

# THE SYMPLECTIC REPRESENTATION

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This is a study note for Leslie's paper [Les24], where he defined a Galois action on the dual hyperspherical varieties for certain classes of symmetric varieties using the theory of geometric cocycle.

## 2. G-INNER CLASS FOR SPHERICAL VARIETIES

For a characteristic zero field  $k$  and  $X$  a smooth affine algebraic variety over  $k$  with  $G$  a connected reductive algebraic group over  $k$  acting algebraically on  $X$ .

Assume that  $X$  is  $G$ -homogeneous with  $X(k) \neq \emptyset$ . Fix a base point  $x_0 \in X(k)$  and let  $\text{Stab}_G(x_0) = H$ , this induces an isomorphism  $X \cong H \backslash G$  identifying  $H \cdot 1 = x_0$ . A standard calculation shows that

$$X(k) = \bigsqcup_{s \in \ker^1(H, G; k)} x_s \cdot G(k)$$

where  $\ker^1(H, G; k) = \ker[H^1(k, H) \rightarrow H^1(k, G)]$  and  $x_s \in X(k)$  satisfying  $H_s = \text{Stab}_G(x_s)$  is obtained by twisting  $H$  by a 1-cocycle in the class  $s$ . In particular, all stabilizers are pure inner twists of  $H$ . We may define

$$\text{Aut}^G(X) \longrightarrow \text{Out}(X) \subset \text{Out}(H)$$

denote by  $\mathcal{A}_X^b$  the kernel of this map.

**Definition 2.1.** Suppose that  $X = H \backslash G$  and let  $X' = H' \backslash G$  be a  $G$ -form of  $X$ , we say  $X'$  is a  $G$ -inner form if there exists a choice of  $\psi$  such that the cocycle  $c_{X, X'} \in Z^1(k, \text{Aut}^G(X))$  takes value in  $\mathcal{A}_X^b(\bar{k})$ . A  $G$ -form of  $X$  which is not a  $G$ -inner form is called a  $G$ -outer form of  $X = H \backslash G$ .

*Remark 2.2.* To obtain a more useful definition of the inner forms of  $X$ , it is necessary to include homogeneous spherical varieties for the inner forms of  $G$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Two  $G$ -forms  $X' = H' \backslash G$  and  $X = H \backslash G$  are  $G$ -equivariant isomorphic if and only if  $H$  and  $H'$  are pure inner forms with  $H'$  corresponding to a class in  $\ker^1(H, G; k)$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** Suppose that  $G$  is a reductive  $k$ -group and suppose that  $X = H \backslash G$  is a homogeneous  $k$ -variety and let  $X'$  be a  $G$ -form of  $X$ , then the cocycle  $c_{X, X'}$  induces the trivial cohomology class in  $H^1(k, \text{Out}_X(H))$  if and only if  $X$  and  $X'$  are  $G$ -inner forms.

**Proposition 2.5.** Suppose that  $G$  is quasisplit and that  $\bar{X} = \bar{H} \backslash G_{\bar{k}}$  is a spherical homogeneous space of  $G_{\bar{k}}$ . Assume that the corresponding  $*$ -action of  $\{\sigma_*\}_{\sigma \in \Gamma}$  determined by  $G$  preserves  $\Omega_X$ . Then for any lift  $\alpha_{\mathcal{D}}$  of the  $\Gamma$ -action from  $\Omega$  to a continuous action on  $\mathcal{D}(X)$ , there exists a  $G$ -equivariant  $k$ -model  $X$  of  $\bar{X}$  inducing  $\alpha_{\mathcal{D}}$ . Moreover,  $X(k) \neq \emptyset$ , so that  $X = H \backslash G$  for a  $k$ -rational subgroup  $H \subset G$ .

The following is an important example which will motivate our later definition of the geometric cocycle.

**Example 2.6.** Let  $E/k$  be a quadratic extension of fields and let  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be a two dimensional Hermitian  $E$ -vector space containing an isotropic line. Let  $G = U(V)$  denote the corresponding quasi-split unitary group. We assume that the Hermitian form is represented by the matrix

$$J = \epsilon \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}, \quad \epsilon \in E_{\text{tr}=0}$$

Thus  $G = \{g \in GL(V) : J\bar{g}^{-t}J^{-1} = g\}$ , now we consider the two involutions

$$\theta_t = \text{Ad} \begin{pmatrix} & t^{-1} \\ t & \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in \{1, \epsilon\}$$

we compute

$$H_t := G^{\theta_t} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ t^2 b & a \end{pmatrix} : \text{Nm}(a) - t^2 \text{Nm}(b) = 1, \quad a\bar{b} = \bar{a}b \right\}$$

so that  $H_1 \cong \text{Res}_{E/k}(\mathbb{G}_m)$  while  $H_\epsilon \cong \text{Nm}_{E/k}^1(\mathbb{G}_m)^2$ .

We have

$$X_t = H_t \backslash G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ -t^2 y & z \end{pmatrix} : x, y, z \in k, \quad xz + t^2 y^2 = 1 \right\}$$

then  $A_X \cong A$  with the canonical map  $A \rightarrow A_X$  being the squaring map. In particular,  $\Delta_X^n = \{2\alpha\}$ . Since  $\{-I\} \in X(k)$ , we see that  $\alpha \in \chi$ . The simple calculation shows that the divisor  $\{z = 0\}$  is stable under the upper triangular Borel subgroup with cocharacter  $\tilde{\omega} = \frac{\tilde{\alpha}}{2} \in X_*(A_X)$ , geometrically with two irreducible components  $\{\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2\} = \mathcal{D}(X_t)$ .

The two symmetric  $k$ -varieties  $X_t$  become isomorphic upon base changing to  $E$ , so that they have isomorphic homogeneous spherical data

$$\Omega_X = (2X^*(A), \{\alpha\}, \emptyset, \{(\tilde{\omega}, \{\alpha\})\})$$

and the fiber  $(\rho \times \zeta)^{-1}(\tilde{\omega}, \{\alpha\}) = \{D_1, D_2\}$  consists of two colors in  $X_{\bar{k}}$ , note that

$$X_{t, \{z=0\}}(k) = \begin{cases} \left\{ \pm \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix} \right\} & : t = 1 \\ \emptyset & : t = \alpha, \text{ since } \epsilon^2 \notin (k^\times)^2 \end{cases}$$

thus the  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\{D_1, D_2\}$  is trivial when  $t = 1$  and acts non-trivially through the quotient  $\text{Gal}(E/k)$  when  $t = \epsilon$ .

We can define the doubling automorphism group  $\text{Aut}_d(X)$  of  $X$ : for  $H$  geometrically connected

$$\text{Aut}_d(X) = \prod_{i \in I_X} \text{Res}_{k_i/k}(\mu_2)$$

In general, we can define the doubling automorphism group as

$$\text{Aut}_d(X) := \text{Aut}_d(X^\circ) / \text{Aut}_d(\pi_0(H))$$

**Lemma 2.7.** *Suppose that  $X = H \backslash G$  is spherical and that  $H$  is geometrically connected. In the long short exact sequence on cohomology, the map*

$$H^1(k, \mathcal{A}_X) \longrightarrow H^1(k, \text{Aut}_d(X))$$

*is surjective.*

**Conjecture 2.8.** *Suppose that  $G$  is a quasisplit reductive  $k$ -group and  $X = H \backslash G$  is a homogeneous spherical  $G$ -variety, then the map*

$$H^1(k, \mathcal{A}_X) \longrightarrow H^1(k, \text{Aut}_d(X))$$

*is surjective.*

To two  $G$ -inner forms  $X$  and  $X'$  of  $\bar{X}$ , we can associate to them  $\mu_X^d$  and  $\mu_{X'}^d$ , two geometric cocycles, if  $\pi_0(H)$  is trivial, then lemma 2.7 implies that there exist  $G$ -forms of  $X$  associated to each geometric class as soon as  $G$ -form exists, which occurs as soon as the  $*$ -action of  $(G, A)$  preserves the combinatorial data  $\Omega_{\bar{X}}$  by proposition 2.5. Conjecture 2.8 asserts this should hold for general  $H$ .

