

Volume  
 $\square \det g_{ij} = |g_{ij}| = g$  is a function of  $P$  that depends on the coordinate system. (24)

↳ also name of metric or  $2 \times 2$  matrix!

Lemma 1:  $\sqrt{g} =$  (area spanned by  $\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_2$ )

Pf.  $g_{ij} = \langle \underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_j \rangle = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}_1 \cdot \underline{x}_1 & \underline{x}_1 \cdot \underline{x}_2 \\ \underline{x}_1 \cdot \underline{x}_2 & \underline{x}_2 \cdot \underline{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$g = |g_{ij}| = \|\underline{x}_1\|^2 \|\underline{x}_2\|^2 - (\underline{x}_1 \cdot \underline{x}_2)^2$$

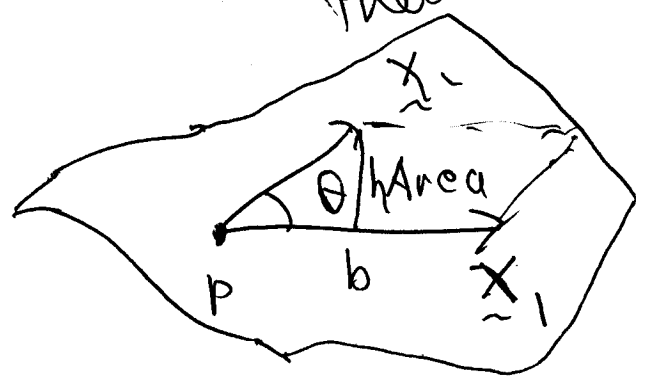
$$\underline{x}_1 \cdot \underline{x}_2 = \|\underline{x}_1\| \|\underline{x}_2\| \cos \theta$$

↖ angle betw  
the

$$g = \|\underline{x}_1\|^2 \|\underline{x}_2\|^2 - \|\underline{x}_1\|^2 \|\underline{x}_2\|^2 \cos^2 \theta$$

$$= \|\underline{x}_1\|^2 \|\underline{x}_2\|^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$= \text{Area}^2 \quad \checkmark$$



$$\text{Area} = bh = \|\underline{x}_1\| \|\underline{x}_2\| \sin \theta$$

• Recall :  $\underline{X} \times \underline{Y} = \|\underline{X}\| \|\underline{Y}\| \sin \theta \vec{n}$

↑    ↑  
"length in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ "

Area spanned  
by  $\underline{X}, \underline{Y}$

unit normal  
by RH-rule

Conclude:  $g = |\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2|^2$

• Note : By  $g = \|\underline{x}_1\|^2 \|\underline{x}_2\|^2 \sin^2 \theta > 0$

we know  $g > 0 \Rightarrow B^T g B = \begin{bmatrix} \delta_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta_2 \end{bmatrix}$      $\delta_i = \pm 1$

