

# Lecture 18: Equality of Lie derivative and Lie bracket

$X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ . Define  $[X, Y] \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  by

$$[X, Y]f = X(Yf) - Y(Xf)$$

If  $\theta$  is the flow assoc. to  $X$  define for  $m \in M$

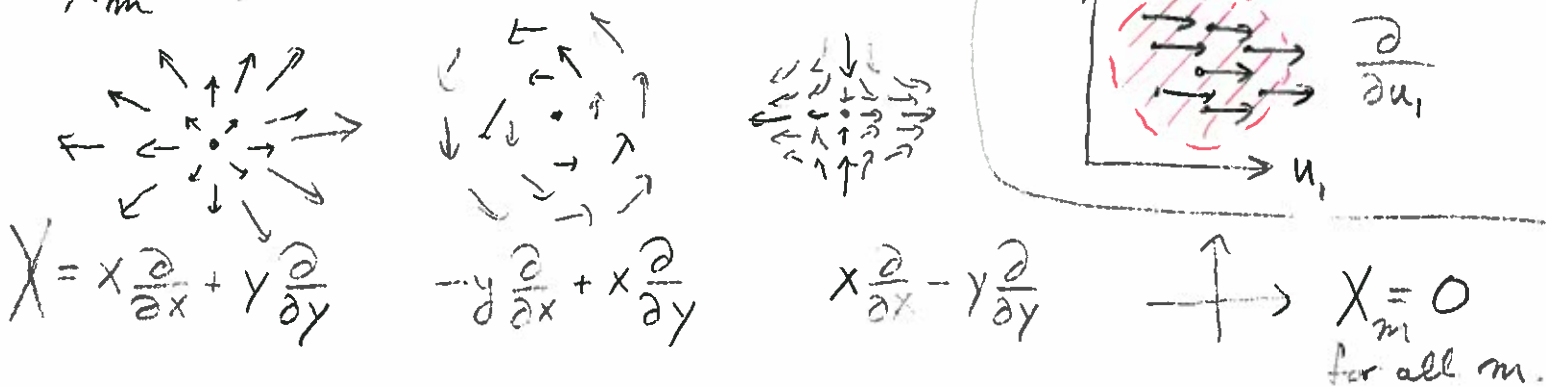
$$\begin{aligned} (L_X Y)_m &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} (d\theta_{-t}(Y_{\theta_t(m)}) - Y_m) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} d\theta_{-t}(Y_{\theta_t(m)}) \Big|_{t=0} \end{aligned}$$

Thm:  $[X, Y] = L_X Y$  In coord  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  if  $X = \sum X_i \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i}$  and  $Y = \sum Y_j \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j}$  then  $\star$

Lemma:  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$   $[X, Y] = \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \frac{\partial Y_j}{\partial u_i} - Y_j \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial u_j} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j}$

If  $X_m \neq 0$ , then  $\exists$  a chart  $(U, \varphi)$  about  $m$  with  $\varphi_* X = \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1}$

Note: No standard picture if  $X_m = 0$ .



Pf of Thm assuming lemma: Set

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$$\mathcal{Q} = \{m \in M \mid X_m \neq 0\}$$

Case  $m \in \mathcal{Q}$ : Choose coord where  $X = \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1}$ . Then by  $\textcircled{A}$

have  $[X, Y] = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial Y_j}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j}$ . That is, if

view  $Y: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $[X, Y]$  is just  $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial u_1}$ .

In these coord,  $\Theta_t(u_1, \dots, u_n) = (u_1 + t, u_2, \dots, u_n)$

and  $d\Theta_t =$  "the identity" so  $L_X Y$  is also just  $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial u_1}$ .

Case  $m \in \overline{\mathcal{Q}}$ : True by continuity of  $[X, Y]$  and  $L_X Y$

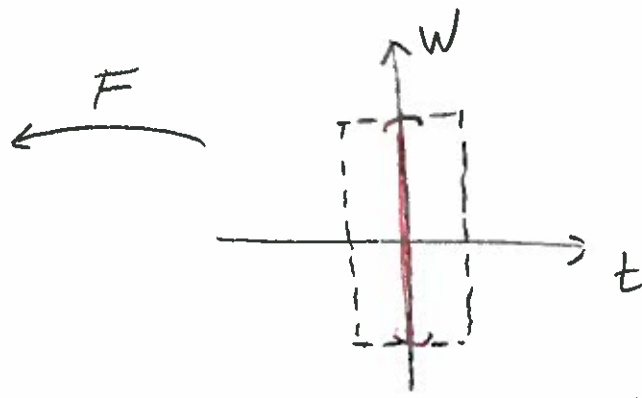
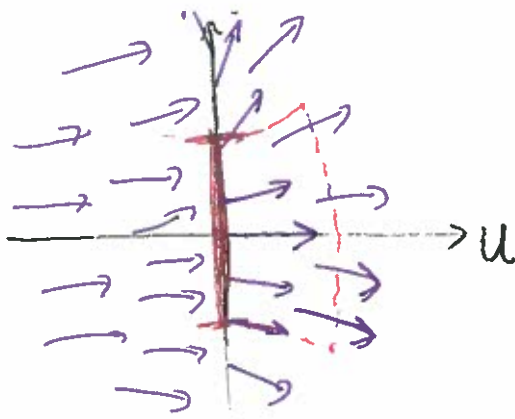
Case  $m \notin \overline{\mathcal{Q}}$ :  $\exists U \ni m$  where  $X|_U = 0$ . Then  $[X, Y] = 0$

