

Differential forms (Spl lecture)

- Primitive forms on \mathbb{R}^3 Coordinates (x_1, x_2, x_3) and (x, y, z) interchangeably.

Defⁿ 1) A primitive 1-form on \mathbb{R}^3 is defined as either dx_1, dx_2, dx_3 .

2) A primitive p-form is an expression of form

$$\omega = dx_{i_1} \wedge dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$$

where $i_1, \dots, i_p \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ with the rules

$$(R1) \quad dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p} = 0 \iff i_j = i_k \text{ for some } j \neq k$$

$$(R2) \quad \dots \wedge dx_i \wedge dx_j \wedge \dots = -(\dots \wedge dx_j \wedge dx_i \wedge \dots)$$

i.e. switching two consecutive primitive 1-forms, one incurs a -ve sign.

$$(R3) \text{ (Wedge product)} \quad \wedge : \{p\text{-form}\} \times \{q\text{-form}\} \rightarrow \{(p+q)\text{-form}\}$$

$$(dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}) \wedge (dx_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_q})$$

$$= dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p} \wedge dx_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_q}$$

Consequences 1) Any primitive p-form can be written uniquely as

$$\omega = \pm dx_{i_1} \wedge dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$$

$$i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \dots < i_p$$

2) No non-zero p -form if $p \geq 4$.

3) If ω primitive p -form & η prim. q -form.

Then

$$\omega \wedge \eta = (-1)^{pq} \eta \wedge \omega.$$

e.g.: $\omega = dx_1$, $\eta = dx_2$, $\omega \wedge \eta = dx_1 \wedge dx_2$
 $= -dx_2 \wedge dx_1 = \eta \wedge \omega.$

Here $(-1)^{pq} = -1.$

$$\omega = dx_1, \eta = dx_2 \wedge dx_3, \omega \wedge \eta = dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \wedge dx_3$$

$$\eta \wedge \omega = dx_2 \wedge dx_3 \wedge dx_1 = -dx_2 \wedge dx_1 \wedge dx_3$$
$$= dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \wedge dx_3 = \omega \wedge \eta.$$

Here $pq = 2 \Rightarrow (-1)^{pq} = 1.$

• Differential forms on $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Let Ω be open, connected.

Defⁿ: 1) A 0-form on Ω is a function $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

2) A p -form on Ω is an expression

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_p} f_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_p} \cdot dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p},$$

each $f_{i_1 \dots i_p}: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ called $(i_1, \dots, i_p)^{\text{th}}$ component

We say ω is a smooth p -form if all component functions have partial derivatives of all orders, and set

$$\Lambda^k(\Omega) = \{ \text{set of smooth } p\text{-forms on } \Omega \}.$$

Examples 1) In \mathbb{R}^3 with (x, y, z) .

0-form: $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

1-form: $f dx + g dy + h dz, f, g, h: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

2-form: $f dy \wedge dz + g dz \wedge dx + h dx \wedge dy$.

3-form: $f dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$.

Written this way, there is a nice duality. Namely we have a map $*$: $\Lambda^k(\Omega) \rightarrow \Lambda^{3-k}(\Omega)$ s.t. $** = \text{id}$.

$$*(f) = f dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

$$*(f dx + g dy + h dz) = f dy \wedge dz + g dz \wedge dx + h dx \wedge dy.$$

2) Given v.f. $\vec{F} = P\hat{i} + Q\hat{j} + R\hat{k}$, there is a corresponding 1-form.

$$(\vec{F})^\# = \omega_{\vec{F}} = P dx + Q dy + R dz.$$

Defⁿ (Wedge prod. of forms) ① If $f, g: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ & ω, η are primitive p and q -forms, then define

$$f\omega \wedge g\eta = fg \cdot \omega \wedge \eta.$$

② If $f, f_2, g_1, g_2: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and ω_1, ω_2 p -forms; η_1, η_2 are q -forms. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (f_1\omega_1 + f_2\omega_2) \wedge (g_1\eta_1 + g_2\eta_2) \\ &= f_1g_1\omega_1 \wedge \eta_1 + f_1g_2\omega_1 \wedge \eta_2 \\ & \quad + f_2g_1\omega_2 \wedge \eta_1 + f_2g_2\omega_2 \wedge \eta_2. \end{aligned}$$

Ex: 1) $\omega = x^2 dx + x dy$, $\eta = x dx \wedge dz + y dy \wedge dz$.

$$\begin{aligned} \omega \wedge \eta &= x^2 dx \wedge dy \wedge dz + x dy \wedge dx \wedge dz \\ &= (x^2 - x) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz. \end{aligned}$$

2) If \vec{F}, \vec{G} are v-f on Ω .

