

# Controllability of the Schrödinger equation in the case of discrete spectrum

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# Physical model: the controlled Schrödinger equation

## Schrödinger equation

$$i\dot{\psi} = -\Delta\psi + V\psi + uW\psi$$

$\Omega$  domain of  $\mathbf{R}^d$

$\psi(t, x)$  wave function

$V : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  potential of the Schrödinger operator

$u = u(t)$  real-valued control

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- $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^d$  bounded regular domain,  $\psi|_{\partial\Omega} \equiv 0$ ,
- $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^d$ .

# Controllability results for the Schrödinger equation

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# Eigenvalues of the Schrödinger operator

## Theorem

*Let  $\Omega$  be bounded and smooth and  $V \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ . Then  $-\Delta + V$  admits a family of eigenfunctions in  $H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$  which form an orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\Omega)$*

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Let  $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^d$  and  $V \in L_{\text{loc}}^1$  be bounded from below and such that

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = +\infty.$$

Then  $-\Delta + V$  admits a family of eigenfunctions in  $H^2(\mathbf{R}^d)$  which form an orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\mathbf{R}^d)$ .

If  $V \geq 0$  then all eigenfunctions have exponential decay at infinity



# Mathematical framework

We will consider control systems of the form

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = A(\psi) + uB(\psi), \quad u \in U \quad (A, B, U)$$

with the following ingredients

- $H$  complex Hilbert space;
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The hypotheses above guarantee that

$$\forall u \in U, \exists e^{t(A+uB)} : H \rightarrow H \text{ group of unitary transformations}$$

## Approximate controllability

We call  $e^{t_k(A+u_k B)} \circ \dots \circ e^{t_1(A+u_1 B)}(\psi_0)$  the **solution** of the control system  $(A, B, U)$  starting from  $\psi_0$  associated to the piecewise constant control  $u_1 \chi_{[0, t_1]} + u_2 \chi_{[t_1, t_1+t_2]} + \dots$

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We say that  $(A, B, U)$  is **approximately controllable** if for every  $\psi_0, \psi_1 \in \mathcal{S}$  and every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_k > 0$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_k \in U$  such that

$$\|\psi_1 - e^{t_k(A+u_k B)} \circ \dots \circ e^{t_1(A+u_1 B)}(\psi_0)\| < \varepsilon.$$



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Ball–Marsden–Slemrod [1982] (adapted by Turinici to the skew-symmetric case) proved that exact controllability (in  $\mathcal{S} \cap H^2 \cap H_0^1$ ) does not hold in infinite dimension.

We look for conditions that guarantee the approximate controllability.

# Main result

$(\lambda_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$  eigenvalues of  $A$  corresponding to  $(\phi_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$ .

## Theorem

*If  $(\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$  are  $\mathbf{Q}$ -linearly independent and if  $\langle B\phi_j, \phi_{j+1} \rangle \neq 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbf{N}$ , then  $(A, B, (0, \delta))$  is approximatively controllable for every  $\delta > 0$ .*

Recall that  $(\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$  is **Q-linearly independent** (or **non-resonant**) if for every  $N \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $(q_1, \dots, q_N) \in \mathbf{Q}^N \setminus \{0\}$  one has

$$\sum_{n=1}^N q_n (\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n) \neq 0.$$

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# Main result: scheme of the proof

As in works by Agrachev, Sarychev and Rodrigues on the control of Navier-Stokes equation, we follow the following pattern

- time reparameterization;
- controllability of the Galerkin approximations;
- controllability in observed projections;
- approximate controllability of the original system.

# Time reparameterization

For  $u \neq 0$ , clearly,

$$e^{t(A+uB)} = e^{tu\left(\frac{1}{u}\right)A+B}.$$

Theorem 3 is therefore equivalent (under the same hypotheses) to

$\forall \delta, \varepsilon > 0, \forall \psi_0, \psi_1 \in \mathcal{S}$ , there exist  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_k > 0$   
and  $u_1, \dots, u_k > \delta$  such that

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$$\|\psi_1 - e^{t_k(u_k A+B)} \circ \dots \circ e^{t_1(u_1 A+B)}(\psi_0)\| < \varepsilon.$$

I.e., the system

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = u(t)A(\psi) + B(\psi), \quad u \in U \quad (\Sigma)$$

is approximately controllable provided that the control set  $U$  contains a half-line.

# Galerkyn approximations

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For  $j, k \in \mathbf{N}$ , let  $a_{jk}$  and  $b_{jk}$  be the components of  $A$  and  $B$  in the base  $(\phi_m)_{m \in \mathbf{N}}$ .

Galerkyn approximation of order  $n$ :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = uA^{(n)}x + B^{(n)}x, \quad x \in \mathcal{S}_n, \quad u > \delta, \quad (\Sigma_n)$$

where  $\mathcal{S}_n$  denotes the unit sphere of  $\mathbf{C}^n$ .

## Controllability of the Galerkin approximations

$\lambda_2 - \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n - \lambda_{n-1}$   $\mathbf{Q}$ -linearly independent +  $b_{j,j+1} \neq 0$

$\Downarrow$

the Lie algebra generated by  $A^{(n)}$  and  $B^{(n)}$  has max. dimension

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Let  $u : [0, T] \rightarrow (\delta, \infty)$  be a piecewise constant control driving  $\xi_0 / \|\xi_0\|$  to  $\xi_1 / \|\xi_1\|$  where

$$\xi_j = \bar{\Pi}_n(\psi_j), \quad j = 1, 2$$

and

$$\bar{\Pi}_n : H \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^n$$

associates the first  $n$  coordinates.

