

## 255. The Decomposition of $L^2(\Gamma \backslash SL(2, \mathbf{R}))$ and Teichmüller Spaces

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(Comm. by Kunihiro KODAIRA, M. J. A., Dec. 12, 1970)

0. Let  $\Gamma$  be a discrete subgroup of  $G = SL(2, \mathbf{R})/\{\pm e\}$  and let  $\chi$  be a finite dimensional representation of  $\Gamma$  by unitary matrices. We assume that  $\Gamma \backslash G$  is compact.

It is well known that the unitary representation  $U^{\Gamma, \chi}$  of  $G$  induced from  $\chi$  can be decomposed into the discrete direct sum  $\sum_i \oplus U_i$  of irreducible unitary representations  $U_i$  of  $G$ . We call the set  $\{U_i\}$  the spectra of  $U^{\Gamma, \chi}$ .

The problem we want to study is the following<sup>1)</sup>:

*"How do the spectra of  $U^{\Gamma, \chi}$  behave when  $\Gamma$  varies?"*

Detailed proofs will appear elsewhere.

1. Let  $H = \{z = x + iy; y > 0\}$  be the complex upper half plane.  $G$  acts on  $H$  transitively by

$$g(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$$

for  $z$  in  $H$  and  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  in  $G$ .

The  $G$ -invariant metric on  $H$  is

$$ds^2 = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}.$$

Hence, the  $G$ -invariant measure on  $H$  is

$$dm(z) = \frac{dx dy}{y^2}$$

and the ring of  $G$ -invariant differential operators on  $H$  is generated by

$$(1) \quad \Delta = -y^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right).$$

2. Let  $V$  be the representation space of  $\chi$ . Consider the complex vector space  $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \chi)$  of all  $V$ -valued functions  $F$  on  $H$  which satisfy the following conditions:

(i)  $F$  is (componentwisely) measurable;

(ii)  $F(AZ) = \chi(A)F(z)$  for all  $z$  in  $H$  and  $A$  in  $\Gamma$ ;

(iii)  $\int_{\mathcal{F}} {}^t F(z) \overline{F(z)} dm(z) < \infty$  where  $\mathcal{F}$  is a measurable fundamental

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1) Note that some problems of the similar nature were also discussed by J. M. G. Fell [3].