

# The Geometry of the Projective Action of $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ from the Erlangen Perspective

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we have investigated the projective action of the Lie group  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the homogeneous space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ . In particular, we have studied the action of the subgroups of  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the non-degenerate conics in the space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ . Using the Iwasawa decomposition of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , we demonstrate that the isotropy subgroup of the projective unit circle is isomorphic to  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$  under certain conditions.

*Key Words:* Lie Group  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ , Homogeneous Space, Conics, Exponential Map, Iwasawa Decomposition

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## Introduction

Geometry as a group action has dynamic aspects in several branches of mathematics. Starting with Russell, following Klein, this area has been explored by many researchers over time (see, for example, [8, 10, 19, 25]). In this trend, the action of  $G = SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  on the one-dimensional homogeneous space  $G/H$  represented by Möbius transformation was extensively studied and investigated by several authors, for example, in [1, 4, 14, 15]. In the series of works [2, 5, 16], the authors proposed advancing a theory of analytic functions inspired by Klein's Erlangen program. In [18], Kisil considered the Möbius action of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  on  $\mathbb{RP}^1$  and described different possible realisation of Poincaré extension of Möbius transformation, emphasizing the properties of Möbius-invariant cycles. In the same line,  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  invariant geodesic curves and metrics were studied in [3, 6, 9]. These series of works lead to a number of natural and effective generalisations, and hence, it becomes imperative to investigate how things work in the higher dimensional cases. In the parallel line, there is a wide range of literature devoted to the representation theory of Lie groups and symmetric spaces, where the classical

cases such as the Lie groups  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $SU(2)$ , etc., have provided powerful tools for studying these groups and other related results, see [11, 22–24]. Moreover, projective geometry is a rich and fascinating field that provides a geometric foundation for a variety of disciplines, including projective algebraic geometry, differential geometry, and the theory of algebraic curves. An integral aspect of this field involves the investigation of the projective action of  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on projective space, providing a potent tool for exploring geometric relationships and structures.

In this manner, following the line of Kisil, we have taken the transformation group as  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  and focused on the invariant objects, with the aim of incorporating more invariants in the existing  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  as well as in  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  geometry. Thus, by studying invariants, we propose to construct geometry of the homogeneous space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  in a systematic way. In this work, as a continuation of [7], the action of the transformation group  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the two dimensional homogeneous space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  is studied. For  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  instance, we examine an extension of the map  $i$  associated with  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  action. We also investigate the projective action of the subgroups of  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the non-degenerate conics in the space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ . Iwasawa decomposition plays an essential part in the current discussion.

## 1 Preliminaries

This section reviews standard definitions and theorems related to our work.

A transformation group  $G$  can be defined as a non-empty collection of mappings from a set  $X$  to itself, adhering to the following conditions: (i) the identity map is an element of  $G$ ; (ii) if  $g_1 \in G$  and  $g_2 \in G$ , then composition  $g_1 g_2 \in G$ ; (iii) if  $g \in G$ , then the inverse  $g^{-1}$  exists and is a member of  $G$ .

Additionally, a group action  $\varphi : G \times X \rightarrow X$  is termed transitive if for every  $x, y \in X$ , there exists  $g \in G$  satisfying  $g \cdot x = y$ . Furthermore, a homogeneous space is defined as a pair  $(G, X)$ , where the action of the group  $G$  on  $X$  is transitive and  $X$  is a topological space.

Following notions were introduced in [12]. A matrix Lie group is a subgroup  $G$  of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  that exhibits the subsequent characteristic: if  $A_m$  denotes a sequence of matrices within  $G$  that converges to a matrix  $A$ , then either  $A$  belongs to  $G$  or  $A$  is not invertible. For a matrix Lie group  $G$ , the associated Lie algebra, represented as  $\mathfrak{g}$ , is characterized as the collection of matrices  $X$  for which  $\exp(tX)$  is a member of  $G$  for all real numbers  $t$ .

If  $G$  is a matrix Lie group with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , then the exponential mapping of  $G$  is defined as the map  $\exp : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$ . Hence, the exponential mapping of  $G$  is the matrix exponential restricted to the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$ .

## 1.1 Group action on coset spaces

Let  $G$  be a Lie group and  $H$  be a closed subgroup of  $G$ . Then it follows by Cartan's theorem that  $H$  is a Lie group (cf. [21]).

Let  $G/H = \{gH : g \in G\}$  denotes the space of left cosets of  $H$ . In this context, the projection map  $p : G \rightarrow G/H$  is defined by mapping  $g \in G$  to its equivalence class  $[g]$ , expressed as  $p(g) = gH = [g]$ . Also, a section  $s$  of a projection map  $p$  is a right inverse of  $p$ , denoted by  $s : G/H \rightarrow G$ , satisfying  $p(s(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in G/H$ .

**Theorem 1** [13] *Consider a Lie group  $G$  with a closed subgroup  $H$ . Let  $G/H$  has the quotient topology. Then  $G/H$  possesses a unique smooth manifold structure such that the projection map  $p : G \rightarrow G/H$  is a smooth submersion and  $G$  acts smoothly on  $G/H$ .*

**Remark 1** The action  $G \times G/H \rightarrow G/H$  defined as  $(a, gH) \mapsto agH$  can be viewed as a composition of smooth maps as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : G \times G/H &\rightarrow G/H \\ \phi(g, x) &= g \cdot x = p(g * s(x)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $*$  denotes the group operation on  $G$ .

## 1.2 Real projective space $\mathbb{RP}^n$

Let  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}) : x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . The real projective space  $\mathbb{RP}^n$  consists of points which are equivalence classes of the set  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$  modulo the equivalence relation  $x \sim \lambda x$  for all  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ .

In particular, the space  $\mathbb{RP}^1$  is called the real projective line, while  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  is called the real projective plane.

In the real projective plane, a point is represented by a triple  $(X, Y, Z)$ , referred to as homogeneous coordinates or projective coordinates of the point, where  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  are not all zero. Since points in  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  are equivalence classes, in the homogeneous coordinated setup, the coordinates  $(X, Y, Z)$  and  $(\lambda X, \lambda Y, \lambda Z)$  are considered to represent the same point for all  $\lambda \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , see [10].

A line  $L$  in the projective plane  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  can be represented by the homogeneous coordinates  $L = (a, b, c)^t$  and is defined by the equation  $ax + by + cz = 0$ , or in matrix notation  $X^t L = 0$ , where  $X = (x, y, z)^t$  is any point in  $L$ .

