Canonoid transformations and master symmetries

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Abstract

Different types of transformations of a dynamical system, that are compatible with the Hamiltonian structure, are discussed making use of a geometric formalism. Firstly, the case of canonoid transformations is studied with great detail and then the properties of master symmetries are also analyzed. The relations between the existence of constants of motion and the properties of canonoid symmetries is discussed making use of a family of boundary and coboundary operators.

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1 Introduction

In the search for the general solution of a dynamical equation one can use an appropriate transformation of the given equation into a simpler one, but one can also make use of reduction procedures leaving to related simpler systems. Such reduction processes are based on the determination of constants of the motion, on one side, or infinitesimal symmetries of the dynamics, on the other.

In differential geometric terms, the dynamics is described by means of a vector field and therefore the theory of transformations of such vector fields is a very important geometric ingredient. In the above mentioned reduction processes the constants of the motion give rise to invariant foliations. On the other side, infinitesimal symmetries of the dynamics allow us to introduce adapted coordinates. Then, the system of differential equations splits into a simpler one involving one less coordinate and another single equation to be solved once the other subsystem has been solved.

The existence of additional structures compatible with the dynamics provides us with additional tools. In particular, a compatible symplectic structure gives us an identification of vector fields with 1-forms, and therefore there is a distinguished class of vector fields, those associated with exact (or at least closed) 1-forms. Consequently, functions play the additional role of being generators of Hamiltonian vector fields. Noether theorem in Hamiltonian dynamics identifies constants of motion with generators of infinitesimal strictly canonical symmetries of the Hamiltonian, therefore the knowledge of a constant of the motion reduces the problem to another one involving two less degrees of freedom. Of course functionally independent constants of the motion cannot be used simultaneously in this way unless they are in involution.

The main objective of this article is to develop a deeper analysis of the theory of transformations on symplectic manifolds. The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduce the notation and give a short review of the theory of canonical transformations, non-strictly canonical transformations, and canonoid transformations using the symplectic formalism as an approach. Section 3 is devoted to the study of the one-parameter groups of master symmetries and canonoid symmetries and in Section 4 the relation with the existence of constants of motion is studied. Finally, in Section 5 we make some final comments. Appendix A summarizes some properties of two homological differential operates and Appendix B shows the possibility of choosing an appropriate 1-form used in Section 3.

2 Transformations in symplectic manifolds

We first recall that a symplectic manifold is a pair $(M, \omega)$, where $M$ is a differentiable manifold endowed with a symplectic form $\omega$, which is a nondegenerate closed 2-form in $M$, $d\omega = 0$, i.e. $\omega \in Z^2(M)$ (see e.g. [1]-[3]). There is then a one-to-one $C^\infty(M)$-linear correspondence between the $C^\infty(M)$-module of vector fields and that of 1-forms: If $X$ is in the $C^\infty(M)$-module $\mathfrak{X}(M)$ of vector fields in $M$, the corresponding 1-form is denoted $\beta_X = i(X)\omega$, and
if $\beta \in \bigwedge^1(M)$, its associated vector field $X_\beta$ is the one such that $i(X_\beta)\omega = \beta$. Those vector fields associated to closed 1-forms are called locally-Hamiltonian vector fields and in particular vector fields associated with exact 1-forms $df$ are said to be Hamiltonian vector fields and are denoted $X_f$ instead of $X_{df}$. The set of locally-Hamiltonian and Hamiltonian vector fields are $\mathbb{R}$-linear spaces to be denoted, respectively, $\mathfrak{X}_{\text{LH}}(M, \omega)$ and $\mathfrak{X}_H(M, \omega)$.

A diffeomorphism $\Phi$ of a manifold $M$ push-forward tensorial fields in $M$. We use the notation $\Phi^*$ instead of $(\Phi^{-1})^\ast$ for covariant tensors. So, $\Phi^*f = (\Phi^{-1})^\ast f = f \circ \Phi^{-1}$, $\forall f \in C^\infty(M)$, while $\Phi^*(X)$ is obtained from $\Phi^*(X)(\Phi^*f) = \Phi^*(Xf)$, $\forall f \in C^\infty(M)$.

Those diffeomorphisms leaving invariant a particular tensor field are called symmetries of such a tensor field. Next we consider three fundamental examples:

1. If $f$ is a function defined in $M$, $f \in C^\infty(M)$, then a symmetry of $f$ is a diffeomorphism $\Phi$ of $M$ such that $\Phi^*(f) = f$.

2. If $X$ is a vector field on $M$, $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$, then a symmetry of $X$ is a diffeomorphism $\Phi$ of $M$ such that $\Phi^*(X) = X$.

