

Problems 16-20

16. Show that $[\nabla_a, \nabla_b]w_c = -w_d R^d{}_{cab}$.

17. Using the fact that $[\nabla_a, \nabla_b]g_{cd} = 0$, prove that $R_{cdab} = -R_{dcab}$

18. Show that

(a) $[[\nabla_a, \nabla_b], \nabla_c] + [[\nabla_b, \nabla_c], \nabla_a] + [[\nabla_c, \nabla_a], \nabla_b] = 0$, no matter what it is acting on.

Just write it out, and it will be trivial.

(b) Let the operator in part (a) act on an arbitrary scalar function f , and show that this implies $R^d{}_{cab} + R^d{}_{abc} + R^d{}_{bca} = 0$.

19. In this problem we will consider the Riemann tensor in two dimensions

(a) In 2D it is known that the Riemann tensor can be written $R_{abcd} = \frac{1}{2}\bar{R}\varepsilon_{ab}\varepsilon_{cd}$. Argue why this is reasonable.

(b) Compute the Ricci tensor in terms of \bar{R} .

(c) Show that \bar{R} is the Ricci scalar.

(d) Consider the surface of a sphere of radius r , with metric

$$ds^2 = r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2$$

Compute any non-vanishing component of Riemann and use it to compute the Ricci scalar.

20. Work out the components of the four acceleration A^μ in flat space relative to a Lorentz frame defined by

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j.$$

Show that its components are given by

$$A^t = \gamma^4 \vec{a} \cdot \vec{v} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{A} = \gamma^2 \vec{a} + \gamma^4 (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v}$$

where

$$\vec{v} = \frac{d\vec{x}}{dt}, \quad \vec{a} = \frac{d^2\vec{x}}{dt^2}, \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\vec{v}^2}}$$