

## II Lagrangians (char $\neq 2$ )

Let  $W$  be a type 1 or type 2 space ( $\epsilon$ -Hermitian or ~~degenerate~~ <sup>nondegenerate</sup>  $\circ$  product)

- Def: We say  $X \subseteq W$  is a Lagrangian of  $W$  if
- (type 1)  $X$  is a maximal totally isotropic submodule of  $W$  &  $W$  is hyperbolic
  - (type 2)  $X$  is a nonzero submodule &  $W$  is of type 2.

Notation:  $\Omega = \Omega(W)$  is the set of Lagrangians on  $W$ .  
 $\Omega(r)$  is the set of Lagrangians of dimension  $r$ .

- Prop: 1)  $\Omega = \emptyset$  if  $W$  is of type 1 & non-hyperbolic
- 2) If  $W$  is hyperbolic of Witt index  $m$ , then  $\Omega = \Omega(m)$ .
  - 3)  $\Omega(r)$  is the set of Grassmanian subspaces of  $W$  if  $W$  is of type 2
  - 4)  $U(W)$  acts on  $\Omega$ . The orbits of this action are  $\Omega(r)$ . It is transitive if  $W$  is of type 1.

Def: If  $W \cong mH$  we say  $X+Y$  is a complete polarization of  $W$  if  $X$  &  $Y$  are Lagrangians &  $W = X+Y$ .

Notation: Let  $V$  be a right  $D$ -module. Set  $S^2(V, \epsilon)^*$  to be the set of sesquilinear forms on  $V$  that satisfy the symmetry property in our definition of  $\epsilon$ -Hermitian product.

Note: these forms are allowed to be degenerate.

Parameterization of  $\Omega$  by polarizations

Lemma: Let  $W = mH$  &  $X+Y=W$  be a complete polarization. Then,  $X+Y$  induces a natural parameterization on  $\Omega$ . Specifically, there is a canonical bijection  $\Omega \leftrightarrow \bigcup_{V \in \Omega(X)} S^2(V, -\epsilon)^*$ .

Pf: Let  $Z \in \Omega$ . Let  $\pi$  be the projection onto  $X$ .  $\forall z, z' \in Z$ , set  $B(z, z') := \langle \pi(z), z' \rangle$ .

Write  $z = x+y, z' = x'+y'$  (by our complete polarization). Since  $Z$  is Lagrangian,  $0 = \langle z, z' \rangle = \langle x, x' \rangle + \langle x, y' \rangle + \langle y, x' \rangle + \langle y, y' \rangle = \langle x, y' \rangle + \langle y, x' \rangle + \langle x, y' \rangle + \epsilon T(\langle x', y' \rangle)$

Hence  $\langle x, y' \rangle = -\epsilon T(\langle x', y' \rangle)$ . ( $X, Y$  Lagrangian)

~~Also  $0 = \langle z, z' \rangle = \langle x', x \rangle + \langle x', y \rangle + \langle y, x' \rangle + \langle y, y' \rangle = \langle x', y \rangle + \langle y, x' \rangle + \langle x', y \rangle + \epsilon T(\langle x', y' \rangle)$~~   
~~Hence  $\langle x', y \rangle = -\epsilon T(\langle x', y' \rangle) = -\epsilon T(-\langle y, x' \rangle) = \epsilon T(\langle y, x' \rangle)$~~

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(PF of lemma cont...)

x Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } B(z, z') &= \langle x, x'+y' \rangle = \langle x, y' \rangle = -\epsilon \tau(\langle x', y \rangle) = -\epsilon \tau(\langle x', x \rangle + \langle x', y \rangle) \\ &= -\epsilon \tau(\langle x', x+y \rangle) = -\epsilon \tau(\langle \pi(z'), z \rangle) = -\epsilon \tau(B(z', z)). \end{aligned}$$

So, B induces a  $-\epsilon$ -Hermitian form on  $V = \pi(Z)$ . Hence  $\pi(Z) \in \cup_{V \in \mathcal{L}(x)} S^2(V, -\epsilon)$ .

