

# Geometry of Locomotion

## Chapter 2.2 – Velocities in Lie groups

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# Differential and Infinitesimal

- Euclidean Space allows difference of two points to form a vector
- An infinitesimal element is one that is close to the identity. All such elements form a Euclidean space –OR– a linearization is the “closest” Euclidean space about a point
- A difference between (either) such elements and the identity forms a vector, which as its length approaches zero is identified with a vector in the tangent space.
- We call these vectors differential when perhaps the terms should be infinitesimally differential

# Quick Intuition:

## Velocity Relative to Current Configuration

- Rate at which bank account groups
- It is not specified in terms of absolute rate of growth
- It is specified in a % of the current balance
- Call this a proportional rate, as opposed to the absolute rate in which money is added
- Vehicle direction is easily specified in terms of left, right, forward and back, a relative measure, as opposed to an absolute one

# Lie Groups and Algebras

- These notions of velocities are captured by Lie Groups and Algebras
- Ask: What is a Lie Group
  - Group
  - Underlying structure forms a manifold and hence has a tangent bundle. Can you say vector field?
- Lie Algebra are infinitesimal actions on the group. Are these actions members of the group or its tangent space?

# Sophus Lie



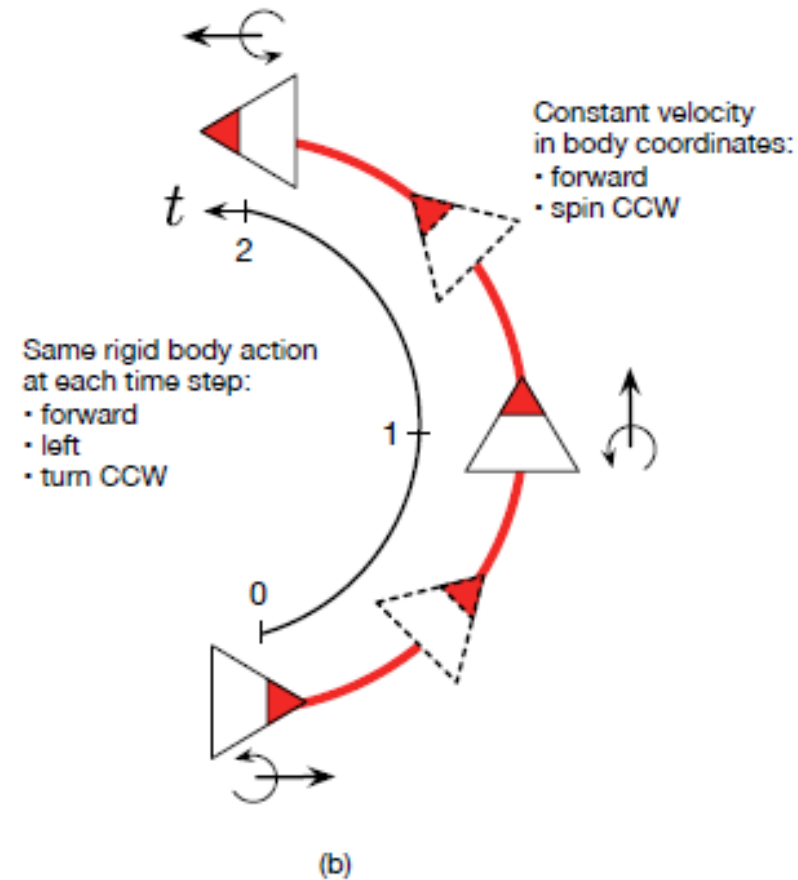
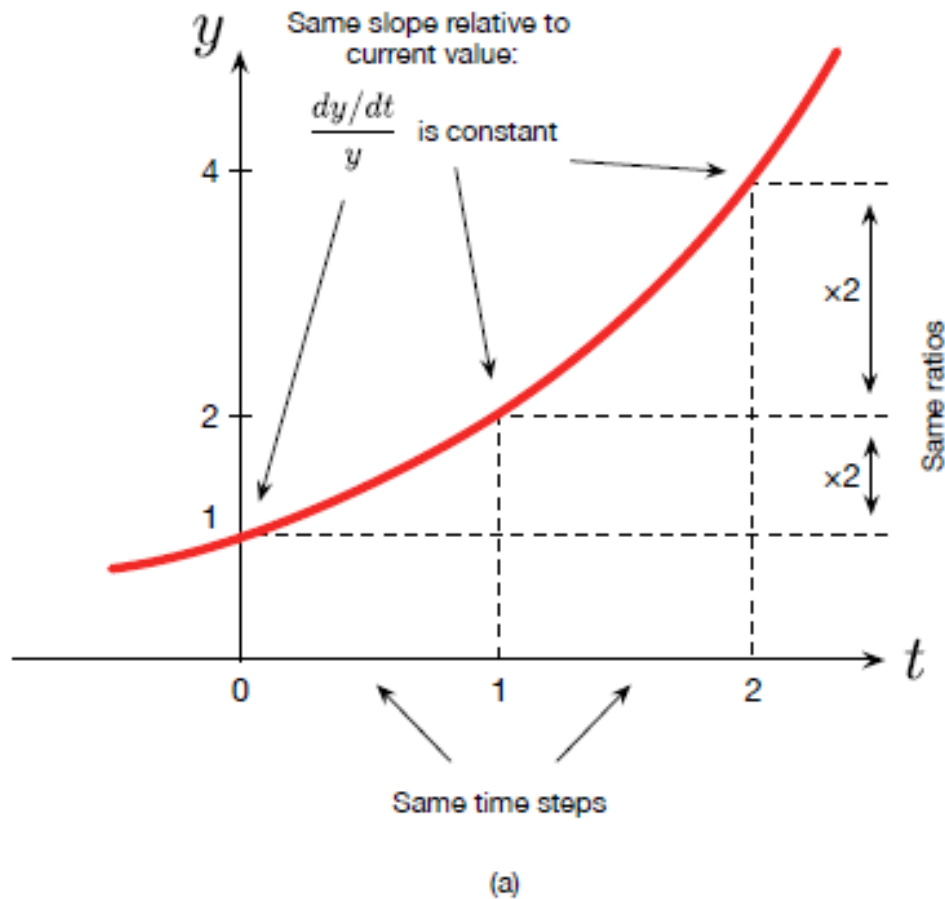
- 17 December 1842 – 18 February 1899
- [continuous symmetry](#) and applied it to the study of [geometry](#) and [differential equations](#).
- Arrested for being falsely accused of being a German spy during the Franco-Prussian war. This made him famous in Normay
- Inventor of Lie Groups and Algebras

