



# Linear time-varying systems in Hilbert spaces: Exact controllability implies complete stabilizability

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**Abstract:** This paper deals with the problem of controllability and stabilizability of linear time-varying control systems in Hilbert spaces. We prove that any globally null-controllable system is completely stabilizable and conversely, under some additional conditions the complete stabilizability implies the global null-controllability. The obtained result extends existing results in the literature to infinite-dimensional and time-varying control systems.

*Key words.* Controllability, stabilizability, time-varying system, Hilbert space, Riccati equation.

## 1 Introduction

Consider a linear time-varying control system of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t), \quad t \geq 0, \\ x(0) &= x_0, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $x(t) \in X$  is the state,  $u(t) \in U$  is the control;  $X$  and  $U$  are real Hilbert spaces of the states and the control, respectively;  $A(t) : X \rightarrow X, B(t) : U \rightarrow X$  are given linear operator functions. The problem of controllability and stabilizability for linear control systems has received a considerable amount of interest in the past decades, see; e.g. [8, 10, 14, 16] and the references therein. This problem regarding as an extension of the classical Kalman result [5] on controllability and stability of linear control systems is to find an admissible control  $u(t)$  such that the corresponding solution  $x(t)$  of the system has desired properties. Depending on the properties involved one defines various qualitative problems. For example, the null-controllability problem concerns the question of finding an admissible control

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$u(t)$  which steers an arbitrary state  $x_0$  of system (1) into 0; stabilizability problem is to find a control  $u(t) = K(t)x(t)$  such that the zero solution of the closed-loop system

$$\dot{x}(t) = [A(t) + B(t)K(t)]x(t), \quad t \geq 0$$

is asymptotically stable in the Lyapunov sense. In this case one says that the system is stabilizable by the control  $u(t) = K(t)x(t)$  and it is called a stabilizing feedback control of the system. Various stabilizability concepts can be adapted to investigate the stability property of control systems [3, 9, 13]. One of the extended stability properties is the concept of the complete stabilizability, originally introduced by Wonham [13], which relates to a strong exponential stability of the system. Namely, control system (1) is completely stabilizable if for every number  $\delta > 0$ , there exists a feedback control  $u(t) = K(t)x(t)$  such that the solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of the closed-loop system satisfies the condition

$$\exists N > 0 : \quad \|x(t, x_0)\| \leq Ne^{-\delta t}\|x_0\|, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

This means that for every positive number  $\delta > 0$ , the system zero-input response of the closed-loop system decays faster than  $e^{-\delta t}$ . In other words, for any given in advance the decay rate  $\delta > 0$ , the system can be  $\delta$ -exponentially stabilizable. Such definition may arise because of controlling of the speed of the real models. It is well known that if a finite-dimensional time-invariant control system is globally null-controllable in finite time then it is stabilizable, but the converse is not true as shown by Kalman [5], Wonham [14]. However, if the system is completely stabilizable, then it is globally null-controllable in finite time, see; e.g. Wonham [13]. In the infinite-dimensional control theory, investigations of controllability and stabilizability are more complicated and require more sophisticated techniques. The difficulties increase to the same extent as passing from time-invariant to time-varying systems. Some extensions have been developed by Slemrod [12], Zabczyk [15] for time-invariant control systems in Hilbert spaces. For time-varying control systems in finite-dimensional spaces, using Kalman's decomposition method, Ikeda et al. [4] proved that the system is completely stabilizable if it is uniformly globally null-controllable and Phat and Ha [11] extends some results of [4] to time-varying control systems.

In this paper, we develop the result of Phat and Ha [11] on the relationship between the exact controllability and complete stabilizability for linear time-varying control systems in Hilbert spaces. We show that the system is completely stabilizable if it is globally null-controllable in finite time, and conversely under some additional growth condition on the evolution operator of the system, the system is globally null-controllable in finite time if it is completely stabilizable. The result of the paper can be considered as further extensions of Wonham [12], Ikeda et al. [4], Phat and Ha [11] to infinite-dimensional systems, of Slemrod [11], Zabczyk [14, 15] to the time-varying systems.

