

Title: PSI 2015/2016 Quantum Gravity - Lecture 6

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Abstract:

Quantization of gauge systems

→ ex. of the parametrized particle

- Notion of observables
- Dirac quantization

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Parameterized particle
of observables
quantization

Gauge symmetries $\rightarrow$ constraints

distinction $\rightarrow$ kinematical phase space
 $\rightarrow$ physical (i.e. reduced) phase space

Parameterized particle

Free non-relativistic particle

$$S[q] = \int dt \frac{1}{2} m \dot{q}^2$$

$$p_t = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{t}} = -\frac{m}{2(\dot{t})^3} / \quad p_q = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} = \frac{m}{2} \dot{q} \quad \text{constraint } \dot{t} = 1$$

$$\text{Hamiltonian: } H = p_t \dot{t} + p_q \dot{q} - L = \dot{t} \mathcal{L} = \text{totally constrained system.}$$

$$H = N(s) \mathcal{L}$$

Flow generated by H

$$q' = \{q, H\} = N \frac{p_q}{m}$$

$$t' = \{t, H\} = N$$

$$p'_q = \{p_q, H\} = 0$$

$$p'_t = \{p_t, H\} = 0$$

1. Canonical Embedding

$$p_t = \frac{\delta S}{\delta \dot{t}} = -m \frac{(\dot{q}')^2}{2(\dot{t}')^2} ; \quad p_q = \frac{\delta S}{\delta \dot{q}'} = m \frac{\dot{q}'}{\dot{t}'} \Rightarrow \text{Constraint } \mathcal{C} = p_t + \frac{p_q^2}{2m} = 0$$

$$\text{Hamiltonian } H = p_t \dot{t}' + p_q \dot{q}' - L = \dot{t}' \mathcal{C} = \text{totally constrained system.}$$

$$H = N(s) \mathcal{C}$$

Flow generated by H

$$\dot{q}' = \{q, H\} = N \frac{p_q}{m}$$

$$\dot{t}' = \{t, H\} = N$$

$$\dot{p}_q = \{p_q, H\} = 0$$

$$\dot{p}_t = \{p_t, H\} = 0$$

A 2 physical phase space $\rightarrow$ 2 indpt Dirac observables

$$\{F, \mathcal{C}\} \stackrel{\sim}{=} 0 \quad \text{Weakly (on the constraint surface)}$$

Construction of physical observables $\rightarrow$ (Bianca's notes + Carlo's book)

- select as many gauge fixing conditions as there are constraints

$$t = \tau \quad (\tau \text{ fixed parameter}).$$

- Value of the physical observable $\bar{F}_j(\tau)$ on a gauge orbit is given by the value on that point s of the Gauge orbit on which $t(s) = \tau$ holds.

value of the physical observable $q(t)$ on which $t(s) = \tau$ holds.

$$\text{For } f = q \quad \frac{dq}{ds} = \{q, \mathcal{Q}\} \Rightarrow q(s) = q + \frac{p_1}{m}(s - T_0) \quad \text{gauge orbit of } q \text{ generated by } \mathcal{Q}.$$

$$\frac{dt}{ds} = \{t, \mathcal{Q}\} = 1 \quad t(s) = s \Rightarrow t(s) = \tau = s$$

$$\overline{F}_q^\tau = q(\tau) = q + \frac{p_1}{m}(\tau - T)$$

$$\text{For } f = p_1$$

$$\overline{F}_{p_1}^\tau = p_1$$

$$\overline{F}_t^\tau = \tau$$

$$\overline{F}_{p_1}^\tau = \left(\overline{F}_{p_1}^\tau \right)$$

$$\{ \overline{F}_q \}$$

Dirac program

1. Find a representation of the phase space variables as operators: $\mathcal{H}_{\text{kin}}$ satisfying
 $\{, \} \rightarrow \frac{i}{\hbar} [,]$
2. Promote the constraints to (self-adjoint) operators.
3. Characterize the space of solutions of the constraints and define inner product. $\rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\text{phys}}$
4. Find a (complete) set of gauge invariant observables.

1). kinematical phase space (q, t, p_q, p_t) l.d.

$$H_{\text{kin}} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

$$\Psi(q, t)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ll} q \rightarrow \hat{q} & \hat{q}\Psi = q\Psi \\ t \rightarrow \hat{t} & \hat{t}\Psi = t\Psi \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \text{configuration op.} \\ \text{act by multiplication} \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ll} p_q \rightarrow \hat{p}_q = - \\ p_t \rightarrow \hat{p}_t \end{array} \right]$$

$$2) \quad C = p_t + \frac{p_t^2}{2m} \rightarrow \hat{C} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q^2}$$

$$\hat{C}|\psi\rangle = 0$$

Schrödinger eq

$$\psi_{\text{phy}}(q,t) = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t\right) \psi(q)$$

$$\langle \psi_{\text{phy}}^{(1)} | \psi_{\text{phy}}^{(2)} \rangle = \iint \overline{\psi}^{(1)}(q) \psi^{(2)}(q) dq dt = 0$$

$$\Psi_{\text{phy}}(q,t) = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \hat{H} t\right) \Psi(q)$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}$$

$$\langle \Psi_{\text{phy}}^{(1)} | \Psi_{\text{phy}}^{(2)} \rangle_{\hbar} = \iint \overline{\Psi}^{(1)}(q) \Psi^{(2)}(q) dq dt = \infty$$

$\Rightarrow$ physical inner product. $\triangleleft$ crucial step in Dirac quantization