

## SEMIGROUPS IN CARTAN DOMAINS OF TYPE FOUR

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### 1. $J^*$ -ALGEBRAS AND BOUNDED SYMMETRIC DOMAINS

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  be complex Hilbert spaces, and let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H})$  be the complex Banach space of all bounded linear operators  $\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H})$ ,  $A^* \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K})$  will indicate the adjoint operator of  $A$ .

A  $J^*$ -algebra is a closed linear subspace  $\mathfrak{F}$  of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H})$  such that, if  $A \in \mathfrak{F}$  then  $AA^*A \in \mathfrak{F}$ . The notion of  $J^*$ -algebra has been introduced by L.A. Harris in [5]. We refer to this paper for all basic facts on  $J^*$ -algebras, and to [6], [7], [8] for further developments.

For example,  $\mathfrak{F} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})$  is a  $J^*$ -algebra. If  $n = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H} < \infty$  and  $m = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{K} < \infty$ ,  $\mathfrak{F} = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H})$  (can be identified with  $\mathbb{C}^{nm}$  and) is called *Cartan factor of type one*. This terminology has been extended by L.A. Harris to the infinite dimensional case.

If  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}, \mathcal{H})$  can be canonically identified with the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  which is then a  $J^*$ -algebra. If  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}$ , the Banach space  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})$  of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$  is a  $J^*$ -algebra. By the Gelfand-Naimark theorem [23], every  $C^*$ -algebra is therefore a  $J^*$ -algebra.

A conjugation in the complex Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  is, by definition, a continuous anti-linear map  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  into itself, which is involutory and has norm  $\leq 1$ . It turns out that a conjugation is necessarily a surjective isometry of  $\mathcal{H}$ . Conjugations always exist in all complex Hilbert spaces and may be so chosen to coincide with their adjoints. Given a conjugation  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ , the linear operator  ${}^tA$  defined for  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  by  ${}^tAx = A^*\bar{x}$  is continuous on  $\mathcal{H}$  and is called the *transposed* operator of  $A$ . The space

$$\mathfrak{F} = \{A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : {}^tA = A\}$$

is a  $J^*$ -algebra, which is called a *Cartan factor of type two* by an extension of the familiar terminology introduced when  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H} < \infty$ .

Similarly, the space

$$\mathfrak{F} = \{A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : {}^tA = -A\}$$

is a  $J^*$ -algebra, called a *Cartan factor of type three*.

A *Cartan factor of type four* is a self-adjoint (i.e.  $*$ -invariant) closed subspace  $\mathfrak{F}$  of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $A \in \mathfrak{F}$  implies that  $A^2$  is a scalar multiple of the identity  $I = I_{\mathcal{H}}$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ :

$$A^2 = aI$$

for some  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ . By definition,  $A^* \in \mathfrak{F}$ , and then

$$A^{*2} = \bar{a}I.$$

If  $B \in \mathfrak{F}$ , then  $B^2 = bI$  and  $(A + B)^2 = cI$  for some  $b$  and  $c$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Hence  $AB + BA$  is a scalar multiple of the identity:

$$(1.1) \quad AB + BA = (A + B)^2 - A^2 - B^2 = (c - a - b)I.$$

For  $B = A^*$ , then

$$AA^*A = (AA^* + A^*A)A - A^*A^2 = (c - 2\operatorname{Re}a)A - aA^* \in \mathfrak{F},$$

proving thereby that a Cartan factor of type four is a  $J^*$ -algebra [5].

The open unit ball  $D$  of a  $J^*$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a bounded, homogeneous, symmetric domain [5], i.e. the group  $\operatorname{Aut}D$  of all holomorphic automorphisms of  $D$  acts transitively on  $D$ , and every point of  $D$  is an isolated fixed point of an involutory element of  $\operatorname{Aut}D$ . In the case in which  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a Cartan factor,  $D$  is called a *Cartan domain*. In the finite-dimensional case, the Cartan domains of the four types listed above exhaust all finite-dimensional bounded symmetric domains, except for two domains of complex dimensions 16 and 27 respectively. It was shown by O. Loos and K. McCrimmon [19] (cf. also [20]) that these domains are not the open unit balls of  $J^*$ -algebras.

Since  $D$  is a homogeneous ball, the Kobayashi differential metric  $\kappa$  of  $D$  coincides with the Carathéodory metric <sup>(1)</sup>.

Let  $\operatorname{Iso}D$  be the semigroup of all holomorphic maps of  $D$  into  $D$  which are isometries for  $\kappa$ . The invariance property of  $\kappa$  implies that  $\operatorname{Aut}D$  is a subgroup of  $\operatorname{Iso}D$ . Contrary to what happens in the finite-dimensional case, if  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{E} = \infty$ ,  $\operatorname{Aut}D$  is properly contained in  $\operatorname{Iso}D$ :

$$(1.2) \quad \operatorname{Aut}D \subsetneq \operatorname{Iso}D.$$

In the finite-dimensional case, the Cartan domains were described by É. Cartan [1] in 1935 as quotient of connected simple Lie groups, and their homogeneity was a direct consequence of the construction. However (leaving obviously aside the cases of the unit disc of  $\mathbb{C}$  and of the polydisc in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ), the determination of  $\operatorname{Aut}D$  came only later. The first general result is due to C.L. Siegel [26] who in 1943 determined  $\operatorname{Aut}D$  for any Cartan domain  $D$  of type two. Siegel's ground-breaking paper inspired further research by H. Klingenberg [16], [17], [18] for

<sup>(1)</sup> For all properties of invariant metrics referred to in this paper, see e.g. [4].

domains of type one and three, and by U. Hirzebruch [13] for domains of type four. In the case of the open unit ball  $D$  of any  $J^*$ -algebra  $\mathbb{F}$ , similar questions arise for  $AutD$ , and - in the infinite dimensional case - generate, in view of (1.2), parallel and still largely unsolved problems for the semigroup  $IsoD$ .

