

AUTOMORPHISMS CONTROL SYSTEMS AND OBSERVABILITY

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Abstract. In this paper we consider the observability problem for a particular class of nonlinear systems on Lie groups that we called automorphisms control systems, in which, every associated vector field induces a one parameter group of automorphisms of the state space. Such systems generalize the so called bilinear systems which are useful to approximate a large class of nonlinear systems and the result of this work characterizes the observability of the direct product of automorphisms control systems which is closely related with that sort of approximation.

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§1 - INTRODUCTION

A control system Σ is defined by the specification of the following data:

$$\dot{x} = F(x, u), \quad x \in M, \quad u \in \Omega, \quad h: M \rightarrow N,$$

where M and N are smooth manifold and h a differentiable function.

The family of associated vector fields of Σ is

$$D_{\Sigma} = \{x^u = F(\cdot, u) | u \in \Omega\},$$

Σ induces a "group" (G_{Σ}) and a "semi-group" (S_{Σ}) of local diffeomorphisms of M ,

$$G_{\Sigma} = \{X_{t_1}^1 \circ \dots \circ X_{t_k}^k | t_j \in \mathbb{R}, X^j \in D_{\Sigma}\},$$

$$S_{\Sigma} = \{X_{t_1}^1 \circ \dots \circ X_{t_k}^k | t_j \geq 0, X^j \in D_{\Sigma}\}.$$

The orbit by Σ of $x \in M$ is the orbit by the action of G_{Σ} in x , i.e.

$$G_{\Sigma}(x) = \{\varphi(x) | \varphi \in G_{\Sigma}\}.$$

Σ is said to be transitive if for some $x \in M$, $G_{\Sigma}(x) = M$. This equivalence relation partitions M into smooth manifolds, [11].

Two elements $x, y \in M$ are called indistinguishable, written $x \sim y$, if

$$(h \circ \varphi)(x) = (h \circ \varphi)(y), \quad \forall \varphi \in S_{\Sigma}.$$

Indistinguishability is not equivalence relation unless some additional assumptions are made. For example, Σ analytic or forward complete are sufficient conditions to guarantee this property, [12].

Σ is said to be [locally] observable in $x \in M$ in case the equivalence class $C(x)$ of x by \sim is trivial [in some neighbourhood of x], i.e., the family of applications $h \circ S_{\Sigma}$

separate x of any point of M [in some neighbourhood of x].

The basic questions related to this set-up is, whether a control system is [locally] observable or not and the negative case, to know under which conditions it is possible to construct a [weakly] minimal realization to Σ , i.e., to define a new system Σ' transitive, [locally] observable and a submersion $\pi : M \rightarrow M'$ such that for every $x \in M$,

$$(h \circ \varphi)(x) = (h' \circ \varphi')(\pi(x)) \quad , \quad \forall \varphi \in S_\Sigma,$$

where $\varphi' \in S_{\Sigma'}$, is determined by the same control that define φ and $h = h' \circ \pi$.

Many authors have considered these problems. For instance in Hermann and Krener [9], Bastos [4], and Ayala [1] various co-distributions are defined and weakly minimal realizations are given for Σ ; in Sussmann [12], Gauthier and Bornard [6], [7], San Martin and Ayala [3] are given minimal realizations for Σ studying regularity of equivalence relation. This work is related to particular analytic systems that we called automorphisms control systems (a.c.s.), i.e., non-linear systems where,

$M = G$, $N = G$, are Lie groups,

$u \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^r$

$h \in \text{Hom}(G, G_*)$ is a continuous homomorphism and the dynamic F is given by

$$F(x, u) = X^0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^r u_i X^i(x)$$

with the additional condition: for every $i = 0, 1, \dots, r$, X^i is an infinitesimal automorphism of G , i.e.,

$$X_t^i \in \text{Aut}(G), \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

In particular, $G_\Sigma (S_\Sigma)$ is a group (semi-group) of $\text{Aut}(G)$, the group of automorphisms of G .

We observe that a.c.s.'s generalizes the so-called bilinear systems (of theoretical and practical importance, [10]). In fact, a bilinear system is obtained when,

$$G = \mathbb{R}^m, G_s = \mathbb{R}^p, X^i \in M_m(\mathbb{R}) \text{ for } i = 0, 1, \dots, r$$

and $h \in \text{Lin}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^p)$.

In this case, $X_t^i = e^{tX^i} \in GL_m(\mathbb{R}), \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, i = 0, 1, \dots, r$.

