

On the maximal abelian subalgebras of the general linear Lie color algebras

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Abstract: Let Γ be a finite group and V a finite-dimensional Γ -graded space over an algebraically closed field of characteristic not equal to 2. In the sense of conjugation, we classify all the so-called pre-nil or nil maximal abelian subalgebras for the general linear Lie color algebra $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$. In the situation of Γ being a cyclic group, we determine the minimal dimensions of pre-nil or nil faithful representations for any finite-dimensional abelian Lie color algebra.

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1. Introduction

Lie color algebras, which were introduced by Ree in 1960 (see [14]), play an important role in mathematics and theoretical physics, especially in the conformal field theory and supersymmetries (see [1, 26]). For example, Scheunert and Zhang studied cohomology of Lie color algebras (see [18]); Su, Zhao and Zhu constructed simple Lie color algebras of generalized Witt type and Weyl type (see [20] and [21]).

Let L be a finite-dimensional Lie (color) algebra and write

$$\mu(L) = \min\{\dim V \mid (\rho, V) \text{ is a faithful representation of } L\}.$$

Ado's theorem of Lie (color) version guarantees the existence of $\mu(L)$ (see [17, p.719]). In 1905, I. Schur determined the maximal dimension of abelian subalgebras for the general linear Lie algebra over \mathbb{C} in [19] and then $\mu(L)$ can be determined for any finite-dimensional abelian Lie algebra L (see also [9, 13]). A super-version of Schur's work was given for Lie superalgebras over \mathbb{C} (see [23, 24]). In this paper, we shall offer a color-version of Schur's work for Lie color algebras over an algebraically closed field of characteristic not equal to 2. We also determine the minimal pre-nil or nil faithful representations for any finite-dimensional abelian Lie color algebra with respect to a finite cyclic group.

As is well-known, the function μ plays an important role on affine crystallographic groups and finitely generated torsion-free nilpotent groups. Benoist, Burde and

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Grunewald (see [2, 5]) gave an example of a nilpotent Lie algebra L such that $\mu(L) > \dim L + 1$, which is a counterexample of Milnor's conjecture (see [12]). However, it is not easy to compute $\mu(L)$, even the bounds of $\mu(L)$ for a given finite-dimensional Lie (color) algebra. A lot of work on the function μ revolves around nilpotent or (semi)simple Lie (super)algebras as well as their various extensions (see [2–4, 6–11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 22–25] for example).

Throughout \mathbb{F} is an algebraically closed field of characteristic not equal to 2 and all vector spaces and algebras are over \mathbb{F} and of finite dimensions.

1.1. Generalized matrix units. Denote by $M(m)$ the set consisting of all $m \times m$ matrices over \mathbb{F} . We define a total order on the set $\{(i, j) \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq m\}$ by

$$(i, j) < (k, l) \iff i < k, \quad \text{or} \quad i = k \quad \text{but} \quad j < l.$$

Denote by $\text{ht}(X) = \min\{(i, j) \mid x_{ij} \neq 0\}$ for $X = (x_{ij}) \in M(m)$ and $\text{ht}(0) = (\infty, \infty)$. Hereafter a_{mn} is (m, n) -entry of the matrix $A = (a_{ij})$. An element X is called a generalized matrix unit of (i, j) -form, usually written as $u_{i,j}$, if $\text{ht}(X) = (i, j)$ and its i th row is $(0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$, where 1 is at the j -th position. In general, for given (i, j) , there are many generalized matrix units $u_{i,j}$. For a subspace S of $M(m)$, write

$$\text{ht}(S) := \min\{\text{ht}(X) \mid X \in S\}.$$

Denote by $I_m = \sum_{i=1}^m e_{ii}$ the $m \times m$ identity matrix. Hereafter e_{ij} is the matrix unit having 1 at (i, j) -position and 0 elsewhere. Fix a nonzero element $a \in \mathbb{F}$ and let $T_{ij}(a)$ or $D_i(a)$ be $I_m + ae_{ij}$ or $I_m + (a - 1)e_{ii}$, respectively. As in [24], we introduce the following similar operations of $M(m)$:

(1) *t-type operators*

$$s_{T_{ij}(a)} := l_{T_{ij}(a)}^{-1} r_{T_{ij}(a)} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq m \text{ and } a \in \mathbb{F}.$$

(2) *d-type operators*

$$s_{D_i(a)} := l_{D_i(a)}^{-1} r_{D_i(a)} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } a \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\},$$

where, l_A or r_A is the operator of left or right associative multiplication by the matrix A for $A \in M(m)$, respectively. If $A = (a_{ij})$ and $\text{ht}(A) = (i, j)$, we write

$$h_A = \sum_{l>j} s_{T_{jl}(-a_{il})} s_{D_i(a_{ij})}.$$

1.2. Lie color algebras. Let Γ be an abelian group and $V = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} V_\alpha$ a Γ -graded space. The elements in $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} V_\alpha$ are said to be homogenous. For a homogeneous element $v \in V_\alpha$, $\alpha \in \Gamma$, we set $|v| = \alpha$, the degree of v . In addition, the symbol $|x|$ implies that x is homogeneous. By definition, a Γ -graded algebra \mathfrak{g} is a Γ -graded space $\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$ with a bilinear multiplication consistent with the Γ -gradation. Let \mathfrak{g} be a Γ -graded algebra. If the multiplication of \mathfrak{g} is trivial, we say \mathfrak{g} to be abelian; if the multiplication of \mathfrak{g} satisfies the associativity law, we say \mathfrak{g} to be associative.

