

Geometric generalization of the Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

Manuel Hohmann

Laboratory of Theoretical Physics - Institute of Physics - University of Tartu
Center of Excellence “Foundations of the Universe”



28th International Summer School on Global Analysis
and Its Applications - 18. August 2026

1. The inverse problem of variational calculus
2. The Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
3. Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
4. Conclusion

1. The inverse problem of variational calculus
2. The Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
3. Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
4. Conclusion

Jet bundles over fibered manifolds

- Consider a fibered manifold (Y, π, X) with surjective submersion

$$\pi : Y \rightarrow X. \tag{1}$$

Jet bundles over fibered manifolds

- Consider a fibered manifold (Y, π, X) with surjective submersion

$$\pi : Y \rightarrow X. \quad (1)$$

- Consider coordinates (x^μ) on X and (x^μ, y^A) on Y such that

$$\pi : (x^\mu, y^A) \mapsto (x^\mu). \quad (2)$$

Jet bundles over fibered manifolds

- Consider a fibered manifold (Y, π, X) with surjective submersion

$$\pi : Y \rightarrow X. \quad (1)$$

- Consider coordinates (x^μ) on X and (x^μ, y^A) on Y such that

$$\pi : (x^\mu, y^A) \mapsto (x^\mu). \quad (2)$$

- Prolongation of a local section $\gamma : U \rightarrow Y$ on $U \subset X$:

$$J^r \gamma : (x^\mu) \mapsto \left(x^\mu, y^A(x), \partial_{\mu_1} y^A(x), \dots, \partial_{\mu_1} \cdots \partial_{\mu_r} y^A(x) \right). \quad (3)$$

Jet bundles over fibered manifolds

- Consider a fibered manifold (Y, π, X) with surjective submersion

$$\pi : Y \rightarrow X. \quad (1)$$

- Consider coordinates (x^μ) on X and (x^μ, y^A) on Y such that

$$\pi : (x^\mu, y^A) \mapsto (x^\mu). \quad (2)$$

- Prolongation of a local section $\gamma : U \rightarrow Y$ on $U \subset X$:

$$J^r \gamma : (x^\mu) \mapsto \left(x^\mu, y^A(x), \partial_{\mu_1} y^A(x), \dots, \partial_{\mu_1} \cdots \partial_{\mu_r} y^A(x) \right). \quad (3)$$

↪ Coordinates on the jet bundle $J^r Y$:

$$(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\mu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_r}). \quad (4)$$

Differential forms on jet bundles

- Important classes of differential k -forms:

- Contact one-forms:

$$\omega^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} = dy^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} - y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k \mu} dx^\mu. \quad (5)$$

- Horizontal forms:

$$dx^{\mu_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\mu_k}. \quad (6)$$

- Lagrangians:

$$\lambda = \mathcal{L} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m = \mathcal{L} d^m x. \quad (7)$$

- Source forms:

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_A \omega^A \wedge d^m x. \quad (8)$$

Differential forms on jet bundles

- Important classes of differential k -forms:

- Contact one-forms:

$$\omega^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} = dy^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} - y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k \mu} dx^\mu. \quad (5)$$

- Horizontal forms:

$$dx^{\mu_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\mu_k}. \quad (6)$$

- Lagrangians:

$$\lambda = \mathcal{L} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^m = \mathcal{L} d^m x. \quad (7)$$

- Source forms:

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_A \omega^A \wedge d^m x. \quad (8)$$

- Projection operators (linear, distributive over $\wedge$):

- Horizontal projection operator $h : \Omega(J^r Y) \rightarrow \Omega(J^{r+1} Y)$:

$$h dx^\mu = dx^\mu, \quad h dy^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} = y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k \mu} dx^\mu. \quad (9)$$

- Vertical projection operator $v : \Omega(J^r Y) \rightarrow \Omega(J^{r+1} Y)$:

$$v dx^\mu = 0, \quad v dy^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k} = \omega^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}. \quad (10)$$

Euler operator and Euler-Lagrange equations

- Euler-Lagrange form $E(\lambda) = E_A(\lambda)\omega^A \wedge d^m x$ of a Lagrangian λ :

$$E_A(\lambda) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^k d_{\mu_1} \cdots d_{\mu_k} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}} . \quad (11)$$

Euler operator and Euler-Lagrange equations

- Euler-Lagrange form $E(\lambda) = E_A(\lambda)\omega^A \wedge d^m x$ of a Lagrangian λ :

$$E_A(\lambda) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^k d_{\mu_1} \cdots d_{\mu_k} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}}. \quad (11)$$

- Decomposition of Euler operator: $E = \varrho \circ d$.

