

Notes on general-relativistic continuum electromagneto-thermo-mechanics

P.G.L. Porta Mana 

Western Norway University of Applied Sciences <pgl@portamana.org>

20 July 2022; updated 10 February 2024 [draft]

Personal notes on topics in general-relativistic continuum electromagneto-thermo-mechanics.

1 Bases of multivector spaces

Take an ordered coordinate system (t, x, y, z) , which also defines an orientation. We shall usually assume that t has dimensions of time and x, y, z of length, and usually that they are orthogonal if a metric is defined.

There are 18 basic types of geometric objects, which represent physical quantities of different types. We have inner-oriented scalars, inner-oriented 1-vectors up to 4-vectors, inner-oriented 1-covectors up to 4-covectors, and all their outer-oriented counterparts.

The exterior product ‘ \wedge ’ of vectors and covectors is usually represented just by juxtaposition, and a shortened notation is used for exterior products of several exterior derivatives ‘ d ’. For instance

$$d^2xy := dx \wedge dy \quad \partial_{xy}^2 := \partial_x \wedge \partial_y . \quad (1)$$

The associated bases for inner-oriented covector fields are

$$dt \quad dx \quad dy \quad dz \quad (2)$$

$$d^2tx \quad d^2ty \quad d^2tz \quad d^2yz \quad d^2zx \quad d^2xy \quad (3)$$

$$d^3xyz \quad -d^3tyz \quad -d^3tzx \quad -d^3txy \quad (4)$$

$$d^4txyz \quad (5)$$

and analogously for inner-oriented vector fields. The particular choice of ordering and sign is such that these bases are related by volume duality, see below.

The outer-oriented unit scalar is $\tilde{1}$, with outer orientation $txyz$; note that it’s only defined on a coordinate patch. It is idempotent: $\tilde{1}\tilde{1} = 1$.

A twisted or outer-oriented 3-covector such as $d^3\tilde{x}yz$ has an associated outer direction, in this case positive t . We adopt this shorter notation for the outer-oriented versions of the bases above (analogous to the notation in Gotay & Marsden 1992 §2 p. 371):

$$-d_{xyz} \quad d_{tyz} \quad d_{tzx} \quad d_{txy} \quad (6)$$

$$d_{yz}^2 \quad d_{zx}^2 \quad d_{xy}^2 \quad d_{tx}^2 \quad d_{ty}^2 \quad d_{tz}^2 \quad (7)$$

$$d_t^3 \quad d_x^3 \quad d_y^3 \quad d_z^3 \quad (8)$$

$$d^4 \quad (9)$$

so that $-d_{xyz} := d\tilde{t}$ and so on. Similar notation is used for outer-oriented multivector fields; for instance $-\partial xyz := \partial_{\tilde{t}}$. Here is an example of an outer-oriented 3-covector written in terms of the bases and notation above. Note the position of the super- and sub-scripts:

$$\begin{aligned} & n_{xyz} d^3\tilde{x}yz - n_{tyz} d^3\tilde{t}yz - n_{tzx} d^3\tilde{t}zx - n_{txy} d^3\tilde{t}xy \\ & \equiv n^t d_t^3 + n^x d_x^3 + n^y d_y^3 + n^z d_z^3 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

with $n^t \equiv n_{xyz}$, $n^x \equiv n_{tyz}$, and so on.

Contraction or dot-product of vectors and covectors is denoted by \cdot , and always contracts the maximal possible amount of contiguous elements. For instance

$$d^3xyz \cdot \partial_{yz}^2 = dx \quad - \partial_{txy}^3 \cdot dx = \partial_{ty}^2. \quad (11)$$

If γ is a non-zero 4-covector and γ^{-1} the inverse 4-vector, that is, $\gamma \cdot \gamma^{-1} = \gamma^{-1} \cdot \gamma = 1$, and if N is a 3-covector and ϕ a 1-covector, we have the useful identity

$$N \wedge \phi = (N \cdot \gamma^{-1} \cdot \phi) \gamma, \quad (12)$$

which also holds as long as the degrees of N and ϕ sum up to 4.