is pos definite as expected. I.e.,

$$|B^T g B| = |B^T| |g| |B| = |B|^2 g = \delta_1 \cdot \delta_2$$

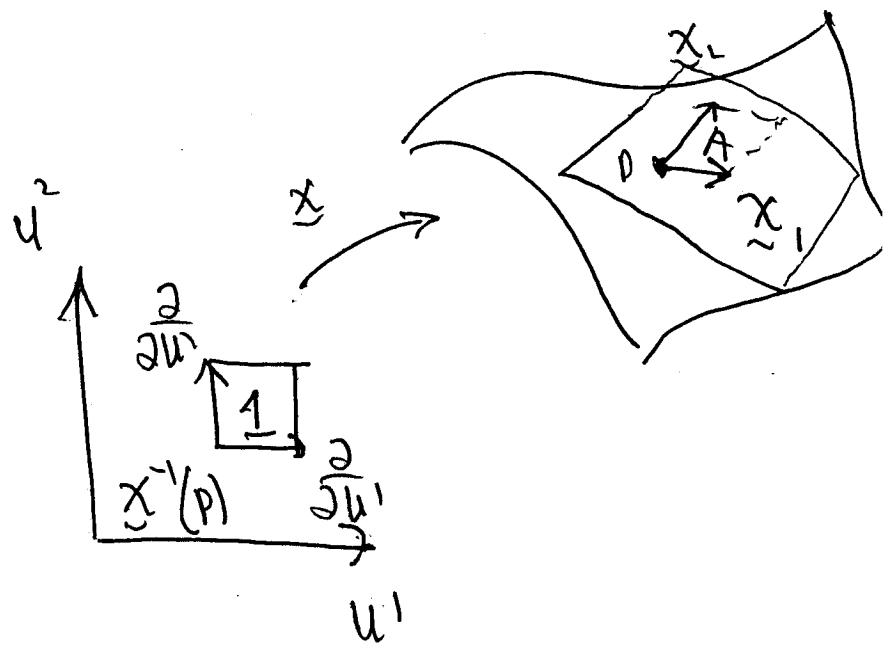
2x2    4x2 2x2    2x2    2x2    2x2

$\Rightarrow \delta_1 = \delta_2$ . Since all vectors have pos length,

$\delta_1 = \delta_2 = 1$  ✓



Conclude:  $|g|^{1/2}$  gives the amplification factor for the area in going from  $\underline{x}$ -words to  $M$ . That is:



So:

$$\frac{\text{Area up on } M @ P}{\text{Area in } \underline{x}\text{-words } @ P} = \frac{\text{Area } [x_1, x_2]}{\text{Area } \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial u^2} \right]}$$

$$= \frac{\|x_1 \times x_2\|}{\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1} \times \frac{\partial}{\partial u^2} \right\|} = \|x_1 \times x_2\| = (\det g)^{1/2}$$

integrate in  $\underline{x}$ -words to get surface area on  $M$

surface area of image

Defn:

$$\iint_U |g|^{1/2} du^1 du^2 = \iint_{\underline{x}(u)} dS$$

• Conclude: The condition that a coord system does not collapse areas to zero (regular coord systems do not) is the condition: (27)

$$\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2 \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \det g \neq 0$$

• Q: How does  $g = \det g_{ij}$  transform to  $y$ -coords?

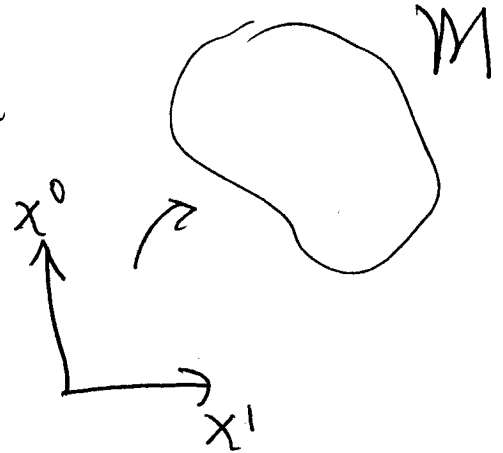
Ans:  $\bar{g} = \det \bar{g}_{\alpha\beta}$  ,  $g = \det g_{ij}$

$$\bar{g} = |\bar{g}_{\alpha\beta}| = \left| \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} g_{ij} \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial y^\beta} \right| = \left| \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} \right|^2 g$$

$\left| \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial y^\alpha} \right|$  = "determinant of Jacobian deriv. of transform at each  $p$ "

- In general Relativity:  $M \equiv$  4-d manifold (28)  
 $x$ -coordinates  $\Rightarrow g_{ij}$  components of spacetime

$g_{ij}(P) \equiv$  gravitational metric tensor



It solves  $G = 8\pi T$

$$G[g] = 8\pi T_{ij}$$

$$\text{" } \partial_{ij}^2 g_{ij}(x^0, \dots, x^3) = 8\pi \rho(x^0, \dots, x^3) \text{"}$$

$\uparrow$  second derivative

$\uparrow$  energy density "

that make curvature

- Point mass (like sun) in empty space -

Soln:  $ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right) dt^2 + \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2GM}{r}} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$

$d\Omega^2 = d\varphi^2 + \sin^2\varphi d\theta^2$  metric on sphere!

