

## EQUIVARIANT ALGEBRAIC APPROXIMATIONS OF $G$ MAPS

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $f$  be a smooth  $G$  map from a non-singular real algebraic  $G$  variety to an equivariant Grassmann variety. We use some  $G$  vector bundle theory to find a necessary and sufficient condition to approximate  $f$  by an entire rational  $G$  map. As an application we algebraically approximate a smooth  $G$  map between  $G$  spheres when  $G$  is an abelian group.

### 0. Introduction

Throughout this paper we let  $G$  be a compact Lie group. A *real algebraic  $G$  variety* in an orthogonal representation  $\Omega$  is the common zeros of polynomials  $p_1, \dots, p_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , which is invariant under the action of  $G$  on  $\Omega$ . We also say that  $G$  acts algebraically on  $V$ .

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  varieties. The question we are interested in here is the following: when can a given  $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be approximated by polynomial  $G$  maps or entire rational  $G$  maps? If  $X$  is compact and  $Y$  is an orthogonal representation, then the classical Stone-Weierstrass theorem can be extended equivariantly. Namely, using Theorem 1.1 which is a version of Stone-Weierstrass theorem and the averaging operator we have Theorem 1.3 and Corollary 1.4. However if  $Y$  is not an orthogonal representation, then approximation of  $f$  by polynomial maps or entire rational maps are not always possible, see [Wo] and [BK2]. On the other hand, in nonequivariant case (i.e.

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$G = 1$ ) any map from  $S^n$  to  $S^1, S^2,$  or  $S^4$  can be approximated by entire rational maps, see [BK1].

In this paper we use Corollary 1.4 and some  $G$  vector bundle theory to find a necessary and sufficient condition for a  $G$  map from  $X$  to Grassmann  $G$  variety to be approximated by entire rational  $G$  maps. Namely, we have the following theorem which is an equivariant generalization of Lemma 14 of [Iv].

**THEOREM 2.4.** *Let  $X$  be a compact nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  variety. Then a  $C^r$   $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  can be approximated by entire rational  $G$  maps in  $C^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$  if and only if the  $G$   $\Lambda$ -vector bundle  $\xi$  having  $f$  as the classifying map is  $C^r$   $G$  isomorphic to a strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle.*

We apply Theorem 2.4 to complex  $G$  vector bundles over the unit spheres of unitary representations of abelian group  $G$  to have the following:

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Let  $E$  and  $W$  be any unitary representation of  $G$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(S(E), G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, k))^G$  is dense in  $C^r(S(E), G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, k))^G$  with  $C^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$ .*

By considering complex line bundles we have the following extension of the results in [BK1] as a special case of Theorem 3.3.

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Let  $E$  be any unitary representation of  $G$  and  $V$  a unitary 1-dimensional representation of  $G$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(S(E), S(V \oplus \mathbb{R}))^G$  is dense in  $C^r(S(E), S(V \oplus \mathbb{R}))^G$  with  $C^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$ .*

### 1. Equivariant polynomial approximations

Let  $\Xi$  and  $\Omega$  be representations of  $G$ . A polynomial  $G$  map  $f : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  is a  $G$  map of the form  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_m)$  where each  $f_i$  is a polynomial for  $0 \leq i \leq m$  and  $m = \dim \Omega$ . For  $0 \leq r \leq \infty$  let  $C^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  denote the set of all  $C^r$  maps from  $\Xi$  to  $\Omega$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}(\Xi, \Omega)$  be the subset of all polynomial maps from  $\Xi$  to  $\Omega$ . The  $C^\rho$  topology on  $C^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r$  is the topology defined as follows. For a multi index  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$  with

$n = \dim \Xi$  and  $f \in \mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  let

$$D^s = \frac{\partial^{|s|}}{\partial x_1^{s_1} \cdots \partial x_n^{s_n}}$$

where  $|s| = s_1 + \cdots + s_n$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $K_n$  denote the disk of radius  $n$  in  $\Xi$  centered at the origin. Let  $N_{K_n, \rho}$  be the semi-norm on the set  $\mathcal{C}(\Xi, \Omega)$  defined by

$$N_{K_n, \rho}(f) = \sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(f)|.$$

