

# Parabolics

## Extension of Scalars

Let  $\bar{F}$  be an algebraic closure of  $F$  &  $L$  be a field  $\Rightarrow F \subseteq L \subseteq \bar{F}$ .

Let  $W$  be an  $\epsilon$ -Hermitian space on  $(D, \tau)$ . The group  $U(W)$  is the group of rational points on  $F$  of an algebraic group  $U$ .

We have  $U(L) = U(W_L)$  where  $W_L = W \otimes_F L$  is the  $D_L := D \otimes_F L$ -module equipped with a product extending that of  $W$ .

Alternatively, if  $\tau$  is the involution of  $A = \text{End}_D W \Rightarrow U(W) = \{u \in A \mid \tau(u) \cdot u = \epsilon \cdot 1\}$ , then  $U(L) = \{a \in A_L \mid \tau(a) \cdot a = \epsilon \cdot 1\}$  where  $A_L = \text{End}_{D_L} W_L$ .

Def: We define the group  $SU$  to be the kernel of the determinant in  $U$ .

Notation: Let  $O(n)$ ,  $Sp(2m)$ , &  $GL(n)$  be the three unitary groups on  $\bar{F}$ . Also, we let  $F$  be a finite, local, or global field.

Lemma: The group  $U(\bar{F})$  is

1)  $GL(rn)$  if  $\tau$  is of the second kind with  $\begin{cases} r=1 \text{ if } D=F \\ r=2 \text{ if } D \text{ is quaternionic} \end{cases}$

2)  $O(rn)$  if  $\tau$  is of the first kind with  $\begin{cases} \epsilon=1, r=1 \text{ if } D=F \\ \epsilon=-1, r=2 \text{ if } D \text{ is quaternionic} \end{cases}$

3)  $Sp(rn)$  if  $\tau$  is of the first kind with  $\begin{cases} \epsilon=-1, r=1 \text{ if } D=F \\ \epsilon=1, r=2 \text{ if } D \text{ is quaternionic} \end{cases}$

or:  $U$  is a Zariski-connected reductive group, except if  $W$  is orthogonal or Anti-Hermitian on a set of quaternions with canonical involution. In this case,  $SU$  is a connected reductive group.

or: IF  $W$  is orthogonal, then  $SU(W) \subseteq U(W)$  is of index 2 &  $U(W)$  is not the group of  $F$ -rational points of a connected reductive group.

If  $W$  is  $\epsilon$ -Hermitian on a set of quaternions equipped with canonical involution, then  $SU(W) = U(W)$  (but  $SU \neq U!$ ) is the group of  $F$ -rational points of a semi-simple connected group.

Pf: The 1<sup>st</sup> claim is immediate. If  $D$  is quaternionic, then the Dieudonné determinant  $A^x \rightarrow \frac{D^x}{(D^x, D^x)}$  is trivial on  $U(W)$ .  $\square$

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of Lemma

- IF  $\tau$  is of the 2<sup>nd</sup> kind, then  $A_{\mathbb{F}} \cong M(r, \mathbb{F}) \times M(r, \mathbb{F})$  equipped with an involution  $i$  that permutes the two factors. In this case,  $U(\mathbb{F}) = GL(r, \mathbb{F})$ .

- IF  $W$  is of type 2, the result is clear.

- IF  $W = \oplus F(a_i)$  or  $\oplus_m H$  is orthogonal or symplectic, respectively, then

~~$A = M(n, \mathbb{F})$~~  equipped with involution  $a \mapsto h^t a h^{-1}$  where  $h = \text{diag}(a_i)$  if  $W = \oplus F(a_i)$  or  $h = \text{diag}(u)$  where  $u = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  if  $W = \oplus_m H$ .  $Sp(2m)$

We find  $A_{\mathbb{F}} = M(n, \mathbb{F})$  with similar involution & hence  $U(\mathbb{F})$  is  $O(n)$  or  $Sp(h)$ .

- IF  $D$  is quaternionic with canonical involution, then  $A_{\mathbb{F}} = M(2n, \mathbb{F})$  is equipped with involution  $a \mapsto h \text{diag}(u)^t a (\text{diag}(u))^{-1}$  &  $h u$  is  $-\epsilon$ -symmetric if  $h$  is  $\epsilon$ -symmetric.

