

# CHARACTER $D$ -MODULES VIA DRINFELD CENTER OF HARISH-CHANDRA BIMODULES

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ABSTRACT. The category of character  $D$ -modules is realized as Drinfeld center of the abelian monoidal category of Harish-Chandra bimodules. Tensor product of Harish-Chandra bimodules is related to convolution of  $D$ -modules via the long intertwining functor (Radon transform) by a result of [5]. Exactness property of the long intertwining functor on a cell subquotient of the Harish-Chandra bimodules category shows that the truncated convolution category of [24] can be realized as a subquotient of the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules. Together with the description of the truncated convolution category [7] this allows us to derive (under a mild technical assumption) a classification of irreducible character sheaves over  $\mathbb{C}$  obtained by Lusztig by a different method.

We also give a simple description for the top cohomology of convolution of character sheaves over  $\mathbb{C}$  in a given cell modulo smaller cells and relate the so-called Harish-Chandra functor to Verdier specialization in the De Concini-Procesi compactification.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The goal of this paper is to reach a better understanding of some aspects of Lusztig's theory of character sheaves.

Let  $G$  be a semi-simple split algebraic group with a Borel subgroup  $B$ . Character sheaves were developed in [23] as a tool for description of characters of the finite group  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . For simplicity, in the introduction we restrict attention to the case of unipotent character sheaves.

The set  $Rep_{unip}(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  of unipotent irreducible representations of  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$  contains the set  $PS(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  of representations generated by a Borel invariant vector (also known as the principal series). It is well known that  $PS(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  is in bijection with simple modules over the Hecke algebra  $H = \mathbb{C}[B(\mathbb{F}_q) \backslash G(\mathbb{F}_q) / B(\mathbb{F}_q)]$  which is a semi-simple algebra isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}[W]$ . Thus the cardinality of  $PS(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  equals the dimension of the center  $Z(H)$ .

Though for  $G$  of type  $A_n$  we have  $Rep_{unip}(G(\mathbb{F}_q)) = PS(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$ , in general  $PS(G(\mathbb{F}_q)) \subsetneq Rep_{unip}(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$ . The main point of the present paper is related to the fact that the cardinality of  $Rep_{unip}(G(\mathbb{F}_q))$  equals the rank of the Grothendieck group of the *categorical (Drinfeld) center of the categorical Hecke algebra*. In fact, this categorical center is identified with the category of character sheaves. Furthermore, the irreducible character sheaves correspond to irreducible objects in the categorical center of the *categorical asymptotic Hecke algebra*.

Let us now make this more precise. By the categorical Hecke algebra we mean, following a well established pattern, the  $B$  equivariant derived category of sheaves on the flag space  $G/B$  (or a technical variation, such as the derived category of  $T \times T$  unipotently monodromic  $N$  equivariant sheaves on  $G/N$ ; we will ignore the difference in the rest of the Introduction). In fact, we work on the De Rham side of the Riemann-Hilbert correspondence over a field of characteristic zero, thus the original motivating setting of groups over a finite field will not be mentioned below (we plan to return to it in a future publication).

Instead we consider the category of  $B$ -equivariant  $D$ -modules on  $G/B$ . This can also be realized as the category of  $G$ -equivariant  $D$ -modules on  $G/B \times G/B$ . By the Beilinson-Bernstein Localization Theorem this category is equivalent to the category  $\mathcal{HC}^0$  of Harish-Chandra bimodules with trivial central character (more general central characters are considered in the main body of the paper; also, for technical reasons it is better to work with the category  $\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{0}}$  of Harish-Chandra bimodules with a trivial generalized central character). The tensor product of bimodules provides  $\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{0}}$  with a

monoidal structure, taking the left derived functor of the right exact tensor product we get a monoidal triangulated category  $(D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\hat{0}}, \overset{L}{\otimes}_U)$ .

The natural exact equivalence of  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\hat{0}}$  with a category of  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules does *not* intertwine this monoidal structure with convolution of complexes of  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules. However, the composition of this equivalence with the long intertwining functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  turns out to be monoidal, by a result of [5]. Thus  $(D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\hat{0}}, \overset{L}{\otimes}_U)$  can also be thought of as a categorification<sup>1</sup> of the Hecke algebra  $H$ .

Our first result, explained in section 3, asserts that the Drinfeld center of the abelian category  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\hat{0}}$  is canonically equivalent to the category of character  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules on the group  $G$ . An essential step in the argument is an exactness property of the functor  $\widehat{HC}$ , which is a categorification of the action of the group algebra of  $G(\mathbb{F}_q)$  on a principal series module. The functor  $\widehat{HC}$  itself is not exact, however, we show that its composition with an appropriate direct summand in the functor of global sections is exact. Using a result of Beilinson-Bernstein [2], the latter statement can be reformulated geometrically, as exactness of the composition of  $\widehat{HC}$  with the (inverse to the) long intertwining functor.<sup>2</sup> In the last section 6 we sketch a proof of the fact that this exact functor can be described as Verdier specialization functor from  $D$ -modules on  $G$  to  $D$ -modules on the punctured normal bundle to a stratum in the De Concini – Procesi compactification (Corollary 6.2) – this statement allows one to reprove the exactness property, but is also of independent interest.

In section 4 we consider a filtration on the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules according to the support of a bimodule. It turns out that the subcategory of semi-simple objects in the subquotient category is closed under tensor product; the resulting semi-simple monoidal category turns out to coincide with the truncated convolution category introduced in [24]. This follows from the fact that the functor on the subquotient category induced by  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  is exact up to a shift. The relation between Lusztig’s asymptotic Hecke algebra  $J$  (which is well-known to be identified with the Grothendieck group of the truncated convolution category) and tensor product of Harish-Chandra bimodules is implicit in the work of A. Joseph, cf. e.g. [17, 2.3(i)].

In section 5 we check that irreducible objects in the center of the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules are in bijection with irreducible objects in the center of the category of semi-simple objects in the associated graded category with respect to the support filtration – i.e., roughly speaking, taking center of the monoidal category commutes with passing to the semisimplification of the associated graded. The argument uses a technical statement that the action of the center of Harish-Chandra modules on the subquotient category preserves the subcategory of semi-simple objects. This is deduced from a recent result of I. Losev [20] recalled in 5.3.

This is used to deduce Lusztig’s classification of irreducible character sheaves. Namely, to each 2-sided cell  $\underline{c}$  in  $W$  Lusztig assigned a finite group  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$ . He has

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<sup>1</sup>See e.g. [26] for a somewhat different (though related) approach to categorifying the Hecke algebra and its modules.

<sup>2</sup>What we call an intertwining functor is sometimes called, depending on the context and on the author, a Radon transform functor, or a shuffling functor, or a twisting functor.

shown that the set of irreducible unipotent character sheaves is in bijection with the set  $\bigcup_{\underline{c}} \{(\gamma, \psi)\} / \mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  where  $\gamma \in \mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  and  $\psi$  is an irreducible representation of the centralizer of  $\gamma$  in  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$ , i.e. by the union over  $\underline{c}$  of the sets of irreducible conjugation equivariant sheaves on  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$ . The description of the truncated convolution category from [7] (conjectured by Lusztig and recalled below before Corollary 5.4) together with 2-Morita invariance of categorical center implies that irreducible objects in the center of truncated convolution category are indexed by this set. Since the semi-simple part of the associated graded for the support filtration on Harish-Chandra bimodules is identified with the truncated convolution category, we get the classification result.

This also implies that truncated convolution of character sheaves modulo smaller cells corresponds to convolution of conjugation equivariant sheaves on the finite group  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  (though the definition of the braided category of sheaves on  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  has to be modified in some cases in order to upgrade this to a tensor equivalence, see Corollary 5.4). We note in passing that a different statement of a similar nature was conjectured by Lusztig [25]. While in the present paper we define truncated convolution of character sheaves as the component of their convolution concentrated in a certain homological degree, Lusztig in *loc. cit.* considers a component of a certain weight.

Let us remark that the description of the truncated convolution categories which plays a crucial role in our proof of the classification was proved in [7] in a somewhat indirect way, using, in particular, the embedding of finite Hecke algebra into the affine one, and its categorification. A more direct approach based on representations of finite  $W$ -algebras will be presented in a forthcoming paper [21], see footnote after Theorem 5.3 below.

Let us mention also that the idea to relate Drinfeld center to character sheaves has been implemented in a different way by Ben-Zvi, Francis and Nadler [6], who have obtained a result similar to our Theorem 3.6. However, their approach is different from ours in that they work with the full triangulated category of sheaves on  $G/B$  rather than with the abelian heart of a particular  $t$ -structure. The categorical center construction does not produce reasonable results when applied to triangulated categories, and the recent formalism of derived algebraic geometry is employed in [6] to overcome this difficulty. Our observation on the exactness property of the horocycle transform (Proposition 3.1(b)) allows us to bypass that difficulty by working with abelian categories; thus the technique of the present paper is more elementary than that of [6]. Also, the application to classification of irreducible character sheaves, which was one of our main motivations, does not appear in [6] and is unlikely to be accessible by their methods alone.

The statements established in this paper for  $D$ -modules have obvious analogues in the setting of perverse sheaves in classical topology over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $l$ -adic sheaves. Although the proofs in the first setting could be deduced from the results below via Riemann-Hilbert equivalence, it would be desirable to find direct geometric proofs applicable also to  $l$ -adic sheaves. We plan to return to this problem in a future publication.

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## 2. SETUP

**2.1. Notations related to  $G$ .** Let  $G$  be an almost simple complex algebraic group. We denote by  $T$  the abstract Cartan group of  $G$ . We also fix a Cartan and Borel subgroup  $T \subset B \subset G$ . The Weyl group of  $G$  is denoted by  $W$ . We denote by  $N$  the unipotent radical of  $B$ . The Lie algebras of  $T \subset G$  are denoted by  $\mathfrak{t} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ . We denote by  $\Lambda$  the weight lattice of  $T$ . We denote by  $2\rho \in \mathfrak{t}^*$  the sum of positive roots of  $T \subset B$ . We fix a dominant regular rational weight  $\lambda \in \mathfrak{t}^*$ , that is  $\lambda$  does not lie on any coroot hyperplane shifted by  $-\rho$ , and the value of  $\lambda$  at any positive coroot is not a negative integer. We consider  $\zeta := \exp(2\pi i\lambda)$  as an element of the dual torus  $\tilde{T}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{B}$  the flag variety  $G/B$ , and we denote by  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  the base affine space  $G/N$ . The horocycle space  $\mathcal{Y}$  is the quotient of  $G/N \times G/N$  by the diagonal right action of Cartan  $T$ . It is a  $G$ -equivariant  $T$ -torsor over  $\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}$ .

