

# Package ‘wedge’

September 4, 2019

**Type** Package

**Title** The Exterior Calculus

**Version** 1.0-3

**Depends** spray (>= 1.0-7)

**Suggests** knitr, Deriv, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** permutations (>= 1.0-4), partitions, magrittr, methods

**Maintainer** Robin K. S. Hankin <[hankin.robin@gmail.com](mailto:hankin.robin@gmail.com)>

**Description** Provides functionality for working with differentials,  
k-forms, wedge products, Stokes's theorem, and related concepts  
from the exterior calculus. The canonical reference would be:  
M. Spivak (1965, ISBN:0-8053-9021-9). ``Calculus on Manifolds'',  
Benjamin Cummings.

**License** GPL-2

**URL** <https://github.com/RobinHankin/wedge.git>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/RobinHankin/wedge/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2019-09-04 05:10:03 UTC

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## Description

Provides functionality for working with differentials, k-forms, wedge products, Stokes's theorem, and related concepts from the exterior calculus. The canonical reference would be: M. Spivak (1965, ISBN:0-8053-9021-9). "Calculus on Manifolds", Benjamin Cummings.

## Details

The DESCRIPTION file:

Package:	wedge
Type:	Package
Title:	The Exterior Calculus
Version:	1.0-3
Depends:	spray (>= 1.0-7)
Suggests:	knitr, Deriv, testthat
VignetteBuilder:	knitr
Imports:	permutations (>= 1.0-4), partitions, magrittr, methods
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Maintainer:	Robin K. S. Hankin <hankin.robin@gmail.com>
Description:	Provides functionality for working with differentials, k-forms, wedge products, Stokes's theorem, and related concepts from the exterior calculus.
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Author:	Robin K. S. Hankin [aut, cre] (< <a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5982-0415">https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5982-0415</a> >)

Index of help topics:

Alt	Alternating multilinear forms
Ops.kform	Arithmetic Ops Group Methods for 'kform' and 'ktensor' objects
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consolidate	Various low-level helper functions
contract	Contractions of k-forms
cross	Cross products of k-tensors
hodge	Hodge star operator
inner	Inner product operator
issmall	Is a form zero to within numerical precision?
keep	Keep or drop variables
kform	k-forms
ktensor	k-tensors
rform	Random kforms and ktensors
scalar	Lose attributes
symbolic	Symbolic form
transform	Linear transforms of k-forms
volume	The volume element
wedge	Wedge products
wedge-package	The Exterior Calculus
zeroform	Zero tensors and zero forms

Generally in the package, arguments that are  $k$ -forms are denoted K,  $k$ -tensors by U, and spray objects by S. Multilinear maps (which may be either  $k$ -forms or  $k$ -tensors) are denoted by M.

## Author(s)

NA

Maintainer: Robin K. S. Hankin <hankin.robin@gmail.com>

## References

- J. H. Hubbard and B. B. Hubbard 2015. *Vector calculus, linear algebra and differential forms: a unified approach*. Ithaca, NY.
- M. Spivak 1971. *Calculus on manifolds*. Addison-Wesley.

## See Also

[spray](#)

## Examples

```
## Some k-tensors:
U1 <- as.ktensor(matrix(1:15,5,3))
U2 <- as.ktensor(cbind(1:3,2:4),1:3)

## Coerce a tensor to functional form, here mapping V^3 -> R (here V=R^15):
as.function(U1)(matrix(rnorm(45),15,3))
```

```

## Tensor cross-product is cross() or %X%:
U1 %X% U2

## A k-form is an alternating k-tensor:
K1 <- as.kform(cbind(1:5,2:6),rnorm(5))
K2 <- kform_general(3:6,2,1:6)
K3 <- rform(9,3,9,runif(9))

## The distributive law is true

(K1 + K2) %^% K3 == K1 %^% K3 + K2 %^% K3 # TRUE to numerical precision

## Wedge product is associative (non-trivial):
(K1 %^% K2) %^% K3
K1 %^% (K2 %^% K3)

## k-forms can be coerced to a function and wedge product:
f <- as.function(K1 %^% K2 %^% K3)

## E is a random point in V^k:
E <- matrix(rnorm(63),9,7)

## f() is alternating:
f(E)
f(E[,7:1])

## The package blurs the distinction between symbolic and numeric computing:
dx <- as.kform(1)
dy <- as.kform(2)
dz <- as.kform(3)

dx %^% dy %^% dz

K3 %^% dx %^% dy %^% dz

