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# K-Finite Matrix Elements of Irreducible Harish-Chandra Modules are Hypergeometric Functions<sup>\*</sup>

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To the memory of Dmitry Petrovich Zhelobenko, by whose classical book the author learned Lie groups and representations

ABSTRACT. We show that each K-finite matrix element of an irreducible infinite-dimensional representation of a semisimple Lie group can be obtained from spherical functions by a finite collection of operations. In particular, each matrix element admits a finite expression via the Heckman–Opdam hypergeometric functions.

KEY WORDS: semisimple Lie group, Harish-Chandra module, infinite-dimensional representation, spherical function, matrix element, special function, Heckman–Opdam hypergeometric function.

## 1. Preliminaries and Notation

**1.1. Semisimple groups. Notation.** Let G be a linear real semisimple Lie group, and let K be the maximal compact subgroup in G. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be the Lie algebra of G, and let  $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  be its universal enveloping algebra. Let  $L_X$  and  $R_X$ , where  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ , be the left and right Lie derivatives on G. Let  $\mathfrak{U}_l(\mathfrak{g})$  (respectively,  $\mathfrak{U}_r(\mathfrak{g})$ ) be the algebra of differential operators on G generated by the left (respectively, right) derivatives.

By P we denote the minimal parabolic subgroup<sup>\*\*</sup> in G. Consider the decomposition P =MAN, where N is the nilpotent radical, MA is the reductive Levi factor of P, M is the compact subgroup, and  $A \simeq (\mathbb{R}^*_+)^k$  is the vectorial subgroup.\*\*\*

**1.2. Example:** SL $(n, \mathbb{R})$ . Let  $G = SL(n, \mathbb{R})$  be the group of real  $n \times n$  matrices q with determinant 1. Then K = SO(n) is the subgroup of orthogonal matrices. The parabolic subgroup P consists of upper-triangular matrices

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots \\ 0 & a_{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \prod_{j=1}^{n} a_{jj} = 1$$

The nilpotent subgroup  $N \subset P$  consists of matrices such that  $a_{11} = a_{22} = \cdots = 1$ . The Levi subgroup  $MA \subset P$  consists of diagonal matrices; i.e.,  $MA \simeq (\mathbb{R}^*)^{n-1}$ .

The compact factor  $M \simeq (\mathbb{Z}_2)^{n-1}$  consists of diagonal matrices with eigenvalues  $\pm 1$ . The vectorial subgroup  $A \simeq (\mathbb{R}^*_+)^{n-1}$  consists of diagonal matrices with positive entries. Recall that a complete flag  $\mathscr{V}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a collection

$$\mathscr{V}: 0 \subset V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \cdots \subset V_{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \qquad \dim V_j = j, \tag{1}$$

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<sup>\*\*</sup> For a definition, e.g., see [10] and [7]. For the groups  $SL(n, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , and  $SL(n, \mathbb{H})$ , the subgroup P is the stabilizer of a complete flag; for the remaining classical series SU(p,q), O(p,q),  $Sp(2n,\mathbb{R})$ ,  $Sp(2n,\mathbb{C})$ ,  $SO^*(2n)$ , and  $O(n, \mathbb{C})$ , this subgroup is the stabilizer of a complete isotropic flag.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> We denote by  $\mathbb{R}^*$  (respectively,  $\mathbb{R}^*_+$  or  $\mathbb{C}^*$ ) the multiplicative group of real (respectively, positive real or complex) numbers.

of subspaces. The homogeneous space  $\mathrm{SL}(n,\mathbb{R})/P$  is the space of all flags in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The subgroup  $P \subset \mathrm{SL}(n,\mathbb{R})$  is the stabilizer of the standard flag

$$\mathbb{R}^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \subset \cdots \subset \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$$

of coordinate subspaces.

