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Differential Geometry

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1 Manifolds

We want to generalise curves and surfaces in \mathbb{R}^2 . A curve is a map $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \supseteq I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ or \mathbb{R}^3 that satisfies certain properties we'll find out in a minute. Clearly continuity is necessary but not sufficient, as evidenced by the famous Peano space-filling curve. Smoothness is not quite enough either, as $t \mapsto (t^2, t^3)$ has a cusp at the origin. The correct requirement will be that γ has regular parameterisation, i.e. $|\dot{\gamma}(t)| \neq 0$ for all t .

Similarly, a surface should be defined as a map $r : \mathbb{R}^2 \supseteq D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ with a regular parameterisation, i.e. $r \in C^\infty(D)$ and $|\frac{\partial r}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial r}{\partial v}| \neq 0$ for all $(u, v) \in D$.

We may follow this route and generalise to (hyper)surfaces in \mathbb{R}^n , which will be a generalisation of classical differential geometry of curves and surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 . The good thing is that we can readily apply calculus and it is easy to construct these objects. However, it does suffer from the problem of different parameterisations give rise to different geometric objects, as well as some surface requiring more than one parameterisation. Although these can be bypassed more or less, the more serious drawback is the extra technical complexity determined by the higher dimension of the ambient space.

A better concept is *smooth manifolds*. We first begin with a review of topological structure, which every manifold possesses.

Definition (topological space). A *topological space* M is a choice of class of the *open sets* such that

1. \emptyset and M are open,
2. if U and U' are open then so is $U \cap U'$,
3. for any collection of open sets, the union is open.

In this course, we always require a topological space to be Hausdorff and second countable.

Definition (local coordinate chart). A *local coordinate chart* on a topological space M is a homeomorphism $\varphi : U \rightarrow V$ where $U \subseteq M$ and $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ are open. U is a *coordinate neighbourhood*.

Definition (C^∞ -differentiable structure). A *C^∞ -differentiable structure* on a topological space M is a collection of charts $\{\varphi_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha\}$ where $V_\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ for all α such that

1. $\{U_\alpha\}$ covers M , i.e. $M = \bigcup U_\alpha$,
2. compatibility condition: for all α, β , $\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}$ is C^∞ wherever defined, i.e. on $\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$,
3. maximality: if φ is compatible with all the φ_α 's then φ is in the collection.

The collection of charts is called an *atlas*.

Note that 2 implies that $\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}$ is a diffeomorphism.

Definition (manifold). A *manifold* is a Hausdorff, second countable topological space with a C^∞ -differentiable structure.

Remark.

1. In practice, we almost never specify the topological structure. Instead, we can induce a topology from a C^∞ structure by declaring $D \subseteq M$ open if and only if for all $(\varphi_\alpha, U_\alpha)$, $\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap D)$ is open in \mathbb{R}^d .
2. We may replace C^∞ by C^k for $k > 0$ finite. If we set $k = 0$, the objects become topological manifolds. On the other hand, use \mathbb{C}^n and holomorphic maps we get complex manifolds.
3. Requirement of being Hausdorff and second countable are for rather technical reasons. In some cases we may drop Hausdorffness requirement, and such examples do arise naturally. However in that case we lose uniqueness of limits. Similarly non-second countable space, such as the disjoint union of uncountably many \mathbb{R}^n , can become manifold-like structure if we relax the definition.

Example.

1. \mathbb{R}^d covered by the single chart $\varphi = \text{id}$.
2. Unit sphere $S^n = \{\mathbf{x} = (x_0, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : \sum_{i=0}^n x_i^2 = 1\}$. The charts are stereographic projections

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1-x_0}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \quad (1)$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1+x_0}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \quad (2)$$

where φ is defined for all points on S^n except $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$ and similar for ψ . Suppose $\varphi(P) = u$, $\psi(P) = v$, then by basic geometry $v = \psi \circ \varphi^{-1}(u) = \frac{u}{\|u\|^2}$.

3. Given M_1, M_2 manifolds of dimension of d_1 and d_2 , $M_1 \times M_2$ is a manifold of dimension $d_1 + d_2$. We define the n -torus to be $T_n = \underbrace{S^1 \times \dots \times S^1}_n$.
4. An open subset U of a manifold M is a manifold.
5. The *real projective space*,

$$\mathbb{R}P^n = \{\text{all straight lines through } 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^{n+1}\}.$$

The points in the space are $x_0 : \dots : x_n$ where x_i 's are not all zero. Note that

$$x_0 : \dots : x_n = \lambda x_0 : \dots : \lambda x_n$$

for all $\lambda \neq 0$. As per a previous remark, we shall induce the topology by a C^∞ structure. The charts are (U_i, φ_i) where $U_i = \{x_i \neq 0\}$, and

$$\varphi_i(x_0 : \dots : x_n) = \left(\frac{x_0}{x_i}, \dots, \hat{i}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_i} \right)$$

where \hat{i} denotes that the i th coordinate is omitted. The U_i 's cover $\mathbb{R}P^n$ so we are left to check compatibility. For $i < j$,

$$\varphi_j \circ \varphi_i^{-1} : (y_1, \dots, y_n) \mapsto y_1 : \dots, \underset{i\text{th}}{1} : y_n \mapsto \left(\frac{y_1}{y_j}, \dots, \frac{1}{y_j}, \dots, \hat{j}, \dots, \frac{y_n}{y_j} \right)$$

is smooth. Since i and j are arbitrary, $\mathbb{R}P^n$ is a n -manifold.

Similarly we can check $\mathbb{C}P^n$ is a $2n$ -manifold, and $\mathbb{H}P^n$ is a $4n$ -manifold (but this is a bit tricky due to noncommutativity).

6. Grassmannians (over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C}): we define $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ to be all k -dimensional subspaces of the n -dimensional vector space, which generalises the projective space. For real vector spaces for example, $\mathbb{R}P^n = \text{Gr}(1, n+1)$. We can check $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ is a manifold of dimension $k(n-k)$.

The construction is a bit technical so we will give example of one chart. Let U be the k -subspaces obtainable as the span of rows of $k \times n$ matrices of the form $(I_k \quad *)$, and the local coordinate maps a basis of such k -subspace to the $k \times (n-k)$ block $*$. Since the first k rows are linearly independent, we call $U = U_{1 < 2 < \dots < k}$. More generally the domain of charts take the form $U_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n}$. It is an exercise to check that this gives a valid C^∞ structure.

7. A non-example: define an equivalence relation $(x, y) \sim (\lambda x, \frac{y}{\lambda})$ for all $\lambda \neq 0$ and define $X := \mathbb{R}^2 / \sim$. $\{xy = c\}$ is one equivalence class if $c \neq 0$. If $c = 0$, $\{xy = 0\}$ is three classes $\{(x, 0) : x \neq 0\}, \{(0, 0)\}, \{(0, y) : y \neq 0\}$. Thus

$$X \cong (-\infty, 0) \cup \{0', 0'', 0'''\} \cup (0, \infty).$$

Define charts

$$\varphi_i : (-\infty, 0) \cup 0^{(i)} \cup (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

in the obvious ways. We can check that it gives X a valid C^∞ structure, except that the induced topology is non-Hausdorff!

8. For a non-second countable example, see example sheet 1 Q12.

Definition (smooth map). Let M, N be manifolds, a continuous map $f : M \rightarrow N$ is *smooth* or C^∞ if for any $p \in M$, there exists charts (U, φ) on M , (V, ψ) on N such that $p \in U, f(p) \in V$ and

$$\psi \circ f \circ \varphi^{-1}$$

is smooth wherever it is defined, i.e. on $\varphi(U \cap f^{-1}(V)) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ where $n = \dim M$.

Remark. Note that by continuity, $\varphi(U \cap f^{-1}(V))$ is necessarily open. Of course we can do it differently by not requiring f to be continuous a priori but instead ask the above set to be open.

For any charts $\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\psi}$,

$$\tilde{\psi} \circ f \circ \tilde{\varphi}^{-1} = (\tilde{\psi} \circ \psi^{-1}) \circ (\psi \circ f \circ \varphi^{-1}) \circ (\varphi \circ \tilde{\varphi}^{-1})$$

is a composition of smooth map so is smooth. Thus smoothness of a map is independent of charts.

Definition (diffeomorphism). A smooth map $f : M \rightarrow N$ is a *diffeomorphism* if f is bijective and f^{-1} is smooth. If such f exists, M and N are *diffeomorphism*.

Remark.

1. Our definition of smoothness is a generalisation of that in calculus. More precisely, $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is smooth if and only if it is smooth in the calculus sense.
2. Any chart $\varphi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is a diffeomorphism onto its image.
3. Composition of smooth maps is smooth.

2 Matrix Lie groups

We can view $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ as an array of numbers and thus embed it in \mathbb{R}^{n^2} . Furthermore, by considering the determinant function it is an open subset so is an n^2 -manifold. Matrix multiplication is obviously smooth. In the same vein we have $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{C})$, $\mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ etc as manifolds with smooth multiplications.

Definition (Lie group). A group G is a *Lie group* if G is a manifold and has a compatible group structure, i.e. the map $(\sigma, \tau) \mapsto \sigma\tau^{-1}$ is smooth.

Before Lie groups, let's have a short digression in analysis to discuss the exponential map. For a complex $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$, define a norm

$$|A| = n \cdot \max_{ij} |a_{ij}|$$

where the n in front is such that $|AB| \leq |A| \cdot |B|$. We now define

$$\exp(A) := I + A + \frac{1}{2}A^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}A^n + \dots$$

Of course we have to check the series makes sense: in fact $\exp A$ is absolutely convergent for all A as $|\frac{A^n}{n!}| \leq \frac{|A|^n}{n!}$. The series is also uniformly convergent on any compact set, by Weierstrass M -test. Therefore \exp is a well-defined continuous map.

In fact, the map is smooth although the proof is technical. A sketch of the proof is like this: note that $f : A \rightarrow A^m$ is smooth for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$. For $m = 2$, $df_A : H \mapsto HA + AH$ so $\|df_A\| \leq 2|A|$ so for all m ,

$$\|df_A\| \leq m|A|^{m-1}$$

We can thus term-by-term differentiate \exp and get a locally uniformly convergent series and use the above estimate to bound derivatives.

It is easy to check that:

1. $\exp(A^t) = (\exp A)^t$ where A^t is the transpose of A .
2. $\exp(CAC^{-1}) = C(\exp A)C^{-1}$ for C nonsingular.
3. $\exp(A + B) \neq \exp A \exp B$ unless $AB = BA$.
4. $\exp A \exp(-A) = I$ for any matrix A .

The second property prompts us to put A into Jordan normal form before computing $\exp A$.

Using the series

$$\log(I + A) = A - \frac{A^2}{2} + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} \frac{A^n}{n} + \dots$$

we can tackle this similarly to \exp to check $\log(I + A)$ is smooth on $\{|A| < 1\}$. We can also check

$$\exp(\log A) = A$$

if $|A - I| < 1$, with a proof given by manipulation of double indexed series, which is valid due to absolute convergence. The expression $\log(\exp A)$ is more subtle. Clearly we need $|\exp A - I| < 1$. But it is not sufficient: if

$$A_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\theta \\ \theta & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$\exp(A_\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Put $\theta = 2\pi$, $\exp A - I = 0$ but

$$\log(\exp A_{2\pi}) = 0 \neq A_{2\pi}.$$

The reason is that the series is no longer absolutely convergent. If we add the additional condition that $|A| < \log 2$ then

$$\log(\exp A) = A.$$

It is left as an exercise. (Hint: $|\exp |A| - 1| < 1$ implies absolute convergence.)

Example (orthogonal group). Recall that

$$O(n) = \{A \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}), AA^t = I\}.$$

Let $A \in O(n)$ with $|A - I| < 1$. Let $B = \log A$ so $e^B = A$. There exists $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ such that whenever $|A - I| < \varepsilon$, have $|B| < \log 2$ using continuity of \log . Then

$$e^B e^{B^t} = AA^t = I$$

so

$$e^B = A = (A^t)^{-1} = (e^{B^t})^{-1} = e^{-B^t}.$$

Now $|B^t| = |B| = \log 2$. Taking \log , we find that $B = -B^t$ so B is a skew-symmetric matrix.

Conversely, if $B = -B^t$, $|B| < \log 2$ then

$$(e^B)^t = e^{B^t} = e^{-B} = (e^B)^{-1}$$

so $A = e^B \in O(n)$.

Proposition 2.1. $O(n)$ has a C^∞ structure making it a manifold and Lie group of dimension $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$.

Proof. Put

$$V_0 := \{B : B \text{ skew-symmetric}, |B| < \log 2\}$$

and $U := \exp(V_0)$, an open neighbourhood of $I \in O(n)$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} h : U &\rightarrow V_0 \\ A &\mapsto \log A \end{aligned}$$

which is a well-defined homeomorphism onto V_0 , an open subset of the skew-symmetric matrices, which can be identified with $\mathbb{R}^{n(n-1)/2}$.

Now we construct the charts (U_C, h_C) . For all $C = O(n)$, put $U_C := \{CA : A \in U\}$, i.e. left translation of U by C . Define

$$\begin{aligned} h_C : U_C &\rightarrow V_0 \\ A &\mapsto \log(C^{-1}A) \end{aligned}$$

which is a homeomorphism. To check they form an atlas, first note that $C \in U_C$ so $O(n) = \bigcup_{C \in O(n)} U_C$. Furthermore

$$h_{C_2} \circ h_{C_1}^{-1}(B) = h_{C_2}(C_1 e^B) = \log(C_2^{-1}C_1 e^B)$$

which is smooth since it is the composition of smooth maps. Thus $O(n)$ is a manifold.

To check compatibility of group axioms, define

$$\begin{aligned} F : O(n) \times O(n) &\rightarrow O(n) \\ (A_1, A_2) &\mapsto A_1 A_2^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

In local coordinates, it is

$$\begin{aligned} &h_{A_1 A_2^{-1}}(F(h_{A_1}^{-1}(B_1), h_{A_2}^{-1}(B_2))) \\ &= \log[(A_1 A_2^{-1})^{-1} A_1 e^{B_1} (A_2 e^{B_2})^{-1}] \\ &= \log(A_2 e^{B_1} e^{-B_2} A_2^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

which is smooth. □

The same construction works for other classical groups of matrices. See example sheet 1 Q4.

3 Tangent space to manifolds

Consider a curve in \mathbb{R}^n , defined by a smooth parameterisation

$$x(t) = (x_i(t))_{i=1}^n$$

such that $x(0) = p \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then a tangent to the curve is velocity

$$\dot{x}(t) \in T_p \mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Let $y = y(x)$ be a C^∞ change of variables, i.e. a local coordinates. Then

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} y(x(t)) = \underbrace{\frac{Dy}{Dx}}_{\text{Jacobian}}(p) \dot{x}(0) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial x_j} a_j \right)_{i=1}^n$$

Definition. A *tangent vector* a to a manifold M at a point $p \in M$ is the assignment to each chart (U, φ) , $p \in U$ a n -tuple $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ where $n = \dim M$ so that for another chart (U', φ') , $p \in U'$ with local coordinates (x_1, \dots, x_n) and (x'_1, \dots, x'_n) , we have

$$a'_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial x'_i}{\partial x_j}(p) a_j.$$

This is sometimes known as the tensorial definition of tangent space. Other equivalent definitions involve flows or using derivation on germs of smooth functions.

Definition (tangent space). The *tangent space* $T_p M$ is the set of all tangent vectors to M at p .

