

## Homework 5b. Solutions.

*Here we focus attention on calculations in Cartesian and polar coordinates*

**1** Calculate differential forms  $\omega = xdy - ydx$ ,  $\sigma = xdx + ydy$  and vector fields  $\mathbf{A} = x\partial_x + y\partial_y$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = x\partial_y - y\partial_x$  in polar coordinates.

This exercise was done during the XII-th lecture (see the subsection 2.3.5 "Differential forms in arbitrary coordinates" in Lecture notes). Just recall the answers:

$$\omega = xdy - ydx = r^2 d\varphi, \sigma = xdx + ydy = r dr, \quad \mathbf{A} = x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = r \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \mathbf{B} = x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}, \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \varphi \\ y = r \sin \varphi \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ \varphi = \arctan \frac{y}{x} \end{cases}. \quad (1.2)$$

**2** Consider differential forms  $\omega = xdy - ydx$ ,  $\sigma = xdx + ydy$  and vector fields  $\mathbf{A} = x\partial_x + y\partial_y$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = x\partial_y - y\partial_x$

Calculate  $\omega(\mathbf{A}), \omega(\mathbf{B}), \sigma(\mathbf{A}), \sigma(\mathbf{B})$ .

We will solve this problem first in Cartesian coordinates then in polar coordinates

*Cartesian coordinates*

:

$$\omega(\mathbf{A}) = (xdy - ydx) \left( x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) =$$

$$x^2 dy \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) + xy dy \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) - yx dx \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) - y^2 dx \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) = x^2 \cdot 0 + xy \cdot 1 - yx \cdot 1 - y^2 \cdot 0 = 0.$$

Later we often denote vector field  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  by  $\partial_x$ , vector field  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$  by  $\partial_y$ ...

$$\omega(\mathbf{B}) = (xdy - ydx) (x\partial_y - y\partial_x) = x^2 dy(\partial_y) - xy dy(\partial_x) - yx dx(\partial_y) + y^2 dx(\partial_x) = x^2 \cdot 1 - xy \cdot 0 - yx \cdot 0 + y^2 \cdot 1 = x^2 + y^2 = r^2,$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{A}) = (xdx + ydy) (x\partial_x + y\partial_y) = x^2 dx(\partial_x) + xy dx(\partial_y) + yx dy(\partial_x) + y^2 dy(\partial_y) = x^2 \cdot 1 + xy \cdot 0 + yx \cdot 0 + y^2 \cdot 1 = x^2 + y^2 = r^2,$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{B}) = (xdx + ydy) (x\partial_y - y\partial_x) = x^2 dx(\partial_y) - xy dx(\partial_x) + yx dy(\partial_y) - y^2 dy(\partial_x) = x^2 \cdot 0 - xy \cdot 1 + yx \cdot 1 - y^2 \cdot 0 = 0.$$

*Polar coordinates*

Using formulae (1.1) and (1.2) from previous problem we come to

$$\omega(\mathbf{A}) = r^2 d\varphi \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) = 0, \omega(\mathbf{B}) = r^2 d\varphi \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \right) = r^2 = x^2 + y^2, \sigma(\mathbf{A}) = r dr \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) = r^2 = x^2 + y^2,$$

Note that for this exercise, the solution in polar coordinates is much more shorter!

**3** Consider a function  $f = x^3 - y^3$ .

Calculate the value of 1-form  $\omega = df$  on the vector field  $\mathbf{B} = x\partial_y - y\partial_x$ .

In Cartesian coordinates

$$df(\mathbf{B}) = \partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = (x\partial_y - y\partial_x)(x^3 - y^3) = -3xy^2 - 3yx^4 = -3xy(x + y).$$

Another solution in Cartesian coordinates  $\omega = df = 3x^2dx - 3y^2dy$ , thus

$$\omega(\mathbf{B}) = 3x^2dx - 3y^2dy(x\partial_y - y\partial_x) = -3x^2ydx(\partial_x) - 3y^2dy(\partial_y) = -3xy(x + y).$$

in polar coordinates:

$f = x^3 - y^3 = r^3(\cos^3 \varphi - \sin^3 \varphi)$  hence using (1.1) we come to

$$df(\mathbf{B}) = \partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} (r^3(\cos^3 \varphi - \sin^3 \varphi)) = -3r^3 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi (\cos \varphi + \sin \varphi) = -3xy(x + y).$$

**4** Calculate the derivatives of the functions  $f = x^2 + y^2$ ,  $g = y^2 - x^2$  and  $h = q \log |r| = q \log (\sqrt{x^2 + y^2})$  ( $q$  is a constant) along vector fields  $\mathbf{A} = x\partial_x + y\partial_y$  and  $\mathbf{B} = x\partial_y - y\partial_x$

a) calculating directional derivatives  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f, \partial_{\mathbf{A}}g, \partial_{\mathbf{A}}h, \partial_{\mathbf{B}}f, \partial_{\mathbf{B}}g, \partial_{\mathbf{B}}h$

b) calculating  $df(\mathbf{A}), dg(\mathbf{A}), dh(\mathbf{A}), df(\mathbf{B}), dg(\mathbf{B}), dh(\mathbf{B})$ .

