

MODULE STRUCTURE OF CERTAIN INDUCED REPRESENTATIONS OF COMPACT LIE GROUPS

BY

E. JAMES FUNDERBURK

ABSTRACT. Let G be a compact connected Lie group and assume a choice of maximal torus and positive roots has been made. Given a dominant weight λ , the Borel-Weil Theorem shows how to construct a holomorphic line bundle on whose sections G acts so that the holomorphic sections provide a realization of the irreducible representation of G with highest weight λ . This paper studies the G -module structure of the space Γ of square integrable sections of the Borel-Weil line bundle. It is found that $\Gamma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma(n)$, where $\Gamma(n) \subset \Gamma(n+1) \subset \Gamma$ and $\Gamma(n)$ is isomorphic, as G -module, to

$$V(\lambda + n\lambda) \otimes V(n\lambda^*),$$

where $V(\mu)$ denotes the irreducible representation of highest weight μ , '+' is the Cartan semigroup operation, and '*' is the contragredient operation. Similar formulas hold for powers of the Borel-Weil line bundle.

1. Introduction. In the formulation of quantum mechanics proposed by J.-M. Souriau (see [14]) one is led, given a Lie group G , to the study of certain homogeneous Hermitian line bundles with connection whose bases have a symplectic structure determined as the curvature of the given connection. It is a natural question to ask the G -module structure of the sections of such homogeneous line bundles. For the case when G is a compact connected Lie group, this paper presents an answer to this question. In the solution presented one also obtains the G -module structure of square-integrable functions on both the total space and base of the associated principal bundle.

The answer obtained may be expressed as follows. Let T be a maximal torus in the compact connected Lie group G and Λ^+ the set of dominant weights for G with respect to a fixed choice of positive roots. Set theoretically we view Λ^+ as a certain set of linear functions on the Lie algebra of G , closed under addition and containing the zero linear functional. The Cartan theory of highest weights presents an identification of Λ^+ with \hat{G} , the set of, necessarily finite-dimensional and unitary, irreducible representations of G .

Let \mathfrak{S} denote the set of all functions from \hat{G} to the nonnegative integers, \mathbf{Z}^+ , and let \mathfrak{R} denote the set of unitary equivalence classes of completely

Received by the editors November 6, 1975.

AMS (MOS) subject classifications (1970). Primary 17B10, 43A85; Secondary 22E45, 17B20.

Key words and phrases. Compact connected Lie group, highest weight, lowest weight, opposition involution, Cartan semigroup, tensor product, cyclic representation, Borel-Weil realization.

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continuous unitary representations of G . Then, there is a bijection $\text{ch}: \mathfrak{R} \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}$, such that $\text{ch}(\rho)(\lambda)$ is the multiplicity of λ as a subrepresentation of ρ , for ρ in \mathfrak{R} , λ in G . Thus the function $\text{ch}(\rho)$ determines the G -module structure of ρ . We refer to $\text{ch}(\rho)$ as the formal character of ρ .

The elements of \mathfrak{R} whose formal characters we will determine may be described as follows. Fix λ in \hat{G} and denote by λ^* in \hat{G} the representation contragredient to λ . Let K denote the isotropy group of λ^* in G with respect to the contragredient adjoint action of G . Let R and L denote the right and left regular representations of G in $L^2(G)$. Let Γ and Γ_k (for k in \mathbf{Z}) denote the elements of \mathfrak{R} which are subrepresentations of L determined by the following requirements on f in $L^2(G)$:

$$f \in \Gamma \text{ iff } R(x)f = f, x \in K_0,$$

$$f \in \Gamma_k \text{ iff } R(x)f = \chi(x)^k f, x \in K.$$

Here $\chi: K \rightarrow S^1$ is the homomorphism determined by λ^* ($\chi(\exp X) = e^{\lambda^*(X)}$, for X in the Lie algebra of K), and K_0 is the kernel of χ . It is clear that $\Gamma_k \subset \Gamma$ for all k , and one may show $\Gamma = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \Gamma_k$, a direct sum in \mathfrak{R} . Γ_1 may be interpreted as the L^2 sections of a homogeneous Hermitian line bundle with connection $E \rightarrow M$ determined by λ^* , Γ_0 as $L^2(M)$, and Γ as $L^2(P)$, $S^1 \rightarrow P \rightarrow M$ being the associated principal bundle to $E \rightarrow M$.

We express $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$ as the limit of a certain bounded increasing sequence in \mathfrak{S} ($f < g$ in \mathfrak{S} iff $f(\lambda) < g(\lambda)$ for all λ in \hat{G} ; a subset S of \mathfrak{S} is bounded iff $\{f(\lambda) | f \in S, \lambda \in \hat{G}\}$ is a bounded set in \mathbf{Z}^+); obviously such a sequence has a unique point-wise defined limit in \mathfrak{S} . It is shown that

$$\{\text{ch}(\mu + n\nu \otimes n\nu^*)\}_{n=0}^\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \{\text{ch}(n\nu \otimes \mu + n\nu^*)\}_{n=0}^\infty$$

are bounded increasing sequences in \mathfrak{S} , for μ, ν in Λ^+ . Then for k in \mathbf{Z}^+ , our main result states

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma_k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*), \quad \text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(n\lambda \otimes k\lambda^* + n\lambda^*).$$

In particular

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma_1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}((\lambda + n\lambda) \otimes n\lambda^*), \quad \text{ch}(\Gamma_0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*),$$

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\text{ch}((k\lambda + n\lambda) \otimes n\lambda^*) + \text{ch}(n\lambda \otimes (k\lambda^* + n\lambda^*))).$$

The basic idea involved in establishing the above formulas may be referred to as the Borel-Weil realizations of elements of \hat{G} . For λ in $\hat{G} = \Lambda^+$, consider the systems of differential equations:

- (1) $(R(X) - \lambda^*(X))f = 0,$
- (2) $(L(X) - \lambda(X))f = 0,$

for X a positive root vector or an element of the Lie algebra of T . Let \mathfrak{B}_λ denote the simultaneous solutions to (1); and \mathfrak{B}_λ^0 the simultaneous solutions to (1) and (2). Then, the subrepresentation of L in \mathfrak{B}_λ is a representative of λ in \hat{G} and \mathfrak{B}_λ is the highest weight space; we take this statement to be the Borel-Weil Theorem, and refer to B_λ as the Borel-Weil realization of λ . One has the relations $B_{\lambda+\nu} = B_\lambda B_\nu$ (equality of sets, $B_\lambda B_\nu$ is the complex span of point-wise defined products fg with f in B_ν , g in B_λ). \bar{B}_ν is isomorphic to B_{ν^*} (\bar{B}_ν is the set of \bar{f} with f in B_ν) and the multiplication map $B_\lambda \otimes B_\nu \rightarrow B_\lambda \bar{B}_\nu$ a (nonunitary) G -module equivalence; thus $B_\lambda \bar{B}_{\nu^*}$ as a subrepresentation of L is isomorphic to the tensor product $\lambda \otimes \nu$.

Borel-Weil realizations are related to the original question by using the Stone-Weierstrass Theorem to show $\sum_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}^+} \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda} \bar{\mathfrak{B}}_{q\lambda}$ is dense in $\Gamma = L^2(P)$.

For certain special cases we determine $\text{ch}(\Gamma_1)$ explicitly by working out the tensor product limits of our general expression for $\text{ch}(\Gamma_1)$. There is a generally applicable theoretical formula for the Clebsch-Gordon series for the tensor product of two irreducible representations (Steinberg's formula). When λ is regular, multiplicity formulas, such as those of Kostant and of Freudenthal, are of practical use in computing $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$.

The author expresses his appreciation to Joel W. Robbin for his lectures on the Souriau-Kostant approach to quantum mechanics and representation theory of Lie groups; these lectures and ensuing conversations made it possible to consider the questions of this paper.