Let Γ be an abelian group. A bi-character on Γ is a map $\varepsilon : \Gamma \times \Gamma \longrightarrow \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$ such that

$$\varepsilon(\alpha, \beta)\varepsilon(\beta, \alpha) = 1, \quad \varepsilon(\alpha\beta, \gamma) = \varepsilon(\alpha, \gamma)\varepsilon(\beta, \gamma),$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$. Let Γ be an abelian group of a bi-character ε and \mathfrak{g} a Γ -graded algebra, whose multiplication is denoted by $[\cdot, \cdot]$. If

$$[x, y] + \varepsilon(|x|, |y|)[y, x] = 0,$$

$$\varepsilon(|z|, |x|)[x, [y, z]] + \varepsilon(|x|, |y|)[y, [z, x]] + \varepsilon(|y|, |z|)[z, [x, y]] = 0,$$

where $x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g}$, then \mathfrak{g} is called a Lie color algebra. Lie (super)algebras are Lie color algebras (see [21, p.525]). If $\mathfrak{A} = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \mathfrak{A}_\alpha$ is a Γ -graded associative algebra, by introducing a new multiplication

$$[x, y] = xy - \varepsilon(|x|, |y|)yx, \quad x, y \in \mathfrak{A},$$

\mathfrak{A} becomes a Lie color algebra, which is denoted by \mathfrak{A}^- .

1.3. The general linear Lie color algebras. Let Γ be an abelian group of a bi-character ε and $V = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} V_\alpha$ a Γ -graded space. Then $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)$ is a Γ -graded associative algebra and $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}}(V)^-$ is a Lie color algebra in the usual fashion, which is called the general linear Lie color algebra and denoted by $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$ (see [28, p.447]). Let \mathfrak{a} be a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$. If each element in \mathfrak{a} is nilpotent, we say \mathfrak{a} to be nil; if each element in $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma^*} \mathfrak{a}_\alpha$ is nilpotent, we say \mathfrak{a} to be pre-nil. Hereafter Γ^* denotes the set $\Gamma \setminus \{0\}$, where 0 is the identity of Γ . If \mathfrak{a} is a (pre-nil or nil) abelian subalgebra of the maximal dimension for $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$, we say \mathfrak{a} to be (pre-nil or nil) maximal abelian. Let $L = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} L_\alpha$ be a Lie color algebra and $\rho : L \longrightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$ a linear map of degree 0. If $\rho([x, y]) = [\rho(x), \rho(y)]$ for $x, y \in L$, we call (ρ, V) to be a representation of L . Let (ρ, V) be a representation of L . If $\ker \rho = 0$, we say (ρ, V) to be faithful; if each element in $\rho(V)$ is nilpotent, we say (ρ, V) to be nil; if each element in $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma^*} \rho(V)_\alpha$ is nilpotent, we say (ρ, V) to be pre-nil. Write

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\text{nil}}(L) &= \min\{\dim V \mid (\rho, V) \text{ is a nil faithful representation of } L\}, \\ \mu_{\text{pre-nil}}(L) &= \min\{\dim V \mid (\rho, V) \text{ is a pre-nil faithful representation of } L\}. \end{aligned}$$

1.4. The matrix-version of $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$. Hereafter, we make a convention that the symbol Γ always denotes a finite abelian group of a bi-character ε , whose all elements are $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$. For the fixed order of $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$, if $V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^k V_{\alpha_i}$ is a Γ -graded space and $\dim V_{\alpha_i} = m_i$, we say that (m_1, \dots, m_k) is Γ -dimension of V . Let V be of Γ -dimension (m_1, \dots, m_k) and $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$. A rearrangement of

$$\left(\overbrace{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_1)}^{m_1}, \overbrace{(\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_2)}^{m_2}, \dots, \overbrace{(\alpha_k, \dots, \alpha_k)}^{m_k} \right)$$

is called an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple. Denote by $B = (v_1, \dots, v_m)$ an ordered homogeneous basis of V and equip it with an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple $\Phi = (|v_1|, \dots, |v_m|)$ induced by B . Then the general linear Lie color algebra $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$ is isomorphic to its matrix-version $\mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ induced by tuple Φ , which has the underlying matrices space $M(m)$ and a Γ -grading structure

$$\mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^k \mathfrak{gl}_{\alpha_i}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k),$$

where

$$\mathfrak{gl}_{\alpha_l}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k) = \text{Span}\{e_{ij} \mid \Phi_i - \Phi_j = \alpha_l\}.$$

Hereafter, Φ_n denotes the n -th entry of the tuple Φ . In particular, if

$$\Phi = (\overbrace{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_1}^{m_1}, \overbrace{\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_2}^{m_2}, \dots, \overbrace{\alpha_k, \dots, \alpha_k}^{m_k}),$$

$\mathfrak{gl}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ is denoted by $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ for short. For any (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ , write $\mathfrak{t}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ or $\mathfrak{s}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ for the subalgebras of $\mathfrak{gl}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ consisting of upper triangular or strictly upper triangular matrices, respectively.

