

PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and Mathematical Methods 10-10:50 AM MWF in Olin 103

Discussion of Lecture 12 – Chap. 3&6 (F&W)

- 1. Constructing the Hamiltonian
- 2. Hamilton's canonical equation
- 3. Examples



Course schedule

(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

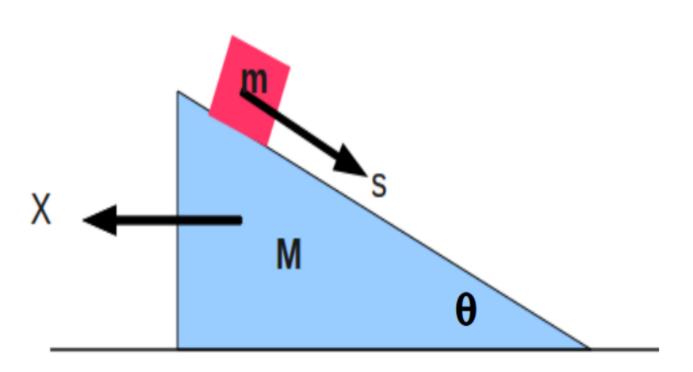
	Date	F&W Reading	Topic	Assignment	Due
1	Mon, 8/23/2021	Chap. 1	Introduction	<u>#1</u>	8/27/2021
2	Wed, 8/25/2021	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	<u>#2</u>	8/30/2021
3	Fri, 8/27/2021	Chap. 1	Scattering theory		
4	Mon, 8/30/2021	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	<u>#3</u>	9/01/2021
5	Wed, 9/01/2021	Chap. 1	Summary of scattering theory	<u>#4</u>	9/03/2021
6	Fri, 9/03/2021	Chap. 2	Non-inertial coordinate systems	<u>#5</u>	9/06/2021
7	Mon, 9/06/2021	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation	<u>#6</u>	9/10/2021
8	Wed, 9/08/2021	Chap. 3	Calculus of Variation		
9	Fri, 9/10/2021	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian Mechanics	<u>#7</u>	9/13/2021
10	Mon, 9/13/2021	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian Mechanics	<u>#8</u>	9/17/2021
11	Wed, 9/15/2021	Chap. 3 & 6	Constants of the motion		
12	Fri, 9/17/2021	Chap. 3 & 6	Hamiltonian equations of motion	<u>#9</u>	9/20/2021



PHY 711 - Assignment #9

Sept. 17, 2021

Continue reading Chapters 3 and 6 in Fetter and Walecka.



1. The figure above shows a box of mass m sliding on the frictionless surface of an inclined plane (angle θ). The inclined plane itself has a mass M and is supported on a horizontal frictionless surface. Write down the Lagrangian for this system in terms of the generalized coordinates X and s and the fixed constants of the system (θ , m, M, etc.) and solve for the equations of motion, assuming that the system is initially at rest. (Note that X and s represent components of vectors whose directions are related by the angle θ .)



Lagrangian picture

For independent generalized coordinates $q_{\sigma}(t)$:

$$L = L(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{\dot{q}_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} = 0$$

 \Rightarrow Second order differential equations for $q_{\sigma}(t)$

Switching variables – Legendre transformation

Define:
$$H = H(\lbrace q_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, \lbrace p_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, t)$$

$$H = \sum_{\sigma} \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - L \qquad \text{where } p_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}}$$

$$dH = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\dot{q}_{\sigma} dp_{\sigma} + p_{\sigma} d\dot{q}_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} dq_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} d\dot{q}_{\sigma} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} dt$$

Application of the Legendre transformation for the Lagrangian and Hamiltonian

$$L(q,\dot{q},t)$$
 and $H(q,p,t)$

suppose $H(q, p, t) = \dot{q}p - L(q, \dot{q}, t)$

$$dH = \dot{q}dp + pd\dot{q} - \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial q}\right)dq - \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}\right)d\dot{q} - \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial t}\right)dt = \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}\right)dq + \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial p}\right)dp + \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial t}\right)dt$$

Note that these two terms cancel if
$$p = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}}$$

The analysis on the following slides is a generalization to multiple dimensions q_{σ} and p_{σ}



