
RELATIVITY AND COSMOLOGY I

Solutions to Problem Set 7

Fall 2023

1. Hyperbolic Space

- (a) Simply plug in the proposed coordinate choices in the hyperboloid constraint and check that it is verified.
- (b) Start from the fact that the metric in embedding space is the 3 dimensional $\eta_{\mu\nu}$ and use the formula for how the metric components change under a coordinate transformation

$$g_{\mu'\nu'} = \frac{\partial X^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} \frac{\partial X^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \eta_{\mu\nu} . \quad (1)$$

- (c) To compute the length of such a segment, we need to compute

$$\Delta s = \int_{\text{segment}} ds . \quad (2)$$

The vector that points in the direction of the segment is ∂_z . We thus act with the metric tensor on two copies of that vector

$$g(\partial_z, \partial_z) = \frac{L^2}{z^2} . \quad (3)$$

The length of the segment is thus

$$\Delta s = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \frac{L}{z} dz = L \ln \left(\frac{z_2}{z_1} \right) . \quad (4)$$

A generic line that ends at $z_2 = 0$ has thus infinite length.

- (d) Starting with geodesic equation for x^ρ :

$$\frac{d^2 x^\rho}{d\lambda^2} = -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} \quad (5)$$

one expands the right hand side to get

$$-\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho \frac{dx^\mu}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\lambda} = -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\rho v^\mu v^\nu \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

The left hand side is bit more complex

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 x^\rho}{d\lambda^2} &= \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right) \frac{dx^\rho}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}} \right) = \frac{d^2 x^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda^2} \frac{dx^\rho}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}} + \frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^\rho}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}} = \\ &= \frac{d^2 x^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda^2} v^\rho + \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 x^\rho}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}^2}} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Inserting the geodesic equation for $\frac{d^2 x^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda^2}$ one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 x^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda^2} v^{\rho} + \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 x^{\rho}}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}^2}} &= -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\bar{\sigma}} \frac{dx^{\mu}}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^{\nu}}{d\lambda} v^{\rho} + \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 x^{\rho}}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}^2}} = \\ &= -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\bar{\sigma}} v^{\mu} v^{\nu} \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 v^{\rho} + \left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 x^{\rho}}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}^2}} \quad (8) \end{aligned}$$

Assembling the left and right hand side together one can clean up $\left(\frac{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}}{d\lambda} \right)^2$ prefactoring both sides

$$-\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\bar{\sigma}} v^{\mu} v^{\nu} v^{\rho} + \frac{d^2 x^{\rho}}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}^2}} = -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} v^{\mu} v^{\nu} \quad (9)$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{dv^{\rho}}{dx^{\bar{\sigma}}} = -\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\rho} v^{\mu} v^{\nu} + v^{\rho} \Gamma_{\mu\nu}^{\bar{\sigma}} v^{\mu} v^{\nu} \quad (10)$$

The non-vanishing Christoffel symbols in Poincaré half-plane are

$$\Gamma_{xz}^x = -\frac{1}{z}, \quad \Gamma_{xx}^z = \frac{1}{z}, \quad \Gamma_{zz}^z = -\frac{1}{z}. \quad (11)$$

Let's use $z' = \frac{dz}{dx}$, $z'' = \frac{d^2 z}{dx^2}$. The geodesic equation is

$$z'' = -\Gamma_{xx}^z - \Gamma_{zz}^z (z')^2 + z' 2\Gamma_{xz}^x z' \quad (12)$$

$$z'' = -\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{z} (z')^2 - \frac{2}{z} (z')^2 \quad (13)$$

$$zz'' + (z')^2 = -1 \quad (14)$$

$$(zz')' = -1 \quad (15)$$

$$zz' = x_0 - x \quad (16)$$

where x_0 is the constant of integration. Continuing

$$zz' = x_0 - x \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (z^2)' = x_0 - x \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} z^2 = -\frac{1}{2} (x_0 - x)^2 + \frac{1}{2} l^2 \quad (19)$$

having l^2 as another constant of integration. Finally one can clean up the formula a bit

$$z^2 + (x_0 - x)^2 = l^2 \quad (20)$$

to recognize that geodesics are circles centered on the $z = 0$ line. Moreover, for $x_0 \rightarrow \infty$ and $l \rightarrow \infty$ with $l - x_0$ fixed we get straight lines that are perpendicular to $z = 0$. These are also geodesics.

