

"A symmetry-condition for quasi-symmetric domains.

1. Introduction

In [5] we gave a j -algebraic characterization of quasi-symmetric domains among bounded, homogeneous domains. In this paper we specialize to symmetric Siegel domains. We use the notation and definitions of [5]. A quasi-symmetric domain $\mathcal{D}(\Omega, F) = \{(z, u) \in U_{\mathbb{C}} \times V \mid \text{Im } z - F(u, u) \in \Omega\}$ (U is an \mathbb{R} -vector space, V is a \mathbb{C} -vector space, $F: V \times V \rightarrow U_{\mathbb{C}}$ is " Ω -hermitian", Ω is a "nice" cone in U) is symmetric precisely when

$$(1) \quad R_a R_F(b, d)^b = R_F(R_a b, d)^b \quad \forall a \in U, \forall b, d \in V,$$

where $U \ni a \rightarrow R_a \in \text{End}(V)$ is Satake's linear map. See [3], [4].

Now in the j -algebraic description of $\mathcal{D}(\Omega, F)$ given in [2], we have $U = \mathcal{L}$ and $V = \mathcal{U}$, where $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{L} + j\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$ is the corresponding j -algebra. Here \mathcal{G} is a Lie algebra, $j \in \text{End}(\mathcal{G})$ satisfies $j^2 = -\text{Id}$ and $[X, Y] + j[jX, Y] + j[X, jY] - [jX, jY] = 0 \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{G}$, \mathcal{L} is an abelian ideal of \mathcal{G} , $j\mathcal{L}$ is a subalgebra, $[\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U}] \subset \mathcal{L}$, $[j\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{U}] \subset \mathcal{U}$ and $[\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{U}] = 0$. Also there is a linear form ω on \mathcal{G} such that $\omega[jX, X] > 0$ if $X \neq 0$ and $\omega[jX, jY] = \omega[X, Y]$. Then we have the j -invariant positive definite inner product $\langle X, Y \rangle := \omega[jX, Y]$ on \mathcal{G} . Also ([2]) $\mathcal{G} = \mathfrak{h} + \sum_{\alpha} \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha}$, vector space direct sum, where $\mathfrak{h} = [\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}]^{\perp}$ is the \langle, \rangle -orthogonal complement to $[\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}]$, and $[\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}] = \sum_{\alpha} \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha}$ with root spaces $\mathfrak{k}_{\alpha} = \{X \in [\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}] \mid [H, X] = \alpha(H)X \forall H \in \mathfrak{h}\}$ where the root α is a linear form on \mathfrak{h} . Here \mathfrak{h} is an abelian subalgebra. It is shown in [2] that if $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p$ are all the roots α such that $j\mathfrak{k}_{\alpha} \subset \mathfrak{h}$, then $\mathfrak{h} = j\mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_1} + \dots + j\mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_p}$

and $\dim \mathfrak{h} = p$, and further that all roots are of the form $\alpha_k, \frac{1}{2}\alpha_k$ with $1 \leq k \leq p$, $\frac{1}{2}(\alpha_k \pm \alpha_m)$ with $1 \leq k < m \leq p$. We have

$$j\mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha_k + \alpha_m)} = \mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha_k - \alpha_m)} \quad \text{and} \quad j\mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}\alpha_k} = \mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}\alpha_k}. \quad \text{We put [2]}$$

$$\mathcal{L} := \sum_{k=1}^p \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_k} + \sum_{1 \leq k < m \leq p} \mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha_k + \alpha_m)} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{U} := \sum_{k=1}^p \mathfrak{k}_{\frac{1}{2}\alpha_k} \quad \text{and give } \mathcal{U}$$

the complex structure j . It is easy to see that $[\mathfrak{k}_\alpha, \mathfrak{k}_\beta] \subset \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha+\beta}$ and that $\mathfrak{k}_\alpha \perp \mathfrak{k}_\beta$ if $\alpha \neq \beta$. ($\mathfrak{k}_{\alpha+\beta} := (0)$ if $\alpha+\beta$ is no root). Also $\dim \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_k} = 1$, and there is a unique element $E_k \in \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_k} - \{0\}$ such that $[jE_k, E_k] = E_k$. Put $E := E_1 + \dots + E_p$. The adjoint representation of the subalgebra $j\mathcal{L}$ on the ideal \mathcal{L} gives a corresponding representation of the simply connected group \mathcal{G}_0 whose Lie algebra is $j\mathcal{L}$. Then [2] $\Omega := \mathcal{G}_0 \cdot E$ is an open, convex cone in \mathcal{L} with vertex at the origin, and not containing an entire straight line. By construction Ω is homogeneous, i.e. $\text{Gl}(\Omega) := \{g \in \text{Gl}(\mathcal{L}) \mid g\Omega = \Omega\}$ is transitive on Ω . Finally,

$F(u, v) := \frac{1}{4}[ju, v] + \frac{1}{4}i[u, v]$ is an Ω -hermitian form $F: \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. See [2]. (Of course the $\frac{1}{4}$ is inessential).

