

Tensor calculus with free softwares: the SageManifolds project

Éricourgoulhon¹, Michał Bejger²

¹Laboratoire Univers et Théories (LUTH)
CNRS / Observatoire de Paris / Université Paris Diderot
92190 Meudon, France

<http://luth.obspm.fr/~luthier/gourgoulhon/>

²Centrum Astronomiczne im. M. Kopernika (CAMK)
Warsaw, Poland

<http://users.camk.edu.pl/bejger/>

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Outline

- 1 Differential geometry and tensor calculus on a computer
- 2 Sage: a free mathematics software
- 3 The SageManifolds project
- 4 SageManifolds at work: the Mars-Simon tensor example
- 5 Conclusion and perspectives

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- In the early 1970's, ALAM was rewritten in the LISP programming language, thereby becoming machine independent and renamed **LAM**
- The descendant of LAM, called **SHEEP** (!), was initiated in 1977 by Inge Frick

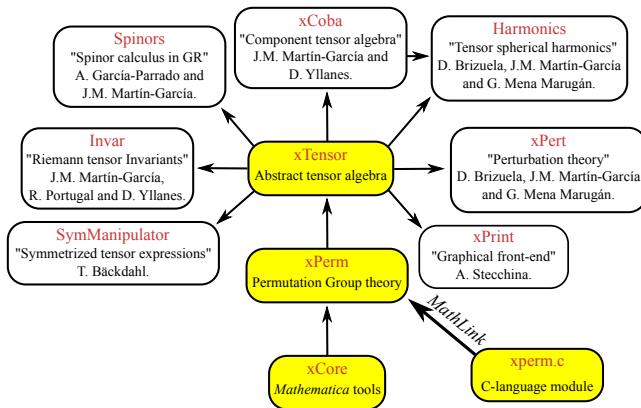
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- The descendant of LAM, called **SHEEP** (!), was initiated in 1977 by Inge Frick
- Since then, many softwares for tensor calculus have been developed...

An example of modern software: The xAct suite

Free packages for tensor computer algebra in Mathematica, developed by José Martín-García et al. <http://www.xact.es/>

The xAct system



[García-Parrado Gómez-Lobo & Martín-García, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* **183**, 2214 (2012)]

Software for differential geometry

Packages for general purpose computer algebra systems:

- **xAct** free package for Mathematica [J.-M. Martin-Garcia]
- **Ricci** free package for Mathematica [J. L. Lee]
- **MathTensor** package for Mathematica [S. M. Christensen & L. Parker]
- **DifferentialGeometry** included in Maple [I. M. Anderson & E. S. Cheb-Terrab]
- **Atlas 2** for Maple and Mathematica
- ...

Standalone applications:

- **SHEEP**, **Classi**, **STensor**, based on Lisp, developed in 1970's and 1980's (free) [R. d'Inverno, I. Frick, J. Åman, J. Skea, et al.]
- **Cadabra** field theory (free) [K. Peeters]
- **SnapPy** topology and geometry of 3-manifolds, based on Python (free) [M. Culler, N. M. Dunfield & J. R. Weeks]
- ...

cf. the complete list on <http://www.xact.es/links.html>

Software for differential geometry

Two types of **tensor computations**:

Abstract computations

- xAct/xTensor
- MathTensor
- Ricci
- Cadabra

Component computations

- xAct/xCoba
- Atlas 2
- DifferentialGeometry
- SageManifolds

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Sage in a few words

- **Sage** is a **free open-source** mathematics software system
- it is based on the **Python** programming language
- it makes use of **many pre-existing open-sources packages**, among which
 - **Maxima** (symbolic calculations, since 1968!)
 - **GAP** (group theory)
 - **PARI/GP** (number theory)
 - **Singular** (polynomial computations)
 - **matplotlib** (high quality 2D figures)

and provides a **uniform interface** to them

- William Stein (Univ. of Washington) created Sage in 2005; since then, **~100 developers** (mostly mathematicians) have joined the Sage team

The mission

Create a viable free open source alternative to Magma, Maple, Mathematica and Matlab.

Some advantages of Sage

Sage is free

Freedom means

- 1 everybody can use it, by downloading the software from <http://sagemath.org>
- 2 everybody can examine the source code and improve it

Sage is based on Python

- no need to learn any specific syntax to use it
- easy access for students
- Python is a very powerful *object oriented language*, with a neat syntax

Sage is developing and spreading fast

...sustained by an important community of developers

Sage approach to computer mathematics

Sage relies on a **Parent** / **Element** scheme: each object x on which some calculus is performed has a “parent”, which is another Sage object X representing the set to which x belongs.

The calculus rules on x are determined by the *algebraic structure* of X .

Conversion rules prior to an operation, e.g. $x + y$ with x and y having different parents, are defined at the level of the parents

Example

```
sage: x = 4 ; x.parent()
```

```
Integer Ring
```

```
sage: y = 4/3 ; y.parent()
```

```
Rational Field
```

```
sage: s = x + y ; s.parent()
```

```
Rational Field
```

```
sage: y.parent().has_coerce_map_from(x.parent())
```

```
True
```

This approach is similar to that of Magma (a CAS quite well spread in pure mathematics) and different from that of Mathematica, in which everything is a tree of symbols

The Sage book



by Paul Zimmermann et al. (2013)

Released under *Creative Commons* license:

- freely downloadable from <http://sagebook.gforge.inria.fr/>
- printed copies can be ordered at moderate price (10 €)

English translation in progress...

