

DifferentialForms

FriCAS package:DFORM

Version 1.2

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Abstract

Reference manual for the package DifferentialForms.

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1 Introduction

The package `DifferentialForms` (file: `dform.spad`) builds on the domain `DeRhamComplex`. In the following section we will give a brief overview of the functions that are going to be implemented. The focus is on precise definitions of the notions, since those may be varying in the literature. In

section (2) we will describe the exported functions and how they work, in section (3) some short implementation notes will be given and finally the last section is devoted to some examples.

2 Definitions

Let \mathcal{M} be a n -dimensional manifold (sufficiently smooth and orientable). To each point $P \in \mathcal{M}$ there is a neighborhood which can be diffeomorphically mapped to some region in \mathbb{R}^n , with coordinates

$$x_1(P'), \dots, x_n(P')$$

for all $P' \in \mathcal{U}(P) \subset \mathcal{M}$. The tangent space $T_{P'}(\mathcal{M})$ at the point P' is a vector space that is spanned by the basis

$$e_1(P'), \dots, e_n(P')$$

which also is often denoted by

$$\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n}.$$

A tangent vector v has the form

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^n v^j e_j.$$

The cotangent space $T_{P'}(\mathcal{M})^*$ is the vector space of linear functionals

$$\alpha : T_{P'}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

spanned by the basis $e^1(P'), \dots, e^n(P')$ which (corresponding to the basis ∂_j) is also denoted by

$$dx^1, \dots, dx^n.$$

The latter notation indicates the dependency on the moving point P' . The dual basis is by definition comprised of those linear functionals such that

$$e^j(e_k) = \delta_k^j.$$

Therefore we have

$$\alpha(v) = \alpha\left(\sum_{j=1}^n v^j e_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n v^j \alpha(e_j) = \sum_{j=1}^n v^j \alpha_j,$$

where $\alpha = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j e^j$.

2.1 Inner product of differential forms (dot)

Let g_x be a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix which is nondegenerate (i.e. $\det(g_x) \neq 0$). The index x indicates that this matrix depends on the coordinates $x_1(P), \dots, x_n(P)$ and may be varying from point to point. If this dependency is smooth (enough) we speak of a (pseudo-) *Riemannian metric* (locally). This way we get an isomorphism between tangent vectors and 1-forms (aka covectors):

$$\alpha_j = g_{jk} v^k, \quad v^j = g^{jk} \alpha_j.$$

Clearly, $\sum_k g^{jk} g_{kl} = \delta_l^j$, in other words (g^{jk}) is the inverse of g . The metric g defines an *inner product* on vectors,

$$g(v, w) = \langle v, w \rangle := g_{ij} v^i w^j$$

and by duality also on 1-forms:

$$g^{-1}(\alpha, \beta) = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle := g^{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j.$$

Now, this inner product is extended to arbitrary p -forms by

$$\langle \alpha_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_p, \beta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \beta_p \rangle := \det(\langle \alpha_i, \beta_j \rangle), \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq p),$$

and linearity.

2.2 The volume form η (volumeForm)

The Riemannian *volume form* η is (by definition) given by the n -form

$$\eta = \sqrt{|\det g|} e^1 \wedge \dots \wedge e^n = \sqrt{|\det g|} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n.$$

This definition makes sense because a (orientation preserving) change of coordinates $\sqrt{\det g}$ transforms like the component of a n -form.

2.3 Hodge dual (hodgeStar)

The *Hodge dual* of a differential p -form β is the $(n - p)$ -form $\star\beta$ such that

$$\alpha \wedge \star\beta = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \eta$$

holds, for all p -forms α . The linear operator (\star) is called the *Hodge star operator*. By the *Riesz representation theorem* the Hodge dual is uniquely defined by the expression above.

Warning: *Flanders* [4] defines the Hodge dual by the equality

$$\lambda \wedge \mu = \langle \star \lambda, \mu \rangle \eta$$

where λ is a p -form and μ a $(n-p)$ -form. This may result in different signs (actually $\star_F = s(g)\star$, where $s(g)$ is the *sign* of the determinant of g).

The generally adopted definition is the one given at the beginning of this subsection.