The Grassmannian  $\operatorname{Gr}_{\alpha}$  is the space of all  $\alpha$ -dimensional subspaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The Grassmannian is the homogeneous space  $\operatorname{Gr}_{\alpha} = \operatorname{SL}(n,\mathbb{R})/Q_{\alpha}$ , where  $Q_{\alpha}$  is the maximal parabolic subgroup consisting of the block  $(\alpha + (n - \alpha)) \times (\alpha + (n - \alpha))$  matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}$ .

**1.3. Principal series.** Any character of  $A \simeq (\mathbb{R}^*_+)^k$  has the form  $\chi_s(x_1, \ldots, x_k) = \prod x_j^{s_j}$ , where the  $s_j$  are complex numbers. Below we denote such characters by  $\chi$  or  $\chi_s$ . We denote by  $\widehat{A}$  the group of all characters  $A \to \mathbb{C}^*$ .

Let  $\chi \in A$ . Let  $\tau$  be an irreducible representation of M. Denote by  $\chi \otimes \tau$  the representation of P = MAN that is equal to  $\chi$  on A, equal to  $\tau$  on M, and trivial on N. By  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes \tau)$  we denote the representation of G induced from  $\chi \otimes \tau$  (see [10] and [9]), i.e., a representation of the principal nondegenerate series.

Let us describe this construction in a self-contained way. Denote by  $\Xi$  the space of the representation  $\chi \otimes \tau$ . Consider the space  $G \times \Xi$  and its quotient  $G \times_P \Xi$  with respect to the equivalence relation

$$(g,\xi) \sim (gr, (\chi \otimes \tau)(r) \cdot \xi), \qquad g \in G, \ r \in P, \ \xi \in \Xi.$$

We have the natural map  $G \times_P \Xi \to G/P$  given by  $(g,\xi) \mapsto gP$ ; the fiber at each point is noncanonically isomorphic to  $\Xi$ . Thus, we obtain a bundle over G/P with fiber  $\Xi$ . The group Gacts on the total space of the bundle by the transformations  $h: (g,\xi) \mapsto (hg,\xi)$ .

In particular, the group G acts on the space of smooth sections of the bundle. This action is just the representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes \tau)$ .

**1.4. Example:** SL $(n, \mathbb{R})$ . Let us give an alternative description of the representations  $\operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes 1)$ , where 1 is the trivial one-dimensional representation of M.

Consider the flag space G/P and the corresponding Grassmannians  $\operatorname{Gr}_{\alpha} = G/Q_{\alpha}$ . We equip each space  $G/Q_{\alpha}$  with a K-invariant volume form<sup>\*</sup>  $\Omega_{\alpha}$ . For  $\mathscr{V} \in G/P$ , let  $V_{\alpha}$  be its image under the map  $G/P \to G/Q_{\alpha}$ . (Thus, we forget all subspaces in (1) except for  $V_{\alpha}$ .)

For  $g \in G$ , denote by  $J_{\alpha}(g, \mathscr{V})$  the Jacobian

$$J_{\alpha}(g,\mathscr{V}) := [\Omega_{\alpha}(gV_{\alpha})/\Omega_{\alpha}(V_{\alpha})]$$

of the transformation  $g: G/Q_{\alpha} \to G/Q_{\alpha}$  at the point  $V_{\alpha}$ .

For  $t_{\alpha} \in \mathbb{C}$ , we define the representation

$$\rho_t(g)f(\mathscr{V}) := f(g\mathscr{V})\prod_{\alpha} J_{\alpha}(g,\mathscr{V})^{t_{\alpha}}$$

of G in the space of functions on G/P.

One can readily verify that this family of representations coincides with the family  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$ , where  $\chi_s$  ranges in  $\widehat{A}$  (and the dependence s = s(t) is some linear transformation).

