# Handout: Notes on Linear Symplectic Transformations 

Professor Darryl D Holm 8 February 2012<br>Imperial College London d.holm@ic.ac.uk http://www.ma.ic.ac.uk/~dholm/<br>Course meets T 11am, W 10am, Th 11am @ Hux 658

## Contents

1 Plan of these lecture notes on $S p(2)$ ..... 1
2 The matrix Lie group $S p(2)$ and its matrix Lie algebra $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$ ..... 2
2.1 Examples of matrices in $S p(2)$ ..... 2
2.2 Hamiltonian matrices and co-quaternions ..... 3
2.3 Infinitesimal transformations ..... 3
3 Adjoint orbits of the action of $S p(2)$ on $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$ ..... 4
4 The momentum map and coadjoint orbits ..... 5
4.1 Deriving the momentum map (13) from Hamilton's principle ..... 5
4.2 Components of the momentum map ..... 6

## 1 Plan of these lecture notes on $S p(2)$

Introduce matrix Lie group $S p(2)$ and its matrix Lie algebra $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$
Consider our goal: understanding coadjoint motion on $\mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$
Study the transformations in $S p(2)$ and their infinitesimal generators, the Hamiltonian matrices $\left\{m_{0}, m_{1}, m_{2}, m_{3}\right\} \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)$. The latter are related to co-quaternions.

Write infinitesimal transformations of the matrix Lie algebra $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$ acting on $\mathbf{z}=(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})^{T} \in T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$. (Note that this action leaves $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ invariant.)

Study the Adjoint orbits Ad : Sp(2) $\times \mathfrak{s p}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{s p}(2)$
Define the momentum map $\mathcal{J}: T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2} \rightarrow \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$ and the Hamiltonian $\mathcal{J}^{\mathcal{\xi}}=\langle\mathcal{J}, \xi\rangle$ for the infinitesimal transformations $\dot{\mathbf{z}}=\left\{\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{J}^{\xi}\right\}$.

Derive the momentum map $\mathcal{J}$ from Hamilton's principle $\delta S=0$ with $S=\int \ell(\xi) d t$, constrained by the action of $T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$ under $S p(2)$, thereby finding with right invariant $\xi=M M^{-1}$

$$
\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \xi}=\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z}) \quad \dot{\mathbf{z}}=\xi \mathbf{z} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \frac{d \mathcal{J}}{d t}+\operatorname{ad}_{\xi}^{*} \mathcal{J}=0 \quad \text { or } \quad \operatorname{Ad}_{M^{-1}(t)}^{*} \mathcal{J}(t)=\mathcal{J}(0)
$$

Write the components of the momentum map $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$ in terms of $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$, with

$$
\mathcal{J}=\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J=2\left[\begin{array}{ll}
Y_{3} & -Y_{1} \\
Y_{2} & -Y_{3}
\end{array}\right] \quad \mathbf{Y}=\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right)=\left(|\mathbf{q}|^{2},|\mathbf{p}|^{2}, \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}\right)
$$

noting that $S^{2}(\mathbf{Y}):=Y_{1} Y_{2}-Y_{3}^{2}=|\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}|^{2}$ in which $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ is invariant under $S p(2)$.
Explain how $\mathbb{R}^{3}$-bracket dynamics of $\dot{\mathbf{Y}}=\nabla S^{2} \times \nabla H$ is related to coadjoint motion on $\mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$.

## 2 The matrix Lie group $S p(2)$ and its matrix Lie algebra $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$

Symplectic $2 \times 2$ matrices $M(s) \in S p(2)$ depending smoothly on a real parameter $s \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
M(s) J M(s)^{T}=J \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
J=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & -1  \tag{2}\\
1 & 0
\end{array}\right] .
$$

Set $\xi(s)=\dot{M}(s) M^{-1}(s)$, so that $\dot{M}(s)=\xi(s) M(s)$ is the reconstruction equation. Take $d / d s$ of the defining relation

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{d s}\left(M(s) J M(s)^{T}\right) & =\xi J+J \xi^{T} \\
& =\xi J+\left(\xi J^{T}\right)^{T} \\
& =\xi J-(\xi J)^{T}=0
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus, $\xi J=(\xi J)^{T} \in$ sym is symmetric.

- Conjugation by $J$ shows that $J \xi=(J \xi)^{T} \in$ sym is also symmetric.
- Replacing $M \leftrightarrow M^{T}$ gives the corresponding result for left invariant $\Xi(s):=M^{-1}(s) \dot{M}(s)$.


