

1. Let  $X^a$  and  $Y_b$  be contravariant and covariant vectors respectively. Show that  $T_b^a := X^a Y_b$  is a type (1,1) rank two tensor. From the covariant derivative of covariant and contravariant vectors show that

$$\nabla_c T_b^a = \partial_c T_b^a + \Gamma_{dc}^a T_b^d - \Gamma_{bc}^d T_d^a.$$

Furthermore show that if  $S_{bc}^a := T_b^a V_c$ , where  $V_c$  is a covariant vector, then

$$\nabla_d S_{bc}^a = \partial_d S_{bc}^a - \Gamma_{bd}^e S_{ec}^a - \Gamma_{dc}^e S_{be}^a.$$

**2.** The Einstein's equation in non-empty space is

$$G^{ab} = AT^{ab},$$

where  $G^{ab} = R^{ab} - Rg^{ab}/2$  is the Einstein's tensor and  $T^{ab}$  is the energy-momentum tensor. State and prove the contracted Bianchi identities from the Bianchi identities:

$$\nabla_a R^d{}_{ebc} + \nabla_b R^d{}_{eca} + \nabla_c R^d{}_{eab} = 0.$$

A cloud of non-interacting dust particles with density  $\varrho_0(x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3)$  has energy-momentum tensor

$$T^{ab} = \varrho_0 v^a v^b,$$

where

$$v^a = \frac{dx^a}{ds}$$

is the tangent vector to the path  $x^a = x^a(s)$ . From the contracted Bianchi identities show that  $x^a = x^a(s)$  satisfies the geodesic equations,

$$\frac{d^2 x^a}{ds^2} + \Gamma^a{}_{bc} \frac{dx^b}{ds} \frac{dx^c}{ds} = 0.$$

**3.** The Schwarzschild solution has line element

$$(ds)^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right) c^2 (dt)^2 - \frac{(dr)^2}{1 - \frac{2m}{r}} - r^2 [(d\theta)^2 + \sin^2 \theta (d\phi)^2],$$

where  $(r, \theta, \phi)$  are the standard polar coordinates. A massive particle falls radially towards the surface  $r = 2m$  from  $R (> 2m)$ . Show that the time it takes to reach  $r = 2m + \varepsilon$  from  $R$  as measured by a stationary observer is

$$ct \sim 2m \ln \left( \frac{2m}{\varepsilon} \right),$$

for small  $\varepsilon$ . Show it takes only a finite time from the point of view of an observer attached to the massive particle. How long will it take for a photon to fall radially towards  $r = 2m$ ?

4. The line element of a two dimensional surface with coordinates  $(x, y)$  is

$$(ds)^2 = [f(x) + g(y)] [(dx)^2 + (dy)^2],$$

where  $f(x)$  is a function of  $x$  only and  $g(y)$  is a function of  $y$  only. Determine the geodesic equations and show that the geodesics are level curves of  $\psi(x, y)$  where

$$\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{f(x) + \alpha}},$$
$$\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{g(y) - \alpha}}$$

and  $\alpha$  is an arbitrary constant.

5. A vector  $\lambda^a$ ,  $a = 0, 1, 2, 3$ , orthogonal to the tangent vector  $dx^a/d\tau$ , where  $d\tau$  is the proper time interval, is being parallel transported around a circle of fixed radius  $r$  in the Schwarzschild space-time where the line element reads;

$$(ds)^2 = \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right) c^2(dt)^2 - r^2(d\varphi)^2.$$

Show that the tangent vector is

$$\left(\frac{dx^a}{d\tau}\right) = (A, 0, 0, A\Omega),$$

where

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{r}{r-3m}} \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega = c\sqrt{\frac{m}{r^3}}.$$

From the parallel transport equations of  $\lambda^a$  deduce that

$$\frac{d\lambda^1}{d\tau} - \frac{r\Omega}{A}\lambda^3 = 0,$$

$$\frac{d\lambda^2}{d\tau} = 0,$$

$$\frac{d\lambda^3}{d\tau} + \frac{A\Omega}{r}\lambda^1 = 0.$$

Show that after one revolution in which the coordinate time has elapsed by  $\Delta t = 2\pi/\Omega$ , the final spatial direction of  $\lambda^a$  deviates from the initial direction by

$$2\pi \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{3m}{r}}\right).$$

You may choose  $\tau$  and  $t$  so that when  $\tau$  is zero  $t$  is also zero and assume that initially  $\lambda^a$  is radial.

The non-zero connections are

$$\Gamma_{10}^0 = \frac{m}{r} \frac{1}{1-2m/r}, \quad \Gamma_{00}^1 = \frac{mc^2}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right), \quad \Gamma_{33}^1 = -r \left(1 - \frac{2m}{r}\right), \quad \Gamma_{13}^3 = \frac{1}{r}.$$

The orthogonality condition is  $g_{ab} \frac{dx^a}{d\tau} \lambda^b = 0$ .