

## Explicit Formulas for the 3-Jet Lift of a Matrix Group. Applications to Conformal Geometry

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### Abstract:

The 3-jet lift  $G^3$  of a matrix group  $G$  is isomorphic, via a map that we give explicitly, to a semidirect product of  $G$  itself and a nilpotent group builded up from the first two prolongations of its Lie algebra. Using this isomorphism, we write down the formulas for the most natural representations of  $G^3$ , as well as for one additional representation of the 2-jet lift  $G^2$  appearing when  $G$  is of finite type 2. We apply these results to the case of the (linear) conformal group and we point out the geometric implications of these representations.

### 1 Introduction

The  $r$ -jet lift  $G^r$  (with  $r \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $r > 0$ ) of a Lie subgroup  $G$  of the general linear group  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$  is the Lie group of  $r$ -jets at  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  of (local, 0-preserving) diffeomorphisms of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  which preserve, in an obvious sense and up to order  $(r-1)$ , the canonical  $G$ -structure on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

The  $r$ -jet lift of  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$  itself is the structure group of the principal  $r$ -frame bundle  $F^r(M)$  over any  $n$ -dimensional manifold  $M$ , and some of its properties have been studied in this context [5,8,10]. The second order frame bundle  $F^2(M)$  has been extensively studied and explicit expressions concerning the 2-jet lift of  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$  are well known; see e.g. [3]. A proper use of such expressions leads [1] to a new proof of the first structure equation —first found in [10]— for connections in  $F^2(M)$ .

For a proper Lie subgroup  $G$  of  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$ , the group  $G^r$  comes into play when one deals with “ $(r-1)$ -integrable”  $G$ -structures (“uniformly  $(r-1)$ -flat” in the sense of [4]), i.e.  $G$ -structures  $P \subset LM$  having, over each point of  $M$ , contact of order  $(r-1)$  with coordinate sections of the linear frame bundle  $LM$  —let us remember that 1-integrable  $G$ -structures are those admitting symmetric (linear)

connections [2,4]. For each  $(r - 1)$ -integrable  $G$ -structure  $P$ , one can define its  $r$ -jet lift  $P^r$  as the set of  $r$ -jets at  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  of (local) diffeomorphisms of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  into  $M$  yielding such order of contact, and it turns out that  $P^r(M, G^r)$  becomes a principal subbundle of  $F^r(M)$ .

Consider the Lie algebra  $g$  of  $G$ . It may happen that the so called “ $r$ -prolongation”  $g_r$  vanishes. Remember that when  $g_r = 0$  and  $g_{r-1} \neq 0$ , one says that  $G$  is of *finite type*  $r$ . In the case  $g_r$  vanishes,  $G^{r+1}$  becomes isomorphic to  $G^r$ , and  $G^r$  *inherits some additional properties from the  $(r + 1)$  order*, mainly an *additional natural representation* that it is in the background of the appearance, in some cases [4], of Cartan connections on the  $r$ -jet lifts  $P^r$  of  $(r - 1)$ -integrable  $G$ -structures  $P$ .

The (pseudo) orthogonal conformal group  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$  is (for  $n \geq 3$ ) of finite type 2 and every  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$ -structure is 1-integrable. Both  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$  and its 2-jet lift  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2$  can be considered subgroups of the *full* conformal group  $O(n+2, \mathbf{R})/\mathbf{Z}_2$ . A lot of work has been done in the study of 2-jet lifts of conformal structures in dimension  $\geq 3$ , see e.g. [6,7], mainly by specific methods of the conformal case. We are interested in a more systematic treatment of connections on 2-jet lifts  $P^2(M, G^2)$  of 1-integrable  $G$ -structures  $P$  when  $G$  is of finite type 2, and their relationships with Cartan connections when they exist. Such treatment needs an appropriate handling of the 3-jet lift of a general matrix group. To our knowledge, no explicit formulas are up to now available.

In this paper we give (Lemma) a map which shows the isomorphism between  $G^3$  and a semidirect product of  $G$  itself and a nilpotent group builded up from the first two prolongations of the Lie algebra  $g$  of  $G$ . This map allows us to write down (Theorem) explicit formulas for the most natural representations of  $G^3$  and for the additional representation of  $G^2$  appearing when  $G$  is of finite type 2. When  $G$  is the (linear) conformal group  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$ , one can check that this additional representation is the restriction to  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2$  of the adjoint representation of the full conformal group  $O(n+2, \mathbf{R})/\mathbf{Z}_2$ . This last representation of  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2$  controls the behaviour of conformal Cartan connections on the 2-jet lift of a  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$ -structure.

