

SO(3)-invariant Finsler structures

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Introduction

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We explicitly describe Lepage forms on T^1Q serving as an integrand in variational functionals.

Corresponding conservation law equations are discussed and illustrated by an example.

Preliminaries: fibred mechanics

Y a fibred manifold with 1-dimensional base X and projection π
 $\dim Y = m + 1$

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$$\pi^r : J^r Y \rightarrow X, \quad \pi^r(J_X^r \gamma) = x,$$

$$\pi^{r,s} : J^r Y \rightarrow J^s Y, \quad \pi^{r,s}(J_X^r \gamma) = J_X^s \gamma$$

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r -jet prolongation $J^r \gamma$ of γ is the mapping

$$X \ni x \mapsto J^r \gamma(x) = J_x^r \gamma \in J^r Y$$

Denoting $\pi(V) = U$ and $V^r = (\pi^{r,0})^{-1}(V)$ for an open subset V of Y , any fibred chart (V, ψ) , $\psi = (t, y^\sigma)$, on Y , induces the associated charts

(U, φ) , $\varphi = (t)$, on X ,

(V^r, ψ^r) , $\psi^r = (t, y_{(0)}^\sigma, y_{(1)}^\sigma, y_{(2)}^\sigma, \dots, y_{(r)}^\sigma)$, on $J^r Y$, where
 $y_{(s)}^\sigma(J_x^s \gamma) = D^s(y^\sigma \gamma \varphi^{-1})(\varphi(x))$, $0 \leq s \leq r$, $1 \leq \sigma \leq m$.

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For lower dimensions we use a modified notation; e.g. if $r = 2$:
 $\psi^2 = (t, y^\sigma, \dot{y}^\sigma, \ddot{y}^\sigma)$.

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A tangent vector ξ at a point $y \in Y$ is said to be π -vertical, if $T\pi(\xi) = 0$.

A differential form ρ on Y is said to be π -horizontal, if for every point $y \in Y$ the contraction $i_\xi \rho(y)$ vanishes whenever $\xi \in T_y Y$ is a π -vertical vector.

Horizontalization of forms

Let $k \geq 1$. For any open set $W \subset Y$, we denote by

$\Omega_0^r W$ the ring of smooth functions on W^r ,

$\Omega_k^r W$ the $\Omega_0^r W$ -module of smooth k -forms on W^r

$\Omega_{k,X}^r W$ the submodule of $\Omega_k^r W$ of π^r -horizontal forms.

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A morphism of exterior algebras $h : \Omega_k^r W \rightarrow \Omega_{k,X}^{r+1} W$

$$hf = f \circ \pi^{r+1,r}, \quad hdt = dt, \quad hdy_{(l)}^\sigma = y_{(l+1)}^\sigma dt,$$

where $f : V^r \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a function; h the π -horizontalization.

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A vector field ξ on Y is said to be π -projectable if there is a vector field ξ_0 on X such that $T\pi \circ \xi = \xi_0 \circ \pi$.

Contact forms

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A form $\rho \in \Omega_k^1 W$ has a unique decomposition

$$(\pi^{2,1})^* \rho = h\rho + p_1\rho + p_2\rho + \dots + p_k\rho,$$

in which $p_k\rho$ contains, in any fibred chart, exactly k factors $\omega^\sigma, \dot{\omega}^\sigma$.

If $k = 1$, then $(\pi^{r+1,r})^* \rho = h\rho + p_1\rho$,

if $k = 2$, then $(\pi^{r+1,r})^* \rho = p_1\rho + p_2\rho$.

We say that ρ is of **order of contactness** k , if $(\pi^{r+1,r})^* \rho = p_k\rho$.

Variational functional

By a Lagrangian of order r for Y we mean a 1-form $\lambda \in \Omega_{1,X}^r W$.
In fibred chart (V, ψ) , $V \subset W$,

$$\lambda = \mathcal{L} dt.$$

$\mathcal{L} : V^r \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is the **Lagrange function**.

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For any piece Ω of X with boundary $\partial\Omega$, λ gives rise to the variational functional

$$\Gamma_{\Omega} Y \ni \gamma \mapsto \lambda_{\Omega}(\gamma) = \int_{\Omega} J^r \gamma^* \lambda \in \mathbf{R}, \quad (1)$$

where $\Gamma_{\Omega} Y$ is the set of sections of Y , defined on Ω .

Variation of the variational functional

Let $V \subset Y$ be an open set, $\alpha : V \rightarrow Y$ an automorphism of Y , $U = \pi(V)$, and let $\alpha_0 : U \rightarrow X$ be the projection of α . Setting for every $J_X^r \gamma \in V^r$,

$$J^r \alpha(J_X^r \gamma) = J_{\alpha_0(x)}^r(\alpha \gamma \alpha_0^{-1}),$$

we obtain the r -jet prolongation $J^r \alpha : V^r \rightarrow J^r Y$.

