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## The Topology of the Spectrum for Gelfand Pairs on Lie Groups.

#### FABIO FERRARI RUFFINO

**Sunto.** – Data una coppia di Gelfand di gruppi di Lie, identifichiamo lo spettro con un opportuno sottoinsieme di  $\mathbb{C}^n$  e dimostriamo l'equivalenza tra la topologia di Gelfand e la topologia euclidea.

**Summary.** – Given a Gelfand pair of Lie groups, we identify the spectrum with a suitable subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and we prove the equivalence between Gelfand topology and euclidean topology.

#### 1. - Introduction.

Let (G,K) be a Gelfand pair with G a connected Lie group and K a compact subgroup. The Gelfand spectrum  $\Sigma$  of  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$ , the commutative convolution algebra of bi-K-invariant integrable functions on G, is identified, as a set, with the set of bounded spherical functions. The Gelfand topology on  $\Sigma$  is, by definition, the weak-\* topology, which coincides with the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets.

Since G is a connected Lie group, the spherical functions on G are characterized as the joint eigenfunctions of the algebra  $\mathbb{D}(G/K)$  of differential operators on G/K invariant by left G-translation. Being this algebra finitely generated, we idenfity  $\Sigma$  with a subset of  $\mathbb{C}^s$  assigning to each function the s-tuple of its eigenvalues with respect to a finite set of generators. Hence one can define on  $\Sigma$  also the Euclidean topology induced from  $\mathbb{C}^s$ . In this article we prove that the two topologies coincide.

#### 2. - Gelfand pairs and spherical functions.

We briefly recall the general theory of Gelfand pairs, that can be found in [4]. Let  $(G, \cdot)$  be a locally compact group, with a fixed left Haar measure dx. Let  $K \leq G$  be a compact subgroup with normalized Haar measure dk.

Definition 1. – A function  $f: G \to \mathbb{C}$  is said to be bi-invariant under K if it is constant on double cosets of K, i.e., if:

$$f(k_1xk_2) = f(x) \quad \forall k_1, k_2 \in K, \ \forall x \in G$$

Let  $C_c(G)^{\natural}$  (resp.  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$ ) be the set of continuous compactly-supported (resp.  $L^1$ ) functions  $f: G \to \mathbb{C}$  that are bi-invariant under K. It is easy to verify that it is a subalgebra of  $C_c(G)$  (resp. of  $L^1(G)$ ) with respect to the convolution in G.

DEFINITION 2. – (G, K) is said to be a Gelfand pair if  $C_c(G)^{\natural}$  is a commutative algebra.

One can easily prove that  $C_c(G)^{\natural}$  is dense in  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$ , therefore  $C_c(G)^{\natural}$  is a commutative algebra if and only if  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  is.

Given a function  $\varphi \in C(G)$  (not necessarily compactly-supported), we consider the linear functional:

$$\chi_{\varphi}: C_c(G) \to \mathbb{C}$$

$$\chi_{\varphi}(f) = \int_G f(x)\varphi(x^{-1})dx$$

DEFINITION 3. – A function  $\varphi \in C(G)$ ,  $\varphi \neq 0$ , is said to be spherical if it is biinvariant under K and  $\chi_{\varphi}$  is a character of  $C_c(G)^{\natural}$ , i.e.:

$$\chi_{\varphi}(f * g) = \chi_{\varphi}(f) \cdot \chi_{\varphi}(g) \quad \forall f, g \in C_c(G)^{\natural}$$

One proves that  $\varphi$  is spherical if and only if:

(1) 
$$\int\limits_K \varphi(xky)dk = \varphi(x)\varphi(y) \quad \forall x,y \in G$$

(see [4] prop. I.3 p. 319). In particular, this implies that  $\varphi(1_G) = 1$ .

THEOREM 1. – The dual space of  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  is  $L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$ . In fact, every continuous functional on  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  has the form:

$$\chi_{\varphi}: f \to \int_G f(x) \varphi(x^{-1}) dx$$

with  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$  unique and such that  $\|\chi_{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ .

PROOF. – If  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$ ,  $\chi_{\varphi}$  is a continuous functional on  $L^{1}(G)$ , hence on its closed subspace  $L^{1}(G)^{\natural}$ , and  $\|\chi_{\varphi}\| \leq \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ .

For the converse, let  $\chi$  be a continuous functional on  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$ . By the Hahn-Banach theorem, we can extend  $\chi$  to all of  $L^1(G)$  without alterating its norm. So, being  $L^{\infty}(G)$  the dual of  $L^1(G)$ , we have:

$$\chi(f) = \int_{C} f(x)\psi(x^{-1}) dx$$

for some  $\psi \in L^{\infty}(G)$ , with  $\|\chi\| = \|\psi\|_{\infty}$ . Let  $\varphi = \psi^{\dagger}$  be the radialization of  $\psi$ , i.e.:

(2) 
$$\psi^{\sharp}(x) = \iint_{K \times K} \psi(k_1 x k_2) \, dk_1 dk_2$$

It is easy to see that  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$ , and  $\|\varphi\|_{\infty} \leq \|\psi\|_{\infty} = \|\chi\|$ . Moreover,  $\psi$  and  $\varphi$  induce the same functional on  $L^{1}(G)^{\natural}$ . In fact, if  $f \in L^{1}(G)^{\natural}$ , we have:

$$\int_{G} f(x)\varphi(x^{-1})dx = \int_{G} f(x) \iint_{K \times K} \psi(k_{1}x^{-1}k_{2})dk_{1}dk_{2}dx$$

$$= \iint_{K \times K} \int_{G} f(x)\psi(k_{1}x^{-1}k_{2})dxdk_{1}dk_{2}$$

$$= \iint_{K \times K} \int_{G} f(k_{2}xk_{1})\psi(x^{-1})dxdk_{1}dk_{2}$$

$$= \iint_{G} f(x)\psi(x^{-1})dx$$
(3)

Hence every continuous functional on  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  has the form  $\chi_{\varphi}$  for  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$ , with  $\|\varphi\|_{\infty} \leq \|\chi_{\varphi}\|$ . Since we have also proved that  $\|\chi_{\varphi}\| \leq \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ , we can conclude that  $\|\chi_{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ . We now prove that  $\varphi$  is unique: by linearity of  $\chi_{\varphi}$  in  $\varphi$ , we have to prove that  $\chi_{\varphi} = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi = 0$ . But  $\chi_{\varphi} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \|\chi_{\varphi}\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow \|\varphi\|_{\infty} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \varphi = 0$ .  $\square$ 

THEOREM 2. (See [4] Th. I.5 p. 320 or [7] Lemma 3.2 p. 408). – An element  $\varphi$  of  $L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$  defines a character of  $L^{1}(G)^{\natural}$  if and only if  $\varphi$  is a bounded spherical function.

Corollary 3. – A bounded spherical function has  $\infty$ -norm equal to 1.

PROOF. – If  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$  is spherical, it determines a character  $\chi_{\varphi}$  of  $L^{1}(G)^{\natural}$ , which is a commutative Banach algebra, with  $\|\chi_{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ . Hence,  $\|\varphi\|_{\infty} = 1$ .  $\square$ 

Let  $\Sigma$  be the spectrum of  $L^1(G)^{\sharp}$ , i.e., for the previous theorem, the set of bounded spherical functions. We define the Fourier spherical transform

(see [4] p. 333):

$$\hat{f}: \Sigma \to \mathbb{C}$$

$$\hat{f}(\varphi) = \chi_{\varphi}(f) = \int_{G} f(x)\varphi(x^{-1}) dx$$

We can introduce on  $\Sigma$  the *Gelfand topology*, i.e., the weak-\* topology.

Theorem 4. – The Gelfand topology on  $\Sigma$  is equal to the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets (or locally uniform convergence).

(The proof is similar to the one given in [8] p. 10-11.)

#### 3. - The case of Lie groups.

If G and K are Lie groups, we can characterize Gelfand pairs and spherical functions by a differential point of view. Given a differential operator D on a manifold M (see [7] p. 239) and a diffeomorphism  $\phi$  of M, we say that D is  $\phi$ -invariant if  $D(f \circ \phi) = Df \circ \phi \ \forall f \in C_C^{\infty}(M)$ .

