

Parameters for Representations of Real Groups

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The basic references are [7] and [6]. The parameters given in these notes only exist in the unpublished preprint [4]. The case of regular integral infinitesimal character is discussed in [1]. Everything appears, sometimes in somewhat different form, in [2].

1 Algebraic Groups and Root Data

A root datum is a quadruple

$$(X, \Delta, X^\vee, \Delta^\vee)$$

where X, X^\vee are free abelian groups of finite rank, and Δ, Δ^\vee are finite subsets of X, X^\vee , respectively. In addition there is a perfect pairing $\langle, \rangle : X \times X^\vee \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ so $X^\vee \simeq \text{Hom}(X, \mathbb{Z})$. There must exist a bijection $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha^\vee : \Delta \rightarrow \Delta^\vee$ such that for all $\alpha \in \Delta$,

$$\langle \alpha, \alpha^\vee \rangle = 2, s_\alpha(\Delta) = \Delta, s_{\alpha^\vee}(\Delta^\vee) = \Delta^\vee.$$

Here $s_\alpha(x) = x - \langle x, \alpha^\vee \rangle \alpha$ and $s_{\alpha^\vee}(y) = y - \langle \alpha, y \rangle \alpha^\vee$ ($x \in X, y \in X^\vee$).

By [3] (applied to $\mathbb{Z}\langle\Delta\rangle$ and $\mathbb{Z}\langle\Delta^\vee\rangle$) the conditions determine the bijection uniquely. In particular $(X, \Delta, X^\vee, \Delta^\vee)$ is determined by (X, Δ) if $Z\langle\Delta\rangle = X$ (the semi-simple case).

Suppose Δ^+ is a set of positive roots of Δ . Then $\Delta^{\vee+} = \{\alpha^\vee \mid \alpha \in \Delta^+\}$ is a set of positive roots of Δ^\vee , and

$$(X, \Delta^+, X^\vee, \Delta^{\vee+})$$

is a based root datum.

Two root systems are isomorphic if there exists an isomorphism $\phi : X \rightarrow X'$ such that $\phi(\Delta) = \Delta'$ and $\phi^t(\Delta'^{\vee}) = \Delta^{\vee}$. Here $\phi^t : X'^{\vee} \rightarrow X$ is given by

$$(1.1) \quad \langle \phi(x), y' \rangle = \langle x, \phi^t(y') \rangle \quad (x \in X, y' \in X'^{\vee}).$$

Let \mathbb{G} be a connected reductive algebraic group and choose a Cartan subgroup \mathbb{T} . The corresponding root data is

$$D = (X^*(\mathbb{T}), \Delta, X_*(\mathbb{T}), \Delta^{\vee})$$

where $X^*(\mathbb{T}) = \text{Hom}(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{G}_m)$, $X_*(\mathbb{T}) = \text{Hom}(\mathbb{G}_m, \mathbb{T})$, $\Delta = \Delta(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{T})$ is the set of roots of \mathbb{T} in \mathbb{G} , and $\Delta^{\vee} = \Delta^{\vee}(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{T})$ is the set of co-roots.

If \mathbb{T}' is another Cartan subgroup the associated root data is isomorphic to the given one. This isomorphism is canonical up to the Weyl group.

There is an exact sequence

$$(1.2) \quad 1 \rightarrow \text{Int}(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow \text{Out}(\mathbb{G}) \rightarrow 1$$

where $\text{Int}(\mathbb{G}) \simeq \mathbb{G}$ is the group of inner automorphism of \mathbb{G} , $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{G})$ is the automorphism group of \mathbb{G} , and $\text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ is the group of outer automorphisms.

Fix a Borel subgroup \mathbb{B} , a Cartan subgroup \mathbb{T} contained in \mathbb{B} , and a set of root vectors for the simple roots of \mathbb{T} in \mathbb{B} . Associated to this *splitting data* is a splitting of (1.2); for $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ take $s(\gamma) \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{G})$ to be the unique pre-image fixing this data (as sets). This gives a canonical isomorphism

$$(1.3) \quad \text{Out}(\mathbb{G}) \simeq \text{Aut}(D).$$

Fix $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$. Define

$$(1.4) \quad Z(\mathbb{G})^{\gamma} = \{z \in Z(\mathbb{G}) \mid s(\gamma)zs(\gamma)^{-1} = z\}$$

This is independent of the choice of a splitting s of (1.2).