We often consider vector- or covector-valued covectors, written as sums of tensor products. They can be outer- or inner-oriented. For instance

$$d_t^3 \otimes dx \equiv d^3\tilde{x}yz \otimes dx, \quad d_x^3 \otimes \partial_y. \quad (13)$$

The operation \wedge between a vector-valued covector and a covector-valued covector is the contraction of their vector- and covector-valued

parts and the exterior product of their covector parts. For instance, if ϕ and ψ are covectors, ω is a covector, and u is a vector, then

$$(\phi \otimes \omega) \wedge (\psi \otimes u) := (\phi \wedge \psi) \otimes (\omega \cdot u) \quad (14)$$

As another example,

$$(\mathrm{d}_t^3 \otimes \mathrm{d}x) \wedge (\mathrm{d}_t \otimes \partial_x) = (\mathrm{d}_t^3 \wedge \mathrm{d}_t) (\mathrm{d}x \cdot \partial_x) = -\mathrm{d}^4. \quad (15)$$

2 Linear transformations of multivector bases

Often we must consider multiplication of the basis of vectors or covectors by a square matrix, say

$$M_{\alpha\beta} \mathrm{d}u^\beta,$$

leading to an object in a vector space of the same dimension. The two most important examples for us are:

- coordinate transformations, for example

$$\mathrm{d}\alpha' = \frac{\partial \alpha'}{\partial \alpha} \mathrm{d}\alpha$$

- raising or lowering of indices with the metric, for example

$$\mathrm{d}\alpha \mapsto g^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\beta.$$

The corresponding operations for multivectors involve compound matrices of the original transformation matrix¹. For the spaces of 3-vectors and 3-covectors we have simplified formulae²:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{d}_{\alpha'}^3 &= \det\left(\frac{\partial \alpha'}{\partial \alpha}\right) \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \alpha'} \mathrm{d}_\alpha^3 \\ \partial^3 \alpha' &= \det\left(\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \alpha'}\right) \frac{\partial \alpha'}{\partial \alpha} \partial^3 \alpha \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

note how the 3-covectors almost transforms as 1-vectors and 3-vectors and 1-covectors, apart from a determinant factor.

In an analogous way

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{d}_\alpha^3 &\mapsto \frac{1}{|g|} g_{\alpha\beta} \partial^3 \beta \\ \partial^3 \alpha &\mapsto |g| g^{\alpha\beta} \mathrm{d}_\beta^3 \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

¹ Choquet-Bruhat et al. 1996 § IV.A.1 p. 199. ² Gantmacher 2000 § I.4 eq. (33).

3 Metric

We take the metric \mathbf{g} to have signature $(-, +, +, +)$ and dimensions of area. The determinant and the negative of its square root are denoted shortly

$$g := \det \mathbf{g} \quad \sqrt{g} := \sqrt{-\det \mathbf{g}}. \quad (18)$$

The volume element induced by the metric \mathbf{g} has dimensions of volume-time and is denoted (note the boldface)

$$\gamma := \frac{\sqrt{g}}{c} d^4 \tilde{t}_{xyz} \equiv \frac{\sqrt{g}}{c} d^4 \quad (19)$$

and its corresponding inverse, a twisted 4-vector:

$$\gamma^{-1} := \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} \partial^4. \quad (20)$$

Contraction with the volume element or its inverse establishes a “volume duality” between outer n -covectors and inner $(4 - n)$ -vectors:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc} \partial_{xyz}^3 & \partial_{tyz}^3 & \partial_{tzx}^3 & \partial_{txy}^3 \\ \partial_{tx}^2 & \partial_{ty}^2 & \partial_{tz}^2 & \partial_{yz}^2 & \partial_{zx}^2 & \partial_{xy}^2 \\ \partial_t & \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ \partial_{txyz}^4 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\frac{\sqrt{g}}{c} \gamma^{-1}} \\ \xrightarrow{\gamma \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}}} \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} d_{xyz} & d_{tyz} & d_{tzx} & d_{txy} \\ d_{yz}^2 & d_{zx}^2 & d_{xy}^2 & d_{tx}^2 & d_{ty}^2 & d_{tz}^2 \\ d_t^3 & d_x^3 & d_y^3 & d_z^3 \\ d^4 \end{array} \right) \quad (21)$$

This is the reason why in older literature an outer-oriented n -covector is treated as a $(4 - n)$ -“vector density”, that is, a vector divided by the square root of the volume element.

