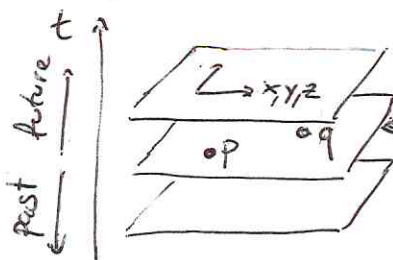


# Recap of SR

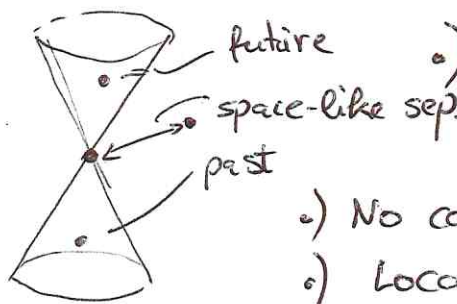
SR is theory of 4-dim space-time: set of events labeled  $(t, \vec{x})$

Galilean space-time:



$p = (t, x, y, z)$   $q = (t, x', y, z')$   
 flat 3d surface of simultaneity  
 (simultaneous events)  
 cannot be at p AND q

Relativistic space-time:



- o) Fundamental structure is the light cone (4d set of events)
- o) No concept of simultaneity
- o) Locally true also in GR

Inertial frame (or observer): non-accelerated coordinate system made of rigid (Cartesian) 3d grid with synchronized clocks  
 (in GR, it may exist only locally)

Two inertial frames in relative motion are related.

Call  $(t, \vec{x})$  and  $(t', \vec{x}')$  the coord. of same event in the 2 frames:

Galilean transf.	$\begin{cases} t' = t \\ x' = x - vt \\ y' = y \\ z' = z \end{cases}$	vs	$\text{SR boost } \begin{cases} t' = \gamma(t - vx/c^2) \\ x' = \gamma(x - vt) \\ y' = y \\ z' = z \end{cases}$	$\gamma^2 \equiv \frac{1}{1 - v^2/c^2}$
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$w \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \quad \boxed{w' = \frac{\Delta x'}{\Delta t'} = w - v, \quad a' = a}$	vs	$w' = \frac{\Delta x - v\Delta t}{\Delta t - v\Delta x/c^2} = \frac{w - v}{1 - wv/c^2}$
		$w' > c \Leftrightarrow w = c \quad \boxed{c = \text{const}}$

Leaves invariant:  $\frac{\Delta \vec{x}^2}{\Delta t^2}$  (for simult. events only!)

SR boosts leave invariant  $\boxed{\Delta s^2 \equiv -c^2 \Delta t^2 + \Delta \vec{x}^2}$  (check!)

Truly 4d theory: all coordinates (incl. t) can be transformed

Notation:  $x^0 = ct, x^1 = x, x^2 = y, x^3 = z$   $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$  (can set  $c=1$ )  
 $x^i$  for  $i=1, 2, 3$

$\Delta s^2 = \eta_{\mu\nu} \Delta x^\mu \Delta x^\nu$  (with summation convention)

$\eta \equiv \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  (METRIC) replaces Cartesian metric  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Separation between events can be

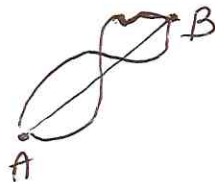
- 1) Time-like ( $\Delta s^2 < 0$ ) 2) null ( $\Delta s^2 = 0$ ) 3) space-like ( $\Delta s^2 > 0$ ) (2)

Proper time:  $\Delta\tau^2 = -\Delta s^2$  is the time interval measured by an observer moving from A to B on a straight line (i.e. with ~~constant~~  $x_A^i = x_B^i$ .)

$$\Rightarrow \Delta x^i = 0, \Delta\tau^2 = \Delta t^2$$

For a general curve  $x^\mu(\lambda)$ ,  $\Delta x^\mu \approx \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \Delta\lambda$

$$\Delta\tau = \int_A^B d\lambda \sqrt{-\eta_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}}$$



In GR,  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  will be replaced by a more general expression

### Poincaré transformations

Two types of transf. leaving  $\Delta s^2$  invariant

$$x^\mu \rightarrow \begin{cases} x^\mu = x^\mu + a^\mu & \text{(translations, both in time and space)} \\ x^\mu = \Lambda^\mu_\nu x^\nu & \text{(Lorentz transf.)} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta s'^2 = (\Delta x')^T \eta (\Delta x') = \Delta x^T (\Lambda^T \eta \Lambda) \Delta x = \Delta s^2 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\Lambda^T \eta \Lambda = \eta}$$

$$\boxed{\Lambda^\mu_\rho \eta_{\mu\nu} \Lambda^\nu_\sigma = \eta_{\rho\sigma}} \quad \text{(similar to } R^T R = \mathbb{1} \text{ for rotations)}$$

They form a group:  $O(3,1)$

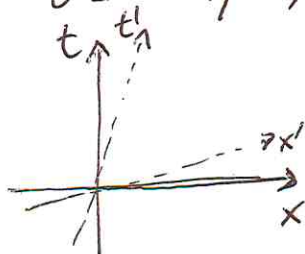
E.g.  $\Lambda^\mu_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \cos\theta & \sin\theta & \\ & -\sin\theta & \cos\theta & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  rotation around  $\hat{z}$  ( $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ )

$\Lambda^\mu_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh\phi & -\sinh\phi & & \\ -\sinh\phi & \cosh\phi & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  boost in  $x$  direction ( $-\infty < \phi < +\infty$ )

Rotations and boosts form the group  $SO(3,1)$  (special Lorentz tr.)

For boosts:  $\begin{cases} t' = \cosh\phi t - \sinh\phi x = \cosh\phi(t - \tanh\phi x) \\ x' = -\sinh\phi t + \cosh\phi x = \cosh\phi(x - \tanh\phi t) \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow v = \tanh\phi$ ,  $\phi = \tanh^{-1}(v)$ ,  $\gamma = \cosh\phi$  ( $v < 1$ )



$x'$  axis ( $t'=0$ ):  $t = vx$   
 $t'$  axis ( $x'=0$ ):  $t = x/v$

The light cone  $t = \pm x$  is left invariant (check!)

We need to construct vector and tensor fields. For this, we need to attach a vector space to each point of space-time. (these vector spaces must not be confused with the space-time itself). We want to do it in a way that is ready to generalize to curved space-times.

Vectors:

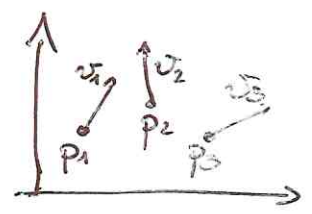
For each  $p$ , we construct a vector space  $T_p$  (tangent space at  $p$ )

$$\forall v, w \in T_p \text{ and } \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow av + bw \in T_p$$

The set of all  $T_p$ 's is the tangent bundle.

A set of vectors containing one vector  $v \in T_p \forall p$  is called a vector field

$$v_1 \in T_{p_1}, v_2 \in T_{p_2}, \dots$$



Basis of  $T_p$ : complete set of  $n$  linearly indep. vectors, with  $n = \dim(T_p)$

In Minkowski, there is a natural basis  $\hat{e}_{(\mu)}$  aligned with the  $\mathbb{L}$  axes (the same for all  $p$ 's):

$$v(p) = v^\mu(p) \hat{e}_{(\mu)}$$

$\uparrow$  components       $\nwarrow$  basis vectors

Example:

Tangent vector to a curve  $X^\mu(\lambda)$ :  $V^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$ ,  $V = V^\mu \hat{e}_{(\mu)}$

Under Lorentz transf.,  $V^\mu \rightarrow V^{\mu'} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu} V^\nu$ , but  $V$  ~~do~~ must not transform

$$V = V^{\mu'} \hat{e}_{(\mu')} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu} V^\nu \hat{e}_{(\mu')} \Rightarrow \hat{e}_{(\mu')} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu} \hat{e}_{(\mu)}$$

$\Lambda^{\nu'}_{\mu}$  is the inverse transf. of  $\Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu}$  (e.g. when  $\phi \rightarrow -\phi$ ) <sup>(\*)</sup>  
 $\vec{v} \rightarrow -\vec{v}$

$$\Lambda^{\nu'}_{\mu} \hat{e}_{(\mu)} = \underbrace{\Lambda^{\nu'}_{\mu} \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu}}_{\delta^{\nu'}_{\mu'}} \hat{e}_{(\mu')} = \hat{e}_{(\nu')}$$

~~(\*) because  $\frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} = \delta^{\mu'}_{\nu'}$~~

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\hat{e}_{(\mu')} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu} \hat{e}_{(\mu)}}$$

$$(*) \boxed{\Lambda^{\nu'}_{\mu} \equiv (\Lambda^{-1})^{\nu'}_{\mu}}$$

Transformation of the basis

(the index position will become clear later)

One-forms (or dual vectors):

Define  $T_p^*$  (cotangent space) as the dual vector space of  $T_p$   
space of all linear applications  $\omega: T_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\omega(aV + bW) = a\omega(V) + b\omega(W) \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

It is a vector space with  $(a\omega + b\eta)(V) = a\omega(V) + b\eta(V)$

Basis such that  $\hat{\Theta}^{(\omega)}(\hat{e}_{(\mu)}) = \delta_{\mu}^{\nu}$ ,  $\omega = \omega_{\mu} \hat{\Theta}^{(\mu)}$   
Action of 1-forms on vectors: ↑ components (with lower indices!)

$$\omega(V) = \omega_{\mu} \hat{\Theta}^{(\mu)}(V^{\nu} \hat{e}_{(\nu)}) = \omega_{\mu} V^{\nu} \delta_{\nu}^{\mu} = \omega_{\mu} V^{\mu} \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\sim \text{scalar product of components})$$

Lorentz transf.:

$$\omega(V) = \omega_{\mu} V^{\mu} = \omega_{\mu'} V^{\mu'} = \omega_{\mu'} \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu} V^{\nu} \Rightarrow \omega_{\mu} = \omega_{\mu'} \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu}$$

Therefore,

$$\boxed{\omega_{\nu'} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\nu'} \omega_{\mu}} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\hat{\Theta}^{(\mu')} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu} \hat{\Theta}^{(\nu)}}$$

(finish the proof!)

Objects with upper (lower) indices transform with  $\Lambda^{\nu'}_{\mu}$  ( $\Lambda_{\nu'}^{\mu}$ )  
Sometimes called contravariant (covariant) vectors.

Since  $\omega(V) = \omega_{\mu} V^{\mu}$ , I can also interpret it as  $V(\omega)$ .

Hence,  $T_p^{**} = T_p$ . Cannot proceed further.

Example: the gradient of a scalar function  $\hat{\Lambda}$  is covariant  $d\phi \equiv \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu}} \hat{\Theta}^{(\mu)}$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu'}} = \frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu}} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\mu'} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu}}$$

Notation:  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu}} \equiv \partial_{\mu} \phi \equiv \phi_{,\mu}$

The gradient acting on the tangent vector  $\rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^{\mu}} \frac{dx^{\mu}}{dx} = \frac{d\phi}{dx}$

# Tensors

Generalize vectors and one-forms to arbitrary numbers of indices  
Tensor of rank (k, l) is a multilinear map from vectors and one-forms into  $\mathbb{R}$ :

$$T : \underbrace{T_p^* \times \dots \times T_p^*}_k \times \underbrace{T_p \times \dots \times T_p}_l \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Multilinear means linear in each argument:

$$\begin{aligned} T(a\omega + b\eta, cV + dW) &= cT(a\omega + b\eta, V) + dT(a\omega + b\eta, W) \\ &= acT(\omega, V) + adT(\omega, W) + bcT(\eta, V) + bdT(\eta, W) \end{aligned}$$

Scalar is (0,0) tensor, vector is (1,0) tensor, co-vector is (0,1) tensor, tensors are a

Prove that ~~it is a~~ vector space.

Basis Tensor product is a new operation ~~defined as~~ that given T of rank (k,l) and S of rank (m,n) gives a tensor of rank (k+m, l+n):

$$\begin{aligned} (T \otimes S)(\omega^{(1)}, \dots, \omega^{(k+m)}, V^{(1)}, \dots, V^{(l+n)}) \\ \equiv T(\omega^{(1)}, \dots, \omega^{(k)}, V^{(1)}, \dots, V^{(l)}) S(\omega^{(k+1)}, \dots, \omega^{(k+m)}, V^{(l+1)}, \dots, V^{(l+n)}) \end{aligned}$$

In general,  $T \otimes S \neq S \otimes T$

Basis is the set of all tensors ( $4^{k+l}$  of them!)

$$\hat{e}_{(\mu_1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{e}_{(\mu_k)} \otimes \hat{\theta}^{(\nu_1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{\theta}^{(\nu_l)}$$

dimension of space of (k,l) tensors is  $4^{k+l}$

For any tensor T,

$$T = T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} \hat{e}_{(\mu_1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{\theta}^{(\nu_l)}$$

or equivalently  $T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} = T(\hat{\theta}^{(\mu_1)}, \dots, \hat{\theta}^{(\mu_k)}, \hat{e}_{(\nu_1)}, \dots, \hat{e}_{(\nu_l)})$

(action of T on the basis). T completely specified by components.