3. If $\alpha$ is a $k$-form in $M$, $\alpha \in \bigwedge^k(M)$, then a symmetry of $\alpha$ is a diffeomorphism $\Phi$ of $M$ such that $\Phi^*(\alpha) = \alpha$.

In this section we study, by making use of a geometrical approach, three different classes of transformations related with the properties of the Hamiltonian formalism: strictly canonical transformations, non-strictly canonical transformations, and canonoid transformations.

In Classical Hamiltonian Mechanics, those transformations of the phase space that preserve the Hamiltonian form of the Hamilton equations, whatever the Hamiltonian function is, are called canonical. These transformations are characterized by the existence of a real number $\lambda$, called valence, such that the Poisson bracket of two transformed functions is $\lambda$ times the transformed of the Poisson bracket of the original functions [6, 7]. The set of canonical transformations is endowed with a group structure and the set of strictly canonical transformations, those corresponding to $\lambda = 1$, is a normal subgroup. In differential geometric terms the phase space is a symplectic manifold $(M, \omega)$ and strictly canonical transformations are represented by diffeomorphisms $\Phi \in \text{Diff}(M)$ that preserve the symplectic form, that is, $\Phi^*(\omega) = \omega$.

### 2.1 Strictly canonical transformations

In a symplectic manifold $(M, \omega)$ the symmetries of $\omega$, to be called symplectomorphisms, are diffeomorphisms of $M$ such that $\Phi^*(\omega) = \omega$, what is equivalent to $\Phi^*(\omega) = \omega$. The remarkable point is that if $H$ is a Hamiltonian function and $\Gamma_H$ is the associated vector field representing the dynamics, i.e. satisfying the equation

$$i(\Gamma_H)\omega = dH,$$

(1)
then the following equation is also true

\[ i(\Phi_*(\Gamma_H))\Phi_*(\omega) = d(\Phi_*(H)) . \] (2)

Therefore symplectomorphisms that are symmetries of \( H \) are also symmetries of \( \Gamma_H \). However, the above equation permits the existence of symmetries of \( \Gamma_H \) that are not symplectomorphisms. Of course in this last case the new 2-form \( \Phi_*(\omega) \neq \omega \) is admissible for \( \Gamma_H \) and, as pointed out in [8], the vector field \( \Gamma_H \) turns out to be a bi-Hamiltonian system [9] and therefore non-Noether constant of motion can be found [10].

Given two functions \( f \) and \( g \) in a symplectic manifold \( (M, \omega) \), then the symplectic product of the corresponding Hamiltonian vector fields represents the so called Poisson bracket of these two functions

\[ \{f, g\} = \omega(X_f, X_g) = -X fg = X_gf . \]

Note that for symplectomorphisms \( \Phi \) of \( M \), \( \Phi_*X_f = X_{\Phi_*f} \), and this property leads to

\[ \Phi^*\{f, g\} = \{\Phi^*f, \Phi^*g\} , \]

because

\[ \{\Phi^*f, \Phi^*g\} = X_{\Phi^{-1}}f \Phi^*g = \Phi^{-1}(\Phi f)(\Phi g) = \Phi^*((X_f g)) = \Phi^*\{f, g\} , \]

and therefore the symplectomorphisms preserve the Poisson brackets of any pair of functions. Consequently, they correspond to strictly canonical transformations.

At the infinitesimal level, one-parameter subgroups of symmetry transformations of tensor fields are characterized by the vanishing of the Lie derivative of the tensor field with respect to the vector field \( X \) generating the one-parameter subgroup, that is, (i) \( \mathcal{L}_X f := X(f) = 0 \) for functions, (ii) \( \mathcal{L}_X \Gamma := [X, \Gamma] = 0 \) for vector fields \( \Gamma \), and in general (iii) \( \mathcal{L}_X \alpha := (d \circ i(\Gamma) + i(\Gamma) \circ d)\alpha = 0 \) for a \( k \)-form \( \alpha \). In particular, locally-Hamiltonian vector fields in a symplectic manifold are infinitesimal symplectomorphisms.

Of course, when there exist tensorial relationships among tensorial objects their infinitesimal symmetries are also related. Next we consider two particular situations.

