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**COMPUTATIONAL ALGEBRAIC GEOMETRY:  
APPLICATION TO EDDY CURRENTS**

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# *Preface*

Computing eddy currents (i.e. computing line integrals of a particular closed 1-form) on a surface involve solving some differential equations over it. Approximating the surface with a simplicial complex appears to be most convenient for computational purposes. There are many methods to address the problem, but most of them tend to be computationally demanding. A method is presented in article [5] which involves the use of the different definitions of the homology and cohomology of the surface together with duality theorems (Poincaré's and de Rham's duality theorems), to transform the problem of solving a differential equation into one of solving a system of linear equations. It turns out that, in order to efficiently compute the line integrals, Poincaré's duality theorem and de Rham's theory will play an important role.

The thesis aims to introduce the mathematical tools used on the modelling and to explain the mathematical aspects of the method proposed.

In chapter one, an introduction to homology and cohomology of a chain complex is presented.

In chapters two and three, the singular chain related to a topological space is introduced, which induces the homology and cohomology of a topological space. Simplicial complexes are introduced so that the homology and cohomology triangulable topological spaces can be handled with simplicial homology and cohomology.

Afterwards, CW complexes are introduced and the construction of the dual block complex of a simplicial complex is explained. Although dual block complex is not always a CW complex, the homology of the dual block complex is constructed in the same way as that of a CW complex, and hence it represents the homology of the topological space.

In chapter four, duality theorems are introduced as well. De Rham's complex is introduced

allowing one to use differential forms to represent cochains. Poincaré's duality theorem is also introduced using the dual block complex, a complex with the same homology of that of a CW complex. This idea will be useful to explicitly compute the Poincaré dual of a simplex belonging to a simplicial complex.

At last, in chapter five, the problem with Eddy currents is exposed and the method presented in [5] is explained.

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# Chapter 1

## Homology and Cohomology Groups

### 1.1 Chain Complexes

**Definition** The pair  $K = \{K_n, \partial_n\}$  consisting of a sequence of abelian groups  $K_n$  and a sequence of group homomorphisms  $\partial : K_n \rightarrow K_{n-1}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) satisfying the condition

$$\partial_{n-1} \partial_n = 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

is called a **chain complex**. The elements of  $K_n$  are called *n-chains* and the homomorphisms  $\partial_n$  the **n-th boundary operator**.

The subgroups  $\ker \partial_n$  and  $\text{im } \partial_{n+1}$  of  $K_n$  are denoted  $Z_n(K)$  and  $B_n(K)$  respectively and its elements are called **n-cycles** and **n-boundaries** respectively.

The quotient groups

$$H_n(K) := \frac{Z_n(K)}{B_n(K)}$$

are called the **n-th homology group of K**. Notice that they are well defined due to the condition over the boundary operators.

**Definition** Let  $K = \{K_n, \partial_n\}$  and  $K' = \{K'_n, \partial'_n\}$  be two chain complexes. A sequence of homomorphisms  $f_n : K_n \rightarrow K'_n$  satisfying the commutative conditions

$$f_{n-1} \partial_n = \partial'_n f_n$$

is called a **chain map** and it is denoted as  $f : K \rightarrow K'$ .

Due to the commutative conditions,  $f_n(Z_n(K)) \subset Z_n(K')$  and  $f_n(B_n(K)) \subset B_n(K')$  are satisfied. Hence, a chain map induces an homomorphism

$$f_* : H_n(K) \rightarrow H_n(K')$$

given by

$$z_n + B_n(K) \mapsto f(z_n) + B_n(K')$$

**Definition** Let  $f, g : K \rightarrow K'$  be two chain maps. A sequence of homomorphisms

$$D_n : K_n \rightarrow K'_{n+1}$$

satisfying

$$f_n - g_n = \partial'_{n+1} D_n + D_{n+1} \partial_n$$

for all  $n$  is called a **chain homotopy** between  $f$  and  $g$  and is denoted as  $D : K \rightarrow K'$ .

Two maps  $f, g : K \rightarrow K'$  are said to be **chain homotopic** if a chain homotopy exists between them.

**Proposition 1.1.1** *Let  $f, g : K \rightarrow K'$  are chain homotopic then*

$$f_* = g_* : H_n(K) \rightarrow H_n(K')$$

for all  $n$ .

## 1.2 Homology Groups with Arbitrary Coefficients

**Proposition 1.2.1** *Let  $K = \{K_n, \partial_n\}, L$  be chain complexes,  $f, g : K \rightarrow L$  chain maps,  $D : K \rightarrow L$  a chain homotopy between  $f$  and  $g$  and  $G$  an abelian group. Then:*

*The induced sequence*

$$K \otimes G := \{K_n \otimes G, \partial \otimes 1_G\}$$

*is a chain complex.*

The induced sequence of homomorphisms

$$f_n \otimes 1_G : K_n \otimes G \rightarrow L_n \otimes G,$$

denoted as  $f \otimes 1_G : K \otimes G \rightarrow L \otimes G$ , is a chain map.

Then induced sequence of homomorphisms

$$D_n \otimes 1_G : K_n \otimes G \rightarrow L_{n+1} \otimes G$$

is a chain homotopy between  $f \otimes 1_G$  and  $g \otimes 1_G$ .

**Lemma 1.2.2** *If  $K''$  is a chain complex of free abelian groups, then any short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K' \rightarrow K \rightarrow K'' \rightarrow 0$  is split exact.*

**Lemma 1.2.3** *Let  $K$  and  $K'$  be chain complexes of free abelian groups, and let  $f : K \rightarrow K'$  be a chain map such that  $f_* : H_n(K) \rightarrow H_n(K')$  is an isomorphism for all  $n$ . Then, for any abelian group  $G$ , the induced chain map  $f \otimes 1_G : K \otimes G \rightarrow K' \otimes G$  also induces isomorphisms*

$$(f \otimes 1_G)_* : H_n(K \otimes G) \approx H_n(K' \otimes G)$$

for all  $n$ .

### 1.3 Cochain Complexes

**Definition** The pair of sequences  $K = \{K^q, \delta_q\}$  of abelian groups  $K^q$  and homomorphisms  $\delta_q : K^q \rightarrow K^{q+1}$  satisfying the condition

$$\delta_{q+1}\delta_q = 0$$

for all  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  is called a *cochain complex*. The homomorphisms  $\delta_q$  are called **coboundary operators**.

The subgroups  $\ker \delta_q$  and  $\text{im } \delta_{q-1}$  of  $K_q$  are denoted  $Z^q(K)$  and  $B^q(K)$  respectively and its elements are called **q-cocycles** and **q-coboundaries** respectively

The quotient groups

$$H^q(K) := \frac{Z^q(K)}{B^q(K)}$$

are called the **q-th cohomology group** of  $K$ .

**Definition** Let  $K = \{K^q, \delta^q\}$  and  $K' = \{K'^q, \delta'^q\}$  be two cochain complexes. A sequence of homomorphism  $f^q : K^q \rightarrow K'^q$  satisfying the commutative conditions

$$f^{q+1}\delta^q = \delta'^q f^q$$

is called a **cochain map** and it is denoted as  $f : K \rightarrow K'$ .

