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Chern-Simons Theory

Homework 1: 3d Gravity as a

Chern-Simons Theory

1. Euclidean Signature, Vanishing Cosmological Constant

1.1. Preliminaries

Q1: The orthonormality of the vielbein is given by

$$e_I{}^\mu e_J{}^\nu g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{IJ}.$$

The inverse vielbein e^I is defined by

$$e^I{}_\mu e_J{}^\mu = \delta^I{}_J.$$

Since the left matrix inverse of a square matrix is also the right matrix inverse, we have

$$e_I{}^\mu e^I{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^I{}_\mu e^J{}_\nu \eta_{IJ} &= e^I{}_\mu e^J{}_\nu e_I{}^\sigma e_J{}^\rho g_{\sigma\rho} \\
 &= \delta^\sigma{}_\mu \delta^\rho{}_\nu g_{\sigma\rho} = g_{\mu\nu},
 \end{aligned}$$

proving (6). Now, let us define $c_{I\mu} := \eta_{IJ} e^J{}_\mu$.

Then

$$e_{I\mu} = g_{\sigma\rho} e_I{}^\sigma e_J{}^\rho e^J{}_\mu = g_{\sigma\rho} e_I{}^\sigma \delta^\rho{}_\mu = g_{\sigma\mu} e_I{}^\sigma,$$

proving the first half of (7). Notice then that

we can also connect $c^I{}_\mu$ and $e_I{}^\mu$ by raising and lowering indices

$$\eta^{IJ} g_{\mu\nu} e_J{}^\nu = \eta^{IJ} e_{J\mu} = \eta^{IJ} \eta_{JK} e^K{}_\mu = \delta^K{}_K e^K{}_\mu = e^I{}_\mu,$$

or inversely

$$\eta_{IJ} g^{\mu\nu} e_J{}_\nu = \eta_{IJ} g^{\mu\nu} \eta^{JK} g_{\nu\sigma} e_K{}^\sigma = \delta^K{}_I \delta^\mu{}_\sigma e_K{}^\sigma = e_I{}^\mu.$$

Now, define $c^{I\mu} := \eta^{IJ} e_J{}^\mu$. We then have

$$c^{I\mu} = \eta^{IJ} \eta_{JK} g^{\mu\nu} e^K{}_\nu = \delta^K{}_K g^{\mu\nu} e^K{}_\nu = g^{\mu\nu} e^I{}_\nu,$$

showing the last half of 7.

Q2: Assume that $\lambda^I_J \in O(\mathbb{R}^D, \eta_{IJ})$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} g'_{\mu\nu} &= \eta_{IJ} e'^I_\mu e'^J_\nu = \eta_{IJ} \lambda^I_K e^K_\mu \lambda^J_L e^L_\nu \\ &= (\eta_{IJ} \lambda^I_K \lambda^J_L) e^K_\mu e^L_\nu = \eta_{KL} e^K_\mu e^L_\nu = g_{\mu\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

1.2. Cartan's Structure Equations

Q3: Let us first study the transformation of

$e_I{}^\mu$ under $\lambda^I_J \in O(\mathbb{R}^D, \eta_{IJ})$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} e'^I{}^\mu &= \eta_{IJ} g^{\mu\nu} e'^J_\nu = \eta_{IJ} g^{\mu\nu} \lambda^J_K e^K_\nu = \lambda_{IK} e^{K\mu} \\ &= \lambda_I{}^K e_K{}^\mu. \end{aligned}$$

Of course, $\lambda_I{}^K$ is easily computed by noting that

$$\lambda_K{}^I \lambda^K_J = \eta_{KL} \eta^{IM} \lambda^L{}_M \lambda^K_J = \eta_{JM} \eta^{IM} = \delta^I_J.$$

We can now compute

$$\begin{aligned} \omega'^I{}_J &= e'^I{}_\nu \nabla_\mu e'^J{}^\nu = \lambda^I_K e^K{}_\nu \nabla_\mu (\lambda^J{}_L e^L{}^\nu) \\ &= \lambda^I_K e^K{}_\nu \partial_\mu \lambda^J{}_L e^L{}^\nu + \lambda^I_K e^K{}_\nu \lambda^J{}_L \partial_\mu e^L{}^\nu \\ &\quad + \lambda^I_K e^K{}_\nu \Gamma^\nu{}_{\mu\rho} \lambda^J{}_L e^L{}^\rho \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lambda^I_K \partial_\mu \lambda_J^L \delta^K_L + \lambda^I_K e^K_\nu \lambda_J^L \nabla_\mu e_L^\nu \\
&= \lambda^I_K \omega_\mu^{KL} \lambda_J^L + \lambda^I_K \partial_\mu \lambda_J^K.
\end{aligned}$$

In terms of the one-forms,

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega'^I_J &= \omega'^I_\mu dx^\mu = \lambda^I_K \omega^K_L \lambda_J^L + \lambda^I_K \partial_\mu \lambda_J^K dx^\mu \\
&= \lambda^I_K \omega^K_L \lambda_J^L + \lambda^I_K d\lambda_J^K.
\end{aligned}$$

In matrix notation, the equation $\lambda_K^I \lambda_J^K = \delta^I_J$

means that the matrix $M^I_J := \lambda_J^I$ has $M^T \lambda = I_D$.

