

Bi-Hamiltonian mechanical systems

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Remark (Schouten-Nijenhuis bracket, [Mar97, p. 354], [MM84, p. 146])

Let M be a manifold. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, define

$A^k(M) = C^\infty(M \longleftarrow \wedge_{i=1}^k TM)$. Then, the Schouten-Nijenhuis bracket of M is a map $[\cdot, \cdot]: A^p(M) \times A^q(M) \longrightarrow A^{p+q-1}(M)$. If $P, Q \in A^2(M)$, we can view them as maps $P, Q: \Omega^1(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$ and $[P, Q]: \Omega^1(M) \times \Omega^1(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} 2[P, Q](\alpha, \beta) = & (L_{P\beta}Q)\alpha + Q(L_{P\alpha}\beta) + Qd(\alpha(P\beta)) \\ & + (L_{Q\beta}P)\alpha + P(L_{Q\alpha}\beta) + Pd(\alpha(Q\beta)). \end{aligned}$$

Definition (Poisson manifold, [MM84, p. 14], [Fer94a, p. 2])

A **Poisson manifold** is a smooth manifold M , equipped with a tensor P of type $(0, 2)$ (receives two covectors and outputs a number) such that

(antisymmetric) View P as a map $P: \Omega^1(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$. Then

$$P + P^* = 0.$$

(Jacobi) $[P, P] = 0.$

P is **nondegenerate** if it has maximal rank (at every point).

Definition (Hamiltonian vector field)

Let (M, P) be a Poisson manifold and $F \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$ be a function on M . The **Hamiltonian vector field** of F is $X_F := P dF$.

Definition (bi-Poisson manifold, [Fer94a, p. 3])

A **bi-Poisson manifold** is a smooth manifold M equipped with Poisson structures P and Q such that $[P, Q] = 0$.

Definition (bi-Hamiltonian vector field, [Fer94a, p. 4])

Let (M, P, Q) be a bi-Poisson manifold. Let $F, G \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$ be such that $PdF = QdG$. Then, the **bi-Hamiltonian vector field** of F, G is the vector field $X = PdF = QdG$.

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In this section, (M, P, Q) is a bi-Poisson manifold with P nondegenerate, such that $\dim M = 2n$.

Definition (recursion operator, [Fer94a, p. 4])

The **recursion operator** of (M, P, Q) is the $(1, 1)$ -tensor N given by $N = QP^{-1}: TM \longrightarrow TM$.

Definition ($T_N =$ torsion of N , [MM84, p. 14], [Fer94a, p. 4])

We define a tensor T_N of type $(2, 1)$, called the **torsion** of N by $T_N(X, Y) = [NX, NY] - N[NX, Y] - N[X, NY] + N^2[X, Y]$.

Definition (R_N , [MM84, p. 15])

We define a tensor R_N of type $(1, 2)$ by $R_N(\alpha, X) = L_{P\alpha}(N)X - PL_X(N^*\alpha) + PL_{NX}(\alpha)$.

Lemma (eigenvalues of N , [MM84, p. 27])

For each $p \in M$, if λ is an eigenvalue of $N_p: T_pM \rightarrow T_pM$ with eigenspace E , then E is even dimensional. In particular, N_p has at most n distinct eigenvalues.

Definition

N has **nice eigenvalues** if N is diagonalizable and it has eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ which are smooth functions, pairwise different at every point, and independent.

Assume from now on (until the end of this section) that N has nice eigenvalues.

Proposition ([Fer94b, p. 11], [MM84, p. 14, 15, 149-155])

N satisfies the following properties:

- ① $PN^* = NP$;
- ② $T_N = 0$;
- ③ $R_N = 0$.

Theorem (Magri and Morosi, [MM84, p. 27], [Fer94a, p. 4])

- ① $l_k = \frac{1}{k} \text{tr} N^k$ satisfy $N^* \text{d}l_k = \text{d}l_{k+1}$ and $l_1, l_2, \dots$ are in involution with respect to P and Q ;
- ② $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ are in involution with respect to P and Q ;
- ③ If $H, F \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$ are such that $X := P \text{d}H = Q \text{d}F$ then $X \in \mathfrak{X}_1$ and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ and $l_1, l_2, \dots$ are constant along X .

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Definition (hypersurface of translation, [Fer94a, p. 9])

Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ be a hypersurface. S is a **hypersurface of translation** if there exists a diffeomorphism

$x = (x^1, \dots, x^{n+1}): \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $t \longmapsto x(t)$, such that x is of the form

$$x^l(t^1, \dots, t^n) = a_1^l(t^1) + \dots + a_n^l(t^n), \quad l = 1, \dots, n+1.$$

From now until the end of section 5, we use the following assumptions, which correspond to the situation we would be in if we applied the Arnold-Liouville theorem to some Hamiltonian system and considered a neighbourhood of an invariant torus.

