

# Differentiable Manifolds

## §16. Lie Algebras

Sichuan University, Fall 2021

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

## Reminder (see Section 15)

Let  $G$  be a Lie group with unit  $e$ .

- Given any  $g \in G$ , the left-multiplication  $\ell_g : G \rightarrow G, x \rightarrow gx$  is a diffeomorphism such that  $\ell_g(e) = g$ .
- Thus, the differential  $(\ell_g)_{*,e} : T_e G \rightarrow T_g G$  is a linear isomorphism.

## Consequence

Describing  $T_e G$  allows us to describe  $T_g G$  for every  $g \in G$ .

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

Example (Tangent space of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  at  $I$ )

$GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  is an open subset of the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . Thus,

$$T_I GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = T_I \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} = \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$$

Consequence

For any Lie subgroup  $G \subset GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  the tangent space  $T_I G$  is a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

## Reminder (see Section 15)

- If  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , then

$$\det(e^X) = e^{\text{tr}[X]}.$$

- The differential  $\det_{*,I} : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is given by

$$\det_{*,I}(X) = \text{tr}(X), \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$$

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

## Proposition (Tangent Space Criterion)

Let  $G$  be an embedded Lie subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  and  $V$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\dim V = \dim G \quad \text{and} \quad e^X \in G \quad \forall X \in V.$$

Then  $T_1 G = V$ .

## Proof.

- Let  $X \in V$ . Then  $c(t) = e^{tX}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , is a smooth curve in  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  with values in  $G$  such that  $c(0) = I$  and  $c'(0) = X$ .
- As  $G$  is a regular submanifold of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , it follows that  $c(t)$  is a smooth curve in  $G$ , and hence  $X = c'(0) \in T_1 G$ .
- Thus,  $V$  is a subspace of  $T_1 G$ . As  $\dim V = \dim G = \dim T_1 G$  it follows that  $T_1 G = V$ .

The result is proved. □

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

Example (Tangent space of  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$  at  $I$ ; Example 16.2)

- Let  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . As  $\det(e^X) = e^{\text{tr}(X)}$ , we have

$$e^X \in SL(n, \mathbb{R}) \iff \det(e^X) = e^{\text{tr}(X)} = 1 \iff \text{tr}(X) = 0.$$

- Set  $V = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}; \text{tr}(X) = 0\}$ . Then

$$e^X \in SL(n, \mathbb{R}) \forall X \in V \quad \text{and} \quad \dim V = n^2 - 1 = \dim SL(n, \mathbb{R}).$$

Thus,

$$T_I SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = V = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}; \text{tr}(X) = 0\}.$$

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

Example (Tangent space of  $O(n)$  and  $SO(n)$  at  $I$ ; Example 16.4)

- Let  $K_n$  be the space of skew-symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, i.e.,

$$K_n = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}; X^T = -X\}.$$

- If  $X \in K_n$ , then  $(e^X)^T = e^{X^T} = e^{-X} = (e^X)^{-1}$ , and hence

$$(e^X)^T e^X = (e^X)^{-1} e^X = I.$$

Thus,  $e^X \in O(n)$  for all  $X \in K_n$ .

- As  $\dim K_n = \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) = \dim O(n)$ , we deduce that

$$T_I O(n) = K_n.$$

- As  $SO(n)$  is an open set in  $O(n)$ , we have

$$T_I SO(n) = T_I O(n) = K_n.$$

# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

## Example (Tangent space of $U(n)$ at $I$ ; Problem 16.2)

- Let  $L_n$  be the space of skew-Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrices, i.e.,

$$L_n = \{X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}; X^* = -X\}.$$

- If  $X \in L_n$ , then  $(e^X)^* = e^{X^*} = e^{-X} = (e^X)^{-1}$ , and hence

$$(e^X)^* e^X = (e^X)^{-1} e^X = I.$$

Thus,  $e^X \in U(n)$  for all  $X \in L_n$ .

- As  $\dim L_n = n^2 = \dim U(n)$  (see Problem 16.1) we get

$$T_I U(n) = L_n.$$



# Tangent Space at the Identity of a Lie Group

## Example (Tangent space of $SU(n)$ at $I$ )

- Define

$$L_n^0 = \{X \in L_n; \operatorname{tr}(X) = 0\}.$$

- If  $X \in L_n^0$ , then  $e^X \in U(n)$ , and

$$\det(e^X) = e^{\operatorname{tr}(X)} = e^0 = 1.$$

Thus,  $e^X \in SU(n)$  for all  $X \in L_n^0$ .