Similarly, a conic in  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  is characterized as the set of points for which a quadratic form on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  vanishes. The conic associated with a quadratic form  $A$  is given by  $\mathbf{C}_A = \{[p] \in \mathbb{RP}^2 : p^t A p = 0\}$ , as described in [10].

### 1.3 Complexification of real Lie algebras and real Lie groups

Consider a finite dimensional real Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , which is essentially a real vector space. The complexification of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , denoted as  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ , is defined as the real vector space consisting of linear combinations  $X_1 + iX_2$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are elements of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . The bracket operation on  $\mathfrak{g}$  naturally extends to  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ , turning it into a complex Lie algebra.  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$  is referred to as the complexification of the real Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , as introduced in [12].

The complexification of a Lie group  $G$  defined over  $\mathbb{R}$  is a complex Lie group denoted as  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ , which includes  $G$  as a real Lie subgroup. This inclusion ensures that the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$  is a real form of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$  of  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ . The Lie group  $G$  is termed a real form of the Lie group  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

### 1.4 Correspondence between Lie group and Lie algebra homomorphisms

**Theorem 2** [12] *Consider matrix Lie groups  $G$  and  $H$  with corresponding Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{h}$ . If  $\Phi : G \rightarrow H$  is a Lie group homomorphism, there exists a unique linear map  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ , satisfying the condition  $\Phi(e^X) = e^{\phi(X)}$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ .*

The converse of Theorem 2 holds true under certain condition.

**Theorem 3** [12] *Consider matrix Lie groups  $G$  and  $H$  with corresponding Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{h}$ . Suppose  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$  is a Lie algebra homomorphism, and  $G$  is simply connected. In that case, there exists a unique Lie group homomorphism  $\Phi : G \rightarrow H$ , ensuring that  $\Phi(e^X) = e^{\phi(X)}$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ .*

We will utilize the notion of complexification to extend the results of Theorem 3 to the case involving  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , even though it does not possess the property of simply connectedness.

**Remark 2** Here we discuss some properties of the matrix Lie group  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  and the corresponding Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ .

1. The exponential mapping for the matrix Lie group  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  is not onto. As an illustration, consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}).$$

However, there is no  $X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2)$  such that  $\exp(X) = e^X = A$ .

2.  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  is not simply connected.

3. If  $X$  and  $Y$  belong to  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  do not necessarily commute with their commutator  $[X, Y]$ . Hence, we have  $e^X e^Y \neq e^{X+Y}$  and  $e^X e^Y \neq e^{X+Y+\frac{1}{2}[X, Y]}$ .

## 1.5 Iwasawa decomposition

The Iwasawa decomposition of  $\mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  expresses an element  $g$  in the group as a product of three matrices, each belonging to a specific subgroup.

Specifically, for  $n = 2$ , i.e.,  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , this decomposition takes the form  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) = KAN$ , where

$$A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & t^{-1} \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0 \right\}, \quad N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \eta \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : \eta \in \mathbb{R} \right\},$$

$$K = \mathrm{SO}(2, \mathbb{R}) = \left\{ M \in \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) : MM^T = M^T M = I_2 \right\}.$$

This unique decomposition, detailed in [20], is known as the Iwasawa decomposition of  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ . It plays a crucial role in connecting the fix subgroup of the projective unit circle to  $\mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  in our exploration.

## 1.6 Two dimensional homogeneous space $\mathbb{RP}^2$

As in [7], we consider the action of  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the space of left cosets  $X = G/H$ , where  $G = \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  and

$$H = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \mid a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32} = \frac{1}{a_{11}}, a_{11} \neq 0 \right\}.$$

Expressed in terms of the parametrization  $z = (x, y) \in X$ , the set-theoretic action of  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  on  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})/H$  can be formulated as a composition of smooth maps as follows:

$$g : z \mapsto g \cdot z = p(g * s(z)).$$

We can define another map  $r : G \rightarrow H$  such that  $r(g) = h$ , where  $h = s(p(g))^{-1}g$ . Hence,  $g$  can be uniquely written as  $g = s(p(g))r(g)$  (see [7] for the details).

In this set up, the  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  action takes the form

$$(x, y) \mapsto \left( \frac{a_{11}x + a_{12}y + a_{13}}{a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33}}, \frac{a_{21}x + a_{22}y + a_{23}}{a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33}} \right),$$

provided  $a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33} \neq 0$ .

Now, if we allow  $a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33} = 0$ , this action indeed gives us a projective transformation of the space  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ . This  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  action on  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  is denoted as  $g : [p] \mapsto [g \cdot p]$ . Let  $\phi$  be the action defined by

$$\phi : \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{RP}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{RP}^2 \phi(g, [p]) = [g \cdot p].$$

We consider the projective transformation  $\phi_g : \mathbb{RP}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{RP}^2$  such that  $\phi_g([p]) = [g \cdot p]$  for all  $g \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$ .

## 2 Extension of the map $i$

In the consideration of the Möbius action of  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , for the study of the invariant properties of cycles (cf. [17]), the Fillmore Springer Cnops construction (FSCc) is a useful construction that allows the association of a cycle with a  $2 \times 2$  cycle matrix via the coefficients. The most important component of this construction is the map  $i$ , which corresponds to a column vector a row vector by the rule (see [17, 18])

$$i : \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mapsto (y, -x).$$

**Remark 3** Let us now consider some properties of the map  $i$ . We consider the left multiplication of  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  on column vector  $(x, y)^t \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\mathcal{L}_g : \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} ax + by \\ cx + dy \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}). \quad (1)$$

1. The map  $i$  is a linear map. Indeed, for  $X = (x_1, y_1)^t$  and  $Y = (x_2, y_2)^t$ , we have  $i(X + Y) = i(X) + i(Y)$  since

$$\begin{aligned} i \left( \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \right) &= i \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ y_1 + y_2 \end{pmatrix} = (y_1 + y_2, -x_1 - x_2) \\ &= (y_1, -x_1) + (y_2, -x_2) = i \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $i(cX) = ci(X)$ , which follows from

$$i \left( c \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right) = i \begin{pmatrix} cx \\ cy \end{pmatrix} = (cy, -cx) = ci \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = ci(X).$$

2. The map  $i$  intertwines the left multiplication  $\mathcal{L}_g$  (cf. equation (1)) and the right multiplication  $\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$ , that is,  $i(\mathcal{L}_g x) = i(x)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}} : (y, -x) &\mapsto (cx + dy, -by - ax) = (y, -x) \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix} \\ &= i \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right). \end{aligned}$$

In order to extend the map  $i$  in three-dimensions, we consider the left multiplication of  $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the three-dimensional column vector  $(x, y, z)^t \in \mathbb{R}^3$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_g : \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}x + a_{12}y + a_{13}z \\ a_{21}x + a_{22}y + a_{23}z \\ a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33}z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $g = (a_{ij}) \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$ .

