

à Monsieur le Professeur Dyson, avec
ma profonde reconnaissance

A. Wyler

OPERATIONS OF THE SYMPLECTIC
AND SPINOR GROUPS

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R. Gilmores
This seems
to be the
only copy
I have.

Don't tell
Wyler I gave
it to you.

F. D.

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1. Introduction

The aim of this paper is the study of actions of the symplectic and spinor groups and an outline of their applications to the n -dimensional harmonic oscillator and to matrix ensembles.³ The subject of this study was motivated by our research on the conformal group.⁹ In the first part we study properties of actions of Lie-groups on manifolds, in particular the trajectories associated to elements of the Lie algebra. We construct explicitly these trajectories in operations of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ and $Spin(n)$; in the case of the transitive action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ on its symmetric space, they are the geodesics of the invariant metric (chapter 3). The relation with the theory of the n -dimensional harmonic oscillator is given by the property⁵: the Lie algebra of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$, is isomorphic to the set of observables, quadratic expressions in the conjugate quantities p, q . The set of elements commuting with the Hamiltonian $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i p_i + q_i q_i$ is the maximal compact subgroup $SU(n)$ of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$; the stability property (chapter 4) of the space of holomorphic functions on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ leads to the construction of an orthonormal basis for this space.

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2. Definitions and examples

Let G be a Lie-group: an action of G on a differentiable manifold M^n (not necessarily compact) is a differentiable map

$$G \times M^n \rightarrow M^n$$

$$g \quad x \quad \rightarrow g(x)$$

such that $g_1(g_2(x)) = g_1 g_2(x)$, $\forall x \in M^n$, $g_1, g_2 \in G$. Therefore an action is given by an homomorphism $G \rightarrow \text{Diff}(M^n)$ of G in the group of diffeomorphisms of M^n .

The orbit of a point $x \in M^n$ is the submanifold of M^n :

$$G(x) = \{gx \mid g \in G\}$$

We consider the following group actions:

1. The symplectic group $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ is the set of all $2n \times 2n$ real matrices A which satisfy the relation

$$A^T J A = J \quad \text{where} \quad J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & E \\ -E & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- a). The linear operation of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ in the euclidean space \mathbb{R}^{2n} is given by:

$$Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{R}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}$$

$$A \quad x \quad \rightarrow Ax$$

In particular the tangent space $T_x(M^{2n})$ in each point x of a symplectic manifold M^{2n} has, by definition, the structure group $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$, invariance group of the form $\sum_{i=1}^n dp_i \wedge dq_i$.

- b). Let M^r be an homogeneous space of the symplectic group

$$M^r = Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/H$$

where H is a closed subgroup of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$; the orbit G_x of each point is M^x . The most important cases are given by $H_1 = \{e\}$, and $H_2 = Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \cap SO(2n) = U(n)$. The quotient space $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ is the symmetric space of the symplectic group and the complex imbedding⁴

$$I : Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n(n+1)/2}$$

is obtained by the following construction: let $S_n(\mathbb{C})$ be the set of symmetric matrices of order n with complex coefficients and $\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C})$ the subset of $S_n(\mathbb{C})$ given by

$$S_n = X_n + i Y_n$$

where $X_n, Y_n \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $Y_n > 0$ (the quadratic form of the symmetric matrix Y_n is positive definite). The operation

$$Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \times \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C})$$

is defined by:

$$S_n \rightarrow (A_1 S_n + A_2)(A_3 S_n + A_4)^{-1}$$

where $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & A_4 \end{pmatrix} \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$, $A_i \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$. To this unbounded realisation of the symmetric space $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ in $\mathbb{C}^{n(n+1)/2}$ is associated the following bounded realisation: let $B_n(\mathbb{C})$ be the subset of $S_n(\mathbb{C})$ given by the matrices $\{S_n | E > \bar{S}_n S_n\}$. The action of the symplectic group

$$Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \times B_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow B_n(\mathbb{C})$$

is induced by the mapping

$$F : \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow B_n(\mathbb{C})$$

$$S_n \rightarrow (E + i S_n)(E - i S_n)^{-1}$$

For $g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ and $B_n \in B_n(\mathbb{C})$

$$g(B_n) = F(g(F^{-1}(B_n)))$$

We obtain the same result as in the study⁹ of the conformal group $SO(n, 2)$.

The mapping $F : \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow B_n(\mathbb{C})$ induces an isomorphism of the isotropy group

$$I(z_0) = \{g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid g(z_0) = z_0\}$$

of a point z_0 on the topological boundary $\partial B_n(\mathbb{C}) = \{S_n \mid \det(E - \tilde{S}_n S) = 0\}$

with the group $GL(\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}))$ of linear transformations of $\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C})$.

This subgroup of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ is obtained by the restriction of the operation

$$\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C})$$

$$z \rightarrow (A_1 z + A_2)(A_3 z + A_4)^{-1}$$

to the linear action, given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } A_1 \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$

Therefore we have proved

Proposition:

The isotropy group $I(z_0)$ of a point z_0 on $\partial B_n(\mathbb{C})$ is isomorphic to $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$.

2. The second type of operations are induced by the spinor group $Spin(k)$, universal covering group of the orthogonal group $SO(k)$. Let C_k be the Clifford-algebra generated by the elements e, e_1, \dots, e_{k-1} with the rela-

tions

$$\begin{cases} e_i e_j + e_j e_i = 0 & (i \neq j) \\ e_i^2 = -e & \end{cases}$$

The criterion of Hurwitz⁷ gives for the order n of the representation of the elements e_i by matrices $A_i \in SO(n)$: if $n = 2^\alpha 16^\beta (2\gamma + 1)$ then $k + 1 = \rho(n) = 2^\alpha + 8\beta$. Let $C^* \subset C_k$ be the multiplicative group of elements with inverse in the Clifford algebra C_k . The spinor group $\text{Spin}(k)$ is the identity component of the subgroup of C^* defined by the condition²: the linear subspace $\langle e_1, \dots, e_{k-1} \rangle$ is invariant under the mapping $y \rightarrow xyx^{-1}$ $\forall x \in C^*$. The spin representation, obtained by the left translation $\theta(x): y \rightarrow xy$ restricted to $x \in \text{Spin}(\rho(n))$, induces an action of the spinor group on the Stiefel manifolds $SO(n)/SO(p)$ ($p = 1, 2, \dots, n$) by the diffeomorphisms

$$SO(n)/SO(p) \rightarrow SO(n)$$

$$y\{SO(p)\} \rightarrow \tau(x)y = xy\{SO(p)\}$$

The isotropy group of the point $\pi(e)$, where $\pi: SO(n) \rightarrow SO(n)/SO(p)$ denotes the canonical projection, is

$$SO(p) \cap \text{Spin } \rho(n)$$

and the orbit of $\pi(e)$ is the Stiefel-manifold $SO(n)/SO(p) \cap \text{Spin}(\rho(n))$.

We obtain as special cases of this construction the classical Hopf fibrations:

$n = 2m, p = 2m - 1$: the Clifford algebra C^2 is isomorphic to \mathbb{C} and $\text{Spin}(2) = S^1$. The action is free and the quotient space is $S^{2m-1}/S^1 =$

$P^m(\mathbb{C})$.

$n = 4m$, $p = 4m - 1$: the Clifford algebra C^4 is isomorphic to the algebra of quaternions and $\text{Spin}(3)$ is isomorphic to the group S^3 of quaternions of norm 1: the quotient space S^{4m-1}/S^3 is the quaternionic projective space $P^m(H)$.

An interesting application is given by the Hopf fibration $S^{15} \rightarrow S^8$ with fiber S^7 constructed with the division algebra of Cayley numbers.⁷ This fibration can be constructed as the quotient space of $S^{15} = \text{Spin}(9)/\text{Spin}(7)$ in an action induced by the spinor representation of $\text{Spin}(8)$. This representation is defined in \mathbb{R}^{16} and the action of $\text{Spin}(8)$ on the quotient space $S^{15} = \text{Spin}(9)/\text{Spin}(7) \subset \mathbb{R}^{16}$ is given by

$$g \{h\} = \{gh\}$$

where $g \in \text{Spin}(8) \subset \text{Spin}(9)$ and $\{h\}$ is the class of $h \in \text{Spin}(9)$. The only type of orbit is $\text{Spin}(8)/\text{Spin}(7) = S^7$ and the quotient space of the action is S^8 ; therefore we obtain the fibration $S^{15} = \text{Spin}(9)/\text{Spin}(7) \rightarrow S^8$. The natural extension of this construction is given by the spinor representation of $\text{Spin}(2n+1)$:

$$\Delta_{2n+1}: \text{Spin}(2n+1) \rightarrow \text{SO}(2^n).$$

Let Δ_{2^n} be the spinor representation of the universal covering group $\text{Spin}(2^n)$ of $\text{SO}(2^n)$: the generalisation of $\text{Spin}(9)/\text{Spin}(7)$ is the quotient space

$$\text{Spin}(2^{n+1})/\text{Spin}(2n+1)$$

where the imbedding $\text{Spin}(2^{n+1}) \supset \text{Spin}(2n+1)$ is given by $\Delta_{2n+1}(\text{SO}(2^n))$.

3. The trajectories induced by the group-actions

In the action $G \times M^n \rightarrow M^n$ of G on M^n , each element X of the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} of G induces a vector-field X^* on M^n . Let $\gamma_X(t)$ be the geodesic of the invariant metric on G , tangent to X at the point $e \in G$; the exponential map $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$ is defined⁴ by $\exp(X) = \gamma_X(1)$ and the trajectory $T_X(q)$ of a point $q \in M^n$ relative to X

$$T_X(q) = \{\gamma_X(t)q \mid -\infty < t < \infty\}.$$

We construct the trajectories of the actions given in chapter 2.

1. Let $sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ be the Lie algebra of the symplectic group:

$$sp(n, \mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ X_3 & -X_1^T \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} X_1 \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \\ X_2, X_3 \text{ symmetric} \end{array} \right\}$$

The trajectory $T_X(q)$, in the case of the action

$$\pi: Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n) = B_n(\mathbb{C})$$

is given by the geodesic of the invariant metric on $B_n(\mathbb{C})$, with origin q and tangent in this point to the projection $\pi(\exp X)$. We apply therefore the construction of geodesics in symmetric spaces.

The decomposition of the symmetric pair associated to $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ is

$$sp(n, \mathbb{R}) = u(n) + h(n)$$

where

$$h(n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} g_1 & g_2 \\ g_2 & -g_1 \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} g_1 \in u(n), g_2^T = g_2 \\ g_1 \text{ and } g_2 \text{ imaginary} \end{array} \right\}$$

There exists a riemannian structure g_{ij} on $Sp(n)/U(n)$ such that the left-translations $f(a)$ on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ are isometries of the metric g_{ij} .