(Schwarzschild 1915)  $G = \frac{G_{\text{Newton}}}{r^2}$

$$ds^2 = -\left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right) dt^2 + \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2GM}{r}} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2 \quad (29)$$

- $r = 2GM =$  Schwarzschild radius of mass  $M$

$$r_{\text{earth}} = 2GM_{\text{earth}} \approx 1 \text{ cm}$$

$$r_{\text{sun}} = 2GM_{\text{sun}} \approx 3 \text{ km}$$

$$r_{\text{Milky Way}} = 2GM_{\text{Milky Way}} \approx 10^{12} \times 3 \text{ km} \approx \frac{1}{3} \text{ light yr}$$

$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\text{yr} = 60 \times 60 \times 24 \times 365 \approx$$

$$\approx 3 \times 10^7 \text{ seconds}$$

$$1 \text{ yr} \approx 3 \times 10^5 \times 3 \times 10^7 \text{ km} \approx 1 \times 10^{13} \text{ km}$$

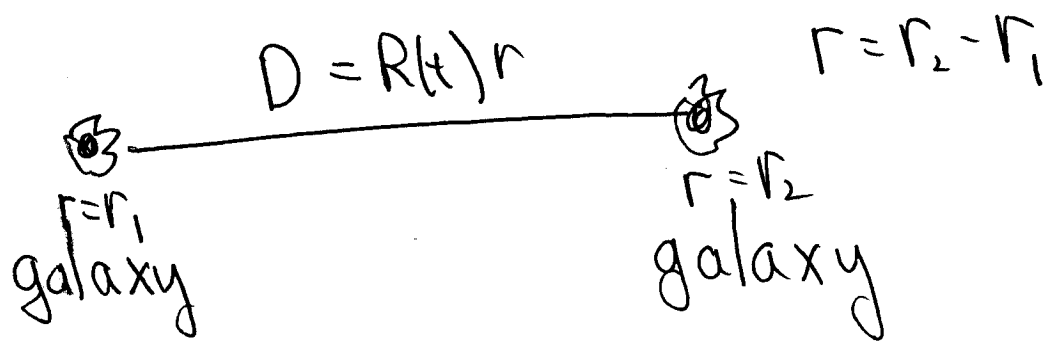
- In GR, an observer traversing path  $\gamma(\tau)$  will experience proper time change (age) of

$$\int_a^b ds = \int_{\tau_a}^{\tau_b} \sqrt{g_{ij} \dot{\gamma}^i(\tau) \dot{\gamma}^j(\tau)} d\tau = \int_{\tau_a}^{\tau_b} \|\dot{\gamma}(\tau)\| d\tau$$

take  $\|\cdot\|$  since timelike vectors have neg. length squared  $\|\dot{\gamma}\|^2 < 0$ .

• In cosmology:  $ds^2 = -dt^2 + R(t)^2 \underbrace{\{dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2\}}_{R^2 \text{ in spherical coord}}$  (30)

$R(t)$  increases in time  $\approx$  expansion of universe  
 galaxies traverse paths  $r = \text{const}$ , radial distance at fixed time is  $D = R(t)r$



$$\dot{D} = \dot{R}(t)r = \frac{\dot{R}}{R} Rr = \frac{\dot{R}}{R} D$$

↑  
galaxies move at  $r = \text{const}$

$H = \frac{\dot{R}}{R}$  Hubble's constant

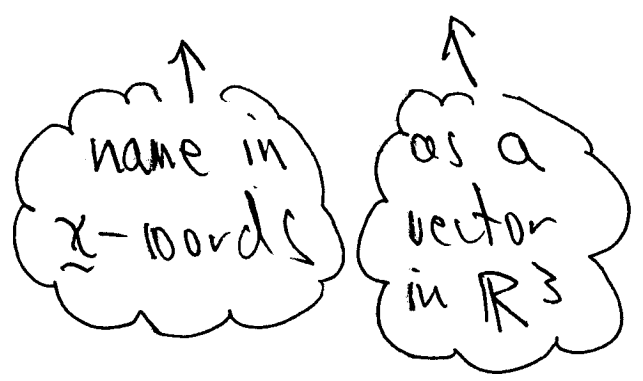
Hubble's Law (1929)  $\dot{D} = HD$

"galaxies are receding at rate  $\propto$  distance"

