

ASSIGNMENT 5
Mathematical Methods

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1/ Consider a second order contravariant tensor of type $(2,0)$: A^{ij} .

Suppose that it is a skew-symmetric tensor w.r.t the pair of indices i and j in x^i coordinate system, i.e. $A^{ji} = -A^{ij}$.

We'll show that in some other coordinate system \bar{x}^i also, this tensor is ^{skew-}symmetric w.r.t these two indices.

By transformation law, we have:

$$\bar{A}^{ij} = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^l} \times A^{kl}$$

$$= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^l} \times (-A^{lk}) \quad \left[\because A^{kl} = -A^{lk} \right]$$

$$= - \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^l} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times A^{lk}$$

$$= -\bar{A}^{ji} \quad \left[\text{from the transformation law of tensors} \right]$$

$\therefore \bar{A}^{ij} = -\bar{A}^{ji}$. So, the components A^{ij} of a tensor which is skew-symmetric w.r.t indices i and j in x^i coordinate system is again skew-symmetric w.r.t indices i and j in any other \bar{x}^i coordinate system, as $\bar{A}^{ij} = -\bar{A}^{ji}$.

Now, consider a covariant tensor of second order A_{ij} which is skew-symmetric in x^i coordinate system, i.e. $A_{ji} = -A_{ij}$.

We'll show that on transformation to \bar{x}^i coordinate system also, it will remain skew-symmetric.

By transformation law,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{A}_{ij} &= \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \times \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \times A_{kl} \\
 &= \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \times \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \times (-A_{lk}) \quad \left[\because A_{kl} = -A_{lk} \right] \\
 &= - \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \times \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \times A_{lk} \\
 &= -\bar{A}_{ji} \quad \therefore \bar{A}_{ij} = -\bar{A}_{ji}
 \end{aligned}$$

So we have proved the statement for second order tensors skew-symmetric w.r.t two contravariant or two covariant indices. For higher order tensors also it can be proved in a similar way, and hence we conclude: If a tensor is skew-symmetric w.r.t a pair of indices in one coordinate system, it is so in every coordinate system. [Proved.]

2) Let the components of a tensor be $A^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_s}$. The tensor is an (n, s) type tensor. Suppose its components vanish in x^i coordinate system, i.e. $A^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_s} = 0$.

Then, by law of transformation of tensors,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{A}^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_s} &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^{i_1}}{\partial x^{k_1}} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^{i_2}}{\partial x^{k_2}} \times \dots \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^{i_n}}{\partial x^{k_n}} \times \frac{\partial x^{l_1}}{\partial \bar{x}^{j_1}} \times \frac{\partial x^{l_2}}{\partial \bar{x}^{j_2}} \times \dots \times \frac{\partial x^{l_s}}{\partial \bar{x}^{j_s}} \times A^{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n}_{l_1 l_2 \dots l_s} \\
 &= 0 \quad \left[\because A^{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n}_{l_1 l_2 \dots l_s} = 0 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

So, components of the tensor vanish identically in any other coordinate system \bar{x}^i also, as $\bar{A}^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} = 0$.

Hence, if the components of a tensor vanish in one-coordinate system, they vanish identically in all coordinate systems. [Proved.]

3) Contraction of a tensor: The process of getting a tensor of lower rank/order (reduced by 2) by putting a covariant index equal to a contravariant index, and performing the summation according to summation convention, is known as contraction.

For example, consider a mixed tensor A^{ijk}_{lm} of order 5, of type (3,2). Then by law of transformation,

$$\bar{A}^{ijk}_{lm} = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^p} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^q} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^r} \times \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^l} \times \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^m} \times A^{pqr}_{st}$$

Put the covariant index $l = \text{contravariant index } i$.

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}^{ijk}_{im} &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^p} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^q} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^r} \times \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \times \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^m} \times A^{pqr}_{st} \\ &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^q} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^r} \times \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^m} \times \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial x^p} \times A^{pqr}_{st} \\ &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^q} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^r} \times \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^m} \times \delta^s_p \times A^{pqr}_{st} \quad \left[\because \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial x^p} = \delta^s_p \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial x^q} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^r} \times \frac{\partial x^t}{\partial \bar{x}^m} \times A^{pqr}_{pt} \end{aligned}$$

This is the law of transformation of a tensor of rank 3.

So, A^{ijk}_{im} is a tensor of rank 3 and type (2,1) whereas A^{ijk}_{lm} is of order 5 and type (3,2).

