

Integrability of contact Hamiltonian systems

Manuel Lainz¹ and Asier López-Gordón²

¹Department of Quantitative Methods, CUNEF University, Madrid, Spain

²Institute of Mathematical Sciences (ICMAT), CSIC, Madrid, Spain

Joint work with Leonardo Colombo and Manuel de León

deLeonfest 2023

Financially supported by Grants CEX2019-000904-S, PID2019-106715GB-C21, PID2022-137909NB-C21 and RED2022-134301-T, funded by MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033



Outline of the presentation

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Main theorem
- 3 Exact symplectic manifolds
- 4 Symplectization
- 5 Proof
- 6 Example
- 7 Other notions
- 8 Toric manifolds and integrable systems

Symplectic geometry

- Symplectic geometry is the natural framework for classical mechanics.
- Recall that a symplectic form ω on M is a 2-form such that $d\omega = 0$ and $TM \ni v \mapsto \iota_v \omega \in T^*M$ is an isomorphism.
- Given a function f on M , its Hamiltonian vector field X_f is given by

$$\iota_{X_f} \omega = df.$$

- The Poisson bracket $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$ is given by

$$\{f, g\} = \omega(X_f, X_g).$$

Theorem (Liouville–Arnold theorem)

Let f_1, \dots, f_n be independent functions in involution (i.e., $\{f_i, f_j\} = 0 \ \forall i, j$) on a symplectic manifold (M^{2n}, ω) . Let $M_\Lambda = \{x \in M \mid f_i = \Lambda_i\}$.

- ① Any compact connected component of M_Λ is diffeomorphic to \mathbb{T}^n .
- ② On a neighborhood of M_Λ there are coordinates (φ^i, J_i) such that

$$\omega = d\varphi^i \wedge dJ_i,$$

and the Hamiltonian dynamics are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\varphi^i}{dt} &= \Omega^i(J_1, \dots, J_n), \\ \frac{dJ_i}{dt} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Contact geometry

Definition

A (co-oriented) **contact manifold** is a pair (M, η) , where M is an $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional manifold and η is a 1-form on M such that $\eta \wedge (d\eta)^n$ is a volume form.

- The contact form η defines an isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned}
 \flat: \mathfrak{X}(M) &\rightarrow \Omega^1(M) \\
 X &\mapsto \iota_X d\eta + \eta(X)\eta,
 \end{aligned}$$

- There exists a unique vector field \mathcal{R} on (M, η) , called the **Reeb vector field**, such that $\flat(\mathcal{R}) = \eta$, that is,

$$\iota_{\mathcal{R}} d\eta = 0, \quad \iota_{\mathcal{R}} \eta = 1.$$

Contact geometry

- The **Hamiltonian vector field** of $f \in C^\infty(M)$ is given by

$$\flat(X_f) = df - (\mathcal{R}(f) + f)\eta,$$

- Around each point on M there exist **Darboux coordinates** (q^i, p_i, z) such that

$$\eta = dz - p_i dq^i,$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z},$$

$$X_f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} - \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial q^i} + p_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} + \left(p_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i} - f \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

Contact geometry

- The **Jacobi bracket** is given by

$$\{f, g\} = -d\eta(b^{-1}df, b^{-1}dg) - f\mathcal{R}(g) + g\mathcal{R}(f).$$

- This bracket is bilinear and satisfies the Jacobi identity.
- However, unlike a Poisson bracket, it does not satisfy the Leibnitz identity:

$$\{f, gh\} \neq \{f, g\}h + \{f, h\}g.$$

Dissipated quantities

- In contact Hamiltonian dynamics dissipated quantities are akin to conserved quantities in symplectic dynamics.
- Energy (Hamiltonian function) is no longer conserved, but dissipated in a certain manner:

$$X_H(H) = -\mathcal{R}(H)H.$$

Dissipated quantities

Example (linear dissipation)

Let

$$M = \mathbb{R}^3, \quad \eta = dz - pdq, \quad H = \frac{p^2}{2} + V(q) + \kappa z.$$

Then $X_H(H) = -\kappa H$, so

$$H \circ c(t) = e^{-\kappa t} H \circ c(0),$$

along an integral curve c of X_H .