On a Lie group G we have a special family of diffeomorphisms, the left translations by elements of G:  $\phi_g(x) = gx$ . Remembering that a Lie group always admits an *analytic* structure compatible with the operations, we can construct a unique analytic structure also on the space of left cosets G/K (with the quotient topology) such that the G-action on G/K:

$$L:G\times G/K\to G/K$$

$$L(x,gK)=xgK$$

is analytic (see [6] p. 113).

Let  $C_K^{\infty}(G)$  be the set of functions in  $C^{\infty}(G)$  such that f(xk) = f(x)  $\forall k \in K, g \in G$ . We have an isomorphism of algebras between  $C^{\infty}(G/K)$  and  $C_K^{\infty}(G)$  given by the projection  $\pi$ .

We consider three algebras of differential operators (see [7] p. 274-287 and [6] p. 389-398):

 $\mathbb{D}(G) = \{ \text{diff. op. on } G \text{ invariant by left } G \text{-translation} \}$ 

 $\mathbb{D}_K(G) = \{ \text{diff. op. in } \mathbb{D}(G) \text{ invariant also by right } K\text{-translation} \}$ 

 $\mathbb{D}(G/K) = \{ \text{diff. op. on } G/K \text{ invariant by left } G\text{-translation} \}$ 

We also consider the algebra:

$$\mathbb{D}_K^K(G) = \mathbb{D}_K(G)/A, \quad A = \{D \in \mathbb{D}_K(G) : Df = 0 \ \forall f \in C_K^\infty(G)\}$$

We can think of  $\mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$  as the algebra of differential operators in  $\mathbb{D}_K(G)$  acting only on  $C_K^\infty(G)$ : infact, if D and E coincide on  $C_K^\infty(G)$ , we have  $D-E\in A$ .

One can prove that  $\mathbb{D}_{K}^{K}(G) \cong \mathbb{D}(G/K)$ , with the isomorphism given by the projection  $\pi$  (see [6] lemma 2.2 p. 390).

THEOREM 5. (See [7] p. 485 ex. 13). – Let G be a connected Lie group and let K be a compact subgroup. Then, (G,K) is a Gelfand pair if and only if  $\mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$  is a commutative algebra.

THEOREM 6. (See [7] prop. 2.2 p. 400). – Let (G, K) be a Gelfand pair of Lie groups and  $f \in C(G)$ . Then, f is spherical if and ony if:

- $f \in C^{\infty}(G)^{\natural}$ ;
- $f(1_G) = 1$ ;
- f is an eigenfunction of all the operators in  $\mathbb{D}_{K}^{K}(G)$ :

$$Df = \lambda_D f \quad \forall D \in \mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$$

Remark. – The proof of the theorem shows that a spherical function is necessarily *analytic*.

It can be proved that, being K compact,  $\mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$  is a *finitely-generated* algebra (see [6] cor. 2.8 p. 395 and th. 5.6 p. 421). Let  $D_1, ..., D_s$  be generators. Of course,  $\varphi$  is an eigenfunction of all the operators in  $\mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$  if and only if it is an eigenfunction of the generators. In this way, we can associate to each spherical function the s-uple of eigenvalues  $(\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_s)$  with respect to the generators. We can also prove that this association is injective, because the analyticity implies that two spherical functions having the same eigenvalues  $(\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_s)$  must coincide (see [7] cor. 2.3 p. 402).

#### 4. - The topology of the spectrum.

In this way, we identify a spherical function, and in particular a bounded one, with a point in  $\mathbb{C}^s$ . So we identify the spectrum  $\Sigma$  of  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  with a subset  $A\subseteq \mathbb{C}^s$ . Now, on  $\Sigma$  we have the Gelfand topology, and on A we have the induced euclidean topology. It is natural to ask if these two topologies coincide.

LEMMA 7 (See [3] p. 218). – Let X be a topological space such that every point has a countable fundamental system of neighborhoods. Then a subset of X is closed if and only if it is sequentially closed.

In particular, two such topologies coincide if and only if they induce the same notion of convergence on sequences.  $\Box$ 

Lemma 8. –  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  is separable.

