# MA 229/MA 235 - Lecture 18

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Lie bracket

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# Recap

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- Proved that the diffeo group acts transitively.

Lie bracket

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Lie bracket

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$$\frac{\partial \gamma^{i}(-s,F(s,t))}{\partial s}|_{s=0} = -\frac{d\gamma^{i}}{ds}|_{s=0} + \frac{\partial \gamma^{i}}{\partial x^{j}}\frac{\partial F^{j}}{\partial s}|_{s=0} = -X^{i}(F(0,t)) + \frac{\partial F^{i}}{\partial s}|_{s=0}.$$

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which is  $-\frac{\partial Y^{i}}{\partial x^{k}}(p)X^{k}(p) + \frac{\partial X^{i}}{\partial x^{k}}(p)Y^{k}(p).$ 

# Lie bracket: Definition

Lie bracket

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- Lemma (proof by calculation): The Lie bracket genuinely defines a vector field whose components are given above.

Lie bracket

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- Any vector space equipped with such a "bracket" is called a Lie algebra. The space of smooth vector fields is an example.

# Lie bracket: Characterisation of coordinate vector fields

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Lie bracket

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- Conversely, Theorem (proof omitted): If X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>,..., X<sup>k</sup> are smooth Lie-commuting vector fields that are linearly independent at p, there is a neighbourhood and a coordinate chart such that X<sup>i</sup> = <sup>∂</sup>/<sub>∂x<sup>i</sup></sub>.