

**Maximal antipodal sets of the
bottom space of $Sp(n)/U(n)$**

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1. Introduction

M : a compact Riemannian symmetric space

s_x : the geodesic symmetry at x

i.e., (i) s_x is an isometry of M , (ii) $s_x^2 = \text{id}$,

(iii) x is an isolated fixed point of s_x

$S \subset M$: a subset

S : an antipodal set $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \forall x, y \in S, s_x(y) = y$

The 2-number $\#_2 M$ of M

$\#_2 M := \max\{|S| \mid S \subset M \text{ antipodal set}\}$

S : great $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} |S| = \#_2 M$

(Chen-Nagano 1988)

Examples. (1) $M = S^n (\subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1})$

$\{x, -x\}$: a great antipodal set for $\forall x \in S^n$

(2) $M = \mathbb{R}P^n$

e_1, \dots, e_{n+1} : an o.n.b. of \mathbb{R}^{n+1}

$\{\langle e_1 \rangle_{\mathbb{R}}, \dots, \langle e_{n+1} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}}\}$: a great antipodal set

(3) $M = U(n)$ $s_x(y) = xy^{-1}x$

$s_{1_n}(x) = x \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 1_n$ (1_n : the unit matrix)

$x^2 = y^2 = 1_n \Rightarrow s_x(y) = y$ iff $xy = yx$

$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \pm 1 & & \\ & \dots & \\ & & \pm 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$: a great antipodal set

$M \subset N$: **totally geodesic**

$S \subset M$: **an antip. set** $\Rightarrow S \subset N$: **an antip. set**

$$\rightsquigarrow \#_2 M \leq \#_2 N$$

(Chen-Nagano) M : **cpt. conn.**

$\#_2 M \geq \chi(M)$, $\chi(M)$: **the Euler number**

“=” if M : **a Herm. sym. sp. of cpt. type**

(Takeuchi) M : **a symmetric R -space**

$$\Rightarrow \#_2 M = \sum_{k=0}^{\dim M} b_k(M; \mathbb{Z}_2)$$

b_k : **the k -th Betti number**

Remark. $S^n, \mathbb{R}P^n, U(n)$: **sym. R -sp.**

Remark. Generally \exists maximal antipodal set, not great

(T.-Tasaki 2013) In a symmetric R -space M (i) any antipodal set is included in a great antipodal set, (ii) any two great antipodal sets are $(I(M)_0-)$ congruent, (iii) a great antipodal set is an orbit of “the Weyl group”.

**A sym. R -sp. is a real form L of some Herm. sym. sp. M of cpt. type,
i.e., $\exists \tau$: an invol. anti-holo. isom. of M ;
 $L = F(\tau, M) := \{x \in M \mid \tau(x) = x\}$ (connected)**

(T.-Tasaki 2012)

M : a Herm. sym. of cpt. type

L_1, L_2 : real forms of M , $L_1 \pitchfork L_2$

$\Rightarrow L_1 \cap L_2$: an antipodal set of L_i ($i = 1, 2$)

**Moreover, if L_1, L_2 : congruent, then $L_1 \cap L_2$:
great.**

Chen-Nagano determined $\#_2 M$ for most cpt. Riem. sym. sp. M but we don't know much about antipodal sets themselves, especially when M is not a sym. R -space.

Problem: Classification of maximal antipodal sets of M which is not a sym. R -sp.

E.g. $\tilde{G}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$: oriented real Grassmann mfd. ($k = 3, 4$ Tasaki), G/Γ : quotient groups of cpt. Lie gr. (G : classical T.-Tasaki), G_2 (T.-Tasaki-Yasukura), quotient spaces of Herm. sym. sp. of cpt. type

2. Maximal antip. subgr. of cpt. classical Lie groups

G : a cpt. Lie gr. with bi-invariant metric

$$x \in G, s_x(y) = xy^{-1}x \quad (y \in G)$$

1 : the unit element of G

$$s_1(y) = y \Leftrightarrow y^2 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{If} \ x^2 = y^2 = 1, \ s_x(y) = y \Leftrightarrow xy = yx$$

$1 \in S \subset G$: max. antipodal set \Rightarrow subgroup

$$S \cong \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}_2}_r \quad |S| = 2^r$$

$r \geq \text{rank}(G)$ ($r > \text{rank}(G)$ can occur)

$$\Delta_n := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \pm 1 & & \\ & \cdots & \\ & & \pm 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subset O(n)$$

$$\Delta_n^+ := \{g \in \Delta_n \mid \det g = 1\}$$

A maximal antipodal subgr.(MAS) of $O(n)$, $U(n)$, $Sp(n)$ is conjugate to Δ_n .

