

Computational Geometry Workshop

Wichita State University, Dept. of Mathematics

Differential Forms

Last Changed: 4 Sep 2017

Authors: Justin M. Ryan,

This notebook contains sample code related to the lecture on Differential Forms. Terse lecture notes may be found at

http://geometerjustin.com/teaching/cgw/notes/notes_02.html (http://geometerjustin.com/teaching/cgw/notes/notes_02.html)

So future readers know what version we're using:

In [1]: `version()`

Out[1]: 'SageMath version 7.5.1, Release Date: 2017-01-15'

Force *TeX* display:

In [2]: `%display latex`

Define the chart we're working in/on:

In [3]: `U = Manifold(3,'U',latex_name=r'\mathbb{U}',start_index=1);
coord.<x,y,z>=U.chart();
e = coord.frame();
de = coord.coframe();`

We want to work with the differential k -forms on \mathbb{U} . We begin by defining two 1-forms on \mathbb{U} .

```
In [4]: t1 = U.diff_form(1,latex_name=r'\theta_1');
t1[:] =[x, 2*z-x,sin(y)];
t2 = U.diff_form(1,latex_name=r'\theta_2');
t2[:] =[0,-z,y];
```

We can now compute the exterior product of θ_1 and θ_2 . The command for this is just ".wedge()". The exterior product $\theta_1 \wedge \theta_2$ is a 2-form.

```
In [5]: t1w2 = t1.wedge(t2);
print(t1w2)
t1w2.display()
```

2-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold \mathbb{U}

Out[5]: $\theta_1 \wedge \theta_2 = -xzdx \wedge dy + xydx \wedge dz + (-xy + (2y + \sin(y))z)dy \wedge dz$

Exterior products are alternating.

```
In [6]: t2w1 = t2.wedge(t1);
t2w1 == -t1w2
```

Out[6]: True

The exterior derivative of a form increases the degree by 1.

```
In [7]: dt1 = t1.exterior_derivative();
dt2 = t2.exterior_derivative();
print(dt1)
dt1.display()
```

2-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold \mathbb{U}

Out[7]: $d\theta_1 = -dx \wedge dy + (\cos(y) - 2)dy \wedge dz$

```
In [8]: print(dt2)
dt2.display()
```

2-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold \mathbb{U}

Out[8]: $d\theta_2 = 2dy \wedge dz$

The exterior derivative of a smooth function $f \in \mathfrak{F} = \Omega^0$ is the usual differential of f from Calc III. Recall that we need to define smooth functions on \mathbb{U} as scalar fields.

```
In [9]: f = U.scalar_field({coord: x^2 - 2*z^(sin(y))});
df = f.exterior_derivative();
print(df)
df.display()
```

1-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[9]: 2 xdx - 2 zsin(y) cos(y) log(z)dy + (-2 zsin(y)-1 sin(y)) dz
```

```
In [10]: df == f.differential()
```

```
Out[10]: True
```

Applying the exterior derivative to the same form twice always yields 0 (i.e., the form identically equal to 0).

```
In [11]: ddf = df.exterior_derivative();
print(ddf)
ddf.display()
```

2-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[11]: 0
```

```
In [12]: ddt1 = dt1.exterior_derivative();
print(ddt1)
ddt1.display()
```

3-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[12]: ddθ1 = 0
```

```
In [13]: ddt2 = dt2.exterior_derivative();
print(ddt2)
ddt2.display()
```

3-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[13]: ddθ2 = 0
```

Differential k -forms map $\mathfrak{X}^k \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}$.

```
In [14]: X1 = U.vector_field(latex_name=r'X_1');
X1[:] = [x,-x,2*z];
X2 = U.vector_field(latex_name=r'X_2');
X2[:] = [cos(z),-sin(z),z];
```

```
In [15]: print(df(X1))
df(X1).display()
```

Scalar field on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[15]:  $\begin{array}{ccc} U & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) & \longmapsto & 2xz^{\sin(y)} \cos(y) \log(z) + 2x^2 - 4z^{\sin(y)} \sin(y) \end{array}$ 
```

$df(X_1)$ and $X_1(f)$ coincide. In Calc III lingo, they both represent the (non-normalized) directional derivative of f in the direction of X_1 .