Therefore $M^T = \lambda^{-1}$. We conclude

$$\omega' = \lambda \omega M^T + \lambda dM^T = \lambda \omega \lambda^{-1} + \lambda d\lambda^{-1}.$$

Q4: We have

$$\begin{aligned}
D_\mu v^I &:= e^I_\nu \nabla_\mu v^\nu = e^I_\nu \nabla_\mu (e_J^\nu v^J) \\
&= e^I_\nu e_J^\nu \partial_\mu v^J + e^I_\nu \nabla_\mu e_J^\nu v^J \\
&= \partial_\mu v^I + \omega_\mu^{IJ} v^J.
\end{aligned}$$

Under a transformation $\lambda^I_J \in O(\mathbb{R}^p, \eta_{IJ})$, we have

$$v^I e_I = v = v'^I e'_I = v'^I \lambda_I^J e_J.$$

Thus

$$v'^I = \partial^I_J v'^J = \lambda^I_K \lambda_J^K v'^J = \lambda^I_K v^K.$$

We conclude

$$\begin{aligned} (D_\mu v)^I &= \partial_\mu v'^I + \omega'_\mu{}^I{}_J v'^J \\ &= \partial_\mu (\lambda^I_J v^J) + \lambda^I_K \omega_\mu{}^K{}_L \lambda_J^L v'^J + \lambda^I_K \partial_\mu \lambda_J^K v'^J \\ &= \partial_\mu \lambda^I_J v^J + \lambda^I_J \partial_\mu v^J + \lambda^I_K \omega_\mu{}^K{}_L \lambda_J^L \lambda^J_H v^H \\ &\quad + \lambda^I_K \partial_\mu \lambda_J^K \lambda^J_H v^H \\ &= \lambda^I_J \partial_\mu v^J + \lambda^I_K \omega_\mu{}^K{}_H v^H + \cancel{\partial_\mu \lambda^I_J v^J} \\ &\quad + \cancel{\partial_\mu (\lambda^I_K \lambda_J^K)} \lambda^J_H v^H - \cancel{\partial_\mu \lambda^I_K \lambda_J^K} \lambda^J_H v^H \\ &= \lambda^I_J D_\mu v^J. \end{aligned}$$

Q5: Using the orthogonality condition

$$\begin{aligned} g^{\mu\nu} &= g^{\mu\sigma} g^{\nu\rho} g_{\sigma\rho} = g^{\mu\sigma} g^{\nu\rho} \eta_{IJ} e^I_\sigma e^J_\rho \\ &= \eta_{IJ} e^{I\mu} e^{J\nu} = \eta^{IJ} e_I{}^\mu e_J{}^\nu, \end{aligned}$$

we can express the metricity condition as

⑥

$$0 = \nabla_\mu g^{\nu\sigma} = \nabla_\mu (\eta^{IJ} e_I^\nu e_J^\sigma) = \eta^{IJ} \nabla_\mu e_I^\nu e_J^\sigma + \eta^{IJ} e_I^\nu \nabla_\mu e_J^\sigma.$$

Now, inverting the vielbein on the definition of the spin connection

$$e_I^\rho \omega_\mu{}^{IJ} = e_I^\rho e^\nu e_J^\nu \nabla_\mu e_J^\nu = \delta^\rho{}_\nu \nabla_\mu e_J^\nu = \nabla_\mu e_J^\rho,$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \eta^{IJ} e_K^\nu \omega_\mu{}^{KI} e_J^\sigma + \eta^{IJ} e_I^\nu e_K^\sigma \omega_\mu{}^{KI} \\ &= e_K^\nu e_J^\sigma \omega_\mu{}^{KI} + e_I^\nu e_K^\sigma \omega_\mu{}^{KI} \\ &= e_K^\nu e_J^\sigma (\omega_\mu{}^{KI} + \omega_\mu{}^{IK}). \end{aligned}$$

Since the vielbein is invertible, we conclude that the metricity condition is equivalent to

$$\omega^{IJ} = -\omega^{JI}.$$

For the Torsion free condition, note that we

can invert $e^I := e^I_\mu dx^\mu$ to

$$dx^\mu = e_I^\mu e^I.$$

Moreover, recall that

$$\begin{aligned}
 [U, V]^\mu &= (U^\nu \partial_\nu V^\sigma \partial_\sigma + U^\nu V^\sigma \cancel{\partial_\nu \partial_\sigma} - V^\nu \partial_\nu U^\sigma \partial_\sigma - V^\nu U^\sigma \cancel{\partial_\nu \partial_\sigma}) \\
 &= U^\nu \partial_\nu V^\mu - V^\nu \partial_\nu U^\mu.
 \end{aligned}$$

