

# Problem Set 6: Calculus on Manifolds II

## 1 Electromagnetism (30 points)

The electromagnetic field strength two form is

$$F = -\frac{1}{2}F_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu, \tag{1}$$

with coordinates  $(x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) \equiv (t, x, y, z)$ , and metric  $g = dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2$  (here, I am using the sloppy notation  $dt^2 \equiv dt \otimes dt$  etc., and adopting the mostly minus metric convention, which necessitates the unfortunate minus sign above). In terms of the components of the usual electric and magnetic fields,

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & E_x & E_y & E_z \\ -E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ -E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ -E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2}$$

Furthermore, let the one-form current  $J = \rho dt - j_x dx - j_y dy - j_z dz$ , where  $\rho, \vec{j}$  are the usual charge density and current density vector respectively. Note that we can write

$$F = -E_x dt \wedge dx - E_y dt \wedge dy - E_z dt \wedge dz + B_z dx \wedge dy - B_y dx \wedge dz + B_x dy \wedge dz. \tag{3}$$

- (a) Show that  $dF = 0$  is equivalent to the two homogeneous Maxwell equations. Notice that if we introduce  $A$  such that  $F = dA$ , then the homogeneous Maxwell equations are automatically satisfied.

**SOLUTION:**

We have

$$dF = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\alpha F_{\mu\nu} dx^\alpha \wedge dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu = 0. \tag{4}$$

There are four independent components in this sum, namely  $\{\alpha, \mu, \nu\} = \{0, 1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 3\}, \{0, 2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and so each of these components have to separately be zero. Let's look at the  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  combination first. There are six terms, but e.g.

$$\frac{1}{2}\partial_0 F_{12} dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge dx^2 + \partial_0 F_{21} dx^0 \wedge dx^2 \wedge dx^1 = \partial_0 F_{12} dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \tag{5}$$

Therefore, the components must satisfy

$$\partial_0 F_{12} + \partial_1 F_{20} + \partial_2 F_{01} = 0 \implies \partial_t B_z + \partial_x E_y - \partial_y E_x = 0. \tag{6}$$

The other components are similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_0 F_{23} + \partial_2 F_{30} + \partial_3 F_{02} = 0 &\implies \partial_t B_x + \partial_y E_z - \partial_z E_y = 0, \\ \partial_0 F_{13} + \partial_1 F_{30} + \partial_3 F_{01} = 0 &\implies -\partial_t B_y + \partial_x E_z - \partial_z E_x = 0, \\ \partial_1 F_{23} + \partial_2 F_{31} + \partial_3 F_{12} = 0 &\implies \partial_x B_x + \partial_y B_y + \partial_z B_z = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

The last expression is clearly  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ , while the other three are equivalent to  $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = -\partial_t \vec{B}$ , which are the two homogeneous Maxwell equations.

- (b) Show that  $d \star F = \star J$  is equivalent to the two inhomogeneous Maxwell equations.

**SOLUTION:** First, let's begin by calculating the Hodge dual of  $J$ :

$$\star J = \rho dx \wedge dy \wedge dz - j_x dt \wedge dy \wedge dz + j_y dt \wedge dx \wedge dz - j_z dt \wedge dx \wedge dy. \quad (8)$$

On other other hand,

$$\star F = E_x dy \wedge dz - E_y dx \wedge dz + E_z dx \wedge dy + B_z dt \wedge dz + B_y dt \wedge dy + B_x dt \wedge dx. \quad (9)$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} d \star F = & (\partial_t E_x - \partial_y B_z + \partial_z B_y) dt \wedge dy \wedge dz + (\partial_x E_x + \partial_y E_y + \partial_z E_z) dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ & + (-\partial_t E_y - \partial_x B_z + \partial_z B_x) dt \wedge dx \wedge dz + (\partial_t E_z - \partial_x B_y + \partial_y B_x) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Equating this with  $\star J$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x E_x + \partial_x E_y + \partial_z E_z &= \rho, \\ \partial_t E_x - \partial_y B_z + \partial_z B_y &= -j_x, \\ -\partial_t E_y - \partial_x B_z + \partial_z B_x &= j_y, \\ \partial_t E_z - \partial_x B_y + \partial_y B_x &= -j_z. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The first equation reads  $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho$ , while the remaining three equations can be combined into  $\nabla \times \vec{B} = \vec{j} + \partial_t \vec{E}$ , which are the two inhomogeneous Maxwell equations.