Hamiltonian picture – continued

$$\begin{split} H &= H\left(\left\{q_{\sigma}(t)\right\}, \left\{p_{\sigma}(t)\right\}, t\right) \\ H &= \sum_{\sigma} \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - L \qquad \text{where} \quad p_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} \\ dH &= \sum_{\sigma} \left(\dot{q}_{\sigma} dp_{\sigma} + p_{\sigma} dq_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} dq_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} d\dot{q}_{\sigma}\right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} dt \\ &= \sum_{\sigma} \left(\dot{q}_{\sigma} dp_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} dq_{\sigma}\right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} dt \end{split}$$

$$dH = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} dq_{\sigma} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} dp_{\sigma} \right) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{q}_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \qquad \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} \equiv \dot{p}_{\sigma} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \qquad \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$



Direct application of Hamiltonian's principle using the Hamiltonian function --



Generalized coordinates:

$$q_{\sigma}(\{x_i\})$$

Define -- Lagrangian:
$$L \equiv T - U$$

$$L = L(\lbrace q_{\sigma} \rbrace, \lbrace \dot{q}_{\sigma} \rbrace, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 Minimization integral: $S = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} L(\{q_\sigma\}, \{\dot{q}_\sigma\}, t) dt$

Expressed in terms of Hamiltonian:

$$\begin{split} H &= H \big(\big\{ q_{\sigma}(t) \big\}, \big\{ p_{\sigma}(t) \big\}, t \big) \\ H &= \sum \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - L \qquad \Rightarrow L = \sum \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - H \big(\big\{ q_{\sigma}(t) \big\}, \big\{ p_{\sigma}(t) \big\}, t \big) \end{split}$$



Hamilton's principle continued: Minimization integral:

$$S = \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - H\left(\left\{ q_{\sigma}(t) \right\}, \left\{ p_{\sigma}(t) \right\}, t \right) \right) dt$$

$$\delta S = \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\dot{q}_{\sigma} \delta p_{\sigma} + \delta \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \delta q_{\sigma} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \delta p_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{q}_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{p}_{\sigma} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}}$$
Canonical equations

Detail:

Detain.
$$\int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\delta \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt = \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{d \left(\delta q_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \right)}{dt} - \delta q_{\sigma} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt = \sum_{\sigma} \delta \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \Big|_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} - \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\delta q_{\sigma} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt$$

More comments about "details"

Detail:

$$\int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\delta \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt = \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{d \left(\delta q_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \right)}{dt} - \delta q_{\sigma} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt = \sum_{\sigma} \delta q_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} \Big|_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} - \int_{t_{i}}^{t_{f}} \left(\sum_{\sigma} \left(\delta q_{\sigma} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) \right) dt \right) dt$$



Vanishes because $\delta q(t_i) = \delta q(t_i)$ due to the premise of Hamilton's principle.

In the Hamiltonian formulation --

$$\Rightarrow \dot{q}_{\sigma} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{p}_{\sigma} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}}$$

Why are these equations known as the "canonical equations"?

- a. Because they are beautiful.
- b. The term is meant to elevate their importance to the level of the music of J. S. Bach
- c. To help you remember them
- d. No good reason; it is just a name



Recipe for constructing the Hamiltonian and analyzing the equations of motion

- 1. Construct Lagrangian function : $L = L(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{\dot{q}_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$
- 2. Compute generalized momenta: $p_{\sigma} \equiv \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}}$
- 3. Construct Hamiltonian expression : $H = \sum_{\sigma} \dot{q}_{\sigma} p_{\sigma} L$
- 4. Form Hamiltonian function : $H = H(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{p_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$
- 5. Analyze canonical equations of motion:

$$\frac{dq_{\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \qquad \frac{dp_{\sigma}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}}$$

What happens when you miss a step in the recipe?

- a. No big deal
- b. Big deal can lead to shame and humiliation (or at least wrong analysis)

Lagrangian picture

For independent generalized coordinates $q_{\sigma}(t)$:

$$L = L(\lbrace q_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, \lbrace \dot{q}_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{\sigma}} = 0 \implies \text{Second order differential equations for } q_{\sigma}(t)$$

Hamiltonian picture

For independent generalized coordinates $q_{\sigma}(t)$ and momenta $p_{\sigma}(t)$:

$$H = H(\lbrace q_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, \lbrace p_{\sigma}(t)\rbrace, t)$$

$$\frac{dq_{\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \qquad \frac{dp_{\sigma}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \Rightarrow \text{Two first order differential equations}$$



Constants of the motion in Hamiltonian formalism

$$H = H(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{p_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$$

$$\frac{dq_{\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \implies \text{constant } q_{\sigma} \text{ if } \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\frac{dp_{\sigma}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \implies \text{constant } p_{\sigma} \text{ if } \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \dot{q}_{\sigma} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \dot{p}_{\sigma}\right) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(-\dot{p}_{\sigma} \dot{q}_{\sigma} + \dot{q}_{\sigma} \dot{p}_{\sigma}\right) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{constant } H \text{ if } \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = 0$$

What is the physical meaning of a constant H?