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Choose $\gamma \in \Gamma_\Omega Y$ and a π -projectable vector field Ξ on Y with flow α_t , and consider the variation γ_t of γ , induced by Ξ . We get

$$(-\epsilon, \epsilon) \ni t \mapsto \lambda_{\alpha_{(0)t}(\Omega)}(\alpha_t \gamma \alpha_{(0)t}^{-1}) = \int_\Omega J^r \gamma^* J^r \alpha_t^* \lambda \in \mathbf{R}.$$

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Differentiating this function at $t = 0$ we obtain

$$(\partial_{J^r \Xi} \lambda)_\Omega(\gamma) = \int_\Omega J^r \gamma^* \partial_{J^r \Xi} \lambda. \quad (2)$$

The number (2) is the variation of λ_Ω at γ , induced by Ξ . 

First variation formula

We say that a form $\Theta_\lambda \in \Omega_1^s W$ is a Lepage equivalent of λ on $W^r \subset J^r Y$, if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) $h\Theta_\lambda = (\pi^{s+1,r})^* \lambda$, and
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If $\Theta_\lambda \in \Omega_1^s W$ is a Lepage equivalent of a Lagrangian $\lambda \in \Omega_{1,X}^r W$, then

$$\int_{\Omega} J^r \gamma^* \partial_{J^r \Xi} \lambda = \int_{\Omega} J^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} d\Theta_\lambda + \int_{\partial\Omega} J^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} \Theta_\lambda.$$

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Theorem. For any Lepage equivalent $\Theta_\lambda \in \Omega_1^s W$ of a Lagrangian $\lambda \in \Omega_{1,X}^r W$,

$$J^r \gamma^* \partial_{J^r \Xi} \lambda = J^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} d\Theta_\lambda + di_{J^s \Xi} J^s \gamma^* \Theta_\lambda.$$

Lepage equivalent of a Lagrangian

Theorem. Every Lagrangian $\lambda \in \Omega^1_{1,X} W$ has a unique Lepage equivalent Θ_λ . If in a fibred chart (V, ψ) , $\psi = (t, y^\sigma)$, λ is expressed as $\lambda = \mathcal{L}dt$, then $\Theta_\lambda \in \Omega^1_1 W$ and has an expression

$$\Theta_\lambda = \mathcal{L}dt + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma} \omega^\sigma.$$

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Theorem. Let $W \subset Y$ be an open set, let $\lambda \in \Omega^1_{1,X} W$ be a Lagrangian. Then the form $d\Theta_\lambda$ has an expression

$$(\pi^{2,1})^* d\Theta_\lambda = E_\lambda + F_\lambda,$$

where $E_\lambda = E_\sigma(\mathcal{L}) \omega^\sigma \wedge dt$ with

$$E_\sigma(\mathcal{L}) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^\sigma} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma}, \quad (3)$$

and F_λ is of order of contactness 2.

Extremal of a variational functional

Theorem. Let $\lambda \in \Omega^1_{1,X} W$ be a Lagrangian, Θ_λ the Lepage equivalent of λ , and γ a section of Y . The following conditions are equivalent:

- (a) γ is an extremal of λ .
- (b) For any fibred chart (V, ψ) , $\psi = (t, y^\sigma)$, γ satisfies the system of partial differential equations

$$E_\sigma(\mathcal{L}) \circ J^2\gamma = 0, \quad 1 \leq \sigma \leq m. \quad (4)$$

Equations (4) are the Euler-Lagrange equations.

Invariant Lagrangians

Let $W \subset Y$ be an open set, let λ be a Lagrangian defined on $W^r \subset J^r Y$. Consider an automorphism $\alpha : W \rightarrow Y$ of Y , and its prolongation $J^r \alpha : W^r \rightarrow J^r Y$. We say that α is an **invariance transformation** of λ if $J^r \alpha^* \lambda = \lambda$.

The **generator** of invariance transformations of λ is a π -projectable vector field on Y , whose one-parameter group consists of invariance transformations of λ .

