

Title: Mathematical Physics Lecture - 230110

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Collection: Mathematical Physics (2022/2023)

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Today: differential forms

Abuse of notation

covariant tensor

forms

covariant tensor \rightarrow acts on vectors

covariant tensor field \rightarrow acts on vector fields?

$$T: m \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto (m, X_m) \in T^{0,s} M$$

covariant tensor \rightarrow acts on vectors

covariant tensor field \rightarrow acts on vector fields?

$$T: m \in M \mapsto (m, X_m) \in T^{0,s} M$$

$$T(X_1, \dots, X_s)$$

$$X_i: M \rightarrow TM \quad i=1, \dots, s$$

vector fields

tensor \rightarrow acts on vectors

$$T: T_m M \times T_m M \times \dots \times T_m M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

or field \rightarrow acts on vector fields?

$$(m, X_m) \in T^{0,s} M$$

$$i=1, \dots, s$$

$$T(X_1, \dots, X_s)$$

tensor \rightarrow acts on vectors

$$T: T_m M \times T_m M \times \dots \times T_m M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

tensor field \rightarrow acts on vector fields?

$$(m, X_m) \in T^{0,s} M$$

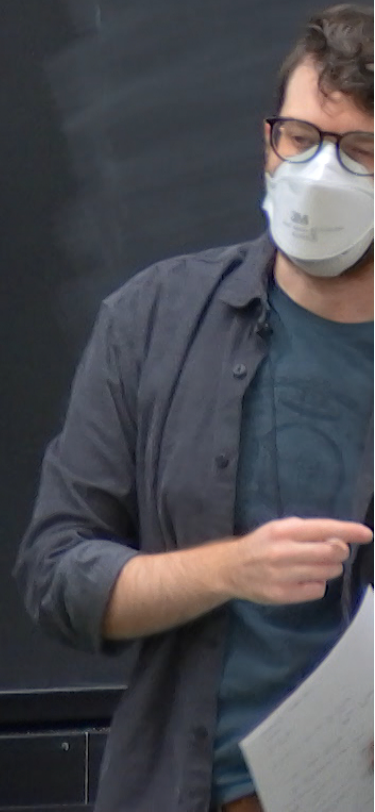
$$i=1, \dots, s$$

$T(X_1, \dots, X_s)$ smooth map

$$m \mapsto T_m((X_1)_m, \dots, (X_s)_m)$$

Differential forms

A k -form is a tensor field of rank $(0, k)$
which is totally antisymmetric



$\text{rank}(0, k)$

if $\sigma \in S_k$

↓
Symmetric group

set of all permutations
of $\{1, \dots, k\}$

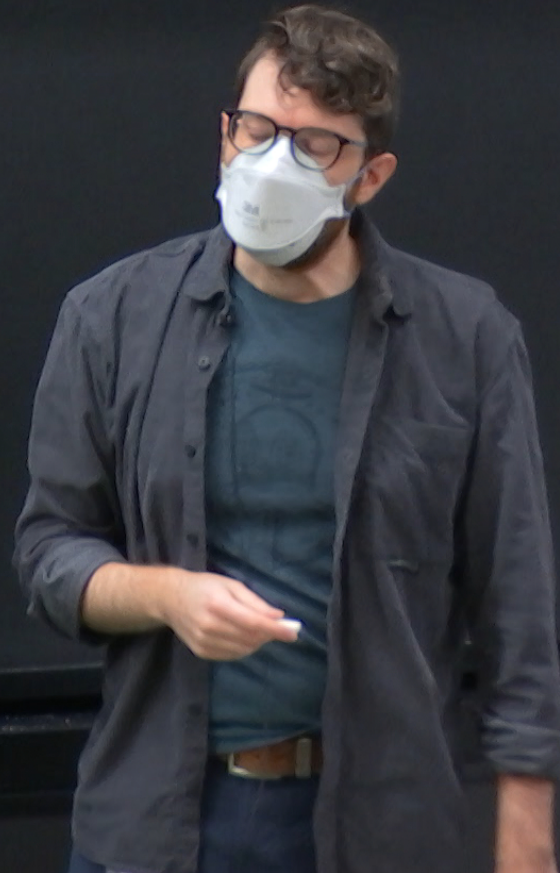
$$\omega(X_{\sigma_1}, \dots, X_{\sigma_k}) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \omega(X_1, \dots, X_k)$$