Comment -- Whenever you find a constant of the motion, it is helpful for analyzing the trajectory. In this case, H often represents the mechanical energy of the system so that constant H implies that energy is conserved.



Example 1: one-dimensional potential:

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2) - V(z)$$

$$p_x = m\dot{x} \qquad p_y = m\dot{y} \qquad p_z = m\dot{z}$$

$$H = m\dot{x}^2 + m\dot{y}^2 + m\dot{z}^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}m(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2) - V(z)\right)$$

$$H = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + \frac{p_z^2}{2m} + V(z)$$

Constants: $\bar{p}_x, \bar{p}_y, \bar{H}$ (using bar to indicate constant)

Equations of motion:
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_z} = \frac{p_z}{m} \qquad \frac{dp_z}{dt} = -\frac{dV}{dz}$$



Example 2: Motion in a central potential

$$\begin{split} L &= \frac{1}{2} m \left(\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 \right) - V(r) \\ p_r &= m \dot{r} \qquad p_{\varphi} = m r^2 \dot{\varphi} \\ H &= m \dot{r}^2 + m r^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2} m \left(\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 \right) - V(r) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} m \left(\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\varphi}^2 \right) + V(r) \\ H &= \frac{p_r^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{\varphi}^2}{2m r^2} + V(r) \end{split}$$

Constants: \overline{p}_{φ} , \overline{H}

Equations of motion:

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{p_r}{m} \qquad \frac{dp_r}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial r} = \frac{\overline{p}_{\varphi}^2}{mr^3} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial r}$$



Other examples

Lagrangian for symmetric top with Euler angles α, β, γ :

$$\begin{split} L &= L(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2} I_1 \left(\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \left(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma} \right)^2 \\ &- Mgh \cos \beta \\ p_{\alpha} &= I_1 \dot{\alpha} \sin^2 \beta + I_3 \left(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma} \right) \cos \beta \\ p_{\beta} &= I_1 \dot{\beta} \\ p_{\gamma} &= I_3 \left(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma} \right) \\ H &= \frac{1}{2} I_1 \left(\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} I_3 \left(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma} \right)^2 + Mgh \cos \beta \\ H &= \frac{\left(p_{\alpha} - p_{\gamma} \cos \beta \right)^2}{2 I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + \frac{p_{\beta}^2}{2 I_1} + \frac{p_{\gamma}^2}{2 I_3} + Mgh \cos \beta \end{split}$$

Constants: $\overline{p}_{\alpha}, \overline{p}_{\gamma}, \overline{H}$



Other examples

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2) + \frac{q}{2c}B_0(-\dot{x}y + \dot{y}x)$$

$$p_x = m\dot{x} - \frac{q}{2c}B_0y$$

$$p_{y} = m\dot{y} + \frac{q}{2c}B_{0}x$$

$$p_z = m\dot{z}$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{z}^2)$$

$$H = \frac{\left(p_{x} + \frac{q}{2c}B_{0}y\right)^{2}}{2m} + \frac{\left(p_{y} - \frac{q}{2c}B_{0}x\right)^{2}}{2m} + \frac{p_{z}^{2}}{2m}$$

Constants: $\overline{p}_z, \overline{H}$



Canonical equations of motion for constant magnetic field:

$$H = \frac{\left(p_{x} + \frac{q}{2c}B_{0}y\right)^{2}}{2m} + \frac{\left(p_{y} - \frac{q}{2c}B_{0}x\right)^{2}}{2m} + \frac{p_{z}^{2}}{2m}$$