2. Compact connected Lie groups. Throughout this paper G denotes a compact connected Lie group, \mathfrak{G} its Lie algebra and $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}$ the complexification of \mathfrak{G} .

2.1. Background on completely continuous representations. $C(G)$ ($C^\infty(G)$) denotes the complex vector space of continuous (smooth) functions on G . $L^2(G)$ denotes the Hilbert space of functions on G that are square-integrable with respect to the normalized bi-invariant Haar measure dx on G .

We denote by \mathfrak{R} (respectively, \hat{G}) the set of unitary equivalence classes of completely continuous (respectively, irreducible) unitary representations of G . L and R , the left-regular and right-regular representations of G in $L^2(G)$, are (equal) elements of \mathfrak{R} (see 2.6.2 and 2.8.2 of [17]).

If ρ is a unitary representation we may denote by V^ρ the Hilbert space in which ρ acts by unitary operators. For ρ in \hat{G} , V^ρ is a finite-dimensional vector space (see 2.6.3 of [17]) of dimension d_ρ .

For ρ in \hat{G} we assume that an orthonormal basis $\{v_i^\rho\}_{i=1, \dots, d_\rho}$ has been chosen for V^ρ ; in (2.4) a certain choice of basis will be made. Define $\rho_{ij} \in C(G)$ by $\rho_{ij}(a) = \{\rho(a)v_j^\rho, v_i^\rho\}$, $a \in G$, $1 \leq i, j \leq d_\rho$. The Peter-Weyl Theorem [5, p. 203] asserts the density in $L^2(G)$ of $\{\rho_{ij} | \rho \in \hat{G}, 1 \leq i, j \leq d_\rho\}$. Defining $E^{i,j,\rho}$ in $\text{End}(V^\rho)$ (the set of linear maps from V^ρ to V^ρ) by

$$E^{ij,\rho}v_k^\rho = \delta_{jk}v_i^\rho, \quad 1 \leq i, j, k \leq d_\rho,$$

one has $\rho(a) = \sum_{i,j} \rho_{ij}(a)E^{ij,\rho}$, $a \in G$.

Declaring $\{d_\rho^{-1/2}E^{ij,\rho}: 1 \leq i, j \leq d_\rho\}$ to be an orthonormal set imposes a Hilbert space structure on $\text{End}(V^\rho)$. One may form the Hilbert space direct sum \mathfrak{E} of the $\text{End}(V^\rho)$ for ρ in \hat{G} . For A in \mathfrak{E} and ρ in \hat{G} , A_ρ denotes the component of A in $\text{End}(V^\rho)$.

The Fourier transform $\mathfrak{F}: L^2(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{E}$ and the inverse Fourier transform $\mathfrak{F}^*: \mathfrak{E} \rightarrow L^2(G)$ are mutually inverse isometries such that for f in $C(G)$, ρ in \hat{G} , A in $\text{End}(V^\rho)$, y in G ,

$$\mathfrak{F}(f)_\rho = \int_G f(x)\rho(x) dx, \quad \mathfrak{F}^*(A)(y) = d_\rho \text{tr}(A\rho(y^{-1})).$$

If ρ is in \mathfrak{R} and λ is in \hat{G} , then the finite dimension of the space of all operators that intertwine λ and ρ we denote by $\text{ch}(\rho)(\lambda)$. Thus, ch sets up a one-to-one correspondence between \mathfrak{R} and the set \mathfrak{S} of functions from \hat{G} to \mathbf{Z}^+ . We call $\text{ch}(\rho)$ the formal character of the completely continuous representation ρ .

2.2. *Cartan semigroup.* Let ρ be a unitary representation of G . If v is a smooth vector we set

$$\rho(X)v = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (\rho(\exp(tX))v - v)/t, \quad X \in \mathfrak{G}.$$

From now on in §2 all representations are assumed to be finite-dimensional unitary. For a representation ρ of G we denote also by ρ the associated Lie algebra homomorphism $\mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \text{End}(V^\rho)$ or its complex linear extension $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \text{End}(V^\rho)$.

We assume fixed a maximal torus T of G with Lie algebra \mathfrak{T} . \mathfrak{Z} denotes the complexification of the Lie algebra of the center of G , $\mathfrak{L} = [\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}, \mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}]$, $\mathfrak{K} = \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} \cap \mathfrak{L}$.

The complexified adjoint representation of G in $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}$ is denoted by ad , its contragredient by ad^* . We assume fixed a positive definite inner product on \mathfrak{G} extended to Hermitian inner product on $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}$ and dualized to one on $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}^*$ which (see 5.6.1 of [17]) is $\text{ad}(G)$ invariant, is equal to the negative Killing form on $\mathfrak{L} \cap \mathfrak{G}$, and renders \mathfrak{L} and \mathfrak{Z} perpendicular. By means of the splittings $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} \oplus \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^\perp$, $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{K} \oplus \mathfrak{Z}$, we consider $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$ and \mathfrak{K}^* as subspaces of $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}^*$.

If ρ is a representation of G and λ is in $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$, set $V_\lambda^\rho = \{v \in V^\rho | \rho(\exp(H))v = e^{\lambda(H)}v \text{ if } H \in \mathfrak{T}\}$. If $V_\lambda^\rho \neq (0)$ we say that λ is a weight of ρ , V_λ^ρ is the λ weight space of ρ and nonzero elements of V_λ^ρ are weight vectors of ρ of weight λ ; $\Lambda(\rho)$ is the set of weights of ρ .

The root system Φ of G with respect to T may be defined as $\Lambda(\text{ad}) - \{0\}$. We assume a fixed set Φ^+ of positive roots has been chosen, and set

$\Phi^- = -\Phi^+$ and denote by \mathfrak{U}^+ (\mathfrak{U}^-) the vector space sum of the positive (negative) root spaces; \mathfrak{G}_α denotes the α weight space of ad , for $\alpha \in \Phi$.

Let Λ^+ denote the set of dominant weights of G (with respect to T, Φ^+). As a subset of the additive vector space $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$, Λ^+ is an abelian semigroup with identity. Since identified with Λ^+ via the correspondence of ρ in \hat{G} with its highest weight λ_ρ in Λ^+ , G is an abelian semigroup, called the Cartan semigroup.

2.3. *Weyl group; opposition involution.* The Weyl group W of G (with respect to T) may be defined as $N(T)/T$, where $N(T) = \{a \in G \mid nTn^{-1} = T\}$, or as the subgroup of linear automorphisms of $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$ generated by the reflections $\{\sigma_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \Phi\}$, where

$$\sigma_\alpha(\lambda) = \lambda - 2(\{\lambda, \alpha\} \alpha / \{\alpha, \alpha\}),$$

for α, λ in $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$. If $\text{ad}^*(n)$, for n in $N(T)$, induces the automorphism w of $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$, we may write $w = nT$.

There is a unique element w_0 in W with $w_0\Phi^+ = \Phi^-$; since w_0^2 is the identity, w_0 is called the opposition involution (with respect to T, Φ^+). We assume n_0 in $N(T)$ chosen with $w_0 = n_0T$.

2.4. *Lowest weight.* For each ρ in \hat{G} there is unique λ_ρ^- in $-\Lambda^+$ so that $\lambda_\rho^- \in \Lambda(\rho)$ but, for $\alpha \in \Phi^-, \lambda_\rho^- + \alpha \notin \Lambda(\rho)$; λ_ρ^- is called the lowest weight of ρ and any nonzero element of the one-dimensional space $V_{\lambda_\rho^-}^\rho$ is called a lowest weight vector.

