

Do **Exercise 1** as **homework for this week**. This homework exercise will not be marked, but you can check your solution against the solution sheet in the following week.

1. For  $a, b, c > 0$  consider the ellipsoid

$$E := \{(x, y, z) \mid \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1\}.$$

Let  $\omega$  be the following differential form on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ;

$$\omega = xdy \wedge dz - ydx \wedge dz + zdx \wedge dy.$$

- (a) Calculate  $d\omega$ .  
 (b) Find an almost global parametrisation of  $E$  such that the outward unit normal vector field is positively oriented. Calculate

$$\int_E \omega.$$

**Hint:** Think of polar coordinates on the sphere.

2. Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open and starlike and  $\omega \in \Omega^k(U)$ ,  $k \geq 1$  with  $d\omega = 0$ . The aim of this exercise is to prove **Poincaré's Lemma** in its general form, i.e., that there is an  $\alpha \in \Omega^{k-1}(U)$  with  $d\alpha = \omega$ .

Henceforth we will denote the coordinate functions of  $\mathbb{R} \times U$  by  $t, x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Note that every differential form  $\eta \in \Omega^k(\mathbb{R} \times U)$  is then of the form

$$\eta = \eta_1 + dt \wedge \eta_2, \tag{1}$$

where

$$\eta_1 = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} f_{i_1, \dots, i_k} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

and

$$\eta_2 = \sum_{j_1 < \dots < j_{k-1}} g_{j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}} dx_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{j_{k-1}},$$

with  $f_{i_1, \dots, i_k}, g_{j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}} \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times U)$ .

Since  $U$  is starlike, there is a point  $p \in U$  and a map  $H : \mathbb{R} \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , defined by  $H(t, x) = p + t(x - p)$ , such that  $H(t, x) \in U$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $x \in U$  (since  $H([0, 1], x)$  is the straight line segment from  $p$  to  $x$ ). Observe that  $H(0, x) = p$  and  $H(1, x) = x$ . Let  $i_t : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \times U$  be the inclusion of  $U$  into  $\mathbb{R} \times U$  at "level"  $t$ , i.e.,  $i_t(x) = (t, x)$ .

Finally, let  $I : \Omega^k(\mathbb{R} \times U) \rightarrow \Omega^{k-1}(U)$  be defined by

$$(I\eta)_x(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}) = \int_0^1 \eta_2(t, x)(Di_t(x)(v_1), \dots, Di_t(x)(v_{k-1})) dt,$$

if  $\eta = \eta_1 + dt \wedge \eta_2$  as given in (1).

(a) Prove that  $i_1^*\eta - i_0^*\eta = d(I\eta) + I(d\eta)$ .

(b) Using (a) and  $H \circ i_1 = \text{id}$  and  $H \circ i_0 = \text{constant}$ , show that

$$\omega = d\alpha$$

with  $\alpha = I(H^*\omega)$ .

**Hint:** Note that if  $F = \text{constant}$ , then  $DF(x) = 0$  for all  $x$ , and therefore  $F^*\omega = 0$ .