

Parabolic Subgroups and Induction in `atlas`

Annegret Paul

Western Michigan University

Workshop on the Atlas of Lie Groups and Representations

University of Utah, Salt Lake City

July 10 - 21, 2017

Tasks

- Given a real group $G(\mathbb{R})$, a real parabolic subgroup $P(\mathbb{R})$ of $G(\mathbb{R})$ with Levi factor $L(\mathbb{R})$, and $\pi \in \widehat{L(\mathbb{R})}$, use `atlas` to find the composition factors of $\text{Ind}_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(\pi \otimes 1)$.
- Given a θ -stable parabolic subalgebra $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{l} + \mathfrak{u}$ of \mathfrak{g} and X an irreducible representation of $L(\mathbb{R})$, compute the composition series of $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{q}}^S(X)$.

Application (one of many): Suppose π is unitary (as computed by `atlas`), then all constituents of the induced representation will be unitary as well.

“Real” Example

Example

- $G = GL(4, \mathbb{R})$, $L(\mathbb{R}) = GL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times GL(2, \mathbb{R})$
- $\pi = \sigma_3 \otimes 1$ is the (spherical) three dimensional representation of $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ with highest weight $(1, -1)$ on the first factor, trivial on the second.
- Consider $Ind_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(\sigma_3 \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$.
- Is this representation reducible? What are the constituents?
- Same questions for $Ind_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$.
- More generally, for which values of p and q and $L(\mathbb{R}) = GL(p, \mathbb{R}) \times GL(q, \mathbb{R}) \subset GL(p+q, \mathbb{R})$ is $Ind_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$ reducible?

Example (Some $A_{\mathfrak{q}}(\lambda)$ Calculations)

Given a real group $G(\mathbb{R})$ and a θ -stable parabolic subalgebra \mathfrak{q} with associated Levi subgroup $L(\mathbb{R})$,

- Construct various $A_{\mathfrak{q}}(\lambda)$ modules.
- How does the result change as we vary λ ?
- Reducibility? Unitarity? Non-zero?
- What do the modules and their constituents look like?

Complex Parabolics:

- For a complex group G , types (conjugacy classes) of parabolic subgroups are given by subsets of Π , a fixed set of simple roots.
- In `atlas`, once we define a root datum, a Borel subgroup B (and hence Π) sitting inside our complex group G is fixed.
- There is an `atlas` data type `ComplexParabolic` consisting of a pair (rd, S) . Here `rd` is a root datum, and S is a list of integers corresponding to the numbers (in `atlas` numbering) of the simple roots determining the desired parabolic.

Example ($G = GL(4, \mathbb{C})$)

Define the complex parabolic associated to our real parabolic subgroup of $GL(4, \mathbb{R})$ with $L(\mathbb{R}) = GL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times GL(2, \mathbb{R})$:

```
atlas>set G:=GL(4,R)
Variable G: RealForm
atlas> simple_roots (G)
```

Value:

```
| 1, 0, 0 |
| -1, 1, 0 |
| 0, -1, 1 |
| 0, 0, -1 |
```

Simple roots are numbered starting at 0; so we need roots 0 and 2.

```
atlas> set rd=root_datum(G)
Variable rd: RootDatum
atlas> rd
Value: simply connected adjoint root datum of Lie type 'A3.T1'
atlas> set Pc=ComplexParabolic:(rd,[0,2])
Variable Pc: (RootDatum,[int])
```

Parabolic Subgroups

For real parabolic subgroups and θ -stable parabolic subalgebras, we need to add an appropriate Cartan involution θ that

- preserves the Levi factor (determined by the subset S of Π); and
- in the real case, for each simple root α that is not in S , $\theta(\alpha)$ is negative;
- in the θ -stable case, for each simple root α that is not in S , $\theta(\alpha)$ is positive.

Parabolic Subgroups

- In `atlas`, the Cartan involution (on the fixed complex group, with **fixed, fixed, fixed** Borel, and now the fixed parabolic subgroup) is specified by a `KGB` element.
- A parabolic subgroup/-algebra can be given by a pair (S, x) , where S is a list of simple roots, and x an appropriate `KGB` element.