The components of $\star\beta$ are

$$(\star\beta)_{j_1, \dots, j_{n-p}} = \frac{1}{p!} \varepsilon_{i_1, \dots, i_p, j_1, \dots, j_{n-p}} \sqrt{|\det g|} g^{i_1 k_1} \dots g^{i_p k_p} \beta_{k_1, \dots, k_p}$$

what is equal to

$$\frac{1}{p! \sqrt{|\det g|}} \varepsilon^{k_1, \dots, k_p, l_1, \dots, l_{n-p}} g_{j_1 l_1} \dots g_{j_{n-p} l_{n-p}} \beta_{k_1, \dots, k_p}.$$

2.4 Interior product i_v (interiorProduct)

The *interior product* of a vectorfield v and a p -form α is a $(p-1)$ -form $i_v(\alpha)$ such that

$$i_v(\alpha)(v_1, \dots, v_{p-1}) = \alpha(v, v_1, \dots, v_{p-1})$$

holds for all vectorfields v_1, \dots, v_{p-1} . Therefore, the components of $i_v(\alpha)$ are calculated to

$$i_v(\alpha)_{j_1, \dots, j_{p-1}} = v^j \alpha_{j, j_1, \dots, j_{p-1}}.$$

One can express the interior product by using the \star -operator. Let α be the 1-form defined by the equation

$$\alpha(w) = g(v, w), \forall w.$$

This means in components: $\alpha_j = g_{jk} v^k$, thus we have

$$i_v(\beta) = (-)^{p-1} \star^{-1} (\alpha \wedge \star\beta).$$

Clearly, the interior product is independent of any metric, whereas the Hodge operator is **not**! So, usually one should not use the Hodge operator to compute the interior product.

We will use the fact that the interior product is an *antiderivation*, which will allow a recursive implementation.

2.5 The Lie derivative \mathcal{L}_v (lieDerivative)

The *Lie derivative* with respect to a vector field v can be calculated (and defined) using *Cartan's* formula:

$$\mathcal{L}_v \alpha = di_v(\alpha) + i_v(d\alpha).$$

There are other ways to define $\mathcal{L}_v \alpha$, however, it is convenient to compute it this way when d and i_v are already at hand.

2.6 The CoDifferential δ (codifferential)

The *codifferential* δ acting on a p -form is defined as follows:

$$\delta = (-1)^{n(p-1)+1} s(g) \star d \star$$

where g is the metric and $s(g)$ is related to the *signature* of $s(g)$ as described next.

2.7 The sign of a metric $s(g)$ (s)

The signature of a metric g is defined as the difference of the number of positive (p) and negative (q) eigenvalues, i.e:

$$\text{signature}(g) = p - q$$

and the *sign* function s is defined as

$$s(g) = (-1)^{\frac{n - \text{signature}(g)}{2}}$$

Since we always assume that g is non-degenerate, we have $p + q = n$, and consequently

$$s(g) = (-1)^q = \text{sign det}(g)$$

2.8 The inverse Hodge star \star^{-1} (invHodgeStar)

Applying the Hodge star operator on a p -form twice we get the identity map up to sign:

$$\star \circ \star \omega_p = (-1)^{p(n-p)} s(g) \omega_p.$$

Therefore

$$\star^{-1} \omega_p = (-1)^{p(n-p)} s(g) \star \omega_p.$$

2.9 The Hodge-Laplacian Δ_g (hodgeLaplacian)

The *Hodge-Laplacian*, also known as *Laplace-de Rham operator* is defined on any manifold equipped with a (pseudo-) Riemannian metric g and is defined by

$$\Delta_g = d \circ \delta + \delta \circ d$$

Note that in the *Euclidean* case $\Delta_g = -\Delta$, where latter is the ordinary *Laplacian*.

3 Export

3.1 Package Details

Package Name:	DifferentialForms
Abbreviation:	DFORM
Source file(s):	dform.spad
Dependent on	DeRhamComplex (DERHAM)

DifferentialForms(R,v)

R: Join(Ring,Comparable) -- e.g. Integer
v: List Symbol -- e.g. [x,y,z] or [x[0],x[1],x[2]]

X ==> Expression R -- function Ring

For the examples that follow we will choose $R=Integer$,

$v=[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]]$,

and the abbreviation $M:=DFORM(R,v)$. Recall that indices of lists and vectors in FriCAS start with 1, so one has to be careful:

$v.1 \rightarrow x[0]$.