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Lemma. A π -projectable vector field Ξ on Y generates invariance transformations of a Lagrangian λ for Y if and only if

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Lemma. A π -projectable vector field Ξ on Y generates invariance transformations of a Lagrangian λ for Y if and only if

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Theorem. Suppose that a Lagrangian λ is invariant with respect to a π -projectable vector field Ξ . Then for any Lepage equivalent ρ of order s of λ and any section γ of Y

$$J^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} d\rho + dJ^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} \rho = 0. \quad (6)$$

Noether's theory

Theorem. (First theorem of Emmy Noether) Let $\lambda \in \Omega_{1,X}^r W$ be a Lagrangian, ρ a Lepage equivalent of λ defined on $J^s Y$, and let γ be an extremal. Then for every generator of invariance transformations of λ

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$$dJ^s \gamma^* i_{J^s \Xi} \rho = 0. \quad (7)$$

The function $i_{J^s \Xi} \rho$ is called a **conserved current** for a section $\gamma \in \Gamma_\Omega(\pi)$.

Formula (7) is called **conservation law equation**.

Manifolds of regular velocities

Q a smooth manifold of dimension m

$T^r Q$ the set of r -jets $J_0^r \zeta$ with source $0 \in \mathbf{R}$ and target $\zeta(0) \in Q$, r -velocities

canonical projection $\tau^r : T^r Q \rightarrow Q$, $\tau^r(J_0^r \zeta) = \zeta(0)$

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$\text{Imm } T^r Q$ the open subset of $T^r Q$, consisting of r -jets whose representatives are **immersions** at $0 \in \mathbf{R}$

elements of the set $\text{Imm } T^r Q$ are called **regular r -velocities**

$\text{Imm } T^1 Q$ coincides with the **slit tangent bundle** of Q

Parameter invariance

$F : \text{Imm } T^r Q \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ a function

$S \subset \mathbf{R}$ a compact interval

$\zeta : S \rightarrow Q$ an immersion

These data define the integral

$$F_S(\zeta) = \int_S (F \circ T^r \zeta)(t) dt, \quad (8)$$

where $T^r \zeta(t) = J_0^r(\zeta \circ \text{tr}_t)$ is the canonical lift of the curve ζ to $\text{Imm } T^r Q$, and tr_t is the translation $s \mapsto s + t$ of $\mathbf{R}$.

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We say that the integral (8) is **parameter-invariant**, if for any curve $\zeta : S \rightarrow Q$, any open interval $I \subset S$ and any diffeomorphism $\mu : J \rightarrow I$, such that $\mu(J) = I$ and $D\mu > 0$,

$$F_I(\zeta) = F_J(\zeta \circ \mu).$$

Positive homogeneous functions

Theorem. Suppose that the function $F : \text{Imm} T^2 Q \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is differentiable. Then the following two conditions are equivalent.

- (a) Integral (8) is parameter invariant.
- (b) For any chart (W, χ) , $\chi = (y^\sigma)$, on Q

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma} \dot{y}^\sigma + 2 \frac{\partial F}{\partial \ddot{y}^\sigma} \ddot{y}^\sigma = F, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial \ddot{y}^\sigma} \dot{y}^\sigma = 0. \quad (9)$$

Condition (9) is called the **Zermelo condition**.

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Sections $t \mapsto \gamma(t)$ of Y are canonically identified with curves $t \mapsto \zeta(t)$ in Q , where $\gamma(t) = (t, \zeta(t))$.

Then the r -jets $J_t^r \gamma$ are canonically identified with the pairs $(t, T^r \zeta(t)) \in \mathbf{R} \times T^r Q$; thus,

$$J^r Y = \mathbf{R} \times T^r Q. \quad (10)$$

Lepage forms on $\text{Imm } T^1 Q$

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In a chart (W^1, χ^1) , $\chi^1 = (y^\sigma, \dot{y}^\sigma)$, on $T^1 Q$, arbitrary 1-form is expressed by

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where A_σ, B_σ are functions on $\text{Imm } T^1 Q$.

Theorem. Suppose ρ is 1-form on $\text{Imm } T^1 Q$, in a chart expressed by (11). Then ρ is a Lepage form if and only if

$$\left(\frac{\partial A_\sigma}{\partial \dot{y}^\nu} - \frac{\partial B_\nu}{\partial y^\sigma} \right) \dot{y}^\sigma = 0, \quad \frac{\partial B_\sigma}{\partial \dot{y}^\nu} - \frac{\partial B_\nu}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma} = 0. \quad (12)$$

Solution of the system (12)

$$A_\sigma = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y^\sigma} + Q_\sigma, \quad B_\sigma = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma}, \quad (13)$$

for some smooth functions P, Q_σ on $\text{Imm } T^1 Q$ depending on $(y^\nu, \dot{y}^\nu)$, and (y^ν) , respectively.

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Theorem. Let ρ be a Lepage form $\text{Imm } T^1 Q$, in coordinates expressed by $\rho = A_\sigma dy^\sigma + B_\sigma d\dot{y}^\sigma$, where A_σ, B_σ are given (13). If P satisfies

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \dot{y}^\sigma} \dot{y}^\sigma = 0,$$

then $\mathcal{L}$ determined by $h\rho = \mathcal{L}dt$ is positive homogeneous function on $\text{Imm } T^2 Q$.