Action of T on ~~vector~~ its arguments:

$$T(\omega^{(1)}, \dots, \omega^{(k)}, V^{(1)}, \dots, V^{(l)}) = T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} \omega_{\mu_1}^{(1)} \dots \omega_{\mu_k}^{(k)} V^{(\nu_1)}_{\nu_1} \dots V^{(\nu_l)}_{\nu_l}$$

The order matters!!

In components:

$$T \otimes S \sim T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} S^{\mu_{k+1} \dots \mu_{k+m}}_{\nu_{l+1} \dots \nu_{l+m}}$$

Under Lorentz,  $T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n} = \Lambda^{\mu_1}_{\mu_1} \dots \Lambda^{\mu_n}_{\mu_n} \Lambda^{\nu_1}_{\nu_1} \dots \Lambda^{\nu_n}_{\nu_n} T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n}$  6

Each upper/lower index transforms as vector/covector.

This ~~is~~ <sup>can be</sup> an alternative definition of tensor.

~~is~~

Consider a (1,1) tensor  $T$ . Defined as a map  $T: T_p^* \otimes T_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Let it act on  $V \in T_p$ . It is now a map  $T(\dots, V): T_p^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

It maps  $\omega \in T_p^* \rightarrow T(\omega, V) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Therefore,  $T(\dots, V)$  is a (1,0) tensor (i.e., a vector).

Thus,  $T$  is also a map from  $T_p$  into  $T_p$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T: T_p &\rightarrow T_p \\ V &\rightarrow T(\dots, V) \\ V^\mu &\rightarrow T^\mu_{\nu} V^\nu \end{aligned}$$

Under Lorentz,  $T^{\mu'}_{\nu'} V^{\nu'} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\rho} \underbrace{\Lambda^{\rho}_{\nu'} \Lambda^{\nu'}_{\tau}}_{\delta^{\rho}_{\tau}} T^{\rho}_{\sigma} V^{\sigma} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\nu} T^{\nu}_{\sigma} V^{\sigma}$ .

It transforms as a vector!  $\delta^{\rho}_{\tau}$  It actually is a vector

Def.: "Contraction" Each pair of repeated upper/lower indices is said to be contracted (= summed over from 0 to 3)

Each pair of contracted indices is Lorentz-invariant (their direct and inverse transfr. cancel away): it is a scalar

Ex.  $U^{\mu}_{\nu} \equiv T^{\mu}_{\nu\rho} S^{\rho\sigma}_{\tau} \omega_{\sigma} V^{\tau}$  is a (1,1) tensor  
(1,2) (2,1) (0,1) (1,0)

Def. Symmetric/antisymmetric if exchanging two same-type indices does not change the tensor / returns a - sign.

Ex  $S_{\mu\nu\rho} = S_{\nu\mu\rho}$  ( $S_{\mu\nu\rho}$  is symmetric under  $\mu \leftrightarrow \nu$ )  
 $S_{\mu\nu\rho} = S_{\nu\mu\rho} = S_{\rho\mu\nu}$  ( $S_{\mu\nu\rho}$  is totally symmetric)  
 $A_{\mu\nu\rho} = -A_{\nu\mu\rho}$  ( $A_{\mu\nu\rho}$  is antisymmetric under  $\mu \leftrightarrow \nu$ )  
 $T_{\mu\nu} + T_{\nu\mu}$  is symmetric ;  $T_{\mu\nu} - T_{\nu\mu}$  is antisymmetric

Def Symmetrization / Antisymmetrization

$$T_{(\mu_1 \dots \mu_n) \rho \dots}^{\sigma \dots} \equiv \frac{1}{n!} (T_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n \rho \dots}^{\sigma \dots} + \text{all permutations of } \mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)$$

$$T_{[\mu_1 \dots \mu_n] \rho \dots}^{\sigma \dots} \equiv \frac{1}{n!} (T_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n \rho \dots}^{\sigma \dots} - T_{\mu_2 \mu_1 \dots \mu_n \rho \dots}^{\sigma \dots} + \text{all } \mu_1, \dots, \mu_n \text{ permutations with sign})$$

Ex.  $T_{(\mu\nu)\rho}^{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (T_{\mu\nu\rho}^{\sigma} + T_{\nu\mu\rho}^{\sigma})$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{[\rho\sigma]} = \frac{1}{2} (T_{\mu\nu}^{\rho\sigma} - T_{\mu\nu}^{\sigma\rho})$$

$$T_{(\mu\nu|\rho)}^{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (T_{\mu\nu\rho}^{\sigma} + T_{\rho\nu\mu}^{\sigma})$$

$$T_{[\mu\nu\rho]}^{\sigma} = \frac{1}{6} (T_{\mu\nu\rho}^{\sigma} - T_{\nu\mu\rho}^{\sigma} - T_{\mu\rho\nu}^{\sigma} + T_{\nu\rho\mu}^{\sigma} - T_{\rho\nu\mu}^{\sigma} + T_{\rho\mu\nu}^{\sigma})$$

Ex. M is a (1,1) tensor acting on  $\omega$  and V

$$M(\omega, V) = M^{\mu}_{\nu} \omega_{\mu} V^{\nu} = (\omega_0, \omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) \begin{bmatrix} M^0_0 & M^0_1 & M^0_2 & M^0_3 \\ M^1_0 & M^1_1 & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ M^3_0 & & & M^3_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V^0 \\ V^1 \\ V^2 \\ V^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Ex. The <sup>EM</sup> field strength  $F_{\mu\nu} \equiv \partial_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A_{\mu} = A_{\nu,\mu} - A_{\mu,\nu}$  is an antisymmetric (0,2) tensor.

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & B_z & -B_y \\ E_y & -B_z & 0 & B_x \\ E_z & B_y & -B_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The metric:  $\eta_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a (0,2) tensor

$$\eta: T_p \times T_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{or} \quad \eta: T_p \rightarrow T_p^*$$

$$\eta(V, W) = \eta_{\mu\nu} V^{\mu} W^{\nu} \equiv V \cdot W \quad (\text{scalar or inner or dot product})$$

$$\eta(V, V) = \eta_{\mu\nu} V^{\mu} V^{\nu} \equiv V \cdot V \quad (\text{norm}) \quad \text{can be time-like, space-like, or null}$$

(<0)      (≥0)      (=0)

The inverse metric  $\eta^{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a (2,0) tensor with the same components as  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$

$$\eta^{\mu\nu} \eta_{\nu\rho} = \delta^{\mu}_{\rho} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{is a (1,1) tensor}$$

We can use  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  and  $\eta^{\mu\nu}$  to get new tensors from existing ones. E.g., given  $V^\mu$  and  $\omega_\mu$  we define

$$V_\mu \equiv \eta_{\mu\nu} V^\nu \quad \text{and} \quad \omega^\mu \equiv \eta^{\mu\nu} \omega_\nu$$

Same for any tensor. E.g.,  $T^\nu{}_\mu{}^\rho = \eta_{\mu\alpha} \eta^{\nu\beta} T^\alpha{}_\beta{}^\rho$ .

This operation is said "raising and lowering indices"

In this form, the scalar product "looks" more Euclidean:

$$V \cdot V = V_\mu V^\mu = V_0 V^0 + V_i V^i = -(V^0)^2 + \sum_i (V^i)^2$$

$$\omega \cdot \omega = \omega_\mu \omega^\mu = \omega_0 \omega^0 + \omega_i \omega^i$$

We can also have  $\Lambda_{\mu'}{}^\nu = \eta_{\mu'\nu'} \eta^{\mu\nu} \Lambda^\nu{}_\mu$  by raising and lowering.

Remember that Lorentz transf. are defined by  $\Lambda^{\mu'}{}_\mu \eta_{\mu'\nu'} \Lambda^\nu{}_\nu = \eta_{\mu\nu}$

Multiply this by  $\eta^{\rho\mu}$  and get

$$\delta^{\rho}{}_{\nu'} = \eta^{\rho\mu} \eta_{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\rho\mu} \Lambda^{\mu'}{}_\mu \eta_{\mu'\nu'} \Lambda^\nu{}_{\nu'} = \Lambda^{\nu'}{}_\nu \Lambda^{\rho}{}_{\nu'}$$

This is why we defined  $\Lambda^{\nu'}{}_\nu \equiv (\Lambda^{-1})^{\rho}{}_{\nu'}$  (like Carroll, but unlike Paolo and Schutz,

Notice  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\eta^{\mu\nu}$  and  $\delta^{\mu}{}_{\nu}$ ,  $\delta_{\mu}{}^{\nu}$  are tensors, so their indices are co/contravariant. ~~However~~ They transform with  $\Lambda$ 's. However, they are defined to be constant everywhere. The components of  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  are still  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

They are actually invariant tensors.

This actually defines the Lorentz transformations.

# Energy-momentum tensor

Also called stress-energy tensor.

Recall the proper time  $\tau(\lambda) \equiv \int d\lambda \sqrt{-\eta_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}}$ , where  $\frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$  is the tangent vector to the time-like curve  $x^\mu(\lambda)$ . Can re-parametrize the curve as  $x^\mu(\tau)$ .

Def. The four-velocity of a fluid element following  $x^\mu(\tau)$  is

$$\boxed{U^\mu \equiv \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau}} \quad \text{normalized so that } \eta_{\mu\nu} U^\mu U^\nu = -1$$

In the rest frame,  $U^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ .

In the frame in which the particle has velocity  $\vec{v}$ ,

$$U^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma \\ \gamma v_x \\ \gamma v_y \\ \gamma v_z \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{obtained applying } \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu(-\vec{v}) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & \gamma v_x & & \\ \gamma v_x & \gamma & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ to } U^\mu$$

(for boost in x direction)  
of dust particles (\*)

If  $n = N/\Delta V$  is the number density at rest, in the moving frame

$n \rightarrow \gamma n$ , since  $\Delta V \rightarrow \Delta V/\gamma$  (contraction of lengths)

The volume crossing a surface  $\Delta y \Delta z$  in time  $\Delta t$  (at  $x = \text{constant}$ ) is  $v_x \Delta t \Delta y \Delta z$ . Hence, the flux in  $x$  direction per unit area and time is  $\gamma n v_x$  (divide by  $\Delta t \Delta y \Delta z$ ). At rest, (flux) $_i = 0$ .

Def The number-flux four vector is

$$\boxed{N^\mu \equiv n U^\mu}$$

$N^i = (\text{flux})_i$ . Can interpret  $N^0$  as flux in  $t$  direction (= across a  $t = \text{const.}$  surface)

Def The quadrimentum vector is  $\boxed{P^\mu \equiv m U^\mu}$

The energy density in the rest frame is  $\rho = mn$ . In the moving frame,  $\rho \rightarrow \gamma^2 \rho = \gamma^2 mn$ , since  $n \rightarrow \gamma n$  and  $m \rightarrow \gamma m$ .

In the rest frame  $\rho$  completely describes the dust particles, and  $\rho = mn = mn(U^0)^2$ . In the moving frames, it is described by

$$\boxed{T_{\text{dust}}^{\mu\nu} \equiv mn U^\mu U^\nu = P^\mu N^\nu = N^\mu P^\nu} \quad (T_{\text{dust}} = U \otimes U)$$

(\*) dust is a collection of particles at rest with each other, or a perfect fluid with no pressure.

Def The stress-energy tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$  of a fluid is the flux of  $\mu$ -momentum across a surface of constant  $x^\nu$  10

$T^{00}$  = energy density = energy flux across  $t = \text{const}$  surface

$T^{0i} = \gamma^i p v^i$  = energy flux across  $x^i = \text{const}$  surface

$T^{i0} = T^{0i} = \gamma^i n m v^i$  = density of  $i$ -momentum

$T^{ij} = \gamma^i p v^i v^j$  = flux of  $i$ -momentum across  $x^j = \text{const}$  surface

A generic perfect fluid is described by  $\rho$  and  $p$  (= pressure). In the rest frame, it must be spatially isotropic. Thus,

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho & & & \\ & p & & \\ & & p & \\ & & & p \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{at rest})$$

In the generic frame, this must be

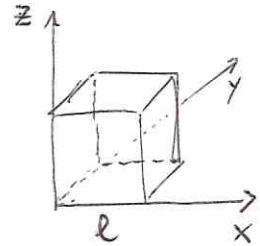
$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho + p) u^\mu u^\nu + p \eta^{\mu\nu} \quad [T = (\rho + p) u \otimes u + p \eta^{-1}]$$

(since it is a tensor and it reduces to the desired rest frame expression)

A real fluid has non-zero off-diagonal components also in rest frame.  $T^{0i}$  is heat flux,  $T^{i0}$  the assoc. momentum density,  $T^{ij}$  anisotr. stress.

