

# Controllability on $\mathrm{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$

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## Abstract

The set  $G = \mathrm{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  of complex matrices of order two and determinant 1 has rank 1 and induces just one flag  $S^2 = \mathbb{C}P^2$ . In this case, the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  is an open Bruhat cell given by the complex lines in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  generated by vectors of type  $(z, 1)$ . The action of  $g \in \mathrm{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  on  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  is given by the Möbius function.

The semigroup  $S$  of a transitive invariant control system  $\Sigma : X + uY$ ,  $|u| \leq 1$  on  $G$  is generated by the exponential of elements in the cone  $\{\lambda(X + uY) : \lambda \geq 0, |u| \leq 1\}$ . However, by convexity  $S$  is generated just by two half-lines which define the boundaries of the cone, i. e.,  $\exp t(X + Y)$  and  $\exp t(X - Y)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . Therefore, the controllability problem of  $\Sigma$  on  $G$  consist in to decide for which pairs of elements  $A, B$  in the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  of  $G$ , the semigroup generated by  $\exp tA$  and  $\exp tB$ ,  $t \geq 0$  is proper or not.

A semigroup of  $\mathrm{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  is proper if and only if its invariant control set in the flag  $S^2 = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  is proper, [1]. Which means that there exists

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a proper invariant set by  $\exp tA$  and  $\exp tB$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . Furthermore, the pair  $A, B$  is controllable if the semigroup generated by  $\exp tA$  and  $\exp tB$ ,  $t \geq 0$  is  $\text{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ .

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A matrix  $A \in \text{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  defined by its rows  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $(\gamma, -\alpha)$  induces a vector field  $A$  on the sphere  $S^2$  such that over  $\mathbb{C}$  correspond to the quadratic vector field  $A(z) = -\gamma z^2 + 2\alpha z + \beta$ , associated to a Ricatti differential equation.

Any Möbius function is a composition of two types of functions:  $z \mapsto az + b$  and  $z \mapsto 1/z$  which preserves the set of circles in  $\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ . Here the lines of  $\mathbb{C}$  are the circles through  $\infty$ .

## 1 Trajectories of diagonalizable elements

Let  $B$  be a diagonalizable matrix given by

$$g \begin{pmatrix} -\gamma & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix} g^{-1}.$$

**Proposition 1** *The trajectories of  $B$  are given by the images by  $g$  of the corresponding trajectories of  $\text{diag}(-\gamma, \gamma)$ . There are two fixed points  $g(0)$  and  $g(\infty)$  and*

1. If  $\pm\gamma \in i\mathbb{R}$  the orbits are the circles  $gC(0, r)$  where  $C(0, r)$  is the circle with center 0 and radio  $r$ .
2. If  $\pm\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  the orbits remain in the circles through the fixed points  $g(0)$  and  $g(\infty)$ . Inside of any circle there are four orbits: two fixed points and two connected component separates by the singularities. The trajectories moves from  $g(\infty)$  to  $g(0)$  if  $\gamma < 0$ , and in the contrary if  $\gamma > 0$ .

Any circle  $gC(0, r)$  is called circle of level of  $B$ . The only one circle through  $\infty$  is a line called *separator*

The Jordan canonical forms of a matrix in  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  are  $\begin{pmatrix} -a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Thus, there exists just one nilpotent orbit and the diagonalizable orbits are parametrized by the eigenvalues  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ . Just observe, that  $A, B \in \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  and  $g \in \text{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  the pair  $A, B$  is controllable if and only if the pair  $gAg^{-1}, gBg^{-1}$  is controllable. So, it is possible to select suitable pairs in a same adjoint orbit in  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})^2$ .

**Proposition 2** *The standard form of a pair of diagonalizable matrices  $A, B$  is given by*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} -\gamma - 2x\gamma & 2(\gamma + x\gamma) \\ -2x\gamma & \gamma + 2x\gamma \end{pmatrix}, \text{Re}\alpha, \text{Re}\gamma \geq 0.$$

Here,  $\pm\gamma$  are the eigenvalues of  $B$ ,  $1 \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$  is an eigenspace and  $x = \frac{1}{w-1}$  where  $w \in \mathbb{C} \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$  is the other eigenspace. Furthermore, 1 is the attractor if  $Re(\gamma) > 1$ .

## 2 Controllability

Since  $\Sigma$  is transitive  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{R}} = \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ , thus there exists just one invariant control set in  $S^2$ , denoted by  $C$  with  $\text{int}C \neq \emptyset$ . Both,  $C$  and  $\text{int}C$  are connected and  $\Sigma$  is controllable if and only if  $C = S^2$ .

**Theorem 3** *Let  $\Sigma$  be a control system with  $A, B$  in the standard form. We have*

- a) If  $A$  and  $B$  have real eigenvalue  $\Sigma$  is not controllable
- b) If  $\alpha \in i\mathbb{R}$  the only on invariant control set is the ring

$$C = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} : \rho_1 \leq |z| \leq \rho_2\}, 0 \leq \rho_1 < \rho_2 \leq \infty$$

- c) If the eigenvalues of  $A$  and  $B$  belong to  $i\mathbb{R}$  the system  $\Sigma$  is controllable
- d) If  $\alpha \in i\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\Sigma$  is controllable if and only if  $(\text{expt}B)K \subset K$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , where  $K = B[0, \rho]$ ,  $\rho > 1$  if  $|w| > 1$ , or  $K = B[0, \rho]^c$ ,  $\rho < 1$  if  $|w| < 1$ . As a consequence,  $\Sigma$  is controllable if and only if  $B$  leave invariant a ball or the complement of a ball depending on  $|w| > 1$  or  $|w| < 1$ .

In the sequel we establish conditions in order to a diagonalizable matrix  $X$  leave invariant a ball. This allows to us to give necessary and sufficient conditions to controllability. Assume the eigenvalues of  $X$  are  $\pm \delta$  with  $Re(\delta) > 0$ , with  $w^+$  (attractor) and  $w^-$  (repulsor) its fixed points. The following balls are  $\exp(tX)$ -invariant  $t \geq 0$ : half-planes limited by lines and closed balls with center  $\infty$ . Both, are images of compact balls for Moebius transformations.

**Proposition 4** *The ball  $B[0, r]$  is not invariant for  $X$  in the next two cases*

- a)  $w^- \in \text{int}(B[0, r])$
- b)  $w^+ \notin B[0, r]$ .

**Conclusion 5** *The previous results show a way to determine completely the controllability property of an invariant control systems on  $\text{Sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ . At the very end, it is necessary to find the subsets of  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}) \times \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ , which are conformed by controllable or not controllable pairs. It is well known that the class  $X + uY$  of systems is generically controllable with non restrict admissible controls. However, when restrict control are considered as  $|u| \leq \rho$ , it is necessary to find the values of  $\rho$  to decide when the pair  $(X - \rho Y, X + \rho Y)$  is controllable or not. Specially, the bifurcation point  $\rho^*$  such that  $(X - \rho Y, X + \rho Y)$  is not controllable for  $\rho \leq \rho^*$  and controllable for  $\rho > \rho^*$ . This is possible with an explicitly description of the controllable pairs in  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}) \times \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$ .*

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