

# 1 Hamiltonian and Lagrangian Systems

## 1.1 Symplectic Geometry

**Definition 1** Let  $M$  be a manifold and  $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$ . Then define the isomorphism  $\flat : \mathfrak{X}(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}^*(M)$ ;  $X \mapsto X^\flat = i_X \omega$ , and the map  $\sharp$  be its inverse.

**Theorem 1 (Darboux)** Suppose  $\omega$  is a nondegenerate two-form on a  $2n$ -manifold. Then  $d\omega = 0$  iff there is a chart  $(U, \phi)$  around each point  $m$  such that  $\phi(m) = 0$  and  $\omega|_U$  is canonical.

**Definition 2** A **symplectic form** on a manifold  $M$  is a nondegenerate, closed two-form  $\omega$  on  $M$ . A **Symplectic Manifold** is a manifold equipped with a symplectic form. The associated volume form is  $\Omega_\omega = [(-1)^{[n/2]}/n!]\omega^n$ . The charts in which the symplectic form takes the canonical form are called **symplectic charts**, and the coordinate functions are called **canonical coordinates**.

**Definition 3** If  $(M, \omega)$  and  $(N, \rho)$  are symplectic manifolds, a  $C^\infty$  map between them that preserves the symplectic structure is called a **canonical transformation**.

**Proposition 1** A canonical transformation has determinant 1 and is a local diffeomorphism.

**Theorem 2** Let  $M = T^*Q$ , with  $\tau_Q^* : M \rightarrow Q$  and  $T\tau_Q^* : TQ \rightarrow TM$ . Let  $\alpha_q \in M$  and  $\omega_{\alpha_q} \in T_{\alpha_q}M$ . Then let  $\theta_{\alpha_q} : T_{\alpha_q}M \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \omega_{\alpha_q} \mapsto \langle \alpha_q, T\tau_Q^*(\omega_{\alpha_q}) \rangle$ , and  $\theta_0 : \alpha_q \mapsto \theta_{\alpha_q}$ . Then  $\omega_0 = -d\theta_0$  is symplectic and the forms  $\omega_0$  and  $\theta_0$  are called the **canonical forms**.

The canonical forms, given in the usual coordinates of a cotangent bundle, take the form:

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_0 &= \sum p_i dq^i \\ \omega &= \sum dq^i \wedge dp_i\end{aligned}$$

The canonical one-form can be thought of as a 'formal adjoint' to the projection operator:

$$\langle \theta(\alpha_q), w_{\alpha_q} \rangle = \langle T\tau_Q^* w_{\alpha_q}, \alpha_q \rangle$$

## 1.2 Hamiltonian Vector Fields and Poisson Brackets

**Definition 4** On a symplectic manifold, given a function  $H : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the **Hamiltonian Vector Field** associate to the function is a the vector field  $X_H$  satisfying  $\omega(X_H, Y) = \langle dH, Y \rangle$ , or that  $i_{X_H} \omega = dH$ .

**Proposition 2**  $H$  is constant along the flow of  $X_H$ .

**Proposition 3** Along a Hamiltonian flow, the symplectic form is conserved.

**Definition 5** A vector field  $X$  is **locally Hamiltonian** if for every point, there is a neighborhood  $U$  of  $m$  such that  $X|_U$  is Hamiltonian

**Proposition 4** TFAE:

1.  $X$  is locally Hamiltonian
2.  $\mathcal{L}_X \omega = 0$
3. The flow of  $X$  consists of canonical transformations

**Remark 1** Locally Hamiltonian vector fields for a Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{X}(M)$ . Globally Hamiltonian vector fields are locally Hamiltonian, but the other way around requires  $H^1(M) = 0$ .

**Definition 6** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{X}^*(M)$ . Then the Poisson Bracket of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is the one-form  $-\lceil \alpha^\sharp, \beta^\sharp \rceil^\flat$

**Definition 7** Let  $M$  be a symplectic manifold and  $f, g : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then the Poisson bracket of  $f$  and  $g$  is  $\{f, g\} = -i_{X_f} i_{X_g} \omega$ .

