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## **ON WITT'S THEOREM FOR UNIMODULAR QUADRATIC FORMS. II**

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## ON WITT'S THEOREM FOR UNIMODULAR QUADRATIC FORMS, II

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**An integral generalization of Witt's theorem for unimodular quadratic forms over the ring of integers in a local field is established.**

1. In the first part of this paper [1] we established a Witt theorem for unimodular quadratic forms over the rational integers, provided the signature of the form was sufficiently small. We shall now use these methods to obtain a similar theorem for arbitrary unimodular quadratic forms over the ring of integers in a local field in which 2 is a prime. These theorems are important because they enable us to determine the essentially distinct representations of a quadratic form by a unimodular form. We hope to expand on this in a later paper.

Let  $F$  be a local field in which 2 is a prime,  $\mathfrak{o}$  the ring of integers in  $F$  and  $u$  the group of units in  $\mathfrak{o}$ . We need only assume that the residue class field  $\mathfrak{o}/2\mathfrak{o}$  is perfect. We preserve as much of the notation in [1] as possible, but now the underlying ring will be  $\mathfrak{o}$  and not the rational integers  $Z$ . Thus  $L$  will be a free  $\mathfrak{o}$ -module of finite rank, endowed with a bilinear symmetric unimodular form  $\Phi: L \times L \rightarrow \mathfrak{o}$ . We denote  $\Phi(\alpha, \beta)$  by  $\alpha \cdot \beta$ . Details on the structure of  $L$  are contained in O'Meara [2, 3]. We recall that  $L$  is *improper* if  $\alpha^2 \in 2\mathfrak{o}$  for all  $\alpha \in L$ ; otherwise  $L$  is *proper*.

A vector  $\alpha \in L$  is called *primitive* if  $\alpha = 2\beta$ , with  $\beta \in L$ , is impossible. As in Wall [5] and our earlier paper [1], the crucial concept is that of a characteristic vector. We only define these when  $L$  is a proper lattice; in this case  $L$  has an orthogonal basis, that is  $L = \langle \xi_1 \rangle \oplus \cdots \oplus \langle \xi_n \rangle$ . A vector  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \xi_i \in L$  is called *characteristic* if its orthogonal complement  $\langle \alpha \rangle^\perp$  contains no vectors of unit norm. If  $\alpha$  is primitive, this is equivalent to

$$a_i^2 \xi_i^2 \equiv a_j^2 \xi_j^2 \pmod{2}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

Hence, in particular,  $a_i \in u$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and this reduces to the definition in [1]. If  $\alpha$  is a primitive characteristic vector, we define  $T(\alpha) \in \mathfrak{o}/2\mathfrak{o}$  by  $T(\alpha) \equiv a_i^2 \xi_i^2 \pmod{2}$ . This definition is independent of the basis of  $L$  (see also Trojan [4]). If  $\langle \alpha \rangle^\perp$  is proper, or if  $L$  is improper, we define  $T(\alpha) = 0$ ; also let  $T(2^s \alpha) = T(\alpha)$  for  $s \geq 0$ . We shall prove the following.

**THEOREM.** *Let  $\varphi: J \rightarrow K$  be an isometry between the primitive*

sublattices  $J$  and  $K$  of  $L$ . Then  $\varphi$  extends to an isometry of  $L$  if and only if  $T(\alpha) = T(\varphi(\alpha))$  for all  $\alpha \in J$ .

When the rank of  $J$  is 1, this is the same as Theorem 2.1 of Trojan [4]. We shall recover this as a special case. For local fields in which 2 is a unit the theorem remains true, but there is no need to consider characteristic vectors. Essentially the following proof of the theorem goes through in a much simpler manner.