### Conservation of $T^{\mu\nu}$

Energy in the cube =  $l^3 T^{00}$   
 $\mu$ -momentum in cube =  $l^3 T^{\mu 0}$



Variation of  $\frac{\partial (l^3 T^{\mu 0})}{\partial t}$  occurs because of flux across the surface:  $l^2 \sum_{i=1}^3 [T^{\mu i}(x^i=0) - T^{\mu i}(x^i=l)]$

$$\frac{\partial T^{\mu 0}}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial T^{\mu i}}{\partial x^i} \Rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = 0} \quad (T^{\mu\nu}_{,\nu} = 0)$$

In practice, any conserved symmetric tensor can be interpreted as an energy-momentum tensor.  $\partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$  gives the EoM's.

### Conservation of # of particles

# of particles in the cube =  $l^3 N^0$   
 (same derivation as above)

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\mu N^\mu = 0} \quad [(n u^\mu)_{,\mu} = 0]$$

# Perfect fluid equations of motion

$$\partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = \partial_\nu [(p+\rho)u^\mu u^\nu + p\eta^{\mu\nu}] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_\mu (n u^\mu) = 0$$

Show first that  $u_\mu \partial_\nu u^\mu = 0$ : (\*)

$$u_\mu u^\mu = -1 \Rightarrow \partial_\nu (u_\mu u^\mu) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = (u^\mu u^\rho \eta_{\mu\rho})_{,\nu} = \eta_{\mu\rho} \partial_\nu (u^\mu u^\rho) = 2 \eta_{\mu\rho} u^\rho \partial_\nu u^\mu = 2 u_\mu \partial_\nu u^\mu \quad \checkmark$$

$\eta_{\mu\rho} = \eta_{\rho\mu}$

$$\text{Then, } \partial_\nu [(p+\rho)u^\mu u^\nu] = \partial_\nu \left[ \frac{p+\rho}{n} u^\mu N^\nu \right] = N^\nu \partial_\nu \left( \frac{p+\rho}{n} u^\mu \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = n u^\nu \partial_\nu \left( \frac{p+\rho}{n} u^\mu \right) + \eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu p = 0$$

$$\text{Now contract with } u_\mu: u^\nu u_\mu \partial_\nu \left( \frac{p+\rho}{n} u^\mu \right) = u^\nu \frac{p+\rho}{n} u_\mu \partial_\nu u^\mu - u^\nu \partial_\nu \left( \frac{p+\rho}{n} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_\mu \partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu} = u^\nu \left[ -n \partial_\nu \left( \frac{p+\rho}{n} \right) + \partial_\nu p \right] = -u^\nu \left[ \partial_\nu p - \frac{p+\rho}{n} \partial_\nu n \right] = 0$$

$$\text{But } \partial_\nu (n u^\mu) = 0 \Rightarrow (\partial_\nu n) u^\mu = -n \partial_\nu u^\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{u^\nu \partial_\nu p + (p+\rho) \partial_\nu u^\nu = 0} \quad \text{continuity equation}$$

Equivalent to  $\partial_\nu (p u^\nu) + p \partial_\nu u^\nu = 0$ . In the rest frame, it is the 0 component of  $\partial_\nu T^{\mu\nu}$ .

Now look at  $\partial_\nu T^{i\nu}$  (remember  $u^i = 0$  but  $\partial_\nu u^i \neq 0$ )

$$n u^\nu \left[ u^i \partial_\nu \frac{p+\rho}{n} + \frac{p+\rho}{n} \partial_\nu u^i \right] + \eta^{i\nu} \partial_\nu p = 0$$

$$\boxed{(p+\rho) u^\nu \partial_\nu u^i + \partial^i p = 0}$$

It reduces to Euler's eqn. when  $p \ll \rho$  (but  $\partial^i p \neq 0$ )

Notice that  $u^\nu \partial_\nu = \frac{d}{d\tau}$ .

# The equivalence principle

12

Newtonian physics and SR are built around the concept of inertial observers (= on which no forces are acting).

For mechanical forces, it's easy to say when they are acting or not.

Also for EM, one can build shielded neutral observers which are inertial. Acceleration is with respect to these.

However, gravity cannot be shielded, no neutral observers. How can inertial observers be defined? Acceleration w.r.t. what?

$$\vec{F} = m_i \vec{a} \quad \vec{F}_g = -m_g \vec{\nabla} \phi$$

But we know since Galileo that  $[m_i = m_g]$ . All bodies feel the same acceleration regardless of mass. There are no inertial observers!

The weak equivalence principle simply states that inertial and gravitational mass are equal.

verified to great accuracy: Eötvös (1908)  $10^{-9}$   
Eöt-wash (1987)  $10^{-13}$

For a system of  $N$  particles with mutual pairwise forces,

$$m_a \frac{d^2 \vec{x}_a}{dt^2} = m_a g + \sum_{b \neq a} \vec{F}(\vec{x}_b - \vec{x}_a)$$

With a non-Galilean coordinate transf.  $\vec{x}' = \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} g t^2$  I get

$$m_a \frac{d^2 \vec{x}'_a}{dt^2} = \sum_{b \neq a} \vec{F}(\vec{x}_b - \vec{x}_a)$$

In the new frame (accelerated) the laws of mechanics are the same, but there is no gravity. Possible if  $\vec{g}$  is uniform.

If  $g = g(\vec{r})$ , there are residual tidal forces.

Obs. in free-falling elevator sees objects moving towards each other.

Ocean tides are due to inhom. sun-moon grav. attraction.

Also, in SR other forces contribute to mass (binding energy).

Do they contribute equally to  $m_i$  and  $m_g$ ?

Yes, according to the strong equivalence principle.

Strong equivalence principle: at every space-time-point in 13  
 a gravitational field there is a reference frame in which,  
 in a small enough region, ALL laws of physics reduce to SR.  
 This is called "locally inertial frame".

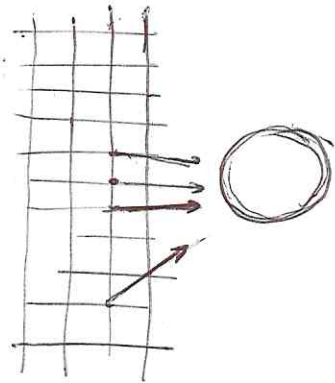
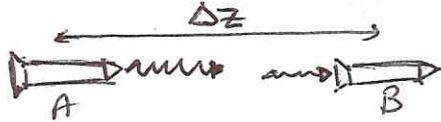
In a small enough region,  $g(\vec{r}) \sim \text{constant}$ . Tidal forces are of second order. Locally, gravity can be erased.

We will see that geometrically this means that space-time is locally flat. On larger scales, curvature of space-time induces accelerations w.r.t. the locally inertial frame.

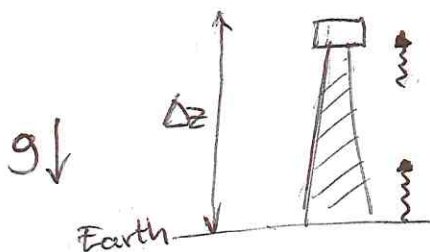
### Gravitational redshift

A consequence of EP.

Imagine two rockets with constant acc.  $a$



A photon emitted by A reaches B after  $\Delta t = \frac{\Delta z}{c}$ , when velocity has increased by  $\Delta v \approx a \Delta t = \frac{a \Delta z}{c}$ . Doppler shift:  $\frac{\Delta \lambda}{\lambda_0} \approx \frac{\Delta v}{c} \approx \frac{a \Delta z}{c^2}$



According to EP indistinguishable from  
 photon reaching the top of  
 a tower of height  $\Delta z$  in a gravitational  
 field  $|\vec{g}| = a$

$$\frac{\Delta \lambda}{\lambda_0} \approx \Delta \phi \quad (c=1)$$

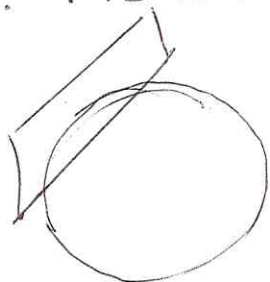
At the tower's top, rods are shorter and clocks are slower!

# Differentiable manifolds

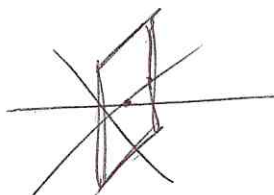
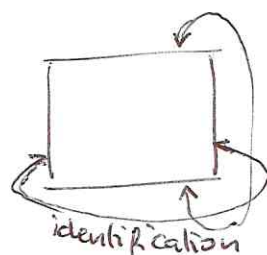
Need a mathematical structure to describe curved space-time, replacing flat Minkowski, which still "looks like" Minkowski locally. This is what is called a "manifold"

Ex.

sphere  $S^2$



torus  $T^2$

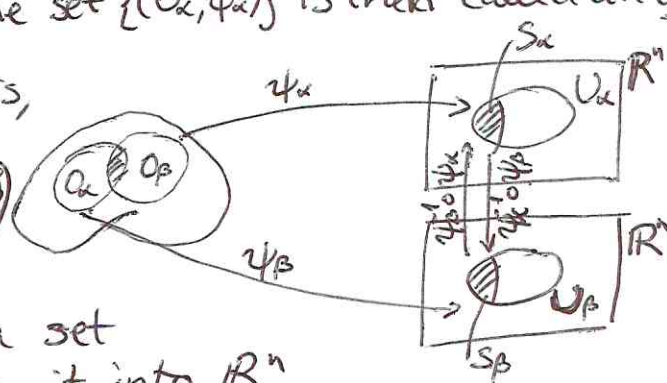


This is NOT a manifold. It changes dimensions.

A manifold is a set  $M$  together with a set of charts (or coordinate systems) mapping it into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , which are sewn together smoothly. This set <sup>of charts</sup> is called an "atlas".

Def. An  $n$ -dimensional  $C^\infty$  real manifold  $M$  is a set together with a collection of subsets  $\{O_\alpha\}$  such that:

- 1) each  $p \in M$  is in at least one  $O_\alpha$  (i.e.,  $\{O_\alpha\}$  covers  $M$ )
- 2)  $\forall \alpha$ , there is an invertible map  $\psi_\alpha: O_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $U_\alpha = \psi_\alpha(O_\alpha)$  (the image of  $O_\alpha$ ) is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
(the pair  $(O_\alpha, \psi_\alpha)$  is called a chart, or coord. system.)
- 3) the charts are smoothly sewn together: if two charts overlap (if  $O_\alpha \cap O_\beta \neq \emptyset$ ), then  $S_\alpha \equiv \psi_\alpha(O_\alpha \cap O_\beta) \subset U_\alpha$  and  $S_\beta \equiv \psi_\beta(O_\alpha \cap O_\beta)$  (the images of the intersection) are open sets, and the map  $(\psi_\beta \circ \psi_\alpha^{-1}): S_\alpha \rightarrow S_\beta$  is  $C^\infty$  (the set  $\{(O_\alpha, \psi_\alpha)\}$  is then called an atlas)
- 4) the atlas is maximal, that is, it contains all possible charts compatible with 2) and 3)



In short, a manifold  $M$  is a set with a maximal atlas mapping it into  $\mathbb{R}^n$  smoothly. Each portion  $O_\alpha \subset M$  locally "looks like"  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .  
The atlas gives  $M$  a differential structure (here,  $C^\infty$ ) inherited from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Examples

- $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a manifold. Can be covered by a single chart with  $\mathbb{1}$  as map. However, we can also choose another coordinate system (e.g. spherical coordinates)
- $S^1$  (circle). The map  $\psi: S^1 \rightarrow [0, 2\pi)$  (angle) is NOT a good chart ( $\psi(S^1)$  must be open). We need at least two charts to cover  $S^1$ . E.g. ~~with~~ with images  $(0, 2\pi)$  and  $(-\pi, \pi)$
- $S^2$  (sphere). Not with one chart either. Can use standard polar coordinates (4 charts), or six hemispheric caps  $O_i^\pm = \{(x^1, x^2, x^3) \in S^2 \mid \pm x^i > 0\}$  mapped into the open disk, or 2 stereographic projections

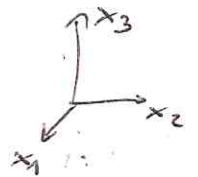
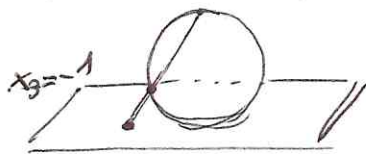
!  $U_1 = \{(x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1\}$      $U_2 = \{(x_1, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_3^2 < 1\}$      $U_3 = \dots$

Need to check that the mapping between the images of the intersection is  $C^\infty$

$$U_1 \rightarrow U_2 \quad \begin{cases} x_3 \rightarrow x_3 \\ x_2 \rightarrow x_2 \pm \sqrt{1 - x_3^2 - x_2^2} \end{cases} \quad C^\infty \text{ for } x_3^2 + x_2^2 < 1$$

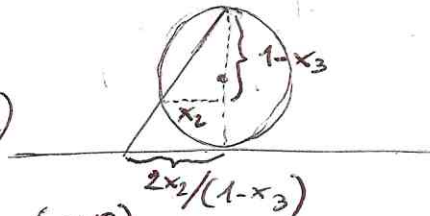
For stereographic projection:

$$\psi_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left( \frac{2x_1}{1-x_3}, \frac{2x_2}{1-x_3} \right) \equiv (y_1, y_2)$$



from the north pole, and

$$\psi_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left( \frac{2x_1}{1+x_3}, \frac{2x_2}{1+x_3} \right) \equiv (z_1, z_2)$$



Check that it is a good atlas ( $C^\infty$ )

$$(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1-x_3}{1+x_3} (y_1, y_2) \quad y_1^2 + y_2^2 = \frac{4(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}{(1-x_3)^2} = \frac{4(1+x_3)}{1-x_3}$$

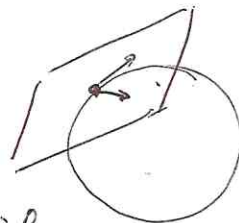
$$\Rightarrow x_3 = \frac{y_1^2 + y_2^2 - 4}{y_1^2 + y_2^2 + 4} \neq 1 \quad \Rightarrow (z_1, z_2) = \frac{4}{y_1^2 + y_2^2} (y_1, y_2) \quad (y_1^2 + y_2^2 > 0)$$

# VECTORS ON A MANIFOLD

In GR, space-time is no longer a vector space like Minkowski /  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . E.g., on a sphere, there is no way to add two vectors, or multiply by a scalar, such that the result is still in the sphere.