PROOF. – We have only to prove that  $L^1(G)$  is separable, because a subset of a separable space is separable (see [1] prop. III.22 p. 47). To see this, we choose a denumerable base of G (which exists by definition of differential manifold) and we consider the subspace generated by the characteristic functions of these basesets. Then we can argue as for  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  (see [1] Th. IV.13 p. 62).

Remark 9. – Being K compact, one can construct on G/K a riemannian metric invariant by the left action of G: hence, Laplace-Beltrami operator  $\Delta$  with respect to this metric is invariant by left G-translations (see [6] Prop. 2.1 p. 387), i.e.,  $\Delta \in \mathbb{D}(G/K)$ . This implies that, if  $\varphi$  is a spherical function,  $\pi: G \to G/K$  is the projection and  $\varphi^{\pi} = \varphi \circ \pi^{-1}$ , then  $\varphi^{\pi}$  is an eigenfunction of  $\Delta$ , which is an elliptic operator.

THEOREM 10. – The induced euclidean topology on A and the Gelfand topology on  $\Sigma$  coincide under the bijection  $\varphi \in \Sigma \longleftrightarrow (\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_s) \in A$ .

PROOF. – Of course A is a metric space, so every point of A has a denumerable fundamental system of neighborhoods. By corollary 3,  $\Sigma \subseteq B\left(\left(L^1(G)^{\natural}\right)'\right)$  (where B is the unit ball). Being  $L^1(G)^{\natural}$  separable for lemma 8, the weak-\* topology is metrizable on the unit ball (see [1] Th. III.25 p. 48), in particular the Gelfand topology on  $\Sigma$  is metrizable. So, applying lemma 7, we have to prove that the two topologies we are considering induce the same notion of convergence.

Let  $\{\varphi_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of spherical functions, and let  $\mathbb{D}_K^K(G) = \langle D_1, \dots, D_s \rangle$ . Let,  $\forall i \in \{1, ..., s\}$ :

$$D_i \varphi_n = \lambda_{i,n} \varphi_n$$

$$D_i \varphi = \lambda_i \varphi$$

We have to prove that if  $\varphi_n \to \varphi$  locally uniformly, then  $\lambda_{i,n} \to \lambda_i \ \forall i \in \{1,..,s\}$ . But  $D_i \varphi_n(1_G) = \lambda_{i,n} \varphi_n(1_G) = \lambda_{i,n}$  and similarly  $D_i \varphi(1_G) = \lambda_i$ . So, being  $D_1,...,D_s$  generators, we have to prove that:

$$\varphi_n o arphi ext{ loc. unif.} \Rightarrow D arphi_n(1_G) o D arphi(1_G), \quad orall D \in \mathbb{D}_K^K(G)$$

If f is a spherical function, it is continuous and non-zero by hypotesis, so it is easy to construct a function  $\rho \in C_c^{\infty}(G)$  such that:

$$\int_{G} f(x)\rho(x)dx \neq 0$$

(We have to choose a point  $x_0 \in G$  such that  $f(x_0) \neq 0$ , choose by continuity a neighborhood  $U(x_0)$  such that  $\Re f$  or  $\Im f$  has constant sign on U, and construct  $\rho \geq 0$  such that supp  $(\rho) \subseteq U$  and  $\rho(x_0) = 1$ ). So we have, by the formula (1):

$$f(x) \int_{G} f(y)\rho(y) \, dy = \int_{G} \rho(y) \left( \int_{K} f(xky) \, dk \right) dy$$
$$= \int_{K} \int_{G} \rho(y) f(xky) \, dy dk = \int_{K} \int_{G} \rho(k^{-1}x^{-1}y) f(y) \, dy dk$$
$$= \int_{G} \left( \int_{K} \rho(k^{-1}x^{-1}y) dk \right) f(y) \, dy$$

Concretely, the last integral in dy is not extended to all of G: indeed, the domain of integration is the set of y such that  $\exists k \in K : k^{-1}x^{-1}y \in \operatorname{supp}(\rho)$ , i.e.,  $x \cdot K \cdot \operatorname{supp}(\rho)$ , which is compact because the product in G is continuous.