It follows that $T_p M$ is an n -dimensional real vector space. Thus $T_p M \cong \mathbb{R}^n$ although this isomorphism is not canonical. But given a local coordinate chart with coordinates (x_1, \dots, x_n) , the tuple $(0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$ with 1 in i th position in \mathbb{R}^n has image under isomorphism $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(p)$. Recall the chain rule for partial derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x'_j} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x'_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$$

where (x'_1, \dots, x'_n) is another chart. This is precisely the reason we impose upon tangent vectors the transformation rule, namely so that tangent vectors become a well-defined derivation of smooth functions at p : let $a = \sum_i a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(p) \in T_p M$ where x_i 's are local coordinates around p . Then a first order *derivation* at p is

$$a : C^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ f \mapsto \sum_i a_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$$

(where we assume the same charts on RHS) is a well-defined map independent of choice of coordinates. We can interpret, with the x_i 's,

$$a(f) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(x(t))$$

for all $x : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow M$ smooth, $x(0) = p$ and $\dot{x}(0) = a$.

Now for another choice \tilde{x}_i of local coordinates,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} f(\tilde{x}(t)) = \sum_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial \tilde{x}_j}(p) \dot{\tilde{x}}_j(0) = \sum_{j,i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \tilde{x}_j}(p) \frac{\partial \tilde{x}_j}{\partial x_i}(p) \dot{x}_i(0)$$

by the transformation law for tangent vectors.

The derivations satisfy Leibniz rule, i.e.

$$a(fg) = a(f)g(p) + f(p)a(g).$$

Conversely, every linear map $a : C^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying the Leibniz rule arises from some $a \in T_p M$. This is left as an exercise.

Example. An example from classical differential geometry. Consider a surface $r = r(u, v) : D \rightarrow S$ where $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ and $S = r(D) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$. Then S is a manifold with $\varphi = r^{-1}$ as a chart. Then r_u, r_v at $p \in S$ corresponds to $\frac{\partial}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$ in our theory.

3.1 Lie algebra

For a Lie group, the tangent spaces get an “infinitesimal” version of the group multiplication.

Definition. A *Lie algebra* is a vector space with a bilinear multiplication $[\cdot, \cdot]$, i.e. a Lie bracket such that

1. anticommutativity: $[a, b] = -[b, a]$,
2. Jacobi identity: $[[a, b], c] + [[b, c], a] + [[c, a], b] = 0$.

Theorem 3.1. Let G be a Lie group of $n \times n$ (real or complex) matrices such that \log defines a coordinate chart near $I \in G$, i.e. the image of \log near I is an open set in some real vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^{n^2} . Identify $\mathfrak{g} = T_I G$ with the above open subset. Then \mathfrak{g} is a Lie algebra with

$$[B_1, B_2] := B_1 B_2 - B_2 B_1$$

for $B_1, B_2 \in \mathfrak{g}$.

Proof. Check that \mathfrak{g} is a vector space and $[\cdot, \cdot]$ is anticommutative. The Jacobi identity holds for matrices (straightforward check).

What is left is to show $B_1, B_2 \in \mathfrak{g}$ then $[B_1, B_2] \in \mathfrak{g}$. Consider

$$A(t) = \exp(B_1 t) \exp(B_2 t) \exp(-B_1 t) \exp(-B_2 t),$$

the commutator of two elements in G . Then $A(0) = I$. Expand \exp , we get

$$A(t) = I + [B_1, B_2]t^2 + o(t^2)$$

as $t \rightarrow 0$ so

$$B(t) = \log A(t) = [B_1, B_2]t^2 + o(t^2).$$

In addition $\exp B(t) = A(t)$ holds for $|t|$ sufficiently small so $B(t) \in \mathfrak{g}$ as it is in the image of the log chart. It follows that $\frac{B(t)}{t^2} \in \mathfrak{g}$ for $t \neq 0$ as \mathfrak{g} is a vector space. Thus

$$[B_1, B_2] = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{B(t)}{t^2} \in \mathfrak{g}$$

as every vector subspace of matrix n, \mathbb{C} is a closed subset. \square

Example. For $G = O(n)$, have $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{o}(n) = \{\text{skew-symmetric } n \times n \text{ matrices}\}$ by previous work.

Definition. \mathfrak{g} is called the *Lie algebra* of G , write $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$.

In fact we can show Lie is a functor but we won't pursue in that direction.

Definition (tangent bundle). Let M be a smooth manifold. Then $TM = \coprod_{p \in M} T_p M$ is the *tangent bundle* of M .

Theorem 3.2. TM has a natural C^∞ structure, making it into a smooth manifold of $\dim TM = 2 \dim M$.

Proof. We shall induce the topology from the C^∞ structure. Let (U, φ) be a chart on M . Consider $U_T = \coprod_{p \in U} T_p M$ so $TM = \bigcup U_T$. For $a \in T_p M$, $\varphi(p) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ so that $a = \sum_i a_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$. Now define

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_T : U_T &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \\ a &\mapsto (\varphi(p), (a_i)) \end{aligned}$$

To show compatibility, suppose (U', φ') is another chart on M with local coordinates x'_i and define φ'_T as above. Then

$$\varphi'_T \circ \varphi_T^{-1}(x, a) = (x', a')$$

where $x' = \varphi' \circ \varphi^{-1}(x)$ and a' is given by the translation law

$$a' = \sum_j \frac{\partial x'_i}{\partial x_j}(x) a_j,$$

so is smooth wherever defined.

Hausdorffness and second countability follows from that M and \mathbb{R}^n are manifolds. \square

Note. Some remarks on the final statement regarding topological properties:

1. M is σ -compact, i.e. every open cover has a countable subcover.
2. A basis of topology of TM is given by $\{B_1 \times B_2\}$ where B_1 is open in some coordinate neighbourhood $U \subseteq M$ and B_2 is open in \mathbb{R}^n .

Corollary 3.3. *The projection*

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : TM &\rightarrow M \\ (p, a) &\mapsto p\end{aligned}$$

is smooth.

Remark. TM has locally a product structure but in general TM is not diffeomorphic to $M \times \mathbb{R}^n$.

Definition (vector field). A *vector field* on a manifold M is a smooth map $X : M \rightarrow TM$ such that $\pi \circ X = \text{id}_M$, i.e. $X(p) \in T_p M$ for all $p \in M$.

Note that X is smooth at p if and only if for any coordinate neighbourhood U of p with local coordinates (x_1, \dots, x_n) , $X = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ where $a_i \in C^\infty(U)$ for all i .

Example. Every manifold has at least one vector field: sending every point to 0. This is not the most interesting example, however.

Theorem 3.4. *Suppose $\dim M = n$. Then there exists smooth vector fields $X^{(1)}, \dots, X^{(n)}$ on M such that for all $p \in M$, $X^{(1)}(p), \dots, X^{(n)}(p)$ is a basis of $T_p M$, then TM is isomorphic to $M \times \mathbb{R}^n$.*

Here “isomorphic” means that there is a diffeomorphism $\Phi : TM \rightarrow M \times \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\Phi|_{T_p M} : T_p M \rightarrow \{p\} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ is a linear isomorphism.

Definition (parallelisable). A manifold satisfying the hypothesis is called *parallelisable*.

Proof. Consider $p \in M$ so $\pi(a) = p$ for all $a \in T_p M$. Then $a = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X^{(i)}(p)$ for some unique $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$. Put

$$\Phi(a) := (\pi(a), (a_1, \dots, a_n)) \in M \times \mathbb{R}^n$$

which is clearly a bijection and $\Phi|_{T_p M}$ is a linear isomorphism. Thus suffices to check Φ is a diffeomorphism. We use chart (U, φ) on M and let $(\pi^{-1}(U), \varphi_T)$ be the corresponding chart on TM . Then

$$(\varphi, \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n}) \circ \Phi \circ \varphi_T^{-1} : (x, (b_i)_{i=1}^n) \mapsto (x, (a_i)_{i=1}^n)$$

such that

$$a = \sum_i a_i X^{(i)}(p) = \sum_j b_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(p).$$

It is then obvious that these a_i ’s and b_j ’s differ by a change-of-basis transformation. Explicitly, write $X^{(i)}$ in local basis as

$$X^{(i)}|_U = \sum_j X_j^{(i)}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$$

and so

$$b_j = \sum_i a_i X_j^{(i)}(x)$$

so Φ is smooth. To check the inverse, note that $(X_j^{(i)}(x))$ is a non-singular matrix smooth in x so Φ^{-1} also has a smooth local expression. \square

Remark.

1. The converse is easily seen to be true, in which case vector fields on M are simply $C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R}^n)$.
2. The parallelisable hypothesis is quite restrictive. For example, it implies that each $X^{(i)}$ is never-zero. Some manifolds, such as S^2 do not have such vector fields at all. In fact, S^n is parallelisable if only if $n = 1, 3, 7$.
3. Every orientable 3-dimensional vector field is parallelisable.

Exercise. Show S^{2n+1} has a never-zero vector field.

Definition (differential). Let $F : M \rightarrow N$ be a smooth map. Then the *differential* of F at $p \in M$ is a linear map

$$dF_p : T_p M \rightarrow T_{F(p)} N$$

such that if x_i is a local coordinate near p and y_i is a local coordinate near $F(p)$, then

$$dF_p : \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \mapsto \sum_j \frac{\partial \hat{F}_j}{\partial x_i}(x(p)) \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j}(F(p))$$

where $\hat{F} = \psi \circ F \circ \phi^{-1}$ is the coordinate representation of F .

Now we have to check that it is independent of coordinate representation. Recall that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x'_k}(p) = \sum_i \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x'_k}(x'(p)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(p)$$

and similar for $\frac{\partial}{\partial y_j}(F(p))$. So

$$df_p : \frac{\partial}{\partial x'_k}(p) \mapsto \sum_{i,j,\ell} \underbrace{\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x'_k} \frac{\partial y_j}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial y'_\ell}{\partial y_j}}_{\frac{\partial y'_\ell}{\partial x'_k} \text{ by chain rule}} \frac{\partial}{\partial y'_\ell}(F(p))$$

so dF_p is indeed invariantly defined.

Exercise (geometer's chain rule). For $M \xrightarrow{F} N \xrightarrow{G} Z$, we have

$$d(G \circ F)_p = dG_{F(p)} \circ dF_p.$$

Now suppose $F : M \rightarrow N$ is a diffeomorphism and X is a vector field on M . Then $(dF)X$ is a valid vector field on N .

Remark. In general a vector field does not admit a pushforward. We need surjectivity so $(dF)X$ is everywhere defined and injectivity to avoid conflicting values on target points. Finally we need the inverse to be smooth to ensure $(dF)X$ is smooth.

Every vector field X defines a linear map from $C^\infty(M)$ to itself. More precisely, it is a first order derivation with $p \in M$ varying. Locally, if $X = \sum_i X_i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ then Xh is given by

$$Xh = \sum_i X_i(x) \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_i}(x)$$

It is an easy exercise to check that it is invariantly defined.

On the other hand, a smooth function on N can always be pulled back by F . Suppose $f \in C^\infty(N)$. Then $f \circ F \in C^\infty(M)$. Thus in any local coordinates x_i on M , y_j on N , have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(p)(f \circ F) = \sum_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_j}(y(F(p))) \frac{\partial y_j}{\partial x_i}(x(p)).$$

Thus we have a coordinate-free formula

$$X(f \circ F) = ((dF)Xf) \circ F.$$

Equivalently, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C^\infty(N) & \xrightarrow{F^*} & C^\infty(M) \\ \downarrow (dF)X & & \downarrow X \\ C^\infty(N) & \xrightarrow{F^*} & C^\infty(M) \end{array}$$

Let X and Y be two vector fields on M considered as first order linear differential operators. The composition XY is *not* a vector field. However,

$$Z := [X, Y] := XY - YX$$

is a vector field. In local coordinates, it is

$$\sum_{i,k} \left(X_i \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} - Y_i \frac{\partial X_k}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$$

where $X = \sum_i X_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$, $Y = \sum_i Y_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$. Check that second order derivatives vanish (because of symmetry of mixed partials). We can check that Z is a vector field and as a map $C^\infty(M) \rightarrow C^\infty(M)$ it is linear over \mathbb{R} and satisfy

$$Z(fg) = (Zf)g + fZg.$$

Thus vector fields on M form a Lie algebra, which is infinite-dimensional. Denote it by $V(M)$.

3.2 Left-invariant vector field

Let G be a Lie group and $e \in G$ the identity element. Let $\mathfrak{g} = T_e G$. Given $g \in G$, the left translation by g

$$\begin{aligned} L_g : G &\rightarrow G \\ h &\mapsto gh \end{aligned}$$

is a smooth map and since it has inverse $L_{g^{-1}}$, it is a diffeomorphism.

Given $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$, we can define a vector field by

$$X_\xi(g) := (dL_g)_e(\xi) \in T_g G.$$

We can do this because for every point there is a diffeomorphism sending e to it, and therefore we can construct a vector field using only its information at e . We will soon find out there are lots of symmetry involved.

Lemma 3.5. *The map $X_\xi : G \rightarrow TG, g \mapsto (dL_g)_e(\xi)$ is smooth so X_ξ is a smooth vector field.*

Proof. As usual, check smoothness in local coordinates. Consider group multiplication $L : G \times G \rightarrow G$. Fix $g_0 \in G$, then around $(g_0, e) \in G \times G$, given charts φ_e around e whose image is V_e and φ_{g_0} around g_0 whose image is V_{g_0} , the local expression \hat{L} is

$$\begin{aligned} V_{g_0} \times V_e &\rightarrow V_{g_0}' \\ \hat{L} &= \varphi_{g_0}(L(\varphi_{g_0}^{-1}(\cdot), \varphi_e^{-1}(\cdot))) \end{aligned}$$

Then $\hat{L}_g = \hat{L}(\varphi_{g_0}(g), \cdot) : V_e \rightarrow V_{g_0}'$. Thus $D_2 \hat{L}$, the derivative of the V_e variables, gives the coordinate expression for $(dL_g)_e$. But $D_2 \hat{L}$ depends smoothly on the V_{g_0} variables as L is a C^∞ map. Therefore X_ξ is a smooth map around g_0 . As g_0 is arbitrary X_ξ is smooth. \square

We have shown that, identifying $\mathfrak{g} = T_e G$, that

$$(dL_g)_e : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow T_g G$$

is smooth. In fact, it is a linear isomorphism. Thus we have

Proposition 3.6. *If ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n are linearly independent (form a basis, respectively) in \mathfrak{g} then for all $g \in G$, $X_{\xi_1}(g), \dots, X_{\xi_n}(g)$ are linearly independent (form a basis, respectively) in $T_g G$.*

As a consequence we have

Theorem 3.7. *Every Lie group G is parallelisable, i.e. $TG \cong G \times \mathbb{R}^{\dim G}$ where the diffeomorphism restricts to $T_g G$ is an isomorphism onto $\{g\} \times \mathbb{R}^{\dim G}$ for all $g \in G$.*

There is another symmetry for a Lie group G . For all $g, h \in G$, for all $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$,

$$(dL_g)_h X_\xi(h) = (dL_g)_h (dL_h)_e \xi = (dL_{gh})_e \xi = X_\xi(gh),$$

i.e.

$$(dL_g)X_\xi = X_\xi \circ L_g, \tag{*}$$

which, if we view $X_\xi : M \rightarrow TM$ as a global section of the projection map, may also be written as $(dL_g)X_\xi = X_\xi$.

Definition (left-invariant vector field). A vector field X on a Lie group satisfying the (*) is called *left-invariant*. Denote the subspace of all left-invariant vector fields by $\ell(G)$.

One important observation is that $\ell(G)$ is a finite-dimensional subspace of $V(G)$: it is easy to see that for all $X \in \ell(G)$, there exists a unique $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$ such that $X = X_\xi$. This induces an isomorphism $\ell(G) \cong \mathfrak{g}$ so $\dim \ell(G) = \dim G$. Even better, $\ell(G)$ is closed under Lie bracket so

Theorem 3.8. $\ell(G)$ is a Lie subalgebra of $V(G)$.

Proof. One way to show this is to use

$$X(f \circ F) = ((dF)Xf) \circ F$$

with $F = L_g, X = X_\xi$ and $f \in C^\infty(G)$. See example sheet.