# The volume tensor $\eta$ :

• Consider two vectors  $\underline{X}, \underline{Y}$

$$\underline{X} = a^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} = a^i \underline{x}_i \quad \underline{Y} = b^j \frac{\partial}{\partial u^j} = b^j \underline{x}_j$$



• We can compute the area spanned in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

by cross product:  $\underline{X} \times \underline{Y} = A \underline{\hat{n}}$

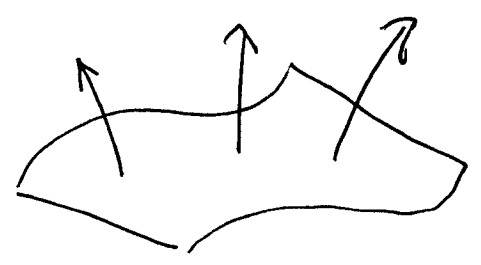
direction given by R.H.S.

• To orient the sign of  $A$ , let  $\underline{\hat{n}}$  be a continuous unit normal to  $M$ .

Eg, in each word patch we could pick

$$\underline{\hat{n}} = \frac{\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2}{\|\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2\|}, \text{ but } \underline{\hat{n}} \text{ could}$$

switch direction from patch to patch.

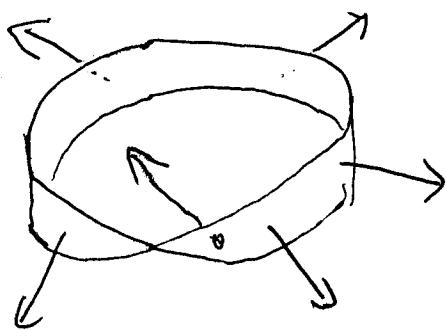




Defn:  $M$  is orientable if  $\exists$  a continuous choice of unit normal to  $M$ .

Ex: Sphere is orientable (choose outer normal)

Ex: Mobius band is not orientable



We can only orient the sign of  $A$  in formula  $\vec{\Sigma} \times \vec{\Gamma} = A \vec{n}$  when  $\exists$  a normal  $\vec{n}$  that orients  $M$ . So: Assume  $M$  orientable,  $\vec{n}$  is unit normal which varies continuously on  $M$ .  $\vec{n}$  is called an orientation for  $M$ .

Thm: The Möbius strip cannot be covered by one regular word chart.

Pf. If so, then  $\underline{x}, \underline{x}_2$  is a continuous nonzero normal to  $M$  ~~is~~

Defn: If  $M$  is orientable, then a choice of continuous normal  $\vec{n}$  on  $M$  is called an orientation.

Given an orientation  $\vec{n}$ :

(33)

• Defn: We say a coordinate chart is positively oriented if  $\frac{\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2}{\|\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2\|} = \vec{n}$ ,

and negatively oriented if  $\frac{\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2}{\|\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2\|} = -\vec{n}$ .

• Defn: define the signed area associated with the 2-opeid spanned by  $\underline{X}, \underline{Y} \in T_p M$  as  $A$  where

$$\underline{X} \times \underline{Y} = A \vec{n}$$

$A > 0$  if  $\underline{X} \times \underline{Y}$  in direction  $\vec{n}$ ,  
 $A < 0$  if  $\underline{X} \times \underline{Y}$  in direction  $-\vec{n}$

• Now assume  $\underline{x}$  is pos. oriented coord system, &  $\underline{X} = a^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} = a^i \underline{x}_i$ ,  $\underline{Y} = b^j \frac{\partial}{\partial u^j} = b^j \underline{x}_j$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 $\underline{x}$ -coord in  $\mathbb{R}^3$   
name

Then

$$\underline{\Sigma} \times \underline{\Upsilon} = (a^i \underline{x}_i) \times (b^j \underline{x}_j) = a^i b^j \underline{x}_i \times \underline{x}_j$$

Cross product is bi-linear like  $\binom{0}{2}$ -tensor!