```

**Description**

Converts a  $k$ -tensor to alternating form

**Usage**

`Alt(S)`

**Arguments**

S	A multilinear form, an object of class ktensor
---	------------------------------------------------

**Details**

Given a  $k$ -tensor  $T$ , we have

$$\text{Alt}(T)(v_1, \dots, v_k) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot T(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(k)})$$

Thus for example if  $k = 3$ :

$$\text{Alt}(T)(v_1, v_2, v_3) = \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} +T(v_1, v_2, v_3) & -T(v_1, v_3, v_2) \\ -T(v_2, v_1, v_3) & +T(v_2, v_3, v_1) \\ +T(v_3, v_1, v_2) & -T(v_3, v_2, v_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

and it is reasonably easy to see that  $\text{Alt}(T)$  is alternating, in the sense that

$$\text{Alt}(T)(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_k) = -\text{Alt}(T)(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_k)$$

Function Alt() takes and returns an object of class ktensor.

**Value**

Returns an alternating  $k$ -tensor. To coerce to a  $k$ -form, which is a much more efficient representation, use as.kform().

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[kform](#)

**Examples**

```
S <- as.ktensor(expand.grid(1:3,1:3),rnorm(9))
S
Alt(S)

issmall(Alt(S) - Alt(Alt(S))) # should be TRUE
```

**as.1form***Coerce vectors to 1-forms***Description**

Given a vector, return the corresponding 1-form; the exterior derivative of a 0-form (that is, a scalar function)

**Usage**

```
as.1form(v)
grad(v)
```

**Arguments**

v	A vector with element $i$ being $\partial f / \partial x_i$
---	-------------------------------------------------------------

**Details**

The exterior derivative of a  $k$ -form  $\phi$  is a  $(k + 1)$ -form  $\mathbf{d}\phi$  given by

$$\mathbf{d}\phi(P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{k+1})) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h^{k+1}} \int_{\partial P_{\mathbf{x}}(h\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, h\mathbf{v}_{k+1})} \phi$$

We can use the facts that

$$\mathbf{d}(f dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}) = \mathbf{d}f \wedge dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

and

$$\mathbf{d}f = \sum_{j=1}^n (D_j f) dx_j$$

to calculate differentials of general  $k$ -forms. Specifically, if

$$\phi = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} a_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

then

$$\mathbf{d}\phi = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n D_j a_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx_j \right] \wedge dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

The entry in square brackets is given by `grad()`. See the examples for appropriate R idiom.

**Value**

A one-form

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[kform](#)

**Examples**

```
as.1form(1:9)  # note ordering of terms

as.1form(rnorm(20))

grad(c(4,7)) %^% grad(1:4)
```

---

consolidate

*Various low-level helper functions*

---

**Description**

Various low-level helper functions used in `Alt()` and `kform()`

**Usage**

```
consolidate(S)
kill_trivial_rows(S)
include_perms(S)
```

**Arguments**

S                   Object of class `spray`

**Details**

Low-level helper functions.

