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Theoretical Physics

On differential geometry:

manifolds and all that

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Study notes taken during the master degree

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Part I

Manifolds

Chapter 1

Manifolds and tensors

1.1 Differentiable Manifolds

A differential manifold \mathcal{M} is a topological space which looks locally like \mathbb{R}^N .

In a topological space, the notions of contiguity and continuity are well defined. A topological space $(\mathcal{M}, \{A_i\})$ is a set of points \mathcal{M} in which is defined a family of open sets $\{A_i\}$ such that $\{\emptyset, \mathcal{M}, \cup_i A_i, \cap_{i<\infty} A_i\} \in \{A_i\}$. In particular, an Hausssdorf space has the property that $\forall P, Q \in \mathcal{M} \quad \exists U \in P, V \in Q \quad : \quad U \cap V = \emptyset$. Two points are contiguous if they belong to the same open subset, called neighbourhood. A map is an application $\phi: D \subset \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. In a topological space, a map is continuous if maps open sets into open sets.

A chart is a pair A, ϕ , where $A \subset \mathcal{M}$ and $\phi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ invertible continuous, which associates a set of n real coordinates $x^i = \phi$ for the open set A . An atlas is a collection of charts that covers entirely the manifold $\mathcal{A} = \{(A_i, \phi_i)\} : \cup_i A_i \supseteq \mathcal{M}$. A consistency map between two charts ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 , over a point $P \in A_1 \cap A_2$, is $\phi: \phi(A_2) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \psi(A_2) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ invertible such that $\psi(\phi_1(P)) = \phi_2(P)$ or $(\phi_2^{-1} \circ \psi \circ \phi_1) = \mathbb{I}$ or, equivalently, $\psi^{-1}(\phi_2(P)) = \phi_1(P)$ or $(\phi_1^{-1} \circ \psi \circ \phi_2) = \mathbb{I}$. ψ is a change of coordinates in \mathbb{R}^n . It follows that the dimension n must be the same for all charts, hence it is the dimension of the manifold. If $\psi \in C^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, the manifold is a p -differentiable manifold.

A manifold is an equivalence class of atlases, where two atlases are equivalent if there exists a bijective correspondence between them.

1.2 Curves

A curve is a continuous map $\gamma: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$. Introducing a chart $\phi \circ \gamma: I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, or $x^i = x^i(\lambda)$, where λ is a real parameter. If $x^i(\lambda) \in C^p(\mathbb{R})$, then *gamma* is p -differentiable. A reparameterization $\gamma' = \gamma'(\gamma)$ defines a different curve, although the images of the curves coincide.

1.3 Scalars

A function is a map $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Introducing a chart $f \circ \phi^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, or $f = f(x^i)$. If ϕ' is another chart, then $f'(x'(P)) = f(x(P))$, showing that it is indeed a scalar.

1.4 Vectors

A vector at a point $P \in \mathcal{M}$ is a map that associates to the derivative to a function defined in a neighbourhood of P $v_\gamma: f \rightarrow v_\gamma(f) = \left. \frac{df}{d\lambda} \right|_{\lambda_P} \in \mathbb{R}$, where $\gamma(\lambda_P) = P$. Introducing a chart

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\gamma, P}(f) &= \left. \frac{d(f \circ \gamma)}{d\lambda} \right|_{\lambda_P} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{d\lambda} (f \circ \mathbb{I} \circ \gamma) \right|_{\lambda_P} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{d\lambda} (f \circ \phi^{-1} \circ \phi \circ \gamma) \right|_{\lambda_P} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{d\lambda} (f(x^i) \circ x^i(\lambda)) \right|_{\lambda_P} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{d\lambda} f(x^i(\lambda)) \right|_{\lambda_P} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

and since it is true $\forall f$

$$v_\gamma = dv\lambda = \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \quad (1.1)$$

which means that a vector is the tangent to a curve γ at a point P .

By definition a vector is a linear functional

$$v_\gamma(af + bg) = \frac{d}{d\lambda}(af + bg) = a \frac{df}{d\lambda} + b \frac{dg}{d\lambda}$$

From (1.1)

$$v = \underbrace{\frac{dx^i}{d\lambda}}_{v_i} \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}}_{e_i} = v^i e_i$$

where v^i are the components and e_i are the coordinate basis vectors, whose vectors tangent to the coordinate line defined by constant x^j for $i \neq j$.

Under a change of coordinates

$$y^i = y^i(x^j)$$

components transform by

$$v^i = \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^{j'}} \frac{dy^{j'}}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^{j'}} v^{j'}$$

and basis vectors transform by

$$e_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = \frac{\partial y^{j'}}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^{j'}} = \frac{\partial y^{j'}}{\partial x^i} e_{j'}$$

Remember that components transform but basis change too, inversely, then the vector remains the same.

A vector field in an open set $U \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ is map from each point $P \in U$ into a vector $v(P)$. Introducing a chart, $v(x^i) = v \circ \phi^{-1}$.

The coordinate vectors $e_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ form a basis of a linear space composed by all the vectors tangent to a point P , called the tangent space T_P .

Proof. First, every tangent vector can be expressed as linear combination.

Consider two curves, parametrized by λ and σ , across a point P which generate two vectors $v = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda}$ and $w = \frac{d}{d\sigma}$. Hence, a generic linear combination of them

$$av + bw = a \frac{d}{d\lambda} + b \frac{d}{d\sigma} = a \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + b \frac{dx^i}{d\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = \left(a \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \lambda} + b \frac{dx^i}{d\sigma} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = \left(a \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \lambda} + b \frac{dx^i}{d\sigma} \right) e_i$$

Since there are n coordinates x^i , we have n independent curves.

