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:

$$SO(3) = \left\{ C \in GL(3, \mathbb{R}) \mid \det(C) = 1, C^T C = \mathbf{I} \right\}$$

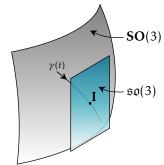
| Special Euclidian group SE(3)

Group of 3D transformation matrix:

$$\mathbf{SE}(3) = \left\{ T = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathrm{GL}(4,\mathbb{R}) \mid \mathbf{C} \in \mathbf{SO}(3), \mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \right\} \mid \mathbf{Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff (BCH) formula}$$

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 $\mathfrak{so}(3)$

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

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

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

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

$$\ln(C_1 C_2)^{\vee} = \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \phi_1^{\wedge} \phi_2 + \cdots$$

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

$$\ln(T_1 T_2)^{\vee} = \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \xi_1^{\wedge} \xi_2 + \cdots$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 (left) Jacobians

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

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

7 Interpolation

$$C = (C_2 C_1^T)^{\alpha} C_1 \qquad T = (T_2 T_1^{-1})^{\alpha} T_1$$
with $\alpha \in [0, 1]$

8 | Perturb Rotations and Poses

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

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

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 Σ_1, Σ_2 .

$$\begin{split} \exp(\varepsilon^{\wedge})\bar{T} &= \exp(\varepsilon_{1})\bar{T}_{1} \exp(\varepsilon_{2})\bar{T}_{2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \exp(\varepsilon^{\wedge}) &= \exp(\varepsilon_{1}) \exp(\bar{T}_{1}\varepsilon_{2}^{\wedge}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon &= \varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2}' + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{2}' + \frac{1}{12}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{1}'\varepsilon_{2}' + \cdots \\ \end{cases} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{1} &= \operatorname{Ad}(\bar{T}_{1}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon &= \varepsilon_{1} + \varepsilon_{2}' + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{2}' + \frac{1}{12}\varepsilon_{1}^{\wedge}\varepsilon_{1}'\varepsilon_{2}' + \cdots \\ \varepsilon_{2}' &= \bar{\mathcal{T}}_{1}\varepsilon_{2} \end{split}$$

It is then possible to find $\mathbb{E}[\varepsilon]$ and $\mathbb{E}[\varepsilon\varepsilon^T]$