

Relativity Example Sheets

Feiyang Chen

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Contents

1		3
1.1	3
1.2	3
1.3	4
1.4	6
1.5	7
1.6	8
1.7	8
1.8	9
1.9	10
1.10	11
2		13
2.1	13
2.2	13
2.3	13
2.4	15
2.5	.....	16
2.6	.....	17
2.7	.....	20
2.8	.....	20
2.9	.....	22
2.10	.....	23
3		25
3.1	.....	25
3.2	.....	26
3.3	.....	27

3.4	.....	28
3.5	.....	29
3.6	.....	31
3.7	.....	32
3.8	.....	33
3.9	.....	34
4		36
4.1	Killing's equation	36
4.2	Dilation on a satellite	37
4.3	Red shift	39
4.4	Impact parameter	40
4.5	Schwarzschild blackhole	41

Example Sheet 1

Example 1.1

Without loss of generality, we consider systems of reference in which y and z coordinates are perpendicular to the connecting line of events of interest in spacetime.

$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2$$

Transform rules:

$$c\Delta t' = \gamma(c\Delta t - \beta\Delta x) = c\Delta t \cosh \psi_u - \Delta x \sinh \psi_u$$

$$\Delta x' = \gamma(\Delta x - \beta c\Delta t) = \Delta x \cosh \psi_u - c\Delta t \sinh \psi_u$$

Proof by construction:

(a)

time-like: $\Delta s^2 > 0$

$$c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2 > 0$$

$$-1 < \frac{\Delta x}{c\Delta t} < 1$$

To find S' where $\Delta x = 0$, we simply require $\frac{\Delta x}{c\Delta t} = \tanh \psi_u$ which can always be found for real rapidity $-1 < \psi_u < 1$.

(b)

space-like: $\Delta s^2 < 0$

$$c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2 < 0$$

$$-1 < \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} < 1$$

To find S' where $\Delta t = 0$, we simply require $\frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} = \tanh \psi_u$ which can always be found for real rapidity $-1 < \psi_u < 1$.

Example 1.2

(a)

In S , $\Delta t = t_B - t_A > 0$, $\Delta x = 0$.

In all frames S' ,

$$\Delta t' = \Delta t \cosh \psi_u$$

$$\Delta t' \geq \Delta t > 0$$

$$t'_B > t'_A$$

(b)

If event A causes event B, $\Delta t = t_B - t_A \geq \frac{\Delta r}{c} \geq 0$,

$$\Delta t = \Delta t \cosh \psi_u - \frac{\Delta r}{c} \sinh \psi_u \geq \Delta t (\cosh \psi_u - \sinh \psi_u) \geq 0$$

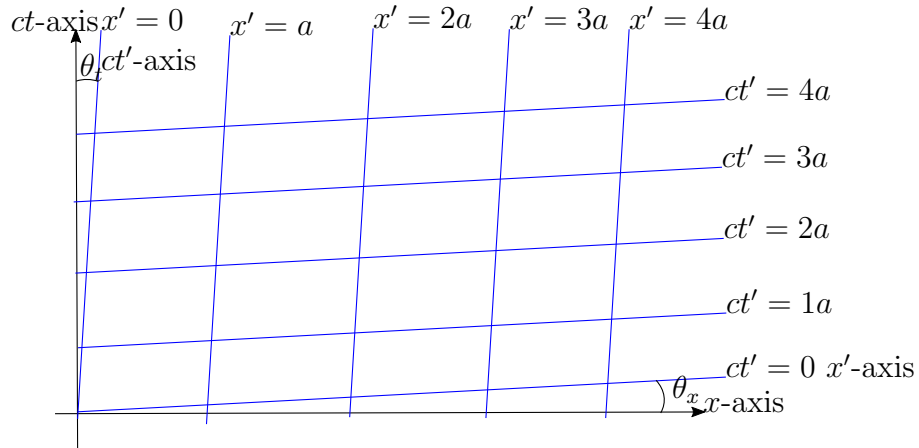
$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta^2 \geq 0$$

$$c^2 \Delta t'^2 - \Delta r'^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Delta t \geq \frac{|\Delta r'|}{c} \quad \text{in all frames.} \quad \blacksquare$$

Example 1.3

(a)



$$x' = x \cosh \psi_v - ct \sinh \psi_v$$

$$ct'\text{-axis: } x \cosh \psi_v - ct \sinh \psi_v = 0$$

$$\theta_t = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sinh \psi_v}{\cosh \psi_v} \right)$$

$$\theta_t = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\beta \gamma}{\gamma} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{v}{c} \right)$$

Similarly

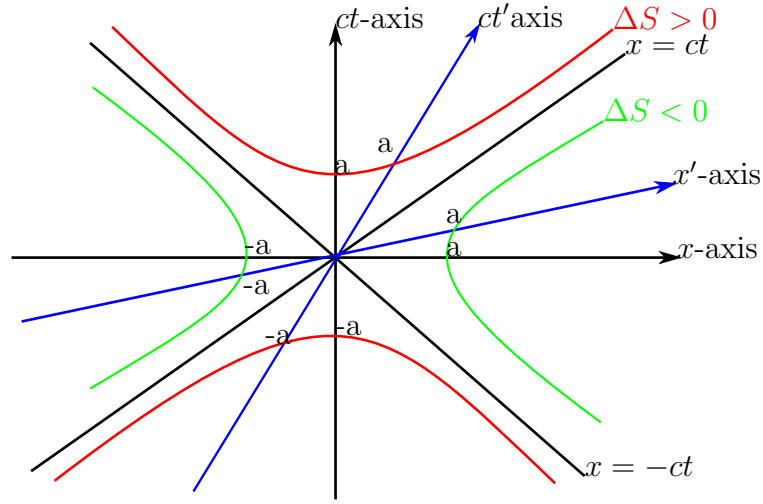
$$ct' = ct \cosh \psi_v - x \sinh \psi_v$$

$$x'\text{-axis: } ct \cosh \psi_v - x \sinh \psi_v = 0$$

$$\theta_x = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{ct}{x} \right)$$

$$\theta_x = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\beta\gamma}{\gamma} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{v}{c} \right)$$

(b)



$$\Delta s^2 = c^2 t^2 - x^2$$

Since we are interested in constant Δs^2 curves,

$$\left(\frac{\partial \Delta s^2}{\partial x} \right)_{\Delta s^2} = 0 = 2ct \left(\frac{\partial ct}{\partial x} \right)_{\Delta s^2} - 2x$$

If the curve does intersect the ct -axis, at $x = 0$, we have

$$\left(\frac{\partial ct}{\partial x} \right)_{\Delta s^2} = 0 \implies \text{curve is parallel to } x\text{-axis}$$

Similarly, taking derivative with respect to ct , we get

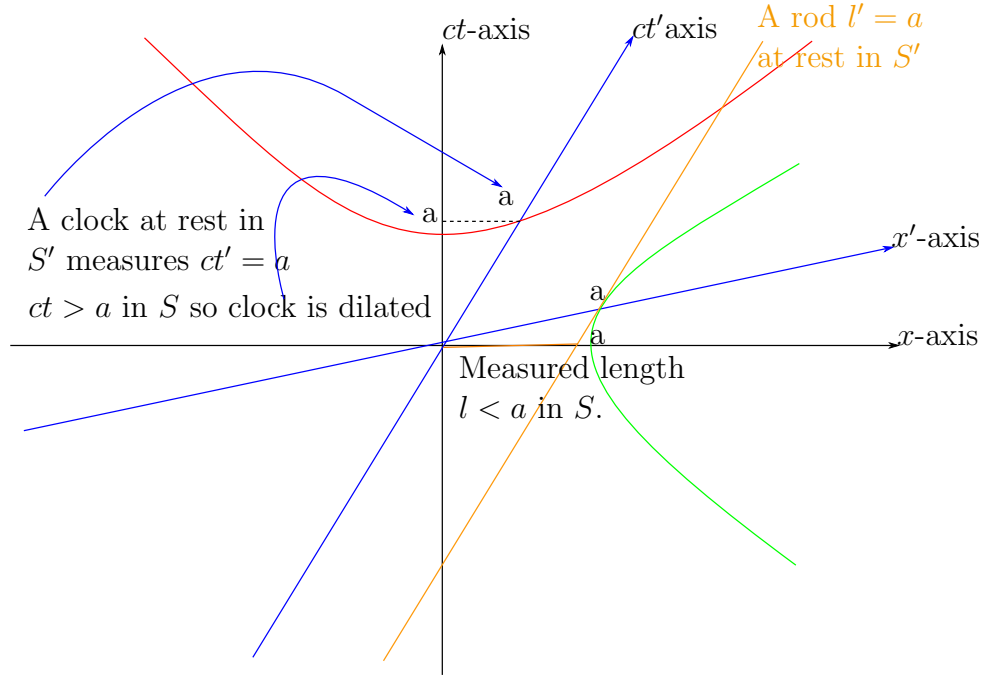
$$\left(\frac{\partial \Delta s^2}{\partial ct} \right)_{\Delta s^2} = 0 = 2x \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial ct} \right)_{\Delta s^2} - 2ct$$

which means at $ct = 0$ (intersecting x -axis)

$$\left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial ct} \right)_{\Delta s^2} = 0 \implies \text{curve is parallel to } ct\text{-axis}$$

These curves intersect the coordinate axes of different S' frames at the same values of x' or t' , as shown in the plot above. The new axes can then be calibrated linearly with respect to the test length $x' = \sqrt{-\Delta s^2}$, $ct' = \sqrt{\Delta s^2}$

(c)



Example 1.4

Dissolve the 3-vector coordinate $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)^T$ into components parallel and perpendicular to β

$$\vec{r} = \overbrace{\frac{\mathbf{r} \cdot \beta}{\beta^2} \vec{\beta}}^{\text{parallel}} + \overbrace{\vec{r} - \frac{\mathbf{r} \cdot \beta}{\beta^2} \vec{\beta}}^{\text{perpendicular}}$$

$$r_{\parallel} = \frac{(\beta_x x + \beta_y y + \beta_z z)}{\beta} \quad \vec{r}_{\perp} = \begin{pmatrix} x - \frac{(\beta_x x + \beta_y y + \beta_z z)}{\beta^2} \beta_x \\ y - \frac{(\beta_x x + \beta_y y + \beta_z z)}{\beta^2} \beta_y \\ z - \frac{(\beta_x x + \beta_y y + \beta_z z)}{\beta^2} \beta_z \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the rules for the components can be applied respectively:

$$ct' = \gamma(ct - \beta r_{\parallel})$$

$$\vec{r} = \gamma(r_{\parallel} - \beta ct) \frac{\vec{\beta}}{\beta} + \vec{r}_{\perp}$$

