

Info

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Tangent frames on smooth manifolds

Definition. A frame at $p \in M$

A **frame** at a point $p \in M$ is a ordered basis

$$b_p := (b_1, \dots, b_n)$$

of $T_p M$.

$$\mathcal{F}_p M := \{\text{all frames at } p \in M\}$$

A frame at $p \in M$ is equivalent to a linear bijection between $\mathbb{R}^n$ and $T_p M$ but we won't use this, or give a group structure to a frame.

We shall think of a frame as a choice of ordered basis on $T_p M$, so change of frame at a point, that is change of an ordered basis, is a group action by $GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n)$! This group action is pointwise for all $p \in M$.

Definition. Tangent frame bundle

$$GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n) \curvearrowright \mathcal{F}M \rightarrow M$$

The **tangent frame bundle** is a smooth bundle over a smooth manifold with the projection

$$\pi_{\mathcal{F}M} : \mathcal{F}M \rightarrow M$$

whose fibres are [set of all frames](#), $\pi_{\mathcal{F}M}^{-1}\{p\} = \mathcal{F}_p M$ which comes with the $GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ -action $\mathcal{F}M \times GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}M$

$$(b_p, g) \mapsto b_p g := (b_i g)$$

For any smooth n -manifold, the tangent frame bundle

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defined as

$$\mathcal{F}M := \coprod_{p \in M} \mathcal{F}_p M$$

is a smooth manifold and $GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n) \curvearrowright \mathcal{F}M \rightarrow M$ is a **smooth principle $GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ -bundle** over M .

Definition. Frames on smooth manifolds

Smooth section of $\mathcal{F}M$ on $U \subseteq M$ is called a frame on U .

$\exists$ a global frame on $M \iff M$ is a parallelizable.

Warning

Check

associated bundles

Define the representation $\rho : GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n) \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$g \mapsto \rho(g)(-) := [g](-)$$

then

$$\mathcal{F}M \times_{\rho} \mathbb{R}^n \cong TM$$

Define the representation $\rho^* : GL_{\mathbb{R}}(n) \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$g \mapsto \rho^*(g)(-) := [g^T]^{-1}(-)$$

then

$$\mathcal{F}M \times_{\rho^*} \mathbb{R}^n \cong T^*M$$

- structures based on sets
 - manifolds
 - smooth $\mathbb{R}$ -manifold
 - Tangents on a smooth manifold
 - Tangent space of a smooth manifold
 - Tangent frames on smooth manifolds

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