3.2 The metric g

Some functions expect the metric g as a parameter. Generally this will be provided by an invertible square matrix $g:SquareMatrix(\#v,X)$. In the sequel we will choose the Minkowski metric:

$g := diagonalMatrix([-1,1,1,1])@SquareMatrix(4,Integer)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3.3 Exported functions

The function `baseForms` returns the basis one forms, while `coordVector` returns a list of the coordinates. The function `coordSymbols` also returns the coordinates, however, as symbols only (convenient when used with D).

```
SMR ==> SquareMatrix(#v,X)
DRC ==> DeRhamComplex(R,v)

dx:=baseForms()$M      -- [dx[0],...,dx[3]]
x:=coordVector()$M     -- [x[0],...,x[3]]
xs:=coordSymbols()$M   -- as above but as List Symbol
                        -- e.g for differentiation D
```

3.3.1 Volume Form

volumeForm

Given a metric g the function returns the corresponding volume element of the Riemannian (pseudo-) manifold.

```
volumeForm : SquareMatrix(#v,X) -> DeRhamComplex(R,v)
volumeForm(g)$M
```

$$dx_0 \, dx_1 \, dx_2 \, dx_3$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])`

3.3.2 Scalar Product

dot

Compute the inner product of two differential forms with respect to the metric g .

```
dot : (SMR,DRC,DRC) -> X
dot(g,dx.1*dx.2,dx.1*dx.2)$M -- note dx.1 corresponds to dx[0].
```

Type: Expression(Integer)

3.3.3 Hodge Star Operator

hodgeStar

Compute the Hodge dual form of a differential form with respect to a metric g .

```
hodgeStar : (SMR,DRC) -> DRC
hodgeStar(g,dx.2 * dx.3)
```

$$dx_0 \, dx_3$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

3.3.4 Interior Product

interiorProduct

Calculate the interior product $i_X(a)$ of the vector field X with the differential form a .

```
interiorProduct : (Vector(X),DRC) -> DRC
interiorProduct(vector x, dx.1*dx.3)$M
```

$$x_0 \, dx_2 - x_2 \, dx_0$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

3.3.5 Lie Derivative

lieDerivative

Calculate the Lie derivative $\mathcal{L}_X(a)$ of the differential form a with respect to the vector field X .

```
lieDerivative : (Vector(X),DRC) -> DRC
lieDerivative(vector x, dx.1 * dx.3 * dx.4)
```

$$3 \, dx_0 \, dx_2 \, dx_3$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

3.3.6 Co-differential

codifferential

Calculate the co-differential of a form with respect to a metric g .

```
codifferential(g,f*dx.1)$M
```

3.3.7 Sign of a metric g

Calculate the sign of a metric g .

```
s(g)
```

3.3.8 Inverse Hodge star

Calculate the inverse Hodge star operator:

```
invHodgeStar(g,dx.1)
```

3.3.9 Hodge-Laplacian

Calculate the Hodge-Laplacian.

```
hodgeLaplacian(g,f*dx.1)
```

3.3.10 Projection

proj

Project to homogeneous terms of degree p .

```
NNI ==> NonNegativeInteger
proj : (NNI,DRC) -> DRC
proj(2, 2*dx.1 + dx.2*dx.3 - dx.3*dx.4)
```

$$-dx_2 \, dx_3 + dx_1 \, dx_2$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])`

3.3.11 Monomials

monomials

List all monomials of degree p ($p \in 1 \dots n$). This is a basis of Λ_p^n .

```

monomials : NNI -> List DRC
monomials(3)$M

```

$$[dx_0 \, dx_1 \, dx_2, dx_0 \, dx_1 \, dx_3, dx_0 \, dx_2 \, dx_3, dx_1 \, dx_2 \, dx_3]$$

Type: List DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

3.3.12 Atomize Basis Term

atomizeBasisTerm

Given a basis term, return a list of the generators (atoms).

```

atomizeBasisTerm : DRC -> List DRC
atomizeBasisTerm(dx.1 * dx.2 * dx.4)

```

$$[dx_0, dx_1, dx_3]$$

Type: List(DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]]))

3.3.13 Conjugate Basis Term

conjBasisTerm

Return the complement of a basis term with respect to the Euclidean volume form.

```

conjBasisTerm : DRC -> DRC
conjBasisTerm dx.4

```

$$dx_0 \, dx_1 \, dx_2$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

3.3.14 Scalar and Vector Field

vectorField

Generate a generic vector field named by a given symbol.

