

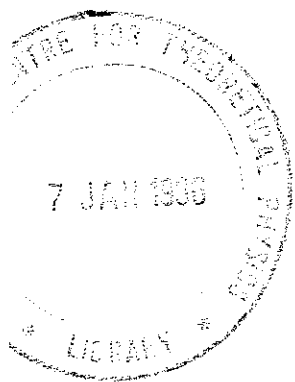


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INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS

34100 TRIESTE (ITALY) - P.O.B. 586 - MIRAMARE - STRADA COSTIERA 11 - TELEPHONES: 224281/2/3/4/5/6
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SMR/161 - 11

COLLEGE ON
REPRESENTATION THEORY OF LIE GROUPS
(4 November - 6 December 1985)

BOREL - WEIL THEOREM

M.S. Narasimhan
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
Bombay, India

These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants.

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I.C.T.P., TRIESTE

BOREL-WEIL THEOREM

M.S. NARASIMHAN
School of Mathematics
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
Homi Bhabha Road, Bombay 400 005

1. Complex manifolds.

Let Ω be an open set in \mathbb{C}^n . A map $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$ is said to be holomorphic if for $i = 1, \dots, m$, the function $p_i \circ \phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a holomorphic (complex valued) function, where $p_i : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ denotes the i th projection (i.e., if $\phi = (f_1, \dots, f_m)$ then the functions f_i are holomorphic).

Let Ω_1 and Ω_2 be two open sets in \mathbb{C}^n . A map $\phi : \Omega_1 \rightarrow \Omega_2$ is said to be a holomorphic diffeomorphism if ϕ is bijective and both ϕ and ϕ^{-1} are holomorphic.

Let M be a Hausdorff topological space which we assume to be paracompact. Suppose that we are given an open cover $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ of M and for each α a homeomorphism

$$\phi_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow \phi_\alpha(U_\alpha)$$

onto an open set $\phi_\alpha(U_\alpha)$ of \mathbb{C}^n such that whenever $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$ the map

$$\phi_\alpha \circ \phi_\beta^{-1} : \phi_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow \phi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$$

is a holomorphic diffeomorphism. Then we say that M has a structure of a complex manifold or simply that M is a complex manifold (of complex dimension n). The family of "charts" (U_α, ϕ_α) is called an atlas. We shall assume that the atlas we have is a maximal atlas in the sense that we can not add more charts to the atlas still preserving the compatibility on the overlaps. Any atlas is contained in a unique maximal atlas.

Let M be a complex manifold. A function $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is said to be holomorphic if for each α the function $f \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1} : \phi_\alpha(U_\alpha) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic.

Let M and N be complex manifolds and $\phi : M \rightarrow N$ be a map. We say that ϕ is holomorphic if ϕ is continuous and the following condition is satisfied: let $\{(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)\}$ be an atlas for M and $\{(V_\beta, \psi_\beta)\}$ an atlas for N ; then for each (α, β) with $W = U_\alpha \cap \phi^{-1}(V_\beta) \neq \emptyset$ the map

$$\psi_\beta \circ \phi \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1} : \phi_\alpha(U_\alpha) \rightarrow \psi_\beta(V_\beta)$$

is holomorphic.

If M and N are complex manifolds, a holomorphic diffeomorphism $\phi : M \rightarrow N$ is a bijective mapping that ϕ and ϕ^{-1} are holomorphic.

If M (resp. N) is a complex manifold of dimension m (resp. n) then $M \times N$ is in a natural way a complex manifold of dimension $m + n$.

2. Holomorphic vector bundles.

Let M be a complex manifold of dimension n . A holomorphic vector bundle of rank m over M is a complex manifold E of dimension $m + n$ together with a holomorphic map $\pi : E \rightarrow M$ such that the following two conditions are satisfied:

(i) For each $x \in M$, $\pi^{-1}(x)$ has the structure of an m -dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} .

(ii) For each $x \in M$ there exists an (open) neighbourhood U of x and a holomorphic diffeomorphism

$$\tau : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{C}^m$$

such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\tau} & U \times \mathbb{C}^m \\ \pi \searrow & & \nearrow p_U \\ & U & \end{array}$$

commutes and such that the induced map $\tau_y : \pi^{-1}(y) \rightarrow y \times \mathbb{C}^m = \mathbb{C}^m$ is a bijective linear map for each $y \in U$. ($p_U : U \times \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow U$ is the natural projection onto U).