So, if we restrict x to an open neighborhood V of  $1_G$  with  $\overline{V}$  compact, we can assume that, for all such x, the domain of integration is  $\overline{V} \cdot K \cdot \text{supp}(\rho)$ . We put:

$$\begin{split} C &= \overline{V} \cdot K \cdot \operatorname{supp} \left( \rho \right) \\ A &= \frac{1}{\displaystyle \int\limits_{G} f(y) \rho(y) \, dy} \\ \psi(x,y) &= \int\limits_{K} \rho(k^{-1}x^{-1}y) dk \end{split}$$

C is compact,  $A \neq 0$  and, being K compact,  $\psi(x,y) \in C^{\infty}(G \times G)$ . So, in particular,  $\psi(\cdot,y) \in C^{\infty}(V) \ \forall y \in C$ . We have, for  $D \in \mathbb{D}(G)$ :

$$\begin{split} f|_{V}(x) &= A \int_{C} \psi(x,y) f(y) \, dy \\ Df|_{V}(x) &= A \int_{C} \left[ D^{(x)} \psi(x,y) \right] f(y) \, dy \\ Df|_{V}(1_{G}) &= A \int_{C} \eta_{D}(y) f(y) \, dy \end{split}$$

with  $\eta_D(y) = \left(D^{(x)}\psi(x,y)|_{x=1_G}\right)$ . But  $\eta_D(y)$  is a continuous function, indeed  $\psi \in C^{\infty}(G \times G)$ , so  $D^{(x)}\psi(x,y) \in C^{\infty}(G \times G)$ , and, composing with the immersion  $y \to (1_G,y)$  we still obtain a  $C^{\infty}(G)$  function. So, the restriction of  $\eta_D$  to C is still continuous.

So, applying the previous formula to  $\varphi_n$  and  $\varphi$ , we obtain:

$$Darphi_n(1_G) = A_n \int\limits_{C_n} \eta_{n,D}(y) arphi_n(y) \, dy$$

$$D\varphi(1_G) = A \int_C \eta_D(y) \varphi(y) \, dy$$

But, by construction, we can suppose  $\eta_{n,D}=\eta_D$ : in fact, we can begin the construction with  $\rho_n=\rho$ . For this, being  $\varphi_n(1_G)=\varphi(1_G)=1$ , we choose a neighborhood  $U(1_G)$  with compact closure such that  $\Re\varphi|_U\geq\delta>0$ . Then, being by hypotesis  $\varphi_n|_U\to\varphi|_U$  uniformly, we can suppose that  $\Re\varphi_n|_U>0\ \forall n\in\mathbb{N}$ . So we take  $\rho_n=\rho$  such that  $\rho(1_G)=1$  and  $\rho=0$  outside U. From this we deduce that  $\eta_{n,D}=\eta_D$  and  $C_n=C$ .

If  $\varphi_n \to \varphi$  uniformly on compact sets, in particular uniformly on C, being  $\eta_D$  continuous and hence bounded on C, we have that  $\eta_D \cdot \varphi_n \to \eta_D \cdot \varphi$  uniformly on C. So  $\int_C \eta_D(y)\varphi_n(y)\,dy \to \int_C \eta_D(y)\varphi(y)\,dy$ . Moreover,  $A_n \to A$ , in fact:

$$\begin{split} \left| \int_{G} \varphi_{n}(x) \rho(x) dx - \int_{G} \varphi(x) \rho(x) dx \right| &\leq \int_{G} \left| \varphi_{n}(x) - \varphi(x) \right| \rho(x) dx \\ &= \int_{\text{supp} \, (\rho)} \left| \varphi_{n}(x) - \varphi(x) \right| \rho(x) dx \leq K \int_{\text{supp} \, (\rho)} \left| \varphi_{n}(x) - \varphi(x) \right| dx \to 0 \end{split}$$

So  $D\varphi_n(1_G) \to D\varphi(1_G)$ .

