

# Contents

Preface — v

## Part I Tensors and Riemannian spaces — 1

### 1 Preliminaries — 3

- 1.1 Vectors in linear spaces — 3
  - 1.1.1 Three-dimensional vectors — 3
  - 1.1.2 General case — 7
- 1.2 Index notation. Summation convention — 9
- Exercises — 10

### 2 Conservation laws — 11

- 2.1 Conservation laws in classical mechanics — 11
  - 2.1.1 Free fall of a body near the earth — 11
  - 2.1.2 Fall of a body in a viscous fluid — 13
  - 2.1.3 Discussion of Kepler's laws — 16
- 2.2 General discussion of conservation laws — 20
  - 2.2.1 Conservation laws for ODEs — 20
  - 2.2.2 Conservation laws for PDEs — 21
- 2.3 Conserved vectors defined by symmetries — 27
  - 2.3.1 Infinitesimal symmetries of differential equations — 27
  - 2.3.2 Euler-Lagrange equations. Noether's theorem — 28
  - 2.3.3 Method of nonlinear self-adjointness — 36
  - 2.3.4 Short pulse equation — 40
  - 2.3.5 Linear equations — 43
- Exercises — 43

### 3 Introduction of tensors and Riemannian spaces — 45

- 3.1 Tensors — 45
  - 3.1.1 Motivation — 45
  - 3.1.2 Covariant and contravariant vectors — 46
    - 3.1.3 Tensor algebra — 47
- 3.2 Riemannian spaces — 49
  - 3.2.1 Differential metric form — 49
  - 3.2.2 Geodesics. The Christoffel symbols — 52
  - 3.2.3 Covariant differentiation. The Riemann tensor — 54
  - 3.2.4 Flat spaces — 55
- 3.3 Application to ODEs — 56
- Exercises — 59

**4 Motions in Riemannian spaces — 61**

- 4.1 Introduction — 61
- 4.2 Isometric motions — 62
  - 4.2.1 Definition — 62
  - 4.2.2 Killing equations — 62
  - 4.2.3 Isometric motions on the plane — 63
  - 4.2.4 Maximal group of isometric motions — 64
- 4.3 Conformal motions — 65
  - 4.3.1 Definition — 65
  - 4.3.2 Generalized Killing equations — 65
  - 4.3.3 Conformally flat spaces — 66
- 4.4 Generalized motions — 67
  - 4.4.1 Generalized motions, their invariants and defect — 67
  - 4.4.2 Invariant family of spaces — 70
- Exercises — 71

**Part II Riemannian spaces of second-order equations — 73****5 Riemannian spaces associated with linear PDEs — 75**

- 5.1 Covariant form of second-order equations — 75
- 5.2 Conformally invariant equations — 77
- Exercises — 78

**6 Geometry of linear hyperbolic equations — 79**

- 6.1 Generalities — 79
  - 6.1.1 Covariant form of determining equations — 79
  - 6.1.2 Equivalence transformations — 80
  - 6.1.3 Existence of conformally invariant equations — 81
- 6.2 Spaces with nontrivial conformal group — 83
  - 6.2.1 Definition of nontrivial conformal group — 83
  - 6.2.2 Classification of four-dimensional spaces — 83
  - 6.2.3 Uniqueness theorem — 86
  - 6.2.4 On spaces with trivial conformal group — 87
- 6.3 Standard form of second-order equations — 88
  - 6.3.1 Curved wave operator in  $V_4$  with nontrivial conformal group — 89
  - 6.3.2 Standard form of hyperbolic equations with nontrivial conformal group — 90
- Exercises — 91

**7 Solution of the initial value problem — 93**

- 7.1 The Cauchy problem — 93
  - 7.1.1 Reduction to a particular Cauchy problem — 93
  - 7.1.2 Fourier transform and solution of the particular Cauchy problem — 94
  - 7.1.3 Simplification of the solution — 95
  - 7.1.4 Verification of the solution — 97

7.1.5	Comparison with Poisson's formula —	99
7.1.6	Solution of the general Cauchy problem —	100
7.2	Geodesics in spaces with nontrivial conformal group —	100
7.2.1	Outline of the approach —	100
7.2.2	Equations of geodesics in spaces with nontrivial conformal group —	101
7.2.3	Solution of equations for geodesics —	102
7.2.4	Computation of the geodesic distance —	103
7.3	The Huygens principle —	104
7.3.1	Huygens' principle for classical wave equation —	105
7.3.2	Huygens' principle for the curved wave operator in $V_4$ with nontrivial conformal group —	106
7.3.3	On spaces with trivial conformal group —	107
Exercises —		107

### Part III Theory of relativity — 109

#### 8 Brief introduction to relativity — 111

8.1	Special relativity —	111
8.1.1	Space-time intervals —	111
8.1.2	The Lorentz group —	112
8.1.3	Relativistic principle of least action —	112
8.1.4	Relativistic Lagrangian —	113
8.1.5	Conservation laws in relativistic mechanics —	115
8.2	The Maxwell equations —	116
8.2.1	Introduction —	116
8.2.2	Symmetries of Maxwell's equations —	117
8.2.3	General discussion of conservation laws —	119
8.2.4	Evolutionary part of Maxwell's equations —	122
8.2.5	Conservation laws of Eqs. (8.2.1) and (8.2.2) —	129
8.3	The Dirac equation —	132
8.3.1	Lagrangian obtained from the formal Lagrangian —	133
8.3.2	Symmetries —	134
8.3.3	Conservation laws —	136
8.4	General relativity —	137
8.4.1	The Einstein equations —	137
8.4.2	The Schwarzschild space —	138
8.4.3	Discussion of Mercury's parallax —	138
8.4.4	Solutions based on generalized motions —	140
Exercises —		141

#### 9 Relativity in de Sitter space — 145

9.1	The de Sitter space —	145
9.1.1	Introduction —	145
9.1.2	Reminder of the notation —	147
9.1.3	Spaces of constant Riemannian curvature —	149

9.1.4	Killing vectors in spaces of constant curvature —	150
9.1.5	Spaces with positive definite metric —	151
9.1.6	Geometric realization of the de Sitter metric —	154
9.2	The de Sitter group —	155
9.2.1	Generators of the de Sitter group —	155
9.2.2	Conformal transformations in $\mathbb{R}^3$ —	156
9.2.3	Inversion —	158
9.2.4	Generalized translation in direction of $x$ -axis —	160
9.3	Approximate de Sitter group —	160
9.3.1	Approximate groups —	161
9.3.2	Simple method of solution of Killing's equations —	163
9.3.3	Approximate representation of de Sitter group —	165
9.4	Motion of a particle in de Sitter space —	167
9.4.1	Introduction —	167
9.4.2	Conservation laws in Minkowski space —	168
9.4.3	Conservation laws in de Sitter space —	170
9.4.4	Kepler's problem in de Sitter space —	171
9.5	Curved wave operator —	173
9.6	Neutrinos in de Sitter space —	175
9.6.1	Two approximate representations of Dirac's equations in de Sitter space —	175
9.6.2	Splitting of neutrinos by curvature —	176
	Exercises —	177

## Bibliography — 179

## Index — 185