

# Math 5050 – Special Topics: Manifolds– Spring 2025

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## Definitions

1. **Diffeomorphism**: If  $f \in C^\infty$  and  $f^{-1} \in C^\infty$  then  $f$  is said to be a **diffeomorphism**. Similarly, if there exists a mapping between two sets that is a diffeomorphism, the sets are said to be **diffeomorphic** to each other.
2. **Tangent Space** at a point  $p$ . The set of all vectors rooted at  $p$ , written as  $T_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .
3. **Derivations**: any operation that supports the Liebniz Rule ( $D(fg) = (Df)g + fDg$ ).
4. **Derivation Space**.  $\mathcal{D}_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is the set of all derivations at  $p$ . This constitutes a vector space. There exists an isomorphism  $\phi : T_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : T_p(\mathbb{R}^n) &\rightarrow \mathcal{D}_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \\ v &\mapsto D_v = \sum v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_p.\end{aligned}$$

5. **Germ**: equivalence class of functions whose derivatives around a point are the same.
6. Vector Field vs Vector Space.

- **A Vector Field** a function that assigns a vector to every point in the subset  $U$ .

$$\begin{aligned}f : (U \subset \mathbb{R}^m) &\rightarrow T_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \\ X &\mapsto X_p = \sum a^i(p) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_p.\end{aligned}$$

consider  $a^i$  as coefficient functions. We say that  $X$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $U$  if  $a^i \in C^\infty$ ,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, n$ .

- **A Vector Space** is any abstraciton that is closed under addition and scalar multiplication.

7. **Dual Basis and Dual Space**. The **Dual Basis** is a set of functions  $\alpha^i : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^i : V &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ \alpha^i(e_j) &= \delta_j^i\end{aligned}$$

the **Dual Space**  $V^\vee$  is the space of functions spanned by the Dual Basis. Elements of the Dual Space are called **Functionals (Analysis)/1-Covectors (Differential Geometry)**.

8. **Multi-Linear Functions** Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $V^k$  be  $k$ -tuples of vectors in  $V$ . A  **$K$ -linear map or  $k$ -tensor**  $f : V^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that each  $i^{\text{th}}$  component is linear. The vector space of all  $k$ -tensors on  $V$  is denoted  $L_k(V)$ .

**Permuting Mult-linear Functions**. Given any permutation  $\sigma \in S_k$

$$f(v_1, \dots, v_k) = f(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(k)})$$

e.g.,  $f(x, y, z) = xyz \rightarrow f(z, x, y) = zxy$ . FYI: if  $x, y, z$  are from non-commutative rings (i.e., matrices) then we must be aware of the  $\text{sgn}(\sigma)$ .

9. **Left  $R$ -Module**: An Abelian group  $R$  with a scalar multiplication map:

$$\mu : R \times A \rightarrow A$$

usually written as  $\mu(r, a)$ , such that  $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in A$  a

- (i) (associative)  $(rs)a = r(sa)$ .
- (ii) (identity)  $1a = a$  (1 is a multiplicative identity).
- (iii) (distributivity)  $(r + s)a = ra + sa$  and  $r(a + b) = ra + rb$ .

If  $R$  is a field then  $R$ -module is precisely a vector space over  $R$ .

A  **$K$ -Algebra over a field  $K$**  is also a ring  $A$  that is also a vector space over  $K$  such that the ring multiplication satisfies homogeniety (scalar distributes over vector multipliation to only one of the operators).

A **graded Algebra** is an algebra  $A$  over a field  $K$  if it can be writte as the direct sum

$$A = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} A^i$$

of vector spaces over  $K$  such that the muptlication map sends  $A^k \times A^l \rightarrow A^{k+l}$

10. The set of all  $C^\infty$ -vector fields on  $U$ , denoted by  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$ , is not only a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , but also a *module* over the  $C^\infty(U)$  ring.

$$\mathfrak{X}(U) = \{ X : V \rightarrow V \mid X \in C^\infty(U) \} \text{ where } V = (\mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{C})^n$$

11. **Derivation:** A **derivation** on an algebra  $A$  is a  $K$ -multilinear function  $D : A \rightarrow A$  such that

$$D(ab) = (Da)b + aDb, \forall a, b \in A$$

known as the **Liebniz Rule**.

The set of all derivations on  $A$  forms a vector space,  $\text{Der}(C^\infty(U))$ . Thus a  $C^\infty(U)$  vector field gives rise to a derivation of the algebra  $C^\infty(U)$ . Thus the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \mathfrak{X}(U) &\rightarrow \text{Der}(C^\infty(U)) \\ X &\mapsto (f \mapsto Xf) \end{aligned}$$

this map is an isomorphism of vector spaces.