$(-1)^0 = +1$  if  $\underline{x}$  pos oriented  
 $(-1)^0 = -1$  if  $\underline{x}$  neg oriented

$$\underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_1 = 0, \underline{x}_1 \times \underline{x}_2 = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \vec{n}, \underline{x}_2 \times \underline{x}_1 = -\sqrt{g} \vec{n}, \underline{x}_2 \times \underline{x}_2 = 0$$

So

$$\begin{matrix} \underline{x}_i \times \underline{x}_j \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \text{row} \quad \text{col} \end{matrix} = (-1)^0 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sqrt{g} \vec{n}$$

$\epsilon_{ij}$

unit normal given by orientation

and we have

$$\underline{\Sigma} \times \underline{\Upsilon} = (-1)^0 a^i b^j \epsilon_{ij} \sqrt{g} \vec{n}$$

signed area spanned by  $\underline{\Sigma}$  &  $\underline{\Upsilon}$ .

Claim:  $\eta \equiv (-1)^0 \epsilon_{ij} \sqrt{g}$  is a  $\binom{0}{2}$ -tensor!

• Conclude: we can calculate the <sup>signed</sup> area spanned by  $\Sigma$  &  $\Upsilon$  in  $\underline{x}$ -coords by

$$\text{Area} = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij} a^i b^j$$

$\epsilon_{ij}$  = Levi-Civita completely antisymmetric

$$\text{Tensor} = \begin{cases} +1 & \pi(i,j) > 0 \\ -1 & \pi(i,j) < 0 \\ 0 & \pi(i,j) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$\pi(1,2) = +1$  (no transpositions required to bring order increasing)

$\pi(2,1) = -1$  (odd # transpositions bring it to increasing order)

$\pi(1,1) = \pi(2,2) = 0$  (not a permutation of (1,2))

• Note:  $\epsilon_{ij} = -\epsilon_{ji} \Leftrightarrow$  antisymmetric

• The summary: on the one hand we have

(36)

$$\underline{X} \times \underline{Y} = (-1)^0 |\text{Area}| \vec{n} \quad \text{where } \vec{n} \equiv \text{orientation normal}$$

$$(\underline{X}, \underline{Y} \in T_p M)$$

But also:

$$\underline{X} \times \underline{Y} = a^i \underline{x}_i \times b^j \underline{x}_j = a^i b^j \underline{x}_i \times \underline{x}_j =$$

$$= (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} a^i b^j \epsilon_{ij} \vec{n}$$

Thus: signed area of  $[\underline{X}, \underline{Y}] = (-1)^0 |\text{Area}| = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} a^i b^j \epsilon_{ij}$

Conclude:  $\eta_{ij} = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij}$  computes signed area by

$$\eta(\underline{X}, \underline{Y}) = \eta_{ij} a^i b^j = (-1)^0 |\text{Area}|$$

Theorem:  $\eta_{ij}$  transform like a  $\binom{0}{2}$ -tensor

That is:  $\eta \equiv \eta_{ij} du^i \otimes du^j$  operates on  $(\underline{X}, \underline{Y})$   
 I.e.,  $\eta$  to output  $(-1)^0 |\text{Area}|$

$x$ -coord rep of  $\eta$

$$\eta(\underline{X}, \underline{Y}) = \eta_{ij} du^i \otimes du^j (\underline{X}, \underline{Y}) = \eta_{ij} du^i(\underline{X}) du^j(\underline{Y})$$

$$= \eta_{ij} a^i b^j = (-1)^0 |\text{Area}|$$

Proof: We see how  $\epsilon_{ij}$  transforms:

Compute:  $\epsilon_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^a} \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial v^b}$  to see how far off it is from a tensor-

$$\epsilon_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^a} \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial v^b} = J^T \epsilon J \quad \text{for } J = \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^a} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$J^T \epsilon J = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ -a & -b \end{bmatrix} = \det J \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}}$$

or

$$\bar{\epsilon}_{\alpha\beta} = \epsilon_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^a} \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial v^b} \frac{1}{\det J}$$

But  $\bar{g} = (\det J)^2 g$   
 ~~$\sqrt{|\bar{g}|} \bar{\epsilon}_{\alpha\beta} = \sqrt{|g|} \epsilon_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^a} \frac{\partial v^j}{\partial v^b}$~~

Claim:  $\det J > 0$  iff  $\alpha(x) = \alpha(y) \Leftrightarrow (1)^{\alpha(x)} = (-1)^{\alpha(y)} \frac{\det J}{|\det J|}$

• We next show  $\det J > 0$  iff  $(-1)^{o(x)} = (-1)^{o(y)}$  (36c)

Said differently:  $(-1)^{o(x)} = (-1)^{o(y)} \frac{\det J}{|\det J|}$

P-f. We have:  $\sqrt{g} = \sqrt{g} \det J$ ,  $\sqrt{g} = \sqrt{g} \det J^{-1} = \frac{\sqrt{g}}{\det J}$

$$\underline{x}_i \times \underline{x}_j = (-1)^{o(x)} \sqrt{g} \underline{\epsilon}_{ij} \vec{n}$$

$$\underline{y}_\alpha \times \underline{y}_\beta = (-1)^{o(y)} \sqrt{g} \underline{\epsilon}_{\alpha\beta} \vec{n}$$

$$\underline{\epsilon}_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta} = \underline{\epsilon}_{\alpha\beta} \det J$$

$$\underline{y}_\alpha = \underline{x}_i \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha}$$



Thus:

$$\begin{aligned}
(-1)^{o(x)} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \vec{n} &= \vec{y}_\alpha \times \vec{y}_\beta = \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \vec{x}_i \right) \times \left( \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta} \vec{x}_j \right) \\
&= \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta} \vec{x}_i \times \vec{x}_j \\
&= \underbrace{\frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta} \epsilon_{ij}}_{\epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \det J} \sqrt{g} (-1)^{o(x)} \vec{n} \\
&\qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{\sqrt{g}}{|\det J|}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (-1)^{o(x)} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = (-1)^{o(x)} \sqrt{g} \frac{\det J}{|\det J|} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$(-1)^{o(x)} = (-1)^{o(x)} \frac{\det J}{|\det J|}$$

✓

• We now show  $\eta_{ij} = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij}$  transforms like a  $\binom{0}{2}$ -tensor:

$$\eta_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta} = (-1)^{0(x)} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij} \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial v^\alpha} \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial v^\beta}$$

$$= (-1)^{0(x)} \frac{\sqrt{g}}{|\det J|} \det J \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$= (-1)^{0(y)} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} \checkmark$$

Defn:  $\eta = \eta_{ij} dx^i \otimes dx^j$  is the volume form on an oriented manifold  $M$ ,

$$\eta_{ij} = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij}$$

so 
 $\eta_{ij} = -\eta_{ji}$  antisymmetric

$\eta \equiv$  antisymmetric tensor.

• Note: In GR, where spacetime is a 4-D manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  of "events", we don't have a space that  $\mathcal{M}$  "lies in" like  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , all we have is the coord systems. I.e., no cross product to define "volume". In this case,

$$\int_{ijk\ell} = (-1)^{\pi(ijkl)} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ijkl}$$

is the volume form: A differential form is a tensor that is

"completely antisymmetric":  $\epsilon_{\pi(ijkl)} = (-1)^{\pi(ijkl)} \epsilon_{ijkl}$

• Orientation = consistent choice of pos/neg oriented coord system (signed)

•  $\int (\underline{X}, \underline{Y}, \underline{Z}, \underline{W}) = \int \wedge 4\text{-vol of 4-piped spanned by } \underline{X}, \underline{Y}, \underline{Z}, \underline{W}$

