



GEOMETRY OF THE SHILOV BOUNDARY OF A BOUNDED SYMMETRIC DOMAIN*

JEAN-LOUIS CLERC

*Institut Elie Cartan, Nancy-Universit , CNRS, INRIA
 Campus des Aiguillettes, BP 239, 54506 Vand uvre-l s-Nancy, France*

Abstract. In the first part, the theory of bounded symmetric domains is presented along two main approaches: as special cases of Riemannian symmetric spaces of the noncompact type on one hand, as unit balls in positive Hermitian Jordan triple systems on the other hand. In the second part, an invariant for triples in the Shilov boundary of such a domain is constructed. It generalizes an invariant constructed by E. Cartan for the unit sphere in \mathbb{C}^2 and also the triple Maslov index on the Lagrangian manifold.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	12
2. Hermitian Symmetric Spaces	14
2.1. Riemannian Symmetric Spaces	14
2.2. Hermitian Symmetric Spaces	17
2.3. The Harish Chandra Embedding	18
2.4. Jordan Triple System	19
2.5. An Example: the Hermitian Symmetric Space of Type $I_{p,q}$	20
3. Bounded Symmetric Domains	23
3.1. Bergman Metric	23
3.2. Bounded Symmetric Domains	24
3.3. The Spectral Norm on \mathbb{E}	25
3.4. An Example (Continued from Section 2.5)	27
4. The Shilov Boundary of a Bounded Symmetric Domain	29

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