2. Maximal pre-nil or nil abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$

In this section, we shall give a lower bound of the maximal dimensions for abelian subalgebras of the general linear Lie color algebra $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$. In the case $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_k$, the cyclic group of order k , we shall classify the pre-nil or nil maximal abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{gl}(V, \Gamma)$ in the sense of conjugation. In addition, we shall give a method to determine $\mu_{\text{pre-nil}}(L)$ and $\mu_{\text{nil}}(L)$ for any abelian Lie color algebra L .

2.1. Main lemmas. The following lemma realizes the triangulation of matrices for any pre-nil abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, which is a color-version of [27, Lemma 3.3].

Lemma 2.1. Let \mathfrak{a} be a pre-nil abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. Then there exists an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ such that \mathfrak{a} is contained in $\mathfrak{t}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. Furthermore, if \mathfrak{a} is nil abelian, then there exists an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ such that \mathfrak{a} is contained in $\mathfrak{s}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$.

Proof. From Jacobson's Theorem on weakly closed sets, it is sufficient to prove that \mathfrak{a} has common homogeneous eigenvectors in V . Since \mathfrak{a} is pre-nil, for $A \in \mathfrak{gl}_{\gamma_l}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ with $\gamma_l \in \Gamma^*$, zero is the only eigenvalue of A , and hence

$$V_1 := \{x \in V \mid \mathfrak{gl}_{\gamma_l}(m_1, \dots, m_k)x = 0, \gamma_l \in \Gamma^*\}$$

is nonzero. It is clear that V_1 is $\mathfrak{gl}_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ -module. Then

$$V_2 := \{x \in V_1 \mid \mathfrak{gl}_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)x \in \mathbb{F}x\}$$

is also nonzero. Any nonzero homogeneous element in V_2 is a common eigenvector for \mathfrak{a} . \square

The following lemma gives an HGMU decomposition (see below for a definition) of any abelian subalgebra for $\mathfrak{s}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, which is a color-version of [24, Lemma 2.3].

Lemma 2.2. Let Φ be an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple and $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$.

(1) If A is a homogeneous element in $\mathfrak{s}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ with $\text{ht}(A) = (i, j)$, then A is conjugate to a homogeneous generalized matrix unit $u_{i,j}$ in $\mathfrak{s}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ and $|u_{i,j}| = |A|$.

(2) If \mathfrak{a} is an abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ with $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}) = (i, j)$, then there exist some homogeneous generalized matrix units $u_{i,k_1}, u_{i,k_2}, \dots, u_{i,k_r}$ in $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, a homogeneous invertible matrix $T \in \mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ and an abelian subalgebra \mathfrak{a}' of $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ with $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}') > (i, m)$, such that \mathfrak{a} is conjugate to

$$T^{-1}\mathfrak{a}T = \mathbb{F}u_{i,k_1} \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i,k_2} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i,k_r} \oplus \mathfrak{a}' \quad (2.1)$$

where $i < j = k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r \leq m$ and for each matrix X in \mathfrak{a}' :

- the k_j th row of X is zero for each $1 \leq j \leq r$.
- if the s th row (resp. column) of TXT^{-1} is zero, so is the s th row (resp. column) of X .

Proof. (1) On one hand, $h_A(A)$ a generalized matrix unit $u_{i,j}$ since $\text{ht}(A) = (i, j)$. On the other hand, since A is homogeneous and $\text{ht}(A) = (i, j)$, $|A| = |e_{ij}| = \Phi_i - \Phi_j$. Then $\Phi_i = \Phi_j$ if a_{il} is nonzero. It follows that h_A is in $\text{End}_0(\mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k))$, which implies $|u_{i,j}| = |A|$.

(2) Let the homogeneous matrix $A_{ij} \in \mathfrak{a}$ satisfy $\text{ht}(A_{ij}) = \text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}) = (i, j)$. Then $h_{A_{ij}}(A_{ij})$ is a generalized matrix unit $u_{i,j}$ by (1), and $h_{A_{ij}}(\mathfrak{a})$ is a new abelian subalgebra contained in $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. Let $\mathfrak{a}_{(1)}$ be the subspace of $h_{A_{ij}}(\mathfrak{a})$ such that $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}_{(1)}) > (i, k_1)$ and any matrix in $h_{A_{ij}}(\mathfrak{a})$ is of the form $au_{i,k_1} + P$, where $a \in \mathbb{F}, k_1 = j$ and $P \in \mathfrak{a}_{(1)}$. Similarly, if $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}_{(1)}) = (i, k_2)$, let the homogeneous matrix $A_{ik_2} \in \mathfrak{a}_{(1)}$ satisfy $\text{ht}(A_{ik_2}) = (i, k_2)$. Consequently, $h_{A_{ik_2}}(A_{ik_2})$ is also a homogeneous generalized matrix unit, denoted by u_{i,k_2} , and $h_{A_{ik_2}}h_{A_{ik_1}}(\mathfrak{a}) \supset h_{A_{ik_2}}(\mathfrak{a}_{(1)})$ are also abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. In particular, since $k_2 > k_1 > i$, $h_{A_{ik_2}}(u_{i,k_1})$ is also a generalized matrix unit of (i, k_1) -form, denoted still by u_{i,k_1} . Let $\mathfrak{a}_{(2)}$ be the subspace of $h_{A_{ik_2}}(\mathfrak{a}_{(1)})$ such that $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}_{(2)}) > (i, k_2)$ and any a matrix in \mathfrak{a} is of the form: $a_1u_{i,k_1} + a_2u_{i,k_2} + P$, where $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{F}$ and $P \in \mathfrak{a}_{(2)}$. By induction, there exists a positive integer r such that

