

# MA 2286 Differential Forms

①

(= Calculus)

Aim: Explain and apply the generalized Stokes formula:

$$\int_{\partial S} \omega = \int_S \partial \omega$$

where

-  $\omega$  is a differential p-form in  $n$  variables.

-  $S$  is a nice region in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

-  $\partial S$  is the boundary of the region

-  $\int$  is ~~the~~ an integral

## Differential 0-forms in 1 variable (2)

$(p=0, n=1)$

A differential 0-form in 1-variable is just a differentiable, real valued function

$$\omega = f(x)$$

Examples  $\omega = 3x - 4$

$$\omega = 3x^2 + 4$$

$$\omega = \sin(x)$$

are differential 0-forms.

Usually a diff. 0-form is given in the context of some closed interval

$$S = [a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

or a union of closed intervals

$$S = [a_1, b_1] \cup [a_2, b_2] \cup \dots \cup [a_k, b_k].$$



We only require  $\omega$  to be differentiable at points in  $S$ . (3)

### Example

$$\omega = |x|$$

is a differential 0-form on

$$S = [1, 100]$$

Clearly  $\omega$  is not a diff. 0-form on  $[-10, 1]$

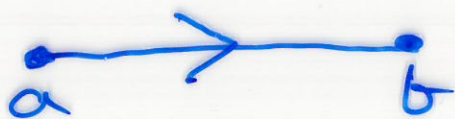
### Terminology

I'll say 0-form instead of differential 0-form.

For  $a < b \in \mathbb{R}$  we write

$$[a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$$

and we picture this as



The arrow is an orientation that specifies the direction of travel from  $a$  to  $b$ . (4)

For  $a < b$  we write

$$[b, a] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$$

and picture this as



We say that  $[a, b]$  and  $[b, a]$  are oriented intervals.

Example  $S = [2, 1] \cup [3, 4] \cup [6, 5]$



The boundary of the oriented interval  $S = [a, b]$  is the set

$$\partial S = \{a, b\}$$



is the set consisting of two points, the initial point  $a$  and the final point  $b$ . (5)

Example  $S = [2, 1] \cup [3, 4] \cup [6, 5]$

$$\partial S = \{2, 1, 3, 4, 6, 5\}$$

Terminology we'll say

that  $S = [a, b]$  is

1-dimensional, and that

$\partial S$  is 0-dimensional

Definition Given a 0-form (6)

$$\omega = F(x)$$

on an oriented interval

$$S = [a, b]$$

we define

$$\int_{\partial S} \omega = F(b) - F(a)$$

↑                      ↑  
final point          initial point

Example Integrate the differential 0-form  $\omega = 3x^2 + 4$  over the boundary of the oriented interval  $S = [2, 1]$ .

Soln

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial S} \omega &= \omega(1) - \omega(2) \\ &= 7 - 16 = -9 \end{aligned}$$