Structure and Interpretation of Classical Mechanics with Python and Sagemath

Nicky van Foreest

May 21, 2025

CONTENTS

0 PRELIMINARIES

0.1 README

This is a translation to Python and Sagemath of (most of) the Scheme code of the book 'Structure and interpretation of classical mechanics' by Sussman and Wisdom. When referring to *the book*, I mean their book. I expect the reader to read the related parts of the book, and use the Scheme code of the book to understand the Python code. In other words, I don't explain much of the logic of the code in this document. I'll try to stick to the naming of functions and variables as used in the book. I also try to keep the functional programming approach of the book; consequently, I don't strive to the most pythonic code possible. To keep the code clean, I never protect functions against stupid input; realize that this is research project, the aim is not to produce a fool-proof software product.

- The file `sicm_sagemath.pdf` shows all code samples together with the output when running the code.
- The directory `org` contains the org files.
- The directory `sage` contains all sage files obtained from tangling the org files.

In the pdf file I tend to place explanations, comments, and observations about the code and the results *above* the code blocks.

I wrote this document in emacs and org mode. When developing, I first made a sage file with all code for a specific section of the book. Once all worked, I copied the code to an org file and make code blocks. Then I tangled, for instance, generally useful code of `secton1.4.org` to `utils1.4.sage` and to `section1.4.sage` for code specific for Section 1.4 of the book. This way I can load the utils files at later stages.

I found it convenient to test things in a `tests.sage` file. Then, I could edit within emacs and see the consequences directly in the sage session by opening a sage session on the command prompt and attaching the session to the file like so:

```
sage: attach("tests.sage")
```

Finally, here are some resources that were helpful to me:

- An online version of the book: https://tgvaughan.github.io/sicm/
- An org file of the book with Scheme: https://github.com/mentat-collective/sicm-book/blob/main/org/chapter001.org

- A port to Clojure: https://github.com/sicmutils/sicmutils
- The Sagemath reference guide: https://doc.sagemath.org/html/en/reference/
- Handy tuples: https://github.com/jtauber/functional-differential-geometry
- ChatGPT proved to be a great help in the process of becoming familiar with Scheme and Sagemath.
- Some solutions to problems: https://github.com/hnarayanan/sicm

In the next sections we provide Python and Sagemath code for background functions that are used, but not defined, in the book.

0.2 OUTPUT TO LATEX

We use `re` to modify LateX strings. Note in passing that the title of the code block shows the file to which the code is tangled, and if a code block is not tangled, the title says this too.

../sage/show_expression.sage

```
import re

latex.matrix_delimiters(left='[', right=']')
latex.matrix_column_alignment("c")
```

To keep the formulas short in LaTeX, I remove all strings like (t), and replace $\partial x/\partial t$ by $\dot{x}$. This is the job of the regular expressions below.

../sage/show_expression.sage

```
def simplify_latex(s):
    s = re.sub(r"\\frac{\\partial}{\\partial t}", r"\\dot ", s)
    s = re.sub(r"\\left\(t\\right\)", r"", s)
    s = re.sub(
        r"\\frac\{\\partial\^\{2\}\}\{\(\\partial t\)\^\{2\}\}",
        r"\\ddot ",
        s,
    )
    return s
```

The function `show_expression` prints expressions to LaTeX. There is a caveat, though. When `show_expression` would return a string, org mode (or perhaps Python) adds many escape symbols for the `\` character, which turns out to ruin the LaTeX output in an org file. For this reason, I just call `print` ; for my purposes (writing these files in emacs and org mode) it works the way I want.

../sage/show_expression.sage

```
def show_expression(s, simplify=True):
    s = latex(s)
    if simplify:
        s = simplify_latex(s)
    res = r"\begin{dmath*}"
    res += "\n" + s + "\n"
    res += r"\end{dmath*}"
    print(res)
```

0.2.1 *Printing with org mode*

There is a subtlety with respect to printing in org mode and in tangled files. When working in sage files, and running them from the prompt, I call `show(expr)` to have some expression printed to the screen. So, when running Sage from the prompt, I do *not* want to see LaTeX output. However, when executing a code block in org mode, I *do* want to get LaTeX output. For this, I could use the book's `show_expression` in the code blocks in the org file. So far so good, but now comes the subtlety. When I *tangle* the code from the org file to a sage file, I don't want to see `show_expression`, but just `show`. Thus, I should use `show` throughout, but in the org mode file, `show` should call `show_expression`. To achieve this, I include the following `show` function in org mode, but I don't tangle it to the related `sage` files.

../sage/show_expression.sage

```
def show(s, simplify=True):
    return show_expression(s, simplify)
```

0.3 THE TUPLE CLASS

The book uses up tuples quite a bit. This code is a copy of tuples.py from https://github.com/jtauber/functional-differential-geometry. See `tuples.rst` in that repo for further explanations.

../sage/tuples.sage

```
"""
This is a copy of tuples.py from
https://github.com/jtauber/functional-differential-geometry.
"""

from sage.structure.element import Matrix, Vector

class Tuple:
    def __init__(self, *components):
        self._components = components

    def __getitem__(self, index):
```

```
36          return self._components[index]
37
38      def __len__(self):
39          return len(self._components)
40
41      def __eq__(self, other):
42          if (
43                  isinstance(other, self.__class)
44                  and self._components == other._components
45          ):
46              return True
47          else:
48              return False
49
50      def __ne__(self, other):
51          return not (self.__eq__(other))
52
53      def __add__(self, other):
54          if isinstance(self, Tuple):
55              if not isinstance(other, self.__class__) or len(self) != len(
56                      other
57              ):
58                  raise TypeError("can't add incompatible Tuples")
59              else:
60                  return self.__class__(
61                      *(
62                          s + o
63                          for (s, o) in zip(self._components, other._components)
64                      )
65                  )
66          else:
67              return self + other
68
69      def __iadd__(self, other):
70          return self + other
71
72      def __neg__(self):
73          return self.__class__(*(-s for s in self._components))
74
75      def __sub__(self, other):
76          return self + (-other)
77
78      def __isub__(self, other):
79          return self - other
80
81      def __call__(self, **kwargs):
82          return self.__class__(
83              *(
84                  (c(**kwargs) if isinstance(c, Expr) else c)
85                  for c in self._components
86              )
87          )
```

```
88
89      def subs(self, args):
90          # substitute variables with args
91          return self.__class__(*(c.subs(args) for c in self._components))
92
93      def list(self):
94          "convert tuple and its components to one list."
95          result = []
96          for comp in self._components:
97              if isinstance(comp, (Tuple, Matrix, Vector)):
98                  result.extend(comp.list())
99              else:
100                 result.append(comp)
101         return result
102
103     def derivative(self, var):
104         "Compute the derivative of all components and put the result in a tuple."
105         return self.__class__(
106             *[derivative(comp, var) for comp in self._components]
107         )
```

We have up tuples and down tuples. They differ in the way they are printed.

../sage/tuples.sage

```
108 class UpTuple(Tuple):
109     def __repr__(self):
110         return "up({})".format(", ".join(str(c) for c in self._components))
111
112     def _latex_(self):
113         "Print up tuples vertically."
114         res = r"\begin{array}{c}"
115         for comp in self._components:
116             res += r"\begin{array}{c}"
117             res += latex(comp)
118             res += r"\end{array}"
119             res += r" \\"
120         res += r"\end{array}"
121         return res
122
123 class DownTuple(Tuple):
124     def __repr__(self):
125         return "down({})".format(", ".join(str(c) for c in self._components))
126
127     def _latex_(self):
128         "Print down tuples horizontally."
129         res = r"\begin{array}{c}"
130         for comp in self._components:
131             res += r"\begin{array}{c}"
132             res += latex(comp)
133             res += r"\end{array}"
134             res += r" & "
135         res += r"\end{array}"
```

```
136             return res
137
138     up = UpTuple
139     down = DownTuple
140
141     up._dual = down
142     down._dual = up
```

Here is some functionality to unpack tuples. I don't use it for the moment, but it is provided by the `tuples.py` package that I donwloaded from the said github repo.

../sage/tuples.sage

```
143 def ref(tup, *indices):
144     if indices:
145         return ref(tup[indices[0]], *indices[1:])
146     else:
147         return tup
148
149
150 def component(*indices):
151     def _(tup):
152         return ref(tup, *indices)
153
154     return _
```

0.4 FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING WITH PYTHON FUNCTIONS

In this section we set up some generic functionality to support the summation, products and composition of functions:

$$\begin{aligned}(f+g)(x) &= f(x)+g(x),\\ (fg)(x) &= f(x)g(x),\\ (f\circ g)(x) &= f(g(x).\end{aligned}$$

This is easy to code by means of recursion.

0.4.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/functions.sage

```
155 load("tuples.sage")
```

We need to load `functions.sage` to run the examples in the test file.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
156 load("functions.sage")
```

I load `show_expression` to control the LaTeX output in this org file.

don't tangle

```
load("show_expression.sage")

def show(s, simplify=True):
    return show_expression(s, simplify)
```

0.4.2 *The `Function` class*

The `Function` class offers the functionality we need for functional programming.

../sage/functions.sage

```
class Function:
    def __init__(self, func):
        self._func = func

    def __call__(self, *args):
        return self._func(*args)

    def __add__(self, other):
        return Function(lambda *args: self(*args) + other(*args))

    def __neg__(self):
        return Function(lambda *args: -self(*args))

    def __sub__(self, other):
        return self + (-other)

    def __mul__(self, other):
        if isinstance(other, Function):
            return Function(lambda *args: self(*args) * other(*args))
        return Function(lambda *args: other * self(*args))

    def __rmul__(self, other):
        return self * other

    def __pow__(self, exponent):
        if exponent == 0:
            return Function(lambda x: 1)
        else:
            return self * (self ** (exponent - 1))
```

The next function will be used as decorator on a function `f`, say,that returns another function `inner_f`, say, so that `inner_f` becomes a Function.

../sage/functions.sage

```
def Func(f):
    def wrapper(*args, **kwargs):
        return Function(f(*args, **kwargs))

    return wrapper
```

Composition is just a recursive call of functions.

../sage/functions.sage

```
@Func
def compose(*funcs):
    if len(funcs) == 1:
        return lambda x: funcs[0](x)
    return lambda x: funcs[0](compose(*funcs[1:])(x))
```

0.4.3 *Some standard functions*

To use python functions as Functions, use `lambda` like this.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
def f(x):
    return 5 * x


F = Function(lambda x: f(x))
```

We will use quadratic functions often, so let's make a function for this. When x is a vector, Sagemath interprets x^2 as $x^t \cdot x$, which we want. The identity is just interesting. Perhaps we'll use it later.

