ON JETS, ALMOST SYMMETRIC TENSORS, AND TRACTION HYPER-STRESSES

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Abstract. The paper considers the formulation of higher-order continuum mechanics on differentiable manifolds devoid of any metric or parallelism structure. For generalized velocities modeled as sections of some vector bundle, a variational $k$th order hyper-stress is an object that acts on jets of generalized velocities to produce power densities. The traction hyper-stress is introduced as an object that induces hyper-traction fields on the boundaries of subbodies. Additional aspects of multilinear algebra relevant to the analysis of these objects are reviewed.

1. Introduction

The present paper considers the basic mathematical objects in the analysis of hyper-stresses for a theory defined on differentiable manifolds. Thus, generalized velocities are represented by sections of a vector bundle. Such a setting encompasses both the Lagrangian and Eulerian points of views of continuum mechanics as well as classical field theories of physics. The base manifold of the vector bundle is interpreted accordingly as either the body manifold, the physical space, or space–time, respectively.

As a generalization of the standard introduction of hyper-stresses in higher-order continuum mechanics, the $k$th order hyper-stress object, the variational hyper-stress, is dual to $k$-jets of sections of the vector bundle (see [Seg17]). Continuum mechanics on manifolds differs from standard formulations in Euclidean spaces in the following significant sense. In traditional continuum mechanics, the stress tensor plays two roles: it acts on the derivatives of velocity fields to produce power densities and it induces traction fields on boundaries of subbodies. For a theory on manifolds, however, two distinct mathematical objects plays these two roles (see [Seg02, Seg13]). The variational stress acts on the jets of generalized velocity fields to produce power, while the traction stress induces the traction fields on the boundaries of subbodies. While the variational hyper-stress fields have been considered in [Seg86, Seg17], we propose here a suitable candidate for the role of traction hyper-stress.
The paper is meant to be used as an introduction to the subject and additional details regarding symmetric tensors, used extensively in the analysis of jets, are provided. Thus, Section 2 introduces the basic structure, motivates the use of jets of vector fields and describes their very basic properties. Section 3 considers properties of symmetric tensors of higher-order and their use in jets, leading to the introduction of variational hyper-stresses. Finally, Section 4 introduces traction hyper-stresses and describes the basic properties of what we refer to as “almost symmetric tensors” used to represent them locally.

2. Jets

Jet bundles serve as the fundamental objects in the formulation of higher order continuum mechanics on differentiable manifolds. In this section we review the basic constructions associated with jet bundles of a vector bundle. Firstly, however, we motivate the use of jet bundles in higher order continuum mechanics and classical field theories.

2.1. The fundamental structure. The basic object we consider here is a vector bundle

\[ \pi : W \rightarrow J. \]  

(2.1)

The object \( J \) is assumed to be a smooth manifold of dimension \( n \), that might have a boundary. We will refer to \( J \) as the base manifold. In the context of the Lagrangian point of view of continuum mechanics, \( J \) is interpreted as the body manifold. In the Eulerian point of view of continuum mechanics, \( J \) is interpreted as the physical space manifold, and in modern formulations of classical field theories, \( J \) is interpreted as the space-time manifold.

No additional structure, such as a Riemannian metric, a connection, a parallelism structure, is assumed for the base manifold. This level of generality is in accordance with the reluctance of modern presentations to use a preferred class of reference states (e.g., [Nol59]). In particular, if one wishes to consider live tissues in bio-mechanical studies, it is unlikely that a preferred reference state of the tissue may be pointed out. Thus, there is no class of preferred coordinate systems on \( J \) and denoting coordinates by \( x^i, i = 1, \ldots, n \), a coordinate transformation will be denoted by \( x^i = x^i(x^j) \).

Tangent vectors to the manifold \( J \) are viewed as derivatives of curves \( c : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow J \). The tangent space to \( J \) at \( x \), denoted by \( T_x J \) contains all the tangent vectors at \( x \) and the tangent bundle \( T J \) is the collection of all tangent vectors at the various points. Given a coordinate system \( (x^i) \) and a point \( x_0 \) with coordinates \( x^i_0 \), one has coordinate lines, curves of the form \( c_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow J \), such that their coordinate representation satisfy

\[ x^i(t) = x^i(c_i(t)) = \begin{cases} x^i_0, & \text{if } i \neq j, \\ x^j_0 + t, & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases} \]  

(2.2)

The time derivatives of these curves induce tangent vectors denoted by \( \partial_i = \dot{c}_i \). At each point \( x \), the vectors \( \{\partial_i\}, i = 1, \ldots, n \), form a basis of \( T_x J \). The
corresponding dual basis of the dual vector space, $T^*_x \mathcal{X}$, is denoted by $\{dx^i\}$. Thus,

$$dx^i(\partial_j) = \delta^i_j. \quad (2.3)$$

For each $x \in \mathcal{X}$, $W_x := \pi^{-1}(x)$ is a vector space that is isomorphic to some fixed $m$-dimensional vector space $\mathbf{W}$, although no natural or particular such isomorphism is assumed. In particular, for a pair of points $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$, there is no natural isomorphism of $W_x$ with $W_y$, although both are isomorphic to $\mathbf{W}$. The mapping $\pi$ maps all vectors in $W_x$ to the point $x$.

Depending on the terminology and context, a vector $w \in W_x$ is interpreted either as a virtual velocity/displacement, or as a generalized velocity, or as variation of the field, at the point $x$. It should be mentioned that for the Lagrangian point of view of continuum mechanics on manifolds, the vector bundle $W$ depends on the particular configuration $\kappa$ of the body in space so that $w$ is interpreted as a velocity of the particle $x$ at the point $\kappa(x)$ in space or as a virtual displacement from $\kappa(x)$.

A generalized velocity field is therefore a mapping $w : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow W$ that assigns to each point $x$ a value for its generalized velocity. It follows that $\pi \circ w = \text{Id}_\mathcal{X}$, i.e., $\pi(w(x)) = x$.

A vector bundle chart, or a coordinate system, will assign to each $w \in W$, a collection of coordinates $(x^i, w^\alpha)$, where $x^i$ are coordinates for the point $x = \pi(w)$ and $w^\alpha$, $\alpha = 1, \ldots, m$, are the components of $w$ relative to some basis $\{e_\alpha\}$ of $W_x$. It is assumed that the bases $\{e_\alpha\}$ for the various points $x$ covered by the charts depend on $x$ smoothly. At each point $x$, covered by the charts $(x^i, w^\alpha)$ and $(x^{'i}, w^{\prime \alpha})$, for any $w \in W_x$, we must have $w = w^\alpha e_\alpha = w^{\prime \alpha} e_\alpha$, so that there is a matrix $A^{\prime \alpha}_\alpha$, depending on $x$, such that $w^{\prime \alpha} = A^{\prime \alpha}_\alpha w^\alpha$.