We can now state

Theorem. If a quasi-symmetric, irreducible, bounded, homogeneous domain \mathcal{D} is described by the j -algebra $(\mathfrak{g} = \mathcal{L} + j\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}, \omega)$, then \mathcal{D} is symmetric if and only if

$$R_F(b, d)^b = 0 \quad \text{whenever} \quad b \in \mathcal{U}_m, d \in \mathcal{U}_n, \quad m \neq n.$$

Remark. A similar theorem was proved by Dorfmeister [1] in his big set up.

Since any bounded, homogeneous domain can be described by a j -algebra [2] the theorem gives a simple algebraic characterization

of the symmetric, bounded domains, given the j -algebraic realization.

The rest of this paper is devoted to proving the theorem j -algebraically, using notation and results from [5]. The proof is rather computational.

2. Proof of the theorem.

I. Assume the condition is satisfied. We show that (1) is satisfied.

(a) If $b \in \mathcal{U}_n$, $d \in \mathcal{U}_m$, $m < n$, then $R_{F(R_a b, d)} b = 0 \forall a \in \mathcal{L}$

Indeed, considering cases, we use [5], § 2:

$$(2) \quad R_{E_k}(\Sigma u_1) = \frac{1}{2} u_k, \quad R_{L_{kn}}(\Sigma u_1) = \frac{1}{2} [jL_{kn}, u_n] + \\ \frac{1}{2} (\text{adj } L_{kn})' u_k \in \mathcal{U}_k + \mathcal{U}_n \quad \forall L_{kn} \in \mathfrak{k}_{(k,n)} := \mathfrak{k}_{\alpha_k + \alpha_n},$$

where $()'$ means transpose w.r.t. \langle, \rangle . Then:

- i) If $a = E_k$, $k \neq n$, then $R_a b = 0$.
- ii) If $a = E_n$, then $R_{F(R_a b, d)} b = R_{F(\frac{1}{2}b, d)} b = \frac{1}{2} R_{F(b, d)} b = 0$.
- iii) If $a = L_{kl} \in \mathfrak{k}_{(k,l)}$, $n \neq k, l$, then $R_a b = 0$.
- iv) If $a = L_{kn}$, then $R_a b = \frac{1}{2} [jL_{kn}, b] \in \mathcal{U}_k$, so $F(R_a b, d) \in F(\mathcal{U}_k, \mathcal{U}_m) \in \mathfrak{k}_{(k,m)} \mathbb{C}$. Here $k, m < n$. Now $R_{\tilde{a}} b = 0$ for $\tilde{a} \in \mathfrak{k}_{(k,m)} \mathbb{C}$. ($\exists a \rightarrow R_a \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{U})$ is extended linearly to $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{U})$).
- v) If $a \in L_{n1}$, then $R_a b = \frac{1}{2} (\text{adj } L_{n1})' b \in \mathcal{U}_1$, $F(R_a b, d) \in \mathfrak{k}_{(m,1)} \mathbb{C}$ and $R_{F(R_a b, d)} b = 0$ again, as in iv).

(b) Suppose $m = n$. We have $F(b,d) \in \mathcal{K}_{n\mathbb{C}}$, where $\mathcal{K}_n := \mathcal{K}_{\alpha_n}$, and $R_F(b,d) b \in \mathcal{U}_n$. Then

i) If $a = E_k$, $k \neq n$, then $R_a(\mathcal{U}_n) = 0$ implies that both sides of 1) vanish.

ii) If $a = E_n$, then $R_a|_{\mathcal{U}_n} = \frac{1}{2}\text{Id}$, hence

$$R_a R_F(b,d) b = \frac{1}{2} R_F(b,d) b = R_F(\frac{1}{2}b,d) b = R_F(R_a b,d) b$$

iii) If $a = L_{kl} \in \mathcal{K}_{(k,1)}$, $n \neq k,1$, then $R_a(\mathcal{U}_n) = 0$, so both sides of 1) vanish.

