

Use of ctensor for calculating the affine connection and the curvature of a metric

1 Introduction and general instructions:

Sources for reading about Maxima: see the Help menu!

<https://wxmaxima-developers.github.io/wxmaxima/help.html>

<https://maxima.sourceforge.io/documentation.html>

https://maxima.sourceforge.io/docs/manual/maxima_toc.html

<file:///usr/share/doc/wxmaxima/wxmaxima.html#Introduction>

Introductory videos by the instructor (in Greek):

https://youtu.be/RmF_MECumyl

<https://youtu.be/kvtrETJotx8>

Typing special characters:

[Esc] <char>

char result

L Λ

ee e p ρ π ii i (imaginary i)

inf ∞ hb \hbar in \in

partial ∂ integral \int

\wedge^2 2 \wedge^3 3

sq $\sqrt{\quad}$ impl \Rightarrow equiv \Leftrightarrow

=> \Rightarrow <=> \Leftrightarrow

Ctrl+Tab or Ctrl+Shift triggers the auto-completion mechanism.

Ctrl+Shift+Delete deletes a complete cell.

.mac files read with e.g. `read("test.mac");`

2 ctensor package

Documentation:

https://maxima.sourceforge.io/docs/manual/maxima_126.html#ctensor

Read also: arXiv:cs/0503073, Viktor Toth, Tensor Manipulation with GPL Maxima <https://arxiv.org/abs/cs/0503073>

Tensors: (not all, see documentation)

lg [i,j]	$g_{\{i j\}}$
ug [i,j]	$g^{\{i j\}}$
mcs[i,j,k]	$\Gamma^k_{\{i j\}} = (1/2) g^{\{k m\}} (\partial_i g_{\{j m\}} + \partial_j g_{\{i m\}} - \partial_m g_{\{i j\}})$
riem[i,j,k,m]	$-R^m_{\{i j k\}} = -[\partial_j \Gamma^m_{\{k i\}} - \partial_k \Gamma^m_{\{j i\}} + \Gamma^m_{\{j n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{k i\}} - \Gamma^m_{\{k n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{j i\}}]$ (Carroll convention for $R^m_{\{i j k\}}$)
lriem[i,j,k,m]	$-R_{\{m i j k\}}$
ric [i j]	$R_{\{i j\}}$
lein [i,j]	$G_{\{i j\}}$
geod[i]	Geodesic equations

Variables:

dim	dimension of space
gdet	determinant of metric
ct_coords []	list of coordinates, e.g. ct_coords[theta,phi]

Functions:

load("ctensor")	loads the session
csetup()	interactive initialization of the package
cmetric()	computes inverse metric, gdet, after metric has been defined
ct_coordsys(coord):	sets a predefined coordinate system, e.g. coord= exteriorschwarzschild, interiorschwarzschild, kerr_newman
christoff(mcs)	compute and display $mcs[i,j,k] = \Gamma^k_{\{i j\}}$
riemann(true)	compute and display $riem[i,j,k,m] = -R^m_{\{i j k\}}$ (Carroll convention)
lriemann(true)	compute and display $lriem[i,j,k,m] = -R_{\{m i j k\}}$
ricci(true)	compute and display $ric[i,j] = R_{\{i j\}}$
scurvature()	compute the scalar curvature
leinstein(true)	compute $G_{\{i j\}}$
rinvariant()	compute Kretschmann-invariant $R_{\{i j k m\}}$ $R^{\{j k m\}}$.

