

# 1 Lie Groups

**Definition:** A Lie Group  $X$  is a smooth manifold with a smooth group structure.

**Definition:** Let  $G$  be a Lie group and  $X$  a manifold. A smooth action of  $G$  on  $X$  is a smooth map  $A : G \times X \rightarrow X$  where we write  $g \cdot x = A(g, x)$  such that  $g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot x) = (g_1 g_2) \cdot x$  and  $1 \cdot x = x$ . This is equivalent to a smooth map  $G \rightarrow \text{Diffeo}(X)$ .

**Definition:** The action of a Lie group  $G$  on  $X$  is proper if the map,  $\pi : G \times X \rightarrow X \times X$  given by  $(g, x) \mapsto (g \cdot x, x)$  is a proper map. In particular,

$$\text{Stab}(x) \times \{x\} = \pi^{-1}(\{(x, x)\})$$

is compact.

**Lemma 1.1.** If  $G$  is compact then any action of  $G$  on  $X$  is proper.

*Proof.* Let  $D \subset X \times X$  be compact and thus closed because  $D$  is compact in a Hausdorff manifold. Thus,  $\pi^{-1}(D) = \{(g, x) \mid (g \cdot x, x) \in D\}$  is closed in  $G \times X$  and thus closed in  $G \times \pi_2(D)$  which is compact. Therefore  $\pi^{-1}(D)$  is compact.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.2.** The left and right actions of any Lie group on itself are proper.

*Proof.* Let  $D \subset G \times G$  be compact and consider,

$$\pi^{-1}(D) = \{(g, h) \mid (gh, h) \in D\} = \{(h'h^{-1}, h) \mid (h', h) \in D\}$$

However, this set is diffeomorphic to  $D$  and is thus compact. The same argument works for a right action.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.3.** Let  $G$  be a Lie group. The adjoint action of  $G$  on  $G$  given by  $g \cdot x = gxg^{-1}$  is proper if and only if  $G$  is compact.

*Proof.* If the action is proper then  $\text{Stab}(1) = G$  must be compact but if  $G$  is compact then every action is proper.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.4.** The orbits of a proper action of a Lie group  $G$  on a manifold  $X$  are submanifolds of  $X$ .

*Proof.* Take  $x \in X$ , consider  $f : G \rightarrow X$  by  $g \mapsto g \cdot x$ . Furthermore the differential gives  $df : T_g G \rightarrow T_{g \cdot x} X$  but  $T_g G \cong T_1 G$  so we have a map  $T_1 G \rightarrow T_{g \cdot x} X$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 1.5.** Let  $R \subset X \times X$  be an equivalence relation on a topological space  $X$  then  $X/R$  is Hausdorff if and only if  $R$  is closed.

*Proof.* Consider the diagonal  $\Delta \subset (X/R) \times (X/R)$  which is the set of equivalence classes  $([x], [y]) \in \Delta \iff [x] = [y] \iff x \sim y \iff (x, y) \in R$ . Consider the map  $\pi : X \rightarrow X/R$  thus  $R = \pi^{-1}(\Delta)$  so  $R$  is closed if and only if  $\Delta$  is closed if and only if  $X/R$  is Hausdorff.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.6.** Let a Lie group  $G$  act on a manifold  $X$  with an action that is,

1. proper, meaning that  $G \times X \rightarrow X \times X$  is a proper map
2. free, meaning that  $\forall x : G_x = \{\text{id}_G\}$  i.e. if  $g \cdot x = x$  then  $g = \text{id}$

then  $X/G$  is a manifold.

**Corollary 1.7.** If  $H \subset G$  is a Lie subgroup then  $G/H$  is a manifold.

*Proof.* The action of  $G$  on  $H$  is free because if  $g \cdot h = gh = h$  then  $g = \text{id}_G$ . Furthermore, the action of  $G$  on  $H$  is proper by Proposition ??.

## 2 Lie Algebras

**Definition:** A Lie Algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  over a field  $K$  is a algebra over  $K$  with multiplication written  $[-, -] : \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  satisfying,

1.  $[x, y] = -[y, x]$
2.  $[x, [y, z]] + [y, [z, x]] + [z, [x, y]] = 0$ .