## 2 Basic definitions

For each  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$ , let  $\mathcal{D}_{0,v}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  be the set of diffeomorphisms  $\varphi$  between open subsets of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , containing 0 and  $v$  respectively, such that  $\varphi(0) = v$ . The  $r$ -jet  $j_0^r(\varphi)$  is the equivalence class of  $\varphi$  in  $\mathcal{D}_{0,v}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  induced by the equivalence relation

$$\varphi \overset{r}{\sim} \varphi' \iff D^s \varphi|_0 = D^s \varphi'|_0, \quad 1 \leq s \leq r.$$

The set  $G^r(n) := \mathcal{D}_{0,0}(\mathbf{R}^n)/\overset{r}{\sim} = \{j_0^r(g) : g \in \mathcal{D}_{0,0}(\mathbf{R}^n)\}$  is a Lie group, the

group of  $r$ -jets, with product law

$$j_0^r(g) \cdot j_0^r(g') := j_0^r(g \circ g')$$

and differentiable structure such that the bijection

$$\begin{aligned} (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1}) : G^r(n) &\longrightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \times \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) \times \dots \times \mathbf{S}^r(\mathbf{n}) \\ j_0^r(g) &\longmapsto (Dg|_0, D^2g|_0, \dots, D^r g|_0) \end{aligned}$$

becomes a global chart; we denote by  $S^r(n)$  the subspace of symmetric  $r$ -linear maps in  $L^r(n) \equiv L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \dots \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{R}^n)$ . This bijection induces a product law on  $GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \times \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) \times \dots \times \mathbf{S}^r(\mathbf{n})$  which can be explicitly computed by applying the chain rule to the derivatives of the composition of functions. The canonical Lie group isomorphism  $G^1(n) \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{R})$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^1(\mathbf{g}) \mapsto \mathbf{Dg}|_0$ , will be understood in what follows.

The set  $F^r(\mathbf{R}^n) := \{\mathbf{j}_0^r(\varphi) : \varphi \in \mathcal{D}_{0, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{R}^n), \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^n\}$  is a (trivial)  $G^r(n)$ -principal bundle over  $\mathbf{R}^n$  [5], the *bundle of  $r$ -frames over  $\mathbf{R}^n$* , with projection  $\pi^r : F^r(\mathbf{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^r(\varphi) \mapsto \varphi(\mathbf{0})$ ,  $G^r(n)$ -right action  $R_{j_0^r(g)}^r j_0^r(\varphi) \equiv j_0^r(\varphi) \cdot j_0^r(g) := j_0^r(\varphi \circ g)$ , and (global) trivialization

$\Psi^r : F^r(\mathbf{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{G}^r(\mathbf{n})$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^r(\varphi) \mapsto (\varphi(\mathbf{0}), \mathbf{j}_0^r(\mathbf{T}_{-\varphi(\mathbf{0})} \circ \varphi))$ ,  $T_v$  being the translation by  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$ . The canonical principal fibre bundle isomorphism  $F^1(\mathbf{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{LR}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^1(\varphi) \mapsto (\varphi_*|_0 : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_{\varphi(\mathbf{0})} \mathbf{R}^n)$ , will be understood in what follows.

### 3 The $r$ -jet lift of a matrix group

Let  $G$  be a Lie subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$ . The *canonical  $G$ -structure  $GR^n$*  is the subset of the linear frame bundle  $LR^n$  obtained by moving with  $G$  the global section  $\sigma_I$  of  $\pi^1 : LR^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$  induced by the identity chart  $I \equiv (u^1, u^2, \dots, u^n)$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$

$$GR^n := (\mathbf{Im} \sigma_I) \cdot \mathbf{G}.$$

Every diffeomorphism  $\varphi : U \subset \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow V \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  raises a principal bundle isomorphism  $\tilde{\varphi} : LR^n|_U \rightarrow LR^n|_V$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^1(\psi) \equiv \mathbf{1} \mapsto \mathbf{j}_0^1(\varphi \circ \psi) \equiv \varphi_*|_{\psi(\mathbf{0})} \cdot \mathbf{1}$ .

The  *$r$ -jet lift  $G^r$  of  $G$*  is defined as the subset of  $G^r(n)$  induced by those diffeomorphisms  $g \in \mathcal{D}_{0,0}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  whose associated  $\tilde{g}$  takes  $\sigma_I$  into a (local) section of  $LR^n$  having  $(r-1)$ -order contact over  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  with some section of  $GR^n$

$$G^r := \{j_0^r(g) \in G^r(n) : \exists \sigma \in \text{Sec}(GR^n) \text{ with } \mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\tilde{g} \circ \sigma_I) = \mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\sigma \circ \mathbf{g})\}.$$

It can be described equivalently by

$$\begin{aligned} G^r = \{j_0^r(g) \in G^r(n) : \exists \kappa \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{G}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Dg}|_0 = \kappa(\mathbf{0}) \\ \text{and } D^{s+1}g|_0 = D^s \kappa|_0 \text{ (} 1 \leq s \leq r-1 \text{)}\}; \end{aligned}$$

we have identified  $D^s \kappa|_0 \in L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \overset{s}{\dots} \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathfrak{gl}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R}))$  with the element of  $L^{s+1}(n)$  given by  $D^s \kappa|_0(v_1, \dots, v_{s+1}) \equiv D^s \kappa|_0(v_1, \dots, v_s)(v_{s+1})$ . We have that  $(GL(n, \mathbf{R}))^r = \mathbf{G}^r(\mathbf{n})$  and  $G^1$  is canonically isomorphic to  $G$ .