Must have calculated lriem and uriem. Call as:

lriemann(false);uriemann(false);rinvariant()	
cgeodesic(true)	computes geodesic equations, stored in geod[i]

Utilities:

init_tensor()	reinitializes the ctensor package
cdisplay(tensor)	displays tensor as multidimensional array, e.g.
cdisplay(mcs)	

The routine:

load(ctensor);	load the package
init ctensor();	or reset the variables

3 Load the package:

```
load(ctensor);
/usr/share/maxima/5.45.1/share/tensor/ctensor.mac
```

4 A simple example: The two sphere S^2

First set the dimensionality of the manifold and the names of the coordinates:

```
dim:2;
ct_coords:[theta,phi];
2
[theta,phi]
```

Define the metric:

```
lg:matrix(
[a^2,0],
[0 ,a^2 * sin(theta)^2]);
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} a^2 & 0 \\ 0 & a^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Compute the inverse metric, the determinant and initialize various variables:

```
cmetric();
done
```

```
ug;
gdet;
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{a^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{a^2 \sin(\theta)^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Compute the Christoffel symbols: $\Gamma^k_{ij} = (1/2) g^{km} (\partial_i g_{jm} + \partial_j g_{im} - \partial_m g_{ij})$

and display the nonzero components. Compare with (3.154) Carroll:

$$\Gamma^2_{12} = \cos(\theta) / \sin(\theta)$$

$$\Gamma^1_{22} = -\cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$$

`christof(mcs);`

$$mcs_{1,2,2} = \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$mcs_{2,2,1} = -\cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$$

`done`

$$\text{riem}[i,j,k,m] \quad -R^m_{\{i j k\}} = -[\partial_j \Gamma^m_{\{k i\}} - \partial_k \Gamma^m_{\{j i\}} + \Gamma^m_{\{j n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{ki\}} - \Gamma^m_{\{k n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{ji\}}]$$

Compute: $\text{riem}[i,j,k,m] \quad -R^m_{\{i j k\}} = -[\partial_j \Gamma^m_{\{k i\}} - \partial_k \Gamma^m_{\{j i\}} + \Gamma^m_{\{j n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{ki\}} - \Gamma^m_{\{k n\}} \Gamma^n_{\{ji\}}]$

Gives: $R^2_{\{1 2 1\}} = 1$

$R^1_{\{2 2 1\}} = -\sin(\theta)^2$ Compare with (3.155) Carroll

`riemann(true);`

$$riem_{1,2,1,2} = -1$$

$$riem_{2,2,1,1} = \sin(\theta)^2$$

`done`

Compute: $\text{lriem}[i,j,k,m] \quad -R_{\{m i j k\}}$

Gives: $R_{\{1 2 2 1\}} = a^2 \sin(\theta)^2$ Compare with (3.156) Carroll

`lriemann(true);`

$$lriem_{2,2,1,1} = a^2 \sin(\theta)^2$$

`done`

Compute Ricci tensor: Compare with (3.157) Carroll

`ricci(true);`

$$ric_{1,1} = 1$$

$$ric_{2,2} = \sin(\theta)^2$$

`done`

Compute Scalar Curvature: compare with (3.158) Carroll

`scurvature();`

$$\frac{2}{a}$$

Use `cdisplay(tensor)` to see components in a matrix like display, but be careful, the indices are not the same order as in Carroll.

`cdisplay(lriem);`

$$lriem_{1,1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$lriem_{1,2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$lriem_{2,1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -a^2 \sin(\theta)^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$lriem_{2,2} = \begin{pmatrix} a^2 \sin(\theta)^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

done

`cdisplay(ric);`

$$ric = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(\theta)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

done

`cdisplay(mcs);`

$$mcs_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$mcs_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \\ -\cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

done

Compute the geodesic equations:

`cgeodesic(true);`

$$geod_1 = \frac{d^2}{ds^2} \theta - \left(\frac{d}{ds} \phi \right)^2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$$

$$geod_2 =$$

$$2 \left(\frac{d}{ds} \phi \right) \cos(\theta) \left(\frac{d}{ds} \theta \right) + \left(\frac{d^2}{ds^2} \phi \right) \sin(\theta)$$

$$\sin(\theta)$$

done

They are stored in the array `geod[i]`:

```
geod[1];geod[2];
```

$$\frac{\frac{d^2}{ds^2} \theta - \left(\frac{d}{ds} \phi\right)^2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)}{2 \left(\frac{d}{ds} \phi\right) \cos(\theta) \left(\frac{d}{ds} \theta\right) + \left(\frac{d^2}{ds^2} \phi\right) \sin(\theta)}$$

$$\sin(\theta)$$

5 Friedmann metric

First, reinitialize tensor:

```
init_ctensor();
done
```

```
dim:4;
ct_coords:[t,chi,theta,phi];
4
[t,chi,theta,phi]
```