Reorganised into matrix equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta_x & -\gamma\beta_y & -\gamma\beta_z \\ -\gamma\beta_x & \gamma\frac{\beta_x^2}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_x\beta_y}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_x\beta_z}{\beta^2} \\ -\gamma\beta_y & \gamma\frac{\beta_y\beta_x}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_y^2}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_y\beta_z}{\beta^2} \\ -\gamma\beta_z & \gamma\frac{\beta_z\beta_x}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_z\beta_y}{\beta^2} & \gamma\frac{\beta_z^2}{\beta^2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - \frac{\beta_x^2}{\beta^2} & -\frac{\beta_y\beta_x}{\beta^2} & -\frac{\beta_z\beta_x}{\beta^2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\beta_x\beta_y}{\beta^2} & 1 - \frac{\beta_y^2}{\beta^2} & -\frac{\beta_z\beta_y}{\beta^2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\beta_x\beta_z}{\beta^2} & -\frac{\beta_y\beta_z}{\beta^2} & 1 - \frac{\beta_z^2}{\beta^2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta_x & -\gamma\beta_y & -\gamma\beta_z \\ -\gamma\beta_x & 1 + \alpha\beta_x^2 & \alpha\beta_y\beta_x & \alpha\beta_z\beta_x \\ -\gamma\beta_y & \alpha\beta_x\beta_y & 1 + \alpha\beta_y^2 & \alpha\beta_z\beta_y \\ -\gamma\beta_z & \alpha\beta_x\beta_z & \alpha\beta_y\beta_z & 1 + \alpha\beta_z^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 1.5

Writing down the transformation law from ZMF to S' which is the rest frame of the backward-moving particle

$$ct' = \gamma(ct - \beta x)$$

$$x' = \gamma(x - \beta ct)$$

Plug in $x = vt$

$$ct' = \gamma(c - \beta v)t = \frac{c^2 + v^2}{c^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} ct$$

$$x' = \gamma(v - \beta c)t = \frac{2v}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} t$$

$$\implies v' = \frac{x'}{t'} = \frac{2v}{1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

Example 1.6

(a)

The direction of the rdv parallel to the direction of motion is contracted:

$$l_x = \gamma^{-1} l_0 \cos \theta'$$

The direction perpendicular to the motion is unchanged. That gives

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\gamma \sin \theta'}{\cos \theta'} \right)$$

(b)

Write down the transform rules in standard configuration and plug in $x' = u't' \cos \theta, y = u't' \sin \theta$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & +\gamma\beta & 0 \\ +\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ u't' \cos \theta' \\ u't' \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma(c + \beta u' \cos \theta') \\ \gamma(u' \cos \theta' + \beta c) \\ u' \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix} t'$$

The angle observed in S frame is $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{u' \sin \theta'}{\gamma(u' \cos \theta' + v)} \right)$. If the bullet was a photon, $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2} \sin \theta'}{c \cos \theta' + v} \right)$

Example 1.7

In S' frame, the angular distribution of photons is

$$P'(\theta') d\theta' = \frac{\sin \theta'}{2} d\theta'$$

$$P(0 \leq \theta' \leq \theta'_0) = -\frac{\cos \theta'}{2} \Big|_0^{\theta'_0} = \frac{1 - \cos \theta'_0}{2}$$

If θ is the angle that the photon makes with respect to the motion of the π -mesons. As computed in question 6.(b), the transformation rule of θ is $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2} \sin \theta'}{c \cos \theta' + v} \right)$. Applying reverse transform, $\theta' = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2} \sin \theta}{c \cos \theta - v} \right)$.

Substitute in P ,

$$P(\theta) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d \cos \theta'(\theta)}{d\theta}$$

$$P(\theta) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\theta} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{(c^2 - v^2) \sin^2 \theta}{c(\cos \theta - v)^2}}} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\theta} \sqrt{\frac{(c \cos \theta - v)^2}{c^2 \cos^2 \theta - 2vc \cos \theta + v^2 + (c^2 - v^2) \sin^2 \theta}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\theta) &= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{c \cos \theta - v}{c - v \cos \theta} \right) \\
P(\theta) &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{-c \sin \theta (c - v \cos \theta) - v \sin \theta (c \cos \theta - v)}{(c - v \cos \theta)^2} \right) \\
P(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sin \theta (c^2 - v^2)}{(c - v \cos \theta)^2} \\
P(\theta) &= \frac{\sin \theta}{2\gamma^2 (1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Example 1.8

(a)

$$\begin{pmatrix} c dt' \\ dx' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c dt \\ dx \end{pmatrix}$$

Here, β and γ denote constant factors at a specific time

$$\begin{aligned}
a'_x &= \frac{d}{dt'} \frac{dx'}{dt'} = c \frac{d}{dt'} \frac{\gamma u - \gamma\beta c}{\gamma c - \gamma\beta u} \\
a'_x &= c \frac{d}{dt'} \frac{\gamma u - \gamma\beta c}{\gamma c - \gamma\beta u} \\
a'_x &= \frac{c^2}{(\gamma c - \gamma\beta u)} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\gamma u - \gamma\beta c}{\gamma c - \gamma\beta u} \\
a'_x &= \frac{1}{(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2})^{\frac{3}{2}}} a_x
\end{aligned}$$

Now we have the acceleration transform rules between the instantaneous rest frames of the moving spaceship and an inertial frame

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{du}{dt} &= \frac{1}{\gamma^3} f(\tau) \\
\frac{du}{d\tau} &= \frac{dt}{d\tau} \frac{du}{dt} \\
&= \frac{c}{\gamma^4 (c - \beta u)} f(\tau) \\
&= \frac{1}{\gamma^2} f(\tau) \\
\frac{1}{1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}} \frac{du}{d\tau} &= f(\tau) \\
\int_0^\tau d\tau c \frac{d \tanh^{-1} \frac{u}{c}}{d\tau} &= \int_0^\tau d\tau f(\tau)
\end{aligned}$$

$$c \tanh^{-1} \frac{u}{c} - c \tanh^{-1} \frac{u_0}{c} = c\psi(\tau)$$

$$\frac{u(\tau) - u_0}{1 - \frac{u(\tau)u_0}{c^2}} = c \tanh \psi(\tau)$$

For $u(\tau)$ to reach c , any finite proper acceleration has to be supplied for a infinite period of time.

(b)

$$\int_0^{\tau_a} dt(\tau) u = \Delta x$$

$$\int_0^{\tau_a} d\tau c \cosh \frac{g\tau}{c} \tanh \frac{g\tau}{c} = \Delta x$$

$$\int_0^{\tau_a} d\tau c \sinh \frac{g\tau}{c} = \Delta x$$

$$\frac{c^2}{g} \left(\cosh \frac{g\tau_a}{c} - \cosh 0 \right) = \Delta x$$

$$\cosh \frac{g\tau_a}{c} = \frac{g\Delta x}{c^2} + 1$$

$$\tau_a = 3.02 \text{ years (taking } g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}\text{)}$$

Example 1.9

Constant x'^1 hypersurface equation in Cartesian coords: $x^1 + x^2 = \text{const.}$ i.e. a plane parallel to x_3 -axis;

Constant x'^2 hypersurface equation in Cartesian coords: $x^1 - x^2 = \text{const.}$ i.e. another plane parallel to x_3 -axis;

Constant x'^3 hypersurface equation in Cartesian coords: $x^3 - \frac{1}{2} [(x^1)^2 - (x^2)^2] = \text{const.}$ i.e. a surface constituted of stacked hyperbolae.

$$g'_{ab} = \delta_{cd} \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2x'^2 & 2x'^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{ac}^T \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2x'^2 & 2x'^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{cb}$$

$$g'_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + 4(x'^2)^2 & 4x'^2 x'^1 & 2x'^2 \\ 4x'^2 x'^1 & 2 + 4(x'^1)^2 & 2x'^1 \\ 2x'^2 & 2x'^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{ab}$$

In general $g_{ab} \neq 0$ for $a \neq b$, so the coordinate system is not orthogonal.

$$dV = \sqrt{g} dx'^1 dx'^2 dx'^3$$

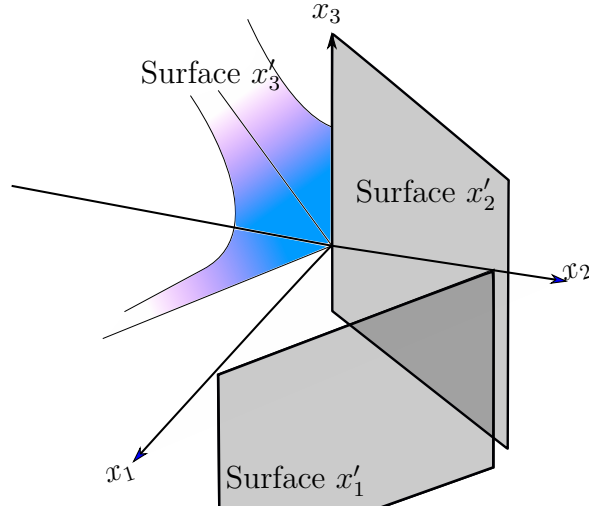


Figure 1: Sections of examples of such surfaces

$$\begin{aligned} dV &= dx'^1 dx'^2 dx'^3 \sqrt{2(2 + 4(x'^2)^2) - 8(x'^2)^2} \\ dV &= 2 dx'^1 dx'^2 dx'^3 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.10

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2 = a^2$$

$$w dw = -(x dx + y dy + z dz)$$

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2 + \frac{(x dx + y dy + z dz)^2}{a^2 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2}$$