The specific interest in this paper, is to study observability of a.c.s.'s. Bilinear systems are also useful to approximate a large class of non-linear systems [5], [2] and the result of this work (Theorem 3.2) characterize the observability of the direct product of a.c.s.'s systems which is closely related with that sort of approximation.

§2 – OBSERVABILITY OF A.S.C.

Let Σ be an a.c.s. as defined in §1 and let \mathcal{U} be the class of all piecewise constant control defined on $[0, +\infty)$ with values in Ω . We denote by 1 the identity of G .

We have the following basic fact:

Lema 2.1:

$C(1)$ is a G_Σ -invariant closed subgroup of G .

Proof:

1. Since h is a homomorphism then

$$C(1) = \{x \in G \mid S_\Sigma(x) \subset \text{Ker}(h)\}.$$

Since the vector fields are infinitesimal automorphisms, we see that if $\varphi_t^u \in S_\Sigma$ and $x, y \in G$ then

$$\varphi_t^u(x \cdot y^{-1}) = \varphi_t^u(x) \cdot \varphi_t^u(y)^{-1}, \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{U}.$$

In particular, since $\text{Ker}(h)$ is a subgroup of G , it follows that

$$\varphi_t^u(y)^{-1} \in \text{Ker}(h) \text{ , for } y \sim 1.$$

Thus,

$$x, y \in C(1) \implies S_\Sigma(x \cdot y^{-1}) \subset \text{Ker}(h),$$

Consequently, $C(1)$ is a subgroup of G .

Let $(x_n) \subset C(1)$ be with $x_n \rightarrow x$. For every $y \in S_\Sigma(x)$, $\exists u \in \mathcal{U}$,

$$u = u_1 * \dots * u_k \text{ , } u_1, \dots, u_k \in \Omega,$$

$\exists t_1, \dots, t_k \geq 0$, $t = (t_1, \dots, t_k)$, satisfying

$$\varphi_t^u = X_{t_1}^{u_1} \circ \dots \circ X_{t_k}^{u_k} \in S_\Sigma \text{ and}$$

$$y = \varphi_t^u(x).$$

Clearly, by the continuity of φ_t^u it follows that

$$\varphi_t^u(x_n) \rightarrow y.$$

Now, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\varphi_t^u(x_n) \subset S_\Sigma(x_n) \subset \text{Ker}(h)$$

then,

$$y \in \text{Ker}(h).$$

Thus, $x \in C(1)$ at hence this equivalence class is a closed subgroup.

The G_Σ -invariance follows by analytic continuity. In fact, for every $x \in C(1)$, for every $X^{u_1}, \dots, X^{u_k} \in D_\Sigma$, $t_1, \dots, t_k \geq 0$, we have:

$$h(X_{t_1}^{u_1} \circ \dots \circ X_{t_k}^{u_k}(x)) = 1_{G_*}.$$

Since h is a continuous homomorphism h is analytic, [8], and the foregoing equality is true for $t_1, \dots, t_k \in R$. Then, G_Σ preserve $C(1)$. \square

Proposition 2.2:

Let Σ be an a.c.s. on G . Then,
 $\text{Ker}(h)$ does not contain any nontrivial S_Σ -invariant subgroup.

Proof:

Let H be a not trivial S_Σ -invariant subgroup of $\text{Ker}(h)$.

If $x \in H$ and $x \neq 1$ we have

$$S_\Sigma(x) \subset H \subset \text{Ker}(h),$$

in particular $x \sim 1$ and therefore Σ is not observable.

Conversely suppose that Σ is not observable then, the indistinguishability class of $1 \in G$ is not trivial and the result follows from Lemma 2.1 \square

Corollary 2.3:

Let Σ be an a.c.s. transitive on G . Then,
 Σ is observable $\iff h$ isn't the zero homomorphism.

Proof:

Let $x \in C(1)$ be the transitivity of Σ , i.e., the equality $G_\Sigma(x) = G$, and the G_Σ -invariance of $C(1)$ shows that $G \subset \text{Ker}(h)$. Thus $C(1)$ is trivial.

The converse is clear since (implicitly) we suppose $G \neq \{1\}$ \square

Corollary 2.4:

Let Σ be an a.c.s. on G , then,

$$\Sigma/C(1) =: (G/C(1), \Omega, \mathcal{U}, F', G_r, h')$$

is observable.

