

C. How to get Riemannian or pseudo-Riemannian metrics.

(1) On one coordinate patch or on a Euclidean space, we have a system of vector fields  $\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n$  valid everywhere. It suffices to define the functions  $g_{ij}(x)$ . We could, for example, set  $g_{ij}(x) = \delta_{ij}$ , making the vector fields  $\{\partial_i\}$  orthonormal at each point.

(2) On a manifold, we can use (1) to construct metrics on coordinate patches. Then we can use "partitions of unity" to combine these metrics into a metric on the whole manifold. This is the method usually used to show that any manifold has a metric.

(3) The usual way in which Riemannian metrics arise in practice is as follows: Suppose  $N$  is a space (often a Euclidean space) which already has a Riemannian metric  $h$ . Suppose we have a manifold  $M$  and a  $C^\infty$  function  $f: M \rightarrow N$  which is an immersion (that is, the Jacobian matrix of  $f$  is non-singular at every point of  $M$ ). Then we define a metric  $f^*(h) = g$  on  $M$  by letting  $g_x(X, Y) = h_{f(x)}(f_*(X), f_*(Y))$  for  $X, Y \in T_x M$ .

In local coordinates, this goes as follows: Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  be local coordinates on  $M$ , and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  be local coordinates on  $N$ . Then  $f$  is given by  $y_i = f_i(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Let  $h$  be given by  $h_{ij}(y)$ .

Then  $g = f^*(h)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} g_{ij}(x) &= \sum_{k,l=1}^n h_{k,l}(f(x)) \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{\partial f_l}{\partial x_j} \\ &= \sum_{k,l=1}^n h_{k,l}(f(x)) \frac{\partial y_k}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{\partial y_l}{\partial x_j} \end{aligned}$$

$f^*(h)$  is called the pullback of  $h$  by  $f$ .

II (§49). Covariant Differentiation

A. Motivation. We want some sort of directional derivative on a manifold. Will  $L_X$  do? No! Why?

(1) A directional derivative in the direction  $X$  should depend only on the value of  $X$  at the point in question. But  $L_{f \cdot X} Y = f \cdot L_X Y - (Y \cdot f)X$ , showing that  $L_X Y$  depends on how  $X$  is changing at the point in question (note the term  $(Y \cdot f)X$ ).

(2) We will be interested in Newton's laws, and therefore in acceleration as we move along a curve; i. e., the derivative of the velocity vector in the direction of the velocity vector. But the Lie derivative  $L_X X$  is always zero. Thus we cannot use  $L_X$  to discuss acceleration.

B. The abstract covariant derivative.

(1) Definition: An (affine) connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$  is a rule which assigns to two smooth vector fields  $X$  and  $Y$  on  $M$  another smooth vector field  $\nabla_X Y$  on  $M$ , called the covariant derivative of  $Y$  in the direction  $X$  (with respect to  $\nabla$ ), obeying

$$(a) \nabla_{x_1 + x_2} Y = \nabla_{x_1} Y + \nabla_{x_2} Y \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla_{fX} Y = f \cdot \nabla_X Y,$$

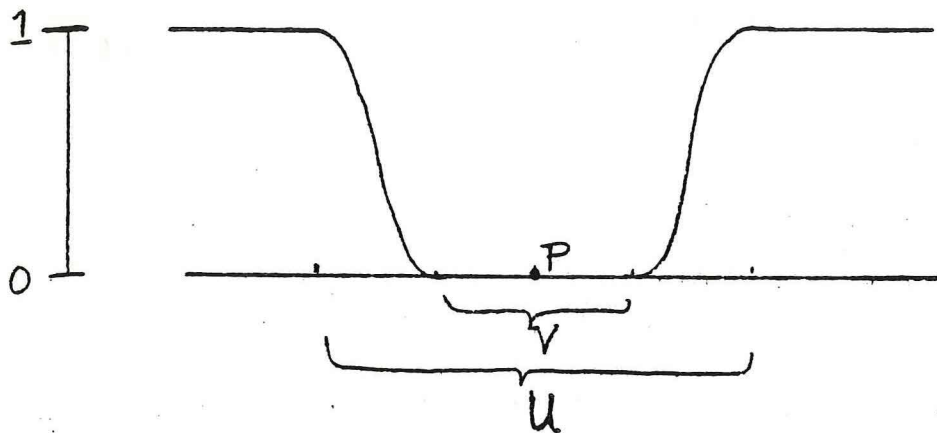
$$(b) \nabla_X (Y_1 + Y_2) = \nabla_X Y_1 + \nabla_X Y_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla_X (fY) = (X \cdot f)Y + f \cdot \nabla_X Y$$

for  $f \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ ,  $X_i, Y_i$  vector fields on  $M$ .

