

Suggests that we can promote equations from SR to GR using

$$\partial_a \rightarrow D_a \quad \text{"minimal coupling"}$$

which then reduce to SR laws in a local inertial frame.

Example :  $D_a F^{ab} = 4\pi J^b$

Electromagnetism

$$D_{[a} F_{bc]} = 0$$

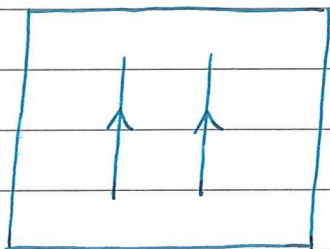
$$D_a T^{ab} = 0$$

Stress tensor

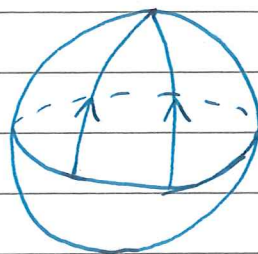
### 7.3 - Curvature

Deviations from special relativity at  $\mathcal{O}(x^2)$  in  $g_{ab}$

Characterised by focussing (or parting) of geodesics



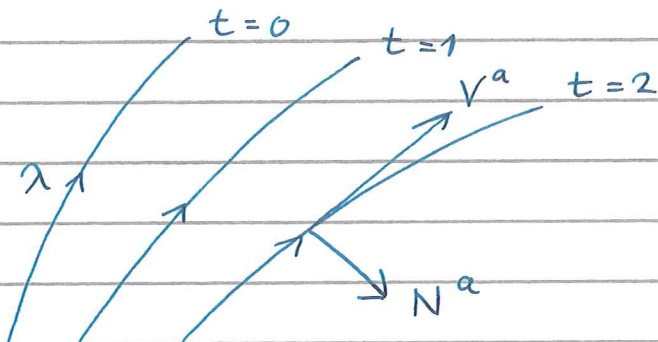
$\mathbb{R}^2$



$S^2$

Consider a 1-parameter family of timelike geodesics

$$x_t^a(\lambda) = x^a(\lambda, t)$$



$$V^a = \frac{dx^a}{d\lambda}, \quad N^a = \frac{dx^a}{dt}$$

"Geodesics"  $\Rightarrow V^a \nabla_a V^b = 0$  for all  $t$ .

We can change the affine parameter

$$\lambda \mapsto a(t)\lambda + b(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow V^a \mapsto \frac{1}{a(t)} V^a$$

$$N^a \mapsto N^a + (a'(t)\lambda + b'(t)) V^a$$

Fix this using: 1) Norm of  $V^a$  preserved with  $t$

2) Set  $g(N, V) = 0$  (ignore deviation along geodesic)

$$\begin{aligned}
1) \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} g(v, v) &= v^a \partial_a g(v, v) \quad \downarrow \text{scalar} \\
&= v^a \nabla_a g(v, v) \quad \downarrow \text{"metric" } \nabla_a \\
&= 2 v^a g_{bc} \nabla_a v^b v^c \quad \downarrow \\
&= 2 v_b \underbrace{v^a \nabla_a v^b}_0 \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow g(v, v) = -f(t)^2 \quad \text{for some } f(t)$$

Choose  $a(t) = f(t)$  to fix

$$g(v, v) = -1$$

so that  $\lambda$  is proper time

$$\begin{aligned}
2) \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} g(v, N) &= v^c \nabla_c (g_{ab} v^a N^b) \quad \downarrow \nabla g = 0 \\
&= g_{ab} v^a v^c \nabla_c N^b \quad \downarrow v \cdot v = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{but } v^c \nabla_c N^b - N^c \nabla_c v^b = v^c \partial_c N^b - N^c \partial_c v^b$$

$$\text{need this} \quad = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{dx^a}{dt} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{dx^a}{d\lambda}$$

$$= 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{So } \frac{d}{d\lambda} g(V, N) &= g_{ab} V^a N^c \nabla_c V^b \\
&= \frac{1}{2} N^c \nabla_c \underbrace{(g_{ab} V^a V^b)}_{= -1 \quad \forall \lambda, t} \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

So  $g(V, N)$  constant with  $\lambda$ .

