

Def. - A homomorphism from a Lie group  $G$  to a Lie group  $H$  is a group homomorphism  $f: G \rightarrow H$  that is also a smooth map.

There is a category  $\text{Lie Grp}$  with Lie groups as objects & Lie group homomorphisms as morphisms.

Example: A closed subgroup  $H \subseteq G$  of a Lie group is a submanifold of  $G$  and a Lie group in its own right. The inclusion map

$$i: H \hookrightarrow G$$

is a Lie group homomorphism.

Recall a matrix Lie group is a closed subgroup of the general linear group

$$GL(n, \mathbb{C}) = \{g \in M_n(\mathbb{C}) : \det g \neq 0\}$$

So, if  $H$  is a matrix Lie group we have a 1-1 Lie group homomorphism

$$i: H \hookrightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{C})$$

## Examples of matrix Lie groups

1) The general linear group.

$$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C}) : g_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

is a closed subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$   
since

$$g_\alpha \rightarrow g \text{ iff } (g_\alpha)_{ij} \rightarrow g_{ij} \forall i, j$$

so

$$g_\alpha \rightarrow g \ \& \ g_\alpha \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$

$\Downarrow$

$$(g_\alpha)_{ij} \rightarrow g_{ij} \ \& \ (g_\alpha)_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$g_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$



2) The special linear group

$$SL(n, \mathbb{C}) = \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C}) : \det g = 1\}$$

is closed in  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  since  $\det$  is continuous.

3) The special linear group

$$SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) : \det g = 1\}$$

$$= GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \cap SL(n, \mathbb{C})$$

is a closed subgroup, being the intersection of two closed subgroups.

4) The unitary group

$$U(n) = \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C}) : gg^* = I\}$$

where

$$(g^*)_{ij} = \overline{g_{ji}}$$

defines the adjoint (conjugate transpose) of  $g$ .

$U(n)$  is closed because  $gg^*$  depends in a continuous way on  $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ .

Lemma - For any  $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  the following are equivalent:

$$1) \quad gg^* = I$$

$$2) \quad g^*g = I$$

3)  $g$  preserves inner products:

$$\langle gv, gw \rangle = \langle v, w \rangle \quad \forall v, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\text{where } \langle v, w \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{v}_i w_i.$$

4)  $g$  preserves lengths:

$$\|gv\| = \|v\| \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\text{where } \|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}.$$

1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  2) : since  $g$  has an inverse, any right inverse is a left inverse & vice versa.

$$2) \Leftrightarrow 3) : \langle gv, gw \rangle = \langle v, g^*g w \rangle$$

3)  $\Rightarrow$  4) : easy

4)  $\Rightarrow$  3) : polarization identity



So,  $U(n)$  is a subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$g, h \in U(n)$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\|ghv\| = \|hv\| = \|v\| \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

$\Downarrow$

$$gh \in U(n)$$

Thus  $U(n)$  is a matrix Lie group.

5) The orthogonal group

$$\begin{aligned} O(n) &= \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) : gg^* = I\} \\ &= U(n) \cap GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \end{aligned}$$

is a matrix Lie group, being an intersection of closed Lie subgroups of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ .

6) So is the special unitary group

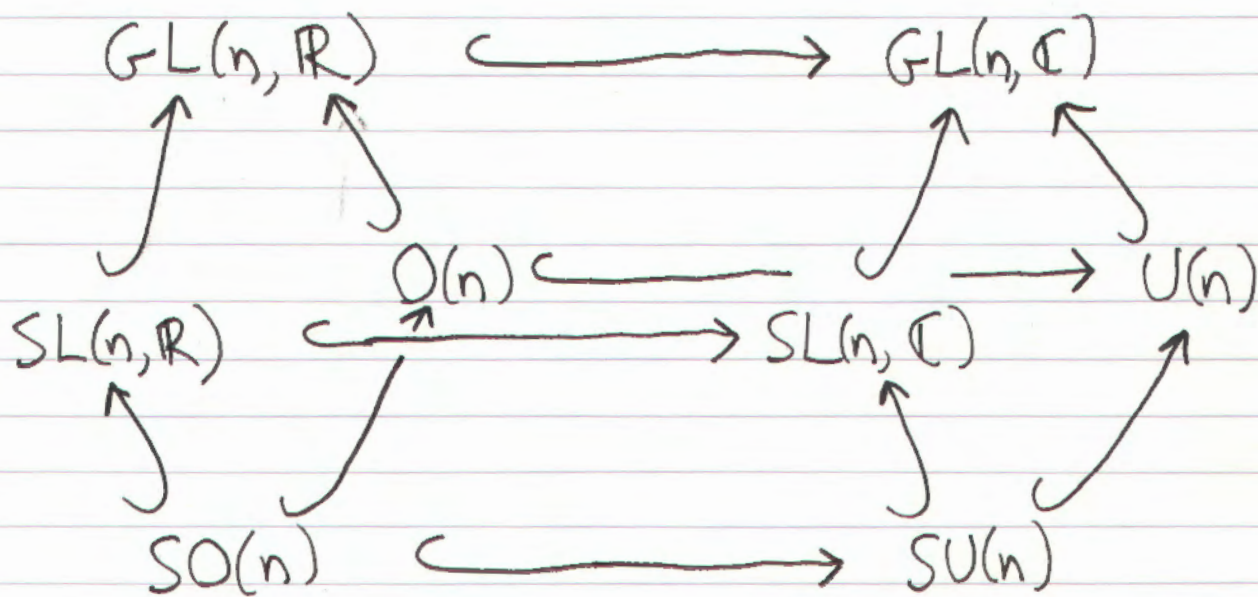
$$\begin{aligned} SU(n) &= \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{C}) : gg^* = I, \det g = 1\} \\ &= U(n) \cap SL(n, \mathbb{C}) \end{aligned}$$