2. We first reduce to the case where  $L$  has maximal Witt index (that is, the space  $FL$  is an orthogonal sum of hyperbolic planes). We adjoin a unimodular lattice  $U$  to  $L$  so that  $L' = L \oplus U$  has maximal Witt index. Thus, if  $L = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_m \oplus \langle \xi_1 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \xi_s \rangle$  where  $H_1, \dots, H_m$  are hyperbolic planes, we take  $U = \langle \zeta_1 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \zeta_s \rangle$  where  $\zeta_i^2 = -\xi_i^2$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . Let  $J' = J \oplus U$ ,  $K' = K \oplus U$  and extend  $\varphi$  to  $J'$  by defining  $\varphi(\zeta_i) = \zeta_i$ . A similar extension is done if  $L$  is improper, but now  $U$  may be taken as an improper lattice (see the classification of unimodular lattices in O'Meara [3, p. 852]). We observe that  $T(\alpha) = T(\varphi(\alpha))$  for all  $\alpha \in J'$ . If  $L'$  is improper, this is trivial. If  $L$  is proper (and  $U \neq \{0\}$ ), then no vector  $\alpha \in J$  will be characteristic in  $L'$ . However, new characteristic vectors may be created. Thus, if  $\alpha \in J$  is characteristic in  $L$ , and  $T(\alpha) \equiv a \pmod{2}$  where  $a \in \mathfrak{u}$ , then  $\alpha' = \alpha + \sum_{i=1}^s u_i \zeta_i$  is characteristic in  $L'$  if  $u_i \in \mathfrak{u}$  are chosen such that  $u_i^2 \zeta_i^2 \equiv a \pmod{2}$ . Clearly  $T(\alpha') = T(\varphi(\alpha'))$ . If we prove the theorem for lattices of maximal Witt index, it holds for  $L'$ , and restricting the extension of  $\varphi$  back to  $L$  gives the general result.

We may now assume that  $L$  has the form

$$L = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_m \oplus B$$

where  $H_i = \langle \lambda_i, \mu_i \rangle$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , are hyperbolic planes, and  $B = \langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  where  $\xi^2 = d$ ,  $\xi \cdot \rho = 1$  and  $\rho^2 = 0$ . If  $L$  is improper, we may take  $d = 0$ ; otherwise  $d \in \mathfrak{u}$ .

3. The proof will be by induction on the rank  $r(J)$  of  $J$ . We consider now  $r(J) = 1$ . Let  $J = \langle \alpha \rangle$  and  $\varphi(\alpha) = \beta \in K$ . Let

$$(1) \quad \alpha = \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i \lambda_i + b_i \mu_i) + u \xi + v \rho.$$

Case 1. If  $\alpha^2 \in \mathfrak{u}$ , then  $u$  (and  $d$ ) are units. Apply the isometry

$$\theta_1: \langle \lambda_i, \mu_i \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho \rangle \rightarrow \langle \lambda_i, \mu_i + x \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \xi - x \lambda_i, \rho \rangle$$

where  $x = a_i/u \in \mathfrak{o}$ . Then

$$\theta_1(a_i\lambda_i + b_i\mu_i + u\xi + v\rho) = b_i\mu_i + u\xi + (v + xb_i)\rho.$$

After applying a succession of such isometries we may assume  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i\mu_i + u\xi + v\rho$ . Then

$$L = \langle \alpha, \rho \rangle \oplus \langle u\lambda_1 - b_1\rho, \mu_1 \rangle \oplus \cdots \oplus \langle u\lambda_m - b_m\rho, \mu_m \rangle$$

and each  $\langle u\lambda_i - b_i\rho, \mu_i \rangle$  is a hyperbolic plane. Doing the same for  $\beta$ , and cancelling hyperbolic planes ([2, 93:14]), we may reduce to the case  $L = \langle \alpha \rangle \oplus \langle \alpha_i \rangle = \langle \beta \rangle \oplus \langle \beta_i \rangle$ , where the result is obvious by considering the determinant of  $L$ .

*Case 2.* Now suppose  $\alpha^2 \notin u$ , but that at least one of  $a_i, b_i, 1 \leq i \leq m$ , is a unit, say  $a_1 \in u$ . Then

$$(2) \quad L = \langle \alpha, \mu_1 \rangle \oplus U$$

with  $\langle \alpha, \mu_1 \rangle$  a hyperbolic plane. If we can also obtain

$$(3) \quad L = \langle \beta, \mu \rangle \oplus V$$

with  $\langle \beta, \mu \rangle$  a hyperbolic plane, then  $U \cong V$ , and we are reduced to considering  $\alpha, \beta \in H = \langle \lambda, \mu \rangle$ . Write  $\alpha = a\lambda + b\mu, \beta = a'\lambda + b'\mu$ , where without loss of generality we can take  $a, a' \in u$ .  $\alpha^2 = \beta^2$  implies  $ab = a'b'$ . Apply  $\langle \lambda, \mu \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'/a\lambda, a/a'\mu \rangle$ , to complete the proof.

