

# Atlas of Lie Groups and Representations



[www.liegroups.org](http://www.liegroups.org)

# The Unitary Dual

Jeffrey Adams  
University of Maryland  
Institute for Defense Analysis  
RTNCG Conference  
Institute Henri Poincaré  
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## Atlas Project Members

- ▶ Dan Barbasch
- ▶ Birne Binegar
- ▶ Bill Casselman
- ▶ Dan Ciubotaru
- ▶ Scott Crofts
- ▶ Fokko du Cloux
- ▶ **Stephen Miller**
- ▶ **Lucas Mason-Brown**
- ▶ Alfred Noel
- ▶ Tatiana Howard
- ▶ Alessandra Pantano
- ▶ Annegret Paul
- ▶ Patrick Polo
- ▶ Siddhartha Sahi
- ▶ Susana Salamanca
- ▶ John Stembridge
- ▶ Peter Trapa
- ▶ **Marc van Leeuwen**
- ▶ **David Vogan**
- ▶ Wai-Ling Yee
- ▶ Jiu-Kang Yu
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**Atlas of Lie Groups and Representations (2002):** Study this by computer

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- 2) Progress on Arthur's conjectures (giving a conceptual description of a large part of the unitary dual)



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Work in the setting of admissible  $(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ -modules (finite  $K$ -multiplicities)

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$\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  is finite dimensional, spanned by  $\{\text{irreducible modules}\}$  or  $\{\text{standard modules}\}$

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The **Hermitian** dual (representations preserving a Hermitian form) is known (Knapp/Zuckerman)

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An (invariant, non-degenerate) Hermitian form on  $(\pi, V)$ :

$$\langle \pi(X)\vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \pi(X)\vec{w} \rangle = 0 \quad (X \in \mathfrak{g}(\mathbb{R}))$$

(+ similar condition on  $K$ ); not necessarily positive definite

$$\langle \pi(X)\vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \pi(\sigma(X))\vec{w} \rangle = 0 \quad (X \in \mathfrak{g})$$

where  $G(\mathbb{R}) = G^\sigma$

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How do you compute the signature of a Hermitian form on an infinite dimensional vector space?

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Conclusion: **it is very difficult** to formulate a precise algorithm

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**So:** write  $I_c(\Gamma)$ ,  $J_c(\Gamma)$  for these representations equipped with their canonical  $c$ -forms.

## DIGRESSION: HODGE THEORY

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2011: Schmid and Vilonen formulated a precise conjecture relating the Hodge filtration to the **canonical c-form**.

2022: Dougal Davis and Kari Vilonen proved a (slightly) weak version of this conjecture. Roughly speaking: the Hodge filtration, reduced (mod 2) gives the c-form (later)

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2)  $\pi$  finite length  $\Rightarrow \pi|_K = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \pi_i|_K$  ( $\pi_i$  tempiric) (unique **finite** formula)

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Similarly:  $\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i s) \pi_i$  represents the form on  $(a_i + b_i)$  copies of  $\pi_i|_K$ , with  $a_i/b_i$  positive/negative forms.

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$$I_c((1 + \epsilon)t) = I_c((1 - \epsilon)t) - \sum_{\tau < \gamma} s^{(\ell_0(\gamma) - \ell_0(\tau))/2} \left[ \sum_{\substack{\delta \\ \tau \leq \delta \leq \gamma}} (-1)^{\ell(\delta) - \ell(\tau)} s^{\ell(\gamma) - \ell(\delta)} P_{\tau, \delta}(s) Q_{\delta, \gamma}(s) \right] I_c(\delta)$$

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By induction: get an explicit formula

$$(*) \quad I_c(x, \lambda, \nu) = \sum v_i I_c(\gamma_i)$$

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Put (\*) and (\*\*) together:



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Then  $J(\gamma)$  is unitary if and only if  $z'_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $i$  (i.e.  $z'_i = a_i + b_i s$  and  $b_i = 0$ ).

## SOME TECHNICAL POINTS

Strictly speaking  $J_h(\gamma)$  isn't well defined. There are some choices along the way, but in the end the Hermitian form on  $J(\gamma)$  (if it exists) is unique up to real scalar, and  $J(\gamma)$  is unitary if and only if this form is positive or negative definite.

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To go from  $I_c(\gamma)$  to  $I_h(\gamma)$  is easy in the equal rank case. Otherwise it requires a long (painful!) digression in [twisted KLV polynomials](#). See Lusztig-Vogan (2014) and Adams-Vogan (2015).