The description of  $AutD$  for an infinite dimensional Cartan domain  $D$  was first carried out, for the open unit ball of a complex Hilbert space, by A. Renaud [22] (who extended to any dimension results established by M. Hervé [10] in the finite-dimensional case) and by T.L. Hayden and J.T. Suffridge [9]. The group  $AutD$  was investigated by T. Franzoni [3] for any Cartan domain of type one, by J. Hervés [11] for the types two and three, and by L.A. Harris [5] (cf. also [12]) for type four. All these papers follow the same pattern, which consists of two steps. The first one exhibits a group of holomorphic automorphisms acting transitively on  $D$ . This group consists of "fractional" transformations which, in analogy to the classical terminology for the unit disc of  $\mathbb{C}$ , are often called "Möbius transformations". The second step yields an explicit construction of the isotropy group  $(AutD)_0$  of 0 in  $AutD$ . An essential tool is here H. Cartan's linearity theorem (cf. e.g. [4]) whereby every element of  $(AutD)_0$  is the restriction to  $D$  of a linear automorphism of the Banach space  $\mathbb{F}$ .

The knowledge of the subgroup of  $AutD$  consisting of the Möbius transformations reduces the construction of  $IsoD$  to the determination of the isotropy semigroup  $(IsoD)_0$  of 0 in  $IsoD$ . At this point, however, the similarity to the case  $AutD$  ends, and the investigation is made much harder by the fact that H. Cartan's linearity theorem fails to hold for  $(IsoD)_0$ , as examples show [28]. So far, the only case which has been exhaustively dealt with is that of the unit ball of any complex Hilbert space [4, 28].

Let  $D$  be now a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . According to a classical theorem of H. Cartan [2] (cf. e.g. [21]), the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets in  $D$  is the underlying topology of a real Lie group structure in  $AutD$  for which the canonical map  $AutD \times D \rightarrow D$  defined by the action of  $AutD$  in  $D$  is continuous (actually real-analytic). Hence the investigation of the structure of the group  $AutD$ , and more specifically the description of the one-parameter subgroups of  $AutD$ , lies within the framework of Lie algebras.

In the infinite dimensional case different topologies may be considered in  $IsoD$  and  $AutD$ , leading to different one parameter semigroups. These latter have been investigated in [27] when  $D$  is the open unit ball of any complex Hilbert space, and in [29] in the case of any Cartan factor  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K})$  when at least one of the two Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  has finite dimension.

The present paper will report on a similar investigation in the case of Cartan domains of type four.

## 2. CARTAN FACTORS OF TYPE FOUR AS HILBERT SPACES

The spectral representation of continuous linear operators whose squares are scalar multiples

of the identity has been investigated in [30] in the general case in which the operators act on a complex Banach space  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{U})$ . The following lemma has been established in [30].

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $A^2 = aI$  and  $a \neq 0$ , at least one of the two square-roots of  $a$  is contained in the spectrum  $\sigma(A)$  of  $A$ . If  $\sqrt{a} \in \sigma(A)$  and if  $Q$  is the spectral projector associated to  $\sqrt{a}$ ,  $A$  is expressed by*

$$A = \sqrt{a}(2Q - I).$$

If  $a = 0$ , then

$$(\xi I - A)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\xi} \left( I + \frac{1}{\xi} A \right) \quad \text{for all } \xi \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}.$$

If  $a \neq 0$ ,  $A$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{U})$  and

$$(2.1) \quad A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} (2Q - I).$$

**Corollary 2.2.** *If  $a \neq 0$  and  $\sigma(A) = \{\sqrt{a}\}$ , then  $A$  is a scalar multiple of the identity:  $A = \sqrt{a}I$ .*

Now, let  $A$  and  $B$  be two non-vanishing elements of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{U})$  such that

$$(2.2) \quad A^2 = aI, \quad B^2 = bI, \quad (A + B)^2 = cI,$$

for some  $a, b, c$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then (1.1) holds, and, for all  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}$ .

$$(2.3) \quad (\xi I - AB)(\xi I - BA) = (\xi - \xi_1)(\xi - \xi_2)I,$$

where  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are the roots of the quadratic equation

$$\xi^2 + (a + b - c)\xi + ab = 0.$$

By (2.3),  $\sigma(AB) \subset \{\xi_1, \xi_2\}$ . Since  $(\xi_1 I - AB)(\xi_1 I - BA) = 0$ , if  $\xi_1 \notin \sigma(AB)$ , then  $BA = \xi_1 I$ , and (2.3) yields

$$(\xi - \xi_1)(\xi I - AB) = (\xi - \xi_1)(\xi - \xi_2)I$$



for all  $\xi \in \mathbb{C}$ , whence  $AB = \xi_2 I$ . Because  $\xi_1 \notin \sigma(AB)$ , then  $\xi_1 \neq \xi_2$ , contradicting the fact that

$$\xi_2 A = ABA = A(BA) = \xi_1 A,$$

proving thereby that

$$\sigma(AB) = \sigma(BA) = \{\xi_1, \xi_2\}.$$

A direct computation using (2.3) shows that, if  $\xi_1 \neq \xi_2$ ,

$$(\xi I - AB)^{-1} = \frac{1}{(\xi - \xi_1)(\xi_1 - \xi_2)} (\xi_1 I - BA) - \frac{1}{(\xi - \xi_2)(\xi_1 - \xi_2)} (\xi_2 I - BA),$$

for all  $\xi \neq \xi_1, \xi \neq \xi_2$ , proving

**Lemma 2.3.** *If  $\xi_1 \neq \xi_2$ ,  $\xi_1$  is a pole of order one of  $(\cdot I - AB)^{-1}$  and of  $(\cdot I - BA)^{-1}$  with residues  $\frac{1}{\xi_1 - \xi_2} (\xi_1 I - BA)$  and  $\frac{1}{\xi_1 - \xi_2} (\xi_1 I - AB)$ .*

