

Mechanics on algebroids

Janusz Grabowski

(Polish Academy of Sciences)

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Plan of the talk

- The classical Tulczyjew triple
- Euler-Lagrange equations
- Tulczyjew triples for algebroids
- Digression on field theories
- Tulczyjew triples for strings
- Lagrangian and Hamiltonian formalism for strings
- Example: Plateau problem
- Some references
- Home work

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Dynamics

- By (usually implicit) **first-order dynamics** on a manifold N we will understand a submanifold (or even subset) D in TN .
- A curve $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow N$ satisfies this dynamics (is a solution), if its tangent prolongation belongs to D , $t(\gamma) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow D \subset TN$.

Example

A vector field X on N , i.e. a section of the tangent bundle $X : N \rightarrow TN$, defines the dynamics $D = X(N) \subset TN$.

- In local coordinates, for the vector field $X = f_a(q) \frac{\partial}{\partial q^a}$, we have

$$D = \{(q^a, \dot{q}^b) \in TN : \dot{q}^b = f_b(q)\}$$

and the explicit dynamical equations $\frac{dq^a}{dt}(t) = f_a(q(t))$ are the equations for trajectories of this vector field.

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The Tulczyjew triple - Lagrangian side

Any $\mathcal{D} \subset TN$ can be viewed as implicit dynamics whose solutions are curves $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow N$ s.t. $\dot{\gamma} \in \mathcal{D}$. For the Lagrangian phase equations:

M - positions,

TM - (kinematic)

configurations,

$L : TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ - Lagrangian

T^*M - phase space

$$\mathcal{D} = \varepsilon_M(dL(TM)) = \mathcal{T}L(TM),$$

the image of the Tulczyjew differential $\mathcal{T}L$, is the phase dynamics,

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ (x, p, \dot{x}, \dot{p}) : p = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}}, \quad \dot{p} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right\},$$

whence the Euler-Lagrange equation: $\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} \right)$. Note that L can be as well singular for the price that \mathcal{D} is an implicit equation.

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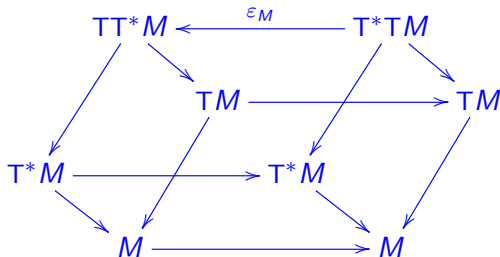
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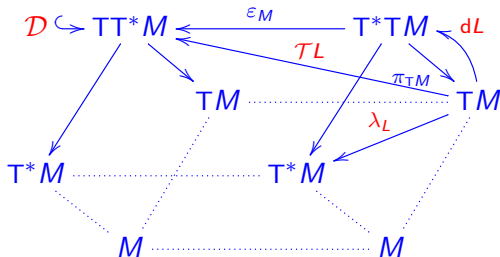
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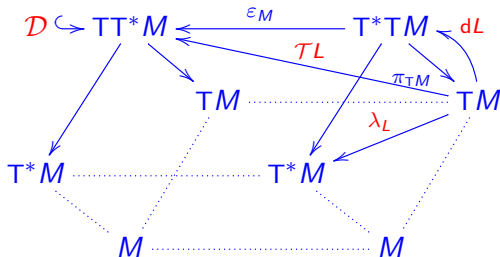
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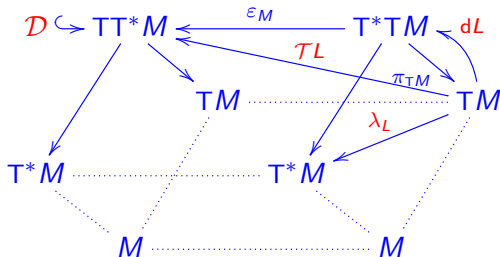
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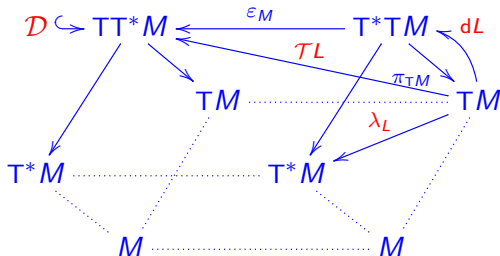
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canonical isomorphism

$$T^*TM \simeq T^*T^*M,$$

$$E : T^*M \times_M TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\tilde{H}(p, v) = \langle p, v \rangle - L(v)$$

$$H : T^*M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \Pi_M^\#(dH(T^*M))$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ (x, p, \dot{x}, \dot{p}) : \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}, \quad \dot{x} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \right\},$$