covectorField

Generate a generic co-vector field named by a given symbol.

scalarField

Generate a generic scalar field named by a given symbol.

```

vectorField : Symbol -> List X
covectorField : Symbol -> List DRC
scalarField : Symbol -> X

```

```
vectorField(Q)$M
scalarField(f)$M
```

$$[Q_1(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3), Q_2, Q_3, Q_4]$$

Type: List(Expression(Integer))

$$f(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

type: Expression(Integer)

3.3.15 Miscellaneous Functions

A *zero form* with symbol s can be generated by

```
zeroForm : Symbol -> DRC
zeroForm(s)$M
```

$$s(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

A synonym for the **exteriorDerivative** is the common operator **d**:

```
d : DRC -> DRC
d zeroForm(f)$M
```

$$f_{,4} dx_3 + \dots + f_{,1} dx_0$$

Type: DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])

Notice the indices in the example above. We have deliberately chosen 0 as start value to see where one has to be cautious. The derivatives of the function f , for instance $f_{,4}$, are meant with respect to the order of the variables, x_3 in this case.

The special zero forms **0** and **1** can be generated by

```
one : -> DRC
zero : -> DRC
zero()$M
one()$M
```

There are also some special multiplication operators which allow to deal with a kind *vector valued* forms (actually lists):

```
_* : (List X, List DRC) -> DRC
_* : (List DRC, List DRC) -> DRC
Note: the lists must have dimension #v.
For instance:
```

`x * dx`

$$x_3 dx_3 + x_2 dx_2 + x_1 dx_1 + x_0 d_0$$

An example for the second case:

`dx*[hodgeStar(g,dx.j)]$M for j in 1..4]`

$$2 dx_0 dx_1 dx_2 dx_3$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]])`

4 Implementation

4.1 Implementation Notes

In this section some implementation details will be described. This is a ongoing process and might be improved.

4.2 Internal Representation

Differential forms are represented as `List Record(k:EAB, c:R)` where each basic term is represented as `Record(k:EAB, c:R)`, for instance:

$$h(x, y, z) dz + g(x, y, z) dy + f(x, y, z) dx$$

maps to

`[[k= [0,0,1],c= h(x,y,z)], [k= [0,1,0],c= g(x,y,z)],
[k= [1,0,0],c= f(x,y,z)]]`

or, another example:

$$c(x, y, z) dy dz + b(x, y, z) dx dz + a(x, y, z) dx dy$$

goes to

`[[k= [0,1,1],c= c(x,y,z)], [k= [1,0,1],c= b(x,y,z)],
[k= [1,1,0],c= a(x,y,z)]]`

It is easily seen that for n generators x_1, \dots, x_n the term $dx_{j_p} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_q}$ is represented by `[k = [ai1, ..., ain], c = ±1]` where $a_{i_s} \in \{0, 1\}$ depending on whether dx_{i_s} is contained in the term or not. The (local) function **terms** send a differential form ω to the representation $r(\omega)$. Note that the operations

are **destructive**, this means that one has to copy the objects in order to get new ones (mere assignment inherits all previous changes).

The interpreter normalizes the basic terms according to increasing generators, i.e for example: $dx_3 \wedge dx_2$ will be stored as $-dx_2 \wedge dx_3$, whereby the signum of the permutation is calculated and transferred to the c -field in the record.

Example

```
terms(dx3*dx2) -> [[k= [0,1,1],c= - 1]]
```

4.3 dot :: inner product

Given a (pseudo)-Riemannian metric g , the scalar product of two basic terms of the same degree is given by

$$\langle dx_{i_1} \dots dx_{i_p}, dx_{j_1} \dots dx_{j_p} \rangle = \det(\langle dx_{i_k}, dx_{j_l} \rangle) = \det(g^{-1}(i_k, j_l)),$$

whereby $1 \leq k, l \leq p$. Note that $g^{-1}(i_k, j_l) = g^{i_k j_l}$ is the inverse of $g_{i_k j_l}$ (raised indexes as usual). In other words, the scalar product is inherited from the dual vector space of the space where the coordinates (x_1, \dots, x_n) live, and is continued by linearity. By the way, terms of different **degree** are considered to be *orthogonal* to each other.