Similarly,  $\xi_2$  is a pole of order one of  $(\cdot I - AB)^{-1}$  and of  $(\cdot I - BA)^{-1}$  with residues  $\frac{1}{\xi_2 - \xi_1} (\xi_2 I - BA)$  and  $\frac{1}{\xi_2 - \xi_1} (\xi_2 I - AB)$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $\xi_1 = \xi_2$ ,  $\xi_1$  is a pole of order two of  $(\cdot I - AB)^{-1}$  and of  $(\cdot I - BA)^{-1}$ .*

Now, let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a Cartan factor of type four and let  $A, B \in \mathfrak{F}$ . By (1.1),  $AB^* + B^*A$  is a scalar multiple of the identity. Setting

$$(2.4) \quad AB^* + B^*A = 2(A|B)I,$$

the function  $A, B \rightarrow (A|B) \in \mathbb{C}$  is a positive-definite inner product on  $\mathfrak{F}$ , such that

$$\frac{1}{2} \|A\|^2 \leq (A|A) \leq \|A\|^2 \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathfrak{F},$$

where  $\| \cdot \|$  denotes the norm in the Banach space  $\mathfrak{F}$  [5]. Thus the inner product expressed by (2.4) defines in  $\mathfrak{F}$  a complex Hilbert space norm which is equivalent to  $\| \cdot \|$ . Conversely, as was shown by L.A. Harris in [5], any complex Hilbert space endowed with a conjugation can be obtained as the Hilbert space associated to a Cartan factor of type four.

If  $A$  is orthogonal to  $I$ , then

$$0 = 2(A|I)I = AI + IA = 2A.$$

Corollary 2.2 yields

**Lemma 2.5.** *If  $\mathfrak{F}$  contains an element whose spectrum consists of a single non-vanishing complex number, then  $\mathfrak{F} \cong \mathbb{C}$ .*

If  $A \in \mathfrak{F}$  is a normal operator, (2.4) implies that  $A$  is a scalar multiple of a unitary operator. If  $A$  itself is unitary, by Lemma 2.1  $A$  is expressed by

$$A = e^{i\theta}(2Q - I),$$

where  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\sigma(A) = \{e^{i\theta}, e^{-i\theta}\}$  and, by (2.1), the fact that  $A$  is unitary is equivalent to  $Q$  being an orthogonal projector. Hence, every unitary operator in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a scalar multiple of a self-adjoint, unitary operator. In conclusion, the following lemma holds [5]:

**Lemma 2.6.** *Every normal operator in a Cartan factor of type four is a scalar multiple of a self-adjoint unitary operator.*

Since  $A^2 = 0$  is equivalent to the condition

$$\text{Ker}A \supset \text{Ran}A,$$

every isometry contained in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a unitary operator.

According to a general result of Kadison-Harris [5] the complex extreme points of the closed unit ball of any  $J^*$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{F}$  coincide with the real extreme points and are those operators  $A \in \mathfrak{F}$  satisfying

$$(2.6) \quad (I - AA^*)Z(I - A^*A) = 0$$

identically for all  $Z \in \mathfrak{F}$ . In particular, every extreme point is a partial isometry, and (2.6) implies that, if  $A$  is a linear isometry, then  $A$  is an extreme point of the closed unit ball.

Let now  $D$  be the open unit ball of the Cartan factor of type four  $\mathfrak{F}$ , and let  $A$  be an extreme point of  $\overline{D}$ . Then  $A$  is a partial isometry. If  $A$  is not an isometry, then  $\text{Ker}A \neq \{0\}$ , and therefore  $A^2 = 0$ . Hence  $A^{*2} = 0$ , and choosing  $Z = A^*$ , (2.6) yields  $A^* = 0$ , i.e.,  $A = 0$ . That proves

**Proposition 2.7.** *The extreme points of  $\overline{D}$  are all the unitary operators in  $\mathfrak{F}$ .*

Since the Banach space  $\mathfrak{F}$  is reflexive [25], the Kreĭn-Milman theorem, Proposition 2.7 and Lemma 2.6 yield

**Proposition 2.8.** *Any Cartan factor of type four is spanned by its self-adjoint unitary operators.*

The set of these operators is called a spin-system.

Some of the results established above will now be instrumental in expressing the norm  $\| \cdot \|$  in terms of the inner product  $(\cdot | \cdot)$ . Choosing in (2.2)  $B = A^*$ , then  $b = \bar{a}$ ,

$$c = 2(\operatorname{Re}a + (A|A))$$

and  $\sigma(A^*A)$  consists of the roots of the quadratic equation

$$(2.7) \quad \xi^2 - 2(A|A)\xi + |a|^2 = 0.$$

Since  $A^*A$  is hermitian,  $\sigma(A^*A) \subset \mathbb{R}$ , i.e.,

$$(A|A)^2 - |a|^2 \geq 0,$$

$$|a| \leq (A|A).$$

But  $|a|$  is the spectral radius  $\rho(A^2) = \rho(A)^2$  of  $A^2$ . Hence

$$(2.8) \quad \rho(A) = \sqrt{|a|} \leq (A|A)^{1/2} \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathfrak{F}.$$

For  $A \neq 0$ , the equation (2.7) has one positive and one non-negative real root, and  $\rho(A^*A)$  must be the largest of these roots, i.e.,

$$(2.9) \quad \rho(A^*A) = (A|A) + \sqrt{(A|A)^2 - |a|^2}.$$

Because  $\rho(A^*A) = \|A^*A\| = \|A\|^2$ , and

$$(2.10) \quad 2(A|A^*)I = AA + AA = 2aI,$$

then

$$(2.11) \quad (A|A^*) = a,$$

and (2.9) becomes

$$\|A\|^2 = (A|A) + \sqrt{(A|A)^2 - |(A|A^*)|^2}.$$

The unit ball  $D$  in the Banach space  $\mathfrak{F}$  is defined by the inequality

$$\sqrt{(A|A)^2 - |(A|A^*)|^2} < 1 - (A|A).$$

If  $A \in D$ , then by (2.5)

$$(A|A)^2 - |(A|A^*)|^2 < (1 - (A|A))^2.$$

Hence  $A \in D$  if, and only if,

$$(A|A) < 1, 1 - 2(A|A) + |(A|A^*)|^2 > 0.$$

Since, by (2.11) and (2.8),  $|(A|A^*)| \leq (A|A)$ , then

$$D = \left\{ A \in \mathfrak{H} : (A|A) < \frac{1}{2} (1 + |(A|A^*)|^2) < 1 \right\}.$$

