

# ON GENERALIZED UNISERIAL ALGEBRAS OVER A PERFECT FIELD

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Let  $A$  be a ring with a unit element satisfying the minimum condition; let  $N$  be the radical of  $A$ . We call  $A$  a generalized uniserial ring if every indecomposable left [right] ideal of  $A$  possesses only one composition series. A generalized uniserial algebra over a field  $F$  is defined similarly. Recently H. Kupisch [3] discussed such rings and proved that a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra over an algebraically closed field is completely determined up to isomorphism by a certain system of invariants. In the present note we shall generalize his method to the case of algebras over a perfect field, starting from the fact that the residue class algebra  $\bar{A} = A/N$  of a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra  $A$  over a field  $F$  (modulo the radical  $N$ ) has the structure  $B \times_F D$ , where  $B$  is a split semisimple algebra over  $F$  and  $D$  is a division algebra over  $F$ .

NOTATIONS. Let

$$A = \sum_{\kappa=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{f(\kappa)} A e_{\kappa, i} = \sum_{\kappa=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{f(\kappa)} e_{\kappa, i} A$$

be a decomposition of  $A$  into direct sum of indecomposable left [resp. right] ideals;  $e_{\kappa, i}$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq f(\kappa)$ ) are mutually orthogonal primitive idempotents;  $A e_{\kappa, i} \cong A e_{\lambda, j}$  if and only if  $\kappa = \lambda$ ;  $e_{\kappa} = e_{\kappa, 1}$ ,  $E_{\kappa} = \sum_i e_{\kappa, i}$ , and  $E = \sum_{\kappa} E_{\kappa}$  is the unit element of  $A$ .  $c_{\kappa, ij}$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq f(\kappa)$ ) be a system of elements of  $A$  such that  $c_{\kappa, ii} = e_{\kappa, i}$ ,  $c_{\kappa, ij} c_{\kappa, kl} = \delta_{jk} c_{\kappa, il}$ ;  $g(A) = k$  be the number of simple constituents of  $\bar{A} = A/N$ .  $V = V^{(0)} \supset V^{(1)} \supset \dots \supset V^{(d)} = 0$  be the upper Loewy series of an  $A$ -left module  $V$ ; here  $V^{(m)} = N^m V$ .  $V = V_{(d)} \supset \dots \supset V_{(1)} \supset V_{(0)} = 0$  be the lower Loewy series of  $V$ ; here  $V_{(m)} = \{v \mid v \in V, N^m v = 0\}$ .  $d(V) = d$  be the length of the upper and lower Loewy series of  $V$ ;  $d(A) = \rho$  is the index of  $N$ , i. e.  $N^{\rho-1} \neq 0$ ,  $N^{\rho} = 0$ .

## 1. A certain system of generators of composition factor modules of a two-sided composition series of a generalized uniserial ring.

Let  $A$  be a generalized uniserial ring and let  $N$  be its radical. We first consider an  $(A, A)$  composition series of  $A$ , which is a refinement of the series  $A \supset N \supset N^2 \supset \dots \supset N^{\rho} = 0$ :

$$(1) \quad A = \mathfrak{a}_0^0 \supset \mathfrak{a}_1^0 \supset \dots \supset \mathfrak{a}_{r_0}^0 = N = \mathfrak{a}_0^1 \supset \dots \supset \mathfrak{a}_{r_1}^1 = N^2 = \mathfrak{a}_0^2 \supset \dots \supset \mathfrak{a}_{r_{\rho-1}}^{\rho-1} = N^{\rho} = 0.$$