Let $x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$, $y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$, $z = r \cos \theta$, $r = a \sin \chi$

$$ds^2 = \frac{a^2}{a^2 - r^2} dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

$$ds^2 = a^2 (d\chi^2 + \sin^2 \chi (d\theta \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2))$$

Metric for this 3D Riemannian space:

$$g_{ab} = a^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & \sin^2 \chi & \\ & & \sin^2 \chi \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V = \iiint_{0,0,0}^{2\pi,\pi,\pi} \sqrt{a^6 \sin^2 \chi \sin^2 \chi \sin^2 \theta} d\chi d\theta d\phi$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= a^3 2\pi \iint_{0,0}^{\pi,\pi} \sin^2 \chi \sin \theta \, d\chi \, d\theta \\
&= 2\pi^2 a^3
\end{aligned}$$

The embedded 2-Sphere defined by $\chi = \chi_0$ has line element

$$ds^2 = a^2 \sin^2 \chi_0 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta \, d\phi^2)$$

Therefore its metric is

$$g_{ab} = a^2 \sin^2 \chi_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

The area is

$$\begin{aligned}
A &= \iint_{0,0}^{2\pi,\pi} \sqrt{(a^2 \sin^2 \chi_0)^2 \sin^2 \theta} \, d\theta \, d\phi \\
&= 4\pi a^2 \sin^2 \chi_0
\end{aligned}$$

Example Sheet 2

Example 2.1

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{e}'_{\mathbf{a}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x'^a} \\ &= \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial x'^a} \mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{b}} \\ \mathbf{e}'_1 &= \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 + 2x'^2 \mathbf{e}_3 \\ \mathbf{e}'_2 &= \mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{e}_2 + 2x'^1 \mathbf{e}_3 \\ \mathbf{e}'_3 &= \mathbf{e}_3\end{aligned}$$

These are the tangent vectors to the intersections of the coordinate surfaces.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{b}}) &= \delta_{ab} \\ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{e}'_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathbf{e}'_{\mathbf{b}}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 + 4(x'^2)^2 & 4x'^2 x'^1 & 2x'^2 \\ 4x'^2 x'^1 & 2 + 4(x'^1)^2 & 2x'^1 \\ 2x'^2 & 2x'^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{ab} = g'_{ab}\end{aligned}$$

Example 2.2

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}_1$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v} = v^a \mathbf{e}_a &\implies v^a = (1, 0, 0)^T, v_a = \delta_{ab} v^b = (1, 0, 0) \\ v'_a &= \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial x'^a} v_b = (1, 1, 0) \\ v'^a &= \frac{\partial x'^a}{\partial x^b} v^b = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, -x'^1 - x'^2 \right)\end{aligned}$$

Example 2.3

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}A^{ab}T_{ab} &= A^{ab}(T_{(ab)} + T_{[ab]}) \\ A^{ab}T_{ab} &= A^{ab}T_{(ab)} + A^{ab}T_{[ab]}\end{aligned}$$

Using (anti)symmetry under exchange of dummy indices, we have

$$A^{ab}T_{(ab)} = -A^{ba}T_{(ba)} = 0$$

$$\implies A^{ab}T_{ab} = A^{ab}T_{[ab]}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} S^{ab}T_{[ab]} &= -S^{ba}T_{[ba]} = 0 \\ S^{ab}T_{ab} &= S^{ab}T_{(ab)} \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} A'_{ab} &= \partial'_b v'_a - \partial'_a v'_b \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x'^b} \left(\frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} v_c \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x'^a} \left(\frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^b} v_c \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^d} \left(\frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} v_c \right) - \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^d} \left(\frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^b} v_c \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial v_c}{\partial x^d} - \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial v_d}{\partial x^c} + v_c \left(\frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial^2 x^c}{\partial x^d \partial x'^a} - \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial^2 x^c}{\partial x^d \partial x'^b} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial v_c}{\partial x^d} - \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial v_d}{\partial x^c} + v_c \left(\frac{\partial^2 x^c}{\partial x'^b \partial x'^a} - \frac{\partial^2 x^c}{\partial x'^a \partial x'^b} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^d}{\partial x'^b} A_{cd} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

The components of A_{ab} does transform like a type-(0, 2) tensor.

$$\begin{aligned} B_{abc} &= \frac{\partial A_{ab}}{\partial x^c} + \frac{\partial A_{bc}}{\partial x^a} + \frac{\partial A_{ca}}{\partial x^b} \\ B'_{abc} &= \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^g} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} A_{ef} + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^g} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^c} A_{ef} + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^g} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^a} A_{ef} \\ &= \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial A_{ef}}{\partial x^g} + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial A_{ef}}{\partial x^g} + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial A_{ef}}{\partial x^g} \\ &\quad + A_{ef} \left(\frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \left(\frac{\partial^2 x^e}{\partial x^g \partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} + \frac{\partial^2 x'^f}{\partial x^g \partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \right) + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^b} \cdots + \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^a} \cdots \right) \\ \text{big chunky term} &= A_{ef} \left(\left(\frac{\partial^2 x^e}{\partial x'^c \partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} + \frac{\partial^2 x'^f}{\partial x'^c \partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \right) + \cdots + \cdots \right) \end{aligned}$$

but A_{ef} is antisymmetric in every frame by construction, so

$$\text{big chunky term} = A_{ef} \left(\left(\frac{\partial^2 x^e}{\partial x'^c \partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} - \frac{\partial^2 x'^e}{\partial x'^c \partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^a} \right) + \cdots + \cdots \right)$$

denote $\frac{\partial^2 x^e}{\partial x'^c \partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b}$ as Θ_{cab}^{ef} , Θ is symmetric under exchange of first two lower indices

$$\begin{aligned} \text{big chunky term} &= A_{ef} \left(\Theta_{cab}^{ef} - \Theta_{bca}^{ef} + \Theta_{abc}^{ef} - \Theta_{cab}^{ef} + \Theta_{bca}^{ef} - \Theta_{abc}^{ef} \right) = 0 \\ B'_{abc} &= \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial A_{ef}}{\partial x^g} + \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial A_{fg}}{\partial x^e} + \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial A_{ge}}{\partial x^f} \\ B'_{abc} &= \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} \left(\frac{\partial A_{ef}}{\partial x^g} + \frac{\partial A_{fg}}{\partial x^e} + \frac{\partial A_{ge}}{\partial x^f} \right) = \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^e}{\partial x'^a} \frac{\partial x^f}{\partial x'^b} B_{abc} \end{aligned}$$

B_{abc} is antisymmetric under exchange of any two indices.

Example 2.4

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} g &= \det(g_{ab}) \\ \frac{1}{g} \partial_c g &= \text{Tr} \left(g^{ab} \partial_c g_{bc} \right) \\ \partial_c g &= g g^{ab} \partial_c g_{ba} \\ \partial_c g &= g g^{ab} \partial_c g_{ab} \quad \text{using symmetry of } g_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_c g_{ab} &= \partial_c g_{ab} - \Gamma_{ca}^d g_{db} - \Gamma_{cb}^d g_{da} \\ &= \partial_c g_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} g^{de} [(\partial_c g_{ae} + \partial_a g_{ce} - \partial_e g_{ac}) g_{db} + (\partial_c g_{be} + \partial_b g_{ce} - \partial_e g_{bc}) g_{da}] \\ &= \partial_c g_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} [(\partial_c g_{ab} + \partial_a g_{cb} - \partial_b g_{ac}) + (\partial_c g_{ba} + \partial_b g_{ca} - \partial_a g_{bc})] \\ &= \partial_c g_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} [\partial_c g_{ab} - \partial_c g_{ba}] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\Gamma_{bc}^a = \frac{1}{2} g^{ae} (\partial_b g_{ce} + \partial_c g_{be} - \partial_e g_{bc})$$

Turn off summation convention for the rest of this question

$$\Gamma_{bc}^a = \frac{1}{2} \sum_e g^{ae} (\partial_b g_{ce} + \partial_c g_{be} - \partial_e g_{bc})$$

Using g_{ab} is diagonal, we have

$$\Gamma_{bc}^a = \frac{1}{2}g^{aa}(\partial_b g_{cc}\delta_{ac} + \partial_c g_{bb}\delta_{ab} - \partial_a g_{bc}\delta_{bc})$$

For $a \neq b \neq c$,

$$\delta_{ab}, \delta_{bc}, \delta_{ac} = 0 \implies \Gamma_{bc}^a = 0$$

If two of the indices are the same, we can get

$$\Gamma_{ac}^a = \frac{1}{2}g^{aa}\partial_c g_{aa} = \Gamma_{ca}^a \qquad \Gamma_{bb}^a = -\frac{1}{2}g^{aa}\partial_a g_{bb}$$

If all three indices are the same,

$$\Gamma_{aa}^a = \frac{1}{2}g^{aa}\partial_a g_{aa}$$

But for diagonal matrices, the diagonal entry of the inverse metric is the reciprocal of the diagonal entry, i.e.

$$g^{aa} = g_{aa}^{-1}$$

We can thus rearrange into

$$\Gamma_{ac}^a = \partial_c \ln(\sqrt{|g_{aa}|}) = \Gamma_{ca}^a \qquad \Gamma_{bb}^a = -\frac{1}{2g_{aa}}\partial_a g_{bb}$$

Example 2.5

$$ds^2 = d\rho^2 + \rho^2 d\phi^2$$

$$g_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & \rho^2 \end{pmatrix}_{ab}$$

(a)

From the last question, we know that the only possible nonzero connection coefficients are

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\rho\phi}^\rho &= \Gamma_{\rho\phi}^\phi = \partial_\phi \ln(1) = 0 \\ \Gamma_{\rho\phi}^\phi &= \Gamma_{\phi\rho}^\phi = \partial_\rho \ln(\rho) = \frac{1}{\rho} \\ \Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\rho &= -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\rho \rho^2 = -\rho \\ \Gamma_{\rho\rho}^\phi &= -\frac{1}{2\rho^2}\partial_\phi 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla_a v^a &= \partial_a v^a + \Gamma_{ab}^a v^b \\
&= \partial_\rho v^\rho + \partial_\phi v^\phi + \frac{1}{\rho} v^\rho \\
&= \frac{v^\rho + \rho \partial_\rho v^\rho}{\rho} + \partial_\phi v^\phi \\
&= \frac{\partial_\rho(\rho v^\rho)}{\rho} + \partial_\phi v^\phi
\end{aligned}$$

