

LECTURE NOTES - MATH 58J (SPRING 2022)

UMUT VAROLGUNES

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1. FEB 24, 2022: INTRODUCTION, 0th AND 1st COHOMOLOGY OF OPEN SUBSETS OF EUCLIDEAN SPACE (AD-HOC DEFINITIONS)

Consider the n dimensional Euclidean space

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in \mathbb{R}, 1 \leq i \leq n\},$$

where $[n] := \{1, \dots, n\}$. Abusing notation x_i 's will denote coordinate values of points but also coordinate functions.

\mathbb{R}^n has a metric given by

$$d(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

This induces a topology on \mathbb{R}^n . Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open subset. Note that this can be a complicated space.

Today and the next lecture, we will discuss differential 0 and 1 forms on U and see how these can be used to analyze the topology of U .

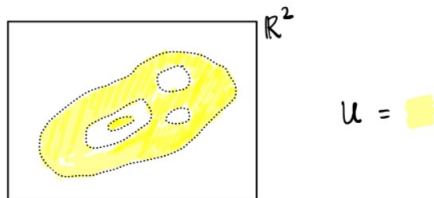


FIGURE 1. An example of an open subset of Euclidean space

Before that, some general remarks:

- In this class, we will measure the complexity of the topology of U (or more generally manifolds) using singular homology and cohomology. We don't know anything about these yet. Today we will give some ad-hoc definitions but the general discussion will start in the third week.
- There is a widely accepted definition of the singular cohomology of a topological space, but there are many, drastically different ways of computing it for smooth manifolds. Our class is about using differential forms to do this: deRham theory.
- Up to many technical details, you can intuitively think about a degree k cohomology class β on U as a way of associating a real number $\beta(Z)$ to each compact, boundariless, not necessarily

connected¹, oriented submanifold² Z of dimension k such that the following condition (\star) holds.

If Z is the oriented boundary of a $(k + 1)$ -dimensional submanifold with boundary, then $\beta(Z) = 0$.

Let's refer to such Z as “ k -cycles” - in quotation marks because we will use this word with a different meaning later

- The main operation that one does with a differential k -form is to integrate them along k -dimensional oriented submanifolds and we use this to associate real numbers to “ k -cycles”.
- Property (\star) will only hold if the differential form is closed.

1.1. Cohomology of $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $\pi_0(U)$ be the set of all connected components of U .

Definition 1. $H^0(U, \mathbb{R})$ is defined as the vector space of all maps from $\pi_0(U)$ to \mathbb{R} . \square

Let $b \in U$ and $\pi_1(U, b)$ be the fundamental group of U with base point b . Recall that

$$\pi_1(U, b) := \frac{\{(S^1, *) \rightarrow (U, b) \text{ continuous}\}}{\text{homotopy preserving the base points}},$$

where $S^1 = \frac{[0,1]}{0 \sim 1}$ and $*$ is $[0] \in S^1$.

Here are some properties

- $\pi_1(U, b)$ is a group.
- Choosing a continuous path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow U$ from b to b' gives rise to a group isomorphism $f_\gamma : \pi_1(U, b) \rightarrow \pi_1(U, b')$.

Definition 2. Assuming that U is connected we define $H^1(U, \mathbb{R})_b$ as the vector space of group homomorphisms

$$\pi_1(U, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

\square

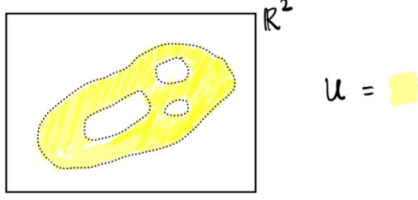
Exercise 1. Prove that for any $b, b' \in U$, as long as U is connected, there is a canonical isomorphism $H^1(U, \mathbb{R})_b \rightarrow H^1(U, \mathbb{R})_{b'}$. \square

As a consequence of this exercise we can write $H^1(U, \mathbb{R})$ without any ambiguity.

¹I write the last two only to stress the point

²submanifold here means a subset that locally looks like a k dimensional Euclidean space

Example 1. Let U be defined as below.



Then, $\dim(H^1(U, \mathbb{R})) = 3$. □

2. FEB 24, 2022: DEGREE 0 AND 1 DIFFERENTIAL FORMS ON OPEN SUBSETS OF EUCLIDEAN SPACE, A SPECIAL CASE OF DERHAM THEOREM

- A differential 0-form on U is a smooth³ function $U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- A differential 0-form f is called closed if $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \equiv 0, \forall i \in [n]$

Proposition 1. *There is a canonical linear isomorphism*

$$H_{dR}^0(U) := \{\text{closed differential 0-form on } U\} \simeq H^0(U; \mathbb{R})$$

Remark 1. In general $H_{dR}^k := \frac{\{\text{closed differential k-form on } U\}}{\{\text{exact differential k-form on } U\}}$ □

- A differential 1-form on U is an expression $f_1 dx_1 + \dots + f_n dx_n$ where $f_i : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are smooth functions
- A differential 1-form $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i dx_i$ is called exact, if for some smooth $V : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$f_i = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i}, \forall i \in [n].$$

In this case we write $\alpha = dV$.

- A differential 1-form is closed if for all $i \neq j \in [n]$,

$$\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i} = 0.$$

Lemma 1. *If $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i dx_i$ is exact, then it is closed.*

Proof. Since it is exact, $\exists V : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, such that $f_i = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i}$, so

$$\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = \frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i}.$$

³note that this is a condition much stronger than differentiable, it means that all iterated partial derivatives exist. please read the wikipedia page if you are not familiar.

□

Exercise 2. For $n = 2$ and $n = 3$ explain what it means for the differential 1-form $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i dx_i$ to be closed in terms of the vector field

$F = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ using terms from your calculus classes. Recall Green's and Stokes theorems. □

Theorem 1. *Assuming that U is connected, there exists a linear isomorphism,*

$$(1) \quad H_{dR}^1 := \frac{\{\text{closed differential 1-forms on } U\}}{\{\text{exact differential 1-forms on } U\}} \simeq H^1(U; \mathbb{R})$$

Proof sketch. First we want to define a linear map

$$\int : \{\text{closed 1-forms}\} \rightarrow \{\pi_1(U, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \text{group homomorphisms}\}$$

Recall: $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ arbitrary subset. A map $g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is called smooth if it extends to a smooth map $N(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ where $N(X)$ is an open neighborhood of X .

Fact:

- Any class in $\pi_1(U, b)$ can be represented by a smooth map $(S^1, *) \rightarrow (U, b)$.
- Any two smooth maps $S^1 \rightarrow U$ that are homotopic continuously are homotopic smoothly.

Recall: Given $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i dx_i$ and a smooth path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow U$, we

can define the line integral $\int_\gamma \alpha := \int_0^1 F \cdot \gamma' dt$, where $F = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$.

- The map \int is independent of the parametrization of γ , meaning, if $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a smooth bijective map with $\phi' \neq 0$, then $\int_\gamma \alpha = \int_{\gamma \circ \phi} \alpha$. So line integral only depends on the image of γ .

Back to the map \int : we send a given $\alpha \in \{\text{closed 1-forms}\}$ to the map $\int \cdot \alpha : \pi_1(U, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$a \mapsto \int_{\bar{\gamma}} \alpha,$$

where $\bar{\gamma}$ is an arbitrary smooth representative of a . In the exercise below you will show that this is well defined. Assuming that for now, it is easy to see that $\int \cdot \alpha$ is a group homomorphism⁴, so an element of $H^1(U; \mathbb{R})$, and the resulting \int is a linear map.

⁴I forgot to say this in class, so please check it for yourself!

Exercise 3. Show that the map \int is well defined by proving if $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i dx_i$ is closed and $\gamma, \gamma' : S^1 \rightarrow U$ are smooth maps that are smoothly homotopic, then $\int_\gamma \alpha = \int_{\gamma'} \alpha$. (**Hint:** Start by analyzing $n = 2, 3$ and where the smooth homotopy $S^1 \times [0, 1] \rightarrow U$ is injective, then reduce the statement to Green's theorem. Additionally, you may want to check proof of Stokes theorem.)

□



FIGURE 2. An example of an injective smooth homotopy's image for $n = 2$.

Goals:

- (1) Prove that \int sends an exact differential 1-form to zero. We obtain a linear map $\tilde{\int} : H_{dR}^1(U, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H^1(U, \mathbb{R})$.
- (2) Prove that $\tilde{\int}$ is injective. ("Construct a potential")
- (3) Prove that $\tilde{\int}$ is surjective.

We start with 1). Let us integrate $\alpha = df$ along a smooth loop γ .

$$\int_\gamma \alpha = \int_0^1 \nabla f \cdot \gamma'(t) dt \stackrel{\text{FTC}}{=} f(b) - f(b) = 0.$$

Denote the resulting map by

$$\tilde{\int} : \frac{\text{Closed differential 1-forms}}{\text{Exact differential 1-forms}} \rightarrow H^1(U, \mathbb{R}).$$

For 2), we need to show that if $\int_\gamma \alpha = 0$ for all $\gamma : (S^1, \star) \rightarrow (U, b)$, then $\alpha = df$ for some $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Exercise 4. Do this! This is the same task as constructing a potential (recall work integrals, conservative fields etc.) for the corresponding vector field. □

Let us make a simplifying assumption on U to not deal with orthogonal difficulties in 3). Assume there exists $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n \in \pi_1(U, b)$ that

freely generates the abelianization of $\pi_1(U, b)$. This implies that giving a group homomorphism $\pi_1(U, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is equivalent to assigning real numbers to each of $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n$ (arbitrarily).

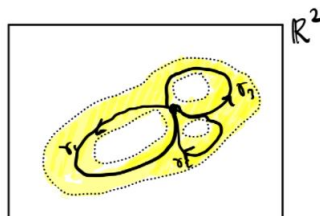


FIGURE 3

Now we need to create a differential 1-form that integrates to any $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ along $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n$. This is still quite difficult. That will follow from DeRham Theorem, which will be the highlight of our course.

Remark 2. Once we give the general definition of singular cohomology, I will assign a homework exercise which shows that it agrees with what we defined today in degrees 0 and 1. The analogous statement will be automatic for DeRham cohomology. \square

Exercise 5. Finish the proof of surjectivity in the case

$$U = \mathbb{R}^2 - \text{finitely many points.}$$

(**Hint:** Start with $\mathbb{R}^2 - (0, 0)$ and use the closed differential 1-form $\alpha = -\frac{ydx}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{xdy}{x^2+y^2}$.) \square

3. MARCH 03, 2022: MANIFOLDS, CHARTS, SMOOTH ATLASES

Riemann was looking for a class of spaces which exist by themselves, (for example, they don't have to be embedded in an Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^N) with the following properties⁵. Let X be such a space:

- X admits local coordinates. This means that the points x sufficiently near any $x_0 \in X$ are determined uniquely by the values of a set of real valued coordinates x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n :

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This is sometimes called a generalized coordinate system in physics. There could be many such generalized coordinate systems near a given point. It is important that often generalized coordinates do not extend to the entirety of X .

⁵particularly vague phrases are underlined

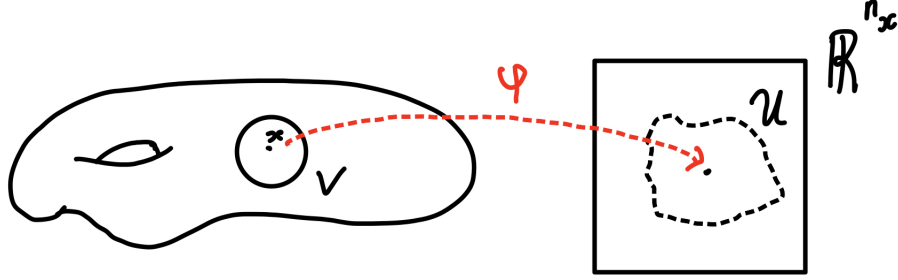


FIGURE 4

- One can use techniques of calculus. This means, in particular, that there should be a large class of $C^1/C^2/\dots$ smooth functions $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. If two generalized coordinate systems are related to each other by a non-differentiable transformation, then a function $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is differentiable with respect to one may not be differentiable with respect to the other.

Definition 3. A topological space X is called a topological manifold if for every $x \in X$, there exists a nonnegative integer $n_x \geq 0$, an open subset $U \subset \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$, an open neighborhood $V \subset X$ of x and a homeomorphism $\phi : V \rightarrow U$ (See Figure 4). \square

Remark 3. Note that being a topological manifold is a property. Usually in this definition one also assumes that X is Hausdorff and, less often but still quite often, second countable. We will focus on the core part of the definition today. Later on we will start assuming these two properties when they are needed. \square

Definition 4. Let X be a topological space. Let us call $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $V \subset X$ open and $\phi : V \rightarrow U$ homeomorphism a coordinate chart in X . V is called the domain of the chart and the functions x_1, \dots, x_n obtained by $x_i : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{pr_i}$ the coordinates of the chart. \square

Fact (A consequence of Invariance of Domain)

If an open subset of \mathbb{R}^n is homeomorphic to an open subset of \mathbb{R}^m , then $m = n$.

