

# Lie's Third Theorem

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# Symmetries of Differential Equations

Sophus Lie, influenced by Felix Klein, proposed:

## Definition

The **group of symmetries** of a differential equation:

$$\Delta(x, y, \dots, u, v, \dots, u_x, v_x, u_{xx}, \dots) = 0,$$

is the set of all transformation of the independent variables  $(x, y, \dots)$  and of the dependent variables  $(u, v, \dots)$  that transform solutions to solutions.

# Symmetries of Differential Equations

Lie aimed (and achieved) a **Galois theory** for differential equations:

- he proved that if the group of symmetries is *solvable* then the differential equation can be integrated by quadratures.
- he found a method to compute the group of symmetries.

Unlike the permutation groups of symmetries of algebraic equations, Lie's symmetry groups are **continuous**.

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## Example: The heat equation

The symmetry group of the heat equation:

$$u_t = u_{xx}$$

is generated by the following transformations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x, t, u) &\mapsto (x + \varepsilon, t, u) & (x, t, u) &\mapsto (e^\varepsilon x, e^{2\varepsilon} t, u) \\
 (x, t, u) &\mapsto (x, t + \varepsilon, u) & (x, t, u) &\mapsto (x + 2\varepsilon t, t, ue^{\varepsilon x - \varepsilon^2 t}) \\
 (x, t, u) &\mapsto (x, t, e^\varepsilon u) & (x, t, u) &\mapsto (x, t, u + \varepsilon \alpha(x, t)) \\
 (x, t, u) &\mapsto \left( \frac{x}{1-4\varepsilon t}, \frac{t}{1-4\varepsilon t}, u\sqrt{1-4\varepsilon t} e^{\frac{-\varepsilon x^2}{1-4\varepsilon t}} \right)
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# From global to infinitesimal

## Problem

*How can one find the symmetry group  $G_\Delta$  of a given differential equation  $\Delta = 0$ ?*

Each 1-parameter group of symmetries:

$$\mathbb{R} \ni \varepsilon \mapsto T_\varepsilon \in G_\Delta,$$

determines an **infinitesimal symmetry**, i.e., a vector field:

$$X(x, y, \dots, u, v, \dots) = \left. \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} T_\varepsilon(x, y, \dots, u, v, \dots)$$

Lie found that the infinitesimal symmetries of  $\Delta$  are the solutions of a system of first order linear p.d.e.

$\implies$  **systematic method to compute symmetries**

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## From global to infinitesimal and back

Lie also noted that:

- The vector space  $\mathfrak{g}_\Delta$  of all infinitesimal symmetries is closed under the commutator of vector fields:

$$X_1, X_2 \in \mathfrak{g}_\Delta \implies [X_1, X_2] \in \mathfrak{g}_\Delta.$$

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# Lie groups and Lie algebras

## Definition

A **Lie group** is a manifold  $G$  together with a group structure on  $G$  such that the product and inversion are smooth:

$$G \times G \rightarrow G, (g, h) \mapsto gh, \quad G \rightarrow G, g \mapsto g^{-1}.$$

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A **Lie algebra** is a vector space  $\mathfrak{g}$  together with a bilinear, skew-symmetric, bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot] : \mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ , which satisfies the Jacobi identity:

$$[u, [v, w]] + [v, [w, u]] + [w, [u, v]] = 0.$$

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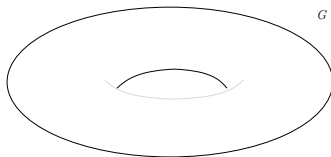
## From Lie groups to Lie algebras

Let  $G$  be a *finite dimensional* Lie group.

