Tensors and the Metric Tensor g_{ij}



lists #s vectors stack of matrices

- algebraic combinations of vectors, matrices, vector spaces, algebras, modules or other structures
- often geometrically meaningful
- not all tensors are inherently linear maps

 g_{ij} inner products of tangent vectors $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix}$

$$g^{ij} = g_{ij}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{EG - F^2} \begin{bmatrix} G & -F \\ -F & E \end{bmatrix}_{i \text{ is } i \text{ or }$$

SpaceTime-Time

Surfaces: g_{ij} inner products of tangent vectors $w^T g_{ij} v$ $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E & F \\ F & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix}$ SpaceTime: Metric tensor is now 4x4 symmetric matrix acting as $w^T g_{ij} v$ on (t, x, y, z) vectors.

$$\begin{bmatrix} t & x & y & z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} & g_{13} & g_{14} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} & g_{23} & g_{24} \\ g_{31} & g_{32} & g_{33} & g_{34} \\ g_{41} & g_{42} & g_{43} & g_{44} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

Yardstick plus clock!

A E > A E >

Christoffel Symbols and Curvatures

• Write
$$I = g_{ab} \dot{x}^a \dot{x}^b$$
.

• Let a = 1 in the Euler-Lagrange Equation

$$\frac{d}{ds}(\frac{\partial I}{\partial \dot{x}^a}) - \frac{\partial I}{\partial x^a} = 0 \text{ for all } a.$$

- Take the relevant partials and derivatives.
- Write the expansion of the geodesic equation $\ddot{x}^a + \Gamma^a_{bc} \dot{x}^b \dot{x}^c = 0$ using a = 1 (*b*, *c* range from 1...4)
- Compare to find the Γ_{ab}^1 Christoffel symbols?
- Repeat for *a* = 2, *a* = 3, *a* = 4

Riemann curvature tensor or Riemann-Christoffel tensor $R^{a}_{bcd} = \partial_c \Gamma^{a}_{bd} - \partial_d \Gamma^{a}_{bc} + \Gamma^{e}_{bd} \Gamma^{a}_{ec} - \Gamma^{e}_{bc} \Gamma^{a}_{ed}$ Ricci tensor $R_{ab} = R^{c}_{acb} = g^{cd} R_{dacb}$ Scalar curvature $R = g^{ab} R_{ab}$ Einstein tensor $G_{ab} = R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2}g_{ab}R$

Christoffel Symbols and Curvatures

The Christoffel symbols

- intrinsic quantities, how to take covariant derivatives
- coefficients of tangent vectors (connection coefficients)
- measure whether or not vectors are parallel transports
- in relativity, gravitational forces. geodesics and curvatures. Riemann curvature tensor: measures how much a manifold is not flat via $4^4 = 256$ entries for spacetime.

Ricci tensor: trace (sum of diagonal elements) relates to the metric volume $\sqrt{detg_{ij}}$.

Scalar curvature: number. For surfaces—twice Gaussian curvature. For relativity—Lagrangian density.

Einstein tensor describes curvature of spacetime due to the presence of energy or mass, has zero divergence

