

MATH848I - Exterior differential systems



Taught by Karin Melnick
Notes taken by Haoran Li
2020 Spring

Department of Mathematics
University of Maryland

Contents

1	Introduction - 1/28/2020	2
2	Frobenius theorem - 1/30/2020	4
3	Maurer-Cartan formula - 2/4/2020	8
4	Fundamental theorem of Maurer-Cartan form - 2/6/2020	10
5	Two identities about Maurer-Cartan form - 2/11/2020	12
6	Schwarzian - 2/13/2020	13
	Index	15

1 Introduction - 1/28/2020

Webpage: www.math.umd.edu/~kmlnick/eds20.html

Book recommendation:

1. T.A. Ivey and J.M. Landsberg: Cartan for Beginners: Differential Geometry via Moving Frames and Exterior Differential Systems (2nd ed.), AMS Graduate Studies in Mathematics 175, Providence, RI (2016)
2. R. Bryant, P. Griffiths, D. Grossman: Exterior Differential Systems and Euler-Lagrange Partial Differential Equations, Chicago Lectures in Mathematics, Chicago (2003)
3. R. Bryant, S.-S. Chern, R.B. Gardiner, H. Goldschmidt, P. Griffiths: Exterior Differential Systems, Springer (1990)

Note: Einstein summation convention is regularly used

Definition 1.1. We say a PDE is **overdetermined** if there are more equations than unknowns

Example 1.2. Suppose α is a 1 form on $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

Can we find f on U such that $df = \alpha$

In coordinates, $\alpha = \alpha_i dx^i$, $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} = \alpha^i$

In general, there is no solution, a necessary condition is $d\alpha = d^2f = 0$, i.e. $\frac{\partial \alpha_i}{\partial x^j} = \frac{\partial \alpha_j}{\partial x^i}$

Lemma 1.3 (Poincaré lemma). If $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is contractible, $d\alpha = 0$ is also a sufficient condition, f is determined up to constants $c_0 = f(x_0)$, $x_0 \in U$

Example 1.4. Suppose $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ is the disk, $g, A : D \rightarrow 2 \times 2$ symmetric matrices with $g(x, y)$ positive definite

Can we find $\sigma : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that g is the induced metric on D , and A is the second fundamental form, i.e. $g = d\sigma \cdot d\sigma$, $A = -dn \cdot d\sigma$

In coordinates, $\sigma = (\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3)$, $g(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11}(x, y) & g_{12}(x, y) \\ g_{21}(x, y) & g_{22}(x, y) \end{pmatrix}$, $A(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}(x, y) & A_{12}(x, y) \\ A_{21}(x, y) & A_{22}(x, y) \end{pmatrix}$

Write $\frac{\partial \sigma^i}{\partial x} = \sigma_1^i$, $\frac{\partial \sigma^i}{\partial y} = \sigma_2^i$, $n = \frac{\sigma_1 \times \sigma_2}{\|\sigma_1 \times \sigma_2\|}$, $g_{11} = (\sigma_1^i)^2$, $g_{12} = \sigma_1^i \sigma_2^i = g_{21}$, $g_{22} = (\sigma_2^i)^2$,

$A_{11} = n^i \sigma_{11}^i$, $A_{12} = n^i \sigma_{12}^i = A_{21}$, $A_{22} = n^i \sigma_{22}^i$, there are 6 equations in total

There exists a solution iff satisfying Gauss-Codazzi equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial A_{11}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_{12}}{\partial x} &= A_{11} \Gamma_{12}^1 + A_{12} (\Gamma_{12}^2 - \Gamma_{11}^1) - A_{22} \Gamma_{11}^2 \\ \frac{\partial A_{12}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_{22}}{\partial x} &= A_{11} \Gamma_{22}^1 + A_{12} (\Gamma_{22}^2 - \Gamma_{12}^1) - A_{22} \Gamma_{12}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.5. Given $\alpha = (\alpha^1(x, y, u), \alpha^2(x, y, u))$, $(x, y) \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$

Can we find $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \alpha^1(x, y, u), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \alpha^2(x, y, u) \quad (1.1)$$

Introduce variables p, q and $J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^2(1\text{-Jet})$, define $\theta = du - p dx - q dy$, $\Omega = dx \wedge dy$

Suppose $\Sigma \subseteq J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ is a surface such that $\Omega|_{T\Sigma}$ never vanishes and $\theta|_{T\Sigma}$ vanishes identically, then locally Σ is a graph ($\Omega|_{T\Sigma} \neq 0$ is for nondegeneracy) $u = u(x, y)$, $p = p(x, y)$, $q = q(x, y)$ with $du = p dx + q dy$ on $T\Sigma$, but $du = u_x dx + u_y dy$ on $T\Sigma$, thus $p = u_x$, $q = u_y$ on Σ

Now consider $M \subseteq J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ be the solution to $p = \alpha^1(x, y, u)$, $q = \alpha^2(x, y, u)$ which is a 3 manifold. Solution of (1.1) correspondes to surfaces $\Sigma \subseteq M$ on which $\Omega \neq 0$, $\theta = 0$

