

Orbit Method and Nondegenerate Series

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1. If G is a reductive Lie group, then its Plancherel formula ([1], [2], [8]) involves a series of representations for each conjugacy class of Cartan subgroups. These "nondegenerate series" are realized [8] by the action of G on square integrable cohomology of partially holomorphic vector bundles over certain G -orbits on complex flag manifolds. That is similar to their realization by the Kostant-Kirillov orbit method using semisimple orbits. The differences occur when G has noncommutative Cartan subgroups, and also for representations with singular infinitesimal character, i.e. when the semisimple orbit is not regular. Recently Wakimoto [6] used possibly-nonsemisimple orbits to realize the principal series, which is the series for a maximally noncompact Cartan subgroup H , when G is a connected semisimple group and H is commutative (e.g. when G is linear). Here we use our method [8] to extend Wakimoto's procedure and realize all but a few members of every nondegenerate series of unitary representation classes for a reductive group. In the case of regular infinitesimal character there is no essential change from [8]. But in the case of singular infinitesimal character we rely on results of Ozeki and Wakimoto ([4], [6]), using nonsemisimple orbits in an interesting way.

To avoid repetition we assume some acquaintance with [8].

2. G will be a reductive Lie group of the class studied in [8] and [9]. Thus its Lie algebra

$$(2.1a) \quad \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{c} + \mathfrak{g}_1 \text{ with } \mathfrak{c} \text{ central and } \mathfrak{g}_1 = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \text{ semisimple,}$$

we assume

$$(2.1b) \quad \text{if } g \in G \text{ then } Ad(g) \text{ is an inner automorphism on } \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}},$$

and we suppose that G has a closed normal abelian subgroup Z such that

$$(2.2a) \quad Z \text{ centralizes the identity component } G_0 \text{ of } G,$$

$$(2.2b) \quad ZG_0 \text{ has finite index in } G, \text{ and}$$

$$(2.2c) \quad Z \cap G_0 \text{ is co-compact in the center } Z_{G_0} \text{ of } G_0.$$

Then the adjoint representation maps G to a closed subgroup $\bar{G} = G/Z_G(G_0)$ of