

Seminário PMA - 28/05/2024

DETECTION OF REPRESENTATION ORBITS OF COMPACT LIE GROUPS FROM POINT CLOUDS

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Bernhard Riemann
1826 - 1866

Sophus Lie
1842 – 1899

Wilhelm Killing
1847 - 1923

Felix Klein
1849 – 1925

Élie Cartan
1869 - 1951

Hermann Weyl
1885 – 1955

1872, F. Klein, Vergleichende Betrachtungen über neuere geometrische Forschungen:
Non-Euclidean geometries should be studied through their symmetries (*Erlangen program*).

Winter 1873, S. Lie:

A *Lie group* is a manifold equipped with a group structure. A Lie group possesses a *Lie algebra*, which allows to work infinitesimally (Lie group–Lie algebra correspondence).

1913, E. Cartan, Theorem of the highest weight:

The irreducible representations of Lie groups are classified by their highest weights.

1935, V. Fock, Zur theorie des wasserstoffatoms:

Description of the hydrogen atom through $\text{SO}(4)$ -symmetry on top of the Schrödinger equation.

1939, Myers–Steenrod theorem:

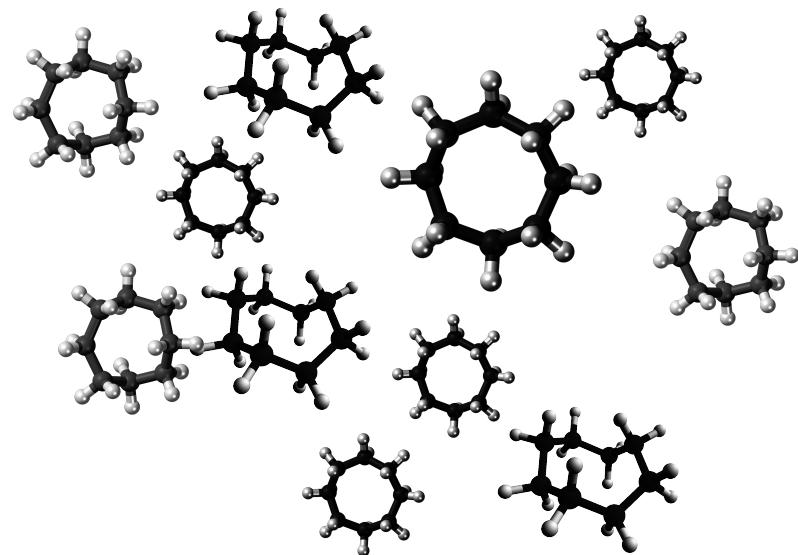
The isometry group of a Riemannian manifold is a Lie group.

Symmetries in datasets

3/31 (1/3)

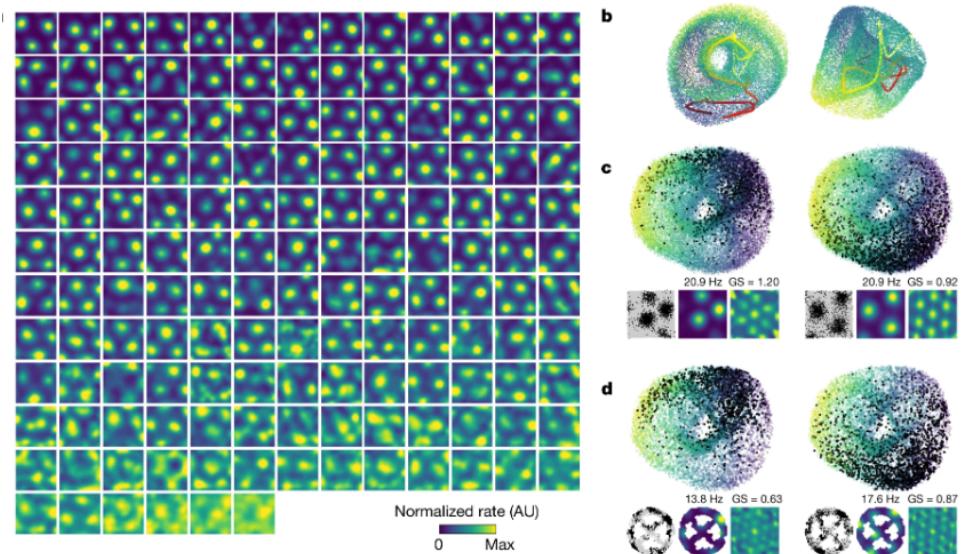
(1) Certain real-life experiments exhibit symmetric objects.

[Martin, Thompson, Coutsias & Watson, [Topology of cyclo-octane energy landscape, 2010](#)]



The space of conformation of C_8H_{16} molecules is the union of a **Klein bottle** and a **sphere**.

[Richard J. Gardner et al, [Toroidal topology of population activity in grid cells, 2022](#)]

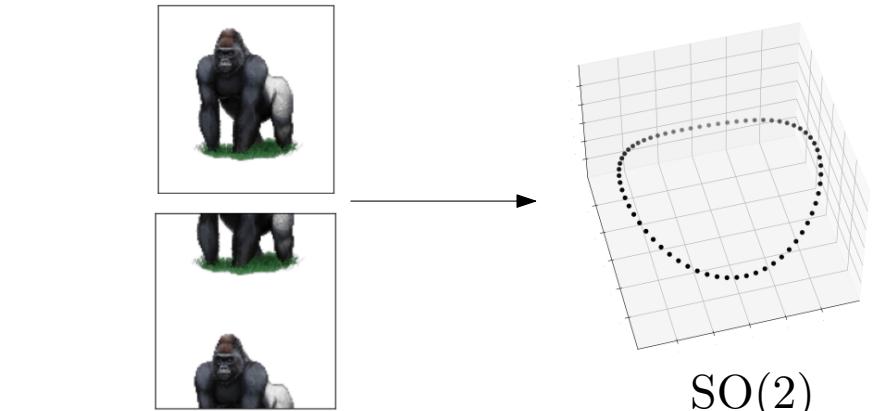
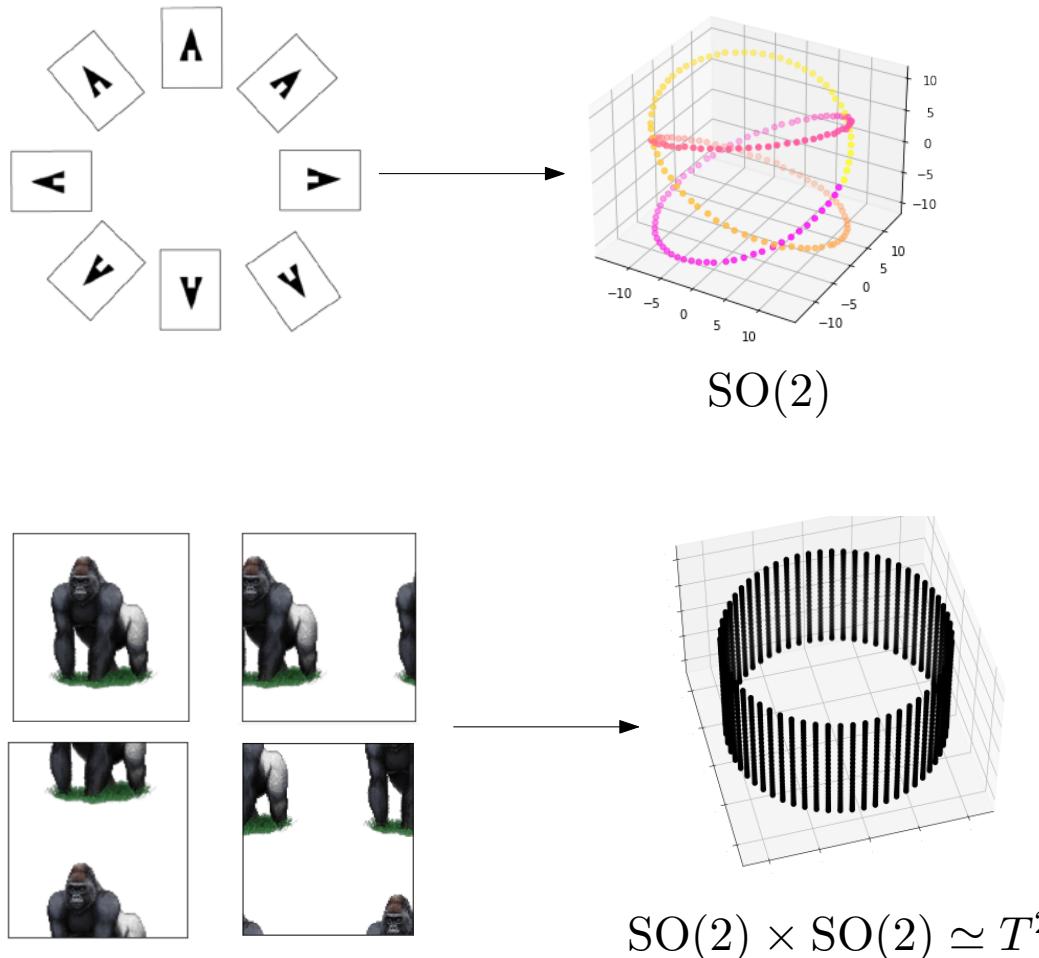


The firing matrix of grid cells in rat brains shows the connectivity of a **torus**.

Symmetries in datasets

3/31 (2/3)

- (1) Certain real-life experiments exhibit symmetric objects.
- (2) Euclidean transformations are governed by Lie group representations.



The $n \times m$ -images can be embedded in $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$. After applying permutations of the pixels, the embedded images lie on an **orbit of a Lie group representation**.

- (1) Certain real-life experiments exhibit symmetric objects.
- (2) Euclidean transformations are governed by Lie group representations.
- (3) Symmetries in Hamiltonian systems yield conservation laws.

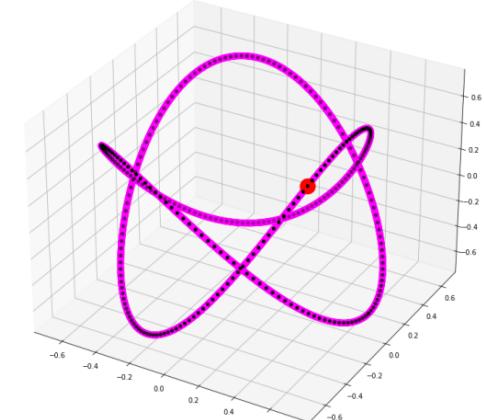
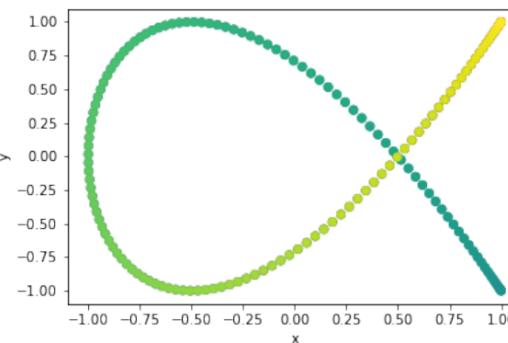
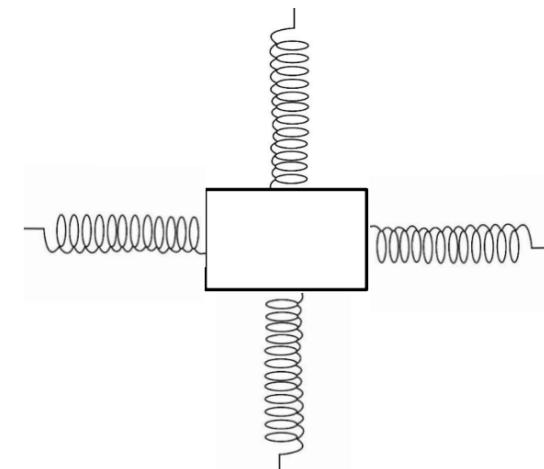
Hamiltonian's systems follow the equations

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \quad \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{p}}.$$

Let ω be the canonical symplectic form in \mathbb{R}^{2n} . A *symplectomorphism* is a Lie group representation $L : G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ on \mathbb{R}^{2n} that preserves the system's dynamics, i.e. $L(g)^* \omega = \omega \ \forall g \in G$.



