

**BASIC GEOMETRY AND TOPOLOGY HOMEWORK 7, DUE  
10/9/2020**

- I Prove that if  $M$  is an  $m$ -dimensional smooth manifold and  $N$  is an  $n$ -dimensional smooth manifold, then the Cartesian product  $M \times N$  has the structure of an  $(m + n)$ -dimensional smooth manifold.
- II Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1x_2$ . Which  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  in the codomain are the *regular*<sup>1</sup> values of  $f$ ? (And hence  $f^{-1}(c)$  is guaranteed to be a smooth manifold.)
- III (a) Fix  $n \geq 1$ . Prove that the unitary group (a.k.a. the group of unitary matrices)
- $$U(n) = \{A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}^{\mathbb{C}} \mid A^\dagger A = \mathbf{1}\}$$
- is a smooth manifold. What is its dimension?<sup>2</sup> Is it compact? Here  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}^{\mathbb{C}}$  are square  $n \times n$  matrices with complex entries,  $A^\dagger = \bar{A}^T$  is the adjoint matrix (the conjugate-transpose),  $\mathbf{1}$  is the unit matrix.
- (b) Prove that the special linear group  $SL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{A \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n} \mid \det A = 1\}$  is a smooth manifold of dimension  $n^2 - 1$ .<sup>3</sup>
- IV (a) Find the tangent space to  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$  at  $\mathbf{1}$  as  $\ker DF_{\mathbf{1}} \subset \text{Mat}_{n \times n}$  with  $F : \text{Mat}_{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $A \mapsto \det A$ .
- (b) Find the tangent space to  $U(n)$  at  $\mathbf{1}$  (as a subspace of  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}^{\mathbb{C}}$ ).

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<sup>1</sup>Recall that, given a map  $F : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , a point  $c \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is called a “regular value” of  $F$  if for each preimage  $a \in F^{-1}(c)$ , the differential  $DF_a : \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is surjective.

<sup>2</sup>Warning: note that the dimension of  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}^{\mathbb{C}}$  as a real vector space is  $2n^2$ , not  $n^2$ .

<sup>3</sup>A property of determinants you might find useful: for  $A$  an invertible matrix, one has  $\det(A + H) = \det A \cdot (1 + \text{tr}(A^{-1}H) + r(A, H))$  where  $\lim_{H \rightarrow 0} r(A, H)/\|H\| = 0$ .

V Let  $S^n$  be the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  with the atlas  $(U^\pm, \phi^\pm)$  with

$$\begin{aligned} U^\pm = S^n \setminus \{(0, \dots, 0, \pm 1)\} & \xrightarrow{\phi^\pm} \mathbb{R}^n \\ (x_0, \dots, x_n) & \mapsto \frac{1}{1 \mp x_n} (x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Denote  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  the coordinates in chart  $(U^+, \phi^+)$  and  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  the coordinates in the chart  $(U^-, \phi^-)$ . Fix a point  $a \in U^+ \cap U^-$ .

(a) Let

$$(1) \quad \alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (du_i)_a \in T_a^* S^n$$

be a vector in the cotangent space<sup>4</sup> at a point  $a \in S^n$ , with  $\alpha_i$  some fixed real coefficients. Express  $\alpha$  defined by (1) in terms of the basis  $\{(dv_i)_a\}$  in the cotangent space  $T_a^* S^n$  (i.e. find the coefficients in terms of  $\alpha_i$ 's).

(b) Let

$$(2) \quad \xi = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \right)_a \in T_a S^n$$

be a tangent vector to  $S^n$  at  $a$ , with  $\xi_i$  some coefficients. Express  $\xi$  in terms of the basis  $\left\{ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial v_i} \right)_a \right\}$  in the tangent space  $T_a S^n$ .

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<sup>4</sup>In the class we used the notation  $T_a^*$  for the cotangent space; here we are opting for the more explicit notation  $T_a^* S^n$  to emphasize that it is the cotangent space to the sphere, not to the ambient  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ .