Imbedding of Compact, Differentiable Transformation Groups in Orthogonal Representations

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1. Introduction. Let G be a Lie group and M a differentiable $(i.e.\ C^{\infty})$ manifold. An action of G on M is a homomorphism $\varphi:g\to\varphi_{\sigma}$ of G into the group of diffeomorphisms $(i.e.\ non-singular,\ differentiable\ homeomorphisms)$ of M with itself such that the map $\Phi:(g,x)\to\varphi_{\sigma}(x)$ of $G\times M$ into M is continuous (it then follows from a theorem of Bochner & Montgomery [1] that Φ is automatically differentiable). A triple (G,M,φ) of such objects as those above we shall call a differentiable G-transformation group. If G is an open submanifold of G invariant under each G0 then G1 is an action of G2 on G3 and we will denote by G1, G2, G3 the corresponding differentiable G2-transformation group. If G3, G4, G5 and G5 in G6, G7, G7 is an imbedding of G8 into G9 in G9, G9 is an imbedding G9 of G9 into G9 in G9, G9 is an imbedding G9 of G9 into G9 in G9, G9 is an imbedding G9 of G9 of all G9 in G9. In G9, G9 is an imbedding G9 of G9 of all G9 in G9 in G9, G9 is an imbedding G9 of G9 of all G9 in G9 of G9.

A particular class of differentiable G-transformation groups consists of the finite dimensional orthogonal representations of G, *i.e.* triples (G, M, φ) where V is a finite dimensional real Hilbert space and each φ_{σ} is an orthogonal transformation of V. We shall prove the following theorem, and in fact something slightly more general.

Theorem. A differentiable G-transformation group (G, M, φ) can be imbedded in a finite dimensional orthogonal representation of G provided G and M are compact.

^{*}After this work was completed, the author was informed of a more general theorem of G. D. Mostow, in which differentiability and compactness of M are not assumed. While Mostow's theorem is deeper and more difficult to prove, the simplicity gained by assuming differentiability seems to justify the publication of this paper. (Added in proof: Mostow's paper, which appeared under the title "Equivariant imbeddings in Euclidean space" in the May, 1957 issue of the Annals of Mathematics, contains a special proof for the differentiable case which, though very different from ours, is quite short.)