

Introduction to CFT

Lecture 9 (04.05.11)

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Hamiltonian mechanics

data { "phase space" (Φ, ω) - a symplectic mfd - states
Hamiltonian $H \in C^\infty(\Phi)$ - determines dynamics

$H \rightsquigarrow$ Ham. vect. field $\check{H} = \{H, \cdot\}$ s.t. $L_{\check{H}} \omega = -dH$

in Darboux words (p_i, q^i) on Φ :
 $\omega = \sum_i dp_i \wedge dq^i$
 $\{f, g\} = \sum_i \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial q^i} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial q^i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_i} \right)$

time evolution = flow of \check{H}

i.e. $\frac{d}{dt} Y^a(t) = \{H, Y^a(t)\}$ for $\{Y^a\}$ -coords on Φ
and $[Y^a(t)]$ - a classical trajectory
- Hamilton's eq. of motion

Rem: equivalently, graph $[Y^a(t)] \subset \mathbb{R} \times \Phi$ is an integral trajectory for the vector field $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \check{H} \in \text{Vect}(\mathbb{R} \times \Phi)$

(infinitesimal) Phase space symmetry: $\check{\psi} \in \text{Vect}(\Phi)$ s.t. $[\check{H}, \check{\psi}] = 0$ ($\Rightarrow \{H, \psi\} = C$ - constant)
 $\{\check{\psi}, \cdot\}$ $\{H, \psi\}$

• if $\{H, \psi\} = 0$ then $\check{H}\psi = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \psi(Y(t)) = 0 \Rightarrow \psi$ is an integral of motion

• if $\{H, \psi\} = C$ then $\psi - Ct$ is an integral of motion

(Ex: particle in linear potential (= constant force field) $H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \alpha x$, $\check{\psi} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$, $\psi = p + \alpha t$ - int. of motion)
 $\psi = p$

Mixed symmetry: $\check{\psi} = r(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \in \text{Vect}(\mathbb{R} \times \Phi)$ s.t. $[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \check{H}, -r(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \check{\psi}] = f(t) (\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \check{H})$
 $\{\check{\psi}, \cdot\}$ $\Leftrightarrow \{H, \psi\} + \dot{r}(t)H = C(t) - \dot{r}(t)$

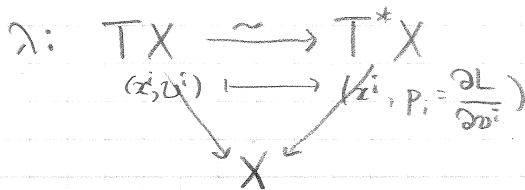
$\Rightarrow \psi + r(t)H - \int C(t) dt$ is an integral of motion

Lagrangian \rightarrow Hamiltonian formalism

given $X, L \in C^\infty(TX)$, one sets $\Phi = \underbrace{T^*X}_{P_i, x^i}$, $\omega = \sum dp_i \wedge dx^i = d\alpha$
 $\alpha = \sum p_i dx^i$

assuming the non-deg. condition

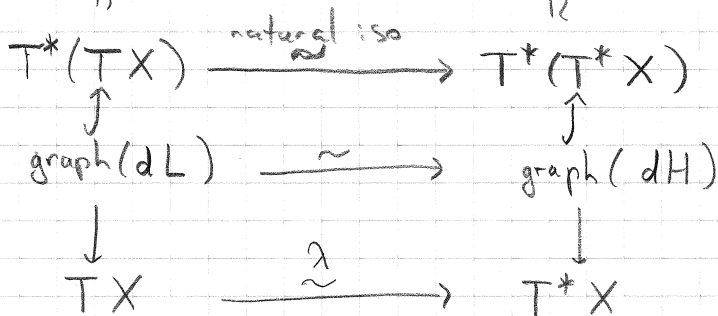
$\det(\frac{\partial^2 L}{\partial v^i \partial v^j}) \neq 0$, one has fiberwise diffeos



one sets

$$H = (\lambda^{-1})^* \left(v_i \frac{\partial L}{\partial v^i} - L \right) \quad \text{- Legendre transform}$$