2.2. Why jets. Say $w : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow W$ is a velocity field. The components of $w(x)$ relative to the chart $(x^i, w^\alpha)$ are given in terms of $m$ functions $w^{\alpha}(x^i)$. For the chart $(x^f, w^\alpha)$, the components are given by the functions $w^{\alpha}(x^f)$ and evidently

$$w^{\alpha'}(x^f) = A^{\alpha'}_{\alpha}(x^f)w^\alpha(x^i), \quad (2.4)$$

where we have indicated explicitly the dependence of the matrix $A^{\alpha'}_{\alpha}$ on the point $x$. Differentiating the last identity, using a comma to denote partial derivatives and the summation convention, we obtain

$$w^{\alpha'}_{;\mu} = A^{\alpha'}_{\alpha;j} x^j_{;\mu} w^\alpha + A^{\alpha'}_{\alpha} X^j_{\mu} w^{\alpha'}_{;j}. \quad (2.5)$$

This simple relation indicates a fundamental problem. The derivatives $w^{\alpha'}_{;\mu}$ do not depend only on the derivatives $w^\alpha_{;j}$; they depend also on the values of $w^\alpha$. In other words, while a generalized velocity as a vector field is a well-defined object, the derivative of the generalized velocity is not a well-defined mathematical object. One cannot separate the values of the derivatives from the values of the velocity field in a manner that will be independent of a chart. As an example, we observe that the derivatives may vanish in one coordinate system while they
would be different from zero in another. Nevertheless, if we combine the values of the field and the derivatives into a single object, the transformation rules above show that this object—the first jet of the generalized velocity, \( j^1 w \)—is well defined. Thus, the first jet of \( w \) is represented in the form \((x^i, w^a, w^a_j)\), or we may write
\[
j^1 w = w^a e_a + w^a_j dx^j \otimes e_a. \tag{2.6}
\]
The collection of 1-jets to the vector bundle \( W \) is denoted as \( J^1 W \).

Similarly, we may consider higher order derivatives of vector fields. In analogy with the case of first derivatives, one realizes that under transformation of coordinates the components of the \( k \)-th derivatives \( w_{i_1 \ldots i_k}^a \) depend on the values of components of all derivatives \( w_{i_l}^a \), \( 0 \leq l \leq k \), where we identify the zeroth derivative with the value of the function. Thus, the invariant object is the \( k \)-jet of the velocity field represented under a coordinate system in the form
\[
j^k w = w^a e_a + \sum_{i_1} w^a_{i_1} dx^{i_1} \otimes e_a + \sum_{i_1, i_2} w^a_{i_1 i_2} dx^{i_1} \otimes dx^{i_2} \otimes e_a + \cdots + \sum_{i_1 \ldots i_k} w^a_{i_1 \ldots i_k} dx^{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes dx^{i_k} \otimes e_a, \tag{2.7}
\]
or by \((x^i, w^a, w^a_{j_1}, w^a_{j_1 j_2}, \ldots, w^a_{j_1 \ldots j_k})\). The collection of \( k \)-jets to \( W \) is denoted by \( J^k W \).

Since higher order continuum mechanics involves higher order derivatives of the generalized velocities, we conclude that the terminology of jet bundles provides an appropriate setting for the formulation of such theories.

### 2.3. Constructions involving jets

Note that each velocity field determines a jet at any given point. Given a chart, the representation of the jet at \( x \), determined by the velocity field \( w \), is obtained by differentiating the components of \( w \) relative to the local coordinates. Any two velocity fields will determine the same \( k \)-jet at \( x \), if their derivatives up to order \( k \) are identical.

On the jet bundle, \( J^k W \) one defines the following mappings. The source map
\[
\pi^k : J^k W \longrightarrow X, \text{ represented by } (x^i, w^a_{j_1}, w^a_{j_1 j_2}, \ldots, w^a_{j_1 \ldots j_k}) \mapsto (x^i), \tag{2.8}
\]
assigns to each jet the point in which it is attached. The mapping
\[
\pi^k_l : J^k W \longrightarrow J^l W, \quad l < k, \tag{2.9}
\]
represented by
\[
(x^i, w^a_{j_1}, w^a_{j_1 j_2}, \ldots, w^a_{j_1 \ldots j_k}) \mapsto (x^i, w^a_{j_1}, w^a_{j_1 j_2}, \ldots, w^a_{j_1 \ldots j_l}), \tag{2.10}
\]
assigns to any \( k \)-jet a jet of a lower order by omitting the derivatives of order higher than \( l \). In particular, identifying \( J^0 W \) with \( W \), we have
\[
\pi^k_0 : J^k W \longrightarrow W, \tag{2.11}
\]
which retains only the value of the generalized velocity field itself.
3. Symmetric Tensors and Jets

As the local representation of jets involves iterated partial differentiation, symmetric tensors are of major importance. In this section we review the basic properties of symmetric tensors and present the way they are used in the representation of jets.

3.1. Multi-index notation. Multi-index notation is very effective when high-order tensors are involved, as is the situation here. A multi-index \( I = i_1 \ldots i_k \) is a \( k \)-tuple of positive integers, e.g., \( I = i_1 \ldots i_k \). Multi-indices will be denoted by upper-case roman letters and the associated indices will be denoted by the corresponding lower case letters as in the example above. For example, we may write the components \( T_{ijk} \) of a third order tensor \( T \) as \( T^I = T_{i_1i_2i_3} \). The length of a multi-index \( I = i_1 \ldots i_k \) is denoted as the absolute value of the multi-index, i.e., \( |I| = k \). We will use the summation convention for multi-indices so the contraction of two tensors may be written as \( T^I S_I \). When a multi-index appears more than twice in a term, it is implied that the summation convention for that multi-index is not in effect.

Multi-indices may be concatenated naturally so that for two multi-indices \( I, J \), the concatenated multi-index is \( IJ = i_1 \ldots i_k j_1 \ldots j_{|J|} \) whose length is \( |IJ| = |I| + |J| \). Thus, for two tensors \( S_I, T_J \), one may write \( (S \otimes T)_{IJ} = S_I T_J \).

For two multi-indices \( I, J \), with \( |I| = |J| = l \), one extends the definition of the Kronecker \( \delta \) by

\[
\delta^I_J := \delta^{i_1}_{j_1} \cdots \delta^{i_l}_{j_l}.
\] (3.1)

3.2. Symmetric tensors and permutations. Because of the commutativity of partial derivatives that we encounter frequently here, tensors that are completely symmetric are of particular interest. A tensor \( T \) is completely symmetric if for any exchange of two indices \( i_r \) and \( i_s \),

\[
T_{i_1 \ldots i_r \ldots i_s \ldots i_k} = T_{i_1 \ldots i_s \ldots i_r \ldots i_k}.
\]

Symmetry can also be defined in terms of permutation. A permutation of the finite ordered set \((1, \ldots, l)\) is a bijection

\[
p : (1, \ldots, l) \rightarrow (1, \ldots, l).
\] (3.2)

The collection of all such permutations will be denoted by \( \mathcal{P}_l \). From elementary combinatorics it follows that there are \( l! \) permutations in \( \mathcal{P}_l \). For a multi-index \( I \), and a permutation \( p \), we set

\[
p(I) := I \circ p = i_{p(1)} \cdots i_{p(l)}.
\] (3.3)

Note that \( i_{p(r)} \) identifies the index that arrived under the permutation at the \( r \)th position, while \( i_{p^{-1}(s)} \) is the position of \( i_s \) after the permutation \( p \). Note also that we make some abuse of notation by using the same symbol for the permutation and its action on multi-indices. It immediately follows that for two permutation \( p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}_l \),

\[
p_2 \circ p_1(I) = I \circ p_1 \circ p_2.
\] (3.4)
Thus, using the language of permutations, a tensor is symmetric if for every permutation \( p \in S_l \),

\[ T_{p(I)} = T_I. \]  

(3.5)

**Remark 1.** We have defined symmetry above in terms of the components of the array representing a tensor. Viewed as a multilinear mapping, a (covariant) tensor \( T \) is symmetric if

\[ T(v_1, \ldots, v_l) = T(v_{p(1)}, \ldots, v_{p(l)}) \]

(3.6)

for any permutation \( p \). In particular, for a symmetric tensor,

\[ T_{i_1 \cdots i_l} = T(e_{i_1}, \ldots, e_{i_l}), \]

\[ = T(e_{p(i_1)}, \ldots, e_{p(i_l)}), \]

\[ = T_{p(i_1) \cdots p(i_l)} \]

(3.7)

(see also [Gre78]).