Then the  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology on  $\mathcal{C}(\Xi, \Omega)$  is the smallest topology so that  $N_{K_n, \rho}$  are continuous for all  $K_n$ . The following theorem is well known.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $0 \leq r \leq \infty$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}(\Xi, \Omega)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  with  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r$ .*

**PROOF.** See Corollary 4 of Theorem 15.3 of [Tr].  $\square$

We now generalize this theorem for equivariant case. We first need the following averaging operator. Since  $G$  is compact there is the Haar measure of  $G$  which is denoted by  $dg$ . For any  $f : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  define

$$A(f)(x) = \int_G g^{-1} f(gx) dg$$

for  $x \in \Xi$ . If  $G$  is a finite group, this averaging operator is nothing but

$$A(f)(x) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g^{-1} f(gx).$$

Here are some basic properties of the operator  $A$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** *Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group, and let  $\Xi$  and  $\Omega$  be representations of  $G$ . Let  $A : \mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  be defined as above for  $0 \leq r \leq \infty$ . Then*

- (1) *For any  $f \in \mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  the map  $A(f)$  is a  $G$  map. If  $f$  is a  $G$  map then  $A(f) = f$ .*
- (2) *If  $f$  is a polynomial map, then so is  $A(f)$ .*
- (3) *If  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^1$  and  $f \geq 0$ , then  $A(f) \geq 0$ .*

PROOF. See [DMP].  $\square$

If we define a  $G$  action on  $C^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  by  $g \cdot f(x) = gf(g^{-1}x)$  for  $g \in G$  and  $f \in C^r(\Xi, \Omega)$ , then the fixed point set  $C^r(\Xi, \Omega)^G$  is the subspace of all  $G$  equivariant  $C^r$  maps, and  $\mathcal{P}(\Xi, \Omega)^G$  is the subset of all polynomial  $G$  maps. We now have the following equivariant generalization of Theorem 1.1.

**THEOREM 1.3.**  $\mathcal{P}(\Xi, \Omega)^G$  is dense in  $C^r(\Xi, \Omega)^G$  with  $C^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$ .

PROOF. Note first that for any  $h \in C^r(\Xi, \Omega)$

$$D^s(A(h))(x) = \int_G D^s(g^{-1}fg(x)) dg.$$

From the formula for higher order partial derivatives of composition if

$$\sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(h)| \leq \epsilon$$

then

$$\sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(g^{-1}hg)| \leq C_\rho \epsilon$$

for some constant  $C_\rho$  which depends only on  $\rho$ . Therefore

$$\sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(A(h))| \leq C_\rho \epsilon.$$

Let  $f : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  be a  $G$  equivariant  $C^r$  map. Theorem 1.1 implies that for a given  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $K_n$  there exists a polynomial map  $p : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  such that

$$\sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(f - p)| \leq \epsilon.$$

From the argument above and Proposition 1.2 (2) we have

$$\sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(f - A(p))| = \sup_{x \in K_n, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(A(f - p))| \leq C_\rho \epsilon.$$

Since  $A(p) \in \mathcal{P}(\Xi, \Omega)^G$  we are done.  $\square$

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  varieties in orthogonal representations  $\Xi$  and  $\Omega$  respectively. Since  $X$  and  $Y$  are nonsingular they are  $\mathcal{C}^\infty$   $G$  manifolds. For  $0 \leq r \leq \infty$  let  $\mathcal{C}^r(X, Y)^G$  be the set of all  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  maps from  $X$  to  $Y$ . Since any  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  can be extended to  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  maps  $\hat{f} : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  we can identify  $\mathcal{C}^r(X, Y)^G$  with the subspace

$$\mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)_{(X, Y)}^G = \{ \hat{f} : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega \mid \hat{f} \text{ is a chosen extension of } f \in \mathcal{C}^r(X, Y)^G \}$$

of  $\mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$ . Then for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r$  the  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology on  $\mathcal{C}^r(X, Y)^G$  is the topology induced from the  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology on  $\mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)$  via the identification  $\mathcal{C}^r(X, Y)^G$  with  $\mathcal{C}^r(\Xi, \Omega)_{(X, Y)}^G$ .