Alternative solution Let's show that AdS2 geodesics are straight-lines and semi-circles centered on the boundary using a more elegant method. Using Poincaré coordinates, the geodesic equations follow from variation of the action

$$S = \int d\lambda \left(\frac{\dot{z}^2}{z^2} + \frac{\dot{x}^2}{z^2} \right). \quad (21)$$

Variation with respect to x and z yield the geodesic equations

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{\dot{x}}{z^2} = 0, \quad \ddot{z} + \frac{\dot{x}^2 - \dot{z}^2}{z} = 0. \quad (22)$$

We can find a first solution by choosing $x = \text{const}$, which fixes $z(\lambda) = c_1 e^{c_2 \lambda}$ for some constants c_1 and c_2 . The only important property of $z(\lambda)$ is the image, or what kind of curve will (x, z) span on the Poincaré half-plane. We thus do not care about the constants c_1 and c_2 , as long as we fix $c_1 > 0$ since that's the correct domain of z . In particular, let us choose $c_1 = c_2 = 1$ without loss of generality.

$$\gamma(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} z(\lambda) \\ x(\lambda) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^\lambda \\ k \end{pmatrix}, \quad (23)$$

This is the parametrization of a vertical line of constant x . Let us move on to the second family of geodesics.

There is an important property of the AdS metric in Poincaré coordinates, which is that the **inversion** operation $I : x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu / x^2$ is an isometry. Another important property is that isometries map geodesics to geodesics. Therefore, applying the inversion to the vertical line, we obtain

$$\gamma \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} z' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{e^{2\lambda} + k^2} \begin{pmatrix} e^\lambda \\ k \end{pmatrix}. \quad (24)$$

Now the claim is that this parametrizes circles. To see this we compute

$$z'^2 + x'^2 = \frac{1}{e^{2\lambda} + k^2} = \frac{x'}{k} \Leftrightarrow z'^2 + \left(x' - \frac{1}{2k}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4k^2}, \quad (25)$$

which is indeed the equation of a circle of radius $\frac{1}{2k}$ centered at $z' = 0$ (the boundary) and $x' = \frac{1}{2k}$. Since $z' > 0$ it is only a half circle.

(e) Let's write Killing equation for a vector V :

$$\nabla_\mu V_\nu + \nabla_\nu V_\mu = 0 \quad (26)$$

Explicitly the components are

$$\partial_x V_x - \Gamma_{xx}^z V_z = 0 \quad (27)$$

$$\partial_x V_z + \partial_z V_x - 2\Gamma_{xx}^z V_z = 0 \quad (28)$$

$$\partial_z V_z - \Gamma_{zz}^z V_z = 0 \quad (29)$$

Starting from (29):

$$\partial_z V_z + \frac{V_z}{z} = 0 \quad (30)$$

one gets

$$V_z = \frac{\alpha(x)}{z} \quad (31)$$

where $\alpha(x)$ is to be determined. One shall use that solution to solve (27)

$$\partial_x V_x - \frac{\alpha(x)}{z^2} = 0 \quad (32)$$

which readily integrates to

$$V_x = \frac{A(x)}{z^2} + B(z) \quad (33)$$

with $A'(x) = \alpha(x)$. Putting these solutions to (28):

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x \left(\frac{\alpha(x)}{z} \right) + \partial_z \left(\frac{A(x)}{z^2} + B(z) \right) + \frac{2}{z} \left(\frac{A(x)}{z^2} + B(z) \right) &= 0 \\ \frac{A''(x)}{z} + \left(-2\frac{A(x)}{z^3} + \dot{B}(z) \right) + \left(2\frac{A(x)}{z^3} + \frac{B(z)}{z} \right) &= 0 \\ A''(x) &= -(z\dot{B}(z) + 2B(z)) \end{aligned}$$

