

1 Tensor Basics

1.1 Definitions

Transformation rules for tensors:

Covariant tensor of order 1 $\iff \bar{T}_i = T_r \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i}$

Contravariant tensor of order 1 $\iff \bar{T}^i = T^r \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^r}$

Mixed tensor: a combination of the above types.

(n, m) - tensor: tensor with contravariant order of n , covariant order of m

1.2 Tensor Manipulations and Operations

let ST be the inner product of tensors S and T where 2 indices of opposite types are equated and take the sum of the products for the equated index. Resulting tensor order decreases by 2.

let $[ST]$ be the outer product of tensors S and T where product is taken over all permutation of indices. Resulting tensor order adds up from the input tensors.

Tensor order of 0 is an invariant.

Self tensor contraction: set 2 indices of opposite types for the current tensor and perform sum over the equated index. Resulting tensor order decreases by 2.

equality of composite operations:

$\text{contract} \circ \text{outer_product} \iff \text{inner_product}$

2 Metric Tensor

TODO

3 Tensor Derivatives

let T be a contravariant tensor, then:

$$\bar{T}^i = T^r \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^r}, \text{ where } T = T^i(x(t))$$

Take derivative wrt. t :

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}^i}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial T^r}{\partial t} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^r} + T^r \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^s \partial x^r} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial t} \quad (\text{not a general tensor})$$

\bar{x}^i being a linear functions of $x^r \implies \frac{\partial \bar{T}^i}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial T^r}{\partial t} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^r}$
(it's a general tensor)

Goal: Would like the curvature of a curve to be an intrinsic concept, independent of coordinate systems. Use Christoffel symbols to solve it.

ref: Schaum Chapter 6

3.1 Christoffel Symbol of the 1st Kind

$$\Gamma_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{\partial(g_{ij})}{\partial x^k} + \frac{\partial(g_{jk})}{\partial x^i} + \frac{\partial(g_{ki})}{\partial x^j} \right)$$

$$\text{Let } g_{ijk} = \frac{\partial(g_{ij})}{\partial(x^k)}$$

$$\Gamma_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2}(-g_{ijk} + g_{jki} + g_{kij})$$

Cyclic permute and add:

$$\Gamma_{ijk} + \Gamma_{jki} = g_{kij}$$

Driving transformation law for Γ_{ijk} :

By using g_{ij} derivative and its cyclic permutatations,
 $\bar{\Gamma}_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2}(-\bar{g}_{ijk} + \bar{g}_{jki} + \bar{g}_{kij})$

where:

$$\bar{g}_{ijk} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}^k} (g_{rs} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^j}) \quad (\text{expand this})$$

Rearrange and simplify to:

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ijk} = \Gamma_{rst} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^k} + g_{rs} \frac{\partial^2 x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \quad (\text{not a general tensor})$$

ref: Schaum Chapter 6

3.2 Christoffel Symbol of the 2nd Kind

$\Gamma_{ij}^k g^{kr} \Gamma_{ijk}$ (raising an index of Christoffel Symbol of the 1st kind.

Similar properties as Γ_{ijk} : symmetry in lower indices, Γ_{ij}^k vanish if g_{ij} are all constant.

Transformation rule for Γ_{ij}^k ; use Γ_{ijk} in derivation:

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = \bar{g}^{kr} \bar{\Gamma}_{ijr}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = \left(g^{sr} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^r}{\partial x^t} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_{ijr}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = \left(g^{sr} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^r}{\partial x^t} \right) \left(\Gamma_{uvw} \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \frac{\partial x^w}{\partial \bar{x}^r} + g_{uv} \frac{\partial^2 x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^r} \right) \text{ TODO}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = g^{st} \Gamma_{uv} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^j} + g^{st} g_{ut} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial^2 x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = \Gamma_{uv}^s \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^j} + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^u} \frac{\partial^2 x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k = \Gamma_{uv}^w \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^w} \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^j} + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^w} \frac{\partial^2 x^w}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \quad (\text{not a general tensor})$$

linear coordinate transform $\implies \Gamma_{ij}^k$ becomes a tensor

$$\frac{\partial^2 x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} = \bar{\Gamma}_{ij}^k \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^k} - \Gamma_{uv}^w \frac{\partial x^u}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^v}{\partial \bar{x}^j}$$

ref: Schaum Chapter 6

3.3 Covariant Derivative of Covariant Vector

let T be a covariant tensor, then:

$$\bar{T}_i = T_r \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i}$$

$$\frac{\bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} = \frac{\partial T_r}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} + T_r \frac{\partial^2 x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^k \partial \bar{x}^i}$$

use $\frac{\partial^2 x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j}$ from earlier:

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} = \frac{\partial T_r}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} + T_r \left(\bar{\Gamma}_{ik}^s \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^s} - \Gamma_{st}^r \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} = \frac{\partial T_r}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} + \bar{\Gamma}_{ik}^s \bar{T}_s - \Gamma_{st}^r T_r \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

rename indices:

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} = \frac{\partial T_r}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} + \bar{\Gamma}_{ik}^t \bar{T}_t - \Gamma_{rs}^t T_t \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} = \bar{\Gamma}_{ik}^t \bar{T}_t + \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \left(\frac{\partial T_r}{\partial x^s} - \Gamma_{rs}^t T_t \right)$$

$\frac{\partial \bar{T}_i}{\partial \bar{x}^k} - \bar{\Gamma}_{ik}^t \bar{T}_t = \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \frac{\partial x^r}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \left(\frac{\partial T_r}{\partial x^s} - \Gamma_{rs}^t T_t \right)$ is a (0,2)-tensor
components of covariant derivative wrt. x^k of a covariant vector $T = (T_i)$:

$$T_{,k} = (T_{i,k}) = \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial x^k} - \Gamma_{ik}^t T_t$$

g_{ij} are constants \implies covariant derivatives and partial derivatives coincide

ref: Schaum Chapter 6

3.4 Covariant Derivative of Contravariant Vector

Similar to previous section, covariant derivative wrt. x^k of a contravariant vector $T = (T^i)$ is:

$$T_{,k} = (T^i_{,k}) = \frac{\partial T^i}{\partial x^k} + \Gamma_{tk}^i T^t$$

Covariant derivative of any tensor is a tensor that has 1 additional covariant order more than the original tensor.

ref: Schaum Chapter 6

3.5 Absolute Differentiation Along Curve