../sage/functions.sage

```
identity = Function(lambda x: x)

def _square(x):
    if isinstance(
        x,
        (
            int,
            float,
            sage.symbolic.expression.Expression,
            sage.rings.integer.Integer,
        ),
    ):
        return x ^ 2
    elif isinstance(x, (Vector, list, tuple)):
        v = vector(x)
        return v.dot_product(v)
    elif isinstance(x, Matrix) and x.ncols() == 1:
        return (x.transpose() * x)[0, 0]
    else:
        raise TypeError(f"Unsupported type: {type(x)}")


square = Function(lambda x: _square(x))
```

To be able to code things like `(sin + cos)(x)` we need to postpone the application of `sin` and `cos` to their arguments. Therefore we override their definitions.

../sage/functions.sage

```
228 sin = Function(lambda x: sage.functions.trig.sin(x))
229 cos = Function(lambda x: sage.functions.trig.cos(x))
```

To use Sagemath functions we make an abbreviation.

../sage/functions.sage

```
230 function = sage.symbolic.function_factory.function
```

Now we can make symbolic functions like so.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
231 V = Function(lambda x: function("V")(x))
```

0.4.4 *Examples*

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
232 x, y = var("x y", domain = RR)
233
234 show((square)(x + y).expand())
```

$$x^2 + 2xy + y^2$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
235 show((square + square)(x + y))
```

$$2(x + y)^2$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
236 show((square * square)(x))
```

$$x^4$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
237 show((sin + cos)(x))
```

$$\cos(x) + \sin(x)$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
238 show((square + V)(x))
```

$$x^2 + V(x)$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
hh = compose(square, sin)
show((hh + hh)(x))
```

$$2\sin(x)^2$$

We know that $2\sin x\cos x = \sin(2x)$.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
show((2 * (sin * cos)(x) - sin(2 * x)).simplify_full())
```

$$0$$

Next, we test differentiation and integration.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
show(diff(-compose(square, cos)(x), x))
show(integrate((2 * sin * cos)(x), x))
```

$$2\cos(x)\sin(x)$$

$$-\cos(x)^2$$

Arithmetic with symbolic functions works too.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
U = Function(lambda x: function("U")(x))
V = Function(lambda x: function("V")(x))
```

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
show((U + V)(x))
show((V + V)(x))
show((V(U(x))))
show((compose(V, U)(x)))
```

$$U(x) + V(x)$$

$$2V(x)$$

$$V(U(x))$$

$$V(U(x))$$

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
250 def f(x):
251     def g(y):
252         return x * y ^ 2
253 
254     return g
```

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
255 show(f(3)(5))
```

75

However, we cannot apply algebraic operations on `f`. For instance, this does not work; it gives TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for +: 'function' and 'function'.

don't tangle

```
256 show((f(3) + f(2))(4))
```

By decoration with `@Func` we get what we need.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
257 @Func
258 def f(x):
259     def g(y):
260         return x * y ^ 2
261 
262     return g
```

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
263 show((f(3) + f(2))(4))
```

80

Indeed: $(3+2)*4^2 = 80$.
Decorating with `@Func` is the same as this.

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
264 def f(x):
265     def g(y):
266         return x * y ^ 2
267 
268     return Function(lambda y: g(y))
```

../sage/functions_tests.sage

```
269 show((f(3) + f(2))(4))
```

80

0.5 DIFFERENTIATION

0.5.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
load(
    "functions.sage",
    "tuples.sage",
)
```

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
load("differentiation.sage")

var("t", domain="real")
```

don't tangle

```
load("show_expression.sage")
```

0.5.2 *Examples with matrices, functions and tuples*

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
_ = var("a b c x y", domain=RR)
M = matrix([[a, b], [b, c]])
b = vector([a, b])
v = vector([x, y])
F = 1 / 2 * v * M * v + b * v + c
```

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
show(F)
```

$$\frac{1}{2}(ax + by)x + ax + \frac{1}{2}(bx + cy)y + by + c$$

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
show(F.expand())
```

$$\frac{1}{2}ax^2 + bxy + \frac{1}{2}cy^2 + ax + by + c$$

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
show(diff(F, x))
```

$$ax + by + a$$

Repeated differentiation works nicely.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
show(diff(F, [x, y]))
```

$$b$$

This is the Jacobian.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
show(jacobian(F, [x, y]))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} ax + by + a & bx + cy + b \end{array}\right]$$

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
show(jacobian(F, v.list()))  # convert the column matrix to a list
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} ax + by + a & bx + cy + b \end{array}\right]$$

This expression gives an error.

don't tangle
```
diff(F, v) # v is not a list, but a vector
```

To differentiate a Python function we need to provide the arguments to the function.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
def F(v):
    return 1 / 2 * v * M * v + b * v + c
```

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
show(diff(F(v), x)) # add the arguments to F
show(jacobian(F(v), v.list()))
```

$$ax + by + a$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} ax + by + a & bx + cy + b \end{array}\right]$$

The next two examples do not work.

don't tangle
```
jacobian(F, v) # F has no arguments
jacobian(F(v), v) # v is not a list
```

The `Tuple` class supports differentiation.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage
```
T = up(t, t ^ 2, t ^ 3, sin(3 * t))
show(diff(T, t))
```

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2t \\ 3t^2 \\ 3\cos\left(3t\right) \end{array}$$

0.5.3 *Differentation with respect to time*

The function `D` takes a function (of time) as argument, and returns the derivative with respect to time:

$$D(f(\cdot) : t \to f'(t).$$

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
298 @Func
299 def D(f):
300     return lambda t: diff(f(t), t)
301     #return derivative(expr, t)
```

Here is an example.

don't tangle

```
302 q = Function(lambda t: function("q")(t))
303
304 show(D(q)(t))
```

$$\dot{q}$$

0.5.4 *Differentiation with respect to function arguments*

The Euler-Lagrange equations depend on the partial derivative of a Lagrangian L with respect to q and v, and a total derivative with respect to time. Now `q` and `v` will often by functions of time, so we need to find a way to differentiate with respect to *functions*, like $q(\cdot)$, rather than just symbols, like x. To implement this in Sagemath turned out to be far from easy, at least for me.

First, observe that the Jacobian in Sagemath takes as arguments a function and the variables with respect to which to take the derivatives. So, I tried this first:

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
305 q = Function(lambda t: function("q")(t))
```

But the next code gives errors saying that the argument `q` should be a symbolic function, which it is not.

don't tangle

```
306 F = 5 * q + 3 * t
307
308 show(diff(F, r)) # does not work
309 show(jacobian(F, [q, t])) # does not work
```

To get around this problem, I use the following strategy to differentiate a function F with respect to functions.

1. Make a list of dummy symbols, one for *each argument* of F that is *not a symbol*. To understand this in detail, observe that arguments like `t` or `x` are symbols, but such symbols need not be protection. In other words: we don't have to replace a symbol by another symbol, because Sagemath can already differentiate wrt symbols; it's the other 'things' are the things that have to be replaced by a variable. Thus, arguments like `q(t)` that are *not* symbols have to be protected by replacing them with dummy symbols.

2. Replace in F the arguments by their dummy variables. We use the Sagemath `subs` functionality of Sagemath to substitute the dummy variables for the functions. Now there is one further problem: `subs` does not work on lists or tuples. However, `subs` *does work* on vectors and matrices. Therefore, we cast all relevant lists to vectors, which suffices for our goal.

3. Take the Jacobian of F with respect to the dummy symbols. We achieve this by substituting the dummy symbols in the vector of arguments and the vector of variables.

4. Invert: Replace in the final result the dummy symbols by their related arguments.

We use `id(v)` to create a unique variable name for each dummy variable and store the mapping from the functions to the dummy variables in a dictionary `subs`. (As these are internal names, the actual variable names are irrelevant; as long as they are unique, it's OK.)

We know from the above that `jacobian` expects a *list* with the variables with respect to which to differentiate. Therefore, we turn the vector with substituted variables to a list.

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
310 def Jacobian(F):
311     def f(args, vrs):
312         if isinstance(args, (list, tuple)):
313             args = vector(args)
314         if isinstance(vrs, (list, tuple)):
315             vrs = vector(vrs)
316         subs = {
317             v: var(f"v{id(v)}", domain=RR)
318             for v in args.list()
319             if not v.is_symbol()
320         }
321         result = jacobian(F(args.subs(subs)), vrs.subs(subs).list())
322         inverse_subs = {v: k for k, v in subs.items()}
323         return result.subs(inverse_subs)
324 
325     return f
```

Here are some examples to see how to use this `Jacobian`. Note that `Jacobian` expects the arguments and variables to be *lists*, or list like. As a result, in the function `F` we have to unpack the list.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
v = var("v", domain=RR)


def F(v):
    r, t = v.list()
    return 5 * r ^ 3 + 3 * t ^ 2 * r


show(Jacobian(F)([v, t], [t]))
show(Jacobian(F)([v, t], [v, t]))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} 6tv \end{array}\right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} 3t^2 + 15v^2 & 6tv \end{array}\right]$$

This works. Now we try the same with a function like argument. Recall, `v` must a be list for `partial` on which `gradient` depends.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
q = Function(lambda t: function("q")(t))
v = [q(t), t]
show(Jacobian(F)(v, v))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} 3t^2 + 15q^2 & 6tq \end{array}\right]$$

0.5.5 *Gradient and Hessian*

Next we build the gradient. We can use Sagemath's `jacobian`, but as is clear from above, we need to indicate explicitly the variable names with respect to which to differentiate. Moreover, we like to be able to take the gradient with respect to literal functions. Thus, we use the `Jacobian` defined above.

One idea for the gradient is like this. However, this does not allow to use `gradient` as a function in functional composition.

don't tangle

```
def gradient(F, v):
    return Jacobian(F)(v, v).T
```

We therefore favor the next implementation. BTW, note that the gradient is a vector in a tangent space, hence it is column vector. For that reason we transpose the Jacobian.