- As  $\dim L_n^0 = n^2 - 2 = \dim SU(n)$ , we deduce that

$$T_I SU(n) = L_n^0 = \{X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}; X^* = -X, \operatorname{tr}(X) = 0\}.$$

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Definition

A vector field  $X$  on a Lie group  $G$  is called *left-invariant* if

$$(\ell_g)_* X = X \quad \forall g \in G.$$

We denote by  $L(G)$  the space of left-invariant vector fields on  $G$ .

## Remark

Let  $X$  be a vector field on  $G$ . Given any  $g \in G$ , we have

$$[(\ell_g)_* X]_h = (\ell_g)_{*,g^{-1}h}(X_{g^{-1}h}), \quad h \in G.$$

Thus,  $X$  is left-invariant if and only if

$$(\ell_g)_{*,g^{-1}h}(X_{g^{-1}h}) = X_h \quad \forall g, h \in G.$$

Equivalently,

$$(\ell_g)_{*,h}(X_h) = X_{gh} \quad \forall g, h \in G.$$

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Remark

Let  $X$  be a left-invariant vector field. Then

$$(\ell_g)_{*,h}(X_h) = X_{gh} \quad \forall g, h \in G.$$

In particular, for  $h = e$  we get

$$X_g = (\ell_g)_{*,e}(X_e) \quad \forall g \in G.$$

Thus,  $X$  is uniquely determined by  $X_e$ .

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Definition

For any tangent vector  $A \in T_e G$ , we let  $\tilde{A}$  be the vector field on  $G$  defined by

$$\tilde{A}_g = (\ell_g)_{*,e}(A) \quad \forall g \in G.$$

## Proposition

Let  $A \in T_e G$ . Then  $\tilde{A}$  is a left-invariant vector field on  $G$ .

## Proof.

Let  $g, h \in G$ . Then by the chain rule we have

$$(\ell_g)_{*,h}(\tilde{A}_h) = (\ell_g)_{*,h} \circ (\ell_h)_{*,e}(A) = (\ell_{gh})_{*,e}(A) = \tilde{A}_{gh}.$$

It follows that  $\tilde{A}$  is left-invariant (cf. slide 10). □

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Remarks

- We call  $\tilde{A}$  the *left-invariant vector field generated by*  $A$ .
- As  $\ell_e = \mathbb{1}_G$ , and hence  $(\ell_e)_{*,e} = \mathbb{1}_{T_e G}$ , we have

$$\tilde{A}_e = (\ell_e)_{*,e}(A) = \mathbb{1}_{T_e G}(A) = A.$$

- Conversely, if  $A = X_e$ , where  $X$  is a left-invariant vector field, then

$$\tilde{A}_g = (\ell_g)_{*,e}(X_e) = X_g.$$

That is,  $\tilde{A} = X$ .

Therefore, we obtain:

## Proposition

The map  $X \rightarrow X_e$  is a linear isomorphism from  $L(G)$  onto  $T_e G$  with inverse  $A \rightarrow \tilde{A}$ .

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

Reminder (see Problem 8.2)

- Given any  $p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have  $T_p\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^n$  under the identification,

$$\sum a^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_p \longleftrightarrow (a^1, \dots, a^n).$$

- If  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear map, then under the identifications  $T_p\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $T_{F(p)}\mathbb{R}^m = \mathbb{R}^m$ , the differential  $L_{*,p}$  is a linear map from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- In fact (see Problem 8.2), we have

$$L_{*,p} = L \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Example (Left-invariant vector fields on $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ )

- If  $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , then  $T_g GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = T_g \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} = \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  under the identification,

$$\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \Big|_g \longleftrightarrow [a_{ij}].$$

- If  $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , then the left-multiplication  $\ell_g : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $A \rightarrow gA$  is a linear map.
- Under the identifications  $T_l GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = T_g GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  we then have

$$(\ell_g)_{*,e} = \ell_g \quad \forall g \in G.$$

- Thus, if  $A = [a_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} = T_l GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , then

$$\tilde{A}_g = (\ell_g)_{*,e} \left( \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \Big|_e \right) = \sum_{i,j} (gA)_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \Big|_g.$$

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Example (continued)

- If we use the coordinates  $g = (x_{ij})$ , then  $(gA)_{ij} = \sum_k x_{ik} a_{kj}$ , we get

$$\tilde{A}_g = \sum_{i,j} \left( \sum_k x_{ik} a_{kj} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \Big|_g.$$

- In other words, the left-invariant vector field on  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  generated by  $A$  is just

$$\tilde{A} = \sum_{i,j,k} x_{ik} a_{kj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}}.$$

All the left-invariant vector fields on  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  are of this form.



# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Reminder (Proposition 8.17 and Proposition 14.3)

- A vector field  $X$  on a manifold  $M$  is smooth if and only if  $Xf \in C^\infty(M)$  for all  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ .
- Let  $X_p \in T_pM$  and  $c : (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow M$  a smooth curve such that  $c(0) = p$  and  $c'(0) = X$ . Then

$$X_p f = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f \circ c(t) \quad \forall f \in C_p^\infty(M).$$

- If  $(U, x^1, \dots, x^n)$  is a chart for  $M$  and  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ , then the partial derivatives  $\partial f / \partial x^1, \dots, \partial f / \partial x^n$  are smooth functions on  $U$  (see §§6.6).

# Left-Invariant Vector Fields on a Lie Group

## Proposition (Proposition 16.8)

*Every left-invariant vector field  $X$  on  $G$  is smooth.*

The following result is proved in Lee's book:

## Proposition

*Every left-invariant vector field on  $G$  is complete, i.e., its flow is defined on all  $\mathbb{R} \times M$ .*

# The Lie algebra of a Lie group

Reminder (Lie algebras; see Section 14)

A *Lie algebra* over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  is a vector space  $\mathfrak{g}$  over  $\mathbb{K}$  together with an alternating bilinear map  $[\cdot, \cdot] : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  satisfying Jacobi's identity,

$$[X, [Y, Z]] + [Y, [Z, X]] + [Z, [X, Y]] = 0 \quad \text{for all } X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Definition

A *Lie subalgebra* of a Lie algebra  $(\mathfrak{g}, [\cdot, \cdot])$  is a vector subspace  $\mathfrak{h}$  which closed under the Lie bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ , i.e.,

$$[X, Y] \in \mathfrak{h} \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{h}.$$

Remark

Any Lie subalgebra is a Lie algebra with respect to the original bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ .

# The Lie algebra of a Lie group

## Definition

Let  $\mathfrak{h}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}$  be Lie algebras.

- A *Lie algebra homomorphism*  $f : \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is a linear map such that

$$f([X, Y]) = [f(X), f(Y)] \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{h}.$$

- A *Lie algebra isomorphism*  $f : \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie algebra homomorphism which is a bijection.

## Remark

If  $f : \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is a Lie algebra isomorphism, then  $f^{-1} : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$  is automatically a Lie algebra homomorphism.

# The Lie Algebra of a Lie Group

## Reminder (see Section 14)

Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold.

- The space  $\mathcal{X}(M)$  of smooth vector fields is a Lie algebra under the Lie bracket of vector fields.
- If  $F : M \rightarrow N$  is a diffeomorphism and  $X$  and  $Y$  are smooth vector fields on  $M$ , then

$$F_*([X, Y]) = [F_*X, F_*Y].$$

# The Lie Algebra of a Lie Group

Proposition (see Proposition 16.9)

*If  $X$  and  $Y$  are left-invariant vector fields, then their Lie bracket  $[X, Y]$  is left-invariant as well.*

Proof.

Let  $g \in G$ . As  $\ell_g : G \rightarrow G$  is a diffeomorphism, we have

$$(\ell_g)_*([X, Y]) = [(\ell_g)_*X, (\ell_g)_*Y] = [X, Y].$$

Thus, the vector field  $[X, Y]$  is left-invariant. □

Corollary

*The space  $L(G)$  of left-invariant vector fields on  $G$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathcal{X}(G)$ . In particular, this is a Lie algebra under the Lie bracket of vector fields.*

# The Lie Algebra of a Lie Group

## Remarks

- We know that  $A \rightarrow \tilde{A}$  is a vector space isomorphism from  $T_e G$  onto  $L(G)$ .
- We can use this isomorphism to pullback the Lie algebra structure of  $L(G)$  to  $T_e G$ .

## Definition

If  $A, B \in T_e G$ , then their Lie bracket  $[A, B] \in T_e G$  is defined by

$$[A, B] = [\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}]_e.$$

# The Lie Algebra of a Lie Group

Proposition (see Proposition 16.10)

$(T_e G, [\cdot, \cdot])$  is a Lie algebra which is isomorphic to  $L(G)$  as a Lie algebra. In particular,

$$\widetilde{[A, B]} = [\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}] \quad \forall A, B \in T_e G.$$

Definition

$(T_e G, [\cdot, \cdot])$  is called the *Lie algebra of  $G$*  and is often denoted  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Remarks

- For instance, the Lie algebras of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $SO(n)$ ,  $U(n)$ ,  $SU(n)$  are denoted  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{u}(n)$ ,  $\mathfrak{su}(n)$ , etc..
- Some authors defines the Lie algebra of  $G$  to be the Lie algebra  $L(G)$ .



