

Def. IV.23 The OSL $(\mathfrak{g}^*, \theta^*)$ given by Prop. IV.22 is the dual OSL of (\mathfrak{g}, θ) .

Example IV.24

Let's determine the dual of $(\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}), \theta)$ where $\theta(X) = -{}^t X$.

We identify $\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R})_{\mathbb{C}}$ with $\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{C})$.

$$\mathfrak{g} = \{ X \in \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) : X + {}^t X = 0 \}$$

$$\mathfrak{p} = \{ X \in \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) : X = {}^t X \}$$

Then

$$\mathfrak{g} + i\mathfrak{p} = \{ Z \in \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{C}) : Z = X + iY$$

$${}^t X + X = 0$$

$${}^t Y = Y \}$$

$$= \{ Z \in \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{C}) : Z + {}^t \bar{Z} = 0 \}$$

$$= \mathfrak{su}(n).$$

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Let $M = \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) / \mathfrak{so}(n)$ and $M^* = \mathfrak{su}(n) / \mathfrak{so}(n)$

then the OSL associated to M is

$(\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}), \theta)$ while the OSL associated

to M^* is $(\mathfrak{su}(n), \theta^*)$, its dual.

Example IV.25

Let $\mathfrak{g}_0 = \mathfrak{so}(n) = \{x \in \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R}) : x + {}^t x = 0\}$

and p, q integers ≥ 1 with $n = p + q$.

Let $\mathcal{O}_0(x) = \begin{matrix} \mathbb{I} & x \\ p, q & \mathbb{I}_{n, q} \end{matrix}$ where

$$\mathbb{I}_{p, q} = \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{I}_{p, p} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{I}_{q, q} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then one verifies easily that $\mathcal{O}_0(\mathfrak{so}(n)) = \mathfrak{so}(n)$

and $\mathcal{O}_0^2 = \mathbb{I} \text{Id}$.

We can write the matrices in $\mathfrak{so}(n)$,

in $p \times q$ block form:

$$\mathfrak{so}(n) = \left\{ X = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ -{}^t B & D \end{pmatrix} : \begin{array}{l} A + {}^t A = 0 \\ D + {}^t D = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Then for $X = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ -{}^t B & D \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\theta_0(X) = \begin{pmatrix} A & -B \\ {}^t B & D \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus $\mathfrak{K}_0 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix} : A \in \mathfrak{so}(p), D \in \mathfrak{so}(q) \right\}$

$$\mathfrak{P}_0 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ -{}^t B & 0 \end{pmatrix} : B \in M_{p,q}(\mathbb{R}) \right\}.$$

Now $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{C}} = \mathfrak{K}_0 + i\mathfrak{P}_0 \subset \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C})$.

$$= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & iX_2 \\ -i{}^t X_2 & X_3 \end{pmatrix} : \begin{array}{l} X_1 \in \mathfrak{so}(p) \\ X_3 \in \mathfrak{so}(q) \\ X_2 \in M_{p,q}(\mathbb{R}) \end{array} \right\}$$

Let $\sigma: \mathfrak{g}(n, \mathbb{C}) \ni \mathfrak{h}$ be defined by

$$\sigma(Y) = \begin{pmatrix} -iI_p & 0 \\ 0 & I_q \end{pmatrix} Y \begin{pmatrix} iI_p & 0 \\ 0 & I_q \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$\sigma \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & iX_2 \\ -iX_2 & X_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ tX_2 & X_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and $\sigma: \mathfrak{g}^* \longrightarrow \mathfrak{so}(p, q)$ is an isomorphism with the real Lie algebra

$\mathfrak{so}(p, q)$. The Cartan involution corresponding to θ^* is then

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ tX_2 & X_3 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & -X_2 \\ -tX_2 & X_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus $M = \mathfrak{so}(n) / \mathfrak{so}(p) \times \mathfrak{so}(q)$ is

a symmetric space with OSL $(\mathfrak{so}(n), \theta)$

And $M^* = \mathfrak{so}(p, q) / \mathfrak{so}(p) \times \mathfrak{so}(q)$ is a symmetric

space with associated OSL $(\mathfrak{g}^*, \theta^*)$.

We want to show now how this duality can be realized at the level of Riemannian symmetric pairs. To this end we will use the construction in Thm IV. 15.