Example

```
[x,y,z], G = matrix(G[i,j]) = g^{- 1}
```

$$\langle dx \wedge dy, dy \wedge dz \rangle = \langle dx, dy \rangle \langle dy, dz \rangle - \langle dx, dz \rangle \langle dy, dy \rangle = G_{1,2} G_{2,3} - G_{1,3} G_{2,2}$$

The corresponding EAB's are $[1,1,0]$ and $[0,1,1]$. When we define a function **pos** which gives the positions of 0 or 1 respectively, the example above tells us:

```
pos([1,1,0],1)=[1,2] and pos([0,1,1],1)=[2,3]
```

so that the direct product of the two resulting lists gives the desired minor:

```
[1,2]x[2,3]=[1,2],[1,3],[2,2],[2,3] =>
```

$$\begin{vmatrix} G_{12}G_{13} \\ G_{22}G_{23} \end{vmatrix}.$$

This essentially comprises the method we will use to compute the scalar product w.r.t symmetric matrices g and two basic terms of equal degree.

Local function: **dot2**

- compute the inverse of **g**.
- build the **pos** lists.
- build the minor and apply **determinant**.

Actually there are two functions **dot1** and **dot2**, where the former is used when the metric g is *diagonal* (which is equivalent to the basis vectors being orthogonal) because the performance might be better if the dimension of the space is huge.

4.4 hodgeStar :: Hodge dual

In this new version we have removed the first method because the performance difference is not as significant as we thought in the first place, at least not for $n \leq 7$. However, we save the method in case someone has to deal with really high space dimensions.

4.4.1 Diagonal, non-degenerated g

If g is a diagonal matrix then the components of $\star\beta$ reduce to

$$(\star\beta)_{j_1, \dots, j_{n-p}} = \frac{1}{p!} \varepsilon_{k_1, \dots, k_p, j_1, \dots, j_{n-p}} \sqrt{|\det g|} [g^{k_1 k_1} \dots g^{k_p k_p}] \beta_{k_1, \dots, k_p}$$

which implies that (j_1, \dots, j_{n-p}) must be the complement of (k_1, \dots, k_p) in $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and

$$\star(dx_{k_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{k_p}) = C dx_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_{n-p}}$$

for some (yet unknown) factor C which must actually be equal to the right hand side of the component formula above. When we recollect the internal representation of $dx_{k_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{k_p}$ as **EAB** then it is easy to get the complement by flipping 0 and 1. Define a function **flip** such that

$$\text{flip}(dx_{k_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{k_p}) = dx_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_{n-p}}$$

then by using the Hodge formula with $\alpha = \beta = dx_{k_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{k_p}$ we get using $\star\alpha = C \text{ flip}(\alpha)$:

$$C\alpha \wedge \text{flip}(\alpha) = \langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle \eta = \langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle \sqrt{|\det(g)|} dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n.$$

Since $\alpha \wedge \text{flip}(\alpha)$ is a n -form, the function **leadingCoefficient** returns the one and only coefficient. Thus we can calculate **C** to

$$C = \frac{\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle \sqrt{|\det(g)|}}{\text{leadingCoefficient}(\alpha \wedge \text{flip}(\alpha))}.$$

In SPAD syntax this looks like:

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{\text{dot}(\alpha, \alpha) \star \text{sqrt}(\text{abs}(\text{determinant}(g)))}{\text{leadingCoefficient}(\alpha \star \text{flip}(\alpha))}.$$

This way the interpreter saved us the tedious computation of the permutation signatures. Moreover, we have not to care whether the metric g is positive or negative definite.

4.4.2 General case

Let J denote an ordered multi-index and J_\sharp its dual. Then a generic p -vector may be written as

$$\beta = \sum_{|J|=p} b^J e_J.$$

Thus by definition we obtain:

$$\alpha \wedge \star \beta = (\alpha, \beta) \eta \Rightarrow e_J \wedge \star \beta = (e_J, \beta) \eta$$

Since $\star \beta$ is a $(n-p)$ -form, we get:

$$\star \beta = \sum_{|K|=n-p} a^K e_K \Rightarrow \sum_{|K|=n-p} a^K e_J \wedge e_K = \sum_{|I|=p} b^I (e_J, e_I) = \sum_{|I|=p} g_{JI} b^I \eta = b_J \eta.$$

Now the term $e_J \wedge e_K$ is non-zero only if $K = J_\sharp$, therefore

$$a^{J_\sharp} = \sqrt{g} \epsilon(J) \sum_{|I|=p} g_{JI} b^I$$

where $e_J \wedge e_{J_\sharp} = \epsilon(J) \eta$ defines ϵ .

