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times; \quad \xi \mapsto \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}(\xi|\eta)/k).$$

Then  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell \rightarrow \text{Hom}((\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell, \mathbb{C}^\times); \eta \mapsto \chi(\eta)$  is a group isomorphism. The linear character  $\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}} \in D^*$  is the restriction  $\chi(\mu - 2\nu)|_D$  of  $\chi(\mu - 2\nu)$  to  $D$  by (8.5). That is,

$$\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}}(\xi) = \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}b_{M_{\mathbf{0}}}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu})) = \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}(\xi|\mu - 2\nu)/k). \quad (8.7)$$

Let  $D^\perp = \{\eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell \mid (D|\eta) = 0\}$ . Then  $|D||D^\perp| = |(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell|$ , as  $(\cdot|\cdot)$  is a non-degenerate bilinear form.



LEMMA 8.2. (1) The map  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell \rightarrow D^*$ ;  $\eta \mapsto \chi(\eta)|_D$  is a surjective group homomorphism with kernel  $D^\perp$ .

(2) For any  $\chi \in D^*$ , there exists  $M_{\mu,0} \in \text{Irr}(M_0)$  such that  $\chi = \chi_{M_{\mu,0}}$ .

(3)  $\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}} = 1$ ; the principal character of  $D$  if and only if  $\mu - 2\nu \in D^\perp$ .

(4)  $\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}} = \chi_{M_{\mu',\nu'}}$  if and only if  $\mu - 2\nu \equiv \mu' - 2\nu' \pmod{D^\perp}$ .

PROOF. Non-degeneracy of the bilinear form  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  implies the assertions (1) and (2). The assertions (3) and (4) are consequences of (8.7) and the definition of  $D^\perp$ .  $\square$

**8.2. Irreducible  $M_0$ -modules in  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$ .**

Let

$$N(\eta, \delta) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_\ell) \mid x_r \in N(\eta_r, (0, \dots, 0, d_r)), 1 \leq r \leq \ell\} \subset (N^\circ)^\ell$$

for  $\eta = (\eta_1, \dots, \eta_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  and  $\delta = (d_1, \dots, d_\ell) \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$ .

PROPOSITION 8.3. (1) Let  $\eta = (\eta_1, \dots, \eta_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  and  $\delta = (d_1, \dots, d_\ell) \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$ . Assume that  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \mu_r \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ , and  $\nu = (\nu_1, \dots, \nu_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  satisfy the conditions

$$\mu_r \equiv d_r \pmod{2}, \quad \nu_r = \eta_r + \frac{\mu_r - d_r}{2}, \quad 1 \leq r \leq \ell. \tag{8.8}$$

Then  $V_{N(\eta,\delta)}$  contains the irreducible  $M_0$ -module  $M_{\mu,\nu}$ .

(2) Any irreducible  $M_0$ -module is contained in  $V_{N(\eta,\delta)}$  for some  $\eta$  and  $\delta$ . If  $k$  is odd, then we can choose  $\delta$  to be  $\delta = (0, \dots, 0)$ .

PROOF. The assertions (1) and (2) hold by Propositions 6.3 and 6.4.  $\square$

LEMMA 8.4. Let  $\xi, \eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  and  $\delta \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$ . Then  $\langle x, y \rangle \in (\xi | \delta - 2\eta)/k + \mathbb{Z}$  for  $x \in N(\xi)$  and  $y \in N(\eta, \delta)$ .

PROOF. Since  $\langle x, y \rangle \in p(d - 2j)/k + \mathbb{Z}$  for  $x \in N^{(p)}$  and  $y \in N(j, (0, \dots, 0, d))$ , the assertion holds.  $\square$

PROPOSITION 8.5. Let  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \mu_r \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$ , and let  $\nu = (\nu_1, \dots, \nu_\ell) \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$ . Take  $\eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  and  $\delta \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$  such that the conditions (8.8) hold. Then  $b_{M_0}(M_\xi, M_{\mu,\nu}) = 0$  for all  $\xi \in D$  if and only if  $N(\eta, \delta) \subset (\Gamma_D)^\circ$ .