$$\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}_{(r)}) > (i, m), \quad 1 \leq r \leq m - i$$

and

$$h_{A_{ik_r}}h_{A_{ik_{r-1}}} \dots h_{A_{ik_{t+1}}}(\mathfrak{a}_{(t)}) \subset h_{A_{ik_r}}h_{A_{ik_{r-1}}} \dots h_{A_{ik_t}}(\mathfrak{a}_{(t-1)}),$$

where $1 \leq t \leq r-1$ and $\mathfrak{a}_0 = \mathfrak{a}$. In addition, we also get r homogeneous generalized matrix units: $u_{i,k_1}, u_{i,k_2}, \dots, u_{i,k_r}$, where $i < k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r \leq m$. Write

$$\mathfrak{a}' = \mathfrak{a}_{(r)}, \quad T^{-1}\mathfrak{a}T = h_{A_{ik_r}}h_{A_{ik_{r-1}}} \dots h_{A_{ik_1}}(\mathfrak{a}).$$

Then

$$T^{-1}\mathfrak{a}T = \mathbb{F}u_{i,k_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i,k_r} \oplus \mathfrak{a}'.$$

For every $1 \leq l \leq r$ and any homogeneous matrix $X \in \mathfrak{a}'$, the i th row of $u_{i,k_l}X$ is the k_l th row of X and the i th row of Xu_{i,k_l} is 0 by $\text{ht}\mathfrak{a}' > (i, m)$. Then since $T^{-1}\mathfrak{a}T$ is abelian and every u_{i,k_j} is homogeneous, the k_l th row of any homogeneous matrix in \mathfrak{a}' is 0. Furthermore, the operators $h_{A_{ik_t}}$ leave 0 rows but the k_t th rows of any a matrix invariant, where $1 \leq t \leq r$. Then (2) is true. \square

(2.1) is called the *homogeneous generalized matrix unit decomposition* of \mathfrak{a} (HGMU decomposition in short).

2.2. Main results. Write

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{E} &= \text{Span}\{e_{ij} \in \mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \lceil m/2 \rceil, \lceil m/2 \rceil + 1 \leq j \leq m\}, \\ \mathfrak{F} &= \text{Span}\{e_{ij} \in \mathfrak{gl}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \lfloor m/2 \rfloor, \lfloor m/2 \rfloor + 1 \leq j \leq m\}, \\ \mathfrak{E}' &= \mathfrak{E} \oplus \mathbb{F}\mathbf{I}_m, \quad \mathfrak{F}' = \mathfrak{F} \oplus \mathbb{F}\mathbf{I}_m,\end{aligned}\tag{2.2}$$

where $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$.

Write $\mathbb{Z}_k = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \dots, \overline{k-1}\}$ and fix the order $\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \dots, \overline{k-1}$ in the following. Now we are in the position to determine the pre-nil maximal abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, the idea of which mainly comes from Jacobson's paper [9].

Theorem 2.3. Let \mathfrak{a} be a pre-nil maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ and $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$. Suppose $m > 3$. Then

- (1) \mathfrak{a} is conjugate to \mathfrak{E}' or \mathfrak{F}' for some (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ .
- (2) In case $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_k$, \mathfrak{a} is of \mathbb{Z}_k -dimension

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+1} \ddot{m}_i, \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+2} \ddot{m}_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+k-1} \ddot{m}_i, \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+k} \ddot{m}_i \right) + 1 \right),$$

where \dot{m}_i, \ddot{m}_i are nonnegative integers such that $\dot{m}_i + \ddot{m}_i = m_i$ and $\dot{m}_{k+i} = \dot{m}_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq k$. In particular, $\dim \mathfrak{a} = \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$.

Proof. (1) Let V be the natural \mathfrak{a} -module. Similar to the case of Lie algebra, we get $V = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Delta} V_\alpha$, where

$$V_\alpha = \{v \in V \mid \text{for every } x \in \mathfrak{a}, \text{ there exists } l \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } (x - \alpha(x)\text{id}_V)^l v = 0\}.$$

We use induction on $|\Delta|$.

