



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

Journal of Differential Equations

Journal of Differential Equations 282 (2021) 541-565

www.elsevier.com/locate/jde

On the separatrix graph of a rational vector field on the Riemann sphere

Kealey Dias ^{a,*,1}, Antonio Garijo ^{b,*}

a Bronx Community College of the City University of New York, 2155 University Ave. Bronx, New York, 10453, USA
b Dept. d'Enginyeria Informàtica i Matemàtiques, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Av. Països Catalans 26, Tarragona
43007, Spain

Received 30 September 2020; revised 3 February 2021; accepted 10 February 2021 Available online 23 February 2021

Abstract

We consider the rational flow $\xi_R(z) = R(z)(d/dz)$ where R is given by the quotient of two polynomials without common factors on the Riemann sphere. The separatrix graph Γ_R is the boundary between trajectories with different properties. We characterize the properties of a planar directed graph to be the separatrix graph of a rational vector field on the Riemann sphere. © 2021 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

MSC: 37C10; 34C05; 34M99; 37F75; 30F30

Keywords: Vector fields; Holomorphic foliations; Separatrix graph

1. Introduction

Complex differential equations have been playing an important role both in theoretical and in applied mathematics. Therefore, the study of these continuous dynamical systems could be interesting for wide areas of knowledge, from complex geometry to fluid dynamics. In this work

^{*} Corresponding authors.

E-mail addresses: kealey.dias@gmail.com (K. Dias), antonio.garijo@urv.cat (A. Garijo).

¹ The first author has been partially supported by the Association for Women in Mathematics Travel Grant October 2019 Cycle (NSF 1642548) and the second author has been partially supported by MINECO-AEI grant MTM-2017-86795-C3-2-P.