(1) Let us first consider the Lie derivative with respect to a vector field \( X \) of the dynamical equation (1) and use the property \( \mathcal{L}_X i(Y)\alpha - i(Y)\mathcal{L}_X\alpha = i([X,Y])\alpha \), \( \forall X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \) and \( \alpha \in \bigwedge(M) \), and we find

\[ \mathcal{L}_X \left( i(\Gamma_H)\omega - dH \right) = i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X\omega + i([X,\Gamma_H])\omega - d(XH) = 0 . \] (3)

Then, if \( X \) is an infinitesimal symmetry of both \( \omega \) and \( H \) (that is, \( \mathcal{L}_X\omega = 0 \) and \( XH = 0 \)) we obtain

\[ i([X,\Gamma_H])\omega = 0 , \]

and, as \( \omega \) is nondegenerate, this means that \( X \) is a symmetry of the dynamical vector field \( \Gamma_H \).
(2) Let us now suppose that $X$ is such that $\mathcal{L}_X \omega = 0$ and $\mathcal{L}_X \Gamma_H = [X, \Gamma_H] = 0$.

Then (3) shows that $\mathcal{L}_X dH = 0$, and therefore, if $M$ is connected $\mathcal{L}_X H = \text{const}$. In particular, if a Hamiltonian vector field $X_f$ is a symmetry of $\Gamma_H$ (but not of $H$) then $f$ is not necessary a constant of the motion since the vanishing of the Lie bracket $[X_f, \Gamma_H] = 0$ only means the vanishing of the differential of the Poisson bracket

$$d(\{f, H\}) = 0,$$

and from here we can conclude when $M$ is connected that $\mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H} f = \{f, H\}$ is a (not necessarily zero) constant [11].

Finally, let us mention that, given a Hamiltonian system $(M, \omega, H)$, one usually look for vector fields whose flows are symplectomorphisms that are also symmetries of $H$ and, therefore, symmetries of $\Gamma_H$. Then for each $g \in C^\infty(M)$, the relation

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H} g = \{g, H\} = -\mathcal{L}_{X_g} (H)$$

shows that $X_g$ is a symmetry of $H$ if and only if $g$ is a constant of motion. This is a very important property, sometimes called Noether’s theorem in Hamiltonian formalism, because it suggests us a method for finding constants of the motion which are very useful in the process of reduction of the dynamical equation.

The usefulness of non-strictly canonical infinitesimal symmetries (see e.g a generalisation of the virial theorem that can be found in the recent paper [12]) and the more general case of canonoid transformations has been less analyzed and is worthy of a deeper analysis. Several applications of canonoid transformations can be seen at [13, 14] (see also [15] for the Nambu formulation).

### 2.2 Non-strictly canonical transformations

As indicated above canonical transformations are those preserving the form of Hamilton equations whatever the Hamiltonian is, or in an equivalent way, preserving the Poisson bracket of any two functions up to a nonzero multiplicative constant: the valence. A transformation with valence different from one is called non-strictly canonical [6], while those with valence equal to one are said to be strictly canonical. In differential geometric terms these canonical transformations in a symplectic manifold $(M, \omega)$ are represented by diffeomorphisms $\Phi$ such that

$$\Phi^* (\omega) = r \omega, \quad r \in \mathbb{R},$$

and strictly canonical ones are those with $r = 1$.

Let the vector field $X$ be the generator of a one-parameter group of canonical transformations $\Phi^*_t (\omega) = r(t) \omega$. Then, there exists a real number $a \neq 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega,$$

as required. 

(4)
with \( r \) and \( a \) related by \( r(\epsilon) = e^{a\epsilon} \). In an equivalent way, in terms of \( \beta_X = i(X)\omega \), the canonicity condition \((4)\) reads \( d\beta_X = a \omega \). In particular, the flow of \( X \) is made up of strictly canonical transformations (symplectomorphisms) when \( a = 0 \), i.e. when \( \beta_X \) is closed.

A diffeomorphism \( \Phi \) on \((M, \omega)\) such that
\[
\Phi^*(\omega) = r \omega, \quad \Phi^*(H) = r H,
\]
with \( r \in \mathbb{R} \), preserves the Hamiltonian vector field \( \Gamma_H \), because of \((2)\). At the infinitesimal level, if \( X \) is such that
\[
L_X \omega = a \omega \quad \text{and} \quad X(H) = a H,
\]
then
\[
i([X, \Gamma_H])\omega = \mathcal{L}_X [i(\Gamma_H)\omega] - i(\Gamma_H) \mathcal{L}_X \omega = \mathcal{L}_X(dH) - a i(\Gamma_H)\omega = d(a H) - a(dH) = 0,
\]
and, using that \( \omega \) is nondegenerate, we arrive at
\[
[X, \Gamma_H] = 0
\]
so that \( X \) is a symmetry of the dynamical vector field.

