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# CONTACT GEOMETRY (2)

Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical

PAPER

A geometric approach to contact Hamiltonians and contact Hamilton–Jacobi theory

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Reductions: precontact versus presymplectic

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## FEW OBSERVATIONS

- DEFINITION OF A CONTACT HAMILTONIAN VECTOR FIELD IS LOCAL! QUESTION: CAN WE HAVE GLOBAL HAMILTONIAN VECTOR FIELDS IF THERE IS NO GLOBAL  $\eta$ ? (YES!)
- DO WE GET THE SAME VECTOR FIELD IF WE KEEP  $H$  AND CHANGE  $\eta$ ? (NO!, EASY) IF NOT, HOW SHOULD WE CHANGE  $H$ ? (EASY TO GUESS, NOT EASY TO PROVE!)
- $X_H^c$  PRESERVES  $\mathcal{C}$  I.E. CONTACT HAMILTONIAN VECTOR FIELDS ARE SYMMETRIES OF  $\mathcal{C}$  (AND NOT SYMMETRIES OF  $\eta$ ). CAN WE DEFINE  $X_H^c$  NOT USING  $\eta$ ? (YES  $\rightarrow$  DIFFERENT GEOMETRIC LANGUAGE NEEDED!)

**DEFINITION:** LET  $\mathbb{R}^\times$  DENOTE THE MULTIPLICATIVE GROUP OF NON-ZERO REALS ( $\mathbb{R}^\times = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot$ ). A SYMPLECTIC PRINCIPAL BUNDLE IS AN  $\mathbb{R}^\times$  PRINCIPAL BUNDLE  $P$  TOGETHER WITH A HOMOGENEOUS SYMPLECTIC FORM  $\omega$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (\mathcal{P}, M, \tau, h, \omega) \\
 \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\
 P \ni \mathbb{R}^\times \quad h: \mathbb{R}^\times \times P \rightarrow P \\
 \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\
 M \quad \quad h(s, h(t, p)) = h(st, p) \\
 \quad \quad h_s: P \ni p \mapsto h(s, p) \in P \\
 \quad \quad h_s \circ h_t = h_{st}
 \end{array}
 \quad \begin{array}{l}
 h_s^* \omega = s\omega \quad \omega \in \Omega^2(P) \\
 \text{NONDEGENERATE AND CLOSED}
 \end{array}$$

**EXAMPLE:**  $(T^*Q)^\times \longrightarrow PT^*Q \quad \tilde{\omega} = \omega_Q|_{(T^*Q)^\times}$

$$\tilde{\omega}_Q = dp_i \wedge dq^i \quad (q^i, p_i) \circ h_s = (q^i, sp_i)$$

$$h_s^* \tilde{\omega}_Q = d(sp_i) \wedge dq^i = s dp_i \wedge dq^i = s \omega_Q$$

**THEOREM:** CONTACT MANIFOLDS AND SYMPLECTIC PRINCIPAL BUNDLES ARE EQUIVALENT NOTIONS!

# $(M, \mathcal{C})$ DEFINES $(P, M, \tau, h, \omega)$



- $\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{C}^\circ)^\times$ 
 $T^*M \supset \mathcal{C}^\circ$  - A LINE BUNDLE OVER  $M$   
 REMOVING 0-SECTION WE GET AN  $\mathbb{R}^\times$ -PRINCIPAL BUNDLE WITH ACTION "BORROWED" FROM A VECTOR BUNDLE.  
 $\tau = \overline{\text{pr}}_M |_{(\mathcal{C}^\circ)^\times}$

**PROPOSITION:**  $\mathcal{P}$  IS A SYMPLECTIC SUBMANIFOLD OF  $T^*M$

**PROOF:**

WE HAVE TO SHOW THAT  $i^* \omega_M$  IS A SYMPLECTIC FORM IF  $i: (\mathcal{C}^\circ)^\times \rightarrow T^*M$  IS THE INCLUSION MAP.

