

Example Calculate dw for

$$w = x \, dy \wedge dz + y \, dz \wedge dx + z \, dx \wedge dy.$$

Solⁿ

$$dw = dx \wedge dy \wedge dz + dy \wedge dz \wedge dx + dz \wedge dx \wedge dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ &\quad - dy \wedge dx \wedge dz \\ &\quad - dx \wedge dz \wedge dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ &\quad + dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \\ &\quad + dx \wedge dy \wedge dz \end{aligned}$$

$$= 3 \, dx \wedge dy \wedge dz$$

Proposition for any k -form w

we have

$$d(dw) = 0$$

Example Prove that

$$\omega = (3x^2 - 6yz)dx + (2y + 3xz)dy + (1 - 4xyz^2)dz$$

does not arise as $\omega = dv$ for any 0-form v .

Soln It suffices to show that $d\omega \neq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega &= (6x dx - 6z dy - 6y dz) \wedge dx \\ &\quad + (2 dy + 3z dx + 3x dz) \wedge dy \\ &\quad + (-4yz^2 dx - 4xz^2 dy - 8xyz dz) \wedge dz \\ &= -6z dy \wedge dx - 6y dz \wedge dx \\ &\quad + 3z dx \wedge dy + 3x dz \wedge dy \\ &\quad - 4yz^2 dx \wedge dz - 4xz^2 dy \wedge dz \end{aligned}$$

$$= 6z \, dx \wedge dy + 3z \, dx \wedge dy + \dots$$

$$= 9z \, dx \wedge dy + \dots$$

$$\neq 0, \quad \text{Done}$$

Exercise For 0-forms v, w we have

$$d(vw) = (dv)w + v(dw).$$

Proof

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(vw) \, dx + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(vw) \, dy + \dots$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} w + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right) dx + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} w + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right) dy + \dots$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} dy \right) w + v \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} dy \right) + \dots$$

$$= (dv)w + v(dw)!$$

Exercise For 1-forms v, w we have

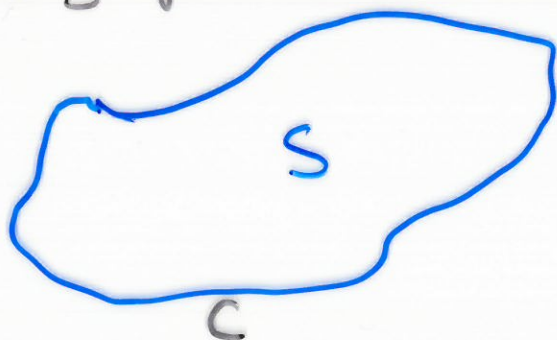
$$d(v \wedge w) = (dv) \wedge w - v(dw)$$

For you to try!

Theorem For a k -form v and n -form w we have

$$d(v \wedge w) = (dv) \wedge w + (-1)^k v(dw)$$

Example Show that the area of the region S bounded by a simple closed curve $C = \partial S$ in the xy -plane



is $\frac{1}{2} \int_C x dy - y dx$.

Soln

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial S} x \, dy - y \, dx$$

$$\stackrel{\uparrow}{=} \frac{1}{2} \int_S d(x \, dy - y \, dx)$$

Stokes'
(or Green's)
formula

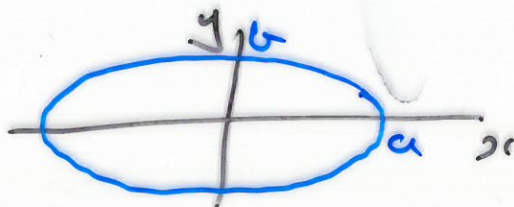
$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_S dx \wedge dy - dy \wedge dx$$

$$= \int_S dx \wedge dy$$

$$= \text{area of } S \quad (\text{up to sign})$$

Example Find the area of the region S bounded by the

ellipse $x = a \cos \theta$, $y = b \cos \theta$.



Solⁿ From above,

required area =

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial S} x dy - y dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} (a \cos \theta) (b \cos \theta) d\theta \\ - (b \sin \theta) (-a \sin \theta) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} ab (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} ab d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} ab \theta \Big|_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= ab\pi .$$