**Definition 2.9.** Suppose that  $G$  is a quasisplit reductive  $k$ -group and  $X$  is a homogeneous spherical  $G$ -variety, we say that  $X$  is **well adapted** if the natural morphism

$$\text{Out}(X) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}_d(X)$$

is an isomorphism.

In particular, when  $X$  is well-adapted and  $G$  is quasisplit, the data

$$(\Omega_X, [\mu_X^d]) = (\chi, \Delta_X, \Omega^{(1)}, \Omega^{(2)}, [\mu_X^d])$$

with  $[\mu_X^d] \in H^1(k, \text{Aut}_d(X))$  determines a  $k$ -form  $X$  up to  $G$ -inner form.

**Definition 2.10.** Suppose that  $G$  is  $k$ -simple, simply-connected group over  $k$  and that  $\theta$  is an involution on  $G$ . We say that  $\theta$  is an *involution of Chevalley type* if the spherical root system satisfying that  $\text{rk}(A_X) > 1$  and there is at most one Galois orbit of spherical roots  $\Gamma \cdot \alpha_X \subset \Delta_X$  not of type  $N$ .

More generally, suppose  $G$  is a connected reductive group and  $\theta$  is an involution, and  $X$  is a symmetric variety associated to  $\theta$ , we say that  $X$  has a *factor of Chevalley type* if  $X_{sc}$  has a  $k$ -simple factor of Chevalley type.

**Theorem 2.11.** Suppose that  $G$  is quasisplit over  $k$  and that  $X = H \backslash G$  is a symmetric  $G$ -variety that has no factors of Chevalley type, then  $X$  is well adapted.

**Theorem 2.12.** Suppose that  $k$  is perfect and  $G$  is quasisplit over  $k$  and that  $X = H \backslash G$  is a symmetric variety. There exists a  $G$ -inner form  $X_{qs}$  of  $X$  and  $x \in X_{qs}(k)$  such that the connected component of the identity of  $\text{Stab}_G(x) = H_{qs}$  is quasisplit over  $k$ .

Let  $G$  be a quasisplit reductive group over  $k$  with  $k$ -rational involution  $\theta$ , on the basis of theorems 2.11 and 2.12, we impose the following restriction

*Assumption 2.13.* Assume that the symmetric  $G_{sc}$ -variety  $X_{sc} = H_{sc} \backslash G_{sc}$  contains no simple factors of Chevalley type and the conjecture 2.8 holds for  $X$ .

### 3. THE DUAL GROUP OF A SPHERICAL VARIETY

Let  $G$  be a connected reductive group over  $k$ , let  $X = H \backslash G$  be a spherical variety and let  $\Omega_X = (\chi, \Delta_X, \Omega^{(1)}, \Omega^{(2)})$  be the homogeneous spherical datum determined by a choice of a Borel pair  $(A, B)$ , passing to the normalized root system, Sakellaridis and Venkatesh showed that  $(\check{\chi}^{SV}, \Delta_X^{SV}, \chi^{SV}, \Delta_X^{SV})$  is a based root datum.

**Definition 3.1.** The dual group of the  $G$ -variety  $X$  is the connected complex group  $\check{G}_X$  associated to the dual based root datum  $(\check{\chi}^{SV}, \check{\Delta}_X^{SV}, \chi^{SV}, \Delta_X^{SV})$ .

Now the surjection  $A \rightarrow A_X$  produces a canonical morphism  $\check{A}_X \rightarrow \check{A}$ , considering the inclusions of lattices

$$\chi \subset \chi^{SV} = \chi + \mathbb{Z}\Delta_X^{SV} \subset X^*(T)$$

we obtain a sequence

$$\check{A}_X \rightarrow \check{A}_X \rightarrow \check{A}$$

Equip the dual group  $\check{G}$  of  $G$  with a pinning  $e_{\alpha^\vee}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}_{\alpha^\vee}^\vee$  for each  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . For each  $\sigma \in \Delta_X$ , Knop defines a one dimensional subspace  $\mathfrak{g}_\sigma^\vee$  of  $\mathfrak{g}^\vee$  by