**2.2. Sheaves on horocycle space.** We consider the category  $\mathcal{P}^\zeta$  (resp.  $\mathcal{P}^{\hat{\zeta}}$ ) of  $G$ -equivariant  $T$ -monodromic perverse sheaves on  $\mathcal{Y}$  with monodromy (resp. generalized monodromy)  $\zeta$ . We denote by  $D\mathcal{P}^\zeta$  (resp.  $D\mathcal{P}^{\hat{\zeta}}$ ) the  $G$ -equivariant constructible  $\zeta$ -monodromic (resp. generalized  $\zeta$ -monodromic) derived category on  $\mathcal{Y}$ . By the Riemann-Hilbert correspondence,  $\mathcal{P}^{\hat{\zeta}}$  is equivalent to a certain category  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  of  $G$ -equivariant  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{Y}}$ -modules. Let  $p$  stand for the projection  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{B}} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ . Then the functor  $p^![-\dim T]$  identifies  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  with the category of  $G$ -equivariant,  $T$ -equivariant (with respect to the diagonal right action)  $\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -modules such that  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*] \otimes \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  (acting as infinitesimal translations along the right action of  $T \times T$ ) acts locally finitely with generalized eigenvalues in  $(\lambda + \Lambda, -\lambda + \Lambda)$ . We denote by  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the  $G$ -equivariant derived category of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

For the rational weights  $\mu, \nu$  we denote by  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\mu+\Lambda}, \widehat{\nu+\Lambda}}$  the category of  $G$ -equivariant  $\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{B}}}$  modules ( $T$ -equivariance is no longer required) such that  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*] \otimes \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  acts locally finitely with generalized eigenvalues in  $(\mu + \Lambda, \nu + \Lambda)$ . We denote by  $DM^{\widehat{\mu+\Lambda}, \widehat{\nu+\Lambda}}$  the  $G$ -equivariant derived category of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\mu+\Lambda}, \widehat{\nu+\Lambda}}$ . The functor  $p^o := p^![-\dim T] : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  identifies  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  with a full subcategory of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

**2.3. Harish-Chandra bimodules.** We denote by  $U = U(\mathfrak{g})$  the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We denote by  $U_\lambda$  the quotient of  $U$  by the ideal generated by the maximal ideal  $Z_\lambda$  of the Harish-Chandra center  $Z(U)$ , that is the ideal corresponding to the

maximal ideal  $I_\lambda \in \mathfrak{t}$  under the Harish-Chandra isomorphism. We denote by  $U_\lambda$  the completion of  $U$  at this ideal. We have  $U_\lambda^{opp} \simeq U_{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} = U_{-\widehat{w_0\lambda}}$  where  $w_0 \in W$  is the longest element. Furthermore, we consider an inductive system of ideals of  $Z(U)$  of finite codimension supported at  $\lambda + \Lambda$ . It gives rise to the projective system of quotients of  $U$  by the two-sided ideals generated by the above ideals of  $Z(U)$ . The projective limit of this system is denoted by  $U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . Note that we have an embedding  $U_\lambda \hookrightarrow U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

We denote by  $\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$  the category of finitely generated (as a left module; equivalently, as a right module) Harish-Chandra bimodules over  $U_\lambda$ , that is,  $U_\lambda$ -bimodules such that the adjoint  $\mathfrak{g}$ -action is locally finite. Note that a  $U_\lambda$ -bimodule is the same as a  $U_\lambda \otimes U_\lambda^{opp} = U_\lambda \otimes U_{-\lambda-2\rho}$ -module, and hence a Harish-Chandra  $U_\lambda$ -bimodule is the same as a  $U_\lambda \otimes U_{-\lambda-2\rho}$ -module such that the diagonal action of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is locally finite. We denote by  $\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$  the category of (finitely generated as a left  $U$ -module) Harish-Chandra bimodules over  $U_\lambda$ . Note that a  $U_\lambda$ -bimodule is the same as a  $U_\lambda \otimes U_\lambda^{opp} = U_\lambda \otimes U_{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$ -module. We denote by  $D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$  (resp.  $D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ ) the bounded derived category of  $\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$  (resp.  $\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ ).

For  $M \in \mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\mu'+\Lambda}, \widehat{\nu'+\Lambda}}$ , the action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*] \otimes \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  on the global sections  $\Gamma(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, M)$  is locally finite, and for  $\mu \in \mu' + \Lambda$ ,  $\nu \in \nu' + \Lambda$ , we denote by  $\Gamma^{\mu, \nu}(M)$  the maximal summand where  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*] \otimes \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  acts with the generalized eigenvalue  $(\mu, \nu)$ . It extends to the derived category  $DM^{\widehat{\mu'+\Lambda}, \widehat{\nu'+\Lambda}}$ , and for  $\mu = \lambda$ ,  $\nu = -\lambda - 2\rho$ , gives rise to an equivalence of categories  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \xrightarrow{\sim} D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ .

**2.4. Convolution.** We have the convolution functor  $*$  :  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \times DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , cf. [5] (5.6), (5.13). If  $p$  stands for the projection  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  along the middle factor, and  $\Delta$  stands for the inclusion  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \hookrightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ ,  $(x, y, z) \mapsto (x, y, y, z)$ , then  $M_1 * M_2 = p_* \Delta^! [\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}] (M_1 \boxtimes M_2)$ . Let us stress that  $p_* \neq p!$  since  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is not proper.

We also have the convolution functor  $*$  :  $D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda \times D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$  (resp.  $D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda \times D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ ), see *loc. cit.* Note that the convolution of Harish-Chandra bimodules is the left derived functor of the right exact bifunctor  $(A, B) \mapsto A \otimes_{U_\lambda} B$ ,  $\mathcal{HC}^\lambda \times \mathcal{HC}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ . Finally, for arbitrary  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules  $C$  on  $G$ , and  $M$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  we set  $C * M := a_*(C \boxtimes M)$  where  $a : G \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is the action morphism.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $X$  be an algebraic variety with an action of an (affine) algebraic group  $G$ . Then for  $A \in D^b(\mathcal{D}\text{-mod}(G))$ ,  $M \in D^b(\mathcal{D}\text{-mod}(X))$  we have a canonical isomorphism*

$$R\Gamma(A * M) \cong R\Gamma(A) \otimes_U^L R\Gamma(M).$$

*Proof.* Replacing  $A, M$  by appropriate resolutions we reduce to the case when  $A$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{D}$ -module and  $M = j_*(L)$  where  $j : Y \rightarrow X$  is an embedding of an open affine subvariety. Let  $a : G \times Y \rightarrow X$  be the action map and let  $Vert$  denote the space of vertical vector fields for that map. Then the left hand side lies in homological degree zero and equals the module of coinvariants of  $Vert$  acting on  $\Gamma((A \boxtimes L) \otimes_{\omega_{G \times U}} \otimes \omega_Y^{-1})$ ,

where  $\omega$  denotes the line bundle of top degree forms. The vector fields coming from the  $G$ -action on  $G \times X$ ,  $g : (g_1, x) \mapsto (g_1 g^{-1}, gx)$  generate the vector bundle  $Vert$ . Moreover, the bi-invariant volume form on  $G$  yields a canonical  $G$ -invariant section of the line bundle  $\omega_{G \times Y} \otimes \omega_Y^{-1}$ . This yields the desired isomorphism.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2.** *a) For  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules  $A$  on  $G$ , and  $M$  on  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  we have  $R\Gamma(\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{B}}, A * M) = R\Gamma(M) \otimes_U \Gamma(G, A)$ .*

*b) For  $M_1, M_2 \in DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  we have a natural isomorphism*

$$(2.1) \quad R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(M_1 * M_2) \simeq R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(M_1) * R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(M_2),$$

*Proof.* a) is immediate from the previous Lemma.

b) is proved in [5], Proposition 5.11.  $\square$

**2.5. Character sheaves.** We consider the following diagram of  $G$ -varieties and  $G$ -equivariant maps:

$$G \xleftarrow{pr} G \times \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{Y}.$$

In this diagram, the map  $pr$  is given by  $pr(g, x) := g$ . To define the map  $f$ , we think of  $\mathcal{B}$  as  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}/T$ , and for a representative  $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  of  $x \in \mathcal{B}$  we set  $f(g, x) := (g\tilde{x}, \tilde{x})$ . Following [13], we consider the functor  $\widehat{CH} = pr_* f^*[\dim \mathcal{B}] : D\mathcal{P}^{\zeta} \rightarrow D_G(G)$  to the  $G$ -equivariant derived constructible category on  $G$ . The minimal triangulated full subcategory of  $D_G(G)$  containing all the objects of the form  $\widehat{CH}(A)$ ,  $A \in D\mathcal{P}^{\zeta}$ , will be denoted by  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}(G)$ . The intersection of  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}(G)$  with the abelian subcategory of perverse sheaves on  $G$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}$ . The full subcategory of semisimple objects of  $\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}$  will be denoted  $\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}$  — these are direct sums of Lusztig's character sheaves with monodromy  $\zeta$ . The functor  $\widehat{CH}$  admits the right adjoint functor  $\widehat{HC} := f_* pr^![-\dim \mathcal{B}] : D\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta}(G) \rightarrow D\mathcal{P}^{\zeta}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{D}(G)$  stand for the ring of differential operators on  $G$ . We have  $\mathcal{D}(G) = U \rtimes \mathcal{O}(G)$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$  the product  $U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \times \mathcal{O}(G)$  (note that  $U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  acts on  $\mathcal{O}(G)$ ). We denote by  $\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the category of (finitely generated over  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ )  $G$ -equivariant  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$ -modules, that is,  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ -modules such that the action of  $Z(U) \subset U \subset \mathcal{D}(G)$  embedded as left invariant differential operators is locally finite and has generalized eigenvalues in  $\lambda + \Lambda$  (equivalently, such that the action of  $Z(U) \subset U \subset \mathcal{D}(G)$  embedded as right invariant differential operators has generalized eigenvalues in  $-\lambda - 2\rho + \Lambda$ ). Such  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ -modules are automatically holonomic regular (see [13]). We denote by  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the  $G$ -equivariant derived category of  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$ -modules. The Riemann-Hilbert correspondence gives rise to an equivalence  $\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta} \simeq \mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  (resp.  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\zeta} \simeq D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ), see *loc. cit.*

We will keep the names  $\widehat{CH} : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ;  $\widehat{HC} : D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  for the functors going to the same named functors under the Riemann-Hilbert correspondence.

### 3. CHARACTER SHEAVES AS DRINFELD CENTER OF HARISH-CHANDRA BIMODULES

**3.1. Exactness of  $\widehat{HC}$ .** For  $A \in DCS^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  we define  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, A)$  as follows. Note that  $U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is the direct product  $\prod_{\mu \in (\lambda+\Lambda)/W_\zeta} U_{\widehat{\mu}}$  over the set of representatives of  $W_\zeta$ -orbits (with respect to the dot action) in  $\lambda + \Lambda$ . Here  $W_\zeta \subset W$  is the stabilizer of  $\zeta \in \check{T}$  in  $W$ . Equivalently,  $W_\zeta$  is the stabilizer of  $\lambda + \Lambda$  in  $\mathfrak{t}^*/\Lambda$ . Hence the restriction of a  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$ -module  $A$  to  $U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  has a maximal direct summand  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, A)$  such that the action of any  $U_{\widehat{\mu}}$ ,  $\mu \notin W_\zeta \cdot \lambda$ , on  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, A)$  is zero. Here we think of  $U$  as acting by the left invariant differential operators. Equivalently,  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, A)$  is the maximal direct summand of  $A$  such that the action of any  $U_{\widehat{\mu}}$ ,  $\mu \notin W_\zeta \cdot (-\lambda - 2\rho)$ , as right invariant differential operators, is zero.

**Proposition 3.1.** *a) For  $A \in DCS^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  we have*

$$(3.1) \quad R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\mathfrak{p}^o \widehat{HC}(A)) = \Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, A)$$

*b) The functor  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} \circ \mathfrak{p}^o \circ \widehat{HC} : DCS^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}C^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  is exact, i.e. takes  $\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $\mathcal{H}C^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ .*

*Proof.* Clearly, the functor  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(G, -)$  is exact, so it remains to prove (3.1).