Exercise 6. Using the fact above, prove that n_x in the definition is uniquely determined. Also, prove that $X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, x \mapsto n_x$ is constant on connected components of X . \square

Definition 5. If $n_x = n$ for all $x \in X$, then we say that X is n -dimensional. We write this briefly by X^n . \square

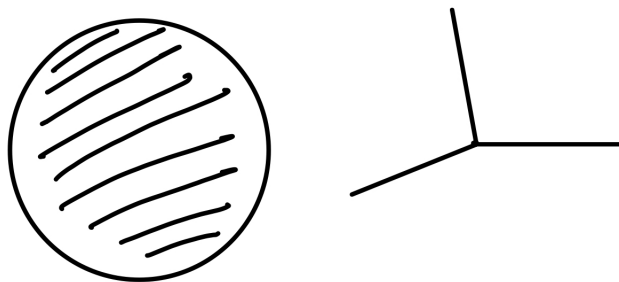


FIGURE 5. Non-Examples of Manifolds

From now on, when we say X is a topological manifold, we assume that there is such an $n \geq 0$.

Example 2. Topological Manifolds

- \mathbb{R}^n
- $S^n : \{x_1^2 + \cdots + x_{n+1}^2 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$.

□

To see that S^n is a topological manifold, we can use the stereographic projection. Let us consider a point $y_0 \in S^n$, and let H_0 be the hyperplane that is tangent to the point opposite to $y_0 \in S^n$ (we call this point $-y_0$). For every, $y \in S^n \setminus \{y_0\}$ the straight line l_y passing through y and y_0 intersects H_0 at precisely one point.

$$S_{y_0} : S^n \setminus \{y_0\} \longrightarrow H_0 \simeq \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$y \longmapsto l_y \cap H_0$$

Note that $H_0 \cong$ Parallel hyperplane passing through the origin $\cong \mathbb{R}^n$. The second homeomorphism can be obtained by choosing a basis.

Proposition 2. S_{y_0} is a homeomorphism.

Proof. (sketch)

$n = 0$ case is given in the figure. In this case the map is identity.

Exercise 7. Do the $n = 1$ case. □

We can deduce the $n > 1$ case by using rotational symmetry around the line that contains the diameter (passing through y_0 that is perpendicular to H_0). The stereographic projection in dimension n is given by spinning around l_y the stereographic projection in dimension $n - 1$. □

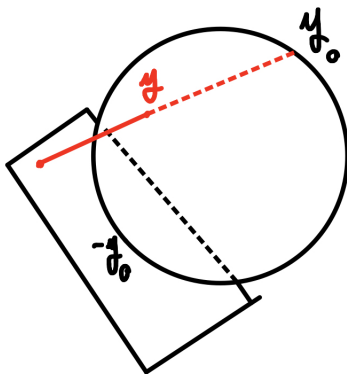


FIGURE 6. Stereographic Projection

FIGURE 7. $n = 0$ case

Remark 4. Stereographic projection

- Preserves angles.
- It preserves circles ($n = 2$).
- But, it distorts distances.

□

Exercise 8. Prove that $\{x^2 - y^3 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ is a topological manifold.
(Hint: Use projections to x and y .) □

Definition 6. Let X be a topological space, and $\phi_1 : V_1 \rightarrow U_1$ and $\phi_2 : V_2 \rightarrow U_2$ be coordinate charts. Then, the map $\phi_2 \circ \phi_1^{-1} : \phi_1(V_1 \cap V_2) \rightarrow \phi_2(V_1 \cap V_2)$ is called the transition map from the chart ϕ_1 to the chart ϕ_2 . Note that transition maps are automatically homeomorphisms. □

Definition 7. A smooth atlas on a topological space X is a collection of charts $\{\phi_i : V_i \rightarrow U_i\}_{i \in I}$ such that

- 1) $\bigcup_{i \in I} V_i = X$
- 2) The transition map from any chart in the collection to any other in the collection is smooth. □

Remark 5. Atlas means a book of maps, i.e. images of charts $\phi : V \rightarrow U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ on the manifold that is the surface of the earth. It is likely that some of these maps are drawn using stereographic projection. □

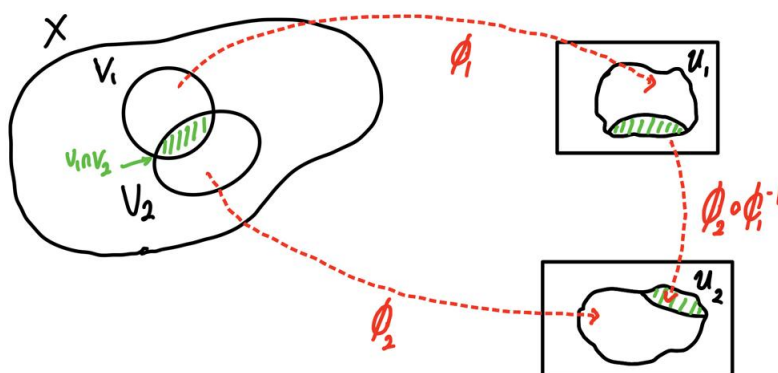


FIGURE 8. Transition map between charts

Exercise 9. Using latitude and longitude, define a chart on S^2 with domain $S^2 \setminus 0^{th}$ —meridian and prove that it has smooth transition maps to all stereographic projections. You can assume that stereographic projection charts form a smooth atlas. \square

4. MARCH 07, 2022: DEFINITION OF SINGULAR HOMOLOGY

Convention: Unless otherwise stated, all of our vector spaces and chain complexes (to be defined) are over \mathbb{R} .

Definition 8. A graded vector space V_* is a collection of vector spaces $\{V_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ indexed by \mathbb{Z} . V_* is non-negatively graded if $V_i = 0$ for $i < 0$.⁶ \square

Definition 9. A chain complex (C_*, ∂_*) is a graded vector space C_* with a collection of linear maps $\partial_n : C_n \rightarrow C_{n-1}$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that $\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1} = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. We call ∂_n 's boundary maps. \square

$$\dots \leftarrow C_{-2} \xleftarrow{\partial_{-1}} C_{-1} \xleftarrow{\partial_0} C_0 \xleftarrow{\partial_1} C_1 \xleftarrow{\partial_2} C_2 \leftarrow \dots$$

Definition 10. The homology of a chain complex (C_*, ∂_*) is a graded vector space $H_*(C_*, \partial_*)$ defined by

$$H_n((C_*, \partial_*)) := \frac{\text{Ker}(\partial_n : C_n \rightarrow C_{n-1})}{\text{Im}(\partial_{n+1} : C_{n+1} \rightarrow C_n)}$$

\square

It immediately follows from $\partial_i \circ \partial_{i+1} = 0$ that $\text{Im}(\partial_{i+1}) \subset \text{Ker}(\partial_i)$. There is a slight variant of the last two definitions.

⁶ $V=0$ stands for the trivial vector space with 0 as the only element, $V = \{0\}$.

Definition 11. C^* graded vector space with $d_n : C^n \rightarrow C^{n+1}$ coboundary maps such that $d_n \circ d_{n-1} = 0$. (C^*, d_*) is called a co-chain complex.

$$H^n((C^*, d_*)) := \frac{\text{Ker}(d_n)}{\text{Im}(d_{n-1})}$$

is called cohomology. □

$$\dots \rightarrow C^{-2} \xrightarrow{d_{-2}} C^{-1} \xrightarrow{d_{-1}} C^0 \xrightarrow{d_0} C^1 \xrightarrow{d_1} C^2 \rightarrow \dots$$

Now we move on to define the singular chain complex $C_*(X; \mathbb{R})$ of a topological manifold X .

Definition 12. The n -dimensional simplex Δ^n for $n \geq 0$ is defined as

$$\Delta^n := \left\{ (x_0, \dots, x_n) \mid \begin{array}{l} x_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i = 0, \dots, n \\ x_0 + \dots + x_n = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

□

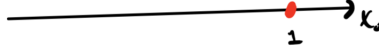


FIGURE 9. 0-dimensional simplex.

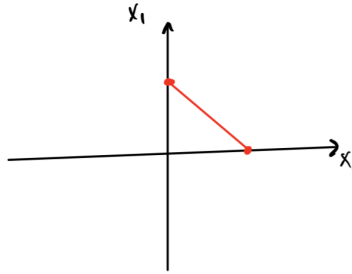


FIGURE 10. 1-dimensional simplex.

For each subset $S \subset \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$, we can define a subset (a face) by

$$F_S := \left\{ (x_0, \dots, x_n) \mid \begin{array}{l} x_i = 0, \quad \text{if } i \in \{0, \dots, n\} \setminus S \\ (x_0, \dots, x_n) \in \Delta^n \end{array} \right\}$$

As an example, $F_{\{i\}}$, $i = 0, \dots, n$ correspond to vertices.

Exercise 10. • Prove that the dimension of F_S is $|S| - 1$. Explain what you mean by dimension.

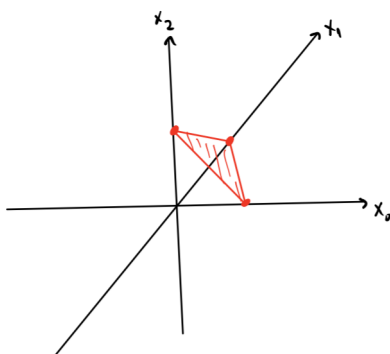


FIGURE 11. 2-dimensional simplex.

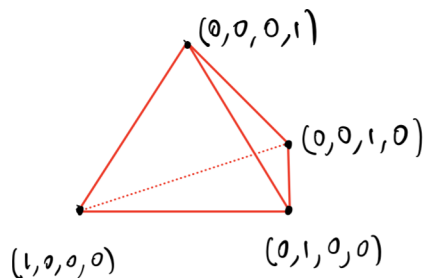


FIGURE 12. 3-dimensional simplex.

- Prove that $F_{S_1} \cap F_{S_2} = F_{S_1 \cap S_2}$.

□

Definition 13. For each $n \geq 1$ and $0 \leq i \leq n$ we define the face map $f_{i,n} : \Delta^{n-1} \rightarrow \Delta^n$ with $(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \mapsto (y_0, \dots, y_n)$ where

$$y_j = \begin{cases} x_j & , \quad j < i \\ 0 & , \quad j = i \\ x_{j-1} & , \quad j > i \end{cases}$$

□

- This simply adds a zero to the $(i+1)$ th slot.
- The image of $f_{i,n}$ is $F_{\{0, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i\}}$

We need one last notion before we define the singular chain complex.

Definition 14. Given any set A , we define the vector space generated by A as the vector space of all finite formal linear combinations of the

elements of A .

$$\left\{ \sum_{a \in A} c_a \cdot a \mid c_a \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } c_a \neq 0 \text{ for finitely many elements} \right\}.$$

□

Exercise 11. Construct a natural linear map from the vector space generated by A to the vector space of all maps $A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Prove that this map is an isomorphism if and only if A is finite. Bonus: analyze when these two vector spaces are isomorphic - by an arbitrary map. □

Consider the subspace topology on simplices.

4.1. Singular homology of a topological space. Let X be a topological space. For $n \geq 0$, $C_n(X; \mathbb{R})$ is defined to be the vector space generated by the set of all continuous maps $\Delta^n \rightarrow X$. The elements of $C_n(X; \mathbb{R})$ are called singular chains of degree n . We set $C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) = 0$ for all $n < 0$. So $C_*(X; \mathbb{R})$ is a non-negatively graded vector space. Now we will equip it with boundary maps and turn it into a chain complex. Let $n \geq 1$. For any continuous $g : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ we define

$$\partial_n g = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i g \circ f_{i,n} \in C_{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R})$$

where $g \circ f_{i,n} : \Delta^{n-1} \xrightarrow{f_{i,n}} \Delta^n \xrightarrow{g} X$. We then extend to all singular chains so that map is linear and we get

$$\partial_n : C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}) \text{ for } n \geq 1$$

and $\partial_n = 0$ for $n < 1$.

Example 3. As an example, consider the following figure □

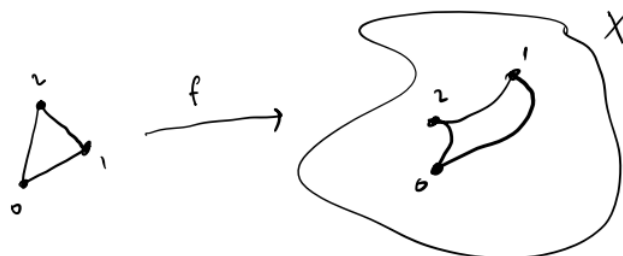


FIGURE 13. Example

Now we look at the boundary maps $\partial_2 f$ of f .