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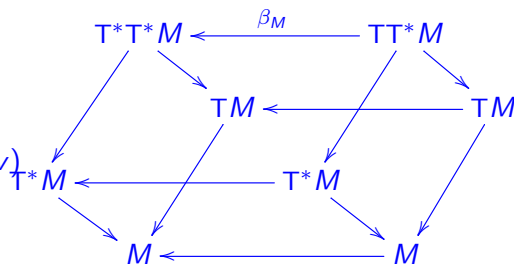
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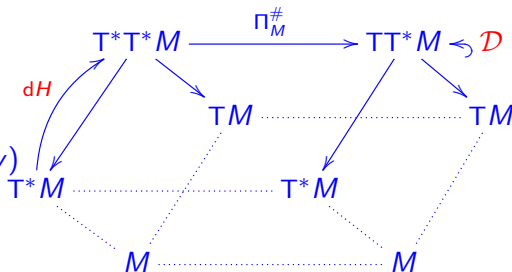
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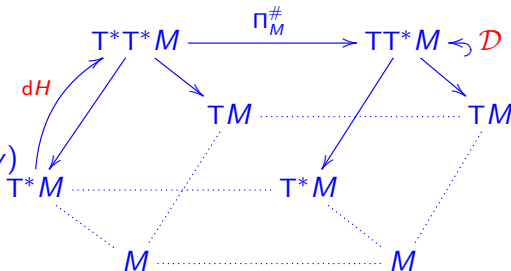
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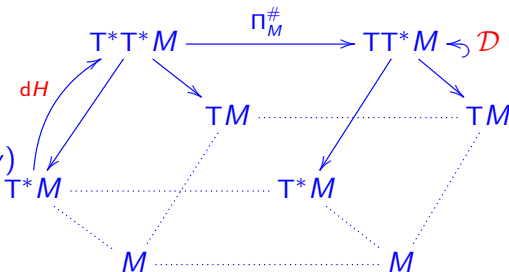
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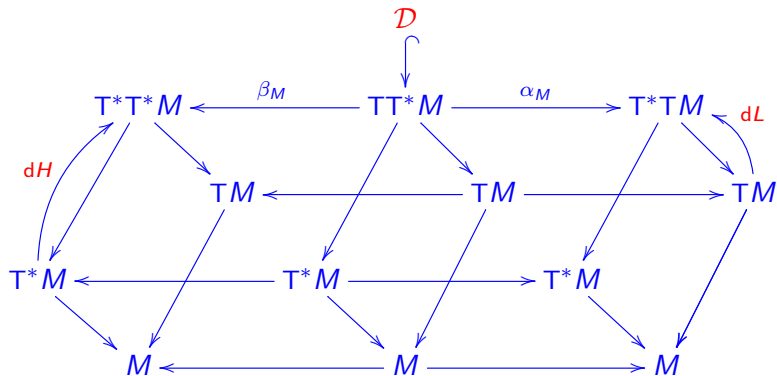


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Tulczyjew triple in mechanics



The dynamics is in the middle, the right-hand side is Lagrangian, the left-hand side – Hamiltonian.

The Legendre transform

- The Legendre transform is a pass from the Lagrange to the Hamilton description of the dynamics:
we try to describe the Lagrangian phase dynamics as a Hamiltonian phase dynamics.
- It is easy in the case of hyperregular Lagrangians (the Legendre map $(q, \dot{q}) \mapsto \lambda_L(q, \dot{q}) = (q, p)$ is a diffeomorphism).
- In this case the Lagrangian phase dynamics D_L is simultaneously Hamiltonian with the Hamiltonian function

$$\begin{aligned} H(q, p) &= \dot{q}^a p_a - L(q, \dot{q}), \\ (q, \dot{q}) &= \lambda_L^{-1}(q, p). \end{aligned}$$

- In other words, the Lagrangian submanifolds $dL(TM) \subset T^*TM$ and $dH(T^*M) \subset T^*T^*M$ are related by the canonical isomorphism \mathcal{R}_{TM} .

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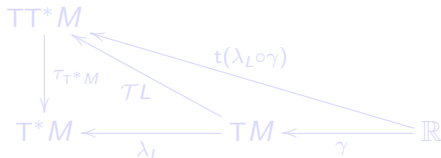
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where $\mathcal{T}L = \varepsilon \circ dL$ is the Tulczyjew differential and $\gamma = t(\underline{\gamma})$ is the tangent prolongation of $\underline{\gamma}$.

- In this sense, the Euler-Lagrange equation can be viewed as a first-order differential equation on curves γ in TM :



- The equation just tells that the curve $\mathcal{T}L \circ \gamma$ is admissible, i.e. that it is a tangent prolongation of a curve (it must be $\lambda_L \circ \gamma$) on the phase space, $\mathcal{T}L \circ \gamma = t(\lambda_L \circ \gamma)$.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
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 \downarrow \tau_{T^*M} & \swarrow \mathcal{T}L & & \swarrow t(\lambda_L \circ \gamma) & \\
 T^*M & \xleftarrow{\lambda_L} & TM & \xleftarrow{\gamma} & \mathbb{R}
 \end{array}$$

- The equation just tells that the curve $\mathcal{T}L \circ \gamma$ is admissible, i.e. that it is a tangent prolongation of a curve (it must be $\lambda_L \circ \gamma$) on the phase space, $\mathcal{T}L \circ \gamma = t(\lambda_L \circ \gamma)$.

Euler-Lagrange equations

- The Euler-Lagrange equation for a curve $\underline{\gamma} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M$ takes in this model the form

$$t(\lambda_L \circ \gamma) = \mathcal{T}L \circ \gamma,$$

where $\mathcal{T}L = \varepsilon \circ dL$ is the Tulczyjew differential and $\gamma = t(\underline{\gamma})$ is the tangent prolongation of $\underline{\gamma}$.

- In this sense, the Euler-Lagrange equation can be viewed as a first-order differential equation on curves γ in TM :

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Euler-Lagrange equations (continued)

- In local coordinates,

$$\mathcal{T}L(q, \dot{q}) = \left(q, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}(q, \dot{q}), \dot{q}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial q}(q, \dot{q}) \right).$$

For $\gamma(t) = (q(t), \dot{q}(t))$ this implies the equations

$$\dot{q}(t) = \frac{dq}{dt}(t), \quad \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}(q(t), \dot{q}(t)) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q}(q(t), \dot{q}(t)).$$

- These equations are second-order equations for curves $q = q(t)$ in M .
- Regularity of the Lagrangian is completely irrelevant for this formalism. Singular Lagrangians just produce complicated and implicit dynamics, but the geometric model is the same.

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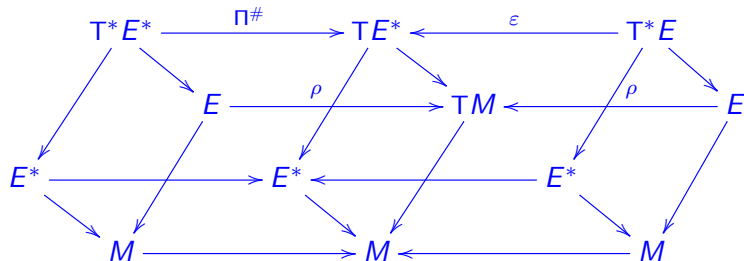
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Algebroid setting