We then have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (de^I + \omega^I{}_J \wedge e^J)(e_K, e_L) &= \partial_\mu e^I{}_\nu dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu (e_K, e_L) \\
 &\quad + \omega_\mu{}^I{}_J dx^\mu \wedge e^J(e_K, e_L) \\
 &= \partial_\mu e^I{}_\nu e_K^\mu e_L^\nu - \partial_\mu e^I{}_\nu e_L^\mu e_K^\nu + \omega_\mu{}^I{}_J e_K^\mu e_L^\nu \omega^J(e_K, e_L) \\
 &= \cancel{\partial_\mu (e^I{}_\nu e_L^\nu)} e_K^\mu - e^I{}_\nu \partial_\mu e_L^\nu e_K^\mu - \cancel{\partial_\mu (e^I{}_\nu e_K^\nu)} e_L^\mu \\
 &\quad + e^I{}_\nu \partial_\mu e_K^\nu e_L^\mu + \omega_\mu{}^I{}_L e_K^\mu - \omega_\mu{}^I{}_K e_L^\mu \\
 &= e^I{}_\nu \nabla_\mu e_L^\nu e_K^\mu - e^I{}_\nu \nabla_\mu e_K^\nu e_L^\mu - e^I{}_\nu (e_K^\mu \partial_\mu e_L^\nu - e_L^\mu \partial_\mu e_K^\nu) \\
 &= e^I{}_\nu (\nabla_{e_K} e_L^\nu - \nabla_{e_L} e_K^\nu - [e_K, e_L]^\nu) = e^I{}_\nu T(e_K, e_L)^\nu \\
 &= e^I(T(e_K, e_L)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the connection is free of torsion if and only if

$$de^I + \omega^I{}_J \wedge e^J = 0.$$

Q6: Using the result from Q4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_\mu D_\nu v^I &= \partial_\mu (D_\nu v)^I + \omega_\mu^I{}_J (D_\nu v)^J \\
 &= \partial_\mu \partial_\nu v^I + \partial_\mu (\omega_\nu^I{}_J v^J) + \omega_\mu^I{}_J \partial_\nu v^J \\
 &\quad + \omega_\mu^I{}_J \omega_\nu^J{}_K v^K \\
 &= \partial_\mu \partial_\nu v^I + \partial_\mu \omega_\nu^I{}_J v^J + \omega_\nu^I{}_J \partial_\mu v^J \\
 &\quad + \omega_\mu^I{}_J \partial_\nu v^J + \omega_\mu^I{}_J \omega_\nu^J{}_K v^K \\
 &= \partial_\mu \partial_\nu v^I + \omega_{(\nu}^I{}_{|} \partial_{|\mu)} v^J + \partial_\mu \omega_\nu^I{}_J v^J \\
 &\quad + \omega_\mu^I{}_J \omega_\nu^J{}_K v^K.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 [D_\mu, D_\nu] v^I &= D_{[\mu} D_{\nu]} v^I = \partial_{[\mu} \omega_{\nu]}^I{}_J v^J + \omega_{[\mu}^I{}_J \omega_{\nu]}^J{}_K v^K \\
 &= (\partial_{[\mu} \omega_{\nu]}^I{}_J + \omega_{[\mu}^I{}_K \omega_{\nu]}^K{}_J) v^J.
 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
 F^I{}_J &:= d\omega^I{}_J + \omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^K{}_J = (\partial_\mu \omega_\nu^I{}_J + \omega_\mu^I{}_K \omega_\nu^K{}_J) dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{[\mu} \omega_{\nu]}^I{}_J + \omega_{[\mu}^I{}_K \omega_{\nu]}^K{}_J) dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus we conclude

$$[D_\mu, D_\nu] v^I = F^I{}_{\mu\nu} v^\nu.$$

To obtain the Bianchi identity, note that

$$\begin{aligned} dF^I{}_J &= \cancel{d^2 \omega^I{}_J} + d\omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^K{}_J - \omega^I{}_K \wedge d\omega^K{}_J \\ &= (F^I{}_K - \omega^I{}_L \wedge \omega^L{}_K) \wedge \omega^K{}_J \\ &\quad - \omega^I{}_K \wedge (F^K{}_J - \omega^K{}_L \wedge \omega^L{}_J) \\ &= F^I{}_K \wedge \omega^K{}_J - \omega^I{}_K \wedge F^K{}_J. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= dF^I{}_J + \omega^I{}_K \wedge F^K{}_J - \cancel{(-1)^{J \times I}} \omega^K{}_J \wedge F^I{}_K \\ &= DF^I{}_J. \end{aligned}$$

1.3. The Einstein-Hilbert action in the first order formalism

Q7: We have

$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu D_\nu v^I &= e^I{}_J \nabla_\mu D_\nu v^J = e^I{}_J \nabla_\mu (e^J{}_S D_\nu v^S) \\ &= e^I{}_J \nabla_\mu (e^J{}_S e^S{}_\sigma \nabla_\nu v^\sigma) = e^I{}_J \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu v^J. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 F^I{}_{J\mu\nu} v^J &= [D_\mu, D_\nu] v^I = D_{[\mu} D_{\nu]} v^I = e^I{}_\rho \nabla_{[\mu} \nabla_{\nu]} v^\rho \\
 &= e^I{}_\rho [\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] v^\rho = e^I{}_\rho R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} v^\sigma \\
 &= e^I{}_\rho e_J{}^\sigma R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} v^J.
 \end{aligned}$$

We conclude

$$F^I{}_{J\mu\nu} = e^I{}_\rho e_J{}^\sigma R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu}.$$

Q8: From

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{IJ} e^I{}_\mu e^J{}_\nu$$

we have

$$\det g = \det \overset{\pm 1}{\cancel{\eta}} = \det (e)^2,$$

i.e.

