

# 98(5) : Proof of the Ryder Relation

Ryder defines:

$$x^\mu = \epsilon^\mu{}_\nu x^\nu = X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} \epsilon^{\rho\sigma} \quad - (1)$$

and derives:

$$X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta^\mu{}_\rho x_\sigma - \delta^\mu{}_\sigma x_\rho \right) \quad - (2)$$

Proof The Kronecker delta is:

$$\delta^\mu{}_\sigma = g^{\mu\nu} g_{\nu\sigma} \quad - (3)$$

By definition:

$$x^\nu = g^{\nu\sigma} x_\sigma \quad - (4)$$

$$\epsilon^{\rho\sigma} = g^{\rho\nu} \epsilon^\sigma{}_\nu \quad - (5)$$

so:

$$\epsilon^\mu{}_\nu g^{\nu\sigma} x_\sigma = X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\nu} \epsilon^\sigma{}_\nu \quad - (6)$$

Multiply both sides of eq. (6) by  $g_{\rho\nu}$ :

$$(g_{\rho\nu} g^{\nu\sigma}) \epsilon^\mu{}_\sigma x_\sigma = X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} (g^{\rho\nu} g_{\nu\sigma}) \epsilon^\sigma{}_\nu \quad - (7)$$

$$\text{i.e. } \delta^\sigma{}_\rho \epsilon^\mu{}_\sigma x_\sigma = 4 X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} \epsilon^\sigma{}_\nu \quad - (8)$$

change  $\sigma \rightarrow \mu$

$$\delta^\mu{}_\rho \epsilon^\mu{}_\sigma x_\sigma = 4 X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} \epsilon^\mu{}_\nu \quad - (9)$$

$$\text{i.e. } X^\mu{}_{\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{4} \delta^\mu{}_\rho x_\sigma \quad - (10)$$

2) Use:  $\int_{\rho}^{\mu} x_{\sigma} = - \int_{\rho}^{\mu} x_{\sigma} - (11)$

$\Rightarrow X^{\mu}_{\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_{\rho}^{\mu} x_{\sigma} - \int_{\sigma}^{\mu} x_{\rho} \right) - (12)$

Q.E.D.

Technical Note

The left and right hand sides of eq. (6) are multiplied by  $g_{\rho\sigma}$ . Or the left hand side of eq. (7) summation is no longer implied over the repeated  $\sigma$  index. This is also true in eq. (8) so the upper  $\sigma$  index in eq. (8) may be replaced by a  $\mu$  index. In eq. (7) there are three  $\sim$  indices on the left hand side and summation takes place on the right hand side of eq. (7) there are also three  $\sim$  indices and summation takes place on the right hand side of eq. (7). Similarly with the  $\rho$  indices on the RHS of eq. (7) In eq. (8) there are also three  $\sim$  indices and summation is no longer implied over the  $\sigma$  indices.

Ryder's eqn. (12) does therefore hold in any spacetime, but the proof is not straightforward.

3) Therefore Ryder appears to restrict the general equation (6) to a special case. The most generally valid relation is:

$$X^\mu_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} \epsilon^\sigma = \epsilon^\mu g^{\sigma\sigma} x_\sigma \quad - (11)$$

In general  $\mu$ ,  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  can take any value in eq. (6), but in eq. (12):

$$\mu = \rho \quad - (13)$$

$$\mu = \sigma \quad - (14)$$

This must mean that if  $\mu = \rho$  then  $\rho \neq \sigma$ , and if  $\mu = \sigma$  then  $\sigma \neq \rho$ . For example:

$$X^1_{10} = \frac{1}{2} (\delta^1_1 x_0 - \delta^0_0 x_1) \\ = \frac{1}{2} x_0 \quad - (15)$$

This is therefore a dubious exercise by Ryder and it is therefore best to proceed as if not:

98(4) :

$$x^\mu = X^\mu_{\rho\sigma} \epsilon^{\rho\sigma} \quad - (16)$$