# Math 5050 – Special Topics: Manifolds– Spring 2025 w/Professor Berchenko-Kogan

Paul Carmody Notes – January – May, 2025

#### **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  $\phi: T_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \to \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  defined as

$$\phi: T_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \to \mathcal{D}_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$$
$$v \mapsto D_v = \sum v^i \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right|_p.$$

- 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.

$$f: (U \subset \mathbb{R}^m) \to T_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$X \mapsto X_p = \sum a^i(p) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \bigg|_p.$$

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

- 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  $\alpha^i: V \to \mathbb{R}$

$$\alpha^i: V \to \mathbb{R}$$
$$\alpha^i(e_j) = \delta^i_j$$

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  $f: V^k \to \mathbb{R}$  such that each i<sup>th</sup> component is linear. The vector space of all k-tensors on V is denoted  $L_k(V)$ .

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

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

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  $sgn(\sigma)$ .

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

$$\mu: R \times A \to A$$

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 homogeneity (scalar distributes over vector multiplication 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 mupl tiplication map sends  $A^k \times A^l \to A^{k+l}$  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.

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

11. **Derivation:** A **derivation** on an algebra A is a K-multilinear function  $D: A \to A$  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,  $Der(C^{\infty}(U))$ . Thus a  $C^{\infty}(U)$  vector field gives rise to a derivation of the algebra  $C^{\infty}(U)$ . Thus the mapping

$$\varphi: \mathfrak{X}(U) \to \mathrm{Der}(C^{\infty}(U))$$
  
  $X \mapsto (f \mapsto Xf)$ 

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,  $f, g: V \to \mathbb{R}$  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  $p:V^k\to\mathbb{R}$  with a l-covector  $q:v^l\to\mathbb{R}$  is the (k+l)-covector  $p\otimes q:V^{k+l}\to\mathbb{R}$ .

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

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

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

Given two vector spaces V, W with bases  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \ldots, w_m$  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 mulitple 1-covectors.

$$(\alpha^1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \alpha^k)(v_1, \dots, v_k) = \det[\alpha^1(v_j)]$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} (\operatorname{sgn} \sigma) \alpha_1(v_{\sigma(1)}) \cdots \alpha_k(v_{\sigma(k)})$$

Between k-covector and k-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

$$(dx^{i})\left(\left.\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{j}}\right|_{p}\right) = \left.\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{j}}\right|_{p} x^{i} = \delta^{i}_{j}$$
$$(df)_{p}(X_{p}) = X_{p}f = \sum_{p} a^{i}(p) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^{i}}\bigg|_{p} = \sum_{p} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}} dx^{i}$$

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  $f: V \to \mathbb{R}$  is a functional/covector/1-tensor.

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

$$fdx + qdy + hdz$$
, where  $f, q, h \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ 

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

$$fdy \wedge dz + qdx \wedge dz + hdx \wedge dy$$
, where  $f, q, h \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^3)$ 

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  $du \wedge dv \wedge dw \mid du \wedge dw \wedge dx \mid du \wedge dv \wedge dx \mid dv \wedge dw \wedge dx$ 

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  $|\Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^n)| = \binom{k}{n}$  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, ..., n. Therefore,  $\wedge$  only makes sense to be defined on disjoint indice-lists, that is,  $I = \{i_1, ..., i_k\}$  and  $J = \{j_1, ..., j_l\}$  such that  $I \cap J = \emptyset$ . Then,

$$\wedge: \Omega^{k}(U) \times \Omega^{l}(U) \to \Omega^{k+l}(U)$$
$$(\omega, \tau) \mapsto (\omega \wedge \tau) = \sum_{I,I} a_{I} b_{J} dx^{I} \wedge dx^{J}.$$

where  $\omega = \sum_{I} a_{I} dx^{I}, \tau = \sum_{J} b_{J}, dx^{J}$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;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  $\omega = f dx + g dy, f, g \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

$$d\omega = df \wedge dx + dg \wedge dy$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}dy\right) \wedge dx + \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}dy\right) \wedge dy$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right) dx \wedge dy$$