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
def gradient(F):
    return lambda v: Jacobian(F)(v, v).T
```

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
show(gradient(F)(v))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3t^2 + 15q^2 \\ 6tq \end{bmatrix}$$

When differentiating a symbolic function, wrap such a function in a `Function`.

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
U = Function(lambda x: function("U")(square(x)))
show(gradient(U)(v))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2q\mathrm{D}_0\left(U\right)\left(t^2 + q^2\right) \\ 2t\mathrm{D}_0\left(U\right)\left(t^2 + q^2\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

The Hessian can now be defined as the composition of the gradient with itself.

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
def Hessian(F):
    return lambda v: compose(gradient, gradient)(F)(v)
```

../sage/differentiation_tests.sage

```
show(Hessian(F)(v))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 30q & 6t \\ 6t & 6q \end{bmatrix}$$

0.5.6 *Differentiation with respect to slots*

To follow the notation of the book, we need to define a python function that computes partial derivatives with respect to the slot of a function; for example, in $\partial_1 L$ the `1` indicates that the partial derivatives are supposed to be taken wrt the coordinate variables. The `Jacobian` function built above allows us a very simple solution. Note that we return a `Function` so that we can use this operator in functional composition if we like.

../sage/differentiation.sage

```
@Func
def partial(f, slot):
    def wrapper(local):
        if slot == 0:
            selection = [time(local)]
        elif slot == 1:
            selection = coordinate(local)
        elif slot == 2:
            selection = velocity(local)
        return Jacobian(f)(local, selection)

    return wrapper
```

The main text contains many examples.

CHAPTER 1

1.4 COMPUTING ACTIONS

1.4.1 *Standard setup*

I make an org file for each separate section of the book; for this section it's `section1.4.org`. Code that is useful for later sections gets tangled to `utils1.4.sage`, otherwise to `section1.4.sage`. This allows me to run the sage scripts on the prompt. Note that the titles of the code blocks correspond to the file to which the code is written when tangled.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
361 import numpy as np
362
363 load("functions.sage", "differentiation.sage", "tuples.sage")
```

BTW, don't load `from sage.all import *` after loading `utils.sage`, because that will lead to name space conflict with the `Gamma` function, which we define below.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
364 load("utils1.4.sage")
365
366 t = var("t", domain="real")
```

The next module is used for nice printing in org mode files; it should only be loaded in org mode files.

don't tangle

```
367 load("show_expression.sage")
```

1.4.2 *The Lagrangian for a free particle.*

The function `L_free_particle` takes `mass` as an argument and returns the (curried) function `Lagrangian` that takes a `local` tuple as an argument.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
368 def L_free_particle(mass):
369     def Lagrangian(local):
370         v = velocity(local)
371         return 1 / 2 * mass * square(v)
372
373     return Lagrangian
```

For the next step, we need a *literal functions* and *coordinate paths*.

1.4.3 *Literal functions*

A `literal_function` maps the time t to a coordinate or velocity component of the path, for instance, $t \to x(t)$. Since we need to perform arithmetic with literal functions, see below for some examples, we encapsulate it in a `Function`.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
374 @Func
375 def literal_function(name):
376     return lambda t: function(name)(t)
```

It's a function.

don't tangle

```
377 x = literal_function("x")
378 print(x)
```

```
<__main__.Function object at 0x71122066e470>
```

Here are some operations on `x`.

don't tangle

```
379 show(x(t))
380 show((x+x)(t))
381 show(square(x)(t))
```

Note that, to keep the notation brief, the t is suppressed in the LaTeX output.

1.4.4 *Paths*

We will represent coordinate path functions q and velocity path functions v as functions that map time to vectors. Thus, `path_function` returns a function of time, not yet a path. We also need to perform arithmetic on paths, like $3q$, therefore we encapsulate the path in a `Function`.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
382 @Func
383 def path_function(lst):
384     #return lambda t: vector([l(t) for l in lst])
385     return lambda t: column_matrix([l(t) for l in lst])
```

don't tangle

```
q = path_function(
    [
        literal_function("x"),
        literal_function("y"),
    ]
)
```

Here is an example to see how to use `q`.

don't tangle

```
show(q(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

don't tangle

```
show((q + q)(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix}$$

don't tangle

```
show((2 * q)(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix}$$

don't tangle

```
show((q * q)(t))
```

1.4.5 *Gamma function*

The Gamma function lifts a coordinate path to a function that maps time to a local tuple of the form $(t, q(t), v(t), \ldots)$. That is,

$$\Gamma[q](\cdot) = (\cdot, q(\cdot), v(\cdot), \ldots),$$
$$\Gamma[q](t) = (t, q(t), v(t), \ldots).$$

To follow the conventions of the book, we use an `up` tuple for `Gamma`. However, I don't build the coordinate path nor the velocity as up tuples because I find Sagemath vectors more convenient.

Γ just receives q as an argument. Then it computes the velocity $v = Dq$, from which the acceleration follows recursively as $a = Dv, \ldots$. Recall that `D` computes the derivative (wrt time) of a function that depends on time.

When $n = 3$, it returns a function of time that produces the first three elements of the local tuple $(t, q(t), v(t)$. This is the default. Once all derivatives are computed, we convert the result to a function that maps time to an up tuple.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
def Gamma(q, n=3):
    # if isinstance(q, np.ndarray):
    #     q = vector(q.tolist()) # todo, is this still needed?

    if n < 2:
        raise ValueError("n must be > 1")
    Dq = [q]
    for k in range(2, n):
        Dq.append(D(Dq[-1]))
    return lambda t: up(t, *[v(t) for v in Dq])
```

When applying Gamma to a path, we get this.

don't tangle

```
local = Gamma(q)(t)
show(local)
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

We can include the acceleration too.

don't tangle

```
show(Gamma(q, 4)(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x} \\ \ddot{y} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

todo: revise the definitions of time, coordiante, velocity, below.
Finally, here are some projections operators from the local tuple to supspaces.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
time = Function(lambda local: local[0])
coordinate = Function(lambda local: local[1])
velocity = Function(lambda local: local[2])
```

don't tangle

```
show(compose(velocity, Gamma(q))(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.4.6 *Continuation with the free particle.*

Now we know how to build literal functions and Γ, we can continue with the Lagrangian of the free particle.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
413 q = path_function(
414     [
415         literal_function("x"),
416         literal_function("y"),
417         literal_function("z"),
418     ]
419 )
```

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
420 show(q(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
421 show(D(q)(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
422 show(Gamma(q)(t))
```

$$\begin{matrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

The Lagrangian of a free particle with mass m applied to the path `Gamma` gives this. Our first implementation is like this: $L(\Gamma[q](t))$, that is, $\Gamma[q](t)$ makes a local tuple, and this is given as argument to L.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
423 load("functions.sage")
424 m = var('m', domain='positive')
425 show(L_free_particle(m)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\dot{x}^2+\dot{y}^2+\dot{z}^2\right)m$$

Here is the implementation of the book: $(L\circ\Gamma[q])(t)$, that is, $L\circ\Gamma[q]$ is a function that depends on t. Note how the brackets are placed after `Gamma(q)`.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
show(compose(L_free_particle(m), Gamma(q))(t))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\dot{x}^2+\dot{y}^2+\dot{z}^2\right)m$$

We now compute the integral of Lagrangian `L` along the path `q`, but for this we need a function to carry out 1D integration (along time in our case). Of course, Sagemath already supports a definite integral in a library.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
from sage.symbolic.integration.integral import definite_integral
```

I don't like to read dt at the end of the integral because dt reads like the product of the variables d and t. Instead, I prefer to read $\mathrm{d}t$; for this reason I overwrite the LaTeX formatting of `definite_integral`.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
def integral_latex_format(*args):
    expr, var, a, b = args
    return (
        fr"\int_{{{a}}}^{{{b}}} "
        + latex(expr)
        + r"\, \textrm{d}\,"
        + latex(var)
    )


definite_integral._print_latex_ = integral_latex_format
```

Here is the action along a generic path `q`.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
T = var("T", domain="positive")

def Lagrangian_action(L, q, t1, t2):
    return definite_integral(compose(L, Gamma(q))(t), t, t1, t2)

show(Lagrangian_action(L_free_particle(m), q, 0, T))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}m\left(\int_0^T \dot{x}^2\,\mathrm{d}t+\int_0^T \dot{y}^2\,\mathrm{d}t+\int_0^T \dot{z}^2\,\mathrm{d}t\right)$$

To get a numerical answer, we take the test path of the book. Below we'll do some arithmetic with `test_path`; therefore we encapsulate it in a `Function`.

../sage/section1.4.sage
```
test_path = Function(lambda t: vector([4 * t + 7, 3 * t + 5, 2 * t + 1]))
show(Lagrangian_action(L_free_particle(mass=3), test_path, 0, 10))
```

435

Let's try a harder path. We don't need this later, so the encapsulation in `Function` is not necessary.

../sage/section1.4.sage
```
hard_path = lambda t: vector([4 * t + 7, 3 * t + 5, 2 * exp(-t) + 1])

result = Lagrangian_action(L_free_particle(mass=3), hard_path, 0, 10)
show(result)
show(float(result))
```

$$3\left(125e^{20}-1\right)e^{(-20)}+3$$

377.9999999938165

The value of the integral is different from 435 because the end points of this harder path are not the same as the end points of the test path.

1.4.7 *Path of minimum action*

First some experiments to see whether my code works as intended.

../sage/section1.4.sage
```
@Func
def make_eta(nu, t1, t2):
    return lambda t: (t - t1) * (t - t2) * nu(t)


nu = Function(lambda t: vector([sin(t), cos(t), t ^ 2]))

show((1 / 3 * make_eta(nu, 3, 4)  + test_path)(t))
```

$$\left(\frac{1}{3}(t-3)(t-4)\sin+4t+7,\frac{1}{3}(t-3)(t-4)\cos+3t+5,\frac{1}{3}(t-3)(t-4)t^2+2t+1\right)$$

In the next code, I add the `n()` to force the result to a floating point number. (Without this, the result is a long expression with lots of cosines and sines.)

../sage/section1.4.sage
```
def varied_free_particle_action(mass, q, nu, t1, t2):
    eta = make_eta(nu, t1, t2)

```

```
463     def f(eps):
464         return Lagrangian_action(L_free_particle(mass), q + eps * eta, t1, t2).n()
465 
466     return f
467 
468 show(varied_free_particle_action(3.0, test_path, nu, 0.0, 10.0)(0.001))
```

436.291214285714

By comparing our result with that of the book, we see we are still on track. Now use Sagemath's `find_local_minimum` to minimize over ϵ.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
469 res = find_local_minimum(
470     varied_free_particle_action(3.0, test_path, nu, 0.0, 10.0), -2.0, 1.0
471 )
472 show(res)
```

(435.000000000000, 0.0)

We see that the optimal value for ϵ is 0, and we retrieve our earlier value of the Lagrangian action.

1.4.8 *Finding minimal trajectories*

The `make_path` function uses a Lagrangian polynomial to interpolate a given set of data.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
473 def Lagrangian_polynomial(ts, qs):
474     return RR['x'].lagrange_polynomial(list(zip(ts, qs)))
```

While a Lagrangian polynomial gives an excellent fit on the fitted points, its behavior in between these points can be quite wild. Let us test the quality of the fit before using this interpolation method. From the book we know we need to fit $\cos(t)$ on $t \in [0, \pi/2]$, so let us try this first before trying to find the optimal path for the harmonic Lagrangian. Since $\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1$, we can use this relation to check the quality of derivative of the fitted polynomial at the same time. The result is better than I expected.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
475 ts = np.linspace(0, pi / 2, 5)
476 qs = [cos(t).n() for t in ts]
477 lp = Lagrangian_polynomial(ts, qs)
478 ts = np.linspace(0, pi / 2, 20)
479 Cos = [lp(x=t).n() for t in ts]
480 Sin = [lp.derivative(x)(x=t).n() for t in ts]
481 Zero = [abs(Cos[i] ^ 2 + Sin[i] ^ 2 - 1) for i in range(len(ts))]
482 show(max(Zero))
```

In the function `make_path` we use numpy's `linspace` instead of the linear interpolants of the book. Note that the coordinate paths above are column-vector functions, so `make_path` should return the same type.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
def make_path(t0, q0, t1, q1, qs):
    ts = np.linspace(t0, t1, len(qs) + 2)
    qs = np.r_[q0, qs, q1]
    return lambda t: vector([Lagrangian_polynomial(ts, qs)(t)])
```

Here is the harmonic Lagrangian.