On the other side, if \( X \) is such that \( \mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega \), then we have
\[
i([X, \Gamma_H])\omega = (\mathcal{L}_X i(\Gamma_H) - i(\Gamma_H) \mathcal{L}_X)\omega = \mathcal{L}_X(dH) - a i(\Gamma_H)\omega = d(\mathcal{L}_X H - aH). \tag{5}
\]
Therefore, when \( \mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega \) and \( M \) is connected, \([X, \Gamma_H] = 0\) if and only if \( \mathcal{L}_X H - aH \) is a numerical constant.

Let us choose a vector field \( X_1 \) such that
\[
\mathcal{L}_{X_1}\omega = -\omega.
\]
This is only possible when \( \omega \) is exact because \( \omega = d(-i(X_1)\omega) \). For instance, when \((M, \omega = -d\theta)\) is an exact symplectic manifold the vector field \( X_1 \) can be chosen to be defined by (see \([16]\))
\[
i(X_1)\omega = \theta, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad X_1 = X_\theta,
\]
because then
\[
\mathcal{L}_{X_1}\theta = i(X_1)d\theta + d(i(X_1)\theta) = -i(X_1)\omega + d(i(X_1)\theta) = -\theta + d(i(X_1)\theta),
\]
and therefore
\[
\mathcal{L}_{X_1}\omega = -\mathcal{L}_{X_1}(d\theta) = -d\mathcal{L}_{X_1}\theta = d\theta = -\omega.
\]

Given a vector field \( X \) generating a one-parameter group of non-strictly canonical transformations, we know that there exists a real number \( a \) such that \( \mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega \) and then the vector field \( X + a X_1 \) is locally-Hamiltonian, because
\[
\mathcal{L}_{X + a X_1}\omega = a \omega - a \omega = 0.
\]
That means that there exists a closed 1-form \( \alpha \) such that
\[
i(X)\omega + a i(X_1)\omega = \alpha.
\]
Conversely, given a closed 1-form \( \alpha \) the preceding relation defines a vector field \( X \) such that \( \mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega \) and then \( X \) generates a one-parameter (local) subgroup of non-strictly canonical transformations \( \Phi_\epsilon \) with valence \( e^{a\epsilon} \).
2.3 Canonoid transformations

As indicated above the set of canonical transformations is a catalogue of transformations preserving the Hamilton form of the dynamical equation. However, these are not the only ones that may be relevant for the study of the dynamics. Here, we shall be interested in a type of transformation that preserves the Hamiltonian character of a particular given Hamiltonian system: they are called canonoid transformations with respect to this particular Hamiltonian system \[6, 17, 18\]. They can be useful for the given specific problem, but not for other Hamiltonian systems. Of course, all the canonical transformations are canonoid but the converse is not true.

In geometric terms, given a Hamiltonian vector field \(\Gamma \in \mathfrak{X}_H(M, \omega)\) in a symplectic manifold \((M, \omega)\), i.e. there exists a function \(H \in C^\infty(M)\) such that \(i(\Gamma)\omega = dH\), a transformation \(\Phi \in \text{Diff}(M)\) is said to be canonoid with respect to \(\Gamma\), or with respect to its Hamiltonian \(H\), if the transformed field \(\Phi^*\Gamma\) is also Hamiltonian, that is, \(\Phi^*\Gamma \in \mathfrak{X}_H(M, \omega)\). Since \(\Phi\) is a diffeomorphism, we have that the vector field \(\Phi^*\Gamma\) is Hamiltonian with respect to \(\omega\) if and only if \(\Gamma\) is Hamiltonian with respect to the transformed 2-form \(\Phi^*\omega\) \[8\], i.e. there exists a function \(H' \in C^\infty(M)\) such that

\[
i(\Gamma)\Phi^*(\omega) = dH'.
\]

This means that if \(\Phi\) is a canonoid transformation for \(\Gamma\) then \(\Gamma\) admits a new and different Hamiltonian structure. Therefore, this vector field \(\Gamma\) will be a bi-Hamiltonian system, that is, it is Hamiltonian with respect to two different symplectic structures: the original symplectic form \(\omega\) and the new one \(\Phi^*\omega\).

Canonical transformations, either strictly canonical (that satisfy \(\Phi^*(\omega) = \omega\)) or non-strictly canonical transformations (that satisfy \(\Phi^*(\omega) = r\omega\), with \(0 \neq r \in \mathbb{R}\)), are canonoid with respect to any Hamiltonian in a trivial way. The converse property is also true and if a given transformation is canonoid with respect to any Hamiltonian function, it is canonical. Even it is enough when the transformation is canonoid with respect to a more reduced family of Hamiltonians (see \[19\], \[20\] and \[21\] and \[22\] and references therein).

