

# Lecture 5: Symmetries in Hamiltonian Dynamics

## LAGRANGIAN DYNAMICS

$$\gamma: [a,b] \rightarrow M^n$$

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

Minimize  $S(\gamma) = \int_{\gamma} L$

→ (E-L)  $\frac{d}{dt} \partial_{\dot{q}} L = \partial_q L$  n eq<sup>n</sup> ODE  
2<sup>n</sup> order on TM

## SYMMETRIES

$\gamma \in \Gamma(TM)$ ,  $L: TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

if  $\mathcal{L}_{\gamma} L = 0$  then  $\langle \dot{\gamma}, -i_{\dot{\gamma}}^* L \rangle$  is a constant of motion

$\downarrow \mathcal{L}(\dot{\gamma})$  use these to integrate (solve ODE) w/o solving ode directly

## HAMILTONIAN DYNAMICS

$H: T^*M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 we consider  $X_H$  and its flow  
 gives the dynamics:

"HAMILTON"  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{p}_i(t) = \partial_{q_i} H \\ \dot{q}_i(t) = \partial_{p_i} H \end{array} \right.$  2n eq<sup>n</sup> ODE  
1st order on T<sup>\*</sup>M

## SYMMETRIES

Today!  
 We'll define the Poisson bracket

- (1) in coordinates (2) geometrically
  - (a) algebraic properties (b)  $\{f, g\} \in C^\infty(T^*M)$
- $(f, g) \mapsto \{f, g\} \in C^\infty(T^*M)$

Q1. Poisson brackets: what is a constant of motion in Hamiltonian dynamics?  
 Translating from a Lagr. system:  $\mathcal{L}$  s.t.  $\mathcal{L}_{\dot{q}} L = 0 \rightsquigarrow I_{\dot{\gamma}}$  const motion

$$\frac{dI_{\dot{\gamma}}}{dt} = 0 \iff \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_{q_i} I_{\dot{\gamma}}(\dot{q}) + \partial_{p_i} I_{\dot{\gamma}}(\dot{p}) = 0$$

Hamilton's eq<sup>n</sup> on a trajectory, take  $I_{\dot{\gamma}}$ , computable!

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_{q_i} I_{\dot{\gamma}} \partial_{p_i} H - \partial_{p_i} I_{\dot{\gamma}} \partial_{q_i} H = 0$$

Def<sup>n</sup>: let  $f, g \in C^\infty(T^*M)$ , we define  $\{f, g\} := \sum_{i=1}^n (\partial_{q_i} f) \cdot (\partial_{p_i} g) - (\partial_{p_i} f) \cdot (\partial_{q_i} g)$   
POISSON BRACKET

Lemma: The Poisson bracket satisfies:

- (i) antisymmetric & bilinear (ii) Jacobi identity ("associativity")
  - (iii) Leibniz's rule:  $\{f, g \cdot h\} = \{f, g\} \cdot h + g \cdot \{f, h\}$
- algebra  $C^\infty(T^*M)$  gets enriched with  $\{, \}$ .  
 SYMMETRIES  $\iff \{I_{\dot{\gamma}}, H\} = 0$   
 point of  $\{, \}$ .

Q2. Example of Kepler Potential: particle of mass  $m=1$  moving in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $(q_1, q_2, q_3)$ , with potential  $V = V(r)$ ,  $r = (q_1^2 + q_2^2 + q_3^2)^{1/2}$   
 (Ex: Planetary motion (1610s):  $V(r) = -1/r$ )

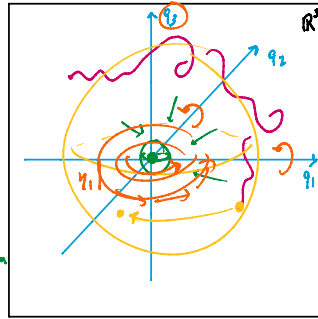
Symmetries: energy  $H$ , coming from rotations (e.g.  $SO(3)$ ). Lie group of rotations

$$H(q, p) = \frac{1}{2} (p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2) + V(r)$$

(i) why is  $H$  a symmetry?  
 Bc  $\{H, H\} = 0$  by definition

(ii) What are infinitesimal symmetries for rotations?

constant of motion  
 coord. of angular momentum



$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_1 = q_1 \partial_2 - q_2 \partial_1 \\ \mathcal{L}_2 = q_2 \partial_3 - q_3 \partial_2 \\ \mathcal{L}_3 = q_3 \partial_1 - q_1 \partial_3 \end{cases} \quad (Ex.) \quad \begin{cases} I_1 = q_1 p_2 - p_1 q_2 \\ I_2 = q_2 p_3 - p_2 q_3 \\ I_3 = q_3 p_1 - p_3 q_1 \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{q} \times \vec{p} = (I_1, I_2, I_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

Let's check  $I_{\dot{\gamma}}$ ,  $i=1,2,3$  are symmetries:

For  $I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}$ : Need to check  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}, H\} = 0$ .  $I_{\dot{\gamma}_1} = q_1 p_2 - q_2 p_1$ ,  $H = \frac{1}{2} p^2 - V(r)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}, H\} &= \left[ (\partial_{q_1} I_{\dot{\gamma}_1} \partial_{p_1} H - \partial_{p_1} I_{\dot{\gamma}_1} \partial_{q_1} H) \right] + \left[ (\partial_{q_2} I_{\dot{\gamma}_1} \partial_{p_2} H) - (\partial_{p_2} I_{\dot{\gamma}_1} \partial_{q_2} H) \right] \\ &= \left( p_2 \cdot p_1 + q_2 \cdot V'(r) \cdot \frac{q_1}{r} \right) + \left( -p_1 \cdot p_2 - q_1 \cdot V'(r) \cdot \frac{q_2}{r} \right) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Note  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}, I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}\} \neq 0$  (check!) so they are not commuting symmetries. try (use) Leibniz

But  $I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}$  and  $I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}^2 + I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}^2 + I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}^2$  are, i.e.  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}, I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}^2 + I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}^2 + I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}^2\} = 0$ .  
 (check:  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}, I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}\} = I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}$ ,  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}, I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}\} = I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}$ ,  $\{I_{\dot{\gamma}_3}, I_{\dot{\gamma}_1}\} = I_{\dot{\gamma}_2}$ ) SO(3) Lie algebra