

Contraction

Recall If \vec{X} is a vector field on a region $R \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and σ is a k -form defined on R , the **contraction** $\iota(\vec{X})\sigma$ is a $k-1$ form defined by

$$(\iota(\vec{X})\sigma)(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1}) = \sigma(\vec{X}, \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1})$$

for any vector fields $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$.

Note If σ is a 1-form $\iota(\vec{X})\sigma = \sigma(\vec{X})$ is a function.

Example $\sigma = x^2 dx + (x+y)dy + (z+y)dz$

$$\vec{X} = \sin y \vec{i} + \cos y \vec{j} + \tan z \vec{k}$$

Then $\iota(\vec{X})\sigma = x^2 dx(\vec{X}) + (x+y) dy(\vec{X}) + (z+y) dz(\vec{X}) =$
 $= x^2 \sin y + (x+y) \cos y + (z+y) \tan z.$

Theorem For any 1-forms $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k$ and any vector field \vec{X}

$$\iota(\vec{X})\alpha_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_k = \alpha_1(\vec{X})\alpha_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_k - \alpha_2(\vec{X})\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_3 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_k +$$

$$+ \alpha_3(\vec{X})\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2 \wedge \alpha_4 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_k - \dots$$

Exercises Compute the following contractions:

1) $\iota(-y\vec{i} + x\vec{j}) \left(\frac{y}{x^2+y^2} dx - \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} dy \right)$

2) $\iota(x\vec{i} + y\vec{j}) dx \wedge dy$

3) $\iota(x^2\vec{i} + y^2\vec{j} + z^2\vec{k}) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$

4) $\iota(P\vec{i} + Q\vec{j} + R\vec{k}) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$. Does the answer look familiar?

5) $\iota(x_1\vec{e}_1 + x_2\vec{e}_2 + x_3\vec{e}_3 + x_4\vec{e}_4) dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \wedge dx_3 \wedge dx_4$

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②

For any map $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $F(u_1, \dots, u_n) = (x_1(u_1, \dots, u_n), x_2(u_1, \dots, u_n), \dots, x_n(u_1, \dots, u_n))$

$$F^*(dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n) = f(u_1, \dots, u_n) du_1 \wedge \dots \wedge du_n$$

for some function f . [It turns out that $f(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \frac{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, \dots, u_n)}$]

F is **orientation-preserving** if $f(u_1, \dots, u_n) > 0$ for all (u_1, \dots, u_n) . Check to see if the following maps are orientation-preserving:

1. $F(u_1, u_2) = (u_1 + u_2, u_1 - u_2)$

2. $F(u_1, u_2) = (u_1 \cos u_2, u_1 \sin u_2)$ defined on $\mathbb{R} = \{(u_1, u_2) \mid u_1 > 0\}$

3. $F(u_1, u_2) = (e^{u_1} \cos u_2, e^{u_1} \sin u_2, u_3 + u_1^2)$

4. $F(u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) = (u_1 - u_2, u_2 - u_3, u_3 - u_4, u_4 - u_1)$

Recall the change of variables formula:

$$(*) \int_{\dots} \int_{v=F(u)} a(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n = \int_{\dots} \int_u a(x_1(u_1, \dots, u_n), \dots, x_n(u_1, \dots, u_n)) \left| \frac{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, \dots, u_n)} \right| du_1 \wedge \dots \wedge du_n$$

If F is orientation-preserving, $(*)$ becomes

$$\int_{\dots} \int_{F(u)} a(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n = \int_{\dots} \int_u F^*(a dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_n)$$

Or, even more succinctly, $\int_{F(u)} \sigma = \int_u F^* \sigma$ for any n -form σ

1. Compute $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{\frac{x-y}{x+y}} dx \wedge dy$, where $\mathbb{R} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \begin{matrix} x \geq 0 \\ y \geq 0 \\ x+y \leq 1 \end{matrix}\}$

2. Compute $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \sin(x+y) \cos(x-2y) dx \wedge dy$ where

$$\mathbb{R} = \{(x, y) \mid x-3 < 2y < x, -x < y < 3-x\}.$$