

1 Differentiable Manifolds

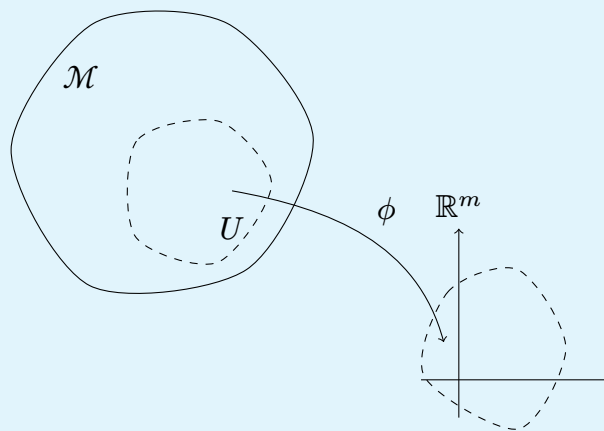
1.1 Definition

1.1.1 Coordinate Charts

Definition 1.1 (Coordinate Charts).

An m -dimensional, $m \neq \infty$ coordinate chart on a topological space \mathcal{M} is a pair

$$(U, \phi) \begin{cases} U \subseteq \mathcal{M}, U \text{ open} \\ \phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, \phi \text{ homeomorphism} \end{cases}$$



✍ Remark.

If $U = \mathcal{M}$, then we say the coordinate chart ϕ is globally defined; if not, then it is locally defined. Few manifolds have globally defined property. \square

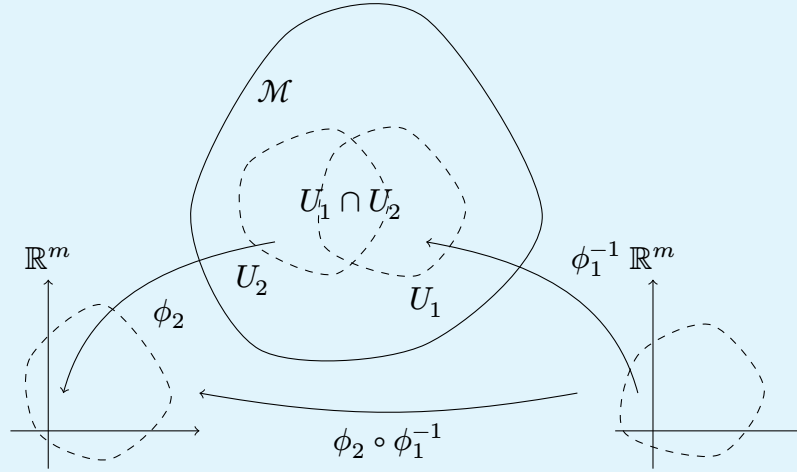
✍ Remark.

The basic method of studying manifolds is to analyze it in the familiar Euclidean space via coordinate charts. \square

Definition 1.2 (Overlap Function).

Let $(U_1, \phi_1), (U_2, \phi_2)$ be a pair of m -dimensional coordinate charts with $U_1 \cap U_2 \neq \emptyset$. Then the overlap function is defined as

$$\phi_2 \circ \phi_1^{-1} : \phi_1(U_1 \cap U_2) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \phi_2(U_1 \cap U_2) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m.$$

**Definition 1.3 (Atlas).**

An m -dimensional atlas on \mathcal{M} is a family of m -dimensional coordinate charts $(U_i, \phi_i), i \in I$ s.t.

1. $\mathcal{M} = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$.
2. Each overlap function $\phi_j \circ \phi_i^{-1}, i, j \in I$ is C^∞ .

Definition 1.4 (Differentiable Manifolds).

An m -dimensional differentiable manifold is a topological space \mathcal{M} equipped with an atlas.

✂ Remark.

We didn't define a differentiable manifold by regulating the differentiability of the coordinate charts themselves. That's because differentiation is not defined on a manifold, so we need to rely on Euclidean spaces. \square

1.2 Dimension of a Manifold

✂ Remark.

Consider a manifold that consists of a rod attached to a disk. The dimension is not same everywhere. We give a criterion on how to describe such a scenario. \square

Theorem 1.1 (Invariance of Domain).

For all $A, B \subseteq S^n$, if $\exists f : A \rightarrow B$ homeomorphic and $B \in \tau_{S^n}$, then $A \in \tau_{S^n}$ too.

✂ Remark.

Theorem 1.1 is an early theorem in algebraic topology. \square

Corollary 1.1.1 (Dimension is Well-defined).

Given $U \in \tau_{\mathbb{R}^n}, U' \in \tau_{\mathbb{R}^{n'}}$, and if $\exists f : U \rightarrow U'$ homeomorphic, then $n = n'$.

Proof. If $n = n'$, it is trivially true.

If $n < n'$, embed \mathbb{R}^n to $\mathbb{R}^{n'}$ by $f : \vec{x} \mapsto (\vec{x}, \vec{0})$. Via stereographic projection, we can map homeomorphically

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : U &\mapsto V \subseteq S^{n'}, \\ \phi' : U' &\mapsto V' \subseteq S^{n'}.\end{aligned}$$

Since the compositions are also homeomorphic, we see V and V' are homeomorphic. However, V' is not an open subset of $\mathbb{R}^{n'}$ because of the 0's, contradicting **Theorem 1.1**. \times \square

✂ **Remark.**

Since the definition of a differentiable manifold requires every overlap function to be diffeomorphic, if $U \cap U' \neq \emptyset$, their dimensions must be equal via the above corollary. We can bypass this by demanding $U \cap U' = \emptyset$, as in the rod and disk case. □

Corollary 1.1.2.

If $g : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a continuous injection and $V \in \tau_{\mathbb{R}^n}$, then $g(V)$ is homeomorphic to V , and $g(V) \in \tau_{\mathbb{R}^n}$.

Proof. On $g(V)$, g is surjective and therefore a homeomorphism. Use stereographic projection and the result is obvious. □

1.3 Coordinate Functions

Definition 1.5 (Coordinate Functions).

The coordinate functions are the (Euclidean) components of coordinate.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : U &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m & p &\mapsto \phi(p), \\ \phi^\mu : U &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} & \text{s.t. } \phi(p) &= \begin{pmatrix} \phi^1(p) \\ \vdots \\ \phi^m(p) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

An alternative notation is

$$x^\mu := \phi^\mu.$$

✍ **Remark.**

There are (Euclidean) projection functions,

$$u^\mu : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

But I think mention it will cause a lot of confusion. Just remember in the future when we say $\frac{\partial}{\partial u^\mu}$, we are referring to the Euclidean partial derivative wrt the μ -th component. ✍

1.4 Manifold With Boundary

1.4.1 Generalized Coordinate Charts

Definition 1.6 (Generalized Coordinate Charts).