Assumptions (1/2)

(Phase space) $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is an open, nonempty, connected, simply connected neighbourhood of 0. $M := U \times T^n$, with coordinates $(x^1, \dots, x^n, y^1, \dots, y^n)$ (the coordinates x on U are action coordinates and y on T^n are angle coordinates).

(Symplectic structure) $\omega = \sum_{i=1}^n dx^i \wedge dy^i$. ω can be seen as a map $\omega: \mathfrak{X}(M) \longrightarrow \Omega^1(M)$ and ω has an associated Poisson structure, which as a map $\Omega^1(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{X}(M)$ is given by $P := \omega^{-1}$. As a bivector, $P = -\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}$. As a bracket, the Poisson structure is given by $\{f, g\} = P(df, dg) = -\omega(X_f, X_g)$. The Hamiltonian vector field is given by $X_H^P = P dH$ and $dH = \omega(X_H^P, \cdot)$. With these conventions, $H \longmapsto X_H^P$ is a Lie algebra homomorphism.

Assumptions (2/2)

(Hamiltonian + completely integrable) $H: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is the Hamiltonian function we consider on $U \times T^n$, which is independent of y : $H = H(x^1, \dots, x^n)$. The system (M, ω, H) is completely integrable, i.e. there exist $F_1, \dots, F_n \in C^\infty(U, \mathbb{R}) \subset C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R})$ which are independent, in involution and first integrals.

(Nondegeneracy) $\det \left(\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial x^i \partial x^j} \right) \neq 0$ on an open dense set and the set $\{x \in U \mid \{x\} \times T^n \text{ is a non-resonant torus}\}$ is dense in U . Note: this implies that any first integral only depends on the action variables.

For $O \subset U$ open and $V \subset T^n$ open nonempty define conditions

$A(O, V) :=$ there exists Q a Poisson structure on $O \times V \subset M$ and there exists a function $F: O \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that P, Q is bi-Poisson, $X_H^P = X_F^Q$ and $N = QP^{-1}$ has nice eigenvalues.

$B(O) :=$ The graph of H , $\text{Graph}(H) \subset O \times \mathbb{R}$, is a hypersurface of translation.

Theorem (Fernandes, [Fer94a, p. 10])

- ① $A(U, T^n) \implies \forall p \in U: \exists U' \text{ a neighbourhood of } p \text{ in } U: B(U')$;
- ② $B(U) \implies \exists U' \subset U \text{ open} :$
 $\exists V \subset T^n \text{ open and nonempty: } A(U', V).$

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- We assume that there exists Q a Poisson structure on $U \times T^n \subset M$ and there exists a function $F: U \times T^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that P, Q is bi-Poisson, $X_H^P = X_F^Q$ and $N = QP^{-1}$ has nice eigenvalues $\lambda^1, \dots, \lambda^n$.
- We want to show that $\text{Graph}(H)$ is a hypersurface of translation.
- We denote the corresponding eigenspaces by $E^1, \dots, E^n$, which are all 2 dimensional.
- By the nondegeneracy assumption, $\lambda^1, \dots, \lambda^n$ don't depend on y , or equivalently they are functions $\lambda^1, \dots, \lambda^n: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- Consider the map $\Lambda = (\lambda^1, \dots, \lambda^n): U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. Since $\lambda^1, \dots, \lambda^n$ are independent, $\Lambda: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a local diffeomorphism.
- Then, for $p \in U$ there exists $U' \subset U$ an open neighbourhood of p and $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open such that $\Lambda: U' \rightarrow V$ is a diffeomorphism. Denote the variables in V by $q^1, \dots, q^n$.

Definition (distributions, [Fer94a, p. 5, 6])

Define $\mathbf{n} = \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $\hat{i} = \mathbf{n} \setminus \{i\}$. For $I \subset \mathbf{n}$, define

$$E^I := \bigoplus_{i \in I} E^i, \quad (2|I| \text{ dimensional distribution on } U \times T^n)$$

$$D^I := \bigcap_{i \in \mathbf{n} \setminus I} \ker d\lambda^i, \quad (|I| \text{ dimensional distribution on } U).$$

Proposition (properties of E^I , [Fer94a, p. 5-7])

For $I \subset \mathbf{n}$,

- ① E^I is integrable, with foliation which we denote by $\{L_\alpha^I\}_{\alpha \in J^I}$;
- ② For all $j \in \mathbf{n} \setminus I$, λ^j is constant along the leaves of E^I ;
- ③ $(E^I)^\omega = E^{\mathbf{n} \setminus I}$;
- ④ $L_{X_H^P}$ maps $\mathfrak{X}(E^I)$ to $\mathfrak{X}(E^I)$.

