

The Spectrum of the Symmetric Space $SP(l)/SU(l)$

Gr. Tsagas and K. Kalogeridis

Abstract

The aim of the present paper is to determine the spectrum of the Laplace operator on the functions on $SP(l)/SU(l)$.

Mathematics Subject Classification: 58G25

Key words: symmetric space, Lie algebra, Lie group, roots and Cartan subalgebra

1 Introduction

Let (M, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold of dimension n . From this Riemannian manifold we obtain the vector spaces $\Lambda^q(M, R)$, $q = 0, 1, \dots, n$. If we apply the Laplace operator $\Delta = d\delta + \delta d$ on $\Lambda^q(M, R)$ we obtain the spectrum $Sp^q(M, g)$.

One problem in the spectral theory is to determine $Sp^q(M, g)$, where (M, g) is a known compact Riemannian manifold.

The aim of the present paper is to determine $Sp^0(M, g)$, that means the spectrum of Δ on the functions on M , where $M = SP(l)/SU(l)$ and g is the Riemannian metric on M , coming from the Killing-Cartan form of the Lie algebra $sp(l)$.

2 Basic elements for symmetric spaces

Let $M = G/H$ be a compact homogenous space. One of the problems concerning of the spectrum is to calculate

$$(2.1) \quad Sp^q(M = G/H, g), q = 0, 1, \dots, \dim M$$

Let t and v be the Lie algebras of G and H respectively. If m is the tangent space of M at its origin, we have the relation

$$(2.2) \quad t = v \oplus m$$

Let \langle, \rangle be a positively definite inner product on the vector space m which comes from the Riemannian metric g , which is an $ad(H)$ -invariant. Conversely, an inner

product on \mathfrak{m} which is an $ad(H)$ -invariant gives a G -invariant metric on the homogeneous space M , which is also called homogeneous manifold.

We assume that the Lie group G is compact and semisimple and the Lie subgroup H of G is its closed subgroup.

Let \mathfrak{b} be the Cartan subalgebra of \mathfrak{t} . The set of the simple roots which are linear forms on the $\mathfrak{b}_{\mathbb{C}}$, that is elements of $\mathfrak{b}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$, is given as follows:

$$(2.3) \quad \Psi = \{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_l\},$$

where $l = \dim \mathfrak{b}$.

We denote by Λ the set of all roots of $\mathfrak{b}_{\mathbb{C}}$,

$$(2.4) \quad \Lambda = \left\{ \lambda = \sum_{i=1}^l r_i \psi_i / r_i \in \mathbf{Z} \right\}$$

and with Λ^+ the set of all positive roots, so we have

$$\Lambda^+ = \left\{ \lambda = \sum_{i=1}^l r_i \psi_i / r_i \geq 0 \right\}.$$

For each element $p \in \mathfrak{b}^*$, we take $p^* = \frac{2p}{\langle p, p \rangle}$ so we can construct the following set:

$$(2.5) \quad \Psi^* = \{\psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_l^*\}$$

where:

$$\psi_1^* = \frac{2\psi_1}{\langle \psi_1, \psi_1 \rangle}, \dots, \psi_l^* = \frac{2\psi_l}{\langle \psi_l, \psi_l \rangle}$$

and consequently for each λ , we take λ^* defined as follows:

$$(2.6) \quad \lambda^* = \frac{2\lambda}{\langle \lambda, \lambda \rangle}.$$

Now, we can define the fundamental weights $\mu_i \in \mathfrak{b}$, $i = 1, \dots, l$, via

$$(2.7) \quad \langle \mu_i, \psi_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}, \quad i = 1, \dots, l, \quad j = 1, \dots, l$$

We construct the set of the weights

$$(2.8) \quad B = \left\{ \mu = \sum_{i=1}^l m_i \mu_i / m_i \in \mathbf{Z}, m_i \geq 0 \right\}.$$

If we consider the set

$$(2.9) \quad \{I = \mu \in \mathfrak{b} / \langle \mu, \psi_i^* \rangle \in \mathbf{Z}, i = 1, \dots, l\},$$

then B is equivalent to the set

$$(2.10) \quad N_1 = \{ \mu \in I / \langle \mu, \lambda \rangle \geq 0, \forall \lambda \in \Lambda \},$$

or

$$(2.11) \quad N_2 = \{ \mu \in I / \langle \mu, \psi_i \rangle \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, l \}.$$

The above relations are used for the calculations of the spectrum of a symmetric space $M = G/H$, where G is a simply connected compact semisimple Lie group and H is a closed subgroup of G , where the Riemannian metric on M comes from the Killing-Cartan form \langle, \rangle on the Lie algebra t of G . If v is the Lie algebra of H , then we have

$$t = v \oplus s,$$

where v is the eigenspace with the eigenvalue $+1$ and s is the eigenspace with the eigenvalue -1 .

