

We want to prove the theorem;

The functor from the category of simply connected Lie groups to the category of Lie algebras assigning to a Lie group

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathfrak{g} \\ f: G \rightarrow H & \xrightarrow{\quad} & f_*: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h} \end{array}$$

is an equivalence of categories.

So far we know that the functor is well defined and it is a monomorphism on the set of morphisms. So we have to prove

- 1) for every homomorphism $\varphi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ of Lie algebras there exists a homomorphism of Lie groups $f: G \rightarrow H$ such that $\varphi = f_*$
- 2) for every Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} there exists a simply connected group G such that $\mathfrak{g} \cong \mathfrak{g}$.

We start with 1)

Theorem: let G and H be simply connected Lie groups, and \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{h} be their Lie algebras respectively. Then for every $\varphi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ morphism of Lie algebras there exists a Lie group homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow H$ such that $\varphi = f_*$.

Proof: Strategy (following Segal)

Step 1. We will define a map $f: G \rightarrow H$ using paths in G and a homomorphism $\varphi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$. We will show that the definition is correct i.e. does not depend on the path chosen. This is where one connectedness comes in, and the fact that φ respects the Lie algebra structure.

Step 2. Show that the map defined in Step 1 is a group homomorphism.

Step 3. Show that f is smooth and $f_* = \varphi$.

Step 1:

(a) Let $g \in G$. Let $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow G$ be a smooth path such that $\gamma(0) = 1$ and $\gamma(1) = g$.

Let $\tilde{\gamma}: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ be a path defined in the following way:

$\tilde{\gamma}(t) = (R_{\gamma(t)}^{-1})_* \gamma_*(t)$ where $\gamma_*(t) \in T_{\gamma(t)} G$ is the derivative of γ taken at the point t . $(R_{\gamma(t)}^{-1})_*: T_{\gamma(t)}(G) \rightarrow T_1(G) = \mathfrak{g}$

Path $\tilde{\gamma}$ will be called velocity path of the path γ .

Consider a path $\varphi \circ \tilde{\gamma}: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ and name it $\tilde{\xi}$. Now from the

differential equations we know that there exists a unique path

$\xi: [0, 1] \rightarrow H$ such that

$$\xi(0) = 1 \quad \xi_*(t) = (R_{\xi(t)}^{-1})_* \tilde{\xi}(t)$$

Define $f(g) = \xi(1)$.

We have to prove that $f(g)$ does not depend on the path chosen from 1 to g ,

assume for a moment that this is done and move to Step 2 and Step 3.

Step 2: $f: G \rightarrow H$ is a group homomorphism, i.e. $f(g_1 g_2) = f(g_1) f(g_2)$ for $g_1, g_2 \in G$.

Let $\gamma_1: [0, 1] \rightarrow G$ be a smooth path from 1 to g_1 , and $\gamma_2: [0, 1] \rightarrow G$ from 1 to g_2 .

Define a path $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow G$

$$\gamma(t) = \begin{cases} \gamma_2(t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \gamma_1(2t-1) g_2 & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

To assure smoothness of γ assume that the tangent vector at $1 \in [0, 1]$ of the path γ_2 is equal to the tangent vector at $0 \in [0, 1]$ of the path γ_1 . So γ is the path from 1 to $g_1 g_2$.

The velocity of γ is given by the formula:

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = \begin{cases} 2 \dot{\gamma}_2(2t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 \dot{\gamma}_1(2t-1) & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

If ξ_1, ξ_2 are paths in H corresponding to γ_1, γ_2 respectively, then

$$\xi(t) = \begin{cases} \xi_2(2t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \xi_1(2t-1) \xi_2(1) & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases} \text{ is a path corresponding}$$

to γ - which is an easy computation.

$$\text{Thus } f(g_1 g_2) = \xi(1) = \xi_1(1) \cdot \xi_2(1) = f(g_1) \cdot f(g_2)$$

Step 3 From the construction of f , $f(\exp v) = \exp(\psi(v))$ for every $v \in \mathfrak{g}$.

The diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{g} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \mathbb{R} \\ \exp \downarrow & & \downarrow \exp \\ G & \xrightarrow{f} & H \end{array}$$

(the path in \mathfrak{g} corresponding to one-parameter subgroup is constant, hence it yields one-parameter subgroup in H)

is commutative. This shows that f is smooth in some nbhd of $1 \in G$ and that $f_* = \psi$.

The homomorphism f is smooth at any point $g_0 \in G$ because $f(g_0 g) = f(g_0) f(g)$

and f is smooth for g in some nbhd of 1.

We have to finish step 1. To deal with the homotopy we will need the following

Lemma: Let $h: I^2 \rightarrow G$ be a smooth map, where G is a Lie group.

Define two paths in \mathcal{G} :

for every $s \in I$ path $\tilde{\gamma}(t, s)$ given by the formula

$$\frac{\partial h(t, s)}{\partial t} = \left(R_{h(t, s)} \right)_* \tilde{\gamma}(t, s) \quad (\text{these are velocity paths of paths } h(\cdot, s))$$

and analogously for every $t \in I$ a path $\tilde{\eta}(t, s)$ in \mathcal{G}

$$\frac{\partial h(t, s)}{\partial s} = \left(R_{h(t, s)} \right)_* \tilde{\eta}(t, s) \quad (\text{these are velocity paths of paths } h(t, \cdot))$$

Then

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \tilde{\eta}(t, s)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \tilde{\gamma}(t, s)}{\partial s} = [\tilde{\gamma}(t, s), \tilde{\eta}(t, s)]}$$

(These are called Maurer-Cartan equations)

We will assume that the lemma holds and finish the proof of Step 1.

For $g \in G$ assume that γ and γ' are two paths in G from 1 to g .

Let ξ and ξ' be corresponding paths in H . Must prove $\xi(1) = \xi'(1)$.

Let $h: I^2 \rightarrow G$ be a homotopy from γ to γ' rel $\{0, 1\}$.

Given h , find $\tilde{\gamma}(t, s)$ and $\tilde{\eta}(t, s)$ as in the lemma. Because homotopy is rel $\{0, 1\}$ we get $\forall_s \tilde{\eta}(0, s) = \tilde{\eta}(1, s) = 0$

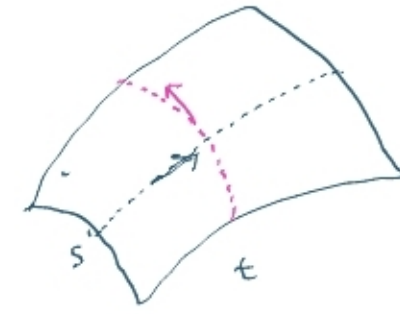
We want to define homotopy $k(t, s)$ in H

as the family of solutions for curves in t with s fixed

$$\frac{\partial k(t, s)}{\partial t} = \left(R_{k(t, s)} \right)_* \varphi(\tilde{\gamma}(t, s)) \quad k(0, s) = 1$$

We have $k(t, 0) = \xi$, $k(t, 1) = \xi'$ and $k(\cdot, \cdot)$ is smooth as solutions depend smoothly on initial data.

This homotopy gives the family of paths in H in variable s for every fixed t . It is enough to prove that this is exactly what we would get if we applied our procedure to paths $h(t, \cdot)$ for t fixed. It is enough because our procedure applied to a constant path yields a constant path and thus $\xi(1) = \xi'(1)$.



Fix t . For $k(t, s)$ given its velocity path $\tilde{\tau}(t, s)$ on \mathcal{K} is given by the formula

$$\frac{\partial k(t, s)}{\partial s} = \left(R_{k(t, s)} \right)_* \tilde{\tau}(t, s)$$

The question is: Is $\tilde{\tau}(t, s) = \varphi(\tilde{\eta}(t, s))$?