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In the above composition series every factor module  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i = \mathfrak{J}_{j-1}^i/\mathfrak{J}_j^i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq \rho - 1$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq r_i$ ) is a simple  $(A, A)$  double module and there exists a unique pair of positive integers  $(\kappa, \lambda)$  ( $\kappa, \lambda \leq k$ ) such that  $E_\kappa \mathfrak{M}_j^i E_\lambda = \mathfrak{M}_j^i$ , i. e.  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i$  is of type  $(\kappa, \lambda)$ . When that is so, we see that  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i e_\lambda$  is a simple left submodule of  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i$ . In fact, by the definition of generalized uniserial rings we have  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i e_\lambda \cong \mathfrak{J}_{j-1}^i e_\lambda / \mathfrak{J}_j^i e_\lambda = N^i e_\lambda / N^{i+1} e_\lambda$  and  $N^i e_\lambda / N^{i+1} e_\lambda$  is a simple left  $A$ -module. Similarly,  $e_\kappa \mathfrak{M}_j^i$  is a simple right submodule of  $\mathfrak{M}_j^i$ .<sup>1)</sup> Therefore  $e_\kappa \mathfrak{M}_j^i e_\lambda$  is simple as left  $e_\kappa A e_\kappa$ -module and, at the same time, as right  $e_\lambda A e_\lambda$ -module. Let  $m$  be an arbitrary element of  $e_\kappa \mathfrak{M}_j^i e_\lambda$ . Then for any element  $x$  of  $e_\kappa A e_\kappa$  there exists an element  $y$  of  $e_\lambda A e_\lambda$  such that  $xm = my$ ; the correspondence  $\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{y}$  gives an isomorphism between  $\bar{e}_\kappa \bar{A} \bar{e}_\kappa$  and  $\bar{e}_\lambda \bar{A} \bar{e}_\lambda$  (bars indicate the residue classes modulo  $N$ ), which is determined uniquely up to inner automorphism of  $\bar{e}_\lambda \bar{A} \bar{e}_\lambda$ . From these arguments and from the Jordan-Hölder theorem we have the following

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $A$  be a generalized uniserial ring. Let  $\mathfrak{J}_1 \supset \mathfrak{J}_2$  be two-sided ideals of  $A$  such that the factor module  $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{J}_1/\mathfrak{J}_2$  is a simple  $(A, A)$  module of type  $(\kappa, \lambda)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{M}e_\lambda$  and  $e_\kappa \mathfrak{M}$  are simple left and right submodules of  $\mathfrak{M}$ , respectively. Moreover, by relation  $xm = my$  ( $x \in e_\kappa A e_\kappa$ ,  $y \in e_\lambda A e_\lambda$ ;  $m (\neq 0) \in \mathfrak{M}$ ) we have an isomorphism between  $\bar{e}_\kappa \bar{A} \bar{e}_\kappa$  and  $\bar{e}_\lambda \bar{A} \bar{e}_\lambda$ :  $\bar{x} \rightarrow \bar{y}$ . The isomorphism is uniquely determined up to inner automorphism of  $\bar{e}_\lambda \bar{A} \bar{e}_\lambda$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $A$  be a generalized uniserial ring; let  $N$  be the radical of  $A$ . Then for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq \rho$ ) the factor module  $N^{i-1}/N^i$  is (two-sided) completely reducible (we set  $N^0 = A$ ). Moreover, the (two-sided) decomposition of  $N^{i-1}/N^i$  into direct sum of simple  $(A, A)$  modules is unique and is given by  $N^{i-1}/N^i = \sum_{\kappa} E_\kappa(N^{i-1}/N^i)$  ( $\kappa$  runs through integers  $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ , for which  $E_\kappa(N^{i-1}/N^i) \neq 0$ ).*

In fact, as  $e_\kappa(N^{i-1}/N^i) \cong e_\kappa N^{i-1}/e_\kappa N^i$  is either 0 or a simple right module,  $E_\kappa(N^{i-1}/N^i)$  is either 0 or a simple two-sided module ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ );  $N^{i-1}/N^i = \sum_{\kappa} E_\kappa(N^{i-1}/N^i)$  is therefore (two-sided) completely reducible. Our last assertion is now trivial.

In the followings we assume that  $A$  is generalized uniserial and (two-sided) indecomposable. (The latter restriction is not essential.) We know then, owing to Kupisch [3], that for a suitable reordering of  $\kappa$ 's (a)  $d(Ae_\kappa) \geq 2$  for  $\kappa < k$ ; (b)  $Ne_\kappa/N^2e_\kappa \cong Ae_{\kappa+1}/Ne_{\kappa+1}$  for  $\kappa < k$  and  $Ne_k/N^2e_k \cong Ae_1/Ne_1$  if  $Ne_k \neq 0$ , (c)  $d(Ae_{\kappa+1}) \geq d(Ae_\kappa) - 1$ , where the  $\kappa$ 's are to be taken mod  $k$ . By (b) we take for every  $\kappa$  ( $< k$ ) an element  ${}_{\kappa+1}b_\kappa^1$  of  $e_{\kappa+1}Ne_\kappa$  which does not lie in  $N^2$ ; and, if  $Ne_k \neq 0$ , we take an element  ${}_1b_k^1$  of  $e_1Ne_k$  which does not lie in  $N^2$ . Put  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa+p-1}^1 \cdot {}_{\kappa+p-1}b_{\kappa+p-2}^1 \cdots {}_{\kappa+1}b_\kappa^1 = {}_{\kappa+p}b_\kappa^p$ , if the product of the left-hand side is not zero; here the subscripts are to be taken mod  $k$ , if necessary. Further, we put  $e_\kappa = {}_\kappa b_\kappa^0$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ).