These concepts can be generalised to locally-Hamiltonian systems instead of Hamiltonian ones: If \((M, \omega, \Gamma)\) is a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system, a diffeomorphism \(\Phi : M \to M\) is a canonoid transformation with respect to \(\Gamma\) when \(\Gamma\) is locally-Hamiltonian with respect to \(\Phi^*\omega\), i.e. if and only if

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \Phi^*(\omega) = 0,
\]

i.e.

\[
d[i(\Gamma)\Phi^*(\omega)] = 0.
\]

If we consider not just one transformation \(\Phi\) but a one-parameter group of canonoid transformations \(\Phi_t\), then this family of transformations is canonoid with respect to a Hamiltonian vector field \(\Gamma_H\) if and only if its infinitesimal generator \(X\) is such that there exists a function \(K \in C^\infty(M)\)

\[
i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X\omega = dK,
\]
as one easily sees from \( i(\Gamma_H)\Phi^\epsilon_\omega = d_\epsilon \) when taking the derivative with respect to \( \epsilon \) at \( \epsilon = 0 \). Analogously, if \( \Gamma \) is locally-Hamiltonian with respect to \( \omega \), then \( X \) induces a family of canonoid transformations of \( \Gamma \) if and only if

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \mathcal{L}_X \omega = 0. \tag{10}
\]

Later we shall discuss further characterizations and properties of these transformations, but before that, we are going to introduce a generalization of symmetry and constant of motion that it happens to be closely related to canonoid transformations.

3 Master symmetries

A function \( T \) in a symplectic manifold is said to be a generator of constants of motion of degree \( m \) if it is not preserved by the dynamics but it generates a constant of the motion by taking \( m \) times its time derivative in an iterative way:

\[
\frac{d}{dt} T \neq 0, \ldots, \frac{d^m}{dt^m} T \neq 0, \frac{d^{m+1}}{dt^{m+1}} T = 0.
\]

Of course, for \( m = 0 \) we recover the usual definition of constant of motion.

In differential geometric terms, if \( m > 0 \) and the dynamics is given by a vector field \( \Gamma \), these conditions are

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma T \neq 0, \ldots, \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^m T \neq 0, \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T = 0. \tag{11}
\]

We can introduce a time dependent observable associated to \( T \)

\[
A = \sum_{n=0}^{m} (-1)^n \frac{A_n}{n!} t^n, \quad \text{with } A_n = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^n T,
\]

that is conserved along the motion, in the sense that

\[
\frac{d}{dt} A = \left( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right) A = 0.
\]

Similarly, as a symmetry of the dynamics \( \Gamma \) is a vector field \( Z \) such that \( [Z, \Gamma] = 0 \), a vector field \( Z \) that satisfies the following two properties

\[
[Z, \Gamma] \neq 0, \quad [[Z, \Gamma], \Gamma] = 0, \tag{12}
\]

is called a ‘master symmetry’ or a generator of symmetries of degree one for \( \Gamma \). If \( m > 1 \) and \( Z \) is such that

\[
[Z, \Gamma] \neq 0, \ldots, [[Z, \Gamma], \Gamma], \ldots, \Gamma] \neq 0, [[Z, \Gamma], \Gamma], \ldots, \Gamma] = 0 \tag{13}
\]
then it is called a ‘master symmetry’ or a generator of symmetries of degree \( m \) for \( \Gamma \). Last condition in (13) can also be written as \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1}(Z) = 0 \), in complete analogy to (11). As we will see below, for a Hamiltonian dynamical system this analogy goes further.

Let us now consider a locally Hamiltonian dynamical system \((M, \omega, \Gamma)\). Observe that the relation \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma(i(X)\omega) = i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma X)\omega \) can be generalised to

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k(i(X)\omega) = i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k X)\omega, \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N},
\]

which can easily be checked by induction on the number \( k \), because it is valid for \( k = 1 \) and if assumed true for a given index \( k \), then

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{k+1}(i(X)\omega) = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma(i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k X)\omega) = i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{k+1} X)\omega.
\]

Using this property (14) for the Hamiltonian vector field \( X_T \) associated to the function \( T \in C^\infty(M) \) we obtain

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k(i(X_T)\omega) = i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k X_T)\omega,
\]

and therefore if \( T \) is the generator of constants of motion of degree \( m \), then its associated Hamiltonian vector field \( X_T \) is a master symmetry of degree \( m \), because if \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T = 0 \), then \( d(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T) = 0 \), and therefore from

\[
i(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} X_T)\omega = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} (i(X_T)\omega) = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} (dT) = d(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T) = 0,
\]

we obtain that \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} X_T = 0 \). We call \( T \) the generator of such Hamiltonian master symmetry. The converse is not true, in general, because in order for the Hamiltonian vector field \( X_T \) to be a master symmetry of degree \( m \), the preceding relation shows that it is enough to demand that \( X_{\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T} = 0 \), or equivalently

\[
d \mathcal{L}_\Gamma^{m+1} T = 0.
\]

