FATOU, JULIA, AND ESCAPING SETS OF CONJUGATE
HOLOMORPHIC SEMIGROUPS

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Abstract: We define commutator of a holomorphic semigroup, and on the basis of this concept, we define
conjugate semigroups of a holomorphic semigroup. We prove that the conjugate semigroup is nearly abelian
if and only if the given holomorphic semigroup is nearly abelian. We also prove that image of each of Fatou,
Julia, and escaping sets of a holomorphic semigroup under commutator (affine complex conjugating map)
is equal respectively, to the Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets of the conjugate semigroup. Finally, we prove
that every element of a nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup S can be written as the composition of an
element from the set generated by the set of commutators Φ(S) and the composition of the certain powers of
its generators.

Key Words: Holomorphic semigroup, nearly abelian semigroup, commutator, conjugate semigroup.

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1. Introduction

We confine our study on Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets of holomorphic semigroups
and their conjugate semigroups. It is very obvious fact that a set of holomorphic functions
naturally forms a semigroup. Here, we take a set A of holomorphic functions and construct
a semigroup S consists of all elements that can be expressed as a finite composition of
elements in A. We call such a semigroup S by holomorphic semigroup generated by the
set A. Our particular interest is to study of the dynamics of the families of holomorphic
functions. For a collection \( F = \{ f_\alpha \}_{\alpha \in \Delta} \) of such functions, let

\[ S = \langle f_\alpha \rangle \]

be a holomorphic semigroup generated by them. The index set \( \Delta \) to which \( \alpha \) belongs is
allowed to be infinite in general unless otherwise stated. Here, each \( f \in S \) is a holomorphic
function and S is closed under functional composition. Thus, \( f \in S \) is constructed through
the composition of finite number of functions \( f_{\alpha_k}, \ (k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, m) \). That is,

\[ f = f_{\alpha_1} \circ f_{\alpha_2} \circ f_{\alpha_3} \circ \cdots \circ f_{\alpha_m}. \]

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A semigroup generated by finitely many holomorphic functions \( f_i, (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) is called \emph{finitely generated holomorphic semigroup} and we write it by
\[
S = \langle f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n \rangle.
\]
. The holomorphic semigroup \( S \) is \emph{abelian} if
\[
f_\alpha \circ f_\beta = f_\beta \circ f_\alpha
\]
for all \( \alpha, \beta \in \{ \alpha : \alpha \in \Delta \} \). The semigroup \( S \) is right cancellative if
\[
f \circ g = h \circ g \implies f = h,
\]
and left cancellative if
\[
h \circ g = h \circ f \implies g = f
\]
for all \( f, g, h \in S \) and cancellative if it is both right and left cancellative. The family \( \mathcal{F} \) of holomorphic functions forms a \emph{normal family} in a domain \( D \) if given any composition sequence \( (f_\alpha) \) generated by the member of \( \mathcal{F} \), there is a subsequence \( (f_{\alpha_k}) \), \( \alpha_k \in \{ \alpha : \alpha \in \Delta \} \), which is uniformly convergent or divergent on all compact subsets of \( D \). If there is a neighborhood \( U \) of the point \( z \in \mathbb{C} \) such that \( \mathcal{F} \) is normal family in \( U \), then we say \( \mathcal{F} \) is normal at \( z \). If \( \mathcal{F} \) is a semigroup \( S \), then we simply say that \( S \) is normal in the neighborhood of \( z \) or \( S \) is normal at \( z \). Semigroup \( S \) is \emph{iteratively divergent} at \( z \) if \( f^n(z) \to \infty \) as \( n \to \infty \) for all \( f \in S \).

Based on the Fatou-Julia-Eremenko theory of a holomorphic function, the Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets in the settings of transcendental semigroup are defined as follows.

**Definition 1.1 (Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets).** Fatou set of the transcendental semigroup \( S \) is defined by
\[
F(S) = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : S \text{ is normal in a neighborhood of } z \}
\]
and the Julia set \( J(S) \) of \( S \) is the compliment of \( F(S) \) where as the escaping set of \( S \) is defined by
\[
I(S) = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : S \text{ is iteratively divergent at } z \}.
\]
We call each point of the set \( I(S) \) by an \emph{escaping point}.

There is a slightly larger family of holomorphic semigroups that can fulfill most of the results of abelian holomorphic semigroups. We call these semigroups nearly abelian and it is considered the more general form than that of abelian semigroups.