../sage/utils1.4.sage

```
def L_harmonic(m, k):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        q = coordinate(local)
        v = velocity(local)
        return (1 / 2) * m * square(v) - (1 / 2) * k * square(q)

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
def parametric_path_action(Lagrangian, t0, q0, t1, q1):
    def f(qs):
        path = make_path(t0, q0, t1, q1, qs=qs)
        return Lagrangian_action(Lagrangian, path, t0, t1)

    return f
```

Let's try this on the path $\cos(t)$. The intermediate values `qs` will be optimized below, whereas `q0` and `q1` remain fixed. Thus, we strip the first and last element of `linspace` to make `qs`. The result tells us what we can expect for the minimal value for the integral over the Lagrangian along the optimal path.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
t0, t1 = 0, pi / 2
q0, q1 = cos(t0), cos(t1)
T = np.linspace(0, pi / 2, 5)
initial_qs = [cos(t).n() for t in T][1:-1]
parametric_path_action(L_harmonic(m=1, k=1), t0, q0, t1, q1)(initial_qs)
```

What is the quality of the path obtained by the Lagrangian interpolation? (Recall that a path is a vector; to extract the value of the element that corresponds to the path, we need to write `best_path(t=t)[0]`.)

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
def find_path(Lagrangian, t0, q0, t1, q1, n):
    ts = np.linspace(t0, t1, n)
    initial_qs = np.linspace(q0, q1, n)[1:-1]
```

```
    minimizing_qs = minimize(
        parametric_path_action(Lagrangian, t0, q0, t1, q1),
        initial_qs,
    )
    return make_path(t0, q0, t1, q1, minimizing_qs)

best_path = find_path(L_harmonic(m=1, k=1), t0=0, q0=1, t1=pi / 2, q1=0, n=5)
result = [
    abs(best_path(t)[0].n() - cos(t).n()) for t in np.linspace(0, pi / 2, 10)
]
show(max(result))
```

0.000172462354236957

Great. All works!
Finally, here is a plot of the Lagrangian as a function of $q(t)$.

../sage/section1.4.sage

```
T = np.linspace(0, pi / 2, 20)
q = lambda t: vector([cos(t)])
lvalues = [L_harmonic(m=1, k=1)(Gamma(q)(t))(t=ti).n() for ti in T]
points = list(zip(ts, lvalues))
plot = list_plot(points, color="black", size=30)
plot.axes_labels(["$t$", "$L$"])
plot.save("../figures/Lagrangian.png", figsize=(4, 2))
```

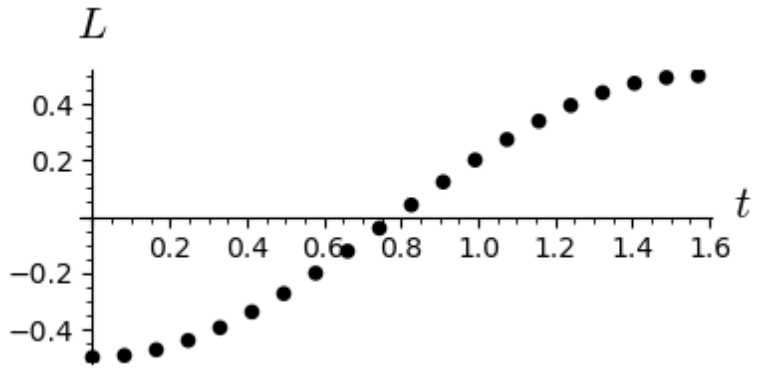

Figure 1.1: The harmonic Lagrangian as a function of the optimal path $q(t) = \cos t$, $t \in [0, \pi/2]$.

1.5 THE EULER-LAGRANGE EQUATIONS

1.5.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/utils1.5.sage

```
load("utils1.4.sage")
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
load("utils1.5.sage")

t = var("t", domain="real")
```

don't tangle
```
load("show_expression.sage")
```

1.5.2 *Derivation of the Lagrange equations*

Harmonic oscillator

Here is a test on the harmonic oscillator.

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
load("utils1.4.sage")
k, m = var('k m', domain="positive")
q = path_function([literal_function("x")])
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
L = L_harmonic(m, k)
show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$-\frac{1}{2}kx^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2$$

We can apply $\partial_1 L$ and $\partial_2 L$ to a configuration path q that we lift to a local tuple by means of Γ. Realize therefore that `partial(L_harmonic(m, k), 1)` maps a local tuple to a real number, and `Gamma(q)` maps a time t to a local tuple. The next code implements $\partial_1 L(\Gamma(q)(t))$ and $\partial_2 L(\Gamma(q)(t))$. (Check how the brackets are organized.)

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 1)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} -kx \end{array}\right]$$

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 2)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} m\dot{x} \end{array}\right]$$

Here are the same results, but now with functional composition.

$$(\partial_1 L \circ \Gamma(q))(t), \qquad (\partial_2 L \circ \Gamma(q))(t).$$

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(compose(partial(L, 1), Gamma(q))(t))
show(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q))(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} -kx \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} m\dot{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

These results are functions of t, so we can take the derivative with respect to t, which forms the last step to check before building the Euler-Lagrange equations. To understand this, note the following function mappings, where we write t for time, l for a local tuple, v a velocity-like vector, and a an acceleration-like vector:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma[q] &: t \to l, \\ \partial_2 L &: l \to v \\ \partial_2 L \circ \Gamma[q] &: t \to v \\ D(v) &: t \to a \\ D(\partial_2 L \circ \Gamma[q]) &: t \to a. \end{aligned}$$

In more classical notation, we compute this:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial_{\dot{q}}} L\left(\Gamma(q)\right)\right)(t)$$

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(D(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q)))(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} m\ddot{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

There we are! We can now try the other examples of the book.

Orbital motion

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
q = path_function([literal_function("xi"), literal_function("eta")])
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
var("mu", domain="positive")

def L_orbital(m, mu):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        q = coordinate(local)
        v = velocity(local)
        return (1 / 2) * m * square(v) + mu / sqrt(square(q))

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
L = L_orbital(m, mu)
show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\dot{\eta}^2+\dot{\xi}^2\right)m+\frac{\mu}{\sqrt{\eta^2+\xi^2}}$$

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 1)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} -\frac{\mu\xi}{(\eta^2+\xi^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} & -\frac{\mu\eta}{(\eta^2+\xi^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \end{array}\right]$$

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 2)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\dot{\xi} & m\dot{\eta} \end{array}\right]$$

An ideal planar pendulum, Exercise 1.9.a of the book

We need a new path in terms of θ and $\dot{\theta}$.

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
q = path_function([literal_function("theta")])
```

Here is the Lagrangian. Recall that the coordinates of the space form a vector. Here, `theta` is the only element of the vector, which we can extract by considering element 0. For `thetadot` we don't have to do this since we consider $\dot{\theta}^2$, and the `square` function accepts vectors as input and returns a real.

../sage/utils1.5.sage
```
var("m g l", domain="positive")


def L_planar_pendulum(m, g, l):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        theta = coordinate(local)[0]
        theta_dot = velocity(local)
        T = (1 / 2) * m * l ^ 2 * square(theta_dot)
        V = m * g * l * (1 - cos(theta))
        return T - V

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
L = L_planar_pendulum(m, g, l)
show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 1)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

../sage/section1.5.sage
```
show(partial(L, 2)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

Henon Heiles potential, Exercise 1.9.b of the book

As the potential depends on the x and y coordinate separately, we need to unpack the coordinate vector.

../sage/utils1.5.sage

```
572 def L_Henon_Heiles(m):
573     def Lagrangian(local):
574         x, y = coordinate(local).list()
575         v = velocity(local)
576         T = (1 / 2) * square(v)
577         V = 1 / 2 * (square(x) + square(y)) + square(x) * y - y**3 / 3
578         return T - V
579 
580     return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
581 L = L_Henon_Heiles(m)
582 q = path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")])
583 show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$-x^2y+\frac{1}{3}y^3-\frac{1}{2}x^2-\frac{1}{2}y^2+\frac{1}{2}\dot{x}^2+\frac{1}{2}\dot{y}^2$$

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
584 show(partial(L, 1)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2xy-x & -x^2+y^2-y \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
585 show(partial(L, 2)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

Motion on the 2d sphere, Exercise 1.9.c of the book

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
586 var('R', domain="positive")
587 
588 
589 def L_sphere(m, R):
590     def Lagrangian(local):
591         theta, phi = coordinate(local).list()
592         alpha, beta = velocity(local).list()
593         L = m * R * (square(alpha) + square(beta * sin(theta))) / 2
594         return L
595 
596     return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
q = path_function([literal_function("phi"), literal_function("theta")])
L = L_sphere(m, R)

show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(\sin(\phi)^2\dot{\theta}^2+\dot{\phi}^2\right)Rm$$

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
show(partial(L, 1)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} Rm\cos(\phi)\sin(\phi)\dot{\theta}^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
show(partial(L, 2)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} Rm\dot{\phi} & Rm\sin(\phi)^2\dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$

Higher order Lagrangians

I recently read the books of Larry Susskind on the theoretical minimum for physics. He claims that Lagrangians up to first order derivatives suffice to understand nature, so I skip this part.

1.5.3 *Computing Lagrange's equation*

The Euler-Lagrange equations are simple to implement now that we have a good function for computing partial derivatives.

The Euler Langrange Equations

We work in steps to see how all components tie together.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
q = path_function(
    [
        literal_function("x"),
        literal_function("y"),
    ]
)

L = L_free_particle(m)
show(compose(partial(L, 1), Gamma(q))(t))
show(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q))(t))
show(D(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q)))(t))
show(
    (D(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q))) - compose(partial(L, 1), Gamma(q)))(t)
)
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\dot{x} & m\dot{y} \end{array}\right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\ddot{x} & m\ddot{y} \end{array}\right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\ddot{x} & m\ddot{y} \end{array}\right]$$

The last step forms the Euler-Lagrange equation, which we can now implement as a function.

