

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\Gamma_{\beta\nu,\alpha}^\mu - \Gamma_{\alpha\nu,\beta}^\mu - \Gamma_{\sigma\nu}^\mu C_{\alpha\beta}^\sigma \right) \theta^\alpha \wedge \theta^\beta \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(R_{\nu\alpha\beta}^\mu - \Gamma_{\beta\nu}^\sigma \Gamma_{\alpha\sigma}^\mu + \Gamma_{\alpha\nu}^\sigma \Gamma_{\beta\sigma}^\mu \right) \theta^\alpha \wedge \theta^\beta \\
 &= R_{\nu\alpha\beta}^\mu - \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \omega^{\sigma\alpha} \wedge \omega^{\sigma\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu \omega^{\sigma\alpha} \wedge \omega^{\mu\beta},
 \end{aligned}$$

↑ equal

or,

$$d\omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu + \omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \omega^{\sigma\alpha} = R_{\nu\alpha}^\mu$$

2nd Cartan structure eqn.

Again, take

$$T^\mu = d\theta^\mu + \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu \theta^\alpha, \quad \text{apply } d,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 dT^\mu &= 0 + (R_{\nu\alpha}^\mu - \omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \omega^{\sigma\alpha}) \wedge \theta^\alpha \\
 &\quad - \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu d\theta^\alpha \rightarrow T^\alpha - \omega_{\nu\beta}^\alpha \wedge \theta^\beta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$dT^\mu + \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu \wedge T^\alpha = R_{\nu\alpha}^\mu \wedge \theta^\alpha$$

1st Bianchi identity,
generalized to case $T \neq 0$.

Finally, take

2nd Cartan structure, apply d :

$$\begin{aligned}
 dR_{\nu\alpha}^\mu &= d\omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \wedge \omega^{\sigma\alpha} - \omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \wedge d\omega^{\sigma\alpha} \\
 &= (R_{\nu\alpha}^\sigma - \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\mu \wedge \omega^{\mu\sigma}) \wedge \omega^{\sigma\alpha} \\
 &\quad - \omega_{\nu\sigma}^\mu \wedge (R_{\nu\alpha}^\sigma - \omega_{\nu\alpha}^\sigma \wedge \omega^{\sigma\mu})
 \end{aligned}$$

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one might say that the covariant exterior derivative of the curvature 2-form is 0,
 ↓ that this form is closed in this sense.

der. of Riem.

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$$dR^M_{\alpha\nu} + \omega^M_\alpha \wedge R^{\sigma}_{\nu\sigma} - R^M_{\alpha\sigma} \wedge \omega^{\sigma}_{\nu\nu} = 0$$

2nd Bianchi,
generalized.

When $T=0$, these eqns should reduce to the previous versions of the Bianchi identities. For the 1st Bianchi ident., this gives

$$0 = R^M_{\alpha\beta} \wedge \theta^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} R^M_{\nu\alpha\beta} \theta^\nu \wedge \theta^\alpha \wedge \theta^\beta$$

$$\Rightarrow R^M_{\nu[\alpha\beta]} = 0. \quad \text{checks.}$$

For the 2nd Bianchi ident., notice that it doesn't involve T at all. But if you want to show equivalence to $R^M_{\nu[\alpha\beta;\gamma]} = 0$, you must use $T=0$.

Now consider the case that we have a metric g and a metric connection $\nabla g=0$.

Then it is convenient to assume the basis $\{e_\alpha\}$ is orthonormal, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\alpha\beta} &= g(e_\alpha, e_\beta) = \eta_{\alpha\beta} && (\text{pseudo-Riem. case, or } \delta_{\alpha\beta}, \text{Riem. case}) \\ &= \text{const. metric of special relativity.} \end{aligned}$$

We know that if the curvature tensor $\neq 0$, then there is no coordinate basis such that $g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta}$. But there are always non-coordinate bases that make this true. This is a special kind of vierbein.

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There are some special properties of Γ, R in orthonormal vielbeins. First, $\nabla g = 0$ implies

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$$0 = g_{\mu\nu,\alpha} - \Gamma_{\alpha\mu}^\beta g_{\beta\nu} - \Gamma_{\alpha\nu}^\beta g_{\mu\beta}.$$

Define $\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu} = g_{\alpha\beta} \Gamma_{\beta\mu\nu}^\beta$. Note, this $\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}$ is the 1-form index.