1) Cf. Asano [2], § 1.

LEMMA. Every  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p$  belongs to  $N^p$ .<sup>2)</sup>

*Proof.* We have only to consider the case when  $p > 1$ . Suppose that  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p$  is an element of  $N^{p+1}$ .  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p$  is then expressible as  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p = x_1x_2 \cdots x_q + y$  ( $y \in N^{p+1}$ ), where  $q \geq p+1$  and every  $x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq q$ ) belongs to  $N^1$  and satisfies  $e_{\mu(i)}x_i e_{\nu(i)} = x_i$  for some  $\mu(i)$  ( $\mu(1) = \kappa+p$ ) and  $\nu(i)$ ; moreover, we may assume that  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_j$  belongs to  $N^j$  for every  $j$  ( $\leq q$ ). But, prop. 1 and prop. 2 show that for a suitable regular element  $c_1$  of  $e_{\kappa+p-1}Ae_{\kappa+p-1}$  we have  $x_1 \equiv {}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa+p-1}^1 c_1 \pmod{N^2}$ , hence that  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_p \equiv {}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa+p-1}^1 c_1 x_2 \cdots x_p \pmod{N^{p+1}}$ ; similarly proceeding, we get finally  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_p \equiv {}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p c_p \equiv 0 \pmod{N^{p+1}}$ , where  $c_p$  is a regular element of  $e_{\kappa}Ae_{\kappa}$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_p$  belongs to  $N^p$ .

THEOREM 1. Every  ${}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p$  is a (two-sided) generator of one and only one composition factor module  $\mathfrak{A}_{j-1}^p/\mathfrak{A}_j^p$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r_p$ ) of the (two-sided) composition series (1) of  $A$ . Conversely, every composition factor module  $\mathfrak{A}_{l-1}^q/\mathfrak{A}_l^q$  ( $0 \leq q \leq \rho-1$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq r_q$ ) is generated by one and only one element  ${}_{\lambda+q}b_{\lambda}^q$ .

Our first assertion follows immediately from prop. 2 and from lemma; our second assertion can be seen straightforwardly by a similar method as in the proof of lemma.

From the above theorem it follows that there exists in  $A$  a system  $S = \{{}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^p\}$  of generators of (two-sided) factor modules of (1) with the properties: (i)  $\kappa \equiv p + \lambda \pmod{k}$ ; (ii)  ${}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^p$  belongs to  $N^p$ ,  ${}_{\kappa}b_{\kappa}^0 = e_{\kappa}$  and  $e_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^pe_{\lambda} = {}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^p$ ; (iii)  $S$  is closed under multiplication. We shall call such  $S$  a  $(*)$ -generator system of  $A$ .

REMARK 1. For an arbitrarily fixed pair  $(\kappa, \lambda)$  the number of elements in a  $(*)$ -generator system of type  $(\kappa, \lambda)$  is denoted by  $c_{\kappa\lambda}$ ; the numbers  $c_{\kappa\lambda}$  are the left (and at the same time the right) Cartan invariants of  $A$ . We shall write in the followings the elements of type  $(\kappa, \lambda)$  in a  $(*)$ -generator system as  ${}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(1)}, {}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(2)}, \dots, {}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(c_{\kappa\lambda})}$ , if necessary.

REMARK 2. It is easy to see that a  $(*)$ -generator system constitutes a system of (two-sided) generators of composition factor modules of an arbitrary (two-sided) composition series of  $A$ .