Proposition: The geodesics of the riemannian structure $\{Sp(n)/U(n),$
 $g_{ij}\}$ are the curves

$$f: t \rightarrow (\ell(g), \pi)(\exp(tX))$$

where $X \in \mathfrak{h}(n)$ and $g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$.

The proof of this statement is reduced,¹ as the left action of $g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ is an isometry, to the study of $\pi(\exp(tX))$ where $X \in \mathfrak{h}(n)$.

The projection

$$\pi: Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$$

is an isometry and by construction the curve $\exp(tX)$ is a geodesic on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$; therefore $t \rightarrow (\ell(g), \pi)(\exp(tX))$ is a geodesic on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$.

We construct an explicit formula for g_{ij} and $|g_{ij}|$. The Bergman kernel⁶ is equal to the determinant of the metric tensor, invariant volume element in $B_n(\mathbb{C})$. The action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ on $B_n(\mathbb{C})$ is given, according to chapter 2, by

$$B_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow B_n(\mathbb{C})$$

$$z \rightarrow (A_1 z + A_2)(A_3 z + A_4)^{-1}$$

where $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & A_4 \end{pmatrix}$ satisfies $A^T \begin{pmatrix} 0 & E \\ -E & 0 \end{pmatrix} A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & E \\ -E & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{Therefore } \begin{cases} A_1^T A_3 = A_3^T A_1, A_2^T A_4 = A_4^T A_2 \\ -A_3^T A_2 + A_1^T A_4 = E \end{cases}$$

In order to compute the Jacobian of the transformation $z \rightarrow A(z)$ and the invariant volume element, we use the fact that the action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ leaves invariant the boundary of $B_n(\mathbb{C})$, defined by $\det(E - \bar{z}z) = 0$.

Taking account of the dimension $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ of $B_n(\mathbb{C})$, we obtain

Proposition: The invariant volume element of $B_n(\mathbb{C})$ is

$$|g_{ij}| = |\det(E - \bar{z}z)|^{-(n+1)}$$

The trajectories of the action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ on $B_n(\mathbb{C})$ are the geodesics of the metric $g_{ij} = - (n+1) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial \bar{z}_j} \ln |\det(E - \bar{z}z)|$.

By using the map $F: \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow B_n(\mathbb{C})$ (chapter 2) we reduce the study of the trajectories in the action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ on the unbounded domain

$$\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) = \{X_n + i Y_n \mid Y_n > 0\}$$

to the preceding case (bounded domain $B_n(\mathbb{C})$). The mapping F commutes namely with the action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$; in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B_n(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})} & B_n(\mathbb{C}) \\ F \uparrow & & \uparrow F \\ \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})} & \Sigma_n(\mathbb{C}) \end{array}$$

$gF = Fg$ for all $g \in Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ and therefore the image by F^{-1} of a geodesic in $B_n(\mathbb{C})$ is a geodesic in $\Sigma_n(\mathbb{C})$.

2. In the action of $Spin(p(n))$ on $S^{n-1} = SO(n)/SO(n-1)$, constructed in chapter 2, the trajectories of the elements A_i in the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{spin}(p(n)) \cong \mathfrak{so}(p(n))$ are the integral curves of the vector-fields $X_i = A_i x$ on S^{n-1} . These vector-fields are orthogonal because

$$\begin{aligned} \langle X_i, X_j \rangle &= \langle A_i x, A_j x \rangle = \langle A_i^2 x, A_i A_j x \rangle \\ &= - \langle x, A_i A_j x \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and} \quad \langle X_i, X_j \rangle &= \langle A_j A_i x, A_j^2 x \rangle = \langle A_i A_j x, x \rangle \\ &= - \langle X_i, X_j \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\langle X_i, X_j \rangle = 0$ ($i \neq j$).

Proposition: The Lie algebra generated by the infinitesimal transformations of the vector-fields $X_i = A_i x$ is isomorphic to $so(p(n))$.

Proof: The vector-field $X_i = A_i x$ is defined² by $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} A_r^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_r}$ where

$$A_r^i = \sum_{\ell=1}^n a_{r\ell}^i x_{\ell}$$

The Lie-bracket $[X_i, X_j]$ is

$$\begin{aligned} [X_i, X_j] &= \left(A_r^j \frac{\partial A_s^i}{\partial x_r} - A_r^i \frac{\partial A_s^j}{\partial x_r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_s} \\ &= 2(A_i A_j)_{r\ell} x_{\ell} \end{aligned}$$

because of the relation $A_i A_j = -A_j A_i$ ($i \neq j$).

In the Clifford algebra $C_{p(n)}$ generated by the elements $A_1, \dots, A_{p(n)}$ the subspace $M_2 = \langle A_i A_j \rangle$ ($i \neq j$) of dimension $\frac{p(n)}{2}(p(n)-1)$ is isomorphic to $so(p(n))$.

We apply this result to the integrability of the distribution of the $p(n)$ vector-fields $X_1, \dots, X_{p(n)}$ on S^{n-1} (existence of submanifolds $M^{p(n)}$ of S^{n-1} , such that in each point $x \in M^{p(n)}$, $T_x(M^{p(n)}) = \langle X_1, \dots, X_{p(n)} \rangle$). The condition for integrability is

$$[X_i, X_j] \in \langle X_1, \dots, X_{p(n)} \rangle \quad \forall i \neq j$$

Since $[X_i, X_j] = 2(A_i A_j)x$, the condition is satisfied in the case of the Hopf-fibrations S^{2n-1}/S^1 and S^{4n-1}/S^3 , the fibers (S^1 and S^3) defining the tangent submanifolds of the distribution. In the general case, the

quotient space

$$S^{n-1} \rightarrow S^{n-1}/\text{Spin}(\rho(n))$$

induces on S^{n-1} a foliation with singularities. The set Σ of singularities is given by

$$\Sigma = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \left(\sum_{i,k} \lambda_{ik} A_i A_k \right) x = 0 \right\}$$

and in the complement $S^n - \Sigma$, we obtain a foliation, given by a covering $\{U_i, f_i\}$ of $S^n - \Sigma$ such that the coordinate transformations

$$(f_j \circ f_i)^{-1}: f_i(U_i \cap U_j) \rightarrow f_j(U_i \cap U_j)$$

are decomposed as

$$\begin{aligned} (x, y) &\rightarrow (h_{ij}^1(x), h_{ij}^2(y)) \\ \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\rho(n)} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-\rho(n)} \end{aligned}$$

The fibers are the integral manifolds of the given distribution $X_1, \dots, X_{\rho(n)}$.

4. Applications

The Hamiltonian⁵ of the n -dimensional harmonic oscillator is a quadratic form

$$H(p, q) = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} p_i q_j$$

in the conjugate quantities p_i, q_j and the set of observables which are quadratic expressions in these variables is the Lie algebra of the symplectic group $\text{Sp}(n, \mathbb{R})$. The maximal compact subgroup $\text{SU}(n) = \text{Sp}(n, \mathbb{R}) \cap \text{SO}(2n)$ of $\text{Sp}(n, \mathbb{R})$ is given by the set of elements commuting with the Hamiltonian

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (p_i p_i + q_i q_i)$$

In the quotient space $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$, the relation between the conjugate quantities p, q is given by the complex structure of $M^N = Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$, imbedded in $\mathbb{C}^{n(n+1)/2}$ (chapter 2).

We introduce the complex coordinates

$$z_k = x_k + i y_k \quad (k = 1, \dots, N = \frac{n(n+1)}{2})$$

and the tangent space $T(M^N)$ of the open submanifold M^N has the basis $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_N}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y_N}$.

The complex structure is defined by the endomorphism

$$J: T(M^N) \rightarrow T(M^N)$$

where $J(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}$, $J(\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$.

The connection of the complex structure J with the invariant metric on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ (chapter 3) is: a) the endomorphism J is an isometry of the tangent space; b) J is invariant under parallel translation.⁴ The following stability-property leads to the geometrical quantization for the harmonic oscillator by introducing the complex structure J in the phase space. The space $H(Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))$ of holomorphic functions on the symmetric space M^N is an invariant irreducible subspace of the action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$. We construct an orthonormal basis of $H(Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))$; the Silov boundary⁶ $\Sigma(Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))$ is the manifold of all symmetric matrices of order n . Let $S \in \Sigma(Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))$; we consider the elements s_{ij} of the matrix S as the components of a vector $s \in \mathbb{C}^{n(n+1)/2}$. Let U be a unitary matrix and

$$T = USU' \in \Sigma(Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))$$

The matrix U induces therefore a linear transformation

$$U: \mathbb{C}^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}$$

$$s \rightarrow u(s) = t$$

Let $P^f(\mathbb{C}^{n(n+1)/2})$ be the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree f in the variables $\{s_{ij}\}$. U induces a linear transformation

$$U^f: P^f\left(\mathbb{C}^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}\right) \rightarrow P^f\left(\mathbb{C}^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}\right)$$

The basis of the invariant subspaces of U^f give an orthonormal system in the space $L^2(\Sigma(\mathrm{Sp}(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)))$ of square integrable functions on the Silov boundary. As a consequence of the isometry

$$L^2(\Sigma(\mathrm{Sp}(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n))) \rightarrow H(B^n(\mathbb{C}))$$

$$f(w) \rightarrow \int P_n(z, w) f(w) dw$$

where

$$P_n(z, w) = \frac{1}{V(\Sigma)} \frac{\det(E - z \bar{z}^T)^n}{\det(z - w)^{2n}}$$

we obtain an orthonormal basis on $H(B^n(\mathbb{C}))$.

Remark 1:

Let $SU(n, p)$ be an extension of the maximal compact subgroup $SU(n)$ of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$. The homogeneous space $SU(n, p)/SU(n, p-1)$ is realized in \mathbb{C}^{n+p} by the hyperboloid $H^{n, p}$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n z_i \bar{z}_i - \sum_{k=1}^p z_{n+k} \bar{z}_{n+k} = 1$$

The Lie-algebra of invariant vector fields on $H^{n, p}$ is a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{su}(n, p)$ where

$$\mathfrak{su}(n, p) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_2^T & A_3 \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} A_1 = -\bar{A}_1, \quad A_3 = -\bar{A}_3 \\ \text{Tr}(A_1) + \text{Tr}(A_3) = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

The following curves define trajectories of the action of $SU(n, p)$ on $H^{n, p}$

$$\begin{cases} z_j(t) = a_j e^{it} & (j = 1, \dots, n) \\ z_k(r) = b_k e^{it} & (k = 1, \dots, p) \end{cases} \quad \text{with } \sum a_j^2 - \sum b_k^2 = 1$$

In the case $p = 1$, a symplectic structure (with linear action of $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ on the tangent space) is defined by the fundamental form $\sum_{j=1}^n da_j \wedge d\bar{a}_j$ where

$$a_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (p_j + i q_j)$$

Remark 2:

One can apply the preceding construction of an orthonormal system in the symmetric space of the symplectic group to the ensembles of hermitian matrices considered by Dyson³ in "Algebraic structure of symmetry groups and ensembles in quantum mechanics."