At the level of the Lie algebra, this representation is defined by

$$\rho(X)f(\mathscr{V}) = (Xf)(\mathscr{V}) + \sum_{\alpha} t_{\alpha} [\mathscr{L}_{X}\Omega_{\alpha}/\Omega_{\alpha}]f(\mathscr{V}),$$

where  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathscr{L}_X$  is the Lie derivative (so that, in particular,  $\mathscr{L}_X \Omega_\alpha / \Omega_\alpha$  is the divergence of the vector field X).

**1.5. Irreducible representations.** For fixed  $\tau$ , the representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes \tau)$  is irreducible for generic  $\chi_s$ . The singular set of s is contained in some locally finite family of complex hyperplanes.

<sup>\*</sup>Or density if  $G/Q_{\alpha}$  is nonorientable.

By the subquotient theorem,<sup>\*</sup> each irreducible representation of G is *equivalent* to a subquotient (and even to a subrepresentation) of some representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes \tau)$ ; e.g., see [3] and [10].

Recall the meaning of the term *equivalent* in the previous statement. Let  $\rho$  be a representation of G in a complete locally convex linear topological space V. A vector  $v \in V$  is K-finite if the set Kv spans a finite-dimensional subspace. The space of K-finite vectors is dense in V. If  $\rho$  is irreducible, then the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  preserves the subspace of K-finite vectors. A natural equivalence of irreducible representations is an equivalence of the corresponding  $\mathfrak{g}$ -modules of K-finite vectors.<sup>\*\*</sup>

Let  $V^{\circ}$  be the dual space. By  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$  we denote the pairing  $V \times V^{\circ} \to \mathbb{C}$ . A matrix element of the representation  $\rho$  is a function on G of the form

$$f(g) = \{\rho(g)h, h^{\circ}\}, \text{ where } h \in V \text{ and } h^{\circ} \in V^{\circ} \text{ are fixed.}$$

A matrix element is said to be *K*-finite if the vectors h and  $h^{\circ}$  are *K*-finite.

**1.6. Spherical representations (see** [10] and [8]). Recall that an irreducible representation  $\rho$  of the group G in a space V is said to be *spherical* if there exists a K-fixed vector  $v \in V$ . By Gelfand's theorem, such a vector is unique, and hence we have the canonical matrix element

$$\Psi(g) = \{\rho(g)v, v^{\circ}\}, \text{ where } v \in V \text{ and } v^{\circ} \in V^{\circ} \text{ are the spherical vectors and } \{v, v^{\circ}\} = 1.$$

This element is called a *spherical function*. By construction,  $\Psi(g)$  is biinvariant with respect to K,

$$\Psi(k_1gk_2) = \Psi(g), \qquad k_1, k_2 \in K.$$

Hence spherical functions can be viewed as functions on the double cosets  $K \setminus G/K$ .

In particular,  $\Psi$  is uniquely determined by its values on the subgroup A. Recall that G = KAK.

On the other hand, spherical functions can be treated as functions on the (symmetric) space G/K.

Spherical functions are special cases of the Heckman–Opdam multivariate hypergeometric functions; see [6].

Each representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$  of the principal series has a unique K-invariant vector.\*\*\* For generic s, the representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$  is irreducible and hence is a spherical representation itself. Each reducible representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$  contains a unique spherical irreducible subquotient, and Q1 each spherical representation of G can be obtained in this way.

Spherical representations are numbered by orbits of the Weyl group W on  $\widehat{A} \simeq \mathbb{C}^k$ . For a given  $s \in \mathbb{C}^k$ , we denote by  $\Psi_s(g)$  the corresponding spherical function on G. This expression is holomorphic in s.

#### 2. Statement of the Result

**2.1. Formulation.** For a finite-dimensional representation  $\xi$  of G, let  $\mathfrak{M}(\xi)$  be the space of finite linear combinations of matrix elements of  $\xi$ .

Let V be a Harish-Chandra module (e.g., see [10]) over G. We denote by  $\pi(g)$  the operators of representation of G in some completion of V. Let  $\sigma$  range in the set  $\hat{K}$  of all irreducible representations of K. Let  $V = \bigoplus_{\sigma} V_{\sigma}$  be the decomposition of V into a direct sum of K-isotypical components (e.g., see [9]).