on  $U$  from  $\textcircled{A}$ . Also  $\Theta_t|_U = \text{id}_U$  for all  $t$ , so

$\Theta_t(m) = m$  and  $d(\Theta_{-t})_m = \text{id}_{T_m M}$ . So  $(L_X Y)_m = 0$ .  $\blacksquare$

Pf of Lemma: Can assume  $M = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $m = 0$ . For simplicity take  $n = 2$ . By linear change of coord,

can assume  $X_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \Big|_0$ .



Choose an open interval  $V \ni 0$  in the  $v$ -axis so that  $X|_V$  is never tangent to  $V$ . Choose  $\epsilon > 0$  so that integral curves starting at  $p \in V$  exist for  $t \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)$

Now define  $F: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ . Note that  $(t, w) \mapsto \Theta_t(w)$

$F(0, w) = (0, w)$  and so  $dF(\frac{\partial}{\partial w}|_0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$  and that  $\forall w \in V$  the map  $t \mapsto F(t, w)$  is the integral curve for  $X$  starting at  $(0, w)$ ; hence  $dF(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|_0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial u}$ . So  $F$  is a diff near 0 and  $(F^{-1})_*(X) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$  as desired.  $\square$

So far:  $\mathfrak{X}(M)$  with  $[X, Y] = L_X Y$  is a Lie algebra. But  $\mathfrak{X}(M)$  is quite big [HW] but for Lie groups there is a finite dim'l subspace which is closed under  $[, ]$

Thm:  $G$  a Lie gp. If  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(G)$  are left-invariant,  $\textcircled{4}$   
so is  $[X, Y]$ .

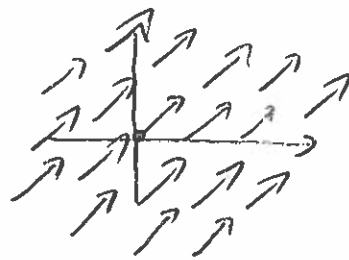
Pf. Fix  $g \in G$ . Then  $(L_g)_*([X, Y]) = [(L_g)_*X, (L_g)_*Y]$   
 $= [X, Y]$ . So  $[X, Y]$  is left-invariant.

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$  is the vector sp of  
left-invariant vector fields. Know that  $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow T_e G$   
is an isomorphism.  $X \mapsto X_e$

Ex:  $G = \mathbb{R}^n$   $\mathfrak{g} = \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $[X, Y] = 0$  for all  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$

Ex:  $G = GL_n \mathbb{R} \subseteq M_n(\mathbb{R})$

$\mathfrak{g} = G_e = M_n(\mathbb{R})$



Fact: Under  $\uparrow$ , one has  $[X, Y] = X \cdot Y - Y \cdot X$

[Dreary calculation in textbook, will come back to.]

[Lie algebra is very closely connected to the Lie  
group. Indeed up to covers, the former determines  
the latter..]

Prop:  $F: G \rightarrow H$  a Lie gp homomorphism.

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Then  $dF_e: T_e G \rightarrow T_e H$  induces a homomorphism of Lie algebras under the ident  $\mathfrak{g} = T_e G$  and  $\mathfrak{h} = T_e H$ .

Pf: Let  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  and  $\bar{X} \in \mathfrak{h}$  have  $\bar{X}_e = dF(X_e)$ .

Claim:  $\forall g \in G$  one has  $dF(X_g) = \bar{X}_{F(g)}$ .

Reason:  $X_g = dL_g(X_e)$ ,  $\bar{X}_{F(g)} = dL_{F(g)}(dF(X_e))$ ,  
and  $F \circ L_g = L_{F(g)} \circ F$ .

To show  $dF([X, Y]) = [\bar{X}, \bar{Y}]$ , by left-invariance we just need to check this at  $e_H$ . Since  $F$  has constant rank, this is a straight-forward calculation in local coordinates using  $\star$ .  $\square$