Emmy Noether
1882 - 1935



Noether's theorem (1915):

If H is invariant under the action of G , then the moment mapping is conserved.

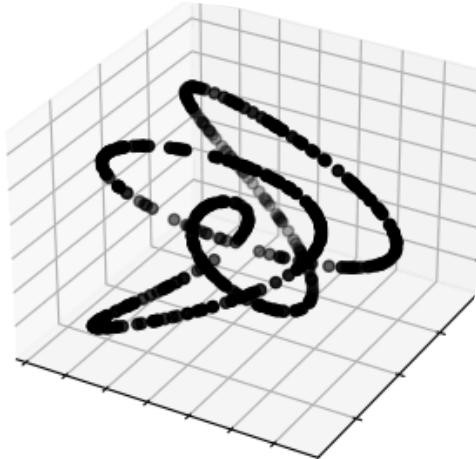
Formulation of our problem

4/31

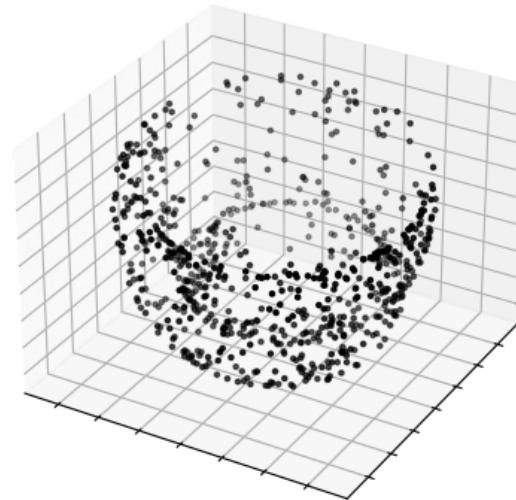
Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

Output: A compact Lie group G , a representation ϕ of it in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit \mathcal{O} close to X .

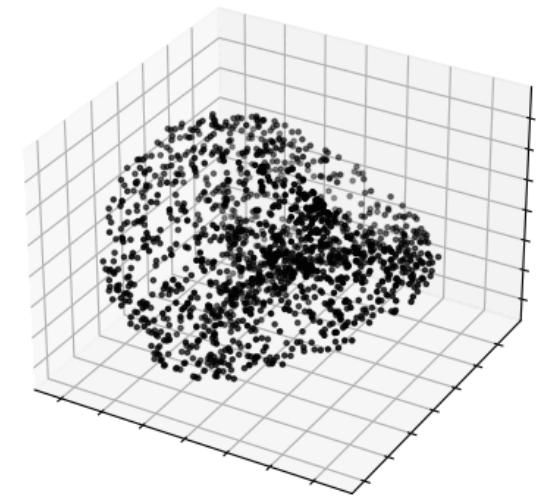
Orbit of $\text{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^6



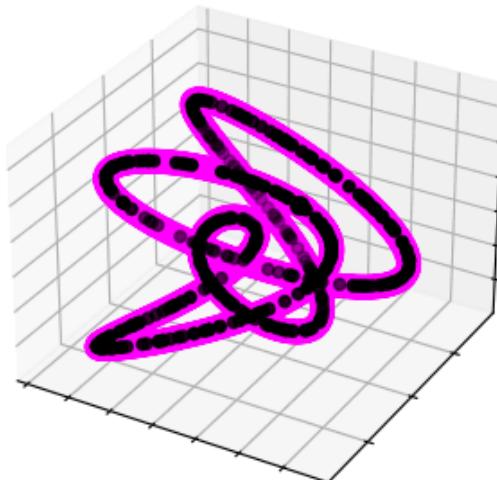
Orbit of T^2 in \mathbb{R}^6



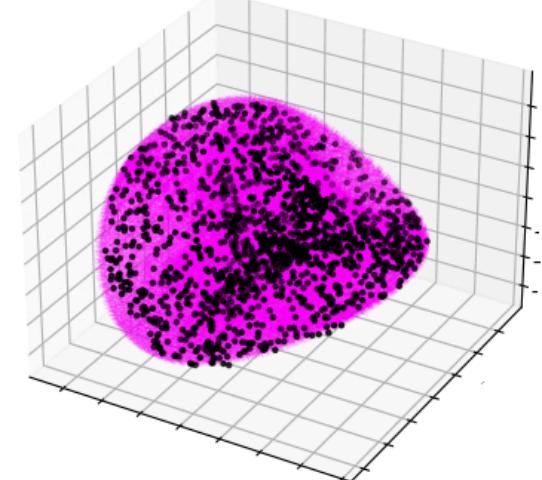
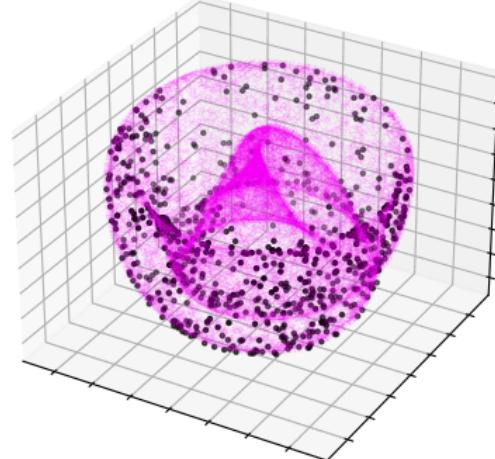
Orbit of $\text{SU}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^7



Input:



Output:



1. Lie group - Lie algebra correspondence
2. Closest Lie algebra problem
3. Examples
4. Proof of robustness

Definition: A *Lie group* is a group G that is also a smooth manifold, and such that the multiplication map $(g, h) \mapsto gh$ and the inverse map $g \mapsto g^{-1}$ are smooth.

Example: Given $n \in \mathbb{N}$ positive, one has the *matrix groups*

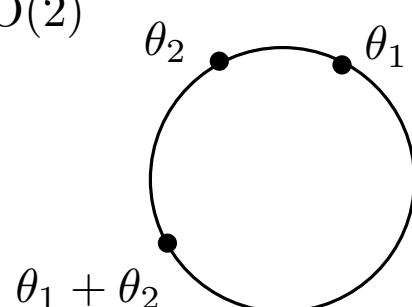
- $O(n)$ orthogonal group: the set of orthogonal $n \times n$ matrices ($A^\top = A^{-1}$)
- $SO(n)$ special orthogonal group: set of orthogonal $n \times n$ matrices of determinant +1
- $Sp(2n, \mathbb{C})$ symplectic group: the set of complex symplectic $n \times n$ matrices
- $U(n)$ unitary group: the set of complex unitary $n \times n$ matrices ($A^* = A^{-1}$)
- $SU(n)$ special unitary group: the set of complex unitary $n \times n$ matrices of determinant +1

Products of Lie groups are Lie groups:

- T^n n -torus: the product $SO(2) \times \cdots \times SO(2)$

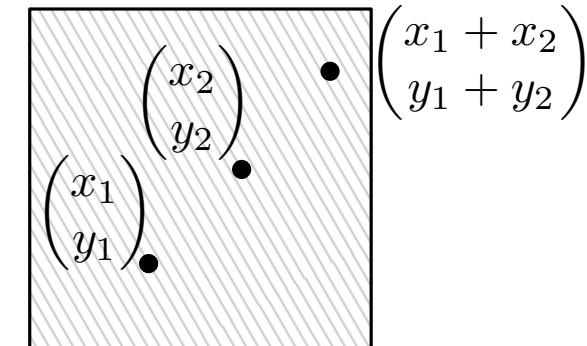
Group structure on $SO(2)$
(the circle)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$



Group structure on T^2
(Pac-Man's world)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos x & -\sin x & 0 & 0 \\ \sin x & \cos x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos y & -\sin y \\ 0 & 0 & \sin y & \cos y \end{pmatrix}$$



Definition: A *representation* of a group G in \mathbb{R}^n is a smooth group morphism $G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ (the $n \times n$ invertible matrices).

In other words, it is an immersion of G in a matrix space, that preserves the algebraic structure.

Example: Of course, matrix Lie groups come with a canonical representation, since they are already included in a matrix space.

$$\mathrm{O}(n) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathrm{SO}(n) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathrm{Sp}(2n, \mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathrm{U}(n) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathrm{SU}(n) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$$

However, more sophisticated representations exist.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathrm{SO}(2) & \\
 \swarrow & & \searrow \\
 \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{R}) & & \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})
 \end{array}$$

$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos 3\theta & -\sin 3\theta \\ \sin 3\theta & \cos 3\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Representation of Lie groups

7/31 (2/4)

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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
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\swarrow & & \searrow \\
\mathrm{GL}_4(\mathbb{R}) & & \mathrm{GL}_4(\mathbb{R}) \\
\theta \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{cccc} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) & \downarrow & \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{array} \right) \\
& & & \\
& \left(\begin{array}{cccc} \cos 2\theta & -\sin 2\theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin 2\theta & \cos 2\theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos 5\theta & -\sin 5\theta \\ 0 & 0 & \sin 5\theta & \cos 5\theta \end{array} \right) &
\end{array}$$

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However, more sophisticated representations exist.

Definition: Two representations $\phi_1, \phi_2: G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ are *equivalent* if there exists $A \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\phi_2 = A\phi_1 A^{-1}$.

They are “equal up to a change of coordinates”.

Proposition: Representations of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^{2n} are classified by $\mathbb{Z}^n / \mathfrak{S}_n$ (tuples up to permutation). More precisely, to $(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ is associated a representation $\phi_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)}: \mathrm{SO}(2) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$.

$$\phi_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} R(\omega_1\theta) & & & \\ & R(\omega_2\theta) & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & R(\omega_n\theta) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad R(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

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Proposition: Representations of T^2 in \mathbb{R}^{2n} are classified by $(\mathbb{Z}^n)^2/\mathfrak{S}_n$ ($2 \times n$ matrix up to permutation of the columns).

More generally, the equivalence classes representations are studied through combinations of *irreducible representations*.

Orbits

8/31 (1/3)

Definition: Let $G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a representation of G in \mathbb{R}^n , and $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ a point. The *orbit* of x_0 under the action of G is $\mathcal{O} = \{\phi(g)x_0 \mid g \in G\}$.