PROOF. Since  $\mu_r - 2\nu_r = d_r - 2\eta_r$  by (8.8), the assertion holds by (8.5) and Lemma 8.4.  $\square$

**8.3. Irreducible twisted  $M_D$ -modules in  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$ .**

Let  $X \in \text{Irr}(M_0)$ . Then  $X = M_{\mu,\nu}$  for some  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  by (8.2). Take  $\eta$  and  $\delta$  such that the conditions (8.8) hold. Then  $V_{N(\eta,\delta)}$  contains  $M_{\mu,\nu}$  as an  $M_0$ -submodule by Proposition 8.3. Since  $M_\xi \subset V_{N(\xi)}$ , and since  $N(\xi) + N(\eta, \delta) = N(\xi + \eta, \delta)$ , it follows that  $V_{N(\xi+\eta,\delta)}$  contains  $M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_0} M_{\mu,\nu}$ . For fixed  $\eta$  and  $\delta$ , the cosets  $N(\xi + \eta, \delta)$ ,  $\xi \in D$ , of  $N^\ell$  in  $(N^\circ)^\ell$  are all distinct. Hence the  $\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}}$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module  $M_D \cdot M_{\mu,\nu}$  generated by  $M_{\mu,\nu}$  in  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$  is isomorphic to  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_0} M_{\mu,\nu}$  by (2) of Theorem 2.2.

Furthermore, if  $\chi_{M_{\mu,\nu}}(\xi) = 1$  for all  $\xi \in D$ , then  $N(\eta, \delta) \subset (\Gamma_D)^\circ$  by Proposition 8.5, so  $M_D \cdot M_{\mu,\nu} \subset V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$ . Therefore, the following theorem holds.

**THEOREM 8.6.** *Let  $X \in \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$ .*

(1)  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$  contains a  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module isomorphic to  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$ .

(2) If  $\chi_X = 1$ , then  $V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$  contains an untwisted  $M_D$ -module isomorphic to  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$ .

Let  $W$  be an irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module for  $\chi \in D^*$ , and let  $X$  be an irreducible  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ -submodule of  $W$ . Then  $W$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$  with  $\chi = \chi_X$  by (3) of Theorem 2.2. Thus Theorem 8.6 implies the following theorem.

**THEOREM 8.7.** (1)  $V_{(N^\circ)^\ell}$  contains any irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module for  $\chi \in D^*$ .

(2)  $V_{(\Gamma_D)^\circ}$  contains any irreducible untwisted  $M_D$ -module.

Let  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}}) = \bigcup_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_i$  be the  $D$ -orbit decomposition of  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$  for the action of  $D$  on  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$  in (8.3), and let  $D_{M_{\mu,\nu}} = \{\xi \in D \mid M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} M_{\mu,\nu} \cong M_{\mu,\nu}\}$  be the stabilizer of  $M_{\mu,\nu}$ . Lemma 3.1 implies the following lemma.

**LEMMA 8.8.**  $M_\xi \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} M_{\mu,\nu} \cong M_{\mu,\nu}$  as  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ -modules for some  $\xi \neq \mathbf{0}$  if and only if  $k$  is even,  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\ell) \in \{0, k/2\}^\ell$ , and  $\mu_r = k/2$  for  $1 \leq r \leq \ell$  such that  $\xi_r = k/2$ .

The next theorem is a restatement of Proposition 2.3.