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Differential geometry in Sage

Sage is well developed in many domains of mathematics:
number theory, group theory, linear algebra, combinatorics, etc.

...but not too much in the area of **differential geometry**:

Already in Sage

- differential forms on an open subset of Euclidean space (*with a fixed set of coordinates*) (J. Vankerschaver)
- parametrized 2-surfaces in 3-dim. Euclidean space (M. Malakhaltsev, J. Vankerschaver, V. Delecroix)

Proposed extensions (Sage Trac)

- 2-D hyperbolic geometry (V. Delecroix, M. Raum, G. Laun, trac ticket #9439)

The SageManifolds project

<http://sagemanifolds.obspm.fr/>

Aim

Implement the concept of **real smooth manifolds** of arbitrary dimension in Sage and **tensor calculus** on them, in a **coordinate/frame-independent** manner

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Aim

Implement the concept of **real smooth manifolds** of arbitrary dimension in Sage and **tensor calculus** on them, in a **coordinate/frame-independent** manner

In practice, this amounts to introducing new **Python classes** in Sage, basically one class per mathematical concept, for instance:

- **Manifold**: differentiable manifolds over \mathbb{R} , of arbitrary dimension
- **Chart**: coordinate charts
- **Point**: points on a manifold
- **DiffMapping**: differential mappings between manifolds
- **ScalarField**, **VectorField**, **TensorField**: tensor fields on a manifold
- **DiffForm**: p -forms
- **AffConnection**, **LeviCivitaConnection**: affine connections
- **Metric**: pseudo-Riemannian metrics

Implementing coordinate charts

Given a manifold \mathcal{M} of dimension n , a coordinate chart on an open subset $U \subset \mathcal{M}$ is implemented in SageManifolds via the class `Chart`, whose main data is a n -uple of Sage symbolic variables x, y, \dots , each of them representing a coordinate

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In general, more than one (regular) chart is required to cover the entire manifold:

Examples:

- at least 2 charts are necessary to cover the circle \mathbb{S}^1 , the sphere \mathbb{S}^2 , and more generally the n -dimensional sphere \mathbb{S}^n
- at least 3 charts are necessary to cover the real projective plane $\mathbb{R}P^2$

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In SageManifolds, an arbitrary number of charts can be introduced

To fully specify the manifold, one shall also provide the *transition maps* on overlapping chart domains (SageManifolds class `CoordChange`)

Implementing scalar fields

A **scalar field** on manifold \mathcal{M} is a smooth mapping

$$\begin{aligned} f: U \subset \mathcal{M} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ p &\longmapsto f(p) \end{aligned}$$

where U is an open subset of \mathcal{M}

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The various coordinate representations F, \hat{F}, \dots of f are stored as a *Python dictionary* whose keys are the charts C, \hat{C}, \dots :

$$f._\text{express} = \{C : F, \hat{C} : \hat{F}, \dots\}$$

$$\text{with } \underbrace{f(p)}_{\text{point}} = F(\underbrace{x^1, \dots, x^n}_{\text{coord. of } p \text{ in chart } C}) = \hat{F}(\underbrace{\hat{x}^1, \dots, \hat{x}^n}_{\text{coord. of } p \text{ in chart } \hat{C}}) = \dots$$

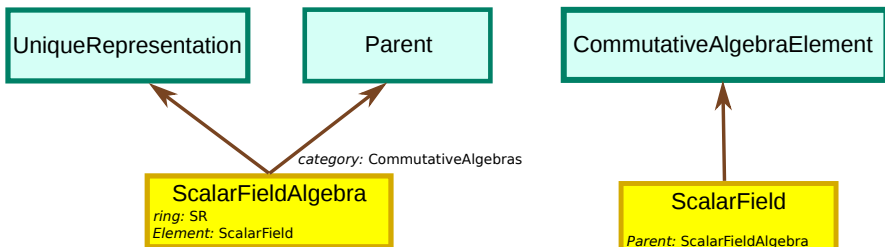
The scalar field algebra

Given an open subset $U \subset \mathcal{M}$, the set $C^\infty(U)$ of scalar fields defined on U has naturally the structure of a **commutative algebra over \mathbb{R}** : it is clearly a vector space over \mathbb{R} and it is endowed with a commutative ring structure by pointwise multiplication:

$$\forall f, g \in C^\infty(U), \quad \forall p \in U, \quad (f \cdot g)(p) := f(p)g(p)$$

The algebra $C^\infty(U)$ is implemented in SageManifolds via the class `ScalarFieldAlgebra`.

Classes for scalar fields



- native Sage class
- SageManifolds class (algebraic part)
- SageManifolds class (differential part)

Vector fields

Given an open subset $U \subset \mathcal{M}$, the set $\mathcal{X}(U)$ of smooth vector fields defined on U has naturally the structure of a **module over the scalar field algebra** $C^\infty(U)$.