If \mathbb{G} is semisimple then $\text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ is isomorphic to the automorphisms of the Dynkin diagram of \mathbb{G} .

If $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{T}$ is a torus an automorphism θ is determined by an automorphism of $X_*(\mathbb{T})$. If θ has order 2 then there is a basis

$$x_1, \dots, x_r, y_1, \dots, y_s, z_1, z'_1, \dots, z_t, z'_t$$

of $X_*(\mathbb{T})$ so that $\theta(x_i) = x_i$, $\theta(y_i) = -y_i$, and $\theta(z_i) = z'_i$, $\theta(z'_i) = z_i$.

In general $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{T}\mathbb{G}_d$ where $\mathbb{T} = Z(\mathbb{G})^0$ is a central torus, and an automorphism is given by automorphisms of \mathbb{T} and \mathbb{G}_d , which agree on $\mathbb{T} \cap \mathbb{G}_d$.

2 The Dual Group and the Dual Automorphism

Suppose we are given \mathbb{G} with corresponding root data $D = (X, \Delta, X^\vee, \Delta^\vee)$. The *dual root data* is $D^\vee = (X^\vee, \Delta^\vee, X, \Delta)$, and the *dual group* is the group ${}^\vee\mathbb{G}$ defined by D^\vee .

If $\tau \in \text{Aut}(D)$ let ${}^\vee\tau = -\tau^t \in \text{Aut}(D^\vee)$ (cf. Section 1). We obtain isomorphisms

$$(2.1) \quad \text{Out}(\mathbb{G}) \simeq \text{Aut}(D) \simeq \text{Aut}(D^\vee) \simeq \text{Out}({}^\vee\mathbb{G}).$$

where the middle term is $\tau \rightarrow {}^\vee\tau$.

Definition 2.2 For $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ define ${}^\vee\gamma \in \text{Out}({}^\vee\mathbb{G})$ by (2.1).

3 Real Forms of \mathbb{G}

To say that \mathbb{G} is defined over \mathbb{R} means that there is an anti-holomorphic involution σ of $\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})$. Then $G(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})^\sigma$, and we will write $G = \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{R})$. We say σ is equivalent to σ' if $\sigma' = \text{int}(g) \circ \sigma \circ \text{int}(g^{-1})$ for some $g \in \mathbb{G}$, i.e.

$$\sigma(x) = g\sigma(g^{-1}xg)g^{-1} \quad (x \in \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})).$$

An involution of \mathbb{G} , i.e. an algebraic automorphism of \mathbb{G} of order 2, may be considered a holomorphic involution of $\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})$. We say involutions θ, θ' are equivalent if $\theta = \text{int}(g) \circ \theta' \circ \text{int}(g^{-1})$ for some $g \in \mathbb{G}$.

Suppose \mathbb{G} is defined over \mathbb{R} , with corresponding anti-holomorphic involution σ . We may choose an involution θ of \mathbb{G} , a ‘‘Cartan involution’’, such

that $K = G^\theta$ is a maximal compact subgroup of G . Then $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{G}^\theta$ is the algebraic group corresponding to K , and $\mathbb{K}(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})^\theta$.

Lemma 3.1 *The map taking an anti-holomorphic involution σ to a corresponding Cartan involution θ is a bijection between equivalence classes of real forms and equivalence classes of involutions.*

We work entirely with Cartan involutions.

Definition 3.2 *We say two involutions θ, θ' are inner if they have the same image in $\text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$, i.e. there exists $g \in G$ such that $\theta' = \text{int}(g) \circ \theta$, or*

$$\theta'(x) = g\theta(x)g^{-1}. \quad (x \in \mathbb{G}).$$

This is an equivalence relation, and an equivalence class is called an inner class. Such a class is determined by an involution $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$, and we refer to γ as an inner class.

Definition 3.3 *We say two real forms of \mathbb{G} are inner if their Cartan involutions θ, θ' are inner.*

4 Basic Data

Fix \mathbb{G} . By Definition 3.2 an inner class of real forms is given by an involution $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$.

Thus our basic data will be a pair (\mathbb{G}, γ) where γ is an involution in $\text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$. By Section 2 we obtain $({}^\vee\mathbb{G}, {}^\vee\gamma)$.