A generalized coordinate chart allows chart that

$$\phi : U \rightarrow \phi(U) \subseteq (-\infty, 0] \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1},$$

U is open, and ϕ is homeomorphic.

✍ **Remark.**

Essentially, this allows a chart to map to "half planes". In this case, even if a set $\phi(U)$ contains $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ and therefore not open in the Euclidean topology of \mathbb{R}^n , it is still considered open in the product topology of $(-\infty, 0] \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$. ✍

Definition 1.7 (Manifold With Boundary).

A manifold with boundary is a manifold whose atlas consists of generalized coordinate charts.

Definition 1.8 (Boundary Points of a Manifold).

For all $p \in \mathcal{M}$ is a boundary point of a manifold with boundary \mathcal{M} if $\exists \phi_\alpha \in \Phi$ atlas s.t. $\phi_\alpha^1(p) = 0$.

The set of all boundary points of \mathcal{M} is denoted $\partial\mathcal{M}$.

1.4.2 Boundary is Well-defined**✍ Remark.**

A natural question regarding **Definition 1.8** is that, the definition only asks for existence, but it does not guarantee the existence of

$$\exists \phi_\alpha, \phi_\beta \text{ s.t. } \phi_\alpha^1(p) = 0, \phi_\beta^1(p) \neq 0.$$

We resolve this in the following.

□

Theorem 1.2.

Suppose U, U' are open sets in the product topology $(-\infty, 0] \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$, and $\exists f : U \rightarrow U'$ homeomorphic. Then

$$f(U \cap (\{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1})) = U' \cap (\{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}).$$

Proof. We show instead that

$$f(U \cap ((-\infty, 0) \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1})) = U' \cap ((-\infty, 0) \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}).$$

Via **Corollary 1.1.2**, we see $f(U \cap ((-\infty, 0) \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}))$ must be an open set in the Euclidean topology of \mathbb{R}^n . Therefore, it cannot contain $\{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$. ▣

Corollary 1.2.1 (Boundary is Well-defined).

$\forall p \in \mathcal{M}$, if $\exists \phi_\alpha^1(p) = 0$, then $\forall \phi \in \Phi$ atlas, $\phi^1(p) = 0$.

Proof. Make use of the fact that $\phi \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1}$ is a homeomorphism. ▣

2 Tangent Spaces

✍ Remark.

The definition of manifold do not require the entity to be embedded in a higher dimensional space. Therefore, the traditional view of tangency is not valid here.

✍

2.1 Curves and Vectors

Definition 2.1 (Curve).

A curve on \mathcal{M} is a C^∞ map,

$$\sigma : (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}.$$

Definition 2.2 (Curve Tangency).

Two curves σ_1, σ_2 are tangent at $p \in \mathcal{M}$ if

1. $\sigma_1(0) = \sigma_2(0) = p$.
2. $\frac{d}{dt}(x^i \circ \sigma_1(t))\big|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt}(x^i \circ \sigma_2(t))\big|_{t=0}, 1 \leq i \leq m$.

✍ Remark.

Written more compactly,

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_1)\big|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_2)\big|_{t=0}$$

✍

Definition 2.3 (Tangent Vectors).

A tangent vector at $p \in \mathcal{M}$ is an equivalence class of curves where the equivalence relation is that they are tangent. It will be denoted as

$$v = [\sigma].$$

Definition 2.4 (Tangent Space).

The tangent space $T_p\mathcal{M}$ at point p is the set of all tangent vectors at point p .

Definition 2.5 (Tangent Bundle).

The tangent bundle $T\mathcal{M}$ is

$$T\mathcal{M} := \bigcup_{p \in \mathcal{M}} T_p\mathcal{M}.$$

2.2 Addition and Scalar Multiplication

Definition 2.6 (Addition and Scalar Multiplication).

Let $v_1 = [\sigma_1], v_2 = [\sigma_2] \in T_p\mathcal{M}$, and $r \in \mathbb{R}$. Then define

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 + v_2 &:= [\phi^{-1} \circ (\phi \circ \sigma_1 + \phi \circ \sigma_2)], \\ rv_1 &:= [\phi^{-1} \circ (r\phi \circ \sigma_1)]. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.1.

The definition **Definition 2.6** is well-defined. That is, they are independent of the choice of chart (U, ϕ) and σ_1, σ_2 as long as $v_1 = [\sigma_1]$ and $v_2 = [\sigma_2]$.

Therefore, $T_p\mathcal{M}$ is a real vector space.

Proof. Let $v_1 = [\sigma_1] = v'_1 := [\tau_1], v_2 = [\sigma_2] = v'_2 := [\tau_2]$. First check (1) of **Defini-**

tion 2.2,

$$\begin{aligned}(rv_1 + v_2)(0) &= (\phi^{-1} \circ (r\phi \circ \sigma_1(0) + \phi \circ \sigma_2(0))) \\ &= (\phi^{-1} \circ (r\phi \circ \tau_1(0) + \phi \circ \tau_2(0))) \\ &= (rv'_1 + v'_2)(0),\end{aligned}$$

since $\phi \circ \sigma_1(0) = \phi \circ \tau_1(0) = \phi(p)$ by equivalence, and the same for σ_2 .

Now consider

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ (rv_1 + v_2)) \right|_{t=0} &= \left. \frac{d}{dt}(r\phi \circ \sigma_1 + \phi \circ \sigma_2) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= r \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_1) \right|_{t=0} + \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_2) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= r \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \tau_1) \right|_{t=0} + \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \tau_2) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ (rv'_1 + v'_2)) \right|_{t=0},\end{aligned}$$

since $\left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_1) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \tau_1) \right|_{t=0}$ by equivalence, and the same for σ_2 . ▣

2.3 Curves and Derivation

Definition 2.7 (Directional Derivative).

For any $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $f \in C^\infty$, we define

$$v(f) := \left. \frac{d}{dt}(f \circ \sigma(t)) \right|_{t=0},$$

where $v = [\sigma]$.

Theorem 2.2.

The definition **Definition 2.7** is well-defined. That is, $v(f)$ is independent of the curve σ chosen as well as $v = [\sigma]$.

Proof. Let $v_1 = [\sigma_1] = [\sigma_2] = v_2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}v_1(f) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt}(f \circ \sigma_1) \right|_{t=0}, \\ v_2(f) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt}(f \circ \sigma_2) \right|_{t=0},\end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_1) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt}(\phi \circ \sigma_2) \right|_{t=0}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} v_1(f) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \left(\underbrace{(f \circ \phi^{-1})}_{\mathbb{R} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}^m} \circ \underbrace{(\phi \circ \sigma_1)}_{\mathbb{R}^m \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} \right) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= (f \circ \phi^{-1})' \circ (\phi \circ \sigma_1) \cdot (\phi \circ \sigma_1)' \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= (f \circ \phi^{-1})' \circ (\phi \circ \sigma_2) \cdot (\phi \circ \sigma_2)' \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= v_2(f), \end{aligned}$$

since $\phi \circ \sigma_1(0) = \phi \circ \sigma_2(0) = \phi(p)$, and $(\phi \circ \sigma_1)' = (\phi \circ \sigma_2)'$ by equivalence. \square

2.4 Isomorphism with Euclidean Spaces

Definition 2.8 ("Straight Lines").

