

Problems on Lie groups

Deadline: recommended by Monday **6.1.2025**

Homomorphism from $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ to L^0

Let ϕ be the homomorphism from $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ to L^0 constructed during lectures (see notes on the website).

1. (5 points) Show that the kernel of this homomorphism is $\text{Ker } \phi = \{\mathbf{1}, -\mathbf{1}\}$.
Note: It is not enough to show that the matrices $\mathbf{1}$ and $-\mathbf{1}$ belong to $\text{Ker } \phi$, but that there is no other matrix $A \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ that maps to the identity in L^0 .
2. (5 points) Find the matrix $A \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ that maps to the transformation of the 4-vector $(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)^T$ which is a rotation about the x_1 axis by an angle α .

Left-invariant vector fields of the group $GA(1, \mathbb{R})$ and its one-parameter subgroups

The group $GA(1, \mathbb{R})$ is the group of all linear transformations

$$x' = ax + b, \quad a \neq 0, \quad b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Therefore, it is a two-parameter Lie group, each element of which is given by a pair of parameters $g = (a, b)$ with the group operation given by the composition of two such transformations.

1. (5 points) Determine the left-invariant vector fields of this group and the structure constants in a suitable basis of the corresponding Lie algebra.
2. (5 points) Determine the one-parameter subgroup of this group corresponding to the general element of its Lie algebra, i.e. for a general linear combination of basis elements of this Lie algebra.
Note: This subproblem can also be solved in matrix form by rewriting the transformations using 2×2 matrices and finding its matrix Lie algebra.

One-parameter subgroups of the Lie group $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ which is not covered by the exponential mapping

The group $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ is the group of all real matrices $A_{2 \times 2}$ for which $\det A = 1$, or

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}, \quad ad - bc = 1.$$

1. (5 points) Determine the one-parameter subgroups of this group in the matrix form. *Hint:* Write the general form of the matrix C from the corresponding Lie algebra $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ of this group and calculate $\exp Ct$ directly, e.g. using Taylor expansion, depending on the sign of $\det C$.
2. (5 points) Based on the result of the previous subproblem, show that the exponential map does not cover the entire group $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$, although this group is connected. *Hint:* Consider, for example, the traces of the resulting matrices.