- (c) Show that  $d \star J = d(d \star F) = 0$  is equivalent to the continuity equation for charge  $\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot \vec{j} = 0$ . Thus, the conservation of charge follows directly from the inhomogeneous Maxwell equations.

**SOLUTION:**

From our previous results, we have immediately that

$$\begin{aligned} d \star J = & \partial_t \rho dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz - \partial_x j_x dx \wedge dt \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ & + \partial_y j_y dy \wedge dt \wedge dx \wedge dz - \partial_z j_z dz \wedge dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \\ = & (\partial_t \rho + \partial_x j_x + \partial_y j_y + \partial_z j_z) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$d \star J = d(d \star F) = 0$  therefore implies that

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot \vec{j} = 0, \quad (13)$$

as required.

- (d) Defining  $A = A_\mu dx^\mu = \phi dt - A_x dx - A_y dy - A_z dz$ , where  $\phi$  and  $\vec{A}$  are the usual scalar and vector potential, show that  $F = -dA$  leads to  $\vec{E} = -\partial_t \vec{A} - \nabla \phi$  and  $\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}$ .

**SOLUTION:**

We have, component by component,

$$\begin{aligned} dA = & (-\partial_x \phi - \partial_t A_x) dt \wedge dx + (-\partial_y \phi - \partial_t A_y) dt \wedge dy + (-\partial_z \phi - \partial_t A_z) dt \wedge dz \\ & + (\partial_y A_x - \partial_x A_y) dx \wedge dy + (\partial_z A_x - \partial_x A_z) dx \wedge dz + (\partial_z A_y - \partial_y A_z) dy \wedge dz. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Comparing this with  $-F$  gives

$$E_x = -\partial_x \phi - \partial_t A_x \quad E_y = -\partial_y \phi - \partial_t A_y \quad E_z = -\partial_z \phi - \partial_t A_z \quad (15)$$

$$-B_z = \partial_y A_x - \partial_x A_y \quad B_y = \partial_z A_x - \partial_x A_z \quad -B_x = \partial_z A_y - \partial_y A_z. \quad (16)$$

which is precisely  $\vec{E} = -\partial_t \vec{A} - \nabla \phi$  and  $\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}$ .

- (e) Show that the gauge transformation  $A \rightarrow A + d\chi$  for arbitrary smooth  $\chi$  leaves the field strength  $F$  invariant.

**SOLUTION:**  
 Under the gauge transformation  $A \rightarrow A + d\chi$ , we have

$$F \mapsto -d(A + d\chi) = -dA - d^2\chi = -dA = F, \tag{17}$$

and hence the field strength tensor is invariant.

- (f) The action for the electromagnetic field on Minkowski spacetime is a local functional of the potential  $A$ . There are two 4-forms that we can construct for the field strength  $F = -dA$ , so the simplest possible action is

$$S[A] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} (\alpha F \wedge \star F + \theta F \wedge F), \tag{18}$$

where  $\alpha, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$  are coefficients. Rewrite this action in terms of  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$ .

**SOLUTION:**  
 Repeating our earlier results, we find

$$\begin{aligned} F &= -E_x dt \wedge dx - E_y dt \wedge dy - E_z dt \wedge dz + B_z dx \wedge dy - B_y dx \wedge dz + B_x dy \wedge dz, \\ \star F &= E_x dy \wedge dz - E_y dx \wedge dz + E_z dx \wedge dy + B_z dt \wedge dz + B_y dt \wedge dy + B_x dt \wedge dx. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Performing the wedge product, we find

$$\begin{aligned} F \wedge \star F &= (-E_x^2 - E_y^2 - E_z^2 + B_z^2 + B_y^2 + B_x^2) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ &= (\vec{B}^2 - \vec{E}^2) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz. \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} F \wedge F &= 2(-E_x B_x - E_y B_y - E_z B_z) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ &= -2(\vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}) dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz. \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

Therefore, the action becomes

$$S[\vec{E}, \vec{B}] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} dt \wedge dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \left( \alpha(\vec{B}^2 - \vec{E}^2) - 2\theta \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B} \right). \tag{22}$$

- (g) Return to the action given in Eq. (18), find the equations of motion for  $A$  by varying  $A \mapsto A + \delta A$ , and assuming that  $A \rightarrow 0$  at infinity. What role does  $\theta$  play?