Let m be the maximal abelian subspace of s and Λ_m^+ the system of positive roots on $m_{\mathbb{C}}$.

We define the subset k of v as follows

$$(2.12) \quad k = \{ x \in v / [x, m] = 0 \},$$

and we consider the Cartan subalgebra b_1 of k .

The following relation is valid

$$b = b_1 + m,$$

and therefore b is a Cartan subalgebra of t . We define the Λ_m^+ as follows:

$$(2.13) \quad \Lambda_m^+ = \{ \lambda/m : \lambda \in \Lambda^+ \text{ and } \lambda/m \neq 0 \},$$

and we construct the set

$$(2.14) \quad B_m = \left\{ \mu \in I^* \mid \frac{\langle \mu, \lambda \rangle}{\langle \lambda, \lambda \rangle} \geq 0, \quad \forall \lambda \in \Lambda_m^+ \right\}.$$

The following theorem is valid

Theorem. *Let $M = G/H$ the compact symmetric space of Riemann, where G is a simply connected, compact, semisimple Lie group and H is a closed subgroup of G , where the metric g on M comes from the Killing-Cartan form of the Lie algebra t of G . The spectrum $Sp(M, g)$ is given by*

$$(2.15) \quad Sp(M, g) = \{ \langle \mu, \mu \rangle + 2 \langle \mu, \delta_m \rangle, \mu \in B_m \},$$

where δ is the half of the sum of the positive roots and δ_m is the restriction of δ on m , which is the maximal abelian subspace of s (the eigenspace with eigenvalue -1). The multiplicity of the eigenvalue is given by

$$(2.16) \quad P(\mu) = \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda^+} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, \lambda \rangle}{\langle \delta, \lambda \rangle}.$$

3 The spectrum $Sp^0(M, g)$, where $M = SP(l)/SU(l)$

Let $sp(l)$ and $su(l)$ be the Lie algebras of $SP(l)$ and $SU(l)$ respectively. Then we have

$$sp(l) = su(l) \oplus m = h \oplus m,$$

where the direct sum is valid if the Lie algebras are considered as vector spaces and m is the tangent space of the $SP(l)/SU(l)$ at its origin.

The Lie algebra $sp(l)$ has the form

$$sp(l) = \left\{ X \in M_{2l} \mid XK + KX^T = O, \quad \text{where} \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} O & I_l \\ I_l & O \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

An element of the Lie algebra $sp(l)$ is split into an element of $su(l)$ and an element of the tangent space m in the following way

$$X \in sp(l) \Rightarrow X = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ l \times l & l \times l \\ C & A^T \\ l \times l & l \times l \end{bmatrix},$$

where B and C are symmetric matrices of order l .

$$\text{The matrix } A \text{ can be written } A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 1 \times (l-1) \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \\ (l-1) \times 1 & (l-1) \times (l-1) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore the vector X takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 1 \times (l-1) & B \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & l \times l \\ (l-1) \times 1 & (l-1) \times (l-1) & \\ & C & \\ & l \times l & \begin{matrix} -a_{11} & -A_{21}^T \\ -A_{12}^T & -A_{22}^T \end{matrix} \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -tr(A_{22}) & A_{12} & O \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \\ O & tr(A_{22}) & -A_{21}^T \\ & -A_{12}^T & -A_{22}^T \end{bmatrix} \oplus \\ &\oplus \begin{bmatrix} tr(A_{22}) + a_{11} & O & B \\ O & O & \\ C & -tr(A_{22}) - a_{11} & O \\ & O & O \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the tangent space m takes the following form

$$m = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} k & O & B \\ O & O & \\ C & -k & O \\ & O & O \end{bmatrix}, k \in \mathbf{R} \right\},$$

and the Lie algebra h becomes

$$\left\{ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} -tr(A_{22}) & A_{12} & O \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \\ O & & tr(A_{22}) & -A_{21}^T \\ & & -A_{12}^T & -A_{22}^T \end{array} \right] \right\}.$$

Therefore the Lie algebra $sp(l)$ can be written $sp(l) = h \oplus m$. The roots of $sp(l)$ are given by $\{\pm e_i \pm e_k, \pm 2e_i | i < k, i, k = 1, \dots, l\}$, where $e_i = \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_i - E_{i+l})$, $i = 1, \dots, l$ and E_i is a matrix of order $2l$ which has at the position (i, i) the number one and everywhere else the number zero.

Taking into consideration the form of the tangent space m , the quantities e_i take the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} - \text{for } i = 1, e_i &= \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_1 - E_{1+l}) = O \oplus \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_1 - E_{1+l}) \\ - \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq l, e_i &= \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_i - E_{i+l}) = \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_i - E_{i+l}) \oplus O. \end{aligned}$$

At first we construct the weights of $sp(l)$,

$$w_i = e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_i \Rightarrow w_{i_m} = e_1 = \frac{1}{4l+4} \cdot (E_1 - E_{1+l}), \quad i = 1, \dots, l.$$

Then we construct the quantity

$$\mu = m_1 w_{1_m} + \dots + m_l w_{l_m} \quad \text{where } m_1, \dots, m_l \in \mathbf{Z}^+.$$

Taking into consideration the form of the weights restricted to the tangent space, the quantity μ takes the form $\mu = (m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_l) \cdot e_1 = m \cdot e_1$.