**Proposition 1** *There is no non-zero map  $i$  that corresponds a three dimensional column vector to a three-dimensional row vector that is both linear and intertwines the left multiplication  $\mathcal{L}_g$  and the right multiplication  $\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$ , where  $g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose there exists linear map  $i : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  from three-dimensional real column vector space to three-dimensional real row vector space such that  $i(\mathcal{L}_g X) = i(X)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$ , where  $g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

Since it is sufficient to know the linear map on basis vectors, let us choose a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  as  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0)^t$ ,  $e_2 = (0, 1, 0)^t$ ,  $e_3 = (0, 0, 1)^t$ . Now, we consider the linear map applied to these basis vectors as follows

$$i \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, x_2, x_3), \quad i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (y_1, y_2, y_3) \quad \text{and} \quad i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = (z_1, z_2, z_3).$$

Here, we have

$$i(\mathcal{L}_g e_i) = i(e_i)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}} \quad \text{for all } g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R}), \quad i = 1, 2, 3. \quad (2)$$

We proceed to establish that for certain values of  $g$  in  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ , relation (2) leads to a zero-map.

In particular, consider

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$$

such that

$$i(\mathcal{L}_g e_1) = i \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) = i \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

and

$$i(e_1)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}} = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, -x_1 + x_2, -x_2 + x_3).$$

Then from  $i(\mathcal{L}_g e_1) = i(e_1)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$ , it follows that

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1, -x_1 + x_2, -x_2 + x_3),$$

and hence,  $x_2 = -x_1 + x_2$  and  $x_3 = -x_2 + x_3$ , that is,  $x_1 = 0$  and  $x_2 = 0$ .

Now, take

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in SL(3, \mathbb{R}),$$

so that

$$i(\mathcal{L}_g e_1) = i\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = i\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

and

$$i(e_1)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}} = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, x_2 - x_3, x_3).$$

Thus, the relation defined in equation (2) yields

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1, x_2 - x_3, x_3),$$

which implies  $x_2 = x_2 - x_3$ , and hence,  $x_3 = 0$ .

Therefore, to achieve  $i(\mathcal{L}_g e_1) = i(e_1)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$  for all  $g \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R})$ , we must possess

$$i\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1, x_2, x_3) = (0, 0, 0). \quad (3)$$

In a similar way, if we consider

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{R}),$$

then  $i(\mathcal{L}_g e_2) = i(e_2)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$  leads to

$$i\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = (y_1, y_2, y_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

which simplifies to

$$i\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (y_1 - y_2, y_2, -y_1 + y_3).$$

Hence,  $(y_1, y_2, y_3) = (y_1 - y_2, y_2, -y_1 + y_3)$ , which implies  $y_1 = y_1 - y_2$  and  $y_3 = -y_1 + y_3$ , and therefore,  $y_2 = 0$  and  $y_1 = 0$ .

When

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad i(\mathcal{L}_g e_2) = i(e_2)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}},$$



we find that  $y_3 = 0$ . Thus,

$$i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 0). \quad (4)$$

Similarly, considering

$$i : \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow (z_1, z_2, z_3),$$

we observe that for

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

the condition  $i(\mathcal{L}_g e_3) = i(e_3)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$  implies  $z_2 = z_3 = 0$ . Additionally, if

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

then the condition  $i(\mathcal{L}_g e_3) = i(e_3)\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$  results in  $z_1 = 0$ . Hence,

$$i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = (z_1, z_2, z_3) = (0, 0, 0). \quad (5)$$

Therefore, combining equations (3), (4) and (5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} i \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= i \left( x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= x(0, 0, 0) + y(0, 0, 0) + z(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the only linear map which intertwines the left multiplication  $\mathcal{L}_g$  and the right multiplication  $\mathcal{R}_{g^{-1}}$  ( $g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ ) is the zero map.  $\square$

### 3 Fixed subgroup of the unit circle

The preceding section indicates that conics in  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  cannot be addressed analogously to cycles of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  in terms of FSCc. Therefore, we now examine conics through their fixed subgroups.

Let us consider the equation of the conic  $C$  (see subsection 1.2) as

$$ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 + 2dxz + 2eyz + fz^2 = 0$$

or

$$(x \ y \ z) \begin{pmatrix} a & b & d \\ b & c & e \\ d & e & f \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

that is,  $p^t A p = 0$ .

Let  $A$  be the matrix associated with the conic  $C$ . If we transform the conic projectively, then under the transformation  $g$ , the point  $p$  on the conic maps to the point  $p' = gp$ . Therefore, from  $(g^{-1}p')^t A (g^{-1}p') = 0$ , it follows  $p'^t (g^{-1})^t A (g^{-1})p' = 0$ . Thus, if a conic is represented by the matrix  $A$ , then under the action of  $g$ , the transformed conic is represented by the matrix  $(g^{-1})^t A g^{-1}$ . Furthermore, it is well-known that all non-degenerate conics are the projective images of a unit circle (see, for example, [10]). Let us now consider the equation of the unit circle  $C$  in homogeneous coordinates:

$$x^2 + y^2 = z^2. \quad (6)$$

The matrix associated to the circle  $C$  defined by (6) is

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $X^t A X = 0$ ,  $X = (x, y, z)^t$ .

**Theorem 4** *Under the projective action, the fixed subgroup of the unit circle  $M := M(x, y, \theta)$  is a three-dimensional subgroup of  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  given by*

$$M = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{xy}{\beta} \cos \theta + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \sin \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha}{\beta} \cos \theta \mp \frac{y}{\beta} \sin \theta & \beta \cos \theta \\ \frac{xy}{\beta} \sin \theta - \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \cos \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha}{\beta} \sin \theta \pm \frac{y}{\beta} \cos \theta & \beta \sin \theta \\ y & \pm \alpha & x \end{pmatrix}, & x^2 \neq 1, \\ \begin{pmatrix} \pm \cos \theta & \mp \sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix}, & x^2 = 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha = \sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}$  and  $\beta = \sqrt{x^2 - 1}$ .