## 2 Notation and mathematical preliminaries

The following notation will be used throughout this paper.  $R$  denotes the set of all real numbers;  $R^+$  denotes the set of all non-negative real numbers;  $X$  denotes an infinite-dimensional real Hilbert space with the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ ;  $X^*$  denotes the dual space of  $X$ ;  $L(X)$  (respectively,  $L(X, Y)$ ) denotes the Banach space of all linear bounded operators mapping  $X$  into  $X$  (respectively,  $X$  into  $Y$ );  $L_2([t, s], X)$  denotes the set of all strongly measurable  $L_2$ -integrable and  $X$ -valued functions on  $[t, s]$ ;  $D(A)$ ,  $A^{-1}$  and  $A^*$  denote the domain, the inverse and the adjoint of the operator  $A$ , respectively;  $\text{cl}M$  denotes the closure of a set  $M$ ;  $I$  denotes the identity operator;  $A$  is self-adjoint if  $A = A^*$ ;  $\rho(A)$  and  $R(\lambda, A)$  denote the resolvent set and the resolvent of  $A$ , respectively; An operator  $Q \in L(X)$  is called non-negative definite ( $Q \geq 0$ ) if  $\langle Qx, x \rangle \geq 0$ , for all  $x \in X$ ;  $LO([t, \infty), X^+)$  denotes the set of all linear bounded self-adjoint non-negative definite operator-valued function on  $[0, \infty)$ ; The operator  $A : D(A) \rightarrow X$  generates the  $C_0$ -semigroup  $S(t)$  in  $X$  if

$$Ax = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{t} [S(t) - I]x, \quad \forall x \in D(A),$$

where  $D(A) = \{x \in X : \text{such that } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} [S(h)x - x] \text{ exists}\}$ . Let  $\{A(t)\}, t \in R^+$  be a family of linear operator-valued functions.

$A(t)$  is called bounded on  $R^+$  if

$$\exists M > 0 : \sup_{t \in R^+} \|A(t)\| \leq M;$$

Consider linear time-varying control system (1), where  $X, U$  are infinite-dimensional real Hilbert spaces;  $A(t) : X \rightarrow X, t \in R^+$ , is a linear unbounded operator and  $B(t) \in L(U, X)$ . In this paper we consider a class of admissible controls  $u(t) \in L_2([0, t], U)$  for all  $t \in R^+$ . As in [1] we will assume the following conditions that guarantee the existence and uniqueness of the solution of linear control system (1).

- (a) Operator functions  $A(\cdot)x, B(\cdot)u$  are continuous and bounded in  $t \in R^+$  for all  $x \in X, u \in U$ ;
- (b)  $\text{cl}D(A(t)) = X, t \in R^+$  and  $A(\cdot)x$  is a continuous function on  $R^+$  for every  $x \in D(A(\cdot))$ ,
- (b) For each  $t \in R^+$ ,  $A(t)$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup on  $X$  and there is a evolution operator  $U(t, s) : \{(t, s) : t \geq s \geq 0\} \rightarrow L(X)$ , such that  $U^*(t, s)$  is continuous in  $t, s$  and for each  $x \in D(A(t)), U(t, s)x \in D(A(t))$  the following conditions hold:

(i)

$$\frac{\partial U(t, s)x}{\partial t} = A(t)U(t, s)x, \quad U(s, s) = I,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n(t, s)x = U(t, s)x,$$

where  $U_n(t, s)$  is the evolution operator generated by the Yosida approximation [7]

$$A_n(t) = n^2[nI - A(t)]^{-1} - nI$$

of  $A(t)$ .

(ii)  $U(t, s) = U(t, r)U(r, s)$ , for all  $t \geq r \geq s \geq 0$ .

In this case, we say that  $A(t)$  generates a strongly continuous evolution operator  $U(t, s)$ , and then for every initial state  $x_0 \in X$ , for every admissible control  $u(t)$ , linear control system (1) has a mild solution given by

$$x(t) = U(t, 0)x_0 + \int_0^t U(t, s)B(s)u(s)ds.$$

**Remark 2.1.** The evolution operator is a natural extension to the  $C_0$  semigroup of time-invariant linear systems. For instance, if  $A(t) = A$  is independent of  $t$  then  $U(t, s)S(t)S^{-1}(\tau)$  and the two parameter family of semigroup operators reduces to the one parameter family  $S(t)$ , which is the standard  $C_0$  semigroup generated by  $A$ . It is well known that if the operator  $A(t) \in L(X)$ ,  $t \in R^+$ , which is bounded on  $R^+$ , then the semigroup evolution operator  $U(t, s)$  satisfying the above conditions always exists. However, if  $A(t)$ ,  $t \in R^+$  is unbounded, then the evolution operator  $U(t, s)$  exists provided additional assumptions, see; e.g. [1, 7] for the details.