**THEOREM 8.9.** *Let  $X \in \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$ . If  $D_X = 0$ , then  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$  is an irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module.*

Now, suppose  $D_X \neq 0$ . Then  $k$  is even and  $D_X \subset \{0, k/2\}^\ell$  by Lemma 8.8. In order to apply the results in Section 2.2, we recall the previous arguments for a special case where the  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code is of length one consisting of two codewords (0) and  $(k/2)$ . Let  $C = \{(0), (k/2)\}$  be such a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code. Then  $\Gamma_C = N \cup N^{(k/2)}$  with  $N^{(k/2)} = N + k\lambda_k$ , and  $M_C = M^0 \oplus M^{k/2}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded simple current extension of  $M^0$  by the self-dual simple current  $M^0$ -module  $M^{k/2}$  with  $h(M^{k/2}) = k/4$ .

If  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , then  $(k/2)^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{k}$ . Hence the  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code  $C$  is in Case A in Section 7, and  $M_C$  is a simple vertex operator algebra with  $h(M^{k/2}) \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then  $(k/2)^2 \equiv k/2 \pmod{k}$ . Hence  $C$  is in Case B in Section 7, and  $M_C$  is a simple vertex operator superalgebra with  $h(M^{k/2}) \in \mathbb{Z} + 1/2$ . In both cases, there exists a unique structure of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded either untwisted or  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -twisted  $M_C$ -module on the space  $P^0 \oplus P^1$  with  $P^0 = P$  and  $P^1 = M^{k/2} \boxtimes_{M^0} P$  for any irreducible  $M^0$ -module  $P$ .

Under the correspondence  $0 \mapsto 0$  and  $k/2 \mapsto 1$ , we can regard any additive subgroup of  $\{0, k/2\}^\ell \subset (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  as an additive subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^\ell$ . In the case where  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , this correspondence is the reduction modulo 2, and it in fact gives an isometry from  $(\{0, k/2\}^\ell, (\cdot | \cdot))$  to  $((\mathbb{Z}_2)^\ell, (\cdot | \cdot))$ , where  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  is the standard inner product on either  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  or  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^\ell$ . Hence  $D_X \cap D_X^\perp$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  corresponds to  $D_X \cap D_X^\perp$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^\ell$ . Therefore, we obtain the following theorem by Propositions 2.5 and 2.6.

**THEOREM 8.10.** *Let  $X \in \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$ . Suppose  $k$  is even and  $D_X \neq 0$ .*

(1) *If  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , then the irreducible decomposition of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$  is given as*

$$M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{|D_X|} U^j,$$

where  $U^j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq |D_X|$ , are inequivalent irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules. Furthermore,  $U^j \cong \bigoplus_{W \in \mathcal{O}_i} W$  as  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ -modules, where  $\mathcal{O}_i$  is the  $D$ -orbit in  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$  containing  $X$ .

(2) *If  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then the irreducible decomposition of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$  is given as*

$$M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{|D_X \cap D_X^\perp|} (U^j)^{\oplus m},$$

where  $m = [D_X : D_X \cap D_X^\perp]^{1/2}$ , and  $U^j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq |D_X \cap D_X^\perp|$ , are inequivalent irreducible  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules. Furthermore,  $U^j \cong \bigoplus_{W \in \mathcal{O}_i} W^{\oplus m}$  as  $M_{\mathbf{0}}$ -modules, where  $\mathcal{O}_i$  is the  $D$ -orbit in  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$  containing  $X$ .

Since any irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module for  $\chi \in D^*$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of the  $\chi_X$ -twisted  $M_D$ -module  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{\mathbf{0}}} X$  with  $\chi = \chi_X$  for some  $X \in \text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$ , we obtain a classification of all the irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules for any  $\chi \in D^*$  by Theorems 8.9 and 8.10.

As mentioned in Section 2.2, we can write  $\chi_i$  for  $\chi_X$ , and  $D_i$  for  $D_X$  if  $X$  belongs to a  $D$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_i$  in  $\text{Irr}(M_{\mathbf{0}})$ . Let  $I(\chi) = \{i \in I \mid \chi_i = \chi\}$ . Then  $I = \bigcup_{\chi \in D^*} I(\chi)$ . The next lemma follows from (2) of Lemma 8.2.

