

## A globality theorem for Lie-wedges that are bounded by a hyperplane-ideal

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### Abstract

We consider a Lie group  $G$  containing a normal subgroup  $N \trianglelefteq G$  such that  $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}$ , i.e the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{n}$  is a hyperplane ideal in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . A natural question that arises in this context is the following: Suppose we are given a Lie-wedge  $W$  which is contained in a halfspace bounded by  $\mathfrak{n}$ . Under which conditions is  $W$  global in  $G$ ? We will prove globality for all pointed wedges  $W$  such that there exists another wedge  $W' \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  which is global in  $N$  and satisfies  $(W \cap \mathfrak{n}) \supseteq \text{int}_{\mathfrak{n}}(W') \cup \{0\}$ . Especially our result applies to the groups and Lorentzian wedges considered by Levichev and Levicheva in this volume. As another application, we solve the globality problem of the Heisenberg-algebra, i.e. we give a complete characterization of all Lie-wedges that are global in the Heisenberg-group.

### 1. The globality theorem

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a Lie group,  $N \trianglelefteq G$  a normal subgroup such that  $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  be a Lie wedge which is global in  $N$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{n}$  such that the edge  $H(W) = W \cap (-W)$  is  $\text{ad } X$ -invariant. We define the following set:*

$$\mathcal{W} = \left\{ W' \subseteq \mathfrak{n} \mid W' \text{ global in } N \text{ and } (\exists \varepsilon > 0)(\forall t \in [0, \varepsilon]) e^{t \text{ad } X} W \subseteq W' \right\}.$$

*If  $\bigcap \mathcal{W} = W$  then the Lie wedge  $W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  is global in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** The  $\text{ad } X$ -invariance of  $H(W)$  implies that  $e^{t \text{ad } Y} X \in X + H(W)$  for all  $Y \in H(W)$ . Since  $W$  is a Lie wedge and  $H(W) = H(W + \mathbb{R}^+ X)$  it follows that  $W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  is invariant under the adjoint action of its edge, hence a Lie wedge. Let us denote with  $\alpha(t)$  the inner automorphism of  $G$  induced by  $\exp(tX)$ , i.e.  $\alpha(t)(g) = \exp(tX)g \exp(-tX)$  and  $\alpha(t)(\exp Y) = \exp(\text{Ad}(\exp(tX)Y)) = \exp(e^{t \text{ad } X} Y)$ . We use the notation  $\prod_{i=1}^n g_i = g_1 g_2 \cdots g_n$  and set for  $t \geq 0$

$$S_t = \left\{ \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha(t_i)(g_i) \right) \exp(tX) \mid t_i \in [0, t], g_i \in \exp(W) \right\} \quad (1)$$

and  $S = \bigcup_{t \geq 0} S_t$ . We will prove the following:

- (i)  $S$  is a semigroup because for  $s, t \geq 0$  we have  $S_t S_s \subseteq S_{t+s}$ . Indeed, if  $g = (\prod_{i=1}^n \alpha(t_i)(g_i)) \exp(tX) \in S_t$  and  $h = (\prod_{j=1}^m \alpha(s_j)(h_j)) \exp(sX) \in S_s$  then

$$\begin{aligned} gh &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha(t_i)(g_i) \right) \exp(tX) \left( \prod_{j=1}^m \alpha(s_j)(h_j) \right) \exp(sX) \\ &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha(t_i)(g_i) \right) \alpha(t) \left( \prod_{j=1}^m \alpha(s_j)(h_j) \right) \exp((s+t)X) \\ &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha(t_i)(g_i) \right) \left( \prod_{j=1}^m \alpha(t+s_j)(h_j) \right) \exp((s+t)X) \in S_{t+s}. \end{aligned}$$

- (ii)  $L(S) \supseteq W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  for obviously  $\exp(W) \cup \exp(\mathbb{R}^+ X) \subseteq S$ .

