

Chapter 11 - Differential forms

11.3 The exterior derivative

Theorem M smooth manifold.

$\exists!$ linear map $d: \Omega^*(M, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \Omega^*(M, \mathbb{R})$ s.t.

(i) d sends $\Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R})$ into $\Omega^{k+1}(M, \mathbb{R})$.

$$\{0\} \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^0(M, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(M, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(M, \mathbb{R}) \dots \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^m(M, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \{0\}$$

(ii) On $\Omega^0(M, \mathbb{R}) \approx C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$,

d is the differential of a function

(we have seen that
if $f \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$
 $df \in \Omega^1(M, \mathbb{R})$)

(iii) For any $\alpha \in \Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R}) \quad \beta \in \Omega^l(M, \mathbb{R})$

$$d(\alpha \wedge \beta) = d\alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^k \alpha \wedge d\beta \quad (\text{"Leibniz rule"})$$

$$(iv) \quad d \circ d = 0 \quad (d(d\alpha) = 0)$$

Definition d is the exterior derivative

Remark
If $\alpha \in \Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R})$
 $\alpha = f \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$

Proof: Uniqueness:

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = f \beta$$

let $\alpha \in \Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R})$.

Let (x^1, \dots, x^m) be local coordinates.

α can be written $\alpha = \sum_{\varphi \in \Omega^k(U, \mathbb{R})} \varphi dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$

Claim: $d\alpha$ must be $\sum_{\varphi \in \Omega^1(U, \mathbb{R})} d(\varphi) dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$

By the Leibniz rule,

$$d(f dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}) = df \wedge (dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}) + (-1)^{\partial f} d(dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k})$$

must be 0

By (iv) $d(dx^{i_k}) = 0$

By "Leibniz rule" + induction $d(dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}) = 0$

Existence: expression in red tells me how to define $d\alpha$ in local coordinates.

(+ check consistency when changing coordinates)

Now we need to check (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

(i) (ii) trivial

(iii) Leibniz rule. straightforward computation.

(iv) $d \circ d = 0$?

$$\alpha = f dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

Want to prove: $d(d\alpha) = 0$?

$$d\alpha = df \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

$$d(dx) = d(df) \wedge dx^i \wedge \dots \wedge dx^k \quad (\text{"Leibniz rule"})$$

to conclude, let us show that $d(df) = 0$

$$\text{In local coordinates } df = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i$$

$$d(df) = \sum_{i=1}^m d\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}\right) \wedge dx^i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^j \partial x^i} dx^j \right) \wedge dx^i$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq m} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^j \partial x^i} dx^j \wedge dx^i$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^j \partial x^i} dx^j \wedge dx^i + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} dx^i \wedge dx^j \right)$$

$$+ \sum_{1 \leq i \leq m} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^i \partial x^i} dx^i \wedge dx^i \quad = 0$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} \left(\underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^j \partial x^i} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}}_0 \right) dx^j \wedge dx^i$$

0 by "Schwarz lemma"

$$= 0$$



Example : $M = \mathbb{R}^3$ (x, y, z)

$$\mathcal{L}' \ni \alpha = A dx + B dy + C dz \quad A \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R})$$

$$d\alpha = dA \wedge dx + dB \wedge dy + dc \wedge dz$$

$$dA = \frac{\partial A}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial A}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial A}{\partial z} dz$$

$$= \partial_x A dx + \partial_y A dy + \partial_z A dz$$

$$dA \wedge dx = \underline{\partial_y A dy \wedge dx} + \partial_z A dz \wedge dx$$

$$dB \wedge dy = \dots$$

$$dc \wedge dz = \dots$$

$$d\alpha = (\partial_x B - \partial_y A) dx \wedge dy + (\partial_y C - \partial_z B) dy \wedge dz + (\partial_z A - \partial_x C) dz \wedge dx \quad \text{curl ??}$$

$$\beta = P dx \wedge dy + Q dy \wedge dz + R dz \wedge dx$$

$$d\beta = dP \wedge dz \wedge dy + dQ \wedge dy \wedge dz + dR \wedge dz \wedge dx$$

$$= \dots$$

$$= (\partial_z P + \partial_x Q + \partial_y R) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \quad \text{divergence ??}$$

→ Exercise sheet

Further properties:

- Naturality : $f : M \longrightarrow N$

$$f^*(d\alpha) = d(f^*\alpha) \quad \forall \alpha \in \Omega^k(N, \mathbb{R})$$

- Invariant formula using the Lie bracket (see Lee or Lafontaine)

example for $k=1$

$$\alpha \in \Omega^1(M, \mathbb{R})$$

$d\alpha \in \Omega^2(M, \mathbb{R})$ is characterized by $\forall x, y \in \Gamma(TM)$

$$(d\alpha(x, y) = \underbrace{x \cdot \alpha(y)}_{+} + \underbrace{y \cdot \alpha(x)}_{-} - \underbrace{\alpha([x, y])}_{})$$