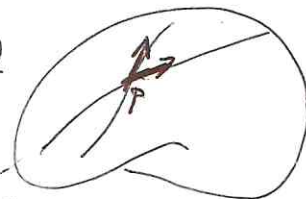
But we should recover a vector space structure locally (because locally, physics must be SR).

In SR, the vector space structure of  $T_p$  was inherited from space-time (aligned basis  $\hat{e}_\mu$ ). The same would be possible if manifold  $M$  is embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . But we need intrinsic method.



$\forall p \in M$ , there are curves going through it. We can define  $T_p$  if we know how to compute tangent vectors intrinsically.

In SR,  $v = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \hat{e}_\mu$ . In GR, we don't know  $\hat{e}_\mu$ . But we can build directional derivatives.



Any function  $f(p): M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defines a function  $F = f \circ \psi^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  through the chart. This function is now differentiable (it inherits  $\mathbb{R}^n$ 's structure).

Each curve through  $p$  in  $M$  is mapped into a curve  $x^\mu(\lambda)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} F(x^\mu(\lambda)) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$$

A different curve  $\tilde{x}^\mu(\eta)$  gives  $\frac{dF}{d\eta} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_{\tilde{x}^\mu} \frac{d\tilde{x}^\mu}{d\eta}$ , but both are evaluated at  $\tilde{x}^\mu = x^\mu = \psi(p)$ , that is  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p$ . The two

curves are associated to the derivatives  $\frac{d}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}$  and

$\frac{d}{d\eta} = \frac{d\tilde{x}^\mu}{d\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}$ . Both act on  $f \circ \psi^{-1}$  linearly:  $\frac{d}{d\lambda} (aF + bG) =$

$a \frac{dF}{d\lambda} + b \frac{dG}{d\lambda}$ , where  $G = g \circ \psi^{-1}$ , and  $aF + bG = (af + bg) \circ \psi^{-1}$ .

They map  $f$  into  $\mathbb{R}$ .

We choose this as definition of tangent vector.

Def The tangent space  $T_p$  is the space of all directional derivative operators along curves through  $p$ .

Each directional derivative is a tangent vector.

Tangent vector  $v$  is a linear map  $v: F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (where  $F$  is the space of  $C^\infty$  functions from  $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ).

Basis of  $T_p$ : the partial derivatives  $\partial_\mu$  are derivative operators along a curve in which only one  $x^\mu$  is changing. They are thus tangent vectors. Since each curve ~~is expressed~~ through  $p$  is expressed in coordinates, each directional derivative takes the form  $\frac{d}{d\lambda} = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \partial_\mu$ . Hence,  $\partial_\mu$  is a basis of  $T_p$  (called coordinate basis).

Each vector  $v \in T_p$  has the expression  $v = v^\mu \partial_\mu$   
↑ ↑  
components basis

In curved space, the set  $\{\partial_\mu\}$  of vectors replaces  $\{\hat{e}_\mu\}$  which we used in flat space.

Note that some texts define tangent vectors ~~as~~ directly as linear applications  $v: F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (e.g. Wald) which also obey Leibnitz rule:

$$v(fg) = f(p)v(g) + v(f)g(p)$$

This definition is coordinate-independent (more elegant) but equivalent.

Transformation under coordinate change.  $x^\mu \rightarrow x^{\mu'}$  (generic!)

$$\boxed{\partial_{\mu'} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \partial_\mu}$$
 but  $V$  must remain invariant

$$V = \partial_\mu V^\mu = \partial_{\mu'} V^{\mu'} = V^{\mu'} \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \partial_\mu \Rightarrow V^\mu = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} V^{\mu'} \quad \boxed{V^{\mu'} = \frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^\mu} V^\mu}$$

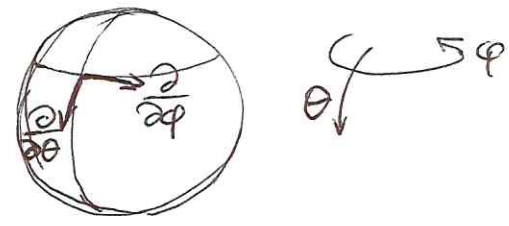
Generalizes the transf. rule of vector basis and components under Lorentz transf. in SR. If  $x^{\mu'} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu} x^\mu$ , then  $\hat{e}_{(\mu')} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\mu'} \hat{e}_{(\mu)}$

$$\frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^\mu} = \Lambda^{\mu'}_{\mu} \text{ (direct)} \quad \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} = \left(\frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^\mu}\right)^{-1} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\mu'} \text{ (inverse)}$$

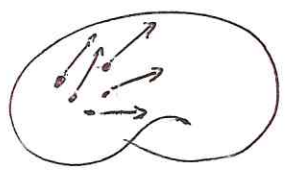
Note that:

- 1) Lorentz transformations have a special role in SR, they leave the metric invariant (they are a symmetry). Generic coordinate transf. in GR change the metric. But we will study isometries, which do not.
- 2) Components of  $T_p$  vectors change if we change the basis of  $T_p$ . In general not direct consequence of change of coords. ~~It~~ It happens IF we choose the coordinate basis  $\{\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}\}$ . ~~We~~ We could have chosen a different basis.

Ex. sphere  $S^2$  with  $(\theta, \varphi)$



- 3) Every  $T_p$  is independent from the others. No unique coordinate-indep. way of relating  $v \in T_p$  to  $w \in T_q$ . In spite of last point, we can still define a vector field on  $M$  as a set of vectors  $v_p \in T_p \quad \forall p \in M$ .



The ~~field~~ vector field is smooth if  $\forall f \in F (C^\infty) \quad v_p(f): M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $C^\infty$ . Choosing  $\{\partial_\mu\}$  as basis, if  $V^\nu(x^\mu)$  are  $C^\infty$ .

Dual vectors

As in Minkowski, a dual vector  $w \in T_p^*$  is a linear map  $w: T_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The vector space  $T_p^*$  of all linear maps is the cotangent space.

Example: given a function  $f \in F$ , the gradient  $df$  is a one-form associating to each vector the derivative of  $f$  along that vector.

$$f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad df: T_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad df\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) \equiv \frac{df}{d\lambda} \quad \text{in } M$$

The gradients  $dx^\mu$  of the coordinate functions  $x^\mu$  (curves where only one coord. is changing) are a natural basis of  $T_p^*$ :

$$\boxed{dx^\mu(\partial_\nu) = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^\nu} = \delta^\mu_\nu}$$

(like  $\hat{\theta}^{(\omega)}(\hat{e}_{(\omega)}) = \delta^\mu_\nu$  in SR)

Any one-form  $\omega \in T_p^*$  is expanded as  $\omega = \omega_\mu dx^\mu$   
component      basis

The action on  $v \in T_p$  is

$$\omega(v) = \omega_\mu dx^\mu \left( v^\nu \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \right) = \omega_\mu v^\nu \underbrace{dx^\mu \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \right)}_{\delta_\nu^\mu} = \omega_\mu v^\mu$$

and must be invariant. This implies (like Minkowski)

$$\boxed{\omega_{\mu'} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \omega_\mu} \quad (\text{so that } \omega_{\mu'} v^{\mu'} = \omega_\mu v^\mu) \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{dx^{\mu'} = \frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^\mu} dx^\mu}$$

For the gradient,  $df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\mu} dx^\mu$

$$df \left( \frac{d}{d\lambda} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\mu} dx^\mu \left( \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} = \frac{df}{d\lambda}$$

A vector is also a map  $v: T_p^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $v(\omega) = \omega_\mu v^\mu = \omega(v)$

Tensors

Same as Minkowski. A tensor  $T$  is a linear map (rank  $(k, l)$ )

$$T: \underbrace{T_p^* \times \dots \times T_p^*}_k \times \underbrace{T_p \times \dots \times T_p}_l \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Can be expanded as

$$T = T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} \partial_{\mu_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \partial_{\mu_k} \otimes dx^{\nu_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{\nu_l}$$

and transforms under change of coordinates as

$$T^{\mu'_1 \dots \mu'_k}_{\nu'_1 \dots \nu'_l} = \frac{\partial x^{\mu_1}}{\partial x^{\mu'_1}} \dots \frac{\partial x^{\mu_k}}{\partial x^{\mu'_k}} T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l}$$

Also for tensors we can have tensor fields, with comp.  $T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l}(x)$ . (position dependent).

What about derivatives? We have seen already  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\mu}$  (der. of scalar).

BUT:

$$\partial_{\mu'} \omega_{\nu'} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \left( \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \omega_\nu \right) = \underbrace{\frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \partial_\mu \omega_\nu}_{\text{standard piece}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^{\mu'} \partial x^{\nu'}} \omega_\nu}_{\text{???}}$$

The extra piece vanishes for Lorentz transformations (constant  $\Lambda_{\nu'}^\mu$ ), but not here. This is because the basis at  $x^\mu$  and at  $x^\mu + \Delta x^\mu$  are not aligned. Tensors at  $x^\mu$  and  $x^\mu + \Delta x^\mu$  transform differently.

HOWEVER:  $\partial_{\mu'} \omega_{\nu'} - \partial_{\nu'} \omega_{\mu'} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} (\partial_\mu \omega_\nu - \partial_\nu \omega_\mu)$

The extra piece is symmetric and cancels.

So: the partial derivative of a tensor does not transform  $\mathbb{L}^0$  like a  $(k, l+1)$  tensor. More <sup>(k, l)</sup>precisely, it still is a tensor but the new  $\partial'_{\nu}$  is not the same as  $\partial_{\nu}$  (the transf. of the old derivative operator) when it acts on non-scalar objects. We will see more about covariant derivatives.

Also  $x^{\mu}$  is NOT a vector:  $x^{\mu'}(x^{\mu}) \neq \frac{\partial x^{\mu'}}{\partial x^{\mu}} x^{\mu}$  (unlike for Lorentz transformations). The coordinate transf is non-linear.

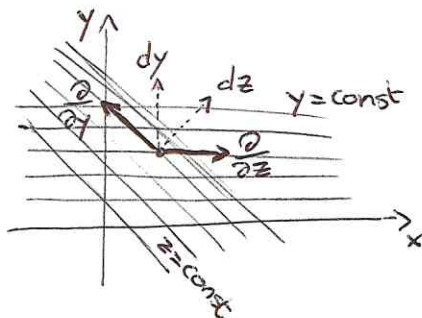
However, the exterior derivative of a  $p$ -form field  $A_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_p}$

$$(dA)_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{p+1}} \equiv (p+1) \partial_{[\mu_1} A_{\mu_2 \dots \mu_{p+1}]}$$

(totally antisymmetrized) is a good tensor.

E.g. the EM field strength.