$$H : E^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{T}L(E)$$

$$L : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

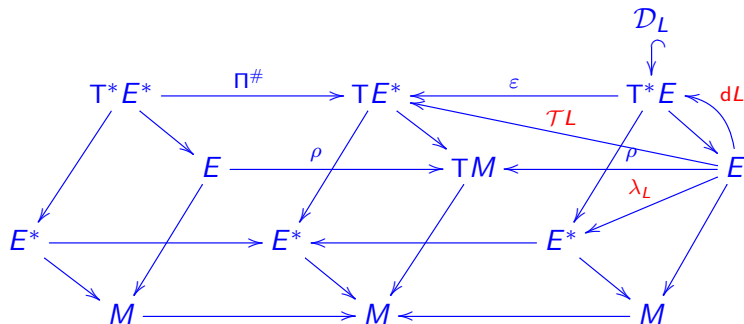
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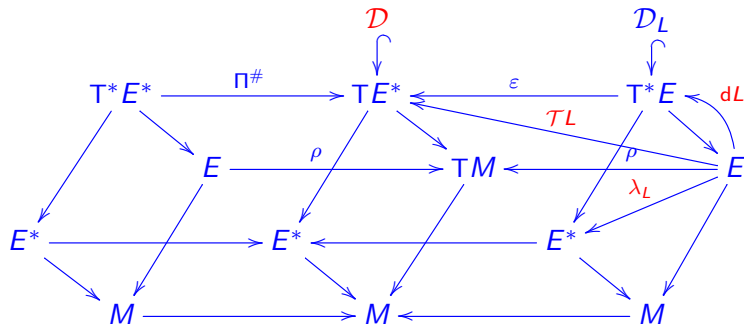
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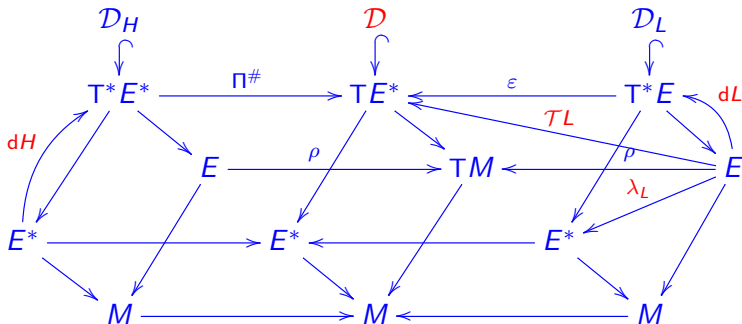
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Euler-Lagrange equations for algebroids

If (q^a) are local coordinates in M ,

(y^i) i (ξ_i) are linear coordinates in fibers of, respectively, E and E^* ,
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$$(1) \quad \frac{dq^a}{dt} = \rho_k^a(q)y^k,$$

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They are first-order differential equations (!) but for admissible curves in E , i.e. for curves satisfying (1). For $E = TM$, they are exactly the tangent prolongations of curves in M , for which the equation is second-order.

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Euler-Poincaré equations

A particular example of the equation (2) is not only the classical Euler-Lagrange equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^a}(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^a}(q, \dot{q}).$$

but also the Lagrange-Poincaré equation for G -invariant Lagrangians on principal G -bundle

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^a} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^a} \right) (q, \dot{q}, v) - (B_{ba}^k(q) \dot{q}^b + D_{ia}^k(q) v^i) \frac{\partial L}{\partial v^k}(q, \dot{q}, v) = 0,$$
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Digression on field theories

- The **motion** of a system is given by an n -dimensional submanifold in the manifold M ("space-time").
- An infinitesimal piece of the motion is the first jet of the submanifold.
- However, this model leads to essential complications even in one-dimensional case (relativistic particle).
- For instance, the infinitesimal action (Lagrangian) is not a function on first jets, but a section of certain line bundle over the first-jet manifold, a 'dual' of the bundle of "first jets with volumes".
- **Compromise:** take for the space of infinitesimal pieces of motions the space of simple n -vectors, which represent first jets of n -dimensional submanifolds together with an infinitesimal volume.
- It is technically convenient to extend this space to all n -vectors, i.e. to the vector bundle $\wedge^n TM$ of n -vectors on M .

