

The Condition of Moderate Growth

“Without the condition of moderate growth you can't do anything.”

Harish-Chandra

G a real reductive group, $K \subset G$ a maximal compact subgroup. (σ, V) a finite dimensional representation of G with compact kernel.

$\langle \dots, \dots \rangle$ a K -invariant Hilbert space structure on V .
 $\|\dots\|$ the corresponding operator norm on $\text{End}(V \oplus V)$. Write
 $\|g\|$ for $\left\| \begin{bmatrix} \sigma(g) & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma(g^{-1})^* \end{bmatrix} \right\|$. The function $g \mapsto \|g\|$
will be called a *norm* on G .

1. $\|\mathbf{1}\| = 1, \|k_1 g k_2\| = \|g\|, k_1, k_2 \in K, g \in G$.
2. $\|xy\| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$.
3. $\|x^{-1}\| = \|x\|$.
4. If $r > 0$ the set $B_r = \{g \in G \mid \|g\| \leq r\}$ is compact.
5. $\|xy^{-1}\| \geq \|x\| / \|y\|$.
6. If (π, W) is a representation of G on a Banach space then $\|\pi(g)\| \leq C \|g\|^k$ for some $C > 0, k \geq 0$.

We will say that a smooth function $f : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is of *moderate growth* if there exists k such that

$$|R_x f(g)| \leq C_x \|g\|^k$$

for all $x \in U(\text{Lie}(G))$ and all $g \in G$ and $R_x f$ is the usual action of $U(\text{Lie}(G))$ on $C^\infty(G)$ as left invariant differential operators.

Key Example:

(π, W) a Banach representation of G . W^∞ the space of C^∞ vectors with the standard Fréchet space structure. If $\lambda \in (W^\infty)'$ (continuous functionals) and $w \in W^\infty$ then the matrix coefficient

$$g \mapsto c_{\lambda, w}(g) = \lambda(\pi(g)w)$$

is of moderate growth. Indeed there exists k and a continuous seminorm ξ_λ on W^∞ such that

$$|c_{\lambda, w}(g)| \leq \|g\|^k \xi_\lambda(w) \quad (*)$$

for all, $g \in G$, $w \in W$.

A smooth Fréchet representation of G is a representation (μ, \mathcal{V}) of G on a Fréchet space \mathcal{V} such that the map

$$g \rightarrow \mu(g)\phi$$

is smooth for all $\phi \in \mathcal{V}$. We will say that it is of moderate growth if the functions $c_{\lambda, v}$ for $\lambda \in \mathcal{V}'$, $v \in \mathcal{V}$ satisfy the condition (*) above with ξ_λ a continuous seminorm on \mathcal{V} .

We will say that \mathcal{V} is admissible if $\dim \text{Hom}_K(F, \mathcal{V}) < \infty$ for all finite dimensional representations of K .

We will use the notation \mathcal{V}_K for the space of all K -finite vectors in \mathcal{V} .

We will say that \mathcal{V} is finitely generated and admissible if \mathcal{V}_K is finitely generated as a $U(\text{Lie}(G))$ -module.

Theorem of Casselman and Wallach:

$$\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G) \otimes \mathbb{C}.$$

$\mathcal{HC}(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ the category of finitely generated admissible (\mathfrak{g}, K) -modules.

$\mathcal{FHC}(G)$ the category of all finitely generated smooth, admissible, Fréchet representations of G with moderate growth and morphisms that are topologically split.

There exists an equivalence of categories $W \rightsquigarrow T(W)$ between $\mathcal{HC}(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ and $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$ such that if (π, W) is a Banach representation of G such that $(W^\infty)_K$ is finitely generated and admissible then $T((W^\infty)_K)$ is isomorphic with W^∞ . In fact, the functor T is naturally the inverse functor to $W \rightsquigarrow W_K$.

Let $\mathcal{A}(G)$ denote the space of all functions on G of moderate growth. We set $\mathcal{A}_k(G)$ equal the space of all $f \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ such that

$$|R_x f(g)| \leq C_x \|g\|^k$$

for all $x \in U(\text{Lie}(G))$ and all $g \in G$.

