Solutions to Exercise Sheet 7

23.11.2011

1. Let $f(x,y) = x^2y^3$. Then we have

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy = 2xy^3 dx + 3x^2y^2 dy = \omega.$$

Using $\int_c df = f(c(b)) - f(c(a))$ for piecewise smooth curves $c: [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}^2$, we obtain

$$\int_{c} \omega = \int_{c} df = f(x, y) - f(0, 0) = x^{2}y^{3} = x^{8},$$

since $y = x^2$.

2. (a) Since ω is exact, we have $\omega = df = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} dx_j$, i.e., the coefficient functions of ω are $f_j = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}$. Consequently, for $j, k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, we have

$$\frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_k} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} = \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial x_j},$$

i.e., ω is closed.

(b) The coefficient functions of ω_0 are $f_1(x,y) = -\frac{y}{x^2+y^2}$ and $f_2(x,y) = \frac{x}{x^2+y^2}$. Then

$$\frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y} = -\frac{(x^2 + y^2) - y \cdot 2y}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{y^2 - x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{(x^2 + y^2) - x \cdot 2x}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x}$$

i.e., ω_0 is closed.

3. (a) Let c(s)=(sx,sy,sz). Since f is homogeneous, we have $f(c(s))=s^kf(x,y,z)$ and, therefore, on the one hand using the chain rule,

$$\frac{d}{ds}\Big|_{s=1}f(c(s))=Df(c(1))(c'(1))=\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x,y,z)x+\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}y+\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}z,$$

and on the other hand

$$\frac{d}{ds}\Big|_{s=1} s^k f(x, y, z) = k f(x, y, z).$$

Equating both sides yields the result.

(b) Note that, since μ is closed, we have $u_y = v_x$, $u_z = w_x$, $v_z = w_y$. A straighforward calculation yields

$$(k+1) df = (u + xu_x + yv_x + zw_x) dx + (v + yv_y + xu_y + zw_y) dy + (w + zw_z + xu_z + yv_z) dz.$$

Using the above identities, we obtain

$$(k+1) df = (u + xu_x + yu_y + zu_z) dx + (v + yv_y + xv_x + zv_z) dy + (w + zw_z + xw_x + yw_y) dz.$$

Since u, v, w are homogeneous of degree k, we conclude with (a),

$$(k+1) df = (u+ku) dx + (v+kv) dy + (w+kw) dz = (k+1)(u dx + v dy + w dz).$$

Division by k + 1 yields the result.

4. Let $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \ln(\|x\|_2^2) = \frac{1}{2} \ln(\sum_i x_i^2)$. Then

$$df = \frac{1}{\|x\|_2^2} \sum_{i} x_i \, dx_i,$$

i.e., ω is exact. In the case n=3, we have $f(x_1,x_2,x_3)=\ln\sqrt{x_1^2+x_2^2+x_3^2}$. This implies that

$$\int_{c} \omega = f(c(2k\pi)) - f(c(0)) = f(1,0,2k\pi) - f(1,0,0) = \ln \sqrt{1 + 4k^{2}\pi^{2}}.$$

5. The tangent vector c'(t) is given by

$$c'(t) = (r'\cos\alpha - r\alpha'\sin\alpha, r'\sin\alpha + r\alpha'\cos\alpha).$$

This implies that

$$(\omega_0)_{c(t)}(c'(t)) = -\frac{r \sin \alpha}{r^2} dx (c'(t)) + \frac{r \cos \alpha}{r^2} dy (c'(t))$$
$$= -\frac{\sin \alpha}{r} (r' \cos \alpha - r\alpha' \sin \alpha) + \frac{\cos \alpha}{r} (r' \sin \alpha + r\alpha' \cos \alpha)$$
$$= \alpha' (\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha) = \alpha'(t).$$

We finally obtain

$$\int_{c} \omega_{0} = \int_{0}^{1} (\omega_{0})_{c(t)}(c'(t)) dt = \int_{0}^{1} \alpha'(t) dt = \alpha(1) - \alpha(0),$$

and

$$n(c) = \frac{1}{2\pi} (\alpha(1) - \alpha(0)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{c} \omega_{0}.$$