Dissipated quantities

Definition

An **H -dissipated quantity** is a solution $f \in C^\infty(M)$ to the PDE

$$X_H(f) = -\mathcal{R}(H)f.$$

- A function f is H -dissipated iff

$$\{f, H\} = 0.$$

- Noether's theorem: symmetries \leftrightarrow dissipated quantities.

- Let $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} = \{x \in M \mid \exists r \in \mathbb{R}^+ : f_\alpha(x) = r\Lambda_\alpha\}$.

Theorem (Colombo, de León, L., L.-G., 2023)

Let (M, η) be a $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional contact manifold. Suppose that f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n are functions in involution such that (df_α) has rank at least n . Then, $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ is invariant by the Hamiltonian flow of f_α and diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{T}^k \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1-k}$.

Moreover, there is a neighborhood U of $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ such that

- There exists coordinates $(y^0, \dots, y^n, \tilde{A}_1, \dots, \tilde{A}_n)$ on U such that the equations of motion are given by

$$\dot{y}^\alpha = \Omega^\alpha(\tilde{A}_i), \quad \dot{\tilde{A}}_i = 0, \quad \alpha \in \{0, \dots, n\}, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}.$$

- There exists a conformal change $\tilde{\eta} = \eta/A_0$ such that (y^i, \tilde{A}_i, y^0) are Darboux coordinates for $(M, \tilde{\eta})$, i.e. $\tilde{\eta} = dy^0 - \tilde{A}_i dy^i$.

Steps of the proof

- 1 Symplectize (M, η) and f_α , obtaining an exact symplectic manifold (M^Σ, θ) and homogeneous functions in involution f_α^Σ .
- 2 Prove a Liouville–Arnold theorem for exact symplectic manifolds with homogeneous functions in involution.
- 3 “Un-symplectize” the action-angle coordinates $(y_\Sigma^\alpha, A_\alpha^\Sigma)$ on M^Σ , yielding functions (y^α, A_Σ) on M .
- 4 Introduce action-angle coordinates (y^α, \tilde{A}_i) on M , where $\tilde{A}_i = -\frac{A_i}{A_0}$.

Exact symplectic manifolds: Liouville geometry

Definition

An **exact symplectic manifold** is a pair (M, θ) , where M is a manifold and θ a one-form on N such that $\omega = -d\theta$ is a symplectic form on M .

- The **Liouville vector field** Δ of (M, θ) is given by

$$\iota_{\Delta}\omega = -\theta.$$

- A tensor T is called **homogeneous of degree** n if $\mathcal{L}_{\Delta}T = nT$.

Symplectization of contact manifolds

Definition

Let (M, η) be a contact manifold and (M^Σ, θ) an exact symplectic manifold. A **symplectization** is a fibre bundle $\Sigma: M^\Sigma \rightarrow M$ such that

$$\sigma \Sigma^* \eta = \theta,$$

for a function σ on M^Σ called the **conformal factor**.

Symplectization of contact manifolds

Category of contact manifolds



Category of exact symplectic manifolds

- Contact distribution $\ker \eta \longleftrightarrow$ symplectic potential θ
- Functions \longleftrightarrow homogeneous functions of degree 1
- Hamiltonian vector fields \longleftrightarrow Hamiltonian vector fields, homogeneous of degree 0

Symplectization of contact manifolds

Theorem

Given a symplectization $\Sigma: (M^\Sigma, \theta) \rightarrow (M, \eta)$ with conformal factor σ , there is a bijection between functions f on M and homogeneous functions of degree 1 f^Σ on M^Σ such that

$$\Sigma_*(X_{f^\Sigma}) = X_f.$$

This bijection is given by

$$f^\Sigma = \sigma \Sigma^* f.$$

Moreover, one has

$$\{f^\Sigma, g^\Sigma\}_\theta = \{f, g\}_\eta^\Sigma.$$

Symplectization of contact manifolds

Example

$\Sigma = \pi_1: (M \times \mathbb{R}^+, \theta = r\eta) \rightarrow (M, \eta)$ is a symplectization with conformal factor $\sigma = r$, for r the global coordinate on \mathbb{R}^+ .