$$\sqrt{|\det g|} = \sqrt{|\det (e)^2|} = |\det (e)|.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned}
 R &= R^\mu{}_\mu = g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} R^\alpha{}_{\mu\alpha\nu} \\
 &= \eta^{IJ} e_I{}^\mu e_J{}^\nu e_M{}^\alpha e_N{}_\mu F^M{}_{N\alpha\nu}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \eta^{NJ} e_J^\nu e_M^\alpha F^M{}_{N\alpha\nu} = e_J^\nu e_M^\alpha F^{MN}{}_{\alpha\nu}.$$

We conclude that

$$16\pi G S(g) = \int d^D x \sqrt{|\det g|} \quad R = \int d^D x |\det(e)| e_I^\mu e_J^\nu F^{IJ}{}_{\mu\nu} \\ = 16\pi G S(e)$$

Q9: Specializing to 3D,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge F^{JK} &= \epsilon_{IJK} e^I{}_\mu F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho \\ &= \epsilon_{IJK} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} e^I{}_\mu F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho} dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge dx^3 \\ &= \epsilon_{IJK} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} e^I{}_\mu e^\mu{}_\nu e^N{}_\rho e_M{}^\alpha e_N{}^\beta F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \\ &= \epsilon_{IJK} \det(e) \epsilon^{IMN} e_M{}^\alpha e_N{}^\beta F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \\ &= (\delta^M{}_{[J} \delta^N{}_{K]}) \det(e) e_M{}^\alpha e_N{}^\beta F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \\ &= \det(e) e_{[J}{}^\alpha e_{K]}{}^\beta F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \\ &= \det(e) e_J{}^{[\alpha} e_K{}^{\beta]} F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \\ &= 2 \det(e) e_J{}^\alpha e_K{}^\beta F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} d^3x \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$S(e) = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^3x |\det(e)| e_I{}^\mu e_J{}^\nu F^{IJ}{}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$= \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^3x \operatorname{sgn}(\det(e)) \det(e) e_I{}^\mu e_J{}^\nu F^{IJ}{}_{\mu\nu}$$

$$= \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int \operatorname{sgn}(\det(e)) \varepsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge F^{JK}.$$

Q10: Let us start by varying e

$$0 = \delta S(e, \omega) = \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int \varepsilon_{IJK} \delta e^I \wedge F^{JK}$$

$$= \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int \varepsilon_{IJK} \delta e^I{}_\mu F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho$$

$$= \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int d^3x \varepsilon_{IJK} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho} \delta e^I{}_\mu.$$

We conclude

$$0 = \varepsilon_{IJK} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho}.$$

Of course, this then implies

$$0 = \varepsilon^{IMN} \varepsilon_{\mu\alpha\beta} \varepsilon_{IJK} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho}$$

$$= (\delta^M{}_J \delta^N{}_K - \delta^M{}_K \delta^N{}_J) (\delta^\nu{}_\alpha \delta^\rho{}_\beta - \delta^\rho{}_\alpha \delta^\nu{}_\beta) F^{JK}{}_{\nu\rho}$$

$$= (\delta^M{}_J \delta^N{}_K - \delta^M{}_K \delta^N{}_J) (F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta} - F^{JK}{}_{\beta\alpha})$$

$$= 2(\delta^M_J \delta^N_K - \delta^M_K \delta^N_J) F^{JK}{}_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$= 2(F^{MN}{}_{\alpha\beta} - F^{NM}{}_{\alpha\beta}) = 4F^{MN}{}_{\alpha\beta},$$

i.e. $F=0$. Varying ω yields

$$0 = \delta S(e, \omega) = \frac{1}{32\pi\zeta} \int \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge \delta F^{JK}.$$

Now,

$$\delta F^{IJ} = d\delta\omega^{IJ} + \delta\omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^{KJ} + \omega^I{}_K \wedge \delta\omega^{KJ}.$$

Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^{KJ} &= -\delta\omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^{JK} = -\delta\omega^{IK} \wedge \omega^J{}_K \\ &= \delta\omega^{KI} \wedge \omega^J{}_K = -\omega^J{}_K \wedge \delta\omega^{KI}, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\delta F^{IJ} = d\delta\omega^{IJ} - \omega^J{}_K \wedge \delta\omega^{KI} + \omega^I{}_K \wedge \delta\omega^{KJ}.$$

