

# Orientation and fundamental class

## Def

A (topological) manifold of dimension  $n$  is a Hausdorff (and countable) topological space which is locally homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .



A compact manifold is called a closed manifold

## Orientations for vector spaces



$\mathbb{R}^2$

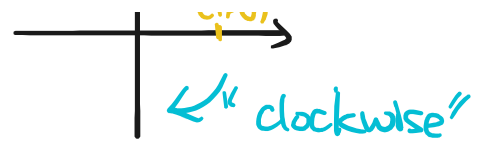


$\{(1,0), (0,1)\} \rightarrow \{(0,1), (1,0)\}$

"left"  
"right-handed"



"left-handed"



Def

Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional real vector space, and let

$\mathcal{B}(V) =$  the set of all the ordered bases for  $V$

We say that

$$(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n), (\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_n) \in \mathcal{B}(V)$$

have the same orientation if the matrix of changing coordinates has a positive determinant, i.e.

if

$$\vec{w}_i = a_{1i} \vec{v}_1 + a_{2i} \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_{ni} \vec{v}_n$$

$i = 1, \dots, n$  then

$x = 1, \dots, n$ , then

$$\det(a_{ij}) > 0.$$

Having the same orientation is an equivalence relation  $\sim$  with 2 equivalence classes.

An equivalence class in

$$\mathcal{B}(V) / \sim$$

is called an orientation of  $V$

If an orientation is chosen, we say  $V$  is oriented.

We will identify an orientation

of  $V$  with a generator of

$$H_n(V, V - \{0\}).$$

dimension of  $V$

To do so, we need the five lemma:

Five lemma (p. 129)

Suppose we are given a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} A & \rightarrow & B & \rightarrow & C & \rightarrow & D & \rightarrow & E \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \beta \downarrow & & \gamma \downarrow & & \delta \downarrow & & \epsilon \downarrow \\ A' & \rightarrow & B' & \rightarrow & C' & \rightarrow & D' & \rightarrow & E' \end{array}$$

exact

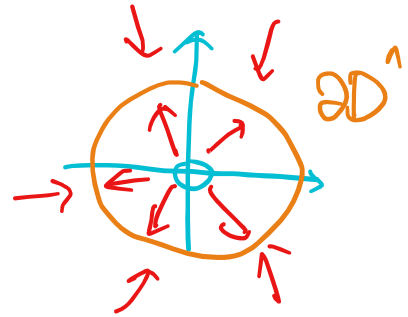
whose two rows are exact

If  $\alpha, \beta, \delta, \epsilon$  are isomorphisms, then so is  $\gamma$ .

Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$ . Since

$$D^n \hookrightarrow V$$

$$\partial D^n \hookrightarrow V - \{0\}$$



induce iso

$$H_k(D^n) \xrightarrow[\cong]{i_*} H_k(V)$$

$$H_k(\partial D^n) \xrightarrow[\cong]{j_*} H_k(V - \{0\}),$$

the map

$$(D^n, \partial D^n) \hookrightarrow (V, V - \{0\})$$

also induces iso

$$H_k(D^n, \partial D^n) \xrightarrow[\cong]{k_*} H_k(V, V - \{0\})$$

by Five lemma:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \cdots & \rightarrow & H_k(\partial D^n) & \rightarrow & H_k(D^n) & \rightarrow & H_k(D^n, \partial D^n) & \rightarrow & H_{k-1}(\partial D^n) & \rightarrow & H_{k-1}(D^n) & \rightarrow \cdots \\ & & \downarrow j_* \cong & & \downarrow i_* \cong & & \downarrow k_* \cong & & \downarrow j_* \cong & & \downarrow i_* \cong & \\ \cdots & \rightarrow & H_k(V - \{0\}) & \rightarrow & H_k(V) & \rightarrow & H_k(V, V - \{0\}) & \rightarrow & H_{k-1}(V - \{0\}) & \rightarrow & H_{k-1}(V) & \rightarrow \cdots \end{array}$$