(2) If  $\nabla_X Y$  is to fulfill our expectations of what a directional derivative ought to be, then the following proposition should hold:

Proposition. For any point  $p$  on  $M$ ,  $(\nabla_X Y)_p$  depends only on  $X_p$  and on the behavior of  $Y$  in a neighborhood of  $p$  (actually on the "germ" of  $Y$  at  $p$ ).

Proof. If  $Y = Y'$  in a neighborhood  $U$  of  $p$ , then we take a "bump" function  $f$  which is one outside of  $U$  and zero on some neighborhood  $V \subseteq U$  of  $p$ .



Then  $Y - Y' = f \cdot (Y - Y')$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_X(Y - Y'))_p &= [\nabla_X(f \cdot (Y - Y'))]_p \\ &= (X \cdot f)_p (Y - Y')_p + f(p) \nabla_X(Y - Y')_p \\ &= 0 \cdot (Y - Y')_p + 0 \cdot \nabla_X(Y - Y')_p = 0, \end{aligned}$$

so  $(\nabla_X Y)_p = (\nabla_X Y')_p$ .

If  $X_p = X'_p$ , then we can write  $X - X' = \sum f_i P_i$ , where  $f_i \in \mathcal{F}(M)$  and  $P_i$  are vector fields on  $M$ , with  $f_i(p) = 0$ . (Details left to the reader.) Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_X Y)_p - (\nabla_{X'}, Y)_p &= (\nabla_{X-X'}, Y)_p = (\nabla_{\sum f_i P_i} Y)_p \\ &= \sum f_i(p) (\nabla_{P_i} Y)_p = 0, \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

(3) By the proposition above,  $\nabla_X Y$  is well-defined at a point, even if  $X$  and  $Y$  are defined only in a neighborhood of that point (rather than on the whole manifold). Thus the following definition makes sense:

For  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  a local coordinate system on  $M$ ,  $\partial_i = \partial/\partial x_i$  as before, we define  $n^3$  smooth functions  $\Gamma_{ij}^k(x)$  ( $i, j, k = 1, \dots, n$ ) on the coordinate patch by

$$\Delta_{\partial_i}(\partial_j)_x = \sum_k \Gamma_{ij}^k(x) \partial_k(x).$$

The functions  $\Gamma_{ij}^k$  are called the Christoffel symbols of the connection.

We can calculate that for  $X = \sum a_i(x) \partial_i$ ,  $Y = \sum b_j(x) \partial_j$ ,

$$\nabla_X Y = \sum_i a_i \left[ \sum_j \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial x_i} \partial_j + \sum_{j,k} b_j \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k \right].$$

(4) Examples:

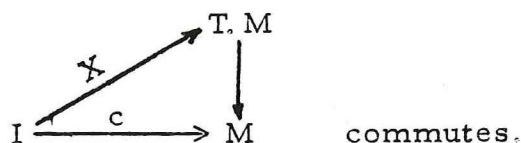
(a) In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with the usual coordinate system, let  $\Gamma_{ij}^k$  be identically zero. Then we get the usual directional derivative of vector fields.

(b) If  $M$  is embedded in  $N$  (particularly  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ), and if  $N$  has a connection  $\nabla^N$  and a Riemannian metric, then we can use these to define a connection on  $M$  as follows: For  $p \in M$  and  $X, Y$  vector fields defined on  $M$  in a neighborhood of  $p$ , extend  $X$  and  $Y$  to vector fields

defined on  $N$  in a neighborhood of  $p$ . Define  $\nabla^M$  by setting  $(\nabla_X^M Y)_p = \text{proj}_M((\nabla_X^N Y)_p)$ , where  $\text{proj}_M$  denotes the perpendicular projection of  $T_p N$  onto  $T_p M$ . It is easy to verify that  $\nabla^M$  satisfies the definition of a connection.  $(\nabla_X^M Y)_p$  is independent of the extensions of  $X$  and  $Y$  to  $N$ , and ...)