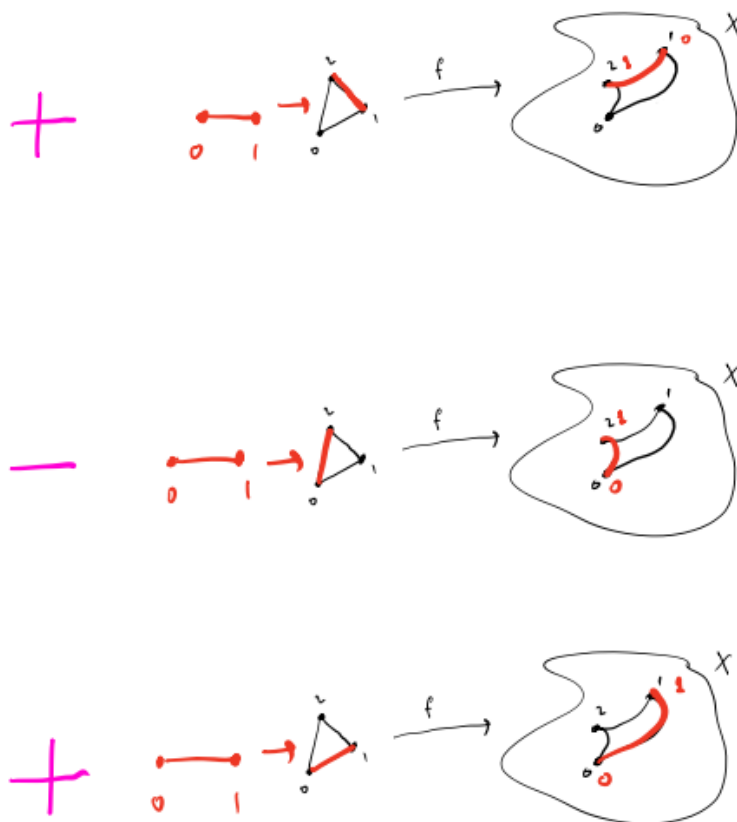


FIGURE 14. Boundary maps of the example above.

Proposition 3. $\partial_{n-1} \circ \partial_n = 0$

Proof. For $n < 2$ it is obvious. For $n \geq 2$ it suffices to show that for $g : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ we should have $\partial_{n-1}(\partial_n(g)) = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{n-1}(\partial_n(g)) &= \partial_{n-1} \left(\sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i g \circ f_{i,n} \right) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \partial_{n-1}(g \circ f_{i,n}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \left(\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j g \circ f_{i,n} \circ f_{j,n-1} \right) = \sum_{i,j} (-1)^{i+j} g \circ f_{i,n} \circ f_{j,n-1} \end{aligned}$$

Where $f_{i,n} \circ f_{j,n-1} : \Delta^{n-2} \rightarrow \Delta^n \dots$

□

Exercise 12. Finish the proof of this proposition. If you were not able to follow in class, first do it for $n = 2$ using the pictures above - no need to write this, just to get yourself oriented. □

Definition 15. We define the singular homology of X as the homology of its singular chain complex

$$H_n(X; \mathbb{R}) := H_n(C_*(X; \mathbb{R}), \partial_*) .$$

□

5. MARCH 10, 2022: CONSTRUCTING SINGULAR CYCLES, HOMOLOGY OF A POINT, STAR SHAPED OPEN SUBSETS OF EUCLIDEAN SPACE

Definition 16. Let us call the elements of

$$Z_n(X; \mathbb{R}) := \ker(\partial_n : C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}))$$

the singular n -cycles and the elements of

$$B_n(X; \mathbb{R}) := \operatorname{im}(\partial_{n+1} : C_{n+1}(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_n(X; \mathbb{R}))$$

the singular n -boundaries. □

In this class, often we will omit the adjective singular from these phrases for brevity. Then, by definition

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(X; \mathbb{R}) &= \frac{Z_n(X; \mathbb{R})}{B_n(X; \mathbb{R})} \\ &= \frac{n\text{-cycles}}{n\text{-boundaries}} \end{aligned}$$

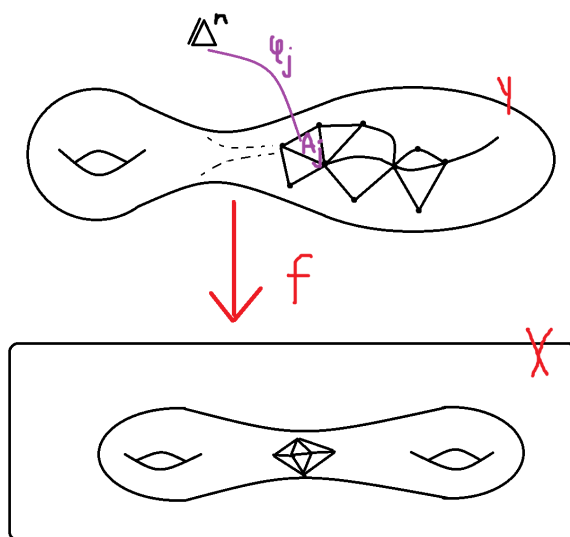
5.1. Singular n -cycles from geometric n -cycles - slightly informal discussion. Let X be a topological manifold. Let us define a geometric n -cycle to be the image of a continuous map $f : Y^n \rightarrow X$ where Y is a compact oriented (We will define precisely for smooth manifolds later) topological manifold.

I want to briefly explain how a geometric n -cycle gives rise to an n -cycle on X . Oriented compact submanifolds are examples of geometric n -cycles.

Under some mild conditions (for example if it is Hausdorff and admits a smooth structure), Y admits a triangulation. This, in particular, means we can find

$$Y = \bigcup_{j=1}^N A_j \quad \text{with homeomorphisms} \quad \phi_j : \Delta^n \rightarrow A_j$$

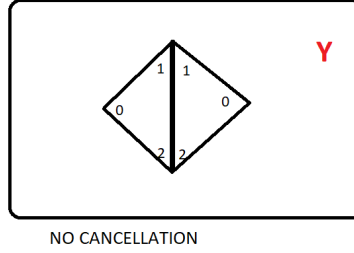
such that the intersections $A_i \cap A_j$ for $i \neq j$ are either empty or equal to the image of both $\phi_i \circ \text{face}_{k,n} (: \Delta^{n-1} \rightarrow \Delta^n \rightarrow Y)$ and $\phi_j \circ \text{face}_{l,n}$ for some k and l .



The idea then is to add up all $f \circ \phi_j : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ and get an n -cycle seeing how the boundaries seem to cancel each other.

The issue is that we do not actually know, it depends on whether the signs work out.

We could also add $\pm f \circ \phi_j$ of course. Note that we can modify ϕ_j also by homeomorphism, $\Delta^n \rightarrow \Delta^n$ which permute the coordinates of



\mathbb{R}^{n+1} . If the result is $\tilde{\phi}_j$ and the permutation π^{-1}

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_n(f \circ \tilde{\phi}_j) &= \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i f \circ \tilde{\phi}_j \circ \text{face}_{i,n} \\
 \pi(l) = i &= \sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^{\pi(l)} f \circ \tilde{\phi}_j \circ \text{face}_{\pi(l),n} \\
 &= \sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^{\pi(l)-l} (-1)^l f \circ \phi_j \circ \text{face}_{l,n}
 \end{aligned}$$

The interesting result is that whether one can modify ϕ_i 's using there so that $\partial_n(\sum_{i=1}^N \pm \tilde{\phi}_i) = 0$ is a condition that depends only on Y and is called orientability.

If this is true, then we obtain at least two n -cycles in Y , we can multiply everything by -1 . Actually orienting Y , we would pick out one of them.

Exercise 13. Consider $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$. Construct a nonzero 1-cycle in \mathbb{R}^2 corresponding to this geometric 1-cycle. Prove that it is actually a 1-boundary directly. \square

5.2. Some computations. Let X be a point. What is $H_*(X; \mathbb{R})$?

For every $n \geq 0$, there exists exactly one continuous map $\Delta^n \xrightarrow{c_n} X$. Therefore,

$$C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R} \cdot c_n.$$

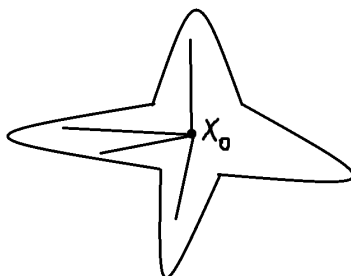
How about the boundary map?

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_n c_n &= \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i c_{n-1} \\
 &= \begin{cases} c_{n-1} & n \text{ is even} \\ 0 & n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

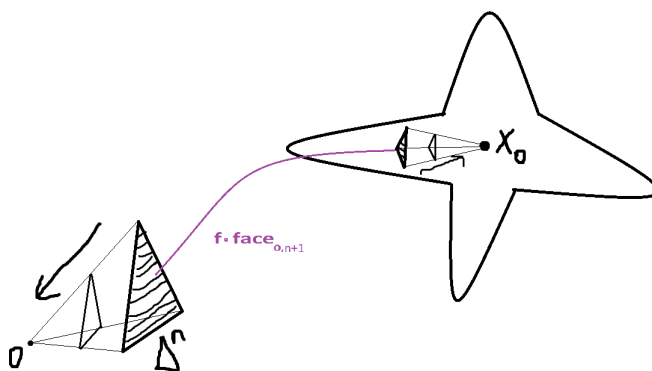
The singular chain complex looks like

$$\begin{aligned} & \leftarrow 0 \leftarrow 0 \leftarrow \mathbb{R} \xleftarrow{0} \mathbb{R} \xleftarrow{id} \mathbb{R} \xleftarrow{0} \mathbb{R} \xleftarrow{id} \dots \\ \implies & H_0(X; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R} \text{ and } H_n(X; \mathbb{R}) = 0, \quad n \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let us now consider $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open and star-shaped, that is, there exists an $x_0 \in U$ such that the line segment x_0 and y lies inside U for all $y \in U$.



We claim that $H_*(U; \mathbb{R}) \cong H_*(\text{point}; \mathbb{R})$. The idea is that for a given $f : \Delta^n \rightarrow U$, we can define a $P_f : \Delta^{n+1} \rightarrow U$ as follows



Exercise 14. Write down an explicit formula for P_f in terms of f . Extending $f \mapsto P_f$ linearly, define a linear map $P : C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_{n+1}(X; \mathbb{R})$. For $n > 0$, $\sigma \in C_n(X; \mathbb{R})$, prove that

$$\partial_{n+1} P\sigma = -P(\partial_n \sigma) + \sigma.$$

For $n = 0$, $\sigma \in C_0(X; \mathbb{R})$, what is $\partial_1 P\sigma$? □

If $\sigma \in Z_n(U; \mathbb{R})$ and $n > 0$, then $\partial_{n+1} P\sigma = \sigma$. This implies $\sigma \in B_n(U; \mathbb{R})$ and hence $H_n(U; \mathbb{R}) = 0$ for $n \neq 0$.

Exercise 15. Let Y be a topological space. Prove that $H_0(Y; \mathbb{R})$ is isomorphic to the vector space generated by the set of connected components of Y . \square

6. MARCH 14, 2022: INDUCED MAPS ON HOMOLOGY,
HOMEOMORPHISM INVARIANCE, HOMOTOPY INVARIANCE OF
INDUCED MAPS

Definition 17. Let $(C_\bullet, \partial_\bullet)$ and $(\tilde{C}_\bullet, \tilde{\partial}_\bullet)$ be chain complexes. A chain map is a collection of linear maps $C_n \xrightarrow{f_n} \tilde{C}_n$, $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that each square in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \longleftarrow & C_{n-1} & \xleftarrow{\partial_n} & C_n & \longleftarrow & \cdots \\ & & \downarrow f_{n-1} & & \downarrow f_n & & \\ \cdots & \longleftarrow & \tilde{C}_{n-1} & \xleftarrow{\tilde{\partial}_n} & \tilde{C}_n & \longleftarrow & \cdots \end{array}$$

is commutative, i.e.

$$f_{n-1} \circ \partial_n = \tilde{\partial}_n \circ f_n, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

\square

Given a chain map $f_\bullet : C_\bullet \rightarrow \tilde{C}_\bullet$ we canonically obtain a linear map of graded vector spaces

$$H(f) : H_*(C) \rightarrow H_*(\tilde{C}).$$

Remark 6. Let us make a notational clarification. For any chain complex (C, ∂) we define

$$\begin{aligned} Z_n(C) &:= \ker(\partial_n) \cdot n\text{-cycles} \\ B_n(C) &:= \text{im}(\partial_{n+1}) \cdot n\text{-boundaries} \\ H_n(C) &= Z_n(C) / B_n(C) \end{aligned}$$

When $C_\bullet = C_*(X; \mathbb{R})$ then we may add the adjective "singular". \square

Definition 18. If two n -cycles in a chain complex differ by an n -boundary (that is they define the same class in homology), we say that these two cycles are homologous. \square

Back to constructing $H_n(C) \rightarrow H_n(\tilde{C})$.

- (1) If $\sigma \in Z_n(C)$, then $f(\sigma) \in Z_n(\tilde{C})$:
 $f(\partial\sigma) = \tilde{\partial}f(\sigma) \implies \tilde{\partial}f(\sigma) = 0$
- (2) If $\sigma \in B_n(C)$, then $f(\sigma) \in B_n(\tilde{C})$:
 $\sigma = \partial\gamma \implies f(\sigma) = f(\partial\gamma) = \tilde{\partial}f(\gamma)$

\implies We obtain the map shown in dashes below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 B_n(C) & \hookrightarrow & Z_n(C) & \longrightarrow & Z_n(\tilde{C}) & \longrightarrow & Z_n(\tilde{C})/B_n(\tilde{C}) \\
 & & \downarrow & & & \nearrow & \\
 & & Z_n(C)/B_n(C) & & & &
 \end{array}$$

We can compose chain maps as in the following exercise.