Conversely, if  $B \in \cup_{V \in \mathcal{L}(x)} S^2(V, -\epsilon)$  set  $Z := \{x+y \mid \forall x' \in V, \langle x', y \rangle = B(x', x)\}$ .

It is straightforward to check that Z is Lagrangian. □

Now, let  $W = mH$  & suppose  $W = W_1 \oplus (-W_2)$  is an orthogonal decomposition of W

in  $\epsilon$ -Hermitian spaces.

Lemma: Assume the above ( $W = mH = W_1 \oplus (-W_2)$ ). Then there is a bijection  $\Omega \leftrightarrow \{(z_1, z_2, \Phi) \mid z_i \text{ is an isotropic subspace of } W_i \text{ & } \Phi \text{ is an isometry } z_1^\perp / z_1 \cong z_2^\perp / z_2\}$ .

Let Z be a Lagrangian of W,  $\pi_i(Z)$  its projection onto  $W_i$  paralleling  $W_2$ , &  $Z_i = Z \cap W_i$

$$Z_i^\perp = \pi_i(Z). \quad (Z_i^\perp = \{u \in W_i \mid \langle u, z_i \rangle = 0 \ \forall z_i \in Z_i\})$$

Let  $r_i + n_i$  be the Witt index & dimension of  $W_i$ , respectively. Then,  $W_i \cong r_i H \oplus W_i^0$   
 $n_i = 2r_i + n_i^0$  where  $n_i^0$  is the dimension of  $W_i^0$ , the anisotropic part of  $W_i$ . We have  
 $n_1^0 = n_2^0$  only if  $W_1^0 \cong W_2^0$  (the Witt classes of  $W_i$  are the same). Set  $d = \dim Z$ ,  $d_i = \dim Z_i$ ,  
 &  $\lambda_i := \dim Z_i^\perp - \dim \pi_i(Z)$ . Certainly,  $\pi_i(Z) \subseteq Z_i^\perp$  as Z is a Lagrangian. So,  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ .

Now,  $d = r_1 + r_2 + n_1^0 = \dim(\pi_1(Z) + Z_2) = d_1 + 2(r_1 - d_1) + n_1^0 - \lambda_1 + d_2$ .

Hence  $(r_1 - d_1) - (r_2 - d_2) = -\lambda_1$ . By symmetry,  $(r_1 - d_1) - (r_2 - d_2) = \lambda_2$ . So,  $\lambda_2 = -\lambda_1$ . But  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ .  
 Hence  $\lambda_1 = 0 = \lambda_2$ . This proves  $\square$ .

Now, for  $Z = Z_1 + Z_2$ ,  $Z' = z_1' + z_2' \in Z$ , we have  $\langle z_1, z_1' \rangle \stackrel{Z \text{ Lagrangian}}{=} 0$ . So,  $\langle z_1, z_1' \rangle \langle z_2, z_2' \rangle = 0$ .

This gives a correspondence between  $Z_1^\perp$  &  $Z_2^\perp$  from Z (using  $\square$ ). This correspondence induces the isomorphism  $\Phi$ .

Inversely, let  $(z_1, z_2, \Phi)$  be such a triplet. Set  $Z = \{z_1 + z_2 \mid \Phi(z_1 + z_2) = z_1 + z_2\}$ .

Then Z is a Lagrangian of W & this construction is the inverse of the previous. □



Assume the same setup as previous lemma.