Example: Orbits of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ are “circles”. For instance, the orbit of $(1, 0)$ under the representation

- $\mathrm{SO}(2) \longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$

$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

is $\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \mid \theta \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

The orbit of $(1, 0, 1, 0)$ under the representation

- $\mathrm{SO}(2) \longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_4(\mathbb{R})$

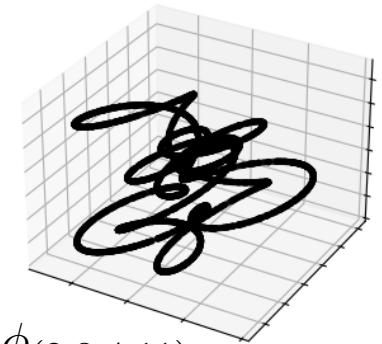
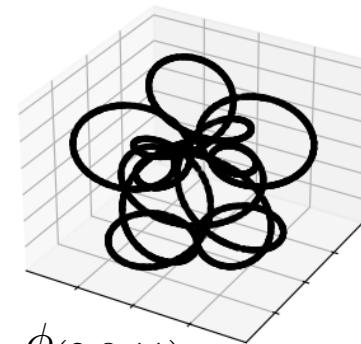
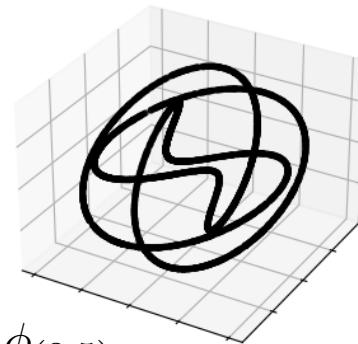
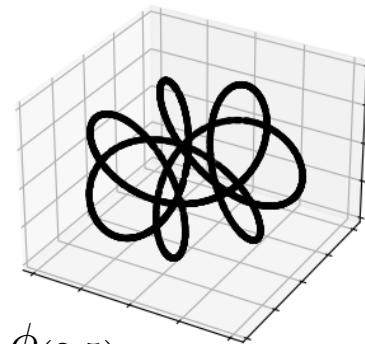
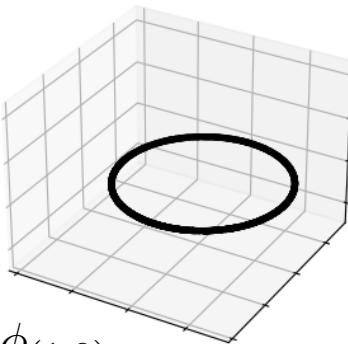
$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is $\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid \theta \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

- $\mathrm{SO}(2) \longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_4(\mathbb{R})$

$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\theta & -\sin 2\theta & 0 & 0 \\ \sin 2\theta & \cos 2\theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos 5\theta & -\sin 5\theta \\ 0 & 0 & \sin 5\theta & \cos 5\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

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Orbits

8/31 (2/3)

Definition: Let $G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a representation of G in \mathbb{R}^n , and $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ a point. The *orbit* of x_0 under the action of G is $\mathcal{O} = \{\phi(g)x_0 \mid g \in G\}$.

Example: Orbit of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ are “circles”.

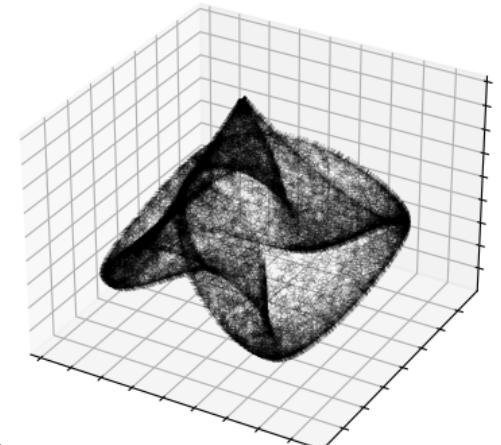
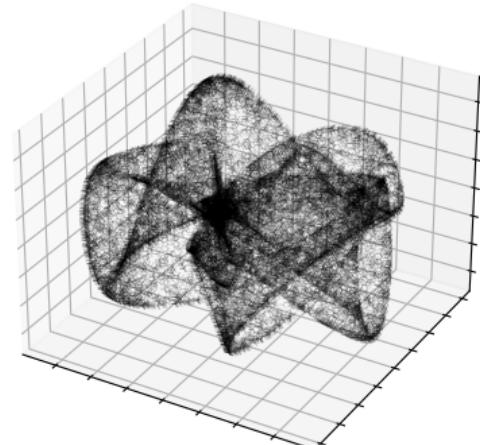
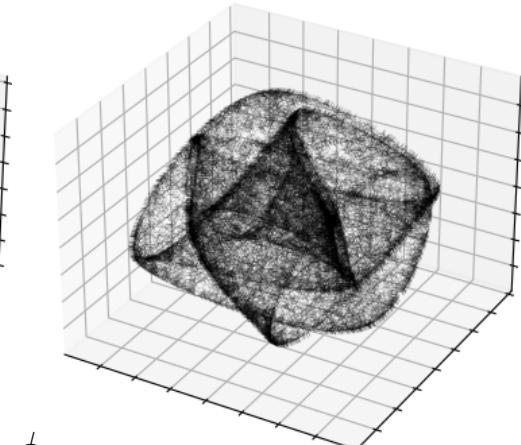
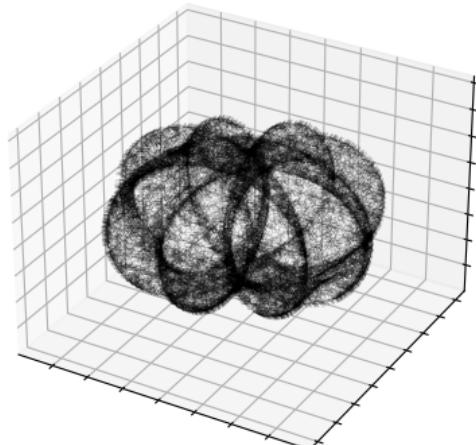
Example: Orbit of T^2 are “tori”. For instance, the orbit of $(1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0)$ under the representation

- $T^2 \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_6(\mathbb{R})$

$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cos 3\theta & -\sin 3\theta \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sin 3\theta & \cos 3\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mu \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \mu & -\sin \mu & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \sin \mu & \cos \mu & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos 2\mu & -\sin 2\mu & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin 2\mu & \cos 2\mu & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cos \mu & -\sin \mu \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sin \mu & \cos \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

is $\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta + \cos \mu \\ \sin \theta + \sin \mu \\ \cos \theta + \cos 2\mu \\ \sin \theta + \sin 2\mu \\ \cos 3\theta + \cos \mu \\ \sin 3\theta + \sin \mu \end{pmatrix} \mid (\theta, \mu) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \right\}$



$\phi((1 1 3)(1 2 1))$

$\phi((1 2 2)(2 1 1))$

$\phi((-2 2 0 1)(-1 0 -2 1))$

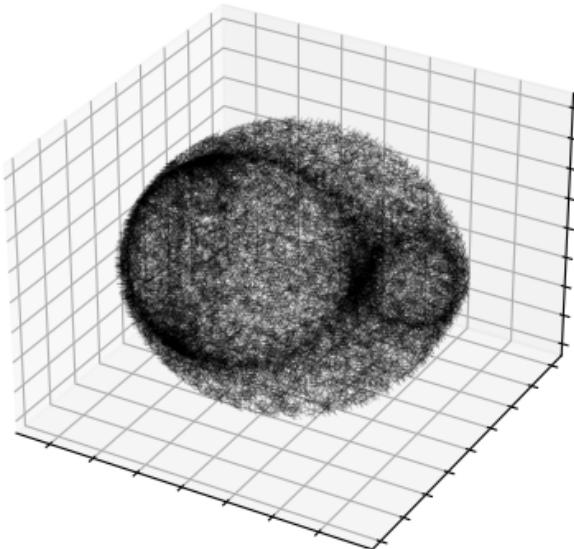
$\phi((2 -2 0 2)(1 1 -1 2))$

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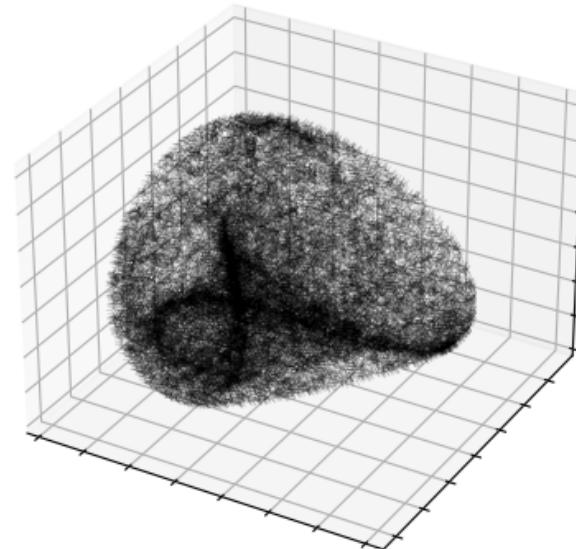
Example: Orbits of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ are “circles”.

Example: Orbits of T^2 are “tori”.

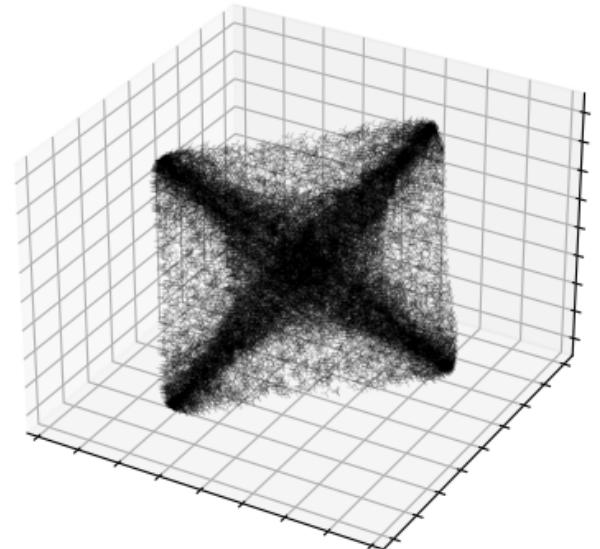
Example: Orbits of $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ and $\mathrm{SU}(2)$ are “spheres”.



$\psi_{(5)}$ in \mathbb{R}^5



$\psi_{(3,4)}$ in \mathbb{R}^7



$\psi_{(8)}$ in \mathbb{R}^8

Let G be a Lie group, $0 \in G$ the identity element and $\mathfrak{g} = T_0 G$ the tangent space.

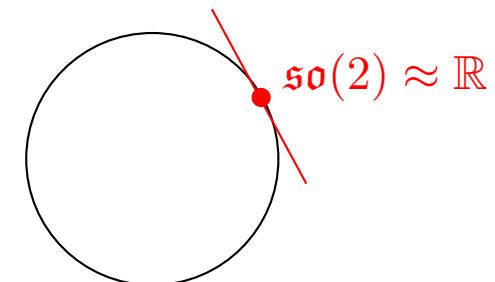
There exists an **exponential map**, denoted $\exp: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$. It is smooth. When G is connected and compact, it is surjective.

Remark: Any compact Lie group admits a (bi-invariant) Riemannian metric for which the Lie-exponential and Riemann-exponential coincide.

Example: In the case of matrix groups, the exponential map is simply the matrix exponential.

$$\bullet \text{SO}(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -\sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \quad \xleftarrow{\exp} \quad \mathfrak{so}(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -t \\ t & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$\text{One has } \exp \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -t \\ t & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -\sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\bullet \text{SO}(3) = \{A \in \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^\top = A^{-1}, \det A = 1\} \quad \xleftarrow{\exp} \quad \mathfrak{so}(3) = \langle X_1, X_2, X_3 \rangle \text{ where}$$

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Caution: In general, $\exp(t_1 X_1 + t_2 X_2 + t_3 X_3) \neq \exp(t_1 X_1) \exp(t_2 X_2) \exp(t_3 X_3)$.

Actually, the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} of a Lie group G admits an algebraic structure, called **Lie bracket**.

It is a bilinear map $\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ that satisfies the Jacobi identity.

It is denoted $[A, B]$, where $A, B \in \mathfrak{g}$.

Example: In the case of matrix groups, the Lie bracket is simply the commutator

$$[A, B] = AB - BA.$$

For instance, in $\text{SO}(3)$, one has $[X_1, X_2] = X_3$, $[X_2, X_3] = X_1$ and $[X_1, X_3] = -X_2$, where

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remark: The Lie algebra contains a lot of information regarding the Lie group.

