

Example of a pullback

$$Q(r, \theta) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) \quad \leftarrow \text{2-surface in } \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\omega = (x^2 + y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} dx \wedge dy \in \Omega^2 \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{2-form in } \mathbb{R}^2$$

To calculate the pullback: substitute $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$:

$$\begin{aligned} Q^* \omega &= ((r \cos \theta)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} d(r \cos \theta) \wedge d(r \sin \theta) \\ &= (r^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} (\cos \theta dr - r \sin \theta d\theta) \wedge (\sin \theta dr + r \cos \theta d\theta) \\ &= r^3 [r \cos^2 \theta + r \sin^2 \theta] dr \wedge d\theta \\ &= r^3 \cdot \underbrace{r}_{\text{stretching factor!}} dr \wedge d\theta \\ &= r^4 dr \wedge d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Formal definition of pullback

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Def. If $Q: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a k -surface in $\mathbb{R}^n$ and $\omega \in \Omega^k \mathbb{R}^n$, define the **pullback of ω along Q** ,

denoted $Q^* \omega \in \Omega^k D$ as follows:

$$\omega = \sum_I f_I dx_I \quad \text{where the sum is over } I = (i_1, \dots, i_k),$$

$$f_I = f_I(x_1, \dots, x_n), \text{ and } dx_I := dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } Q^* \omega &:= \sum_I f \circ Q \, d\phi_I \quad \leftarrow \text{This is notation for} \\ &:= \sum_I f(\phi_1(u), \dots, \phi_n(u)) \, d\phi_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\phi_{i_k} \end{aligned}$$

In other words, set $x_i = \phi_i$, the i^{th} component of Q , and substitute into ω .

Special case: If Q is a 0-surface, then

$Q: \mathbb{R}^0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. Say $Q(1) = p \in \mathbb{R}^n$. If $\omega \in \Omega^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then

$Q^*\omega = 0$ unless $k=0$, in which case $\omega = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, a function on $\mathbb{R}^n$. In the latter case, $Q^*\omega = Q^*f := f(p)$. So the pullback of a 0-form is just evaluation.

Example

$$Q: \mathbb{R}^0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$1 \mapsto (1, 3, -2)$$

$$Q^*(x dx \wedge dy + dy \wedge dz) = 1 \cdot d(1) \wedge d(3) + d(3) \wedge d(-2) = 0$$

and $Q^*(\underbrace{x^2 + y^2}_{0\text{-form}}) = 1^2 + 3^2 = 10$.

Integrating a k -form along a k -surface

③

If $\varphi: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ w/ $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$, and $\omega \in \Omega^k \mathbb{R}^n$,

define

$$\int_{\varphi} \omega = \int_D \varphi^* \omega.$$

Special case: For a constant $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, define $\int_{\mathbb{R}^0} \lambda = \lambda$. Hence, if φ is a 0-surface with $\varphi(1) = p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and f is a function on $\mathbb{R}^n$, then $\int_{\varphi} f = \int_{\mathbb{R}^0} \varphi^* f = \int_{\mathbb{R}^0} f(p) = f(p)$.

Example

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi: [0, 2\pi] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, & \omega &= y dx - x dy \in \Omega^1 \mathbb{R}^2 \\ t &\mapsto (\cos t, \sin t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\varphi} \omega &= \int_{\varphi} y dx - x dy = \int_{[0, 2\pi]} \sin t d(\cos t) - \cos t d(\sin t) \\ &= \int_{[0, 2\pi]} (-\sin^2 t - \cos^2 t) dt = \int_{[0, 2\pi]} -1 dt = -2\pi \end{aligned}$$

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Example

$$Q: [0,1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad \omega = dx \wedge dy + y dx \wedge dz$$

$$(u,v) \mapsto (u, v, u^2 + v^2)$$

$$\int_Q \omega = \int_{[0,1]^2} Q^* \omega = \int_{[0,1]^2} du \wedge dv + v du \wedge d(u^2 + v^2)$$

$$= \int_{[0,1]^2} du \wedge dv + v du \wedge (2u du + 2v dv)$$

$$= \int_{[0,1]^2} du \wedge dv + 2v^2 du \wedge dv = \int_{[0,1]^2} (1 + 2v^2) du \wedge dv$$

def. of integral of a 2-form over a region in $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\stackrel{\downarrow}{=} \int_{[0,1]^2} (1 + 2v^2) = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (1 + 2v^2) du dv = 1 + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{5}{3}.$$

Example

$$Q: (t) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4, \quad \omega = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2.$$

$$Q(t) = (3, 0, 2, -1)$$

$$\int_Q \omega = \int_{\mathbb{R}^0} 3^2 + 0^2 + 2^2 + (-1)^2 = 14.$$

Prop. Let $Q: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a k -surface in $\mathbb{R}^n$ and let $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq n$. Let $I = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$

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So $dx_I \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$, and define JQ_I to be the $k \times k$ submatrix of the Jacobian of Q formed by taking all k columns but only rows $i_1, \dots, i_k$:

$$JQ_I = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow i_1 \\ \leftarrow i_2 \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow i_k \end{matrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow \\ \frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1} & & \frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_k} \end{matrix}$

$$\text{Then } Q^* dx_I = \det JQ_I \, du_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge du_{i_k}.$$

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Example

$$Q(u, v) = (\cos u, \sin v, uv, 2u+3v) \in \mathbb{R}^4$$

$$JQ = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin u & 0 \\ 0 & \cos v \\ v & u \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} dx_1 \\ dx_2 \\ dx_3 \\ dx_4 \end{matrix}$$

coordinates $x_1, \dots, x_4$

$$I = (2, 4), \quad dx_I = dx_2 \wedge dx_4, \quad JQ_I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos v \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

By the def. of the pullback

$$\begin{aligned} Q^* dx_I &= Q^*(dx_2 \wedge dx_4) \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} d(\sin v) \wedge d(2u+3v) \\ &= (\cos v dv) \wedge (2du+3dv) \\ &= -2 \cos v du \wedge dv \end{aligned}$$

By the Proposition: $Q^* dx_I = \det JQ_I du \wedge dv = \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos v \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} du \wedge dv$

$$= -2 \cos v du \wedge dv. \quad \checkmark$$

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Example With $Q(u,v) = (\cos u, \sin v, uv, 2u+3v) \in \mathbb{R}^4$,
 as above but with $\omega = x_3 dx_1 \wedge dx_3 + x_1 x_2 dx_2 \wedge dx_3$,
 compute $Q^* \omega$.

Solution / The Jacobian is $JQ = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin u & 0 \\ 0 & \cos v \\ v & u \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} dx_1 \\ dx_2 \\ dx_3 \\ dx_4 \end{matrix}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q^* \omega &= uv \det \begin{bmatrix} -\sin u & 0 \\ v & u \end{bmatrix} du \wedge dv + \cos u \sin v \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos v \\ v & u \end{bmatrix} du \wedge dv \\
 &= -u^2 v \sin u \, du \wedge dv - v \cos u \cos v \sin v \, du \wedge dv \\
 &= [-u^2 v \sin u - v \cos u \cos v \sin v] du \wedge dv.
 \end{aligned}$$