- (iii)  $L(S) \subseteq W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$ . This is the non-trivial part of the proof. Let  $Y \in L(S)$  then there exist sequences  $m_j \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $g_j \in S$  such that  $\lim_j g_j = 1$  and  $Y = \lim_j m_j \log g_j$ . Now  $g_j = a_j \exp(t_j X)$  with  $t_j \geq 0$ ,  $\lim_j a_j = 1$  and  $\lim_j t_j = 0$  because  $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}$ . Let an arbitrary  $W' \in \mathcal{W}$  be given, then there is an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $e^{s \operatorname{ad} X} W \subseteq W'$  for all  $s \in [0, \varepsilon]$ . Since  $\lim_j t_j = 0$  we have  $t_j < \varepsilon$  for all sufficiently large  $j$ . For these  $j$  we have

$$a_j = \prod_i \alpha(s_i) \exp(w_i) = \prod_i \exp(e^{s_i \operatorname{ad} X} w_i) \in \langle \exp(W') \rangle.$$

Applying the formula for the Campbell-Hausdorff-multiplication  $*$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} m_j \log g_j &= m_j \log(a_j \exp(t_j X)) = m_j (\log a_j * t_j X) \\ &= \underbrace{m_j \log(a_j)}_{\in \mathfrak{n}} + m_j t_j X + m_j r_j \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

with  $r_j \in \mathfrak{n}$  and  $\|r_j\| \leq |t_j| \|\log a_j\|$  for a suitable norm on  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Now the existence of  $Y = \lim m_j \log g_j$  implies that  $m_j t_j \geq 0$  converges, hence is bounded. Thus  $\|m_j r_j\| \leq |m_j t_j| \|\log a_j\| \rightarrow 0$  since  $a_j \rightarrow 1$ , and we conclude that  $m_j \log a_j$  also converges. Now the globality of  $W'$  in  $N$  yields  $\lim_j m_j \log a_j \in W'$  which implies  $Y \in W' + \mathbb{R}^+ X$ . Since  $W' \in \mathcal{W}$  was arbitrary, it follows that

$$L(S) \subseteq \bigcap_{W' \in \mathcal{W}} (W' + \mathbb{R}^+ X) = W + \mathbb{R}^+ X, \quad (3)$$

which proves (iii).

From (i)–(iii) we deduce the globality of  $W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  in  $G$ , because we have proved the existence of a semigroup  $S$  with the prescribed tangent wedge.  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 1.2.** *The sets  $S_t$  defined in the previous proof are bigger than they ought to be. Indeed, it would be sufficient to take*

$$\tilde{S}_t = \{ \alpha(t_1)(g_1) \cdots \alpha(t_n)(g_n) \exp(tX) \mid 0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots \leq t_n \leq t, g_i \in \exp(W) \}$$

in order to obtain a semigroup via  $\tilde{S} = \cup_{t \geq 0} \tilde{S}_t$ . But this does not change the proof of (iii). The main difference is that with our choice, the sets  $T_t = S_t \exp(-tX) \subseteq N$  are subsemigroups of  $N$  whereas the corresponding sets  $\tilde{T}_t = \tilde{S}_t \subseteq N$  need not be subsemigroups of  $N$ . If  $N$  is abelian then obviously  $S_t = \tilde{S}_t$  because we may rearrange the factors  $\alpha(t_i) \exp(w_i)$  such that  $t_i \leq t_{i+1}$ , but in the non-abelian case  $S_t \setminus \tilde{S}_t$  may be non-empty.

The assumption that  $\cap \mathcal{W} = W$  may not be weakened which will be shown by a counter example.

