

# On the Harish-Chandra Embedding

The purpose of this note is to link the Cartan and the root decompositions. In addition, it explains how we can view a Hermitian symmetric domain as  $G_{\mathbf{C}}/P$  where  $P$  is a certain parabolic subgroup (more precisely,  $P = K_{\mathbf{C}} \cdot P_-$  in the notation of the previous document).

## 1. Basic Notions from Lie Theory

### 1.1 Simple and semi-simple Lie algebras

A *simple Lie algebra* is a Lie algebra whose only ideals are 0 and itself. A semi-simple Lie algebra is a Lie algebra that is a direct sum of simple Lie algebras.

### 1.2 The killing form

Given a real Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{R}}$  the Killing form on  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{R}} \times \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{R}}$  is defined by

$$B(X, Y) = -\text{Tr}(\text{ad } X \circ \text{ad } Y) \in \mathbf{R}$$

**Dimitar :** Define the killing form.

**Dimitar :** Maybe give some examples with  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbf{R})$ .

### 1.3 Cartan subalgebras

A *Cartan subalgebra*  $\mathfrak{h}$  of a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a nilpotent Lie subalgebra that is equal to its centralizer, i.e., such that  $\{X \in \mathfrak{g} : [X, \mathfrak{h}] \subset \mathfrak{h}\} = \mathfrak{h}$ . For semi-simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , a subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$  being Cartan is equivalent to  $\mathfrak{h}$  being a maximal abelian subalgebra.

*Example 1.* We will keep in mind the example of  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{R})$  and  $\mathfrak{h} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t \\ -t & 0 \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbf{R} \right\}$ . Note that  $\mathfrak{h}$  is also the compact Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{so}_2(\mathbf{R})$ . **Dimitar :** Describe the killing form, etc.

### 1.4 Root decomposition

If  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is an arbitrary semi-simple Lie algebra and  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \subset \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a Cartan subalgebra (one can show that every semi-simple Lie algebra contains a Cartan subalgebra [Hel78, Thm.III.4.1]), consider the linear subspace  $\mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} \subset \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  associated to a functional  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}^*$  and defined by

$$\mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} = \{X \in \mathfrak{g} : [H, X] = \alpha(H)X, \forall H \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}\}.$$

The functional  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}^*$  is called a root if  $\mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} \neq 0$ . If this is the case then  $\mathfrak{g}^{\alpha}$  is called a root subspace. Let  $\Delta$  be the set of roots. Associated to the pair  $(\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}, \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}})$ , there is a root decomposition

$$\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}} = \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \oplus \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Delta} \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha}$$

satisfying the following properties:

- i)  $\dim_{\mathbf{C}} \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} = 1$ ,

- ii) If  $\alpha, \beta \in \Delta$  such that  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$  then  $B(\mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \mathfrak{g}^\beta) = 0$ ,
- iii) The restriction of  $B$  to  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \times \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is non-degenerate, i.e., for each root  $\alpha$ , there is a unique element  $H_\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  such that  $\alpha(H) = B(H, H_\alpha)$ ,
- iv) For each  $\alpha \in \Delta$ ,  $-\alpha \in \Delta$  and  $[\mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \mathfrak{g}^{-\alpha}] = \mathbf{C}H_\alpha$ .

*Example 2.* Consider the Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & -t \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbf{R} \right\} \subset \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{R})$ . Let  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The two roots for this subalgebra are  $2, -2$  and the root spaces are generated by  $X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and

$Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . In fact, we have  $[H, X] = 2X$  and  $[H, Y] = -2Y$ . As we will see later, this will give us an identification of  $\mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{R})/A \cong \mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{C})/P$  where  $P \subset \mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{C})$  which is the Borel–Weil theorem.

*Example 3.* We can compute the root decomposition for the pair  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{R}), \mathfrak{so}_2(\mathbf{R}))$  arising from identifying the Poincaré upper-half plane with  $\mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{R})/\mathbf{SO}_2(\mathbf{R})$  (by looking at the stabilizer of  $i \in \mathcal{H}_1$ ). In this case the roots are  $\alpha_\pm = \pm 2i$ . As we will see later, this Cartan decomposition will be useful to identify  $\mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{R})/\mathbf{SO}_2(\mathbf{R})$  with  $\mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{C})/P$  (to give us the Harish-Chandra embedding).

