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**Autor:** Williams, Floyd L.  
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## 2. INDUCTION AND RECIPROCITY

The notion of induced representations for finite groups was introduced in 1898 by G. Frobenius in the paper [37]. In the same paper Frobenius established what is now called the Frobenius reciprocity relation. We recall his basic construction which is fundamental in the entire theory of group representations.<sup>1)</sup>

Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $P$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $\pi$  be a representation of  $G$  on a finite dimensional vector space  $V$ . That is  $\pi: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  is a homomorphism of  $G$  into the group of non-singular endomorphisms of  $V$ . We shall also refer to  $V$  as a (left)  $G$  module. By restriction  $V$  is also a  $P$  module. Conversely there is a functor  $I$  which converts  $P$  modules to  $G$  modules: Given a  $P$  module  $W$  the  $G$  module  $IW$  is defined to be the space of functions  $f: G \rightarrow W$  such that  $f(ap) = p^{-1} \cdot f(a)$  for every  $(a, p)$  in  $G \times P$ . The action of  $G$  on  $IW$  is defined by

$$(a \cdot f)(x) = f(a^{-1}x)$$

for  $(f, a, x)$  in  $(IW) \times G \times G$ .  $IW$  is called the  $G$  module *induced* by the  $P$  module  $W$ . Induction and restriction are related in the following way.

**THEOREM 2.1** (Frobenius reciprocity relation, 1898). *If  $W$  is a  $P$  module and if  $V$  is a  $G$  module then*

$$\text{Hom}_G(V, IW) = \text{Hom}_P(V, W).$$

We wish to consider extensions or analogues of this relation in a wider context. For this it is most convenient first of all to re-describe the  $G$  module  $IW$ . The following "geometric" interpretation of  $IW$  is well-known. Consider the right action of  $P$  on  $G \times W$  given by

$$(a, w) \cdot p = (ap, p^{-1}w)$$

for  $(a, p, w)$  in  $G \times P \times W$ . Let

$$(2.2) \quad E_W = \text{orbit space } (G \times W)/P = G \times_P W.$$

Let  $\gamma: E_W \rightarrow G/P$  be the canonical (well-defined) map  $[a, w] \rightarrow aP$ , where  $[a, w]$  is the orbit of  $(a, w) \in G \times W$ . For each  $a \in G$  the map  $w \rightarrow [a, w]$  of  $W$  to  $\gamma^{-1}\{aP\}$  is a bijection. That is we may identify  $W$  as the fibre over each point of

<sup>1)</sup> For the theory of induced representations of locally compact groups see G. Mackey [55], [56].

$G/P$ .  $G$  acts naturally on  $E_W$  and  $G/P$  on the left.  $\gamma$  is an equivariant map. Let  $\Gamma(E_W)$  be the space of sections of  $E_W$ . That is  $s \in \Gamma(E_W)$  is a map from  $G/P$  to  $E_W$  satisfying  $\gamma \circ s = 1$ ; hence  $s$  maps each point to the fibre over it.  $\Gamma(E_W)$  is a left  $G$  module:

$$(2.3) \quad (a \cdot s)(x) = a \cdot s(a^{-1} \cdot x)$$

for  $(a, s, x)$  in  $G \times \Gamma(E_W) \times G/P$ . Moreover

PROPOSITION 2.4. *There is a natural  $G$  module isomorphism  $s \rightarrow f^s$  of  $\Gamma(E_W)$  onto  $IW$  such that for every  $a$  in  $G$ ,  $s(aP) = [a, f^s(a)]$ . Hence by Theorem 2.1*

$$(2.5) \quad \text{Hom}_G(V, \Gamma(E_W)) = \text{Hom}_P(V, W).$$

This sets the stage for a possible extension of Frobenius. Namely, following Bott, we consider the following data.  $G$  is a complex Lie group,  $P$  is a closed complex Lie subgroup (thus the injection  $P \rightarrow G$  is holomorphic), and  $W$  is a finite dimensional holomorphic  $P$  module (i.e. for each  $w$  in  $W$  and  $f$  in the complex dual space of  $W$  the map  $p \rightarrow f(p \cdot w)$  of  $P$  to the complex numbers is holomorphic). We define  $E_W$  exactly as above. Then  $E_W$  has the structure of a holomorphic vector bundle over the complex manifold  $G/P$ . Let  $\Gamma(E_W)$  now denote the space of  $C^\infty$  sections with the  $G$  module structure given by (2.3) and let  $\Gamma_{\text{hol}}(E_W)$  denote the  $G$  stable subspace of holomorphic sections. Since all of our data is now holomorphic the most natural question to ask, considering (2.5), is: When is it true that