5 Principal and Distinguished Involutions

Definition 5.1 *An involution θ of \mathbb{G} is principal if the corresponding real group G is quasisplit, i.e. contains a Borel subgroup.*

Lemma 5.2 *The following conditions are equivalent*

1. θ is a principal involution
2. There is a θ -stable Cartan subgroup \mathbb{T} with no imaginary roots,

3. There are a θ -stable Cartan subgroup \mathbb{T} and a Borel subgroup \mathbb{B} containing \mathbb{T} , such that every simple root of \mathbb{T} is complex or non-compact imaginary.

Every real form is inner to a quasiplit group:

Lemma 5.3 *Any inner class of involutions contains a principal involution, which is unique up to conjugation by \mathbb{G} .*

That is given $\theta_0 \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ there exists a principal involution $\theta \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{G})$ with image θ_0 , and if θ, θ' are two such, then $\theta' = \text{int}(g)\theta\text{int}(g)^{-1}$ for some $g \in \mathbb{G}$.

Definition 5.4 *An involution is said to be distinguished if there are θ -stable Cartan and Borel subgroups $\mathbb{T} \subset \mathbb{B}$ so that every simple imaginary root is compact (equivalently: every simple root is compact imaginary or complex). A real form is said to be distinguished if its Cartan involution is distinguished.*

Every real group has a distinguished inner form:

Lemma 5.5 *Any inner class of involutions contains a distinguished involution, and any two such are conjugate by \mathbb{G} .*

6 Encoding real forms

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4. Let $\Gamma = \{1, \sigma\} = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$.

Choose a involution θ_0 in the inner class of γ . Consider the group $\mathbb{G} \rtimes \Gamma$ where the action of σ on \mathbb{G} is by θ_0 . That is $\text{int}(\sigma) = \theta_0$.

Suppose θ is a Cartan involution of a real form in the same inner class. Then $\theta = \text{int}(g) \circ \theta_0$. Let $\delta = g\sigma \in \mathbb{G} \rtimes \Gamma - \mathbb{G}$. Then

$$\theta = \text{int}(\delta).$$

That is every Cartan involution in this inner class is given by conjugation by an element of $\mathbb{G} \rtimes \Gamma$.

It is natural to take θ_0 to be either a principal involution or a distinguished involution in the inner class (cf. Section 5).

Note that

$$\delta^2 = g\sigma(g) \in Z(\mathbb{G})^\gamma$$

(cf. 1.4).

7 L-Groups: Version 1

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4.

Roughly speaking the L-group of \mathbb{G} is the semidirect product ${}^{\vee}\mathbb{G} \rtimes \Gamma$ where σ acts on \mathbb{G} by a distinguished involution in the inner class of ${}^{\vee}\gamma \in \text{Aut}({}^{\vee}\mathbb{G})$ (Definition 2.2).

More precisely we need to incorporate a conjugacy class of such splittings into the data:

Definition 7.1 *An L-group for \mathbb{G} is a pair $({}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}, \mathcal{S})$, where ${}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}$ fits in an exact sequence*

$$1 \rightarrow {}^{\vee}\mathbb{G} \rightarrow {}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma} \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow 1$$

and \mathcal{S} is a ${}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}$ -conjugacy class of splittings of this exact sequence, such that for $s \in \mathcal{S}$, $\text{int}(s(\sigma))$ is a distinguished involution in the inner class of ${}^{\vee}\gamma$.

Remark 7.2 There is a unique quasisplit group G in the given inner class (in fact a unique strong inner form, cf. Section 9). This has a distinguished representation π_0 : the spherical principal series with infinitesimal character 0.

The Weil group (cf. Section 15) maps to Γ , and therefore a homomorphism $\phi : \Gamma \rightarrow {}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}$ defines an irreducible representation of G (in fact an L-packet which is a singleton in this case). There is not necessarily a distinguished homomorphism $\phi : \Gamma \rightarrow {}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}$. The choice of L-group structure is such a homomorphism ϕ , and the choice of L-group structure amounts to declaring that ϕ corresponds to π_0 .