Example: describe  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with  $y$  and  $z = x + y$ .



$$dz \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) = 0 \quad dy \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \text{ at } y = \text{const}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \text{ at } z = \text{const}$$

Example:  $S_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & x^2 \end{pmatrix}$   $(0,2)$  tensor at  $(x, y)$

Change of coordinate:  $x' = \frac{2x}{y}$   $y' = y/2$

$$S = S_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} \otimes dx^{\nu} = (dx)^2 + x^2 (dy)^2$$

$$\begin{cases} x = x'y' \\ y = 2y' \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} dx = dx'y' + x'dy' \\ dy = 2dy' \end{cases} \Rightarrow S = (dx'y' + x'dy')^2 + 4(x'y')^2 (dy')^2$$

$$S_{\mu'\nu'} = \begin{pmatrix} y'^2 & x'y' \\ x'y' & x'^2(1+4y'^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

# THE METRIC

$g_{\mu\nu}$  (9.2) tensor. Corresponds to  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  in Minkowski:

Assumed to be non-degenerate ( $\det(g_{\mu\nu}) \neq 0$ ):

$$g(v, w) = 0 \quad \forall v \in T_p \text{ only if } w = 0$$

Inverse metric:  $g^{\mu\nu} = (g_{\mu\nu})^{-1}$ .

The notation  $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$  is ~~a shorthand~~ <sup>replacement</sup> for  $g = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \otimes dx^\nu$ .

Examples  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with Euclidean metric:  $ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$

Changing to sph. coordinates:  $x = r \sin\theta \cos\phi$ ,  $y = r \sin\theta \sin\phi$ ,  
 $z = r \cos\theta$

$$dx = dr \sin\theta \cos\phi + r \cos\theta d\theta \cos\phi - r \sin\theta \sin\phi d\phi \quad dy = \dots \quad dz = \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2 = dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2\theta d\phi^2$$

For a sphere  $S^2$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  ( $r=1$ ):  $ds^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2$

Length of curve (Euclidean):  $\Delta l = \int d\lambda \sqrt{g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}}$

In GR ( $\eta_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}$ ):  $\Delta \tau = \int d\lambda \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}}$  (timelike curve)

Coordinate dep. metric does not imply curvature. But the ~~res~~ opposite is true.

Sylvester's theorem (or Sylvester's law of inertia).

For any symmetric matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  there is an invertible matrix  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $P^T A P = D$ , where  $D = \text{diag}(\underbrace{-1, \dots, -1}_t, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_s, 0, \dots, 0)$  and  $t+s = \text{rank}(A)$ . (\*)

The quantity  $s-t$  is called the signature of the matrix (sometimes instead the signature is  $(t, s)$ ).

If the metric is everywhere continuous and non-degenerate (invertible), then  $t+s = n$  and the signature is the same at each  $p \in M$ . It is coordinate-independent.

$g_{\mu\nu}$  is Euclidean (or Riemannian) if it is positive def. ( $t=0$ )

$g_{\mu\nu}$  is Lorentzian (or pseudo-Riemannian) if  $t=1, s=n-1$

In GR, Lorentzian metric (signature  $(1, 3)$ )

(\*)  $P = O|\Lambda|^{-1}$ , with  $O \in SO(n)$  and  $|\Lambda| = \text{diag}(|\lambda_1|, \dots, |\lambda_n|)$

At each  $p \in M$  we can choose coordinates such that

$$g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}(p) = \eta_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} \text{ and } \partial_{\hat{\alpha}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}|_p = 0$$

(but we still have  $\partial_{\hat{\alpha}} \partial_{\hat{\beta}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} \neq 0$ ).

This is a locally inertial frame (sufficiently small region well described by SR). Curvature (and gravity) is encoded in the 2<sup>nd</sup> derivatives ( $\rightarrow$  Riemann tensor).

Sketch of proof (see Schutz page 149-150, "local flatness th.")

Change of coordinate from generic  $x^\mu$  to  $x^{\hat{\mu}}$ :  $g^{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} g_{\mu\nu}$  (\*)

Taylor expansion (for simplicity around  $x^\mu(p) = x^{\hat{\mu}}(p) = 0$ ):

$$x^\mu = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}|_p x^{\hat{\mu}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}} \partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} x^{\hat{\mu}} x^{\hat{\nu}} + \dots$$

$$\frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}}} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}}}|_p + \frac{\partial^2 x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}} \partial x^{\hat{\beta}}}|_p x^{\hat{\beta}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^3 x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}} \partial x^{\hat{\beta}} \partial x^{\hat{\gamma}}}|_p x^{\hat{\beta}} x^{\hat{\gamma}} + \dots$$

$$g^{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = g^{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}|_p + \partial_{\hat{\rho}} g^{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}|_p x^{\hat{\rho}} + \dots \quad g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}|_p + \partial_{\hat{\rho}} g_{\mu\nu}|_p x^{\hat{\rho}} + \dots$$

(note that  $g_{\mu\nu}$  must be expressed in  $x^{\hat{\mu}}$  coordinates).

Plugging these in (\*) gives schematically

$$\hat{g}_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} + (\hat{\partial} \hat{g})_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} \hat{x} + \frac{1}{2} (\hat{\partial} \hat{\partial} \hat{g})_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} \hat{x} \hat{x} + \dots = \left( \hat{\partial} x g \hat{\partial} x \right)_p + \left( \hat{\partial} x \hat{\partial} g \hat{\partial} x + 2 \hat{\partial} x g \hat{\partial}^2 x \right)_p \hat{x} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \hat{\partial} x \hat{\partial}^2 g \hat{\partial} x + 2 \hat{\partial} x g \hat{\partial}^3 x + 2 \hat{\partial}^2 x g \hat{\partial}^2 x \right)_p \hat{x} \hat{x} + \dots$$

Leading order:  $\hat{g}_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}(p) = \eta_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \left( \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} g_{\mu\nu} \right)_p$

10 equations (symmetric in  $\hat{\mu} \leftrightarrow \hat{\nu}$ ) for 16 unknowns  $\left( \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}} \right)_p$

Can always be solved. Remaining 6 dof's are the parameters of a residual Lorentz transf  $\Lambda^{\hat{\mu}}_{\hat{\nu}}$  (which leaves  $\eta_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}$  invariant)

First order:  $\partial_{\hat{\alpha}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}|_p = 0 = \left( \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\beta}}} \partial_{\hat{\alpha}} g_{\mu\nu} + \dots \right)_p$

4x10 equations (symm. in  $\hat{\mu} \leftrightarrow \hat{\nu}$  but not  $\hat{\alpha}$ ) for 40 unknowns  $\left( \frac{\partial^2 x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}} \partial x^{\hat{\beta}}} \right)_p$

Can always be solved.

Second order:  $\partial_{\hat{\alpha}} \partial_{\hat{\beta}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}|_p = \text{r.h.s.}$

4x20=80, with 20=4x5x6/3!

10x10=100 eqns. (symm. in  $\hat{\mu}, \hat{\nu}$  and  $\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}$ ) for 80 unknowns  $\left( \frac{\partial^3 x^\mu}{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}} \partial x^{\hat{\beta}} \partial x^{\hat{\gamma}}} \right)_p$

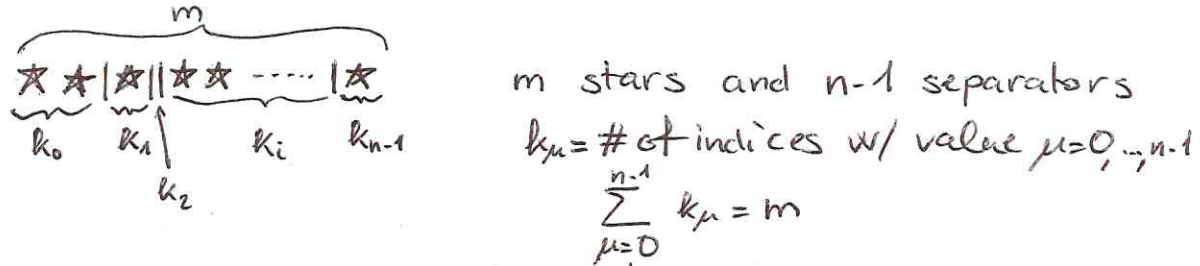
Cannot be solved! The 20 missing dof's are the components of Riemann tensor (which describes curvature)

Number of independent components of totally symm. tensor

A tensor with  $m$  totally symmetric indices on dimension  $n$  manifold has  $\binom{n+m-1}{m}$  independent components. Same problem as putting  $m$  equal objects in  $n$  boxes.

$\left[ \binom{n}{k} \equiv \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \quad (n \geq k \geq 0) \quad \text{binomial coefficient} \right]$   
 (number of inequivalent ways to pick  $k$  objects from a set of  $n$ , or to place  $k$  objects in  $n$  slots)

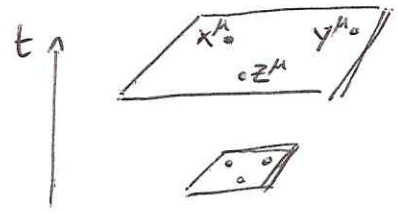
Proved with the "stars and bars" method:



Total of  $m+n-1$  slots,  $m$  occupied by stars. Inequivalent ways of placing  $m$  stars in  $n+m-1$  slots is  $\binom{n+m-1}{m} = \binom{n+m-1}{n-1}$  (also  $n-1$  separators in  $n+m-1$  slots)

Example Expanding Universe (-+++ metric)

$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t)[dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2]$        $g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & \\ & a^2 & & \\ & & a^2 & \\ & & & a^2 \end{bmatrix}$



The physical distance between fixed ("comoving") coordinate points grows with  $a(t)$  ("scale factor")

Consider  $a(t) = t^q$  (we will see that perfect fluids with different  $p$  have different  $q$ . Dust ( $p=0, q=1/2$ ) or radiation ( $p=1/3, q=2/3$ ))

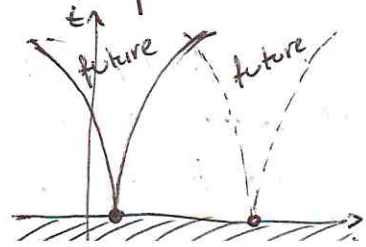
$a(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$  ("Big Bang", initial singularity)

Light rays:  $ds^2 = 0, dt^2 = a^2 dx^2 \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = \pm t^{-q}$  (sloppy)

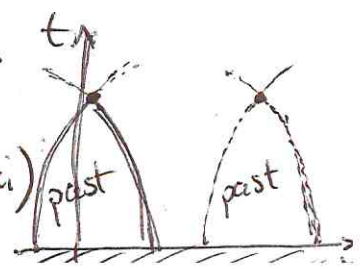
Rigorous derivation:  $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{dt} \frac{dx^\nu}{dt} = 0$ , where  $\frac{dx^\mu}{dt}$  are components of tangent vector to  $x^\mu(t)$  (curve parametrized by  $\lambda = t$ )

Solution:  $x - x_0 = \pm \frac{t^{1-q}}{1-q}$        $t - t_0 = \pm [(1-q)(x - x_0)]^{\frac{1}{1-q}}$  ( $0 < q < 1$ )

Future light cones of points at  $t=0$



Past light cones may not intersect (unlike Minkowski)



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A <sup>event</sup> point at  $t=t_0$  receives information from (= is causally connected to) only a finite region, whose boundary is called horizon. This region grows with time.

Exercise Show that the change of coordinates  $t' = t + \frac{1}{2} H \bar{x}^2 + \mathcal{O}(\bar{x}^2)^2$  and  $\bar{x}' = \bar{x} \left( 1 + \frac{H^2 \bar{x}^2}{4} + \mathcal{O}(\bar{x}^2)^2 \right)$  brings  $g_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-1, a^2, a^2, a^2)$  to a locally inertial frame form.

## COVARIANT DERIVATIVES

We saw that  $\partial_\mu \omega_\nu$  is not a "good" (0,2) tensor since it does not transform covariantly. This is because  $\partial'_\mu$  (the derivative w.r.t.  $x'^\mu$ ) does not coincide with  $\partial_\mu$  (the transformation of  $\partial_\mu$ ) when it acts on an object with indices (but  $\partial'_\mu = \partial_\mu$  on scalars).

This makes us unable to relate tensors at two nearby points in a coordinate-independent manner. Need a "better" derivative.

Definition A covariant derivative  $\nabla$  is an ~~operator~~ operator mapping a smooth type  $(k, l)$  tensor field into a smooth tensor field of type  $(k, l+1)$ , which satisfies:

- 1) linearity:  $\nabla(aT_1 + bT_2) = a\nabla T_1 + b\nabla T_2$
- 2) Leibnitz rule:  $\nabla(T_1 T_2) = T_1 \nabla T_2 + \nabla T_1 T_2$
- 3) commutativity with contraction:  ~~$\nabla_\alpha (T^\mu \dots \lambda \dots \mu_\nu) = \nabla_\alpha T^\mu \dots \lambda \dots \mu_\nu$~~   

$$\nabla_\alpha (T^{\mu_1 \dots \lambda \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \lambda \dots \nu_l}) = \nabla_\alpha T^{\mu_1 \dots \lambda \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \lambda \dots \nu_l}$$

4) it reduces to ordinary derivative  $\partial$  on scalar functions

5) it commutes on scalar functions:  $\nabla_a \nabla_b f = \nabla_b \nabla_a f$

(in this case it is said to be torsion-free)

In a given coordinate system  $\partial_\mu$  satisfy these properties.