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Dynamics of strings

- An evolution of strings is represented by surfaces in M . Passing to infinitesimal parts we will view a **Lagrangian** L as a function

$$L : \wedge^2 TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

If L is positive homogeneous, the action functional does not depend on the parametrization of the submanifold and the corresponding Hamiltonian (if it exists) is a function on the dual vector bundle $\wedge^2 T^*M$ (the phase space).

- The **dynamics** should be an equation (in general, implicit) for 2-dimensional submanifolds in the phase space, i.e.

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- A submanifold S in the phase space $\wedge^2 T^*M$ is a **solution** of \mathcal{D} if and only if its tangent space $T_\alpha S$ at $\alpha \in \wedge^2 T^*M$ is represented by a bivector from \mathcal{D}_α .

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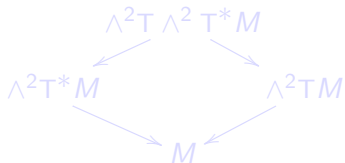
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The Hamiltonian side for multivector bundles

Recall that $\wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M$ is a double graded bundle (actually a GrL-bundle)



We have:

- the canonical **Liouville 2-form** on $\wedge^2 T^* M$:

$$\theta_M^2 = \frac{1}{2} p_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu, \quad p_{\mu\nu} = -p_{\nu\mu};$$

- the canonical **multisymplectic form**

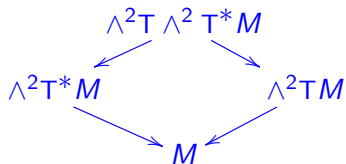
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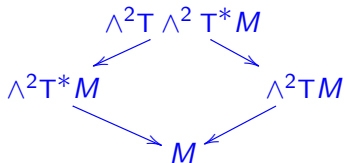
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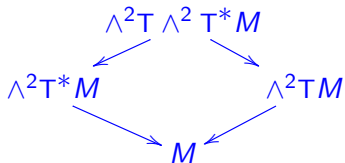
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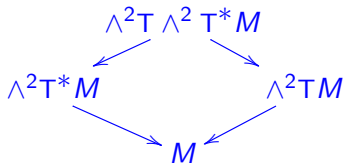
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- the canonical **multisymplectic form**

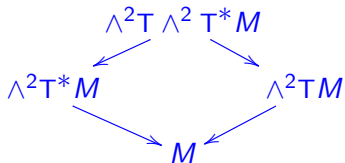
$$\omega_M^2 = d\theta_M^2 = \frac{1}{2} dp_{\mu\nu} \wedge dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu;$$

- the vector bundle morphism

$$\beta_M^2: \wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M \rightarrow T^* \wedge^2 T^* M, \quad : u \mapsto i_u \omega_M^2.$$

The Hamiltonian side for multivector bundles

Recall that $\wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M$ is a double graded bundle (actually a GrL-bundle)



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The Lagrangian side for multivector bundles

In local coordinates,

$$\beta_M^2(x^\mu, p_{\lambda\kappa}, \dot{x}^{\nu\sigma}, y_{\theta\rho}^\eta, \dot{p}_{\gamma,\delta,\epsilon,\zeta}) = (x^\mu, p_{\lambda\kappa}, -y_{\eta\rho}^\eta, \dot{x}^{\nu\sigma}).$$

Using the canonical isomorphism of double vector bundles

$$\mathcal{R} : T^* \wedge^2 T^* M \rightarrow T^* \wedge^2 TM,$$

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The way of obtaining the implicit phase dynamics D , as a submanifold of $\wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M$, from a Lagrangian $L : \wedge^2 TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ or from a Hamiltonian $H : \wedge^2 T^* M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is now standard.

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The phase dynamics - Lagrangian side

$\wedge^2 TM$ - (kinematic) configurations, $L : \wedge^2 TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ - Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{D} = (\alpha_M^2)^{-1}(dL(\wedge^2 TM))$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ (x^\mu, p_{\lambda\kappa}, \dot{x}^{\nu\sigma}, y_{\theta\rho}^\eta, \dot{p}_{\gamma\delta\epsilon\zeta}) : y_{\eta\rho}^\eta = \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^\rho}, \quad p_{\lambda\kappa} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\lambda\kappa}} \right\}.$$

Thus we get Lagrange (phase) equations.

