

## PX267 Hamiltonian Mechanics

- Action:

$$A = \int_{\text{path}} L dt \quad (\text{functional})$$

↳ Hamilton's principle of least action:

If all possible paths a dynamical system may take, the actual path is that which minimizes the action.

- Euler-Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q} - \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) = 0$$

$L(q, \dot{q}, t)$ , variation  $\eta(t)$  such that  $\eta(t_0) = \eta(t_1) = 0 \Rightarrow L(q + \alpha\eta, \dot{q} + \alpha\dot{\eta}, t)$ . To minimize A, we require

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{dA}{d\alpha} \Big|_{\alpha=0} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{d}{d\alpha} L(q + \alpha\eta, \dot{q} + \alpha\dot{\eta}, t) \Big|_{\alpha=0} dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} \eta(t) + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \dot{\eta}(t) \right) dt \\ &= \cancel{\eta(t) \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \Big|_{t_0}^{t_1}} + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \eta(t) \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} - \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) \right) dt \quad \forall \eta(t) \in C^2_c[t_0, t_1] \end{aligned}$$

$$\hookrightarrow \text{canonical momentum: } p_i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \quad \hookrightarrow \text{canonical force: } F_i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} \quad E-L \Rightarrow N2$$

- Hamiltonian:

$$H = \dot{q}_i \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} - L \quad (H = \sum_i \dot{q}_i \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} - L)$$

↳ Hamilton's equations:

$$\dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}, \quad \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i}$$

↳ If H does not depend explicitly on time,  $\frac{dH}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \sum_i \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \dot{p}_i + \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i \right) = 0 + \sum_i (q_i \dot{p}_i - \dot{p}_i \dot{q}_i) = 0$

- Noether's theorem:

(conserved quantity).

If a symmetry in the Lagrangian exists, there is a corresponding constant of the motion.

↳ Defn: Conserved quantities (integrals of motion) are functions of  $q_i$  and  $\dot{q}_i$  that are constant. (for a Lagrangian  $L(q_1, \dot{q}_1, \dots, q_n, \dot{q}_n, t)$ )

↳ With n general coordinates, we can have (up to)  $2n+1$  conserved quantities:

- n linear momenta (homogeneous space)
- n angular momenta (isotropic space)
- energy (homogeneous time)

↳ The canonical momenta  $p_i$  that don't have their conjugate coordinates  $q_i$  appearing explicitly in the Lagrangian  $L$  are conserved.

$$(\text{i.e. } L \neq L(q_i) \Rightarrow \frac{dp_i}{dt} = 0)$$

Normal mode theory

- Inertia matrix:  
(mass)

$$M_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} \quad \left( T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} q_i M_{ij} \dot{q}_j = \frac{1}{2} \dot{q} \cdot M \dot{q} \right)$$

↪  $M$  is symmetric:  $M_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial q_j \partial q_i} = M_{ji}$

↪ If  $V$  (in  $\mathcal{L}$ ) is independent of velocities,  $p_i = \sum_j M_{ij} \dot{q}_j$

$$\begin{aligned} p_i &= \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} q_j M_{jk} \dot{q}_k \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} M_{jk} \left( \frac{\partial \dot{q}_j}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \dot{q}_k + \frac{\partial \dot{q}_k}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \dot{q}_j \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} M_{jk} (\delta_{ij} \dot{q}_k + \delta_{ik} \dot{q}_j) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} (M_{ik} \dot{q}_k + M_{ji} \dot{q}_j) = \sum_j M_{ij} \dot{q}_j \quad (M_{ij} = M_{ji}) \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

- Stiffness matrix:  
(force)

$$K_{ij} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} \right|_{\text{at equilibrium.}} \quad (F_i = - \sum_j K_{ij} q_j)$$

↪  $K$  is also symmetric.

- Equations of motion for small oscillations:  $\underline{M} \ddot{\underline{x}} = -\underline{K} \underline{x}$  ( $M$  constant,  $\sim$  Hooke's)

↪ General solution:

$$\underline{x}(t) = \sum_{\lambda} A^{(\lambda)} \underline{X}^{(\lambda)} e^{i\omega^{(\lambda)} t}$$

-  $\lambda$  = index for different normal modes  $\leadsto$  patterns of motion w/ same frequency.

-  $A^{(\lambda)}$  = amplitude

-  $\omega^{(\lambda)}$  = frequency ( $\omega^2 = \text{eigenvalue}$ )  $\leftarrow$   $\omega^2 M X = K X \leftarrow (IK - \omega^2 M) X = 0$

-  $X^{(\lambda)}$  = "direction of polarisation" ( $X$  = eigenvector)  $\curvearrowright$

↪ General motion of a system is a superposition of (at most  $n$ ) normal modes, each with a corresponding amplitude  $A^{(\lambda)}$ .