**Proposition.** (a) Let  $(\pi, V) = \operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes \tau)$  be irreducible. Let  $V^\circ$  be the dual module. Let  $v \in V_\sigma$  and  $w \in V_\theta^\circ$ . There exists an irreducible finite-dimensional representation  $\xi$  of G and an  $s \in \mathbb{C}^k$  such that the matrix element  $\{\pi(g)v, w\}$  is a finite sum of the form

$$\{\pi(g)v,w\} = \sum_{j} h_j(g) \cdot p_j q_j \Psi_s(g),$$

<sup>\*</sup>This theorem is due to Harish-Chandra and Casselman and has strong versions due to Zhelobenko–Naimark (complex groups) and Langlands (real groups) with explicit indication of the subquotients.

<sup>\*\*</sup> An "irreducible Harish-Chandra module" mentioned in the title is the same as the  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module of K-finite vectors of an irreducible representation.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> In the model of Sec. 1.4, it is a constant function.

where  $h_j \in \mathfrak{M}(\xi), p_j \in \mathfrak{U}_l(\mathfrak{g}), and q_j \in \mathfrak{U}_r(\mathfrak{g}).$ 

(b) Let  $(\pi, V) = \operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes \tau)$  be reducible. Then each K-finite matrix element admits a representation

$$\{\pi(g)v, w\} = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \sum_{j} h_j(\varepsilon; g) \cdot p_j(\varepsilon) q_j(\varepsilon) \Psi_{s+\varepsilon t}(g),$$
(2)

where s and t are some elements of  $\mathbb{C}^k$ , the sum is finite, and  $h_j(\varepsilon; g) \in \mathfrak{M}(\xi)$ ,  $p_j(\varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{U}_l(\mathfrak{g})$ , and  $q_j(\varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{U}_r(\mathfrak{g})$  rationally depend on the parameter  $\varepsilon$ .

(c) For an arbitrary K-finite matrix element of an irreducible Harish-Chandra module, there exists a representation of the form (2).

**2.2.** Application. Domains of holomorphy of matrix elements. Let  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the complexification of the group G. Let  $K_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $A_{\mathbb{C}} \subset G_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the complex subgroups corresponding to K and A. In particular,  $A_{\mathbb{C}}$  is the complex torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^k$ .

**Corollary.** Each domain  $\Omega \subset G_{\mathbb{C}}$ ,  $\Omega \supset G$ , of holomorphy of all spherical functions is a domain of holomorphy of all K-finite matrix elements of all irreducible Harish-Chandra modules over G.

**Proof.** A priori, the sum on the right-hand side in (2) is holomorphic for  $g \in \Omega$  and  $0 < |\varepsilon| < \delta$  and may have a pole at  $\varepsilon = 0$ . In the latter case, the function has an infinite limit at all points of the hypersurface  $\varepsilon = 0$  except for a complex submanifold of codimension 1.

On the other hand, it has a finite limit as  $\varepsilon \to 0$  for each  $g \in G$ . Hence our expression has in fact no pole on the surface  $\varepsilon = 0$ .

Let us discuss some versions of this corollary. Recall that  $A_{\mathbb{C}} \simeq (\mathbb{C}^*)^k$ . We denote elements of this group by  $a = (a_1, \ldots, a_k)$ .

1°. The Akhiezer-Gindikin domain. Let  $\mathscr{A} \subset A_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the subset consisting of a such that  $|\arg a_j| < \pi/4$ . The Akhiezer-Gindikin domain  $A\Gamma$  (see [1] and also [19]) is defined to be  $G \cdot \mathscr{A} \cdot K_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Since all spherical functions are holomorphic in  $A\Gamma$ , we see that all K-finite matrix elements are holomorphic in  $A\Gamma$  as well. (This was established in [12].)

