

Today: Symmetric spaces and Cosmology.

### 7.1

“Find all Killing vectors on the two-sphere embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .”

We assume we are on the unit two-sphere  $S^2$ . From before:

$$ds^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2$$

$$\Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\theta = -\cos\theta \sin\theta, \quad \Gamma_{\theta\varphi}^\varphi = \cot\theta$$

Killing vectors are the generators of *isometries*, i.e. transformations  $x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \varepsilon \xi^\mu$  where  $\varepsilon$  is an infinitesimal parameter, and  $\xi^\mu$  is the killing vector; transformations that preserve the *form* of the metric.

$$g_{\mu\nu}(x) = \frac{\partial x'^\rho}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial x'^\sigma}{\partial x^\nu} g_{\rho\sigma}(x') \quad (1)$$

The same function  $g$  on both sides.

Finding all isometries of the space is equivalent to finding all the Killing vectors  $\xi^\mu$ . The condition (1) yields the Killing equation  $D_{(\mu}\xi_{\nu)} = D_\mu\xi_\nu + D_\nu\xi_\mu = 0$ . Let's solve the Killing equation for the two-sphere. In our case  $\xi^\mu = \xi^\mu(\theta, \varphi)$ .

$\mu = \nu = \theta$ :

$$\begin{aligned} D_\theta \xi_\theta + D_\theta \xi_\theta &= 2(\partial_\theta \xi_\theta - \Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\lambda \xi_\lambda) = 2\partial_\theta \xi_\theta = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \partial_\theta \xi_\theta &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$\mu = \theta, \nu = \varphi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} D_\theta \xi_\varphi + D_\varphi \xi_\theta &= \partial_\theta \xi_\varphi - \underbrace{\Gamma_{\theta\varphi}^\rho \xi_\rho}_{=\Gamma_{\theta\varphi}^\varphi \xi_\varphi} + \partial_\varphi \xi_\theta - \underbrace{\Gamma_{\varphi\theta}^\rho \xi_\rho}_{=\Gamma_{\varphi\theta}^\varphi \xi_\varphi} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \partial_\theta \xi_\varphi + \partial_\varphi \xi_\theta &= 2 \cot\theta \xi_\varphi \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$\mu = \nu = \varphi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 2D_\varphi \xi_\varphi &= 2(\partial_\varphi \xi_\varphi - \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\rho \xi_\rho) = 2(\partial_\varphi \xi_\varphi - \Gamma_{\varphi\varphi}^\theta \xi_\theta) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \partial_\varphi \xi_\varphi &= -\cos\theta \sin\theta \cdot \xi_\theta \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

(2)  $\Rightarrow \xi_\theta = f(\varphi)$ , i.e.  $\xi_\theta$  is independent of  $\theta$ . Insert in (4)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\partial_\varphi \xi_\varphi = -\cos\theta \sin\theta f(\varphi)$$

Integrate with respect to  $\varphi$ :

$$\Rightarrow \xi_\varphi = -\cos\theta \sin\theta \underbrace{\int_{\varphi_0}^\varphi d\varphi' f(\varphi')}_{=: F(\varphi)} + g(\theta)$$

Insert in (3)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} (\sin^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta) F(\varphi) + \frac{dg(\theta)}{d\theta} + \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} &= 2 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} (-\cos \theta \sin \theta F(\varphi) + g(\theta)) \\ &= -2 \cos^2 \theta F(\varphi) + 2 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} g(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

Using the Pythagorean trigonometric identity:

$$\Rightarrow F(\varphi) + \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} = -\frac{dg(\theta)}{d\theta} + 2 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} g(\theta)$$

The equation is separable. The left hand side does not depend on  $\theta$ , and the right hand side does not depend on  $\varphi$ . Thus they both equal a constant:

$$\frac{dg(\theta)}{d\theta} - 2 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} g(\theta) = C_1 \quad (5)$$

$$F(\varphi) + \frac{df(\varphi)}{d\varphi} = -C_1 \quad (6)$$

(5)  $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \frac{g(\theta)}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) = \frac{C_1}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

Integrate with respect to  $\theta$ :

$$g(\theta) = \sin^2 \theta (-C_1 \cot \theta + C)$$

Differentiate (6) with respect to  $\varphi \Rightarrow$

$$f(\varphi) + \frac{d^2 f(\varphi)}{d\varphi^2} = 0$$

This is the wave equation.

$$f(\varphi) = A \sin \varphi + B \cos \varphi$$

Integrate:

$$F(\varphi) = -A \cos \varphi + B \sin \varphi + C_2$$

Insert into (6)  $\Rightarrow C_2 = -C_1$ .

