1. DifferentialGeometry

DifferentialGeometry is a package included with recent versions of Maple. Once Maple is started, load DifferentialGeometry by typing the following command:

with(DifferentialGeometry):with(Tensor):

Start by choosing coordinates with a command of the form:

DGsetup([theta,phi],M):

where M is an arbitrary name for the spacetime. Among other things, this will define corresponding 1-forms dtheta, dphi. To work in a coordinate basis, simply define the metric with a command of the form:

g:=r^2*dtheta &t dtheta + r^2*sin(theta)^2*dphi &t dphi;

(where &t denotes the tensor product), after which you can calculate the connection Christoffel(g), or proceed directly to calculate tensors such as RicciTensor(g) or EinsteinTensor(g).

The results of any of these computations are given in explicit tensor form, with basis vectors and basis 1-forms attached. For example, the result of Christoffel(g) might contain a term of the form "dtheta D_dphi dphi"; the coefficient of this term is $\Gamma^{\phi}_{\theta\phi}$ (note the unusual order of the indices here).

To work with an orthonormal frame, after defining coordinates as above, specify the basis with a command of the form:

Q:=FrameData([r*dtheta,r*sin(theta)*dphi],N);

where N is the (new) name of the spacetime using the new basis, and Q can be any temporary name. Now switch to this basis with the command:

DGsetup(Q,[E],[s]);

where E and s are the desired names for the basis vectors ($\{E1, E2\}$) and basis 1-forms ($\{s1, s2\}$), respectively.

An explicit list ([E, F] can be given instead of a base letter ([E]). In either case, the names given must not correspond to any existing objects.

Redefine the metric in terms of the new basis:

h:=evalDG(s1 &t s1 + s2 &t s2);

after which you can simply compute in terms of h. The components of the connection 1-forms are contained in Christoffel(h); the coefficient of "s1 E2 s2" would be $\Gamma^{\phi}_{\theta\phi}$.