Exercise 16. Prove that if $f : C_* \rightarrow \tilde{C}_*$ and $g : \tilde{C}_* \rightarrow \tilde{\tilde{C}}_*$ are chain maps, then $h : C_* \rightarrow \tilde{\tilde{C}}_*$ defined by $h_n := g_n \circ f_n$ is a chain map. For such f, g, h prove that $H(h) = H(g) \circ H(f)$. \square

Definition 19. Let $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous. Then for every continuous map $\rho : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$, we obtain the continuous map $\varphi \circ \rho : \Delta^n \rightarrow Y$. Linearly extending we obtain a map $(\varphi_*)_n : C_n(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_n(Y; \mathbb{R})$. These form a chain map

$$\varphi_* : C_*(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C_*(Y; \mathbb{R}).$$

\square

Exercise 17. Prove that φ_* is indeed a chain map. \square

We also obtain

$$H\varphi_* : H_*(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H_*(Y; \mathbb{R}).$$

Exercise 18. For continuous maps $\tilde{\varphi} : X \rightarrow Y$ and $\varphi : Y \rightarrow Z$, prove that $\varphi_* \circ \tilde{\varphi}_* = (\varphi \circ \tilde{\varphi})_*$. \square

Corollary 1. $H\varphi_* \circ H\tilde{\varphi}_* = H(\varphi \circ \tilde{\varphi})_*$. \square

Since $(\text{id})_*$ is the identity map, we immediately obtain that if $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$ is a homeomorphism then $H\varphi_* : H_*(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H_*(Y; \mathbb{R})$ is a linear isomorphism.

Hence singular homology can distinguish non-homeomorphic topological spaces (it does not have to!) Actually singular homology is in general only sensitive to the homotopy equivalence class. Let's explain this.

Recall: $\bullet f, g : X \xrightarrow{cts} Y$ are called homotopic if there exists a continuous

$$F : X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y \text{ s.t.}$$

$$F|_{\{0\}} = f \text{ \& } F|_{\{1\}} = g.$$

\bullet A continuous $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called a homotopy equivalence if $\exists g : Y \rightarrow X$ such that $f \circ g$ and $g \circ f$ are homotopic to identity maps (of Y and X).

Exercise 19. Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be star shaped with respect to x_0 . Prove the map $\text{pt.} \rightarrow U$ with image x_0 is a homotopy equivalence. \square

Theorem 2. *If f & $g : X \rightarrow Y$ are homotopic, then $Hf_* = Hg_*$.*

I don't want to spend time proving this homotopy invariance theorem, but it is quite important and the proof is not too difficult. If you want we can discuss during office hours. You are responsible from the statement, not the proof. The key idea in the proof is essentially the one that we used on proving $H_*(\text{star shaped}) \cong H_*(\text{pt.})$.

The corollary below can be proved using the same logic that showed that homeomorphisms induce isomorphisms on homology but this time using Theorem 2.

Corollary 2. *If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a homotopy equivalence, then $Hf : H_*(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H_*(Y; \mathbb{R})$ is an isomorphism.* \square

Exercise 20. Prove this corollary assuming Theorem 2. \square

7. MARCH 17, 2022: MAYER-VIETORIS PROPERTY, SPECIAL PROPERTIES OF SINGULAR HOMOLOGY FOR MANIFOLDS, SINGULAR COHOMOLOGY

Definition 20. An exact sequence is a sequence of vector spaces V_n , $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and maps $V_n \xrightarrow{f_n} V_{n-1}$ such that $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \ker(f_n) = \text{im}(f_{n+1})$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} V_{n-1} & \xleftarrow{f_n} & V_n & \xleftarrow{f_{n+1}} & V_{n+1} & \xleftarrow{f_{n+2}} & V_{n+2} \\ & \searrow & \uparrow & \nwarrow & \uparrow & \searrow & \\ & \text{ker} & = & \text{Im} & & & \end{array}$$

\square

Remark 7. This is the same data as chain complex with 0-Homology.

\square

Exercise 21. Let V_n be an exact sequence. Assume that $\sum \dim V_n < \infty$. Show that $\sum_{n \text{ even}} \dim V_n = \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \dim V_n$. \square

Theorem 3 (Mayer-Vietoris Theorem). *Let X be a topological space and $U, V \subseteq X$ open subsets.*

There are canonical maps

$$H_{n+1}(U \cup V) \xrightarrow{\text{can}} H_n(U \cap V)$$

called connecting maps that makes the following graded vector space

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & & & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \longrightarrow H_{n+2}(U \cup V) \\
& & & & \textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad c_{n+2} \quad}} & & \\
\textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} & H_{n+1}(U \cap V) & \longrightarrow & H_{n+1}(U) \oplus H_{n+1}(V) & \longrightarrow & H_{n+1}(U \cup V) & \textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} \\
& & & \textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad c_{n+1} \quad}} & & & \\
\textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} & H_n(U \cap V) & \xrightarrow{i_n} & H_n(U) \oplus H_n(V) & \xrightarrow{j_n} & H_n(U \cup V) & \textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} \\
& & & \textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad c_n \quad}} & & & \\
\textcolor{red}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} & H_{n-1}(U \cap V) & \cdots & & & &
\end{array}$$

an exact sequence, where i_n and j_n are the natural maps given by

$$\begin{aligned}
i_n : H_n(U \cap V) &\rightarrow H_n(U) \oplus H_n(V) \\
a &\mapsto (i_*^{U \cap V \subset U} a, i_*^{U \cap V \subset V} a)
\end{aligned}$$

and

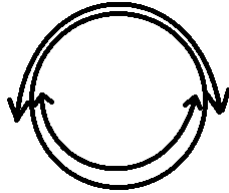
$$\begin{aligned}
j_n : H_n(U) \oplus H_n(V) &\rightarrow H_n(U \cup V) \\
(a, b) &\mapsto i_*^{U \subset U \cup V} a - i_*^{V \subset U \cup V} b.
\end{aligned}$$

We will discuss the proof of Mayer-Vietoris theorem later when we state it for DeRham Theory.

7.1. Applications.

Example 4. Let Y, Z be topological spaces. Consider their direct sum ⁷ $X = Y \sqcup Z$. Since $Y \cap Z = \emptyset$, by Mayer-Vietoris' Theorem, we have $H_n(X) \simeq H_n(Y) \oplus H_n(Z)$. This also follows from the fact that $C_n(X) = C_n(Y) \oplus C_n(Z)$. \square

Example 5. Computing $H_*(S^1)$ Now for a more serious application. Consider the two intervals $U \subset S^1$ and $V \subset S^1$.



Both are homeomorphic to an open interval $(0, 1) \subset \mathbb{R}$, which is contractible. Hence $H_*(U) \cong H_*(V) \cong H_*((0, 1)) \cong H_*(pt)$. And $U \cap V$ is homeomorphic to a disjoint union of two open intervals. So $H_*(U \cap V) \cong H_*(\mathbb{R}) \oplus H_*(\mathbb{R}) \cong H_*(pt) \oplus H_*(pt)$. Since S^1 is connected, we have $H_0(S^1) = \mathbb{R}$. Plugging all this data into the Mayer-Vietoris sequence we get

⁷The disjoint union of Y and Z , equipped with the topology consisting of open sets of the form $U \cup V$ where $U \subset Y$ and $V \subset Z$ are open.

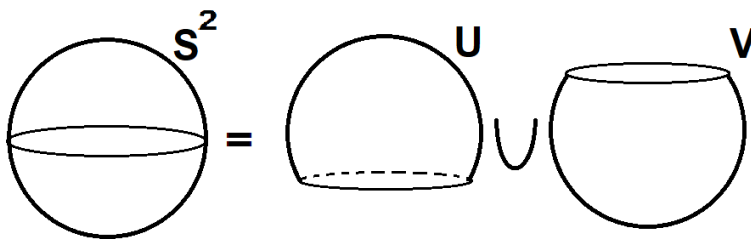
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdots & \cdots & \longrightarrow & 0 \oplus 0 & \longrightarrow & H_2(S^1) & \\
 & & & \searrow c_2 & & \nearrow & \\
 \longrightarrow & 0 \oplus 0 & \longrightarrow & 0 \oplus 0 & \longrightarrow & H_1(S^1) & \\
 & & & \searrow c_1 & & \nearrow & \\
 \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R} & \xrightarrow{-i_0} & \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R} & \xrightarrow{-j_0} & H_0(S^1) = \mathbb{R} & \\
 & & & \searrow c_0 & & \nearrow & \\
 \longrightarrow & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & & &
 \end{array}$$

Since $\ker c_1 = 0$, we may identify $H_1(S^1) = \text{im } c_1 = \ker i_0$. Let's introduce some notation to communicate better, denote by $W_1 \sqcup W_2 = U \cap V$ where W_i are the two disjoint intervals. Let $p_i : \Delta^0 \rightarrow W_i$ be any specific map. It's clear that each element of $H_0(U \cap V)$ is represented uniquely by a cycle of the form $ap_1 + bp_2$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Also, we have $i_*^{U \cap V \subset U} p_1 = i_*^{U \cap V \subset U} p_2 \in H_0(U)$ and $i_*^{U \cap V \subset V} p_1 = i_*^{U \cap V \subset V} p_2 \in H_0(V)$, so $\ker i_0 = \{ap_1 - ap_2 \in H_0(U \cap V)\}$. There are two natural bases for this space: $p_1 - p_2$ and $p_2 - p_1$. These two choices give us two choices of isomorphisms $H_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{R}$ and correspond to the two choices of orientation we have on S^1 .

9

5

Consider the following open sets $U, V \subset S^2$.



Since $U, V \cong \mathbb{R}^2$, we have $H_*(U) \cong H_*(V) \cong H_*(\mathbb{R}^2) \cong H_*(pt)$. Notice that the circular belt $U \cap V$ can be retracted onto the equator of the sphere, which is homeomorphic to S^1 . Since this is a homotopy equivalence, by Theorem 2 we have $H_*(U \cap V) \cong H_*(S^1)$. Plugging all we know into the Mayer-Vietoris sequence

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
0 \rightarrow 0 \oplus 0 \rightarrow H_3(S^2) & \rightarrow & \cong 0 \\
\swarrow & & \\
0 \rightarrow 0 \oplus 0 \rightarrow H_2(S^2) & \rightarrow & \cong \mathbb{R} \\
\swarrow & & \\
\mathbb{R} \rightarrow 0 \oplus 0 \rightarrow H_1(S^2) & \rightarrow & \cong 0 \\
\swarrow & & \\
\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R} \rightarrow H_0(S^2) & \rightarrow & \cong \mathbb{R}
\end{array}$$

we get that $H_i(S^2) = 0$ for $i < 2$, $H_1(S^2) = 0$ and $H_2(S^2) \cong H_0(S^2) \cong \mathbb{R}$. \square

7.2. Singular Homology Of Manifolds. From now on, we'll assume that our manifolds are Hausdorff. When we write manifold we will mean a topological manifold below.

Remark 8. We needed this condition for the existence of a triangulation as well. \square

Later when we go back to smooth manifolds we'll add another condition, being second countable.

Exercise 23. Find a non-Hausdorff manifold which can be equipped with a smooth atlas. \square

Theorem 4. *Let M be an n -dimensional manifold, then $H_i(M; \mathbb{R}) = 0$ for $i > n$.*

Hence the singular homology of M can only live in degrees $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

If we assume that M is also connected, then $H_0(M; \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}$. This isomorphism is canonical, where we identify any map from a point to M with $1 \in \mathbb{R}$. It turns out that we know quite a bit about the top degree as well

Theorem 5. *Let M be an n -dimensional manifold. Then*

$$H_n(M; \mathbb{R}) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & \text{if } M \text{ is compact and orientable} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here the isomorphism with \mathbb{R} depends on our choice of orientation.

Theorem 6 (Poincaré Duality). *Let M be a compact, oriented⁸ n -dimensional manifold. Then we have the canonical isomorphisms*

$$H_{n-k}(M; \mathbb{R}) \cong (H_k(M; \mathbb{R}))^\vee$$

for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

⁸That is, we have chosen a specific orientation and so we are equipped with an isomorphism $H_n(M; \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}$.

Exercise 24. Recall that the linear dual V^\vee of a vector space V is the vector space of linear maps $V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Prove the following: $V^\vee \cong V$ if and only if $\dim V < \infty$. The only if part is optional, similar to Exercise 11 \square

Exercise 25. Let $f : V \rightarrow W$ be a linear map. Define $f^\vee : W^\vee \rightarrow V^\vee$ by $f^\vee \alpha = \alpha \circ f$. Show that f^\vee is a linear map. Describe $\ker f^\vee$ and $\operatorname{im} f^\vee$ in terms of $\ker f$ and $\operatorname{im} f$.

Let $g : W \rightarrow P$ be another linear map, show that $(g \circ f)^\vee = f^\vee \circ g^\vee$. \square

7.3. Singular Cohomology.

Definition 21. Let X be a topological space. The singular cochain complex $C^*(X; \mathbb{R})$ is defined by

$$C^n(X; \mathbb{R}) = (C_n(X; \mathbb{R}))^\vee$$

and the coboundary maps $\delta_n = \partial_{n+1}^\vee$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_n : C^n(X; \mathbb{R}) &\rightarrow C^{n+1}(X; \mathbb{R}) \\ \alpha &\mapsto \alpha \circ \partial_{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

The cohomology of this complex is called the singular cohomology of X . We denote it by

$$H^*(X; \mathbb{R}) = H^*(C^*(X; \mathbb{R})).$$

\square

Exercise 26. Prove that the above defined graded vector space is indeed a cochain complex, viz $\delta_{n+1} \circ \delta_n = 0$. \square

Exercise 27. Prove that $H^n(X; \mathbb{R}) \cong (H_n(X; \mathbb{R}))^\vee$. Hint: Start by constructing a map. \square

Exercise 28. Deduce a Mayer-Vietoris sequence for singular cohomology from the Mayer-Vietoris sequence for singular homology. Be careful! \square

8. MARCH 21, 2022: SMOOTH MANIFOLDS, SMOOTH MAPS, GLUING

Recall that for a topological space X , we call $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, an open subset $V \subset X$ and a homeomorphism $\varphi : V \rightarrow U$ a (coordinate) chart.