A  $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a polynomial  $G$  map if there exists a polynomial map  $p : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  such that  $p|_X = f$ . By Proposition 1.2 (2) we can assume that  $p$  is a polynomial  $G$  map. Let  $\mathcal{P}(X, Y)^G$  denote the subset of all polynomial  $G$  maps from  $X$  to  $Y$ . We say that a  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is approximated by polynomial  $G$  maps in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  if for a given  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X, Y)^G$  such that

$$\sup_{x \in X, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(f - p)| \leq \epsilon.$$

An immediate consequence of Theorem 1.3 is the following.

**COROLLARY 1.4.** *Let  $X$  be a compact nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  variety, and let  $\Omega$  be a representation of  $G$ . The any  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  map from  $X$  to  $\Omega$  can be approximated by polynomial maps in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$ .  $\square$*

## 2. Entire rational $G$ maps

Let  $X$  be a subspace of Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . A map  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is said to be *entire rational* if there exist polynomial maps  $P : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $Q : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x) = P(x)/Q(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $Q^{-1}(0) \cap X = \emptyset$ . Let  $\Xi$  and  $\Omega$  be representations of  $G$ , and let  $X$  be a  $G$  invariant subspace of  $\Xi$ . If a  $G$  map  $f : X \subset \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$ , viewed as the underlying non-equivariant map, is entire rational, we call  $f$  an *entire rational  $G$  map*.

The following proposition is an interesting observation.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Let  $X$  be a real algebraic  $G$  variety in  $\Xi$ . If  $f : X \subset \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  is an entire rational  $G$  map in  $\Xi$ , then there exist polynomial  $G$  maps  $P' : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  and  $Q' : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x) = P'(x)/Q'(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $Q'$  does not vanish on  $\Xi$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $f = P/Q$  where  $P : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  and  $Q : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are polynomial maps such that  $Q$  does not vanish on  $X$ . Here  $P$  and  $Q$  are not necessarily  $G$  equivariant. Since  $X$  is a real algebraic variety there exists a polynomial  $h : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $h^{-1}(0) = X$ . We now consider the map  $(PQ)/(Q^2 + h^2)$ . Since  $h$  vanishes on  $X$  the map  $(PQ)/(Q^2 + h^2)$  is equal to  $P/Q$  on  $X$ . Take the average

$$\begin{aligned} P' &= A(PQ) \\ Q' &= A(Q^2 + h^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $Q^2 + h^2 > 0$  on  $\Xi$  its average  $Q' = A(Q^2 + h^2) > 0$  on  $\Xi$ . Thus  $Q'$  does not vanish on  $\Xi$ , and  $P'$  and  $Q'$  are  $G$  equivariant polynomials. It is clear that  $f(x) = P'(x)/Q'(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .  $\square$

The following proposition asserts that a  $G$  map which is locally entire rational is an entire rational  $G$  map.

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be a real algebraic  $G$  variety on  $\Xi$ . Let  $U_1, \dots, U_k$  be Zariski open subsets of  $X$  such that  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^k U_i$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y \subset \Omega$  be a  $G$  map such that  $f|_{U_i}$  are entire rational for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Then  $f$  is an entire rational  $G$  map.*

**PROOF.** Let  $f|_{U_i} = P_i/Q_i$  where  $P_i : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  and  $Q_i : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are polynomials such that  $Q_i$  does not vanish on  $U_i$ . Since  $U_i$  are Zariski open subset of  $X$  there exists an algebraic subvariety  $V_i \subset X$  such that  $U_i = X - V_i$ . Let  $g_i : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a polynomial map such that  $g_i^{-1}(0) = V_i$ . Let  $P'_i = g_i P_i$  and  $Q'_i = g_i Q_i$ . Then  $Q'_i(0) \cap X = V_i$  and

$$f|_{U_i} = \left(\frac{P_i}{Q_i}\right)|_{U_i} = \left(\frac{P'_i}{Q'_i}\right)|_{U_i}.$$

