

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

**Plan for Lecture 11:**

**Continue reading Chapter 3 & 6**

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

9/20/2013

PHY 711 Fall 2013 -- Lecture 11

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**Course schedule**

(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

Date	F&W Reading	Topic	Assignment
1 Wed, 8/28/2013	Chap. 1	Review of basic principles; Scattering theory	#1
2 Fri, 8/30/2013	Chap. 1	Scattering theory continued	#2
3 Mon, 9/02/2013	Chap. 1	Scattering theory continued	#3
4 Wed, 9/04/2013	Chap. 2	Accelerated Coordinate Systems	#4
5 Fri, 9/06/2013	Chap. 3	Calculus of variations	#5
6 Mon, 9/09/2013	Chap. 3	Calculus of variations -- continued	
7 Wed, 9/11/2013	Chap. 3	Calculus of variations applied to Lagrangians	#6
8 Fri, 9/13/2013	Chap. 3	Lagrangian mechanics	#7
9 Mon, 9/16/2013	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian mechanics	#8
10 Wed, 9/18/2013	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian mechanics	#9
11 Fri, 9/20/2013	Chap. 3 & 6	Lagrangian & Hamiltonian mechanics	#10

9/20/2013

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2

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**Lagrangian picture**

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

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

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

⇒ Second order differential equations for  $q_\sigma(t)$

**Switching variables – Legendre transformation**

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

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

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

9/20/2013

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3

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**Hamiltonian picture – continued**

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

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

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

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

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

9/20/2013 PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11 4

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



Generalized coordinates :  $q_\sigma(\{x_i\})$

Define -- Lagrangian :  $L \equiv T - U$   
 $L = L(\{q_\sigma\}, \{\dot{q}_\sigma\}, t)$

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

Expressed in terms of Hamiltonian :

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

$$H = \sum_\sigma \dot{q}_\sigma p_\sigma - L \quad \Rightarrow L = \sum_\sigma \dot{q}_\sigma p_\sigma - H(\{q_\sigma(t)\}, \{p_\sigma(t)\}, t)$$

9/20/2013 PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11 5

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**Hamilton's principle continued:**

Minimization integral :

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

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

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

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

**Canonical equations**

Detail :

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

9/20/2013 PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11 6

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Constants of the motion in Hamiltonian formalism

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

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

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

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

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

9/20/2013

PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11

7

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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 :

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

9/20/2013

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8

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Example 1: one - dimensional potential :

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

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

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

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

Constants :  $p_x, p_y, H$

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

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9

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Example 2: Motion in a central potential

$$L = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - V(r)$$

$$p_r = m\dot{r} \quad p_\phi = mr^2\dot{\phi}$$

$$H = m\dot{r}^2 + mr^2\dot{\phi}^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) - V(r)\right) \\ = \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{r}^2 + r^2\dot{\phi}^2) + V(r)$$

$$H = \frac{p_r^2}{2m} + \frac{p_\phi^2}{2mr^2} + V(r)$$

Constants:  $p_\phi, H$

Equations of motion:

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{p_r}{m} \quad \frac{dp_r}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial r} = -\frac{p_\phi^2}{mr^3} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial r}$$

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10

Other examples

Lagrangian for symmetric top with Euler angles  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ :

$$L = L(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2}I_1(\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) + \frac{1}{2}I_3(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma})^2 \\ - Mgh \cos \beta$$

$$p_\alpha = I_1 \dot{\alpha} \sin^2 \beta + I_3(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma}) \cos \beta$$

$$p_\beta = I_1 \dot{\beta}$$

$$p_\gamma = I_3(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma})$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2}I_1(\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\beta}^2) + \frac{1}{2}I_3(\dot{\alpha} \cos \beta + \dot{\gamma})^2 + Mgh \cos \beta$$

$$H = \frac{(p_\alpha - p_\gamma \cos \beta)^2}{2I_1 \sin^2 \beta} + \frac{p_\beta^2}{2I_1} + \frac{p_\gamma^2}{2I_3} + Mgh \cos \beta$$

Constants:  $p_\alpha, p_\gamma, H$

9/20/2013

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11

Other examples

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

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

$$p_y = m\dot{y} + \frac{q}{2c}B_0x$$

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

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

$$H = \frac{\left(p_x + \frac{q}{2c}B_0y\right)^2}{2m} + \frac{\left(p_y - \frac{q}{2c}B_0x\right)^2}{2m} + \frac{p_z^2}{2m}$$

Constants:  $p_z, H$

9/20/2013

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12

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 :  $p_z, H$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{p_x + \frac{q}{2c} B_0 y}{m} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{p_y - \frac{q}{2c} B_0 x}{m}$$

$$\frac{dp_x}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = \frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_y - \frac{q}{2c} B_0 x\right)$$

$$\frac{dp_y}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} = -\frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_x + \frac{q}{2c} B_0 y\right)$$

9/20/2013

PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11

13

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

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{p_x + \frac{q}{2c} B_0 y}{m} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{p_y - \frac{q}{2c} B_0 x}{m}$$

$$\frac{dp_x}{dt} = \frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_y - \frac{q}{2c} B_0 x\right) = \frac{qB_0}{2c} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dp_y}{dt} = -\frac{qB_0}{2mc} \left(p_x + \frac{q}{2c} B_0 y\right) = -\frac{qB_0}{2c} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

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

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

9/20/2013

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14

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Poisson brackets:

Recall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

9/20/2013

PHY 711 Fall 2013 – Lecture 11

15

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

9/20/2013

PHY 711 Fall 2013 -- Lecture 11

16

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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 :

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

Liouville theorem

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

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

9/20/2013

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17

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