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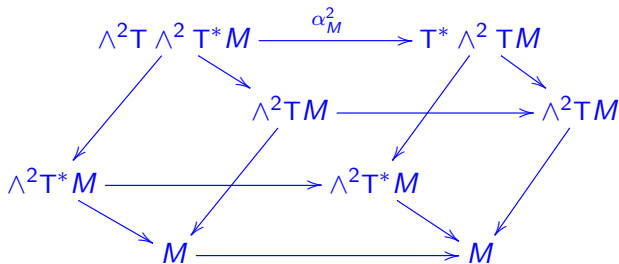
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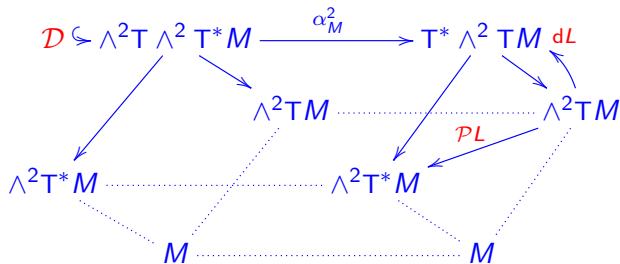
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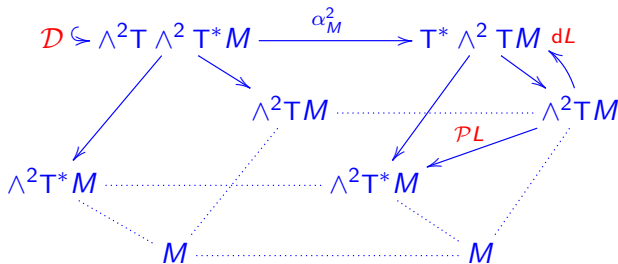
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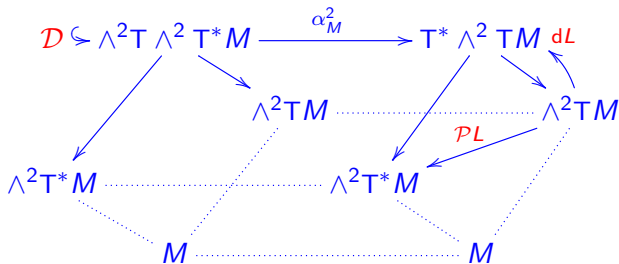
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$$H : \wedge^2 T^*M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

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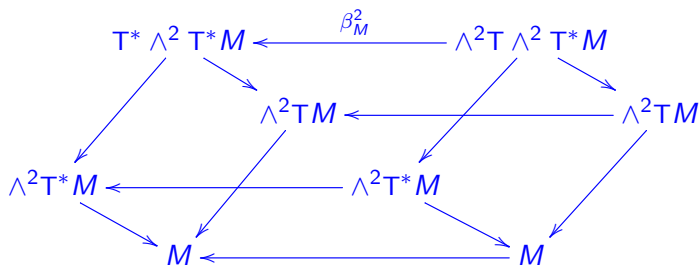
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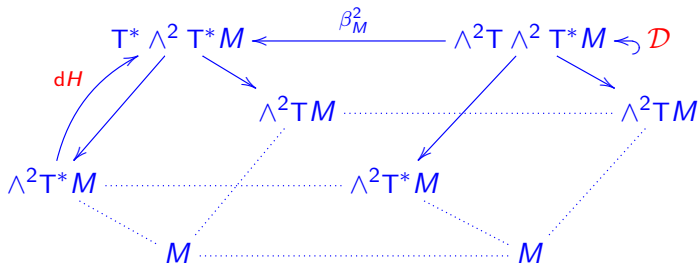
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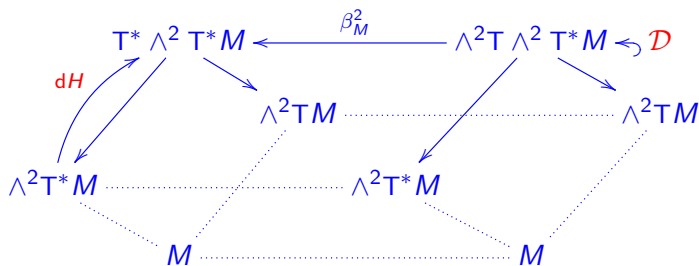
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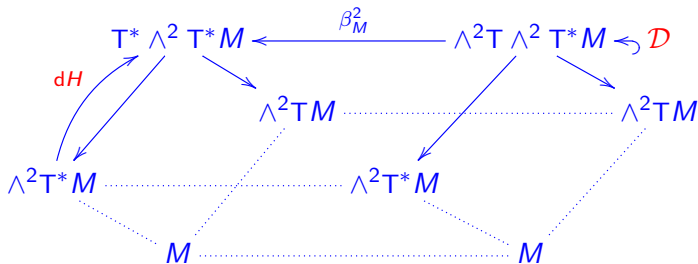
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The Euler-Lagrange and Hamilton equations