**LEMMA 8.11.**  *$I(\chi) \neq \emptyset$  for any  $\chi \in D^*$ .*

Theorems 8.9 and 8.10 imply the next theorem.

**THEOREM 8.12.** *The number of inequivalent irreducible  $\chi$ -twisted  $M_D$ -modules for  $\chi \in D^*$  is given as follows.*

$$\begin{aligned} |I(\chi)| & \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{if } k \text{ is odd,} \\ |I(\chi)_0| + \sum_{i \in I(\chi)_1} |D_i| & \qquad \text{if } k \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, \\ |I(\chi)_0| + \sum_{i \in I(\chi)_1} |D_i \cap D_i^\perp| & \qquad \text{if } k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $I(\chi)_0 = \{i \in I(\chi) \mid D_i = 0\}$  and  $I(\chi)_1 = I(\chi) \setminus I(\chi)_0$ .

**9. Irreducible  $M_D$ -modules: Case B.**

Let  $k \geq 2$ , and let  $D$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code of length  $\ell$  satisfying the conditions of Case B in Section 7, that is,  $k$  is even,  $(\xi|\eta) \in \{0, k/2\}$  for all  $\xi, \eta \in D$ , and  $(\xi|\xi) = k/2$  for some  $\xi \in D$ . Let  $D^0$  and  $D^1$  be as in Section 7. In this section, we construct all irreducible  $M_D$ -modules inside  $V_{(\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ}$ .

Since  $D^0$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -code of length  $\ell$  in Case A, we can apply the results in Section 8 to the vertex operator algebra  $M_{D^0}$ . Let  $P \in \text{Irr}(M_{D^0})$ . Then  $P$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $M_{D^0} \boxtimes_{M_0} M_{\mu,\nu}$  for some  $M_{\mu,\nu} \in \text{Irr}(M_0)$ . Moreover, there are  $\eta \in (\mathbb{Z}_k)^\ell$  and  $\delta \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$  such that  $N(\eta, \delta) \subset (\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ$  and  $V_{N(\eta,\delta)}$  contains  $M_{\mu,\nu}$  as an  $M_0$ -submodule.

For simplicity of notation, we identify  $P$  with an irreducible direct summand of  $M_{D^0} \boxtimes_{M_0} M_{\mu,\nu}$  isomorphic to  $P$ . Then  $P$  is a submodule of the  $M_{D^0}$ -module  $M_{D^0} \boxtimes_{M_0} M_{\mu,\nu}$ , and the  $M_D$ -module  $M_D \cdot P$  generated by  $P$  is isomorphic to  $M_D \boxtimes_{M_{D^0}} P$ . Thus  $M_D \cdot P = P \oplus Q$  as  $M_{D^0}$ -modules, where  $Q$  is an irreducible  $M_{D^0}$ -module isomorphic to  $M_{D^1} \boxtimes_{M_{D^0}} P$ . Since  $\Gamma_D \subset (\Gamma_D)^\circ \subset (\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ$ , and since  $M_{\mu,\nu} \subset V_{(\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ}$ , we have  $M_D \cdot P \subset V_{(\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ}$ .

If  $P$  and  $Q$  are inequivalent as  $M_{D^0}$ -modules, then there is a unique  $M_D$ -module structure on  $P \oplus Q$  which extends the  $M_{D^0}$ -module structure. If  $P$  and  $Q$  are equivalent as  $M_{D^0}$ -modules, then  $P \oplus Q$  is the direct sum of two inequivalent irreducible  $M_D$ -modules, both of which are isomorphic to  $P$  as  $M_{D^0}$ -modules, see [33, Proposition 5.2]. Any irreducible  $M_D$ -module is obtained in this way. Therefore, the following theorem holds.

THEOREM 9.1.  $V_{(\Gamma_{D^0})^\circ}$  contains any irreducible  $M_D$ -module.