### 2.1 Examples of matrices in $S p(2)$

One easily checks that the following are $S p(2)$ matrices

$$
M_{1}\left(\tau_{1}\right)=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & -1 \\
-2 \tau_{1} & 1
\end{array}\right], \quad M_{3}\left(\tau_{3}\right)=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
e^{\tau_{3}} & 0 \\
0 & e^{-\tau_{3}}
\end{array}\right], \quad M(\omega)=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\cos \omega & \sin \omega \\
-\sin \omega & \cos \omega
\end{array}\right] .
$$

The product is also an $S p(2)$ matrix

$$
M\left(\tau_{1}, \tau_{3}, \omega\right)=M(\omega) M_{3}\left(\tau_{3}\right) M_{1}\left(\tau_{1}\right)=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\cos \omega & \sin \omega  \tag{3}\\
-\sin \omega & \cos \omega
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{cc}
e^{\tau_{3}} & 0 \\
0 & e^{-\tau_{3}}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & -1 \\
-2 \tau_{1} & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

This is a general result, called the Iwasawa decomposition of the symplectic matrix group, usually written as

$$
S p(2, \mathbb{R})=\mathrm{KAN} .
$$

The rightmost matrix factor represents the nilpotent subgroup $N$. The middle factor is the abelian subgroup A. The leftmost factor is the maximal compact subgroup K.

The KAN decomposition (3) also follows by exponentiation

$$
\begin{equation*}
M\left(\tau_{1}, \tau_{3}, \omega\right)=M(\omega) M_{3}\left(\tau_{3}\right) M_{1}\left(\tau_{1}\right)=e^{\frac{1}{2} \omega\left(m_{1}+m_{2}\right)} e^{\tau_{3} m_{3}} e^{\tau_{1} m_{1}} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

of the $2 \times 2$ Hamiltonian matrices

$$
m_{0}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0  \tag{5}\\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right], \quad m_{1}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 0 \\
-2 & 0
\end{array}\right], \quad m_{2}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 2 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right], \quad m_{3}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 0 \\
0 & -1
\end{array}\right] .
$$

These are related to the Pauli matrices and thus to the quaternions by

$$
\begin{equation*}
m_{0}=\sigma_{0}, \quad m_{1}=-\sigma_{1}+i \sigma_{2}, \quad m_{2}=\sigma_{1}+i \sigma_{2}, \quad m_{3}=\sigma_{3}, \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

so that $\frac{1}{2}\left(m_{1}+m_{2}\right)=i \sigma_{2}$.

### 2.2 Hamiltonian matrices and co-quaternions

One may define a co-quaternion $C$ and its conjugate $C^{*}$ as

$$
C=w m_{0}+x m_{1}+y m_{2}+z m_{3}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
w+z & 2 y \\
-2 x & w-z
\end{array}\right] \quad C^{*}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
w-z & -2 y \\
2 x & w+z
\end{array}\right]
$$

Then $\operatorname{tr} C C^{*}=2\left(w^{2}-z^{2}\right)+8 x y$ is a hyperbolic relation that leads to co-quaternions whose multiplication law is obtained from the relation (6) between the Hamiltonian basis matrices and the Pauli matrices.

### 2.3 Infinitesimal transformations

Definition 1. The infinitesimal transformation of the $S p(2)$ matrix Lie group acting on the manifold $T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$ is a vector field $\xi_{M}(\mathbf{z}) \in T \mathbb{R}^{2}$ that may be expressed as the derivative of the group transformation, evaluated at the identity,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi_{M}(\mathbf{z})=\left.\frac{d}{d s}[\exp (s \xi) \mathbf{z}]\right|_{s=0}=\xi \mathbf{z} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here, the diagonal action of the Hamiltonian matrix $(\xi)$ and the two-component real multi-vector $\mathbf{z}=(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})^{T}($ denoted as $\xi \mathbf{z})$ has components given by $\left(\xi_{k l} q_{l}, \xi_{k l} p_{l}\right)^{T}$, with $k, l=1,2$. The matrix $\xi$ is any linear combination of the traceless constant Hamiltonian matrices (5).