Alternatively, for any vector fields X, Y and diffeomorphism F , in example sheet 1 Q6 we show that

$$(dF)[X, Y] = [(dF)X, (dF)Y].$$

Let $f \in C^\infty(G), g \in G, \xi, \eta \in \mathfrak{g}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & ((dL_g)[X_\xi, X_\eta]f) \circ L_g \\ &= ((dL_g)X_\xi, (dL_g)X_\eta)f \circ L_g \\ &= ([X_\xi \circ L_g, X_\eta \circ L_g]f) \circ L_g \\ &= (([X_\xi, X_\eta] \circ L_g)f) \circ L_g \end{aligned}$$

which is saying

$$(dL_g)[X_\xi, X_\eta] = [X_\xi, X_\eta] \circ L_g$$

which is precisely (*). □

We now have, in the case of “good” matrix Lie groups, two definitions making \mathfrak{g} into a Lie algebra. In fact, they are equivalent.

Theorem 3.9. Let G be a matrix Lie group with \log defining a chart around $e \in G$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T_e G &\rightarrow \ell(G) \\ \xi &\mapsto X_\xi \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of the Lie algebras (using the “matrix” definition on

| *LHS*).

We will prove the theorem in the next chapter.

4 Submanifolds

Let M be a manifold, $N \subseteq M$ and N is itself a manifold (not a priori to have restriction of smooth structure on M). Denote $\iota : N \rightarrow M$ the inclusion map.

Definition (embedded submanifold). If ι is smooth, $d\iota_p : T_p N \rightarrow T_p M$ is injective for all $p \in N$ and ι is a homeomorphism onto its image, then we say N is an *embedded submanifold* of M .

Definition (immersed submanifold). If we drop the requirement that ι is a homeomorphism then N is a *immersed submanifold* of M .

At this point, the topological requirement may seem a bit mysterious and not clear what it entails. It is equivalent to the statement that $D \subseteq N$ is open in N if and only if $D = U \cap N$ for some $U \subseteq M$ open. It excludes situation like mapping an open interval to figure 8.

A variant of the definition may omit $N \subseteq M$ and instead require $\psi : N \rightarrow M$ to be an embedding. If ψ is injective and the three properties hold then $\psi(N) \subseteq M$ is an embedded submanifold.

Convention. From now on submanifold means by default embedded submanifold.

Notation. For manifolds M and N and $\psi : N \rightarrow M$ an embedding, write $\psi : N \hookrightarrow M$, i.e. $\psi(N)$ is a submanifold of M .

Remark. An immersion $\psi : N \rightarrow M$ means that $d\psi$ is injective everywhere. In this way we may obtain $\psi(N) \subseteq M$ “immersed with self-intersections”.

Example.

1. For curves and surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 , $\gamma : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ and $r : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ where $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$, the conditions mean that
 - (a) γ and r are smooth,
 - (b) they are regular parameterisations,
 - (c) depending on what we are interested in, we may require them to be (topological) embeddings.
2. The figure 8 example mentioned to distinguish embedded vs. immersed manifold may seem contrived. However, immersed (and not embedded) manifolds emerge naturally from *irrational twist flow*. Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow S^1 \times S^1 \\ t &\mapsto (e^{it}, e^{i\alpha t}) \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$. We can check that the map is injective and the image is dense in $S^1 \times S^1$. In particular it is not a topological embedding so this is an immersion but not an embedding.

One frequently asked question is: is a submanifold of \mathbb{R}^n the same as $f^{-1}(0)$ for some smooth map $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$? In general, no! $f^{-1}(0) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is closed. One can check that for every closed $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ there exists a smooth $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f^{-1}(0) = E$.

Definition (regular value). Let $f : M \rightarrow Y$ be a smooth map. $q \in Y$ is a *regular value* of f if for all $p \in M$ such that $f(p) = q$, df_p is surjective.

Note that under this definition if $q \notin f(M)$ then q is vacuously a regular value of f .

Theorem 4.1. Let $f : M \rightarrow Y$ be a smooth map and $q \in Y$ is regular value of f . If $f^{-1}(q) \neq \emptyset$ then $N = f^{-1}(q)$ is an embedded submanifold with

$$\dim N = \dim M - \dim Y.$$

This is geometer's implicit function theorem, also known as preimage theorem. We assume this theorem without proof, which can be found in the lecturer's online notes.

Remark. By a result in differential topology, suppose M is a manifold and $N \subseteq M$ is equipped with subspace topology. If there exists a smooth structure on N such that $N \subseteq M$ is submanifold then this structure is unique. Thus it makes sense to say N is or isn't a submanifold of M .

Proposition 4.2. Let $N \hookrightarrow M$ and $p \in N$. Then there exists a neighbourhood U of p in M and a smooth map $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ where $d = \dim M - \dim N$ such that $N \cap U = f^{-1}(0)$. d is called the codimension of N in M .

Proof. Let $\varphi : U_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a chart on M where $\varphi(p) = 0$ with local coordinates (x_1, \dots, x_n) . Let $\psi : V_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$ be a chart on N where $\psi(p) = 0$ with local coordinates (y_1, \dots, y_ℓ) . Then the inclusion $\iota : N \rightarrow M$ has local expression

$$x_i = x_i(y).$$

The derivative at 0

$$\left(\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial y_j}(0) \right)_{n \times \ell}$$

has rank ℓ . wlog we may assume the top $\ell \times \ell$ submatrix is nonsingular. Then by Inverse function theorem,

$$y_j = y_j(x_1, \dots, x_\ell)$$

which is well-defined and smooth near 0. Then for $i > \ell$,

$$x_i = x_i(y(x_1, \dots, x_\ell)) = h_i(x_1, \dots, x_\ell).$$

Then

$$f_i(x) := x_i - h_i(x_1, \dots, x_\ell)$$

for $i > \ell$ gives a required $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ where $d = n - \ell$, with Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 & & 0 \\ * & & \vdots & \\ & 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

so a regular value. □

This result cannot be improved: let $M = \mathbb{R}P^2$ and $N = \{x_0 : x_1 : x_2 \in \mathbb{R}P^2 : x_2 = 0\}$ which can be identified with $\mathbb{R}P^1 \cong S^1$. But $N \neq f^{-1}(q)$ for all smooth $f : \mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow P$ where P is a one-dimensional manifold, with q a regular value. A sketch of proof: if there exists such an f then there exists some chart ψ on U around q , $\psi \circ f : U \rightarrow (-1, 1)$ and $U \supseteq N$. Suppose for contradiction $N = \{p : (\psi \circ f)(p) = 0\}$. $\mathbb{R}P^2 \setminus N$ is homeomorphic to an open disk in \mathbb{R}^2 . $\psi \circ f$ has 0 as a regular value, implying that $\psi \circ f$ takes both positive and negative values. But $\mathbb{R}P^2 \setminus N$ is connected so contradiction.

Theorem 4.3 (Whitney embedding theorem). *Every n -dimensional manifold M admits a smooth embedding to \mathbb{R}^{2n} .*

It is a hard theorem but it is very easy to show that there exists N such that M is a submanifold of \mathbb{R}^N . In example sheet 1 Q9 we showed this for M compact. It is also not too difficult to set $N = 2n + 1$, basically by embedding it in a sufficiently large space and whittle down the dimension. However the last step of improvement is truly an ingenious piece of work. The remarkability of this theorem is not to say that the intrinsic definition of manifolds coincide with the extrinsic one, but the optimal dimension \mathbb{R}^{2n} of ambient space. This is a topological invariant measuring how “complicated” a geometric object is. For example, S^n can be embedded in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} but $\mathbb{R}P^2$ cannot be embedded in \mathbb{R}^3 . The Klein bottle does not embed in \mathbb{R}^3 either.

Restatement of an earlier theorem:

Theorem 4.4. *Suppose $G \subseteq \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{C})$ is a subgroup and a Lie group with C^∞ structure of G given by log charts (i.e. log maps an open neighbourhood U_I of the identity I onto a neighbourhood of 0 in some real subspace V_0 of $\text{Mat}(n, \mathbb{C})$), then*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{g} &\rightarrow \ell(G) \\ \xi &\mapsto X_\xi \end{aligned}$$

is a Lie algebra isomorphism. Here $\mathfrak{g} = T_I G \subseteq \text{Mat}(n, \mathbb{C})$ is the span of V_0 over \mathbb{R} .

Proof. We have shown earlier

$$[X_\xi, X_\eta] = X_\zeta$$

for some $\zeta \in \mathfrak{g}$. Now want to show that

$$\zeta = [\xi, \eta] = \xi\eta - \eta\xi$$

as matrices in \mathfrak{g} . First $G = \text{GL}(n) = \text{Mat}(n)$ over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} so $\mathfrak{g} = \text{mat}(n)$. Then for $g \in \text{GL}(n)$, L_g is a linear map so $(dL_g)_h$ for all g, h in the usual matrix multiplication. The local expression for L_g around $I \in \text{GL}(n)$ is

$$(\hat{L}_g)B = g \cdot \exp B = g \cdot (I + B + \frac{1}{2!}B^2 + \dots)$$

so

$$(d\hat{L}_g)_0 C = gC$$

Therefore for all $g = (g_j^i) \in \text{GL}(n)$, $A = (A_j^i) \in \mathfrak{g} = T_I \text{GL}(n)$, we have

$$X_A(g) = \sum_{i,j} X_j^i(g) \frac{\partial}{\partial g_j^i} = \sum_{i,j,k} g_k^i A_j^k \frac{\partial}{\partial g_j^i}.$$

Now the chain rule follows from straightforward calculation. Using formula for Lie brackets of vector fields,

$$g_k^i \left(A_j^k \frac{\partial}{\partial g_j^i} (g_p^\ell B_q^p) - B_j^k \frac{\partial}{\partial g_j^i} (g_p^\ell A_q^p) \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial g_q^\ell} = g_k^i (AB - BA)_j^k \circ \frac{\partial}{\partial g_k^i}.$$

For the general case $G \subseteq \text{GL}(n)$, note that the log chart hypothesis implies that $\iota : G \hookrightarrow \text{GL}(n)$. In fact we'll use $U_I \hookrightarrow \text{GL}(n)$ where $U_I \subseteq G$. For all $g \in G$, $L_g : G \rightarrow G$ is the restriction of $L_g : \text{GL}(n) \rightarrow \text{GL}(n)$. Furthermore for all $h \in G$, $(dL_g)_h : T_h G \rightarrow T_{gh} G$ is the corresponding restriction of $(dL_g)_h$ on $\text{GL}(n)$. Therefore $X_\xi \in \ell(G)$ is a restriction of $X_\xi \in \ell(\text{GL}(n))$. Then

$$[X_\xi|_G, X_\eta|_G] = [X_\xi, X_\eta]|_G$$

which can be verified in “adapted” local coordinates using local test functions only depending on coordinates along G and constant in the normal direction (graph)

But on $\text{GL}(n)$ we know $[X_\xi, X_\eta] = X_{[\xi, \eta]}$, also for all $\xi, \eta \in \mathfrak{g}$, $[\xi, \eta] \in \mathfrak{g}$. Now the theorem for G follows too. \square

5 Differential forms

Definition (cotangent space). Suppose M is an n -dimensional manifold and $p \in M$. The dual of $T_p M$, consisting of all linear functionals $T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is called the *cotangent space* at p and denoted by $T_p^* M$.

If x_i 's are local coordinates then we have $\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right|_p$ as a basis for $T_p M$. The *dual basis* of $T_p^* M$ is denoted by $(dx_i)_p$, i.e.

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

Therefore for all $a \in T_p^* M$, we can express uniquely as

$$a = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (dx_i)_p.$$

Recall transformation rule for tangent space: if x'_i is another coordinates then

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x'_i} = \sum \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial x'_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$$

so by linear algebra

$$dx_i = \sum \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x'_j} dx'_j$$

so if a 1-form is given in two local coordinates

$$a = \sum_i a_i dx_i = \sum_j a'_j dx'_j$$

then we have the transformation law

$$a'_j = \sum_i \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x'_j} a_i$$

which is *not* the same as that for tangent space.

Definition (cotangent bundle). The *cotangent bundle* of a manifold M is defined by

$$T^* M = \coprod_{p \in M} T_p^* M.$$

Theorem 5.1. $T^* M$ is a smooth manifold of twice the dimension of that of M . Moreover the natural projection map $\pi : T^* M \rightarrow M$ is smooth.

Proof. Similar to that of tangent bundle. □

Definition (differential 1-form). A (smooth) differential 1-form, also known as 1-form α is a smooth map $\alpha : M \rightarrow T^*M$ that is a section of $\pi : T^*M \rightarrow M$, i.e. $\alpha(p) \in T_p^*M$ for all $p \in M$.

Similar to vector fields, a 1-form $\alpha = \sum_i \alpha_i dx_i$ is smooth if and only if α_i is smooth in all local coordinates, if and only if for all $X \in V(M)$, $\alpha(X) \in C^\infty(M)$.

To define general k -forms, we need to take a crash course in multilinear algebra. For $r = 0, 1, \dots$, the r th exterior product

$$\Lambda^r T_p^*M = \{\text{alternating multilinear functions on } (T_p M)^r\}.$$

It is a vector space with basis

$$\{dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_r}\}, 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq n$$

where $n = \dim M$ and x_i 's are local coordinates around p . They are defined by

$$dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_r}(v_1, \dots, v_r) = \det((dx_{i_k}(v_\ell))_{k,\ell})$$

where $v_\ell = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{k_\ell}}$ and $k_\ell \leq k_{\ell+1}$ for all ℓ . This equals to 1 if and only if $v_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i_k}}$ for all k and 0 otherwise.

Notation (multiindex notation). Let $I = (i_1, \dots, i_r)$ be a multiindex, then write

$$dx_I = dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_r}.$$

Using this notation, the transformation law for r -forms under change of coordinates from x_i to x'_j is

$$dx'_J = \sum_I \prod_{k=1}^r \frac{\partial x'_{J_k}}{\partial x_{i_k}} dx_I.$$

Using the same method in the construction of smooth structure on TM and T^*M , together with the transformation law for r -forms, we can make

$$\Lambda^r T^*M = \coprod_{p \in M} \Lambda^r T_p^*M$$

into a manifold of dimension $n = \binom{n}{r}$ with smooth projection $\pi : \Lambda^r T^*M \rightarrow M$. It is called the *bundle of differential r -forms*.

Note. $\Lambda^0 T^*M = M \times \mathbb{R}$ and $\Lambda^1 T^*M = T^*M$

Definition (differential form). A smooth differential r -form, or simply an r -form on M is a smooth map $\alpha : M \rightarrow \Lambda^r T^*M$ that is a section of $\pi : \Lambda^r T^*M \rightarrow M$. The space of all r -forms on M is denoted $\Omega^r(M)$.

Given local coordinates x_i 's, a differential form α can be locally expressed as

$$\alpha = \sum_I \alpha_I(x) dx_I$$

where α_I 's are smooth. They can be computed by $\alpha_I = \alpha(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_I})$. It can be easily checked that α is smooth if and only if $\alpha(X_1, \dots, X_r)$ is smooth for all smooth vector fields X_1, \dots, X_r . Note that 0 forms are just smooth functions $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ so $\Omega^0(M) = C^\infty(M)$.

5.1 Orientation of manifolds

Theorem 5.2. For an n -manifold, TFAE:

1. there exists a never-zero n -form on M ,
2. there exists a family of charts $(\varphi_\alpha, U_\alpha)$ such that $M = \bigcup U_\alpha$ and for all α, α' with local coordinates x_i, x'_i on $U_\alpha, U_{\alpha'}$ respectively, we have

$$\det \frac{\partial x'_j}{\partial x_i} > 0$$

on $U_\alpha \cap U_{\alpha'}$,

3. $\Lambda^n T^*M$ is parallelisable.

Proof.