# Core Concept

each tangent vector  $dq$  on the manifold corresponds to an infinitesimal group action  $g_\delta$ ,

each velocity vector  $\dot{q} = \frac{dq}{dt}$  correspond to the rate at which infinitesimal group actions are being applied to the configuration,  $\dot{g} = g_\delta/dt$

# Groupwise Velocity Examples



velocity of the system relative to its current configuration, and a system moving at a constant velocity experiences the same group displacement  $g$  over each unit time,

# $\mathfrak{g}$ Lie Algebra is Linearization of $G$

- Since  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a linearization, it can be identified easily with  $T_e G$
- Since identity can be anywhere,  $\mathfrak{g}$  can be identified by every  $T_g G$
- The way in which the Lie algebra propagates out along the tangent bundle is itself closely tied to the group structure, and may be handled in two ways:
  - intrinsically, where all velocities that are equivalent under the Jacobian of the group action correspond to the same element of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ;
  - extrinsically, where transforming the basis of  $\mathfrak{g}$  by  $g$  gives its representation at  $T_g G$ .



# Lifted Action

- derivatives of the group actions
- Relate velocities (expressed in the manifold's parameter bases) that represent the same groupwise velocities across different locations in the manifold

# Groupwise Velocity Definitions and Notation

$$g_{\Delta} = g_1^{-1} \circ g_2$$

The core idea behind groupwise definitions of velocity is that displacements on a Lie group are fundamentally characterized by group actions

$$g_{\delta} = g^{-1}(t) \circ g(t + \delta t)$$

group action separating two configurations an infinitesimal times tep apart

$$\begin{aligned} \overset{\circ}{g} &= \lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g_{\delta} - \mathbf{e}}{\delta t} \\ &= \lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g^{-1}(t) \circ g(t + \delta t) - \mathbf{e}}{\delta t}; \end{aligned}$$

that velocities on the group are fundamentally characterized by the rate at which group actions are being applied to the configuration

Note the  $\mathbf{e}$  is subtracted out leaving the difference between  $g_{\delta}$  and  $\mathbf{e}$  behind which becomes the tan vector as  $\delta t$  goes to zero

Note the “-” is a create a vector and not subtr  
Compare with normal derivative