If  $L$  is improper, (3) is clear. If  $L$  is proper, (2) shows that  $\alpha$  and hence  $\beta$  are not characteristic vectors. But if all the coefficients of  $\lambda_i$  and  $\mu_i$  in  $\beta$  are in  $2\mathfrak{o}$ ,  $\beta$  would be characteristic (see Case 3). Hence we can obtain the splitting (3).

*Case 3.* Finally suppose  $\alpha^2 \in u$  and all  $a_i, b_i$  in (1) are nonunits. We may assume  $L$  is proper,  $u \in \mathfrak{u}$  and  $v \in \mathfrak{u}$ .

$$\langle \lambda_i, \mu_i \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho \rangle \rightarrow \langle \lambda_i, \mu_i - 2x(\xi - d\rho) + 2dx^2\lambda_i \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho + 2x\lambda_i \rangle$$

can be used to reduce each coefficient  $a_i$  of  $\lambda_i$  in (1) to zero. Then

$$L = \langle \alpha, \xi \rangle \oplus \langle b_1(\xi - d\rho) - v\lambda_1, \mu_1, \dots, b_m(\xi - d\rho) - v\lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle.$$

Since  $\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle$  is now isotropic and  $\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle^\perp$  is improper, it follows that  $\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle^\perp$  is an orthogonal sum of hyperbolic planes.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are now characteristic. We therefore have a similar splitting  $L = \langle \beta, \xi \rangle \oplus U$ , with  $U$  a sum of hyperbolic planes. Thus we may reduce to the case  $L = \langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  with  $\alpha = 2u\xi + v\rho$  and  $\beta = 2u_1\xi + v_1\rho$ .  $T(\alpha) = T(\beta)$  implies  $v \equiv v_1 \pmod{2}$ . If  $u_1/u \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , put  $c = u_1/u \in \mathfrak{u}$  and apply

$$\langle \xi, \rho \rangle \rightarrow \langle c\xi + \frac{1}{2}c^{-1}d(1 - c^2)\rho, c^{-1}\rho \rangle,$$

sending  $\alpha$  into  $\beta$ . If  $du_1/(du + v) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , put  $c = du_1/(du + v)$

and apply  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle \rightarrow \langle c\xi + \frac{1}{2}dc^{-1}(1 - c^2)\rho, 2cd^{-1}\xi - c\rho \rangle$ , sending  $\alpha$  into  $\beta$ . Since  $\alpha^2 = \beta^2$ , we have  $u^2d + uv = u^2d + u_1v_1$ , from which it follows that one of these two cases must occur. This completes the proof for  $r(J) = 1$ .

4. Using methods similar to those in [1], we now obtain canonical embeddings of an image of  $J$  in  $L$ . We only elaborate on the details that are substantially different. We assume  $2r(J) \geq r(L)$ ; if  $2r(J) < r(L)$  it is clear how to modify the arguments that follow.

Let  $J = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s \rangle$  where, by eliminating the coefficients of  $\xi$  and  $\rho$ , we may assume  $\alpha_i^2 = 2c_i$  with  $c_i \in \mathfrak{o}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , and none of the  $\alpha_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ , are characteristic vectors. As in [1], we may apply isometries to  $L$ , and again writing the image of  $J$  as

$$J = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s \rangle,$$

obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \lambda_1 + c_1\mu_1 \\ &\quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \\ \alpha_{m-1} &= a_{m-1,1}\mu_1 + \dots + a_{m-1,m-2}\mu_{m-2} + \lambda_{m-1} + c_{m-1}\mu_{m-1} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha_i \cdot \alpha_j = a_{ij}$  for  $i > j$ . Eliminating the coefficients of  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{m-1}$  we may assume

$$(4) \quad \alpha_m = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{mi}\mu_i + \zeta$$

where  $\zeta \in H_m \oplus B$ . If  $\zeta$  is not primitive, at least one  $a_{mi}$  is a unit, say  $a_{mk} \in \mathfrak{u}$ . We now apply the isometry

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_2: \langle \lambda_k, \mu_k \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_{k+1}, \mu_{k+1} \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \lambda_{m-1}, \mu_{m-1} \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho \rangle \rightarrow \\ \langle \lambda_k + c_k\rho, \mu_k - \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_{k+1} + a_{k+1,k}\rho, \mu_{k+1} \rangle \oplus \dots \\ \oplus \langle \lambda_{m-1} + a_{m-1,k}\rho, \mu_{m-1} \rangle \oplus \langle \xi - c_k\mu_k + \lambda_k - a_{k+1,k}\mu_{k+1} \\ - \dots - a_{m-1,k}\mu_{m-1} + c_k\rho, \rho \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

This leaves fixed each  $\alpha_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ , but

$$\theta_2(\alpha_m) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{mi}\mu_i - a_{mk}\rho + \theta_2(\zeta).$$

Use the  $\alpha_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ , to eliminate any  $\lambda_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ , occurring in  $\theta_2(\alpha_m)$  and obtain a new vector of the form (4), but now  $\zeta$  is primitive.