This shows that contraction reduces rank of a tensor by 2.

Now, to prove: $a_{ij} \times a^{ij} = \delta_j^j$

Let $d = |a_{ij}|$ be the determinant with elements a_{ij} and $d \neq 0$

Then, the reciprocal tensor of a_{ij} is defined as:

$$a^{ij} = \frac{\text{cofactor of } a_{ij} \text{ in the determinant } |a_{ij}|}{d} = \frac{B_{ij}}{d} \quad (\text{let.})$$

Then, from the properties of determinant, we know that the sum of an element multiplied by its cofactor over any row (column ~~for all elements~~) gives the determinant.

$$\text{So, } a_{ij} \times B_{ij} = d \Rightarrow a_{ij} \times \frac{B_{ij}}{d} = 1 \Rightarrow a_{ij} \times a^{ij} = 1$$

$$\text{And, we know, } \delta_j^j = 1. \quad \text{Hence, } \underline{a_{ij} \times a^{ij} = \delta_j^j} \quad [\text{Proved.}]$$

In general, we have the result: $a_{ij} \times a^{kj} = \delta_i^k$

$$\text{So, } a_{ij} \times a^{ij} = \delta_i^i = \delta_j^j$$

4) Given : $c_{ij} A^i A^j$ is an invariant, for A^i being an arbitrary contravariant vector.

$$\text{So, } \overline{c}_{ij} \overline{A}^i \overline{A}^j = c_{kl} A^k A^l$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{c}_{ij} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^i}{\partial x^k} A^k \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^j}{\partial x^l} A^l = c_{kl} A^k A^l \quad \left[\because A^i \text{ is a contravariant vector} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\overline{c}_{ij} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^j}{\partial x^l} - c_{kl} \right) A^k A^l = 0 \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{i}$$

Let this be B_{kl} .

Then, $B_{kl} A^k A^l = 0$. As k, l are dummy indices, we now interchange them to get : $B_{lk} A^l A^k = 0$. So, $(B_{kl} + B_{lk}) A^k A^l = 0 \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{ii}$
As A^i is an arbitrary contravariant vector, so we must

$$\text{have: } B_{kl} + B_{lk} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{c}_{ij} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^j}{\partial x^l} - c_{kl} + \overline{c}_{ji} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^j}{\partial x^l} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^i}{\partial x^k} - c_{lk} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\overline{c}_{ij} + \overline{c}_{ji}) \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \times \frac{\partial \overline{x}^j}{\partial x^l} = (c_{kl} + c_{lk})$$

$$\Rightarrow (\overline{c}_{ij} + \overline{c}_{ji}) = \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial \overline{x}^i} \times \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \overline{x}^j} \times (c_{kl} + c_{lk}) \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{iii}$$

Hence, from \textcircled{iii} , we conclude that $(\overline{c}_{ij} + \overline{c}_{ji})$ is a covariant tensor of order 2. [Proved.]

5) To Prove: $\left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ i \ j \end{matrix} \right\} = \frac{\partial \log(\sqrt{g})}{\partial x^i}$

Here, $g = |g_{ij}|$ is the determinant

We know, $g_{ik} \cdot g^{il} = \delta_k^l \Rightarrow g_{ik} \cdot g^{ik} = \delta_k^k = 1$

Also, by definition, $g^{ik} = \frac{G_{ik}}{g}$; where G_{ik} = cofactor of g_{ik} in the determinant $|g_{ik}|$

$\Rightarrow g \cdot g^{ik} = G_{ik} \Rightarrow g \cdot g_{ik} \cdot g^{ik} = g_{ik} \cdot G_{ik}$

$\Rightarrow g = g_{ik} \cdot G_{ik} \quad [\because g_{ik} \cdot g^{ik} = 1]$
----- (i)

Differentiating (i) partially w.r.t g_{ik} , we get:

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial g_{ik}} = G_{ik}$$

Now, $\frac{\partial g}{\partial x^i} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial g_{ik}} \cdot \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^i} = G_{ik} \cdot \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^i}$

But, we know, $G_{ik} = g \cdot g^{ik}$ [shown earlier]

So, $\frac{\partial g}{\partial x^i} = g \cdot g^{ik} \cdot \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^i}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{g} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^i} = g^{ik} \cdot \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^i}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{g} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^j} = g^{ik} \cdot \left\{ [jk, i] + [ij, k] \right\} \quad \left[\because \frac{\partial g_{ik}}{\partial x^j} = [jk, i] + [ij, k] \right]$