As the left side is a function of x only, and the right side is a function of z only, they must both be equal to a constant. The solution to LHS is

$$A(x) = ax^2 + bx + c \quad (34)$$

where a, b, c are the other integration constants. The right hand side is then

$$z\dot{B}(z) + 2B(z) = -2a \quad (35)$$

solved in general by $B(z) = -a - \frac{d}{z^2}$. Therefore, the general solution is

$$V_x = \frac{ax^2 + bx + c}{z^2} - a - \frac{d}{z^2} \quad (36)$$

$$V_z = \frac{2ax + b}{z} \quad (37)$$

Note that solution depends only on $c - d$, not on c and d separately. Without loss of generality one may set $d = 0$. To get vector components, one multiplies by inverse metric:

$$V^x = z^2 V_x = a(x^2 - z^2) + bx + c \quad (38)$$

$$V^z = z^2 V_z = 2axz + bz \quad (39)$$

or

$$V = \left(a(x^2 - z^2) + bx + c \right) \partial_x + (2axz + bz) \partial_z \quad (40)$$

This is linear combination of 3 vector fields

$$P = \partial_x, \quad (41)$$

$$D = x\partial_x + z\partial_z, \quad (42)$$

$$K = (x^2 - z^2) \partial_x + 2xz \partial_z, \quad (43)$$

the first two represent, respectively, translations in x and dilatations. These make sense if you look back at how geodesics on the half plane look like. The third one is a more obscure isometry of hyperbolic space called **special conformal transformations**. They roughly correspond to performing an inversion $x^\mu \rightarrow \frac{x^\mu}{x^2}$, then a translation and then another inversion.

Let us study the algebra of these Killing vectors through their commutators

$$[D, P] = -(\partial_x x) \partial_x = -P, \quad (44)$$

$$[D, K] = \left((x \partial_x + z \partial_z) (x^2 - z^2) \right) \partial_x + \quad (45)$$

$$+ \left((x \partial_x + z \partial_z) 2xz \right) \partial_z + \quad (46)$$

$$- \left((x^2 - z^2) \partial_x x \right) \partial_x + \quad (47)$$

$$- \left(2xz \partial_z z \right) \partial_z = K, \quad (48)$$

$$[P, K] = \left(\partial_x (x^2 - z^2) \right) \partial_x + \partial_x (2xz) \partial_z = 2D. \quad (49)$$

2. Lie Derivatives

(a) This follows from the definition

$$(\mathcal{L}_V W)^\nu = V^\mu \partial_\mu W^\nu - W^\mu \partial_\mu V^\nu = -(W^\mu \partial_\mu V^\nu - V^\mu \partial_\mu W^\nu) = -(\mathcal{L}_W V)^\nu. \quad (50)$$

(b) Transforming the vector coordinates we get

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_V W)^\nu &= V^\mu \partial_\mu W^\nu - W^\mu \partial_\mu V^\nu \\ &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} V^{\mu'} \frac{\partial x^{\rho'}}{\partial x^\mu} \partial_{\rho'} \left(\frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} W^{\nu'} \right) - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} W^{\mu'} \frac{\partial x^{\rho'}}{\partial x^\mu} \partial_{\rho'} \left(\frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} V^{\nu'} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} V^{\mu'} \frac{\partial x^{\rho'}}{\partial x^\mu} \left(\frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'} \partial x^{\rho'}} W^{\nu'} + \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \frac{\partial W^{\nu'}}{\partial x^{\rho'}} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial x^{\mu'}} W^{\mu'} \frac{\partial x^{\rho'}}{\partial x^\mu} \left(\frac{\partial^2 x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'} \partial x^{\rho'}} V^{\nu'} + \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \frac{\partial V^{\nu'}}{\partial x^{\rho'}} \right) \\ &= V^{\rho'} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \frac{\partial W^{\nu'}}{\partial x^{\rho'}} - W^{\rho'} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} \frac{\partial V^{\nu'}}{\partial x^{\rho'}} \\ &= \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x^{\nu'}} (\mathcal{L}_V W)^{\nu'}. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