Euler operator and Euler-Lagrange equations

- Euler-Lagrange form $E(\lambda) = E_A(\lambda)\omega^A \wedge d^m x$ of a Lagrangian λ :

$$E_A(\lambda) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^k d_{\mu_1} \cdots d_{\mu_k} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}} . \quad (11)$$

- Decomposition of Euler operator: $E = \varrho \circ d$.
 - Exterior derivative:

$$d\lambda = \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} dy^A + \sum_{k=1}^r \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}} dy^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k} \right) \wedge d^m x . \quad (12)$$

Euler operator and Euler-Lagrange equations

- Euler-Lagrange form $E(\lambda) = E_A(\lambda)\omega^A \wedge \mathbf{d}^m \mathbf{x}$ of a Lagrangian λ :

$$E_A(\lambda) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^k \mathbf{d}_{\mu_1} \cdots \mathbf{d}_{\mu_k} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}}. \quad (11)$$

- Decomposition of Euler operator: $E = \varrho \circ \mathbf{d}$.

- Exterior derivative:

$$\mathbf{d}\lambda = \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A} \mathbf{d}y^A + \sum_{k=1}^r \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}} \mathbf{d}y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k} \right) \wedge \mathbf{d}^m \mathbf{x}. \quad (12)$$

- Interior Euler operator $\varrho : \Omega^{m+s}(J^r Y) \rightarrow \Omega^{m+s}(J^{2r} Y)$:

$$\varrho(\eta \wedge \mathbf{d}^m \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{s} \omega^A \wedge \left(\mathbf{i}_{\partial/\partial y^A} \eta + \sum_{k=1}^r (-1)^k \mathbf{D}_{\mu_1} \cdots \mathbf{D}_{\mu_k} \mathbf{i}_{\partial/\partial y^A_{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k}} \eta \right) \wedge \mathbf{d}^m \mathbf{x}. \quad (13)$$

The inverse problem of variational calculus

Given a source form ε on $J^r Y$:

The inverse problem of variational calculus

Given a source form ε on $J^r Y$:

1. Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?

The inverse problem of variational calculus

Given a source form ε on $J^r Y$:

1. Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?
2. How can λ_ε be obtained from ε ?

Local variationality and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:
 - For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

Local variationality and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:
 - For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

$\Rightarrow$ For any projectable vector field ξ on Y holds:

$$E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = \mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda). \quad (15)$$

Local variability and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:

- For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

- $\Rightarrow$ For any projectable vector field ξ on Y holds:

$$E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = \mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda). \quad (15)$$

- For any vertical vector field ξ on Y there exists $\mathcal{J}^\xi$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda = \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) + \mathbf{d}_H \mathcal{J}^\xi. \quad (16)$$

Local variationality and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:

- For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

- $\Rightarrow$ For any projectable vector field ξ on Y holds:

$$E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = \mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda). \quad (15)$$

- For any vertical vector field ξ on Y there exists $\mathcal{J}^\xi$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda = \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) + \mathbf{d}_H \mathcal{J}^\xi. \quad (16)$$

- Apply Euler operator to last equation and use $E \circ \mathbf{d}_H = 0$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) = E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = E(\mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda)). \quad (17)$$

Local variability and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:

- For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

- $\Rightarrow$ For any projectable vector field ξ on Y holds:

$$E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = \mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda). \quad (15)$$

- For any vertical vector field ξ on Y there exists $\mathcal{J}^\xi$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda = \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) + \mathbf{d}_H \mathcal{J}^\xi. \quad (16)$$

- Apply Euler operator to last equation and use $E \circ \mathbf{d}_H = 0$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) = E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = E(\mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda)). \quad (17)$$

- For any source form ε on $J^r Y$ holds with $H(\varepsilon) = (\varrho \circ \mathbf{d})(\varepsilon)$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \varepsilon = E(\mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} \varepsilon) + \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} H(\varepsilon). \quad (18)$$

Local variability and Helmholtz condition

- Some useful relations for any Lagrangian λ on $J^r Y$:

- For any bundle automorphism $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y$ holds:

$$E(J^r \alpha^* \lambda) = J^r \alpha^* E(\lambda). \quad (14)$$

- $\Rightarrow$ For any projectable vector field ξ on Y holds:

$$E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = \mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda). \quad (15)$$

- For any vertical vector field ξ on Y there exists $\mathcal{J}^\xi$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda = \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) + \mathbf{d}_H \mathcal{J}^\xi. \quad (16)$$

- Apply Euler operator to last equation and use $E \circ \mathbf{d}_H = 0$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda) = E(\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \lambda) = E(\mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} E(\lambda)). \quad (17)$$

- For any source form ε on $J^r Y$ holds with $H(\varepsilon) = (\varrho \circ \mathbf{d})(\varepsilon)$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{J^r \xi} \varepsilon = E(\mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} \varepsilon) + \mathbf{i}_{J^r \xi} H(\varepsilon). \quad (18)$$

- ε is locally variational if and only if $H(\varepsilon) = 0$ (Helmholtz condition).

1. The inverse problem of variational calculus
2. The Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
3. Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
4. Conclusion

Classical Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Consider vertically star-shaped coordinate neighborhood $V^r \subset J^r Y$.

Classical Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Consider vertically star-shaped coordinate neighborhood $V^r \subset J^r Y$.
- ⇒ Homotheties $\chi_t : V^r \rightarrow V^r$ well-defined for $t \in [0, 1]$:

$$\chi_t(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = (x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}). \quad (19)$$

Classical Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Consider vertically star-shaped coordinate neighborhood $V^r \subset J^r Y$.

⇒ Homotheties $\chi_t : V^r \rightarrow V^r$ well-defined for $t \in [0, 1]$:

$$\chi_t(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = (x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}). \quad (19)$$

- Consider source form ε on V^r .

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_A \omega^A \wedge d^m x. \quad (20)$$

Classical Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Consider vertically star-shaped coordinate neighborhood $V^r \subset J^r Y$.

⇒ Homotheties $\chi_t : V^r \rightarrow V^r$ well-defined for $t \in [0, 1]$:

$$\chi_t(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = (x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}). \quad (19)$$

- Consider source form ε on V^r .

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_A \omega^A \wedge d^m x. \quad (20)$$

- Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian $\lambda_\varepsilon = \mathcal{L}_\varepsilon d^m x$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = y^A \int_0^1 \varepsilon_A(x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) dt. \quad (21)$$

Classical Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Consider vertically star-shaped coordinate neighborhood $V^r \subset J^r Y$.
- $\Rightarrow$ Homotheties $\chi_t : V^r \rightarrow V^r$ well-defined for $t \in [0, 1]$:

$$\chi_t(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = (x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}). \quad (19)$$

- Consider source form ε on V^r .

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_A \omega^A \wedge \mathbf{d}^m x. \quad (20)$$

- Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian $\lambda_\varepsilon = \mathcal{L}_\varepsilon \mathbf{d}^m x$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = y^A \int_0^1 \varepsilon_A(x^\mu, ty^A, ty^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, ty^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) dt. \quad (21)$$

- If ε is variational, then it is the Euler-Lagrange expression of λ_ε :

$$H(\varepsilon) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad E(\lambda_\varepsilon) = \varepsilon. \quad (22)$$

Coordinate-free formulation

- Change integration parameter $t = e^u$ and $dt = e^u du$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = \int_{-\infty}^0 (e^u y^A)_{\varepsilon A}(x^\mu, e^u y^A, e^u y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, e^u y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) du. \quad (23)$$

Coordinate-free formulation

- Change integration parameter $t = e^u$ and $dt = e^u du$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = \int_{-\infty}^0 (e^u y^A)_{\varepsilon A}(x^\mu, e^u y^A, e^u y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, e^u y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) du. \quad (23)$$

- One-parameter group φ on V generated by Liouville vector field $\mathbb{C} = y^A \partial / \partial y^A$:

$$\varphi_u(x^\mu, y^A) = (x^\mu, e^u y^A). \quad (24)$$

Coordinate-free formulation

- Change integration parameter $t = e^u$ and $dt = e^u du$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = \int_{-\infty}^0 (e^u y^A)_{\varepsilon_A}(x^\mu, e^u y^A, e^u y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, e^u y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) du. \quad (23)$$

