

# Vector bundles

$TM \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  and  $T^*M \rightarrow M$  are first examples of vector bundles.

We'll now set up some general theory in order to define some new vector bundles arising naturally in geometry of manifolds.

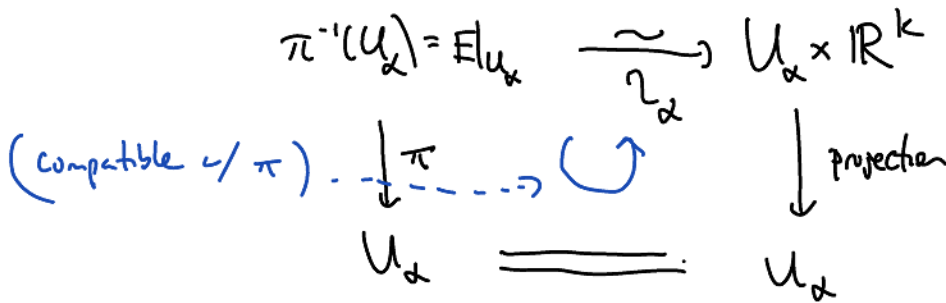
Def: A (real, smooth/ $C^\infty$ ) vector bundle of rank  $k$  over a manifold  $M^m$  is a pair  $(E^{m+k}, \pi: E^{m+k} \rightarrow M^m)$  satisfying:

smooth  $m+k$ -dim'l manifold (pointing to  $E^{m+k}$ )  
 (surjective) smooth map (= posteriori a submersion) (pointing to  $\pi$ )

(linearity of fibers)

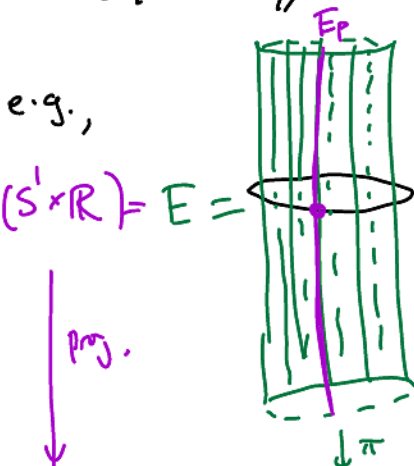
(1)  $\pi^{-1}(p) =: E_p$  has the structure of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space of dim.  $k$  for each  $p \in M$ .

(2) ('local triviality') There exists a cover  $\{U_\alpha\}$  of  $M$  such that  $E|_{U_\alpha} =: \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)$  is 'trivializable', meaning that  $\exists$  diffeomorphism ('trivialization')



with  $\eta_\alpha|_{E_p = \pi^{-1}(p)} : E_p \xrightarrow{\cong} \{p\} \times \mathbb{R}^k = \mathbb{R}^k$  a linear isomorphism.

(equivalently, for any  $p \in M$ ,  $\exists$  neighborhood  $U \ni p$  in  $M$  s.t.  $E|_U$  is trivializable).



A rank 1 vector bundle is often called a line bundle.

Def: A (real,  $C^\infty$ ) vector <sup>rank  $l$</sup>  sub-bundle of <sup>rank  $k$</sup>   $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  is a submanifold  $F \subset E$  such that for each  $p \in M$ ,  $F_p := (\pi|_F)^{-1}(p) \subseteq E_p$  lies <sup>rank  $l$ -dim'l</sup> subspace. and  $\pi|_F : F \rightarrow M$  makes  $F$  into a vector bundle over  $M$ .

$$(S^1 \Rightarrow) M = \text{circle with point } p$$

Rank:  $TM, \pi: TM \rightarrow M^m$  is a rank  $m$  vector bundle.