Proof:

We denote by $G \xrightarrow{\pi} G/C(1)$, the projection of G on the homogeneous manifold $G/C(1)$. This submersion induce vector fields

$$\tilde{X}^i = \pi_* X^i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, r.$$

In fact, $C(1)$ is G_Σ -invariant and each X_t^i with $t \in \mathbb{R}$ is an automorphism of G .

F' is defined by

$$F'(\pi(x), u) = \tilde{X}^0(\pi(x)) + \sum_{i=1}^r u_i \tilde{X}^i(\pi(x)), \quad u \in \Omega.$$

The output function h' of Σ' , satisfies the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\pi} & G/C(1) \\ h \downarrow & & \downarrow h' \\ & G_r & \end{array}$$

In fact,

$$x \sim y \Rightarrow y \cdot x^{-1} \sim 1,$$

in particular, $h(x) = h(y)$ for every $y \in C(x)$.

Therefore, $\Sigma/C(1)$ is well defined and the observability of this control systems follows from equality

$$C(C(1)) = \{C(1)\} \quad \square$$

Remark:

Is also clear that if Σ is transitive then, $\Sigma' = \Sigma/C(1)$ is a minimal realization of Σ . This fact is a particular case of a minimal realization Theorem for analytic systems due to Sussmann, [12].

Example:

Let Σ um a.c.s. on \mathbb{R}^m given by

$$F(x, u) = A^0 \cdot x + \sum_{i=1}^r u_i A^i \cdot x$$

where $A^i \in M_m(\mathbb{R})$, $i = 0, 1, \dots, r$, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^r$, G_Ω an arbitrary Lie group and $h \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^m, G_\Omega)$ a non-zero continuous homomorphism.

It is known that the Lie algebra generated by the fields A^0, A^1, \dots, A^r is integrated by a unique connected Lie subgroup H of $GL_m(\mathbb{R})$. Σ induces a right invariant system Σ_I on H and

$$G_{\Sigma_I}(\text{Id.}) = H.$$

In particular, each orbit of Σ is calculated by the action of H , i.e.,

$$G_\Sigma(x) = H(x).$$

Thus, the Corollary 2.3 implies that Σ restrict to $H(x)$ is observable, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

$$\text{Let, } A^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Is clear that the Lie algebra generated by the fields A^0 and A^1 is the subalgebra of the anti-symmetric matrices in $M_3(\mathbb{R})$, therefore $H = SO(3)$ and then the orbits of Σ

are 2-dimensional spheres. It follows that this system restrict to these spheres in R^5 is observable.

§3 - OBSERVABILITY OF THE DIRECT PRODUCT OF A.C.S.

We consider the following a.c.s.'s,

$$\Sigma_1 = (G_1, \Omega, \mathcal{U}, F_1, G_s, h_1),$$

$$\Sigma_2 = (G_2, \Omega, \mathcal{U}, F_2, G_s, h_2),$$

where, for every constant control $u \in \Omega \subset R^r$

$$F_1(x, u) = X^0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^r u_i X^i(x),$$

$$h_1 \in \text{Hom.}(G_1, G_s),$$

$$F_2(y, u) = Y^0(y) + \sum_{i=1}^r u_i Y^i(y),$$

$$h_2 \in \text{Hom.}(G_2, G_s)$$

and \mathcal{U} is the class of piecewise constant control with values in Ω .

Definition 3.1:

The direct product of Σ_1 and Σ_2 , written $\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2$, is

$$\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2 = (G_1 \times G_2, \Omega, \mathcal{U}, F, G_s, h)$$

where,

$$F(x, y, u) = (F_1(x, u), F_2(y, u))$$

$$\text{and } h \in \text{Hom.}(G_1 \times G_2, G_s)$$

is defined by

$$h(x, y) = h_1(x) \cdot h_2(y).$$

By the very if is evident that $\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2$ is an a.c.s.. Next, we characterize the observability of this system assuming that every component of the product is observable.

Theorem 3.2:

For $j = 1, 2$ let Σ_j be an observable a.c.s. on G_j with output group G , and output function h_j . Then,

$$\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2 \text{ is not observable} \iff$$

1. $\exists H_j \subset G_j$ a nontrivial G_{Σ_j} -invariant subgroup and a continuous isomorphism φ ,

$$H_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} H_2.$$

2. $\exists W_j \subset G_j$ a non trivial connected Lie subgroup such that $W_j \subset H_j \subset G_j$ and an isomorphism ψ

$$G_{\Sigma_1/W_1} \xrightarrow{\psi} G_{\Sigma_2/W_2}$$

with the following commuting property

$$\varphi \circ g = \psi(g) \circ \varphi, \quad \forall g \in G_{\Sigma_1/W_1}.$$

3. $h_1/H_1 \cdot (h_2/H_2 \circ \varphi) = 1_G.$

Proof:

1. Let $C(1, 1)$ be the indistinguishability class of $(1, 1)$ by $\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2$. The Lemma 2.1 asseverate that $C(1, 1)$ is a closed subgroup of $G_1 \times G_2$ and invariant by $G_{\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2}$.