To translate this result in terms of an orthonormal basis vector, we use $\tilde{v}_\phi = \rho v_\phi$ such that $|v|^2 = v_\rho^2 + \tilde{v}_\phi^2$, and obtain¹

$$\nabla'_a v'^a = \frac{\partial_\rho(\rho v^\rho)}{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_\phi \tilde{v}^\phi$$

(c)

Laplacian of a scalar field is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2 f &= \nabla^a (\nabla_a f) \\
&= g^{ba} \nabla_b (\partial_a f) \\
&= \frac{\partial_\rho(\rho \partial_\rho f)}{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \partial_\phi^2 f
\end{aligned}$$

Example 2.6

$$ds^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 g_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}_{ab}$$

(a)

Again we use the results from question 3. The only *possible* nonzero connection coefficients of this coordinate system are

$$\begin{aligned}
\Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\theta &= \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\theta = \partial_\phi \ln(1) = 0 \\
\Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi &= \Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\phi = \partial_\theta \ln(\sin \theta) = \cot \theta
\end{aligned}$$

¹ \tilde{v}_ϕ is not a vector component, nor is the “normalised basis” a basis, in the sense that is usually used in this course.

$$\Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\phi = -\frac{1}{2\sin^2\theta}\partial_\phi 1 = 0$$

$$\Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\theta = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\theta \sin^2\theta = -\sin\theta \cos\theta$$

(b)

$$L = g_{ab}\dot{x}^a\dot{x}^b$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^c} = \frac{d}{du} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^c}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_{ab}}{\partial x^c} \dot{x}^a \dot{x}^b = \frac{d}{du} g_{ab} \left(\delta_c^a \dot{x}^b + \dot{x}^a \delta_c^b \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial g_{ab}}{\partial x^c} \dot{x}^a \dot{x}^b = 2 \frac{d}{du} (g_{cb} \dot{x}^b)$$

On the surface of a sphere

$$2 \sin\theta \cos\theta \dot{\phi}^2 = 2 \frac{d\theta}{du}$$

$$0 = \ddot{\theta} - \sin\theta \cos\theta \dot{\phi}^2$$

$$0 = 2 \frac{d}{du} (\sin^2\theta \dot{\phi})$$

$$0 = \sin^2\theta (\cot\theta \dot{\phi} \dot{\theta} + \ddot{\phi})$$

As we would've obtained from (a).

$$\ddot{\theta} + \Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\theta \dot{\phi}^2 + 0 + 0 + \dots = 0$$

and

$$\ddot{\phi} + \Gamma_{\phi\theta}^\phi \dot{\phi} \dot{\theta} + 0 + 0 + \dots = 0$$

For a circle of constant latitude on a sphere θ is a constant. For this to satisfy geodesic equations

$$0 = -\sin\theta \cos\theta \dot{\phi}^2$$

$$0 = \ddot{\phi}$$

which gives $\cos\theta = 0 \implies \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$, the equator. In general u , the affine parameter is linear in ϕ .

($\sin\theta = 0$ is not accepted because the coordinate system is degenerate at the north and south poles.)

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{v} &= 1\mathbf{e}_\theta \\
\frac{Dv^a}{D\phi} &= 0 \\
\frac{dv^a}{d\phi} + \frac{dx^b}{d\phi}\Gamma_{bc}^a v^c &= 0 \\
\frac{dv^\theta}{d\phi} + \frac{d\theta}{d\phi}\Gamma_{\theta c}^\theta v^c + \frac{d\phi}{d\phi}\Gamma_{\phi c}^\theta v^c &= 0 \\
\frac{dv^\theta}{d\phi} - \sin\theta \cos\theta v^\phi &= 0 \\
\frac{dv^\phi}{d\phi} + \Gamma_{\phi c}^\phi v^c &= 0 \\
\frac{dv^\phi}{d\phi} + \cot\theta v^\theta &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Solving the two equations and plug in initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned}
\sin\theta \cos\theta v^\phi &= -\tan\theta \ddot{v}^\phi \\
-\cos^2\theta_0 v^\phi &= \ddot{v}^\phi \\
v^\phi &= A \sin(\phi \cos\theta_0) \\
v^\theta &= \sin\theta_0 A (1 - \cos(\phi \cos\theta_0)) + 1 \\
\implies A &= -\frac{1}{\sin\theta_0} \\
v^\phi &= -\frac{1}{\sin\theta_0} \sin(\phi \cos\theta_0) \\
v^\theta &= \cos(\phi \cos\theta_0)
\end{aligned}$$

After parallel transport, we will have

$$v^\phi = -\frac{1}{\sin\theta_0} \sin(2\pi \cos\theta_0) \qquad v^\theta = \cos(2\pi \cos\theta_0)$$

which is not the same as what we started with, but

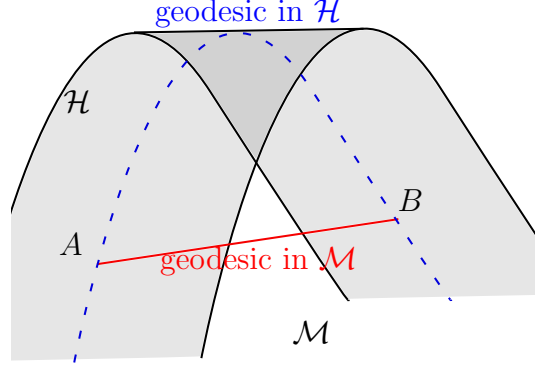
$$v_a v^a = \left(v^\theta\right)^2 + \sin^2\theta_0 \left(v^\phi\right)^2 = 1$$

throughout the transport.

Example 2.7

If \mathcal{C} is a geodesic in \mathcal{M} , the distance between the points along \mathcal{C} is extremal among the set of distances of all other curves, that is, including the set of distances of other curves in \mathcal{H} . Therefore, \mathcal{C} is also by definition a geodesic in \mathcal{H} .

The converse can be falsified by the following counterexample.



In Euclidean spacetime, the blue curve is a geodesic in \mathcal{H} because it is the shortest path connecting A and B . However, it is not a geodesic in \mathcal{M} , as there are shorter paths connecting A and B .

Example 2.8

hypersurface \mathcal{H} : M dimensions

Euclidean space: $N > M$ dimensions

(a)

Consider ds^2 which is invariant,

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= \delta_{ab} dx^a dx^b = g_{IJ} du^I du^J \\ \delta_{ab} \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^J} du^I du^J &= g_{IJ} du^I du^J \\ g_{IJ} &= \delta_{ab} \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^J} \end{aligned}$$

(b)

Start with the explicit form of the metric connection

$$\Gamma_{JK}^L = \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^J \partial u^K} \frac{\partial u^L}{\partial x^a}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
g_{IL}\Gamma_{JK}^L &= \delta_{bc} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial x^c}{\partial u^L} \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^J \partial u^k} \frac{\partial u^L}{\partial x^a} \\
g_{IL}\Gamma_{JK}^L &= \delta_{bc} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^J \partial u^k} \delta_a^c \\
g_{IL}\Gamma_{JK}^L &= \delta_{ab} \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial^2 x^b}{\partial u^J \partial u^k}
\end{aligned}$$

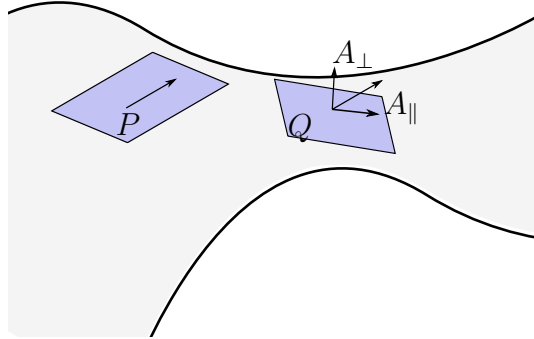
(c)

The vector \mathbf{A} is invariant under coordinate transform, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}
A^I \mathbf{e}_I &= A^a \mathbf{e}_a \\
A^I \frac{\partial}{\partial u^I} &= A^b \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \\
A^I \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} &= A^b \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial x^b} \\
A^I \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} &= A^b \delta_b^a \\
A^I \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} &= A^a
\end{aligned}$$

(d)

Given that the components of A are fixed in the embedding Euclidean space, we have



$$A^a(Q) = A^a(P) = A^I(P) \left. \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \right|_P$$

The vector $A^a(Q)\mathbf{e}_a$ is not a vector in the hypersurface \mathcal{H} , but can be decomposed into components parallel and perpendicular to the tangent space at Q ,

$$A^a(Q)\mathbf{e}_a = A_{\parallel}^a \mathbf{e}_a + \mathbf{A}_{\perp}^a e_a$$

where $A_{\parallel}^a \mathbf{e}_a$, lying in the tangent space, can be expressed as $A_{\parallel}^I(Q) \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_Q$. Now we have

$$A^I(P) \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_P \mathbf{e}_a = A_{\parallel}^I(Q) \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_Q \mathbf{e}_a + A_{\perp}^a \mathbf{e}_a$$

Given the basis vectors are mutually orthogonal we can write the above as a vector equation

$$A^I(P) \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_P = A_{\parallel}^I(Q) \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_Q + A_{\perp}^a$$

Approximating to first order,

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\parallel}^I(Q) &= A^I(P) + \delta A^I \\ \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_Q &= \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_P + \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^I \partial u^J} \Big|_P \delta u^J + O(\delta u^{J^2}) \\ 0 &= \delta A^I \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \Big|_P + A^I(P) \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^I \partial u^J} \Big|_P \delta u^J + A_{\perp}^a \\ 0 &= \delta_{ab} \delta A^I \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^K} + \delta_{ab} A^I \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^I \partial u^J} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^K} \delta u^J \\ \delta A^I \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^I} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^K} &= -A^I \frac{\partial^2 x^b}{\partial u^I \partial u^J} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^K} \delta u^J \\ g_{IK} \delta A^I &= -\delta_{ab} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial u^K} \frac{\partial^2 x^a}{\partial u^I \partial u^J} A^I \delta u^J \\ g_{IK} \delta A^I &= -g_{KL} \Gamma_{IJ}^L A^I \delta u^J && \text{using (a)} \\ g_{IK} \delta A^I &= -g_{KI} \Gamma_{LJ}^I A^L \delta u^J && \text{where we swapped dummies } L \text{ and } I \\ \delta A^K &= -\Gamma_{JL}^K A^L \delta u^J && \text{relabeled } I \rightarrow K \end{aligned}$$

The same as what we would've obtained from the parallel transport equation,

$$\delta A^K + \Gamma_{JL}^K(P) A^L(P) \delta u^J = \frac{DA^K}{Dt} \delta t = 0$$

where t is an affine paramter for the curve along which the vector is transported.

