

Title: Mathematical Physics Lecture

Speakers: Kevin Costello

Collection: Mathematical Physics 2023/24

Date: April 02, 2024 - 1:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/24040060>

Given a Lagrangian system,  
the phase space is a classical Hamiltonian system  
that's equivalent.  
i.e. Phase Space is a symplectic manifold  $M$ , with a Hamiltonian

i.e. Phase Space is a symplectic manifold  $M$ , with a Hamiltonian  $H \in C^\infty(M)$

Phase Space is ALWAYS the space of solns to EOM on  
Space  $\times \mathbb{R}$

Example:

$\phi(t)$  a field depends only on  $t$

$$-\frac{1}{2} (\dot{\phi}(t))^2$$

- Why is this symplectic?
- What is Hamiltonian?

Vary  $q_2$  we find

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(t) = q + pt$$

Space of sol's to Euler is  
 $\mathbb{R}^2$ , coordinates  $p, q$

Recall Euler-Lagrange equations are that

$$S(\varphi + \delta\varphi) = S(\varphi) + o(\|\delta\varphi\|)$$

$$\delta\varphi(t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ at } t = -\infty, t = \infty$$



$k$ , coordinates  $\psi$

If  $\varphi(t)$  satisfies EOM, can consider

$$S_{[0,1]}(\varphi) = \int_0^1 \mathcal{L}(\varphi) dt = \int_0^1 \varphi \partial_t^2 \varphi dt$$

$$\delta S_{[0,1]} = S_{[0,1]}(\varphi + \delta\varphi) - S_{[0,1]}(\varphi)$$

$\delta\varphi$  satisfies EOM



Because  $\varphi$  satisfies EOM, bulk term vanishes!

$$\delta S_{[0,1]} = \alpha_0 - \alpha_1$$

$\alpha_0$ : contribution from 0  
 $\alpha_1$ : " " " from 1

If  $M$  is phase space  
 $\alpha_0(q, \delta q)$  linear on  $\delta q$   
 $\alpha_0$  is a section of  $T^*M$   
i.e. a 1-form  
 $\omega$ , symplectic form, is  
$$\omega = d\alpha_0$$
  
 $\omega$  is a 2-form.

Example

$$\leftarrow \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \dot{\varphi}^2 dt$$

$$\delta S_{(0)} = \int_0^1 \partial_t \delta \varphi \partial_t \varphi dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 \partial_t (\delta \varphi \partial_t \varphi) dt - \delta \varphi \partial_t \varphi \Big|_0^1 = 0$$

$$\boxed{\omega = d\alpha_0}$$

$\alpha_2$  form.

$$\alpha_0 = -\delta\varphi \partial_t \varphi$$

$$\varphi(0) = q \quad \varphi'(0) = p$$

$$-dq p$$
$$-dp dq$$

What is  $H$ ?

Space of solns to EOM has a time translation symmetry,  $\partial_t$

$H$  is the function generating this symmetry:

$$\{H, f\} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$$



$$\omega = d\alpha_0$$

$\omega$  is a 2 form.

$$\alpha_0 = -\delta q dp$$

$$\alpha_0 = -dq p$$
$$\omega = -dp dq$$

In our example,

$$q = \varphi(0)$$

$$p = \varphi'(0)$$

$$p = \frac{\partial q}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\{H, q\} = p$$

$$\{H, p\} = 0$$

And,  $\{p, q\} = -1$

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} p^2$$

Alternative way to derive  $\{ \}$  and hence  $\omega$

Coordinates on phase space are operators in the system.

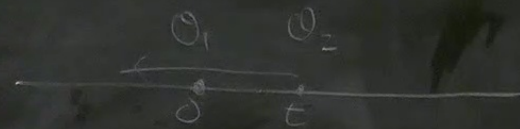
Eg, here,  $q(0), p(0)$

Gauge theory, measure  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} F^2, \dots$   
Gravity, use probe lines going to spatial  $\infty$

We need to give a Poisson bracket on operators

$\Theta_1, \Theta_2$  operations

$$\{\Theta_1, \Theta_2\} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \Theta_1(0) \Theta_2(-t) - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \Theta_1(0) \Theta_2(t)$$



Caution work "semiclassically"  
(leading non-trivial term)

example  $\leftarrow \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 p \dot{\varphi} \, dt$

$$S_{[0,1]} = \int_0^1 \delta \varphi \, \partial_t \varphi$$

$$= \int_0^1 \partial_t (\delta \varphi \, \partial_t \varphi) \, dt = 0$$

$$X_0 = -\delta \varphi \, \partial_t \varphi \quad \varphi(0) = q \quad \varphi'(0) = p$$

$P(t)$  satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2} \partial_t^2 P(t) = \delta_{t=0}$$