C. Covariant derivative of a vector field along a curve.

(1) Define a vector field  $X$  along a curve  $c: I \rightarrow M$  to be a map  $X$  such that



Note difficulties involved in extending  $X$  to  $M$  when  $c$  crosses itself, has cusps, stationary points, etc. An example of a vector field along a curve  $c$  is the velocity  $\dot{c}$ .

(2) For  $X$  a vector field along  $c$ , define the covariant derivative of  $X$  along  $c$ ,  $\nabla_{\dot{c}} X$ , by

(a) where  $\dot{c}(t) \neq 0$ , extend  $X$  to a neighborhood of  $c(t)$  in  $M$ , and let the covariant derivative along the curve just be the ordinary covariant derivative in  $M$ ,  $\nabla_{\dot{c}}(X)$ . We show that the result is independent of the extension by showing that

$$\nabla_{\dot{c}}(Y) = \sum_i (\dot{c} \cdot y_i) \partial_i + \sum_{i,j,k} \dot{c}_i y_j \Gamma_{ij}^k \partial_k$$

where  $Y = \sum y_i \partial_i$ .

(b) Where  $\dot{c} = 0$ , let  $\nabla_{\dot{c}}(Y) = 0$ .

D. Parallel translation

(1) For  $M$  a manifold with connection  $\nabla$ ,  $c$  a smooth curve in  $M$  and  $X$  a vector field along  $c$ , we say that  $X$  is parallel along  $c$  if  $\nabla_c X = 0$  holds everywhere on  $c$ .

In local coordinates  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ : let  $c$  be given by  $c_1(t), \dots, c_n(t)$ ; let  $X$  be given by  $X(t) = \sum X_i(t) \partial_i(c(t))$ . Then the equation  $\nabla_c X = 0$  is equivalent to

$$\frac{dX_i}{dt}(t) + \sum_{k,l} \Gamma_{kl}^i(c(t)) \frac{dc_k}{dt} \cdot X_l(t) = 0, \quad (i = 1, \dots, n).$$

This is a system of  $n$  linear differential equations in  $n$  variables. For an initial value  $t_0$  and an arbitrarily chosen vector  $X(t_0)$  in  $T_{c(t_0)}M$ , there is a unique vector field  $X(t)$  along  $c$  which coincides with  $X(t_0)$  at  $c(t_0)$ . The value of this vector field at  $c(t_1)$  is said to be the parallel translation of  $X(t_0)$  along  $c$  to  $c(t_1)$ .

(2) Note that the parallel translation along  $c$  from  $c(a)$  to  $c(b)$  gives an invertible linear map of  $T_{c(a)}M$  to  $T_{c(b)}M$ . This linear map depends very heavily on  $c$  (unless the "curvature" of the connection is zero).

(3) Relation of parallel translation and  $\nabla$ .

Proposition. Let  $X \in T_p M$ ,  $Y$  be a vector field defined in some neighborhood of  $p$ . Take any curve  $c$  such that  $\dot{c}(0) = X$ . Then

$$(\nabla_X Y)_p = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\parallel_{c,t}^0 Y(c(t))) - Y(p)}{t}$$

(where  $\parallel_{c,t}^0$  denotes the parallel translation along  $c$  from  $c(t)$  to  $c(0) = p$ .)

Proof. Let  $\{Z_1, \dots, Z_n\}$  be a basis of  $T_p M$ . Extend  $Z_i$  by parallel translation to a vector field along  $c$ . Thus, for each  $t$ ,  $\{Z_1(t), \dots, Z_n(t)\}$  is a basis for  $T_{c(t)} M$ .