## 2. Harish–Chandra Embedding

**Dimitar :** Assume that the domain is irreducible, i.e.,  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is simple (the latter means that it has non-trivial ideals). All of our analysis should go under this assumption.

We assume that the Hermitian symmetric domain  $D$  is irreducible. On the level of Lie algebras (or, the decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ ), this means that following:

- $\mathfrak{k}$  contains no ideal of  $\mathfrak{g}$  different from  $\{0\}$ ,
- $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{k})$  acts irreducibly on  $\mathfrak{p}$ .

LEMMA 2.1. Condition (ii) is equivalent to  $\mathfrak{k}$  being a maximal proper subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

*Proof.* If  $\mathfrak{k}$  is not a maximal proper subalgebra then there exists a proper subalgebra  $\mathfrak{k} \subsetneq \mathfrak{k}^* \subsetneq \mathfrak{g}$ . But we can show that if  $\mathfrak{p}^* = \mathfrak{k}^* \cap \mathfrak{p}$  then  $\mathfrak{p}^*$  is an invariant subspace for the action of  $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{k})$  and hence,  $\mathfrak{p}^* = \{0\}$  or  $\mathfrak{p}^* = \mathfrak{p}$ . The case  $\mathfrak{p}^* = \{0\}$  yields a contradiction whereas if  $\mathfrak{p}^* = \mathfrak{p}$  then  $\mathfrak{k}^* = \mathfrak{g}$ , a contradiction as well. The converse is easy: if  $\mathfrak{p}^* \subset \mathfrak{p}$  is a proper  $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{k})$ -invariant subspace then  $\mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{p}^* \subset \mathfrak{g}$  is a proper subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  containing  $\mathfrak{k}$ .  $\square$

### 2.1 Maximal abelian subalgebra of $\mathfrak{k}$

Let  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{k}$  be a maximal abelian subalgebra and let  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  be its complexification. Let  $\mathfrak{c} \subset \mathfrak{k}$  be the center of  $\mathfrak{k}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{c}$  is the center of  $\mathfrak{k}$  and  $\mathfrak{h}$  is maximal abelian subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{k}$  then  $\mathfrak{c} \subset \mathfrak{h}$ . Consider the centralizer  $C_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{c})$ . Since  $\mathfrak{k} \subset C_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{c})$  **Dimitar : Why?** and  $C_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{c})$  is a proper subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  then it follows that  $C_{\mathfrak{g}}(\mathfrak{c}) = \mathfrak{k}$ . We will use this to show that  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$ .

LEMMA 2.2.  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \subset \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a Cartan subalgebra.

*Proof.* Consider the centralizer  $C_{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}}(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}) = \{X \in \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}} : [X, \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}] \subset \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}\}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{k}_{\mathbf{C}}$ , we have  $C_{\mathfrak{k}_{\mathbf{C}}}(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}) = \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$ . If  $C_{\mathfrak{k}_{\mathbf{C}}}(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}) \subsetneq C_{\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}}(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}})$  then there exists an element  $X \in \mathfrak{p}$  such that  $X$  normalizes  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$ . But the latter is impossible since  $[X, \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}] \subset \mathfrak{p}_{\mathbf{C}}$ . Hence,  $C_{\mathfrak{k}_{\mathbf{C}}}(\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}) = \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \subset \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a Cartan subalgebra.  $\square$

## 2.2 Roots of compact and non-compact type and centralizers

Given the Cartan decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ , let  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{k}$  be the maximal abelian subalgebra. We call a root  $\alpha$  compact if  $\mathfrak{g}^\alpha \subset \mathfrak{k}$  and non-compact if  $\mathfrak{g}^\alpha \subset \mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $Q_+$  be the set of positive roots that do not vanish identically on  $\mathfrak{c}_\mathbb{C}$ , i.e., for which  $\text{ad}_{\mathfrak{c}_\mathbb{C}}(\mathfrak{g}^\alpha) = [\mathfrak{c}_\mathbb{C}, \mathfrak{g}^\alpha] \neq 0$ . We now consider two subspaces of  $\mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$ :

$$\mathfrak{p}_+ = \sum_{\alpha \in Q_+} \mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \quad \mathfrak{p}_- = \sum_{-\alpha \in Q_+} \mathfrak{g}^\alpha.$$