Let $M_n(F)$ be the set of matrices of order n with coefficients in the field F (either \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{C} or \mathbb{H}); we consider subsets of $M_n(F)$ invariant under the action of a group G operating in F^n by the representation:

$$\rho: G \rightarrow GL(F^n)$$

Dyson studies the two cases of invariance:

$$a) \quad M_n^f(F) = \{S \in M_n(F) \mid S\rho(g) = \rho(g)S \quad \forall g \in G\}$$

The matrices are then called formally invariant.

$$b) \ M_n^P(F) = \left\{ S \in M_n(F) \left| \begin{array}{l} Sp(u) = \rho(u)S, \quad \text{if } \rho(u) \text{ unitary} \\ Sp(a) = \rho(a)\bar{S}^T, \quad \text{if } \rho(a) \text{ antiunitary} \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

Then the matrices are called physically invariant; the two definitions are equivalent if the matrices S are hermitian.

Dyson obtains the classification result:

Theorem: An irreducible set of matrices in $M_n(F)$, invariant under G in the physical sense is the set of all self-dual matrices in F . In the case of an unitary representation, the set of matrices invariant under G , is an orthogonal, unitary or symplectic group.

The ensembles of matrices formally invariant under G are the group-manifolds $SO(n)$, $SU(n)$, and $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$ with the probability distribution induced by the Haar-measure on this group; for the symplectic group we apply the construction of the invariant metric on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$ (chapter 2). The volume element

$$|g_{ij}| = |\det(E - z\bar{z})|^{-n+1}$$

induces by the canonical projection

$$i: Sp(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow Sp(n, \mathbb{R})/U(n)$$

the Haar-measure on $Sp(n, \mathbb{R})$, uniquely defined up to a multiplicative constant.

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THE COMPLEX LIGHT CONE,
SYMMETRIC SPACE OF THE CONFORMAL GROUP.

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INTRODUCTION

The mathematical structure and the physical interpretation of the conformal group, invariance group of Maxwell equations, are studied in this paper, as a detailed analysis of our publication¹⁶ which has been the object of several papers.^{13,14,17}

The first part gives the structure of the conformal group in a metric of signature (p, q) and a proof of the relation between the conformal group and the isometry group of a compact manifold.

In the Minkowski metric (n-1, 1), we construct the bounded realization $D^n \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ of the symmetric space of the conformal group, the unbounded realization being the complex light cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ where

$$V^n = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid y_1 > 0, y_1^2 - \dots - y_n^2 > 0\}$$

This explicit construction allows to define the Bergman metric, the invariant differential operators and their elementary solutions (Green functions) in the bounded realization D^n of $SO(n, 2)/SO(n) \times SO(2)$. Their domain of definition is the Cartesian product of D^n with the Silov boundary Q^n . We prove that Q^n is the quotient space $C(M^n)/P(M^n)$ of the conformal group by the Poincaré group $P(M^n)$ and give several applications (representations of $C(M^n)$ induced by $P(M^n)$, eigenvalues of Casimir operators in the Lie algebra of $C(M^n)$).

The construction of the Green functions in D^n is extended to the non-scalar case (tensor- and spinor-fields) and the value of the structure constant α is obtained as coefficient of the Green function of the Dirac equation in D^5 .

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1. The Structure of the Conformal Group

A conformal mapping $f: M^n \rightarrow M^n$ of a pseudo-Riemannian manifold M^n with metric tensor g_{ij} is a differentiable homeomorphism of M^n which leaves invariant the isotropic cones:

$$ds^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n g_{ij} dx^i dx^j = 0$$

If we introduce the induced map f_* for tensors on M^n , then $f_*(g_{ij}) = \lambda^2 g_{ij}$, where $\lambda \neq 0$. The conformal group $C(M^n)$ is the group of these transformations, and is an extension of the group $I(M^n)$ of isometries, which keep the metric tensor g_{ij} invariant.

Example 1:

Let $M^{p,q}$ be the generalized Minkowski space with the metric of signature (p, q) $ds^2 = dx_1^2 + \dots + dx_p^2 - dx_{p+1}^2 - \dots - dx_{p+q}^2$ (where $pq \neq 0$). The isometry group $I(M^{p,q})$ is the Poincaré group $P(M^{p,q})$, semi-direct product of the group of translations $T^{p,q}$ and of the generalized Lorentz-group:

$$SO(p, q) = \{A \in M^{p+q}(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^T E_{p,q} A = E_{p,q}\}$$

where

$$E^{p,q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & -1 & \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \} p \\ \\ \} q \end{matrix}$$

$M^{p,q}$ is an homogeneous space of the Poincaré group $P(M^{p,q})$; the isotropy group of this action is $SO(p, q)$ and therefore

$$M^{p,q} = P(M^{p,q}) / SO(p, q).$$

The following transformations of $C(M^{p,q})$ are not contained in $P(M^{p,q})$:

1. the dilatation $D(a, \lambda)$ of center a and factor λ :

$$x_i \rightarrow \lambda (x_i - a_i)$$

2. the inversion $I(b)$ of center b :

$$x_i \rightarrow \frac{x_i - b_i}{N^2(x, b)}$$

where

$$N^2(x, b) = (x_1 - b_1)^2 + \dots + (x_p - b_p)^2 - (x_{p+1} - b_{p+1})^2 - \dots - (x_{p+q} - b_{p+q})^2$$

The inversion $I(b)$ is a differentiable homeomorphism in the complement $M^{p, q} - C(b)$ of the isotropic cone $C(b)$ of center b .

According to Liouville's theorem, the conformal transformations are obtained by composition of the rotations, translations, dilatations, and inversions. In order to obtain the structure of the Lie-group $C(M^{p, q})$, we introduce the geometry of spheres in the Minkowski space $M^{p, q}$.

Theorem:

The set $S(p, q)$ of all hyperboloids in $M^{p, q}$ is an homogeneous space of the group $S(M^{p, q})$ of this geometry, which is isomorphic to the group $SO(p+2, q+1)$.

Proof:

The proof is a generalization of¹⁵:

the equation of an hyperboloid in $M^{p, q}$ is

$$x_1^2 + \dots + x_p^2 - x_{p+1}^2 - \dots - x_{p+q}^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{p+q} x_i a_i + b = 0.$$

The radius r is given by:

$$r^2 = a_1^2 + \dots + a_p^2 - a_{p+1}^2 - \dots - a_{p+q}^2 + b$$

and the introduction of homogeneous coordinates

$$a_i = \frac{\xi_i}{\xi_{p+q+3}} \quad (i=1, \dots, p+q) \quad b = \frac{\xi_{p+q+1}}{\xi_{p+q+3}}, \quad r = \frac{\xi_{p+q+2}}{\xi_{p+q+3}}$$

gives, after a linear transformation

$$\xi_1^2 + \dots + \xi_p^2 - \xi_{p+1}^2 - \dots - \xi_{p+q}^2 + \xi_{p+q+1}^2 + \xi_{p+q+2}^2 - \xi_{p+q+3}^2 = 0.$$

The linear group of this form is $SO(p+2, q+1)$.

We give the relation between the conformal group and the group of the geometry of spheres; let $M^{p-1, q}$ be the pseudo-riemannian space imbedded in $M^{p, q}$ by $x_1 = 0$. We associate to each isotropic cone $ds^2 = 0$ of center x in $M^{p, q}$ the hyperboloid, intersection of this cone with the hyperplane $x_1 = 0$. This isotropic projection from the set $C(p, q)$ of isotropic cones in $M^{p, q}$, homogeneous space under the action of the conformal group $C(M^{p, q})$, into the set $S(p-1, q)$ of spheres in $M^{p-1, q}$ induces an isomorphism of the conformal group $C(M^{p, q})$ with the group $S(M^{p-1, q}) \cong SO(p+1, q+1)$.

Example 2:

In order to illustrate the difference of structure with the preceding construction, we study the conformal group $C(M^n)$ of a compact riemannian manifold M^n and we prove that, with the exception of the homology sphere, $C(M^n)$ is isomorphic to the group $I(M^n)$ of isometries; we give a new proof of the following theorem, more in line with the representation theory of groups.

Theorem:

If the conformal group $C(M^n)$ of a compact manifold M^n is not isomorphic to the group $I(M^n)$ of isometries, then the Betti numbers $b_p(M^n)$, dimensions of the homology groups of M^n , are zero for $p = 1, \dots, n-1$.

Proof:

Let g_{ij} be the riemannian metric on M^n ; we define the Laplace operator in the space of p-forms and representations of the groups $C(M^n)$ and $I(M^n)$ in the spaces of harmonic forms: the differential da of a p-form $a = a_{i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p} \in \Lambda^p(M^n)$ is given by $(da)_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_{p+1}}$, the codifferential $\delta a = (\delta a)_{i_1 \dots i_{p-1}} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_{p-1}}$ with $(\delta a)_{i_1 \dots i_{p-1}} = (-1)^{np+n+1} (* d * a)_{i_1 \dots i_{p-1}}$ where $*a$ is the adjoint⁶ of a .

The Laplace operator is then defined by

$$\Delta = d\delta + \delta d : \Lambda^p(M^n) \rightarrow \Lambda^p(M^n)$$

and the space $H_p(M^n)$ of harmonic p-forms as

$$H_p(M^n) = \{a \in \Lambda^p(M^n) \mid \Delta a = 0\}.$$

According to Hodge-theorem,⁶ the dimension of $H_p(M^n)$ is given by the p-th Betti-number $b_p(M^n)$. On the other hand, because of the invariance of the Laplace equation $\Delta a = 0$ in the operation of the conformal group $C(M^n)$ and of the isometry group $I(M^n)$, we obtain representations of degree $b_p(M^n)$ of these groups:

$$R_{C(M^n)} : C(M^n) \rightarrow GL H_p(M^n)$$

$$g \mapsto R(g)$$

$$\text{with } R(g)(\alpha(x)) = \alpha(g^{-1}(x))$$

$$\text{for } \alpha \in H^p(M^n) \text{ and } x \in M^n,$$

and the same formula for the induced representation of $I(M^n) \subset C(M^n)$. If there exists an element $g \in C(M^n)$, not contained in $I(M^n)$, with $g(g_{ij}) = \lambda^2 g_{ij}$ ($\lambda \neq 1$) then⁶ there is no harmonic form of degree p , $0 < p < n$, except the trivial one, and therefore $b_i(M^n) = 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$.

