

Lecture 8

More on the curvature tensor

$$R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\mu\nu} = \left. \begin{aligned} &\partial_{\mu}\Gamma^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\beta} - \partial_{\nu}\Gamma^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta} \\ &+ \Gamma^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\gamma}\Gamma^{\gamma}{}_{\nu\beta} - \Gamma^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\gamma}\Gamma^{\gamma}{}_{\mu\beta} \end{aligned} \right\} (8.1)$$

Symmetries: Are best discussed in normal coordinates where  $\Gamma = 0$ ,  $\partial\Gamma \neq 0$ .

The rationale behind this is as follows:

Any tensor relation that holds in a particular coordinate system also holds in any other coordinate system and is therefore generally valid.

Let  $p \in M$  and  $X^{\alpha}$  a normal coord. system so that

$$g_{\alpha\beta}(p) = \eta_{\alpha\beta} \quad (8.2)$$

$$\partial_{\gamma} g_{\alpha\beta}(p) = 0 \quad (8.3)$$

Then, at point  $p$ , have

$$R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \eta^{\alpha\sigma} \left( -g_{\nu\beta, \sigma\mu} + g_{\sigma\nu, \beta\mu} + \underline{g_{\beta\sigma, \nu\mu}} \right. \\ \left. + g_{\mu\beta, \sigma\nu} - g_{\sigma\mu, \beta\nu} - \underline{g_{\beta\sigma, \mu\nu}} \right)$$

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( g_{\alpha\mu, \beta\nu} + g_{\beta\nu, \alpha\mu} \right. \\ \left. - g_{\alpha\nu, \beta\mu} - g_{\beta\mu, \alpha\nu} \right) \quad (8.4)$$

From this we immediately infer

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = -R_{\alpha\beta\nu\mu} \quad (8.5)$$

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = -R_{\beta\alpha\mu\nu} \quad (8.6)$$

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \quad (8.7)$$

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + R_{\alpha\nu\beta\mu} + R_{\alpha\mu\nu\beta} = 0 \quad (8.8)$$

These are tensor-relations and hence hold generally.

### Counting of components

(8.5-7) say that  $R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}$  are the components of a symmetric bilinear form on the space  $\Lambda^2 V$

$$\Lambda^2 V \times \Lambda^2 V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\theta, \Lambda) \mapsto R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \theta^{\alpha\beta} \Lambda^{\mu\nu} \quad (8.9)$$

If  $\dim(V) = n$  then

$$\dim(\Lambda^2 V) = N := \frac{1}{2} n(n-1) \quad (8.10)$$

$$\dim\left(\underbrace{(\Lambda^2 V)^* \otimes (\Lambda^2 V)^*}_{\text{Symm. bilinear forms on } \Lambda^2 V}\right) = \frac{1}{2} N(N+1) \quad (8.11)$$

Symm. bilinear forms on  $\Lambda^2 V$

The combination on the left-hand side of (8.8) is totally antisymmetric in all indices  $\alpha \beta \mu \nu$ . For example:

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + R_{\alpha\nu\beta\mu} + R_{\alpha\mu\nu\beta}$$

Exchanging  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} & R_{\beta\alpha\mu\nu} + R_{\beta\nu\alpha\mu} + R_{\beta\mu\nu\alpha} \\ = & \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ (8.6)}}{-R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}} - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ (8.7)(8.5)}}{R_{\alpha\mu\nu\beta}} - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ (8.7)(8.6)}}{R_{\alpha\nu\beta\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence (8.8) gives  $\binom{n}{4}$  independent conditions (as many as there are possibilities to pick 4 distinguishable elements out of a set of  $n$ ).

Hence, in  $n$ -dimensions, have

$$\# \text{ Riem} = \frac{1}{2} N(N+1) - \binom{n}{4} \quad (8.12)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} n(n-1) \left[ \frac{1}{2} n(n-1) + 1 \right] - \binom{n}{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} n(n-1) \left[ \frac{1}{2} n(n-1) + 1 - \frac{(n-2)(n-3)}{6} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} n(n-1) \left[ \frac{1}{3} n^2 + \frac{1}{3} n \right]$$

$$= \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{12} n^2 (n^2 - 1)}} \quad (8.13)$$

$$\# \text{ Riem} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n=2 \\ 6 & \text{for } n=3 \\ 20 & \text{for } n=4 \\ 50 & \text{for } n=5 \end{cases} \quad (8.14)$$

Note in  $n=3$  dim. Riemann and Ricci tensor have same number of components. In fact, in  $n=3$  dim. Riemann tensor can be expressed through Ricci-tensor. This corresponds to the fact that for  $n=3$  Einstein equations determine all of curvature by  $T^{\alpha\beta} \Rightarrow g$  is flat outside support of  $T \Rightarrow$  no gravitational degrees of freedom and no grav. waves.