(a) $|\Delta| = 1$: From Lemma 2.1, there exists an (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ such that \mathfrak{a} is contained in $\mathfrak{t}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. Let \mathfrak{b} be the abelian subalgebra in $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ such that $\mathfrak{a} = \mathbb{F}\mathbf{I}_m \oplus \mathfrak{b}$. From Lemma 2.2, we get the following HGMU decompositions:

$$\begin{aligned}T_1^{-1} \mathfrak{b} T_1 &= \mathbb{F}u_{i_1, j_{11}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i_1, j_{1r_1}} \oplus \mathfrak{b}_1 \\ T_2^{-1} \mathfrak{b}_1 T_2 &= \mathbb{F}u_{i_2, j_{21}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i_2, j_{2r_2}} \oplus \mathfrak{b}_2 \\ &\quad \dots \dots \\ T_t^{-1} \mathfrak{b}_{t-1} T_t &= \mathbb{F}u_{i_t, j_{t1}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}u_{i_t, j_{tr_t}} \oplus \mathfrak{b}_t\end{aligned}\tag{2.3}$$

where

- $(i_{l+1}, j_{l+1,1}) = \text{ht}(\mathfrak{b}_l) > (i_l, m)$ for $0 \leq l \leq t-1$ with $\mathfrak{b}_0 = \mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{b}_t = 0$, and then $\dim \mathfrak{b} = r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_t$;
- generalized matrix units in (2.3) are homogeneous, whose index-pairs satisfy no indexes in the first position appear in the second position. (2.4)

For $1 \leq l \leq t$, the fact $i_l > i_{l-1} > \dots > i_1$ and (2.4) imply $r_l \leq m - i_l - (t - l)$, and then

$$\begin{aligned}\dim \mathfrak{b} &= r_1 + \dots + r_t \\ &\leq tm - (i_1 + \dots + i_t) - (1 + \dots + t - 1) \\ &\leq tm - (1 + \dots + t) - (1 + \dots + t - 1) \\ &= t(m - t) \\ &\leq \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor.\end{aligned}\tag{2.5}$$

Since $\dim \mathfrak{a} \geq \dim \mathfrak{E}' = \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$, $\dim \mathfrak{b} \geq \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor$. This forces (2.5) is a equation, that is,

$$i_l = l, \quad r_l = m - t, \quad t = \lceil m/2 \rceil \text{ or } \lfloor m/2 \rfloor, \quad (2.6)$$

for $1 \leq l \leq t$.

If $m = 2n$ is even, then

$$i_l = l, \quad t = n, \quad r_l = m - t = n \text{ for } 1 \leq l \leq n$$

by (2.6). Then by (2.4), generalized matrix units in (2.3) are $u_{i,j}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n, n+1 \leq j \leq 2n$. It follows that the last n rows of any matrix in $\mathfrak{b}_1 \cup \mathfrak{b}_2 \cdots \cup \mathfrak{b}_{n-1}$ is zero rows from Lemma 2.2(2). In particular, $u_{n,j}$ in (2.3) is e_{nj} , where $n+1 \leq j \leq 2n$. Furthermore, $u_{n-1,j}$ in (2.3) may be viewed as e_{n-1j} , $n+1 \leq j \leq 2n$. By induction, $u_{l,j}$ in (2.3) may be viewed as e_{lj} , where $n+1 \leq j \leq 2n$ and $2 \leq l \leq n$. Then \mathfrak{b}_1 is spanned by $\{e_{ij} \mid 2 \leq i \leq n, n+1 \leq j \leq 2n\}$. Since

$$0 = [u_{l,h}, e_{ij}] = u_{l,h}e_{ij} - \varepsilon(|u_{l,h}|, |e_{ij}|)e_{ij}u_{l,h} = -\varepsilon(|u_{l,h}|, |e_{ij}|)e_{ij}u_{l,h}$$

for $1 \leq i \leq n, n+1 \leq j, h \leq 2n$, the last n rows of each $u_{l,h}$ are zero rows. Consequently, \mathfrak{b} is conjugate to \mathfrak{E} or \mathfrak{F} , and $\mathfrak{a} = \mathbb{F}\mathbf{I}_m \oplus \mathfrak{b}$ is conjugate to \mathfrak{E}' or \mathfrak{F}' .

The remaining case $s = 2n+1$ can be analogously treated.

(b) $|\Delta| > 1$: Let $\Delta = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_l\}$ where $l > 1$. We may suppose that $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{a}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{a}_2$, where \mathfrak{a}_i is an abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(V_i)$ with $V_1 = V_{\beta_1}$ and $V_2 = \bigoplus_{i=2}^l V_{\beta_i}$. For $i = 1, 2$, denote by Δ_i the weight set of V_i with respect to \mathfrak{a}_i . Note that $\Delta_1 = \{\beta_1\}$ and $\Delta_2 = \{\beta_j \mid 2 \leq j \leq l\}$ by abuse of language. Since $|\Delta_i| < |\Delta|$ for $i = 1, 2$, by inductive hypothesis we may assume that the theorem holds for $\mathfrak{gl}(V_1)$ and $\mathfrak{gl}(V_2)$. Let $(\dot{m}_1, \dots, \dot{m}_k)$ or $(\ddot{m}_1, \dots, \ddot{m}_k)$ be Γ -dimension of V_1 or V_2 , respectively. Write $\dot{m} = \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_i$ and $\ddot{m} = \sum_{i=1}^k \ddot{m}_i$. Then $m = \dot{m} + \ddot{m}$ and $m_i = \dot{m}_i + \ddot{m}_i$, $1 \leq i \leq k$.