Therefore by replacing  $P_i$  and  $Q_i$  by  $P'_i$  and  $Q'_i$  respectively, if necessary, we may assume that  $Q_i^{-1}(0) \cap X = V_i$ . Note that if  $\lambda = a_1/b_1 = \dots =$

$a_i/b_i$  then  $\lambda = (a_1 + \dots + a_l)/(b_1 + \dots + b_l)$ . Since  $f(x) = P_i(x)/Q_i(x) = P_i(x)Q_i(x)/Q_i^2(x)$  for all  $x \in U_i$  it follows that for all  $x \in U_i$

$$f(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l P_i(x)Q_i(x)}{\sum_{i=1}^l Q_i^2(x)}.$$

However the right-hand side of the above equation is independent of the index  $i$ . Therefore we can see that the

$$f(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l P_i(x)Q_i(x)}{\sum_{i=1}^l Q_i^2(x)}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Since the denominator of the right-hand side does not vanish on  $X$  the map  $f$  is an entire rational  $G$  map.  $\square$

Let  $\Lambda$  stand for  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ , or  $\mathbb{H}$ . Let  $\Xi$  be a representation of  $G$  over  $\Lambda$ , in particular, its underlying space is  $\Lambda^n$  for some  $n$ . We assume that the action of  $G$  preserves the standard bilinear form on  $\Lambda^n$  over  $\Lambda$ . Let  $\text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi)$  denote the set of endomorphisms of  $\Xi$  over  $\Lambda$ . It is a representation of  $G$  with the action given by

$$G \times \text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi) \rightarrow \text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi) \quad \text{with} \quad (g, L) \mapsto gLg^{-1}.$$

Let  $k$  be a natural number. We set

$$\begin{aligned} G_\Lambda(\Xi, k) &= \{L \in \text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi) \mid L^2 = L, L^* = L, \text{trace } L = k\} \\ E_\Lambda(\Xi, k) &= \{(L, u) \in \text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi) \times \Xi \mid L \in G_\Lambda(\Xi, k), Lu = u\}. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $L^*$  denotes the adjoint of  $L$ . If one chooses an orthonormal (resp. unitary or symplectic) basis of  $\Xi$ , then  $\text{End}_\Lambda(\Xi)$  is canonically identified with the set of  $n \times n$  matrices  $\Lambda^{n^2}$ , and  $L^*$  is obtained by transposing  $L$  and conjugating its entries. Since each element of  $G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  is an orthogonal projection of  $\Xi$  onto a  $k$  dimensional subspace of  $\Xi$ , we can identify  $G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  with the Grassmann manifold of  $k$  dimensional subspaces of  $\Xi$ . This description specifies  $G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  and  $E_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  as real algebraic  $G$  varieties. Define  $p : E_\Lambda(\Xi, k) \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  as projection on the first factor. This defines a  $G$  vector bundle, which is called the *universal bundle* over  $G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$ , and which is denoted by  $\gamma_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$ .

DEFINITION. A strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle over  $\Lambda$  is a pair  $(X, \mu)$  where  $X$  is a real algebraic  $G$  variety and  $\mu : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  is an entire rational  $G$  map. Assuming that  $\Xi$  is a summand of a representation  $\Xi'$  of  $G$ , we have an embedding  $i : G_\Lambda(\Xi, k) \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi', k)$ . In this sense we identify the strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundles  $(X, \mu)$  and  $(X, i\mu)$ .

Let  $V_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  denote the subset of  $(\Xi)^k$  which consists of  $k$  linearly independent vectors of  $\Xi$ . The Stiefel manifold  $V_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  has the obvious  $G$  action induced from the  $G$  action on  $\Xi$ . Let  $\pi : V_\Lambda(\Xi, k) \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  be the map which associates to each collection of vectors the orthogonal projection of  $\Xi$  on to the subspace spanned by the vectors. Then  $\pi$  is clearly a  $G$  map.