Now, the last term can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge d\delta\omega^{JK} &= -d(\epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge \delta\omega^{JK}) + \epsilon_{IJK} de^I \wedge \delta\omega^{JK} \\ &- \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge \omega^K{}_L \wedge \delta\omega^{LJ} = -\epsilon_{IKL} e^I \wedge \omega^L{}_J \wedge \delta\omega^{JK} \\ \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge \omega^J{}_L \wedge \delta\omega^{LK} &= \epsilon_{ILK} e^I \wedge \omega^L{}_J \wedge \delta\omega^{JK}, \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta S(c, \omega) &= - \int_{\partial M} \epsilon_{IJK} c^I \wedge \delta \omega^{JK} \\
&\quad + \int_M (\epsilon_{IJK} dc^I - \epsilon_{IKL} c^I \wedge \omega^L{}_J + \epsilon_{ILK} c^I \wedge \omega^L{}_J) \wedge \delta \omega^{JK} \\
&= - \int_{\partial M} \epsilon_{IJK} c^I \wedge \delta \omega^{JK} \\
&\quad + \int_M (\epsilon_{IJK} dc^I + 2\epsilon_{ILK} c^I \wedge \omega^L{}_J) \wedge \delta \omega^{JK}.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, assume $\delta \omega = 0$ on ∂M . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
0 = \delta S(c, \omega) &= \int_M (\epsilon_{IJK} \partial_\mu c^I \nu + 2\epsilon_{ILK} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_J) \delta \omega^{JK} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho \\
&= \int_M d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (\epsilon_{IJK} \partial_\mu c^I \nu + 2\epsilon_{ILK} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_J) \delta \omega^{JK} \\
&= \int_M d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (\epsilon_{IJK} \partial_\mu c^I \nu + \epsilon_{IL[K} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_{J]}) \delta \omega^{JK}.
\end{aligned}$$

We conclude

$$0 = \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (\epsilon_{IJK} \partial_\mu c^I \nu + \epsilon_{IL[K} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_{J]})$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (\epsilon_{IJK} \partial_\mu c^I \nu + \epsilon_{IL[K} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_{J]}) \\
&= \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (2\partial_\mu c^\mu{}_\nu + 2\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon_{ILK} c^I \omega_\nu{}^L{}_J)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \left(\partial_\mu e^\alpha_\nu + e^\alpha_\mu \omega_\nu{}^\gamma{}_\gamma - e^\gamma{}_\mu \omega_\nu{}^\mu{}_\gamma \right) \\
 &= 2 (\delta^\mu_\alpha \delta^\nu_\beta - \delta^\mu_\beta \delta^\nu_\alpha) (\partial_\mu e^\alpha_\nu + e^\alpha_\mu \cancel{\eta_{\gamma\kappa}} \omega_\nu{}^{\gamma\kappa} - e^\gamma{}_\mu \omega_\nu{}^\mu{}_\gamma) \\
 &= 2 (\partial_\mu e^\mu_\nu - \partial_\nu e^\mu_\mu - \omega_\nu{}^\mu{}_\gamma e^\gamma{}_\mu + \omega_\mu{}^\mu{}_\gamma e^\gamma{}_\nu) \\
 &= 2 T^\mu{}_{\mu\nu}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Indeed

$$\begin{aligned}
 T^\mu{}_\nu &= de^\mu + \omega^\mu{}_\gamma \wedge e^\gamma = \partial_\mu e^\mu_\nu dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu + \omega_\mu{}^\mu{}_\gamma e^\gamma_\nu dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu e^\mu_\nu - \partial_\nu e^\mu_\mu + \omega_\mu{}^\mu{}_\gamma e^\gamma_\nu - \omega_\nu{}^\mu{}_\gamma e^\gamma_\mu) dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu.
 \end{aligned}$$

We conclude the second EOM is $T=0$.

1.4. Global Symmetries of Euclidean 3-space

Q11: From the action

$$\begin{aligned}
 (R_2, a_2)(R_1, a_1)x &= (R_2, a_2)(R_1 x + a_1) = R_2(R_1 x + a_1) + a_2 \\
 &= R_2 R_1 x + R_2 a_1 + a_2 = (R_2 R_1, R_2 a_1 + a_2)x,
 \end{aligned}$$

it is clear that the product structure on $ISO(3)$

is

$$(R_2, a_2)(R_1, a_1) = (R_2 R_1, R_2 a_1 + a_2).$$

From this it is clear that the identity element is $(I_3, 0)$ and the inverse of (R, a) is $(R^{-1}, -R^{-1}a)$.

Indeed

$$(I_3, 0)(R, a) = (R, I_3 a + 0) = (R, a)$$

and

$$(R^{-1}, -R^{-1}a)(R, a) = (\cancel{R^{-1}R}, \cancel{R^{-1}a - R^{-1}a}) = (I_3, 0).$$

Let us now study the Lie algebra $so(3)$. Assume

we have a rotation $R = I_3 + \omega$ with ω infinitesimal.

Then

$$I_3 = R^T R = (I_3 + \omega^T)(I_3 + \omega) = I_3 + \omega + \omega^T + \mathcal{O}(\omega^2),$$

Thus

$$\omega = -\omega^T.$$

Defining $(M_{ij})_{kl} = \delta_{ik}\delta_{jl} - \delta_{jk}\delta_{il}$, we have that

$\{M_{12}, M_{23}, M_{31}\}$ is a basis for $so(3)$.