Questions

- *How do I know which x to choose?*
- *When are two parabolics the same (conjugate by K)?*

A different way to look at parabolics:

- A conjugacy class of complex parabolic subgroups is G/P for a fixed complex parabolic subgroup P . (Let's call this **fixed** group in `atlas`, uniquely determined by our fixed B and the set of simple roots S , P_S .)
- If θ is the involution corresponding to our chosen \mathfrak{x} , then the K_θ conjugacy class of our parabolic is determined by a K_θ -orbit on G/P_S .
- So parabolic subgroups/-algebras correspond to elements of $K_\theta \backslash G/P_S$.

We need to study these objects $K_\theta \backslash G/P_S$ for a given subset $S \subset \Pi$.

Parabolic Subgroups

- If x and y are KGB elements for the same real form $G(\mathbb{R})$, then there is a bijection/identification (canonical once you have picked a base point: conjugation by an element of G):

$$K_{\theta_x} \backslash G/P_S \leftrightarrow K_{\theta_y} \backslash G/P_S$$

Call this set just $K \backslash G/P_S$.

- Clearly $B \subset P_S$. Look at $K \backslash G/P_S$ as

P_S -orbits on $K \backslash G$.

- Each element of $K \backslash G/P_S$ is the union of B -orbits. That is, $K \backslash G/P_S$ represents a *partition* of $KGB = K \backslash G/B$.
- The KGB elements grouped together are those corresponding to “ KGB for the Levi subgroup”.

Parabolic Subgroups

The set S defines an equivalence relation on KGB generated by cross actions and Cayley transforms by roots in S :

$$K \backslash G / P_S = KGB / \sim_S$$

Example

$G(\mathbb{R}) = GL(4, \mathbb{R})$, $S = [0, 2]$. Here is KGB for $G(\mathbb{R})$:

0:	0	[C, n, C]	2	0	2	*	1	*	(0, 0, 0, 0) #0	e
1:	1	[C, r, C]	4	1	3	*	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0)	1 2 ^e
2:	1	[C, C, C]	0	5	0	*	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0)	0 1x ^e
3:	2	[C, C, C]	7	6	1	*	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0)	1 3x2 ^e
4:	2	[C, C, C]	1	8	7	*	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0)	1 1x2 ^e
5:	2	[n, C, n]	5	2	5	8	*	6	(0, 0, 0, 0)	0 2x1x ^e
6:	3	[n, C, r]	6	3	6	9	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0)	1 2x3x2 ^e
7:	3	[C, n, C]	3	7	4	*	9	*	(0, 0, 0, 0) #1	1x3x2 ^e
8:	3	[r, C, n]	8	4	8	*	*	9	(0, 0, 0, 0)	1 1 ^e 2x1x ^e
9:	4	[r, r, r]	9	9	9	*	*	*	(0, 0, 0, 0) #2	1 ^e 2x3x2 ^e

The KGP orbits are $\{0, 2\}$, $\{1, 3, 4, 7\}$, $\{5, 6, 8, 9\}$. The numbers in the sets denote the KGB elements.

Parabolic Subgroups

- In `atlas`, the data type for KGP elements is `KGPElt` or `Parabolic`; it consists of a pair (S, x) , where S is a list of simple root numbers, and x is a KGB element.
- We have $(S, x) = (T, y)$ iff $S = T$ and $x \sim_S y$.

Example (continued)

We can find all KGP elements for $G(\mathbb{R})$ and associated to a set S :

```
atlas> KGP(G, [0, 2])
Value: [[([0, 2], KGB element #2), ([0, 2], KGB element #7), ([0, 2],
                                             KGB element #9)]
```

We can find all KGB elements in the class of a Parabolic P :

```
atlas> set P=KGP(G, [0, 2])[2]
Variable P: ([int], KGBelt)
atlas> P
Value: ([0, 2], KGB element #9)

atlas> equivalence_class_of (P)
Value: [KGB element #5, KGB element #6, KGB element #8,
                                             KGB element #9]
```

```
atlas> set x=KGB(G, 6)
Variable x: KGBelt
atlas> P=([0, 2], x)
Value: true
```

Parabolic Subgroups

So which `Parabolic` is the one we want (the real parabolic subgroup)? Recall that the involution given by x

- preserves the Levi factor (determined by the subset S of Π); and
- in the real case, for each simple root α that is not in S , $\theta_x(\alpha)$ is negative;
- in the θ -stable case, for each simple root α that is not in S , $\theta_x(\alpha)$ is positive.

