

- A subalgebra \mathfrak{h} of \mathfrak{g} is a vector subspace which is also a Lie algebra
- An ideal of \mathfrak{g} is a subalgebra \mathfrak{h} ,
 $[X, Y] \in \mathfrak{h} \quad \forall X \in \mathfrak{g}, Y \in \mathfrak{h}$

Examples

- Every Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} has two "trivial" ideals
 $\mathfrak{h} = \{0\}$ and $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g}$
- the derived algebra of \mathfrak{g}
 $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{span}_F \{ [X, Y] : X, Y \in \mathfrak{g} \} \quad F = \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{C}$
- The centre $\mathfrak{Z}(\mathfrak{g})$ of \mathfrak{g}
 $\mathfrak{Z}(\mathfrak{g}) = \{ X \in \mathfrak{g} : [X, Y] = 0 \quad \forall Y \in \mathfrak{g} \}$

An abelian Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} $[X, Y] = 0 \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{g} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{Z}(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathfrak{g}$

Def \mathfrak{g} is simple if it is non-abelian and possesses no non-trivial ideals
 $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{Z}(\mathfrak{g}) = \{0\}, \quad \mathfrak{g}'(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathfrak{g}$ (Then have non-degenerate invariant inner product.)

Lie algebras from Lie groups

• Preliminaries

\mathcal{M} is a smooth manifold of dimension D and $p \in \mathcal{M}$ is a point. Introduce coordinates $\{x^i\} \quad i = 1 \dots D$ in some region $P \subset \mathcal{M}$ with point p origin $x^i = 0$.

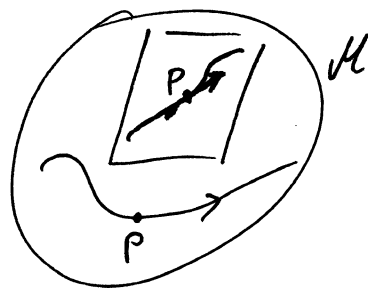
The tangent space $T_p(\mathcal{M})$ to \mathcal{M} at p is a D -dimensional vector space spanned by $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right\} \quad i = 1 \dots D$ act on functions $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

A tangent vector

$$V = v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \in T_p(\mathcal{M})$$

acts on functions $f = f(x)$ as

$$V \cdot f = v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} f(x) \Big|_{x=0}$$



• Consider a smooth curve

$$C: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$$

passing through point $p \in \mathcal{M}$

refer to coordinates

parameter of C

$$C: t \in \mathbb{R} \longmapsto \{x^i(t) \in \mathbb{R} \quad i=1, \dots, D\}$$

$x^i(t)$ is and differentiable (once) with $x^i(0) = 0$

• Tangent vector of a curve C

$$V_C = \dot{x}^i(0) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \in T_p(\mathcal{M})$$

$$\dot{x}^i(t) = \frac{dx^i(t)}{dt}$$

- Acting on functions $f = f(x)$, V_C corresponds to derivative of f along C

$$V_C \cdot f = \dot{x}^i(0) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} f(x) \Big|_{x=0} = \frac{df}{dt} \quad f = f(x(t)) \quad (\text{chain's rule})$$

$$\text{curve } C \longrightarrow V_C \in T_p(\mathcal{M})$$

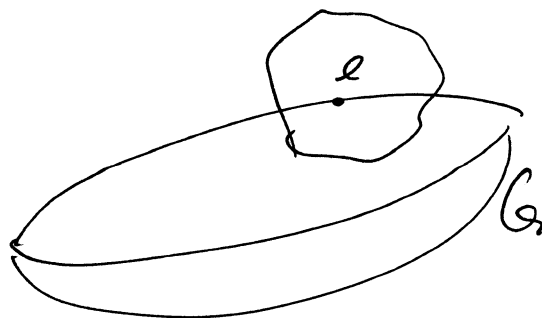
$V \in T_p(\mathcal{M})$ can find curve C such that $V = V_C$ (as many curves C)

• the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{L}(G)$ of Lie group G

G is a Lie group of dimension D . Introduce vectors $\{\theta^i\} \quad i=1 \dots D$

near $e \in G$

$$g = g(\theta) \in G, \quad g(0) = e$$



Tangent space at identity $T_e(G)$ admits a Lie bracket

$[\cdot, \cdot]: T_e(G) \times T_e(G) \rightarrow T_e(G)$ such that $\mathcal{L}(G) = (T_e(G), [\cdot, \cdot])$ is a Lie algebra.

- ~~the~~ matrix Lie groups

$$G \subset \text{Mat}_n(F) \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad F = \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{C}$$

Can map tangent vectors to matrices

$$\rho: T_e(G) \longrightarrow \text{Mat}_n(F)$$

$$v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^i} \in T_e(G) \longmapsto v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^i} g(\theta) \Big|_{\theta=0} \in \text{Mat}_n(F)$$

identify $T_e(G)$ with the ~~space of interest~~ subspace of $\text{Mat}_n(F)$ spanned by

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta^i} \Big|_{\theta=0} \right\} \quad i=1 \dots D$$

Now there is an obvious candidate for bracket.

$$[X, Y] = XY - YX \quad \forall X, Y \in T_e(G)$$

bracket is the matrix commutator

Easy to check i) - iii) i) antisym ii) linear iii) Jacobi

Remains to show closure $[X, Y] \in \mathcal{L}(G) \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{L}(G)$

Let C be a smooth curve on G passing through identity

$$C: t \mapsto g(t) \in G \quad , \quad g(0) = \mathbb{1}_n$$

$$\frac{dg(t)}{dt} = \frac{d\theta^i(t)}{dt} \frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta^i}$$

$$\dot{g}(0) = \frac{dg(t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = \dot{\theta}^i(0) \frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta^i} \Big|_{\theta=0} \in T_e(G)$$