In the sequel, sometimes for the sake of brevity, we will omit the arguments of operator-valued functions, if it does not cause any confusion.

**Definition 2.1.** Linear control system (1) is globally null-controllable (GNC) in finite time if for every  $x_0 \in X$ , there exist a number  $T > 0$  and an admissible control  $u(t)$  such that

$$U(T, 0)x_0 + \int_0^T U(T, s)B(s)u(s)ds = 0.$$

We state the following well-known controllability criterion for infinite-dimensional control system that will be used later.

**Proposition 2.1.** [1, 2] *Linear control system (1) is GNC in finite time if and only if*

$$\exists T > 0, c > 0 : \int_0^T \|B^*(s)U^*(T, s)x^*\|^2 ds \geq c\|U^*(T, 0)x^*\|^2, \quad \forall x^* \in X^*.$$

**Definition 2.2.** Linear control system (1) is completely stabilizable (CSz) if for every number  $\delta > 0$ , there exists a feedback control  $u(t) = K(t)x(t)$ , where  $K(t) \in L(X, U)$  is bounded on  $R^+$ , such that the solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of the closed-loop system  $\dot{x}(t)[A(t) + B(t)K(t)]x(t)$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$ , satisfies

$$\exists N > 0 : \|x(t, x_0)\| \leq Ne^{-\delta t}\|x_0\|, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

The solution to the stabilizability problem involves a Riccati operator equation (ROE) of the form

$$\dot{P}(t) + A^*(t)P(t) + P(t)A(t) - P(t)B(t)B^*(t)P(t) + Q(t) = 0, \quad (2)$$

where  $Q(t) \geq 0$  is a given self-adjoint operator function. Since  $A(t), t \in R^+$  is an unbounded operator, it is not clear a priori what a solution of ROE means. We will define, as in [1], the solution of ROE (4) as follows.

**Definition 2.3.** The (mild) solution of ROE (2) is a linear operator function  $P(t) \in L(X)$  satisfying the following two conditions:

- (i) The scalar function  $\langle P(\cdot)x, y \rangle$  is differentiable on  $[0, \infty)$  for every  $x, y \in D(A(\cdot))$ .
- (ii) For all  $x, y \in D(A(t)), t \in R^+$  :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle P(t)x, y \rangle + \langle P(t)x, A(t)y \rangle + \langle P(t)A(t)x, y \rangle - \\ - \langle P(t)B(t)B^*(t)P(t)x, y \rangle + \langle Q(t)x, y \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

In the sequel, we state the following sufficient condition which guarantees the existence of a bounded solution  $P(t)$  of ROE (2).

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $Q(t) \in LO([0, \infty), X^+)$ . The control system (1) is called  $Q(t)$ -stabilizable if for every initial state  $x_0$ , there is a control  $u(t) \in L_2([0, \infty), U)$  such that the cost function

$$J(u) = \int_0^\infty [\|u(t)\|^2 + \langle Q(t)x(t, x_0), x(t, x_0) \rangle] dt, \tag{3}$$

exists and is finite.

**Proposition 2.2.** [1] *If linear control system (1) is  $Q(t)$ -stabilizable, then the ROE (2) has the solution  $P(t) \in LO([0, \infty), X^+)$  bounded on  $R^+$ .*

### 3 Main result

Consider the linear time-varying control system (1) in Hilbert spaces. As we have already mentioned in Introduction, for time-invariant control systems in finite-dimensional spaces Wonham [12] proved the equivalence of the complete stabilizability and global null-controllability and for the case of infinite-dimensional systems, assuming a compactness property on the semigroup Slemrod [10] showed that the time-invariant control system in Hilbert spaces is completely stabilizable iff it is globally null-controllable in finite time. In this section we use the following growth condition on the evolution operator  $U(t, s)$  :

$$H. \exists M > 0, \alpha > 0 : \quad \|U(t, s)\| \leq Me^{\alpha|t-s|}, \quad \forall t, s \geq 0.$$