Let us show up some algebraic properties of  $G^r$ :

- (i) For every  $0 < r' < r$ , the projection  $\beta^{r,r'} : G^r \longrightarrow G^{r'}$ ,  $j_0^r(g) \longmapsto j_0^{r'}(g)$ , is a Lie group homomorphism and the invariant Lie subgroup  $G^{r,r'} \equiv \text{Ker } \beta^{r,r'}$  is nilpotent. In particular,  $G^{r,r-1}$  ( $r > 1$ ) is abelian.
- (ii) For  $r > 1$ , one sees very easily the existence of the following splitting exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow G^{r,1} \hookrightarrow G^r \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\beta} \\ \xleftarrow{\gamma} \end{array} G \longrightarrow 1,$$

with  $\hookrightarrow$  the inclusion ( $G^{r,1} := \{j_0^r(g) \in G^r : Dg|_0 = I\} = \{j_0^r(Dg|_0^{-1} \circ g) : j_0^r(g) \in G^r\}$ ),  $\beta(j_0^r(g)) := Dg|_0$  and  $\gamma(a) := j_0^r(a)$ .

Thus  $G^r$  is canonically *isomorphic* with the semidirect product  $G \rtimes G^{r,1}$ , associated to the homomorphism of  $G$  into  $\text{Aut}(G^{r,1})$  given by

$$a \longmapsto (j_0^r(g) \mapsto j_0^r(a \circ g \circ a^{-1})),$$

and this isomorphism is defined by the map

$$\chi : \begin{array}{ccc} G^r & \longrightarrow & G \rtimes G^{r,1} \\ j_0^r(g) & \longmapsto & (Dg|_0, j_0^r(Dg|_0^{-1} \circ g)). \end{array}$$

**Remark** The following sequence is also exact

$$1 \longrightarrow G^{r,r-1} \hookrightarrow G^r \longrightarrow G^{r-1} \longrightarrow 1;$$

however it does not split, unless  $r = 2$  (in which case both sequences are the same) or  $G^{r,r-1} = \{0\}$  (trivial case); thus, in general, one *cannot* write  $G^r \simeq G^{r-1} \rtimes G^{r,r-1}$  (the group  $G^{r-1}$  has no natural structure as a subgroup of  $G^r$ ).

By looking at curves in  $G^r$  through the identity  $j_0^r(I)$ , it is easy to see [4] that the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}^r$  of  $G^r$  must be isomorphic —as a linear space— to the direct sum  $\sum_{s=0}^{r-1} \mathfrak{g}_s$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_s$  being the *s-prolongation* of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , defined as  $\mathfrak{g}_0 := \mathfrak{g}$  and, for  $s > 0$ , as the vector space

$$\mathfrak{g}_s := \{t \in S^{s+1}(n) : t(v_1, \dots, v_s, \cdot) \in \mathfrak{g}, \forall v_1, \dots, v_s \in \mathbf{R}^n\} = \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathfrak{g}_{s-1}) \cap S^{s+1}(\mathbf{n})$$

(obviously  $(\mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbf{R}))_s = S^{s+1}(\mathbf{n})$ ; moreover:  $\mathfrak{g}_s = 0 \Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_{s+1} = 0$ ).

One can also prove [4,6,8] that the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}^r$  of  $G^r$  is isomorphic to the



a (local) section of  $L\mathbf{R}^n$  having  $(r-1)$ -order contact over  $\varphi(0) \in \mathbf{R}^n$  with some section of  $G\mathbf{R}^n$

$$G^r(\mathbf{R}^n) := \{\mathbf{j}_0^r(\varphi) \in \mathbf{F}^r(\mathbf{R}^n) : \exists \sigma \in \mathbf{Sec}(G\mathbf{R}^n) \text{ with } \mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\tilde{\varphi} \circ \sigma_{\mathbf{I}}) = \mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\sigma \circ \varphi)\}.$$

One sees very easily that  $G^r(\mathbf{R}^n)$  is a (trivial)  $G^r$ -principal bundle over  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , in fact a reduction of  $F^r(\mathbf{R}^n)$  (see section 2).

The canonical isomorphism  $G^1 \simeq G$  yields a natural representation of  $G^1$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . For  $r > 1$ , the above construction of  $G^r(\mathbf{R}^n)$  leads to a *natural representation*  $\mathcal{A}^{G^r}$  of  $G^r$  in the vector space  $\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}$ , as follows:

- (i) Every diffeomorphism  $g : U \rightarrow V$  in  $\mathcal{D}_{0,0}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  raises a diffeomorphism  $\mathcal{I}_g^{r-1} : F^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n)|_U \rightarrow F^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n)|_V$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\psi) \mapsto \mathbf{j}_0^{r-1}(\mathbf{g} \circ \psi \circ \mathbf{g}^{-1})$  (it is *not* a principal bundle isomorphism!). One can prove [4] that the tangent map  $\mathcal{I}_{g*}^{r-1}|_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}$ , which depends in fact on  $j_0^r(g)$ , preserves the subspace  $T_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}(G^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n))$  of  $T_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}(F^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n))$ ; thus we can write

$$\mathcal{I}_{g*}^{r-1}|_{j_0^{r-1}(I)} : T_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}(G^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n)) \longrightarrow \mathbf{T}_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}(\mathbf{G}^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n)).$$