The metric on the space of 1-vectors also induces metrics on the spaces of 1-covectors, 2-vectors and 2-covectors, and so on. In particular, the metrics $\overset{3}{g}^{-1}$ on the space of 3-covectors and $\overset{3}{g}$ on the space of 3-vectors can be written in coordinates as

$$\overset{3}{g}^{-1} = \frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{g} \partial^3 \mu \otimes \partial^3 \nu \quad \text{with dimensions length}^{-6} \quad (22)$$

$$\overset{3}{g} = g g^{\mu\nu} d_\mu^3 \otimes d_\nu^3 \quad \text{with dimensions length}^6. \quad (23)$$

With these we can define squared norms $\|\cdot\|^2$ on all those spaces. Note in particular the following identity:

$$\|\gamma^{-1} \cdot N\|^2 = -c^2 \|N\| \quad \text{for every 3-covector } N. \quad (24)$$

If the coordinates are orthonormal at some point, then the metric at that point has components

$$\begin{bmatrix} -c^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (25)$$

and the volume element is simply d^4 .

4 Matter current

The amount-of-matter current N is an outer-oriented 3-covector

$$N = N d_t^3 + J^i d_i^3 \quad (26)$$

of dimensions “amount of matter”, typically measured in moles, where

- N is the volumic amount of matter, measured per unit coordinate volume.
- J^i is the aeric flux of amount of matter (equivalent to a molar flux), measured per unit coordinate area and unit coordinate time.

The current for every particular kind of matter satisfies the conservation law

$$dN = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \partial_t N + \partial_i J^i = 0 \quad (27)$$

independent of any metric.

The common contravariant form of the matter current, “ N^μ ”, is obtained by contracting the matter current with the inverse volume element:

$${}'N^\mu \triangleq \gamma^{-1} \cdot N = \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} N \partial_t + \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} J^i \partial_i. \quad (28)$$

If a metric is present, a four-velocity U can be associated with the matter current N , defined by the following properties and identity:

$$U \cdot N = 0 \quad \|U\|^2 = -c^2 \quad (29)$$

$$U = \frac{1}{\|N\|} \gamma^{-1} \cdot N \quad (30)$$

which also implies (for normal matter)

$$N = \|N\| U \cdot \gamma \quad (31)$$

For normal matter (as opposed to antimatter) $\|N\|^2 \geq 0$.

5 Four-stress

The stress-energy-momentum tensor, or simply four-stress, is a covector-valued 3-covector field, the 3-covector being outer-oriented. It has the dimensions of an action, and can be decomposed as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{T} &= T^\mu{}_\nu \, d^3_\mu \otimes dx^\nu \\ &= -\epsilon \, d^3_t \otimes dt - q^i \, d^3_i \otimes dt + p_j \, d^3_i \otimes dx^j + \pi^i_j \, d^3_i \otimes dx^j \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

the indices i, j running over x, y, z , and where:

- The energy ϵ is a density per unit *coordinate* volume xyz , and possibly includes a conversion factor for the time unit. If the point at which the four-stress is considered has a matter-current, then this energy comprises “rest” energy, kinetic energy, potential gravitational energy, and centrifugal potential energy.
- The energy flux q^j is an energy per coordinate area and coordinate time, and possibly includes a conversion factor for the time unit. If the point at which the four-stress is considered has a matter-current, then this flux term includes transport of the energy term above and also heat flux.
- The momentum p_i is a momentum density per unit coordinate volume, and includes a conversion factor for the length x^i .
- The compressive three-stress π^i_j are forces per unit coordinate area, possibly including conversion factors for the time unit and the length x^j . If the point at which the four-stress is considered has a matter-current, then this stress comprises momentum transport and internal stresses.

Suppose the coordinates $txyz$ are orthogonal and the metric at a point has diagonal components

$$\begin{bmatrix} g_{tt} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_{xx} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & g_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & g_{zz} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (33)$$

The diagonal elements g_{tt}, \dots include a dimensions or unit transformation factor. For instance, if x has dimensions of angle, then g_{xx} has dimensions of area per squared angle.