Example 2.9

(a)

$$u^\mu = \frac{dt}{d\tau_{\mathcal{E}}}(c, \vec{u}) \quad v^\mu = \frac{dt}{d\tau_{\mathcal{R}}}(c, \vec{v})$$

Since $u_\mu v^\mu$ is an invariant object we can always move to the frame where $\vec{u} = 0, |\vec{v}| = V$, where $\frac{dt}{d\tau_\mathcal{E}} = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} u_\mu v^\mu &= \eta_{\mu\nu} u^\nu v^\nu \\ &= \frac{dt}{d\tau_V} (c^2 - \mathbf{0} \cdot \mathbf{V}) \\ &= \gamma_V c^2 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

The photon 4-momentum has expression

$$p^\mu = \frac{E}{c^2} \frac{dx^\mu_\gamma}{dt}$$

$u^\mu p_\mu$ is an invariant object, so we can simply evaluate it in the rest frame of \mathcal{E} .

$$\begin{aligned} u^\mu p_\mu &= (c, 0) \left(\frac{E_\gamma}{c}, \vec{p} \right) \\ &= E_\gamma = h\nu_\mathcal{E} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$v^\nu p_\nu = h\nu_\mathcal{R}$$

and we have

$$\frac{\nu_\mathcal{E}}{\nu_\mathcal{R}} = \frac{u^\mu p_\mu}{v^\nu p_\nu}$$

Example 2.10

Proper acceleration is given by

$$\begin{aligned} a^\mu &= \frac{du^\mu}{d\tau} \\ &= \gamma_u \frac{d}{dt} [\gamma_u(c, \vec{u})] \\ &= \gamma_u \left[\gamma_u^3 \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a}}{c^2} (c, \vec{u}) + \gamma_u(0, \mathbf{a}) \right] \\ &= \gamma_u^4 \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a}}{c^2} (c, \vec{u}) + \gamma_u^2(0, \vec{a}) \\ -\alpha^2 &= a_\mu a^\mu = \gamma_u^8 \frac{(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a})^2}{c^4} (c^2 - u^2) - 2\gamma_u^6 \frac{(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a})^2}{c^2} - \gamma_u^4 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} \\ \alpha^2 &= \gamma_u^6 \frac{(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a})^2}{c^2} + \gamma_u^4 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} \end{aligned}$$

If the motion in S is circular with radius r , we will have

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{u^2}{r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \qquad \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{a} = 0$$

which gives

$$\alpha = \frac{c^2 u^2}{(c^2 - u^2)r}$$

Example Sheet 3

Example 3.1

Let the four-momenta of the incident and stationary electrons before and after the collision in the lab frame be

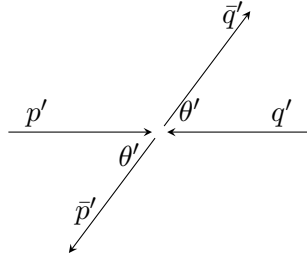
$$p^\mu = (mc, \vec{0}) \quad q^\mu = (\gamma_u mc, \vec{q}) \quad \bar{p}^\mu = \left(\frac{\bar{E}_1}{c}, \vec{\bar{p}}\right) \quad \bar{q}^\mu = \left(\frac{\bar{E}_2}{c}, \vec{\bar{q}}\right)$$

respectively, we have conservation of 4 momenta throughout the process

$$p^\mu + q^\mu = \bar{p}^\mu + \bar{q}^\mu$$

In the zero momentum S' frame, $\vec{p}' = -\vec{q}'$, and $|\vec{q}'| = |\vec{q}| = |\vec{p}| = |\vec{p}'|$, so we can draw

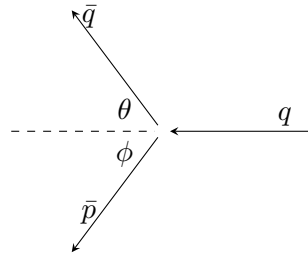
ZMF



Write down the transform rules in with the incident particle velocity along x plug in $x'_q = u't' \cos \theta$, $y_q = u't' \sin \theta$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x_q \\ y_q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \frac{\psi_u}{2} & +\sinh \frac{\psi_u}{2} & 0 \\ +\sinh \frac{\psi_u}{2} & \cosh \frac{\psi_u}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ u't' \cos \theta' \\ u't' \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \frac{\psi_u}{2} (c + \beta u' \cos \theta') \\ \cosh \frac{\psi_u}{2} (u' \cos \theta' + \beta c) \\ u' \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix} t'$$

lab



The angles observed in S frame have

$$\tan(\pi - \theta) \tan \phi = \frac{\sinh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right) \sin^2(\theta')}{\cosh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right) \sinh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right) (\cos^2(\theta') - 1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tan \theta \tan \phi &= \frac{1}{\cosh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right)} \\ \tan \theta \tan \phi &= \frac{2}{\cosh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right) + \sinh^2\left(\frac{\psi_u}{2}\right) + 1} \\ \tan \theta \tan \phi &= \frac{2}{\gamma_u + 1}\end{aligned}$$

In the Newtonian limit for momentum and kinetic energy which is quadratic in momentum to be simulataneously conserved,

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{q}^2 + \bar{p}^2 &= q^2 & p_\perp \left(\frac{1}{\tan \theta} + \frac{1}{\tan \phi} \right) &= q \\ \bar{p}^2 \cos^2(\theta) + \frac{2p_\perp^2}{\tan \theta \tan \phi} + \bar{p}^2 \cos^2(\phi) &= \bar{p}^2 + \bar{q}^2 \\ \frac{2p_\perp^2}{\tan \theta \tan \phi} &= 2p_\perp^2 \\ \tan \theta \tan \phi &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Which coincides with the limit $u \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{2}{\gamma_u + 1} \rightarrow 1 - \frac{u^2}{4c^2} \approx 1$.

Example 3.2

In the mirror frame, the photon has 4-momentum (z -axis omitted)

$$p'^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{h\nu'}{c} \\ \frac{h\nu'}{c} \cos \theta' \\ \frac{h\nu'}{c} \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix}$$

which gives the invariant quantity

$$\eta_{\nu\mu} p'_{\text{mirror}}^\nu p'_{\text{photon}}^\mu = h\nu' m_{\text{mirror}} = h\nu \gamma_v m_{\text{mirror}} (1 - \beta \cos \theta)$$

where $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$, and the frequency shift

$$\nu' = \gamma_v \nu (1 + \beta \cos \theta)$$

After reflection, conserving energy and momentum parallel to the mirror plane,

$$\bar{p}'^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{h\nu'}{c} \\ -\frac{h\nu'}{c} \cos \theta' \\ \frac{h\nu'}{c} \sin \theta' \end{pmatrix}$$

A similar invariant quantity gives

$$\begin{aligned}\nu' &= \gamma_v \bar{\nu} (1 - \beta \cos \phi) \\ \frac{\bar{\nu}}{\nu} &= \frac{1 + \beta \cos \theta}{1 - \beta \cos \phi}\end{aligned}$$

where ϕ is the reflected angle. Requiring the momentum component parallel to the mirror conserved in lab frame, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{p}^\nu &= \frac{h\bar{\nu}}{c} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\cos \phi \\ \sin \phi \end{pmatrix} \\ \frac{h\bar{\nu}}{c} \sin \phi &= \frac{h\nu}{c} \sin \theta \\ \frac{\bar{\nu}}{\nu} &= \frac{\sin \theta}{\sin \phi} \\ \frac{1 - \beta \cos \phi}{\sin \phi} &= \frac{1 + \beta \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \\ \sin \phi &= \sin \theta \frac{1 + \beta \cos \theta \pm \beta(\beta + \cos \theta)}{\beta^2 + 2\beta \cos \theta + 1} \\ \sin \phi &= \frac{\sin \theta}{\gamma_v(1 + \beta^2 + 2\beta \cos \theta)}\end{aligned}$$

So the reflected frequency is

$$\bar{\nu} = \gamma_v(1 + \beta^2 + 2\beta \cos \theta)\nu$$

Example 3.3

Assume that a electron *did* emit a single photon. In the electron's initial rest frame

$$\begin{aligned}E_{\text{init}} &= m_e c^2 & p_{\text{init}} &= 0 \\ E_{\text{final}} &= \sqrt{m_e c^2 + p_e^2 c^2} + h\nu & p_{\text{final}} &= \frac{h\nu}{c} - p_e\end{aligned}$$

For both quantities to be conserved, the only solution for ν is 0, so no single photon can be emitted from an electron.

Similarly, assume that a massive *did* emit a single photon. In the particle's initial rest frame

$$\begin{aligned}E_{\text{init}} &= mc^2 & p_{\text{init}} &= 0 \\ E_{\text{final}} &= h\nu & p_{\text{final}} &= \frac{h\nu}{c}\end{aligned}$$

The two conservation conditions cannot be simultaneously satisfied, so no massive particle can decay into a single photon.