Choose a coordinate chart $\phi \in \Phi$ atlas near p . For all $v \in \mathbb{R}^m$, we define

$$\gamma_v^\phi(t) := \phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + tv).$$

In simple words, it is such a curve on manifold that it is a straight line on maps.

Theorem 2.3 (Isomorphism with Straight Lines).

Let $p \in \mathcal{M}$, $p \in \phi \in \Phi$. For any curve γ passing through p , $\exists! v \in \mathbb{R}^m$ s.t. γ is tangent to γ_v^ϕ , where v can be explicitly given by $(\phi \circ \gamma)'(0)$.

In other words, the map

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_p^\phi : \mathbb{R}^m &\rightarrow T_p \mathcal{M} \\ v &\mapsto [\gamma_v^\phi] \end{aligned}$$

is a bijection with inverse

$$\begin{aligned} (\ell_p^\phi)^{-1} : T_p \mathcal{M} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \\ [\gamma] &\mapsto (\phi \circ \gamma)'(0). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. It is almost by definition that γ is tangent to $(\phi \circ \gamma)'(0)$.

Suppose v_1, v_2 satisfies γ is tangent to $\gamma_{v_1}^\phi, \gamma_{v_2}^\phi$. Then they are tangent too. So

$$(\phi \circ \gamma_{v_1}^\phi)'(0) = (\phi \circ \gamma_{v_2}^\phi)'(0).$$

Therefore, $v_1 = v_2$. ▣

✍ Remark.

A natural question is that whether two charts behave "the same" if $U_1 \cap U_2 \neq \emptyset$. Under this perspective, the criterion is clear: we need only to check whether a straight line is still a straight line in another chart, which is true indeed. It also produces the coordinate transformation formula for free. ▣

Theorem 2.4 (Coordinate Transformation of Straight Lines).

Choose $\phi, \psi \in \Phi$, $\phi : U_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, $\psi : U_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ s.t. $U_1 \cap U_2 \neq \emptyset$ and $p \in U_1 \cap U_2$. Let the corresponding straight line isomorphisms ℓ_p^ϕ, ℓ_p^ψ . Then $(\ell_p^\psi)^{-1} \circ \ell_p^\phi$ is a linear isomorphism.

Let the local coordinates induced by ϕ be x^1, \dots, x^m , ψ be y^1, \dots, y^m , then $(\ell_p^\psi)^{-1} \circ \ell_p^\phi$ can be expressed in terms of Jacobian, namely,

$$(\ell_p^\psi)^{-1} \circ \ell_p^\phi(v) = J_{\psi \circ \phi^{-1}}(\phi(p))v.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} (\ell_p^\psi)^{-1} \circ \ell_p^\phi(v) &= (\ell_p^\psi)^{-1}(\phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + vt)) \\ &= ((\psi \circ \phi^{-1})(\phi(p) + vt))'(0) \\ &= J_{\psi \circ \phi^{-1}}(\phi(p))v \end{aligned}$$
▣

Definition 2.9 (Alternative Definition for Addition).

For $v_1, v_2 \in T_p \mathcal{M}$, we define addition via the isomorphism Theorem 2.3,

$$v_1 + v_2 := (\ell_p^\phi)^{-1}(\ell_p^\phi(v_1) + \ell_p^\phi(v_2)).$$

Definition 2.10 (Alternative Definition of Basis Tangent Vectors).

$$(\partial_\mu)_p := \ell_p^\phi(e^\mu).$$

Theorem 2.5 (Linear Independence of Basis Tangent Vectors).

The basis tangent vectors $(\partial_\mu)_p, 1 \leq \mu \leq \dim \mathcal{M}$ are linear independent.

Proof. Suppose $a^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p = 0$. Then

$$a^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p (x^\nu) = a^\mu \delta^\nu_\mu = 0(x^\nu) = 0.$$

So $a^\mu = 0$. ▣

Theorem 2.6 (Coordinate Expansion of Tangent Vectors).

For all $v \in D_p \mathcal{M}$, we have

$$v = v^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p,$$

where Einstein notation was used, and $v^\mu = v(x^\mu)$.

2.5 Pushforward

2.5.1 Definition and Linearity

✍ **Remark.**

The pushforward $h_* : T_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_{h(p)} \mathcal{N}$ of a specific function $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ can be thought of as local linearization of the function. ▣

Definition 2.11 (Pushforward).

Given a function $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ and $v \in T_p \mathcal{M}$, then we define the pushforward $h_* : T_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_{h(p)} \mathcal{N}$ by

$$h_*(v) := [h \circ \sigma], \quad v = [\sigma].$$

Theorem 2.7.

The pushforward operation **Definition 2.11** is well-defined. That is, $h_*(v_1) = h_*(v_2)$ if $v_1 = [\sigma_1] = [\sigma_2] = v_2$.

Theorem 2.8 (Algebraic Definition of Pushforward).

The definition of pushforward **Definition 2.11** is equivalent to the following: let $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, $h_* : D_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow D_{h(p)} \mathcal{N}$ is defined by,

$$(h_* v)(f) := v(f \circ h).$$

Proof. (\rightarrow)

$$\begin{aligned} h_*(v)(f) &= [h \circ \sigma](f) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ h \circ \sigma(t)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} ((f \circ h) \circ \sigma(t)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &:= v(f \circ h). \end{aligned}$$

(\leftarrow) This direction is similar. ▧

Theorem 2.9 (Linearity of Pushforward).

The pushforward map $h_* : T_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_{h(p)} \mathcal{N}$ is linear.

$$h_*(rv_1 + v_2) = rh_*(v_1) + h_*(v_2).$$

Proof. (Using **Definition 2.11**) Let $p \in (U, \phi) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$, and $h(p) \in (V, \psi) \subseteq \mathcal{N}$. Choose ϕ s.t. $\phi(p) = 0$. It is obvious that $h_*(rv_1 + v_2)(0) = (rh_*(v_1) + h_*(v_2))(0) = h(p)$.