For the converse, we know that  $\Sigma\subseteq B\left(\left(L^1(G)^{\natural}\right)'\right)$ , which is compact for the weak-\* topology by the Alaoglu-Banach theorem (see [1] Th. III.15 p. 42). Being the Gelfand topology metrizable on  $B\left(\left(L^1(G)^{\natural}\right)'\right)$ , compactness is equivalent to compactness by sequences (see [2] prop. 4.4 p. 188). We indicate with  $\stackrel{\bullet}{\to}$  the convergence with respect to the euclidean topology on A. So let us suppose that  $\{\varphi_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}\subseteq \Sigma$  is such that  $\varphi_n\stackrel{\bullet}{\to}\varphi$ . By compactness, we can extract a convergent subsequence (with respect to the Gelfand topology)  $\varphi_{n_k}\to \tilde{\varphi}$ , with  $\tilde{\varphi}\in B((L^1(G)^{\natural})')$ . But necessarily  $\tilde{\varphi}\in \Sigma\cup\{0\}$ : indeed,  $\chi_{\varphi_{n_k}}(f*g)\to\chi_{\tilde{\varphi}}(f*g)$  by definition on Gelfand topology, but  $\chi_{\varphi_{n_k}}(f*g)=\chi_{\varphi_{n_k}}(f)\cdot\chi_{\varphi_{n_k}}(g)\to\chi_{\tilde{\varphi}}(f)\cdot\chi_{\tilde{\varphi}}(g)$ .

By remark 9, the functions  $\varphi_n^{\pi}$  are solutions of the equation:

$$(\Delta - \lambda_{\Delta,n})\varphi_n^{\pi} = 0$$

with  $\Delta$  elliptic. Morover,  $\lambda_{\Delta,n} \to \lambda_{\Delta}$  with  $\lambda_{\Delta}$  defined by  $\Delta \varphi^{\pi} = \lambda_{\Delta} \varphi^{\pi}$ . Choosing a local chart  $(U, \xi)$  in the origin of G/K, we have, by [5] Th. 8.32 p. 210, with  $\Omega = U$ ,  $\Omega' \subseteq \overline{\Omega'} \subseteq \Omega$ , f = g = 0, a = 0 and denoting by  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathfrak{s}}$  the Sobolev norm of order s:

$$\|(\varphi_n^{\pi} \circ \xi^{-1})|_{\xi(O)}\|_1 \le C(\|(\varphi_n^{\pi} \circ \xi^{-1})|_{\xi(O)}\|_0) = C$$

and one can easily verify that C is independent by n because  $\lambda_{A,n} \to \lambda_A$ , hence the

sequence  $\{\lambda_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is bounded. This implies that the functions  $\varphi_n^\pi|_{\varOmega'}$ , and in particular the functions  $\varphi_{n_k}^\pi|_{\varOmega'}$ , are equicontinuous and, by Arzela-Ascoli theorem (see [9] Th. 11.28 p. 245), there is a subsequence  $\varphi_{n_{k_h}}^\pi|_{\varOmega'} \to \psi^\pi$  locally uniformly on G/K. It is easy to deduce from this that  $\varphi_{n_{k_h}}|_{\pi^{-1}(\varOmega')} \to \psi$  locally uniformly on G. In particular,  $\psi(1_G)=1$  because  $\varphi_{n_{k_h}}(1_G)=1 \ \forall k\in\mathbb{N}$ . We can choose  $\varOmega''\subseteq \overline{\varOmega''}\subseteq \pi^{-1}(\varOmega')$  neighborhood of  $1_G$  such that  $\Re\psi|_{\varOmega''}\geq \delta>0$ : in particular,  $\varphi_{n_{k_h}}|_{\varOmega''} \to \psi|_{\varOmega''}$  uniformly. Then, if  $\chi_{\varOmega''}$  is the characteristic function of  $\varOmega''$ , we consider the function:

$$\xi(x) = (\chi_{\Omega''})^{\natural}(x^{-1})$$

with  $(\chi_{\Omega''})^{\natural}$  defined according to formula (2) pag. 3. We have:

$$\begin{split} \hat{\xi}(\varphi_{n_{k_h}}) &= \int_G \xi(x) \varphi_{n_{k_h}}(x^{-1}) dx = \int_G (\chi_{\varOmega''})^{\natural} (x^{-1}) \varphi_{n_{k_h}}(x^{-1}) dx \\ &= \int_G (\chi_{\varOmega''})^{\natural} (x) \varphi_{n_{k_h}}(x) dx = \int_G \chi_{\varOmega''}(x) \varphi_{n_{k_h}}^{\natural} (x) dx \\ &= \int_G \chi_{\varOmega''}(x) \varphi_{n_{k_h}}(x) dx = \int_{\varOmega''} \varphi_{n_{k_h}}(x) dx \\ &\Re \left[ \hat{\xi}(\varphi_{n_{k_h}}) \right] \to \int_{\varOmega''} \Re \psi(x) dx \geq \delta |\varOmega''| > 0 \end{split}$$