**Proof.** To determine the fixed subgroup of the projective unit circle, let us note that under the transformation of  $g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ , the unit circle  $C$  remains

invariant. Therefore, the transformed unit circle must be represented by the matrix

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a \end{pmatrix}$$

for some  $a \neq 0$ , since it represents the same circle (6). Hence, the fixed subgroup of the circle  $C$  is determined by

$$K_C = \left\{ g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R}) \mid (g^{-1})^t A g^{-1} = A' \right\}.$$

Let

$$h = g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $h^t A h = A'$  gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & a_{31} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{32} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a \end{pmatrix},$$

and hence,

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 & a_{11}a_{12} + a_{21}a_{22} & a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} \\ -a_{31}^2 & -a_{31}a_{32} & -a_{31}a_{33} \\ a_{11}a_{12} + a_{21}a_{22} & a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 & a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} \\ -a_{31}a_{32} & -a_{32}^2 & -a_{32}a_{33} \\ a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} & a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} & a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 \\ -a_{31}a_{33} & -a_{32}a_{33} & -a_{33}^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a \end{pmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

Equating  $a_{ij}$ -th entry of both sides of equation (7), we get

$$a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 - a_{31}^2 = a, \quad (8)$$

$$a_{11}a_{12} + a_{21}a_{22} - a_{31}a_{32} = 0, \quad (9)$$

$$a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} - a_{31}a_{33} = 0, \quad (10)$$

$$a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 - a_{32}^2 = a, \quad (11)$$

$$a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} - a_{32}a_{33} = 0, \quad (12)$$

$$a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 - a_{33}^2 = -a, \quad (13)$$

such that

$$\det((a_{ij})) = 1. \quad (14)$$

Depending on the value of  $a$ , there are two cases to follow.

Case 1:  $a$  is positive. Let  $a = m^2 > 0$ . Referring to equation (13), it is evident that  $a_{33} \neq 0$ , or else  $a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 = -a = -m^2$ , which leads to a contradiction. Let  $a_{33} = x \neq 0$ . From equation (13), we derive  $a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 = x^2 - a$ , which further yields

$$a_{13} = \sqrt{x^2 - a} \cos \theta, \quad a_{23} = \sqrt{x^2 - a} \sin \theta.$$

Additionally, considering equation (8) and assigning  $a_{31} = y$ , we obtain  $a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 = a + y^2$ , resulting in the expressions

$$a_{11} = \sqrt{y^2 + a} \cos \phi, \quad (15)$$

$$a_{21} = \sqrt{y^2 + a} \sin \phi. \quad (16)$$

Subsequently, from equation (10), we get  $a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} - a_{31}a_{33} = 0$ , which implies

$$\sqrt{y^2 + a} \cos \phi \sqrt{x^2 - a} \cos \theta + \sqrt{y^2 + a} \sin \phi \sqrt{x^2 - a} \sin \theta - xy = 0,$$

or

$$\cos(\theta - \phi) = \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(y^2 + a)(x^2 - a)}}$$

provided  $x^2 \neq a$ , and hence,

$$\phi = \theta - \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(y^2 + a)(x^2 - a)}} \right).$$

Therefore, substituting the value of  $\phi$  into equations (15) and (16), and omitting cumbersome but trivial calculations, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} &= \sqrt{y^2 + a} \cos \left( \theta - \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(y^2 + a)(x^2 - a)}} \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \cos \theta + \frac{\sqrt{ax^2 - ay^2 - a^2}}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \sin \theta \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{21} &= \sqrt{y^2 + a} \sin \left( \theta - \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(y^2 + a)(x^2 - a)}} \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \sin \theta - \frac{\sqrt{ax^2 - ay^2 - a^2}}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \cos \theta. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Again, from equation (11), we have  $a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 - a_{32}^2 = a$ . Let  $a_{32} = z$ . Given that  $a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} - a_{32}a_{33} = 0$ , we can replace  $y$  by  $z$  in equations

(17) and (18) to derive the values of  $a_{12}$  and  $a_{22}$ . Thus, we get

$$a_{12} = \frac{xz}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \cos \theta + \frac{\sqrt{ax^2 - az^2 - a^2}}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \sin \theta, \quad (19)$$

$$a_{22} = \frac{xz}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \sin \theta - \frac{\sqrt{ax^2 - az^2 - a^2}}{\sqrt{(x^2 - a)}} \cos \theta. \quad (20)$$

Using equations (9), (17)–(20), we find  $a_{11}a_{12} + a_{22}a_{21} - a_{31}a_{32} = 0$ , which implies

$$\left( \frac{\sqrt{(ax^2 - az^2 - a^2)(ax^2 - ay^2 - a^2)}}{x^2 - a} \right)^2 = \left( yz - \frac{x^2yz}{x^2 - a} \right)^2,$$

and, consequently, we have

$$a^2z^2(x^2 - a) = a^2(x^2 - a)(x^2 - y^2 - a),$$

that is,  $z^2 = x^2 - y^2 - a$ . Hence, we obtain

$$a_{12} = \pm \frac{x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - a}}{\sqrt{x^2 - a}} \cos \theta \mp \frac{\sqrt{ay}}{\sqrt{x^2 - a}} \sin \theta,$$

$$a_{22} = \pm \frac{x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - a}}{\sqrt{x^2 - a}} \sin \theta \pm \frac{\sqrt{ay}}{\sqrt{x^2 - a}} \cos \theta.$$

In particular, if  $a_{33}^2 = x^2 = a$ , from equation (13), we derive  $a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 - a = -a$ , which implies  $a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 = 0$ , and thus,  $a_{13} = a_{23} = 0$ .