iv) If $a = L_{kn}$, then by 2) we have $R_a R_F(b,d) b = \frac{1}{2} [jL_{kn}, R_F(b,d) b] \in \mathcal{U}_k$, and $R_a b = \frac{1}{2} [jL_{kn}, b] \in \mathcal{U}_k$, and we want to show that

$$(3) \quad [jL_{kn}, R_F(b,d) b] = R_F([jL_{kn}, b], d) b.$$

Now $[jb, d] = \lambda E_n$, some λ . Applying ω , we get

$[jb, d] = \frac{\langle b, d \rangle}{\kappa} E_n$, where $\kappa = \omega(E_n)$ (independent of n for an irreducible, quasi-symmetric domain, by [5]). Using the form of F , we see $4F(b,d) = \frac{1}{\kappa} \{ \langle b, d \rangle - i \langle jb, d \rangle \} E_n$.

By 2) we see $R_{4F}(b,d) b = \frac{1}{2\kappa} \{ \langle b, d \rangle - i \langle jb, d \rangle \} b$, where $ib := jb$. We get

$$(4) \quad 8[jL_{kn}, R_F(b,d) b] = \frac{1}{\kappa} \{ \langle b, d \rangle [jL_{kn}, b] - \langle jb, d \rangle [jL_{kn}, jb] \}.$$

Further, using 2) and the form of F , we get

$$(5) \quad 8R_F([jL_{kn}, b], d) b = [j[j[jL_{kn}, b], d], b] + j[j[[jL_{kn}, b], d], b].$$

We have

$$(6) \quad [ju, v] = [jv, u] \quad \text{for } u \in \mathcal{U}_a, v \in \mathcal{U}_b, a \neq b, \text{ and}$$

$$(7) \quad j[jL_{kn}, b] = [jL_{kn}, jb] \quad \text{for } L_{kn} \in \mathcal{K}_{(k,n)}, b \in \mathcal{U}_n.$$

Both of these identities are proved by the four-term defining relation for a j -algebra, by considering the root-spaces (some of which may be zero) in which the terms lie.

A particular case of 6) is

$$(8) \quad [j[jL_{kn}, b], d] = -[[jL_{kn}, b], jd].$$

Further, by Leibniz identity, one proves, using above results and the fact ([5], § 2) that $[jL_{kn}, E_n] = L_{kn}$:

$$(9) \quad [[jL_{kn}, b], d] = [[jL_{kn}, d], b] - \frac{\langle jb, d \rangle}{\kappa} L_{kn}.$$

Using 8), 9) and 7), and the j -invariance of \langle, \rangle , we find

$$(10) \quad [j[j[jL_{kn}, b], d], b] = -[j[j[jL_{kn}, d], b], b] + \frac{\langle b, d \rangle}{\kappa} [jL_{kn}, b].$$

Again, by 7) and 9), we have

$$(11) \quad j[j[[jL_{kn}, b], d], b] = j[j[[jL_{kn}, d], b], b] - \frac{\langle jb, d \rangle}{\kappa} [jL_{kn}, jb].$$

By 4) and 5) we get now, using 10 and 11):

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} & 8\{-R_F([jL_{kn}, b], d)^b + [jL_{kn}, R_F(b, d)]^b\} \\ &= [j[j[jL_{kn}, d], b], b] - j[j[[jL_{kn}, d], b], b]. \end{aligned}$$

Now let $v := [jL_{kn}, d] \in \mathcal{U}_k$, ($k < n$). Then by assumption, and using 2) and 6):

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= 8R_F(b, v)^b = 2R_{[jb, v]}^b + 2jR_{[b, v]}^b \\ &= [j[jb, v], b] + j[j[b, v], b] = [j[jv, b], b] - j[j[v, b], b] \end{aligned}$$

= right hand side of 12). This proves 3).

v) If $a = L_{nl} \in \mathcal{K}_{(n,1)}$, ($n < 1$), then the calculation is similar.

