

4 SPECIAL FRAMES.

A classification of the most important types of frames can be performed taking into account the vanishing of quantities occurring, in $D\bar{P}$.

So we get a chain of four types, characterized by a more and more rich structure of the position space \mathbb{P} .

Affine frames.

1 DEFINITION

The frame \mathbb{P} is AFFINE if

$$\check{D}^2 \bar{P} = 0 \quad \underline{\quad}$$

2 We have interesting characterizations of affine frames.

PROPOSITION.

The following conditions are equivalent.

a) \mathbb{P} is affine.

b) $\check{D} \bar{P}$ depends only on time, i.e. $\check{D} \bar{P}$ is factorizable as follows

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\check{D} \bar{P}} & \bar{\mathcal{S}}^* \otimes \bar{\mathcal{S}} \\ \downarrow t & \searrow & \uparrow \\ T & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \end{array}$$

c) We have

$$\check{P} = 0$$

d) \check{P} depends only on time, i.e. \check{P} is factorizable as follows

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T \times E & \xrightarrow{\check{P}} & \bar{\mathcal{S}}^* \otimes \bar{\mathcal{S}} \\ \downarrow \text{id}_T \times t & & \\ T \times T & & \end{array}$$

e) Let $\sigma \in T$; then, $\forall \tau \in T$, the map

$$\tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)} : \mathcal{S}_\sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_\tau$$

is affine, i.e.

$$\tilde{P}_{e'}(\tau) = \tilde{P}_e(\tau) + \check{P}_{(\tau,\sigma)}(e' - e) .$$

f) $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\bar{P}|_{\mathfrak{S}_\tau} : \mathfrak{S}_\tau \rightarrow U$$

is affine, i.e.

$$\bar{P}(e') = \bar{P}(e) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_p(\tau)(e' - e) + \Omega_p(\tau) \times (e' - e) \quad \underline{\quad}$$

PROOF.

It suffices to prove $f) \implies e)$, the other implications being immediate. $f) \implies e)$.

Let
$$D_1 \tilde{P}(\tau, e') = D_1 \tilde{P}(\tau, e) + \check{D}_2 D_1 \tilde{P}(\tau) (e' - e),$$

with
$$t(e) \equiv \sigma \equiv t(e') .$$

Then, by integration, we get

$$\tilde{P}(\tau, e') = \tilde{P}(\tau, e) + A(\tau)(e' - e) + B(\tau, e - e')$$

where

$$A(\tau) : \bar{\mathfrak{S}} \rightarrow \bar{\mathfrak{S}}$$

is a linear map.

Moreover, for (II,1.10 a) and (II.1.10 b) also B is linear with respect to $(e - e')$.

Then
$$\tilde{P}(\tau, e') = \tilde{P}(\tau, e) + \check{D}_2 \tilde{P}(\tau)(e' - e) \quad \underline{\quad}$$

Here by abuse of notation we have written

$$\check{D} \bar{P} : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathfrak{S}}^* \otimes \bar{\mathfrak{S}} \quad ; \quad \check{P} : \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathfrak{S}}^* \otimes \mathfrak{S} , \dots$$

as $\check{D} \bar{P}$, \check{P} , ... depend only on time.

Hence the motion of an affine frame \mathcal{P} is characterized by the motion of one of its particles

$$P_q : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{E} \quad \text{and by} \quad e_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{S}}^* \otimes \bar{\mathbb{S}}, \quad \bar{\Omega} : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{S}} .$$

3 Let \mathcal{P} be affine. since \check{P} depends only on time, we can get a reduction of the representation of $T\mathcal{P}$ by $\check{T}\mathbb{E}/\mathcal{P}$, writing

$$(\mathbb{E} \times \bar{\mathbb{S}})_{/\mathcal{P}} \cong (\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{T} \times \bar{\mathbb{S}})_{/\mathcal{P}} = \mathbb{P} \times (\mathbb{T} \times \bar{\mathbb{S}})_{/\mathcal{P}} .$$