The pair (U, τ) will be called a local trivialisaton of E .

If $x \in X$, we will denote $\pi^{-1}(x)$ by E_x and call it the fibre over x . Let $E^* = \coprod_{x \in M} E_x^*$, where E_x^* is the dual of the vector space E_x . Then E^* has a natural structure of a vector bundle and E^* will be called the dual bundle of E . One can also define the tensor product $E \otimes F$ of two holomorphic vector bundles in an obvious way and this is a holomorphic vector bundle whose rank is the product of ranks of E and F .

A holomorphic vector bundle of rank 1 will be called a line bundle.

If M is a complex manifold, then $M \times \mathbb{C}^m$ as the structure of a holomorphic vector bundle of rank m . This bundle is called the trivial bundle of rank m over M .

Remark 2.1. Let M be a complex manifold and $x \in M$. Let \mathcal{O}_x be the ring of (germs of) holomorphic functions at x (i.e. defined in a neighbourhood of x). A \mathbb{C} -linear map $L : \mathcal{O}_x \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ satisfying $L(f \cdot g) = L(f)g(x) + f(x)L(g)$ is called a (holomorphic) tangent vector x . If we denote by T_x the holomorphic tangent space at x , then $\coprod_{x \in M} T_x$ forms an n -dimensional holomorphic

bundle, the tangent bundle $T(M)$. A section of $T(M)$ is called a holomorphic vector field.

Let E be a (holomorphic) vector bundle over M . A section of E over U is a holomorphic map $\sigma : U \rightarrow E$ such that $(\pi \circ \sigma)(x) = x$ for each $x \in U$. The sections of E over U form a vector space over \mathbb{C} , if we define $(\lambda_1 \sigma_1 + \lambda_2 \sigma_2)(x) = \lambda_1 \sigma_1(x) + \lambda_2 \sigma_2(x)$, where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ and σ_1, σ_2 are sections over U . A section of the trivial bundle over U can be identified with a holomorphic function $U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$ (In fact if $\sigma(x) = (x, f(x))$, $f(x) \in \mathbb{C}^m$, σ is identified with f).

We shall denote by $\Gamma(E)$ the vector space of sections of E over M .

Theorem 2.1. Let E be a holomorphic vector bundle on a compact complex manifold. Then the sections of E over M form a finite dimensional vector over \mathbb{C} .

Sketch of proof : Let (U_α, τ_α) be local trivialisations of E such that $\{U_\alpha\}$ form a finite open covering of M . Let V_α be a shrinking of U_α , that is V_α is an open cover such that $\bar{V}_\alpha \subset U_\alpha$. Let Γ be the space of sections of E over M . Let $s \in \Gamma$. Over each U_α the section s is given by m holomorphic functions $(f_1^\alpha, \dots, f_m^\alpha)$. Let $b_{\alpha,i} = \sup_{V_\alpha} |f_i^\alpha|$ and put $\|s\| = \max_{i,\alpha} b_{\alpha,i}$. This defines the structure of a normed linear space on Γ . By using Montel's theorem one sees that the unit ball in this normed linear space is relatively compact. By a well-known result in functional analysis this implies that Γ is finite dimensional.

Exercise. Prove that a holomorphic function on a compact connected complex manifold is constant.

3. The Complex projective space and the tautological line bundle.

Consider the set \mathbb{P}^n of 1-dimensional vector subspaces of \mathbb{C}^{n+1} . We shall put a structure of an n -dimensional complex manifold on \mathbb{P}^n . Note that \mathbb{P}^n can be identified with the quotient space of $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} - \{0\}$ by the action of \mathbb{C}^* given by $(\lambda, v) \mapsto \lambda v$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$, $v \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} - \{0\}$. (Two points (Z_1, \dots, Z_{n+1}) and (Z'_1, \dots, Z'_{n+1}) in $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} - \{0\}$ are equivalent if there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ with $\lambda Z_i = Z'_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n+1$). We endow \mathbb{P}^n with the quotient topology. For fixed i consider the open set U_i of points $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{P}^n$ whose representatives one of the form $(Z_1, \dots, Z_i, \dots, Z_{n+1})$ with $Z_i \neq 0$. Then the map $\varphi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$,

$$\underline{a} \mapsto \left(\frac{Z_1}{Z_i}, \dots, \frac{Z_{i-1}}{Z_i}, \frac{Z_{i+1}}{Z_i}, \dots, \frac{Z_{n+1}}{Z_i} \right) \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

gives a chart. These charts cover \mathbb{P}^n and are related by holomorphic functions on overlaps. In fact

$$\varphi_i \circ \varphi_j^{-1} : \varphi_j(U_i \cap U_j) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n \text{ with } z_i \neq 0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$$

is given by

$$(z_1, \dots, z_n) \mapsto \left(\frac{z_1}{z_i}, \dots, \frac{1}{z_i}, \dots, \frac{z_n}{z_i} \right).$$

In particular \mathbb{P}^1 is the Riemann sphere $\mathbb{C} \cup \infty$.