**Definition 1.2 (Nearly abelian semigroup).** We say that a holomorphic semigroup \( S \) is \emph{nearly abelian} if there is a family \( \Phi = \{ \phi_i \} \) of conformal maps such that
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad \phi_i(F(S)) = F(S) \text{ for all } \phi_i \in \Phi \text{ and } \\
(2) & \quad \text{for all } f, g \in S, \text{ there is a } \phi \in \Phi \text{ such that } f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f.
\end{align*}

The set \( \Phi \) of Definition 1.2 has given a special name as define below.
Definition 1.3 (Commutator). Let $S$ be a holomorphic semigroup. The set of the form
\[ \Phi(S) = \{ \phi : \text{there are } f, g \in S \text{ such that } f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f \} \]
is called the set of commutators of $S$. We write $\phi = [f, g]$ if $f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f$.

The notion of commutator is very useful to obtain conjugate maps of each generator $f_i$ of the semigroup $S$ and conjugate semigroup of the semigroup $S$.

Definition 1.4 (Conjugate semigroup). Let $S = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n \rangle$ be a finitely generated holomorphic semigroup and $\Phi(S)$ be a set of its commutators. Let us define a set
\[ (1.1) \quad S' = \{ \phi \circ f_1 \circ \phi^{-1}, \phi \circ f_2 \circ \phi^{-1}, \ldots, \phi \circ f_n \circ \phi^{-1} \} \]
where $\phi \in \Phi(S)$ such that $\phi = [f_i, f_j]$ and $\phi^{-1} = [f_j, f_i]$ as we defined before. If we let $g_i = \phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1}$, then we say function $f_i$ is conjugate to $g_i$ by a map $\phi : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$. The semigroup $S'$ is then called a conjugate semigroup of the semigroup $S$.

The image of the Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets of a nearly abelian semigroup under commutator $\phi \in \Phi(S)$ is respectively equal to the Fatou, Julia, and escaping sets of its conjugate.

Theorem 1.1. Let $S = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n \rangle$ be a nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup and $\Phi$ be a set of commutators of the form $\phi(z) = az + b$ for some non-zero $a$. Let $S'$ be a conjugate semigroup of $S$. Then there is a $\phi \in \Phi$ such that $\phi(F(S)) = F(S')$, $\phi(I(S)) = I(S')$ and $\phi(J(S)) = J(S')$.

We generalize [1, Theorem 4.3] to the following result.

Theorem 1.2. Let $S = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n, \ldots \rangle$ be a nearly abelian cancellative holomorphic semigroup and $\Phi(S)$ be a set of commutators of $S$. Then for every $f \in S$, we have
\[ f = \phi \circ f_1^{t_1} \circ f_2^{t_2} \circ f_3^{t_3} \cdots f_m^{t_m} \]
where $\phi \in \Phi(S)$ if $\Phi(S)$ is a group or semigroup otherwise $\phi \in G$, where $G = \langle \Phi(S) \rangle$ is a group generated by $\Phi(S)$ and $t_i$ are non-negative integers.

2. The Notion of conjugate semigroup and the proof of Theorem 1.1

Let $S$ be a holomorphic semigroup. If there is a holomorphic function $\phi$ such that $f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f$ for every pair of functions $f, g \in S$, then $\phi$ is called commutator of $f$ and $g$. Note that such a commutator is unique for every pair of holomorphic functions. Recall that
\[ \Phi(S) = \{ \phi : f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f \text{ for every pair of functions } f, g \in S \} \]
is a set of commutators of holomorphic semigroup $S$. If $S$ is abelian, then commutator $\phi$ is an identity function. By Definition 1.3, we write $\phi = [f, g]$ if $f \circ g = \phi \circ g \circ f$. Note that $[f, g]^{-1} = [g, f]$ and for any $f \in S$, $[f, f] = \text{identity}$. So, in $\Phi(S)$, there is an identity element and inverse of each $\phi \in \Phi(S)$. It is not clear in general whether $\Phi(S)$ has group structure or semigroup structure but we can make a group or semigroup $G = \langle \Phi(S) \rangle$ generated by the
elements of $\Phi(S)$ whenever it is necessary. Note that there are some commutator identities of groups which can be verified in $\Phi(S)$ if $S$ is a cancellative holomorphic semigroup. For example:

1. $[f, g \circ f^n] = [f, g]$.
2. $[f, f^n \circ g] \circ f^n = f^n \circ [f, g]$.
3. $[f \circ g, g \circ f] \circ g \circ f = f \circ g \circ [g, f]$.

In practice, there is a commutator for given pair of holomorphic functions.

