

# An application of biregularity to quaternionic Lagrange interpolation

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# Fueter-regular functions

- $\mathbb{H} \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$  :  $\mathbb{C}^2 \ni z = (z_1, z_2) = (x_0 + ix_1, x_2 + ix_3)$   
 $\longleftrightarrow q = z_1 + z_2j = x_0 + ix_1 + jx_2 + kx_3 \in \mathbb{H}$
- $\Omega$  bounded domain in  $\mathbb{H}$ . A quaternionic function  $f = f_1 + f_2j \in C^1(\Omega)$  is (left) **regular** on  $\Omega$  if it is in the kernel of the Cauchy-Riemann-Fueter operator

$$\mathcal{D} = 2 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_1} + j \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_2} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} + i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \quad \text{on } \Omega$$

- Every (standard) **holomorphic map**  $(f_1, f_2) : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$  defines a regular function  $f = f_1 + f_2j$
- Every **holomorphic map** w.r.t. the structure defined by *left multiplication by  $j$*  defines a regular function  $(f'_1, f'_2) : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_j^2$  holomorphic  $\Rightarrow f = f'_1 + f'_2i$  regular

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- The space  $\mathcal{R}(\Omega)$  of regular functions on  $\Omega$  is the **smallest** right  $\mathbb{H}$ -module defined by a 1<sup>st</sup>-order differential operator containing the (standard) holomorphic maps and also the holomorphic maps w.r.t. the complex structure given by left multiplication by  $j$

# Hypercomplex structure on $\mathbb{H}$

- Hypercomplex structure on  $\mathbb{H} \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$ :  $J_1, J_2$  complex structures on  $T\mathbb{H} \simeq \mathbb{H}$  defined by left multiplication by  $i$  and  $j$   
 $J_1^*, J_2^*$  dual structures on  $T^*\mathbb{H}$ . We make the choice  
 $J_3^* = J_1^* J_2^* \Rightarrow J_3 = -J_1 J_2$
- We can rewrite the equations of regularity (Joyce 1998)

$$df + iJ_1^*(df) + jJ_2^*(df) + kJ_3^*(df) = 0$$

$$\text{or } df^0 = J_1^*(df^1) + J_2^*(df^2) + J_3^*(df^3)$$

or, in complex components  $f = f_1 + f_2 j$ ,

$$\bar{\partial} f_1 = J_2^*(\bar{\partial} f_2)$$

# Holomorphic maps w.r.t. a complex structure $J_p$

Let  $J_p = p_1 J_1 + p_2 J_2 + p_3 J_3$  be the **orthogonal complex structure** on  $\mathbb{H}$  defined by  $p = p_1 i + p_2 j + p_3 k \in \mathbb{S}^2 = \{p \in \mathbb{H} \mid p^2 = -1\}$ .

Let  $\mathbb{C}_p = \langle 1, p \rangle$  and  $L_p$  the complex structure defined by left multiplication by  $p$ . We have  $L_p = J_{\gamma(p)}$ , where  $\gamma(p) = p_1 i + p_2 j - p_3 k$ . Consider  **$J_p$ -holomorphic maps from  $(\Omega, J_p)$  to  $(\mathbb{H}, L_p)$**

$$Hol_p(\Omega, \mathbb{H}) = \{f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \mid \bar{\partial}_p f = 0 \text{ on } \Omega\} = Ker \bar{\partial}_p$$

where  $\bar{\partial}_p$  is Cauchy-Riemann:  $\bar{\partial}_p = \frac{1}{2} (d + p J_p^* \circ d)$

For any positive o.n. basis  $\{1, p, q, pq\}$  of  $\mathbb{H}$  ( $p, q \in \mathbb{S}^2$ ), the equations of regularity can be rewritten as

$$\bar{\partial}_p f_1 = J_q^*(\partial_p \bar{f}_2)$$

where  $f = (f^0 + p f^1) + (f^2 + p f^3)q = f_1 + f_2 q$  are defined by the decomposition  $\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{C}_p \oplus (\mathbb{C}_p)q$

$\Rightarrow$  every  $f \in Hol_p(\Omega, \mathbb{H})$  is a regular function on  $\Omega$ .