If we choose $\beta = e_M$ we finally get

$$\star e_M = \sqrt{g} \sum_{|J|=p} \epsilon(J) g_{JM} e_{J_\sharp}.$$

This formula will be used to compute the Hodge dual for *monomials*. We define a function **hodgeBT**, in pseudo-code:

```

hodgeStarBT(dx[M])= sqrt(g)*
  SUM[J] {eps(dx[J])*dot(g,dx[J],dx[M])*conjBasisTerm(dx[j])}

```

which then will allow computing the Hodge dual of any form by simple recursion:

```

hodgeStar(g:SMR,x:DRC):DRC ==
  x=0$DRC => x
  leadingCoefficient(x) * hodgeStarBT(g,leadingBasisTerm(x)) + _
  hodgeStar(g, reductum(x))

```

4.4.3 interiorProduct :: Interior product

In this newer version we have replaced the method which uses the Hodge operator. Instead we used the fact that the interior product is an *antiderivation*, actually the unique antiderivation of degree -1 on the exterior algebra such that $i_X(\alpha) = \alpha(X)$:

$$i_X(\beta \wedge \gamma) = i_X(\beta) \wedge \gamma + (-1)^{\deg \beta} \beta \wedge i_X(\gamma)$$

This also allows an easy implementation by recursion.

4.4.4 lieDerivative :: Lie derivative

Here we use *Cartan's formula* (see 2.5), so that there is not much more to say here.

```

lieDerivative(w:Vector X,x:DRC):DRC ==
  a := exteriorDifferential(interiorProduct(w,x))
  b := interiorProduct(w, exteriorDifferential(x))
  a+b

```

4.4.5 proj :: Projection

Since the elements of `DeRhamComplex` are in

$$X = \bigoplus_{p=0}^n \Omega^p(V)$$

it is convenient to have a function `proj : {0, ..., n} × X → X` which returns the projection on the homogeneous component $\Omega^p(V)$. The implementation

is straightforward when using the internals of **EAB**. Probably there are better ways to do this, especially by using exported functions only.

```

** deprecated **
proj(x,p) ==
  t:List REA := x::List REA
  idx := [j for j in 1..#t | #pos(t.j.k,1)=p]
  s := [copy(t.j) for j in idx::List(NNI)]
  convert(s)$DRC

```

NEW:In the new version we actually replaced the function above by the following recursive one:

```

proj(p,x) ==
  x=0 => x
  homogeneous? x and degree(x)=p => x
  a:=leadingBasisTerm(x)
  if degree(a)=p then
    leadingCoefficient(x)*a + proj(p, reductum x)
  else
    proj(p, reductum x)

```

Note

We have changed the order of arguments from (DRC,NNI) to (NNI,DRC) because this corresponds more to the usual nomenclature of projections.

5 Usage

5.1 Examples

In this section we will give various examples.

5.2 Calculus in \mathbb{R}^3

We will prove the following identities (see the summary details):

$$\begin{aligned}
 df &= [\text{grad } f]_1 \\
 d[T]_1 &= [\text{curl } T]_2 \\
 d[T]_2 &= [\text{div } T]_3
 \end{aligned}$$

Let M denote our differential graded algebra on \mathbb{R}^3 . In **FriCAS** we can express this as

```
M ==> DFORM(INT,[x,y,z])
```

DifferentialForms(Integer,[x,y,z])

Type: Type

The list of available methods can be seen by

```
)show M
```

```
DifferentialForms(Integer,[x,y,z]) is a package constructor.  
Abbreviation for DifferentialForms is DFORM  
This constructor is exposed in this frame.
```

```
----- Operations -----
```

```
coordSymbols : () -> List(Symbol)  
...  
baseForms : () -> List(DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z]))  
coordVector : () -> List(Expression(Integer))  
.  
.  
.
```

The position vector $P = (x, y, z)$ and the basis of one forms can be obtained by

```
P:=coordVector()$M
```

$[x, y, z]$

Type: List(Expression(Integer))

and

```
dP:=baseForms()$M
```

$[dx, dy, dz]$

Type: List(DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z]))

This way we can call the coordinates as $P.i$ and the basis one forms as $dP.i$. Of course, we can also use dx, dy, dz directly when setting

```
[dx,dy,dz]:=baseForms()$M
```

or when we use the generators of the domain DeRhamComplex itself:

```
dx:=generator(1)$DERHAM(INT,[x,y,z])  
dy:= ...
```

The first method, however, is quite convenient when using indexed coordinates and also because we can form expressions like

```
P * dP
```

$$z \, dz + y \, dy + x \, dx$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z])`.