Due to the commutative conditions,  $f^q(Z^q(K)) \subset Z^q(K')$  and  $f^q(B^q(K)) \subset B^q(K')$  are satisfied. Hence, a chain map induces an homomorphism

$$f^* : H^q(K) \rightarrow H^q(K')$$

given by

$$z^q + B^q(K) \mapsto f(z^q) + B^q(K')$$

## 1.4 Cohomology Groups with Arbitrary Coefficients

**Proposition 1.4.1** Let  $K = \{K_n, \partial_n\}, L$  be chain complexes,  $f, g : K \rightarrow L$  chain maps,  $D : K \rightarrow L$  a chain homotopy between  $f$  and  $g$  and  $G$  an abelian group. Then:

*The induced sequence*

$$\text{Hom}(K, G) := \{\text{Hom}(K_n, G), \text{Hom}(\partial_n, 1_G)\}$$

*is a cochain complex, where  $\text{Hom}(\partial_n, 1_G)$  is the homomorphism mapping and element  $f : K_n \rightarrow G$  to  $1_G^{-1} \circ f \circ \partial_n : K_{n+1} \rightarrow G$ .*

*The induced sequence of homomorphisms*

$$\text{Hom}(f_n, 1_G) : \text{Hom}(K_n, G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(L_n, G),$$

*denoted as  $\text{Hom}(f, 1_G) : \text{Hom}(K, G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(L, G)$ , is a cochain map.*

*Then induced sequence of homomorphisms*

$$\text{Hom}(D_n, 1_G) : \text{Hom}(K_{n+1}, G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(L_n, G)$$

*is a cochain homotopy between  $\text{Hom}(f, 1_G)$  and  $\text{Hom}(g, 1_G)$ .*

## Chapter 2

# Singular Homology and Cohomology of a Topological Space

### 2.1 Simplexes on $\mathbb{R}^n$

**Definition** A subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called an **affine space** if for every pair of points  $x, y$  contained in  $A$  the line determined by them is contained in  $A$ .

An **affine combination** of points  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a point

$$x = t_0 p_0 + t_1 p_1 + \dots + t_m p_m$$

for some coefficients  $t_0, t_1, \dots, t_m$  such that  $t_0 + t_1 + \dots + t_m = 1$ .

A subset  $C$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a **convex set** if for every pair of points  $x, y$  contained in  $C$  the segment determined by them is contained in  $C$ .

A **convex combination** of points  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a point

$$x = t_0 p_0 + t_1 p_1 + \dots + t_m p_m$$

for some coefficients  $t_0, t_1, \dots, t_m$  such that  $t_0 + t_1 + \dots + t_m = 1$  and  $0 \leq t_i \leq 1$ .

Let  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . The affine space (resp. convex set) spanned by  $X$  is the smallest affine space (resp. convex set) containing  $X$ . The convex set spanned by  $X$  is denoted  $[X]$ .

**Theorem 2.1.1** *Let  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $[p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n]$  is exactly the set of all convex combinations of  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$ .*

**Definition** An ordered set of points  $\{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be **affine independent** if  $\{p_1 - p_0, p_2 - p_0, \dots, p_m - p_0\}$  is a linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Theorem 2.1.2** Let  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  be an affine independent subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $A$  the affine set spanned by it. Then,  $\forall x \in A$  there exists a unique  $(m+1)$ -tuple  $(t_0, t_1, \dots, t_m)$  satisfying  $\sum t_i = 1$  and

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^m t_i p_i$$

This  $(m+1)$ -tuple is called the **barycentric coordinates** of  $x$ .

**Definition** Let  $\{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m\}$  be an affine independent subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The convex set spanned by it is called the **m-simplex** with vertices  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$ . It is denoted by  $[p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m]$ .

The barycentric coordinates of elements of  $[p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m]$  are all non-negative. The element with barycentric coordinates  $(1/(m+1), \dots, 1/(m+1))$  is called the **barycentre**.

For each vertex  $p_i$ , the  $(m-1)$ -simplex  $[p_0, \dots, \hat{p}_i, \dots, p_m]$  is called the **face opposite**  $p_i$ . The union of all its faces is called the boundary of  $[p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m]$ .

**Definition** The  $n$ -simplex  $\Delta^n = [e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n]$  spanned by the origin and the elements of the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called the **standard n-simplex**.

An ordering  $e_{\pi_0}, e_{\pi_1}, \dots, e_{\pi_n}$  of the vertices  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  is called an *orientation* on  $\Delta^n$ . Two orientations  $e_{\pi_0}, e_{\pi_1}, \dots, e_{\pi_n}$  and  $e_{\rho_0}, e_{\rho_1}, \dots, e_{\rho_n}$  are said to be equivalent if  $\rho^{-1}\pi$  is an even permutation.

## 2.2 The Singular Complex of a Topological Space

**Definition** Let  $X$  be a topological space. A continuous map  $\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$  is called a **(singular) n-simplex** in  $X$ .

**Definition** Let  $X$  be a topological space. For each  $n \geq 0$ , let  $S_n(X)$  be the free abelian group with basis all singular  $n$ -simplexes in  $X$ . Let  $S_{-1}(X) = 0$ . The elements of  $S_n(X)$  are called **n-chains** in  $X$ .

**Definition** The map  $\varepsilon_i^n : \Delta^{n-1} \rightarrow \Delta^n$  given by

$$\varepsilon_i^n(t_0, \dots, t_{n-1}) = (t_0, \dots, t_{i-1}, 0, t_{i+1}, \dots, t_{n-1})$$

in barycentric coordinates, is called the **i-th face map**.

Let  $\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$  be a  $n$ -simplex and denote  $p_i = \sigma(e_i)$ .

The  $n - 1$ -simplexes  $\sigma\varepsilon_i^n$  are called the **face opposite**  $p_i$ .

The  $n - 1$  chain given by

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_n \sigma &= \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \sigma\varepsilon_i^n, \quad n > 0 \\ \partial_0 \sigma &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

is called the **boundary** of  $\sigma$ .

**Theorem 2.2.1** *For each  $n \geq 0$ , there exist a unique homomorphism  $\partial : S_n(X) \rightarrow S_{n-1}(X)$  extending the boundary definition over the  $n$ -simplexes above.*

**Theorem 2.2.2** *For all  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\partial_n \partial_{n+1} = 0$ .*

**Definition** The pair of sequences  $(S_n(X), \partial_n)$  form a chain complex, called the **singular chain complex** of  $X$ . The group of  $n$ -cycles is denoted  $Z_n(X)$  and the group of boundaries  $B_n(X)$ . Its homology group is called the **singular homology** and denoted  $H_n(X)$ .

The pair of sequences  $(\text{Hom}(S_n(X), \mathbb{Z}), \text{Hom}(\partial_n, 1_Z))$  form a cochain complex, called the **singular cochain complex** of  $X$ . The group of  $n$ -cocycles is denoted  $Z^n(X)$  and the group of boundaries  $B^n(X)$ . Its cohomology group is called the **singular cohomology** and denoted  $H^n(X)$ .

## 2.3 Universal Coefficients Theorems

**Theorem 2.3.1 (Universal Coefficients Theorem for Homology)**

- For every space  $X$  and every abelian group  $G$ , there are exact sequences for all  $n \geq 0$

$$0 \longrightarrow H_n(X) \otimes G \xrightarrow{\alpha} H_n(X; G) \longrightarrow \text{Tor}(H_{n-1}(X), G) \longrightarrow 0$$

where  $\alpha : (clsz) \otimes g \mapsto cls(z \otimes g)$  and  $\text{Tor}$  represents the torsion part.

- This sequence splits; that is,

$$H_n(X; G) \approx H_n(X) \otimes G \oplus \text{Tor}(H_{n-1}(X), G)$$

See [1] Theorem 9.32.

### Theorem 2.3.2 (Universal Coefficients Theorem for Cohomology)

- For every space  $X$  and every abelian group  $G$ , there are exact sequences for all  $n \geq 0$

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}, G) \longrightarrow H^n(X; G) \xrightarrow{\beta} \text{Hom}(H_n(X), G) \longrightarrow 0$$

where  $\beta$  is given by  $\beta(cls(\varphi)) = \phi'$  and  $\phi'(z_n + B_n) = \phi(z_n)$ .