## 2. (Two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebras over a perfect field.

Let  $A$  be a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra over a field  $F$ . We now take, after a suitable reordering of  $\kappa = 1, 2, \dots, k$  as above, a  $(*)$ -generator system  $S = \{{}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^p\}$ . Since  $S$  is closed under multiplication, the subset  $A_{(*)}^0 = \sum_{\kappa, p} F {}_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p$  of  $A$  is a subalgebra of  $A$  (over  $F$ ); similarly, the subset  $A = \sum_{\kappa, \lambda} \sum_{j, j} c_{\kappa, i1} A_{(*)}^0 c_{\lambda, 1j}$  of  $A$  is also a subalgebra of  $A$ .  $A_{(*)}^0$  and  $A_{(*)}$  are themselves both split generalized uniserial algebras and  $A_{(*)}^0$  is a basic algebra of  $A_{(*)}$ . These subalgebras  $A_{(*)}^0$  and  $A_{(*)}$  will be called a  $(*)$ -basic

2) An element of  $A$  is said to belong to  $N^p$  if  $a \in N^p$  and  $a \in N^{p+1}$ .

algebra and a  $(*)$ -algebra of  $A$  (related to the  $(*)$ -generator system  $S$ ), respectively. The next proposition follows immediately from Satz 6 of Kupisch [3] and from the definitions.

PROPOSITION 3. *The  $(*)$ -algebra [the  $(*)$ -basic algebra] of a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra  $A$  is uniquely determined by  $A$  up to isomorphism.*

It is obvious that the radical of  $A_{(*)}$  is  $N \cap A_{(*)}$  and that the radical of  $A_{(*)}^0$  is  $N \cap A_{(*)}^0$ . We denote these by  $N_{(*)}$  and by  $N_{(*)}^0$ , respectively. Furthermore we have

THEOREM 2. *Let  $A$  be a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra over a field  $F$  with a radical  $N$ ; let  $A_{(*)}$  be a  $(*)$ -algebra of  $A$ . Then: 1) between two-sided ideals of  $A$  and those of  $A_{(*)}$  there exists a 1-1 lattice-isomorphic correspondence, which is given by  $\mathfrak{J} \rightarrow \mathfrak{J} \cap A_{(*)}$  ( $\mathfrak{J}_{(*)} \rightarrow A_{\mathfrak{J}_{(*)}}A$ ) where  $\mathfrak{J}$  [ $\mathfrak{J}_{(*)}$ ] is a two-sided ideal of  $A$  [ $A_{(*)}$ ]; 2) each indecomposable left ideal  $A_{(*)}e_\kappa$  of  $A_{(*)}$  has the corresponding composition series to that of the indecomposable left ideal  $Ae_\kappa$  of  $A$ , i. e.,  $N_{(*)}^\nu e_\kappa / N_{(*)}^{\nu+1} e_\kappa \cong A_{(*)}e_\lambda / N_{(*)}e_\lambda$  if and only if  $N^\nu e_\kappa / N^{\nu+1} e_\kappa \cong Ae_\lambda / Ne_\lambda$ , and the same for right ideals. (The notations be the same as before.) Similar assertions are also true for a  $(*)$ -basic algebra  $A_{(*)}^0$  of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* 1) Let  $A_{(*)}$  be the  $(*)$ -algebra of  $A$  related to a  $(*)$ -generator system of  $A$ ,  $S = \{\kappa + p b_\kappa^p\}$ , and let  $\mathfrak{J}$  be a two-sided ideal of  $A$ . By what we have remarked (remark 2),  $\mathfrak{J}$  is generated by a subset  $S'$  of  $S$ ; so that  $\mathfrak{J} \cap A_{(*)}$  contains  $S'$  and hence  $A(\mathfrak{J} \cap A_{(*)})A = \mathfrak{J}$ . Conversely, let  $\mathfrak{J}_{(*)}$  be a two-sided ideal of  $A_{(*)}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{J}_{(*)}$  is generated by a subset  $S_{(*)}$  of  $S$  which satisfies  $SS_{(*)}S = S_{(*)}$ . However, the two-sided ideal  $\mathfrak{J}'$  (of  $A$ ) generated by  $S_{(*)}$  can not contain the elements of  $S$  other than those of  $S_{(*)}$ . (This fact can be verified straightforwardly by a similar method as in the proof of lemma.) We must therefore have  $\mathfrak{J}' \cap A_{(*)} = A_{\mathfrak{J}_{(*)}}A \cap A_{(*)} = \mathfrak{J}_{(*)}$ . 2) Since the element  $\kappa + p b_\kappa^p$  is a generator of the  $A_{(*)}$ -left module  $N_{(*)}^\nu e_\kappa / N_{(*)}^{\nu+1} e_\kappa$  and since at the same time it is a generator of the  $A$ -left module  $N^\nu e_\kappa / N^{\nu+1} e_\kappa$ ,  $A_{(*)}e_\kappa$  and  $Ae_\kappa$  must have the corresponding composition series.