8 Basic Data Revisited

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4. We obtain ${}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}$ and ${}^{\vee}\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$ as in Section 2. We may therefore think of this as a quadruple

$$(\mathbb{G}, \gamma, {}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}, {}^{\vee}\gamma).$$

We may define $({}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}, {}^{\vee}\mathcal{S})$, as in Section 7. The same definition applied to $({}^{\vee}\mathbb{G}, {}^{\vee}\gamma)$ gives us a group $(\mathbb{G}^{\Gamma}, \mathcal{S})$.

9 Strong Real Forms

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \vee \mathbb{G}^\Gamma$ as in Section 8. We apply the discussion of Section 6 to \mathbb{G}^Γ .

Definition 9.1 *A strong real form of \mathbb{G} is an element $x \in \mathbb{G}^\Gamma - \mathbb{G}$ satisfying $x^2 \in Z(\mathbb{G})$. We say two strong real forms x, x' are equivalent if x is conjugate to x' .*

Lemma 9.2 *If x is a strong real form of \mathbb{G} let $\theta_x = \text{int}(x)$. This is the Cartan involution of a real form in the inner class γ . This map is surjective onto the real forms in this inner class. If \mathbb{G} is adjoint it is a bijection.*

10 Representations

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, Fix \mathbb{G} , an inner class $\gamma \in \text{Out}(\mathbb{G})$, and $(\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \vee \mathbb{G}^\Gamma)$ as in Section 8.

Definition 10.1 *A representation of a strong real form of \mathbb{G} is a pair (x, π) where x is a strong real form of \mathbb{G} and π is a $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathbb{K}_x)$ -module.*

We say (x, π) is equivalent to (x', π') if there exists $g \in \mathbb{G}$ such that $gxg^{-1} = x'$ and $g \cdot \pi \simeq \pi'$. Here $g \cdot \pi(h) = \pi(g^{-1}hg)$ for $h \in \mathbb{K}_{x'}$, and $g \cdot \pi(X) = \pi(\text{Ad}(g^{-1})X)$ for $X \in \mathfrak{g}$.

Suppose ζ is a distinguished isomorphism. Then ζ induces bijections:

$$(10.2) \quad \Delta^\vee(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{T}) \simeq \Delta(\vee \mathbb{G}, {}^d \mathbb{T})$$

$$(10.3) \quad \Delta(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{T}) \simeq \Delta^\vee(\vee \mathbb{G}, {}^d \mathbb{T})$$

11 Distinguished Isomorphisms

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), (\vee \mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \vee \mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.

Suppose \mathbb{T} is a Cartan subgroup of \mathbb{G} , and ${}^d \mathbb{T}$ is a Cartan subgroup of $\vee \mathbb{G}$. By the construction of $\vee \mathbb{G}$ there are isomorphisms

$$X_*(\vee \mathbb{T}) \simeq X_*({}^d \mathbb{T})$$

and

$${}^\vee\mathbb{T} \simeq {}^d\mathbb{T}, \quad {}^\vee\mathfrak{t} \simeq {}^d\mathfrak{t}.$$

Given Borel subgroups $\mathbb{B}, {}^d\mathbb{B}$ containing $\mathbb{T}, {}^d\mathbb{T}$ respectively, we obtain isomorphisms

$$\zeta(\mathbb{B}, {}^d\mathbb{B}) : {}^\vee\mathbb{T} \simeq {}^d\mathbb{T}, \quad {}^\vee\mathfrak{t} \simeq {}^d\mathfrak{t}.$$

Also recall $X^*(\mathbb{T}) = X_*({}^\vee\mathbb{T})$ and $\mathfrak{t}^* = {}^\vee\mathfrak{t}$ (canonically). So ζ may be interpreted as an isomorphism

$$(11.1) \quad \zeta : \mathfrak{t}^* \simeq {}^d\mathfrak{t}$$

Definition 11.2 *We say an isomorphism $\zeta : {}^\vee\mathbb{T} \simeq {}^d\mathbb{T}$ is distinguished if it is equal to $\zeta(\mathbb{B}, {}^d\mathbb{B})$ for some $\mathbb{B}, {}^d\mathbb{B}$.*

Now suppose θ is an involution of \mathbb{T} , and ${}^d\theta$ is an involution of ${}^d\mathbb{T}$. Then (cf. Section 2) ${}^\vee\theta$ is an involution of ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}$. Suppose $\zeta : {}^\vee\mathbb{T} \simeq {}^d\mathbb{T}$ is a distinguished isomorphism. We define an involution $\zeta^*(\theta)$ by carrying the involution ${}^\vee\theta$ of ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}$ to ${}^d\mathbb{T}$ via ζ , i.e.

$$\zeta^*(\theta)(t) = \zeta({}^\vee\theta(\zeta^{-1}(t))) \quad (t \in {}^d\mathbb{T}).$$

12 Integral L-data

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), ({}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, {}^\vee\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.