PROPOSITION 2.3. The map  $\pi : V_\Lambda(\Xi, k) \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  is an entire rational  $G$  map.

PROOF. Let  $V_\Lambda^0(\Xi, k) \subset V_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  be the set of orthogonal  $k$  vectors of  $\Xi$ . We first claim that  $\pi|_{V_\Lambda^0(\Xi, k)}$  is entire rational. If  $(v_1, \dots, v_k) \in V_\Lambda^0(\Xi, k)$ , then  $\pi(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is an orthogonal projection  $P : \Xi \rightarrow \Xi$  which maps  $\Xi$  onto the space spanned by  $v_1, \dots, v_k$ . Then

$$P(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{(x, v_i)}{(v_i, v_i)} v_i$$

for  $x \in \Xi$ . Therefore  $\pi$  is clearly an entire rational map. Now we perform the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process to a collection of linearly independent vectors  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$ . Let  $GS : V_\Lambda(\Xi, k) \rightarrow V_\Lambda^0(\Xi, k)$  be the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization map. If  $GS(v_1, \dots, v_k) = (v'_1, \dots, v'_k)$ , then  $v'_1 = v_1$  and  $v'_j = v_j - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \alpha_i v_i$  where  $\alpha_i = (v_j, v'_i)$  for  $j = 2, \dots, k$ . This formula shows that  $GS$  is entire rational. The map  $\pi$  is nothing but the composition  $\pi|_{V_\Lambda^0(\Xi, k)} \circ GS$ , which is entire rational.  $\square$

For two nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  varieties  $X \subset \Xi$  and  $Y \subset \Omega$  let  $\mathcal{R}(X, Y)^G$  denote the subset of all entire rational  $G$  maps from  $X$  to  $Y$ . By Proposition 2.1 any  $f \in \mathcal{R}(X, Y)^G$  can be extended to  $P'/Q' : \Xi \rightarrow \Omega$  where  $P'$  and  $Q'$  are polynomial  $G$  maps and  $Q'$  does not vanish on  $\Xi$ . Therefore we can embed  $\mathcal{R}(X, Y)^G$  as a subspace of  $C^r(X, Y)^G$  with  $C^r$



topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$ . We say that a  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is approximated by entire rational  $G$  maps in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  if for a given  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $q \in \mathcal{R}(X, Y)^G$  such that

$$\sup_{x \in X, 0 \leq |s| \leq \rho} |D^s(f - q)| \leq \epsilon.$$

**THEOREM 2.4.** *Let  $X$  be a compact nonsingular real algebraic  $G$  variety. Then a  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  can be approximated by entire rational  $G$  maps in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$  if and only if the  $G$   $\Lambda$ -vector bundle  $\xi$  having  $f$  as the classifying map is  $\mathcal{C}^r$   $G$  isomorphic to a strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle.*

**PROOF.** If  $f : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  can be approximated by an entire rational  $G$  map  $f' : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology, then  $f$  is  $G$  homotopic to  $f'$ . Therefore  $\xi = f^*(\gamma_\Lambda(\Xi, k))$  is  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$   $G$  isomorphic to  $\xi' = f'^*(\gamma_\Lambda(\Xi, k))$  which is a strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle. Conversely, suppose  $\xi = f^*(\gamma_\Lambda(\Xi, k))$  is  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$   $G$  isomorphic to a strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle  $\eta = g^*(\gamma_\Lambda(\Xi', k))$  where  $g : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi', k)$ . Let  $E_\xi$  and  $E_\eta$  be the total space of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  respectively. Let  $d : E_\eta \rightarrow E_\xi$  be the  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$   $G$  diffeomorphism which is induced from the  $G$  isomorphism  $\eta \rightarrow \xi$ . Define a  $G$  action on  $\text{Hom}(\Xi', \Xi)$  by conjugation: for  $g \in G$  and  $L \in \text{Hom}(\Xi', \Xi)$  define  $g \cdot L = gLg^{-1}$ . Then  $\text{Hom}(\Xi', \Xi)$  is a representation of  $G$ . Define a  $G$  map  $K : X \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\Xi', \Xi)$  by