**Proposition 5**

$$\{f, g\} = -\mathcal{L}_{X_f} g = \mathcal{L}_{X_g} f$$

Which mean the Poisson bracket is a derivation over  $f$  and  $g$  individually.

**Corollary 1**

1.  $\frac{d}{dt}(f \circ F_t^{X_H}) = \{f \circ F_t^{X_H}, H\}$
2.  $d\{f, g\} = \{df, dg\}$

**Definition 8** The **Lagrange Bracket** of two vector fields is the function  $[[X, Y]] = \omega(X, Y)$  and the Lagrange bracket of a chart is a matrix formed from the Lagrange bracket of each coordinate vector.

**Theorem 3** Let  $(u, \varphi)$  be a chart on a symplectic manifold. Then

1.  $\omega|_U = \sum [[u^i, u^j]] du^i \wedge du^j$
2. In a symplectic chart, the matrix  $\omega_{ij}$  takes the off-diagonal block matrix form of a almost-complex structure.
3. If  $f(q, p) = (Q, P)$ , then  $[[Q, P]] = \sum \left( \frac{\partial q^i}{\partial Q} \frac{\partial p^i}{\partial P} - \frac{\partial q^i}{\partial P} \frac{\partial p^i}{\partial Q} \right)$
4.  $[[q, p]] \circ f^{-1} = [[Q, P]]$

**Theorem 4** If  $X$  is a locally Hamiltonian vector field, and the pushforward of the canonical coordinates by the flow is denoted  $(Q_t, P_t)$ , then  $[[Q_t, P_t]] \circ F_t^X = [[q, p]]$

### 1.3 Integral Invariants, Energy Surfaces, and Stability

**Definition 9** An invariant form for a vector field is one whose Lie derivative is zero.

**Proposition 6** Let  $X$  be a vector field and  $\alpha, \beta$  invariant forms of it. Then

1.  $i_X \alpha$  is invariant
2.  $d\alpha$  is invariant
3.  $\mathcal{L}_X \gamma$  is closed  $\iff d\gamma$  is invariant
4.  $\alpha \wedge \beta$  is invariant

**Definition 10**  $\alpha$  is relatively invariant  $\iff \mathcal{L}_X \alpha$  is closed.

**Definition 11**  $\mathcal{A}_X$  is the algebra of all invariant forms of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_X$  the relatively invariant forms of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  the closed forms of  $\Omega(M)$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  the exact forms.

**Theorem 5** The following sequences are exact:

1.  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_X \xrightarrow{i} \Omega(M) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}_X} \Omega(M) \xrightarrow{\pi} \Omega(M)/\text{Im}(\mathcal{L}_X) \rightarrow 0$
2.  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{i} \mathcal{R}_X \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{A}_X \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathcal{A}_X/(\mathcal{E} \cap \mathcal{A}_X) \rightarrow 0$

Let  $\Sigma_e$  be a connected component of  $H^{-1}(e)$ , where  $e$  is a regular value of  $H$ .

**Theorem 6** There is a volume element  $\mu_e$  invariant on  $\Sigma_e$  invariant under  $X|_{\Sigma_e}$

**Definition 12**  $V \subset M$  is a submanifold is an invariant manifold of a vector field if the vector field is tangent to  $V$  at every point.

**Definition 13** Let  $f_k : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be constants of motion for a Hamiltonian system  $X_H$ , and let  $\vec{F} = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , and  $c$  a regular value of  $\vec{F}$ , and let  $\Sigma_c = \vec{F}^{-1}(c)$ . Then  $\Sigma_c$  is an invariant manifold of  $X_H$  of codimension  $n$  and there is an invariance volume  $\mu_c$  defined on  $\Sigma_c$ .

