

# Notes about group theory 6

2019/3/6

## 1 The Lie algebra of classical and quantum physics

### 1.1 $\mathfrak{o}(2) = \mathfrak{so}(2)$

$\mathfrak{so}(2)$  is one-dimensional. Take as a basis

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we have

$$e^{\theta X} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

So  $X$  does generate the rotations.

### 1.2 $\mathfrak{so}(3)$

$\mathfrak{so}(3) = \mathfrak{o}(3)$  is the set of all the antisymmetric matrices.

Take as a basis

$$L_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} L_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} L_z = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And we have  $[L_i, L_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} L_k$ .

For any rotation in  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ ,

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -z & y \\ z & 0 & -x \\ -y & x & 0 \end{pmatrix} = xL_x + yL_y + zL_z$$

$$Xv = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -z & y \\ z & 0 & -x \\ -y & x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ v_z \end{pmatrix} = (x, y, z) \times (v_x, v_y, v_z) = [X]_{\{L_x, L_y, L_z\}} \times v$$

So we have  $X[X]_{\{L_x, L_y, L_z\}} = 0$ . Then we have  $e^{tX}[X]_{L_x, L_y, L_z} = [X]_{L_x, L_y, L_z}$ .

Also, using the basis  $\mathcal{B} = \{L_x, L_y, L_z\}$  for  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ , we have

$$[[X, Y]]_{\mathcal{B}} = [X]_{\mathcal{B}} \times [Y]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Which means, in components, the commutator is given by the usual cross product on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

### 1.3 $\mathfrak{su}(2)$

$\mathfrak{su}(2)$  is the set of all the traceless anti-Hermitian matrices. Take as a basis

$$S_x = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} S_y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} S_z = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

And we have  $[S_i, S_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} S_k$ .

### 1.4 $\mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$

Take  $\{\tilde{L}_i, K_i\}$  as a basis

$$\tilde{L}_i \equiv \begin{pmatrix} L_i & \vec{0} \\ \vec{0} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And

$$K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} K_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} K_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We have  $[\tilde{L}_i, \tilde{L}_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} \tilde{L}_k$ ,  $[\tilde{L}_i, K_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} K_k$ ,  $[K_i, K_j] = -\sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} \tilde{L}_k$ .

( $\tilde{L}_i$  are the spatial rotation, and  $K_i$  are the boosts along their corresponding axes).

Before, we have

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\beta_x^2(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_x\beta_y(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_x\beta_z(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & -\beta_x\gamma \\ \frac{\beta_y\beta_x(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_y^2(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_y\beta_z(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & -\beta_y\gamma \\ \frac{\beta_z\beta_x(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_z\beta_y(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & \frac{\beta_z^2(\gamma-1)}{\beta^2} + 1 & -\beta_z\gamma \\ -\beta_x\gamma & -\beta_y\gamma & -\beta_z\gamma & \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{u_x^2(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_x u_y(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_x u_z(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_x}{u} \sinh u \\ \frac{u_y u_x(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_y^2(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_y u_z(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_y}{u} \sinh u \\ \frac{u_z u_x(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_z u_y(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_z^2(\cosh u-1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_z}{u} \sinh u \\ -\frac{u_x}{u} \sinh u & -\frac{u_y}{u} \sinh u & -\frac{u_z}{u} \sinh u & \cosh u \end{pmatrix}$$

Actually, explicitly summing the exponential power series yields that

$$e^{u^i K_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{u_x^2 (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_x u_y (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_x u_z (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_x}{u} \sinh u \\ \frac{u_y u_x (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_y^2 (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_y u_z (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_y}{u} \sinh u \\ \frac{u_z u_x (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_z u_y (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & \frac{u_z^2 (\cosh u - 1)}{u^2} + 1 & -\frac{u_z}{u} \sinh u \\ -\frac{u_x}{u} \sinh u & -\frac{u_y}{u} \sinh u & -\frac{u_z}{u} \sinh u & \cosh u \end{pmatrix}$$

### 1.5 $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}}$

$SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  is the set of all complex matrices with unit determinant.

$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}}$  is the set of all traceless complex matrices, which is viewed as a real vector space here.

