

(PI) §8.4 Bel decomposition of Riemann tensor (Electric, Magnetic and Topic parts)

$E^\alpha_\beta := R^\alpha_{\mu\beta\nu} U^\mu U^\nu$ is the 'electric part' of the Riemann tensor. also 'gravitoelectric'

$H^\alpha_\beta := *R^\alpha_{\mu\beta\nu} U^\mu U^\nu$ is the 'magnetic part'. also 'gravitomagnetic'. Approached this way, this is an exclusively 4-d split.

These have some analogies with the Maxwellian electric and magnetic parts \underline{E} and \underline{B}

count reveals that the Riemann tensor has a third part.

In fact, the analogy is better with the electric tidal tensor $E_{\alpha\beta} := F_{\alpha\gamma;\beta} U^\gamma$
 $B_{\alpha\beta} := *F_{\alpha\gamma;\beta} U^\gamma$

'Tidal tensor' here refers to 'electromagnetic world line deviation'.
 These corr to expressions 'as measured by the particle whose 4-velocity is U '

Moreover, whereas \underline{E} and \underline{B} (or $E_{\alpha\beta}$ and $B_{\alpha\beta}$) are exhaustive decompositions, in GR there is a third piece.

This can be seen from counting components.
 Let us first establish what the symmetries of E and H are.

- Lemma i) $E_{\alpha\beta}$ is symmetric and spatial
 ii) $H_{\alpha\beta}$ is traceless and spatial.

Proof

i) $E_{\beta\alpha} = R_{\beta\mu\alpha\nu} U^\mu U^\nu = R_{\alpha\nu\beta\mu} U^\mu U^\nu = R_{\alpha\mu\beta\nu} U^\mu U^\nu = E_{\alpha\beta}$
1st 2nd pair sym dummy index change, symmetry in $U^\mu U^\nu$

with U^μ timelike and $R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$ antisymmetric in each of 1st, 2nd pairs, this leaves α and β having to be spatial indices.

ii) $H^\alpha_\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\nu\pi} R_{\pi\rho\alpha\nu} U_\mu U^\nu = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\nu\pi} R_{\alpha\nu\pi\rho} U_\mu U^\nu = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\pi\rho} R_{\nu\alpha\rho\pi} U_\mu U^\nu$
R: 1st, 2nd pair sym R: antisym in 1st pair.

(1) serves to place the 3 indices of R contracted into ϵ where we can use the 1st Bianchi id.

$= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\nu\pi} (R_{\nu\pi\rho\alpha} + R_{\nu\rho\alpha\pi}) U_\mu U^\nu$
dummy index changes
 $= \frac{1}{2} (\epsilon^{\mu\pi\rho\alpha} + \epsilon^{\pi\mu\rho\alpha}) R_{\nu\alpha\rho\pi} U_\mu U^\nu$

by $\epsilon^{\rho\mu\pi\alpha} = -\epsilon^{\mu\rho\pi\alpha} = \epsilon^{\mu\pi\rho\alpha} = -\epsilon^{\mu\pi\alpha\rho} = \epsilon^{\pi\mu\alpha\rho}$ (single swap) $= \epsilon^{\mu\pi\rho\alpha} R_{\nu\alpha\rho\pi} U_\mu U^\nu$
 by $\epsilon^{\mu\pi\rho\alpha} = \epsilon^{\alpha\mu\pi\rho} = -\epsilon^{\alpha\mu\rho\pi}$ (cycle 1 swap) $= -\epsilon^{\alpha\mu\rho\pi} R_{\nu\alpha\rho\pi} U_\mu U^\nu$ (2)

So (1) and (2) $\Rightarrow \frac{3}{2} H^\alpha_\alpha = 0 \Rightarrow H^\alpha_\alpha = 0$ □

Corollary 1) # $E^\alpha_\beta = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ for spacetime dimension n , giving 6 in 4-d.
 2) # $H^\alpha_\beta = \frac{n^2-1}{2}$ in the 4-d case for which this is defined.

Proof This implicitly rests on E, H having no more symmetries.
 Then # $E^\alpha_\beta = \frac{(n-1)(n-1+1)}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ since it is purely spatial (dimension $n-1$), symmetric.

So setting $n=4$, # $E^\alpha_\beta = \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2} = 6$.

2) # $H^\alpha_\beta = \frac{(4-1)^2 - 1}{2} = \frac{3^2 - 1}{2} = 8$
purely spatial traceless

Dual formulation of 'magnetic' part

$B_{abc} := R_{abc} \delta U^d$ admits a (spatial) dual

$$-\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} B_{bcq} = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} R_{bcq} \delta U^d U^s = *R_{pqrs} U^s U^d = H_{pq}$$

R antisym in 1st par, def d ≠ R def H

forced to be timelike by total antisymmetry and the other 3 indices being spatial
 so H_{pq} itself has a dual, B_{abc} , which is free of ϵ 's,
 and thus generalizes to arbitrary dimension.

B_{abc} can, moreover, be thought of as a space³ time projection of R_{abcd} .

<h3>Bel split</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everything is contracted with $2U^\mu$'s. • The number of ϵ's used varies for each piece: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 in \mathbb{E} 1 in \mathbb{H} 2 in \mathbb{L}. <p>This renders this split 4-d specific.</p>	<h3>Projective split</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of contractions with U^μ varies for each piece: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 in \mathbb{E} 1 in \mathbb{B} 0 in \mathbb{R} • No ϵ's are used. <p>This renders this split arbitrary-d.</p>
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$R_{abcd} := R_{abcd}$: n-d Riemann tensor restricted to (n-1)-d indices.
 Finally, \mathbb{H} and \mathbb{B} are related by duality. Both are in a sense 'magnetic'.

They have the same info content.
 Thus \mathbb{L} and \mathbb{R} also have the same info content,
 by each split being exhaustive.

Indeed, \mathbb{L} and \mathbb{R} are related by a 'two-sided implicitly spatial duality'

$$\mathbb{L}_{ab} = *R^*_{\mu\nu} U^\mu U^\nu = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\alpha} R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \epsilon^{\beta\gamma} U^\mu U^\nu$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} (U^\mu \epsilon_{\mu\alpha}{}^{\beta\gamma}) R_{\beta\gamma\delta\epsilon} (\epsilon^{\delta\epsilon} U^\nu)$$

Hence $R = \mathbb{L} + \mathbb{H} + \mathbb{E}$
 is just another version of $SU(n)$

like $\epsilon_a{}^{cd}$ like $\epsilon^{\delta\epsilon}{}_b$

reduction in representation-theoretic terms
 And $\# \mathbb{E} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$, $\# \mathbb{H} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{2}$, $\# \mathbb{L} = \frac{(n-1)^2(n-1)}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)^2(n-2)}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow E_{ab} = \frac{E}{p-2} \cdot \frac{\delta}{\beta} \rightarrow \frac{k_{ab} - \epsilon D_b D_a \alpha}{\alpha} + \frac{p}{p-2} k_a^c k_{cb} - \frac{1}{p-2} k k_{ab}$$

$$\frac{h_{ab}}{(p-1)(p-2)} \left((1-p) k_a^c k_{cb} + \frac{\epsilon}{2\alpha} (\delta_{\beta}^{\alpha} k - \epsilon \Delta \alpha) \right)$$

(not
carefully
checked yet!)

Representation-theoretic interpretation

$n \geq 4$

lower-d cases

nd Riemann fmsrr.		Ricci split		
		S	E	C
	$\frac{n^2(n^2-1)}{12}$	1	$\frac{(n-1)(n+2)}{2}$	$\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)(n-3)}{12}$
pro	$\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$	1	0	$\frac{(n+2)(n-1)}{2}$
ject	$\frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{2}$	0	$n-1$	$\frac{(n+1)(n-1)(n-3)}{3}$
ive	$\frac{n(n-1)^2(n-2)}{12}$	0	$\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$	$\frac{(n+1)n(n-1)(n-4)}{12}$

1-d: nothing to split

2-d

R	S	E
1	1	1

3-d

R	S	E	Exceptional
1	1	2	
H=B	0	2	
L=R	0	1	

4-d

20	1	9	10
6	1	0	5
8	0	3	5
6	0	6	0
501			

R: $SU(n)$	S	E	C
	•	\oplus	\oplus
$SU(n) \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \rightarrow SU(n-1) \text{ reps}$ E	•	0	
\oplus H=B	0		
\oplus L=R	0	\oplus •	

[except in 2d it's $\oplus \square \oplus$]

$SU(n)$ reps	$SO(n)$ reps
$SU(n-1)$ reps	$SO(n-1)$ reps

R_{ABCD}	S_{ABCD} contains R	E_{ABCD} contains R_{AB}	C_{ABCD}
$E_{ab} = R_{iata}$	R	0	Electric (way) C_{iata}
H_{ab} or B_{abc} $= R_{iabc}$	0	R_{ia}	Magnetic (way) C_{iabc}
L_{abcd} or T_{abcd}	0	$R_{ab}^T \oplus R_{ll}$	C_{abcd}