Here is the data which will parametrize representations with integral infinitesimal character.

Definition 12.1 *Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), ({}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, {}^\vee\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.*

A set of weak integral L-data is a 6-tuple $(x, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{B}, y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B})$ where

1. $\mathbb{T} \subset \mathbb{B} \subset \mathbb{G}$ are a Cartan and Borel subgroup, respectively,
2. $x^2 \in Z(\mathbb{G})$,
3. \mathbb{T} is θ_x -stable where $\theta_x = \text{int}(x)$,

4. ${}^\vee\mathbb{T} \subset {}^\vee\mathbb{B} \subset {}^\vee\mathbb{G}$ are a Cartan and Borel subgroup, respectively,
5. $y^2 \in Z({}^\vee\mathbb{G})$,
6. ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}$ is ${}^\vee\theta_y$ -stable where ${}^\vee\theta_y = \text{int}(y)$,
7. The isomorphism $\zeta = \zeta(\mathbb{B}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B})$ satisfies $\zeta^*(\theta_x) = {}^\vee\theta_y$,

A set of (integral) L-data is a pair (S, λ) where $S = (x, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{B}, y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B})$ is a set of weak L-data, $\lambda \in {}^\vee\mathfrak{t}$, and $\exp(2\pi i\lambda) = y^2$.

If (S, λ) is a set of strong integral L-data let $\zeta = \zeta(\mathbb{B}, {}^d\mathbb{B})$, and identify λ with an element of \mathfrak{t}^* via (11.1).

13 L-data

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), ({}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, {}^\vee\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.

We generalize the construction of the previous section to include representations with non-integral infinitesimal character.

Definition 13.1 Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), ({}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, {}^\vee\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.

A set of weak L-data is a 6-tuple $(x, \mathbb{T}, P, y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee P)$ where

1. $\mathbb{T} \subset \mathbb{G}$ is a Cartan subgroup,
2. $x^2 \in Z(\mathbb{G})$,
3. \mathbb{T} is θ_x -stable where $\theta_x = \text{int}(x)$,
4. P is contained in a set of positive roots of $\Delta(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{G})$,
5. ${}^\vee\mathbb{T} \subset {}^\vee\mathbb{G}$ is a Cartan subgroup,
6. $y^2 \in {}^\vee\mathbb{T}$
7. ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}$ is ${}^\vee\theta_y$ -stable where ${}^\vee\theta_y = \text{int}(y)$, an involution of ${}^\vee\mathbb{G}_{y^2} = \text{Cent}_{{}^\vee\mathbb{G}}(y^2)$,
8. ${}^\vee\mathbb{B}$ is a Borel subgroup of ${}^\vee\mathbb{G}_{y^2}$ containing \mathbb{T} ,

9. There is a distinguished isomorphism ζ satisfying: $\zeta^*(\theta_x) = \check{\theta}_y$ and $\Delta(\check{\mathbb{B}}, \check{\mathbb{T}}) = \{\zeta(\alpha^\vee) \mid \alpha \in P\}$.

A set of L-data is a pair (S, λ) where $S = (x, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{B}, y, \check{\mathbb{T}}, \check{\mathbb{B}})$ is a set of weak L-data, $\lambda \in \check{\mathfrak{t}}$, and $\exp(2\pi i\lambda) = y^2$.

If (S, λ) is a set of L-data let ζ be any distinguished isomorphism as in (9). Then we identify λ with an element of \mathfrak{t}^* via (11.1).

Remark 13.2

14 Parametrization of Representations

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), (\check{\mathbb{G}}^\Gamma, \check{\mathcal{S}}))$ as in Section 8.

Suppose (S, λ) is a set of strong L-data. Associated to (S, λ) is a standard $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathbb{K}_x)$ -module $I(S, \lambda)$ with infinitesimal character (the \mathbb{G} -orbit of) λ .

We will identify λ with an element of \mathfrak{t}^* via ζ as at the end of Section 13.

