

Groups and smooth geometry using LieGroups.jl

Ronny Bergmann¹

¹Department of Mathematical Sciences, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway

ABSTRACT

LieGroups. jl is a Julia package that provides both an interface to define as well as work with Lie groups, the corresponding Lie algebra as well as group actions.

This paper presents the main features of the interfaces and how that is integrated within the JuliaManifolds ecosystem. We further present an overview on existing Lie groups implemented in LieGroups.jl as well as how to get started to use the package in practice.



Julia, Riemannian manifolds, Lie groups, Differential geometry

1. Introduction

In many situations, one encounters data that does not reside in a vector space. For example in robotics, the configuration space of a rigid body in three-dimensional space is given by the special Euclidean group SE(3), consisiting of all translations and rotations. A subset of these is the space of rotations, given by the special orthogonal group SO(3), or more generally SO(n) in n-dimensional space.

These spaces are examples of Lie groups, formally defined as a smooth manifold equipped with a group structure.

The package LieGroups.jl aims to provide an easy access to using Lie groups within the Julia programming language [4] by providing an interface to define and work with Lie groups, as well as providing a library of Lie groups, that can directly be used.

This paper aims to provide an overview of the main features of LieGroups.jl. After introducing the necessary notation in Section 2, we present the interface in Section 3, split into the Lie group, the Lie algebra, and group actions. In Section 4, we present an overview of currently implemented Lie groups. Finally, in Section 5, we demonstrate how to get started and use LieGroups.

2. Notation

3. The interface

[3], [2].

3.1 Lie groups

[5]

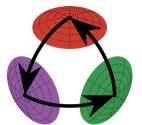


Fig. 1: Logo of LieGroups.jl.

Table 1.: Implemented Lie groups in LieGroups. jl as of version 0.1.6

Group	Symbol	comment/code
CircleGroup()	\mathbb{S}^1	3 representations
<pre>GeneralLinearGroup(n, F)</pre>	$\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{F})$	$\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$
HeisenbergGroup(n)	H(n)	
OrthogonalGroup(n)	$\mathrm{O}(n)$	
PowerLieGroup(G, n)	\mathcal{G}^n	G^n
<pre>ProductLieGroup(G1, G2,)</pre>	$\mathcal{G}_1 imes \mathcal{G}_2 imes \dots$	${\tt G1}\times{\tt G2}\times\dots$
Semidirect product group	$\mathcal{G}_1\ltimes\mathcal{G}_2$	$\mathtt{G1} \ltimes \mathtt{G2}$
	$\mathcal{G}_1 times \mathcal{G}_2$	$\tt G1 \rtimes G2$
SpecialEuclideanGroup(n)	SE(n)	
SpecialGalileanGroup(n)	SGal(n)	
SpecialLinearGroup(n, F)	$\mathrm{SL}(n,\mathbb{F})$	$\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$
SpecialOrthogonalGroup(n)	SO(n)	
${\tt SpecialUnitaryGroup(n)}$	$\mathrm{SU}(n)$	
SymplecticGroup(n)	$\operatorname{Sp}(2n)$	
TranslationGroup(n; field= \mathbb{F})	\mathbb{F}^n	$\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}\}$
UnitaryGroup(n)	$\mathrm{U}(n)$	

3.2 Lie algebras

3.3 Group actions

4. Implemented Lie groups

5. An example how to use LieGroups.jl

[1]

6. References

- [1] Seth Axen, Mateusz Baran, Ronny Bergmann, Yueh-Hua Tu, and Olivier Verdier. LieGroups.jl, 2025. doi:10.5281/zenodo.15343362.
- [2] Seth D. Axen, Mateusz Baran, Ronny Bergmann, and Krzysztof Rzecki. Manifolds.jl: An extensible julia framework

Proceedings of JuliaCon 1(1), 2022

- for data analysis on manifolds. *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software*, 49(4), dec 2023. doi:10.1145/3618296.
- [3] Ronny Bergmann. Manopt,jl: Optimization on manifolds in Julia. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 7(70):3866, 2022. doi:10.21105/joss.03866.
- [4] Jeff Bezanson, Alan Edelman, Stefan Karpinski, and Viral B Shah. Julia: A fresh approach to numerical computing. *SIAM review*, 59(1):65–98, 2017. doi:10.1137/141000671.
- [5] Joachim Hilgert and Karl-Hermann Neeb. Structure and Geometry of Lie Groups. Springer Monographs in Mathematics, 2012. doi:10.1007/978-0-387-84794-8.