### 2. A counterexample

The following counterexample shows, that we cannot weaken the assumption that  $\cap \mathcal{W} = W$ . We take  $N$  to be the Heisenberg group and  $G = N \rtimes \mathbb{R}$  the four-dimensional oscillator group where  $\mathbb{R}$  acts on  $N$  by rotations around the center  $Z(N)$ . So we may identify  $G$  with the set  $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  where the multiplication is given by

$$(v, s, r)(w, t, r') = \left( v + e^{ir}w, s + t + \frac{1}{2}\Im(\bar{v}e^{ir}w), r + r' \right). \tag{4}$$

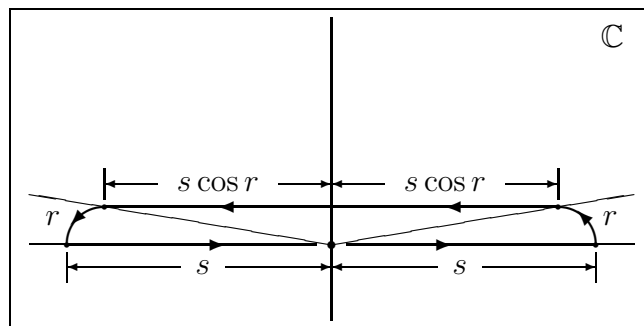
We may identify  $\mathfrak{g}$  with the set  $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  and let  $P = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $Q = (i, 0, 0)$ ,  $Z = (0, 1, 0)$ ,  $R = (0, 0, 1)$ , then  $\{P, Q, Z\}$  is a standard base for the Heisenberg algebra  $\mathfrak{n}$ , i.e.  $[P, Q] = Z$ ,  $Z$  is central. Now we consider the following wedge:

$$W = \mathbb{R}^+(Z - P) + \mathbb{R}^+(Z + P). \tag{5}$$

Then  $W$  is global in  $N$  because  $W + (-W)$  is an abelian subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{n}$ , but every wedge in  $\mathcal{W}$  wedge has central elements in its interior, hence generates the whole group  $N$  (see [1, V.4.10]), so  $\mathcal{W} = \{\mathfrak{n}\}$  and  $\cap \mathcal{W} = \mathfrak{n} \neq W$ . The non-globality of  $W + \mathbb{R}^+R$  in  $G$  follows from the following proposition:

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let us denote with  $S_r$  the slice  $\langle \exp(W + \mathbb{R}^+R) \rangle \cap \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{r\}$ , then for every  $r > 0$  the set  $Z(N)(0, 0, 2r) = \{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{2r\}$  is contained in  $S_{2r}$ , hence  $Z(N) \subseteq \overline{\langle \exp W + \mathbb{R}^+R \rangle}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $r > 0$  be given. Since  $S_r(0, 0, r' - r) \subseteq S_{r'}$  for  $r \leq r'$  we only have to consider small  $r > 0$ , so we may assume w.l.o.g. that  $r < \pi/2$ , i.e.  $\sin(2r) > 0$ . With respect to the  $\mathbb{C}$ -factor we will steer along the following path in order to reach all points in  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{2r\}$ :



For  $s \geq 0$  and  $z \geq 0$  we compute:

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{2r} &\ni (0, z, 0)(s, s, 0)(0, 0, r)(-2s \cos r, 2s \cos r, 0)(0, 0, r)(s, s, 0) \\
&= (s, s + z, 0)(0, 0, r)(-2s \cos r, 2s \cos r, 0)(se^{ir}, s, r) \\
&= (s, s + z, 0)(0, 0, r) \left( -2s \cos r + se^{ir}, 2s \cos r + s + \Im(-s \cos r se^{ir}), r \right) \\
&= (s, s + z, 0)(0, 0, r) \left( \underbrace{-s \cos r + is \sin r}_{-se^{-ir}}, s + 2s \cos r - \frac{s^2}{2} \sin(2r), r \right) \\
&= (s, s + z, 0) \left( -s, s + 2s \cos r - \frac{s^2}{2} \sin(2r), 2r \right) \\
&= \left( 0, z + 2s + 2s \cos r - \frac{s^2}{2} \sin(2r) + \frac{1}{2} \Im(-s^2), 2r \right) \\
&= \left( 0, z + 2s(1 + \cos r) - s^2 \frac{\sin(2r)}{2}, 2r \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Now  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} z + 2s(1 + \cos r) - s^2 \frac{\sin(2r)}{2} = -\infty$  thus  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{2r\} \subseteq S_{2r}$  for any  $0 < r < \pi/2$  which proves our claim.  $\blacksquare$

As an observation, we still prove that our example is in some sense as bad as possible.

