

# Euler-Lagrange equations

Thu Mar 31 (1)

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i}(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i}(q, \dot{q})$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial \dot{q}^j}(q, \dot{q}) \ddot{q}^j + \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial q^j}(q, \dot{q}) \dot{q}^j \right)$$

If want to make this solvable for highest derivative  
need to invert matrix

$$H_L(q, \dot{q}) = \left( \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial \dot{q}^j}(q, \dot{q}) \right)_{ij}$$

This is the Hessian matrix of  $L$  w/ respect to the  $\dot{q}$  coordinates

Def:  $(M, L)$  Lagrangian system non-degenerate  
if in every coord. chart  $H_L$  is invertible

(Note:  $H_L \rightarrow J(f)^t H_L J(f)$  under coord. changes  
so invertibility well def.)

Equivalent description of the invertibility condition

$$1\text{-form } \theta_L = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} dq^i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \cdot dq$$

well def. ~~at~~ under coord. charts

$(M, L)$  nondegenerate iff

2-form  $d\theta_L$  is non-degenerate

$$d\theta_L = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial \dot{q}^j} \dot{q}^i \wedge \dot{q}^j + \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial q^j} \dot{q}^j \wedge dq^i \right)$$

non-degen. take  $d\theta_L^n = d\theta_L \wedge \dots \wedge d\theta_L$   
n-times

2n-form: top forms

= f · ω<sub>vol</sub> some function times volume form

non-deg. if  $f \neq 0$

but if write out what this

$$d\theta_L^n \text{ is found } \det \left( \frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial \dot{q}^i \partial \dot{q}^j} \right) dq^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dq^n$$

$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_{X'}(\theta_L)$  the Noether integral

$$\mathcal{I}(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \cdot a$$

where  $X = \sum a^i(q) \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i}$  vector field of flow of  
 one-param. symmetries

$X'$  lift to TM of vect. field  $X$  on  $M$

$$X' = \sum a^i(q, \dot{q}) \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} + \sum b^i(q, \dot{q}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{q}^i} \quad \text{if } b^i = 0 \quad a^i(q, \dot{q}) = a^i(q)$$

(because  $\theta_L$  1-form in  $T^*(TM)$  not in  $T^*M$ )

Moreover  $X$  being infinitesimal symmetry

implies

$$\mathcal{L}_{X'}(\theta_L) = 0$$

TM tangent bundle and T\* M cotangent bundle  
(q, q-dot) coordinates (q, p) coordinates

p\_i = dual basis to the  $\frac{\partial}{\partial q^i}$  i.e.  $dq^i$

d.e.  $p_i(df) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial q^i}$

Def: Liouville canonical 1-form on T\* M

$$\theta = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i dq^i = p \cdot dq$$

(again well def under coordinate changes)

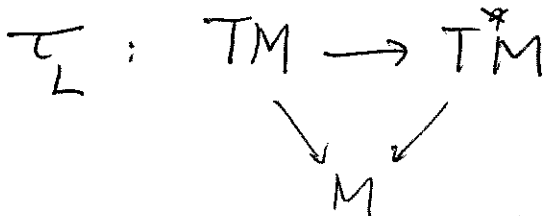
invariant definition:

$$v \in T_{(q,p)}(T^*M)$$

$$\theta(v) = p(\underbrace{\pi_*(v)}_{TM})$$

$$\pi: T^*M \rightarrow M$$

### Legendre transformation



(fiberwise map)

s.t.  $\tau_L^*(\theta) = \theta_L$

$$\tau_L(q, \dot{q}) = (q, p) \quad \text{with} \quad p = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}(q, \dot{q})$$

④  $\tau_L$  is a local diffeomorphism iff  $H_L$  invertible  
 $(M, L)$  nondegenerate