If V is a finite dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} of dimension $(n+1)$ then the space $\mathbb{P}(V)$ of 1-dimensional subspaces of V has a

natural structure of a complex manifold of dimension n .

If to every 1-dimensional subspace ξ of V we associate the vector space ξ itself as the fibre over ξ we get a line bundle on $\mathbb{P}(V)$, called the tautological line bundle on $\mathbb{P}(V)$. More formally, consider the subset $\mathcal{O}(-1)$ of $\mathbb{P}^n \times V$ consisting of pair (ξ, v) with $v \in \xi$ (recall that ξ is a subspace of V and v is an element of V); then $(\mathcal{O}(-1), \pi)$, where π is the restriction to $\mathcal{O}(-1)$, of the projection of $\mathbb{P}^n \times V$ to \mathbb{P}^n , forms a line bundle. The dual line bundle of $\mathcal{O}(-1)$ will be denoted $\mathcal{O}(1)$ and called the hyperplane bundle on $\mathbb{P}(V)$. We will denote by \mathcal{O} the trivial line bundle on \mathbb{P}^n and for an integer $k > 0$ by $\mathcal{O}(k)$ the k -fold tensor product of $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

Proposition 3.1. We have

$$1) \Gamma(\mathcal{O}) \cong \mathbb{C}$$

$$2) \Gamma(\mathcal{O}(k)) \cong S^k(V^*),$$

where $S^k(V^*)$ denotes the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree k on V .

Sketch of proof. We may assume $V = \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$, $n \geq 1$. We verify that a section of $\mathcal{O}(n)$ is given by a holomorphic function $f : \mathbb{C}^{n+1} - \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ satisfying $f(\lambda Z) = \lambda^n f(Z)$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$. By a well known result in several complex variables, a holomorphic function of $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} - \{0\}$ has a unique holomorphic extension to \mathbb{C}^{n+1} and we denote this extension still by f . If $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n+1})$,

$\alpha_i \geq 0$, $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ is a multi-index and $D^\alpha = (\frac{\partial}{\partial z_1})^{\alpha_1} \dots (\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{n+1}})^{\alpha_{n+1}}$ then $(D^\alpha f)(\lambda z) = \lambda^{k-|\alpha|} D^\alpha f(z)$, where $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n+1}$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$, $z \neq 0$. If $|\alpha| > k$, it follows, letting $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ that $D^\alpha f(z) = 0$. On the other hand if $|\alpha| < k$, $D^\alpha f(0) = 0$. It follows by the Taylor series expansion at 0, that f is homogeneous polynomial of degree k .

Remark 3.2. Consider the case $V = \mathbb{C}^2$. One knows that all irreducible representations of the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ are given by the natural representations of $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ on $S^k(V)$. By Proposition 3.1, $S^k(V^*)$ is the space of sections of a line bundle on \mathbb{P}^1 . Thus all irreducible representations are realised on the dual of the space of sections of line bundles on \mathbb{P}^1 . A generalization of this result to arbitrary complex semi-simple algebras will be the Borel-Weil theorem.

4. Line bundles and mappings into a projective space.

Let L be a line bundle on a complex manifold M . We shall say that L is generated by its sections if the evaluation map $\Gamma(L) \rightarrow L_x$ is surjective for every $x \in X$, where L_x is the fibre of L at x (This is equivalent to requiring that given $x \in X$ there exists a (holomorphic) section s of L with $s(x) \neq 0$).

Proposition 4.1. Let M be a compact (connected) complex manifold and L a line bundle on M generated by its sections. Then there exists a canonical holomorphic map

$$\varphi_L : M \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(L)^*)$$

where $\Gamma(L)^*$ is the dual space of the space $\Gamma(L)$ of sections of L . (Note that by Theorem 2.1, $\Gamma(L)$ is finite dimensional).