- Function `consolidate()` takes a `spray` object, and combines any rows that are identical up to a permutation, respecting the sign of the permutation
- Function `kill_trivial_rows()` takes a `spray` object and deletes any rows with a repeated entry (which have  $k$ -forms identically zero)
- Function `include_perms()` replaces each row of a `spray` object with all its permutations, respecting the sign of the permutation

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[ktensor](#), [kform](#)

**Examples**

```
S <- spray(matrix(c(1,1,2,2,1,3,3,1,3,5),ncol=2,byrow=TRUE),1:5)
kill_trivial_rows(S)
consolidate(S)

## Not run: include_perms(S) # This will fail because of the repeated rows
include_perms(kill_trivial_rows(S)) # This should work
```

**contract**

*Contractions of k-forms*

**Description**

Given a  $k$ -form  $\phi$  and a vector  $\mathbf{v}$ , the *contraction*  $\phi_{\mathbf{v}}$  of  $\phi$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is a  $k - 1$ -form with

$$\phi_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{v}^1, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{k-1}) = \phi(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}^1, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{k-1})$$

if  $k > 1$ ; we specify  $\phi_{\mathbf{v}} = \phi(\mathbf{v})$  if  $k = 1$ .

Function `contract_elementary()` is a low-level helper function that translates elementary  $k$ -forms with coefficient 1 (in the form of an integer vector corresponding to one row of an index matrix) into its contraction with  $\mathbf{v}$ .

**Usage**

```
contract(K,v,lose=TRUE)
contract_elementary(o,v)
```

**Arguments**

K	A $k$ -form
o	Integer-valued vector corresponding to one row of an index matrix
lose	Boolean, with default TRUE meaning to coerce a 0-form to a scalar and FALSE meaning to return the formal 0-form
v	A vector; in function <code>contract()</code> , if a matrix, interpret each column as a vector to contract with

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**References**

Steven H. Weintraub 2014. “Differential forms: theory and practice”, Elsevier (contractions defined in Definition 2.2.23 in chapter 2, page 77).

**See Also**

[wedge](#), [lose](#)

**Examples**

```
contract(as.kform(1:5),1:8)
contract(as.kform(1),3)    # 0-form

## Now some verification:
o <- rform(2,k=5,n=9,coeffs=runif(2))
V <- matrix(rnorm(45),ncol=5)
jj <- c(
  as.function(o)(V),
  as.function(contract(o,V[,1],drop=TRUE))(V[,-1]), # scalar
  as.function(contract(o,V[,1:2]))(V[,-(1:2),drop=FALSE]),
  as.function(contract(o,V[,1:3]))(V[,-(1:3),drop=FALSE]),
  as.function(contract(o,V[,1:4]))(V[,-(1:4),drop=FALSE]),
  as.function(contract(o,V[,1:5],lose=FALSE))(V[,-(1:5),drop=FALSE])
)
max(jj) - min(jj) # zero to numerical precision
```

**Description**

Cross products of  $k$ -tensors

**Usage**

```
cross(U, ...)
cross2(U1, U2)
```

**Arguments**

U, U1, U2	Object of class ktensor
...	Further arguments, currently ignored

## Details

Given a  $k$ -tensor object  $S$  and an  $l$ -tensor  $T$ , we can form the cross product  $S \otimes T$ , defined as

$$S \otimes T (v_1, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_{k+l}) = S (v_1, \dots, v_k) \cdot T (v_{k+1}, \dots, v_{k+l}).$$

Package idiom for this includes `cross(S, T)` and `S %X% T`; note that the cross product is not commutative. Function `cross()` can take any number of arguments (the result is well-defined because the cross product is associative); it uses `cross2()` as a low-level helper function.

## Note

The binary form `%X%` uses uppercase X to avoid clashing with `%x%` which is the Kronecker product in base R.

## Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

## References

Spivak 1961

## See Also

[ktensor](#)

## Examples

```
M <- cbind(1:4, 2:5)
U1 <- as.ktensor(M, rnorm(4))
U2 <- as.ktensor(t(M), 1:2)

cross(U1, U2)
cross(U2, U1) # not the same!

U1 %X% U2 - U2 %X% U1
```

## Description

Given a  $k$ -form, return its Hodge dual

## Usage

```
hodge(K, n=max(index(K)), g=rep(1,n), lose=TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

K	Object of class kform
n	Dimensionality of space, defaulting to the largest element of the index
g	Diagonal of the metric tensor, defaulting to the standard metric
lose	Boolean, with default TRUE meaning to coerce to a scalar if appropriate

**Value**

Returns a  $(n - k)$ -form

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[wedge](#)

**Examples**

```

hodge(rform())
hodge(kform_general(4,2),g=c(-1,1,1,1))

## Some edge-cases:
hodge(zero(5),9)
hodge(volume(5))
hodge(volume(5),lose=TRUE)
hodge(scalar(7),n=9)

```

**Description**

The inner product

**Usage**

`inner(M)`

**Arguments**

M	square matrix
---	---------------

## Details

The inner product of two vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  is usually written  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  or  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$ , but the most general form would be  $\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{y}$  where  $M$  is a positive-definite matrix. Noting that inner products are symmetric, that is  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  (we are considering the real case only), and multilinear, that is  $\langle \mathbf{x}, a\mathbf{y} + b\mathbf{z} \rangle = a \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle + b \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \rangle$ , we see that the inner product is indeed a multilinear map, that is, a tensor.

Function `inner(m)` returns the 2-form that maps  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  to  $\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{y}$ .

## Value

Returns a  $k$ -tensor, an inner product

## Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

## See Also

[kform](#)

## Examples

```
inner(diag(7))
inner(matrix(1:9,3,3))

## Compare the following two:
Alt(inner(matrix(1:9,3,3)))      # An alternating k tensor
as.kform(inner(matrix(1:9,3,3))) # Same thing coerced to a kform

f <- as.function(inner(diag(7)))
X <- matrix(rnorm(14),ncol=2)  # random element of (R^7)^2
f(X) - sum(X[,1]*X[,2]) # zero to numerical precision

## verify positive-definiteness:
g <- as.function(inner(crossprod(matrix(rnorm(56),8,7))))
stopifnot(g(kronecker(rnorm(7),t(c(1,1))))>0)
```

*issmall*

*Is a form zero to within numerical precision?*

## Description

Given a  $k$ -form, return TRUE if it is “small”

## Usage

`issmall(M, tol=1e-8)`

**Arguments**

M	Object of class kform or ktensor
tol	Small tolerance, defaulting to 1e-8

**Value**

Returns a logical

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**Examples**

```

o <- kform_general(4,2,runif(6))
M <- matrix(rnorm(36),6,6)

discrepancy <- o - transform(transform(o,M),solve(M))

issmall(discrepancy) # should be TRUE
is.zero(discrepancy) # might be FALSE

```

keep

*Keep or drop variables*

**Description**

Keep or drop variables

**Usage**

```
keep(K, yes)
discard(K, no)
```

**Arguments**

K	Object of class kform
yes,no	Specification of dimensions to either keep (yes) or discard (no), coerced to a free object

**Details**

Function `keep(omega, yes)` keeps the terms specified and `discard(omega, no)` discards the terms specified. It is not clear to me what these functions mean from a mathematical perspective.

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[lose](#)

**Examples**

```
keep(kform_general(7,3),1:4)  # keeps only terms with dimensions 1-4
discard(kform_general(7,3),1) # loses any term with a "1" in the index
```

**kform**

*k-forms*

**Description**

Functionality for dealing with *k*-forms

**Usage**

