

Exercise 1: Symmetries of the Curvature Tensor

(6 Points)

Show the following symmetry relations of the curvature tensor $R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda}$:

$$R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} = -R_{\nu\mu\rho\lambda} \quad (1)$$

$$R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\lambda} = -R^\mu{}_{\nu\lambda\rho} \quad (2)$$

$$R_{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} = R_{\rho\lambda\nu\mu} \quad (3)$$

$$R^\mu{}_{\nu\rho\lambda} + R^\mu{}_{\lambda\nu\rho} + R^\mu{}_{\rho\lambda\nu} = 0 \quad (4)$$

To show equations (1) and (3) it is useful to employ Riemann normal coordinates at the point p . This coordinate system satisfies the following properties at the point p :

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu = 0, \quad \partial_\nu \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_\mu g^{\alpha\beta} = 0.$$

Exercise 2: Robertson-Walker Metric and Photons

(6 Points)

In cartesian coordinates, the Robertson-Walker metric for flat space is given by:

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2 \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j. \quad (5)$$

- (a) In analogy to particles with mass, the 4-momentum of a massless particle can be written as

$$P^\alpha = \frac{dx^\alpha}{d\lambda} \quad \text{with} \quad P^\alpha P_\alpha = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad P^0 = E. \quad (6)$$

Since we are dealing with a massless particle, the affine parameter λ cannot be the proper time. Use the geodesic equation to show that the energy of the particle obeys the following relation

$$\frac{dE}{dt} + \frac{\dot{a}}{a} E = 0. \quad (7)$$

Hint: You do not have to calculate all Christoffel symbols.

- (b) Show that $E \sim \frac{1}{a}$ holds. What is the physical meaning of this result?

Exercise 3: Curvature of the Torus

(8 Points)

The torus can be embedded in three dimensional space with the parametrization

$$\vec{r}(\theta, \varphi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta(a + r \cos\varphi) \\ \sin\theta(a + r \cos\varphi) \\ r \sin\varphi \end{pmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

where a and r are constants.

- (a) Show that the induced metric tensor is given by $g_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}((a + r \cos\varphi)^2, r^2)$.

(b) Determine the geodesic equation starting from

$$\delta \int \sqrt{g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda}} d\lambda = 0, \quad (9)$$

and read off the non-vanishing Christoffel symbols.

(c) Calculate the non-vanishing components of the Riemann tensor

$$R^\rho{}_{\sigma\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \Gamma^\rho_{\nu\sigma} - \partial_\nu \Gamma^\rho_{\mu\sigma} + \Gamma^\rho_{\mu\lambda} \Gamma^\lambda_{\nu\sigma} - \Gamma^\rho_{\nu\lambda} \Gamma^\lambda_{\mu\sigma}. \quad (10)$$

Hint: Use the relations from exercise 1 and think about how many independent components there are!

(d) Calculate the Ricci tensor $R_{\mu\nu} = R^\lambda{}_{\mu\lambda\nu}$ and the Ricci scalar $R = R^\mu{}_\mu$.

(e) The torus can also be embedded in four dimensional space using the parametrization

$$\vec{r}(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} A \cos u \\ A \sin u \\ B \cos v \\ B \sin v \end{pmatrix}. \quad (11)$$

Calculate the components of the metric tensor and discuss your results.