

Problems on General Relativity: 2

November 14, 2020

Problem 1. Consider the following co-vector (1-form) fields

$$\begin{aligned}e^1 &= \cos \psi d\theta + \sin \theta \sin \psi d\phi \\e^2 &= -\sin \psi d\theta + \sin \theta \cos \psi d\phi \\e^3 &= d\psi + \cos \theta d\phi\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

defined in a coordinate system (ψ, θ, ϕ) valid in $[0, 2\pi] \times [0, \pi] \times [0, 2\pi] \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. At every point (ψ, θ, ϕ) find tangent vectors e_1, e_2, e_3 , such that (e^1, e^2, e^3) is dual to (e_1, e_2, e_3)

Problem 2. For the vector fields (e_1, e_2, e_3) derived in Problem 1, calculate the commutators and write the result in the following form

$$[e_i, e_j] = c_{ij}{}^k e_k\tag{2}$$

Problem 3. Knowing that given a vector field V , the Lie derivative \mathcal{L}_V satisfies

$$\mathcal{L}_V(fdh) = V(f)dh + fd(V(h)), \quad \mathcal{L}_V(\omega + \omega') = \mathcal{L}_V\omega + \mathcal{L}_V\omega'\tag{3}$$

for every pair of functions f, h and co-vector fields ω, ω' , calculate $\mathcal{L}_{e_i}e^j$ for the vector fields e_i and co-vector fields e^j defined in Problem 1.

Problem 4. For each of the co-vector fields (e^1, e^2, e^3) derived in Problem 1, calculate the exterior derivative and write the result in the following form

$$de^i = c^i{}_{jk}e^j \wedge e^k.\tag{4}$$

Compare the result with Problem 2.