For instance, for simply connected Lie groups G_1 and G_2 , one has $\mathfrak{g}_1 \simeq \mathfrak{g}_2 \implies G_1 \simeq G_2$.

Lie algebras allow to study representations from an infinitesimal viewpoint.

Proposition: Given a representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, there exists a morphism $d\phi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{R})$ of Lie algebras, called **derived representation**, such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) \\ \exp \uparrow & & \uparrow \exp \\ \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{d\phi} & \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{R}) \quad = n \times n \text{ matrices} \end{array}$$

Remark: In practice, we prefer to work with **orthogonal representations**, i.e., such that $\phi(G) \subset \mathrm{SO}(n)$. In this case, the diagram reads

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathrm{SO}(n) \\ \exp \uparrow & & \uparrow \exp \\ \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{d\phi} & \mathfrak{so}(n) \quad = \text{skew-symmetric } n \times n \text{ matrices} \end{array}$$

The image $d\phi(\mathfrak{g}) \subset \mathfrak{so}(n)$ is called the **push-forward Lie algebra**. It will play a key role in our problem.

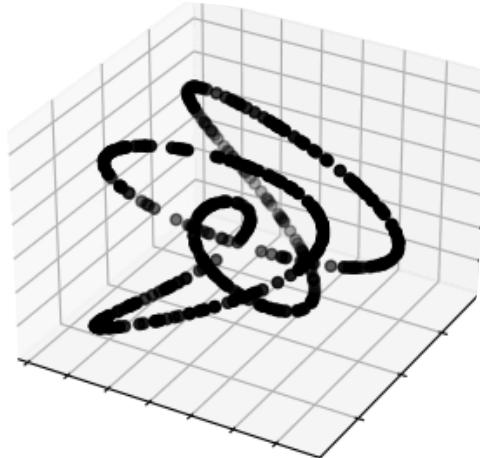
1. Lie group - Lie algebra correspondence
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Formulation of our problem - infinitesimal viewpoint 13/31 (1/3)

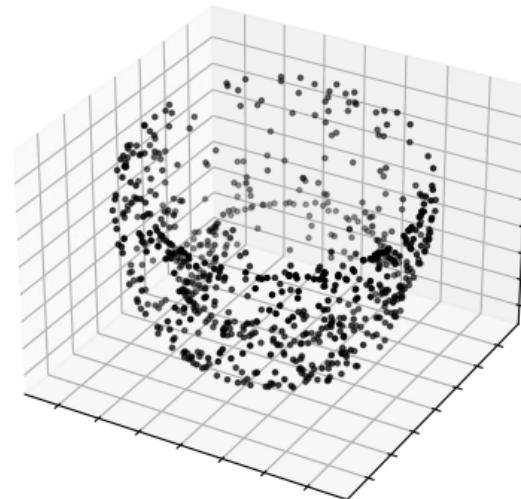
Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

Output: An **orthogonal** representation ϕ of a compact Lie group G in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit \mathcal{O} close to X .

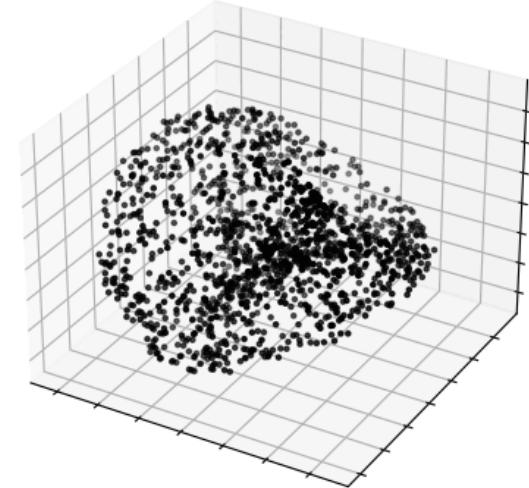
Orbit of $\text{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^6



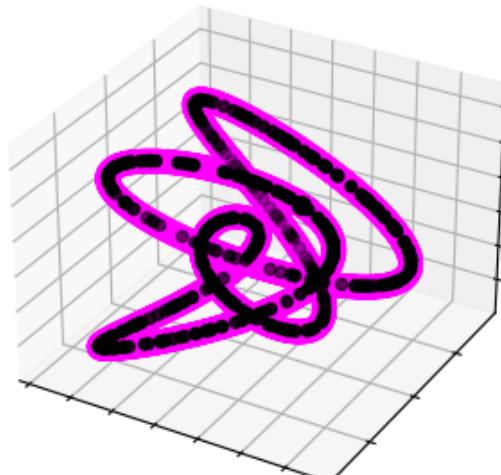
Orbit of T^2 in \mathbb{R}^6



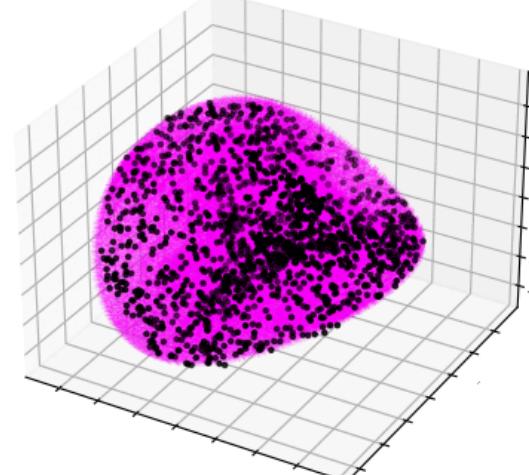
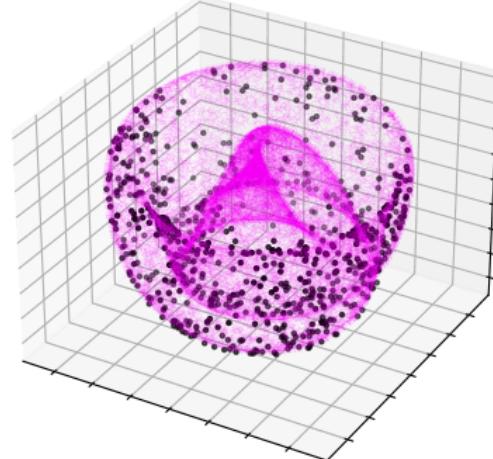
Orbit of $\text{SU}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^7



Input:



Output:



Formulation of our problem - infinitesimal viewpoint 13/31 (2/3)

Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

Output: An **orthogonal** representation ϕ of a compact Lie group G in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit \mathcal{O} close to X .

Idea: Obtain the best orbit \mathcal{O} via mean squared error.

Problem: It is unclear how to compute the projection of X on \mathcal{O} .

Formulation of our problem - infinitesimal viewpoint

13/31 (3/3)

Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

Output: An **orthogonal** representation ϕ of a compact Lie group G in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit \mathcal{O} close to X .

Idea: Obtain the best orbit \mathcal{O} via mean squared error.

Problem: It is unclear how to compute the projection of X on \mathcal{O} .

Other idea: Instead of estimating the representation ϕ , aim for the push-forward algebra $\mathfrak{h} = d\phi(\mathfrak{g})$. Then \mathcal{O} is obtained by exponentiating it:

$$\mathcal{O} = \phi(G) \cdot x = \exp(\mathfrak{h}) \cdot x = \{\exp(A)x \mid A \in \mathfrak{h}\},$$

where x is any element of \mathcal{O} . The algebra \mathfrak{h} is found as a Lie subalgebra of $\mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O})$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \phi(G) & \subset & \text{Sym}(\mathcal{O}) & \subset & \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) \\ \exp \uparrow & & \exp \uparrow & & \exp \uparrow & & \exp \uparrow \\ \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{d\phi} & \mathfrak{h} & \subset & \mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O}) & \subset & \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{R}) \end{array}$$

Symmetry group:

$$\text{Sym}(\mathcal{O}) = \{P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid P\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}\}$$

Symmetry algebra:

$$\mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O}) = \{P \in \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exp(P) \in \text{Sym}(\mathcal{O})\}$$

[Cahill, Mixon & Parshall, [Lie PCA: Density estimation for symmetric manifolds, 2023](#)]

Lie-PCA is a recently developed algorithm allowing to estimate \mathfrak{h} from X .

The output, denoted $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}} = \text{span}\{\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathfrak{h}}_d\}$, is a d -dimensional linear subspace of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$.

Lie-PCA operator: $\Lambda: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is defined as

$$\Lambda(A) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \widehat{\Pi}[N_{x_i} X] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle]$$

where

- the $\widehat{\Pi}[N_{x_i} X]$ are estimation of projection matrices on the normal spaces $N_{x_i} \mathcal{O}$,
- the $\Pi[\langle x_i \rangle]$ are the projection matrices on the lines $\langle x_i \rangle$.

We define $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$ as the subspace spanned by the bottom eigenvectors $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathfrak{h}}_d$ of Λ .

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Derivation of Lie-PCA: Based on the fact that $\mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O}) = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid \forall x \in \mathcal{O}, Ax \in T_x \mathcal{O}\}$, where $T_x \mathcal{O}$ denotes the tangent space of \mathcal{O} at x . In other words,

$$\mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O}) = \bigcap_{x \in \mathcal{O}} S_x \mathcal{O} \quad \text{where} \quad S_x \mathcal{O} = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid Ax \in T_x \mathcal{O}\},$$

Using only the point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, we consider

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^N S_{x_i} \mathcal{O} = \ker \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \Pi[(S_{x_i} \mathcal{O})^\perp] \right),$$

Besides, the authors show that $\Pi[(S_{x_i} \mathcal{O})^\perp](A) = \Pi[N_{x_i} \mathcal{O}] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle]$. One naturally puts

$$\Lambda(A) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \widehat{\Pi}[N_{x_i} X] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle]$$

where $\widehat{\Pi}[N_{x_i} X]$ is an estimation of $\Pi[N_{x_i} \mathcal{O}]$ computed from the observation X .

Other idea: Instead of estimating the representation ϕ , aim for the push-forward algebra $\mathfrak{h} = d\phi(\mathfrak{g})$. Then \mathcal{O} is obtained by exponentiating it.

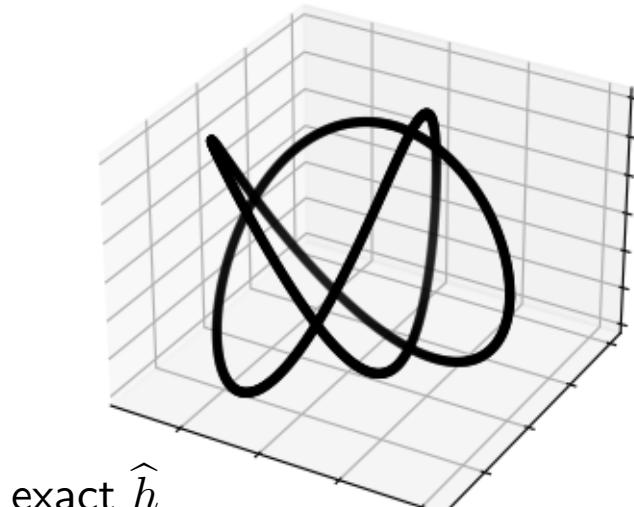
$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathrm{SO}(n) \\ \uparrow \exp & & \uparrow \exp \\ \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{d\phi} & \mathfrak{so}(n) \end{array}$$

Definition of orbit: $\mathcal{O} = \{\phi(g)x \mid g \in G\}$

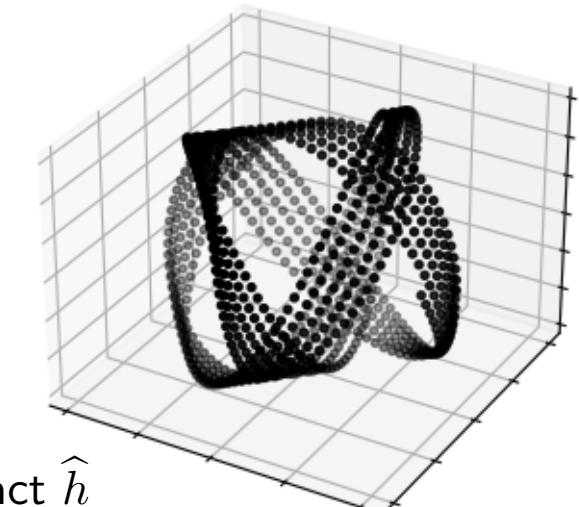
From the Lie algebra: $\mathcal{O} = \{\exp(h)x \mid h \in \mathfrak{h}\}$

Via Lie-PCA, we get $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$, a d -dimensional linear subspace of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$. It is an estimation of \mathfrak{h} .