To study the full Lie algebra $iso(3)$, it is useful to recognize $ISO(3)$ as a matrix Lie group via the identification

$$\text{ISO}(3) \longrightarrow M_4(\mathbb{R})$$

$$(R, a) \longmapsto \left[\begin{array}{c|c} R & a \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

This is clearly injective. Moreover, it is a homomorphism since

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} R_2 & a_2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|c} R_1 & a_1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} R_2 R_1 & R_2 a_1 + a_2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Thus, its image is isomorphic to $\text{ISO}(3)$. We conclude that the Lie algebra is

$$\text{iso}(3) = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \omega & a \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \mid \omega = -\omega^T, a \in \mathbb{R}^3 \right\} \subseteq M_4(\mathbb{R})$$

A basis for this is given by $\{M_{12}, M_{23}, M_{31}, e_1, e_2, e_3\}$

where $(M_{ij})_{kl} = \delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} - \delta_{il} \delta_{jk}$ and $(e_i)_{kl} = \delta_{4l} \delta_{ik}$.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} (M_{ij} M_{kl})_{mn} &= (M_{ij})_{mr} (M_{kl})_{rn} = (\delta_{im} \delta_{jr} - \delta_{ir} \delta_{jm}) (\delta_{kr} \delta_{ln} - \delta_{kn} \delta_{lr}) \\ &= \delta_{jk} \delta_{im} \delta_{ln} - \delta_{jl} \delta_{im} \delta_{kn} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{jm} \delta_{ln} + \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} \delta_{kn}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 [M_{ij}, M_{kl}]_{mn} &= \delta_{jk} \delta_{im} \delta_{ln} - \delta_{jl} \delta_{im} \delta_{kn} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{jm} \delta_{ln} + \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} \delta_{kn} \\
 &\quad - \delta_{li} \delta_{km} \delta_{jn} + \delta_{lj} \delta_{km} \delta_{in} + \delta_{ki} \delta_{lm} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{kj} \delta_{lm} \delta_{in} \\
 &= \delta_{jk} (\delta_{im} \delta_{ln} - \delta_{lm} \delta_{in}) - \delta_{jl} (\delta_{im} \delta_{kn} - \delta_{km} \delta_{in}) \\
 &\quad - \delta_{ik} (\delta_{jm} \delta_{ln} - \delta_{lm} \delta_{jn}) + \delta_{il} (\delta_{jm} \delta_{kn} - \delta_{km} \delta_{jn}) \\
 &= \delta_{jk} (M_{il})_{mn} - \delta_{jl} (M_{ik})_{mn} - \delta_{ik} (M_{jl})_{mn} + \delta_{il} (M_{jk})_{mn}.
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for all $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$(P_i P_j)_{mn} = (P_i)_{mr} (P_j)_{rn} = \delta_{im} \delta_{ur} \delta_{jr} \delta_{un} = \delta_{im} \delta_{uj} \delta_{un} = 0.$$

Finally, taking $i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (M_{ij} P_k)_{mn} &= (M_{ij})_{mr} (P_k)_{rn} = (\delta_{im} \delta_{jr} - \delta_{ir} \delta_{jm}) \delta_{kr} \delta_{un} \\
 &= \delta_{im} \delta_{jk} \delta_{un} - \delta_{ik} \delta_{jm} \delta_{un} = \delta_{jk} (P_i)_{mn} - \delta_{ik} (P_j)_{mn}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (P_k M_{ij})_{mn} &= (P_k)_{mr} (M_{ij})_{rn} = \delta_{km} \delta_{ur} (\delta_{ir} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{in} \delta_{jr}) \\
 &= \delta_{km} \delta_{ui} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{km} \delta_{in} \delta_{uj} = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

We conclude the Lie algebra is

$$[M_i, P_j] = \delta_{ij} P_4$$

$$[M_{ij}, M_{kl}] = \delta_{jk} M_{il} + \delta_{il} M_{jk} - \delta_{jl} M_{ik} - \delta_{ik} M_{jl}$$

$$[M_{ij}, P_k] = \delta_{jk} P_i - \delta_{ik} P_j$$

$$[P_i, P_j] = 0$$

For $\{M_{12}, M_{23}, M_{31}, P_1, P_2, P_3\}$. For future reference,

define $J_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} M_{jk}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} [J_i, J_j] &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{imn} \epsilon_{jrs} [M_{mn}, M_{rs}] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{imn} \epsilon_{jrs} (\delta_{nr} M_{ms} + \delta_{ms} M_{nr} - \delta_{ns} M_{mr} - \delta_{mr} M_{ns}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (\epsilon_{imr} \epsilon_{jrs} M_{ms} + \epsilon_{isn} \epsilon_{jrs} M_{nr} - \epsilon_{ims} \epsilon_{jrs} M_{mr} - \epsilon_{irn} \epsilon_{jrs} M_{ns}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (-\delta_{ij} \cancel{M_{mm}}^0 + M_{ji} - \delta_{ij} \cancel{M_{nn}}^0 + M_{ji} - \delta_{ij} \cancel{M_{mm}}^0 + M_{ji} - \delta_{ij} \cancel{M_{nn}}^0 + M_{ji}) \\ &= M_{ji} = \epsilon_{jik} J_k. \end{aligned}$$

Redefining instead $J_i = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} M_{jk}$, we have

$$[J_i, J_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} J_k.$$

In terms of these we also have

$$\begin{aligned}
 [J_i, P_j] &= -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{imn} [M_{mn}, P_j] = -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{imn} (\delta_{nj} P_m - \delta_{mj} P_n) \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} (\varepsilon_{imj} P_m - \varepsilon_{ijn} P_n) = \varepsilon_{ijn} P_n.
 \end{aligned}$$

