

L14 Hamiltonian

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* Lagrange equations minimize the "action" $S = \int_a^b \mathcal{L} dt$

$$\delta S = \int_a^b dt \delta \mathcal{L}(\dot{q}, q, t) = \int_a^b dt \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \delta \dot{q} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q} \delta q + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t} \delta t \right]$$

$$= \left. \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} \delta q \right|_a^b + \int_a^b dt \left[-\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q} \right] \delta q(t) \quad [\text{Hamilton's principle}]$$

- if $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}} = 0$, then $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}}$ is constant ("first integral of motion")

- define $p_i \equiv \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}^i}$ as the "generalized momentum"

- then $\dot{p}_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q^i}$ is Lagrange's equation [note the symmetry!]

- thus $d\mathcal{L}(\dot{q}, q, t) = p d\dot{q} + \dot{p} dq + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t} dt = \frac{d}{dt} p dq + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t} dt$

* Hamilton equations: do a change of variables ("Legendre transform")

to make the equations symmetric w/r $q \leftrightarrow p$, not $q \leftrightarrow \dot{q}$

- use $d(p\dot{q}) = dp \cdot \dot{q} + p d\dot{q}$ to switch $d\dot{q}$ to dp

$$d(p\dot{q} - \mathcal{L}) = \dot{q} dp - \dot{p} dq - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial t} dt$$

$$d\mathcal{H}(p, q, t) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p} dp + \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q} dq + \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial t} dt$$

convert $\dot{q} \rightarrow p!$
 $\frac{1}{2}mv^2 \rightarrow \frac{p^2}{2m}$

where the "Hamiltonian" is defined $\mathcal{H}(p, q, t) \equiv p\dot{q} - \mathcal{L}(\dot{q}, q, t)$

- this results in the following "Hamilton equations" of motion

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p} \quad \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q} \quad \text{OR} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \partial_p \mathcal{H} \\ \partial_q \mathcal{H} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{OR} \quad \dot{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{M} \nabla_{\mathbf{a}} \mathcal{H}$$

HO2 #2 M

"symplectic form" $M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ vs. "symmetric metric" $g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

* Examples: 1) if $\mathcal{L} = T - V = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + V$ then $p = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial v} = mv$

$$\mathcal{H} = pv - \mathcal{L} = mv^2 - \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + V = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V$$

• note we had to substitute $v = \frac{p}{m}$ to get $\mathcal{H}(p, x, t)$

• in quantum mechanics, $p \rightarrow -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ so $\mathcal{H}\psi = \left[\frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V(x) \right] \psi(x)$,
part of the "Schrödinger equation" $\mathcal{H}\psi = E\psi$ where $E \rightarrow i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

2) if $T = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{\phi})^2$ then $p_\phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{\phi}} T = \underbrace{m\dot{\phi}}_I = mvr$ "angular momentum"
then $\mathcal{H} = \frac{p_\phi^2}{2\underbrace{m\dot{\phi}^2}_I} + V(\phi)$, which is rotational energy. $I = m\rho^2$

* Action-Angle: For a "harmonic oscillator"

$$\vec{F} = -k\vec{x} \quad V = \frac{1}{2}kx^2, \quad a = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \text{ traces out}$$

a circle in "phase space" $\{a = (p, x)\}$

See [H04#2]

