Introduction to Differentiable Manifolds	
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Solutions Series 7 - Vector bundles	2021 - 11 - 20

**Exercise 7.1.** Show that the Moëbious bundle as defined in the lecture is a smooth vector bundle on  $S^1$  (Exhibit local trivialization and compute the transition functions.)

Solution. The Mobius bundle is defined by  $M := \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} / \sim \cong M := [0,1] \times \mathbb{R} / \sim$  for  $(x,y) \sim (x+n,-y)$  with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

First we show that M is a smooth manifold. M is second countable because quotient of second countable, it is Hausdorff because quotient of a Hausdorff space by a discrete action. Define charts  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  by restricting  $\pi \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to M$  to opens on which the quotient map is injective; e.g  $V_1 = [0, 1), V_2 = (0, 1]$ , The transition function of the two charts,

$$\varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1} : \varphi_1(V_1 \cap V_2) \to \varphi_2(V_1 \cap V_2),$$

is given by

$$\varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1}(x,t) = \begin{cases} (x,t) & x \in (0,\frac{1}{2}) \\ (x-1,-t) & x \in (\frac{1}{2},1) \end{cases}$$

So the two charts are smoothly compatible. We conclude M is a smooth manifold.

We show that M is a smooth vector bundle. Let  $\pi: M \to S^1$ ,  $\pi([(x,t)]) := [x]$ .

Then, using the notation from the Example, over  $U_1 \subset S^1$  we have the local trivialization

$$\Phi_1: \pi^{-1}(U_1) \to U_1 \times \mathbb{R}: [(x,t)] \mapsto ([x],t),$$

which is a diffeomorphism, because it is the composition  $(\nu_1^{-1} \times id_{\mathbb{R}}) \circ \varphi_1$  and both  $\varphi_1$ and  $\nu_1$  are (trivially) diffeomorphisms, since they are smooth charts. (Note  $\pi^{-1}(U_i) = V_i$ .) Clearly  $\Phi_1$  is also a linear map on each fibre if we define the vector space structure on .

Similarly, over  $U_2$  we define a local trivialization

$$\Phi_2: \pi^{-1}(U_2) \to U_2 \times \mathbb{R}: [(x,t)] \mapsto \begin{cases} ([x],t) & x \in [0,\frac{1}{2})\\ ([x],-t) & x \in (\frac{1}{2},1] \end{cases},$$

which is a diffeomorphism, because it is the composition  $(\nu_2^{-1} \times id_{\mathbb{R}}) \circ \varphi_2$ . Moreover,  $\Phi_2$  is linear on each fibre.

**Exercise 7.2.** Show that the tangent bundle  $TS^1$  is trivial.

Solution. Since  $\mathbb{S}^1$  is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbb{T}^1$ , it suffices to show that the tangent bundle of the *n*-torus  $\mathbb{T}^n$  is trivial.

We denote  $\kappa : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{T}^n$  the quotient map, since the letter  $\pi$  is now used for the projection  $\pi : \mathbb{T}\mathbb{T}^n \to \mathbb{T}^n$ .

Recall that there is an inverse atlas of  $\mathbb{T}^n$  consisting of the parametrizations  $\phi = \kappa|_{\widetilde{U}} : \widetilde{U} \to U \subseteq \mathbb{T}^n$ , where  $\widetilde{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is any open set where  $\kappa$  is injective and  $U = \kappa(\widetilde{U})$ .

Each such parametrization  $\phi$  of  $\mathbb{T}^n$  induces a parametrization  $\Phi : \widetilde{U} \times \mathbb{R}^n \to \pi^{-1}U$ of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{T}^n$  that sends  $(x, v) \mapsto (\phi_{\widetilde{U}}(x), \sum_i v^i \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial (\phi^{-1})^i} \right|_p)$ . Note here that  $\phi^{-1}$  is a chart of  $\mathbb{T}^n$ . The parametrizations  $\Phi$  of this kind form an atlas of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{T}^n$ , which defines the smooth structure on  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{T}^n$ .