14.1 Regular Infinitesimal Character

Assume λ is regular, i.e. $\langle \alpha, \lambda \rangle \neq 0$ for all $\alpha \in \Delta(\check{\mathbb{G}}, \check{\mathbb{T}})$. Then $I(S, \lambda)$ contains a unique irreducible (Langlands) submodule $J(S, \lambda)$.

Theorem 14.1 *Suppose (x, π) is an irreducible representation of a strong real form of \mathbb{G} (Section 10) with regular infinitesimal character. Then $\pi \simeq J(S, \lambda)$ for some $S = (x, \dots)$ and λ . Two non-zero representations $(x, J(S, \lambda))$ and $(x, J(S', \lambda'))$ are isomorphic if and only if (S, λ) is $\mathbb{G} \times \check{\mathbb{G}}$ conjugate to (S', λ') .*

14.2 General Infinitesimal Character

Let $J(S, \lambda)$ be the socle of $I(S, \lambda)$, i.e. the direct sum of the irreducible subrepresentations of $I(s, \lambda)$. [Q: we need to define this using the translation principle?]

We say (S, λ) is M -regular if $\langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle \neq 0$ for all imaginary roots (with respect to θ_x) of $\Delta(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{T})$ [there may be a ρ -shift missing here].

Theorem 14.2 *Suppose (x, π) is an irreducible representation of a strong real form of \mathbb{G} (Section 10). Then there exists strong, M-regular, L-data (S, λ) so that π is a subrepresentation of $J(S, \lambda)$. If (S', λ') also satisfies these conditions then (S', λ') is $\mathbb{G} \times {}^\vee\mathbb{G}$ -conjugate to (S, λ) .*

This gives a finite to one map from equivalence classes of strong, M-regular, L-data (S, λ) to equivalence classes (x, π) of representations of strong real forms of \mathbb{G} . This map is a bijection in the case of regular infinitesimal character. In Section 16 we will describe how to compute the fiber of this map.

15 Sketch of the Construction of $I(S, \lambda)$

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), ({}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, {}^\vee\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8. Let (S, λ) be a set of L-data, where $S = (x, \mathbb{T}, P, y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B})$.

Recall the Weil group is $W_{\mathbb{R}} = \langle \mathbb{C}^*, j \rangle$ where $j^2 = -1$ and $jzj^{-1} = \bar{z}$.

The data $(y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B}, \lambda)$ defines an L-homomorphism $\phi : W_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow {}^\vee\mathbb{G}^\Gamma$ as follows:

$$(15.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi(z) &= z^\lambda \bar{z}^{Ad(y)\lambda} \\ \phi(j) &= \exp(-\pi i \lambda) \end{aligned}$$

where $z^\lambda = \exp(\lambda \log(z))$ ($z \in \mathbb{C}^* \subset W_{\mathbb{R}}$) (it requires a short argument that $\phi(z)$ is well defined).

Then $\phi : W_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \langle \mathbb{T}^\vee, y \rangle$. This is not necessarily isomorphic to the L-group of T . It is isomorphic to an E-group ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}^\Gamma$ of \mathbb{T} , and maps into ${}^\vee\mathbb{T}^\Gamma$ parametrize characters of the ρ -cover $T(\mathbb{R})_\rho$ of $T(\mathbb{R})$.

The extra data in S gives us an isomorphism of $\langle \mathbb{T}, y \rangle \simeq {}^\vee\mathbb{T}^\Gamma$, and hence a character Λ of $T(\mathbb{R})_\rho$.

For example in the case of a discrete series representation Λ is a character with differential the Harish-Chandra parameter λ ; recall that $\lambda - \rho$ (and not necessarily λ) exponentiates to the compact Cartan.

If λ is regular Λ is all that is needed to define a standard module $I(\Psi, \Lambda)$ as in [5, Definition 8.27]. If Λ is singular an extra choice of positive real roots is necessary. This is included in the data of S .

The module $I(\Psi, \Lambda)$ may be written as cohomological induction from a principal series representation of a quasisplit group L . The reducibility of $J(S, \lambda)$ (for singular λ) comes from the reducibility of the corresponding standard module for L .

Therefore the fiber of the map described in Theorem 14.2 is obtained from the discussion in the next section applied to L .