Check: $\boxed{\omega_{\vec{F}} \wedge \omega_{\vec{G}} = \omega_{\vec{F} \times \vec{G}}}$

So wedge = prod. is a generalization of cross product.

Defⁿ: Given an $\omega \in \Lambda^3(\Omega)$, we define its integral on Ω by

$$\int_{\Omega} \omega := \iiint_{\Omega} f dV. \quad \leftarrow \text{Usual triple integral.}$$

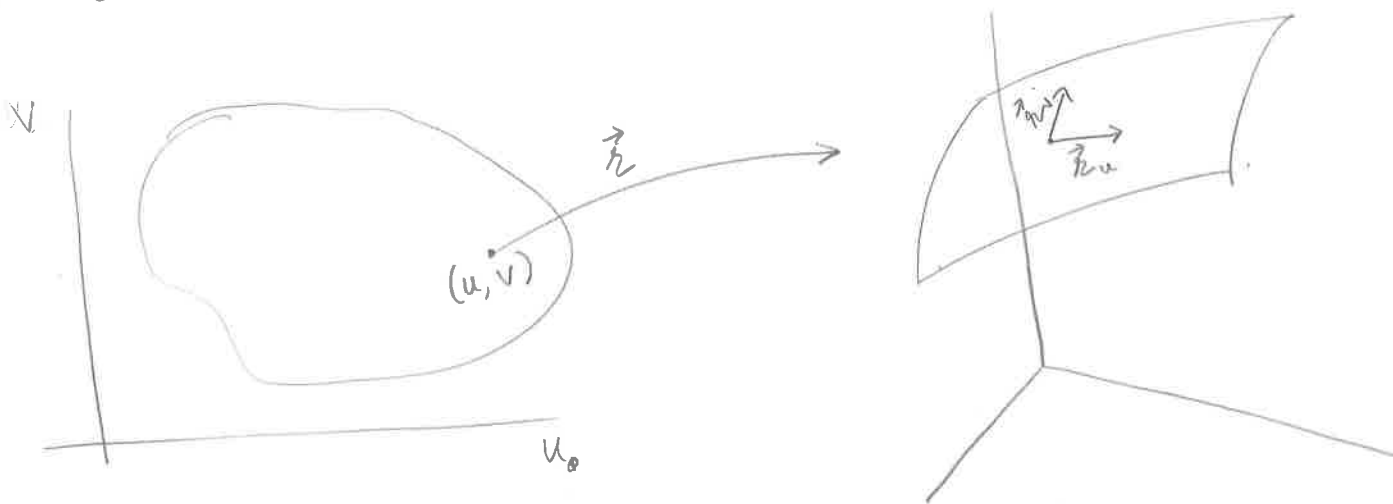
where $\omega = f dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$.

Similarly, one could define p -forms on \mathbb{R}^n for $n=1, 2$, and define integrals of p -forms on $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^p$. i.e.

p -form can be integrated on a region in \mathbb{R}^p .

• Integration on k -dim manifolds:

Recall a surface is



Defⁿ: A pair (E, \vec{z}) is said to parametrize a p -dimensional manifold if.

① $E \subset \mathbb{R}^p$ open, connected.

② $\vec{r}: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ with smooth components.

③ (non-deg.) $(\vec{r}_{u_1})^\# \wedge (\vec{r}_{u_2})^\# \wedge \dots \wedge (\vec{r}_{u_p})^\# \neq 0$.

at any point. Here

$$\vec{r}_{u_j} = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u_j}.$$

The image $\vec{r}(E) := M$ is called a p -dim manifold. We write $x_j = x_j(u_1, \dots, u_p)$ on M .

Defⁿ (Pull back). Let Ω be a nbd of M in \mathbb{R}^3 .

One can define $\vec{r}^*: \Lambda^q(\Omega) \rightarrow \Lambda^q(E)$. ($q \leq p$).

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \vec{r}^*(dx_j) = \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial u_k} \cdot du_k.$$

$$\vec{r}^*(f dx_j) = f(\vec{r}(u_1, \dots, u_p)) \cdot \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial u_k} \cdot du_k.$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \vec{r}^*(\omega \wedge \eta) = \vec{r}^*(\omega) \wedge \vec{r}^*(\eta).$$

Prop. If $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_q$, then \leftarrow jacobian.

$$\vec{r}^*(dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_q}) = \frac{\partial(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_q})}{\partial(u_{j_1}, \dots, u_{j_q})} \cdot du_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge du_{j_q}$$

Ex: 1) $p=1$: M is a curve. $\vec{z}: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$.

$$\vec{z}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle.$$

$$\text{Then } \vec{z}^*(dx) = x'(t) dt.$$

$$\vec{z}^*(dy) = y'(t) dt.$$

$$\vec{z}^*(dz) = z'(t) dt.$$

This is what we actually meant when we loosely wrote $dx = x'(t) dt$ before.