$$(2.6) \quad \text{Hom}_G(V, \Gamma_{\text{hol}}(E_W)) = \text{Hom}_P(V, W)$$

for a holomorphic  $G$  module  $V$ ? (2.6) would then represent an exact holomorphic analogue of Frobenius reciprocity. It turns out that (2.6) is valid if the space  $G/P$  is sufficiently nice. For example suppose that  $G/P$  is a compact simply connected Kahler manifold. Group theoretically this means that  $G$  is a connected complex semisimple Lie group and  $P$  is a parabolic subgroup. Then it is due to Bott [12] that (2.6) is valid. In fact in [12] Bott proves considerably more: Let  $SE_W$  be the sheaf of germs of local holomorphic sections of  $E_W$  and let  $H^*(G/P, SE_W)$  be the cohomology of  $G/P$  with coefficients in  $SE_W$ . Then we have

THEOREM 2.7 (R. Bott, 1957). *Suppose  $G$  is a connected complex semisimple Lie group and  $P$  is a parabolic subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be the Lie algebra of  $P$  and let  $V, W$  be finite dimensional holomorphic  $G$  and  $P$  modules respectively. Then*

$$(2.8) \quad \text{Hom}_G(V, H^j(G/P, SE_W)) = H^j(p, p \cap \bar{p}, \text{Hom}(V, W))$$

for each  $j \geq 0$ .

The bar  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$  denotes conjugation of  $G$  with respect to a maximal compact subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  and the right hand side of (2.8) is the *relative* Lie algebra cohomology of  $p$  (in the sense of Hochschild, Serre [44]). Here  $H^j(G/P, SE_W)$ <sup>1</sup> has the  $G$  module structure induced by the left action of  $G$  on  $E_W$  and  $\text{Hom}(V, W)$  has the  $p$  module structure defined by

$$(2.9) \quad (x \cdot \phi)(v) = -\phi(x \cdot v) + x \cdot \phi(v)$$

for  $(x, \phi, v)$  in  $p \times \text{Hom}(V, W) \times V$ .

*Remarks.* (i) For  $j = 0$ ,  $H^0(p, p \cap \bar{p}, \text{Hom}(V, W))$  is independent of the subalgebra  $p \cap \bar{p}$  of  $p$  and has the value  $\text{Hom}(V, W)^P$  (the space of invariants) which is precisely  $\text{Hom}_p(V, W) = \text{Hom}_P(V, W)$  by (2.9) ( $P$  is connected). Also  $H^0(G/P, SE_W)$  is precisely  $\Gamma_{\text{hol}}(E_W)$ . Thus taking  $j = 0$  in (2.8) we get

$$\text{Hom}_G(V, \Gamma_{\text{hol}}(E_W)) = \text{Hom}_P(V, W)$$

which is (2.6). This shows that (2.8) represents a rather remarkable extension of Frobenius reciprocity to higher cohomology. Here the induction functor is  $I: W \rightarrow H^*(G/P, SE_W)$ .

(ii) As shown by Bott (2.8) is valid, more generally, for  $C$ -spaces  $G/P$  in the sense of Wang [90]. The latter need not be Kahler, as we have assumed for our purposes.

The functor  $I$  in remark (i) can be explicated by the use of differential forms: Let  $\Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  denote the space of  $E_W$  valued  $C^\infty$  differential forms on  $G/P$  of pure type  $(0, j)$ . That is

$$\omega \in \Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$$

assigns to each  $x \in G/P$  a skew-symmetric  $j$  linear map

$$\omega_x: T_x(G/P)^{\mathbb{C}} \times \dots \times T_x(G/P)^{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow (E_W)_x = \gamma^{-1}\{x\}$$

on the complexified tangent space  $T_x(G/P)^{\mathbb{C}}$  of  $G/P$  at  $x$  to the fiber  $(E_W)_x$  over  $x$  such that (a) given smooth vector fields  $X_1, \dots, X_j$  on  $G/P$  the map

$$\omega(X_1, \dots, X_j): x \rightarrow \omega_x(X_{1x}, \dots, X_{jx})$$

is  $C^\infty$ —i.e. it belongs to  $\Gamma(E_W)$  and (b) for each real number  $\theta$ ,

$$\omega(U_\theta X_1, \dots, U_\theta X_j) = e^{-\sqrt{-1}j\theta} \omega(X_1, \dots, X_j)$$