A necessary condition for existence of such a surface Σ is $d\theta = -dp \wedge dx - dq \wedge dy$ in $J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$, suppose $j : M \hookrightarrow J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ is the inclusion, then

$$\begin{aligned} j^* d\theta &= -(\alpha_x^1 dx + \alpha_y^1 dy + \alpha_u^1 du) \wedge dx - (\alpha_x^2 dx + \alpha_y^2 dy + \alpha_u^2 du) \wedge dy \\ &= (\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2) dx \wedge dy - \alpha_u^1 du \wedge dx - \alpha_u^2 du \wedge dy \end{aligned}$$

On Σ

Suppose $i : \Sigma \hookrightarrow J^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ is the inclusion, then

$$\begin{aligned} i^*d\theta &= (\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2)i^*d\Omega - \alpha_u^1(\alpha^1dx + \alpha^2dy) \wedge dx - \alpha_u^2(\alpha^1dx + \alpha^2dy) \wedge dy \\ &= (\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2 + \alpha_u^1\alpha^2 - \alpha_u^2\alpha^1)i^*d\Omega \end{aligned}$$

Since $\Omega \neq 0$, $\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2 + \alpha_u^1\alpha^2 - \alpha_u^2\alpha^1 = 0$ on Σ

Consider the following possible cases:

Case I: $\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2 + \alpha_u^1\alpha^2 - \alpha_u^2\alpha^1 = 0$ on M

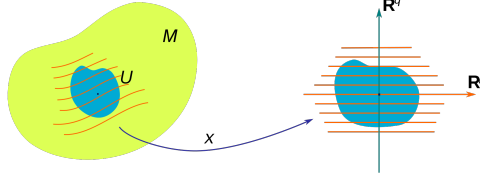
Case II: $\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2 + \alpha_u^1\alpha^2 - \alpha_u^2\alpha^1 = 0$ on M

For case I, Apply Theorem 2.11, we know it is a sufficient condition since

$$\begin{aligned} d\theta &= (\alpha_y^1 - \alpha_x^2 + \alpha_u^1\alpha^2 - \alpha_u^2\alpha^1)dx \wedge dy + \alpha_u^1\theta \wedge dx - \alpha_u^2\theta \wedge dy \\ &= (\alpha_u^2dy - \alpha_u^1dx) \wedge \theta \end{aligned}$$

2 Frobenius theorem - 1/30/2020

Definition 2.1. A p dimension **foliation** of an n dimensional manifold M is decomposition of M into disjoint connected submanifolds $M = \bigsqcup_{\alpha \in A} N_\alpha$ such that for each point $p \in M$, there is a neighborhood of p and a local chart (x^1, \dots, x^n) such that each $N_\alpha \cap M$ is given by $x^{p+1} = \text{const}, \dots, x^n = \text{const}$



Definition 2.2. An **integral submanifold** $N \subseteq M$ is a submanifold such that locally $TN = \text{Span}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ where X_i is a local basis, 1-dimensional integral submanifolds are just **integral curves**

Definition 2.3. Suppose M is a smooth manifold of dimension m , an n -dimensional **distribution** over M is

$$\Delta = \bigsqcup_p \Delta_p \subseteq TM, \Delta_p \leq T_p M, \dim \Delta_p = n$$

Which is locally spanned by a local basis X_1, \dots, X_n

Remark 2.4. We can also define distributions on vector bundles

Definition 2.5. Δ is **involutive** if $[\Delta, \Delta] \subseteq \Delta$, Δ is **integrable** if for any point $p \in M$, there exists a integral submanifold $N \ni p$ such that $T_p N = \Delta_p$

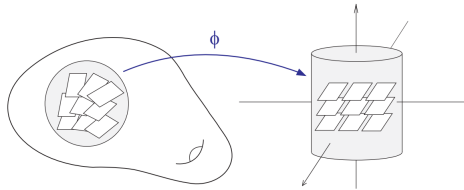
Involutive distribution is integrable

Lemma 2.6. If distribution Δ is integrable, then it is involutive

Proof. Since Δ is integrable, for any $p \in M$, there is a integral submanifold $N \ni p$ such that $i_* : T_p N \hookrightarrow T_p M$ is injective with $i_*(T_p N) = \Delta_p$. Suppose $X, Y \in \Delta_p$, by the naturality of Lie bracket, $[X, Y] = i_*[i_*^{-1}X, i_*^{-1}Y] \in \Delta_p$ \square

Example 2.7. Consider $D = \langle V, W \rangle$ is a two dimensional distribution over \mathbb{R}^3 , where $V = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$, $W = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$, but $[X, Y] = -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \notin D$, thus D is not involutive, by Lemma 2.6, D is not integrable

Definition 2.8. An n -dimensional distribution D over a m -dimensional smooth manifold M is **completely integrable** if for each point $p \in M$, there is a local coordinate chart (U, ϕ) , such that $\phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{m-n}$ with $\phi(D) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$



