

An introduction to Contact Hamiltonian Systems

Alessandro Bravetti

alessandro.bravetti@iimas.unam.mx

IIMAS–UNAM



<https://www.iimas.unam.mx/>

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Outline of the seminar

- Motivation
- Contact Manifolds
- Contact Hamiltonian Dynamics
- Applications
- Conclusions & Further subjects

Motivation

Motivation 1: Geometry

Quote (Arnold,1990)

“Every mathematician knows it is impossible to understand an elementary course in thermodynamics. The reason is that thermodynamics is based—as Gibbs has explicitly proclaimed—on a rather complicated mathematical theory, on the contact geometry. Contact geometry is one of the few simple geometries of the so-called Cartan’s list, but it is still mostly unknown to the physicist—unlike the Riemannian geometry and the symplectic or Poisson geometries, whose fundamental role in physics is today generally accepted”

[Mrugala, Nulton, Schön, & Salamon, Contact structure in thermodynamic theory.

RepsMathPhys, 29(1), 109-121, (1991)]

[Grmela, & Öttinger, Dynamics and thdyn of complex fluids. I., PRE, 56(6), 6620, (1997)]

[Eberard, Maschke, & Van Der Schaft, An extension of Ham. sys. to the thdyn phase space: Towards a geometry of nonreversible processes, Reps Math Phys, 60(2), 175-198, (2007)]

[Bravetti, Contact geometry and thdyn. IJGMMP, 16(supp01), 1940003, (2019)]

[Simoes, De León, Valcázar, & De Diego, Contact geometry for simple thdyn systems with friction. PRSA, 476(2241), 20200244, (2020)]

[Entov & Polterovich, Contact topology and non-equilibrium thdyn, Nonlinearity, 36(6), 3349, (2023)]

Motivation 2: Dyn. Sys.

Damped sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - \gamma \dot{q}$$

Damped-driven sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V(q, t)}{\partial q} - f(t) \dot{q}$$

Controlled sys.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= p \\ \dot{p} &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - p w \\ \dot{w} &= p \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - c\end{aligned}$$

Do they have some underlying geometric structure?

Can we use it to understand the dynamics?

Motivation 3: Physics

Damped sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - \gamma \dot{q}$$

Damped-driven sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V(q, t)}{\partial q} - f(t) \dot{q}$$

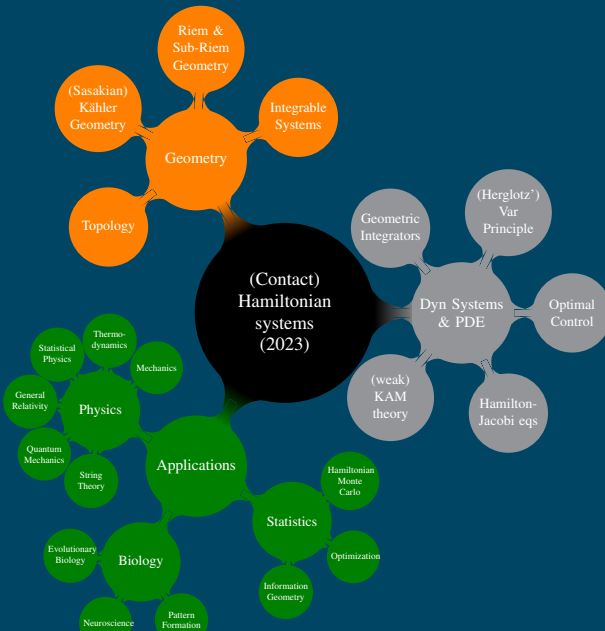
Thermostatted sys.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= p \\ \dot{p} &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - p w \\ \dot{w} &= p \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - \frac{n}{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

Do they have some underlying geometric structure?

Can we use it to improve physical calculations?