Its Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathcal{L}(G)$  is constructed as follows:

- As a vector space,  $\mathfrak{g} := T_e G$ ;
- Bracket: given  $u \in \mathfrak{g}$  let  $\tilde{u}$  be the right invariant vector field with  $\tilde{u}|_e = u$ . The bracket of  $u, v \in \mathfrak{g}$  is given by:

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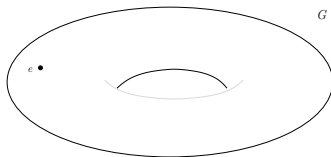
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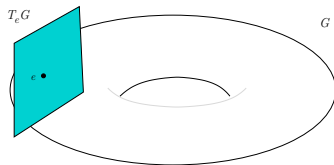


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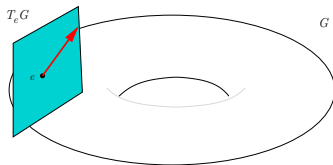
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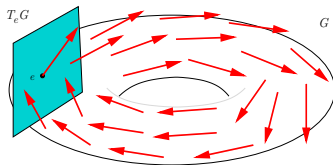
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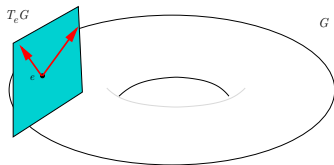
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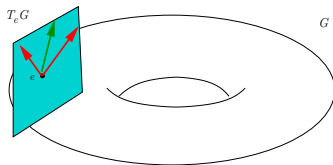
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# Examples

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Group of isometries of $(M, g)$ : $G = \{\phi : M \rightarrow M \mid \phi \text{ preserves } g\}$	$\mathfrak{g} = \{X \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \mid \mathcal{L}_X g = 0\}$
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# From Lie algebras to Lie groups

## Theorem (Lie I)

*Let  $G$  be a Lie group with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . There exists a unique (up to isomorphism) 1-connected Lie group  $\tilde{G}$  with Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ .*

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# Infinite dimensional Lie groups

Symmetry groups of differential equations can be infinite dimensional (e.g., the heat equation).

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## Example I [Van Est & Korthagen, 1964]

$\mathfrak{g}_0 := \{X : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{su}(2) \mid \int_0^1 X(t)dt = 0\}$  with pointwise bracket;

Take the skew-symmetric bilinear form  $\tau : \mathfrak{g}_0 \times \mathfrak{g}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\tau(X, Y) := \int_0^1 \operatorname{tr} \left( \int_0^t X(s)ds \circ Y(t) \right) dt.$$

and form the central extension  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathbb{R} \times \mathfrak{g}_0$ :

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g}_0 \longrightarrow 0$$

relative to  $\tau$  so that:  $[(a, X), (b, Y)]_{\mathfrak{g}} := (\tau(X, Y), [X, Y]_{\mathfrak{g}_0})$ .

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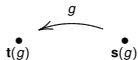
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$$\mathcal{G} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{t} \\ \xrightarrow{s} \end{array} M$$

- product:



$$\mathcal{G}^{(2)} = \{(h, g) \in \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} : s(h) = t(g)\}$$

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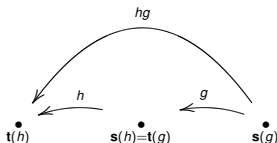
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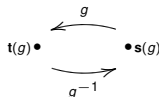
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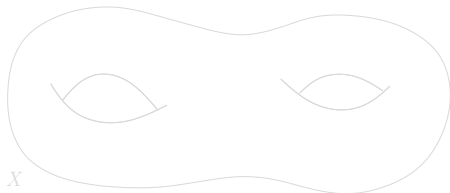
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## Example: Fundamental groupoid of a space

