

MATH20510 (S25): Analysis in \mathbb{R}^n III (accelerated)

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1 Integration of Differential Forms

1.1 Integration on a Cell

Definition 1.1. A k -cell in \mathbb{R}^k is a set of the form $I^k := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^k : a_i \leq x_i \leq b_i, i = 1, \dots, k\}$.

Definition 1.2. Let $f \in C(I^k)$ be real valued and write $f_k := f$. Define for each $i = k, \dots, 1$

$$f_{i-1}(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}) := \int_{a_i}^{b_i} f_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) dx_i.$$

We define

$$\int_{I_k}^{f(x)} dx := \int_{a_1}^{b_1} \cdots \int_{a_k}^{b_k} f_k(x_1, \dots, x_k) dx_k \dots dx_1 = f_0.$$

Remark 1.3.

- Since f is continuous on a compact set, it is uniformly continuous. Thus all iterated integrals are well-defined and uniformly continuous on I^i ($1 \leq i \leq k$).
- The integral over a k -cell is independent of the order of integration, by the following result:

Theorem 1.4. If $f \in C(I^k)$, then $L(f) = L'(f)$, where $L(f)$ is the integral of f over I^k as defined above, and $L'(f)$ is the integral of f over the same domain with a different order of integration.

Proof. If $h(x) = f_1(x_1) \dots h_k(x_k)$, where $h_j \in C([a_j, b_j])$, then

$$L(h) = \prod_{i=1}^k \int_{a_i}^{b_i} h_i(x_i) dx_i = L'(h).$$

If \mathcal{A} is the set of all finite sums of such functions h , it follows that $L(g) = L'(g)$ for all $g \in \mathcal{A}$. The Stone-Weierstrass theorem shows that \mathcal{A} is dense in $C(I^k)$. Put $V = \prod_{i=1}^k (b_i - a_i)$. If $f \in C(I^k)$ and $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $g \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $\|f - g\| < \epsilon/V$, where $\|f\|$ is defined as $\max_{x \in I^k} |f(x)|$. Then $|L(f - g)| < \epsilon$, $L'(f - g) < \epsilon$, and since

$$L(f) - L'(f) = L(f - g) + L'(g - f),$$

we conclude that $|L(f) - L'(f)| < 2\epsilon$. □

Definition 1.5. The **support** of function f on \mathbb{R}^k is the closure of the set of all points $x \in \mathbb{R}^k$ at which $f(x) \neq 0$. We write $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^k)$ if f is a continuous function with compact support, that is, if $K := \text{supp } f \subset I^k$ for some k -cell I^k . In this case we define

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^k} f(x) \, dx := \int_{I^k} f(x) \, dx.$$

Definition 1.6. Let $G : \mathbb{R}^n \supset E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, where E is open. If there is an integer m and a real function g with domain E such that for all $x \in E$ we have

$$G(x) = \sum x_i e_i + g(x) e_m,$$

then we call G **primitive**.

Remark 1.7.

- In other words, G changes only one coordinate.
- If g is differentiable at $x \in E$, then so is G . The matrix $DG(x)$ has

$$(\partial_1 g)(x), \dots, (\partial_m g)(x), \dots, (\partial_n g)(x)$$

as its m th row. On the j th row, where $j \neq m$, we have the j th unit vector. Thus the Jacobian of G at a is

$$J_G(a) = \det DG(a) = (\partial_m g)(a)$$

and so $G'(a)$ is invertible if and only if $(\partial_m g)(a) \neq 0$.

Definition 1.8. A linear operator B on \mathbb{R}^n that interchanges some pair of members of the standard basis and leaves the others fixed will be called a **flip**.

Theorem 1.9. Suppose $F : \mathbb{R}^n \supset E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is C^1 , $0 \in E$, $F(0) = 0$, and $F'(0)$ is invertible. Then there is a neighborhood of 0 in \mathbb{R}^n in which a representation

$$F(x) = B_1 \dots B_{n-1} G_n \circ \dots \circ G_1(x)$$

is valid. Each G_i is a primitive C^1 mapping in some neighborhood of 0; $G_i(0) = 0$, $G'_i(0)$ is invertible, and each B_i is either a flip or the identity.

Theorem 1.10 (Partition of Unity). Let K be a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^n . Let $\{V_\alpha\}$ be an open cover of K . Then there exists function $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_k \in C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that

- $0 \leq \psi_i \leq 1$ for $1 \leq i \leq s$,
- $\text{supp } \psi_i \subset V_\alpha$ for some α^1 , and
- $\sum_i \psi_i = 1$ for each $x \in K$.

Corollary 1.11. *If $f \in C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and the support of f lies in K , then*

$$f = \sum \psi_i f.$$

Each $\psi_i f$ has support in some V_α .

Remark 1.12. This is a representation of f using functions with “small” supports. We represent global information using local information.

Theorem 1.13 (Change of Variables). *Let T be a one-to-one C^1 mapping from an open set $E \in \mathbb{R}^k$ into \mathbb{R}^k such that $J_T(x) \neq 0$ for all $x \in T$. If $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\text{supp } f \in T(E)$, then*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^k} f(y) \, dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} f(T(x)) |J_T(x)| \, dx.$$

Proof. If T is a primitive mapping, then the theorem is true by the one dimensional change of variable theorem. If T is a flip, the theorem reduces to the case in the first theorem of this section.

If the theorem is true for transformations P , Q , and if $S = P \circ Q$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \int f(z) \, dz &= \int f(P(y)) |J_P(y)| \, dy \\ &= \int f(P(Q(x))) |J_P(Q(x))| |J_Q(x)| \, dx = \int f(S(x)) |J_S(x)| \, dx, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} J_P(Q(x)) &= \det DP(Q(x)) \det DQ(x) \\ &= \det DP(Q(x)) DQ(x) = \det DS(x) = J_S(x). \end{aligned}$$

This follows from the chain rule and the fact that the determinant of a product of matrices is the product of the determinants.

¹This is sometimes expressed by saying that $\{\psi_i\}$ is subordinate to the cover $\{V_\alpha\}$.

Now, for each $a \in E$ there exists a neighborhood $U \subset E$ of a in which

$$T(x) = T(a) + B_1 \dots B_{k-1} G_k \circ \dots \circ G_1(x - a).$$

It follows that the theorem holds if the support of f lies in $T(U)$.

That is, each point $y \in T(E)$ lies in an open set $V_y \subset T(E)$ such that the theorem holds for all continuous functions whose support lies in V_y .

For an arbitrary function f , we need only write it as a sum of functions with compact support using the partition of unity. \square