5.2.1 Gradient

There are many ways to create a zero form, one of those is

```
f := zeroForm(f)$M
```

$$f(x, y, z)$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z])`

Now we apply the exterior differential operator to f :

```
d f
```

$$f_{,3}(x, y, z) \, dz + f_{,2}(x, y, z) \, dy + f_{,1}(x, y, z) \, dx$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z])`

The coefficients of df are just

```
[coefficient(d f, dP.j) for j in 1..3]
```

$$[f_{,1}(x, y, z), f_{,2}(x, y, z), f_{,3}(x, y, z)]$$

Type: `List(Expression(Integer))`

the components of the gradient vector ∇f of f .

5.2.2 Curl

Let T be a generic vector field on $M = \mathbb{R}^3$:

```
T := vectorField(T)$M
```

$$[T_1(x, y, z), T_2(x, y, z), T_3(x, y, z)]$$

Type: `List(Expression(Integer))`

Then we build the general one form τ :

```
tau := T * dP
```

$$T_3(x, y, z) dz + T_2(x, y, z) dy + T_1(x, y, z) dx$$

Now we apply the exterior differential operator d :

```
d tau
```

$$(T_{3,2}(x, y, z) - T_{2,3}(x, y, z)) dy dz + \dots$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z])`

Next, we want to extract the coefficients:

```
[coefficient(d tau, m) for m in monomials(2)$M]
```

$$[T_{2,1}(x, y, z) - T_{1,2}(x, y, z), T_{3,1}(x, y, z) - T_{1,3}(x, y, z), T_{3,2}(x, y, z) - T_{2,3}(x, y, z)]$$

The (well known) **curl** is defined as

$$\text{curl}(T) = \nabla \times T = \left(\frac{\partial T_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial T_2}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial T_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial T_3}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial T_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial T_1}{\partial y} \right)$$

```
curl(V) ==  
[D(V.3,y)-D(V.2,z),D(V.1,z)-D(V.3,x),D(V.2,x)-D(V.1,y)]
```

We now claim that the following identity holds:

$$d(T dP) = \star(\text{curl}(V) dP)$$

where \star denotes the Hodge star operator with respect to the Euclidean metric

```
g:=diagonalMatrix([1,1,1])
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

To prove it we just have to test:

```
test( d(T*dP) = hodgeStar(g,curl(T)*dP)$M )
```

true

Type: `Boolean`

5.2.3 Divergence

Again, let T be a generic vector field on $M = \mathbb{R}^3$, then the *divergence* is defined by

$$\operatorname{div}(T) = \nabla \bullet T = \frac{\partial T_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial T_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial T_3}{\partial z}.$$

When we calculate

```
d hodgeStar(g, T*dP)$M
```

we get the 3-form

$$(T_{3,3}(x, y, z) + T_{2,2}(x, y, z) + T_{1,1}(x, y, z)) \, dx \, dy \, dz$$

5.2.4 Summary

Let us summarize what we have obtained above. We use the following notation for the mapping of scalar functions and vector fields to differential forms:

$$\begin{aligned} f &\rightarrow [f]_0 \\ T &\rightarrow [T]_1 \end{aligned}$$

where the index denotes the degree of the form. Moreover, we define another pair of forms by applying the Hodge operator:

$$\begin{aligned} [T]_2 &= \star [T]_1 \\ [f]_3 &= \star [f]_0 \end{aligned}$$

So we can state the general identities:

$$\begin{aligned} df &= [\nabla f]_1 \\ d[T]_1 &= [\operatorname{curl} T]_2 \\ d[T]_2 &= [\operatorname{div} T]_3 \end{aligned}$$

5.2.5 Hodge duals

To conclude this example, we are going to calculate a table for the Hodge duals of the monomials.

