

III The Shilov boundary

V Positive Hermitian Jordan Triple System

$\{x,y,z\}$ \mathbb{C} -linear in x and z , conjugate linear in y
symmetric in (x,z)
a quintic identity

$\tau(x,y) = \text{tr}(z \rightarrow \{x,y,z\})$ positive definite hermitian form

c tripotent $\{c,c,c\} = 2c$

$|x|$ spectral norm of x

D unit ball for the spectral norm

$G = \text{Hol}(D)^0$, K stabilizer of 0 in G .

Example. $V = \text{Mat}(p,q, \mathbb{C})$ ($p \leq q$, $n=p+q$)

$\{x,y,z\} = xy^*z + zy^*x$, $|x| = \|x\|_{\text{op}}$

$D = \{x \text{ in } V, |x| < 1\}$, $G = \text{PU}(p,q)$, $K = \text{P}(U(p) \times U(q))$

$k(z,w) = \det(1_p - zw^*)^{-n}$

III.1 Tripotents and Peirce frames

Let V be a PHJTS, with triple product $\{.,.,.\}$. Assume, for convenience, that V is simple (i.e. cannot be written as a sum of two PHJTS).

Recall that a tripotent is an element c which satisfies $\{c,c,c\} = 2c$.

There is a (partial) order on tripotents : if c and d are two tripotents, then say $c < d$ if there exists a tripotent $f \neq 0$, orthogonal to c and such that $d = c + f$.

A tripotent c is *primitive* (or minimal) if c can not be written as a sum of two (non zero) tripotents. Any tripotent can be written as a sum of primitive orthogonal tripotents.

Any two minimal tripotents are conjugate under an automorphism of V .

A *Peirce frame* is a maximal set of orthogonal primitive tripotents. Any two Peirce frames are conjugate under an automorphism of V . In particular, the number of elements is the same for all frames (call it the *rank* of V).

Let c be a tripotent. Then TFAE

- (i) $c = c_1 + \dots + c_r$, where (c_1, \dots, c_r) is a Peirce frame
- (ii) c is a maximal tripotent
- (iii) $V = V_2(c) + V_1(c)$ (i.e. $V_0(c) = 0$)
- (iv) $\mathbb{R}c_1 + \mathbb{R}c_2 + \dots + \mathbb{R}c_r$ is a maximal flat space in V .

III.2 The Shilov boundary

Let D be a domain in some complex vector space.

The *Shilov boundary* S of D is the smallest closed subset of the boundary of D , for which the maximum principle for the modulus of holomorphic function applies. The Shilov boundary may be much smaller than the topological boundary.

Example 1. Let D be the product of two copies of the complex unit disc. Then the Shilov boundary of D is the product of two copies of the unit circle, as can be seen by applying *twice* the maximum principle w.r.t. each variable.

Example 2. Let D be the unit ball in $\text{Mat}(p, q)$ with $p \leq q$, then

- x is in the topological boundary of D iff 1 is an eigenvalue of xx^*
 - x is in the Shilov boundary iff $xx^* = \text{Id}_p$

Example 3. The Siegel disc and the Lagrangian manifold

Let $V = \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{C})$ be the PHJTS, with product

$$\{x, y, z\} = xy^*z + zy^*x .$$

$$D = \{x \text{ in } V ; 1 - xx^* >> 0\}$$

The group G is $\text{Sp}(2r, \mathbb{R}) \pmod{\{\pm 1\}}$, and K is isomorphic to $U(r)$ acting on V by $(u, X) \rightarrow uXu^t$.

D is called the *Siegel disc*. Its Shilov boundary is

$$S = \{ \sigma \text{ in } V ; \sigma \sigma^* = 1 \}.$$

S is isomorphic to the Lagrangian manifold (also to $U(r)/O(r)$).

Recall. (E, ω) a real symplectic vector space, of dimension $2r$.

A *Lagrangian* L is a maximal totally isotropic vector subspace of E (hence of dimension r). The *Lagrangian manifold* is the set of all lagrangians. It sits in the Grassmanian of r -subspaces in E .

The Shilov boundary S of the open unit ball D in V can be described in the following equivalent ways :

- i) S is the set of maximal tripotents
- ii) S is the set of extremal points of the closed open ball (as a convex set)
- iii) S is the set of points in the closed unit ball which are at maximal distance of the origin for the distance associated to Hermitian form τ .

III.3 Action of G on S and $S \times S$

The action of a holomorphic diffeomorphism of D always extend to some neigh'd of the closure of D . Hence the action of G extends to the closure of D . In particular, G acts on S .

Proposition 1 S is a connected compact manifold. G acts transitively on S , and S is the unique closed G -orbit in the boundary of D . K (a maximal compact subgroup of G) acts already transitively on S . The stabilizer of a point in S is a (maximal) parabolic subgroup of G .

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Proposition 2 G has a (unique) open orbit in $S \times S$.

A pair (σ, τ) in $S \times S$ in the open orbit is said to be *transverse* \triangleright

Example Let S be the Lagrangian manifold. A pair of Lagrangians (L_1, L_2) is tranverse iff $L_1 \cap L_2 = \{0\}$. The symplectic group is transitive on pairs of transverse Lagrangians (Darboux).

A pair (σ, τ) in $S \times S$ is transverse

- iff there exists a geodesic $\gamma(t)$ in D such that
$$\gamma(+\infty) = \sigma, \gamma(-\infty) = \tau.$$
- iff the Bergman kernel extends by continuity to (σ, τ) (i.e. $k(\sigma, \tau)$ is defined).