The common contra-contra-variant form of the stress, “ $T^{\mu\nu}$ ”, is obtained by contracting the four-stress with the inverse volume element and the inverse metric:

$$\begin{aligned} 'T^{\mu\nu}' \triangleq \gamma^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{g}^{-1} &= -\frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{g^{tt}}{\sqrt{g}} \epsilon \partial_t \otimes \partial_t - \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{g^{tt}}{\sqrt{g}} q^i \partial_i \otimes \partial_t \\ &\quad + \sum_j \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{g^{jj}}{\sqrt{g}} p_j \partial_t \otimes \partial_j + \sum_j \frac{c}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{g^{jj}}{\sqrt{g}} \pi_j^i \partial_i \otimes \partial_j . \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

One important detail in finding the Newtonian approximation of “energy density” is that *one takes different zeros of energy density in different coordinate systems*: the zero is taken as the molar mass times the molar density *in the current coordinate system*.

The *total* four-stress satisfies the balance equation

$$D\mathbf{T} = 0 \quad (35)$$

which is equivalent to the four balance equations

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t e + \partial_i q^i &= e \Gamma_{tt}^t + q^i \Gamma_{it}^t - p_j \Gamma_{tt}^j - \pi_k^i \Gamma_{it}^k \\ \partial_t p_j + \partial_i \pi_j^i &= -e \Gamma_{ij}^t - q^i \Gamma_{ij}^t + p_k \Gamma_{ij}^k + \pi_k^i \Gamma_{ij}^k \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

In general relativity the *total* four-stress also satisfies

$$(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{g}^{-1})^\top - \gamma^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{g}^{-1} = 0 . \quad (37)$$

The four-stress determines an association between any 1-vector V field and an outer-oriented 3-covector field, interpreted as a current:

$$V \mapsto \mathbf{T} \cdot V . \quad (38)$$

This current satisfies the balance equation

$$d(\mathbf{T} \cdot V) = -\mathbf{T} \wedge \nabla V = \text{tr}(\mathbf{T}^\top \cdot \gamma^{-1} \cdot \nabla V) \gamma \quad (39)$$

which is a conservation law if V is a Killing vector.

For the special case $V = \partial_\alpha$ the formula above becomes

$$d(T^\mu_\alpha d^3_\mu) = T^\mu_\nu \Gamma^\nu_{\mu\alpha} d^4 \iff \partial_\mu T^\mu_\alpha = T^\mu_\nu \Gamma^\nu_{\mu\alpha} \quad (40)$$

Consider a region where there is a non-vanishing matter current N with associated four-velocity U , and define

$$\bar{U} = -\frac{1}{c} \mathbf{g} \cdot U \quad (41)$$

which satisfies

$$\bar{U} \cdot U = 1, \quad \nabla U \cdot \bar{U} = 0. \quad (42)$$

The last equality can be proved from $\nabla \mathbf{g} = 0$ and

$$0 = -\nabla(c^2) = \nabla(U \cdot \mathbf{g} \cdot U) = 2(\nabla U) \cdot \mathbf{g} \cdot U. \quad (43)$$

We can associate with the matter a four-stress T which can be decomposed as follows:

$$T = -\epsilon N \otimes \bar{U} + N \otimes P - (\bar{U} \wedge Q) \otimes \bar{U} + \bar{U} \wedge S \quad (44)$$

with $P \cdot U = 0 \quad Q \cdot U = 0 \quad U \cdot S = 0 \quad S \cdot U = 0$

where

- ϵ is a scalar, the molar energy density.
- P is a 1-covector, the molar momentum density.
- Q is a 2-covector, the areic energy-flux density.
- S is a 1-covector-valued 2-covector, the three-stress related to the Cauchy stress.

Using the four-velocity U associated with the matter current we obtain what could be called the “internal-energy current”:

$$T \cdot U \equiv -\epsilon N - \bar{U} Q \quad (45)$$

which, from eqs (39), (41), (27), satisfies the balance law

$$d(T \cdot U) = -T \wedge \nabla U \quad (46)$$

or

$$d(-\epsilon N - \bar{U} Q) = (\epsilon N \otimes \bar{U}) \cdot \nabla U - (N \otimes P) \cdot \nabla U + (\bar{U} Q \otimes \bar{U}) \cdot \nabla U - \bar{U} S \cdot \nabla U \quad (47)$$

or simply

$$N d\epsilon + \bar{U} dQ - Q d\bar{U} = -N \nabla U \cdot P - (\bar{U} S) \cdot \nabla U . \quad (48)$$

The last balance equation corresponds to eq. (28) in Eckart (1940), except for the fact that here we are keeping the momentum P and heat flux Q distinct.