It's known from [7] that the growth condition  $H$  holds for the time-invariant system when  $A \in L(X)$  is a linear continuous constant operator as well as for the time-varying system when  $A(t)$  is a matrix function uniformly bounded in  $t \in R^+$ . The main result of the paper is the following.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Linear time-varying control system (1) is completely stabilizable (CSz) if and only if it is globally null-controllable (GNC) in finite time. Conversely, assume the condition H, the system is GNC in finite time if it is CSz*

*Proof.* The proof of this theorem follows similar arguments used in [11] by employing some more techniques in infinite-dimensional analysis. We start by showing that GNC implies CSz. Assume that the linear time-varying control system (1) is GNC in finite time. Let  $\delta > 0$  be any given number. We take a change of the state variable  $y(t)e^{\delta t}x(t)$ , then the linear control system (1) is transformed to the system

$$\dot{y}(t) = \tilde{A}(t)y(t) + \tilde{B}(t)u(t), \quad y(0) = y_0x_0, \quad (4)$$

where  $\tilde{A}(t) = A(t) + \delta I, \tilde{B}(t) = e^{\delta t}B(t)$ . We choose an operator function  $Q \in LO([0, \infty), X^+)$  bounded on  $R^+$  such that

$$Q(t) \geq 2\tilde{A}(t) + B(t)B^*(t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (5)$$

We first show that the linear control system  $[\tilde{A}(t), B(t)]$  :

$$\dot{z}(t) = \tilde{A}(t)z(t) + B(t)u(t), \quad z(0) = z_0, \quad t \in R^+,$$

is globally null-controllable in finite time. Indeed, by the GNC of the former system  $[A(t), B(t)]$ , for every  $z_0 \in X$  there are a time  $T > 0$  and admissible control  $u(t) \in L_2([0, T], U)$  such that

$$U(T, 0)z_0 + \int_0^T U(T, s)B(s)u(s)ds = 0. \quad (6)$$

Multiplying both sides of (6) with  $e^{\delta T}$  and observing that  $U_{\tilde{A}}(t, s) = e^{\delta(t-s)}U(t, s)$  we find

$$U_{\tilde{A}}(T, 0)z_0 + \int_0^T U_{\tilde{A}}(T, s)B(s)\tilde{u}(s)ds = 0,$$

where  $\tilde{u}(s) = e^{\delta s}u(s)$ . This implies that the system  $[\tilde{A}(t), B(t)]$  is GNC in finite time. Let  $u_z(t)$  be an admissible control according to the solution  $z(t)$  of system  $[\tilde{A}(t), B(t)]$  transferring  $z_0 \in X$  into 0 in time  $T$ . For every initial state  $z_0 \in X$  there is an admissible control  $u_z(t) \in L_2([0, T], U)$  such that the solution  $z(t)$  of the system according to the control  $u_z(t)$  satisfies  $z(0) = z_0, z(T) = 0$ . Define the admissible control  $\tilde{u}_z(t) \in L_2([0, \infty), U), t \geq 0$  by

$$\tilde{u}_z(t) = \begin{cases} u_z(t), & \text{if } t \in [0, T] \\ 0, & \text{if } t > T. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} J(\tilde{u}_z) &= \int_0^\infty [\|\tilde{u}_z(t)\|^2 + \langle Q(t)z(t), z(t) \rangle] dt \\ &= \int_0^T [\|u_z(t)\|^2 + \langle Q(t)z(t), z(t) \rangle] dt < +\infty, \end{aligned}$$

which means that the linear control system  $[\tilde{A}(t), B(t)]$  is  $Q(t)$ -stabilizable. Applying Proposition 2.2 to the cost function (3), we can find an operator function  $P \in LO([0, \infty), X^+)$ , which is a solution of the following ROE

$$\dot{P}(t) + \tilde{A}^*(t)P(t) + P(t)\tilde{A}(t) - P(t)B(t)B^*(t)P(t) + Q(t) = 0,$$

or equivalently

$$\dot{P}(t) + \tilde{A}^*(t)P(t) + P(t)\tilde{A}(t) - e^{-2\delta t}P(t)\tilde{B}(t)\tilde{B}^*(t)P(t) + Q(t) = 0, \quad (7)$$