We will use the notation \( \otimes^l V \) for the space of contravariant \( l \)-tensors and \( \circlearrowright^l V \) for the subspace of symmetric tensors. We will also identify a tensor \( T \in \otimes^l V \) with the (possibly symmetric) multilinear mapping \( V^* \times \cdots \times V^* \to \mathbb{R} \) in the space of (respectively, symmetric) multi-linear mappings \( L^l(V^*, \mathbb{R}) \) (respectively, \( L^l_s(V^*, \mathbb{R}) \)). Thus, we make the identifications

\[ \otimes^l V \cong L^l(V^*, \mathbb{R}), \quad \circlearrowright^l V \cong L^l_s(V^*, \mathbb{R}). \]  

(3.8)

The inclusion of the symmetric tensors will be denoted as

\[ \iota_S : \circlearrowright^l V \cong L^l_s(V^*, \mathbb{R}) \to \otimes^l V \cong L^l(V^*, \mathbb{R}). \]  

(3.9)

The analogous notation and terminology will be used for covariant tensors.

**Remark 2.** The Levi–Civita symbol satisfies

\[ \epsilon^{i_1 \cdots i_l}_{j_1 \cdots j_m} = \begin{cases} (-1)^p, & \text{if there is a permutation } p \text{ with } J = p(I), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \]  

(3.10)

Thus, we set

\[ |\epsilon|^I_J = |\epsilon^{i_1 \cdots i_l}_{j_1 \cdots j_m}| = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if there is a permutation } p \text{ with } J = p(I), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \]  

(3.11)

In particular,

\[ |\epsilon|^p(I) = |\epsilon|^I_J. \]  

(3.12)
3.3. **Cardinality sequence of a multi-index.** A multi-index $I$ induces another sequence $(I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ in which $I_r$ indicates the number of times $r$ is included in the multi-index. Evidently, $|I| = \sum_{r=1}^{n} I_r$ and the sequence $(I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ is invariant under permutations of the multi-index.

A collection $(I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ induces a unique non-decreasing multi-index, i.e., the multi-index

$$1 \cdot 12 \cdot 2 \cdot \cdots \cdot n \cdot n$$

(3.13)

where the number $r$ appears $I_r$ times.

For a multi-index $I$ it is useful to write

$$I! = I_1! \cdots I_n!.$$

(3.14)

It is observed that for a concatenated index $IJ$, one has $(IJ)_r = I_r + J_r$, $r = 1, \ldots, n$. The index $i = 1, \ldots, n$, is a simple multi-index $I = i$. Obviously $|I| = 1$ and

$$I_r = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } r \neq i, \\ 1, & \text{for } r = i. \end{cases}$$

(3.15)

Thus, for the concatenated multi-index $Ji$, one has $(Ji)_r = J_r + \delta_{ri}$, where $\delta$ is the Kronecker symbol.

For tensors that are symmetric with respect to a multi-index, a particular component is indicated uniquely by a sequence in the form $(I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ and by restricting the sequences $(i_1, \ldots, i_{|I|})$ to be non-decreasing. Consequently, we will use multi-indices indicated by bold characters to be non-decreasing only and we will also write $I = (I_1, \ldots, I_n)$. In addition, the fact that a multi-index is non-decreasing will be indicated by angle brackets, e.g., $T_{(I)}$, or $T_{(IJ)}$, independently of the symmetry property of a tensor.

3.4. **Derivatives.** Non-decreasing multi-indices are primarily used for notation involving partial derivatives. We will use the notation

$$(\cdot), I = \partial_I (\cdot) = \frac{\partial |I| (\cdot)}{\partial x^I} = \frac{\partial i |I| (\cdot)}{\partial x^{i_1} \cdots \partial x^{i_{|I|}}} = \frac{\partial |I| (\cdot)}{(\partial x^1)^{I_1} \cdots (\partial x^n)^{I_n}}.$$  

(3.16)

Non-decreasing multi-indices may be added naturally by setting

$$I + J = (I_1 + J_1, \ldots, I_n + J_n),$$

(3.17)

which determines a unique non-decreasing multi-index such that $|I + J| = |I| + |J|$. In particular,

$$(\cdot), I J = (\cdot), (IJ) = (\cdot), (I + J).$$

(3.18)

Non-decreasing multi-indices can also be partially ordered so that

$$J \leq I, \quad \text{if } J_r \leq I_r, r = 1, \ldots, n.$$  

(3.19)

In case $J \leq I$, one can use the subtraction $I - J$.

As hinted in the notation for partial derivatives, for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, one defines for a non-decreasing multi-index $I$,

$$x^I = (x^1)^{I_1} \cdots (x^n)^{I_n}.$$  

(3.20)
The summation convention will be applied for bold faced multi-indices, accordingly, only to the non-decreasing sequences. For example, a polynomial \( \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R} \) of order \( l \) may be written as
\[
u = a_I x^I, \quad 0 \leq |I| \leq l. \tag{3.21}
\]

Suspending the summation convention, its derivatives are
\[
u_{IJ} = \sum_{0 \leq |I| \leq l} \frac{I!}{(I-J)!} x^I J^J. \tag{3.22}
\]

Although this relation is used mainly for the case where \( J_r \leq I_r \), for all \( r = 1, \ldots, n \), it may be extended to all other cases by adopting the convention that
\[
\frac{1}{I!} = 0, \quad \text{for } i < 0. \tag{3.23}
\]

The notation introduced above allows one to write the \( l \)th order Taylor expansion of a function \( f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R} \) in the form
\[
\sum_{0 \leq |I| \leq l} \frac{1}{I!} f^I(x) h^I. \tag{3.24}
\]

To use the summation convention, one first sets \( g_I := f^I / I! \) (no sum), and so the polynomial is written as
\[
g_I h^I, \quad 0 \leq |I| \leq l. \tag{3.25}
\]

### 3.5. More on permutations

One observes that, for some given \( I \), \( |I| = l \), the sum
\[
\sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_{\rho(I)} \tag{3.26}
\]
contains \( l! = |I|! \) terms, the number of all permutations. These include \( I! \) permutations (see below) that leave \( I \) invariant. In the particular case where \( T \) is symmetric,
\[
\sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_{\rho(I)} = |I|! T_I, \quad \text{no sum on } I. \tag{3.27}
\]