Proof : Let $x \in M$. By hypothesis, the evaluation mapping at x , $\Gamma(L) \rightarrow L_x$ is surjective. Hence the dual mapping $L_x^* \rightarrow \Gamma(L)^*$ is injective and we define $\varphi_L(x) \in \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(L)^*)$ to be the image. (The space of sections vanishing at x is of codimension 1 in $\Gamma(L)$ and $\varphi_L(x)$ is the subspace of $\Gamma(L)^*$ orthogonal to this space).

Let s_1, \dots, s_{N+1} be a basis of $H^0(X, L)$ and let s_i be given, with respect to a trivialisation of L in a neighbourhood of x , by the function f_i . Then it is easily checked that φ_L is given locally by $Z \rightarrow (f_1(Z), \dots, f_{N+1}(Z))$ in terms of the homogeneous coordinates with respect to the dual basis s_1^*, \dots, s_{N+1}^* . This proves that φ_L is holomorphic.

Proposition 4.2. With the hypothesis and notation of Proposition 4.1, let $p : \Gamma(L)^* \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(L)^*)$ be the canonical projection. Then $p^{-1}(\varphi_L(M))$ generates the vector space $\Gamma(L)^*$.

Proof. Let W be the vector space generated by $p^{-1}(\varphi_L(M))$. To prove that $W = \Gamma(L)^*$ it is enough to show that if $s \in \Gamma(L)$ and $\langle s, w \rangle = 0$, for every $w \in W$, then $s = 0$. (Hence \langle, \rangle denotes the pairing between $\Gamma(L)$ and $\Gamma(L)^*$). If $\langle s, w \rangle = 0$ for all $w \in W$, then in particular, for every $w \in \varphi_L(x) = L_x^*$, $\langle s, w \rangle = 0$. But for $w \in L_x^*$, $\langle s, w \rangle = \langle s(x), w \rangle$ where the pairing on the right is given by the duality between L_x and L_x^* . Hence $s(x) = 0$ for every x in M , that is $s = 0$.

5. Complex Lie groups.

Let G be a group which has a structure of a complex manifold. We say that G is a complex Lie group if the map $G \times G \rightarrow G$, given by $(x, y) \mapsto xy^{-1}$ is holomorphic. The left invariant holomorphic vector fields on G form a complex Lie algebra $\text{Lie}(G)$. We shall assume that G is connected. G is said to be semi-simple if its Lie algebra is semi-simple.

Examples. $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ is a complex Lie group. $\text{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ is a complex semi-simple Lie group. If V is a finite dimensional vector space over \mathbb{C} , then the group $\text{GL}(V)$ of linear automorphisms of V is a complex Lie group.

A holomorphic homomorphism $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ is said to be a (holomorphic) representation on V . A (holomorphic) homomorphism into \mathbb{C}^* will be called a character.

If $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a holomorphic homomorphism then φ induces a homomorphism of $\text{Lie}(G_1)$ into $\text{Lie}(G_2)$. Conversely if G_1 is simply connected, a homomorphism of $\text{Lie}(G_1)$ into $\text{Lie}(G_2)$ is induced by a homomorphism of G_1 into G_2 .

6. Homogeneous vector bundles and induced representations.

Let G be a complex Lie group. If H is a closed holomorphic subgroup then the left coset space G/H has a natural structure of a complex manifold. Let $\rho : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ be a finite dimensional holomorphic representation of H . We will associate to ρ a holomorphic vector bundle on G/H and G will operate on E_ρ as vector bundle automorphisms

in such a way that the action of an element $g \in G$ on E_ρ projects into the natural action of g on G/H . The bundle E_ρ will be called the homogeneous vector bundle associated with ρ .

Consider on $G \times V$ the action on the right by H given by

$$(g, v) \cdot h = (g \cdot h, \rho(h)^{-1}v), \quad g \in G, v \in V, h \in H.$$

The quotient space of $G \times V$ by this action of H is in a natural way a holomorphic vector bundle E_ρ on G/H . The action of G (on the left) on $G \times V$ given by $g'(g, v) = (g'g, v)$, $g', g \in G, v \in V$ descends to an action of G on E_ρ and G acts on E_ρ as vector bundle automorphisms. As such, G also acts on the space of sections of E_ρ .