Example 3.4

(a)

The total 4-momentum is conserved, so

lab

$$p_1 = \gamma m_p u \quad \leftarrow \quad p_2 = -\gamma m_p u$$

$$\sum \vec{p}_{\text{after}} = 0 \quad 2\gamma_u m c^2 = E_{p_1} + E_{p_2} + E_\pi$$

The minimum total kinetic energy for the reaction to occur is when $E_{p_1} = E_{p_2} = m_p c^2$, $E_\pi = m_\pi c^2$

$$E_{k,\min} = 2(\gamma_u - 1)m_p c^2 = m_\pi c^2$$

(b)

If one of the protons is stationary, denote the speed of the incident proton v , and transfer to zero momentum frame, which is reduced to the scenario in (a).

$$E'_k = 2(\gamma_u - 1)m_p c^2 = m_\pi c^2$$

transform back into lab frame by a Lorentz boost of u_r ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ZMF energies)} \quad E'_1 = E'_2 &= \frac{m_\pi c^2}{2} + m_p c^2 = \cosh(\psi_u) m_p c^2 \\ E_1 &= \cosh(\psi_u + \psi_{u_r}) m_p c^2 \\ E_2 &= \cosh(\psi_u - \psi_{u_r}) m_p c^2 \end{aligned}$$

For one of the particles to become stationary, simply require $u_r = u$, which gives minimum kinetic energy in lab frame

$$\begin{aligned} E_k &= \gamma_v m_p c^2 - m_p c^2 \\ E_k &= \left(2 \cosh^2(\psi_u) - 1 \right) m_p c^2 - m_p c^2 \\ E_k &= \left[2 \left(\frac{m_\pi}{2m_p} + 1 \right)^2 - 1 \right] m_p c^2 - m_p c^2 \\ E_k &= \left[\frac{m_\pi^2}{2m_p^2} + \frac{2m_\pi}{m_p} + 1 \right] m_p c^2 - m_p c^2 \\ E_k &= \left(\frac{m_\pi}{2m_p} + 2 \right) m_\pi c^2 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.5

(a)

The second field equation consists of even permutations of $\sigma\mu\nu$, a field equation of odd permutations can be generated using antisymmetry of $F_{\mu\nu}$.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{antisymmetry} & \implies \\ \text{sum together} & \implies \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \partial_\sigma F_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu F_{\nu\sigma} + \partial_\nu F_{\sigma\mu} = 0 \\ -\partial_\sigma F_{\nu\mu} - \partial_\mu F_{\sigma\nu} - \partial_\nu F_{\mu\sigma} = 0 \\ \partial_{[\sigma} F_{\mu\nu]} = 0 \end{array}$$

(b)

The second field equation, in the form in (a), allows us to write $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$, then the first equation can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu(\partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu) &= \mu_0 j^\nu \\ \partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu &= \mu_0 j^\nu \end{aligned}$$

Where Lorentz gauge $\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$ was used. Definitions of the electric and magnetic fields through $A^\mu = \left(\frac{\phi}{c}, \vec{A}\right)$ are

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \nabla \phi \qquad \vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}$$

We derive Maxwell's equations one by one

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \nabla \cdot \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \phi$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} - \nabla^2 \phi$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^0 c$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = c^2 \mu_0 \rho = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \vec{e}_i \epsilon_{kij} \partial_j \epsilon_{kmn} \partial_m A^n$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \vec{e}_i (\delta_{im} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{in} \delta_{jm}) \partial_j \partial_m A^n$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) - \nabla^2 \vec{A}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = \nabla \cdot \nabla \times \vec{A}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = \partial_i \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j A^k$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_i \partial_j A^k$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \nabla \times \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \nabla \times \nabla \cdot \phi$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} - \vec{e}_i \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j \partial_k \phi$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \vec{B} &= \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \nabla \phi}{\partial t} + \partial_\mu \partial^\mu \vec{A} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} \\ \nabla \times \vec{B} &= \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \mu_0 \vec{J} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} \\ \boxed{\nabla \times \vec{B} &= \mu_0 \vec{J} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}}\end{aligned}$$

(c)

The electric and magnetic fields

$$\vec{E} = -c F^{0i} \vec{e}_i \quad \vec{B} = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} F^{jk} \vec{e}_i \implies F^{ij} = -\epsilon^{ijk} B^k$$

are not tensors, but $F^{\mu\nu}$ is a tensor, so the components in two frames are related by

$$F'^{\mu\nu} = \Lambda^\mu_\rho \Lambda^\nu_\sigma F^{\rho\sigma}$$

where

$$\Lambda^\rho_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\beta\gamma & & \\ -\beta\gamma & \gamma & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{\rho\nu}$$

Working in natural units $c = 1$ to simplify expressions

$$\begin{aligned}F'^{ij} &= \begin{pmatrix} -\beta\gamma E^1 & -\gamma E^1 & -\gamma E^2 + \beta\gamma B^3 & -\gamma E^3 - \beta\gamma B^2 \\ \gamma E^1 & -\beta\gamma E^1 & \gamma\beta E^2 - \gamma B^3 & \gamma\beta E^3 + \gamma B^2 \\ E^2 & B^3 & 0 & -B^1 \\ E^3 & -B^2 & B^1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\beta\gamma & & \\ -\beta\gamma & \gamma & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\gamma^2(1 - \beta^2)E^1 & -\gamma(E^2 + \beta B^3) & -\gamma(E^3 - \beta B^2) \\ \gamma^2(1 - \beta^2)E^1 & 0 & \gamma(\beta E^2 - B^3) & \gamma(\beta E^3 + B^2) \\ \gamma(E^2 - \beta B^3) & \gamma(B^3 - \beta E^2) & 0 & -B^1 \\ \gamma(E^3 + \beta B^2) & -\gamma(B^2 + \beta E^3) & B^1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Sub in $\gamma^2(1 - \beta^2) = 1$. Reading off values for \vec{E} and \vec{B} , and putting back c ,

$$\vec{E} = \begin{pmatrix} E^1 \\ \gamma(E^2 - vB^3) \\ \gamma(E^3 + vB^2) \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{B} = \begin{pmatrix} B^1 \\ \gamma(B^2 + \frac{v}{c^2}E^3) \\ \gamma(B^3 - \frac{v}{c^2}E^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

(d)

The squared moduli of the fields are

$$\begin{aligned}
|\vec{E}|^2 &= c^2 F^{0i} F^{0i} \\
|\vec{B}|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{imn} F^{jk} F^{mn} \\
|\vec{B}|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} (\delta_{jm} \delta_{kn} - \delta_{jn} \delta_{km}) F^{jk} F^{mn} \\
|\vec{B}|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} (F^{mk} F^{mk} - F^{nk} F^{kn}) \\
|\vec{B}|^2 &= \frac{1}{2} F^{mk} F^{mk} \\
F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} &= F^{00} F_{00} + F^{0i} F_{0i} + F^{i0} F_{i0} + F^{mk} F_{mk} \\
F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} &= 0 - 2 \frac{|\vec{E}|^2}{c^2} + 2 |\vec{B}|^2 \\
c^2 |\vec{B}|^2 - |E^2| &= \frac{c^2 F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

The speed of light and the contraction of two tensors are both invariant. Therefore, $c^2 |\vec{B}|^2 - |E^2|$ is an invariant quantity.

Example 3.6

The spacetime interval of an infinitesimal section of the worldline of the satellite is invariant

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

In the weak-field approximation, $g_{00} \approx (1 + \frac{2\Phi}{c^2}) = -g_{11}$

$$\begin{aligned}
ds^2 &= \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right) (c^2 dt_0^2 - dx_0^2) = c^2 d\tau_C^2 \\
\frac{1}{\gamma_u} \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} dt_0 &= d\tau_C
\end{aligned}$$

Where τ_C is the proper time measured by clock on the satellite, and t_0 the time measured at a point $\Phi = 0$ in Earth's rest frame S_0 . Similarly, the proper time measured by the clock at North Pole, which is at rest in S_0 frame, satisfies

$$ds^2 = \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(R)}{c^2}\right) (c^2 dt_0^2) = c^2 d\tau_{C0}^2$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(R)}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} dt_0 = d\tau_{C0}$$

Finally, substituting in $u^2 = \frac{GMm}{r}$ from Newtonian dynamics,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta\tau_C}{\Delta\tau_{C0}} &\approx \frac{1}{\gamma_u} \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(R)}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\approx \left(1 + \frac{\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 + \frac{2\Phi(R)}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\approx 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\Phi(r)}{c^2} + \frac{2\Phi(r)}{c^2} - \frac{2\Phi(R)}{c^2} \right] \\ &\approx 1 + \frac{3GMm}{2rc^2} - \frac{GMm}{Rc^2} \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.7

The two line elements imply metrics

$$g_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 & \\ & y^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad g_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} y & \\ & x \end{pmatrix}$$

respectively. Exploiting the diagonality of the metrics, the only nonzero entries of the connections are

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{bc}^a &= \frac{1}{2} g^{ae} (\partial_b g_{ce} + \partial_c g_{be} - \partial_e g_{bc}) \\ \text{first manifold} \quad \Gamma_{xx}^x &= \frac{1}{x}, \quad \Gamma_{yy}^y = \frac{1}{y} \\ \text{second manifold} \quad \Gamma_{yy}^x &= -\frac{1}{2x}, \quad \Gamma_{xx}^y = -\frac{1}{2y} \end{aligned}$$

yielding curvature tensors

$$\begin{aligned} R_{abc}{}^d &= -\partial_a \Gamma_{bc}^d + \partial_b \Gamma_{ac}^d + \Gamma_{ac}^e \Gamma_{be}^d - \Gamma_{bc}^e \Gamma_{ae}^d \\ \text{first manifold} \quad R_{xxx}{}^x &= 0, \quad R_{yyy}{}^y = 0 &\implies R_{abc}{}^d = 0 \\ \text{second manifold} \quad R_{xyy}{}^x &= -\partial_x \Gamma_{yy}^x = \frac{1}{2x^2} &\implies R_{abc}{}^d \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the first manifold is flat and the second is intrinsically curved.