On the other hand, in the expression
\[
|\varepsilon|^I_I T_J = \sum_{J, J_p(I)} T_J, \tag{3.28}
\]
the sum applies only to possible values of the multi-index \( J \), irrespective of the number of permutations of \( I \) that give it. Assume that \( J \) is a permutation of \( I \) so that \( |\varepsilon|^I_J = 1 \). As both \( I \) and \( J \) contain \( I_r \) occurrences of the index \( r \), permutations of which leave a multi-index invariant, there are \( J! = J_1! \cdots J_l! = I! \).
such permutations for each \( J \). Since there are \( I! \) permutations that give any one particular multi-index \( J \) if \( |e|^J \neq 0 \), it follows that for any fixed \( J \),

\[
\sum_{p: (I) \neq J, \quad p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_p(I) = I! T_J = I! |e|^J T_J, \quad \text{no sum on } I, J,
\]

(3.29)

and so

\[
\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_p(I) = \sum_J \left( \sum_{p: (I) \neq J, \quad p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_p(I) \right),
\]

(3.30)

\[
= I! |e|^J T_J, \quad \text{no sum on } I.
\]

We conclude that the number of non-trivial terms in the sum \(|e|^J T_J\) is

\[
\sum_J |e|^J = \frac{|I|!}{I!} = \frac{I!}{I^i}.
\]

(3.31)

In the particular case where \( T \) is symmetric, \( \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T_p(I) = |I|! T_I \), so that \( 3.30 \) implies immediately that

\[
\sum_{J, J = p(I)} T_J = |e|^J T_J = \frac{|I|!}{I^i} T_I.
\]

(3.32)

For a given pair of multi-indices, \( I, J \), and a variable permutation \( p \),

\[
\delta^I_{p(J)} = |e|^J.
\]

(3.33)

As a result

\[
\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} \delta^I_{p(J)} = I! |e|^J, \quad \text{no sum on } I.
\]

(3.34)

Remark 3. For each non-decreasing multi-index \( I \), \( |I| = I \), there are \( |I|!/I! \) distinct indices \( J \). Thus, the total number of distinct multi-indices is

\[
\sum_{I} \frac{(I_1 + \cdots + I_n)!}{I_1! \cdots I_n!} = n^I
\]

(3.35)

—in accordance with the multinomial formula.

3.6. **Symmetrization of arrays and tensors.** Any \( l \)-tensor \( T \), having the components \( T_J \) induces a unique symmetric array whose components are denoted as \( T(I) \) by

\[
T(I) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} \frac{1}{I!} T_p(I),
\]

(3.36)

\[
= \frac{I!}{I^i} |e|^J T_J, \quad \text{no sum on } I.
\]
We first show that \( T(I) \) is indeed symmetric. One has,
\[
T(q(I)) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} \frac{1}{l!} T_p(q(I)),
\]
\[
= \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} \frac{1}{l!} T_p(I),
\]
\[
= T(I),
\]
(3.37)
where in the second line we used the fact that in the first line we add up the terms over all permutations anyhow. One also observes that symmetrization is a projection in the sense that the symmetrization of a symmetric tensor yields the tensor itself. That is, if \( T_I \) is symmetric,
\[
T(I) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} \frac{1}{l!} T_p(I),
\]
\[
= \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} \frac{1}{l!} T_I,
\]
\[
= T_I.
\]
(3.38)

The symmetrization of a multi-linear mapping \( T \)—a covariant tensor—is defined as the linear mapping
\[
S : \bigotimes^I V^* \to \bigodot^I V^*
\]
such that
\[
(S(T))(v_1, \ldots, v_l) = \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} T(v_{p(1)}, \ldots, v_{p(l)}).
\]
(3.40)
In particular,
\[
S(e^I)(v_1, \ldots, v_l) := S(e^{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{i_l})(v_1, \ldots, v_l)
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} (e^{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{i_l})(v_{p(1)}, \ldots, v_{p(l)}),
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} (e^{p(i_1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{p(i_l)})(v_1, \ldots, v_l),
\]
(3.41)
and it follows that (cf. [Gre78, p. 219])
\[
S(e^I) = \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} (e^{p(i_1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{p(i_l)}) = : e^{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{i_l} = : \bigotimes^l e^I = : e^I.
\]
(3.42)
From this definition it follows immediately that,
\[
e_{(pJ)} = e_{(J)}, \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathcal{P}.
\]
(3.43)
Hence, \( e_{(J)} \) as well as all \( e_{(pJ)} \), are represented by the non-decreasing multi-index \( J = (J) = (j_1, \ldots, j_n) \).
Note that for a permutation \( p \in \mathcal{P}_l \) and a multi-linear mapping \( T \), one may write \( pT \) for the multi-linear mapping defined by

\[
(pT)(v_1, \ldots, v_l) := T(v_{p(1)}, \ldots, v_{p(l)}). \tag{3.44}
\]

Thus,

\[
\delta(T) = \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} pT, \quad e^{(I)} = \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} pe^{I} = \frac{1}{l!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_l} e^{p(I)}. \tag{3.45}
\]

The inclusion of the subspace of symmetric tensors will be denoted by

\[
\iota_S : \bigotimes^l V^* \rightarrow \bigotimes^l V^*. \tag{3.46}
\]

Since the symmetrization of a symmetric tensor gives the original tensor, the symmetrization mapping \( \delta \) is a left inverse of the inclusion, i.e., \( \delta \circ \iota_S = \text{Id} \).

It is readily verified that the array \( \delta(T)_I \) of a symmetrized multi-linear mapping is the symmetrized array \( T_{(I)} \).

### 3.7. Bases and dimension.

We consider a vector space \( V \) with some basis \( \{e_i\}, i = 1, \ldots, n \). Let \( T \) be a (say contravariant) tensor \( T \) of degree \( l \) represented in the form

\[
T = T^{i_1 \cdots i_l} e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_l}. \tag{3.47}
\]

Using multi-index notation,

\[
T = T^I e_I, \quad |I| = l, \tag{3.48}
\]

where,

\[
e_I := e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_l}. \tag{3.49}
\]

In particular, the dimension of the space is \( n^l \).

The array of a symmetric tensor is uniquely determined by its components \( T^I \) for non-decreasing multi-indices only. Thus, the dimension of the space of symmetric \( l \)-tensors is obviously smaller. Since a non-decreasing \( I \) is uniquely determined by \( I_1, \ldots, I_n \), the dimension may be determined accordingly.

It is easy to realize that the number of independent component in a symmetric \( l \)-tensor is \( C(n + l - 1, l) = (n + l - 1)!/(n - 1)!l! \). One considers a string of \( l \) non-decreasing indices, \( I_1 \) occurrences of 1, \( I_2 \) occurrences of 2, etc., the end of each such group (except for the last one) is indicated by a divider. Thus, the number of distinct non-decreasing multi-indices is the number of different ways one can place the \( n - 1 \) (identical) dividers in the string containing \( l + n - 1 \) elements (both indices and dividers). It follows that the dimension of the space of symmetric \( l \)-tensors is \( C(n + l - 1, l) \).
Since a symmetric tensor is represented by a symmetric array,

\[ T = T^I e_I, \]
\[ = T^{(I)} e_I, \]
\[ = \frac{1}{|I|!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T^{p(I)} e_I, \]
\[ = \frac{1}{|I|!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} T^I e_{p^{-1}(I)}^I, \]
\[ = \frac{1}{|I|!} T^I \sum_{q \in \mathcal{P}_I} e_{q(I)}, \]
\[ = T^I e_{(I)}, \]

where in the fourth line we used the fact that the order of the sum of the multi-index and the sum over the group of permutations may be reversed. Here, in accordance with (3.42),

\[ e_{(J)} = \bigotimes^{J} e_J := \frac{1}{|J|!} \sum_{q \in \mathcal{P}_I} e_{q(J)}, \]

or explicitly

\[ e_{(J)} = e_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{j_l} := \frac{1}{|J|!} \sum_{q \in \mathcal{P}_I} e_{j_q(I)} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{j_q(I)}, \]

denotes the symmetric tensor product (cf. [Gre78, p. 219]).