These subspaces decompose  $\mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$  as follows

LEMMA 2.3. *We have  $[\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{p}_+] \subset \mathfrak{p}_+$ ,  $[\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{p}_-] \subset \mathfrak{p}_-$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{p}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{p}_-$ .*

*Proof.* Clearly, if  $\alpha$  is compact then  $\alpha$  vanishes on  $\mathfrak{c}$  so we get  $\mathfrak{p}^+ + \mathfrak{p}^- \subset \mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$ . To see that  $\mathfrak{p}_+$  is abelian, note that if  $\alpha, \beta \in Q_+$  then  $[\mathfrak{g}^\alpha, \mathfrak{g}^\beta] \subset \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha+\beta}$  and if  $\alpha + \beta$  is a root then  $\alpha + \beta \in Q_+$ . But  $[\mathfrak{p}_+, \mathfrak{p}_+] \subset \mathfrak{k}$ , so it follows that  $[\mathfrak{p}_+, \mathfrak{p}_+] = 0$ .

What is tricky to show is that  $\mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{p}_+ + \mathfrak{p}_-$ . Let  $\mathfrak{q}$  be the orthogonal complement of  $\mathfrak{p}_+ + \mathfrak{p}_-$  in  $\mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$  with respect to the killing form. Define

$$\mathfrak{g}_+ = \mathfrak{p}_+ + \mathfrak{p}_- + [\mathfrak{p}_+, \mathfrak{p}_-].$$

One can check that  $\mathfrak{g}_+ \subset \mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$  is an ideal **Dimitar : Do the computation!** and since  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$  is simple, it follows that  $\mathfrak{g}_+ = \{0\}$  or  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$ . The first case is impossible (as all the roots will be compact), so we are in the second case and  $\mathfrak{p}_+ + \mathfrak{p}_- = \mathfrak{p}_\mathbb{C}$ .  $\square$

## 2.3 More on semi-simple Lie algebras

Consider a semi-simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Consider also

- $\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{R}$  - the Lie algebra  $\mathbb{C}$  viewed as a real Lie algebra,
- $G_c$  - any connected real Lie group with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{R}$ ,
- $\mathfrak{u} \subset \mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$  - a compact real form of  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$ ,
- $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{u}$  - a maximal abelian subalgebra,
- $\mathfrak{h}_\mathbb{C} = \mathfrak{a} + i\mathfrak{a}$  - a (one has to prove this) Cartan subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$ .
- $\mathfrak{n}_+ = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \mathfrak{g}^\alpha$  - the positive nilpotent (with respect to some ordering of the roots) considered as a real Lie algebra.
- $J$  - a complex structure on  $\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{R}$  that coincides with  $i$  on  $\mathfrak{g}_\mathbb{C}$ .

Then (one has to prove this - see [Hel78, Thm.VI.6.3]) there is a direct sum decomposition

$$\mathfrak{g}^\mathbb{R} = \mathfrak{u} \oplus J\mathfrak{a} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+.$$

Furthermore, if  $U, A^*, N_+$  are the analytic subgroups of  $G_c$  with Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{u}$ ,  $\mathfrak{a}^* = J\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\mathfrak{n}_+$ , respectively, then the multiplication map gives an analytic diffeomorphism

$$U \times A^* \times N_+ \rightarrow G_c.$$

## 2.4 The parabolic subgroups

$\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{R})/K$  embeds into  $P_-$  via the following sequence of steps