- This sequence splits; that is, there are isomorphisms for all  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$H^n(\text{Hom}(C_*, G)) \approx \text{Hom}(H_n(C_*), G) \oplus \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(C_*), G)$$

See [1] Theorem 12.11.

## 2.4 Relative Homology

**Definition** Let  $(X, A)$  be a pair of topological spaces such that  $A \subseteq X$  and it has the subspace topology, and  $S_*(X), S_*(A)$  their respective singular chain complexes. The groups  $\frac{S_n(X)}{S_n(A)}$  form a chain complex. Its homology groups  $H_n(S_*(X)/S_*(A))$  are called the **relative homology groups** and denoted  $H_n(X, A)$ .

**Theorem 2.4.1** If  $A$  is a subspace of  $X$ , there exists a long exact sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow H_n(A) \longrightarrow H_n(X) \longrightarrow H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \dots$$

The proof is based on applying the snake lemma to the short exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(X, A) \rightarrow 0$ .

**Definition** The group of **relative n-cycles** mod  $A$  is defined as

$$Z_n(X, A) = \{c \in S_n(X) : \partial c \in S_{n-1}(A)\}$$

The group of **relative n-boundaries** mod  $A$  is defined as

$$B_n(X, A) = \{c \in S_n(X) : c = c' + \partial d, \text{ for some } c' \in S_n(A), d \in C_{n+1}(X)\}$$

**Theorem 2.4.2** For all  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$H_n(X, A) \approx Z_n(X, A)/B_n(X, A)$$



## Chapter 3

# Simplicial Homology and Cohomology

### 3.1 Simplicial Complexes

**Definition** Let  $s = [v_0, \dots, v_q]$  be a  $q$ -simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Its **vertex set** is defined by

$$\text{Vert}(s) = \{v_0, \dots, v_q\}$$

A simplex  $s'$  satisfying  $\text{Vert}(s') \subseteq \text{Vert}(s)$  is called a **face** of  $s$  and is denoted as  $s' \leq s$ . If the inclusion is proper, then  $s'$  is called a **proper face** of  $s$  and is denoted as  $s' < s$ .

**Definition** A **simplicial complex**  $K$  is defined as a finite collection of simplexes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying:

- if  $s \in K$ , then every face of  $s$  belongs to  $K$
- if  $s, t \in K$ , then  $s \cap t$  is either empty or a common face of both  $s$  and  $t$

The collection of 0-simplexes in  $K$  is called the **vertex set** and is denoted  $\text{Vert}(K)$ .

The subspace  $|K|$  of the ambient space defined as

$$|K| = \bigcup_{s \in K} s$$

is called the **underlying space** of  $K$ .

**Definition** A topological space  $X$  is called a **polyhedron** if there exists simplicial complex  $K$  and an homeomorphism  $h : |K| \rightarrow X$ . The ordered pair  $(K, h)$  is called a **triangulation** of  $X$ .

By abuse of notation, the identification  $X = |K|$  might be done.

**Definition** The **dimension** of a simplicial complex  $K$  is defined by

$$\dim K := \sup_{s \in K} \{\dim s\}$$

where a  $q$ -simplex is assumed to have dimension  $q$ .

**Definition** A simplicial complex  $K$  equipped with a partial order on  $\text{Vert}(K)$  whose restriction to any simplex in  $K$  is a total order is called an **oriented simplicial complex**.

**Definition** If  $K$  is an oriented simplicial complex and  $q \geq 0$ , let  $C_q(K)$  be the abelian group having the following presentation:

Generators:  $(q+1)$ -tuples  $(p_0, \dots, p_q)$  with  $p_i \in \text{Vert}(K)$  such that  $\{p_0, \dots, p_k\}$  spans a simplex in  $K$ .

Relations:

1.  $(p_0, \dots, p_q) = 0$  if some vertex is repeated
2.  $(p_0, \dots, p_q) = (\text{sgn}\pi)(p_{\pi_0}, \dots, p_{\pi_q})$ , where  $\pi$  is a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, q\}$ .

One denotes the element of  $C_q(K)$  corresponding to  $(p_0, \dots, p_q)$  by  $\langle p_0, \dots, p_q \rangle$ .

**Lemma 3.1.1** *Let  $K$  be an oriented simplicial complex of dimension  $m$ . Then,*

1.  $C_q(K)$  is a free abelian group with basis of symbols  $\langle p_0, \dots, p_q \rangle$ , where  $\{p_0, \dots, p_q\}$  spans a  $q$ -simplex in  $K$  and  $p_0 < p_1 < \dots < p_q$ . Moreover,  $\langle p_{\pi_0}, \dots, p_{\pi_q} \rangle = (\text{sgn}\pi) \langle p_0, \dots, p_q \rangle$ .
2.  $C_q(K) = 0$  for all  $q > m$ .

**Definition** Define a boundary operator  $\partial : C_q(K) \rightarrow C_{q-1}(K)$  by setting

$$\partial_q(\langle p_0, \dots, p_q \rangle) = \sum_{i=0}^q (-1)^i \langle p_0, \dots, \hat{p}_i, \dots, p_q \rangle$$

and extending it by linearity.

**Theorem 3.1.2** *Let  $K$  be an oriented simplicial complex of dimension  $m$ . Then,*

$$0 \rightarrow C_m(K) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C_1(K) \rightarrow C_0(K) \rightarrow 0$$

*is a chain complex.*

**Definition** Let  $K$  be an oriented complex. Then, define

$$\begin{aligned} Z_q(K) &= \ker \partial_q, & \text{the group of } \mathbf{simplicial\ } q\text{-cycles,} \\ B_q(K) &= \text{im } \partial_{q+1}, & \text{the group of } \mathbf{simplicial\ } q\text{-boundaries,} \\ H_q(K) &= \frac{Z_q(K)}{B_q(K)}, & \text{the } \mathbf{q}\text{-th simplicial homology group.} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.1.3** *For each oriented simplicial complex  $K$ , there exists a chain map  $j : C_*(K) \rightarrow S_*(|K|)$  where each  $j_q : C_q(K) \rightarrow S_q(K)$  is injective. Furthermore it induces isomorphisms,*

$$H_q(K) \approx H_q(|K|)$$

*where  $S_q(K)$  refers to the  $q$ -th singular complex of  $|K|$  and  $H_q(|K|)$  its homology group.*

See [1] Theorem 7.22.

## The Barycentric Decomposition of a Simplicial Complex

**Definition** Let  $K$  be a simplicial complex. If  $s \in K$  is a simplex, let  $b^s$  denote its barycentre. The **barycentric subdivision** of  $K$ , denoted  $Sd(K)$ , is the simplicial complex given by

$$\text{Vert}(Sd(K)) = \{b^s : s \in K\}$$

and simplexes  $[b^{s_0}, \dots, b^{s_q}]$ , where  $s_i$  are simplexes in  $K$  and  $s_i$  is a face of  $s_{i+1}$

If the simplicial complex is oriented, an orientation can be induced on  $Sd(K)$  by setting  $b^\tau \leq b^\sigma$  whenever  $\sigma$  is a face of  $\tau$ .

## 3.2 CW Complexes

**Definition** Let  $D^n \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be the closed unit disc  $D^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) | x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2 \leq 1\}$ ,  $\overset{\circ}{D}^n$  its interior and  $\dot{D}$  its topological boundary. A topological space  $X$  is said to be a **cell** of dimension  $m$  if it is isomorphic to  $D^m$ .

**Definition** A pair  $(X, E)$  consisting of a topological space  $X$  and a family of cells  $E = \{e_\alpha\}$  which are pairwise disjoint and cover  $X$  is said to be a **CW complex** if:

- $X$  is a Hausdorff space
- For each open  $m$ -cell  $e_\alpha$ , there exists an isomorphism  $f_\alpha : D^m \rightarrow X$  whose restriction to  $\overset{\circ}{D}^m$  is a homeomorphism into  $e_\alpha$  and  $f_\alpha(\dot{D})$  is a union of cells of dimension lower than  $m$ .
- A subset  $A$  in  $X$  is closed iff  $A \cap \bar{e}_\alpha$  is closed in  $\bar{e}_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha$ . It is said that  $X$  has the **weak topology**.