Each of these conditions applies to one `KGB` element in the class if and only if it applies to all of them.

Parabolic Subgroups

Suppose we have a KGP element P so that any element x in the class preserves the Levi factor. Then:

- P corresponds to a real parabolic subgroup if and only if the class of x contains the maximal element (\leftrightarrow maximally split Cartan).
- P corresponds to a θ -stable parabolic algebra if and only if the class of x contains a closed KGB orbit.

We can think of those KGP elements that correspond to neither (such as $([0, 2], KGB \text{ element } \#7)$) as generalized parabolics.

`atlas` can tell you what type of parabolic you have, or list, say, all θ -stable parabolics of a real form $G(\mathbb{R})$.

Example (continued)

```
atlas> set kgp=KGP(G,[0,2])
Variable kgp: [(int),KGBelt]
atlas> is_parabolic_theta_stable (kgp[0])
Value: true

atlas> is_parabolic_real (kgp[0])
Value: false
atlas> is_parabolic_real(kgp[2])
Value: true

atlas> theta_stable_parabolics(G)
Value: [([] ,KGB element #0), ([1],KGB element #1),
        ([0,2],KGB element #2), ([0,1,2],KGB element #9)]
```


- Once we have a suitable KGP element, it is easy to define the Levi subgroup $L(\mathbb{R}) = MA$.
- `atlas` will define it as it is embedded in $G(\mathbb{R})$. Look at the trivial representation of $L(\mathbb{R})$ to understand the embedding.

Example (continued)

```
atlas> P:=kgp[2]
Value: ([0,2],KGB element #9)
atlas> set L=Levi(P)
Variable L: RealForm
atlas> L
Value: disconnected split real group with Lie algebra
      'sl(2,R).sl(2,R).gl(1,R).gl(1,R)'
```



```
atlas> set t=trivial(L)
Variable t: Param
atlas> t
Value: final parameter(x=3,lambda=[1,-1,1,-1]/2,nu=[1,-1,1,-1]/2)
```

Real Parabolic Induction

There are several induction functions in `atlas`.

- `real_induce_standard` performs real parabolic induction of standard modules; that is, a standard module of $L(\mathbb{R})$ is mapped to a standard module of $G(\mathbb{R})$. Essentially, this is just embedding the parameter, with some ρ shift.
- `real_induce_irreducible` computes the composition series of a representation of $G(\mathbb{R})$ that is induced from an **irreducible** representation on $L(\mathbb{R})$. For this function, all parameters are taken to represent irreducible representations.
- The output is of type `ParamPol`. The function will also accept input of that type.

Example ($GL(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

First consider $Ind_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$:

```
atlas> real_induce_standard (t,G)
Value: non-dominant parameter(x=9, lambda=[3, 1, -1, -3]/2,
                                     nu=[1, -1, 1, -1]/2)
```

```
atlas> real_induce_irreducible(t,G)
Value:
1*parameter(x=9, lambda=[3, 1, -1, -3]/2, nu=[1, 1, -1, -1]/2) [0]
```

So this induced representation is irreducible. Notice that after the second induction, the parameter is made dominant.

We can define finite dimensional representations by giving their highest weight.

Example ($GL(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

A representation of $L(\mathbb{R})$ of dimension 3 with highest weight $(1, -1; 0, 0)$ is

```
atlas> set fd=finite_dimensional(L, [1, -1, 0, 0])
Variable fd: Param
atlas> fd
Value: final parameter(x=3, lambda=[3, 1, 1, -1]/2, nu=[3, -3, 1, -1]/2)
atlas> dimension(fd)
Value: 3
```

However, this is not the spherical one; it will be the one in the translation family of the trivial representation (the first factor contains the sign representation of $O(2)$).

```
atlas> set fds=parameter(L, 3, [1, -1, 1, -1]/2, [3, -3, 1, -1]/2)
Variable fds: Param
atlas> dimension(fds)
Value: 3
atlas> fd=fds
Value: false
atlas> infinitesimal_character (fd)
Value: [ 3, -3, 1, -1 ]/2
atlas> infinitesimal_character (fds)
Value: [ 3, -3, 1, -1 ]/2
```

