Dynamics of groups of birational automorphisms of cubic surfaces and Fatou/Julia decomposition for Painlevé 6

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Toulouse and IUPUI

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Affine cubic surface

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Every line parallel to the x-axis intersects $S_{A,B,C,D}$ at two points and one can therefore define an involution $s_x : S_{A,B,C,D} \to S_{A,B,C,D}$ that switches them:

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Two further involutions $s_y : S_{A,B,C,D} \to S_{A,B,C,D}$ and $s_z : S_{A,B,C,D} \to S_{A,B,C,D}$ are defined analogously:

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Consider the group

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Consider also the finite index subgroup

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where $g_x := s_z \circ s_y$, $g_y := s_x \circ s_z$, and $g_z := s_y \circ s_x$.

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See, e.g. Cantat Bers and Hénon, Painlevé and Schrödinger 2009.

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Open sets where the group action is properly discontinuous for certain parameters: Hu-Tan-Zhang 2018, Bowditch 1998.

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More on that later...

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Our paper is devoted to questions about the "pointwise dynamics of the whole group", i.e. to the orbits of individual points, their closures, and more generally to the nature subsets of the complex surface $S_{A,B,C,D}$ that are invariant under Γ^* and Γ .

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It is pretty easy to show that this holds for the Picard Parameters (A, B, C, D) = (0, 0, 0, 4). Does it hold for any others?

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Moreover, the techniques we develop are quite flexible and should be useful for several other problems.

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 $\mathcal{F}_{A,B,C,D}$ is open, $\mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$ is closed, and both are invariant under $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$. Julia set is always non-empty, but Fatou set can be empty for some parameters.

Theorem A: For any parameters (A, B, C, D) there exists $p \in \mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$ such that

 $\overline{\Gamma(p)} = \mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D},$

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i.e., there is a dense orbit of Γ in $\mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$.

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Theorem C: For any parameters A, B, C, D the Julia set $\mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$ is connected.

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$$A(a) = B(a) = C(a) = 2a + 4$$
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Studied by Dubrovin and Mazzocco 2000. Seem to play a significant role in several problems related to Mathematical-Physics and, in particular, on the study of Frobenius manifolds.

Theorem D: For the Picard Parameters (A, B, C, D) = (0, 0, 0, 4) we have:

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Key idea for proof of Theorem E comes from work of Hu-Tan-Zhang 2018 and Bowditch 1998.

Locally discrete/non-discrete dichotomy

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For an action by a finite dimensional Lie group, local non-discreteness on some open set implies that the corresponding sequence of elements converges to the identity on all of M, i.e. that the action is globally non-discrete.

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However, in our context the non-linearity of the mappings allow for local non-discreteness to occur on a proper open subset $U \subset M$.



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 $\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_{A,B,C,D} &= \\ \{p \in S_{A,B,C,D} : \Gamma_{A,B,C,D} \text{ is locally non-discrete on an open neighborhood } U \text{ of } p\}, \end{aligned}$
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 $\mathcal{N}_{A,B,C,D}$ is open, $\mathcal{D}_{A,B,C,D}$ is closed, and both are invariant under $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$.

Theorem F: There is an open neighborhood $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{C}^4$ of the Markoff Parameters of the Dubrovin-Mazzocco Parameters such that both the locally non-discrete locus $\mathcal{N}_{A,B,C,D}$ and the locally discrete locus $\mathcal{D}_{A,B,C,D}$ are non-empty.

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Corollary to Theorem F: For every choice of parameters $(A, B, C, D) \in \mathcal{P}$ there is a set

$$\mathcal{B}_{A,B,C,D} \subset \partial \mathcal{N}_{A,B,C,D} = \partial \mathcal{D}_{A,B,C,D}$$

that has topological dimension equal to three and is invariant under $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$.

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We expect $\mathcal{B}_{A,B,C,D}$ to be "fractal" for typical parameters.

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Could try to use this to make dense orbits in U. Idea from Loray-Rebelo 2003. Problem is that Γ has an invariant volume form (of infinite volume). Instead, we will use this to prove that $U \subset \mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$ and then appeal to

Theorem A about dense orbits in $\mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$.

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Proposition: There is a countable union of real-algebraic hypersurfaces $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{C}^4$ such that this if $(A, B, C, D) \in \mathbb{C}^4 \setminus \mathcal{H}$ then

(P) any fixed point of any $\gamma \in \Gamma_{A,B,C,D} \setminus {\text{id}}$ is in $\mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$.

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Corollary to Theorem G and Theorem A: For any $(A, B, C, D) \in \mathcal{P} \setminus \mathcal{H}$ there is a point $p \in U \subset \mathcal{J}_{A,B,C,D}$ such that

$$U \subset \overline{\Gamma(p)},$$

i.e. the orbit of p has closure of real dimension four.

