

Today: Chapter 2:

Recall that $\pi: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is completely reducible if for every π -inv. subspace $U \subset V$, there exists a π -inv. subspace $W \subset V$ s.t.

$$V = U \oplus W.$$

Assume $k = \mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$ and $\dim_k(V) < \infty$.

Def A real (resp. complex) repr.

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

is orthogonal (resp. unitary) if there exists an inner product (resp. a hermitian inner product)

$$V \times V \xrightarrow{\langle -, - \rangle} k$$

s.t. for all $g \in G$ and $x, y \in V$,

$$\langle \pi(g)(x), \pi(g)(y) \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle.$$

equivalently: for all $g \in G$,

$$\pi(g)^* = \pi(g^{-1}).$$

2.
If $(V, \langle -, - \rangle)$ is a real inner product space, then we define the orthogonal group

$$O(V) = O(V, \langle -, - \rangle) \subset GL(V)$$

to be the subgroup of all $\mathbb{R}$ -linear maps $f: V \rightarrow V$ s.t.

$$\langle f(x), f(y) \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$$

for all $x, y \in V$.

Similarly, if $(V, \langle -, - \rangle)$ is a hermitian inner product space, then we define the unitary group

$$U(V) = U(V, \langle -, - \rangle) \subset GL(V)$$

to be the subgroup of all $\mathbb{C}$ -linear maps $f: V \rightarrow V$ s.t.

$$\langle f(x), f(y) \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$$

for all $x, y \in V$.

So orthogonal representations correspond to group homom.

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} O(V)$$

and unitary representations correspond to group homom.

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} U(V).$$

Prop Every orthogonal (resp. unitary) representation

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

is completely reducible.

Pf If $U \subset V$ is π -inv., then so is

$$U^\perp \subset V$$

$$\{x \in U^\perp \mid \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \quad \forall y \in U\}$$

Indeed, for all $g \in G$,

$$\pi(g)(U) \subset U \implies$$

$$\pi(g)^*(U^\perp) \subset U^\perp$$

$$\pi(g^{-1})(U^\perp) \subset U^\perp.$$

We will show that every f.d. real (resp. complex) representation of a compact group G is orthogonal (resp. unitary).

First: G finite

Thm 1 Every f.d. real (resp. complex) representation

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

of a finite group G is orthogonal (resp. unitary).

Pf Choose any inner product (resp. hermitian inner product) $\langle -, - \rangle_0$ on V and define

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{h \in G} \langle \pi(h)(x), \pi(h)(y) \rangle_0.$$

Claim:

1) $\langle -, - \rangle$ is an inner product (resp. herm. inner prod.) on V . (Easy)

2) $\langle -, - \rangle$ is π -invariant:

$$\langle \pi(g)(x), \pi(g)(y) \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$:= \sum_{h \in G} \langle \pi(h)(\pi(g)(x)), \pi(h)(\pi(g)(y)) \rangle_0$$

$$= \sum_{h \in G} \langle \pi(hog)(x), \pi(hog)(y) \rangle_0$$

$$= \sum_{k \in G} \langle \pi(k)(x), \pi(k)(y) \rangle_0 = \langle x, y \rangle_0.$$

Def A topological group is a group G with a topology such that

$$G \times G \longrightarrow G, \quad G \longrightarrow G$$

$$(g, h) \longmapsto gh, \quad g \longmapsto g^{-1}$$

are continuous. A compact group is a topological group that is compact (and Hausdorff).

Ex 1) Finite groups (with discrete topology) are compact groups.

2) $O(V)$, $U(V)$ are compact groups.

3) For V a real or complex vector space, $GL(V)$ is a topological group. It is not compact, unless $V = \{0\}$.

We will always assume that (real or complex) representations of topological groups are continuous, i.e. the map

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

is continuous.

Ex The inclusion $O(V) \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$ is a continuous repr. of $G = O(V)$.

Thm 2 let G be a compact group, and let

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

be a (continuous, finite dim.) real (resp. complex) repr. of G . Then π is orthogonal (resp. unitary). ✓

First proof: Left invariant integration.

