

Complex representation: $\Pi: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ where V is a complex vector space.

For Lie algebras, $\pi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(V)$.

Recall group homomorphism induces algebra homomorphism (and vice versa if G is simply connected).

Thus Π gives $\pi = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \Pi(e^{tx})$. Also $\pi \circ \text{Ad}_g = \text{Ad}_{\Pi(g)} \circ \pi = \Pi(g) \cdot \pi \cdot \Pi(g)^{-1}$.

Examples: standard representations; adjoint representations.

Faithful: the homomorphism is injective.

Irreducible: V has no non-trivial invariant subspace.

Unitary: there is a Hermitian metric on V such that $\Pi: G \rightarrow U(V)$.

Morphism between representation: $V \rightarrow W$ which commutes with the action (intertwining).

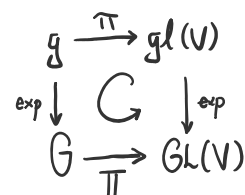
Suppose G is connected.

1. Π is irreducible if and only if π is:

$W \subset V$ invariant under $G \Rightarrow$ invariant under \mathfrak{g} .

If W is invariant under \mathfrak{g} , then it is invariant under

$\exp tX \in G$. But any element in G can be written as product of these.



2. $\Pi_1 \cong \Pi_2$ if and only if $\pi_1 \cong \pi_2$:

\Rightarrow is obvious since $V \rightarrow W$ intertwines with the group actions implies it intertwines with the algebra actions.

\Leftarrow $V \rightarrow W$ intertwines with $\pi_i(X)$, and hence $\exp \pi_i(X) = \Pi(\exp X)$, and hence $\Pi(g)$ for arbitrary g .

3. Given Π . $\Pi: G \rightarrow U(V) \Leftrightarrow \pi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{u}(V)$:

\rightarrow we already have $\pi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(V)$. It is obvious that the image is contained in $\mathfrak{u}(V)$.

\Leftarrow $\Pi(\exp X) = \exp(\pi(X)) \in U(V)$. Any $g \in G$ is a product of $\exp X$.

Most important example:

$SU(2) \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{C}^2)$, and hence $SU(2) \rightarrow SU\left(\text{Sym}^m\left((\mathbb{C}^2)^*\right)\right)$. Explicitly

$$g \cdot f = (g^{-1})^* f = f(g^{-1} \cdot z).$$

$$\text{Induces } \mathfrak{su}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{su}\left(\text{Sym}^m\left((\mathbb{C}^2)^*\right)\right).$$

$$X \cdot f = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(g_t^{-1} \cdot z) = df|_z \cdot (-X \cdot z).$$

Complexify: $\mathfrak{su} \otimes \mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{sl}_{\mathbb{C}}$ (any complex matrix is a sum of Hermitian and skew-Hermitian matrices.)

Have $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}\left(\text{Sym}^m\left((\mathbb{C}^2)^*\right)\right)$ defined by the same formula.

Suppose $f = z_1^l z_2^k$ ($l + k = m$). $df = lz_1^{l-1} z_2^k dz_1 + kz_1^l z_2^{k-1} dz_2$.

$$\text{Let } X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

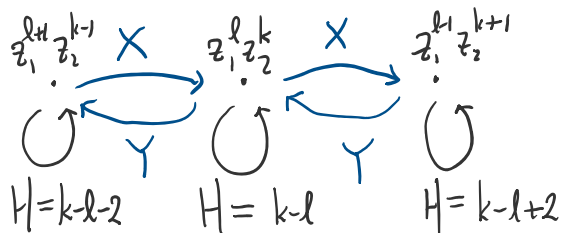
$$X \cdot z_1^l z_2^k = lz_1^{l-1} z_2^k (-z_2) = -lz_1^{l-1} z_2^{k+1}.$$

$$Y \cdot z_1^l z_2^k = kz_1^l z_2^{k-1} (-z_1) = -kz_1^{l+1} z_2^{k-1}.$$

$$H \cdot z_1^l z_2^k = lz_1^{l-1} z_2^k (-z_1) + kz_1^l z_2^{k-1} (z_2) = (-l + k)z_1^l z_2^k.$$

Eigenspace decomposition of H :

$Sym^m((\mathbb{C}^2)^*) = \bigoplus_{l+k=m} \mathbb{C} \cdot z_1^l z_2^k$ with eigenvalues $k - l$.



$Sym^m((\mathbb{C}^2)^*)$ is an irreducible representation of $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$:

Suppose W is an invariant subspace and $0 \neq f \in W$. Apply X enough times, it becomes zero.

$0 \neq X^q \cdot f \in \mathbb{C} \cdot z_2^m$ for some q . Hence W contains $\mathbb{C} \cdot z_2^m$. Now take Y^p , then W contains everything.

Exercises. (Section 4.9)

2. Show that the adjoint representation and the standard representation of $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ are isomorphic.

13. Let π be a representation of $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$. Show that the eigenvalues of $\pi(H)$ for $H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ are integers (by using $e^{2\pi i H} = Id \in SU(2)$).