

Exercise 1. Inverse metric

Prove that

$$g^{\nu\sigma} \partial_\mu g_{\nu\sigma} = \frac{1}{g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x^\mu} , \quad (1)$$

where $g = \det(g_{\mu\nu})$ is the determinant of the spacetime metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, which depends on the coordinates x^ρ .

Hint: You may want to prove first that $\text{Tr} \log M = \log \det M$ for a symmetric square matrix M . In order to do so, you may want to use that any symmetric square matrix M can be diagonalised.

Exercise 2. Curvature tensor

A metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ can be described in terms of a line element as $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$. Consider the metric defined by

$$ds^2 = e^{2\Omega(t,x)} (-dt^2 + dx^2) , \quad (2)$$

where $\Omega(t,x)$ is a scalar function. Calculate the Riemann tensor $R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\sigma}$ for this spacetime in components as well as using the tetrad formalism introduced in the lecture.

Exercise 3. Killing vector fields

In Exercise sheet 4 we learned that

$$(L_X Y)^b = X^a \nabla_a Y^b - Y^a \nabla_a X^b . \quad (3)$$

- (a) Since the Lie derivative has the Leibnitz property and commutes with contractions, deduce from this result the action of the Lie derivative on 1-forms

$$(L_X \omega)_b = X^a \nabla_a \omega_b + \omega_a \nabla_b X^a \quad (4)$$

and on 2-forms

$$(L_X T)_{ab} = X^c \nabla_c T_{ab} + T_{cb} \nabla_a X^c + T_{ac} \nabla_b X^c . \quad (5)$$

Hint: By definition, $L_X f = X f = X^a \nabla_a f$.

- (b) Show that the formulae (4) and (5) are in fact independent of the choice of covariant derivative.
- (c) Suppose $\phi_t : M \rightarrow M$ is a one-parameter group of isometries, $\phi_t^* g = g$, where g is the metric on M . Show that the generating vector field X that is defined by $X(f) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ \phi_t) \right|_{t=0}$ satisfies the Killing vector equation

$$\nabla_a X_b + \nabla_b X_a = 0 , \quad (6)$$

where ∇_a is the covariant derivative with respect to which the metric is covariantly constant.

- (d) For the 4-dimensional Minkowski spacetime write down the Killing vectors generating boosts. Show that they satisfy the Killing equation (6).