Problem: The subspace $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$ is estimated as if it were a linear subspace. It may not be a Lie algebra (for $A, B \in \widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$, we must have $AB - BA \in \widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$).



Exponentiating a non-Lie algebra, or a Lie algebra not coming from a compact Lie group, may yield large errors



We wish to project $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$ on the closest Lie algebra. We work in $\mathfrak{so}(n)$, the set of skew-symmetric $n \times n$ matrices. It has dimension $n(n + 1)/2$. It is endowed with the Frobenius inner product and norm

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} b_{i,j} \quad \text{and} \quad \|A\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j}}.$$

Stiefel variety of Lie algebras

Treat the d -dimensional subspaces of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ as $n(n - 1)/2 \times d$ matrices

$\mathcal{V}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is defined as the **set of d -frames** (A_1, \dots, A_d) of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ (i.e., normalized and pairwise orthogonal) with the Lie algebra condition: $\forall i, j \in [1, \dots, n], A_i A_j - A_j A_i \in \langle A_1, \dots, A_d \rangle$.

The problem is

$$\min \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^d \|\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}_i - A_i\|^2 \mid (A_1, \dots, A_d) \in \mathcal{V}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n)) \right\}$$

Grassmannian variety of Lie algebras

Treat the d -dimensional subspaces of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ as $n(n - 1)/2 \times n(n - 1)/2$ matrices

$\mathcal{G}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is defined as the **set of orthogonal projection matrices** of rank d on $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ with the Lie algebra condition: $\forall i, j \in [1, \dots, n], P(Pe_i \cdot Pe_j - Pe_j \cdot Pe_i) = Pe_i \cdot Pe_j - Pe_j \cdot Pe_i$ where $(e_1, \dots, e_{n(n+1)/2})$ is an orthonormal basis of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$.

The problem is

$$\min \left\{ \|\text{proj}[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}] - P\| \mid P \in \mathcal{G}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n)) \right\}$$

Written explicitly in matrix form, this reads:

Stiefel variety of Lie algebras

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^d \|\hat{\mathfrak{h}}_i - A_i\|^2 \text{ such that } \begin{cases} \forall i \in [1 \dots, d], \quad A_i \text{ is a } (n \times n)\text{-matrix}, \\ \forall i \in [1 \dots, d], \quad A^\top = -A, \\ \forall i, j \in [1 \dots, d], \quad \sum_{k=1}^d \langle A_k, A_i A_j - A_j A_i \rangle^2 = \|A_i A_j - A_j A_i\|^2. \end{cases}$$

Grassmannian variety of Lie algebras

$$\min \|\text{proj}[\hat{\mathfrak{h}}] - P\| \text{ such that } \begin{cases} P \text{ is a } (n(n+1)/2 \times n(n+1)/2)\text{-matrix}, \\ P^2 = P, \\ P^\top = P, \\ \text{rank}(P) = d, \\ \forall i, j \in [1 \dots, d], \quad P(Pe_i \cdot Pe_j - Pe_j \cdot Pe_i) = Pe_i \cdot Pe_j - Pe_j \cdot Pe_i. \end{cases}$$

Problem: (1) These programs seem intractable (they contain the classification of Lie algebras)
 (2) Actually, a Lie algebra in $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ may not even come from a compact Lie group.

Idea: Fix a compact Lie group G , and restrict the Stiefel $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ and the Grassmannian $\mathcal{G}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ to the Lie algebras that are push-forward of G .

From now on, G is a fixed compact Lie group of dimension d .

Stiefel variety of pushforward Lie algebras of G

$\mathcal{V}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is defined as the set of $(A_1, \dots, A_d) \in \mathcal{V}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ for which there exists an orthogonal representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \text{SO}(n)$ such that $d\phi(\mathfrak{g})$ is spanned by (A_1, \dots, A_d) .

Lemma: Seen as a subset of the $n(n+1)/2 \times d$ matrices, the connected components of $\mathcal{V}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ are in correspondence with the **orbit-equivalence classes** of orthogonal representations of G in \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition: We say that two representations $\phi, \phi': G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ are *orbit-equivalent* if there exists a matrix $M \in \text{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $d\phi(\mathfrak{g}) = M d\phi'(\mathfrak{g}) M^{-1}$. In particular, their orbits are conjugated. We shall denote by $\text{orb}(G, n)$ a set of representatives of the orbit-equivalence classes.

Grassmannian variety of pushforward Lie algebras of G

$\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is defined as the set consisting of those elements $P \in \mathcal{G}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ for which there exists an orthogonal representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \text{SO}(n)$ such that P is the projection matrix on $d\phi(\mathfrak{g})$.

Lemma: Seen as a subset of the $n(n+1)/2 \times n(n+1)/2$ matrices, the connected components of $\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ are also in correspondence with the orbit-equivalence of G in \mathbb{R}^n .

From now on, G is a fixed compact Lie group of dimension d .

Stiefel variety of pushforward Lie algebras of G

$\mathcal{V}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is defined as the set of $(A_1, \dots, A_d) \in \mathcal{V}^{\text{Lie}}(d, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ for which there exists an orthogonal representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \text{SO}(n)$ such that $d\phi(\mathfrak{g})$ is spanned by (A_1, \dots, A_d) .

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Lemma: For any $(A_1, \dots, A_d) \in \mathcal{V}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$, there exists an integer $p \geq 1$, a p -tuple $(B^1, \dots, B^p) \in \text{orb}(G, n)$ and two matrices $O \in \text{O}(n)$ and $P \in \text{O}(d)$ such that, for all $i \in [1 \dots d]$,

$$A_i = \sum_{j=1}^d P_{j,i} O \text{diag}(B_j^k)_{k=1}^p O^\top.$$

In particular, the subspace $\langle A_1, \dots, A_d \rangle \subset \mathfrak{so}(n)$ is spanned by the matrices

$$O \text{diag}(B_1^k)_{k=1}^p O^\top, \quad O \text{diag}(B_2^k)_{k=1}^p O^\top, \quad \dots, \quad O \text{diag}(B_p^k)_{k=1}^p O^\top.$$

Corollary: The problem $\min \left\{ \|\text{proj}[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}] - P\| \mid P \in \mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n)) \right\}$ is equivalent to

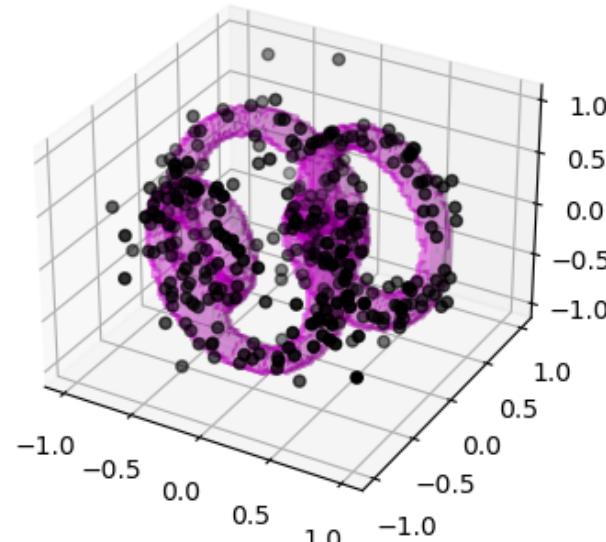
$$\min \left\| \text{proj}[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}] - \text{proj}[\langle O \text{diag}(B_i^k)_{k=1}^p O^\top \rangle_{i=1}^d] \right\| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} (B^1, \dots, B^p) \in \mathfrak{orb}(G, n), \\ O \in O(n). \end{cases}$$

Remark: This is a discrete-continuous problem.

It splits into N minimization problems over $O(n)$, where N is the cardinal of $\mathfrak{orb}(G, n)$.

In practice, we perform a gradient descent with line search over $O(n)$, with QR-retraction.

Remark: To apply this result in practice, one must have access to an explicit description of $\mathfrak{orb}(G, n)$. We worked out the cases of $\text{SO}(2)$, T^d , $\text{SO}(3)$ and $\text{SU}(2)$.



1. Lie group - Lie algebra correspondence
2. Closest Lie algebra problem
3. Examples
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Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a compact Lie group G .

Output: A representation $\hat{\phi}$ of G in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit $\hat{\mathcal{O}}$ close to X .

Step 1: Orthonormalization Apply dimension reduction and orthonormalization.

Step 2: Lie-PCA Diagonalize the Lie-PCA operator $\Lambda: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Step 3: Closest Lie algebra Estimate $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}$ through an optimization program over $O(n)$.

Step 4: Generate the orbit Deduce $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \exp(\hat{\mathfrak{h}}) \cdot x$ and check that it is close to X .

Overview of the algorithm

18/31 (2/2)

Input: A point cloud $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a compact Lie group G .

Output: A representation $\hat{\phi}$ of G in \mathbb{R}^n , and an orbit $\hat{\mathcal{O}}$ close to X .

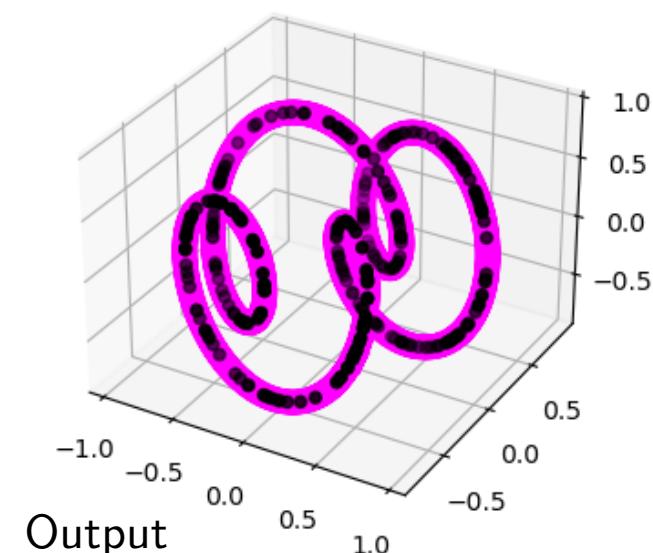
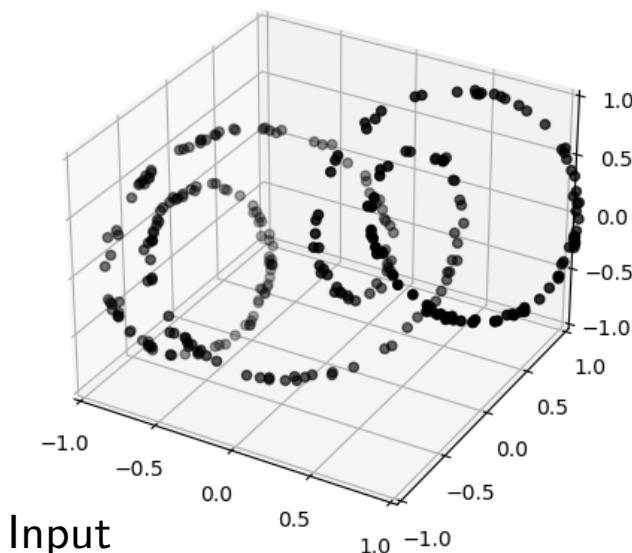
Example: Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^4$ be a 300-sample of

$$\mathcal{O} = \{(\cos t, 2 \sin t, \cos 4t, \sin 4t) \mid t \in [0, 2\pi)\}.$$

It is an orbit of $\text{SO}(2)$ for the representation $\phi: \text{SO}(2) \rightarrow M_4(\mathbb{R})$ defined as

$$t \mapsto \text{diag}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -(1/2) \sin t \\ 2 \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \cos 4t & -\sin 4t \\ \sin 4t & \cos 4t \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

We expect the algorithm to output a faithful approximation of ϕ and \mathcal{O} .



