

$M = M^m$ - differentiable manifold of dimension m

We shall need 3 types of "smooth tensor fields":

- vector field : a smooth assignment of tangent vector at each point

$$X_p \in T_p M, p \in M$$

- Riemannian metric : a smooth assignment of inner product at each point

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_p \in \{ \beta : T_p M \times T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{bilinear, symmetric,} \\ \text{positive definite} \end{array} \} \quad p \in M$$

- differential k -forms :

a smooth assignment of alternating k -forms on $T_p M$,

$$\omega_p \in \text{Alt}^k(T_p M), \quad p \in M$$

Recall $T_p M$ is the tangent space of M at $p \in M$.

Recall (from Math 538) what it means by a smooth vector field :

$X : M^m \rightarrow \bigcup_{p \in M} T_p M^m$ $X(p) \in T_p M^m$ is smooth.
if

the component functions of X in any chart are smooth.

Recall :

any chart (U, h) of M induces a frame of basis

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}|_p, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m}|_p \text{ for each } T_p M, p \in U,$$

so the vector field can be written as

$$X(p) = \sum_{i=1}^m \underbrace{a_i(p)}_{\text{component functions of } X \text{ in the chart.}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \Big|_p \quad \text{for } p \in U$$

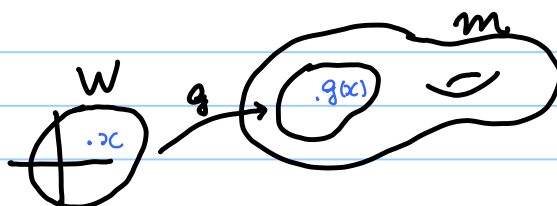
It's the same idea for defining smoothness of Riemannian metric and differential p-forms.

Let's first spell out that for the latter.

Let $g: W \overset{\text{open}}{\subseteq} \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow M$ be a local parametrization
"inverse of a chart"

For $x \in W$,

$D_x g: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow T_{g(x)} M$
 is an isomorphism ("basis theorem")



and induces an isomorphism

$$\text{Alt}^k(D_x g) : \text{Alt}^k(T_{g(x)} M) \rightarrow \text{Alt}^k(\mathbb{R}^m).$$

(Recall from CH2: For a linear map $f: V \rightarrow W$,

$\text{Alt}^p(f) : \text{Alt}^p(W) \rightarrow \text{Alt}^p(V)$ is defined by

$$\text{Alt}^p(f)(\omega)(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_p) = \omega(f(\xi_1), \dots, f(\xi_p)).$$

$$\text{Easy to check: } \begin{cases} \text{Alt}^p(g \circ f) = \text{Alt}^p(f) \circ \text{Alt}^p(g) \\ \text{Alt}^p(\text{id}) = \text{id} \end{cases}$$

This also means $f: V \rightarrow W$ is invertible $\Rightarrow \text{Alt}^p(f)$ is invertible
 $[\text{Alt}^p(f)]^{-1} = \text{Alt}^p(f^{-1})$

Now, define the "pullback of ω to W "

$$g^*(\omega) : W \rightarrow \text{Alt}^k(\mathbb{R}^m) \quad \text{by}$$

$$g^*(\omega)_x := \text{Alt}^k(D_x g)(\omega_{g(x)}).$$

For $k=0$ (0-form = "scalar field"),

$$g^*(\omega)_x := \omega_{g(x)}.$$

Just like the case of vector field, a chart provides a local coordinate representation of the "field of k -forms" $(\omega_p)_{p \in M}$, which we can talk about its smoothness.

Def A family $\omega = \{\omega_p : p \in M\}$ of alternating k -forms

$$\omega_p : \underbrace{T_p M \times \dots \times T_p M}_{k \text{ times}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

is said to be smooth if $g^*(\omega)$ is smooth for every local parametrization g .