(I) $m = 2t - 1, \dot{m} = 2t_1 - 1, \ddot{m} = 2t_2$: Here $t = t_1 + t_2$ and

$$\dim \mathfrak{a} \leq t_1(t_1 - 1) + 1 + t_2^2 + 1 \leq t(t - 1) + 1.$$

Equality holds between the last terms only when $m = 3$.

(II) $m = 2t, \dot{m} = 2t_1 - 1, \ddot{m} = 2t_2 - 1$: Here $t = t_1 + t_2 - 1$ and

$$\dim \mathfrak{a} \leq t_1(t_1 - 1) + 1 + t_2(t_2 - 1) + 1 \leq t^2 + 1.$$

Equality holds between the last terms only when $m = 2$.

(III) $m = 2t, \dot{m} = 2t_1, \ddot{m} = 2t_2$: Here $t = t_1 + t_2$ and

$$\dim \mathfrak{a} \leq t_1^2 + 1 + t_2^2 + 1 < t^2 + 1.$$

Hence (1) holds.

(2) From (1), it is sufficient to consider the cases $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{E}'$ and \mathfrak{F}' . Let \dot{m}_i be the cardinality of the set

$$\{j \mid \Phi_j = \bar{i}, 1 \leq j \leq \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor\} \quad \text{if } \mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{F}'$$

or

$$\{j \mid \Phi_j = \bar{i}, 1 \leq j \leq \lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil\} \quad \text{if } \mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{E}',$$

and write $\ddot{m}_i = m_i - \dot{m}_i$, where $1 \leq i \leq k$. For $1 \leq l \leq k$, denote by $\mathfrak{a}_{\bar{l}}$ the homogeneous subspace of degree \bar{l} for \mathfrak{a} . Since the matrix unit e_{st} is of the degree $\Phi_s - \Phi_t$, we get

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\bar{l}} = \text{Span} \{e_{st} \mid \Phi_s = \overline{i+l}, \Phi_t = \bar{i}, 1 \leq i \leq k\} + \delta_{\bar{l},0} I_m.$$

Hereafter $\delta_{i,j}$ is 1 if $i = j$ and 0 otherwise. It follows that

$$\dim \mathfrak{a}_{\bar{l}} = \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+l} \ddot{m}_i + \delta_{\bar{l},0} 1.$$

□

By a direct computation, we get the following theorem, which complements the Theorem 2.3.

Theorem 2.4. Let \mathfrak{a} be a pre-nil maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ and $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$.

- (1) If $m = 3$, \mathfrak{a} is conjugate to one of the following

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Span} \{I_3, e_{12}, e_{13}\}, \quad \text{Span} \{I_3, e_{23}, e_{13}\}, \\ & \text{Span} \{e_{11} + e_{22}, e_{12}, e_{33}\}, \quad \text{Span} \{e_{11}, e_{22}, e_{33}\}. \end{aligned}$$

- (2) If $m = 2$, \mathfrak{a} is conjugate to $\text{Span} \{I_2, e_{12}\}$ or $\text{Span} \{e_{11}, e_{22}\}$.

Since any abelian subalgebra of the general linear Lie superalgebra is a pre-nil one, Theorems 2.3 and 2.4 cover Schur's work and its super-version. As a by-product, we may determine all nil maximal abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ as follows.

Corollary 2.5. Let \mathfrak{b} be a nil maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ and $m = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i$.

- (1) Suppose $m > 3$. Then

- \mathfrak{b} is conjugate to \mathfrak{E} or \mathfrak{F} for some (m_1, \dots, m_k) -tuple Φ .
- If $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_k$, then \mathfrak{b} is of Γ -dimension

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+1} \ddot{m}_i, \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+2} \ddot{m}_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+k-1} \ddot{m}_i, \sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+k} \ddot{m}_i \right),$$

where \dot{m}_i, \ddot{m}_i are nonnegative numbers such that $\dot{m}_i + \ddot{m}_i = m_i$, and $\dot{m}_{k+i} = \ddot{m}_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq k$. In particular, $\dim \mathfrak{b} = \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor$.

- (2) If $m = 3$, then \mathfrak{b} is conjugate to one of the following

$$\text{Span} \{e_{12}, e_{13}\}, \quad \text{Span} \{e_{23}, e_{13}\}, \quad \text{Span} \{e_{12}, e_{33}\}.$$

- (3) If $m = 2$, then \mathfrak{b} is conjugate to $\text{Span} \{e_{12}\}$.

From Theorems 2.4 and 2.5, we have the following remark. If we focus only on the maximal dimension of pre-nil or nil abelian subalgebras for $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, we may give a direct proof of the following remark by virtue of Mirzakhani's idea in [13], for which readers may see the Appendix.

Remark 2.6. (1) Any nil maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ is of dimension $\lfloor \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^k m_i)^2}{4} \rfloor$.

(2) Any pre-nil maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ is of dimension $\lfloor \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^k m_i)^2}{4} \rfloor + 1$.

2.3. Applications. For any \mathbb{Z}_k -graded abelian Lie color algebra L , the following theorem gives a method of determining $\mu_{\text{pre-nil}}(L)$ and $\mu_{\text{nil}}(L)$.

Theorem 2.7. Let L be an abelian Lie color algebra.

