## SYMMETRIES IN GR:

We'll use a tool called killing vectors, they help us to study symmetries in manifolds. They are a pretty deep topic in differential geometry, but we'll deal with their elementary idea here.

An infinitesimal translation can be called a symmetry, if it leaves the line element unchanged:

$$\delta \left( ds^2 \right) = \delta \left( g_{ab} dx^a dx^b \right) = 0 \tag{1}$$

•  $\delta g_{ab} dx^a dx^b + g_{ab} \left[ \delta (\partial x^a) dx^b + dx^a \delta (dx^b) \right] = 0$ 

Let,  $\xi$  be a tangent vectors some curve  $X^a(\lambda)$  meaning  $\to \xi^a = \frac{dX^a}{d\lambda}$ . Thence, infinitesimal translation along  $\to \xi^a$  is an infinitesimal translation along the curve from P to P'.  $P = (X^a) P' = (X^a + \delta X^a)$ 

Let, P be parametrized by  $P = (X^1, X^2) P' = (X^1 + \delta X^1, X^2 + \delta X^2)$ 

• 
$$\delta X^1 = \frac{dX^1}{d\lambda} \delta \lambda = \xi^1 \delta \lambda, \ X^{a'} = X^a + \xi^a \delta \lambda$$

now, we expand our metric tensor and we'll consider only till first order because we are physicists(don't quote me on that).

• 
$$g_{ab}\left(P'\right) \approx g_{ab}\left(P'\right) + \frac{\partial g_{ab}}{\partial \lambda}\delta\lambda + \dots$$

$$= g_{ab} \left( P' \right) + \frac{\partial g_{ab}}{\partial x^{\alpha}} \frac{dX^{\alpha}}{d\lambda} \delta \lambda + \dots$$
 (2)

Since,  $\delta$  and d commute:

$$\delta (dX^{a}) = d (\delta X^{a}) = d \left( \overrightarrow{\xi}^{a} \delta \lambda \right) = d \overrightarrow{\xi}^{a} \delta \lambda \tag{3}$$

 $\frac{\partial \overrightarrow{\xi}^a}{\partial X^{\alpha}} dX^{\alpha} \delta \lambda = \xi^a_{,\alpha} dX^{\alpha} \delta \lambda$  where we have just used compactification notation, for convenience.

$$\bullet g_{ab,\alpha} \xi^{\alpha} \delta \lambda dX^a dX^b + g_{ab} \left[ \xi^a_{,\alpha} dX^a dX^b + \xi^b_{,\gamma} dX^{\gamma} dX^b \right]$$

$$\bullet \left[ g_{ab,\alpha} \xi^{\alpha} + g_{\gamma b} \xi^{\gamma}_{,a} + g_{a\gamma} \xi^{\gamma}_{,b} \right] dX^{a} dX^{b} \delta\lambda =$$

Now, we've seen Einstein's field equations before and they are invariant under  $\xi$  iff:

$$g_{ab,\alpha}\xi^{\alpha} + g_{\gamma b}\xi^{\gamma}_{,a} + g_{a\gamma}\xi^{\gamma}_{,b} = 0 \qquad (4)$$

They can be written covariantly like:

$$\xi_{a;b} + \xi_{b;a} = 0 \tag{5}$$

This is called the *killing equation*. We can use

it to calculate killing vectors to any given metric, if the metric even admits one.

## Lie Derivatives:

FOR MATH PROS: we define the lie brackets by:

 $[u, v] = \lim_{t\to 0} \frac{\Phi_{t*}v_{\Phi_{t(p)}}-v_{p}}{t} = [u, v]$  where  $\Phi_{t*}$  is the push forward of the flow  $\Phi_{t}$ . u,v are vector fields and  $\Phi$  is a diffeomorphism.

the *lie derivative* of vector field u w.r.t vector field v is defined by:

$$L_u v = [u, v] \tag{6}$$

sly, we can define derivative for functions on a vector field  $u: C^{\infty}(M) \to C^{\infty}(M)$ ,  $f \to u(f)$ 

$$u(f) = \lim_{t \to 0} (\Phi_t^* f - f)/t \tag{7}$$

Now, let's define for the majority here: It can be thought of as the variation of a tensor/form under an infinitesimal translation along the direction of

 $\xi$ , is called the lie derivative.

$$L_{\xi}U_{ab} = T_{ab,\alpha}\xi^{\alpha} + T_{\gamma b}\xi^{\gamma}_{,a} + T_{a\gamma}\xi^{\gamma}_{,b} \qquad (8)$$

For our metric:

$$L_{\xi}g_{ab} = g_{ab,\alpha}\xi^{\alpha} + g_{\gamma b}\xi^{\gamma}_{,a} + g_{a\gamma}\xi^{\gamma}_{,b} \qquad (9)$$

$$= \xi_{a,b} + \xi_{b,a} \tag{10}$$

If  $\to \xi$  is a killing vector of our metric then,  $L_{\xi}g_{ab} = 0$ .