By the lemma applied to homotopy $k(t, s)$ we get equality in \mathcal{K}

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\tau}(t, s)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \varphi(\tilde{\delta}(t, s))}{\partial s} + [\varphi(\tilde{\delta}(t, s)), \tilde{\tau}(t, s)]$$

The lemma applied to homotopy $h(t, s)$ yields equality in \mathcal{Q}

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\eta}(t, s)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \tilde{\delta}(t, s)}{\partial s} + [\tilde{\delta}(t, s), \tilde{\eta}(t, s)]$$

Applying to this equality Lie algebra homomorphism $\varphi: \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ we get

$$\frac{\partial \varphi \tilde{\eta}(t, s)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \varphi \tilde{\delta}(t, s)}{\partial s} + [\varphi \tilde{\delta}(t, s), \varphi \tilde{\eta}(t, s)]$$

It follows that $\tilde{\tau}(t, s)$ and $\varphi \tilde{\eta}(t, s)$ both satisfy the same differential equation (with respect to t) with the same initial conditions

$\tilde{\tau}(0, s) = \varphi \tilde{\eta}(0, s) = 0$, so they are the same.

Therefore $\tilde{\tau}(1, s) = \varphi \tilde{\eta}(1, s) = 0$ and so $\eta(1, s)$ is a constant map.

This finishes the proof that $f: G \rightarrow H$ is well defined.

To complete the theorem on realisability of homomorphism of Lie algebras by homomorphism of Lie groups we still must prove the following

Lemma: Let $h: I^2 \rightarrow G$ be a smooth map, where G is a Lie group.

Define two paths in \mathcal{G} :

for every $s \in I$ path $\tilde{\gamma}(t, s)$ given by the formula

$$\frac{\partial h(t, s)}{\partial t} = \left(R_{h(t, s)} \right)_* \tilde{\gamma}(t, s) \quad (\text{these are velocity paths of paths } h(\cdot, s))$$

and analogously for every $t \in I$ a path $\tilde{\eta}(t, s)$ in \mathcal{G}

$$\frac{\partial h(t, s)}{\partial s} = \left(R_{h(t, s)} \right)_* \tilde{\eta}(t, s) \quad (\text{these are velocity paths of paths } h(t, \cdot))$$

Then

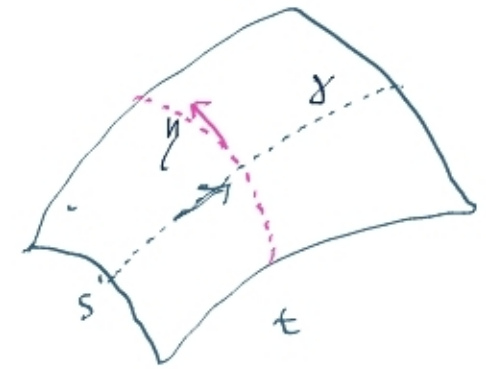
$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \tilde{\eta}(t, s)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \tilde{\gamma}(t, s)}{\partial s} = [\tilde{\gamma}(t, s), \tilde{\eta}(t, s)]}$$

(These are called Maurer-Cartan equations)

Proof: For $v \in \mathcal{G}$ in the small nbhd of 0 and $g \in G$ in the small nbhd of 1

$$\exp \left((R_g)_* v \right) = \exp(v + \alpha(v, \log g) + \dots) \quad)$$

If instead of homotopy h we would consider homotopy $h \cdot g$ curves $\tilde{\gamma}$ and $\tilde{\eta}$ would be the same. Thus to prove M-C equation for point (t_0, s_0) we may assume $h(t_0, s_0) = 1$.



If instead of homotopy h we would consider homotopy h.g. curves $\tilde{\gamma}$ and $\tilde{\eta}$ would be the same. Thus to prove M-C equation for point (t_0, s_0) we may assume $h(t_0, s_0) = 1$.

