

Beatles

Table Edited by

[illegible]



Let It Be

Lennon/McCartney

Arranged & tabled by
Nicola Mandorino (2010)

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MAT 367S – Midterm Exam #2

1:10 – 2:00, March 23, 2015

No tools allowed.

Problem #1: [4+5=9 points]

a) Find the flow $\Phi_t(x)$ of the vector field

$$-x \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

on \mathbb{R} .

The corresponding differential equation is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -x.$$

Its solution $x(t)$ with initial condition $x(0) = x_0$ reads as

$$x(t) = e^{-t}x_0.$$

That is, the flow is $\Phi_t(x_0) = e^{-t}x_0$. Dropping the zero from the notation,

$$\Phi_t(x) = e^{-t}x.$$

b) Find the flow $\Phi_t(x, y)$ of the vector field

$$x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

on \mathbb{R}^2 .

Similar to part a, the ODE is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = -y.$$

Solution $\gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ with initial condition (x_0, y_0) is

$$x(t) = e^t x_0, \quad y(t) = e^{-t} y_0,$$

from which we read off the flow $\Phi_t(x_0, y_0) = (e^t x_0, e^{-t} y_0)$, or $\Phi_t(x, y) = (e^t x, e^{-t} y)$.

Problem #2: [4+5+5=14 points]

a) Show that

$$\Phi_t(x) = x + tx$$

cannot possibly be the flow of a vector field X on \mathbb{R} .

Doesn't have the flow property $\Phi_{t_1+t_2}(x) = \Phi_{t_1}(\Phi_{t_2}(x))$.

b) Show that the function

$$\Phi(t, x) = \left(\sqrt{x} + t\right)^2,$$

is the flow $\Phi_t(x) = \Phi(t, x)$ of a vector field on $\{x \mid x > 0\} \subset \mathbb{R}$. (The vector field is not complete; please don't worry about the domain of definition of the flow.)

Check the flow property $\Phi_{t_1+t_2}(x) = \Phi_{t_1}(\Phi_{t_2}(x))$.

c) Find the vector field on $\{x \mid x > 0\} \subset \mathbb{R}$ having the flow described in part b).

We calculate, for a smooth function f

$$\begin{aligned} X(f)(x) &= \frac{d}{dt}\bigg|_{t=0} f(\Phi_t(x)) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt}\bigg|_{t=0} f\left((\sqrt{x} + t)^2\right) \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{d}{dt}\bigg|_{t=0} (\sqrt{x} + t)^2 \quad (\text{by chain rule}) \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} (2(\sqrt{x} + t))\bigg|_{t=0} \\ &= 2\sqrt{x} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $X = 2\sqrt{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$.

Problem #3: [6 points]

Consider the following coordinate transformation on \mathbb{R}^2 ,

$$u = x + 2y, \quad v = y - 3x.$$

Express the coordinate vector fields

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

for the $x - y$ -coordinates in terms of the coordinate vector fields

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$$

for the $u - v$ coordinates.

Use

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial v},$$

and similar.

Problem #4: [5 points] Compute the Lie bracket $[X, Y]$ of the following two vector fields on \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$X = x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + z \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad Y = x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + y \frac{\partial}{\partial x}.$$

The answer is

$$[X, Y] = z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial y}.$$

Problem #5: [6 points]

Let $S \subset M$ be a submanifold. A vector field $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ is said to *vanish along S* if $X_p = 0$ for all $p \in S$.

Show that if $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ are two vector fields such that X vanishes along S , and Y is tangent to S , then $[X, Y]$ vanishes along S .

Use ‘related vector fields’: Let $i: S \rightarrow M$ be the inclusion map. Then Y being tangent to S means that there exists a vector field Z on S with $Z \sim_i Y$, while X vanishing along S means that $0 \sim_i X$. We have

$$0 \sim_i X, \quad Z \sim_i Y \quad \Rightarrow \quad 0 = [0, Z] \sim_i [X, Y],$$

which means that $[X, Y]$ vanishes along S .