(c) Consider the scalar $f \equiv W^\mu T_\mu$. Because of the Leibniz rule,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_V f) &= (\mathcal{L}_V W^\mu T_\mu) = W^\mu (\mathcal{L}_V T)_\mu + (\mathcal{L}_V W)^\mu T_\mu \\ &= W^\mu (\mathcal{L}_V T)_\mu + V^\rho \partial_\rho W^\mu T_\mu - W^\rho \partial_\rho V^\mu T_\mu. \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

At the same time, since f is a scalar,

$$(\mathcal{L}_V f) = V^\mu W^\nu \partial_\mu T_\nu + V^\nu T_\mu \partial_\nu W^\mu. \quad (53)$$

Comparing, we get

$$\begin{aligned} W^\mu (\mathcal{L}_V T)_\mu &= V^\mu W^\nu \partial_\mu T_\nu + V^\nu T_\mu \partial_\nu W^\mu - V^\rho \partial_\rho W^\mu T_\mu + W^\rho \partial_\rho V^\mu T_\mu \\ &= V^\mu W^\nu \partial_\mu T_\nu + W^\rho \partial_\rho V^\mu T_\mu, \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

so

$$(\mathcal{L}_V T)_\mu = V^\nu \partial_\nu T_\mu + T_\nu \partial_\mu V^\nu \quad (55)$$

(d) Use Leibniz' rule

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_V A)_{\mu\nu} &= (\mathcal{L}_V S)_\mu T_\nu + (\mathcal{L}_V T)_\nu S_\mu \\ &= (V^\rho \partial_\rho S_\mu + S_\rho \partial_\mu V^\rho) T_\nu + (V^\rho \partial_\rho T_\nu + T_\rho \partial_\nu V^\rho) S_\mu \\ &= V^\rho \partial_\rho A_{\mu\nu} + A_{\rho\nu} \partial_\mu V^\rho + A_{\mu\rho} \partial_\nu V^\rho \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

(e) For the Lie derivative of a vector, this follows from what we showed for the commutator of two vectors. For the Lie derivative of a dual vector, we get

$$\begin{aligned} V^\nu \nabla_\nu T_\mu + T_\nu \nabla_\mu V^\nu &= V^\nu \partial_\nu T_\mu - \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\rho T_\rho V^\nu + T_\nu \partial_\mu V^\nu + T_\nu \Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\nu V^\rho \\ &= V^\nu \partial_\nu T_\mu + T_\nu \partial_\mu V^\nu, \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

where we used the symmetry of the lower indices of the connection.

(f) The metric is a symmetric $(0, 2)$ tensor, and so we can use the identity for $(\mathcal{L}_V A)_{\mu\nu}$ that we proved before, with covariant derivatives in place of the partial derivatives.

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_K g)_{\mu\nu} &= K^\rho \nabla_\rho g_{\mu\nu} + g_{\rho\nu} \nabla_\mu K^\rho + g_{\mu\rho} \nabla_\nu K^\rho \\ &= g_{\rho\nu} g^{\rho\alpha} \nabla_\mu K_\alpha + g_{\mu\rho} g^{\rho\alpha} \nabla_\nu K_\alpha \\ &= \delta_\nu^\alpha \nabla_\mu K_\alpha + \delta_\mu^\alpha \nabla_\nu K_\alpha \\ &= 2 \nabla_{(\mu} K_{\nu)}. \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

So we proved that

$$(\mathcal{L}_K g)_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad (59)$$

is equivalent to

$$\nabla_{(\mu} K_{\nu)} = 0. \quad (60)$$

3. Killing Vectors on the Sphere

(a) From the round metric, we immediately read off the first Killing vector, here expressed in the coordinate basis:

$$K_\Phi = \partial_\phi, \quad (61)$$

because the metric components do not depend explicitly on ϕ . Notice that we use the capital Greek letter Φ to give a name to the Killing vector, not to name its components. Its components are infact given by

$$K_\Phi^\theta = 0, \quad K_\Phi^\phi = 1. \quad (62)$$

To find the other two Killing vectors, consider the embedding of the unit sphere in $\mathbb{R}^3$:

$$\begin{cases} x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ z = r \cos \theta \end{cases} . \quad (63)$$