```
In [16]: print(X1(f))
X1(f).display()
```

Scalar field on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[16]:  $\begin{array}{ccc} U & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) & \longmapsto & 2xz^{\sin(y)} \cos(y) \log(z) + 2x^2 - 4z^{\sin(y)} \sin(y) \end{array}$ 
```

```
In [17]: df(X1) == X1(f)
```

```
Out[17]: True
```

2-forms take two vector fields as arguments.

```
In [18]: dt1(X1,X2).display()
```

```
Out[18]:  $d\theta_1(X_1, X_2) : \begin{array}{ccc} U & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) & \longmapsto & -(x \cos(y) - 2x)z - x \cos(z) + (2z \cos(y) - 2) \end{array}$ 
```

```
In [19]: dt1(X2,X1).display()
```

```
Out[19]:  $d\theta_1(X_2, X_1) : \begin{array}{ccc} U & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) & \longmapsto & (x \cos(y) - 2x)z + x \cos(z) - (2z \cos(y) - 2) \end{array}$ 
```

```
In [20]: dt1(X1,X2) == -dt1(X2,X1)
```

```
Out[20]: True
```

The space Ω^n is a 1-dimensional space whose basis covector is the *Euclidean volume form* on \mathbb{U} .

```
In [21]: vol = U.diff_form(3,latex_name=r'\omega');  
vol[1,2,3] = 1;
```

```
In [22]: print(vol)
```

3-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold \mathbb{U}

```
In [23]: vol.display()
```

```
Out[23]:  $\omega = dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$ 
```

```
In [24]: vol(2*e[1],4*e[2],e[3])
```

```
Out[24]: Scalar field on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold  $\mathbb{U}$ 
```

```
In [25]: vol(2*e[1],4*e[2],e[3]).display()
```

```
Out[25]: 
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{U} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) &\longmapsto 8 \end{aligned}$$

```

```
In [26]: p=U.point((1,2,3))
```

```
In [27]: vol(2*e[1],4*e[2],e[3])(p)
```

```
Out[27]: 8
```

The volume form can be used to calculate the determinant of a linear transformation of $T\mathbb{U}$. By a linear transformation of $T\mathbb{U}$, we mean a linear transformation of each tangent space that varies smoothly between tangent spaces. We call such a map a *tangent-space automorphism field* on \mathbb{U} .

```
In [28]: A = U.automorphism_field('aut', latex_name=r'A');
A[e,:] = [[1,x,z],[0,3,y],[0,0,5]];
print(A)
A.display()
```

Field of tangent-space automorphisms aut on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

$$\text{Out[28]: } A = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \otimes dx + x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \otimes dy + z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \otimes dz + 3 \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \otimes dy + y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \otimes dz + 5 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \otimes dz$$

```
In [29]: A.display_comp()
```

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Out[29]: } A^x_x &= 1 \\ A^x_y &= x \\ A^x_z &= z \\ A^y_y &= 3 \\ A^y_z &= y \\ A^z_z &= 5\end{aligned}$$

```
In [30]: A[e,:]
```

$$\text{Out[30]: } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & z \\ 0 & 3 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
In [31]: detA = vol(A(e[1]),A(e[2]),A(e[3]));
detA.display()
```

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Out[31]: } \omega\left(A\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right), A\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right), A\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right)\right) : \quad \mathbb{U} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y, z) &\longmapsto 15\end{aligned}$$

Of course, in general the determinant depends on the point $p \in \mathbb{U}$.

```
In [32]: B = U.automorphism_field('B', latex_name=r'B');
B[e,:] = [[x,0,0],[0,y,0],[0,0,exp(z)]];
B.display()
```

$$\text{Out[32]: } B = x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \otimes dx + y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \otimes dy + e^z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \otimes dz$$

```
In [33]: B.display_comp()
```

```
Out[33]:  $B^x_x = x$   
 $B^y_y = y$   
 $B^z_z = e^z$ 
```

```
In [34]: B[e,:]
```

```
Out[34]:  $\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^z \end{pmatrix}$ 
```

```
In [35]: detB = vol(B(e[1]),B(e[2]),B(e[3]));  
detB.display()
```

```
Out[35]:  $\omega\left(B\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right), B\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right), B\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right)\right) : \mathbb{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $(x, y, z) \mapsto xye^z$ 
```

```
In [36]: p = U.point((1,1,1),chart=coord);  
detB(p)
```

```
Out[36]: e
```

```
In [37]: q = U.point((-1,1,0),chart=coord);  
detB(q)
```

```
Out[37]: -1
```

Finally, we discuss how to code the results of Exercise 1.6.9 in O'Neill's *Elementary Differential Geometry* book. For this we need a metric (think: Riesz Representation Theorem). We'll use the Euclidean metric, *a.k.a.* the dot product.