Global description: $\left(\begin{array}{ccc} (T^* \oplus T^* \oplus T)X & \xrightarrow{\sim} & (T \oplus T^* \oplus T^*)X \\ \cong & \text{(sign!)} & \cong \end{array} \right)$



Rem:

(target symmetries in Lagr. formalism) \xrightarrow{i} (phase space symmetries)

$$\text{im}(i) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ham. v.f.} \\ \psi \in \text{Vect}(\Phi) \end{array} \text{ preserving } \alpha, \text{ i.e. } \mathcal{L}_\psi \alpha = 0 \right\}$$

(cotangent lifts of vect. fields on X)

for such v.f. $\psi = \mathcal{L}_\psi \alpha$ - Noether's integral of motion

Classical (Lagrangian) field theory

$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{D-dimensional} \\ \text{manifold} \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{pseudo-Riemannian (e.g.)}} \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Space of fields } \mathcal{F}_\Sigma \\ \text{action } S_{\Sigma, g}: \mathcal{F}_\Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right)$

(Σ, g) "worldsheet" or "space-time"

e.g.
 Maps (Σ, X)
 $\Gamma(\Sigma, E_\Sigma)$
 some tensor bundle
 Conn $(\Sigma, \mathcal{P}_\Sigma)$
 principal bundle

One requires:

- locality:
$$S[\Phi(x)] = \int \underbrace{\text{vol}_\Sigma}_{\sqrt{\det g} |dx^m|} \mathcal{L}_g(\Phi^a(x), \partial_\mu \Phi^a(x))$$

covariance: to diffeo $m: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma'$ there is an associated map $m^*: \mathcal{F}_{\Sigma'} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\Sigma$

Action satisfies
$$S_{\Sigma, g}[\Phi] = S_{\Sigma', (m^{-1})^* g}[(m^{-1})^* \Phi]$$

Variation of action (under variation of fields only)

$$\delta S = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi^a} \delta \phi^a(x) + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} \delta \partial_{\mu} \phi^a(x) \right) \stackrel{\text{Stokes' thm}}{=} \\ = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\underbrace{\left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi^a} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_{\mu} (\sqrt{g} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)}) \right)}_{\substack{\nabla_{\mu} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} = \text{div}_{\sqrt{g} dx} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} \right) \\ \text{- covariant divergence} \\ \text{(w.r.t. Levi-Civita connection)}}} \right) \delta \phi^a(x) + \int_{\partial \Sigma} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} \delta \phi^a(x) \cdot L_{\partial_{\mu}} (\sqrt{g} dx) \\ \text{flux of vect. field } \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} \delta \phi^a \partial_{\mu} \text{ through } \partial \Sigma$$

Action principle

→ Euler-Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi^a} - \nabla_{\mu} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_{\mu} \phi^a)} = 0$$

PDE determining classical dynamics

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi^a(x)}$$

Examples

① Free massive scalar field

$$\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma} = C^{\infty}(\Sigma), \quad S'_{\Sigma, g}[\phi] = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{1}{2} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \phi \cdot \partial_{\nu} \phi + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \right) \\ = \int_{\Sigma} \frac{1}{2} d\phi \wedge * (d\phi) + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi \wedge * \phi$$

for Lorentzian case, $g := |\det(g_{\mu\nu})|$

sign convention depends on choice of signature:
+ for (3,1)
- for (1,3)

E-L equation:

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_{\mu} \sqrt{g} \partial^{\mu} - m^2 \right) \phi = 0 \quad \text{- Klein-Gordon equation}$$

Δ - covar. Laplacian $\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{for } \Sigma = \mathbb{R}^{3,1}: (\partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu} - m^2) \phi = 0 \\ \text{plane wave solutions: } e^{i(p,x)} \text{ with } (p,p) = -m^2 \\ \text{Generic sol.: } \phi(x) = \int_{M_{\mathbb{R}} \subset \mathbb{R}^3, 1} e^{i(p,x)} p(p) \text{ "mass shell" } (p,p) = -m^2 \end{array} \right)$