The preimage of diagonal  $\Delta_{\mathcal{B}} \subset \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{B} \times T$ . Let  $\delta$  denote the embedding of  $\mathcal{B} \times \{1\}$  into  $\mathcal{Y}$ . It is easy to see that  $\widehat{HC}(A) \cong A * \delta_*(\mathcal{O})$  (notations of subsection 2.4). On the other hand, it is easy to see that  $R\Gamma(\delta_*(\mathcal{O}) \otimes pr_2^* \omega) \cong \tilde{U}$  where  $\tilde{U} = U \otimes_{S(\mathfrak{t})^W} S(\mathfrak{t})$  (here  $S(\mathfrak{t})^W$  is identified with the center of  $U$  by means of Harish-Chandra isomorphism and  $pr_2$  denotes the second projection  $\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ ). Thus (3.1) follows from Corollary 2.2(a).  $\square$

For future use we also record an algebraic description of the functor  $\widehat{CH}$ . Recall that the ring  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$  contains  $U_{\widehat{\lambda}} \subset U_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  as the left invariant differential operators. It also contains  $U_{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$  as the right invariant differential operators, and the images of  $U_{\widehat{\lambda}}$  and  $U_{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$  commute. Thus  $\mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G)$  has a structure of a right module over  $U_{\widehat{\lambda}} \otimes U_{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** *For a regular weight  $\lambda$  and  $M \in DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  we have a canonical isomorphism:*

$$(3.2) \quad R\Gamma(G, \widehat{CH}(M)) = \mathcal{D}_{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}(G) \otimes_{U_{\widehat{\lambda}} \otimes U_{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}}^L R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\mathfrak{p}^o M)$$

*Proof.* The standard adjunction between induction and restriction implies that the functor in the right hand side of (3.2) is left adjoint to  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ . Since  $\widehat{CH}$  is right adjoint to  $\widehat{HC}$ , we get the desired isomorphism.  $\square$

*Remark 3.3.* The isomorphism (3.2) is a straightforward generalization of a result of Hotta-Kashiwara [14, Theorem 1]. Thus alternatively we could have deduced (3.2) from [14] and (3.1) from (3.2).

**3.2. The twisted Harish-Chandra functor.** In this subsection we present a geometric reformulation of Proposition 3.1(b).

Recall the definition of an *intertwining functor*  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$ , cf. [2]<sup>3</sup> and [5],<sup>4</sup> pp. 18-19. Let  $U \subset \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}^2$  be the free  $G \times T$  orbit, and let  $V \subset \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}^4$  be given by  $V = \{(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 \mid x_1 = y_1, (x_2, y_2) \in U)\}$ . Then the intertwining functor is given by  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0} = pr_{y!} pr_x^*$ , where  $pr_x, pr_y : V \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}^2$  send  $(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)$  to  $(x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)$  respectively.

It is a standard fact that the  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  restricts to an equivalence  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0} : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . The inverse equivalence is  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1} = pr_{y*} pr_x^!$ .

Set  $\mathcal{X} := (G/N^+ \times G/N^-)/T$ . Here  $N^+ = N$  is the unipotent radical of  $B$ , while  $N^-$  is the unipotent radical of the opposite Borel subgroup  $B^-$ . Equivalently, we consider the following embedding  $T \hookrightarrow T \times T$ ,  $t \mapsto (t, w_0 t)$ . Then  $\mathcal{X}$  is the quotient of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  with respect to the action of  $T$  embedded as above into  $T \times T$  acting on the right. It is equipped with the action of  $T$  (embedded into  $T \times T$  by  $t \mapsto (t, 1)$ ). We consider the  $G$ -equivariant  $T$ -monodromic derived category  $DM_{w_0}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  of  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules (here  $\lambda + \Lambda$  is the generalized eigenvalue of the right action of the first copy of  $\mathfrak{t}$ ). This category can be realized as a subcategory of  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ; namely  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto q^![-\dim T]\mathcal{F}$  where  $q : \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is the natural projection. Recall that  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is realized as a subcategory of  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

The intertwining functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  gives rise to the same named equivalence  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \xrightarrow{\sim} DM_{w_0}^{\widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

**Corollary 3.4.** *The functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0} \circ \widehat{HC}$  is exact.*

*Proof.* Since both  $\lambda$  and  $-w_0\lambda$  are dominant regular, the functor  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{w_0(\lambda)}}$  is exact and faithful by Localization Theorem. Thus it suffices to show that  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{w_0(\lambda)}} \circ \mathbf{I}_{w_0} \circ \widehat{HC}$  is exact. By (a straightforward generalization of) the result of [2] this functor is isomorphic to  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} \circ \widehat{HC}$ , thus it is exact by Proposition 3.1(b).  $\square$

*Remark 3.5.* In fact, the exact functor described in the Corollary can be expressed via *Verdier specialization*. This stronger statement is proved in the last section 6.

**3.3. The Drinfeld center of  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ .** For a monoidal category  $\mathcal{A}$  we denote by  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  the Drinfeld center of  $\mathcal{A}$  (see e.g. [19], XIII.4). The functor  $p^{\circ} \circ \widehat{HC} : DC\mathcal{S}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is equipped with a canonical central structure (with respect to the convolution  $*$ ) which gives rise to the same named functor  $\widehat{HC} : DC\mathcal{S}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}})$ . In effect, for a  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $A$  on  $G$ , and  $M$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  let us denote by  $A *_1 M$  (resp.  $A *_2 M$ ) the action

<sup>3</sup>Note that our notations do not agree with that of [2], our  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  is denoted by  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1}$  in *loc. cit.*

<sup>4</sup>Our definition of an intertwining functor is different from that of [5], though one can show that the two definitions are equivalent. By our definition  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  is a (shriek) convolution with a certain  $G$ -equivariant  $D$ -module on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}^2$ . In [5] the same functor is described as a convolution with a certain pro-object in the category of  $G$ -equivariant  $D$ -modules on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}^2$  which are also *monodromic* with respect to  $T^2$ .

along the first (resp. second) copy of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . We have the canonical isomorphisms  $A *_1 M \simeq \widehat{HC}(A) * M$ ,  $A *_2 M \simeq M * \widehat{HC}(A)$ . Also, for a conjugation-equivariant  $A$ , and  $M$  equivariant with respect to the diagonal action of  $G$ , we have  $A *_1 M \simeq A *_2 M$ . The composition of the above isomorphisms provides  $\widehat{HC}$  with a central structure. Since  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda}-2\rho} : D\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda, -\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  is a monoidal equivalence, we obtain the functor  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda}-2\rho} \circ p^o \circ \widehat{HC} : D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(D\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$ . Recall that the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  is equipped with the monoidal structure  $(A, B) \mapsto A \otimes_{U_{\widehat{\lambda}}} B$  whose left derived bifunctor is the convolution  $*$  on  $D\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ . Now Proposition 3.1 implies that the exact functor  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda}-2\rho} \circ p^o \circ \widehat{HC}$  from the abelian category  $\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$  to the abelian monoidal category  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  has a canonical central structure which gives rise to the exact functor  $\widehat{hc} : \mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$ .

The rest of the section is devoted to the proof of the following

**Theorem 3.6.**  $\widehat{hc} : \mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$  is an equivalence of abelian categories.

*Proof.* Since any irreducible object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$  is a direct summand of  $\widehat{CH}(M)$  for some irreducible  $M \in \mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$ , we see that  $\widehat{HC}(A) \neq 0$ , and hence  $\widehat{hc}(A) \neq 0$ . It follows that  $\widehat{hc}$  is faithful. To prove that  $\widehat{hc}$  is essentially surjective and fully faithful we need to compare  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$  with the center of a larger category of Harish-Chandra bimodules.

**3.4. Morita invariance of the center.** We denote by  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$  the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules over  $U_{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$  (finitely generated as a left  $U$ -module). It is a monoidal category containing  $U_{\widehat{\lambda}}$  as a direct summand monoidal subcategory. Hence we have the functor of restriction to the direct summand  $Res : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$ .

**Lemma 3.7.**  $Res : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}})$  is an equivalence of braided monoidal categories.

*Proof.* The category  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}$  splits as a direct sum of subcategories  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}}$  over  $\mu, \nu \in (\lambda + \Lambda)/W_{\zeta}$ . Here  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}}$  stands for the category of  $U_{\widehat{\mu}} - U_{\widehat{\nu}}$  Harish-Chandra bimodules. An object of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda})$  is a collection  $(M, b_X)_{X \in \mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda}}$  of compatible isomorphisms  $b_X : M \otimes_U X \xrightarrow{\sim} X \otimes_U M$ . Under the decomposition  $M = \bigoplus_{\mu, \nu \in (\lambda + \Lambda)/W_{\zeta}} M^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}}$ ,  $M^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}} \in \mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}}$ , we must clearly have  $M^{\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\nu}} = 0$  for  $\mu \neq \nu$  (that is,  $W_{\zeta} \cdot \mu \neq W_{\zeta} \cdot \nu$ ).

To construct a functor  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}+\Lambda})$  quasiinverse to  $Res$  we need the notion of translation functor  $\theta_{\widehat{\lambda}}^{\mu} : \mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \rightarrow \mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}}$  (cf. [5], §§1,6). Namely, we fix a finite dimensional  $G$ -module  $E$  with an extremal weight  $\mu - \lambda$ , consider a free Harish-Chandra bimodule  $Fr(E) := E \otimes U_{\widehat{\lambda}}$ , and its maximal direct summand  $Fr^{\widehat{\mu}}(E)$  where the left action of  $U$  extends to the action of  $U_{\widehat{\mu}}$ . Then for  $L \in \mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  we set  $\theta_{\widehat{\lambda}}^{\mu}(L) := Fr^{\widehat{\mu}}(E) \otimes_{U_{\widehat{\lambda}}} L \otimes_{U_{\widehat{\lambda}}} Fr^{\widehat{\mu}}(E)$ . It is known that  $\theta_{\widehat{\lambda}}^{\mu}$  is an exact monoidal functor (see *loc. cit.*). Moreover, since  $\lambda$  is regular, it is known that  $\theta_{\widehat{\lambda}}^{\mu}$  realizes  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}}$  as a quotient category of  $\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ . Hence it induces the same named functor  $\theta_{\widehat{\lambda}}^{\mu} : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\widehat{\mu}})$ .

Now the desired functor  $\mathbf{F} : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}})$  quasiinverse to  $Res$  is given by  $(L, b_X) \mapsto \bigoplus_{\mu \in (\lambda+\Lambda)/W_\zeta} \theta_\lambda^\mu(L, b_X)$ .  $\square$

**3.5. Comparison to the center of  $\mathcal{HC}$ .** We denote by  $\mathcal{HC}$  the category of (finitely generated as a left  $U$ -module) Harish-Chandra bimodules (no restrictions on the action of  $Z(U)$ ). Let  $(M, b_X)_{X \in \mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}}$  be an object of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}})$ . We will construct a family of compatible isomorphisms  $b_Y : M \otimes_U Y \xrightarrow{\sim} Y \otimes_U M$  for  $Y \in \mathcal{HC}$ , thus providing a fully faithful functor  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$ .