**10. Examples.**

The vertex operator algebra  $M_D$  was previously studied for some small  $k$ . The first one is the case  $k = 2$ , where  $M^0$  is the Virasoro vertex operator algebra  $L(1/2, 0)$  of central charge  $1/2$ , and its simple currents are  $M^0$  and  $M^1 = L(1/2, 1/2)$ . The next one is the case  $k = 3$ , where  $M^0$  is  $L(4/5, 0) \oplus L(4/5, 3)$ , and there are three simple currents. These cases were discussed in [35] and [23], respectively.

In the case  $k = 4$ , we have  $M^0 = V_{\sqrt{6}\mathbb{Z}}^+$  and  $M^2 = V_{\sqrt{6}\mathbb{Z}}^-$ . So  $M_D = V_{\sqrt{6}\mathbb{Z}}$  for  $\ell = 1$  and  $D = \{(0), (2)\}$ . The case  $k = 5$  with  $\ell = 2$  and  $D = \{(00), (12), (24), (31), (43)\}$ , and the case  $k = 9$  with  $\ell = 1$  and  $D = \{(0), (3), (6)\}$  were considered in Sections 3.5 and 3.9 of [30], respectively.

Let  $k = 6$  with  $\ell = 1$  and  $D = \{(0), (3)\}$ . Then

$$M_D = M^0 \oplus M^3 \cong L_{\text{NS}}(5/4, 0) \oplus L_{\text{NS}}(5/4, 3),$$

where  $L_{\text{NS}}(c, 0)$  is the simple Neveu–Schwarz algebra of central charge  $c$ , and  $L_{\text{NS}}(c, h)$  is its irreducible highest weight module with highest weight  $h$ , see [3, Section 4], [44]. In fact, let  $v$  be an weight  $3/2$  element of  $M^3$  such that  $v_{(2)}v = (5/6)\mathbf{1}$ . Then  $L_n = \omega_{(n+1)}$  and  $G_{n-1/2} = v_{(n)}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , satisfy the relations for the Neveu–Schwarz algebra of central charge  $5/4$ . Thus the subalgebra generated by  $\omega$  and  $v$  in  $V_{\Gamma_D}$  is isomorphic to  $L_{\text{NS}}(5/4, 0)$ . Moreover, the weight 3 primary vector  $W^3$  of  $M^0$  is a highest weight vector for  $L_{\text{NS}}(5/4, 0)$ .

Let  $k = 8$  with  $\ell = 1$  and  $D = \{(0), (2), (4), (6)\}$ . Then

$$M_D = M^0 \oplus M^2 \oplus M^4 \oplus M^6 \cong L_{\text{NS}}(7/10, 0) \otimes L_{\text{NS}}(7/10, 0)$$

is a simple vertex operator superalgebra, where

$$L_{\text{NS}}(7/10, 0) \cong L(7/10, 0) \oplus L(7/10, 3/2).$$

The even part of  $M_D$  is

$$M^0 \oplus M^4 \cong (L(7/10, 0) \otimes L(7/10, 0)) \oplus (L(7/10, 3/2) \otimes L(7/10, 3/2)),$$

see [4, Theorems 4.14, 4.15], [30, Section 3.7].

**Appendix. Minimal norm of elements in  $N(j, \mathbf{a})$ .**

In this appendix, we calculate the minimal norm of elements in the coset  $N(j, \mathbf{a})$  of  $N$  in  $N^\circ$  defined in (4.3). Let  $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ , and let  $\alpha_S = \sum_{p \in S} \alpha_p$  for a subset  $S$  of  $\Omega$ .