On $\mathcal{A}_k(G)$ we define the seminorms

$$\xi_{k,x}(f) = \sup_{g \in G} \|g\|^{-k} |R_x f(g)|$$

This defines a Fréchet topology on $\mathcal{A}_k(G)$. We give $\mathcal{A}(G)$ the direct limit topology.

Let W be a closed G -invariant subspace (under the right action G) of $\mathcal{A}(G)$ with the following property:

If $Z(\mathfrak{g})$ is the center of $U(\mathfrak{g})$ then if $\phi \in W$ then $\dim Z(\mathfrak{g})\phi < \infty$ and W_K is finitely generated (i.e. an object in $\mathcal{HC}(\mathfrak{g}, K)$).

Theorem. *There exists $k \geq 0$ such that $W \subset \mathcal{A}_k(G)$ and with the induced topology W is isomorphic with $T(W_K)$ as a smooth Fréchet module.*

We also note

Theorem. *If $M \subset \mathcal{A}(G)$ is a \mathfrak{g} and K -invariant subspace that is in $\mathcal{HC}(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ then the closure of M in $\mathcal{A}(G)$ is isomorphic with $T(M)$ as a smooth Fréchet module.*

Let $H \subset G$ be a closed subgroup.

Let $\mathcal{A}(H \backslash G) = \{f \in \mathcal{A}(G) \mid f(hg) = f(g) \text{ for all } h \in H, g \in G\}$.

Then $\mathcal{A}(H \backslash G)$ is closed in $\mathcal{A}(G)$.

Let W be a subspace of $\mathcal{A}(H \backslash G)$ that is \mathfrak{g} and K -invariant and in $\mathcal{HC}(\mathfrak{g}, K)$.

Then there is an isomorphism, B , of $T(W)$ onto the closure, \overline{W} , of W as smooth Fréchet modules.

Let $\delta(f) = f(1)$ for any function on G . Then δ defines a continuous functional on $\mathcal{A}(G)$ and $f \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ is tautologically $c_{\delta, f}$.

Thus if we set $\lambda = B^* \delta \in (T(W)')^H$ then if $f \in W$ and if $B(\phi) = f$ then $f = c_{\lambda, \phi}$. This implies that there is a canonical isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{g}, K}(W, \mathcal{A}(H \backslash G)) \cong (T(W)')^H.$$

A variant of Frobenius reciprocity

A variant of this is:

Let P be a minimal parabolic subgroup of G , $P = MN$ a Levi decomposition and (σ, H_σ) an irreducible representation of M extended to N trivially.

Let $I_{P,\sigma}^\infty$ (resp. $I_{P,\sigma}$) be the smooth (resp. K -finite) induced representation of σ from P to G .

On $I_{P,\sigma}^\infty$ we put the usual Fréchet topology as smooth functions from K to H_σ .

Casselman's subrepresentation theorem implies that there exists σ and $B : I_{P,\sigma} \rightarrow W$ a surjective (\mathfrak{g}, K) . homomorphism.

We note that $T(I_{P,\sigma}) \cong I_{P,\sigma}^\infty$. Thus the CW-theorem implies that B extends to a homomorphism of $I_{P,\sigma}^\infty$ onto \overline{W} as smooth Fréchet representations.

Let $\delta(f) = f(1)$ for any function on G . Then δ defines a continuous functional on $\mathcal{A}(G)$ and $f \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ is tautologically $c_{\delta, f}$. Thus if we set $\lambda = B^*\delta \in (I_{P, \sigma}^\infty)'$ and let $B(\phi) = f$ then $f = c_{\lambda, \phi}$.

Let $\chi : U(\mathfrak{g})^K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be an algebra homomorphism and let $\mathcal{A}(K \backslash G)_\chi$ be the space of $f \in \mathcal{A}(K \backslash G)$ such that $L_x f = \chi(x)f$ for $x \in U(\mathfrak{g})^K$ (here L is the left regular representation). Let ν be the Harish-Chandra parameter of χ in the Langlands chamber. Then the result we just described specializes to the assertion that if $p_\nu(x, y)$ is the Poisson kernel with $x \in K \cap P \backslash K$ and $y \in K \backslash G$ then if $f \in \mathcal{A}(K \backslash G)_\chi$ there exists a unique $T \in C^\infty(K \cap P \backslash K)'$ such that $f(g) = T(p_\nu(\cdot, Kg))$ for all $g \in G$.