**Proposition 2.2.** *For any  $r > 0$  we have  $S_r = N \times \{r\}$ .*

**Proof.** First we will prove  $\text{pr}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_{2r}) = \mathbb{C}$ : We have for  $0 \leq t \leq r$  and  $s \geq 0$ :

$$(0, 0, t)(s, s, 0)(0, 0, r - t) \in S_r \text{ and } (0, 0, t)(-s, s, 0)(0, 0, r) \in S_r.$$

Hence  $\text{pr}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_r) \supseteq C_r^1 \cup C_r^2$  with

$$C_r^1 = \{v \mid \arg(v) \in [0, r]\} \text{ and } C_r^2 = -C_r^1 = \{v \mid \arg(v) \in [\pi, \pi + r]\}.$$

Thus  $\text{pr}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_{2r}) \supseteq (C_r^1 + e^{ir}C_r^2) \cup (C_r^2 + e^{ir}C_r^1)$ . Now

$$C_r^2 + e^{ir}C_r^1 = \{\arg(v) \in [\pi, \pi + r]\} + \{\arg(v) \in [r, 2r]\} = \{\arg(v) \in [r, \pi + r]\},$$

i.e. a halfspace  $E_+$ , and because of  $C_r^2 = -C_r^1$  we have  $C_r^1 + e^{ir}C_r^2 = -E_+$  which proves  $\text{pr}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_{2r}) \supseteq \mathbb{C}$ . From the previous proposition we know that  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{r\} \subseteq S_r$  so that we may deduce  $S_{3r} = H \times \{r\}$  by right-multiplication with appropriate elements of  $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{r\}$ .  $\blacksquare$

This counterexample is minimal with respect to the dimension of  $G$ , because if the hyperplane ideal  $\mathfrak{n}$  has dimension  $\leq 2$  then it is either abelian or the two-dimensional non-abelian algebra. In both cases every wedge  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  is global in  $N$ , (see [1, V.4.13] for the non-abelian case). So if we take a pointed wedge  $W$ , then  $\cap W = W$  and if the edge  $H(W) \neq \{0\}$  then  $W$  must be a halfspace. Since  $H(W)$  is  $adX$ -invariant and  $\mathfrak{n} \setminus H(W)$  is disconnected,  $W$  must be  $adX$ -invariant itself which implies  $W \in \mathcal{W}$ . Thus there is no counterexample of lower dimension. It

is also possible to construct a nilpotent counterexample, just take  $\mathfrak{n} \rtimes_D \mathbb{R}$  with  $\mathfrak{n}$  the Heisenberg-algebra,  $W$  as in the former example and  $D \in \text{Der}(\mathfrak{n})$  is

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with respect to the base  $\{P, Q, Z\}$ .

### 3. Applications of the globality Theorem

The following corollary ([1, VI.5.2]) enables us to prove the globality in many cases:

**Corollary 3.1.** *Suppose  $W_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$  is global in  $G$  and  $W_1 \subseteq W_2$  satisfies*

(i)  $W_1 \cap H(W_2) \subseteq H(W_1)$ .

(ii) *The analytical subgroup  $\langle \exp H(W_1) \rangle$  is closed in  $G$ .*

*Then  $W_1$  is also global in  $G$ .*

**Remark 3.2.** *If  $W_2$  is pointed, then these conditions are trivially satisfied.*

We will now give a sufficient condition for the equality  $\bigcap \mathcal{W} = W$ .