# Volume as a differential form:

• We have:  $\eta_{ij} = (-1)^{\delta_{ij}} \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij}$  are the component of a  $\binom{0}{2}$ -tensor

Tensors as operators:  $\eta = \eta_{ij} du^i \otimes du^j$

" $\eta$  operator on two vectors  $\bar{X}_p, \bar{Y}_p$  to compute the signed volume of the  $\Pi$ -piped spanned by  $\bar{X}_p$  &  $\bar{Y}_p$ " ; I.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(\bar{X}_p, \bar{Y}_p) &= \eta_{ij} du^i \otimes du^j (\bar{X}_p, \bar{Y}_p) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bar{X}_p = a^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} \\ \bar{Y}_p = b^j \frac{\partial}{\partial u^j} \end{array} \right. \\ &\equiv \eta_{ij} du^i(\bar{X}_p) du^j(\bar{Y}_p) \quad (\text{bilinear tensor!}) \\ &= \eta_{ij} a^i b^j \quad (du^i \text{ picks out } i\text{-comp of } \bar{X}_p) \end{aligned}$$

Conclude:

$$\gamma(\Sigma_p, \tilde{\Sigma}_p) = \eta_{ij} a^i b^j$$

$$= (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \underbrace{\varepsilon_{ij}} a^i b^j$$

$$(a^1, a^2) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b^1 \\ b^2 \end{pmatrix} = (a^1, a^2) \begin{pmatrix} b^2 \\ -b^1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= a^1 b^2 - a^2 b^1$$

$$= \det \begin{vmatrix} a^1 & b^1 \\ a^2 & b^2 \end{vmatrix} = (du^1 \otimes du^2 - du^2 \otimes du^1)(\Sigma_p, \tilde{\Sigma}_p)$$

Defn:  $du^1 \wedge du^2 \equiv du^1 \otimes du^2 - du^2 \otimes du^1$

acts on two vectors  $\Sigma_p, \tilde{\Sigma}_p$  to compute

$$du^1 \wedge du^2 (\Sigma_p, \tilde{\Sigma}_p) = \det \begin{vmatrix} a^1 & b^1 \\ a^2 & b^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$du^1 \wedge du^2$  is called a differential form

$\wedge$  is called the wedge product

• The volume tensor  $\eta$  as a differential form:

$$\eta(\Sigma_P, \Sigma_P) = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} du^1 \wedge du^2(\Sigma_P, \Sigma_P)$$

$$du^1 \wedge du^2 = du^1 \otimes du^2 - du^2 \otimes du^1$$

$$du^1 \wedge du^2(\Sigma_P, \Sigma_P) = \epsilon_{ij} a^i b^j = \det \begin{vmatrix} a^1 & b^1 \\ a^2 & b^2 \end{vmatrix} \\ = a^1 b^2 - a^2 b^1$$

Then  $du^2 \wedge du^1 = -du^1 \wedge du^2$

so  $du^1 \wedge du^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} du^i \wedge du^j$

We have the equivalent statements:

$$\eta = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \epsilon_{ij} du^i \otimes du^j = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} du^1 \wedge du^2 \\ = (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} du^i \wedge du^j$$

\* In texts you will see the volume form written in one of these 3 ways \*

④ The abstract point of view is to integrate a differential form to get the volume:

$$\int_U \eta = \int_U \underbrace{\eta \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial u^2} \right)}_{\text{amplification factor for volume}} du^1 du^2 = \int_M dS$$

↑  
computes the signed volume<sup>#</sup> of the 11-tupled spanned by  $\frac{\partial}{\partial u^1} \equiv \underline{x}_1$  &  $\frac{\partial}{\partial u^2} \equiv \underline{x}_2$  up on  $M$   
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial u^i}$  = amplification factor for volume

$$\begin{aligned} \eta \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial u^2} \right) &= (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \, d^1 1 \, du^2 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial u^1} \right) \\ &= (-1)^0 \sqrt{g} \cdot 1 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

<sup>#</sup> (In 2-d, "volume" means "area"!) ✓