Prop

Let  $V$  be a real vector space of dim.  $n$ . The orientations of  $V$  are in one-in-one correspondence to <sup>naturally</sup> the generators of

$$H_n(V, V - \{0\}) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

pf

Recall that a homeomorphism

$$\Delta^n \longrightarrow D^n$$

$$\{(t_0, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid t_0 + \dots + t_n = 1, t_0, \dots, t_n \geq 0\}$$

induces a generator of

$$H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) \xrightarrow[k_*]{\cong} H_n(V, V - \{0\})$$

Choose a basis

Given a basis

$$\beta = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n) \in \mathcal{B}(V),$$

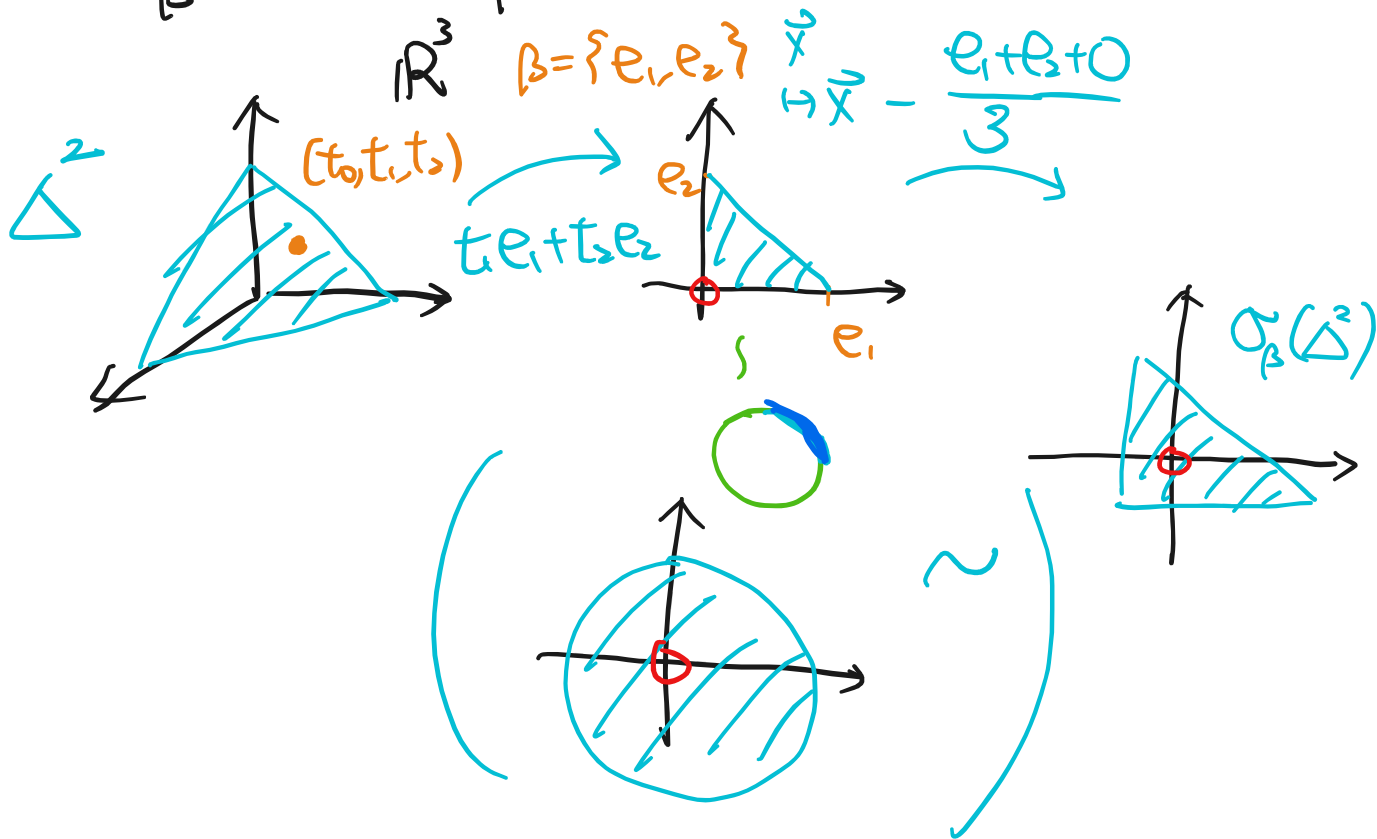
the map

$$\sigma_\beta: \Delta^n \longleftrightarrow V$$

$$\sigma_\beta(t_0, \dots, t_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \vec{v}_i - \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{v}_i$$

defines a homeomorphism

$$\sigma_\beta: \Delta^n \rightarrow \sigma_\beta(\Delta^n) \cong \hat{D}$$



So we have a generator

$$[\sigma_\beta] \in H_n(\sigma_\beta(\Delta^n), \sigma_\beta(\Delta^n) - \{0\})$$

$\downarrow$  IS (five lemma)

$$H_n(V, V - \{0\})$$

So we have a map

$$\mathcal{B}(V) \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{generators} \\ \text{of } H_n(V, V - \{0\}) \end{array} \right\}$$

To objection between orientations and generators, it suffices to show

$$\beta \sim \gamma \iff [\sigma_\beta] = [\sigma_\gamma] \text{ in } H_n(V, V - \{0\})$$

Observe that if

... ..  $\rightarrow \rightarrow$



$$\gamma = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$$

is another basis s.t.

$$\vec{w}_i = a_{i1} \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{in} \vec{v}_n,$$

$i=1, \dots, n$ , then the map

$$A \circ \phi: V \rightarrow V,$$

$$A \circ \phi \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \vec{v}_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \vec{w}_i$$

$\beta$

$\gamma$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}}{x_j} x_j \vec{v}_j$$