- One-parameter group φ on V generated by Liouville vector field $\mathbb{C} = y^A \partial / \partial y^A$:

$$\varphi_u(x^\mu, y^A) = (x^\mu, e^u y^A). \quad (24)$$

- Use prolongation $J^r \varphi_u$ of φ_u :

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon = \int_{-\infty}^0 (y^A \varepsilon_A) \circ J^r \varphi_u du. \quad (25)$$

Coordinate-free formulation

- Change integration parameter $t = e^u$ and $dt = e^u du$:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon(x^\mu, y^A, y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) = \int_{-\infty}^0 (e^u y^A)_{\varepsilon A}(x^\mu, e^u y^A, e^u y^A_{\nu_1}, \dots, e^u y^A_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_k}) du. \quad (23)$$

- One-parameter group φ on V generated by Liouville vector field $\mathbb{C} = y^A \partial / \partial y^A$:

$$\varphi_u(x^\mu, y^A) = (x^\mu, e^u y^A). \quad (24)$$

- Use prolongation $J^r \varphi_u$ of φ_u :

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon = \int_{-\infty}^0 (y^A \varepsilon_A) \circ J^r \varphi_u du. \quad (25)$$

- Multiplication with $d^m x$:

$$\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{-\infty}^0 (J^r \varphi_u)^* (\mathbf{i}_{J^r \mathbb{C}} \varepsilon) du. \quad (26)$$

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A_{\varepsilon_A} \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A_{\varepsilon_A} \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

- Case $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$:

$$G_{\mu\nu} \sim t^0, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'^A_{\varepsilon'_A} \sim t^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A \varepsilon_A \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

- Case $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$:

$$G_{\mu\nu} \sim t^0, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'^A \varepsilon'_A \sim t^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

⚡ $y'^A \varepsilon'_A$ diverges for $t \rightarrow 0$.

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A \varepsilon_A \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

- Case $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$:

$$G_{\mu\nu} \sim t^0, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'^A \varepsilon'_A \sim t^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

⚡ $y'^A \varepsilon'_A$ diverges for $t \rightarrow 0$.

- Consider right hand side of field equations: energy-momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$.

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A \varepsilon_A \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

- Case $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$:

$$G_{\mu\nu} \sim t^0, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'^A \varepsilon'_A \sim t^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

⚡ $y'^A \varepsilon'_A$ diverges for $t \rightarrow 0$.

- Consider right hand side of field equations: energy-momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$.

⚡ $y^A \varepsilon_A = g_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$ for Einstein-Maxwell system.

Example and limitations: Einstein-Maxwell system

- Choice of dynamical variable: $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$ or $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$?
- Consider left hand side of field equations: $(\varepsilon_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G^{\mu\nu})$ or $(\varepsilon'_A) = (\sqrt{-g}G_{\mu\nu})$.
- Homogeneity under action of homotheties χ_t of dynamical variable:
 - Case $(y^A) = (g_{\mu\nu})$:

$$G^{\mu\nu} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^2, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y^A \varepsilon_A \sim t^1. \quad (27)$$

- Case $(y'^A) = (g^{\mu\nu})$:

$$G_{\mu\nu} \sim t^0, \quad \sqrt{-g} \sim t^{-2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'^A \varepsilon'_A \sim t^{-1}. \quad (28)$$

⚡ $y'^A \varepsilon'_A$ diverges for $t \rightarrow 0$.

- Consider right hand side of field equations: energy-momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$.

⚡ $y^A \varepsilon_A = g_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$ for Einstein-Maxwell system.

⇒ **Cannot obtain Einstein-Maxwell Lagrangian from energy-momentum tensor.**

1. The inverse problem of variational calculus
2. The Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
3. Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
4. Conclusion

- Evolutionary vector field Ξ on V^r :

$$\Xi = \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A} + d_\mu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_\mu} + d_\mu d_\nu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_{\mu\nu}} + \dots \quad (29)$$

- Evolutionary vector field Ξ on V^r :

$$\Xi = \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A} + d_\mu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_\mu} + d_\mu d_\nu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_{\mu\nu}} + \dots \quad (29)$$

- Generated one-parameter group Φ :

$$\Xi = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (\bullet \circ \Phi_t) \right|_{t=0} . \quad (30)$$

Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Evolutionary vector field Ξ on V^r :

$$\Xi = \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A} + d_\mu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_\mu} + d_\mu d_\nu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A_{\mu\nu}} + \dots \quad (29)$$

- Generated one-parameter group Φ :

$$\Xi = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (\bullet \circ \Phi_t) \right|_{t=0} . \quad (30)$$

- Ansatz for generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian with $t_0 \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$:

$$\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt . \quad (31)$$

Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian

- Evolutionary vector field Ξ on V^r :

$$\Xi = \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A} + d_\mu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A{}_\mu} + d_\mu d_\nu \xi^A \frac{\partial}{\partial y^A{}_{\mu\nu}} + \dots \quad (29)$$

- Generated one-parameter group Φ :

$$\Xi = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (\bullet \circ \Phi_t) \right|_{t=0} . \quad (30)$$

- Ansatz for generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian with $t_0 \in \bar{\mathbb{R}}$:

$$\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt . \quad (31)$$

- Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$?

Euler-Lagrange equations and Helmholtz conditions

- Vertical derivative:

$$\mathrm{d}_V \lambda_\varepsilon = \mathrm{d} \lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathrm{d} \mathbf{i}_{\Xi} \varepsilon) \mathrm{d} t = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_{\Xi} \varepsilon - \mathbf{i}_{\Xi} \mathrm{d} \varepsilon) \mathrm{d} t. \quad (32)$$

Euler-Lagrange equations and Helmholtz conditions

- Vertical derivative:

$$d_V \lambda_\varepsilon = d\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(d\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon - \mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt. \quad (32)$$

- Use definition of Lie derivative:

$$\int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^* \left(\left. \frac{d}{du} \Phi_u^* \varepsilon \right|_{u=0} \right) dt = \varepsilon - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon. \quad (33)$$

Euler-Lagrange equations and Helmholtz conditions

- Vertical derivative:

$$d_V \lambda_\varepsilon = d\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(d\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon - \mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt. \quad (32)$$

- Use definition of Lie derivative:

$$\int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^* \left(\left. \frac{d}{du} \Phi_u^* \varepsilon \right|_{u=0} \right) dt = \varepsilon - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon. \quad (33)$$

- Use definition of Helmholtz operator:

$$- \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt = - \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi H(\varepsilon)) dt - d_H \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi \eta). \quad (34)$$

Euler-Lagrange equations and Helmholtz conditions

- Vertical derivative:

$$d_V \lambda_\varepsilon = d\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(d\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon - \mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt. \quad (32)$$

- Use definition of Lie derivative:

$$\int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^* \left(\left. \frac{d}{du} \Phi_u^* \varepsilon \right|_{u=0} \right) dt = \varepsilon - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon. \quad (33)$$

- Use definition of Helmholtz operator:

$$- \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt = - \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi H(\varepsilon)) dt - d_H \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi \eta). \quad (34)$$

- Apply interior Euler operator:

$$E(\lambda_\varepsilon) = \varepsilon - \varrho \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon - \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi H(\varepsilon)) dt \right). \quad (35)$$

Euler-Lagrange equations and Helmholtz conditions

- Vertical derivative:

$$d_V \lambda_\varepsilon = d\lambda_\varepsilon = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(d\mathbf{i}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon - \mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt. \quad (32)$$

- Use definition of Lie derivative:

$$\int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathcal{L}_\Xi \varepsilon) dt = \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^* \left(\left. \frac{d}{du} \Phi_u^* \varepsilon \right|_{u=0} \right) dt = \varepsilon - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon. \quad (33)$$

- Use definition of Helmholtz operator:

$$- \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi d\varepsilon) dt = - \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi H(\varepsilon)) dt - d_H \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi \eta). \quad (34)$$

- Apply interior Euler operator:

$$E(\lambda_\varepsilon) = \varepsilon - \varrho \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \Phi_t^* \varepsilon - \int_{t_0}^0 \Phi_t^*(\mathbf{i}_\Xi H(\varepsilon)) dt \right). \quad (35)$$

$\Rightarrow E(\lambda_\varepsilon) = \varepsilon$ if $H(\varepsilon) = 0$ and $\Phi_{t_0}^* \varepsilon = 0$.