Motivation: Geom., Dyn.Sys. & More



Contact Manifolds

Symplectic Vs Contact

Definitions: Nice Vs Ugly

Symplectic Manifold

$$(M^{2n}, \Omega), \\ d\Omega = 0, V \equiv \Omega^n \neq 0$$

(General) Contact Manifold

$$(\mathcal{T}^{2n+1}, \mathcal{D}), \\ \text{“}\mathcal{D} \text{ max. non-int.”}$$

Definition

A contact manifold is a $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional manifold \mathcal{T} , endowed with a contact structure, that is, a maximally non-integrable distribution $\mathcal{D} \subset T\mathcal{T}$ of hyperplanes

Symplectic Vs Contact

Definitions: Nice Vs Nice

Symplectic Manifold

$$(M^{2n}, \Omega), \\ d\Omega = 0, V \equiv \Omega^n \neq 0$$

Theorem (Darboux)

*In the neighborhood of any point on a **symplectic** manifold, it is always possible to find a set of local coordinates such that the **2-form** Ω can be written*

$$\Omega = dp_a \wedge dq^a$$

(Exact) Contact Manifold

$$(\mathcal{T}^{2n+1}, \mathcal{D} = \ker(\eta)), \\ V \equiv \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n \neq 0$$

Theorem (Darboux)

*In the neighborhood of any point on a **contact** manifold, it is always possible to find a set of local coordinates such that the **1-form** η can be written*

$$\eta = dw - p_a dq^a$$

Symplectic Vs Contact

Examples

Symplectic Manifold

$$(M^{2n}, \Omega), d\Omega = 0, V \equiv \Omega^n \neq 0$$

Canonical coordinates:

$$(q, p) \quad \Omega = dp_a \wedge dq^a$$

Examples:

- \mathbb{R}^{2n} + standard symplectic
 $(\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \Omega), \Omega = dp_a \wedge dq^a$

Contact Manifold

$$(\mathcal{T}^{2n+1}, \eta), V \equiv \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n \neq 0$$

Contact coordinates:

$$(q, p, w) \quad \eta = dw - p_a dq^a$$

Examples:

- \mathbb{R}^{2n+1} + standard contact
 $(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}, \eta), \eta = dw - p_a dq^a$

Symplectic Vs Contact

Reeb Vector Field

Symplectic Manifold

$$(M^{2n}, \Omega), d\Omega = 0, V \equiv \Omega^n \neq 0$$

Canonical coordinates:

$$(q, p) \quad \Omega = dp_a \wedge dq^a$$

Contact Manifold

$$(\mathcal{T}^{2n+1}, \eta), V \equiv \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n \neq 0$$

Contact coordinates:

$$(q, p, w) \quad \eta = dw - p_a dq^a$$

Reeb vector field:

$$d\eta(\mathcal{R}, \cdot) = 0 \quad \eta(\mathcal{R}) = 1$$

In contact coordinates:

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w}$$

Symplectic Vs Contact Symmetries

Symplectic Manifold

$$(M^{2n}, \Omega), d\Omega = 0, V \equiv \Omega^n \neq 0$$

Canonical coordinates:

$$(q, p) \quad \Omega = dp_a \wedge dq^a$$

Canonical symmetries:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Omega} &= d\tilde{p}_a \wedge d\tilde{q}^a \\ &= dp_a \wedge dq^a \\ &= \Omega \end{aligned}$$

Contact Manifold

$$(\mathcal{T}^{2n+1}, \eta), V \equiv \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n \neq 0$$

Contact coordinates:

$$(q, p, w) \quad \eta = dw - p_a dq^a$$

Contact symmetries:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\eta} &= d\tilde{w} - \tilde{p}_a d\tilde{q}^a \\ &= f(dw - p_a dq^a) \\ &= f\eta \end{aligned}$$

Advantage:
canonical + scaling

Contact Hamiltonian Dynamics

Symplectic Vs Contact

Dynamics: Definition

Hamiltonian:

$$H : M^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Dynamics:

$$\Omega(X_H, \cdot) = -dH$$

Hamiltonian:

$$h : \mathcal{T}^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Dynamics:

$$\eta(X_h) = -h \quad \mathcal{L}_{X_h}\eta = f_h \eta$$

Using Cartan:

$$\mathcal{L}_{X_h}\eta = f_h \eta$$

iif

$$-\mathcal{R}(h)\eta - d\eta(X_h, \cdot) = -dh$$

Symplectic Vs Contact

Dynamics: Hamilton's eqs

Hamiltonian:

$$H : M^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Dynamics:

$$\Omega(X_H, \cdot) = -dH$$

Hamilton's eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i}\end{aligned}$$