In particular, this equivalence class is a Lie subgroup, [13].

By hypothesis $C(1,1)$ is not trivial and because every Σ_j is observable we have

$$C(1,1) \cap (G_1 \times \{1\}) = \{(1,1)\} = C(1,1) \cap (\{1\} \times G_2),$$

thus we can consider the canonic projections

$$C(1,1) \xrightarrow{\pi_j} G_j.$$

π_j is an injective homomorphism. In fact,

$$\pi_1(x_1, y_1) = \pi_1(x_2, y_2) \implies x_1 = x_2,$$

since $(1, y_1 \cdot y_2^{-1}) \in C(1,1)$ it follows that $y_1 = y_2$. Analogous for π_2 .

We define $H_j = \pi_j(C(1,1))$, and

$$H_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} H_2 \text{ by :}$$

for $x \in H_1$, $\varphi(x)$ is the only element in H_2 such that

$$(x, \varphi(x)) \in C(1,1).$$

Otherwise, φ is determinated by the condition:

$$C(1,1) = \text{Graph}(\varphi).$$

φ is a group homomorphism. In fact, let $x_1, x_2 \in H_1$ be then,

$$(x_1, \varphi(x_1)) \cdot (x_2, \varphi(x_2)) = (x_1 \cdot x_2, \varphi(x_1) \cdot \varphi(x_2)).$$

Since $C(1,1)$ is a group it follows that

$$\varphi(x_1 \cdot x_2) = \varphi(x_1) \cdot \varphi(x_2).$$

Clearly, φ is a groups isomorphism. To see the continuity of φ we observe that $\varphi = \pi_2 \circ \pi_1^{-1}$ and that for every $j = 1, 2$, π_j is a homeomorphism on each connected component of H_j .

Let $g_1 \in G_{\Sigma_1}$ and $x \in H_1$, $\exists g_2 \in G_{\Sigma_2}$ such that

$$(g_1, g_2) \in G_{\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2}.$$

By the $G_{\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2}$ -invariance of $C(1, 1)$ we have

$$(g_1, g_2) \cdot (x, \varphi(x)) = (g_1 \cdot x, g_2 \cdot \varphi(x)) \in C(1, 1),$$

in particular, $g_1 \cdot x \in H_1$. The G_{Σ_2} -invariance of H_2 follows from the epjectivity of φ .

2. We denote by $C(1, 1)_0$ the connected component of $C(1, 1)$ through the identity.

Then $C(1, 1)_0$ is a Lie subgroup of $G_1 \times G_2$, [13].

For every $j = 1, 2$ the projection

$$C(1, 1)_0 \xrightarrow{\pi_j} G_j$$

induces a Lie algebra homomorphism

$$A.L.(C(1, 1)_0) \xrightarrow{dx_j} A.L.(G_j)$$

in particular, $dx_j(A.L.(C(1, 1)_0))$ is a subalgebra of $A.L.(G_j)$ which define a involutive and regular distribution on TG_j .

Let W_j be the integral connected Lie subgroup of this distributions, [13]. Then,

$$W_j \subset H_j \subset G_j.$$

W_j is connected and H_j is G_{Σ_j} -invariant thus, W_j is G_{Σ_j} -invariant. Consequently, we can to restrict each system Σ_j to the group W_j , in fact,

$$X_i \in \text{Aut.}(G_j) \implies X_i|_{W_j} \in \text{Aut.}(W_j),$$

for each $X \in D_{\Sigma}$, and every $t \in R$.

We denote by $\varphi_t^{j,u}$ the automorphism belong to G_{Σ} , determined by the constant control $u \in \Omega$ and $t \in R$. On $\Omega \times R$ we define the equivalence relation

$$\varphi_{t_1}^{j,u} \mathcal{R} \varphi_{t_2}^{j,v} \iff \varphi_{t_1}^{j,u} = \varphi_{t_2}^{j,v}.$$

We consider the group of automorphisms

$$G_{\mathcal{R}(\Sigma_j)} = \text{gen.} \left\{ \varphi_t^{j,u} | (u,t) \in \Omega \times R / \mathcal{R} \right\}.$$

Clearly,

$$G_{\Sigma_j} = G_{\mathcal{R}(\Sigma_j)}$$

therefore, we can suppose that \mathcal{R} is a trivial relation on G_{Σ_j} and then the action of G_{Σ_j} on G_j is effective.