Take  $\{S_i, \tilde{K}_i\}$  as a basis for real vector space  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

$$S_1 \equiv \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} S_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} S_3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} \tilde{K}_i = i S_i$$

$$\text{We also have that } [S_i, S_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} S_k, [S_i, \tilde{K}_j] = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} \tilde{K}_k, [\tilde{K}_i, \tilde{K}_j] = -\sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} S_k$$

$$e^{u^i \tilde{K}_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \frac{u}{2} + \frac{u_z}{u} \sinh \frac{u}{2} & -\frac{1}{u} (u_x - i u_y) \sinh \frac{u}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{u} (u_x + i u_y) \sinh \frac{u}{2} & \cosh \frac{u}{2} - \frac{u_z}{u} \sinh \frac{u}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$  denote the set of all traceless complex matrices, viewed as a complex vector space.

Take  $\{S_i\}$  as a basis is enough.

## 2 Lie algebra, different definition

A real abstract Lie algebra is defined to be a real vector space  $\mathfrak{g}$  equipped with a bilinear map  $[\cdot, \cdot] : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  called the Lie bracket which satisfies Antisymmetry and Jacobi identity.

A real vector space equipped with a special bilinear map.

1.  $[X, Y] = -[Y, X] \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$  Antisymmetry
2.  $[[X, Y], Z] + [[Y, Z], X] + [[Z, X], Y] = 0, \quad \forall X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{g},$  Jacobi identity

The bracket can be the commutator but it can also be something else.

Some examples:

1.  $\mathfrak{gl}(V)$ : the Lie algebra of linear operators on a vector space

Let  $V$  be a vector space (possibly infinite-dimensional). And  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  is the set of all linear operators on  $V$ .

Define the bracket to be  $[T, U] = TU - UT, \forall T, U \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ .

Now consider  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  to be equipped with the bracket (bilinear map), we can see this map satisfies the two requests. So  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  equipped with the bracket is a Lie algebra. We denote it by  $\mathfrak{gl}(V)$ .

Set  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  and set  $\mathfrak{gl}(V)$  are the same set, but we consider the latter having an additional structure.

2. **isom**( $V$ ): the Lie algebra of anti-Hermitian operators

Now let  $V$  be an inner product space. The inner product (non-degenerate Hermitian form) allows us to define an operator's adjoint.

We then define **isom**( $V$ )  $\subset$   $\mathfrak{gl}(V)$  to be the set of all anti-Hermitian operators. Why do we define it as the set of all anti-Hermitian operators. There must be a reason!!!

Then **isom**( $V$ ) is a Lie algebra. (The set of all anti-Hermitian operators, is a real vector space, and equipped with commutator as the Lie bracket).

3. The Poisson bracket on phase space. Consider a physical system with a  $2n$ -dimensional phase space  $P$  parameterised by  $n$  generalized coordinates  $q_i$  and the  $n$  conjugate momenta  $p_i$ .

The set of all complex-valued, infinitely differentiable functions on  $P$  is a real vector space which we will denote by  $\mathcal{C}(P)$ . Then we can turn it into a Lie algebra just like what we did to  $\mathcal{L}(V)$ , this time we use Poisson bracket as our Lie bracket. It is easy to check the antisymmetry and Jacobi identity.

Though  $\mathcal{C}(P)$  is in general infinite-dimensional, it often has interesting finite dimensional Lie subalgebras. If  $P = \mathbb{R}^6$ , which can be seen as the case in cartesian coordinates for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Consider the three components of the angular momentum,

$$J_1 = q_2 p_3 - q_3 p_2 \quad J_2 = q_3 p_1 - q_1 p_3 \quad J_3 = q_1 p_2 - q_2 p_1$$

They are viewed as functions of  $p_i$  and  $q_i$ . We check that the functions satisfy:

$$J_i, J_j = \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} J_k$$

This is a familiar angular momentum commutation relations in  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ . This implies that  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ .

But what do the functions  $J_i$  have to do with generators of rotations? The answer has to do with a general relationship between symmetries and conserved quantities.

There is something about classical mechanics. I am not familiar with these stuff, I can't understand the whole text

4. If we have a one-dimensional system with position coordinate  $q$  and conjugate momentum  $p$ , then  $p = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  contains Heisenberg algebra. What operations will  $p$  and  $q$  associate to?