PROPOSITION (2.4.1). *For ρ in \hat{G} , $w_0(\lambda_\rho) = \lambda_\rho^- = -\lambda_{\rho^*}$ and $\rho(n_0^\varepsilon)V_{\lambda_\rho}^\rho = V_{\lambda_\rho^\varepsilon}^\rho$, for $\varepsilon = \pm 1$. Here ρ^* is the representation of G in $(V^\rho)^*$ contragredient to ρ .*

PROOF. Choose α in $\Phi^+, X_{-\alpha}$ in $\mathfrak{G}_{-\alpha}$, and v in $V_{\lambda_\rho}^\rho$. As $\text{ad}(n_0)\mathfrak{G}_{-\alpha} \subset \mathfrak{G}_{w_0(-\alpha)} \subset \mathfrak{n}^+$, one has $\rho(X_{-\alpha})\rho(n_0^{-1})v = \rho(n_0^{-1})\rho(\text{ad}(n_0)X_{-\alpha})v = 0$. It follows that $V_{\lambda_\rho}^\rho = \rho(n_0^{-1})V_{\lambda_\rho}^\rho = V_{w_0(\lambda_\rho)}^\rho$, so $\lambda_\rho^- = w_0(\lambda_\rho)$. From $\Lambda(\rho^*) = -\Lambda(\rho)$ we see that $-\lambda_{\rho^*} - \alpha$ is not in $\Lambda(\rho)$ for α in Φ^+ and that $-\lambda_{\rho^*}$ is in $\Lambda(\rho)$. By the uniqueness of λ_ρ^- , $-\lambda_{\rho^*} = \lambda_\rho^-$. Q.E.D.

From now on in this paper we assume the Cartan identification of \hat{G} with Λ^+ . Frequently elements of \hat{G} are denoted by λ in Λ^+ ; sometimes $\rho_\lambda(a)$ may be written in place of $\lambda(a)$, for a in G .

Suppose λ in $\Lambda^+ = \hat{G}$ is chosen. We choose once and for all, an orthonormal basis $\{v_i^\lambda\}_{i=1, \dots, d(\lambda)}$ of V^λ consisting of weight vectors and enumerated in such a way that v_1^λ is of weight λ and $v_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda$ is of weight $-\lambda^*$, where λ^* is the element of Λ^+ corresponding to the contragredient of λ . We denote by $\{\phi_i^\lambda\}_{i=1, \dots, d(\lambda)}$ the basis of V^{λ^*} dual to $\{v_i^\lambda\}_{i=1, \dots, d(\lambda)}$; thus $\phi_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda$ is of weight λ^* and ϕ_1^λ of weight $-\lambda$. We may further assume that $v_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda = \lambda(n_0)v_1^\lambda$ and define $\zeta_0 \in S^1$ by $\lambda(n_0^{-1})v_1^\lambda = \zeta_0 v_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda$.

For later use we introduce the notations f_i^λ for $\bar{\lambda}_{i d(\lambda)}$ and \mathfrak{B}_λ for the complex linear span of the independent set $\{f_1^\lambda, \dots, f_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda\}$. One may readily

verify the formulas $f_1^\lambda(n_0^{-1}) = 1$; $\lambda(a)v_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda = \sum \bar{f}_i^\lambda(a)v_i^\lambda$; $\lambda^*(a)\phi_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda = \sum f_i^\lambda(a)\phi_i^\lambda$; $\sum f_i^\lambda \bar{f}_i^\lambda = 1$ (the summations in these last three formulas are for $i = 1, \dots, d(\lambda)$).

For λ in \hat{G} we identify $\text{End}(V^\lambda)$ and $V^\lambda \otimes V^{\lambda^*}$ by corresponding $v \otimes \phi$ to the endomorphism sending v' to $\phi(v')v$; in particular $v_i^\lambda \otimes \phi_j^\lambda$ corresponds to $E^{ij\lambda}$. Further equating $\text{End}(V^\lambda)$ with $L^2(G)_\lambda = \mathfrak{F}^*(\text{End}(V^\lambda))$ via the Fourier transform \mathfrak{F} , we see that $L(a)$ corresponds to $\lambda(a) \otimes 1$ and $R(a)$ to $1 \otimes \lambda^*(a)$, for a in G .

2.5. Cyclic representations. A representation ρ of G is called *cyclic* if there is v in V^ρ so that V^ρ equals the linear span of the orbit $\{\rho(a)v | a \in G\}$; a vector whose orbit spans V^ρ is called a cyclic vector.

PROPOSITION (2.5.1). (a) ρ is cyclic if ρ is in \hat{G} . (b) If ρ_1 and ρ_2 are in \hat{G} , then $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$ is cyclic; in fact $v_1 \otimes v_2$ is a cyclic vector if v_1 is a highest weight vector for ρ_1 and v_2 a lowest weight vector for ρ_2 , and $v_1 \neq 0, v_2 \neq 0$.

PROOF. (a) The linear span of an orbit is an invariant subspace. Thus any nonzero vector in V^ρ is a cyclic vector for ρ in \hat{G} .

(b) Let v_1, v_2 be as enunciated, set $v = v_1 \otimes v_2$, and denote by V the span of the orbit of v under $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$. We must show $V = V^{\rho_1} \otimes V^{\rho_2}$. Choose $u_i \in V^{\rho_i}, i = 1, 2$. It suffices to show $u_1 \otimes u_2 \in v$. Now, u_1 is a linear combination of elements of the form v_1, Av_1 , where $A = \rho_1(X_1) \dots \rho_1(X_r)v_1$ ($\alpha(i) \in \Phi^+, X_i \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha(i)}$). But

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2)(X_{-\alpha})(w_1 \otimes v_2) &= (\rho_1(X_{-\alpha})w_1) \otimes v_2 + w_1 \otimes \rho_2(X_{-\alpha})v_2 \\ &= (\rho_1(X_{-\alpha})w_1) \otimes v_2 \end{aligned}$$

for $\alpha \in \Phi^+, X_{-\alpha} \in \mathfrak{g}_{-\alpha}, w_1 \in V^{\rho_1}$. As $(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2)(\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}})V \subset V$, one concludes $w_1 \otimes v_2 \in V$ for any $w_1 \in V^{\rho_1}$. Now by (a) there are c_1, \dots, c_r in $\mathbb{C}, a_1, \dots, a_r$ in G with $u_2 = \sum_i c_i \rho_2(a_i)v_2$; hence

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 \otimes u_2 &= \sum_i c_i u_1 \otimes \rho_2(a_i)v_2 \\ &= \sum_i c_i (\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2)(a_i) (\rho_1(a_i^{-1})u_1 \otimes v_2). \end{aligned}$$

With the previous remark, one concludes that $u_1 \otimes u_2 \in V$. Q.E.D.

3. The Borel-Weil Theorem and its consequences. We retain the notations of the preceding sections.

3.1. Borel-Weil Theorem. For μ in $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$ set

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{N}(\mu) &= \{f \in C^\infty(G) | (R(X) + \mu(X))f = 0 \text{ if } X \in \mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}} + \mathfrak{N}^+\}, \\ \mathfrak{N}'(\mu) &= \{f \in C^\infty(G) | (L(X) + \mu(X))f = 0 \text{ if } X \in \mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}} + \mathfrak{N}^+\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let G_μ denote the isotropy subgroup of μ in G under the contragredient adjoint action, and let \mathfrak{G}_μ denote the Lie algebra of G_μ .

The implication of the usual Borel-Weil Theorem (see [12]) from that stated below is detailed in [7].

THEOREM (3.1.1) (BOREL-WEIL THEOREM). (a) $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) = 0$ unless $-\mu$ is in Λ^+ .

(b) If $-\mu = \lambda^*$ with λ in Λ^+ , then $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \subset L^2(G)_\lambda$, $L(G)\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \subset \mathfrak{N}(\mu)$, and the subrepresentation of L in $\mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ is equivalent to λ .

(c) For μ, μ' in $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$, $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(\mu') \neq 0$ if and only if there is λ in Λ^+ with $-\mu = \lambda^*$, $-\mu' = \lambda$. If $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(\mu')$ is not zero, then its dimension is 1.

(d) $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) = \{f \in C^\infty(G) | (R(X) + \mu(X))f = 0 \text{ if } X \in (\mathfrak{G}_\mu)_\mathbb{C} + \mathfrak{N}^+\}$.