Let $(\mathfrak{g}_0, \theta_0)$ be a reduced semisimple OSL; let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0^{\mathbb{C}}$ and τ the complex conjugation w.r.t \mathfrak{g}_0 . Recall that $\mathfrak{g}^{\pm} = \mathfrak{g} \pm \mathfrak{u} \mathfrak{p}$ and $\theta^{\pm} = \tau|_{\mathfrak{g}^{\pm}}$. Then $\mathfrak{g}^{\pm \mathbb{C}} = \mathfrak{g}$ and $\theta^{\pm \mathbb{C}} = \theta^{\mathbb{C}}$.

Consider $e_0: \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}_0 \rightarrow \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}$
 $\alpha \mapsto \alpha^{\mathbb{C}}$

which is an injective Lie group morphism evidently satisfying:

$$e_0(\theta_0 \alpha \theta_0^{-1}) = \theta_0^{\mathbb{C}} \alpha^{\mathbb{C}} (\theta_0^{\mathbb{C}})^{-1}$$

Call σ_0 the restriction to $e_0(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}_0)$ of the conjugation by $\theta_0^{\mathbb{C}}$.

Analogously consider

$$e^* : \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}^* \longrightarrow \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g} \\ \beta \longmapsto \beta^{\mathbb{C}}$$

which satisfies

$$e^*(\theta^* \alpha \theta^{*-1}) = (\theta^*)^{\mathbb{C}} \alpha ((\theta^*)^{\mathbb{C}})^{-1}$$

and call σ^* the restriction to $e^*(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}^*)$ of the conjugation by $(\theta^*)^{\mathbb{C}}$.

Proposition 14.26 :

The groups $G_0 = e_0((\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}_0)^0)$ and

$$G^* = e^*((\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}^*)^0)$$

are closed connected reductive. Moreover

σ_0 defines an involution on G_0 , σ^* one on G^* ;

the group $K := G_0 \cap G^*$ is compact

$$\text{and } (G_0^{\sigma_0})^0 \subset K \subset G_0^{\sigma_0}$$

$$(G_0^{\sigma_0^*})^0 \subset K \subset G_0^{\sigma_0^*}$$

The OSL associated to (G_0, K) is ~~isomorphic~~ isomorphic to (g_0, θ_0) and the OSL associated to (G_0^*, K) is isomorphic to (g_0^*, θ_0^*) .

Proof: It will turn out to be essential to understand the relation between $\tau, \theta^{\mathbb{C}}, (\theta^*)^{\mathbb{C}}$ and τ^* , where τ^* denotes the complex conjugation of $g = g^{\mathbb{R}} + i g^{\mathbb{I}}$ wrt $g^{\mathbb{R}}$. All these 4 ~~are~~ $\tau, \tau^*, \theta^{\mathbb{C}} = (\theta^*)^{\mathbb{C}}$ are automorphisms of $g^{\mathbb{R}}$, that if g seen as real Lie algebra.

It will be convenient to present the action of these automorphisms in a table:

\mathbb{R}	$i\mathbb{R}$	\mathbb{P}	$i\mathbb{P}$	
Id	Id	-Id	-Id	θ^{σ}
Id	Id	-Id	-Id	$\theta^{*\sigma}$
Id	-Id	Id	-Id	τ
Id	-Id	-Id	Id	τ^*

~~The all are similar~~

These automorphisms all have order 2, commute pairwise and:

$$\theta^{\sigma} \tau = \tau^* \quad (\theta^{*\sigma}) \tau^* = \tau.$$

Thus if $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$ denotes the subgroup of $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{R}})$ generated by two elements α, β

we have:

$$\langle \theta^{\sigma}, \tau \rangle = \langle (\theta^{*\sigma})^{\sigma}, \tau^* \rangle = \langle \tau, \tau^* \rangle.$$

Define then the following automorphisms of the Lie group $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{R}})$: for $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{R}})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(\alpha) &= \bar{\tau} \alpha \bar{\tau}^{-1}, & \tau^*(\alpha) &= \bar{\tau}^* \alpha \bar{\tau}^{*-1}, & \Omega(\alpha) &= \theta_{\tau}^{\mathbb{C}}(\theta_{\alpha}^{\mathbb{C}})^{-1} \\ & & & & &= (\theta_{\tau^*})^{\mathbb{C}}(\theta_{\alpha^*})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Now $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}) = \left\{ \alpha \in \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{R}}) : \right.$

$$\alpha(i \cdot z) = i \alpha(z)$$

$$\left. \forall z \in \mathfrak{g} \right\}$$

is hence a closed subgroup of $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\mathbb{R}})$;