<sup>1</sup>) Since  $G/P$  is compact  $H^j(G/P, SE_W)$  is known to be finite-dimensional.

where

$$U_\theta X_l = \cos \theta X_l + \sin \theta JX_l$$

and  $J$  is the complex structure tensor on  $G/P$ . Let  $\bar{\partial}: \Lambda^{0,j} \rightarrow \Lambda^{0,j+1}$  denote, as usual, the Cauchy-Riemann operator so that  $\bar{\partial}^2 = 0$ . If  $f$  is a  $C^\infty$  function on  $G/P$  and  $X$  is a  $C^\infty$  vector field on  $G/P$  then

$$(2.10) \quad (\bar{\partial}f)(X) = \frac{1}{2} [Xf + \sqrt{-1}(JX)f].$$

Since  $\bar{\partial}^2 = 0$  let  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  denote the corresponding  $\bar{\partial}$  cohomology:

$$(2.11) \quad H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) = \frac{\ker \bar{\partial}: \Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) \rightarrow \Lambda^{0,j+1}(G/P, E_W)}{\bar{\partial}\Lambda^{0,j-1}(G/P, E_W)}.$$

By Dolbeault's theorem [35]

$$(2.12) \quad H^j(G/P, SE_W) = H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W).$$

The induced action of  $G$  on  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  is given explicitly as follows. First  $G$  acts on  $\Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  by

$$(2.13) \quad (a \cdot \omega)_x(L_1, \dots, L_j) = a \cdot \omega_{a^{-1}x}(dl_{a^{-1}x}(L_1), \dots, dl_{a^{-1}x}(L_j))$$

where

$$(a, \omega, x) \in G \times \Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) \times G/P,$$

each  $L_l \in T_x(G/P)^{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $dl_{ax}$  is the derivative of left translation  $l_a: G/P \rightarrow G/P$  on  $G/P$  at  $x$ . Note that (2.13) generalizes the action of  $G$  on

$$\Gamma(E_W) = \Lambda^{0,0}(G/P, E_W)$$

given in (2.3). Because left translation is holomorphic the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \Lambda^{0,j+1}(G/P, E_W) \\ a \downarrow & & \downarrow a \\ \Lambda^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \Lambda^{0,j+1}(G/P, E_W) \end{array}$$

is commutative for each  $a$  in  $G$ . Thus (2.13) induces a well-defined action of  $G$  on  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$ . We may now write (2.8) as

$$(2.14) \quad \text{Hom}_G(V, H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)) = H^j(p, p \cap \bar{p}, \text{Hom}(V, W)).$$

Now assume that  $W$  is in fact irreducible. The parabolic subalgebra  $p$  has a decomposition  $p = (p \cap \bar{p}) \oplus n$  into a reductive part  $p \cap \bar{p}$  and a nilpotent part  $n =$  an ideal in  $p$ . By general principles

$$\begin{aligned} H^j(p, p \cap \bar{p}, \text{Hom}(V, W)) &= H^j(n, \text{Hom}(V, W))^{p \cap \bar{p}} \\ &= H^j(n, V^* \otimes W)^{p \cap \bar{p}} = (H^j(n, V^*) \otimes W)^{p \cap \bar{p}}. \end{aligned}$$

The last statement of equality follows by the irreducibility of  $W$  since by Lie's theorem,  $W$  is a trivial  $n$  module. Now

$$(H^j(n, V^*) \otimes W)^{p \cap \bar{p}} = \text{Hom}_{p \cap \bar{p}}(W^*, H^j(n, V^*)).$$

From (2.14) we obtain (see [50]).

**THEOREM 2.15 (Bott-Kostant reciprocity, 1960).** *Let  $G, P$  be as in Theorem 2.7, let  $n$  be the nilradical of the parabolic subalgebra  $p$ , and let  $W$  be a finite dimensional irreducible holomorphic  $P$  module. Then for any finite dimensional holomorphic  $G$  module  $V$  we have*

$$(2.16) \quad \text{Hom}_G(V, H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)) = \text{Hom}_{p \cap \bar{p}}(W^*, H^j(n, V^*)).$$

Again  $p \cap \bar{p}$  is the reductive part of  $p$  where the bar denotes conjugation of  $G = K^{\mathbb{C}}$  with respect to a maximal compact subgroup  $K$ . We refer to (2.16) as "the debut of  $n$  cohomology"! Since 1960 it has played some rather important roles in both finite dimensional and infinite dimensional representation theory. There is an equivalent version of (2.16): The  $G$  module structure on  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  induced by (2.13) may be restricted to  $K$ . Let  $\hat{K}$  denote, as usual, the equivalence classes of the irreducible unitary representations of  $K$  and let  $V_{\pi}$  be the representation space of  $\pi \in \hat{K}$ . Then we have (again for  $W$  irreducible).