There are now two cases to consider.

*Case 1.*  $\alpha_m$  not characteristic and  $\alpha_m^2 \in \mathfrak{o}$ . It is possible that  $\zeta$

is characteristic in  $H_m \oplus B$ . If this is the case, at least one  $\alpha_{m_i}$  is a unit, and another isometry of the form  $\theta_2$ , but with  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  replaced by  $\langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle$ , will introduce a term  $\alpha_{m_i} \mu_m$  into  $\zeta$ . We may therefore assume  $\zeta$  is not characteristic, and  $\alpha_m$  has the form

$$\alpha_m = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{m_i} \mu_i + \lambda_m + c_m \mu_m$$

(after applying an isometry to  $H_m \oplus B$ ). We may now take

$$\alpha_{m+1} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{m+1_i} \mu_i + u \xi + v \rho .$$

As above (with  $\zeta$ ), we may arrange that  $u \xi + v \rho$  is primitive. First, assume that  $u$  is a unit. Then, changing the basis of  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  to  $\langle u \xi, u^{-1} \rho \rangle$ , we may assume  $u = 1$ . This gives us the canonical embedding of  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1} \rangle$  we desire; all the coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ,  $c_i$  and  $v$  are uniquely determined by  $\alpha_i \cdot \alpha_j$  and  $\alpha_i^2$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq m + 1$ . If now  $2r(J) > r(L)$ , we eliminate the  $\lambda_i$  and  $\xi$  terms in  $\alpha_{m+2}$  so that it takes the form

$$\alpha_{m+2} = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mu_i + b \rho .$$

Hence  $\alpha_{m+2}^2 = 0$ . If  $b_k \in u$ , say, then  $\langle \alpha_{m+2}, \alpha_k \rangle$  is a hyperbolic plane splitting  $L$  and  $J$ . Its image under  $\varphi$  will be a hyperbolic plane splitting  $L$  and  $K$ . Cancelling these hyperbolic planes reduces the rank of  $J$  and we are finished by induction. (The invariants of vectors in the new  $J$  and  $K$  will still correspond.) If  $b_i \in 2v$  and  $b \in u$ , then  $\alpha_{m+2}$  is characteristic. Also  $\alpha_{m+1} \cdot \alpha_{m+2} \in u$ . In this case  $\langle \alpha_{m+1}, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle^+ \cong H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_m$  (since it is improper with maximal Witt index). We may now cancel  $\langle \alpha_{m+1}, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle$  with its image and we are again finished by induction.

Now assume  $u \in 2v$  and hence  $\alpha_{m+1}^2 \in 2v$ . Then changing the basis of  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  to  $\langle v^{-1} \xi, v \rho \rangle$ , we may assume

$$\alpha_{m+1} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{m+1_i} \mu_i + 2u \xi + \rho .$$

Notice that  $\alpha_{m+1}^2 \in 4v$ , so that if any  $a_{m+1_i}$  is a unit, say  $a_{m+1_k} \in u$ , then  $\langle \alpha_k, \alpha_{m+1} \rangle$  is a hyperbolic plane. In this case we can cancel and reduce the rank of  $J$ . Thus we may assume all  $a_{m+1_i} \in 2v$ , so that if  $L$  is proper,  $\alpha_{m+1}$  is characteristic. This gives our canonical embedding of  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1} \rangle$ . If now  $2r(J) > r(L)$ , we eliminate the  $\lambda_i$  and  $\rho$  terms in  $\alpha_{m+2}$ , so that it takes the form

$$\alpha_{m+2} = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mu_i + b \xi .$$

If  $b \in u$ , then  $\alpha_{m+1} \cdot \alpha_{m+2} \in u$ .  $\langle \alpha_{m+1}, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle$  is isotropic since we obtain an isotropic vector by eliminating the  $\xi$  term between  $\alpha_{m+1}$  and  $\alpha_{m+2}$ . Since  $\alpha_{m+1}$  is characteristic, it follows that

$$\langle \alpha_{m+1}, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle^\perp \cong H_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus H_m .$$

We may therefore cancel  $\langle \alpha_{m+1}, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle$  with its image under  $\varphi$  and finish by induction. If  $b \notin u$ , then  $\alpha_{m+2}^2 \in 4v$ . If now  $b_k \in u$ ,

$$\langle \alpha_k, \alpha_{m+2} \rangle \cong H ,$$

and may be cancelled with its image. This completes this case.

