# Lie Algebra for Robotics



## 1 | Lie Groups

A Lie Group is a group whose elements are organized continuously and smoothly, making it a smooth manifold.

| Special Orthogonal group SO(3)

Group of 3D rotation matrix:

$$SO(3) = \{C \in GL(3, \mathbb{R}) | det(C) = 1, C^TC = I\}$$

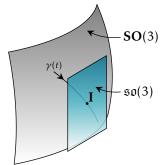
| Special Euclidian group SE(3)

Group of 3D transformation matrix:

$$\mathbf{SE}(3) = \left\{ \mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{GL}(4, \mathbb{R}) \, | \, \mathbf{C} \in \mathbf{SO}(3), \mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \right\}$$

# 2 | Lie algebra

A Lie algebra is the tangent space of the Lie group at the identity element. The tangent space is defined as  $\{\gamma'(1)\}\$  where  $\gamma(t)$ such that  $\gamma(1) = \mathbf{I}$ 



| Special Orthogonal Group  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ 

$$\mathfrak{so}(3) = \left\{ \Phi = \phi^{\wedge} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\phi_3 & \phi_2 \\ \phi_3 & 0 & -\phi_1 \\ -\phi_2 & \phi_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \middle| \phi \in \mathbb{R}^3 \right\}$$

Taking the exponential of an element in  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$  4 Adjoints leads to an element in SO(3):  $exp(\Phi) \in SO(3)$ .

$$\Phi = \phi^{\wedge} \Rightarrow \phi = \Phi^{\vee}$$

| Special Euclidian Group  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$ 

$$\mathfrak{se}(3) = \left\{ \Xi = \xi^{\wedge} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho \\ \phi \end{bmatrix}^{\wedge} = \begin{bmatrix} \phi^{\wedge} & \rho \\ \mathbf{0}^{T} & 0 \end{bmatrix} | \rho, \phi \in \mathbb{R}^{3} \right\}$$

Taking the exponential of an element in  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$  5 | Relation between spaces leads to an element in SE(3):  $exp(\Xi) \in SE(3)$ .

$$\Xi = \xi^{\wedge} \Rightarrow \xi = \Xi^{\vee}$$

# 3 | Exponential Map

For every square matrix **A**, we have

$$\exp(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \mathbf{A}^n$$
$$\ln(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})^n$$

Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff (BCH) formula

Most of the time,  $\exp(A + B) \neq \exp(A) \exp(B)$ 

$$\ln(\mathbf{C}_1\mathbf{C}_2)^{\vee} = \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \frac{1}{2}\phi_1^{\wedge}\phi_2 + \cdots$$

$$\approx \begin{cases} \mathbf{J}(\phi_2)^{-1}\phi_1 + \phi_2 & \text{if } \phi_1 \text{ small} \\ \phi_1\mathbf{J}(-\phi_1)^{-1}\phi_2 & \text{if } \phi_2 \text{ small} \end{cases}$$

$$\ln(\mathbf{T}_1 \mathbf{T}_2)^{\vee} = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \xi_1^{\wedge} \xi_2 + \cdots$$

$$\approx \begin{cases} \mathcal{J}(\xi_2)^{-1} \xi_1 + \xi_2 & \text{if } \xi_1 \text{ small} \\ \xi_1 \mathcal{J}(-\xi_1)^{-1} \xi_2 & \text{if } \xi_2 \text{ small} \end{cases}$$

The adjoint of an element of  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$  is

$$ad(\Xi) = ad(\xi^{\wedge}) = \begin{bmatrix} \phi^{\wedge} & \rho^{\wedge} \\ \mathbf{0} & \phi^{\wedge} \end{bmatrix} = \xi^{\wedge}$$

The adjoint of an element of SE(3) is

$$\mathcal{T} = \operatorname{Ad}(T) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\phi \in \mathfrak{so}(3) \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathbf{C} \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$$

$$\xi^{\wedge} \in \mathfrak{se}(3) \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathbf{T} \in \mathbf{SE}(3)$$

$$\downarrow^{\mathrm{ad}} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{\mathrm{Ad}}$$

$$\xi^{\wedge} \operatorname{ad}(\mathfrak{se}(3)) \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathcal{T} \in \operatorname{Ad}(\mathbf{SE}(3))$$

## 6 (left) Jacobians

$$\mathbf{J}(\phi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \left(\phi^{\wedge}\right)^{n} \quad \mathcal{J}(\xi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \left(\xi^{\wedge}\right)^{n}$$

The Jacobians have singularities (i.e., the inverse does not exist) at  $\phi = 2\pi m$  with m a nonzero integer.

# 7 Interpolation

The interpolation 
$$\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{C}_2 \mathbf{C}_1^T)^{\alpha} \mathbf{C}_1 \qquad \mathbf{T} = (\mathbf{T}_2 \mathbf{T}_1^{-1})^{\alpha} \mathbf{T}_1$$
 with  $\alpha \in [0,1]$ 

# **8 | Perturb Rotations and Poses**

The left perturbation avoids the singularities as we stay near the identity:

$$\mathbf{C} = \exp(\epsilon^{\wedge})\bar{\mathbf{C}} \qquad \mathbf{T} = \exp(\epsilon^{\wedge})\bar{\mathbf{T}}$$
 with  $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^3 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_{\epsilon}), \ \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^6 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_{\epsilon})$ 

# 8.1 Example: Compounding poses

We want to find the mean and covariance of T = $T_1T_2$  where  $T_1 = \exp(\varepsilon_1)\bar{T}_1$ ,  $T_2 = \exp(\varepsilon_2)\bar{T}_2$  and the errors  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$  have zero mean and covariances  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2$ .

$$\begin{split} \exp(\varepsilon^{\wedge})\bar{\mathbf{T}} &= \exp(\varepsilon_{1})\bar{\mathbf{T}}_{1} \exp(\varepsilon_{2})\bar{\mathbf{T}}_{2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \exp(\varepsilon^{\wedge}) &= \exp(\varepsilon_{1}) \exp(\bar{\mathcal{T}}_{1}\varepsilon_{2}^{\wedge}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon &= \varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2}^{\prime} + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{2}^{\prime} + \frac{1}{12}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{2}^{\prime} + \cdots \\ \text{It is then possible to find } \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon] \text{ and } \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon\varepsilon^{T}] \end{split}$$