Hamiltonian:

$$h : \mathcal{T}^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Dynamics:

$$-\mathcal{R}(h)\eta - d\eta(X_h, \cdot) = -dh$$

Hamilton's eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= \frac{\partial h}{\partial p_i} \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial h}{\partial q^i} - p_i \frac{\partial h}{\partial w} \\ \dot{w} &= \frac{\partial h}{\partial p_a} p_a - h\end{aligned}$$

Symplectic Vs Contact Dynamics: Example

Hamiltonian:

$$H = \frac{\|p\|^2}{2} + V(q)$$

Dynamics:

$$\Omega(X_H, \cdot) = -dH$$

Hamilton's eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= p_i \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q^i}\end{aligned}$$

Hamiltonian:

$$h = \frac{\|p\|^2}{2} + V(q) + \gamma w$$

Dynamics:

$$-\mathcal{R}(h)\eta - d\eta(X_h, \cdot) = -dh$$

Hamilton's eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= p_i \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q^i} - \gamma p_i \\ \dot{w} &= \frac{\|p\|^2}{2} - V(q) - \gamma w\end{aligned}$$

Symplectic Vs Contact

Liouville Theorem

H is conserved:

$$\dot{H} = X_H H = 0$$

Canonical transformations:

$$\mathcal{L}_{X_H} \Omega = 0$$

Liouville Theorem:

$$\mathcal{L}_{X_H} \Omega^n = 0$$

h is **NOT** conserved:

$$\dot{h} = X_h h = -\frac{\partial h}{\partial w} h$$

Contact transformations:

$$\mathcal{L}_{X_h} \eta = -\frac{\partial h}{\partial w} \eta$$

Contact Liouville Theorem:

$$\mathcal{L}_{X_h} (|h|^{-(n+1)} \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n) = 0$$

[Bravetti & Tapias, JPA 48, 245001, (2015)]

[Bravetti & Tapias, PhysRevE 93, 022139, (2016)]

Symplectic Vs Contact

Variational Principles

Lagrange-Hamilton (~1800):

$$s = \int_0^T L(q, \dot{q}) dt \rightarrow \text{extr.}$$

E-L equations:

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

Recall:

Noether theorem:

Canonical Symmetries
↓
Conserved quantities

Herglotz (~1930):

$$\dot{w} = L(q, \dot{q}, w) \rightarrow \text{extr.}$$

Generalized E-L equations:

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

Advantage:

Generalized Noether:

Canonical + Scaling
↓
Conserved + dissipated

Symplectic Vs Contact

Hamilton–Jacobi

Stationary:

$$H(q, \partial_q s) = c$$

Evolutionary:

$$H(q, \partial_q s) = \frac{\partial s}{\partial t}$$

Characteristic eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q^i}\end{aligned}$$

Stationary:

$$h(q, \partial_q w, w) = c$$

Evolutionary:

$$h(q, \partial_q w, w) = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t}$$

Characteristic eqs:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}^i &= \frac{\partial h}{\partial p_i} \\ \dot{p}_i &= -\frac{\partial h}{\partial q^i} - p_i \frac{\partial h}{\partial w} \\ \dot{w} &= \frac{\partial h}{\partial p_a} p_a - h\end{aligned}$$

Symplectic Vs Contact

Hamilton–Jacobi

Stationary:

$$H(q, \partial_q s) = c$$

Evolutionary:

$$H(q, \partial_q s) = \frac{\partial s}{\partial t}$$

Stationary:

$$h(q, \partial_q w, w) = c$$

Evolutionary:

$$h(q, \partial_q w, w) = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t}$$

Advantage:

More general (all)

[Wang, Wang & Yan, Nonlinearity, 30(2):492, (2016)]

[Wang, Wang & Yan, Comm Math Phys 366, 3, 981–1023 (2019)]

Symplectic Vs Contact Algebraic Structures

Poisson bracket:

$$\{F, G\} := \Omega(X_F, X_G)$$

In coords:

$$\{F, G\} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial q^a} \frac{\partial G}{\partial p_a} - \frac{\partial G}{\partial q^a} \frac{\partial F}{\partial p_a}$$

Then:

Integrable Systems
Heisenberg Algebra

Jacobi bracket:

$$\{f, g\} := \eta([X_f, X_g])$$

In coords:

$$\begin{aligned} \{f, g\} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial q^a} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_a} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial q^a} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_a} \\ &+ p_a \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial w} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_a} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial w} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_a} \right) \\ &+ f \frac{\partial g}{\partial w} - g \frac{\partial f}{\partial w} \end{aligned}$$

