

New chapter - integration to produce signed volume where sign \pm depends on orientation. On curve, two clear choices of orientation: e.g. circle has clockwise/counterclockwise. What about surface? Less clear. Roughly - linearize to consider tangent hyperplanes at each point, and attach orientation to tangent hyperplanes (i.e. k -vector spaces in \mathbb{R}^n) according to choice of basis. Subtle.

Also need new objects to integrate, that are responsive to this orientation. With absolute volume $|d^k x|$ or $|\det T| \cdot |d^k x|$

and $|\det(T)|$ not sensitive to swapping of rows.

Some fixes: ① $\det(T)$ is sensitive to swapping of rows. changes by -1 as we'd like.

② if manifold is parametrized: $\gamma: U \rightarrow M$ then γ indicates an orientation. Think again about unit circle: $\begin{bmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{bmatrix}$: counterclockwise

$\begin{bmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{bmatrix}$: clockwise. Turns out same is true in higher dimensions.

Expanding on ①, what is it about \det that makes it respect orientation is antisymmetric. (also want it to be linear in each component.)

Definition: A k -form on \mathbb{R}^n is a function

$$\phi: (\mathbb{R}^n)^k \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{with}$$

k -vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

- linear in each factor
- antisymmetric.

if $k = n$, then these are precisely our earlier defining properties of determinant.

if $k > n$, then any k vectors are linearly dependent.

write, say $\vec{v}_k = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{v}_i$. Then k -form takes

$$\phi(v_1, \dots, v_k) = \phi(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i v_i) \stackrel{\text{linearity}}{=} \sum_i c_i \underbrace{\phi(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_i)}_{=0}$$

So there are no nonzero k forms if $k > n$.

" 0 since anti-symmetry says switching i th position and k th position produces neg. sign. On other hand, both have v_i 's as component.

if $k < n$, might try

$$\sqrt{\det(v_1, \dots, v_k)^T (v_1, \dots, v_k)}$$

Doomed to fail since always positive so can't be antisymmetric.

(also fails to be linear in variables. Try to check this)

Given k vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , arrange them in matrix as usual:

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} n \text{ rows} \\ \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_k \\ | & & | \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right\}$$

How can we produce scalar-valued antisymmetric, multilinear function?

Ans.: Select k rows and take determinant.

e.g. $k=3, n=7$ could select any three rows in $1, 2, \dots, 7$

We have funny notation for this which will be clearer later. For now, just

use it. $dx_1 \wedge dx_4 \wedge dx_5$: pick rows 1, 4, 5. Order matters.

So 4, 1, 5 with notation $dx_4 \wedge dx_1 \wedge dx_5 = -dx_1 \wedge dx_4 \wedge dx_5$.
 (meaning select row 4 first, etc.)

e.g.
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 7 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 then $dx_1 \wedge dx_4 \wedge dx_5 (v_1, v_2, v_3)$

$$= \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= -5 \cdot 4 + 6 \cdot 2 = \boxed{-8}$$

v_1, v_2, v_3

What have we done geometrically? call them i_1, \dots, i_k .

selecting k rows means taking a projection from $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$

where subspace \mathbb{R}^k is spanned by basis e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_k}

Then compute area of the k -parallelogram obtained in projection.

e.g. $k=2, n=3$

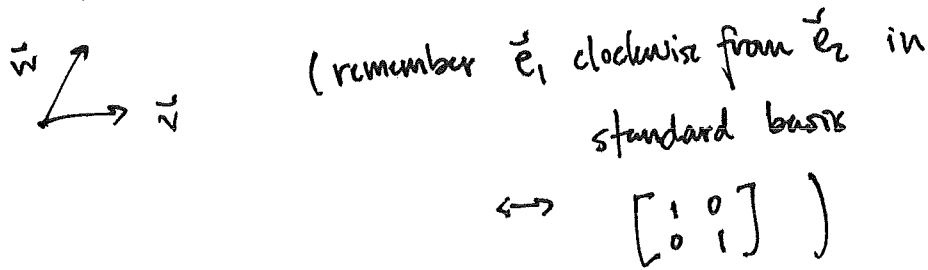
$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1 & w_1 \\ v_2 & w_2 \\ v_3 & w_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ mapped by } dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \text{ to } \det \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & w_1 \\ v_2 & w_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Even better, it is the signed area of parallelogram.

1-forms = signed length (degenerate parallelogram)

↑
area of //ogram
in x_1-x_2
plane

For parallelograms, get positive answer if \vec{v} lies clockwise from \vec{w} .



What is the structure of the set of k -forms? Are we missing some?

No. : refer to forms with $dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$ with $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k$ as "elementary k -forms". We can add and scalar multiply k forms and get another k -form. (i.e. - they form a vector space.)

claim : elementary k -forms are a basis for space of k -forms on \mathbb{R}^n .

Even stronger : Given k -form ϕ , we can write

rather, more specific.

$$\phi = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \underbrace{a_{i_1, \dots, i_k}}_{\phi(e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_k})} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

Hence dimension of space of k -forms in \mathbb{R}^n is "n choose k"

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$