Step 1: Orthonormalization

19/31 (1/2)

We wish to normalize the orbit \mathcal{O} so as to make ϕ an orthogonal representation,
i.e., such that ϕ takes values in $O(n)$,
i.e., such that \mathcal{O} lies in a sphere of a certain radius.

Fact: there exists a positive-definite matrix M such that the conjugated representation $M\phi M^{-1}$ is orthogonal. Orbits are obtained by left translation by M .

We find M as the square root of the Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse of the **covariance matrix**:

$$M = \sqrt{\Sigma[X]^+} \quad \text{where} \quad \Sigma[X] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i x_i^\top.$$

Example: With $M = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{diag}(1, 1/2, 1, 1)$,

$$\phi: t \mapsto \text{diag}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -(1/2) \sin t \\ 2 \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \cos 4t & -\sin 4t \\ \sin 4t & \cos 4t \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$M\phi M^{-1}: t \mapsto \text{diag}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \cos 4t & -\sin 4t \\ \sin 4t & \cos 4t \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{O} = \{(\cos t, 2 \sin t, \cos 4t, \sin 4t) \mid t \in [0, 2\pi)\}.$$

$$M\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\cos t, \sin t, \cos 4t, \sin 4t) \mid t \in [0, 2\pi) \right\}.$$

Dimension reduction: In addition, we apply Principal Component Analysis to X . Let ϵ be parameter, and $\Pi_{\Sigma[X]}^{>\epsilon}$ be the projection matrix on the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the eigenvectors of $\Sigma[X]$ of eigenvalue greater than ϵ . We set $X \leftarrow \Pi_{\Sigma[X]}^{>\epsilon} X$.

This has the effect of:

- reducing the computational cost of the next steps,
- avoiding numerical errors, when computing the pseudo-inverse of $\Sigma[X]$,
- ensuring that we will estimate non-trivial representations.

Intrinsic/extrinsic symmetries: For a Riemannian manifold \mathcal{M} isometrically embedded in \mathbb{R}^n ,

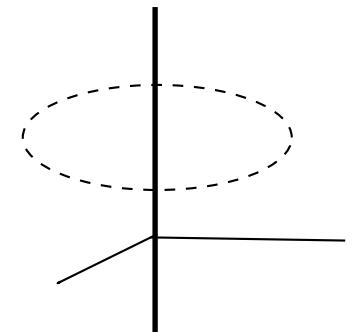
- $\text{Isom}(\mathcal{M})$: the set of diffeomorphisms $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ that preserve the metric,
- $\text{Sym}(\mathcal{M}) = \{P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid P\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}\}$.

By restricting the action of the matrices P to \mathcal{M} , we obtain a group homomorphism

$$\text{Sym}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \text{Isom}(\mathcal{M}).$$

It may not be injective, since certain matrices P may act trivially on \mathcal{M} .

This is avoided by projecting \mathcal{M} into the subspace it spans.



We have calculated a representation $\widehat{\phi}: G \rightarrow \mathrm{SO}(n)$ and pushforward Lie algebra $\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}$. We now exponentiate it: let $x \in X$ arbitrary and

$$\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \exp(\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}) \cdot x = \{ \exp(A)x \mid A \in \widehat{\mathfrak{h}} \}.$$

In practice, it is enough to compute

$$\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \{ \exp(A)x \mid A \in \mathfrak{h}, \|A\| \leq \delta \times \mathrm{diam}(G) \}$$

where $\mathrm{diam}(G)$ is the diameter of G (endowed with a bi-invariant Riemannian structure) and δ is a Lipschitz constant for $\widehat{\phi}$.

Hausdorff distance: As a sanity check, we compute the one-sided Hausdorff distance

$$d_H(X | \widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x).$$

Wasserstein distance: Hausdorff distance is not suited when X has anomalous points. In this case, we consider

$$\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_{x_i}} \quad \text{with } \mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_{x_i}} \text{ uniform measure on } \widehat{\mathcal{O}}_{x_i} \text{ (pushforward of Haar measure on } G\text{)}$$

and compute the Wasserstein distance $W_2(\mu_X, \mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}})$.

Step 3 - Case of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$

21/31 (1/2)

Let $G = \mathrm{SO}(2)$, whose dimension is $d = 1$.

In this case, the output \widehat{h} of Lie-PCA is a skew symmetric $n \times n$ matrix. Let us denote it A .

Suppose that n is even. The representations of $\mathrm{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^n take the form

$$\phi_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2})}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} R(\omega_1 \theta) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & R(\omega_{n/2} \theta) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad R(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

and where $(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n/2}$. In practice, we fix a maximal frequency $\omega_{\max} \in \mathbb{N}$.

The corresponding pushforward Lie algebra is spanned by the matrix

$$B_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2})} = \begin{pmatrix} L(\omega_1) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & L(\omega_{n/2}) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad L(\omega) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\omega \\ \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

In this context, the minimization problem reads

$$\min \| \mathrm{proj}[A] - \mathrm{proj}[OB_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2})}O^\top] \| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n/2}, \\ O \in \mathrm{O}(n). \end{cases}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\min \| A \pm OB_{(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2})}O^\top \| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{n/2}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n/2}, \\ O \in \mathrm{O}(n). \end{cases}$$

We recognize a **two-sided orthogonal Procrustes problem with one transformation**.

Step 3 - Case of $\text{SO}(2)$

21/31 (2/2)

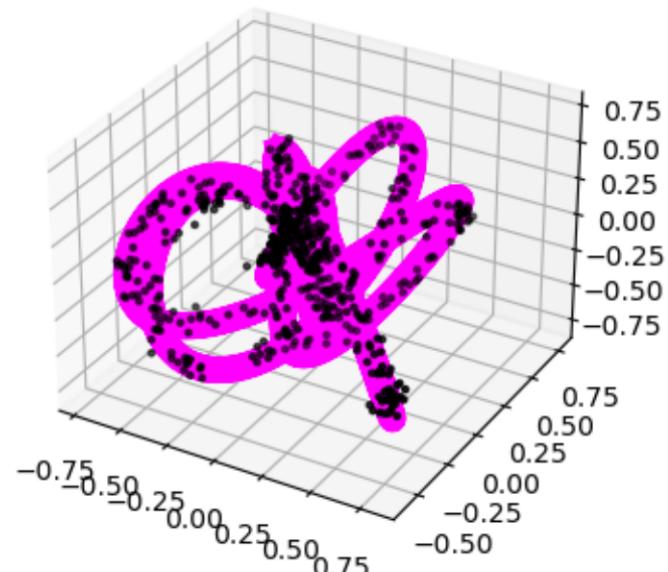
Example: We consider a representation of $\text{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^{10} with frequencies $(2, 4, 5, 7, 8)$ and sample 600 points on one of its orbits, that we corrupt with a Gaussian additive noise of deviation $\sigma = 0.03$.

We perform the minimization over all representations of $\text{SO}(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^{10} , with parameter $\omega_{\max} = 10$.

Representation	$(2, 4, 5, 7, 8)$	$(2, 5, 6, 8, 9)$	$(3, 5, 7, 9, 10)$	$(3, 6, 7, 9, 10)$	$(3, 5, 6, 8, 9)$	$(2, 4, 5, 6, 7)$
Cost	0.028	0.032	0.037	0.037	0.038	0.044
Representation	$(3, 5, 6, 9, 10)$	$(2, 5, 7, 9, 10)$	$(2, 3, 4, 5, 6)$	$(2, 5, 6, 9, 10)$	$(2, 6, 7, 9, 10)$	$(3, 5, 6, 8, 10)$
Cost	0.046	0.055	0.057	0.058	0.058	0.058

The correct representation is found.

As a sanity check, we compute the Hausdorff distance between the point cloud and the estimated orbit: $d_H(X \mid \hat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 0.231$.



Let $G = T^d$, the torus of dimension d .

In this case, the output \widehat{h} of Lie-PCA is a d -tuple (A_1, \dots, A_d) of skew symmetric $n \times n$ matrices.

The representations of T^d in \mathbb{R}^n take the form

$$\phi_{(\omega_i^j)}(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_d) = \sum_{j=1}^d \phi_{(\omega_1^j, \dots, \omega_{n/2}^j)}(\theta_j)$$

where $(\omega_i^j)_{1 \leq i \leq n/2}^{1 \leq j \leq d}$ is a $n/2 \times d$ matrix with integer coefficients.

The push-forward Lie algebra is spanned by

$$B_{(\omega_1^1, \dots, \omega_{n/2}^1)}, \quad B_{(\omega_1^2, \dots, \omega_{n/2}^2)}, \quad \dots, \quad B_{(\omega_1^d, \dots, \omega_{n/2}^d)}.$$

In this context, the minimization problem reads

$$\min \left\| \text{proj}[\langle A_i \rangle_{j=1}^d] - \text{proj}[\langle OB_{(\omega_1^j, \dots, \omega_{n/2}^j)} O^\top \rangle_{j=1}^d] \right\| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} (\omega_i^j)_{1 \leq i \leq n/2}^{1 \leq j \leq d} \in \mathbb{Z}^{n/2 \times d}, \\ O \in O(n). \end{cases}$$

This is linked to the **simultaneous reduction of a tuple of skew-symmetric matrices**.

Lemma: Denote by $(\rho_i)_{i=1}^d$ the coefficients of an optimal simultaneous reduction of the matrices $(A_i)_{i=1}^d$ in normal form. Then the problem is equivalent to

$$\min_{(\omega_i^j)} \sum_{k=1}^d f\left((\rho_i^k)_{i=1}^{n/2}, (\omega_i^k)_{i=1}^{n/2}\right) \quad \text{where} \quad f(x, y) = \|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\|^2.$$

We perform the simultaneous reduction via projected gradient descent over $O(n)$.

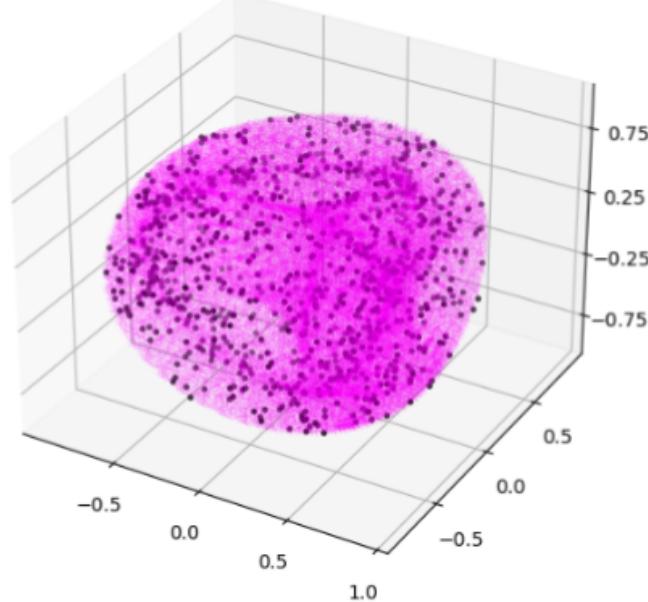
Example: Let X be a uniform 750-sample of an orbit of the representation $\phi_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}$ of the torus T^2 in \mathbb{R}^6 .