Also, in an orthonormal vielbein, $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}$ so $g_{\mu\nu,\alpha} = 0$. Thus,

$$\Gamma_{\mu\alpha\nu} + \Gamma_{\nu\alpha\mu} = 0,$$

and $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}$ is antisymmetric in $\mu\nu$. (Recall in coord. basis w. LC connection, $\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu} = \Gamma_{\alpha\nu\mu}$) & This property depends only on $\nabla g = 0$ (the parallel transport proceed by orthogonal (or Lorentz) transformations), it does not require the LC connection.

In terms of Cartan's forms, this condition is

$$\omega_{\mu\nu} = -\omega_{\nu\mu} \quad (\omega_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\alpha} \omega^\alpha_\nu).$$

Similarly, we have

$$R_{\mu\nu} = -R_{\nu\mu} \quad (R_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\alpha} R^\alpha_\nu, \text{ Riemann-Cartan tensor})$$

for the same reason.

Also note, if in addition $T=0$ (L.C. connection) then

$$\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} (C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha + C_{\mu\alpha}^\nu + C_{\nu\alpha}^\mu)$$

Now we consider a change of basis for an orthonormal vielbein.

To be specific, we'll assume the pseudo-Riemannian (1+3) case, with $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}$. A change of basis maps one orthonormal vielbein to another.

We are assuming that

$$g(e_\alpha, e_\beta) = \eta_{\alpha\beta}.$$

Let

$$e'_\mu = \Lambda_\mu^\alpha e_\alpha, \text{ and demand that } g(e'_\mu, e'_\nu) = \eta_{\mu\nu},$$

so the new vielbein is also orthonormal.

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Let $e'_\alpha = \Lambda_\alpha^\beta e_\beta$, defines Λ_α^β . Then demand

$g(e'_\alpha, e'_\beta) = \eta_{\alpha\beta}$, and you find

$$\Lambda_\mu^\alpha \eta_{\alpha\beta} \Lambda_\nu^\beta = \eta_{\mu\nu}$$

where indices are raised + lowered with η . Thus $\Lambda_\mu^\alpha(x)$ is an x-dependent Lorentz transformation. These are gauge transformations in GR. Now other things transform:

$$\theta'^\mu = \Lambda^\mu_\alpha \theta^\alpha.$$

Any tensor transforms pointwise-linearly in $\Lambda(x)$, for example, the Riemann-Cartan 2-form,

$$R'^\kappa_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda^\kappa_\alpha \Lambda^\mu_\beta R^\alpha_\beta.$$

But the Cartan-Connection 1-form has a less simple transformation law (since Γ is not a tensor):

$$\omega'^\sigma_\nu = \Lambda^\sigma_\gamma \Lambda^\gamma_\nu \omega^\gamma_\beta - \Lambda^\sigma_\gamma \alpha (\Lambda^{-1})^\gamma_\nu \theta^\alpha.$$

The extra term on the right is characteristic of the transformation laws for gauge potentials.

$$\omega'^\sigma_\beta = \Lambda^\sigma_\gamma \omega^\gamma_\beta - \Lambda^\sigma_\gamma \alpha (\Lambda^{-1})^\gamma_\nu \theta^\nu$$

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in (3+1)-dim. space-time.

Now we deal with the variational formulation of GR. We work in coordinates x^μ . We start with the vacuum (matter-free) case, for which the field eqns are

$$G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = 0.$$

We seek a Lagrangian density \mathcal{L}_G such that these eqns follow from

$$\delta \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}_G = 0.$$

Here $d^4x = dx^0 \dots dx^3$, $g = \det g_{\mu\nu} < 0$, so $-\sqrt{-g} = \sqrt{|g|}$. The product $d^4x \sqrt{-g}$ is the invariant volume element, as will be explained later in the course. \mathcal{L}_G must be a scalar in order that the integral be independent of coordinates. The simplest scalar that can be constructed out of $g_{\mu\nu}$ and its derivatives (apart from trivial things like $g^\mu_\mu = 4$) is the curvature scalar R . So we guess that $\mathcal{L}_G \propto R$, and we look at the variation,

$$\delta \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R = 0.$$

The variation is carried out by $g_{\mu\nu} \mapsto g_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$. First we compute the variation in $g^{\mu\nu}$ induced by $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$. Use

$$g^{\mu\alpha} \delta g_{\alpha\beta} = \delta g^\mu_\beta \Rightarrow$$

$$\delta g^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\alpha\beta} + g^{\mu\alpha} \delta g_{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta g^{\mu\nu} = -g^{\mu\alpha} g^{\nu\beta} \delta g_{\alpha\beta}$$

