

Tensors

1. Distinguish between a null vector and a zero vector in a Riemannian space.

⇒ In a Riemannian space a contravariant vector A^i is said to be a null vector if

$$g_{ij} A^i A^j = 0.$$

Also, a covariant vector is said to be a null vector if

$$g^{ij} A_i A_j = 0.$$

Again, A vector whose components are all zero in a coordinate system is called a zero vector.

∴ The components of a zero vector are all zero, it follows that zero vectors are null vectors. But the converse is not necessarily true.

2. If $\psi(x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n)$ is a scalar, test whether

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}$$
 is a Tensor.

⇒ Since ψ is a scalar, we have,

$$\bar{\psi} = \psi.$$

$$\text{Then, } \frac{\partial \bar{\psi}}{\partial \bar{x}^j} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^p} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^j}, \text{ since } \bar{\psi} = \psi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{\psi}}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} &= \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^l \partial x^p} \cdot \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^j} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^p} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^l \partial x^p} \cdot \frac{\partial x^l}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^j} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^p} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 x^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i \partial \bar{x}^j} \end{aligned}$$

Due to the presence of the second term in the right hand side, $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}$ is not a tensor in general.

3. If A^i and B_i are a contravariant vector and covariant vector respectively, show that the sum $A^i B_i$ is an invariant.

⇒ By the transformation law of covariant and contravariant vectors we have,

$$\bar{A}^i = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} A^k$$

and
$$\bar{B}_i = \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial \bar{x}^i} B_j$$

Hence
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}^i \bar{B}_i &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} A^k \cdot \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial \bar{x}^i} B_j \\ &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial x^k} \cdot \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial \bar{x}^i} A^k B_j \\ &= \delta_k^j A^k B_j \\ &= A^j B_j \\ &= A^i B_i \end{aligned}$$

changing the dummy index j by i .

This means that $A^i B_i$ is an invariant.

4. If A^i , B^j are arbitrary contravariant tensors and $c_{ij} A^i B^j$ is an invariant, show that c_{ij} is a 2nd order covariant tensor.

⇒
$$\bar{c}_{pq} \bar{A}^p \bar{B}^q = c_{ij} A^i B^j$$

$$\bar{c}_{pq} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i} A^i \frac{\partial \bar{x}^q}{\partial \bar{x}^j} B^j = c_{ij} A^i B^j$$

$$\text{or, } \left(\bar{c}_{pq} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^q}{\partial \bar{x}^j} - c_{ij} \right) A^i B^j = 0$$

Since $A^i B^j$ are arbitrary tensor,

$$\bar{c}_{pq} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^q}{\partial \bar{x}^j} = c_{ij}$$

Multiplying both side by $\frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$ and

Summing we get,

$$\bar{c}_{pq} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial \bar{x}^i} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^q}{\partial \bar{x}^j} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s} = c_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$$

$$\text{or, } \bar{c}_{pq} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^q}{\partial \bar{x}^s} = c_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$$

$$\text{or, } \bar{c}_{pq} \delta_n^p \delta_s^q = c_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$$

$$\text{or, } \bar{c}_{nq} \delta_s^q = c_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$$

$$\text{or, } \bar{c}_{ns} = c_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{x}^i}{\partial \bar{x}^n} \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{x}^j}{\partial \bar{x}^s}$$

This shows that c_{ij} is a covariant tensor of type $(0, 2)$.

5. Show that the angle between the vectors $(1, 0, 0, 0)$ and $(\sqrt{2}, 0, 0, \sqrt{3}/c)$, c being constant, in a space with line element given by