From the previous proposition (taking log on both sides) in the nbhd of (t_0, s_0)

$$\frac{\partial h(t,s)}{\partial t} = \tilde{\gamma}(t,s) + \alpha(\tilde{\gamma}(t,s), \log h(t,s)) + \dots$$

$$\frac{\partial h(t,s)}{\partial s} = \tilde{\eta}(t,s) + \alpha(\tilde{\eta}(t,s), \log h(t,s)) + \dots$$

↑ terms of order ≥ 2
in $(t-t_0, s-s_0)$

Differentiate both at (t_0, s_0)

$$\left. \frac{\partial h(t,s)}{\partial t \partial s} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} = \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\gamma}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} + \alpha(\tilde{\gamma}(t_0, s_0), \tilde{\eta}(t_0, s_0)) \quad (\text{higher terms vanish})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial h(t,s)}{\partial s \partial t} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} = \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\eta}(t,s)}{\partial t} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} + \alpha(\tilde{\eta}(t_0, s_0), \tilde{\gamma}(t_0, s_0))$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\eta}(t,s)}{\partial t} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} - \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\gamma}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right|_{(t_0, s_0)} = -\alpha(\tilde{\eta}(t_0, s_0), \tilde{\gamma}(t_0, s_0)) + \alpha(\tilde{\gamma}(t_0, s_0), \tilde{\eta}(t_0, s_0)) =$$

$$= [\tilde{\gamma}(t_0, s_0), \tilde{\eta}(t_0, s_0)]$$



Now we have to find a group with a given Lie algebra. We first prove that if \mathfrak{g} is a Lie algebra of a group G and $\mathfrak{h} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$ is a subalgebra, then there exists a subgroup $H \subseteq G$ whose Lie algebra is \mathfrak{h} .

This is obviously true for \mathbb{R}^n -simply connected abelian group. So... abelianize! But to do so we must assure that the commutant is a closed subgroup. The following is true:

Definition: Let \mathfrak{g} be a Lie algebra. The derived algebra of \mathfrak{g} is a subalgebra generated by all brackets $[v, w]$, $v, w \in \mathfrak{g}$.

We denote it $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$.

The derived algebra is an ideal and the smallest one such that the quotient algebra is commutative.

Theorem: For a connected group G its commutator $G' = [G, G]$ is a Lie subgroup with the tangent algebra $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$.
If G is simply connected then $[G, G]$ is a closed subgroup.

Proof of this theorem at the end of these notes.

MALCEV CLOSURES

G connected, \mathfrak{g} its Lie algebra. How to find subalgebras of \mathfrak{g} corresponding to closed subgroups.

Definition: Let \mathfrak{g} be a tangent algebra of a Lie group G , and $\mathfrak{h} \subseteq \mathfrak{g}$ its subalgebra. Then there exists the smallest closed Lie subgroup $H \subseteq G$ such that its tangent algebra \mathfrak{h}^M contains \mathfrak{h} . The subalgebra \mathfrak{h}^M is called the Malcev closure of \mathfrak{h} .

The natural thing is to take intersection of all closed Lie subgroups of G whose Lie algebra contain \mathfrak{h} . This works because the following lemma holds:

not necc. connected

Theorem: Let $\{H_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of closed subgroups of G . Then $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$ is a closed Lie subgroup and if $\{\mathfrak{k}_i\}_{i \in I}$ are subalgebras corresponding to subgroups $H_i, i \in I$ then $\bigcap_{i \in I} \mathfrak{k}_i$ is the subalgebra corresponding to $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$.

Proof: $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$ is a closed subgroup, so by Cartan's theorem is a closed Lie subgroup. Question is, what is its Lie algebra? First note that if I is finite, then the theorem holds. This is true for H, H' when we apply theorem on counter image of a homomorphism to the inclusion $i: H \hookrightarrow G$ and $H' \subset G$. Thus it holds for a finite family of subgroups.

Consider $\bigcap_{i \in I} \mathfrak{k}_i$. This is the intersection of a family of vector subspaces of a finite dimensional vector space, so there exist i_1, \dots, i_k such that $\bigcap_{i \in I} \mathfrak{k}_i = \mathfrak{k}_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{k}_{i_k}$.

Let H_{i_1}, \dots, H_{i_k} be closed Lie subgroups corresponding to subalgebras $\mathfrak{k}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathfrak{k}_{i_k}$. From the finite case we know that $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{k}_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{k}_{i_k}$ is the tangent Lie algebra to $H = H_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap H_{i_k}$. For arbitrary $i \in I$, subalgebra $\mathfrak{k} \cap \mathfrak{k}_i = \mathfrak{k}_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap \mathfrak{k}_{i_k} \cap \mathfrak{k}_i$ is tangent to $H \cap H_i$.