\downarrow
k-form

$$\begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$\Omega^k(M)$ set of all k -forms

$$\Omega^0(M) \equiv C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$$



x^i)

\int
 d

$\Omega^k(M)$ set of all k -forms

$$\Omega^0(M) \equiv C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$$

if $(U, (x^i))$ $W = W_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \otimes dx^{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$

$\Omega^k(M)$ set of all k -forms

$$\Omega^0(M) \equiv C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$$

if $(U, (x^i))$ $W = \underbrace{w_{i_1 \dots i_k}}_{\text{circled}} dx^{i_1} \otimes dx^{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$

$\Omega^k(M)$ set of all k -forms

$$dx \otimes dy \neq dy \otimes dx$$

$$\Omega^0(M) \equiv C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$$

if $(U, (x^i))$

$$w = (w_{i_1 \dots i_k}) dx^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$$

antisymmetric in the indices

Wedge product $\wedge : \Omega^p(M) \times \Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+q}(M)$

$$dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k} = \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_2}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}}$$

$$\omega = \omega_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \omega_{\sigma_{i_1} \dots \sigma_{i_k}} dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}}$$

vector fields

dge product $\wedge : \Omega^p(M) \times \Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+q}(M)$

$$dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k} = \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_2}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}}$$

$$W = W_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} W_{\sigma_{i_1} \dots \sigma_{i_k}} dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}} = \frac{1}{k!} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) W_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}} \right)$$

vector fields

im(V) / p

$$\Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+q}(M)$$

α, β forms

$\alpha \otimes \beta$ not a form (just a tensor)

$$\sigma) dx^{\sigma_{11}} \otimes dx^{\sigma_{12}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{1k}}$$

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{\sigma_{11}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{1k}} = \frac{1}{k!} w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

vector fields

$\dim(V) = n$

$$\Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+q}(M)$$

α, β forms

$\alpha \otimes \beta$ not a form (just a tensor)

$$\sigma) dx^{\sigma_{11}} \otimes dx^{\sigma_{12}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{1k}}$$

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{\sigma_{11}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{1k}} = \frac{1}{k!} w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

α, β forms

$\alpha \otimes \beta$ not a form (just a tensor)

in 2D

$$dx \wedge dx = 0$$

$$\boxed{dx \wedge dy = -dy \wedge dx}$$

chose $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$

$$\frac{1}{k!} \omega_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

α, β forms

$\alpha \otimes \beta$ not a form (just a tensor)

$$\frac{1}{k!} \omega_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

in 2D

$$dx \wedge dx = 0$$

$$dx \wedge dy = -dy \wedge dx$$

choose $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$

$\{1, \dots, n\}$

in 2D

$$dx \wedge dx = 0$$

$$\boxed{dx \wedge dy} = -dy \wedge dx$$

chose $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$

$\{1, \dots, n\}$

$$\omega(X_{\sigma_1}, \dots, X_{\sigma_k}) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \omega(X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_k})$$

\downarrow k -form

$\binom{n}{k}$ independent

$$dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k} = -dx^{i_2} \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

$$\begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

vector fields

$$\Omega^p(M) \times \Omega^q(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+q}(M)$$

α, β forms

$\alpha \otimes \beta$ not a form (just a tensor)

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_2}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}}$$

$$dx^{\sigma_{i_1 \dots i_k}} = \frac{1}{k!} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{\sigma_{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\sigma_{i_k}} \right)$$

$\frac{1}{k!} w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$

$$\omega(x_{\sigma_1}, \dots, x_{\sigma_k}) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \omega(x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

\downarrow \downarrow
 k -form

$\binom{n}{k}$ independent

$$dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

$$\begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k} w_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

$$\Omega^k(M)$$

$$\Omega^0(M)$$

if $(U, (x^i))$

$$\langle \sigma_n \rangle = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \omega(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

↓

$\begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is even} \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \omega_{i_1, \dots, i_k} dx^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$$

$\Omega^k(M)$ set of all k -forms

$$\Omega^0(M) \equiv C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$$

if $(U, (x^i))$

$$\omega = (\omega_{i_1, \dots, i_k}) dx^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{i_k}$$