12. **Exterior Algebras**  $\Lambda(V)$ . The exterior algebra  $\Lambda(V)$  is obtained by imposing an **anti-commutative** relation:

$$v \otimes w + w \otimes v = 0, \forall v, w \in V$$

this means that the quotient algebra is:

$$\Lambda(V) = T(V) / \langle v \otimes w + w \otimes v \rangle.$$

Where  $T(V)$  is the **tensor algebra**

$$T(V) = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} V^{\otimes n}$$

13. **Symmetric Algebras**  $S(V)$ . The symmetric algebra  $S(V)$  is obtained by imposing an **commutative** relation:

$$v \otimes w - w \otimes v = 0, \forall v, w \in V$$

this means that the quotient algebra is:

$$S(V) = T(V) / \langle v \otimes w - w \otimes v \rangle.$$

14. **Tensor Product** The tensor product between two 1-covectors,  $f, g : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the 2-covector  $f \otimes g$ .

$$(f \otimes g)(u, v) = f(u)g(v)$$

. In general, the tensor product of a  $k$ -covector  $p : V^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with a  $l$ -covector  $q : V^l \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the  $(k+l)$ -covector  $p \otimes q : V^{k+l} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$(p \otimes q)(u, v) = p(u)q(v), \forall u \in V^k, v \in V^l$$

15. **Tensor Product(?)** is an operator on  $v \in V$  and  $u \in U$  where

$$\begin{aligned} v \otimes u &: V \times U \rightarrow V \oplus U \\ (v \otimes u)_{i,j} &= v_i \cdot u_j, \forall i = 1, \dots, \dim(V), j = 1, \dots, \dim(U) \end{aligned}$$

Given two vector spaces  $V, W$  with bases  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  then the Tensor Product space  $V \otimes W$  has a basis referred to as  $v_i \otimes w_j$  such that given any vector  $\alpha = \sum \alpha_i v_i \in V$  and  $\beta = \sum \beta_j w_j \in W$  the vector  $\alpha \otimes \beta$  will have  $n \times m$  components and each  $(\alpha \otimes \beta)_{i \times j} = \alpha_i \times \beta_j$ .

$\alpha_i, \beta_j$  are all scalars. The real issue is the behavior of unit basis vectors  $v_i, w_j$  and how they are effected by the operator and the basis vectors  $v_i \otimes w_j$ . Thus, scalar multiplication works on either (but not both) operands and distribution over addition works over both the left and the right.

16. **Wedge Product**

**Between two covectors** Let  $f, g \in L_1(V)$  then for all  $u, v \in V$

$$(f \wedge g)(u, v) = (f \otimes g)(u, v) - (g \otimes f)(u, v) = f(u)g(v) - f(v)g(u)$$

**Between multiple 1-covectors.**

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha^1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \alpha^k)(v_1, \dots, v_k) &= \det[\alpha^i(v_j)] \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} (\text{sgn } \sigma) \alpha_1(v_{\sigma(1)}) \cdots \alpha_k(v_{\sigma(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

**Between  $k$ -covector and  $l$ -covector.** Let  $f \in A_k(V)$ ,  $g \in A_l(V)$  then

$$f \wedge g = \frac{1}{k!l!} A(f \otimes g) \in A_{k+l}(V)$$

or explicitly

$$(f \wedge g)(v_1, \dots, v_{k+l}) = \frac{1}{k!l!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{k+l}} f(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(k)}) g(v_{\sigma(k+1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(k+l)})$$

**Anticommutative.** Let  $f \in A_k(V)$ ,  $g \in A_l(V)$  then

$$(f \wedge g) = (-1)^{kl} g \wedge f$$

## 17. Differential k-Forms

### 1-forms, covectors

$$\begin{aligned} (dx^i) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \Big|_p \right) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \Big|_p x^i = \delta_j^i \\ (df)_p(X_p) &= X_p f = \sum a^i(p) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \Big|_p = \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} dx^i \end{aligned}$$

## 18. $\Omega^k(U)$ , Vector space of $C^\infty$ $k$ -forms on $U$ .

$\Omega^0 = A_0(T_p(\mathbb{R}^n)) = C^\infty(U)$ , e.g.,  $f \in \Omega^0$  then  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a functional/covector/1-tensor.