$X$  any *topological space*

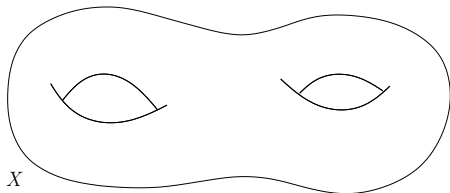
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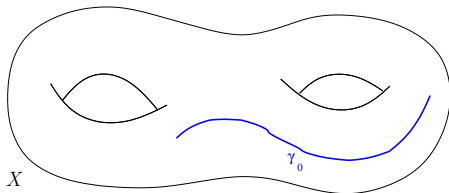
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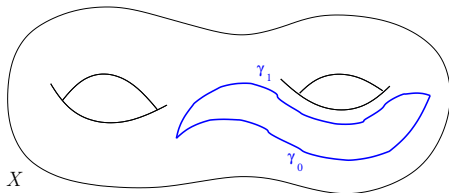
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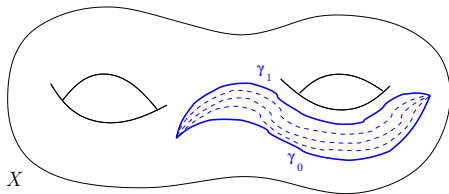
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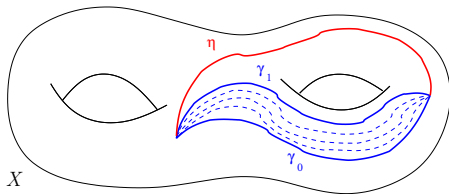
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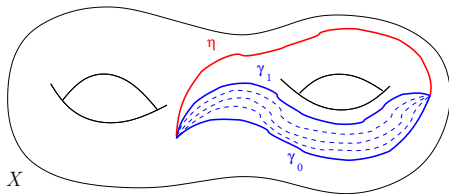




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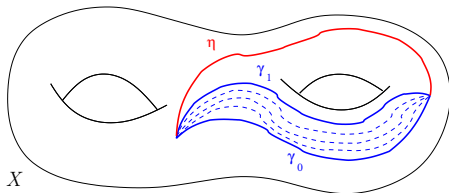


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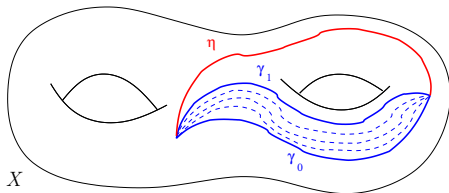


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The *fundamental groupoid* of  $X$  is:

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the structure maps are:

- *source/target* give initial/final points:  $\mathbf{s}([\gamma]) = \gamma(0)$ ,  $\mathbf{t}([\gamma]) = \gamma(1)$ ;
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- *units* are the constant curves:  $1_x = [\gamma]$ , where  $\gamma(t) = x$ ;
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# Lie groupoids

## Definition (Charles Ehresmann, 1950's)

A **Lie groupoid** is a groupoid where  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $M$  are manifolds and all structure maps are smooth.

## Examples

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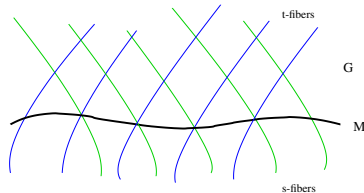
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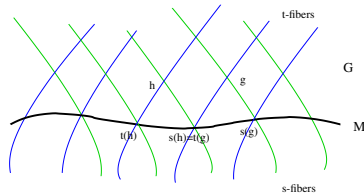
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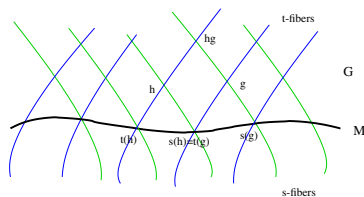




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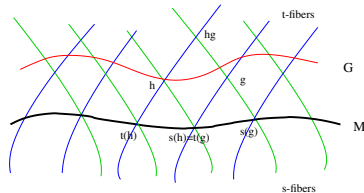
A **bisection** of a Lie groupoid  $\mathcal{G} \rightrightarrows M$  is a smooth map  $b : M \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$  such that  $\mathbf{s} \circ b : M \rightarrow M$  and  $\mathbf{t} \circ b : M \rightarrow M$  are diffeomorphisms.