PROOF. We assert that if f is in $\mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ then $f_\gamma = \mathfrak{F}^*(\mathfrak{F}(f)_\gamma)$ is in $\mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ for γ in \hat{G} . Writing $g_\gamma = f - f_\gamma$ we have $f = f_\gamma + g_\gamma$, $f_\gamma \in L^2(G)_\gamma$, $g_\gamma \in L^2(G)_\gamma^\perp$. Now as R is unitary and preserves $L^2(G)_\gamma$, it also preserves $L^2(G)_\gamma^\perp$; hence the same is true of $R(X) + \mu(X)$ for any X in $\mathfrak{G}_\mathbb{C}$. Thus,

$$(R(X) + \mu(X))f_\gamma + (R(X) + \mu(X))g_\gamma$$

is the decomposition of $(R(X) + \mu(X))f$ into orthogonal components in $L^2(G)_\gamma$ and $L^2(G)_\gamma^\perp$. In particular, if $(R(X) + \mu(X))f = 0$, then

$$(R(X) + \mu(X))f_\gamma = 0 = (R(X) + \mu(X))g_\gamma,$$

from which the assertion follows.

We now show that for f in $\mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ and λ in Λ^+ , $f = 0$ unless $-\mu = \lambda^*$. In the identification of $L^2(G)_\lambda$ with $V^\lambda \otimes V^{\lambda^*}$, $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap L^2(G)_\lambda$ corresponds to $V^\lambda \otimes \{\phi \in V^{\lambda^*} | (\rho_{\lambda^*}(X) + \mu(X))\phi = 0 \text{ if } X \in \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} + \mathfrak{N}^+\}$. But this latter set is zero unless $-\mu = \lambda^*$, by the uniqueness of highest weight of V^{λ^*} . This establishes (a). Now if $-\mu = \lambda^*$ with λ in Λ^+ , then we have that $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \subset L^2(G)_\lambda$, $L(G)\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \subset \mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ (as L and R commute), and the subrepresentation of L in $\mathfrak{N}(\mu)$ is isomorphic to that of $\lambda \otimes 1$ in $V^\lambda \otimes V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$. As $\dim V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*} = 1$, the representation $\lambda \otimes 1$ of G in $V^\lambda \otimes V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$ is equivalent to that of λ . This establishes (b). Now if μ and μ' are in $\mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C}^*$, we know by (a) that $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(\mu') = 0$ unless $\mu = -\lambda^*$ for some λ in Λ^+ . If $\mu = -\lambda^*$, with λ in Λ^+ , then, in the identification with $V^\lambda \otimes V^{\lambda^*}$, $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(\mu') = \{v \in V^\lambda | (\rho_\lambda(X) + \mu'(X))v = 0 \text{ if } X \in \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} + \mathfrak{N}^+\} \otimes V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$. The first factor is 0 unless $\mu' = -\lambda$, by the uniqueness of highest weight in V^λ . If $-\mu' = \lambda$, then $\mathfrak{N}(\mu) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(\mu')$ corresponds to $V_\lambda^\lambda \otimes V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$, which is a one-dimensional space. This proves (c). To prove (d), we need only show that $\rho_{\lambda^*}(X)V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*} \subset V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$ if X is in $(\mathfrak{G}_\mu)_\mathbb{C}$ where $-\mu = \lambda^*$. But $(\mathfrak{G}_\mu)_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{T}_\mathbb{C} + \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi'} \mathfrak{G}_\alpha$, where $\Phi' = \{\alpha \in \Phi | \langle \alpha, \mu \rangle = 0\}$. Now if $\alpha \in \Phi' \cap \Phi^+$, then $V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^* + \alpha} = (0)$, as λ^* is the highest weight. But then $V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^* - \alpha} = V_{\sigma_\alpha(\lambda^* + \alpha)}^{\lambda^*} = \rho_{\lambda^*}(n_\alpha)V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^* + \alpha} = (0)$, where

$\sigma_\alpha = n_\alpha T$. Thus the highest weight space of λ^* is invariant under $(\mathcal{G}_\mu)_\mathbb{C}$. Q.E.D.

In view of the Borel-Weil Theorem, we introduce the notation $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda = \mathfrak{N}(-\lambda^*)$, $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda^0 = \mathfrak{N}(-\lambda^*) \cap \mathfrak{N}'(-\lambda)$, for λ in Λ^+ . The subrepresentation of L in \mathfrak{B}_λ is equivalent to λ , and \mathfrak{B}_λ^0 is a one-dimensional subspace of \mathfrak{B}_λ , in fact being the λ weight-space of L in \mathfrak{B}_λ . We call \mathfrak{B}_λ the *Borel-Weil realization* of λ in $\hat{G} = \Lambda^+$. Note that \mathfrak{B}_λ as here defined agrees with the notation introduced in 2.4 and that f_1^λ is a spanning vector of \mathfrak{B}_λ^0 . We call $\cup_{\lambda \in \Lambda^+} \mathfrak{B}_\lambda^0$ the set of *Borel-Weil functions*.

THEOREM (3.1.2). $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda^0 \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda'}^0 = \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\lambda'}^0$, for λ, λ' in Λ^+ .

PROOF. The Leibnitz rule for differentiating a product of functions shows immediately that $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda^0 \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda'}^0 \subset \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\lambda'}^0$. Now, $(f_1^\lambda \cdot f_1^{\lambda'})(n_0^{-1}) = 1$ (see 2.4). Thus $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda^0 \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda'}^0 \neq 0$ and as $\mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\lambda'}^0$ is one-dimensional, the result holds. Q.E.D.

Explicit formulas for Borel-Weil functions of the four classical series of compact simple Lie groups are detailed in [7].

3.2. Cartan product and tensor product. The results 3.2.1 and 3.2.4 below show how Borel-Weil realizations interact under point-wise multiplication and complex conjugation to yield realizations of the Cartan semigroup and tensor product operations.

THEOREM (3.2.1). $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu = \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}$.

PROOF. The Leibnitz rule and the definition of the \mathfrak{B}_λ 's shows at once that $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu \subseteq \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}$. $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu$ is invariant under L and $\mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}$ is irreducible under L . Thus either $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu = (0)$ or $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu = \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}$. But $0 \neq \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}^0 \subseteq \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu$, by (3.1.2). Thus, $\mathfrak{B}_\lambda \mathfrak{B}_\nu = \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda+\nu}$. Q.E.D.

The next two results are preparatory to 3.2.4, but of interest in their own right.

THEOREM (3.2.2). *The multiplication map $M: \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_\nu \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_\nu$ is a bijection, for λ, ν in Λ^+ .*

PROOF. M is clearly \mathbb{C} -linear and surjective. To show M is injective, choose T with $M(T) = 0$. We may write $T = \sum_{i,j} T_{ij} f_i^\lambda \otimes \bar{f}_j^\nu$, where the T_{ij} are certain numbers. Now set $\tau = \sum_{i,j} T_{ij} \tau_{ij}$, where $\{\tau_{ij}\}_{i,j}$ is the basis of $(V^{\lambda^*} \otimes V^\nu)^*$ dual to the basis $\{\phi_i^\lambda \otimes v_j^\nu\}_{i,j}$ of $V^{\lambda^*} \otimes V^\nu$. The relations of 2.4 may be used to see that, for a in G ,

$$\tau((\lambda^* \otimes \nu)(a)(\phi_{d(\lambda)}^\lambda \otimes v_{d(\nu)}^\nu)) = M(T)(a).$$

Since $M(T) = 0$, we conclude, with the assistance of 2.5.1(b), that $\tau = 0$. But then $T_{ij} = 0$ for all i, j which shows $T = 0$. Q.E.D.

PROPOSITION (3.2.3). For λ in Λ^+ , $R(n_0)\mathbb{B}_{\lambda^*} = \overline{\mathbb{B}_{\lambda}}$. Thus $R(n_0)$ provides a G -module equivalence between \mathbb{B}_{λ^*} and \mathbb{B}_{λ} .