For a surface in $\Lambda^2 TM$,

$$(t, s) \mapsto (x^\sigma(t, s), \dot{x}^{\mu\nu}(s, t)),$$

the Euler-Lagrange equations read

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial t}, \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^\sigma} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu\sigma}}(t, s) \right) - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu\sigma}}(t, s) \right).\end{aligned}$$

As for the Hamilton equations, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\mu\nu}} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial t}, \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^\sigma} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial p_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial p_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial t}.\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\mu\nu}} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial t}, \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^\sigma} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial p_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial p_{\mu\sigma}}{\partial t}.\end{aligned}$$

The Euler-Lagrange and Hamilton equations

For a surface in $\wedge^2 TM$,

$$(t, s) \mapsto (x^\sigma(t, s), \dot{x}^{\mu\nu}(s, t)),$$

the Euler-Lagrange equations read

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial t}, \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^\sigma} &= \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu\sigma}}(t, s) \right) - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}^{\mu\sigma}}(t, s) \right).\end{aligned}$$

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An example

In the relativistic dynamics of strings, the manifold of infinitesimal configurations is $\wedge^2 TM$, where M is the space time with the Lorentz metric g . This metric induces a scalar product h in fibers of $\wedge^2 TM$: for

$$w = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu}, \quad u = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}'^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu}$$

we have

$$(u|w) = h_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \dot{x}^{\mu\nu} \dot{x}'^{\kappa\lambda},$$

where

$$h_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} = g_{\mu\kappa} g_{\nu\lambda} - g_{\mu\lambda} g_{\nu\kappa}.$$

The Lagrangian is a function of the volume with respect to this metric, the so called **Nambu-Goto Lagrangian**,

$$L(w) = \sqrt{(w|w)} = \sqrt{h_{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \dot{x}^{\mu\nu} \dot{x}^{\kappa\lambda}},$$

which is defined on the open submanifold of positive bivectors.

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Nambu-Goto dynamics

The dynamics $\mathcal{D} \subset \wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M$ is the inverse image by α_M^2 of the image $dL(\wedge^2 TM)$ and it is described by the Lagrange (phase) equations

$$\begin{aligned}y_{\alpha\nu}^{\alpha} &= \frac{1}{2\rho} \frac{\partial h_{\mu\kappa\lambda\sigma}}{\partial x^{\nu}} \dot{x}^{\mu\kappa} \dot{x}^{\lambda\sigma}, \\ \rho_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{\rho} h_{\mu\nu\lambda\kappa} \dot{x}^{\lambda\kappa},\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}H &: \wedge^2 T^* M \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ &: (p, r) \mapsto r(\sqrt{(\rho|p)} - 1).\end{aligned}$$

In the case of minimal surface, i.e. **the Plateau problem**, we replace the Lorentz metric with a positively defined one.

