MA 229/MA 235 - Lecture 22

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Forms

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Recap

• Tensor fields and Riemannian metrics.

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- Elementary alternating tensors.

Change of top forms under a map

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Wedge product: Motivation

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- More generally, Theorem: For any two multi-indices I, J, $\epsilon^{I} \wedge \epsilon^{J} = \epsilon^{IJ}$.

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- Let $P = (p_1, \ldots, p_{k+l})$. We need to show that $\epsilon^l \wedge \epsilon^J(e_{p_1}, \ldots) = \epsilon^{lJ}(e_{p_1}, \ldots)$ for all P.
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 - $\begin{aligned} \epsilon^{I} \wedge \epsilon^{J}(e_{P}) &= \frac{1}{k! l!} \sum_{\sigma} sgn(\sigma) \epsilon^{I}(e_{p_{\sigma(1)}}, \dots, e_{p_{\sigma(k)}}) \epsilon^{J}(e_{p_{\sigma(k+1)}}, \dots). \end{aligned}$ The only surviving terms are of the type $\sigma = \tau \psi$.

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- If *P* has no repeated indices, and *P* = *IJ* (any permutation of it does not need to be checked), then $\epsilon^{IJ}(e_P) = 1$. For the LHS, $\epsilon^I \wedge \epsilon^J(e_P) = \frac{1}{k!I!} \sum_{\sigma} sgn(\sigma) \epsilon^I(e_{p_{\sigma(1)}}, \dots, e_{p_{\sigma(k)}}) \epsilon^J(e_{p_{\sigma(k+1)}}, \dots)$. The only surviving terms are of the type $\sigma = \pi \psi$. Thus

$$\epsilon^{I} \wedge \epsilon^{J}(e_{P}) = \frac{1}{k! l!} \sum_{\tau} sgn(\tau) \epsilon^{I}(e_{\tau(I)}) \sum_{\psi} sgn(\psi) \epsilon^{J}(e_{\psi(J)}) = 1$$
(why?)

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Forms

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- We can define the wedge product of forms. Moreover, functions are treated as 0-forms. *f* ∧ η = *f* η if *f* is a function.

Pullback and wedge product

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Pullback and wedge product

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• Suppose $F : M \to N$ is smooth. We can define the pullback as follows: If ω is a k-form field on N, $F^*\omega$ is a k-form field on M

Suppose F : M → N is smooth. We can define the pullback as follows: If ω is a k-form field on N, F^{*}ω is a k-form field on M such that (F^{*}ω)_p(v₁,...) = ω_{F(p)}((F_{*})_p(v₁),...).

- Suppose F : M → N is smooth. We can define the pullback as follows: If ω is a k-form field on N, F*ω is a k-form field on M such that (F*ω)_p(v₁,...) = ω_{F(p)}((F_{*})_p(v₁),...).
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- For *k*-forms, the pullback is \mathbb{R} -linear (why?).
- $F^*(\omega \wedge \eta) = F^*\omega \wedge F^*\eta$ (why?)
- Using this property, we can calculate pullbacks for several examples.

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Pullback for top-forms

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Pullback for top-forms

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Forms

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Forms

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Forms

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- In particular, $d\tilde{x}^1 \wedge \ldots = \det(\frac{\partial \tilde{x}^i}{\partial x^j}) dx^1 \wedge \ldots$

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