$$(3.1) \quad \mathfrak{g}_\sigma^\vee = \begin{cases} \mathfrak{g}_\sigma^\vee & : \sigma \in R^+ \\ [\mathfrak{g}_{\beta^\vee}^\vee, e_{\delta_1^\vee} - e_{\delta_2^\vee}] & : \sigma \text{ is of type } D_{n \geq 3} \\ [\mathfrak{g}_{\beta^\vee}^\vee, 2e_{\delta_1^\vee} - e_{\delta_2^\vee}] & : \sigma \text{ is of type } B_3'' \\ \mathbb{C}(e_{\delta_1^\vee} - e_{\delta_2^\vee}) & : \sigma \text{ is of type } D_2 \end{cases}$$

here  $\beta^\vee := \gamma_1^\vee - \delta_1^\vee = \gamma_2^\vee - \delta_2^\vee$  when  $\sigma$  is of type  $G$ . We remark that a choice is made in the case of type  $D_2$  roots.

**Definition 3.2.** A homomorphism  $\varphi_X : \check{G}_X \rightarrow \check{G}$  is distinguished if  $\varphi_X|_{\check{A}_X} = \varphi_A$  and  $\varphi(\mathfrak{g}_{\check{\sigma}}^\vee) = \mathfrak{g}_\sigma^\vee$  as defined before.

**Theorem 3.3.** Suppose that  $X$  is a spherical  $G$ -variety, then distinguished morphisms  $\varphi_X$  exist, moreover, they are unique up to  $\check{A}_X$ -conjugacy, the image

$$\check{G}_X^* := \varphi_X(\check{G}_X)$$

is a well-defined subgroup of  $\check{G}$  independent of  $\varphi_X$ .

We record the following property of the dual group

**Proposition 3.4.** *Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are spherical  $G$ -varieties and assume that there exists a dominant morphism  $X \rightarrow Y$ , there exists a unique homomorphism with finite kernel  $\tilde{G}_Y \rightarrow \tilde{G}_X$  which is compatible with the homomorphisms to  $\tilde{G}$ .*

The set of parabolic roots  $\Delta_X^p$  corresponds to a Levi subgroup  $A \subset L_X \subset G$  and a dual Levi subgroup  $\tilde{L}_X \subset \tilde{G}$ , our choice of a pinning of  $\tilde{G}$  induces one on  $\tilde{L}_X$ , in particular, the pinning determines a principal homomorphism  $\iota_X : SL_2 \rightarrow \tilde{L}_X$ . In particular, the pinning determines a principal homomorphism  $\iota_X : SL_2 \rightarrow \tilde{L}_X$ . It was shown that the images of  $\varphi_X$  and  $\iota_X$  commute with each other in  $\tilde{G}$ , we thus obtain a morphism

$$\xi_X : \tilde{G}_X \times SL_2 \rightarrow \tilde{G}$$

The results of Knop also indicate how to extend this notion to incorporate the  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\tilde{G}_X$ , viewed as a subgroup of  $\tilde{G}$ , there is a unique  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\tilde{G}_X$  such that the inclusion  $\tilde{G}_X$  intertwines with the  $L$ -action on  $\tilde{G}$ , we denote the corresponding semi-direct product by

$${}^L\hat{G}_X \hookrightarrow {}^L G$$

though this is arguably inappropriate as the  $\Gamma$ -action can fail to preserve the pinning in some cases. The additional requirement that  $\varphi_X$  preserves the embeddings forces a unique  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\tilde{G}_X$  with the property that the morphism  $\xi_X$  intertwines with the action with the above action on  $\hat{G}_X$ . We can thus define the Galois form of the  $L$ -group to be

$${}^L X := \tilde{G}_X \rtimes \Gamma$$

with respect to this unique action. The map  $\xi_X$  extends uniquely to a morphism

$${}^L\xi_X : {}^L X \times SL_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow {}^L G$$

*Remark 3.5.* As noted above, Knop fixes the choice of image  $\mathfrak{g}_\sigma$  for all  $\sigma \in \Delta_X$  of type  $D_2$ , which we adopt here. It is worth mentioning that other choices relate to replacing  $H$ -periods with  $(H, \chi)$ -periods for certain characters  $\chi$  of  $H$ .