If  $r_1 \leq r_2$ , then  $d_i = \dim Z_i$  satisfy  $0 \leq d_1 \leq r_2$ ,  $d_2 = d_1 + (r_2 - r_1)$ . Let  $U = U(W)$ ,  $U_i = U(W_i)$ . Then  $U(W_i) \subset U(W)$  by extending  $U(W_i)$  trivially across  $W_j$  ( $j \neq i$ , trivial means  $f(W_j) = W_j$ ). Then,  $u_1 u_2 = u_2 u_1 \forall u_i \in U_i$ . The action of  $U_1 U_2$  on  $\Omega$  is given by (using previous lemma)

$$(u_1, u_2) \cdot (z_1, z_2, \Phi) = (u_1 z_1, u_2 z_2, u_2 \Phi u_1^{-1}). \text{ This gives the following:}$$

**Lemma:** If  $r_1 \leq r_2$ , two Lagrangians  $Z$  &  $Z'$  are in the same orbit under  $U_1 U_2$  iff  $\dim Z_1 = \dim Z'_1$ .

Also, there are  $r_1 + 1$  orbits. The stabilizer of  $(z_1, z_2, \Phi)$  in  $U_1 U_2$  is  $\{u_1, u_2 \in P_1(z_1)P_2(z_2) \mid u_2 = \Phi u_1 \Phi^{-1} \text{ on } Z_2/Z_2'\}$ .

**Remark:** If  $W$  is of type 2, then  $W = W_1 \oplus W_2$  is a direct sum induced by a parameterization of Grassmannians  $\Omega(r)$ . The previous lemmas are the  $\epsilon$ -Hermitian analogs of this.

**Lemma:** There is a bijection  $\Omega(r) \leftrightarrow \{(z_1, T_1, z_2, T_2, \Psi) \mid z_i \in T_i \subseteq W_i, \Psi \text{ is an iso. } T_1/Z_1 \cong T_2/Z_2\}$ .  
 If  $W$  is type 2.

The dimensions  $d_i, e_i$  of  $Z_i, T_i$  satisfy  $r = e_2 + d_1 = e_1 + d_2$ ,  $e_i, d_i \leq r_i$ .

They are invariants of the orbits of  $\Omega(r)$  under action  $U_1 U_2$ .

The stabilizer of  $(z_1, T_1, z_2, T_2, \Psi)$  in  $U_1 U_2$  is  $\{g_1, g_2 \in P_1(z_1 \in T_1)P_2(z_2 \in T_2) \mid g_2 = \Psi g_1 \Psi^{-1}\}$ .

**Idea of pf:** If  $Z \in \Omega(r)$  with  $r \leq n_1 + n_2$ , set  $Z_i = \pi_i(Z)$  &  $T_i = \pi_i(Z)$ .



# Some Geometric Lemmas

**(type 1)** Let  $W$  be of type 1. Two elements  $(w_i), (v_i) \in mW$  ( $m \geq 1$ ) are in the same orbit under the action of  $U(W)$  iff their coordinates have the same Gram matrix (or moment matrix) meaning  $(\langle w_i, w_j \rangle)_{ij} = (\langle v_i, v_j \rangle)_{ij}$  & generate subspaces of the same dimension. (consequence of Witt's thm).  
 Equivalently, let  $V$  be a right  $D$ -module of dimension  $m$ .  $U(W)$  acts on  $\text{Hom}_D(V, W)$  via  $(f, u) \mapsto uf$  where  $u \in U(W)$  &  $f \in \text{Hom}_D(V, W)$ .  
 Let  $g \in \text{Hom}_D(V, W)$ . Then  $g = uf$  for some  $f \in \text{Hom}_D(V, W)$   $u \in U(W)$  iff  $Z = \text{Ker}g = \text{Ker}f$  &  $V/Z \cong V/\text{Ker}f$  are isometric for the forms induced by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_W$ .  
 Note: these induced forms may be degenerate. Hence we have the following lemma:

**Lemma:** There is a bijection b/t the orbits of  $\text{Hom}(V, W)$  under the action of  $U(W)$  & the set of couples  $\left\{ (Z, B) \mid \begin{array}{l} Z \subseteq V \text{ submodule, } B \text{ is a nondegenerate } \varepsilon\text{-Hermitian form or non-degen. on } Z \\ \text{Witt index of } B \text{ is } \dim V \\ \text{and } (V/Z, B) \text{ is isometric to a subspace of } W \end{array} \right\}$   
**Note:** If " $\geq m$ ", then  $(V/Z, B)$  is isometric to a subspace of  $W$  automatically.