Considering equation (10), we find  $a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} - a_{31}a_{33} = 0$  implies  $a_{31} = 0$ . Similarly, from equation (12),  $a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} - a_{32}a_{33} = 0$  refers  $a_{32} = 0$ . Therefore, both  $a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 = a = a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2$  and  $a_{11}a_{12} + a_{21}a_{22} = 0$  lead to (cf. [17])

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \pm\sqrt{a} \cos \eta & \mp\sqrt{a} \sin \eta & 0 \\ \sqrt{a} \sin \eta & \sqrt{a} \cos \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \pm\sqrt{a} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, either

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{xy}{\beta_1} \cos \theta + \frac{\sqrt{a}\alpha_1}{\beta_1} \sin \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha_1}{\beta_1} \cos \theta \mp \frac{\sqrt{ay}}{\beta_1} \sin \theta & \beta_1 \cos \theta \\ \frac{xy}{\beta_1} \sin \theta - \frac{\sqrt{a}\alpha_1}{\beta_1} \cos \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha_1}{\beta_1} \sin \theta \pm \frac{\sqrt{ay}}{\beta_1} \cos \theta & \beta_1 \sin \theta \\ y & \pm\alpha_1 & x \end{pmatrix}, \quad (21)$$

where  $\alpha_1 = \sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - a}$  and  $\beta_1 = \sqrt{x^2 - a}$ , or

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \pm\sqrt{a} \cos \eta & \mp\sqrt{a} \sin \eta & 0 \\ \sqrt{a} \sin \eta & \sqrt{a} \cos \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \pm\sqrt{a} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (22)$$

Let us now consider equation (14), where we have  $\det((a_{ij})) = \det(h) = 1$ . When  $x^2 \neq a$  ( $a$  is real), and conducting some straightforward calculations of  $\det(h)$  from equation (21), we obtain

$$\det(h) = \frac{\sqrt{ax^2y^2}}{x^2 - a} + \frac{\sqrt{ax^2(x^2 - y^2 - a)}}{x^2 - a} - \sqrt{ay^2} - \sqrt{a(x^2 - y^2 - a)},$$

which simplifies to  $\det(h) = a\sqrt{a} = 1$ , implying  $a = 1$ .

When  $x^2 = a$ , computing  $\det(h)$  from equation (22), we get

$$\det(h) = a\sqrt{a}(\cos^2 \eta + \sin^2 \eta),$$

which implies  $\det(h) = a\sqrt{a}$  and thus,  $a = 1$ .

Therefore, either

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{xy}{\beta} \cos \theta + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \sin \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha}{\beta} \cos \theta \mp \frac{y}{\beta} \sin \theta & \beta \cos \theta \\ \frac{xy}{\beta} \sin \theta - \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \cos \theta & \pm \frac{x\alpha}{\beta} \sin \theta \pm \frac{y}{\beta} \cos \theta & \beta \sin \theta \\ y & \pm \alpha & x \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\alpha = \sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}$  and  $\beta = \sqrt{x^2 - 1}$ , or

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \pm \cos \eta & \mp \sin \eta & 0 \\ \sin \eta & \cos \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \pm \sqrt{a} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Case 2:  $a$  is negative. Let  $a = -n^2 < 0$ . Referring to equation (8), we obtain  $a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 - a_{31}^2 = a = -n^2$ , implying  $a_{31} \neq 0$ . Let  $a_{31} = u \neq 0$ , leading to

$$a_{11} = \sqrt{u^2 - n^2} \cos \eta, \quad a_{21} = \sqrt{u^2 - n^2} \sin \eta.$$

Similarly, from equation (11), where  $a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 - a_{32}^2 = a = -n^2$ , we deduce  $a_{32} \neq 0$ . Setting  $a_{32} = v \neq 0$ , we find

$$a_{12} = \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \cos \zeta, \quad a_{22} = \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \sin \zeta.$$

Now, equation (9) yields  $a_{11}a_{12} + a_{21}a_{22} - a_{31}a_{32} = 0$ , implying

$$\sqrt{u^2 - n^2} \cos \eta \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \cos \zeta + \sqrt{u^2 - n^2} \sin \eta \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \sin \zeta - uv = 0,$$

which simplifies to

$$\cos(\eta - \zeta) = \frac{uv}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)(v^2 - n^2)}},$$

provided  $u^2, v^2 \neq n^2$ . Consequently, we deduce

$$\zeta = \eta - \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{uv}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)(v^2 - n^2)}} \right).$$

Thus,

$$a_{12} = \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \cos \zeta = \frac{uv}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \cos \eta + \frac{\sqrt{n^4 - n^2u^2 - n^2v^2}}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \sin \eta, \quad (23)$$

$$a_{22} = \sqrt{v^2 - n^2} \sin \zeta = \frac{uv}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \sin \eta - \frac{\sqrt{n^4 - n^2u^2 - n^2v^2}}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \cos \eta. \quad (24)$$

Again, from equation (13), we have  $a_{13}^2 + a_{23}^2 - a_{33}^2 = -a$ . Let  $a_{33} = w$ . Since  $a_{11}a_{13} + a_{21}a_{23} - a_{31}a_{33} = 0$ , we can similarly obtain the values of  $a_{13}$  and  $a_{23}$ . Consequently, we have

$$a_{13} = \frac{uw}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \cos \eta + \frac{\sqrt{n^2u^2 - n^2w^2 - n^4}}{\sqrt{(u^2 + a)}} \sin \eta, \quad (25)$$

$$a_{23} = \frac{uw}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \sin \eta - \frac{\sqrt{n^2u^2 - n^2w^2 - n^4}}{\sqrt{(u^2 - n^2)}} \cos \eta. \quad (26)$$

Using equations (12), (23) and (24), and simplifying, we get that

$$a_{12}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} - a_{32}a_{33} = 0$$

implies

$$n^4w^2(u^2 - n^2) = n^4(u^2 - n^2)(u^2 + v^2 - n^2),$$

and therefore,  $w^2 = u^2 + v^2 - n^2$ . Hence, from equations (25) and (26), we find

$$a_{13} = \frac{u\sqrt{u^2 + v^2 - n^2}}{\sqrt{u^2 - n^2}} \cos \eta - \frac{\sqrt{-n^2v^2}}{\sqrt{u^2 - n^2}} \sin \eta,$$

$$a_{23} = \frac{u\sqrt{u^2 + v^2 - n^2}}{\sqrt{u^2 - n^2}} \sin \eta + \frac{\sqrt{-n^2v^2}}{\sqrt{u^2 - n^2}} \cos \eta,$$

which are absurd since  $\sqrt{-n^2} \notin \mathbb{R}$ .

Next, we assume that  $a_{31}^2 = u^2 = n^2$ , then  $a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 - n^2 = -n^2$  implies  $a_{11} = a_{21} = 0$ . Moreover, from equation (9), we obtain  $a_{32} = 0$ . Additionally, we have  $a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 - a_{32}^2 = -n^2$ , and thus,  $a_{12}^2 + a_{22}^2 = -n^2$ , which is a contradiction.