The maps  $f_\alpha$  related to  $e_\alpha$  are called **characteristic maps**.

If the family of cell  $e_\alpha$  is finite, then  $X$  is said to be a **finite CW complex**. We will only deal with finite CW complexes.

The subspaces  $X^p = \cup e_\alpha$ , where the union goes over all cells of dimension lower or equal to  $p$  are called the  **$p$ -skeleton** of  $X$ .

A CW complex  $(Y, F)$  is called a **CW subcomplex** of  $(X, E)$ , if  $X \subseteq Y$  and  $F \subseteq E$ .

**Proposition 3.2.1** *Let  $(X, E)$  be a CW complex. If a topological subset  $Y \subseteq X$  can be expressed as union of cells for some  $F \subseteq E$ , where  $\bar{e}_\alpha \subseteq Y$  for all  $e_\alpha \in F$ , then  $(Y, F)$  is a CW subcomplex of  $(X, E)$ .*

*In particular the  $p$ -skeleton  $X^p$  of a CW complex  $(X, E)$  equipped with the family cells of  $E$  of dimension lower or equal to  $p$  is a CW subcomplex.*

**Definition** Let  $X$  be a CW complex. Define,

$$D_p(X) = H_p(X^p, X^{p-1})$$

together with  $\partial_p : D_p(X) \rightarrow D_p(X)$  as the composition of

$$H_p(X^p, X^{p-1}) \rightarrow H_p(X^{p-1}) \rightarrow H_p(X^{p-1}, X^{p-2})$$

where the first homomorphism is the boundary operator on relative homology and the second one the homomorphism induced by the inclusion  $j : (X^{p-1}, \emptyset) \subseteq (X^{p-1}, X^{p-2})$ .

It follows that  $\partial_{p-1} \partial_p = 0$  for all  $p$  and hence  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_p, \partial_p\}$  is a chain complex. It is called the **cellular chain complex** of  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.2.2** *Let  $(X, E)$  be a CW complex. The groups  $H_i(X^p, X^{p-1})$  vanishes if  $i \neq p$ , and is free abelian if  $i = p$ . If  $\gamma$  generates  $H_p(D^p, S^{p-1})$ , then  $H_p(X^p, X^{p-1})$  is generated by elements  $(f_\alpha)_*(\gamma)$ , where  $f_\alpha$  are the characteristic maps of the cells  $e_\alpha$  of dimension  $p$ .*

**Theorem 3.2.3** *Let  $X$  be filtered by the subspaces  $X_0 \subset X_1 \subset \dots$ . Assume that  $H_i(X_p, X_{p-1}) = 0$  whenever  $i \neq 0$ , and that for any compact  $C \subset X$ , there exists  $X_p$  such that  $C \subset X_p$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  be the chain complex defined by setting  $D_p = H_p(X_p, X_{p-1})$  and boundary operator  $\delta_*$  defined as composition between the boundary operator on relative homology of and inclusion, as before.*

*Then there exists an isomorphism*

$$\lambda : H_p(\mathcal{D}(X)) \rightarrow H_p(X)$$

*between the homology of the chain complex above and the singular homology of  $X$ .*

*In particular, the homology of a CW complex is isomorphic to the singular homology.*

See [4] theorem 39.4.

### 3.3 The Dual Block Complex to a Simplicial Complex

In the next section, a complex related to simplicial complexes will be introduced. In general, it will not have a CW-complex structure, because the elements are not necessarily cells. However,

it admits a chain complex constructed as the cellular chain complex of a  $CW$ -complex which determines its homology. This will allow to compute the cohomology of the underlying topological space of the simplicial complex in a different way. Besides, when the original simplicial complex is a triangulation of some manifold, the blocks will actually be cells, and hence they'll constitute a  $CW$ -complex. This structure will prove useful to prove Poincaré's duality, and it will give an explicit way to compute the isomorphism.

**Definition** Let  $X$  be a polyhedron with triangulation  $(K, h)$ , where  $K$  is a finite oriented simplicial complex, and let  $Sd(K)$  be its barycentric subdivision with induced orientation. Let  $\sigma \in K$  be a simplex and  $b^\sigma$  its barycentre. The **dual block** to  $\sigma$ , denoted  $D(\sigma)$  is defined as the union of all open simplexes for which  $b^\sigma$  is the final vertex, i.e.,

$$\hat{\sigma} = \bigcup \tau$$

where the union runs over all simplexes  $\tau$  such that

$$b^\sigma \in \text{Vert}(\tau) \quad \text{and} \quad v \leq b^\sigma, \forall v \in \text{Vert}(\tau)$$

Its topological closure  $\bar{D}(\sigma)$  is called the **closed dual block** to  $\sigma$ . Let  $\dot{D}(\sigma)$  denote the topological boundary.

**Theorem 3.3.1** *Let  $X$  be the underlying topological space of a simplicial complex  $K$  of dimension  $n$  consisting entirely of  $n$ -simplices and their faces. Let  $\sigma$  be a  $k$ -simplex. Then,*

1. *The dual blocks are disjoint and their union is  $X$ .*
2.  *$\bar{D}(\sigma)$  is the polytope of a subcomplex of  $Sd(K)$  of dimension  $n - k$ .*
3.  *$\dot{D}(\sigma)$  is the union of all blocks  $D(\tau)$  for which  $\tau$  has  $\sigma$  as a proper face. These blocks have dimensions lower than  $n - k$ .*
4. *If  $H_i(X, X - b^\sigma) \approx \mathbb{Z}$  for  $i = n$  and vanishes otherwise, then  $(\bar{D}(\sigma), \partial(D(\sigma)))$  has the homology of an  $n - k$  cell modulo its boundary.*

**Definition** Let  $X$  be the underlying topological space of a finite simplicial complex  $K$ . The collection of dual blocks  $\{D(\sigma) : \sigma \in K\}$  is called the **dual block decomposition** of  $X$ . The

union of blocks of dimension at most  $p$  are denoted by  $X_p$  and called the **dual  $p$ -skeleton** of  $X$ . The **dual chain complex**  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X})$  is defined by

$$D_p(X) = H_p(X_p, X_{p-1})$$

with boundary operator  $\delta_*$  given as in the definition of a CW complex.

**Theorem 3.3.2** *Let  $X$  be the underlying topological space of a finite simplicial complex  $K$ ,  $X_p$  the dual  $p$ -skeleton and  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  the dual chain complex. Then,*

1. *The group  $H_i(X_p, X_{p-1})$  vanishes for  $i \neq p$  and is a free abelian group for  $i = p$ . A basis for it is obtained by choosing generators for the groups  $(\bar{D}(\sigma), \dot{D}(\sigma))$ , as  $D(\sigma)$  ranges over all  $p$ -blocks of  $X$ , and taking their images in  $H_p(X_p, X_{p-1})$ .*
2.  *$\mathcal{D}(X)$  can be used to compute the homology of  $X$ . In fact,  $D_p(X)$  equals to a subgroup of  $C_p(\text{Sd}(X))$  consisting of those chains in  $X_p$  such that their boundary is on  $X_{p-1}$ . The inclusion map  $D_p(X) \rightarrow C_p(\text{Sd}(X))$  induces a homology isomorphism.*

A remark could be done on the fact that this blocks are very similar to simplexes. By how they are constructed, the dual block to a simplex  $\sigma^k$  is the union of some open simplexes of dimensions lower or equal to  $n - k$ . These are the same as closed simplexes of dimension exactly  $n - k$  of the previous union. Hence, they can be viewed as chains in  $\text{Sd}(K)$ . Hence, they admit an alternative definition, and handling them as chains of simplexes is often convenient.