Proposition (properties of D^I , [Fer94a, p. 7])

For $I \subset \mathbf{n}$,

- ① D^I is integrable, with foliation which we denote by $\{S'_\beta\}_{\beta \in K^I}$;
- ② For all $j \in \mathbf{n} \setminus I$, λ^j is constant along the leaves of D^I ;
- ③ $D^I \oplus D^{\mathbf{n} \setminus I} = TU$.

Proposition (relation between E^I and D^I , [Fer94a, p. 7])

For $I \subset \mathbf{n}$,

- ① $\forall p \in M: D\pi(p)E_p^I = D_{\pi(p)}^I$;
- ② $\forall p \in M: \pi(L_p^I) = S_{\pi(p)}^I$.

Theorem (graph of H is hypersurface of translation, [Fer94a, p. 7])

Consider $H: V \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $H = H(q)$ and $\Lambda^{-1}: V \longrightarrow U$,
 $\Lambda^{-1}(q) = (x^1(q), \dots, x^n(q))$. Then,

$$\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0 \quad \text{if } i \neq j,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 x^k}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0 \quad \text{if } i \neq j.$$

In particular, $\text{Graph}(H) \subset U' \times \mathbb{R}$ is a hypersurface of translation.

Step 1: There exist $O, W \subset T^n$ open and nonempty such that

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma: U' \times O &\longrightarrow W \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (D\Lambda(x)^T)^{-1}y\end{aligned}$$

is well defined and $\Lambda \times \Gamma: U' \times O \longrightarrow V \times W$ is a symplectomorphism. Denote by $p^1, \dots, p^n$ the coordinates on W , so that $q^1, \dots, q^n, p^1, \dots, p^n$ are symplectic coordinates on $V \times W$.

Step 2: Define $\bar{E}' := (\Lambda \times \Gamma)_* E'$, $\bar{N} := (\Lambda \times \Gamma)_* N$, $\bar{\lambda}^i := (\Lambda \times \Gamma)_* \lambda^i$ and $\bar{\Lambda} := (\Lambda \times \Gamma)_* \Lambda = \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n}: V \times W \longrightarrow V \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. Then,

- ① There exists $a_{ij}: V \times W \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (for $i, j = 1, \dots, n$) such that for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ we have that $a_{ii} = 0$ and

$$\bar{E}^i = \text{span} \left\{ X_{q^i}, X_{p^i} + \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} X_{q^j} \right\}.$$

- ② Denote also by $\bar{\Lambda}$ the map $\bar{\Lambda} := \text{diag}(\bar{\lambda}^1, \dots, \bar{\lambda}^n): V \times W \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. Define $\bar{B}: V \times W \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ by $\bar{B}_{ij} := (\lambda_j - \lambda_i) a_{ji}$. Then,

$$\bar{N} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\Lambda} & 0 \\ \bar{B} & \bar{\Lambda} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Step 3: If f, g are functions on $U' \times O$ such that $Pdf = Qdg$ and f is independent of y , then the corresponding functions $\bar{f}, \bar{g}: V \times W \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy

$$\frac{\partial^2 \bar{f}}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \bar{g}}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0, \quad \text{for } i \neq j.$$

Step 4: $\frac{\partial^2 \bar{H}}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0$, if $i \neq j$.

Step 5: $\frac{\partial^2 \bar{x}^k}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0$, if $i \neq j$.

Proof of step 5

We start by proving that the entries of N do not depend on $p^1, \dots, p^n$ and then we prove the following chain of implications:

Entries of N do not depend on $p^1, \dots, p^n$

$\implies$ Entries of N do not depend on $y^1, \dots, y^n$

$\implies L_{X_{x^i}} N = L_{\partial_{y^i}} N = 0$

$\implies X_{x^i}$ is (locally) bi-Hamiltonian on open dense subset of U'

$\implies \frac{\partial^2 x^k}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0$ for $i \neq j$, on open dense subset of U'

$\implies \frac{\partial^2 x^k}{\partial q^i \partial q^j} = 0$ for $i \neq j$.

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Step 1: using the fact that $\text{Graph}(H)$ is a hypersurface of translation.
 Since $\text{Graph}(H)$ is a hypersurface of translation, there exists a diffeomorphism $\phi: O \longrightarrow U$ such that if we denote the variables in O by $t^1, \dots, t^n$, then ϕ is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} x^1(t^1, \dots, t^n) &= X_1^1(t^1) + \dots + X_n^1(t^n) \\ &\vdots \\ x^n(t^1, \dots, t^n) &= X_1^n(t^1) + \dots + X_n^n(t^n) \\ H(x(t)) &= H_1(t^1) + \dots + H_n(t^n). \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: define new symplectic coordinates $q^1, \dots, q^n, p^1, \dots, p^n$ such that $H(q) = q^1 + \dots + q^n$. (Possibly at the cost of shrinking the domain).