Lemma for Frobenius theorem

Lemma 2.9. Suppose M is an m dimensional manifold, D is an n -dimensional distribution around $p \in M$, (U, x) with $x(p) = 0$ is a local coordinate chart, then D has a local basis X_1, \dots, X_n around p such that

$$X_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \sum_{j=n+1}^m a_i^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}$$

Or in matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 0 & a_1^{n+1} & \cdots & a_1^m \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 1 & a_n^{n+1} & \cdots & a_n^m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} \end{pmatrix}$$

Proof. First pick a local basis Y_1, \dots, Y_n around p , then we have $Y_i = \sum_{j=1}^m b_i^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}$, or in matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1^1 & \dots & b_1^m \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_n^1 & \dots & b_n^m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} \end{pmatrix}$$

Since Y_i 's are linearly independent, B is of full rank, reorder if needed, we can assume

$$\tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1^1 & \dots & b_1^n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_n^1 & \dots & b_n^n \end{pmatrix}$$

Is invertible, we can thus define $(I \ A) = \tilde{B}^{-1}B$, $X = \tilde{B}^{-1}Y$ □

Involutive distribution ensure the existence of commuting basis

Corollary 2.10. Suppose M is an m dimensional manifold, D is an n -dimensional involutive distribution around $p \in M$, then D has a local basis X_1, \dots, X_n around p such that $[X_i, X_j] = 0$. In other words, we can choose a local commuting basis

Proof. Suppose (U, x) with $x(p) = 0$ is a local coordinate chart, by Lemma 2.9, D has a local basis X_1, \dots, X_n around p such that

$$X_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \sum_{j=n+1}^m a_i^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} [X_i, X_j] &= \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \sum_{k=n+1}^m a_i^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} + \sum_{l=n+1}^m a_j^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=n+1}^m \left[a_i^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right] + \sum_{l=n+1}^m \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, a_j^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} \right] + \sum_{k,l=n+1}^m \left[a_i^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k}, a_j^l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=n+1}^m \frac{\partial a_i^k}{\partial x^j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \sum_{l=n+1}^m \frac{\partial a_j^l}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} + \sum_{k,l=n+1}^m \left(a_i^k \frac{\partial a_j^l}{\partial x^k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} - a_j^l \frac{\partial a_i^k}{\partial x^l} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Is in the span of $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} \right\}$, on the other hand, since D is involutive, $[X_i, X_j]$ is also in the span of $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$, thus $[X_i, X_j] = 0$ □

Frobenius theorem

Theorem 2.11 (Frobenius theorem). If distribution D is involutive, then it is completely integrable, alternatively, we could say that maximal integrable submanifolds form a foliation of M

Remark 2.12. Frobenius theorem can be thought of as a generalization of the existence theorem in ODE

Proof. It suffices to show that for any $p \in M$, there is a local coordinate chart $x : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ such that locally D is spanned by $\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^n} \right\}$, then integrable submanifolds are just $\{x^1, \dots, x^{n-1} \text{ are constants}\}$, we prove this by induction on n

Base case: If $n = 1$, D is just a nonvanishing vector field X_m , for each $p \in M$, let X_1, \dots, X_m be a local basis for TM , define $\gamma_i : (-\epsilon, \epsilon)^i \rightarrow M$ by $\gamma_i(x^1, \dots, x^i) = \phi_{X_i}^{x^i} \circ \dots \circ \phi_{X_1}^{x^1}(p)$, where ϕ_X^t is the flow along X . Then $\gamma_m(0, \dots, x^i, \dots, 0) = \phi_{X_i}^{x^i}(p)$, $(\gamma_m)_* \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_{(0, \dots, 0)} = X_i(p)$ which are linearly

independent, thus γ_m is invertible around origin, giving $x = \gamma_m^{-1}$ with $(\gamma_m)_* \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} \Big|_{(x^1, \dots, x^m)} =$

$X_m(\gamma_m(x^1, \dots, x^m))$, i.e. $\frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} = X_m$

Induction step: By Corollary 2.10, there exists local basis X_1, \dots, X_n for D such that $[X_i, X_j] = 0$, by induction hypothesis, there is a local chart \mathbf{y} such that $\text{Span}(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) = \text{Span}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{n-1}}\right)$, write $X_n = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$, then

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, X_n\right] = \sum_{j=1}^m \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \alpha^j \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j}\right] = \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\partial \alpha^j}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j}$$

Since D is involutive, $\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, X_n\right] \in D$, which implies $\frac{\partial \alpha^j}{\partial y^i} = 0, \forall n+1 \leq j \leq m$, let $Y :=$

$$X_n - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} = \sum_{i=n}^m \alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}, \text{ then } \text{Span}(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n) = \text{Span}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{n-1}}, Y\right)$$