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{(\psi \circ h_*(rv_1 + v_2))}_{\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow \mathcal{N} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} \right|_{t=0} &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \left(\underbrace{\psi \circ h \circ (\phi^{-1})}_{\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow \mathcal{N} \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}^m} \circ \underbrace{(r\phi \circ \sigma_1 + \phi \circ \sigma_2)}_{\mathbb{R}^m \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} \right) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= (\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})' \circ (r\phi \circ \sigma_1 + \phi \circ \sigma_2) \cdot (r\phi \circ \sigma_1 + \phi \circ \sigma_2)' \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= (\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})'(0) \cdot ((r\phi \circ \sigma_1)' + (\phi \circ \sigma_2)') \Big|_{t=0}. \end{aligned}$$

And

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left. \frac{d}{dt} \left(\underbrace{\psi \circ (rh_*(v_1) + h_*(v_2))}_{\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow \mathcal{N} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} \right) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \left(\underbrace{r\psi \circ h \circ \sigma_1 + \psi \circ h \circ \sigma_2}_{\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow \mathcal{N} \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} \right) \right|_{t=0} \\
& = \left(\underbrace{r\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1}}_{\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow \mathcal{N} \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}^m} \circ \underbrace{\phi \circ \sigma_1}_{\mathbb{R}^m \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathbb{R}} + \psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1} \circ \phi \circ \sigma_2 \right)' \Big|_{t=0} \\
& = (r(\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})' \circ (\phi \circ \sigma_1) \cdot (\phi \circ \sigma_1)') \Big|_{t=0} \\
& \quad + ((\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})' \circ (\phi \circ \sigma_2) \cdot (\phi \circ \sigma_2)') \Big|_{t=0} \\
& = (\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})'(0) \cdot (r(\phi \circ \sigma_1)' + (\phi \circ \sigma_2)') \Big|_{t=0}.
\end{aligned}$$

So we see the two are equal.

(Using [Theorem 2.8](#))

$$\begin{aligned}
(h_*(rv_1 + v_2))(f) &= (rv_1 + v_2)(f \circ h) \\
&= rv_1(f \circ h) + v_2(f \circ h) \\
&= r(h_*v_1)f + (h_*v_2)f.
\end{aligned}$$

(Using straight line isomorphism: [Definition 2.9](#))

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
T_p \mathcal{M} & \xrightarrow{h_*} & T_{h(p)} \mathcal{N} \\
\ell_p^\phi \uparrow & & \uparrow \ell_{h(p)}^\psi \\
\mathbb{R}^m & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{R}^n
\end{array}$$

Since ℓ_p^ϕ and $\ell_{h(p)}^\psi$ are linear, to prove h_* is linear, we need only to show $\ell_{h(p)}^\psi \circ h_* \circ \ell_p^\phi$ is linear.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \ell_{h(p)}^\psi \circ h_* \circ \ell_p^\phi(v) \\
&= \ell_{h(p)}^\psi \circ h_*([\phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + tv)]) \\
&= \ell_{h(p)}^\psi([h \circ \phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + tv)]) \\
&= (\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + tv))'(0) \\
&= (\psi \circ h \circ \phi^{-1})'(\phi(p))v.
\end{aligned}$$

▣

Theorem 2.10 (Associativity of Pushforwards).

Given manifolds $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$ and $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, $k : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$, then

$$(k \circ h)_* = k_* \circ h_*.$$

2.5.2 Jacobian**Theorem 2.11 (Local Representative of Pushforward).**

Let $\dim \mathcal{M} = m$, $\dim \mathcal{N} = n$, $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, $\{x^1, \dots, x^m\}$ be the local coordinates of \mathcal{M} around p , and $\{y^1, \dots, y^n\}$ be the local coordinates of \mathcal{N} around $h(p)$. Then

$$h_* v = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \sum_{\nu=1}^n (\partial_\nu)_{h(p)} \frac{\partial h^\nu}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p v^\mu,$$

where $J^\nu_\mu := \frac{\partial h^\nu}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p := (\partial_\mu)_p (y^\nu \circ h)$ is the Jacobian matrix.

Proof. First expand v in terms of local coordinates and use linearity,

$$h_* v = h_* (v^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p) = v^\mu h_* ((\partial_\mu)_p).$$

Expand the result in local coordinates of \mathcal{N} ,

$$h_* ((\partial_\mu)_p) = \left(h_* (\partial_\mu)_p \right)^\nu (\partial_\nu)_{h(p)}.$$

Using [Theorem 2.8](#),

$$\begin{aligned} \left(h_* (\partial_\mu)_p \right)^\nu &= \left(h_* (\partial_\mu)_p \right) \circ y^\nu \\ &= (\partial_\mu)_p (y^\nu \circ h) \\ &:= (\partial_\mu)_p h^\nu. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$h_* ((\partial_\mu)_p) = (\partial_\mu)_p h^\nu (\partial_\nu)_{h(p)}.$$

And,

$$h_* v = v^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p h^\nu (\partial_\nu)_{h(p)}.$$



Theorem 2.12 (Using Curve to Pushforward).

Given $c : (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ a curve, and choose the coordinate chart of \mathbb{R} to be the identity, then

$$c_* \left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_0 = [c] \in T_p \mathcal{M}.$$

Proof. First we clarify what is $\left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_0$. Since on the trivial manifold \mathbb{R} there is only one coordinate, namely t , we need not specify the number. Also, considering our functions are scalar valued $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, this motivates us to write "total differential".

For all $f \in C^\infty$,

$$c_* \left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_0 f = \left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_0 (f \circ c).$$

Since the coordinate chart is the identity,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_0 (f \circ c) &= \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ c \circ I) \Big|_{I(t)=0} \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ c) \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= [c]f. \end{aligned}$$

▣

Theorem 2.13 (Contravariancy of Tangent Vectors).

The components of tangent vectors are contravariant, i.e., given two coordinate charts (U, ϕ) and (U', ϕ') s.t. $U \cap U' = S \neq \emptyset$, then on S ,

$$v'^\nu = \sum_{\mu=1}^m v^\mu \frac{\partial x'^\nu}{\partial x^\mu}.$$

Proof. Given that we have the local representative of pushforward at hand, consider the identity pushforward $\text{id}_* : T_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_p \mathcal{M}$,

$$\text{id}_* v = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \sum_{\nu=1}^m v^\mu \frac{\partial x'^\nu}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p (\partial_{\nu'})_p.$$

We see immediately that the result holds.

▣

3 Vector Fields

3.1 Definition

Definition 3.1 (Vector Fields).

A vector field X on \mathcal{M} is a smooth assignment of a tangent vector $X_p \in T_p\mathcal{M} \ \forall p \in \mathcal{M}$.

”Smooth” assignment is defined to be that the Lie derivative **Definition 3.2** is smooth.

Definition 3.2 (Lie Derivative).

The Lie-derivative of function f with respect to vector field X is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}_X f := Xf,$$

and at a specific point $p \in \mathcal{M}$,

$$\mathcal{L}_X f(p) := Xf(p) := X_p f.$$

Theorem 3.1 (Properties of Lie Derivative).

The Lie derivative has the following properties,

1. $X(rf + g) = rXf + Xg$
2. $X(fg) = fXg + gXf$.