```
kform(S)
as.kform(M,coeffs,lose=TRUE)
kform_basis(n, k)
kform_general(W,k,coeffs,lose=TRUE)
## S3 method for class 'kform'
as.function(x,...)
```

**Arguments**

<i>n</i>	Dimension of the vector space $V = R^n$
<i>k</i>	A <i>k</i> -form maps $V^k$ to $R$
<i>W</i>	Integer vector of dimensions
<i>M</i>	Index matrix for a <i>k</i> -form
<i>coeffs</i>	Coefficients of the <i>k</i> -form
<i>S</i>	Object of class <i>spray</i>
<i>lose</i>	Boolean, with default TRUE meaning to coerce a 0-form to a scalar and FALSE meaning to return the formal 0-form
<i>x</i>	Object of class <i>kform</i>
...	Further arguments, currently ignored

## Details

A *k-form* is an alternating *k*-tensor.

Recall that a *k*-tensor is a multilinear map from  $V^k$  to the reals, where  $V = R^n$  is a vector space. A multilinear *k*-tensor  $T$  is *alternating* if it satisfies

$$T(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_k) = T(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_k)$$

Function `kform_basis()` is a low-level helper function that returns a matrix whose rows constitute a basis for the vector space  $\Lambda^k(R^n)$  of *k*-tensors:

$$\phi = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} a_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

and in fact

$$a_{i_1 \dots i_k} = \phi(\mathbf{e}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbf{e}_{i_k})$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$  is a basis for  $V$ .

In the **wedge** package, *k*-forms are represented as sparse arrays (spray objects), but with a class of `c("kform", "spray")`. The constructor function (`kform()`) ensures that rows of the index matrix are strictly nonnegative integers, have no repeated entries, and are strictly increasing.

## Note

Hubbard and Hubbard use the term “*k*-form”, but Spivak does not.

## Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

## References

Hubbard and Hubbard; Spivak

## See Also

[ktensor,lose](#)

## Examples

```
as.kform(cbind(1:5,2:6),rnorm(5))
kform_general(1:4,2,coeffs=1:6) # used in electromagnetism

K1 <- as.kform(cbind(1:5,2:6),rnorm(5))
K2 <- kform_general(5:8,2,1:6)
wedge(K1,K2)
```

```
f <- as.function(wedge(K1,K2))
E <- matrix(rnorm(32),8,4)

f(E) + f(E[,c(1,3,2,4)]) # should be zero
```

**ktensor***k-tensors***Description**

Functionality for *k*-tensors

**Usage**

```
ktensor(S)
as.ktensor(M,coeffs)
## S3 method for class 'ktensor'
as.function(x,...)
```

**Arguments**

M,coeffs	Matrix of indices and coefficients, as in spray(M,coeffs)
S	Object of class spray
x	Object of class ktensor
...	Further arguments, currently ignored

**Details**

A *k*-tensor object  $S$  is a map from  $V^k$  to the reals  $R$ , where  $V$  is a vector space (here  $R^n$ ) that satisfies multilinearity:

$$S(v_1, \dots, av_i, \dots, v_k) = a \cdot S(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_k)$$

and

$$S(v_1, \dots, v_i + v_i', \dots, v_k) = S(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, x_v) + S(v_1, \dots, v_i', \dots, v_k).$$

Note that this is *not* equivalent to linearity over  $V^{nk}$  (see examples).

In the **wedge** package, *k*-tensors are represented as sparse arrays (spray objects), but with a class of c("ktensor", "spray"). This is a natural and efficient representation for tensors that takes advantage of sparsity using **spray** package features.

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**References**

Spivak 1961

**See Also**

[cross](#),[kform](#),[wedge](#)

**Examples**

```
ktensor(rspray(4,powers=1:4))
as.ktensor(cbind(1:4,2:5,3:6),1:4)

## Test multilinearity:
k <- 4
n <- 5
u <- 3

## Define a randomish k-tensor:
S <- ktensor(spray(matrix(1+sample(u*k)%%n,u,k),seq_len(u)))

## And a random point in V^k:
E <- matrix(rnorm(n*k),n,k)

E1 <- E2 <- E3 <- E

x1 <- rnorm(n)
x2 <- rnorm(n)
r1 <- rnorm(1)
r2 <- rnorm(1)