Example 3.8

(a)

$$R_{abcd} = g_{de} \left(-\partial_a \Gamma_{bc}^e + \partial_b \Gamma_{ac}^e + \Gamma_{ac}^f \Gamma_{bf}^e - \Gamma_{bc}^f \Gamma_{af}^e \right)$$

Using the symmetries

$$R_{abcd} = -R_{bacd} \quad R_{abcd} = R_{cdab} \quad R_{[abc]d} = 0$$

In 2D there are 16 components in total,

$$12 \text{ components of the form } R_{11..} = R_{22..} = R_{..11} = R_{..22} = 0$$

$$\text{Remaining 4 components are related by } R_{1221} = -R_{2121} = -R_{1212} = R_{2112}$$

Therefore on the 2-sphere there is only one independent component, which we can choose to be R_{1212}

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\theta\phi\theta\phi} &= \sin^2 \theta (-\partial_\theta \cot \theta + \partial_\phi 0 + 0 - \cot \theta \cot \theta) \\ &= \sin^2 \theta \left(\frac{\sec^2 \theta}{\tan^2 \theta} - \frac{1}{\tan^2 \theta} \right) \\ &= \sin^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

(b)

The equation of geodesic deviation can be lowered to

$$g_{ea} \frac{D}{Du} \frac{D\xi^e}{Du} = R_{dbca} \frac{dx^b}{du} \frac{dx^c}{du} \xi^d$$

Substituting in $\xi^a = (0, \delta)^T$, $x^b = (\pi u, 0)^T$, the ϕ components of the left and tight hand sides are

$$\begin{aligned} &g_{\phi\phi} \pi \left(\partial_\theta \frac{D\xi^\phi}{Du} + \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi \frac{D\xi^\phi}{Du} \right) && R_{dbc\phi} \frac{dx^b}{du} \frac{dx^c}{du} \xi^d \\ &= \sin^2 \theta \pi \left(\partial_\theta \pi \left(\partial_\theta \delta + \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi \delta \right) + \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi \pi \left(\partial_\theta \delta + \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi \delta \right) \right) && = R_{\phi\theta\theta\phi} \frac{d\theta}{du} \frac{d\theta}{du} \delta \\ &= \sin^2 \theta \pi^2 \delta (\partial_\theta \cot \theta + \cot \theta \cot \theta) && = -\sin^2(\theta) \pi^2 \delta \\ &= \sin^2 \theta \pi^2 \delta \left(-\frac{\sec^2 \theta}{\tan^2 \theta} + \cot \theta \cot \theta \right) && = -\sin^2(\theta) \pi^2 \delta \\ &= -\sin^2 \theta \pi^2 \delta && = -\sin^2(\theta) \pi^2 \delta \end{aligned}$$

The θ components are

$$\begin{aligned}
 & g_{\theta\theta}\pi\left(\partial_\theta\frac{D\xi^\theta}{Du} + \Gamma_{\theta d}^\theta\frac{D\xi^d}{Du}\right) & R_{dbc\theta}\frac{dx^b}{du}\frac{dx^c}{du}\xi^d \\
 & = \pi\left(\partial_\theta\pi\left(\partial_\theta 0 + \Gamma_{\theta d}^\theta\frac{D\xi^d}{Du}\right) + 0\right) & = 0 \\
 & = 0 & = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Indeed both components satisfy the equation of geodesic deviation.

Example 3.9

(a)

In Newtonian gravity,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d^2x^i}{dt^2} &= -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x^i} \\
 \frac{d^2\bar{x}^i}{dt^2} &= -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \\
 \frac{d^2\zeta^i}{dt^2} &= -\left(\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial \bar{x}^i} - \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x^i}\right) \\
 \frac{d^2\zeta^i}{dt^2} &\approx -\zeta^j\frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}\left(\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x^i}\right) \\
 \frac{d^2\zeta^i}{dt^2} &\approx -\frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x^i\partial x^j}\zeta^j
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

Starting with the equation of geodesic deviation, using $\frac{D(\hat{e}_\alpha)^\mu}{D\tau} = 0$ for parallel transported vectors

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{D}{D\tau}\frac{D\xi^\mu}{D\tau} &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^\mu\frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau}\frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau}\xi^\nu \\
 \frac{D}{D\tau}\frac{D(\xi^{\hat{a}}(\hat{e}_\alpha)^\mu)}{D\tau} &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^\mu\frac{dx^\alpha}{d\tau}\frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau}\xi^{\hat{\rho}}(\hat{e}_\rho)^\nu \\
 \frac{D}{D\tau}\left[\frac{dx^\beta}{d\tau}\left(\partial_\beta(\xi^{\hat{a}}(\hat{e}_\alpha)^\mu) + \Gamma_{\beta\nu}^\mu\xi^{\hat{a}}(\hat{e}_\alpha)^\nu\right)\right] &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^\mu u^\alpha u^\beta \xi^{\hat{\rho}}(\hat{e}_\rho)^\nu
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{D}{D\tau} \left[\xi^{\hat{\alpha}} \frac{dx^{\beta}}{d\tau} \left(\overbrace{\partial_{\beta}(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu} + \Gamma_{\beta\nu}^{\mu}(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\nu}}^{\frac{D(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu}}{D\tau}=0} \right) + (\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu} \frac{dx^{\beta}}{d\tau} \partial_{\beta} \xi^{\hat{\alpha}} \right] &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^{\mu} u^{\alpha} u^{\beta} \xi^{\hat{\rho}} (\hat{e}_{\rho})^{\nu} \\
\xi^{\hat{\alpha}} \frac{D(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu}}{D\tau} + (\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu} \frac{d}{d\tau} \frac{d\xi^{\hat{\alpha}}}{d\tau} &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^{\mu} u^{\alpha} u^{\beta} \xi^{\hat{\rho}} (\hat{e}_{\rho})^{\nu} \\
(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu} \frac{d^2 \xi^{\hat{\alpha}}}{d\tau^2} &= c^2 R_{\nu\alpha\beta}{}^{\mu} (\hat{e}_0)^{\alpha} (\hat{e}_0)^{\beta} \xi^{\hat{\rho}} (\hat{e}_{\rho})^{\nu}
\end{aligned}$$

As promised by Fermi, the general intrinsic derivative can be reduced to a simple derivative in a local-inertial coordinate system in the vicinity of a time-like geodesic.

(c)

In the weak field, time-independent Newtonian limit, assume $(\hat{e}_{\alpha})^{\mu} \approx \delta_{\alpha}^{\mu}$, $\tau \approx t + O((\frac{u}{c})^2)$, $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$, the equation of geodesic deviation becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d^2 \xi^{\mu}}{dt^2} &\approx c^2 R_{\nu 00}{}^{\mu} \xi^{\nu} \\
\frac{d^2 \xi^{\mu}}{dt^2} &\approx \eta^{\gamma\mu} \frac{c^2}{2} \left(\partial_{\nu} \partial_{\gamma} h_{00} + \frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t \partial_t h_{\gamma\nu} - \frac{1}{c} \partial_t \partial_{\gamma} h_{0\nu} - \frac{1}{c} \partial_t \partial_{\nu} h_{\gamma 0} \right) \xi^{\nu} \\
\frac{d^2 \xi^i}{dt^2} &\approx \frac{c^2}{2} \left[\frac{1}{c} (\partial_i \partial_t h_{00}) \xi^t - (\partial_i \partial_j h_{00}) \xi^j \right] \\
\frac{d^2 \xi^i}{dt^2} &\approx - \frac{\partial^2 (c^2 h_{00}/2)}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \xi^j
\end{aligned}$$

which is of the same form as the expression in (a).

Example Sheet 4

Example 4.1 Killing's equation

Given the metric components g'_{ab} are invariant under infinitesimal coordinate transformation $x^a \rightarrow x^a + \xi^a$, remembering $\nabla_a g_{bc} = 0$, retaining up to first order only,

$$\begin{aligned}
 g'_{cd}(x') dx'^c dx'^d &= g_{ab}(x) dx^a dx^b \\
 g'_{cd}(x') &= \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial x'^c} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial x'^d} g_{ab}(x) \\
 g'_{cd}(x') &= \left(\delta_c^a - \frac{\partial \xi^a}{\partial x^c} \right) \left(\delta_d^b - \frac{\partial \xi^b}{\partial x^d} \right) g_{ab}(x) \\
 \text{invariance} \implies g_{cd}(x) + \xi^e \partial_e g_{cd} &= \left(\delta_c^a \delta_d^b - \frac{\partial \xi^a}{\partial x^c} \delta_d^b - \frac{\partial \xi^b}{\partial x^d} \delta_c^a \right) g_{ab}(x) \\
 -\xi^e \partial_e g_{cd} &= \frac{\partial \xi^a}{\partial x^c} g_{ad} + \frac{\partial \xi^b}{\partial x^d} g_{cb} \\
 -\xi^e \partial_e g_{cd} &= (\nabla_c \xi^a - \Gamma_{ce}^a \xi^e) g_{ad} + (\nabla_d \xi^b - \Gamma_{de}^b \xi^e) g_{cb} \\
 \text{Rename some indices} \quad -\xi^e \partial_e g_{cd} &= \nabla_c \xi_d + \nabla_d \xi_c - (g_{ad} \Gamma_{ce}^a + g_{ac} \Gamma_{de}^a) \xi^e \\
 \boxed{\nabla_c \xi_d + \nabla_d \xi_c} &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

where from the second-to-last line to the last line the following was used:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_e g_{cd} - g_{ad} \Gamma_{ce}^a - g_{ac} \Gamma_{de}^a &= \nabla_e g_{cd} = 0 \\
 (g_{ad} \Gamma_{ce}^a + g_{ac} \Gamma_{de}^a) \xi^e &= \xi^e \partial_e g_{cd}
 \end{aligned}$$

If the spacetime metric is independent of x^0 , we have $(\mathbf{e}_0)^a = \delta_0^a \implies (\mathbf{e}_0)_b = g_{ba} \delta_0^a = g_{b0}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla_b (\mathbf{e}_0)_a + \nabla_a (\mathbf{e}_0)_b &= \nabla_b g_{a0} + \nabla_a g_{b0} \\
 &= \partial_b g_{a0} + \partial_a g_{b0} - \Gamma_{ba}^c g_{c0} - \Gamma_{ab}^c g_{c0} \\
 &= \partial_b g_{a0} + \partial_a g_{b0} - \delta_0^d (\partial_a g_{db} + \partial_b g_{da} - \partial_d g_{ab}) \\
 &= \partial_b g_{a0} + \partial_a g_{b0} - \partial_a g_{0b} - \partial_b g_{0a} + \underbrace{\partial_0 g_{ab}}_0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Indeed \mathbf{e}_0 satisfies Killing's equation.