Instead of adja , we must use, according to 2), $(\text{adja})'$. So we want to prove

$$(13) \quad (\text{adj}L_{nl})' R_{\mathbb{F}(b,d)} b = R_{\mathbb{F}((\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d)} b.$$

In place of 4) we have

$$(14) \quad 8(\text{adj}L_{nl})' R_{\mathbb{F}(b,d)} b = \frac{1}{\kappa} \{ \langle b,d \rangle (\text{adj}L_{nl})' b - \langle jb,d \rangle (\text{adj}L_{nl})' (jb) \},$$

and in place of 5) we have

$$(15) \quad 8R_{\mathbb{F}((\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d)} b = (\text{adj}[j(\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d])' b + j(\text{adj}[(\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d])' b.$$

In place of 7) we have, by [5], § 2,

$$(16) \quad j(\text{adj}L_{nl})' u = (\text{adj}L_{nl})' (ju) \quad \text{for } u \in \mathcal{U}_n.$$

In place of the Leibnitz identity we have, in the quasi-symmetric case, the condition (Q'') of [5], § 4:

$$(\text{adj}L)' [b,d] = [(\text{adj}L)' b,d] + [b,(\text{adj}L)' d] \quad \text{for } b,d \in \mathcal{U}, L \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Using this and the fact ([5], § 4) that $(\text{adj}L_{nl})' E_n = E_n$,

we obtain in place of 9):

$$(17) \quad [(\text{adj}L_{nl})' b,d] = [(\text{adj}L_{nl})' d,b] - \frac{\langle jb,d \rangle}{\kappa} L_{nl}.$$

We then get, in place of 10) and 11):

$$(18) \quad (\text{adj}[j(\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d])' b = -(\text{adj}[j(\text{adj}L_{nl})'d,b])' b + \frac{\langle b,d \rangle}{\kappa} (\text{adj}L_{nl})' b,$$

$$(19) \quad j(\text{adj}[(\text{adj}L_{nl})'b,d])' b = j(\text{adj}[(\text{adj}L_{nl})'d,b])' b - \frac{\langle jb,d \rangle}{\kappa} (\text{adj}L_{nl})' (jb).$$

In place of 12) we get

$$(20) \quad 8\{-R_F((\text{adj}L_{n1})'b,d)^b + (\text{adj}L_{n1})'R_F(b,d)^b\}$$

$$= (\text{adj}[j(\text{adj}L_{n1})'d,b])'b - j(\text{adj}[(\text{adj}L_{n1})'d,b])'b.$$

Letting $v := (\text{adj}L_{n1})'d \in \mathcal{U}_1$, ($1 > n$), we get as before
(using assumptions)

$$0 = 8R_F(b,v)^b = (\text{adj}[jb,v])'b + j(\text{adj}[b,v])'b$$

$$= (\text{adj}[jv,b])'b - j(\text{adj}[v,b])'b = \text{right hand side of 20)}.$$

This proves 13).

(c) Suppose $m > n$. One proves easily, practically the same way as in (a), that $R_F(R_a b, d)^b = 0 \forall a$ in this case.

(d) Now since condition 1) is not linear in b , we still have something to do. Suppose $b = \Sigma b_k$ with $b_k \in \mathcal{U}_k$. Expanding $R_a R_F(\Sigma b_k, d)^{\Sigma b_1}$ and $R_F(R_a \Sigma b_k, d)^{\Sigma b_1}$, and noting that we have proved that our assumption implies $R_a R_F(b_k, d)^{b_k} = R_F(R_a b_k, d)^{b_k}$, we need to establish the equality

$$(21) \quad R_a R_F(b_k, d)^{b_1} + R_a R_F(b_1, d)^{b_k} = R_F(R_a b_k, d)^{b_1} + R_F(R_a b_1, d)^{b_k} \quad \forall k < 1.$$

(By symmetry, and by what we have proved, 21) will then hold for $\forall k, 1$).

We can assume $d = d_n \in \mathcal{U}_n$.

(α) Suppose $n \neq k, 1$. Then $F(b_k, d_n) \in \mathcal{K}_{(k,n)} \mathcal{C}$ implies $R_F(b_k, d_n)^{b_1} = 0$, and similarly $R_F(b_1, d_n)^{b_k} = 0$. Hence left hand side of 21) equals zero.

- i) If $a = E_r$, then $R_a b_k = \frac{1}{2} b_k$ if $r = k$, and $R_a b_k = 0$ if $r \neq k$. Similarly for 1, and since $R_{F(b_k, d_n)} b_1 = 0 = R_{F(b_1, d_n)} b_k$, the right hand side of 21) vanishes.
- ii) If $a = L_{st} \in \mathcal{K}_{(s,t)}$, and if $n < k < 1$, then a possibly non-zero right hand side can occur only when s or t equals k or 1 by 2). In fact 2) shows that we need only check the case $s = k, t = 1$, since otherwise both terms on the right hand side vanish. Now in terms of the Jordan product \circ on U (see [3], [4]) we have $L \circ F(u, v) = F(R_L u, v) + F(u, R_L v)$, because of quasi-symmetry. Furthermore (see [3]) $R_{L \circ M} = R_L R_M + R_M R_L$. So the right hand side of 21) equals

$$\begin{aligned} & R_{L_{kl}} \circ F(b_k, d_n) - F(b_k, R_{L_{kl}} d_n) b_1 + R_{F(R_{L_{kl}} b_1, d_n)} b_k \\ &= R_{L_{kl}} R_{F(b_k, d_n)} b_1 - R_{F(b_k, R_{L_{kl}} d_n)} b_1 \\ &+ \{R_{F(b_k, d_n)} R_{L_{kl}} b_1 + R_{F(R_{L_{kl}} b_1, d_n)} b_k\}. \end{aligned}$$