One of the most basic representations of  $p$  and  $q$  as operators is on the vector space  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , where

$$\hat{q}f(x) = xf(x) \quad \hat{p}f(x) = -\frac{df}{dx}$$

If we exponentiate  $\hat{p}$ , then

$$e^{t\hat{p}}f(x) = f(x - t)$$

So  $\hat{p}$  generates the translations along the  $x$ -axis. If we work in the momentum representation, we know that  $i\hat{q} = -\frac{d}{dp}$ , thus

$$e^{it\hat{q}}\Phi(p) = \Phi(p - t)$$

So  $\hat{q}$  is actually a translation in momentum space.

For this simple example, the canonical transformation is just

$$Q \equiv \frac{p + iq}{\sqrt{2}} \quad P \equiv \frac{p - iq}{\sqrt{2}i}$$

From one span to another,  $\text{span}\{q, p, 1\}$  to  $\text{span}\{Q, P, 1\}$ .  $\{q, p\} = 1$ , and still  $\{Q, P\} = 1$

### 3 Homomorphism and Isomorphism in Lie algebra

We have experienced the group homomorphism between  $SU(2)$  and  $SO(3)$ , as well as  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  and  $SO(3, 1)_o$ . It is time to check the relationship between  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  and  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ , as well as  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $\mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$ .

Show how the relationships between Lie algebras arise as a consequence of the relationships between the corresponding groups.

**A Lie algebra homomorphism from a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  to a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{h}$**  to be a linear map  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$  that preserves the Lie bracket, in the sense that  $[\phi(X), \phi(Y)] = \phi([X, Y]) \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$ . In ordinary homomorphism, we have ‘multiplication’ as the binary operation, here we have  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  as the binary operation.

If  $\phi$  is a vector space isomorphism, then it is called Lie algebra isomorphism. (If  $\phi$  is a vector space isomorphism,  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{h}$  should have the same dimension). We also write  $\mathfrak{g} \simeq \mathfrak{h}$ .

One way to prove that two Lie algebras are isomorphic is to use structure constants. We take bases for both of the Lie algebras. The commutation relations take the form

$$[X_i, X_j] = \sum_{k=1}^n c_{ij}^k X_k$$

$$[Y_i, Y_j] = \sum_{k=1}^n d_{ij}^k Y_k$$

the numbers  $c_{ij}^k$  and  $d_{ij}^k$  are called structure constants. They depend on the choice of the bases. So this can be tricky.

If one can exhibit bases such that  $c_{ij}^k = d_{ij}^k \quad \forall i, j, k$ , then it is easy to check that the Lie algebras are isomorphic.

Some examples:

1.  $\mathfrak{gl}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{gl}(n, C)$ .

$\mathfrak{gl}(V)$  is the set of all the linear operators.  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C})$  is the set of matrix.

Let  $V$  be an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over a set of scalars  $C$ . If we choose a basis for it, we can establish a map from the operators to the matrix representations. It is easy to see that  $\mathfrak{gl}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{gl}(n, C)$ .

2.  $\mathfrak{isom}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{o}(n)$  and  $\mathfrak{isom}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{u}(n)$

If  $V$  is an inner product space, we can restrict this isomorphism to  $\mathfrak{isom}(V) \subset \mathfrak{gl}(V)$  to get  $\mathfrak{isom}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{o}(n)$ , when  $C = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathfrak{isom}(V) \simeq \mathfrak{u}(n)$ , when  $C = \mathbb{C}$ .

3. Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a Lie algebra. We use the bracket to turn  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  into a linear operator  $\text{ad}_X$  on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , by defining  $\text{ad}_X(Y) = [X, Y]$ ,  $\forall Y \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

Then we have a map

$$\text{ad} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g}) \quad (1)$$

$$X \mapsto \text{ad}_X \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$ , is just the set of linear operators which are on  $\mathfrak{g}$ . By checking the definition,  $[\phi(X), \phi(Y)] = \phi([X, Y])$ , in this case, that is  $[\text{ad}_X, \text{ad}_Y] = \text{ad}_{[X, Y]}$ . If you put the definition of  $\text{ad}_X$  into it.