### 3. HOLOMORPHIC AUTOMORPHISMS OF CARTAN DOMAINS OF TYPE FOUR

Changing notations, let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a real Hilbert space, and let  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H} + i\mathcal{H}$  be its complexification with the corresponding conjugation  $\xi + i\eta = \xi - i\eta$  ( $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ ) and the complex Hilbert space structure defined by

$$\|\xi + i\eta\|^2 = \|\xi\|^2 + \|\eta\|^2.$$

Let  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  be the corresponding inner product in  $\mathcal{H}$ , and let  $D$  be the domain in  $\mathcal{H}$  defined by

$$D = \left\{ z \in \mathcal{H} : \|z\|^2 < \frac{1}{2} (1 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2) < 1 \right\}.$$

In view of the results of §2,  $D$  is a Cartan domain of type four. As such,  $D$  is a bounded, convex, homogeneous, symmetric domain.

Assume on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  the canonical conjugation. The Hilbert space direct sum  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  is endowed with a conjugation leaving  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathbb{C}^2$  invariant, and whose restrictions to  $\mathcal{H}$  and to  $\mathbb{C}^2$  coincide with the given ones.

Let  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  denote also the inner product in  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$ , and let  $J \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  be the real operator defined by the matrix

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -I_2 \end{pmatrix},$$



where  $I$  denotes, as before, the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $I_2$  is the identity operator in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . For  $p = {}^t (x, u_1, u_2) \in \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$ , ( $x \in \mathcal{H}, u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ ), let  $D'$  be the set in  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  defined by

$$(Jp|\bar{p}) = 0, \quad (Jp|p) < 0,$$

i.e.,

$$(3.1) \quad (x|\bar{x}) = u_1^2 + u_2^2, \quad \|x\|^2 = (x|x) < |u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2.$$

If  $p \in D'$ , then  $u_1 u_2 \neq 0$ . Furthermore  $Im \frac{u_1}{u_2} \neq 0$ , since otherwise

$$|u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2 = |u_1 + u_2|^2,$$

while, by (3.1) and the Schwarz inequality,

$$|u_1^2 + u_2^2| = |(x|\bar{x})| \leq \|x\|^2 < |u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2.$$

Let  $\tilde{D}$  be the set

$$\tilde{D} = \left\{ p = {}^t (x, u_1, u_2) \in D' : Im \frac{u_1}{u_2} > 0 \right\}.$$

For any point in this set, let  $z = \frac{1}{u_1 + iu_2} x$ . Then

$$(3.2) \quad (z|\bar{z}) = \frac{u_1 - iu_2}{u_1 + iu_2},$$

$$\|z\|^2 = (z|z) < \frac{|u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2}{|u_1 + iu_2|^2} = \frac{|u_1 - iu_2|^2 + |u_1 + iu_2|^2}{2|u_1 + iu_2|^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \left| \frac{u_1 - iu_2}{u_1 + iu_2} \right|^2 \right),$$

$$Im \frac{u_1}{u_2} = \frac{1}{|u_2|^2} (Im u_1 Re u_2 - Re u_1 Im u_2).$$

Since, on the other hand,

$$1 - \left| \frac{u_1 - iu_2}{u_1 + iu_2} \right|^2 = \frac{4}{|u_1 + iu_2|^2} (Im u_1 Re u_2 - Re u_1 Im u_2),$$

the inequality  $Im \frac{u_1}{u_2} > 0$  is equivalent to

$$\left| \frac{u_1 - iu_2}{u_1 + iu_2} \right| < 1.$$

In conclusion, the map  $p \rightarrow z = \frac{1}{u_1 + iu_2} x$  transforms bijectively the set of all complex lines in  $\tilde{D}$  onto the domain  $D$ . Thus, letting  $D_1 = \{p \in \tilde{D} : u_1 + iu_2 = 1\}$ , the map  $p \rightarrow z$  is a bi-holomorphic map of  $D_1$  onto  $D$ .

It is easily seen that the boundary  $\partial D$  of  $D$  consists of those points  $z \in \mathcal{H}$  at which at least one of the two inequalities

$$\|z\| \leq 1, \quad 1 - 2\|z\|^2 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2 \geq 0$$

becomes an equality. Denoting by  $\partial_0 D$  the closed subset of  $\partial D$  where *both* inequalities become equalities, the Schwarz inequality shows that

$$\partial_0 D = \{z \in \mathcal{H} : \|z\| = 1, \bar{z} = e^{i\theta} z \text{ for some } \theta \in R\}.$$

Going back to the representation of  $\mathcal{H}$  as a Cartan factor of type four, by Proposition 2.7  $\partial_0 D$  is the set of all complex extreme points of  $\bar{D}$ .

In the finite-dimensional case  $\partial_0 D$  is the Schilov boundary of  $D$ .