Second, the coordinate basis vectors are linearly independent.

The determinant of the jacobian matrix of $y^i = y^i(x^j)$ must not vanish

$$\det J = \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial y^1}{\partial x^1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y^1}{\partial x^n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y^n}{\partial x^1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y^n}{\partial x^n} \end{pmatrix}$$

hence, there are n columns (or rows) which are linearly independent and also n basis vector

$$e_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = \frac{\partial y^j}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j}$$

q.e.d.

It is important to remark that coordinate basis vectors at different points belong to different tangent space and cannot be linearly combined.

1.5 Fiber bundles

A tangent bundle is the set of all tangent space at each point together with the manifold itself $\mathcal{TM} = \{\mathcal{M}, \{T_P : \forall P \in \mathcal{M}\}\}$. It can be shown that \mathcal{TM} is a manifold too.

1.6 Exponential map

An integral curve $\gamma = \gamma(\lambda)$ of a vector field V is the curve which as tangent vector $\frac{d}{d\lambda}$ has the element of V in $P \in \gamma$, i.e.

$$V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$$

Introducing a point P_0 and a chart x^i

$$\begin{aligned} V^i(\lambda) &= \frac{dx^i(\lambda)}{d\lambda} \\ x^i(P_0) &= x^i(\lambda_0) \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

which are a system of n Cauchy problems and the components of V at an arbitrary point $P = \phi^{-1}(x^i(\lambda))$ are $V(P) = V^i(x^j(\lambda)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = V^i(\lambda) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$.

Theorems of calculus in \mathbb{R}^n ensure that locally the solution of (1.2) always exists, which is indeed the integral curve $\gamma(\lambda)$.

Formally, the solution of (1.2) is the exponential map

$$x^i(\lambda) = \exp((\lambda - \lambda_0)V)x^i \Big|_{\lambda_0}$$

which describes the flow of V in a neighbourhood of P .

Proof. Let $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ be a vector field with integral curve $\gamma = \gamma(\lambda)$. Introducing a chart x^i and Taylor expanding around P_0 along γ

$$\begin{aligned} x^i(\lambda_0 + \epsilon) &= x^i(\lambda_0) + \epsilon \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda_0} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \frac{d^2 x^i}{d\lambda^2} \Big|_{\lambda_0} + \dots \\ &= \left(1 + \epsilon \frac{d}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda_0} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} \Big|_{\lambda_0} + \dots \right) x^i(\lambda_0) \\ &= \exp\left(\epsilon \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) x^i \Big|_{\lambda_0} \\ &= \exp(\epsilon V) x^i \Big|_{\lambda_0} \end{aligned}$$

q.e.d.

For an arbitrary function f in a neighbourhood of P

$$f(\lambda_0 + \epsilon) = \exp\left(\epsilon \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) f \Big|_{\lambda_0} = \exp(\epsilon V) f \Big|_{\lambda_0}$$

1.7 Lie brackets

Introducing a chart x^i , the Lie brackets of two vector fields $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda} = v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ and $W = \frac{d}{d\mu} = w^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ are

$$\begin{aligned} [V, W] &= \frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu} - \frac{d}{d\mu} \frac{d}{d\lambda} \\ &= v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left(w^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right) - w^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left(v^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right) \\ &= \cancel{v^i w^j \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}} + v^i \frac{\partial w^j}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} - \cancel{v^j w^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}} - w^i \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \\ &= \left(v^i \frac{\partial w^j}{\partial x^i} - w^i \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial x^i} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \end{aligned}$$

where it is used the fact that the partial derivatives commute. Hence the commutator of two vectors is still a vector.

The geometrical meaning of the commutator is the following: consider two vector fields $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ and $W = \frac{d}{d\mu}$. Using the exponential map, the coordinates of A, moving before along V and then along W , are

$$x^i(A) = \exp \left(\epsilon_2 \frac{d}{d\mu} \right) \exp \left(\epsilon_1 \frac{d}{d\lambda} \right) x^i \Big|_P$$

whereas the coordinates of B, moving before along W and then along Y , are

$$x^i(B) = \exp \left(\epsilon_1 \frac{d}{d\lambda} \right) \exp \left(\epsilon_2 \frac{d}{d\mu} \right) x^i \Big|_P$$

Computing the difference

$$x^i(B) - x^i(A) = \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] x^i \Big|_P + O(\epsilon^3)$$

Hence, if the commutator does not vanish, the final points are different $A \neq B$ and the path $PA \cup PB$ does not close.

A sufficient and necessary condition for a set of fields to be coordinate vectors is that their commutator vanishes.

Proof. First, the sufficient condition. Consider two coordinate vector fields $V = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}$ and $W = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^2}$. Then $v^i = \delta^i_1$, $w^j = \delta^j_2$ and the commutator vanishes, since the derivative of a constant is so.