We now consider a Lyapunov-like function

$$V(t, y) = \langle P(t)y, y \rangle + \|y\|^2,$$

and construct a feedback control of the form

$$u(t) = -\frac{e^{-2\delta t}}{2}\tilde{B}^*(t)[P(t) - I]y(t). \quad (8)$$

Taking the derivative of  $V(\cdot)$  in  $t$  along the solution of  $y(t)$  of the system (4) and using the chosen feedback control and the ROE (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(t, y(t)) &= \langle \dot{P}(t)y(t), y(t) \rangle + 2\langle P(t)\dot{y}(t), y(t) \rangle + 2\langle \dot{y}(t), y(t) \rangle, \\ &= \langle (-\tilde{A}^*P - P\tilde{A} + e^{-2\delta t}P\tilde{B}\tilde{B}^*P - Q)y, y \rangle \\ &\quad + 2\langle P(\tilde{A}y + \tilde{B}u), y \rangle + 2\langle \tilde{A}y + \tilde{B}u, y \rangle, \\ &= e^{-2\delta t}\langle P\tilde{B}\tilde{B}^*Py, y \rangle + 2\langle P\tilde{B}u, y \rangle + 2\langle \tilde{A}y, y \rangle + 2\langle \tilde{B}u, y \rangle - \langle Qy, y \rangle \\ &= -\langle [Q(t) - 2\tilde{A}(t) - e^{-2\delta t}\tilde{B}(t)\tilde{B}^*(t)]y(t), y(t) \rangle \\ &= -\langle [Q(t) - 2\tilde{A}(t) - B(t)B^*(t)]y(t), y(t) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By choosing  $Q(t)$  from (5), we find  $[Q(t) - 2\tilde{A}(t) - B(t)B^*(t)] \geq 0$ , and hence  $\dot{V}(y(t)) \leq 0$ ,  $\forall t \geq 0$ . This inequality shows the boundedness of the solution  $y(t)$  of the system (4). Indeed, by integrating both sides of the above inequality from 0 to  $t$ , we obtain that

$$V(t, y(t)) - V(0, y_0) \leq 0,$$

and hence

$$\langle P(t)y(t), y(t) \rangle - \|y(t)\|^2 \leq \langle P(0)y_0, y_0 \rangle + \|y_0\|^2.$$

Since  $P(t) \geq 0$ , for all  $t \in R^+$ ,

$$\|y(t)\| \leq \langle P(0)y_0, y_0 \rangle + \|y_0\|^2, \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

we find

$$\exists N > 0 : \quad \|y(t)\| \leq N\|y_0\|, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Therefore, by returning to the solution  $x(t)$  of system (1), we finally obtain that

$$\|x(t)\| \leq N\|x_0\|e^{-\delta t}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

This means that the control system (1) is completely stabilizable by the feedback control (8) transformed in the state  $x(t)$  as

$$u(t) = -\frac{e^{-2\delta t}}{2} \tilde{B}^*(t)[P(t) - I]y(t) = K(t)x(t),$$

where  $K(t) = -\frac{1}{2}B^*(t)[P(t) - I]$ , which is bounded on  $R^+$ . Thus GNC implies CSz.

Next we show that CSz implies GNC. Assume that linear control system (1) is strongly stabilizable. By the property of the evolution operator we have

$$\exists M > 0, \alpha > 0 : \|U^*(t, s)\| \leq Me^{\alpha|t-s|}, \quad \forall t, s \geq 0. \quad (9)$$

Due to the strong stabilizability of (1), for a chosen number  $\delta > \alpha > 0$ , there is an operator function  $K \in L(X, U)$ , which is bounded on  $R^+$  such that the solution  $x(t, x_0) = U_K(t, 0)x_0$ , where  $U_K(t, s)x_0$  is the evolution operator generated by the operator  $[A(t) + B(t)K(t)]$ , satisfies

$$\exists N > 0 : \|x(t, x_0)\| = \|U_K(t, 0)x_0\| \leq Ne^{-\delta t}\|x_0\|, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \quad (10)$$

On the other hand, for every  $x_0 \in X$  and feedback control  $u(t) = K(t)x(t)$ , the solution  $x(t, x_0)$  of system (1) is defined as

$$x(t, x_0) = U(t, 0)x_0 + \int_0^t U(t, s)B(s)u(s)ds.$$

Therefore,

$$U(t, 0)x_0 = U_K(t, 0)x_0 - \int_0^t U(t, s)B(s)K(s)U_K(s, 0)x_0ds, \quad t \in R^+.$$