Write  $Y(c(t)) = \sum y_i(t) Z_i(t)$ . As parallel translation is linear and the  $Z_i$ 's are parallel along  $c$ , we get that

$$\parallel_{c,t}^0 Y(c(t)) = \sum y_i(t) Z_i(0).$$

Taking the difference and the limit, we find that the right hand side of our conclusion becomes

$$\sum_i \left( \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{y_i(t) - y_i(0)}{t} \right) Z_i(0) = \sum_i (\dot{c} \cdot y_i)_0 Z_i(0).$$

But, as  $\nabla_{\dot{c}} Z_i = 0$ , this equals the left hand side of our conclusion:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_X Y &= \nabla_{\dot{c}} \left( \sum y_i(t) Z_i(t) \right) \\ &= \sum (\dot{c} \cdot y_i) \cdot Z_i(t) + \sum y_i (\nabla_{\dot{c}} Z_i) \\ &= \sum (\dot{c} \cdot y_i) \cdot Z_i(t) + 0 \quad . \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

(4) Note the similarity of the above proposition to the proposition giving the Lie derivative  $L_X$  in terms of the flow of  $X$ . As a parallel to Willmore's theorem, we have:

Theorem. We can extend  $\nabla_X$  to a unique linear map of the various tensor bundles

$$\nabla_X: T_s^r(M) \rightarrow T_s^r(M)$$

such that

(1)  $\nabla_X f = X \cdot f$  for  $f \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ ,

(2) For  $Y$  a vector field on  $M$ ,  $\nabla_X Y$  is the given covariant

derivative.

(3)  $\nabla_X \delta = 0$ , where  $\delta = \sum_i e^i \otimes e_i$ .

(4)  $\nabla_X$  is a derivation of the tensor algebra;

$$\nabla_X(\tau \otimes \tau') = (\nabla_X \tau) \otimes \tau' + \tau \otimes (\nabla_X \tau')$$

Further, we can also extend the notion of parallel translation along  $c$  to

$$\parallel_{c,a}^b: T_s^r(M)_{c(a)} \longrightarrow T_s^r(M)_{c(b)}$$

and, for any tensor field  $\tau$ ,  $\nabla_X \tau$  is given by a limit, as in the previous proposition.

Example: Using (3) and (4), we can find

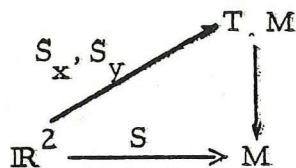
$$\nabla_{\partial/\partial x_i} (dx^j) = - \sum_k \Gamma_{ik}^j dx^k .$$

### III (§50) Nice Covariant Derivatives.

#### A. Torsion

(1) Symmetry. Suppose  $S: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow M$  is a smooth map. (Call  $S$  a "parametrized surface".) Then we get two vector fields on  $S$ ,

$$S_x = \frac{\partial S}{\partial x} \quad \text{and} \quad S_y = \frac{\partial S}{\partial y} ,$$



We can form  $\nabla_{S_x} S_y$  and  $\nabla_{S_y} S_x$ . (These correspond to covariant derivatives along the curves  $S(t, y_0)$  and  $S(x_0, t)$  respectively.) In general, it is not true that

$$\nabla_{S_x} S_y = \nabla_{S_y} S_x .$$

If this condition is satisfied for all parametrized surfaces  $S$ , then we say that the connection  $\nabla$  is torison free or symmetric. (Note: this condition does not correspond to the property  $\partial^2/\partial x\partial y = \partial^2/\partial y\partial x$  in ordinary Euclidean space. That property corresponds to the "curvature" of the connection being zero.)

(2) The torsion tensor.

For vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M$ , define

$$\text{Tor}(X, Y) = \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X - [X, Y].$$

Show

(a) Tor is  $\mathcal{F}(M)$ -linear in  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

(b) Follows from (a) that  $\text{Tor}(X, Y)_p$  depends only on  $X_p$  and  $Y_p$ , and bilinearly on these.

(c) (b) means that Tor is a tensor, the torsion tensor of the connection  $\nabla$ . (Actually, more properly speaking, the torsion tensor is the tensor  $\tau$  of type  $\binom{2}{1}$  given by

$$\tau(X, Y, \omega) \equiv \omega(\text{Tor}(X, Y))$$

for  $X, Y$  vector fields and  $\omega$  a 1-form.)