Such a smooth ω is called a differential k -form on M .

$$\Omega^k(M) := \{\text{all differential } k\text{-forms on } M\}$$

$$\Omega^0(M) := C^0(M, \mathbb{R}) = \{\text{all smooth } f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}.$$

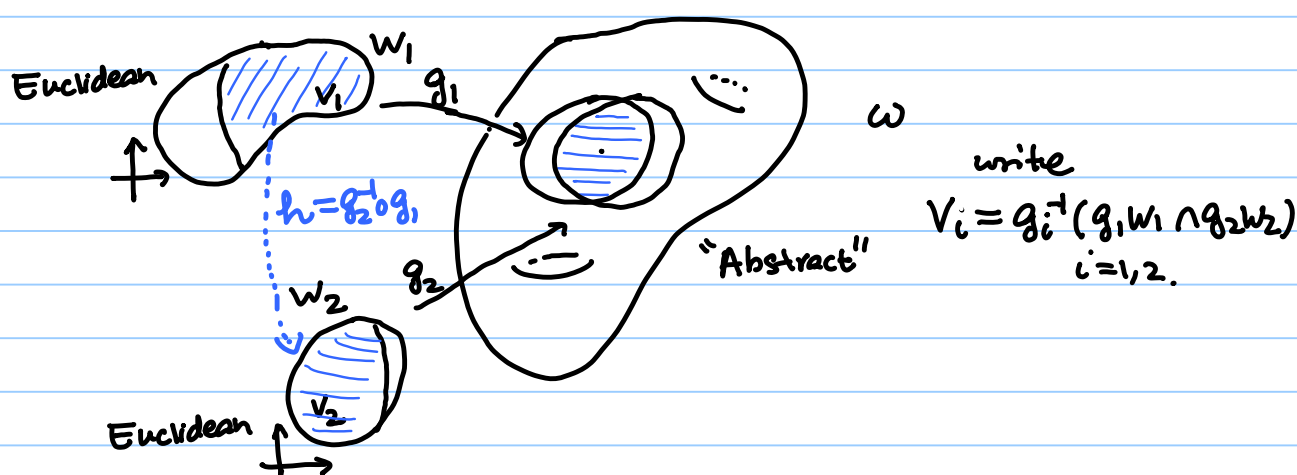
Again like the case of vector field, a basic question you must ask is :

Can ω be smooth in one set of coordinates but not another?

Precisely, if $g_1: W_1 \rightarrow M$, $g_2: W_2 \rightarrow M$ are two local parametrizations $g_1(W_1) \cap g_2(W_2) \neq \emptyset$, can it be that

$g_1^* \omega$ is smooth on $g_1^{-1}(g_1(W_1) \cap g_2(W_2))$
but $g_2^* \omega$ is not smooth on $g_2^{-1}(g_1(W_1) \cap g_2(W_2))$?

Work out the formula for how ω transforms under a change of coordinates, then we will know:



An expression we wrote many times in Math 538:

$$g_1 = g_2 \circ \underbrace{(g_2^{-1} \circ g_1)}_{\text{change of coordinate map}} =: h \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{smooth with smooth inverse} \\ \text{(assumption of a manifold)} \end{array}$$

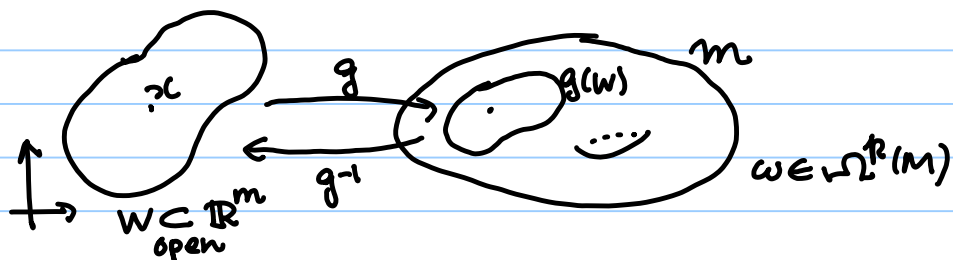
$$\begin{aligned} g_1^* \omega &= (g_2 \circ h)^* \omega & g_2^* &= (g_1 \circ h^{-1})^* \omega \\ &= h^*(g_2^* \omega) & &= (h^{-1})^*(g_1^* \omega) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } g_2^* \omega \text{ is smooth on } V_2 \iff g_1^* \omega \text{ is smooth on } V_1$$