$$= (g_x - f_y) dx \wedge dy$$

**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  $D: A \to A$  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*  $d: \Omega^*(U) \to \Omega^*(U)$  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 Manifods and another on Remannian 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  $f:U\to\mathbb{R}$ . 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  $X_p \in T_pM$ , 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 $f: U \to \mathbb{R}$	Smooth vector fields $X: U \to TM$	
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	$i=1,\ldots,n$	$lpha^i$	$\delta_i^j = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{array} \right.$
$L_k(U)$	$n^k$	$I, J \in \{\underline{i_i, \dots, i_k}\}, i_k \in [1, \dots, n]$	$\alpha^I = \alpha^{i_1} \otimes \alpha^{i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes \alpha^k$	
$A_k(U)$	$\binom{n}{k}$	$I, J \in \{\underbrace{i_i, \dots, i_k}_{k \text{ times}}\}, i_1 < i_2 < \dots i_k \in [1, n]$	$\alpha^I = \alpha^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha^k$	$\delta_I^J = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & I = J \\ 0 & I \neq J \end{array} \right.$

Supersets

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\operatorname{Map of } \Omega^{k}(\mathbb{R}^{3}) \\
\Omega^{0}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{d}} \Omega^{1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{d}} \Omega^{2}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{d}} \Omega^{3}(U) \\
\cong & \downarrow & \cong \downarrow & \cong \downarrow & \cong \downarrow \\
C^{\infty}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{grad}} \mathfrak{X}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{curl}} \mathfrak{X}(U) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} C^{\infty}(U).
\end{array}$$

Shorthand

$$\sum_{i,j} a_i b_j = \sum_i a_i \sum_j b_j$$

$$\sum_{i,j} a_i b_j = \sum_i a_i \sum_j b_j$$

$$\sum_{I} a_I = \sum_{n=1}^k a_{i_n}$$

$$\sum_{I} a_I b_J = \sum_{n=1}^k a_{i_n} \sum_{m=1}^k b_{j_m}$$

$$\delta_i^j = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$\delta_I^J = \delta_{i_1}^{j_1} \delta_{i_2}^{j_2} \cdots \delta_{i_k}^{j_k} = \begin{cases} 1 & i_n = j_n, \forall n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1 & I = J \\ 0 & I \neq J \end{cases}$$

**Definition 0.0.1** (Exact and Closed k-forms). A k-form  $\omega$  on U is **closed** if  $d\omega = 0$ ; it is **exact** if there is a (k-1)-form  $\tau$  such that  $\omega = d\tau$  on U. Since  $d(d\tau) = 0$ , every exact form is closed.

**Definition 0.0.2** (de Rham Cohomology). .

The  $k^{th}$ -cohomology of U is defined as the quotient vector space

$$H^k(U) = \frac{\{\text{closed k-forms}\}}{\{\text{exact k-forms}\}}$$

That is, each element is a vector space forming an equivalence class of k-forms.

Examples of de Rham Cohomology

De Rham cohomology provides a way to study the topology of smooth manifolds using differential forms. Below are some key examples illustrating how to compute and interpret de Rham cohomology groups.

## \*\*Example 1: Euclidean Space $\mathbb{R}^{n**}$

For  $M = \mathbb{R}^n$ , we claim that the de Rham cohomology is:

$$H_{\mathrm{dR}}^k(\mathbb{R}^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & k = 0, \\ 0, & k > 0. \end{cases}$$

- \*\*Computation\*\*
  - 1. \*\* $H_{dR}^0(\mathbb{R}^n)$ :\*\*
    - The 0-forms are just smooth functions f.
    - A function is closed if df = 0, meaning f is constant.
    - Every constant function is not only closed but also exact since f = d(fx).
    - The space of closed 0-forms is  $\mathbb{R}$  (constant functions), and there are no exact forms to quotient out.
    - So,  $H^0_{\mathrm{dR}}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbb{R}$ .
  - 2. \*\* $H_{dR}^{k}(\mathbb{R}^{n})$  for k > 0:\*\*
    - Any closed k-form  $\omega$  is locally exact due to \*\*Poincaré's lemma\*\*.
    - That is, every closed form is of the form  $\omega = d\eta$ , meaning it contributes nothing to cohomology.
    - Thus,  $H_{dR}^k(\mathbb{R}^n) = 0$  for k > 0. This result reflects the fact that  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is \*\*contractible\*\*, so it has trivial topology.