Elements of 1-form  $\Omega^1 = A_1(T_p(\mathbb{R}^n))$ . For example, when  $n = 3$

$$f dx + g dy + h dz, \text{ where } f, g, h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

Elements of 2-form  $\Omega^2 = A_2(T_p(\mathbb{R}^n))$ . For example, when  $n = 3$ <sup>1</sup>

$$f dy \wedge dz + g dx \wedge dz + h dx \wedge dy, \text{ where } f, g, h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$$

if  $n = 4$ , that is coordinates for  $u, v, w, x$ . Each form is derived from these bases

0-form  $\Omega^0(\mathbb{R}^4) \in \mathbb{R}$

1-forms  $\Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^4)$  summing  $du, dv, dw, dx$ ,

2-forms  $\Omega^2(\mathbb{R}^4)$  summing  $du \wedge dv, du \wedge dw, du \wedge dx, dv \wedge dw, dv \wedge dx, dw \wedge dx$ ,

3-forms  $\Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^4)$  summing  $du \wedge dv \wedge dw, du \wedge dv \wedge dx, du \wedge dw \wedge dx, dv \wedge dw \wedge dx$

4-form  $\Omega^4(\mathbb{R}^4)$   $du \wedge dv \wedge dw \wedge dx$ .

Also,  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $k < n$ .  $k$ -forms for  $k > n$  are zero. Further  $|\Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^n)| = \binom{n}{k}$  and  $|\bigcup_k \Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^n)| = 2^n$  and think of  $\Omega^*(U) = \bigcup_k \Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$

**Direct Sum.**  $\Omega^*(U) = \bigoplus_k \Omega^k(U)$  is an anti-commutative graded algebra over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Since one can multiply  $C^\infty$   $k$ -forms by  $C^\infty$  functions, the set  $\Omega^k(U)$  of  $C^\infty$   $k$ -forms is both a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  and a module over  $C^\infty(U)$  and  $\Omega^*(U)$  is also a module over  $C^\infty$  of  $C^\infty$  functions.

## 19. Wedge Product of $k$ -form.

Recall:  $dx^i \wedge dx^i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Therefore,  $\wedge$  only makes sense to be defined on *disjoint index-lists*, that is,  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$  and  $J = \{j_1, \dots, j_l\}$  such that  $I \cap J = \emptyset$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \wedge : \Omega^k(U) \times \Omega^l(U) &\rightarrow \Omega^{k+l}(U) \\ (\omega, \tau) &\mapsto (\omega \wedge \tau) = \sum_{I, J} a_I b_J dx^I \wedge dx^J. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \omega = \sum_I a_I dx^I, \tau = \sum_J b_J dx^J.$$

<sup>1</sup>NOTE the cyclic order of the indices  $x, y, z$ . Switching any one of these will flip the sign.

20. **the Exterior Derivative.** If  $k \geq 1$  and if  $\omega = \sum_I a_I dx^I \in \Omega^k(U)$ , then  $d\omega \in \Omega^{k+1}(U)$  and

$$d\omega = \sum_I da_I \wedge dx^I = \sum_I \left( \sum_J \frac{\partial a_I}{\partial x_J} dx^J \right) \wedge dx^I$$

*Example:* Let  $\omega \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  and  $\omega = f dx + g dy$ ,  $f, g \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega &= df \wedge dx + dg \wedge dy \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy \right) \wedge dx + \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} dy \right) \wedge dy \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) dx \wedge dy \\ &= (g_x - f_y) dx \wedge dy \end{aligned}$$

**Definition:** Let  $\bigoplus_{k=0}^\infty A^k$  be a graded algebra over a field  $K$ . An **anti-derivation** of the graded algebra  $A$  is a  $K$ -linear map  $D : A \rightarrow A$  such that  $a \in A^k$  and  $b \in A^l$ ,

$$D(ab) = (Da)b + (-1)^k aDb$$

**Proposition 4.7: Three Criterion for an Exterior Derivation**

i) The **exterior derivation**  $d : \Omega^*(U) \rightarrow \Omega^*(U)$  is an antiderivation of degree 1:

$$d(\omega \wedge \tau) = (d\omega) \wedge \tau + (-1)^{\deg \omega} \omega \wedge d\tau$$

ii)  $d^2 = 0$ .

iii) If  $f \in \mathbb{C}^\infty$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(U)$ , then  $(df)(X) = Xf$ .

**NOTE:** “In a typical school, there would be graduate level courses on Smooth Manifolds and another on Riemannian Manifolds.”

Q: What is the difference between  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$  and  $C^\infty(U)$ ?

