

Differentiation of higher groupoids in tangent categories

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IMPRS Moduli Spaces

(Higher) Lie groupoids

A groupoid is a small category in which all morphisms are isomorphisms. I will denote it by $G_1 \xrightarrow{r} G_0$, where G_1 is the set of arrows, G_0 the set of objects, and r, l the right (target) and left (source) maps.

Definition. A Lie groupoid is a groupoid internal to the category \mathcal{M} fld of smooth manifolds, where r and l are surjective submersions.



• G Lie group \rightsquigarrow Lie groupoid with one object $G \rightrightarrows \{*\}$. Example.

• M smooth manifold \rightsquigarrow the **pair groupoid** $M \times M \rightrightarrows M$, where r(x, y) = y and l(x, y) = x. **Remark.** Given a Lie groupoid $G = G_1 \rightrightarrows G_0$, its nerve NG is a simplicial manifold, where



One may observe that all horns of NG can be filled and all horns of degree > 1 can be filled uniquely. A simplicial manifold $G: \Delta^{\mathrm{op}} \to \mathcal{M}\mathrm{fld}, [m] \mapsto G_m$, depicted by

$$G_0 \Longrightarrow G_1 \rightleftharpoons G_2 \cdots$$

is **Kan** if the horn projection

 $G_m \cong \operatorname{Hom}(\Delta^m, G) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Hom}(\Lambda^m_i, G)$

is a surjective submersion for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 \leq j \leq m$.

The Lie algebroid of a Lie groupoid

A Lie groupoid has an infinitesimal counterpart, its Lie algebroid. Abstractly, a Lie algebroid is a vector bundle $A \to M$ together with a Lie bracket on its space $\Gamma(A)$ of smooth sections with a vector bundle map $\rho: A \to TM$ called the *anchor*, satisfying a Leibniz rule.

Just like the Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} of a Lie group G consists of the right-invariant vector fields on G, the Lie algebroid A associated to a Lie groupoid $G_1 \rightrightarrows G_0$ is defined by the right-invariant vector fields on G_1 . However, we restrict the vector fields to be tangent to the right fibers, where right translation is well-defined. Then,

$$A := \ker(Tr)|_{G_0} \longrightarrow G_0$$

with fibers the tangent spaces to the right fibers at the units of the groupoid as depicted below



The anchor of A is given by the restriction of Tl to A and the Lie bracket on $\Gamma(A)$ is defined using the identification of $\Gamma(A)$ with the space of right-invariant vector fields on G_1 .

Ševera's construction: revisited

In [Šev06], Ševera has shown a method of differentiation from higher Lie groupoids to higher Lie algebroids using the supermanifold $\mathbb{R}^{0|1}$ as an infinitesimal model and the fact that $\underline{\mathrm{Hom}}(\mathbb{R}^{0|1}, M)$ is represented by the odd tangent bundle ΠTM for any (super)manifold M. Ševera's main idea suggests replacing $\mathbb{R}^{0|1}$ by the nerve $(\mathbb{R}^{0|1})^{\bullet+1}$ of the pair groupoid of $\mathbb{R}^{0|1}$. Let G be a simplicial manifold.

Definition ([Hen08], [Zhu09]). A Lie ∞ -groupoid is a Kan simplicial manifold. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, a Lie n**groupoid** is a Kan simplicial manifold such that (1) is a diffeomorphism for all m > n and $0 \le j \le m$.

Remark. A Lie *n*-groupoid is (n + 1)-coskeletal.

More generally, one can define higher groupoid objects in any category \mathcal{C} equipped with a *Grothendieck* pretopology as Kan simplicial objects in \mathcal{C} .

Categorical generalization of Ševera's construction

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and let \mathcal{C} be a category equipped with a Grothendieck pretopology and an abstract tangent functor $T: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{C}$ in the sense of Rosický [Ros84] (cf. [Blo23, section 2]). Let G be an n-groupoid in \mathcal{C} .

Definition. The Lie n-algebroid Lie(G) of G is defined by

$$\operatorname{Lie}(G) := \int_{[m] \in \Delta_{\leq n+1}^{\operatorname{op}}} T^{m+1} G_m \,. \tag{2}$$

Remark. The iterated tangent bundle $T^{\bullet+1}$ has an augmented cosimplicial structure, using the fact that T is a monad. Hence, the end in equation (2) is well-defined.

Note that the definition of Lie(G) is compatible with Ševera's approach (up to degree shift of the fibers) using the fact that $(\Pi T)^k M \cong \operatorname{Hom}((\mathbb{R}^{0|1})^k, M)$ for all (super)manifolds M and $k \ge 1$.

Computing the end

Theorem (Blohmann, K.). The Lie
$$n$$
-algebroid of G is isomorphic to the following fiber product

where

$$R_i = (T^i G_i)^i \times (T^{i+1} G_{i-1})^{i+1}$$

 $\operatorname{Lie}(G) \cong T^1 G_0 \times_{R_1} T^2 G_1 \times_{R_2} \cdots \times_{R_{n+1}} T^{n+2} G_{n+1},$

for $i \in \{1, \ldots, n+1\}$.

Proof. Since ends are special limits, one can compute the end Lie(G) (cf. [ML98, prop. IX.5.1]) explicitly and obtain the limit of the following diagram



Note that the formula given in (3) and its proof assert that Lie(G) is obtained via powers of the tangent bundles of the nerve of G under some relations imposed by the (co)face and (co)degeneracy maps.

Remark. When n = 1 and $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{M}$ fld, we recover the symmetric version of the usual Lie algebroid of G. That is, we recover Lie(G) without making a choice between the left and right maps.

Proposition (K.). The (co)face-relations in the highest box together with the (co)degeneracy-relations in the lower boxes imply all the other relations.

The integral sign above denotes the *categorical end*, which is a universal construction and in particular a special limit of some diagram. Moreover, (co)ends support a calculus [Lor21].

The cohomological vector field

Given a vector bundle $A \to M$, it is due to Vaintrob [Vai97] that the Lie algebroid structures on A are in one-to-one correspondence with cohomological vector fields on the degree one graded manifold A[1], which has core M and sheaf of functions $\mathcal{O}(A[1]) = \Gamma(\Lambda^{\bullet}A^*)$. In this way, Lie *n*-algebroids are defined as N-graded manifolds of degree n together with a cohomological vector field.

Given a Lie *n*-groupoid, in order to fully capture the structure of Lie(G), our aim is to understand the sheaf of functions on Lie(G) and the cohomological vector field. Using the fact that $\mathcal{O}(\Pi TM)$ is the cochain complex of differential forms on M, we define

$$\mathcal{O}(\mathrm{Lie}(G)) := \int^{[m] \in \Delta_{\leq n+1}^{\mathrm{op}}} \underline{\mathrm{Hom}}((\Pi T)^{m+1} G_m, \mathbb{R}) \cong \int^{[m] \in \Delta_{\leq n+1}^{\mathrm{op}}} \mathcal{O}((\Pi T)^{m+1} G_m)$$

By construction, $\mathcal{O}(\text{Lie}(G))$ is a differential graded algebra.

It is still an open question and work-in-progress how this generalizes to categories with a Grothendieck pretopology and an abstract tangent functor.

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