**SOLUTION:**  
 Under the variation  $A \mapsto A + \delta A$ , we have

$$F \mapsto -d(A + \delta A) = F - d(\delta A), \tag{23}$$

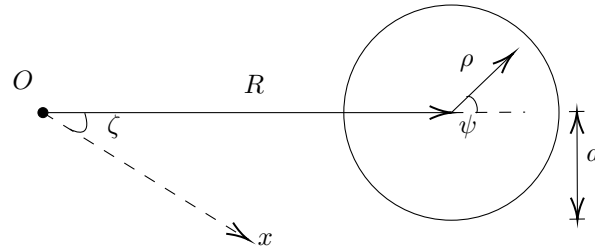


Figure 1: A parametrization of the torus.

from which we see first that

$$\begin{aligned}
 F \wedge F &\mapsto (F - d(\delta A)) \wedge (F - d(\delta A)) \\
 &= F \wedge F - d(\delta A) \wedge F - F \wedge d(\delta A) \\
 &= F \wedge F - 2d(\delta A) \wedge F,
 \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

where in the last line I have used the fact that  $d(\delta A) \wedge F = F \wedge d(\delta A)$ , since  $d(\delta A)$  and  $F$  are both 2-forms. However, we now also have

$$d(\delta A) \wedge F = d(\delta A \wedge F), \tag{25}$$

since  $dF = d^2A = 0$ . Next, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 F \wedge \star F &\mapsto (F - d(\delta A)) \wedge \star(F - d(\delta A)) \\
 &= F \wedge \star F - d(\delta A) \wedge \star F - F \wedge \star d(\delta A) \\
 &= F \wedge \star F - 2d(\delta A) \wedge \star F \\
 &= F \wedge \star F - 2d(\delta A \wedge \star F) - 2\delta A \wedge d \star F,
 \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

by a very similar set of arguments as above, except that  $d \star F \neq 0$ , and in the last line we used  $d(\omega \wedge \eta) = (d\omega) \wedge \eta + (-1)^p \omega \wedge (d\eta)$ , for  $\omega$  a  $p$ -form.

Hence, under the variation,

$$\delta S = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} \alpha [-2d(\delta A \wedge \star F) - 2\delta A \wedge d \star F] + 2\theta [2d(\delta A \wedge F)]. \tag{27}$$

However, we can drop the total derivative terms, since by Stokes' theorem, they simply become an integral over the boundary at infinity. This leaves

$$\delta S = -2\alpha \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} (\delta A \wedge d \star F) \tag{28}$$

for an arbitrary variation  $\delta A$ . Therefore, we must have  $d \star F = 0$ , which is simply the inhomogeneous Maxwell equation with no sources, as should have been anticipated.  $\theta$  did not play any role here, since it is proportional to a term that is a total derivative.

## 2 The Torus (20 points)

Fig. 1 shows a cross-section of a solid torus embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with major radius  $R$  and minor radius  $a$ , taking a cut through the torus at some angle  $\zeta$  with respect to the  $x$ -axis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . A convenient parametrization for the solid torus is also shown.