A motivating question: For what parameters is there an initial condition $p = (x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S_{A,B,C,D}$ whose orbit is dense in $S_{A,B,C,D}$?

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A new question: Are the Picard parameters (A, B, C, D) = (0, 0, 0, 4) the only parameters for which there is an initial condition $p = (x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S_{A,B,C,D}$ whose orbit is dense in $S_{A,B,C,D}$?

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All of the mass tends to infinity.

Ghys strategy for producing local non-discreteness.
Given local holomorphic diffeomorphisms $F_1, F_2 : B_{\epsilon}(0) \subset \mathbb{C}^n \to \mathbb{C}^n$ and denote by *G* the pseudogroup of maps from $B_{\epsilon}(0)$ to \mathbb{C}^n generated by F_1, F_2 .

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Inductively define sets $S(n) \subset G$ by stating that S(n+1) is constituted by all elements of the form $[\gamma_i, \gamma_j] = \gamma_i \circ \gamma_j \circ \gamma_i^{-1} \circ \gamma_j^{-1}$ with $\gamma_i, \gamma_j \in S(n)$.

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Proposition 1: Given $\epsilon > 0$, there is $K = K(\epsilon) > 0$ such that, if

$$\max\left\{\sup_{z\in B_{\varepsilon}(0)}\left\|F_{1}(z)-z\right\|\,,\,\sup_{z\in B_{\varepsilon}(0)}\left\|F_{2}(z)-z\right\|\right\}< K\,,$$

then the following hold:

(1) For every *n* and every $\gamma \in S(n)$, the domain of definition of γ as element in *G* contains the ball $B_{\epsilon/2}(0) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ of radius $\epsilon/2$ around the origin.

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- (1) For every *n* and every $\gamma \in S(n)$, the domain of definition of γ as element in *G* contains the ball $B_{\epsilon/2}(0) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ of radius $\epsilon/2$ around the origin.
- (2) Furthermore, if γ belongs to S(n) then we have

$$\sup_{\boldsymbol{p}\in B_{\epsilon/2}(0)}\|\gamma(\boldsymbol{p})-\boldsymbol{p}\|\leq \frac{K}{2^n}.$$

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Remark: It is "easy" to prove that any Fatou component for $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$ is Kobayashi hyperbolic.

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Points in a (yellow) neighborhood of $\Delta_{\infty} \setminus Ind(\gamma)$ are sent much closer to Δ_{∞} by γ .

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Theorem H: Suppose that for some parameters A, B, C there is a point $p \in \mathbb{C}^3$ and $\epsilon > 0$ such that for any two vertices $v_i \neq v_j \in \mathcal{V}_{\infty}$, $i \neq j$, there is a hyperbolic element $\gamma_{i,j} \in \Gamma_{A,B,C}$ satisfying:

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$$\operatorname{Ind}(\gamma_{i,j}) = v_i$$
 and $\operatorname{Attr}(\gamma_{i,j}) = v_j$, and

(B) $\sup_{z \in B_{\epsilon}(p)} \|\gamma_{i,j}(z) - z\| < K(\epsilon)$. (Constant from Prop. 1)

Then, for any *D*, we have that $B_{\epsilon/2}(p) \cap S_{A,B,C,D}$ is disjoint from any unbounded Fatou components of $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$.

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Contradiction!

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Then, for any *D*, we have that $B_{\epsilon/2}(p) \cap S_{A,B,C,D}$ is disjoint from any unbounded Fatou components of $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$.

If $B_{\epsilon/2}(p)$ intersects an unbounded Fatou component V, then Property (B) allows you to find a sequence of iterated commutators $\gamma_n \in S(n)$, $n \to \infty$, converging to the identity $B_{\epsilon/2}(p) \cap V$. Hence on all of V since V is Kobayashi hyperbolic.

Meanwhile Property (A) gives us rich enough combinatorics at infinity so that we can choose the γ_n so that if $q \in V$ is near infinity then $\gamma_n(q) \to \infty$.

Contradiction! Thus U does not intersect any unbounded Fatou component.

Let V be a bounded Fatou component and let $\Gamma_V \leq \Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$ be the stabilizer of V in $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$.

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Theorem K Suppose that $(A, B, C, D) \in \mathbb{C}^4 \setminus \mathcal{H}$ and that V is a bounded Fatou component for $\Gamma_{A,B,C,D}$. Then the stabilizer Γ_V of V is abelian.

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Therefore U is also disjoint from any bounded Fatou component.

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 \Box Theorem G (supposing Theorem K).

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Hence group Aut(V) of holomorphic automorphisms of V is a real Lie group.

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This allows us to derive a contradiction to the fact that the Julia set is connected (Theorem C).

Thank you for listening!

https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.09256