Furthermore,

\[ T = T^I e_{(I)}, \]
\[ = \sum_I \sum_{j=p(I)} T^j e_{(J)} \quad \text{(no sum)}, \]
\[ = \sum_I \sum_{j=p(I)} T^j e_{(I)} \quad \text{(as } e_{p(I)} = e_{(I)}) \]
\[ = \sum_I \left( \sum_{j=p(I)} T^j \right) e_{(I)}, \]
\[ = \sum_I \frac{|I|!}{|J|!} T^I e_{(I)} \quad \text{(by } 3.32). \]
The last expression suggests that we make the definitions

\[\overrightarrow{e}_I \coloneqq \frac{|I|}{I!} e_I, \quad \overleftarrow{T}_I \coloneqq \frac{|I|}{I!} T_I,\]

(3.54)

\[\overrightarrow{e}_J \coloneqq \frac{J}{|J|!} e_J, \quad \overleftarrow{T}_J \coloneqq \frac{J}{|J|!} T_J,\]

(3.55)

and it is noted that the fractions \(J! / |J|!\) are identical for all \(J = p(I), p \in \mathcal{P}\).

Utilizing the summation convention again, we may write

\[T = T^I e_{(J)} = T^I \overrightarrow{e}_I = \overleftarrow{T}^I e_{(I)},\]

(3.56)

\[T^j \overrightarrow{e}_J = \overleftarrow{T}^j e_J = T^I e_{(I)} .\]

(3.57)

Evidently, both \(\{e_{(I)}\}\) and \(\{\overrightarrow{e}_I\}\) are collections of linearly independent tensors and may serve as bases for the space of symmetric tensors (cf. [Gre78, p. 219], [CGLM08]). The components of the tensor relative to these bases change accordingly. The representation of a symmetric tensor in (3.47) is in terms of regular tensor products and is inadequate because these tensor products are not elements of the space of symmetric tensors, in general, and because it uses more elements than the dimension of the space. The appropriate representation of symmetric tensors in terms of base elements is given by (3.56).

**Example 4.** We consider now the inclusion

\[\iota_S : \bigotimes^I V \longrightarrow \bigotimes^{I'} V .\]

(3.58)

The matrix of the inclusion relative to the bases \(e_J\) in \(\bigotimes^I V\) and \(\overrightarrow{e}_I\) in \(\bigotimes^{I'} V\) satisfies

\[\left(\iota_S\right)^I_J e_J = \iota_S(\overrightarrow{e}_I),\]

\[= \frac{|I|}{I!} \iota_S(e_I),\]

\[= \frac{|I|}{I!} e_I,\]

\[= \frac{1}{I!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} e_p(I), \quad \text{no sum on } I,\]

(3.59)

\[= \frac{1}{I!} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_I} \delta^J_p(I) e_J, \quad \text{no sum on } I,\]

\[= \frac{|I|}{I!} |J|! e_J, \quad \text{using (3.34)}.\]

It is concluded that

\[\left(\iota_S\right)^I_J = |J|! e_J .\]

(3.60)
In addition, as the components of $T$ relative to the basis $\{\bar{e}(I)\}$ are $T^I$,

$$t_S(T) = (t_S)^I_J T^I e_J,$$

$$= |e|^I_J T^I e_J,$$  \hfill (3.61)

or,

$$T^J = (t_S(T))^J = |e|^I_J T^I,$$  \hfill (3.62)

which could have been deduced otherwise.

**Example 5.** Consider the symmetrization mapping $S : \bigotimes^l V \rightarrow \bigodot^l V$. One has,

$$S(e_J) := e_{(I)},$$

$$= |e|^I_J e_{(I)} \quad (\text{only one } I),$$

$$= |e|^I_J \frac{I!}{|I|!} \bar{e}(I),$$  \hfill (3.63)

and it follows from the definition of a matrix that

$$S^J_I = \frac{I!}{|I|!} |e|^I_J.$$  \hfill (3.64)

In addition,

$$S(T)^J = S^J_I T^J,$$

$$= \frac{I!}{|I|!} |e|^I_J T^J,$$  \hfill (3.65)

$$= T^{(I)}, \quad \text{usings } (3.36).$$

3.8. **Duality.** Consider the dual basis $\{e^I\}$ of the dual vector space $V^*$ so that $e^I(e_J) = \delta^I_J$. For any two multi-indices $I, J$, with $|I| = |J| = l$, we consider the
action $e^{(I)}(e_{(J)})$. We have
\[ e^{(I)}(e_{(J)}) = (e^I \otimes \cdots \otimes e^I)(e_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{j_l}) = \frac{1}{(l!)^2} \left( \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{I}} e^{p(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes e^{p(l)} \right) \left( \sum_{q \in \mathcal{P}_{J}} e_{q(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{q(l)} \right), \]
\[ = \frac{1}{(l!)^2} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{I}} \left( \sum_{q \in \mathcal{P}_{J}} \delta^{p(l)}_{q(J)} \right), \]
\[ = \frac{1}{(l!)^2} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{I}} l! \left| e^I_p \right| (\text{using Equation (3.34)}), \]
\[ = \frac{l!}{(l!)^2} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{I}} \left| e^I_p \right| (\text{using Equation (3.12)}), \]
\[ = \frac{l!}{(l!)^2} \left| e^I_p \right| (\text{there are } l! \text{ permutations}), \]
\[ = \frac{l!}{(l!)^2} \left| e^I_p \right|. \]

It follows from the identity above that for non-decreasing multi-indices $I, J$,
\[ e^{(I)}(e^-_{(J)}) = e^{(I)} \left( \frac{|J|}{l} e_{(J)} \right), \]
\[ = \left| e^I_p \right|, \]
\[ = \delta^I J, \]
\[ (3.67) \]

where one realizes that if the two multi-indices are non-decreasing, one can be a permutation of the other only when they are equal.

The last identity implies that the basis $\{e^{(I)}\}$ is the dual basis of $\{e^-_{(J)}\}$, and in particular,
\[ \bigotimes^l V^* \simeq \left( \bigotimes^l V \right)^*. \]  
\[ (3.68) \]

Finally, for $T = T^I e^-_{(J)} \in \bigotimes^l V$, and $\psi = \psi_I e^{(I)} \in \bigotimes^l V^*$,
\[ \psi(T) = \psi_I T^I. \]  
\[ (3.69) \]

3.9. **Symmetrization of co-tensors and co-symmetrization.** The inclusion of symmetric tensors in the collection of all tensors induces by duality a projection
\[ i_S^*: \bigotimes^l V^* \simeq \bigotimes^l V^* \rightarrow \left( \bigotimes^l V \right)^* = \bigotimes^l V^*. \]  
\[ (3.70) \]
such that
\[ i_S^*(\varphi(T)) = \varphi(i(T)), \]  
\[ (3.71) \]
for every symmetric tensor $T$. Thus, referring to elements of $\left( \bigotimes^l V \right)^*$ as co-tensors, $i_S^*$ is a symmetrization operator for co-tensors.
One obtains
\[(i_s^*(\varphi))_I = (i_s^*)_I \varphi_J,
= |\varepsilon|_I^J \varphi_J,
\]
where we observe that in the last expression one adds up the components of \(\varphi\) corresponding to all permutations of \(I\), similarly to the symmetrization operation (but without taking the average).

In addition,
\[
i_s^*(\varphi)(T) = (i_s^*)_I^T \varphi_I^T,
= |\varepsilon|_I^J \varphi_J^T,
= \varphi_J^T,
\]
as expected. In the particular case where \(\varphi\) is symmetric, using (3.32), (3.72) gives
\[(i_s^*(\varphi))_I = |\varepsilon|_I^J \varphi_J = \frac{|I|!}{|I|!} \varphi_I,
\]
and
\[
i_s^*(\varphi)(T) = \varphi_J^T = \sum_{I,J} \frac{|I|!}{|I|!} \varphi_I^T.
\]

The dual of the symmetrization mapping is (the co-symmetrization)
\[
S^* : \bigotimes^\prime V^* \longrightarrow \bigotimes^\prime V^*.
\]
given by
\[
S^*(\psi)(T) = \psi(S(T)).
\]
Using the matrix obtained in Example 5,
\[
S^*(\psi)(T) = (S^*)_I^J \psi_I^T,
= \sum_{I,J} \frac{|I|!}{|I|!} |\varepsilon|_I^J \psi_I^T,
\]
and it follows that
\[
S^*(\psi)_J = \sum_I \frac{|I|!}{|I|!} |\varepsilon|_I^J \psi_I.
\]
(It is observed that the sum over \(I\) contains only one non-trivial term.) In other words, if \(J\) is a permutation of \(I\), then, \(I = \langle J \rangle\) (\(I\) is obtained by ordering \(J\)), and
\[
S^*(\psi)_J = \frac{|I|!}{|J|!} \psi_I = \frac{|J|!}{|I|!} \psi_J.
\]
In particular, it \(T\) is symmetric, \(S^*(\psi)(T) = \psi(S(T)) = \psi(T)\), and so
\[
\sum_J \frac{|I|!}{|J|!} \psi_J^T = \sum_I \psi_I^T.
\]
The last equation simply implies that for each non-decreasing \( I \) there are \( |I|!/|I|! \) distinct indices \( J \) obtained by permutations.

Setting
\[
\frac{T}{I} := \frac{|I|!}{|I|!} T^I, \quad \frac{T}{K} := \frac{K!}{|K|!} T^K,
\]
one can write
\[
\psi(J) \frac{T}{J} = \sum_I \psi(I) T^I, \quad \psi(J) T^J = \psi(I) \frac{T}{I}.
\]

3.10. Application to jets. We want to use the notation introduced above to represent, locally, elements of jet bundles. The tensors considered above are homogeneous in the sense that they have a definite order, a local representation of a \( k \)-jet is an element of the symmetric algebra and is represented in general by a collection of symmetric tensors of all orders \( l \leq k \). We recall that the representation in (2.7) uses the regular tensor products that are not appropriate base vectors.

The multi-linear mappings that represent a jet are not real valued. Rather, they are valued in \( V \)—the typical fiber of the vector bundle. We use a local basis \( \{ e_\alpha \} \) for the vector spaces \( W_x \) so that a section of \( W \) is locally of the form
\[
w = w^\alpha e_\alpha,
\]
where the components \( w^\alpha \) are real valued functions. This does not affect the symmetry properties considered above. The basic vector space on which the tensors are defined at each point is the tangent space of the manifold at that point. Given a chart with coordinates \( (x^i) \), the base vectors induced are \( \{ \partial_i \} \) and they replace the base vectors \( \{ e_i \} \) used above. The various derivatives in \( w^\alpha_I \) are covariant tensors and are represented using the dual basis \( \{ dx^i \} \). The derivatives \( w^\alpha_I(x), |I| = l \), are elements of
\[
L^l_s(T_x \mathcal{X}, W_x) \simeq \bigotimes_1^l T^*_x \mathcal{X} \otimes W_x
\]

Thus, we may rewrite now (2.7) in the form
\[
j^k w = w^\alpha_I dx^{(I)} \otimes e_\alpha = w^\alpha_I dx^{(I)} \otimes e_\alpha, \quad 0 \leq |I| \leq k.
\]

An element \( A \in j^k W \) of the jet bundle with \( \pi^k(A) = x \in \mathcal{X} \) is of the form
\[
A = j^k w := (j^k w)(x),
\]
for some section \( w \) which may be represented locally as
\[
A = w^\alpha_I(x) dx^{(I)} \otimes e_\alpha.
\]

Noting that the values of the various \( w^\alpha_I(x) \) are not constrained by compatibility, any element of the jet bundle may be represented in the form
\[
A = A^\alpha_I dx^{(I)} \otimes e_\alpha = A^\alpha_I dx^{(I)} \otimes e_\alpha, \quad 0 \leq |I| \leq k,
\]
Given an element of the jet bundle, one can construct a local section representing it by using the corresponding Taylor polynomial in any chart.

We finally remark that the representation using \( d^x(I) \) seems preferable because the components of the jet are exactly the derivatives.

3.11. Duality for jets. In view of (3.67), the dual basis of \( \{ d^x(I) \mid 0 \leq |I| \leq k \} \) is \( \{ \partial_I \mid 0 \leq |I| \leq k \} \). Note that \( \partial_I := \partial_{i_1} \circ \cdots \circ \partial_{i_k} \) is the symmetrized tensor product while \( \partial_I \) is the differential operator which is symmetric automatically.

Real valued linear mappings on the space of jets at a point \( x \in X \) make up the dual space \( (J^k_xW)^\ast \). Such a linear functional

\[
\phi : J^k_xW \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (3.90)
\]

is locally of the form

\[
\phi = \phi_I^\alpha \partial_I \otimes e^\alpha, \quad (3.91)
\]

so that for \( \phi \in (J^k_xW)^\ast \), \( A = J^k_xw(x) \in J^k_xW \),

\[
\phi(A) = \phi_I^\alpha A_I^\alpha = \phi_I^\alpha w^\alpha_I, \quad (3.92)
\]

where \( 0 \leq |I| \leq k \), unless indicated otherwise.

3.12. Variational hyper-stresses. In accordance with the variational approach to higher order continuum mechanics, we view variational hyper-stresses as fields that act on the derivatives of the virtual velocities to produce power densities (see [Seg17]). Thus, in the current setting, a variational hyper-stress object should act linearly on the \( k \)-jet of a field \( w \) to produce a density on \( X \).