$$A = (a_{ij})$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\longrightarrow A \cdot \vec{x}$$

maps

$$\sigma_{\beta}(\Delta^n)$$

to

$$\sigma_{\gamma}(\Delta^n)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$A_{\#} : H_n(V, V - \{0\}) \rightarrow H_n(V, V - \{0\})$$

$\sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim$

$$A_*([\sigma_\beta]) = [\sigma_\delta]$$

So

$$[\sigma_\beta] = [\sigma_\delta]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \deg(A) = 1$$

Claim:

$$\deg(A) = \text{sign}(\det(A)) \quad (*)$$

idea

By elementary row operations,

$$A = E_1 E_2 \dots E_\ell$$

where  $E_i$  are one of the following types:

$$S_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & 0 & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_{ij\lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \lambda & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\dots \quad \dots$$

$$M_{ic} = \begin{pmatrix} c & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & c \end{pmatrix}, \quad c \neq 0$$

Check all of them satisfy  $(*)$ .

$$\deg(A) = \text{sign}(\det(A)). \quad \#$$

Let  $M$  be a manifold,  $x \in M$ .

$\exists$  neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$  s.t.

$V \cong \mathbb{R}^n$ . By the excision thm,  
 $(x \leftrightarrow 0)$

$$H_n(V, V - \{x\}) \cong H_n(M, M - \{x\})$$

$$\cong H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n - \{0\})$$

Def  $(\dim M = n)$

A local orientation of  $M$  at  $x \in M$

is a generator  $\mu_x$  of  $H_n(M, M - \{x\}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

An orientation of  $M$  is a function

$$M \longrightarrow \coprod_{x \in M} H_n(M, M - \{x\})$$

$$x \longmapsto \underbrace{\mu_x \in H_n(M, M - \{x\})}_{\text{local orientation}}$$

satisfying a certain compatibility condition.

If an orientation exists for  $M$ , we say  $M$  is orientable

Thm (Thm 3.26)

Let  $M$  be a closed connected manifold of dim  $n$ .