We can obtain similar contradiction for the case  $a_{32}^2 = v^2 = n^2$ , since this case results in  $a_{11}^2 + a_{21}^2 = -n^2$ . Thus, Case 2, i.e.,  $a < 0$ , is not possible.

Therefore, the fixed subgroup of the unit circle is given by the matrix  $M$ .  $\square$

**Remark 4** We can also obtain the possible values of  $a$  by evaluating the determinant of both the circles. Specifically, under the action of  $g \in SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ ,

the unit circle  $A$  transforms to  $A' = (g^{-1})^t A g^{-1}$ . As  $\det(g^t) = \det(g)$  and  $\det(g^{-1}) = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \det((g^{-1})^t A g^{-1}) &= \det((g^{-1})^t) \det(A) \det(g^{-1}) \\ &= \det(g^{-1}) \det(A) \det(g^{-1}) = \det(A). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Therefore, if

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\det(A) = -1$ , then  $A'$  should be represented by the same matrix:  $A' = A$ . Otherwise, if

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -a \end{pmatrix}$$

for some  $a < 0$ , then  $\det(A') = -a^3 > 0$ , contradicting equation (27).

## 4 Relation between fixed subgroup of the unit circle and $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$

In this section, we develop the interrelationship between the fixed subgroup of the unit circle and  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , which gives further insights into this subject. Let  $M$  be the fixed subgroup of the projective unit circle as mentioned in Theorem 4.

**Lemma 1** *The Lie subalgebra  $\mathfrak{m}$  of the fixed Lie subgroup  $M$  is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , the Lie algebra of the special linear group  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ .*

**Proof.** Let us consider the Lie subalgebra  $\mathfrak{m}$  of the fixed Lie subgroup  $M$  of the projective unit circle. Then,  $\mathfrak{m}$  is given by

$$\mathfrak{m} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a & b \\ a & 0 & c \\ b & c & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

To show that, for each  $X \in \mathfrak{m}$ , we will verify that  $\exp(tX) \in M$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a & b \\ a & 0 & c \\ b & c & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

then the eigenvalues of  $tX$  are  $0$ ,  $t\sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}$ , and  $-t\sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}$ . There are two main cases.



Case 1:  $b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = 0$ . In this case, the only eigenvalue is 0, and it has an algebraic multiplicity of 3. Additionally, matrix  $X$  is nilpotent, specifically,  $X^3 = 0$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(tX) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n X^n}{n!} = I + tX + \frac{t^2 X^2}{2!} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -at & bt \\ at & 0 & ct \\ bt & ct & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} (b^2 - a^2)t^2 & bct^2 & -act^2 \\ bct^2 & (c^2 - a^2)t^2 & abt^2 \\ act^2 & -abt^2 & (b^2 + c^2)t^2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 + ((b^2 - a^2)t^2)/2 & -at + (bct^2)/2 & bt - (act^2)/2 \\ at + (bct^2)/2 & 1 + ((c^2 - a^2)t^2)/2 & ct + (abt^2)/2 \\ bt + (act^2)/2 & ct - (abt^2)/2 & 1 + ((b^2 + c^2)t^2)/2 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

We verify that  $\exp(tX)$  satisfies all equations (8)–(14), establishing that  $\exp(tX)$  fixes the unit circle. Consequently,  $\exp(tX)$  belongs to the Lie subgroup  $M$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Case 2:  $b^2 + c^2 - a^2 \neq 0$ .

i) Let  $b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = k^2 > 0$ . In this case,  $tX$  possesses three distinct eigenvalues: 0,  $tk$  and  $-tk$ , implying that  $tX$  is diagonalizable. Consequently, we can express  $tX = P^{-1}DP$ , where columns of  $P$  are formed by the eigenvectors of  $tX$ , and  $D$  is the diagonal matrix formed by the eigenvalues. Explicitly, when  $a \neq 0$ ,

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b(b^2 + c^2) - a(ab + ck)}{k(b^2 + c^2)} & \frac{a(ab - ck) - b(b^2 + c^2)}{k(b^2 + c^2)} & -\frac{c}{a} \\ \frac{ab + ck}{b^2 + c^2} & \frac{ab - ck}{b^2 + c^2} & \frac{b}{a} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In the case  $a = 0$ , we observe that  $b^2 + c^2 > 0$ . Therefore, either

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} b/k & -b/k & -c/b \\ c/k & -c/k & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

provided  $b \neq 0$ , or

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} c/k & -c/k & -b/c \\ b/k & -b/k & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

provided  $c \neq 0$ . Also,

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} tk & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -tk & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(tX) &= P^{-1} \exp(D)P \\ &= \frac{1}{2k^2} \begin{pmatrix} (b^2 - a^2)(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) + 2c^2 & bc(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) - 2bc & bk(e^{tk} - e^{-tk}) + 2ac \\ bc(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) - 2bc & (c^2 - a^2)(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) + 2b^2 & ck(e^{tk} - e^{-tk}) - 2ab \\ ac(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) - 2ac & 2ab + ck(e^{tk} - e^{-tk}) & (b^2 + c^2)(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) - 2a^2 \\ +ak(e^{tk} - e^{-tk}) & -ab(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) & +ab(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) \\ +bk(e^{tk} - e^{-tk}) & -ab(e^{tk} + e^{-tk}) & -2a^2 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

In this case, as well, we confirm that  $\exp(tX)$  satisfies all equations (8)–(14). Thus,  $\exp(tX)$  belongs to the Lie subgroup  $M$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

ii) Let  $b^2 + c^2 - a^2 = -k^2 < 0$ . The eigenvalues are 0,  $tki$ ,  $-tki$ . Thus,  $tX = P^{-1}DP$ , where

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b(b^2 + c^2) - a(ab + ick)}{ik(b^2 + c^2)} & \frac{a(ab - ick) - b(b^2 + c^2)}{ik(b^2 + c^2)} & -\frac{c}{a} \\ \frac{ab + ick}{b^2 + c^2} & \frac{ab - ick}{b^2 + c^2} & \frac{b}{a} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad a \neq 0,$$

and

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} tki & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -tki & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence,

$$\exp(tX) = P^{-1} \exp(D)P$$

$$= \frac{1}{k^2} \begin{pmatrix} (a^2 - b^2) \cos(tk) & bc - bc \cos(kt) & ac \cos(kt) - ac \\ -c^2 & -ak \sin(kt) & +bk \sin(kt) \\ bc - bc \cos(kt) & (a^2 - c^2) \cos(kt) & ck \sin(kt) + ab \\ +ak \sin(kt) & -b^2 & -ab \cos(kt) \\ ac - ac \cos(kt) & -ab + ab \cos(kt) & -(b^2 + c^2) \cos(kt) \\ +bk \sin(kt) & +ck \sin(kt) & +a^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case, too, we verify that  $\exp(tX)$  satisfies all equations (8)–(14), and thus,  $\exp(tX) \in M$  for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Hence, we validate that the Lie subalgebra of the fixed subgroup  $M$  of the unit circle is given by  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