Examples The action of $S p(2)$ on $T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$ is obtained from the infinitesimal actions, expressed in terms of the Hamiltonian matrices, as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m_{1}: \quad \frac{d}{d \tau_{1}}\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 0 \\
-2 & 0
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
-2 \mathbf{q}
\end{array}\right] \Longrightarrow\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}\left(\tau_{1}\right) \\
\mathbf{p}\left(\tau_{1}\right)
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 0 \\
-2 \tau_{1} & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}(0) \\
\mathbf{p}(0)
\end{array}\right] \\
& m_{2}: \quad \frac{d}{d \tau_{2}}\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 2 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
2 \mathbf{p} \\
0
\end{array}\right] \quad \Longrightarrow\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}\left(\tau_{2}\right) \\
\mathbf{p}\left(\tau_{2}\right)
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 2 \tau_{2} \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}(0) \\
\mathbf{p}(0)
\end{array}\right] \\
& m_{3}: \quad \frac{d}{d \tau_{3}}\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 0 \\
0 & -1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{q} \\
-\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right] \Longrightarrow\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}\left(\tau_{3}\right) \\
\mathbf{p}\left(\tau_{3}\right)
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
e^{\tau_{3}} & 0 \\
0 & e^{-\tau_{3}}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}(0) \\
\mathbf{p}(0)
\end{array}\right] \\
& \frac{1}{2}\left(m_{1}+m_{2}\right): \quad \frac{d}{d \omega}\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 1 \\
-1 & 0
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q} \\
\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{p} \\
-\mathbf{q}
\end{array}\right] \quad \Longrightarrow\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}\left(\tau_{3}\right) \\
\mathbf{p}\left(\tau_{3}\right)
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\cos \omega & \sin \omega \\
-\sin \omega & \cos \omega
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{q}(0) \\
\mathbf{p}(0)
\end{array}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

The last is obtained easily by writing $\frac{d}{d \omega}(\mathbf{q}+i \mathbf{p})=-i(\mathbf{q}+i \mathbf{p})$.
Thus, as claimed, the KAN decomposition of a symplectic matrix $M$ may be written in terms of the Hamiltonian matrices as

$$
\begin{equation*}
M=e^{\frac{1}{2} \omega\left(m_{1}+m_{2}\right)} e^{\tau_{3} m_{3}} e^{\tau_{1} m_{1}} . \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark 1. Notice that all of these $S p(2)$ transformations leave invariant the cross-product $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$. The quantity $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ is called Lagrange's invariant in the study of geometric optics, for which the linear symplectic transformations play a key role.

Remark 2. Under the matrix commutator $\left[m_{i}, m_{j}\right]:=m_{i} m_{j}-m_{j} m_{i}$, the Hamiltonian matrices $m_{i}$ with $i=1,2,3$ close among themselves, as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[m_{1}, m_{2}\right]=4 m_{3}, \quad\left[m_{2}, m_{3}\right]=-2 m_{2}, \quad\left[m_{3}, m_{1}\right]=-2 m_{1} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 3 Adjoint orbits of the action of $S p(2)$ on $\mathfrak{s p}(2)$

We consider the Hamiltonian matrix

$$
\begin{align*}
m(\omega, \gamma, \tau) & =\frac{\omega}{2}\left(m_{1}+m_{2}\right)+\frac{\gamma}{2}\left(m_{2}-m_{1}\right)+\tau m_{3} \\
& =\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\tau & \gamma+\omega \\
\gamma-\omega & -\tau
\end{array}\right] \tag{10}
\end{align*}
$$

which may be regarded as a pure co-quaternion.

- The eigenvalues of the Hamiltonian matrix (10) are determined from

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda^{2}+\Delta=0, \quad \text { with } \quad \Delta=\operatorname{det} m=\omega^{2}-\gamma^{2}-\tau^{2} . \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Consequently, the eigenvalues come in pairs, given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda^{ \pm}= \pm \sqrt{-\Delta}= \pm \sqrt{\tau^{2}+\gamma^{2}-\omega^{2}} . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Adjoint orbits in the space $(\gamma+\omega, \gamma-\omega, \tau) \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$ obtained from the action of a symplectic matrix $M\left(\tau_{i}\right)$ on a Hamiltonian matrix $m(\omega, \gamma, \tau)$ by matrix conjugation

$$
m \rightarrow m^{\prime}=M\left(\tau_{i}\right) m M^{-1}\left(\tau_{i}\right) \quad(\text { no sum on } i=1,2,3)
$$

may alter the values of the parameters $(\omega, \gamma, \tau)$ in (10).