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Reminder from linear algebra

A **module** is \sim **vector space**, except that it is based on a **ring** (here $C^\infty(U)$) instead of a **field** (usually \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} in physics)

An importance difference: a vector space always has a **basis**, while a module does not necessarily have any

→ A module with a basis is called a **free module**

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→ A module with a basis is called a **free module**

When $\mathcal{X}(U)$ is a free module, a basis is a **vector frame** $(e_a)_{1 \leq a \leq n}$ on U :

$$\forall v \in \mathcal{X}(U), \quad v = v^a e_a, \quad \text{with } v^a \in C^\infty(U)$$

At a point $p \in U$, the above translates into an identity in the *tangent vector space* $T_p \mathcal{M}$:

$$v(p) = v^a(p) e_a(p), \quad \text{with } v^a(p) \in \mathbb{R}$$

Vector fields

A manifold \mathcal{M} that admits a global vector frame (or equivalently, such that $\mathcal{X}(\mathcal{M})$ is a free module) is called a **parallelizable manifold**

Examples of parallelizable manifolds

- \mathbb{R}^n (global coordinate charts \Rightarrow global vector frames)
- the circle \mathbb{S}^1 (NB: no global coordinate chart)
- the torus $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^1$
- the 3-sphere $\mathbb{S}^3 \simeq \text{SU}(2)$, as any Lie group
- the 7-sphere \mathbb{S}^7

Examples of non-parallelizable manifolds

- the sphere \mathbb{S}^2 (hairy ball theorem!) and any n -sphere \mathbb{S}^n with $n \notin \{1, 3, 7\}$
- the real projective plane \mathbb{RP}^2
- most manifolds...

Implementing vector fields

Ultimately, in SageManifolds, vector fields are to be described by their components w.r.t. various vector frames.

If the manifold \mathcal{M} is not parallelizable, one has to decompose it in parallelizable open subsets U_i ($1 \leq i \leq N$) and consider **restrictions** of vector fields to these domains.

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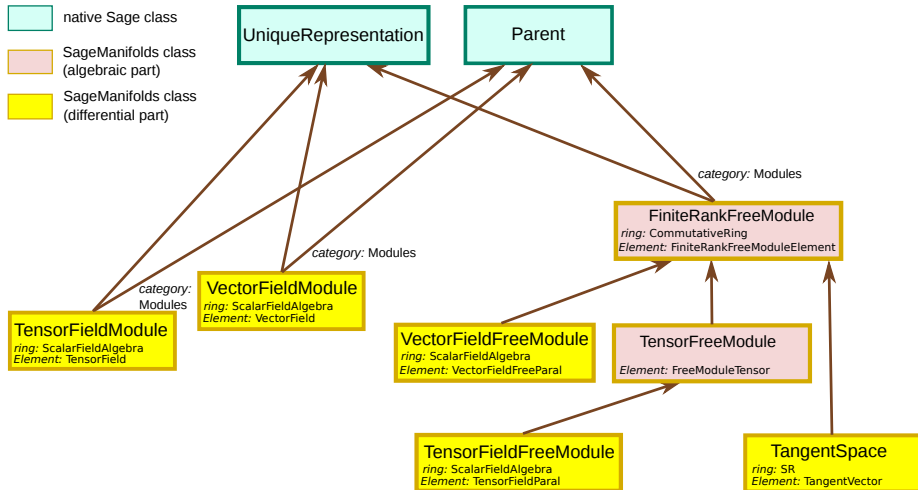
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For each i , $\mathcal{X}(U_i)$ is a free module of rank $n = \dim \mathcal{M}$ and is implemented in SageManifolds as an instance of `VectorFieldFreeModule`, which is a subclass of `FiniteRankFreeModule`.

Each vector field $v \in \mathcal{X}(U_i)$ has different set of components $(v^a)_{1 \leq a \leq n}$ in different vector frames $(e_a)_{1 \leq a \leq n}$ introduced on U_i . They are stored as a *Python dictionary* whose keys are the vector frames:

$$v._components = \{(e) : (v^a), (\hat{e}) : (\hat{v}^a), \dots\}$$

Module classes in SageManifolds

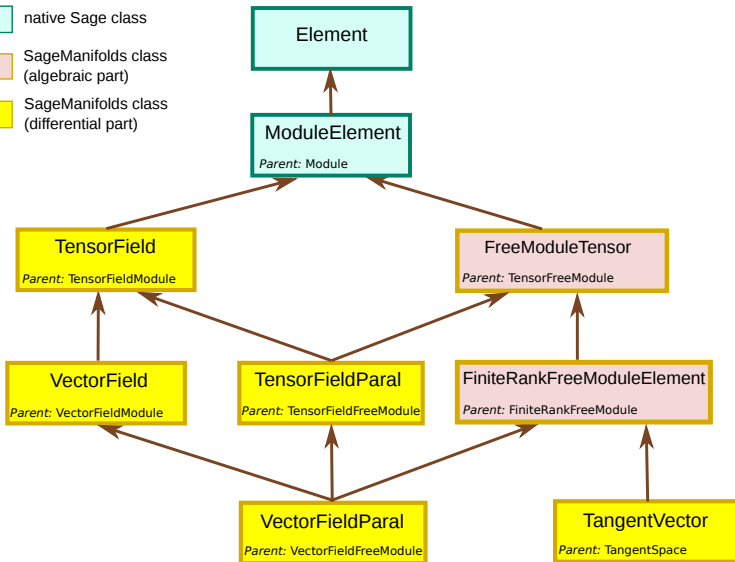


Tensor field classes in SageManifolds

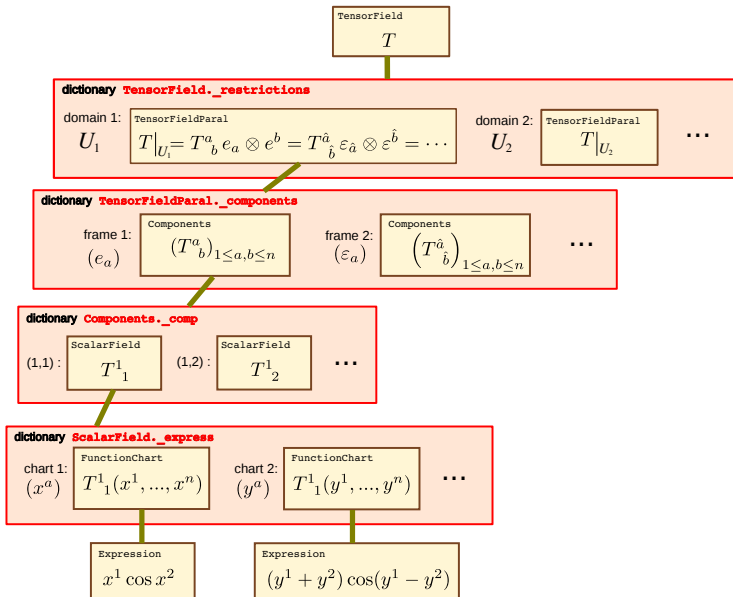
native Sage class

SageManifolds class
(algebraic part)

SageManifolds class
(differential part)



Tensor field storage



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Mars-Simon tensor

Definition [M. Mars, CQG 16, 2507 (1999)]

Given a 4-dimensional spacetime (\mathcal{M}, g) endowed with a Killing vector field ξ , the **Mars-Simon tensor w.r.t. ξ** is the type-(0,3) tensor S defined by

$$S_{\alpha\beta\gamma} := 4\mathcal{C}_{\mu\alpha\nu[\beta} \xi^\mu \xi^\nu \sigma_{\gamma]} + \gamma_{\alpha[\beta} \mathcal{C}_{\gamma]\rho\mu\nu} \xi^\rho \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

where

- $\gamma_{\alpha\beta} := \lambda g_{\alpha\beta} + \xi_\alpha \xi_\beta$, with $\lambda := -\xi_\mu \xi^\mu$
- $\mathcal{C}_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} := C_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\mu\nu} C_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}$, with $C^\alpha{}_{\beta\mu\nu}$ being the Weyl tensor and $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}$ the Levi-Civita volume form
- $\mathcal{F}_{\alpha\beta} := F_{\alpha\beta} + i^*F_{\alpha\beta}$, with $F_{\alpha\beta} := \nabla_\alpha \xi_\beta$ (Killing 2-form) and $i^*F_{\alpha\beta} := \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu}{}_{\alpha\beta} F_{\mu\nu}$ (Hodge dual of $F_{\alpha\beta}$)
- $\sigma_\alpha := 2\mathcal{F}_{\mu\alpha} \xi^\mu$ (Ernst 1-form)

Mars-Simon tensor

The Mars-Simon tensor provides a nice characterization of Kerr spacetime:

Theorem (Mars, 1999)

If g satisfies the vacuum Einstein equation and (\mathcal{M}, g) contains a stationary asymptotically flat end \mathcal{M}^∞ such that ξ tends to a time translation at infinity in \mathcal{M}^∞ and the Komar mass of ξ in \mathcal{M}^∞ is non-zero, then

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Let us use SageManifolds...

...to check the \Leftarrow part of the theorem, namely that the Mars-Simon tensor is identically zero in Kerr spacetime.

NB: what follows illustrates only certain features of SageManifolds; other ones, like the multi-chart and multi-frame capabilities on non-parallelizable manifolds, are not considered in this example. \implies More examples are provided at

<http://sagemanifolds.obspm.fr/examples.html>

Object-oriented notation

To understand what follows, be aware that

as an **object-oriented language**, Python (and hence Sage) makes use of the following postfix notation:

```
result = object.function(arguments)
```

In a **functional language**, this would be written as

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result = function(object, arguments)
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Examples

```
riem = g.riemann()
lie_t_v = t.lie_der(v)
```

```
M = Manifold(4, 'M', latex_name=r'\mathcal{M}')
print M
```

```
4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

We introduce the standard **Boyer-Lindquist coordinates** as follows:

```
X.<t,r,th,ph> = M.chart(r't r:(0,+oo) th:(0,pi):\theta ph:(0,2*pi):\phi')
print X ; X
```

```
chart (M, (t, r, th, ph))
(M, (t, r, theta, phi))
```

Metric tensor

The 2 parameters m and a of the Kerr spacetime are declared as symbolic variables:

```
var('m, a')
```

```
(m, a)
```

Let us introduce the spacetime metric g and set its components in the coordinate frame associated with Boyer-Lindquist coordinates, which is the current manifold's default frame:

```
g = M.lorentz_metric('g')
rho2 = r^2 + (a*cos(th))^2
Delta = r^2 - 2*m*r + a^2
g[0,0] = -(1-2*m*r/rho2)
g[0,3] = -2*a*m*r*sin(th)^2/rho2
g[1,1], g[2,2] = rho2/Delta, rho2
g[3,3] = (r^2+a^2+2*m*r*(a*sin(th))^2/rho2)*sin(th)^2
g.view()
```

$$g = \left(-\frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) dt \otimes dt + \left(-\frac{2amr \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) dt \otimes d\phi + \left(\frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2}{a^2 - 2mr + r^2} \right) dr \otimes dr + \left(a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2 \right) d\theta \otimes d\theta + \left(-\frac{2amr \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) d\phi \otimes dt$$

g[:]

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 -\frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2amr \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \\
 0 & \frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2}{a^2 - 2mr + r^2} & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2 & 0 \\
 -\frac{2amr \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{2a^2mr \sin(\theta)^4 + (a^2r^2 + r^4 + (a^4 + a^2r^2) \cos(\theta)^2) \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2}
 \end{pmatrix}$$

The Levi-Civita connection ∇ associated with g :

```
nab = g.connection() ; print nab
```

```
Levi-Civita connection 'nabla_g' associated with the Lorentzian metric
'g' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

As a check, we verify that the covariant derivative of g with respect to ∇ vanishes identically:

```
nab(g).view()
```

```
 $\nabla_g g = 0$ 
```

Killing vector

The default vector frame on the spacetime manifold is the coordinate basis associated with Boyer-Lindquist coordinates:

```
M.default_frame() is X.frame()
```

```
True
```

```
X.frame()
```

```
 $(\mathcal{M}, \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right))$ 
```

Let us consider the first vector field of this frame:

```
xi = X.frame()[0] ; xi
```

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

```
print xi
```

```
vector field 'd/dt' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

The 1-form associated to it by metric duality is

```
xi_form = xi.down(g)
xi_form.set_name('xi_form', r'\underline{\xi}')
print xi_form ; xi_form.view()
```

```
1-form 'xi_form' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

$$\underline{\xi} = \left(-\frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) dt + \left(-\frac{2amr \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) d\phi$$

Its covariant derivative is

```
nab_xi = nab(xi_form)
print nab_xi ; nab_xi.view()
```

```
tensor field 'nabla_g xi_form' of type (0,2) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

$$\nabla_g \underline{\xi} = \left(\frac{a^2 m \cos(\theta)^2 - mr^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \otimes dr + \left(\frac{2a^2 m r \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \otimes d\theta + \left(-\frac{a^2 m \cos(\theta)^2 - mr^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dr \otimes dt + \left(\frac{a^2 m \cos(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dr \otimes d\theta$$

Let us check that the Killing equation is satisfied:

```
nab_xi.symmetrize().view()
```

```
0
```

Equivalently, we check that the Lie derivative of the metric along ξ vanishes:

```
g.lie_der(xi).view()
```

```
0
```

Thank to Killing equation, $\nabla_g \xi$ is antisymmetric. We may therefore define a 2-form by $F := -\nabla_g \xi$. Here we enforce the antisymmetry by calling the function `antisymmetrize()` on `nab_xi`:

```
F = - nab_xi.antisymmetrize()
F.set_name('F')
print F
F.view()
```

2-form 'F' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

$$F = \left(-\frac{a^2 m \cos(\theta)^2 - mr^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \wedge dr + \left(-\frac{2a^2 mr \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \wedge d\theta + \left(-\frac{(a^3 m \cos(\theta)^2 - amr^2) \sin(\theta)^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dr \wedge d\phi + \left(-\frac{2(a^3 m \cos(\theta)^2 - amr^2) \sin(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \wedge d\phi$$

We check that

```
F == - nab_xi
```

```
True
```

The squared norm of the Killing vector is:

```
lamb = - g(xi, xi)
lamb.set_name('lambda', r'\lambda')
print lamb
lamb.view()
```

scalar field 'lambda' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

$\lambda: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

$$(t, r, \theta, \phi) \mapsto \frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2}$$

Instead of invoking $g(\xi, \xi)$, we could have evaluated λ by means of the 1-form ξ acting on the vector field ξ :

```
lamb == - xi_form(xi)
```

True

or, in index notation,

```
lamb == - ( xi_form['_a']*xi['^a'] )
```

True

Curvature

The Riemann curvature tensor associated with g is:

```
Riem = g.riemann()
print Riem
```

tensor field 'Riem(g)' of type (1,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

The component R^0_{123} is

```
Riem[0,1,2,3]
```

$$-\frac{(a^7m - 2a^5m^2r + a^3mr^2) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)^5 + (a^7m + 2a^5m^2r + 6a^3mr^2 - 6a^3m^2r^3 + 5a^3mr^4) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)^3 - 2(a^7m - a^5mr^2 - 5a^3mr^4 - 3amr^6) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)}{a^2r^6 - 2mr^7 + r^8 + (a^8 - 2a^6mr + a^6r^2) \cos(\theta)^6 + 3(a^6r^2 - 2a^4mr^3 + a^4r^4) \cos(\theta)^4 + 3(a^4r^4 - 2a^2mr^5 + a^2r^6) \cos(\theta)^2}$$

The Ricci tensor:

```
Ric = g.ricci()
print Ric
```

field of symmetric bilinear forms 'Ric(g)' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

Let us check that we are dealing with a solution of Einstein equation:

```
Ric.view()
```

$$\text{Ric}(g) = 0$$

The Weyl conformal curvature tensor is

```
C = g.weyl()
```

```
print C
```

tensor field 'C(g)' of type (1,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

Let us exhibit two of its components C^0_{123} and C^0_{101} :

```
C[0,1,2,3]
```

$$\frac{(a^7 m - 2 a^5 m^2 r + a^5 m r^2) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)^5 + (a^7 m + 2 a^5 m^2 r + 6 a^5 m r^2 - 6 a^3 m^2 r^3 + 5 a^3 m r^4) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)^3 - 2 (a^7 m - a^5 m r^2 - 5 a^3 m r^4 - 3 a m r^6) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)}{a^2 r^6 - 2 m r^7 + r^8 + (a^8 - 2 a^6 m r + a^6 r^2) \cos(\theta)^6 + 3 (a^6 r^2 - 2 a^4 m r^3 + a^4 r^4) \cos(\theta)^4 + 3 (a^4 r^4 - 2 a^2 m r^5 + a^2 r^6) \cos(\theta)^2}$$

```
C[0,1,0,1]
```

$$\frac{3 a^4 m r \cos(\theta)^4 + 3 a^2 m r^3 + 2 m r^5 - (9 a^4 m r + 7 a^2 m r^3) \cos(\theta)^2}{a^2 r^6 - 2 m r^7 + r^8 + (a^8 - 2 a^6 m r + a^6 r^2) \cos(\theta)^6 + 3 (a^6 r^2 - 2 a^4 m r^3 + a^4 r^4) \cos(\theta)^4 + 3 (a^4 r^4 - 2 a^2 m r^5 + a^2 r^6) \cos(\theta)^2}$$

To form the Mars-Simon tensor, we need the fully covariant (type-(0,4) tensor) form of the Weyl tensor (i.e. $C_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = g_{\alpha\sigma} C^\sigma_{\beta\mu\nu}$); we get it by lowering the first index with the metric:

```
Cd = C.down(g)
```

```
print Cd
```

tensor field of type (0,4) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

The (monoterm) symmetries of this tensor are those inherited from the Weyl tensor, i.e. the antisymmetry on the last two indices (position 2 and 3, the first index being at position 0):

The (monoterm) symmetries of this tensor are those inherited from the Weyl tensor, i.e. the antisymmetry on the last two indices (position 2 and 3, the first index being at position 0):

```
Cd.symmetries()
```

```
no symmetry; antisymmetry: (2, 3)
```

Actually, Cd is also antisymmetric with respect to the first two indices, as we can check:

```
Cd == Cd.antisymmetrize((0,1))
```

```
True
```

To take this symmetry into account explicitly, we set

```
Cd = Cd.antisymmetrize((0,1))
```

Hence we have now

```
Cd.symmetries()
```

```
no symmetry; antisymmetries: [(0, 1), (2, 3)]
```

Mars-Simon tensor

The Mars-Simon tensor with respect to the Killing vector ξ is a rank-3 tensor introduced by Marc Mars in 1999 ([Class. Quantum Grav. 16, 2507](#)). It has the remarkable property to vanish identically if, and only if, the spacetime (\mathcal{M}, g) is locally isometric to a Kerr spacetime.

Let us evaluate the Mars-Simon tensor by following the formulas given in Mars' article. The starting point is the self-dual complex 2-form associated with the Killing 2-form F , i.e. the object $\mathcal{F} := F + i * F$, where $*F$ is the Hodge dual of F :

```
FF = F + I * F.hodge_star(g)
FF.set_name('FF', r'\mathcal{F}'); print FF
```

```
2-form 'FF' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

FF.view()

$$\mathcal{F} = \left(-\frac{a^2 m \cos(\theta)^2 + 2i amr \cos(\theta) - mr^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \wedge dr + \left(\frac{(i a^3 m \cos(\theta)^2 - 2 a^2 m r \cos(\theta) - i amr^2) \sin(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2 a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dt \wedge d\theta + \left(\frac{-4i a^4 m^2 r^2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)^4 + (a^3 m r^4 - 2 a m^2}{a^2 r^6 - 2 r} \right)$$

Let us check that \mathcal{F} is self-dual, i.e. that it obeys $*\mathcal{F} = -i\mathcal{F}$:

FF.hodge_star(g) == - I * FF

True

Let us form the right self-dual of the Weyl tensor as follows

$$C_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} = C_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} + \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\mu\nu} C_{\alpha\beta\rho\sigma}$$

where $\epsilon^{\rho\sigma}{}_{\mu\nu}$ is associated to the Levi-Civita tensor $\epsilon_{\rho\sigma\mu\nu}$ and is obtained by

```
eps = g.volume_form(2) # 2 = the first 2 indices are contravariant
print eps
eps.symmetries()
```

```
tensor field of type (2,2) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
no symmetry; antisymmetries: [(0, 1), (2, 3)]
```

The right self-dual Weyl tensor is then:

```
CC = Cd + I/2*( eps['^rs..']*Cd['_..rs'])
CC.set_name('CC', r'\mathcal{C}'); print CC
```

```
tensor field 'CC' of type (0,4) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

CC.symmetries()

