

CHARACTERIZATION OF A FOUR-DIMENSIONAL
LORENTZIAN MANIFOLDS USING JACOBI OPERATOR

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ABSTRACT

In the present note we characterize a four-dimensional Lorentzian manifolds using characteristic coefficients of the Jacobi operator.

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An n -dimensional Riemannian manifold M with metric g is called a Lorentzian manifold if at any point $p \in M$, the tangent space M_p to the manifold is an n -dimensional vector space with signature $(-, +, \dots, +)$ or $(+, +, \dots, +, -)$. An unit tangent vector X is called spacelike tangent vector if $g(X, X) = 1$ and X is called timelike tangent vector if $g(X, X) = -1$. The set of all spacelike unit tangent vectors in the tangent space M_p we denote by S_p^+M , and the set of all unit timelike tangent vectors in M_p , we denote by S_p^-M . If ∇ is the Levi-Civita connection induced by g , then the curvature tensor R of type $(1, 3)$, on the manifold M , is defined by the equality

$$R(x, y, z) = \nabla_x z + \nabla_y z - \nabla_{[x, y]} z,$$

where $x, y, z \in M_p, p \in M$, and $[..]$ are the Lee brackets. Using this tensor we define the curvature tensor of type $(0, 4)$ in the following way:

$$R(x, y, z, u) = g(R(x, y, z), u).$$

The curvature tensor R has the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} R(x, y, z, u) &= -R(y, x, z, u) = -R(x, y, u, z), \\ R(x, y, z, u) + R(y, z, x, u) + R(z, x, y, u) &= 0, \\ R(x, y, z, u) &= R(z, u, x, y), \\ \sigma_{xyz}(\nabla_x R)(y, z, u) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $x, y, z, u \in S_p^\pm M$, and σ is a cyclic sum over x, y, z . The Ricci tensor ρ on the manifold M is a bilinear symmetric function defined by the equality:

$$\rho(x, y) = \text{trace}(z \rightarrow R(z, x, y)),$$

where $x, y, z \in S_p^\pm M, p \in M$. Any Lorentzian manifold M with the property

$$\rho(x, y) = \lambda g(x, y),$$

$\lambda = \text{const.}, x, y \in S_p^\pm M$ is called Einstein Lorentzian manifold [1].

Let M be a four-dimensional Lorentzian manifold and let $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 (e_4 \in S_p^- M)$ be an arbitrary Lorentzian basis in the tangent space M_p , at a point $p \in M$. A bivector space $\wedge^2 M_p$ is a 6-dimensional vector space of signature $(+, +, +, -, -, -)$, in which $e_1 \wedge e_2, e_1 \wedge e_3, e_1 \wedge e_4, e_3 \wedge e_4, e_4 \wedge e_2, e_2 \wedge e_3$ is an orthonormal basis, where \wedge is the second exterior product in $M_p, p \in M[1]$.

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Proposition 1[4]: Let M be a four-dimensional Einstein Lorentzian manifold. Then at any point $p \in M$, there exist a Lorentzian basis $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 (e_4 \in S_p^- M)$ in the tangent space M_p , such that the matrix of the curvature operator \mathcal{R} in bivector space $\wedge^2 M_p$, with respect to the orthonormal basis $e_1 \wedge e_2, e_1 \wedge e_3, e_1 \wedge e_4, e_3 \wedge e_4, e_4 \wedge e_2, e_2 \wedge e_3$, has the form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{M} & \mathcal{N} \\ -\mathcal{N} & \mathcal{M} \end{pmatrix},$$

where M and N are one of the following three types:

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{I}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 &= \lambda, \\ \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 &= 0; \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 + 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha_2 - 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta_2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{II}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 &= \lambda, \\ \beta_1 + 2\beta_2 &= 0; \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{N} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad 3\alpha = \lambda. \quad \text{III}$$

We call this basis Petrov basis of type I, II or III.