- (ii) The global trivialization (see section 2)  $\Psi^{r-1} : G^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{G}^{r-1}$  and the associated canonical identification  $T_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}G^{r-1}(\mathbf{R}^n) \simeq \mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}$  lead to the (injective) representation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^{G^r} : G^r &\longrightarrow GL(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}) \\ j_0^r(g) &\longmapsto (\mathcal{I}_{g*}^{r-1}|_{j_0^{r-1}(I)}) : \mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}. \end{aligned}$$

This representation of  $G^r$  induces a representation  $a^{g^r}$  of the Lie algebra  $g^r$ , given by

$$a^{g^r} \equiv \mathcal{A}_*^{G^r}|_{j_0^r(I)} : g^r \longrightarrow gl(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}).$$

Let us consider what happens if  $g_{r-1} = 0$ . In that case, the above cited Lie group isomorphism  $\beta^{r,r-1} : G^r \rightarrow G^{r-1}$  gives an obvious representation

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}^{G^{r-1}} := \mathcal{A}^{G^r} \circ (\beta^{r,r-1})^{-1} : G^{r-1} \rightarrow GL(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^{r-1}).$$

#### 4 The 2-jet lift of $G$

We now give a short review of the 2-jet lift  $G^2$  of a matrix group  $G$ . The material of this section is fairly well known, although our description shows up the semidirect product structure of  $G^2(n)$ , so the outcoming formulas are not the usual ones [3].

As the Abelian group  $G^{2,1}(n) = \{j_0^2(Dg|_0^{-1} \circ g) : j_0^2(g) \in G^2(n)\}$  is isomorphic—via the map  $u_1$ —to the vector group  $S^2(n)$ , we get the isomorphism

$$(u_0, \bar{u}_1) := (I, u_1) \circ \chi : \begin{array}{ccc} G^2(n) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) \\ j_0^2(g) & \longmapsto & (Dg|_0, Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0), \end{array}$$

where the product law in  $GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n})$  is given by

$$(a, t) \cdot (a', t') := (aa', a'^{-1}t(a', a') + t').$$

Restricting  $(u_0, \bar{u}_1)$  to

$$G^2 = \{j_0^2(g) \in G^2(n) : \exists \kappa \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{G}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Dg}|_0 = \kappa(\mathbf{0}) \text{ and } \mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{g}|_0 = \mathbf{D}\kappa|_0\}$$

we get, just because  $Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0 = (\kappa^{-1}D\kappa)|_0 \in S^2(n) \cap L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g})$ , the *isomorphism* (which will be understood in what follows)

$$(u_0, \bar{u}_1) : \begin{array}{ccc} G^2 & \longrightarrow & G \otimes g_1 \\ j_0^2(g) & \longmapsto & (Dg|_0, Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0). \end{array}$$

Before looking into the representation  $Ad^{G^2}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{G^2}$  of  $G^2$ , we want to introduce the following useful notations:  $\forall t \in L^r(n) \simeq L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{L}^{r-1}(\mathbf{n}))$ ,  $\forall a \in GL(n, \mathbf{R})$  and  $\forall \alpha \in gl(n, \mathbf{R})$ , we write

$$t_a \equiv at(a^{-1}, \dots, a^{-1}) \in L^r(n)t^\alpha$$

$$L^r(n)t^\alpha \equiv \alpha t - t(\alpha \cdot, \cdot, \dots, \cdot) - \dots - t(\cdot, \dots, \cdot, \alpha \cdot) \in L^r(n).$$

Note that if we call  $Q \in Hom(GL(n, \mathbf{R}), \mathbf{GL}(\mathbf{L}^r(\mathbf{n})))$ ,  $Q(a) : t \rightarrow t_a$ , and  $q \in Hom(gl(n, \mathbf{R}), \mathbf{gl}(\mathbf{L}^r(\mathbf{n})))$ ,  $q(\alpha) : t \rightarrow t^\alpha$ , it is very easy to see that  $q = Q_*|_I$ .

In the case  $t \in S^2(n) \subset L^2(n) \simeq L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{gl}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R}))$ , it is easy to check the following properties:

- (i) Both maps  $t \mapsto t_a$  and  $t \mapsto t^\alpha$  belong to  $gl(S^2(n))$ ,
- (ii)  $t_{ab} = (t_b)_a$  and  $t^{[\alpha, \beta]} = (t^\beta)^\alpha - (t^\alpha)^\beta$ ,
- (iii)  $t_a(v) = at(a^{-1}v)a^{-1}$  and  $t^\alpha(v) = [\alpha, t(v)] - t(\alpha v)$ ,  $\forall v \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,
- (iv)  $t^{t(v)}(w) - t^{t(w)}(v) = 2[t(v), t(w)]$ ,  $\forall v, w \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,
- (v)  $(t^\alpha)_a = (t_a)^{a\alpha a^{-1}}$ .