The metric:

```
lg:matrix(
[-1,0,0,0],
[0,a(t)^2,0,0],
[0,0,a(t)^2*sin(chi)^2,0],
[0,0,0,a(t)^2*sin(chi)^2*sin(theta)^2]);
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a(t)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
cmetric();
done
```

christof(mcs);

$$mcs_{1,2,2} = \frac{a(t)_t}{a(t)}$$

$$mcs_{1,3,3} = \frac{a(t)_t}{a(t)}$$

$$mcs_{1,4,4} = \frac{a(t)_t}{a(t)}$$

$$mcs_{2,2,1} = a(t) (a(t)_t)$$

$$mcs_{2,3,3} = \frac{\cos(\chi)}{\sin(\chi)}$$

$$mcs_{2,4,4} = \frac{\cos(\chi)}{\sin(\chi)}$$

$$mcs_{3,3,1} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_t)$$

$$mcs_{3,3,2} = -\cos(\chi) \sin(\chi)$$

$$mcs_{3,4,4} = \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$mcs_{4,4,1} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_t) \sin(\theta)^2$$

$$mcs_{4,4,2} = -\cos(\chi) \sin(\chi) \sin(\theta)^2$$

$$mcs_{4,4,3} = -\cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$$

done

`riemann(true);`

$$riem_{1,2,1,2} = \frac{a(t)_{tt}}{a(t)}$$

$$riem_{1,3,1,3} = \frac{a(t)_{tt}}{a(t)}$$

$$riem_{1,4,1,4} = \frac{a(t)_{tt}}{a(t)}$$

$$riem_{2,2,1,1} = a(t) (a(t)_{tt})$$

$$riem_{2,3,2,3} = -(a(t)_t)^2 - 1$$

$$riem_{2,4,2,4} = -(a(t)_t)^2 - 1$$

$$riem_{3,3,1,1} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt})$$

$$riem_{3,3,2,2} = \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2$$

$$riem_{3,4,3,4} = -\sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + \cos(\chi)^2 - 1$$

$$riem_{4,4,1,1} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) \sin(\theta)^2$$

$$riem_{4,4,2,2} = \left(\sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2 \right) \sin(\theta)^2$$

$$riem_{4,4,3,3} = \left(\sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 + 1 \right) \sin(\theta)^2$$

`done`

`ricci(true);`

$$ric_{1,1} = -\frac{3(a(t)_{tt})}{a(t)}$$

$$ric_{2,2} = a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + 2(a(t)_t)^2 + 2$$

$$ric_{3,3} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + 2 \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 + 1$$

$$ric_{4,4} = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) \sin(\theta)^2 + 2 \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 \sin(\theta)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2 \sin(\theta)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 \sin(\theta)^2 + \sin(\theta)^2$$

`done`

scurvature();

$$\frac{\left(6 \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + 6 \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + 4 \sin(\chi)^2 - 2 \cos(\chi)^2 + 2\right)}{(\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2)}$$

leinstein(true);

$$lein_{1,1} = \frac{3 \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + 2 \sin(\chi)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 + 1}{\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2}$$

$$lein_{2,2} = -$$

$$\frac{2 \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + \sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 + 1}{\sin(\chi)^2}$$

$$lein_{3,3} = -\sin(\chi)^2 \left(2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + (a(t)_t)^2 + 1\right)$$

$$lein_{4,4} = -\sin(\chi)^2 \left(2 a(t) (a(t)_{tt}) + (a(t)_t)^2 + 1\right) \sin(\theta)^2$$

done

cgeodesic(true);

$$geod_1 = \sin(\chi)^2 a(t) (a(t)_t) (\theta_s)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2 (\phi_s)^2$$