# Higher-order Galerkin approximation and elimination of the drift

$\mu > 0$  small constant to be chosen later (depending on  $T$ )

$\phi_j \in D(B) \implies (b_{jk})_{k \in \mathbf{N}}$  is in  $l^2$

Choose  $N \geq n$  such that  $\sum_{k > N} |b_{jk}|^2 < \mu$  for every  $j = 1, \dots, n$

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## ELIMINATION OF THE DRIFT

If  $t \mapsto X(t)$  is a solution of  $(\Sigma_N)$  corresponding to a control function  $U$ , then  $t \mapsto e^{-V(t)A^{(N)}} X(t) = Y(t)$ , where

$V(t) = \int_0^t U(\tau) d\tau$ , is a solution of

$$\dot{Y} = e^{-V(t)A^{(N)}} B^{(N)} e^{V(t)A^{(N)}} Y. \quad (\Theta_N)$$



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We want to track the solution of  $(\Theta_n)$  corresponding to  $u$  (chosen above) by a solution of  $(\Theta_N)$ .

# The tracking procedure

## Claim

*There exists a sequence  $u_k : [0, T] \rightarrow (\delta, \infty)$  piecewise constants such that the sequence*

$$t \mapsto M_k(t) = e^{-v_k(t)A^{(N)}} B^{(N)} e^{v_k(t)A^{(N)}},$$

*where  $v_k(t) = \int_0^t u_k(\tau) d\tau$ , converges to*

$$t \mapsto M(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-v(t)A^{(n)}} B^{(n)} e^{v(t)A^{(n)}} & 0_{n \times (N-n)} \\ 0_{(N-n) \times n} & G(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

*where  $v(t) = \int_0^t u(\tau) d\tau$ ,  $G(t)$  is continuous and  $M_k \rightarrow M$  in the following integral sense,*

$$\int_0^t M_k(\tau) d\tau \rightarrow \int_0^t M(\tau) d\tau$$

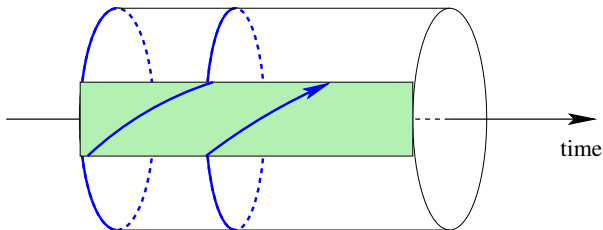
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Therefore, the resolvent  $R_k(t, s) : \mathbf{C}^N \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^N$  of the linear time-varying equation

$$\dot{Y} = M_k(t)Y,$$

converges, uniformly with respect to  $(t, s)$ , to the resolvent  $R(t, s) : \mathbf{C}^N \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^N$  of

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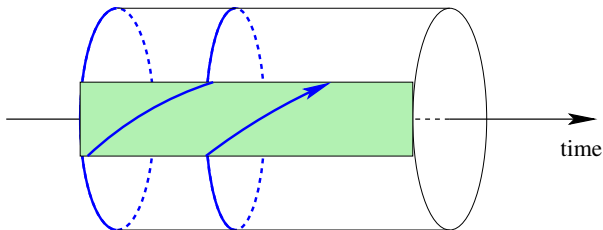
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Notice that  $R(t, s)$  preserves the norm of both the vector formed by the first  $n$  coordinates and the one formed by the last  $N - n$ .



## Controllability in observed projections

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The curves  $P^k(t) = (q_1^k(t), \dots, q_n^k(t))^T$  and

$Q^k(t) = (q_{n+1}^k(t), \dots, q_N^k(t))^T$  satisfy

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{P}^k(t) \\ \dot{Q}^k(t) \end{pmatrix} = M_k(t) \begin{pmatrix} P^k(t) \\ Q^k(t) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} H^k(t) \\ I^k(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\|H^k\|_\infty < \sqrt{n\mu}$  and  $\|I^k\|_\infty \leq C$  for  $C = C(N)$  large enough.

Hence

$$\begin{pmatrix} P^k(t) \\ Q^k(t) \end{pmatrix} = R_k(t, 0) \bar{\Pi}_N(\psi_0) + \int_0^t R_k(s, t) \begin{pmatrix} H^k(s) \\ I^k(s) \end{pmatrix} ds.$$

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and the components of  $\psi^k(T)$  are **in modulus**  $\varepsilon/2$ -close to those of  $\psi_1$ .



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## Claim

*For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $v_1 \in \mathbf{R}$  there exist  $\tau > 0$  and a positive control function  $u : [0, \tau] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that a trajectory  $\psi(\cdot)$  corresponding to  $u(\cdot)$  satisfies  $\|\Pi_n(\psi(\tau)) - \Pi_n(e^{iv_1 A}\psi(0))\| \leq \varepsilon$ .*

## Example 1: 1-D box (I)

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- We can not apply our result.

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- Use analyticity of the eigenvalues to show that for a dense set of  $\nu$ ,  $-\Delta + V_\nu$  has the desired properties.
- apply the result for a good  $\nu$ .



## Example 2: Harmonic oscillator

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- $\pi$  and  $e^{\pi}$  are algebraically independent (Nesterenko, 1996)

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