**Remark.** We can rewrite the product law in  $GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n})$  as follows:

$$(a, t) \cdot (a', t') = (aa', t_{a'^{-1}} + t'), \quad \text{thus } (a, t)^{-1} = (a^{-1}, -t_a).$$

With this notations, the representations  $Ad^{G^2}$  (adjoint) and  $\mathcal{A}^{G^2}$  —and the corresponding representations  $ad^{g^2}$  and  $a^{g^2}$ — have the form

$$\begin{aligned} Ad^{G^2} : G^2 \simeq G \rtimes g_1 &\longrightarrow Aut(g \rtimes g_1) \\ (a, t) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} Ad_a^G & 0 \\ -(t^{(\cdot)})_a & (\cdot)_a \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $Ad_{(a,t)}^{G^2}(\beta, s) = (a\beta a^{-1}, s_a - (t^\beta)_a)$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} ad^{g^2} : g^2 \simeq g \rtimes g_1 &\longrightarrow Der(g \rtimes g_1) \\ (\alpha, t) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} ad_\alpha^g & 0 \\ -t^{(\cdot)} & (\cdot)^\alpha \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $ad_{(\alpha,t)}^{g^2}(\beta, s) = ([\alpha, \beta], s^\alpha - t^\beta) = [(\alpha, t), (\beta, s)]_0^2$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^{G^2} : G^2 \simeq G \rtimes g_1 &\longrightarrow GL(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}) \\ (a, t) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ Ad_a^G t(\cdot) & Ad_a^G \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $\mathcal{A}_{(a,t)}^{G^2}(v, \beta) = (av, a(t(v) + \beta)a^{-1})$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} a^{g^2} : g^2 \simeq g \rtimes g_1 &\longrightarrow gl(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}) \\ (\alpha, t) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ t(\cdot) & ad_\alpha^g \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $a_{(\alpha,t)}^{g^2}(v, \beta) = (\alpha v, t(v) + [\alpha, \beta])$ .

*The case  $g_1 = 0$ .* In that case, one has the isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} G &\longrightarrow G^2 \simeq G \rtimes \{0\} \\ a &\longmapsto (a, 0) \end{aligned}$$

and  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}^G : G \longrightarrow Aut(\mathbf{R}^n \ltimes \mathfrak{g})$   
 $a \longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & Ad_a^G \end{pmatrix},$

or  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_a^G(v, \beta) = (av, a\beta a^{-1})$  (we write  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_a^G \in Aut(\mathbf{R}^n \ltimes \mathfrak{g})$  because  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}^G$  preserves the bracket in the Lie algebra  $\mathbf{R}^n \ltimes \mathfrak{g}$ ).

## 5 The 3-jet lift of $G$

In analogous way as we did for  $G^2$ , we first describe  $G^3$  as a semidirect product of  $G$  itself and a (now *non-abelian*) nilpotent group builded up on the first two

prolongations  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  of its Lie algebra  $g$ .

The nilpotent group  $G^{3,1}(n) = \{j_0^3(g) \in G^3(n) : Dg|_0 = I\}$  is isomorphic —via  $(u_1, u_2)$ — to the group  $(S^2(n) \times S^3(n), \star)$ ,  $\star$  being the product law induced by applying the chain rule to the derivatives of the composition of functions

$$(t, T) \star (t', T') := (t + t', T + 3\mathbf{S}(t(\cdot)t'(\cdot, \cdot)) + T').$$

Now, instead of using the chart  $(u_1, u_2)$ , it will be more convenient (see the next lemma) to use the chart  $(u_1, u_2 - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(u_1(\cdot)u_1(\cdot, \cdot)))$ , which establishes an isomorphism between  $G^{3,1}(n)$  and the group  $(S^2(n) \times S^3(n), \diamond)$ , where  $\diamond$  stands for the product law

$$(t, T) \diamond (t', T') := (t + t', T + \frac{1}{2}[t, t']_0^3 + T'),$$

and the bracket  $[t, t']_0^3 := 3\mathbf{S}(t(\cdot)t'(\cdot, \cdot)) - 3\mathbf{S}(t'(\cdot)t(\cdot, \cdot))$  was given in section 3. In that way we get the isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} (u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2) &:= (I, u_1, u_2 - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(u_1(\cdot)u_1(\cdot, \cdot))) \circ \chi : G^3(n) \longrightarrow \\ &\longrightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \rtimes (\mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) \times \mathbf{S}^3(\mathbf{n}), \diamond) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} j_0^3(g) &\longmapsto (Dg|_0, Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0, Dg|_0^{-1} D^3g|_0 - \\ &\quad - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0(\cdot) Dg|_0^{-1} D^2g|_0(\cdot, \cdot))), \end{aligned}$$

where the product law in  $GL(n, \mathbf{R}) \rtimes (\mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) \times \mathbf{S}^3(\mathbf{n}), \diamond)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} (a, t, T) \cdot (a', t', T') &:= (aa', (t_{a'^{-1}}, T_{a'^{-1}}) \diamond (t', T')) = \\ &= (aa', t_{a'^{-1}} + t', T_{a'^{-1}} + \frac{1}{2}[t_{a'^{-1}}, t']_0^3 + T') \end{aligned}$$

(what implies  $(a, t, T)^{-1} = (a^{-1}, -t_a, -T_a)$ ).