1. $1 \implies 2$: the transformation law when a differential form is expressed in local coordinates x_i and x'_i is

$$\begin{aligned} & dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n \\ &= \left(\sum_{i_1} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x'_{i_1}} dx'_{i_1} \right) \wedge \dots \wedge \left(\sum_{i_n} \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial x'_{i_n}} dx'_{i_n} \right) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \end{aligned}$$

Suppose we have $\omega \in \Omega^n(M)$ never-zero. Let $M = \bigcup U_\alpha$ where each U_α is open connected, then

$$\omega|_{U_\alpha} = f_\alpha(x^\alpha) dx_1^\alpha \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n^\alpha$$

We can reorder x_i^α such that $f_\alpha > 0$. Then all determinants are $f_\alpha/f'_\alpha > 0$

2. $2 \implies 1$: we need **partition of unity**. Given such a collection of charts, define on each U_α a never-zero n -form

$$\omega_\alpha := dx_1^\alpha \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n^\alpha$$

Let $\{\rho_i\}$ be a partition of unity subordinate to the cover. Then

$$\omega = \sum_i \rho_i(\omega_{\alpha_i})$$

is a well-defined never-zero form on $\Omega^n(M)$.

3. $1 \iff 3$: this involves the same idea in the proof that the existence of global (co)frame is equivalent to parallelisability of (co)tangent bundle. In fact, this generalises to any bundle. We omit the details.

□

Theorem 5.3 (partition of unity). *For every open cover $M = \bigcup U_\alpha$, there exists a countable collection $\rho_i \in C^\infty(M)$ such that*

1. *for all i , $\overline{\text{supp } \rho_i}$ is compact and is contained in U_α for some α .*
2. *locally finite: for every $x \in M$, there exists an open neighbourhood W_x containing x such that $\rho_i|_{W_x} \neq 0$ only for finitely many i 's.*
3. *$\rho_i \geq 0$ for all i and $\sum_i \rho_i = 1$.*

Then $\{\rho_i\}$ is a partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_\alpha\}$.

Proof. Omitted. □

Definition (orientability). A manifold satisfying any of the condition is called *orientable*.

If a manifold is orientable and connected then there are precisely two choices of *orientation*.

The orientation is induced, equivalently, by

1. $\omega \in \Omega^n(M)$ up to a positive smooth function,
2. a coordinate cover up to “positive compatibility”,
3. a choice of ϕ up to composition $(x, a) \mapsto (x, h(x)a)$ where $h \in C^\infty(M)$, $h > 0$.

5.2 Exterior derivative

Let M be a smooth manifold and f a smooth function on M . The differential at a point $p \in M$ is a linear map $df_p : T_p M \rightarrow T_{f(p)} \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}$. Thus df_p can be thought as an element of $T_p^* M$. Therefore for all $X \in V(M)$, have

$$df_p(X) = Xf(p) \in C^\infty(M).$$

By checking coefficients of df in local coordinates we find that $df \in \Omega^1(M)$ is well-defined.

Notation. For all local coordinates x_i defined on $U \subseteq M$, $dx_i = dx_i \in \Omega^1(U)$.

Remark. This is what is called gradient in vector calculus on \mathbb{R}^n . However, in vector calculus we identify \mathbb{R} with its dual, which is not always the case for manifolds. Thus gradient is a covector, or 1-form.

Theorem 5.4 (exterior derivative). *There is a unique \mathbb{R} -linear map $d : \Omega^k(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$ for all $k = 0, 1, \dots$ such that*

1. *if $f \in \Omega^0(M)$ then df is the differential df .*
2. *$d(\omega \wedge \eta) = (d\omega) \wedge \eta + (-1)^{\deg \omega} \omega \wedge d\eta$ where $\deg \omega = k$ means that $\omega \in \Omega^k(M)$.*
3. *$d^2 = 0$.*

⌋ d is called the exterior derivative.

Proof. Choose $U \subseteq M$ with local coordinates x_i and suppose $\omega|_U = f(x)dx_I$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(x)dx_I) &= (df) \wedge dx_I + f(x) \sum_{k=1}^r (\dots \wedge (-1)^{k+1} dx_k \wedge \dots) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x) dx_i \wedge dx_I \end{aligned}$$

and extend to $\Omega^r(U)$ by linearity. Then 1 clearly holds, 2 is an easy verification and 3 holds by symmetry of mixed partials. This shows the uniqueness of d .

The above computation also shows that d must be a local operator, i.e. $d\omega_p$ is determined by $\omega|_U$ for any coordinate neighbourhood U of p . Thus for existence of d it suffices to check if given another local coordinates x'_i on U , the two local expressions agree. Suppose d' is the exterior derivative given by another coordinates x'_i on U . Aim to show $d' = d$ on $\Omega^r(U)$ for all r .

$$d'(fdx_I) = d'f \wedge dx_I + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^{k+1} fdx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d'dx_{i_k} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_i$$

$d'f = df$ as f is a 0-form and $d'x_{i_k} = dx_{i_k}$ as x_{i_k} are smooth functions. Finally,

$$d'dx_{i_k} = ddx_{i_k} = 0$$

so $d(fdx_I) = d'(fdx_I)$. $d = d'$. □

5.3 Pullback of differential forms

Definition (pullback). Let $f : M \rightarrow N$ be a smooth map. Then the *pullback* induced by f is

$$\begin{aligned} f^* : \Omega^r(N) &\rightarrow \Omega^r(M) \\ \alpha &\mapsto f^*(\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(f^*(\alpha))_p(v_1, \dots, v_r) = \alpha_{f(p)}((df_p)v_1, \dots, (df_p)v_r)$$

for all $p \in M, v_i \in T_pM$.

Note.

1. Unlike vector fields which in general cannot be pushed forward unless f is a diffeomorphism, f^* is well-defined for all maps f .
2. Chain rule for pullbacks: given $Z \xrightarrow{g} M \xrightarrow{f} N$ then $(f \circ g)^* = g^* \circ f^*$, i.e. pullback is a contravariant functor.
3. $f^*(\alpha \wedge \beta) = f^*(\alpha) \wedge f^*(\beta)$ which is a straightforward exercise. In particular for all $h \in C^\infty(N)$,

$$f^*(h\alpha) = (h \circ f)f^*(\alpha)$$

which implies that f^* is $C^\infty(M)$ -linear.

4. Exterior derivative commutes with pullbacks, i.e. $d(f^*\alpha) = f^*(d\alpha)$. For a proof, suffices to check this on \mathbb{R}^n as d is local and f^* is pointwise (i.e. algebraic). The outline is as follow: wlog $M = U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and $N = V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ open. Let the local coordinates be x_i and y_j respectively. For $\alpha = dy_j$, $v = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$ and local coordinate for f is $y_j = y_j(x)$, have

$$\begin{aligned} & (f^*(dy_j))\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}\right) \\ &= dy_j\left((df)\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}\right) \\ &= dy_j\left(\sum_{\ell} \frac{\partial y_{\ell}}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_{\ell}}\right) \\ &= \sum_{\ell} \frac{\partial y_{\ell}}{\partial x_k} \delta_{j\ell} \\ &= \frac{\partial y_j}{\partial x_k} \end{aligned}$$

so f^* is determined by its images on dy_j .

5.4 de Rham cohomology

We can use exterior derivatives to form a sequence

$$\Omega^0(M) \xrightarrow{d_0} \Omega^1(M) \xrightarrow{d_1} \Omega^2(M) \xrightarrow{d_2} \dots$$

with $d_{n+1} \circ d_n = 0$ for all n . In fact this is a sequence of \mathbb{R} -vector space homomorphisms.

Definition (closed form, exact form). If $\alpha \in \Omega^r(M)$ is such that $d\alpha = 0$ then α is a *closed form*. If $\alpha = d\beta$ for some $\beta \in \Omega^{r-1}(M)$ then α is an *exact form*.

Clearly exact forms are closed but the converse is not true in general. Thus it makes sense to consider

Definition (de Rham cohomology). The quotient space

$$H_{\text{dR}}^r(M) = \frac{\ker d_r}{\text{im } d_{r-1}},$$

sometimes also denoted $H^r(M)$, is called the *de Rham cohomology* (or degree r) of M .

As f^* commutes with d , f^* is a well-defined map on $H^r(M)$ and chain rule holds. Hence for M diffeomorphic to N , we have

$$H^r(M) \cong H^r(N)$$

for all r . The inverse, however, is not true.

We can define

$$H_{\text{dR}}^*(M) = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} H_{\text{dR}}^r(M).$$

It is an easy exercise to check that wedge product induces a ring structure on $H_{\text{dR}}^*(M)$ (the key point is that $(d\alpha) \wedge \beta = d(\alpha \wedge \beta)$ whenever $d\beta = 0$). Moreover, assume M is connected, $H_{\text{dR}}^r(M)$ is finite-dimensional as $\Omega^r(M)$ vanishes for $r > \dim M$, so does $H_{\text{dR}}^r(M)$.

For all smooth $f : M \rightarrow N$, the pullback f^* induces a well-defined ring homomorphism $f^* : H^*(N) \rightarrow H^*(M)$. From previous work, have

Proposition 5.5. *If M is diffeomorphism to N then*

$$H^*(M) \cong H^*(N).$$

Again the converse is false. Try to show that

$$H^*(\mathbb{R}P^3) \cong H^*(S^3).$$

There are many types of (co)homologies on a space. The important result is

Theorem 5.6 (de Rham). *Given a smooth manifold M ,*

$$H_{\text{dR}}^r(M) \cong H^r(M, \mathbb{R})$$

where $H^r(M, \mathbb{R})$ is the singular cohomology of M with coefficients in \mathbb{R} .

This tells us that $H_{\text{dR}}^r(M)$ recovers an invariant of the topological space underlying M , using differential r -forms.

If M is connected then $H_{\text{dR}}^0(M) \cong \mathbb{R}$, i.e. the constant functions on M . For more generally result, we need

Theorem 5.7 (Poincaré lemma). *Let U be the unit open ball in \mathbb{R}^n . Then every closed k -form, where $k > 0$, is exact.*

Corollary 5.8.

$$H^k(U) = \begin{cases} 0 & k > 0 \\ \mathbb{R} & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

In fact, we can replace U by \mathbb{R}^n and get the same result.

Proof of Poincaré lemma. We give a sketch of proof. The key idea of is that we can invert d_k 's using integral operators

$$h_k : \Omega^k(U) \rightarrow \Omega^{k-1}(U)$$

for $k > 0$ such that

$$h_{k+1} \circ d_k + d_{k-1} \circ h_k = \text{id}_{\Omega^k(U)}.$$

Explicitly, define

$$\begin{aligned} & h_k(ax_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k})(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}) \\ &= \left(\int_0^1 t^{k-1} a(tx) dt \right) dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, v_1, \dots, v_{k-1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

□

5.5 Basic integration on manifolds

In this section assume M is an oriented n -manifold, where the orientation is given by a choice of positively compatible charts $\{(\varphi_\alpha, U_\alpha)\}$.

Let $\omega \in \Omega^n(M)$ and define its support to be

$$\text{supp } \omega = \{p \in M : \omega(p) \neq 0\}.$$

Assume the closure $\overline{\text{supp } \omega}$ is compact. If $\overline{\text{supp } \omega} \subseteq U_\alpha$ for some α with local coordinates x_i and

$$\omega|_{U_\alpha} = f(x)dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n,$$

then define

$$\int_M \omega = \int_{\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha)} f(x)dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

where RHS is the Riemann integral on \mathbb{R}^n . To show this is well-defined, suppose $\overline{\text{supp } \omega} \subseteq U_\beta$ for some β with coordinates y_j , and

$$\omega|_{U_\alpha \cap U_\beta} = h(y)dy_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy_n.$$

Then

$$\int_{\varphi_\beta(U_\beta)} h(y)dy_J = \int_{\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha)} h(y(x)) \left| \det \frac{Dy}{Dx} \right| dx_I = \int_{\varphi_\alpha(U_\alpha)} f(x)dx_I$$

To define the integral of a differential form that is not supported on a single chart, we use partition of unity.

Definition (integration on manifold). Suppose $\{\rho_i\}$ is a partition of unity subordinate to the oriented cover. Then define

$$\int_M \omega = \sum_i \int_{U_i} \rho_i \omega.$$

Some basic properties of the integral whose proofs will be left as exercises:

1. it is linear in ω ,
2. it is additive over disjoint coordinate neighbourhoods,
3. it is independent of choice of partition of unity (hint: if $\{\rho_i\}$ and $\{\tilde{\rho}_j\}$ are two partitions of unity then show $\{\rho_i \tilde{\rho}_j\}$ is another).

Theorem 5.9 (Stoke's theorem for manifolds without boundary). *If $\eta \in \Omega^{n-1}(M)$ is compactly supported then*

$$\int_M d\eta = 0.$$

Proof. Let $\{U_i\}_{i=1}^N$ be positively compatible coordinate neighbourhoods covering $\overline{\text{supp}}\eta$ and let choose charts on $U_0 = M \setminus \overline{\text{supp}}\eta$ so that it is positively compatible with U_i for $1 \leq i \leq N$. Then $\{U_i\}_{i=0}^N$ define an orientation on M . Let $\{\rho_i\}$ be a partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_i\}_{i=0}^N$ and let

$$d\eta = \sum_{i=0}^N d(\rho_i\eta)$$

be an n -form. Suffices to prove that for all i ,

$$\int_M d(\rho_i\eta) = 0.$$

Fix i and let x_k be coordiantes on U_i . wlog

$$\rho_i\eta = h dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n$$

so

$$d(\rho_i\eta) = \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_1} dx_2 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n.$$

As $\text{supp} h$ is bounded, say by R , have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} d(\rho_i\eta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}} \left(\int_{-R}^R \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_1} dx_1 \right) dx_2 \dots dx_n \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}} \underbrace{h(R, x_2, \dots, x_n)}_{=0} - \underbrace{h(-R, x_2, \dots, x_n)}_{=0} dx_2 \dots dx_n \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 5.10 (integration by parts). *Assume one of the forms α, β is compactly supported on M and $\deg \alpha + \deg \beta + 1 = \dim M$. Then*

$$\int_M \alpha \wedge d\beta = (-1)^{1+\deg \alpha} \int_M (d\alpha) \wedge \beta.$$

Proof. Apply Stoke's theorem to $\eta = \alpha \wedge \beta$.

□

6 Vector bundles

Definition (submersion). A smooth map $f : M \rightarrow N$ is a *submersion* if $df_x : T_x M \rightarrow T_{f(x)} N$ is surjective for all $x \in M$.

Definition (vector bundle). A *vector bundle* over a manifold B is a smooth submersion $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ of a manifold E onto B satisfying

1. there exists a vector space V such that for all $p \in B$, $E_p := \pi^{-1}(p)$ is a vector space isomorphic to V ;
2. local trivialisaton: for every $p \in B$, there exists open neighbourhood U of p and a diffeomorphism Φ_U such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_U} & U \times V \\ & \searrow \pi & \downarrow \\ & & U \end{array}$$

commutes, where the map $U \times V \rightarrow U$ is projection to first coordinate;

3. $\Phi_p : E_p \rightarrow \{p\} \times V$ is an isomorphism of vector spaces for all $p \in U$.

B is called the *base* of the bundle and E is called the *total space*. V is called *typical bundle* and $\dim V$ is the *rank* of the vector bundle. π is the bundle projection. Φ_U is a *local trivialisaton* and U is a *trivialising neighbourhood*.

Vector bundles of rank 1 are also called *line bundles*.

Definition (section). A *section* of a vector bundle E is a smooth map $s : B \rightarrow E$ such that $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_B$.

A *local section* $s : N \rightarrow E$ where $N \subseteq B$ is a smooth map such that $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_N$.

Example.