Second, the necessary condition. Consider two commuting vector fields $V = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}$ and $W = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^2}$. Suppose also that they are linearly independent

$$aV(P) + bW(P) = 0 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad a = b = 0. \quad (1.3)$$

Introducing a chart x^i , moving from P along V by $\Delta\lambda = \alpha$ to a point R

$$x^i(R) = \exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) x^i \Big|_P$$

and then along W by $\Delta\mu = \beta$ to a point Q

$$x^i(Q) = \exp\left(\beta \frac{d}{d\mu}\right) \exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) x^i \Big|_P \quad (1.4)$$

If α and β are coordinates, the corresponding basis vectors are $\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial\alpha}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial\beta}$. Hence, using (1.4)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial\alpha} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha} \left(\exp\left(\beta \frac{d}{d\mu}\right) \exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) x^i \Big|_P \right) \\ &= \exp\left(\beta \frac{d}{d\mu}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha} \left(\exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) x^i \Big|_P \right) \\ &= \exp\left(\beta \frac{d}{d\mu}\right) \exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} \Big|_P \end{aligned}$$

and, similarly,

$$\frac{\partial x^i}{\partial\beta} = \exp\left(\beta \frac{d}{d\mu}\right) \exp\left(\alpha \frac{d}{d\lambda}\right) \frac{dx^i}{d\mu} \Big|_P$$

This shows that $\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial\beta}$ are respectively the vector fields $\frac{d}{d\lambda}$ and $\frac{d}{d\mu}$ evaluated in Q , using the fact that the commutator is vanishing. Then the determinant of the Jacobians is not zero

$$\det J = \det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial\alpha} & \frac{\partial x^2}{\partial\alpha} \\ \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial\beta} & \frac{\partial x^2}{\partial\beta} \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$$

since we assumed the linearly independence of $\frac{d}{d\lambda}$ and $\frac{d}{d\mu}$.

q.e.d.

1.8 1-forms

A 1-form is a linear functional w acting on a vector $v: T_P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $w(\alpha v + \beta u) = \alpha w(v) + \beta w(u)$ and $(\alpha w + \beta z)(v) = \alpha w(v) + \beta z(v)$. Linearity implies that the action of a 1-form is completely determined by the action on a basis of T_P . 1-forms acting on the same T_P form a linear space T_P^* , called the cotangent space. A cotangent bundle is the set of all cotangent space at each point together with the manifold itself $\mathcal{T}^*\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{M}, \{T_P^*: \forall P \in \mathcal{M}\}\}$. A 1-form field is a map associates a 1-form of T^*P to each point $P \in \mathcal{M}$.

One way of thinking 1-forms is in the following way: given an arbitrary function, a vector field is defined by $V(f) = \frac{df}{d\lambda}$ whereas given an arbitrary vector field, a 1-form

is defined by $V(f) = \frac{df}{d\lambda} = df(\frac{d}{d\lambda})$. The difference is that in the former V is fixed and f is arbitrary, whereas in the latter f is fixed and V is arbitrary. Introducing a chart x^i

$$\frac{df}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} = \nabla_i f \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} = df_i \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda}$$

where df_i are the components of the 1-form df , called the gradient of f .

Geometrically, the gradient of a function can be seen as the number of contour lines that a vector V crosses in a neighbourhood of P . Generalizing for 1-forms, they can be seen as a set of level surfaces whose action on a vector is the number of surface the vector crosses.

Let $\{e_i\}$ be a basis of T_P . A basis of T_P^* is not related to it, however it is convenient to choose the dual basis, which completely defines a basis of T^*P by a basis in T_P in the following way

$$e^i(e_j) = \delta^i_j \quad (1.5)$$

or, equivalently, applying it to a vector v

$$e^i(v) = e^i(v^j e_j) = v^j e^i(e_j) = v^j \delta^i_j = v^i$$

Consequently, \mathcal{M} , T_P and T_P^* have the same dimension n . $\{e^i\}$ are actually a basis of T_P^* , since given an arbitrary 1-form q

$$q(v) = q(v^i e_i) = v^i q(e_i) = v^i q_i$$

and

$$v^i q_i = q_i e^i(v)$$

Remember that under a change of coordinates, vectors or 1-forms do not change, only their components and basis change, the latter inversely.

Differentials are the basis 1-form dual to the coordinate basis vectors

$$\frac{df}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} dx^i \left(\frac{dx^j}{d\lambda} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{dx^j}{d\lambda} dx^i \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial \lambda} \delta^i_j = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \lambda}$$

where it has been used the dual basis.

1.9 Tensors

A tensor (n, m) at P is a linear functional that maps n 1-forms and m vectors into a real number

$$T: \underbrace{T_P^* \otimes \cdots \otimes T_P^*}_{n \text{ times}} \otimes \underbrace{T_P \otimes \cdots \otimes T_P}_{m \text{ times}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

A tensor can be also seen as the outer product of 1-forms and vectors. A tensor $(1, 0)$ is a vector and a tensor $(0, 1)$ is a 1-form. A tensor (n, m) can be written in terms of the dual basis

$$T = T_{j_1 \cdots j_m}^{i_1 \cdots i_n} e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_n} \otimes e^{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{j_m}$$

where the components are

$$T_{j_1 \dots j_m}^{i_1 \dots i_n} = T(e^{i_1}, \dots, e^{i_n}, e_{j_1}, \dots, e_{j_m})$$

A change of basis is determined by a 4×4 non-degenerate matrix $\Lambda \in GL(n)$. On a vector basis, it acts as

$$e'_j = \Lambda^i_j e_i \quad (1.6)$$

This transformation has no effects on the dual space, however, in order to keep the duality of the basis, it must induce a transformation with the inverse matrix

$$e'^j = \Lambda^j_i e^i$$

Proof. Recalling (1.5), to preserve the duality, also the transformed dual basis must obey

$$e'^i(e'_j) = \delta^i_j \quad (1.7)$$

Hence, given an arbitrary transformation matrix,

$$e'^i = M^i_k e^k$$

and putting into (1.7), using (1.6)

$$\delta^i_j = e'^i(e'_j) = M^i_k e^k(\Lambda^l_j e_l) = M^i_k \Lambda^l_j e^k(e_l) = M^i_k \Lambda^l_j \delta^k_l = M^i_k \Lambda^k_j$$

then, M must satisfy

$$M^i_k \Lambda^k_j = \delta^i_j$$

and it is indeed the inverse matrix.

q.e.d.

