

# NONLINEAR MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

## LAGRANGIAN AND HAMILTONIAN FORMULATIONS

### Lagrangian formulation

$$E_k^*(f, q) = \frac{1}{2} f^t I(q) f$$

q generalized coordinates (displacement)

f generalized velocity (flow)

$E_k^*(f, q)$  kinetic co-energy

$I(q)$  a configuration-dependent inertia tensor (matrix)

#### Note:

kinetic co-energy is a quadratic form in flow (generalized velocity).

#### (Euler-)Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial E_k^*}{\partial f} \right) - \frac{\partial E_k^*}{\partial q} = e$$

**General form:**

$$I(q) \frac{df}{dt} - C(f,q) = e$$

e    generalized force (effort)

C(f,q)    contains coriolis and centrifugal “forces”

**Explicit state-determined form:**

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = f$$

$$\frac{df}{dt} = I(q)^{-1}(e + C(f,q))$$

**Note:**

The inertia tensor (matrix) must be inverted to find a state-determined form.

**Lagrange's equation may include conservative generalized forces.**

$$e = e_{\text{conservative}} + e_{\text{non-conservative}}$$

$$e_{\text{conservative}} = -\frac{\partial E_p(q)}{\partial q}$$

$E_p(q)$  potential energy function

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial E_k^*}{\partial f} \right) - \frac{\partial E_k^*}{\partial q} + \frac{\partial E_p(q)}{\partial q} = e_{\text{non-conservative}}$$

Potential energy is not a function of generalized velocity.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial f} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} = e_{\text{non-conservative}}$$

**$L(f,q)$  is the Lagrangian state function**

$$L(f,q) = E_k^*(f,q) - E_p(q)$$

In the usual notation,  $E_k^*(f,q)$  is written as  $T(f,q)$  and  $E_p(q)$  is written as  $V(q)$ , hence

$$L(f,q) = T(f,q) - V(q)$$

i.e.,

$$L = T - V$$

## Hamiltonian formulation

Interaction between a capacitor and an inertia is the archetypal Hamiltonian system:



$$dp/dt = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q$$

$$dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p$$

q generalized coordinates

p generalized momenta

**H(p,q) is the Hamiltonian state function.**

$$H(p,q) = E_k(p,q) + E_p(q)$$

In this case H(p,q) is equal to the total energy in the system.

**Lagrangian and Hamiltonian forms are related by a Legendre transformation.**

Lagrange used kinetic co-energy

Hamilton used kinetic energy

$$H(p,q) = p^t f - L(f,q)$$

$$L(f,q) = p^t f - H(p,q)$$

Differentiate with respect to generalized momentum.

$$\partial L(f,q)/\partial p = 0 = f - \partial H(p,q)/\partial p$$

thus

$$dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p$$

Generalized momentum is the gradient of kinetic co-energy with respect to flow (velocity)

$$p = \partial E_k^*(f,q)/\partial f = \partial L(f,q)/\partial f$$

Lagrange's equation:

$$dp/dt - \partial L(f,q)/\partial q = e$$

$$\partial L(f,q)/\partial q = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q$$

thus

$$dp/dt = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q + e$$

These are Hamilton's equations

$$dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p$$

$$dp/dt = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q + e$$

## EXAMPLE: MULTIPLE DEGREE OF FREEDOM MECHANISM

Generalized coordinates:  $q$

Generalized momentum

$$p = \partial E_k^*(f, q) / \partial f = I(q) f$$

Kinetic co-energy is a positive definite quadratic form,.

The inertia tensor is symmetric and real.

Kinetic energy

$$E_k(p, q) = p^t f - E_k^*(f, q) = p^t f - \frac{1}{2} f^t I(q) f$$

$$E_k(p, q) = p^t I(q)^{-1} p - \frac{1}{2} p^t I(q)^{-1} I(q) I(q)^{-1} p$$

$$E_k(p, q) = \frac{1}{2} p^t I(q)^{-1} p$$

### **Note:**

Kinetic energy is always a quadratic form in generalized momentum.

Hamilton's equations

$$dp/dt = -\partial[\frac{1}{2} p^t I(q)^{-1} p]/\partial q + e$$

$$dq/dt = I(q)^{-1} p$$

**Note:**

The Hamiltonian form may include arbitrary generalized forces (or torques) — including dissipative or source terms.

