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Distinction of depth-zero representations

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ABSTRACT

Let π be a depth-zero irreducible admissible representation of a connected reductive *p*-adic group *G*. Let *H* be the group of fixed points of an involution θ of *G*. We relate *H*-distinction of π to existence of minimal *K*-types of π that exhibit particular symmetry properties relative to θ . In addition, we show that when π is *H*-distinguished, then (up to conjugacy) the support of π is of the form (M, τ) where *M* is a θ -stable Levi subgroup of *G* and τ is a depthzero irreducible supercuspidal representation of *M*. Moreover, τ contains a minimal *K*-type (M_x, ρ) such that M_x is a θ -stable maximal parahoric subgroup of *M* and ρ is the inflation of a distinguished cuspidal representation of the quotient of M_x by its pro-unipotent radical.

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1. Introduction

If π is a representation of a group G, H is a subgroup of G and χ is a one-dimensional representation of H, let $\operatorname{Hom}_H(\pi, \chi)$ be the space of linear functionals λ on the space V of π such that $\lambda(\pi(h)v) = \chi(h)\lambda(v)$ for all $h \in H$ and $v \in V$. When $\operatorname{Hom}_H(\pi, \chi)$ is nonzero, we say that π is (H, χ) -distinguished, or simply H-distinguished if χ is trivial. If the square of χ is trivial, then we say that π is quadratically distinguished.



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Let F be a local nonarchimedean field of odd residual characteristic and let \mathbf{G} be a connected reductive F-group. Let θ be an involution of $G = \mathbf{G}(F)$, that is, an F-automorphism of \mathbf{G} of order two, let $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G}^{\theta}$ and $H = \mathbf{H}(F)$. The H-distinguished irreducible admissible representations of G, along with their spherical characters (see [17]), are among the basic objects in harmonic analysis on the p-adic symmetric space G/H. In addition, when F is the completion of a number field over which \mathbf{G} and θ are defined, H-distinguished representations of G often occur as the local components of globally distinguished automorphic representations and are related to aspects of the Langlands program.

In this paper, we study (H, χ) -distinction of smooth representations of G which are generated by their isotypic subspaces associated to unrefined minimal K-types of depth zero. Let p be the residual characteristic of F. Following Spice [18], we say that an element g of G is topologically p-unipotent if $\lim_{n\to\infty} g^{p^n} = 1$. We assume that χ is a quasicharacter of H that is trivial on the set of topologically p-unipotent elements in H. In particular, the depth of χ (in the sense of [13]) is zero. We find that such (H, χ) -distinguished representations contain unrefined minimal K-types of the form (K, ρ) where $K \cap \theta(K)$ is large relative to K (see below) and ρ is $(K \cap H, \chi \mid K \cap H)$ -distinguished. Before giving a more detailed description of the results, we discuss relations between distinction of representations and distinction of K-types contained in those representations.

We say that an irreducible supercuspidal representation π of G is tame if π has depth zero or if **G** splits over a tamely ramified extension of F and π is one of the supercuspidal representations constructed by Yu [19]. Under some assumptions regarding quasicharacters of twisted Levi subgroups of G, in [4], J. Hakim and the author derived necessary conditions for H-distinction of a tame supercuspidal representation π of G. These conditions can be expressed in terms of data defined in [19] which are used in the construction of π . This is connected to the behavior under θ of inducing data for π . In particular, a tame supercuspidal representation π of G is H-distinguished if and only if there exist a θ -stable open compact-mod-center subgroup K of G and a representation ρ of K such that π is equivalent to the representation $c\operatorname{-ind}_{K}^{G}\rho$ obtained via compact induction from ρ and $\operatorname{Hom}_{K^{\theta}}(\rho, 1)$ is nonzero, where $K^{\theta} = K \cap G^{\theta}$. In addition, K^{θ} -distinction of ρ reduces to quadratic distinction of a representation that arises as the inducing data for a twist of particular depth-zero supercuspidal representation of a θ -stable reductive subgroup (a tamely ramified twisted Levi subgroup) of G.

In general, K is noncompact, so strictly speaking (K, ρ) is not a K-type. However the restriction of ρ to a compact open subgroup of K is a K-type. It can be useful to have specific information about properties, such as quadratic distinction, of particular K-types contained in distinguished representations. For example, in [14], the results of [4] were applied to deduce results about existence of distinguished tame supercuspidal representations.

Recall that if π is an irreducible smooth representation of G then π occurs as a composition factor of a representation $\operatorname{Ind}_P^G \tau$, where τ is an irreducible supercuspidal

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