**Definition:** Let  $G$  be a Lie group. There is a canonical Lie group structure on  $T_1G$ .

*Proof.* For  $\xi, \eta \in T_1G$  we will define a bracket  $[\xi, \eta]$ . Consider the map  $f_g : G \rightarrow G$  given by  $x \mapsto gxg^{-1}$  then  $df_g : T_1G \rightarrow T_1G$ . Suppose we have a path,  $\gamma : I \rightarrow G$  such that the unit tangent vector is mapped to  $d\gamma(e_1) = \xi$ . Then we write,

$$[\xi, \eta] = \frac{d}{dt} \left( df_{\gamma(t)}(\eta) \right) \Big|_{t=0}$$

□

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $f : G \rightarrow H$  be a Lie group homomorphism. Then  $df : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ <sup>1</sup> is a morphism of Lie algebras i.e.  $f([\xi, \eta]_G) = [f(\xi), f(\eta)]_H$ .

**Corollary 2.2.** Let  $H \subset G$  be a Lie subgroup then there is a natural embedding of the Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ .

**Definition:** A Lie Group representation of  $G$  on  $V$  is a Lie Group homomorphism  $G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ .

**Definition:** Let  $\rho_V : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$  be a Lie Group representation. Then we can construct the *dual* representation  $\rho_V^* : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$  via,

$$\rho_V^*(g) = (\rho_V(g^{-1}))^*$$

which is a representation because,

$$\rho_V^*(gh) = (\rho_V(h^{-1}g^{-1}))^* = (\rho_V(h^{-1})\rho_V(g^{-1}))^* = \rho_V(g^{-1})^*\rho_V(h^{-1})^* = \rho_V^*(g)\rho_V^*(h)$$

<sup>1</sup>All differentials in this section will be applied at the identity of the group unless explicitly stated otherwise.

**Definition:** The adjoint action  $a : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$  is given by  $g \mapsto a_g : G \rightarrow G$  which acts via  $x \mapsto gxg^{-1}$ . Then, the differential gives,  $\text{Ad}(g) = da_g : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  and the map  $\text{Ad} : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g})$  is a  $G$ -representation. Then the differential gives a Lie algebra representation,

$$\text{ad} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$$

where  $\text{ad}_\xi = d(\text{Ad})_\xi$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** For any  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  we have,

$$\text{ad}_\xi(X) = [\xi, X]$$

*Proof.* (DO THIS) We may check that  $\text{ad} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$  is in fact a Lie algebra representation by using the Jacobi identity. Recall that,

$$[x, [y, z]] + [y, [z, x]] + [z, [x, y]] = 0$$

which we may rearrange as,

$$[x, [y, z]] - [y, [x, z]] = [[x, y], z]$$

and then rewrite as,

$$(\text{ad}_x \circ \text{ad}_y - \text{ad}_y \circ \text{ad}_x)(z) = \text{ad}_{[x, y]}(z)$$

where the left hand side is the bracket for  $\mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$  implying that,

$$[\text{ad}_x, \text{ad}_y] = \text{ad}_{[x, y]}$$

so the map  $\text{ad} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$  is a Lie algebra representation.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4 (Lie).** For any Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  there exists a unique simply-connected real or complex Lie group  $G$  with  $\text{Lie}(G) = \mathfrak{g}$ .

### 3 The Exponential Map

**Definition:** The multiplication map  $m : G \times G \rightarrow G$  is smooth. Thus,  $m(-, g)$  and  $m(g, -)$  are smooth diffeomorphism  $G \rightarrow G$ . Thus, denote the action of  $dm(g, -) : T_e G \rightarrow T_g G$  on  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  by  $g \cdot \xi = dm(g, -)(\xi) \in T_g G$  and, likewise, the action of  $dm(-, g) : T_e G \rightarrow T_g G$  on  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  by  $\xi \cdot g = dm(-, g)(\xi) \in T_g G$ .

**Definition:** The exponential map  $\exp : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$  is defined as follows. For  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  we can define a smooth vector field  $X^\xi \in \mathcal{X}(G)$  by  $X_g^\xi = \xi \cdot g$ . Let  $\gamma : I \rightarrow G$  be an integral curve of  $X$  such that  $I(0) = e$ . Then the exponential map is defined as  $\exp \xi = \gamma(1)$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** Let  $f : G \rightarrow H$  be a Lie group homomorphism. Then the exponential diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{f_*} & \mathfrak{h} \\
\exp \downarrow & & \downarrow \exp \\
G & \xrightarrow{f} & H
\end{array}$$

commutes where  $f_* = df_e$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma$  be the interval curve of  $X^\xi$ . That is,

$$\frac{d\gamma}{dt} = X^\xi(\gamma(t)) = \xi \cdot \gamma(t)$$

Then consider the smooth path  $f \circ \gamma : I \rightarrow H$  and its derivative,

$$\frac{d(f \circ \gamma)}{dt} = d(f \circ \gamma)_t \left( \frac{d}{dt} \right) = df_{\gamma(t)} \circ d\gamma_t \left( \frac{d}{dt} \right) = df_{\gamma(t)} \left( \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \right) = df_{\gamma(t)}(\xi \cdot \gamma(t))$$