Now, we determinate the homomorphism ψ .

$$\text{Let } G_{\Sigma_1/W_1} \xrightarrow{\psi} G_{\Sigma_2/W_2} \text{ be}$$

such that on the generators is define by

$$\psi(\varphi_t^{1,u}) = \varphi_t^{2,u}, \quad (u,t) \in \Omega \times R.$$

We claim that ψ is well define and injective. In fact,

$$\forall (g, \text{Id.}) \in G_{\Sigma_1} \oplus \Sigma_2, \quad \forall (x, y) \in C(1, 1),$$

$$(g, \text{Id.}) \cdot (x, y) \in C(1, 1).$$

Thus, $\varphi(gx) = y = \varphi(x)$, in particular,

$$g \cdot x = x, \quad \forall x \in W_1.$$

Since the action of G_{Σ_1/W_1} is effective on W_1 , then, $g = \text{Id}$, at hence

$$\varphi_i^{1,u} = \text{Id.} \iff \varphi_i^{2,v} = \text{Id.}$$

Therefore, $\forall (u, t_1), (v, t_2) \in \Omega \times R$,

$$\varphi_{t_1}^{1,u} = \varphi_{t_2}^{1,v} \iff \varphi_{t_1}^{1,u} \circ (\varphi_{t_2}^{1,v})^{-1} = \text{Id.}$$

$$\iff \varphi_{t_1}^{2,u} = \varphi_{t_2}^{2,v},$$

as claimed.

Since $C(1,1)$ is $G_{\Sigma_1/W_1} \oplus G_{\Sigma_2/W_2}$ -invariant we can consider the action

$$G_{\Sigma_1/W_1} \times C(1,1) \longrightarrow C(1,1)$$

$$(g, (x, \varphi(x))) \longrightarrow (g \cdot x, \psi(g) \circ \varphi(x))$$

Thus, for every $g \in G_{\Sigma_1/W_1}$ we have

$$\varphi \circ g = \psi(g) \circ \varphi.$$

3. Let $x \in H_1$ be then,

$$(x, \varphi(x)) \in C(1,1) \subset \text{Ker}(h).$$

Consequently,

$$h_1/H_1 \cdot (h_2/H_2 \circ \varphi) = 1_G.$$

Conversely, let $T = \text{Graph}(\varphi/W_1)$. By the hypothesis it follows that

$$\{(1,1)\} \subsetneq T \subset C(1,1) \subset \text{Ker}(h),$$

W_1 is a connected Lie groups, φ is a continuous isomorphism then, T is a connected subgroup at hence $S_{\Sigma_1} \oplus S_{\Sigma_2}$ -invariant. Therefore, $\text{Ker}(h)$ contain a non trivial subgroup $S_{\Sigma_1} \oplus S_{\Sigma_2}$ -invariant and the Proposition 2.2 asserve that the direct product system is not observable. \square

Remark:// Let Σ be an a.c.s. on G and $W \subset G$ a G_Σ -invariant Lie subgroup of G . We consider the representation

$$\begin{aligned} G_\Sigma &\xrightarrow{\mu} \text{Aut.}(W) \\ \varphi_i^u &\longrightarrow \mu(\varphi_i^u) = \varphi_i^u/W. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,

$$\mu(G_\Sigma) = G_{\Sigma/W}.$$

In particular,

$$G_{\Sigma/\text{Ker.}(\mu)} \simeq G_{\Sigma/W}.$$

If G_Σ does not contain normal subgroups then,

$$G_\Sigma \simeq G_{\Sigma/W}.$$

Thus, we have the following corollary.

Corollary 3.2:

In the conditions of the Theorem 3.2, if G_Σ does not contain normal subgroups then, that G_{Σ_1} and G_{Σ_2} are not isomorphisms is a necessary conditions for the observability of $\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2$. \square

Suppose overthere that Σ_j is transitive on G_j then, we can state

Corollary 3.3:

$\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_2$ is not observable \iff

1. $G_1 \simeq_{\varphi} G_2$
2. $G_{\Sigma_1} \simeq_{\varphi} G_{\Sigma_2}$
3. $h_1 \cdot (h_2 \circ \varphi) = 1_G. \quad \square$

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