This method of demonstration leads us to the study of invariant differential operators and the representations of $C(M^n)$ in their spaces of solutions, in the case $C(M^n) \neq I(M^n)$, as considered in the example of the generalized Minkowski space.

2. The Bounded Realisation of the Complex Light Cone.

$$\text{Let } T^{p,q} = \mathbb{R}^{p+q} + i V^{p,q} \quad (pq \neq 0) \text{ with}$$

$$V^{p,q} = \{ y \in \mathbb{R}^{p+q} \mid y_1^2 + \dots + y_p^2 - y_{p+1}^2 - \dots - y_{p+q}^2 > 0 \}$$

$$y_1 > 0, \dots, y_p > 0$$

be the complex cone associated to the metric of signature (p, q) ; this domain of \mathbb{C}^{p+q} has the complex structure of the imbedding $T^{p,q} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{p+q}$. The group operating transitively on $T^{p,q}$, generated by the translations on the real part \mathbb{R}^{p+q} , the rotations leaving $V^{p,q}$ invariant and the inversions

$$z_i \rightarrow \frac{z_i}{z_1^2 + \dots + z_p^2 - z_{p+1}^2 - \dots - z_{p+q}^2}$$

is, according to the results of the first section, isomorphic to $SO(p+1, q+1)$. Our aim is to construct a bounded realization of the space $T^{p, q}$ in \mathbb{C}^{p+q} ; this means an holomorphic map $F : T^{p, q} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{p+q}$ such that $F(T^{p, q})$ is contained in a sphere of \mathbb{C}^{p+q} and such that F commutes with the group operation on $T^{p, q}$. We apply the theorem of E. Cartan⁷ which shows the special structure of the conformal group in a space M^n of signature $(n-1, 1)$.

Theorem:

The tubular domain $T^{p, q} = \mathbb{R}^{p+q} + i V^{p, q}$ admits a bounded realization if and only if $q = 1$.

The construction is divided into 2 parts:

- a) the bounded realisation of the symmetric space $D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2)$
- b) the holomorphic map $F : D^n \rightarrow T^n$

a) We consider an homogeneous space of the linear action of the group $SO(n, 2)$ in the complex projective space $P_{n+2}(\mathbb{C})$, namely the hyperboloid

$$H_{n, 2} = \{ x \in P_{n+2}(\mathbb{C}) \mid x^T E_{n, 2} x = 0 \}$$

and construct a stereographic projection¹² from $P_{n+2}(\mathbb{C})$ in \mathbb{C}^n such that the linear operation of $SO(n, 2)$ on $H_{n, 2}$ is transformed into a group of homographic transformations of a bounded domain of \mathbb{C}^n .

We introduce the non-homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{cases} z_1 = (x_{n+1} + i x_{n+2})^{-1} (x_1 + i x_2) \\ z_2 = (x_{n+1} + i x_{n+2})^{-1} (x_1 - i x_2) \\ z_j = (x_{n+1} + i x_{n+2})^{-1} x_j \quad (3 \leq j \leq n) \end{cases}$$

The subset Σ_{n+2} of the hyperboloid $H_{n,2}$, given by the inequality $\bar{x}^T E_{n,2} x > 0$ is transformed into the bounded domain of \mathbb{C}^n

$$\begin{cases} 1 + \left| \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \bar{z}_i \right|^2 - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \bar{z}_i > 0 \\ \left| \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \bar{z}_i \right| < 1 \end{cases}$$

The isotropy group of the linear action of $SO(n, 2)$ on the subset $\Sigma_{n,2}$ of $H_{n,2}$ is $SO(n) \times SO(2)$; the mapping $S : \Sigma_{n,2} \rightarrow D^n$ given by the preceding formulas induces an isomorphism

$$S_* : SO(n, 2) \rightarrow A(D^n)$$

of the group $SO(n, 2)$ onto the group $A(D^n)$ of holomorphic transformations of D^n ; therefore

$$D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2).$$

b) We construct in the second part of the proof the holomorphic mapping $F : D^n \rightarrow T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ of the bounded realisation D^n in the complex light cone T^n .

Let $S : \Sigma_{n,2} \rightarrow D^n$ be the stereographic projection constructed in a): by a linear transformation of variables, the equation of the subset $\Sigma_{n,2}$ of the hyperboloid $H_{n,2}$ becomes

$$Y^T M_{n,2} Y = 0, \quad \bar{Y}^T M_{n,2} Y > 0$$

where

$$M_{n,2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -E_{n,1} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We introduce the coordinates (with $y_1 \neq 0$)

$$z_1 = y_1^{-1} y_{n+2}, \quad z_j = y_1^{-1} y_j \quad \text{for } j = 2, \dots, n.$$

The equations of $\Sigma_{n,2}$ imply:

$$(\operatorname{Im} z_1)^2 - (\operatorname{Im} z_2)^2 - \dots - (\operatorname{Im} z_n)^2 > 0.$$

If we consider the connected component $\operatorname{Im} z_1 > 0$ of this set, we obtain the complex light cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ and the map $T: \Sigma_{n,2} \rightarrow T^n$.

The composition-map $F = T \circ S^{-1}: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ gives therefore the holomorphic transformation of T^n in a bounded domain of \mathbb{C}^n with the property: the mapping $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ induces an isomorphism $F_*: I(z) \rightarrow L(T^n)$ of the isotropy group $I(z)$ of a point z (on the boundary of D^n) with the group $L(T^n)$ of linear transformations of T^n , isomorphic to the Poincaré group $P(M^n)$: a linear transformation of T^n leaves invariant a point with the homogeneous coordinates $y_1 \neq 0, y_j = 0$ ($j = 2, \dots, n$) which is a boundary point of D^n .

The explicit form of the bounded realisation allows to compute the functional determinant of the transformation $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ and the non-linear action of $SO(n, 2)$ on D^n ^{10, 12}; the Jacobian is obtained from the invariance condition on the domain T^n , the only polynomial invariant under the linear action of $P(M^n)$ being $(z_1^2 - z_2^2 - \dots - z_n^2)^k$; the dimension implies $k=n$. The explicit computation of the functional matrix $\frac{\partial z_i}{\partial y_k}$ gives the Jacobian $\left| \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial y_k} \right| = 2^n (z_1^2 - \dots - z_n^2)^{-n}$. For the action of a group element $A \in SO(n, 2)$ on D^n , induced from the linear action on the hyperboloid $\Sigma_{n,2} \subset P_{n+2}(\mathbb{C})$, we decompose⁸ the matrix A with $(n+2)$ rows and $(n+2)$ columns in the following way:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & A_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

where the matrices A_i ($i=1, \dots, 4$) are respectively 2×2 , $n \times 2$, $2 \times n$ and $n \times n$. Then the map

$$\begin{aligned} D^n &\rightarrow D \\ A : z &\rightarrow A(z) \end{aligned}$$

is given by:

$$A(z) = \left[\left(\begin{pmatrix} zz' + 1 \\ i(zz' - 1) \end{pmatrix} \frac{A_1^T}{2} + z A_2^T \right) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \right]^{-1} \left[\begin{pmatrix} zz' + 1 \\ i(zz' - 1) \end{pmatrix} \frac{A_3}{2} + z A_4^T \right]$$

The image in the map $F : D^n \rightarrow T^n$ of the real part $(\mathbb{R}^n, \{0\})$ of the complex light cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ is given by

$$Q_n = \left\{ \xi = x e^{i\theta} \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid x = (x_1, \dots, x_n), x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2 = 1 \right\}$$

and the isotropy group $SO(n) \times SO(2)$ of an interior point of D^n operates transitively on Q^n , cartesian product of two spheres of dimension $n-1$ and 1. The subset Q^n (Silov boundary) of the topological boundary ∂D^n of D^n is also an homogeneous space of the action of $SO(n, 2)$ with isotropy group $P(M^n)$ (chapter 7)

Remark:

In the case $n = 4$, the complex light-cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ has a special bounded realisation in a space of matrices. Namely, the Lie algebra of the conformal group $SO(4, 2)$ is isomorphic to the Lie algebra of the group $SU(2, 2)$ associated to the hermitian form

$$z_1 \bar{z}_1 + z_2 \bar{z}_2 - z_3 \bar{z}_3 - z_4 \bar{z}_4$$

Therefore, the bounded realisation is a domain of the first type in the classification of E. Cartan.⁸

$$D^{2,2} = \{ z \in M_2(\mathbb{C}) \mid E_2 - \bar{z}^T z > 0 \}$$

(where the symbol $A > 0$ for a symmetric matrix means that the associated form is positive-definite) and the action of the group of automorphisms

$$SU(2,2) = \{ M \in M_4(\mathbb{C}) \mid \bar{M}^T E_{2,2} M = E_{2,2} \}$$

is given by $z \mapsto (Az + B)(Cz + D)^{-1}$ with the decomposition $M = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$.

3. Construction of the Metric Tensor on D^n .

The bounded realisation D^n of the symmetric space $SO(n,2)/SO(2)$ in \mathbb{C}^n , given in the previous chapter, allows us to define on D^n an invariant metric tensor⁷: we give in this section an explicit construction of this metric, which we apply to the Green function on D^n .¹⁰ Let γ_{ij} and g_{ij} be the metric tensors on $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ and D^n ; the mapping $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ gives

$$\left| (\gamma_{ij}) \right| = J(F) \left| (g_{ij}) \right|$$

where $J(F) = (1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{-n}$ is the Jacobian of F . Because of the pseudo-euclidean structure of the metric on T^n , we obtain for the invariant volume element on D^n

$$\left| (g_{ij}) \right| = c(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{-n}$$

where c is a constant factor.