$P$  is what we get by  
solving EOM with a source  
 $\varphi(0)$

$$\frac{1}{2} (\partial_t \varphi)^2 + \varphi(0)$$

Vary  $\varphi$ , IBP,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \partial_t^2 P(t) = \delta_{t=0}$$

) satisfies

$$t) = \delta_{t=0}$$

at we get by  
m with a source

$$\frac{1}{2}(\partial_t \varphi)^2 + \varphi(t)$$

Vary  $\varphi$ , IBP,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \partial_t^2 P(t) = \delta_{t=0}$$

$$P(t) = -2 \delta_{t \geq 0} t$$

$$\langle \varphi(0) \varphi'(t) \rangle = -2 \delta_{t \geq 0}$$

This how

This has a discontinuity as we cross 0,

$$\{q, p\} = -1$$

as before.

From this POV,  $\omega$  is inverse of Poisson bracket.



What is the phase space of a classical field theory?

2d scalar field

$\varphi(t, \theta)$

Lagrangian is

$$\int_{S^1 \times \mathbb{R}} \varphi \Pi \varphi$$

$$\theta \sim \theta + 1$$

$$\square = \partial_t^2 - \partial_\theta^2$$

Fact: Any sol<sup>n</sup> to EOM defined in series in  $t$ ,  
extends for all  $t$ .

Not true in Euclidean signature.

Consider  $\varphi(t, \theta) = \sum \frac{t^n}{n!} \varphi^{(n)}(\theta)$ , solving EOM.

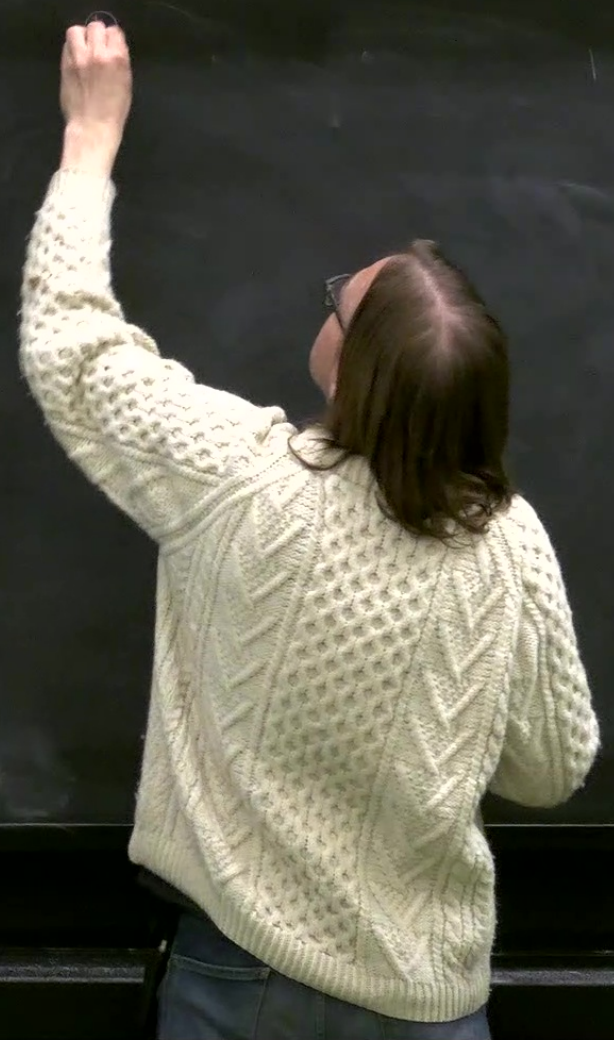
$$\partial_t^2 \varphi = \partial_\theta^2 \varphi$$

means,

$$\partial_\theta^2 \varphi^{(0)} = \varphi^{(2)}$$
$$\partial_\theta^2 \varphi^{(1)} = \varphi^{(3)}$$

⋮

$$\varphi^{(n)} \text{ determined by } \varphi^{(0)}, \varphi^{(1)}$$



Phase space has coordinates

$$q^{(0)}, p^{(0)}$$

$$q^{(1)}, p^{(1)}$$

Expand  $q, p$  into Fourier modes

$$q = \sum_n q_n e^{2\pi i n \omega t}$$

$$p = \sum_n p_n e^{2\pi i n \omega t}$$

$$\partial_\theta^2 \varphi$$

$$= \varphi^{(2)}$$

$$= \varphi^{(3)}$$

measured by  $q^{(0)}, p^{(0)}$

coordinates

You can calculate

$$\omega = \sum d q_n d \bar{p}_n$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum |p_n|^2 + (2\pi)^2 n^2 |q_n|^2$$

to Fourier modes

no

no