So  $U(\mathbb{F})$  is  $O(2n)$  or  $Sp(2n)$ . □

Def: A flag is a set of submodules  $\{0 \neq V_1 \subsetneq V_2 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq V_t\}$  of  $W$ .  
 We say a flag is totally isotropic if each  $V_i$  is totally isotropic in  $W$ .

~~A totally isotropic flag is acted upon naturally~~

The set of totally isotropic flags is acted naturally by  $U$ . Let  $\Phi = \{0 \neq X_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq X_t\}$  be a totally isotropic flag.

By Witt's theorem, the only invariants ~~is~~  $\{n_1 \leq \dots \leq n_t\}$  where  $n_i = \dim_D X_i$ .  
 Thus, the orbit of  $\Phi$  is  $\{\Psi \text{ totally isotropic flag} \mid \Psi = \{0 \neq V_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq V_t\} \& \dim V_i = \dim X_i \forall i\}$ .

If  $W$  is orthogonal, then an  $O$ -orbit is an  $SO$ -orbit, except in the exceptional case:  $W \cong m \times 1$  hyperbolic &  $n_t = \dim X_t = m$ . In the exceptional case, an  $O$ -orbit is a union of 2  $SO$ -orbits.

Thus,  $\Phi$  is not  $SO$ -conjugate to the totally isotropic flag  $\Phi' = \{0 \neq X'_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq X'_t\}$  where  $X'_i = X_i$  if  $i < t$  &  $X'_t$  is generated by  $\{e_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq m-1\} \cup \{f_m\}$  where  $\{e_i, f_i\}_{i=1}^m$  is a hyperbolic basis of  $W \rightarrow \{e_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$  is a basis for  $X_t$ .

Def: We call the stabilizer in  $U$  (resp.  $SU$ ) of a totally isotropic flag  $\mathbb{F}$  of  $W$  a parabolic subgroup of  $W$ , which we denote by  $P(\mathbb{F})$  (resp.  $P^+(\mathbb{F})$ ).

Prop: By previous corollary,  $P^+(\mathbb{F}) \subseteq P(\mathbb{F})$  has index 2 except in the exceptional case where  $P^+(\mathbb{F}) = P(\mathbb{F})$ .

The very exceptional case:  $W \cong mH$  orthogonal hyperbolic with  $\dim X_{\mathbb{F}} = m$  or  $m-1$ .

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be the totally isotropic flag constructed in (orbits under  $SO$ ). Let

$\mathbb{F}''$  be the totally isotropic flag obtained by removing  $X_{\mathbb{F}}$  from  $\mathbb{F}$ .

Then,  $P^+(\mathbb{F}) = P^+(\mathbb{F}') = P^+(\mathbb{F}'')$  but only  $P(\mathbb{F}) \neq P(\mathbb{F}')$ .

Prop: If  $P^+(\mathbb{F}) = P^+(\mathbb{F}')$ , then  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}'$ , except in the very exceptional case where  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{F}, \mathbb{F}', \mathbb{F}''\}$ .

We will prove this later. We make some remarks & corollaries first.

Remark: If  $P(\mathbb{F}) = P(\mathbb{F}')$  then  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}'$ , except in the very exceptional case where  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{F}, \mathbb{F}', \mathbb{F}''\}$ .

normalizers

Cor:  $P(\mathbb{F})$  is its own normalizer in  $U$  except in the very exceptional case, where  $P(\mathbb{F})$  is of index 2 in its normalizer.  $P^+(\mathbb{F})$  is equal to its normalizer in  $SU$  in all cases.

conjugation classes

Cor:  $P(\mathbb{F})$  is conjugate in  $U$  to  $P(\mathbb{F}')$  iff  $\mathbb{F} + \mathbb{F}'$  are in the same  $U$ -orbit.

The only invariant is  $\{\dim X_{\mathbb{F}} \leq \dots \leq \dim X_{\mathbb{F}_k}\}$ . In the exceptional case,  $\mathbb{F}' = u\mathbb{F}$  where  $u \in O$  (not  $SO$ ).