**THEOREM 2.17 (B. Kostant).** *The decomposition of  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  as a  $K$  module is*

$$\begin{aligned} (2.18) \quad H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) &= \sum_{\pi \in \hat{K}} V_{\pi} \otimes \text{Hom}_{p \cap \bar{p}}(W^*, H^j(n, V_{\pi}^*)) \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in \hat{K}} V_{\pi}^* \otimes \text{Hom}_{p \cap \bar{p}}(W^*, H^j(n, V_{\pi})). \end{aligned}$$

In the direct sum on the right hand side the action of  $K$  on a summand is  $\pi \otimes 1$  or  $\pi^* \otimes 1$  in the second equation.

From (2.18) (or from (2.16)) we see that the multiplicity of an irreducible  $K$  module  $V_{\pi}$  in  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  is governed precisely by the  $n$  cohomology

$H^j(n, V_\pi^*)$ . Here, by analytic continuation, we consider  $V_\pi$  also as a representation of the complex Lie algebra of  $G$ . Its  $n$  module structure is the restriction thereof to  $n$ .

*Remarks.* (i) In contrast to remark (ii) made earlier, following Theorem 2.7, Theorems (2.15) and (2.17) do require that  $G/P$  should be Kahler.

(ii) One knows that  $K$  acts transitively on  $G/P$  so that  $G/P$  is diffeomorphic to  $K/K \cap P$ .

Now Kostant in [50] has computed the Lie algebra cohomology groups  $H^j(n, V_\pi^*)$ . Two outstanding consequences of his results, among others, which we shall briefly discuss are (a) Weyl's character formula and (b) Bott's generalized Borel-Weil theorem. Suppose more generally that  $g$  is any complex semisimple Lie algebra (for example  $g$  could be the Lie algebra of  $G$  above). Let  $h \subset g$  be a Cartan subalgebra of  $g$ , let  $\Delta$  be the set of non-zero roots of  $(g, h)$ , and let  $\Delta^+$  be a choice of positive roots. The equivalence classes of finite dimensional irreducible representations of  $g$  (over the complex numbers) correspond univalently to linear

functionals  $\Lambda$  on  $h$  which satisfy the condition that  $2 \frac{(\Lambda, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)}$  is a non-negative

integer for each  $\alpha$  in  $\Delta^+$ . That is  $\Lambda$  is  $\Delta^+$  dominant integral;  $(, )$  denotes the Killing form on  $g$ . This is Cartan's highest weight theory alluded to in the introduction. Let  $\pi_\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional irreducible representation of  $g$  with corresponding highest weight  $\Lambda \in h^*$ . Its character  $X_\Lambda: h \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  is defined to be the function  $H \rightarrow \text{trace exp } \pi_\Lambda(H), H \in h$ . This definition is independent of the choice of Cartan subalgebra  $h$  since any two are conjugate. We consider the special "minimal" parabolic subalgebra  $p \subset g$  whose nilradical is

$$(2.19) \quad n = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} g_\alpha$$

and whose reductive part is  $h$  where  $g_\alpha$  is the root space of  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . That is  $p$  is just the Borel subalgebra  $h + n$ . Let  $V_\Lambda$  denote the representation space of  $\pi_\Lambda$ . Then by restriction to  $n$  we again form the Lie algebra cohomology groups  $H^j(n, V_\Lambda)$ . Let  $\theta$  denote the adjoint representation of  $h$  on  $\Lambda n^*$ . Then  $\theta \otimes \pi_\Lambda$  defines a representation of  $h$  on the cochain complex  $\Lambda n^* \otimes V_\Lambda$ . This  $h$  action commutes with the coboundary operator and therefore passes to cohomology. Applying the Euler-Poincaré principle one gets

