

Math 225B Differential Geometry: Homework 7

Feb 22nd, 2019

Professor Peter Petersen

Anish Chedalavada

Exercise 1 (Problem 6).

Proof. a) Consider the case of an arbitrary 2-form, expressible in a basis as: $\omega_1 e_1 \wedge e_2 + \omega_2 e_2 \wedge e_3 + \omega_3 e_3 \wedge e_1$
Given a solution to the equations

$$\omega_1 = a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2$$

$$\omega_2 = a_1 b_3 - a_3 b_1$$

$$\omega_3 = a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1$$

We have that $(a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2 + a_3 e_3) \wedge (b_1 e_1 + b_2 e_2 + b_3 e_3) = (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) e_1 \wedge e_2 + (a_1 b_3 - a_3 b_1) e_2 \wedge e_3 + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) e_3 \wedge e_1 = \omega_1 e_1 \wedge e_2 + \omega_2 e_2 \wedge e_3 + \omega_3 e_3 \wedge e_1$. As given any vector in \mathbb{R}^3 we may obtain two vectors that are orthogonal to it and thus that cross product to it, we have that the above system of equations has a solution, and thus any 2-form may be expressed as an indecomposable one. \square