In  $n=4$  dim have  $\# \text{ Ric} = 10$  and  $\# \text{ Riem} = 20$ . So Einstein equations determine only half of the curvature components.

The cyclic symmetry

$$R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\mu\nu} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\beta\mu} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu\beta} = 0 \quad (8.15)$$

is also called the 1st. Bianchi Identity

There is also a 2nd Bianchi Identity  
It involves covariant derivatives of  
the Riemann-tensor

$$\nabla_\lambda R^\alpha{}_{\beta\mu\nu} = \partial_\lambda \partial_\mu \Gamma^\alpha{}_\nu{}_\beta - \partial_\lambda \partial_\nu \Gamma^\alpha{}_\mu{}_\beta + \text{Terms with at least one factor } \sim \Gamma \quad (8.16)$$

Hence at  $p$  in normal coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_\lambda R^\alpha{}_{\beta\mu\nu} + \nabla_\nu R^\alpha{}_{\beta\lambda\mu} + \nabla_\mu R^\alpha{}_{\beta\nu\lambda} \\ = & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\lambda \partial x^\mu} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\nu{}_\beta - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\lambda \partial x^\nu} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\mu{}_\beta \\ & + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\nu \partial x^\lambda} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\mu{}_\beta - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\nu \partial x^\mu} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\lambda{}_\beta \\ & + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\nu} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\lambda{}_\beta - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^\mu \partial x^\lambda} \Gamma^\alpha{}_\nu{}_\beta = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\partial^2_{\mu\nu} = \partial^2 / \partial x^\mu \partial x^\nu$  is symmetric.

This shows

$$\nabla_\lambda R^\alpha{}_{\beta\mu\nu} + \nabla_\nu R^\alpha{}_{\beta\lambda\mu} + \nabla_\mu R^\alpha{}_{\beta\nu\lambda} = 0$$

2nd Bianchi-Id.

(8.17)

If we contract the 2nd Bianchi Identity on  $\alpha$  and  $\mu$  we get

$$\nabla_\lambda R_{\beta\nu} - \nabla_\nu R_{\beta\lambda} + \nabla_\alpha R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\nu\lambda} = 0$$

i.e.

$$\nabla_\alpha R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\nu\lambda} = \nabla_\nu R_{\lambda\beta} - \nabla_\lambda R_{\nu\beta} \quad (8.18)$$

One more contraction on  $\beta$  and  $\lambda$   
(i.e. multiplication with  $g^{\beta\lambda}$  using  $\nabla_\alpha g^{\beta\lambda} = 0$ )

$$\nabla_\alpha R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu} = \nabla_\nu R - \nabla_\lambda R^{\lambda}{}_{\nu}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \nabla_\alpha \left( R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \delta^{\alpha}_{\nu} R \right) = 0 \quad (8.19)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \nabla_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta} = 0 \quad \left. \vphantom{\nabla_\alpha G^{\alpha\beta}} \right\} (8.20)$$

with  $G^{\alpha\beta} = R^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} g^{\alpha\beta} R$

That the Einstein-Tensor is covariant divergence-free is a consequence of the 2nd Bianchi Identity (twice contracted).

Now we consider the commutator of two covariant derivatives

$$[\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] T^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k}_{\beta_1 \dots \beta_m} \quad (8.21)$$

in normal coordinates at a point. Let first  $T$  be a vector field  $X$

$$\begin{aligned} [\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] X^\alpha &= \nabla_\mu (\partial_\nu X^\alpha + \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} X^\beta) - (\mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \\ &= \partial_\mu \partial_\nu X^\alpha + \partial_\mu \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} X^\beta + \text{Terms} \sim \Gamma \\ &\quad - (\mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \\ &= (\partial_\mu \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} - \partial_\nu \Gamma^\alpha_{\mu\beta}) X^\beta \\ &= R^\alpha_{\beta\mu\nu} X^\beta \end{aligned}$$

Since this is a tensorial equation it holds in all coord. systems

$$[\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] X^\alpha = R^\alpha_{\beta\mu\nu} X^\beta \quad (8.22)$$

