

# Geometric Calculation of the Invariant Integral of Classical Groups

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## Abstract

An affine  $k$ -group  $G = \text{Spec } A$  is semisimple if and only if  $A^*$  splits into the form  $A^* = k \times B^*$  as  $k$ -algebras, where the first projection  $\pi_1: A^* \rightarrow k$  is the morphism  $\pi_1(w) := w(1)$  ([2, Th. 2.6]). The linear form  $w_G := (1, 0) \in k \times B^* = A^*$  will be referred to as the *invariant integral* of  $G$ .

In the theory of invariants the calculation of the invariant integral  $w_G$  is of great interest, because it yields the calculation of the invariants of any representation. The aim of this article is the explicit calculation of  $w_G$  when  $G = Sl_n, Gl_n, O_n, Sp_{2n}$  ( $\text{char } k = 0$ ) by geometric arguments and by means of the Fourier transform, which is defined below. Although  $G$  is not a compact group, it is possible to define the invariant integral of  $G$ , the Fourier transform, the convolution product and to prove the Parseval identity, the inversion formula, etc.

Let  $A_i^*$  be simple (and finite)  $k$ -algebras and let  $A^* = \prod_i A_i^*$ . On every  $A_i^*$ , one has the non-singular trace metric and its associated polarity. Hence, one obtains a morphism of  $A^*$ -modules  $\phi: A = \bigoplus_i A_i \hookrightarrow \prod_i A_i^* = A^*$ . If  $G = \text{Spec } A$  is a semisimple affine  $k$ -group and  $*$ :  $A \rightarrow A$ ,  $a \mapsto a^*$  is the morphism induced by the morphism  $G \rightarrow G$ ,  $g \mapsto g^{-1}$ , we prove that  $\phi$  is the morphism

$$A \rightarrow A^*, a \mapsto w_G(a^* \cdot -)$$

where  $w_G(a^* \cdot -)(b) := w_G(a^* \cdot b)$ . We will call  $\phi$  the Fourier transform. The product operation on  $A^*$  defines, via the Fourier transform, a product on  $A$ , which is the *convolution product* in the classical examples.

Let us consider a system of coordinates in  $G$ , that is, let us consider  $G = \text{Spec } A$  as a closed subgroup of a semigroup of matrices  $M_n = \text{Spec } B$ . Then  $A$  is the quotient of  $B$  by the ideal  $I$  of the functions of  $M_n$  vanishing on  $G$ . Hence,  $A^*$  is a subalgebra of  $B^*$  and

one has that  $k \cdot w_G = A^{*G} = \{w \in B^{*G} : w(I) = 0\}$ . Moreover,  $B^G$  (which is the ring of functions of  $M_n/G$ ), coincides essentially with  $B^{*G}$ , via the Fourier transform. Finally, we prove that given  $w \in B^{*G}$ , the condition  $w(I) = 0$  is equivalent to  $w(I^G) = 0$ , which is a finite system of equations “in each degree”.

## References

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