6 Electromagnetic field

The electromagnetic field, represented by the Faraday 2-covector, is typically decomposed as³

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F} &= \mathbf{E} dt + \mathbf{B} \\ &\equiv E_x d^2xt + E_y d^2yt + E_z d^2zt + B^x d^2yz + B^y d^2zx + B^z d^2xy \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

The conservation of magnetic flux is expressed by

$$d\mathbf{F} = 0 \quad (50)$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_i B^i &= 0 & (d^3xyz \text{ component}) \\ \partial_t B^x + \partial_y E_z - \partial_z E_y &= 0 & (d^3tyz) \\ \partial_t B^y + \partial_z E_x - \partial_x E_z &= 0 & (d^3tzx) \\ \partial_t B^z + \partial_x E_y - \partial_y E_x &= 0 & (d^3txy) \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

Appendices

A Matrix representation

Column-vectors, row-vectors, and matrices are useful to encode the components of geometric objects, but they are too few to faithfully encode the difference between co- and contra-variant objects and multivectors of different orders. Here are some useful conventions and procedures.

1-vectors represented by column-matrices

1-covectors represented by row-matrices

³ Frankel 1979 ch. 9.

3-vectors represented by row-matrices

3-covectors represented by column-matrices

objects such as metrics, covector-valued 3-covectors, tensor products of 1-vector and 1-covector, and similar must be represented by matrices.

Here are the matrix representations of several operations. Consider these objects:

- u^\bullet is a 1-vector, represented by the column-matrix u .
- Similarly for v^\bullet .
- ω_\bullet is a 1-covector, represented by the row-matrix ω .
- $g_{\bullet\bullet}$ is a co-covector, represented by the matrix g . The rows of the matrix represent the left side of the tensor product; and the columns, the right side.
- $g^{-1\bullet\bullet}$ is a contra-contravector, inverse of g , that is: $g \cdot g^{-1} = \text{id}_\bullet$. The rows of the matrix represent the left side of the tensor product; and the columns, the right side.
- $Q_{|\bullet\bullet\bullet|}$ is a 3-covector, represented by the column-matrix Q .
- $T_{|\bullet\bullet\bullet|}$ is a 1-covector-valued 3-covector, represented by the matrix T . The rows represent the 3-covector components; the columns, the 1-covector components.
- $\gamma_{|\bullet\bullet\bullet|}$ is a 4-covector, represented by the number γ .
- $\gamma^{-1|\bullet\bullet\bullet\bullet|}$ is a 4-vector, represented by the number γ^{-1} .
- The Jacobian matrix $\frac{\partial x'}{\partial x}$ from “old” coordinates x to “new” coordinates x' is represented by the matrix J . The rows correspond to the new coordinates x' ; the columns, to the old x .
- The inverse-Jacobian matrix $\frac{\partial x}{\partial x'}$ from new coordinates x' to old coordinates x is represented by the matrix J^{-1} . The rows correspond to the old coordinates x ; the columns, to the new x' .

Then – note that the order on the right side is important:

- Contractions, index raising and lowering

$$\text{(object)} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{(matrix repr)} \qquad \qquad \qquad (52)$$

$$\omega \cdot u \qquad \qquad \qquad \omega u \equiv u^\top \omega^\top \quad \text{(number)} \qquad \qquad (53)$$

$$v \cdot g \cdot u \qquad \qquad \qquad v^\top g u \quad \text{(number)} \qquad \qquad (54)$$

$$g \cdot u \qquad \qquad \qquad u^\top g^\top \quad \text{(row-matrix)} \qquad \qquad (55)$$

$$\omega \cdot g^{-1} \qquad \qquad \qquad g^{-\top} \omega^\top \quad \text{(column-matrix)} \qquad \qquad (56)$$

$$\gamma^{-1} \cdot Q \qquad \qquad \qquad \gamma^{-1} Q \quad \text{(column-matrix)} \qquad \qquad (57)$$

$$\gamma^{-1} \cdot T \qquad \qquad \qquad \gamma^{-1} T \quad \text{(column-matrix)} \qquad \qquad (58)$$

$$T \cdot u \qquad \qquad \qquad T u \quad \text{(column-matrix)} \qquad \qquad (59)$$

$$g \cdot (\gamma^{-1} \cdot T) \cdot u \qquad \qquad \qquad \gamma^{-1} g T u \quad \text{(matrix)} \qquad \qquad (60)$$