So connected component of the identity $H_1, H_1 \subset H \cap H_i \subset H$. As this is true for arbitrary i , we obtain $H_1 \subset \bigcap_{i \in I} H_i \subset H$. Therefore the tangent space to the identity of $\bigcap_{i \in I} H_i$ is $\bigcap_{i \in I} \mathfrak{k}_i$.

The relation of Malcev closure \mathfrak{k}^M to \mathfrak{k} is given by the following theorem:

Theorem: If $\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}^M$ are as above, then $\mathfrak{k}' = [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] = \mathfrak{k}^M = [\mathfrak{k}^M, \mathfrak{k}^M]$.

Proof: Consider the homomorphism $\text{Ad}: G \rightarrow \text{GL}(\mathfrak{g})$:

$$\text{Let } H_1 = \{ g \in G : (\text{Ad}_g - \text{id})(\mathfrak{k}) \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] \} \leq G$$

This is a closed subgroup of G with the tangent algebra

$$\mathfrak{k}_1 = \{ v \in \mathfrak{g} : \text{ad}_v \mathfrak{k} \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] \}. \text{ But } \text{ad}_v \mathfrak{k} = [v, \mathfrak{k}]. \text{ This means that } \mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{k}_1,$$

and as H_1 is closed $\mathfrak{k}^M \subset \mathfrak{k}_1$ and $[\mathfrak{k}^M, \mathfrak{k}] \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}]$

Let

$$H_2 = \{ g \in G : (\text{Ad}_g - \text{id})(\mathfrak{k}^M) \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] \} \leq G$$

this is a closed subgroup with tangent algebra:

$$\mathfrak{k}_2 = \{ v \in \mathfrak{g} : \text{ad}_v(\mathfrak{k}^M) \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] \}$$

From the previous assertion $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{k}_2$. But H_2 is closed, so $\mathfrak{k}^M \subset \mathfrak{k}_2$ and $[\mathfrak{k}^M, \mathfrak{k}^M] \subset [\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}]$.

As $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{k}^M$ the inclusion $[\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}] \subset [\mathfrak{k}^M, \mathfrak{k}^M]$ is obvious. ▣

We are now ready to prove the theorem:

Proof: Let G be a connected Lie group, \mathfrak{g} its Lie algebra, $\mathfrak{k} \subset \mathfrak{g}$

a subalgebra. Let \mathfrak{k}^M be the Malcev closure of \mathfrak{k} and

$F \leq G$ a closed subgroup of G with Lie algebra \mathfrak{k}^M .

Let $p: \tilde{F} \rightarrow F$ be its universal cover. Then $[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}] \leq \tilde{F}$ is a

closed subgroup of \tilde{F} . Consider $\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]$. It is an abelian

Lie group, which is simply connected. The simple connectedness

comes from the exact sequence of the fibration $[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}] \rightarrow \tilde{F} \rightarrow \tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]$.

$$\dots \pi_1([\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]) \rightarrow \pi_1(\tilde{F}) \rightarrow \pi_1(\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]) \rightarrow \pi_0(\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_0(\tilde{F}) \rightarrow$$

so $\pi_1(\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}])$ is trivial. Thus $\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}] \cong \mathbb{R}^m$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$.

The Lie algebra of $\tilde{F}/[\tilde{F}, \tilde{F}]$ is $\mathfrak{k}^M/[\mathfrak{k}^M, \mathfrak{k}^M] = \mathfrak{k}^M/[\mathfrak{k}, \mathfrak{k}]$.

$\mathfrak{h} / [\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}] \subset \mathfrak{h}^M / [\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}]$ is a subalgebra of the Lie algebra of \mathbb{R}^M .

There exists a subgroup $H \leq \mathbb{R}^M$ corresponding to $\mathfrak{h} / [\mathfrak{h}, \mathfrak{h}]$. Let

$\tilde{H} \leq \tilde{F}$ be its counter image in \tilde{F} . The image $p: \tilde{H} \rightarrow p(\tilde{H}) \leq F \hookrightarrow G$
 $H = p(\tilde{H}) \hookrightarrow G$ is the subgroup of G with the Lie algebra \mathfrak{h} .