- One needs to show that the multiplication map  $P_- \times K_\mathbb{C} \times P_+ \rightarrow G_\mathbb{C}$  induces a diffeomorphism between  $P_- \times K_\mathbb{C} \times P_+$  and an open submanifold of  $G_\mathbb{C} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbb{C})$  that contains  $G = \mathbf{G}(\mathbb{R})$ .
- One identifies  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{R})/K$  diffeomorphically with  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{R})K_\mathbb{C}P_+/K_\mathbb{C}P_+$ . For this, we need to know that  $K_\mathbb{C}P_+ \cap \mathbf{G}(\mathbb{R}) = K$ . Once this is proved, consider the map  $gK_\mathbb{C}P_+ \mapsto gK$  for any

$g \in \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$ . It follows that this map is well-defined (if  $g'K_{\mathbf{C}}P_+ = g''K_{\mathbf{C}}P_+$  then  $g'kp_+ = g''$  and hence,  $kp_+ = (g')^{-1}g'' \in \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$ , hence  $K_{\mathbf{C}}P_+ \cap \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R}) = K$ ) and a bijection.

LEMMA 2.4. *The multiplication map  $P_- \times K_{\mathbf{C}} \times P_+ \rightarrow G_{\mathbf{C}}$  induces a diffeomorphism between  $P_- \times K_{\mathbf{C}} \times P_+$  and an open submanifold of  $G_{\mathbf{C}} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{C})$  that contains  $G = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$ .*

*Proof.* To show that the map is an injection, suppose that  $q_1k_1p_1 = q_2k_2p_2$ , i.e.,

$$q_2^{-1}q_1 = k_2p_2p_1^{-1}k_1^{-1}.$$

The right-hand side is  $k_2k_1^{-1}(k_1p_2p_1^{-1}k_1^{-1})$  and  $k_1p_2p_1^{-1}k_1^{-1} \in P_+$  since  $K_{\mathbf{C}}$  normalizes  $P_+$ . Hence, it suffices to show that  $P_-K_{\mathbf{C}} \cap P_+ = \{e\}$  to get injectivity. The latter can be seen on the level of the Lie algebra as follows: suppose that  $y \in P_-K_{\mathbf{C}} \cap P_+$  and let  $Y \in \mathfrak{p}_+$  such that  $\exp(Y) = y$ . One one hand, we can write  $Y = \sum_{\alpha \in Q_+} c_{\alpha}X_{\alpha}$ . Since  $[\mathfrak{p}_+, \mathfrak{p}_-] \subset \mathfrak{p}_-$ , it follow that  $\text{ad}(y): \mathfrak{p}_- \rightarrow \mathfrak{p}_-$ . Let

$$\mathfrak{n}_+ = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} \text{ and } \mathfrak{n}_- = \sum_{-\alpha \in \Delta^+} \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha} \text{ (these are nilpotent Lie algebras whose Lie groups are unipotent groups)}$$

**Dimitar : May need to be more precise about the latter.** ). Let  $\beta \in Q_+$  be the lowest root for which  $c_{\beta} \neq 0$ . After calculating

$$[Y, X_{-\beta}] \equiv c_{\beta}[X_{\beta}, X_{-\beta}] \text{ mod } \mathfrak{n}_+,$$

we observe that it cannot be 0 mod  $\mathfrak{n}_+ + \mathfrak{n}_-$  and hence,  $\text{ad}(Y)(X_{-\beta}) \notin \mathfrak{p}_-$ , a contradiction. Next, a dimension count shows that the image of the map is an open submanifold of  $G_{\mathbf{C}}$ . Finally, we want to show that any  $p \in P = \exp(\mathfrak{p})$  is in the image (which, together with  $G = KP = PK$  will imply that  $G = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$  is contained in the image).  $\square$

*Example 4.* For  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{R})$ , one can compute explicitly  $P_+$  and  $P_-$  using the two non-compact root spaces. Since  $\alpha = 2i$  is the positive root then the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{p}_-$  is simply the root space  $\mathfrak{g}^{-\alpha}$ . The embedding that we get is then the Cayley transform. **Dimitar : Complete the example.**

## 2.5 The Lie algebra of $\mathbf{SL}(2, \mathbf{C})$

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{C})$  of  $\mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbf{C})$  consists of all trace-zero matrices in  $M_2(\mathbf{C})$ . A basis is given by the matrices