# Totally regular functions

Definition (cf. *totally analytic variables* - Delanghe 1970)

A regular function  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\Omega)$  is **totally regular** if the powers  $f^k$  are regular on  $\Omega$  for every integer  $k \geq 0$  and  $f^k$  is regular on  $\Omega' = \{x \in \Omega \mid f(x) \neq 0\}$  for every integer  $k < 0$ .

## Example

Every  $\mathbb{C}_p$ -valued function  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\Omega, \mathbb{H})$  is totally regular.

This follows from the isomorphism of commutative algebras

$$\text{Hol}_p(\Omega, \mathbb{C}_p) \stackrel{\phi_a}{\cong} \text{Hol}(\Omega^a, \mathbb{C})$$

defined by composition with 3D-rotations  $\text{rot}_a(q) = aqa^{-1}$  and  $\text{rot}_{\gamma(a)}$  with  $\text{rot}_a(i) = \gamma(p)$  and  $\Omega^a = a^{-1}\Omega a$ :

$$\phi_a(f) = f^a := \text{rot}_{\gamma(a)} \circ f \circ \text{rot}_a$$

# Totally regular functions

## Remark

When  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\Omega, \mathbb{H})$  is not  $\mathbb{C}_p$ -valued, the decomposition  $f = f_1 + f_2 q$  w.r.t. any orthonormal basis  $\{p, q, pq\}$  defines totally regular components  $f_1, f_2 \in \text{Hol}_p(\Omega, \mathbb{C}_p)$ .

In the *affine* case,  $f = \sum_{\alpha=0}^4 x_\alpha a_\alpha + b$ ,  $a_\alpha, b \in \mathbb{H}$ , we can characterize completely the totally regular functions:

## Theorem

*Every non-constant affine totally regular function belongs to the union  $\cup_{p \in \mathbb{S}^2} \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$ .*

The result follows from the properties:

- (1) If  $f$  is affine and  $f, f^2$  are regular, then  $J(f)^{adj} = 0$ , i.e.  $f$  has maximum rank 2 (cf. Gürlebeck and Sprössig 1990)
- (2)  $f$  has maximum rank 2  $\Rightarrow \exists p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  such that  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$ .

# Totally regular functions

Property (2) is an application of the **energy quadric** of a regular function  $f$ . It is a family of positive semi-definite quadrics  $M(f)$  which contains information about the holomorphicity properties of the function (*Lichnerowicz invariants*). In the affine case,

$$\det M(f) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \exists p : f \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$$

and the formula

$$\det M(f) = \frac{1}{2} \left( |e_1|^2 + |e_2|^2 \right)$$

holds, with  $e_1, e_2$  linear combinations of elements of  $J(f)^{adj}$ .

- (3) If  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$  is affine,  $rk(f) = 2$  and  $f^2$  is regular, then  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$ .

## Corollary

*If  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{H})$  is affine and  $f^2$  is regular, then  $f$  is totally regular.*



# Totally regular functions

In the *affine* case

$$rk(f) \leq 2 \Rightarrow f \text{ is a } J_p\text{-holomorphic map}$$

In the *general* case, we can say something weaker:

## Theorem

Let  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\Omega)$ . Then

- If  $rk(f) \leq 2$ , then  $f$  is a (pseudo)holomorphic map w.r.t. a (not nec. constant) almost complex structure  $p(z)$  defined on a dense subset of  $\Omega$ .
- If  $Im(f)$  is contained in a (real) plane  $H$ , then there exists  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  such that  $f \in Hol_p(\Omega, \mathbb{H})$ .
- If  $Im(f)$  is contained in  $\mathbb{C}_p$  for some  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  (i.e.  $H \supseteq \mathbb{R}$ ), then  $f$  is a  $J_p$ -holomorphic function, and therefore it is totally regular.

# Totally regular functions and biregularity

The “twisted” *Fueter variables*

$$v_i = x_0 + x_1 i \in \text{Hol}_i(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_i)$$

$$v_j = x_0 + x_2 j \in \text{Hol}_j(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_j)$$

$$v_k = x_0 - x_3 k \in \text{Hol}_k(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_k)$$

are totally regular. We can define, for any  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$ , a totally regular function  $v_p \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$ , which generalizes Fueter variables.