Thm let G be a compact group. There exists a map

$$C^0(G, \mathbb{C}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$f \longmapsto \int_G f(x) dx$$

such that

- 1) It is linear
- 2) It is positive, i.e. if $f(x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in G$ and $f \neq 0$, then

$$\int_G f(x) dx > 0$$

- 3) It is left invariant, i.e. for all $g \in G$,

$$\int_G f(gx) dx = \int_G f(x) dx.$$

Moreover, there is a unique map $f \mapsto \int_G f(x) dx$ that satisfies 1) - 3) and

$$4) \int_G 1 dx = 1. //$$

Remark There exists a unique measure $d\mu$ on G (called the Haar measure) s.t.

$$\int_G f(x) dx = \int_G f d\mu$$

for all $f \in C^0(G, \mathbb{C})$. //

Ex If G is finite, then

$$\int_G f(x) dx = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{x \in G} f(x).$$

In this case, Haar measure is called counting measure. //

Pf (of Thm. 2) Choose inner prod. $\langle -, - \rangle_0$ on V , define

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \int_G \underbrace{\langle \pi(h^{-1})(x), \pi(h^{-1})(y) \rangle_0}_{\substack{= \\ f(h)}} dh$$

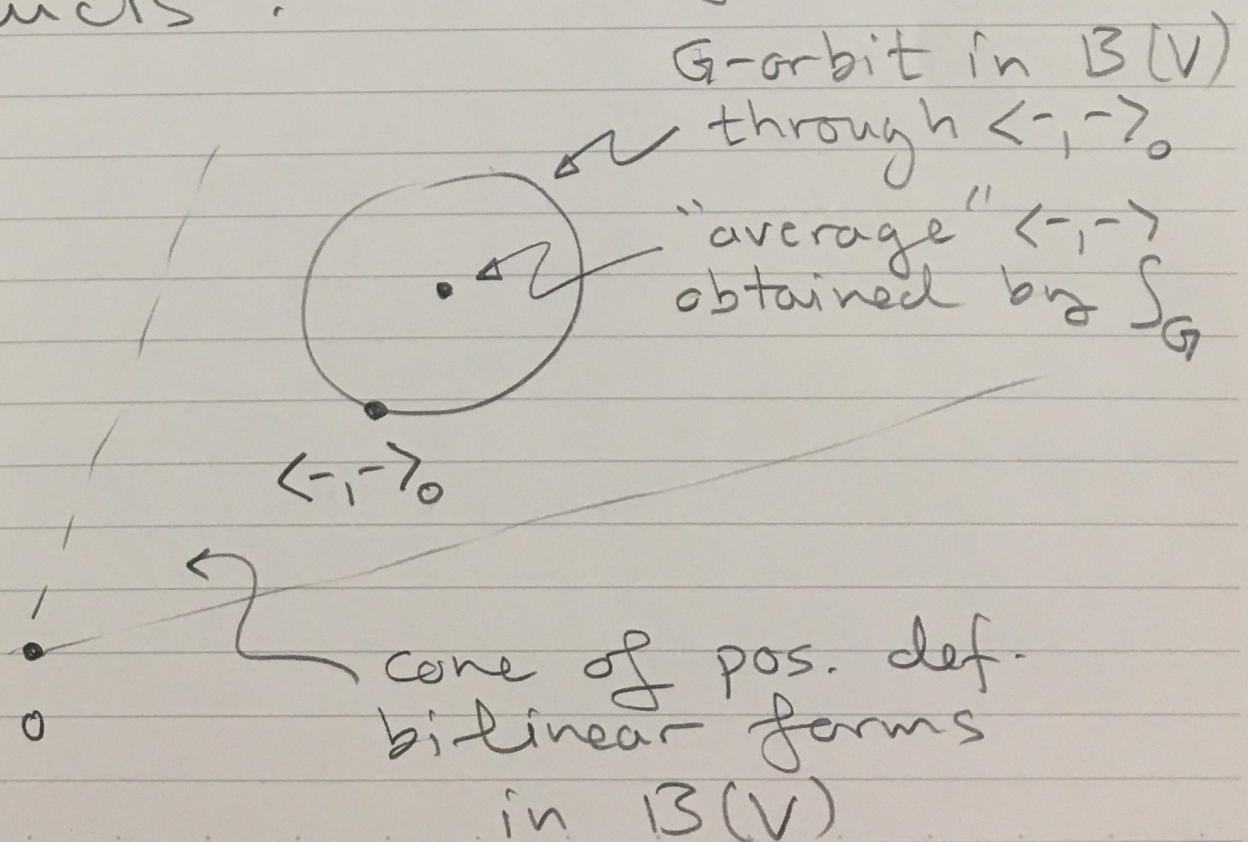
Show invariance:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \langle \pi(g)(x), \pi(g)(y) \rangle \\
 &= \int_G f(g^{-1}h) dh \\
 &= \int_G f(h) dh \\
 &= \langle x, y \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Explain idea of proof: The repr. of G on V induces a repr.