Definition 22. With the same notation, V is called the domain of the chart and the functions x_1, \dots, x_n defined by $x_i : V \xrightarrow{\varphi} U \xrightarrow{pr_i} \mathbb{R}$ are called the coordinates of the chart. Here pr_i is the projection from $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ to the i^{th} Euclidean coordinate. \square

Definition 23. Let $\varphi_1 : V_1 \rightarrow U_1$ and $\varphi_2 : V_2 \rightarrow U_2$ be two charts of the topological space X . The map $\varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1} : \varphi_1(V_1 \cap V_2) \rightarrow \varphi_2(V_1 \cap V_2)$ is called the transition map from the chart φ_1 to the chart φ_2 .

The charts φ_1 and φ_2 are called smoothly compatible if the transition maps $\varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1}$ and $\varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2^{-1}$ are both smooth. \square

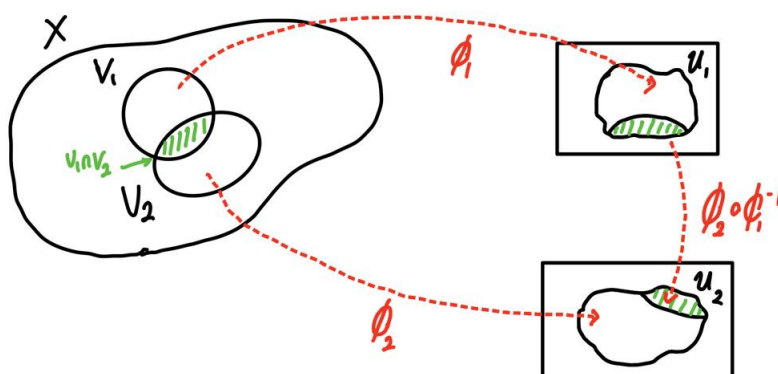


FIGURE 15. Transition map between charts.

Also recall that a smooth atlas on a topological space X is a collection of charts $\varphi_i : V_i \rightarrow U_i |_{i \in I}$ (of the same dimension) such that

- $\cup_{i \in I} V_i = X$
- For any $i, j \in I$, φ_i and φ_j are smoothly compatible.

Warning: There is no such thing as a smooth chart unless we have a smooth atlas.

Definition 24. We call a smooth atlas \mathcal{A} maximal if any chart that is smoothly compatible with \mathcal{A} is already in \mathcal{A} . \square

Exercise 29. Prove that every smooth atlas is contained in a unique maximal smooth atlas. \square

Definition 25. A smooth manifold is a second countable and Hausdorff topological space equipped with a maximal smooth atlas. \square

Warning: A maximal smooth atlas is still extra data. We will call it the smooth structure. Let us also call the charts that are in the maximal smooth atlas the smooth charts.

Exercise. Prove that every open subset of \mathbb{R}^n is second countable.

8.1. Examples of smooth manifolds.

- \mathbb{R}^n
- $S^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$
- $\{x^2 + y^3 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$
- $Gr(2, 4) := \{2 \text{ dimensional linear subspaces of } \mathbb{R}^4\}$

What we really mean here is that these have natural topologies which are second countable and Hausdorff and they are equipped with a standard smooth structure.

Exercise 30. Describe each of these topologies and smooth structures. As long as you are correct, you don't need to prove anything. \square

- Open subsets of smooth manifolds
- Products of smooth manifolds

Exercise 31. Explain what these mean precisely and actually prove what you wrote. \square

8.2. Smooth maps. Recall that for an open subset $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, a map $U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ being smooth means the existence of all iterated partial derivatives; and $U \rightarrow V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ being smooth means that each component is smooth.

Definition 26. Let X be a smooth manifold. We call a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ smooth if for every smooth chart $\varphi : V \rightarrow U$, $f \circ \varphi^{-1} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is smooth. \square

Exercise 32. Prove that it suffices to check the smoothness of f on an atlas contained in the maximal smooth atlas. \square

Definition 27. Let X, Y be smooth manifolds and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous. We say that f is smooth if for every smooth chart $\varphi_X : V_X \rightarrow U_X$ in X and $\varphi_Y : V_Y \rightarrow U_Y$ such that $f(V_X) \subset V_Y$, $\varphi_Y \circ f \circ \varphi_X^{-1} : U_X \rightarrow U_Y$ is smooth. \square

8.3. Gluing. Let $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a collection of topological spaces indexed by a set I . If we are given open subsets $X_{\alpha\beta} \subset X_\alpha$ for every $\alpha \neq \beta \in I$, and homeomorphisms $\varphi_{\alpha\beta} : X_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow X_{\beta\alpha}$ and the following conditions are satisfied, then we call this a gluing data and in particular, $\varphi_{\alpha\beta}$ gluing maps:

- For every $\alpha, \beta \in I$, $\varphi_{\alpha\beta} \circ \varphi_{\beta\alpha} = id$.
- For every α, β, γ , pairwise distinct,

$$\varphi_{\alpha\beta}(X_{\alpha\beta} \cap X_{\alpha\gamma}) \subset X_{\beta\alpha} \cap X_{\beta\gamma}.$$
- (Cocycle condition)

$$\varphi_{\beta\gamma} \circ \varphi_{\alpha\beta} = \varphi_{\alpha\gamma} \text{ on } X_{\alpha\beta} \cap X_{\alpha\gamma}.$$

Under these assumptions, we can define an equivalence relation on $X = \sqcup_{\alpha \in I} X_\alpha$ by $a \equiv b$ if $a \in X_\alpha, b \in X_\beta$ such that $\alpha \neq \beta$ and $\varphi_{\alpha\beta}(a) = b$. We equip X with its natural topology, that is, the quotient of the disjoint union topology.

Proposition 4. *Assume that each X_α is a smooth manifold, each $\varphi_{\alpha\beta}$ is smooth (as in Definition 27) and X is second countable and Hausdorff. Then, there exists a unique smooth structure on X such that the induced smooth structure on the open subset $X_\alpha \subset X$ is the given one.*

Exercise. Prove this proposition.

Remark 9. I countable $\Rightarrow X$ is second countable. \square

Exercise. Prove that every smooth manifold can be obtained by gluing open subsets of \mathbb{R}^n .

9. MARCH 24, 2022: DIFFEOMORPHISMS, TANGENT BUNDLE OF A MANIFOLD, DIFFERENTIAL OF A SMOOTH MAP

Definition 28. Let X and Y be smooth manifolds, and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a bijective smooth map. If the inverse map is also smooth, then we call f a diffeomorphism. We also say that X and Y are diffeomorphic. \square

Exercise. Let X be Hausdorff and second countable topological space. Let S_1 and S_2 be two maximal smooth atlases. Prove that the identity map $X \rightarrow X$ is a diffeomorphism if and only if $S_1 = S_2$.

Exercise 33. Consider the real line \mathbb{R} as a topological space. Equip it with (i) its "standard" smooth structure. (ii) smooth structure that admits a chart (U, ϕ) with $U = \mathbb{R}$ and $\phi(x) = x^3$. Prove that (i) and (ii) are not the same smooth structure, but they are diffeomorphic. \square

We have talked about the differentiability of maps between smooth manifolds but we didn't take any actual derivatives yet. Note that the partial derivatives of a function as we learned in calculus courses depend on the coordinates that we are given and we do not have such preferred coordinates in a general smooth manifold. We have to develop the notion of tangent bundle to get a head start. Then we will define the differential of a smooth map.

First, we need to deal with the case of open subsets of Euclidean spaces. If you remember your multivariable calculus class well, this is at best a reformulation of what you already know.

Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $V \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be open subsets, and $f : U \rightarrow V$ be a smooth map. Then the Jacobian matrix of f at a point p is the

following matrix.

$$Jac_p(f) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(p) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2}(p) & \cdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1}(p) & & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n}(p) \end{bmatrix}$$

We define the tangent bundle of an open set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ as

$$TU := U \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

which is an open subset of \mathbb{R}^{2n} . It is very important to be able to visualize points of TU as a point p in U and a vector at p effectively, see Figure 19.

We define the differential

$$df : TU \rightarrow TV$$

of $f : U \rightarrow V$ (as above) by formula

$$df(p, v) = (f(p), Jac_p(f)v)$$

Exercise. Prove that if we have open subsets $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $V \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ and $W \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ and smooth maps $f : U \rightarrow V$, $g : V \rightarrow W$, we have the following reinterpretation of the chain rule.

$$d(g \circ f) = dg \circ df$$

You can use the multivariable calculus chain rule without proof.

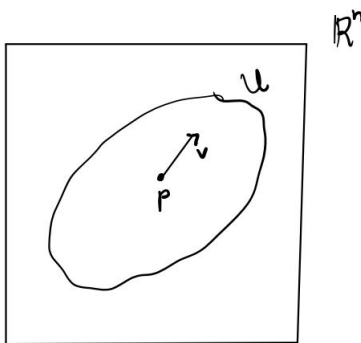


FIGURE 16. A point (p, v) of $TU = U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ can be thought of the vector v at p .

Now we introduce the tangent bundle of an arbitrary smooth manifold.

Remark 10. If $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a submanifold (will be defined next lecture but you can imagine $S^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$), its tangent bundle is the union of tangent spaces at all points of X . See Figure 17. This is where the name "tangent bundle" comes from. The description uses the embedding, which we do not want for a definition. \square

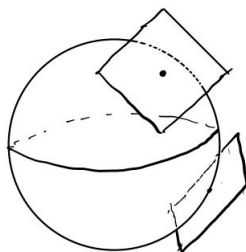


FIGURE 17

Definition 29. Let M be a smooth manifold with maximal atlas $\{\varphi_\alpha : V_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$. Define $U_{\alpha\beta} := \varphi_\alpha(V_\alpha \cap V_\beta)$.

We define TM by gluing TU_α along $TU_{\alpha\beta} \subset TU_\alpha$ using

$$d(\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}) : TU_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow TU_{\beta\alpha}$$

as gluing maps. \square

Exercise. Check that this is a valid gluing data.

We also define a smooth map $\pi : TM \rightarrow M$ by sending $(p, v) \in TU_\alpha$ to $\varphi_\alpha^{-1}(p)$.

Exercise 34. Prove that π is well-defined. Prove that $\forall p \in M$, $\pi^{-1}(p)$ is canonically a $\dim M$ dimensional vector space. \square

Proposition 5. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a smooth map between smooth manifolds. Then, there is a canonical smooth map

$$df : TX \rightarrow TY$$

with the following properties:

- (1) For any $\varphi_X : V_X \rightarrow U_X$ and $\varphi_Y : V_Y \rightarrow U_Y$ coordinate charts such that $f(V_X) \subset V_Y$, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TU_X & \longrightarrow & TU_Y \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ TX & \xrightarrow{df} & TY \end{array}.$$

commutes. Here

- The top map is $d(\varphi_Y \circ f \circ \varphi_X^{-1})$ which was already defined.
- The vertical maps are the canonical inclusions coming from the gluing construction.

Clearly, if satisfied, this property determines df uniquely.

(2) The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TX & \longrightarrow & TY \\ \downarrow \pi_X & & \downarrow \pi_Y \\ X & \longrightarrow & Y. \end{array}$$

commutes. For all $x \in X$, the induced map $\pi_X^{-1}(x) \rightarrow \pi_Y^{-1}(f(x))$ is linear.

- (3) If $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ is another smooth map, then $dg \circ df = d(g \circ f)$. Finally $d(id_X) = id_{TX}$.

Exercise 35. Prove part (1) of this theorem. □

Exercise. Prove the remaining parts of this theorem.

Hint: To prove part (1), construct the map df by gluing the maps

$$TU_\alpha \rightarrow TU_\beta$$

with $f(V_\alpha) \subset V_\beta$. You need to check that these are compatible with each other. If you can do this one, the other two will be easy.

Remark 11. The map df contains the information of first order derivatives of f . □

Definition 30. X^n smooth manifold

- $TX \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ is called the tangent bundle of X .
- For $x \in X$, the n dimensional real vector space $\pi^{-1}(x)$ is called the tangent space of x and is defined by $T_x X$.

Let Y be a smooth manifold and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ smooth map

- The map $df : TX \rightarrow TY$ is called the differential of $f : X \rightarrow Y$.
- We obtain linear maps called $df_x : T_x X \rightarrow T_{f(x)} Y$ for all $x \in X$.