- (1) $\mu_{\text{pre-nil}}(L) \geq \lceil 2\sqrt{\dim L - 1} \rceil$, $\mu_{\text{nil}}(L) \geq \lceil 2\sqrt{\dim L} \rceil$.
- (2) In case $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_k$, L possesses a pre-nil faithful representation of dimension m if and only if m admits a $2k$ -partition $(\dot{m}_1, \dot{m}_1, \dots, \dot{m}_k, \dot{m}_k)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+l}\dot{m}_i + \delta_{l,0}1 \geq \dim L_{\bar{l}}$, where $\dot{m}_{k+i} = \dot{m}_i$ and $1 \leq l \leq k-1$.
- (3) In case $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_k$, L possesses a nil faithful representation of dimension m if and only if m admits a $2k$ -partition $(\dot{m}_1, \dot{m}_1, \dots, \dot{m}_k, \dot{m}_k)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^k \dot{m}_{i+l}\dot{m}_i \geq \dim L_{\bar{l}}$, where $\dot{m}_{k+i} = \dot{m}_i$ and $1 \leq l \leq k-1$.

Proof. (1) Let $\iota : L \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ be a pre-nil faithful representation of L . Then $\iota(L)$ is a pre-nil abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. From Theorem 2.3(1),

$$\dim L = \dim \iota(L) \leq \lfloor \left(\sum_{i=1}^k m_i \right)^2 / 4 \rfloor + 1.$$

Consequently, $\sum_{i=1}^k m_i \geq \lceil 2\sqrt{\dim L - 1} \rceil$.

Furthermore, if ι is nil, then each element in $\iota(L)$ is nilpotent. From Corollary 2.5,

$$\dim L = \dim \iota(L) \leq \lfloor \left(\sum_{i=1}^k m_i \right)^2 / 4 \rfloor.$$

Consequently, $\sum_{i=1}^k m_i \geq \lceil 2\sqrt{\dim L} \rceil$.

(2) and (3) are true by virtue of Theorem 2.5(2) and Corollary 2.5(2), respectively. \square

3. Appendix: The maximal dimension of pre-nil or nil abelian subalgebras for $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$

In this section, we give a direct proof of Remark 2.6. The main idea comes from Mirzakhani's work [13].

Let \mathfrak{a} be any maximal pre-nil abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$. We may assume that \mathfrak{a} is contained in $\mathfrak{t}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ from Lemma 2.1. Let us use induction

on m to show that $\dim \mathfrak{a} \leq \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$. When $m = 1$, the conclusion holds since $\mathfrak{gl}^{\Phi}(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ is of dimension 1. Assume that the conclusion holds for $m - 1$. Let us consider the case m . Suppose the contrary, that is, $\dim \mathfrak{a} > \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$. Then \mathfrak{a} contains an abelian subalgebra, say \mathfrak{n} , of dimension

$$\nu(m) := \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 2. \quad (3.1)$$

Fix a homogeneous basis of \mathfrak{n} : $\{A_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\}$. For $1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)$, let \bar{A}_i and \tilde{A}_i be $(m-1) \times (m-1)$ matrices such that

$$A_i = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & \bar{A}_i & \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mm} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} & & a_{1m} \\ & \tilde{A}_i & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mm} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Write

$$\bar{\Phi} = (\hat{\Phi}_1, \Phi_2, \dots, \Phi_m) \text{ and } \tilde{\Phi} = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \dots, \hat{\Phi}_m),$$

where the sign $\hat{}$ means that the element under it is omitted. It is obvious that $\bar{\Phi}$ is an $(m_1, \dots, m_g - 1, \dots, m_k)$ -tuple if $\Phi_1 = \alpha_g$, $\tilde{\Phi}$ is an $(m_1, \dots, m_h - 1, \dots, m_k)$ -tuple if $\Phi_m = \alpha_h$. Then \bar{A}_i and \tilde{A}_i are in $\mathfrak{gl}^{\bar{\Phi}}(m_1, \dots, m_g - 1, \dots, m_k)$ and $\mathfrak{gl}^{\tilde{\Phi}}(m_1, \dots, m_h - 1, \dots, m_k)$ respectively, and $|\bar{A}_i| = |A_i| = |\tilde{A}_i|$. By $[A_i, A_j] = 0$, we have $A_i A_j = \varepsilon(|A_i|, |A_j|) A_j A_i$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & & \\ \vdots & \bar{A}_j \bar{A}_i & \\ 0 & & \end{bmatrix} &= \varepsilon(|A_i|, |A_j|) \begin{bmatrix} * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & & \\ \vdots & \bar{A}_j \bar{A}_i & \\ 0 & & \end{bmatrix}, \\ \begin{bmatrix} & & * \\ & \tilde{A}_i \tilde{A}_j & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} &= \varepsilon(|A_i|, |A_j|) \begin{bmatrix} & & * \\ & \tilde{A}_j \tilde{A}_i & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