Example ($GL(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

```
atlas> real_induce_irreducible(fd,G)
```

```
Value:
```

```
1*parameter(x=9,lambda=[5,1,-1,-1]/2,nu=[3,1,-1,-3]/2) [0]
```

```
atlas> real_induce_irreducible(fds,G)
```

```
Value:
```

```
1*parameter(x=9,lambda=[3,1,-1,-3]/2,nu=[3,1,-1,-3]/2) [0]
```

```
1*parameter(x=8,lambda=[3,1,-1,-3]/2,nu=[3,1,-2,-2]/2) [3]
```

```
1*parameter(x=6,lambda=[3,1,-1,-3]/2,nu=[2,2,-1,-3]/2) [3]
```

```
1*parameter(x=5,lambda=[3,1,-1,-3]/2,nu=[1,1,-1,-1]/1) [4]
```

Real Parabolic Induction

The function will also check whether $L(\mathbb{R})$ is indeed the Levi factor of a **real** parabolic subgroup of $G(\mathbb{R})$:

Example (continued)

Recall that the first KGP element in the list `kgp` is θ -stable. Let's try to induce the trivial representation of its Levi factor $GL(2, \mathbb{C})$:

```
atlas> set Q=kgp[0]
Variable Q: ([int],KGBelt)

atlas> set L1=Levi(Q)
Variable L1: RealForm
atlas> L1
Value: connected quasisplit real group with Lie algebra
      'sl(2,C).gl(1,C)'
```



```
atlas> t:=trivial(L)
Value: final parameter(x=1,lambda=[1,-1,1,-1]/2,nu=[1,-1,1,-1]/2)
```



```
atlas> real_induce_irreducible(t,G)
Runtime error:
  L1 is not Levi of real parabolic...
```

How does it work?

- $\pi \in \widehat{L(\mathbb{R})}$ is given by a parameter γ , $\pi = J_L(\gamma)$.
- Write $\pi = J_L(\gamma)$ as a formal sum of standard modules for $L(\mathbb{R})$:

$$J_L(\gamma) = \sum_i a_i I_L(\gamma_i), \quad a_i \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

- By Induction by Stages, for each i ,

$$I_G(\gamma_i) = \text{Ind}_{L(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(I_L(\gamma_i)).$$

Here $I_G(\gamma_i)$ really denotes the output of `real_induce_standard`; the parameter for $L(\mathbb{R})$ is embedded in $G(\mathbb{R})$, with a suitable ρ -shift.

- So we have

$$\text{Ind}_L^G(J_L(\gamma)) = \sum_i a_i I_G(\gamma_i).$$

- Compute the composition series of each standard module on the right, then the composition series of $\text{Ind}_{P(\mathbb{R})}^{G(\mathbb{R})}(\pi \otimes 1)$ (as a formal sum) is obtained as the sum with coefficients a_i .

Theta Stable Parabolic Subalgebras

To define a θ -stable parabolic subalgebra, specify a linear functional λ on a Cartan subalgebra \mathfrak{t}_0 of \mathfrak{k}_0 taking purely imaginary values. Then

$$\mathfrak{q}(\lambda) = \mathfrak{l}(\lambda) + \mathfrak{u}(\lambda)$$

is given by

$$\Delta(\mathfrak{l}, \mathfrak{t}) = \{\alpha \in \Delta(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{t}) \mid \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle = 0\}$$

$$\Delta(\mathfrak{u}, \mathfrak{t}) = \{\alpha \in \Delta(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{t}) \mid \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle > 0\}$$

- The function `parabolic(lambda, x)` will produce a θ -stable parabolic if x is a KGB element attached to the fundamental Cartan (and in the distinguished fiber).
- The weight λ must be fixed by the involution θ_x . (The last two conditions are automatic in the equal rank case.)

