Manifolds Notes

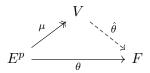
1 Differential Forms

Given vector spaces E, F and $p \in \mathbb{N}$ we denoted

$$A(E^p, F) := p - \text{linear alternating maps } E^p \to F$$

where by alternating we mean that swapping any two coordinates negates the output. Equivalently, if two coordinates are the same then the output is 0.

Lemma 1.1. Given E and p there is a vector space V together with a surjective map $\mu \in A(E^p, V)$ with the property that if $\theta \in A(E^p, F)$ then there is a linear map $\hat{\theta} : V \to F$ such that $\theta = \hat{\theta} \circ \mu$



Note: The $\hat{\theta}$ is unique given θ and V. The V is unique up to isomorphism.

We write $V = \Lambda^p E$ and given $v_1, \dots, v_p \in E$ we write

$$v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_p := \mu(v_1, \dots, v_p)$$

We say $\Lambda^p E$ is the p-th exterior power of E.

1.1 Basis for $\Lambda^p E$

Let e_1, \ldots, e_m be a basis for E. Since μ is surjective $\Lambda^p E$ is spanned by

$$\{e_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i_p} \mid i_k \in I(m)\}$$

where we can assume that the i_k are distinct else their image would be null. We can also assume that the indices are in order up to sign.

Lemma 1.2. These elements are linearly independent and hence form a basis.

Therefore we can say $\dim(\Lambda^p E) = \binom{m}{p}$.

1.2 Wedge Product

Given $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$ with $p, q \ge 1$ we can define the bilinear wedge product

$$\cdot \wedge \cdot : (\Lambda^p E \times \Lambda^q E) \to \Lambda^{p+q} E$$

First we define on it on a basis. So take a basis e_1, \ldots, e_m of E and then define

$$(e_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i_p}) \wedge (e_{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{j_q}) = e_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i_p} \wedge e_{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{j_q}$$

This can then be extended linearly to arbitrary elements and hence doesn't depend on our initial choice of basis.

1.3 Induced maps

Suppose we have a linear map between finite dimensional vector spaces

$$\phi: E \to F$$

then we get a multi linear map in the natural way

$$\phi^p: E^p \to F^p$$

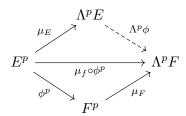
By composing with the surjective map μ_F we get an alternating map

$$\mu_F \circ \phi^p : E^p \to \Lambda^p F$$

Hence by the defining property of $\Lambda^P E$ we get a linear map

$$\Lambda^p \phi : \Lambda^p E \to \Lambda^p F$$

with the property that the outer diamond in the below diagram commutes.



Essentially, if e_1, \ldots, e_m is a basis for E, then we can describe $\Lambda^p \phi$ by

$$(\Lambda^p \phi)(e_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i_p}) = (\phi e_{i_1}) \wedge \cdots \wedge (\phi e_{i_p}).$$

1.4 🙎 The dreaded p-form 🙎

Let M be an m-manifold. Given $x \in M$ we can form the p-th exterior power of the cotangent space

$$\Lambda^p(T_r^*M)$$

We can assemble these together into a vector bundle $\Lambda^p(T^*M)$. Subsequently, a *p*-form on M is define to be a section of the bundle $\Lambda^p(T^*M)$

What the fuck does this mean????

A more natural way to think about p-forms is to take local coordinates. Let $\phi: U \to \mathbb{R}^m$ be a chart yielding local coordinates x_1, \ldots, x_m . We have locally defined 1-forms dx_1, \ldots, dx_m which form a basis for the cotangent space

$$dx_i \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) = \delta_{ij}$$

Then given $I \in \mathcal{I}(m,p)$ we write $\mathbf{d}x_I := dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_p}$. Thus $\{\mathbf{d}x_I \mid I \in \mathcal{I}(m,p)\}$ forms a basis for $\Lambda^P(T^*M)$. It follows that any *p*-form ω on U can be uniquely written in the form

$$\omega = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{I}(m,p)} \lambda_I \mathbf{d} x_I$$

where each $\lambda_I: U \to \mathbb{R}$ is a locally-defined smooth function.

Note: This is all we really need from the bundle structure of $\Lambda^p(T^*M)$.

In particular, if p = m then an m-form locally looks like

$$\lambda (dx_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_m)$$

for some smooth function $\lambda: U \to \mathbb{R}$.

1.5 Pull-backs

Suppose we have a smooth function between manifolds

$$f: M \to N$$

Given a p-form ω on N we can define a pull-back p-form $f^*\omega$ on M as follows. Given $x \in M$ we have the derivative map $d_x f$ and hence a dual map

$$(d_x f)^*: T_{f(x)}^* N \to T_x^* M, \qquad \eta \mapsto \eta \circ d_x f \quad \text{where } \eta: T_{f(x)} N \to \mathbb{R} \text{ is linear}$$

This in turn gives rise to a linear map

$$\Lambda^p (d_x \phi)^* : \Lambda^p T_{fx}^* N \to \Lambda^p T_x^* M$$

Then our pull-back is defined by

$$(f^*\omega)(x) := (\Lambda^p (d_x \phi)^*) [\omega(f(x))]$$

One takes on blind faith that this is smooth and hence a p-form. In particular, we can pull back p-forms to any manifold embedded within a larger manifold (such as \mathbb{R}^n). This is a load of gobbledygook so let's go step by step.