- Transformations

$$\text{(old coords)} \quad \mapsto \quad \text{(new coords)} \qquad \qquad \qquad (61)$$

$$u \quad \mapsto \quad J u \qquad \qquad \qquad (62)$$

$$\omega \quad \mapsto \quad \omega J^{-1} \qquad \qquad \qquad (63)$$

$$g \quad \mapsto \quad J^{-\top} g J^{-1} \qquad \qquad \qquad (64)$$

$$Q \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{1}{\det J} J Q \qquad \qquad \qquad (65)$$

$$\gamma \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{1}{\det J} \gamma \qquad \qquad \qquad (66)$$

$$\gamma^{-1} \quad \mapsto \quad \det J \gamma^{-1} \qquad \qquad \qquad (67)$$

$$T \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{1}{\det J} J T J^{-1} \qquad \qquad \qquad (68)$$

B Checks about optimal representation of four-stress

First a lemma about the exterior derivative of some outer-oriented 3-covectors:

$$\begin{aligned} d(f d_t^3) &= d(f d^3 \tilde{x} y z) = \partial_t f dt \wedge d^3 \tilde{x} y z + 0 = \partial_t f d^4 \tilde{x} y z \\ d(f d_x^3) &= -d(f d^3 \tilde{t} y z) = -\partial_x f dx \wedge d^3 \tilde{t} y z + 0 = \partial_x f d^4 \tilde{t} x y z \\ d(f d_i^3) &= \partial_i f d^4 \tilde{t} x y z \end{aligned} \qquad (69)$$

And a lemma about the covariant derivative of some inner-oriented 1-covectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla(dt) &= -\Gamma_{tt}^t dt \otimes dt - \Gamma_{tj}^t dt \otimes dx^j - \Gamma_{it}^t dx^i \otimes dt - \Gamma_{ij}^t dx^i \otimes dx^j \\ \nabla(dx^k) &= -\Gamma_{tt}^k dt \otimes dt - \Gamma_{tj}^k dt \otimes dx^j - \Gamma_{it}^k dx^i \otimes dt - \Gamma_{ij}^k dx^i \otimes dx^j\end{aligned}\quad (70)$$

If ω is a 3-covector, ϕ a 1-covector, and D the exterior covariant derivative, then

$$D(\phi \otimes \omega) = (d\phi) \otimes \omega - \phi \wedge \nabla \omega \quad (71)$$

and in particular

$$D(\phi \otimes dx^\alpha) = (d\phi) \otimes dx^\alpha + \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha (\phi \wedge dx^\mu) \otimes dx^\nu. \quad (72)$$

Let's also consider the contraction with a 1-vector u :

$$\begin{aligned}D(\phi \otimes \omega \cdot u) &= D(\phi \otimes \omega) \cdot u - (\phi \otimes \omega) \wedge \nabla u \\ &\equiv D(\phi \otimes \omega) \cdot u - \phi \wedge \nabla u \cdot \omega \\ &= d\phi \otimes \omega \cdot u - \phi \wedge \nabla \omega \cdot u - \phi \wedge \nabla u \cdot \omega.\end{aligned}\quad (73)$$

and in particular

$$D(\phi \otimes dx^\alpha \cdot u) = d\phi u^\alpha - \phi \wedge dx^\beta \partial_\beta u^\alpha \quad (74)$$

