

Geometric models for noncommutative algebras

Fall 2025, week 3

Left invariant vector fields

Recall:

If G is a matrix, i.e. G is a closed subgroup of $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$, then

$$e = I_n \quad \leftarrow \{ \gamma'(0) \mid \gamma: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow G, \gamma(0) = e \}$$
$$\rightarrow T_e G = \text{Lie}(G) = \mathfrak{g},$$

with $[A, B] = AB - BA$, is a Lie algebra.

Today:

Another explanation of $\text{Lie}(G)$

Let

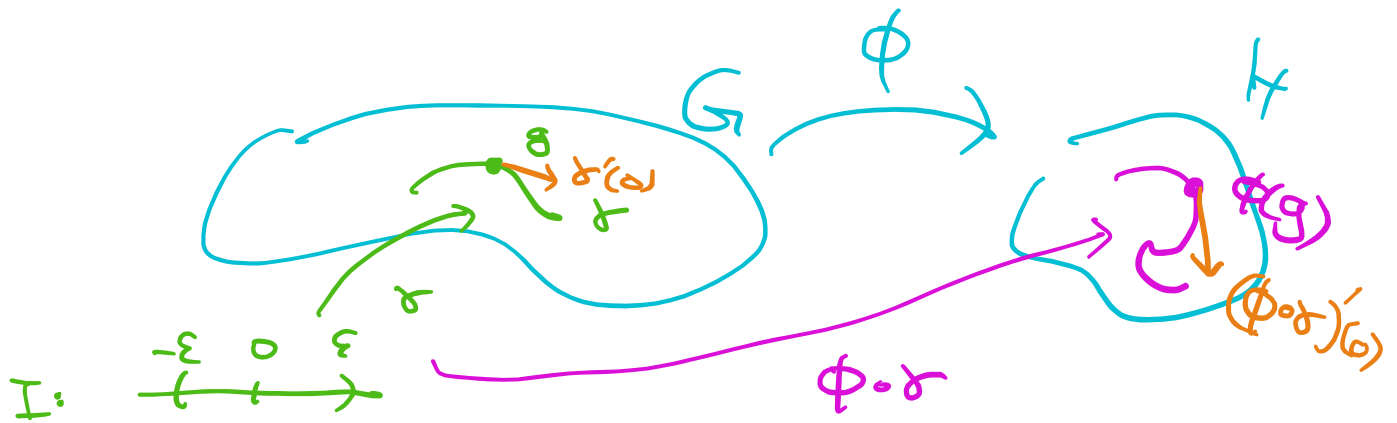
$$\phi: G \rightarrow H$$

be a smooth map between matrix groups.

The tangent map of ϕ at $g \in G$ is the linear map

$$\phi_* = T_g \phi (= D_g \phi): T_g G \rightarrow T_{\phi(g)} H$$

$$\phi_*(\sigma'(0)) = (\phi \circ \sigma)'(0)$$



For $g \in G$, consider

$$L_g : G \rightarrow G, \quad L_g(h) = gh$$

$$R_g : G \rightarrow G, \quad R_g(h) = hg$$

$\Rightarrow$ we have

$$T_h L_g : T_h G \rightarrow T_{L_g(h)} G$$

gh

$$T_h R_g : T_h G \rightarrow T_{R_g(h)} G$$

hg

and

$\times$

univ

$$(L_g)_* : \mathfrak{X}(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(G),$$

$$((L_g)_* X)_h = (T_{g^{-1}h} L_g)(X_{g^{-1}h}) \in T_h G$$

$$(R_g)_* : \mathfrak{X}(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(G),$$

$$((R_g)_* X)_h = (T_{hg^{-1}} R_g)(X_{hg^{-1}}) \in T_h G$$

Def

(right invariant)

A vector field $X \in \mathfrak{X}(G)$ is left invariant

if

$$(L_g)_* X = X \quad (R_g)_* X = X$$

$$\forall g \in G.$$

That is,



$$((L_g)_* X)_h = X_{gh}$$

$\equiv$

$$(T_{g^{-1}h} L_g)(X_{g^{-1}h})$$

$$\forall g, h \in G.$$

We denote

$$\mathcal{X}^L(G) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{left invariant vec fields} \\ \text{on } G \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{X}^R(G) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{right inv. vec. fields} \\ \text{on } G \end{array} \right\}$$