First do using directional derivatives in Cartesian coordinates, then using formula (1.1), (1.2) in polar coordinates:

For vector field  $\mathbf{A} = x\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = r\frac{\partial}{\partial r}$ , we have

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f = \left(x\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right)(x^2 + y^2) = x \cdot 2x + y \cdot 2y = 2(x^2 + y^2)$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $f = r^2$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f = r\frac{\partial}{\partial r}r^2 = 2r^2 = 2(x^2 + y^2)$ .

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}g = \left(x\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right)(y^2 - x^2) = x \cdot (-2x) + y \cdot 2y = 2(y^2 - x^2)$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $g = r^2(\sin^2 \varphi - \cos^2 \varphi) = -2r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}g = r\frac{\partial}{\partial r}(-2r^2 \cos 2\varphi) = 2r^2 = -2r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ .

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}h = x\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + y\frac{\partial h}{\partial y} = \frac{x^2 q}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{y^2 q}{x^2 + y^2} = q$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}h = r\frac{\partial}{\partial r}q \log r = q$ .

For vector field  $\mathbf{B} = x\frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}$ ,

we have

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = \left(x\frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)(x^2 + y^2) = -y \cdot 2x + x \cdot 2y = 0$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $f = r^2$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}r^2 = 0$ .

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}g = -y\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} + x\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = -y \cdot (-2x) + x \cdot 2y = 4xy$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $g = -r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}g = \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}(-r^2 \cos 2\varphi) = 2r^2 \sin 2\varphi = 4r^2 \cos \varphi \sin \varphi = (4r \cos \varphi)(r \sin \varphi) = 4xy$ .

in Cartesian coordinates  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}h = -y \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + x \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} = \frac{-xyq}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{xyq}{x^2+y^2} = 0$ ,

in polar coordinates:  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}h = \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}q \log r = 0$ .

b) Now calculate using 1-form using the fact that  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f = df(\mathbf{A})$ :

We have that  $df = d(x^2 + y^2) = 2xdx + 2ydy$ ,  $dg = d(y^2 - x^2) = g_x dx + g_y dy = (2ydy - 2xdx)$ ,  $dh = d\left(q \log \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}\right) = h_x dx + h_y dy = \frac{qxdx + qydy}{x^2 + y^2}$ .

Hence

in Cartesian:  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f = df(\mathbf{A}) = (2xdx + 2ydy)(x\partial_x + y\partial_y) = 2x^2 dx(\partial_x) + 2y^2 dy(\partial_y) = 2x^2 + 2y^2$ ,

in polar  $f = r^2$ ,  $df = 2rdr$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}f = df(\mathbf{A}) = (2rdr)(r\partial_r) = 2r^2$ .

in Cartesian:  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}g = dg(\mathbf{A}) = (2ydy - 2xdx)((x\partial_x + y\partial_y)) = 2ydy(y\partial_y) - 2xdx(x\partial_x) = 2y^2 - 2x^2$ .

in polar  $g = -r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ ,  $dg = 2r^2 \sin 2\varphi d\varphi - 2r \cos 2\varphi dr$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}g = dg(\mathbf{A}) = (2r^2 \sin 2\varphi d\varphi - 2r \cos 2\varphi dr)(r\partial_r) = -2r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ .

in Cartesian  $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}h = dh(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{qxdx + qydy}{x^2 + y^2} (x\partial_x + y\partial_y) = \frac{qxdx(x\partial_x) + qydy(y\partial_y)}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{qx^2 + qy^2}{x^2 + y^2} = q$

in polar  $h = q \log r$   $\partial_{\mathbf{A}}h = dh(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{qdr}{r} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\right) = q$ .