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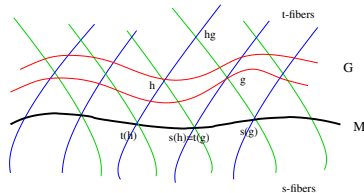
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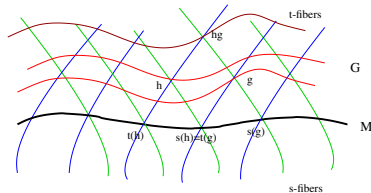
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  - If  $\mathcal{G} = M \times M \rightrightarrows M$ , then  $\Gamma(\mathcal{G}) = \text{Diff}(M)$ ;

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A **Lie algebroid** is a vector bundle  $A \rightarrow M$  with:

- (i) a Lie bracket  $[ , ]_A : \Gamma(A) \times \Gamma(A) \rightarrow \Gamma(A)$ ;
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such that:

$$[\alpha, f\beta]_A = f[\alpha\beta]_A + \rho(\alpha)(f)\beta, \quad (f \in C^\infty(M), \alpha, \beta \in \Gamma(A)).$$

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## Examples

- **Flows.** For  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , the associated Lie algebroid is:

$$A = M \times \mathbb{R}, \quad [f, g]_A := fX(g) - gX(f), \quad \rho(f) = fX.$$

Leaves of  $A$  are the orbits of  $X$ .

- **Actions.** For an infinitesimal  $\mathfrak{g}$ -action  $\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , the associated Lie algebroid is:

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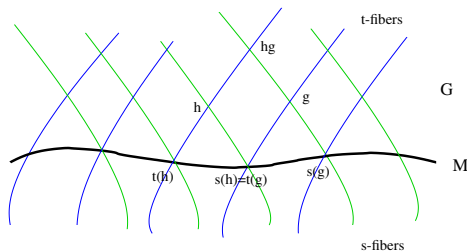
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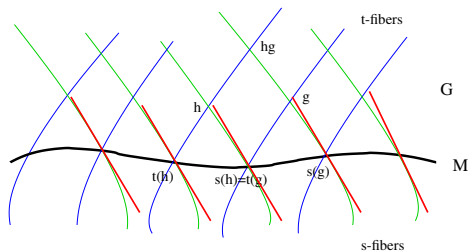
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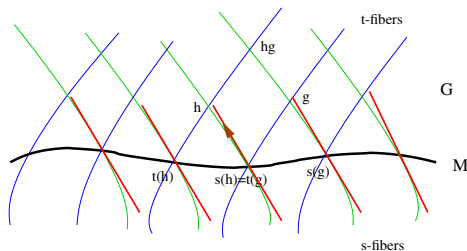


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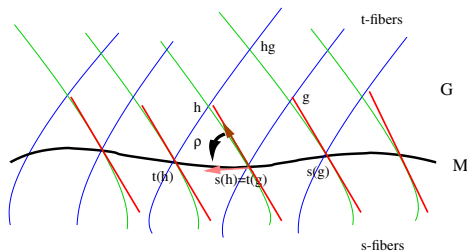


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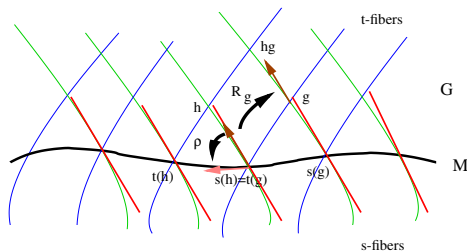


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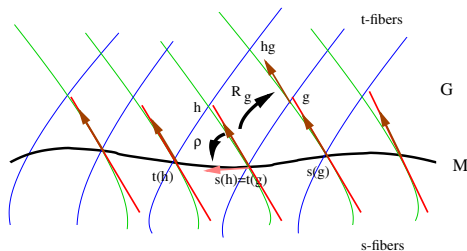


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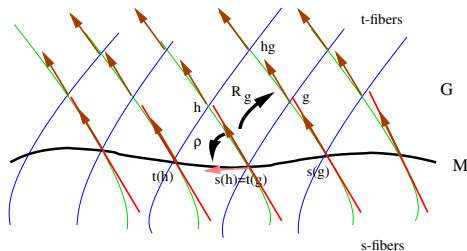


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## Theorem (Lie I)

*Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a Lie groupoid with Lie algebroid  $A$ . There exists a unique (up to isomorphism) source 1-connected Lie groupoid  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$  with Lie algebroid  $A$ .*

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## A non-integrable Lie algebroid

- Fix  $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$ , closed, and take the associated Lie algebroid  $A = TM \oplus \mathbb{R}$ .

