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Not all flows can be defined globally.

A flow domain is an open

$$D \subset \mathbb{R} \times M$$

s.t. $\forall p \in M$ the open set

$$D^{(p)} = \{ t \in \mathbb{R} \mid (t, p) \in D \}$$

is an open set containing $0 \in \mathbb{R}$.



A local flow is a smooth map

$$\theta : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow M$$

s.t. for all $p \in M$:

$$1) \theta(0, p) = p.$$

2) For all $s \in \mathbb{D}^{(p)}$ and $t \in \mathbb{D}^{\theta(s, p)}$
s.t. $s+t \in \mathbb{D}^{(p)}$ we have

$$\theta(t, \theta(s, p)) = \theta(t+s, p).$$

As before, we call the v.f. V
defined by

$$V_p = \theta_{\bullet}(p)'(0)$$

the infinitesimal generator of θ .

• A maximal integral curve is one that

cannot be extended to an integral curve on any bigger open interval. Likewise, a maximal flow is one that cannot be extended to a bigger flow domain.

Thm: Let $V \in \text{Vect}(M)$. There is a unique maximal local flow

$$\theta : D \rightarrow M$$

whose infinitesimal generator is V .

In other words, near each $q \in M$ a vector field determines a flow in some neighborhood of q .

Next, we move on to a generalization of the concept of a "directional derivative".

Lie Derivatives

Given $\sigma \in T_p M$ and $f \in C^\infty(M)$, we have the quantity

$$\sigma f = D_\sigma f|_p \in \mathbb{R}.$$

This is a generalization of the directional derivative of f at p .

What about the directional derivative of a vector field?

In \mathbb{R}^n we can do this. If X is a v.f. on \mathbb{R}^n then:

$$D_v X|_p = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} X_{p+tv}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{X_{p+tv} - X_p}{t}$$

Writing $X = \sum_i X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$, $X^i \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$,

then this is

$$D_v X|_p = \sum_i (D_v X^i|_p) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_p$$

This uses the structure of \mathbb{R}^n as a vector space! Indeed:

$$p \rightsquigarrow p + tv$$

is a maneuver that only makes sense in \mathbb{R}^n .

Attempt at a resolution: replace the

linear curve $\gamma(t) = p + tv$ by any
curve in M s.t.

$$\gamma(0) = p, \quad \gamma'(0) = v.$$

But still we have a problem:

$X_{\gamma(t)} - X_{\gamma(0)}$ does not
make sense!

Indeed, in \mathbb{R}^n we have used the
canonical isomorphism $T_{\gamma(0)}\mathbb{R}^n \cong T_{\gamma(t)}\mathbb{R}^n$.

We fix this by first changing $v \in T_pM$,
to a v.f. $V \in \text{Vect}(M)$.