Liouville–Arnold theorem for exact symplectic manifolds

- We want to obtain action-angle coordinates $(\varphi_\Sigma^\alpha, J_\alpha^\Sigma)$ on (M^Σ, θ) in order to define functions $(\varphi^\alpha, J_\alpha)$ on (M, η)
- We need homogeneous objects on (M^Σ, θ) so that they have a correspondence with objects on (M, η) .
- However, the classical Liouville–Arnold theorem does not take into account the homogeneity of θ and f_α^Σ .
- Moreover, we need to consider non-compact level sets of f_α^Σ .

Liouville–Arnold theorem for exact symplectic manifolds

Theorem (Colombo, de León, Lainz, L.-G., 2023)

Let (M, θ) be an exact symplectic manifold. Suppose that the functions f_α , $\alpha = 1, \dots, n$, on M are independent, in involution and homogeneous of degree 1. Let U be an open neighborhood of M_Λ such that:

- ❶ f_α have no critical points in U ,
- ❷ the Hamiltonian vector fields of X_{f_α} are complete,
- ❸ the submersion $(f_\alpha): U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a trivial bundle over $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$.

Then, $U \simeq \mathbb{R}^{n-m} \times \mathbb{T}^m \times V$, provided with action-angle coordinates (y^α, A_α) such that

$$\theta = A_\alpha dy^\alpha, \quad \frac{dy^\alpha}{dt} = \Omega^\alpha, \quad \frac{dA_\alpha}{dt} = 0.$$

Sketch of proof

- Since X_{f_α} are n vector fields tangent to M_Λ , linearly independent and pairwise commutative, they generate the algebra \mathbb{R}^n and $M_\Lambda \simeq \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^k$.
- Thus there are coordinates $y^\alpha = M_\alpha^\beta s^\beta$, where $X_{f_\alpha}(s^\beta) = \delta_\alpha^\beta$.
- The values of f_α define coordinates (J_α) on V .
- Since M_Λ is Lagrangian, $\theta = A_\alpha(J)dy^\alpha + B^\alpha(y, J)dJ_\alpha$.
- Since f_α are homogeneous of degree 1, $\theta(X_{f_\alpha}) = f_\alpha$.
- By construction, $\Delta(y^\alpha) = 0$.
- With additional contractions with θ and ω , one concludes that $\theta = A_\alpha dy^\alpha$, where $J_\beta = M_\beta^\alpha J_\alpha$.

Definition

A **completely integrable contact system** is a triple (M, η, F) , where (M, η) is a contact manifold and $F = (f_0, \dots, f_n): M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ is a map such that

- ① f_0, \dots, f_n are in involution, i.e., $\{f_\alpha, f_\beta\} = 0 \ \forall \alpha, \beta$,
- ② $\text{rank } TF \geq n$ on a dense open subset $M_0 \subseteq M$.

The functions f_0, \dots, f_n are called **integrals**.

Assumptions

- 1 Assume that the Hamiltonian vector fields X_{f_0}, \dots, X_{f_n} are complete.
- 2 Given $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$, let $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$ be an open neighbourhood of Λ .
- 3 Let $\pi: U \rightarrow M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ be a tubular neighbourhood of $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ such that $F|_U: U \rightarrow B$ is a trivial bundle over a domain $V \subseteq B$.

Theorem (Colombo, de León, L., L.-G., 2023)

Let (M, η, F) be a completely integrable contact system, where $F = (f_0, \dots, f_n)$. Consider the assumptions of the previous slide. Then:

- 1 $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ is coisotropic, invariant by the Hamiltonian flow of f_α , and diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{T}^k \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1-k}$ for some $k \leq n$.
- 2 There exists coordinates $(y^0, \dots, y^n, \tilde{A}_1, \dots, \tilde{A}_n)$ on U such that the equations of motion are given by

$$\dot{y}^\alpha = \Omega^\alpha \quad \dot{\tilde{A}}_i = 0.$$

- 3 There exists a nowhere-vanishing function $A_0 \in C^\infty(U)$ and a conformally equivalent contact form $\tilde{\eta} = \eta/A_0$ such that (y^i, \tilde{A}_i, y^0) are Darboux coordinates for $(M, \tilde{\eta})$, namely, $\tilde{\eta} = dy^0 - \tilde{A}_i dy^i$.