- Since Adjoint action preserves eigenvalues, it preserves the value of the determinant $\Delta$. This means the Adjoint orbits of the Hamiltonian matrices lie on the level sets of the determinant $\Delta$.
- The Adjoint orbits of the Hamiltonian matrices corresponding to these eigenvalues change type, depending on whether $\Delta<0$ (hyperbolic), $\Delta=0$ (parabolic), or $\Delta>0$ (elliptic), as illustrated in Figure 1 and summarised in the table below.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Harmonic (elliptic) orbit } & \text { Trajectories: Ellipses } \\
\Delta=1, \quad \lambda^{ \pm}= \pm i & m_{H}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 1 \\
-1 & 0
\end{array}\right)
\end{array}
$$

Free (parabolic) orbit

$$
\Delta=0, \quad \lambda^{ \pm}=0
$$

Repulsive (hyperbolic) orbit

$$
\Delta=-1, \quad \lambda^{ \pm}= \pm 1 \quad m_{H}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 1 \\
1 & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$



Figure 1: The action by matrix conjugation of a symplectic matrix on a Hamiltonian matrix changes its parameters $(\omega, \gamma, \tau) \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$, while preserving the value of the discriminant $\Delta=\omega^{2}-\gamma^{2}-\tau^{2}$. Three families of orbits emerge, that are hyperbolic $(\Delta<0)$, parabolic $(\Delta=0)$ and elliptic $(\Delta>0)$.

## 4 The momentum map and coadjoint orbits

Definition 2. The momentum map $\mathcal{J}: T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2} \rightarrow \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{J}^{\xi}(\mathbf{z}) & :=\langle\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z}), \xi\rangle_{s p(2, \mathbb{R})^{*} \times s p(2, \mathbb{R})} \\
& =(\mathbf{z}, J \xi \mathbf{z})_{\mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2}} \\
& :=z_{k}(J \xi)_{k l} z_{l} \\
& =\mathbf{z}^{T} \cdot J \xi \mathbf{z} \\
& =\operatorname{tr}\left(\left(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J\right) \xi\right) \tag{13}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\mathbf{z}=(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})^{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2}$.
Remark 3. The map $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})$ given in (13) by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})=\left(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J\right) \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

sends $\mathbf{z}=(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})^{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2}$ to $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})=\left(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J\right) \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$.

### 4.1 Deriving the momentum map (13) from Hamilton's principle

Proposition 1. The momentum map (13) may be derived from Hamilton's principle.
Proof. Let $\xi \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)$ act on $\mathbf{z} \in T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$ as in formula (7), namely,

$$
\frac{d \mathbf{z}}{d t}=\xi \mathbf{z}
$$

and let $\ell(\xi)$ be a reduced Lagrangian in Hamilton's principle $\delta S=0$ with $S=\int \ell(\xi) d t$, constrained by the action of $T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2}$ under $S p(2)$. Taking the variations yields

$$
\begin{aligned}
0=\delta S & =\delta \int \ell(\xi)+\mathbf{z}^{T} \cdot J(\dot{\mathbf{z}}-\xi \mathbf{z}) d t \\
& =\int\left\langle\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \xi}-\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J, \delta \xi\right\rangle+\delta \mathbf{z}^{T} \cdot J(\dot{\mathbf{z}}-\xi \mathbf{z})-\delta \mathbf{z} \cdot J(\dot{\mathbf{z}}-\xi \mathbf{z})^{T} d t
\end{aligned}
$$

thereby finding $\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \xi}=\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J=\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})$.
Proposition 2. Suppose the Lagrangian $\ell(\xi)$ is hyper-regular, so that one may solve $\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \xi}$ for $\xi$. Then, applying the time derivative to $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})$ and using the Lie algebra action shows that the momentum map $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})$ undergoes coadjoint motion,

$$
\frac{d \mathbf{z}}{d t}=\xi \mathbf{z} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \frac{d \mathcal{J}}{d t}+\operatorname{ad}_{\xi}^{*} \mathcal{J}=0 \quad \text { or, equivalently, } \quad \operatorname{Ad}_{M^{-1}(t)}^{*} \mathcal{J}(t)=\mathcal{J}(0)
$$

Proof. The proof of this proposition is not given in these lecture notes. Instead, we shall show that each component of the momentum map undergoes coadjoint motion.

### 4.2 Components of the momentum map

The map $\mathcal{J}: T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2} \rightarrow \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$ in (13) for $\operatorname{Sp}(2, \mathbb{R})$ acting diagonally on $\mathbb{R}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2}$ in Equation (14) may be expressed in matrix form as