Action of a Lie group on $T^1 Q$

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For $g \in G$ we define

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by

$$T\Phi_g(\xi) = (T_q\Phi_g)(\xi),$$

where $\xi \in T_qQ$, $q \in Q$.

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where $\xi \in T_qQ$, $q \in Q$.

Thus we have a left action of G on $T^1Q \equiv TQ$

$$\tilde{\Phi} : G \times T^1Q \rightarrow T^1Q, \quad (g, \xi) \mapsto T\Phi_g(\xi).$$

Now consider $Q = \mathbf{R}^3$ and $G = \text{SO}(3)$.

The special orthogonal group $\text{SO}(3)$ of $\mathbf{R}^3$ consists of orthogonal matrices with determinant +1 representing rotations of $\mathbf{R}^3$ around a point $(0, 0, 0)$.

Such rotations are generated by the set of rotations around the axis x, y, z of the canonical frame in $\mathbf{R}^3$.

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Our aim is to determine all $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant Lagrangians $\lambda = \mathcal{L}dt$ on $\mathbf{R} \times \text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$ with $\mathcal{L}$ defined on $\text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$.

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According to the corresponding invariance theory, equivalently we find functions $\mathcal{L}$ on $\text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$ satisfying

$$\partial_{\Xi} \mathcal{L} = 0, \tag{14}$$

where Ξ is any generator of the action of $\text{SO}(3)$ on $\text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$.

Generators of the action of $SO(3)$ on $\mathbf{R}^3$

The generators of rotations around the coordinate axes z , x , and y in canonical coordinates on $\mathbf{R}^3$

$$\xi = x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \eta = y \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \quad \mu = z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - x \frac{\partial}{\partial z}.$$

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In the first spherical chart (V, Ψ) on $\mathbf{R}^3$, where

$V = \mathbf{R}^3 \setminus \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{R}^3 \mid x \geq 0, y = 0\}$, $\Psi = (r, \varphi, \vartheta)$, defined by

$$x = r \cos \varphi \sin \vartheta, \quad y = r \sin \varphi \sin \vartheta, \quad z = r \cos \vartheta,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \xi &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}, & \eta &= -\cos \varphi \cot \vartheta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} - \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta}, \\ \mu &= -\sin \varphi \cot \vartheta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} + \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta}. \end{aligned}$$

SO(3)-invariant functions on $\text{Imm } T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$

- any solution $\mathcal{L}$ of the system

$$\partial_{\dot{\xi}} \mathcal{L} = 0, \quad \partial_{\dot{\eta}} \mathcal{L} = 0, \quad \partial_{\dot{\mu}} \mathcal{L} = 0, \quad (15)$$

where $\dot{\xi}, \dot{\eta}, \dot{\mu}$ are complete lifts of ξ, η, μ , respectively, to $T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$

$$\dot{\xi} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\eta} = & -\cos \varphi \cot \vartheta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} - \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \\ & + \left(\dot{\vartheta} \frac{\cos \varphi}{\sin^2 \vartheta} + \dot{\varphi} \sin \varphi \cot \vartheta \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} - \dot{\varphi} \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{\vartheta}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mu} = & -\sin \varphi \cot \vartheta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} + \cos \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \\ & + \left(\dot{\vartheta} \frac{\sin \varphi}{\sin^2 \vartheta} - \dot{\varphi} \cos \varphi \cot \vartheta \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} - \dot{\varphi} \sin \varphi \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{\vartheta}}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote $V^1 = (\tau^1)^{-1}(V)$; $V^1 \subset \text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$.

Theorem. Every $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant function on V^1 is a smooth function of $r, \dot{r}, w$, where $w = \sqrt{\dot{\vartheta}^2 + \dot{\varphi}^2 \sin^2 \vartheta}$.

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Theorem. Any positively homogeneous $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant function $\mathcal{L}$ on V^1 is of the form

$$\mathcal{L}(r, \dot{r}, w) = w f\left(r, \frac{\dot{r}}{w}\right).$$

Example

$$\lambda = \mathcal{L}dt, \quad \mathcal{L} = w^2 = \dot{\vartheta}^2 + \dot{\varphi}^2 \sin^2 \vartheta, \quad \text{on } \text{Imm} T^1 \mathbf{R}^3$$

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$$i_{\dot{\eta}} \Theta_\eta, i_{\dot{\mu}} \Theta_\lambda \dots \dot{\vartheta}^2 + \dot{\varphi}^2 \sin^2 \vartheta \cos^2 \vartheta = \text{const}$$



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