1. For any manifold B and vector space V , take $E = B \times V$ and π to be the projection onto first coordinate. This is known as a *trivial bundle* or *product bundle*. Sections of this bundle are $C^\infty(B, V)$, i.e. vector valued functions on B .
2. (Co)tangent bundles TM, T^*M are real vector bundles of rank $\dim M$. Sections are $V(M)$ and $\Omega^1(M)$ respectively. More generally, $\Lambda^r T^*M$ is a real bundle of rank $\binom{n}{r}$ and sections are differential r -forms $\Omega^r(M)$. If $r = 0$ then the bundle is trivial.
3. Tautological vector bundle over $\mathbb{R}P^n, \mathbb{C}P^n$ and more generally Grassmannians: set $B = \mathbb{C}P^n$ and E to be the disjoint union of all complex lines in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} through 0 and π maps $z \in E$ to the complex line containing z in $\mathbb{C}P^n$. We'll check that this is a well-defined line bundle.

6.1 Structure group and transition functions

Let $(U_\alpha, \varphi_\alpha)$ and (U_β, φ_β) be two local trivialising neighbourhoods with $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$. Then

$$\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}(b, v) = (b, \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b)(v))$$

for all $(b, v) \in (U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \times V$, where $\psi_{\beta\alpha} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ is smooth. We have

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{\alpha\alpha} &= \text{id}_V \\ \psi_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \psi_{\beta\alpha} &= \text{id}_V \\ \psi_{\alpha\beta} \cdot \psi_{\beta\gamma} \cdot \psi_{\gamma\alpha} &= \text{id}_V\end{aligned}$$

which are called the *cocycle* conditions. $\psi_{\beta\alpha}$ are called the *transition functions* of the vector bundle E .

Example. When $E = TM$ or T^*M , $\psi_{\beta\alpha}$ are given by the Jacobian matrices of a change of local coordinates (they are dual to each other).

Proposition 6.1. *The data of B and $\{(U_\alpha, \psi_{\beta\alpha})\}$ with $B = \bigcup U_\alpha$ determines a vector bundle E uniquely up to isomorphism (which we will define formally later).*

Proof. The proof is called *Steenrod construction*. Define

$$E := \left(\prod_{\alpha} U_\alpha \times V \right) / \sim$$

where the equivalence relation is the one generated by $(b, v) \sim (b, \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b)(v))$ for all $b \in U_\alpha$ for all α, β . E is a manifold as \sim is a diffeomorphism. wlog $U_\alpha \subseteq B$ are coordinate neighbourhoods with charts φ_α . Then $\Phi_\alpha = (\varphi_\alpha, \text{id})$ are charts for E . Finally, $\pi : E \rightarrow B, (b, v) \mapsto b$ is a smooth submersion. \square

Definition (G -structure). Let E be a real vector bundle over B . Let $G \leq \text{GL}(k, \mathbb{R})$. A collection of charts $\{(U_\alpha, \varphi_\alpha)\}$ covering B such that the corresponding $\psi_{\beta\alpha}(b) \in G$ for all α, β is called a G -structure. If $E = TM$, we say E is a G -structure on B .

Example.

1. If G is the trivial subgroup then a G -structure is a global trivialisation over B , i.e. $\Phi : E \rightarrow B \times \mathbb{R}^k$ is a local trivialisation on $U = B$.
2. If $G = \text{GL}_+(k, \mathbb{R})$, the linear isomorphisms with positive determinant, then a G -structure is an orientation of E . For example, if $E = TM$ then this gives an orientation of M .
3. If $G = O(k)$ (or $G = U(k)$ in case of complex bundle) then it determines a choice of invariantly defined inner product on fibres of E smoothly varying with the fibre. Φ_α are then called *orthogonal (unitary respectively) trivialisations*. In this case given a trivialisation $\Phi_{U_\alpha} : \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha) \rightarrow U_\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^n$ and

$b \in U_\alpha$, the linear isomorphism $\Phi_{U_\alpha}|_b : \pi^{-1}(b) \rightarrow \{b\} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ is moreover a linear isometry.

If we set instead $G = SO(k) = O(k) \cap GL_+(k, \mathbb{R})$ we get an orthogonal trivialisation together with an orientation.

4. Suppose E is a real vector bundle of rank $k = 2n$ and take

$$G = GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \subseteq GL(2n, \mathbb{R}),$$

then for all $p \in B$, there exists $J_p \in GL(E_p)$ such that $J^2 = -\text{id}_{E_p}$ which depends smoothly on p . In other words, (E_p, J_p) is isomorphic to a complex vector space of dimension n . This G -structure makes E into a *complex vector bundle*. Note that this is *not* the same as complex manifold, which has a stronger requirement. When $E = TM$ then a $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ -structure on E is called an *almost complex structure*.

Generally, if $G \leq GL(V)$ preserve some “linear algebra objects” on V then G -structure on a vector bundles means there exists a well-defined family of such objects depend smoothly on the point in the base.

6.2 Principal bundles

Let G be a Lie group, 1_G the identity element of G . Let P, B be manifolds.

Definition (smooth free right action). A *smooth free right action* is a right action of a Lie group on a manifold that is also free. Concretely, a smooth free right action of G on P is a smooth map

$$\begin{aligned} P \times G &\rightarrow P \\ (p, h) &\mapsto ph \end{aligned}$$

satisfying

1. free action: for all $p \in P$, $ph = p$ if and only if $h = 1_G$.
2. right action: for all $p \in P, h_1, h_2 \in G$, $(ph_1)h_2 = p(h_1h_2)$.

Note. The right action implies that for all $h \in G$, $p \mapsto ph$ is a diffeomorphism of P to itself.

Definition (principal bundle). A *principal G -bundle* of P over B is a smooth submersion $\pi : P \rightarrow B$ with a smooth free right action of G on P such that the set of orbits is bijective with B “naturally”: for all $b \in B$, there exists an open neighbourhood U of b with a diffeomorphism Φ_U such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_U} & U \times G \\ & \searrow \pi & \downarrow \\ & & U \end{array}$$

commutes, where $U \times G \rightarrow U$ is projection to first coordinate. Moreover Φ_U

commutes with G -action, i.e.

$$\Phi_U(ph) = (b, gh)$$

whenever $b = \pi(p) \in U$, $\Phi_U(p) = (b, g)$.

P is the *total space*, B is the *base* and G is the *fibres*.

Note. Principal G -bundle is not the same as a locally trivial bundle with fibres being a Lie group. It also incorporates information about group action.

Similar to vector bundles, given charts on two trivialising neighbourhoods, have

$$\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\alpha^{-1}(b, g) = (b, \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b, g))$$

where $\psi_{\beta\alpha}(b, \cdot) : G \rightarrow G$. The G -equivariant condition then implies that

$$\psi_{\beta\alpha}(b, g) = \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b)g = L_{\psi_{\beta\alpha}(b)}g$$

where $L_h : G \rightarrow G$ is left multiplication by an element h and $\psi_{\beta\alpha}(b) = \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b, 1_G)$. As before, the transition functions $\psi_{\beta\alpha} : U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow G$ are smooth maps satisfying the cocycle conditions.

We can also recover a principal G -bundle from the transition functions, up to G -bundle isomorphism:

Theorem 6.2. Given $\{(U_\alpha, \psi_{\beta\alpha})\}$ such that $B = \bigcup U_\alpha$ and $\psi_{\beta\alpha}$'s satisfy the cocycle conditions, let

$$P := \left(\prod_{\alpha} U_\alpha \times G \right) / \sim$$

where $(b, h) \sim (b', h')$ if and only if $b = b'$, $h' = \psi_{\beta\alpha}(b)h$. Then P is a principal G -bundle over B .

Proof. Same as before. □

Remark. The orbit space can be made into a manifold with an additional assumption: if the action of G is also *proper*, i.e. the map

$$\begin{aligned} G \times P &\rightarrow P \times P \\ (g, p) &\mapsto (pg, p) \end{aligned}$$

is a proper map (preimage of compact set is compact) then can show P/G is a smooth manifold. Then may define $B = P/G$.

The consequence of the above theory is that we can start from a vector bundle E with a G -structure, and use $\{\psi_{\beta\alpha}\}$ to obtain a principal G -bundle P with the same transition functions. Conversely, given a principal G -bundle P , we say G is *associated* to P via the action of G on \mathbb{R}^n where n is the rank of E , i.e. this is a *representation* $G \rightarrow \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$, an injective homomorphism.

In the case of principal G -bundle, G acts on itself by *left translation*.

Example. Let $E = TM$ then P is a *frame bundle*, $G = \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$. For all $p \in P$, it is a basis of $T_{\pi(p)}M$.

If in addition TM has $O(n)$ -structure then obtain P the *orthonormal frames bundle*.

6.3 Hopf bundle

A Hopf bundle is an example of a tautological rank 1 complex vector bundle over $\mathbb{C}P^1$. Recall that the fibre over $z_1 : z_2 \in \mathbb{C}P^1$ is the line $\mathbb{C}(z_1, z_2) \subseteq \mathbb{C}^2$.

We shall work out the transition functions to prove this vector bundle is well-defined. Let

$$U_i = \{z_i \neq 0\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}P^1$$

and let $z = \frac{z_2}{z_1}$ be a local coordinate on U_1 , $\zeta = \frac{z_1}{z_2}$ on U_2 . Every point in fibre over $1 : z \in U_1$ can be written as (w, wz) where $w \in \mathbb{C}$, and respectively as $(w\zeta, w)$ over $\zeta : 1 \in U_2$. The local trivialisations over U_i are

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1 : \pi^{-1}(U_1) &\rightarrow U_1 \times \mathbb{C} \\ (w, wz) &\mapsto (1 : z, w\sqrt{1+|z|^2}) \\ \varphi_2 : \pi^{-1}(U_2) &\rightarrow U_2 \times \mathbb{C} \\ (w\zeta, w) &\mapsto (\zeta : 1, w\sqrt{|\zeta|^2+1}) \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\varphi_1^{-1}(1 : z, \tilde{w}) = \left(\frac{\tilde{w}}{\sqrt{1+|z|^2}}, \frac{\tilde{w}}{\sqrt{1+|z|^2}}z \right)$$

if $z \neq 0$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1}(1 : z, \tilde{w}) &= \varphi_2 \left(\frac{\tilde{w}}{\zeta\sqrt{1+1/|\zeta|^2}}\zeta, \frac{\tilde{w}}{\zeta\sqrt{1+1/|\zeta|^2}} \right) \\ &= (\zeta : 1, \frac{|\zeta|}{\zeta}\tilde{w}) \\ &= (1 : z, \frac{z}{|z|}\tilde{w}) \end{aligned}$$

by noting that $\zeta z = 1$. Thus the transition functions are

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{2,1}(1 : z) &= \frac{z}{|z|} \\ \psi_{1,2}(\zeta : 1) &= \frac{|z|}{z} = \frac{\zeta}{|\zeta|} \end{aligned}$$

Observe

$$\psi_{2,1} : U_1 \cap U_2 \rightarrow U(1) = \{a \in \mathbb{C} : |a| = 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^* = \text{GL}(\mathbb{C})$$

so the Hopf-bundle is well-defined and admits a $U(1)$ -structure. Thus it has an invariantly defined norm on the fibres, induced from standard Euclidean norm on $\mathbb{C} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^2$ via φ_1, φ_2 . More explicitly, on $\pi^{-1}(U_1)$,

$$\|(w, wz)\| = |w|\sqrt{1+|z|^2}.$$

Leave as an exercise to write out the expression for $\pi^{-1}(U_2)$, and verify that it gives the same norm.

The associated principal $U(1)$ -bundle P , also known as *Hopf bundle*, is the bundle of unit vectors. Thus

$$P \cong \{(w_1, w_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : |w_1|^2 + |w_2|^2 = 1\} = S^3$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : S^3 &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1 \\ (w_1, w_2) &\mapsto w_1 : w_2\end{aligned}$$

But recall from example sheet 1 Q5 that $\mathbb{C}P^1 \cong S^2$ so $\pi : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$. Together with some topological argument, we see that the Hopf bundle could not be a product bundle

$$S^3 \cong S^2 \times S^1.$$

See example sheet 2 Q5.

Definition (local section). A *local section* of a principal bundle $\pi : P \rightarrow B$ is a smooth map $s : W \rightarrow P$, where $W \subseteq B$ open, such that $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_W$.

There is nothing new in the definition here — we have seen local and global sections for vector bundles before. However, note that although every vector bundle admits a global section, namely the zero section, it is not true for principal bundles. We cannot choose the “identity element section” as there is no distinguished point in a fibre. In fact, a principal bundle admits a global section if and only if it is trivial.

6.4 Pullback of a vector bundle or a principal bundle

Definition (pullback of a vector bundle). Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a vector bundle and $f : M \rightarrow B$ be a smooth map. The *pullback* f^*E of E is a vector bundle over M with same fibre V as E and such that there exists smooth F making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^*E & \xrightarrow{F} & E \\ \downarrow \tilde{\pi} & & \downarrow \pi \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

commutes, and the restriction $F : (f^*E)_p \rightarrow E_{f(p)}$ to fibres is an isomorphism of vector spaces for all $p \in M$.

It follows that for all local trivialisations of E over U , we must have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_U} & U \times V \\ F \uparrow & & f \times \text{id}_V \uparrow \\ \tilde{\pi}^{-1}(f^{-1}(U)) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\Phi}_U} & f^{-1}(U) \times V \end{array}$$

It is left as an exercise to check that $\tilde{\Phi}_U$ is a diffeomorphism.

Example.

1. If $B = *$ then $E \cong V$. Have

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Phi} : f^*E &\rightarrow M \times V \\ x &\mapsto (\tilde{\pi}(x), F(x))\end{aligned}$$

as a (global) trivialisaton of f^*E over M .

2. As a variant, let $M = B \times X$ with $f : B \times X \rightarrow B$ the projection to first coordinate. Then f^*E is “trivialised in the X direction”, i.e. $f^*E \cong E \times X$ and $\tilde{\pi} = \pi \times \text{id}_X$.
3. Suppose $M = *$. Then f^*E is just a copy of the fibre V and $F : V \hookrightarrow E$ is an embedding as the fibre over $f(M) \in B$.

In general, f^*E may be determined by pulling back the transitions

$$f^*\psi_{\beta\alpha} = \psi_{\beta\alpha} \circ f : f^{-1}(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow \text{GL}(V).$$

This gives an equivalent but more formal way to define pullbacks of bundles.

The above discussion applies equally well to pullbacks of principal G -bundles f^*P , with obvious change of notations.

6.5 Bundle morphism

Definition (vector bundle morphism). Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B, \pi' : E' \rightarrow B'$ be two vector bundles and $f : B \rightarrow B'$ a smooth map. A smooth map $F : E \rightarrow E'$ is a *vector bundle morphism (covering f)* if the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{F} & E' \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi' \\ B & \xrightarrow{f} & B' \end{array}$$

commutes and for all $p \in B$, the restriction $F_p = F|_{E_p} : E_p \rightarrow E'_{f(p)}$ is a linear map.

It follows that if Φ, Φ' are local trivialisations of E and E' respectively over $U \subseteq B, U' \subseteq B'$ with $f(U) \subseteq U'$, then the local expression $\hat{F} = \Phi' \circ F \circ \Phi^{-1}$ is given by

$$\hat{F}(b, v) = (f(b), h(b)(v))$$

for all $b \in U$ and $h : U \rightarrow L(V, V')$ is a smooth map.

Example.

1. Suppose $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ is a smooth map then $d\varphi : TM \rightarrow TN$ given by $d\varphi_p$ for all $p \in M$ is a bundle morphism.
2. Given $f : M \rightarrow B$ and $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ a vector bundle, the pullback $F : f^*E \rightarrow E$ is a bundle morphism.
3. Let $B' = B$ and $f : B \rightarrow B$ a diffeomorphism. If for all $p \in B, F_p : E_p \rightarrow E_{f(p)}$ is a linear isomorphism then F is an *vector bundle isomorphism*. Furthermore if $f = \text{id}_B, E' = E, \pi' = \pi$ then we have the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{F} & E \\ & \searrow \pi & \downarrow \pi \\ & & B \end{array}$$

In this case F is called an *automorphism* of E and denote it by $F \in \text{Aut}(E)$.