```
g:=diagonalMatrix([1,1,1])::SquareMatrix(3,INT)
[[hodgeStar(g,m)$M for m in monomials(j)$M] for j in 0..3]
```

$$[[dx \, dy \, dz], [dy \, dz, -dx \, dz, dx \, dy], [dz, -dy, dx], [1]]$$

Type: List(List(DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z])))

Thus we get the following table:

α	$\star\alpha$	$\star\star\alpha$
1	$dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$	1
dx	$dy \wedge dz$	dx
dy	$-dx \wedge dz$	dy
dz	$dx \wedge dy$	dz

By the way, this method can be applied in any dimension for any metric.

5.3 Faraday 2-form

The free electromagnetic field can be described by a 2-form \mathbf{F} in Minkowski space. This form - also known as Faraday 2-form - is given by

$$F = B_1 \, dy \wedge dz + B_2 \, dz \wedge dx + B_3 \, dx \wedge dy + E_1 \, dx \wedge dt + E_2 \, dy \wedge dt + E_3 \, dz \wedge dt$$

where we here use the *cgs* system and \mathbf{E} , \mathbf{B} denote the classical fields (see the example in the documentation of tt DeRhamComplex).

To represent \mathbf{F} in FriCAS we have to choose space-time variables x, y, z, t in the correct order, and g will be the Minkowski metric:

```
v := [x,y,z,t]
g := diagonalMatrix([-1,-1,-1,1])::SquareMatrix(4,INT)
M := DFORM(INT,v)
R ==> EXPR(INT)
```

Instead of x, y, z, t we also could have chosen x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 for instance. Now we need the coordinates and basis one forms:

```
X := coordVector()$M
dX := baseForms()$M
```

Important: The order of the variables must coincide with that in the metric g . This means, for t, x, y, z the positive 1 in the metric comes first, whereas for x, y, z, t the positive 1 comes last.

We also need the fields \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} , but this time we will not choose the `vectorField` function because we only need three components:

```
E := [operator E[i] for i in 1..3]
B := [operator B[i] for i in 1..3]
```

Eventually we can build \mathbf{F} :

$$\mathbf{F} := (\mathbf{B}.1 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.2 * d\mathbf{X}.3 + (\mathbf{B}.2 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.3 * d\mathbf{X}.1 + (\mathbf{B}.3 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.1 * d\mathbf{X}.2 +$$

$$(\mathbf{E}.1 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.1 * d\mathbf{X}.4 + (\mathbf{E}.2 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.2 * d\mathbf{X}.4 + (\mathbf{E}.3 \ \mathbf{X}) * d\mathbf{X}.3 * d\mathbf{X}.4$$

$$E_3(x, y, z, t) dz dt + E_2(x, y, z, t) dy dt + B_1(x, y, z, t) dy dz +$$

$$E_1(x, y, z, t) dx dt - B_2(x, y, z, t) dx dz + B_3(x, y, z, t) dx dy$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z,t])`

We apply the exterior differential operator d to \mathbf{F} :

$$d \ \mathbf{F}$$

$$(E_{3,2}(x, y, z, t) - E_{2,3}(x, y, z, t) + B_{1,4}(x, y, z, t)) dy dz dt +$$

$$(E_{3,1}(x, y, z, t) - E_{1,3}(x, y, z, t) - B_{2,4}(x, y, z, t)) dx dz dt +$$

$$(E_{2,1}(x, y, z, t) - E_{1,2}(x, y, z, t) + B_{3,4}(x, y, z, t)) dx dy dt +$$

$$(B_{3,3}(x, y, z, t) + B_{2,2}(x, y, z, t) + B_{1,1}(x, y, z, t)) dx dy dz$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z,t])`

We see at once that the first three terms of the sum correspond to the vector

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

and the fourth term is

$$\nabla \bullet \mathbf{B}.$$

Actually, all terms are zero by two of the *Maxwell* equations. Consequently we have shown (the well known fact)

$$d\mathbf{F} = 0$$

Now let us apply the \star -operator to \mathbf{F} , which is also a 2-form:

$$\%F := \text{hodgeStar}(g, F) \$M$$

$$B_3(x, y, z, t) dz dt + B_2(x, y, z, t) dy dt - E_1(x, y, z, t) dy dz +$$

$$B_1(x, y, z, t) dx dt + E_2(x, y, z, t) dx dz - E_3(x, y, z, t) dx dy$$

Type: `DeRhamComplex(Integer,[x,y,z,t])`

Now we proceed as above:

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