### \*\*Example 2: The Circle $S^{1**}$

For  $M = S^1$ , we find:

$$H_{\mathrm{dR}}^k(S^1) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & k = 0, 1, \\ 0, & k > 1. \end{cases}$$

- \*\*Computation\*\*
  - 1. \*\* $H_{dR}^0(S^1) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$ 
    - Smooth functions f that satisfy df = 0 are constant.
    - Thus,  $H_{\mathrm{dR}}^0(S^1) = \mathbb{R}$ .
  - 2. \*\* $H^1_{dR}(S^1) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$ 
    - Consider the 1-form  $\omega = d\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is the angular coordinate.
    - $d\omega = 0$ , so  $\omega$  is closed.
    - Is  $\omega$  exact? If  $\omega = d\eta$  for some  $\eta$ , then  $d\eta = d\theta$ , but no globally defined function  $\eta$  exists on  $S^1$  satisfying this.
    - So  $\omega$  represents a \*\*nontrivial cohomology class\*\*, giving  $H^1_{dR}(S^1) = \mathbb{R}$ .
  - 3. \*\* $H_{dR}^k(S^1) = 0$  for  $k \ge 2^{**}$ 
    - There are no nontrivial 2-forms on a 1-dimensional manifold.
    - \*\*Interpretation\*\*

- The nontrivial  $H^1_{dR}(S^1)$  reflects the existence of a \*\*loop\*\* in  $S^1$ .
- This cohomology detects the ability to define a \*\*non-exact closed form\*\*, related to the winding number.

## \*\*Example 3: The 2-Sphere $S^2$ \*\* For $M = S^2$ :

$$H_{\mathrm{dR}}^{k}(S^{2}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & k = 0, 2, \\ 0, & k = 1. \end{cases}$$

\*\*Computation\*\*

1. \*\*
$$H^0_{\mathrm{dR}}(S^2) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$$

- As always, closed 0-forms are constant functions, so  $H^0_{\mathrm{dR}}(S^2)=\mathbb{R}$
- 2. \*\* $H^1_{dR}(S^2) = 0$ \*\*
  - Any closed 1-form is exact by a higher-dimensional \*\*Poincaré lemma\*\*, so  $H^1_{dR}(S^2) = 0$ .
- 3. \*\* $H^2_{dR}(S^2) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$ 
  - The standard volume form  $\omega = \sin \theta \, d\theta \wedge d\phi$  is closed.
  - It is not exact, because there is no 1-form  $\eta$  such that  $d\eta = \omega$  (this follows from \*\*Stokes' theorem\*\*).
  - So  $\omega$  represents a generator of  $H^2_{\mathrm{dR}}(S^2)$ .

### \*\*Interpretation\*\*

- $H^1_{dR}(S^2) = 0$  reflects that there are no \*\*nontrivial loops\*\* (all loops contract).
- $H^2_{dR}(S^2) = \mathbb{R}$  corresponds to the existence of a volume form, a global topological feature.

## \*\*Example 4: The Torus $T^2 = S^1 \times S^{1**}$

For  $T^2$ , the de Rham cohomology groups are:

$$H_{\mathrm{dR}}^{k}(T^{2}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & k = 0, 2, \\ \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}, & k = 1, \\ 0, & k > 2. \end{cases}$$

\*\*Computation\*\*

- 1. \*\* $H_{dR}^0(T^2) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$  (constant functions).
- 2.  $**H^1_{dR}(T^2) = \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{**}$ 
  - The torus has two independent 1-forms:  $d\theta_1$  and  $d\theta_2$ , corresponding to the two loops in  $T^2$ .
- 3. \*\* $H^2_{dR}(T^2) = \mathbb{R}^{**}$
- 4. The volume form  $d\theta_1 \wedge d\theta_2$  represents a nontrivial 2-class.

#### \*\*Interpretation\*\*

- The rank of  $H^1_{dR}(T^2)$  reflects the \*\*two independent loops\*\* in the torus.
- The nontrivial  $H^2_{dR}(T^2)$  corresponds to the existence of a \*\*volume form\*\*.

\*\*Summary Table\*\*

Manifold M	$H_{dR}^0(M)$	$H^2_{dR}(M)$	$H^1_{dR}(M)$
$\mathbb{R}^n$	$\mathbb{R}$	0	0
$S^1$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{R}$	0
$S^2$	$\mathbb{R}$	0	$\mathbb{R}$
$T^2$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{R}\oplus\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{R}$