□

10. MARCH 29, 2022: SUBMANIFOLDS, REGULAR VALUE THEOREM

Definition 31. A subset Z of a smooth manifold X^n is called a submanifold of dimension $k \geq 0$ if for every $z \in Z$, there exists a smooth

chart $\varphi : V \rightarrow U$ of X such that

$$\varphi(V \cap Z) = U \cap (\mathbb{R}^k \times \{0\}) \subset \mathbb{R}^k \times \mathbb{R}^{n-k} = \mathbb{R}^n.$$

□

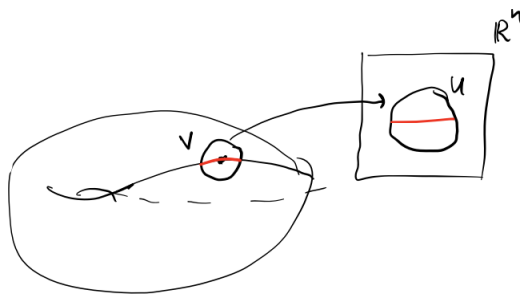


FIGURE 18

Exercise. Prove that a submanifold $Z \subset X$ with its subspace topology can be equipped with a natural smooth structure such that the inclusion map $Z \hookrightarrow X$ is smooth.

There are two main ways of obtaining submanifolds:

- (1) As solutions of smooth equations, i.e. preimages of points in

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{the domain of maps such as } & X & \xrightarrow{\quad} \mathbb{R}^2 \\ & & \searrow \\ & & Y \end{array}$$

- (2) As subsets parametrized by other manifolds, e.g. $S^2 \rightarrow X$.

Let's start with (1). Consider a smooth map $f : X \rightarrow Y$. We call $y \in Y$ a *regular value* if for every $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$, the linear map $df_x : T_x X \rightarrow T_y Y$ is surjective.

Theorem 7 (Regular Value Theorem). *Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a smooth map. If $y \in Y$ is a regular value, then $f^{-1}(y) \hookrightarrow X$ is a submanifold. Moreover, there are canonical isomorphisms*

$$T_x f^{-1}(y) \cong \ker(df_x),$$

for every $x \in f^{-1}(y)$.

Proof Sketch:

- Can easily reduce to $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n, Y \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ open subsets.

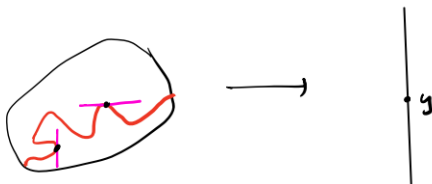


FIGURE 19

- **Implicit Function Theorem:** We can reorder the coordinates of \mathbb{R}^n such that in an open neighborhood $x \in U$, $f^{-1}(y) \cap U$ is the graph of a smooth map

$$\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k) : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$$

where $W = \text{pr}_{n-k}(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$ is open and $\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^{n-k} \times \mathbb{R}^k$.

- *Remark* (\implies) This already gives a smooth atlas on $f^{-1}(y)$
- Use the map $U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$
 $(x_1, \dots, x_{n-k}, x_{n-k+1} - \varphi_1(x_1, \dots, x_{n-k}), \dots, x_n - \varphi_k(x_1, \dots, x_{n-k}))$
- This gives a chart by the inverse function theorem.
- For the statement with tangent spaces, note the diagram of smooth maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^{-1}(y) & \longrightarrow & * \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \downarrow \\ x & \longrightarrow & Y \quad y \end{array}$$

and use Exercise 36.

Exercise. Make this statement intuitive for yourself.

Definition 32. A smooth map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called an immersion if $df_x : T_x X \rightarrow T_f(x)Y$ is injective for all $x \in X$. \square

Exercise 36. Prove that inclusions of submanifolds into smooth manifolds are injective immersions. \square

Example 7. Consider $T^2 = S^1 \times S^1$, which can be represented as the $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ with the ends identified as indicated in Figure 20, and draw on it a line with irrational slope which gives an injective immersion $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow T^2$. The image is a dense subset and is not a submanifold. \square

Proposition 6. Assume that $f : Z \rightarrow X$ is an injective immersion. Then $f(Z)$ is a submanifold if and only if $Z \rightarrow f(Z)$ is a homeomorphism, where $f(Z)$ has the subspace topology.

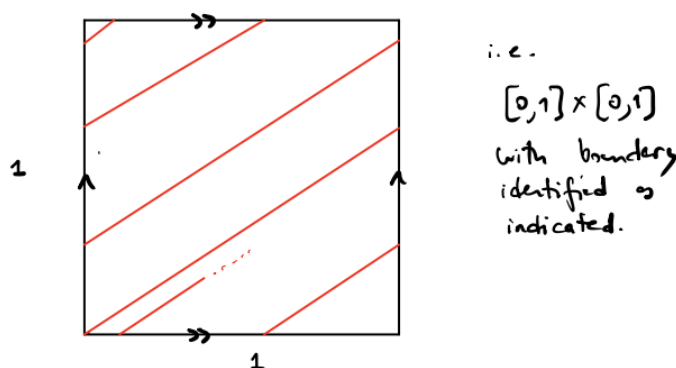


FIGURE 20

Exercise 37. Prove this. \square

Proposition 7. Assume that $f : Z \rightarrow X$ is an injective immersion. Then $f(Z)$ is a submanifold and a closed subset if and only if f is a proper map.

Remark 12. The properness condition in the proposition is automatic if Z is compact. \square

Exercise. Find a submanifold of a smooth manifold which is not a closed subset.

Theorem 8 (Whitney Embedding Theorem). Any smooth manifold X^n can be injectively immersed into \mathbb{R}^N by a smooth proper map for some $N > 0$.

Remark 13. We can take $N = 2n$, but this is sharp, e.g. \mathbb{RP}^2 and Klein bottle. Whitney embedding theorem is not as useful as it might seem because the embeddings are usually inexplicit and complicated. \square

11. MARCH 31, 2022: PARTITIONS OF UNITY

Recall that for a topological space X and a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, support of f is defined as $\text{supp}(f) = \overline{\{f(x) \neq 0\}} \subset X$.

Let $B_r(0) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be the open ball of radius r centered at the origin.

Lemma 2. There exists a smooth function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with the following properties.

- (1) $\text{supp}(f) \subset B_2(0)$
- (2) $f|_{B_1(0)} = 1$
- (3) $0 \leq f(x) \leq 1$, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

It is customary to call such functions bump functions.

Proof. The key is that we can construct a smooth function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which vanishes on $\mathbb{R}_{\leq 0}$ but is positive and increasing on $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$. Here is an example

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x \leq 0 \\ e^{-\frac{1}{x}} & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

The smoothness is an easy consequence of the smoothness and the decay of the exponential function e^{-x} . □

Exercise 38. Using $g(x)$, construct a bump function f . For $n > 1$ you might find it convenient to construct one that only depends on the distance from the origin. □

Remark 14. A special case of the Whitney extension theorem says that for any closed subset $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists a smooth function $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which vanishes precisely on C . This becomes useful sometimes. Note that C can be wild, like the Cantor set. □

A collection of subsets of a topological space is called locally finite if for every $x \in X$, there is an open neighborhood of x intersecting only finitely many members of the collection.

Definition 33. Let X be a smooth manifold and assume that the collection of open subsets $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ covers X . We call a collection of smooth functions $\{f_\alpha : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}_{\alpha \in I}$ a partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ if the following properties are satisfied,

- (1) For every $\alpha \in I$, $\text{supp}(f_\alpha) \subset U_\alpha$
- (2) $\{\text{supp}(f_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$ is locally finite.
- (3) For every $\alpha \in I$ and $x \in X$, $f_\alpha(x) \geq 0$
- (4) $\sum_{\alpha \in I} f_\alpha = 1$.

□

Note that the sum in (4) makes sense because of (2). The name comes from (4), where one should think of the constant function 1 as the unit of the algebra of smooth functions on X . If you have a partition of unity subordinate to $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$, where each V_α is the domain of a chart, we can write any smooth function $q : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as a sum of functions supported inside the domains of those chart, which can then can all thought of as functions defined on \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$q = 1 \cdot q = \left(\sum_{\alpha \in I} f_\alpha \right) q = \sum_{\alpha \in I} f_\alpha q .$$

More often though, you use partitions of unity to patch together locally defined things to a global one. We will see an example soon.

Proposition 8. *Let X be a smooth manifold, and assume that the collection of open subsets $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ covers X . Then, there exists a partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$.*

Proof. (Sketch) Second countability implies that one can find another cover $\{V_\beta\}_{\beta \in J}$ with the following properties:

- (1) J is countable.
- (2) For every $\beta \in J$, there exists an $\alpha \in I$ such that $V_\beta \subset U_\alpha$.
- (3) For every $\beta \in J$, V_β is the domain of a coordinate chart $\phi_\beta : V_\beta \rightarrow \tilde{V}_\beta$, where $\tilde{V}_\beta = B_3(0)$.
- (4) For every $\beta \in J$, define $W_\beta = \phi_\beta^{-1}(B_1(0))$. Then, the collection of open sets $\{W_\beta\}_{\beta \in J}$ covers X .
- (5) $\{V_\beta\}_{\beta \in J}$, which automatically covers X , is locally finite.

Now let $\rho : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bump function as above. Let ρ_β be the extension by zero of $\rho \circ \phi_\beta : V_\beta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Define

$$g_\beta := \frac{\rho_\beta}{\sum_{\beta \in J} \rho_\beta} .$$

This is a partition of unity for $\{V_\beta\}_{\beta \in J}$. To find it for $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$, choose a map $a : J \rightarrow I$ such that $V_\beta \subset U_{a(\beta)}$ and set

$$f_\alpha := \sum_{\beta \in J, a(\beta)=\alpha} g_\beta .$$

□

Definition 34. Let X be a smooth manifold. A Riemannian metric g on X is a smoothly varying positive definite symmetric bilinear form $g_x(\cdot, \cdot)$ on $T_x X$ for every $x \in X$. □

Exercise 39. Define smoothly varying. □

Example 8. $X = U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \implies T_x U = \mathbb{R}^n$ for all $x \in U$. For $v, w \in T_x U$ define $g_x(v, w) = v \cdot w = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i w_i$, which is called the flat metric. □

Proposition 9. *Every smooth manifold admits a Riemannian metric.*

Proof. Let X be our manifold and pick a cover $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ by domains of coordinate charts $\varphi_\alpha : V_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha$ with partition of unity $\{f_\alpha : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}_{\alpha \in I}$. Using the flat metric on each U_α we can define a Riemannian metric on V_α called g_α . We define our Riemannian metric by

$$g_x(\cdot, \cdot) = \sum_{\alpha \in I} f_\alpha(x) g_{\alpha, x}(\cdot, \cdot)$$

for all $x \in X$. □

Exercise 40. Check that g is a Riemannian metric. □

Remark 15. A submanifold of \mathbb{R}^n can be equipped with a Riemannian metric by restricting the flat metric to the tangent spaces. It turns out that any Riemannian metric on a smooth manifold X can be obtained by embedding it into an Euclidean space and using this restriction procedure. This is a very difficult theorem called Nash embedding theorem. □

12. APRIL 4, 2022: VECTOR BUNDLES

Definition 35. A smooth map (of smooth manifolds) $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ is called a vector bundle of rank n if

- (1) $\forall b \in B$, $\pi^{-1}(b)$ is equipped with a real vector space structure
- (2) $\forall b \in B$, there is an open neighborhood $b \in U \subset B$ and a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & U \times \mathbb{R}^n \\ & \searrow \pi & \swarrow \text{proj} \\ & U & \end{array}$$

such that Φ is a diffeomorphism and $\Phi_b : \pi^{-1}(b) \rightarrow \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ is a linear isomorphism for every $b \in U$. □

Remark 16. We call such a map Φ a local trivialization and E is called the total space. □

Exercise. Let M^d be a smooth manifold. Prove that $TM \rightarrow M$ is a vector bundle of rank d .

Example 9. Möbius bundle: Rank 1 vector bundle over $S^1 = [0, 1]/0 \sim 1$ defined as

$$\mathbb{R} \times [0, 1]/(s, 0) \sim (-s, 1) \rightarrow S^1,$$

see Figure 21. □

12.1. Constructions of Vector Bundles.

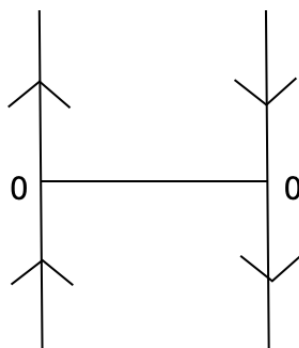


FIGURE 21

12.1.1. *Gluing.* Let $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be an open cover of a smooth manifold B . Let V be a finite dimensional vector space. Assume that we are given smooth maps

$$t_{\alpha\beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow GL(V) \subset \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$$

for every $\alpha, \beta \in I$ such that

Then we can construct a smooth manifold via the formula

$$E := \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha \times V / \sim$$

where $(x, v) \sim (y, w)$ if $x = y$ in B and $t_{\alpha\beta}(x).v = w$.

The canonical map $E \rightarrow B$ is a vector bundle of rank $\dim(V)$.

Exercise 41. Fill in the blanks and prove the statement. □

The maps $t_{\alpha\beta}$ are called transition functions. Let's reserve the phrase "transition map" to atlases.