It is possible to perform several operations on tensors at P :

1. scalar multiplication, i.e.

$$S^{(n,m)} = aT^{(n,m)} \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}$$

2. addition, i.e.

$$S^{(n,m)} = T^{(n,m)} + Q^{(n,m)}$$

3. outer product, i.e.

$$S^{(n+p,m+q)} = T^{(n,m)} \otimes Q^{(p,q)}$$

4. saturation with 1-forms, i.e.

$$T^{(n-1,m)} = T^{(n,m)}(\dots, w, \dots)$$

5. saturation with vector, i.e.

$$T^{(n,m-1)} = T^{(n,m)}(\dots, v, \dots)$$

The last two can be generalised to an arbitrary saturation of a (n, m) tensor with a $(p < n, q < m)$ tensor.

For a change of basis in the tangent space to correspond a change of coordinates on the manifold, the transformation matrix must obey the condition

$$\frac{\partial \Lambda^j_i}{\partial x^k} = \frac{\partial \Lambda^j_k}{\partial x^i} \quad (1.8)$$

Proof. Consider two charts x^i and y^i that overlap at P . The transformation matrix between basis is

$$\Lambda^i_j = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j}$$

and the inverse is

$$\Lambda^j_i = \frac{\partial y^j}{\partial x^i}$$

If we move continuously to another point Q insider the charts, the matrix transformation will become a field $\Lambda(Q) = \Lambda(x^i(Q)) = \Lambda(y^i(Q))$ and, since the partial derivatives commute

$$\frac{\partial \Lambda^j_i}{\partial x^k} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} p d y^j x^i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} p d y^j x^k = \frac{\partial \Lambda^j_k}{\partial x^i}$$

q.e.d.

1.10 Metric tensor

The notions of lenght and angles on a manifold can be introduced with the metric tensor.

A metric tensor g is a $(2, 0)$ tensor which maps two vectors into a real number, satisfying the following properties

1. symmetry, i.e.

$$g(v, w) = g(w, v) = g(v^i e_i, w^j e_j) = g(e_i, e_j) v^i w^j = g_{ij} v^i w^j \quad \forall v, w \in T_P$$

2. non-degeneracy, i.i

$$g(v, w) = 0 \quad \forall w \in T_P \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad v = 0$$

or, equivalently, if $\det g_{ij} \neq 0$

A metric tensor defines a scalar product

$$g(v, w) = v \cdot w$$

and introduces the notions of norm of a vector

$$v^2 = g(v, v) = v \cdot v = g_{ij}v^i v^j$$

and angle between two vectors

$$g(v, w) = vw \cos \theta$$

Although, the latter only with Riemannian metrics.

The metric tensor, under a change of basis Λ , change

$$g' = \Lambda^T g \Lambda$$

where $g'_{ij} = g(e'_i, e'_j)$. Since it is symmetric, it can be always possible to find two matrices $O^{-1} = O^T$ and $D = D^T = \text{diag}(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|g^{(diag)}_{ii}|}})$ such that

$$g' = D^T O^T g O D = D g^{(diag)} D$$

and put in canonical form

$$g'_{ij} = \pm \delta_{ij}$$

which defines an orthonormal basis at P , i.e. $g(e_i, e_j) = \pm \delta_{ij}$.

The \pm cannot be eliminated and the sum of the diagonal element is called the signature. A sign inversion does not affect the signature. The diagonal elements can classify the metric in the following way:

1. Riemannian metric, i.e. all of the same sign
2. pseduo-Riemannian metric, i.e. both signs appear (Lorentzian metric if one is of one kind and all the others of the other kind)

Metric tensors define a map between T_P and T_P^* , to lower indices and the inverse to raise them. Infact, a vector $v \in T_P$ can be mapped into a 1-form

$$v_i = v(e_i) = g(v^j e_j, e_i) = v^j g(e_j, e_i) = v^j g_{ij}$$

and a 1-form $w \in T_P^*$ can be mapped into a vector

$$w^i = e^i(w) = g(e^i, w_j e^j) = w_j g(e^i, e^j) = w_j g^{ij}$$

Consequently, at P a vector and a 1-form are equivalent.

The inverse metric tensor is defined by

$$g_{ij}^{-1} = g^{ij} \quad g_{ij} g^{jk} = \delta^k_i$$

If the metric is in canonical form, the dual basis will be orthonormal.