**THEOREM A.1.** *Let  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$  and  $0 \leq j \leq k-1$ . Set  $I = \text{supp}(\mathbf{a})$  and  $i = \text{wt}(\mathbf{a})$ .*

(1) *If  $j < i$ , then*

- (i)  $\min\{\langle \mu, \mu \rangle \mid \mu \in N(j, \mathbf{a})\} = (ki - (i - 2j)^2)/2k$ ,
- (ii) *For  $\mu \in N(j, \mathbf{a})$ , the norm  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle$  is minimal if and only if*

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_I - \alpha_J + \frac{2j - i}{2k}\gamma$$

*for some  $J \subset I$  with  $|J| = j$ . There are  $\binom{i}{j}$  such  $\mu$ 's.*

(2) *If  $j \geq i$ , then*

- (i)  $\min\{\langle \mu, \mu \rangle \mid \mu \in N(j, \mathbf{a})\} = (k(k - i) - (k + i - 2j)^2)/2k$ ,
- (ii) *For  $\mu \in N(j, \mathbf{a})$ , the norm  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle$  is minimal if and only if*

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_I - \alpha_J + \frac{2j - i}{2k}\gamma$$

*for some  $I \subset J \subset \Omega$  with  $|J| = j$ . There are  $\binom{k-i}{j-i}$  such  $\mu$ 's.*

**PROOF.** Any permutation on  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$  induces an isometry on  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} L$ . The isometry fixes  $\gamma$  and leaves  $L$  invariant. Since  $\lambda_p = \gamma/2k - \alpha_p/2$  and  $2\lambda_p \equiv 2\lambda_k \pmod{N}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq k$ , we may assume that  $I = \{1, \dots, i\}$ , that is,  $a_p = 1$  for  $p \leq i$ , and  $a_p = 0$  for  $p \geq i + 1$  in (4.3).

Let  $d = (2j - i)/2k$ . Since  $\alpha_p \equiv \alpha_q \pmod{N}$ ,  $1 \leq p, q \leq k$ , and since any element of  $N$  is of the form  $c_1\alpha_1 + \dots + c_k\alpha_k$  for some  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \dots + c_k = 0$ , we see from (4.4) that any element  $\mu \in N(j, \mathbf{a})$  is of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_i) - c_1\alpha_1 - \cdots - c_k\alpha_k + d\gamma \\ &= \sum_{p=1}^i (d + 1/2 - c_p)\alpha_p + \sum_{q=i+1}^k (d - c_q)\alpha_q\end{aligned}$$

for some  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \cdots + c_k = j$ . Our concern is the minimum of

$$\langle \mu, \mu \rangle / 2 = \sum_{p=1}^i (d + 1/2 - c_p)^2 + \sum_{q=i+1}^k (d - c_q)^2 \quad (\text{A.1})$$

for  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \cdots + c_k = j$ .

We first show the assertion (1). Assume that  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$ . Then  $-1/2 \leq d < 1/2$ . If  $d = -1/2$ , then  $i = k$  and  $j = 0$ . In this case, we have  $N(j, \mathbf{a}) = N$ . Clearly,  $\min\{\langle \mu, \mu \rangle \mid \mu \in N\} = 0$ , and  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle = 0$  only if  $\mu = 0$ . Hence the assertion (1) holds in the case  $d = -1/2$ .

If  $d = 0$ , then  $i = 2j$ , and (A.1) reduces to  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle / 2 = \sum_{p=1}^i (1/2 - c_p)^2 + \sum_{q=i+1}^k c_q^2$ . We see that  $(1/2 - c_p)^2$  is  $1/4$  if  $c_p = 0, 1$ , and  $9/4$  if  $c_p = -1, 2$ . Moreover,  $c_q^2$  is  $0$  if  $c_q = 0$ , and  $1$  if  $c_q = \pm 1$ . Hence the minimum of  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle / 2$  for  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \cdots + c_k = j$  is attained only when  $j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $1$ , the remaining  $i - j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $0$ , and  $c_q = 0$  for  $i + 1 \leq q \leq k$ . The minimum of  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle / 2$  is  $i/4$ . Thus the assertion (1) holds in the case  $d = 0$ .