4. For example if $E \cong V \times V$ then $\text{Aut}(E) = C^\infty(V, \text{GL}(V))$. If E has a G -structure then $\text{Aut}_G(E) \subseteq \text{Aut}(E)$ is well-defined. Locally

$$\hat{F}(b, v) = (v, h(b)(v))$$

where $h(v) \in G \subseteq \text{GL}(V)$, whenever \hat{F} is with respect to local trivialisations Φ from this G -structure. In mathematical physics, often write $\text{Aut}_G(E) = \mathcal{G}$, the *group of gauge transformations*. For example, $G = U(1), SU(2), SO(3), SU(3)$.

7 Connections

Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a vector bundle and $s : B \rightarrow E$ is a section. Locally

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{s} : U &\rightarrow U \times V \\ b &\mapsto (b, s(b))\end{aligned}$$

which is really, just a map to V so $d\hat{s}_p : T_b U \rightarrow T_{s(b)}(V) \cong V$. On the other hand, the ordinary differential of s is a map $ds_b : T_b B \rightarrow T_{(b, s(b))} E$. We would like $T_{s(b)} E_b \cong E_b$ for some subspace of $T_{s(b)} E$.

How to define differential of a section of a vector bundle so that it looks reasonable like a gradient

Some conventions throughout: let $\dim B = n$ and $U \subseteq B$ a coordinate neighbourhood that is simultaneously a trivialising neighbourhood for E , with coordinates x^k where $k = 1, \dots, n$. Let $a = (a^j)_{j=1}^m \in \mathbb{R}^m$ be coordinates on the fibres on E . We use $i, j = 1, \dots, m$ and $k = 1, \dots, n$ and use summation convention for Roman indices (but not Greek indices).

Let $\Phi_U : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{R}^m$ be a local trivialisation. Let T_p be the span of $\frac{\partial}{\partial x^k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial a^j}$. For $p \in E, \pi(p) = b$, Let $\pi^{-1}(b) = E_b \subseteq E$ is a submanifold.

$$T_p E_b = \ker(d\pi_p)$$

which is the span of $\frac{\partial}{\partial a^j}$.

Definition. The *vertical subspace* at $p \in E$ is

$$Tv_p E = \ker(d\pi_p).$$

A subspace $S_p \subseteq T_p E$ is a *horizontal subspace* if

$$\begin{aligned}S_p \cap Tv_p E &= 0 \\ S_p \oplus Tv_p E &= T_p E\end{aligned}$$

Then $\dim S_p = \dim B$.

How to choose a horizontal subspace? All n dimensional subspace of $T_p E \cong \mathbb{R}^{m+n}$ is $\bigcap_{i=1}^m \ker \theta^i$ for some linearly independent $\theta^1, \dots, \theta^m \in (\mathbb{R}^{m+n})^* \cong T_p^* E$ where

$$\theta^i = f_k^i dx^k + g_j^i da_j$$

where $f_k^i, g_j^i \in \mathbb{R}$. A subspace $C = B^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + C^j \frac{\partial}{\partial a^j} \in T_p E$ is vertical if and only if $B^k = 0$ for all k . Thus must have

$$\theta_p^i(C_j \frac{\partial}{\partial a^j})$$

not all 0 for $i = 1, \dots, n$, i.e. $g_j^i C^j = 0$ for all i , which implies $C^j = 0$ for all j . Hence the $m \times m$ matrix (g_j^i) is invertible. Let its inverse be (h_j^i) . Put

$$\tilde{\theta}_p^i := h_j^i \theta_p^j = da^j + e_k^i dx^k$$

which determines the same subspace $S_p \subseteq T_p E$, where

$$e_k^i = e_k^i(p) = e_k^i(x, a) \in C^\infty(U \times \mathbb{R}^n).$$

Proposition 7.1. Every given field of horizontal subspace $S_p, p \in E$ is locally expressed as

$$S_p = \bigcap_{i=1}^m \ker \theta_p^i$$

where

$$\theta_p^i = da^i + e_k^i(x, a)dx^k$$

for some unique functions e_k^i on $U \times \mathbb{R}^m$.

We say $S = S_p$ is smooth if all e_k^i are smooth.

Definition (connection). $S = S_p$ a field of horizontal subspaces is a *connection* of E if all e_k^i 's are linear in a . Write

$$e_k^i(x, a) = \Gamma_{jk}^i(x)a^j$$

where $\Gamma_{jk}^i \in C^\infty(U)$ are the coefficients of this connection in a local trivialisation.

$$\theta^i = da^i + \Gamma_{jk}^i(x)a^j dx^k = da^i + A_j^i a^j$$

where $A_j^i \in \Omega^1(U)$.

The transformation law for A_j^i : if U' is another trivialisation neighbourhood with $U \cap U' \neq \emptyset$ and $\Psi = (\Psi_i^{i'})_{m \times m}$ is the transition function from Φ_U to $\Phi_{U'}$, and $\Psi^{-1} = (\Psi_{i'}^i)_{m \times m}$ the transition function from $\Phi_{U'}$ to Φ_U . Note that

$$\Psi_{i'}^i \Psi_j^{i'} = \delta_j^i.$$

Suppose $a^{i'} = \Psi_i^{i'} a^i$, then

$$da^{i'} = (d\Psi_i^{i'})a^i + \Psi_i^{i'} da^i.$$

Suppose

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{i'} &= da^{i'} + A_j^{i'} a^j \\ \theta^i &= da^i + A_j^i a^j \end{aligned}$$

then rewrite

$$\theta^{i'} = (d\Psi_i^{i'})a^i + \Psi_i^{i'} da^i + A_j^{i'} a^j$$

Compare the coefficient of da^i , must have

$$\theta^i = \Psi_i^{i'} \theta^{i'}$$

so

$$\theta^i = da^i + (\Psi_i^{i'} d\Psi_j^{i'} + \Psi_i^{i'} A_j^{i'} \Psi_j^{j'}) a^j$$

so the transformation law is

$$A_j^i = \Psi_i^{i'} A_j^{i'} \Psi_j^{j'} + \Psi_i^{i'} d\Psi_j^{i'}.$$

Use A^Φ to denote the matrix (A_j^i) , have $A^{\Phi'} = A^{\Psi\Phi} = (A_j^{i'})$. Then the transformation law is

$$A^{\Psi\Phi} = \Psi A^\Phi \Psi^{-1} - (d\Psi)\Psi^{-1}.$$

Noting that

$$(d\Psi)\Psi^{-1} + \Psi d(\Psi^{-1}) = 0$$

so equally

$$A^\Psi = \Psi^{-1} A^{\Psi\Phi} \Psi + (d\Psi)\Psi^{-1}.$$

Theorem 7.2. *Every choice of local matrices (A_j^i) of 1-forms satisfying * assigned to local trivialisations defines a connection on E .*

Recall the transformation law for the connection matrices

$$A^{\Psi\Phi} = \Psi A^\Phi \psi^{-1} - (d\Psi)\Psi^{-1}$$

where Ψ is the transition function from local trivialisations Φ to Φ' with $\Phi = \Phi' \circ \Phi^{-1}$. Write $A^\Phi = (A_j^i)_{i,j=1,\dots,m}$ where m is rank of E ,

$$A_j^i = \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) dx^k \in \Omega^1(U).$$

Similarly $A^{\Psi\Phi} = (A_j^{i'})$. The (A_j^i) 's do *not* patch together over trivialising neighbourhoods $U \subseteq B$ to give a global matrix-valued 1-form, essentially because of the $(d\Psi)\Psi^{-1}$ correction term in the transformation law.

Let $\Phi_\alpha, \Phi_\beta : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times V$ be two trivialising neighbourhoods over U . If $G_\alpha \in \text{End}(V)$ considered in the Φ_α trivialisations then with respect to Φ_β , G_α becomes

$$G_\beta = \Psi_{\beta\alpha} G_\alpha \Psi_{\alpha\beta},$$

note that there is no summation here! This defines a linear action of $\text{GL}(V)$ on $\text{End}(V)$. Thus we can apply the Steenrod construction to build a vector bundle $\text{End}(E)$ using $U \times \text{End}(V)$ and the above formula for the transitions. This is the *endomorphism bundle* of E . This is the bundle associated to E .

Remark. We may also define subbundle $\text{GL}(E) \subseteq \text{End}(V)$ with typical fibre $\text{GL}(V) \subseteq \text{End}(V)$. $\text{GL}(E)$ is *not* a principal bundle. For example it always has a global section

$$\begin{aligned} B &\rightarrow \text{GL}(E) \\ b &\mapsto \text{id}_V \end{aligned}$$

Sections of $\text{GL}(E)$ are precisely $\text{Aut}(E)$. Coincidentally this also provides a practical counterexample to the statement that “every vector bundle with transition functions in a group is a principal bundle”.

Similarly to $\text{End}(E)$ we may build a vector bundle with typical fibre

$$\Lambda^r(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes V \cong \{f : \underbrace{\mathbb{R}^n \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}^n}_{r \text{ times}} \rightarrow V \text{ multilinear and antisymmetric}\}$$

(where the isomorphism comes from the fact in linear algebra that $(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes V \cong \{\text{linear maps } \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow V\}$ and so on), where $n = \dim B$. Use the action induced

vector bundle	typical fibre	transition functions
E	V	$v \mapsto \Psi_{\beta\alpha} v$
$\text{End}(E)$	$\text{End}(V)$	$G \mapsto \Psi_{\beta\alpha} G \Psi_{\alpha\beta}$
$T^*B \otimes E$	$L(\mathbb{R}^n, V) \cong (\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes V$	$v_k dx^k \mapsto (\Phi_{\beta\alpha} v_k) \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial x^{k'}} dx^{k'}$
$\Lambda^r(T^*B) \otimes E$	$\Lambda^r(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes V$	$v_K dx^K \mapsto (\Phi_{\beta\alpha} v_K) \frac{Dx^K}{Dx^{k'}} dx^{k'}$
$T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$	$(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes \text{End} V$	$G_k dx^k \mapsto (\Psi_{\beta\alpha} G_k \Psi_{\alpha\beta}) \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial x^{k'}} dx^{k'}$
$\Lambda^r T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$	$\Lambda^r(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \otimes \text{End} V$	

by the Jacobi matrices for local coordinate transformation on B and use $\Psi_{\alpha\beta}$'s on the V factor.

whwere we multiply vectors and matrices in $\Lambda^r V \otimes E$ and $\Lambda^r V \otimes \text{End} V$ using the wedge product of forms.

(The good news is we mostly use $r = 1, 2$)

Connections are *not* sections of $T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$, but if A and \tilde{A} are two connections then $A - \tilde{A}$ is a valid section of $T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$. Thus the space of all connections A on a given vector bundle E is an *affine space* modeled on section of $T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$, written $\Omega_B^1(\text{End} E)$. (this means there is no canonical zero section).

Notation. Use $\Gamma(E)$ to denote all sections of E and $\Omega_B^r(E), \Omega_B^r(\text{End} E)$ to denote sections of $\Lambda^r T^*B \otimes E$ and $\Lambda^r T^*B \otimes \text{End} E$. In particular $\Omega_B^0(E) = \Gamma(E)$.

Now we are ready to define calculus on vector bundles.

Definition (covariant derivative). A *covariant derivative* on a real vector bundle E over B is a \mathbb{R} -linear map $\nabla^E : \Gamma(E) \rightarrow \Omega_B^1(E)$ satisfying the Leibniz rule

$$\nabla^E(fs) = df \otimes s + f \nabla^E s$$

for all $s \in \Gamma(E), f \in C^\infty(B)$.

Example. Let A be a connection on E . Have in any local trivialisaton $A = (A_j^i)$ where $A_j^i \in \Omega^1(U)$. Define an map d_A which is locally given by

$$d_A s|_U = (ds + As)|_U = (ds^i + A_j^i s^j)_{i=1, \dots, m}$$

where m is rank of E . To check this is well-defined, if U is also a coordinate neighbourhood in B then

$$(d_A s)^i = \left(\frac{\partial s^i}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) s^j \right) dx^k.$$

Let Φ' be another local trivialisaton over U . Then

$$\begin{aligned} s &= \Psi s' \\ A &= \Psi A' \Psi^{-1} - (d\Psi) \Psi^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_A(s) &= ds + As \\
 &= d(\Psi s') + (\Psi A \Psi^{-1} - (d\Psi)\Psi^{-1})\Psi s' \\
 &= \Psi ds' + (d\Psi)s' + \Psi A' s' - (d\Psi)s' \\
 &= \Psi(ds' + A' s') \\
 &= \Psi(d_A s)'
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the correction transformation law for $\Omega_B^1(E)$.

Theorem 7.3. *Every covariant derivative ∇^E arises as $\nabla^E = d_A$ for some connection A on E .*

Recall that

$$d_A S = ds + AS$$

where RHS only makes sense with a choice of local trivialisation!

Proof. Claim every ∇^E is a local operator. i.e. for all $U \subseteq B$ open, if $s_1|_U = s_2|_U$ then $\nabla^E s_1|_U = \nabla^E s_2|_U$. (remark by writer of note: essentially partition of unity subject to $\{U, B \setminus \bar{U}_0\}$) Indeed for all $b \in U$ let

$$b \in U_0 \subseteq \bar{U}_0 \subseteq U$$

and let $\alpha \in C^\infty(B)$ such that $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1, \alpha|_{B \setminus U} = 0$. Then

$$0 = \nabla^E(\alpha(s_1 - s_2)) = d\alpha \otimes (s_1 - s_2) + \alpha \nabla^E(s_1 - s_2)$$

At b , $d\alpha_b = 0, \alpha(b) = 1$ whence

$$(\nabla^E s_1)(b) = (\nabla^E s_2)(b)$$

so it suffices to work in trivialising neighbourhoods. Let $\mathbf{s} = (s^1, \dots, s^m) = s^i \mathbf{e}_i$ where \mathbf{e}_i is the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^m and $s^i \in C^\infty(U)$. Put

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \left[(\nabla^E \mathbf{e}_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \right]^i$$

where we assumed that U is also a coordinate neighbourhood in B . $\Gamma_{jk}^i \in C^\infty(U)$. Thus

$$\nabla^E \mathbf{s} = \nabla^E(s^i \mathbf{e}_i) = (ds^i + s^j \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) dx^k) \otimes \mathbf{e}_i = d_A s$$

Then the previous example verifies that $A_j^i = \Gamma_{jk}^i dx^k$ have the required transformation law. \square

Definition (covariantly constant). A (local) section $s : U \rightarrow E$ is *covariantly constant* with respect to connection A if $d_A s = 0$.

This is geometer's constant vector function.

Proposition 7.4. $(d_A s)(x) = 0$ if and only if $(ds)x(TxB) \subseteq T_{s(x)}E$ is a horizontal subspace $(ds_x(T_x B) = S_{s(x)})$ associated with A .

Proof. Exercise. □

We can extend d_A as a \mathbb{R} -linear map $d_A : \Omega_B^r(E) \rightarrow \Omega_B^{r+1}(E)$ for $r = 0, 1, \dots$ by requiring

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

for all $\sigma \in \Omega_B^q(E), \omega \in \Omega_B^p(B)$. Locally

$$d_A(s_I dx^I) = (d_A s_I) \wedge dx^I = d(s_i dx^I) + (A \wedge s^I) dx^I,$$

i.e.

$$d_A \sigma = d\sigma + A \wedge \sigma.$$

Again, RHS only makes sense with a choice of local trivialisation. Can further extend d_A to

$$d_A : \Omega_B^r(\text{End } E) \rightarrow \Omega_B^{r+1}(\text{End } E)$$

via

$$(d_A C)s = d_A(Cs) - Cd_A s$$

for all $C \in \Gamma(\text{End } E), s \in \Gamma(E)$ (this is really just product rule rearranged). Also

$$(d_A \mu)\omega\sigma = d_A(\mu \wedge \sigma) - (-1)^{\deg \mu} \mu \wedge d_A \sigma$$

for $\mu \in \Omega_B^p(\text{End } E), \sigma \in \Omega_B^r(E)$. Finally

$$d_A(\mu_1 \wedge \mu_2) = (d_A \mu_1 - 1) \wedge \mu_2 + (-1)^{\deg \mu_1} \mu_1 \wedge d_A \mu_2$$

for $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \Omega_B^*(\text{End } E)$.