Now we restrict on the integral submanifold $N = \{\mathbf{y}^1, \dots, \mathbf{y}^{n-1} \text{ are constants}\}$, $(\mathbf{y}^n, \dots, \mathbf{y}^m)$ is a local coordinate chart on N , thus $Y \in TN$ is a nonvanishing distribution, this is again the base case, there exists coordinates (x^n, \dots, x^m) such that $\frac{\partial}{\partial x^n} = Y$, let $x^i = y^i, i < n$, then $x = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$ becomes a local coordinate chart such that $\text{Span}(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n) = \text{Span}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{n-1}}, Y\right) = \text{Span}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{n-1}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^n}\right)$ \square

Definition 2.13. A **differential ring** is a ring R with one or more derivations, a **derivation** d is a ring endomorphism satisfying Leibniz rule: $d(rs) = (dr)s + r(ds)$

A **differential ideal** is an ideal I closed under d , i.e. $dI \subseteq I$

Example 2.14. Given differential forms $v^1, \dots, v^p \in \Omega^*(M)$, we can define the algebraic ideal

$$\langle v^1, \dots, v^p \rangle_{\text{alg}} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^p v^i \wedge \alpha_i, \alpha_i \in \Omega^*(M) \right\}$$

Which is closed under wedge product \wedge , and the differential ideal

$$\langle v^1, \dots, v^p \rangle_{\text{diff}} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^p (v^i \wedge \alpha_i + dv^i \wedge \beta_i), \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \Omega^*(M) \right\}$$

Which is closed under wedge product \wedge and differential d

Lemma' for Frobenius theorem

Lemma 2.15. Suppose V is an m dimensional vector space, $v^1, \dots, v^n \in V^*$ are linearly independent iff $v^1 \wedge \dots \wedge v^n \neq 0$

Suppose v^1, \dots, v^m is a basis of V^* , then $W := \bigcap_{i=1}^{m-n} \ker v^i$ is an n dimensional subspace, if

2-form $\omega \in \bigwedge^2 V$ vanishes on $W \times W$, then $\omega = \sum_{i=1}^{m-n} \alpha_j^i \wedge v^i$

Proof. Remember $v^1 \wedge \dots \wedge v^n$ is a linear functional on $\overbrace{V \times \dots \times V}^{n \text{ times}}$ given by

$$v^1 \wedge \dots \wedge v^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{\sigma} (-1)^{\text{sgn} \sigma} v^1(x_{\sigma 1}) \dots v^n(x_{\sigma n}) = \det(v^i(x_j))$$

Assume $\omega = \sum_{i < j} c_{ij} v^i \wedge v^j$, denote $v = \sum_{m-n < i < j} c_{ij} v^i \wedge v^j$ \square

Theorem 2.16. Given a smooth manifold M of dimesion m , and $\theta^1, \dots, \theta^{n-m} \in \Omega^1(M)$ such that

(1) $\theta^1, \dots, \theta^{n-m} \in \Omega^1(M)$ are pointwise linearly independent

(2) $d\theta^j = \sum \alpha_i^j \wedge \theta^i$ for some $\alpha_i^j \in \Omega^1(M)$

Then $\forall \mathbf{p} \in M$, there exists a connected n dimensional submanifold N with $\mathbf{p} \in N$, such that $\theta^i|_{TN} \equiv 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n - m$

According to Lemma 2.15, (1) $\Leftrightarrow \ker \theta^j \subseteq TM$ is an n -dimension distribution \mathcal{D} (subbundle of TM), locally $\mathcal{D} = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_i \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$. Since $d\theta(X, Y) = X(\theta(Y)) - Y(\theta(X)) - \theta([X, Y])$, (2) $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is involutive, i.e. $[x_i, x_j] \in \mathcal{D}$, denote $I_{\text{alg}} = \langle \theta^1, \dots, \theta^{n-m} \rangle_{\text{alg}}, I_{\text{diff}} = \langle \theta^1, \dots, \theta^{n-m} \rangle_{\text{diff}}$, then (2) $\Leftrightarrow I_{\text{alg}} = I_{\text{diff}}$

The result is actually stronger, $\forall \mathbf{p} \in M$, there exists coordinates (y^1, \dots, y^m) on a neighborhood of \mathbf{p} such that $\langle \theta^1, \dots, \theta^{n-m} \rangle = \langle dy^1, \dots, dy^{m-n} \rangle$, then the integral submanifolds are $\{y^1, \dots, y^{n-m} \text{ are constants}\}$, giving a foliation of M

Proof.

□

3 Maurer-Cartan formula - 2/4/2020

Example 3.1. $GL(n, \mathbb{C}) < GL(2n, \mathbb{R})$ is a real Lie group, $GL(n, \mathbb{C}) = \{g \in GL(2n, \mathbb{R}) | gJ = Jg,$

$$\text{where } J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & & \\ 1 & 0 & & \\ & & 0 & -1 \\ & & 1 & 0 \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 3.2. Given an inner product matrix B , $O(B) = \{g^T B g = B\}$ is a real Lie group, $O(2) = \{g^T g = I\}$ with $B = I$, $O(2) = SO(2) \rtimes \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$