However, ~~each~~ in ~~a~~ different coordinates  $\partial'_\mu$  is a different map.

Not covariantly related. Which one do we choose?

Note: we defined  $\partial_\mu$  as a vector (basis of  $T_p$ ) at  $p \in M$ , since it maps  $f \in F$  into  $\frac{\partial f \circ \gamma^{-1}}{\partial x^\mu} \Big|_p \in \mathbb{R}$  (at fixed  $p$ ). However, as  $p$  varies it defines a vector field, hence a map from  $F (= (0,0)) \rightarrow (0,1)$  tensor fields

Transformation from locally inertial to generic frame: 25

$$\partial_\mu \omega_\nu = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\nu} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} \omega_{\hat{\nu}} + \frac{\partial^2 x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\nu} \omega_{\hat{\nu}}, \quad \text{but } \omega_{\hat{\nu}} = \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} \omega_\nu$$

We can thus rewrite this as

$$\partial_\mu \omega_\nu - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \omega_\rho = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\nu} (\partial_{\hat{\mu}} \omega_{\hat{\nu}} - \underbrace{\Gamma_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}^{\hat{\rho}}}_{=0} \omega_{\hat{\rho}})$$

where  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \equiv \frac{\partial x^\rho}{\partial x^{\hat{\sigma}}} \frac{\partial^2 x^{\hat{\sigma}}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\nu}$  is the "Christoffel symbol", which ~~is not~~ by definition  $\Gamma_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}^{\hat{\rho}} = 0$  vanishes in the locally inertial frame. The same holds between  $x^{\hat{\mu}}$  and  $x^\mu$ . Then,

$$\partial_{\mu'} \omega_{\nu'} - \Gamma_{\mu'\nu'}^{\rho'} \omega_{\rho'} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} (\partial_\mu \omega_\nu - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \omega_\rho)$$

between two generic frames  $x^\mu$  and  $x^{\mu'}$ . We then define

$$\boxed{\nabla_\mu \omega_\nu \equiv \partial_\mu \omega_\nu - \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \omega_\rho}$$

as the covariant derivative of  $\omega_\nu$ .  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$  is not a tensor, but is exactly what is needed to remove the extra piece from the transformation of  $\partial_\mu \omega_\nu$ , so that  $\nabla_\mu \omega_\nu$  is a well behaved (0,2) tensor.

Still, our definition of  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho$  in a generic frame depends on the inertial frame. We want to get rid of this. Remember that  $g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\nu} g_{\mu\nu}$ , where  $g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \eta_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}$  and  $\frac{\partial g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^{\hat{\sigma}}} = 0$ .

Differentiating since  $\partial_{\hat{\alpha}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\alpha}}}{\partial x^\alpha} \partial_\alpha g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = 0$

$$\partial_\alpha g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \left[ \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\alpha} + \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial^2 x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\alpha \partial x^\mu} \right] g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = \Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}^{\rho} g_{\rho\hat{\nu}} + \Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\nu}}^{\rho} g_{\hat{\mu}\rho}$$

Note that  $\boxed{\Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}^{\rho} = \Gamma_{\hat{\mu}\alpha}^{\rho}}$ .

Hence,  $\partial_\alpha g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} + \partial_{\hat{\mu}} g_{\alpha\hat{\nu}} = 2\Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}^{\rho} g_{\rho\hat{\nu}} + \Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\nu}}^{\rho} g_{\hat{\mu}\rho} + \Gamma_{\hat{\mu}\alpha}^{\rho} g_{\rho\hat{\nu}} = 2\Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}^{\rho} g_{\rho\hat{\nu}} + \partial_{\hat{\nu}} g_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}$   
Solving for  $\Gamma_{\alpha\hat{\mu}}^{\rho}$  gives the desired expression

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \frac{1}{2} g^{\rho\sigma} (\partial_\mu g_{\nu\sigma} + \partial_\nu g_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma g_{\mu\nu})}$$

independently of the locally inertial frame. This follows from the EP, (which requests  $\partial_{\hat{\sigma}} g_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\nu}} = 0$ ).

Similarly for vectors, but here  $V^\nu = \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} V^{\hat{\nu}}$ ,  $V^{\hat{\nu}} = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\nu} V^\nu$  L6

$$\partial_\mu V^\nu = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} \partial_{\hat{\mu}} V^{\hat{\nu}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}} \partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}}_{=0} V^{\hat{\nu}}$$

$$= \frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} \quad (\text{notice } \nu \leftrightarrow \hat{\nu})$$

But  $\frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} = \delta_\alpha^\nu$ . Differentiating,  $\frac{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\alpha} \frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}} \partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} = -\frac{\partial^2 x^{\hat{\nu}}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\alpha} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} = -\Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu$   
 (since  $\partial_\mu \delta_\alpha^\nu = 0$ ). Thus the extra piece is  $-\Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu V^\alpha$ :

$$\partial_\mu V^\nu + \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu V^\alpha = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\hat{\nu}}} \left( \partial_{\hat{\mu}} V^{\hat{\nu}} + \underbrace{\Gamma_{\hat{\mu}\hat{\alpha}}^{\hat{\nu}} V^{\hat{\alpha}}}_{=0} \right)$$

We then define the covariant derivative of  $V^\nu$  as

$$\boxed{\nabla_\mu V^\nu = \partial_\mu V^\nu + \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu V^\alpha}$$

which transforms as a good (1,1) tensor.

Requesting that  $\nabla_\mu$  obeys Leibnitz rule and commutes with contraction of indices, the action on scalar  $\omega_\nu V^\nu$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_\mu (\omega_\nu V^\nu) &= (\nabla_\mu \omega_\nu) V^\nu + \omega_\nu \nabla_\mu V^\nu = (\partial_\mu \omega_\nu) V^\nu - \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu \omega_\nu V^\alpha + \omega_\nu \partial_\mu V^\nu + \omega_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\nu V^\alpha \\ &= \partial_\mu (\omega_\nu V^\nu) \end{aligned}$$

On a scalar,  $\nabla_\mu$  reduces to  $\partial_\mu$  as it should (already covariant)

But also  $T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} \omega_{\mu_1} \dots \omega_{\mu_k} V^{\nu_1} \dots V^{\nu_l}$  is a scalar. Requesting Leibnitz and that  $\nabla_\mu \rightarrow \partial_\mu$  on it, one gets for a (k,l) tensor

$$\boxed{\nabla_\alpha T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} = \partial_\alpha T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} + \sum_{i=1}^k \Gamma_{\alpha\mu_i}^{\mu_i} T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l} - \sum_{i=1}^l \Gamma_{\alpha\nu_i}^{\nu_i} T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_l}}$$

What about commutativity on scalar functions?

$$\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta f = \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta f - \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho \partial_\rho f = \partial_\beta \partial_\alpha f - \Gamma_{\beta\alpha}^\rho \partial_\rho f = \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha f \quad \text{OK}$$

$\nabla_\mu$  obeys properties 1)-5) (it is obviously linear) and is thus a good derivative operator. It is also a covariant map.

## Metric compatibility:

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What does  $\nabla_\mu$  do on  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_\mu g_{\alpha\beta} &= \partial_\mu g_{\alpha\beta} - \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\rho g_{\rho\beta} - \Gamma_{\mu\beta}^\rho g_{\rho\alpha} \\ &= \partial_\mu g_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu g_{\alpha\beta} + \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\beta} - \partial_\beta g_{\mu\alpha}) - \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu g_{\beta\alpha} + \partial_\beta g_{\mu\alpha} - \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\beta}) = 0\end{aligned}$$

Our covariant derivative is called metric-compatible, since  $\nabla_\alpha g_{\mu\nu} = 0$ .  
This follows from the EP (which dictates the expression for  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$ ),  
and generalizes  $\partial_\alpha \eta_{\mu\nu} = 0$  of flat space-time.

There actually are infinite covariant derivatives. Each  $\tilde{\nabla}_\mu$  is related to  $\nabla_\mu$  by some tensor  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$  (called connection) in the same way as  $\nabla_\mu$  to  $\partial_\mu$  by  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$  (which is not a tensor).  
However, only one satisfies  $\nabla_\alpha g_{\mu\nu} = 0$ .

Contraction of Christoffel symbol. Another useful property is

$$\Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\alpha = \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\alpha = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \ln \sqrt{|g|}, \quad \text{where } g = \det(g_{\mu\nu})$$

Proof

$$\Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\rho} (\partial_\mu g_{\rho\lambda} + \partial_\lambda g_{\mu\rho} - \partial_\rho g_{\mu\lambda}) = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\lambda} g_{\mu\rho}$$

symm. for matrix  $M$ ,  $\log \det M = \text{Tr} \log M \Rightarrow \frac{1}{|M|} \frac{d|M|}{dx} = \text{Tr} M^{-1} \frac{dM}{dx}$   
(obvious if  $M$  is diagonal)

$$\Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left( g^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\lambda} g \right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{|\det(g)|} \frac{\partial |\det(g)|}{\partial x^\lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\det(g)|}} \frac{\partial \sqrt{|\det(g)|}}{\partial x^\lambda}$$

## Parallel transport

In flat space-time, a <sup>tensor</sup> ~~vector~~ remains constant along a curve iff  $\frac{dT}{d\lambda} = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x^\mu} = 0$

Its components in the "global" basis aligned with the axes do not change. In curved space, the coordinate basis changes from point to point, and is not covariant (based on  $\partial_\mu$ ).

Introduce a coordinate-indep. notion of parallel transport along a curve with tangent  $t^\mu$  by asking that

$$\boxed{t^\mu \nabla_\mu T^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k}_{\beta_1 \dots \beta_l} = 0}$$

For a vector  $V^\alpha$ ,  $t^\mu \nabla_\mu V^\alpha = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial V^\alpha}{\partial x^\mu} + \cancel{dx^\mu} \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} V^\nu$  ( $t^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$ )  
 $= dV^\alpha/d\lambda$



System of first-order differential equations (formally similar to Schrödinger's eqn), always a local solution.

Path dependent (but coordinate indep.) connection between tangent spaces,  $T_p \rightsquigarrow T_q$ .  $\uparrow \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$

With a metric-compatible connection ( $\nabla_\alpha g_{\mu\nu} = 0$ ), if  $V^\alpha$  and  $W^\alpha$  are ~~not~~ parallel-transported along  $t^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$ , then

$$t^\mu \nabla_\mu (V_\alpha W^\alpha) = t^\mu \nabla_\mu (g_{\alpha\beta} V^\alpha W^\beta) = 0$$

Parallel transport preserves norms and scalar products.

Ex.  $\mathbb{R}^2$  in polar coordinates (in Cartesian  $g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  constant,  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha = 0$ )

$$ds^2 = dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 \quad g^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & r^{-2} \end{bmatrix} \quad g_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & r^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma_{rr}^r = \frac{1}{2} g^{rs} (2\partial_r g_{rs} - \partial_s g_{rr}) = g^{rr} \partial_r g_{rr} + g^{r\theta} \partial_r g_{r\theta} = 0$$

$$\Gamma_{\theta\theta}^r = \frac{1}{2} g^{rr} (2\partial_\theta g_{r\theta} - \partial_r g_{\theta\theta}) = -r$$

Check that  $\Gamma_{r\theta}^\theta = \Gamma_{\theta r}^\theta = \frac{1}{r}$  and  $\Gamma_{r\theta}^r = \Gamma_{\theta r}^r = \Gamma_{rr}^\theta = \Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\theta = 0$

What is the expression of the scalar (=invariant)  $\nabla_\mu V^\mu$  in  $(r, \theta)$ ?

$$\partial_\mu V^\mu = \partial_\mu V^\mu + \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\mu V^\rho = \partial_\mu V^\mu + \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\rho (\sqrt{|g|}) V^\rho = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu (\sqrt{|g|} V^\mu)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_\mu V^\mu = \frac{1}{r} \partial_\mu (r V^\mu) = \partial_r V^r + \frac{1}{r} V^r + \partial_\theta V^\theta$$

Ex. Klein-Gordon eqn. in curved space:

$$\square \phi \equiv \nabla_\mu \nabla^\mu \phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \partial_\mu (\sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \phi) = 0$$

Curved space generalisation of straight lines. In flat space, a particle propagates on straight lines in absence of forces. In curved space, thanks to EP, a test particle subject only to gravity obeys  $d^2x^\mu/d\lambda^2 = 0$  locally inertial frame.