2) $p=2$: M is a surface.

Defⁿ: Given a p -form in nbd of p -dim manifold M .

$\subset \mathbb{R}^3$, define the integral on M by

$$\int_M \omega := \int_E \vec{z}^* \omega.$$

Ex: 1) \vec{F} v.f in nbd of a curve $\vec{z}(t)$.

Consider $(\omega_{\vec{F}} = P dx + Q dy + R dz)$.

$$\vec{z}^*(\omega_{\vec{F}}) = P \cdot x'(t) dt + Q y'(t) dt + R z'(t) dt.$$

$$\text{So } \int_M \omega := \int_a^b P x' dt + Q y' dt + R z' dt$$

$$= \int_M \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{z}.$$

Recover the usual \int_M line integral.

2) $M \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ surface, \vec{F} a v.f in a nbd of M . Let $\vec{F} = P\hat{i} + Q\hat{j} + R\hat{k}$. Then:

$$*(\omega_{\vec{F}}) = Pdy \wedge dz + Qdz \wedge dx + Rdx \wedge dy.$$

So,

$$\vec{z}^*(\omega_{\vec{F}}) = \left[P \frac{\partial(y, z)}{\partial(u, v)} + Q \frac{\partial(z, x)}{\partial(u, v)} + R \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right] du \wedge dv.$$

On the other hand:

$$\vec{z}_u \times \vec{z}_v = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{\partial(y, z)}{\partial(u, v)} \hat{i} + \frac{\partial(z, x)}{\partial(u, v)} \hat{j} + \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \hat{k}$$

So $\vec{z}^*(\omega_{\vec{F}}) = [\vec{F} \cdot (\vec{z}_u \times \vec{z}_v)] du \wedge dv.$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \int_M \omega_{\vec{F}} &= \int_E \vec{z}^*(\omega_{\vec{F}}) \\ &= \int_E \vec{F} \cdot (\vec{z}_u \times \vec{z}_v) du \wedge dv \\ &= \iint_M \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} \end{aligned}$$

• Exterior derivative:

Defⁿ: Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. The exterior derivative is a map $d: \Lambda^p(\Omega) \rightarrow \Lambda^{p+1}(\Omega)$.

0-form: $df := \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} dz$.

1-form: $d(Pdx + Qdy + Rdz)$

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

$$= \left(\frac{\partial R}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} \right) dy \wedge dz + \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right) dz \wedge dx$$

$$+ \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx \wedge dy$$

2-form: $d(Pdy \wedge dz + Qdz \wedge dx + Rdx \wedge dy)$

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

$$= \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial z} \right) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

Rk ① $d(f)_{\vec{r}} = (\vec{\nabla} f)^{\#}$

$$d(\omega_{\vec{F}}) = *(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F})^{\#}$$

$$d(*\omega_{\vec{F}}) = *(\operatorname{div} \vec{F})$$

② One can show, for any $\omega \in \Lambda^p(\Omega)$,
 $\boxed{d(dw) = 0}$ (we write $d^2 = 0$).

This encapsulates the identities

$$\text{curl } \vec{\nabla} f = \vec{0}, \quad \text{div}(\text{curl } \vec{F}) = 0.$$

• Stokes' theorem.

Th^m: let M be a p -dim manifold s.t. ∂M be a $(p-1)$ dimensional manifold. If ω is a $(p-1)$ form. Then.

$$\boxed{\int_{\partial M} \omega = \int_M d\omega.}$$

Ex: ① If $p=2$. Then M is a surface & ∂M is a boundary curve. Sp. \vec{F} is a v.f. on a nbd of M . We have seen.

$$\int_{\partial M} \omega_{\vec{F}} = \int_{\partial M} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$

On the other hand, $d\omega_{\vec{F}} = *(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F})^\#$, and we have seen:

$$\int_M *(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F})^\# = \int_M (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{S}$$

So we recover

$$\int_{\partial M} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{z} = \int \int_M (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{S}$$

② $p=3$. M is a region in \mathbb{R}^3 & ∂M is a closed surface. Let $\omega = * \omega_{\vec{F}}$. Then:

$$\int_{\partial M} * \omega_{\vec{F}} = \int_{\partial M} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$$

$$\int_M d * \omega_{\vec{F}} = \int_M * (\operatorname{div} \vec{F})$$

$$= \int_M (\operatorname{div} \vec{F}) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

$$= \iiint_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} \vec{F}) dV$$