↑
 h is a diffeomorphism

In particular, if we just check that ω is smooth on a set of charts that cover M , then ω is smooth.
(Lemma 9.6)

Recap:



$$\begin{aligned} D_x g : \mathbb{R}_x^m (\simeq \mathbb{R}^m) &\rightarrow T_{g(x)} M \\ D_{g(x)} g^{-1} : T_{g(x)} M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{c} \nwarrow \text{inverse} \end{array}$$

A k -form on M can be "pulled back" by $g: W \rightarrow M$ to a k -form on W

$$g^* \omega \in \Omega^k(W).$$

$$(g^* \omega)_x = \text{Alt}^k(D_x g)(\omega_{g(x)}).$$

Similarly, a k -form on W can be pulled back by $g^{-1}: g(W) \rightarrow W$ to a k -form on $g(W)$:

$$\eta \in \Omega^k(W),$$

an open submanifold of M

$$((g^{-1})^* \eta)_{g(x)} := \text{Alt}^k(D_{g(x)} g^{-1})(\eta_x)$$

More generally, any smooth map between manifolds

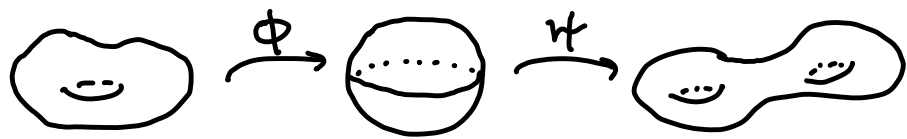
$$\phi: M^m \rightarrow N^n$$

induces

$$D_x \phi: T_x M \rightarrow T_{\phi(x)} N, \quad \phi^*: \Omega^k(N^n) \rightarrow \Omega^k(M^m)$$

$$(\phi^* \omega)_x := \text{Alt}^k(D_x \phi)(\omega_{\phi(x)}) \quad x \in M.$$

Easy to check: $\phi^* \omega$ is smooth, hence in $\Omega^k(M)$.



As expected, if $\phi: M \rightarrow N$, $\psi: N \rightarrow R$ smooth maps between manifold, we have (the easy-to-check)

$$(\psi \circ \phi)^* = \phi^* \circ \psi^* : \Omega^k(R) \rightarrow \Omega^k(M)$$