To this end note that we have a canonical isomorphism  $U_{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}} \otimes_U Y \simeq Y \otimes_U U_{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}} =: X(Y) \in \mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}$ . Now since  $M \otimes_U Y = M \otimes_{U_{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}} X(Y)$ , and  $Y \otimes_U M = X(Y) \otimes_{U_{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}} M$ , we can define  $b_Y := b_{X(Y)}$ . It is immediate to extend the assignment  $(M, b_X)_{X \in \mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}} \mapsto (M, b_Y)_{Y \in \mathcal{HC}}$  to a functor  $\mathbb{F} : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$ , and to prove that it is fully faithful (but certainly not essentially surjective).

**3.6. The center of  $\mathcal{HC}$  and  $D$ -modules on  $G$ .** Recall that we have 2 commuting embeddings  $U \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}(G)$  (as left invariant differential operators),  $U^{opp} \simeq U \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}(G)$  (as right invariant differential operators). Thus the global sections of any  $G$ -equivariant  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ -module  $A$  have a structure of a Harish-Chandra bimodule, to be denoted by  $\Gamma(G, A)$ . Moreover,  $\Gamma(G, A)$  is equipped with a canonical central structure. Thus we obtain a functor  $\Gamma(G, -) : \mathcal{D}(G) - mod^G \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$ .

**Lemma 3.8.** *The functor  $\Gamma(G, -) : \mathcal{D}(G) - mod^G \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$  is an equivalence of abelian categories.*

*Proof.* Let  $(M, b_Y)_{Y \in \mathcal{HC}}$  be an object of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$ . Let  $Y = Fr(E)$  be a free Harish-Chandra bimodule associated to a finite dimensional  $G$ -module  $E$ . We have  $M \otimes_U Y \simeq M \otimes E$ , and  $Y \otimes_U M \simeq E \otimes M$ . We will denote by  $b_E$  the composition morphism  $M \otimes E \simeq M \otimes_U Y \xrightarrow{b_Y} Y \otimes_U M \simeq E \otimes M$  or, equivalently,  $b_E : E \otimes E^* \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$ . Note that for  $E = E_1 \otimes E_2$  the compatibility condition in the definition of Drinfeld center implies that the composition

$$E_1 \otimes E_2 \otimes M \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_{E_1} \otimes b_{E_2}} E_1 \otimes M \otimes E_2 \xrightarrow{b_{E_1} \otimes \text{Id}_{E_2}} M \otimes E_1 \otimes E_2$$

equals  $b_E$ . In other words, for any  $v_{1,2} \in E_{1,2}$ ,  $v_{1,2}^* \in E_{1,2}^*$  we have an equality in the ring  $\text{End}(M)$ :

$$b_E(v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes v_1^* \otimes v_2^*) = b_{E_1}(v_1 \otimes v_1^*) b_{E_2}(v_2 \otimes v_2^*).$$

Note that the same equality holds in the ring  $\mathcal{O}(G)$  for the matrix coefficients of the representations  $E, E_1, E_2$ ; moreover,  $\mathcal{O}(G)$  is generated by the matrix coefficients, and is given by the above relations. Hence we obtain a homomorphism  $\phi : \mathcal{O}(G) \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$ . For  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  acting as a left invariant vector field on  $\mathcal{O}(G)$  we have  $\phi(xv \otimes v^*)(m) = x(\phi(v \otimes v^*)(m))$  for any  $m \in M$ ,  $v \in E$ ,  $v^* \in E^*$ . In other words, the left  $U$ -action on  $M$  together with the action of  $\mathcal{O}(G)$  combine into an action of  $U \ltimes \mathcal{O}(G) = \mathcal{D}(G)$ . Now the action of  $G$  on  $M$  provides the resulting  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ -module with a  $G$ -equivariant structure.

It is easy to see that this construction gives rise to a functor  $F$  from  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC})$  to  $\mathcal{D}(G) - \text{mod}^G$  quasiinverse to  $\Gamma(G, -)$ .  $\square$

**3.7. Completion of proof of Theorem 3.6.** We consider the composition of functors

$$\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}^\lambda) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{F}} \mathcal{Z}(\widehat{\mathcal{HC}^{\lambda+\Lambda}}) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{F}} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}) \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{D}(G) - \text{mod}^G$$

constructed respectively in the proof of Lemma 3.7, in subsection 3.5, and in the proof of Lemma 3.8. It is easy to see that the composition lands into  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}^{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , and is quasiinverse to  $\widehat{hc}$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 3.6.  $\square$

#### 4. TRUNCATED CONVOLUTION AND HARISH-CHANDRA BIMODULES

**4.1. Two-sided cells.** For  $w \in W$  let  $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_w$  stand for the preimage in  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  of the  $G$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_w \subset \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}$ . Clearly, the restriction (both shriek and star) of any  $M \in DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_w$  is zero if  $w \notin W_\zeta$  (the stabilizer of  $\zeta$  in  $W$ ). Similarly, the restriction of any  $M \in DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_w$  is zero if  $w \notin w_0W_\zeta$ . For  $w \in W_\zeta$  we denote by  $IC_w^{\zeta, \zeta^{-1}}$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible  $\mathcal{D}$ -module in  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  supported on the closure of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_w$ .

Let  $\underline{c} \subset W_\zeta$  be a two-sided cell, and let  $a(\underline{c})$  denote its  $a$ -function. Let  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  stand for the Serre subcategory of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  generated by the sheaves  $IC_w^{\zeta, \zeta^{-1}}$  for  $w$  lying in  $\underline{c}$  and all the smaller cells. We denote by  $\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the quotient of  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  by the Serre subcategory  $\mathcal{M}_{< \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  generated by the sheaves  $IC_w^{\zeta, \zeta^{-1}}$  for  $w$  lying in all the cells smaller than  $\underline{c}$ . We denote by  $DM_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  (resp.  $DM_{< \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ) the full triangulated subcategory of  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  generated by  $\mathcal{M}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{M}_{< \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ). We denote by  $DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the quotient of  $DM_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  by  $DM_{< \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . It contains the heart  $\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

We introduce the similar categories and notations for  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  in place of  $DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . The only difference is in the numeration of irreducible objects: now  $IC_w^{\zeta, w_0\zeta^{-1}}$  stands for the isomorphism class of an irreducible  $\mathcal{D}$ -module in  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  supported on the closure of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_{ww_\zeta w_0}$ . Here  $w_\zeta$  stands for the longest (in  $W$ ) element of  $W_\zeta$ , so that  $w_\zeta w_0$  is the shortest element in the left coset  $W_\zeta w_0 \subset W$ . With these notations the intertwining functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}$  respects the filtrations by the cell subcategories:  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}(DM_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset DM_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , and gives rise to the same named functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0} : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

For  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we denote by  $V_w^\lambda$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible Harish-Chandra bimodule such that  $V_w^\lambda \simeq R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda}}(IC_w^{\zeta, w_0\zeta^{-1}})$ . Now for a two-sided cell  $\underline{c} \in W_\zeta$  we define the categories  $\mathcal{HC}_{< \underline{c}}^\lambda \subset \mathcal{HC}_{\leq \underline{c}}^\lambda \subset \mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ ,  $\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^\lambda$ ,  $D\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^\lambda$ , etc. in an evident fashion. The global sections functors  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda}} : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}^\lambda$ ;  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} :$

$DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$  preserve the filtrations by the cell subcategories, and give rise to the same named functors  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda}} : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ ;  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}} : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *The functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}[a_{\underline{c}}] : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is exact, that is  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}[a_{\underline{c}}](\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset \mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .*

*Remark 4.2.* The Proposition can be viewed as a categorification of Lusztig's result [22, 5.12.2]. The latter shows that the action of the element  $T_{w_0}^2$  on the two-sided cell subquotient module  $H_{\underline{c}}$  of the Hecke algebra  $H$  is the scalar multiplication by  $q^{d/2}$  for some integer  $d = d(\underline{c})$ . More precisely, the Proposition implies that the functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-2}[-2a_{\underline{c}}]$  induces an exact functor on the cell subquotient. Since the functor lifts to the graded version of the category and the induced map on the (non-graded) Grothendieck group is trivial, it follows that the map induced by  $T_{w_0}^2$  on  $H_{\underline{c}}$  sends an element  $C_w$  of the Kazhdan-Lusztig basis to  $q^{d(w)/2}C_w$ . In fact, in *loc. cit.* Lusztig computes the value of  $d(w) = d(\underline{c})$ . It would be interesting to understand the answer from the point of view of the present paper. Notice that  $d(w)$  does *not* coincide with  $-a_{\underline{c}}$ , which agrees with the fact that the functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1}$  is not pure.

*Remark 4.3.* By the result of [4], the functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^2$  is the *Serre functor* for the derived category  $D_N(G/B)$ . It can be deduced from the Proposition that the functor on the cell subquotient induced by  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^2$  is isomorphic to the functor of shift by  $-2a_{\underline{c}}$ , i.e. the cell subquotient is a Calabi–Yau category of dimension  $2a_{\underline{c}}$ . It is interesting to compare it with the results of Mazorchuk and Stroppel [26], [27] which imply that for groups of type  $A_n$  the (right) cell subquotients in the *abelian* category of perverse sheaves are equivalent to the category of modules over a symmetric (in an alternative terminology, Frobenius) algebra, thus are Calabi–Yau of dimension zero.

*Remark 4.4.* The Calabi–Yau property of the cell subquotient categories was conjectured by Ivan Mirković (and communicated to one of us around 2005).

**Corollary 4.5.** *a) The functor  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}[a_{\underline{c}}] : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$  is exact, that is  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}[a_{\underline{c}}](\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ .*

*b) This functor is monoidal with respect to the truncated convolution on  $\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} : (M_1, M_2) \mapsto M_1 \bullet M_2 := \underline{H}^{a_{\underline{c}}}(M_1 * M_2)$ , and the nonderived convolution on  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda} : (V_1, V_2) \mapsto V_1 \otimes_U V_2$ .*

*Proof.* a) is immediate, while b) follows from a) and the monoidal property of  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}} : DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ .  $\square$

The proof of the proposition occupies the rest of the section.

*Remark 4.6.* Notice that the last claim shows that Lusztig's asymptotic Hecke algebra  $J$  can be interpreted as the Grothendieck group of the monoidal category of semi-simple Harish-Chandra bimodules where the monoidal structure comes from tensor product of

bimodules taken modulo the subcategory generated by the submodules with a smaller support. A related statement was obtained by A. Joseph [17].

**4.2. Category  $\mathcal{O}$ .** We denote by  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the category of  $N$ -equivariant, weakly  $B$ -equivariant  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -modules such that the locally finite action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  (differential operators arising from the infinitesimal action of  $T \subset B \subset G$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ ) has generalized eigenvalues in  $-\lambda + \Lambda$ ; while the action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  (differential operators arising from the infinitesimal right action of  $T$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ ) is locally finite with generalized eigenvalues in  $-\lambda + \Lambda$ . For  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we denote by  $IC_w^{\zeta^{-1}}$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -module in  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  supported on the closure of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}_w$  (preimage in  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  of the corresponding  $B$ -orbit in  $\mathcal{B}$ ). We denote by  $DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  the derived category of  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . The categories  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \subset DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  are defined similarly: we require that the generalized eigenvalues of the right action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  lie in  $-w_0\lambda + \Lambda$ . For  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we denote by  $IC_w^{w_0\zeta^{-1}}$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -module in  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  supported on the closure of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}_{ww_0}$ .