Remarks:

1. This formula can be obtained by using the fact that the action of $SO(n, 2)$ on D^n , given in the previous section, leaves invariant the boundary of D^n , defined by the polynomial equation $1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z' = 0$. Therefore the invariant volume element has the form $|g_{ij}| = c(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^\lambda$.
- 2) An analytic construction⁷ of the invariant volume element is given by the Bergman kernel. Let $\varphi_1(z), \varphi_2(z), \dots$ be an orthonormal basis in the Hilbert space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n , with the scalar product induced by the euclidean measure on \mathbb{R}^{2n} ; the series $\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \varphi_p(z) \overline{\varphi_p(z)}$ converges uniformly on each closed subset of the Cartesian product $D^n \times D^n$ and defines an holomorphic function $K(z, \bar{z})$ independent of the choice of basis in $H(D^n)$: we have the following transformation law:

Proposition:

Let $g : z \mapsto gz$ be the mapping of D^n given by $g \in SO(n, 2)$, then
 $K(z, \bar{z}) = K(gz, g\bar{z}) |j_g(z)|^2$.

Proof:

The sequence $\varphi_1(gz), \dots, \varphi_p(gz)$ does not give an orthonormal basis in $H(D^n)$ because the euclidean volume element is not invariant in the action of $SO(n, 2)$; but $\{\varphi_p(gz) j_g(z)\}$ is orthonormal because

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{pq} &= \int_{D^n} \varphi_p(z) \overline{\varphi_q(z)} \frac{n}{\prod_{i=1}^n} dz_i d\bar{z}_i \\ &= \int_{D^n} \varphi_p(gz) \overline{\varphi_q(gz)} |j_g|^2 \frac{n}{\prod_{i=1}^n} dz_i d\bar{z}_i \end{aligned}$$

The sum of the series $\sum \varphi_p(z) \varphi_p(\bar{z})$ is independent of the basis and we obtain the transformation law

$$K(z, \bar{z}) = \sum \varphi_p(gz) \varphi_q(gz) j_g(z) j_g(\bar{z}) = |j_g(z)|^2 K(gz, \overline{gz}).$$

Since the Bergman kernel $K(z, \bar{z})$ and the volume element $|g_{ij}|$ have the same transformation law in the action of $SO(n, 2)$, they differ only by a constant proportionality factor

$$K(z, \bar{z}) = c_1 |g_{ij}| = c_2^{-1} (1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{-n}$$

This factor c_2 is given by the euclidean volume $V(D^n)$ of the bounded domain D^n , equal to $\frac{\pi^n}{2^{n-1} n!}$, in the case $\lambda = 0$ of the formula.⁸

$$\int_{D^n} (1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^\lambda \prod_{i=1}^n dz_i d\bar{z}_i = \frac{\pi^n}{2^{n-1}} \frac{\Gamma(\lambda+1)}{\Gamma(\lambda+n)} \cdot \frac{1}{(2\lambda+n)}$$

3) In ^{16,17} we apply a different transformation formula

$$G(z) = G(g(z)) |j_g(z)|^4$$

which is associated to the volume element of the Riemannian structure

$$G(z)^{\frac{1}{2}} = c K(z, \bar{z})$$

The transformation law is a consequence of the formula $K(z, \bar{z}) = K(gz, \overline{gz}) |j_g|^2$ and of the relation

$$|j_g(z)|^2 = \frac{\partial(u_1, v_1, \dots, u_n, v_n)}{\partial(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n)}$$

between the complex Jacobian $j_g(z) = \frac{\partial(w_1, \dots, w_n)}{\partial(z_1, \dots, z_n)}$ and the real Jacobian of the transformation $z \rightarrow g(z)$.

The invariant metric tensor g_{ij} is defined by:

$$g_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial \bar{z}_j} \ln (1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{-n}$$

We compute g_{ij} explicitly, in order to apply it to the induced metric of the imbedding $i: D^{n-1} \rightarrow D^n$ given by $z_n = 0$. We obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij} &= -n \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_j} \ln [1 + (\sum_k z_k \bar{z}_k) (\sum_l \bar{z}_l z_l) - 2 \sum_p z_p \bar{z}_p] \right) \\ &= -n \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} \left(\frac{2\bar{z}_j (\sum_k z_k \bar{z}_k) - 2z_j}{1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z'} \right) \\ &= 2n \left[\frac{(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z') (\bar{z}_j z_i - \delta_{ij}) - (\bar{z}_j (\sum_k z_k \bar{z}_k) - 2z_j) (2z_i \sum_k z_k \bar{z}_k - 2\bar{z}_i z_i)}{(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The inclusion map $I: D^{n-1} \rightarrow D^n$ given by the restriction $(z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}) \rightarrow (z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}, 0)$ induces a metric $I_*(g_{ij})$ on D^n and we obtain, according to the previous formula

$$(g_{\mu, \nu}(z_1, \dots, z_n)) \Big|_{z_n=0} = \frac{n}{n-1} \begin{pmatrix} (\frac{1}{n-1}) g_{ij}(z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z' \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mu, \nu = 1, \dots, n$

In particular, the volume elements on $D^{n-1} \subset D^n$ are related by

$$\left| g_{\mu, \nu}(z_1, \dots, z_n) \right|_{z_n=0} = \frac{n^n}{(n-1)^{n-1}} \left| g_{ij}(z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}) \right|$$

4. Unitary Representations of the Conformal Group (Discrete Series).

The previous construction of the invariant metric leads to a scalar product in the space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n which is invariant in the discrete series of representations.

For any integer p , we construct the representation

$$R_p : SO(n, 2) \rightarrow GL(H(D^n))$$

$$g \rightarrow R_p(g) f(z) = f(g^{-1}z) j_g^p(z)$$

where $j_g(z)$ is the Jacobian of the mapping $g: z \rightarrow gz$.

In order to define the invariant scalar product, we apply the transformation formula of the volume element $|g_{ij}|$, proportional to the Bergman kernel (see Chapter 3):

$$|g_{ij}(z)| = |g_{ij}(gz)| \cdot |j_g(z)|^2$$

Therefore the scalar product

$$\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle_p = \int_{D^n} f_1(z) \overline{f_2(z)} K^{-p}(z, \bar{z}) dz_1 \dots d\bar{z}_n$$

is invariant in the transformation $R_p(g)$ and the representation $R_p : SO(n, 2) \rightarrow GL(H(D^n))$ is unitary because:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle R_p(g) f_1, R_p(g) f_2 \rangle_p &= \int_{D^n} f_1(g^{-1}z) \overline{f_2(g^{-1}z)} K^{-p}(gz, g\bar{z}) |j_g(z)|^{2p} dz_1 \dots d\bar{z}_n \\ &= \int_{D^n} f_1(z) \overline{f_2(z)} K^{-p}(z, \bar{z}) dz_1 \dots d\bar{z}_n \\ &= \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle_p \end{aligned}$$

Let $\varphi_1(z), \dots, \varphi_k(z), \dots$ be an orthonormal basis of $H(D^n)$, (with the measure induced by the euclidean structure; then $\{\varphi_k(z) K^{-\frac{p}{2}}\}$ is an orthonormal basis in the scalar product $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle_p$. The matrix of the operator $R_p(g)$ is given by

$$a_p^{kl}(g) = \langle R_p(g) \varphi_k(z), \varphi_l(z) \rangle$$

$$= \int_{D^n} \varphi_k(g^{-1}z) \varphi_l(z) K^{-p}(z, \bar{z}) j_g^p(z) \prod dz_i d\bar{z}_i$$

According to the result of Bargmann,¹ the coefficients $a_p^{kl}(g)$ of the representation R_p are square integrable on the group manifold $SO(n, 2)$:

$$\int_{SO(n, 2)} \left| a_p^{kl}(g) \right|^2 dg < \infty$$

dg being the invariant measure on $SO(n, 2)$. This property is characteristic of the discrete series of holomorphic representations of $SO(n, 2)$, according to the result.¹

Theorem:

Let $R: SO(p, q) \rightarrow U(H)$ be a unitary representation of the group $SO(p, q)$ (with $p, q \neq 0$) in an Hilbert space H . If the coefficients $\langle R(g) \varphi_i, \varphi_k \rangle$ of the representation R , where φ_i is an orthonormal basis of H , are square integrable on $SO(p, q)$, then $p = 2$ or $q = 2$ and R is equivalent to a representation of the discrete series.

5. Elementary Solutions of the Laplace Operators in M^n and D^n .

The holomorphic map $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$, constructed in section 2, gives the following relation between the Green functions on D^n and M^n .

Let $\square_{1, n-1}$ be the Laplace operator in M^n and $H_{1, n-1}$ the space of harmonic functions:

$$H_{1, n-1} = \{ \varphi \mid \square_{1, n-1} \varphi = 0 \}$$

The invariance of the equation $\square_{1, n-1} \varphi = 0$ in the action of the conformal group $C(M^n) \cong SO(n+2, 2)$ induces a representation of $SO(n, 2)$

$$R_n : SO(n, 2) \rightarrow GL(H_{1, n-1})$$

$$g \rightarrow R_n(g) : \varphi(x) \rightarrow \varphi(g^{-1}(x))$$

We construct first the elementary solution E_n of $\square_{1, n-1}$ which satisfies $\square_{1, n-1} E_n = \delta$, in the case $n = 2k$. To the Dirac distribution $\delta(x)$ in \mathbb{R}^1 corresponds by the mapping:

$$f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow d = x_1^2 - \dots - x_n^2$$

the distribution $H(\epsilon) = f_*(\delta(\epsilon))$ with

$$\text{supp } H(\epsilon) = \{ (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid d = \epsilon \}$$

In the same way, to the derivative of order p of δ_ϵ corresponds by the mapping $f : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a distribution $H^{(p)}(\epsilon)$.

The elementary solution E_n of $\square_{1, n-1}$ is given by⁵:

$$E_n = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{\frac{n-2}{2}}} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} H_\epsilon^{\left(\frac{n-4}{2}\right)}$$

Let us consider the holomorphic function $(z_1^2 - \dots - z_n^2)^{\frac{n-2}{2}}$ in the complex light cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ and its symmetric $T^{n(-)}$ associated to the cone

$$V^{n(-)} = \{ y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid y_1^2 - \dots - y_n^2 > 0, y_1 < 0 \};$$

the boundary values are defined by

$$\left((x_1 + i0)^2 - x_2^2 - \dots - x_n^2 \right)^{-\frac{n-2}{2}} = \lim_{\epsilon_1 \rightarrow 0} \left((x_1 + i\epsilon_1)^2 - (x_2^2 - \dots - x_n^2) \right)^{-\frac{n-2}{2}}$$

The difference of the boundary values in the complex light cone V^n and its symmetric $V^{n(-)}$ gives an elementary solution of the wave equation

$$0 = \square_{1, n-1} \left[\left((x_1 + i0)^2 - x_2^2 - \dots - x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{n-2}{2}} - \left((x_1 - i0)^2 - x_2^2 - \dots - x_n^2 \right)^{\frac{n-2}{2}} \right]$$

We apply now the mapping defined in section 2,

$$F: T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n \rightarrow D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2)$$

which induces an isomorphism

$$F_* : I(z_0) \cong P(M^n)$$

of the isotropy group of a point z_0 of the boundary of D^n with the group $P(M^n)$ of linear transformations of T^n .

