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**The Cortex of Nilpotent Lie Algebras of Dimensions Less or Equal to 7 and Semi-Direct Product of Vector Groups: Nilpotent Case**

The paper deals with the cortex of real nilpotent Lie algebras. We first show that for any real nilpotent Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of dimension less or equal to 6, its cortex coincides with the set of the common zeros of the  $G$ -invariant polynomials on  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  namely the I-cortex, where  $G$  is the corresponding connected and simply connected Lie group and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  is its dual. Next we give an example of 7-dimensional (real) nilpotent Lie algebra for which the cortex is a proper semi-algebraic set in the I-cortex. Finally we study the cortex of a class of nilpotent Lie groups given by a semi-direct product of abelian groups  $G := \mathbb{R}^m \rtimes_{\pi} V$  where  $\pi$  is the continuous representation of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  on the  $m$ -dimensional (real) vector space  $V$  defined by

$$\pi(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^n t_i A_i \right)$$

with  $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$  is a set of pairwise commuting nilpotent matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ .

**Keywords:** Nilpotent and solvable Lie groups, unitary representations of locally compact Lie groups.

**MSC:** 22E25, 22E15, 22D10.