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Next we compute $\delta\sqrt{-g}$. Let M be a matrix that depends on a parameter λ . Then we have the useful identity,

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda}(\det M) = (\det M) \operatorname{tr}\left(M^{-1} \frac{dM}{d\lambda}\right).$$

Identify M with $g_{\mu\nu}$, $\det M = g$, this implies

$$\delta g = g (g^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu}),$$

or

$$\delta\sqrt{-g} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-g} (g^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu}).$$

Finally, we need δR . Start with $\delta\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu$, the change in the L.C. Γ when $g_{\mu\nu}$ goes to $g_{\mu\nu} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$. Being the ~~change~~ difference between 2 connections, this is a tensor, which we will write as $(\delta\Gamma)^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}$ to be careful about the positions of the indices. Of course $\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu$ itself is not a tensor.

Now we compute $\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}$ in terms of $\delta\Gamma$. The expression for R has the structure

$$R = \partial\Gamma - \Gamma\partial\Gamma + \Gamma\Gamma - \Gamma\Gamma,$$

omitting all indices. Therefore

$$\delta R = \partial(\delta\Gamma) - \partial(\delta\Gamma) + (\delta\Gamma)\Gamma + \Gamma(\delta\Gamma) - (\delta\Gamma)\Gamma - \Gamma(\delta\Gamma).$$

We evaluate $\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}$ at an arbitrary point of the manifold that we call 0 , $\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}(0)$. We use Riemann normal coordinates based at 0 , so $\Gamma_{\nu\alpha}^\mu(0) = 0$. Thus

$$\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}(0) = (\delta\Gamma)^{\mu}_{\beta\nu,\alpha}(0) - (\delta\Gamma)^{\mu}_{\alpha\nu,\beta}(0),$$

since all 4 terms in $\Gamma-\delta\Gamma$ vanish. Since $\delta\Gamma$ is a tensor, ~~the~~ both terms above are ordinary derivatives of tensors, evaluated at 0 .

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But in R.N.C., such ord-derivs are equal to covariant derivs, 11/6/08
 (evaluated at 0). So we can replace the comma with a semicolon.
 Then we have a relation between two tensors,

$$\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta}(0) = (\delta \Gamma)^{\mu}_{\cdot\beta\nu;\alpha}(0) - (\delta \Gamma)^{\mu}_{\cdot\alpha\nu;\beta}(0).$$

But since 0 was arbitrary, this is true at all points,

$$\delta R^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha\beta} = (\delta \Gamma)^{\mu}_{\cdot\beta\nu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\mu}_{\cdot\alpha\nu;\beta}$$

And since it is a tensor eqn, it is valid in all coordinates (not only RNC).

Now by contracting, we get the variation of the Ricci tensor,

$$\delta R_{\nu\beta} = (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\beta\nu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\alpha\nu;\beta}$$

or juggling indices

$$\delta R_{\mu\nu} = (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\nu\mu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\alpha\mu;\nu}$$

Finally, as for the curvature scalar, we have $R = g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} = R^{\mu}_{\mu}$,

$$\delta R = \delta g^{\mu\nu} R_{\mu\nu} + g^{\mu\nu} \delta R_{\mu\nu}$$

$$= -g^{\mu\alpha} g^{\nu\beta} \delta g_{\alpha\beta} R_{\mu\nu} + g^{\mu\nu} ((\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\nu\mu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha}_{\cdot\alpha\mu;\nu})$$

$$\delta R = -R^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu} + (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha\mu}_{\cdot\mu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha\mu}_{\cdot\alpha;\mu}$$

Thus,

$$\delta \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R = \int d^4x [\delta \sqrt{-g} R + \sqrt{-g} \delta R]$$

$$= \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R \delta g_{\mu\nu} - R^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu} + (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha\mu}_{\cdot\mu;\alpha} - (\delta \Gamma)^{\alpha\mu}_{\cdot\alpha;\mu} \right]$$

= 4 terms

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The last two terms vanish on integration. For example, let

$$X^\alpha = \delta\Gamma^{\alpha\mu}{}_\mu,$$

so the expression

$$X^\alpha_{;\alpha}$$

(the covariant divergence of a vector) appears in the integral. This can also be written,

$$X^\alpha_{;\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} (\sqrt{-g} X^\alpha)_{,\alpha}$$

by an identity we will prove shortly. Thus

$$\int d^4x \sqrt{-g} X^\alpha_{;\alpha} = \int d^4x (\sqrt{-g} X^\alpha)_{,\alpha} = 0$$

by integration by parts (X vanishes at ∞). (or maybe M is compact). Similarly for the 4th term. Thus,

$$8 \int \sqrt{-g} d^4x R = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[+\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R - R^{\mu\nu} \right] \delta g_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

for all $\delta g_{\mu\nu} \Rightarrow$

$$+\frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} R - R^{\mu\nu} = -G^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

the vacuum Einstein equations.