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(B(V))$$

on the vector space $B(V)$ of bilinear forms, which preserves the cone of inner products:



Second proof: Center of mass

Let W be a (f.d.) $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space, and let μ be the Lebesgue measure on W .

Def. let $K \subset W$ be compact with pos. volume $\mu(K) > 0$. Call

$$c(K) = \frac{1}{\mu(K)} \int_K x \, dx \in W$$

the center of mass of K . //

Lemma 1 If $f \in GL(W)$, then

$$c(f(K)) = f(c(K)).$$

Pf let $y = f(x)$, $dy = \det(f) \, dx$.

$$c(f(K)) = \frac{1}{\mu(f(K))} \int_{f(K)} y \, dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{\det(f)\mu(K)} \int_K x \det(f) \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\mu(K)} \int_K x \, dx = c(K). //$$

Recall convex hull of $K \subset W$:

$$\text{conv}(K) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^m c_i x_i \in W \mid \begin{array}{l} m \geq 0, x_i \in K \\ c_i \geq 0, \sum c_i = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

Lemma 2 $\text{conv}(K)$ is compact

Pf Let $n = \dim_{\mathbb{R}}(W)$. A theorem of Carathéodory states that for every $x \in \text{conv}(K)$, there exists $x_0, \dots, x_n \in K$ and $c_0, \dots, c_n \geq 0$ s.t.

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x_i.$$

So in fact,

$$\text{conv}(K) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x_i \mid x_i \in K, c_i \geq 0, \sum c_i = 1 \right\}$$

Hence, have cont. surjection

$$K^{n+1} \times \Delta^n \longrightarrow \text{conv}(K)$$

$$(x_0, \dots, x_n, c_0, \dots, c_n) \longmapsto \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x_i$$

where

$$\Delta^n = \left\{ c \in [0, 1]^{n+1} \mid \sum_{i=0}^n c_i = 1 \right\}.$$

So $\text{conv}(K)$ is the image of a compact space by a cont. map, hence (quasi-)compact. And $\text{conv}(K) \subset W$ is a subspace of a Hausdorff space, hence Hausdorff. //

Lemma 3 $c(K) \in \text{conv}(K)$.

Pf By theory of integration,

$$c(K) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\mu(K)} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \mu(K_i)$$

with

$$K = \bigcup_{i=1}^k K_i$$

a decomposition of K into k disjoint Lebesgue measurable subsets. By definition,

$$\frac{1}{\mu(K)} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \mu(K_i) \in \text{conv}(K),$$

and $\text{conv}(K) \subset W$ is a compact subspace of a Hausdorff space, hence closed. So

$$c(K) \in \text{conv}(K)$$

as desired. //

Pf (of Thm. 2) let G be a compact group, and let

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

be a real representation. We

must show that $\pi|_B$ is orthogonal. Recall from last week the real vector space $W = B^+(V)$ of symmetric bilinear forms on V . The representation of G on V induces a repr.