1. The inverse problem of variational calculus
2. The Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
3. Generalized Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian
4. Conclusion

- Lagrange theory on fibered manifolds (Y, π, X) :
 - Jets of local sections give rise to jet bundles $J^r Y$.
 - Lagrangian $\lambda = \mathcal{L}d^m x$ defined on jet bundle.
 - Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda)$ obtained using Euler operator $E = \varrho \circ d$.

- Lagrange theory on fibered manifolds (Y, π, X) :
 - Jets of local sections give rise to jet bundles $J^r Y$.
 - Lagrangian $\lambda = \mathcal{L}d^m x$ defined on jet bundle.
 - Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda)$ obtained using Euler operator $E = \varrho \circ d$.
- Inverse problem of variational calculus:
 - Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?
 - How can λ_ε be obtained from ε ?

- Lagrange theory on fibered manifolds (Y, π, X) :
 - Jets of local sections give rise to jet bundles $J^r Y$.
 - Lagrangian $\lambda = \mathcal{L}d^m x$ defined on jet bundle.
 - Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda)$ obtained using Euler operator $E = \varrho \circ d$.
- Inverse problem of variational calculus:
 - Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?
 - How can λ_ε be obtained from ε ?
- Helmholtz condition: ε is locally variational if and only if $H(\varepsilon) = 0$.

- Lagrange theory on fibered manifolds (Y, π, X) :
 - Jets of local sections give rise to jet bundles $J^r Y$.
 - Lagrangian $\lambda = \mathcal{L}d^m x$ defined on jet bundle.
 - Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda)$ obtained using Euler operator $E = \varrho \circ d$.
- Inverse problem of variational calculus:
 - Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?
 - How can λ_ε be obtained from ε ?
- Helmholtz condition: ε is locally variational if and only if $H(\varepsilon) = 0$.
- Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian to construct λ_ε :
 - Can be formulated geometrically via Liouville vector field.
 - ⚡ Limitations: constructed Lagrangian may diverge or vanish identically.

- Lagrange theory on fibered manifolds (Y, π, X) :
 - Jets of local sections give rise to jet bundles $J^r Y$.
 - Lagrangian $\lambda = \mathcal{L}d^m x$ defined on jet bundle.
 - Euler-Lagrange equations $E(\lambda)$ obtained using Euler operator $E = \varrho \circ d$.
- Inverse problem of variational calculus:
 - Is $\varepsilon = E(\lambda_\varepsilon)$ (locally) the Euler-Lagrange form of a Lagrangian λ_ε ?
 - How can λ_ε be obtained from ε ?
- Helmholtz condition: ε is locally variational if and only if $H(\varepsilon) = 0$.
- Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian to construct λ_ε :
 - Can be formulated geometrically via Liouville vector field.
 - ⚡ Limitations: constructed Lagrangian may diverge or vanish identically.
- ↪ Geometric generalization of Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian:
 - Replace prolongation of Liouville vector field by evolutionary vector field.
 - Reproduces Euler-Lagrange equations under convergence condition.

- Relation with gauge symmetries:
 - Consider source form ε satisfying $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \varepsilon = 0$ for evolutionary vector field Θ .
 - Geometric construction of λ_ε such that $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \lambda_\varepsilon = d_H \eta$?
 - Conditions on Ξ ?

- Relation with gauge symmetries:
 - Consider source form ε satisfying $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \varepsilon = 0$ for evolutionary vector field Θ .
 - Geometric construction of λ_ε such that $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \lambda_\varepsilon = d_H \eta$?
 - Conditions on Ξ ?
- Generalized variational bootstrapping?
 - Assume fibered product bundle $Y = Y_1 \times_X Y_2$.
 - ⇒ Decomposition of any source form: $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2$.
 - Can λ_ε and ε_2 be constructed given only ε_1 ?

- Relation with gauge symmetries:
 - Consider source form ε satisfying $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \varepsilon = 0$ for evolutionary vector field Θ .
 - Geometric construction of λ_ε such that $\mathcal{L}_\Theta \lambda_\varepsilon = d_H \eta$?
 - Conditions on Ξ ?
- Generalized variational bootstrapping?
 - Assume fibered product bundle $Y = Y_1 \times_X Y_2$.
 - ⇒ Decomposition of any source form: $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2$.
 - Can λ_ε and ε_2 be constructed given only ε_1 ?
- Further examples surpassing limitations of Vainberg-Tonti Lagrangian?