In summary; we need only consider  $2r(J) = r(L)$  and

$$J = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1} \rangle$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \lambda_1 + c_1 \mu_1 \\ &\quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \\ \alpha_m &= a_{m1} \mu_1 + \cdots + a_{mm-1} \mu_{m-1} + \lambda_m + c_m \mu_m \\ \alpha_{m+1} &= \begin{cases} 2a_{m+11} \mu_1 + \cdots + 2a_{m+1m} \mu_m + 2u\xi + \rho \\ a_{m+11} \mu_1 + \cdots + a_{m+1m} \mu_m + \xi + v\rho \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

according as  $\alpha_{m+1}$  is characteristic, or not.

*Case 2.*  $\alpha_m$  characteristic. Then we may take  $\alpha_m = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{mi} \mu_i + \zeta$  where  $\zeta \in H_m \oplus B$ . Since  $\alpha_m$  is characteristic,  $a_{mi} \in 2v$  and hence  $\zeta$  is primitive and characteristic. Applying an isometry to  $H_m \oplus B$ , we may assume  $\zeta = 2u\xi + v\rho$ , and changing the basis of  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  we may take  $v = 1$ . We may now assume that  $\alpha_{m+1}$  has the form

$$\alpha_{m+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{m+1i} \mu_i + c \xi + e \lambda_m + f \mu_m .$$

If  $c \in 2v$ ,  $\alpha_{m+1}^2 \in 2v$  and  $\alpha_{m+1}$  is not characteristic. Therefore, this vector could be used as  $\alpha_m$  in Case 1 and there is no need to consider it again here. Thus  $c \in u$ .

If neither  $e$  nor  $f$  are units, apply the isometry

$$\langle \xi, \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle \rightarrow \langle \xi + \lambda_m, \rho - 2u\lambda_m \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m - (1 + 2ud)\rho + 2u\xi + 2u(1 + ud)\lambda_m \rangle .$$

This leaves  $\alpha_m$  fixed and in  $\alpha_{m+1}$  changes the coefficient of  $\lambda_m$  to a unit. Eliminating any  $\rho$  term between  $\alpha_m$  and  $\alpha_{m+1}$ , we can take

$$\alpha_{m+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{m+1i} \mu_i + c \xi + \lambda_m + c_m \mu_m .$$

Again, if  $2r(J) > r(L)$ , we may assume  $\alpha_{m+2}$  has the form

$$\alpha_{m+2} = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mu_i + b \xi .$$

Eliminate the  $\xi$  term between  $\alpha_{m+1}$  and  $\alpha_{m+2}$  to obtain a noncharacteristic vector with norm  $2a$ . This could have been taken as our  $\alpha_m$  in Case 1.

This concludes the investigation of the embedding of  $J$  in  $L$ . From now on we consider  $2r(J) = r(L)$ , and there are essentially three embeddings possible, two from Case 1 and one from Case 2.

5. Now assume that  $J = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1} \rangle$  has been canonically embedded in  $L$  in one of the above forms. Because of the similarity with the proofs in [1], we will assume  $\varphi(J) = K = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m, \beta \rangle$ , where  $\varphi(\alpha_i) = \alpha_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , and  $\varphi(\alpha_{m+1}) = \beta$ . We now apply isometries to  $L$  that leave  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  fixed and send  $\beta$  into  $\alpha_{m+1}$ . This will complete the proof of the theorem. Only the more involved cases are considered, the remaining cases may be handled similarly. First assume

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \lambda_1 + c_1 \mu_1 \\ &\quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \\ \alpha_m &= a_{m1} \mu_1 + \dots + a_{mm-1} \mu_{m-1} + \lambda_m + c_m \mu_m \\ \alpha_{m+1} &= 2a_{m+11} \mu_1 + \dots + 2a_{m+1m} \mu_m + 2u \xi + \rho \end{aligned}$$

so that  $\alpha_{m+1}$  is a characteristic vector.  $\beta$  will also be characteristic, so we may write

$$\beta = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (b_i \lambda_i + d_i \mu_i) + 2e \xi + f \rho .$$