## Definition

Let  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  and  $\gamma(p) = p_1 i + p_2 j - p_3 k$ . Let  $\vec{x}$  denote the vector  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by  $x \in \mathbb{H}$ . We set

$$v_p(x) = x_0 + \left( \vec{\gamma(p)} \cdot \vec{x} \right) p$$

# Totally regular functions and biregularity

The function  $v_p$  can be seen as one component of a **biregular** function, that is an invertible regular function  $f \in C^1(\Omega)$  such that  $f^{-1}$  is regular.

## Theorem

- For every  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$ ,  $v_p \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p) \Rightarrow v_p$  is totally regular.
- For any  $q \in \mathbb{S}^2$ ,  $q \perp p$ , let  $a \in \mathbb{H}$  s.t.  $\text{rot}_{\gamma(a)}(i) = p$ ,  $\text{rot}_{\gamma(a)}(j) = q$ . There exists an affine biregular function

$$f_a = v_p + w_a q$$

with totally regular components  $v_p, w_a \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$ .

$f_a \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$  is  **$J_p$ -biholomorphic**, with inverse

$$f_a^{-1} = f_{a'} \in \text{Hol}_{\gamma(p)}(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H}) \quad (a' = \gamma(a)^{-1}).$$

# Totally regular functions and biregularity

## Remark

We can take as  $f_a = v_p + w_a q$  the biregular rotation

$$f_a = id^a = rot_{\gamma(a)} \circ id \circ rot_a = rot_{\gamma(a)a}$$

defined by the *reduced quaternion*  $\gamma(a)a \Rightarrow w_a = z_2^a$ .

Using the energy quadric of  $f_a$ , it can be easily shown that  $rot_{\gamma(a)a}$  is holomorphic w.r.t. a circle of structures  $p' \in \mathbb{S}^2$ :

$$rot_{\gamma(a)a} \in Hol_{p'}(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H}) \quad \forall p' \in \langle rot_{\gamma(a)}(i), rot_{\gamma(a)}(j) \rangle \cap \mathbb{S}^2$$

Another application of the energy quadric:

## Theorem (P. AACCA)

*An affine biregular function is always  $J_p$ -biholomorphic for some  $p$ :*

$\exists p$  s.t.  $f \in Hol_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$  and  $f^{-1} \in Hol_{\gamma(p)}(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$ .

# Totally regular functions and biregularity

## Examples

$$\textcircled{1} \quad p = i, q = j \Rightarrow a = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f_a = id = z_1 + z_2j = (x_0 + x_1i) + (x_2 + x_3i)j \in Hol_j$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad p = i, q = k \Rightarrow a = \frac{j-k}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (f_a \text{ depends on the choice of } q \perp p)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_a = z_1 - z_2j = (x_0 + x_1i) + (-x_3 + x_2i)k \in Hol_j$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad p = j, q = k \Rightarrow a = \frac{1+i+j-k}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_a = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2j = (x_0 + x_2j) - (x_3 + x_1j)k \in Hol_j$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad p = k, q = j \Rightarrow a = \frac{1-j}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_a = \bar{z}_1 + \bar{z}_2j = (x_0 - x_3k) + (x_2 + x_1k)j \in Hol_k$$

# Quaternionic Lagrange Interpolation

**Lagrange Interpolation** in  $\mathbb{H}$ :

Given  $k$  distinct points  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{H}$  and  $k$  values  $u_1, \dots, u_k \in \mathbb{H}$ , find a *Lagrange polynomial* in the module of regular functions, i.e. a polynomial

$$L \in \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{H}) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad L(a_j) = u_j \quad \text{for every } j = 1, \dots, k.$$

(cf. Gürlebeck and Sprössig 1990)

## Lemma (1)

Let  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  be fixed. Given any  $J_p$ -biholomorphic ( $\Rightarrow$  biregular) mapping  $f \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$ , let  $f = f_1 + f_2 q$  ( $q \perp p$ ). There exist (infinitely many)  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}_p$  s.t.

