

# **A graded approach to brackets in classical field theory**

RSME's 7th Congress of Young Researchers

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ICMAT-UNIR

# Structure of the talk

**Poisson and Dirac structures in Classical Mechanics**

**Summary of multisymplectic field theory**

**Graded Poisson and Dirac structures**

# Poisson and Dirac structures in Classical Mechanics

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## Definition

A **Poisson structure** on a smooth manifold  $M$  is a bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$  defined on  $C^\infty(M)$  that satisfies:

- Skew-symmetry,  $\{f, g\} = -\{g, f\}$
- Leibniz identity,  $\{fh, g\} = f\{h, g\} + h\{f, g\}$
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Equivalently, a Poisson structure can be given by

- A bivector field  $\Lambda \in \mathfrak{X}^2(M)$  such that  $[\Lambda, \Lambda] = 0$ .  
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- A foliation of  $M$  by symplectic leaves.

## Going degenerate: Dirac structures

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A **Dirac structure** on a smooth manifold  $M$  is a bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$  defined on

$$C^\infty(U)_K = \{f \in C^\infty(U) : X(f) = 0, \forall X \in K\},$$

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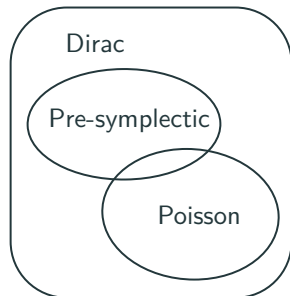
# Objective

Translate this picture to classical field theories.

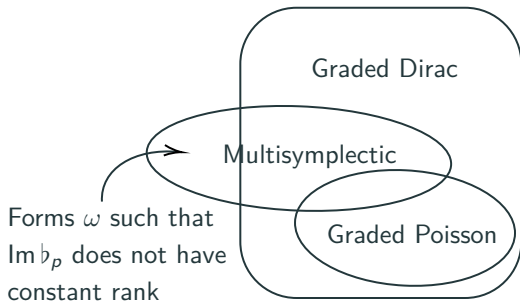
More particularly,

Find an equivalence between brackets and some tensorial object.

Classical mechanics



Classical field theories



Forms  $\omega$  such that  
 $\text{Im } b_p$  does not have  
constant rank

# Summary of multisymplectic field theory

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# The geometric setting

- **Fields**, denoted by  $\phi$ , are sections of a fibered manifold  $Y \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ .

## The geometric setting

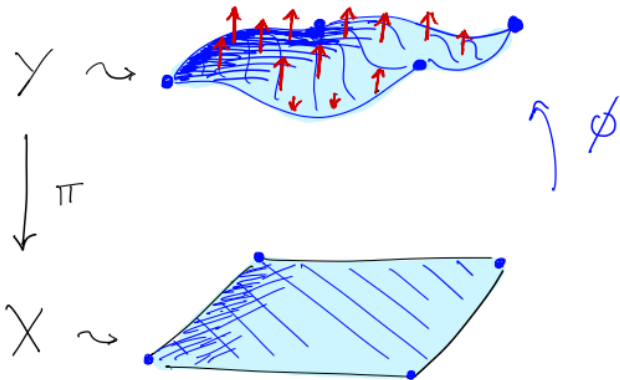
- **Fields**, denoted by  $\phi$ , are sections of a fibered manifold  $Y \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ .
- A first order variational problem is defined through a **Lagrangian density**  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $J^1\pi_{YX}$  (which defines an  $n$ -form on  $X$  at each point), with local expression

$$\mathcal{L} = L(x^\mu, y^i, z_\mu^i) d^n x,$$

and the action can be expressed as

$$\mathcal{J}[\phi] = \int_X (j^1\phi)^* \mathcal{L}.$$

$$\xi := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \phi_t$$





## Stationary sections

- We define the **multisymplectic form** as

$$\Omega_{\mathcal{L}} := -d\Theta_{\mathcal{L}},$$

where

$$\Theta_{\mathcal{L}} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{\mu}^i} dy^i \wedge d^{n-1}x_{\mu} - \left( z_{\mu}^i \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{\mu}^i} - L \right) d^n x$$

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is the **Poincaré-Cartan** form.