We recall that for integration over an \( n \)-dimensional manifold, such as \( X \), densities (integrands) are \( n \)-forms—alternating (completely anti-symmetric) tensor fields of order \( n \). The space of \( r \)-alternating tensors over \( T^*_xX \) will be denoted by \( \wedge^r T^*_xX \) and the bundle of alternating tensors is \( \wedge^r T^*_xX \). A local coordinate system \((x^i)\), induces such an \( n \)-form

\[
dx = dx^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^n, \quad (3.93)
\]

where a wedge denotes the exterior product—the anti-symmetrized tensor product. Note that anti-symmetric tensors cannot have repeated indices and so the multi-indices representing base vectors and components are strictly increasing rather than non-decreasing. This implies that \( \wedge^n T^*_xX \) is one dimensional, and for which \( dx \), induced by a local coordinate system, may serve as a basis. Thus, every \( n \)-form may be written locally as

\[
\theta = \vartheta(x)dx \quad (3.94)
\]

for a real valued function \( \vartheta \).

In view of these observations, a variational hyper-stress object at \( x \) should be a linear mapping

\[
S_x : J^k_xW \longrightarrow \wedge^r T^*_xX \quad (3.95)
\]
so that $S_x(j^k w(x))$ is the power density. Denoting the bundle of linear mappings $J^k W \to \bigwedge^n T^* X$ by $L(J^k W, \bigwedge^n T^* X)$,

$$S_x \in L(J^k_x W, \bigwedge^n T^*_x X) = L(J^k W, \bigwedge^n T^* X)_x.$$  \hfill (3.96)

It is also observed that

$$L(J^k W, \bigwedge^n T^*_x X) = (J^k W)^* \otimes \bigwedge^n T^*_X,$$  \hfill (3.97)

and

$$L(J^k W, \bigwedge^n T^*_X) = (J^k W)^* \otimes X \otimes \bigwedge^n T^*_X.$$  \hfill (3.98)

We conclude that a variational hyper-stress field is a section $S$ of $L(J^k W, \bigwedge^n T^* X)$.

In view of the representation of elements of the dual to the jet bundle in Section 3.11 the local representation of $S$ is of the form

$$S = S^I \partial(I) \otimes e^a \otimes dx.$$  \hfill (3.99)

The action of a variational hyper-stress on the jet of a generalized velocity is the density given by

$$S(j^k w) = S^I w^a_I dx$$  \hfill (3.100)

and the total power is

$$P = \int_X S \cdot j^k w,$$  \hfill (3.101)

where $S \cdot j^k w$ is the $n$-form $(S \cdot j^k w)(x) = S(x)(j^k w(x))$.

4. Traction Hyper-Stresses and Almost Symmetric Tensors

The stress object in traditional continuum mechanics plays two roles. On the one hand, from the variational point of view, the stress object acts on the derivative of the velocity field to produce power. The generalization of this object is the variational hyper-stress introduced above. On the other hand, as a result of Cauchy’s stress theorem, the stress object determines the traction field on the boundary of the body and its sub-bodies. While the same mathematical object plays these two roles in the traditional formulation, in the case of a formulation on manifolds, the traction is determined by a different mathematical object—the traction stress (see [Seg13]).

4.1. Traction and traction stresses. For the case $k = 1$—first order continuum mechanics—the traction field on the boundary of $\mathcal{X}$, or in general, any of its sub-bodies (sub-regions) $\mathcal{R}$, acts linearly on the values of the generalized velocity $w$ to produce a power density over the boundary, the flux of power. Since the boundaries are manifolds of dimensions $n - 1$, a power density over the boundary $\partial \mathcal{R}$ is an $(n - 1)$-form over $\partial \mathcal{R}$, that is, a section of $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}$. Thus, the traction field on the boundary is a section of

$$L(W, \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}),$$  \hfill (4.1)

where, with some abuse of notation, we have omitted the indication that we restrict $W$ to $\partial \mathcal{R}$. It is observed that the fibers of $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}$ are 1-dimensional.
A traction stress—an object that unlike a traction field is defined over the entire $\mathcal{X}$—should induce a traction field on the boundary of each sub-region using a generalization of Cauchy’s formula. A natural candidate for such a mathematical object is suggested by the following observation. While the space of $(n - 1)$-alternating tensors over $\partial \mathcal{R}$ is 1-dimensional, the space $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}$ of $(n - 1)$-alternating tensors over $\mathcal{X}$ is $n$-dimensional. While an element of $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}$ assigns a value to any collection of $n - 1$ vectors, an element of $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}$ assigns values only to vectors tangent to $\partial \mathcal{R}$. In fact, an element of $\bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}$ may be restricted to act on vectors tangent to $\partial \mathcal{R}$ for every sub-body $\mathcal{R}$. Thus, for each sub-body $\mathcal{R}$, we have a restriction mapping

$$\rho_{\partial \mathcal{R}} : \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R},$$

(4.2)

naturally defined by

$$\rho_{\partial \mathcal{R}}(\omega)(v_1, \ldots, v_n) = \omega(v_1, \ldots, v_n), \quad v_r \in T\partial \mathcal{R}. \quad (4.3)$$

Thus, a traction stress is defined to be an element

$$\sigma_0 \in L(W, \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}). \quad (4.4)$$

Given a traction stress $\sigma_0$, at a point $x$, for any sub-body $\mathcal{R}$ with $x \in \partial \mathcal{R}$, a traction $t_0 \in L(W, \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R})$ is determined at $x$ be setting

$$t_0 = \hat{\rho}_{\partial \mathcal{R}}(\sigma) = \rho_{\partial \mathcal{R}} \circ \sigma, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad t_0(w) = \rho_{\partial \mathcal{R}}(\sigma(w)). \quad (4.5)$$

The last equation is the required generalization of Cauchy’s formula to the setting of differentiable manifolds. In analogy with the classical Cauchy theorem, it can be shown that if the traction is given on the boundary of every sub-body $\mathcal{R}$, with $x \in \partial \mathcal{R}$, then, assuming certain consistency conditions hold, a unique traction stress is determined at $x$ (see [SR99, Seg13] for details).

A traction stress field is a section of the bundle $L(W, \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X})$.

4.2. On the local representation of $(n - 1)$-forms and traction stresses. Traction stresses are elements of

$$L(W, \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}) \cong W^* \otimes \bigwedge^{n-1} T^* \mathcal{X}. \quad (4.6)$$

Thus, we make a few comments on the representation of $(n - 1)$-alternating tensors, i.e., for a vector space, $V$, we consider elements of $\bigwedge^{n-1} V^*$.