7) So is the special orthogonal group

$$\begin{aligned}SO(n) &= \{g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) : gg^* = 1, \det g = 1\} \\ &= O(n) \cap SL(n, \mathbb{R})\end{aligned}$$

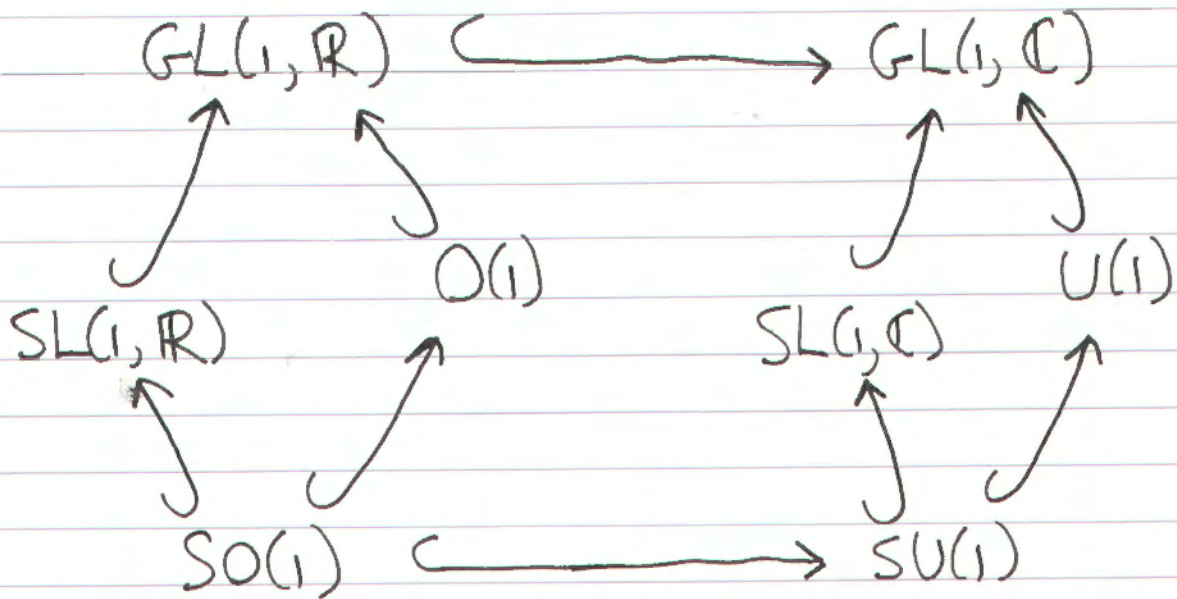
For example,  $SO(3)$  is the group of  $3 \times 3$  matrices describing rotations in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Putting it all together:





Let's look at some low-dimensional examples!



$GL(1, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}^* := \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ ,  
a group under multiplication.

$GL(1, \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}^* := \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

$U(1) \cong \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ ,

$\cong S^1$ , the circle group

$O(1) \cong \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x| = 1\}$

$\cong \mathbb{Z}_2$

$\cong S^0$

Note :

$$GL(1, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}^*$$

$$\cong \{e^r e^{i\theta} : r, \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

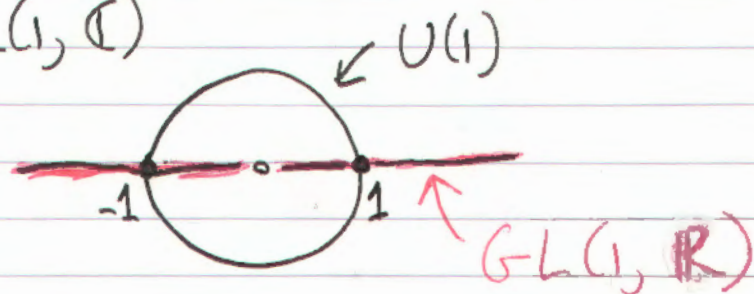
$$\cong \mathbb{R} \times S^1$$

$$GL(1, \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}^*$$

$$\cong \{e^r x : r \in \mathbb{R}, x = \pm 1\}$$

$$\cong \mathbb{R} \times S^0$$

$GL(1, \mathbb{C})$



$S^1$

$GL(1, \mathbb{C})$