↓ totally antisymmetric

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}$$

$\alpha = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}$
 $\beta = \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p} \wedge dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}$$



x^{ip}

x^{jq}

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} \underbrace{dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}}_p \wedge \underbrace{dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}}_q$$

$$\alpha = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}$$

$$\beta = \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}$$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p} \wedge dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}$$

$$F^{-1}: N \rightarrow M$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\in \Omega^k(N) \\ &\in \Omega^s(N) \end{aligned}$$

$$F^*(\alpha \wedge \beta) = (F^*\alpha) \wedge (F^*\beta)$$

top forms (n -forms)

$(n+1)$ -form $\rightarrow 0$

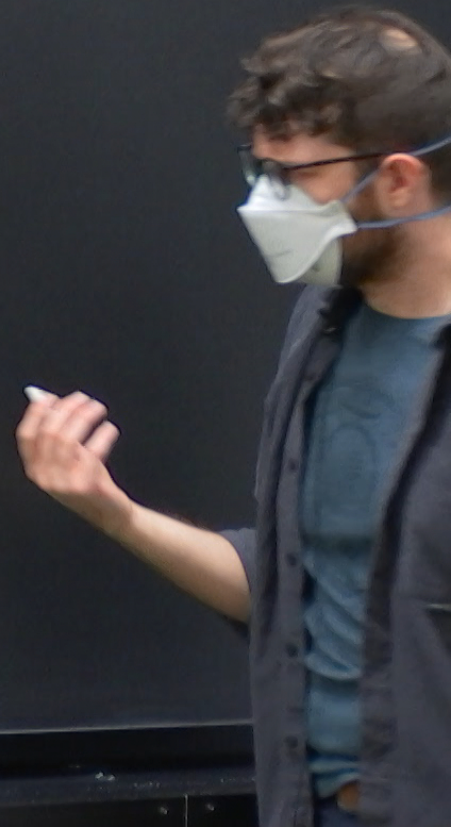
$$dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_{n+1}} = 0$$

$$\boxed{h = \dim(M)} \quad \binom{n}{n} = 1$$

ω n -form

"
 $f dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_n}$

f function $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



ω n-form

"
 $f dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$

f function $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

change coordinates $x \rightarrow y$

$$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n = \left(\frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^1} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^n} \right) dy^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy^n$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{\sigma(1)}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{\sigma(n)}}$$

ω n-form

$$f dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$$

f function $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

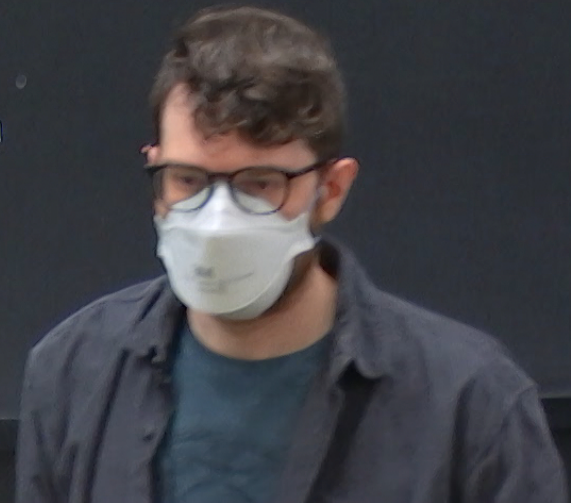
$$\left(\frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^i} dy^i \right) \wedge \left(\frac{\partial x^2}{\partial y^j} dy^j \right) \wedge \dots$$

change coordinates $x \rightarrow y$

$$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n = \left(\frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^i} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^i} \right) (dy^i \wedge \dots \wedge dy^i)$$

$$= \sum_{i_1 \neq i_2 \neq \dots \neq i_n} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{i_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{i_n}} dy^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{i_n}$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n}$$



$$\beta = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \beta_{j_1 \dots j_q} \underbrace{dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}}_p \wedge \underbrace{dx^{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{j_q}}_q$$

$N \rightarrow M$

$$F = F_{uv} dx^u \otimes dx^v$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) F_{uv} dx^u \wedge dx^v$$

$$dx \wedge dy = dx \otimes dy - dy \otimes dx$$

change coordinates $x \rightarrow y$

$$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n = \left(\frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{i_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{i_n}} \right) dy^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{i_n}$$

$$= \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_n} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{i_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{i_n}} dy^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{i_n}$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{\sigma_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{\sigma_n}} dy^{\sigma_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{\sigma_n}$$

$$\text{sgn}(\sigma) dy^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy^n$$