A metric tensor field is a map that associates each point of \mathcal{M} into a metric tensor. The manifold becomes a metric manifold (\mathcal{M}, g) . The metric tensor field in terms of coordinate vectors and dual basis is

$$g(x) = g_{ij}(x)dx^i \otimes dx^j$$

which is written as line element

$$ds^2 = g_{ij}(x)dx^i dx^j$$

Consider the integral curve γ of a vector field $v = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$. The scalar infinitesimal displacement along v is

$$ds^2 = dx \cdot dx = g(dx, dx) = g(vd\lambda, vd\lambda) = g(v, v)d\lambda^2$$

Integrating along γ , the length of the path between λ_1 and λ_2 is

$$s(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} d\lambda \sqrt{g(v, v)} = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} d\lambda \sqrt{g_{ij}(\lambda)v^i(\lambda)v^j(\lambda)}$$

Introducing a chart x^i ,

$$s(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} d\lambda \sqrt{g_{ij}(\lambda) \frac{dx^i}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^j}{d\lambda}}$$

It is always possible to find a change of coordinate that put the metric tensor field in the locally canonical form

$$g_{ij}(x) = \pm \delta_{ij} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^k \partial x^l} \Big|_{x_P} \delta x^k \delta x^l$$

which means to find a locally orthogonal coordinates x^i such that $g(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}) = \pm \delta_{ij}$. However, this holds only locally, not on the entire manifold.

Proof. Around P , the metric tensor field g_{ij} can be Taylor expanded in $x = x_P + \delta x$

$$g_{ij} = g_{ij}(x_P) + \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^k} \Big|_{x_P} \delta x^k + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^k \partial x^l} \Big|_{x_P} \delta x^k \delta x^l + \dots \quad (1.9)$$

as well as the transformation matrix

$$\frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j}(x) = \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j}(x_P) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j} \Big|_{x_P} \delta x^k + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^k \partial x^l} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^j} \Big|_{x_P} \delta x^k \delta x^l + \dots \quad (1.10)$$

and the metric in the new coordinates

$$g'_{ij} = g'_{ij}(y_P) + \frac{\partial g'_{ij}}{\partial y^k} \Big|_{y_P} \delta y^k + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g'_{ij}}{\partial y^k \partial y^l} \Big|_{y_P} \delta y^k \delta y^l + \dots \quad (1.11)$$

Using

$$g'_{ij} = \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl}$$

then the left-handed side is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} &= \left(\frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^e} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a \delta x^e + \dots \right) \\ &\quad \left(\frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^b \partial x^f} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b \delta x^f + \dots \right) \\ &\quad \left(g_{kl} + \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^c} \delta x^c + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{kl}}{\partial x^c \partial x^d} \delta x^c \delta x^d + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^c} \delta x^c + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^c} \delta x^c \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b g_{kl} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^c} \delta x^c \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^e} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \delta x^a \delta x^e \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^b \partial x^f} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \delta x^b \delta x^f g_{kl} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{kl}}{\partial x^c \partial x^d} \delta x^c \delta x^d + \dots \\ &= \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \delta x^a \left(\frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^a} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} \right) \\ &\quad + \delta x^a \delta x^b \left(\frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^b} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^b} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{kl}}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Comparing infinitesimal of the same order

$$\frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} = g'_{ij}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^a} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} &= \frac{\partial g'_{ij}}{\partial y^k} \\ \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^b} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{\partial g_{kl}}{\partial x^b} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} g_{kl} + \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial y^i} \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial y^j} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g_{kl}}{\partial x^a \partial x^b} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g'_{ij}}{\partial y^k \partial y^l} \end{aligned}$$

Looking at this system of equations, we find 1 degree of freedom for the first one, n for the second one and n^2 for the third one. Hence, since Λ has $n^2 - 1$ degrees of freedom with -1 coming from (1.8), we only have enough degree of freedom to put

$$g'_{ij}(y_P) = \pm \delta_{ij}$$

and

$$\left. \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial y^k} \right|_{y_P} = 0$$

but not enough to put

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 g_{ij}}{\partial x^k \partial x^l} \right|_{y_P} = 0$$

q.e.d.

Chapter 2

Lie derivatives

2.1 Active and passive transformation

In the passive interpretation of a diffeomorphism on \mathcal{M} , the points remain the same but their coordinates changes. The diffeomorphism does not act on \mathcal{M} , but on the coordinates in \mathbb{R}^n . It can be seen as a change of coordinates $x' = x'(x, \epsilon)$ where ϵ is a parameter such that $x'(x, 0) = x$. For instance, a function changes in such a way that $\Phi'(x') = \Phi(x)$ where $\Phi(x) = (f \circ \phi^{-1})(x)$.

In the active interpretation of a diffeomorphism, the points are actually moved (along the flow of an integral curve). The diffeomorphism does act on \mathcal{M} .

The Lie dragged or push forward of a function f from a point P to a point P' is a new function such that $f^*(P') = f(P)$.

2.2 Congruence

A congruence of a vector field V is a set of integral curve which start from a curve Σ_0 , that is an hypersurface of dimension $n - 1$ and uniquely cover a portion of \mathcal{M} . A Lie dragging or a push-forward $\phi_{\Delta\lambda}: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is the motion of a point $P(\lambda_0)$ in $P(\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda)$ such that $\phi_{\Delta\lambda}$ is continuous and invertible. If $V \in C^\infty$, the push-forward becomes a diffeomorphism and form a group. Infact, $\phi_{\lambda_1} \circ \phi_{\lambda_2} = \phi_{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$, $\phi_{\lambda}^{-1} = \phi_{-\lambda}$ and $\phi_{\lambda=0} = \mathbb{I}$.

The push-forward of a function f along a congruence of $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is a map f^* from a point P to a point $Q = \phi_{\Delta\lambda}(P)$ such that

$$f_{\Delta\lambda}^*(Q) = f(P)$$

If it is true $\forall Q$ along the integral curve of V , $f_{\Delta\lambda}^*$ is constant and $\frac{df}{d\lambda} = 0$.