Example 3.3. $\text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{E}^n) = \{(r, t)\}$, $(r, t)x = rx + t$, $(I, 0)$ is the identity, $(r, t)(r', t') = (rr', rt' + t)$, $(r, t)^{-1} = (r^{-1}, -rt)$ is a real Lie group, $\text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{E}^n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ t & r \end{pmatrix} \right\} \subseteq GL(n+1, \mathbb{R})$

Definition 3.4. Let G be a Lie group, left multiplication by g , denoted by L_g is an isomorphism, L_g acts on $\mathfrak{X}(G)$ by pushforward, $(L_{g*}X)_h = (dL_g)_{g^{-1}h}(X_{g^{-1}h})$, a vector field $X \in \mathfrak{X}(G)$ is left invariant if $L_{g*}X = X$, let $\mathfrak{X}^G(G)$ denote all the left invariant vector fields, $\mathfrak{X}^G(G) \cong T_e G$ is the Lie algebra, $T_e(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}^G(G)$, $v \mapsto X$ with $X_g = (dL_g)_e(v)$ is a Lie algebra isomorphism

Example 3.5. For $O(B)$, a curve $\gamma(s)$ through I should satisfy $\gamma(s)^T B \gamma'(s) = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma'(0)^T B + B \gamma'(0) = 0$, $\mathfrak{o}(B) = \{X \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) | X^T = -X\}$, $\mathfrak{o}(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\theta \\ \theta & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

Example 3.6. For $G = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{E}^2)$, $\mathfrak{g} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ t_1 & 0 & -\theta \\ t_2 & \theta & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

Definition 3.7. $\Omega^n(M, V) = \Gamma(T^n M \otimes V)$ are **V-valued differential forms**

If $V = \mathfrak{g}$ is a Lie algebra, we can also define the "wedge" product, for any $w, v \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$, $[w, v](X, Y) = [w(X), v(Y)] - [w(Y), v(X)]$, this is kind of like wedge product, with product replaced by $[\cdot, \cdot]$

Definition 3.8. Define **Maurer-Cartan form** $\omega^G \in \Omega^1(G, \mathfrak{g})$ to be $\omega_g^G : T_g G \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ such that $\omega_g^G(v) = X$ where $X \in \mathfrak{X}^G(G)$ with $X_g = v \in T_g G$

Proposition 3.9. ω^G is left invariant, i.e. $L_g^* \omega^G = \omega^G$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} (L_g^* \omega^G)_h(v) &= \omega_{gh}^G((dL_g)_h(v)) \\ &= \omega_{gh}^G((dL_g)_h(X_h)) \\ &= \omega_{gh}^G((L_{g*}X)_{gh}) \\ &= \omega_{gh}^G(X_{gh}) \\ &= X \end{aligned}$$

Here $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ such that $X_h = v$, i.e. $\omega_h^G(v) = X$ □

Proposition 3.10. $d\omega^G + \frac{1}{2}[\omega^G, \omega^G] = 0$

Proof. First suppose $X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$, then $\omega_g^G([X, Y]) = Z \in \mathfrak{g}$ with $Z_g = [X, Y]_g$, by definition, $Z = [X, Y]$

In general, let $X = f^i Z_i$, $Y = g^j Z_j$ with $Z_i \in \mathfrak{g}$ being a basis, then

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^G([X, Y]) &= \omega^G(f^i Z_i(g^j Z_j) - g^j Z_j(f^i Z_i) + f^i g^j [Z_i, Z_j]) \\ &= (f^i Z_i(g^j) - g^j Z_i(f^i)) \omega^G(Z_j) + f^i g^j \omega^G([Z_i, Z_j]) \\ &= (f^i Z_i(g^j) - g^j Z_i(f^i)) Z_j + f^i g^j [Z_i, Z_j] \\ &= X(\omega^G(Y)) - Y(\omega^G(X)) + [\omega^G(X), \omega^G(Y)] \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 3.11. Given a smooth manifold M and $\omega \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$, if $d\omega + \frac{1}{2}[\omega, \omega] = 0$, then for any $p \in M$, there exists a neighborhood U and $f : U \rightarrow G$ such that $f^*\omega|_U = \omega|_U$, and f is unique up to a composition with L_g for some g

4 Fundamental theorem of Maurer-Cartan form - 2/6/2020

Reference: Section 1.6 of I+L

Lemma 4.1. If G is a matrix group, $g = (g_j^i) : U \rightarrow G$ is a local parametrization, then $\omega^G = g^{-1}dg = (g_j^i)^{-1}dg_j^k$ (matrix multiplication)

Example 4.2. Suppose $G = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{R}^2) \cong \mathbb{R}^2 \rtimes SO(2)$, $g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ t_1 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ t_2 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$, $g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ * & \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ * & -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$, $dg = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ dt_1 & -\sin \theta d\theta & -\cos \theta d\theta \\ dt_2 & \cos \theta d\theta & -\sin \theta d\theta \end{pmatrix}$, $g^{-1}dg = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & -d\theta \\ * & d\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \rtimes \mathfrak{so}(2) = \mathfrak{g}$