Example ($Sp(4, \mathbb{R})$)

Let $G(\mathbb{R}) = Sp(4, \mathbb{R})$. We can get a list of all θ -stable parabolic subalgebras:

```
atlas> G:=Sp(4,R)
Value: connected split real group with Lie algebra 'sp(4,R)'
atlas> set tsp=theta_stable_parabolics(G)
Variable tsp: [[int],KGBelt]
atlas> #tsp
Value: 10

atlas> tsp
Value: [[[]],KGB element #0),
        ([],KGB element #1),
        ([],KGB element #2),
        ([],KGB element #3),
        ([0],KGB element #2),
        ([0],KGB element #3),
        ([0],KGB element #4),
        ([1],KGB element #5),
        ([1],KGB element #6),
        ([0,1],KGB element #10)]
```

Example ($Sp(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

```
atlas> simple_roots(G)
```

```
Value:
```

```
| 1, 0 |  
| -1, 2 |
```

Root 0 is the short root. There are three parabolic subalgebras with the Levi associated to the short root. Which is which?

Let's choose a suitable KGB element. If you are used to a system where the first root is compact, choose the KGB element accordingly:

```
atlas> print_KGB(G)
```

```
...  
0: 0 [n,n] 1 2 4 5 (0,0)#0 e  
1: 0 [n,n] 0 3 4 6 (1,1)#0 e  
2: 0 [c,n] 2 0 * 5 (0,1)#0 e  
3: 0 [c,n] 3 1 * 6 (1,0)#0 e  
...
```

This will be element 2 or 3.

Example ($Sp(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

To define a parabolic with compact $L(\mathbb{R})$, choose $\lambda = (1, 1)$, say:

```
atlas> set x=KGB(G,2)
Variable x: KGBelt
atlas> set P=parabolic([1,1],x)
Parabolic is theta-stable.
Variable P: ([int],KGBelt)
atlas> P
Value: ([0],KGB element #2)
atlas> Levi(P)
Value: compact connected real group with Lie algebra 'su(2).u(1)'
```



```
atlas> tsp[4]
Value: ([0],KGB element #2)
atlas> tsp[5]
Value: ([0],KGB element #3)
atlas> tsp[6]
Value: ([0],KGB element #4)
```

Example ($Sp(4, \mathbb{R})$ continued)

```
atlas> P:=parabolic([1,-1],x)
Parabolic is theta-stable.
Value: ([0],KGB element #0)
atlas> Levi(P)
Value: connected quasisplit real group with Lie algebra
      'sl(2,R).u(1)'
```



```
atlas> P=tsp[6]
Value: true
```



```
atlas> parabolic([-1,-1],x)
Parabolic is theta-stable.
Value: ([0],KGB element #3)
```

This is the parabolic opposite the first one, with compact Levi factor.

Example ($U(2,2)$)

```
atlas> G:=U(2,2)
Variable G: RealForm
atlas> simple_roots(G)
Value:
| 1, 0, 0 |
| -1, 1, 0 |
| 0, -1, 1 |
| 0, 0, -1 |

atlas> print_KGB(G)
...
0: 0 [n,n,n] 1 2 3 10 8 6 (0,0,0,0)#0 e
1: 0 [n,c,n] 0 1 4 10 * 7 (1,1,0,0)#0 e
2: 0 [c,n,c] 2 0 2 * 8 * (0,1,1,0)#0 e
3: 0 [n,c,n] 4 3 0 11 * 6 (0,0,1,1)#0 e
4: 0 [n,n,n] 3 5 1 11 9 7 (1,1,1,1)#0 e
5: 0 [c,n,c] 5 4 5 * 9 * (1,0,0,1)#0 e

...
```

If you like to choose $\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2$ and $\epsilon_3 - \epsilon_4$ to be compact, the correct element is either 2 or 5.

Example ($U(2, 2)$ continued)

To define the algebra with $L(\mathbb{R}) = U(2, 1) \times U(0, 1)$:

```
atlas> x:=KGB(G,2)
Value: KGB element #2
atlas> P:=parabolic([1,1,1,0],x)
Parabolic is theta-stable.
Value: ([0,1],KGB element #2)

atlas> L:=Levi(P)
Value: connected quasisplit real group with Lie algebra
      'su(2,1).u(1).u(1)'
```

Next Time: θ -Stable Induction.