$dy^{i_2} \wedge \dots$

ω n-form

$$f dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$$

f function $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\left(\frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^i} dy^i \right) \wedge \left(\frac{\partial x^2}{\partial y^j} dy^j \right) \wedge \dots$$

change coordinates $x \rightarrow y$

$$dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n = \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^i} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^j} (dy^i \wedge \dots \wedge dy^j)$$

$$= \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{i_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{i_n}} dy^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{i_n}$$

$\{1, 2, 3\}$
 $\frac{1, 2, 3}{2, 1, 3}$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial y^{\sigma_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^n}{\partial y^{\sigma_n}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) (dy^{\sigma_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dy^{\sigma_n})$$

Exterior derivative

$$d: \Omega^k(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$$

$$f \in \Omega^0(M)$$

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i$$

Exterior derivative

$$d: \Omega^k(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$$

$$f \in \Omega^0(M)$$

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i$$

$$(df(X) = Xf)$$

$$\alpha = a_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k}$$

$$d\alpha = \frac{\partial a_{i_1 \dots i_k}}{\partial x^j} (dx^j \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_k})$$

$$\rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$$

$$df(x) = (Xf)$$

$$X = X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

$$Xf = X^i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}$$

$$X^i \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \right)$$

Properties

• d linear

$$\rightarrow \Omega^{k+1}(M)$$

$$df(x) = (Xf)$$

$$X^i \left(\frac{df}{\partial x^i} \right)$$

$$X = X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

$$Xf = X^i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}$$

Properties

- d linear
- $\alpha \in \Omega^p, \beta \in \Omega^q$

Properties

- d linear
- $\alpha \in \Omega^p, \beta \in \Omega^q, \quad d(\alpha \wedge \beta) = d\alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^p \alpha \wedge d\beta$
- $d^2 = 0 \quad d(d\alpha) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha \in \Omega^k$
- $F^*(d\alpha) = d(F^*\alpha)$

$$x^i : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

chart component of chart

↓

0-form

$$dx^i$$

1-form

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{|||} \\ \hline \textcircled{dx^i} \end{array}$$

$$d(dx^i) = 0 \rightarrow \text{2-form}$$

$$\alpha \in \Omega^k(M)$$

α is closed if $d\alpha = 0$ (top forms are always closed)

α is exact if $\alpha = d\beta$ for some $\beta \in \Omega^{k-1}(M)$

exact \Rightarrow closed

$$\alpha = d\beta \Rightarrow d\alpha = d^2\beta = 0$$

1-forms can be integrated over curves (1)

$$M = [a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$$

$w \in$

$$= f dt$$

charts.

$$t: x \in (a, b) \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{R}$$

+ other charts to cover

$$\int_{[a,b]} w = \int_a^b f(t) dt$$

1-forms can be integrated over curves (1)

$$M = [a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$$

$$\omega \in \Omega^1(M)$$

$$\rightarrow \omega|_{(a,b)} = f dt$$

charts.

$$t: x \in (a, b) \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{R}$$

+ other charts to cover

$$\int_{[a,b]} \omega = \int_a^b f(t) dt$$

can be integrated over curves (1)

\mathbb{R}

charts. $t: x \in (a, b) \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{R}$

+ other charts to cover endpoints

$f dt$

$$\int_{[a,b]} \omega = \int_a^b f(t) dt$$

M arbitrary manifold

$\gamma: t \in [a, b] \rightarrow \gamma(t) \in M$ smooth

$\omega \in \Omega^1(M)$

$$\gamma^* \omega|_{(a,b)} = f dt$$

$$\int_{\gamma} \omega = \int_{[a,b]} \gamma^* \omega = \int_a^b f(t) dt$$

(ex)