Comment: on any mfd have  $TM$  &  $T^*M$   
 paired by a duality

but cannot "identify"  $TM$  &  $T^*M$  unless have  
 extra structure on  $M$

example: if  $M$  has a Riemannian metric  $g_{\mu\nu}$   
 then can use this to identify (non-canonically)  
 $TM$  &  $T^*M$  (lowering/raising indices)

$$g_{\mu\nu} v^\mu = w_\nu$$

This is a special case of the identif. via  
 Legendre transform when  $L$  ~~only~~ kinetic term  
 given by  $g_{\mu\nu}$

$$p_\mu = \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^\mu} \right) = g_{\mu\nu}(q) \dot{q}^\nu$$

$$L(q, \dot{q}) = g_{\mu\nu}(q) \dot{q}^\mu \dot{q}^\nu$$

Hamiltonian function  $H: T^*M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$H \circ \tau_L = E_L = \dot{q} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} - L$$

$$\Rightarrow H(q, p) = (p \dot{q} - L(q, \dot{q})) \Big|_{p = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}}$$

Legendre  
 transform  
 of Lagrangian

# Legendre transform

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$H = \mathcal{L}(L)$  is invertible (equiv. to convexity assumption in simple one-dim case)

if  $\mathcal{L}$  invertible

i.e.  $\frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{L}}{\partial q^i \partial q^j}$  invertible; then  $\mathcal{L}$  involution

Assume invertibility: (which in phys. terms is an assumption on pos. def. of kinetic energy term in  $L$ )

then Euler-Lagrange equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} = 0 \quad \text{are equivalent to a system of first order equations}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_i = - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i} \\ \dot{q}^i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \end{cases}$$

Hamiltonian equations

Pf:  $dH = \frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i} dq^i + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} dp_i$

$$= \cancel{p \cdot dq} + \underline{p \cdot dq + \dot{q} dp}$$

$$\left( - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} \cdot dq^i - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} \cdot d\dot{q}^i \right)$$

$$\Big|_{p = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i}}$$

$$= \left( \dot{q} dp - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} \cdot dq^i \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \quad \& \quad - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} \frac{d\dot{q}^i}{dt} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} \dot{q}^i$$

⑥ Conservation of energy:

$H$  is constant along trajectories of motion

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \frac{dp}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} = 0$$

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Given a Hamiltonian  $H: T^*M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

& corresp. equations

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \\ \dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{vector field on } T^*M$$

$$X_H = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} \right) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \frac{\partial}{\partial q} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

Hamiltonian vector field

if can integrate this vector field (integral curves exist for all  $t$ )

$\Rightarrow$  Hamiltonian phase flow

$\{g_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$  one-parameter group of  $\text{Diff}(T^*M)$

$g_t(q, p) = (q(t), p(t))$  solution with  $(q(0), p(0)) = (q, p)$

# Symplectic form on $T^*M$

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Liouville 1-form  $\theta$  on  $T^*M$

$$\theta = p \cdot dq$$

in loc. coord's

$\Rightarrow d\theta = \omega$  2-form in coord's

non-degenerate 2-form

$(d\theta)^n =$  volume form

$$dp_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dp_n \wedge dq^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dq^n$$

$$\omega = dp \wedge dq$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^n dp_i \wedge dq^i$$

$\omega =$  canonical symplectic form on  $T^*M$  (in Darboux coordinates)

## Symplectic manifolds (generalization of $T^*M$ )

$M$  smooth manifold  $\dim 2n$  (even real dimension)

w/ a closed 2-form  $\omega$  ( $d\omega = 0$ )

which is non-degenerate;  $\omega^n \neq 0$  on all  $M$   
(nowhere vanishing)

$\frac{\omega^n}{n!} =$  Liouville volume form on  $M$

Lagrangian submanifold  $L \subset M$  if

$$\dim L = \frac{1}{2} \dim M \quad \& \quad \omega|_L = 0$$

symplectomorphism  $\varphi: (M_1, \omega_1) \rightarrow (M_2, \omega_2)$

smooth  $\varphi: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  with  $\omega_1 = \varphi^*(\omega_2)$

Note:

Darboux's theorem  
 $\omega$  on  $M$  sympl.  
can always be written  
locally as  $\omega = dp \wedge dq$

made people erroneously  
think sympl. mfd's  
were easy. In fact  
very complicated  
classes of mfd's when  
studied w/ better  
invariants (GW;  
Floer, etc.)