**Definition** Let  $K$  be an oriented simplicial complex of dimension  $n$ ,  $\text{Sd}(K)$  its barycentric subdivision and  $i : K \rightarrow \text{Sd}(K)$  the inclusion. Let  $\sigma$  be a simplex in  $K$  and  $i(\sigma)$  its image on  $\text{Sd}(K)$ .

For each 0-simplex  $\sigma^0 \in K$ , define

$$\hat{\sigma}^0 = \sum \tau^n \in C_n(\text{Sd}(K))$$

where the sum runs over all  $n$  simplexes  $\tau^n$  in  $\text{Sd}(K)$ , which have  $i(\sigma^0)$  as a face and are oriented positively with respect to the orientation on  $K$ .

For each  $q$ -simplex  $\sigma^q = [v_0, \dots, v_k] \in K$ , define

$$\hat{\sigma}^k = \sum \tau^{n-q} \in C_{n-q}(\text{Sd}(K))$$

where the sum runs over all  $n - q$  simplexes  $\tau^{n-q} \in \text{Sd}(K)$ , which are common faces of  $[v_k]$  for each  $k = 0, \dots, q$ , and are oriented positively with respect to  $[v_0]$ .

The elements  $\hat{\sigma}^k$  are called **dual block** to  $\sigma^k$ . The elements of

$$\hat{K}_q := \{\Delta_q : \Delta_q = \hat{\sigma}^{n-q} \text{ for some } \sigma^{n-q} \in K_{n-q}\} \subset C_q(\text{Sd}(K))$$

are called **dual  $q$ -blocks**. The set  $\hat{K} = \bigcup_{q=0}^n K_q$  is called the **dual block complex** to  $K$ .

**Proposition 3.3.3** *Let  $K$  be an oriented simplicial complex and  $\hat{K}$  its dual block complex. Let  $C_q(\hat{K})$  be the free abelian group with basis  $K_q$  and  $j_q : K_q \rightarrow C_q(\text{Sd}(K))$  the inclusion. Then,*

1.  $j_q$  can be extended to an injective group homomorphism  $j : C_q(\hat{K}) \rightarrow C_q(\text{Sd}(K))$ .
2. There exists unique set of homomorphisms  $\hat{j}_k : C_k(\hat{K}) \rightarrow C_{k-1}(\hat{K})$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, n$  such that

$$\partial_q j_q = j_{q-1} \hat{\delta}_q, \quad \text{for each } q = 0, \dots, n$$

where  $\delta$  is the boundary operator on  $C_*(\text{Sd}(K))$ . In other words,  $\partial_q j(\Delta_q) \in C_{q-1}(\text{Sd}(K))$  for all  $\Delta_q \in \hat{K}_q$ .

3.  $\hat{\delta}_{q-1} \hat{\delta}_q = 0$  for all  $q$ .

As a result,  $(C_*(\hat{K}), \hat{\delta})$  can be seen as a subchain complex of  $(C_*(\text{Sd}(K)), \partial)$ .

## Chapter 4

# Homology and Cohomology of a Manifold and Duality Theorems

## 4.1 De Rham's Duality Theorem

### 4.1.1 De Rham's Cochain Complex of a Topological Space

**Definition** Let  $A$  be a ring and  $M$  an  $A$ -module. The abelian group defined as the quotient of  $F := A \times M \times \dots \times M$  ( $p$  copies of  $M$ ) by the subgroup  $S$  generated by:

$$\begin{aligned} & (a, m_1, \dots, m_i + m'_i, \dots, m_p) - (a, m_1, \dots, m_i, \dots, m_p) - (a, m_1, \dots, m'_i, \dots, m_p) \\ & (a + a', m_1, \dots, m_p) - (a, m_1, \dots, m_p) - (a', m_1, \dots, m_p) \\ & (a, m_1, \dots, m_p) - (1, m_1, \dots, am_i, \dots, m_p) \\ & (a, m_1, \dots, m_p) \quad \text{if } m_i = m_j \quad \text{for } i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

for all possible values of  $a, a', m_i, m'_i$  and indexes  $i, j$ , is called  **$p$ -th exterior power** of  $M$  and is denoted  $\bigwedge^p M$ .

The cosets  $(a, m_1, \dots, m_p) + S$  are referenced as  $a \wedge m_1 \wedge \dots \wedge m_p$  and satisfy relations induced by the definition of  $S$ .

**Proposition 4.1.1** *If  $M = A^n$ , it is a free  $A$ -module with basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$ . Then,  $\bigwedge^p M$  has basis  $\{e_{i_1} \wedge e_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p} \mid 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n\}$ , and each element  $\omega \in \bigwedge^p M$  admits a unique decomposition*

$$\omega = \sum a_{i_1 \dots i_p} e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p}$$

**Definition** Let  $M$  be a  $\mathbb{R}$ -manifold and  $C^\infty(M)$  the ring of differentiable functions  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The  $C^\infty(M)$ -module  $\Omega_p(X) := \bigwedge^p C^\infty(M)^n$  is called the space of **differential  $p$ -forms** on  $M$ . The elements of the basis of  $C^\infty(M)^n$  are denoted  $dx_i$ , and hence the elements of  $\Omega^p(M)$  admit decomposition

$$\omega = \sum \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$$

for  $\alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \in C^\infty(M)$ .

The  $C^\infty(M)$ -module homomorphism denoted  $d^p : \Omega^p(M) \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1}(M)$  given by:

$$\begin{aligned} d^0(\omega) &= \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial x_j} \right) dx_j, & \text{if } \omega &= \alpha \in C^\infty(M) \\ d^p(\omega) &= \sum d^0(\alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p}) \wedge dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}, & \text{if } p &\geq 1, \omega = \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_p} \wedge dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p} \end{aligned}$$

is called the **exterior derivative**.

$(\Omega^*(M), d)$  is a cochain complex called the **de Rham's cochain complex** of  $M$ . The  $k$ -forms  $\omega$  satisfying  $d\omega = 0$  are called the **closed differential  $k$ -forms** and the ones who admit an expression  $\omega = d\omega'$  for some  $k-1$ -form  $\omega'$  are called **exact differential  $k$ -forms**. Its cohomology groups, consisting of closed forms modulo exact ones, are called the **de Rham's homology** of  $M$ .

A singular  $p$ -simplex  $\sigma : \Delta^p \rightarrow M$  determines  $n$  coordinate functions  $\sigma_i$ . Given a  $p$ -form  $\omega = \sum \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_p} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$  and a singular  $p$ -simplex  $\sigma : \Delta^p \rightarrow M$ , define

$$\int_\sigma \omega = \int_{\Delta^p} \sigma_{\#} \omega$$

where  $\sigma_{\#} \omega = \sum \sum \alpha_{i_1, \dots, i_p} J dx_{i_1}$ , with  $J = \det(\partial \sigma_{i_j} / \partial x_{i_k})$  and  $dx_{i_k}$  are the differentials on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

More generally, given  $c = \sum k_i \sigma_i \in S_p(M)$ , then

$$\int_c \omega = \sum k_i \int_{\sigma_i} \omega$$

**Theorem 4.1.2 (Stoke's theorem)** *If  $c$  is a  $(p+1)$ -chain and  $\omega$  a differential  $p$ -form, then*

$$\int_c d\omega = \int_{\partial c} \omega$$

### 4.1.2 De Rham's Cochain Complex of a Simplicial Complex: Piecewise Linear Differential Forms

An approach in [3] allows working with differential forms that are piecewise linear, which can be used to represent differential forms on a simplicial complex.