If  $\|z\| = 1$  and  $1 - 2\|z\|^2 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2 \geq 0$ , then

$$0 \leq 1 - 2\|z\|^2 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2 = -1 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2 \leq -1 + \|z\|^4 = 0,$$

whence  $|(z|\bar{z})| = 1$  and  $1 - 2\|z\|^2 + |(z|\bar{z})|^2 = 0$ , showing that

$$\partial D \cap \{z \in \mathcal{H} : \|z\| = 1\} = \partial_0 D.$$

If  $p \in \partial \tilde{D}$ , then

$$(x|\bar{x}) = u_1^2 + u_2^2, \|x\|^2 = (x|x) = |u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2,$$

and there is a sequence  $\{p^{(v)} = {}^t ({}^t x^{(v)}, u_1^{(v)}, u_2^{(v)})\}$  in  $\tilde{D}$  converging to  $p$ , i.e.,

$$x = \lim x^{(v)}, \quad u_1 = \lim u_1^{(v)}, \quad u_2 = \lim u_2^{(v)}.$$

If  $u_2 \neq 0$  and  $u_1 + iu_2 = 0$ , then

$$-i = \frac{u_1}{u_2} = \lim \frac{u_1^{(v)}}{u_2^{(v)}}$$

contradicting the fact that, being  $p^{(v)} \in \tilde{D}$ , then  $Im \frac{u_1^{(v)}}{u_2^{(v)}} > 0$ . If  $u_2 = 0$ , then  $u_1 = 0$ , and therefore  $\|x\|^2 = |u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2 = 0$ . That proves

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $0 \neq p \in \partial\bar{D}$ , then  $u_1 + iu_2 \neq 0$ .*

Let  $\Lambda$  be the semigroup consisting of all linear, real, continuous operators  $G$  on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  such that

$$(3.3) \quad {}^tGJG = J.$$

Let  $\Gamma$  be the maximum subgroup of  $\Lambda$  consisting of those  $G \in \Lambda$  which are invertible in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$ . Any linear operator  $G$  on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  is represented by a matrix

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} A & B_1 & B_2 \\ (\cdot|C_1) & E_{11} & E_{12} \\ (\cdot|C_2) & E_{21} & E_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $A$  is a linear, real operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$  are real vectors in  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $E_{11}, E_{12}, E_{21}, E_{22}$  are real scalars. The operator  $G$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  if, and only if,  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .

Setting

$$B = (B_1, B_2) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2, \mathcal{H}),$$

$$C = {}^t((\cdot|C_1), (\cdot|C_2)) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathbb{C}^2),$$

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} E_{11} & E_{12} \\ E_{21} & E_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2),$$

then  $G \in \Lambda$  if, and only if,  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and furthermore

$$(3.4) \quad {}^tAA - {}^tCC = I,$$

$$(3.5) \quad {}^tAB = {}^tCE,$$

$$(3.6) \quad {}^tEE - {}^tBB = I_2.$$

These three conditions can also be written as follows:

$${}^tAA - (\cdot|C_1)C_1 - (\cdot|C_2)C_2 = I,$$

$${}^tAB_1 = E_{11}C_1 + E_{21}C_2,$$

$${}^tAB_2 = E_{12}C_1 + E_{22}C_2,$$

$$E_{11}^2 + E_{21}^2 - \|B_1\|^2 = 1, E_{11}E_{12} + E_{21}E_{22} = (B_2|B_1), E_{12}^2 + E_{22}^2 - \|B_2\|^2 = 1.$$

Equation (3.6) implies that  $E$  is injective, i.e.,  $\det E \neq 0$ . Since  $E$  is a continuous function of  $G$  for the strong topology,  $\det E$  has the same sign on each connected component of  $\Lambda$  for the latter topology.

Under which conditions on  $G \in \Lambda$  is  $G\tilde{D} \subset \tilde{D}$ ?

Since  $\tilde{D}$  is a connected component of  $D'$  and  $GD' \subset D'$ , then  $G\tilde{D} \subset \tilde{D}$ , if, and only if,  $G\tilde{D} \cap \tilde{D} \neq \emptyset$ . For  $p = {}^t(x, u_1, u_2) \in D'$ , the point  $p' = Gp$  is given by  $p' = {}^t(x', u'_1, u'_2)$ , where

$$x' = Ax + u_1B_1 + u_2B_2,$$

$$(3.8) \quad u'_1 = (x|C_1) + E_{11}u_1 + E_{12}u_2,$$

$$u'_2 = (x|C_2) + E_{21}u_1 + E_{22}u_2.$$

Choosing  $x = 0$ , then

$$u'_1 = E_{11}u_1 + E_{12}u_2, \quad u'_2 = E_{21}u_1 + E_{22}u_2,$$

and  $u'_2 \neq 0$  because otherwise  $\frac{u_1}{u_2} = -\frac{E_{22}}{E_{21}} \in \mathbb{R}$ , contrary to the fact that  $\text{Im} \frac{u_1}{u_2} \neq 0$ . Since

$$\text{Im} \frac{u'_1}{u'_2} = \frac{1}{|u'_2|^2} \text{Im} u'_1 \overline{u'_2} = \frac{|u_2|^2}{|u'_2|^2} \det E \text{Im} \frac{u_1}{u_2},$$

then  $G\tilde{D} \cap \tilde{D} \neq \emptyset$  if, and only if,  $\det E > 0$ . This shows that the set  $\Lambda_0$  defined by

$$\Lambda_0 = \{G \in \Lambda : \det E > 0\}$$

is a subsemigroup of  $\Lambda$ . Hence the set  $\Gamma_0 = \Lambda_0 \cap \Gamma$  is a subgroup of  $\Gamma$ . Lemma 3.1 implies that, if  $\det E > 0$ ,  $u'_1 + iu'_2 \neq 0$  for all  $p \in \overline{\tilde{D}} \setminus \{0\}$ , where  $\overline{\tilde{D}}$  is the closure of  $\tilde{D}$ .