The first two terms vanish since $F(b_k, d_n) \in \mathcal{K}_{(n,k)} \mathcal{C}$ and $R_{L_{kl}} d_n = 0$ (see 2)). Putting $\tilde{b}_k := R_{L_{kl}} b_1 \in \mathcal{U}_k$, the expression equals

$$R_{F(b_k, d_n)} \tilde{b}_k + R_{F(\tilde{b}_k, d_n)} b_k = R_{F(b_k + \tilde{b}_k, d_n)} (b_k + \tilde{b}_k) - R_{F(b_k, d_n)} b_k - R_{F(\tilde{b}_k, d_n)} \tilde{b}_k = 0,$$

by assumptions.

The cases $k < n < 1$ and $k < 1 < n$ are similar.

(β) Suppose $k < n < 1$. Then $F(b_k, d_k) \in \mathcal{K}_{k\mathcal{C}}$, so $R_{F(b_k, d_k)} b_1 = 0$.

Further $R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} b_k \in \mathcal{U}_1$ since $\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k) \in \mathcal{K}_{(k,1)} \mathbb{C}$, and the left hand side of 21) is $R_a R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} b_k$.

i) If $a = E_r$, then the left hand side of 21) is contained in $R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} (\mathcal{U}_1)$, which is non-zero only if $r = 1$, and in that case the left hand side equals ${}^1 R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} b_k = R_{\mathbb{F}(\frac{1}{2}b_1, d_k)} b_k = R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_1, d_k)} b_k =$ right hand side of 21), since $R_a b_k = 0$. For $r \neq k, 1$ the right hand side equals zero, as we want. For $r = k$ we have $R_a b_1 = 0$, $R_a b_k = \frac{1}{2}b_k$, so the right hand side equals ${}^1 R_{\mathbb{F}(b_k, d_k)} b_1 = 0$, since $\mathbb{F}(b_k, d_k) \in \mathcal{K}_{k\mathbb{C}}$, again as we want.

ii) If $a = L_{st} \in \mathcal{K}_{(s,t)}$, we have to check that

$$R_a R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} b_k = R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_k, d_k)} b_1 + R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_1, d_k)} b_k.$$

Here the right hand side equals

$$\begin{aligned} & R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_k, d_k)} b_1 + R_a \circ \mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k) - \mathbb{F}(b_1, R_a d_k) b_k \\ &= R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_k, d_k)} b_1 + R_a R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} b_k + R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} R_a b_k - R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, R_a d_k)} b_k. \end{aligned}$$

So we have to check that

$$R_{\mathbb{F}(R_a b_k, d_k)} b_1 + R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} R_a b_k = R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, R_a d_k)} b_k.$$

Here the left hand side is non-zero only if $(s,t) = (k,1)$ (see 2)), in which case it equals zero, since, letting

$$\tilde{b}_1 := R_a b_k \in \mathcal{U}_1, \text{ we have } R_{\mathbb{F}(\tilde{b}_1, d_k)} b_1 + R_{\mathbb{F}(b_1, d_k)} \tilde{b}_1 = 0,$$

just as in case α) ii) above. The right hand side is non-zero only if $R_a d_k \neq 0$ and $\mathbb{F}(b_1, R_a d_k) \in \mathcal{K}_{(k,1)} \mathbb{C}$.

But this is impossible (see 2)).

(γ) If $k < l = n$, the argument is as in case (β). This proves one way of the theorem.

II. Now suppose we have symmetry. Then in 1) let $b \in \mathcal{U}_k$, $d \in \mathcal{U}_l$, $k \neq l$, and thus $R_{F(b,d)}b \in \mathcal{U}_l$ (see 2)).

Let $a = E_l$. Then left hand side of 1) equals $\frac{1}{2}R_{F(b,d)}b$, and the right hand side vanishes since $R_a b = 0$.

Hence $R_{F(b,d)}b = 0$.

q.e.d.

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