$$a(t) (a(t)_t) \sin(\theta)^2 + (\chi_s)^2 a(t) (a(t)_t) + t_{ss}$$

$$geod_2 = -$$

$$\frac{\left(\cos(\chi) \sin(\chi) a(t) (\theta_s)^2 + \cos(\chi) \sin(\chi) (\phi_s)^2 a(t) \sin(\theta)^2 - 2 (\chi_s) (t_s) (a(t)_{tt})\right)}{a(t)}$$

$$geod_3 =$$

$$\frac{\left(\sin(\chi) a(t) (\theta_{ss}) + 2 \sin(\chi) (t_s) (a(t)_t) (\theta_s) + 2 \cos(\chi) (\chi_s) a(t) (\theta_s) - \sin(\chi) (a(t)_{tt})\right)}{(\sin(\chi) a(t))}$$

$$geod_4 =$$

$$\frac{\left(2 \sin(\chi) (\phi_s) a(t) \cos(\theta) (\theta_s) + 2 \sin(\chi) (\phi_s) (t_s) (a(t)_t) \sin(\theta) + \sin(\chi) (a(t)_{tt})\right)}{(\sin(\chi) a(t) \sin(\theta))}$$

done

```
uriemann(false);lriemann(false);rinvariant();
```

```
done
```

```
done
```

$$\frac{12 (a(t)_{tt})^2}{a(t)^2} + \left(4 \left(\sin(\chi)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 - \cos(\chi)^2 + 1 \right) \left(\sin(\chi)^4 a(t)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + (1 - \cos(\chi)^2) \sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 \right) \right) / (\sin(\chi)^6 a(t)^6) + \frac{6 \left((a(t)_t)^2 + 1 \right) \left(\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 + \sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 \right)}{\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^6} - \frac{2 \left((a(t)_t)^2 + 1 \right) \left(-\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 (a(t)_t)^2 - \sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^2 \right)}{\sin(\chi)^2 a(t)^6}$$

6 Schwarzschild Metric

```
init_ctensor();
```

```
done
```

The Schwarzschild coordinate system (r,t,θ,φ) is predefined:

```
ct_coordsys(exteriorschwarzschild);
```

```
done
```

```
cmetric();
```

```
done
```

lg;ug;gdet;

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{2m-r}{r} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{r}{r-2m} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{r}{2m-r} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{r-2m}{r} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{r^2 \sin(\theta)^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$-r^4 \sin(\theta)^2$$

Compare with Carroll (5.52), p 206

christof(mcs);

$$mcs_{1,1,2} = \frac{mr-2m^2}{r^3}$$

$$mcs_{1,2,1} = \frac{m}{r^2 - 2mr}$$

$$mcs_{2,2,2} = -\frac{m}{r^2 - 2mr}$$

$$mcs_{2,3,3} = \frac{1}{r}$$

$$mcs_{2,4,4} = \frac{1}{r}$$

$$mcs_{3,3,2} = 2m-r$$

$$mcs_{3,4,4} = \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$mcs_{4,4,2} = (2m-r) \sin(\theta)^2$$

$$mcs_{4,4,3} = -\cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$$

done

`riemann(true);`

$$riem_{1,2,1,2} = \frac{2 m (m r - 2 m^2)}{r^3 (r^2 - 2 m r)} + \frac{3 (m r - 2 m^2)}{r^4} - \frac{m}{r^3}$$

$$riem_{1,3,1,3} = - \frac{m r - 2 m^2}{r^4}$$

$$riem_{1,4,1,4} = - \frac{m r - 2 m^2}{r^4}$$

$$riem_{2,2,1,1} = \frac{2 m}{r^3 - 2 m r^2}$$

$$riem_{2,3,2,3} = \frac{m}{r (r^2 - 2 m r)}$$

$$riem_{2,4,2,4} = \frac{m}{r (r^2 - 2 m r)}$$

$$riem_{3,3,1,1} = - \frac{m}{r}$$

$$riem_{3,3,2,2} = - \frac{m}{r}$$

$$riem_{3,4,3,4} = - \frac{2 m - r}{r} - 1$$

$$riem_{4,4,1,1} = - \frac{m \sin(\theta)^2}{r}$$

$$riem_{4,4,2,2} = - \frac{m \sin(\theta)^2}{r}$$

$$riem_{4,4,3,3} = \frac{2 m \sin(\theta)^2}{r}$$

`done`

You may simplify any of the above expressions: (use the "Simplify" menu of wxMaxima in this window to see other options)