Recall that in the particular case of a Hamiltonian dynamical system \((M, \omega, H)\),

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma^k T = \{\cdots \{ T, H \}, H \}, \ldots, H \}.
\]

And the previous property can be rephrased by saying that a Hamiltonian vector field \( X_T \) is a master symmetry of degree \( M \) if and only if

\[
d \{\cdots \{ T, H \}, H \}, \ldots, H \} = 0.
\]

Next we illustrate this situation with a simple example. The Hamiltonian \( H \) and the vector field \( \Gamma_H \) of the one dimensional free particle are given by

\[
H = \frac{1}{2} p^2, \quad \Gamma_H = p \frac{\partial}{\partial q}.
\]
Then $X = \partial / \partial p$ satisfies
\[
\left[ p \frac{\partial}{\partial q}, \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \quad \text{and} \quad \left[ p \frac{\partial}{\partial q}, \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \right] = 0,
\]
i.e. $\mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H}^2(X) = 0$. Therefore $X$ is a master symmetry of degree $m = 1$ for $\Gamma_H$.

In this example the vector field is Hamiltonian, $X = X_G$, with $G(q,p) = -q$, and the relation (16) can be rephrased in terms of Poisson brackets
\[
\{G, H\} = -p \neq 0, \quad \{\{G, H\}, H\} = 0,
\]
i.e.
\[
\mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H} G = -p \neq 0, \quad \mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H}^2 G = 0,
\]
and consequently $G$ is the generator of a master symmetry of degree $m = 1$.

4 Infinitesimal canonoid transformations and constants of the motion

In this section we shall describe different ways of characterizing one-parameter groups of canonoid transformations for Hamiltonian and locally-Hamiltonian systems by using their infinitesimal generators.

Let $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ be a vector field in a symplectic manifold $(M, \omega)$ with a flow made of canonoid transformations with respect to a Hamiltonian $H$, then, as indicated before, $i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X \omega$ is an exact 1-form and therefore
\[
i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X \omega = dK.
\]
Now a contraction with $\Gamma_H$ of both sides of (17) shows that such a function $K$ is a constant of the motion. In particular, when the flow of $X$ is made up of non-strictly canonical transformations, there exists a nonzero real number $a$ such that $\mathcal{L}_X \omega = a \omega$ holds and the function $K$ turns out to be $K = aH$.

An equivalent way of characterizing canonoid transformations for a (locally-) Hamiltonian vector field in a symplectic manifold $(M, \omega)$ is the following one:

**Proposition 1** a) The vector field $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ is the infinitesimal generator of a group of canonoid transformations for a locally-Hamiltonian vector field $\Gamma \in \mathfrak{X}_{LH}(M, \omega)$ if and only if $[X, \Gamma]$ is locally-Hamiltonian, $[X, \Gamma] \in \mathfrak{X}_{LH}(M, \omega)$.

b) Analogously $X$ is the infinitesimal generator of a group of canonoid transformations for a Hamiltonian $H$ if and only if $[X, \Gamma_H]$ is a Hamiltonian vector field, $[X, \Gamma_H] \in \mathfrak{X}_H(M, \omega)$. In this case its Hamiltonian function is $\mathcal{L}_X H - K$, where $K$ is like in (17).
Proof.- a) We first compute $i([X, \Gamma])\omega$ and show that it is a closed form if and only if $X$ generates canonoid transformations. In fact, if $\Gamma \in \mathfrak{x}_{LH}(M, \omega)$, then $i(\Gamma)\omega$ is a closed form and
\[ i([X, \Gamma])\omega = \mathcal{L}_X[i(\Gamma)\omega] - i(\Gamma)\mathcal{L}_X\omega = d(\omega(\Gamma, X)) - i(\Gamma)\mathcal{L}_X\omega. \] (18)
Therefore, $[X, \Gamma]$ is a locally-Hamiltonian vector field if and only if $i(\Gamma)\mathcal{L}_X\omega$ is a closed 1-form, or, equivalently, if and only if $X$ is an infinitesimal canonoid transformation for $\Gamma$.

b) Computing now $i([X, \Gamma_H])\omega$ as before we can conclude that $i([X, \Gamma_H])\omega$ is exact if and only if $i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X\omega$ is exact. Moreover, in this case assuming that $i(\Gamma_H)\mathcal{L}_X\omega = dK$, as $\omega(\Gamma, X) = dH(X) = XH$, (18) for $\Gamma = \Gamma_H$ reduces to
\[ i([X, \Gamma_H])\omega = d(\mathcal{L}_X H) - dK, \]
which proves that $[X, \Gamma_H] \in \mathfrak{x}_H(M, \omega)$, and its Hamiltonian function is $\mathcal{L}_X H - K$.