The push-forward of a vector field $W = \frac{d}{d\mu}$ along a congruence of $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is a map f^* from a point P to a point $Q = \phi_{\Delta\lambda}(P)$ such that

$$W_{\Delta\lambda}^*(f_{\Delta\lambda}^*)|_Q = W(f)|_P$$

where f is an arbitrary function. It can be also written as

$$\left. \frac{df^*}{d\mu} \right|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} = \frac{df}{d\mu}$$

where $\lambda(P) = \lambda_0$ and $\lambda(Q) = \lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda$.

Furthermore, the commutator between V and W^* vanishes

$$[V, W^*] = \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu^*} \right] = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

Proof. Fixing f and varying $\Delta\lambda$, $\frac{df^*}{d\mu^*}$ is constant along the congruences of V . Mapping the initial curve Σ_0 into a new curve $\Sigma_{\Delta\lambda}$ and since λ is constant, it can be used as a coordinate.

Since W^* is tangent to $\Sigma_{\Delta\lambda}$ its parameter μ^* is constant along the congruences of V . Hence there are two coordinates (λ, μ^*) are coordinates and their coordinate vectors commute. q.e.d.

2.3 Lie derivatives

The Lie derivative of a function f along a vector field $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is

$$\mathcal{L}_V f|_{\lambda_0} = \lim_{\Delta\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{f_{-\Delta\lambda}^*(\lambda_0) - f(\lambda_0)}{\Delta\lambda} = \lim_{\Delta\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda) - f(\lambda_0)}{\Delta\lambda} = \left. \frac{df}{d\lambda} \right|_{\lambda_0} = V(f)$$

where it has been used the push-back $\phi_{-\Delta\lambda}(P(\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda)) = P(\lambda_0)$ and $f_{-\Delta\lambda}^*(\lambda_0) = f(\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda)$. If f is constant along the congruences, then $\mathcal{L}_V f = 0$.

The Lie derivative of a vector field $W = \frac{d}{d\mu}$ along a vector field $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is

$$\mathcal{L}_V W(f)|_{\lambda_0} = \lim_{\Delta\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{W_{-\Delta\lambda}^* - W}{\Delta\lambda}(f) \Big|_{\lambda_0}$$

or it can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}_V W = [V, W]$$

in components

Proof. Taylor expanding around $\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda$

$$W_{-\Delta\lambda}^*(f) \Big|_{\lambda_0} = \left. \frac{df}{d\mu^*} \right|_{\lambda_0} = \left. \frac{df}{d\mu^*} \right|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} - \Delta\lambda \left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu^*} f \right) \Big|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} + O(\Delta\lambda^2)$$

Using (2.1) and at first order $\frac{d}{d\mu} = \frac{d}{d\mu^*}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\left. \frac{df}{d\mu^*} \right|_{\lambda_0} &= \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} - \Delta\lambda \left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu^*} f \right) \Big|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} + O(\Delta\lambda^2) \\
&= \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\lambda_0} + \Delta\lambda \frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu^*} f \Big|_{\lambda_0} - \Delta\lambda \left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu^*} f \right) \Big|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} + O(\Delta\lambda^2) \\
&= \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\lambda_0} + \Delta\lambda \left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\mu^*} f - \frac{d}{d\mu^*} \frac{d}{d\lambda} f \right) \Big|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} + O(\Delta\lambda^2) \\
&= \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\lambda_0} + \Delta\lambda \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] f \Big|_{\lambda_0 + \Delta\lambda} + O(\Delta\lambda^2)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$W_{-\Delta\lambda}^*(f) \Big|_{\lambda_0} = W(f) \Big|_{\lambda_0} + \Delta\lambda \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] f \Big|_{\lambda_0} + O(\Delta\lambda^2)$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}_V W(f) \Big|_{\lambda_0} = \lim_{\Delta\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta\lambda \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] f \Big|_{\lambda_0} (f) \Big|_{\lambda_0} + O(\Delta\lambda^2)}{\Delta\lambda} = \left[\frac{d}{d\lambda}, \frac{d}{d\mu} \right] f \Big|_{\lambda_0}$$

q.e.d.

The Lie derivative satisfies the properties

1. vanishes if the components of W are constant along V
2. Leibniz rule, i.e.

$$\mathcal{L}_V(fW) = f\mathcal{L}_V(W) + \mathcal{L}_V(f)W$$

3. linearity, i.e.

$$\mathcal{L}_V + \mathcal{L}_W = \mathcal{L}_{V+W}$$

4. commutator, i.e.

$$[\mathcal{L}_V, \mathcal{L}_W] = \mathcal{L}_{[V, W]}$$

5. Jacobi identity, i.e.

$$[[\mathcal{L}_V, \mathcal{L}_W], \mathcal{L}_Z] + [[\mathcal{L}_W, \mathcal{L}_Z], \mathcal{L}_V] + [[\mathcal{L}_Z, \mathcal{L}_V], \mathcal{L}_W] = 0$$

The Lie derivative of a 1-form ω along a vector field $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is

$$(\mathcal{L}_V \omega)(W) = \mathcal{L}_V(\omega(W)) - \omega(\mathcal{L}_V W)$$

or introducing a chart x^i and the dual basis

$$(\mathcal{L}_V \omega)_i = V^k \frac{\partial \omega_i}{\partial x^k} + \omega_k \frac{\partial V^k}{\partial x^i}$$

Proof. Using the Leibniz rule,

$$\mathcal{L}_V(\omega(W)) = (\mathcal{L}_V\omega)(W) + \omega(\mathcal{L}_VW)$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_V\omega)(W) = \mathcal{L}_V(\omega(W)) - \omega(\mathcal{L}_VW)$$

Introducing a coordinate basis, the Lie derivative of a scalar and the components of a commutator

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_V\omega)_i &= (\mathcal{L}_V\omega)(e_i) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_V(\omega(e_i)) - \omega(\mathcal{L}_Ve_i) = \frac{d\omega(e_i)}{d\lambda} - \omega([V, e_i]) \\ &= V^k \frac{\partial \omega^i}{\partial x^k} + \omega^k \frac{\partial V^k}{\partial x^i} \end{aligned}$$

q.e.d.

