

1. Show that the geodesic equation transforms covariantly under arbitrary change of coordinates.
2. Consider the metric discussed in class describing flat space rotating with fixed angular velocity ω about the z axis

$$ds^2 = - [1 - \omega^2(x^2 + y^2)] dt^2 + 2\omega (y dx - x dy) dt + dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2. \quad (1)$$

- (a) Verify this by expressing the metric in cylindrical coordinates (ρ, ϕ, z) and transforming $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \omega t$.
- (b) Obtain the geodesic equations for x, y and z in the rotating frame.
(You may assume that the only non-zero Christoffel symbols are $\Gamma_{tt}^x, \Gamma_{yt}^x, \Gamma_{tt}^y$ and Γ_{tx}^y . Also note that the metric is not diagonal, so the inverse is not straightforward)
- (c) Show that in the nonrelativistic limit these reduce to the Newtonian equations of motion for a rotating free particle exhibiting the centrifugal and the Coriolis force, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{x} &= \omega^2 x - 2\omega \dot{y}, \\ \ddot{y} &= \omega^2 y + 2\omega \dot{x}, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $\dot{} \equiv \frac{d}{dt}$ and $\ddot{} \equiv \frac{d^2}{dt^2}$.

3. The hyperbolic plane is defined by the metric

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{z^2} (dx^2 + dz^2), \quad z > 0. \quad (3)$$

- (a) Show that vertical lines (i.e. $x = \text{const}$) satisfy the geodesic equation and that $z = 0$ is at infinite distance from any point in the upper half plane;
- (b) Show that the other possible geodesics are semicircles centered on the x -axis.
(Use the parametrization with $(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{z}^2)/z^2 = 1$ to simplify the problem)