Let us now consider a basis  $\mathfrak{B}$  for the Lie subalgebra  $\mathfrak{m}$ . We choose

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Z = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

in  $\mathfrak{m}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{B} = \{X, Y, Z\}$  forms a basis with the commutator relations  $[X, Y] = Z$ ,  $[Y, Z] = -X$ ,  $[Z, X] = Y$ , where the Lie bracket is given by  $[X, Y] = XY - YX$ .

Furthermore, let us consider the Lie algebra of the special linear group,  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , the Lie algebra of  $2 \times 2$  trace less real matrices. In  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , we select the basis vectors as

$$e_1 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here,  $[e_1, e_2] = e_3$ ,  $[e_2, e_3] = -e_1$ ,  $[e_3, e_1] = e_2$ .

Therefore, we establish an isomorphism of Lie algebras defined on the basis elements from  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$  to  $\mathfrak{m}$  that can be uniquely extended to any element:

$$\phi : \mathfrak{sl}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}$$

such that

$$\phi(e_1) = X, \quad \phi(e_2) = Y, \quad \phi(e_3) = Z \quad (28)$$

with

$$\phi([x, y]) = [\phi(x), \phi(y)] \text{ for all } x, y \in \mathfrak{sl}(2).$$

Hence, the result follows.  $\square$

Despite  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  not being simply connected, we obtain the following result.

**Proposition 2** *Consider a matrix Lie group  $G$  having the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . If  $\phi : \mathfrak{sl}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  stands as a Lie algebra homomorphism, then a corresponding Lie group homomorphism  $\Phi : SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow G$  exists, satisfying  $\Phi(\exp X) = \exp \phi(X)$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2)$ .*

**Proof.** Here, the central idea is to use the complexification of lie algebras and groups to obtain the notion of simply connectedness. Hence, we consider the complexification of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ , denoted as  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})_{\mathbb{C}}$ , which is isomorphic to the complex Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  (see [12] for details).

Let  $G_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$  denote the complexifications of matrix Lie group  $G$  (hence, a closed subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ ) and Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , respectively. Since  $\phi : \mathfrak{sl}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie algebra homomorphism, we can extend this homomorphism to the complexification of the Lie algebras (see the subsection 1.3)

$$\tilde{\phi} : \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$$

defined by

$$\tilde{\phi}(X_1 + iX_2) = \phi(X_1) + i\phi(X_2).$$

Consequently, since  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  is simply connected, we get a unique Lie group homomorphism (cf. Theorem 3)

$$\tilde{\Phi} : SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow G_{\mathbb{C}}$$

satisfying

$$\tilde{\Phi}(\exp(\tilde{X})) = \exp(\phi(\tilde{X})) \text{ for all } \tilde{X} \in \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}).$$

Now, in order to obtain the required map on  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  (non-simply connected group), we examine the restriction of  $\tilde{\Phi}$  to the real form of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ , i.e., to  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  (cf. [12]). This restriction is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : SL(2, \mathbb{R}) &\rightarrow G \\ \Phi(\exp(X)) &= \tilde{\Phi}(\exp(X)) \text{ for all } X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\Phi(\exp(X)) = \tilde{\Phi}(\exp(X)) = \exp(\phi(X))$  for all  $X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2)$ . Thus, the result holds.  $\square$

**Theorem 5** *The fixed subgroup of the projective unit circle  $M := M(x, y, \theta)$  such that  $x > 1$  is isomorphic to the Lie group  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .*

**Proof.** Using Lemma 1, we consider the isomorphism of the Lie algebras denoted as  $\phi : \mathfrak{sl}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}$ . Further, Proposition 2 guarantees the existence of a Lie group homomorphism  $\Phi : SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M$  such that  $\Phi(\exp X) = \exp \phi(X)$  holds for all  $X \in \mathfrak{sl}(2)$ .

Next, we take into account the Iwasawa decomposition of  $g \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  (cf. subsection 1.5), which gives a unique decomposition of  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} g = KAN &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{r} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \gamma \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} & -\frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} \\ \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} & \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{a^2 + c^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking into account that  $\Phi$  is a group homomorphism and using the definition of exponential map, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(g) &= \Phi(KAN) = \Phi(K)\Phi(A)\Phi(N) = \Phi(\exp(k))\Phi(\exp(a))\Phi(\exp(n)) \\ &= \exp(\phi(k)) \exp(\phi(a)) \exp(\phi(n)), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}\right) \\ \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}\right) & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{ad + bc}{a^2 + c^2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} \log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) & 0 \\ 0 & -\log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) \end{pmatrix}.$$

We now explicitly compute

$$\Phi(g) = \exp(\phi(k)) \exp(\phi(a)) \exp(\phi(n)) \quad (29)$$

to express the map  $\Phi$  in terms of  $a, b, c, d$ . Here,

$$k = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}\right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, using equation (28), we obtain

$$\phi(k) = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}\right) \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}}\right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and hence,

$$\exp(\phi(k)) = e^{\phi(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a^2 - c^2}{a^2 + c^2} & -\frac{2ac}{a^2 + c^2} & 0 \\ \frac{2ac}{a^2 + c^2} & \frac{a^2 - c^2}{a^2 + c^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (30)$$

Again,

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} \log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) & 0 \\ 0 & -\log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) \end{pmatrix} = \log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, using equation (28), we get

$$\phi(a) = \log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \log(\sqrt{a^2 + c^2}) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence,

$$\exp(\phi(a)) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \left( a^2 + c^2 + \frac{1}{a^2 + c^2} \right) & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \left( a^2 + c^2 - \frac{1}{a^2 + c^2} \right) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \left( a^2 + c^2 - \frac{1}{a^2 + c^2} \right) & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \left( a^2 + c^2 + \frac{1}{a^2 + c^2} \right) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (31)$$

