

Title: Quantum Gravity Lecture

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Collection: Quantum Gravity 2023/24

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# QG

- Portal Info
- HW
- What this course is (not) about

## PLAN

- Geometric mechanics & field theory
  - ~(pre)symplectic geometry
- "Covariant Phase Space" formalism
  - (i) in depth study of symmetries of GR (and gauge theories)
  - (ii) "universal" tool (holography, GR "thermodyn")
  - (iii) Wald's approach to BH mechanics (Entropy as Noether Charge)

• From

- From CPS to canonical ph.sp.
  - (i) GR constraint algebra
  - (ii) reconstruct GR from its sym.
- Glimpses into QG
  - (i) WdW eq.
  - (ii) Ashtekar's variables

# 1) GEOM MECHANICS (symplectic geom.)

action principle

$$S[q^i(t)] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \mathcal{L}(q(t), \dot{q}(t))$$

↑ "history"

$$q(t) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}$$

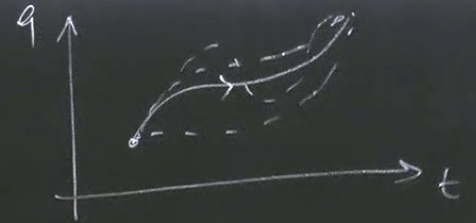
↑ time                      ↑ configuration space

$$\mathcal{L}(q, v) : T\mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Euler-Lagrange eqn

$$\delta S[q(t)] = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q} \delta q + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \frac{d}{dt} \delta q \right) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) \delta q + \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \delta q \right]_{t_0}^{t_1}$$

Phys. traj = stationary history of  $S$  @ fixed  $\delta q(t_+) = \delta q(t_0) = 0$ .  
 $\delta S = 0$



Canonical momentum

↑

↓

Legendre transform

$$p := \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} (*) \rightarrow H(p, q) := p\dot{q} - L(q, \dot{q})$$

↑ understood  
as a function of  $p, q$   
or to be inverting (\*)

↓

Hamilton's eom

$$\text{EL eom} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i} \\ \dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \end{cases}$$

1st order  
ODE (in  $t$ )

→ Geometric meaning in phase space  $P = T^*Q \ni (q, p)$

Given a

Given a Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}(q, p)$  vector field on  $\mathcal{P}$

$$X_{\mathcal{H}} \in \mathcal{X}^1(\mathcal{P})$$

$$X_{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} -\partial \mathcal{H} / \partial q \\ \partial \mathcal{H} / \partial p \end{pmatrix} = \sum_i \left( -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} \right)$$



dynamics = integral curves of  $X_{\mathcal{H}}$

$(\dot{q}, \dot{p})$

Poisson bracket

$$\{ \cdot, \cdot \} : C^\infty(P) \times C^\infty(P) \rightarrow C^\infty(P)$$
$$(f, g) \mapsto \{f, g\} = \sum \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial q_i} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial q_i}$$

$$X_{\mathcal{H}} = \{ \mathcal{H}, \cdot \} \quad [\text{sign}]$$

Symplectic Geom

DEF [symplectic mfd]

$(P, \omega)$  ,  $P$   $2n$ -dim mfd  
 $\omega \in \Omega^2(P)$  s.t.

- ① CLOSED
- ② NON DEGENERATE

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i}$$

integral  
curves of  
 $X_{\mathcal{H}}$

① Closed  $d\omega = 0$

② Non-degenerate

$$\omega^b : TP \rightarrow T^*P$$
$$(z, X) \mapsto \omega^b(z, X) = (z, i_X \omega(z))$$

injective

$$\left[ \begin{aligned} &= X \lrcorner \omega(z) \equiv \omega(X)(z) \\ &= X^{\#} \omega_{\mathbb{R}^2} dz^{\#} \end{aligned} \right]$$

in finite dim  $\Rightarrow$  surjectivity  $\Rightarrow$  bijectivity i.e. invertibility

( $\omega$ ) well defined.  
to Poisson



= 0

$$T\mathcal{P} \rightarrow T^*\mathcal{P}$$

$$(z, X) \mapsto \omega^b(z, X) = (z, i_X \omega(z))$$

we

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \equiv X \lrcorner \omega(z) \equiv \omega(X)(z) \\ \equiv X^{\#} \omega_{IJ} dz^J \end{array} \right]$$

$\Rightarrow$  surjectivity  $\Rightarrow$  bijectivity i.e. invertibility

$(\omega_{IJ})^{-1}$  is well defined.  
(related to Poisson bracket)  
- see below

THM  $Q$   $n$ -dim mfd.  
Then,  $P = T^*Q$  is canonically symplectic.