**Definition 3.3.** *Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $W_1, W \subseteq V$  two wedges. We say that  $W_1$  is surrounding  $W$  (in  $V$ ), if  $W \setminus H(W) \subseteq \text{int}_V(W_1)$  or equivalently  $W \subseteq \text{int}_V(W_1) \cup H(W)$ .*

**Proposition 3.4.** *Assume  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  is pointed and there exists a pointed, global wedge  $W_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  surrounding  $W$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$ . Then  $W = \bigcap \mathcal{W}$ .*

**Proof.** If  $v \in \mathfrak{n} \setminus W$  then there exists a wedge  $W_2$  surrounding  $W$  with  $v \notin W_2$ . Therefore  $W' := W_1 \cap W_2$  is global and since  $W'$  surrounds  $W$ , we can find an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $e^{[0, \varepsilon] \text{ad} X} \subseteq W'$  no matter what the action of  $\text{ad} X$  on  $\mathfrak{n}$  is. Thus  $W' \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $v \notin \bigcap \mathcal{W}$  which proves the assertion. ■

So we may state

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be a Lie group containing a normal subgroup  $N$  such that  $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  be a pointed wedge such that there exists a global wedge  $W_1$  surrounding  $W$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$ . Then for every  $X \in \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{n}$  the Lie wedge  $W + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  is global in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $W$  is pointed, contained in  $W_1$ , it is global in  $N$  and its edge  $H(W) = \{0\}$  is trivially  $\text{ad} X$ -invariant. Proposition 3.4 yields  $W = \bigcap \mathcal{W}$ , so we may apply Theorem 1.1. ■

The next question which arises is: Suppose we are given a Lie wedge bounded by the hyperplane ideal  $\mathfrak{n}$ , i.e.  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{n} + \mathbb{R}^+ X$  for an  $X \in \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{n}$ . When are these wedges global? In view of corollary 3.1 one should try to find a suitable wedge  $W' \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 1.1 such that  $W' + \mathbb{R}^+ X \supseteq W$ . If we assume that  $W$  is pointed then the intersection  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$  will play an important role.

#### 4. A Lemma on pointed wedges

If  $(X, d)$  is a metric space, we may endow the set  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  of compact subsets with the so-called Vietoris topology which is defined through the metric

$$d(A, B) = \max(\max\{d(a, B) \mid a \in A\}, \max\{d(b, A) \mid b \in B\}).$$

where  $d(a, B) = \min\{d(a, b) \mid b \in B\}$  is the distance of  $a$  from  $B$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *Assume  $X$  is a metric space and  $(K_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq X$  a decreasing sequence of compact sets. Let  $K = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} K_n$ , then  $K_n \rightarrow K$  in the Vietoris topology.*

**Proposition 4.2.** *Suppose  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is a continuous function and  $K_n \rightarrow K$  in the Vietoris topology. Then  $f(K_n) \rightarrow f(K)$  in the Vietoris topology.*

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $V$  be a vector space,  $C \subseteq V$  a pointed, (closed, convex) cone,  $H$  a supporting hyperplane of  $C$  and the cone  $\tilde{C} \subseteq H$  is surrounding  $C \cap H$  in  $H$ , i.e.  $\text{int}_H(\tilde{C}) \supseteq (C \cap H) \setminus \{0\}$ . Then there exists an  $x \in V \setminus H$  such that  $C \subseteq \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha \in H^\perp \cap C^*$  and pick an arbitrary  $x_0$  with  $\alpha(x_0) = 1$ . Pick  $\omega \in \text{int}(C^*)$  and let  $K = C \cap \omega^{-1}(1)$ , i.e.  $K$  is compact and  $C = \mathbb{R}^+K$ . We will construct an invertible linear map  $\psi: V \rightarrow V$  with the following properties:

- (i)  $\psi|_H = \text{id}_H$ ,
- (ii)  $\psi(K) \subseteq \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x_0$ .

Since  $\mathbb{R}^+K = C$  we may then conclude that  $\psi(C) = \psi(\mathbb{R}^+K) \subseteq \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x_0$ , hence

$$C \subseteq \psi^{-1}(\tilde{C}) + \mathbb{R}^+\psi^{-1}(x_0) = \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x$$

with  $x = \psi^{-1}(x_0)$  because of (i).