Setting  $z = \frac{1}{u_1 + iu_2} x$ , (3.2) yields

$$\frac{u_1}{u_1 + iu_2} = \frac{1 + (z|\bar{z})}{2}, \quad \frac{u_2}{u_1 + iu_2} = \frac{1 - (z|\bar{z})}{2i},$$



and, by (3.7) and (3.8),

$$u'_1 + iu'_2 = \frac{u_1 + iu_2}{2} \delta(G, z)$$

where  $\delta(G, z)$  is defined for  $z \in \mathcal{H}$  by

$$\delta(G, z) = 2(z|C_1 - iC_2) + (E_{11} - E_{22} + i(E_{12} + E_{21}))(z|\bar{z}) + E_{11} + E_{22} + i(E_{21} - E_{12}).$$

Hence  $\delta(G, z) \neq 0$  for all  $z$  contained in a neighborhood of  $\bar{D}$ . The function

$$(3.9) \quad \widehat{G} : z \rightarrow \frac{1}{\delta(G, z)} (2Az + (1 + (z|\bar{z}))B_1 - i(1 - (z|\bar{z}))B_2)$$

is holomorphic on a neighborhood of  $\bar{D}$ , and furthermore  $\widehat{G}(D) \subset D$ . A direct computation shows that  $G \rightarrow \widehat{G}$  is a homomorphism of  $\Lambda_0$  into the semigroup  $Hol(D, D)$  of all holomorphic mappings of  $D$  into itself. Hence the image  $\widehat{\Gamma}_0$  of  $\Gamma_0$  is a subgroup of  $AutD$ . It will be shown now that  $\widehat{\Gamma}_0$  is the entire group  $AutD$ , i.e. that every holomorphic automorphism of  $D$  is given by (3.9) for some  $G \in \Gamma_0$ .

The following lemma is due to L.A. Harris [5] (and to U. Hirzebruch [13] in the finite dimensional case; cf. also [12])

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $g \in (AutD)_0$ , there exist  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  and a real unitary operator  $U$  on  $\mathcal{H}$  such that  $g(z) = e^{i\theta}Uz$  for all  $z \in D$ .*

On the other hand, if  $G \in \Lambda_0$  is such that  $\widehat{G}(0) = 0$ , then  $B_1 = B_2 = C_1 = C_2 = 0$  and  $E_{11} - E_{22} + i(E_{12} + E_{21}) = 0$ ,  $E_{11} + E_{22} + i(E_{21} - E_{12}) = 2e^{-i\theta}$  for some  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ , so that, by (3.9),

$$\widehat{G}(z) = e^{i\theta}Az.$$

Hence, if furthermore  $G \in \Gamma_0$ , then  $\widehat{G} \in (AutD)_0$ , i.e.,

$$(AutD)_0 \subset \widehat{\Gamma}_0.$$

It will be shown now - following essentially L.K. Hua [14, pp. 86-87] - that

**Lemma 3.3.** *The group  $\widehat{\Gamma}_0$  acts transitively on  $D$ .*

*Proof.* a) Let  $z_0 \in D$ . Since, as was just noticed, the map  $z \rightarrow e^{i\theta}z$  is contained in  $\widehat{G}$  for any  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ , replacing  $z_0$  by  $e^{i\theta}z_0$  and choosing a suitable  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ , it can be assumed that  $(Rez_0 | Imz_0) = 0$ , so that  $w_0 = (z_0 | \bar{z}_0) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Consider the non-singular  $2 \times 2$  matrix

$$M_0 = \begin{pmatrix} w_0 + 1 & w_0 + 1 \\ i(w_0 - 1) & -i(w_0 - 1) \end{pmatrix},$$

and let  $L_0 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2, \mathcal{H})$  be the real (continuous) operator defined by

$$L_0 = 2(z_0, \bar{z}_0)M_0^{-1} = \frac{1}{1-w_0^2}((1-w_0)(z_0 + \bar{z}_0), i(1+w_0)(z_0 - \bar{z}_0)).$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0 &= I_2 - L_0^* L_0 = {}^t \overline{M_0}^{-1} \left( {}^t \overline{M_0} M_0 - 4 \begin{pmatrix} \|z_0\|^2 & w_0 \\ w_0 & \|z_0\|^2 \end{pmatrix} \right) M_0^{-1} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2(1-2\|z_0\|^2 + w_0^2)} (M_0 {}^t \overline{M_0})^{-1} = \\ &= \frac{1}{1-2\|z_0\|^2 + w_0^2} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{(1+w_0)^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{(1-w_0)^2} \end{pmatrix} > 0, \end{aligned}$$

then, denoting by  $E$  the positive square root of the positive hermitian operator  $(I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1}$ :

$$E = (1 - 2\|z_0\|^2 + w_0^2)^{1/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 + w_0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - w_0 \end{pmatrix},$$

one has

$$E(I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)E = I_2.$$

Because  $I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0 > 0$ , then  $\|L_0\| < 1$ . Hence  $\|{}^t L_0\| = \|L_0^*\| = \|L_0\| < 1$ , and therefore  $I - L_0 {}^t L_0 > 0$ . If  $A$  is the positive-definite real hermitian operator which is the positive square root of  $(I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1}$ , then

$$A(I - L_0 {}^t L_0)A = I.$$

Letting

$$C = {}^t L_0 A, \quad B = L_0 E,$$

(3.4), (3.5), (3.6) are fulfilled, i.e.,  $G := \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & E \end{pmatrix} \in \Lambda_0$  (because  $\det E > 0$ ).

b) It will be shown now that  $G \in \Gamma_0$ , proving more specifically that

$$(3.10) \quad G^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A & -{}^t C \\ -{}^t B & E \end{pmatrix}$$

First of all

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & -{}^t C \\ -{}^t B & E \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & E \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A^2 - {}^t C C & AB - {}^t C E \\ -{}^t B A + {}^t E C & -{}^t B B + E^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & \\ & -I_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

by (3.4), (3.5), (3.6). Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} A^t A - B^t B &= A^2 - B^t B = (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} - L_0 E^2 {}^t L_0 = \\ &= (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} - L_0 (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} {}^t L_0 = (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} - (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} L_0 {}^t L_0 = \\ &= (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} (I - L_0 {}^t L_0) = I, \\ D^t D - C^t C &= D^2 - C^t C = (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} - {}^t L_0 A^2 L_0 = \\ &= (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} - {}^t L_0 (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} L_0 = \\ &= (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} - (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} {}^t L_0 L_0 = (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0) = I_2, \\ A^t C - B E &= A^2 L_0 - L_0 E^2 = (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} L_0 - L_0 (I_2 - {}^t L_0 L_0)^{-1} = \\ &= (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} L_0 - (I - L_0 {}^t L_0)^{-1} L_0 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

proving that  $G$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  and that  $G^{-1}$  is given by (3.10).