In a generic frame,

$$\frac{d^2x^{\hat{\mu}}}{d\lambda^2} = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left( \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \right) = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{d^2x^\mu}{d\lambda^2} + \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial^2 x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\nu} = \frac{\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}}{\partial x^\mu} \left( \frac{d^2x^\mu}{d\lambda^2} + \Gamma^\mu_{\nu\rho} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\rho}{d\lambda} \right)$$

Hence, since  $\partial x^{\hat{\mu}}/\partial x^\nu$  is non-singular,

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2x^\mu}{d\lambda^2} + \Gamma^\mu_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\lambda} = 0} \quad \text{geodesic equation}$$

Recalling the def of parallel transport along  $t^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$ , this is

$$\boxed{t^\mu \nabla_\mu t^\nu = 0}$$

$\Rightarrow$  A geodesic is a curve whose tangent vector is parallel-transported along itself, i.e. it remains "parallel" (in the curved-space sense) to itself.

Actually, also  $t^\mu \nabla_\mu t^\nu = f(\lambda) t^\nu$  would do. The ~~ch~~ r.h.s. can always be eliminated by a reparametrization  $\lambda \rightarrow \kappa(\lambda)$ :

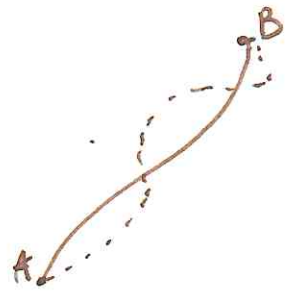
$$\frac{d^2x^\mu}{d\alpha^2} + \Gamma^\mu_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\alpha} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\alpha} = f t^\mu - \frac{d^2\alpha}{d\lambda^2} \left( \frac{d\alpha}{d\lambda} \right)^{-2} t^\mu$$

The choice  $t^\mu \nabla_\mu t^\nu = 0$  corresponds to  $t_\mu t^\mu = \text{const.}$  (since the norm of parallel transported vectors is preserved). It is called affine parametrization.

A geodesic is the path of shortest length between two points.

For a timelike curve, maximum proper time.

$$\tau = \int_A^B d\lambda \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}}$$



$$\boxed{t^\mu \nabla_\mu t^\nu = 0 \iff \delta\tau = 0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\tau &= \int_A^B d\lambda \left[ -g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \right]^{-1/2} \left( -g_{\mu\beta} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{d\delta x^\beta}{d\lambda} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial x^\sigma} \delta x^\sigma \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\lambda} \right) \\ &= \int_A^B d\tau \left( -g_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{d\delta x^\beta}{d\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial x^\sigma} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} \delta x^\sigma \right) \quad \left[ \frac{d\tau}{d\lambda} = \sqrt{-g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}} \right] \\ &= \int_A^B d\tau \left[ \frac{d}{d\tau} \left( g_{\alpha\sigma} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial x^\sigma} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} \right] \delta x^\sigma \quad (\text{int. by parts with fixed end points}) \end{aligned}$$

The integrand must vanish.

$$g_{\alpha\sigma} \frac{d^2 x^\alpha}{d\tau^2} + \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\sigma}}{\partial x^\beta} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial x^\sigma} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 x^\mu}{d\tau^2} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\sigma} \left( \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\sigma}}{\partial x^\beta} + \frac{\partial g_{\beta\sigma}}{\partial x^\alpha} - \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial x^\sigma} \right)}_{\Gamma^\mu_{\alpha\beta}} \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau} = 0$$

Notice that the same result is obtained from varying  $S = \frac{1}{2} \int d\tau \left[ -g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} \right]$ .

Since  $\frac{d\lambda}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-\dot{x}^\mu \dot{x}^\mu}} = \text{const.}$ , then affine parametrization is  $\lambda = a\tau + b$ .

Geodesics in FLRW

Let us infer the  $\Gamma$ 's from the variation of  $S$  ( $ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2 d\vec{x}^2$ )

$$t \rightarrow t + \delta t \quad \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x} + \delta \vec{x} \quad (4 \text{ equations}) \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = 2a\dot{a} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \\ & \delta_{ij} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{\delta t} \quad \delta S = \int d\tau \left[ \frac{dt}{d\tau} \frac{d\delta t}{d\tau} - a\dot{a} \delta t \frac{dx^i}{d\tau} \frac{dx^j}{d\tau} \delta_{ij} \right] = \int d\tau \left[ \frac{d^2 t}{d\tau^2} + a\dot{a} \left( \frac{d\vec{x}}{d\tau} \right)^2 \right] \delta t$$

$$\frac{d^2 t}{d\tau^2} + a\dot{a} \delta_{ij} \frac{dx^i}{d\tau} \frac{dx^j}{d\tau} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \frac{d^2 t^0}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma^0_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma^0_{00} = \Gamma^0_{0i} = \Gamma^0_{i0} = 0, \quad \Gamma^0_{ij} = a\dot{a} \delta_{ij}$$

$$\textcircled{\delta x^i} \quad \delta g_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \delta S = \int d\tau \left( -a^2 \delta_{ij} \frac{dx^i}{d\tau} \frac{d\delta x^j}{d\tau} \right) = \int d\tau a^2 \left( \frac{d^2 x^i}{d\tau^2} + \frac{2\dot{a}'}{a} \frac{dx^i}{d\tau} \right) \delta_{ij} \delta x^j$$

$$a' \equiv \frac{da}{d\tau} \quad \frac{d^2 x^i}{d\tau^2} + \frac{2\dot{a}}{a} \frac{d\tau}{d\tau} \frac{dx^i}{d\tau} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \frac{d^2 x^i}{d\tau^2} + \Gamma^i_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma^i_{00} = \Gamma^i_{jk} = 0, \quad \Gamma^i_{j0} = \Gamma^i_{0j} = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} \delta^i_j$$

Much simpler than direct computation.

Features of curved space times:

- o) parallel transport is path-dependent. Around a closed loop it does not return to itself (not integrable)
- o) covariant derivatives do not commute (only on scalars!)
- o) initially parallel geodesics may cross

All these properties described by ~~one~~ one tensor.

Covariant derivatives do not commute. On one-form  $\omega_\mu$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta \omega_\mu &= \partial_\alpha (\nabla_\beta \omega_\mu) - \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho \nabla_\rho \omega_\mu - \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho \nabla_\beta \omega_\rho \\ &= \underbrace{\partial_\alpha \partial_\beta \omega_\mu}_{\text{cancel}} - \partial_\alpha (\Gamma_{\beta\mu}^\rho \omega_\rho) - \underbrace{\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\rho \nabla_\rho \omega_\mu}_{\text{cancel}} - \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho (\partial_\beta \omega_\rho - \Gamma_{\beta\rho}^\sigma \omega_\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) \omega_\mu &= \underbrace{(\partial_\beta \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\rho - \partial_\alpha \Gamma_{\beta\mu}^\rho + \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\sigma \Gamma_{\beta\sigma}^\rho - \Gamma_{\beta\mu}^\sigma \Gamma_{\alpha\sigma}^\rho)}_{\equiv R_{\alpha\beta\mu}{}^\rho} \omega_\rho \\ &\equiv R_{\alpha\beta\mu}{}^\rho \quad (\text{Riemann tensor}) \quad (1,3) \end{aligned}$$

This expression only depends on  $\omega_\mu$  at  $p$ , not near it ( $\partial_\alpha \omega_\mu$  drop out). Linear mapping of 1-forms  $\rightarrow$  (0,3) tensor

On scalars  $\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta$  commutes (no torsion).

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) (\omega_\mu t^\mu) = \nabla_\alpha (\omega_\mu \nabla_\beta t^\mu + \nabla_\beta \omega_\mu t^\mu) - \nabla_\beta (\omega_\mu \nabla_\alpha t^\mu + \nabla_\alpha \omega_\mu t^\mu) \\ &= \omega_\mu (\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) t^\mu + t^\mu \underbrace{(\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) \omega_\mu}_{R_{\alpha\beta\mu}{}^\rho \omega_\rho} \end{aligned}$$

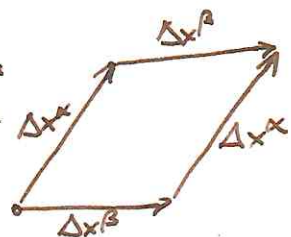
$$\omega_\mu (\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) t^\mu = - \omega_\mu R_{\alpha\beta\rho}{}^\mu t^\rho \quad \forall \omega_\mu$$

$$(\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) t^\mu = - R_{\alpha\beta\rho}{}^\mu t^\rho$$

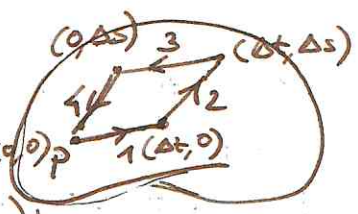
By induction, like for  $\nabla_\mu T^{\alpha\dots\beta\dots}$ ,

$$\underbrace{(\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta - \nabla_\beta \nabla_\alpha) T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}}_{\equiv [\nabla_\alpha, \nabla_\beta]} = - \sum_{i=1}^k R_{\alpha\beta\rho}{}^{\mu_i} T^{\mu_1 \dots \rho \dots \mu_k} + \sum_{i=1}^k R_{\alpha\beta\nu_i}{}^\rho T^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k \dots \nu_i \dots \nu_k}$$

$\nabla_\alpha$  describes parallel transport along the curve where only the  $\alpha$  coordinate changes. E.g.,  $\nabla_t = t^\mu \nabla_\mu$  with  $t^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ . So  $[\nabla_\alpha, \nabla_\beta]$  is the difference of the parallel transports obtained shifting first by  $\Delta x^\beta$  followed by  $\Delta x^\alpha$ , and viceversa.



Compute the change of  $v^\mu \omega_\mu$ , where  $v^\mu$  is parallel transported and  $\omega_\mu$  is an arbitrary co-vector field, as  $\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \Delta_3 + \Delta_4$ .

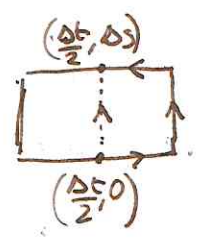


Along 1, the tangent vector is  $\Delta_1 = \frac{\Delta t}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (v^\mu \omega_\mu) \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0)}$  accurate at 2nd order in  $\Delta t$

$$\Delta_1 = \Delta t F^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\nu (v^\mu \omega_\mu) \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0)} = \Delta t v^\mu F^{\nu\mu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0)}$$

~~$\Delta_1 + \Delta_3$~~

$$\Delta_1 + \Delta_3 = \Delta t \left\{ v^\mu F^{\nu\mu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0)} - v^\mu F^{\nu\mu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, \Delta s)} \right\}$$



~~$\Delta_2 + \Delta_4$~~

At order  $\Delta s$ , parallel transport  $(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0) \rightarrow (\Delta t, 0) \rightarrow (\Delta t, \Delta t) \rightarrow (\frac{\Delta t}{2}, \Delta s)$  is the same as  $(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0) \rightarrow (\frac{\Delta t}{2}, \Delta s)$ . Hence,  $v^\mu$  is still parallel-transported.

$$\Delta_1 + \Delta_3 \approx -\Delta t \Delta s S^p \nabla_p (v^\mu F^{\nu\mu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu) \Big|_{(\frac{\Delta t}{2}, 0)} \approx -\Delta t \Delta s v^\mu S^p \nabla_p (F^{\nu\mu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu) \Big|_{(0,0)}$$

$$\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \Delta_3 + \Delta_4 \approx \Delta t \Delta s v^\mu \left[ T^p \nabla_p (S^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu) - S^p \nabla_p (T^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu) \right] \Big|_{(0,0)}$$

$$T^p S^p (\nabla_\nu \nabla_p - \nabla_p \nabla_\nu) \omega_\mu - (T^p \nabla_p S^\nu - S^p \nabla_p T^\nu) \nabla_\nu \omega_\mu$$

$R_{\nu\mu}{}^\sigma \omega_\sigma$        $T^p \nabla_p S^\nu - S^p \nabla_p T^\nu$  (T's cancel) = 0

$$\delta(\omega_\mu v^\mu) \approx \Delta t \Delta s v^\mu T^\nu S^p R_{\nu\mu}{}^\sigma \omega_\sigma \quad \forall \omega_\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta v^\mu = \Delta t \Delta s T^\alpha S^\beta v^\gamma R_{\alpha\beta\gamma}{}^\mu$$

# Properties of Riemann tensor

$$R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma \equiv \partial_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\sigma - \partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\sigma + \Gamma_{\nu\lambda}^\sigma \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda - \Gamma_{\mu\lambda}^\sigma \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\lambda$$

In the loc. inertial frame, only terms with  $\partial_\alpha \partial_\beta g_{\mu\nu}$  survive (in flat space-time, we have  $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha = 0$  everywhere,  $\Rightarrow R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma = 0$ )

•)  $R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma = -R_{\nu\mu\rho}{}^\sigma$  (obvious since  $R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma \omega_\sigma = (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu - \nabla_\nu \nabla_\mu) \omega_\rho$ )

•)  $R_{[\mu\nu\rho]}{}^\sigma = 0$ . Follows since  $R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma + R_{\nu\rho\mu}{}^\sigma + R_{\rho\mu\nu}{}^\sigma = 0$ , and the same for odd permutations. E.g.,

$$\cancel{\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\sigma} - \cancel{\partial_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\sigma} + \cancel{\partial_\nu \Gamma_{\rho\mu}^\sigma} - \cancel{\partial_\rho \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\sigma} + \cancel{\partial_\rho \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\sigma} - \cancel{\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\rho\nu}^\sigma} = 0$$

and same for the  $\Gamma^2$  terms.