../sage/utils1.5.sage

```
617 def Lagrange_equations(L):
618     def f(q):
619         return D(compose(partial(L, 2), Gamma(q))) - compose(
620             partial(L, 1), Gamma(q)
621         )
622 
623     return f
```

The free particle

We compute the Lagrange equation for a path linear in t for the Lagrangian of a free particle..

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
624 var("a b c a0 b0 c0", domain="real")
625 test_path = lambda t: column_matrix([a * t + a0, b * t + b0, c * t + c0])
```

Note that if we do not provide the argument `t` to `l_eq` we receive a function instead of vector.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
626 l_eq = Lagrange_equations(L_free_particle(m))(test_path)
627 show(l_eq(t))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

This is correct since a free particle is not moving in a potential field, hence only depends on the velocity but not the coordinates of the path. But since the velocity is linear in t, all components along the test path become zero.

Here are the EL equations for a generic 1D path.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
628 q = path_function([literal_function("x")])
629 l_eq = Lagrange_equations(L_free_particle(m))(q)
630 show(l_eq(t))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} m\ddot{x} \end{array}\right]$$

Equating this to (0) shows that the solution of these differential equations is linear in t.

The harmonic oscillator

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
var("A phi omega", domain="real")
assume(A > 0)

proposed_path = lambda t: vector([A * cos(omega * t + phi)])
```

`Lagrange_equations` returns a matrix whose elements correspond to the components of the configuration path q.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
l_eq = Lagrange_equations(L_harmonic(m, k))(proposed_path)(t)
show(l_eq)
```

$$\left[\; -Am\omega^2\cos\left(\omega t+\phi\right)+Ak\cos\left(\omega t+\phi\right) \;\right]$$

To obtain the contents of this 1×1 matrix, we take the element `[0][0]`.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
show(l_eq[0][0])
```

$$-Am\omega^2\cos\left(\omega t+\phi\right)+Ak\cos\left(\omega t+\phi\right)$$

Let's factor out the cosine.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
show(l_eq[0, 0].factor())
```

$$-\left(m\omega^2-k\right)A\cos\left(\omega t+\phi\right)$$

Kepler's third law

Recall that to unpack the coordinates, we have to convert the vector to a Python list.

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
var("G m m1 m2", domain="positive")


def L_central_polar(m, V):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        r, phi = coordinate(local).list()
        rdot, phidot = velocity(local).list()
        T = 1 / 2 * m * (square(rdot) + square(r * phidot))
        return T - V(r)

    return Lagrangian


```

```
652 def gravitational_energy(G, m1, m2):
653     def f(r):
654         return -G * m1 * m2 / r
655 
656     return f
```

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
657 q = path_function([literal_function("r"), literal_function("phi")])
658 V = gravitational_energy(G, m1, m2)
659 L = L_central_polar(m, V)
660 show(L(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(r^2\dot{\phi}^2+\dot{r}^2\right)m+\frac{Gm_1m_2}{r}$$

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
661 l_eq = Lagrange_equations(L)(q)(t)
```

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
662 show(l_eq[0, 1] == 0)
```

$$mr^2\ddot{\phi}+2mr\dot{\phi}\dot{r}=0$$

In this equation, let's divide by mr to get $r\ddot{\phi}+2\dot{\phi}\dot{r}=0$, which is equal to $\partial_t(\dot{\phi}r^2)=0$. This implies that $\dot{\phi}r^2=C$, i.e., a constant. If $r\neq 0$ and constant, which we should assume according to the book, then we see that $\dot{\phi}$ is constant, so the two bodies rotate with constant angular speed around each other.

What can we say about the other equation?

../sage/section1.5.sage

```
663 show(l_eq[0, 0] == 0)
```

$$-mr\dot{\phi}^2+m\ddot{r}+\frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}=0$$

As r is constant according to the book, $\ddot{r}=0$. By dividing by $m:=m_1m_2/(m_1+m_2)$, this equation reduces to $r^3\dot{\phi}^2=G(m_1+m_2)$, which is the form we were to find according to the exercise.

1.6 HOW TO FIND LAGRANGIANS

1.6.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
664 load("utils1.5.sage")
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
665 load("utils1.6.sage")
```

don't tangle

```
666 load("show_expression.sage")
```

1.6.2 *Constant acceleration*

We start with a point in a uniform gravitational field.

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
var("t", domain="real")
var("g m", domain="positive")


def L_uniform_acceleration(m, g):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        x, y  = coordinate(local).list()
        v = velocity(local)
        T = 1 / 2 * m * square(v)
        V = m * g * y
        return T - V

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
q = path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")])
l_eq = Lagrange_equations(L_uniform_acceleration(m, g))(q)
show(l_eq(t))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} m\ddot{x} & gm + m\ddot{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.6.3 *Central force field*

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
def L_central_rectangular(m, U):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        q = coordinate(local)
        v = velocity(local)
        T = 1 / 2 * m * square(v)
        return T - U(sqrt(square(q)))

    return Lagrangian
```

Let us first try this on a concrete potential function.

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
def U(r):
    return 1 / r
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
show(Lagrange_equations(L_central_rectangular(m, U))(q)(t))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\ddot{x} - \frac{x}{(x^2+y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} & m\ddot{y} - \frac{y}{(x^2+y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \end{array}\right]$$

Now we try it on a general central potential.

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
694 U = Function(lambda x: function("U")(x))
695 show(Lagrange_equations(L_central_rectangular(m, U))(q)(t))
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} m\ddot{x} + \frac{x\mathrm{D}_0(U)\left(\sqrt{x^2+y^2}\right)}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} & m\ddot{y} + \frac{y\mathrm{D}_0(U)\left(\sqrt{x^2+y^2}\right)}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \end{array}\right]$$

1.6.4 *Coordinate transformations*

To get things straight: the function F is the transformation of the coordinates x' to x, i.e., $x = F(t, x')$. The function C lifts the transformation F to the phase space, so it transforms $\Gamma(q')$ to $\Gamma(q)$.

The result of $\partial_1 F v$ is a vector, because v is a vector. We have to cast $\partial_0 F$ into a vector to enable the summation of these two terms.

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
696 def F_to_C(F):
697     def f(local):
698         return up(
699             time(local),
700             F(local),
701             partial(F, 0)(local) + partial(F, 1)(local) * velocity(local),
702         )
703 
704     return f
```

1.6.5 *polar coordinates*

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
705 def p_to_r(local):
706     r, phi = coordinate(local).list()
707     return column_matrix([r * cos(phi), r * sin(phi)])
```

We apply `F_to_C` and `p_to_r` to several examples, to test and to understand how they collaborate. We need to make the appropriate variables for the space in terms of r and ϕ.

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
708 r = literal_function("r")
709 phi = literal_function("phi")
710 q = path_function([r, phi])
711 show(p_to_r(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi)\, r \\ r \sin(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

This is the derivative wrt t. As the transformation `p_to_r` does not depend explicitly on t, the result should be a column matrix of zeros.

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
show((partial(p_to_r, 0)(Gamma(q)(t))))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next is the derivative wrt r and ϕ.

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
show((partial(p_to_r, 1)(Gamma(q)(t))))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi) & -r \sin(\phi) \\ \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi)\, r \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
show(F_to_C(p_to_r)(Gamma(q)(t)))
```

$$t \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi)\, r \\ r \sin(\phi) \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} -r \sin(\phi)\, \dot{\phi} + \cos(\phi)\, \dot{r} \\ \cos(\phi)\, r \dot{\phi} + \sin(\phi)\, \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

We can see what happens for the Lagrangian for the central force in polar coordinates.

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
def L_central_polar(m, U):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        return compose(L_central_rectangular(m, U), F_to_C(p_to_r))(local)

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
# show(L_central_polar(m, U)(Gamma(q)(t)))
show(L_central_polar(m, U)(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$\frac{1}{2} m r^2 \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m \dot{r}^2 - U\left(\sqrt{r^2}\right)$$

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
expr = Lagrange_equations(L_central_polar(m, U))(q)(t)
show(expr.simplify_full().expand())
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} -m r \dot{\phi}^2 + m \ddot{r} + \frac{r \mathrm{D}_0(U)\left(\sqrt{r^2}\right)}{\sqrt{r^2}} & m r^2 \ddot{\phi} + 2 m r \dot{\phi} \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.6.6 *Coriolis and centrifugal forces*

../sage/utils1.6.sage

```
def L_free_rectangular(m):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        v = velocity(local)
        return 1 / 2 * m * square(v)

    return Lagrangian


def L_free_polar(m):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        return L_free_rectangular(m)(F_to_C(p_to_r)(local))

    return Lagrangian


def F(Omega):
    def f(local):
        t = time(local)
        r, theta = coordinate(local).list()
        return vector([r, theta + Omega * t])

    return f


def L_rotating_polar(m, Omega):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        return L_free_polar(m)(F_to_C(F(Omega))(local))

    return Lagrangian



def r_to_p(local):
    x, y = coordinate(local).list()
    return column_matrix([sqrt(x * x + y * y), atan(y / x)])


def L_rotating_rectangular(m, Omega):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        return L_rotating_polar(m, Omega)(F_to_C(r_to_p)(local))

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
_ = var("Omega", domain="positive")
q_xy = path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")])
expr = L_rotating_rectangular(m, Omega)(Gamma(q_xy)(t)).simplify_full()
```

../sage/section1.6.sage
```
show(expr)
```

$$\frac{1}{2}\Omega^2 m x^2 + \frac{1}{2}\Omega^2 m y^2 - \Omega m y\dot{x} + \Omega m x\dot{y} + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{y}^2$$

The simplification of the Lagrange equations takes some time.

don't tangle
```
expr = Lagrange_equations(L_rotating_rectangular(m, Omega))(q)(t)
show(expr.simplify_full())
```

I edited the result a bit by hand.

$$-m\Omega^2 x - 2m\Omega\dot{y} + m\ddot{x}, -m\Omega^2 y + 2m\Omega\dot{x} + m\ddot{y}.$$

1.6.7 *Constraints, a driven pendulum*

Rather than implementation the formulas of the book at this place, we follow the idea they explain at bit later in the book: formulate a Lagrangian in practical coordinates, then formulate the problem in practical coordinates *for that problem*, and then use a coordinate transformation from the problem's coordinates to the Lagrangian coordinates.

For the driven pendulum, the Lagrangian is easiest to express in terms of x and y coordinates, while the pendulum needs an angle θ. So, we need a transformation from θ to x and y. Note that the function `coordinate` returns a (1×1) column matrix which just contains θ. So, we have to pick element $(0,0)$. Another point is that here `ys` needs to be evaluated at `t`; in the other functions `ys` is just passed on as a function.

../sage/utils1.6.sage
```
def dp_coordinates(l, ys):
    "From theta to x, y coordinates."
    def f(local):
        t = time(local)
        theta = coordinate(local)[0, 0]
        return column_matrix([l * sin(theta), ys(t) - l * cos(theta)])

    return f
```

../sage/utils1.6.sage
```
def L_pend(m, l, g, ys):
    def Lagrangian(local):
        return L_uniform_acceleration(m, g)(
            F_to_C(dp_coordinates(l, ys))(local)
        )