c) Since

$$\begin{aligned} &2Az_0 - {}^t C \begin{pmatrix} 1 + w_0 \\ -i(1 - w_0) \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= A \left( 2z_0 - \frac{1}{w_0^2 - 1} ((w_0^2 - 1)(z_0 + \bar{z}_0) + (w_0^2 - 1)(z_0 - \bar{z}_0)) \right) \\ &= A(2z_0 - 2z_0) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

then, by (3.10) and (3.9),  $\widehat{G}^{-1}(z_0) = 0$ . That proves that  $\widehat{\Gamma}_0$  acts transitively on  $D$ .

QED

In conclusion, the following theorem holds.

**Theorem 3.4.** *The map  $G \rightarrow \widehat{G}$  is a surjective homomorphism of  $\Gamma_0$  onto  $Aut D$ .*

The kernel consists of  $\pm$  the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$ .

Let  $\kappa(z; \cdot)$  be the Kobayashi differential metric of  $D$  at the point  $z \in D$ . For every  $v \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\kappa(0; v) = \|v\|^2 + \sqrt{\|v\|^4 - |(v|\bar{v})|^2}.$$

This shows that, if  $G \in \Lambda_0$  is such that  $\widehat{G}(0) = 0$ , then

$$\kappa(0; d\widehat{G}(0)v) = \kappa(0; v)$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{H}$ . This fact, together with lemma 3.3, yields

$$\widehat{\Lambda}_0 \subset Iso D.$$

#### 4. ONE-PARAMETER SEMIGROUPS OF HOLOMORPHIC ISOMETRIES

Let  $T : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  be a strongly continuous semigroup such that  $T(t) \in \Lambda$  for all  $t \geq 0$ . Since  $T(0) = I_{\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2} \in \Lambda_0$ , then  $T(t) \in \Lambda_0$  for all  $t \geq 0$ . Since  $T(t)$  is a real operator for any  $t \geq 0$ , the infinitesimal generator  $X$  of  $T$  is real and in particular its domain  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  is conjugation-invariant. Viceversa, if the infinitesimal generator  $X$  of a strongly continuous semigroup  $T$  is real (hence  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  is a conjugation-invariant), then  $T(t)$  is a real operator for all  $t \geq 0$ . In fact for all  $p$  and all  $t \geq 0$  the exponential formula yields

$$\overline{T(t)p} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \overline{(I - \frac{t}{n} X)^{-n} p} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (I - \frac{t}{n} X)^{-n} \bar{p} = T(t)\bar{p}.$$

Since  $T(t)$  is real, then  ${}^tT(t) = T(t)^*$ , and thus (3.3) yields

$$(4.1) \quad T(t)^* J T(t) = J \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

By theorem III of [29], if  $T : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  is any strongly continuous semigroup satisfying (4.1), there is a dense linear subvariety  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}(X) = \mathcal{D} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  and  $X$  is represented by the matrix

$$(4.2) \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11} & X_{12} & X_{13} \\ (\cdot|X_{12}) & X_{22} & X_{23} \\ (\cdot|X_{13}) & X_{32} & X_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$



where  $X_{12}, X_{13}$  are vectors in  $\mathcal{H}$ ;  $X_{11}$  is a closed operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  with domain  $\mathcal{D}(X_{11}) = \mathcal{D}$

such that  $iX_{11}$  is symmetric and  $\sigma X_{11} \subset \{\xi \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Re}\xi \leq 0\}$ ;  $\begin{pmatrix} X_{22} & X_{23} \\ X_{32} & X_{33} \end{pmatrix}$  is a  $2 \times 2$

complex matrix such that  $i \begin{pmatrix} X_{22} & X_{23} \\ X_{32} & X_{33} \end{pmatrix}$  is hermitian. Moreover, according to theorem III

of [29], if  $X_{11}, \dots, X_{33}$  satisfy the above conditions, and  $\mathcal{D}(X_{11})$  is dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ , the operator  $X$  defined by (4.2) on the domain  $\mathcal{D}(X) = \mathcal{D}(X_{11}) \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$  is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup  $T$  satisfying (4.1). Moreover,  $T$  is the restriction to  $\mathbb{R}_+$  of a strongly continuous group  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  if, and only if,  $iX_{11}$  is self-adjoint.

The operator  $X$  given by (4.2) is real if, and only if,  $X_{11}$  is a real operator (and therefore  $\mathcal{D}(X_{11})$  is conjugation invariant), the vectors  $X_{12}$  and  $X_{13}$  are real and  $X_{22}, X_{23}, X_{32}, X_{33}$

are real numbers. The fact that  $i \begin{pmatrix} X_{22} & X_{23} \\ X_{32} & X_{33} \end{pmatrix}$  is hermitian implies then that  $X_{22} = X_{33} =$

$0, X_{32} = -X_{23}$ . In conclusion, the following theorem holds:

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $X$  be a linear operator on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$ . Then  $X$  is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous linear semigroup  $T : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  such that  $T(t) \in \Lambda$  (hence  $T(t) \in \Lambda_0$ ) for all  $t \geq 0$  if, and only if, there is a dense linear manifold  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}(X) = \mathcal{D} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2$ , and  $X$  is represented by the matrix*

$$(4.3) \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11} & X_{12} & X_{13} \\ (\cdot|X_{12}) & 0 & X_{23} \\ (\cdot|X_{13}) & -X_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where:  $X_{23} \in \mathbb{R}, X_{12}$  and  $X_{13}$  are real vectors in  $\mathcal{H}$ ;  $X_{11}$  is a real, closed operator with domain  $\mathcal{D}(X_{11}) = \mathcal{D}$ , such that  $iX_{11}$  is symmetric and  $\sigma(X_{11}) \subset \{\xi \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Re}\xi \leq 0\}$ .