$P^+(\mathbb{E})$  is conjugate in  $SU$  to  $P^+(\mathbb{E}_1)$  iff  $\mathbb{E}$  &  $\mathbb{E}_1$  are in the same  $U$ -orbit  
In the nonexceptional cases. The only invariant is  $\{n_1, \dots, n_r\}$ .

In the very exceptional case,  $\mathbb{E}$  &  $\mathbb{E}'$  are not in the same  $U$ -orbit. In the  
exceptional case (not very exceptional)  $P^+(\mathbb{E})$  is not  $SU$ -conjugate to  $P^+(\mathbb{E}')$ .

The maximal parabolics are  $P(x) = P(O \oplus X)$ , up to conjugation, <sup>there are</sup>  $m$  classes where  
 ~~$\dim X$~~  is the Witt index of  $W$ , & these are classified by  $\dim X$ .

The maximal parabolics of  $SO$  are  $P^+(x)$  except in the exceptional case where  
we have  $\dim x \neq m-1$  ( $P(x) \cap P(x') = P(x \cap x')$  if  $x$  is Lagrangian). Up to conjugation,  
there are  $m$  classes & these are classified by  $\dim x$ , except in the exceptional case  
where there is 1 class for each dimension  $< m-1$ , none for  $m-1$ , & 2 for  $m$ .

Levi subgroup  
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There is a split exact sequence  $1 \rightarrow N(x) \rightarrow P(x) \rightarrow M(x) \rightarrow 1$  where  $N(x)$  is the unipotent radical of  $P(x)$ .

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Lagrangian  
of  $mH$

If  $W = mH \oplus W^0 = (x+x^*) \oplus W^0$ , then  $M(x) \cong GL_D(x) \times U(W^0)$  & we have an exact sequence  $1 \rightarrow S^2(x, -\epsilon) \rightarrow N(x) \rightarrow Hom_D(W^0, x) \rightarrow 1$ .  
The extension is central.

Def:

Suppose there are degenerate couplings on  $X \times X^*$  & on  $Y \times Y^*$  denoted by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_x$  &  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_y$ .  
If  $f \in Hom_D(x, y)$ , define the adjoint function  $f^* \in Hom_D(y^*, x^*)$  by  $\langle f(x), y^* \rangle_y = \langle x, f^*(y^*) \rangle_x$ .

The Levi subgroup  $M(x)$  of  $P(x)$  associated to the decomposition  $W = x + W^0 + x^*$  is

$$M(x) = \{ m(g, u) := \text{diag}(g, u, (g^*)^{-1}) \mid g \in GL_D(x), u \in U(W^0) \}.$$

Def:

$$\text{Let } N_1(x) = \{ n_1(s) := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & s \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mid s \in Hom_D(x^*, x), s^* = -s \}.$$

$N_1(x)$  is a subgroup of  $N(x)$ . Furthermore  $N_1(x)$  identifies with  $S^2(x^*, -\epsilon)$ .

Def:

$$\text{Let } N_2(x) := \{ n_2(h) := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & -h^* \\ 0 & 1 & h^* \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mid h \in Hom(W^0, x) \}.$$

Then  $N_2(x)$  is a subgroup of  $N(x)$  & any  $n \in N(x)$  can be written uniquely as  $n = n_1(s) \overset{N_1(x)}{\underset{N_2(x)}{m(g, u)}} n_2(h)$ .

1)  $m(g, u) n_1(s) m(g, u)^{-1} = n_1(g s g^*)$

2)  $m(g, u) n_2(h) m(g, u)^{-1} = n_2(ghu^{-1})$

3) (1)+(2) show that  $M(x)$  acts naturally on  $N(x)$

3)  $n_2(h) n_2(k) = n_2(h+k) n_1(\frac{-hk^* + k^*h}{2})$

4) The commutator of two elements of  $N_2(x)$  is  $[n_2(h), n_2(k)] = n_1(-hk^* + k^*h)$

a) 1) If  $W^0 \neq \{0\}$ , then the group of commutators of  $N(x)$  is  $N_1(x)$ .

2)  $N(x)$  is Abelian iff

a)  $W^0 = \{0\}$  & thus  $N(x) = N_1(x)$  or

b)  $W^0$  is orthogonal &  $\dim_D x = 1$ . So,  $N(x) = N_2(x)$ .