# change one column:
E1[,2] <- x1
E2[,2] <- x2
E3[,2] <- r1*x1 + r2*x2

f <- as.function(S)

r1*f(E1) + r2*f(E2) -f(E3) # should be small

## Note that multilinearity is different from linearity:
r1*f(E1) + r2*f(E2) - f(r1*E1 + r2*E2) # not small!
```

**Ops.kform***Arithmetic Ops Group Methods for kform and ktensor objects***Description**

Allows arithmetic operators to be used for  $k$ -forms and  $k$ -tensors such as addition, multiplication, etc, where defined.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'kform'
Ops(e1, e2 = NULL)
## S3 method for class 'ktensor'
Ops(e1, e2 = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

e1, e2      Objects of class `kform` or `ktensor`

**Details**

The functions `Ops.kform()` and `Ops.ktensor()` pass unary and binary arithmetic operators (“+”, “-”, “\*”, and “/”) to the appropriate specialist function by coercing to `spray` objects.

For wedge products of  $k$ -forms, use `wedge()` or `%^%`; and for cross products of  $k$ -tensors, use `cross()` or `%X%`.

**Examples**

```
## dx_1 ^ dx_2 + 6dx_5 ^ dx_6:
as.kform(1) %^% as.kform(2) + 6*as.kform(5) %^% as.kform(6)

k1 <- kform_general(4,2,rnorm(6))
k2 <- kform_general(4,2,rnorm(6))

E <- matrix(rnorm(8),4,2)
as.function(k1+k2)(E)

as.function(2*k1+3*k2)(E)-(2*as.function(k1)(E) + 3*as.function(k1)(E))
## should be small
```

---

**rform***Random kforms and ktensors*

---

**Description**

Random  $k$ -form objects and  $k$ -tensors, intended as quick “get you going” examples

**Usage**

```
rform(terms=9,k=3,n=7,coeffs)
rtensor(terms=9,k=3,n=7,coeffs)
```

**Arguments**

terms	Number of distinct terms
k, n	A $k$ -form maps $V^k$ to $R$ , where $V = R^n$
coeffs	The coefficients of the form; if missing use 1 (inherited from spray())

**Details**

What you see is what you get, basically.

Note that argument `terms` is an upper bound, as the index matrix might contain repeats. But `coeffs` should have length equal to `terms` (or 1).

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**Examples**

```
rform()
rform(coeffs=1:9) # any repeated rows are combined

dx <- as.kform(1)
dy <- as.kform(2)
rform() %^% dx
rform() %^% dx %^% dy

rtensor()
```

---

scalar	<i>Lose attributes</i>
--------	------------------------

---

## Description

Scalars: 0-forms and 0-tensors

## Usage

```
scalar(s,lose=FALSE)
is.scalar(M)
`0form`(s,lose=FALSE)
## S3 method for class 'kform'
lose(M)
## S3 method for class 'ktensor'
lose(M)
```

## Arguments

<code>s</code>	A scalar value; a number
<code>M</code>	Object of class <code>ktensor</code> or <code>kform</code>
<code>lose</code>	In function <code>scalar()</code> , Boolean with TRUE meaning to return a normal scalar, and default FALSE meaning to return a formal 0-form or 0-tensor

## Details

A  $k$ -tensor (including  $k$ -forms) maps  $k$  vectors to a scalar. If  $k = 0$ , then a 0-tensor maps no vectors to a scalar, that is, mapping nothing at all to a scalar, or what normal people would call a plain old scalar. Such forms are created by a couple of constructions in the package, specifically `scalar()`, `kform_general(1,0)` and `contract()`. These functions take a `lose` argument that behaves much like the `drop` argument in base extraction.

Function `lose()` takes an object of class `ktensor` or `kform` and, if of arity zero, returns the coefficient.

Note that function `kform()` *always* returns a `kform` object, it never loses attributes.

A 0-form is not the same thing as a zero tensor. A 0-form maps  $V^0$  to the reals; a scalar. A zero tensor maps  $V^k$  to zero.

## Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

## See Also

[zeroform](#), [lose](#)

**Examples**