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{ad}_X, \text{ad}_Y](Z) &= (\text{ad}_X \cdot \text{ad}_Y - \text{ad}_Y \cdot \text{ad}_X)(Z) \\ &= \text{ad}_X([Y, Z]) - \text{ad}_Y([X, Z]) \\ &= [X, [Y, Z]] - [Y, [X, Z]] \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

And on the other side,

$$\text{ad}_{[X, Y]}(Z) = [[X, Y], Z].$$

So this is actually Jacobi identity for Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Also, note that the map is  $\rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Why do you think so?

## 4 Important Concept: Continuous homomorphism to Lie algebra homomorphism

Let  $\Phi : G \rightarrow H$  be a continuous homomorphism from a matrix Lie group  $G$  to a matrix Lie group  $H$ . Then this induces a Lie algebra homomorphism  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$  given by

$$\phi(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0}$$

proof: Let  $\Phi : G \rightarrow H$  be such a homomorphism, and let  $e^{tX}$  be a one-parameter subgroup in  $G$ . ( $X$  is a certain matrix) (Actually every elements in  $\mathfrak{g}$  will form a one-parameter subgroup of  $G$ . It is one of the definition of Lie algebra). Then  $\{\Phi(e^{tX})\}$  is a one-parameter subgroup in  $H$  (need to be verified). So by the definition of Lie algebra, one of the generator:

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0} \equiv Z$$

This is actually one generator in  $\mathfrak{g}$  corresponding to another generator in  $\mathfrak{h}$ . Thus we define a map  $\phi$  from  $\mathfrak{g}$  to  $\mathfrak{h}$ , and it follows that

$$\phi(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0} \implies \Phi(e^{tX}) = e^{t\phi(X)}$$

So now we need to check: one, it is a linear map, two, it preserves the Lie bracket. That is  $\phi(sX) = s\phi(X)$ ,  $\phi(X+Y) = \phi(X) + \phi(Y)$  and  $[\phi(X), \phi(Y)] = \phi([X, Y])$ .

1.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(sX) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tsX}) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d(st)}{dt} \frac{d}{d(st)} \Phi(e^{tsX}) \right|_{t=ts=0} \\ &= s \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= s\phi(X) \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(X + Y) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{t(X+Y)}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi\left(\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (e^{\frac{tX}{m}} e^{\frac{tY}{m}})^m\right) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \Phi((e^{\frac{tX}{m}} e^{\frac{tY}{m}})^m) \right|_{t=0} \quad \text{continuous homomorphism} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (\Phi(e^{\frac{tX}{m}}) \Phi(e^{\frac{tY}{m}}))^m \right|_{t=0} \quad \Phi(e^{tX}) = e^{t\phi(X)} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (e^{\frac{t\phi(X)}{m}} e^{\frac{t\phi(Y)}{m}})^m \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} e^{t(\phi(X) + \phi(Y))} \right|_{t=0}
\end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
[\phi(X), \phi(Y)] &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} e^{t\phi(X)} \phi(Y) e^{-t\phi(X)}, \quad \frac{d}{dt} e^{tY} X e^{-tY} \right|_{t=0} = [Y, X] \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \phi(Y) \Phi(e^{-tX}), \quad \Phi(e^{tX}) = e^{t\phi(X)} \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \left( \frac{d}{ds} e^{s\phi(Y)} \right) \Phi(e^{-tX}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX}) \Phi(e^{sY}) \Phi(e^{-tX}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{tX} e^{sY} e^{-tX}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(e^{e^{tY} s Y e^{-tX}}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \frac{d}{ds} \Phi(e^{se^{tX} Y e^{-tX}}) \right|_{t=0} \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \phi(e^{tX} Y e^{-tX}), \quad \frac{d}{dt} \phi(\gamma(t)) = \phi\left(\frac{d}{dt} \gamma(t)\right) \right|_{t=0} \\
\text{Don't know this} &= \phi\left(\frac{d}{dt} e^{tX} Y e^{-tX}\right) \\
&= \phi([X, Y])
\end{aligned}$$

some examples:

1. first, we had a homomorphism  $\rho : SU(2) \rightarrow SO(3)$ , defined by

$$[AXA^\dagger]_{\mathcal{B}} = \rho(A)[X]_{\mathcal{B}}, \text{ where } X \in \mathfrak{su}(2), A \in SU(2), \rho(A) \in SO(3)$$

The induced Lie algebra homomorphism  $\phi$ :

$$\phi(Y) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tY}) \right|_{t=0}$$



$$\implies \rho(e^{tY}) = e^{t\phi(Y)}$$

Take  $S_x$  as an example

$$\rho(e^{tS_x}) = e^{t\phi(S_x)}$$

Also

$$\rho(e^{tS_x})[X]_{\mathcal{B}} = [e^{tS_x} X e^{tS_x^\dagger}]_{\mathcal{B}} = [e^{tS_x} X e^{-tS_x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Then,

$$e^{t\phi(S_x)}[X]_{\mathcal{B}} = [e^{tS_x} X e^{-tS_x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

I still don't know how to deduce that  $\rho(S_i) = L_i$

$$S_x \equiv \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_y \equiv \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_z \equiv \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_z = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(S_x) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tS_x}) \right|_{t=0} \\ \phi(S_x)[X]_{\mathcal{B}} &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tS_x}) \right|_{t=0} [X]_{\mathcal{B}} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tS_x})[X]_{\mathcal{B}} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} [e^{tS_x} X e^{tS_x^\dagger}]_{\mathcal{B}} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} [e^{tS_x} X e^{-tS_x}]_{\mathcal{B}} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= [S_x, X]_{\mathcal{B}} \end{aligned}$$

Then you can calculate the components of  $\phi(S_x)$ .

Now we have a homomorphism  $\rho : SU(2) \rightarrow SO(3)$ . This induces a Lie algebra homomorphism from  $\mathfrak{su}(2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{so}(3)$ , which is

$$\phi(Y) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tY}) \right|_{t=0}$$

Put the basis  $\{S_i\}$  into it, we get  $\phi(S_i) = L_i$ . Because the basis have the same commutation relations, it also means the structure constants are the same. So this is a Lie algebra isomorphism.  $\mathfrak{su}(2) \simeq \mathfrak{so}(3)$ .

2. Another Lie algebra isomorphism:  $\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}} \simeq \mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$ , which arises from the homomorphism  $\rho : SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow SO(3, 1)_o$ .  $\rho$  is defined just as the above  $[AXA^\dagger]_{\mathcal{B}} = \rho(A)[X]_{\mathcal{B}}$ , where  $A \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})_{\mathbb{R}}, X \in H_2(\mathbb{C}), \mathcal{B} = \{\sigma_i, I\}$ . The induced  $\phi$  is still:

$$\phi(Y) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \rho(e^{tY}) \right|_{t=0}.$$

We will get  $\phi(S_i) = \tilde{L}_i$  and  $\phi(\tilde{K}_i) = K_i$ . So we get another Lie algebra isomorphism.

3. Consider a matrix Lie group  $G$  and its Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . We know that for any  $A \in G$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ ,  $AXA^{-1} \in \mathfrak{g}(e^{AXA^{-1}})$ . **To see whether  $AXA^{-1}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{g}$ , we need to check whether  $e^{AXA^{-1}} = Ae^X A^{-1}$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{g}$**

So for every  $A \in G$ , we can construct an corresponding operator  $\text{Ad}_A$  on  $\mathfrak{g}$  by  $\text{Ad}_A(X) = AXA^{-1}, X \in \mathfrak{g}$

- (a) We then have a map

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ad} : G &\rightarrow GL(\mathfrak{g}) \\ A &\mapsto \text{Ad}_A \end{aligned}$$

- (b) which can be verified as a homomorphism from  $G$  to  $GL(\mathfrak{g})$  (It is easy to check that  $\text{Ad}_A \text{Ad}_B = \text{Ad}_{AB}$ ).
- (c) Then this homomorphism induces a Lie algebra homomorphism  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g})$ , where  $\phi$  should be:

$$\phi(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \text{Ad}_{e^{tX}} \right|_{t=0}$$

This is an operator on  $\mathfrak{g}$ , to figure out what it is, you have to make it act on sth.

$$\begin{aligned} (\phi(X))(Y) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} (\text{Ad}_{e^{tX}}(Y)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} (e^{tX} Y e^{-tX}) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= [X, Y] \end{aligned}$$

- (a) This induced Lie algebra homomorphism is actually what we have encountered:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{ad} : \mathfrak{g} &\rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(\mathfrak{g}) \\ X &\mapsto \mathrm{ad}_X\end{aligned}$$

the map constructed by defining  $\mathrm{ad}_X(Y) = [X, Y]$ ,  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$ .