This is a theorem proved almost simultaneously by Oshima-Sekiguchi and me (1980, announced by me in the 1980 Park City meeting).

We now look at the situation when G is the group of real points in a reductive algebraic group, \mathbf{G} , defined over \mathbb{Q} . Let Γ be subgroup of $\mathbf{G}_{\mathbb{Q}}$.

Let P be the real points of a parabolic subgroup, \mathbf{P} , of \mathbf{G} defined over \mathbb{Q} . We will say that P is cuspidal.

Let \mathbf{N} be the nilradical of \mathbf{P} and N the real points of \mathbf{N} .

Let M be the group of real points of \mathbf{P}/\mathbf{N} . Finally set $\Gamma_M = \Gamma \cap P / \Gamma \cap N$.

If $f \in \mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G)$ then we define

$$\Lambda_P(f)(m) = \int_{\Gamma \backslash N} f(\bar{n}m) d\bar{n}$$

with $d\bar{n}$ a choice of invariant measure on $\Gamma \backslash N$.

$$\Lambda_P : \mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Gamma_M \backslash M)$$

is continuous in the induced topologies.

Furthermore, if W is a closed invariant subspace that is an object in $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$ then $\Lambda_P(W) \in \mathcal{FHC}(M)$.

There is a partial inverse to this map. Let ${}^oP = \bigcap \text{Ker}|\chi|$ the intersection is over all $\chi : P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ a continuous homomorphism. Let W be a closed subrepresentation of $\mathcal{A}(\Gamma_M \backslash M)$ that is in $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$. Let $\nu : P/{}^oP \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ be a continuous homomorphism. We form

$$I_{P,W,\nu}^\infty$$

the corresponding induced representation. We note that $G = PK$ so we note that as a Fréchet space it is isomorphic with $I_{P \cap K, W}^\infty$ with W thought of as just a $P \cap K$ representation on a Fréchet space. If $f \in I_{P \cap K, W}^\infty$ then define $f_\nu(pk) = \nu(p) \det(\text{Ad}(p)|_{\text{Lie}(N)})^{\frac{1}{2}} L_p f(k)$.

Consider $\delta : W \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ as above. Set for $f \in I_{P \cap K, W}^\infty$

$$E(P, W, \nu)(f)(g) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma \cap P \backslash \Gamma \cap G} \delta(L_g f_\nu(\gamma)).$$

Unfortunately the series rarely converges.

However, if we start with V a closed invariant subspace of $\mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G)$ that is an object in $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$ then if $f \in V_K$ is such that $\Lambda_P(f) = 0$ for all cuspidal P as above with $P \neq G$ then Langlands showed using the condition of moderate growth that f is rapidly decreasing in a neighborhood of each cusp.

This implies that if we start with V a closed, invariant and in $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$ and if P is minimal among the cuspidal parabolic subgroups such that $\Lambda_P(V) \neq 0$ then there is an open tube of ν such that the series defining $E(P, \Lambda_P(V), \nu)$ converges uniformly and absolutely defining a (\mathfrak{g}, K) -homomorphism

$$E_\nu : I_{P \cap K, \Lambda_P(V)}_{K_M} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G)_K.$$

Langlands proved that this family of (\mathfrak{g}, K) -homomorphisms has a meromorphic continuation to all ν .

The CW theorem implies that at a point of holomorphy E_ν extends to a continuous homomorphism

$$E_\nu : I_{P \cap K, \Lambda_P(V)}^\infty \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G).$$

We can replace $\Lambda_P(V)$ with W a closed subrepresentation of $\mathcal{A}(\Gamma_M \backslash M)$ that is in $\mathcal{FHC}(G)$. That has the property that $\Lambda_Q(W) = 0$ for all Q proper and cuspidal. The same meromorphic continuation theorem is true.

Open question: The meromorphic continuation can be done in the context of

$$E_\nu : I_{P \cap K, W}^\infty \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Gamma \backslash G).$$