

Math 635 Lecture 2

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Lemma: Let M be a C^∞ manifold. Assume $\forall p \in M$, we have a vector space \mathcal{E}_p (of dimension r). Let $\mathcal{E} = \bigsqcup_{p \in M} \mathcal{E}_p$, and $\pi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow M$ the natural projection, where $\mathcal{E}_p \mapsto p \in M$. Assume we're given $\{U_\alpha\}$, a cover of M , plus bijections χ_α such that $\forall \alpha$, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha) & \xrightarrow{\chi_\alpha} & U_\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^r \\ & \searrow \pi & \swarrow \\ & U_\alpha & \end{array}$$

i.e. $\chi_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_p) = \{p\} \times \mathbb{R}^r$.

Observe that this gives us $\forall \alpha, \beta$ s.t. $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$, a map $\tau_{\alpha, \beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow \text{GL}(r, \mathbb{R})$, by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) & \\ \chi_\alpha \swarrow & & \searrow \chi_\beta \\ (U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \times \mathbb{R}^r & \xrightarrow{\chi_\beta \circ \chi_\alpha^{-1}} & (U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \times \mathbb{R}^r \\ (p, v) & \mapsto & (p, \tau_{\alpha, \beta}(p)v) \\ p \in U_\alpha \cap U_\beta & & \\ v \in \mathbb{R}^r & & \end{array}$$

This mapping is a “change of trivialization”, like a transition map for vector bundles. The matrix of $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}$ depends on p , but it's always a linear map.

If, $\forall \alpha, \beta$, $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}$ is C^∞ , then there is a unique topology on \mathcal{E} , and a unique differentiable structure, that makes $\pi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow M$ a smooth vector bundle, and each χ_α is a diffeomorphism, i.e., a smooth local trivialization.

Observe: On triple intersections, $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \cap U_\gamma$, $\forall p$, one has $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}(p)\tau_{\beta, \gamma}(p) = \tau_{\alpha, \gamma}(p)$. This is called a “cocycle condition”.

Now, imagine starting with a cover $\{U_\alpha\}$ and C^∞ maps $\tau_{\alpha, \beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow \text{GL}(r, \mathbb{R})$ satisfying the cocycle condition. Then, if we choose, $\forall p$, $\mathcal{E}_p = \mathbb{R}^r$, and $\chi_\alpha = I_n$, then we get a vector bundle $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow M$. So $\{U_\alpha; \tau_{\alpha, \beta}\}$, called a Čech cocycle, is all we need to put together a vector bundle.

Now, we apply the lemma to construct new bundles from old ones.

Ex: Given $\mathcal{E}', \mathcal{E}'' \rightarrow M$ vector bundles, with ranks r' and r'' , respectively, define, $\forall p \in M$, $(\mathcal{E}' \oplus \mathcal{E}'')_p = \mathcal{E}'_p \oplus \mathcal{E}''_p$. Consider a cover $\{U_\alpha\}$ of M , and local trivializations for both \mathcal{E}' and \mathcal{E}'' . We get, $\forall \alpha$,

$$\begin{aligned} \chi'_\alpha &: (\pi')^{-1}(U_\alpha) \rightarrow U_\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^{r'} \\ \chi''_\alpha &: (\pi'')^{-1}(U_\alpha) \rightarrow U_\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^{r''} \end{aligned}$$

Now define $\pi : \mathcal{E}' \oplus \mathcal{E}'' \rightarrow M$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_\alpha &: \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha) \rightarrow U_\alpha \times (\mathbb{R}^{r'} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{r''}) \\ (p, (v', v'')) &\mapsto (p, (\chi'_\alpha(v'), \chi''_\alpha(v''))) \\ v' &\in \mathcal{E}'_p \\ v'' &\in \mathcal{E}''_p \end{aligned}$$

We have to check that the $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}$ are smooth. Note that $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}(p)$ will be a block diagonal matrix, and the two diagonal blocks vary smoothly, since χ_α and χ_β are diffeomorphisms. Thus, $\mathcal{E}' \oplus \mathcal{E}'' \rightarrow M$ is a natural bundle. This is called the Whitney direct sum or Whitney sum.

Observe:

- $\text{rank}(\mathcal{E}' \oplus \mathcal{E}'') = \text{rank}(\mathcal{E}') + \text{rank}(\mathcal{E}'')$
- $\dim(\mathcal{E}' \oplus \mathcal{E}'') = r' + r'' + n$, where n is the dimension of the total space.