The theorem of Ado, with difficult proof completes the proof of equivalence of categories of simply connected Lie groups and Lie algebras.

Theorem (Ado) Every finite dimensional Lie algebra is a subalgebra of the algebra of square matrices.

Corollary: Every finite dimensional Lie algebra is a Lie algebra of some Lie group, which is a subgroup of a linear group $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Remark: This is not true that every Lie group is a subgroup of a linear group — we will show that the Heisenberg group is not a matrix group.

All groups with a given Lie algebra are obtained in the following way: Find simply connected Lie group with a given Lie algebra and find its center. Any group with the given Lie algebra is a quotient of the simply connected one by the discrete subgroup of the center.

Theorem: For a connected group G its commutator $G' = [G, G]$ is a Lie subgroup with the tangent algebra $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$.
 If G is simply connected then $[G, G]$ is a closed subgroup.

Proof. The general case follows from the simply connected case in the following way:

Let G be connected group and $p: \tilde{G} \rightarrow G$ its universal covering.

$p_*: \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$ is an isomorphism. $[\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}]$ is a Lie algebra of $[\tilde{G}, \tilde{G}]$, hence $p_*[\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}] = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ is a Lie algebra of $p[\tilde{G}, \tilde{G}] = [G, G]$.

Assume G is simply connected. Consider quotient algebra $\mathfrak{g}/[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ - it is abelian, so it is Lie algebra of \mathbb{R}^n for some $n = \dim \mathfrak{g}/[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$.

The map $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}/[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ is the differential of some group homomorphism (which is an epimorphism) $G \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}^n$ (by simple connectedness of G). We will prove that $[G, G]$ is equal to a closed subgroup $\ker f$, whose Lie algebra is $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$. Of course $[G, G] \subseteq \ker f$.

As G and $G/\ker f$ are simply connected $\ker f$ must be connected.

To prove that $\ker f \subseteq [G, G]$ it is enough to prove that $[G, G]$ contains the nbhd of the unit of $\ker f$.

Let v_1, \dots, v_k be the basis of $[\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ consisting of brackets.

Take paths; $\omega_i: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \ker f$ such that: $\omega_i(0) = 1$ $\frac{d\omega_i}{dt}(0) = v_i$, $\forall_t \omega_i(t)$ is a commutant. Consider $\varphi: (-\epsilon, \epsilon)^k \rightarrow \ker f$, $\varphi(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \omega_1(t_1) \dots \omega_k(t_k)$

Image of φ lies in $[G, G]$. $\frac{d\varphi}{dt}(0)$ is an isomorphism, so it is a diffeomorphism on a small nbhd of 0. This means that $[G, G]$ contains a nbhd of 0.

Such paths exist:

Let $v, w \in \ker f$. Let $\tau: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \ker f$ be such that $\frac{d\tau}{dt}|_0 = v$, $\tau(0) = 1$

Similarly $\eta: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \ker f$ $\frac{d\eta}{dt}|_0 = w$ $\eta(0) = 1$

Define $\omega: (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \ker f$ $\omega(t) = \begin{cases} [\tau(\sqrt{t}), \eta(\sqrt{t})] & t \in (0, \epsilon) \\ [\tau(\sqrt{-t}), \eta(\sqrt{-t})] & t \in (-\epsilon, 0) \end{cases}$

and verify that $\frac{d\omega}{dt}|_0 = [v, w]$, $\omega(0) = 1$. □

Corollary: If G is a connected Lie group such that $\mathfrak{g}' = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}] = \mathfrak{g}$ then the group G is perfect i.e. $G' = [G, G] = G$.

Example: $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$. Lie algebra consist of matrices A s. that $\text{tr } A = 0$. $[A, B] = AB - BA$. Basis of the Lie algebra are elementary matrices E_{ij} $i \neq j$ and matrices $E_{ii} - E_{jj}$ for $i \neq j$.
 Note that $[E_{ii} - E_{jj}, E_{ij}] = 2E_{ij}$ and $[E_{ij}, E_{ji}] = E_{ii} - E_{jj}$.