$$K(x)(y) = pr_2 \circ d(x, g(x)y)$$

for  $x \in X, y \in Y$  and  $pr_2 : X \times \Xi \rightarrow \Xi$  is the projection. We note that the rank of  $K(x)$  is  $k$  for all  $x \in X$ . By Corollary 1.4 we can approximate  $K$  by a polynomial  $G$  map  $K' : X \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\Xi', \Xi)$  in  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology. Define a  $G$ -map  $L : X \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\Xi', \Xi)$  by

$$L(x)(y) = K'(x)(g(x)y).$$

Since  $K'$  is a close approximation of  $K$  in  $\mathcal{C}^r$  topology we can still assume that the rank of  $L(x)$  is  $k$  for all  $x \in X$ . Therefore for each  $x \in X$  the image  $\text{Im } L(x)$  is a  $k$  dimensional subspace of  $\Xi$ . Hence we can define  $f' : X \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  by letting  $f'(x)$  to be the orthogonal projection of  $\Xi$

onto  $\text{Im } L(x)$ . Then  $f'$  is a  $G$  map which clearly approximates  $f$  in  $\mathcal{C}^0$  topology. It remains to prove that  $f'$  is entire rational. Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  be a basis for  $\Xi'$ . If  $x \in X$  and the vectors  $L(x)(e_{i_1}), \dots, L(x)(e_{i_k})$  are linearly independent, then  $f'(x)$  is the orthogonal projection of  $\Xi$  onto the subspace spanned by  $L(x)(e_{i_1}), \dots, L(x)(e_{i_k})$ . Let  $X_i$  be the set of those  $x \in X$  for which  $L(x)(e_{i_1}), \dots, L(x)(e_{i_k})$  are linearly independent. Then  $f' : X - X_i \rightarrow G_\Lambda(\Xi, k)$  is an entire rational map because it is the composition  $\pi \circ L$  where  $\pi$  is the map in Proposition 2.3. It is easy to see that for each  $i$  the set  $X_i$  is an algebraic subvariety of  $X$ . Let  $U_i = X - X_i$ . Then  $f'|_{U_i}$  is rational for all  $i$  and  $\bigcup U_i = X$ . Therefore  $f'$  is entire rational by Proposition 2.2. Hence  $f'$  is an entire rational  $G$  map which approximates  $f$  in  $\mathcal{C}^0$  topology.  $\square$

### 3. Equivariant entire rational approximations

In this section we apply the result of the previous section to complex vector bundles on spheres, and find some approximation result of  $G$  maps between  $G$  varieties. We need the following propositions.

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group, and let  $E$  be a unitary representation of  $G$ . Then any complex vector bundles over the unit sphere  $S(E)$  is stably trivial.*

**PROOF.** From Thom isomorphism theorem in  $K_G$ -theory we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_G^1(S(E)) \rightarrow R(G) \rightarrow R(G) \xrightarrow{\varphi} K_G^0(S(E)) \rightarrow 0.$$

See Corollary 2.7.5 of [At]. Here  $\varphi : R(G) \rightarrow K_G^0(S(E))$  is induced from the map which assigns to each  $G$  representation  $V$  the trivial  $G$  vector bundle  $S(E) \times V$  over  $S(E)$ .  $\square$

**PROPOSITION 3.2.** *If a  $G$  vector bundle  $\xi$  over a nonsingular real algebraic variety  $X$  is stably trivial, then  $\xi$  is  $\mathcal{C}^\infty$   $G$  isomorphic to a strongly algebraic  $G$  vector bundle.*

PROOF. See lemma 2.1.4 of [DMS].  $\square$

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.3, Proposition 3.1, and Proposition 3.2 we have the following.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Let  $E$  and  $W$  be any unitary representation of  $G$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(S(E), G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, k))^G$  is dense in  $C^r(S(E), G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, k))^G$  with  $C^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho < \infty$ .  $\square$*

An entire rational  $G$  map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between two real algebraic  $G$  varieties is called a birational  $G$  isomorphism if  $f$  has the entire rational  $G$  inverse.

