

Recall that the time derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(t)$ is

defined as

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g\right)(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(x, y)$$



time-derivative of the smooth function $g(x, y)$.

In local coordinates,

$$g(t) = g_{ij}(t) dx^i \otimes dx^j$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(t) = \dot{g}_{ij}(t) dx^i \otimes dx^j.$$

∴ the time derivative of the metric is the time derivative of its components functions w.r.t. a fixed basis.

$$\text{Similarly } \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla\right)(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla_{x, y}.$$

now ∇ is NOT tensorial, but $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla$ is a tensor as

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t \nabla)(x, fY) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla_x fY) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (x(f)Y + f \nabla_x Y) \\
 &= f \partial_t \nabla_x Y = f \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \right) (x, Y) \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

Variational Formulas

Given any smooth family of metrics it is desirable to compute the variations of all the associated quantities. We summarize them below for the case when

$$\partial_t g_{ij} = h_{ij}, \quad h \in \Gamma(T^*M \otimes_S T^*M).$$

Lemma :-

$$(g^{\dot{i}j} g_{jk} = \delta^i_k \Rightarrow (\partial_t g^{\dot{i}j}) g_{jk} = -g^{\dot{i}j} h_{jk})$$

- $\partial_t g^{\dot{i}j} = -g^{ik} g^{jl} h_{kl} \quad \uparrow$
- $\partial_t \Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{kl} (\nabla_i h_{jl} + \nabla_j h_{il} - \nabla_l h_{ij})$
- $\partial_t R_{ijk}^l = \frac{1}{2} g^{lp} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla_i \nabla_j h_{kp} + \nabla_i \nabla_k h_{jp} \\ - \nabla_i \nabla_p h_{jk} - \nabla_j \nabla_i h_{kp} \\ - \nabla_j \nabla_k h_{ip} + \nabla_j \nabla_p h_{ik} \end{array} \right\}$

$$= \frac{1}{2} g^{pq} \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\nabla_i \nabla_k h_{jp} + \nabla_j \nabla_p h_{ik} - \nabla_i \nabla_p h_{jk} \\ &- \nabla_j \nabla_k h_{ip} - R_{jik}^q h_{qp} - R_{ijp}^q h_{kq} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\bullet \partial_t R_{jk} = \frac{1}{2} g^{pq} (\nabla_q \nabla_j h_{kp} + \nabla_q \nabla_k h_{jp} - \nabla_q \nabla_p h_{jk} - \nabla_j \nabla_k h_{qp})$$

$$\bullet \partial_t R = -\Delta(\text{tr}h) + \nabla^p \nabla^q h_{pq} - \langle h, Rc \rangle$$

$$\bullet \partial_t \text{vol}g = \frac{\text{tr}h}{2} \text{vol} \quad (\text{proof below})$$

$$\bullet \partial_t \int_M R \text{vol}g = \int_M \left(\frac{R(\text{tr}h)}{2} - \langle h, Rc \rangle \right) \text{vol}$$

Along the RF we have following improvements

$$\partial_t R = \Delta R + 2|Rc|^2 \quad \text{—proof below.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t R_{jk} &= \Delta R_{jk} + 2g^{pq} g^{rs} R_{pjkr} R_{qs} \\ &\quad - 2g^{pq} R_{jp} R_{qk}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \downarrow \\
\text{proof: } \delta_t R_{jk} &= \Delta R_{jk} + \nabla_j \nabla_k R - g^{pq} (\nabla_q \nabla_j R_{kp} + \nabla_q \nabla_k R_{jp}) \\
&= \Delta R_{jk} + \nabla_j \nabla_k R - g^{pq} (\nabla_j \nabla_q R_{kp} - R_{qjkm} R_{mp} \\
&\quad - R_{qjpm} R_{km} \\
&\quad + \nabla_k \nabla_q R_{jp} - R_{qkjm} R_{mp} \\
&\quad - R_{qkpm} R_{jm}) \\
&= \Delta R_{jk} + \nabla_j \nabla_k R - \left(\frac{1}{2} \nabla_j \nabla_k R + \frac{1}{2} \nabla_k \nabla_j R \right. \\
&\quad - R_{pjkm} R_{pm} + R_{jm} R_{km} \\
&\quad \left. - R_{pkjm} R_{pm} + R_{km} R_{jm} \right) \\
&= \text{RHS.}
\end{aligned}$$

Proof for $\delta_t R$.

$$\text{we have } \delta_t R = -\Delta(\text{tr}(-2R_c)) + \text{div}(\text{div}(-2R_c))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2\Delta R - \Delta R + 2|R_c|^2 - \langle -2R_c, R_c \rangle \\
&= \Delta R + 2|R_c|^2 \quad (\text{we use twice contracted and Bianchi})
\end{aligned}$$

Proof for the evolution of vol.

First recall that in local coordinates, the volume form

$$\text{vol}_g = \sqrt{\det g_{ij}} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$$

$$\hookrightarrow \det \text{ of } g_{ij} = g\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}\right)$$

Recall that

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \text{adj } A \quad \text{for a square matrix } A$$

where $\text{adj } A = \text{adjugate matrix} = \text{transpose of the cofactor matrix}$

The partial derivative of $\det A$ w.r.t. (i,j) -th entry is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial a_{ij}} \det(A) &= (-1)^{i+j} \det A_{ij} \\ &= (\text{adj } A)_{ji} = \det A (A^{-1})_{ji} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{so } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sqrt{\det g_{ij}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\det g_{ij}}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \det g = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\det g}} \frac{\partial \det g}{\partial g_{ij}} \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial t}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\det g}} \det g (g^{-1})_{ji} h_{ij}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\det g} g^{ij} h_{ij}$$

$$\therefore \partial_t \text{vol} = \frac{(\text{tr } h)}{2} \text{vol}.$$

The proofs for the evolutions of Rm , Ric , R and Γ for general variations can be done using the

local coordinate expressions of these quantities and noticing that they are all components of a tensor (Γ is not but $\partial_t \Gamma$ is) and hence we can simplify our calculations by working in normal coordinates at a point.

We did this in detail in the class.