Similarly, we can define $\mathcal{E}' \otimes \mathcal{E}'' \rightarrow M$ with fibers $(\mathcal{E}' \otimes \mathcal{E}'')_p = \mathcal{E}'_p \otimes \mathcal{E}''_p$. $\text{rank}(\mathcal{E}' \otimes \mathcal{E}'') = r' \cdot r''$, and $\dim(\mathcal{E}' \otimes \mathcal{E}'') = r' \cdot r'' + n$.

Review of Tensor Products

Defn: Let V, W be finite-dimensional vector spaces. Their tensor product $V \otimes W$ is the free vector space over $V \times W$, modulo an equivalence relation, \sim . The free vector space over $V \times W$ is the set of all formal finite linear combinations of pairs $(v, w) \in V \times W$, and \sim is defined such that

$$\begin{cases} (v_1 + v_2, w) \sim (v_1, w) + (v_2, w) \\ (\lambda v, w) \sim \lambda(v, w) \end{cases}$$

Notation: $\forall (v, w) \in V \times W, v \otimes w = [(v, w)]$.

Claim: If $(e_1, \dots, e_k), (f_1, \dots, f_\ell)$ are bases of V, W , then $\{e_i \otimes f_j \mid i \in \{1, \dots, k\}, j \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}\}$ is a basis of $V \otimes W$.

Cor: $\dim(V \otimes W) = \dim(V) \cdot \dim(W)$.

The universal property of $V \otimes W$: We have a bilinear map

$$\begin{aligned} V \times W &\rightarrow V \otimes W \\ (v, w) &\mapsto v \otimes w \end{aligned}$$

It's "universal" in that for any bilinear map, there's a unique linear map such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \times W & \xrightarrow{(v, w) \mapsto v \otimes w} & V \otimes W \\ \searrow \text{bilinear map} & & \swarrow \text{linear map} \\ & Z & \end{array}$$

There are other realizations of $V \otimes W$.

$$V \otimes W \cong \text{Hom}(V^*, W) \quad \text{where} \quad v \otimes w \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} V^* \rightarrow W \\ \alpha \mapsto \alpha(v)w \end{pmatrix}$$

This is completely natural – we don't need to choose a basis.

Cor: $V^* \otimes V^* \cong \text{Hom}((V^*)^*, V^*) = \text{Hom}(V, V^*) \stackrel{\text{claim}}{\cong} \text{Bil}(V \times V, \mathbb{R})$, by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}(V, V^*) &\cong \text{Bil}(V \times V, \mathbb{R}) \\ (f : V \rightarrow V^*) &\mapsto \begin{pmatrix} V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (v_1, v_2) \mapsto (f(v_1))(v_2) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(Note that $f(v_1) \in V^*$.)

Thus, $V \otimes V \cong \text{Bil}(V^* \times V^*, \mathbb{R})$. This is the realization we will use!

Note: When taking multiple tensor products:

$$\underbrace{V \otimes \dots \otimes V}_k \otimes \underbrace{V^* \otimes \dots \otimes V^*}_\ell \cong \{\text{multilinear maps } \underbrace{V^* \times \dots \times V^*}_k \times \underbrace{V \times \dots \times V}_\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$$

Now, we put everything together, and define tensor bundles.

Defn: Given a smooth manifold M , $\forall p \in M$, we define

$$T^{(k, \ell)}(T_p M) = \underbrace{T_p M \otimes \dots \otimes T_p M}_k \otimes \underbrace{T_p^* M \otimes \dots \otimes T_p^* M}_\ell$$

k is called the contravariant degree, and ℓ is called the covariant degree. Using the lemma from before, we get tensor bundles

$$\bigsqcup_{p \in M} T^{(k, \ell)}(T_p M) = T^{(k, \ell)}(TM) \rightarrow M$$

Exer: Compute the rank of this bundle.

In coordinate (x^1, \dots, x^n) on $U \stackrel{\text{open}}{\subseteq} M$, we have a moving frame of $T^{(k, \ell)}(TM)$:

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_k}} \otimes dx^{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{j_\ell} \mid i_a, j_b \in \{1, \dots, n\} \right\}$$

Defn: Any smooth section of a tensor bundle is called a tensor.

Note that any tensor is a combination of these basis elements with C^∞ functions as coefficients:

$$\sum A_{j_1 \dots j_k}^{i_1 \dots i_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_k}} \otimes dx^{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{j_k}$$

Defn: A Riemannian metric is a symmetric, positive-definite $(0, 2)$ tensor $g_p : T_p M \times T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.