```
no symmetry; antisymmetries: [(0, 1), (2, 3)]
```

CC[0,1,2,3]

CC[0,1,2,3]

$$\frac{(a^5 m \cos(\theta)^5 + 3i a^4 m r \cos(\theta)^4 + 3i a^2 m r^3 + 2i m r^5 - (3 a^5 m + 5 a^3 m r^2) \cos(\theta)^3 + (-9i a^4 m r - 7i a^2 m r^3) \cos(\theta)^2 + 3(3 a^3 m r^2 + 2 a m r^4) \cos(\theta)) \sin(\theta)}{a^6 \cos(\theta)^6 + 3 a^4 r^2 \cos(\theta)^4 + 3 a^2 r^4 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^6}$$

The Ernst 1-form $\sigma_\alpha = 2\mathcal{F}_{\mu\alpha} \xi^\mu$ ($0 =$ contraction on the first index of \mathcal{F}):

```
sigma = 2*FF.contract(0, xi)
```

Instead of invoking the function `contract()`, we could have used the index notation to denote the contraction:

```
sigma == 2*( FF['_ma']*xi['^m'] )
```

```
True
```

```
sigma.set_name('sigma', r'\sigma') ; print sigma
sigma.view()
```

```
1-form 'sigma' on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
```

$$\sigma = \left(-\frac{2a^2 m \cos(\theta)^2 + 4i a m r \cos(\theta) - 2m r^2}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) dr + \left(\frac{(2i a^3 m \cos(\theta)^2 - 4a^2 m r \cos(\theta) - 2i a m r^2) \sin(\theta)}{a^4 \cos(\theta)^4 + 2a^2 r^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^4} \right) d\theta$$

The symmetric bilinear form $\gamma = \lambda g + \underline{\xi} \otimes \underline{\xi}$:

```
gamma = lamb*g + xi_form * xi_form
gamma.set_name('gamma', r'\gamma') ; print gamma
gamma.view()
```

```
field of symmetric bilinear forms 'gamma' on the 4-dimensional manifold
'M'
```

$$\gamma = \left(\frac{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2}{a^2 - 2mr + r^2} \right) dr \otimes dr + \left(a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 - 2mr + r^2 \right) d\theta \otimes d\theta + \left(\frac{2a^2 m r \sin(\theta)^4 - (2a^2 m r - a^2 r^2 + 2m r^3 - r^4 - (a^4 + a^2 r^2) \cos(\theta)^2) \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) d\theta \otimes dr + \left(\frac{2a^2 m r \sin(\theta)^4 - (2a^2 m r - a^2 r^2 + 2m r^3 - r^4 - (a^4 + a^2 r^2) \cos(\theta)^2) \sin(\theta)^2}{a^2 \cos(\theta)^2 + r^2} \right) dr \otimes d\theta$$

Final computation leading to the Mars-Simon tensor:

First, we evaluate

$$S_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(1)} = 4C_{\mu\alpha\nu\beta} \xi^\mu \xi^\nu \sigma_\gamma$$

```
S1 = 4*( CC.contract(0,xi).contract(1,xi) ) * sigma
print S1
```

tensor field of type (0,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

Then we form the tensor

$$S_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(2)} = \gamma_{\alpha\beta} C_{\gamma\rho\mu\nu} \xi^\rho \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

by first computing $C_{\gamma\rho\mu\nu} \xi^\rho$:

```
xiCC = CC['_r..']*xi['^r']
print xiCC
```

tensor field of type (0,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'

and evaluating $\mathcal{F}^{\alpha\beta} = g^{\alpha\mu} g^{\beta\nu} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}$:

```
FFuu = FF.up(g)
```

We use the index notation to perform the double contraction $C_{\gamma\rho\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu}$:

```
S2 = gamma * ( xiCC['_mn']*FFuu['^mn'] )
print S2
S2.symmetries()
```

tensor field of type (0,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
symmetry: (0, 1); no antisymmetry

The Mars-Simon tensor with respect to ξ is obtained by antisymmetrizing $S^{(1)}$ and $S^{(2)}$ on their last two indices and adding them:

$$S_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = S_{\alpha[\beta\gamma]}^{(1)} + S_{\alpha[\beta\gamma]}^{(2)}$$

We use the index notation for the antisymmetrization:

```
S1A = S1['_a[bc]']
S2A = S2['_a[bc]']
```

An equivalent writing would have been (the last two indices being in position 1 and 2):

```
# S1A = S1.antisymmetrize((1,2))
# S2A = S2.antisymmetrize((1,2))
```

The Mars-Simon tensor is

```
S = S1A + S2A
S.set_name('S') ; print S
S.symmetries()
```

```
tensor field 'S' of type (0,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
no symmetry; antisymmetry: (1, 2)
```

```
S.view()
S = 0
```

We thus recover the fact that the Mars-Simon tensor vanishes identically in Kerr spacetime.

To check that the above computation was not trivial, here is the component $112=rr\theta$ for each of the two parts of the Mars-Simon tensor:

```
S1A[1,1,2]
```

The Mars-Simon tensor is

```
S = S1A + S2A
S.set_name('S') ; print S
S.symmetries()
```

```
tensor field 'S' of type (0,3) on the 4-dimensional manifold 'M'
no symmetry; antisymmetry: (1, 2)
```