$$g = \alpha f_1 + \beta f_2 \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$$

is totally regular and satisfies the conditions  $g(a_i) \neq g(a_j) \quad \forall i \neq j$ .  
The numbers  $\alpha, \beta$  can also be found in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

# Quaternionic Lagrange Interpolation

From the Lemma: every  $J_p$ -biholomorphic mapping  $f$  gives rise to (an infinite number of) regular *Lagrange interpolation functions* (*polynomials* if  $f$  is a polynomial function), given by the formula

$$L = \sum_{s=1}^k \ell_s u_s, \quad \text{where}$$

$$\ell_s(x) = \prod_{t \neq s} (g(x) - g(a_t))(g(a_s) - g(a_t))^{-1} \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$$

Properties:

- The powers  $(\ell_s)^m$  are regular on  $\mathbb{H}$  for every integer  $m > 0$  ( $\ell_s$  is totally regular) and  $L \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H}) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{H})$ .
- The powers of  $L$  are regular if also the values  $u_s$  belong to the subalgebra  $\mathbb{C}_p$ . In this case also  $L \in \text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_p)$  is totally regular.

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Properties:

- $\text{Ker}(d\ell_s) \supseteq \text{Ker}(dg) \Rightarrow \text{rk}(L) \leq 2$  (but can be  $\text{Im}(L) \not\subseteq H$  plane).
- The average of two (or more) interpolating functions can have  $\text{rk} > 2$  (and still be in  $\text{Hol}_p(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$  and then  $\text{rk} = 4$ ).



# Quaternionic Lagrange Interpolation

## Example

If we take the function

$$id^a = rot_{\gamma(a)} \circ id \circ rot_a = rot_{\gamma(a)a}$$

as  $J_p$ -biholomorphic mapping, then  $g$  is the linear function

$$g = \alpha f_1 + \beta f_2 = \alpha v_p + \beta w_a = \alpha z_1^a + \beta z_2^a$$

If  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $g = rot_{\gamma(a)} \circ (\alpha z_1 + \beta z_2) \circ rot_a$ .

## Remark

If all the points  $a_s$  lie in a complex subspace  $\mathbb{C}_{\gamma(p)}$  (in particular, in  $\mathbb{R}$ ), then  $rot_a(a_s) \in \mathbb{C}$  and the choice  $\alpha = 1, \beta = 0$  is valid. If the values  $u_s$  are complex (real), then the formula reduces to the usual complex (real) Lagrange interpolation.

# Directional quaternionic Lagrange Interpolation

## Lemma (2)

For every finite set of distinct points  $\{a_s\}_{s=1,\dots,k}$ ,  $\exists$  (infinite values of)  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$  s.t. the totally regular variable  $g = v_p$  satisfies the condition

$$g(a_i) = a_{i0} + (\overrightarrow{\gamma(p)} \cdot \vec{a}_i)p \neq a_{j0} + (\overrightarrow{\gamma(p)} \cdot \vec{a}_j)p = g(a_j)$$

for every  $i \neq j$  ( $\vec{a}_i$  denotes the vector part of  $a_i$ ).

“Optimal” choice for  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$ ? For example, **minimise** the **largest angle** defined by

$$\min_{\vec{a}_i \neq \vec{a}_j} \frac{|\overrightarrow{\gamma(p)} \cdot (\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j)|}{|\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j|}$$

# Examples

Let  $a_1 = 0, a_2 = 1, a_3 = i, a_4 = j$  and  $u_1 = 0, u_2 = j, u_3 = i, u_4 = k$ .

- (1) Fix  $p = i$  and  $f = id$  (cf. Lemma 1). We can choose  $(\alpha, \beta) = (1, -1)$  and get

$$g = z_1 - z_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_B(l_1, l_2, l_3, l_4) = \sqrt{\sum_s \mathcal{E}_B(l_s)^2} \approx 20.13 \text{ and } \mathcal{E}_B(L) \approx 7.17$$

- (2) Let  $p = i$  and  $f = id$  as before, but now choose  $(\alpha, \beta) = (1, 2)$  and get

$$g = z_1 + 2z_2.$$

The interpolating set  $l'_1, l'_2, l'_3, l'_4 \in \text{Hol}_i(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{C}_i)$  has energy  $\mathcal{E}_B(l'_1, l'_2, l'_3, l'_4) \approx 243.30$ .