#### 4. THE SYMPLECTIC REPRESENTATION $S_X$

We fix a choice of a distinguished morphism  $\varphi_X : G_X^\vee \rightarrow \hat{G}_X$  compatible with  $\check{A}_X \rightarrow \check{A}$  and pinning induced of  $\tilde{G}$ . This induces  $\Gamma$ -stable Borel subgroups for  $\tilde{G}$ ,  $\hat{G}_X$  and  $G_X^\vee$  denoted by  $\check{B}$ ,  $\hat{B}_X$  and  $\check{B}_X$ . Moreover  $\hat{B}_X$  is  $\theta$ -stable and we have  $\varphi_X(\check{B}) \subset \hat{B}_X$ .

Let  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  be the set of  $B$ -colors of  $X$  and let

$$\rho \times \zeta : \mathcal{D}(X) \rightarrow X_*(A_X) \times \mathcal{P}(\Delta)$$

be the cocharacter map,  $\Gamma$  acts on  $\Delta$  and hence on  $\mathcal{P}(\check{\Delta})$ .

Recall  $\Delta_X^{dist}$  the set of distinguished roots, so that by theorem 6.1

$$\text{Out}_X(H) \cong \prod_{i \in I_X} \text{Res}_{k_i/k} \mu_i$$

where  $I_X$  is the set of  $\Gamma$ -orbits in  $\Delta_X^{dist}$ . Using the proposition B.7, there is a corresponding subset  $\check{\Sigma}_X^{dist} \subset \rho(\mathcal{D}(X))$  such that for every  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\check{\alpha} \in \check{\Sigma}_X^{dist}$ .

**Definition 4.1.** We define  $\check{\Delta}_X^{dist} = \{\frac{c_\alpha}{2}\check{\alpha} \in \Delta_X^{dist}\}$  by rescaling elements  $\frac{1}{2}\check{\alpha}$  to the unique minimal multiple  $\frac{c_\alpha}{2}\check{\alpha} \in \check{X}^{SV}$ , here we note that  $X^{SV} := X^* + \mathbb{Z}\Delta_X^{SV}$ .

We define  $S_X$  as the unique representation of  $G_X^\vee$  satisfying

$$S_X = \oplus_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{s}_X} V(\check{\lambda}) \otimes M(\check{\lambda})$$

where

- $\mathfrak{s}_X = \{\text{highest weights contained in } W_X \cdot \check{\Delta}_X^{dist}\}$ .
- the multiplicity space  $M(\check{\lambda})$  has a basis indexed by the colors  $D \in \mathcal{D}(X)$  satisfying  $\rho(D) = \frac{1}{2}\check{\alpha}$  for any  $\check{\alpha}$  lying in the  $W_X$ -orbit of  $\frac{2}{c_\alpha}\check{\lambda}$ .

We will construct an action of  ${}^L X$  on  $S_X$ . There is a canonical decomposition

$$\Delta_X^{dist} = \bigsqcup_{i \in I_X} \mathcal{O}_i$$

and for each  $i \in I_X$ , there is a canonical quadratic character  $\mu_i : \Gamma_i \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ . For any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_i$ , we let  $\mu_\alpha : \Gamma_\alpha \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  be the corresponding quadratic character on the stabilizer. Set  $\mathcal{D}(X)^{dist} \subset \mathcal{D}(X)$  be the set of colors  $D$  such that  $\rho(D) \in \tilde{\Sigma}_X^{dist}$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** *Suppose  $X = H \backslash G$  is a symmetric variety with  $H$  geometrically connected. Then there exists a unique  ${}^L X$  representation on  $S_X$  extending the algebraic action of  $\check{G}_X$  such that*

- *there is an isomorphism of  $\Gamma$ -representations*

$$S_X^{\check{B}_X} \cong \mathbb{C}[\mathcal{D}(X)^{dist}]$$

*where for  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist} \setminus \Delta_X^{(2)}$  and  $\sigma \in \Gamma_\alpha$  we have  $\sigma \cdot D_\alpha = \mu_\alpha(\sigma) D_\alpha$  where  $D_\alpha$  is the unique color satisfying  $\rho(D_\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \check{\alpha}$ .*