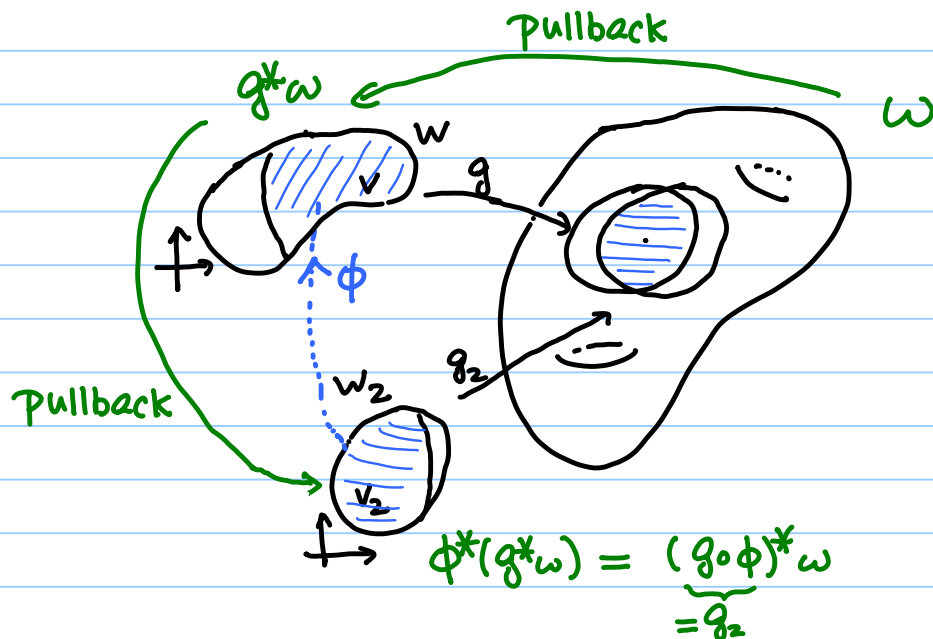
Exterior derivative

$$d: \Omega^k(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$$

can be defined via local parametrizations $g: W \rightarrow M$ by

$$d\omega := (g^{-1})^* d(g^* \omega)$$

Q:
Why wouldn't it depends
on the parametrization?



If $g_2: W_2 \rightarrow M$ is another parametrization, we have

$$g_2 = g_1 \circ \phi.$$

we must check $(g_1^{-1})^* d g_1^* \omega = \underbrace{(g_2^{-1})^*}_{= (\phi^{-1} \circ g_1^{-1})^*} d \underbrace{g_2^* \omega}_{= \phi^*(g_1^* \omega)}$

$$\Leftrightarrow (g^{-1})^* \circ d \circ g^* \omega = (g^{-1})^* \circ (\phi^{-1})^* \circ d \circ \phi^* \circ g^* \omega$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underset{d_V}{d} = (\phi^{-1})^* \circ \underset{d_{V_2}}{d} \circ \phi^* \omega$$

This boils down to a property of 'd' back in the Euclidean setting.

But

$$\begin{aligned} & (\phi^{-1})^* \circ (d_{V_2} \circ \phi^*) \\ &= (\phi^{-1})^* \circ (\phi^* \circ d_V) \quad (\text{Thm 3.12}) \\ &= ((\phi^{-1})^* \circ \phi^*) \circ d_V \\ &= d_V \end{aligned}$$

So d is indeed parametrization independent and

$d: \Omega^k(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$ is well-defined.

A whole bunch of properties pertaining to differential forms and de Rham cohomology generalize easily to manifolds:

- $d \circ d = 0$

Hence we have defined a chain complex:

$$0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \Omega^{k-1}(M) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^k(M) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^{k+1}(M) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Omega^k(M) = 0 \text{ if } k < 0 \text{ or } k > \dim M.$$

- For a smooth map $\phi: M \rightarrow N$, the "pullbacks" $\phi^*: \Omega^p(N) \rightarrow \Omega^p(M)$ commute with d :

$$\phi^* \circ d_N = d_M \circ \phi^*,$$

i.e. ϕ^* is a chain map:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \rightarrow \Omega^{k-1}(N) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^k(N) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^{k+1}(N) & \rightarrow \\ \downarrow \phi^* & \searrow & \downarrow \phi^* & \searrow & \downarrow \phi^* & \\ \rightarrow \Omega^{k-1}(M) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^k(M) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^{k+1}(M) & \rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$\searrow = \searrow$$

- wedge product has always been well-defined for any abstract vector space V

$$\wedge: \text{Alt}^k(V) \times \text{Alt}^l(V) \rightarrow \text{Alt}^{k+l}(V)$$

Just apply it pointwise to differential forms on M

$$\wedge: \Omega^k(M) \times \Omega^l(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+l}(M)$$

$$(\omega \wedge \tau)_p := \omega_p \wedge \tau_p$$

\uparrow

the wedge product on $T_p M$

Easy to check: $\omega \wedge \tau$ is smooth.

- $d(\omega \wedge \tau) = d\omega \wedge \tau + (-1)^k \omega \wedge d\tau$

$$\omega \wedge \tau = (-1)^{kl} \tau \wedge \omega$$

for $\omega \in \Omega^k(M)$, $\tau \in \Omega^l(M)$.

- And of course, we have

$$H^p(M) := \frac{\ker(d: \Omega^p(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1}(M))}{\operatorname{Im}(d: \Omega^p(M) \rightarrow \Omega^p(M))}$$

the p th cohomology vector space of $\Omega^*(M)$

- wedge product "descends" to the cohomology spaces:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [\omega_1] \times [\omega_2] & := & [\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2] \\ \cap & & \cap \\ H^p(M) & H^q(M) & H^{p+q}(M) \end{array}$$

[This is not obvious even in the Euclidean setting.]
[But generalizing it to manifold is trivial.]