The solution to the Killing equation is

$$\xi_\theta = A \sin \varphi + B \cos \varphi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_\varphi &= -\cos \theta \sin \theta (-A \cos \varphi + B \sin \varphi - C_1) + \sin^2 \theta \left( -C_1 \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} + C \right) = \\ &= \cos \theta \sin \theta (A \cos \varphi - B \sin \varphi) + C \sin^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Three independent parameters in the general solution:  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ . There are three independent basis vectors in the space of solutions of  $D_{(\mu}\xi_{\nu)} = 0$ . In other words, there are three independent basis vectors in the space of isometries. These Killing vectors correspond to rotations around the  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  axis, respectively, i.e. *all* possible rotations in the embedding space  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

In general, the maximal number of Killing vectors (isometries) in  $N$ -dimensional space is  $N(N+1)/2$ . Here,  $N=2 \Rightarrow 2(2+1)/2=3$ .  $S^2$  is maximally symmetric!

## 7.2

“Consider the Robertson-Walker metric

$$d\tau^2 = dt^2 - R^2(t) \left[ \frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2} + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2\theta d\varphi^2 \right].$$

Investigate the properties of the spatial part in the three cases  $k=1$ ,  $k=0$  and  $k=-1$ .”

- $k=1$ . We reparametrise this, out of the blue, as  $r = \sin \psi$ ,  $dr = \cos \psi d\psi$ :

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr^2}{1 - r^2} = \frac{\cos^2 \psi d\psi^2}{1 - \sin^2 \psi} = d\psi^2$$

$$\Rightarrow d\tau^2 = dt^2 - R^2(t) [d\psi^2 + \sin^2 \psi d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \psi \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2]$$

Compare to the three-sphere  $S^3$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 = 1 \quad (\text{unit 3-sphere})$$

To parametrise  $S^3$  we use hyperspherical coordinates:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \varphi \\ x_2 = \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ x_3 = \sin \psi \cos \theta \\ x_4 = \cos \psi \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} 0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi \\ 0 \leq \psi \leq \pi \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

$$dx_1 = \dots, \quad dx_2 = \dots, \quad dx_3 = \dots, \quad dx_4 = \dots$$

$$ds^2 = dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 + dx_4^2 \Big|_{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 = 1} = d\psi^2 + \sin^2 \psi d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \psi \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2$$

For  $k=1$  the spatial part of the metric describes a three-sphere of radius  $R(t)$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

- $k=0$ .

$$d\tau^2 = dt^2 + R^2(t) [dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2]$$

This is flat 3D Euclidean space in spherical coordinates. The spatial part is flat but the relation between the spatial and temporal parts scale with  $R(t)$ .

- $k=-1$ .  $r = \sinh \psi$ ,  $dr = \cosh \psi d\psi$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr^2}{1 - kr^2} = \frac{\cosh^2 \psi d\psi^2}{1 + \sinh^2 \psi} = d\psi^2$$

$$\Rightarrow d\tau^2 = dt^2 - R^2(t) [d\psi^2 + \sinh^2 \psi d\theta^2 + \sinh^2 \psi \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2]$$

In this case the spatial part *cannot* be embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . However, it *can* be embedded in four-dimensional Minkowski space  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ . Consider a three-dimensional hyperboloid in 4-dimensional Minkowski space:

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 - x_4^2 = -1$$

This one means that we have a unit “radius of curvature”. Parametrise (compare to hyperspherical):

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \sinh \psi \sin \theta \cos \varphi \\ x_2 = \sinh \psi \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ x_3 = \sinh \psi \cos \theta \\ x_4 = \cosh \psi \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow ds^2 = dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 - dx_4^2|_{x_1^2+x_2^2+x_3^2+x_4^2=-1} = d\psi^2 + \sinh^2 \psi d\theta^2 + \sinh^2 \psi \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2$$

The spatial part for  $k = -1$  describes a 3-dimensional hyperboloid, embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  with “radius of curvature”  $R(t)$ . Anti de Sitter (AdS<sub>3</sub>) space.

To summarise:

$k = 1$ : closed space (finite, unbounded)

$k = 0, -1$ : open space (infinite, unbounded)