Furthermore, the semigroup  $T$  is the restriction to  $\mathbb{R}_+$  of a strongly continuous group if, and only if,  $iX_{11}$  is self-adjoint.

The fact that for  $G \in \Lambda$  (3.3) is equivalent to

$$G^* J G = J,$$

and Proposition 4.2 of [29] imply

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $M$  be a domain in  $\mathbb{C}$ . There are no non-constant holomorphic functions  $F : M \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  such that  $F(\xi) \in \Lambda$  for all  $\xi \in M$ .*

In particular, there are no non-trivial holomorphic semigroups with values in  $\Lambda$ .

The general results established in [29] for Cartan factors of type one provide some information on the spectral structure of  $X$  in terms of the spectrum of the operator  $X_{11}$  appearing in (4.3).

There exists in the open right half-plane  $\{\xi \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}\xi > 0\}$  a set  $C$  consisting of two points at most and possibly empty, such that

$$\sigma(X) = C \cup \{\xi \in C : \operatorname{Re}\xi \leq 0\},$$

if  $iX_{11}$  is symmetric but not self-adjoint. If  $iX_{11}$  is self-adjoint, denoting by  $C'$  the image of  $C$  by the reflection  $\xi \rightarrow -\bar{\xi}$  around the imaginary axis, then

$$\sigma(X) \setminus i\mathbb{R} = C \cup C'.$$

The set  $C$  and, if  $iX_{11}$  is self-adjoint, the set  $C'$  consist of polar singularities of the resolvent function  $(\cdot I - X)^{-1}$ .

If  $iX_{11}$  is symmetric but not self-adjoint, then the set  $\{\xi \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}\xi < 0\} \setminus C'$  is contained in the residual spectrum of  $X$ .

Let  $\Phi \in \operatorname{Hol}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \sigma(X_{11}), \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2))$  be defined by

$$\Phi(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \xi - ((\xi I - X_{11})^{-1} X_{12} | X_{12}) & -X_{23} - ((\xi I - X_{11})^{-1} X_{13} | X_{12}) \\ X_{23} - ((\xi I - X_{11})^{-1} X_{12} | X_{13}) & \xi - ((\xi I - X_{11})^{-1} X_{13} | X_{13}) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then, by n. 8 of [29], the set  $C$  is the zero-set of the restriction of the holomorphic function  $\xi \rightarrow \det \Phi(\xi)$  to the open right half-plane.

By Theorem 4.1,  $\Phi(\bar{\xi}) = \overline{\Phi(\xi)}$ . This shows that the set  $C$  (and thus also the set  $C'$ ) is invariant by conjugation.

## 5. A RICCATI EQUATION

With the same notations as before, let  $T : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{C}^2)$  be a strongly continuous semigroup such that  $T(t) \in \Lambda$  for all  $t \geq 0$ . The infinitesimal generator  $X$  of  $T$  is given by the matrix (4.3). Let  $p^0 = {}^t(x^0, u_1^0, u_2^0) \in \mathcal{D}(X)$ , and consider the Cauchy problem

$$(5.1) \quad \dot{p}(t) = Xp(t) \quad (t > 0),$$

with the initial condition

$$(5.2) \quad p(0) = p^0.$$

Setting  $p(t) = {}^t(x(t), u_1(t), u_2(t))$ , (5.1) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= X_{11}x(t) + u_1(t)X_{12} + u_2(t)X_{13}, \\ \dot{u}_1(t) &= (x(t)|X_{12}) + X_{23}u_2(t), \\ \dot{u}_2(t) &= (x(t)|X_{13}) - X_{23}u_1(t), \end{aligned}$$

and (5.2) is equivalent to

$$x(0) = x^0, u_1(0) = u_1^0, u_2(0) = u_2^0.$$

Let  $\operatorname{Im} \frac{u_1^0}{u_2^0} > 0$  and let  $z^0 = \frac{1}{u_1^0 + iu_2^0} x^0 \in D \cap \mathcal{D}(X_{11})$ . Thus  $\operatorname{Im} \frac{u_1(t)}{u_2(t)} > 0$  for all  $t \geq 0$ , and, setting

$$(5.3) \quad z(t) = \frac{1}{u_1(t) + iu_2(t)} x(t),$$

then

$$z(t) \in D \cap \mathcal{D}(X_{11}) \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

Furthermore

$$\frac{u_1(t) - iu_2(t)}{u_1(t) + iu_2(t)} = (z(t)|\overline{z(t)}),$$

and  $z(t)$  satisfies the Riccati equation

$$(5.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{z}(t) &= (X_{11} + iX_{23}I)z(t) + \frac{1}{2}(X_{12} + iX_{13})(z(t)|\overline{z(t)}) \\ &\quad - (z(t)|X_{12} - iX_{13})z(t) + \frac{1}{2}(X_{12} - iX_{13}) \end{aligned}$$

with the initial condition

$$(5.5) \quad z(0) = z^0.$$

The function  $t \rightarrow z(t)$  is continuous for the graph-norm

$$(5.6) \quad z \rightarrow \|z\| + \|X_{11}z\|$$

on  $\mathcal{D}(X_{11})$ . A similar argument to the proof of Theorem VII of [29] (cf. also [27]) yields:

**Theorem 5.1.** *For any  $\gamma > 0$  and any choice of  $z^0 = \frac{1}{u_1^0 + iu_2^0} x^0 \in D \cap \mathcal{D}(X_{11})$ , the function  $t \rightarrow z(t)$  defined by (5.3) for  $0 \leq t \leq \gamma$  is the unique solution of the Riccati equation (5.4) with the initial condition (5.5) and with  $z([0, \gamma]) \subset D \cap \mathcal{D}(X_{11})$ , which is contained in  $C^1([0, \gamma], \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^2, \mathcal{H}))$  and is continuous for the graph-norm (5.6).*



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