

Principal bundles

Def A Lie group is a group G which is also a manifold, such that $(g, g') \mapsto gg'$ and $g \mapsto g^{-1}$ are smooth.

$$L_g: G \rightarrow G \quad R_g: G \rightarrow G$$

$$g' \mapsto gg' \quad g' \mapsto g'g$$

Def $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G) = \{X \in TG: (L_g)_* X = X\}$

Prop • If $X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}$ then $[X, Y] \in \mathfrak{g}$.

• $\mathfrak{g} \cong T_1 G$.

$$X \mapsto X(1)$$

Def $\forall g \in G, Ad_g: G \rightarrow G$ $g' \mapsto gg'g^{-1}$ induces $Ad_g: T_1 G \rightarrow T_1 G$

Def M manifold, G Lie group: G acts smoothly on M (from the right) if G acts on M

(from the right) and $G \times M \rightarrow M$ is smooth.

$$(g, m) \mapsto mg$$

Rk If G acts smoothly on M , we get a homomorphism $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow TM$ $\sigma(X)(m) = \frac{d}{dt}(m \cdot g(t))$

$$X \mapsto \sigma(X) \quad \xrightarrow{X} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{g(t)=g} \Big|_{\dot{g}(0)=X}$$

Def M mfd, G Lie gp: a principal G -bundle over M is (P, π) where

1) P is a manifold acted on by G

2) $\pi: P \rightarrow M$ has $\pi(xg) = \pi(x)$

3) $\forall p \in M, \exists$ nbhd $U \subset M$ and a diffeomorphism $\varphi_U: \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times G$

$$\text{with } \varphi(x) = (\pi(x), \nu(x))$$

$$\varphi(xg) = \varphi(x)g$$

Ex $P = M \times G$ is a principal G -bundle over M ("trivial G -bundle").

Ex $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, $P = \text{Möbius covering}$. This P has no global section.

Rk • The fibers of P are G -torsors, not canonically $\cong G$.

• Choosing a section $s: M \rightarrow P$ determines a trivialization of P :

$$\begin{aligned} M \times G &\xrightarrow{\sim} P \\ (p, g) &\longmapsto s(p) \cdot g \end{aligned}$$

Ex Say $G = GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{ (g_i^j)_{i,j=1,\dots,n} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \mid \det(g_i^j) \neq 0 \}$

For $x \in M$, let $P_x = \{ \text{bases } \{e_1, \dots, e_n\} \text{ of } T_x M \} = \{ (e_1, \dots, e_n) \in T_x M \mid e_1, \dots, e_n \neq 0 \}$

G acts on P_x by $\{e_i\} \rightarrow \{e'_i = g_i^j e_j\}$ [NB: not $e'_i = g e_i$, which would make sense for $g \in \text{End } TM$ but doesn't for $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$]

Define $P = \bigsqcup_{x \in M} P_x$. This has structure of principal G -bundle over M . [Exercise]

Def Suppose G acts on Y . Then define associated bundle:

$$Y_P = P \times_G Y = P \times Y / \sim \quad (x, y) \sim (xg, g^{-1}y) \quad \forall g \in G$$

$\pi: P \rightarrow M$ induces $\pi: P \times_G Y \rightarrow M$ making $P \times_G Y$ a fiber bundle over M .
 $[(x, y)] \mapsto \pi(x)$

Prop If P is trivial, i.e. $P = M \times G$, then $P \times_G Y = M \times Y$.
 $[(m, g), y] \mapsto (m, gy)$

Roughly, in $P \times_G Y$ we "replace the G fibers by Y fibers." No G -action anymore!

Prop If E is a representation of G , then $P \times_G E$ is a vector bundle over M .

Ex P a principal $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -bundle, $E =$ nontriv 1-d rep of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$,
then $P \times_G E$ is a real line bundle.

Ex P bundle of frames, $E =$ fundamental rep of $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$
then $P \times_G E \cong TM$

$$[(m, e_1, \dots, e_n), v] \mapsto (m, \sum v_i e_i)$$

Prop. If E_1, E_2 are G -reps then

$$(E_1)_P \oplus (E_2)_P \simeq (E_1 \oplus E_2)_P$$

$$(E_1)_P \otimes (E_2)_P \simeq (E_1 \otimes E_2)_P$$

$$(E_P)^* \simeq (E^*)_P$$

\uparrow operations on vector bundles \uparrow operations on G -representations

Pf Exercise.

So the bundles $T_P^P = \underbrace{T \otimes \dots \otimes T}_P \otimes \underbrace{T^* \otimes \dots \otimes T^*}_P$ we have used in this course are all associated bundles for the bundle of frames P .

Maurer-Cartan form

G Lie gp, $\mathcal{G} = \text{Lie } G = \{\text{left invariant vector fields on } G\}$

$\Theta_G \in \mathcal{E}(\Lambda^* T^*G \otimes \mathcal{G})$ defined by: $[\Theta_G(g)](X) = L_{g^{-1}*} X \in T_1G \simeq \mathcal{G}$.
 or equivalently: $\Theta_G(X) = X \quad \forall X \in \mathcal{G}$

Prop For $G \subset GL(n, \mathbb{R})$, $\Theta_G = g^{-1} dg$.

[upon identifying $\mathcal{G} = T_1G$ and using

$$g: G \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}), \quad dg: T_g G \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}), \quad g^{-1}: \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$$

tautological i.e. $dg \in \mathcal{E}(T^*G \otimes \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}))$ $M \mapsto g^{-1}M$

Pf Exercise.

Prop $d\Theta_G + \Theta_G \wedge \Theta_G = 0$. (Maurer-Cartan)

Pf $d\Theta_G(\sigma(X), \sigma(Y)) = \sigma(X)Y - \sigma(Y)X - [X, Y] \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{G}$
 $= -[X, Y]$ since $X, Y \in \mathcal{G}$ are constant
 $= -[\Theta_G(\sigma(X)), \Theta_G(\sigma(Y))]$

Rk Fix any rep $\rho: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$. It induces $\rho: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$.
(by differentiating at the identity: $T_1 G = \mathcal{G}$, $T_1 \text{Aut}(V) = \text{End}(V)$.)

Prop For $G = U(1) = SO(2)$ (circle group)
choose basis elt $X \in \mathcal{G}$ such that if ρ is the standard rep of $SO(2)$, then $\rho(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

Then have $\Theta_G = \alpha \cdot X$ with α G -inv't, $\oint_G \alpha = 2\pi$.

Pf Let $g_t = \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}$. Then $X = \frac{d}{dt}$. So $\Theta_G|_{t=0} = dt$. Thus $\Theta_G = dt$.

But then $\oint_G \Theta_G = 2\pi$.