

## SR Problem with any Transformation other than Lorentz (or Poincare)

According to geometry along with any transformation of coordinates the Metric Tensor undergo a transformation as any second rank covariant tensor. Let us explain this on the example of Lorentz Metrics (LM), Lorentz Transformation (LT), and Galilean Transformation (GT). For simplification we consider only 2 dimensions  $t=x^0$ ,  $x=x^1$ . Suppose we have original coordinate system S with the given Lorentz metrics:

$$g_{ik} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, 0 \\ 0, -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where the indexes  $i$  and  $k$  can be 0 or 1. Suppose we introducing another coordinate system S' by making an arbitrary transformation of coordinates:  
 $x'^k = x'^k(x^0, x^1)$  (2)

The partial derivatives of (2) are:  $dx'^i/dx^k$  (4 of them). Then we have the inverse transformation:

$$x^k = x^k(x'^0, x'^1) \quad (3)$$

The partial derivatives of (3) are:  $dx^i/dx'^k$  (4 of them).

The transformation law of a second rank covariant tensor (like the metric tensor (1)) is:

$$g'_{ik} = \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial x'^i} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial x'^k} g_{ab} \quad (4)$$

Here we have two contractions (indexes  $a$  and  $b$ ). For our metric (1) (4) becomes:

$$g'_{ik} = \frac{\partial x^a}{\partial x'^i} \frac{\partial x^b}{\partial x'^k} g_{ab} = \frac{\partial x^0}{\partial x'^i} \frac{\partial x^0}{\partial x'^k} - \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial x'^i} \frac{\partial x^1}{\partial x'^k} \quad (4a)$$

Instead of arbitrary transformation (2) let us consider a Lorentz Transformation (LT):

$$x'^0 = \gamma(x^0 - vx^1), \quad x'^1 = \gamma(x^1 - vx^0) \quad (2a)$$

$$\text{and inverse: } x^0 = \gamma(x'^0 + vx'^1), \quad x^1 = \gamma(x'^1 + vx'^0) \quad (3a)$$

Calculating (4a) for different indexes  $i$  and  $k$  and using LT (3a) we can prove that  $g'_{ik} = g_{ik}$ . This is a very important result saying that after LT the Lorentz Metric (1) conserves its exact form (the same components).

Let us now use not LT but Galilean Transformation (GT):

$$t' = t, \quad x' = x - vt, \quad \frac{\partial x'^i}{\partial x'^k} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, 0 \\ -v, 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2b)$$

then the inverse of that is:

$$t = t', \quad x = x' + vt', \quad \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x'^k} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, 0 \\ v, 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3b)$$

Calculating (4a) for different indexes  $i$  and  $k$  and using GT (3b) we get:

$$g'_{ik} = \begin{pmatrix} 1-v^2, -v \\ -v, -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

What does it mean? It means that the physical time  $s$  of a clock that is at rest in  $S'$  is different from the value of time coordinate  $t'$ :

$$s = t' \sqrt{g'_{00}} = t' \sqrt{1-v^2} \quad (6).$$

The root we can call a “time root factor” (in general we can get a root factor for every coordinate axis). We can not do “measurements” in Galilean coordinates without making corrections on the time factor. Any calculation in  $S'$  will become more complicated and we rather avoid Galilean Transformation in SR.