If \mathbf{t} is the tangent vector to a geodesic affinely-parameterised by τ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 t^a &= \frac{dx^a}{d\tau} \\
 \frac{D(\xi_a t^a)}{D\tau} &= t^b (\nabla_b (\xi_a t^a))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{D(\xi_a t^a)}{D\tau} &= t^b t^a \nabla_b \xi_a + t^b \xi_a \nabla_b t^a \\ \frac{D(\xi_a t^a)}{D\tau} &= \overbrace{t^b t^a}^{\text{symmetric}} \overbrace{\nabla_b \xi_a}^{\text{antisymmetric}} = 0\end{aligned}$$

The intrinsic derivative of $\xi_a t^a$ is thus 0. Since $\xi_a t^a$ is a scalar, the intrinsic derivative coincides with the directional derivative along the curve. Therefore, $\xi_a t^a$ is constant along the geodesic.

Example 4.2 Dilation on a satellite

(a)

The Euler-Lagrange equation for the Lagrangian $L = g_{\mu\nu} \dot{x}^\mu \dot{x}^\nu$ is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \left[c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right) \dot{t}^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-1} \dot{r}^2 - r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 - r^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2 \right] &= \\ \frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}^\mu} \left[c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right) \dot{t}^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-1} \dot{r}^2 - r^2 \dot{\theta}^2 - r^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2 \right] &= \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{2\mu}{r^2} c^2 \dot{t}^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-2} \frac{2\mu}{r^2} \dot{r}^2 - 2r(\dot{\theta}^2 + \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2) \\ -2r^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \dot{\phi}^2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right) \ddot{t} + 2c^2 \frac{2\mu}{r^2} \dot{r} \dot{t} \\ -2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-1} \ddot{r} + 2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-2} \frac{2\mu}{r^2} \dot{r}^2 \\ -4r\dot{r}\dot{\theta} - 2r^2 \ddot{\theta} \\ -4r\dot{r} \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi} - 4r^2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \dot{\theta} \dot{\phi} - 2r^2 \sin^2 \theta \ddot{\phi} \end{pmatrix} &= \end{aligned}$$

Formally, the geodesic equation is

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}^\mu \nabla_\mu \dot{x}^\nu &= 0 \\ \ddot{x}^\nu + \Gamma_{\mu\gamma}^\nu \dot{x}^\mu \dot{x}^\gamma &= 0\end{aligned}$$

The only nonzero coefficients can then be read off from the vector equation

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{rt}^t &= \frac{1}{\frac{r^2}{\mu} - 2r} \\ \Gamma_{tt}^r &= \frac{\mu c^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right) & \Gamma_{rr}^r &= - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r} \right)^{-1} \frac{\mu}{r^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Gamma_{\theta\theta}^r &= -\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)r & \Gamma_{\phi\phi}^r &= -\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)r \sin^2 \theta \\
\Gamma_{r\theta}^\theta &= \frac{1}{r} & \Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\theta &= -\sin \theta \cos \theta \\
\Gamma_{r\phi}^\phi &= \frac{1}{r} & \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi &= \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

The spacetime interval of an infinitesimal section of the worldline of the satellite is equal in all frames. Wlog, put the free falling satellite in a geodesic of constant r and constant $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$. The proper time on the satellite and the Schwarzschild metric time are related by

$$\begin{aligned}
ds^2 &= g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu \\
c^2 d\tau^2 &= c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) dt^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 - r^2 d\theta^2 - r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 \\
c^2 d\tau^2 &= c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) dt^2 - r^2 d\phi^2
\end{aligned}$$

The geodesic equation is

$$\begin{aligned}
-\dot{\phi}^2 r \sin^2 \theta + \dot{t}^2 \frac{\mu c^2}{r^2} &= 0 \\
\dot{\phi}^2 &= \dot{t}^2 \frac{\mu c^2}{r^3}
\end{aligned}$$

Combining both above

$$\begin{aligned}
c^2 &= \left[c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) - \frac{\mu}{r} c^2 \right] \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau} \right)^2 \\
\frac{dt}{d\tau} &= \left(1 - \frac{3\mu}{r}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

The clock at rest at the north pole has $\theta = 0, \phi = 0, r = R$, its spacetime interval is

$$c^2 d\tau_0^2 = c^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right) dt^2$$

Therefore, the proper times of both clocks are related by

$$\frac{\Delta\tau}{\Delta\tau_0} = \frac{d\tau}{d\tau_0} = \left(1 - \frac{3\mu}{r}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

This result coincides with the weak field limit when $\mu = \frac{GM}{c^2}$.

Example 4.3 Red shift

The frequency and energy of the photon as observed by Bob the falling emitter are related by

$$h\nu_e = E_e = g_{\mu\nu}v^\mu(r_e)p^\nu$$

where p is the 4-momentum of the photon and $\mathbf{v} = \frac{d\mathbf{x}_B}{d\tau}$ is the 4-velocity of Bob. For a massive body like Bob, $v^\mu v_\mu = c^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} c^2 &= g_{\mu\nu}(r)v^\mu(r)v^\nu(r) \\ c^2 &= \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)v^t v^t - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1}v^r v^r \end{aligned}$$

The geodesic equation is satisfied by v^μ , it can be used to solve for the components of v , which can only be nonzero in r and t for a radially infalling particle.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{dv^\mu}{d\tau} + \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu v^\alpha v^\beta \\ 0 &= \frac{r^2}{\mu} \frac{dv^r}{d\tau} + \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)v^t v^t - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1}v^r v^r \\ 0 &= \frac{r^2}{\mu} v^r \frac{dv^r}{dr} + c^2 \\ -\mu c^2 \frac{1}{r^2} dr &= v^r dv^r \\ v^r &= -\sqrt{2\mu c^2 \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{R}\right)} \\ v^t &= c \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} \sqrt{1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}} \end{aligned}$$

The energy of the photon observed by Bob can now be explicitly written as

$$\begin{aligned} E_e &= c\sqrt{1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}}p^t + c\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1}\sqrt{2\mu\frac{R-r}{Rr}}p^r \\ p^r p^r \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} &= p^t p^t \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) \\ p^t &= p^r \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} \\ E_e &= \left[\sqrt{1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}} + \sqrt{2\mu\frac{R-r}{Rr}}\right] \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} c p^r \end{aligned}$$

The photon momentum is parallel transported along its trajectory, using the fact t and r are the only varying coordinates,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{dp^\mu}{d\lambda} + \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu p^\alpha p^\beta \\ \frac{dp^r}{d\lambda} &= -\Gamma_{tt}^r p^t p^t - \Gamma_{rr}^r p^r p^r \\ \frac{dp^r}{d\lambda} &= -\frac{\mu}{r^2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) p^t p^t - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} p^r p^r \right] \\ \frac{dp^r}{d\lambda} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where λ is an affine parameter such that $p^\lambda = \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda}$ and in the last line $p^\mu p_\mu = 0$ was used. Therefore, p^r is a constant along the null geodesic. The energy of the photon observed by Alice is thus related to that observed by Bob by

$$\begin{aligned} p^t(R) &= \sqrt{-\frac{g_{rr}}{g_{tt}}} p_R^r = \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right)^{-1} p^r(R) \\ E_R &= p^t(R) u_R^t \\ u_R^t &= c \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ E_R &= \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} c p_r \\ \frac{E_E}{E_R} &= \left(\sqrt{1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}} + \sqrt{2\mu \frac{R-r}{Rr}} \right) \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{R}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Example 4.4 Impact parameter

Starting with $p_\mu p^\mu = 0$ for a photon in the equatorial plane

$$\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) c^2 \dot{t}^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} \dot{r}^2 - r^2 \dot{\phi}^2 = 0$$

Since $g_{\mu\nu}$ is independent of t and ϕ , the first integrals of two corresponding components of the geodesic equation are constants

$$\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) \dot{t} = k \quad r^2 \dot{\phi} = h$$

A light ray “grazes” the surface of a massive sphere at r , so $\dot{r}(r) = \frac{dr}{d\phi} \dot{\phi} = 0$. Substituting in,

$$0 = k^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} c^2 - \frac{h^2}{r^2}$$

$$\frac{h}{ck} = r \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Assume $\phi \rightarrow 0$ (and hence $\dot{\phi} \rightarrow 0$) as $r \rightarrow \infty$. The impact parameter b is defined as

$$b \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r \sin \phi$$

Noticing

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \left[k^2 \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} c^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} \dot{r}^2 - \frac{h^2}{r^2} \right] &= 0 \\ \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} [k^2 c^2 - \dot{r}^2] &= 0 \\ \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \dot{r} &= ck \end{aligned}$$

The impact parameter can be calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\dot{\phi} \cos \phi}{\dot{r}/r^2} \\ b &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r^2 \dot{\phi}}{\dot{r}} \\ b &= \frac{h}{ck} = r \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

For the sun, $M_{\odot} = 2 \times 10^{30}$ kg, $R_{\odot} = 7 \times 10^8$ m,

$$\begin{aligned} b - r &\approx \frac{r}{2} \frac{2\mu}{r} = \mu \\ b - r &\approx \frac{GM_{\odot}}{c^2} \\ b - r &\approx 2.97 \times 10^3 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

The light rays coming tangentially from the edge of the Sun will cast a image of radius b at infinity (ignoring diffraction). The Sun will seem bigger by about 3 km in radius.

Example 4.5 Schwarzschild blackhole

Consider the Schwarzschild metric

$$ds^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) c^2 dt^2 - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 - r^2 d\theta^2 - r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

In region 2 where $r < 2\mu$, the proper time change $\Delta\tau$ between entering region 2 and reaching the origin

$$\begin{aligned}
c^2 d\tau^2 &= \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right) c^2 dt^2}_{<0} - \left(1 - \frac{2\mu}{r}\right)^{-1} dr^2 - \underbrace{r^2 \dot{\theta}^2}_{\leq 0} - \underbrace{r^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{\phi}^2}_{\leq 0} \\
c d\tau &< \left(\frac{2\mu}{r} - 1\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (-dr) \\
\Delta\tau &< -\frac{2\mu}{c} \int_1^0 \sqrt{\frac{r/2\mu}{1 - r/2\mu}} d\left(\frac{r}{2\mu}\right) \\
\Delta\tau &< \frac{2\mu}{c} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \\
\Delta\tau &< \frac{\pi\mu}{c}
\end{aligned}$$

is always less than $\frac{\pi\mu}{c}$.