### Theorem

*The Lie algebroid  $A$  integrates to a Lie groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$  iff the group of spherical periods of  $\omega$ :*

$$N_x := \left\{ \int_{\gamma} \omega \mid \gamma \in \pi_2(M, x) \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}$$

*is discrete.*

### Example

If  $M = \mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^2$  and  $\omega = dA \oplus \lambda dA$ , then  $N_x$  is discrete iff  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

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The *obstructions to integrability* are completely described by:

Theorem (Crainic & RLF, 2003)

*For a Lie algebroid  $A$ , there exist monodromy groups  $N_x \subset A_x$  such that  $A$  is integrable iff the groups  $N_x$  are uniformly discrete for  $x \in M$ .*

Each  $N_x$  is the image of a monodromy map:

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with  $L$  the leaf through  $x$  and  $\mathfrak{g}_x := \text{Ker } \rho_x$  the isotropy Lie algebra.

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*A Lie algebroid  $A$  is integrable provided either of the following hold:*

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# Proof: The Weinstein groupoid

## Notations

- An **A-path** is a Lie algebroid map  $TI \rightarrow A$ ;
- An **A-homotopy** is a Lie algebroid map  $T(I \times I) \rightarrow A$ ;

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For a Lie algebroid  $\pi : A \rightarrow M$ , the **Weinstein Groupoid** of  $A$  is:

$$\mathcal{G}(A) = P(A) / \sim \text{ where } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{s} : \mathcal{G}(A) \rightarrow M, \quad [a] \mapsto \pi(a(0)) \\ \mathbf{t} : \mathcal{G}(A) \rightarrow M, \quad [a] \mapsto \pi(a(1)) \\ M \hookrightarrow \mathcal{G}(A), \quad x \mapsto [0_x] \end{array} \right.$$

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## Lemma

- $\mathcal{G}(A)$  is a topological groupoid with source 1-connected fibers;
- $A$  is integrable iff  $\mathcal{G}(A)$  is smooth (for the quotient topology);

Fix leaf  $L \subset M$  and  $x \in L$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}_L & \longrightarrow & A_L & \xrightarrow{\#} & TL \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \\
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & \pi_2(L, x) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \mathcal{G}(\mathfrak{g}_L)_x & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{G}(A)_x \longrightarrow \pi_1(L, x) \longrightarrow 1
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The **monodromy group** at  $x$  is:  $N_x(A) := \text{Im } \partial \subset Z(\mathfrak{g}_L)$ .



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 & & & & \downarrow & & \\
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The **monodromy group** at  $x$  is:  $N_x(A) := \text{Im } \partial \subset Z(\mathfrak{g}_L)$ .

## Proof: The Weinstein groupoid and monodromy

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- $\mathcal{G}(A)$  is a topological groupoid with source 1-connected fibers;
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## Proof: The obstructions

To measure the discreteness of  $N_x(A)$  we set:

$$r(x) := d(N_x - \{0\}, \{0\}) \quad (\text{with } d(\emptyset, \{0\}) = +\infty).$$

Theorem (Crainic & RLF, 2003)

*A Lie algebroid is integrable iff both the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *Each monodromy group is discrete, i.e.,  $r(x) > 0$ ,*
- (ii) *The monodromy groups are uniformly discrete, i.e.,  
 $\liminf_{y \rightarrow x} r(y) > 0$ ,*

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