III.4 Euclidean Jordan algebra

A **Euclidean Jordan algebra** is a Euclidean vector space $(W, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ with a bilinear product $x \cdot y$ and a unit e such that

- i) $x \cdot y = y \cdot x$
- ii) $x^2(x \cdot y) = x \cdot (x^2 \cdot y)$ (weak associativity)
- iii) $e \cdot x = x \cdot e = x$
- iv) $\langle x \cdot y, z \rangle = \langle x, y \cdot z \rangle$

Example $W = \text{Sym}(r, \mathbb{R})$, $x \cdot y = 1/2(xy + yx)$, $e = \text{id}$, $\langle x \cdot y \rangle = \text{tr}(xy)$.

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Hermitification of a Euclidean Jordan algebra W .

Let \bar{W} be the complexification of W . Extend the Jordan product in a \mathbb{C} -linear way. On \bar{W} define

$$\{x, y, z\} = x \cdot (y^{\bar{}} \cdot z) + z \cdot (y^{\bar{}} \cdot x) - y^{\bar{}} \cdot (x \cdot z).$$

Then \bar{W} is a PHJTS (called the Hermitification of W).

Example. $\bar{W} = \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{C})$, $\{x, y, z\} = (xy^*z + zy^*x)$.

III.5 Tube-type domains

D is said to be of *tube type* if S is totally real (equivalently if $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} S = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V$).

Proposition 1. Let V be a PHJTS, and let D be its unit ball for the spectral norm. Then D is of tube type if and only if V is the hermitification of some Euclidean Jordan algebra.

Let W be a Euclidean Jordan algebra, w its hermitification. Then D is holomorphically equivalent to the tube $V+i\Omega$ through the *Cayley transform*, where Ω is the (interior of) the cone of squares $\{x^2, x \in V\}$. The Cayley transform extends to a dense open of S and maps it to $V+i0$.

Example 1. $V = \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{R})$

The cone Ω is the set of positive definite matrices.

The Siegel disc $\{z \in \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{C}), 1 - zz^* \gg 0\}$ is of tube type, holomorphically equivalent to the *Siegel upper half plane*

$$\{x + iy, x, y \in \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{R}), y \gg 0\}$$

through the Cayley transform $c(z) = i(1+z)(1-z)^{-1}$.

The Shilov boundary is $S = \{z \in \text{Symm}(r, \mathbb{C}), z^* = z^{-1}\}$. S is isomorphic to the Lagrangian manifold.

Example 2 The matrix unit ball $I_{p,q}$ is of tube-type iff $p=q$.

The associated PHJTS is $\text{Mat}(p,q, \mathbb{C})$. If $p=q$, then the PHJTS is the Hermitification of the Euclidean Jordan algebra

$\text{Herm}(p, \mathbb{C})$ with $x \cdot y = 1/2 (xy + yx)$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = \text{Re}(\text{tr } xy)$

The Shilov boundary is $S = U(p)$.

Proposition 2 If D is of tube-type, then S is a compact Riemannian symmetric space K/L .

III.4 Action of G on $S \times S \times S$

Proposition 4 Let D be a bounded symmetric domain of tube type. The action of G on $S \times S \times S$ has a finite number of orbits, and in particular $(r+1)$ open orbits.

Let V be the Euclidean Jordan algebra, to which D is associated. Let (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r) be a Peirce frame such that $e = c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_r$. For $0 \leq k \leq r$, let $e_k = c_1 + \dots + c_k - c_{k+1} - \dots - c_r$. Then

$$(e, -e, ie_k) \quad (0 \leq k \leq r)$$

is a set of representatives of the open orbits.

N.B. If D is not of tube-type, S is not a symmetric space of U , and there are infinitely many G -orbits and no open G -orbit in $S \times S \times S$.

In the tube-type case, S is a Riem. Symmetric space. A maximal flat torus of S is of the form

$$T = \{ \xi_1 c_1 + \xi_2 c_2 + \dots + \xi_r c_r, |\xi_j| = 1, 1 \leq j \leq r \}$$

where (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r) is Peirce frame.

Proposition 5 (KH Neeb, JLC '07) Let D be a bounded symmetric domain of tube type. Fix a maximal torus T in S . Let $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$ be in S .

Then there exists g in G such that $g(\sigma_1), g(\sigma_2), g(\sigma_3)$ belong to T .

Example. Normal form of a triplet of Lagrangians .

Let $L^{(1)}, L^{(2)}, L^{(3)}$ be three arbitrary Lagrangians in E . Then there exists a symplectic basis (e_j, f_j) of E such that

$$L^{(k)} = \text{span} \{ \cos \theta_1^{(k)} e_1 + \sin \theta_1^{(k)} f_1, \cos \theta_2^{(k)} e_2 + \sin \theta_2^{(k)} f_2, \dots, \cos \theta_r^{(k)} e_r + \sin \theta_r^{(k)} f_r \}$$

for $k=1,2,3$.

List of simple Euclidean Jordan algebras, bounded domains of tube type and their Shilov boundaries

V	D	S
Symm(r, R)	unit ball in Symm(r, C)	Lagrangian manifold
Herm(r, C)	unit ball in Mat(r, C)	U(r)
Herm(r, H)	unit ball in Skew(2r, C)	U(2r)/SU(m, H)
$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ (*)	Lie ball in \mathbb{C}^d	$(U(1) \times S^{d-1}) / \mathbb{Z}_2$
Herm(r, O)	$E_{7(-25)} / U(1)E_6$	$U(1)E_6 / F_4$

(*) $(\lambda, \mathbf{x}) \cdot (\mu, \mathbf{y}) = (\lambda + \mu + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle, \mu \mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{y})$