- The chain map ϕ^* "descends" to linear maps

$$H^p(\phi) : H^p(N) \rightarrow H^p(M)$$

$$\phi : M \rightarrow N$$

\Downarrow

$$\phi^* \text{ or } \Omega^p(\phi) : \Omega^p(N) \rightarrow \Omega^p(M)$$

\Downarrow

$$H^p(\phi) : H^p(N) \rightarrow H^p(M) \quad \text{Linear}$$

with the "contravariant functor" property

$$M \xrightarrow{\phi} N \xrightarrow{\psi} R \quad \text{smooth maps}$$

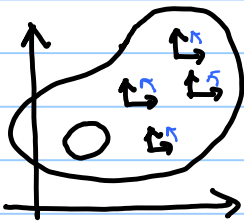
$$H^p(M) \xleftarrow{H^p(\phi)} H^p(N) \xleftarrow{H^p(\psi)} H^p(R)$$

$$H^p(\psi \circ \phi) = H^p(\phi) \circ H^p(\psi).$$

Orientation

Now, a property, called **orientability**, that is much more complicated for manifolds than open sets in \mathbb{R}^n .

[MQT has all the right materials, but in an order I disagree.]



open set in \mathbb{R}^n
always orientable

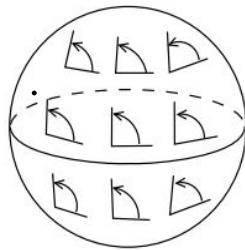


Fig. 15.1 A sphere is orientable

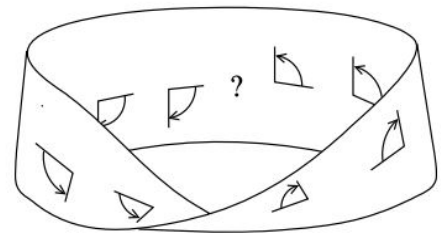


Fig. 15.2 A Möbius band is not orientable

(J. Lee: Intro. to Smooth Manifolds,
2nd edition)

To describe this property in precise mathematical terms, recall :

(I) [Lecture 2, Math 538]

The orientation of an ordered basis in \mathbb{R}^n
 E_1, \dots, E_n
is captured by the sign of $\det[E_1, \dots, E_n]$.

Put differently, the linear map $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ that maps

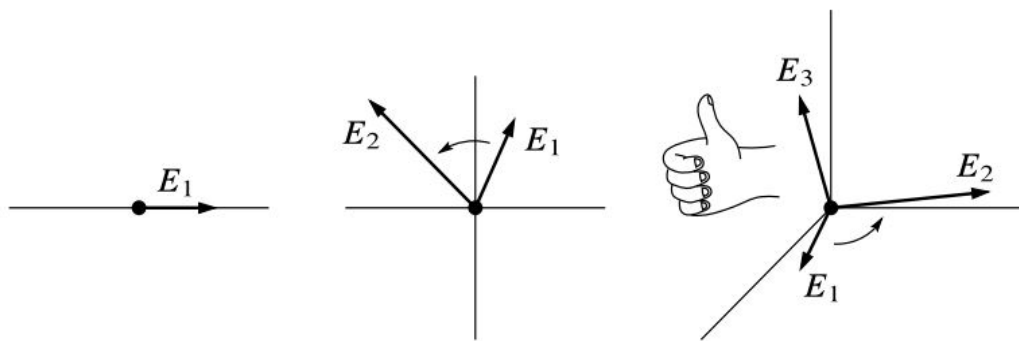
$$e_i \rightarrow E_i \quad i=1, \dots, n$$

↑

the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^n

is orientation preserving if $\det[E_1, \dots, E_n] > 0$.

(II) What would this mean if we are in an abstract vector space V (e.g. the tangent space of an abstract manifold) for which there is no canonical basis?