$= g^{ik} [jk, i] + g^{ik} [ij, k]$

$= \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ j \ k \end{matrix} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ i \ j \end{matrix} \right\}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{g} \wedge \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^j} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\} \quad [\because k \text{ is a dummy index}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{g} \wedge \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^j} = 2 \wedge \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2g} \times \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^j} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \log(\sqrt{g})}{\partial x^j} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\} \quad \left[\because \frac{\partial \log(\sqrt{g})}{\partial x^j} = \frac{1}{2g} \times \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^j} \right]$$

$$\text{Hence, } \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ i \ j \end{matrix} \right\} = \frac{\partial \log(\sqrt{g})}{\partial x^j} \quad [\text{proved.}] \quad \left[\because \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \ i \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} i \\ i \ j \end{matrix} \right\} \right]$$

6) For each pair (i, j) , or for each independent g_{ij} , there are n distinct Christoffel symbols of each kind due to another free index k in each Christoffel symbol.

And, since g_{ij} is a symmetric tensor of rank 2, so it

has $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ independent components at max.

Hence, the number of independent components of Christoffel's symbol of each kind is $= n \times \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

$$= \frac{n^2(n+1)}{2}$$

Now we prove that the transformation of Christoffel's symbols form a group i.e. possess the transitive property.

Let the symbols in x^i coordinate system be transformed to the coordinate system \bar{x}^i and that be again transformed to $\bar{\bar{x}}^i$.

When coordinates x^i are transformed to \bar{x}^i , the law of transformation of Christoffel's symbols of second kind is:

$$\left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ i j \end{matrix} \right\} = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial x^q}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \cdot \left\{ \begin{matrix} s \\ p q \end{matrix} \right\} \dots \textcircled{i}$$

When coordinates \bar{x}^i are transformed to $\bar{\bar{x}}^i$, then:

$$\left\{ \begin{matrix} h \\ u v \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ i j \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k} + \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{matrix} s \\ p q \end{matrix} \right\} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial x^q}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

[From (i)]

$$+ \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k} + \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{matrix} h \\ u v \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} s \\ p q \end{matrix} \right\} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial x^q}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial x^s} + \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial \bar{x}^k}$$

$$+ \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^i \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^j} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^h}{\partial x^s} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \dots \textcircled{ii}$$

Now, we know that: $\frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} = \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \dots \textcircled{iii}$

Differentiating partially eqn. (iii) w.r.t $\bar{\bar{x}}^v$, we get:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \left(\frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \right) \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} + \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \left(\frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^i \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^j} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u} + \frac{\partial x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} = \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{\bar{x}}^u \partial \bar{\bar{x}}^v} \dots \textcircled{iv}$$

Multiplying (iv) by $\frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s}$, we get :

$$\frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^u} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \times \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^u \partial \bar{x}^v} = \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^u \partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s}$$

Replacing i with k in 2nd term on LHS [$\because i$ is a dummy index there],

$$\frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^u} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{x}^k} \times \frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^k}{\partial \bar{x}^u \partial \bar{x}^v} = \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^u \partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \quad \dots \textcircled{v}$$

Using (v) in eqn. (ii), we get :

$$\left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ u \ v \end{matrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} s \\ p \ q \end{matrix} \right\} \times \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^u} \times \frac{\partial x^q}{\partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} + \frac{\partial^2 x^s}{\partial \bar{x}^u \partial \bar{x}^v} \times \frac{\partial \bar{x}^k}{\partial x^s} \quad \dots \textcircled{vi}$$

And, eqn. (vi) is similar to eqn. (i), which shows that if we made direct transformation from x^i to \bar{x}^i coordinate system, we get the same law of transformation.

Hence Christoffel symbol of second kind possess group property (i.e. transitive property) upon transformation.

Now, we know that $[ij, m] = g_{km} \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ ij \end{matrix} \right\}$; where g_{km} is the fundamental tensor.

and, as $\left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ ij \end{matrix} \right\}$ possess group property upon transformation

and $[ij, m]$, i.e. Christoffel symbol of 1st kind, is a

product of g_{km} and $\left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ ij \end{matrix} \right\}$, and both follow transitive

property, so $[ij, m]$ also follows transitive property.

Note that, g_{km} follows transitive property as we had earlier proved that all types of tensors [in general, any $(4,5)$ type mixed tensor] possesses group property in transformation.

Hence, we conclude that the laws of transformations of Christoffel symbols possess group properties. [Proved.]