16 R-Groups

We need some definitions and results from [7, Chapter 4].

Suppose G is quasisplit and $H = TA$ is the maximally split Cartan subgroup. Let $M = \text{Cent}_G(A)$; this is an abelian group. We say a character δ of M is fine if its restriction to $(G^d \cap M)^0$ is trivial [7, Definition 4.3.8]. Let $\Delta = \Delta(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{a})$, the (non-zero) real roots, and $\overline{\Delta} \subset \Delta$ the reduced root system of Δ . We say a root α of Δ is real if it is the restriction of a real root of $\Delta(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$, and complex otherwise.

$$(16.1) \quad W = \text{Norm}_K(A)/M$$

$$(16.2) \quad = W(\overline{\Delta}).$$

Let $\overline{\Delta}_\delta$ be the good roots ([7, Definition 4.3.11]). That is

$$\overline{\Delta}_\delta = \{\alpha \in \overline{\Delta} \mid \alpha \text{ is complex or } \alpha \text{ is real and } \delta(m_\alpha) = 1\}$$

Fix $\nu \in \hat{A}$. As in [7, Definitions 4.3.13 and 4.4.9] define

$$\begin{aligned} W_\delta &= \text{Stab}_W(\delta) \\ W_\delta^0 &= W(\overline{\Delta}_\delta) \\ R_\delta &= W_\delta/W_\delta^0 \\ W(\nu) &= \text{Stab}_W(\nu) \\ W_\delta(\nu) &= \text{Stab}_W(\delta \otimes \nu) \\ W_\delta^0(\nu) &= \text{Stab}_{W_\delta^0}(\delta \otimes \nu) \\ R_\delta(\nu) &= W_\delta(\nu)/W_\delta^0(\nu) \subset R_\delta \\ R_\delta^\perp(\nu) &= \text{annihilator of } R_\delta(\nu) \text{ in } \widehat{R}_\delta \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\widehat{R}_\delta/R_\delta^\perp(\nu) \simeq \widehat{R}_\delta(\nu)$.

Definition 16.3 Suppose (S, λ) is a set of strong L -data. The R -group for S , denoted $R(S, \lambda)$ is $\widehat{R_\delta(\nu)}$ computed on $L \dots$ [Assignment part 1: make this precise! It comes down to the real roots - a computation involving the principal series of the quasisplit group L].

If λ is regular then $R(S, \lambda) = 1$.

Lemma 16.4 The fiber of the map of Theorem 14.2 is naturally parametrized by $R(S, \lambda)$ [Assignment part 2: so that this lemma holds].

17 L-packets and Blocks

Fix (\mathbb{G}, γ) as in Section 4, and $((\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathcal{S}), (\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \mathbb{V}\mathcal{S}))$ as in Section 8.

Fix $y, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{B}$ as in the definition of L -data, and λ satisfying $\exp(2\pi i\lambda) = y^2$. Recall (Section 15) this data defines an L -homomorphism $\phi : W_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}^\Gamma$.

We assume λ is regular.

Definition 17.1 An L -packet is the set of representation $J(S, \lambda)$ where $(S = (x, \mathbb{T}, P, y, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{B}), \lambda)$ is a set of L -data.

This is sometimes called a “super” L -packet; it includes representations on various strong real forms. Its restriction to a single strong real form is a conventional L -packet.

[Question: singular infinitesimal character?]

Definition 17.2 Fix x, y satisfying $x^2 \in Z(\mathbb{G})$. The \mathbb{Z} -spane of the representation $J(S, \lambda)$ where $(S = (x, \mathbb{T}, P, y, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{B}), \lambda)$ is a set of L -data is a block.

Again this is sometimes called a super-block. The restriction to a strong real form is a block. This is a minimal subspace of the Grothendieck group which is spanned by both irreducible and standard modules. Thus the Kazhdan–Lusztig polynomials are defined on blocks.

18 Example: $SL(2)$

Let $\mathbb{G} = SL(2)$. Then $\text{Out}(\mathbb{G}) = 1$ so $\gamma = 1$. We have $(\mathbb{G}, \gamma, \mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}, \gamma^\vee) = (SL(2), 1, PSL(2), 1)$.