it is invariant under τ : indeed,

$$\tau(i z) = -i \tau(z) \quad \forall z \in \mathfrak{g} \quad \text{and hence}$$

$$\text{if } \alpha \in \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}), \quad \tau \alpha \bar{\tau}^{-1}(i z) = \tau \alpha(-i \bar{\tau}^{-1}(z))$$

$$= (\tau(-i) \alpha \bar{\tau}^{-1})(z) = i \tau \alpha \bar{\tau}^{-1}(z).$$

Then we claim that the image e of

$$e: \text{Aut}_{\mathfrak{g}_0} \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathfrak{g}}$$

$$\alpha \mapsto \alpha^{\mathbb{C}}$$

coincides with $(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t$ the fixed point subgroup of $\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}$. We leave this as an easy verification. Thus the image of e_0 is closed and hence

$$e_0 \subset \text{Aut } \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t$$

is a Lie group isomorphism which implies

$$\text{that } \mathfrak{g} = e((\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g}_0)^0) = [(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^0$$

is closed connected semisimple.

The same argument applies to \mathfrak{g}^* .

Now we have the relations in $\text{Aut}(\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\text{re}}))$:

t, t^*, \mathcal{R} commute are of order two,

$$\mathcal{R}t = t^*, \mathcal{R}t^* = t \quad \text{and:}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{R}, t \rangle = \langle \mathcal{R}, t^* \rangle = \langle t, t^* \rangle \quad \text{or}$$

subgroups of $\text{Aut}(\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}^{\text{re}}))$.

Recall that $\sigma = \mathcal{R} / (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t$

$$\sigma^* = \mathcal{R} / (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{t^*}$$

Then:

$$G_0 \cap G^* = [(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^\circ \cap [(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{t^*}]^\circ$$

is open in

$$(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t \cap (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{t^*} = (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{\langle t, t^* \rangle}$$

$$= (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{\langle t, \mathcal{R} \rangle} = (\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^{\langle t^*, \mathcal{R} \rangle}$$

Thus $G_0 \cap G^*$ is open in $[(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^\mathcal{R}$

but it is also contained in $[(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^\circ = G_0$

hence it is open in:

$$[(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^\circ \cap [(\text{Aut } \mathfrak{g})^t]^\mathcal{R} = G_0^\circ$$

Thus $(G_0^\circ)^\circ \subset G_0 \cap G^* \subset G_0^\circ$

The compactness follows from the compactness of G_0° which is a direct consequence of Thm IV.15.

□

Def. IV.27 Let (g_0, θ_0) be a reduced OSL of non-compact type and (G_0, K) (G^*, K) as above. Then we call $M^* = G^*/K$ the compact dual of the symmetric space of non-compact type $M = G_0/K$.

Observe that here K is connected and $G_0 = IS(M)^\circ$, $G^* = IS(M^*)^\circ$.

The following remarkable theorem is the beginning of many interesting developments.

Thm IV.28

Let $M = G_0/K$ be a symmetric space of non-compact type and $M^* = G^*/K$ its compact dual. Then there is a canonical

isomorphism

$$\Omega^k(M)^{G_0} \cong H^k(M^*, \mathbb{R})$$

where $\Omega^k(M)^{G_0}$ is the space of G_0 -invariant smooth differential k -forms on M and $H^k(M^*, \mathbb{R})$ is the singular cohomology of M^* with \mathbb{R} -coefficients.

We give a short outline of the proof.

Given a real vector space V let

$\text{Alt}_k(V)$ be the space of alternating forms

$$V^k \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

in k -variables.

The following is then an easy exercise:

Lemma IV.29 Let M be a symmetric

space, $G = \text{Is}(M)_0$, $o \in M$, $K = \text{Stab}_G(o)$

and $D_o \pi: \mathfrak{p} \longrightarrow T_o M$ the isomorphism

for which $(D_o \pi)(\text{Ad}(k)) = D_o L_k \circ D_o \pi \quad \forall k \in K$.

Then $\mathcal{R}^k(M)_G \xrightarrow{\text{Ad}(k)} \text{Alt}_k(\mathfrak{p})$

The isomorphism is obtained by restricting

$\omega \in \mathcal{R}^k(M)_G$ to $o \in M$, $\omega_o \in \text{Alt}_k(T_o M)$

and pulling it back $(D_{e, \pi})^*(\omega_0) \in \text{Alt}_k(p)$.