- Stationary fields (solutions to the field equations) are characterized by

$$(j^1\phi)^* \iota_{\eta} \Omega_{\mathcal{L}} = 0, \text{ for every } \eta \in \mathfrak{X}(J^1\pi).$$

In coordinates,

$$\frac{d}{dx^{\mu}} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{\mu}^i} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial y^i}.$$

# Hamiltonian formalism I

- The **extended Hamiltonian formalism** takes place in

$$\bigwedge_2^n Y = \{\alpha \in \bigwedge^n T^*Y : \iota_{e_1 \wedge e_2} \alpha = 0, \text{ where } e_i \in \ker d\pi\},$$

$\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ . Locally, these forms can be expressed as

$$\alpha = p d^n x + p_i^\mu dy^i \wedge d^{n-1} x_\mu.$$

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- Therefore, we have coordinates  $(x^\mu, y^i, p_i^\mu, p)$  representing the previous form. We have a **canonical multisymplectic structure**,

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- We can obtain the Poincaré cartan form on  $J^1\pi$  as

$$\Omega_{\mathcal{L}} = \text{Leg}_{\mathcal{L}}^* \Omega,$$

where  $\text{Leg}_{\mathcal{L}}(x^\mu, y^i, z_\mu^i) = (x^\mu, y^i, \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_\mu^i}, L - z_\mu^i \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_\mu^i})$  is the **Legendre transformation**.

## Hamiltonian formalism II

- We also have a **reduced Hamiltonian formalism**, which takes place in

$$Z^* = \bigwedge_2^n Y / \bigwedge_1^n Y,$$

where  $\{\alpha \in \bigwedge^n T^*M : \iota_e \alpha = 0, e \in \ker d\pi\}$ , locally,  $\alpha = pd^n x$ . So we have natural coordinates  $(x, y^i, p_i^\mu)$ .

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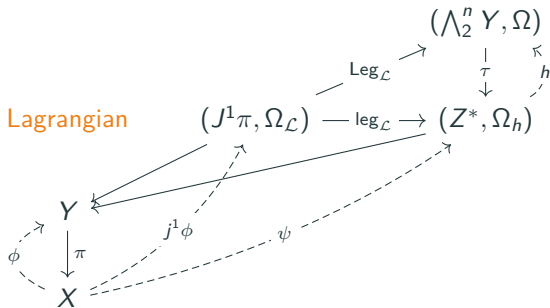
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- In order to obtain the field theory on  $Z^*$  we need a **Hamiltonian section**

$$h : Z^* \rightarrow \bigwedge_2^n Y.$$



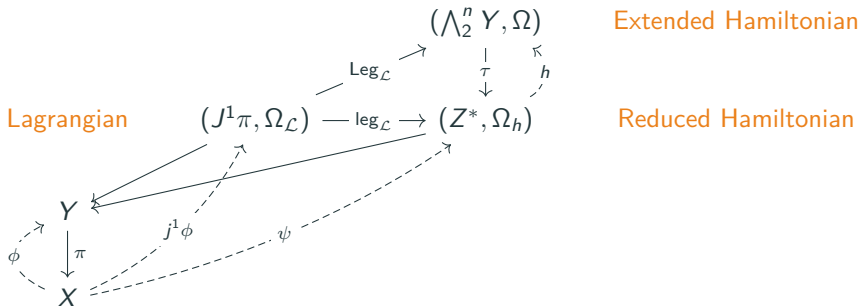
# Equivalence (with regular Lagrangians)



Extended Hamiltonian

Reduced Hamiltonian

# Equivalence (with regular Lagrangians)



$$\phi \text{ is stationary} \Leftrightarrow (j^1\phi)^* \iota_{\xi} \Omega_{\mathcal{L}} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \psi^* \iota_{\xi} \Omega_h = 0.$$

In coordinates,

$$\frac{\partial \psi_i^\mu}{\partial x^\mu} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y^i}, \quad \frac{\partial \psi^i}{\partial x^\mu} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_\mu^i}.$$

# Graded Poisson and Dirac structures

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# Multisymplectic manifolds

In order to work with any of the formalisms (Lagrangian, extended Hamiltonian, reduced Hamiltonian), we will work abstractly with a **multisymplectic manifold**,  $(M, \omega)$ , a manifold  $M$  together with a closed  $(n + 1)$ -form.