**Example 2.1.** Let $f(z) = \exp z^2 + \lambda$ and $g(z) = -f(z)$, where $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. It is easy to see that

$$(f \circ g)(z) = \exp(\exp z^2 + \lambda)^2 + \lambda = \phi(-\exp(\exp z^2 + \lambda)^2 - \lambda) = (\phi \circ g \circ f)(z),$$

where $\phi(z) = -z$. Likewise, if $f(z) = \lambda \cos z$, $g(z) = -f(z)$, then

$$(f \circ g)(z) = \lambda \cos(\phi(z)) = \phi(-\lambda \cos(z)) = (\phi \circ g \circ f)(z),$$

where $\phi(z) = -z$.

We prove the following result that shows conjugate semigroup is nearly abelian if and only if the holomorphic semigroup itself is nearly abelian.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let $S'$ be a conjugate semigroup of a holomorphic semigroup $S$. Then $S'$ is nearly abelian if and only if $S$ is nearly abelian.

**Proof.** Let $S = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n \rangle$ be a nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup and

$$S' = \langle \phi \circ f_1 \circ \phi^{-1}, \phi \circ f_2 \circ \phi^{-1}, \ldots, \phi \circ f_n \circ \phi^{-1} \rangle$$

be the conjugate semigroup of $S$ where $\phi \in \Phi(S)$. Then, there is an $\phi \in \Phi(S)$ such that $f_i \circ f_j = \phi \circ f_j \circ f_i$ for all generators $f_i, f_j \in S$. Now for any $\phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1}, \phi \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1} \in S'$, we have

$$(\phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1}) \circ (\phi \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1}) = \phi \circ f_i \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1} = \phi \circ \xi \circ f_j \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1} \text{ for some } \xi \in \Phi(S)$$

$$= \xi \circ \phi \circ f_j \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1} = \xi \circ (\phi \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1}) \circ (\phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1})$$

This shows that $S'$ is nearly abelian.

Conversely, suppose that semigroup $S'$ is nearly abelian. Then, there is an $\phi \in \Phi(S)$ such that $g_i \circ g_j = \phi \circ g_j \circ g_i$, where $g_i = \phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1}$ and $g_j = \phi \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1}$ and from which get $f_i = \phi^{-1} \circ g_i \circ \phi$ and $f_j = \phi^{-1} \circ g_j \circ \phi$. Now, for any $f_i, f_j \in S$, we have

$$f_i \circ f_j = (\phi^{-1} \circ g_i \circ \phi)(\phi^{-1} \circ g_j \circ \phi)$$

$$= \phi^{-1} \circ g_i \circ g_j \circ \phi$$

$$= \phi^{-1} \circ \phi \circ g_j \circ g_i \circ \phi$$

$$= g_j \circ g_i \circ \phi$$

$$= \phi \circ f_j \circ \phi^{-1} \circ \phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1} \circ \phi$$

$$= \phi \circ f_j \circ f_i.$$
This shows that $S$ is nearly abelian.

Theorem 2.1 tells us that if there is a nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup, then we can construct other nearly abelian semigroups by making conjugate semigroups. To prove Theorem 1.1, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let $f$ and $g$ be two holomorphic functions and $\phi$ be an entire function of the form $z \rightarrow az + b$, where $a \neq 0$ such that $\phi \circ f = g \circ \phi$. Then $\phi(I(f)) = I(g)$, $\phi(J(f)) = J(g)$ and $\phi(F(f)) = F(g)$.

**Proof.** Let $w \in \phi(I(f))$, then there is $z \in I(f)$ such that $w = \phi(z)$. The condition $z \in I(f) \implies f^n(z) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Now, $g^n(w) = g^n(\phi(z)) = (g^n \circ \phi)(z) = (g^{n-1} \circ g \circ \phi)(z) = (g^{n-2} \circ \phi \circ f^2)(z) = \ldots = (\phi \circ f^n)(z) = \phi(f^n(z))$. Since $\phi(z) = az + b$, $a \neq 0$ and $f^n(z) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so we must have $g^n(w) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. This shows that $\phi(I(f)) \subseteq I(g)$.

For opposite inclusion, we note that if $z \in I(g)$, then we must have $\phi(z) \in I(g)$. As above,

$$\phi(f^n(z)) = g^n(\phi(z)) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$ 