Theorem 4.3. Let M be a smooth manifold of dimension m , G be a Lie group, $\omega \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$, then

- (1) For any $p \in M$, there exists a neighborhood U of p such that $\omega = f^*\omega^G \Leftrightarrow d\omega + \frac{1}{2}[\omega, \omega] = 0$
- (2) Suppose $f, h : U \rightarrow G$ satisfying $f^*\omega^G = h^*\omega^G$, then there exists $g \in G$, such that $h = L_g \circ f$
- (3) If M is simply connected, then f extends to M

Proof. Given $\omega \in \Omega^1(M, \mathfrak{g})$, $d\omega + \frac{1}{2}[\omega, \omega] = 0$

(1) Define $\theta \in \Omega^1(M \times G, \mathfrak{g})$ by $\theta = \pi_M^*\omega - \pi_G^*\omega^G$, $\theta = \theta^i X_i$, $\{X_i\}$ being a basis of \mathfrak{g} , $\ker \theta \leq T(M \times G)$, given $u \in T_p M$, $p \in M$, given $g \in G$, $\exists v \in T_g G$ such that $\omega_p(u) = \omega_g^G(v) \Rightarrow \forall (p, g) \in M \times G$, $T_p M \rightarrow (\ker \theta)_{(p, g)}$ is an isomorphism with inverse $(d\pi_M)_{(p, g)}$

$$\begin{aligned} d\theta &= d(\pi_M^*\omega) - d(\pi_G^*\omega^G) \\ &= \pi_M^*d\omega - \pi_G^*d\omega^G \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\pi_M^*[\omega, \omega] - \pi_G^*[\omega^G, \omega^G]) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}([\pi_M^*\omega, \pi_M^*\omega] - [\pi_G^*\omega^G, \pi_G^*\omega^G]) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}([\pi_M^*\omega, \pi_M^*\omega] - [\pi_G^*\omega^G, \pi_G^*\omega^G] - [\pi_G^*\omega^G, \pi_M^*\omega] + [\pi_G^*\omega^G, \pi_M^*\omega]) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}([\theta, \pi_M^*\omega] + [\pi_G^*\omega^G, \theta]) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}[\theta, \pi_M^*\omega - \pi_G^*\omega^G] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}[\theta, \theta] \end{aligned}$$

$\frac{1}{2}[\theta^i X_i, \theta^j X_j](\xi, \eta) = \frac{1}{2}(\theta^i(\xi)\theta^j(\eta)[X_i, X_j] - \theta^i(\eta)\theta^j(\xi)[X_i, X_j]) = \frac{1}{2}[\theta^i, \theta^j]c_{ij}^k X_k$ where c_{ij}^k are structure constants of the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} , i.e. $[X_i, X_j] = c_{ij}^k X_k$

Apply Frobenius Theorem 2.11, $\forall (p, q)$, there exists a submanifold of dimension $\dim M$ everywhere tangent to $\ker \theta$, $(d\pi_M)_{(p, g)} : T_{(p, g)} = (\ker \theta)_{(p, g)} \rightarrow T_p M$ is surjective, by inverse function theorem, there exists a neighborhood U of p and $f : U \rightarrow M \times G$, $f(U) \subseteq \Gamma$, $f|_U = \pi_M^{-1} \Rightarrow \Gamma$ is the graph of f and $f^*(\omega^G) = \omega$

(2) Let $f(p) = g$, $h(p) = g'$, $\exists k \in G$ such that $g' = kg$, thus $(L_k \circ f)(p) = kg = g'$, thus $(L_k \circ f)^*\omega^G = f^*L_k^*\omega^G = f^*\omega^G = \omega$, thus the graph of $L_k \circ f$ coincides the graph of h on a neighborhood of p , because both are integral submanifolds of θ at (p, g)

(3) $\pi_M|_\Gamma : \Gamma \rightarrow M$ for Γ a maximal integral submanifold for $\ker \theta$ is a covering map \square

Example 4.4. $M = I \subset \mathbb{R}$, $G = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{R}^2)$, $\omega^G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & -d\theta \\ * & d\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, consider $\alpha, \beta : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

are paths parametrized by arc length, $\tilde{\alpha} : I \rightarrow G$, $\tilde{\alpha}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha^1(t) & \alpha^{1'}(t) & -\alpha^{2'}(t) \\ \alpha^2(t) & \alpha^{2'}(t) & \alpha^{1'}(t) \end{pmatrix}$, $\tilde{\alpha}'(t) =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha^{1'}(t) & \alpha^{1''}(t) & -\alpha^{2'}(t) \\ \alpha^{2'}(t) & \alpha^{2''}(t) & \alpha^{1''}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \tilde{\alpha}^* d\tau = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{1'} dt \\ \alpha^{2'} dt \end{pmatrix}, r_0^{-1} \circ \tilde{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{1'} & \alpha^{2'} \\ -\alpha^{2'} & \alpha^{1'} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus $(r_0^{-1} \circ \tilde{\alpha})(\tilde{\alpha}^* d\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} (\alpha^{1'})^2 + (\alpha^{2'})^2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} dt = \begin{pmatrix} dt \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{\alpha^{2'}}{\alpha^{1'}}\right) \Rightarrow d\theta = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\alpha^{2'}}{\alpha^{1'}}\right)^2} \frac{\alpha^{2''}\alpha^{1'} - \alpha^{1''}\alpha^{2'}}{(\alpha^{1'})^2} dt = (\alpha^{2''}\alpha^{1'} - \alpha^{1''}\alpha^{2'})dt \text{ Note}$$