PROOF. Choose f in \mathbb{B}_{λ^*} and X in $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}} + \mathfrak{U}^+$. Note that $\text{Ad}(n_0^{-1})X$ is also in $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}} + \mathfrak{U}^+$ (here $\overline{X} = X_1 - iX_2$ if $X = X_1 + iX_2$, with $X_1, X_2 \in \mathfrak{G}$) and that $\lambda(\overline{X}) = -\lambda(X)$ (as $\lambda(\mathfrak{G}) \subset i\mathbb{R}$). Then,

$$\begin{aligned} R(X)R(n_0)\bar{f} &= R(n_0)\overline{R(\text{Ad}(n_0^{-1})X)f} = R(n_0)\lambda^*(\overline{\text{Ad}(n_0^{-1})X})f \\ &= \overline{(w_0\lambda^*)(\overline{X})}R(n_0)\bar{f} = -\overline{\lambda(\overline{X})}R(n_0)\bar{f} = \lambda(X)R(n_0)\bar{f}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $R(n_0)\bar{f}$ is in \mathbb{B}_{λ} , so $R(n_0)f$ is in $\overline{\mathbb{B}_{\lambda}}$. Q.E.D.

COROLLARY (3.2.4). The map $f \otimes \underline{g} \rightarrow f \cdot R(n_0)g$ yields an isomorphism of G -modules between $\mathbb{B}_{\lambda} \otimes \mathbb{B}_{\nu}$ and $\mathbb{B}_{\lambda}\mathbb{B}_{\nu^*}$ for any λ, ν in Λ^+ .

Of course, this isomorphism is nonunitary, in general; but still $\text{ch}(\lambda \otimes \nu) = \text{ch}(\mathbb{B}_{\lambda}\mathbb{B}_{\nu^*})$.

4. **G -module structure of certain infinite-dimensional representations.** Throughout §4, λ in Λ^+ is fixed and for convenience usually assumed nonzero.

4.1. *The Hopf bundle for λ .* Set $K = G_{\lambda^*} = \{a \in G | \text{ad}^*(a)\lambda^* = \lambda^*\}$, $M = G/K$, \mathfrak{K} the Lie algebra of K . K is a compact connected subgroup of G (see 6.6.2 of [16]).

PROPOSITION (4.1.1); *There is a unique one-dimensional unitary representation $\chi: K \rightarrow S^1$ so that $\chi(\exp X) = e^{\lambda^*(X)}$ for $X \in \mathfrak{K}$.*

PROOF. Since K is compact connected, the given formula ensures the uniqueness of χ . Since $\lambda^*(\mathfrak{G}) \subset 2\pi i\mathbb{Z}$ and T is abelian, there does exist a character χ on T so that $\chi(\exp H) = e^{\lambda^*(H)}$ for H in \mathfrak{T} . If $aTa^{-1} = T$ for a in K , then the element a represents an element of the Weyl group W_K of T in K ; but W_K is generated by the reflections σ_{α} , where α is in Φ with $\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha} \subset \mathfrak{K}_{\mathbb{C}}$ and $\sigma_{\alpha}\lambda^* = \lambda^*$ for such α ; therefore $\chi(\text{ata}^{-1}) = \chi(t)$. Thus, there is a unique continuous class function χ on K extending χ on T (see 4.32 of [1]). It is immediate that $\chi(\exp X) = e^{\lambda^*(X)}$ for X in \mathfrak{K} , and it remains to see that χ is a group homomorphism. For this we write $\mathfrak{K} = \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{K}) \oplus [\mathfrak{K}, \mathfrak{K}]$ and note that $\lambda^*([\mathfrak{K}, \mathfrak{K}]) = 0$, $\exp \mathfrak{L}(\mathfrak{K}) \subset Z(K)$, and the connected Lie subgroup with Lie algebra $[\mathfrak{K}, \mathfrak{K}]$ is compact connected. Choose (see [15, p. 234]) a, b in K , X, Y in \mathfrak{K} with $\exp X = a$, $\exp Y = b$, and write $X = X_1 + X_2$, $Y = Y_1 + Y_2$ according to the preceding decomposition of \mathfrak{K} , and choose Z_2 in $[\mathfrak{K}, \mathfrak{K}]$ with $\exp X_2 \exp Y_2 = \exp Z_2$. Then one sees that $ab = \exp(X_1 + Y_1 + Z_2)$, from which it follows that $\chi(ab) = \chi(a)\chi(b)$. Thus χ is a continuous homomorphism from K to S^1 . It follows that χ is also smooth. Q.E.D.

Set $K_0 = \ker \chi$; K_0 is a closed normal subgroup of K , and a closed subgroup of G . If $\lambda^* = 0$, then $K_0 = K = G$. Since $\lambda^* \neq 0$, the induced homomorphism $\tilde{\chi}: K/K_0 \rightarrow S^1$ is a Lie group isomorphism, by means of which we identify K/K_0 and S^1 . If $K = G$, then most of our theory is, while valid, trivial; as examples $\lambda^* = w_1 + \dots + w_n$, $G = U(n)$, $\chi = \det$; and $\chi = \lambda^*$ if G is abelian.

Set $P = G/K_0$ and let $\pi: P \rightarrow M$ send aK_0 to aK . Using χ , we may define $P \times S^1 \rightarrow P$ by $(aK_0, \zeta) \rightarrow (ax)K_0$, where $x \in K$ is chosen so that $\chi(x) = \zeta$. Then π is the projection for a principal S^1 bundle, which we refer to as the Hopf bundle for λ . We show first how to describe this bundle in terms of the element λ^* of \hat{G} .

PROPOSITION (4.1.2). *The map from G to V^{λ^*} sending a to $\lambda^*(a)\phi_{d_\lambda}^\lambda$ determines an S^1 -bundle equivalence of π with $P_0 \rightarrow^{\pi_0} M_0$, where P_0 is the orbit of $\phi_{d_\lambda}^\lambda$ in V^{λ^*} , M_0 is the orbit of $V_{\lambda^*}^{\lambda^*}$ in the projective representation determined by λ^* , and π_0 is the restriction to P_0 of the natural projection. The S^1 action on P_0 is induced by scalar multiplication in V^{λ^*} .*

PROOF. Several steps are required in the proof. Abbreviate $\phi_{d_\lambda}^\lambda$ by ϕ , V^{λ^*} by V .

Step 1. $K = \{a \in G | \lambda^*(a)V_{\lambda^*} = V_{\lambda^*}\}$.

PROOF OF STEP 1. Set $K' = \{a \in G | \lambda^*(a)V_{\lambda^*} = V_{\lambda^*}\}$, \mathfrak{K}' the Lie algebra of K' . There is χ' in \hat{K}' , defined by $\lambda^*(a)\phi = \chi'(a)\phi$, $a \in K'$. Let $\theta \in \mathfrak{K}'_{\mathbb{C}}^*$ be the infinitesimal representation for χ' .

The proof of 3.1.1(d) establishes that $\mathfrak{K} \subset \mathfrak{K}'$. Since K^* is connected, $\mathfrak{K} \subset \mathfrak{K}'$.

We claim θ is the restriction to $\mathfrak{K}'_{\mathbb{C}}$ of λ^* in $\mathfrak{G}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$. Clearly λ^* and θ agree on $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}}$. Now $\mathfrak{K}'_{\mathbb{C}}$ is the sum of $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathbb{C}}$ and the span of certain root vectors; this latter span being contained in the derived algebra $[\mathfrak{H}'_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathfrak{K}'_{\mathbb{C}}]$ of $\mathfrak{H}'_{\mathbb{C}}$, θ vanishes on it, as does λ^* . Thus λ^* agrees with θ on $\mathfrak{K}'_{\mathbb{C}}$.