# The Lie Bracket of $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R})$

Proposition (Proposition 16.4; see Tu's book)

*Under the identification  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R}) = T_I GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \simeq \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  the Lie bracket of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R})$  is given by*

$$[A, B] = AB - BA, \quad A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$$

Reminder (Problem 14.2)

If  $X = \sum a^i(x) \partial / \partial x^i$  and  $Y = \sum b^j(x) \partial / \partial x^j$  are smooth vector fields on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$[X, Y] = \sum_i c^i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \quad \text{where } c^i = \sum_j \left( a^j \frac{\partial b^i}{\partial x^j} - b^j \frac{\partial a^i}{\partial x^j} \right).$$

# Pushforward of Left-Invariant Vector Fields

## Reminder (see Section 14)

- Let  $F : N \rightarrow M$  be a smooth map. A smooth vector field  $X$  on  $N$  and a smooth vector field  $\tilde{X}$  on  $M$  are  $F$ -related when

$$F_{*,p}(X_p) = \tilde{X}_{F(p)} \quad \forall p \in N.$$

- If  $F$  is a diffeomorphism, then  $F_*X$  is unique vector field on  $M$  which is  $F$ -related to  $X$ .
- In general we cannot define the pushforward  $F_*X$  if  $F$  is not a diffeomorphism.

# Pushforward of Left-Invariant Vector Fields

## Definition

Let  $F : H \rightarrow G$  be a Lie group homomorphism and  $X$  a left-invariant vector field on  $H$ . The *pushforward*  $F_*X$  is the left-invariant vector field on  $G$  generated by  $F_{*,e}(X_e)$ . That is,

$$F_*X = F_{*,e}(X_e)^\sim$$

## Proposition (Proposition 16.12)

Let  $F : H \rightarrow G$  be a Lie group homomorphism and  $X$  a left-invariant vector field on  $H$ . Then  $F_*X$  is  $F$ -related to  $X$ .

# Pushforward of Left-Invariant Vector Fields

## Proof of Proposition 16.12.

- As  $F_*X$  is the left-invariant vector field generated by  $F_{*,e}(X_e)$ ,

$$(F_*X)_g = (\ell_g)_{*,e}(F_{*,e}(X_e)) \quad \forall g \in G.$$

- Here  $F(e) = e$ , so the chain rule gives

$$(F_*X)_g = (\ell_g)_{*,F(e)} \circ F_{*,e}(X_e) = (\ell_g \circ F)_{*,e}(X_e).$$

- As  $F$  is a Lie group homomorphism,  $\ell_{F(h)} \circ F = F \circ \ell_h$ . Thus, for  $g = F(h)$  we get

$$(F_*X)_{F(h)} = (F \circ \ell_h)_{*,e}(X_e) = F_{*,\ell_h(e)} \circ (\ell_h)_{*,e}(X_e).$$

- As  $X$  is left-invariant,  $(\ell_h)_{*,e}(X_e) = X_h$ . Thus,

$$(F_*X)_{F(h)} = F_{*,h}(X_h) \quad \forall h \in H.$$

This shows that  $F_*X$  is  $F$ -related to  $X$ . □

# Pushforward of Left-Invariant Vector Fields

## Remark

$F_*X$  is the unique left-invariant vector field on  $G$  which is  $F$ -related to  $X$ .

## Proof.

Let  $\tilde{X}$  be a left-invariant vector field on  $G$  which is  $F$ -related to  $X$ .

- As  $\tilde{X}$  and  $F_*X$  are left-invariant, they are uniquely determined by  $\tilde{X}_e$  and  $F_*(X)_e = F_{*,e}(X_e)$ . Thus, to show that  $\tilde{X} = F_*X$  we only need to show that  $\tilde{X}_e = F_{*,e}(X_e)$ .
- As  $\tilde{X}$  is  $F$ -related to  $X$ , we have  $\tilde{X}_e = F_{*,e}(X_e)$ , and hence  $\tilde{X} = F_*X$ .

This proves the result. □

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Reminder (Proposition 14.17)

Suppose that  $F : N \rightarrow M$  is a smooth map. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be smooth vector fields on  $N$  which are  $F$ -related to smooth vector fields  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\tilde{Y}$  on  $M$ . Then  $[X, Y]$  is  $F$ -related to  $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ .

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Proposition

Let  $F : H \rightarrow G$  be a Lie group homomorphism, and let  $X$  and  $Y$  be left-invariant vector fields on  $H$ . Then

$$F_*([X, Y]) = [F_*X, F_*Y].$$

## Proof.

- As  $F_*X$  and  $F_*Y$  are  $F$ -related to  $X$  and  $Y$ , their Lie bracket  $[F_*X, F_*Y]$  is  $F$ -related to  $[X, Y]$ .
- As  $F_*X$  and  $F_*Y$  are left-invariant,  $[F_*X, F_*Y]$  is left-invariant.
- By the previous slide  $F_*[X, Y]$  is the unique left-invariant vector field on  $G$  which is  $F$ -related to  $[X, Y]$ .
- It follows that  $[F_*X, F_*Y] = F_*([X, Y])$ .

The proof is complete. □

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Corollary

Let  $F : H \rightarrow G$  be a Lie group homomorphism. Then the pushforward of left-invariant vector field gives rise to a Lie algebra homomorphism,

$$F_* : L(H) \longrightarrow L(G), \quad X \longrightarrow F_*X.$$

## Corollary (Proposition 16.14)

If  $F : H \rightarrow G$  is a Lie group homomorphism, then its differential at the identity is a Lie algebra homomorphism,

$$F_{*,e} : T_e H \longrightarrow T_e G, \quad F_{*,e}([A, B]) = [F_{*,e}A, F_{*,e}B].$$



# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Proof of Proposition 16.14.

- We have a commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L(H) & \xrightarrow{F_*} & L(G) \\ \downarrow \wr & & \downarrow \wr \\ T_e H & \xrightarrow{F_{*,e}} & T_e G. \end{array}$$

- The upper horizontal arrow is a Lie algebra homomorphism.
- The vertical arrows are Lie algebra isomorphisms.
- Therefore, the lower horizontal arrow is a Lie algebra homomorphism.

The proof is complete. □

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Reminder (see Section 15)

A subgroup  $H$  of a Lie group  $G$  is called a *Lie subgroup* if

- $H$  is an immersed submanifold in  $G$ .
- The multiplication and inversion maps of  $H$  are smooth.

## Remark

Let  $H$  be a Lie subgroup of a Lie group  $G$ .

- As  $H$  is an immersed submanifold, the inclusion  $\iota : H \rightarrow G$  is an immersion.
- Thus, the differential  $\iota_{*,e} : T_e H \rightarrow T_e G$  is injective.
- This allows us to identify  $T_e H$  with a subspace of  $T_e G$ .

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Proposition

Let  $H$  be a Lie subgroup of a Lie group  $G$ . Then the Lie bracket of its Lie algebra  $T_e H$  agrees with the Lie bracket of  $T_e G$  on its domain.

## Proof.

- The inclusion  $\iota : H \rightarrow G$  is a Lie group homomorphism, since it is a smooth map and a group homomorphism.
- Thus, the differential  $\iota_{*,e} : T_e H \rightarrow T_e G$  is a Lie group homomorphism.
- This implies that the Lie bracket of its Lie algebra  $T_e H$  agrees with the Lie bracket of  $T_e G$ .

The result is proved. □

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Corollary

Let  $H$  be a Lie subgroup of a Lie group  $G$ . Let  $\mathfrak{g} = T_e G$  be the Lie algebra of  $G$ . Then the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{h} = T_e H$  of  $H$  is a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

## Remark (see Tu's book)

- Conversely, it can be shown that every subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is the Lie algebra of a unique connected Lie subgroup of  $G$ .
- This gives a one-to-one correspondence between Lie subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and (connected) Lie subgroups  $H$  of  $G$ .
- In particular, under this correspondence a Lie subalgebra may correspond to a non-embedded Lie subgroup.

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Example

- The Lie algebra of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  is  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  equipped with the matrix Lie bracket,

$$[A, B] = AB - BA, \quad A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$$

- The following are Lie subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{R})$ :

$$\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}; \operatorname{tr}(A) = 0\},$$

$$\mathfrak{o}(n) = \mathfrak{so}(n) = \{A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}; A^T = -A\}.$$

There are the respective Lie algebras of  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $O(n)$ , and  $SO(n)$ .

# The Differential as a Lie Algebra Homomorphism

## Example

- The Lie algebra of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  is  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  equipped with the matrix Lie bracket.
- The following are Lie subalgebras of  $\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{C}) = \{A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}; \operatorname{tr}(A) = 0\},$$

$$\mathfrak{u}(n) = \{A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}; A^* = -A\},$$

$$\mathfrak{su}(n) = \{A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}; A^* = -A, \operatorname{tr}(A) = 0\}.$$

There are the respective Lie algebras of  $SL(n, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $U(n)$ , and  $SU(n)$ .