



BME 790

Spring 2017
Weekly Summary

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Relevant Topics: Manifolds, Lie Groups, Tangent Spaces

Manifolds



“A manifold is a space that is locally like Euclidean space but may have a more complicated global structure¹”

A **manifold** is structure that **can define a configuration space** while meeting these requirements:

- the infinitesimal region around each point must be **homeomorphic**.
 - i.e. invertible (**bijective** – full one-to-one correspondence) and continuous.
- each point on the manifold must correspond to at least one **chart** in an **atlas**.

Often these infinitesimal regions (i.e. **neighborhoods**) must be **C^k -differentiable** or **diffeomorphic**.

- homeomorphic region that is also differentiable (as is its inverse!)

Three main building blocks (**line** \mathbb{R}^1 , **circle** \mathbb{S}^1 , and **sphere** \mathbb{S}^2) can be used to find manifolds by:

- **direct product** (combination of spaces without mixing elements – thus preserving a group’s action)
- **indirect product** (elements may act on other spaces – thus some groups lose their properties)

¹An Introduction to Geometric Mechanics and Differential Geometry by Ross L Hatton and Howie Choset

Lie Groups



A **group** (G, \circ) is the combination of a set (G) and an operation (\circ) that satisfies the following:

- **closure**: $\forall x, y \in G, x \circ y \in G$ - (The product of any two elements in G by the operation (\circ) must also be in G .)
- **associativity**: $\forall x, y, z \in G, x \circ (y \circ z) = (x \circ y) \circ z$ - (The order of operation will not affect product.)
- **identity element**: $\exists e \in G$ s.t. $\forall x \in G, x \circ e = e \circ x = x$ - (There must be an element in G that does not alter any other elements by the operation.)
- **inverse**: $\forall x \in G, \exists x^{-1} \in G$ s.t. $x \circ x^{-1} = x^{-1} \circ x = e$ - (Through the operation an inverse should exist for every element to return the identity element.)

A **Lie Group** is a special group that is also a **smooth** manifold (i.e. C^∞ -diffeomorphic).

- Useful because we can **perform algebraic operations on configurations**.

The **Special Orthogonal Group** $(SO(n))$ represents the group of rotations in n -dimensional space.

$$SO(2) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{smooth, cyclic and unique with respect to } \theta.$$

The matrix products of $SO(2)$ elements is **equivalent** to the modular sum of the S^1 - **fully isomorphic!**

- i.e. the structure is preserved between these two mathematical objects.

[Note: Isomorphism is not a requirement for groups sharing a manifold.]

Special Euclidean Groups



$SE(2)$ is the semi-direct product of $SO(2)$ and \mathbb{R}^2 - i.e. can include **rotations** and **translations**.

- This therefore reflects a **configuration** and an **action** – Lie Group!
- Rotation elements are preserved while translations are subject to rotation element actions.

We must consider the direction of the action (if it changes as it does with matrix operations):

- **Left action**: ($h \circ g$ – h acting on g from the left)
 - **moving group elements** by rotation about the origin and then translation in \vec{e} - frame.
- **Right action**: ($g \circ h$ – h acting on g from the right)
 - dealing with **group elements whose positions are defined relative to each other**.

The advantage of **using $SE(2)$** instead of $(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1, +)$ lies in the way the action **corresponds to relative positioning**, whether by left or right action.

Tangent Spaces



A **tangent space** to a manifold can be thought of as a **linearization of the manifold** and is defined for **each point** in the manifold (i.e. $\forall q \in Q, \exists \dot{q} \in T_q Q$) – and collectively form a **tangent bundle** (i.e. $TQ = \bigcup_{q \in Q} T_q Q$). Taken together these define the **state** of the system ($x = (q, \dot{q})$).

When Q is a configuration space, the **vector fields** assigned to each subset of the manifold are **velocity fields** describing the possible **flows** or **integral curves** given any initial conditions.

Tangent spaces are independent from one another, but if there are **well defined transformations** between each group (as is the case with Lie Groups) these actions have associated **lifted actions**.

- These map between “equivalent” vectors in separate tangent spaces.
- **Left lifted actions** preserve **local velocity**, **Right lifted actions** preserve **relationships** between vectors.
- Defined as **the differential of the associated action** w.r.t. the elements of g .

In multiplicative groups (such as (\mathbb{R}^+, \times)), **multiplicative calculus** may better suite the group derivative as the elements of the group **act on each other by multiplication** but, they are parameterized by the elements of an **additive manifold**, so we must covert from multiplication derivatives to (addition) derivatives.

Tangent Spaces (Cont.)



This is done by the left and right lifted actions.

- **Multiplication derivatives** relate the **rate of change** of function as a ratio of **system parameters**.
- The **left and right multiplication (group) derivatives** are the matrix forms of the **right and left lifted actions** mapping parameter velocities back to the origin.
- This is beneficial as it **allows us to use the additive properties of the manifold**.

Two configurations with the same group (multiplicative) velocities are unlikely to have the same manifold (addition) velocities.

- **Left lifted action** reconciles this by **finding pairs of manifold velocities** in the tangent spaces of different configurations that **share the same group velocities** (i.e. **equivalent w.r.t. group actions!**)

Therefore, **integrating these manifold velocities** (with standard addition integration) gives the **same results as evaluating the product integral of the group velocities** (which is easier and perhaps more intuitive).

Conclusions/Impressions



Smooth manifolds could be used to describe neuromechanical systems.

- Configuration spaces could be anything from joint angle space, muscle length space, or even potentially neural drive space.

Tangent spaces help to define the state of the system.

- For neuromechanical systems, these states are associated with constraints.

Creating flows or integral curves across these manifolds (while mindful of constraints) may produce control strategies.