A balance equation with the exterior covariant derivative then becomes

$$DT = 0 \quad \implies \quad d(T \cdot u) = -T \wedge \nabla u \quad (75)$$

Then

$$0 = D\mathbf{T}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= D(-e \, d_t^3 \otimes dt - q^i \, d_i^3 \otimes dt + p_j \, d_t^3 \otimes dx^j + \pi_j^i \, d_i^3 \otimes dx^j) \\
 &= -\partial_t e \, d^4 \otimes dt - \partial_i q^i \, d^4 \otimes dt + \partial_t p_j \, d^4 \otimes dx^j + \partial_i \pi_j^i \, d^4 \otimes dx^j - \\
 &\quad \left[e \, \Gamma_{tt}^t \, d_t^3 \wedge dt \otimes dt + e \, \Gamma_{tj}^t \, d_t^3 \wedge dt \otimes dx^j + 0 \right. \\
 &\quad q^i \, \Gamma_{it}^t \, d_i^3 \wedge dx^i \otimes dt + q^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^t \, d_i^3 \wedge dx^i \otimes dx^j + 0 \\
 &\quad - p_j \, \Gamma_{tt}^j \, d_t^3 \wedge dt \otimes dt - p_k \, \Gamma_{tj}^k \, d_t^3 \wedge dt \otimes dx^j + 0 \\
 &\quad \left. - \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{it}^k \, d_i^3 \wedge dx^i \otimes dt - \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^k \, d_i^3 \wedge dx^i \otimes dx^j \right] \\
 &= d^4 \otimes [\\
 &\quad - \partial_t e \, dt + e \, \Gamma_{tt}^t \, dt + e \, \Gamma_{tj}^t \, dx^j \\
 &\quad - \partial_i q^i \, dt + q^i \, \Gamma_{it}^t \, dt + q^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^t \, dx^j \\
 &\quad + \partial_t p_j \, dx^j - p_j \, \Gamma_{tt}^j \, dt - p_k \, \Gamma_{tj}^k \, dx^j \\
 &\quad + \partial_i \pi_j^i \, dx^j - \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{it}^k \, dt - \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^k \, dx^j \\
 &\quad] \\
 &\tag{76}
 \end{aligned}$$

The equation above corresponds to the four balance equations

$$\partial_t e + \partial_i q^i = e \, \Gamma_{tt}^t + q^i \, \Gamma_{it}^t - p_j \, \Gamma_{tt}^j - \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{it}^k \tag{77}$$

$$\partial_t p_j + \partial_i \pi_j^i = -e \, \Gamma_{tj}^t - q^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^t + p_k \, \Gamma_{tj}^k + \pi_k^i \, \Gamma_{ij}^k \tag{78}$$

For $\mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{u}$ we find first

$$\mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{u} = (-e \, u^t + p_j \, u^j) \, d_t^3 + (-q^i \, u^t + \pi_j^i \, u^j) \, d_i^3 \tag{79}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{T} \wedge \nabla \mathbf{u} &= (-e \, \partial_t u^t + p_j \, \partial_t u^j) \, d_t^3 \wedge dt + (-q^i \, \partial_i u^t + \pi_j^i \, \partial_i u^j) \, d_i^3 \wedge dx^i \\
 &\quad + \Gamma \text{ terms} \\
 &\tag{80}
 \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_t(-e u^t + p_j u^j) + \partial_i(-q^i u^t + \pi_j^i u^j) = \\
 -e \partial_t u^t + p_j \partial_t u^j - q^i \partial_i u^t + \pi_j^i \partial_i u^j \\
 - (e \Gamma_{tt}^t + q^i \Gamma_{it}^t - p_j \Gamma_{tt}^j - \pi_k^i \Gamma_{it}^k) u^t \\
 - (e \Gamma_{tj}^t + q^i \Gamma_{ij}^t - p_k \Gamma_{tj}^k - \pi_k^i \Gamma_{ij}^k) u^j \quad (81)
 \end{aligned}$$

Radial case

$$\partial_t e + \partial_r q^r = e \Gamma_{tt}^t + q^r \Gamma_{rt}^t + p_r \Gamma_{tt}^r + \pi_r^r \Gamma_{rt}^r \quad (82)$$

$$\partial_t p_r + \partial_r \pi_r^r = e \Gamma_{tr}^t + q^r \Gamma_{rr}^t + p_r \Gamma_{tr}^r + \pi_r^r \Gamma_{rr}^r \quad (83)$$

$$\partial_t e + \partial_r q^r = q^r \frac{g}{c^2} + p_r g \quad (84)$$

$$\partial_t p_r + \partial_r \pi_r^r = e \frac{g}{c^2} \quad (85)$$

Let's consider a Cartesian coordinate system over a small neighbourhood on the Earth's surface, with z pointing upwards. In the Newtonian approximation we have⁴

$$\Gamma_{jt}^t = \Gamma_{tj}^t = \frac{GM}{c^2} \frac{x^j}{r^3} \approx \frac{g}{c^2} \quad \Gamma_{tt}^j = GM \frac{x^j}{r^3} \approx g \quad (86)$$

where g is the standard acceleration, considered positive. Take also $p_j \approx mv_j$ and $e \approx mc^2 + \frac{1}{2}mv^2$.