Next we take a covector

$$\begin{aligned} [\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] \theta_\beta &= \nabla_\mu (\partial_\nu \theta_\beta - \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} \theta_\alpha) - (\mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \\ &= \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \theta_\beta - \partial_\mu \Gamma^\alpha_{\nu\beta} \theta_\alpha + \text{Terms} \sim \Gamma \\ &\quad - (\mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= - (\partial_\mu \Gamma_\nu^\alpha \beta - \partial_\nu \Gamma_\mu^\alpha \beta) \theta_\alpha \\
 &= - R^\alpha \beta_{\mu\nu} \theta_\alpha
 \end{aligned}$$

Again: Since this is a tensorial equation it holds in all coord. systems

$$[\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] \theta_\beta = -R^\alpha \beta_{\mu\nu} \theta_\alpha \quad (8.23)$$

In the general case we get more terms of the same sort, one for each upper and one for each lower index. The result is

$$\begin{aligned}
 &[\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] T \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_r \\ \beta_1 \dots \beta_m \end{matrix} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^r R^{\alpha_i}{}_{\lambda\mu\nu} T \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{i-1} \lambda \alpha_{i+1} \dots \alpha_r \\ \beta_1 \dots \beta_m \end{matrix} \\
 &\quad - \sum_{l=1}^m R^\lambda{}_{\beta_l \mu\nu} T \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_r \\ \beta_1 \dots \beta_{l-1} \lambda \beta_{l+1} \dots \beta_m \end{matrix}
 \end{aligned} \quad (8.24)$$



## Application and Example

Suppose we have a vector field  $X$  on our Lorentz manifold  $(M, g)$  such that

$$L_X g = 0 \quad (8.25)$$

Such an  $X$  is called a Killing (vector) field.

In passing we note that Killing fields form a sub-Lie-algebra of the Lie-algebra of all vector fields. This is an immediate consequence of the general identity

$$[L_X, L_Y] = L_{[X, Y]} \quad (8.26)$$

that we proved in the lecture on Diff-Geom. Indeed, if  $X, Y$  are Killing, i.e.  $L_X g = L_Y g = 0$  implies  $[L_X, L_Y]g = 0$  and (8.26) then  $L_{[X, Y]}g = 0$ . So if  $X$  and  $Y$  are Killing their commutator is again Killing. What we are going to show next will imply that the Lie-algebra of Killing vector fields on a  $n$ -dimensional manifold is at most  $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ -dimensional.

Now, we have seen in Example 4) on page L7.14 that

$$(L_X g)_{\alpha\beta} = \nabla_\alpha X_\beta + \nabla_\beta X_\alpha \quad (8.27)$$

That  $X$  be Killing hence means that  $\nabla_\alpha X_\beta$  is antisymmetric

$$\nabla_\alpha X_\beta = -\nabla_\beta X_\alpha \quad (8.28)$$

On the other hand, we have just derived that

$$\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu X_\beta = \nabla_\nu \nabla_\mu X_\beta - R^\alpha{}_{\beta\mu\nu} X_\alpha \quad (8.29)$$

We consider the second covariant derivative of  $X$  which we modify by first applying (8.28) and then (8.29), and that three times running

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu X_\beta \\ &= -\nabla_\mu \nabla_\beta X_\nu \\ &= -\nabla_\beta \nabla_\mu X_\nu + R^\alpha{}_{\nu\mu\beta} X_\alpha \end{aligned} \quad (8.30)$$

thus we do two more times ...

$$= \nabla_{\beta} \nabla_{\nu} X_{\mu} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\mu\beta} X_{\alpha}$$

$$= \nabla_{\nu} \nabla_{\beta} X_{\mu} + (R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\mu\beta} - R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta\nu}) X_{\alpha}$$

(... once more ...)

$$= -\nabla_{\nu} \nabla_{\mu} X_{\beta} + (\dots)^{\alpha} X_{\alpha}$$

$$= -\nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} X_{\beta} + (R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\mu\beta} - R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta\nu} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\nu\mu}) X_{\alpha} \quad (8.31)$$

Hence

$$2 \nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} X_{\beta} = (R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\mu\beta} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\nu\mu} - R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta\nu}) X_{\alpha} \quad (8.32)$$

By the 1st. Bianchi Identity (8.8) we have

$$R^{\alpha}{}_{\nu\mu\beta} + R^{\alpha}{}_{\beta\nu\mu} = -R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta\nu}$$

which allows to write the term in brackets on the right-hand side of (8.32) as

$$-2 R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\beta\nu} = 2 R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu\beta}. \text{ Hence}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu} X_{\beta} = R^{\alpha}{}_{\mu\nu\beta} X_{\alpha}} \quad (8.33)$$

This equation is satisfied by any Killing field  $X$ .