(i) If  $M$  is orientable, then

$$H_n(M) \longrightarrow H_n(M, M - \{x\})$$

see long exact seq of  $(M, M - \{x\})$

is an isomorphism for each  $x \in M$ .

$$\text{ii) } H_k(M) = 0 \quad \forall k > n.$$

Def

Let  $M$  be a manifold (not necessarily closed connected). An element of

$H_n(M)$  whose image in

$$\mu_x \in H_n(M, M - \{x\})$$

is a generator for each  $x \in M$

is called a fundamental class

or an orientation class for  $M$ .

Thm (p. 236)

A fundamental class exists iff  
 $M$  is closed and orientable.

# Construction of fundamental class

Recall  $\Delta$ -complex

Prop

The cellular chain complex of a  $\Delta$ -complex is isomorphic to its simplicial chain complex.

In particular, the simplicial homology groups of a  $\Delta$ -complex are isomorphic to its singular homology groups.

Suppose a closed manifold  $M$  of dim  $n$  has a  $\Delta$ -complex structure on it.

Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m : \Delta^n \rightarrow M$  be  $\underbrace{\text{generators of } n\text{-chains (simplicial)}}_{\text{all}}$

be  $\underbrace{\text{all}}$  the  $n$ -simplices of  $M$ .

A homology class  $\mu \in H_n(M)$  is represented by

$$\mu = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m k_i \sigma_i \right]$$

for some  $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Prop (p. 238)

A closed  $n$ -manifold  $M$  is orientable iff  $\exists k_i = \pm 1$  s.t.

$$\partial \left( \sum_{i=1}^m k_i \sigma_i \right) = 0.$$

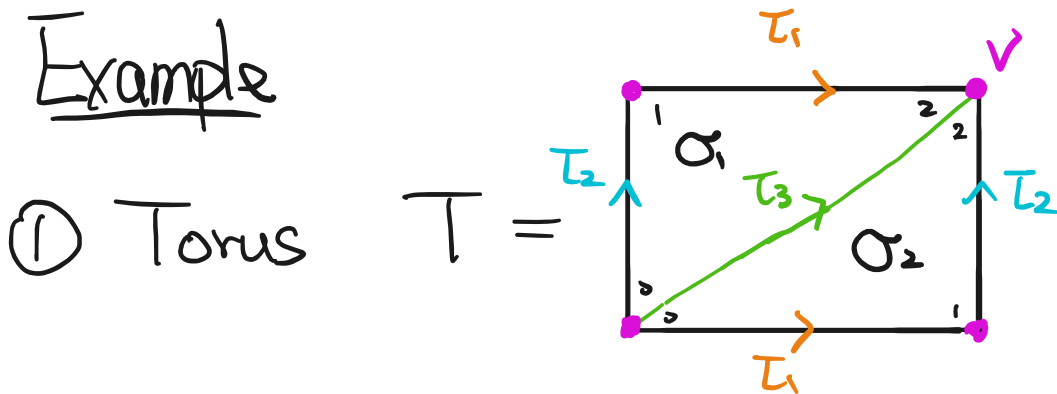
In this case, the class

$\mu = \sum_{i=1}^m k_i \sigma_i$

$$\mu = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \sigma_i \right] \in H_n(M)$$

is a fundamental class for  $M$ .

### Example



Note:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\sigma_1) &= \sigma_1|_{[v_1, v_2]} - \sigma_1|_{[v_0, v_2]} + \sigma_1|_{[v_0, v_1]} \\ &= \tau_1 - \tau_3 + \tau_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\sigma_2) &= \sigma_2|_{[v_1, v_2]} - \sigma_2|_{[v_0, v_2]} + \sigma_2|_{[v_0, v_1]} \\ &= \tau_2 - \tau_3 + \tau_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \dots \tau \in H_1(T)$$



$$\mu = [U_1 - U_2] \sim \pi_2^{-1}(1)$$

is a fundamental class of  $T_{\#}$