THE WAVE FRONT SET AND THE ASYMPTOTIC SUPPORT FOR *p*-ADIC GROUPS

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We prove that for p-adic groups the notion of the wave front set of a representation coincides with the notion of the asymptotic support.

1. The wave front sets of finite sums of homogeneous distributions. Let Ω be a *p*-adic field of characteristic zero, with valuation $|\cdot|$. Let **g** be a finite dimensional vector space over Ω . Fix a non-trivial character χ of the additive group Ω , and a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form β on **g** with values in Ω .

For $f \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbf{g})$ (compactly supported, locally constant functions on \mathbf{g}) define a Fourier Transform by

(1.1)
$$\hat{f}(Y) = \int_{\mathbf{g}} \chi(\beta(Y, X)) f(X) \, dX \qquad (Y \in \mathbf{g}).$$

Here dX is a Haar measure on the additive group of **g** (normalized so that the formula $(\hat{f})^{-}(x) = f(-x)$ holds). Then $f \to \hat{f}$ is a bijective mapping of $C_c^{\infty}(\mathbf{g})$ onto itself (see [Ha1] or [W, p. 107]). If T is a distribution **g** then its Fourier transform \hat{T} is given by

(1.2)
$$\widehat{T}(f) = T(\widehat{f}) \qquad (f \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbf{g})).$$

Let $n = \dim_{\Omega}(\mathbf{g})$. For $f \in C_{c}^{\infty}(\mathbf{g})$ define

(1.3)
$$f_{\lambda}(X) = |\lambda|^{-n} f(\lambda^{-1} X) \qquad (X \in \mathbf{g}, \ \lambda \in \Omega^{\times}).$$

Fix an open subgroup Λ of Ω^x with $[\Omega^x : \Lambda] < \infty$.

DEFINITION 1.4. A distribution T on g is Λ -homogeneous of degree $d \in \mathbf{C}$ if

$$T(f_{\lambda}) = |\lambda|^d T(f) \qquad (f \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbf{g}), \ \lambda \in \Lambda).$$

Notice that

(1.5)
$$(f_{\lambda})^{\hat{}} = |\lambda|^{-n} (\hat{f})_{\lambda^{-1}} \quad (f \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbf{g}), \ \lambda \in \Omega^x),$$

so that if T is Λ -homogeneous of degree d then \widehat{T} is a Λ -homogeneous of degree -n - d. Clearly if T is a function:

$$T(f) = \int_{\mathbf{g}} T(X) f(X) \, dX,$$