We fix some notation. Let \mathbb{B}^\pm be the upper and lower triangular matrices in $SL(2)$ respectively. Let \mathbb{T} be the diagonal Cartan subgroup. Write \mathbb{B}^\pm and \mathbb{T} for $PSL(2)$ as well. (We abuse notation slightly and write $PSL(2)$ as 2×2 matrices.)

Let $t(z) = \text{diag}(z, 1/z), m_\rho = t(i)$. Note that in $PGL(2)$ $t(z) = t(-z)$. Let $\lambda(z) = \text{diag}(z, -z) \in \mathbb{V}\mathfrak{t}$.

The group $\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}^\Gamma$ is generated by $\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}$ and an element $\mathbb{V}\delta$ satisfying $\mathbb{V}\delta^2 = 1$ and $\mathbb{V}\delta g \mathbb{V}\delta^{-1} = m_\rho g m_\rho^{-1}$.

The group \mathbb{G}^Γ is generated by \mathbb{G} and δ , where $\delta^2 = -I$ and $\delta g \delta^{-1} = m_\rho g m_\rho^{-1}$.

There is a unique L-group structure $(\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \{\mathbb{V}\delta, \mathbb{B}^+\})$. Here $\{\mathbb{V}\delta, \mathbb{B}^+\}$ denotes the $\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}$ conjugacy class of $(\mathbb{V}\delta, \mathbb{B}^+)$.

There are two L-group structures $(\mathbb{G}^\Gamma, \{\pm\delta, \mathbb{B}^+\})$. Note that (δ, \mathbb{B}^+) is conjugate to $(-\delta, \mathbb{B}^-)$. This corresponds to the fact that $PGL(2, \mathbb{R})$ has two one-dimensional representations, and this choice amounts to choosing one of these. Dually this corresponds to choosing a discrete series representation of $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ with infinitesimal character ρ .

There are three inequivalent strong real forms of \mathbb{G} , given by $x = \delta, \pm m_\rho \delta$. The corresponding real groups are $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ and $SU(2)$, respectively. These may be thought of as $SU(2, 0), SU(1, 1)$ and $SU(0, 2)$.

There are two inequivalent strong real forms of $\mathbb{V}\mathbb{G}$, since it is adjoint, corresponding to $PGL(2, \mathbb{R})$ and $SO(3)$, respectively.

19 Other Parametrizations

There are several other ways to parametrize the standard and irreducible representations of real groups. The problem is how to conveniently write down characters of Cartan subgroups; disconnectedness is the main issue.

Assignment: Carefully write down how to go back and forth between these classifications.

1 θ -stable data $(\mathfrak{q}, H, \delta, \nu)$ ([7, Definition 6.5.1] This realizes the standard modules as derived functor modules from a minimal principal series of a quasipplit group L .

2 Character data (H, γ) with $\gamma = (\Gamma, \bar{\gamma})$, [7, Definition 6.6.1]. Here Γ is a character of H , not of a two-fold cover as in (43). The infinitesimal character is $\bar{\gamma}$, which is $d\Gamma +$ a ρ -shift.

3 Cuspidal data (M, δ, ν) [7, Definition 6.6.11]. Here M is a real Levi factor and δ is a (relative) discrete series representation of M . This is the original Langlands version of the classification.

4 $I(\Psi, \Lambda)$ ([5, Definition 8.27 and Theorem 8.29]) Here Λ is a character of the ρ -cover of H , and the infinitesimal character is $d\Lambda$.

20 Vogan Duality

The irreducible representations of strong real forms of \mathbb{G} are parametrized by integral L -data $(x, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{B}, y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B})$ with $x^2 \in Z(\mathbb{G}), y^2 \in Z({}^\vee\mathbb{G})$. This data is symmetric: $(y, {}^\vee\mathbb{T}, {}^\vee\mathbb{B}, x, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{B})$ is L -data with the roles of $\mathbb{G}, {}^\vee\mathbb{G}$ reversed, and this defines a representation of a strong real form of \mathbb{G} with integral infinitesimal character. This realizes Vogan duality [8], analogous to duality for Verma modules given by multiplication by the long element of the Weyl group.

Now suppose λ is regular but not integral. Then L -data satisfies x^2 is central in \mathbb{G} , but y^2 is not necessarily central in ${}^\vee\mathbb{G}$. To recover Vogan duality we have to allow x^2 not central in \mathbb{G} . This can be done, but requires some extra work. See [4].

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