2°. The Casselman phenomenon.

Each K-finite matrix element of the group G admits an extension to a multivalued holomorphic function  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$  having singularities (branchings) on some fixed (nonsmooth) submanifold of codimension 1 in  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

First, consider the case  $G = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ . Let  $\mathscr{X}_n$  be the space of complex symmetric matrices with determinant 1. The group  $G_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$  acts on  $\mathscr{X}_n$  by the formula  $g: X \mapsto gXg^t$ . The subgroup  $K_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathrm{SO}(n, \mathbb{C})$  is the stabilizer of the point X = E; obviously,  $\mathscr{X}_n \simeq G_{\mathbb{C}}/K_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Let  $\mathscr{X}_n^{\circ} \subset \mathscr{X}_n$  be the set of matrices with pairwise distinct eigenvalues. Each matrix  $\in \mathscr{X}_n^{\circ}$  can be reduced to diagonal form by an orthogonal transformation. According to [6], each spherical function can be extended as a branching analytic function to the submanifold of diagonal matrices in  $\mathscr{X}_n$ ; the functions thus obtained have branching on the set of matrices with multiple eigenvalues. Next, we extend these functions to  $\mathscr{X}_n$  by  $K_{\mathbb{C}}$ -invariance and lift them from the homogeneous space  $G_{\mathbb{C}}/K_{\mathbb{C}}$  to the group  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Let  $G_{\mathbb{C}}^{\circ}$  be the preimage of  $\mathscr{X}_n^{\circ}$  in  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ . A shorter description of  $G_{\mathbb{C}}^{\circ}$  is as follows: a matrix  $g \in G_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$  is contained in  $G_{\mathbb{C}}^{\circ}$  if the eigenvalues of  $g^t g$  are pairwise distinct.

By construction, the spherical functions of the group  $G = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  admit multivalued holomorphic extension to the domain  $G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}} \subset G_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Hence all K-finite matrix elements of  $\mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  can be extended to this domain.

Now let us describe the domain  $G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$  for an arbitrary linear semisimple group G. Consider the symmetric space  $\mathscr{X} = G_{\mathbb{C}}/K_{\mathbb{C}}$  and the  $A_{\mathbb{C}}$ -orbit D of the initial point in  $G_{\mathbb{C}}/K_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Let  $D^{\circ}$  be the set obtained from D by removing all points having a nontrivial stabilizer in the Weyl group. We define  $\mathscr{X}^{\circ}$  as the union of all  $K_{\mathbb{C}}$ -orbits that meet  $D^{\circ}$ . Now  $G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$  is the preimage of  $\mathscr{X}^{\circ}$  in  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Each K-finite matrix element of G extends to be a multivalued holomorphic function on  $G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

This fact is known; it was discovered in Casselman's famous unpublished paper, which is unavailable to the author; however, see [3].

3°. Thus, we see that a representation  $\rho$  of G can be extended to a branching holomorphic function on  $G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$  ranging in the space of infinite matrices. A product  $\rho(g_1) \cdot \rho(g_2)$  of such matrices generally diverges but is sometimes well defined (see [14] and [12]).

For any  $X \in \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $g \in G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon}\rho(\exp(\varepsilon X)g) = \rho(X)\rho(g).$$

The matrix  $\rho(X)$  has only finitely many nonzero matrix elements in each row and each column, and hence the product of matrices is well defined.

4°. Groups of complex type. For the groups  $SL(n, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $SO(n, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $Sp(2n, \mathbb{C})$ , and SU(p,q), closedform expressions for the spherical functions are known (see [4] and [2]). Hence the expressions for the analytic continuations can be written out as well.