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Recall  $(a + bs)\mu$  means the signature on the  $\mu$  isotopic is  $(a, b)$   
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# HODGE FILTRATION AND THE $C$ -FORM

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$(a_0 + a_1 v + \dots a_n v^n) * \mu$  means:  $\mu$  has multiplicity  $a_i$  in the  $i^{th}$   
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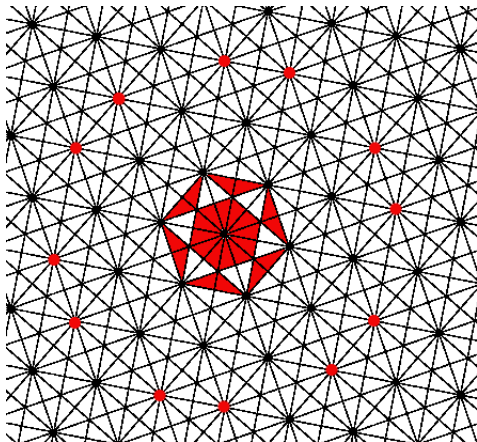
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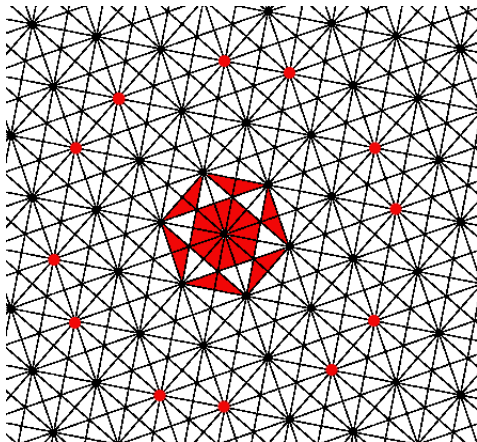
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How does this generalize?

# THE FPP CONJECTURE

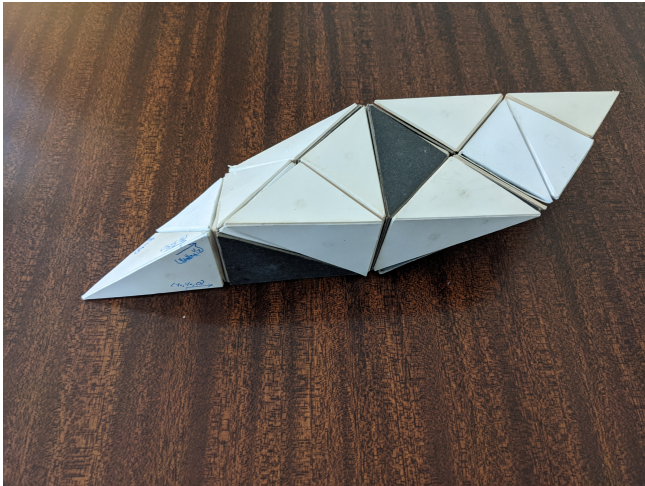
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**Remark:** The proof (by Davis/Mason-Brown) is an application of Schmid and Vilonen’s Hodge theory conjectures (proved by Davis/Vilonen).



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So: computing the  $(x, \lambda, \nu)$  in the FPP which are unitary is a finite calculation, and gives a complete description of the unitary dual.

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### Theorem:

- 1) **Unipotent case:** If  $\Psi$  is unipotent then  $\Pi(\Psi)$  is unitary.
- 2) **General Arthur packets:** In general  $\Pi(\Psi)$  is known to be unitary in many cases (see the next slide)

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**Davis/Mason-Brown: uniform proof:** 1) for complex classical groups and many cases for real groups (using Hodge theory). Plus Adams/Mason-Brown/Ionov (unpublished): 1) in all cases, plus 2) in all “generic” cases.

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The missing cases are intermediate. We hope to have a proof covering all cases. This would imply all Arthur packets are unitary.



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If  $\Psi|_{\mathbb{C}^\times}$  is generic then  $\Pi(\Psi)$  is unitary.

The missing cases are intermediate. We hope to have a proof covering all cases. This would imply all Arthur packets are unitary.

Assuming this goes through this gives a conceptual description of a large part, but not all, of the unitary dual: those representations in Arthur packets, together with complementary series deformations of them.

# ARTHUR'S CONJECTURES

$$\Psi : W_{\mathbb{R}} \times \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow {}^L G$$

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The missing cases are intermediate. We hope to have a proof covering all cases. This would imply all Arthur packets are unitary.

Assuming this goes through this gives a conceptual description of a large part, but not all, of the unitary dual: those representations in Arthur packets, together with complementary series deformations of them.

Ongoing work of Mason-Brown, Loseu, Davis, . . . : define a large class of representations, including those of Arthur type, so that the full unitary dual is obtained from this by complementary series deformations.

**Fin**

**Fin**

**Merci**