The balances above become

$$\partial_t e + \partial_i q^i = q^z \frac{g}{c^2} + p_z g \quad (87)$$

$$\partial_t p_z + \partial_i \pi_z^i = e \frac{g}{c^2} \quad (88)$$

Also,

⁴ Poisson & Will 2014 §5.2.3.

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{tt}^t &\approx -2\frac{g}{c^2}v(t) & \Gamma_{jt}^t &= \Gamma_{tj}^t \approx \frac{g}{c^2} \\ \Gamma_{tt}^j &\approx g - 2\frac{g}{c^2}v(t)^2 - \dot{v}(t) & \Gamma_{jt}^j &= \Gamma_{tj}^j \approx \frac{g}{c^2}v(t)\end{aligned}\quad (89)$$

$$\partial_t e + \partial_i q^i = -e 2\frac{g}{c^2}v(t) + q^z \frac{g}{c^2} + p_j \left(g - 2\frac{g}{c^2}v(t)^2 - \dot{v}(t) \right) + \pi_z^z \frac{g}{c^2}v(t) \quad (90)$$

$$\partial_t p_z + \partial_i \pi_z^i = e \frac{g}{c^2} + p_z \frac{g}{c^2}v(t) \quad (91)$$

C Works with useful content

- Eq. (21) in⁵: fluid with heat conduction.
- Factor 1/2 in kinetic energy: § 6.3.3 in⁶

For transformation or raising:⁷.

$$\gamma \cdot (B \wedge A) = (-1)^{\deg A \deg B} \gamma \cdot (A \wedge B) \quad (92)$$

with $\deg(B) = n - \deg(A)$ ⁸

Compound matrices:⁹

Bibliography

(“de X” is listed under D, “van X” under V, and so on, regardless of national conventions.)

- Barnabei, M., Brini, A., Rota, G.-C. (1985): *On the exterior calculus of invariant theory*. J. Algebra **96**¹, 120–160. [doi:10.1016/0021-8693\(85\)90043-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/0021-8693(85)90043-2).
- Choquet-Bruhat, Y., DeWitt-Morette, C., Dillard-Bleick, M. (1996): *Analysis, Manifolds and Physics. Part I: Basics*, rev. ed. (Elsevier, Amsterdam). First publ. 1977.
- Eckart, C. (1940): *The thermodynamics of irreversible processes. III. Relativistic theory of the simple fluid*. Phys. Rev. **58**¹⁰, 919–924. [doi:10.1103/PhysRev.58.919](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRev.58.919).
- Frankel, T. (1979): *Gravitational Curvature: An Introduction to Einstein's Theory*. (W. H. Freeman and Company, San Francisco).
- Gantmacher, F. R. (2000): *The Theory of Matrices. Vol. 1*, repr. (American Mathematical Society, Providence, USA). <https://archive.org/details/gantmacher-the-theory-of-matrices-vol-1-1959>. First publ. in Russian 1959. Transl. by K. A. Hirsch.
- Gotay, M. J., Marsden, J. E. (1992): *Stress-energy-momentum tensors and the Belinfante-Rosenfeld formula*. Contemp. Math. **132**, 367–392. <https://www.cds.caltech.edu/~marsden/bi/b/1992/05-GoMa1992/>, [doi:https://doi.org/10.1090/conm/132](https://doi.org/10.1090/conm/132).

⁵ Maugin 1974. ⁶ourgoulhon 2012. ⁷ Gantmacher 2000 § I.4 eq. (33). ⁸ Barnabei et al. 1985 prop. 4.1. ⁹ Choquet-Bruhat et al. 1996 § IV.A.1 p. 199, Problem 1 p. 270.

- Gourgoulhon, É. (2012): *3+1 Formalism in General Relativity: Bases of Numerical Relativity*. (Springer, Heidelberg). First publ. 2007 as arXiv [DOI:10.48550/arXiv.gr-qc/0703035](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.48550/arXiv.gr-qc/0703035).
[DOI:10.1007/978-3-642-24525-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-24525-1).
- Maugin, G. A. (1974): *Constitutive equations for heat conduction in general relativity*. J. Phys. A 7⁴, 465–484. [DOI:10.1088/0305-4470/7/4/010](https://doi.org/10.1088/0305-4470/7/4/010).
- Poisson, E., Will, C. M. (2014): *Gravity: Newtonian, Post-Newtonian, Relativistic*. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge). [DOI:10.1017/CB09781139507486](https://doi.org/10.1017/CB09781139507486).