Since  $\beta$  is primitive,  $f \in u$ ; and since  $T(\alpha_{m+1}) = T(\beta)$ , it follows that  $f \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . We apply isometries to  $L$  that reduce, in turn, the coefficients  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  to zero. Assume  $b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}$  have been reduced to zero.<sup>1</sup> The isometry

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \lambda_k, \mu_k \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho \rangle &\rightarrow \langle \lambda_k + c_k x \rho, \mu_k - x \rho \rangle \\ &\oplus \langle \lambda_{k+1} + a_{k+1k} x \rho, \mu_{k+1} \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \lambda_m + a_{mk} x \rho, \mu_m \rangle \\ &\oplus \langle \xi - c_k x \mu_k + x \lambda_k - a_{k+1k} x \mu_{k+1} - \dots - a_{mk} x \mu_m \\ &\quad + c_k x^2 \rho, \rho \rangle \end{aligned}$$

leaves  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  fixed. However, in  $\beta$  the coefficient of  $\lambda_k$  is changed from  $2b_k$  to  $2b_k + 2ex$ , which can be made zero by choice of  $x$ . In this manner reduce  $\beta$  to a vector with  $b_1 = \dots = b_m = 0$ . Since  $f \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , an isometry in  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$  can be found sending  $2e \xi + f \rho$  into

<sup>1</sup> Using a symmetry in  $\langle \xi, \rho \rangle$ , we may assume that  $e$  is a unit.



$2u\xi + \rho$ . This completes the proof in this case.

Finally, we consider the case where  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m-1}$  are as above,  $\alpha_m = 2\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{mi}\mu_i + 2u\xi + \rho$  and

$$\alpha_{m+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} a_{m+1i}\mu_i + c\xi + \lambda_m + c_m\mu_m,$$

where  $\alpha_m = \varphi(\alpha_m)$  is characteristic and  $\alpha_{m+1} \in u$ , so that  $c \in u$ . In this case we may write  $\beta = \varphi(\alpha_{m+1}) = \sum_{i=1}^m (b_i\lambda_i + d_i\mu_i) + e\xi + f\rho$  with  $e \in u$ . If neither  $b_m$  nor  $d_m$  is a unit, apply the isometry

$$\langle \xi, \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle \rightarrow \langle \xi + \lambda_m, \rho - 2u\lambda_m \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m + 2u\xi - (1 + 2ud)\rho + 2u(1 + ud)\lambda_m \rangle.$$

Then  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  are left fixed, and in  $\beta$  the coefficient of  $\lambda_m$  becomes  $e - 2uf + b_m + 2u(1 + ud)d_m \in u$ . Now apply the isometry

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \lambda_1, \mu_1 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \lambda_{m-1}, \mu_{m-1} \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle \rightarrow \\ &\langle \lambda_1 + c_1x\mu_m, \mu_1 - x\mu_m \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_2 + a_{21}x\mu_m, \mu_2 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \\ &\langle \lambda_{m-1} + a_{m-11}x\mu_m, \mu_{m-1} \rangle \oplus \langle \xi, \rho + 2a_{m1}x\mu_m \rangle \oplus \\ &\langle \lambda_m - c_1x\mu_1 + x\lambda_1 - a_{21}x\mu_2 - \dots - a_{m-11}x\mu_{m-1} - 2a_{m1}x(\xi - d\rho) + x^2(c_1 + 2da_{m1}^2)\mu_m, \mu_m \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

which leaves  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  fixed. The coefficient of  $\lambda_1$  in  $\beta$  changes to  $b_1 + xb_m$ , and may be made zero. Reduce, in turn,  $b_1, \dots, b_{m-1}$  to zero. Finally, apply

$$\langle \xi, \rho \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m, \mu_m \rangle \rightarrow \langle \xi + x\mu_m, \rho - 2ux\mu_m \rangle \oplus \langle \lambda_m - x\rho + 2ux(\xi - d\rho) + 2ux^2(1 + ud)\mu_m, \mu_m \rangle.$$

In  $\beta$  the coefficient of  $\rho$  becomes  $f - b_mx(1 + 2ud)$ , which can be made zero. We have therefore mapped  $K$  onto  $J$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

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