$$ds^2 = -(dx^1)^2 - (dx^2)^2 - (dx^3)^2 + c^2 (dx^4)^2 \text{ is not real.}$$

$$\Rightarrow ds^2 = -(dx^1)^2 - (dx^2)^2 - (dx^3)^2 + c^2 (dx^4)^2$$

$$g_{11} = -1, \quad g_{22} = -1, \quad g_{33} = -1, \quad g_{44} = c^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij} A^i A^j &= g_{11} A^1 A^1 + g_{22} A^2 A^2 + g_{33} A^3 A^3 + g_{44} A^4 A^4 \\ &= (-1) \cdot (1) \cdot (1) + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + c^2 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 \\ &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij} B^i B^j &= g_{11} B^1 B^1 + g_{22} B^2 B^2 + g_{33} B^3 B^3 + g_{44} B^4 B^4 \\ &= (-1) \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot (\sqrt{2}) + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (+c^2) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{c} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{c} \\ &= -2 + 3 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij} A^i B^j &= g_{11} A^1 B^1 + g_{22} A^2 B^2 + g_{33} A^3 B^3 + g_{44} A^4 B^4 \\ &= (-1) \cdot 1 \cdot \sqrt{2} + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + c^2 \cdot 0 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{c} \\ &= -\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

If θ be the angle, then

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{g_{ij} A^i B^j}{\sqrt{g_{ij} A^i A^j} \cdot \sqrt{g_{ij} B^i B^j}} = \frac{-\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{1}} \\ &= \frac{-\sqrt{2}}{i} = \frac{i^2 \sqrt{2}}{i} \\ &= \sqrt{2} i \end{aligned}$$

which is not real.

6. Define any unit vectors in a Riemannian space.

\Rightarrow A covariant vector A_i is said to be a unit vector or a covariant vector of unit length if $g^{ij} A_i A_j = 1$

A contravariant vector A^i is said to be a unit vector if $g_{ij} A^i A^j = 1$.

5. In a Riemannian space V^2 , find the quantities g^{ij} if $g_{ij} = i + j$.

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{l|l} g_{11} = 1+1 = 2 & g_{21} = 2+1 = 3 \\ g_{12} = 1+2 = 3 & g_{22} = 2+2 = 4 \end{array}$$

$$g = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = -1$$

$$\therefore g^{11} = \frac{4}{-1} = -4 \quad \left| \quad g^{21} = \frac{-3}{-1} = 3 \right.$$

$$g^{12} = \frac{-3}{-1} = 3 \quad \left| \quad g^{22} = \frac{2}{-1} = -2 \right.$$

$$\therefore g^{ij} = \begin{vmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ 3 & -2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

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7. The components of a contravariant tensor in the x -coordinate system are 8 and 4. Find its components in the \bar{x} coordinate system if $\bar{x}^1 = 3x^1$ and $\bar{x}^2 = 5x^1 + 3x^2$.

\Rightarrow Here $A^1 = 8$, $A^2 = 4$.

we find \bar{A}^1 and \bar{A}^2 .

Law for transformation is

$$\bar{A}^p = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^p}{\partial x^q} A^q \quad , \quad p, q = 1, 2$$

$$\therefore \bar{A}^1 = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^1}{\partial x^q} A^q \quad , \quad q = 1, 2$$

$$= \frac{\partial \bar{x}^1}{\partial x^1} A^1 + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^1}{\partial x^2} A^2$$

$$= 8 \cdot 3 + 4 \cdot 0 = 24$$

$$\bar{A}^2 = \frac{\partial \bar{x}^2}{\partial x^1} A^1 + \frac{\partial \bar{x}^2}{\partial x^2} A^2$$

$$= 8.5 + 4.3 = 40 + 12 = 52.$$

8. If $u_{ij} \neq 0$ are components of a tensor of type $(0,2)$ and the equation $f u_{ij} + g u_{ji} = 0$ holds, show that either $f = g$ and u_{ij} is skew symmetric or $f = -g$ and u_{ij} is symmetric.

⇒ we write, $f u_{ij} = -g u_{ji}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or } f^r u_{ij} &= -f g u_{ji} \\ &= -g (f u_{ji}) \\ &= -g (-g u_{ij}) = g^r u_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or, } f^r u_{ij} - g^r u_{ij} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (f^r - g^r) u_{ij} = 0$$

or, $f^r - g^r = 0$, since u_{ij} be the component of covariant tensors; $u_{ij} \neq 0$.

∴ either $f = g$; or $f = -g$

If $f = g$, then $u_{ij} = -u_{ji}$
i.e. u_{ij} is skew symmetric.

If $f = -g$, then $u_{ij} = u_{ji}$
i.e. u_{ij} is symmetric.