* $d \times d$

①' Non-free — " — :

$$S = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{1}{2} (g^{-1})^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \phi \cdot \partial_{\nu} \phi + U(\phi) \right)$$

↑ polynomial of deg ≥ 3

E-L eq.: $\Delta \phi - U'(\phi) = 0$
- non-linear PDE

② Electrodynamics without charges

$\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma} = \Omega^1(\Sigma)$ field: $A = A_{\mu}(x) dx^{\mu}$

action $S = \frac{1}{4} \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} F \wedge * F$

connections in trivial principal \mathbb{R} -bundle over Σ

where $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A_{\mu}$,

$F = dA = \frac{1}{2} F_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} \wedge dx^{\nu} \in \Omega^2(\Sigma)$

- curvature of connection A

E-L eq: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_{\mu} (\sqrt{g} F^{\mu\nu}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} = 0 \Leftrightarrow d^* F = 0$

+ (tautological) Bianchi identity $dF = 0$ } Maxwell's equations

Remi: this theory has gauge symmetry $A \mapsto A + d\varphi, \forall \varphi \in \Omega^0(\Sigma)$

2' Electrodynamics with (background) charges

$$S'_{\Sigma, g, j}[A] = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + j^{\mu} A_{\mu} \right) = \int_{\Sigma} \frac{1}{2} F \wedge *F + A \wedge *j$$

$j \in \text{Vect}(\Sigma)$ - part of (background) geom. data
 $\Sigma'(\Sigma)$

E-L eq.: $\nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} = j^{\nu}$ (or $d^*F = j$) - Maxwell's eq. with charges

Rem • unless $d^*j=0$, there are no solutions to E-L

• if $d^*j=0$, $A \mapsto A + d\varphi$ changes action by a boundary term independent of A:

$$\delta S' = \int_{\partial\Sigma} \varphi \wedge *j \quad ; \text{ so it is still a gauge symmetry}$$

2'' "massive vector field"

$$S'_{\Sigma, g}[A] = \int_{\Sigma} \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{m^2}{2} A_{\mu} A^{\mu} \right) = \int_{\Sigma} \frac{1}{2} F \wedge *F + \frac{m^2}{2} A \wedge *A$$

E-L: $\nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} - m^2 A^{\nu} = 0$ (or $d^*F - m^2 A = 0$)

• no gauge symmetry

Target (internal) symmetry

finite: $\phi(x) \mapsto F_{\alpha}(\phi(x))$, $F_{\alpha}: X \rightarrow X$, for $\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma} = \text{Maps}(\Sigma, X)$

infinitesimal: $\phi(x) \mapsto \phi(x) + f^{\alpha}(\phi(x))$, $f^{\alpha} = \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} F^{\alpha}$

$$\delta_{\mathcal{F}} S'_{\Sigma} \sim_{\text{mod E-L}} \int_{\Sigma} f^{\alpha} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_{\mu} \phi^{\alpha})} \iota_{\partial_{\mu}}(\sqrt{g} dx)$$

Assuming $\delta_{\mathcal{F}} S'_{\Sigma} = 0$
 for any submanifold $N \subset \Sigma$, we have $\nabla_{\mu} j^{\mu}_{\mathcal{F}}(x) \sim 0$ mod E-L where $j^{\mu}_{\mathcal{F}} = f^{\alpha} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_{\mu} \phi^{\alpha})}$

- Noether's thm for internal sym. in Lagr. class. f.t.