PF:  $T^*_q Q$  vector sp w/ basis  $\{dq^i\}$   
denote  $p_i$  the coords on  $T^*_q Q$

$$\rightarrow T^*_q Q \ni \alpha = \sum_i p_i(\alpha) dq^i$$

$$\rightarrow z^I = (q^i, p_i) \text{ coords on } P$$

$$\rightarrow \theta(q, p) := \sum_i p_i dq^i \in \Omega^1(P)$$

$$\omega := d\theta = \sum_i dp_i \wedge dq^i$$

SYMPLECTIC  
POTENTIAL  
(related to  $\delta S = \dots + p \delta q$ )

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$$\omega := d\theta = \sum_i dp_i \wedge dq^i \quad \text{SYMPLECTIC}$$

SYMPLECTIC  
POTENTIAL  
(related to  $\delta S = \dots + p \delta q$ )

① Closed  $dw = 0$

② Non-degenerate

$$\omega^b : TP \rightarrow T^*P$$

$$(z, X) \mapsto \omega^b(z, X) = (z, i_X \omega(z))$$

injective

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \equiv X \lrcorner \omega(z) \equiv \omega(X)(z) \\ \equiv X^T \omega_{IJ} dz^J \end{array} \right]$$

in finite dim  $\Rightarrow$  surjectivity  $\Rightarrow$  bijectivity i.e. invertibility

$(\omega_{IJ}(z))^{-1}$  is well defined.  
(related to Poisson brackets)  
- see below

THM (Darboux)  
(P,  $\omega$ ) symplectic, locally looks like  $T^*Q$ .

Namely:

$\forall z \in P, \exists$  open neighb. and coords  $U \simeq \mathbb{R}^{2n} \ni (q^1, \dots, q^n, p_1, \dots, p_n) = z^J$   
s.t.  $\omega|_U = \frac{1}{2} \omega_{IJ} dz^I \wedge dz^J = \sum_i dp_i \wedge dq^i$

DEF:  $\phi \in \text{Diff}(P), \phi^* \omega = \omega$  is a SYMPLECTOMORPHISM.

$X \in \mathfrak{X}'(P), L_X \omega = 0$

Rmk:  $\exists \infty$  many symplectomorph. (infinite dim grp)

$\omega$  non deg.  $\Rightarrow \Pi \in \mathcal{X}^2(\mathcal{P})$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(z) &= \Pi^{IJ}(z) \frac{\partial}{\partial z^I} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z^J} \\ &= (\omega_{IJ}(z))^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial z^I} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z^J} \end{aligned}$$

$$\{f, g\}_{\Pi} := \Pi^{IJ}(z) \frac{\partial f}{\partial z^I} \frac{\partial g}{\partial z^J}$$

Dirac's  
coords.

$$= \sum \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \frac{\partial g}{\partial q} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial q} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p}$$

PROP  $\omega$  sympl.  $\rightarrow \{-, \}$  which is

- skew
- (b) derivation
- Jacobi.  $\leftarrow$  (from  $d\omega=0$ )

Inspired by  $X_H = \{H, \cdot\} \in \mathfrak{X}'(P)$

$\rightarrow X_f = \{f, \cdot\}$  is the "Hamiltonian v.f. of  $f \in C^\infty(P)$ "

DEF:  $X \in \mathfrak{X}'(P)$  s.t.  $\exists f_X \in C^\infty(M)$  ;  $i_X \omega = -df_X$   
is called HAMILTONIAN.

Rmk.  $X^I \omega_{IJ} = -\partial_J f$   $\downarrow \Pi = \omega^{-1}$   
 $X^I = -\Pi^{IJ} \partial_J f$   
 $X^I \partial_I \equiv \{f, \cdot\}$

$H \vee F$  are symplectan.

$$\begin{aligned} L_X \omega &= i_X d\omega + d i_X \omega \\ &= 0 \implies d^2 f_X = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$df_X$