Next we show $K' \subset K$. Fix X in \mathfrak{K}' , a in K' . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^*(\text{ad}(a)X) \cdot \phi &= \theta(\text{ad}(a)X) \cdot \phi = \rho_{\lambda^*}(\text{ad}(a)X) \cdot \phi \\ &= \rho_{\lambda^*}(a)\rho_{\lambda^*}(X)\rho_{\lambda^*}(a^{-1}) \cdot \phi = \chi'(a)\theta(X)\chi'(a^{-1}) \cdot \phi \\ &= \theta(X) \cdot \phi = \lambda^*(X) \cdot \phi. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $(\text{ad}^*(a)\lambda^*)|_{\mathfrak{K}} = \lambda^*|_{\mathfrak{K}}$. Since $\text{ad}(a)\mathfrak{K}' \subset \mathfrak{K}'$, also $\text{ad}(a)\mathfrak{K}'^\perp \subset \mathfrak{K}'^\perp$; and one has $(\text{ad}^*(a)\lambda^*)|_{\mathfrak{K}'^\perp} = 0 = \lambda^*|_{\mathfrak{K}'^\perp}$. We conclude that $\text{ad}^*(a)\lambda^* = \lambda^*$, i.e., a is in K . This concludes Step 1.

Step 2. $K_0 = \{a \in G | \lambda^*(a) \cdot \phi = \phi\}$.

This is trivial when Step 1 is used.

Step 3. Conclusion of proof of proposition. We may, by Steps 1 and 2, define $\tilde{F}: P \rightarrow P_0$ and $F: M \rightarrow M_0$ by $\tilde{F}(aK_0) = \lambda^*(a)\phi$, $F(aK) = \lambda^*(a)V_{\lambda}^{*\ast}$, and moreover \tilde{F} and F are bijections. \tilde{F} is easily seen to be an equivalence of S^1 bundles, with $\pi_0\tilde{F} = F\pi$. Q.E.D.

4.2. *Main theorem.* Recall from §1 the subrepresentations Γ and Γ_k ($k \in \mathbf{Z}$) of the left-regular representation of G .

We relate our discussion here to that of §3 by introducing

$$\Gamma_{p,q} = \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}_{q\lambda}}, \quad p, q \in \mathbf{Z}^+.$$

PROPOSITION (4.2.1). (a) $\Gamma_k \subseteq \Gamma$ for k in \mathbf{Z} .

(b) $\Gamma_{p,q} \subseteq \Gamma_{p-q}$ for p, q in \mathbf{Z}^+ .

PROOF. (a) is clear. For (b), choose $f \in \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda}$, $g \in \mathfrak{B}_{q\lambda}$, and $x \in K$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} R(x)(\overline{fg}) &= (R(x)f)(R(x)\overline{g}) = (R(x)f) \overline{(R(x)g)} \\ &= \chi(x)^p \overline{\chi(x)^q} \overline{fg} = \chi(x)^{p-q} \overline{fg}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\overline{fg} \in \Gamma_{p-q}$ as desired. Q.E.D.

PROPOSITION (4.2.2). *The algebraic sum $\sum_{p,q \in \mathbf{Z}^+} \Gamma_{p,q}$ is dense in Γ .*

PROOF. The continuous functions Γ' in Γ are dense in Γ . Γ' may be regarded as $C(P)$, the continuous functions on P (see (4.1.2)). It will suffice to show $\tilde{\Gamma} = \sum_{p,q} \Gamma_{p,q}$ is dense in Γ' with respect to the sup-norm. As P is compact, this density will follow from the Stone-Weierstrass Theorem, provided we show that $\tilde{\Gamma}$ has the following properties:

(i) If $f, g \in \tilde{\Gamma}$, and $z \in \mathbf{C}$ then $f + zg, fg$, and $\overline{f} \in \tilde{\Gamma}$.

(ii) For all $u \in P$, there is f in $\tilde{\Gamma}$ with $f(u) \neq 0$.

(iii) For all u_1, u_2 in P with $u_1 \neq u_2$, there is f in $\tilde{\Gamma}$ with $f(u_1) \neq f(u_2)$.

We show $\tilde{\Gamma}$ has these three properties.

PROOF OF (i). $\Gamma_{p,q}$ is a complex subspace and $\overline{\Gamma_{p,q}} = \Gamma_{q,p}$, so $f + zg$ and \overline{f} are in $\tilde{\Gamma}$. From (3.6),

$$\Gamma_{p,q} \Gamma_{p',q'} = \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}_{q\lambda}} \mathfrak{B}_{p'\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}_{q'\lambda}} = \mathfrak{B}_{(p+p')\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}_{(q+q')\lambda}} = \Gamma_{p+p',q+q'}.$$

Thus fg is in $\tilde{\Gamma}$.

PROOF OF (ii). We will in fact find the desired functions for (ii) and (iii) in $\Gamma_{1,0} = \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda}$. As $\mathfrak{B}_{\lambda} \neq 0$, choose f_0 in \mathfrak{B}_{λ} , a_0 in G with $f_0(a_0) \neq 0$. Then for a in G , $0 \neq f_0(a_0) = f_0(a_0 a^{-1} a) = (L_{a a_0^{-1}} f_0)(a)$. But $L_{a a_0^{-1}} f_0$ is in \mathfrak{B}_{λ} . This proves (ii).

PROOF OF (iii). As in (ii), the homogeneity of P and the result $L(G)\mathfrak{B}_{\lambda} \subset \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda}$ reduces the question to demonstrating the validity of the following statement:

$$\forall a \notin K_0 \quad \exists f \in \mathfrak{B}_{\lambda} \quad f(a) \neq f(e).$$

Now the statement in question is false if and only if

$$\exists a \notin K_0 \quad \forall f \in \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \quad f(a) = f(e).$$

Thus, we need to show that

$$K_0 \supset \{a \in G \mid \forall f \in \mathfrak{B}_\lambda, f(a) = f(e)\}.$$

Let S be the set we want K_0 to contain. Then, using again $L(G)^{\mathfrak{B}_\lambda} \subset \mathfrak{B}_\lambda$, one shows

$$S = \{a \in G \mid \forall f \in \mathfrak{B}_\lambda, R(a)f = f\}.$$

Letting $\mathfrak{B}'_\lambda = \mathfrak{F}(\mathfrak{B}_\lambda) \subset V^\lambda \otimes V^{\lambda*}$, we recall that $\mathfrak{B}'_\lambda = V^\lambda \otimes \{\phi\}$ ($\phi = \phi_{\mathfrak{B}'_\lambda}$) so $S = \{a \in G \mid \lambda^*(a) \cdot \phi = \phi\}$. Thus $S = K_0$ by Step 2 of the proof of (4.1.2). Q.E.D.

PROPOSITION (4.2.3). $\Gamma = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \Gamma_k$, a Hilbert space direct sum.

PROOF. Choose distinct integers k and l ; since $\lambda^* \neq 0$, we may choose x in K with $\chi(x)^{k-l} \neq 1$. Then for f in Γ_k and g in Γ_l , $\{f, g\} = \chi(x)^{k-l} \{f, g\} = 0$; thus $\Gamma_k \perp \Gamma_l$. By the previous two propositions $\sum_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \Gamma_k$ is dense in Γ ; (4.2.3) follows. Q.E.D.

PROPOSITION (4.2.4). $\Gamma_{p,q} \subset \Gamma_{p+1,q+1}$, for p, q in \mathbf{Z}^+ .

PROOF.

$$\Gamma_{p+1,q+1} = \mathfrak{B}_{(p+1)\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{(q+1)\lambda} = \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{q\lambda} \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_\lambda.$$

Thus it suffices to show $1 \in \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_\lambda$. But from 2.4, $1 = \sum_i f_i \overline{f_i} \in \mathfrak{B}_\lambda \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_\lambda$. Q.E.D.

The same proof shows that $\mathfrak{B}_{\nu_1} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{\nu_2} \subseteq \mathfrak{B}_{\nu_1+\nu_3} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{\nu_1+\nu_3}$, for any ν_1, ν_2, ν_3 in Λ^+ .