Noether's conserved current associated to symmetry f

Rem: • for Σ of the form $[t_0, t_1] \times M$ with $\partial M = \emptyset$,

one constructs a conserved charge out of \mathcal{J} by setting

$$I_{\mathcal{F}}(t) = \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{flux of } j^{\mu}_{\mathcal{F}} \\ \text{through } \{t\} \times M \end{array} \right) = \int_{\{t\} \times M} j^0_{\mathcal{F}} \underbrace{\iota_{\partial_t}(\sqrt{g} dx)}_{\text{vol}_{\{t\} \times M}} \quad \text{Then } \nabla_{\mu} j^{\mu}_{\mathcal{F}} \sim 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} I_{\mathcal{F}} \sim 0$$

• Generally, Lagr. field theory on $\Sigma = [t_0, t_1] \times M$ can be viewed as classical Lagr. mechanics with $X_{\text{mech}} = \text{Maps}(M, X)$, $L = \int_{\{t\} \times M} \text{vol}_{\{t\} \times M} \cdot \mathcal{L}(\phi(t, \vec{x}), \partial_{\mu} \phi(t, \vec{x}))$
 (typically co-dimensional) (if $\dim \Sigma \geq 2$)

Ex. Charged scalar field (complex)

(can put any $U(1) \Phi^2$ here)

$F = \text{Maps}(\Sigma, \mathbb{C})$, $S = \int \sqrt{g} dx \left(\frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \partial^\mu \Phi \partial^\nu \bar{\Phi} + \frac{m^2}{2} |\Phi|^2 \right) \in \mathbb{R}$

\mathcal{E} -L eq. $\begin{cases} (\Delta - m^2)\Phi = 0 \\ (\Delta - m^2)\bar{\Phi} = 0 \end{cases}$ Symmetry: $F_\alpha: \begin{cases} \Phi \mapsto e^{i\alpha}\Phi \\ \bar{\Phi} \mapsto e^{-i\alpha}\bar{\Phi} \end{cases}$

inf: infinitesimally: $\frac{d}{d\alpha} \Big|_{\alpha=0} F_\alpha \cdot \begin{cases} \delta\Phi = i\Phi \\ \delta\bar{\Phi} = -i\bar{\Phi} \end{cases}$

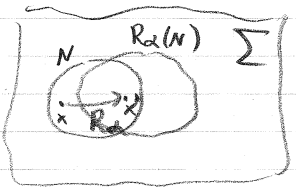
Noether current: $j^\mu = \frac{1}{2i} (\bar{\Phi} \partial^\mu \Phi - \Phi \partial^\mu \bar{\Phi}) = \text{Im}(\bar{\Phi} \partial^\mu \Phi)$

conservation: $\nabla_\mu j^\mu = \frac{1}{2i} (\bar{\Phi} \Delta \Phi - \Phi \Delta \bar{\Phi}) \stackrel{\text{mod } \mathcal{E}\text{-L}}{\sim} \frac{1}{2i} (m^2 |\Phi|^2 - m^2 |\Phi|^2) = 0$

Mixed (source - target) symmetry

$x' = R(x)$
 $\Phi'(x') = F(\Phi(x))$ or $\Phi(x) \mapsto F_\alpha(\Phi(R_\alpha^{-1}(x)))$

infinitesimally: $\Phi^a(x) \mapsto \Phi^a(x) + \underbrace{f^a(\Phi(x)) - r^\mu(x) \partial_\mu \Phi^a(x)}_{Q \in \text{Vect}(\mathcal{F}_\Sigma)}$

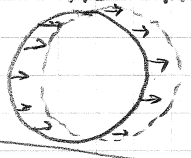


for any $N \subset \Sigma$ submersed, we have:

$\delta_{F,r} S_N = \int_{\partial N} r^\mu (\text{vol}_N)_\mu + Q \delta S \stackrel{\text{mod } \mathcal{E}\text{-L}}{\sim} \int_{\partial N} (r^\mu L - r^\nu \partial_\nu \Phi^a \cdot \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_\mu \Phi^a)} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_\mu \Phi^a)} f^a) \cdot (\text{vol}_{\partial N})_\mu$

variation of S due to variation Q of fields only

boundary term coming from the shift of the integration domain by $r^\mu \partial_\mu$



