

Def. 1: Let $G \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be a subset, and let $p \in G$. The tangent space to G at p is:
 $T_p G = \{ \gamma'(0) \mid \gamma: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow G \text{ is differentiable with } \gamma(0) = p \}$.

Def. 2: The Lie algebra of a matrix group $G \subset GL_n(K)$ is the tangent space to G at Id .

Notation: $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(G) = T_{\text{Id}} G$.

Prop. 1 (product rule): If γ, β are differentiable paths, then so is the product path
 $(\gamma \cdot \beta)(t) = \gamma(t) \cdot \beta(t)$, and
 $(\gamma \cdot \beta)'(t) = \gamma(t) \cdot \beta'(t) + \gamma'(t) \cdot \beta(t)$

Prop. 2: The Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} of a matrix group $G \subset GL_n(K)$ is a real subspace of $M_n(K)$.

Def. 3: The dimension of a matrix group G means the dimension of its Lie algebra.

Lie algebras of the orthogonal groups

The set

$\mathfrak{o}_n(K) = \{A \in M_n(K) \mid A + A^* = 0\}$ is denoted $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{o}_n(K) = \binom{n}{2}$

- $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ and called the skew-symmetric matrices if $K = \mathbb{R}$ $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{so}(K) = \binom{n}{2}$

- $\mathfrak{u}(n)$ and called the skew-hermitian matrices if $K = \mathbb{C}$ $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{u}(n) = n^2$

- $\mathfrak{su}(n)$ and called the skew-hermitian matrices with trace 0 $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{su}(n) = n^2 - 1$

- $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ and equals $M_n(K)$ $\dim \mathfrak{gl}(n) = n^2$

- $\mathfrak{sl}(n)$ and equals $M_n(K)$ with trace 0. $\dim \mathfrak{sl}(n) = n^2 - 1$

Proofs of Lie Algebras

$GL_n(\mathbb{R}), SL_n(\mathbb{R})$: see p. 76 of Baker

$O(n), SO(n)$: see p. 81, 82 of Baker

$\mathfrak{u}(n), \mathfrak{su}(n)$: see p. 83 of Baker

Lie Algebra vectors as vector fields

A vector field on \mathbb{R}^m means a continuous

function $F: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$.

By picturing $F(v)$ as a vector drawn at

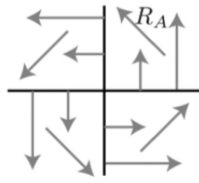
$v \in \mathbb{R}^m$, we think of a vector field as

associating a vector to each point of \mathbb{R}^m .

Example: Lie Algebra vector of $SO(2)$

path:
$$y(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos t & -\sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = y'(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$A \in \mathfrak{so}(2)$$

Complexification

Def. Given a finite dimensional

\mathbb{R} -Lie Algebra \mathfrak{g} , a \mathbb{C} -Lie algebra

\mathfrak{g}' which contains \mathfrak{g} as an \mathbb{R} -Lie

subalgebra and for which

$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{g}' = \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{g}$ is called a complexification of \mathfrak{g} .

Exercise 1: Prove that the Lie Algebra $\mathfrak{u}(1)$ of $U(1)$ equals $\text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{i\}$, so $\dim_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathfrak{u}(1)) = 1$.

Exercise 2: Show that $\mathfrak{su}(2)_{\mathbb{C}} \cong \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$.