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

They satisfy the relations  $[X, Y] = H$ ,  $[H, X] = 2X$  and  $[H, Y] = -2Y$ . The key point is that it is possible, given any  $Z \in \mathbf{C}(X + Y)$ , to decompose  $\exp(Z)$  in the form  $P_-K_{\mathbf{C}}P_+$  via the following lemma:

LEMMA 2.5. *Given any  $Z = t(X + Y)$  then we have*

$$\exp t(X + Y) = \exp(\tanh tY) \exp(\log(\cosh t)H) \exp(\tanh tX).$$

*Proof.*  $\square$

## 2.6 Boundedness

– Define a maximal abelian subalgebra  $\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbf{C}} \subset \mathfrak{p}_{\mathbf{C}}$  as

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbf{C}} = \sum_{i=1}^s \mathbf{C}(X_{\gamma_i} + X_{-\gamma_i}) \subset \mathfrak{p}_{\mathbf{C}}.$$

Here, the vectors  $X_{\alpha} \in \mathfrak{g}^{\alpha}$  are chosen such that

$$X_{\alpha} - X_{-\alpha}, \quad i(X_{\alpha} + X_{-\alpha}) \in \mathfrak{u}_{\mathbf{C}} := \mathfrak{k} \oplus i\mathfrak{p}, \quad [X_{\alpha}, X_{-\alpha}] = 2/\alpha(H_{\alpha})H_{\alpha}.$$

the latter being the compact form of  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbf{C}}$ .

- If the  $X_{\alpha}$ 's are chosen as above then

$$\mathfrak{a} = \sum_{i=1}^s \mathbf{R}(X_{\gamma_i} + X_{-\gamma_i}) \subset \mathfrak{p}.$$

- Suppose that  $Z \in \mathfrak{a}$  and write

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^s t_i(X_{\gamma_i} + X_{-\gamma_i}).$$

Using some nested commutator relations (à la Campbell–Hausdorff formula), one can show that

$$\exp(Z) = \exp(Y) \exp(H) \exp(X), \quad (1)$$

where  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^s (\tanh t_i) X_{-\gamma_i}$ ,  $H = \sum_{i=1}^s \log(\cosh t_i) [X_{\gamma_i}, X_{-\gamma_i}]$  and  $X = \sum_{i=1}^s (\tanh t_i) X_{\gamma_i}$ . Since  $\exp(X) \in P_+$ ,  $\exp(H) \in K_{\mathbf{C}}$  (since  $H \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbf{C}} \subset \mathfrak{k}_{\mathbf{C}}$ ), so we compute that

$$\log \xi(a) = \sum_{i=1}^s (\tanh t_i) X_{-\gamma_i} \in \mathfrak{p}.$$

*Remark 1.* What helped in explicitly determining  $\xi(a)$  was the fact that the Lie subalgebra generated by  $X_{\gamma_i}, X_{-\gamma_i}, H_{\gamma_i}$  is isomorphic to the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{C})$  and for the latter, one can compute the decomposition (1) explicitly.

To understand why the image is bounded once we know that  $P_+ \cdot K_{\mathbf{C}} \cdot P_- \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_{\mathbf{C}}$  is injective and contains  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$  in its image, we use the following

**LEMMA 2.6.** *Given  $x \in \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$ , let  $\xi(x)$  be the unique element of  $P_-$  such that  $x \in P_+ K_{\mathbf{C}} \xi(x)$ . Then  $\|\log |\xi(x)|\|$  is bounded as  $x$  varies through  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$ .*

*Proof.* We prove it using the following steps:

- Consider a Cartan decomposition  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R}) = KAK$  for some analytic subgroup  $A$  with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{a}$ .
- Take  $x \in \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{R})$  and write it as  $x = kak'$ . Then express  $\xi(x)$  in terms of  $\xi(a)$ .

**Dimitar :** Define and discuss  $\mathfrak{a}$ .

□

### 3. Complex Structures on Homogeneous Spaces and the Borel–Weil Theorem

#### REFERENCES

Hel78 S. Helgason, *Differential geometry, Lie groups, and symmetric spaces*, Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. 80, Academic Press Inc., New York, 1978.