Theorem 3.2 (Component of Vector Field).

Given a chart (U, ϕ) on \mathcal{M} , we can write

$$X_U = X_U x^\mu \partial_\mu.$$

When the context is clear or **for convenience**, we write

$$X = X x^\mu \partial_\mu := X^\mu \partial_\mu.$$

Proof. We know

$$(Xf)(p) = X_p f = X_p x^\mu (\partial_\mu)_p f = (X x^\mu)(p) (\partial_\mu)_p f.$$

▣

✍ **Remark.**

∂_μ is a vector field that assigns each point $p \in \mathcal{M}$ with the vector $(\partial_\mu)_p \in T_p \mathcal{M}$.

□

Theorem 3.3 (Contravariancy of Vector Fields).

Given two coordinate charts (U, ϕ) and (U', ϕ') s.t. $U \cap U' = S \neq \emptyset$. On S ,

$$X^{\nu'} = \sum_{\mu=1}^m X^\mu \frac{\partial x'^\nu}{\partial x^\mu}.$$

Analogous to **Theorem 2.13**.

3.2 Lie Bracket

Definition 3.3 (Composition of Vector Fields).

We can view $X : C^\infty(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathcal{M})$, and so does Y . Therefore, we define

$$(X \circ Y)(f) := X(Yf).$$

Definition 3.4 (Lie Bracket (Commutator)).

We define the Lie Bracket of two vector fields X, Y to be

$$[X, Y] := X \circ Y - Y \circ X.$$

In particular,

$$[X, Y](f) = \mathcal{L}_X(\mathcal{L}_Y f) - \mathcal{L}_Y(\mathcal{L}_X f)$$

✍ Remark.

Lie Bracket **Definition 3.4** is a vector field, while the expression $X \circ Y$ is not, because it contains second differential terms. See the following proof.

□

Theorem 3.4 (Lie Bracket Components).

$$[X, Y]^\mu = (X^\nu \partial_\nu Y^\mu - Y^\nu \partial_\nu X^\mu).$$

Proof. Given $X = X^\mu \partial_\mu, Y = Y^\nu \partial_\nu$, we try to write the component of $X \circ Y$.

$$X \circ Y(f) = X^\mu \partial_\mu (Y^\nu \partial_\nu f).$$

However, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} Y^\nu &:= Y x^\nu \in C^\infty(\mathcal{M}); \\ \partial_\nu &: C^\infty(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathcal{M}), \\ \implies \partial_\nu f &\in C^\infty(\mathcal{M}). \end{aligned}$$

So we need to use the Leibniz property of ∂_μ ?? in order to evaluate the second term. Doing this for $X \circ Y(f)$ and $Y \circ X(f)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} X \circ Y(f) &= X^\mu ((\partial_\mu Y^\nu)(\partial_\nu f) + Y^\nu \partial_\mu \partial_\nu f). \\ Y \circ X(f) &= Y^\nu ((\partial_\nu X^\mu)(\partial_\mu f) + X^\mu \partial_\nu \partial_\mu f). \end{aligned}$$

So if $\partial_\mu \partial_\nu f = \partial_\nu \partial_\mu f$, then by subtracting, we can cancel the second order terms, and we are done. We prove so now.

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_\mu \partial_\nu f)(p) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial u^\mu} ((\partial_\nu f) \circ \phi^{-1}) \Big|_{\phi(p)} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial u^\mu} \left((\partial_\nu)_{\phi^{-1}(u)} f \right) \Big|_{\phi(p)} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial u^\mu} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u^\nu} (f \circ \phi^{-1}) \Big|_u \right) \Big|_{\phi(p)} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial u^\nu} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u^\mu} (f \circ \phi^{-1}) \Big|_u \right) \Big|_{\phi(p)} \\ &= (\partial_\nu \partial_\mu f)(p). \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 3.5 (Properties of Lie Brackets).

1. $[X, Y] = -[Y, X]$ (antisymmetry)
2. $\sum_{\text{cyc}} [X, [Y, Z]] = 0$. (Jacobi Identity)

3.3 Integral Curves and Flows

Definition 3.5 (Integral Curve).

Let X be a vector field on \mathcal{M} , $p \in \mathcal{M}$. Then an integral curve of X through p is a curve $\sigma : (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ s.t.

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(0) &= p, \\ \sigma_* \left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_t &= X_{\sigma(t)}.\end{aligned}$$

✍ **Remark.**

Qualitatively, using **Theorem 2.12**, this pushforward is just $[\sigma] \in T_{\sigma(t)}\mathcal{M}$. Therefore, the second condition is saying in some sense that the curve is tangent to the vector field on the manifold. For quantitative description, see below.

□

Definition 3.6 (Differential Equations of Integral Curve).

The components X^μ of X determine the integral curve σ by the following ODE with boundary conditions,

$$\begin{aligned}X^\mu(\sigma(t)) &= \frac{d}{dt}x^\mu(\sigma(t)) \\ x^\mu(\sigma(0)) &= x^\mu(p), \mu = 1, 2, \dots, m.\end{aligned}$$

3.3.1 One-parameter Family of Diffeomorphisms

Definition 3.7 (Local 1D Family of Local Diffeomorphisms).

A local, 1D family of local diffeomorphisms at $p \in \mathcal{M}$ is made up of (1) an open neighborhood U of p , (2) $\epsilon > 0$ (3) a family of diffeomorphisms $\{ \phi_t \mid |t| < \epsilon \}$, $\phi_t : U \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ s.t.

1. Every ϕ_t is a smooth function in t and q .
2. $\forall t, s \in \mathbb{R}$ and $|t|, |s|, |t+s| < \epsilon$, and $\forall q \in U$ s.t. $\phi_t(q), \phi_s(q), \phi_{t+s}(q) \in U$, we have

$$\phi_s(\phi_t(q)) = \phi_{s+t}(q).$$

3. $\phi_0(q) = q$.

✍ Remark.

The first "local" refers to the parameter t , which is limited to $(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$. The second "local" refers to the spatial limitation to U . You can view $\phi_t(q)$ as a curve that brings $t \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)$ to $\phi_t(q) \in \mathcal{M}$.

□

Definition 3.8 (Induced Vector Field).

By taking tangents to the curve family [Definition 3.7](#), we have the induced vector field X^ϕ given by

$$X_q^\phi(f) := \left. \frac{d}{dt}(f(\phi_t(q))) \right|_{t=0}$$

Theorem 3.6.

The curve family $t \mapsto \phi_t(q)$ is the integral curve of the induced vector field [Definition 3.8](#) X_q^ϕ .

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} X_{\phi_s(q)}^\phi &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ \phi_t \circ \phi_s(q)) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ \phi_{t+s}(q)) \right|_{t=0}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $u = t + s$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_{\phi_s(q)}^\phi &= \left. \frac{d}{du} (f \circ \phi_u(q)) \right|_{u=s} \\ &= \phi_{q*} \left(\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_s \right) f. \end{aligned}$$

▣

3.3.2 Local Flows

Definition 3.9 (Local Flow).