$\dim V = 1$: there is no left or right
 $\dim V = 2$: there is no clockwise or anti-clockwise
 $\dim V = 3$: there is no 'right-handedness' or 'left-handedness'
 etc.

But, by leveraging (I), we can still say two ordered bases of V

$$(E_1, \dots, E_n) \quad (\tilde{E}_1, \dots, \tilde{E}_n)$$

are consistently oriented if the transition matrix (B_i^j)

$$(E_i = \sum_{j=1}^n B_i^j \tilde{E}_j, i=1, \dots, n)$$

has positive determinant.

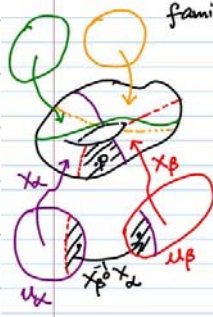
The notion of two ordered bases of V being consistently oriented is clearly an equivalence relation. And there are precisely two equivalence classes of ordered basis.

Any choice of the two is called an orientation of V .

(III) [Lecture 3, Math 538] explains the notion of orientability for a regular surface in \mathbb{R}^3 :

Def A regular surface is called orientable if it has a continuous Gauss map.

Proposition:
 S has a continuous Gauss map
 iff
 it is possible to cover S with a family of coordinate neighborhoods,
 i.e.
 $X_\alpha: U_\alpha \rightarrow S$ (regular local parameterizations)
 s.t.
 $\bigcup_\alpha X_\alpha(U_\alpha) = S$
 in such a way that
 if
 $p \in X_\alpha(U_\alpha) \cap X_\beta(U_\beta)$
 then
 $X_\beta^{-1} \circ X_\alpha$ has a positive Jacobian @ $X_\alpha^{-1}(p)$
 i.e. $\det \left(\frac{d(X_\beta^{-1} \circ X_\alpha)}{2 \times 2} \right)_{X_\alpha^{-1}(p)} > 0$
 Proof: see Do Carmo C&S, sec. 2-6.



It seems natural to define:

Def A manifold M is orientable if it can be covered by an atlas that is consistently oriented, i.e.

\exists charts (U_α, ϕ_α) of M
 s.t.

$$\bigcup U_\alpha = M$$

$$\det(d(\phi_\alpha^{-1} \circ \phi_\beta)|_{\phi_\alpha^{-1}(p)}) > 0, \forall p \in U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$$



[This is the same as saying that the ordered bases of $T_p(M)$ induced by the two charts are consistently oriented.]

But note that this is more than a pointwise statement, those ordered bases vary smoothly as p moves.]

This means: given an orientation of $T_p M$ at any $p \in M$, we can "propagate" it to the whole connected component of M containing p .

Note: we cannot talk about a Gauss map of a manifold M without introducing additional structure.



no ambient space
no notion of angle

no Gauss map

Redefining orientability / orientation using n -forms:

"Pointwise level"

$$\dim V = n \geq 1$$

choosing an
ordered basis
to define an
orientation on V

=

choosing a non-zero
 n -form
 $\omega \in \text{Alt}^n(V)$, $\omega \neq 0$

Precisely, for any $\omega \in \text{Alt}^n(V)$, $\omega \neq 0$

$$(E_1, \dots, E_n) \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{consistently} \\ \text{oriented}}}{\sim} (\tilde{E}_1, \dots, \tilde{E}_n) \iff \omega(E_1, \dots, E_n), \omega(\tilde{E}_1, \dots, \tilde{E}_n) \text{ are of the same sign.}$$

This follows from the following formula (easily followed from Lemma 2.13, Theorem 2.15 in CH2):

$$\omega(\underset{\substack{\parallel \\ B\tilde{E}_1}}{\tilde{E}_1}, \dots, \underset{\substack{\parallel \\ B\tilde{E}_n}}{\tilde{E}_n}) = \det(B) \omega(E_1, \dots, E_n).$$

This leads to MBT's definition at the "manifold level":

Def (i) A smooth manifold M^n of dimension n is called orientable if there exists an

$$\omega \in \Omega^n(M^n) \text{ with } \omega_p \neq 0 \quad \forall p \in M.$$

Such an ω is called an orientation form on M .

