

4.3

Claim: The two forms of the invariance identity:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} \dot{\xi}^\mu + p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau - H \dot{\tau} = 0 \quad (4.37)$$

and:

$$-(\dot{\xi}^\mu - \xi^\mu \dot{\tau}) \left[\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}^\mu} \right] = \frac{d}{dt} [p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu - H \tau] \quad (4.38)$$

are equivalent.

Proof: We begin with the differentiated form of invariance 4.36:

$$L \dot{\tau} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} \dot{\xi}^\mu + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}^\mu} (\dot{\xi}^\mu - \xi^\mu \dot{\tau}) = 0$$

First, to arrive at 4.37 we note that $p_\mu = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}^\mu}$ and $H = p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu - L$. Then:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} \dot{\xi}^\mu + p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau + \dot{\tau} (L - p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} \dot{\xi}^\mu + p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau + H \dot{\tau} = 0$$

Next, to get to 4.38, we notice that, by the product rule, $\frac{d}{dt} [p_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu] = \dot{p}_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + p_\mu \ddot{\xi}^\mu$ and $\frac{d}{dt} [H \tau] = \dot{H} \tau + H \dot{\tau}$. Furthermore, $\frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}^\mu} \right] = \dot{p}_\mu$. Then, 4.38 becomes:

$$-\dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} + \dot{p}_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + \dot{\xi}^\mu \dot{p}_\mu \tau + \dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} \tau = \dot{p}_\mu \dot{\xi}^\mu + p_\mu \ddot{\xi}^\mu - \dot{H} \tau - H \dot{\tau}$$

$$[\dot{H} - \dot{\xi}^\mu \dot{p}_\mu + \dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu}] \tau = \dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} + p_\mu \ddot{\xi}^\mu - H \dot{\tau}$$

Here, we note that $\dot{H} = \frac{d}{dt} [\dot{\xi}^\mu p_\mu - L] = \ddot{\xi}^\mu p_\mu + \dot{\xi}^\mu \dot{p}_\mu - \frac{\partial L}{\partial t}$, where, by the chain rule, $\frac{dL}{dt} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} + \dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi^\mu} + \dot{\xi}^\mu \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}^\mu}$

$$\left[\ddot{x}^{\mu} p_{\mu} + \dot{x}^{\mu} p_{\mu} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} - \dot{x}^{\mu} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu}} - \dot{x}^{\mu} \dot{p}_{\mu} - \ddot{x}^{\mu} p_{\mu} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu}} \dot{x}^{\mu} \right] \tau = \int^{\mu} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu}} + p_{\mu} \dot{x}^{\mu} - H \tau$$

$$\therefore Q = \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau + p_{\mu} \dot{x}^{\mu} - H \tau$$

Hence, the two identities are equivalent.

Q.E.D.

4.4

Claim: The functional:

$$\Gamma = \int_a^b L(t, x^{\mu}, \dot{x}^{\mu}) dt$$

is invariant under the infinitesimal transformation

$$t' = t + \epsilon \tau + \dots$$

$$x'^{\mu} = x^{\mu} + \epsilon \xi^{\mu} + \dots$$

if and only if:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{\mu}} + p_{\mu} \dot{x}^{\mu} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \tau - H \tau - \frac{dF}{dt} = 0$$

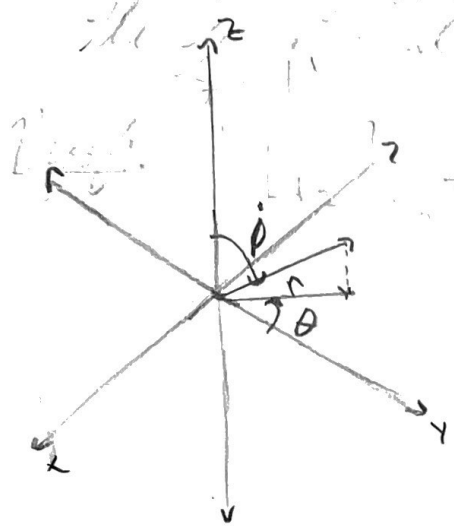
where $F(t)$ is some function of the independent variable t .

Proof: We begin by considering Γ and some $\Gamma' = \int_a^b (L + \frac{dF}{dt}) dt$; then, by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus:

$$\Gamma' = \Gamma + [F(b) - F(a)]$$

Therefore, if $F(b) = F(a)$, $\Gamma' = \Gamma$. As a and b are arbitrary, we must allow for this possibility. As F is a function of t , the Lagrangian $L' = L + \frac{dF}{dt}$ is also a valid Lagrangian. Then, applying the definition of invariance:

4.8



a central force is a force that acts radially, and therefore can be written $F = -\nabla U(r)$, where $U(r)$ is a potential energy function of the radius r . In spherical coordinates, we can write the functional of Hamilton's Principle:

$$S = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \left(\frac{1}{2} m [\dot{r}^2 + (r\dot{\theta})^2 + (r\sin\theta\dot{\phi})^2] - U(r) \right) dt$$

We next consider a change of longitude and latitude, which essentially a rotation; in spherical coordinates, this can be represented by an infinitesimal transform:

$$\begin{aligned} t' &= t \\ \theta' &= \theta + \epsilon \\ \phi' &= \phi + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

So that $\tau = 0$, $\delta^t = 0$, $\delta^\theta = \epsilon$, and $\delta^\phi = \epsilon$. As $\tau = \dot{\tau} = 0$, and each $\dot{\delta}^u = 0$, the invariance identity reduces to:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} \delta^\theta + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \phi} \delta^\phi + \frac{\partial L}{\partial r} \delta^r = 0, \text{ which as } U(r) \text{ only depends on } r, \text{ is clearly satisfied}$$