



Throughout this quiz, assume X is an open subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

1. (10 points) Fix a $p \in X$ and consider the curve $\alpha(t) = \gamma_{-t}^g \circ \gamma_{-t}^f \circ \gamma_t^g \circ \gamma_t^f(p)$. Show that $\alpha'(0) = 0$ and $\alpha''(0) = 2[f, g](p)$.
2. (10 points) Let $L_f := \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ be the differential operator corresponding to a vector field f on X . Then prove that

$$L_f L_g - L_g L_f = L_{[f, g]} \quad \text{for all } f, g \in \mathcal{X}(M).$$

3. (15 points) Let ϕ be a nonconstant smooth function on X , and g, f be vector fields on X such that $L_g \phi = L_g L_f \phi = \dots = L_g L_f^{n-2} \phi = 0$. Show that $dL_f^j \phi(x_0), 0 \leq j \leq n-1$ are linearly independent iff $\text{ad}_f^j g(x_0), 0 \leq j \leq n-1$ are linearly independent.
(Hint: Look at Witold Respondek's notes Eq.2.1 and the surrounding discussion to get more context.)
4. (5 points) Let f, g be smooth vector fields on X , and γ_t^f, γ_t^g denote their respective flows. Show that there exists a **unique** vector field h such that $L_f L_g - L_g L_f = L_h$. Also show that $h = [f, g]$.
5. (5 points) Is the distribution $\Delta : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\Delta(x) := \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ x_1^2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ x_1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

involutive?