(ii) Two orientation forms ω, τ on M are equivalent if

$$\tau = f \cdot \omega \text{ for some } f \in \Omega^0(M) \\ f(p) > 0 \quad \forall p \in M.$$

An **orientation of M** is an equivalence class of orientation forms on M .

We shall see the usefulness of this reformulation.

It's not very hard to see why the two definitions are equivalent. (see proposition 9.14 below.)

Assume M^n is orientable and an orientation form ω is chosen.

Then an ordered basis b_1, \dots, b_n of $T_p M$ is said to be

positively or negatively oriented wr.t ω
if

$$\omega_p(b_1, \dots, b_n) > 0 \text{ or } \omega_p(b_1, \dots, b_n) < 0, \text{ resp.}$$

Clearly the sign depends only on the orientation determined by ω .

How many different orientations can M have?

For any two orientation forms ω and τ on M

$$\tau = f \cdot \omega \quad \text{for a uniquely determined smooth function } f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ f(p) \neq 0 \quad \forall p$$

If M is connected, such an $f \in \Omega^0(M)$ is either positive or negative throughout M , so we have

Lemma On a connected orientable manifold there are precisely 2 orientations.

We had "pointwise orientation", i.e. an orientation on $T_p M$ for a point $p \in M$.

We can also have "local orientation":

If $U \subset M^n$, then if M already has an orientation you can restrict it to U to give U an orientation.



Conversely, U (being a manifold itself) can have its own orientation, e.g.

if $\phi: U \rightarrow \phi(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a chart we can always use the orientation of \mathbb{R}^n to induce an orientation on U (details later.)

Q: If we have an open cover $(V_i)_{i \in I}$ of M and each V_i has an orientation, can we stitch these "local orientations" together to give a (global) orientation for M ?

The answer is clearly negative in general, any small enough V_i is orientable but M may not be orientable.

Technical questions: exactly when can we 'stitch orientations'? how?

Answer: - when the 'local orientations' coincide at overlaps
- use a partition of unity

(I never went through it in details :) The topological requirements (Hausdorff, second countable) ensure that the following is true:

Theorem: (Existence of partition of unity subordinate to any open cover)

For any open cover $(V_i)_{i \in I}$ of a smooth manifold M , there exists smooth functions

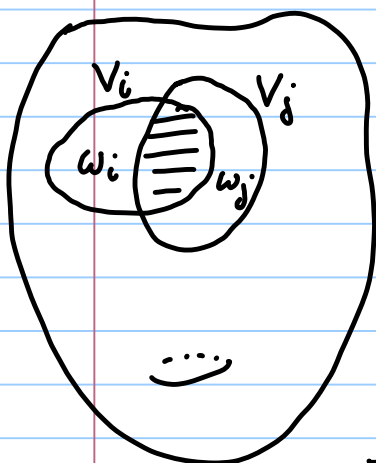
$$\varphi_i: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad i \in I \quad \text{s.t.}$$

- (i) $\varphi_i(p) \in [0, 1] \quad \forall i \in I, p \in M$
- (ii) $\text{supp}(\varphi_i) \subset V_i$
- (iii) $\forall p \in M$, only a finite # of $\varphi_i(p)$ is positive (local finiteness)
- (iv) $\sum_{i \in I} \varphi_i(p) = 1 \quad \forall p \in M.$

[Basically Thm 9.11 of M&T, except that Thm 9.11 assumes M is a submanifold of \mathbb{R}^k . It is not hard

to show that every manifold can be embedded in some \mathbb{R}^l (if keeping l as small as possible is not a concern.)
 See, e.g., John Lee's book for a proof this partition of unity result without assuming an embedding.]

Lemma 9.10. Let $\mathcal{V} = (V_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be an open cover of a smooth manifold M . Suppose all V_i have orientations and that the restrictions of the orientations from V_i and V_j to $V_i \cap V_j$ coincide $\forall i \neq j$.



