

Recall: derivatives on \mathbb{R} : $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$

$$x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow f'(x) := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\varepsilon) - f(x)}{\varepsilon}$$

Q. Generalize to \mathbb{R}^n ? $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ "tangent space at x "

A. Directional derivatives: $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ $v \in T_x \mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^n$

$$(d_v f)_x := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\varepsilon v) - f(x)}{\varepsilon} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Think of tangent vectors as "directions to take derivative in"; in multivariable calc. we pick a basis for $T_x \mathbb{R}^n$ and consider partial derivatives, but it's more natural just to consider all directions when defining derivative of f :

$$(df)_x : T_x \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{linear map}$$
$$v \mapsto (d_v f)_x$$

i.e. $(df)_x \in \mathcal{L}(T_x \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) =: T_x^* \mathbb{R}^n$

"cotangent space"

Lastly, at each $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ associate the derivative of f :

$$df: (x \in \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow T_x^* \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{Codomain is "dependent" on } x$$

$$x \mapsto (df)_x$$

Def. (cotangent bundle)

$$T^* \mathbb{R}^n := \bigsqcup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} T_x^* \mathbb{R}^n + \text{a topology}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{proj.} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{R}^n & & (x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \phi \in T_x^* \mathbb{R}^n) \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & x \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow df: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow T^* \mathbb{R}^n$ "section", i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^* \mathbb{R}^n & & \\ \uparrow \downarrow & \text{identity, or } & x \mapsto (x, 0_x) \mapsto x \\ \mathbb{R}^n & & \end{array}$$

Def. $M \in \text{SmMfld}$ locally $\mathbb{R}^n + \text{properties}$

Differential 1-forms :=

$\{ \text{sm. sections of the cotangent bundle} \}$

\Rightarrow Denote $\Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$

Differential k -forms are obtained "formally".
 $\Omega^k(M)$.

Ex. Define $x: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $(a, b) \mapsto a$

$$\Rightarrow dx \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

$dx \wedge dy \in \Omega^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$ "volume form"

Def/Thm. (de Rham complex)

$\exists!$ d \mathbb{R} -linear st

$$C^\infty(M) =: \Omega^0(M) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(M) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(M) \xrightarrow{d} \dots$$

st 1) $f \mapsto df$

2) $d^2 = 0$

3) $d(\alpha \wedge \beta) = d\alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^p(\alpha \wedge d\beta)$

w/ $p = \deg \alpha$.

Ex. $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}) \cong C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$
 $f \mapsto f'$

kernel: $df \equiv 0 \Rightarrow f$ constant
 "closed"

$C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathbb{R})$
 $\int_0^x g \xrightarrow{I} g$ "exact"

$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \hookrightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow 0$

"short exact sequence"

de Rham cohomology: studies the failure of the de Rham complex to be exact.

Thm. (de Rham) $M \in \text{SmMfld}$

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

$\omega \in \Omega^k(M) \quad [\omega] \mapsto ([C] \mapsto \int_C \omega)$

$C: \Delta^k \rightarrow M$
 closed singular k -chain