- "Cartan's magic formula"

$$\boxed{\mathcal{L}_x = i_x \circ d + d \circ i_x}$$

$$\forall \alpha \in \Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\forall x \in \Gamma(TM)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_x \alpha = i_x(d\alpha) + d(i_x \alpha)$$

$$\text{Cor : } \mathcal{L}_x \circ d = d \circ \mathcal{L}_x$$

11.4 De Rham cohomology

Definition : $\alpha \in \Omega^k(M, \mathbb{R})$

α is closed if $d\alpha = 0 \Leftrightarrow \alpha \in \text{Ker } d$

α is exact if $\exists \beta \in \Omega^{k-1}(M, \mathbb{R})$ s.t. $\alpha = d\beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha \in \text{Im } d$

Remark $\alpha = d\beta \Rightarrow d\alpha = d(d\beta) = 0$

exact \Rightarrow closed.

Remark $d \circ d = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{Im } d \subseteq \text{Ker } d$

Definitions : $Z^k(M, \mathbb{R}) = \{ \text{closed } k\text{-forms} \} \subseteq \Omega^k$

$B^k(M, \mathbb{R}) = \{ \text{exact } k\text{-forms} \} \subseteq \Omega^k$

$$B^k \subseteq Z^k$$

Consider the quotient
$$H_{dR}^k(M, \mathbb{R}) = \frac{Z^k(M, \mathbb{R})}{B^k(M, \mathbb{R})}$$

quotient group
or quotient space

"de Rham cohomology
space"

Thm : $H_{dR}^k(M, \mathbb{R})$ is finite-dimensional (HARD!)
and only depends on the topology of M .

"Poincaré lemma" : Any closed form is locally exact.

If M is topologically a ball, then $H_{dR}^k(M, \mathbb{R}) = 0$.

De Rham theorem:

$$H_{dR}^{\bullet}(M, \mathbb{R}) \simeq H^{\bullet}(M, \underline{\mathbb{R}}) \simeq H_{\text{sing}}^{\bullet}(M, \mathbb{R})$$

sheaf
cohomology

Chapter 12 : Integration and Stokes's theorem

- Prerequisite:
- Multiple integrals in \mathbb{R}^n .
 - Measure theory and Lebesgue integral: not needed

12.1 Preamble: Integration of differential forms on \mathbb{R}^m

Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ be an open set

For $f \in C^\infty(U, \mathbb{R})$, we can define $\int_U f$

Notation: $\int_U f(x_1, \dots, x_m) dx_1 \dots dx_m$

$$\int_U f(x) d\lambda(x)$$

\uparrow
"Lebesgue measure"

⚠ f needs to be integrable

For us, we always restrict to easy situation:

- f has compact support in U

$\text{Supp}(f) = \text{cl}(\{x \in U | f(x) \neq 0\})$
 ⚡ compact
 U

- U has compact closure in \mathbb{R}^m
and f extends continuously to ∂U .

Let ω be a differential form of top degree on U

$$\omega \in \Omega^m(U, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\omega = \underbrace{f}_{\in C^\infty(U, \mathbb{R})} \underbrace{dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m}_{\text{basis of } \underbrace{\Lambda^m T^* \mathbb{R}^m}_{1-\text{dim}}} \quad \text{where } f \text{ is a smooth function.}$$

Remark

At every point $x \in U$,

$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m$ is an antisymmetric multilinear map

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{R}^m \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}^m}_{m \text{ copies}} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m = \det$$

Definition : The integral of ω on U is

$$\int_U \omega := \int_U f(x) d\lambda(x)$$

$$\int_U f(x_1, \dots, x_m) dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m = \int f(x_1, \dots, x_m) dx_1 \dots dx_m$$

Rem : Assume ω is compactly supported

$\text{Supp } \omega \subseteq U$ is compact.

$$\underline{\text{example}} : \quad \omega = xy^2 dx \wedge dy$$

$$U = (0,1) \times (0,1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\omega \in \Omega^2(U, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\int_U \omega := \int_U xy^2 dx dy$$

$$= \int_{(0,1) \times (0,1)} xy^2 dx dy$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 xy^2 dx dy$$

$$= \left(\int_0^1 x dx \right) \left(\int_0^1 y^2 dy \right) = \frac{1}{6} .$$

Proposition: Let $F: U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

be an orientation-preserving diffeomorphism

$$\boxed{\int_U F^* \omega = \int_V \omega}$$

for any $\omega \in \Omega^m(V, \mathbb{R})$