

Notes on Local Theta Correspondence (Gan, Kudla Takeda) - Chapter 1 - Heisenberg Representation

Nick Pilotti

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$(W, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is a nondegenerate symplectic space. F is a non-archimedean local field or a finite field of characteristic different from 2. The Heisenberg group associated to W is defined as the set

$$H(W) := W \times F$$

with multiplication defined by

$$(w, t) \cdot (w', t') = \left(w + w', t + t' + \frac{1}{2} \langle w, w' \rangle \right).$$

$H(W)$ is given the product topology. We verify that $H(W)$ is a topological group.

The multiplication law is associative

$$\begin{aligned} & ((w_1, t_1) (w_2, t_2)) (w_3, t_3) \\ &= \left(w_1 + w_2, t_1 + t_2 + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1, w_2 \rangle \right) (w_3, t_3) \\ &= \left(w_1 + w_2 + w_3, t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1, w_2 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1 + w_2, w_3 \rangle \right) \\ &= \left(w_1 + w_2 + w_3, t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1, w_2 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1, w_3 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_2, w_3 \rangle \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left(w_1 + w_2 + w_3, t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_1, w_2 + w_3 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_2, w_3 \rangle \right)$$

$$(w_1, t_1) \left(w_2 + w_3, t_2 + t_3 + \frac{1}{2} \langle w_2, w_3 \rangle \right)$$

$$(w_1, t_1) ((w_2, t_2) (w_3, t_3)).$$

The identity element is $(0, 0)$;

$$(0, 0) (w, t) = \left(0 + w, 0 + t + \frac{1}{2} \langle 0, t \rangle \right) = (w, t).$$

The inverse of (w, t) is $(-w, -t)$;

$$(w, t) (-w, -t) = \left(w - w, t - t + \frac{1}{2} \langle w, -w \rangle \right) = (0, 0).$$

It is clear that the operations of multiplication and inversion are continuous, making $H(W)$ into a topological group.

We show the center of the Heisenberg group is

$$Z_{H(W)} = \{(0, t) : t \in F\} \cong F.$$

$Z_{H(W)}$ is a subgroup isomorphic to F since

$$(0, t) (0, t') = (0, t + t').$$

$Z_{H(W)}$ is in the center of $H(W)$ because

$$(0, t) (w', t') = (w', t + t') = (w', t') (0, t).$$

Suppose that (w, t) is an element of $H(W)$ but $w \neq 0$. Since $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is nondegenerate, there exists $w' \in W$ such that $\langle w, w' \rangle \neq 0$. We have

$$(w, t) (w', -t) = \left(w + w', \frac{1}{2} \langle w, w' \rangle \right)$$

and

$$(w', -t)(w, t) = \left(w + w', \frac{1}{2}\langle w', w \rangle\right) = \left(w + w', -\frac{1}{2}\langle w, w' \rangle\right).$$

Hence, (w, t) is not in the center.

We verify the identities

$$(w + w', 0) = \left(w + w', -\frac{1}{2}\langle w, w' \rangle + \frac{1}{2}\langle w, w' \rangle\right) = \left(w, -\frac{1}{2}\langle w, w' \rangle\right)(w', 0)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (w, 0)(w', 0) &= \left(w + w', \frac{1}{2}\langle w, w' \rangle\right) = \left(w + w', -\frac{1}{2}\langle w', w \rangle\right) \\ &= \left(w + w', -\langle w', w \rangle + \frac{1}{2}\langle w', w \rangle\right) = \left(w + w', \langle w, w' \rangle + \frac{1}{2}\langle w', w \rangle\right) \\ &= (w', \langle w, w' \rangle)(w, 0) \end{aligned}$$

for all $w, w' \in W$ and $t \in F$.