- *there is a symplectic structure on  $S_X$  such that  ${}^L X$  acts by symplectic morphisms.*

The proof relies on the classification of symmetric varieties. The proof of this proposition relies on the classification of symmetric varieties on a crucial way, in particular we use the calculation of colors of symmetric varieties in section B.2 to reduce to the case of type  $C$  root systems in lemma 4.3 since these are the only cases where a distinguished root occurs for symmetric varieties.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Suppose that  $G$  is quasisplit and  $X = H \backslash G$  is a symmetric variety. Fix  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist}$  and let  $\Gamma_\alpha \subset \Gamma$  denote its stabilizer, set  $k_\alpha/k$  be the associated field extension, then there exists a unique  $k_\alpha$ -rational reductive normal subgroup  $G_\alpha \subset G$ , stabilized by  $\theta$  such that*

- *If  $H_\alpha := H \cap G_\alpha$  and  $X_\alpha := H_\alpha \backslash G_\alpha$ , there exist surjective morphisms  $\pi_\alpha, \pi_{\alpha,X}$  fitting into a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \check{G}_X & \longrightarrow & \check{G} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \check{G}_{X_\alpha} & \longrightarrow & \check{G}_\alpha \end{array}$$

- *let  $\check{\lambda}_\alpha \in \mathfrak{s}_X$  be the unique dominant weight of  $\check{G}_X$  associated to  $\alpha$ , then the  $\check{G}_X$ -action on the highest weight module  $V(\check{\lambda}_\alpha)$  factors through  $\pi_{\alpha,X}$ .*
- *Assume that  $X$  satisfies assumption 6.21. The derived subgroup of  $\check{G}_\alpha$  is of type  $C$ . The corresponding highest weight representation of  $\check{G}_X$  is minuscule and symplectic.*

We impose the assumption 6.21, fix  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist}$  as in the previous lemma, since  $(G_\alpha, X_\alpha)$  is  $k_\alpha$ -rational, the morphism  $\tilde{\pi}_\alpha$  is  $\Gamma_\alpha$ -equivariant with respect to the given action on  $\check{G}_X$  and a unique  $\Gamma_\alpha$ -action on  $\check{G}_{X_\alpha}$ . We now extend the  $\Gamma_\alpha$ -action on  $\check{G}_{X_\alpha}$  to the representation  $V_\alpha$  of  $\check{G}_{X_\alpha}$ . We may assume that  $k = k_\alpha$  and  $G = G_\alpha$ , therefore assuming  $G_{der}$  is absolutely simple. In particular,  $\Delta_X^{dist} = \{\alpha\}$ .

By lemma 4.3,  $\check{G}_{X,der}$  is simple of type  $C$  and acts on the standard representation so that we must have  $\check{G}_{X,der} = \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$ . In this case the  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\check{A}_{X,ad}$  is trivial as  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$  has trivial outer automorphism group, the  $*$ -action on  $\Phi_X$  is trivial. In particular, the  $\Gamma$ -action on  $\check{G}_X$  preserves our fixed pinning  $\{x_{\tilde{\gamma}}\}_{\tilde{\gamma} \in \check{\Delta}_X^{SV}}$  induced by  $\check{B}_X$  up to sign, so that the action is completely determined by a unique set of characters

$$\chi_\gamma : \Gamma_\gamma \longrightarrow \{\pm 1\}$$

such that  $\sigma x_{\tilde{\gamma}} = \chi_\gamma(\sigma) x_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  for  $\sigma \in \Gamma_\gamma = \mathrm{Stab}_\Gamma(\tilde{\gamma})$  and  $\tilde{\gamma} \in \check{\Delta}_X^{SV}$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $\chi : \Gamma \rightarrow \check{A}_{X,ad}$  denote the character uniquely determined by*

$$\sigma x_{\tilde{\gamma}} = \chi_\gamma(\sigma) x_{\tilde{\gamma}} = \mathrm{Ad}(\chi(\sigma)) x_{\tilde{\gamma}}$$