Sketch of the proof

- 1 Symplectize (M, η) and f_α , in order to apply the Liouville–Arnold theorem for exact symplectic manifolds
 - $\{f_\alpha, f_\beta\} = 0 \Rightarrow \{f_\alpha^\Sigma, f_\beta^\Sigma\} = 0$.
 - X_{f_α} complete $\Rightarrow X_{f_\alpha^\Sigma}$ complete.
 - $\text{rank } df_\alpha \geq n \Rightarrow \text{rank } d(\underbrace{\sigma \Sigma^* f_\alpha}_{f_\alpha^\Sigma}) \geq n + 1$.
 - $\Sigma((F^\Sigma)^{-1}(\Lambda)) = \{x \in M \mid \exists s \in \mathbb{R}^+ : F(x) = \frac{\Lambda}{s}\} = M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$.
 - X_{f_α} commute and are tangent to $M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} \Rightarrow M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} \simeq \mathbb{T}^k \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1-k}$.
- 2 “Un-symplectize” the action-angle coordinates $(y_\Sigma^\alpha, A_\Sigma^\alpha)$ on \tilde{U} , yielding functions (y^α, A_α) on U .
- 3 Introduce action-angle coordinates (y^α, \tilde{A}_i) on U
 - Since $\Lambda \neq 0$, $\exists A_\alpha \neq 0$. W.l.o.g., assume $A_0 \neq 0$.
 - Then $(y^\alpha, \tilde{A}_i = -\frac{A_i}{A_0})$ are coordinates on U .

Sketch of the proof

- By construction, y^α are linear combinations of flows of X_{f_α} , namely,

$$X_{f_\alpha} = M_\beta^\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial s^\beta}.$$

- Therefore, the dynamics are given by

$$\frac{dy^\alpha}{dt} = \Omega^\alpha, \quad \frac{d\tilde{A}_i}{dt} = 0.$$

- $\theta^\Sigma = A_\alpha^\Sigma dy_\Sigma^\alpha \rightsquigarrow \eta = A_\alpha dy^\alpha$, so

$$\tilde{\eta} = \frac{1}{A_0} \eta = dy^0 - \tilde{A}_i dy^i.$$

An example

- Let $M = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ with canonical coordinates (q, p, z) , and $\eta = dz - pdq$.
- The functions $h = p$ and $f = z$ are in involution.
- Let $F = (h, f): M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$.
- $\text{rank } TF = 2$, and thus (M, η, F) is a completely integrable contact system.

An example

- Hypothesis of the theorem are satisfied:

- ① The Hamiltonian vector fields

$$X_h = \frac{\partial}{\partial q}, \quad X_f = -p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} - z \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

are complete,

- ② Since $F: (q, p, z) \mapsto (p, z)$ is the canonical projection, $F: \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$ is a trivial bundle.

An example

The invariant submanifolds are given by

$$M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} = \{(q, p, z) \in M \mid \exists r \in \mathbb{R}_+ : p = r\Lambda_1, z = r\Lambda_2\},$$

or, equivalently,

$$M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} = \{(q, p, z) \in M \mid \exists r \in \mathbb{R}_+ : p = r \sin \varphi, z = r \cos \varphi\},$$

where $\langle \Lambda \rangle_+ = \langle (\sin \varphi, \cos \varphi) \rangle_+$ for some $\varphi \in [0, 2\pi)$.

An example

Consider the chart $(U; \xi, \zeta, \varphi)$, where

$$U = M \setminus \{z = 0\}, \quad \xi = q, \quad \zeta = z, \quad \varphi = \arctan\left(\frac{p}{z}\right) \pmod{2\pi},$$

Suppose that $\langle \Lambda \rangle_+ \neq \langle (1, 0) \rangle_+$. Then, one can write

$$M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+} = \left\{ (\xi, \zeta, \varphi) \mid \varphi = \arctan\left(\frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_2}\right) \right\}.$$

An example

In the chart $(U; \xi, \zeta, \varphi)$, the Hamiltonian vector fields read

$$X_h = \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi}, \quad X_f = -\zeta \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta}.$$

Therefore, the action $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow M$ defined by their flows is given by

$$\Phi(t, s; \xi, \zeta, \varphi) = (\xi + t, \zeta e^{-s}, \varphi).$$

An example

- Consider a reference point $x_0 \in M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ with coordinates $(\xi_0, \zeta_0, \varphi_0)$.
- The angle coordinates (y^0, y^1) of a point $x \in M_{\langle \Lambda \rangle_+}$ with coordinates (ξ, ζ, φ_0) are given by

$$(\xi, \zeta, \varphi_0) = \Phi(y^0, y^1; \xi_0, \zeta_0, \varphi_0) = (\xi^0 + y^0, \zeta_0 e^{-y^1}, \varphi_0),$$

that is

$$y^0 = \xi - \xi_0 = q - q_0, \quad y^1 = \log \zeta_0 - \log \zeta = \log z_0 - \log z.$$