CLOSED - OBVIOUS, NONDEGENERATE - TO PROVE

LET US LOCALLY CHOOSE A CONTACT FORM ON  $\mathcal{O} \subset M$  AND DEFINE THE MAP

$$I_\eta: \mathcal{O} \times \mathbb{R}^\times \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}^\circ)^\times \subset T^*M \quad (\text{A LOCAL TRIVIALIZATION OF } \mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{C}^\circ)^\times \rightarrow M)$$

$$(x, s) \mapsto s\eta$$

$$I_\eta^* i^* \omega_M = (i \circ I_\eta)^* d(\theta_M) = d((i \circ I_\eta)^* \theta_M) = d(s\eta^* \theta_M) = d(s\eta) = ds \wedge \eta + s d\eta$$

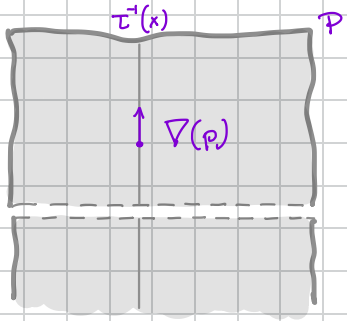
$$(ds \wedge \eta + s d\eta)^{\wedge (n+1)} = s^{n+1} (d\eta)^{\wedge (n+1)} + (n+1) s^{n+1} ds \wedge \eta \wedge (d\eta)^{\wedge n} + \dots \neq 0$$

$\uparrow$   $2n+2$  FORM ON A MANIFOLD OF DIMENSION  $2n+1$   
 $\uparrow$   $\neq 0$  BECAUSE  $\eta$  IS CONTACT  
 $\uparrow$  BECAUSE  $ds$  AND  $\eta$  APPEAR MORE THAN ONCE  
 I.E.  $(i \circ I_\eta)^* \omega_M$  IS NONDEGENERATE AND  $i^* \omega_M$  IS NONDEGENERATE.

- $\omega = i^* \omega_M$  IS HOMOGENEOUS BECAUSE  $\omega_M$  IS HOMOGENEOUS

**REMARK:** IF  $(M, \eta)$  IS CONTACT THEN  $\mathcal{P}_0 = M \times \mathbb{R}$  WITH  $\tilde{\omega} = d(e^t \eta) = e^t dt \wedge \eta + e^t d\eta$  IS A SYMPLECTIC MANIFOLD.  $\mathcal{P}_0$  IS ISOMORPHIC TO THE "POSITIVE" PART OF  $\mathcal{P}$ . IN THE LITERATURE  $\mathcal{P}_0$  IS CALLED A SYMPLECTIGATION OF  $(M, \eta)$ . WE HAVE CONSTRUCTED A SYMPLECTIGATION OF GENERAL  $(M, \mathcal{C})$ .

$(P, M, \tau, h, \omega)$  DEFINES  $(M, \xi)$



$\nabla \in \chi(P) \quad \nabla(p) = \frac{d}{ds} \Big|_{s=1} h_s(p) - \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} h_{e^t}(p)$

$\nabla$  IS INVARIANT

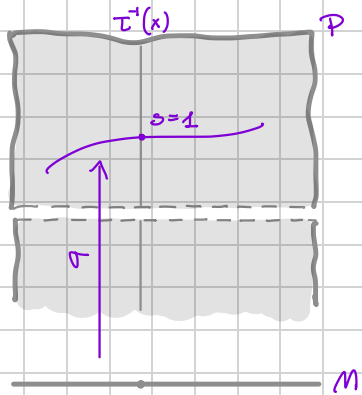
$$\tau h_t(\nabla(p)) = \frac{d}{ds} \Big|_{s=1} h_t(h_s(p)) = \frac{d}{ds} \Big|_{s=1} h_s(h_t(p)) = \nabla(h_t(p))$$

HOMOGENEOUS

$\theta = i_{\nabla} \omega$   
 (with arrows pointing to  $\theta$  and  $\omega$  labeled HOMOGENEOUS, and an arrow pointing to  $i_{\nabla}$  labeled INVARIANT)

PROPOSITION  $\omega = d\theta$

PROOF: SINCE  $h_s^* \omega = s\omega$  THEN  $\mathcal{L}_{\nabla} \omega = \omega$   
 $\omega = \mathcal{L}_{\nabla} \omega = di_{\nabla} \omega + i_{\nabla} d\omega = d\theta$  ■



$\nabla$  - A LOCAL SECTION OF P OVER  $\sigma$ ,

$\sigma \times \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x, s) \xrightarrow{I_{\sigma}} h_s(\nabla(x)) \in P$  A LOCAL TRIVIALISATION  
 (with an arrow pointing to  $(x, s)$  labeled LOCAL VERTICAL COORDINATE)

$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial s}$

$\frac{1}{s} \theta = \tau^* \eta$   
 (with an arrow pointing to  $\frac{1}{s} \theta$  labeled INVARIANT I.E. A PULL-BACK)