The Jacobi operator R_X is a symmetric linear operator in the tangent space M_p , at a point $p \in M$, defined by the equality [3]:

$$R_X(u) = R(u, X, X), \quad X \in S_p^\pm M.$$

Since X is an eigenvector of R_X , with the corresponding eigenvalue 0, then the characteristic equation of R_X has the form:

$$c(c^{n-1} - J_1 c^{n-1} + J_2 c^{n-2} + \dots + (-1)^{n-2} J_{n-2} c + (-1)^{n-1} J_{n-1}) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where

$$J_1(p; X) = \rho(X, X), \quad X \in S_p^\pm M. \quad (2)$$

If $\text{trace } J_1(p; X)$ is a pointwise constant, for any tangent vector $X \in S_p^\pm M$, at any point $p \in M$, then from (2) it follows that M is an Einstein Lorentzian manifold. An n -dimensional Lorentzian manifold M is called Osserman Lorentzian manifold if at any point $p \in M$, the characteristic coefficients of the Jacobi operator R_X are constants for any tangent vector $X \in S_p^\pm M$, at any point $p \in M$ [2].

Proposition 2[2]: An n -dimensional ($n \geq 3$) Lorentzian manifold M is an Osserman manifold if and only if M is a space of constant sectional curvature.

Further we consider the case when M is a four-dimensional Lorentzian manifold, then the characteristic equation of the Jacobi operator has the form

$$c(c^3 - J_1 c^2 + J_2 c - J_3) = 0.$$

If the characteristic coefficient $J_3(p; X) = 0$, for any tangent vector $X \in S_p^\pm M$, at any point $p \in M$, then we have the following:

Theorem: M is a four-dimensional Einstein Lorentzian manifold such that the characteristic coefficient $J_3(p; X) = 0$, for any Jacobi operator R_X , $X \in S_p^\pm M$, at any point $p \in M$, if and only if one of the following cases is true:

- a) M is a space of constant sectional curvature;
- b) M is a reducible space with metric which is reduce to the following two quadratic forms:

$$ds^2 = dx_1^2 + \cos^2(\sqrt{\lambda} x_1) dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 - \cos^2(\sqrt{\lambda} x_3) dx_4^2; \quad \lambda > 0 \quad (3)$$

$$ds^2 = dx_1^2 + ch^2(\sqrt{-\lambda} x_1) dx_2^2 + dx_3^2 - ch^2(\sqrt{-\lambda} x_3) dx_4^2; \quad \lambda < 0 \quad (4)$$

c) M is a space of maximal mobility with metric:

$$ds^2 = dx_1^2 + sh^2(x_1 - x_4)dx_2^2 + \sin(x_1 - x_4)dx_3^2 - dx_4^2. \quad (5)$$

Proof: Let M be an Einstein Lorentzian manifold and let e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 ($e_4 \in S_p^-M$) be a Petrov basis of type I. If a and b are an arbitrary real numbers with the property $a^2 - b^2 = 1$, then the orthonormal basis

$$ae_1 + be_4, be_1 + ae_4, e_2, e_3 \quad (6)$$

is a Lorentzian basis in M_p . Using the characteristic equation of the Jacobi operator $R_{ae_1 + be_2}$, with respect to this basis, we obtain:

$$J_3(p; ae_1 + be_2) = \alpha_3 \left(\alpha_1 \alpha_2 - a^2 b^2 \left((\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)^2 + (\beta_1 - \beta_2)^2 \right) \right) = 0, \quad (7)$$

and from here, at $a=1$, and $b=0$, we get

$$J_3(p; e_1) = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 = 0. \quad (8)$$

If $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0$, then M is flat. If at least one of $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ is different from zero, suppose α_3 , then from (8) it follows that $\alpha_1 \alpha_2 = 0$, and then from (7) we obtain

$$a^2 b^2 \left((\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)^2 + (\beta_1 - \beta_2)^2 \right) = 0.$$

From here it follows that $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0, \beta_1 = \beta_2$ and using second property of the curvature tensor R , we obtain $\beta_3 = -2\beta_1$. That means that for the invariants of the Petrov basis of type I, we have:

$$\alpha_1 = \text{const.}, \quad \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0, \quad \beta_1 = \beta_2, \quad \beta_3 = -2\beta_1. \quad (9)$$

Let $\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5, \eta_6$ be an eigenvector basis of the curvature operator \mathcal{R} in $\wedge^2 M_p$, and let $k_1, k_2, k_3, \bar{k}_1, \bar{k}_2, \bar{k}_3$ are the corresponding eigenvalues. Let $k_j = \alpha_j + i\beta_j$, where $i^2 = -1$, and $j=1,2,3$. From (9) it follows that the matrix of \mathcal{R} , with respect to $\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5, \eta_6$ has the form:

$$(\mathcal{R}) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 - 2i\beta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & i\beta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2i\beta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2i\beta_1 - \alpha_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -i\beta_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2i\beta_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the set of $\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5, \eta_6$ is a reducible basis, then there exist a Lorentzian basis v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 ($v_4 \in S_p^-M$) in $M_p, p \in M$, with respect to which all non-zero curvature components are:

$$\begin{aligned} R(v_1, v_2, v_2, v_1) &= -R(v_3, v_4, v_4, v_3) = \alpha_1 - 2i\beta_1, \\ R(v_1, v_3, v_3, v_1) &= -R(v_2, v_4, v_2, v_4) = i\beta_1, \\ R(v_2, v_3, v_3, v_2) &= -R(v_1, v_4, v_1, v_4) = -2i\beta_1. \end{aligned}$$

Using the characteristic equation of the Jacobi operators R_{v_2} with respect to v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 ($v_4 \in S_p^-M$) we obtain that R_{v_2}

has an eigenvalues $\frac{-2i\beta_1}{g(v_1, v_1)}, \frac{2i\beta_1}{g(v_3, v_3)}, \frac{2i\beta_1}{g(v_4, v_4)}$.

Using that R_{v_2} is diagonalizable and under the assumption $J_3(p; v_2) = 0$, we get $\beta_1 = 0$ and according to (9), for the invariants of the Petrov basis of type I we have

$$\alpha_1 = \text{const.}, \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0. \quad (10)$$

If $\alpha_1 = 0$, then M is flat. If $\alpha_1 \neq 0$, then M is a reducible space with a metric form given by (3) and (4) [4]. Conversely if M is a reducible Einstein Lorentzian manifold, such that at any point $p \in M$, there exist a Petrov basis in the tangent space M_p , which invariants fulfill (10). If $X \in S_p^\pm M$ is an arbitrary tangent vector in the tangent space M_p , at a point $p \in M$, for which

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^4 a_i e_i, \tag{11}$$

where a_i are an arbitrary real numbers, then the characteristic equation of R_X , has the form:

$$c^2 \left(c^2 - \alpha_3 c + (a_1^2 - a_4^2)(a_2^2 + a_3^2)(9\beta_1^2 + \alpha_3^2) \right) = 0,$$

and from here it follows that $J_3(p; X) = 0$.

If e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 ($e_4 \in S_p^-M$) is a Petrov basis of type II, then using the characteristic equations of the Jacobi operators $R_{ae_1+be_4}$ and $R_{ae_2+be_4}$, with respect to this basis, and the conditions $J_3(p; ae_1+be_4) = J_3(p; ae_2+be_4) = 0$, we obtain the system:

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha_2-1)\alpha_2^2 + (\alpha_2+1)9\beta_2^2 &= 0, \\ (\alpha_2+1)\alpha_2^2 + (\alpha_2-1)9\beta_2^2 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

From here it follows that $\alpha_2=\beta_2=0$ and then using the characteristic equation of the Jacobi operator R_{e_1} with respect to the same basis, and the condition $J_3(p; e_1) = 0$, we obtain $\alpha_1=0$. Since $\beta_2=0$, then from the second property of the curvature tensor R , we get $\beta_1=0$. That means that for the invariants of the Petrov basis of type II, holds $\alpha_1=\alpha_2=\beta_1=\beta_2=0$, which means that M is a space of maximal mobility with metric of the form (5)[4]. Conversely if M is a four-dimensional Lorentzian manifold, with metric of the form (5), then for any tangent vector $X \in S_p^\pm M$, given by (11), and for the corresponding Jacobi operator R_X , we have:

$$J_3(p; X) = \begin{vmatrix} (a_3 + a_4)^2 & 0 & -a_1(a_3 + a_4) & -a_1(a_3 + a_4) \\ 0 & -(a_3 + a_4)^2 & -a_2(a_3 + a_4) & a_2(a_3 + a_4) \\ -a_1(a_3 + a_4) & -a_2(a_3 + a_4) & a_1^2 - a_2^2 & a_2^2 - a_1^2 \\ -a_1(a_3 + a_4) & -a_2(a_3 + a_4) & a_1^2 - a_2^2 & a_2^2 - a_1^2 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Finally if e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 ($e_4 \in S_p^-M$) is a Petrov basis of type III, then using characteristic equation of the Jacobi operator R_{e_1} , with respect to this basis, we obtain $J_3(p; e_1) = 0$, which means that M must to be a symmetric space, and which according to the results of Petrov is impossible[4].

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