We apply the algorithm with $G = T^2$ on X , and restrict the representations to those with frequencies at most $\omega_{\max} = 2$.

Representation	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Cost	0.036	0.136	0.198	0.233	0.244	0.312
Representation	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ -2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Cost	0.331	0.348	0.388	0.447	0.457	0.472

The algorithm's output is $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, i.e., the representation $\phi_{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}$. It is equivalent to $\phi_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}$.

Moreover, the Hausdorff distance is $d_H(X|\widehat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 0.071$.



For $\text{SO}(3)$ and $\text{SU}(2)$, we have found no interesting reduction. We perform the minimization as is.

Example: Let X be a 3000-sample of the 3×3 special orthogonal matrices.

Fact: $\text{SO}(3)$ acts transitively on itself.

The irreps of $\text{SU}(2)$ and $\text{SO}(3)$ in \mathbb{R}^n are parametrized by the partitions of n . The algorithm yields:

Representation	(3, 5)	(3, 3, 3)	(4, 5)	(8)	(5)	(7)
Cost	2×10^{-5}	4×10^{-5}	0.001	0.001	0.03	0.004
Representation	(9)	(3, 3)	(3, 4)	(4, 4)	(3)	(4)
Cost	0.004	0.006	0.007	0.009	0.011	0.013

Representation (3, 5): we get the (non-symmetric) Hausdorff distance $d_H(X|\hat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 2.658$.

In comparison, $d_H(\hat{\mathcal{O}}|X) \approx 0.543$.

This indicates that the representation is not transitive on X .

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action $\text{SO}(3) \rightarrow \text{SO}(3)$ by conjugation (not transitive)

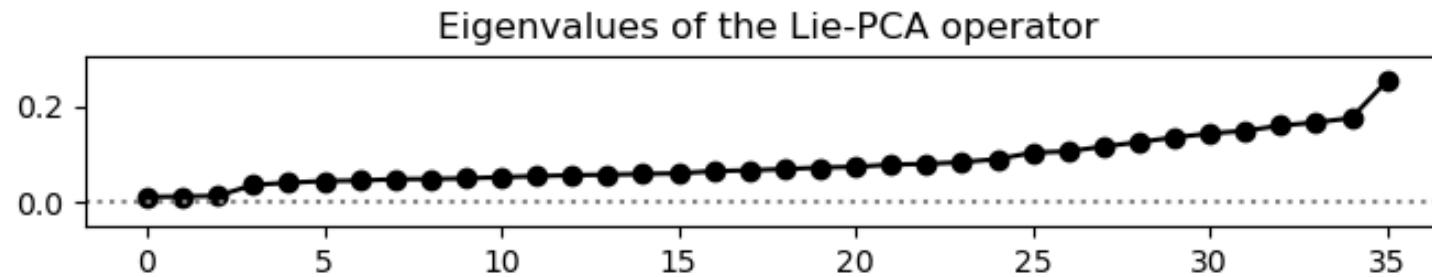
Representation (3, 3, 3): $d_H(X|\widehat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 0.061$.

action $\text{SO}(3) \rightarrow \text{SO}(3)$ by translation (transitive)

When the underlying group is unknown, we can guess it from Lie-PCA, or test several candidates.

Example: Let X be a 1500-sample of an orbit of the representation $(1, 5)$ of $SU(2)$ in \mathbb{R}^6 .

The Lie-PCA operator looks like:



We see a Lie algebra of dimension 3. One expects the torus T^3 , $SO(3)$ or $SU(2)$.

Representation of $SU(2)$	$(1, 5)$	$(1, 1, 1, 3)$	$(1, 1, 4)$	$(3, 3)$
Cost	8.6×10^{-5}	0.007	0.008	0.015

Representation of T^3	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
Cost	0.014

Representation $(1, 5)$: we get the (non-symmetric) Hausdorff distance $d_H(X|\hat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 0.062$.

Representation $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$: we get the (non-symmetric) Hausdorff distance $d_H(X|\hat{\mathcal{O}}) \approx 0.751$.

1. Lie group - Lie algebra correspondence
2. Closest Lie algebra problem
3. Examples
4. Proof of robustness

Input: $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and G compact Lie group

Model: X sampled close to an orbit \mathcal{O} of a representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

Step 1: **Orthonormalization** via $X \leftarrow \sqrt{\Sigma[X]^+} \cdot \Pi_{\Sigma[X]}^{>\epsilon} \cdot X$.

with $\Sigma[X]$ covariance matrix, and $\Pi_{\Sigma[X]}^{>\epsilon}$ projection on eigenvectors $> \epsilon$.

Step 2: **Diagonalize** the operator $\Lambda: A \mapsto \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \widehat{\Pi}[\mathbf{N}_{x_i} X] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle]$

where $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, and $\widehat{\Pi}[\mathbf{N}_{x_i} X]$ estimation of projection on normal space of X .

Step 3: **Solve** $\arg \min_{\widehat{h}} \|\Pi[\langle A_i \rangle_{i=1}^d] - \Pi[\widehat{h}]\|$ with $(A_i)_{i=1}^d$ bottom eigenvectors of Λ

where $\widehat{h} \in \mathcal{G}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ Grassmann variety of Lie subalgebras pushforward of G .

Step 4: **Output** $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \{\exp(A)x \mid A \in \widehat{h}\}$

where $x \in X$ is an arbitrary point.

Goal: Show that $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x$ is close to \mathcal{O}

Input: $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and G compact Lie group

μ measure on \mathbb{R}^n . E.g., μ_X empirical measure on X

Model: X sampled close to an orbit \mathcal{O} of a representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$ uniform measure on \mathcal{O}

Step 1: **Orthonormalization** via $X \leftarrow \sqrt{\Sigma[X]^+} \cdot \Pi_{\Sigma[X]}^{>\epsilon} \cdot X.$

$$\mu \leftarrow \sqrt{\Sigma[\mu]^+} \cdot \Pi_{\Sigma[\mu]}^{>\epsilon} \cdot \mu.$$

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$$\Lambda[\mu]: A \mapsto \int_{i=1}^N \widehat{\Pi}[\mathbf{N}_{x_i} X] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle] d\mu$$

Step 3: **Solve** $\arg \min_{\widehat{h}} \|\Pi[\langle A_i \rangle_{i=1}^d] - \Pi[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}]\|$ with $(A_i)_{i=1}^d$ bottom eigenvectors of Λ

$$\arg \min_{\widehat{h}} \|\Pi[\langle A_i \rangle_{i=1}^d] - \Pi[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}]\| \text{ with } (A_i)_{i=1}^d \text{ bottom eigenvectors of } \Lambda[\mu]$$

Step 4: **Output** $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \{ \exp(A)x \mid A \in \widehat{h} \}$

$$\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x} = \exp(\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}) \cdot \mu$$

Goal: Show that $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x$ is close to \mathcal{O}

Show that $W_2(\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x}, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})$ “ \leq ” $W_2(\mu, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})$

Why working with Wasserstein and not Hausdorff?

- Natural formalism for Lie groups (averaging with the Haar measure)
- Allows noise and anomalous points
- Local PCA is not stable in Hausdorff

Remark: We aim for an explicit bound $W_2(\mu_{\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x}, \mu_{\mathcal{O}}) \leq W_2(\mu, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})$. This is different from other statistical formalisms. In particular, no law of large numbers / concentration.

Theorem: Let G be a compact Lie group of dimension d , \mathcal{O} an orbit of an almost-faithful representation $\phi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, potentially non-orthogonal, and l its dimension. Let $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$ be the uniform measure on \mathcal{O} , and $\mu_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}$ that on the orthonormalized orbit.

Besides, let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a finite point cloud and μ_X its empirical measure. Let $\hat{\phi}$, $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}$ and $\mu_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}$ be the output of the algorithm. Under technical assumptions, it holds that $\hat{\phi}$ is equivalent to ϕ , and

$$\|\Pi[\hat{h}] - \Pi[\mathfrak{shm}(\mathcal{O})]\|_F \leq 9d \frac{\rho}{\lambda} \left(r + 4 \left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right)$$

$$W_2(\mu_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}, \mu_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{W_2(\mu_X, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})}{\sigma_{\min}} + 3\sqrt{dn} \left(\frac{\rho}{\lambda} \right)^{1/2} \left(r + 4 \left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right)^{1/2}$$

where

- $\rho = \left(16l(l+2)6^l \right) \frac{\max(\text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}), \text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}})^{-1})}{\min(1, \text{reach}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}))}$
- $\sigma_{\max}^2, \sigma_{\min}^2$ the top and bottom nonzero eigenvalues of the covariance matrix $\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}]$
- $\tilde{\omega} = 4(n+1)^{3/2} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\max}^3}{\sigma_{\min}^3} \right) \left(\omega(v+\omega) \right)^{1/2}$ with $\omega = \frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \mu_X)}{\sigma_{\min}}$ and $v = \left(\frac{V[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]}{\sigma_{\min}^2} \right)^{1/2}$
- r is the radius of local PCA (estimation of tangent spaces)
- λ the bottom nonzero eigenvalue of the ideal Lie-PCA operator $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$

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bias-variance trade-off when estimating tangent spaces

$$W_2(\mu_{\hat{\mathcal{O}}}, \mu_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{W_2(\mu_X, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})}{\sigma_{\min}} + 3\sqrt{dn} \left(\frac{\rho}{\lambda} \right)^{1/2} \boxed{\left(r + 4 \left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right)^{1/2}}$$

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- $\rho = \left(16l(l+2)6^l \right) \frac{\max(\text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}), \text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}})^{-1})}{\min(1, \text{reach}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}))}$ $\lesssim \left(r + \left(\frac{W_2(\mu_X, \mu_{\mathcal{O}})^{1/2}}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right)^{1/2}$
- $\sigma_{\max}^2, \sigma_{\min}^2$ the top and bottom nonzero eigenvalues of the covariance matrix $\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}]$
- $\tilde{\omega} = 4(n+1)^{3/2} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\max}^3}{\sigma_{\min}^3} \right) \left(\omega(v+\omega) \right)^{1/2}$ with $\omega = \frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \mu_X)}{\sigma_{\min}}$ and $v = \left(\frac{\mathbb{V}[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]}{\sigma_{\min}^2} \right)^{1/2}$
- r is the radius of local PCA (estimation of tangent spaces)
- λ the bottom nonzero eigenvalue of the ideal Lie-PCA operator $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$

Technical assumptions: Define the quantities

$$\begin{aligned}\omega &= \frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \mu_X)}{\sigma_{\min}}, & v &= \left(\frac{\mathbb{V}[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]}{\sigma_{\min}^2} \right)^{1/2}, \\ \tilde{\omega} &= 4(n+1)^{3/2} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\max}^3}{\sigma_{\min}^3} \right) \left(\omega(v+\omega) \right)^{1/2}, & \rho &= \left(16l(l+2)6^l \right) \frac{\max(\text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}), \text{vol}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}})^{-1})}{\min(1, \text{reach}(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}))}, \\ \gamma &= (4(2d+1)\sqrt{2})^{-1} \cdot \lambda \cdot \Gamma(G, n, \omega_{\max}) \quad (\text{rigidity constant of Lie subalgebras})\end{aligned}$$

Suppose that ω is small enough, so as to satisfy

$$\omega < \left(\left(v^2 + \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/2} - v \right) / \left(3(n+1) \frac{\sigma_{\max}^2}{\sigma_{\min}^2} \right), \quad \tilde{\omega} \leq \min \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{6\rho} \right)^{3(l+1)}, \frac{\gamma^{l+3}}{16}, \left(\frac{\gamma}{(6\rho)^2} \right)^{l+1} \right\}.$$

Choose two parameters ϵ and r in the following nonempty sets:

$$\epsilon \in \left((2v + \omega)\omega\sigma_{\min}^2, \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{\min}^2 \right], \quad r \in \left[(6\rho)^2 \cdot \tilde{\omega}^{1/(l+1)}, (6\rho)^{-1} \right] \cap \left[(4/\gamma)^{2/(l+1)} \cdot \tilde{\omega}^{1/(l+1)}, \gamma \right].$$

Moreover, we suppose that

- the minimization problems are computed exactly,
- $\mathfrak{sym}(\mathcal{O})$ is spanned by matrices whose spectra come from primitive integral vectors of coordinates at most ω_{\max} ,
- $G = \text{Sym}(\mathcal{O})$.