Conventionally we take

$$\mathcal{L}_G = -\frac{R}{16\pi G},$$

G = Newton's constant of gravitation, henceforth set to 1.

If a matter Lagrangian \mathcal{L}_M is added to \mathcal{L}_G and the overall variational principle is

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$$\delta \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (L_G + L_M) = 0$$

with $L_G = R/16\pi$, then to get the right field equations,

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$$

we must have

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} L_M = \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu}$$

Now we turn to the problem of putting spinors into curved space-time. The idea is to add the Dirac Lagrangian to the gravitational one L_G . In special relativity, (SR), the Dirac Lagrangian is

$$L_D = \bar{\psi} (i \gamma^\alpha \partial_\alpha - m) \psi$$

in units $\hbar = c = 1$. Notation is standard, γ^α are the Dirac 4×4 matrices, ψ is the Dirac 4-spinor, and ∂_α means differentiation wrt. flat space coordinates $(t, \vec{x}) = x^\mu$.

There are two problems on putting this into GR. The first is that the usual γ matrices are tied to inertial frames in SR, i.e. coordinates $x^\mu = (t, \vec{x})$. Rather than trying to generalize the γ matrices to other frames, a better choice is to introduce an orthonormal vierbein $\{e_\mu^\alpha\}$, $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}$, and replace ∂_α by e_α . Then we can use the standard γ matrices of SR even in GR.

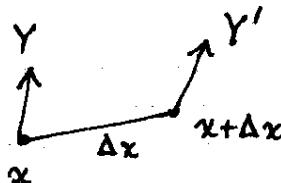
The second problem is that ~~e_α~~ $e_\alpha \psi$ ($= \psi, \alpha$ in our generalized comma notation) is not covariant, so L_D is not a scalar in GR, as written. Obviously we must replace $e_\alpha \psi$

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with $\nabla_\alpha \psi$, where $\nabla_\alpha \equiv \nabla_{e_\alpha}$ is a covariant derivative. But how do we compute covariant derivatives of spinors?

Take our clue from the covariant derivative of ordinary vectors. Begin with parallel transport of vector $Y \in T_x M$ to $Y' \in T_{x+\Delta x} M$,



In some local chart x^μ , we know that

$$Y'^\mu = (\delta_\nu^\mu - \Delta x^\sigma \Gamma_{\sigma\nu}^\mu) Y^\nu$$

where $\Gamma_{\sigma\nu}^\mu$ are the connection coefficients w.r.t. the chart x^μ . If we transform this to an ON vierbein $\{e_\alpha\}$, then we have

$$Y'^\alpha = (\delta_\beta^\alpha - \Delta x^\gamma \Gamma_{\gamma\beta}^\alpha) Y^\beta,$$

where now $\Gamma_{\gamma\beta}^\alpha$ is the connec. coeffs. wrt. to the vierbein. It is an equation of the same form, in spite of the fact that Γ does not transform as a tensor. Now, however, the matrix

$$\Lambda_\beta^\alpha = (I + \Omega)_\beta^\alpha = \delta_\beta^\alpha - \Delta x^\gamma \Gamma_{\gamma\beta}^\alpha$$

is an infinitesimal Lorentz transformation, where the correction term

$$\Omega_{\alpha\beta} = -\Delta x^\gamma \Gamma_{\alpha\gamma\beta}$$

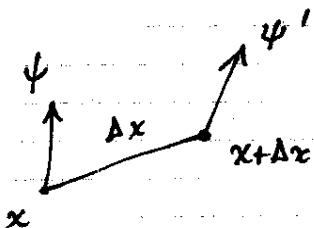
satisfies $\Omega_{\alpha\beta} = -\Omega_{\beta\alpha}$. (it is an element of the Lie algebra of ~~so~~ $O(3,1)$.)