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{J} & =\left(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J\right) \\
& =2\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} & -|\mathbf{q}|^{2} \\
|\mathbf{p}|^{2} & -\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}
\end{array}\right) \\
& =2\left(\begin{array}{ll}
Y_{3} & -Y_{1} \\
Y_{2} & -Y_{3}
\end{array}\right), \tag{15}
\end{align*}
$$

consisting of rotation-invariant components,

$$
T^{*} \mathbb{R}^{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3}:(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})^{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}=\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right),
$$

defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y_{1}=|\mathbf{q}|^{2} \geq 0, \quad Y_{2}=|\mathbf{p}|^{2} \geq 0, \quad Y_{3}=\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} . \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark 4. Under the pairing $\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle: \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*} \times \mathfrak{s p}(2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by the trace of the matrix product, one finds the Hamiltonian, or phase-space function,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z}), \xi\rangle=\operatorname{tr}(\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z}) \xi) \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

for $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{z})=\left(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}^{T} J\right) \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$ and $\xi \in \mathfrak{s p}(2)$.
Applying the momentum map $\mathcal{J}$ to the vector of Hamiltonian matrices $\mathbf{m}=\left(m_{1}, m_{2}, m_{3}\right)$ in equation (5) yields the individual components in (15), as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{J} \cdot \mathbf{m}=2 \mathbf{Y} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{Y}=\frac{1}{2} z_{k}(J \mathbf{m})_{k l} z_{l} \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Remark 5.

(a) The components of the vector $\mathbf{Y}=\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right)$ satisfy the relation $S^{2}=Y_{1} Y_{2}-Y_{3}^{2}=|\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}|^{2}$ in which $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$ is invariant under $S p(2)$. Thus, coadjoint motion lies on level sets of $S^{2}$.
(b) The canonical Poisson brackets among the components $\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right)$ reflect the matrix commutation relations in (9),

$$
\left[m_{i}, m_{j}\right]=\begin{array}{|c|ccc|}
\hline[\cdot, \cdot] & m_{1} & m_{2} & m_{3}  \tag{19}\\
\hline m_{1} & 0 & 4 m_{3} & 2 m_{1} \\
m_{2} & -4 m_{3} & 0 & -2 m_{2} \\
m_{3} & -2 m_{1} & 2 m_{2} & 0 \\
\hline
\end{array}=c_{i j}^{k} m_{k} .
$$

In tabular form, these Poisson brackets are

$$
\left\{Y_{i}, Y_{j}\right\}=\begin{array}{|c|ccc|}
\hline\{\cdot, \cdot\} & Y_{1} & Y_{2} & Y_{3}  \tag{20}\\
\hline Y_{1} & 0 & 4 Y_{3} & 2 Y_{1} \\
Y_{2} & -4 Y_{3} & 0 & -2 Y_{2} \\
Y_{3} & -2 Y_{1} & 2 Y_{2} & 0
\end{array}=-\epsilon_{i j k} \frac{\partial S^{2}}{\partial Y_{k}} .
$$

That is, the canonical Poisson brackets of the components of the momentum map close among themselves.

$$
\left\{Y_{1}, Y_{2}\right\}=4 Y_{3}, \quad\left\{Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right\}=-2 Y_{2}, \quad\left\{Y_{3}, Y_{1}\right\}=-2 Y_{1} \quad \text { and } \quad\left\{Y_{i}, S^{2}\right\}=0 \quad \text { for } \quad i=1,2,3 .
$$

In a moment we will show that these Poisson brackets among the components ( $Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}$ ) satisfy the Jacobi identity.
(c) The Poisson bracket relations (20) among the components of the momentum map $\mathcal{J}$ imply the following for smooth functions $F$ and $H$ of the vector $\mathbf{Y}=\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2}, Y_{3}\right)$

$$
\frac{d F}{d t}=\{F, H\}=-\nabla S^{2} \cdot \nabla F \times \nabla H(\mathbf{Y})=Y_{k} c_{i j}^{k} \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y_{i}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial Y_{i}}=-\left\langle\mathbf{Y}, \operatorname{ad}_{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{Y}}} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{Y}}\right\rangle=-\left\langle\operatorname{ad}_{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{Y}}}^{*} \mathbf{Y}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{Y}}\right\rangle
$$

which is the Lie-Poisson bracket on $\mathfrak{s p}(2)^{*}$. (The Lie-Poisson bracket satisfies the Jacobi identity by virtue of being dual to a Lie algebra.)
(d) This means that the momentum map (15) is Poisson.
(e) In particular, the components of the momentum map in vector form $\mathbf{Y}$ satisfy the equation for coadjoint motion

$$
\frac{d \mathbf{Y}}{d t}=\nabla S^{2} \times \nabla H(\mathbf{Y})=-\operatorname{ad}_{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{Y}}}^{*} \mathbf{Y}
$$

for any choice of Hamiltonian $H(\mathbf{Y})$ that depends on the momentum map components.
(f) Thus, each component of the momentum map in (15) undergoes coadjoint motion.