Definition 36. A homomorphism/map of vector bundles $E \rightarrow B$ and $E' \rightarrow B$ over the same B is a map $E \rightarrow E'$ which preserves fibers and is fiberwise linear. □

Definition 37. Given vector bundles $E \xrightarrow{\pi} B$ and $E' \xrightarrow{\pi'} B'$ and smooth map $f : B \rightarrow B'$, a smooth map $E \rightarrow E'$ is called a vector bundle homomorphism/map covering f if the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
E & \longrightarrow & E' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
B & \longrightarrow & B'
\end{array}$$

commutes and $\pi^{-1}(b) \rightarrow (\pi')^{-1}(f(b))$ is a linear map. \square

Exercise. Prove that $df : TX \rightarrow TY$ covers $f : X \rightarrow Y$.

Exercise. Define what it should mean for two vector bundles over the same base to be isomorphic.

Definition 38. We call a vector bundle $E \rightarrow B$ trivial if there is an isomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
E & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{R}^n \times B \\
& \searrow & \swarrow \\
& B &
\end{array}$$

\square

Remark 17. There are many vector bundles that are not trivial, e.g.

- Mobius bundle
- $TS^2 \rightarrow S^2$

\square

Exercise 42. Prove that $TS^1 \rightarrow S^1$ is trivial. \square

Definition 39. A section of a vector bundle $E \xrightarrow{\pi} B$ is a smooth map $B \xrightarrow{s} E$ such that $\pi \circ s = id$. \square

A section is a choice of a smoothly varying vector at every fiber.

Trivial vector bundles have many sections which are not zero anywhere. The non-trivial bundle examples we gave do not have any such sections.

Sections of $TM \rightarrow M$ are called vector fields of M .

Theorem 9 (Hairy Ball Theorem). S^2 does not have a non-vanishing vector fields.

To understand the name properly let us make something from the previous class more explicit.

Definition 40. Let $E \rightarrow B$ vector bundle, $E_b := \pi^{-1}(b)$. We call $S \subset E$ a subbundle, if

- (1) For every $b \in B$, $S \cap E_b \subset E_b$ is a subspace
- (2) $S \subset E$ is a submanifold
- (3) $\pi|_S : S \rightarrow B$ is a vector bundle.

□

Remark 18. I remember proving that (1) and (2) implies (3). □

Exercise 43. Let $Z \subset X$ be submanifold, $\iota : Z \hookrightarrow X$ be inclusion map. Define $\iota^*TX := \pi^{-1}(Z)$, where $\pi : TX \rightarrow X$. Prove

- (1) $\iota^*TX \rightarrow Z$ is a vector bundle
- (2) $S := \bigcup_{z \in Z} \text{im}(di_z) \subset \iota^*TX$ is a subbundle.
- (3) $S \rightarrow Z$ and $TZ \rightarrow Z$ are canonically isomorphic vector bundles.

□

This means that for example we can think TS^2 as the union of tangent planes of $S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$; a vector field on S^2 as a collection of smoothly varying tangent vectors at every point of S^2 .

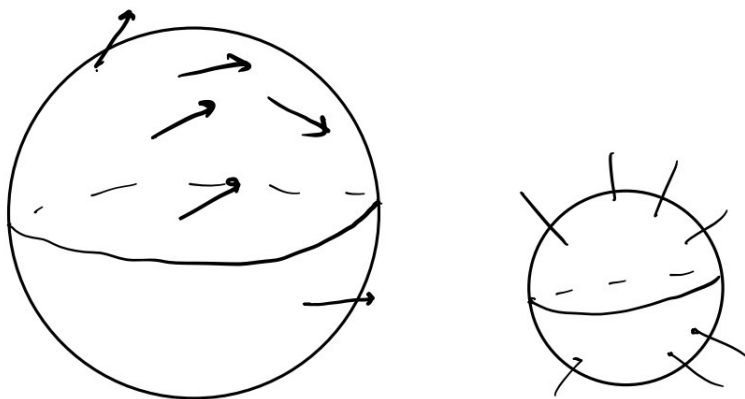


FIGURE 22. arrows = hair after being combed
hairy ball theorem = you can not comb the hair without creating discontinuity

Remark 19. It is customary among non-geometers to work only with the sections of a vector bundle and never talk about the vector bundle itself. Here you think of sections as a collection of local vector valued functions, which transform according to some rules (i.e. the transition

functions, which in case of vector bundles related to the tangent bundle can be expressed in terms of changes of coordinates - this expression transforms as xxx, Einstein conventions etc.) I think it is a shame and the only reason to do this could be that the mental effort to conceptualize a non-trivial bundle is non-trivial. This is similar to the insistence of some physicists to never talk about the flow of a vector field but only individual solutions of the corresponding ODE. Neither of these geometric notions (flows and global bundles) will help if all you want is to compute something, but they definitely help in thinking about what you are doing when you are doing the computation. Laziness turns into a defense mechanism that causes people to think mathematicians are just being fancy. \square

There is also a converse to gluing, namely given a vector bundle $\pi : E \rightarrow B$, you choose an open cover $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ of B with trivializations

$$\Phi_\alpha : \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha) \rightarrow U_\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^n$$

We obtain $\tilde{t}_{\alpha\beta} := \Phi_\beta \circ \Phi_\alpha^{-1}$

$$(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \times \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{\sim} (U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \times \mathbb{R}^n$$

or equivalently $t_{\alpha\beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{R}^n)$. We can use this data to glue a new vector bundle that is canonically isomorphic to $E \rightarrow B$.

13. APRIL 7, 2022: MORE ON VECTOR BUNDLES, COTANGENT BUNDLE, ORIENTATIONS

I want to start by noting a useful result about subbundles.

Proposition 10. *Assume that we have a vector bundle homomorphism*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \phi : E & \xrightarrow{\quad} & E' \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & B & \end{array}$$

If $\phi_b : E_b \rightarrow E'_b$ has the same rank for all $b \in B$, then

- (1) $\bigcup_{b \in B} \ker \phi_b \subset E$
- (2) $\bigcup_{b \in B} \operatorname{im} \phi_b \subset E'$

are both subbundles.

Example 10. The constant rank assumption is not always satisfied. For example consider the map of vector bundles:

$$(x, t) \quad \longmapsto \quad (x, x.t)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_x & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_x \\
 & \searrow \quad \swarrow & \\
 & \mathbb{R}_x &
 \end{array}$$

One can immediately check that the conclusion of the proposition does not hold. \square

Let's now assume that we have the vector bundle $E \rightarrow B$ constructed by gluing $\{U_\alpha \times V \rightarrow U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ where V is a finite dimensional vector space and $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ is an open cover of B with the transition functions $t_{\alpha\beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ for every $\alpha, \beta \in I$.

Now let W be another finite dimensional vector space and

$$\Psi : \text{GL}(V) \rightarrow \text{GL}(W)$$

be a group homomorphism.

Using Ψ we can construct a new vector bundle by gluing $\{U_\alpha \times W \rightarrow U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ with the transition maps

$$\psi \circ t_{\alpha\beta} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow \text{GL}(W)$$

.

Exercise. Prove that this is a valid gluing data.

13.1. The Dual Vector Bundle. Let us consider the case

$$W = V^\vee := \text{Hom}(V, \mathbb{R})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{GL}(V) &\rightarrow \text{GL}(V^\vee) \rightarrow \text{GL}(V^\vee) \\
 A &\mapsto A^*
 \end{aligned}$$

$$B \mapsto B^{-1}$$

where the first map takes the dual map of a linear map.

Remark 20. If we choose a basis for V , then we get $V \cong \mathbb{R}^n$, $V^\vee \cong \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\text{GL}(\mathbb{R}^n) \cong$ invertible $n \times n$ matrices. Then the first map takes the transpose and the second inverts. \square

These are both anti-homomorphisms and the composition is a homomorphism.

\implies We get a new vector bundle $\pi^\vee : E^\vee \rightarrow B$.

Proposition 11. *There are canonical isomorphisms $(E^\vee)_b \cong (E_b)^\vee$.*

Exercise 44. Prove this. \square

Definition 41. The dual vector bundle to $TM \rightarrow M$ is called the cotangent bundle and is denoted by $T^*M \rightarrow M$. We will denote $(T^*M)_b$ by T_b^*M and identify it with T_bM^\vee using the canonical map.

Elements of T_b^*M are called covectors at b and sections of $T^*M \rightarrow M$ are called covector fields or differential 1-forms. \square

13.2. The Determinant Vector Bundle. Now consider the case $V = \mathbb{R}^n$, $W = \mathbb{R}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{GL}(\mathbb{R}^n) &\rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(\mathbb{R}) \\ A &\mapsto \det(A) \cdot . \end{aligned}$$

For example, we can apply this to $TM \rightarrow M$ and obtain the line bundle $\det(TM) \rightarrow M$.

Remark 21. In the next lecture, we will define the exterior powers of a vector space, and in particular

$$\det(V) := \wedge^{\dim(V)} V.$$

It will be the case that

$$\det(TM)_b \cong_{\mathrm{can.}} \det(T_bM).$$

\square

13.3. Orientation. Any two bases e, f of a finite dimensional vector space V are related by a unique change of basis matrix $A(e, f)$ whose entries are defined by $e_i = \sum_j A_{ji} f_j$. We say that e and f are positively related if $\det A(e, f) > 0$.

This divides the set of bases of V into two groups so that members of each group are pairwise positively related. Let $o(V)$ be the set whose elements are the two groups.

Definition 42. An orientation of V is a choice of an element of $o(V)$ as the positively oriented bases and the other as the negatively oriented bases. \square

Note that if V is one-dimensional,

$$o(V) \cong_{\mathrm{can.}} V - \{0\} / \sim,$$

$v \sim v'$ if $v = cv'$ for $c > 0$.

Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a line bundle and let $Z_B \subset E$ be the image of the zero section. We can construct a 2 : 1 covering space $o(\pi) : o(E) \rightarrow B$ by

$$o(E) := E \setminus Z_B / \sim,$$

with $v \sim v'$ if $v, v' \in E_b$ for some $b \in B$ and $v = cv'$ with $c > 0$.

Exercise 45. Prove that the canonical map $o(E) \rightarrow B$ is a $2 : 1$ covering space. \square

By construction $o(E)$ is canonically identified with $\bigcup_{b \in B} o(E_b)$. A section of $o(E) \rightarrow B$ is nothing but a continuously varying choice of orientations for each E_b .

Of course such a section does not always exist – equivalent to $2 : 1$ cover being trivial.

Example 11. The orientation bundle of the Mobius bundle is isomorphic to the nontrivial cover $S^1 \rightarrow S^1$, $\theta \mapsto 2\theta$ \square

If there is a continuous section of its orientation bundle we call $E \rightarrow B$ orientable and the choice of a section an orientation of $E \rightarrow B$.

Definition 43. M is called orientable if $\det(TM) \rightarrow M$ is orientable. An orientation of this bundle is called an orientation of M . \square

Remark 22. Next Lecture: For any finite dimensional vector space V ,

$$o(V) \underset{can.}{\cong} o(\det(V)).$$

\square

\implies An orientation of M is equivalent to a continuously varying choice of orientations for each tangent space $T_x M$, $x \in M$.

Definition 44. If $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open, the standard orientation of U is the one where the basis e_1, \dots, e_n of $T_b U$ is positive for all $b \in U$. \square

Proposition 12. Let M be a smooth manifold. M is orientable if and only if there exists a subatlas $\{\phi_\alpha : V_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ of the smooth structure such that the transition map $\phi_\beta \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1} : U_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow U_{\beta\alpha}$ satisfies

$$\det(\text{Jac}_p(\phi_\beta \circ \phi_\alpha^{-1})) > 0$$

for all $p \in U_{\alpha\beta}$, where $U_{\alpha\beta} := \phi_\alpha(V_\alpha \cap V_\beta)$.

Definition 45. Let us call such a subatlas an oriented subatlas. \square

14. APRIL 11, 2022: CONSTRUCTING VECTOR SPACES

Definition 46. Let V and W be vector spaces. The direct sum $V \oplus W$ is the vector space with underlying set $V \times W$ endowed with the vector space structure given by

$$\begin{aligned} c(v, w) &= (cv, cw) \\ (v, w) + (v', w') &= (v + v', w + w') \end{aligned}$$

\square

If e_1, \dots, e_n and f_1, \dots, f_m are bases of V and W , respectively, then $\tilde{e}_i := (e_i, 0)$ and $\tilde{f}_j := (0, f_j)$ together form a basis of $V \oplus W$.

Exercise 46. Let $E \rightarrow B$ and $E' \rightarrow B$ be vector bundles. Define the Whitney sum vector bundle

$$E \oplus E' \rightarrow B$$

such that each fiber $(E \oplus E')_b$ is canonically identified with $E_b \oplus E'_b$.
□

14.1. Tensor Products. We'll now define the tensor product $V \otimes W$ of two vector spaces V and W .

Let $T(V, W)$ be the vector space generated by the set $V \times W$. Let $Q(V, W) \subset T(V, W)$ be the smallest subspace that contains

$$\begin{aligned} & c(v, w) - (cv, w) \\ & c(v, w) - (v, cw) \\ & (v + v', w) - (v, w) - (v', w) \\ & (v, w + w') - (v, w) - (v, w') \end{aligned}$$

for all $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $v, v' \in V$ and $w, w' \in W$. Define

$$V \otimes W := \frac{T(V, W)}{Q(V, W)}.$$

The equivalence classes $[(v, w)]$ are denoted by $v \otimes w$ and are called pure tensors. Every element of $V \otimes W$ is a finite sum of pure tensors.