Let X be a vector field on open $U \subseteq \mathcal{M}$, and $p \in U$. A local flow at p is a local one-parameter family of local diffeomorphisms **Definition 3.7** defined on some open $V \subseteq U$ s.t. $p \in V$ and the induced vector field **Definition 3.8** is X .

✍ **Remark.**

Local flows always exist and are unique. In contrast, global flows (which means $t \in \mathbb{R}$ instead of a restricted interval) may not exist.

▣

3.3.3 Lie Derivative

Theorem 3.7 (Interpretation of Lie Bracket).

If X, Y are two vector fields on \mathcal{M} , and define the following quantity, which can be interpreted as the change of Y when following the integral curves of X , as

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} (\phi_{-t*}^X(Y)) \right|_{t=0} := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\phi_{-\epsilon*}^X(Y_{\phi_\epsilon^X(p)}) - Y_p}{\epsilon}.$$

Then,

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} (\phi_{-t*}^X(Y)) \right|_{t=0} = [X, Y].$$

4 Cotangent Spaces

4.1 Cotangent Vectors

Definition 4.1 (Cotangent Spaces).

The cotangent space $T_p^*\mathcal{M}$ at $p \in \mathcal{M}$ is the set of all linear functions $f : T_p\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Its member is called a cotangent vector.

$$\dim T_p^*\mathcal{M} = \dim T_p\mathcal{M}.$$

Definition 4.2 (One-Form).

A one-form on \mathcal{M} is a smooth assignment of cotangent vectors $\omega : p \mapsto \omega_p$.

It may be understood as a covector field.

Definition 4.3 (Basis Cotangent Vectors).

The basis cotangent vectors is chosen to be the dual basis of the basis tangent vectors ??,

$$(dx^\mu)_p((\partial_\nu)_p) = \delta^\mu_\nu.$$

Theorem 4.1 (Coordinate Expression of Cotangent Vectors).

Any $f \in T_p^*\mathcal{M}$ can be expanded as

$$f = f_\mu (dx^\mu)_p.$$

Any one-form ω can be expressed as

$$\omega = \omega_\mu dx^\mu.$$

4.2 Pullback

4.2.1 Definition

Definition 4.4 (Pullback).

Given a function and its pushforward, we define pullback to be the dual of pushforward, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} h : \mathcal{M} &\rightarrow \mathcal{N}, \\ h_* : T_p \mathcal{M} &\rightarrow T_{h(p)} \mathcal{N}, \\ h^* : T_{h(p)}^* \mathcal{N} &\rightarrow T_p^* \mathcal{M}, \end{aligned}$$

s.t. given $f \in T_{h(p)}^* \mathcal{N}$ and $v \in T_p \mathcal{M}$,

$$(h^* f)(v) := f(h_* v).$$

✍ Remark.

Note especially on the direction of original function and its induced pullback. This is crucial to the covariancy of one-forms. ⌘

Theorem 4.2.

Given ω a one-form on \mathcal{N} , and a function $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, the pullback $h^* \omega$ is defined as

$$(h^* \omega)(v)_p = \omega(h_* v)_{h(p)}.$$

Theorem 4.3 (Associativity of Pullbacks).

Analogous to [Theorem 2.10](#), given manifolds $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$ and $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, $k : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$, then

$$(k \circ h)^* = k^* \circ h^*.$$

4.2.2 Jacobian

Theorem 4.4 (Local Representative of Pullback).

Let $\dim \mathcal{M} = m$, $\dim \mathcal{N} = n$, $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, $\{x^1, \dots, x^m\}$ be the local coordinates of \mathcal{M} around p , and $\{y^1, \dots, y^n\}$ be the local coordinates of \mathcal{N} around $h(p)$. Then

$$h^*\omega = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \sum_{\nu=1}^n \omega_\nu \frac{\partial h^\nu}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p (dx^\mu)_p,$$

where $J^\nu_\mu := \frac{\partial h^\nu}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p := (\partial_\mu)_p (y^\nu \circ h)$ is the Jacobian matrix.

Proof. We know by [Definition 4.4](#),

$$(h^*\omega)_\mu(p) = h^*\omega(\partial_\mu) = \omega(h_*\partial_\mu).$$

Expand it in local coordinates of \mathcal{N} ,

$$(h^*\omega)_\mu(p) = \omega_\nu dy^\nu(h_*\partial_\mu).$$

Via similar procedure in [Theorem 2.11](#), we arrive at

$$(h^*\omega)_\mu(p) = \omega_\nu \frac{\partial h^\nu}{\partial x^\mu}.$$

▣

4.3 Transformation Properties

Theorem 4.5 (Covariancy and Contravariancy).

Given two coordinate charts (U, ϕ) and (U', ϕ') s.t. $U \cap U' = S \neq \emptyset$, then on S ,

$$X^{\nu'} = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \frac{\partial x'^{\nu}}{\partial x^{\mu}} X^{\mu},$$

$$\omega_{\nu'} = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \omega_{\mu} \frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial x'^{\nu}}.$$

If Jacobian matrix is given,

$$J^{\nu'}_{\mu} := \left. \frac{\partial x'^{\nu}}{\partial x^{\mu}} \right|_p := (\partial_{\mu})_p x'^{\nu},$$

$$(J^{-1})^{\mu}_{\nu'} := \left. \frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial x'^{\nu}} \right|_p := (\partial_{\nu'})_p x^{\mu},$$

then,

$$X^{\nu'} = J^{\nu'}_{\mu} X^{\mu}, \quad (\text{contravariant})$$

$$\omega_{\nu'} = \omega_{\mu} (J^{-1})^{\mu}_{\nu'}. \quad (\text{covariant})$$

Proof. The contravariant part is proved in [Theorem 2.13](#). Now we turn to the covariant part.

Let $h = \text{id} : (U, \phi) \subseteq \mathcal{M} \rightarrow (U', \phi') \subseteq \mathcal{M}$, consider its pullback.

$$(\text{id}^* \omega)_p = \omega_{\nu'} \frac{\partial x'^{\nu}}{\partial x^{\mu}} dx^{\mu}.$$

Then,

$$\omega_{\mu} = \omega_{\nu'} \frac{\partial x'^{\nu}}{\partial x^{\mu}}.$$

Inverting the matrix equation above, we get the desired result. ▣

5 Tensors

Definition 5.1 (Tensors).

If $\dim \mathcal{M} \neq \infty$, the tensors of type (r, s) $T_p^{r,s} \mathcal{M}$ are all the linear functions

$$f : \bigotimes^r T_p^* \mathcal{M} \times \bigotimes^s T_p \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

I.e., it eats r covectors and s vectors.