- 1. $x \in M$
- $f(x) \in N$

3. ω is a p-form on N so we get some linear maps $\eta_i: T_{fx}N \to \mathbb{R}$, then

$$\omega(f(x)) = \eta_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \eta_p$$

- 4. Then we take the induced p'th exterior power map which just does $(d_x\phi)^*$ on each of the η_i
- 5. Hence we can write

$$(f^*\omega)(x) = (\eta_1 \circ d_x f) \wedge \cdots \wedge (\eta_p \circ d_x f)$$

Example:

1. Consider S^1 ; the unit circle in \mathbb{R}^2 . Let θ by the angle coordinate so that $x = \cos \theta$ and $y = \sin \theta$. Then the pull back of dx, dy is obtained by differentiating these formulae:

$$-\sin\theta d\theta$$
 and $\cos\theta d\theta$

From this we can pull back an arbitrary 1-form by linear extension.

2. Consider S^2 ; the unit 2-sphere in \mathbb{R}^3 . Consider spherical polar coordinates θ, ϕ away from the poles.

$$x = \sin \theta \cos \phi$$
$$y = \sin \theta \sin \phi$$
$$z = \cos \theta$$

Then the pull backs of dx, dy and dz repressively are

$$\cos\theta\cos\phi d\theta - \sin\theta\sin\phi d\phi$$
$$\cos\theta\sin\phi d\theta + \sin\theta\cos\phi d\phi$$
$$-\sin\theta d\theta$$

One can see this by writing out the Jacobian and then composing on the left with dx which is (0,0,1) and remembering that $d\theta = \binom{1}{0}$ and $d\phi = \binom{0}{1}$.

So then the pull back of $dx \wedge dy = (\cos \theta \sin \theta)(d\theta \wedge d\phi)$. We can see this by writing out the full expression, using multi linearity and alternating-ness of the wedge product and then trigonometric identities.

1.6 Integration of m-forms

Take an atlas $\{\phi_{\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \to V_{\alpha}\}_{{\alpha} \in \mathcal{A}}$. Given $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{A}$, then on the overlap $U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta}$ we get

$$dx_1^{\alpha} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_m^{\alpha} = \Delta_{\alpha\beta}(x) dx_1^{\beta} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_m^{\beta}$$

where $\Delta_{\alpha\beta}$ is the determinant of the Jacobian of the transition function $\phi_{\alpha} \circ \phi_{\beta}^{-1}$. Note if our atlas is oriented then $\Delta_{\alpha\beta}(x) > 0$. Hence we have the following result.

Theorem 1.3. An m-manifold is orientable if and only if it admits a nowhere vanishing m-form.

Let M be an oriented manifold. Given an m-form ω on M we define

$$\operatorname{supp}(\omega) := \overline{\{x \in M \mid \omega(x) \neq 0\}}$$

We say that a cover $\{U_{\alpha}\}$ of a Hausdorff space X is locally finite if

$$\forall x \in X \quad \exists O \subseteq X \text{ open, s.t. } x \in O \text{ and } |\{\alpha \mid O \cap U_\alpha \neq \emptyset\}| < \infty$$

that is around every point there is an open set which meets at most finitely many members of the cover.

For now, suppose that $\operatorname{supp}(\omega)$ is compact. Let $\{\phi_{\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \to V_{\alpha}\}_{{\alpha} \in \mathcal{A}}$ be a locally finite, oriented atlas. Suppose that η is an n-form such that $\operatorname{supp}(\eta) \subseteq U_{\alpha}$ for some $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$. Then write in local coordinates $\eta = \lambda_{\alpha}(dx_{1}^{\alpha} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{m}^{\alpha})$ where $\lambda_{\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \to \mathbb{R}$ is smooth and compactly supported. Then we set

$$I_{\alpha}(\eta) := \int_{V_{\alpha}} \lambda_{\alpha} \circ \phi_{\alpha}^{-1}(x) \ dx$$

A partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_{\alpha}\}$ is a collection of smooth functions $\{\rho_{\alpha}: M \to [0,1]\}$ such that

- 1. $\operatorname{supp}(\rho_{\alpha}) \subseteq U_{\alpha}$ for all α ,
- 2. $\sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}(x) = 1$ for all $x \in M$.

So choose a partition of unity $\{\rho_{\alpha}\}$ subordinate to $\{U_{\alpha}\}$ and set

$$\int_{M} \omega := \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} I_{\alpha}(\rho_{\alpha}\omega)$$

Note: This is a finite sum because only finitely many U_{α} meet the support of ω .

Lemma 1.4. This integral is well-defined. That is, its independent of choice of atlas and partition.

Using this we can define the volume of a compact, orientable Riemannian manifold. Choose any orientation and let ω be the volume form (that is any m-form, I think). Then the volume is

$$\operatorname{vol}(M) := \int_M \omega$$

In fact, if $f: M \to \mathbb{R}$ is any smooth function then we can integrate f with respect to volume. That is, integrate the m-form $f\omega$. The result $\int_m f\omega$ is often denoted informally as $\int_M f \ dV$. We shouldn't use this notation because exterior derivatives will confuse things.