Let  $K$  be a simplicial complex and  $\sigma^n \in K$  a simplex.  $\sigma^n$  can be seen as elements  $\{(t_0, t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : 0 \leq t_i \leq 1, \sum_{i=0}^n t_i = 1\}$  given by the barycentric coordinates. Let  $\Omega^*$  be the de Rham cochain complex of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Consider the restriction to  $\sigma^n$  of the forms in  $\Omega^*$  of the form

$$\sum \varphi_{i_1, \dots, i_j} dt_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dt_{i_j}$$

where  $\varphi_{i_1, \dots, i_j}$  are polynomials on  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $\sum_{i=1}^n dt_i = 0$  is met due to  $\sum t_i = 1$ . The group of all  $p$ -forms of the above form is denoted  $A^p(\sigma)$ .

**Definition** Let  $K$  be a simplicial complex. Define,

$$A^p(K) = \{(\omega_\sigma^p)_{\sigma \in K} : \omega_\sigma^p \in A^p(\sigma) \text{ and } \omega_\sigma^p|_\tau = \omega_\tau^p, \forall \tau < \sigma\}$$

together with  $d_p : A^p(K) \rightarrow A^{p+1}(K)$  given by  $d_p((\omega_\sigma^p)) = (d_p \omega_\sigma^p)$  and wedge product  $(\omega_\sigma^p) \wedge (\omega_\sigma^q) = (\omega_\sigma^p \wedge \omega_\sigma^q)$ .

It is a cochain complex, called the **de Rham's cochain complex** of  $K$ . Its cohomology group is called the **de Rham's homology** of  $K$ . Its elements can be understood as forms in each simplex of  $K$  that are compatible in their common faces.

### 4.1.3 De Rham's Duality Theorem for Simplicial Complexes

**Theorem 4.1.3 (Piecewise Linear De Rham's Duality Theorem)** *Let  $K$  be a simplicial complex and  $A^*(K)$  its de Rham's cochain complex. The product defined as*

$$\langle (\omega_\tau)_{\tau \in K}, \sigma^n \rangle := \int_{\sigma^n} \omega_\sigma$$

*induces a cochain homomorphism  $A^*(K) \rightarrow C^*(K; \mathbb{Q})$ .*

See [3] P.L. deRham Theorem.

## 4.2 Poincaré's Duality Theorem and Intersection

Poincaré's duality theorem is introduced following [4], which uses the dual block complex of a simplicial complex to compute its dual block, and find the associated isomorphism between the  $k$ -th homology and the  $n - k$ -th cohomology.

**Definition** Let  $M$  be a compact manifold of dimension  $n$  that admits triangulation  $K$ . We say that  $M$  is **orientable** if  $K$  admits an orientation such that  $\sum_{\sigma^n \in K_n} \sigma^n = 0$ .

**Theorem 4.2.1** *let  $M$  be a compact manifold of dimension  $n$  that admits a triangulation  $K$ . Then,*

- *If  $M$  is orientable, there exists an isomorphism*

$$H^p(X; G) \approx H_{n-p}(X; G)$$

*for each  $p = 0, \dots, n$ ,  $G$  abelian group.*

- *If  $M$  is non orientable, there exists an isomorphism*

$$H^p(X; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \approx H_{n-p}(X; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$$

*for each  $p = 0, \dots, n$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\hat{K}$  be the dual block complex of  $K$ . One can use the simplicial cochain complex  $C^*(K)$  to compute the cohomology on  $M$  and the chain complex of the dual block complex  $\mathcal{D}_*(\hat{K})$  to compute the homology on  $M$ .

By construction of the dual block complex, there exists a one-to-one correspondence between  $p$ -simplexes on  $K$  and  $n - p$  blocks on  $\hat{K}$ . Hence, the free abelian groups  $C^p(K)$  and  $D_{n-p}(\hat{K})$  are isomorphic, with isomorphism  $\varphi$  mapping  $\sigma^*$ , algebraic dual to an oriented simplex  $\sigma$ , to some generator of  $H_{n-p}(\bar{D}(\sigma), \dot{D}(\sigma))$ . If  $M$  is orientable, then  $\varphi$  can be defined so that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C^{p-1}(K) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & D_{n-p+1}(\hat{K}) \\ \delta \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial \\ C^p(K) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & D_{n-p}(\hat{K}) \end{array}$$

commutes.

$\varphi$  is defined inductively on the dimension of the cohomology group:

- For each  $s \in K_n$ ,  $D(s)$  is the barycentre  $b^s$  of  $s$  which is a generator for  $H_0(b^s)$ . Thus an isomorphism

$$\varphi_n C^n(K) \rightarrow D_0(K)$$

has been defined.

- For each  $s \in K_{n-1}$  there are exactly 2  $n$ -simplexes  $\sigma_0, \sigma_1$  such that  $s$  is a face of them. Choose them so that  $s$  has positive relative orientation with respect to  $\sigma_1$  and negative relative orientation with respect to  $\sigma_0$ . Then  $\delta s^* = \sigma_1^* - \sigma_0^*$ . Thus,  $\varphi(s^*) = \varphi(\sigma_1^*) - \varphi(\sigma_0^*) = b^{\sigma_1} - b^{\sigma_0}$ .

As a result,

$$\varphi(s^*) = [b^{\sigma_0}, b^s] + [b^s, b^{\sigma_1}]$$

is a fundamental cycle for  $(\bar{D}(s), \dot{D}(s))$  and  $\partial \varphi(s^*) = b^{\sigma_1} - b^{\sigma_0} = \varphi(\delta s^*)$  as expected.

- Let  $s \in K_p$ ,  $p < n - 1$ , and assume that  $\varphi$  has been defined for simplexes of dimension greater than  $p$ .  $\varphi(s^*)$  must be defined such that  $\partial \varphi(s^*) = \varphi(\delta s^*)$ .

$\delta s^* = \sum_{s < \sigma_i} \epsilon_i \sigma_i^*$  can be expressed, where  $\sigma_i$  are the  $p + 1$  simplexes of whom  $s$  is a face, and  $\epsilon_i$  is 1 if they have same relative orientation and  $-1$  if they have opposite relative orientation. By hypothesis,  $\varphi(\sigma_i^*)$  is a fundamental cycle for  $\bar{D}(\sigma_i)$  as  $\sigma_i$  is a  $p + 1$  simplex. Because  $s$  is a face of  $\sigma_i$ ,  $\bar{D}(\sigma_i) \subseteq \dot{D}(s)$ . Hence  $\varphi(\delta s^*)$  is carried by  $\dot{D}(s)$ .

$\varphi(\delta s^*)$  is a cycle, because  $\partial \varphi(\delta s^*) = \varphi(\delta \delta s^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $\varphi(\delta s^*)$  generates  $H_{n-p-1}(\dot{D}(s))$ .

By considering the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_{n-p}(\bar{D}(s), \dot{D}(s)) \rightarrow H_{n-p-1}(\dot{D}(s)) \rightarrow 0$$

once can define  $\varphi(s^*)$  as the fundamental cycle for  $(\bar{D}(s), \dot{D}(s))$  for which

$$\partial(\varphi(s)) = \varphi(\delta s^*)$$

In conclusion,  $\varphi : C^*(K) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_*(\hat{K})$  has been defined, and is a group isomorphism at each link of the chain. It induces isomorphism,

$$\text{Hom}(C_p(M), \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow D_{n-p}(M).$$

By the universal coefficient theorem, an isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Hom}(C_p(M), G) \approx \mathrm{Hom}(C_p(M), \mathbb{Z}) \otimes G \rightarrow D_{n-p}(M) \otimes G$$

can be induced.