We denote by  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$  the category of  $N$ -integrable  $U$ -modules where  $Z(U)$  acts locally finitely with the generalized eigenvalue  $-\lambda - 2\rho$  (same as  $-w_0\lambda$ ), and  $\mathfrak{t}$  acts locally finitely with the generalized eigenvalues in  $-\lambda + \Lambda$ . We denote by  $D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$  the derived category of  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ .

For  $M \in \mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  we denote by  $\Gamma^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, M)$  the maximal direct summand of the global sections on which  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  acts with the generalized eigenvalue  $-\lambda - 2\rho$ . It gives rise to an equivalence of categories  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) : DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ . Similarly, we have an equivalence of categories  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{-w_0\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) : DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ . The latter equivalence is exact, that is, takes  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ .

We have a closed embedding  $\iota : \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ ,  $x \mapsto (e, x)$  where  $e \in \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is the image of the neutral element  $e \in G$  under  $G \rightarrow G/N = \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . The functor  $\iota^o := \iota^![\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}]$  gives rise to the same named equivalences  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ;  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{M}^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . We keep the same name  $\iota^o$  for the derived versions of the above functors. All the notations related to two-sided cells are transferred to the categories  $\mathbf{M}$  via the functors  $\iota^o$ .

For  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we denote by  $L_w^{-\lambda-2\rho}$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible module in  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$  with the highest weight  $w \cdot (-\lambda - 2\rho)$ . Note that  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{-w_0\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, IC_w^{w_0\zeta^{-1}}) \simeq L_w^{-\lambda-2\rho}$ . Now for a two-sided cell  $\underline{c} \subset W_\zeta$  we define the categories  $\mathcal{O}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}} \subset \mathcal{O}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}} \subset \mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ ,  $D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$ , etc. in an evident fashion.

We have a natural isomorphism of functors  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1} \circ \iota^o \simeq \iota^o \circ \mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1} : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . Here  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1} : DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is as in section 3.2.

Finally, we have a natural isomorphism of functors

$$R\Gamma^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) \circ \mathbf{I}_{w_0}^{-1} \simeq R\Gamma^{\widehat{-w_0\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) : DM^{\widehat{-\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{-w_0\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{-\lambda-2\rho}}$$

(cf. [2]). It follows that the functor  $R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -)$  respects the filtrations by the cell subcategories:  $R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -)(DM_{\leq \underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset D\mathcal{O}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$ , and gives rise to the same named functor  $R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) : DM_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$ .

Clearly, Proposition 4.1 is equivalent to the following

**Proposition 4.7.** *The functor  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}[a_{\underline{c}}] : DM_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow DM_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is exact, that is  $\mathbf{I}_{w_0}[a_{\underline{c}}](M_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset M_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{w_0\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . Equivalently, the functor  $R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -)[a_{\underline{c}}] : DM_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$  is exact, that is  $R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -)[a_{\underline{c}}](M_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}) \subset \mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$ .*

The rest of the section is devoted to the proof.

**4.3. Dualities.** For a  $U$ -module  $M$ , there is a natural right  $U$ -module structure on  $\mathrm{Hom}_U(M, U)$ . If  $M \in \mathcal{O}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$ , the center  $Z(U)$  acts on (the cohomology modules of)  $\mathrm{RHom}_U(M, U)$  locally finitely with generalized eigenvalues  $-\lambda - 2\rho$ . Composing with the opposition isomorphism  $U \simeq U^{opp}$ , we get a duality functor  $\mathrm{RHom}_U^{opp}(-, U) : D\mathcal{O}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} \rightarrow (D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}})^{opp}$ . The same construction gives rise to the quasiinverse duality functor  $\mathrm{RHom}_U^{opp}(-, U) : D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \rightarrow (D\mathcal{O}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}})^{opp}$ . For  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we denote by  $L_w^\lambda$  the isomorphism class of an irreducible module in  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  with the highest weight  $w w_\zeta \cdot \lambda$ . For a two-sided cell  $\underline{c} \in W_\zeta$  we define the categories  $\mathcal{O}_{< \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \subset \mathcal{O}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \subset \mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ ,  $D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ , etc. in an evident fashion. The duality functors preserve the filtrations by the cell subcategories and give rise to the same named functor  $\mathrm{RHom}_U^{opp}(-, U) : D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \rightarrow (D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}})^{opp}$ .

For a  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -module  $M$ , there is a natural right  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -module structure on  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}}(M, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}})$ . If  $M \in \mathbf{M}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , the action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  (coming from the infinitesimal right action of  $T$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ ) on (the cohomology sheaves of)  $R\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}}(M, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}})$  is locally finite with generalized eigenvalues in  $-\lambda + \Lambda$ . We have a canonical opposition isomorphism  $\mathcal{D}_{\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}} \simeq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}^{opp}$  where  $\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$  stands for the canonical line bundle on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}_{\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}}$  denotes the corresponding tdo. We have an isomorphism  $\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}} \simeq \mathcal{O}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$  which gives rise to the isomorphism  $\mathcal{D}_{\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}} \simeq \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ ; however the natural action of  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{t}^*]$  gets shifted by  $2\rho$  under this isomorphism. Thus we obtain a duality functor  $\mathbb{D} := R\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}}(-, \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}) : DM^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow (DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}})^{opp}$ .

By construction, we have a natural isomorphism of functors  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) \circ \mathbb{D} \simeq \mathrm{RHom}_U^{opp}(-, U) \circ R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}} : DM^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow (D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}})^{opp}$ .

Since any  $M \in \mathbf{M}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is holonomic,  $\mathbb{D}[\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}]$  is exact, that is, takes  $\mathbf{M}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $(\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}})^{opp}$ . In particular, for  $w \in W_\zeta$ , we have  $\mathbb{D}IC_w^{\zeta-1}[\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}] \simeq IC_w^\zeta$  where  $IC_w^\zeta$  is the isomorphism class of an irreducible  $\mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ -module in  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  supported on the closure of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}_w$ . Moreover,  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -) : DM^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  is exact, that is, takes  $\mathbf{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, \widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  to  $\mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ . In particular,  $R\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, IC_w^\zeta) \simeq L_w^\lambda$ . Hence the next lemma implies that the functor

$R\Gamma^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}(\widetilde{\mathcal{B}}, -)[a_{\underline{c}}] : DM_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \rightarrow D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}}$  is exact, thus it yields Proposition 4.7.

**Lemma 4.8.** *The functor  $\mathrm{RHom}_U^{opp}(-, U)[\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} + a_{\underline{c}}] : D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \rightarrow (D\mathcal{O}_{\underline{c}}^{-\widehat{\lambda-2\rho}})^{opp}$  is exact.*

*Proof.* Recall the notion of the *associated variety* (see e.g. [16]). For  $M \in \mathcal{O}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  the associated variety  $V(M)$  is a closed subvariety of  $\mathfrak{n} \subset \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}^*$  (here  $\mathfrak{n}$  is the Lie algebra of  $N$ , and we have identified  $\mathfrak{g}$  with  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  via the Killing form). If  $w \in W_{\zeta}$ , and  $M = L_w^{\lambda}$ , then according to 3.10, 3.11 of *loc. cit.*, there is a nilpotent orbit  $\mathcal{N}_{w,\lambda} \subset \mathcal{N} \subset \mathfrak{g}$  with the closure  $\overline{\mathcal{N}}_{w,\lambda}$  such that any irreducible component of  $V(L_w^{\lambda})$  is an irreducible component of  $\mathfrak{n} \cap \overline{\mathcal{N}}_{w,\lambda}$ . Moreover, if  $w, w' \in \underline{c}$ , then  $\mathcal{N}_{w,\lambda} = \mathcal{N}_{w',\lambda} =: \mathcal{N}_{\underline{c}}$ , and  $\dim \mathcal{N} - \dim \mathcal{N}_{\underline{c}} = 2m_{\underline{c}}$ , where  $m_{\underline{c}}$  is the degree of the Goldie rank polynomial associated to  $\mathrm{Ann}(L_w^{\lambda})$  for any  $w \in \underline{c}$  (see [15], Theorem 5.1). Finally, it is well known, due to the works of A. Joseph and G. Lusztig, that  $m_{\underline{c}} = a_{\underline{c}}$  in case of integral  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . The equality  $m_{\underline{c}} = a_{\underline{c}}$  in case of general  $\lambda$  is reduced to the case of integral  $\lambda$  in [1] (Chapters 16, 17).

Since  $\mathfrak{n} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\underline{c}}$  is Lagrangian in  $\mathcal{N}_{\underline{c}}$  we see that for  $w \in \underline{c}$ , the associated variety  $V(L_w^{\lambda})$  is equidimensional of codimension  $a_{\underline{c}}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$ , that is of codimension  $a_{\underline{c}} + \dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . It follows (see e.g. Theorem V.2.2.2 of [8]) that for  $i \neq 0$  the module  $\mathrm{RHom}_U^i(L_w^{\lambda}, U)^{opp}[\dim \widetilde{\mathcal{B}} + a_{\underline{c}}]$  has associated variety of a smaller dimension. The lemma follows.  $\square$

## 5. CLASSIFICATION AND CONVOLUTION OF CHARACTER $D$ -MODULES

**5.1. Cells in character sheaves.** Recall that  $\lambda$  is a regular weight.

For  $w \in W_{\zeta}$ , the irreducible objects  $IC_w^{\zeta, \zeta^{-1}}$  of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  have a natural equivariant structure with respect to the diagonal right action of  $T$  on  $\widetilde{\mathcal{B}} \times \widetilde{\mathcal{B}}$ , so by abuse of notation we will consider  $IC_w^{\zeta, \zeta^{-1}}$  as an isomorphism class of irreducible objects of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . For a two-sided cell  $\underline{c} \in W_{\zeta}$  we define the categories  $\mathcal{M}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \subset \mathcal{M}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \subset \mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ,  $DM_{\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , etc. in an evident fashion.

We let  $\mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  (respectively,  $\mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ) be the Serre subcategory in  $\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  given by  $M \in \mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  (respectively,  $M \in \mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ) if  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}(M) \in \mathcal{HC}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  (respectively,  $\mathcal{HC}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ ); see section 3.1 for the definition of  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}$ . It is easy to show that the subcategories do not depend on the choice of a regular  $\lambda$  in a given coset of  $\Lambda$ .

We define  $D\mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \subset D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  as the full triangulated subcategory generated by  $\mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ , and similarly for  $\leq \underline{c}$ ; these are full triangulated subcategories in  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . In view of the tensor property of the functor  $\Gamma^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  (which follows from Lemma 2.1 applied to the action of  $G$  on itself by left translations)  $D\mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ ,  $D\mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  are tensor ideals in  $D\mathcal{CS}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

We denote by  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  (respectively,  $\widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ) the quotient category  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} / \widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{< \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  (respectively,  $\widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} / \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{< \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ). The functors  $\widehat{HC}$  and  $\widehat{CH}$  give rise to the same named functors  $\widehat{HC} : \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \widehat{DM}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ;  $\widehat{CH} : \widehat{DM}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ .

Recall the formula (3.2). For  $V \in \mathcal{HC}^{\lambda}$  we define  $L\text{Ind}(V) := \mathcal{D}_{\lambda+\Lambda}^L(G) \otimes_{U_{\lambda} \otimes U_{-\lambda-2\rho}} V$ . This gives rise to a functor  $L\text{Ind} : D\mathcal{HC}^{\lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  with a natural isomorphism of functors  $L\text{Ind} \circ R\Gamma^{\lambda, -\lambda-2\rho} \simeq \widehat{CH} : \widehat{DM}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ .

We have a natural isomorphism of functors  $R\Gamma^{\lambda, -\lambda-2\rho} \circ p^{\circ} \circ \widehat{HC} \simeq \Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -) : \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}^{\lambda}$ . The functors  $L\text{Ind}$  and  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -)$  preserve the filtrations by the cell subcategories and give rise to the same named functors  $L\text{Ind} : D\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ;  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -) : D\mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ . The functor  $L\text{Ind}$  is clearly right exact; we denote by  $\text{Ind} : \mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  its 0th cohomology sheaf.

We summarize the results of previous sections in the following

**Proposition 5.1.** *a) The functor  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -) : \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow D\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$  is exact, that is  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -)(\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}) \subset \mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ .*

*b) The functor  $\widehat{CH}[a_{\underline{c}}] : \widehat{DM}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \widehat{D\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  sends  $D^{\leq 0}\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  to  $D^{\leq 0}\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ , and for  $M \in \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ , the truncation  $\underline{H}^{a_{\underline{c}}}\widehat{CH}(M)$  is canonically isomorphic to  $\text{Ind}(R^{a_{\underline{c}}}\Gamma^{\lambda, -\lambda-2\rho}(M)) \bmod \widehat{HC}_{< \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ .*

*Proof.* a) is contained in Proposition 3.1.

Isomorphism (3.2) shows that  $\widehat{CH}(M) \cong L\text{Ind}(R\Gamma^{\lambda, -\lambda-2\rho}(M))$  for all  $M \in \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ . Assuming that  $M \in \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ , the image of  $R\Gamma^{\lambda, -\lambda-2\rho}(M)$  in the quotient category by smaller cells is concentrated in homological degree  $a_{\underline{c}}$  by Corollary 4.5.a. Thus statement (b) follows by right exactness of the induction functor.  $\square$

As follows from the discussion in 3.3 compared with Proposition 3.1(a), the functor  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(G, -) : \widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$  has a canonical central structure and gives rise to the functor  $\widehat{hc} : \widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda})$ .

**5.2. Semisimplified categories.** We denote by  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  the full subcategory of  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  formed by all the semisimple objects. We denote by  $\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda}$  (resp.  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ) the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$  (resp.  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ) formed by all the semisimple objects. The functor  $\widehat{CH}$  is defined as a pull-back under a smooth map followed by push-forward under a proper map (see section 2.5), thus Decomposition Theorem [3] shows that it sends semisimple objects to semisimple complexes. In particular, for  $M \in \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ , the truncation  $\underline{H}^{a_{\underline{c}}}\widehat{CH}(M)$  lies in  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ . Hence Proposition 5.1 implies that for  $V \in \mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda}$  the truncation  $\text{Ind}(V)$  lies in  $\widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ . We obtain the functor  $\text{Ind}_{\underline{c}} : \mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{CS}}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ . Recall that  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  is identified with a full subcategory of  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}^{\lambda+\Lambda, -\lambda+\Lambda}$ . It follows that

$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \simeq \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . Clearly, all the irreducibles in  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \simeq \mathcal{P}^{\zeta}$  lie in  $\mathcal{P}^{\zeta}$ . Since the convolution map for the flag variety is proper, the convolution of two simple objects in  $\mathcal{P}^{\zeta}$  is a direct sum of shifts of simple objects by Decomposition Theorem. Hence the *top cohomology sheaf* of the convolution of two simple objects of  $\mathcal{M}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is semisimple. It follows that the category  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}} \simeq \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}, -\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is monoidal with respect to the operation  $(M_1, M_2) \mapsto M_1 \bullet M_2$  (see Corollary 4.5.b); equivalently,  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  is monoidal with respect to the operation  $(V_1, V_2) \mapsto V_1 \otimes_U V_2$ . Both categories  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  and  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  are equivalent to the semisimple monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}$  of [7] §5.

Recall that a *commutator structure* on a functor  $F$  from a monoidal category  $\mathcal{A}$  to a category  $\mathcal{B}$  is an isomorphism  $F(MN) \cong F(NM)$  fixed for all  $M, N \in \mathcal{A}$  and satisfying the natural compatibilities, see [7]§6 for details.

**Lemma 5.2.** *The functors  $\text{Ind} : D^b(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\widehat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow D^b(\mathcal{C}\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}})$ ,  $\text{Ind}_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  carry a natural commutator structure.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.6 the functor  $\widehat{hc}$  is a central functor. Hence the adjoint functor  $\text{Ind}$  carries a commutator structure. In [7, Proposition 5] this implication is stated under stronger assumptions on the monoidal categories; however, it is also easy to show provided the target category of the central functor has a weak rigidity. The category of Harish-Chandra bimodules has a weak rigidity which sends a Harish-Chandra bimodule  $M$  to the sum of dual spaces to the isotypic components of the action of  $G$  on  $M$  (notice that if  $M$  is finitely generated and has a (generalized) central character then the isotypic components are finite dimensional.)

The commutator structure on  $\text{Ind}$  induces one on  $\text{Ind}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . □

Recall the following general statement. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a rigid semisimple monoidal category with a finite number of isomorphism classes of irreducible objects over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. Let  $F : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be the forgetful functor and let  $I : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  be its right adjoint (it exists since by [11, Theorem 2.15] the category  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  is semisimple with a finite number of isomorphism classes of irreducible objects). Then the functor  $I$  has a natural structure of a commutator functor and is universal among commutator functors, see [7, §6] and also Lemma 5.6 below.

Thus the commutator functor  $\text{Ind}_{\mathcal{C}}$  gives rise to a functor  $\mathfrak{A}_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ .

**Theorem 5.3.** *a) The functor  $\mathfrak{A}_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is an equivalence of categories.*

*b) The functor  $\mathfrak{A}_{\mathcal{C}}$  has a natural tensor structure, where  $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C},\text{ss}}^{\widehat{\lambda+\Lambda}}$  is equipped with the monoidal structure via the truncated convolution  $A \circ B := \underline{H}^0(A * B)$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{A}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a tensor equivalence.*

The Theorem will be proved in subsection 5.4.

The Theorem together with the results of [7] allows one to reprove the classification of irreducible character sheaves (in the particular case of characteristic zero ground field) obtained by Lusztig [23] in a totally different way, and also to get new information about convolution of character sheaves. To spell this out recall that the structure of

truncated convolution categories was described in [7]<sup>5</sup> following conjectures of Lusztig under the following technical assumption (see Conjecture 1 and Theorems 3,4 of *loc. cit.*).

(!) *Either  $G$  is of type  $A$ , or the centralizer of monodromy  $\zeta$  in the Langlands dual group  $\tilde{G}$  is connected (which is automatically true for the adjoint  $G$ ).*

For each two-sided cell  $\underline{c}$  Lusztig [22] defined a certain finite group  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  (this group is a quotient of the group of components of the centralizer of the corresponding special element).

Let us say that an equivalence  $F$  of braided categories  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  is a quasitensor equivalence if for every  $M, N \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}_1)$  there exists an isomorphism  $F(MN) \cong F(M)F(N)$  (the existence of a choice of the isomorphisms satisfying the natural compatibilities is not required).

**Corollary 5.4.** *a) Under the assumption (!), the set of isomorphism classes of irreducible objects in  $\mathcal{CS}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  is in a canonical bijection with the union over the two sided cells of  $W_{\zeta}$  of the sets of pairs  $\{(\gamma, \psi)\}/\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  where  $\gamma \in \mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  and  $\psi$  is an irreducible representation of the centralizer of  $\gamma$  in  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$ .*

*b) The category  $(\mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}, \circ)$  is canonically equivalent to the category  $Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}})$  of conjugation equivariant sheaves of finite dimensional vector spaces on  $X_{\underline{c}}$ . This equivalence has the structure of a quasitensor equivalence. If the cell  $\underline{c}$  is not exceptional,<sup>6</sup> it is moreover a tensor equivalence.*

*Proof.* We start with part (b).

In [7] we have shown, under the assumption (!), that for each 2-sided cell  $\underline{c}$  there exists a finite set  $X_{\underline{c}}$  equipped with a  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  action and an equivalence between the truncated convolution category  $\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\underline{c}}$  [7, §6] and the category  $Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}} \times X_{\underline{c}})$  of  $\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}$  equivariant sheaves of finite dimensional vector spaces on  $X_{\underline{c}}^2$ . Furthermore, the category  $Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}} \times X_{\underline{c}})$  carries a natural monoidal structure given by convolution (which is a categorical counterpart of the matrix multiplication). We let  $\star$  denote the natural tensor structure on  $Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}} \times X_{\underline{c}})$  with associativity isomorphism *twisted* by the  $\{\pm 1\}$  valued 3-cocycle appearing in [7, Proposition 4]; the twisting is only nontrivial for exceptional cells. The equivalence  $\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\underline{c}} \cong Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}} \times X_{\underline{c}})$  of [7] is monoidal with respect to the truncated convolution monoidal structure on the first category and  $\star$  product on the second one.

By Corollary 4.5.b) the truncated convolution category  $\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\underline{c}}$  is monoidally equivalent to  $\mathcal{HC}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda}$ . Thus Theorem 5.3 implies that  $(\mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda}, \circ)$  is tensor equivalent to the center of  $(Sh^{\mathcal{G}_{\underline{c}}}(X_{\underline{c}} \times X_{\underline{c}}), \star)$ .

By a result of [28], for a finite group  $\Gamma$  and a finite set  $X$  equipped with a  $\Gamma$  action, the center of the category  $Sh^{\Gamma}(X \times X)$  (equipped with its natural monoidal structure)

<sup>5</sup>A more conceptual approach to this description will be presented in a forthcoming paper [21]. There the finite set involved in Lusztig's conjectural description is interpreted as the set of finite dimensional modules over the finite  $W$ -algebra with a fixed central character, and the description of the truncated convolution category is derived from the action of the category of Harish-Chandra bimodules on the category of representations of the  $W$ -algebra.

<sup>6</sup>Recall that there are no exceptional cells unless  $G$  has a factor of type  $E_7$  or  $E_8$ . If  $W_{\zeta}$  is of type  $E_8$  there are two exceptional cells, and if it is of type  $E_7$  there is one such cell.

is canonically equivalent to the category of conjugation equivariant sheaves  $Sh^\Gamma(\Gamma)$  (in particular, it does not depend on  $X$ , this is a ‘‘categorification’’ of the fact that centers of Morita equivalent associative algebras are isomorphic; another application of this principle is in section 3.4 above). Thus statement (b) is proven for non-exceptional cells. For the monoidal category  $Sh^\Gamma(X \times X)$  with associativity constraint twisted by a 3-cocycle with values in  $\{\pm 1\}$ , the center is quasitensor equivalent to the category  $Sh^\Gamma(\Gamma)$ , see e.g. [10]. This proves statement (b) in the remaining cases.

Since irreducible objects in  $Sh^{\Gamma^\varepsilon}(\Gamma_\underline{c})$  are in bijection with pairs  $(\gamma \in \mathcal{G}_\underline{c}, \psi)$  as above, to prove (a) it remains to check that for each irreducible character sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  there exists a unique cell  $\underline{c}$  such that  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ ,  $\mathcal{F} \notin \mathcal{CS}_{< \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ .

Let  $M$  be an irreducible submodule in  $\Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F})$  and let  $\underline{c}$  be the cell of  $M$ . Then we have a nonzero map  $\text{Ind}_{U \otimes U}^{\mathcal{D}(G)}(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  which is surjective since  $\mathcal{F}$  is irreducible. Thus  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$ . On the other hand  $\mathcal{F} \notin \mathcal{CS}_{< \underline{c}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}$  since  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{< \underline{c}}^\lambda \not\cong M \subset \Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F})$ .  $\square$

**5.3. Semi-simplicity of the reduced cell category.** Recall the irreducible  $U$ -modules  $L_w^\lambda$  introduced in 4.3. Let  $\mathfrak{I}_\underline{c} = \bigcap_{w \in \underline{c}} \text{Ann}(L_w^\lambda)$  be the intersection of primitive ideals attached to the cell  $\underline{c}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\leq \underline{c}, \text{red}}^\lambda \subset \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\leq \underline{c}}^\lambda$  be the full subcategory of bimodules whose left and right annihilators contain  $\mathfrak{I}_\underline{c}$ .

The following claim follows from [20, Corollary 1.3.3].

**Proposition 5.5.** *The image of the projection functor  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\leq \underline{c}, \text{red}}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_\underline{c}^\lambda$  consists of semi-simple objects.*

**5.4. Proof of Theorem 5.3.** We construct the functor in the opposite direction  $\mathfrak{B}_\underline{c} : \mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda} \rightarrow \mathfrak{Z}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^\lambda)$ .

Let  $I_\underline{c}$  be the unit object in  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^\lambda$ ; recall that it can be described as the sum of quotients of  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  by the primitive ideals belonging to the cell, or as the sum of irreducible objects corresponding to Duflo (distinguished) involutions in the cell [24].

We set  $\mathfrak{B}_\underline{c}(\mathcal{F}) = \Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F}) * I_\underline{c} \text{ mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{< \underline{c}}^\lambda$ .

By centrality of  $\widehat{HC}(\mathcal{F})$  we have  $\Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F}) * I_\underline{c} \cong I_\underline{c} * \Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F})$ , thus this module is annihilated by  $\mathfrak{I}_\underline{c}$  both on the left and on the right. Thus by Proposition 5.5 the object  $\mathfrak{B}_\underline{c}(\mathcal{F})$  is semi-simple.

The central structure of  $\Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F})$  induces a central structure on  $\mathfrak{B}_\underline{c}(\mathcal{F})$  via the isomorphisms

$$L * \mathfrak{B}_\underline{c}(\mathcal{F}) \cong L * \Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F}) \text{ mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{< \underline{c}}^\lambda \cong \Gamma^\lambda(G, \mathcal{F}) * L \text{ mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{< \underline{c}}^\lambda \cong \mathfrak{B}_\underline{c}(\mathcal{F}) * L.$$

Here  $*$  stands for tensor product in  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_\underline{c}^\lambda$  and  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^\lambda$ .

We proceed to check that

$$(5.1) \quad \mathfrak{B}_\underline{c} \circ \mathfrak{A}_\underline{c} \cong \text{Id}_{\mathfrak{Z}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^\lambda)}.$$

Recall the following general statement.

**Lemma 5.6.** (see [11, Proposition 5.4]) *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a semisimple rigid monoidal category with a finite number of isomorphism classes of irreducible objects. Let  $L_i$  be a set of representatives for isomorphism classes of irreducible objects. Let  $F : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be the forgetful functor, and  $I : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be its right adjoint.*

*Then the functor  $F \circ I : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is naturally isomorphic to the functor  $Av : M \mapsto \bigoplus_i L_i M L_i^*$ . In particular*

*a) For  $M \in \mathcal{A}$  the object  $\bigoplus_i L_i M L_i^*$  has a natural structure of a central object.*

*b) The functor  $Av : M \mapsto \bigoplus_i L_i M L_i^*$  is a commutator functor  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$ .*

*c) Moreover,  $Av$  is a universal commutator functor from  $\mathcal{A}$ , i.e. for an additive category  $\mathcal{B}$  the category of functors  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is equivalent to the category of commutator functors  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ , where the equivalence sends  $\phi$  to  $\phi \circ Av$ .*

It will be convenient to restate Lemma 5.6 in more functorial terms.

For a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  we can form a new abelian category  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$ . The bilinear functor from  $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}^{op} \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $(M, N) \mapsto F_{M,N} : X \mapsto \text{Hom}(N, X) \otimes M$  induces a functor  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op} \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{A})$ ; here  $\text{End}(\mathcal{A})$  denotes the category of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear functors from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is semisimple with a finite number of irreducible objects, the functor  $\Phi$  is easily seen to be an equivalence. Let  $R_{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$  be defined by  $R_{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi^{-1}(Id_{\mathcal{A}})$ .

Furthermore, a monoidal structure on  $\mathcal{A}$  induces a monoidal structure on  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$ , and, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is rigid, we have a “regular bimodule” action  $\rho$  of  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\rho(M \boxtimes N)(X) = M \otimes X \otimes N^*$  (where we used rigidity to identify  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{op}$ ).

Also, there are two actions  $\alpha_1, \alpha_4$  of the monoidal category  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$  characterized by  $\Phi(\alpha_1(M)(B)) = L(M) \circ \Phi(B)$ ,  $\Phi(\alpha_4(M)(B)) = \Phi(B) \circ R(M)$  where  $L(M), R(M)$  denote left and right multiplication by  $M$  in the monoidal category  $\mathcal{A}$ . Likewise, there are two actions of  $\mathcal{A}^{op}$  on  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A}^{op}$  characterized by  $\Phi(\alpha_2(M)(B)) = \Phi(B) \circ L(M^*)$ ,  $\Phi(\alpha_3(M)(B)) = R(M^*) \circ \Phi(B)$ .

The tautological isomorphisms  $L(M) \circ Id \cong Id \circ L(M)$  induce an isomorphism  $\alpha_1(M)(R_{\mathcal{A}}) \cong \alpha_4(M)(R_{\mathcal{A}})$  for any  $M \in \mathcal{A}$ , which yields a central structure on the functor  $\rho(R_{\mathcal{A}}) : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . Likewise, the isomorphism  $R(M) \circ Id \cong Id \circ R(M)$  yields a commutator structure on  $\rho(R_{\mathcal{A}})$ .

Lemma 5.6 can now be reformulated as follows

**Lemma 5.7.** *In notations and assumptions of Lemma 5.6, we have an isomorphism of functors  $F \circ I \cong \rho(R_{\mathcal{A}})$  compatible with the commutator and the central structures.*

*Also,  $\rho(R_{\mathcal{A}})$  is the universal commutator functor from  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

We now return to the case  $\mathcal{A} = \widehat{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{C}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}}$ . In view of Lemma 5.7 verification of (5.1) reduces to construction of an isomorphism of endo-functors of  $\widehat{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{C}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}}$

$$(5.2) \quad \mathfrak{B}_{\mathbb{C}} \circ \mathfrak{A}_{\mathbb{C}} \cong \rho(R_{\widehat{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{C}, \text{ss}}^{\lambda+\Lambda}}})$$

compatible with the central and the commutator structures. (Recall that we abuse notation by denoting a functor to the center of a category and its composition with the forgetful functor in the same way).

It is easy to see that  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{A}^{op}$  is identified with  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c} \times \underline{c}, ss}^{(\lambda, \lambda) + \Lambda^2}$ , the semi-simple cell subquotient category in Harish-Chandra bimodules for the group  $G \times G$ . The functor  $\Phi$  is given by  $\Phi(B)(M) = B \otimes_{U_3 \otimes U_4} M \bmod \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$ , while the action  $\rho$  is given by  $\rho(B)(M) = B \otimes_{U_2 \otimes U_3} M$  in the self-explanatory notation.

Thus (5.2) would follow if we show that  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}} \circ \mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}} : M \mapsto R \otimes_{U_2 \otimes U_3} M \bmod \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$  for some quadro-module  $R_{\underline{c}}$  such that  $R_{\underline{c}} \otimes_{U_3 \otimes U_4} M \cong M$  for any  $M \in \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$ ; moreover, the central and the commutator structure on  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}} \circ \mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  should be compatible with the one coming from the last isomorphism.

Recall that  $\mathfrak{B} \circ \mathfrak{A} : M \mapsto \mathcal{D}(G) \otimes_{U \otimes U} M$ , where we use that  $\mathcal{D}(G)$  carries two commuting structures of a Harish-Chandra bimodule coming respectively from the right and left invariant vector fields (both copies of  $\mathfrak{g}$  in  $\mathcal{D}(G)$  yield a Harish-Chandra bimodule structure given by  $x \otimes y : d \mapsto xdy$ ,  $x, y \in \mathfrak{g}$ ,  $d \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ ).

Notice that the formula  $\mathcal{D}(G) = \bigoplus_V V \otimes U(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes V^*$ , where  $V$  runs over irreducible representations of  $G$  yields a functorial isomorphism

$$(5.3) \quad \mathcal{D}(G) \otimes_{U \otimes U} M \cong M.$$

Thus the quotient  $\mathcal{D}(G)_{\leq \underline{c}} := \mathcal{D}(G) \otimes_{U \otimes U} (U/\mathfrak{I}_{\underline{c}})^{\otimes 4}$  satisfies  $\mathcal{D}(G)_{\leq \underline{c}} \otimes_{U \otimes U} M \cong M$  for any  $M$  annihilated by  $\mathfrak{I}_{\underline{c}}$ . It follows that the object  $R_{\underline{c}} := \mathcal{D}(G)_{\leq \underline{c}} \bmod \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c} \times \underline{c}}^{(\lambda, \lambda) + \Lambda^2}$  satisfies the characterizing property of  $R_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}}$ . It is not hard to check that the centrality and the commutator structure on  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}} \circ \mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  are compatible with those coming from the isomorphism of functors  $R_{\underline{c}} \otimes_{U_3 \otimes U_4} - \cong Id_{\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}}$ . This proves (5.2), and hence (5.1).

We also claim that the functor  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  is semi-simple, while  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$  is conservative (i.e. it kills no objects). Semisimplicity of  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  follows from Decomposition Theorem, since  $\widehat{HC}$  is a composition of smooth pull-back and proper push-forward (see 2.5). Conservativity of  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$  comes from the following observation: the definition of cells in character sheaves (see 5.1) easily implies that for  $M \in \mathcal{CS}_{\leq \underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$ ,  $M \notin \mathcal{CS}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$  there exists a surjection in  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\lambda} / \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda} : \Gamma^{\lambda}(M) \rightarrow L$  for some irreducible Harish-Chandra bimodule  $L$  belonging to  $\underline{c}$ . Since  $L$  is annihilated (say, on the right) by  $\mathfrak{I}_{\underline{c}}$ , we see that  $L \otimes_{U \otimes U} I_{\underline{c}} = L$ , so  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(M) \otimes_{U \otimes U} I_{\underline{c}}$  surjects to  $L = L \otimes_{U \otimes U} I_{\underline{c}}$  in  $\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\lambda} / \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ , in particular  $\Gamma^{\lambda}(M) \otimes_{U \otimes U} I_{\underline{c}} \neq 0 \bmod \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\lambda}$ .

These properties of  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$  together with (5.1) imply that  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  sends irreducible objects to irreducible ones and induces an injective map between the sets of isomorphism classes of semi-simple objects. To show that this map is surjective assume, on the contrary, that an irreducible object  $L \in \mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}}^{\lambda + \Lambda}$  does not lie in the image of  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$ . Then  $Hom(\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}(Z), L) = 0$  for any  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{\underline{c}, ss}^{\lambda})$ . It is easy to see that  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  is left adjoint to  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$ , thus we have  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}(L) = 0$ . This contradicts conservativity of  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$ .

Thus we have proven Theorem 5.3(a). It remains to equip the equivalence  $\mathfrak{A}_{\underline{c}}$  (equivalently,  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$ ) with a tensor structure. The functor  $\widehat{HC} : D\mathcal{CS}^{\lambda + \Lambda} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\lambda})$  is

monoidal. The object  $I_{\underline{c}}$  satisfies

$$I_{\underline{c}} \otimes_U^L I_{\underline{c}} \cong I_{\underline{c}} \oplus R \quad \text{mod } D\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\hat{\lambda}}$$

where  $R \in D^{<0}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}})$ , this is so since the convolution of semi-simple objects is a semi-simple complex and  $I_{\underline{c}}$  is a unit object with respect to truncated convolution on the cell subquotient category.

So for  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G} \in \mathcal{CS}_{\underline{c}, \text{ss}}^{\hat{\lambda}+\hat{\Lambda}}$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}(\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{G}) &\cong \widehat{HC}(H^0(\mathcal{F} * \mathcal{G})) \otimes_U^L I_{\underline{c}} \quad \text{mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\hat{\lambda}} \cong H^0(\mathcal{F} * \mathcal{G} * I_{\underline{c}}) \quad \text{mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\hat{\lambda}} \cong \\ &H^0(H^0(\mathcal{F} * I_{\underline{c}}) \otimes_U^L H^0(\mathcal{G} * I_{\underline{c}})) \quad \text{mod } \mathcal{H}\mathcal{C}_{<\underline{c}}^{\hat{\lambda}} \cong \mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}(\mathcal{F}) \otimes_U \mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}(\mathcal{G}). \end{aligned}$$

This endows  $\mathfrak{B}_{\underline{c}}$  with a monoidal structure thereby completing the proof of Theorem 5.3.

## 6. SPECIALIZATION OF CHARACTER SHEAVES

In this section we sketch a proof that the exact functor of Corollary 3.4 can be described as Verdier specialization in the De Concini – Procesi compactification (in particular, it commutes with Verdier duality).

Let  $G^{ad}$  denote the quotient of  $G$  by its center and  $T^{ad}$  its maximal torus. Set  $\mathcal{X}^{ad} := (G^{ad}/N^+ \times G^{ad}/N^-)/T$ , let  $\pi : G \rightarrow G^{ad}$ ,  $\pi^{\mathcal{X}} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^{ad}$  denote the projections.

Let  $\overline{G}^{ad}$  denote De Concini – Procesi compactification of  $G^{ad}$  [9], see also exposition in [12]; let  $j : G^{ad} \hookrightarrow \overline{G}^{ad}$  be the embedding. The complement  $Z = \overline{G}^{ad} \setminus G^{ad}$  is a divisor with normal crossing. The closed stratum (intersection of the components) in  $Z$  is identified with  $\mathbb{B}^2$  and the complement in the total space of the normal bundle  $N_{\mathbb{B}^2}(\overline{G}^{ad})$  to the normal cone  $N_{\mathbb{B}^2}(Z)$  is identified with  $\mathcal{X}^{ad}$ .

We have the Verdier specialization functor  $Sp : \mathcal{D}\text{-mod}_{rs}(\overline{G}^{ad}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}\text{-mod}(N_{\mathbb{B}^2}(\overline{G}^{ad}))$ . It induces a functor  $Sp^o : \mathcal{D}\text{-mod}_{rs}(G^{ad}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}\text{-mod}(\mathcal{X}^{ad})$ . Here the subscript "rs" refers to the category of holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules with regular singularities.

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $M$  be a holonomic  $D$ -module with regular singularities on  $G^{ad}$  such that the action of the center  $Z(U(\mathfrak{g}))$  coming from the action of  $G^{ad}$  on itself by left translations is locally finite. Then the  $D$ -module  $Sp(j_*M)$  is  $T^{ad}$ -monodromic and for a dominant weight  $\lambda$  we have a canonical isomorphism:*

$$\Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(Sp^o(M)) \cong \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(M).$$

**Corollary 6.2.** *For a character sheaf  $A$  on  $G$  we have a canonical isomorphism*

$$Sp^o(\pi_*A) \cong \pi_*^{\mathcal{X}} \mathbf{I}_{w_0} \circ \widehat{HC}(A).$$

*Proof of Corollary.* The isomorphism is immediate from Theorem 6.1 and Proposition 3.1.  $\square$

*Proof of the Theorem.* Let  $\mathcal{J}$  be the ideal sheaf of  $\mathcal{B}^2 \subset \overline{G}^{ad}$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{J}} \subset \mathcal{D}$  be the subsheaf of differential operators preserving each power  $\mathcal{J}^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . The associated graded sheaf  $\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{\mathcal{J}}$  acts faithfully on  $\oplus \mathcal{J}^n / \mathcal{J}^{n+1}$ .

The set of components of  $Z$  is in a canonical bijection with the set  $I$  of vertices of the Dynkin diagram of  $G$ . For  $i \in I$  let  $Z_i$  be the corresponding component and  $\alpha_i$  the corresponding simple root,  $\check{\alpha}_i$  be the simple coroot. Since  $Z_i$  are smooth divisors and  $\mathcal{B}^2$  is their transversal intersection, the conormal bundle  $\mathcal{J}/\mathcal{J}^2$  is decomposed as a direct sum of line subbundles indexed by  $I$ . We have a canonical embedding  $e : \mathfrak{t} \rightarrow \Gamma(\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{\mathcal{J}})$  such that  $x \in \mathfrak{t}$  acts on the  $i$ -th line subbundle by  $\alpha_i(x)$ ; we will use the same notation for the induced map  $\text{Sym}(\mathfrak{t}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{\mathcal{J}})$ . Let  $E = e(\check{\rho})$  be the Euler vector field.

It is known that a nonzero function  $f \in V_{\lambda} \otimes V_{\lambda}^* \subset \mathcal{O}(G^{ad})$  has a pole of order  $\lambda(\check{\alpha}_i)$  along the divisor  $Z_i$ . Hence we have

$$(6.1) \quad e|_{\text{Sym}(\mathfrak{t})^W} = \overline{hc},$$

where  $\overline{hc} : \text{Sym}(\mathfrak{t})^W = Z(U(\mathfrak{g})) \rightarrow \Gamma(\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{\mathcal{J}})$  comes from the (left) action of  $G$  on  $\overline{G}^{ad}$ .

Recall that the specialization of a  $\mathcal{D}$ -module is defined as the associated graded of the Malgrange-Kashiwara  $V$ -filtration [18]. By the definition, each term of the  $V$ -filtration is invariant with respect to  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{J}}$  and the action of the Euler vector field  $E$  on  $gr^d(V^{\bullet})$  is finite with all eigenvalues in  $S + d$  where  $S \subset \mathbb{C}$  is a fixed set of representatives for the cosets  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

Thus (6.1) shows that for  $M$  as in the Theorem the action of  $\mathfrak{t}$  on  $gr(\mathbf{V}^{\bullet}(j_*(M)))$  is locally finite. Hence  $Sp(M)$  is a  $T^{ad}$ -monodromic (weakly equivariant)  $\mathcal{D}$ -module.

Furthermore, it follows that the filtration on  $\Gamma(M) = \Gamma(j_*(M))$  induced by the  $V$ -filtration is given by

$$\mathbf{V}^i(\Gamma(M)) = \bigoplus_{\lambda|\lambda(\check{\rho}) \in S+d, d < -i} \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(M).$$

Thus we see that

$$\Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(Sp(j_*(M))) = \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(gr(\mathbf{V}^{\bullet}(M))) \subset gr(\mathbf{V}^{\bullet}\Gamma(j_*(M)))^{\hat{\lambda}} = \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(M),$$

i.e. we get a canonical injective map  $i_{\lambda}$  from the right hand side to the left hand side of the desired isomorphism.

To check that this map induces an isomorphism for dominant  $\lambda$  consider a surjective map of quasicoherent sheaves on  $\overline{G}$ :  $s_{\lambda} : (j_*M)^{\leq \lambda} \rightarrow gr \mathbf{V}(j_*M)^{\hat{\lambda}}$ . Here  $gr \mathbf{V}(j_*M)^{\hat{\lambda}}$  is the sheaf supported on  $\mathcal{B}^2$  which is the maximal direct summand in  $gr^i \mathbf{V}(j_*M)$  where  $\mathfrak{t}$  acts by generalized character  $\lambda$ ; here  $i$  is such that  $\lambda(\check{\rho}) \in i + S$ . The sheaf  $(j_*M)^{\leq \lambda}$  is the preimage of  $gr \mathbf{V}(j_*M)^{\hat{\lambda}}$  under the map  $\mathbf{V}^i(j_*M) \rightarrow gr^i \mathbf{V}(j_*M)$ .

For an element  $\nu = \sum n_i \alpha_i$  in the root lattice let  $Z^{\nu}$  denote the divisor  $\sum n_i Z_i$  on  $\overline{G}$ . It is known that  $\mathcal{O}(Z^{\nu})|_{\mathcal{B}^2} \cong \mathcal{O}(\nu, \nu)$ . The line bundle  $\mathcal{O}(Z^{\nu})$  is ample provided that the weight  $\nu$  is dominant. It follows from the definitions that for  $\mu = \lambda + \nu$  with  $\nu$  in the root lattice, the map  $s_{\mu}$  is obtained from  $s_{\lambda}$  by twisting with  $\mathcal{O}(Z^{\nu})$ .

Take  $\sigma \in \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(Sp(j_*M)) = \Gamma(gr \mathbf{V}(j_*M)^{\hat{\lambda}})$ . For  $\nu$  positive enough the sections of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{B}^2}(\nu, \nu) \subset gr \mathbf{V}(j_*M)^{\lambda+\nu}$  (where the embedding comes from  $\sigma$ ) lie in the image of  $\Gamma(s_{\lambda+\nu})$ . However, the image of  $\Gamma(s_{\lambda})$  coincides with the image of  $i_{\lambda}$ . One can show

that for dominant weights  $\lambda, \mu$  with  $\lambda - \mu$  in the root lattice, the  $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}$  module  $\Gamma^{\hat{\mu}}(M)$  is obtained  $\Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(M)$  by translation functor. It follows that the maps  $i_{\lambda}$ , for various  $\lambda$ , come from a fixed map of  $T^{ad}$ -monodromic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules on  $\mathcal{X}$ . Thus Localization Theorem implies that  $\sigma$  is in the image of  $i_{\lambda}$ .

We have checked that  $\Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(M) \cong \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(Sp(j_*M))$ . However, it is not hard to deduce from Kashiwara Lemma that for a  $T^{ad}$ -monodromic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $N$  on  $N_{\mathbb{B}^2}(\overline{G})$  and a dominant weight  $\lambda$  we have  $\Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(N) = \Gamma^{\hat{\lambda}}(N|_{\mathcal{X}^{ad}})$ .  $\square$

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