`ratsimp(riem[1,2,1,2]);`

$$\frac{2 m r - 4 m^2}{r^4}$$

Observe that $R_{\{i j\}} = 0$

```
ricci(true);
```

$$ric_{1,1} = -\frac{2m(mr-2m^2)}{r^3(r^2-2mr)} - \frac{mr-2m^2}{r^4} + \frac{m}{r^3}$$

$$ric_{2,2} = -\frac{2m}{r(r^2-2mr)} + \frac{m(2r-2m)}{(r^2-2mr)^2} - \frac{2m^2}{(r^2-2mr)^2}$$

done

We need to simplify in order to check that the above results are zero:

```
ratsimp(ric[1,1]);ratsimp(ric[2,2]);
```

```
0
0
```

```
scurvature();
```

```
0
```

Compare with Carroll (5.50) p 205: $R^2=48 m^2/r^6$

```
uriemann(false);lriemann(true);rinvariant();
```

```
done
```

$$lriem_{2,2,1,1} = -\frac{2m}{r^3}$$

$$lriem_{3,3,1,1} = \frac{mr-2m^2}{r^2}$$

$$lriem_{3,3,2,2} = -\frac{m}{r-2m}$$

$$lriem_{4,4,1,1} = \frac{(mr-2m^2)\sin(\theta)^2}{r^2}$$

$$lriem_{4,4,2,2} = -\frac{m\sin(\theta)^2}{r-2m}$$

$$lriem_{4,4,3,3} = 2mr\sin(\theta)^2$$

done

$$\frac{8m(mr-2m^2)}{r^2(r^5-2mr^4)} + \frac{8m(mr-2m^2)}{r^6(r-2m)} + \frac{32m^2}{r^6}$$

`cgeodesic(true);`

$$geod_1 = \frac{r^2 (t_{ss}) - 2 m r (t_{ss}) + 2 m (r_s) (t_s)}{r (r - 2 m)}$$

$$geod_2 = - \frac{(r^5 (theta_s)^2 - 4 m r^4 (theta_s)^2 + 4 m^2 r^3 (theta_s)^2 + (phi_s)^2 r^5 \sin(theta)^2 - 4 m (phi_s)^2 r^4 \sin(theta))}{(r^3 (r - 2 m))}$$

$$geod_3 = \frac{r (theta_{ss}) + 2 (r_s) (theta_s) - (phi_s)^2 r \cos(theta) \sin(theta)}{r}$$

$$geod_4 = \frac{(2 (phi_s) r \cos(theta) (theta_s) + 2 (phi_s) (r_s) \sin(theta) + (phi_{ss}) r \sin(theta))}{(r \sin(theta))}$$

`done`

Simplyfy some of the expressions above:

`expand(geod[3]); expand(geod[4]);`

$$theta_{ss} + \frac{2 (r_s) (theta_s)}{r} - (phi_s)^2 \cos(theta) \sin(theta) \\ \frac{2 (phi_s) \cos(theta) (theta_s)}{\sin(theta)} + \frac{2 (phi_s) (r_s)}{r} + phi_{ss}$$

`trigreduce(expand(geod[3])); trigreduce(expand(geod[4]));`

$$- \frac{(phi_s)^2 \sin(2 theta)}{2} + theta_{ss} + \frac{2 (r_s) (theta_s)}{r} \\ 2 (phi_s) \cot(theta) (theta_s) + \frac{2 (phi_s) (r_s)}{r} + phi_{ss}$$