We can requote this result using  $\xi \cdot g = dm(-, g)(\xi)$ ,

$$\frac{d(f \circ \gamma)}{dt} = df_{\gamma(t)} dm(-, g)(\xi) = d(f \circ m(-, g))(\xi)$$

However,  $f \circ m(-, g)(x) = f(xg) = f(x)f(g) = m(-, f(g)) \circ f(x)$  and thus  $f \circ m(-, g) = m(-, f(g)) \circ f$ . Therefore,

$$df_g \circ dm(-, g) = d(f \circ m(-, g)) = d(m(-, f(g)) \circ f) = dm(-, f(g))_e \circ df_e$$

Let  $g = \gamma(t)$  then,

$$\frac{d(f \circ \gamma)}{dt} = d(f \circ m(-, \gamma))(\xi) = dm(-, f(\gamma)) \circ f_*(\xi) = f_*(\xi) \cdot (f \circ \gamma)(t)$$

Thus,  $f \circ \gamma$  is the integral curve starting at  $f \circ \gamma(0) = f(e) = e$  of the vector field  $X^{f_*(\xi)}$  given by  $h \mapsto f_*(\xi) \cdot h$ . Therefore,

$$\exp(f_*(\xi)) = (f \circ \gamma)(1) = f(\gamma(1)) = f(\exp(\xi))$$

□

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $G$  be a Lie group and let  $f_1 : M \rightarrow G$  and  $f_2 : M \rightarrow G$  be smooth maps. Then,  $F = f_1 \cdot f_2 = m \circ (f_1, f_2)$  is a smooth map with,

$$dF(\xi) = df_1(\xi) \cdot f_2 + f_1 \cdot df_2(\xi)$$

*Proof.* We have,

$$dF_p = dm_{f_1(p), f_2(p)} \circ d(f_1, f_2) = dm_{f_1(p), f_2(p)} \circ ((df_1)_p \oplus (df_2)_p)$$

Furthermore,

$$dm = d(m \circ \iota_1^{f_2(p)}) + d(m \circ \iota_1^{f_1(p)}) = dm(-, f_2(p)) + dm(f_1(p), -)$$

and thus,

$$dF_p = dm(-, f_2(p)) \circ (df_1)_p + dm(f_1(p), -) \circ (df_2)_p$$

Therefore, for  $\xi \in T_p M$  we have,

$$\begin{aligned} dF_p(\xi) &= dm(-, f_2(p)) \circ (df_1)_p(\xi) + dm(f_1(p), -) \circ (df_2)_p(\xi) \\ &= (df_1)_p(\xi) \cdot f_2(p) + f_1(p) \cdot (df_2)_p(\xi) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Corollary 3.3.** For any  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  we have  $\text{Ad}(\exp \xi) = \exp \circ (\text{ad}_\xi)$ . Therefore, on the lie algebra, for any  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  we have,

$$(\exp \xi) \cdot X \cdot (\exp \xi)^{-1} = \text{Ad}(\exp \xi) \cdot X = (\exp(\text{ad}_\xi))(X) = (\exp[\xi, -]) \cdot X$$

**Proposition 3.4.** The left and right-invariant vector fields,  $X_L^\xi, X_R^\xi \in \mathcal{X}(G)$  associated with  $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$  i.e.  $X_L^\xi(g) = g \cdot \xi$  and  $X_R^\xi(g) = \xi \cdot g$  have the same integral curves at the identity. Thus, either can be used to define the exponential map.

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 : I \rightarrow G$  be smooth curves satisfying,

$$\frac{d\gamma_1}{dt} = X_L^\xi(\gamma_1(t)) = \gamma_1(t) \cdot \xi \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d\gamma_2}{dt} = X_R^\xi(\gamma_2(t)) = \xi \cdot \gamma_2(t)$$

First consider,

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\gamma \cdot \gamma^{-1}) = \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \cdot \gamma^{-1} + \gamma \cdot \frac{d\gamma^{-1}}{dt}$$

But  $\gamma \cdot \gamma^{-1} = e$  so the differential is zero. Thus,

$$\frac{d\gamma^{-1}}{dt} = -\gamma^{-1} \cdot \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \cdot \gamma^{-1}$$

Therefore, consider,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2^{-1}) &= \frac{d\gamma_1}{dt} \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} + \gamma_1 \cdot \frac{d\gamma_2^{-1}}{dt} = \frac{d\gamma_1}{dt} \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} - \gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1} \cdot \frac{d\gamma_2}{dt} \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} \\ &= \gamma_1 \cdot \xi \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} - \gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1} \cdot \xi \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} \gamma_2 = \gamma_1 \cdot \xi \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} - \gamma_1 \gamma_2^{-1} \cdot \xi \end{aligned}$$

At  $t = 0$  we have  $\gamma_1(0) = \gamma_2(0) = e$  and thus,

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} (\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2^{-1}) \right|_{t=0} = \xi - \xi = 0$$

Therefore,  $\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2^{-1} = e$  is constant and thus  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ .

□

## 4 Lie Algebras

**Definition:** A Lie Algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  over a commutative ring  $R$  is an  $R$ -module with a bilinear bracket  $[-, -] : \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  which satisfies,

1.  $\forall x \in \mathfrak{g} : [x, x] = 0$
2.  $\forall x, y, z \in \mathfrak{g} : [x, [y, z]] + [y, [z, x]] + [z, [x, y]] = 0$

**Definition:** The *universal enveloping algebra* of a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  over a ring  $R$  is the unital associative  $R$ -algebra,

$$U\mathfrak{g} = T_R(\mathfrak{g})/I$$

where  $I$  is the ideal generated by  $\{x \otimes y - y \otimes x - [x, y] \mid x, y \in \mathfrak{g}\}$ . Note that,

$$x \otimes y - y \otimes x - [x, y] \in \mathfrak{g} \oplus (\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}) \subset T(\mathfrak{g})$$

The universal enveloping algebra defines a functor  $U : \mathbf{LieAlg}_R \rightarrow \mathbf{Mod}_R$

**Definition:** A representation of a Lie Algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  over  $R$  is an  $R$ -module  $M$  and a Lie algebra homomorphism  $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(M)$ . That is a linear map  $\rho : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  which preserves the bracket i.e.

$$\rho([X, Y]) = \rho(X)\rho(Y) - \rho(Y)\rho(X)$$

**Proposition 4.1.** The category of representations of a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is equivalent to the category of  $U\mathfrak{g}$ -modules.

*Proof.* Any Lie algebra representation  $\rho : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(M)$  may be extended to a ring map  $U\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$  by sending  $\rho(m) = m \cdot \text{id}$  and  $\rho(x \otimes y) = \rho(x)\rho(y)$ . Then we have,

$$\rho(x \otimes y - y \otimes x) = \rho(x)\rho(y) - \rho(y)\rho(x) = \rho([x, y])$$

so this extension is well-defined on the quotient. Likewise any map  $U\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$  restricts to  $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$  and sends the bracket to the commutator thus giving a Lie algebra homomorphism  $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(M)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $M, N$  be simple  $R$ -modules. Then any  $R$ -module morphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is zero or an isomorphism.

*Proof.* Let  $f : V \rightarrow W$  be  $A$ -linear (i.e. a morphism of  $A$ -representations). Then  $\ker f \subset V$  is a submodule so  $\ker f = 0$  or  $\ker f = V$  by simplicity. Thus either  $f = 0$  or injective. Furthermore,  $\text{Im}(f) \subset W$  is a submodule so either  $\text{Im}(f) = 0$  or  $\text{Im}(f) = W$  thus either  $f = 0$  or surjective. Therefore, either  $f = 0$  or  $f$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3** (Schur). Let  $A$  be a unital associative  $K$ -algebra over an algebraically closed field  $K$  and  $V$  and  $W$  simple  $A$ -modules. Then,

$$\text{Hom}_A(V, W) = \begin{cases} K & V \cong W \\ 0 & V \not\cong W \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By above, any nonzero map is an isomorphism. In the case,  $V \cong W$ , fix an isomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow W$ . Consider any  $g : V \rightarrow W$  then  $f^{-1} \circ g : V \rightarrow V$  is an endomorphism over vector spaces over an algebraically closed field so  $f^{-1} \circ g$  has an eigenvector  $v \in V$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Thus  $f^{-1} \circ g - \lambda \cdot \text{id}_V$  is not injective but is a morphism of representations so, by above,  $f^{-1} \circ g - \lambda \cdot \text{id}_V = 0$ . Thus,  $g = \lambda \cdot f$ .  $\square$

**Remark 1.** For the case  $A = \mathbb{C}[G]$  for some group  $G$  a simple  $\mathbb{C}[G]$ -module is the same as irreducible complex  $G$ -representation giving the standard form of the lemma.