*for all  $\tilde{\gamma} \in \check{\Delta}_X^{SV}$ . For any quadratic character  $\epsilon : \Gamma \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ , there exists a natural lift*

$$\tilde{\chi}_\epsilon \in \mathrm{Hom}(\Gamma, \check{A}_X[2]) \cong H^1(\Gamma, \check{A}_X[2])$$

Continuing the assumptions of the lemma, let  $\check{\lambda}_\alpha \in X^*(\check{A}_X)$  be the dominant weight associated to  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist}$ , we define  $\mathcal{D}(\alpha) \subset \mathcal{D}(X)$  to be those colors satisfying  $\rho(D) = \frac{1}{2}\check{\alpha}$ , we define the  $\Gamma$ -representation

$$M(\alpha) := \mathbb{C}[\mathcal{D}(\alpha)]$$

where

- If  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{(2)}$ ,  $M(\alpha)$  is determined by the  $\Gamma$ -action on the basis  $\mathcal{D}(\alpha)$ , in this case, we take  $\epsilon \equiv 1$  in the lemma and use  $\check{\chi}_1$  to give a  $\check{G}_X \rtimes \Gamma$ -action on  $V_\alpha \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M_\alpha$  by letting  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  acts by

$$\sigma(v \otimes m) = \check{\chi}_1(\sigma)v \otimes \sigma(m)$$

- If  $\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist} \setminus \Delta_X^{(2)}$ , then  $\mathcal{D}(\alpha) = 1$  and  $M(\alpha) = \mathbb{C}$ , we can take  $\epsilon = \mu_\alpha$  so that the  $\check{G}_X \rtimes \Gamma$  acts on  $V_\alpha \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} M(\alpha) = V_\alpha$  by letting  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  act by

$$\sigma(v) = \check{\chi}_{\mu_\alpha}(\sigma)(v)$$

this representation is symplectic.

We now return to the general setting of  $(G, X)$  satisfying assumption 2.13 and  $H$ -connected, for each  $\Gamma$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O} \subset \Delta_X^{dist}$  of distinguished roots and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}$  let  $\check{G}_{X, \mathcal{O}}$  be the induced group

$$\check{G}_{X, \mathcal{O}} = \text{Ind}_{\Gamma/\Gamma_\alpha}(\check{G}_{X_\alpha}) \cong \prod_{\Gamma/\Gamma_\alpha} \check{G}_{X_\alpha}$$

such that  $\check{G}_{X_\alpha, der} = [\check{G}_{X_\alpha}, \check{G}_{X_\alpha}] = \text{Sp}(V_\alpha)$  where  $V_\alpha = V(\check{\lambda}_\alpha)$  is the vector space of the associated representation. It follows from lemma 9.6 there exists a  $\Gamma$ -equivariant quotient map

$$\check{G}_X \rightarrow \prod_{\mathcal{O} \subset \Delta_X^{dist}} \check{G}_{X, \mathcal{O}}$$

for each  $\Gamma$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}$ , we thus obtain a  $\check{G}_{X, \mathcal{O}} \rtimes \Gamma$  representation

$$S_{\mathcal{O}} := \text{Ind}_{\Gamma_\alpha}^\Gamma(V_\alpha \otimes M(\alpha))$$

and we have a  ${}^L G_X$ -representaiton on

$$S_X = \bigoplus_{\mathcal{O} \subset \Delta_X^{dist}} S_{\mathcal{O}}$$

via pull back along

$$\check{G}_X \rtimes \Gamma \rightarrow \prod_{\mathcal{O}} \check{G}_{X, \mathcal{O}} \rtimes \Gamma$$

**4.1. Application to rationality.** The theorem below compares the two  $k$ -forms  $X$  and  $X'$  of a given symmetric  $G_{\bar{k}}$ -variety  $\bar{X}$ , we say that  $X$  and  $X'$  are normally related to  $(A, B)$  if the rational involutions  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  associated to  $X$  and  $X'$  are both normally related to  $(A, B)$ . Since we may conjugate  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  by elements of  $G(k)$  to ensure this, it leads to no loss in generality.