Step 3: writing Q and N on the new coordinates. On $W \times Z$,

- Define $Q(q, p) = \sum_{i=1}^n q^i \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial p^i}$. Then Q is Poisson.
- (P, Q) is bi-Poisson.
- $N = \sum_{i=1}^n q^i \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} \otimes dq^i + \frac{\partial}{\partial p^i} \otimes dp^i \right)$ and N has nice eigenvalues.
- $L_{X_H^P} N = 0$ and X_H^P is bi-Hamiltonian.

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- **Example: symmetric top rotating freely about a fixed point** ([Fer94a, p. 13, 14]). We will see that the Hamiltonian has a graph which is a hypersurface of translation. We will use Fernandes' theorem to build a new Poisson structure Q on the phase space.
- **Phase space (Poisson):** $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ acts on $\mathbb{R}^3$ by multiplication on the left. We can use this action to define the semidirect sum $\mathfrak{e}(3) := \mathfrak{so}(3) \oplus \mathbb{R}^3$, which is a Lie algebra ([Ost13, p. 237-239]). It's dual, $\mathfrak{e}(3)^*$ is a Poisson manifold and is going to be our Phase space ([BRS89, p. 326]). $\mathfrak{e}(3)^*$ has coordinates $(M_1, M_2, M_3, p_1, p_2, p_3)$ and the Poisson bracket is given by

$$\{M_i, M_j\} = \varepsilon_{ijk} M_k, \quad \{M_i, p_j\} = \varepsilon_{ijk} p_k, \quad \{p_i, p_j\} = 0.$$

- **Hamiltonian:**

$$H = \frac{1}{2I_1}(M_1^2 + M_2^2) + \frac{1}{2I_3}M_3^2.$$

- **Casimir functions:** Define $C_1 = p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2$ and $C_2 = p_1 M_1 + p_2 M_2 + p_3 M_3$. Then, C_1, C_2 are Casimir functions: $C_1, C_2 \in \ker(F \mapsto X_F)$.
- **Phase space (symplectic):** Restrict to $L = \{C_1 = 1, C_2 = 0\}$. L is a leaf of the Kirillov foliation, so L is a symplectic manifold. (L, ω, H) is completely integrable with first integrals H, M_3 .
- **Coordinates on L :** Define new coordinates $(\theta, \varphi, p_\theta, p_\varphi)$ on L by the equations

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 &= \cos \theta \cos \varphi & M_1 &= p_\varphi \tan \theta \cos \varphi - p_\theta \sin \varphi \\ p_2 &= \cos \theta \sin \varphi & M_2 &= p_\varphi \tan \theta \sin \varphi + p_\theta \cos \varphi \\ p_3 &= \sin \theta & M_3 &= p_\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= d\theta \wedge dp_\theta + d\varphi \wedge dp_\varphi \\ H &= p_\varphi^2 \left(\frac{1}{2I_1} \tan^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2I_3} \right) + \frac{1}{2I_1} p_\theta^2. \end{aligned}$$

- **Invariant torus:** Choose $h, m \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $h/m^2 > 1/(2l_3)$ and define $T = \{H = h, M_3 = m\}$.
- **Action variables:** the action variables and H are given by

$$\begin{aligned}s_1 &= m \\ s_2 &= \sqrt{2hl_1 - m^2 \frac{l_1 - l_3}{l_3}} - m \\ H &= \frac{l_1 - l_3}{2l_1 l_3} s_1^2 + \frac{1}{2l_1} (s_1 + s_2)^2.\end{aligned}$$

- **Graph of H is a hypersurface of translation:** by using the parametrization $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \text{Graph}(H)$ given by $(t_1, t_2) \mapsto s_1(t), s_2(t), s_3(t)$,

$$\begin{aligned}s_1 &= t_1 \\ s_2 &= t_2 - t_1 \\ s_3 &= \frac{l_1 - l_3}{2l_1 l_3} t_1^2 + \frac{1}{2l_1} t_2^2.\end{aligned}$$

- **New Poisson structure:** So, by Fernandes' theorem, we can conclude that there exists a new Poisson structure Q . Following the proof of this theorem, we should be able to conclude that it's given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q = & \frac{l_1 - l_3}{2l_1 l_3} s_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial s_1} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} \\
 & + \left(\frac{l_1 - l_3}{2l_1 l_3} s_1^2 - \frac{1}{2l_1} (s_1 + s_2)^2 \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial s_2} \\
 & + \frac{1}{2l_1} (s_1 + s_2)^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial s_2} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

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Thank you for listening!