We define a frame of  $T\mathbb{T}^n$  consisting of n vector fields  $E^i$  defined as follows. For each parametrization  $\phi: \widetilde{U} \to U$  as above, we let

$$E^{i}(p) = \Phi(\phi^{-1}(p), e_{i}) \quad \text{for all } p \in U.$$

This formula defines  $E^i|_U$ . Let us check that  $E^i$  is well defined (i.e. that the formula agrees on an intersection  $U \cap V$  of images of two parametrizations  $\phi : \widetilde{U} \to U$ ,  $\psi : \widetilde{V} \to V$ . For this, recall that the transition map  $\psi^{-1} \circ \phi$  between the parametrizations  $\phi, \psi$  of  $\mathbb{T}^n$  is locally a translation. Therefore the transition map between the parametrizations  $\Phi, \Psi$  of  $\mathbb{T}^n$  is

$$\Psi^{-1} \circ \Phi(x, v) = (\psi^{-1} \circ \phi(x), \mathcal{D}_{\phi(x)}(\psi^{-1} \circ \phi)(v)) = (\psi^{-1} \circ \phi(x), v)$$

since the differential of a translation is the identity map. Equivalently, we have  $\Phi(x,v) = \Psi(y,v)$  if  $\phi(x) = \psi(y)$ . In particular, for a point  $x \in U \cap V$ , putting  $x = \phi^{-1}(p)$  and  $y = \psi^{-1}(p)$ , we have

$$\Phi(\phi^{-1}(p), e_i) = \Phi(x, y) = \Psi(y, e_i) = \Psi(\psi^{-1}(p), e_i),$$

as needed to show that  $E_i$  is well defined.

The vector fields  $E^i$  are clearly smooth because they are smooth on each open set U as above, since the maps  $\Phi$  and  $\phi^{-1}$  are smooth. The vector fields  $E^i$  are also linearly independent at each point  $p = \phi(x) \in \mathbb{T}^n$ , since the vectors  $e_i$  are linearly independent. Therefore the vectors  $E_i$  constitute a frame of  $TTT^n$ , defined globally (i.e. on the whole torus  $\mathbb{T}^n$ ). We conclude that that the tangent bundle  $T\mathbb{T}^n$  is trivial.

**Exercise 7.3** (Properties of smooth vector fields). Let M be a smooth manifold and let  $X: M \to TM$  be a vector field. Show that the following are equivalent:

- (a) X is a smooth vector field.
- (b) The component functions of X are smooth with respect to all charts of one particular smooth atlas of M.
- (c) For any smooth function  $f: U \to \mathbb{R}$  on an open set  $U \subset M$ , the function  $Xf: U \to \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $Xf(p) := X_p(f)$  is smooth.

Solution. Let  $(M, \mathcal{A})$  be a smooth manifold and X a vector field. Recall that we say that X is a smooth vector field if the component functions of X are smooth for any chart  $(U, \varphi) \in \mathcal{A}$ . The component functions w.r.t  $(U, \varphi)$  were defined as the functions  $X^i : U \to \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$X_p = \sum_i X^i(p) \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi^i} \right|_p, \quad p \in U.$$

 $(a) \Rightarrow (b)$  is clear.

 $(b) \Rightarrow (a)$  Let  $\mathcal{A}' \subset \mathcal{A}$  and suppose the component functions are smooth wrt all  $(U, \varphi) \in \mathcal{A}'$ . Let  $(V, \psi) \in \mathcal{A}$ . We write

$$X_p = \sum_i \widetilde{X}^i(p) \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \psi^i} \right|_p, \quad p \in V$$

where  $\widetilde{X}^i$  are the component functions of X wrt  $(V, \psi)$ . To show that the  $\widetilde{X}^i$  are smooth on V it suffices to show that they are smooth in a neighborhood of every point of V. So let  $p \in V$ , let  $(U, \varphi) \in \mathcal{A}'$  be a chart containing p and let  $X^i$  be the component functions of X wrt  $(U, \varphi)$ . Then from the change of coordinates formula it follows that (Exercise 3.iii from last week)

$$\widetilde{X}^{i}(q) = \sum_{j} \left( \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi^{j}} \right|_{q} \psi^{i} \right) X^{j}(q), \quad q \in U \cap V$$

and we conclude that  $\widetilde{X}^i$  is smooth on  $U \cap V$ , i = 1, ..., n.

 $(c) \Rightarrow (a)$  Let  $(U, \varphi) \in \mathcal{A}$ . Applying X to one of the components of  $\varphi$  yields  $X\varphi^i = X^i$ , which is smooth by hypothesis, i.e. the component functions of X wrt  $(U, \varphi)$  are smooth.

 $(a) \Rightarrow (c)$  Conversely, suppose X is a smooth vector field, let  $f \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty}(U)$  for an open set  $U \subset M$ . To check that Xf is smooth, it suffices to check that it is smooth in a neighborhood of every point of U. Given  $p \in U$ , let  $(W, \varphi)$  be a smooth chart containing p and satisfying  $W \subset U$ . Then on W we can write

$$Xf(q) = \sum_{i} X^{i}(q) \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi^{i}} \right|_{q} f$$

Then Xf is smooth on W since the component function of X are smooth by hypothesis and f is smooth (so in particular  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi^i}\Big|_q f = \frac{\partial (f \circ \varphi^{-1})}{\partial x^i}\Big|_{\varphi(q)}$  is smooth as a function of  $q \in W$ ).  $\Box$ 

**Exercise 7.4.** (To hand in) Show that there is a smooth vector field on  $S^2$  which vanishes at exactly one point.

Hint: Try using stereographic projection and consider one of the coordinate vector fields.