(d) Calculate local form: If we let

$$\text{Tor}(\partial_i, \partial_j) = \sum_k \text{Tor}_{ij}^k \partial_k$$

then we find

$$\text{Tor}_{ij}^k = \Gamma_{ij}^k - \Gamma_{ji}^k.$$

(3) Relation of Tor and symmetry.

Theorem.  $\text{Tor} \equiv 0$  if and only if  $\nabla_{S_x} S_y = \nabla_{S_y} S_x$  for all parametrized surfaces.

Proof. ( $\Leftarrow$ ). For any two vectors  $X$  and  $Y$  at  $p$ , we can choose  $S$  so that  $(S_x)_p = X$  and  $(S_y)_p = Y$ . It is easy to calculate that, because  $S_x$  and  $S_y$  both come from  $S$ ,  $[S_x, S_y] = 0$ . (The calculation reduces to  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .) Then

$$\nabla_{S_x} S_y = \nabla_{S_y} S_x \text{ implies } \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X = 0 \text{ and } [X, Y] = 0,$$

so  $\text{Tor}(X, Y) = 0$  for all  $X, Y$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ).  $\text{Tor}(S_x, S_y) = 0$ . But, again  $[S_x, S_y] = 0$ . Q.E.D.

B. Invariance of  $g$  under parallel translation.

(1) Definition. If  $M$  has both a connection  $\nabla$  and a Riemannian or pseudo-Riemannian metric  $g(X, Y) = (X, Y)$ , then it will be nice if parallel translation preserves inner products; i.e., whenever  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$  are parallel along  $c$ , then  $(X(t), Y(t))$  is independent of  $t$ .

(2). Proposition. (1) above holds if and only if the following condition holds: if  $A$  and  $B$  are vector fields on  $M$ , then

$$X \cdot (A, B) = (\nabla_X A, B) + (A, \nabla_X B).$$

Proof. ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Take  $c$  a curve with  $\dot{c}(0) = X$ . Take an orthonormal basis  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  at  $c(0)$ . Extend these by parallel translation along  $c$ . By our hypothesis (1) above, the vectors  $Y_1(t), \dots, Y_n(t)$  form an orthonormal basis in  $T_{c(t)}M$  for each  $t$ .

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} A(c(t)) &= \sum f_i(t) Y_i(t), \\ B(c(t)) &= \sum g_i(t) Y_i(t). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$(A(c(t)), B(c(t))) = \sum f_i(t) \cdot g_i(t),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} X \cdot (A, B) &= \frac{d}{dt} (A(c(t)), B(c(t))) = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \sum_i f_i(t) \cdot g_i(t) \right) \\ &= \sum_i [(X \cdot f_i) g_i + f_i (X \cdot g_i)] \\ &= (\nabla_X A, B) + (A, \nabla_X B). \end{aligned}$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) is even easier. If  $A$  and  $B$  are parallel along  $c$ , then  $\nabla_{\dot{c}} A = \nabla_{\dot{c}} B = 0$ , so the derivative of  $(A, B)$  along  $c$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{c} \cdot (A, B) &= (\nabla_{\dot{c}} A, B) + (A, \nabla_{\dot{c}} B) \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(A, B)$  is constant along  $c$ . Q.E.D.

Note: If we regard  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  as a tensor  $g \in T_0^2(M)$ , then the condition that parallel translation preserve inner products is equivalent to  $\nabla_X g = 0$  for all vector fields  $X$  on  $M$ . Here,  $\nabla_X$  is as described in the theorem at the top of page 96.

Note: The theorem above also holds for pseudo-Riemannian metrics. The modification of the proof is left to the reader.

(3) Main theorem (Holds for pseudo-Riemannian metrics).

Theorem. Given  $M$  with a pseudo-Riemannian metric  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ , there is a unique connection  $\nabla$  on  $M$  satisfying

$$(1) \text{ Tor} = 0$$

(2) parallel translation preserves inner products.