This action of G on $\Gamma(E_\rho)$ can be made explicit as follows. One first checks that a section of E_ρ can be identified with a holomorphic function $f : G \rightarrow V$ satisfying

$$f(gh) = \rho(h)^{-1}f(g), \quad \text{for } g \in G, h \in H.$$

With this identification the action $\text{Ind}(\rho) = \underline{\rho}$ of G on $\Gamma(E_\rho)$ is given by :

$$\underline{\rho}(g)f(x) = f(g^{-1}x), \quad \text{for } x \in G.$$

If G/H is compact we thus obtain a finite dimensional representation $\text{Ind}(\rho)$ of G on $\Gamma(E_\rho)$. The representation $\text{Ind}(\rho)$ will be called the representation induced by ρ .

Remark 6.1. Note that if \underline{e} denotes the coset (H) , then the group H acts on the fibre of E_ρ at \underline{e} and we thus get a representation of H on $(E_\rho)_{\underline{e}}$.

We claim that this representation of H is equivalent to ρ . In fact let q be the canonical map $G \times V \rightarrow E_\rho$. Consider the isomorphism $\psi : V \rightarrow (E_\rho)_\underline{e} = \text{fibre of } E_\rho \text{ at } \underline{e}$, given by $v \mapsto q(e, v)$ for $v \in V$, where e is the identity element of G . If $h \in H$, then the image of $\rho(h)v$ under ψ is $q(e, \rho(h)v) = q(h \cdot h^{-1}, \rho(h)v) = q(h, v)$. But the action of h on E_ρ is induced by the map $(g, v) \rightarrow (hg, v)$ and hence $h \cdot q(e, v) = q(h, v)$. Thus ψ commutes with the actions of H on V and E_ρ . This proves the claim.

We will be concerned in the sequel only with the case where ρ is one dimensional, that is, where ρ is a character χ .

7. Homogeneous line bundles and representations of semi-simple groups : Borel-Weil Theorem.

Let G be a complex semi-simple Lie group and \mathfrak{g} its Lie algebra. Let \mathfrak{h} be a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} and Φ the system of roots with respect to \mathfrak{h} . We set

$$\mathfrak{n}^+ = \sum_{\alpha > 0} \mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \quad \mathfrak{n}^- = \sum_{\alpha < 0} \mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \quad \alpha \in \Phi.$$

Then $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}^- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}^+$. We denote by \mathfrak{b} the subalgebra $\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}^+$. Let H (resp. B) be the subgroup of G corresponding to \mathfrak{h} (resp. \mathfrak{b}). Then H and B are closed complex subgroups of G and $H \simeq (\mathbb{C}^*)^l$. (Any conjugate of B is called a Borel subgroup of G). Moreover the complex manifold G/B is compact. In fact, for a suitable maximal compact subgroup K , we have $G/B = K/T$, where T is the maximal torus of K .

Example. Let $G = \text{SL}(n, \mathbb{C})$. By a flag in \mathbb{C}^n we mean sequence of subspaces L_1, \dots, L_n of \mathbb{C}^n such that $L_1 \subset L_2 \subset \dots \subset L_n = \mathbb{C}^n$, with $\dim L_i = i$. Let B be the upper triangular subgroup of $\text{SL}(n)$ consisting of matrices in $\text{SL}(n)$ whose elements below the diagonal are zero. Note that $\text{SL}(n)$ acts on the flags in an obvious way. It is clear see that $G/B = \text{space } F \text{ of flags in } \mathbb{C}^n$. It is easy to see that $\text{SU}(n)$ acts transitively on F .

Let ρ be a representation of G on a finite dimensional vector space V . If ξ is a 1-dimensional subspace left invariant by B , we will call ξ a primitive subspace and the character of B given by the representation on ξ , a dominant weight. It is known that every finite dimensional representation has a primitive subspace ξ and that on the G -subspace spanned by ξ the representation of G is irreducible. Moreover if ρ is irreducible there is a unique primitive subspace and the corresponding dominant weight will be called the highest weight of ρ .

Theorem 7.1. Let χ be a character of B and let L denote the homogeneous line bundle on G/B associated to the homomorphism $\chi^{-1} : B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$. Assume that L has a non-zero section. Then the representation on $\Gamma(L)^*$, dual to the induced representation of G on $\Gamma(L)$, is irreducible and has highest weight χ .

Corollary 7.2. The induced representation on $\Gamma(L)$ is irreducible.