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.6.sage

```
_ = var("l", domain="positive")

theta = path_function([literal_function("theta")])
ys = literal_function("y")

expr = L_pend(m, l, g, ys)(Gamma(theta)(t)).simplify_full()
show(expr)
```

$$\frac{1}{2}l^2m\dot{\theta}^2 + lm\sin(\theta)\dot{\theta}\dot{y} + glm\cos(\theta) - gmy + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{y}^2$$

1.7 EVOLUTION OF DYNAMICAL STATE

1.7.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
load("utils1.6.sage")
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
load("utils1.7.sage")

var("t", domain=RR)
```

don't tangle

```
load("show_expression.sage")
```

1.7.2 *Acceleration and state derivative*

We build the functions `Lagrangian_to_acceleration` and `Lagrangian_to_state_derivative` in steps.

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
q = path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")])
local = Gamma(q)(t)
m, k = var("m k", domain="positive")
L = L_harmonic(m, k)
show(L(local))
```

$$-\frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + y^2\right)k + \frac{1}{2}\left(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2\right)m$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
F = compose(transpose, partial(L, 1))
show(F(local))
P = partial(L, 2)
show((F - partial(P, 0))(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -kx \\ -ky \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -kx \\ -ky \end{pmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
show((partial(P, 1) * velocity)(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Convert to vector.

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
show((F - partial(P, 0) - partial(P, 1) * velocity)(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -kx \\ -ky \end{pmatrix}$$

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
def Lagrangian_to_acceleration(L):
    def f(local):
        P = partial(L, 2)
        F = compose(transpose, partial(L, 1))
        M = (F - partial(P, 0)) - partial(P, 1) * velocity
        return partial(P, 2)(local).solve_right(M(local))

    return f
```

We apply this to the harmonic oscillator.

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
show(Lagrangian_to_acceleration(L)(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{kx}{m} \\ -\frac{ky}{m} \end{pmatrix}$$

1.7.3 *Intermezzo, numerically integrating ODEs with Sagemath*

At a later stage, we want to numerically integrate the system of ODEs that result from the Lagrangian. This works a bit different from what I expected; here are two examples to see the problem.

Consider the system of DEs for the circle: $\dot{x} = y$, $\dot{y} = -x$. This code implements the rhs:

don't tangle

```
def de_rhs(x, y):
    return [y, -x]


sol = desolve_odeint(de_rhs(x, y), [1, 0], srange(0, 100, 0.05), [x, y])
pp = list(zip(sol[:, 0], sol[:, 1]))
p = points(pp, color='blue', size=3)
p.save(f'circle.png')
```

However, if I replace the rhs of the DE by by constants,, I get an error that the integration variables are unknown.

don't tangle

```
def de_rhs(x, y):
    return [1, -1]
```

The solution is to replace the numbers by expressions.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
def convert_to_expr(n):
    return SR(n)
```

And then define the function of differentials like this.

don't tangle

```
def de_rhs(x, y):
    return [convert_to_expr(1), convert_to_expr(-1)]
```

Now things work as they should.

1.7.4 *Continuing with the oscillator*

The next function computes the state derivative of the Lagrangian. For the purpose of numerical integration, we cast the result of the derivative of $\mathrm{d}t/\mathrm{d}t = 1$ to an expression, more specifically, by the above intermezzo we should set the derivative of t to `convert_to_expr(1)`.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
def Lagrangian_to_state_derivative(L):
    acceleration = Lagrangian_to_acceleration(L)
    return lambda state: up(
        convert_to_expr(1), velocity(state), acceleration(state)
    )
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
show(Lagrangian_to_state_derivative(L)(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{kx}{m} \\ -\frac{ky}{m} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
839 def harmonic_state_derivative(m, k):
840     return Lagrangian_to_state_derivative(L_harmonic(m, k))
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
841 show(harmonic_state_derivative(m, k)(local))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{kx}{m} \\ -\frac{ky}{m} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
842 def qv_to_state_path(q, v):
843     return lambda t: up(t, q(t), v(t))
```

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
844 def Lagrange_equations_first_order(L):
845     def f(q, v):
846         state_path = qv_to_state_path(q, v)
847         res = D(state_path)
848         res -= compose(Lagrangian_to_state_derivative(L), state_path)
849         return res
850 
851     return f
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
852 res = Lagrange_equations_first_order(L_harmonic(m, k))(
853     path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")]),
854     path_function([literal_function("v_x"), literal_function("v_y")]),
855 )
856 show(res(t))
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \begin{pmatrix} -v_x + \dot{x} \\ -v_y + \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{kx}{m} + \dot{v}_x \\ \frac{ky}{m} + \dot{v}_y \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

1.7.5 *Numerical integration*

For the numerical integrator we have to specify the variables that appear in the differential equations. For this purpose we use dummy vectors.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
857 def make_dummy_vector(name, dim):
858     return column_matrix([var(f"{name}{i}", domain=RR) for i in range(dim)])
```

The `state_advancer` needs an `evolve` function. We use the initial conditions `ics` to figure out the dimension of the coordinate space. Once we have the dimension, we construct a dummy up tuple with coordinate and velocity variables. The ode solver need plain lists; since `space` is an up tuple, the `list` method of `Tuple` can provide for this.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
859 def evolve(state_derivative, ics, times):
860     dim = coordinate(ics).nrows()
861     coordinates = make_dummy_vector("q", dim)
862     velocities = make_dummy_vector("v", dim)
863     space = up(t, coordinates, velocities)
864     soln = desolve_odeint(
865         des=state_derivative(space).list(),
866         ics=ics.list(),
867         times=times,
868         dvars=space.list(),
869         atol=1e-13,
870     )
871     return soln
```

The state advancer integrates the orbit for a time `T` and starting at the initial conditions.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
872 def state_advancer(state_derivative, ics, T):
873     init_time = time(ics)
874     times = [init_time, init_time + T]
875     soln = evolve(state_derivative, ics, times)
876     return soln[-1]
```

As a test, let's apply it to the one D harmonic oscillator.

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
877 state_advancer(
878     harmonic_state_derivative(m=2, k=1),
879     ics=up(0, column_matrix([1, 2]), column_matrix([3, 4])),
880     T=10,
881 )
```

array([10. , 3.71279102, 5.42061989, 1.61480284, 1.8189101])
These are (nearly) the same results as in the book.

1.7.6 *The driven pendulum*

Here is the driver for the pendulum.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
def periodic_drive(amplitude, frequency, phase):
    def f(t):
        return amplitude * cos(frequency * t + phase)

    return f
```

With this we make the Lagrangian.

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
_ = var("m l g A omega")


def L_periodically_driven_pendulum(m, l, g, A, omega):
    ys = periodic_drive(A, omega, 0)

    def Lagrangian(local):
        return L_pend(m, l, g, ys)(local)

    return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
q = path_function([literal_function("theta")])
show(
    L_periodically_driven_pendulum(m, l, g, A, omega)(
        Gamma(q)(t)
    ).simplify_full()
)
```

$$\frac{1}{2}A^2m\omega^2\sin(\omega t)^2 - Alm\omega\sin(\omega t)\sin(\theta)\dot{\theta} + \frac{1}{2}l^2m\dot{\theta}^2 - Agm\cos(\omega t) + glm\cos(\theta)$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
expr = Lagrange_equations(L_periodically_driven_pendulum(m, l, g, A, omega))(
    q
)(t).simplify_full()
show(expr)
```

$$\left(\; l^2m\ddot{\theta} - \left(Alm\omega^2\cos(\omega t) - glm\right)\sin(\theta)\;\right)$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
show(
    Lagrangian_to_acceleration(
        L_periodically_driven_pendulum(m, l, g, A, omega)
    )(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full()
)
```

$$\left(\frac{\left(A\omega^2\cos(\omega t)-g\right)\sin(\theta)}{l} \right)$$

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
def pend_state_derivative(m, l, g, A, omega):
    return Lagrangian_to_state_derivative(
        L_periodically_driven_pendulum(m, l, g, A, omega)
    )
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
expr = pend_state_derivative(m, l, g, A, omega)(Gamma(q)(t))
show(time(expr))
show(coordinate(expr).simplify_full())
show(velocity(expr).simplify_full())
```

$$1$$

$$\left(\dot{\theta} \right)$$

$$\left(\frac{\left(A\omega^2\cos(\omega t)-g\right)\sin(\theta)}{l} \right)$$

../sage/utils1.7.sage

```
def principal_value(cut_point):
    def f(x):
        return (x + cut_point) % (2 * np.pi) - cut_point

    return f
```

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
def plot_driven_pendulum(A, T, step_size=0.01):
    times = srange(0, T, step_size, include_endpoint=True)
    soln = evolve(
        pend_state_derivative(m=1, l=1, g=9.8, A=A, omega=2 * sqrt(9.8)),
        ics=up(0, column_matrix([1]), column_matrix([0])),
        times=times,
    )
    thetas = soln[:, 1]
    pp = list(zip(times, thetas))
    p = points(pp, color='blue', size=3)
    p.save(f'../figures/driven_pendulum_{A:.2f}.png')

    thetas = principal_value(np.pi)(thetas)
    pp = list(zip(times, thetas))
    p = points(pp, color='blue', size=3)
    p.save(f'../figures/driven_pendulum_{A:.2f}_principal_value.png')

    thetadots = soln[:, 2]
    pp = list(zip(thetas, thetadots))
    p = points(pp, color='blue', size=3)
    p.save(f'../figures/driven_pendulum_{A:.2f}_trajectory.png')

```

So now we make the plot.

../sage/section1.7.sage