THEOREM.

a) Let $\bar{\mathbb{P}}$ be the quotient space

$$\bar{\mathbb{P}} \equiv (\mathbb{T} \times \bar{\mathbb{S}})_{/\mathcal{P}} ,$$

given by $[\tau, u] = [\tau', u'] \iff u' = \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)}(u) .$

Then $\bar{\mathbb{P}}$ results into a vector space, putting

$$\lambda [\tau, u] \equiv [\tau, \lambda u]$$

$$[\tau, u] + [\tau', u'] \equiv [\tau, u + \check{P}_{(\tau, \tau')}(u)]$$

For each $\tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bar{\mathbb{P}} & \longrightarrow & \bar{\mathbb{S}} \\ [\tau', u] & \longrightarrow & \check{P}_{(\tau, \tau')}(u) , \end{array}$$

is an isomorphism.

b) Let $\sigma_{\mathcal{P}}$ be the map

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathbb{P} \times \bar{\mathbb{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} ,$$

given by $(q, [\tau, u]) \mapsto p(\mathcal{P}(\tau, q) + u)$.

Then the triple $(\mathbb{P}, \bar{\mathbb{P}}, \sigma_{\mathbb{P}})$ is a three dimensional affine space.

c) For each $\tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the maps

$$p_{\tau} : \mathcal{S}_{\tau} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}_{\tau} : \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_{\tau}$$

are affine isomorphisms.

d) We get the splittings $T\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{P}$ and $T^2\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P} \times \bar{\mathbb{P}} \times \bar{\mathbb{P}} \times \bar{\mathbb{P}}$,

writing

$$[e, u] = (p(e), [t(e), u]) \quad \text{and} \quad [e, u, v, w] = (p(e), [t(e)u], [t(e), v] [t(e)w])$$

$\Gamma_{\mathbb{P}}$ results to be time independent and it is the affine connection of \mathbb{P}

$$\overset{\vee}{\Gamma}_{\mathbb{P}} : \mathcal{S} T^2\mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{V} T^2\mathbb{P}$$

$$(q, [\tau, u], [\tau, u], [\tau, w]) \mapsto (q, [\tau, u], 0, [\tau, w]) .$$

PROOF.

It follows from the fact that, $\forall \tau', \tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{(\tau', \tau)} : \mathcal{S}_{\tau} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_{\tau'}$$

is affine and from the properties

$$\tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{(\tau'', \tau')} \circ \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{(\tau', \tau)} = \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{(\tau'', \tau)} \quad , \quad \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{(\tau, \tau)} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{S}_{\tau}}$$

4 We get simplified formulas for $T p$, $T^2 p$, $T P$, $T^2 P$ and $\overset{\vee}{\Gamma}_{\mathbb{P}}$.

COROLLARY.

We have

$$a) \quad T p(e, u) = (p(e), [t(e), \hat{P}(e)(u)]) .$$

$$b) \quad T P(\tau, \lambda; q, [\tau', u]) = (P(\tau, q), \lambda \bar{P}(P(\tau, q)) + P_{(\tau, \tau')}(\lambda u))$$

$$c) \quad \dot{r}_{\mathcal{P}}(\tau; q, [\tau, u], [\tau, v], [\tau, w]) =$$

$$= (q, [\tau, u], 0, [\tau, w + \epsilon_{\mathcal{P}}(\tau)(u) + 2\Omega_{\mathcal{P}}(\tau) \times u + \bar{P}(P(\tau, q))]).$$

Rigid frames.

5 DEFINITION.

The frame \mathcal{P} is RIGID if it is affine and

$$\epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} = 0 \quad \dot{\quad}$$

6 We have interesting characterizations of rigid frames.

PROPOSITION.