The following is an interesting lemma due to E. Cartan:

Lemma IV.30 Let $M = \text{symmetric space}$,

$G = \text{IS}(M)^\circ$ and $\omega \in \mathcal{R}^k(M)^G$. Then

$$d\omega = 0.$$

Proof: Let $o \in M$, $\mathcal{I}_o \in \text{IS}(M)$ the

symmetry at o ; let $\omega \in \mathcal{R}^k(M)^G$.

Since $\forall g \in G$, $\mathcal{I}_o g \mathcal{I}_o \in G$, we have

$\mathcal{I}_o^* \omega \in \mathcal{R}^k(M)^G$. Now it is clear that

$$(\mathcal{I}_o^* \omega)_o = (-1)^k \omega_o$$

and since $\mathcal{I}_o^* \omega$ and $(-1)^k \omega$ are invariant forms coinciding at o , they

coincide everywhere: $\mathcal{I}_o^* \omega = (-1)^k \omega$.

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Applying d we get:

$$d(\int_0^x \omega) = (-1)^k d\omega$$

But $d(\int_0^x \omega) = \int_0^x d\omega$; since $d\omega$

~~$\int_0^x \omega$~~ is an invariant $(k+1)$ -form we

have $\int_0^x d\omega = (-1)^{k+1} \int_0^x d\omega$

which implies $-d\omega = d\omega$ hence $d\omega = 0$.

□

Let now G be a compact connected

Lie group and $G \times X \rightarrow X$ a smooth action on a smooth manifold X .

Lemma IV. 31

The inclusion of complexes

$$\Omega^k(X, \mathcal{V}) \rightarrow \Omega^k(X)$$

induces an isomorphism in cohomology.

Proof: Let $d\mu$ be a Haar measure of total mass 1 on U .

First: let $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}^k(x)^U$ and assume

that $\alpha = d\beta$ where $\beta \in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(x)$.

Since U -action commutes with d we have

$$\alpha = d(u^*\beta) \quad \forall u \in U$$

$$\text{hence } \alpha = \int_U d(u^*\beta) d\mu(u) = d\left(\int_U u^*\beta d\mu(u)\right)$$

Now observe $\int_U u^*\beta d\mu(u) \in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(x)^U$.

This shows injectivity.

Surjectivity: let $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}^k(x)$ with $d\alpha = 0$; since

U is connected every u is diffeomorphic to Id and hence d and u^*d

represent the same class in $H_{dR}^k(x)$

de Rham cohomology. Thus $\forall \alpha \in H_k^d(x, \mathbb{R})$

any \mathbb{R}^1 -cycle Z we have

$$\int_Z \alpha = \int_Z u^* \alpha \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{U}.$$

By Fubini we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \int_Z \alpha &= \int_{\mathcal{U}} \left(\int_Z u^* \alpha \right) d\mu(u) \\ &= \int_Z \left(\int_{\mathcal{U}} u^* \alpha \, d\mu(u) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus: } \int_Z \left(\alpha - \int_{\mathcal{U}} u^* \alpha \, d\mu(u) \right) = 0$$

$\forall Z \in H_n(X, \mathbb{R})$ which by de Rham's theorem implies that α and $\int_{\mathcal{U}} u^* \alpha \, d\mu(u)$

represent the same cohomology class.

This shows surjectivity. \square

Proof of Thm IV. 28

We have with $0 = e \in M \cap M^*$:

$$\Omega^k(M)^{G_0} \xrightarrow{\text{Ad}(K)} (\text{Alt}_k(\mathfrak{M}))^{\text{Ad}(K)}$$

Now
$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{M} &\rightarrow i\mathfrak{M} \\ x &\mapsto ix \end{aligned}$$

is an $\text{Ad}(K)$ -equivariant isomorphism of real vector spaces, hence

$$\text{Alt}_k(\mathfrak{M})^{\text{Ad}(K)} \cong \text{Alt}_k(i\mathfrak{M})^{\text{Ad}(K)}$$

and the latter is isomorphic to $\Omega_k^k(M^*)^{G^*}$.

Now the inclusion of complexes is

Since G^* is compact

$$\Omega_k^k(M^*)^{G^*} \rightarrow \Omega^k(M^*)$$

induces an isom. in cohomology;

but by Lemma IV. 30 ($\Omega^k(M^*)^{G^*}, d$)

is equal to its cohomology and hence

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$$\Omega^k(M^*) \cong H_{\text{MR}}^k(M^*)$$

The latter being de Rham cohomology
which itself is isomorphic to $H^k(M, \mathbb{R})$.

□