**Theorem 4.5.** *Suppose that  $G$  is quasisplit over  $k$  and suppose that  $\bar{X} = \bar{H} \backslash G_{\bar{k}}$  is a symmetric  $G_{\bar{k}}$ -variety satisfying assumption 6.21 and that  $\bar{H}$  is connected, consider two  $k$ -rational  $G$ -forms  $X = H \backslash G$  and  $X' = H' \backslash G$  of  $\bar{X}$ , assume  $X$  and  $X'$  are both normally related to  $(A, B)$ , then we have  $\hat{G}_X = \hat{G}_{X'}$ . Given a pair of distinguished morphisms  $\varphi_X$  and  $\varphi_{X'}$ , there is a canonical isomorphism  $f_X : {}^L X \cong {}^L X'$  such that  $\varphi_X = \varphi_{X'} \circ f_X$ .*

*Suppose there exists an  $f_X$ -equivariant isomorphism  $f_S : S_X \longrightarrow S_{X'}$ , then  $X$  and  $X'$  are  $G$ -inner forms.*

We sketch the proof here: Let  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  be associated involutions for  $X$  and  $X'$  respectively, we may assume that  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  are both normally related to  $(A, B)$ , since we have assumed that there is a  $G_{\bar{k}}$ -equivariant isomorphism  $X_{\bar{k}} \cong X'_{\bar{k}}$ , this implies

$$\Delta_X = \Delta_{X'}, \quad \hat{\Delta}_X = \hat{\Delta}_{X'}, \quad \text{and } \theta|_A = \theta'|_A$$

moreover  $A_X \cong A_{X'}$ .

The construction of the associated group relies only on the inclusion of root system generated by the coroots of the associated roots of  $X$  into the root system of  $\check{G}$ . Thus we obtain a canonical identification

$\hat{G}_X = \hat{G}_{X'}$ . Similarly the construction of  $\check{G}_X$  and the pinned action defined in (3.1) are combinatorial and depend only on the  $k$ -group structure of  $G$ , so there exists  $f_X : {}^L X \cong {}^L X'$ . Since distinguished morphisms have a finite kernel determined by the kernel of  $\check{A}_X \rightarrow \check{A}$ , we see that for any choice of such distinguished morphisms there exists a unique  $f_X$  such that  $\varphi_X = \varphi_{X'} \circ f_X$ .

Assume now that we are given an  $f_X$ -equivariant isomorphism  $f_S : S_X \rightarrow S_{X'}$ . In particular, this restricts to an isomorphism of representations of algebraic groups (proposition 4.2)

$$\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Delta_X^{dist}} V(\check{\lambda}_\alpha) \otimes M(\alpha) \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha' \in \Delta_{X'}^{dist}} V(\check{\lambda}_{\alpha'}) \otimes M(\alpha')$$

which induces a bijection  $\Delta_X^{dist} \cong \Delta_{X'}^{dist}$  by highest weight theory, this is uniquely determined by the isomorphism  $f_X$ . This is  $\Gamma$ -equivariant and we obtain an identification of Galois orbits  $\Gamma \cdot \gamma_i \mapsto \Gamma \cdot \gamma'_i$ , recall that there is an isomorphism of  $\Gamma$ -modules

$$S_X^{(\check{B}_X)} \cong \bigoplus_{\mathcal{O}_i \subset \Delta_X^{dist}} \text{Ind}_{\Gamma_i}^\Gamma(M(\alpha_i))$$

To recover the character  $\mu_i$ , note that the  $\Gamma_i$ -action on  $M(\alpha_i)$  is uniquely determined by this character and there is a canonical  $\Gamma_i$ -equivariant morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ind}_{\Gamma_i}^\Gamma(M(\alpha_i)) &\longrightarrow M(\alpha_i) \\ [f : \Gamma \rightarrow M(\alpha_i)] &\longmapsto f(1) \end{aligned}$$

from which we may compute  $\mu_i$ , now passing to the weight spaces, we obtain a  $\Gamma_i = \Gamma'_i$  equivariant isomorphism  $M(\alpha_i) \cong M(\alpha'_i)$ , in particular  $\mu_i = \mu'_i$ , all together we see that  $X$  and  $X'$  are inner forms.

#### REFERENCES

[Les24] Spencer Leslie. Symmetric varieties for endoscopic groups. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.09156*, 2024.