- (a) Show that in terms of the parametrization shown, the volume element is

$$d\omega = \rho(R + \rho \cos \psi)d\rho \wedge d\zeta \wedge d\psi. \tag{29}$$

**SOLUTION:**

The relation between Cartesian coordinates and the parametrization shown is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (R + \rho \cos \psi) \cos \zeta, \\ y &= (R + \rho \cos \psi) \sin \zeta, \\ z &= \rho \sin \psi. \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

The metric induced on the solid torus is then

$$g_{ij} = \sum_a \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial \xi^i} \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial \xi^j}, \tag{31}$$

where  $\xi \equiv (\rho, \psi, \zeta)$ , and  $a$  runs over the Cartesian coordinates. Working through everything, we find

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\rho\rho} &= (\cos \psi \cos \zeta)^2 + (\cos \psi \sin \zeta)^2 + (\sin \psi)^2 = 1, \\ g_{\rho\zeta} &= (\cos \psi \cos \zeta)(-(R + \rho \cos \psi) \sin \zeta) + (\cos \psi \sin \zeta)((R + \rho \cos \psi) \cos \zeta) = 0, \\ g_{\rho\psi} &= (\cos \psi \cos \zeta)(-\rho \sin \psi \cos \zeta) + (\cos \psi \sin \zeta)(-\rho \sin \psi \sin \zeta) + \rho \sin \psi \cos \psi = 0, \\ g_{\zeta\zeta} &= -(R + \rho \cos \psi) \sin \zeta)^2 + ((R + \rho \cos \psi) \cos \zeta)^2 = (R + \rho \cos \psi)^2, \\ g_{\zeta\psi} &= (-\rho \sin \psi \cos \zeta)(-(R + \rho \cos \psi) \sin \zeta) + (-\rho \sin \psi \sin \zeta)((R + \rho \cos \psi) \cos \zeta) = 0, \\ g_{\psi\psi} &= (-\rho \sin \psi \cos \zeta)^2 + (-\rho \sin \psi \sin \zeta)^2 + (\rho \cos \psi)^2 = \rho^2. \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

Therefore,

$$\sqrt{g} = \rho(R + \rho \cos \psi), \tag{33}$$

and the volume element is

$$d\omega = \rho(R + \rho \cos \psi)d\rho \wedge d\zeta \wedge d\psi. \tag{34}$$

You can check that this choice of the orientation agrees with the choice of conventional choice of orientation in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by setting  $\zeta = 0$ , and noting that  $\hat{\rho} = \hat{x}$ ,  $\hat{\zeta} = \hat{y}$  and  $\hat{\psi} = \hat{z}$ .

- (b) Calculate the total volume  $V$  of the solid torus by performing a direct integral over the volume form of the solid torus.

**SOLUTION:**

The total volume of the solid torus is therefore

$$V = \int_0^{2\pi} d\zeta \int_0^{2\pi} d\psi \int_0^a d\rho \rho(R + \rho \cos \psi) = 4\pi^2 R \frac{a^2}{2} = 2\pi^2 R a^2, \tag{35}$$

since  $\cos \psi$  integrates to zero over a full period.

- (c) Calculate the total volume  $V$  of the solid torus by using Stoke's theorem and converting the integral to one over the surface of the torus. Check that the result agrees with the previous part.

**SOLUTION:**

By Stoke's theorem,

$$\int_T d\omega = \int_{\partial T} \omega, \quad (36)$$

where  $T$  and  $\partial T$  are the solid torus and the boundary of the torus respectively. Therefore, We can see that

$$\omega = \left( \frac{\rho^2}{2} R + \frac{\rho^2}{3} \cos \psi \right) d\zeta \wedge d\psi. \quad (37)$$

Integrating this over the boundary of the torus gives

$$V = \int_0^{2\pi} d\zeta \int_0^{2\pi} d\psi \left( \frac{a^2}{2} R + \frac{a^2}{3} \cos \psi \right) = 2\pi^2 a^2 R, \quad (38)$$

dropping the  $\cos \psi$  term since it integrates to zero over a full period. This agrees with the previous result.

- (d) Calculate the total surface area  $A$  of the torus by deducing the appropriate area form and integrating appropriately.

**SOLUTION:**

The area form for the 2D surface of the torus can be obtained directly from the previous calculation, by noting that the induced metric is just the  $2 \times 2$  submatrix of the full metric containing the  $\psi$  and  $\zeta$  components, setting  $\rho = a$ . The area form is therefore

$$d\eta = a(R + a \cos \psi) d\zeta \wedge d\psi. \quad (39)$$

Integrating over the torus gives

$$A = \int_0^{2\pi} d\zeta \int_0^{2\pi} d\psi a(R + a \cos \psi) = 4\pi^2 aR, \quad (40)$$

where we once again drop the  $\cos \psi$  term since it integrates to zero over a full period.