If a solution admits a time—like killing vector, it is possible to choose the time component of basis vector such that it is aligned with

 $\xi$ . Now, our time coordinate lines coincides with worldline to which  $\to \xi$  is tangent.

$$\overrightarrow{\xi}^{a} = (\xi^{0}, 0, 0, 0)$$
 (11)

If  $\xi^0 = const.$ And unity:

$$\overrightarrow{\xi}^{a} = (1, 0, 0, 0)$$
 (12)

$$if, \frac{\partial g_{ab}}{\partial x^0} = 0 \tag{13}$$

This means that our metric accepts a time—like killing vector which can be used to make the metric time—independent.

Sly, for the existance of a space—like killing vector  $\partial g_{ab} \partial x^i = 0$ .

The map which leaves the metric unchanged is referred as an *isometry*.

Ex: killing vector of flat space—time:

In cartessian coordinates:  $\rightarrow \xi_{a,b} + \overline{\xi}_{b,a} = 0$ All the Christoffel symbols vanish in cartessian coordinate system.

$$\xi_{a,\beta\gamma} = 0 \tag{14}$$

This differential equation has a general solution which looks like:

$$\xi_a = C_a + \epsilon_{a\gamma} X^{\gamma} \to A) \tag{15}$$

by subbing this into our differential quation:  $\epsilon_{a\gamma} X_{\beta}$ (16)

This equation is satisfied if:

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = -\epsilon_{\beta\alpha} \tag{17}$$

The general killing vector field from A), can be written as a linear combination of ten killing vectors

$$\xi_a^A$$
, A = 1,2,...,10.  
 $\xi_a^A = C_a^A + \epsilon_{a\gamma}^A X^\gamma$  | again A goes from 1 to 10.

Here we'll choose them as:

$$C_a^1 = (1, 0, 0, 0), C_a^2 = (0, 1, 0, 0), C_a^3 = (0, 0, 1, 0), C_a^3 = (1, 0, 0, 0)$$

Other C's from 5 through 10 have the value of 0.

$$\epsilon_{a\beta}^{7} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \epsilon_{a\beta}^{8} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{20}$$

The other  $\epsilon$ 's 1 through 5 equal zero. CONSERVED QTY. IN GEODESICS:

$$\frac{dV^a}{d\tau} +_{\beta\gamma}^a V^{\beta} V^{\gamma} = 0 \tag{22}$$

$$\xi_a \left[ \frac{dV^a}{d\tau} +_{\beta\gamma}^a V^{\beta} V^{\gamma} \right] = \frac{d(\xi_a V^a)}{d\tau} - V^a \frac{d\xi_a}{d\tau} +_{\beta\gamma}^a V^{\beta} V^{\gamma}$$
(23)

$$= \frac{d(\xi_a V^a)}{d\tau} - V^{\beta} V^{\gamma} \left[ \frac{\partial \xi_{\beta}}{\partial x^y} - ^a_{\beta y} \xi_a \right] = 0 \quad (24)$$

$$=> \frac{d(\xi_a V^a)}{d\tau} - V^{\beta} V^{\gamma} \left(\xi_{\beta,\gamma}\right) = 0 \qquad (25)$$

Now, we know that  $V^{\beta}V^{\gamma}$  is anti-symmetric while  $\xi_{\beta,\gamma}$  is symmetric:

$$=>V^{\beta}V^{\gamma}\left(\xi_{\beta,\gamma}\right)=0$$

This means:  $\xi_a V^a = const.$ 

Which is basically telling us that there exist a conserved qty. for each killing vector. We can also write this as:

$$g_{a\mu}\xi^{\mu}V^{a} = const. \tag{26}$$

If the metric is asymptotically flat,  $g_{\mu\nu}$  will become  $\eta_{\mu\nu}$  at infinity

$$\eta_{00}V^{0} = const. => V^{0} = const. which means \frac{E}{c} = (27)$$

If there are space—like killing vectors:

$$g_{a1}\xi^{1}V^{a} = const. => g_{a1}V^{1} = const.$$
 (28)

$$p^{a} = mcV^{a} = > \frac{p^{1}}{mc} = const. \tag{29}$$