Example. For $\mu \in \Omega_B^2(\text{End } E)$, the above theory implies in that in any local trivialisation,

$$d_A \mu = d\mu + A \wedge \mu - \mu \wedge A.$$

7.1 Curvature

We may repeatedly apply covariant derivative d_A to get a chain

$$\Gamma(E) = \Omega_B^0(E) \xrightarrow{d_A} \Omega_B^1(E) \xrightarrow{d_A} \dots \xrightarrow{d_A} \Omega_B^n(E) \xrightarrow{d_A} 0.$$

Unfortunately in general $d_A \circ d_A \neq 0$ so we don't have a cohomology. However in a local trivialisation, let $s \in \Omega_B^r(E)$, have

$$\begin{aligned} d_A d_A s &= d(ds + A \wedge s) + A \wedge (ds + A \wedge s) \\ &= dA \wedge s - A \wedge ds + A \wedge ds + A \wedge A \wedge s \\ &= (dA + A \wedge A) \wedge s \end{aligned}$$

so $d_A d_A$ is multiplication by a 2-form. The expression is a pointwise (i.e. algebraic) expression: if $s_1(b) = s_2(b)$ then

$$(d_A d_A s_1)_b = (d_A d_A s_2)_b.$$

Note. One may wonder why $A \wedge A$ does not vanish in the expression. In fact it is matrix valued:

$$(A \wedge A)_j^i = \Gamma_{pk}^i dx^k \wedge \Gamma_{j\ell}^p dx^\ell = \Gamma_{pk}^i \Gamma_{j\ell}^p dx^k \wedge dx^\ell \neq 0$$

which is nonvanishing in general unless E has rank 1. In summary, matrix multiplication is noncommutative.

Definition (curvature). Given a connection A , the 2-form

$$F(A) = dA + A \wedge A \in \Omega_B^2(\text{End } E)$$

is the *curvature* of A .

Note that $F(A)$ is well-defined (i.e. independent of local trivialisation) as $d_A d_A$ is so.

Locally $FA = F(A)_{j,k\ell}^i dx^k \wedge dx^\ell$ where $\{F(A)_{j,k\ell}^i\}$ is a function of $\{\Gamma_{jk}^i, \frac{\partial \Gamma_{jk}^i}{\partial x_e}\}$.

Definition (flat). A connection is *flat* if $F(A) = 0$.

A vector bundle E is *flat* if made a choice of flat connection.

Example. Consider the product bundle $E = B \times \mathbb{R}^m$. Then

$$d_A = d : C^\infty(B, \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \Omega^1(B) \otimes \mathbb{R}^m$$

is a *trivial* product connection. It is flat.

The converse is true only locally and only if connection is flat.

Theorem 7.5 (2nd Bianchi identity).

$$d_A F(A) = 0$$

for every connection A on vector bundle E .

Proof. Let $s \in \Gamma(E)$. Then

$$d_A(F(A)s) = d_A(d_A d_A)s = (d_A d_A)d_A s = F(A) \wedge d_A s.$$

Bu LHS may be rewritten as

$$d_A(F(A))s + F(A) \wedge d_A s.$$

Substitute and cancel to get the result. □

8 Riemannian geometry

Definition. A *Riemannian metric* g on M is a field of positive-definite symmetric bilinear forms

$$g_p : T_p M \times T_p M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

defined for all $p \in M$ and smooth in p .

Definition (Riemannian manifold). A *Riemannian manifold* is a manifold endowed with a Riemannian metric.

Remark. Smoothness in p means that for all $X, Y \in V(M)$ have $g(X, Y) \in C^\infty(M)$. Equivalently, in each coordinate neighbourhood U with coordinates x^i have

$$g_{ij} = g\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}\right) \in C^\infty(U).$$

We thus obtain the local expression of g

$$g_{ij} dx^i dx^j.$$

Technically it should be $g_{ij} dx^i \otimes dx^j$ but we omit the tensor symbol. This means that suppose $X = X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, Y = Y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ then

$$g(X, Y) = g_{ij} X^i Y^j.$$

Formally $g \in \Gamma(T^*M \otimes T^*M)$.

Example. This is compatible with the more classical definition of Riemannian metric in differential geometry of curves and surfaces. Given $r = r(u, v) : \mathbb{R}_{u,v}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, the first fundamental form

$$Edu^2 + 2Fdudv + Gdv^2$$

is a Riemannian metric with $g_{11} = E, g_{12} = g_{21} = F, g_{22} = G$.

Theorem 8.1. *Every manifold admits a Riemannian metric.*

Proof. Apply example sheet 3 question 2 (every vector bundle can be given a smooth inner product) to TM . \square

The definition of a pullback F^* for smooth $F : M \rightarrow B$ is valid for bilinear forms of TN . If g_N is a metric on N then F^*g_N is a symmetric, bilinear smooth and non-negative definite on fibres of TM .

If also dF_x are injective for all $x \in M$ then F^*g_N is positive-definite on TM and is a valid Riemannian metric. For example, when M is a immersed submanifold or F is a diffeomorphism.

This gives us an alternative way to prove the theorem by embedding in Euclidean space by Whitney and pullback the Euclidean metric.

Definition (connection). A *connection on a manifold M* is a connection on TM .

Recall that transition functions for TM are given by the Jacobian

$$\psi = (\psi_{i'}^i) = \left(\frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x^{i'}} \right)$$

The coefficients Γ_{jk}^i of a connection on M are sometimes called *Christoffel symbols*. Recall the transformation law for connection

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{j'k'}^{i'} \psi_{i'}^i \psi_j^{j'} \frac{\partial x^{k'}}{\partial x^k} + \psi_{i'}^i \frac{\partial \psi_j^{i'}}{\partial x^k}$$

When $E = TM$ this simplifies to

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{j'k'}^{i'} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x^{i'}} \frac{\partial x^{j'}}{\partial x^j} \frac{\partial x^{k'}}{\partial x^k} + \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x^{i'}} \frac{\partial^2 x^{i'}}{\partial x^j \partial x^k}$$

Note that in this case the object Γ_{kj}^i obtained by switching j and k makes sense as they live in the same space. It obeys the same transformation law so they also define a connection.

The difference $T_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{jk}^i - \Gamma_{kj}^i$ is the *torsion* of a connection on M . $T = (T_{jk}^i) \in \Omega_M^1(\text{End } TM)$. Locally $T = T_{jk}^i dx^k$. Moreover given $X, Y \in V(M)$,

$$T(X, Y) = (T_{jk}^i X^j Y^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}) \in V(M).$$

Then $T(X, Y) = -T(Y, X)$ so $T \in \Omega_M^2(TM)$

Definition (symmetric connection). A connection on a manifold M is *symmetric* if the torsion vanishes, i.e.

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \Gamma_{kj}^i$$

in every local coordinates.

Denote the covariant derivative on M

$$D : \Omega_M^0(TM) = V(M) \rightarrow \Omega_M^1(TM).$$

Denote by $D_X Y$, where $X, Y \in V(M)$ the evaluation of $DY \in \Omega_M^1(TM)$ on X . Thus $D_X Y \in V(M)$. This is an \mathbb{R} -linear map.

In local coordinates,

$$(D_X Y)^i \partial_i = (X^j \partial_j Y^i - \Gamma_{jk}^i Y^j X^k) \partial_i$$

Consequently we obtain

Proposition 8.2. A connection D on M is symmetric if and only if

$$D_X Y - D_Y X = [X, Y]$$

for all $X, Y \in V(M)$.

Theorem 8.3 (Levi-Civita connection). *On each Riemannian manifold (M, g) there is a unique connection D such that*

1. for every $X, Y, Z \in V(M)$,

$$Zg(X, Y) = g(D_Z X, Y) + g(X, D_Z Y).$$

2. D is symmetric.

D is called Levi-Civita connection of g .

Recall that given $X \in V(M)$, $D_X : V(M) \rightarrow V(M)$ is a covariant derivative if and only if

1. \mathbb{R} -linearity in Y : $D_X(\lambda Y) = \lambda D_X Y$ for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}, Y \in V(M)$,
2. Leibniz rule: $D_X(hY) = (Xh) \cdot Y + hD_X Y$ for all $h \in C^\infty(M)$,
3. $C^\infty(M)$ -linearity in X : $D_{fX} Y = fD_X Y$ for all $f \in C^\infty(M)$.

Proof of Theorem 8.3. We do uniqueness first. In a coordinate neighbourhood

$$D\partial_i = \Gamma_{ik}^p \partial_p dx^k.$$

For condition 1 in the statement of the theorem, let $X = \partial_i, Y = \partial_j, Z = \partial_k$ so that $g(X, Y) = g_{ij}$, so we obtain the first equation

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_k g_{ij} &= \Gamma_{ij}^p g_{pj} + \Gamma_{jk}^p g_{ip} \\ \partial_j g_{ki} &= \Gamma_{kj}^p g_{pi} + \Gamma_{ij}^p g_{kp} \\ \partial_i g_{jk} &= \Gamma_{ji}^p g_{pk} + \Gamma_{ki}^p g_{jp} \end{aligned}$$

the next two lines are similarly obtained by cyclic permutation on i, j, k .

Define $(g^{iq}) = (g_{iq})^{-1}$, the inverse matrix. Use the fact that g_{iq} is symmetric,

$$\Gamma_{jk}^p g_{pq} g^{iq} = \Gamma_{jk}^i.$$

Summing equations 1 + 2 - 3 gives

$$\partial_k g_{ij} + \partial_j g_{ki} - \partial_i g_{jk} = 2\Gamma_{jk}^p g_{ip}$$

which is the same as

$$\Gamma_{jk}^p g_{qp} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_k g_{qj} + \partial_j g_{kq} - \partial_q g_{jk}).$$

Multiply by g^{iq} to get

$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \frac{1}{2}g^{iq}(\partial_k g_{qj} + \partial_j g_{kq} - \partial_q g_{jk})$$

which is to say, there is at most one way to define the Christoffel symbols.

Exercise. Show that the equation has a coordinate-free formulation

$$g(D_X Y, Z) = \frac{1}{2}(X_g(Y, Z) + Y_g(Z, X) - Zg(X, Y) - g(Y, [X, Z]) - g(Z, [Y, X]) + g(X, [Y, Z])).$$

To check the requirement for covariant derivative, 1 is clear from the coordinate-free formula. We omit the verification for 2 and 3 with the following checkpoints:

1. 3: Let $f \in C^\infty(M)$. Recall

$$[fX, Z] = (fX)Z - Z(fX) = f[X, Z] - (Zf)X$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} g(D_{fX} Y, Z) &= \frac{1}{2}(fX_g(Y, Z) + Y(fg(Z, X)) - Z(fg(X, Y)) \\ &\quad - f(g(Y, [X, Z]) + g(Z, [Y, X]) - g(X, [Z, Y])) \\ &\quad + (Zf)g(X, Y) - (Yf)g(Z, X) \\ &\quad \dots \\ &= g(fD_X Y, Z) \end{aligned}$$

then do some cancellation. We are also using

$$Y(fh) = (Yf) \cdot h + f \cdot Yh.$$

2. 2: let $h \in C^\infty(M)$,

$$\begin{aligned} g(D_X(hY), Z) &= \frac{1}{2}(X(hg(Y, Z)) + hY(g(Z, X)) - Z(hg(X, Y)) - hg(Y, [X, Z]) - g(Z, [hY, X]) + g(X, \\ &= \frac{1}{2}((Xh)g(Y, Z) + hXg(Y, Z) + hY(g(Z, X)) - (Zh)g(X, Y) - hZg(X, Y) - hg(Y, [X, \\ &= (Xh)g(Y, Z) + hg(D_X Y, Z) \end{aligned}$$

for all Z . Thus

$$D_X(h, Y) = (Xh)Y + hD_X Y.$$

Thus D is a well-define connection. For statment 1 in theorem, we can trace deduction of Γ_{jk}^i backwards. \square

8.1 Geodesics

Let γ be a curve in U , a coordinate neighbourhood of M . Let $\pi : E \rightarrow M$ be a vector bundle equipped with a connection A , $A = (\Gamma_{jk}^i)$ on U . Then a *lift* of γ to E is γ_E such that $\pi \circ \gamma_E = \gamma$. If $\gamma(t) = (x^k(t))$ in local coordinates, then

$$\gamma_E(t) = (x^k(t), a^i(t))$$

in $U \times V = \pi^{-1}(U)$. A *horizontal lift* means that

$$\dot{\gamma}_E(t) \in S_{\gamma_E(t)}$$

for all t where S denotes the horizontal subspace with respect to A . In other words,

$$\theta^i(\dot{\gamma}_E(t)) = 0$$

for $i = 1, \dots, m$ where m is the rank of E . Expand out,

$$(da^i + \Gamma_{jk}^i a^j dx^k)(\dot{x}^k(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + \dot{a}^j(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial a^j}) = 0.$$

Simplify to get

$$\ddot{a}^i + \Gamma_{jk}^i(x) a^j \dot{x}^k = 0.$$

This is a system of 1st order linear ODEs so by basic results in ODE theory, it is solvable on any $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and is uniquely determined by $a^i(0)$. Thus horizontal lift *always exists* from each $a \in E$.

Misses a lecture on 17/11/18

Fix $p \in M$. If $\gamma(t, a) = \gamma_p(t, a)$ is a geodesic, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \gamma(\lambda t, a) &= \lambda \dot{\gamma}(\lambda t, a) \\ \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \gamma(\lambda t, a) &= \lambda^2 \ddot{\gamma}(\lambda t, a) \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\gamma(\lambda t, a) = \gamma(t, \lambda a).$$

Furthermore

1. for all $a \in T_p M$, there exists $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_a > 0$ such that

$$\gamma(s, a) = \gamma(1, sa)$$

exists for all $|s| < \varepsilon$.

2. from theory of ODEs, ε_a may be chosen continuous in a . For $|a|_g \leq \varepsilon_1$, have $\varepsilon_a \geq \varepsilon_2 > 0$. We have $|a|_g < \varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2$ then $\gamma(1, a)$ is defined.

Definition (exponential map). Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold and $p \in M$. The *exponential map* at p is

$$\begin{aligned} \exp_p : T_p M &\rightarrow M \\ a &\mapsto \gamma_p(1, a) \end{aligned}$$

Thus for some $\varepsilon > 0$ sufficiently small, $\exp_p : \text{Ball}_g(0, \varepsilon) \rightarrow M$ is a well-defined smooth map.

Proposition 8.4.

$$(d \exp_p)_0 = \text{id}_{T_p M}$$

by noting $T_0(T_p M) \cong T_p M$.

Proof. One approach is to Taylor expand

$$\gamma(t, a) = p + at + c_2 t^2 + \dots$$

and then substitute into geodesic ODE to get

$$c_2^i = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{jk}^i(\phi) a^j a^k.$$

Then do some hands-on analysis.

Another approach is to note $\exp_p(0) = p$. For $|a|_g < \varepsilon$, $\gamma_p(t, a) = \gamma_p(1, ta)$ for $-1 \leq t \leq 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (d \exp_p)_0 a &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \exp_p(ta) \right|_t = 0 \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_p(1, ta) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \gamma_p(t, a) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \dot{\gamma}_p(t, a) \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= a \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 8.5. $\exp_p : \text{Ball}_g(0, r) \rightarrow U$ is a diffeomorphism onto its image U for some $r > 0$.

Proof. Inverse mapping theorem. □

This means that $(\exp_p)^{-1}$ is a chart around $p \in M$. The respective local coordinates are the *normal coordinates*, aka *geodesic coordinates* at p .

For example in geodesic coordinates

$$\exp_p^{-1}(\gamma_p(t, a)) = ta$$

for $|t|$ sufficiently small.