For example, let  $G = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ . Then  $G_{\mathbb{C}} \simeq \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{C}) \times \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ , and the subgroup  $G \subset G_{\mathbb{C}}$ consists of elements of the form  $(g, \overline{g})$ . Spherical functions on  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$  are given by<sup>\*</sup>

$$\Psi_s(g,h) = \frac{\det_{1 \le j,k \le n} \{\lambda_j^{s_k/2}\}}{\det_{1 \le j,k \le n} \{\lambda_j^k\} \cdot \det_{1 \le j,k \le n} \{s_j^k\}},\tag{3}$$

where the  $\lambda_j$  are the eigenvalues of  $gh^t$ . The function  $\Psi(g)$  is multivalued, since so is a power of a complex number. Our expression is well defined if all  $\lambda_j$  are pairwise distinct.

Further, the powers are single-valued in the domain  $\arg \lambda_j < \pi$ , and the zeros of the denominator coincide with those of the numerator. Thus, we obtain a holomorphic function on  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$  minus the real submanifold

$$\{\arg \lambda_j = \pi \text{ for some } j\}$$

of codimension 1. However, by passing the remote singularity and returning to the group G, we obtain another branch. This branch, generally speaking, has a singularity on G supported by matrices with multiple singular numbers.

For all complex semisimple groups, spherical functions can be written out explicitly in the spirit of (3); see [4]. In particular, all their matrix elements are elementary<sup>\*\*</sup> functions.

For the groups U(p,q), the analog of (3) contains a determinant of one-dimensional hypergeometric functions, see [2]. Hence all their matrix elements can be expressed in the terms of usual Gauss hypergeometric functions (including derivatives of hypergeometric functions with respect to indices).

5°. Extended braid groups and monodromy. Let  $\mathscr{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$  be the center of the enveloping algebra. Fix a character  $\lambda$  of  $\mathscr{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Let  $\sigma$  and  $\theta$  be irreducible representations of K acting in spaces  $W_{\sigma}$  and  $W_{\theta}$ , respectively. Consider (branching) functions  $f: G^{\circ} \to \operatorname{Hom}(W_{\sigma}, W_{\theta})$  satisfying the conditions •  $f(k_1gk_2) = \theta(k_1)f(g)\sigma(k_2^{-1})$  for  $g \in G^{\circ}_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $k_1, k_2 \in K_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

• 
$$pf = \lambda(p)f$$
 for each  $p \in \mathscr{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ .

The monodromy group for this problem is the so-called extended Artin braid group, see [6]. As far as I know, these monodromy representations have never been studied.

 $6^{\circ}$ . Large domains of holomorphy. There are exceptional situations in which a unitary representation admits a holomorphic continuation to the entire complex group or into a subsemigroup; apparently, such cases are well understood.

For infinite-dimensional representations of semisimple Lie groups, the only possible case is highest weight representations, which admit an extension to Olshanski semigroups (see [18]). Some other situations are discussed in [15], [16, Secs. 1.1, 4.4, 5.4, 7.4–7.6, 9.7], [13], and [5]. It may happen that there are other cases of unexpectedly large (nonsemigroup) domains of holomorphy. As far as I know, this question has never been considered.

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<sup>\*</sup>This formula is the analytic continuation of the Weyl character formula.

<sup>\*\*</sup> but very complicated ...

**2.3.** Nonlinear semisimple Lie groups. For universal coverings of the groups SU(p,q),  $Sp(2n,\mathbb{R})$ , and  $SO^*(2n)$ , our construction survives; we only have to replace spherical functions by appropriate Heckman–Opdam hypergeometric functions (see [7, Chap. 1]).

I do not know whether it is possible to express the matrix elements of universal covering groups of SO(p,q) and  $SL(n,\mathbb{R})$  via the Heckman–Opdam hypergeometric functions.

#### 3. Proof of the Proposition

First, we prove our assertion for the modules  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$ ; this is more or less obvious. Therefore, the assertion is valid for tensor products of such modules by finite-dimensional representations. The class of representations thus obtained contains whatever one likes as subfactors.