### 1.4 Lagrangian Systems

**Definition 14** Let  $f$  be any map between vector bundles  $E, F$  over the same base space. Then the **Fiber Derivative** of the function  $f$  is the function  $\mathbf{F}f : E \rightarrow L(E, F)$ ;  $e \mapsto Df(e)$ .

**Proposition 7** Let  $L : TQ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\mathbf{F}L : TQ \rightarrow T^*Q$  is smooth and fiber-preserving.

**Definition 15** Let  $\omega_0$  be the canonical symplectic form on  $T^*Q$  and let  $L : TQ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then the **Lagrange two-form** is  $\omega_L = (\mathbf{F}L)^* \omega_0$

**Definition 16** Let  $Q$  be a manifold and  $L$  a function on the tangent bundle. Then  $L$  is a regular Lagrangian if every point is a regular point of  $\mathbf{FL}$

**Definition 17** Given  $L : TQ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , define the action  $A : TQ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $A(v) = \langle \mathbf{FL}(v), v \rangle$  and the energy  $E = A - L$ . A Lagrangian vector field for  $L$  is a vector field  $X_L$  s.t.  $i_{X_L} \omega_L = dE$ .

**Theorem 7** Let  $X_L$  be a Lagrangian vector field for  $L$ , then in a chart, the integral curves  $(u(t), v(t))$  satisfy Lagrange's Equations:

$$\frac{d}{dt}u(t) = v(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\langle D_2L(u(t), v(t)), w \rangle) = \langle D_1L(u(t), v(t)), w \rangle$$

$\forall w \in TQ$ .

**Theorem 8** Let  $L$  and  $\tilde{L}$  be regular Lagrangians, and  $X_L, X_{\tilde{L}}$  be their respective vector fields. Then TFAE:

1.  $L = \tilde{L} + \alpha + C, d\alpha = 0$
2.  $X_L = X_{\tilde{L}} \text{ \& } \omega_L = \omega_{\tilde{L}}$

The set of closed one-forms on  $Q$  form the 'gauge group' of Lagrangians, i.e. Lagrangians can be transformed without changing the dynamics.

## 1.5 The Legendre Transformation

**Definition 18**  $L$  is a hyperregular Lagrangian if  $\mathbf{FL} : TQ \rightarrow T^*Q$  is a diffeomorphism.

**Theorem 9** Let  $L$  be a hyperregular Lagrangian on  $Q$  and let  $H = E \circ (\mathbf{FL})^{-1} : T^*Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $E$  is the energy of  $L$ . Then  $\mathbf{FL}$  conjugates the flow  $X_L$  to  $X_H$ .

**Theorem 10**  $\mathbf{FH} = (\mathbf{FL})^{-1}$

**Corollary 2** Hyperregular Hamiltonians and Lagrangians correspond bijectively by their fiber derivatives.

## 1.6 Variational Principles in Mechanics

**Definition 19** The path space between two points is defined as  $\Omega(q_1, q_2, [a, b]) = \{c : [a, b] \rightarrow Q \mid c \text{ is a } C^2 \text{ curve, } c(a) = q_1; c(b) = q_2\}$

**Proposition 8** The tangent space of the path space is  $T_c\Omega(q_1, q_2, [a, b]) = \{v : [a, b] \rightarrow TQ \mid \pi_Q(v) = c, v(a) = 0, v(b) = 0\}$

**Theorem 11** *A function satisfies the Euler-Lagrange equations iff the resulting curve is a critical point of the action functional.*

**Theorem 12** *(Euler-Lagrange-Jacobi-Maupertuis Principle of Least Action)*

*Let  $c_0(t)$  be a base integral curve of  $X_L$ ,  $q_1 = c_0(a)$ ;  $q_2 = c_0(b)$ , and  $e$  be the energy of  $c_0(t)$  and be a regular value of  $a$ . Let  $A$  be the accumulated (integrate) action along a path. Then  $dA(c) = 0$ , and the converse holds.*