Prop

A vector field $X \in \mathcal{X}(G)$ is left invariant iff

$$X(f \circ L_g) = X(f) \circ L_g$$

$$\forall g \in G, f \in C^\infty(G).$$

pf

" $\Rightarrow$ " Let $X \in \mathcal{X}^L(G)$. For each $g \in G$,

choose $\gamma_g: I \rightarrow G$ s.t. $\gamma_g'(0) = X_g$

Since

$$X_{gh} = (T_h L_g)(X_h)$$

$$\delta_{gh}'(0)$$

$$(L_g \circ \delta_h)'(0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (X(f) \cdot L_g)(h) &= X_{gh}(f) = \cancel{(f \circ \delta_{gh})'(0)} \\ &= (f \circ (L_g \circ \delta_h))'(0) \\ &= (X(f \cdot L_g))(h) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \forall h, g \in G \\ \forall f \in C^\infty(G) \end{aligned}$$

$$= X(f) \cdot L_g = X(f \cdot L_g)$$

" $\Leftarrow$ ": exercise

#

Prop

The space $\mathfrak{X}^L(G)$ of left inv. vec fields is Lie subalg. of $\mathfrak{X}(G)$.

$$\text{Recall: } [X, Y] = X \circ Y - Y \circ X$$

pf

$\forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$, claim: $[X, Y] = X \circ Y - Y \circ X \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$

check: $\forall f \in C^\infty(G) \quad \forall g \in G,$

$$\begin{aligned}
& [X, Y](f \circ L_g) \quad (\stackrel{?}{=} [X, Y](f) \circ L_g) \\
&= \left(X \left(\underbrace{Y(f \circ L_g)}_{\parallel Y \in \mathfrak{X}(G)} \right) \right) - \left(Y \left(\underbrace{X(f \circ L_g)}_{\parallel X \in \mathfrak{X}(G)} \right) \right) \\
&\stackrel{X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(G)}{\downarrow} = \left(X \left(\underbrace{Y(f)}_{\parallel Y \in \mathfrak{X}(G)} \circ L_g \right) \right) - Y \left(\underbrace{X(f)}_{\parallel X \in \mathfrak{X}(G)} \circ L_g \right) \\
&= \underbrace{X(Y(f)) \circ L_g}_{\parallel Y \in \mathfrak{X}(G)} - Y(X(f) \circ L_g) \\
&= [X, Y](f) \circ L_g \quad \#
\end{aligned}$$

Thm 1

Let G be a matrix group.

If $X \in \mathfrak{X}(G)$, then $\exists \gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow G$ s.t.

$$(i) \quad \gamma'(t) = X_{\gamma(t)} \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(ii) \quad \gamma(0) = e$$

$$(iii) \quad \gamma(s+t) = \gamma(s) \cdot \gamma(t) \quad \forall s, t \in \mathbb{R}$$





$$X_g = +1 \quad \forall g \in \mathbb{R} \quad G = \mathbb{R}$$



$$\gamma(t) = t$$

pf

Let $G \subseteq GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ be a matrix gp.
and $A \in \mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G) = T_e G \subseteq M_n(\mathbb{C})$,

By the definition of $\mathfrak{g}$, $\exists \gamma_A: (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow G$
s.t. $\gamma_A(0) = e$, $\gamma_A'(0) = A$
 $\parallel$

Given $g \in G$, since

$$M_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C}), \quad B \mapsto g \cdot B$$

is a linear map, we have

$$(g \cdot \gamma)'(0) = g \cdot (\gamma'(0))$$

Also note that

$$g \cdot \gamma: (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow G$$

is a curve s.t.

$$(g \cdot \gamma)(0) = g \cdot \gamma(0) = g \cdot e = g$$

$$(g \cdot \gamma)'(0) = \underline{g \cdot A \in T_g G}$$

Consider

$$X_g^A := g \cdot A \in T_g G$$

$$\Rightarrow X^A \in \mathfrak{X}(G), \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (T_{gh} L_g)(X_{g^{-1}h}^A) &= g \cdot (g^{-1}h \cdot A) \\ &= h \cdot A = X_h^A \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \begin{cases} X^A \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G) \text{ s.t.} \\ X_e^A = A \end{cases}$$

Note that a left-inv v.f. $X \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$ is uniquely determined by $X_e \in T_e G$:

$$(T_e L_g)(X_e) = X_g$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= X_e \\ &\mapsto X^A \\ X_g^A &= (T_e L_g)(X_e^A) \\ &= T_e L_g(X_e) \\ &= X_g \end{aligned}$$

So any left inv. v.f. on G is of the form X^A for some $A \in \mathfrak{g}$.