We know that rotations around the three axis are isometries of the sphere. K_Φ generates the rotations on the (x, y) plane, which in Cartesian coordinates are

$$K_\Phi = -y\partial_x + x\partial_y . \quad (64)$$

Then we also expect to have

$$K_{xz} = z\partial_x - x\partial_z , \quad K_{zy} = -z\partial_y + y\partial_z . \quad (65)$$

But (x, y, z) are coordinates in this embedding $\mathbb{R}^3$ space. To relate these results to the coordinates on S^2 , we use the inverse transformations

$$\begin{cases} \theta = \arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{x^2+y^2}{z^2}}\right) , \\ \phi = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) . \end{cases} \quad (66)$$

Using the chain rule, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x &= \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \partial_\theta + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \partial_\phi \\ &= \frac{x}{r^2} \sqrt{\frac{z^2}{x^2+y^2}} \partial_\theta - \frac{y}{x^2+y^2} \partial_\phi \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \cos \phi \cos \theta \partial_\theta - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\sin \phi}{\sin \theta} \partial_\phi . \end{aligned} \quad (67)$$

Analogously,

$$\partial_z = -\frac{1}{r} \sin \theta \partial_\theta , \quad \partial_y = \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \cos \theta \partial_\theta + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\cos \phi}{\sin \theta} \partial_\phi . \quad (68)$$

Putting everything together, we get

$$\begin{aligned} K_{xz} &= \cos \phi \partial_\theta - \cot \theta \sin \phi \partial_\phi , \\ K_{zy} &= -\sin \phi \partial_\theta - \cot \theta \cos \phi \partial_\phi . \end{aligned} \quad (69)$$

We can also introduce r as an extra auxiliary variable and simply use the chain rule!! The sphere is a maximally symmetric space. In $n = 2$, we expect 3 Killing vectors, which are thus given by the set $\{K_\Phi, K_{xz}, K_{zy}\}$.

(b) Computing the Lie brackets of these vectors, we get

$$\begin{aligned} [K_\Phi, K_{xz}] &= K_{zy} , \\ [K_{xz}, K_{zy}] &= K_\Phi , \\ [K_{zy}, K_\Phi] &= K_{xz} . \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

These are precisely the commutation relations that define the $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ algebra. In general, *the Killing vector fields of a manifold are the infinitesimal generators of that manifold's isometry group.*

4. Maxwell's Stress Tensor

Varying the action with respect to the metric, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta_g S_M &= \int d^n x \left(-\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \frac{\delta \sqrt{-g}}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} - \sqrt{-g} \frac{1}{4} F_{\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} \frac{\delta (g^{\rho\mu} g^{\sigma\nu})}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} \right) \delta g^{\alpha\beta} \\
&= \int d^n x \left(\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta g}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} - \sqrt{-g} \frac{1}{4} F_{\rho\sigma} F_{\mu\nu} \left[g^{\rho\mu} \frac{\delta g^{\sigma\nu}}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} + g^{\sigma\nu} \frac{\delta g^{\rho\mu}}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} \right] \right) \delta g^{\alpha\beta} \\
&= \int d^n x \left(\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \frac{-g}{2\sqrt{-g}} g_{\alpha\beta} - \sqrt{-g} \frac{1}{4} (F^\mu{}_\alpha F_{\mu\beta} + F_\alpha{}^\nu F_{\beta\nu}) \right) \delta g^{\alpha\beta} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \int d^n x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{1}{2} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} - 2 F^\mu{}_\alpha F_{\mu\beta} \right) \delta g^{\alpha\beta},
\end{aligned} \tag{71}$$

where we used $\frac{\delta g}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} = -g g_{\alpha\beta}$ and $\frac{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} = \delta^\mu_\alpha \delta^\nu_\beta$. We read off the stress tensor

$$T_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta S_M}{\delta g^{\alpha\beta}} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} + F^\mu{}_\alpha F_{\mu\beta}, \tag{72}$$

as one obtains through Noether's theorem.