

This note, that [was found here](#), as a part of [a collection](#) is written (completely with human hands) by [Rupadarshi Ray](#), was created on May 21, 2023 12:56:03 PM, was last modified on May 17, 2026 7:36:53 PM, and was exported on September 7, 2026 3:31:12 PM.

Tangents on smooth manifolds as derivations

$$\mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- A tangent vector $X_p \in T_pM$ is a $\mathbb{R}$ -linear map from $\mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$

$$X_p : \mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which maps functions to its [directional derivative](#)

$$f \mapsto X_p f$$

which satisfies the property


$$X_p(fg) = X_p(f) g(p) + f(p) X_p(g)$$

making it a derivation $\mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ at $p \in M$, hence

$$T_pM \subseteq \text{Der}_p(\mathcal{C}^\infty(M), \mathbb{R})$$

- Now, given any derivation

$$\delta : \mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

we use *Taylor's theorem in $\mathbb{R}^n$* to have $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$ written like

$$f(y) = f(p) + (x - p)$$

- Hence, the converse is also true.


$$T_pM = \text{Der}_p(\mathcal{C}^\infty(M), \mathbb{R})$$

Current note has 0 direct children and 0 total descendants.

- [structures based on sets](#)
 - [manifolds](#)
 - [smooth \$\mathbb{R}\$ -manifold](#)
 - [Tangents on a smooth manifold](#)
 - [Tangent space of a smooth manifold](#)
 - [Tangents on smooth manifolds as derivations \$\mathcal{C}^\infty\(M\) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\$](#)

And it has 8 siblings.

- [structures based on sets](#)
 - [manifolds](#)
 - [smooth \$\mathbb{R}\$ -manifold](#)
 - [Tangents on a smooth manifold](#)
 - [Tangent space of a smooth manifold](#)
 - [Canonical bijection of \$T_pM\$ with equivalence classes of velocities](#)
 - [Tangents on smooth manifolds as derivations \$\mathcal{C}^\infty\(M\) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\$](#)
 - [local basis of a tangent space of a smooth manifold](#)
 - [Tangent bundle \$TM\$ of a smooth manifold \$M\$](#)
 - [Cotangent bundle \$T^*M\$ on a smooth manifold \$M\$](#)
 - [Comparison of constructions with tangent vectors](#)
 - [Tangent frames on smooth manifolds](#)
 - [Tangent vector fields on a smooth manifold](#)