```
plot_driven_pendulum(A=0.1, T=100, step_size=0.005)
```

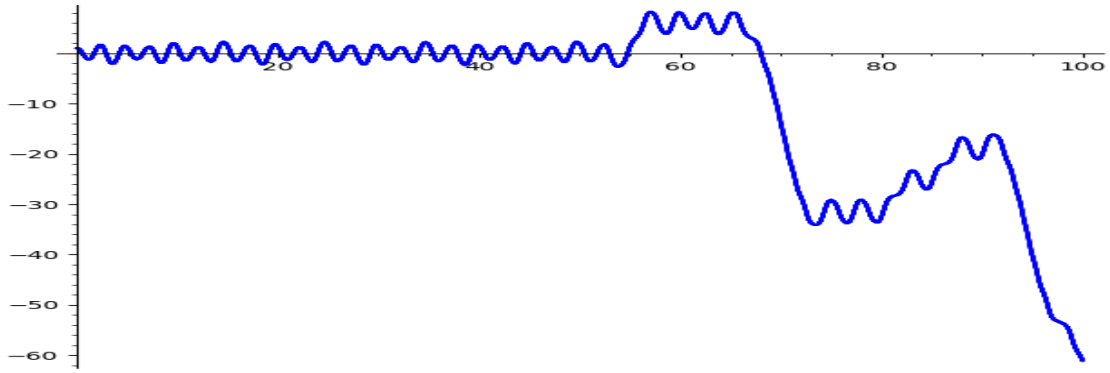

Figure 1.2: The angle of the vertically driven pendulum as a function of time. Obviously, around $t = 80$, the pendulum makes a few revolutions, and then starts to wobble again.

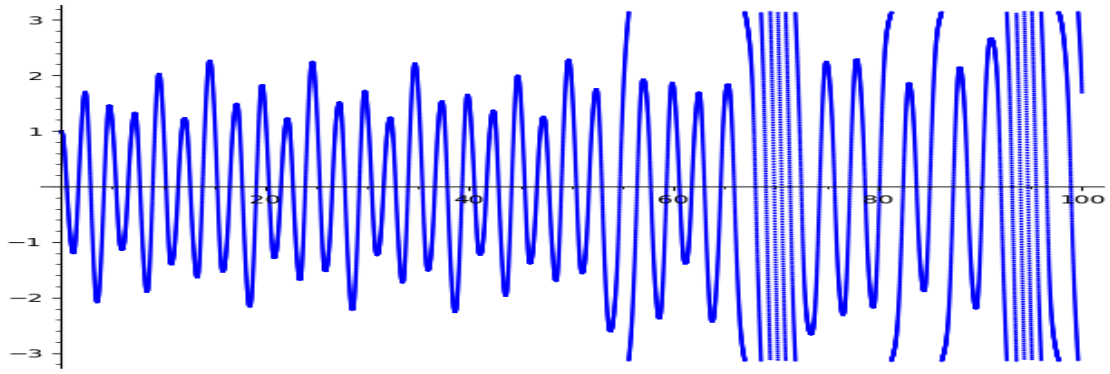

Figure 1.3: The angle on $(-\pi, \pi]$.

1.8 CONSERVED QUANTITIES

1.8.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/utils1.8.sage

```
load("utils1.6.sage")
```

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
load("utils1.8.sage")

var("t", domain=RR)
```

don't tangle

```
load("show_expression.sage")
```

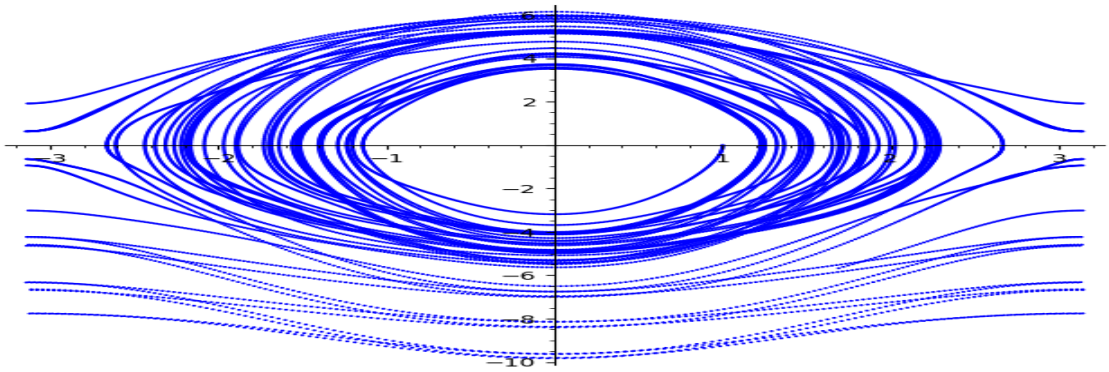

Figure 1.4: The trajectory of θ and $\dot{\theta}$.

1.8.2 *1.8.2 Energy Conservation*

From the Lagrangian we can construct the energy function. Note that we should cast $P = \partial_2 L$ to a `vector` so that `P * v` becomes a number instead of a 1×1 matrix. As we use the Lagrangian in functional arithmetic, we convert `L` into a `Function`.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
953 def Lagrangian_to_energy(L):
954     P = partial(L, 2)
955     LL = Function(lambda local: L(local))
956     return lambda local: (P * velocity - LL)(local)
```

1.8.3 *Central Forces in Three Dimensions*

Instead of building the kinetic energy in spherical coordinates, as in Section 1.8.3 of the book, I am going to use the ideas that have been expounded book in earlier sections: define the Lagrangian in convenient coordinates, and then use a coordinate transform to obtain it in coordinates that show the symmetries of the system.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
957 q = path_function(
958     [
959         literal_function("r"),
960         literal_function("theta"),
961         literal_function("phi"),
962     ]
963 )
```

Next the transformation from spherical to 3D rectangular coordinates.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
964 def s_to_r(sperical_state):
965     r, theta, phi = coordinate(sperical_state).list()
```

```
966     return vector(
967         [r * sin(theta) * cos(phi), r * sin(theta) * sin(phi), r * cos(theta)]
968     )
```

For example, here is are the velocities expressed in sperical coordinates.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
969 show(velocity(F_to_C(s_to_r)(Gamma(q)(t))).simplify_full())
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi)\cos(\theta)\,r\dot{\theta} - (r\sin(\phi)\,\dot{\phi} - \cos(\phi)\,\dot{r})\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta)\,r\sin(\phi)\,\dot{\theta} + (\cos(\phi)\,r\dot{\phi} + \sin(\phi)\,\dot{r})\sin(\theta) \\ -r\sin(\theta)\,\dot{\theta} + \cos(\theta)\,\dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

Now we are ready to check the code examples of the book.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
970 V = Function(lambda r: function("V")(r))
971
972 def L_3D_central(m, V):
973     def Lagrangian(local):
974         return L_central_rectangular(m, V)(F_to_C(s_to_r)(local))
975
976     return Lagrangian
```

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
977 show(partial(L_3D_central(m, V), 1)(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{r\mathrm{D}_0(V)\left(\sqrt{r^2}\right)-\left(mr\sin(\theta)^2\dot{\phi}^2+mr\dot{\theta}^2\right)\sqrt{r^2}}{\sqrt{r^2}} & m\cos(\theta)\,r^2\sin(\theta)\,\dot{\phi}^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
978 show(partial(L_3D_central(m, V), 2)(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} m\dot{r} & mr^2\dot{\theta} & mr^2\sin(\theta)^2\,\dot{\phi} \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
979 def ang_mom_z(m):
980     def f(rectangular_state):
981         xyx = vector(coordinate(rectangular_state))
982         v = vector(velocity(rectangular_state))
983         return xyx.cross_product(m * v)[2]
984
985     return f
986
987
988 show(compose(ang_mom_z(m), F_to_C(s_to_r))(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$mr^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \dot{\phi}$$

This is the check that $E = T + V$.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
show(Lagrangian_to_energy(L_3D_central(m, V))(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$\left[\frac{1}{2} mr^2 \sin(\theta)^2 \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} mr^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} m\dot{r}^2 + V\left(\sqrt{r^2}\right) \right]$$

1.8.4 *The Restricted Three-Body Problem*

I decompose the potential energy function into smaller functions; I find the implementation in the book somewhat heavy.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
var("G M0 M1 a", domain="positive")


def distance(x, y):
    return sqrt(square(x - y))


def angular_freq(M0, M1, a):
    return sqrt(G * (M0 + M1) / a ^ 3)


def V(a, M0, M1, m):
    Omega = angular_freq(M0, M1, a)
    a0, a1 = M1 / (M0 + M1) * a, M0 / (M0 + M1) * a

    def f(t, origin):
        pos0 = -a0 * column_matrix([cos(Omega * t), sin(Omega * t)])
        pos1 = a1 * column_matrix([cos(Omega * t), sin(Omega * t)])
        r0 = distance(origin, pos0)
        r1 = distance(origin, pos1)
        return -G * m * (M0 / r0 + M1 / r1)

    return f

def L0(m, V):
    def f(local):
        t, q, v = time(local), coordinate(local), velocity(local)
        return 1 / 2 * m * square(v) - V(t, q)

    return f
```

For the computer it's easy to compute the energy, but the formula is pretty long.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
q = path_function([literal_function("x"), literal_function("y")])
expr = (sqrt(G*M0 + G*M1)*t) / a^(3/2)
A = var('A')

show(
    Lagrangian_to_energy(L0(m, V(a, M0, M1, m)))(Gamma(q)(t))
    .simplify_full()
    .expand()
    .subs({expr: A})
)
```

$$\left[-\frac{\sqrt{M_0^2+2M_0M_1+M_1^2}GM_0m}{\sqrt{2M_0M_1a\cos(A)x+2M_1^2a\cos(A)x+2M_0M_1a\sin(A)y+2M_1^2a\sin(A)y+M_1^2a^2+M_0^2x^2+2M_0M_1x^2+M_1^2x^2+M_0^2y^2+2M_0M_1y^2+M_1^2y^2}} \right.$$

I skip the rest of the code of this part as it is just copy work from the mathematical formulas.

1.8.5 *Noether's theorem*

We need to rotate around a given axis in 3D space. ChatGPT gave me the code right away.