Theorem 5.1 (Dimensions of General Tensor Space).

The dimension of $T_p^{r,s} \mathcal{M}$ is $m^r m^s$. In particular, a basis for the space is,

$$\bigotimes_{1 \leq \mu_1 \dots \mu_r \leq m} \left(\partial_{\mu_i} \right)_p \otimes \bigotimes_{1 \leq \nu_1 \dots \nu_s \leq m} (dx^{\nu_i})_p$$

✍ Remark.

For a detailed proof, see Hoffman.

□

6 n-Forms

6.1 Definition

Definition 6.1 (n-Forms).

An n-form is a tensor field of type $(0, n)$ that is totally skew-symmetric (or alternating, or totally antisymmetric), i.e.,

$$\omega(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = (\text{sgn } \sigma) \omega(X_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma(n)}), \quad \forall \sigma \in S_n.$$

The set of all n-forms on \mathcal{M} is denoted as $\Lambda^n(\mathcal{M})$.

The set of all forms is $\Lambda(\mathcal{M}) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\dim \mathcal{M}} \Lambda^n(\mathcal{M})$.

Conventionally, we classify functions as 0-forms.

6.2 The Exterior Product

Definition 6.2 (Exterior Product).

Given $\omega_1 \in \Lambda^{n_1}(\mathcal{M})$, $\omega_2 \in \Lambda^{n_2}(\mathcal{M})$, their exterior product is a $(n_1 + n_2)$ -form given by,

$$\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 := \frac{1}{n_1! n_2!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n_1+n_2}} (\text{sgn } \sigma) (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2)_\sigma.$$

Written explicitly,

$$\begin{aligned} (\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2)(X_1, \dots, X_{n_1+n_2}) &:= \\ &\frac{1}{n_1! n_2!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n_1+n_2}} (\text{sgn } \sigma) (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2)(X_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma(n_1+n_2)}) \end{aligned}$$

✍ Remark.

I'll take the alternating property and associativity of the exterior product for granted. For a detailed proof, see Hoffman. □

Theorem 6.1 (Commutativity with Pullback).

Given $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda(\mathcal{N})$, then

$$h^*(\alpha \wedge \beta) = (h^*\alpha) \wedge (h^*\beta).$$

✍ Remark.

For a "generalized" pullback, we have,

$$(h^*(\alpha))(X_1, \dots, X_{n_1}) = \alpha(h_*X_1, \dots, h_*X_{n_1}).$$

□

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} & (h^*\alpha) \wedge (h^*\beta) \\ &= \frac{1}{n_1!n_2!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n_1+n_2}} (\text{sgn } \sigma) \alpha \otimes \beta(h_*X_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, h_*X_{\sigma(n_1+n_2)}). \\ &= \frac{1}{n_1!n_2!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n_1+n_2}} (\text{sgn } \sigma) h^* \left(\alpha \otimes \beta(X_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma(n_1+n_2)}) \right). \\ &= h^* \left(\frac{1}{n_1!n_2!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n_1+n_2}} (\text{sgn } \sigma) \alpha \otimes \beta(X_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma(n_1+n_2)}) \right). \\ &= h^*(\alpha \wedge \beta). \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 6.2 (Skew-Symmetry).

The exterior product makes $\Lambda(\mathcal{M})$ a graded algebra with skew-symmetry given by

$$\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 = (-1)^{n_1 n_2} \omega_2 \wedge \omega_1.$$

Proof. In the definition of exterior product, first fix $\sigma = \sigma_0$ to consider only one term.

When we switch ω_1 and ω_2 , we are essentially doing

$$\begin{aligned} & (\omega_2 \otimes \omega_1)(X_{\sigma_0(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma_0(n_2)}, \underbrace{X_{\sigma_0(n_2+1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma_0(n_1+n_2)}}_{\text{...}}) \\ &= (\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2)(\underbrace{X_{\sigma_0(n_2+1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma_0(n_1+n_2)}}_{\text{...}}, X_{\sigma_0(1)}, \dots, X_{\sigma_0(n_2)}). \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\underbrace{1, 2, \dots, n_2}_{\text{...}}, \underbrace{n_2 + 1, \dots, n_1 + n_2}_{\text{...}}$$

\downarrow n_2 times

$$\underbrace{n_2 + 1, \dots, n_1 + n_2}_{\text{...}}, \underbrace{1, 2, \dots, n_2}_{\text{...}}$$

\downarrow $(n_1 - 1)n_2$ times

$$\underbrace{n_2 + 1, \dots, n_1 + n_2}_{\text{...}}, \underbrace{1, 2, \dots, n_2}_{\text{...}}$$

So $n_1 n_2$ transposes can achieve the desired effect. Therefore, every term in the summation is multiplied by $(-1)^{n_1 n_2}$, and we get the desired result. \square

Theorem 6.3 (Dimension of n-Forms).

Let $\dim \mathcal{M} = m$. If $1 \leq n \leq m$, then $\Lambda^n(\mathcal{M}) = \binom{m}{n}$. If $n > m$, then $\Lambda^n(\mathcal{M}) = 0$.

Moreover, a basis for $\Lambda^n(\mathcal{M})_p$ is given by,

$$(dx^{\mu_1})_p \wedge (dx^{\mu_2})_p \wedge \dots \wedge (dx^{\mu_n})_p, \quad 1 \leq \mu_1 \leq \dots \leq \mu_n \leq m.$$

✍ Remark.

The proof is quite a pleasure to read (and to think of). Please see Hoffman. \square

6.3 The Exterior Derivative

Definition 6.3 (Exterior Derivative).

Let ω be an n -form on \mathcal{M} , $1 \leq n < \dim \mathcal{M}$. Then the exterior derivative $d\omega$ is a $(n+1)$ -form. Let $d\omega(\mathbf{X}) = d\omega(X_1, \dots, X_{n+1})$, then

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega(\mathbf{X}) := & \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} (-1)^{i+1} \mathcal{L}_{X_i}(\omega(\mathbf{X} \setminus \{X_i\})) \\ & + \sum_{i < j} (-1)^{i+j} \omega([X_i, X_j], \mathbf{X} \setminus \{X_i, X_j\}). \end{aligned}$$

If $\omega \in \Lambda^{\dim \mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{M})$, we define $d\omega = 0$.

Theorem 6.4.

In particular for a 0-form $f \in C^\infty(\mathcal{M})$,

$$df(X) := \mathcal{L}_X f.$$

In coordinates,

$$df = (\partial_\mu f)(dx^\mu).$$

Theorem 6.5.

In particular for a 1-form ω ,

$$d\omega(X, Y) = \mathcal{L}_X(\omega(Y)) - \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(X)) - \omega([X, Y]).$$

Theorem 6.6 (Coordinate Expansion for Exterior Derivative).

