

GR-HW-01

J Emmanuel Flores

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Problem 1 (Two-Body Problem) By performing a Lorentz transformation, show that $T_{\mu\nu}B^\mu A^\nu$ is a Lorentz scalar

Proof 1 By definition a Lorentz scalar is an entity for which the following relationship holds

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu}\bar{B}^\mu\bar{A}^\nu = T_{\mu\nu}B^\mu A^\nu, \quad (1)$$

this is, it has the same form under a Lorentz transformation. So let's proceed with the proof. By definition, we have the following

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda_{\mu}^{\alpha_1}\Lambda_{\nu}^{\alpha_2}T_{\alpha_1\alpha_2} \quad (2)$$

and as well for the other two tensors of order one

$$\bar{B}^\mu = \Lambda_{\alpha_3}^{\mu}B^{\alpha_3}, \quad \bar{A}^\nu = \Lambda_{\alpha_4}^{\nu}A^{\alpha_4}, \quad (3)$$

and from this we have that

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu}\bar{B}^\mu\bar{A}^\nu = \Lambda_{\mu}^{\alpha_1}\Lambda_{\nu}^{\alpha_2}\Lambda_{\alpha_3}^{\mu}\Lambda_{\alpha_4}^{\nu}T_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}B^{\alpha_3}A^{\alpha_4}. \quad (4)$$

After rearranging the terms and using the fact that

$$\Lambda_{\mu}^{\alpha_1}\Lambda_{\alpha_3}^{\mu} = \delta_{\alpha_3}^{\alpha_1}, \quad \Lambda_{\nu}^{\alpha_2}\Lambda_{\alpha_4}^{\nu} = \delta_{\alpha_4}^{\alpha_2}, \quad (5)$$

then we have

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu}\bar{B}^\mu\bar{A}^\nu = \delta_{\alpha_3}^{\alpha_1}\delta_{\alpha_4}^{\alpha_2}T_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}B^{\alpha_3}A^{\alpha_4}, \quad (6)$$

and then the RHS of the previous equation takes the form

$$T_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}B^{\alpha_1}A^{\alpha_2}, \quad (7)$$

but since those are dummy indices, we can change them to make the equation prettier, leaving us with

$$\bar{T}_{\mu\nu}\bar{B}^\mu\bar{A}^\nu = T_{\mu\nu}B^\mu A^\nu, \quad (8)$$

just as we wanted.