The Lie derivative of a tensor (n, m)

$$T(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, W^1, \dots, W^m): \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

along a vector field $V = \frac{d}{d\lambda}$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_VT(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, W^1, \dots, W^n) &= (\mathcal{L}_VT)(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, W^1, \dots, W^n) \\ &\quad + T(\mathcal{L}_V\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, W^1, \dots, W^n) + \dots \\ &\quad + T(\mathcal{L}_V\omega_1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_V\omega_n, W^1, \dots, W^n) \\ &\quad + T(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \mathcal{L}_VW^1, \dots, W^n) + \dots \\ &\quad + T(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, W^1, \dots, \mathcal{L}_VW^n) \end{aligned}$$

2.4 Symmetries

Symmetries are no longer referred to the manifold, but to tensor defined in it. Furthermore, their geometrical meaning is a local feature.

A submanifold is a subset $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{M}$ of dimension $\dim \mathcal{S} \leq \dim \mathcal{M}$ such that there exist a chart x^i such that $U \cap \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ and $x^{n-m+1} = \dots = x^n = 0$ for all $P \in \mathcal{S}$.

The tangent space in a point $P \in \mathcal{S}$ has dimension

$$\dim T_P^{(\mathcal{M})} = n \geq \dim T_P^{(\mathcal{S})} = m$$

Curves and vectors in \mathcal{S} maps to \mathcal{M}

$$\gamma_{\mathcal{S}} = (x^1(\lambda), \dots, x^m(\lambda)) \mapsto \gamma_{\mathcal{M}} = (x^1(\lambda), \dots, x^m(\lambda), 0, \dots, 0)$$

and

$$V_S = (V^1, \dots, V^m) \rightleftharpoons V_M = (V^1, \dots, V^m, 0, \dots, 0)$$

but the inverse is not unique, infact there are infinitely many curves or vectors created putting a different number from 0 in the places with index greater than m . A 1-form in the submanifold is defined as

$$\omega_S(V) = \omega_M(V, 0, \dots, 0)$$

where $V \in T_P^{(S)}$. Also here, the inverse is not unique, infact there are infinitely many 1-forms created putting a different number from 0 in the places with index greater than m .

A set of vector fields $V^{(k)}$ with $k = 1, \dots, p$ is linearly independent if there exist a_k constants such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^p a_k V^{(k)}(P) = 0 \quad \forall P \in \mathcal{M}$$

This does not mean that at a given P , they are linearly independent, because the coefficients could depend on point $a_k = a_k(P)$.

Theorem 2.1 (Frobenius)

Let $V^{(k)}$ be a set of linearly independent vector fields with $k = 1, \dots, p$ such that forms a Lie algebra

$$[V^{(i)}, V^{(j)}] = C^{ij}_k V^{(k)}$$

where $C^{ij}_k \in \mathbb{R}$. Then the integral curves of $V^{(k)}$ form a family of submanifolds or foliations of \mathcal{M} of dimension $m \leq p$.

A vector field V is a symmetry of a tensor field T if

$$\mathcal{L}_V T = 0$$

Theorem 2.2

Let $V^{(i)}$ be a set of linearly independent vector fields with $i = 1, \dots, p$ and $T^{(k)}$ be a set of linearly independent vector fields with $k = 1, \dots, q$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_{\sum_i a_i V^{(i)}} \sum_k b_k T^{(k)} = 0$$

Then $V^{(i)}$ form a Lie algebra

Proof. Given a two symmetries $V^{(1)}$ and $V^{(2)}$, using a property of the Lie derivative

$$[\mathcal{L}_{V^{(1)}}, \mathcal{L}_{V^{(2)}}] = \mathcal{L}_{[V^{(1)}, V^{(2)}]} = 0$$

Hence, $[V^{(1)}, V^{(2)}]$ is a symmetry as well. Generalizing for a linear combination $aV^{(1)} + bV^{(2)}$, the only condition to satift the hypothesis is that a and b are independent of P and the structure constant as well. q.e.d.

Corollary 2.1

$V^{(i)}$ define a submanifold of dimension $m \leq p$.

An isometries is a symmetry of the metric tensor

$$\mathcal{L}_V g = 0$$

where V is called the Killing vector. Hence, congruences along a Killing vector preserves lengths and angles.

In special relativity, inertial observers can be seen as coordinate frames along Killing vectors, using the Minkovski metric $g = \eta$.

Chapter 3

Integrals and forms

3.1 p-forms

A p-form is an antysymmetric tensor $(0, p)$ in the tangent T_P . p-forms form a linear space.

A 2-form ω is

$$\omega_{[ij]} = \frac{1}{2!}(\omega_{ij} - \omega_{ji})$$

A 3-form ω is

$$\omega_{[ijk]} = \frac{1}{3!}(\omega_{ijk} + \omega_{jki} + \omega_{kij} - \omega_{ikj} - \omega_{kji} - \omega_{jki})$$

A general p-form ω is

$$\omega_{[i_1 \dots i_p]} = \frac{1}{p!}(\omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} + \text{permutations})$$

The number of independent components of a p-form is the binomial coefficient

$$\binom{n}{p}$$

with the condition $\sum_p \binom{n}{p} = n^2$.