Proof. Uniqueness: we have from (2) that

$$X \cdot (Y, Z) = (\nabla_X Y, Z) + (Y, \nabla_X Z).$$

Using (1), this becomes

$$X \cdot (Y, Z) = (\nabla_X Y, Z) + (Y, \nabla_Z X) + (Y, [X, Z]).$$

Cyclically permuting  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , we get two other equations. Solving for  $(\nabla_X Y, Z)$  and eliminating the terms involving  $\nabla_Y Z$  and  $\nabla_Z X$  (using the symmetry of  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ ) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2(\nabla_X Y, Z) &= X \cdot (Y, Z) + Y \cdot (Z, X) - Z \cdot (X, Y) - (Y, [X, Z]) \\ &\quad - (Z, [Y, X]) + (X, [Z, Y]). \end{aligned}$$

As  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  is nonsingular, this shows that  $\nabla_X Y$  is determined.

Conversely, if we define  $\nabla_X Y$  by using this formula, then we find that condition (1) and condition (2) of the theorem are satisfied. Q.E.D.

(4) Local form of the above result

In local coordinates, using the fact that  $[\partial_i, \partial_j] = 0$  we get

$$2\Gamma_{ij}^k = \sum_{\ell} [\partial_i(g_{j\ell}) + \partial_j(g_{i\ell}) - \partial_{\ell}(g_{ij})]g^{\ell k},$$

where  $\partial_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ , and  $(g^{\ell k})$  is the inverse matrix of  $(g_{ij})$ .

C. Example. Suppose  $N$  (especially  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) is a manifold with a metric  $g$  and the unique corresponding covariant derivative  $\nabla^N$ . Let  $M$  be embedded in  $N$ .  $M$  inherits a metric  $h$  (see I. C. 3) and a connection  $\nabla^M$  (see II. B. 4). Claim that  $\nabla^M$  is the unique connection on  $M$  corresponding to the metric  $h$ .

Proof. (1) Tor is zero: if  $S$  is a surface in  $M$ , then it is a surface in  $N$ . Then  $\nabla_{S_x}^N S_y = \nabla_{S_y}^N S_x$ , so their projections  $\nabla_{S_x}^M S_y$  and  $\nabla_{S_y}^M S_x$  into  $M$  are equal.

(2) Show

$$X \cdot (Y, Z) = (\nabla_X^M Y, Z) + (Y, \nabla_X^M Z) \text{ for } X, Y, Z \text{ tangent fields}$$

to  $M$ . But the left hand side is independent of whether we look in  $M$  or in  $N$ . The equation holds in  $N$ .  $\nabla_X^N Y$  differs from  $\nabla_X^M Y$  by a

vector perpendicular to  $M$ , so  $(\nabla_X^M Y, Z) = (\nabla_X^N Y, Z)$ , and so on. Q.E.D.

IV. (§51) Lagrange's Equations.

Suppose  $N$  particles move in space, subject to certain constraints. For each allowed configuration of the  $N$  particles, we get a point in  $3N$ -space. We assume that the set of allowed configurations is a submanifold  $M$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{3N}$  of dimension  $n$  and that arbitrary motions on the submanifolds are possible. This is what it means for the constraints to be "holonomic".

Put the metric on  $\mathbb{R}^{3N}$  given by

$$h = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i (dx_i^2 + dy_i^2 + dz_i^2),$$

where  $m_i$  is the mass and  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$  the coordinates of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  particle.

Let  $\omega$  denote the 1-form on  $\mathbb{R}^{3N}$  given by

$$\omega = \sum_{i=1}^N F_{ix} dx^i + F_{iy} dy^i + F_{iz} dz^i,$$

where  $F_{ix}$  is the force on the  $i^{\text{th}}$  particle in the x-direction, etc.