A MAS of $SO(n)$, $SU(n)$ is conjugate to Δ_n^+ .

$$\#_2 O(n) = \#_2 U(n) = \#_2 Sp(n) = 2^n$$

$$\#_2 SO(n) = \#_2 SU(n) = 2^{n-1}$$

$$D[4] := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \pm 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \pm 1 \\ \pm 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subset O(2)$$

the dihedral group

$$n = 2^k \cdot l, \quad l : \text{odd}$$

$$0 \leq s \leq k$$

$$D(s, n) := \underbrace{D[4] \otimes \cdots \otimes D[4]}_s \otimes \Delta_{n/2^s} \subset O(n)$$

$$Q[8] := \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$$

$$i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1,$$

$$ij = -ji = k, \quad jk = -kj = i, \quad ki = -ik = j$$

Theorem 1 (T.-Tasaki)

$$\tilde{G} = U(n), O(n), Sp(n)$$

$$G = U(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}, O(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}, Sp(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$$

$\pi_n : \tilde{G} \rightarrow G$: **the projection**

$$n = 2^k \cdot l, \quad l : \text{odd}$$

(I) MAS of $G = O(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$ is conjugate to

$$\pi_n(D(s, n)) \quad (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, n) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

(II) MAS of $G = U(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$ is conjugate to

$$\pi_n(\{1, \sqrt{-1}\}D(s, n)) \quad (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, n) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

(III) MAS of $G = Sp(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$ is conjugate to

$$\pi_n(Q[8] \cdot D(s, n)) \quad (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, n) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

Remark. $\Delta_2 \subsetneq D[4]$.

$$D(k - 1, 2^k) = \underbrace{D[4] \otimes \cdots \otimes D[4]}_s \otimes \Delta_2$$

$$\subsetneq \underbrace{D[4] \otimes \cdots \otimes D[4]}_s \otimes D[4] = D(k, 2^k)$$

$\#_2 G$ and great antipodal subgroups (GAS) of G are given as follows.

Theorem 2 (T.-Tasaki)

(I) $G = O(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$

If $n = 2$, $\#_2 G = 2^2$, **GAS:** $\pi_2(D[4])$

If $n = 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^4$, **GAS:** $\pi_4(D(2, 4))$

If $n \neq 2, 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^{n-1}$, **GAS:** $\pi_n(\Delta_n)$

(II) $G = U(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$

If $n = 2$, $\#_2 G = 2^3$, **GAS:** $\pi_2(\{1, \sqrt{-1}\}D[4])$

If $n = 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^5$, **GAS:** $\pi_4(\{1, \sqrt{-1}\}D(2, 4))$

If $n \neq 2, 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^n$, **GAS:** $\pi_n(\{1, \sqrt{-1}\}\Delta_n)$

(III) $G = Sp(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$

If $n = 2$, $\#_2 G = 2^4$, **GAS:** $\pi_2(Q[8] \cdot D[4])$

If $n = 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^6$, **GAS:** $\pi_4(Q[8] \cdot D(2, 4))$

If $n \neq 2, 4$, $\#_2 G = 2^{n+1}$, **GAS:** $\pi_n(Q[8] \cdot \Delta_n)$

Griess (1991) , Yu (2013)

They classified conjugate classes of elementary abelian p -subgroups of algebraic groups by algebraic methods.

Antipodal subgroups = Elementary abelian 2-subgroups

3. The bottom space $CI(n)^*$ of $CI(n)$

$$CI(n) := \{x \in Sp(n) \mid x^2 = -1_n\} \cong Sp(n)/U(n)$$

an irr. Herm. sym. sp. of cpt. type

$i\Delta_n \subset CI(n)$: unique max. antip. set

\rightsquigarrow a great antip. set $\#_2 CI(n) = 2^n$

$$Sp(n)^* := Sp(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}, \quad 1_n^* := \pi_n(1_n)$$

$\pi_n : Sp(n) \rightarrow Sp(n)^*$ the projection

$$CI(n)^* := \pi_n(CI(n)) = CI(n)/\{\pm 1_n\}$$

a Riem. sym. sp. but not a Hermit. sym. sp.

$$CI(n)^* \subset F(s_{1_n^*}, Sp(n)^*)$$

4. Maximal antipodal sets of $CI(n)^*$

$S \subset CI(n)^*$: a max. antipodal set

$\{1_n^*\} \cup S$: an antipodal set of $Sp(n)^*$

$\exists \tilde{S}$: a max. antipodal subgroup of $Sp(n)^*$;

$$\{1_n^*\} \cup S \subset \tilde{S}$$

$\exists g \in Sp(n)$; $\tilde{S} = \pi_n(g(Q[8] \cdot D(s, n))g^{-1})$

$$\{1_n^*\} \cup \pi_n(g)^{-1}S\pi_n(g) \subset \pi_n(Q[8] \cdot D(s, n))$$

$$\pi_n(g)^{-1}S\pi_n(g) \subset \pi_n(Q[8] \cdot D(s, n)) \cap CI(n)^*$$

The r.h.s. is an antip. subset of $CI(n)^*$.