### 3 Complex Analysis Warm-Up (10 points)

- (a) Prove the triangle inequality for complex numbers,

$$|z_1 + z_2| \leq |z_1| + |z_2| \quad (41)$$

for any  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ .

**SOLUTION:**

First, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |z_1 + z_2|^2 &= (z_1 + z_2)^*(z_1 + z_2) \\ &= (z_1^* + z_2^*)(z_1 + z_2) \\ &= |z_1|^2 + z_1^* z_2 + z_2^* z_1 + |z_2|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

However,  $z_1^* z_2 + z_2^* z_1 = 2\operatorname{Re}(z_1^* z_2) \leq 2|z_1^* z_2|$ , since

$$\operatorname{Re}(z_1^* z_2) \leq \sqrt{[\operatorname{Re}(z_1^* z_2)]^2 + [\operatorname{Im}(z_1^* z_2)]^2} = |z_1^* z_2|. \quad (43)$$

Thus,

$$|z_1 + z_2|^2 \leq |z_1|^2 + 2|z_1^* z_2| + |z_2|^2 = |z_1|^2 + 2|z_1||z_2| + |z_2|^2 = (|z_1| + |z_2|)^2, \quad (44)$$

or

$$|z_1 + z_2| \leq |z_1| + |z_2|. \quad (45)$$

(b) Prove the following: for  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $z \neq 1$ ,

$$1 + z + z^2 + \cdots + z^n = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}. \quad (46)$$

Use this to derive Lagrange's trigonometric identity, which for  $\theta \neq 2\pi k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , reads

$$1 + \cos \theta + \cos 2\theta + \cdots + \cos n\theta = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sin[(2n+1)\theta/2]}{2\sin(\theta/2)}. \quad (47)$$

**SOLUTION:**

Denote  $S = 1 + z + z^2 + \cdots + z^n$ . Then,

$$zS = z + z^2 + z^3 + \cdots + z^{n+1}, \quad (48)$$

and

$$S - zS = 1 - z^{n+1} \implies S = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}, \quad (49)$$

as required.

Taking  $z = e^{i\theta}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + e^{i\theta} + e^{i2\theta} + \cdots + e^{in\theta} &= \frac{1 - e^{i(n+1)\theta}}{1 - e^{i\theta}} \\ &= \frac{e^{i(n+1)\theta/2} e^{-i(n+1)\theta/2} - e^{i(n+1)\theta/2}}{e^{i\theta/2} e^{-i\theta/2} - e^{i\theta/2}} \\ &= e^{in\theta/2} \frac{-2i \sin[(n+1)\theta/2]}{-2i \sin(\theta/2)} \\ &= \frac{\sin[(n+1)\theta/2]}{\sin(\theta/2)} e^{in\theta/2} \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Now, taking the real part on both sides gives

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \cos \theta + \cos 2\theta + \cdots + \cos n\theta &= \frac{\sin[(n+1)\theta/2]}{\sin(\theta/2)} \cos(n\theta/2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sin(\theta/2)} (2\sin[(n+1)\theta/2] \cos(n\theta/2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sin(\theta/2)} (\sin[(2n+1)\theta/2] + \sin(\theta/2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sin[(2n+1)\theta/2]}{2\sin(\theta/2)}, \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

as required.

- (c) Sketch the following sets of points: i)  $|z - 1 + i| = 1$ , ii)  $|z - 1| = |z + i|$ , and iii)  $|2z^* + i| \leq 4$ . Please label your sketches clearly with key features (radii, intercepts, etc.). If these are lines, please specify their gradients (i.e. the usual  $\Delta y/\Delta x$  where the  $y$ -axis should be taken to be the imaginary axis, and the  $x$ -axis the real axis).

**SOLUTION:**

- i) This is a circle of radius 1 centered on  $1 - i$ .
- ii) This is a line passing through the origin, gradient  $-1$ .
- iii) We have  $|2z^* + i| = |2z - i|$ , and so this is equivalent to  $|z - i/2| \leq 2$  is a filled circle centered on  $i/2$ , radius 2.