Hereafter we shall assume that the underlying field  $F$  is a perfect field.  $A$  is then expressible as a direct sum of the radical  $N$  and a semisimple subalgebra  $A^*(\cong \bar{A} = A/N)$ , and we may assume that the elements  $c_{\kappa, \nu_j}$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq f(\kappa)$ ) are in  $A^*$ . Prop. 1 shows that the division algebras  $e_\kappa A^* e_\kappa$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ) are all isomorphic over  $F$ . By the well-known structure theorems of semisimple algebras we have the following

PROPOSITION 4.  *$A^*$  is expressible as  $A_{(*)}^* \times_F D$ , where  $A_{(*)}^*$  is a split semisimple algebra over  $F$  and  $D$  is a division algebra over  $F$ .*

The division subalgebra  $D$  of  $A$  in this proposition may be taken such that

every element  $x$  of  $D$  satisfies  $x_{\kappa+1}b_{\kappa}^1 \equiv_{\kappa+1} b_{\kappa}^1 x \pmod{N^2}$  for  $\kappa < k$ . If  $Ne_k = 0$ , then clearly  $x_{\kappa+p}b_{\kappa}^p =_{\kappa+p} b_{\kappa}^p x$  ( $x \in D$ ). If, on the other hand,  $Ne_k \neq 0$ , then  ${}_1b_k^1 \neq 0$  and we have an automorphism  $\sigma: x \rightarrow x'$  of  $D$  by the relation  $x'{}_1b_k^1 \equiv_1 b_k^1 x \pmod{N^2}$ ; by prop. 1 it follows that  $\sigma$  is uniquely determined up to inner automorphism. And, in this case, we have for every  ${}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(i)} =_{\kappa} b_{\lambda}^{(i)}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq c_{\kappa\lambda}$ ) and for every  $x$  in  $D$  that  $x^{\sigma^{-1}}{}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(i)} \equiv_{\kappa} b_{\lambda}^{(i)} x \pmod{N^{p+1}}$  when  $\kappa \geq \lambda$  and that  $x^{\sigma}{}_{\kappa}b_{\lambda}^{(i)} \equiv_{\kappa} b_{\lambda}^{(i)} x \pmod{N^{p+1}}$  when  $\kappa < \lambda$

Let  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  be a basis of  $D$  over  $F$ . From  $u_{i\kappa+1}b_{\kappa}^{(1)} \equiv_{\kappa+1} b_{\kappa}^{(1)} u_i \pmod{N^2}$  ( $\kappa < k$ ) it follows

$$(2) \quad {}_{\kappa+1}b_{\kappa}^{(1)} u_i = u_{i\kappa+1} b_{\kappa}^{(1)} + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=2}^{c_{\kappa+1,\kappa}} t_{ijl}^{\kappa} u_j {}_{\kappa+1}b_{\kappa}^{(l)},$$

where  $t_{ijl}^{\kappa}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq n, 1 \leq \kappa \leq k-1, 2 \leq l \leq c_{\kappa+1,\kappa}$ ) are elements of  $F$ ; similarly, from  $u_{i1}b_k^{(1)} \equiv_1 b_k^{(1)} u_i \pmod{N^2}$  it follows

$$(3) \quad {}_1b_k^{(1)} u_i = u_{i1} b_k^{(1)} + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=2}^{c_{1k}} t_{ijl}^k u_j {}_1b_k^{(l)},$$

where  $t_{ijl}^k$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq n, 2 \leq l \leq c_{1k}$ ) are elements of  $F$ . On the other hand, we have the following proposition, which is a direct consequence of the definitions and of prop. 1.

PROPOSITION 5. *Notations and assumptions being as above, we have  $A = DA_{(\ast)} = A_{(\ast)}D$ .*

It is now easy to see that the multiplication table of the basis elements of  $A$  over  $F$  is completely determined by the coefficients of (2) and (3). We have thus proved the following

THEOREM 3. *Let  $A$  be a (two-sided) indecomposable generalized uniserial algebra over a perfect field  $F$ ; let the notations be as before. If  $Ne_k \neq 0$ , then  $A$  is expressible as  $A_{(\ast)} \times_F D$ . If, on the other hand,  $Ne_k = 0$ , then the structure of  $A$  is completely determined by  $A_{(\ast)}$  and  $D$ , by the automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $D$  and by the coefficients of (2) and (3).*

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