If  $-1/2 < d < 0$ , then  $0 < d + 1/2 < 1/2$ . In this case,  $(d + 1/2 - c_p)^2$  belongs to one of the four open intervals  $(0, 1/4)$ ,  $(1/4, 1)$ ,  $(1, 9/4)$ , or  $(9/4, 4)$  according as  $c_p = 0, 1, -1$ , or  $2$ , respectively. Moreover,  $(d - c_q)^2$  belongs to one of the four open intervals  $(0, 1/4)$ ,  $(1/4, 1)$ ,  $(1, 9/4)$ , or  $(9/4, 4)$  according as  $c_q = 0, -1, 1$ , or  $-2$ , respectively. Hence the minimum of (A.1) for  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \cdots + c_k = j$  is attained only when  $j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $1$ , the remaining  $i - j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $0$ , and  $c_q = 0$  for  $i + 1 \leq q \leq k$ . The minimum of (A.1) is

$$(d - 1/2)^2 j + (d + 1/2)^2 (i - j) + d^2 (k - i) = i/4 - (i - 2j)^2 / 4k.$$

Thus the assertion (1) holds in the case  $-1/2 < d < 0$ .

If  $0 < d < 1/2$ , then  $1/2 < d + 1/2 < 1$ . In this case,  $(d + 1/2 - c_p)^2$  belongs to one of the four open intervals  $(0, 1/4)$ ,  $(1/4, 1)$ ,  $(1, 9/4)$ , or  $(9/4, 4)$  according as  $c_p = 1, 0, 2$ , or  $-1$ , respectively. Moreover,  $(d - c_q)^2$  belongs to one of the four open intervals  $(0, 1/4)$ ,  $(1/4, 1)$ ,  $(1, 9/4)$ , or  $(9/4, 4)$  according as  $c_q = 0, 1, -1$ , or  $2$ , respectively. Hence the minimum of (A.1) for  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 + \cdots + c_k = j$  is attained only when  $j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $1$ , the remaining  $i - j$  of  $c_1, \dots, c_i$  are  $0$ , and  $c_q = 0$  for  $i + 1 \leq q \leq k$ . Thus the assertion (1) holds in the case  $0 < d < 1/2$ . We have shown that (1) holds for all  $0 \leq j < i \leq k$ .

Next, we show the assertion (2). Assume that  $j \geq i$ . We use Lemma 4.3. Let  $a'_p = 1 - a_p$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq k$ ,  $\mathbf{a}' = (a'_1, \dots, a'_k)$ , and  $I' = \text{supp}(\mathbf{a}')$ . Then  $I \cup I' = \Omega$  and  $I \cap I' = \emptyset$ . Let  $i' = \text{wt}(\mathbf{a}')$  and  $j' = j - i$ . Then  $i' = k - i$  and  $0 \leq j' < i' \leq k$ . The assertion (1) for  $N(j', \mathbf{a}')$  implies that

$$(i)' \min\{\langle \mu, \mu \rangle \mid \mu \in N(j', \mathbf{a}')\} = (ki' - (i' - 2j')^2) / 2k,$$

(ii)' For  $\mu \in N(j', \alpha')$ , the norm  $\langle \mu, \mu \rangle$  is minimal if and only if

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{I'} - \alpha_{J'} + \frac{2j' - i'}{2k}\gamma \quad (\text{A.2})$$

for some  $J' \subset I'$  with  $|J'| = j'$ . There are  $\binom{i'}{j'}$  such  $\mu$ 's. Since  $\alpha_{I'} = \gamma - \alpha_I$ , and since  $2j' - i' = 2j - i - k$ , the element  $\mu$  of (A.2) is equal to

$$\mu = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha_I - \alpha_{J'} + \frac{2j - i}{2k}\gamma.$$

The set  $\{J \subset \Omega \mid I \subset J, |J| = j\}$  is in one-to-one correspondence with the set  $\{J' \subset \Omega - I \mid |J'| = j - i\}$  by  $J \mapsto J - I$  and  $J' \mapsto J' \cup I$ . Let  $J = J' \cup I$ . Then  $\alpha_J = \alpha_{J'} + \alpha_I$ , as  $J' \cap I = \emptyset$ . Thus the assertion (2) holds.  $\square$

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