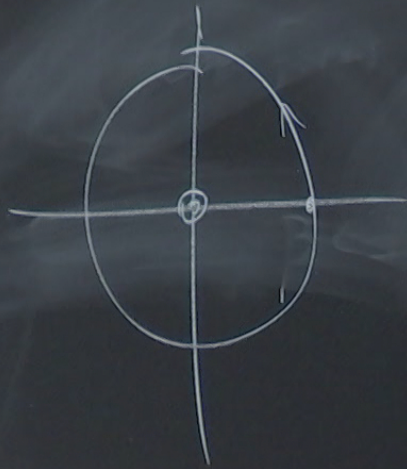
$$M = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$$

$$w = \frac{x dy - y dx}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$dw = 0$
closed

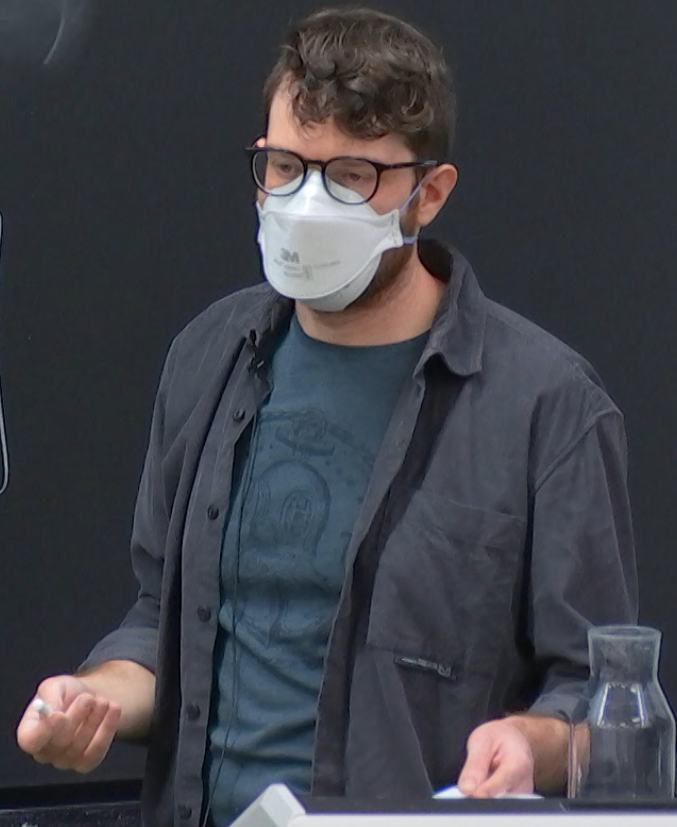
$$\gamma: t \in [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow (\cos t, \sin t) \in M$$

$$\gamma: t \in [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow (\cos t, \sin t) \in M$$



$$\gamma(0) = \gamma(2\pi)$$

if $\omega = df$
then $\int_{\gamma} df = 0$



$$\gamma^* \omega = \frac{(\gamma^* x)(\gamma^* dy) - (\gamma^* y)(\gamma^* dx)}{\gamma^* x^2 + \gamma^* y^2}$$

$$\gamma^* \omega = \gamma^* \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \gamma^*(dy) - \gamma^* \left(\frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \gamma^*(dx)$$

integrated over

charts.

$$\gamma^* \omega = \gamma^* \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \wedge \gamma^* \left(\frac{dy}{y} \right)$$

0-form 1-form

$$\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{2xy}{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\int_{[0, 2\pi]} \omega =$$

$$\gamma^* \omega = \gamma^* \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \wedge \gamma^* (dy) - \gamma^* \left(\frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \gamma^* (dx)$$

0-form
1-form

$$= \frac{\cos t}{\cos^2(t) + \sin^2(t)} d(\gamma^* y) - \frac{\sin t}{\cos^2(t) + \sin^2(t)} d(\gamma^* x)$$

$$= \cos t \, d(\sin t) - \sin t \, d(\cos t) = (\cos t)^2 + \sin^2(t) = 1$$

$$dy) - \gamma \left(\frac{g}{x^2 + g^2} \right) \gamma(dx)$$

↓
1-form

$$\frac{\sin t}{(\cos t)^2 + \sin^2(t)} d(\gamma x)$$

$$d(\alpha t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\cos t)^2 + \sin^2(t)}} dt$$

$$\gamma^* \omega = dt$$

$$\int_{[0, 2\pi)} \gamma^* \omega = \int_0^{2\pi} dt = 2\pi \neq 0$$

$\alpha = d\beta$