As an immediate consequence of the previous proposition we see that any infinitesimal symmetry of the dynamics is the infinitesimal generator of a family of canonoid transformations.

Cohomological techniques have been used [31] for studying non-canonical groups of transformations. In this paper, in order to further study infinitesimal canonoid transformations of a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system $(M, \omega, \Gamma)$ and their relations with symmetries, we find useful to consider the differential operator of degree $-1$ on $\bigwedge^\bullet(M)$ given by the contraction with the dynamical vector field, i.e.
\[ i(\Gamma) : \bigwedge^{k+1}(M) \to \bigwedge^k(M), \]
which obviously satisfies $i(\Gamma) \circ i(\Gamma) = 0$. This, together with the de Rahm differential, allows us to define new twisted boundary and coboundary operators, namely:
\[ \partial_T := i(\Gamma) \circ d \circ i(\Gamma), \quad d_T := d \circ i(\Gamma) \circ d. \]
Clearly both satisfy $\partial_T \circ \partial_T = 0$, $d_T \circ d_T = 0$ and the following relations
\[ i(\Gamma) \circ \partial_T = \partial_T \circ i(\Gamma) = 0, \quad d_T \circ d = d \circ d_T = 0, \quad \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \circ d_T = d_T \circ \mathcal{L}_\Gamma, \quad \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \circ \partial_T = \partial_T \circ \mathcal{L}_\Gamma. \]
Further properties of these operators are discussed in the Appendix A.

The closed and exact forms in $d_T$ cohomology have interesting dynamical properties. An example of this is contained in the following proposition:

**Proposition 2** Given a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system $(M, \omega, \Gamma)$, the zero cohomology group of $d_T$, $H^0_T(M) = Z^0_T(M) = \{ f \in C^\infty(M) \mid d_T f = 0 \}$ coincides with the set of generators of Hamiltonian dynamical symmetries.
Proof.- Let be \( f \in C^\infty(M) \) and \( X_f \) its Hamiltonian vector field, i.e.
\[
d f = i(X_f)\omega.
\] (19)

Then, taking the Lie derivative in both sides of (19), we have
\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma d f = i([\Gamma, X_f])\omega + i(X_f) \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \omega,
\] (20)
from where using that \( \Gamma \) is a locally Hamiltonian vector field, and therefore it satisfies
\( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \omega = 0 \), and the fact that \( \omega \) is nondegenerate, we arrive to \([\Gamma, X_f] = 0\). That is, \( X_f \) is a
dynamical symmetry of \( \Gamma \) if and only if \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma d f = d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma f = 0 \), i.e. \( f \in Z^0_\Gamma(M) \).
qed

The generators of master symmetries can be characterized similarly. The result is that
\( G \) is the generator of a master symmetry of degree \( m \) of \( \Gamma \) if and only if
\( \mathcal{L}_m^{\Gamma} G \in Z^0_\Gamma(H) \), because
\[d\mathcal{L}_m^{\Gamma} G = d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma (\mathcal{L}_m^{\Gamma} G) = (d \circ i(\Gamma) \circ d) (\mathcal{L}_m^{\Gamma} G) = d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma (\mathcal{L}_m^{\Gamma} G).\]

The space of exact 1-forms with respect to \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \),
\( B^1_\Gamma(M) = \{ d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma f \mid f \in C^\infty(M) \} \), has also its
dynamical interpretation.

**Proposition 3** For a given locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system, \((M, \omega, \Gamma)\), the vector field
associated to the \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \)-exact 1-form \( \beta = d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma f \) is \( X_\beta = [\Gamma, X_f] \), where \( X_f \) is the Hamiltonian
vector field of \( f \).

Proof.- As \( \Gamma \) is a locally-Hamiltonian vector field, relation (20) reduces to
\[
i([\Gamma, X_f])\omega = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma d f = d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma f.
\]
qed

Finally the space of closed 1-forms with respect to \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \) is related to infinitesimal canonoid
transformations as it is shown in the following proposition:

**Proposition 4** Let \((M, \omega, \Gamma)\) be a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system and consider \( \beta \in \wedge^1(M) \). Then \( X_\beta \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \) such that \( i(X_\beta)\omega = \beta \) is the infinitesimal generator of a canonoid
transformation if, and only if, \( \beta \) is \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \) closed, i.e. \( \beta \in Z^1_\Gamma(M) = \{ \beta \in \wedge^1(M) \mid d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \beta = 0 \} \).