Use remaining  $\lambda \mapsto \lambda + b(t)$

$$N^a \mapsto N^a + b'(t) V^a$$

to fix  $g(V, N) = 0$ .

Relative acceleration of nearby geodesics

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{D^2 N^a}{D\lambda^2} &= \nabla_V \nabla_V N^a \\
&= V^b \nabla_b (V^c \nabla_c N^a) \quad \downarrow [V, N]^a = 0 \\
&= V^b \nabla_b (N^c \nabla_c V^a) \\
&= V^b (\nabla_b N^c) (\nabla_c V^a) + V^b N^c \nabla_b \nabla_c V^a \\
&= V^b (\nabla_b N^c) (\nabla_c V^a) \\
&\quad + V^b N^c (\nabla_b \nabla_c - \nabla_c \nabla_b) V^a \\
&\quad + V^b N^c \nabla_c \nabla_b V^a
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& [N, V] = 0 \\
& \quad \hookrightarrow \\
& = N^b \nabla_b V^c \nabla_c V^a + V^b N^c \nabla_c \nabla_b V^a \\
& \quad + V^b N^c [\nabla_b, \nabla_c] V^a \\
& = N^b \nabla_b (V^c \nabla_c V^a) \leftarrow = 0 \text{ as geodesic.} \\
& \quad + V^b N^c [\nabla_b, \nabla_c] V^a \\
& = \quad + R_{bc}{}^a{}_d V^b N^c V^d
\end{aligned}$$

This defines the Riemann curvature tensor

$$+ R_{bc}{}^a{}_d V^b N^c V^d = [\nabla_b, \nabla_c] V^a$$

Clearly  $C^\infty$  linear in  $bc$  indices

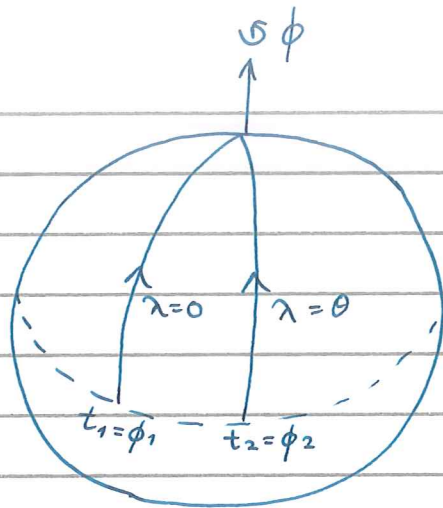
- Can check it is linear under

$$V^a \rightarrow f V^a \quad (\text{c.f. } [\nabla_a, \nabla_b] f = 0 \text{ for torsion free})$$

so transforms as a tensor.

Example: Round  $S^2$

$$\text{Identify } t = \phi, \quad \lambda = \theta$$



$$V^a = (V^\theta, V^\phi) = (1, 0)$$

$$N^a = (N^\theta, N^\phi) = (0, 1)$$

Recall :  $\Gamma_{\phi\phi}^\theta = -\sin\theta \cos\theta$

$$\Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\phi = \Gamma_{\theta\phi}^\phi = \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}$$

$$\frac{DN^a}{D\lambda} = \frac{dx^b}{d\lambda} \nabla_b N^a$$

$$= v^b \nabla_b N^a$$

$$= \underbrace{\partial_\theta}_0 N^a + \Gamma^a_{\theta\phi} N^\phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{DN^\phi}{D\lambda} = \Gamma^\phi_{\theta\phi} = \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Now } \frac{D^2 N^\phi}{D\lambda^2} &= \partial_\theta \left( \frac{DN^\phi}{D\lambda} \right) + \Gamma^\phi_{\theta\phi} \frac{DN^\phi}{D\lambda} \\
&= \partial_\theta \left( \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \right) + \left( \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \right)^2 \\
&= -1 \\
&\equiv + R_{bc}{}^\phi{}_d V^b N^c V^d \\
&= + R_{\theta\phi}{}^\phi{}_\theta
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } R_{\theta\phi}{}^\phi{}_\theta = -1$$

Comment: In 2d, Riemann tensor has only 1 independent component (see PS3)