Now, we have the inclusion  $M \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R}^{3N}$ . Let  $g = f^*(\omega)$ , and let  $\nabla$  be the unique nice connection on  $M$  associated with  $g$ . Now,  $g$  produces an isomorphism of  $T_*M$  with  $T^*M$ . Let  $X_\omega$  be the vector field corresponding to  $\omega_Q$  under this isomorphism. Then the equations of motion may be expressed for a path  $c$  in  $M$  as

$$\nabla_{\dot{c}} \dot{c} = X_\omega$$

That is, given an initial position  $c(t_0)$  and an initial velocity  $\dot{c}(t_0)$  the system follows the unique path  $c(t)$  satisfying this equation for these initial conditions.

for each  $k$ , such that  $ds(\omega) + sd(\omega) = \omega$  for every form  $\omega$ . If then we have an  $\omega$  with  $d\omega = 0$ , it will follow that  $\omega = d(s\omega)$ , showing that  $\omega$  is exact. We will also let  $V$  denote the tangent space (at any point) of  $U$

A  $k$ -form  $\omega$  may be regarded as a smooth map from  $U$  to  $\Lambda_k(V^*)$ , the space of alternating  $k$ -tensors on  $V$ . Thus for each  $u \in U$ ,  $\omega_u$  is an alternating  $k$ -tensor:  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$  implies that  $\omega_u(v_1, \dots, v_k) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Write  $\omega(u, v_1, \dots, v_k) = \omega_u(v_1, \dots, v_k)$ ; then  $\omega$  is a function smooth in the first argument, and linear and alternating in the last  $k$  arguments.

Suppose  $f$  is a smooth real-valued function on  $U$ . We define a new function  $Df: U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by letting  $Df(u, v) = \langle d_u f, v \rangle$ ; that is,  $Df(u, v) = \left. \frac{d(f \circ \tilde{v})}{dt} \right|_{t=0}$  where  $v$  is the path defined by  $\tilde{v}(t) = u + tv$ . Hence  $Df$  is nothing more than the directional derivative of  $f$  in the direction  $v$  at the point  $u$ . Now if  $f$  happens to be a function of other variables as well, we can still form  $Df$  by ignoring those other variables as we take the derivative, and then putting them back: thus if

$$f = f(u, w_1, \dots, w_r),$$

$$Df(u, v, w_1, \dots, w_r) = \left. (d/dt)f(u+tv, w_1, \dots, w_r) \right|_{t=0}.$$

Notice that  $Df$  is a linear function of  $v$ ; if also  $f$  happens to be a linear function (in  $u$ ),  $Df(u, v) = f(v)$ .

If  $\omega$  is a  $k$ -form, redefine the  $(k+1)$ -form  $d\omega$  by

$$(d\omega)(u, v_0, \dots, v_k) = \sum_{\ell=0}^k (-1)^\ell (D\omega)(u, v_\ell, v_0, v_1, \dots, \hat{v}_\ell, \dots, v_k).$$

(Here the  $\wedge$  over  $v_\ell$  means that  $v_\ell$  is omitted.) We claim this  $d\omega$  is the same as the  $d\omega$  defined previously. This is checked by showing that this  $d\omega$  is linear and alternating in the  $v_0, \dots, v_k$ , and has the same values on the basis elements of  $V \times V \times \dots \times V$  as the old  $d\omega$ . The linearity is clear, given our comments regarding the operator  $D$ ;  $d\omega$  is alternating since computation shows that it vanishes when any two successive arguments are equal. Suppose now  $\omega$  is a one-form;  $\omega = \sum w_i dq^i$ , where  $\{q^i\}$  are coordinates on  $M$  and  $\{e_i\}$  are the corresponding basis elements of  $V \cong T_u(M)$ . Then  $w_i(u) = \omega(u, e_i)$ . By our old definition

$$d\omega = \sum_{i < j} \left( \frac{\partial w_j}{\partial q^i} - \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial q^j} \right) dq^i \wedge dq^j = \sum_{i < j} dw(u, e_i, e_j) dq^i \wedge dq^j.$$

To prove that the two definitions coincide for one-forms it will thus suffice to show that  $dw(u, e_i, e_j)$  is the same as in the new definition.

But in the new definition

$$dw(u, e_i, e_j) = D\omega(u, e_i, e_j) - D\omega(u, e_j, e_i),$$

and

$$Df(u, e_i) = \partial f / \partial q_i.$$

Hence

$$dw(u, e_i, e_j) = \frac{\partial \omega(u, e_j)}{\partial q^i} - \frac{\partial \omega(u, e_i)}{\partial q^j} = \frac{\partial w_j}{\partial q^i} - \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial q^j},$$