Constants: \bar{p}_z, \bar{H}

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{p_x + \frac{q}{2c}B_0y}{m} \qquad \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{p_y - \frac{q}{2c}B_0x}{m}$$

$$\frac{dp_x}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = \frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_y - \frac{q}{2c}B_0x \right)$$

$$\frac{dp_y}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} = -\frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_x + \frac{q}{2c}B_0y \right)$$



Canonical equations of motion for constant magnetic field -- continued:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{p_x + \frac{q}{2c}B_0y}{m} \qquad \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{p_y - \frac{q}{2c}B_0x}{m}$$

$$\frac{dp_x}{dt} = \frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_y - \frac{q}{2c}B_0x \right) = \frac{qB_0}{2c} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dp_y}{dt} = -\frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_x + \frac{q}{2c}B_0y \right) = -\frac{qB_0}{2c} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{\dot{p}_x}{m} + \frac{q}{2mc}B_0\dot{y} = \frac{qB_0}{mc} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = \frac{\dot{p}_y}{m} - \frac{q}{2mc}B_0\dot{x} = -\frac{qB_0}{mc} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{qB_0}{mc} \frac{dy}{dt}$$
$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -\frac{qB_0}{mc} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Are these results equivalent to the results of the Lagrangian analysis?

- a. Yes
- b. No

General treatment of particle of mass m and charge q moving in 3 dimensions in an potential $U(\mathbf{r})$ as well as electromagnetic scalar and vector potentials $\Phi(\mathbf{r},t)$ and $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$:

Lagrangian:
$$L(\mathbf{r},\dot{\mathbf{r}},t) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 - U(\mathbf{r}) - q\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{q}{c}\dot{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

Hamiltonian:
$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\mathbf{r}}} = m\dot{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{q}{c}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
$$H(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{p},t) = \mathbf{p} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}} - L(\mathbf{r},\dot{\mathbf{r}},t)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2m} \left(\mathbf{p} - \frac{q}{c} \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{r}, t) \right)^{2} + U(\mathbf{r}) + q \Phi(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

Some details:
$$L(\mathbf{r},\dot{\mathbf{r}},t) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 - U(\mathbf{r}) - q\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{q}{c}\dot{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

Hamiltonian:
$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\mathbf{r}}} = m\dot{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{q}{c}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

$$H(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{p},t) = \mathbf{p} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}} - L(\mathbf{r},\dot{\mathbf{r}},t)$$

$$= \left(m\dot{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{q}{c}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)\right) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}} - \left(\frac{1}{2}m\dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 - U(\mathbf{r}) - q\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{q}{c}\dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)\right)$$

$$=\frac{1}{2}m\dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 + U(\mathbf{r}) + q\Phi(\mathbf{r},t)$$

$$H(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{p},t) = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\mathbf{p} - \frac{q}{c} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t) \right)^2 + U(\mathbf{r}) + q\Phi(\mathbf{r},t)$$



Canonical form



Other properties of Hamiltonian formalism – Poisson brackets:

$$H = H(\lbrace q_{\sigma}(t) \rbrace, \lbrace p_{\sigma}(t) \rbrace, t)$$

$$\frac{dq_{\sigma}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \implies \text{constant } q_{\sigma} \text{ if } \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\frac{dp_{\sigma}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \implies \text{constant } p_{\sigma} \text{ if } \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} = 0$$

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \dot{q}_{\sigma} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

Similarly for an arbitrary function : $F = F(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{p_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \dot{q}_{\sigma} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \right) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$$



Poisson brackets -- continued:

For an arbitrary function : $F = F(\{q_{\sigma}(t)\}, \{p_{\sigma}(t)\}, t)$

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \dot{q}_{\sigma} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \dot{p}_{\sigma} \right) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \right) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$$

Define:

$$[F,G]_{PB} \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial p_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \right) = -[G,F]_{PB}$$

So that:
$$\frac{dF}{dt} = [F,H]_{PB} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}$$



Poisson brackets -- continued:

$$[F,G]_{PB} \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial p_{\sigma}} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_{\sigma}} \frac{\partial G}{\partial q_{\sigma}} \right) = -[G,F]_{PB}$$

Examples:

$$[x,x]_{PB} = 0 [x,p_x]_{PB} = 1 [x,p_y]_{PB} = 0$$

$$[L_x,L_y]_{PB} = L_z$$

Liouville theorem

Let $D \equiv$ density of particles in phase space:

$$\frac{dD}{dt} = [D, H]_{PB} + \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = 0$$



For next time