Since the above relation holds for every  $x_0 \in X$ , the following estimate holds for every  $x^* \in X^*$  :

$$\|U^*(t, 0)x^*\| \leq \|U_K^*(t, 0)x^*\| + \int_0^t \|U_K^*(s, 0)K^*(s)B^*(s)U^*(t, s)x^*\|ds.$$

Taking the condition (10) into account, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|U^*(t, 0)x^*\| &\leq Ne^{-\delta t}\|x^*\| + Nk \int_0^t e^{-\delta s}\|B^*(s)U^*(t, s)\|ds, \\ &\leq Ne^{-\delta t}\|x^*\| + Nk \left( \int_0^t e^{-2\delta s} ds \right)^{1/2} \times \\ &\quad \times \left( \int_0^t \|B^*(s)U^*(t, s)x^*\|^2 ds \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$



where  $k := \sup\{\|K(s)\| : s \in [0, \infty)\}$ . Setting  $\beta(t) = (\int_0^t e^{-2\delta s} ds)^{1/2}$ , we have

$$\beta(t) = \left(\frac{1}{2\delta} - \frac{1}{2\delta}e^{-2\delta t}\right)^{1/2}. \quad (12)$$

To prove the assertion, we assume to the contrary that system (1) is not globally null-controllable in any finite time  $t > 0$ . Then, by Proposition 2.1, for every  $t > 0$  and for some chosen numbers  $c > 0, \epsilon \in (0, 1)$ , satisfying

$$c < \left[\frac{(1-\epsilon)\sqrt{2\delta}}{Nk}\right]^2, \quad (13)$$

there is  $x_0^* \in X^*$  such that

$$\int_0^t \|B^*(s)U^*(t,s)x_0^*\| ds < c\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\|^2. \quad (14)$$

The strict inequality (14) shows that  $x_0^* \neq 0$ , we may assume, without loss of generality, that the inequality (14) holds for all  $x_0 : \|x_0^*\| = 1$ ; otherwise we can take  $x_1^* = \frac{x_0^*}{\|x_0^*\|}$ . Therefore, from (11), (14) it follows that

$$\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\| < Ne^{-\delta t} + \sqrt{c}Nk\beta(t)\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\|. \quad (15)$$

On the other hand, we observe that

$$1 = \|x_0^*\| = \|U^*(0,t)U^*(t,0)x_0^*\| \leq \|U^*(0,t)\|\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\|,$$

which, due to (9) and  $\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\| \neq 0$ , gives

$$\frac{1}{\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\|} \leq \|U^*(0,t)\| \leq Me^{\alpha t}, \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (16)$$

Therefore, by using (15) and (16), we obtain that

$$1 < \frac{Ne^{-\delta t}}{\|U^*(t,0)x_0^*\|} + \sqrt{c}Nk\beta(t) < NMe^{-(\delta-\alpha)t} + \sqrt{c}Nk\beta(t), \quad t > 0,$$

hence

$$1 - \sqrt{c}Nk\beta(t) < NMe^{-(\delta-\alpha)t}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

The above relation does not depend on  $x_0^*$ , we can let  $t$  go to infinity and noticing from (12) that  $\beta(t) \rightarrow (1/\sqrt{2\delta})$ , the right hand-side goes to 0 because of  $\delta > \alpha$ , we have

$$1 - \sqrt{c}N\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\delta}}k \leq 0.$$

Then, from (13) it follows the condition

$$\epsilon < 1 - \sqrt{c}N\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\delta}}k \leq 0,$$

which leads to a contradiction. The system is therefore globally null-controllable in finite time and the proof is complete.

**Remark 3.1.** Note that if  $A(t) = A$  and generates the  $C_0$ -strong continuous semigroup  $S(t)$ , then we have the following result for linear time-invariant systems.

**Corollary 3.1.** [11, 14] *A linear time-invariant control system in Hilbert spaces is CSz if and only if it is GNC in finite time.*

For linear time-varying systems in finite-dimensional spaces, we also have the following consequence.

**Corollary 3.2.** [4] *Assume that  $X = R^n, U = R^m$  and  $A(t), B(t)$  are matrix function bounded on  $R^+$ . Linear time-varying control system (1) is CSz if and only if it is GNC in finite time.*

## 4 Conclusions

We have established the equivalence of complete stabilizability and exact controllability for linear time-varying control systems in Hilbert spaces. The obtained result extends existing results in the literature to infinite-dimensional and time-varying control systems.

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