that $\kappa(t) = -\alpha^{1''}(t)\alpha^{2'}(t) + \alpha^{2''}(t)\alpha^{1'}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{1''} \\ \alpha^{2''} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha^{2'} \\ \alpha^{1'} \end{pmatrix}$ is the curvature, $\tilde{\alpha}^* \omega^G(t) =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ dt & 0 & -\kappa(t)dt \\ 0 & \kappa(t)dt & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore, $\tilde{\alpha}^* \omega^G = \tilde{\beta}^* \omega^G \Leftrightarrow \tilde{\alpha} = L_g \circ \tilde{\beta} \Leftrightarrow \alpha = g\beta \Leftrightarrow \kappa_\alpha = \kappa_\beta$

5 Two identities about Maurer-Cartan form - 2/11/2020

Remark 5.1 (Uniqueness of ω^G). ω^G is the unique left invariant \mathfrak{g} valued 1-form on G given an isomorphism $\omega_e^G : T_e G \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$, $\omega_g^G = L_{g^{-1}}^* \omega_e^G$

Identity 1 for Maurer-Cartan form

Proposition 5.2. Due to the left invariance of ω^G and the fact that R_g, L_h commutes, we have $L_h^* R_g^* X = R_g^* L_h^* X = R_g^* X$, for any $X \in \mathfrak{X}^G(G)$, thus pushforward of conjugation $C_{g^{-1}} = L_h R_g$ also preserves $\mathfrak{X}^G(G)$, giving an automorphism of \mathfrak{g}
Similarly, it is easy to see

$$R_g^* \omega^G = L_{g^{-1}}^* R_g^* \omega^G = Ad(g)^{-1} \omega^G$$

Identity 2 for Maurer-Cartan form

Proposition 5.3. Given $\alpha : U \rightarrow G$, $\alpha^* \omega^G \in \Omega^1(U, \mathfrak{g})$, $p : U \rightarrow G$, let $\beta(x) = \alpha(x)p(x)$, then $d\beta = R_{p*} \circ d\alpha + L_{\alpha*} \circ dp$, $\beta^* \omega^G = Ad(p)^{-1} \alpha^* \omega^G + p^* \omega^G$

6 Schwarzian - 2/13/2020

Example 6.1. Consider a map $\alpha : U \subseteq \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$

Let $G = \left\{ z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \mid \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \right\} / \pm \text{id}$ be the group of Möbius transformations

The projection is defined by $G \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1, g \mapsto g[1:0] = [g_{11} : g_{21}]$, it is clear that this map is onto, thus G acts on \mathbb{CP}^1 transitively, \mathbb{CP}^1 is a homogeneous space, the stabilizer of $[1:0]$ is $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b^{-1} \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mid a \in \mathbb{C}^\times, b \in \mathbb{C} \right\} =: P$, for any other $y = g[1:0] \in \mathbb{CP}^1$, the stabilizer would be gPg^{-1}

Pick a lift $\hat{\alpha} : U \rightarrow G, z \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(z) & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\hat{\alpha}^{-1}d\hat{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha' dz & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\alpha' dz & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, let

$\tilde{\alpha}(z) = \hat{\alpha}(z)p(z)$ for some $p : U \rightarrow P < G$, $p(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(z) & b(z) \\ 0 & \alpha(z)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$, apply Proposition 5.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\alpha}^{-1}d\tilde{\alpha} &= p^{-1}(\hat{\alpha}^{-1}d\hat{\alpha})p + p^{-1}dp \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a^{-1} & -b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\alpha' dz & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a^{-1} & -b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a' & b' \\ 0 & -\frac{a'}{a^2} \end{pmatrix} dz \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} ab\alpha' + a^{-1}a' & b^2\alpha' + a^{-1}b' + ba'a^{-2} \\ -a^2\alpha' & -ab\alpha' - a^{-1}a' \end{pmatrix} dz \end{aligned}$$

Set $a = (\alpha')^{-\frac{1}{2}}, b = \frac{1}{2}\alpha''(\alpha')^{-\frac{3}{2}}$, $\tilde{\alpha}^{-1}d\tilde{\alpha}$ becomes $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}S_\alpha(z) \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} dz$, here $S_\alpha(z) = \frac{\alpha'''}{\alpha'} - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\alpha''}{\alpha'} \right)^2$ is called the **Schwarzian**

Remark 6.2. $\left\{ z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \mid \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \right\} = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{H}^2)$, where \mathbb{H}^2 is the half space model for hyperbolic space, $\mathbb{H}^2 = \{\text{Im}z > 0\}$ with metric $\frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}$