```
o <- scalar(5)
o
lose(o)

kform_general(1,0)
kform_general(1,0,lose=FALSE)
```

---

**symbolic***Symbolic form*

---

**Description**

Prints  $k$ -tensor and  $k$ -form objects in symbolic form

**Usage**

```
as.symbolic(M, symbols=letters, d="")
```

**Arguments**

M	Object of class <code>kform</code> or <code>ktensor</code> ; a map from $V^k$ to $R$ , where $V = R^n$
symbols	A character vector giving the names of the symbols
d	String specifying the appearance of the differential operator

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**Examples**

```
as.symbolic(rtensor())
as.symbolic(rform())

as.symbolic(kform_general(3,2,1:3),d="d",symbols=letters[23:26])
```

**transform***Linear transforms of k-forms***Description**

Given a  $k$ -form, express it in terms of linear combinations of the  $dx^i$

**Usage**

```
transform(K,M)
stretch(K,d)
```

**Arguments**

K	Object of class kform
M	Matrix of transformation
d	Numeric vector representing the diagonal elements of a diagonal matrix

**Details**

Suppose we are given a two-form

$$\omega = \sum_{i < j} a_{ij} dx_i \wedge dx_j$$

and relationships

$$dx_i = \sum_r M_{ir} dy_r$$

then we would have

$$\omega = \sum_{i < j} a_{ij} \left( \sum_r M_{ir} dy_r \right) \wedge \left( \sum_r M_{jr} dy_r \right)$$

The general situation would be a  $k$ -form where we would have

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} a_{i_1 \dots i_k} dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_k}$$

giving

$$\omega = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \left[ a_{i_1 \dots i_k} \left( \sum_r M_{i_1 r} dy_r \right) \wedge \dots \wedge \left( \sum_r M_{i_k r} dy_r \right) \right]$$

So  $\omega$  was given in terms of  $dx_1, \dots, dx_k$  and we have expressed it in terms of  $dy_1, \dots, dy_k$ . So for example if

$$\omega = dx_1 \wedge dx_2 + 5dx_1 \wedge dx_3$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} dx_1 \\ dx_2 \\ dx_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} dy_1 \\ dy_2 \\ dy_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= (1dy_1 + 4dy_2 + 7dy_3) \wedge (2dy_1 + 5dy_2 + 8dy_3) + 5(1dy_1 + 4dy_2 + 7dy_3) \wedge (3dy_1 + 6dy_2 + 9dy_3) \\ &= 2dy_1 \wedge dy_1 + 5dy_1 \wedge dy_2 + \dots + 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 6dx_3 \wedge dx_2 + 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 9dx_3 \wedge dx_3 + \\ &= -33dy_1 \wedge dy_2 - 66dy_1 \wedge dy_3 - 33dy_2 \wedge dy_3 \end{aligned}$$

The `transform()` function does all this but it is slow. I am not 100% sure that there isn't a much more efficient way to do such a transformation. There are a few tests in `tests/testthat`.

Function `stretch()` carries out the same operation but for a matrix with zero off-diagonal elements. It is much faster.

### Value

Returns a  $k$ -form

### Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

### References

S. H. Weintraub 2019. *Differential forms: theory and practice*. Elsevier. (Chapter 3)

### See Also

[wedge](#)

### Examples

```
# Example in the text:
K <- as.kform(matrix(c(1,1,2,3),2,2),c(1,5))
M <- matrix(1:9,3,3)
transform(K,M)

# Demonstrate that the result can be complicated:
M <- matrix(rnorm(25),5,5)
transform(as.kform(1:2),M)
```

```

# Numerical verification:
o <- rform(terms=2,n=5)

o2 <- transform(transform(o,M),solve(M))
max(abs(value(o-o2))) # zero to numerical precision