For the non orientable case, the proof is analogue. It cannot be assumed that for  $n-1$  simplexes, the two simplexes of whom they are faces will be oriented one with same relative orientation and the other one with opposite. This difficulty is overcome by taking coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , taking away the importance of the relative orientation. Thus,  $\varphi$  is directly defined as,

$$\mathrm{Hom}(C_p(M), \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow D_{n-p}(M) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

□

### 4.2.1 Intersection number

Notice that the proof of Poincaré's duality provides a way to orientate dual blocks, and also induces a monomorphism  $D_*(\hat{K}) \rightarrow C_*(Sd(K))$ , by regarding  $\bar{D}(s) = \varphi(s^*)$  as the unique oriented chain in  $Sd(K)$  whose boundary is  $\varphi(\delta s^*)$  and whose underlying topological space is  $\bar{D}(s)$ . This allows for a definition of intersection number between primal and dual chains, which is useful in many ways.

**Definition** The intersection number between a  $p$ -simplex  $\sigma$  and a dual  $n-p$ -simplex  $\hat{\tau}$  is defined as

$$I(\sigma, \hat{\tau}) = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } \hat{\tau} = \bar{D}(s) \\ -1, & \text{if } \hat{\tau} = -\bar{D}(s) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

it can be extended to a map  $I : C_p(K) \times D_{n-p}(\hat{K})$  by

$$I \left( \sum_i a_i \sigma_i, \sum_j b_j \hat{\tau}_j \right) = \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j I(\sigma_i, \hat{\tau}_j)$$

## Chapter 5

### *Eddy Currents on a manifold*

Let  $\Gamma$  be a compact, connected and orientable surface. For simplicity, assume it has no boundary. Any such surface admits a finite oriented simplicial complex  $K$  that is a triangulation for  $\Gamma$  and let  $\hat{K}$  its dual block complex (reference to previous part).

For simplicity, 0-simplexes in  $K$  will be called vertices and denoted  $v_i$ , 1-simplexes in  $K$  will be called edges and denoted  $e_i$  and 2-simplexes will be called faces and denoted  $f_i$ .  $\sigma$  will be used when its dimension is irrelevant.

The number of vertices, edges and faces in  $K$  will be denoted  $n_v, n_e, n_f$  respectively.

The corresponding elements in the dual block complex will be addressed as dual vertices, dual edges and dual faces. The corresponding element to  $\sigma \in K$  will be denoted  $\hat{\sigma} \in \hat{K}$ .

The density of an eddy current over  $\Gamma$  can be represented as a 1-form on  $\Gamma$  which is closed, and hence, be seen as an element  $\omega \in Z_{dR}^1(\Gamma)$ . It is computed from given differential equations. The goal of the method presented consists on using the tools of simplicial homology and cohomology to convert the problem into solving a system of linear equations.

From previous chapters, there exists an isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : C_1(K) &\rightarrow C^1(\hat{K}) \\ c = \sum_i c_i e_i &\mapsto \varphi(c) = \sum_i c_i \hat{e}_i^* \end{aligned}$$

By construction, given  $a = \sum_i a_i \in C_1(K)$  the element  $\varphi(a)$  is the linear map given by

$$\varphi(a)(\hat{b}) = \sum_i a_i \hat{e}_i^* \left( \sum_j b_j \hat{e}_j \right) = \sum_k a_k b_k = I(a, \hat{b})$$

Its algebraic dual is the isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \psi = \varphi^* : \quad C_1(\hat{K}) &\rightarrow C^1(K) \\ \hat{c} = \sum_i c_i \hat{e}_i &\mapsto \psi(\hat{c}) = \sum_i c_i e_i^* \end{aligned}$$

which also induces the same Poincaré's isomorphism  $H_1(\Gamma) \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma)$ . In fact, given  $\hat{b} = \sum_i c_i \hat{e}_i \in C_1(\hat{K})$ , the element  $\psi(\hat{b})$  is the linear map given by

$$\psi(\hat{b})(a) = \sum_j b_j \hat{e}_j^* \left( \sum_i a_i e_i \right) = \sum_k b_k a_k = I(a, \hat{b})$$

In order to describe the problem in a simple way, a basis for the first homology of  $K$  is needed. The algorithm proposed in [6] offers a way to compute 1-cycles  $h_i \in Z_1(K)$ , whose classes  $[h_i] \in H_1(K)$  will form a basis of the first homology. This basis has the property of being the "shortest", which is optimal for computational purposes.

A basis for  $H_1(\hat{K})$  can be induced in the following way: for each vertex  $v_j$  that is a the starting point of some edge  $e_j$  of  $h_i$ , consider the edges  $e_{j_k}$  on  $K$  with  $v_j$  as its ending point. Select those that lie on the correct side of  $e_j$  (see the explanation of the algorithm to see how this is ensured). Then, the dual blocks of this edges sum into a 1-cycle  $\hat{h}'_i = \sum_j \sum_k \hat{e}_{j_k}$  on  $\hat{K}$ . Notice that  $h_i$  and  $\hat{h}'_i$  bound a region on  $\text{Sd}(K)$ , and hence have the same homology class on  $\Gamma$ .

The isomorphism  $\psi_* : H_1(\hat{K}) \rightarrow H^1(K)$  induced by  $\psi$  gives rise to a first cohomology basis with elements  $[\psi(\hat{h}'_i)] \in H^1(K)$ , who have representatives  $\psi(\hat{h}'_i) = h'_i \in Z^1(K)$ .

Because  $K$  is a triangulation for  $\Gamma$ ,

$$H_1(K) \approx H_1(\Gamma) \quad \text{and} \quad H^1(K) = H^1(\Gamma)$$

as described in chapter 3. As a consequence, elements  $h_i$  can be assumed to belong to  $H_1(\Gamma)$  and elements  $h'_i$  to  $H^1(\Gamma)$ .

Due to de Rham's duality,  $H^1(\Gamma)$  is isomorphic to the de Rham cohomology space  $H^1_{dR}(\Gamma)$ . This means that for each cochain  $h'_i$  there exist a 1-form  $\omega_i \in Z^1_{dR}(\Gamma)$  such that

$$h'_i(c) = \psi(\hat{h}'_i)(c) = \int_c \omega_i$$

Notice that the classes  $[\omega_i]$  form a basis for  $H^1_{dR}(\Gamma)$ .

Let  $[\omega_i]$  be the previously given basis of  $H_{dR}^1(\Gamma)$  and let  $\omega \in Z^1(K)$  be the eddy current density. Then, the class of the eddy current density can be decomposed as  $[\omega] = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [\omega_i]$ . At coset level can be expressed as  $\omega = \omega_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \omega_i$  for an appropriate  $\omega_0 \in B_{dR}^1(\Gamma)$ . Since  $\omega_0$  is exact, it can also be written as  $df$  for some  $f \in Z_{dR}^0(\Gamma) \subseteq C^\infty(\Gamma)$  and hence,

$$\omega = df + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \omega_i$$

As a result, given  $c \in C_1(\Gamma)$  the integral  $\int_c \omega$  can be decomposed as:

$$\int_c \omega = \int_c \left( df + \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k \omega_k \right) = \int_{\partial c} f + \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k \int_c \omega_k$$

By restricting to  $K$  and  $\hat{K}$ , we can assume that  $c \in C_1(K)$  and  $\int_c \omega_k = I(c, \hat{h}'_k)$ . Since  $C_1(K)$  has basis consisting of edges  $e_i$  on  $K$ , knowing the integrals over the edges equals to knowing the integrals on all chains.

Let  $i$  be the column vector consisting of values  $\int_{e_i} \omega$ ,  $i_0$  be the column vector with values  $f(v_l)$  and  $i_t$  be the column vector with values  $\alpha_k$ . Due to the equation above, there exist matrices  $G \in M_{n_e, n_v}(Z)$  and  $Q_{n_e, n}(Z)$  satisfying

$$i = Gi_0 + Qi_t$$

where  $n$  is the first Betti number.