$$(2.20) \quad \sum_{j=0}^{\dim n} (-1)^j \text{trace exp } \theta \otimes \pi_\Lambda(H) \Big|_{\Lambda^j n^* \otimes V_\Lambda} = \sum_{j=0}^{\dim n} (-1)^j \text{trace exp } \theta \otimes \pi_\Lambda(H) \Big|_{H^j(n, V_\Lambda)}$$

for each  $H$  in  $\mathfrak{h}$ . One evaluates the left hand side of (2.20) by general principles and the right hand side using Kostant's main theorem, Theorem 5.14 of [50]. Actually Theorem 5.14 of [50] gives the  $\mathfrak{h}_1$  module structure of  $H^j(n_1, V_\Lambda)$  for an arbitrary parabolic  $\mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{h}_1 + \mathfrak{n}_1$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  with reductive and nilpotent parts  $\mathfrak{h}_1, \mathfrak{n}_1$  respectively. For the derivation of Weyl's formula only the simplest case  $\mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{h} + \mathfrak{n}$  is needed, where  $\mathfrak{n}$  is given in (2.19). Thus we shall state only a special case of Kostant's result.

THEOREM 2.21 (B. Kostant, 1960). *The decomposition of  $H^j(n, V_\Lambda)$  as a  $\mathfrak{h}$  module is*

$$H^j(n, V_\Lambda) = \sum V_{\Lambda, \sigma},$$

$$\sigma \in \text{Weyl group } \mathcal{W} \text{ of } (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}) \text{ such that } l(\sigma) = j,$$

where each summand  $V_{\Lambda, \sigma}$  in the direct sum is one-dimensional and  $H \in \mathfrak{h}$  acts on  $V_{\Lambda, \sigma}$  by the scalar  $[\sigma(\Lambda + \delta) - \delta](H)$ .

Here by definition  $2\delta = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \alpha$  and  $l(\sigma)$  (the length of  $\sigma$ ) is the cardinality of the set  $\Delta^+ \cap \sigma(-\Delta^+)$ . From the remarks following (2.20) and the knowledge of  $n$  cohomology given by Theorem 2.21 one derives Weyl's famous character formula [93]:

THEOREM 2.22 (H. Weyl, 1926). *For  $H \in \mathfrak{h}$*

$$X_\Lambda(H) = \frac{\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} (\det \sigma) e^{[\sigma(\Lambda + \delta)](H)}}{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} (e^{\alpha(H)/2} - e^{-\alpha(H)/2})}.$$

The denominator is also given by the sum  $\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} (\det \sigma) e^{(\sigma\delta)(H)}$  (this fact can be proved too using  $n$  cohomology) and  $\det \sigma = (-1)^{l(\sigma)}$ . As a corollary of Theorem 2.22 one obtains Weyl's formula for the dimension of the irreducible module  $V_\Lambda$  in terms of its highest weight  $\Lambda$ . The result is

$$(2.23) \quad \dim V_\Lambda = \frac{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} (\delta, \alpha)}.$$

Kostant's result on  $n$  cohomology can also be used to derive the generalized Borel-Weil theorem. Here one may apply formula (2.18) decisively. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  now denote the Lie algebra of  $G$ . Extend a maximal abelian subalgebra of the Lie algebra of  $K$  to a Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Again let  $\Delta^+ \subset \Delta$  be a choice of positive roots where  $\Delta$  is the set of non-zero roots of  $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$  and let  $2\delta = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \alpha$ .



We choose the parabolic  $P$  such that its Lie algebra  $p$  contains the Borel subalgebra  $h + \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} g_{-\alpha} \cdot h$  is also, a Cartan subalgebra of the reductive Lie algebra  $p \cap \bar{p}$  so that we have the decompositions

$$(2.24) \quad \begin{aligned} p &= (p \cap \bar{p}) \oplus n, & p \cap \bar{p} &= h + \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})} g_{\alpha} \\ n &= \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} \sum_{-\Delta(p \cap \bar{p})} g_{-\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$  is the set of roots of  $(p \cap \bar{p}, h)$ .

Let  $W$  be an irreducible holomorphic  $P$  module. Then  $W$  is an irreducible  $p \cap \bar{p}$  module thereby such that  $n \cdot W = 0$ . We let  $\Lambda$  denote its highest weight relative to the positive system  $\Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$  for  $p \cap \bar{p}$ . Applying Kostant's cohomology theorem to (2.18) one obtains (see [12], [50]).