Example 6.3. Let $\beta : U \subseteq \mathbb{CP}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$ be the identity map, $\hat{\beta}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is a lift of $\beta(z)$, $\hat{\beta}^{-1}d\hat{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, then we know $\alpha = g|_U$ for some $g \in SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \Leftrightarrow \alpha = g \circ \beta$ for some $g \in SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \Leftrightarrow \hat{\beta}^{-1}d\hat{\beta} = \tilde{\alpha}^{-1}d\tilde{\alpha}$ on $U \Leftrightarrow S_\alpha \equiv 0$ on U

Lemma 6.4. If u, v are both solutions to the differential equation $X'' + qX = 0$, then $S_{u/v} = 2q$
Proof. □

Lemma 6.5. $\text{Hom}(V, W) \rightarrow V^* \otimes W, A = (a_{ij}) \mapsto \sum_{i,j} a_{ji} v_i^* \otimes w_j$ is an isomorphism

Definition 6.6. A **tableau** is a linear subspace $A \leq \text{Hom}(V, W) \cong V^* \otimes W$ where V, W are linear vector spaces of dimension n and s , consider a smooth map $f : V \rightarrow W, D_x f : V \cong T_x V \rightarrow T_{f(x)} W \cong W \in \text{Hom}(V, W), D_x f \in A, \forall x \in V$ if it satisfies a linear, constant coefficient PDE Let $\{v^1, \dots, v^n\}$ be a basis of $V^*, \{w_1, \dots, w_s\}$ be a basis of W

$$A = \text{Span} \{A_i^{ta} \otimes w_a \mid t = 1, \dots, T\} = \bigcap_r \ker \{B_a^{ri} v_i \otimes w^a \mid r = 1, \dots, R\}$$

where $R = \dim V^* \otimes W - \dim T, \{w^1, \dots, w^s\}, \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ are the dual basis, then

$$D_x f \in A, \forall x \in V \Leftrightarrow B_a^{ri} df^a(v^i) = 0, \forall r \Leftrightarrow B_a^{ri} \frac{\partial f^a}{\partial x^i} = 0, \forall r$$

$f(x) = f_0 + A_0 x, f_0 \in W, A_0 \in A$ is always a solution. Also

$$D_x f \in A, \forall x \Rightarrow D_x^2 f(y, \cdot) \in A, \forall x, y \in V \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow D_x^k f(y_1, \dots, y_{k-1}, \cdot) \in A, \forall x, y_1, \dots, y_{k-1}$$

We define the l -th **prolongation** of A as

$$A^{(l)} = S^{l+1}V^* \otimes W \cap V^{*\otimes l} \otimes A = S^{l+1}V^* \otimes W \cap V^* \otimes A^{(l-1)}$$

Example 6.7. Consider Cauchy-Riemann equations, $(u(x, y), v(x, y)) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$, $A \subseteq \text{End}(\mathbb{R}^2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A^1 & -A^2 \\ A^2 & A^1 \end{pmatrix} \middle| A^1, A^2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \cong \mathfrak{co}(2) \cong \mathbb{R} \otimes \mathfrak{so}(2) \cong \mathfrak{gl}_1(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}$

Example 6.8. $A = \mathfrak{so}(n) \subseteq \text{End}(\mathbb{R}^2) = \{X^T = -X\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & -A_i^j \\ & \ddots & \\ A_j^i & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \middle| i > j \right\}$, corresponds

$$\text{to } \frac{\partial f^j}{\partial x^i} = -\frac{\partial f^i}{\partial x^j}$$

Let $\alpha \in S^2\mathbb{R}^{n*} \otimes \mathbb{R}^n \cap \mathbb{R}^{n*} \otimes \mathfrak{so}(n)$, $X \in \mathfrak{so}(n) \Rightarrow \langle Xu, v \rangle = -\langle u, Xv \rangle$
 $\langle \alpha(u, v), w \rangle = -\langle \alpha(u, w), v \rangle = \langle \alpha(v, w), u \rangle = -\langle \alpha(v, u), w \rangle = -\langle \alpha(u, v), w \rangle \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$. Thus
the only solutions to $\frac{\partial u^j}{\partial x^i} = -\frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x^j}$ are $u = u_0 + X$

Proposition 6.9. $A^{(l)} = \{(p^1(x), \dots, p^s(x))\}$ where $p^i(x)$ are $l+1$ -homogeneous symmetric polynomials such that $D_x p^i \in A, \forall x \in V$

Proof.

□

Index

Completely integrable distribution, 4

Derivation, 6

Differential ideal, 6

Differential ring, 6

Distribution(Differential geometry), 4

Foliation, 4

Frobenius theorem, 5

Integrable distribution, 4

Integral curve, 4

Integral submanifold, 4

Involutive distribution, 4

Maurer-Cartan form, 8

Overdetermined, 2

Prolongation, 14

Schwarzian, 13

Tableau, 13

V-valued differential forms, 8