Note that the Killing equation (8.28) merely states that the symmetric part of the first derivatives are determined by the fields:

$$\partial_\alpha X_\beta + \partial_\beta X_\alpha = 2 \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma X_\gamma$$

(8.33) implies that the fields determine the second and, in fact, all higher derivatives. Hence the only freedom in specifying  $X$  is its values  $X^\alpha(p)$  ( $n$  values) and the antisymmetric part of its derivative:

$$\nabla_\alpha X_\beta - \nabla_\beta X_\alpha = \partial_\alpha X_\beta - \partial_\beta X_\alpha = (dX)_{\alpha\beta}.$$

Together this makes  $n + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1) =$

$$\# \text{ Killing} = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1) \quad (8.34)$$

freely specifiable initial conditions. Since all equations are linear, there is an at most  $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ -dimensional linear space of solutions.

Finally we turn to the decomposition of the Riemann tensor. We wish to write  $R^{\alpha}_{\beta\mu\nu}$  in a form that displays that part of it that is determined by the Ricci-tensor. The remainder is that part which is not determined by Einstein's equations (locally). This remainder is called the Weyl-tensor. Since the Ricci tensor is the trace of the Riemann tensor

$$R_{\alpha\beta} = R^{\lambda}_{\alpha\lambda\beta} \quad (8.35)$$

and the Ricci scalar is the trace of that,

$$R = g^{\alpha\beta} R_{\alpha\beta} = R^{\lambda\sigma}_{\lambda\sigma} \quad (8.36)$$

the Weyl-tensor will be the trace-free part of the Riemann tensor. The trace part of Riem will be a tensor of the same rank and the same symmetries built from  $g$  and Ric and linear in the latter

Now, given two symmetric tensors of rank 2,  $h$  and  $k$ , a tensor of rank 4 with the symmetries of Riem can be formed using the following

## Kulkarni-Nomizu Product ①

$$\begin{aligned}
 (h \otimes k)_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= \\
 h_{\alpha\mu} k_{\beta\nu} + h_{\beta\nu} k_{\alpha\mu} \\
 - h_{\alpha\nu} k_{\beta\mu} - h_{\beta\mu} k_{\alpha\nu}
 \end{aligned} \tag{8.37}$$

One easily shows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (h \otimes k)_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= -(h \otimes k)_{\alpha\beta\nu\mu} \\
 &= -(h \otimes k)_{\beta\alpha\mu\nu} \\
 &= (h \otimes k)_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}
 \end{aligned} \tag{8.38}$$

and

$$(h \otimes k)_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + (h \otimes k)_{\alpha\nu\beta\mu} + (h \otimes k)_{\alpha\mu\nu\beta} = 0 \tag{8.39}$$

From Ric and R we can form the combinations

$$g \otimes R \quad \text{and} \quad R \cdot g \otimes g$$

Hence we set for  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\text{Riem} = \text{Weyl} + a g \otimes \text{Ric} + b R g \otimes g \tag{8.40}$$

and determine  $a$  and  $b$  by  $\text{trace}(\text{Weyl}) = 0$ .

Note that

$$(g \otimes g)_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = 2(g_{\alpha\mu}g_{\beta\nu} - g_{\alpha\nu}g_{\beta\mu}) \quad (8.41)$$

hence we have in components

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \\ &+ a(g_{\alpha\mu}R_{\beta\nu} + g_{\beta\nu}R_{\alpha\mu} - g_{\alpha\nu}R_{\beta\mu} - g_{\beta\mu}R_{\alpha\nu}) \\ &+ 2bR(g_{\alpha\mu}g_{\beta\nu} - g_{\alpha\nu}g_{\beta\mu}) \quad (8.42) \end{aligned}$$

Taking the trace on  $(\alpha, \mu)$ , leaving the dimension  $= n$  open, we get from  $W_{\alpha\beta} = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\beta\nu} &= a((n-2)R_{\beta\nu} + g_{\beta\nu}R) \\ &+ 2bR(n-1)g_{\beta\nu} \quad (8.43) \end{aligned}$$

which is an identity in Ric and R only

( $\varphi$ )

$$a(n-2) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad a + 2b(n-1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} a &= \frac{1}{n-2} \\ b &= -\frac{1}{2(n-1)(n-2)} \end{aligned} \right\} (8.44)$$