The following conditions are equivalent.

a) \mathcal{P} is rigid.

b) Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}$; then, $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)} : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_{\tau}$$

preserves the distances, i.e.

$$|| \tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)}(e) - \tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)}(e') || = || e - e' ||$$

c) $\forall \sigma \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\bar{P}|_{\mathcal{S}_{\sigma}} : \mathcal{S}_{\sigma} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$$

is affine and

$$\bar{P}(e') = \bar{P}(e) + \Omega_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma) \times (e' - e) \quad .$$

d) We have $\check{\dot{P}} = 0$ and $\check{P} : \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{E} \rightarrow S U(\bar{\mathbb{S}})$.

PROOF.

a) \iff c) trivial.

a) \implies b) $\epsilon_{\mathcal{P}}$ is the Lie derivative of g with respect \bar{P} , i.e. the derivative with respect to time of the deformations tensor $g \circ (\check{P}, \check{P}) - g$. Then $\epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} = 0$, by integration with respect to time, gives the result.

b) \implies d) It is known (the proof is a purely algebraic computation, making use of an orthogonal basis) that, if A is an affine euclidean space and $f : A \rightarrow A$ is a map which preserves the norm, then f is an affine map with unitary derivative. Then we see that $P(\tau, \sigma)$ is affine and $D_{P(\tau, \sigma)} \in U(\bar{\mathbb{S}})$.

d) \implies a) $\check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)} \in U(\bar{\mathbb{S}})$ gives

$$\check{P}_{(\tau, \tau')} = \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)}^t$$

hence, deriving respect to τ'

$$\check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)} \circ \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)}^t = \text{id}_{\bar{\mathbb{S}}}$$

we get

$$D_1 \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)} \circ \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)}^t + \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)} \circ D_1 \check{P}_{(\tau', \tau)}^t = 0$$

and, for $\tau' \equiv \tau$,

$$\epsilon_{\mathcal{P}}(\tau) = S D_1 \check{P}_{(\tau, \tau)} = D_1 \check{P}_{(\tau, \tau)} + D_1 \check{P}_{(\tau, \tau)}^t = 0 \quad \dot{\quad}$$

Hence the motion of a rigid frame \mathcal{P} is characterized by the motion of one of its particles $\mathcal{P}_q : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ and by $\Omega_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{S}}$.

7 Let \mathcal{P} be rigid.

THEOREM.

\mathcal{P} results into an affine euclidean space. In fact $g_{\mathcal{P}}$ results to be time independent and we can define the map

$$g_{\mathcal{P}} : \bar{\mathcal{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which is given by $[\tau, u] \mapsto \frac{1}{2} u^2$.

The affine connection $\overset{\vee}{\Gamma}_{\mathcal{P}}$ results into the Riemannian connection of \mathcal{P} .

Translating frames.

8 DEFINITION

A frame \mathcal{P} is TRANSLATING if it is rigid and

$$\Omega_{\mathcal{P}} = 0$$

9 We have interesting characterizations of translating frames.

PROPOSITION.

The following conditions are equivalent.

a) \mathcal{P} is translating

b) Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}$; then $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map,

$$\tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)} : \mathcal{S}_{\sigma} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_{\tau}$$

is affine, with derivative $D \tilde{P}_{(\tau, \sigma)} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{S}}$, i.e.

$$\tilde{P}_{e'}(\tau) = \tilde{P}_e(\tau) + (e' - e)$$

c) $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{T}$, the map

$$\bar{P}|_{\mathcal{S}_{\tau}} : \mathcal{S}_{\tau} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

is constant, i.e. $\bar{P}(e') = \bar{P}(e)$.

Hence the motion of a translating frame is characterized by the motion of one of its particles $P_q : T \rightarrow E$.

We will write $\bar{P} : T \rightarrow U$, $\bar{P} = D\bar{P} : T \rightarrow \bar{S}$. $\hat{P} = d_E -t \otimes \bar{P} : T \rightarrow \bar{E}^* \otimes \bar{S}$.
 10 Let \mathcal{P} be translating. Since $\bar{P} = \text{id}_{\bar{S}}$, we can get a further reduction of the representation of $T\mathcal{P}$ by $\check{T}E/\mathcal{P}$, writing

$$(E \times \bar{S})/\mathcal{P} \cong (P \times T \times \bar{S})/\mathcal{P} = P \times \bar{S}.$$

THEOREM.