An example

- We know that the contact form can be written as

$$\eta = A_0 dy^0 + A_1 dy^1.$$

- Therefore,

$$A_0 = \eta \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^0} \right) = \eta \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial q} \right) = -p = -h,$$

$$A_1 = \eta \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^1} \right) = \eta \left(-z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) = -z = -f.$$

- The action coordinate is

$$\tilde{A} = -\frac{A_1}{A_0} = -\frac{h}{f} = -\frac{p}{z}.$$

An example

- To sum up, we have a chart $(M \setminus \{z = 0\}; y^0, y^1, \tilde{A})$, where

$$y^0 = q - q_0, \quad y^1 = \log z_0 - \log z \quad \tilde{A} = -\frac{p}{z}.$$

- In this chart,

$$X_h = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^0}, \quad X_f = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^1}$$

- It is a Darboux chart for the contact form

$$\tilde{\eta} = \frac{1}{A_0} \eta = dy^0 - \tilde{A} dy^1.$$

- Notice that X_h is the Reeb vector field of $\tilde{\eta}$ and X_f is the Hamiltonian vector field of \tilde{A} w.r.t. $\tilde{\eta}$.

Other notions of integrability

- Khesin and Tabachnikov, Liberman, Banyaga and Molino, Lerman, etc. have defined notions of contact complete integrability which are geometric but not dynamical, e.g. a certain foliation over a contact manifold.
- Boyer considers the so-called good Hamiltonians H , i.e., $\mathcal{R}(H) = 0 \leadsto$ no dissipated quantities, “symplectic” dynamics.
- Miranda considered integrability of the Reeb dynamics when \mathcal{R} is the generator of an S^1 -action.
- We are interested in complete integrability of contact Hamiltonian dynamics.

A **toric manifold** is a (compact) symplectic manifold (M, ω) , a smooth effective Hamiltonian Lie group action of \mathbb{T}^n and a moment map $J = (J_i)^i : M \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^* \simeq \mathbb{R}^n$ that satisfies $\xi_M = X_{\langle J, \xi \rangle}$ for all $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$. Note that, choosing a basis of the Lie algebra we obtain an integrable system $(J_i)_i$.

Conversely, an integrable system provides the structure of a toric manifold. The flow of the Hamiltonian vector fields provides a Hamiltonian effective action of \mathbb{T}^n and the action variables provide a moment map. By the theorem of Atiyah, Guillemin and Sternberg, if M is compact, $J(M)$ is a convex polytope.

The moment map and integrable systems

In the contact case, we may equivalently define a moment map

$\hat{J} = \langle (J_\alpha)_\alpha \rangle_+ : M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^n$, having coisotropic level sets.

Here \mathbb{S}^n can be seen as $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ modulo multiplication by positive integers.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M^\Sigma & \xrightarrow{J} & \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \\
 \downarrow \Sigma & & \downarrow \pi_{\mathbb{S}} \\
 M & \xrightarrow{\hat{J}} & \mathbb{S}^n
 \end{array}$$

The flow of the Hamiltonian vector fields also provides an effective action, which can be related using Σ to the symplectic one.

- [1] V. I. Arnold, *Mathematical Methods of Classical Mechanics* (Graduate Texts in Mathematics). Springer-Verlag, 1978.
- [2] L. Colombo, M. de León, M. Lainz, and A. López-Gordón, *Liouville–Arnold theorem for contact manifolds*, Feb. 23, 2023. arXiv: 2302.12061 [math.SG].
- [3] E. Fiorani, G. Giachetta, and G. Sardanashvily, “An extension of the Liouville–Arnold theorem for the non-compact case,” *Nuovo Cimento Soc. Ital. Fis. B*, 2003.
- [4] J. Liouville, “Note sur l’intégration des équations différentielles de la Dynamique,” *J. Math. Pures Appl.*, pp. 137–138, 1855. (visited on 03/29/2023).

Happy birthday, Manolo!