**3.1. Proof for spherical representations.** Let  $\rho$  be a spherical representation with parameter s in a space V. Let  $h \in V$  be the spherical vector, and let  $h^{\circ}$  be the spherical vector in  $V^{\circ}$ . Since  $\rho$  is irreducible, it follows that vectors  $v \in V_{\sigma}$  and  $w \in V_{\theta}^{\circ}$  can be represented in the form  $v = p(X) \cdot h$  and  $w = q(X) \cdot h^{\circ}$ , where p(X) and q(X) are appropriate elements of the enveloping algebra. Let q(-X) be the element obtained from q(X) by the standard antiinvolution on  $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ . (It is defined as  $X \mapsto -X$  for  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ .) Then

$$\{\rho(g)v,w\} = \{\rho(g) \cdot p(X) \cdot h, q(X) \cdot h^{\circ}\}$$
$$= \{q(-X) \cdot \rho(g) \cdot p(X) \cdot h, h^{\circ}\} = q(-L_X)\Psi_s p(R_X)$$

**3.2. Representations Ind** $_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes 1)$ . The standard realization. Consider the flag space G/P and the corresponding Grassmannians, i.e., the quotient spaces  $G/Q_{\alpha}$ , where the  $Q_{\alpha} \supset P$  are maximal parabolic subgroups in G. Starting from this point, we can reproduce the construction in Sec. 1.4 word for word.

Thus, we have obtained a realization of the family  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$  such that

1. The action of K is independent of  $\chi_s$ .

2. The operators of representation of the group G are continuous functions of s. More precisely, each K-finite matrix element is a continuous function of s.

3. The operators of representation of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  are linear expressions in the parameters s.

**3.3. Proof for the representations \operatorname{Ind}\_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes 1).** If  $\chi = \chi_{s}$  is in general position (in fact,  $s \in \mathbb{C}^{k}$  lies outside a locally finite family of complex hyperplanes), then  $\pi$  is an irreducible spherical representation. This situation was considered in Sec. 3.1.

Now let us examine the case of reducible  $\pi$ . The continuity of matrix elements as functions of the parameters s follows from Sec. 3.2.

Let V be the space of K-finite functions on the flag space G/P (see Secs. 1.4 and 3.2). Let  $1 \in V$  be the function  $f(\cdot) = 1$ . Fix  $\sigma, \theta \in \widehat{K}, v \in V_{\sigma}$ , and  $w \in V_{\theta}$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{U}^{N}(\mathfrak{g}) \subset \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  be the subspace consisting of all elements of degree  $\leq N$ . Let N be large enough that  $\mathfrak{U}^{N}(\mathfrak{g}) \cdot 1$  contains the entire subspace  $V_{\sigma}$  for all generic characters<sup>\*</sup>  $\chi_{s}$ . Consider a sequence  $r_{1}, r_{2}, \cdots \in \mathfrak{U}^{N}$  such that, for generic  $\chi_{s}$ ,

1.  $r_j \cdot 1$  are linearly independent in  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi_s \otimes 1)$ .

2. Their linear span contains  $V_{\sigma}$ .

These properties remain valid for all s outside a certain algebraic submanifold  $\mathscr{M}$  in the parameter space. Now we express the vector v as a linear combination of  $r_j \cdot 1$ ,  $v = \sum c_j(s)r_j \cdot 1$ , where  $c_j$  are certain rational functions.

We reproduce the same arguments for  $V_{\theta}^{\circ}$ .

<sup>\*</sup>Decompose  $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})_{\sigma}$  according to the adjoint action of K. The space  $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})_{\sigma}$  is a finitely generated module over the center  $\mathscr{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$  of the enveloping algebra. For sufficiently large N, the subspace  $\mathfrak{U}^{N}(\mathfrak{g})$  contains all generators of  $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})_{\sigma}$ .