In local coordinates, if $\omega = \omega_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} dx^{\mu_1} \wedge dx^{\mu_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\mu_n}$, then

$$d\omega = \partial_\nu \omega_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} dx^\nu \wedge dx^{\mu_1} \wedge dx^{\mu_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\mu_n}$$

Theorem 6.7 (Exterior Derivative and Product).

$$d(\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2) = d\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 + (-1)^{\deg \omega_1} \omega_1 \wedge d\omega_2.$$

Theorem 6.8 (Exterior Derivative and Pullback).

Given $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$, ω an n -form on \mathcal{N} , then

$$d(h^*\omega) = h^*(d\omega).$$

Theorem 6.9 (Functional Linearity of Exterior Derivative).

Let ω be a 1-form on \mathcal{M} . Then $d\omega$ satisfies,

$$d\omega(fX, Y) = fd\omega(X, Y), \quad \forall f \in C^\infty(\mathcal{M}),$$

where fX is a vector field that gives $(fX)(p) = f(p)X_p$.

Proof. By **Definition 6.3**,

$$d\omega(fX, Y) = \mathcal{L}_{fX}(\omega(Y)) - \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(fX)) - \omega([fX, Y]).$$

We break it down term by term. Firstly,

$$(\mathcal{L}_{fX}(\omega(Y)))(p) = f(p)X_p(\omega(Y)) = f(p)(\mathcal{L}_X(\omega(Y)))(p).$$

So

$$\mathcal{L}_{fX}(\omega(Y)) = f \cdot \mathcal{L}_X(\omega(Y)).$$

Secondly, we tackle $\mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(fX))$. In particular,

$$\omega(fX)(p) = \omega_p(f(p)X_p) = f(p)\omega_p(X_p) = f(p)(\omega(X))(p).$$

Therefore,

$$\mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(fX)) = \mathcal{L}_Y(f \cdot \omega(X)) = (\mathcal{L}_Y f)\omega(X) + f \cdot \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(X)).$$

Thirdly,

$$\omega([fX, Y]) = \omega((fX) \circ Y - Y \circ (fX)).$$

In particular,

$$((Y \circ (fX))(g))(p) = Y_p((fX)(g)) = Y_p(f \cdot Xg) = (Y_p f)((Xg)(p)) + f(p) \cdot Y_p(Xg).$$

So,

$$Y \circ (fX) = (\mathcal{L}_Y f)X + f \cdot Y \circ X.$$

Substituting back,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega([fX, Y]) &= \omega(f \cdot X \circ Y - (\mathcal{L}_Y f)X - f \cdot Y \circ X) \\ &= \omega(f[X, Y] - (\mathcal{L}_Y f)X) \\ &= f\omega([X, Y]) - (\mathcal{L}_Y f)\omega(X). \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega(fX, Y) &= \mathcal{L}_{fX}(\omega(Y)) - \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(fX)) - \omega([fX, Y]) \\ &= f \cdot \mathcal{L}_X(\omega(Y)) - (\mathcal{L}_Y f)\omega(X) - f \cdot \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(X)) - f\omega([X, Y]) + (\mathcal{L}_Y f)\omega(X) \\ &= f(\mathcal{L}_X(\omega(Y)) - \mathcal{L}_Y(\omega(X)) - \omega([X, Y])) \\ &= fd\omega(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

▣

Corollary 6.9.1 (Local Nature of Exterior Derivative).

When ω is fixed, the value of $d\omega$ depends only on the local values of vector fields.

$$d\omega(X, Y)(p) = X^\mu(p)Y^\nu(p)d\omega(\partial_\mu, \partial_\nu)(p).$$

Proof. Write $X = X^\mu \partial_\mu$, noting that $X^\mu \in C^\infty(\mathcal{M})$, and use **Theorem 6.9**. ▣

6.4 DeRham Cohomology

Theorem 6.10 (Twice Exterior Differential).

For all $\omega \in \Lambda^n(\mathcal{M})$, $1 \leq n \leq \dim M$, we have

$$d^2\omega = 0.$$

✍ Remark.

This means

$$\text{Im}(d : \Lambda^{n-1}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Lambda^n(\mathcal{M})) \subseteq \text{Ker}(d : \Lambda^n(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Lambda^{n+1}(\mathcal{M})).$$

This type of structure is called a differential complex, and is common in many structures. ✍

Definition 6.4 (Closed Form).

An n -form ω is closed if $d\omega = 0$. The set of all closed n -forms is denoted $Z^n(\mathcal{M})$.

Definition 6.5 (Exact Form).

An n -form ω is exact if $\omega = d\beta$ for some $(n-1)$ -form β . The set of all exact n -forms is denoted $B^n(\mathcal{M})$.

✍ Remark.

It is guaranteed that $B^n(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq Z^n(\mathcal{M})$, that is, exactness implies closure. But how much closed form is not exact is the study of cohomology theory. ✍

Theorem 6.11 (Poincare's Lemma).

On Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^m ,

$$B^n(\mathcal{M}) = Z^n(\mathcal{M}), \quad \forall n > 0.$$

Definition 6.6 (DeRham Cohomology Groups).

The DeRham cohomology groups $H^n(\mathcal{M}), 0 \leq n \leq \dim \mathcal{M}$ are the quotient spaces

$$H^n(\mathcal{M}) := Z^n(\mathcal{M})/B^n(\mathcal{M}).$$

✍ Remark.

Recall the definition of quotient groups that $H^n(\mathcal{M})$ consists of elements of form $z + B^n(\mathcal{M}), z \in Z^n(\mathcal{M})$.

If all closed forms are exact, $Z^n(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq B^n(\mathcal{M})$, then $H^n(\mathcal{M}) \cong \{0\}$. □

Theorem 6.12 (Criterion of Exact ODE).

On the Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^2 , given a 1-form $\omega = \omega_1 dx^1 + \omega_2 dx^2$. Then

$$\omega \in B^1(\mathbb{R}^2) \iff \partial_2 \omega_1 = \partial_1 \omega_2.$$

✍ Remark.

This is an important theorem to me, for it connects the "exactness of differential forms" to the familiar notion of "exactness of differential equations".

It also provides the first hints that we are actually integrating forms, and that exterior differentiation of a 0-form resembles gradient in usual vector calculus terms. □

Proof. Via Poincare lemma **Theorem 6.11**, on \mathbb{R}^2 , exactness is equivalent to closure. So we need only to determine the condition that $d\omega = 0$. Using **Theorem 6.6**,

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega &= \partial_\nu \omega_{\mu_1} dx^\nu \wedge dx^{\mu_1} \\ &= \partial_2 \omega_1 dx^2 \wedge dx^1 + \partial_1 \omega_2 dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \\ &= (\partial_2 \omega_1 - \partial_1 \omega_2) dx^2 \wedge dx^1. \end{aligned}$$