Now we construct the map  $\psi$ : We denote the projection along  $x_0$  onto  $H$  with  $\text{pr}_H$ , i.e.  $\text{pr}_H(v) = v - \alpha(v)x_0$  since  $\alpha(x_0) = 1$ . Now  $K$  is compact and so is  $\text{pr}_H(K)$ . We denote with  $K_r$  the slices  $K \cap \alpha^{-1}([0, r])$  which are also compact for any  $r > 0$ . Since  $K_r \rightarrow K_0 = K \cap H \subseteq \text{int}(\tilde{C})$  for  $r \rightarrow 0$  in the Vietoris topology, there is an  $r_0 > 0$  such that  $\text{pr}_H(K_{r_0}) \subseteq \tilde{C}$ . Since  $\text{int}_H(\tilde{C}) \neq \emptyset$  and  $\text{pr}_H(K)$  is compact, we can find some  $w \in \text{int}_H(\tilde{C})$  such that

$$r_0w + \text{pr}_H(K) \subseteq \tilde{C}.$$

Now let  $\psi(v) = \text{pr}_H(v) + \alpha(v)w + \alpha(v)x_0$ , then  $\psi|_H = \text{id}_H$ ,  $\psi(x_0 - w) = -w + w + x_0 = x_0$ , hence  $\psi$  is surjective and therefore invertible. If  $v \in K$  then either  $\alpha(v) \leq r_0$  which implies

$$\psi(v) = \underbrace{\text{pr}_H(v)}_{\in \tilde{C}} + \underbrace{\alpha(v)w}_{\in \tilde{C}} + \alpha(v)x_0 \in \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x_0$$

or  $\alpha(v) \geq r_0$  and therefore

$$\psi(v) = \underbrace{\text{pr}_H(v) + r_0w}_{\in \tilde{C}} + \underbrace{(\alpha(v) - r_0)w}_{\in \tilde{C}} + \alpha(v)x_0 \in \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x_0,$$

thus  $\psi(K) \subseteq \tilde{C} + \mathbb{R}^+x_0$ . ■

## 5. Globality of wedges that are bounded by a hyperplane ideal

Now we have all the tools to prove

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $G$  be a Lie group containing a normal subgroup  $N$  with  $G/N \cong \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$  is a pointed wedge such that*

- (i)  $\mathfrak{n}$  is a supporting hyperplane of  $W$ ,
- (ii) There exists a pointed wedge  $W_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  such that  $W_1$  is surrounding  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$  and  $W_1$  is global in  $N$ .

Then  $W$  is global in  $G$ .

**Proof.** Since  $W_1$  is surrounding  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$ , we may choose a wedge  $W_2$  such that  $W_1$  is surrounding  $W_2$  and  $W_2$  is surrounding  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$ . According to Lemma 4.3 we can find an  $X_0 \in \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{n}$  such that  $W \subseteq W_2 + \mathbb{R}^+ X_0$ , the latter being global in  $G$  in view of Corollary 3.5. Now Corollary 3.1 yields the globality of  $W$ . ■

**Remark 5.2.** *In view of the counterexample, it is clear that we cannot drop the assumption that there is a global wedge  $W'$  surrounding  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$ . Nevertheless this condition is not necessary for globality, because if we consider the invariant wedge  $W$  in the oscillator-algebra, then this wedge is naturally global, but there is no pointed global wedge  $W'$  surrounding  $W \cap \mathfrak{n} = \mathbb{R}^+ Z$ .*

## 6. The globality problem of the Heisenberg-algebra

Let us consider the Heisenberg-algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  with the standard base  $\{P, Q, Z\}$  and brackets  $[P, Q] = Z$ ,  $[P, Z] = [Q, Z] = 0$ . We identify it with the Heisenberg group  $G$  via the Campbell-Hausdorff-multiplication. From [1] we know, that the hyperplane-subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{g}$  play an important role. A half-space which is bounded by a subalgebra is called a halfspace-semialgebra. The following is an immediate consequence of [1, V.5.41]:

**Corollary 6.1.** *If  $W$  is Lie generating and not contained in a halfspace-semialgebra, then  $W$  is controllable.*

The hyperplane subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{g}$  may be described as follows:

**Proposition 6.2.** *A hyperplane  $\mathfrak{h} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$  is a subalgebra iff  $\mathfrak{z} \subseteq \mathfrak{h}$ . Any proper subalgebra is contained in a hyperplane subalgebra.*

Now we are ready to solve the globality problem of the Heisenberg-algebra.