The  $U(W)$ -orbits of  $\text{Hom}_D(V, W) \times \text{Hom}_D(W, V')$  where  $V, V'$  are right  $D$ -modules of finite dimensions  $m$  &  $m'$ , respectively are determined by the previous lemma given due to the isomorphism  $W \cong W^*$  given by the product.

**Note:** The action of  $U(W)$  on  $\text{Hom}_D(V, W) \times \text{Hom}_D(W, V')$  is  $u(f, g) = (uf, gu^{-1})$ .

**(type 2)** Suppose now that  $W$  is of type 2 &  $V, V'$  are as above. The invariants of a  $U(W)$  orbit of  $\text{Hom}_D(V, W) \times \text{Hom}_D(W, V')$  are  $Z = \text{Ker}f$ ,  $Z' = \text{Im}g$ ,  $\varphi = gf$ .

**Lemma:** The  $U(W)$  orbits of  $\text{Hom}_D(V, W) \times \text{Hom}_D(W, V')$  are in bijection with the set of triplets  $\left\{ (Z, Z', \varphi) \mid \begin{array}{l} Z, Z' \text{ are submodules of } V, V' \text{ & } \varphi \in \text{Hom}(V/Z, Z') \\ \dim V/Z, \dim Z', \dim \text{Ker } \varphi + \dim Z' \leq \dim W \end{array} \right\}$ .

**Note:** The dimensions condition is immediate if  $m + m' \leq n$ .



# Fixed Lagrangians of a reductive Howe subgroup

Suppose  $(U_1, U_2)$  is an irreducible reductive dual pair of  $U(W)$ . Let  $\Omega^1 \subseteq \Omega$  be the subset of Lagrangians of  $W$  which are fixed by  $U_1$ . Suppose that  $(U_1, U_2) = (U(W_1), U(W_2))$  where  $W = W_1 \otimes W_2$ . Let  $\Omega_2$  be the Lagrangians of  $W_2$ .

Note:  $\Omega^1 + \Omega_2$  may be empty.

Lemma: We have a bijection between  $\Omega^1$  &  $\Omega_2$  that is compatible with the action of  $U_2$  if  $W_1$  is not an orthogonal hyperbolic plane on  $\mathbb{F}_3$ .

PF: Suppose  $W$  is type 1 &  $W_1$  is not an orthogonal hyperbolic plane on  $\mathbb{F}_3$ . Any invariant <sup>subspace</sup> of  $W$  under  $U_1$  is of the form  $W_1 \otimes Z^1$  where  $Z^1$  is a submodule of  $W_2$  (this fact follows from the next lemma). Now,  $W_1 \otimes Z^1$  is isotropic iff  $Z^1$  is isotropic (as  $W_1$  is non-degenerate).  $W_1 \otimes Z^1$  is a Lagrangian iff  $\dim Z^1 = \frac{\dim W_2}{2}$  (= Witt index of  $W_2$ ) &  $W_2$  is hyperbolic. Thus,  $W_1 \otimes Z^1 \in \Omega^1$  iff  $Z^1 \in \Omega_2$ .

Now, suppose  $W$  is of type 2. Any invariant <sup>subspace</sup> of  $W$  under  $U_2$  is of the form  $(W_1 \otimes Z^1) + (W_1^* \otimes Z^2)$  where  $Z^1 + Z^2$  are submodules of  $W_2$ .  $(W_1 \otimes Z^1) + (W_1^* \otimes Z^2)$  is Lagrangian iff  $Z^2$  is orthogonal to  $Z^1$  in  $W_2^*$  (o.w. we don't obtain a submodule of  $W$ ).