Now for vector field  $\mathbf{B}$

in Cartesian  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = df(\mathbf{B}) = (2xdx + 2ydy)(-y\partial_x + x\partial_y) = -2xydx(\partial_x) + 2xydy(\partial_y) = 0$ ,

in polar,  $f = r^2$ ,  $df = 2rdr$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}f = df(\mathbf{B}) = (2rdr)(\partial_\varphi) = 0$ ,

in Cartesian  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}g = dg(\mathbf{B}) = (2ydy - 2xdx)((x\partial_y - y\partial_x)) = 2ydy(x\partial_y) - 2xdx(-y\partial_x) = 2xy + 2xy = 4xy$ .

in polar,  $g = -r^2 \cos 2\varphi$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}g = dg(\mathbf{B}) = (-2r \cos 2\varphi dr + 2r^2 \sin 2\varphi d\varphi) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}\right) = 2r^2 \sin 2\varphi = 4r^2 \sin \varphi \cos \varphi = 4xy$ .

in Cartesian  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}h = dh(\mathbf{B}) = \frac{qxdx + qydy}{x^2 + y^2} (-y\partial_x + x\partial_y) = \frac{qxdx(-y\partial_x) + qydy(x\partial_y)}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{-qxy + qxy}{x^2 + y^2} = 0$ .

in polar  $h = q \log r$ ,  $dh = \frac{qdr}{r}$ ,  $\partial_{\mathbf{B}}h = dh(\mathbf{B}) = \frac{qdr}{r} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}\right) = 0$ .

**5** Let  $f$  be a function on  $\mathbf{E}^2$  given by  $f(r, \varphi) = r^3 \cos 3\varphi$ , where  $r, \varphi$  are polar coordinates in  $\mathbf{E}^2$ .

Calculate the 1-form  $\omega = df$ .

Calculate the value of the 1-form  $\omega = df$  on the vector field  $\mathbf{X} = r\partial_r + \partial_\varphi$ .

Express the 1-form  $\omega$  in Cartesian coordinates  $x, y$ <sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> You may use the fact that  $\cos 3\varphi = 4 \cos^3 \varphi - 3 \cos \varphi$ .

$$\omega = 3r^2 \cos 3\varphi dr - 3r^3 \sin 3\varphi d\varphi.$$

The value of the form  $\omega = df$  on the vector field  $\mathbf{X} = r\partial_r + \partial_\varphi$  is equal to

$$\omega(\mathbf{X}) = (3r^2 \cos 3\varphi dr - 3r^3 \sin 3\varphi d\varphi)(r\partial_r + \partial_\varphi) = 3r^3 \cos 3\varphi dr(\partial_r) - 3r^3 \sin 3\varphi d\varphi(\partial_\varphi) = 3r^3(\cos 3\varphi - \sin 3\varphi)$$

because  $dr(\partial_r) = 1$ ,  $dr(\partial_\varphi) = 0$  and  $d\varphi(\partial_r) = 0$ ,  $d\varphi(\partial_\varphi) = 1$ .

*Another solution*

$$\omega(\mathbf{X}) = df(\mathbf{X}) = \partial_{\mathbf{X}} f = \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \right) (r^3 \cos 3\varphi) = r \cdot 3r^2 \cos 3\varphi - 3r^3 \sin 3\varphi = 3r^3(\cos 3\varphi - \sin 3\varphi).$$

To express the form  $\omega$  in Cartesian coordinates it is easier to express  $f$  in Cartesian coordinates and then to calculate  $\omega = df$ :

$$f = r^3 \cos 3\varphi = r^3(4 \cos^3 \varphi - 3 \cos \varphi) = 4(r \cos \varphi)^3 - 3r^2(r \cos \varphi) = 4x^3 - 3x(x^2 + y^2) = x^3 - 3xy^2$$

$$\text{Hence } \omega = d(x^3 - 3xy^2) = (3x^2 - 3y^2)dx - 5xydy.$$

*We call 1-form  $\omega$  exact if there exists a function  $F$  such that  $\omega = dF$*

**6** *Show that 1-form  $\omega = xdy + ydx$  is exact.*

*Show that 1-form  $\omega = \sin ydx + x \cos ydy$  is exact.*

*Show that 1-form  $\omega = x^3dy$  is not an exact 1-form.*

We have  $\omega = xdy + ydx = d(xy)$ . Hence this is exact form.

We have  $\omega = \sin ydx + x \cos ydy = d(x \sin y)$ . Hence this is exact form.

Now show that 1-form  $\omega = x^3dy$  is not an exact 1-form. Suppose it is an exact form. Then there exists a function  $F = F(x, y)$  such that

$$\omega = x^3dy = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}dy \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \\ x^3 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y \partial x} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y} = 3x^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y \partial x} \neq \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y}, \text{ Contradiction}$$