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To parallel transport Dirac spinors from x to $x + \Delta x$, say,

$$\psi \mapsto \psi'$$



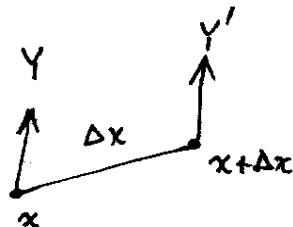
we may apply the Lorentz transformation $D(\Lambda)$ to ψ , where $\Lambda = I + \Omega$ is the infinitesimal Lorentz transformation defined above. Here $D(\Lambda)$ is the representation of the Lorentz group for Dirac spinors. Actually, it is not a ~~real~~ representation, since it is double-valued. More about that next week.

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Summary:Vectors, infinitesimal II transport:

$$\gamma'^\mu = (\delta_\nu^\mu - \Delta x^\sigma \Gamma_{\sigma\nu}^\mu) \gamma^\nu \quad (\text{coord})$$



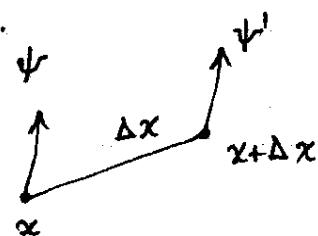
$$\gamma'^\alpha = \underbrace{(\delta_\beta^\alpha - \Delta x^\gamma \Gamma_{\gamma\beta}^\alpha)}_{\rightarrow = (I + \Omega)_\beta^\alpha} \gamma^\beta \quad (\text{o.n. vielbein})$$

$$\Delta = I + \Omega \in O(3,1)$$

$$\Omega_{\alpha\beta} = -\Delta x^\gamma \Gamma_{\alpha\gamma\beta} = -\Omega_{\beta\alpha}.$$

Spinors:

$$\psi' = D(\Delta) \psi$$



$D(\Delta)$ = Dirac "representation" of Lorentz group. Actually, it's not a representation (it's double valued), and it's not a rep. of the whole Lorentz group, only the proper, orthochronous Lorentz group. More on all that in a moment, for now be sloppy and just write $D(\Lambda)$, and call on standard material on Lorentz transforming the Dirac equation. This tells us, for infinitesimal Lorentz transformations, ($\Omega \ll 1$),

$$D(I + \Omega) = 1 - \frac{i}{4} \Omega_{\alpha\beta} \sigma^{\alpha\beta},$$

where $\sigma^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\alpha, \gamma^\beta]$ (standard notation for Dirac matrices). Recall $\{\gamma^\alpha, \gamma^\beta\} = 2\eta^{\alpha\beta}$

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Summary of the relevant facts regarding Dirac matrices and
Lorentz transforming Dirac spinors:

↓ explain later.

$$D(\Lambda_1) D(\Lambda_2) = \pm D(\Lambda_1 \Lambda_2)$$

$$\psi' = D(\Lambda) \psi \quad (\text{Lorentz transforming Dirac spinor})$$

$$D(\Lambda)^{-1} \gamma^\alpha D(\Lambda) = \Delta^\alpha_\beta \gamma^\beta \quad (\gamma^\alpha \text{ transforms as a 4-vector})$$

$$\gamma^0 D(\Lambda)^+ \gamma^0 = D(\Lambda)^{-1} \quad \text{Hence}$$

$$D(I + \Omega) = 1 - \frac{i}{4} \Omega_{\alpha\beta} \sigma^{\alpha\beta}.$$

$$\boxed{\psi' = \left(1 + \frac{i}{4} \sum_{\alpha\beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta} \sigma^{\alpha\beta} \right) \psi}$$

So, basic idea is that under an infinitesimal parallel transport, a spinor transforms by the same (infinitesimal) Lorentz transformation as a vector, but the spinor rep. of the L.T. must be used.

Now, the covariant derivative is defined by the parallel transport.

We put $\Delta x^\alpha = \epsilon X^\alpha$ where $X \in T_x M$, and define (for $Y \in \mathcal{X}(M)$)

$$\nabla_X Y = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\epsilon} [Y(x+\epsilon X) - Y],$$

$$\text{gives } (\nabla_X Y)^M = X^\nu (Y^M_{,\nu} + \Gamma^M_{\nu\sigma} Y^\sigma).$$

Similarly, define (for a spinor field $\psi(x)$):

$$\nabla_X \psi = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\epsilon} [\psi(x+\epsilon X) - \psi]$$

$$\boxed{\nabla_X \psi = X^\alpha [\psi_{,\alpha} - \frac{i}{4} \Gamma_{\beta\alpha\gamma} \sigma^{\beta\gamma} \psi]}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla_\alpha \psi = \psi_{,\alpha} - \frac{i}{4} \Gamma_{\beta\alpha\gamma} \sigma^{\beta\gamma} \psi}$$

Covariant derivative on
Dirac spinors