Lemma: The commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End } W$  is

- isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3$  if  $W$  is the orthogonal hyperbolic plane on  $\mathbb{F}_3$
- equal to  $\text{End } W$  if  $W$  is orthogonal of dimension 1
- isomorphic to  $D$  otherwise.

I don't know how to translate this. However,  $k$  is the subring generated by  $1 \in D$ . Specifically,  $k \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/\mathbb{Z} & \text{if } \text{char } D = p \\ \mathbb{Q} & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

(Following Dieudonné)

PF: Let  $A = \text{End } W$  be the set of endomorphisms of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $W$ . If  $k$  is the 1<sup>st</sup> subring of  $D$ , then  $\text{End } W = \text{End}_k W$ . If  $z \in A$  commutes with  $h \in A$ , then  $z$  stabilizes the submodule of  $h$ -fixed points. If  $z \in A$  commutes with  $U(W)$ , then in particular, it commutes with the symmetries & transvections (shear maps) of  $U(W)$  & leaves stable the nonisotropic hyperplanes of  $W$  (i.e. the restriction of the product on  $W$  remains non-degenerate), & if  $W$  is not orthogonal, then  $z$  stabilizes the isotropic submodules also.

Hence if  $W$  is anisotropic or not orthogonal,  $z$  stabilizes all submodules of  $W$ . If  $W$  is orthogonal of dimension  $\geq 3$ , we get that all isotropic are the intersection of 2 nonisotropic planes & hence  $z$  stabilizes all submodules of  $W$  again. (PF continues next page)



(PF cont...)

If  $\dim_D W > 1$  &  $z$  stabilizes the right  $D$ -submodules of  $W$ , then  $\exists d \in D \Rightarrow z(w) = w \cdot d \ \forall w \in W$ . Conversely, any  $z$  of this form commutes with  $U(W)$ . Therefore  $\text{End} W \cong D$  which proves ~~(a)~~ some of (c)

(a) Suppose now that  $W$  is an orthogonal hyperbolic plane. Let  $\{e, f\}$  be a hyperbolic basis. On this basis  $U(W)$  is represented by ~~orthogonal~~ diagonal & antidiagonal matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 1/a \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 1/a & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow a \in F^\times$ . Then  $z(xe + yf) = A(x, y)e + B(x, y)f$  where  $x, y \in F$  &  $\forall A, B: F \times F \rightarrow F \Rightarrow A(x, y) = B(y, x), A(xa, y/a) = aA(x, y), \& A(x, y) = A(x, 0) + B(0, y)$  where  $a \in F$ . Set  $\alpha = A(1, 0) + \beta = A(0, 1)$ . Then  $z(xe + yf) = \alpha(xe + yf) + \beta(e_y + f_x)$ .

If  $\exists a \in K \Rightarrow \alpha^2 \neq 1$ , then  $z$  is a  $K$ -endomorphism of  $W$  iff  $\beta = 0$  & hence the centralizer of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $F$ . Otherwise ( $\exists a \in K \Rightarrow \alpha^2 = 1$ ),  $K = \mathbb{F}_3$  & the centralizer of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3$  by direct verification. This proves (a).

(b) Suppose  $\dim_D W = 1$ . Let  $W = D(a)$  where  $T(a) = \epsilon a$ . Then  $U(W) \cong D^a = \{d \in D \mid d a \tau(d) = a\}$ . Let  $E(a)$  be the subring of  $D$  generated by  $D^a$  & the 1<sup>st</sup> sub of  $D$ . The commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $\text{End}_{E(a)} W$ .  $\forall K \in D$ ,  $D$  is the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End}_K W$  iff  $K \in E(a) = D$ . If  $\tau$  is trivial on  $D$ , then  $W$  is orthogonal,  $U(W) = \{\pm I\}$  & the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $\text{End} W$ . This proves (b).

