

Theorem 1.

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = g^{\mu\nu} g \quad (1)$$

or in terms of matrix elements

$$\frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{g})}{\partial \mathbf{g}_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} = (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}} \det(\mathbf{g}) \quad (2)$$

Proof. Starting with $(\delta \mathbf{g})_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}} = \Delta$ and 0 for other elements,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{g})}{\partial \mathbf{g}_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} &= \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} \det(\mathbf{g} + \delta \mathbf{g}) - \det(\mathbf{g}) = \\ &= \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} \det(\mathbf{g}) \det(1 + g^{-1} \delta \mathbf{g}) - \det(\mathbf{g}) = \\ &= \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} \det(\mathbf{g}) (1 + \text{Tr}(g^{-1} \delta \mathbf{g}) + O(\Delta^2)) - \det(\mathbf{g}) = \\ &= \det(\mathbf{g}) \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{g}^{-1} \delta \mathbf{g}) = \det(\mathbf{g}) \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{ji} (\delta \mathbf{g})_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Note for every summed index the expression is 0, except $ij = \bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}$. Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{g})}{\partial \mathbf{g}_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} = \det(\mathbf{g}) \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta} (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\nu}\bar{\mu}} \Delta = \det(\mathbf{g}) (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\nu}\bar{\mu}}$$

As both g and its inverse are symmetric, this concludes the proof. \square

Theorem 2.

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial g^{\mu\nu}} = -g_{\mu\nu} g \quad (3)$$

Proof. By using the previous result, and chain rule, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{g})}{\partial (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} &= \frac{\partial (\det(\mathbf{g}^{-1}))^{-1}}{\partial (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} = -\frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{g}^{-1})^2} \frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{g}^{-1})}{\partial (\mathbf{g}^{-1})_{\bar{\mu}\bar{\nu}}} = \\ &= -\frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{g}^{-1})^2} \det(\mathbf{g}^{-1}) (\mathbf{g})_{\bar{\nu}\bar{\mu}} = -\det(\mathbf{g}) (\mathbf{g})_{\bar{\nu}\bar{\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

\square

Theorem 3.

$$\frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = -g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\nu\beta} \quad (4)$$

Proof. Starting from $g_{\sigma\alpha} g^{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\sigma}^{\beta}$ one derives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}}(g_{\sigma\alpha} g^{\alpha\beta}) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial g_{\sigma\alpha}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} g^{\alpha\beta} + g_{\sigma\alpha} \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} &= 0 \\ \delta_{\sigma}^{\mu} \delta_{\alpha}^{\nu} g^{\alpha\beta} + g_{\sigma\alpha} \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} &= 0 \\ \delta_{\sigma}^{\mu} g^{\nu\beta} + g_{\sigma\alpha} \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} &= 0 \\ g^{\alpha\sigma} \delta_{\sigma}^{\mu} \delta_{\alpha}^{\nu} g^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} &= 0 \\ g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\nu\beta} + \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Which gives

$$\frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = -g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\nu\beta}$$

□

Theorem 4.

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} \iff T_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial g^{\mu\nu}} \quad (5)$$

Proof.

$$T^{\mu\nu} \stackrel{(?)}{=} \frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}} = -\frac{\partial g^{\alpha\beta}}{\partial g_{\mu\nu}} T_{\alpha\beta} = g^{\mu\alpha} g^{\nu\beta} T_{\alpha\beta}$$

□