This shows that $z \in \phi(I(f))$ and so $I(g) \subseteq \phi(I(f))$. This proves that $\phi(I(f)) = I(g)$. Remaining equality obtained from the facts $\partial I(f) = J(f)$ and $F(f) = \mathbb{C} \setminus J(f)$.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Let $\phi \circ f_i \circ \phi^{-1} = g_i$ for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$. From which we get $\phi \circ f_i = g_i \circ \phi$ for all $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$. Any $f \in S$ and $g \in S'$ can be written respectively as

$$f = f_{i_1} \circ f_{i_2} \circ \ldots \circ f_{i_n}$$

and

$$g = g_{i_1} \circ g_{i_2} \circ \ldots \circ g_{i_n}.$$ 

From which we get $\phi \circ f = \phi \circ f_{i_1} \circ f_{i_2} \circ \ldots \circ f_{i_n} = g_{i_1} \circ \phi \circ f_{i_2} \circ \ldots \circ f_{i_n} = g_{i_1} \circ g_{i_2} \circ \phi \circ \ldots \circ f_{i_n} = \ldots = g_{i_1} \circ g_{i_2} \circ \ldots \circ g_{i_n} \circ \phi = g \circ \phi$ for all $f \in S$ and $g \in S'$. Since $S = \langle f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n \rangle$ be a nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup, so from [2, Theorem 1.1], we have

$$I(S) = I(f), \quad J(S) = J(f) \quad \text{and} \quad F(S) = F(f)$$

for all $f \in S$.

Now, $I(S) = I(f) \implies \phi(I(S)) = \phi(I(f))$.

By Lemma 2.1, $\phi(I(f)) = I(g)$. By Theorem 2.1, semigroup $S'$ is nearly abelian, so again by [2, Theorem 1.1], we have $I(S') = I(g)$. Thus we get $\phi(I(S)) = I(S')$. Next two equality are also obtained by the similar fashion.

**3. Proof of Theorem 1.2**

There is a nice way of writing arbitrary element of nearly abelian holomorphic semigroup. Before doing so, we see how does any $f \in S$ behave just like semi-conjugacy for some member of $\Phi(S)$ and a member from the set generated by $\Phi(S)$ as shown in the following lemma. Note that the statement and the proof this lemma is analogous to [1, Lemma 4.2].
Lemma 3.1. Let $S$ be a nearly abelian cancellative holomorphic semigroup. Then for any $f \in S$ and any $\phi \in \Phi(S)$, there is a map $\xi \in G$, where $G = \langle \Phi(S) \rangle$ is a group generated by the elements in $\Phi(S)$ such that $f \circ \phi = \xi \circ f$.

Proof. For any $\phi \in \Phi(S)$, there are $g, h \in S$ such that $g \circ h = \phi \circ h \circ g$. Then, for any $f \in S$, we can write

\begin{equation}
 f \circ g \circ h = f \circ \phi \circ h \circ g.
\end{equation}

Furthermore,

\begin{equation}
 f \circ g \circ h = \xi_1 \circ g \circ f \circ h = \xi_1 \circ \xi_2 \circ f \circ h \circ g.
\end{equation}

for some $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in \Phi(S)$. Since $S$ is cancellative semigroup, so from the equations 3.1 and 3.2, we get

\begin{equation*}
 f \circ \phi = \xi_1 \circ \xi_2 \circ f = \xi \circ f
\end{equation*}

where $\xi = \xi_1 \circ \xi_2 \in G$. \hfill \Box

From the equation 3.2, we can say that composite of two commutators may not be a commutator. We investigate a couple of examples of holomorphic semigroups such that essence of above Lemma 3.1 holds.

Example 3.1. If a semigroup $S$ generated by functions $f(z) = \lambda \cos z \in S$ and $g(z) = -f(z)$, then it is nearly abelian where $\phi(z) = -z$ is the commutator of $f$ and $g$ (see for instance [2, Example 2.2]). Since $\phi^2(z) = z$, an identity element of a group $G = \langle \Phi(S) \rangle = \{\text{Identity}, \phi\}$ such that $f \circ \phi = f = \text{Identity} \circ f$ and $g \circ \phi = g = \text{Identity} \circ g$.

Example 3.2. If a semigroup $S$ generated by functions $f(z) = e^{z^2} + \lambda$ and $g(z) = -f(z)$, then it is nearly abelian where $\phi(z) = -z$ is the commutator of $f$ and $g$ (see for instance [2, Example 2.2]). Since $\phi^2(z) = z$, an identity element of a group $G = \langle \Phi(S) \rangle = \{\text{Identity}, \phi\}$ such that $f \circ \phi = f = \text{Identity} \circ f$ and $g \circ \phi = g = \text{Identity} \circ g$.

Also note that in both of these examples, we have $\phi \circ f = -f \neq f = f \circ \xi$ for any $\xi \in G$. That is, for given $\phi \in \Phi(S)$, there may not always possible to find element $\xi \in G$ satisfying $\phi \circ f = f \circ \xi$ for any choice of $\xi \in G$.

Proof of the Theorem 1.2. The proof of this theorem follows from the inductive application of Lemma 3.1 to each element $f = f_1 \circ f_2 \circ \ldots \circ f_n$ of $S$. \hfill \Box

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