We then use the flow of V to
"move" $X_{\gamma(0)}$ and $X_{\gamma(t)}$ to line

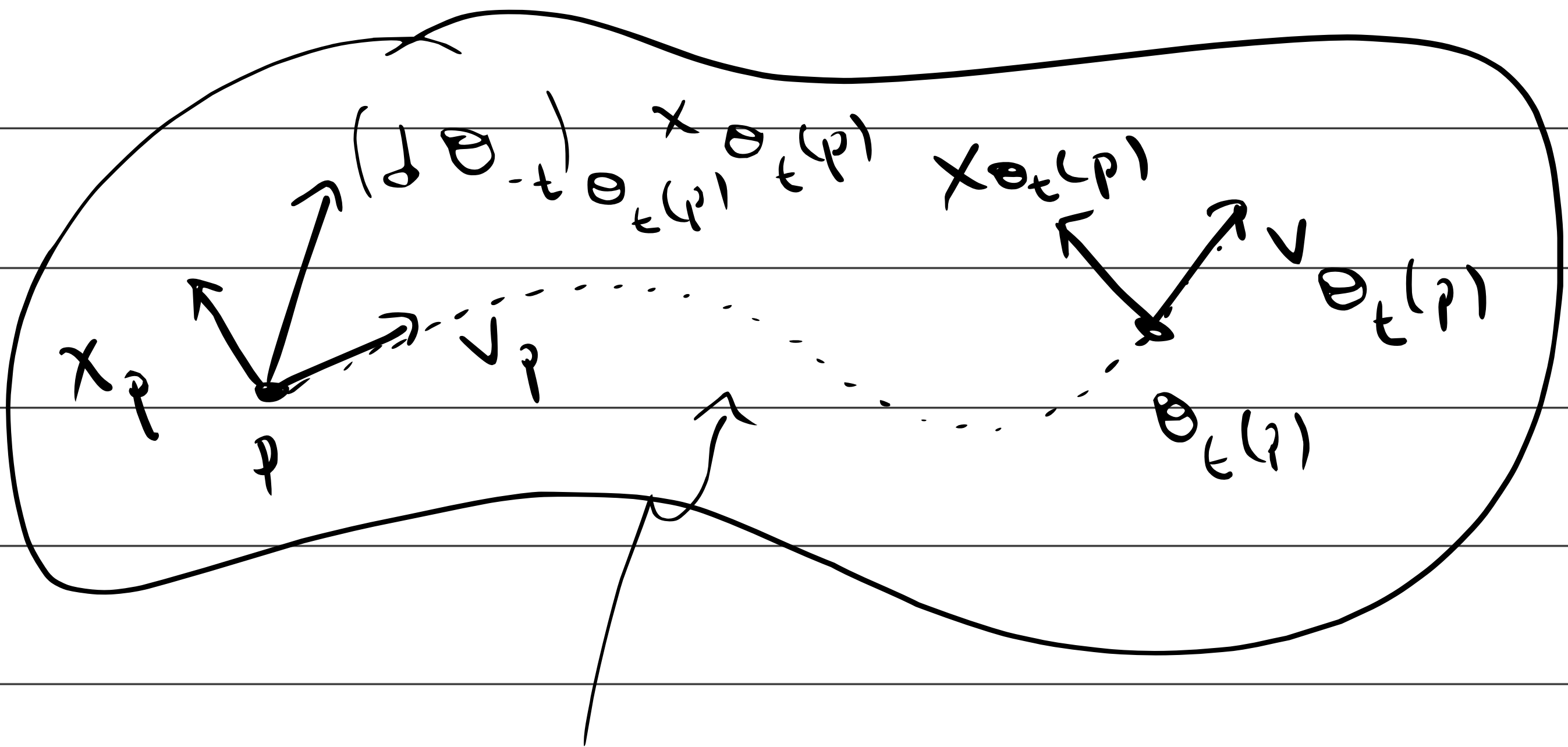
in the same space.

This is defined in a neighborhood of p .

Let Θ_t be the local flow corresponding to V . Define the lie derivative of X with respect to V as

$$(L_V X)_p = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} d(\Theta_t)_{\Theta_t(p)} (X_{\Theta_t(p)})$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \left(d(\Theta_t)_{\Theta_t(p)} (X_{\Theta_t(p)}) - X_p \right)$$



$\Theta_t(p)$ is the curve.

Lemma: $q \mapsto (L_{vX})_q$ defines a smooth
vector field on M denoted L_{vX} .

Pf: (U, ϕ) chart containing q . Let

J_0 be open interval containing 0 and

$U_0 \subset U$ be open set.

$$\Theta(J_0 \times U_0) \subset U.$$

Have component fns $(\theta^1(t, x), \dots, \theta^n(t, x))$,
and $(d\theta_{-t})_{\theta_t(x)}$ is represented by the

matrix

$$\left(\frac{\partial \theta^i}{\partial x^j} (-t, \theta_t(x)) \right).$$

So

$$(d\theta_{-t})_{\theta_t(x)} (X_{\theta_t(x)})$$

$$= \frac{\partial \theta^i}{\partial x^j} (-t, \theta_t(x)) X^j (\theta(t, x)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_x.$$

Because θ^i, X^j are smooth it follows that this is smooth. \square

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Thm: $L_v X = [v, X]$ for any v.f.'s v, X .

Pf: Let $R(v) = \{p \in M \mid v_p \neq 0\} \subset M$.

This is open since v is cts. We show

$$(L_v X)_p = [X, Y]_p.$$