That is, $[\bar{A}_i, \bar{A}_j] = 0 = [\tilde{A}_i, \tilde{A}_j]$. Let \bar{W} and \tilde{W} be the Γ -graded vector spaces spanned by $\{\bar{A}_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\}$ and $\{\tilde{A}_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\}$, respectively. Then \bar{W} and \tilde{W} are also abelian subalgebras of $\mathfrak{t}^{\bar{\Phi}}(m_1, \dots, m_g - 1, \dots, m_k)$ and $\mathfrak{t}^{\tilde{\Phi}}(m_1, \dots, m_h - 1, \dots, m_k)$ for some g and h , respectively. Write $r = \dim \bar{W}$ and $t = \dim \tilde{W}$. By inductive hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} r &\leq \lfloor (m-1)^2/4 \rfloor + 1, \\ t &\leq \lfloor (m-1)^2/4 \rfloor + 1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Without loss of generality, we may assume that $\{\bar{A}_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq r\}$ are linearly independent, so are $\{\tilde{A}_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq t\}$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}_i &= \sum_{k=1}^r \bar{m}_{ik} \bar{A}_k, \text{ where } \bar{m}_{ik} \in \mathbb{F} \text{ and } r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m), \\ \tilde{A}_j &= \sum_{k=1}^t \tilde{m}_{jk} \tilde{A}_k, \text{ where } \tilde{m}_{jk} \in \mathbb{F} \text{ and } t+1 \leq j \leq \nu(m). \end{aligned}$$

Note that $|\bar{A}_i| = |\bar{A}_j|$ if $\bar{m}_{ij} \neq 0$, and $|\tilde{A}_i| = |\tilde{A}_j|$ if $\tilde{m}_{ij} \neq 0$. Then

$$|A_i| = |A_j| \text{ if } \bar{m}_{ij} \neq 0 \text{ or } \tilde{m}_{ij} \neq 0.$$

For $r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)$ and $t+1 \leq j \leq \nu(m)$, write

$$\bar{B}_i = A_i - \sum_{k=1}^r \bar{m}_{ik} A_k, \quad \tilde{B}_j = A_j - \sum_{k=1}^t \tilde{m}_{jk} A_k.$$

Thus each \bar{B}_i (resp. \tilde{B}_j) is homogeneous and of the form $[\bar{b}_i, O]^t$ (resp. $[O, \tilde{b}_j]$), where $\bar{b}_i^t = \bar{a}_i - \sum_{k=1}^r \bar{m}_{ik} \bar{a}_k$ is a $1 \times m$ matrix and \bar{a}_q is the first row of A_q for $1 \leq q \leq \nu(m)$ (resp. $\tilde{b}_j = \tilde{a}_j - \sum_{k=1}^t \tilde{m}_{jk} \tilde{a}_k$ is an $m \times 1$ matrix and \tilde{a}_q is the last column of A_q , $1 \leq q \leq \nu(m)$). Hereafter X^t denotes the transpose of a matrix X . Clearly,

$$\{\bar{B}_i \mid r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\} \text{ (resp. } \{\tilde{B}_i \mid t+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\})$$

are linearly independent, and so are

$$\{\bar{b}_i^t \mid r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\} \text{ (resp. } \{\tilde{b}_i \mid t+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)\}).$$

Let $M = [\bar{b}_{r+1}, \bar{b}_{r+2}, \dots, \bar{b}_{\nu(m)}]^t$. Clearly,

$$\text{rank} M = \nu(m) - r. \quad (3.3)$$

Denote by W the set $\{X \in \mathbb{F}^m \mid MX = 0\}$. Then

$$\dim W = m - \text{rank} M. \quad (3.4)$$

For $r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m)$ and $t+1 \leq j \leq \nu(m)$, \bar{B}_i, \tilde{B}_j are homogenous matrices in \mathfrak{n} . Note that $\tilde{B}_j \bar{B}_i = 0$, then $\bar{B}_i \tilde{B}_j = 0$ by $[\bar{B}_i, \tilde{B}_j] = 0$. Consequently,

$$\bar{b}_i^t \tilde{b}_j = 0 \text{ for } r+1 \leq i \leq \nu(m) \text{ and } t+1 \leq j \leq \nu(m),$$

that is, the set $\{\tilde{b}_j \mid t+1 \leq j \leq \nu(m)\}$ is contained in W , which are linearly independent. Consequently,

$$\dim W \geq \nu(m) - t. \quad (3.5)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} m & \stackrel{(3.4)}{=} \text{rank} M + \dim W \\ & \stackrel{(3.3)(3.5)}{\geq} \nu(m) - r + \nu(m) - t \\ & \stackrel{(3.1)}{=} 2(\lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 2) - r - t \\ & \stackrel{(3.2)}{\geq} 2(\lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor - \lfloor (m-1)^2/4 \rfloor + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if $m = 2q$ is even, then $2q \geq 2(q+1)$, a contradiction; if $m = 2q+1$ is odd, then $2q+1 \geq 2(q+1)$, also a contradiction. Hence $\dim \mathfrak{a} \leq \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$. By (2.2), we have $\dim \mathfrak{a} \geq \dim \mathfrak{E}' = \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1$.

Furthermore, if each element in \mathfrak{a} is nilpotent, we may assume that \mathfrak{a} is contained in $\mathfrak{s}^\Phi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ from Lemma 2.1. Thus

$$\lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor = \dim \mathfrak{E} \leq \dim \mathfrak{a} < \lfloor m^2/4 \rfloor + 1.$$

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