By the maximality of S we obtain “=”.

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_n(g)^{-1}S\pi_n(g) &= \pi_n(Q[8] \cdot D(s, n)) \cap CI(n)^* \\ &= \pi_n(\{x \in Q[8] \cdot D(s, n) \mid x^2 = -1_n\})\end{aligned}$$

$$PD(s, n) := \{d \in D(s, n) \mid d^2 = 1_n\}$$

$$ND(s, n) := \{d \in D(s, n) \mid d^2 = -1_n\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\{x \in Q[8] \cdot D(s, n) \mid x^2 = -1_n\} \\ = ND(s, n) \cup \{i, j, k\}PD(s, n)\end{aligned}$$

$$n = 2^k \cdot l, \quad l : \mathbf{odd}$$

Theorem 3 (T.-Tasaki) A maximal antipodal subset of $CI(n)^*$ is congruent to

$$\pi_n(ND(s, n) \cup \{i, j, k\}PD(s, n)) \quad (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, n) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

Theorem 3 $\rightsquigarrow \#_2 CI(n)^*$ & great antipodal sets (**GAS**) of $CI(n)^*$

$$|\pi_n(ND(s, n) \cup \{i, j, k\}PD(s, n))| \\ = (2^{s+1} + 1)2^{s-1} + 2^{k-s} \cdot l$$

$$J_1 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad K_1 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem 4 (T.-Tasaki)

(1) $\#_2 CI(2)^* = 10$

GAS: $\pi_2(\{\pm J_1\} \cup \{i, j, k\}(\Delta_2 \cup \{\pm K_1\}))$

$$(2) \#_2 CI(4)^* = 36$$

$$\mathbf{GAS:} \pi_4(ND(2, 4) \cup \{i, j, k\}PD(2, 4))$$

$$(3) \text{ If } n \neq 2, 4, \#_2 CI(n)^* = 3 \cdot 2^{n-1}$$

$$\mathbf{GAS:} \pi_n(\{i, j, k\}\Delta_n)$$

In particular, a GAS of $CI(n)^*$ is unique up to congruence.

Remark. $CI(2)^* \cong G_2(\mathbb{R}^5)$

5. Other results

$$\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$$

$G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m})$: **Grassmann mfd. of m -dim. subspaces of \mathbb{K}^{2m}**

$$\gamma : G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m}) \rightarrow G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m}), \quad \gamma(x) = x^\perp$$

$$G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m})^* := G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m}) / \{\mathbf{id}, \gamma\}$$

The corresponding sym. pair of $G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m})$:

$$(G, K) = (O(2m), O(m) \times O(m)) \quad \mathbf{if} \quad \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$$

$$(G, K) = (U(2m), U(m) \times U(m)) \quad \mathbf{if} \quad \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$$

$$(G, K) = (Sp(2m), Sp(m) \times Sp(m)) \quad \mathbf{if} \quad \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{H}$$

Consider $G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m}) \subset G$ **by the correspondence** $x \mapsto \mathbf{id}_x - \mathbf{id}_{\gamma(x)}$.

$$G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m})^* \subset G^* := G / \{\pm 1_{2m}\}$$

$$G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m}) \subset F(s_{1_{2m}}, G)$$

$$G_m(\mathbb{K}^{2m})^* \subset F(s_e, G^*), \quad e := \pi_{2m}(1_{2m})$$

$$2m = 2^k \cdot l, \quad l : \mathbf{odd}$$

Theorem 5 (T.-Tasaki) (I) A MAS of $G_m(\mathbb{R}^{2m})^*$

is cong. to

$$\pi_{2m}(\{d_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes d_s \otimes d_0 \in PD(s, 2m) \mid \\ \exists d_i (0 \leq i \leq s) \mathbf{Tr} d_i = 0\}) \quad (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, 2m) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

(II) A MAS of $G_m(\mathbb{C}^{2m})^*$ is cong. to

$$\pi_{2m}(\{d_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes d_s \otimes d_0 \in PD(s, 2m) \mid \\ \exists d_i (0 \leq i \leq s) \mathbf{Tr}d_i = 0\} \cup \sqrt{-1}ND(s, 2m)) \\ (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, 2m) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.

(III) A MAS of $G_m(\mathbb{H}^{2m})^*$ is cong. to

$$\pi_{2m}(\{d_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes d_s \otimes d_0 \in PD(s, 2m) \mid \\ \exists d_i (0 \leq i \leq s) \mathbf{Tr}d_i = 0\} \cup \{i, j, k\}ND(s, 2m)) \\ (0 \leq s \leq k)$$

where $(s, 2m) = (k - 1, 2^k)$ is excluded.