By $\exists!$ Thm of IVP, $\exists \delta > 0$ and

$$\exists \gamma: (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow G \text{ st}$$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma'(t) = X_{\gamma(t)}^A = \gamma(t) \cdot A \\ \gamma(0) = e \end{cases}$$

Claim: δ can be chosen to be as

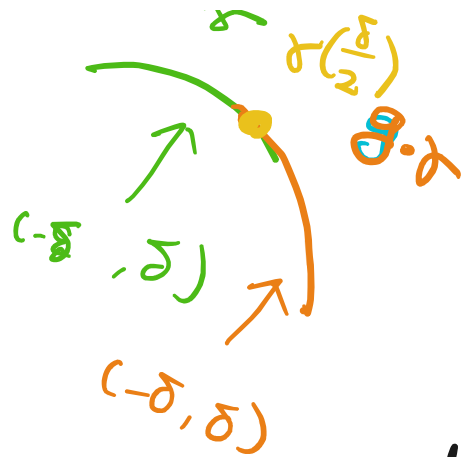
pf of claim

For $g \in G$,

$$\begin{aligned} (\underline{g \cdot \gamma})'(t) &= g \cdot \gamma'(t) = g \cdot X_{\gamma(t)}^A \\ &= g \cdot \gamma(t) \cdot A = X_{\underline{g \cdot \gamma(t)}}^A \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow g \cdot \gamma: (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow G$ is a sol. of

$$\begin{cases} \alpha'(t) = X_{\alpha(t)}^A \\ \alpha(0) = g \end{cases}$$



Taking $g = \gamma(\frac{\delta}{2})$, we can extend

$$\gamma : (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow G$$

to an integral curve

$$\gamma : (-\delta, \frac{3}{2}\delta) \rightarrow G$$

Inductively, we can extend γ to

$$\gamma : (-\infty, \infty) \rightarrow G.$$

s.t.

$$\begin{cases} \gamma'(t) = X_{\gamma(t)}^A \\ \gamma(0) = e \end{cases}$$

Furthermore, since

$$\left\{ \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \gamma(s+t) = \gamma'(s) = X_{\gamma(s)}^A \right.$$

$$\left(\gamma(s+t) \right)_{t=0} = \gamma(s)$$

we have ← by the uniqueness of sol.

$$\gamma(s+t) = \gamma(s) \cdot \gamma(t) \quad \#$$

One-parameter subgroup and exp

The previous thm leads to the following def:

Def

A one-parameter subgroup of G is
is a smooth gp homo of the form

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow G$$

$$\gamma(s+t) = \gamma(s) \cdot \gamma(t)$$

$$\gamma(0) = e$$

To describe γ , recall

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \exp: M_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$$

$$\exp(A) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^n}{n!} = e^A$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad \frac{d}{dt} e^{tA} &\stackrel{\text{exer}}{=} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{t^n \cdot A^n}{n!} \right)' \\ &= e^{tA} \cdot A = A \cdot e^{tA} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} \quad e^{(s+t)A} &\stackrel{(sA) \cdot (tA) = (tA) \cdot (sA)}{=} e^{sA} \cdot e^{tA} \\ \Rightarrow \gamma(t) = e^{tA} &\text{ is a one-parameter subgroup} \end{aligned}$$

Lemma

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$. If $y: (a, b) \rightarrow M_{n \times 1}(\mathbb{C})$ s.t.,

$$y' = y \cdot A \quad (*)$$

then

$$y(t) = C \cdot e^{tA}$$

for some $C \in M_{n \times 1}(\mathbb{C})$.

pf

$$e^{-tA} \cdot y$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \circledast &\Rightarrow (y \cdot e^{-tA})' \\
 &= \underbrace{y'}_{\substack{\text{II} \circledast \\ y \cdot A}} \cdot e^{-tA} + y \cdot \underbrace{(e^{-tA})'}_{\substack{-A \cdot e^{-tA} \\ \text{II computation}}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= y \cdot A \cdot e^{-tA} - y \cdot A \cdot e^{-tA} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y \cdot e^{-tA} = C \quad \text{for some } C \in M_{1 \times n}(\mathbb{C}).$$

$$\Rightarrow y = C \cdot e^{tA} \quad \#$$

Thm 2

$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ is a one-parameter subgroup

$\Leftrightarrow \exists! A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ s.t.

$$\gamma(t) = \exp(tA) = e^{tA}$$

" $\Leftarrow$ " is done.

" $\Rightarrow$ " Assume $\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ is a one-parameter
subgp

Set $A := \gamma'(0) \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$.

By assumption, $\forall s, t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\gamma(s+t) = \gamma(s) \cdot \gamma(t)$$

$\frac{d}{ds} \Big|_{s=0}$
 $\Rightarrow$

$$\underline{\gamma'(t)} = \gamma'(0) \cdot \gamma(t) = \underline{A \cdot \gamma(t)}$$

Lemma
 $\Rightarrow$

$$\gamma(t) = \exp(tA) \cdot C$$

Since

$$\gamma(0) = I_n = \exp(0 \cdot A) \cdot C = C$$

we have

$$\gamma(t) = \exp(tA). \quad \#$$

Cor

For a matrix gp $G \subseteq GL_n(\mathbb{C})$,

$$\exp(\mathfrak{g}) \subseteq G.$$

pf

Let $A \in \mathfrak{g} = T_e G$.