**Remark.** Note that the term  $\frac{1}{2}[t_{a'^{-1}}, t']_0^3$  prevents this product to be a semidirect product of the form  $G^2(n) \rtimes S^3(n)$ ; the group  $G^2(n)$  has no natural structure as a subgroup of  $G^3(n)$  (see the first remark in section 3).

As the following lemma establishes, the above chart  $(u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2)$  provides, by restriction, an *isomorphic* image of  $G^3$  in terms of  $G$  and the first two prolongations of  $g$ , and this is a very interesting fact for computations.

**Lemma.** The group  $G^3$  is isomorphic —via  $(u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2)$ — to the group  $G \rtimes (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond)$ .

**Proof.** As we said above, it holds:  $j_0^3(g) \in G^3 \Leftrightarrow \exists \kappa \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{G})$  such that

- (1)  $Dg|_0 = \kappa(0) \in G$ ,
- (2)  $D^2g|_0 = D\kappa|_0(\cdot) \in S^2(n)$ ,
- (3)  $D^3g|_0 = D^2\kappa|_0(\cdot, \cdot) \in S^3(n)$ .

As for  $G^2$ , conditions (1) and (2) lead to

$$\bar{u}_1(j_0^3(g)) \in g_1.$$

Now we consider condition (3). Let us call  $\kappa_1(\cdot) \equiv \kappa^{-1}D\kappa \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g}))$  and  $\kappa_2(\cdot, \cdot) \equiv \kappa^{-1}D^2\kappa \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{L}_{\text{sim}}(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{gl}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R})))$ . Note that although  $\kappa_1|_0(\cdot) \in L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g})$ , in general  $\kappa_2|_0(\cdot, \cdot)$  does not belong to  $L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g})$ ; so conditions (1) and (3) do not lead to  $Dg|_0^{-1}D^3g|_0 \in g_2$ .

From  $D(\kappa^{-1})(\cdot) = -\kappa^{-1}D\kappa(\cdot)\kappa^{-1}$ , it immediately follows

$$\kappa_2(\cdot, \cdot) = D\kappa_1(\cdot, \cdot) + \kappa_1(\cdot)\kappa_1(\cdot);$$

then, at the origin of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ,

$$\kappa_2|_0(\cdot, \cdot) \in \kappa_1|_0(\cdot)\kappa_1|_0(\cdot) + L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g}).$$

Thus conditions (1) and (3) lead to

$$(3') \quad \kappa_2|_0(\cdot, \cdot) \in (\kappa_1|_0(\cdot)\kappa_1|_0(\cdot) + L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g})) \cap \mathbf{S}^3(\mathbf{n}).$$

Now observe that, given any  $s \in g_1 := L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g}) \cap \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n})$ , the identity

$$s(\cdot)s(\cdot, \cdot) \equiv \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(s(\cdot)s(\cdot, \cdot)) + \frac{1}{2}s^{s(\cdot)}(\cdot, \cdot)$$

holds with  $s^{s(\cdot)} \in L(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g}_1) \subset L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g})$ ; applying this identity to  $s = \kappa_1|_0$ , we get from (3')

$$\kappa_2|_0(\cdot, \cdot) - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(\kappa_1|_0(\cdot)\kappa_1|_0(\cdot, \cdot)) \in L(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{g}) \cap \mathbf{S}^3(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{g}_2;$$

thus again (1) and (3) lead to

$$Dg|_0^{-1}D^3g|_0 - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(Dg|_0^{-1}D^2g|_0(\cdot)Dg|_0^{-1}D^2g|_0(\cdot, \cdot)) \in g_2,$$

or, in other words,  $\bar{u}_2(j_0^3(g)) \in g_2$ .

Once we know that  $(u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2)(G^3) \subset G \times g_1 \times g_2$ , the assert of the lemma follows immediately. □

**Corollary.** If  $g_2 = 0$ , every  $j_0^3(g) \in G^3$  satisfies

$$Dg|_0^{-1}D^3g|_0 - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(Dg|_0^{-1}D^2g|_0(\cdot)Dg|_0^{-1}D^2g|_0(\cdot, \cdot)) = 0.$$

**Remark.**

Thus the *algebraic* condition for a matrix group  $G$  of being of finite type 2 *analytic* property: every  $G\mathbf{R}^n$ -preserving diffeomorphism  $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}_{0,v}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ ,  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^n$ , must satisfy

$$D\varphi|_0^{-1}D^3\varphi|_0 - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{S}(D\varphi|_0^{-1}D^2\varphi|_0(\cdot)D\varphi|_0^{-1}D^2\varphi|_0(\cdot, \cdot)) = 0.$$

In particular, let  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$  (with  $n \geq 3$ ) be the linear conformal group with respect to some (pseudo) euclidean scalar product  $\eta$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ; as it is well known,  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})$  is of finite type 2. It thus follows that every conformal (local) diffeomorphism in  $(\mathbf{R}^n, \eta)$  satisfies this condition, as one immediately checks.