```
In [38]: g = U.riemannian_metric('g', latex_name=r'g');  
g[1,1] = g[2,2] = g[3,3] = 1;  
print(g)  
g.display()
```

Riemannian metric g on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[38]:  $g = dx \otimes dx + dy \otimes dy + dz \otimes dz$ 
```

```
In [39]: g.display_comp()
```

```
Out[39]:  $g_{xx} = 1$   
 $g_{yy} = 1$   
 $g_{zz} = 1$ 
```

The gradient of a function f is the vector field dual to the differential df . Changing a covector field to a vector field is known as *raising the indices*, so the Sage command is `.up()`.

```
In [40]: gradf = df.up(g);  
gradf.display()
```

```
Out[40]:  $2x\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - 2z^{\sin(y)} \cos(y) \log(z)\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + (-2z^{\sin(y)-1} \sin(y))\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$ 
```

```
In [41]: gradf.display_comp()
```

```
Out[41]:  $X^x = 2x$   
 $X^y = -2z^{\sin(y)} \cos(y) \log(z)$   
 $X^z = -2z^{\sin(y)-1} \sin(y)$ 
```

```
In [42]: df.display_comp()
```

```
Out[42]:  $X_x = 2x$   
 $X_y = -2z^{\sin(y)} \cos(y) \log(z)$   
 $X_z = -2z^{\sin(y)-1} \sin(y)$ 
```

The *curl* of a vector field X is the exterior derivative of the 1-form dual to X .

```
In [43]: phi_X1 = X1.down(g);
```

To save key strokes, we can import a shortcut for `.exterior_derivative()`.

```
In [44]: from sage.manifolds.utilities import xder
```

```
In [45]: d_phi_X1 = xder(phi_X1);
print(d_phi_X1)
d_phi_X1.display()
```

2-form on the 3-dimensional differentiable manifold U

```
Out[45]: -dx ∧ dy
```

```
In [46]: d_phi_X1 == phi_X1.exterior_derivative()
```

```
Out[46]: True
```

In terms of the basis of \mathfrak{X} , the curl of X_1 is:

```
In [47]: d_phi_X1_dual= d_phi_X1.up(g);
d_phi_X1_dual.display()
```

```
Out[47]: - $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ 
```

```
In [48]: curl_X1 = U.vector_field(latex_name=r"\mathrm{curl}(X_1)");
curl_X1[:] = [0,0,d_phi_X1[1,2]];
curl_X1.display()
```

```
Out[48]: \mathrm{curl}(X_1) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial z}
```

Recall X_1 and verify that this corresponds with the result you'd obtain from Calc III.

```
In [49]: X1.display()
```

```
Out[49]: X_1 = x $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - x\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + 2z\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$ 
```

Finally, the divergence of a vector field X is the coefficient of the 3-form $d(\eta_X) = (\mathrm{div}X) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$. Here, η_X is the 2-form corresponding to X as described in O'Neill's exercise.

```
In [50]: eta_X1 = U.diff_form(2,latex_name=r'\eta_{X_1}');
eta_X1[1,2] = X1[3];
eta_X1[1,3] = -X1[2];
eta_X1[2,3] = X1[1];
eta_X1.display()
```

Out[50]: $\eta_{X_1} = 2zdx \wedge dy + xdx \wedge dz + xdy \wedge dz$

```
In [51]: d_eta_X1 = xder(eta_X1);
d_eta_X1.display()
```

Out[51]: $d\eta_{X_1} = 3dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$

```
In [52]: div_X1 = d_eta_X1[1,2,3];
div_X1.display()
```

Out[52]: $(x, y, z) \mapsto 3$

```
In [53]: eta_X2 = U.diff_form(2,latex_name=r'\eta_{X_2}');
eta_X2[1,2] = X2[3];
eta_X2[1,3] = -X2[2];
eta_X2[2,3] = X2[1];
eta_X2.display()
```

Out[53]: $\eta_{X_2} = zdx \wedge dy + \sin(z)dx \wedge dz + \cos(z)dy \wedge dz$

```
In [54]: d_eta_X2 = xder(eta_X2);
d_eta_X2.display()
```

Out[54]: $d\eta_{X_2} = dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$

```
In [55]: div_X2 = d_eta_X2[1,2,3];
div_X2.display()
```

Out[55]: $(x, y, z) \mapsto 1$

The *Laplacian* of a function $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ is $\Delta f = \operatorname{div}(\operatorname{grad} f)$.

```
In [56]: eta_f = U.diff_form(2,latex_name=r'\eta_f');
eta_f[1,2] = gradf[3];
eta_f[1,3] = -gradf[2];
eta_f[2,3] = gradf[1];
eta_f.display()
```

Out[56]: $\eta_f = (-2z^{\sin(y)-1} \sin(y))dx \wedge dy + 2z^{\sin(y)} \cos(y)\log(z)dx \wedge dz + 2xydy \wedge dz$

```
In [57]: Laplacian_f = xder(eta_f)[1,2,3];
```

```
In [58]: Laplacian_f.display()
```

$$\text{Out[58]: } (x, y, z) \mapsto -\frac{2 \left(z^{\sin(y)+2} \cos(y)^2 \log(z)^2 - z^{\sin(y)+2} \log(z) \sin(y) + (\sin(y) \cos(y))^2 \right)}{z^2}$$

```
In []:
```