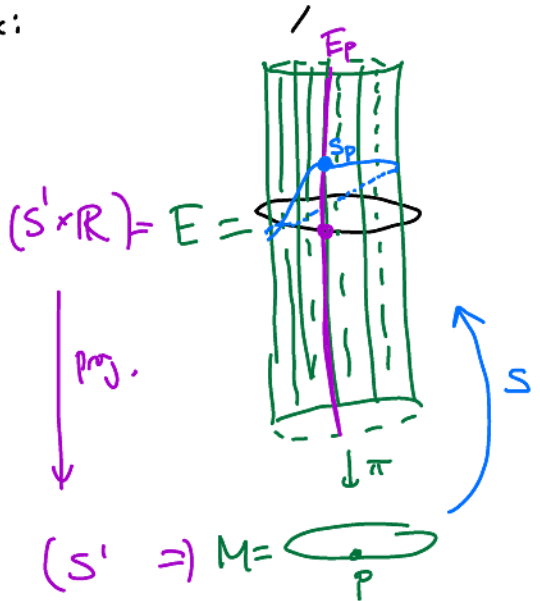
Rank:  $\{ \text{vector sub-bundles of } TM \text{ of rank } c \} \leftrightarrow \{ \text{smooth } c\text{-dim'l distributons on } M \}$ .  
(exercise).

• A section of a vector bundle  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  over  $U \subseteq M$  is a  $C^\infty$  map  $s: U \rightarrow E$  such that  $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_U$ . A section over  $M$  is sometimes called a global section.  
 $\Downarrow$   $s$  has the form  $p \mapsto (p, \underset{E_p}{s_p})$ .

Write  $\Gamma(E, U) := \{ \text{space of sections of } E \text{ over } U \}$ , with  $\Gamma(E) := \Gamma(E, M)$

$\mathbb{R}$ -vector space, and also a  $C^\infty(M)$ -module.

Ex:



Note:  $\Gamma(TM) = \mathcal{X}(M)$  vector fields

$\Gamma(T^*M) = \Omega^1(M)$  one-forms.

Let  $\underline{\mathbb{R}}^k: (M \times \mathbb{R}^k, \text{proj}_M: M \times \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow M)$  be the trivial rank  $k$  vector bundle.

Note  $\Gamma(\underline{\mathbb{R}}^1) = C^\infty(M)$

$\Gamma(\underline{\mathbb{R}}^k) = C^\infty(M)^k$ .

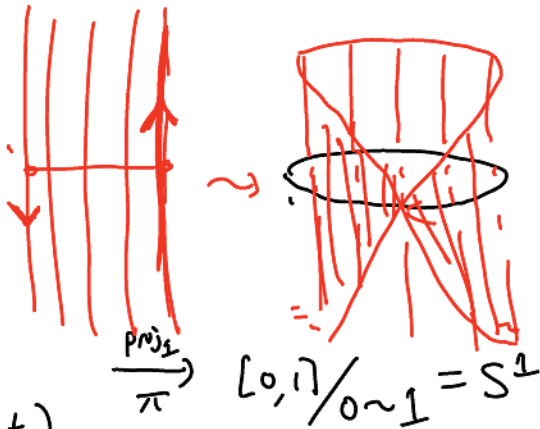
Examples of vector bundles:

•  $\underline{\mathbb{R}}^k$  over  $M$  for each  $M$ .

• Möbius bundle over  $S^1$

$$B \xrightarrow{\pi} S^1$$

$$B = [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} / (0, t) \sim (1, -t)$$



$$[0, 1] / 0 \sim 1 = S^1$$

exercise: prove  $B \rightarrow S^1$  is a vector bundle, but is not globally trivializable.

Lemma (1): If  $\exists$  a nowhere-0 section of  $E \rightarrow M$ , then  $E \rightarrow M$  is not trivial.

(2)  $E$  is <sup>rank  $k$</sup>  trivial iff  $\exists$  a <sup>global</sup> frame for  $E$ , meaning a collection of sections  $S_1, \dots, S_k$  with  $(S_1)_p, \dots, (S_k)_p$  a basis for  $E_p$  for each  $p$ .

( $E$  line bundle:  $\exists$  a nowhere-0 section).

•  $TM \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  is a vector bundle (same for  $T^*M \rightarrow M$  <sup>exercise</sup>)

- we've constructed a manifold structure on  $TM$ ,  $\pi: TM \rightarrow M$  smooth surjective,  
 $\mathcal{B} T_p M := \pi^{-1}(p)$  has a vector space structure.