**Corollary 4.4.** Let  $A$  be a unital associative  $K$ -algebra over an algebraically closed field and  $V$  a semisimple  $A$ -modules. Then there is a canonical isomorphism, s

$$\bigoplus_X \text{Hom}_A(X, V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} X \xrightarrow{\sim} V$$

where  $X$  runs over the simple  $A$ -modules.

*Proof.* The canonical map sends  $f \otimes x \mapsto f(x)$ . We need to show that this map is an isomorphism. Decompose,

$$V = \bigoplus_X X^{n_X}$$

Then, by Schur,

$$\text{Hom}_X(V, \cong) \mathbb{C}^{n_X}$$

which gives,

$$\bigoplus_X \text{Hom}_A(X, V) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} X = \bigoplus_X \mathbb{C}^{n_X} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} X = \bigoplus_X X^{n_X} = V$$

by the evaluation map.  $\square$

**Definition:** A Casimir element of a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is an element of  $Z(U\mathfrak{g})$  i.e. an element of  $U\mathfrak{g}$  commuting with everything in  $\mathfrak{g}$  and thus all of  $U\mathfrak{g}$ .

**Proposition 4.5.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $K$  and  $\omega \in U\mathfrak{g}$  a Casimir. Suppose that  $\rho : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(V)$  is an irreducible  $\mathfrak{g}$ -representation then  $\rho(\omega) = \lambda \cdot \text{id}_V$  for some  $\lambda \in K$  where  $\rho : U\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  is the induced map.

*Proof.* Let  $\omega$  be a Casimir. I claim that  $\rho(\omega)$  is a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -morphism  $V \rightarrow V$ . This is because  $\forall x \in U\mathfrak{g} : x \otimes \omega = \omega \otimes x$  in  $U\mathfrak{g}$  meaning that  $\rho(x) \circ \rho(\omega) = \rho(\omega) \circ \rho(x)$ . Thus the map  $\rho(\omega)$  is  $U\mathfrak{g}$ -linear. Since  $V$  is irreducible and  $K$  is algebraically closed, by Schur's lemma,  $\rho(\omega) = \lambda \cdot \text{id}_V$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.** In the previous case, we call  $\lambda$  the Casimir invariant of the irreducible representation  $V$  associated to the Casimir element  $\omega$ .

## 5 Misc

**Theorem 5.1** (Poincare-Hopf). Let  $M$  be a compact smooth manifold and  $X$  a smooth vector field on  $M$  with isolated zeros. Then,

$$\sum_{x \in X} \text{index}_x(X) = \chi(M)$$

**Theorem 5.2.** A vector bundle of rank  $r$  is trivial iff it admits  $r$  pointwise linearly independent sections.

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $G$  be a Lie group, then  $TG \cong G \times \mathfrak{g}$  i.e. the tangent bundle is trivial.

*Proof.* □

**Theorem 5.4.** Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group (of positive dimension) then  $\chi(G) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\pi : TG \rightarrow G$  is a trivial bundle it admits  $n = \dim G$  pointwise linearly independent sections (i.e. vector fields) which thus must be nonvanishing everywhere (since  $n > 0$ ). Thus, by Poincare-Hopf,  $\chi(G) = 0$ . □

**Theorem 5.5.** For  $n$  even,  $S^n$  admits no nonvanishing vector fields.

*Proof.* Such a vector field would give a homotopy  $\text{id} \simeq -\text{id}$  and thus the degrees of these maps must be equal i.e.  $(-1)^{n+1} = 1$  so  $n$  must be odd. Alternatively,  $\chi(S^n) = 1 + (-1)^n$  and therefore, in the case  $n$  is even  $\chi(S^n) = 2$ . In that case, a nonvanishing vector field would contradict the Poincare-Hopf theorem. □

**Theorem 5.6.** Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group then  $\pi_2(G) = 0$ . If  $G$  is nonabelian then  $\pi_3(G) \neq 0$ .

**Corollary 5.7.**  $S^n$  admits a Lie group structure exactly when  $n = 0, 1, 3$ .

*Proof.* The case  $S^0$  is a zero-dimensional Lie group is clear. Assume  $n \geq 1$  so  $S^n$  is connected. If  $G$  is an abelian Lie group then its Lie algebra is trivial. By the Lie group Lie algebra correspondence, its universal cover must be  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . However,  $S^n$  is simply connected for  $n > 1$  so  $S^1$  is the only abelian sphere group. If  $G$  is nonabelian then  $\pi_3(G) \neq 0$  but  $\pi_3(S^n) = 0$  for  $n > 3$ . Thus we have shown that  $n \leq 3$ . The case  $n = 2$  is excluded by noting that even dimensional spheres have nontrivial tangent bundles and thus cannot be Lie groups. □