•) for metric-compatible  $\nabla_\mu$  (i.e.  $\nabla_\mu g_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ ), and  $R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \equiv R_{\mu\nu\alpha}{}^\sigma g_{\sigma\beta}$ :

$$R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \quad (\text{symmetric under } (\alpha\beta) \leftrightarrow (\mu\nu))$$

Easily seen in the ~~in~~ loc. inertial frame expression for  $R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} &= (-\partial_\mu \Gamma_{\nu\alpha}^\sigma + \partial_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\alpha}^\sigma) g_{\sigma\beta} \quad (\partial_\alpha g_{\mu\nu} = 0) \\ &= g_{\sigma\beta} g^{\sigma\gamma} \frac{1}{2} \left[ \partial_\nu (\partial_\mu g_{\alpha\sigma} + \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma g_{\mu\alpha}) - \partial_\mu (\partial_\nu g_{\alpha\sigma} + \partial_\alpha g_{\nu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma g_{\nu\alpha}) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\nu \partial_\alpha g_{\mu\beta} + \partial_\mu \partial_\beta g_{\nu\alpha} - \partial_\nu \partial_\beta g_{\mu\alpha} - \partial_\mu \partial_\alpha g_{\nu\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

True in loc. inert. frame + covariant  $\Rightarrow$  true in every frame.

Also,  $R_{\nu\mu\alpha\beta} = -R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$  and  $R_{\mu\nu\beta\alpha} = -R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$ . Last,  $R_{\mu\nu\rho}{}^\sigma = 0 \Rightarrow R_{[\mu\nu\rho]\sigma} = 0$

•) Bianchi identity:  $\nabla_\beta R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} = 0$  (derivatives of Riemann)

It follows since  $\nabla_\lambda R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} + \nabla_\alpha R_{\beta\lambda\gamma\delta} + \nabla_\beta R_{\lambda\alpha\gamma\delta} = 0$ , which again can be seen in the loc. in. frame where  $\nabla_\mu \rightarrow \partial_\mu$  (check!) using the above expression for  $R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$ .

•) # of independent components:

$$N = \frac{M(M+1)}{2} - \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)}{4!}, \quad \text{where } M = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$(\alpha\beta) \leftrightarrow (\gamma\delta)$   
symm.
totally antisymm.
 $\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta$  and  $\gamma \leftrightarrow \delta$   
antisymm.

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{N = \frac{n^2(n^2-1)}{12}}$$

For  $n=4$ ,  $N=20$

# Contracted forms of Riemann tensor

$$\boxed{R_{\mu\nu} \equiv R_{\mu\alpha\nu}{}^\alpha} \quad \text{Ricci tensor}$$

$R_{\mu\nu}$  is symmetric:  $R_{\nu\mu} = R_{\nu\alpha\mu\beta} g^{\alpha\beta} = R_{\mu\beta\nu\alpha} g^{\alpha\beta} = R_{\mu\beta\nu}{}^\beta = R_{\mu\nu}$

$$\boxed{R \equiv R_{\mu}{}^\mu \equiv R_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}} \quad \text{Ricci scalar (or scalar curvature)}$$

Contracting the Bianchi identity gives

$$0 = \left( \nabla_\lambda R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} + \nabla_\alpha R_{\beta\lambda\gamma\delta} + \nabla_\beta R_{\lambda\alpha\gamma\delta} + \nabla_\gamma R_{\lambda\alpha\beta\delta} \right) g^{\lambda\gamma} g^{\beta\delta} = \nabla^\delta R_{\alpha\delta} - \nabla_\alpha R + \nabla^\delta R_{\alpha\delta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^\mu R_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\nu R}$$

Can also define  $\boxed{G_{\mu\nu} \equiv R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R}$  Einstein tensor

The Einstein tensor is conserved:  $\boxed{\nabla^\mu G_{\mu\nu} = 0}$

However, for the moment this is only geometry. No physics in this conservation law. However,  $T_{\mu\nu}$  is also conserved.

We will postulate that  $G_{\mu\nu} \propto T_{\mu\nu}$  ....

Example: sphere of radius  $a$  (fixed),  $ds^2 = a^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2)$

$$g_{\mu\nu} = a^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2\theta \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \frac{1}{2} g^{\rho\sigma} (\partial_\mu g_{\nu\sigma} + \partial_\nu g_{\mu\sigma} - \partial_\sigma g_{\mu\nu})$$

Only derivative  $\neq 0$  is  $\partial_\theta g_{\phi\phi} = 2a^2 \sin\theta \cos\theta$ ;  $g^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{a^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^{-2}\theta \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\theta = -\sin\theta \cos\theta \quad \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi = \Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\phi = \frac{\sin\theta \cos\theta}{\sin^2\theta} = \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \quad (\text{all other } \Gamma\text{'s} = 0)$$

$$R_{\theta\phi\theta}{}^\phi = \partial_\phi \Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\phi - \partial_\theta \Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\phi + \Gamma_{\phi\lambda}^\phi \Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\lambda - \Gamma_{\theta\lambda}^\phi \Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\lambda = 1 + \frac{\cos^2\theta}{\sin^2\theta} - \left(\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}\right)^2 = 1$$

$$R_{\theta\phi\phi\theta} = R_{\theta\phi\theta}{}^\phi g_{\phi\phi} = a^2 \sin^2\theta \quad (\text{only indep. component: } N^2 = \frac{n^2(n^2-1)}{12} = 1)$$

Ricci tensor:  $R_{\theta\theta} = R_{\theta\phi\phi\theta} g^{\phi\phi} = 1$ ,  $R_{\phi\phi} = R_{\theta\phi\phi\theta} g^{\theta\theta} = \sin^2\theta$ ;  $R_{\theta\phi} = 0$

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2\theta \end{bmatrix} = \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{a^2} \quad R = R_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} = \frac{g_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu}}{a^2} = \frac{2}{a^2}$$

Scalar curvature is constant and  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $a \rightarrow \infty$ , as expected.

# Principle of general covariance

## - Physics in curved space-time -

Any SR equation valid in flat space without gravity will remain true in GR once written in covariant form:

$$\boxed{\eta_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}, \partial_{\mu} \rightarrow \nabla_{\mu}}$$

- ) this automatically satisfies the EP ( $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}, \Gamma = 0$  locally)
- ) no new physics yet. It just means writing equations that are valid in any coordinate system (just like the Lagrangian formalism in class. mech.). Can deal with Newton's law in flat space in spherical coordinates, or particle constrained on a sphere:

$$L_{\text{sph}}^{(\text{free})} = \frac{m}{2} (r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2) = \frac{m}{2} g_{\mu\nu} U^{\mu} U^{\nu}, \quad g_{\mu\nu} = r^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2 \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

- ) the non-trivial addition is that a non-flat, possibly evolving  $g_{\mu\nu}$  will describe gravity:

Ex.  $U^{\nu} \partial_{\nu} U^{\mu} = \frac{d^2 x^{\mu}}{dt^2} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad U^{\nu} \nabla_{\nu} U^{\mu} = \frac{d^2 x^{\mu}}{dt^2} + \Gamma^{\mu}_{\alpha\beta} \frac{dx^{\alpha}}{dt} \frac{dx^{\beta}}{dt} = 0$

$$\partial_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = J^{\nu} \quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = J^{\nu} \quad \partial_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$U^{\nu} \partial_{\nu} U^{\mu} = \frac{q}{m} F^{\mu}_{\alpha} U^{\alpha} \quad \rightarrow \quad U^{\nu} \nabla_{\nu} U^{\mu} = \frac{q}{m} F^{\mu}_{\alpha} U^{\alpha} \quad (F^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\alpha} g^{\nu\beta} (\partial_{\alpha} A_{\beta} - \partial_{\beta} A_{\alpha}))$$

This prescription is not entirely unique. We wouldn't know how to promote e.g.  $U^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} U^{\nu} = 0$ : should we choose  $\nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu}$  or  $\nabla_{\nu} \nabla_{\mu}$ ?

The difference would be  $R_{\mu\nu} U^{\mu} U^{\nu}$ .

In general, adding a term like e.g.  $R^{\mu\nu} J_{\nu}$  (or any term involving Riemann) would still reproduce SR in flat space ( $R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \rightarrow 0$ ) but ~~would~~ not in a locally inertial frame in curved space ( $R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \neq 0$ ), so it would violate the EP (gravity should be "erased" in free fall).

From the point of view of modern QFT, EP-violating terms coupling matter to curvature are not forbidden by symmetry and thus expected.

However, the expected coupling constant is extremely small (since  $G$  is very small) and, unless unnaturally amplified, effects are negligible. So far, no violation of EP has been ever detected.

Non-relativistic (Newtonian) limit of geodesic equation:

Geodesic motion reduces to  $\vec{a} = -\vec{\nabla}\phi$  when 1)  $v \ll c$ , 2) gravity is weak, and 3) it is static or slowly varying ( $\partial_0 g_{\mu\nu} \approx 0$ ).

$$\frac{dx^i}{dt} \ll \frac{dt}{dt} \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 x^{\mu}}{dt^2} + \Gamma_{00}^{\mu} \left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2 \approx 0 \quad ; \quad g_{\mu\nu} \approx \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu} \text{ and } |h_{\mu\nu}| \ll 1.$$

$$\Gamma_{00}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\rho} \left( 2 \underbrace{\partial_0 g_{0\rho}}_{\approx 0} - \partial_{\rho} g_{00} \right) \approx -\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\rho} \partial_{\rho} h_{00} \approx -\frac{1}{2} \eta^{\mu i} \partial_i h_{00} \quad (\text{at 1st order in } \eta_{\mu\nu})$$

$$\mu=0: \quad \frac{d^2 t}{dt^2} \approx 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dt}{dt} \approx \text{const} \equiv 1$$

$$\mu=i: \quad \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} = A^2 \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} \approx \frac{1}{2} \partial_i h_{00} A^2 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 x^i}{dt^2} \approx \frac{1}{2} \partial_i h_{00}$$

It matches  $\vec{a} = -\vec{\nabla}\phi$  if  $\boxed{h_{00} = -2\Phi}$  (and  $\Phi \ll 1$ ).

Geodesics reproduce Newtonian gravity with  $g_{00} \approx -(1+2\Phi)$ .

### Einstein equations

← flat 3d Laplacian

We seek a covariant generalization of  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$  (Poisson's law).

Its solution is  $\Phi = -\frac{GM}{r}$  for a point-like mass  $M$ . Natural to promote  $\rho \rightarrow T_{\mu\nu}$ . At the l.h.s. we need 2nd derivatives of  $g_{\mu\nu}$ , since  $\Phi \approx -h_{00}/2$ , but it cannot be  $\nabla^{\rho} \nabla_{\rho} g_{\mu\nu}$  (since  $\nabla_{\rho} g_{\mu\nu} = 0$ ).

However,  $\nabla^{\mu} T_{\mu\nu} = 0 = \nabla^{\mu} G_{\mu\nu}$ , and  $G_{\mu\nu}$  has 2nd derivatives of  $g_{\mu\nu}$ . So we postulate  $G_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$ , with  $G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R$ .

$$\text{Tracing: } G_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} = R - 2R = -R \Rightarrow R = -\kappa T_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} \equiv -\kappa T$$

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow R_{\mu\nu} = \kappa \left( T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} T \right)$$

For non-relativistic source:  $T_{\mu\nu} = \rho u_{\mu} u_{\nu}$ ,  $T = \rho u_{\mu} u^{\mu} = -\rho$ ,  $T_{00} \approx \rho$ .

We want to reproduce  $\nabla^2 h_{00} \approx -8\pi G \rho$ .

$$R_{00} = R_{0\lambda} \lambda^{\lambda} = R_{0i} i^i = \partial_i \Gamma_{00}^i - \underbrace{\partial_0 \Gamma_{i0}^i}_{\approx 0 \text{ (static } g_{\mu\nu})} + \mathcal{O}(h^2) \approx -\frac{1}{2} \partial_i \delta^{ij} \partial_j h_{00} = -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 h_{00}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 h_{00} \approx -2R_{00} = -2\kappa \left( T_{00} - g_{00} \frac{T}{2} \right) \approx -2\kappa \left( \rho - \frac{\rho}{2} \right) = -\kappa \rho$$

We recover the desired Newtonian limit if  $\kappa = 8\pi G$ .

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{G_{\mu\nu} \equiv R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = 8\pi G T_{\mu\nu}} \quad \underline{\text{Einstein equations}}$$