**Exercise 7.5** (Transition functions and vector bundles). (a) Let  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  be a smooth vector bundle of rank k. Suppose that  $\{U_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is an open cover of M; and for each  $\alpha$  we are given a smooth local trivialization

$$\Phi_{\alpha} \colon \pi^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \to U_{\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^k.$$

For each  $\alpha, \beta$ , let

$$\tau_{\alpha\beta}\colon U_{\alpha}\cap U_{\beta}\to \mathrm{GL}(k,\mathbb{R})$$

<sup>1</sup> be the transition function defined by  $\Phi_{\alpha} \circ \Phi_{\beta}^{-1}$ . Show that the following identity is satisfied for all  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ 

$$\tau_{\alpha\beta} \circ \tau_{\beta\gamma} = \tau_{\alpha\gamma}$$

This is called the *cocycle condition* (The juxtaposition on the left-hand side represents matrix multiplication.)

(b) Suppose that  $\{U_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is an open cover of a smooth manifold M and that for each  $\alpha, \beta$ , we are given smooth maps  $\tau_{\alpha\beta} \colon U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \to \operatorname{GL}(k, \mathbb{R})$  satisfying the identity above. Then there exists a smooth vector bundle  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  with local trivializations  $\Phi_{\alpha} \colon \pi^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \to U_{\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$  and transition functions  $\tau_{\alpha\beta}$ 

Solution. (a) Let us denote by  $V = U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \cap U_{\gamma}$ . Then simply using the definition  $\tau_{\alpha\beta} = \Phi_{\alpha}|_{U_{\alpha}\cap U_{\beta}} \circ (\Phi_{\beta}|_{U_{\alpha}\cap U_{\beta}})^{-1}$  we get

$$\tau_{\alpha\beta}|_V \circ \tau_{\beta\gamma}|_V = \Phi_{\alpha}|_V \circ (\Phi_{\beta}|_V)^{-1} \circ \Phi_{\beta}|_V \circ (\Phi_{\gamma}|_V)^{-1} = \tau_{\alpha\gamma}|_V$$

(b) Let us define  $E = \bigsqcup_{\alpha} \{\alpha\} \times U_{\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^k / \sim$  where

$$(\alpha, p, v) \cong (\beta, q, w) \Leftrightarrow q = p, \ w = \tau_{\alpha\beta}(p)(v)$$

Since  $\tau_{\alpha\beta}$  satisfy the cocycle condition, this is an equivalence relation.  $\pi: E \to$ is defined by  $\pi([(\alpha, p, v)]) = p$ . Then  $\Phi_{\alpha}: \pi^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \to U_{\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$  defined by  $\Phi_{\alpha}([(\alpha, p, v)]) = (p, v)$  is bijective and the restriction to a point gives a linear isomorphism  $\pi^{-1}(p) = \{[(\alpha, p, v)] | v \in \mathbb{R}^{k}\} \to \mathbb{R}^{k}$ . Finally, if  $U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \neq \emptyset$  the transition function

$$\Phi_{\alpha} \circ \Phi_{\beta}^{-} 1 \colon U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \times \mathbb{R}^{k} \to U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$$

is given by  $(p, v) \to (p, \tau_{\alpha\beta}(p)(v))$ . By the Vector bundle chart Lemma (Lemma 10.6 Lee's book), E is a vector bundle on M.

Let us say again in words how one gets E: for any vector bundle  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$ there exist a *trivializing cover*, i.e. a cover  $\{U_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in A}$  such that

$$E|_{U_{\alpha}} = \pi^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \xrightarrow{\Phi_{\alpha}} U_{\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^{k}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>for each point  $p \tau_{\alpha\beta}(p)$  is a matrix

whit  $\Phi_{\alpha}$  a diffeomorphism. The transition functions  $\tau_{\alpha\beta}$  tell us how these trivial vector bundle are glued along the intersections (the vector bundle is trivial on all of M if all the  $\tau_{\alpha\beta}(p) = Id_{E_p}$ . The cocycle condition is telling us that the gluing has to be consistent on triple intersections.

This exercise is showing how to built up E from the local trivialization and the gluing data.