Let \mathcal{P} be translating.

a) The map

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{P} &\rightarrow \bar{S}, \\ [\tau, u] &\rightarrow u, \end{aligned}$$

given by

is well defined and it is an isomorphism.

Then the map

$$\sigma_P : P \times \bar{S} \rightarrow P,$$

given by

$$(q, u) \mapsto p(P(\tau, q) + u),$$

does not depend on the choice of $\tau \in T$.

b) The triple (P, \bar{S}, ϵ_P) is an affine euclidean space,

11 We get simplified formulas for T_p , T^2_p , $T P$, $T^2 P$, Γ'_P .

PROPOSITION

Let \mathcal{P} translating

$$a) T_p(e, u) = (p(e), u - u^\circ \bar{P}(t(e)))$$

$$T^2_p(e, u, v, w) = (p(e), u - u^\circ \bar{P}(t(e)) \quad v - v^\circ \bar{P}(t(e)), w - w^\circ \bar{P}(t(e)) + \bar{P}(t(e))).$$

$$b) T P(\tau, \lambda; q, u) = (P(\tau, q), \lambda \bar{P}(\tau) + u) ,$$

$$T^2 P(\tau, \lambda, \mu, \nu; q, u, v, w) = (P(\tau, q), \lambda \bar{P}(\tau) + u, \mu \bar{P}(\tau) + \nu, \lambda \bar{P}(\tau) + \nu \bar{P}(\tau) + w)$$

$$c) \dot{\Gamma}_P(\tau; q, u, v, w) = (q, u, 0, w + \bar{P}(\tau)) .$$

Inertial frames.

12 DEFINITION.

A frame P is inertial if it is translating and

$$\bar{P} = 0.$$

13 PROPOSITION.

The following conditions are equivalent.

a) \mathcal{P} is inertial,

b) \mathcal{P} is translating and $D \bar{P} = 0$.

c) \tilde{P} is an affine map, i.e. (taking into account the properties (II.1.10))

$$\tilde{P}(\tau, e) = e + \bar{P}(\tau - t(e)), \quad \text{with } \bar{P} \in U .$$

d) $\bar{P} : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow U$ is a constant map $\underline{\quad}$

Hence an inertial frame is characterized by its constant velocity.

14 PROPOSITION.

We have

$$a) T p(e, u) = (p(e), u - u^\circ \bar{P})$$

$$T^2 p(e, u, v, w) = (p(e), u - u^\circ \bar{P}, v - v^\circ \bar{P}, w - w^\circ \bar{P})$$

$$b) T P(\tau, \lambda; q, u) = (P(\tau, q), \lambda \bar{P} + u)$$

$$T^2 P(\tau, \lambda, \mu, \nu; q, u, v, w) = (P(\tau, q), \lambda \bar{P} + u, \mu \bar{P} + v, \nu \bar{P} + w)$$

c) $\dot{\Gamma}_P$ results time independent and we get

$$\dot{\Gamma}_P = \dot{\Gamma}_P \quad \dot{\quad}$$

Physical description.

A frame \mathcal{P} is affine if it preserves during the motion the spatial parallelogram rule; it is rigid if moreover it preserves spatial lengths (hence also angles); it is translating if moreover it preserves spatial directions; it is inertial if its world-lines are parallel straight-lines. We can describe the four cases by a picture .

The diagrams illustrate the following cases:

- affine frame:**

$$w' = u' + v'$$

$$w = u + v$$
- rigid frame:**

$$w' = u' + v'$$

$$||u|| = ||u'||, ||v|| = ||v'||, ||w|| = ||w'||$$

$$w = u + v$$
- translating frame:**

$$u' = u$$

$$v' = v$$
- inertial frame:**

$$u' = u$$

$$v' = v$$