../sage/utils1.8.sage

```
def rotation_matrix(axis, theta):
    """
    Return the 3x3 rotation matrix for a rotation of angle theta (in radians)
    about the given axis. The axis is specified as an iterable of 3 numbers.
    """
    # Convert the axis to a normalized vector
    axis = vector(axis).normalized()
    x, y, z = axis
    c = cos(theta)
    s = sin(theta)
    t = 1 - c  # common factor

    # Construct the rotation matrix using Rodrigues' formula
    R = matrix(
        [
            [c + x**2 * t, x * y * t - z * s, x * z * t + y * s],
            [y * x * t + z * s, c + y**2 * t, y * z * t - x * s],
            [z * x * t - y * s, z * y * t + x * s, c + z**2 * t],
        ]
    )
    return R
```

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
def F_tilde(angle_x, angle_y, angle_z):
    def f(local):
```

```
        return (
            rotation_matrix([1, 0, 0], angle_x)
            * rotation_matrix([0, 1, 0], angle_y)
            * rotation_matrix([0, 0, 1], angle_z)
            * coordinate(local)
        )

    return f
```

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
q = path_function(
    [literal_function("x"), literal_function("y"), literal_function("z")]
)
```

Let's see what we get when we exercise a rotation of s radians round the x axis.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
def Rx(s):
    return lambda local: F_tilde(s, 0, 0)(local)


s, u, v = var("s u v")
latex.matrix_delimiters(left='[', right=']')
latex.matrix_column_alignment("c")
show(Rx(s)(Gamma(q)(t)))
show(diff(Rx(s)(Gamma(q)(t)), s)(s=0))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ \cos\left(s\right) y - \sin\left(s\right) z \\ \sin\left(s\right) y + \cos\left(s\right) z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -z \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

And now we check the result of the book. The computation of `D F_tilde` is somewhat complicated. Observe that `F_tilde` is a function of the rotation angles, and returns a function that takes `local` as argument. Now we want to differentiate `F_tilde` with respect to the angles, so these are the variables we need to provide to the Jacobian. For this reason, we bind the result of `F_tilde` to `local`, and use a lambda function to provide the angles as the variables. This gives us `Ftilde` (note that I drop the underscore in this name). There is one further point: `F_tilde` expects three angles, while the Jacobian provides the list `[s, u, v]` as the argument to `Ftilde`. Therefore we unpack the argument `x` of the lambda function to convert the list `[s, u, v]` into three separate arguments. The last step is to fill in $s = u = v = 0$.

Note that we differentiate wrt s, u, v and not wrt t. In itself, using t would not be a problem, but since we pass `Gamma(q)(t)` to `F_tilde`, the function depends also on t via the path $t \to \Gamma(q,t)$ which we should avoid.

As for the result, I don't see why my result differs by a minus sign from the result in the book.

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
U = Function(lambda r: function("U")(r))


def the_Noether_integral(local):
    L = L_central_rectangular(m, U)
    Ftilde = lambda x: F_tilde(*x)(local)
    DF0 = Jacobian(Ftilde)([s, u, v], [s, u, v])(s=0, u=0, v=0)
    return partial(L, 2)(local) * DF0
```

../sage/section1.8.sage

```
show(the_Noether_integral(Gamma(q)(t)).simplify_full())
```

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc} -mz\dot{y}+my\dot{z} & mz\dot{x}-mx\dot{z} & -my\dot{x}+mx\dot{y} \end{array}\right]$$

1.9 ABSTRACTION OF PATH FUNCTIONS

I found this section difficult to understand, so I work in small steps to the final result, and include checks to see what goes on.

1.9.1 *Standard imports*

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1082 load("utils1.6.sage")
```

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1083 load("utils1.9.sage")
1084
1085 var("t", domain=RR)
```

don't tangle

```
1086 load("show_expression.sage")
```

1.9.2 *Understanding* `F_to_C`

The Scheme code starts with defining `Gamma_bar` in terms of `f_bar` and `osculating_path`. We build `f_bar` first and apply it to the example in which polar coordinates are converted to rectilinear coordinates.

Next, let's spell out the arguments of all functions to see how everything works together. A literal function maps time t to some part of the space, often to a coordinate, x say.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1087 r, theta = literal_function("r"), literal_function("theta")
1088 show(r)
```

```
<__main__.Function object at 0x752ed4eb27a0>
```

So, `r` is a `Function`. We can evaluate `r` at t. I pass `simplify=False` to `show` to *not* suppress the dependence on t.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1089 show((r(t), theta(t)), simplify=False)
```

$$(r(t), \theta(t))$$

A `path_function` takes literal functions as arguments and returns a coordinate path. Hence, it is a function of t and returns $q(t)$. (I use the notation of the code examples of the book such as `q_prime` so that I can copy the examples into the functions I build later.)

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1090 q_prime = path_function([r, theta])
1091 show(q_prime(t), simplify=False)
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} r(t) \\ \theta(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

The function Γ takes a coordinate path q (which is a function of time) as input, and returns a function of t that maps to a local up tuple l:

$$\Gamma[q] : t \to l = (t, q(t), v(t), \ldots).$$

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1092 show(Gamma(q_prime))
```

```
<function Gamma.<locals>.<lambda> at 0x752ed4ba0cc0>
```

Indeed, `Gamma` is a function, and has to be applied to some argument to result into a value. In fact, when $\Gamma(q)$ is applied to t, we get the local up tuple l. Observe, that a local tuple is *not* a functions of time, by that I mean, a local is not a Python function of time, and therefore does not take any further arguments.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1093 show(Gamma(q_prime)(t), simplify=False)
```

$$\begin{matrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} r(t) \\ \theta(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} r(t) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \theta(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

The coordinate transformation F in the example that transforms polar coordinates to rectilinear coordinates is `p_to_r`. This transform F maps a local tuple l to coordinates `q(t)`. Therefore, we can apply F to $\Gamma[q](t)$, and use composition like this:

$$F(\Gamma[q](t)) = (F \circ \Gamma[q])(t).$$

Observe that $F \circ \Gamma[q]$ is a function of t.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
F = p_to_r
show(compose(F, Gamma(q_prime))(t), simplify=False)
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta(t))\, r(t) \\ r(t)\sin(\theta(t)) \end{bmatrix}$$

Since $F \circ \Gamma[q]$ is a function of t to a coordinate path $q(t)$, this function has the same 'protocol' as a coordinate path function. We can therefore apply Γ to the composite function $F \circ \Gamma[q]$ to obtain a function that maps t to a local tuple in the transformed space.

$$Q : t \to \Gamma[F \circ \Gamma[q]](t).$$

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
Q = lambda t: compose(p_to_r, Gamma(q_prime))(t)
show(Gamma(Q)(t), simplify=False)
```

$$\begin{matrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta(t))\, r(t) \\ r(t)\sin(\theta(t)) \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} -r(t)\sin(\theta(t))\, \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\theta(t) + \cos(\theta(t))\, \frac{\partial}{\partial t} r(t) \\ \cos(\theta(t))\, r(t)\, \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\theta(t) + \sin(\theta(t))\, \frac{\partial}{\partial t} r(t) \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Now that we have analyzed all steps, we can make `f_bar`.

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
def f_bar(q_prime):
    q = lambda t: compose(F, Gamma(q_prime))(t)
    return lambda t: Gamma(q)(t)
```

Here is the check. I suppress the depence on t again to keep the result easier to read.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
show(f_bar(q_prime)(t))
```

$$\begin{matrix} t \\ \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta)\, r \\ r\sin(\theta) \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} -r\sin(\theta)\,\dot{\theta} + \cos(\theta)\,\dot{r} \\ \cos(\theta)\, r\dot{\theta} + \sin(\theta)\,\dot{r} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

The second function to build is `osculating_path`. This is the Taylor series of the book in which a local tuple is mapped to coordinate space:

$$O(t, q, v, a, \ldots)(\cdot) = q + v(\cdot - t) + a/2(\cdot - t)^2 + \cdots.$$

I write $\cdot$ instead of t' to make explicit that $O(l)$ is still a function, of t' in this case.

Clearly, the RHS is a sum of vectors all of which have the same dimension as the space of coordinates.

Rather than computing $\mathrm{d}t^n$ as $(t-t')^n$, and $n!$ for each n, I compute these values recursively. The implementation assumes that the local tuple $\Gamma[q](t)$ contains at least the elements t and q, that is $\Gamma[q](t) = (t, q, \ldots)$. This local tuple has length 2; the local tuple $l = (t, q, v)$ has length 3.

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1102 def osculating_path(local):
1103     t = time(local)
1104     q = coordinate(local)
1105 
1106     def wrapper(t_prime):
1107         res = q
1108         dt = 1
1109         factorial = 1
1110         for k in range(2, len(local)):
1111             factorial *= k
1112             dt *= t_prime - t
1113             res += local[k] * dt / factorial
1114         return res
1115 
1116     return wrapper
```

Here is an example.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1117 t_prime = var("tt", domain="positive", latex_name="t'")
1118 q = path_function([literal_function("r"), literal_function("theta")])
1119 local = Gamma(q)(t)
1120 show(osculating_path(local)(t_prime))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}(t-t')\dot{r} + r \\ -\frac{1}{2}(t-t')\dot{\theta} + \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

With the above pieces we can finally build `Gamma_bar`.

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1121 def Gamma_bar(f_bar):
1122     def wrapped(local):
1123         t = time(local)
1124         q_prime = osculating_path(local)
1125         return f_bar(q_prime)(t)
1126 
1127     return wrapped
```

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1128 show(Gamma_bar(f_bar)(local))
```

$$t$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta)\, r \\ r \sin(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} -r \sin(\theta)\, \dot{\theta} + \cos(\theta)\, \dot{r} \\ \cos(\theta)\, r\dot{\theta} + \sin(\theta)\, \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

We can use `Gamma_bar` in to produce the transformation for polar to rectilinear coordinates.

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1129 def F_to_C(F):
1130     def C(local):
1131         n = len(local)
1132 
1133         def f_bar(q_prime):
1134             q = lambda t: compose(F, Gamma(q_prime))(t)
1135             return lambda t: Gamma(q, n)(t)
1136 
1137         return Gamma_bar(f_bar)(local)
1138 
1139     return C
```

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1140 show(F_to_C(p_to_r)(local))
```

$$t$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta)\, r \\ r \sin(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} -r \sin(\theta)\, \dot{\theta} + \cos(\theta)\, \dot{r} \\ \cos(\theta)\, r\dot{\theta} + \sin(\theta)\, \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

Here is the total time derivative.

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1141 @Func
1142 def Dt(F):
1143     def DtF(local):
1144         n = len(local)
1145 
1146         def DF_on_path(q):
1147             return D(lambda t: F(Gamma(q, n - 1)(t)))
1148 
1149         return Gamma_bar(DF_on_path)(local)
1150 
1151     return lambda state: DtF(local)
```

1.9.3 *Lagrange equations at a moment*

../sage/utils1.9.sage

```
1152 def Euler_Lagrange_operator(L):
1153     return lambda local: (Dt(partial(L, 2)) - partial(L, 1))(local)
```

To apply this operator to a local tuple, we need to include the acceleration.

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1154 q = path_function([literal_function("x")])
1155 local = Gamma(q, 4)(t)
1156 show(local)
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} t \\ x \\ \dot{x} \\ \ddot{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

../sage/section1.9.sage

```
1157 m, k = var("m k", domain="positive")
1158 L = L_harmonic(m, k)
1159 show(Euler_Lagrange_operator(L)(local))
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} kx + m\ddot{x} \end{bmatrix}$$