Then:

Contact Integrable Systems
Contact Heisenberg Algebra

Symplectic Vs Contact Algebraic Structures

Poisson bracket:

$$\{F, G\} := \Omega(X_F, X_G)$$

Recall:

$$(\mathcal{C}^\infty(M), \{, \}) \rightarrow (\mathfrak{X}^H(M), [,])$$

homomorphism

Jacobi bracket:

$$\{f, g\} := \eta([X_f, X_g])$$

Advantage:

$$(\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathcal{T}), \{, \}) \rightarrow (\mathfrak{X}^h(\mathcal{T}), [,])$$

isomorphism

[Bravetti, García-Chung & Tapias, JPA
50(10):105203, (2017)]

[Zadra, Bravetti, García-Chung, & Seri,
JPA 56(38), 385206, (2023)]

Applications

Symplectic Vs Contact: Applications

Damped sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - \gamma \dot{q}$$

Damped-driven sys.

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V(q, t)}{\partial q} - f(t) \dot{q}$$

Thermostatted sys.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= p \\ \dot{p} &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - p w \\ \dot{w} &= p \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - \frac{n}{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

Do they have some underlying geometric structure?

Can we use it to improve physical calculations?

Symplectic Vs Contact: Damped sys

$$H = e^{-\gamma t} \frac{1}{2} \|p_*\|^2 + e^{\gamma t} V(q_*)$$

$$q_* := q, \quad p_* := e^{\gamma t} p$$

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - \gamma \dot{q}$$

Disadvantages:

Time-dependent, non-canonical variables, **hard to generalize**

[Caldirola, Il Nuovo Cimento, 18(9), 393-400, (1941)]

[Kanai, Progr. Theor. Phys., 3(4), 440-442, (1948)]

$$h = \frac{1}{2} \|p\|^2 + V(q) + \gamma w$$

$$\dot{q} = p$$

$$\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - \gamma p$$

$$\dot{w} = \frac{1}{2} \|p\|^2 - V(q) - \gamma w$$

Advantages:

Autonomous, canonical variables, **new Noether, easy to generalize**

[Bravetti, Cruz & Tapias, AnnPhys 376 1739, (2017)]

[Bravetti & García-Chung, JPA 54(9), 095205, (2021)]

Symplectic Vs Contact: Damped-driven sys

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \|I\|^2 + V(q, t(\tau)) \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau}\right)^2$$

$$I := \frac{dq}{d\tau}, \quad \frac{d^2t}{d\tau^2} - f(t) \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau}\right)^2 = 0$$

$$\ddot{q} = -\frac{\partial V(q, t)}{\partial q} - f(t) \dot{q}$$

[Gkolias, et al., Commun Nonlinear Sci Numer Simulat 51 (2017) 2338]

$$h = \frac{1}{2} \|p\|^2 + V(q, t) + f(t) w$$

$$\dot{q} = p$$

$$\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial V(q, t)}{\partial q} - f(t) p$$

$$\dot{w} = \frac{1}{2} \|p\|^2 - V(q, t) - f(t) w$$

[Vermeeren, Bravetti, Seri, JPA(52): 445206, (2019)]

[Bravetti, Seri, Vermeeren & Zadra, CMDA, 132(1), 1-29, (2020)]

Symplectic Vs Contact: Damped-driven sys

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \|I\|^2 + V(q, t(\tau)) \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau}\right)^2$$

$$I := \frac{dq}{d\tau}, \quad \frac{d^2t}{d\tau^2} - f(t) \left(\frac{dt}{d\tau}\right)^2 = 0$$

- **Advantages:**

- Geometric structure
- Numerical Integration

- **Disadvantages:**

- $t(\tau)$ difficult to solve
- Case-by-case scenario

[Gkolias, et al., Commun Nonlinear Sci Numer Simulat 51 (2017) 2338]

$$h = \frac{1}{2} \|p\|^2 + V(q, t) + f(t) w$$

- **Advantages:**

- Geometric structure
- Numerical Integration

- **More advantages:**

- No eq. to be solved
- General scenario

[Bravetti, Seri, Vermeeren & Zadra, CMDA, 132(1), 1-29, (2020)]