PROPOSITION:  $\eta$  IS A LOCAL CONTACT FORM

PROOF:

$I_{\sigma}^* \theta = s\eta$

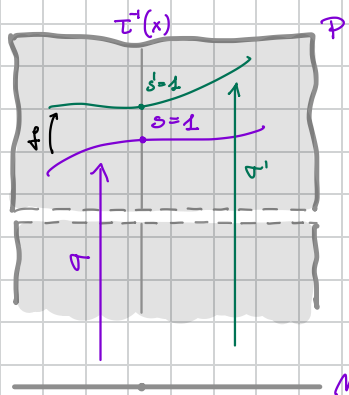
$I_{\sigma}^* \omega = I_{\sigma}^*(d\theta) = d(s\eta) = ds \wedge \eta + s d\eta$

SINCE  $\omega$  IS SYMPLECTIC, SO IS  $I_{\sigma}^* \omega$ , THEREFORE

$0 \neq (I_{\sigma}^* \omega)^{\wedge m+1} = (ds \wedge \eta + s d\eta)^{\wedge m+1} = (m+1) s^m ds \wedge \eta \wedge (d\eta)^{\wedge m}$

$\neq 0$

I.E.  $\eta$  IS A CONTACT FORM



◦ **PROPOSITION:**  $\ker \eta$  DOES NOT DEPEND ON THE CHOICE OF A SECTION  $\sigma$

PROOF:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma: \mathcal{U} &\rightarrow \mathcal{P} & \text{ON } \mathcal{U} \cap \Theta \text{ WE HAVE } & \sigma'(x) = f(x)\sigma(x) \text{ FOR } f \in C^\infty(\Theta \cap \mathcal{U}) \quad f \neq 0 \\ \sigma': \mathcal{U} &\rightarrow \mathcal{P} & & \downarrow \\ & & & \sigma(p) = f(\tau(p))\sigma'(p) \end{aligned}$$

$$\eta = \frac{1}{\sigma} \Theta = \frac{1}{f\sigma'} \Theta = \frac{1}{f} \eta'$$

$$f\eta = \eta' \Rightarrow \ker \eta = \ker \eta' \quad \blacksquare$$

CHOOSING AN OPEN COVER OF  $M$  AND LOCAL CONTACT FORMS ASSOCIATED WITH LOCAL SECTIONS WE GET **globally defined**  $\mathcal{C} = \ker \eta$

REMARK: NOTE THAT  $\Theta$  IS A NON-VANISHING FORM ON  $\mathcal{P}$ , THEREFORE  $\ker \eta \subset T\mathcal{P}$  IS A REGULAR DISTRIBUTION ON  $\mathcal{P}$ . IT CONTAINS A VERTICAL DIRECTION, SINCE  $\langle \Theta, \nabla \rangle = \langle i_{\nabla} \omega, \nabla \rangle = \omega(\nabla, \nabla) = 0$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  IS A PROJECTION ON  $M$  OF  $\ker \Theta$ .

EXAMPLE: WHAT IS  $\mathcal{P}$  FOR  $M = J^1 L^*$

WE HAVE SEEN A PRINCIPAL SYMPLECTIC BUNDLE FOR  $M = PT^*Q$  (EXAMPLE 3). OTHER EXAMPLES (EXAMPLE 1, EXAMPLE 2) ARE SPECIAL CASES OF THE FIRST JET BUNDLE. WE SHALL THEN CONSIDER THE GENERAL CASE

$L$   
 $\downarrow \sigma$   
 $Q$   
A LINE BUNDLE, I.E. A VECTOR BUNDLE WITH ONE DIMENSIONAL FIBRE

$L^*$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $Q$   
AFTER REMOVING ZERO SECTION WE HAVE A  $\mathbb{R}^x$ -PRINCIPAL BUNDLE

$L^*$   
 $\downarrow \sigma$   
 $Q$   
WE SHALL CONSIDER JETS OF THE DUAL LINE BUNDLE  
 $J^1 L^*$

LET US LOOK AT  
 $T^* L^*$



## $T^*L^x$ IS AN $\mathbb{R}^x$ PRINCIPAL BUNDLE:

◦  $\mathbb{R}^x$  ACTS ON  $L^x$  BY MULTIPLICATION  $(q^i, t) \circ h_s = (q^i, st)$