‘ad’ is the infinitesimal version of ‘Ad’, the Lie bracket is the infinitesimal version of the similarity transformation.

- (b) ‘Ad’ is a homomorphism, so it takes  $e^{tX}$  to  $\mathrm{Ad}_{e^{tX}}$ . Since  $e^{tX}$  is a one-parameter subgroup of  $G$ ,  $\mathrm{Ad}_{e^{tX}}$  will be a one-parameter subgroup of  $GL(\mathfrak{g})$

- (c)

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{d}{dt}(\mathrm{Ad}_{e^{tX}}(Y)) \right|_{t=0} &= [X, Y] \implies \mathrm{Ad}_{e^{tX}} = e^{t\mathrm{ad}_X} \implies \\ \mathrm{Ad}_{e^{tX}} Y &= e^{t\mathrm{ad}_X} Y \implies\end{aligned}$$

$$e^{tX} Y e^{-tX} = Y + t[X, Y] + \frac{t^2}{2}[X, [X, Y]] + \frac{t^3}{3!}[X, [X, [X, Y]]] + \dots$$

- (d) Let  $X, H \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , then we have  $[X, H] \iff e^{tX} H e^{-tX} = H, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

The invariance properties of the Hamiltonian can be formulated in terms of commutators with the corresponding generators.

- (e) The map  $\mathrm{Ad} : G \rightarrow GL(\mathfrak{g})$  can be more specific, once we know that the operators  $\mathrm{Ad}_X$  usually preserve a metric on real vector space  $\mathfrak{g}$ . So we specify it as  $\mathrm{Ad} : G \rightarrow \mathrm{Isom}(\mathfrak{g})$ .

One important fact to take away is that the correspondence between matrix Lie group and Lie algebras is not one-to-one. Two different matrix Lie groups might have the same Lie algebra.

## 5 Problem

1.  $SO(n)$  is the set of all linear operators

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{which can take orthonormal bases into orthonormal bases} \\ \text{can be obtained continuously from the identity} \end{array} \right.$$

- (a)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{which can take orthonormal bases into orthonormal bases} \\ \text{can be obtained continuously from the identity} \end{array} \right. \implies R \in O(n)$$

Then how to prove  $\det R = 1$ ?

- (b) If  $R \in SO(n)$ , then  $R$  must take orthonormal bases into orthonormal bases.

How to prove that  $R$  is continuously obtainable from the identity.  
Using induction.

- i. the claim is trivially true for  $SO(1)$
- ii. suppose that the claim is true for  $n - 1$ . Take  $R \in SO(n)$  and show that it can be continuously connected (via orthogonal similarity transformation) to a matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & R' \end{pmatrix} \quad R' \in SO(n-1)$$

2. Euler's theorem that any  $R \in SO(3)$  has an eigenvector with eigenvalue 1.

(This means that all vectors  $v$  proportional to this eigenvector are invariant under  $R$ ,  $Rv = v$ , so this rotation fixes a line, which is obviously the axis of rotation.)

$$\begin{aligned} \det(R - I) &= \det(R - I)^T \\ &= \det(R^T - I) = \det(R^{-1} - R^{-1}R) = \det(R^{-1})\det(I - R) \\ &= -\det(R - I) \end{aligned}$$

3. The matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} n_x^2(1 - \cos \theta) + \cos \theta & n_x n_y(1 - \cos \theta) - n_z \sin \theta & n_x n_z(1 - \cos \theta) + n_y \sin \theta \\ n_y n_x(1 - \cos \theta) + n_z \sin \theta & n_y^2(1 - \cos \theta) + \cos \theta & n_y n_z(1 - \cos \theta) - n_x \sin \theta \\ n_z n_x(1 - \cos \theta) - n_y \sin \theta & n_z n_y(1 - \cos \theta) + n_x \sin \theta & n_z^2(1 - \cos \theta) + \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

is just the components form (in the standard basis) of the linear operator.

$$R(\hat{n}, \theta) = L(\hat{n}) \otimes \hat{n} + \cos \theta (I - L(\hat{n}) \otimes \hat{n}) + \sin \theta \hat{n} \times$$

$L(\hat{n}) \otimes \hat{n}$  is just the projection onto the axis of rotation.