Ideal covariance matrix: Suppose that \mathcal{O} is an orbit of the representation $\phi: G \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$, and $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$ the uniform measure on it. With $x_0 \in \mathcal{O}$ an arbitrary point, the covariance matrix can be written

$$\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}] = \int (\phi(g)x_0) \cdot (\phi(g)x_0)^{\top} d\mu_G(g).$$

Now, let $\mathbb{R}^n = \bigoplus_{i=1}^m V_i$ be the decomposition of ϕ into irreps, and denote as $(\Pi[V_i])_{i=1}^m$ the projection matrices on these subspaces. We can decompose

$$\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}] = \sum_{i=1}^m C_i \quad \text{where} \quad C_i = \int \phi_i(g) \left(\Pi[V_i](x_0) \cdot \Pi[V_i](x_0)^{\top} \right) \phi_i(g)^{\top} d\mu_G(g).$$

If ϕ is orthogonal, then by Schur's lemma, the C_i are homotheties:

$$\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}] = \sum_{i=1}^m \sigma_i^2 \Pi[V_i] \quad \text{where} \quad \sigma_i^2 = \frac{\|\Pi[V_i](x_0)\|^2}{\dim(V_i)}.$$

This shows that, in general, important quantities are:

- The variance $\mathbb{V}[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]$, a measure of *deviation from orthogonality* of \mathcal{O}
- The ratio $\sigma_{\max}^2/\sigma_{\min}^2$, a measure of *homogeneity* of \mathcal{O} .

Proposition: Let $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be the orbit of a representation, potentially non-orthogonal, $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$ its uniform measure, $\Pi[\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle]$ the projection on its span, and $\sigma_{\max}^2, \sigma_{\min}^2$ the top and bottom nonzero eigenvalues of $\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}]$.

Besides, let ν be a measure, $\Sigma[\nu]$ its covariance matrix, $\epsilon > 0$ and $\Pi_{\Sigma[\nu]}^{>\epsilon}$ the projection on the subspace spanned by eigenvectors with eigenvalue at least ϵ .

If $W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \nu)$ is small enough, then we have the following bound between the pushforward measures after Step 1:

$$\begin{aligned} W_2\left(\sqrt{\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}]^{+}}\Pi[\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle]\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \sqrt{\Sigma[\nu]^{+}}\Pi_{\Sigma[\nu]}^{>\epsilon}\nu\right) \\ \leq 8(n+1)^{3/2}\left(\frac{\sigma_{\max}^3}{\sigma_{\min}^3}\right)\left(\frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \nu)}{\sigma_{\min}}\right)^{1/2}\left(\left(\frac{\mathbb{V}[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]}{\sigma_{\min}^2}\right)^{1/2} + \frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \nu)}{\sigma_{\min}}\right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof: Consequence of Davis-Kahan theorem, together with

$$\|\Sigma[\mu_{\mathcal{O}}]^{-1/2} - \Sigma[\nu]^{-1/2}\|_{\text{op}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma_{\min}^2} \cdot \left(2\mathbb{V}[\|\mu_{\mathcal{O}}\|]^{1/2} + W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \nu)\right)^{1/2} \cdot W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \nu)^{1/2}.$$

Ideal Lie-PCA: Suppose that \mathcal{O} is an orbit of the representation $\phi: G \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$, and $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$ the uniform measure on it. We define

$$\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}(A) = \int \Pi[N_x \mathcal{O}] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x \rangle] d\mu_{\mathcal{O}}(x).$$

Proposition: Its kernel is equal to $\text{sym}(\mathcal{O})$. Moreover, when $\mathcal{O} = S^{n-1}$, its nonzero eigenvalues are exactly δ_n and δ'_n where

$$\delta_n = \frac{2(n-1)}{n(n(n+1)-2)} \quad \text{and} \quad \delta'_n = \frac{1}{n}.$$

Proof: Show that $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ is equivariant with respect to the action of G by conjugation:

$$\phi(g)\Lambda(A)\phi(g)^{-1} = \Lambda\left(\phi(g)A\phi(g)^{-1}\right)$$

Then use Schur's lemma.

Empirical observation: More generally, the nonzero eigenvalues of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ belong to $[1/n^2, 1/n]$ when \mathcal{O} is *homogenous*, i.e., $\sigma_{\max}^2/\sigma_{\min}^2 = 1$.

Stability: Comparing

$$\Lambda(A) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \widehat{\Pi}[\mathbf{N}_{x_i} X] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x_i \rangle] \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}(A) = \int \Pi[\mathbf{N}_x \mathcal{O}] \cdot A \cdot \Pi[\langle x \rangle] d\mu_{\mathcal{O}}(x).$$

amounts to quantifying the quality of normal space estimation. We use local PCA:

$$\widehat{\Pi}[\mathbf{N}_{x_i} X] = I - \Pi_{x_i}^{l,r}[X],$$

where $\Pi_{x_i}^{l,r}[X]$ is the projection matrix on any l top eigenvectors of the *local covariance matrix* $\Sigma_{x_i}^r[X]$ centered at x_i and at scale r , itself defined as

$$\Sigma_{x_i}^r[X] = \frac{1}{|Y|} \sum_{y \in Y} (y - x_i)(y - x_i)^{\top},$$

where $Y = \{y \in X \mid \|y - x_i\| \leq r\}$, the set input points at distance at most r from x_i .

Measure-theoretic formulation: If μ is a measure on \mathbb{R}^n , we define its *local covariance matrix* centered at x at scale r as

$$\Sigma_x^r[\mu] = \int_{\mathcal{B}(x,r)} (y - x)(y - x)^{\top} \frac{d\mu(x)}{\mu(\mathcal{B}(x,r))}.$$

Bias-variance tradeoff: Let $\mu_{\mathcal{M}}$ be measure on a submanifold $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ of dimension l , $x \in \mathcal{M}$, ν a measure on \mathbb{R}^n and $y \in \text{supp}(\nu)$. We decompose

$$\left\| \frac{1}{l+2} \Pi[T_x \mathcal{M}] - \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_y^r [\nu] \right\|_F \leq$$

$$\underbrace{\left\| \frac{1}{l+2} \Pi[T_x \mathcal{M}] - \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_x^r [\mu_{\mathcal{M}}] \right\|_F}_{\text{consistency}} + \underbrace{\left\| \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_x^r [\mu_{\mathcal{M}}] - \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_y^r [\mu_{\mathcal{M}}] \right\|_F}_{\text{spatial stability}} + \underbrace{\left\| \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_y^r [\mu_{\mathcal{M}}] - \frac{1}{r^2} \Sigma_y^r [\nu] \right\|_F}_{\text{measure stability}}$$

Lemma: If the parameters are chosen correctly, this is

$$\lesssim r + \|x - y\| + \left(\frac{W_2(\mu, \nu)}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Corollary: We deduce a bound between Lie-PCA operators:

$$\|\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}} - \Lambda\|_{\text{op}} \leq \sqrt{2} \rho \left(r + 4 \left(\frac{W_2(\mu_{\mathcal{O}}, \mu_X)}{r^{l+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right).$$

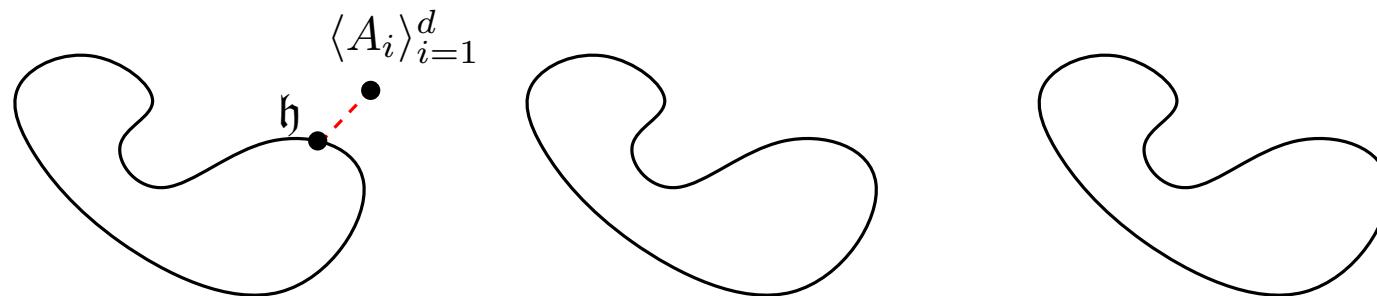
In Step 3, we consider the bottom eigenvectors A_1, \dots, A_d of Lie-PCA, and solve

$$\arg \min \|\Pi[\langle A_i \rangle_{i=1}^d] - \Pi[\widehat{\mathfrak{h}}]\| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \widehat{\mathfrak{h}} \in \mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n)),$$

where $\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ is the subspace of $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ consisting of the Lie subalgebras pushforward of \mathfrak{g} by a representation.

The set $\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ has many connected components, one for each *orbit-equivalence* class of representations.

Let \mathfrak{h} be the actual subalgebra we are looking for. We want to make sure that the minimizer belongs to the connected component of \mathfrak{h} .



The distance from $\langle A_i \rangle_{i=1}^d$ to \mathfrak{h} must be lower than the *reach* of $\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$. In this context, it is related to the *rigidity* of \mathfrak{h} .

Lemma: Consider the subset of $\mathcal{G}(G, \mathfrak{so}(n))$ with weights at most ω_{\max} . Then its rigidity satisfies

$$\Gamma(G, n, \omega_{\max}) \geq 4/(n\omega_{\max}^2).$$

Conclusion

- First algorithm to find the **representation type** (not only a subspace close to the Lie algebra)
- Implementation for $G = \text{SO}(2)$, T^d , $\text{SO}(3)$ and $\text{SU}(2)$
- Can be adapted to other compact Lie group provided an explicit description of its representations
- Experiments on image analysis, harmonic analysis and physical systems at <https://github.com/HLovisiEnnes/LieDetect>

Limitations:

- Optimizations over $O(n)$ are computationally expansive and instable
- The algorithm does not handle entangled orbits
- Restricted to **representations** of Lie groups

Next goals:

- Detections of **actions** via the induced representation on space of vector fields
- Group Equivariant Convolutional Networks

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \text{Diff}(\mathcal{M}) \\ \exp \uparrow & & \uparrow \exp \\ \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{d\phi} & \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{M}) \end{array}$$