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We have already a lot of examples:

- $(J^1\pi, \Omega_{\mathcal{L}})$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a Lagrangian;
- $(\bigwedge_2^n Y, \Omega)$ ;
- $(Z^*, \Omega_h)$ , where  $h : Z^* \rightarrow \bigwedge_2^n Y$  is a Hamiltonian section;
- $(M, \omega)$ , where  $M$  is an orientable manifold and  $\omega$  is a volume form.

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We have the following:

## Proposition

*If  $U, V$  are Hamiltonian multivector fields of degree  $p, q$ . Then  $[U, V]$  is a Hamiltonian multivector field of order  $p + q - 1$ . The corresponding Hamiltonian form is*

$$(-1)^q \iota_{U \wedge V} \Omega.$$



# Graded Poisson brackets

The previous proposition induces the following:

## Definition

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be Hamiltonian forms of order  $k - p, k - q$ , respectively. Define their **Poisson bracket**

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Then, we have

## Theorem

*Modulo exact forms, the previous brackets defines a **graded Lie algebra** on the space of Hamiltonian forms*

Question: Does this recover the multisymplectic form?

# Properties of graded Poisson brackets

If we set  $\deg \beta := k - \text{order of } \beta$ , then the Poisson bracket satisfies:

- It is *graded*:

$$\deg\{\alpha, \beta\} = \deg \alpha + \deg \beta;$$

- It is *graded-skew-symmetric*:

$$\{\alpha, \beta\} = -(-1)^{\deg \alpha \deg \beta} \{\beta, \alpha\};$$

- It is *local*: If  $d\alpha|_x = 0$ ,  $\{\alpha, \beta\}|_x = 0$
- It satisfies *graded Jacobi identity* (up to an exact term):

$$(-1)^{\deg \alpha \deg \gamma} \{\{\alpha, \beta\}, \gamma\} + \text{cyclic terms} = \text{exact form.}$$

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- It satisfies *Leibniz identity*: For  $a = k$ , if  $\beta \wedge d\gamma \in \Omega_H^{b+c-1}(M)$ , then

$$\{\beta \wedge d\gamma, \alpha\} = \{\beta, \alpha\} \wedge d\gamma + (-1)^{k-\deg \beta} d\beta \wedge \{\gamma, \alpha\};$$

- It is *invariant by symmetries*: If  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_X \alpha = 0$ , then  $\iota_X \alpha \in \Omega_H^{a-2}(M)$  and

$$\{\iota_X \alpha, \beta\} = (-1)^{\deg \beta} \iota_X \{\alpha, \beta\};$$

## Onto the definitions...

First, we look at the **linearized** version:

### Definition

Let  $M$  be a manifold. A graded Poisson structure of order  $n$  is a tuple  $(S^a, K_p, \sharp_a)$ , where  $S^a \subseteq \wedge^a M$  is a **vector subbundle** of forms,  $K_p \subseteq \bigvee_p M (= \wedge^p TM)$  is a **subbundle of multivectors**, and

$$\sharp_a : S^a \rightarrow \bigvee_{n+1-a} M/K_{n+1-a}$$

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are linear bundle maps satisfying:

- $K_p = (S^a)^{\circ,p}$ , for  $p \leq a$  and  $K_1 = 0$ .
- The maps  $\sharp_a$  are *skew-symmetric*, that is,

$$\iota_{\sharp_a(\alpha)}\beta = (-1)^{(n+1-a)(n+1-b)} \iota_{\sharp_b(\beta)}\alpha,$$

for all  $\alpha \in S^a, \beta \in S^b$ .

And it is **integrable**:

- It is *integrable*: For  $\alpha : M \rightarrow S^a$ ,  $\beta : M \rightarrow S^b$  sections such that  $a + b \leq 2n + 1$ , and  $U, V$  multivectors of order  $p = n + 1 - a$ ,  $q = n + 1 - b$ , respectively such that

$$\sharp_a(\alpha) = U + K_p, \quad \sharp_b(\beta) = V + K_q,$$

we have that the  $(a + b - k)$ -form

$$\theta := (-1)^{(p-1)q} \mathcal{L}_U \beta + (-1)^q \mathcal{L}_V \alpha - \frac{(-1)^q}{2} d(\iota_V \alpha + (-1)^{pq} \iota_U \beta)$$

takes values in  $S_{a+b-k}$ , and

$$\sharp_{a+b-k}(\theta) = [U, V] + K_{p+q-1}.$$

## Field theories as an example

Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a **non-degenerate** multisymplectic manifold of order  $n$ , that is, the form  $\omega$  must satisfy  $\iota_v \omega = 0$  if and only if  $v = 0$ . Then, the (linear) correspondence between Hamiltonian multivector fields and forms defines a graded Poisson structure of order  $n$ :