The difference between  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$  and  $C^\infty(U)$  lies in the types of objects they contain:

1.  **$C^\infty(U)$ : The Space of Smooth Functions** -  $C^\infty(U)$  consists of all smooth (infinitely differentiable) real-valued functions defined on an open subset  $U$  of a manifold  $M$ . - Elements of  $C^\infty(U)$  are scalar functions  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . - These functions can be added and multiplied pointwise, forming an algebra over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

2.  **$\mathfrak{X}(U)$ : The Space of Smooth Vector Fields** -  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$  consists of all smooth vector fields on  $U$ . - A vector field  $X$  assigns to each point  $p \in U$  a tangent vector  $X_p \in T_p M$ , smoothly varying with  $p$ . - Vector fields act as derivations on smooth functions, meaning they satisfy the Leibniz rule:

$$X(fg) = X(f)g + fX(g), \quad \forall f, g \in C^\infty(U).$$

- The space  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$  forms a module over  $C^\infty(U)$ , meaning smooth functions can scale vector fields: if  $f \in C^\infty(U)$  and  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(U)$ , then  $fX$  is also a vector field.

**Key Differences**

Feature	$C^\infty(U)$	$\mathfrak{X}(U)$
Elements	Smooth scalar functions $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	Smooth vector fields $X : U \rightarrow TM$
Algebraic Structure	Commutative algebra (pointwise multiplication)	Module over $C^\infty(U)$ , noncommutative under Lie bracket
Operations	Addition, multiplication	Addition, scalar multiplication by $C^\infty(U)$ , Lie bracket $[X, Y]$

In summary,  $C^\infty(U)$  consists of smooth functions, while  $\mathfrak{X}(U)$  consists of smooth vector fields, which act as differential operators on  $C^\infty(U)$ .

Compare and contrast.

Set	Dim	index	basis	Delta
$L_1(U)$	$n$	$i = 1, \dots, n$	$\alpha^i$	$\delta_i^j = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$
$L_k(U)$	$n^k$	$I, J \in \underbrace{\{i_1, \dots, i_k\}}_{k \text{ times}}, i_k \in [1, \dots, n]$	$\alpha^I = \alpha^{i_1} \otimes \alpha^{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes \alpha^{i_k}$	
$A_k(U)$	$\binom{n}{k}$	$I, J \in \underbrace{\{i_1, \dots, i_k\}}_{k \text{ times}}, i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \in [1, n]$	$\alpha^I = \alpha^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha^{i_k}$	$\delta_I^J = \begin{cases} 1 & I = J \\ 0 & I \neq J \end{cases}$

Supersets

Symbol	Name (set of)	Definition	Example
$\Omega^0(U)$	0-forms	{ scalar fields }	$f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad f(x, y, z)$
$\Omega^1(U)$	1-forms	{ 1-forms, vector fields }	$d\omega(v) = A(v)dx + B(v)dy + C(v)dz$ $A, B, C : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
$\Omega^k(U)$	$k$ -forms	{ $k$ -forms }	$\dots + dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^k + \dots$
$\Omega^*(U)$	sum of $k$ -forms	{ $x = \sum y \mid y \in \oplus_k \Omega^k(U)$ }	$A dx + B dx \wedge dy + C dx \wedge dy \wedge dz, \quad A, B, C : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
$\mathfrak{X}(U)$	vector fields on $U$	{ $X \rightarrow \exists f : U \rightarrow U$ }	
$C^\infty(U)$	smooth functions on $U$		
$X_p = T_p(U)$	a vector field at $p$	{ $v \in U \mid v = p + x$ for some $x \in U$ }	

Map of  $\Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^3)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \Omega^0(U) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^1(U) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^2(U) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^3(U) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow \\
 C^\infty(U) & \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} & \mathfrak{X}(U) & \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} & \mathfrak{X}(U) & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & C^\infty(U).
 \end{array}$$

Shorthand

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j &= \sum_i a_i \sum_j b_j \\
 \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j &= \sum_i a_i \sum_j b_j \\
 \sum_I a_I &= \sum_{n=1}^k a_{i_n} \\
 \sum_{I,J} a_I b_J &= \sum_{n=1}^k a_{i_n} \sum_{m=1}^k b_{j_m} \\
 \delta_i^j &= \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases} \\
 \delta_I^J &= \delta_{i_1}^{j_1} \delta_{i_2}^{j_2} \dots \delta_{i_k}^{j_k} = \begin{cases} 1 & i_n = j_n, \forall n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1 & I = J \\ 0 & I \neq J \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$