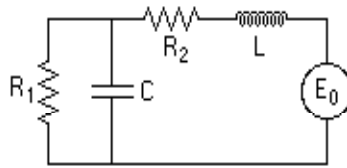
**The most general form:**

$$dp/dt = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q + e(p,q,t)$$

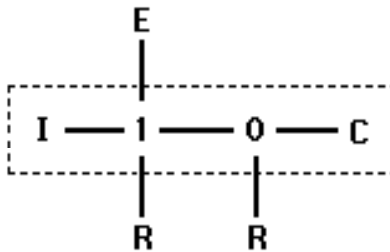
$$dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p - f(p,q,t)$$

## Hamilton's formulation applies to other energy domains

**EXAMPLE: SIMPLE ELECTRIC CIRCUIT.**



The energy storage elements may be distinguished from the rest of the system:



Generalized coordinates:

charge,  $q$ , and flux linkage,  $\lambda$

Hamiltonian:

$$H(q, \lambda) = q^2/2C + \lambda^2/2L$$

Again, the Hamiltonian is the total system energy.



Gradients:

$$\partial H / \partial q = q / C$$

$$\partial H / \partial \lambda = \lambda / L$$

Without the source or resistors, the conservative Hamiltonian equations would be

$$e_L = d\lambda / dt = -\partial H / \partial q = -q / C$$

$$i_C = dq / dt = \partial H / \partial \lambda = \lambda / L$$

With the source and resistors, the *non-conservative* Hamiltonian equations are

$$d\lambda / dt = -\partial H / \partial q + E_0 - e_{R2}$$

$$dq / dt = \partial H / \partial \lambda - i_{R1}$$

## **CANONICAL TRANSFORMATIONS**

**Choice of (state) variables is important in physical system modeling**

**— particularly important for nonlinear mechanical systems**

Geometry is fundamental. The choice of coordinates used to represent the geometry and kinematics of a system has a profound effect on the structure and complexity of its describing equations.

**Transformations of state variables are used extensively to analyze linear state determined systems.**

**e.g., physical variables to diagonal form**

**Structure of the state equations is preserved while mathematical convenience is gained**

**e.g., in diagonalized form each equation is decoupled from the rest**

**— facilitates analysis, e.g. modal analysis**

**— proportionality between the rate and state vectors is preserved**

## **DOES THIS APPLY TO THE NONLINEAR CASE?**

**The Hamiltonian form permits an analogous approach using *canonical transformations*.**

**Any change of variables that**

- preserves the value of the Hamiltonian**
- preserves the structure of the Hamilton's equations**

**is a canonical transformation.**

**EXAMPLE:**

The “old” displacements may be functions of both the “new” displacements and/or the “new” momenta.

**A simple canonical transformation**

$$p = -q^*$$

$$q = p^*$$

**old equations (conservative terms only)**

$$dp/dt = -\partial H(p,q)/\partial q$$

$$dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p$$

**define  $H^*(p^*,q^*) = H(p,q)$** 

— the value of the Hamiltonian is preserved

$$\partial H^*/\partial p^* = (\partial H/\partial q) (\partial q/\partial p^*) = \partial H/\partial q$$

$$\partial H^*/\partial q^* = (\partial H/\partial p) (\partial p/\partial q^*) = -\partial H/\partial p$$

**time differentiate the new coordinates**

$$dq^*/dt = -dp/dt = \partial H/\partial q = \partial H^*/\partial p^*$$

$$dp^*/dt = dq/dt = \partial H(p,q)/\partial p = -\partial H^*/\partial q^*$$

**new equations (conservative terms only)**

$$dq^*/dt = \partial H^*/\partial p^*$$

$$dp^*/dt = -\partial H^*/\partial q^*$$

— the structure of Hamilton’s equations is preserved

**new equations with non-conservative terms**

$$dp^*/dt = -\partial H(p^*,q^*)/\partial q^* + e^*(p^*,q^*,t)$$

$$dq^*/dt = \partial H(p^*,q^*)/\partial p^* - f^*(p^*,q^*,t)$$

**The forcing terms must be transformed as follows**

$$f_k^* = \sum_j (e_j \partial p_j / \partial p_k^* + e_j \partial q_j / \partial p_k^*)$$

$$e_k^* = \sum_j (f_j \partial p_j / \partial q_k^* + e_j \partial q_j / \partial q_k^*)$$

**NOTE:**

**Displacement and momentum may be exchanged  
canonical transformation may destroy the physical  
meaning of variables**

**Parallel to transformation of a linear system to decoupled  
form**

**the original real-valued physical variables become  
complex valued**