Using the above isomorphism  $(u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2)$ , we get the following

**Theorem.** The representations  $Ad^{G^3}$  (adjoint) and  $\mathcal{A}^{G^3}$  —and the corresponding representations  $ad^{g^3}$  and  $a^{g^3}$ — are given by

$$Ad^{G^3} : G^3 \simeq G \otimes (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} Aut(g + g_1 + g_2, [\cdot, \cdot]_0^3) \\ (a, t, T) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} Ad_a^G & 0 & 0 \\ -(t^{(\cdot)})_a & (\cdot)_a & 0 \\ -(T^{(\cdot)} - \frac{1}{2}[t^{(\cdot)}, t]_0^3)_a & ([t, \cdot]_0^3)_a & (\cdot)_a \end{pmatrix}, \end{array}$$

or  $Ad_{(a,t,T)}^{G^3}(\beta, s, S) = (a\beta a^{-1}, s_a - (t^\beta)_a, (S - T^\beta + [t, s]_0^3 + \frac{1}{2}[t^\beta, t]_0^3)_a)$ ;

$$ad^{g^3} : g^3 \simeq G \otimes (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} Der(g + g_1 + g_2, [\cdot, \cdot]_0^3) \\ (\alpha, t, T) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} ad_\alpha^g & 0 & 0 \\ -t^{(\cdot)} & (\cdot)^\alpha & 0 \\ -T^{(\cdot)} & [t, \cdot]_0^3 & (\cdot)^\alpha \end{pmatrix}, \end{array}$$

or  $ad_{(\alpha,t,T)}^{g^3}(\beta, s, S) = ([\alpha, \beta], s^\alpha - t^\beta, S^\alpha - T^\beta + [t, s]_0^3) \equiv [(\alpha, t, T), (\beta, s, S)]_0^3$ ;

$$\mathcal{A}^{G^3} : G^3 \simeq G \otimes (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} GL(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g} + \mathfrak{g}_1) \\ (a, t, T) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ Ad_a^G t(\cdot) & Ad_a^G & 0 \\ (T(\cdot) - \frac{1}{2}t^{t(\cdot)})_a & -(t^{(\cdot)})_a & (\cdot)_a \end{pmatrix}, \end{array}$$

or  $\mathcal{A}_{(a,t,T)}^{G^3}(v, \beta, s) = (av, a(t(v) + \beta)a^{-1}, (T(v) - \frac{1}{2}t^{t(v)} - t^\beta + s)_a)$ ;

$$a^{g^3} : g^3 \simeq G \otimes (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} gl(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g} + \mathfrak{g}_1) \\ (\alpha, t, T) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 & 0 \\ t(\cdot) & ad_\alpha^g & 0 \\ T(\cdot) & -t^{(\cdot)} & (\cdot)^\alpha \end{pmatrix}, \end{array}$$

or  $a_{(\alpha,t,T)}^{g^3}(v, \beta, s) = (\alpha v, t(v) + [\alpha, \beta], T(v) + s^\alpha - t^\beta)$ .

**Proof.** A careful computation is needed; for more details see [9]. The expressions for  $Ad_{(a,t,T)}^{G^3} := Int_{(a,t,T)}^{G^3} \Big|_{(I,0,0)}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{j_0^3(g) \simeq (a,t,T)}^{G^3} := \mathcal{I}_g^2 \Big|_{j_0^2(I) \simeq (0,I,0)}$  follow from the

following expressions of the inner automorphisms of  $G^3$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Int}_{(a,t,T)}^{G^3} : G \bowtie (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) &\rightarrow G \bowtie (g_1 \times g_2, \diamond) \\ (u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2) &\mapsto (a, t, T)(u_0, \bar{u}_1, \bar{u}_2)(a, t, T)^{-1} = \\ &= (au_0a^{-1}, (t_{u_0^{-1}} + \bar{u}_1 - t)_a, (T_{u_0^{-1}} + \bar{u}_2 + \frac{1}{2}([t_{u_0^{-1}}, \bar{u}_1]_0^3 + [t, \bar{u}_1]_0^3 + [t, t_{u_0^{-1}}]_0^3))_a), \end{aligned}$$

and of the diffeomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_g^2 : F^2(\mathbf{R}^n)|_{\mathbf{U}} \simeq \mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{GL}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R}) \times \mathbf{S}^2(\mathbf{n}) &\rightarrow F^2(\mathbf{R}^n)|_{\mathbf{V}} \\ (u, u_0, u_1) &\mapsto \\ \mapsto (g(u), Dg|_u u_0 Dg^{-1}|_0, D^2g|_u (u_0 Dg^{-1}|_0, u_0 Dg^{-1}|_0) + \\ &+ Dg|_u u_1 (Dg^{-1}|_0, Dg^{-1}|_0) + Dg|_u u_0 D^2g^{-1}|_0), \end{aligned}$$

respectively. □

*The case  $g_2 = 0$ .* In that case, the map

$$\begin{aligned} G^2 \cong G \bowtie g_1 &\longrightarrow G^3 \cong G \bowtie (g_1 \times \{0\}, \diamond) \\ (a, t) &\longmapsto (a, t, 0) \end{aligned}$$

gives an isomorphism  $G^2 \simeq G^3$  and a representation  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}^{G^2}$  which preserves the bracket in the Lie algebra  $(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g} + \mathfrak{g}_1, [\cdot, \cdot]_{-1}^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\mathcal{A}}^{G^2} : G^2 \simeq G \bowtie g_1 &\longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g} + \mathfrak{g}_1, [\cdot, \cdot]_{-1}^2) \\ (a, t) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ Ad_a^{G^2}(\cdot) & Ad_a^G & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2}(t^{t(\cdot)})_a & -(t^{(\cdot)})_a & (\cdot)_a \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{(a,t)}^{G^2}(v, \beta, s) = (av, a(t(v) + \beta)a^{-1}, (-\frac{1}{2}t^{t(v)} - t^\beta + s)_a)$ .