Introducing the wedge product

$$\omega = \omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} e^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{i_p} = \omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} \frac{1}{p!} (e^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e^{i_p} + \text{permutations})$$

Moreover, the wedge product can be used to compose a p-form and a q-form into a (p+q)-form

$$\text{p-form} \wedge \text{q-form} = \text{(p+q)-form}$$

and to contract a p-form with a vector to obtain a (p-1)-form

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(V, \dots) &= (\omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} e^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{i_p})(V^k e_k) \\
 &= \frac{1}{p!} (\omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} e^{i_1}(e_k) \otimes \dots \otimes e^{i_p} + \text{permutations}) \\
 &= V^k \omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} e^{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{i_p}
 \end{aligned}$$

3.2 Volume

A polyhedron in \mathcal{M} is defined by n linearly independent vectors and its volume is a number. Therefore it is natural to associate an n-form, given the additional antisymmetric property, i.e. to vanish if two vectors are linearly dependent. In a coordinate basis, the n vectors are

$$\Delta x_k = dx_{(k)}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$$

and the n-form is

$$\omega = f e^1 \wedge \dots \wedge e^n$$

Putting together, the volume of an infinitesimal polyhedron is

$$\omega(\Delta x_{(1)}, \dots, \Delta x_{(n)}) = f e^i(\Delta x_{(1)}) \dots e^n(\Delta x_{(n)}) + \text{permutations}$$

Choosing coordinate basis,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \omega(\Delta x_{(1)}, \dots, \Delta x_{(n)}) &= f dx_{(1)}^1 \dots dx_{(n)}^n + 0 + \dots + 0 \\
 &= f dx_{(1)}^1 \dots dx_{(n)}^n \\
 &= dV
 \end{aligned}$$

Introducing a lattice of charts, the volume of a region $U \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ is the integral

$$V(U) = \int_{\phi(U)} f dx^1 \dots dx^n = \int_U \omega$$

It is a scalar, since under a change of coordinates $y^i(x^i)$

$$V = \int_U \omega = \int_{\phi'(U)} f(y) J(y) d^m y$$

where J is the determinant of the jacobian, which shows that the volume is coordinate independent.

3.3 Area

In a submanifold of dimension $n - 1$, the infinitesimal area of an hypersurface uses a $(n-1)$ -form, taken by contracting the n -form of the volume with a vector $v \in T_P^{(\mathcal{M})} \notin T_P^{(\mathcal{S})}$ which is $A = \omega(v, \dots)$.

The infinitesimal area, choosing coordinate basis, is

$$\begin{aligned}\omega(v, \omega_{(1)}, \dots, \omega_{(n-1)}) &= A(\omega_{(1)}, \dots, \omega_{(n-1)}) \\ &= v f e^1(\omega_{(1)}) \wedge \dots \wedge e^{n-1}(\omega_{(n-1)}) \\ &= v f dx^1 \dots dx^{n-1} \\ &= dA\end{aligned}$$

and the area of a portion $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ is

$$A(\Sigma) = \int_{\phi(\Sigma)} f v dx^1 \dots dx^{n-1} = \int_{\Sigma} A$$

It is a scalar, since under a change of coordinates $y^i(x^i)$

$$A' = J^{(n-1)} A$$

where $J^{(n-1)}$ is the determinant of the jacobian restricted to the image of Σ .

3.4 Integrating with the metric

In a point P , the metric can be put in canonical form

$$g_{ij}(P) = \pm \delta_{ij}$$

The natural volume n -form is

$$\omega_g = e^1 \wedge \dots \wedge e^n$$

Under a local change of coordinates $y^i(x^i)$

$$\omega_g = J \omega'_g = J dy^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy^n$$

Using $g' = \Lambda^T g \Lambda$

$$\det g' = \det(\Lambda^T g \Lambda) = \det g \det \Lambda^2 = \det g J^2 = \pm J^2$$

where $J = \sqrt{|\det g'|}$.

Hence, the volume of U becomes

$$V(U) = \int_U \omega_g = \int_{\phi(U)} \sqrt{|\det g'|} dy^1 \dots dy^n$$

Similarly, the natural area (n-1)-form is

$$A_g = \omega_g(\dots, e_n) = e^1 \wedge \dots \wedge e^{n-1}$$

and the area of a portion Σ is

$$A = \int_{\Sigma} A_g = \int_{\phi(\Sigma)} \sqrt{|\det g^{(n-1)}|} dx^1 \dots dx^{n-1}$$

where the metric locally is

$$g_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{ij}^{(n-1)} & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3.5 Differential forms

The exterior derivative of a p-form

$$\omega = \omega_{i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}$$

is

$$d\omega = (\partial_k \omega_{i_1 \dots i_p}) dx^k \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{i_p}$$

It satisfies the following properties

1. addition, i.e.

$$d(\omega + \sigma) = d\omega + d\sigma$$

2. wedge product, i.e.

$$d(\omega \wedge \sigma) = d\omega \wedge \sigma + (-1)^p \omega \wedge d\sigma$$

3. vanishing boundary, i.e.

$$d(d\omega) = 0$$

For a function, this is the differential

$$df = \partial_i f dx^i = df$$

such that

$$d(df) = \partial_i \partial_j f dx^i \wedge dx^j = 0$$

List of Theorems

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