**Theorem 6.3.** *Suppose  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie-wedge, then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $W$  is global in  $G$ .
- (ii)  $W$  is contained in a halfspace-semialgebra.
- (iii)  $W^* \cap \mathfrak{z}^\perp \neq \{0\}$ .

**Proof.** The equivalence of (ii) and (iii) follows from the classification of hyperplane subalgebras in  $\mathfrak{g}$ . For proving (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii), we consider a global wedge  $W$ . If  $W$  is Lie generating then Corollary 6.1 proves (ii). If  $W$  is not Lie generating, then it is contained in a proper subalgebra. Hence (ii) holds in view of Proposition 6.2. The crucial part of the proof is (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).

We have to consider the different cases of  $\dim H(W)$  separately:

1.  $\dim H(W) = 2$ . In this case  $W$  is either a hyperplane-subalgebra or a halfspace-semialgebra, hence global.
2.  $\dim H(W) = 1$ . The invariance of  $W$  under  $e^{adH(W)}$  implies

$$[H(W), W] \subseteq H(W) \cap \mathfrak{z},$$

thus either  $H(W) = \mathfrak{z}$  or  $W \subseteq H(W) + \mathfrak{z}$ . In the first case,  $W$  satisfies the conditions of corollary 3.1, and in the second case  $W$  is contained in an abelian subalgebra, so  $W$  is global in any case.

3.  $\dim H(W) = 0$ . Let  $\omega \in W^* \cap \mathfrak{z}^\perp$ , then  $\mathfrak{n} := \ker \omega$  is an abelian subalgebra and  $G/N \simeq \mathbb{R}$ . Take an arbitrary pointed  $W'$  surrounding  $W$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$ , then  $W' \cap \mathfrak{n}$  is pointed, surrounds  $W \cap \mathfrak{n}$  in  $\mathfrak{n}$  and is global, since  $\mathfrak{n}$  is abelian. Therefore Theorem 5.1 applies, proving the globality of  $W$ .

Thus everything is proved. ■

## 7. Some remarks on Lorentzian Lie groups

In [2] Levichev and Levicheva consider the Lorentzian manifold structure on a Lie group  $G$  obtained by choosing a Lorentzian wedge  $W \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$ . For a closed semigroup  $S \subseteq G$  we may define the partial order  $\leq_S$  on  $G$  by  $x \leq_S y$  iff  $xS \ni y$ . The notion of *future-distinguishability* is then equivalent to the condition that  $S$  is pointed, i.e.  $S \cap S^{-1} = \{1\}$ . Hence the Lorentzian manifold  $G$  is future-distinguishing iff the Lie wedge  $W$  is global in  $G$ .

It may happen that the Lorentzian manifold  $G$  is not geodesically complete, i.e. if we denote  $Exp$  the exponential function of the affine connection on  $G$  induced by the choice of a bilinear form on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , then  $Exp_1$  is not defined on all of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Nevertheless the Lie semigroup generated by a Lorentzian cone is always well-defined, so the future-distinguishability-property is independent of geodesically completeness. Thus it may happen that the future of an event is well-behaved although some geodesics are not infinitely extendable.

As a final remark, we mention that Theorem 5.1 applies to the cases considered in [2], because there the hyperplane ideal  $\mathfrak{n}$  is either abelian or almost-abelian, and therefore every wedge  $W' \subseteq \mathfrak{n}$  is global in the corresponding group (cf. [1, V.4.13]).

## References

- [1] Hilgert, J., K. H. Hofmann and J. D. Lawson, "Lie groups, Convex Cones and Semigroups," Oxford University Press, 1989.



- [2] Levichev A., and V. Levicheva, *Distinguishability Condition and the Future Subsemigroup*, Seminar Sophus Lie **2** 1992, 205–212.

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