Let Y be an element of the Lie algebra of the group K, and let  $p(X) \in \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Then  $(Yp(X)-p(X)Y)\cdot 1 = Yp(X)\cdot 1$ . Hence  $V_{\sigma} \subset \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})_{\sigma} \cdot 1 \subset \mathfrak{U}^{N}(\mathfrak{g})\mathscr{Z}(\mathfrak{g}) \cdot 1 = \mathfrak{U}^{N}(\mathfrak{g}) \cdot 1$ .

Applying Sec. 3.1, we find that our matrix element has the form  $\Xi(s)\Psi_s(g)$ , where  $\Xi(s)$  is an element of  $\mathfrak{U}_l \otimes \mathfrak{U}_r$  depending rationally on s.

Now let  $s_0$  be a singular value of s. Consider a complex line  $\gamma(\varepsilon) = s_0 + \varepsilon t$  avoiding the submanifold  $\mathscr{M}$  and the singular values of the parameter s for small  $|\varepsilon| > 0$ . Then  $\Xi(s_0 + \varepsilon t)\Psi_s(s_0 + \varepsilon t)$  is the desired approximation to our matrix element.

**3.4.** Main trick. Let  $\xi$  be an irreducible finite-dimensional representation of G in a space H. Following [11], consider the tensor product

$$\pi \otimes \xi = \operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes 1) \otimes \xi = \operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes \xi|_{P}).$$

$$\tag{4}$$

The representation  $\xi|_P$  is in general not irreducible and admits a finite filtration

$$H_1 \supset H_2 \supset H_3 \supset \ldots$$

with irreducible subquotients. The nilpotent subgroup  $N \subset P$  acts on the subquotients  $H_j/H_{j+1}$  trivially. The representations of the subgroup  $MA \subset P$  on  $H_j/H_{j+1}$  have the form  $\mu_j \otimes \tau_j$  for some characters  $\mu_j$  of A and some irreducible representations  $\tau_j$  of M.

Thus, the representation  $\pi \otimes \xi$  has a filtration whose subquotients are representations of the principal series of the form  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G([\chi \cdot \mu_j] \otimes \tau_j)$ .

**3.5.** Fix a representation  $\tilde{\tau}$  of M and a character  $\tilde{\chi}$  of A. We intend to realize  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\tilde{\chi} \otimes \tilde{\tau})$  as Q3 a subquotient in an appropriate tensor product (4).

We can choose a representation  $\xi$  of G such that the restriction of  $\xi$  to M contains  $\tilde{\tau}$ .\* Then the restriction of  $\xi$  to P = MAN contains a subquotient of the form  $\tilde{\mu} \otimes \tilde{\tau}$  with some character  $\tilde{\mu}$ .

Next, we choose a character  $\chi$  of A such that  $\chi \cdot \tilde{\mu} = \tilde{\chi}$ . Thus, we find that  $\operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\chi \otimes 1) \otimes \xi$  contains a given representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_{P}^{G}(\tilde{\chi} \otimes \tilde{\tau})$  as a subquotient.

**3.6.** *K*-finite matrix elements of  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\widetilde{\chi} \otimes \widetilde{\tau})$  are contained in the set of *K*-finite matrix elements of  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes 1) \otimes \xi$ . The latter matrix elements are linear combinations of products of *K*-finite matrix elements of  $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G(\chi \otimes 1)$  by matrix elements of  $\xi$ . This completes the proof of (a) and (b).

**3.7. End of proof.** Assertion (c) follows from (a), (b), and the subquotient theorem.

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<sup>\*</sup>Proof. Let  $G_c$  be the compact form of G. Consider the induced representation  $\operatorname{Ind}_M^{G_c}(\tilde{\tau})$ . Let  $\xi$  be an irreducible subrepresentation. We can treat  $\xi$  as a representation of G. By the Frobenius reciprocity (see [9]), its restriction to M contains  $\tilde{\tau}$ .

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# Questions

- Q1. Ср. русский текст.
- Q2. Имеются в виду собственные значения?
- Q3. Почему крышки заменились на волны? Это нежелательно.