$$G \xrightarrow{\rho} GL(B^+(V))$$

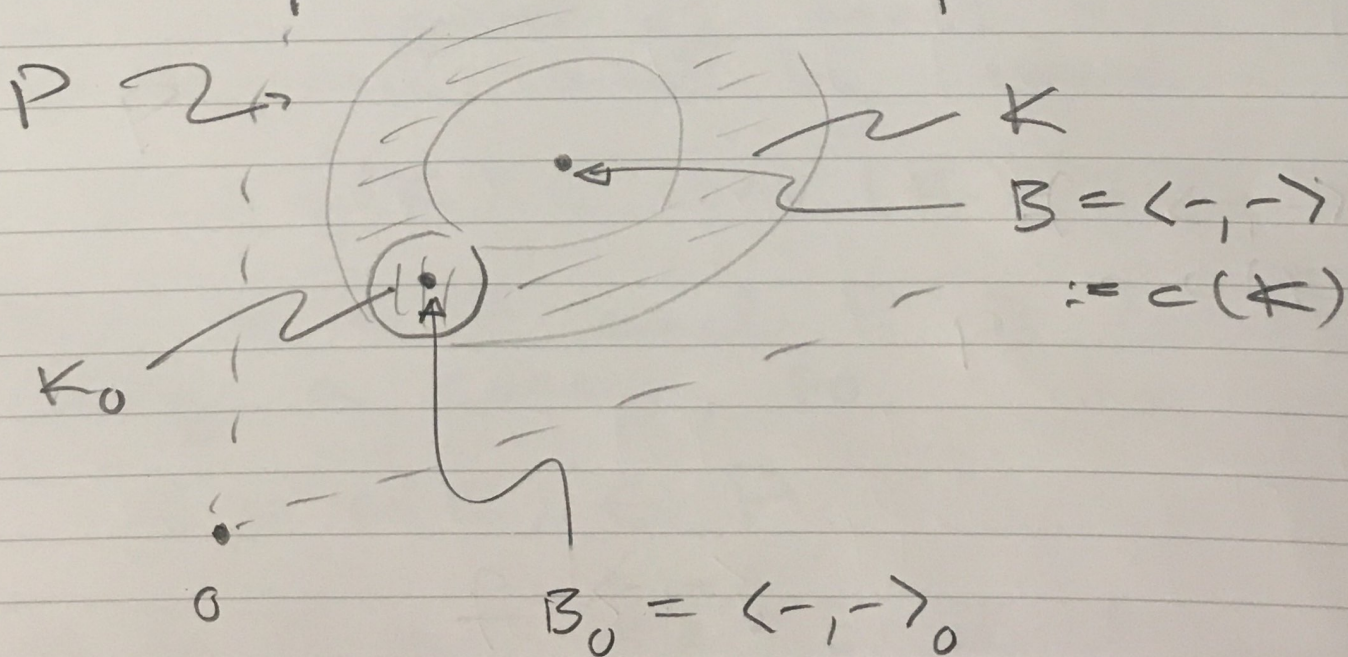
$$\rho(g)(B)(x, y)$$

$$= B(\pi(g^{-1})(x), \pi(g^{-1})(y)).$$

The subset of inner products

$$P \subset B^+(V) = W$$

P a ρ -invariant open cone.



We choose $B_0 \in P$ and a compact neighborhood

$$B_0 \in K_0 \subset P$$

and define

$$K = \{ \rho(g)(B) \mid g \in G, B \in K_0 \} \subset P.$$

It is a compact subset, since it is the image of

$$\begin{aligned} G \times K_0 &\longrightarrow P \\ (g, B) &\longmapsto \rho(g)(B) \end{aligned}$$

and $\mu(K) \neq 0$, since $\mu(K_0) \neq 0$.
(K_0 is a neighborhood of B_0 .)
So the center of mass $c(K)$ is defined, and by Lemma 3,

$$B := c(K) \in \text{conv}(K).$$

But $K \subset P$ and P is convex (being a cone), so

$$B = c(K) \in P.$$

So B is an inner product, and Lemma 1 shows that it is ρ -invariant. This shows that

$$G \xrightarrow{\pi} GL(V)$$

is orthogonal as desired.

If π is a complex representation, then we argue in the same way, but with $B^+(V)$ replaced by the real vector space $H^+(V)$ of hermitian bilinear forms and

$$P \subset H^+(V) =: W$$

the open cone of hermitian inner products. //