
Exercises on General Relativity and Cosmology

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–EXERCISE THREE–

Due April 24th

H 3.1 EMT for a Perfect Fluid

(10 points)

First, we would like to consider the energy-momentum tensor of a *perfect fluid*. A comoving observer will, by definition, see his surroundings as isotropic. In this frame the energy-momentum tensor is given by

$$\left(\tilde{T}^{\mu\nu}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix},$$

where ρ is the density and p the pressure of the fluid.

- a) Calculate the components of energy-momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$ for an observer at rest. Assume the comoving observer's velocity to be \vec{v} . (3 points)
- b) Show that $T^{\mu\nu}$ can also be written as

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (p + \rho)U^\mu U^\nu + p\eta^{\mu\nu},$$

where U^μ are the components of the four-velocity of the fluid. (2 points)

- c) From the nonrelativistic limit of the conservation of the energy momentum tensor, $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu}$, deduce *Euler's equations*

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) &= 0, \\ \rho \left[\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} \right] &= -\vec{\nabla} p. \end{aligned}$$

Hint: The nonrelativistic limit is given by $(U^\mu) = (1, v^i)$, $|v^i| \ll 1$, $p \ll \rho$. Project the equation into pieces along and orthogonal to the four-velocity by contraction with U_ν and $P^\sigma{}_\nu = \delta^\sigma{}_\nu + U^\sigma U_\nu$ respectively. (3 points)

H 3.2 Getting used to Manifolds

(15 points)

In the lecture the concept of manifolds has been introduced. This exercise is devoted to building up some intuition for these objects. To this end, let us first recall the definition: A differentiable manifold of dimension n is a topological space M , such that the space can be covered with a set of open sets $\{U_\alpha\}$ and for every α we have a diffeomorphism¹ $h_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow V_\alpha$ to an open set $V_\alpha \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. A pair (U_α, h_α) is called a chart, labelled α , and a set of charts covering M is called an atlas. Further, for every pair of charts (α, β) such that $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$ the transition function $h_{\alpha\beta} \equiv h_\alpha \circ h_\beta^{-1} : h_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \rightarrow h_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)$ is required to be a diffeomorphism.

To get acquainted to this possibly new language, let us look at our jolly good \mathbb{R}^n first.

- a) Consider \mathbb{R}^n itself as a topological space and explicitly construct an atlas to show that it is a manifold. (1 point)

Hint: One chart is enough, but feel free to try using more charts.

This result is not surprising, since manifolds are constructed such that they locally look like the \mathbb{R}^n ; and of course, so does \mathbb{R}^n .

Let us go a step further. A manifold is called *topologically trivial* if it can be continuously shrunk to a point, an example is \mathbb{R}^n . One may think that this property of \mathbb{R}^n , being topologically trivial, allowed for covering it with one chart only.

- b) Consider the infinitely long cylinder M given by its *embedding* in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$M = \{(R \cos \phi, R \sin \phi, t) \mid \phi \in [0, 2\pi), t \in (-\infty, \infty), R > 0\} . \quad (1)$$

Although M is topologically non-trivial — it can be shrunk to a circle but not to a point — it can be covered with a single chart only. Construct such a chart explicitly. What is the dimension of this manifold, and how is this different from the dimension of the embedding space? (3 points)

Hint: Think about the punctured complex plane, $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$.

- c) Now consider a torus given by its embedding in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$T = \{((R + r \cos \theta) \cos \phi, (R + r \cos \theta) \sin \phi, r \sin \theta) \mid \theta, \phi \in [0, 2\pi), R > r > 0\} . \quad (2)$$

Explicitly construct an atlas to show that T is a manifold. What is the dimension of this manifold? (3 points)

As many other objects, there is a notion of combining manifolds; the direct product of two manifolds, $M_{1,2}$ of dimensions $d_{1,1}$ is a manifold. Intuitively, the direct product amounts to putting an instance of manifold M_1 at every point on M_2 .

- d) Convince yourself (and preferably also your tutor) that the dimension of the resulting product manifold will be $d_1 + d_2$. (1 point)

¹A diffeomorphism is a homeomorphism with the additional property that it and its inverse are continuously differentiable.

- e) A nice example of this product might be writing the infinite cylinder we had from before as $M = \mathbb{R} \times S$, where S is just our familiar circle. The circle, is in fact a differentiable manifold. To be consistent, let us define the circle by its embedding in \mathbb{R}^2 as

$$S = \{(R \cos \phi, R \sin \phi) \mid \phi \in [0, 2\pi), R > 0\} . \quad (3)$$

What is the dimension of the circle as a manifold. Check that our assumption about the dimension of the product manifold works. Explicitly construct an atlas for the circle. Can you do this atlas with a single chart?

Hint: Remember that the keyword "open" in our definitions above. (3 points)

The lesson is that a higher dimension for the manifold, does not necessarily mean we need more charts in the atlas.

The feature that made the torus topologically non-trivial is called the *genus*, and the torus was of genus one. Another nice example, is provided by the sphere. The sphere, defined by its \mathbb{R}^3 embedding

$$Sph = \{(x, y, z) \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1, x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\} . \quad (4)$$

is a differentiable manifold of genus zero.

- f) What is the dimension of this manifold? Explicitly construct an atlas to show that the sphere is indeed a manifold. How many charts, at least, do you need? Compare this with the case of the torus. (4 points)