We just finally need to check that indeed

$$M_{ij} = \varepsilon_{ijk} P_k. \quad \text{Indeed}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\varepsilon_{ijk} P_k &= \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} \varepsilon_{klm} M_{lm} = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}) M_{lm} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (M_{ij} - M_{ji}) = M_{ij}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Optional Exercise: We have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{ab}^c f_{cd}^e &= f_{ab}^c [t_c^{ad}]^e_d = [[t_a^{ad}], [t_b^{ad}]]^e_d \\
 &= [t_a^{ad}]^e_c [t_b^{ad}]^c_d - [t_b^{ad}]^e_c [t_a^{ad}]^c_d \\
 &= f_{ac}^e f_{bd}^c - f_{bc}^e f_{ad}^c,
 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$f_{ab}^c f_{cd}^e + f_{bd}^c f_{ca}^e + f_{da}^c f_{cb}^e = 0.$$

This coincides with the Jacobi identity. Indeed

$$[[t_a, t_b], t_d] = f_{ab}^c [t_c, t_d] = f_{ab}^c f_{cd}^e t_e,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [[t_a, t_b], t_d] + [[t_b, t_d], t_a] + [[t_d, t_a], t_b] \\ &= f_{ab}^c f_{cd}^e + f_{bd}^c f_{ca}^e + f_{da}^c f_{cb}^e. \end{aligned}$$

Q12: We have

$$[J_1^{ad}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [J_2^{ad}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$[J_3^{ad}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

and

$$[[J_1^{ad}], [J_2^{ad}]] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [J_3^{ad}],$$

$$[[J_2^{ad}], [J_3^{ad}]] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [J_1^{ad}],$$

$$[[J_3^{ad}], [J_1^{ad}]] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [J_2^{ad}].$$

Q13: We indeed have

$$\begin{aligned}
F^I{}_J &= d\omega^I{}_J + \omega^I{}_K \wedge \omega^K{}_J = d\omega^M [J_M^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J + \omega^M \wedge \omega^N [J_M^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_K [J_N^{\text{ad}}]^K{}_J \\
&= d\omega^M [J_M^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J + \omega^M \wedge \omega^N [J_M^{\text{ad}} J_N^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J \\
&= d\omega^M [J_M^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J + \frac{1}{2} \omega^M \wedge \omega^N [[J_M^{\text{ad}}, J_N^{\text{ad}}]]^I{}_J \\
&= d\omega^M [J_M^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{KMN} \omega^M \wedge \omega^N [J_K^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J \\
&= \left(d\omega^K + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{KMN} \omega^M \wedge \omega^N \right) [J_K^{\text{ad}}]^I{}_J.
\end{aligned}$$

Q14: Let us check that the pairing is indeed invariant.

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\bullet \langle [J_I, J_J], J_K \rangle + \langle J_J, [J_I, J_K] \rangle &= \epsilon_{IJK} \langle J_I, J_K \rangle + \epsilon_{IKL} \langle J_J, J_L \rangle \\
&= 0,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\bullet \langle [P_I, J_J], J_K \rangle + \langle J_J, [P_I, J_K] \rangle &= -\epsilon_{IJK} \delta_{LK} - \epsilon_{IKL} \delta_{JL} \\
&= -\epsilon_{IJK} - \epsilon_{IKJ} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\bullet \langle [J_I, J_J], P_K \rangle + \langle J_J, [J_I, P_K] \rangle &= \epsilon_{IJK} \delta_{LK} + \epsilon_{IKL} \delta_{JL} \\
&= \epsilon_{IJK} + \epsilon_{IKJ} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet \langle [P_I, J_J], P_K \rangle + \langle J_J, [P_I, P_K] \rangle = -\epsilon_{IJK} \langle P_I, P_K \rangle = 0$$

$$\bullet \langle [J_I, P_J], P_K \rangle + \langle P_J, [J_I, P_K] \rangle = \epsilon_{IJK} \langle P_I, P_K \rangle + \epsilon_{IKL} \langle P_J, P_L \rangle = 0$$

$$\bullet \langle [P_I, P_J], P_K \rangle + \langle P_J, [P_I, P_K] \rangle = 0.$$

Q15: We clearly have

$$f_{abc} = d_{dc} f_{ab}{}^d = -d_{dc} f_{ba}{}^d = -f_{bac}.$$

Thus, we only need to check $f_{abc} = -f_{acb}$. Indeed

$$\begin{aligned} f_{abc} &= d_{dc} f_{ab}{}^d = \langle t_d, t_c \rangle f_{ab}{}^d = \langle [t_a, t_b], t_c \rangle \\ &= -\langle t_b, [t_a, t_c] \rangle = -f_{ac}{}^d \langle t_b, t_d \rangle = -d_{db} f_{ac}{}^d = -f_{acb}. \end{aligned}$$

Q16: For the moment, let us denote $(J_1, J_2, J_3, P_1, P_2, P_3)_{a=1}^6$

with $(J_1, J_2, J_3)_{I=1}^3$ and $(P_1, P_2, P_3)_{\tilde{I}=1}^3$. With these

indices we have the non-vanishing structure constants

$$f_{IJ}{}^K = \epsilon_{IJK}, \quad f_{I\tilde{J}}{}^{\tilde{K}} = \epsilon_{I\tilde{J}\tilde{K}}.$$