$\Rightarrow \delta_{F,r} S_N = 0$ for any submersed $N \subset \Sigma \Rightarrow \nabla_\mu j_{F,r}^\mu(x) \stackrel{\text{mod } \mathcal{E}\text{-L}}{\sim} 0$

where $j_{F,r}^\mu = r^\nu \left(L \delta_\nu^\mu - \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_\nu \Phi^a)} \partial_\nu \Phi^a \right) + \frac{\partial L}{\partial (\partial_\nu \Phi^a)} f^a$

Examples

• $\Sigma = \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ (flat) \rightarrow source-translations

$x^\mu \mapsto x^\mu + a^\mu$ are symmetries
 (due to covariance, since transl. are isometries)

$y^\mu_{x \mapsto x+a} = -T^\mu{}_\nu a^\nu$

where $T^\mu{}_\nu := \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi^a)} \partial_\nu \phi^a - \mathcal{L} \delta^\mu_\nu$ - the "canonical" stress-energy tensor

$\partial_\mu T^\mu{}_\nu \sim 0$ (by Noether thm) mod $\mathcal{E}-\mathcal{L}$

$P_\mu(x^0) = \int_{x^0 \text{ fixed slice } \subset \Sigma} T^0{}_\mu(x)$ - conserved energy-momentum (co-) vector \leftarrow i.e. $\frac{d}{dx^0} P_\mu(x^0) \sim 0$ mod $\mathcal{E}-\mathcal{L}$

Ex: scalar field, $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \cdot \partial^\mu \phi + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2$,
 $T^\mu{}_\nu = \partial^\mu \phi \cdot \partial_\nu \phi - \delta^\mu_\nu \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial_\lambda \phi \cdot \partial^\lambda \phi + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \right)$

• $\Sigma = \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$, source rotations (Lorentz transformations)

$x^\mu \mapsto x^\mu + \frac{1}{2} \omega^{\lambda\nu} x^\lambda x^\nu$ inf. rotation, $\omega_{\lambda\nu} = -\omega_{\nu\lambda}$
 $\omega : \mathbb{R}^{p,q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$
 $\mathfrak{so}(p,q)$

for a scalar field, $y^\mu_{\omega}(x) = T^{\mu\nu}(x) \omega_{\nu\rho} x^\rho$, $\partial_\mu y^\mu \sim 0$ mod $\mathcal{E}-\mathcal{L}$

more generally (fields with spin), one can promote rotations of $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ to a mixed symmetry of action, with $x^\mu \mapsto x^\mu + \omega^{\mu\nu} x^\nu$
 $\phi^a \mapsto \phi^a + f_\omega^a(\phi)$

then $y^\mu_{\omega} = -T^{\mu\nu}(x) \omega_{\nu\rho} x^\rho + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi^a)} f_\omega^a$ infinitesimal action of $\mathfrak{so}(p,q)$ on X
 is conserved

• $\Sigma = \mathbb{R}^{p,q}$, massless scalar field, dilatations: $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \cdot \partial^\mu \phi$

$p+q=n$
 $x^\mu \mapsto e^\alpha x^\mu$
 $\phi \mapsto e^{\frac{2-n}{2}\alpha} \phi$
 $y^\mu_{d,e} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\nu \phi \cdot \partial^\nu \phi \cdot x^\mu - \partial^\mu \phi \cdot \partial_\nu \phi \cdot x^\nu + \frac{2-n}{2} y^\mu \phi \cdot \phi$

Hilbert stress-energy tensor: $T^{\mu\nu} := -\frac{2}{\sqrt{g}} \frac{\delta \mathcal{S}_g}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}}$ (works for any (Σ, g) !)

• symmetric, $T^{\mu\nu} = T^{\nu\mu}$

• conserved: $\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \sim 0$ (due to covariance, $\int_{\Sigma-L} \frac{\delta \mathcal{S}_g}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} (\nabla_\mu \epsilon^\nu + \nabla_\nu \epsilon^\mu) \sim \int_{\partial \Sigma} \dots \Rightarrow \int_{\Sigma} \nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} \epsilon^\nu$ such term)

• does not necessarily coincide with $T^{\mu\nu}$ canonical on flat space-times