9. If $g_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j$ and $g_{ij} \neq 0$ for $i = j$
 show that $g^{ii} = \frac{1}{g_{ii}}$ (no summation)

\Rightarrow Since $g_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j$, it follows that

$$\det g_{ij} = \begin{vmatrix} g_{11} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & g_{22} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & g_{nn} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= g_{11} g_{22} \dots g_{nn}$$

Now, $g^{ii} = \frac{\text{cofactor of } g_{ii} \text{ in } \det g_{ij}}{\det g_{ij}}$

$$= \frac{g_{11} g_{22} \dots g_{i-1, i-1} g_{i+1, i+1} \dots g_{nn}}{g_{11} g_{22} \dots g_{nn}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{g_{ii}}$$

10) If $\psi(x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n)$ is a scalar, test whether $\partial^2 \psi / \partial x^i \partial x^j$ is a tensor.

\Rightarrow Repeat in 2013.

11) If the tensors a_{ij} and c_{ij} are symmetric and u^i, v^i are the components of contravariant vectors such that $(a_{ij} - K c_{ij}) u^i = 0$ and $(a_{ij} - K' c_{ij}) v^i = 0$, where $K \neq K'$, prove that $a_{ij} u^i v^j = 0$.

⇒ we have,

$$\begin{aligned} (a_{ij} - Kc_{ij}) u^i &= 0 \quad \text{--- (i)} \\ (a_{ij} - K'c_{ij}) v^i &= 0 \quad \text{--- (ii)} \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying (i) by v^j and (ii) by u^j and subtracting we get

$$a_{ij} u^i v^j - Kc_{ij} u^i v^j - a_{ij} u^j v^i + K'c_{ij} v^j u^i = 0.$$

interchanging i and j in the 2nd and fourth terms and noting that

$$c_{ij} = c_{ji} \quad \text{and} \quad a_{ij} = a_{ji}$$

$$\text{we get, } a_{ij} u^i v^j - a_{ij} u^j v^i - Kc_{ij} u^i v^j + K'c_{ij} v^j u^i = 0$$

$$\text{or, } -(K - K') c_{ij} u^i v^j = 0$$

$$\therefore K \neq K' \quad c_{ij} u^i v^j = 0 \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

Again, multiplying (i) by v^j and remembering (iii) we get,

$$a_{ij} u^i v^j - \alpha 0 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } a_{ij} u^i v^j = 0.$$

10) Define a zero vector and a null vector in a Riemannian space. Test whether a vector with components $(-1, 0, 0, 1/c)$, c being constant, in a space with line element

$ds^2 = -(dx^1)^2 - (dx^2)^2 - (dx^3)^2 + c^2 (dx^4)^2$ is a null vector.

$$\Rightarrow g_{11} = g_{22} = g_{33} = -1, \quad g_{44} = c^2.$$

$$g_{ij} = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j$$

Let us consider the vector $(-1, 0, 0, 1/cr)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } g_{ij} A^i A^j &= g_{11} A^1 A^1 + g_{22} A^2 A^2 + g_{33} A^3 A^3 + g_{44} A^4 A^4 \\ &= (-1) \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1) + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (-1) \cdot 0 \cdot 0 + (c^4) \cdot \frac{1}{c^2} \cdot \frac{1}{c^2} \\ &= -1 + 1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the vector $(-1, 0, 0, 1/cr)$ is null vector.

11) If A^i and B^i are orthogonal vectors each of length L , then prove that

$$(g_{hj} g_{ki} - g_{hk} g_{ji}) A^h B^j A^k B^i = -L^4.$$

⇒ Since A^i and B^i are orthogonal vectors each of length L we have,

$$g_{ij} A^i A^j = L^2$$

$$g_{ij} B^i B^j = L^2$$

$$\text{and } g_{ij} A^i B^j = 0.$$

$$\text{Now, } (g_{hj} g_{ki} - g_{hk} g_{ji}) A^h B^j A^k B^i$$

$$= g_{hj} g_{ki} A^h B^j A^k B^i - g_{hk} g_{ji} A^h B^j A^k B^i$$

$$= (g_{hj} A^h B^j) (g_{ki} A^k B^i) - (g_{hk} A^h A^k) (g_{ji} B^j B^i)$$

$$= 0 \times 0 - L^2 \times L^2$$

$$= -L^4$$

(Q).