⑧ non-degenerate 2-form  $\omega$  on  $T^*M$  (or more generally on sympl. mfld  $M$ )

defines isomorphism  $J: T^*(M) \rightarrow T(M)$  by setting

$$\omega(v_1, v_2) = \langle J^{-1}(v_1), v_2 \rangle$$

$v_i \in T_{(p,q)}(T^*M)$  pairing by duality of  $T^*M$  &  $TM$

i.e.  $J^{-1}(v_1) = \omega(v_1, \cdot)$  (just like pairing done via a Riemann metric also a non-deg. quadr. form)

Hamiltonian vector field is just

$$J(dH) = X_H$$

Note: can define a Hamiltonian & Ham. flow on more general symplectic manifolds than just  $T^*M$

Hamiltonian phase flow preserves the symplectic form : symplectomorphisms not just diffeomorphisms enough to check

$$\frac{d}{dt} (g_t)^* \omega \Big|_{t=0} = d_{X_H}(\omega) = 0$$

$d_X(\alpha \wedge \beta)$   
derivation:  
 $d_X(\alpha \wedge \beta) = X \lrcorner (\alpha \wedge \beta) + \alpha \wedge d_X(\beta)$

$$d_X(df) = d(X(f)) \quad \text{by def. of } d_X \text{ on diff forms}$$

check:  $L_X(dp_i) = -d\left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i}\right)$        $L_X(dq^i) = d\left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}\right)$

then get:  $d_X(\omega) = \sum_i d_i \lrcorner (dp_i) \wedge dq^i + dp_i \wedge d_i \lrcorner (dq^i) =$



$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \left( -d\left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i}\right) \wedge dq^i + dp_i \wedge d\left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}\right) \right) = -d(dH) = 0$$

⇒ also  $\gamma_t$  & Hamiltonian flow preserves Liouville volume form

### Least action principle in phase space

$TM$   
 $(q, \dot{q})$   
 configuration space  $M$

$T^*M$   
 $(q, p)$   
 phase space

↑  
 here least action:

$$S(\gamma) = \int L(\gamma'(t), t) dt$$

$\gamma \in \mathcal{P}(M)$

$$\left. \frac{d}{ds} S(\gamma_s) \right|_{s=0} = 0$$

↖

Poincaré-Cartan form  
 $\theta - H dt = p \cdot dq - H dt$   
 (note: relativistic viewpoint.  
 $\langle (p, H), (dq, dt) \rangle$  w Lorentzian metric: Energy = time component of momentum)

↖

1-form on  
 $T^*M \times \mathbb{R}$   
 (extended phase space)

$\gamma: [t_0, t_1] \rightarrow T^*M$  path

lift  $\sigma$  of  $\gamma$  to extended phase space

$$\sigma(t) = (\gamma(t), t)$$

admissible paths on  $T^*M \times \mathbb{R}$   
 = lifts of paths on  $T^*M$

$\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T^*M)$

$\sigma_s$  = variation of an admissible path by admissible paths w/ fixed endpoints

$$\delta\sigma = \left. \frac{\partial \sigma_s}{\partial s} \right|_{s=0} \text{ infinitesimal variation}$$

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$$S(\sigma) = \int_{\sigma} p dq - H dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (p \dot{q} - H) dt$$

Poincaré action functional on phase space:

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} S(\sigma_{\varepsilon}) = 0 \quad \text{critical points}$$

Check: if satisfy Hamiltonian equations

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} S(\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left( \dot{q}^i \delta p_i - \dot{p}_i \delta q^i \right) - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i} \delta q^i - \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \delta p_i$$

+  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i \delta q^i \Big|_{t_0}^{t_1}$  integration by parts

using  $\delta q^i(t_0) = 0 = \delta q^i(t_1)$  get only integral term

$\Rightarrow$  vanishing for arbitrary  $\delta p_i$  &  $\delta q^i$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{q}^i - \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} = 0$$

$$\dot{p}_i + \frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i} = 0$$

Note: if  $\sigma$  lift of path  $\gamma$  and  $\tau_L: TM \rightarrow T^*M$  invertible

$$S(\sigma) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (p \dot{q} - H) dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(\gamma'(t), t) dt$$

So same as action functional in configuration space