Therefore

$$\text{Weyl} = \text{Riem} - \frac{g \otimes \text{Ric}}{n-2} + R \frac{g \otimes g}{2(n-1)(n-2)} \quad (8.45)$$

or in components

$$\begin{aligned} W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} &= R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \\ &- \frac{1}{(n-2)} \left\{ g_{\alpha\mu} R_{\beta\nu} + g_{\beta\nu} R_{\alpha\mu} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - g_{\alpha\nu} R_{\beta\mu} - g_{\beta\mu} R_{\alpha\nu} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{R}{(n-1)(n-2)} \left\{ g_{\alpha\mu} g_{\beta\nu} - g_{\alpha\nu} g_{\beta\mu} \right\} \quad (8.46) \end{aligned}$$

Another way to write this is to use the trace-free part of the Ricci tensor on the right hand side, i.e.

$$\tilde{\text{Ric}} := \text{Ric} - \frac{1}{n} g R \quad (8.47)$$

Then

$$\text{Weyl} = \text{Riem} - \frac{g \otimes \tilde{\text{Ric}}}{n-2} - R \frac{g \otimes g}{2n(n-1)} \quad (8.48)$$

The Weyl-Tensor has all the symmetries (8.5-8) of the Riemann tensor and in addition satisfies



$$W^{\lambda}{}_{\alpha\lambda\beta} = 0 \quad (8.49)$$

which, because of  $W^{\lambda}{}_{\alpha\lambda\beta} = W^{\lambda}{}_{\beta\lambda\alpha}$  are  $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$  independent conditions. Hence it has

$$\# \text{Weyl} = \frac{1}{12}n^2(n^2-1) - \frac{1}{2}n(n+1) \quad (8.50)$$

independent components

$$\# \text{Weyl} = \begin{cases} 0 & n=3 \\ 10 & n=4 \\ 35 & n=5 \end{cases} \quad (8.51)$$

The Weyl tensor vanishes identically in  $n=3$  dimensions so that

$$\text{Riem} = \frac{1}{2}g \otimes \text{Ric} - \frac{1}{4}R g \otimes g \quad (8.52)$$

(for  $n=3$ )

A Riemannian or Semi-Riemannian manifold whose Weyl and traceless Ricci tensor both vanish, i.e.,

$$\text{Weyl} = \overset{\sim}{\text{Ric}} = 0, \quad (8.53)$$

is said to be of constant curvature.

Constant curvature means that the Riemann tensor is pure trace

From (8.48) we infer (Weyl = Ric = 0):

$$\text{Riem} = R \frac{g \otimes g}{2n(n-1)} \quad (8.54)$$

or in components

$$R_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = \frac{R}{n(n-1)} (g_{\alpha\mu} g_{\beta\nu} - g_{\alpha\nu} g_{\beta\mu}) \quad (8.55)$$

The Ricci-tensor is then

$$R_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{n} R g_{\alpha\beta} \quad (8.56)$$

and the Einstein tensor

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{n} R g_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{2-n}{2n} R g_{\alpha\beta} \end{aligned} \quad (8.57)$$

From the twice contracted 2. Bianchi-identity we obtained (8.20),

$$\nabla_{\alpha} G^{\alpha\beta} = 0,$$

which for (8.57) implies ( $\nabla g = 0$ )

$$R = \text{const.} \quad (8.58)$$

One more remark on the Weyl tensor:  
It has the remarkable and useful property  
to be conformally invariant. By this  
the following is meant:

Let  $g$  and  $g'$  be two conformally  
related  $C^2$ -metrics on the manifold  $M$ ;  
that is, there is a function  $\phi \in C^2(M, \mathbb{R})$   
such that

$$g' = \exp(\phi) g \quad (8.59)$$

then

$$\text{Weyl}[g'] = \text{Weyl}[g] \quad (8.60)$$

i. e.

$$W^{\alpha}_{\beta\mu\nu}[g'] = W^{\alpha}_{\beta\mu\nu}[g] \quad (8.61)$$

Note that if we define  $W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}[g'] :=$   
 $g'^{\alpha\lambda} W^{\lambda}_{\beta\mu\nu}[g']$  and  $W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}[g] =$   
 $g_{\alpha\lambda} W^{\lambda}_{\beta\mu\nu}[g]$ , then this implies

$$W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}[g'] = \exp(\phi) W_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}[g] \quad (8.62)$$

Because of (8.60) the Weyl tensor is  
also called "conformal curvature" and  
usually denoted by the letter  $C$ , i. e.  
 $C^{\alpha}_{\beta\mu\nu}$  instead of  $W^{\alpha}_{\beta\mu\nu}$ .