Matrices  $G$  and  $Q$  are called node-to-edge and hloop-to-edge incidence matrices respectively due to the content they hold: (the term hloop being used for loops representing the homology classes).

The elements  $G_{i,l}$  on row  $i$  and column  $l$  of  $G$  have values

$$G_{i,l} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } v_l \text{ is the ending vertex of } e_i, \\ -1, & \text{if } v_l \text{ is the starting vertex of } e_i, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

and the elements  $Q_{i,k}$  on row  $i$  and column  $k$  of  $Q$  have values

$$Q_{i,k} = I(e_i, \hat{h}'_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \hat{h}'_j \text{ intersects } e_i \text{ positively,} \\ -1, & \text{if } \hat{h}'_j \text{ intersects } e_i \text{ negatively,} \\ 0, & \text{if } \hat{h}'_j \text{ and } e_i \text{ do not intersect.} \end{cases}$$

Notice in this decomposition, that  $G$  and  $Q$  are independent from  $\omega$ , they only depend on the choice of  $K$ . As a result, computing  $G$  and  $Q$  makes knowing  $\omega$  equivalent to knowing the vectors  $i_0, i_t$ , which will become the unknowns of the linear equations.

As mentioned above, the matrix  $Q$  has elements  $Q_i^j = I(\sigma_i^1, \hat{h}'_j)$ , i.e. the intersection between the  $i$ -th 1-simplex in  $K$  and the cycle in  $\hat{K}$  homotopic to a representative of the  $j$ -th element of the shortest homology basis of  $K$ . By following the previous steps, this intersections can be calculated by the following algorithm:

See Intersection Algorithm

The algorithm works the following way:

It loops through each pair  $(h_j, e_{j_k})$  where  $h_j$  is a cycle representative of the homology basis and  $e_{j_k}$  and edge appearing in  $h_j$ . Sets  $e = e_{j_k}$ .

Afterwards, finds the faces of  $K$  that have  $e$  contained, selects the one with same relative orientation to  $e$  (call it  $\Delta$ ) and picks the edge (call it  $e'$ ) with vertices  $v_0$ , the vertex of  $\Delta$  not in  $e_{j_k}$ , and  $v_1$  the vertex in which  $e$  ends. Then, the value of  $Q$  at row representing  $e'$  and column representing  $\hat{h}'_j$  (as described above), i.e., the intersection number between  $e'$  and  $\hat{h}'_j$  will be 1 if  $e'$  starts at  $v_0$  and ends at  $v_1$  and  $-1$  if it starts at  $v_1$  and ends at  $v_0$ . This value is the incidence between  $e'$  and  $v_1$  and hence it appears at matrix  $G$  at row representing  $e'$  and column representing  $v_1$ .

The last step is repeated for edge  $e'$  just obtained until this edge lies in  $h_j$ .

This process ensures that the dual blocks of the edges considered form a cycle in  $\hat{K}$ , namely  $h'_j$ .

Because  $d\omega = 0$ , the edge-to-face incidence matrix  $C \in M_{n_f, n_e}(\mathbb{Z})$ , which has elements

$$C_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } e_j \text{ lies in } \Delta_i \text{ with same relative orientation,} \\ -1, & \text{if } e_j \text{ lies in } \Delta_i \text{ with opposite relative orientation,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

will satisfy the equation  $Ci = 0$ .

By construction, matrix  $G$  represents the coboundary operator  $\delta_0 : C^0(K) \rightarrow C^1(K)$  while  $C$  represents the coboundary operator  $\delta_1 : C^1(K) \rightarrow C^2(K)$ . As a result, the kernel of  $C$  are the coordinates of the 1-cocycles in  $K$  and the image of  $G$  the coordinates of the 2-coboundaries.

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**1 Intersection algorithm**


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1: for  $r = 1 : \#hloops$  do
2:    $hloop \leftarrow hloops(r)$  ▷ select r-th hloop  $h_r$ 
3:    $last \leftarrow hloop(\#hloop)$ 
4:    $N \leftarrow \dim(hloop)$  ▷ check number of edges in  $h_r$ 
5:   for  $s = 1 : N$  do
6:      $vert \leftarrow hloop(s)$ 
7:      $next \leftarrow hloop(s \bmod N + 1)$ 
8:      $lastedg \leftarrow \{last, vert\}$  ▷ select previous edge  $e_{r_{k-1}}$ 
9:      $nextedg \leftarrow \{vert, next\}$  ▷ select current edge  $e_{r_k}$ 
10:     $other \leftarrow vert$ 
11:     $edge \leftarrow lastedg$ 
12:    while  $other \neq next$  do ▷ cycle through all edges  $e'$  associated to  $e_{r_k}$ 
13:       $cells \leftarrow \mathbf{neight}(edge)$  ▷ find faces that have  $e_{r_k}$  contained
14:      if  $cells[0] > 0$  then ▷ select the one with same relative orientation
15:         $cell \leftarrow cells[0]$ 
16:      else
17:         $cell \leftarrow cells[1]$ 
18:      end if
19:       $other \leftarrow cell \setminus edge$ 
20:       $edge \leftarrow \{other, vert\}$  ▷ find intersecting edge
21:       $\mathbf{Q}[iedge, r] \leftarrow \mathbf{G}[iedge, ivert]$  ▷ write incidence between  $e'$  and  $v_1$  to  $Q$ 
22:    end while
23:     $last \leftarrow vert$  ▷ new hloop node
24:  end for
25: end for

```

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Matrix  $Q$  has in its columns the coordinates of the cocycles that span the cohomology. As a result, the kernel of  $C$  is spanned by  $G$  and  $Q$ , and the problem is well posed for surfaces with non-trivial homology.

Introducing notations  $G_m = [G; Q]$  ( $Q$  appended to  $G$ ) and  $i_m = [i_0; i_t]$ , condition  $i = Gi_0 + Qi_t$  can be rewritten as  $i = G_m i_m$ .

The equation  $i = G_m i_m$  for currents on  $K$  can be complemented by an equation for electromagnetic fields on  $\hat{K}$ , by Faraday's law  $G^T e + j\alpha b_0 = 0$ , where  $e$  and  $b_0$  are arrays of induced electro-magnetic fields on dual edges and magnetic fluxes on dual faces,  $j$  is the imaginary unit, and  $\alpha$  an angular frequency of the magnetic fields. Additional constraints lead to equation:

$$G_m^T e + j\alpha b_m = 0$$

where  $b_m = [b_0; b_t]$ .

The relationship between the newly given data and the intensity of the eddy currents  $i$  given before is given by physical laws  $e = Ri$  and the pair  $a = Li$ ,  $b_m = G_m^T a + G_m^T a_s$ .

Edge elements  $w_i$  who interpolate the eddy current density form  $\omega$  can be used to approximate 1 cochains in  $\Gamma$ . Then, the resistance matrix  $R$  will have elements

$$R_{i,j} = \sum_k \int_{\sigma_k} \rho w_i(x) \cdot w_j(x) dx$$

where  $\rho$  the resistivity. The inductance matrix  $L$  has elements

$$L_{i,j} = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \sum_{r,s} \int_{\sigma_r} \int_{\sigma_s} \frac{w_i^r(x) \cdot w_j^s(y)}{\|x - y\|} dx dy$$

where  $\mu$  is the magnetic permeability.  $a_s$  is the array of line integrals of the source magnetic vector potential.

By merging it all the relations together,

$$(G_m^T Z G_m) i_m = -j\alpha G_m^T a_s$$

is obtained, where  $Z = R + j\alpha L$ .

It allows to compute approximated values of  $i_m$  which can be used to retrieve a value for  $i$ , thus computing the eddy current.

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