This gives the relation between the Laplace operators on M^n and D^n and therefore between the elementary solutions of these operators.

Theorem:

The image of the invariant operator $\square_{1, n-1}$ of the mapping $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ is the Laplace operator of the invariant metric on D^n .

Proof:

We apply the following result⁷ to the group $G = SO(n, 2)$; let G be a connected semi simple Lie group with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} and invariant form B . The differential operator $\sum g_{ij} X_i X_j$ (where $\{X_i\}$ is a basis of \mathfrak{g} and $g_{ij} = B(X_i, X_j)$), called the Casimir operator of G , corresponds in the mapping $G \rightarrow G/K$ of G on its symmetric space G/K to the invariant Laplace operator on G/K . The Casimir operator of the Poincaré group is therefore the wave operator $\square_{1, n-1}$ and the Casimir operator of $SO(n, 2)$

is the Laplace operator

$$\Delta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \left(\sum_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\sum_i g_{ik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) \right)$$

of the invariant metric (g_{ij}) defined on $D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2)$ in section 4. The result follows now from the property for the map $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ of inducing the isomorphism $I(z) \cong P(M^n)$. Therefore $F_*(\square_{1, n-1}) = \Delta$. A corollary of this result is the relation induced by F of the elementary solutions of the wave operator $\square_{1, n-1}$ and of the Laplace operator on $D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2)$. We construct now the Green function of Δ ; in chapter 2, we have obtained that the image in the mapping $F: T^n \rightarrow D^n$ of the subset of

$$T^n = \{ z = x + iy \mid x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \in V^n \}$$

defined by $y = 0$ is the Silov boundary

$$Q^n = \{ \xi = x e^{i\theta} \mid \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = 1 \}$$

contained in the topological boundary of D^n , and invariant in the action of the group $SO(n, 2)$.

Q^n is homeomorphic to the cartesian product of the two spheres S^{n-1} and S^1 and has therefore a measure dg invariant under the action of $SO(n) \times SO(2)$, defined by the tensor product of the riemannian measures on S^{n-1} and S^1 .

Q^n has the following properties, characteristic of the Silov boundary.⁸

- a) Let $f(z)$ be an holomorphic function in D^n such that its absolute value $|f(z)|$ is bounded on the closure $\overline{D^n}$; then the maximum in $\overline{D^n}$ of $|f(z)|$ is reached on Q^n .

b) Let $q \in Q^n$ be an arbitrary point of the Silov boundary; then there exists an holomorphic function $f(z)$ in D^n such that $\text{Max}_{z \in D^n} |f(z)|$ is reached on Q^n .

Therefore, for any holomorphic function $f(z)$ on D^n , we have

$$f(z) = \int_{Q^n} f(\xi) dq_z(\xi)$$

where dq_z is the measure on Q^n , invariant under the action of the isotropy group of z , isomorphic to $SO(n) \times SO(2)$. For the complex light cone T^n , the relation¹⁰ between the values of an holomorphic function on the Silov boundary and in T^n is:

$$f(k_1 + i k_2) = \frac{1}{A(S^{n-1})} \int_{R^n} \frac{f(p) \langle k, k \rangle dp_1 \dots dp_n}{[(\|k_1 - p_1\| - \|k_2\|)^2 + 4 \langle k_1 - p_1, k_2 \rangle^2]^{\frac{n}{2}}}$$

where the scalar product $\langle k_1, k_2 \rangle$ is given by the Minkowski metric and $A(S^{n-1})$ is the area of the $(n-1)$ dimensional unit-sphere.

In the transformation $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$, the image of an holomorphic function is holomorphic (since F is analytic) and the Silov boundary R^n of T^n is transformed in Q^n :

$$f(z) = \int_{Q^n} f(\xi) P_n(z, \xi) d\xi$$

where the Poisson kernel $P_n(z, \xi)$ is given by

$$P_n(z, \xi) = \frac{(V(D^n))^{\frac{1}{2}}}{V(Q^n)} \frac{(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{\frac{n}{2}}}{|(z - \xi)(z - \xi')|^n}$$

the measure $V(Q^n)$ of the Silov boundary being $\left(\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\right)^{-1} 2\pi^{\frac{n}{2}+1}$.

Proposition:

$P_n(z, \xi)$ is an harmonic function of z .

Proof:

$P_n(z, \xi)$ is an holomorphic function of z and as a consequence of the Kaehlerian structure of the metric⁶ $\Delta_z P_n(z, \xi) = 0$.

By construction, $P_n(z, \xi)$ is (as function of $\xi \in Q^n$) a measure on Q^n , invariant under the action of the isotropy group of the point z , isomorphic to $SO(n) \times SO(2)$.

Remark:

The relation of the Poisson kernel $P_n(z, \xi)$ with the Bergman kernel $K_n(z, \bar{z}) = V(D_n)^{-1} (1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{-n}$ is the following: we introduce an orthonormal basis $\{\varphi_i(z)\}$ in the Hilbert space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n :

According to chapter 3, $K_n(z, \bar{w}) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{\nu}(z) \overline{\varphi_{\nu}(w)}$; the sequence $\{a_i^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi_{\nu}(\xi)\}$ where

$$\int_{Q^n} \varphi_i(\xi) \overline{\varphi_j(\xi)} d\xi = a_i$$

is orthonormal in the Hilbert space $L_2(Q^n)$ and the Poisson kernel is given by the quotient of series

$$P_n(z, \xi) = \frac{|\sum a_i^{-1} \varphi_i(z) \overline{\varphi_i(\xi)}|}{\sum a_i \varphi_i(z) \overline{\varphi_i(z)}}$$

6. Special Properties of the Elementary Solutions in D^n (n even).

The Silov boundary of $D^n = SO(n, 2) / SO(n) \times SO(2)$, given by $Q^n = S^{n-1} \times S^1 = \{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^n | \xi = x e^{i\theta}, x x' = 1\}$ has the following property:

Theorem:

Q^n is a complex manifold if and only if n is even. In this case, the complex structure is invariant in the transitive action of the groups $SO(n) \times SO(2)$ and $SO(n, 2)$.

Proof:

For n even, the structure of complex manifold is given by the identification map

$$M^n = M^n / \Gamma$$

where $M^n = \mathbb{C}^n - \{0\}$ and Γ is the discrete group of holomorphic transformations of M^n generated by the map $f: \mathbb{C}^n - \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n - \{0\}$

$$z_i \rightarrow 2z_i$$

This group acts freely on M^n and therefore its quotient space is a complex manifold, isomorphic to $S^{n-1} \times S^1$.

For $n = 2k+1$, the dimension of the Silov boundary is odd and therefore Q^n is not complex.

The second part of the theorem on the invariance of the complex structure of Q^{2k} under the group actions $SO(n) \times SO(2)$ and $SO(n, 2)$ follows from the linearity of the action of $SO(n) \times SO(2)$ and from the analyticity of the action of $SO(n, 2)$.

Remark:

Although $S^{2k} \times S^1$ is a complex manifold, it is not a Kaehler-manifold; namely its first Betti number is one for $k > 1$, whereas the first Betti number of a compact Kaehler manifold is even.⁶

We obtain as a corollary of the preceding theorem.

Corollary:

Let $R_1 : SO(n, 2) \rightarrow GL(H(S^{n-1} \times S^1))$ be the representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in the space of holomorphic functions on $S^{n-1} \times S^1$. This representation is equivalent to a representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in the space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on $D^n = SO(n, 2)/SO(n) \times SO(2)$.

Proof:

The Poisson integral induces an isomorphism $I: H(S^{n-1} \times S^1) \cong H(D^n)$ by associating to each holomorphic function $g \in H(S^{n-1} \times S^1)$ the function $f \in H(D^n)$ given by $f(z) = \int_{Q^n} P_n(z, \xi) g(\xi) d\xi$. This mapping I_* commutes with the representation of the group $SO(n, 2)$ on $H(D^n)$ and $H(S^{n-1} \times S^1)$; hence the equivalence of the representations.

The Poisson kernel of the domain D^n , associated to the conformal group $C(M^4) \cong SO(4, 2)$ has the following property.

Theorem:

The Poisson kernel $P_4(z, \xi)$ is an harmonic function with respect to both variables $z \in D^4$ and $\xi \in Q^4$; the Laplace operator on $D^4 \times Q^4$ being constructed from the tensor product of the invariant metrics.

Proof:

It is already known that the Poisson kernel $P_n(z, \xi)$ is harmonic with respect to z and is an invariant measure on $Q^n = S^{n-1} \times S^1$; $Q^4 = S^3 \times S^1$ has the structure of a Lie group, given by the cartesian product of the group S^3 of quaternions of norm 1 with the group S^1 of complex numbers of norm 1. Since the Poisson kernel $P_4(z, \xi)$ is an

invariant measure on Q^4 , we can apply the following result: on a compact Lie group, a necessary and sufficient condition for a form to be harmonic is the invariance of this form⁶; therefore, $P_4(z, \xi)$ is harmonic on $D^4 \times Q^4$.

7. The Quotient Space of the Conformal Group by the Poincaré Group.

The application of the quotient space $C(M^n)/P(M^n)$ is the following: the conformal group $C(M^4)$, extension of the 10-dimensional Poincaré group $P(M^4)$, induces 5 additional conservation identities, associated to the generators of the Lie algebra of $C(M^4)$, not contained in the Lie algebra of $P(M^4)$ (chapter 8); it is therefore important to study the representations of the Lie algebra generated by these elements in the Hilbert space $L^2(C(M^4)/P(M^4))$. We have the result:

Theorem:

The group $SO(n, 2)$ of analytic transformations of the symmetric space D^n operates transitively on the Silov boundary $S^{n-1} \times S^1$ of D^n ; the isotropy group of this action is isomorphic to the Poincaré group $P(M^n)$.

Proof:

- 1) We prove first the invariance of the boundary Q^n under the action of $SO(n, 2)$; since the subgroup $SO(n) \times SO(2)$ of $SO(n, 2)$ operates transitively on Q^n , there exists for each pair $(p_1, p_2) \in Q^n \times Q^n$ a group element $g \in SO(n, 2)$ such that $g(p_1) = p_2$. The invariance of Q^n under this action follows from the properties a) and b) of the Silov boundary, given in the preceding chapter:

Let g be an element of $SO(n, 2)$ and q a point of Q^n such that $g(q) \notin Q^n$. According to the property b), there exists a function f on

D^n with $\max_{D^n}(|f|)$ in q . The function $f(gz)$ is analytic and bounded in $\overline{D^n}$, but reaches the maximum of its norm in $g(q)$, outside of Q^n , in contradiction with the property a): therefore $g(q)$ is necessarily in Q^n and $SO(n, 2)$ leaves the Silov boundary invariant.