Then M has a uniquely determined orientation with the given restriction to V_i for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

The idea of the proof is to stitch the orientation forms

ω_i on V_i

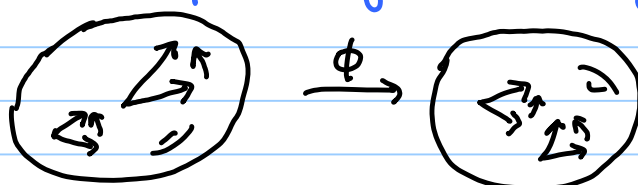
together by using a partition of unity subordinate to (V_i) in the following way:

$$\omega := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \underbrace{\phi_i \omega_i}_{\text{extended to an } n\text{-form on all of } M \text{ by letting it vanish on } M - \text{supp}(\phi_i)}.$$

Ex: Try to fill in the details (or look it up.)

For maps between oriented (orientable) manifolds we can speak of them being **orientation-preserving** or **reversing**

$$\phi: \begin{matrix} M_1^n \\ \omega_1 \end{matrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} M_2^n \\ \omega_2 \end{matrix}$$



orientation preserving means :

$$\forall p \in M_1 \quad v_1, \dots, v_n \in T_p M_1$$

$$\omega_1(v_1, \dots, v_n), \underbrace{\omega_2(D_p \phi v_1, \dots, D_p \phi v_n)}_{(\phi^* \omega_2)(v_1, \dots, v_n)} \text{ have the same sign}$$

But this is the same as saying ω_1 and $\phi^* \omega_2$ determine the same orientation on M_1 . This is the definition you find in MBT:

Def: $\phi : M_1^n \rightarrow M_2^n$ is orientation preserving
 $\omega_1 \quad \omega_2$ (resp. reversing)

if ω_1 and $\phi^* \omega_2$ determine the same orientation on M_1 as ω_1 (resp. $-\omega_1$).

Back to the Euclidean setting,

$$\phi : U_1 \overset{\text{open}}{\subset} \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow U_2 \overset{\text{open}}{\subset} \mathbb{R}^n \text{ is}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{orientation preserving} & \Leftrightarrow & \det(D_x \phi) > 0 \quad \forall x \in U_1 \\ \text{resp. reversing} & & \text{resp. } < 0 \end{array}$$

(Here U_1 and U_2 are equipped with the standard orientation of \mathbb{R}^n .)

This follows immediately from the following identity established in ch 3 :

$$\phi^*(dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n) = \det(D_x \phi) dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n.$$

This also implies that our two definitions of orientability are equivalent.

For a manifold M^n with an orientation form ω , we can then speak of oriented chart :

A chart $h: U \rightarrow h(U) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is oriented if it is orientation preserving

Two charts are both oriented \Rightarrow their transition function is orientation preserving

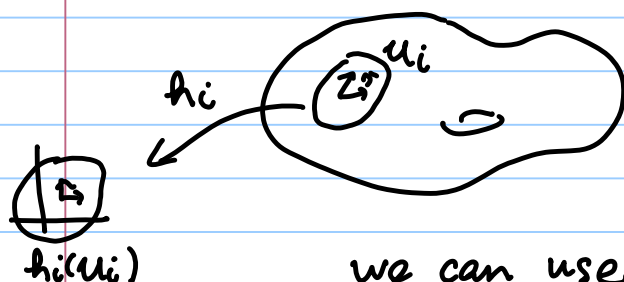
A positive atlas of M is an atlas such that all Jacobi determinants of all transition functions are positive.

Proposition 9.14 If M^n has a positive atlas

$(h_i: U_i \rightarrow h_i(U_i))_{i \in I}$

then M has a uniquely determined orientation so all h_i are oriented charts.

Proof: Use the standard orientation on $h_i(U_i) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ to induce an orientation ω_i on U_i so that h_i is orientation preserving.



Then by assumption, all ω_i are consistent at intersections and we can use Lemma 9.10 to 'stitch' them together into a global orientation for M . \square