Noticing that

$$f_{abI} = d_{dI} f_{ab}{}^d = f_{ab}{}^{\tilde{I}}, \quad f_{ab\tilde{I}} = d_{d\tilde{I}} f_{ab}{}^d = f_{ab}{}^I,$$

we have the non-vanishing constants

$$f_{I\tilde{J}K} = \epsilon_{I\tilde{J}\tilde{K}}, \quad f_{I\tilde{J}\tilde{K}} = f_{IJ}{}^K = \epsilon_{IJK},$$

which are of course related by symmetry

We thus have

$$\frac{1}{3} \epsilon_{abc} A^a \wedge A^b \wedge A^c = \frac{3}{3} \epsilon_{IJK} \omega^I \wedge e^J \wedge \omega^K = \epsilon_{IJK} e^I \wedge \omega^J \wedge \omega^K.$$

Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} d_{ab} A^a \wedge dA^b &= \omega^I \wedge de^I + e^I \wedge d\omega^I = -d(\omega^I \wedge e^I) + d\omega^I \wedge e^I + e^I \wedge d\omega^I \\ &= -d(\omega^I \wedge e^I) + 2e^I \wedge d\omega^I. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$S_{cs}(A) = \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \left(- \int_M \omega^I \wedge e^I + 2 \int_M e^I \wedge (d\omega^I + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{IJK} \omega^J \wedge \omega^K) \right).$$

Thus, up to boundary terms,

$$S_{cs}(A) = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \int_M e^I \wedge F^I = \frac{1}{8\pi G} \int_M e^I \wedge F^I.$$

Notice that boundary terms do not affect the EOMs because to obtain the latter we consider variations that vanish at the boundary. This is possible since we are in a first order formalism,

Q17: We have, ignoring boundary terms,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta S_{CS}(A) &= \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \int_M \left(d_{ab} \delta A^a \wedge dA^b + d_{ab} A^a \wedge d\delta A^b + \frac{1}{3} f_{abc} \delta A^a \wedge A^b \wedge A^c \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{3} f_{abc} A^a \wedge \delta A^b \wedge A^c + \frac{1}{3} f_{abc} A^a \wedge A^b \wedge \delta A^c \right) \\
 &= \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \int_M \left(d_{ab} \delta A^a \wedge dA^b - d_{ab} d(A^a \wedge \delta A^b) + d_{ab} dA^a \wedge \delta A^b \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + f_{abc} A^a \wedge A^b \wedge \delta A^c \right) \\
 &= \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \int_M \left(2d_{ab} \delta A^a \wedge dA^b + d_{ab} f_{cd}{}^b A^c \wedge A^d \wedge \delta A^a \right) \\
 &= \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} 2d_{ab} \int_M \left(dA^b + \frac{1}{2} f_{cd}{}^b A^c \wedge A^d \right) \wedge \delta A^a \\
 &= \frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \left\langle \int_M (dA + \frac{1}{2} [t_c, t_d] A^c \wedge A^d) \wedge \delta A^a, t_a \right\rangle \\
 &= \frac{\kappa}{2\pi} \left\langle \int_M (dA + A \wedge A) \wedge \delta A^a, t_a \right\rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, even though our pairing is not an inner product,

it wasn't degenerate. Therefore

$$0 = \int_M (dA + A \wedge A) \wedge \delta A^a = \int_M \mathcal{F}(A) \wedge \delta A^a$$

This implies $\mathcal{F}(A) = 0$. To see this,

$$0 = \int_M \mathcal{F}(A)_{\mu\nu} dA^\mu{}_\rho dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho$$

$$= \int_M d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \mathcal{F}(A)_{\mu\nu} dA_\rho$$

implies $\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \mathcal{F}(A)_{\mu\nu} = 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\rho} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \mathcal{F}(A)_{\mu\nu} = (\delta^\mu{}_\alpha \delta^\nu{}_\beta - \delta^\mu{}_\beta \delta^\nu{}_\alpha) \mathcal{F}(A)_{\mu\nu} \\ &= \mathcal{F}(A)_{\alpha\beta} - \mathcal{F}(A)_{\beta\alpha} = 2 \mathcal{F}(A)_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, let

$$\mathcal{F}(A) = \mathcal{F}^a(A) t_a = (dA^I + \frac{1}{2} f_{ab}{}^I A^a \wedge A^b) t_I$$

$$+ (dA^{\tilde{I}} + \frac{1}{2} f_{ab}{}^{\tilde{I}} A^a \wedge A^b) t_{\tilde{I}}$$

$$= (d\omega^I + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{JKI} \omega^J \wedge \omega^K) J_I + (de^I + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{JKI} \omega^J \wedge e^K)$$

$$= F + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{JKI} \omega^J \wedge \omega^K J_I + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{JKI} e^J \wedge \omega^K P_I$$

$$= F + (de^I + \epsilon_{JKI} \omega^J \wedge e^K) P_I = F + (de^I - \omega^{KI} \wedge e^K) P_I$$

$$= F + (de^I + \omega^I{}_{\kappa} \wedge e^\kappa) P_I = F + T.$$

Thus, $\mathcal{F}(A)=0$ implies the EOMs $F=0$ and $T=0$.