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▪

$$S^a = \{ \iota_U \omega : U \in \bigvee_{n+1-a} M \};$$

▪

$$K_p = \ker_p \omega;$$

▪  $\sharp_a : S^a \rightarrow \bigvee_{n+1-a} / K_{n+1-a}$  is given by

$$\sharp_a(\alpha) = U + K_{n+1-a} \text{ if and only if } \iota_U \omega = \alpha.$$

In this case,  $\sharp_a$  are the inverse of the  $b_p$  (contraction) maps induced by  $\omega$ .

## Relationship with graded Poisson brackets

Given a graded Poisson structure on  $M$ ,  $(S^a, \sharp_a, K_p)$ , we can define a **Hamiltonian form** as an  $(a - 1)$ -form,  $\alpha$  such that  $d\alpha \in S^a$ .

### Definition

The Poisson bracket of Hamiltonian forms is given by

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## Theorem

*Under some integrability conditions on the sequence of subspaces  $S^a$ , any graded Poisson structure on this family is completely characterized by the graded Poisson bracket it induces. That is, we get a 1-1 correspondence*

$$\{\text{Graded Poisson structures}\} \cong \{\text{Graded Poisson brackets}\}.$$

## What about Dirac structures?

- We should think about **graded Dirac structures** as a generalization of both graded Poisson and multisymplectic;
- Non-degeneracy in graded Poisson structures is given by  $K_1 = 0$ , or rather,

$$\sharp_k : S^k \rightarrow TM.$$

- In order to obtain graded Dirac, we just allow for non-trivial  $K_1$ , and hence we have the "same" definition

$$\sharp_a : S^a \rightarrow \bigvee_{n+1-a} M/K_{n+1-a};$$

- Turns out that the non-degeneracy is **non-essential**.

# Brackets in graded Dirac structures

## Theorem

*Defining*

$$\{\alpha, \beta\} := (-1)^{\deg \beta} \iota_{\sharp \alpha} d\beta,$$

*we get a graded Poisson bracket on the space of Hamiltonian forms (defined in the same way).*

Furthermore:

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## Remark

*In this sense, these definitions respect the flavour of Poisson and Dirac geometry, giving a linearized version of brackets. In the first case, a bracket defined in a non-degenerate space of forms; and allowing for degeneracy in the second.*

# Integrability conditions

What are the integrability conditions on the sequence  $S^a$ ?

- Locally, there exists Hamiltonian forms  $\gamma_{ij} \in \Omega_H^{b-2}(U)$ , and functions  $f_i^j$  such that

$$S^b = \langle df_i^j \wedge d\gamma_{ij}, i \rangle;$$

- For each  $1 \leq a \leq k$ , locally, there exists a family of Hamiltonian forms  $\gamma^j$ , and a family of vector fields  $X^j$  such that

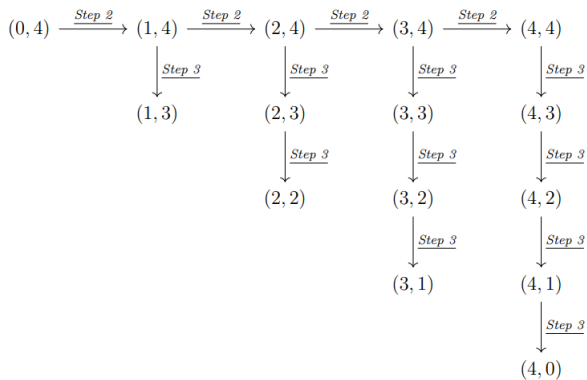
$$S^a = \langle d\gamma^j \rangle \quad \mathcal{L}_{X^j} \gamma^j = 0,$$

and

$$S^{a-1} = \langle d\iota_{X^j} \gamma^j \rangle.$$



# Idea of the Proof



## Final remarks and future research

- We developed the theory of Poisson bracket and tensors in classical field theories;
- Can we find an analogue to Lie-Poisson structures in this setting?;
- How are these bracket and structures related to reduction?

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Thank you for your attention!