Consider the left invariant vec field

$$X^A \in \mathfrak{X}(G), \quad X_g^A = g \cdot A$$

By Thm 1, the integral curve

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow G, \quad \gamma'(t) = X_{\gamma(t)}^A, \quad \gamma(0) = e$$

defines a one-parameter subgroup.

Since $\gamma'(0) = A$, by Thm 2,

$$\gamma(t) = \exp(tA)$$

$$\Rightarrow \exp(A) = \gamma(1) \in G. \quad \#$$

Lie(G) & $\mathfrak{X}(G)$

Thm

Let G be a matrix gp. The map

$$\underbrace{\mathfrak{X}(G)}_{\psi} \longrightarrow \underbrace{\mathfrak{g}}_{\psi} = T_e G$$

$$X \longmapsto X_e$$

is an isomorphism of Lie algebras.

pf

1-1:

$X \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$ is uniquely determined by $X_e^\psi \in \mathfrak{g}$

onto:

Given $A \in \mathfrak{g}$, we have $X^A \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$

with $X_e^A = A$.

Compatibility with Lie brackets:

For $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$, we need to show

$$[X, Y]_e = [X_e, Y_e] = X_e \cdot Y_e - Y_e \cdot X_e$$

$(X \circ Y - Y \circ X)_e$
↑
↑

matrix multiplication

Note that

$$X_g^A = gA \quad \mathfrak{X}^L(G) \longleftrightarrow \mathfrak{g}$$

$\searrow$
←
↑

X^A
A

Let $A, B \in \mathfrak{g}$, $\rightsquigarrow X^A, X^B \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G)$.

Let ϕ^A, ϕ^B be the flows of X^A and X^B

respectively

$$\phi_t^A: G \rightarrow G, \forall t \in \mathbb{R},$$

By Thm 1 and Thm 2,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \phi_t^A(g) = X_{\phi_t^A(g)}^A$$

$$\phi_t^A: G \rightarrow G, \quad \phi_t^A(g) = g \cdot \exp(tA)$$

$$\phi_t^B: G \rightarrow G, \quad \phi_t^B(g) = g \cdot \exp(tB).$$

$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}, g \in G.$

By Thm from last week

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp(tA) \\ & \parallel \\ & e \cdot \exp(tA) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow [X^A, X^B]_e &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \left(\phi_t^B \circ \phi_t^A \circ \phi_t^B \circ \phi_t^A(e) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \left(\underbrace{\exp(tA)}_{\sum \frac{t^n A^n}{n!}} \cdot \underbrace{\exp(tB)}_{\sum \frac{t^n B^n}{n!}} \cdot \underbrace{\exp(-tA)}_{\sum \frac{(-t)^n A^n}{n!}} \cdot \underbrace{\exp(tB)}_{\sum \frac{t^n B^n}{n!}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \left(I_n + t(A+B-A-B) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + t^2 \left(\frac{A^2}{2} + \frac{B^2}{2} + \frac{A^2}{2} + \frac{B^2}{2} + AB - A^2 - AB - BA - B^2 + AB \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + O(t^3) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=0} \left(t^2 (AB - BA) \right)$$

$$= AB - BA = [A, B] \quad \#$$

Summary:

Let $G \subseteq GL(\mathbb{C})$ be a matrix gp.

Then

$$\textcircled{1} \quad X \in \mathfrak{X}^L(G) \Leftrightarrow X_g \stackrel{\text{"}}{=} g \cdot A \quad \text{for some } A \in \mathfrak{g}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \Phi_t^A \text{ is a flow of } X^A$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \Phi_t^A = g \cdot \exp(tA)$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \exp: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G, \quad A \mapsto \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A^n}{n!}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \mathfrak{X}^L(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}, \quad X \mapsto X_e,$$

is a Lie alg iso.

Next (see youtube list),

Consider

$$\mathcal{U}_{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathbb{T}\mathfrak{g} / \langle x \otimes y - y \otimes x - [x, y] \rangle$$

Note: for $x, Y \in \mathfrak{g}, \subseteq \mathcal{U}\mathfrak{g}$,

$$X \cdot Y = Y \cdot X + [X, Y]$$

We want to understand $\mathcal{U}\mathfrak{g}$ as
left invariant differential operators
on G if $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$.