- 2) We prove now that the isotropy group of the action of $SO(n, 2)$ on Q^n is isomorphic to the Poincaré group: We use the Cayley transformation $F: D^n \rightarrow T^n$ (chapter 2) which allows to construct the isotropy group in a point z_0 of the boundary; F induces an isomorphism $F^*: I(z_0) \cong \overline{L}(T^n)$ of this isotropy group with the group of linear transformations of the complex light cone T^n , which is isomorphic to the Poincaré group $P(M^n)$; as a consequence of the transitivity of the action of $SO(n, 2)$ on Q^n , we obtain: $Q^n = SO(n, 2) / P(M^n)$.

We give an application of this result to the space $F_n(T^4)$ of functions defined on the cartesian product of n copies of the cone T_4 , and invariant under the action of the Poincaré group:

$$f(gz_1, \dots, gz_n) = f(z_1, \dots, z_n)$$

for all $z_i \in T^4$ and $g \in P(M^4)$. Because of this invariance, the functions are defined on the product

$$\prod_{i=1}^n (SO(4, 2) / P(M^4))_i$$

which is the Silov boundary of the space $\prod_{i=1}^n (D^4)_i$. Namely, according to the previous theorem $Q^4 = SO(4, 2) / P(M^4)$ and the Silov boundary of the cartesian product of spaces is given by the product of the Silov boundaries.

We obtain therefore: the map $F: \prod_{i=1}^n (D^4)_i \rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^n (T^4)_i$ induces the isomorphism

$$F_n(T^4) \cong \bigotimes_{i=1}^n (H(Q^4))_i \cong \bigotimes_{i=1}^n (H(D^4))_i$$

Another application of the quotient space $C(M^n)/P(M^n)$ is the study of the induced representation of $C(M^n)$ by a representation of $P(M^n)$: we give first the general definition of an induced representation. ¹¹

Definition:

Let K be a closed subgroup of the Lie group G and let $\rho: K \rightarrow U(V)$ be a unitary representation of K in the Hilbert space V . Let W be the vector space of functions $f: G \rightarrow V$ such that $f(kg) = \rho(k) f(g)$ for all $k \in K$ and $g \in G$. The representation

$$I(\rho): G \rightarrow U(W)$$

$$g \mapsto I_\rho(g): f(x) \mapsto f(xg)$$

is a unitary representation of G , called the induced representation of G by ρ .

We take in the application $G = SO(n, 2)$, $K = P(M^n)$ and according to the preceding section, $G/K = Q^n$. The Silov boundary Q^n of D^n being a compact homogeneous space, the invariant measure dv on Q^n is uniquely defined; we obtain a unitary representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in the space of functions of Q^n in $U(V)$. On the other hand, the functions f on Q^n are boundary values of holomorphic functions g on $D^n = SO(n, 2)/SO(n) \times SO(2)$ given by the Poisson formula

$$g(z) = \int_{Q^n} P_n(z, \xi) f(\xi) d\xi$$

Therefore the induced representation of $C(M^n)$ is equivalent to a representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in $U(V)$.

8. The Conservation Identities of the Conformal Group and the Eigenvalues of Casimir Operators.

The generators of the Lie algebra $SO(4, 2)$ of the conformal group $C(M^4)$ have the following commutation relations.¹⁵ Let P_i, M_{ij} be the infinitesimal translations and rotations $P_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, M_{ij} = x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} - x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$; then $[P_i, P_j] = 0, [P_i, M_{jk}] = g_{ij} P_k - g_{ik} P_j$ and $[M_{ij}, M_{kl}] = -g_{ik} M_{jl} + g_{jk} M_{il} - g_{jl} M_{ik} + g_{il} M_{jk}$. The generator corresponding to the dilatation

$$x_i \rightarrow \lambda x_i$$

is $D = x^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + 1$ whereas the operator L_i of the conformal transformation

$$x_i \rightarrow \frac{x_i - a^i \langle x, x \rangle}{1 - 2 \langle a, x \rangle + \langle a \rangle^2 \langle x \rangle^2}$$

($\langle a, x \rangle$ meaning the Lorentz scalar product) is given by³.

$$L_i = \left(- \langle x, x \rangle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + 2 x_i (x^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + 1) \right)$$

The commutation relations are

$$[D, L_i] = -L_i, [D, P_i] = P_i$$

$$[P_i, L_j] = 2 L_{ij} - g_{ij} D$$

$$[M_{ij}, L_i] = g_{ii} L_j$$

$$[M_{ij}, D] = 0$$

Because of the symmetry between the elements L_i and P_i , we obtain the result:

Proposition:

The Lie algebra of the conformal group contains two subalgebras isomorphic to the Lie algebra of the Poincaré group, namely the algebras generated by $\{M_{ij}, P_k\}$ and $\{M_{ij}, L_k\}$.

As corollary we obtain that the Casimir operator of the Lie algebra generated by $\{M_{ij}, L_k\}$ is given by $L_1^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2 - L_4^2$. In order to apply the results of the chapter 7 on the quotient space $C(M^4)/P(M^4)$ to the eigenvalues of the operator $L_1^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2 - L_4^2$, we give the conservation identities¹⁵ associated to these generators of the Lie algebra of $C(M^4)$. Let T_{ij} be the energy-momentum tensor of the field invariant under the action of the conformal group; for example, in the case of the Maxwell field $H_{ij} = \frac{\partial A_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_j}$,

$$T_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^4 H_{ik} H_{kj} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_{ij} \sum_{j,\ell=1}^4 H_{j\ell}^2$$

The conservation identities associated to the elements D and L_i are:

$$\sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\sum_j x_j T_{ji} \right) = 0; \quad \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(2x_j \sum_k x_k T_{ki} - T_{ji} \sum_k x_k^2 \right) = 0$$

We can now compute the eigenvalues of the Casimir operator $L_1^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2 - L_4^2$; the homogeneous space $C(M^4)/P(M^4)$ is the Silov boundary $Q^4 = S^3 \times S^1$, and therefore the Casimir operator $L_1^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2 - L_4^2$ is the invariant Laplace operator on the compact manifold Q^4 ; as Q^4 is the cartesian product of two manifolds we apply the general case of the product $M_1 \times M_2$ with Riemannian metric $g_1 \otimes g_2$. We have the result²

Proposition:

The spectrum of the Laplace operator of $M_1 \times M_2$ is given by

$$\text{Spec}(M_1 \times M_2) = \{ \lambda + \mu \mid \lambda \in \text{Spec}(M_1, g_1), \mu \in \text{Spec}(M_2, g_2) \}$$

In chapter 10, we obtain the set of eigenfunctions of the Laplace operator on S^n and by applying the result for $n=1$ and $n=3$, we obtain

Corollary:

The spectrum of the Casimir operator $L_1^2 - L_2^2 - L_3^2 - L_4^2$ is given by

$$\text{Spec}(Q^4) = \{ k(k+1) \mid k \geq 0 \}.$$

9. Conformal Invariance of Free Fields.

The Klein-Gordon equation of a scalar field is $(\square - m^2)\varphi(x) = 0$.

The invariance group of this equation is the Poincaré group $P(M^4)$; if

$m = 0$, the invariance group is the conformal group $C(M^4) \cong SO(4, 2)$.

The Fourier transform $a(k)$ of $\varphi(x)$ is $\neq 0$ on the mass-hyperboloid⁹

$$H_m = \{ k \mid \langle k, k \rangle = m^2 \}$$

and we have the representation

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int a(k) e^{i\langle k, x \rangle} dV_m(k)$$

$dV_m(k)$ being the invariant measure on the hyperboloid H_m .

As special case, the elementary solution $S_m(x)$ of $(\square - m^2)\varphi(x) = 0$

is given by

$$a_m(k) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{for } k \in \{ H_m \cap \{ k_1 > 0 \} \} \\ -1 & \text{for } k \in \{ H_m \cap \{ k_1 < 0 \} \} \end{cases}$$

According to chapter 1, the set of all mass hyperboloids of M^4 is an homogeneous space of the conformal group $SO(5, 2)$ of the Minkowski space of signature $(1, 4)$; as the Fourier transform of the elementary solution $S_m(x)$ is constant on the hyperboloid H_m , we define the space of functions $L(\Sigma_5)$ on the $\Sigma_5 = SO(5, 2)/SO(4, 2)$ of all hyperboloids of M^4 .

The stereographic projection of the hyperboloid $SO(5, 2)/SO(4, 2)$ into the bounded domain $D^5 = SO(5, 2)/SO(2)$ (chapter 2) induces an isomorphism of $L(\Sigma_5)$ into the space $H(D^5)$ of holomorphic functions on D^5 .

The connection between the space of solutions of differential operators in M^n , invariant under the action of the conformal group $C(M^n) \cong SO(n, 2)$, and the space $H(D^n)$ is given by the following result:

We have obtained in chapter 5: the elementary solutions E_n of the wave equation in M^n ,

$$\square_n E_n = \delta$$

are constructed as boundary values of holomorphic functions in the unbounded realisation

$$T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$$

of the symmetric space $D^n = SO(n, 2)/SO(n) \times SO(2)$.

Theorem:

The representation of $C(M^n) \cong SO(n, 2)$ in the space of solutions $\{\varphi \mid \square_n \varphi = 0\}$ of the wave equation, is equivalent to the representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in the space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n .

Proof:

The Fourier-Laplace transform $g(z)$ of $\varphi(x)$,
 $f(z) = \int \varphi(x) e^{i\langle z, x \rangle} dx_1 \dots dx_n$ is an holomorphic function in
 $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$ and the action of $C(M^n)$ in M^n induces equivalent repre-
 sentations of $SO(n, 2)$ in $\{\varphi \mid \square_n \varphi = 0\}$ and in the space $H(T^n)$ of holo-
 morphic functions on T^n . By introducing the map $F: T^n \rightarrow D^n$ of the
 complex light cone T^n in the bounded domain D^n (see chapter 2), we
 obtain the equivalence of the representations in $\{\varphi \mid \square_n \varphi = 0\}$ and $H(D^n)$.

We apply the result of chapter 6 on the equivalence of the repre-
 sentation in $H(D^n)$ with the representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in $H(Q^n)$, in the
 case of $n = 2k$ and we obtain the corollary.