PROPOSITION (4.2.5). Let ν_1, ν_2 be in Λ^+ . Then

$$\{\text{ch}(\nu_1 + n\nu_2 \otimes n\nu_2^*)\}_{n=0}^\infty, \quad \{\text{ch}(n\nu_2 \otimes \nu_1 + n\nu_2^*)\}_{n=0}^\infty$$

are increasing sequences in \mathfrak{S} , bounded above by d . Thus, their limits exist in \mathfrak{S} .

PROOF. By (3.1.1), (3.2.4) and (4.2.4),

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ch}((\nu_1 + n\nu_2) \otimes n\nu_2^*) &= \text{ch}(\mathfrak{B}_{\nu_1+n\nu_2} \otimes \mathfrak{B}_{n\nu_2^*}) = \text{ch}(\mathfrak{B}_{\nu_1} \mathfrak{B}_{n\nu_2} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{n\nu_2^*}) \\ &\leq \text{ch}(\mathfrak{B}_{\nu_1} \mathfrak{B}_{n\nu_2} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{n\nu_2} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{\nu_2^*}) = \text{ch}(\nu_1 + (n+1)\nu_2 \otimes (n+1)\nu_2^*), \end{aligned}$$

so the first sequence is increasing. Since $\text{ch}(\mathfrak{B}_{\mu_1} \overline{\mathfrak{B}}_{\mu_2}) \leq d$ for μ_1, μ_2 in Λ^+ , the above expression assures the first sequence bounded above by d . This proves the proposition for the first sequence; the proof for the second sequence is entirely analogous. Q.E.D.

THEOREM (4.2.6).

$\text{ch}(\Gamma_k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*)$, $\text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(n\lambda \otimes k\lambda^* + n\lambda^*)$
 for k in \mathbf{Z}^+ . The sequences in \mathfrak{S} involved are increasing and bounded above.

PROOF. By (4.2.5) we know the limits involved exist. The argument being similar in both cases, consider Γ_k ; call the limit in question f . From 3.2.4, $\text{ch}(\Gamma_{k+n,n}) = \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*)$; now application of (4.2.1)–(4.2.4) shows that $f = \text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$. Q.E.D.

4.3. Some formulas holding for Γ_k in general. Let $\lambda \neq 0$ in Λ^+ be chosen. For f in \mathfrak{S} , define f^* in \mathfrak{S} by $f^*(\mu) = f(\mu^*)$, for μ in Λ^+ .

PROPOSITION (4.3.1). For k in \mathbf{Z}^+ ,

- (a) $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda)) \geq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda + n\lambda^*)$,
- (b) $\text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k}(\lambda)) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))^* = \text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda^*))$,
- (c) $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda)) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_1(k\lambda))$, if $k \neq 0$.

PROOF. (a) $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*) \geq \text{ch}(k\lambda + N\lambda \otimes N\lambda^*)$, for fixed $N \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. But $\text{ch}(k\lambda + N\lambda \otimes N\lambda^*) \geq \text{ch}(k\lambda + N\lambda + N\lambda^*)$, by the usual realization of the Cartan product [11, p. 111]. (a) follows.

(b) $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))^* = \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*) \right)^*$
 $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(n\lambda \otimes k\lambda^* + n\lambda^*) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k}(\lambda))$.

Similarly $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda^*)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda^* + n\lambda^* \otimes n\lambda) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k}(\lambda))$.

(c) $\Gamma_k(\lambda) = \{ f \in L^2(G) \mid R(\exp X)f = (e^{\lambda^*(X)})^k f, X \in \mathfrak{G}_\lambda \}$
 $= \{ f \in L^2(G) \mid R(\exp X)f = e^{k\lambda^*(X)} f, X \in \mathfrak{G}_\lambda \}$
 $= \Gamma_1(k\lambda)$, as $\mathfrak{G}_\lambda = \mathfrak{G}_{k\lambda}$ since $\lambda \neq 0$. Q.E.D.

One might be better able to think about the infinite series in part (a) of the proposition if it were summed in a closed form. This idea may be formalized as follows. In order to avoid an additional symbol, let \mathfrak{S} now represent the set of all \mathbf{Z} -valued functions defined on Λ^+ (earlier, we restricted to \mathbf{Z}^+ -valued functions). The set $\{\text{ch}(\lambda) \mid \lambda \in \Lambda^+\}$ is a \mathbf{Z} -independent subset and we may write $f = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda^+} f(\lambda)\text{ch}(\lambda)$ for f in \mathfrak{S} . Define $\text{ch}(\lambda)\text{ch}(\lambda') = \text{ch}(\lambda + \lambda')$, and extend this definition to elements f, g in \mathfrak{S} by

$$fg = \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} f(\lambda) g(\lambda') \text{ch}(\lambda + \lambda')$$

whenever the summation converges absolutely to an element of \mathfrak{S} . In particular fg is defined if either f or g is 0 off some finite set. Notice that $\text{ch}(0)f = f$ for f in \mathfrak{S} . By introducing the formal identity $1/(1-x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$, for elements x in \mathfrak{S} whose powers are defined, we obtain the expression

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda + n\lambda^*) = \frac{\text{ch}(k\lambda)}{\text{ch}(0) - \text{ch}(\lambda + \lambda^*)}.$$

We will use such formalism without comment in the sequel.

4.4. *The usual representation of $SU(n + 1)$, $n \geq 1$.* Investigation of the present example was suggested to the author J. W. Robbin and led to the main theorem when correctly viewed. Namely, we consider $G = SU(n + 1)$, $n \geq 1$, in its natural representation on \mathbb{C}^{n+1} . If $\{e_i\}_{i=1, \dots, n+1}$ is the usual basis of \mathbb{C}^{n+1} , then $ae_i = \sum_j a_{ji}e_j$, for $a \in G$. The highest weight of this representation is Λ_1 with weight vector e_1 . In view of (4.1.1) we should take $\lambda^* = \Lambda_1, \lambda = \Lambda_n, e_1 = \phi = \phi_{d_n}^\lambda$. The basis $\{f_k^\lambda\}_{k=1, \dots, n+1}$ of \mathfrak{B}_λ (see proof of (3.2.2)) may be regarded as the restrictions $\{z_i\}_{i=1, \dots, n+1}$ to $Ge_1 = S^{2n+1} = P_0$ of the complex coordinate functions on \mathbb{C}^{n+1} . Employing the usual multinomial notation $Z^I \bar{Z}^J = Z_1^{I_1} \dots Z_{n+1}^{I_{n+1}}$, we see that $\Gamma_{p,q} = \mathfrak{B}_{p\lambda} \bar{\mathfrak{B}}_{q\lambda} = \mathfrak{B}_\lambda^p \bar{\mathfrak{B}}_\lambda^q$ is spanned by $\{Z^I \bar{Z}^J \mid |I| = I_1 + \dots + I_{n+1} = p, |J| = J_1 + \dots + J_{n+1} = q\}$. The inclusions $\Gamma_{p,q} \subset \Gamma_{p+1,q+1}$ of (4.2.4) result from the fact that $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} z_i \bar{z}_i = 1$ on P_0 . M_0 is $\mathbb{C}P^n$ and $\pi_0: P_0 \rightarrow M_0$ is the (usual) Hopf map.

We see that \mathfrak{B}_λ may be regarded as the restriction to P_0 of the linear functions on \mathbb{C}^{n+1} . Thus, \mathfrak{B}_λ may be regarded as sections of the line bundle dual to the Hopf bundle; this dual Hopf bundle is associated with the principal S^1 bundle $\pi_0^*: P_0^* \rightarrow M_0$, where $P_0^* = P_0, \pi_0^* = \pi_0$, but $\psi \cdot \zeta = \zeta^{-1} \cdot \psi$ for $\psi \in P_0^*, \zeta \in S^1$.

