

# Introduction to Symplectic Topology

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We give a definition of Maslov index of Lagrangian subspace for  $(\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \omega_0)$ , here  $\omega_0$  the standard symplectic form (And hence all symplectic vector space). My definition is same to the one in the text book, but I will give more details and a new proof.

**Theorem 1.** *The space of all Lagrangian subspace  $(\mathcal{L}(n))$  admits a topology and differential structure such that it is diffeomorphism to  $U(n)/O(n)$ .*

**lemma 1.** *For any matrix (a linear map:  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ ) in the form  $Z = \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $ImZ$  a*

*Lagrangian subspace is equivalent to  $X^T Y = Y^T X$  and  $rk(Z) = n$ .*

*Proof.* Omit. The proof given in the book is clear enough. Note that since every dimension  $n$  subspace can be represent as  $ImZ$ , hence all Lagrangian subspace is represented.  $\square$

*Proof.* For all matrices satisfy  $X^T Y = Y^T X$ , we give a another description of this matrix,

consider:  $\bar{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} X & -Y \\ Y & X \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $rk(Z) = n \Rightarrow rk(X, -Y) = n$ , the condition  $X^T Y = Y^T X$

implies that:  $\bar{Z}^T \bar{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} X^T X + Y^T Y & 0 \\ 0 & X^T X + Y^T Y \end{pmatrix}$ , Since  $rkX = rkX^T X$ , for any

$0 \neq u \in \mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow u^T(X^T X + Y^T Y)u > 0$ , so  $X^T X + Y^T Y$  is positive definite. We choose  $U \in GL_n(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that  $U^T(X^T X + Y^T Y)U = Id$ . Note that  $(Xu, Yu)$  and  $(XUu, YUu)$  represent the same space in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ . So we can choose a representation of  $\bar{Z}$  (for all  $\bar{Z}$  represent the same Lagrangian subspace) such that  $X^T X + Y^T Y = Id$ , in another words  $X + iY \in U(n)$ .

Note that the stablizer is  $O(n)$ , hence we can give  $\mathcal{L}(n)$  a differential structure as the orbit space  $U(n)/O(n)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *Every two pairs of Lagrangian subspace  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda'$ , there exist a symplectic map  $\psi$  such that  $\Lambda = \psi\Lambda'$ .*

*Proof.* It suffices to check the case  $\Lambda' = \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ . So we consider the matrix :  $\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}$  represent the  $\Lambda$  such that  $X + iY \in U(n) \subset Sp(2n)$ .  $\square$

**Remark:** Since  $U(n)$  is connected then so does  $Sp(2n)$ , so we can find a path from  $id$  to  $\psi$ , using this path we can prove that  $\mathcal{L}(n)$  is path connected.

### The Maslov index for Lagrangian subspace

Consider the map

$$S^1 \xrightarrow{I(t)} U(n)/O(n) \xrightarrow{\det^2} U(1)$$

Which induce a map in the fundamental group, we call the degree of  $\det^2 \circ I(t)$  the Maslov index of path  $I(t)$ . It's easy to check the it is well-defined.

**Theorem 2.** *The Maslov index represent the isomorphism  $\pi(\mathcal{L}(n)) \cong \mathbb{Z} : \mu(\Lambda(t)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . Here  $\Lambda(t) \in \pi_1(\mathcal{L}(n))$ .  $\mu$  denotes the Maslov index.*

*Proof.* Consider the commutative diagram for principal bundle:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} O(n) & \xrightarrow{\det} & O(1) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ U(n) & \xrightarrow{\det} & U(1) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & S^1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow z \rightarrow z^2 \\ \mathcal{L}(n) & \xrightarrow{\det^2} & U(1) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbb{RP}^1 \xrightarrow{\cong} S^1 \end{array}$$

The first two columns give the long exact sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \pi_1(S^1) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(S^1) & \longrightarrow & \pi_0(O(0)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_0(S^1) \longrightarrow \pi_0(S^1) \\ \uparrow \det & & \uparrow \det^2 & & \uparrow \det & & \uparrow \det \\ \pi_1(U(n)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(\mathcal{L}(n)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_0(O(n)) & \longrightarrow & \pi_0(U(n)) \longrightarrow \pi_0(\mathcal{L}(n)) \end{array}$$

Since  $\mathcal{L}(n)$  is path connected the fifth column is isomorphism, the 1st, 3rd and 4th quivers are all isomorphism. By five lemma we have the 2nd map is isomorphism.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *The Maslov index satisfy the product property, i.e. for  $\psi(t) \in \pi_1(Sp(2n))$  and  $\Lambda(t) \in \pi_1(\mathcal{L}(n))$ ,*

$$\mu(\psi(t)\Lambda(t)) = 2\mu(\psi(t)) + \mu(\Lambda(t))$$

*(here  $\mu(\psi)$  is the Maslov index of loop in  $Sp(2n)$ , which is explained clearly in the book.)*

Maslov index satisfy some basic properties but we only prove this one.

*Proof.* It's easy to see that  $\mu$  is a homotopy invariant, so write  $\psi(s, t) = U(s, t)P(s, t)$ , here  $U(t) \in Sp(2n) \cap O(2n)$ .  $\psi(1, t) = U(t)$ ;  $\psi(0, t) = \psi(t)$ . So it suffices to calculate  $\mu(U(t)\Lambda(t))$ , which is  $2\mu(U(t)) + \mu(\Lambda(t))$  by straight forward calculation.  $\square$