2) If  $\tau$  is nontrivial &  $a$  is in the center of  $D$ , then  $U(W) \cong \{d \in D \mid d \tau(d) = 1\}$  does not depend on  $a$  &  $E = E(a)$  does not depend on  $a$  also. It follows that  $\text{End} W$  is again the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$ . This proves (b).

We now examine some ~~other~~ more cases

- If  $D$  is finite, then  $D = F'$  & of degree 2 over  $F$ . By the next lemma,  $E = F' = D$ . Hence the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $F' = D$ .
- If  $D$  is local nontrichimedeon, then  $D = F'$  or  $D$  is a quaternionic ring &  $W$  is Hermitian. By the next lemma,  $D = E$  if  $D = F'$ . If  $D$  is quaternionic, then  $E$  contains every maximal subfield of  $D$  & hence  $E = D$ . So, again, the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $D$ .
- If  $D$  is quaternionic & has a pure quaternion (i.e., Real part = 0), then  $F(a) \subseteq E(a)$ . One can check that  $E(a)$  is not commutative & hence  $E(a) = D$ . So, again, the commutant of  $U(W)$  in  $\text{End} W$  is  $D$ . This proves (c) in full & the lemma.  $\square$



Lemma: Let  $F \subseteq F'$  be a quadratic field extension where  $\text{char } F \neq 2$  &  $F$  is either finite or local non-Archimedean. Let  $\bar{F}$  be an algebraic closure of  $F$ . Then there does not exist a nontrivial homomorphism  $\rho: F' \rightarrow \bar{F}$  that is trivial on the units of  $F'$  of norm 1 in  $F$ .

(Won't prove)

\*Cor: If  $W$  is not the orthogonal hyperbolic plane on  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , then there does not exist a right  $D$ -submodule  $V \subseteq W$  which is stable under  $U(W)$ .

Pf: Suppose that  $V$  is stable. Then  $V$  is not totally isotropic (unless  $W$  is degenerate in which case the cor. is simple) ~~... for some  $v \in V$  ...~~

~~...  $v \in V$  ...~~

Indeed if  $V$  is totally isotropic, then we can obtain a hyperbolic basis  $\{e_i, f_i\}_{i=1}^{\dim V}$  for  $V \oplus V^* \subseteq W$  satisfying  $\langle e_i, f_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ . The map sending  $e_i \mapsto f_i$  &  $f_i \mapsto e_i$   $w \mapsto w \forall w \in W$  is an isometry of  $W$  that does not fix  $V$  (it maps  $V$  to  $V^*$ ).

Now,  $V$  is stable & not totally isotropic. It is simple to check that  $V^\perp$  is also stable. Hence  $V^0 = V \cap V^\perp$  is stable. But  $V^0$  is totally isotropic & we've seen that stable totally isotropic subspaces are  $0$ . Therefore,  $V$  is not isotropic &  $W = V \oplus V^\perp$  & hence  $U(W) = U(V) \times U(V^\perp)$ . By the previous lemma,

the commutant of  $U(V)$  in  $\text{End } V$  is  $\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3$ ,  $\text{End } V$ , or  $D$  & similarly for  $U(V^\perp)$  in  $\text{End } V^\perp$ .

Also, the commutant of  $U(W)$  is  $D$  (if  $\dim W = 1$  it's trivial). Thus,

we have (extending  $\text{End } V$  or  $\text{End } V^\perp$  identically across  $V^\perp$  or  $V$  respectively),  $(\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3) \times (\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3) \subseteq D$ ,  $\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3 \times \text{End } V^\perp \subseteq D$ ,  $\mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3 \times D \subseteq D$ , & so on...

All of these give contradictions. For example,  $\text{Id}_{\dim V} \times \text{Id}_{\dim V} \times D \subseteq D$  so  $(\delta_1 \dots \delta_1, \delta_2 \dots \delta_2) \in (\delta_1 \dots \delta_1)$