**Remarks.**

- (i) In the case  $g_2 = 0$ , observe that:  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{(a,t)}^{G^2}|_{g+g_1} = Ad_{(a,t)}^{G^2}$  and  $\overline{a}_{(\alpha,t)}^{g^2} = ad_{(0,\alpha,t)}^{\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{g}^2}$ .
- (ii) When  $G = CO(n, \mathbf{R})$ , the linear conformal group, it is well known [6] that  $CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2$  is isomorphic to a Lie subgroup  $\mathcal{L}_0$  of the full conformal group  $\mathcal{L} \equiv O(n+2)/\mathbf{Z}_2$ , as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2 \simeq \mathbf{CO}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R}) \bowtie \mathfrak{co}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R})_1 &\xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathcal{L}_0 \\ (kb, -\tilde{\mu}) &\longmapsto A_{(k,b,\mu)} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} k & 0 & 0 \\ b\mu^\sharp & b & 0 \\ (2k)^{-1}\eta(\mu^\sharp, \mu^\sharp) & k^{-1}\mu & k^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

with  $k \in \mathbf{R}^+$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{O}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R})$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbf{R}^{n*}$ ,  $\tilde{\mu} \in \mathfrak{co}(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{R})_1$ ,  $\mu^\sharp \in \mathbf{R}^n$  (we

have used the isomorphisms:  $\mathbf{R}^{n*} \longrightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\mu \longmapsto \mu^\sharp$ , determined by  $\eta(\mu^\sharp, \cdot) = \mu$ , with  $\eta$  a standard scalar product of arbitrary signature, and  $\mathbf{R}^{n*} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{co}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R})_1$ ,  $\mu \longmapsto \tilde{\mu}$ , where

$$\tilde{\mu}(v, w) := \mu(v)w + \mu(w)v - \eta(v, w)\mu^\sharp.$$

This induces the following isomorphism between the Lie algebras

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{co}(n, \mathbf{R})^2 &\simeq \mathfrak{co}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R}) \oplus \mathfrak{co}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R})_1 \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathfrak{l}_0 \\ (\kappa I + \beta, -\tilde{\mu}) &\longmapsto a_{(\kappa, b, \mu)} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \kappa & 0 & 0 \\ \mu^\sharp & \beta & 0 \\ 0 & \mu & -\kappa \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

with  $\kappa \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\beta \in \mathfrak{o}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R})$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbf{R}^{n*}$ .

Moreover one sees very easily the isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{R}^n + \mathfrak{co}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R}) + \mathfrak{co}(\mathfrak{n}, \mathbf{R})_1, [\cdot, \cdot]_{-1}^2) &\xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathfrak{l} \\ (w, \kappa I + \beta, -\tilde{\mu}) &\longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} \kappa & w^\sharp & 0 \\ \mu^\sharp & \beta & w \\ 0 & \mu & -\kappa \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(being  $w^\sharp = \eta(w, \cdot)$ ) with

$$\begin{aligned} [w, w']_{-1}^2 &= 0, \\ [\beta, w']_{-1}^2 &= \beta w', & [\beta, \beta']_{-1}^2 &= \beta \beta' - \beta' \beta, \\ [\tilde{\mu}, w']_{-1}^2 &= \tilde{\mu}(w'), & [\tilde{\mu}, \beta']_{-1}^2 &= -\tilde{\mu}^{\beta'} = \widetilde{\mu \beta'}, & [\tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\mu}']_{-1}^2 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The last isomorphism yields (after a straightforward computation) the correspondence

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{(\kappa b, -\tilde{\mu})}^2(w, \kappa I + \beta, -\tilde{\nu}) \longmapsto Ad_{A_{(\kappa, b, \mu)}^{\mathcal{L}}} a_{(\kappa, \beta, \nu)}.$$

Thus we conclude that

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{j_0^2(g)}^2 = Ad_{j_0^2(g)}^{\mathcal{L}}, \quad \forall j_0^2(g) \in CO(n, \mathbf{R})^2;$$

for details see [9].

## 6 Final comment

As we mentioned in the introduction we are interested in the relationships between true connections and Cartan connections on 2-jet lifts  $P^2(M, G^2)$  of 1-integrable

$G$ -structures when  $P$  is of finite type 2. The behaviour of such geometrical objects under the principal action is controlled by the above representations  $Ad^{G^2}$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}^{G^2}$ , respectively. Using such representations we have been able to prove that, given a Cartan connection on  $P^2$  and a symmetric connection on  $P$ , a distinguished connection on  $P^2$  arises which is not the trivial prolongation of the latter one; in the conformal case, the geodesics of that second order connection are closely related to the so called “conformal circles”.

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