- local triviality? Fix any  $p \in M$ . Using a chart  $(U, \phi)$  around  $p$ ,

we showed (by construction) that  $\exists$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 TM|_U \xrightarrow[\cong]{(\phi, d\phi)} \phi(U) \times \mathbb{R}^m = T(\phi(U)) & \xrightarrow{(\phi^{-1}, id)} & U \times \mathbb{R}^m \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow \text{proj.} & \downarrow \text{proj.} \\
 U & \xrightarrow{\phi^{-1}} & U
 \end{array}$$

All together (when applying  $\phi^{-1}$  to RHS as above) we obtain desired local trivialization.

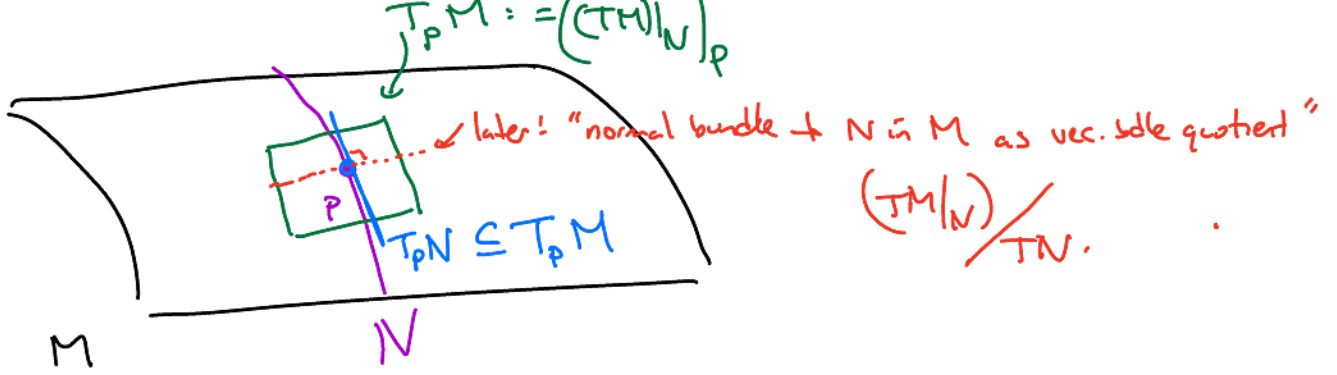
• Given a rank  $k$  vector bundle  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} M^m$  and a submanifold

$N \subseteq M$ , we obtain a vector bundle of rank  $k$  on  $N$ ,  $E|_N := \pi^{-1}(N)$

Ex:  $N^n \subseteq M^m$ , can consider  $(TM)|_N$  - rank  $m$  bundle,

$\mathcal{B}$  note  $\rightarrow TN \subseteq (TM)|_N$   
 rank  $n$  sub-bundle

$\downarrow \pi$   
 $N$ .



• More generally, if  $f: Q^q \rightarrow M^m$  any  $C^\infty$  map, and  $\begin{matrix} E \\ \downarrow \pi \\ M \end{matrix}$  rank  $k$  vector bundle, we can define the pullback of  $E$  along  $f$

$$f^* E := \{ (q, e) \in Q \times E \mid \pi(e) = f(q) \}$$

$\downarrow$   $\uparrow$   
 $Q$   $M$

$$(f^* E)_q = E_{f(q)}$$

(if  $Q \xrightarrow{i} M$  submanifold then  $i^* E = E|_Q$ .)

Next time: Many vector space operations extend to the world of vector bundles, giving ways to construct new vec. bundles from old ones.

(e.g.,  $V \oplus W$ ,  $V/W$ ,  $V \otimes W$ ,  $\Lambda^k V$ ,  $\text{Hom}(V, W)$ , ...)

$\uparrow$   
 apply to  $T^* M$ ; sections of  $\Lambda^k T^* M$  are differential  $k$ -forms