Now, we construct the half of the sum of all positive roots δ

$$2\delta = 2le_1 + (2l-2)e_2 + \dots + 4e_{l-1} + 2e_l.$$

Subsequently the restriction of the half of the sum of all positive roots to the tangent space takes the following form $\delta_m = l \cdot e_1$. At first we calculate the quantities which appear in formula (17)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mu, \mu \rangle &= \langle m \cdot e_1, m \cdot e_1 \rangle = m^2 \langle e_1, e_1 \rangle = \frac{m^2}{4l+4}; \\ \langle \mu, \delta_m \rangle &= \langle m \cdot e_1, l \cdot e_1 \rangle = m \cdot l \cdot \langle e_1, e_1 \rangle = \frac{ml}{4l+4}. \end{aligned}$$

So, the spectrum takes the form

$$(3.1) \quad Sp(SP(l)/SU(l), g) = \left\{ \frac{m^2 + 2ml}{4l+4}, m \in \mathbf{Z} \right\}.$$

The positive roots are

- i) $e_i - e_j, 1 \leq i < j \leq l$
- ii) $e_i + e_j, 1 \leq i < j \leq l$
- iii) $2e_i, 1 \leq i \leq l$

and for

$$\mu + \delta = me_1 + le_1 + (l-1)e_2 + \dots + e_l = (m+l)e_1 + (l-1)e_2 + \dots + e_l,$$

we construct

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_1 &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq l} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, e_i - e_j \rangle}{\langle \delta, e_i - e_j \rangle} = \prod_{2 \leq j \leq l} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, e_1 - e_j \rangle}{\langle \delta, e_1 - e_j \rangle} = \prod_{2 \leq j \leq l} \frac{m + j - 1}{j - 1} = \\
 &\binom{m + l - 1}{l - 1}; \\
 P_2 &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq l} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, e_i + e_j \rangle}{\langle \delta, e_i + e_j \rangle} = \prod_{2 \leq j \leq l} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, e_1 + e_j \rangle}{\langle \delta, e_1 + e_j \rangle} = \prod_{2 \leq j \leq l} \prod \frac{m + 2l - j + 1}{2l - j + 1}; \\
 P_3 &= \prod_{1 \leq i \leq l} \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, 2e_i \rangle}{\langle \delta, 2e_i \rangle} = \frac{\langle \mu + \delta, 2e_1 \rangle}{\langle \delta, 2e_1 \rangle} = \frac{m + l}{l}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Having taken into consideration the relation (18) the multiplicity of the eigenvalue is taken then

$$(3.2) \quad d\mu^2 = P_1 P_2 P_3 = \prod_{k=1}^{2l-1} \frac{m+k}{k} = \binom{m+2l-1}{2l-1}.$$

We conclude with the following

Theorem. *The spectrum $Sp(M, g)$, where $M = SP(L)/SU(l)$, is given by the relation (19). The multiplicity of the eigenvalue is given by the relation (20).*

References

- [1] B. Beers and R.S. Millman, *The spectra of the Laplace Beltrami operator on compact semisimple Lie groups*, Amer.J. Math. 99 (1997), 801-807.
- [2] P.H. Berard, *Spectral Geometry: Direct and inverse problems with An Appendix* by G. Besson, V.III, Lecture Notes in Mathematics 1207, 1986.
- [3] F. A. Bezerin, *Laplace operator on semisimple Lie groups*, Trudy, Moscov. Mat. Obse 6 (1957) 371-463.
- [4] I. Chavel, *Eigenvalues in Riemannian Geometry*, Academic Press, New York, 1984.
- [5] J. Lepowsky, *Multiplicity formula for certain semisimple Lie groups*, Bull. Amer.Math. Soc. 77 (1971), 601-605.
- [6] J. Milnor, *Eigenvalues of the Laplace operator on certain manifolds*, Proc. Nat. Acad. Scin. U.S.A. 51(1964) 542.
- [7] Gr. Tsagas and Ch. Michaleas, *The Spectrum of the exceptional Lie groups*, Jour. of Inst. of Math. & Comp. Sci. (Math. Ser.) Vol.9, No. 3 (1996) 221-232.
- [8] Gr. Tsagas and Ch. Miachaleas, *The spectra of the classical simple Lie groups*, Jour. of Inst of Math. & Comp. Sci. (Math. Ser.) Vol.9, No. 3 (1996) 273-282.

Division of Mathematics
 Department of Mathematics and Physics
 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki 54 250
 email: kkalogerid@yahoo.gr