Hence, by definition of Gelfand topology, it is not possible that  $\varphi_{n_k} \to 0$ , so that  $\varphi_{n_k} \to \tilde{\varphi} \in \Sigma$ .

But, for the first part of the theorem, it must be  $\varphi_{n_k} \stackrel{\bullet}{\to} \tilde{\varphi}$ , so  $\tilde{\varphi} = \varphi$ . Hence, we have proved that for every sequence  $\varphi_n \stackrel{\bullet}{\to} \varphi$ , we can find a subsequence  $\varphi_{n_k} \to \varphi$  uniformly on compact sets. Let us suppose that  $\varphi_n \nrightarrow \varphi$ : then, we can find a compact set  $C \subseteq G$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and a subsequence  $\varphi_{n_k}$  such that  $\sup_{x \in C} |\varphi_{n_k}(x) - \varphi(x)| > \varepsilon$ 

 $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ . But, of course,  $\varphi_{n_k} \xrightarrow{\bullet} \varphi$ , so, applying the previous argument, we can find a sub-subsequence  $\varphi_{n_{k_j}} \to \varphi$  uniformly on compact sets, in particular uniformly on C: a contradiction.

From the proof of the previous theorem one can also conclude that:

COROLLARY 11. – A is closed in  $\mathbb{C}^s$ .

PROOF. – Let  $\{z_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}=\{(\lambda_{1,n},\ldots,\lambda_{s,n})\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in A, with  $z_n\to z=(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_s)\in\mathbb{C}^s$ . Let  $\varphi_n\in\Sigma$  be the spherical function associated to  $z_n$ . We have that  $\lambda_{d,n}=P(\lambda_{1,n},\ldots,\lambda_{s,n})$  with P polynomial, hence  $\lambda_{d,n}\to\lambda_d=P(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_n)$ : the sequence  $\{\lambda_{d,n}\}$  is then bounded, hence, arguing as in the proof

of the theorem, we can extract a subsequence  $\varphi_{n_k} \to \tilde{\varphi} \in \Sigma$ . But necessarily  $\varphi_{n_k} \stackrel{\bullet}{\to} \tilde{\varphi}$ , hence  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s)$  is the point of A associated to  $\tilde{\varphi}$ , so  $z \in A$ .

COROLLARY 12. – If  $\varphi_n \to \varphi$  in  $\Sigma$  then  $D\varphi_n \to D\varphi$  uniformly on compact sets for every differential operator D.

PROOF. – For every  $x_0 \in G$ , we have, for V neighborhood of  $x_0$  with  $\overline{V}$  compact, C compact and  $A_n \neq 0$ :

$$\begin{split} & \varphi_n|_V(x) = A_n \int\limits_C \psi(x,y) \varphi_n(y) \, dy \\ & D\varphi_n|_V(x) = A_n \int\limits_C \left[ D^{(x)} \psi(x,y) \right] \varphi_n(y) \, dy \\ & D\varphi_n|_V(x) = A_n \int\limits_C \eta_D(x,y) \varphi_n(y) \, dy \end{split}$$

with  $\eta$  continuous. Similarly:

$$D\varphi|_V(x) = A \int_C \eta_D(x, y) \varphi(y) dy$$

By continuity,  $\eta_D$  is bounded on  $\overline{V} \times C$ , so in particular on  $V \times C$ , so, being  $\varphi_n|_C \to \varphi|_C$  uniformly, we have that  $\int\limits_C \eta_D(x,y)\varphi_n(y)\,dy \to \int\limits_C \eta_D(x,y)\varphi_n(y)\,dy$  uniformly on x. Moreover,  $A_n \to A$ , so  $D\varphi_n|_V \to D\varphi|_V$  uniformly.  $\square$ 

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