Contents

Preface 1

Table of Contents 2

Nomenclature 6

1 Preliminaries 9
- 1.1 General Conventions and Notations . . . 9
- 1.2 General Background about Tensors . . . 12
- 1.3 Exercises and Revision . . . 19

2 Spaces, Coordinate Systems and Transformations 22
- 2.1 Spaces . . . 22
- 2.2 Coordinate Systems . . . 24
  - 2.2.1 Rectilinear and Curvilinear Coordinate Systems . . . 25
  - 2.2.2 Orthogonal Coordinate Systems . . . 26
  - 2.2.3 Homogeneous Coordinate Systems . . . 27
- 2.3 Transformations . . . 29
  - 2.3.1 Proper and Improper Transformations . . . 32
  - 2.3.2 Active and Passive Transformations . . . 33
  - 2.3.3 Orthogonal Transformations . . . 33
  - 2.3.4 Linear and Nonlinear Transformations . . . 34
- 2.4 Coordinate Curves and Coordinate Surfaces . . . 35
- 2.5 Scale Factors . . . 36
- 2.6 Basis Vectors and Their Relation to the Metric and Jacobian . . . 39
- 2.7 Relationship between Space, Coordinates and Metric . . . 44
- 2.8 Exercises and Revision . . . 46

3 Tensors 50
- 3.1 Tensor Types . . . 50
  - 3.1.1 Covariant and Contravariant Tensors . . . 50
  - 3.1.2 True and Pseudo Tensors . . . 55
  - 3.1.3 Absolute and Relative Tensors . . . 57
  - 3.1.4 Isotropic and Anisotropic Tensors . . . 58
  - 3.1.5 Symmetric and Anti-symmetric Tensors . . . 59
  - 3.1.6 General and Affine Tensors . . . 62
- 3.2 Tensor Operations . . . 62
  - 3.2.1 Addition and Subtraction . . . 63
  - 3.2.2 Multiplication of Tensor by Scalar . . . 64
  - 3.2.3 Tensor Multiplication . . . 64

3.2.4 Contraction . . . 66
3.2.5 Inner Product . . . 66
3.2.6 Permutation . . . 68
3.2.7 Tensor Test and Quotient Rule . . . 69
3.3 Tensor Representations . . . 69
3.4 Exercises and Revision . . . 71

4 Special Tensors **76**
4.1 Kronecker delta Tensor . . . 76
4.2 Permutation Tensor . . . 77
4.3 Identities Involving Kronecker or/and Permutation Tensors . . . 82
4.3.1 Identities Involving Kronecker delta Tensor . . . 82
4.3.2 Identities Involving Permutation Tensor . . . 83
4.3.3 Identities Involving Kronecker and Permutation Tensors . . . 84
4.4 Generalized Kronecker delta Tensor . . . 88
4.5 Metric Tensor . . . 90
4.6 Definitions Involving Special Tensors . . . 96
4.6.1 Dot Product . . . 97
4.6.2 Magnitude of Vector . . . 98
4.6.3 Angle between Vectors . . . 98
4.6.4 Cross Product . . . 99
4.6.5 Scalar Triple Product . . . 100
4.6.6 Vector Triple Product . . . 101
4.6.7 Determinant of Matrix . . . 102
4.6.8 Length . . . 102
4.6.9 Area . . . 103
4.6.10 Volume . . . 105
4.7 Exercises and Revision . . . 107

5 Tensor Differentiation **112**
5.1 Christoffel Symbols . . . 112
5.2 Covariant Differentiation . . . 120
5.3 Absolute Differentiation . . . 129
5.4 Exercises and Revision . . . 133

6 Differential Operations **137**
6.1 Cartesian Coordinate System . . . 138
6.1.1 Operators . . . 138
6.1.2 Gradient . . . 138
6.1.3 Divergence . . . 139
6.1.4 Curl . . . 139
6.1.5 Laplacian . . . 140
6.2 General Coordinate System . . . 140

6.2.1 Operators . . . 140
6.2.2 Gradient . . . 140
6.2.3 Divergence . . . 142
6.2.4 Curl . . . 143
6.2.5 Laplacian . . . 144
6.3 Orthogonal Coordinate System . . . 146
6.3.1 Operators . . . 146
6.3.2 Gradient . . . 147
6.3.3 Divergence . . . 147
6.3.4 Curl . . . 147
6.3.5 Laplacian . . . 148
6.4 Cylindrical Coordinate System . . . 148
6.4.1 Operators . . . 148
6.4.2 Gradient . . . 149
6.4.3 Divergence . . . 149
6.4.4 Curl . . . 149
6.4.5 Laplacian . . . 149
6.5 Spherical Coordinate System . . . 150
6.5.1 Operators . . . 150
6.5.2 Gradient . . . 150
6.5.3 Divergence . . . 151
6.5.4 Curl . . . 151
6.5.5 Laplacian . . . 151
6.6 Exercises and Revision . . . 152

7 Tensors in Application **155**
7.1 Tensors in Mathematics . . . 155
7.1.1 Common Definitions in Tensor Notation . . . 156
7.1.2 Scalar Invariants of Tensors . . . 157
7.1.3 Common Identities in Vector and Tensor Notation . . . 158
7.1.4 Integral Theorems in Tensor Notation . . . 160
7.1.5 Examples of Using Tensor Techniques to Prove Identities . . . 161
7.2 Tensors in Geometry . . . 167
7.2.1 Riemann-Christoffel Curvature Tensor . . . 167
7.2.2 Bianchi Identities . . . 171
7.2.3 Ricci Curvature Tensor and Scalar . . . 172
7.3 Tensors in Science . . . 173
7.3.1 Infinitesimal Strain Tensor . . . 173
7.3.2 Stress Tensor . . . 174
7.3.3 Displacement Gradient Tensors . . . 174
7.3.4 Finger Strain Tensor . . . 175
7.3.5 Cauchy Strain Tensor . . . 175
7.3.6 Velocity Gradient Tensor . . . 175

7.3.7 Rate of Strain Tensor 176
7.3.8 Vorticity Tensor 176
7.4 Exercises and Revision 177

References **180**

Index **181**

Author Notes **187**