We first recall that $\bigwedge^{n} V^*$ is one-dimensional and that $\bigwedge^{n-1} V^*$ is $n$-dimensional. Let $\cdot$ denotes the contraction (inner product) whereby for an alternating $r$-tensor $\omega \in \bigwedge^{r} V^*$ and a vector $v_1 \in V$, $v_1 \cdot \omega$ is the alternating $(r - 1)$-tensor such that

$$v_1 \cdot \omega(v_2, \ldots, v_r) = \omega(v_1, \ldots, v_r). \quad (4.7)$$

In fact, considering the particular case $r = n - 1$, one can view the contraction as a mapping

$$\hat{\omega} : V \times \bigwedge^n V^* \rightarrow \bigwedge^{n-1} V^*, \quad \hat{\omega}(v, \theta) = v \cdot \theta. \quad (4.8)$$
We observe that the definition of the contraction mapping implies immediately that the mapping, \( \tilde{\sigma} \) is bi-linear. It follows from the universality property of tensor products that there is a linear mapping, which we still denote as \( \tilde{\sigma} \), such that

\[
\tilde{\sigma} : V \otimes \wedge^n V^* \rightarrow \wedge^{n-1} V^*, \quad \tilde{\sigma}(\nu \otimes \theta) = \nu \cdot \theta.
\]  \hfill (4.9)

One can verify that this mapping is injective (e.g., [Seg13]), and as the dimensions match, it follows that \( \tilde{\sigma} \) defines a natural isomorphism

\[
V \otimes \wedge^n V^* \simeq \wedge^{n-1} V^*.
\]  \hfill (4.10)

Furthermore, for a basis \( \{e_i\} \), a natural basis of \( \wedge^n V^* \) is \( e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_n \), and so

\[
\{e_i \cdot (e_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e_n)\}, \quad i = 1, \ldots, n,
\]  \hfill (4.11)

may serve as a natural basis to \( \wedge^{n-1} V^* \).

Going back to traction stresses, it follows from the foregoing discussion, that

\[
L(W, \wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi) = W^* \otimes \wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi = W^* \otimes T \chi \otimes \wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi.
\]  \hfill (4.12)

For a given coordinate system \( (x^i) \), the collection \( \{\partial_i \cdot dx\} \) may serve as a basis for \( (\wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi)_x \). As a result, any \( \omega \) may be represented locally in the form

\[
\omega = \omega^i \partial_i \cdot dx,
\]  \hfill (4.13)

where \( dx \) is defined in (3.93). The local representation of a traction stress will be

\[
\sigma = \sigma_\alpha^i e^\alpha \otimes (\partial_i \cdot dx)
\]  \hfill (4.14)

and

\[
\sigma(\omega) = \sigma_\alpha^i \omega^\alpha (\partial_i \cdot dx).
\]  \hfill (4.15)

4.3. Hyper-traction and traction hyper-stresses. By analogy with the case \( k = 1 \) described above, where the traction object acts on the \( k - 1 = 0 \)-jet of the generalized velocity, we propose that a hyper-traction on the boundary \( \partial \mathcal{R} \) of a sub-body \( \mathcal{R} \), be defined as an element

\[
t \in L(f^{k-1} W, \wedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}) \simeq (f^{k-1} W)^* \otimes \wedge^{n-1} T^* \partial \mathcal{R}.
\]  \hfill (4.16)

Thus, the total power flux is given by

\[
\int_{\partial \mathcal{R}} t \cdot f^{k-1} w.
\]  \hfill (4.17)

A traction hyper-stress field is defined in analogy with the definition of a traction stress, in the sense that it acts on a lower order jet to give an \( (n - 1) \)-form which can be integrated on the boundaries of sub-bodies. Thus, a traction hyper-stress is defined to be an element

\[
\sigma_0 \in L(f^{k-1} W, \wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi) \simeq (f^{k-1} W)^* \otimes T \chi \otimes \wedge^{n-1} T^* \chi.
\]  \hfill (4.18)

It follows from the foregoing analysis that a traction hyper-stress is represented locally in the form

\[
\sigma_0 = \sigma^J_\alpha \partial_J \otimes e^\alpha \otimes (\partial_i \cdot dx), \quad 0 \leq |J| \leq k - 1.
\]  \hfill (4.19)
A traction hyper-stress field is a section of $L(f^{k-1}W, \wedge^{n-1}T^*X)$ and the action of a hyper-stress field $\sigma$ on the $(k - 1)$-jet of a generalized velocity $w$ is given by

$$\sigma \cdot f^{k-1}w = \sigma^J_{\alpha} w^\alpha J_j \partial_j \, dx.$$  (4.20)

These natural extensions imply that the Cauchy formula (4.5) remains applicable as it simply represents the restriction of forms. Thus, given a traction hyper-stress field $\sigma$, and a generalized velocity field $w$, the total flux of power through the boundary $\partial R$ is

$$\int_{\partial R} t \cdot f^{k-1}w = \int_{\partial R} \tilde{\rho}_{\partial R}(\sigma) \cdot f^{k-1}w.$$  (4.21)

It is emphasized that the array $\sigma^J_{\alpha}$ representing a traction hyper-stress, is symmetric with respect to permutations of the multi-index $J$ and for this reason it appears in conjunction with the symmetrized basis $\partial^J$. In particular, no symmetry is expected for permutations that “mix” the indices $J$ and $j$. Thus, for a fixed value $l = |J|$, we refer to the tensor $\sigma^J_{\alpha}$ as almost symmetric tensor.

4.4. Almost symmetric tensors. In order to simplify the notation we will consider henceforth only real valued almost symmetric tensors. That is, for some given vector space, $V$, we consider elements of $(\bigodot^{l-1}V) \otimes V$ rather than elements of $(\bigodot^{l-1}V) \otimes V^* \otimes V \otimes \wedge^nV^*$.

Let $\{e_i\}$ be a basis in $V$. Then, we may use either $\{e_{(J)}\}$, $0 \leq |J| \leq l - 1$ or the basis $\{\tilde{e}_{(J)}\}$ for $\bigodot^{l-1}V$ in analogy with (3.56). A real valued almost symmetric tensor $T$ can be represented in the form

$$T = T^I_{\alpha} e_I = T^J_{\alpha} \tilde{e}_{(J)} \otimes e_j = \tilde{T}^J_{\alpha} e_{(J)} \otimes e_j,$$  (4.22)

where $0 \leq |J| \leq l - 1$, $0 \leq |I| \leq l$ and

$$\tilde{e}_{(J)} = \frac{(l - 1)!}{J!} e_{(J)}, \quad \tilde{T}^J_{\alpha} = \frac{(l - 1)!}{J!} T^J_{\alpha}.$$  (4.23)

For the dual space we have

$$[(\bigodot^{l-1}V) \otimes V]^* \simeq (\bigodot^{l-1}V^*) \otimes V^*$$  (4.24)

so that its elements may be referred to as almost symmetric co-tensors. For the basis $\{\tilde{e}_{(J)} \otimes e_j\}$, the dual basis will be $\{e^{(J)} \otimes e^j\}$. An element $\varphi$ of $[(\bigodot^{l-1}V) \otimes V]^*$ is represented in the form

$$\varphi = \varphi_J e^{(J)} \otimes e^j$$  (4.25)

with

$$\varphi(T) = \varphi_J T^{Jj}.$$  (4.26)
5. Conclusion

We have reviewed above the language needed for the formulation of higher order continuum mechanics on differentiable manifolds. In particular, we have proposed the mathematical object that we believe should play the role of traction hyper-stress. While for the case $k = 1$, the traction stress has been defined in [Seg02, Seg13], no natural analogous definition has been presented in [Seg17]. In fact, in [Seg17] some of the difficulties have been indicated and subsequently avoided by using iterated jet bundles (the jet bundle of the jet bundle) and the corresponding dual objects rather than analyzing directly higher jet bundles and hyper-stresses.

Nevertheless, no relation between variational hyper-stresses and the proposed traction hyper-stresses has been given above. We hope to study this relation in a forthcoming work.

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