Also,

$$n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

Thus, taking into account equation (28), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n) &= \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \left[ -\phi\left(\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \phi\left(\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \left[ -\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \frac{ab + cd}{a^2 + c^2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and therefore,

$$\exp(\phi(n)) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{(ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)^2} & \frac{ab + cd}{(a^2 + c^2)} & \frac{(ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)^2} \\ -\frac{(ab + cd)}{(a^2 + c^2)} & 1 & \frac{(ab + cd)}{(a^2 + c^2)} \\ -\frac{(ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)^2} & \frac{(ab + cd)}{(a^2 + c^2)} & 1 + \frac{(ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)^2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (32)$$

Combining equations (29), (30), (31) and (32) and performing the explicit computation of  $\Phi(g)$ , results in obtaining the Lie group homomorphism  $\Phi : SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M$  given by

$$\Phi \left( \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \right) = \frac{1}{2(a^2 + c^2)} \times$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{(a^2 - c^2)(a^2 + c^2)^2 - (a^2 - c^2)(ab + cd)^2 + (a^2 - c^2) + 4ac(ab + cd)}{(a^2 + c^2)} & 2(a^2 - c^2)ab + 2(a^2 - c^2)cd - 4ac & \frac{(a^2 - c^2)(a^2 + c^2)^2 + (a^2 - c^2)(ab + cd)^2 - (a^2 - c^2) - 4ac(ab + cd)}{(a^2 + c^2)} \\ \frac{2ac(a^2 + c^2)^2 - 2ac(ab + cd)^2 + 2ac - 2(ab + cd)(a^2 - c^2)}{(a^2 + c^2)} & 4ac(ab + cd) + 2(a^2 - c^2) & \frac{2ac(a^2 + c^2)^2 + 2ac(ab + cd)^2 - 2ac + 2(ab + cd)(a^2 - c^2)}{(a^2 + c^2)} \\ \frac{(a^2 + c^2)^2 - 1 - (ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)} & 2ab(a^2 + c^2) + 2cd(a^2 + c^2) & \frac{(a^2 + c^2)^2 + 1 + (ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, we see that the  $a_{33}$ -th entry

$$\frac{(a^2 + c^2)^2 + 1 + (ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)} > 0. \quad (33)$$

We also have  $\Phi^{-1} : M \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\Phi^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \cos \theta + \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \sin \theta & \pm \frac{x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \cos \theta \mp \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \sin \theta & \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \cos \theta \\ \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \sin \theta - \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \cos \theta & \pm \frac{x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \sin \theta \pm \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \cos \theta & \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \sin \theta \\ y & \pm \sqrt{x^2 - y^2 - 1} & x \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})(\sqrt{x^2-1+y})}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} & \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})(\sqrt{x^2-1-y})}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \\ \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1-y})}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} & - \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+y})}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \\ \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})(\sqrt{x^2-1+y})}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} & \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})(\sqrt{x^2-1-y})}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \\ \mp \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1-y})}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} & + \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1+y})}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1+x})\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\Phi^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) & -\sin(\theta/2) \\ \sin(\theta/2) & \cos(\theta/2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence, for real values, it is necessary that  $x^2 - 1 > 0$ . Additionally, equation (33) implies  $x > 0$ . Consequently, satisfying both conditions, namely  $x^2 - 1 > 0$  and  $x > 0$ , leads to the conclusion that  $x > 1$ .

Again, the kernel of  $\Phi$  is defined as

$$\text{Ker}(\Phi) = \{g \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \mid \Phi(g) = I_{3 \times 3} \in M\}.$$

If  $\Phi(g) = I_{3 \times 3}$ , then we must have

$$ab + cd = 0, \quad \frac{(a^2 - c^2)(ab + cd) - 2ac}{a^2 + c^2} = 0, \quad \frac{(a^2 + c^2)^2 - 1 - (ab + cd)^2}{2(a^2 + c^2)} = 0,$$

and

$$\frac{2ac(ab + cd) + (a^2 - c^2)}{a^2 + c^2} = 1.$$

Consequently, the derived conditions lead to the conclusion  $a^2 = 1$ , implying  $a = \pm 1$ ,  $b = 0$ ,  $c = 0$ . Thus,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Ker}(\Phi).$$

Hence, we obtain the homomorphism  $\Phi : \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M(x, y, \theta)$  with kernel  $\{\pm I\}$ , and the inverse map  $\Phi^{-1}$  exists for every  $m(x, y, \theta) \in M$ , where  $x > 1$ . In particular,

$$M := M(x, y, \theta) \cong \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) / \{\pm I\} = \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

where  $x > 1$ . Thus, the theorem follows.  $\square$



**Remark 5** To generate the inverse map, we have decomposed any element  $m \in M$  in the following manner, which significantly simplifies the computations of the inverse map. For any

$$m = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \pm \frac{x\sqrt{x^2-y^2-1}}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \sqrt{x^2-1} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{x^2-y^2-1}}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \pm \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & 0 \\ y & \pm \sqrt{x^2-y^2-1} & x \end{pmatrix}$$

in  $M$ , we have  $\Phi^{-1} : M \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^{-1} & \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \frac{x\sqrt{x^2-y^2-1}}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \sqrt{x^2-1} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{x^2-y^2-1}}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} & 0 \\ y & \sqrt{x^2-y^2-1} & x \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ & = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1}+x)(\sqrt{x^2-1}+y)}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} & \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1}+x)(\sqrt{x^2-1}-y)}{2\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \\ \mp \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1}-y)}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1}+x)\sqrt{x^2-1}}} & \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{x^2-1}+y)}{2(\sqrt{x^2-1}+x)\sqrt{x^2-1}}} \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\Phi^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) & -\sin(\theta/2) \\ \sin(\theta/2) & \cos(\theta/2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

This gives the description of  $\Phi^{-1}(m)$  since  $\Phi$  is a homomorphism.

## 5 Conclusion

We have explored the action of the transformation group  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  on the two dimensional homogeneous space  $\mathbb{R}P^2$ . Our inquiry has involved an extension of the map  $i$  associated with  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  action, and we have established the non-existence of such a map for  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  action. Following this, we have investigated the isotropy subgroup of the projective unit circle, providing a

detailed and explicit expression for it. Furthermore, we use a factorization of  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ , specifically the Iwasawa decomposition, to show that, under certain conditions, the isotropy subgroup of unit circle under  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  action is isomorphic to the projective special linear group  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

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