Exercise 47. Let e_1, \dots, e_n and f_1, \dots, f_m be bases of V and W , respectively. Show that $e_i \otimes f_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ is a basis of $V \otimes W$. In particular $\mathbb{R}^n \otimes \mathbb{R}^m \cong \mathbb{R}^{nm}$. □

Tensor products can be tricky to work with but it will be worth our time.

Lemma 3. *Given linear maps $f : V \rightarrow W$ and $f' : V' \rightarrow W'$, there exists a unique map*

$$f \otimes f' : V \otimes V' \rightarrow W \otimes W'$$

which satisfies

$$f \otimes f' : v \otimes v' \mapsto f(v) \otimes f'(v').$$

Proof. Define a linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : T(V, V') &\rightarrow T(W, W') \\ (v, v') &\mapsto (f(v), f'(v')) \end{aligned}$$

by linearly extending. All we have left to check is that $\phi(Q(V, V')) \subset Q(W, W')$, which is easy. \square

Exercise 48. Let $A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n'}$ and $B : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m'}$ be linear maps. Describe the matrix of $A \otimes B$ in terms of the matrices of A and B . \square

Exercise. Suppose that in the above exercise $n = n'$ and $m = m'$, that is, A and B are endomorphisms. Then $A \otimes B$ is also an endomorphism. Describe

- The trace $\text{tr} A \otimes B$ in terms of $\text{tr} A$ and $\text{tr} B$.
- The determinant $\det A \otimes B$ in terms of $\det A$ and $\det B$.
- The eigenvalues/vectors of $A \otimes B$ in terms of those of A and B .

Exercise. Let $E \rightarrow B$ and $E' \rightarrow B$ be vector bundles. Define the vector bundle $E \otimes E' \rightarrow B$ so that $(E \otimes E')_b$ is canonically isomorphic to $E_b \otimes E'_b$.

Lemma 4. *There is a unique isomorphism*

$$(U \otimes V) \otimes W \rightarrow U \otimes (V \otimes W)$$

$$(u \otimes v) \otimes w \mapsto u \otimes (v \otimes w).$$

Proof. Routine but tedious to write down. Define the only possible map and see that it works. \square

Definition 47. With this in mind we can define inductively

$$V^{\otimes(k+1)} := V \otimes V^{\otimes k}.$$

$$v_0 \otimes v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_k := v_0 \otimes (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_k).$$

by taking $V^{\otimes 0} = \mathbb{R}$. Also, we take

$$U \otimes V \otimes W := U \otimes (V \otimes W)$$

$$u \otimes v \otimes w := u \otimes (v \otimes w)$$

\square

14.2. The Exterior Algebra. We have finally arrived at the exterior product operation.

Definition 48. Let $k \geq 1$, we define

$$\Lambda^k V = V^{\otimes k} / S_k$$

where S_k is the smallest subspace of $V^{\otimes k}$ that contains the set

$$\{v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_k \in V^{\otimes k} : v_1, \dots, v_k \text{ are linearly dependent}\}.$$

We denote the class of $v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_k$ by $v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k$. The space $\Lambda^k V$ is called the k th exterior product of V . We also take $\Lambda^0 V = V^{\otimes 0} = \mathbb{R}$. Also notice that $\Lambda^k V = 0$ for $k > \dim V$. \square

Remark 23. The space S_k could also be described to be the smallest subspace of $V^{\otimes k}$ that contains all elements of the form $\cdots \otimes v \otimes v \otimes \cdots \in V^{\otimes k}$. One could also see that $\bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} S_k$ is a two-sided ideal in the graded algebra (to be defined later)

$$T(V) = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} V^{\otimes k}$$

that is generated by $v \otimes v : v \in V$. \square

Proposition 13. *Let e_1, \dots, e_n be a basis of V . Let I_k be the set of order preserving functions*

$$i : \{1, \dots, k\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}.$$

Then

$$\{e_{i(1)} \wedge \cdots \wedge e_{i(k)}\}_{i \in I_k}$$

is a basis of $\Lambda^k V$.

We'll omit the proof for now. The statement is much more important.

Definition 49. A graded algebra is a graded vector space $\{V_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ and a collection of bilinear maps

$$\phi_{n,m} : V_n \times V_m \rightarrow V_{n+m}.$$

Assuming that it is positively graded (why do we need an assumption?), a graded algebra gives an algebra structure on

$$V := \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n$$

by defining

$$\left(\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} a_n v_n \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} b_m v_m \right) = \sum_{n,m \in \mathbb{N}} a_n b_m \phi_{n,m}(v_n, w_m).$$

Most of the terminology of algebras carry over, *e.g.* associative and unital algebras **BUT** commutative means that for $x \in V_n, y \in V_m$ we have that

$$x \cdot y = (-1)^{nm} y \cdot x.$$

\square

Proposition 14. *The graded vector space $\{\Lambda^k V\}_{k \geq 0}$ forms a commutative graded algebra together with the product*

$$\Lambda^k V \times \Lambda^l V \rightarrow \Lambda^{k+l} V$$

$$(v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k, w_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge w_l) \mapsto v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k \wedge w_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge w_l.$$

This is called the exterior algebra or the Grassmann algebra of V . We denote

$$\Lambda^*V = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^k V.$$

The product we defined here is called the exterior product, which we'll denote by \wedge .

Exercise 49. Write a concrete description of $\Lambda^*\mathbb{R}^n$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$.

□

Given a linear map $f : V \rightarrow W$, one can define $\Lambda^*V \rightarrow \Lambda^*W$ with $f(v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k) = f(v_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge f(v_k)$.

Definition 50. For finite dimensional V , let $\det(V) = \Lambda^{\dim V} V$. □

Exercise 50. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear map with matrix A . Show that the induced map $\det(\mathbb{R}^n) \mapsto \det(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is given by multiplication by $\det(A)$. □

15. APRIL 14, 2022: MORE ON THE EXTERIOR ALGEBRA, WEDGE PRODUCT, ALTERNATING MULTILINEAR MAPS

Recall: For a vector space V ,

- $\Lambda^k V$ is the k^{th} exterior power,
- $\Lambda^k V = 0$ for $k > \dim V$,
- $\Lambda^0 V \cong \mathbb{R}, \Lambda^1 V \cong V$,
- Assume V is finite dimensional and let e_1, \dots, e_n be a basis. Let

$I_k := \{ \{1, \dots, k\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ injective, order-preserving maps} \}.$

Then, $\{e_{i(1)} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i(k)}\}_{i \in I}$ forms a basis of $\Lambda^k V$. In particular $\Lambda^{\dim V} V \cong \mathbb{R}$, but this isomorphism is not canonical since we have chosen a basis.

Definition 51. Let V be a finite dimensional vector space. We define $\det V := \Lambda^{\dim V} V$. Choosing a connected component of $\Lambda^{\dim V} V / \{0\}$ is the same thing as choosing an element of $o(V)$. □

Proposition 15. Given a linear map $f : V \rightarrow W$, there is a unique homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^k V &\rightarrow \Lambda^k W \text{ such that} \\ v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k &\mapsto f(v_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f(v_k). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We already have a canonical map $V^{\otimes k} \rightarrow W^{\otimes k}$ such that $v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k \mapsto f(v_1) \otimes \dots \otimes f(v_k)$. We need to show that if v_1, \dots, v_k is linearly dependent, then so is $f(v_1), \dots, f(v_k)$, and this is true by linearity. \square

Exercise 51. If $f : V \rightarrow V$ is a linear map, we can define $\det(f) \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that the induced map $\Lambda^{\dim V} V \rightarrow \Lambda^{\dim V} V$ is given by multiplication with $\det(f)$. \square

15.1. Wedge product. We define the wedge product, also denoted by \wedge as

$$\begin{aligned} \wedge : \Lambda^k V \times \Lambda^{k'} V &\rightarrow \Lambda^{k+k'} \text{ such that} \\ (v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k, w_1 \wedge \dots \wedge w_{k'}) &\mapsto v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k \wedge w_1 \wedge \dots \wedge w_{k'}. \end{aligned}$$

\wedge is graded commutative: for $\alpha \in \Lambda^k V, \beta \in \Lambda^{k'} V$, we have

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = (-1)^{kk'} (\beta \wedge \alpha).$$

The algebra

$$\Lambda^* V = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^k V$$

is called the exterior algebra. Recall Definition 49.

Remark 24. We have another graded algebra $T(V) = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} V^{\otimes k}$, defined by

$$\otimes : V^{\otimes k} \times V^{\otimes k'} \rightarrow V^{\otimes k+k'},$$

where

$$(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k, w_1 \otimes \dots \otimes w_{k'}) \mapsto v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k \otimes w_1 \otimes \dots \otimes w_{k'}.$$

For $v \neq w$ nonzero elements of V , $v \otimes w \neq \pm w \otimes v$ so this algebra is not commutative. It is also infinite dimensional unless $V = \{0\}$. Quotient map $T(V) \rightarrow \Lambda^* V$ is an algebra homomorphism. \square

Proposition 16. *Given a linear map $f : V \rightarrow W$, there is a unique homomorphism for every $k \geq 0$,*

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^k V &\rightarrow \Lambda^k W \text{ such that} \\ v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k &\mapsto f(v_1) \wedge \dots \wedge f(v_k). \end{aligned}$$

This map respects the wedge product.

Proof. We already have a map $V^{\otimes k} \rightarrow W^{\otimes k}$ satisfying $v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k \mapsto f(v_1) \otimes \dots \otimes f(v_k)$. We need to show that if v_1, \dots, v_k is linearly dependent, then so is $f(v_1), \dots, f(v_k)$. This is true by linearity. \square

15.2. Alternating multilinear maps. Let W be a finite dimensional vector space and $V := W^V = \text{Hom}(W, \mathbb{R})$. We will give a more concrete description of $\Lambda^* V$.

Definition 52. A multilinear map $\alpha : W \times \dots \times W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called alternating if $\alpha(\dots, w_i, w_{i+1} \dots) = -\alpha(\dots, w_{i+1}, w_i \dots)$. \square

Proposition 17. Let $V = W^V$ be as above. Then, $\Lambda^k V$ is canonically isomorphic to the vector space $\text{Alt}^k(W)$ of alternating multilinear maps $W \times \dots \times W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The isomorphism sends $v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k$ to the element of $\text{Alt}^k(W)$ defined by

$$(w_1, \dots, w_k) \mapsto \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_k} \text{sign}(\sigma) v_1(w_{\sigma(1)}) \dots v_k(w_{\sigma(k)})$$

where Σ_n is the set of all permutations $\{1, \dots, k\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$.

Note that the multilinearity and alternating properties are obvious from the definition. It is also not too difficult to check that the map is well-defined.

Exercise 52. Prove that this map is an isomorphism.

Hint: One option is to show surjectivity (or injectivity) and do a dimension count. \square

The isomorphism induces a map

$$\begin{aligned} \wedge : \text{Alt}^k W \times \text{Alt}^{k'} W &\rightarrow \text{Alt}^{k+k'} W \\ (\alpha, \beta) &\mapsto \alpha \wedge \beta, \end{aligned}$$

where direct (but confusing) computation shows

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \wedge \beta(w_1, \dots, w_{k+k'}) &= \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Sh}(k, k')} \text{sign}(\sigma) \alpha(w_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, w_{\sigma(k)}) \beta(w_{\sigma(k+1)}, \dots, w_{\sigma(k+k')}) \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{Sh}(k, k') \subset \Sigma_{k+k'}$ that satisfy $\sigma(1) < \dots < \sigma(k)$ and $\sigma(k+1) < \dots < \sigma(k+k')$. This product is sometimes called the shuffle product.

Remark 25. $\text{Sh}(k, l)$ is the set of all ways of taking $k + l$ cards, and shuffling the first k cards and the last l cards. \square

Instead of a proof, we give an example. Assume that V is a four dimensional vector space with basis e_1, \dots, e_4 . Let's check that the diagram commutes when we input $e_1^\vee \wedge e_2^\vee$ and $e_3^\vee \wedge e_4^\vee$ in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\Lambda^2 V \times \Lambda^2 V & \xrightarrow{\quad \wedge \quad} & \Lambda^4 V \\
\downarrow \wr & & \downarrow \wr \\
\text{Alt}^2(W) \times \text{Alt}^2(W) & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{Shuffle} \quad} & \text{Alt}^4(W)
\end{array}$$

We just need to follow the definitions here. Note that in order to specify an alternating multilinear map with k inputs, we only need to say what it does on all the inputs of the form $e_{i(1)}, \dots, e_{i(k)}$ with $i : [k] \rightarrow [4]$ increasing and injective. Below we only write the inputs where the result is non-zero.

$$e_1^\vee \wedge e_2^\vee \mapsto ((e_1, e_2) \mapsto 1)$$

$$e_3^\vee \wedge e_4^\vee \mapsto ((e_3, e_4) \mapsto 1)$$

$$e_1^\vee \wedge e_2^\vee \wedge e_3^\vee \wedge e_4^\vee \mapsto ((e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4) \mapsto 1).$$

$$\text{Shuffle}(((e_1, e_2) \mapsto 1), ((e_3, e_4) \mapsto 1)) = ((e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4) \mapsto 1).$$

I leave it to you to fill in the words.

Remark 26. We will freely use the isomorphisms $\Lambda^k(W^\vee) \cong \text{Alt}^k(W)$, when W is finite dimensional. \square