$L' = \sum_s l'_s u_s \in \text{Hol}_i(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H})$  has  $rk \leq 2$  and energy  $\mathcal{E}_B \approx 231.04$

Let  $a_1 = 0, a_2 = 1, a_3 = i, a_4 = j$  and  $u_1 = 0, u_2 = j, u_3 = i, u_4 = k$ .

(3) We can get a better energy  $\mathcal{E}_B(\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4) \approx 18.73$  choosing

$$g = 0.77z_1 - 0.64z_2$$

(near to optimal for fixed  $p$  and  $f$ ). Now  $\mathcal{E}_B(L) \approx 6.70$

(4) Choose  $p$  following Lemma 2.

Since  $\vec{a}_1 = \vec{a}_2 = 0, \vec{a}_3 = (1, 0, 0), \vec{a}_4 = (0, 1, 0)$ , the “directions” to avoid correspond to  $p = i, p = \frac{i+j}{\sqrt{2}}, p = j$ .

The choice  $p = \frac{-i+j}{\sqrt{2}}$  maximises the cosine  $\min_{\vec{a}_i \neq \vec{a}_j} \frac{|\overrightarrow{\gamma(p)} \cdot (\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j)|}{|\vec{a}_i - \vec{a}_j|}$

$$\Rightarrow g = v_p = x_0 + \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - x_2)i + \frac{1}{2}(-x_1 + x_2)j.$$

Then  $\mathcal{E}_B(\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4) \approx 12.92$  (optimal for  $p \in \mathbb{S}^2$ ) and  $\mathcal{E}_B \approx 7.44$

Let  $a_1 = 0, a_2 = 1, a_3 = i, a_4 = j$  and  $u_1 = 0, u_2 = j, u_3 = i, u_4 = k$ .

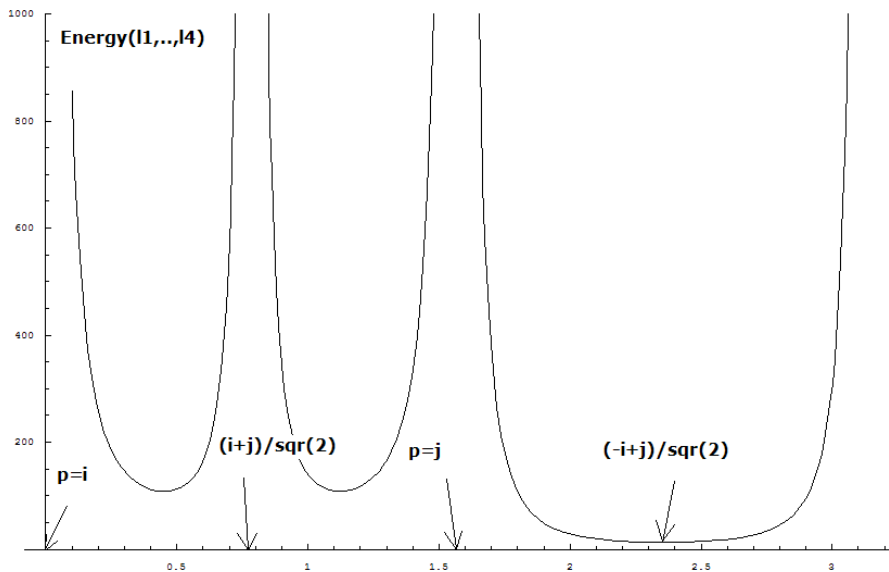
- (5) The average of the interpolating polynomials defined in (3) and (4) has rank 4 (a.e.), is *regular but not-holomorphic* and has energies

$$\mathcal{E}_B \approx 3.50, \quad \mathcal{E}_B(l_1, l_2, l_3, l_4) \approx 7.92$$

smaller than those of the two polynomials.

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