

Last two lectures: repn theory of compact gps.

In particular, their f.d. reps. are irred.

Def 68: Let G be a complex reductive gp.

a) G is semisimple if its Lie algebra is semisimple

b) G is reductive if its Lie algebra is reductive

(several variants of these def'n's)

All of the complex Lie gps. from lecture 24 are reductive

Thm 69 (Weyl's Thm): All f.d. reps. of complex conn. semisimple Lie algebras and Lie gps. are completely reducible.

We'll say that such an object has complete reducibility

Very rough proof sketch: (see [Hall §6.1])

a) Compact gps. have complete reducibility (Thm. 64)

b) So Lie algebras of simply conn. compact Lie gps. have complete reducibility using the Lie gp. - Lie alg. correspondence (Prop. 61)

c) Every complex semisimple Lie algebra is the 'complexification' of a Lie algebra from part b). Furthermore, complexification preserves complete reducibility

d) So again using the Lie gp. - Lie alg. correspondence (Prop. 61), all complex conn. semisimple Lie gps. have complete reducibility.

□

What about the reductive case?

$$\text{Ex: } \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}_2(\mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \mathfrak{z}$$

$$\text{where } \mathfrak{z} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & \\ & a \end{bmatrix} \mid a \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

$$\pi: \begin{bmatrix} a & \\ & a \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a \end{bmatrix} \text{ is a Lie alg. repr.}$$

$$\text{but } \begin{bmatrix} a \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ay \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ only evector is } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So neither \mathfrak{z} nor $\mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{C})$ have complete reducibility!

Let's try to exponentiate this repr. using Prop. 61

$$e^{\begin{bmatrix} a & \\ & a \end{bmatrix}} = \begin{bmatrix} e^a & \\ & e^a \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\pi \left(\begin{bmatrix} e^a & \\ & e^a \end{bmatrix} \right) = e^{\pi(\begin{bmatrix} a & \\ & a \end{bmatrix})} = e^{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ & a \end{bmatrix}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e.

$$\pi \left(\begin{bmatrix} b & \\ & b \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \log b \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

not a (continuous) repn.!

Note that $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ (and $\mathbb{C}^\times = GL_1(\mathbb{C})$)
are not simply connected

It turns out that $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ does have complete reducibility:

$$GL_n(\mathbb{C}) = (\mathbb{C}^\times \times SL_n(\mathbb{C})) / \mu_n$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{n\text{th roots of } 1}$

Thus every $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ repn can be inflated to a
 $\mathbb{C}^\times \times SL_n(\mathbb{C})$ repn via

$$\mathbb{C}^\times \times SL_n(\mathbb{C}) \twoheadrightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow V$$

The (holomorphic) irreps of \mathbb{C}^\times are

$$z \mapsto z^n$$

The irreps of $SL_n(\mathbb{C})$ are the highest wt. reps.

(exponentiated from the highest wt. reps. of $\mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$).

So the $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ irreps turn out to be of the form

$$\underbrace{g \mapsto \det(g)}_{\mathbb{C}^\times\text{-reph}} \det^{\otimes N} \otimes \underbrace{V^\lambda}_{\text{highest wt. reph}} \leftarrow \text{dominant wt.}$$

"central character"

and all (f.d., holomorphic) $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ -reps are direct sums of these reps.

Now, dominant weights in type A_{n-1} are of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= a_1 e_1 + a_2 (e_1 + e_2) + \dots + a_{n-1} (e_1 + \dots + e_{n-1}) \\ &= (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{n-1}) \quad \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n-1} \geq 0, \quad \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

Integer partitions w/ $\leq n-1$ parts!

Remember that we view e_i as the linear functional

$$e_i \left[\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ a_i \\ \vdots \end{array} \right] = a_i$$

In $\mathfrak{sl}_n(\mathbb{C})$, $e_n = -e_1 - \dots - e_{n-1}$

But in $\mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{C})$, it is linearly indep. and we have the weight

$$(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n), \quad \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Central character:

$$\lambda \left(\left[\begin{array}{c} a \\ \vdots \\ a \end{array} \right] \right) = a (\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n)$$

Tensor by $\det \leftrightarrow$ add 1 to each λ_i .

So, dominant means $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n-1} \geq \lambda_n$

Tensoring by $\det^{\otimes(-\lambda)}$ gives back the \mathcal{A} condition

$$\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n-1} \geq 0$$

Exponentiating yields

$$\text{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mapsto a_1 \lambda_1 + \dots + a_n \lambda_n$$

$\exp \downarrow$

$\downarrow \exp$

$$\text{diag}(b_1, \dots, b_n) \mapsto b_1^{\lambda_1} \cdot \dots \cdot b_n^{\lambda_n}$$

and further arguments show that all the matrix coeffs. are Laurent polys. in the matrix entries

Def/Thm 70: A repr. π of $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ is polynomial if all its matrix coefficients $g \mapsto \langle e_j, \pi(g)e_i \rangle$ are polynomial fns. (in the entries) of g . π is rational if its matrix coeffs. are rational fns. of g .

If $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$, $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ is a dominant wt., then the (exponentiated) highest wt. repr. V^λ is rational, and if $\lambda_n \geq 0$, it is polynomial. Every rational repr can be written in the form $\det^{\otimes(-a)} \otimes V^\lambda$ where V^λ is poly.