# Following should be zero:
transform(as.kform(1),M)-as.kform(matrix(1:5),c(crossprod(M,c(1,rep(0,4)))))

# Following should be TRUE:
issmall(transform(o,crossprod(matrix(rnorm(10),2,5)))) 

# Some stretch() use-cases:

p <- rform()
p
stretch(p,seq_len(5))
stretch(p,c(1,0,1,1,1)) # kills dimension 2

# Works nicely with pipes:
## Not run:
max(abs(value(o-o %>% transform(M) %>% transform(solve(M)))))

## End(Not run)

```

**volume***The volume element***Description**

The volume element in  $n$  dimensions

**Usage**

```
volume(n)
is.volume(K)
```

**Arguments**

$n$	Dimension of the space
$K$	Object of class <code>kform</code>

**Details**

Spivak phrases it well (theorem 4.6, page 82):

If  $V$  has dimension  $n$ , it follows that  $\Lambda^n(V)$  has dimension 1. Thus all alternating  $n$ -tensors on  $V$  are multiples of any non-zero one. Since the determinant is an example of such a member of  $\Lambda^n(V)$  it is not surprising to find it in the following theorem:

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  be a basis for  $V$  and let  $\omega \in \Lambda^n(V)$ . If  $w_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} v_j$  then

$$\omega(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \det(a_{ij}) \cdot \omega(v_1, \dots, v_n)$$

(see the examples for numerical verification of this).

Neither the zero  $k$ -form, nor scalars, are considered to be a volume element.

### Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

### References

Spivak

### See Also

[zeroform](#), [as.1form](#)

### Examples

```
as.kform(1) %^% as.kform(2) %^% as.kform(3) == volume(3) # should be TRUE
o <- volume(5)
M <- matrix(runif(25), 5, 5)
det(M) - as.function(o)(M) # should be zero
```

wedge

*Wedge products*

### Description

Wedge products of  $k$ -forms

### Usage

```
wedge2(K1, K2)
wedge(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

K1, K2, x, ...       $k$ -forms

### Details

Wedge product of  $k$ -forms.

**Value**

Returns a  $k$ -form.

**Note**

In general use, use `wedge()` or `%^%`. Function `wedge()` uses low-level helper function `wedge2()`, which takes only two arguments.

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**Examples**

```

k1 <- as.kform(cbind(1:5,2:6),1:5)
k2 <- as.kform(cbind(5:7,6:8,7:9),1:3)
k3 <- kform_general(1:6,2)

a1 <- wedge2(k1,wedge2(k2,k3))
a2 <- wedge2(wedge2(k1,k2),k3)

is.zero(a1-a2) # NB terms of a1, a2 in a different order!

# This is why wedge(k1,k2,k3) is well-defined. Can also use %^%:
k1 %^% k2 %^% k3

```

**zero**

*Zero tensors and zero forms*

**Description**

Correct idiom for generating zero  $k$ -tensors and  $k$ -forms

**Usage**

```
zeroform(n)
zerotensor(n)
```

**Arguments**

n	Arity of the $k$ -form or $k$ -tensor
---	---------------------------------------

**Note**

Idiom such as `as.ktensor(rep(1,n),0)` and `as.kform(rep(1,5),0)` and indeed `as.kform(1:5,0)` is incorrect as the arity of the tensor is lost.

A 0-form is not the same thing as a zero tensor. A 0-form maps  $V^0$  to the reals; a scalar. A zero tensor maps  $V^k$  to zero.

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[scalar](#)

**Examples**

```
as.ktensor(1+diag(5)) + zerotensor(5)
as.kform(matrix(1:6,2,3)) + zeroform(3)

## Not run:
as.ktensor(1+diag(5)) + as.ktensor(rep(1,5),0)  # fails
as.kform(matrix(1:6,2,3)) + as.kform(1:3,0)    # also fails

## End(Not run)
```

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