```
S.view()
```

```
S = 0
```

We thus recover the fact that the Mars-Simon tensor vanishes identically in Kerr spacetime.

To check that the above computation was not trivial, here is the component $112=rr\theta$ for each of the two parts of the Mars-Simon tensor:

```
S1A[1,1,2]
```

$$\frac{(4a^8m^2 \cos(\theta)^7 + 20i a^7 m^2 r \cos(\theta)^6 - 8i a m^3 r^6 + 4i a m^2 r^7 - 4(2a^6 m^3 r + 9a^6 m^2 r^2) \cos(\theta)^5 + (-40i a^5 m^3 r^2 - 20i a^5 m^2 r^3) \cos(\theta)^4 + 20(4a^4 m^3 r^3 - a^4 m^2 r^4) \cos(\theta)^3 + (80i a^3 m^3 r^4 - a^2 r^{10} - 2mr^{11} + r^{12} + (a^{12} - 2a^{10}mr + a^{10}r^2) \cos(\theta)^{10} + 5(a^{10}r^2 - 2a^8 m r^3 + a^8 r^4) \cos(\theta)^8 + 10(a^8 r^4 - 2a^6 m r^5 + a^6 r^6) \cos(\theta)^6 + 10(a^6 r^6 - 2a^4 m r^7 + a^4 r^8) \cos(\theta)^4)}{a^2 r^{10} - 2mr^{11} + r^{12} + (a^{12} - 2a^{10}mr + a^{10}r^2) \cos(\theta)^{10} + 5(a^{10}r^2 - 2a^8 m r^3 + a^8 r^4) \cos(\theta)^8 + 10(a^8 r^4 - 2a^6 m r^5 + a^6 r^6) \cos(\theta)^6 + 10(a^6 r^6 - 2a^4 m r^7 + a^4 r^8) \cos(\theta)^4}$$

```
S2A[1,1,2]
```

$$\frac{(4a^8m^2 \cos(\theta)^7 + 20i a^7 m^2 r \cos(\theta)^6 - 8i a m^3 r^6 + 4i a m^2 r^7 - 4(2a^6 m^3 r + 9a^6 m^2 r^2) \cos(\theta)^5 + (-40i a^5 m^3 r^2 - 20i a^5 m^2 r^3) \cos(\theta)^4 + 20(4a^4 m^3 r^3 - a^4 m^2 r^4) \cos(\theta)^3 + (80i a^3 m^3 r^4 - a^2 r^{10} - 2mr^{11} + r^{12} + (a^{12} - 2a^{10}mr + a^{10}r^2) \cos(\theta)^{10} + 5(a^{10}r^2 - 2a^8 m r^3 + a^8 r^4) \cos(\theta)^8 + 10(a^8 r^4 - 2a^6 m r^5 + a^6 r^6) \cos(\theta)^6 + 10(a^6 r^6 - 2a^4 m r^7 + a^4 r^8) \cos(\theta)^4)}{a^2 r^{10} - 2mr^{11} + r^{12} + (a^{12} - 2a^{10}mr + a^{10}r^2) \cos(\theta)^{10} + 5(a^{10}r^2 - 2a^8 m r^3 + a^8 r^4) \cos(\theta)^8 + 10(a^8 r^4 - 2a^6 m r^5 + a^6 r^6) \cos(\theta)^6 + 10(a^6 r^6 - 2a^4 m r^7 + a^4 r^8) \cos(\theta)^4}$$

```
S1A[1,1,2] + S2A[1,1,2]
```

```
0
```

evaluate

Outline

- 1 Differential geometry and tensor calculus on a computer
- 2 Sage: a free mathematics software
- 3 The SageManifolds project
- 4 SageManifolds at work: the Mars-Simon tensor example
- 5 Conclusion and perspectives

Conclusion and perspectives

- **SageManifolds** is a **work in progress**
 - ~ 34,000 lines of Python code up to now (including comments and doctests)
- A preliminary version (v0.5) is freely available (GPL) at <http://sagemanifolds.obspm.fr/> and the development version (to become v0.6 soon) is available from the Git repository <https://github.com/sagemanifolds/sage>
- *Already present:*
 - maps between manifolds, pullback operator
 - submanifolds, pushforward operator
 - standard tensor calculus (tensor product, contraction, symmetrization, etc.), even on non-parallelizable manifolds
 - all monotermin tensor symmetries
 - exterior calculus, Hodge duality
 - Lie derivatives
 - affine connections, curvature, torsion
 - pseudo-Riemannian metrics, Weyl tensor

Conclusion and perspectives

- *Not implemented yet (but should be soon):*
 - extrinsic geometry of pseudo-Riemannian submanifolds
 - computation of geodesics (numerical integration via Sage/GSL or **Gyoto**)
 - integrals on submanifolds
- *To do:*
 - add more graphical outputs
 - add more functionalities: symplectic forms, fibre bundles, spinors, variational calculus, etc.
 - connection with **Lorene**, **CoCoNuT**, ...

Want to join the project or simply to stay tuned?

visit <http://sagemanifolds.obspm.fr/>
(download page, documentation, example worksheets, mailing list)