

K_1 . It is actually a bit easier to see (equivalently) that πg^{-1} conjugates K_1 to K_2 . Suppose that $k \in K_1$, so that

$$I_{p,2q+1,p} k I_{p,2q+1,p} = k.$$

Then since g commutes with $I_{p,2q+1,p}$, we have

$$(g I_{p,2q+1,p} g^{-1}) k (g I_{p,2q+1,p} g^{-1}) = k,$$

so

$$I_{p,2q+1,p} (g^{-1} k g) I_{p,2q+1,p} = g^{-1} k g.$$

Now, since $\pi I_{p,2q+1,p} \pi = I_{2p,2q+1}$, and since $\pi^2 = \text{Id}$, we have

$$(\pi I_{p,2q+1,p} \pi) (\pi g^{-1} k g \pi) (\pi I_{p,2q+1,p} \pi) = \pi g^{-1} k g \pi,$$

so

$$I_{2p,2q+1} (\pi g^{-1} k g \pi) I_{2p,2q+1} = \pi g^{-1} k g \pi.$$

This says that $\pi g^{-1} k g \pi \in K_2$. Thus $g \pi$ conjugates K_2 to K_1 .

Now, with that established, given a representative F_\bullet of the K_2 -orbit on X given by some symmetric $(2p, 2q + 1)$ -clan, to get a representative of the K_1 -orbit corresponding to that same clan, we just act on the flag F_\bullet by the matrix $g \pi$ to get the new flag $F'_\bullet = g \pi F_\bullet$. The flag F_\bullet is isotropic with respect to the diagonal form, so the flag F'_\bullet is isotropic with respect to the anti-diagonal form.

Let us look at a small example which illustrates the method just described for finding an isotropic representative of the K' -orbit Q_γ corresponding to a symmetric $(2p, 2q + 1)$ -clan γ . Take $p = q = 1$, so that $n = 2$, and so that we are dealing with $G = SO(5, \mathbb{C})$, $K = S(O(2, \mathbb{C}) \times O(3, \mathbb{C}))$. Take the symmetric $(2, 3)$ -clan $\gamma = (1, -, +, -, 1)$. None of the