**LEMMA 3.4.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group. For a given unitary 1-dimensional representation  $V$  of  $G$  there exists a unitary 2-dimensional representation  $W$  of  $G$  such that the unit sphere  $S(V \oplus \mathbb{R})$  is  $G$  birationally isomorphic to  $G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, 1)$ . Conversely, for a given unitary 2-dimensional representation  $W$  of  $G$  there exists unitary 1-dimensional representation  $V$  of  $G$  such that  $G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, 1)$  is  $G$  birationally isomorphic to the 2 dimensional unit sphere  $S(V \oplus \mathbb{R})$ .*

PROOF. Let  $V$  be a 1-dimensional unitary representation of  $G$ . Define  $\phi : S(V \oplus \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow G_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2, 1)$  by

$$\phi(u, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \alpha & \bar{u} \\ u & 1 + \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $(u, \alpha) \in S(V \oplus \mathbb{R})$ . Here

$$G_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2, 1) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \bar{\beta} \\ \beta & 1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \mid \alpha \in [0, 1], \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \|\beta\|^2 = \alpha(1 - \alpha) \right\}.$$

Then  $\phi$  is clearly a polynomial map which has the inverse  $\psi : G_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2, 1) \rightarrow S(V \oplus \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\psi \left( \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \bar{\beta} \\ \beta & 1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \right) = (1 - 2\alpha, 2\beta).$$

It remains to prove that there exists a unitary representation structure  $W$  of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  such that if  $G_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2, 1) = G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, 1)$  has the induced action of  $G$  defined by  $g \cdot A = gAg^{-1}$  for  $g \in G$  and  $A \in G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, 1)$ , then the map  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are  $G$ -equivariant. Let  $U$  be any 2-dimensional unitary representation of  $G$ . Since  $G$  is abelian  $U$  is a direct sum of 1-dimensional irreducible representations. Then for  $g \in G$  and  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^2$  we may assume that

$$(g \cdot (x, y))^t = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta_1(g)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\theta_2(g)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

for some  $0 \leq \theta_1(g), \theta_2(g) < 2\pi$ . Therefore the induced action of  $G$  on  $G_{\mathbb{C}}(U, 1)$  is defined as follows: for  $g \in G$  and  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \bar{\beta} \\ \beta & 1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \in G_{\mathbb{C}}(U, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} g \cdot A &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta_1(g)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\theta_2(g)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \bar{\beta} \\ \beta & 1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i\theta_1(g) & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\theta_2(g)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & e^{i(\theta_1(g) - \theta_2(g))}\bar{\beta} \\ e^{i(\theta_1(g) - \theta_2(g))}\beta & 1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $V$  is a 1-dimensional unitary representation of  $G$  there exists  $0 \leq \omega(g) < 2\pi$  such that  $gv = e^{i\omega(g)}v$  for  $g \in G$  and  $v \in V$ . If we choose a 2-dimensional unitary representation  $W$  of  $G$  such that  $\theta_1(g) - \theta_2(g) = \omega(g)$ , where  $\theta_1(g)$  and  $\theta_2(g)$  are the numbers as above, then with the induced  $G$  action on  $G_{\mathbb{C}}(W, 1)$  the maps  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are  $G$  equivariant. The second statement of the lemma can be proved similarly.  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Let  $E$  be any unitary representation of  $G$ , and  $V$  a unitary 1-dimensional representation of  $G$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(S(E), S(V \oplus \mathbb{R})^G)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{C}^r(S(E), S(V \oplus \mathbb{R}))^G$  with  $\mathcal{C}^\rho$  topology for  $0 \leq \rho \leq r \leq \infty$  and  $\rho \leq \infty$ .*

**PROOF.** The theorem follows from Theorem 3.3, and Lemma 3.4.  $\square$

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