

Lecture 14

G, K as before. (π, H) a unitary irred rep of G with central character $\psi: Z = Z(G) \rightarrow S^1 \subseteq \mathbb{C}^\times$

We said (π, H) is discrete series

\Leftrightarrow some K -finite matrix coeff is in $L^2(G, \psi)$

\Leftrightarrow every matrix coeff is in $L^2(G, \psi)$

$\Leftrightarrow (\pi, H)$ is \cong to a subrep of $L^2(G, \psi)$ that is a direct summand.

If the centre of G is compact, then we don't need to fix ψ as above because

$$\int_G = \int_Z \int_{G/Z} \text{ and } Z \text{ compact}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_G \text{ converges} \Leftrightarrow \int_{G/Z} \text{ converges}$$

Let's assume for now that Z is compact.

Thm (Harish-Chandra) G admits discrete series \Leftrightarrow

$\text{rank } G = \text{rank } K$, i.e. G has a compact Cartan subgroup

(a Cartan subgroup is a subgroup of G that is the normalizer of a max abelian subalgebra of the Lie alg)

Eg This holds for $\cdot SL_2(\mathbb{R}) \supset SO(2)$ both have rank 1

$\cdot Sp_{2g}(\mathbb{R}) \supseteq SU(g)$ both have rank g

But does not hold for $\cdot G = SL_3(\mathbb{R})$ has rank 2 and max compact $K = SO(3)$ has rank 1 with Cartan subgroup $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & \\ & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \mid A \in O(2), \alpha = \pm 1, \det A = \alpha \right\}$

$\cdot SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ has rank 2 since $\mathbb{C}^\times \cong S^1 \times \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ is 2-real dim and $K = SU(2)$ has rank 1 with Cartan S^1

Exercise Compare this with properties of $G(\mathbb{R})$ for G a connected ree group admitting a Sh var.

Assume we have $\text{rank } G = \text{rank } K$. Choose a Cartan subalgebra

$$\mathfrak{t} \subseteq \mathfrak{h} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$$

$\Delta =$ set of roots for $\mathfrak{t}^\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{t} \otimes \mathbb{C}$ in $\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{C}$

$\Delta_K =$ set of roots for $\mathfrak{t}^\mathbb{C}$ in $\mathfrak{h}^\mathbb{C}$

$\leadsto W_G$ the Weyl group for Δ in $\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{C}$

W_K the Weyl group for Δ_K in $\mathfrak{h}^\mathbb{C}$

Say we are given an \mathbb{R} -lin map

$$\lambda: \mathfrak{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\Leftrightarrow \lambda: \mathfrak{t}^\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ s.t. } \lambda(\mathfrak{t}) \subseteq i\mathbb{R})$$

such that $\langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle \neq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \in \Delta$

Define $\Delta^+ = \{ \alpha \in \Delta \mid \langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle > 0 \} \leadsto \delta_G = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \alpha$

$\Delta_K^+ = \{ \alpha \in \Delta_K \mid \alpha \in \Delta^+ \} \leadsto \delta_K = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_K^+} \alpha$

Assume that $\lambda + \delta_G$ is analytically integral:

If $T \subseteq K$ is the closed connected subgroup with $\text{Lie } T = \mathfrak{t}$, then \exists a char $\chi: T \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ s.t. $\chi(e^H) = e^{(\lambda + \delta_G)(H)}$

Rel This implies $\lambda + \delta_G$ is alg, i.e. $\frac{2\langle \lambda + \delta_G, \alpha \rangle}{\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \forall \alpha \in \Delta$

Thm (Harish-Chandra) With the setup as above, \exists a discrete series rep π_λ satisfying the following

1 Infinitesimal character of π_λ is $\chi_\lambda: Z(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$
 $\times \parallel \mathbb{R} \cap \mathbb{C} \cap \mathbb{R}_{>0}$
 $U(\mathfrak{t}^\mathbb{C})^\vee \nearrow \lambda$

(same inf. char as the irred rep of $\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{C}$ with highest wt $\lambda + \delta_G$)

2 π_λ contains with mult 1 the irred rep of K with highest wt

$$\Lambda = \lambda + \delta_G - 2\delta_K \quad (\text{minimal } K\text{-type})$$

3 If Λ' is a highest wt of an irred K -rep in π_λ , then

$$\Lambda' = \Lambda - \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} n_\alpha \alpha, \quad n_\alpha \geq 0.$$

Moreover, all discrete series reps are of this form and $\pi_\lambda \cong \pi_{\lambda'}$

$\Leftrightarrow \lambda$ and λ' are conj by W_K

Eg $G = SL_2(\mathbb{R}), K = SO(2)$

$\mathfrak{t} = \text{Lie } SO(2)$ and integral weights are $\cong \mathbb{Z}$. Take

$$\lambda: \mathfrak{t} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} i & \\ & i \end{pmatrix} \mapsto r \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle = \lambda(i\mathfrak{t}\alpha) = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -i & \\ & i \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

So $r > 0$ or $r < 0$

If $r > 0$, then under the ident of wts $\cong \mathbb{Z}$, $\delta_G = 1$

$r < 0$, " $\delta_G = -1$

Note $W_K = 1$ here. Can check that analytically integral assumption is satisfied if $\lambda + \delta_G \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Thm \Rightarrow a discrete series rep for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\leq -2}$

These are D_n^+ and D_n^- , $n \geq 2$, the holomorphic and antihol disc series from lecture

What do you do if G does not have compact centre?

Let ${}^\circ G = \{g \in G \mid |x(g)| = 1 \ \forall \text{ chars } x: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\times\}$

Let $Z = \text{centre of } G$, this is the \mathbb{R} -pts of a torus, or a connected comp, so $Z = C \times A$ with C compact and $A = \mathbb{R}_{>0}^\times$, some r . Can show that

${}^\circ G \times A \rightarrow G$ is an iso of Lie groups.
and ${}^\circ G$ has compact centre.

If you have an irred Hilbert space rep (π, H) of G , its restriction to ${}^\circ G$ is also irred. We say (π, H) is essentially discrete series if it is discrete series when restricted to ${}^\circ G$. We drop "essentially" if (π, H) is unitary.

Eg $G = GL_2(\mathbb{R})$, $K = O(2)$

$G = {}^\circ G \times A$ with $A = \mathbb{R}_{>0}^\times$, ${}^\circ G = SL_2^\pm(\mathbb{R}) = \{g \in GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \mid \det g = \pm 1\}$

$T = SO(2) \subseteq O(2) \subseteq GL_2(\mathbb{R})$

$W_K = \{1, w\} = W_G$

So the λ are as above $\rightsquigarrow (\pi_n, D_n)$ and (π_{-n}, D_{-n}) for $n \geq 2$ ~~and $n=2$~~ . But now $\pi_n \cong \pi_{-n}$. So for

$GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ or $SL_2^\pm(\mathbb{R})$, we get one iso class of disc series reps (π_n, D_n) for $n \geq 2$.

What happens is $(\pi_n, D_n)|_{SL_2(\mathbb{R})} \cong (\pi_n^+, D_n^+) \oplus (\pi_n^-, D_n^-)$

Rule Compare with the fact that

$$GL_2(\mathbb{R})/\mathbb{R}_{>0}SO(2) \cong \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R} = \mathfrak{H}^+ \sqcup \mathfrak{H}^-$$

$$GL_2(\mathbb{R})/\mathbb{R}_{>0}O(2) \cong \mathfrak{H}^+ \text{ by identifying } z \text{ with } -z.$$