**THEOREM 2.25 (R. Bott, 1957).** *The spaces  $H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W)$  vanish for all but at most one  $j$ . If*

$$H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,j_0}(G/P, E_W) \neq 0$$

*then  $H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,j_0}(G/P, E_W)$  is an irreducible  $K$  module.*

More precisely we have the following. Let  $\Lambda$  be the highest weight of  $W$  (as above) relative to the positive roots in the reductive part of  $P$ . If  $(\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) = 0$  for some  $\alpha$  in  $\Delta$  then  $H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) = 0$  for every  $j$ . If  $(\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) \neq 0$  for each  $\alpha$  in  $\Delta$  (i.e.  $\Lambda + \delta$  is *regular*) there is a unique element  $\sigma$  in the Weyl group of  $(g, h)$  such that  $(\sigma(\Lambda + \delta), \alpha) > 0$  for every  $\alpha \in \Delta^+$ . Then  $H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,j}(G/P, E_W) = 0$  for  $j \neq l(\sigma)$  where again  $l(\sigma)$  is the length of  $\sigma$  (see remarks following Theorem 2.21). Moreover  $H_{\bar{\delta}}^{0,l(\sigma)}(G/P, E_W)$  is an irreducible  $K$  module (= an irreducible  $g$  module since  $g$  is the complexification of the Lie algebra of  $K$ ) with highest weight  $\sigma(\Lambda + \delta) - \delta$  relative to  $\Delta^+$ .

*Remarks.* (i) By definition of  $\sigma$  it follows that

$$\sigma^{-1}\Delta^- \cap \Delta^+ = \{\alpha \in \Delta^+ \mid (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) < 0\}.$$

Also since  $\Lambda$  is a highest weight  $(\Lambda, \alpha) \geq 0$  for

$$\alpha \in \Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p}) \Rightarrow (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) > 0$$

for

$$\alpha \in \Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p}).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\{\alpha \in \Delta^+ \mid (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) < 0\} \\ &= \{\alpha \in \Delta^+ - (\Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})) \mid (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) < 0\} \end{aligned}$$

so that  $l(\sigma)$  in Theorem 2.25 has the value

$$|\{\alpha \in \Delta^+ - (\Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})) \mid (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) < 0\}|^1).$$

$$\Delta^+ - \Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$$

is the set of roots in the nilradical of the "opposite" parabolic  $\bar{p}$ . Since

$$(\sigma(\Lambda + \delta), \sigma\alpha) = (\Lambda + \delta, \alpha) > 0$$

for  $\alpha \in \Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$  (as we have just seen) we also conclude that the Weyl group element  $\sigma$  in Theorem 2.25 satisfies

$$\Delta^- \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p}) \subset \sigma^{-1} \Delta^-.$$

(ii) The irreducible holomorphic  $P$  modules  $W$  in the statement of Theorem 2.25 can be obtained as follows. Start with an arbitrary irreducible representation  $\pi$  of  $P \cap K$  on a complex vector space  $W$ . Since  $p \cap \bar{p}$  is the complexification of the Lie algebra of  $P \cap K$ ,  $\pi$  defines a unique irreducible representation  $\pi$  on  $p$  such that  $\pi(n) = 0$ . This infinitesimal representation can be "integrated" to a representation of  $P$  since  $P$  and  $P \cap K$  have the same fundamental groups. Thus every irreducible representation  $\pi$  of  $P \cap K$  extends uniquely to an irreducible holomorphic representation of  $P$ . The highest weight  $\Lambda$  of  $\pi$  is integral and  $\Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$  dominant. Conversely if  $G$  is simply connected, any integral  $\Lambda \in h^*$  which is  $\Delta^+ \cap \Delta(p \cap \bar{p})$  dominant is the highest weight of irreducible representation of  $P \cap K$  and hence is the highest weight of an irreducible holomorphic representation of  $P$ .

(iii) Suppose in particular  $G$  is simply connected,  $p$  is chosen to be

$$h + \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} g_{-\alpha},$$

and that  $\Lambda$  is  $\Delta^+$  dominant integral. Then in Theorem 2.25  $\sigma = 1$  so that the irreducible  $K, G$  or  $g$  module with highest weight  $\Lambda$  is given by  $H_{\theta}^{0,0}(G/P, E_W) = \text{space of holomorphic sections of the line bundle } E_W$ . Indeed  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} W = 1$  since in this case  $P \cap K$  is abelian. This gives the geometric realization of  $V_{\Lambda}$  [11].

<sup>1)</sup>  $|S|$  denotes the cardinality of a set  $S$ .