$\cos \theta (I - L(\hat{n}) \otimes \hat{n}) + \sin \theta \hat{n} \times$  give a counterclockwise rotation by  $\theta$  in the plane perpendicular to  $\hat{n}$ .

4. Prove that  $SO(3, 1)_o$  is a subgroup of  $O(3, 1)$ . The definition of  $SO(3, 1)_o$  consists of three conditions  $|A| = 1$ ,  $A_{44} > 1$ ,  $[A]^T[\eta][A] = [\eta]$ .

(a) show that  $I \in SO(3, 1)_o$

(b) show that if  $A \in SO(3, 1)_o$ , then  $A^{-1} \in SO(3, 1)_o$

- i.  $|A^{-1}| = 1$
- ii.  $[A^{-1}]^T[\eta][A^{-1}] = [\eta]$ , and then  $[A^T]^T[\eta][A^T] = [\eta]$

- iii. write out the 44 components from the  $[A]^T[\eta][A] = [\eta]$  for  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{21} & A_{31} & A_{41} \\ A_{12} & A_{22} & A_{32} & A_{42} \\ A_{13} & A_{23} & A_{33} & A_{43} \\ A_{14} & A_{24} & A_{34} & A_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & A_{14} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} & A_{24} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & A_{34} \\ A_{41} & A_{42} & A_{43} & A_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_0^2 = 1 + \vec{a}^2, \quad a_0 = A_{44}, \vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{14} \\ A_{24} \\ A_{34} \end{pmatrix}$$

So we get two equations from  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$ .

$$a_0^2 = 1 + \vec{a}^2 \quad b_0^2 = 1 + \vec{b}^2$$

Also using the equation  $AA^{-1} = I$ , which can leads to  $a_0b_0 = 1 - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ .

So we have three equations about  $a_0, b_0$  totally,

$$\begin{cases} a_0^2 = 1 + \vec{a}^2 \\ b_0^2 = 1 + \vec{b}^2 \\ a_0b_0 = 1 - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \end{cases}$$

So we can finally show that  $b_0 > 1$

(c) show that: if  $A, B \in SO(3, 1)_o$ , then  $AB \in SO(3, 1)_o$

5. Prove that any  $A \in SO(3, 1)_o$  can be written as a product of a rotation and a boost.
6. find an explicit formula for the map:  $\rho : SU(2) \rightarrow O(3)$  and prove that  $\rho$  maps  $SU(2)$  onto  $SO(3)$  and has kernel  $\pm I$ .

The genetic element of  $SU(2)$  looks like

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\beta^* & \alpha^* \end{pmatrix} \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$$

An arbitraty  $X \in \mathfrak{su}(2)$

$$X = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -iz & -y - ix \\ y - ix & iz \end{pmatrix}, \quad x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$$

So  $[AXA^\dagger]_{\mathcal{B}}$  can be calculated. We can then try compute  $\rho(A)$  from  $\rho(A)[X]_{\mathcal{B}} = [AXA^\dagger]_{\mathcal{B}}$ .

Two ways to parametrize  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, |\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$ .

$$\alpha = e^{i\frac{(\psi+\phi)}{2}} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \quad \beta = ie^{\frac{\psi-\phi}{2}} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\alpha = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - in_z \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \quad \beta = (-in_x - n_y) \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$$

7. Let  $G$  be a matrix Lie group. Its Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  comes equipped with a symmetric  $(2,0)$  tensor known as its Killing Form, denoted  $K$  and defined by  $K(X, Y) = -\text{Tr}(\text{ad}_X \text{ad}_Y)$ .