The *geodesic polars* $(T_p M, g(p)) \cong (\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Euclidean})$. Suppose $(0, \varepsilon) \times S^{n-1}$ is included in the domain of \exp_p . Then can define a map

$$\begin{aligned} f : (0, \varepsilon) \times S^{n-1} &\rightarrow M \\ (r, v) &\mapsto \exp_p(rv) \end{aligned}$$

Let Σ_r be the image under f of $\{r\} \times S^{n-1}$, then f defines an immersion (embed?) into M . This is a *geodesic sphere* around p .

Theorem 8.6 (Gauss lemma). $\gamma_p(t, a)$ meets Σ_r orthogonally for all $0 < r < \varepsilon$. Thus in geodesic polars,

$$g = dr^2 + h(r, v)$$

where $g = g|_{\Sigma_r}$.

So we may write g as

$$\begin{pmatrix} dr^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & & & \\ \vdots & & h(r, v) & \\ 0 & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

Proof. Choose any $X \in V(S^{n-1})$. $S^{n-1} \subseteq T_p M$ with respect to $g(p)$. Extend X to $\text{Ball}_1(0) \setminus \{0\} = \{a \in T_p M : |a|_g \leq 1\}$. $\tilde{X}(r, v) = rX(v)$ on $B \setminus \{0\}$. Define

$$Y(f(r, v)) = d(\exp_p)_{rv} \tilde{X}(r, v),$$

a vector field on $B' \subseteq \exp_p(B \setminus \{0\}) \subseteq M$. To show $Y \perp \frac{\partial}{\partial r}$ at each point in $B' \setminus \{p\}$, note that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} = \dot{\gamma}_p(t, a) \frac{1}{|a|_{g(p)}}$$

so $\dot{\gamma}(t, a)$ defines a vector field on $B' \setminus \{p\}$ for all $|a|_{g(p)} = 1$ and $0 < t < \varepsilon$. Take limit as $r \rightarrow 0$ to obtain $g(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \frac{\partial}{\partial r}) = 1$.

Thus to show $g(Y, \dot{\gamma}) = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\dot{\gamma}} Y - D_Y \dot{\gamma} &= (df)(D_{\partial/\partial r} \tilde{X} - D_{\tilde{X}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}) \\ &= (df)\left(\frac{d}{dr} \tilde{X}\right) \\ &= (df) \frac{\tilde{X}}{r} \\ &= \frac{Y}{r} \end{aligned}$$

by linearity of df at each point. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dr} g(Y, \dot{\gamma}) &= g(D_{\dot{\gamma}} Y, \dot{\gamma}) + g(Y, \underbrace{D_{\dot{\gamma}} \dot{\gamma}}_{=0}) \\ &= g(D_Y \dot{\gamma} + \frac{Y}{r}, \dot{\gamma}) \\ &= \frac{1}{r} g(Y, \dot{\gamma}) \end{aligned}$$

Let $G = g(Y, \dot{\gamma})$ and we have an ODE

$$\frac{d}{dr} G = \frac{G}{r}.$$

So G is linear in r and $\frac{dG}{dr}$ is independent of r . But

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{dG}{dr} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0^+} g(X, \frac{\partial}{\partial r}) = 0$$

because $(d\exp)_0$ is an isometry. \square

8.2 Curvature of a Riemannian metric

Definition (Riemannian curvature). Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold. The (full) Riemannian curvature $R = R(g)$ of the metric g is the curvature of the Levi-Civita connection of g .

By general theory $R(g) \in \Omega_M^2(\text{End } TM)$. In local coordinates,

$$R = \frac{1}{2} R_{j,k\ell}^i dx^k \wedge dx^\ell$$

where i, j, k, ℓ all take values $1, \dots, n$ where $n = \dim M$. ($R_{j,k\ell}^i$ is called the Riemann curvature tensor.

Let $X, Y \in V(M)$. Then $R(X, Y) \in \Gamma(\text{End } TM)$. Explicitly, if $X = X^k \partial_k, Y = Y^\ell \partial_\ell$ then

$$R(X, Y) = (R_{j,k\ell}^i X^k Y^\ell)_{i,j}.$$

We may define $R_{k\ell} = R(\partial_k, \partial_\ell)$ to be local sections of $\text{End } TM$ so

$$R(X, Y) = X^k Y^\ell R_{k\ell}.$$

In local coordinates, $D = d + A$ where $A = A_k dx^k = (\Gamma_{jk}^i) dx^k$. Denote

$$D_k = D_{\partial_k} = \partial_k + A_k.$$

For all $Z \in V(M)$ have

$$\begin{aligned} (-D \circ D)Z &= RZ = (R_{k\ell} dx^k \wedge dx^\ell)Z \\ R_{k\ell} Z &= (D_\ell D_k - D_k D_\ell)Z \end{aligned}$$

thus $R_{k\ell} = -[D_k, D_\ell]$ and thus

$$R_{j,k\ell}^i = ((D_\ell D_k - D_k D_\ell) \partial_j)^i$$

Write $D_X = X^k D_k$ then we have

$$\begin{aligned} -[D_X, D_Y] &= -[X^k D_k, Y^\ell D_\ell] \\ &= -X^k (\partial_k Y^\ell) D_\ell - X^k Y^\ell D_k D_\ell \\ &\quad + Y^k (\partial_k X^\ell) D_\ell + Y^k X^\ell D_\ell D_k \\ &= X^k Y^\ell R_{k\ell} - [X, Y]^\ell D_\ell \end{aligned}$$

This proves

Lemma 8.7.

$$R(X, Y) = D_{[X, Y]} - [D_X, D_Y].$$

Sometimes it is convenient to consider

$$R_{ij, k\ell} = g_{iq} R_{j, k\ell}^q$$

by $(X, Y, Z, T) \mapsto g(R(X, Y)Z, T)$.

Proposition 8.8 (symmetries of the curvature tensor).

1. $R_{ij,\ell k} = -R_{ij,k\ell} = R_{ji,k\ell}$.
2. 1st Bianchi identity: $R_{j,k\ell}^i + R_{k,\ell j}^i + R_{\ell,jk}^i = 0$.
3. $R_{ij,k\ell} = R_{k\ell,ij}$.

Proof.

1. The first equality is clear from properties of (“scalar”) 2-forms. For the second equality,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k} &= g(D_k \partial_i, \partial_j) + g(\partial_i, D_k \partial_j) \\ \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^\ell \partial x^k} &= g(D_\ell D_k \partial_i, \partial_j) + g(D_k \partial_i, D_\ell \partial_j) + g(D_\ell \partial_i, D_k \partial_j) + g(\partial_i, D_\ell D_k \partial_j)\end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^\ell \partial x^k} - \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^k \partial x^\ell} \\ &= g([D_\ell, D_k] \partial_i, \partial_j) + g(\partial_i, [D_\ell, D_k] \partial_j) \\ &= g(R_{k\ell} \partial_i, \partial_j) + g(\partial_i, R_{k\ell} \partial_j) \\ &= R_{ji,k\ell} + R_{ij,\ell}\end{aligned}$$

2.

$$R_{j,k\ell}^i + R_{k,\ell j}^i + R_{\ell,jk}^i = [D_\ell D_k \partial_j - D_k D_\ell \partial_j + D_j D_\ell \partial_k - D_\ell D_j \partial_k + \text{two more terms}]^i$$

But the first and last term cancel as $[\partial_k, \partial_\ell] = 0$.

3. See the handout on octahedron trick.

□

Definition (Ricci curvature). The *Ricci curvature* of $g = g_{ij} dx^i dx^j$ at $p \in M$ is

$$\text{Ric}_p(X, Y) = \text{tr}(v \mapsto R_p(X, v)Y).$$

Locally $\text{Ric} = (\text{Ric}_{ij})$ so

$$\text{Ric}(X, Y) = \text{Ric}_{ij} X^i Y^j.$$

We can also write

$$\text{Ric}_{ij} = R_{i,jq}^q = g^{pq} R_{pi,jq}.$$

By the third identities we derive, Ric_{ij} is a symmetric bilinear form on $T_p M$ for all p .

Definition (scalar curvature). The *scalar curvature* $s = \text{scal}(g) \in C^\infty(M)$ is the trace of Ric with respect to g , i.e. if $g_{ij}(p) = \delta_{ij}$ then $s = \text{Ric}_{ii}$.

In general,

$$s = g^{ij} \text{Ric}_{ij} = g^{ij} g^{pq} R_{pi,jq} = g^{jk} R_{j,kl}^\ell.$$

We can show, using linear algebra and representation theory, that Ric and s are the only $SO(n)$ -invariant components in the “space of curvature tensor”.

Missed a lecture on 24/11/18 (Laplacian, Hodge star operator)

Recall that $\delta = (-1)^{n(p+1)+1} *d*$ on p -forms for $p \geq 1$ and $\delta = 0$ on functions.

Proof. Given $\alpha \in \Omega^{p-1}(M), \beta \in \Omega^p(M)$,

$$d(\alpha \wedge * \beta) = d\alpha \wedge * \beta + (-1)^{p-1} \alpha \wedge d(* \beta)$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} - * \delta \beta &= (-1)^{n(p+1)} * * \underbrace{d * \beta}_{\in \Omega^{n-p+1}} \\ &= (-1)^{n(p+1)+(n-p+1)(p-1)} d * \beta \\ &= (-1)^{-1} d * \beta \pmod{2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$d(\alpha \wedge * \beta) = d\alpha \wedge * \beta - \alpha \wedge * \delta \beta = \langle d\alpha, \beta \rangle_g \omega_g - \langle \alpha, \delta \beta \rangle_g \omega_g$$

Now proposition follows from Stokes'. □

Remark. We can define for $\zeta, \eta \in \Omega^p(M)$

$$\langle \langle \zeta, \eta \rangle \rangle_{M,g} = \int_M \langle \zeta, \eta \rangle_g \omega_g$$

the L^2 inner product of p -forms. The the proposition asserts that

$$\langle \langle d\alpha, \beta \rangle \rangle = \langle \langle \alpha, \delta \beta \rangle \rangle$$

i.e. $\delta = d^*$, the *formal L^2 -adjoint* of d .

Corollary 8.9.

$$\Delta = d\delta + \delta d$$

is formally self-adjoint.

Definition (Laplace-Beltrami/Hodge Laplacian). Δ is called *Laplace-Beltrami*, also known as the *Hodge Laplacian*.

We give a special name to kernel of Δ :

Definition (harmonic p -form). The space of *harmonic p -forms* is defined as

$$\mathcal{H}^p(M) = \{\alpha \in \Omega^p(M) : \Delta \alpha = 0\}.$$

Note. $*\Delta = \Delta*$ so $*$: $\mathcal{H}^p(M) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{n-p}(M)$ is an isomorphism.

Proposition 8.10. *Assume M is compact. Then for all $\alpha \in \Omega^p(M)$, $\Delta\alpha = 0$ if and only if $d\alpha = 0$ and $\delta\alpha = 0$.*

The condition $\delta\alpha = 0$ is called α is *coclosed*.

Proof.

• \implies :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle \Delta\alpha, \alpha \rangle \\ &= \langle d\delta\alpha, \alpha \rangle + \langle \delta d\alpha, \alpha \rangle \\ &= \|\delta\alpha\|_{L^2}^2 + \|d\alpha\|_{L^2}^2 \end{aligned}$$

but for all $\zeta \in \Omega^*(M)$,

$$\|\zeta\|_{L^2} = \sqrt{\langle \zeta, \zeta \rangle} \geq 0$$

with equality if and only if $\zeta = 0$ as ζ is smooth. Thus $\delta\alpha = 0, d\alpha = 0$.

• \impliedby : obvious. □

Corollary 8.11. *Let M be compact and connected. Then if $f \in C^2(M)$ is harmonic it is constant.*

Note. Compactness is essential. For example $(x, y) \mapsto e^y \cos x$ on the Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^2 .

Note that on (\mathbb{R}^n, g) where g is not necessarily Euclidean,

$$\Delta_g = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\det g}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \left(\sqrt{\det g} g^{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \right).$$

When g is Euclidean, this simplifies to

$$\Delta_{\text{Eucl}} = -\sum \frac{\partial^2}{(\partial x^i)^2}.$$

It is an exercise to check that this has positive eigenvalues.

Theorem 8.12 (Hodge decomposition theorem). *Let (M, g) be a compact oriented Riemannian manifold. Let $0 \leq p \leq \dim M$. Then*

1. $\dim \mathcal{H}^p(M)$ is finite.

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega^p(M) &= \mathcal{H}^p(M) \oplus \Delta\Omega^p(M) \\ &= \mathcal{H}^p(M) \oplus d\Omega^{p-1}(M) \oplus \delta d\Omega^p(M) \\ &= \mathcal{H}^p(M) \oplus d\Omega^{p-1}(M) \oplus \delta\Omega^{p+1}(M) \end{aligned}$$

where all the direct sums are orthogonal with respect to L^2 .

Proof. Too long. Omitted. \square

Corollary 8.13. *Assume the hypothesis of Hodge decomposition theorem, then for all $a \in H_{dR}^p(M)$ there exists a unique $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}^p(M)$ such that $[\alpha] = a$.*

Proof. We do uniqueness first: suppose $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathcal{H}^p(M)$ with $\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 = d\beta$. Then

$$\|d\beta\|^2 = \langle\langle d\beta, \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle \beta, \underbrace{\delta\alpha_1 - \delta\alpha_2}_0 \rangle\rangle = 0$$

so $d\beta = 0$ and $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$.

For existence, suppose $a = [\tilde{\alpha}]$ where $d\tilde{\alpha} = 0$ but $\tilde{\alpha}$ is not necessarily closed. By Hodge decomposition theorem we can write

$$\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha + d\beta + \delta\gamma.$$

Then $d\delta\gamma = 0$ so

$$0 = \langle\langle d\delta\gamma, \gamma \rangle\rangle = \|\delta\gamma\|^2$$

so $\delta\gamma = 0$. It follows that $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}^p(M)$. \square

What we have shown is that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}^p(M) &\rightarrow H_{dR}^p(M) \\ \alpha &\mapsto [\alpha] \end{aligned}$$

is a linear isomorphism. LHS is an analytic object, and by de Rham theory, RHS is the same as $H^p(M)$, a topological object. The significance of Hodge decomposition is this correspondence.

An intuitive explanation of the corollary: given $a \in H_{dR}^p(M)$, define

$$B_a = \{\zeta \in \Omega^p(M) : d\zeta = 0, [\zeta] = a\}$$

and consider the function $F(\zeta) = \|\zeta\|^2$ on B_a . If α is a minimum of F the

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} F(\alpha + td\beta) = 0$$

for all β so

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} &= \langle\langle \alpha + td\beta, \alpha + td\beta \rangle\rangle \\ &= 2\langle\langle \alpha, d\beta \rangle\rangle \quad \delta\alpha = 0 \\ &= 2\langle\langle \delta\alpha, \beta \rangle\rangle \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

so $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}^p(M)$.

A remark about the second statement of Hodge decomposition theorem: the last two lines follow from the first for similar reason to the corollary. If $\Delta\alpha = \beta$ then $\beta \perp \mathcal{H}^p(M)$ so $(\mathcal{H}^p(M))^\perp$ is well-defined and the projection of β to this space is given by

$$\beta - \sum_{i=1}^{\dim \mathcal{H}^p(M)} \langle\langle \beta, \omega_i \rangle\rangle \omega_i$$

where $\{\omega_i\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{H}^p(M)$. Thus $\Delta\Omega^p(M) \subseteq (\mathcal{H}^p(M))^\perp$. We can solve for ω is

$$\Delta\omega = \alpha, \alpha \perp \mathcal{H}^p.$$

First define a “weak solution” of $\Delta\omega = \alpha$, a bounded linear functional on $\Omega^p(M)$. Then argue using a regularity theorem from analysis every weak solution is an actual solution. The key idea is that Δ is elliptic.