PROPOSITION (4.4.1).

$$(a) \quad \text{ch}(\Gamma_k) = \frac{\text{ch}(\lambda)^k}{\text{ch}(0) - \text{ch}(\lambda + \lambda^*)}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}^+.$$

$$(b) \quad \text{ch}(\Gamma) = \frac{\text{ch}(0)}{(\text{ch}(0) - \text{ch}(\lambda))(\text{ch}(0) - \text{ch}(\lambda^*))}.$$

PROOF. (a) The point here is that

$$\text{ch}((p + 1)\lambda + (q + 1)\lambda^*) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_{p+1,q+1}) - \text{ch}(\Gamma_{p,q});$$

this formula is proved using the Weyl dimension formula. The result then follows from (4.3).

(b) $\text{ch}(\Gamma) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$. Setting $x = \text{ch}(\lambda), y = \text{ch}(\lambda^*)$ and using (a) and (4.3), one has (setting $\text{ch}(0) = 1$)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ch}(\Gamma) &= [(1 - x)^{-1} + (1 - y)^{-1} - 1](1 - xy)^{-1} \\ &= (1 - x)^{-1}(1 - y)^{-1}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

4.5. *Use of Steinberg's formula.* The expression for $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$ may be said to completely solve the question of Γ_k 's G -module structure, as it expresses

$\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)$ in terms of certain $\text{ch}(\nu_1 \otimes \nu_2)$, ν_1, ν_2 in \hat{G} . There is a certain closed expression for a general ‘outer’ multiplicity $\text{ch}(\nu_1 \otimes \nu_2)(\nu_3)$, $\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3 \in \Lambda^+$, namely Steinberg’s formula [8, p. 141].

Steinberg’s formula has certain drawbacks as a computational device, requiring as it does a double summation over the Weyl group and a knowledge of Kostant’s partition function. The interested reader may refer to the references in [3, p. 120] for examples.

One question arising in the computation of

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma_1(\lambda))(v) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{ch}(\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*)(v)$$

is the determination of the lowest value $n(\lambda, v)$ of n at which

$$\text{ch}(k\lambda + n\lambda \otimes n\lambda^*)(v) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_1(\lambda))(v).$$

At present the author has no general information regarding this function $n(\lambda, v)$.

4.6. *Frobenius reciprocity; $SU(2)$.* Our representation Γ_k is an induced representation. Namely, it is the unitary representation of G induced from the unitary representation χ^{-k} of the closed subgroup $K = G_{\lambda^*}$, χ being the character for λ^* on K . As with all unitarily induced representations of G , we may analyze Γ_k by means of the Frobenius reciprocity relation. When used in coordination with such formulas as those of Kostant and Freudenthal [8, pp. 122, 138], the following Frobenius reciprocity statement is very useful computationally for regular λ .

PROPOSITION (4.6.1). $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))(v) = \dim\{v \in V^v | \nu(x)v = \chi^{-k}(x)v \text{ if } x \in K\}$. In particular, $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))(v) \leq \dim V_{k\lambda}^v$, with equality occurring if λ is regular.

PROOF. $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)(v) = \dim \text{Hom}_G(V^v, \Gamma_k)$, so by 5.3.6 of [16], $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)(v) = \dim \text{Hom}_K(V^v, \chi^{-k})$, where $\text{Hom}_K(V^v, \chi^{-k}) = \{\psi \in V^{v*} | \psi(\nu(x)v) = \chi^{-k}(x)\psi(v) \text{ if } x \in K \text{ and } v \in V\} = \{\psi \in V^{v*} | \nu^*(x)(\psi) = \chi^k(x)\psi \text{ if } x \in K\}$. Along with (4.3) one concludes $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k)(v) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_k)^*(v^*) = \text{ch}(\Gamma_{-k})(v^*) = \dim\{v \in V^v | \nu(x)(v) = \chi^{-k}(x)v \text{ if } x \in K\}$. This shows the first formula of the proposition. Now since $\chi^{-k}(\exp H) = e^{-k\lambda(H)}$ for H in \mathfrak{A} , the set whose dimension equals $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))(v)$ is contained in $V_{-\lambda^*}^v$, with the containment being equality when λ is regular. Applying (2.3), one gets $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))(v) \leq \dim V_{-k\lambda^*}^v = \dim V_{w_0(k\lambda)}^v = \dim V_{k\lambda}^v$, with equality if λ is regular. Q.E.D.

The proposition yields $\text{ch}(\Lambda_k)$ at once for $G = SU(2)$. Namely, suppose $\lambda = m\Lambda_1$, $m \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, $m \neq 0$. Suppose $\nu = n\Lambda_1$, $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. Then $\dim V_{k\lambda}^v = \dim V_{km\Lambda_1}^{n\Lambda_1} = 1$ if $-n \leq km \leq n$ and $km \equiv n \pmod{2}$, 0 otherwise. Thus, if $x = \text{ch}(\Lambda_1)$,

$$\text{ch}(\Lambda_k) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{ch}((km + 2n)\Lambda_1) = \frac{x^{km}}{\text{ch}(0) - x^2}.$$

When $m = 1$, we recover a formula of (4.3) as here $\lambda = \lambda^*$.

4.7. $SU(3)$. We introduce notation which is convenient for the algebraic expressions for $\text{ch}(\Lambda_1(\lambda))$, $\text{ch}(\Gamma_0(\lambda))$, $\lambda \neq 0 \in \Lambda^+$. Recalling the usual weight-root notations for $SU(3)$ (see [8]), set $\alpha = 2\Lambda_1 - \Lambda_2$, $\beta = -\Lambda_1 + 2\Lambda_2$, $\delta = \alpha + \beta = \Lambda_1 + \Lambda_2$; where Λ_1, Λ_2 are usual fundamental weights; $\Phi^+ = \{\alpha, \beta, \delta\}$. In \mathfrak{S} set $x_i = \text{ch}(\Lambda_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, $A = x_1^2 x_2^{-1}$, $B = x_1^{-1} x_2^2$; $\text{ch}(0) = 1$ in \mathfrak{S} .

PROPOSITION (4.7.1). *Let $\lambda = m_1 \Lambda_1 + m_2 \Lambda_2 \neq 0 \in \Lambda^+$. Then:*

(a) *If $m_1 m_2 = 0$, then*

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma_1(\lambda)) = \frac{x_1^{m_1} x_2^{m_2}}{(1 - x_1 x_2)}, \quad \text{ch}(\Gamma_0(\lambda)) = \frac{1}{(1 - x_1 x_2)}.$$

(b) *If $m_1 m_2 \neq 0$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ch}(\Gamma_1(\lambda)) = \frac{x_1^{m_1} x_2^{m_2}}{(1 - x_1 x_2)^2} & \left\{ 1 + \frac{A}{1 - A} (1 - A^{m_2}) + \frac{B}{1 - B} (1 - B^{m_1}) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{x_1^3}{1 - x_1^3} A^{m_2} + \frac{x_2^3}{1 - x_2^3} B^{m_1} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\text{ch}(\Gamma_0(\lambda)) = \frac{1}{(1 - x_1 x_2)^2} \left\{ -1 + \frac{x_1^3}{1 - x_1^3} + \frac{x_2^3}{1 - x_2^3} \right\}.$$

PROOF. (a) When $\lambda = \Lambda_2$, we have found $\text{ch}(\Gamma_k(\lambda))$, for k in \mathbf{Z} , in (4.4). The cases in (a) follow by applying (4.3).

(b) In this case λ is regular. To prove the formula for $\text{ch}(\Gamma_1(\lambda))$ one need only show, by Frobenius reciprocity, that $\dim V_\nu'$ is given by the right-hand side of the desired equation. This may be accomplished by using the Kostant multiplicity formula (see [12, p. 131]; for the partition function for $SU(3)$ see [16, Table I]). For details, see [7]; the main theorem serves as a heuristic device to suggest the result and its method of proof (since an algorithm for tensor products of irreducibles is known (see [16])). Q.E.D.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, DEKALB, ILLINOIS 60115