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Plateau problem

In particular, if $M = \mathbb{R}^3 = \{(x^1 = x, x^2 = y, x^3 = z)\}$ with the Euclidean metric, the Lagrangian reads

$$L(x^\mu, \dot{x}^{\kappa\lambda}) = \sqrt{\sum_{\kappa,\lambda} (\dot{x}^{\kappa\lambda})^2}.$$

The Euler-Lagrange equation for surfaces, being graphs of maps $(x, y) \mapsto (x, y, z(x, y))$, provides the well-known equation for minimal surfaces, found already by Lagrange :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{z_x}{\sqrt{1 + z_x^2 + z_y^2}} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{z_y}{\sqrt{1 + z_x^2 + z_y^2}} \right) = 0.$$

In another form:

$$(1 + z_x^2)z_{yy} - 2z_x z_y z_{xy} + (1 + z_y^2)z_{xx} = 0.$$

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A generalization

We have a straightforward generalization for all integer $n \geq 1$ replacing 2:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
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 \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow \\
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The map

$$\beta_M^n: \wedge^n T \wedge^n T^* M \rightarrow T^* \wedge^n T^* M$$

comes from the canonical multisymplectic $(n+1)$ -form ω_M^n on $\wedge^n T^* M$, being the differential of the canonical Liouville n -form

$$\theta_M^n = p_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \dots \wedge dx^n.$$

The map α_M^n is just the composition of β_M^n with the canonical isomorphism of double vector bundles $T^* \wedge^n T^* M$ and $T^* \wedge^n TM$.

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The map α_M^n is just the composition of β_M^n with the canonical isomorphism of double vector bundles $T^* \wedge^n T^* M$ and $T^* \wedge^n TM$.

A generalization

We have a straightforward generalization for all integer $n \geq 1$ replacing 2:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 T^* \wedge^n T^* M & \xleftarrow{\beta_M^n} & \wedge^n T \wedge^n T^* M & \xrightarrow{\alpha_M^n} & T^* \wedge^n TM \\
 \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow \\
 & & \wedge^n TM & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \wedge^n TM \\
 \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow \\
 \wedge^n T^* M & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \wedge^n T^* M & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \wedge^n T^* M \\
 \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow \\
 M & \xleftarrow{\quad} & M & \xrightarrow{\quad} & M
 \end{array}$$

The map

$$\beta_M^n: \wedge^n T \wedge^n T^* M \rightarrow T^* \wedge^n T^* M$$

comes from the canonical multisymplectic $(n+1)$ -form ω_M^n on $\wedge^n T^* M$, being the differential of the canonical Liouville n -form

$$\theta_M^n = p_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \dots \wedge dx^n.$$

The map α_M^n is just the composition of β_M^n with the canonical isomorphism of double vector bundles $T^* \wedge^n T^* M$ and $T^* \wedge^n TM$.

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Homework 3

- **Problem 1.** Find the phase dynamics $\mathcal{D} \subset T\mathbb{T}^*\mathbb{R}^3$ corresponding to the Lagrangian on $T\mathbb{R}^3$:

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \dot{x}_i^2 + V(x).$$

- **Problem 2.** Find the Legendre transformation $\lambda: T\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow T^*\mathbb{R}^3$ for the above Lagrangian.
- **Problem 3.** Find the phase dynamics $\mathcal{D} \subset T\mathbb{T}^*\mathbb{R}$ corresponding to the Lagrangian on $T\mathbb{R}$:

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \dot{x} + V(x).$$

- **Problem 4.** Find the Legendre map $\lambda_L: T\mathbb{R} \rightarrow T^*\mathbb{R}$ for the Lagrangian from Problem 3. Is λ_L a diffeomorphism?
- **Problem 5.** Let

$$\Pi = \xi \partial_\xi \otimes \partial_\eta + 2\eta \partial_\xi \otimes \partial_\xi$$

be a linear tensor on $(\mathbb{R}^2)^* = \{(\xi, \eta)\}$. Find the bracket on \mathbb{R}^2 induced by Π , the phase dynamics $\mathcal{D} \subset T(\mathbb{R}^2)^*$, corresponding to the Lagrangian $L = \frac{1}{2}(\xi^2 + \eta^2)$, and the Euler-Lagrange equations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!