

THE WE-HERAEUS INTERNATIONAL WINTER SCHOOL ON  
**GRAVITY AND LIGHT**

**Differentiable Manifolds**

**Exercise 1: True or false?**

*These basic questions are designed to spark discussion and as a self-test.*

Tick the correct statements, but not the incorrect ones!

- a) The function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \dots$
- $\dots$ , defined by  $f(x) = x^2$ , lies in  $C^3(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$ .
  - $\dots$ , defined by  $f(x) = |x|$ , lies in  $C^2(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$ .
  - $\dots$ , defined by  $f(x) = |x^3|$ , lies in  $C^3(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$ .
  - $\dots$ , defined by  $f(x) = \exp |x|$ , lies in  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$ .
  - $\dots$ , defined by  $f(x) = \ln x$  (with the domain restricted to  $\mathbb{R}^+$ ), lies in  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$ .
- b) Which statements on differentiable manifolds are true?
- Every smooth manifold has a maximal atlas.
  - Every  $C^2$ -manifold is also a  $C^1$ -manifold.
  - Every differentiable manifold is also a topological manifold.
  - In a  $C^\infty$ -manifold, chart maps are differentiable.
  - Definition of a  $C^k$ -curve requires a  $C^{m \geq k}$ -manifold.
- c) A differentiable manifold
- is always a topological space.
  - has enough structure to constitute a vectorspace.
  - is a generalisation of a set.
  - requires the discrete topology.
  - features at least one set of charts that covers the whole manifold.

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**Exercise 2: Restricting the atlas**

*From topological to differentiable manifolds.*

Let  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{standard}})$  be a topological space. Let it be further equipped with an atlas  $\mathcal{A} = \{(\mathbb{R}, x), (\mathbb{R}, y)\}$  where  $x : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; a \mapsto x(a) = a$  and  $y : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; a \mapsto y(a) = a^3$

**Question:** Construct the chart transition map  $y \circ x^{-1} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and give its differentiability class.

**Solution:**

**Question:** Also construct the chart transition map  $x \circ y^{-1} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Is  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{standard}}, \mathcal{A})$  a differentiable manifold?

**Solution:**

**Question:** Restrict the atlas  $\mathcal{A}$  to an atlas  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  in order to make  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{standard}}, \tilde{\mathcal{A}})$  into a smooth manifold.

**Solution:**

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**Exercise 3: Soft squares on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$**

*From charts to atlases.*

Let  $M = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  equipped with the soft square topology  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{ssq}}$  and an atlas  $\mathcal{A} = \{(U_n, x_n)\}$ , where  $U_n = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, |x| < n, |y| < n, n \in \mathbb{N}^+\}$  and

$$x_n : U_n \rightarrow x_n(U_n) \subset \mathbb{R}^2; (x, y) \mapsto x_n((x, y)) := \left( \frac{x+y}{2n}, \frac{x-y}{2n} \right).$$

**Question:** Recall the definition of a chart and show that the  $(U_n, x_n)$  are indeed charts.

**Solution:**

**Question:** Show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $C^k$ -atlas by explicitly constructing the chart transition map. What is  $k$ ?

**Solution:**

**Question:** Construct at least one other chart that would lie in the maximal extension of  $\mathcal{A}$  and prove that it does.

**Solution:**

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**Short exercise 4: Undergraduate multi-dimensional analysis**

*A good notation and basic results for partial differentiation.*

For a map  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  we denote by the map  $\partial_i f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the partial derivative with respect to the  $i$ -th entry.

**Question:** Given a function

$$f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; (\alpha, \beta, \delta) \mapsto f(\alpha, \beta, \delta) := \alpha^3 \beta^2 + \beta^2 \delta + \delta$$

calculate the values of the following derivatives:

**Solution:**

○  $(\partial_2 f)(x, y, z) =$

○  $(\partial_1 f)(\square, \circ, \star) =$

○  $(\partial_1 \partial_2 f)(a, b, c) =$

○  $(\partial_3^2 f)(299, 1222, 0) =$

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**Exercise 5: Differentiability on a manifold**

*How to deal with functions and curves in a chart.*

Let  $(M, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{A})$  be a smooth  $d$ -dimensional manifold. Consider a chart  $(U, x)$  of the atlas  $\mathcal{A}$  together with a smooth curve  $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow U$  and a smooth function  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  on the domain  $U$  of the chart.

**Question:** Draw a commutative diagram containing the chart domain, chart map, function, curve, and the respective representatives of the function and the curve in the chart.

**Solution:**

**Question:** Consider, for  $d = 2$ ,

$$(x \circ \gamma)(\lambda) := (\cos(\lambda), \sin(\lambda)) \quad \text{and} \quad (f \circ x^{-1})(x, y) := x^2 + y^2.$$

Using the chain rule, calculate

$$(f \circ \gamma)'(\lambda)$$

explicitly.

**Solution:**