◦ THE ACTION CAN BE LIFTED TO  $TL^x$   $(d_T h)_s = Th_s \quad (q^i, t, \dot{q}^j, \dot{t}) \circ (d_T h_s) = (q^i, st, \dot{q}^j, s\dot{t})$

◦ DUALIZING WE GET  $(q^i, t, p_j, z) \circ T^* h_s = (q^i, \frac{1}{s}t, p_j, sz)$

$$(q^i, t, p_j, z) \circ T^* h_{\frac{1}{s}} = (q^i, st, p_j, \frac{1}{s}z)$$

THE LIFT OF  $\mathbb{R}^x$  ACTION TO  $T^*L^x$

◦ COVECTORS CAN BE MULTIPLIED BY NUMBERS  $d_{T^*} h_s = s T^* h_s \quad (q^i, t, p_j, z) \circ d_{T^*} h_s = (q^i, st, sp_j, z)$

THIS IS A PRINCIPAL ACTION. COORDINATES ON THE BASE SHOULD BE

$$(q^i, t, p_j, z) \longmapsto (q^i, p_j/t, z)$$

BUT WHAT IS THE BASE?

NOTE THAT  $\tilde{\omega}_{L^x}$  IS HOMOGENEOUS:  $(d_{T^*} h_s)^* (dp_i \wedge dq^i + dz \wedge dt) = d(sp_i) \wedge dq^i + dz \wedge d(st) = s(dp_i \wedge dq^i + dz \wedge dt) = s\tilde{\omega}_{L^x}$

WE HAVE THEN  $(T^*L^x, \mathbb{R}^x, d_{T^*} h, \tilde{\omega}_{L^x})$  A SYMPLECTIC PRINCIPAL BUNDLE OVER WHO-KNOWS-WHAT!

### THINGS THAT HAPPEN ON $L^*$ AND $J^1 L^*$

$$\begin{array}{c} L^* \\ \sigma \downarrow \uparrow \sigma \\ Q \end{array}$$

$j^1 \sigma'(q) = j^1 \sigma(q)$  MEANS THAT  $\sigma' = \lambda \sigma$   
WHERE  $\lambda \in C^\infty(Q)$   $\lambda(q) = 1, d\lambda(q) = 0$

### THINGS THAT HAPPEN ON $L^x$ AND $T^*L^x$

$f_\sigma$  A HOMOGENEOUS FUNCTION ON  $L^x$

$$f_\sigma(l) = \langle \sigma(p(l)), l \rangle$$

FUNCTIONS DIFFER BY THE SAME  $\lambda$ :

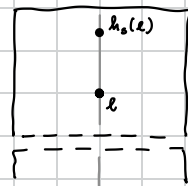
$$f_{\sigma'}(l) = \langle \sigma'(p(l)), l \rangle = \langle \lambda(p(l)) \sigma(p(l)), l \rangle = \lambda(p(l)) f_\sigma(l)$$



DIFFERENTIALS ARE EQUAL:

$$df_{\sigma^{-1}}(e) = d(\lambda f_{\sigma^{-1}})(e) = f_{\sigma^{-1}}(e) d\lambda(\overset{0}{g}(e)) + \lambda(\overset{1}{g}(e)) df_{\sigma^{-1}}(e) =$$

$$= df_{\sigma}(e)$$



$$df_{\sigma}(h_s(e)) = d_{T^*} h_s(df_{\sigma}(e))$$

THIS MEANS THAT THERE IS A MAP FROM  $J^1 L^*$  TO  $T^* L^* / \mathbb{R}^*$

THE MAP IS ONE-TO-ONE BECAUSE EVERY COVECTOR IS A DIFFERENTIAL OF SOME HOMOGENEOUS FUNCTION

EVERY HOMOGENEOUS  $f: L^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  CORRESPONDS TO A SECTION (HOMOGENEOUS ON  $L^*$  IS LINEAR ON  $L$ )

$$(q_0^i, t_0) \quad \alpha = \alpha_i dq^i + \alpha_t dt \quad f(q^i, t) = t \left( \frac{\alpha_i}{t_0} (q^i - q_0^i) + \alpha_t \right)$$

SUMMARIZING: WE HAVE RECOGNIZED  $T^* L^* / \mathbb{R}^*$  AS  $J^1 L^*$ . THE CANONICAL CONTACT STRUCTURE ON THE FIRST JET BUNDLE COMES FROM THE HOMOGENEOUS SYMPLECTIC STRUCTURE ON THE COTANGENT BUNDLE  $T^* L^*$