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Introduction to Lie groups

Start with a manifold, i.e. a space locally homeomorphic to \mathbb{R}^n and that has enough structure that the statement

" $f: M \rightarrow N$ is C^∞ differentiable"
makes sense.

So, for example we require smooth transition maps.

A Lie group is a group G which is also a manifold, such that multiplication and inversion are C^∞ maps.

Ex: • \mathbb{R} is a Lie group under addition.

• S^1 is a Lie group under addition mod 2π (of the angles).

• $GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{M \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}) \mid \det(M) \neq 0\}$, inverses gives a smooth function but it takes some checking.

Note: We drop " \mathbb{R} " and assume all matrix groups are over \mathbb{R} from now on

• $O(n) = \{M \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid M^T M = I\}$.

• $A(n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & \vec{v} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid A \in O(n), \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \right\}$, can identify

this with a matrix group with action

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & \vec{v} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Ax + \vec{v} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ so affine here.}$$

Motivation from geometry:
Klein's Erlangen programme

Geometries are homogeneous spaces and geometric quantities are invariants under some groups. So, for example:

Ex: Euclidean geometry is the study of $A(n)/O(n) \cong \mathbb{R}^n$. Then given $A \in O(n)$, we get

$\vec{x}^T \vec{x} = (A\vec{x})^T A\vec{x} = \vec{x}^T A^T A \vec{x} = \vec{x}^T \vec{x}$, so length = $\vec{x}^T \vec{x}$ is invariant under the group $O(n)$.

Ex: $O(3,1) = \{A \in M_{4,4}(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^T \zeta A = \zeta\}$, $\zeta = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

and we study quantities invariant under this group, one of which is $\vec{x}^T \zeta \vec{x} = -t^2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2$.

Exponential maps:

Theorem: For any matrix $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ or $M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$, define

$$e^A = I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3}{3!} + \dots$$

then this converges.

Proof: Set $M = \sup_{j,i} |A_{ij}|$. Then $|A_{ij}|^2 \leq nM^2$, and inductively $|A_{ij}|^k \leq n^{k-1} M^k$.

Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{|A_{ij}^k|}{k!} \leq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^{k-1} M^k}{k!} = \frac{e^{nM}}{n},$$

so it's a bounded quantity, so the terms converge (absolutely);

Theorem: If $AB=BA$ then $e^B \cdot e^A = e^{A+B}$.

Proof: $(I + B + \frac{B^2}{2!} + \dots) (I + A + \frac{A^2}{2!} + \dots)$
 $= I + (B+A) + \frac{(B+A)^2}{2!} + \dots$

Here we're using absolute convergence to reorder terms, and commutativity to regroup terms as we did.

Also observe: $\frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} e^{tB} = B,$

and we have a formula:

$$\det(e^B) = e^{\text{Tr} B}$$

Lie Algebras:

Definition: A Lie Algebra is a vector space V with a bracket operation

$$[,] : V \times V \longrightarrow V$$

such that

(i) $[V, W] = -[W, V]$

$$(ii) \quad [[v, w], u] + [[w, u], v] + [[u, v], w] = 0$$

(Jacobi identity).

(iii) The bracket is linear, (in each term).

Idea: Every Lie group has an associated Lie algebra. The Lie algebra is the tangent space of G at the identity. We write a gothic "g": \mathfrak{g} .

For this talk,

$$\mathfrak{g} = \left\{ \left. \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} A(t) \right| \begin{array}{l} A(t) \text{ is a smooth curve of} \\ \text{matrices in a matrix group } G \\ \text{s.t. } A(0) = I \end{array} \right\}.$$

Example: Consider

$$O(n) = \{ A \mid A^T A = I \}.$$

Claim: The associated Lie algebra is

$$\mathfrak{O}(n) = \{ A \mid A^T + A = 0 \}.$$

Proof: Let $A(t)$ be a curve such that $A(t)^T A(t) = I$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} A(t)^T A(t) = \dot{A}(0)^T A(0) + A(0)^T \dot{A}(0) \\ &= \dot{A}(0)^T + \dot{A}(0) \quad (\text{use dot for derivative}). \end{aligned}$$

So the derivatives of curves satisfy the required property. But is everything in $\mathfrak{O}(n)$ a derivative?

So given $B \in \mathbb{R}(n)$, with $\frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} e^{tB} = B$, then

we have our candidate matrix e^{tB} . But is it in $O(n)$?

Check: $(e^{tB})(e^{tB}) = e^{tB^T} e^{tB} = e^{-tB} e^{tB} = e^0 = I$,

so $B \in \mathbb{R}(n) \Rightarrow e^{tB} \in O(n)$.

Examples: $O(2)$. Look at $e^{t \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}$ = an explicit expansion

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -t \\ t & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{t^2}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{t^2}{2} \end{pmatrix} + \dots$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -\sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}.$$

$SL(n, \mathbb{R})$. what is the Lie algebra?

$$SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{ M \mid \det M = 1 \}, \text{ we claim}$$

$$\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{ A \mid \text{Tr}(A) = 0 \}.$$

proof: $\det(e^{tB}) = e^{t \text{Tr}(B)}$ is the crucial step in repeating the $O(n)$ argument. Eg.

If $B \in \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow \det(e^{tB}) = e^{t \text{Tr}(B)} = e^0 = 1$.

What about the Lie bracket?

In every case, the Lie bracket for us is the matrix commutator $AB - BA$.

Adjoint maps.

Given G , we have $I(g): G \rightarrow G$ ($g \in G$)
 $h \mapsto ghg^{-1}$.

Now given $g \in G$, the adjoint map is

$$\text{Ad}(g): \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$$
$$B \mapsto \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} g e^{tB} g^{-1}$$

This gives a representation of G on its Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} !

$\text{ad}(B): \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$. Given $B \in \mathfrak{g}$, we map

$$\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$$
$$C \mapsto \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \text{Ad}(e^{tB})C.$$

Theorem: $\text{ad}(B)(C) = [B, C]$. We can prove this:

$$(1) \text{Ad}(g)(C) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} g e^{tC} g^{-1} = g C g^{-1}$$

$$(2) \text{ad}(B)(C) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \text{Ad}(e^{tB})C = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} e^{tB} C e^{-tB}$$
$$= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (B e^{tB} C e^{-tB} - e^{tB} C e^{-tB} B)$$
$$= BC - CB.$$