Corollary:

For n even, the representation of $SO(n, 2)$ in $\{\varphi \mid \square_n \varphi = 0\}$ is
reducible and the decomposition in invariant subspaces is given by the action
of $SO(n, 2)$ on the compact space $Q^n = S^{n-1} \times S^1$.

Remark:

The special structure of the solutions of the wave equation $\square_n \varphi = 0$
 for n even (space dimension odd) is characterized by the Huyghens principle.
 Another approach to this connection with the set of hyperboloids in M^n is
 given in ⁴.

10. The Tensor Algebra of $H(D^n)$.

We apply now the construction of the tensor algebra on the vector
 space of solutions of

$$\square_n \varphi = 0 \quad (n = 4 \text{ and } 5)$$

Because of the invariance of the wave equation under the action of the conformal group $C(M^n) \cong SO(n, 2)$, we obtain, according to the preceding section, representations of $SO(n, 2)$ in the space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n .

We construct in this chapter an orthonormal basis $\{e_i\}$ of $H(D^n)$ with scalar product $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle = \int_{D^n} |f_1 f_2| \prod_{i=1}^n dz_i d\bar{z}_i$. We give first the definition⁹ of the tensor power^{Dⁿ} over $H(D^n)$

Definition:

The tensor power of order m $(H(D^n))^{\otimes m}$ of $H(D^n)$ is the Hilbert space of multilinear m -forms on $H(D^n)$ such that

$$\sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_m)} |\varphi(e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_m})|^2 < \infty$$

The orthonormal basis $\{e_i\}$ in $H(D^n)$ induces an orthonormal basis on $(H(D^n))^{\otimes m}$, namely $\{e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_m}\}$ where $(e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_m})$ is the m -form defined by $(e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_m})(f_1, \dots, f_m) = \prod_{k=1}^m \langle e_{i_k}, f_k \rangle$ with $f_k \in H(D^n)$.

The tensor algebra on $H(D^n)$ is defined as the direct sum

$$T(H(D^n)) = \bigoplus_{m=0}^{\infty} (H(D^n))^{\otimes m}$$

which contains as subspaces the Grassmann algebra $G(H(D^n))$ and the symmetric algebra $S(H(D^n))$. In order to construct orthonormal bases in these spaces, we give an explicit construction of such a basis on $H(D^n)$. Let $L^2(S^{n-1})$ be the Hilbert space of square integrable functions on the sphere $S^{n-1} = SO(n)/SO(n-1)$. We decompose the representation

$$T : SO(n) \rightarrow GL(L^2(S^{n-1}))$$

given by $T(g)(f(x)) = f(g^{-1}x)$ for $g \in SO(n)$ into irreducible subspaces.

Let $P_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be the vector space of homogeneous polynomials of degree k in n variables; by considering the restriction $S^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ given by

$$f(\rho x) = \rho^k f(x) \quad (x \in S^{n-1})$$

we obtain that $P_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is an invariant subspace⁸ of $L^2(S^{n-1})$ with dimension

$$d(P_k(\mathbb{R}^n)) = (k!)^{-1} n(n+1) \dots (n+k-1).$$

The representation $\mathbb{R} : SO(n) \rightarrow GL(P_k(\mathbb{R}^n))$ is reducible; let $H_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be the vector space of homogeneous harmonic polynomials of degree k on \mathbb{R}^n ; the Laplacian Δ on $S^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ gives:

$$H_k(\mathbb{R}^n) = \{ f \in P_k(\mathbb{R}^n) \mid (\Delta + \lambda)f = 0, \quad \lambda = k(n+k-2) \}$$

and one obtains⁸

Theorem:

The orthogonal decomposition of $P_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ into invariant subspaces under the action of $SO(n)$ is

$$P_k(\mathbb{R}^n) = H_k \oplus H_{k-2} \oplus \dots \oplus H_{k-2[\frac{k}{2}]}$$

where $[\frac{k}{2}]$ is the integer part of $\frac{k}{2}$.

Let $\pi_{k-2\ell}(x)$ be the projection of the vector $x^{(k)} \in P^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with components

$$\frac{k!}{i_1! \dots i_n!} x_1^{i_1} \dots x_n^{i_n} \quad (\text{where } \sum_{p=1}^n i_p = k)$$

in the subspace $H_{k-2\ell}$ of harmonic polynomials:

The vector $\pi_{k-2\ell}(x)$ has the components $(xx')^\ell f_{k-2\ell}^i(x)$ and the functions $g_{k-2\ell}^i = (c_{k-2\ell})^{\frac{1}{2}} f_{k-2\ell}^i(x)$ with $\langle f_j^i, f_j^i \rangle = c_j$ form an orthonormal system on S^{n-1} .

The cartesian product $S^{n-1} \times S^1$ is the Silov boundary Q^n of D^n (chapter 4) and the functions $\frac{(\xi \bar{\xi}')^\ell}{\sqrt{\pi}} g_{k-2\ell}^i(\xi)$, where $\xi = e^{i\theta} x$, give an orthonormal basis on $L^2(Q^n)$. We have proved, in section 5, that the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} H(D^n) &\rightarrow L^2(Q^n) \\ f(z) &\rightarrow f|_{Q^n} \end{aligned}$$

induces an isometry of the Hilbert space $H(D^n)$ of holomorphic functions on D^n with the space $L^2(Q^n)$. Therefore we obtain:

Theorem:

The system $\{e_j\} = \{(zz')^\ell g_{k-2\ell}^i(z)\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $H(D^n)$.

An orthonormal basis in the tensor algebra $T(H(D^n))$ is given by introducing the elements $\{e_{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{j_m}\}$ of $(H(D^n))^{\otimes m}$

11. Exterior Forms and Spinor Forms on D^n .

In order to extend the theory to the non-scalar case, we define fields of spin $\neq 0$ on the bounded realisation D^n of the complex light cone $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$. First we construct the space of exterior forms on the complex manifold D^n ; let $T_x(D^n)$ be the tangent space in $x \in D^n$ and $(T_x(D^n))^*$ its dual space, with basis $dz_1, \dots, dz_n, d\bar{z}_1, \dots, d\bar{z}_n$.

The elements $dz_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dz_{i_p} \wedge d\bar{z}_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\bar{z}_{i_q}$ form a basis of the space $\bigwedge_{x}^{p,q}(D^n)$ of bihomogeneous forms of degree (p, q) on D^n . The exterior algebra on $T_x(D^n)$ is the direct sum

$$\bigwedge_{x}(D^n) = \bigoplus_{p,q} \bigwedge^{p,q}(T_x(D^n))$$

The natural extension of the holomorphic functions on D^n , defined by

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_j} = 0$ ($j=1, \dots, n$) is given by the exterior forms of degree $(p, 0)$. The Laplace operator Δ can be extended⁶ to $\bigwedge^{p,q}(T(D^n))$.

Theorem:

A bihomogeneous form $a \in \bigwedge^{p,q}(T(D^n))$ is harmonic if and only if $q = 0$.

This theorem allows to extend the construction of the Poisson kernel to the non-scalar case. The tensor algebra is defined in the same way as in the case of spin zero (chapter 10)

$$T \bigwedge (T(D^n)) = \bigoplus_m (T(D^n))^{\otimes m}$$

We consider now the spinor fields on D^n : the main feature of the following construction is to define the spinor field on $M^n = P(M^n)/SO(1, n-1)$ (see chapter 1) and to induce a field on D^n by using the stereographic projection $F: T^n \rightarrow D^n$ (chapter 2) where $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n + iV^n$, $V^n = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid y_1^2 - \dots - y_n^2 > 0, y_1 > 0\}$.

The condition on a system of n matrices γ_i of order N :

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \gamma_i \right)^2 = \left(y_1^2 - \dots - y_n^2 \right) I_N$$

is equivalent to:

$$\{ \gamma_1 = I_N, \gamma_i \gamma_j + \gamma_j \gamma_i = 0 \ (i \neq j), \gamma_i^2 = -I_N \ (i = 2, \dots, n) \quad \gamma_i^{-T} = \gamma_i \}$$

(I_N = unit matrix of order N).

For $n = 2p+1$, the values of N are multiples of 2^p and the elements γ_i generate the Clifford algebra $C(T(D^n))$.

We construct now the elementary solution S_n of the Dirac equation and its Fourier transform; S_n satisfies by definition the equation

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) S_n = \delta I_{2^p}$$

If we introduce the elementary solution E_n of the scalar wave equation (chapter 5) we obtain:

$$S_n = \left(\sum \gamma_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) E_n I_{2^p}$$

because

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) S_n = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 E_n I_{2^p} = \delta I_{2^p}$$

The Fourier transform $\hat{S}_n(k)$, given by

$$\hat{S}_n(k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \int S_n(x) e^{i \langle k, x \rangle} dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

satisfies the equation $\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i k_i \right) \hat{S}_n(k) = I_{2^p}$

Therefore

$$\hat{S}_n^2(k) = \frac{\sum \gamma_i k_i}{(k_1^2 - \dots - k_n^2)^2} = \hat{E}_n(k) I_{2^p}$$

The map $F : T^n \rightarrow D^n$ of the complex light cone T^n on the bounded domain D^n gives the same relation

$$S_n^2(z, \xi) = P_n(z, \xi) I_{2^p}$$

between the elementary solutions $S_n(z, \xi)$ and $P_n(z, \xi)$ of the Dirac- and Laplace operators on D^n . According to the results of chapter 5

$$P_n(z, \xi) = \frac{V(D^n)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{V(Q^n)} \frac{(1 + |zz'|^2 - 2\bar{z}z')^{\frac{n}{2}}}{|(z-\xi)(z-\xi')|^n}$$

and therefore the coefficient of the elementary solution $S_n(z, \xi)$ is $\left(\frac{V(D^n)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{V(Q^n)}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

Application:¹⁶

The structure constant α , which measures the elementary charge, is interpreted as coefficient of the Green function of the Dirac equation in momentum space.

The invariance group of the Dirac equation

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^5 \gamma_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) \psi = 0$$

in the space of signature (4, 1) (the coordinate x_5 being conjugate¹⁵ to the mass m) is invariant under the conformal group $C(M^5) \cong SO(5, 2)$. In the representation space $CH(D^5)$ of the spinor forms on $D^5 = SO(5, 2)/SO(5) \times SO(2)$, the coefficient of the Fourier transform of the elementary solution is

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \frac{V(D^5)^{\frac{1}{4}}}{V(Q^5)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \left(\frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} \right) \frac{9}{8\pi^4} V(D^5)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

which gives¹⁶ the value of the structure constant α .

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