Proof of Theorem 7.1. The action of an element $g \in G$ on E_ρ as a line bundle automorphism projects into the natural action of g on G/H . Since

G acts transitively on G/H and the line bundle has a non-zero section, it follows that the sections of L generate L . Let $\varphi : G/B \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(L)^*)$ be the associated holomorphic map (Proposition 4.1). If $\underline{e} \in G/B$ is the point corresponding to the coset B , then $\varphi(\underline{e}) = L_{\underline{e}}^*$, where $L_{\underline{e}}$ is the fibre at \underline{e} (see the proof of Proposition 4.1). By Remark 6.1, B acts on the fibre $L_{\underline{e}}$ by the character χ^{-1} ; we see that under the dual representation B leaves the subspace $L_{\underline{e}}^*$ invariant and acts by the character χ . Thus $\varphi(\underline{e})$ is a primitive subspace with dominant weight χ . Since $\varphi(G/B) = G(\varphi(\underline{e}))$ we see, using Proposition 4.2, that $\Gamma(L)^*$ is generated by $G(\varphi(\underline{e}))$. Hence by the result on G -modules generated by primitive elements recalled above, the dual representation is irreducible and its highest weight is clearly χ .

Theorem 7.3. Let ρ be a finite dimensional (holomorphic) irreducible representation of G . Then ρ is equivalent to the dual of the induced representation of G on a homogeneous line bundle L on G/B .

Proof. Let ξ be a primitive subspace of the representation space V and χ be the corresponding dominant weight. Consider the map $G/B \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(V)$ given by $g \mapsto g\xi$. For $\lambda \in V^*$ consider the function f_λ on G given by $f_\lambda(g) = \langle \lambda, \rho(g)v \rangle$. For $b \in B$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_\lambda(gb) &= \langle \lambda, \rho(gb)v \rangle = \langle \lambda, \rho(g)\rho(b)v \rangle = \langle \lambda, \chi(b)\rho(g)v \rangle \\ &= \chi(b) f_\lambda(g). \end{aligned}$$

Let L be the line bundle associated to the character $b \mapsto \chi^{-1}(b)$. Then,

since $f_\lambda(gb) = \chi(b)f_\lambda(g)$, we see that f_λ is a section of L (see § 6). Thus we have a linear map $\psi : V^* \rightarrow \Gamma(L)$ given by $\lambda \mapsto f_\lambda$. The map ψ is non-zero, because the G -span of ξ is the whole of V , as ρ is an irreducible representation. We shall show that ψ commutes with the representation ρ^* on V^* and the induced representation, Ind , on $\Gamma(L)$; this will prove the theorem by Schur's lemma, as the induced representation on $\Gamma(L)$ is irreducible (Corollary 7.2). Now for $g', g \in G$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ind}(g')(f_\lambda(g)) &= f_\lambda(g'^{-1}g) = \langle \lambda, \rho(g'^{-1}g)\underline{e} \rangle \\ &= \langle \lambda, \rho(g'^{-1})\rho(g)\underline{e} \rangle \\ &= \langle {}^t\rho(g'^{-1})\lambda, \rho(g)\underline{e} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

which proves that $(\text{Ind } g') \cdot \psi(\lambda) = \psi(\rho^*(g')\lambda)$ where ρ^* is the representation dual to ρ . Q.E.D.

Let \mathfrak{g} be a semi-simple Lie algebra, \mathfrak{h} a Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} and Φ^+ a system of positive roots. Let ω be a dominant integral form on \mathfrak{h} , that is, $\omega(H_\alpha)$ is a non-negative integer for each $\alpha \in \Phi^+$. Let G be a simply connected complex semi-simple group with \mathfrak{g} as its Lie algebra. Then it is known that ω is the differential of a character χ_0 of the subgroup H corresponding to \mathfrak{h} . We extend χ_0 to a character χ of B by putting $\chi(u) = 1$ for $u \in U$ where U is the subgroup corresponding to \mathfrak{u} . With this notation we have

Theorem 7.4. Let G be a simply connected semi-simple Lie group with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} . Let ω be a dominant integral linear form on \mathfrak{g} and χ the

corresponding character on the Borel subgroup B . Let L be the homogeneous line bundle on G/B associated to the character χ^{-1} . Then the representation of G on $\Gamma(L)^*$ dual to the induced representation on $\Gamma(L)$ is irreducible and the associated representation of \mathfrak{g} on $\Gamma(L)^*$ is irreducible with highest weight ω .

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