[Bravetti, Daza-Torres, Flores-Arguedas & Betancourt, InfoGeom, 1-23, (2023)]

Symplectic Vs Contact: Thermostatted sys

Nosé–Hoover

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \\ \dot{p} &= -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - p w \\ \dot{w} &= p \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - \frac{n}{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

[Tuckerman, *Statistical mechanics: theory and molecular simulation*, Oxford University Press, (2010)]

$$h = \left[e^{-\beta H(q,p)} \rho(w) \right]^{-1/(n+1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= \frac{\beta h}{n+1} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \\ \dot{p} &= \frac{\beta h}{n+1} \left(-\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} - p \frac{\rho'(w)}{\rho(w)} \right) \\ \dot{w} &= \frac{\beta h}{n+1} \left(p \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} - \frac{(n+1)}{\beta} \right)\end{aligned}$$

[Bravetti & Tapias, *PhysRevE* 93, 022139, (2016)]

Symplectic Vs Contact: Thermostatted sys

...

General algorithm

Given $\rho(q,p)$, choose $\rho(w)$ and let

$$h = [\rho(q,p)\rho(w)]^{-1/(n+1)}$$

Remind: Contact Liouville Th.

$$d\mu_h = |h|^{-(n+1)} \eta \wedge (d\eta)^n$$

Obtain the desired invariant measure:

$$d\mu_h = \rho(q,p)\rho(w) dp dq dw$$

[Bravetti & Tapias, PhysRevE 93,
022139, (2016)]

Symplectic Vs Contact: Thermostatted sys

...

General algorithm

$$h = [\rho(q,p)\rho(w)]^{-1/(n+1)}$$

Advantages:

- Hamiltonian formulation
- Geometric integrators
- Freedom in $\rho(w)$
- Valid for any $\rho(q,p)$
- It can be implemented in Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

[Bravetti & Tapias, PhysRevE 93,
022139, (2016)]

Conclusions & Further Subjects

(Some) Conclusions

- Worth having a look at **contact Hamiltonian systems**
[Manuel Lainz Valcázar, Contact Hamiltonian Systems, ICMAT, (2022)]
[Federico Zadra, Topics in contact Hamiltonian systems: analytical and numerical perspectives, University of Groningen, (2023)]
- **Very similar** to their **symplectic (Poisson) counterparts**
(\Rightarrow similar theoretical & numerical tools)
- **New symmetries** (rescalings, dynamical similarities)
(\Rightarrow new Noether, new reductions)
- **Particularly suitable** for (some class of) **dissip sys**
(\Rightarrow classical & quantum mechanics)
- **Extremely useful** for **inverse problems of dynamics**
(\Rightarrow optimization, HMC, ...)

(Some) Further subjects

- **CHS** & Field theories

[Gaset, et al. AnnPhys, 414, 168092, (2020)]

- **CHS** & Gravity

[Paiva, et al. PhysRevD, 105(12), 124023, (2022)]

- **CHS** in Cosmology

[Sloan, PhysRevD, 97(12), 123541, (2018)]

- **CHS** in Quantum Mechanics

[Ciaglia, Cruz, & Marmo, AnnPhys, 398, 159-179, (2018)]

- **CHS** in Optimization

[Bravetti, et al. InfoGeom, 1-23, (2023)]

- **CHS** in Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

[Betancourt, arXiv:1405.3489]

(Some) Interesting conjectures

Grmela Conjecture

“Legendre (contact) transformations are the basic dynamical laws for irreversible phenomena”

[Grmela, M., Entropy, 16(3), 1652-1686, (2014)]



is every irreversible. sys. a contact Ham. sys.?

[Esen, Grmela, & Pavelka, JMathPhys, 63(12), (2022)]

Shape Dyn. Conjecture

“Scale is surplus”
(Only relational degrees of freedom are observable)

[Gryb, S., & Sloan, D., When scale is surplus, Synthese 199.5 (2021): 14769-14820.]



is the universe a contact Ham. sys.?

[Bravetti, Jackman, & Sloan, JPA, to appear, (2023)]

Announcement

- **Joint PhD projects with Prof. Seri**

[m.seri@rug.nl, alessandro.bravetti@iimas.unam.mx]



Thank you!

Alessandro Bravetti

alessandro.bravetti@iimas.unam.mx

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<https://www.iimas.unam.mx/>