Proof.- Recall that \( X_\beta \) induces a family of canonoid transformations if, and only if, \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma (\mathcal{L}_{X_\beta} \omega) = 0 \), or equivalently, \( (d \circ i(\Gamma) \circ d \circ i(X_\beta))\omega = 0 \), where \( d\omega = 0 \) has been used. In terms of the
twisted differential \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \) and \( \beta \) the previous relation reduces to \( d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \beta = 0 \).
qed

Note that this proposition is the translation to canonoid transformations and twisted
cohomology of the well known result about canonical transformations that are generated
by closed forms in the de Rahm cohomology. The 1-form $\beta$ is called the generator of the transformation.

Next we shall consider infinitesimal canonoid transformations which are master symmetries of degree $m$ of the dynamics. We will show that for every such a transformation we can associate the generator of a Hamiltonian master symmetry of degree $m - 1$.

**Proposition 5** Let $(M, \omega, \Gamma)$ be a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system and assume that $\beta \in \bigwedge^1(M)$ generates an infinitesimal canonoid transformation for $\Gamma$. Then $X_\beta$ is a master symmetry of degree $m \geq 1$ for $\Gamma$ if and only if $i(\Gamma)\beta$ is the generator of a Hamiltonian master symmetry of degree $m - 1$.

Proof.- $X_\beta$ is a master symmetry of degree $m$ if and only if

$$\mathcal{L}^{m+1}_\Gamma X_\beta = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{L}^m_\Gamma X_\beta \neq 0,$$

and using that $\Gamma$ is Locally-Hamiltonian, $\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \omega = 0$, and the above mentioned property (14) for $k = m + 1$ and $X = X_\beta$, i.e.

$$\mathcal{L}^{m+1}_\Gamma (i(\Gamma)\beta) = i(\mathcal{L}^{m+1}_\Gamma X_\beta)\omega,$$

together with the definition of $X_\beta$, we see that (21) can be equivalently written as

$$\mathcal{L}^{m+1}_\Gamma \beta = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L}^m_\Gamma \beta \neq 0.$$

Now, if $X_\beta$ is an infinitesimal canonoid transformation $d_\Gamma \beta = 0$, and we have,

$$0 = \mathcal{L}^{m+1}_\Gamma \beta = \mathcal{L}^m_\Gamma ((i(\Gamma) \circ d + d \circ i(\Gamma))\beta) = (d \circ \mathcal{L}^m_\Gamma)(i(\Gamma)\beta), \quad \text{for} \quad m \geq 1,$$

which, according to eq. (15), is equivalent to say that $i(\Gamma)\beta$ is the generator of a Hamiltonian master symmetry of degree $m - 1$.

qed

So far we have put into relation canonoid master symmetries with Hamiltonian master symmetries of lower degree. In the paragraphs below we shall go in the opposite direction, namely we shall relate canonoid transformations which are symmetries of the dynamics (recall that every symmetry of the dynamics is a canonoid transformation) with generators of constants of motion of degree one.

With this aim we take, for a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system $(M, \omega, \Gamma)$, a 1-form $\beta \in Z^1_\Gamma(M)$, i.e. $d_\Gamma \beta = 0$, and therefore, $X_\beta$ is the infinitesimal generator of a family of canonoid transformations. Assume that, at least locally, $\beta$ can be written

$$\beta = \alpha + dG,$$

where $\partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0$ (it is easy to show that this can always be achieved for the generators of symmetries or around points where $\Gamma$ does not vanish, see Appendix B).
Note that $\partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0$ implies $i(\Gamma)(d(i(\Gamma)\alpha)) = 0$ and therefore the function $i(\Gamma)\alpha$ is a constant of motion. Moreover, (22) shows that $d_\Gamma \alpha = 0$.

On the other hand, $\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha$ is a closed 1-form because $d\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = d_\Gamma \alpha = d_\Gamma \beta = 0$.

The connection between canonoid symmetries and master symmetries is expressed in the following proposition:

**Proposition 6** If $X_\beta$ is the infinitesimal generator of a group of dynamical symmetries of $\Gamma \in \mathfrak{X}_{LH}(M, \omega)$, with $\beta = \alpha + dG$ and $\partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0$, then $\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha$ is exact, i.e. there exists a function $F$, uniquely defined up to addition of a constant, such that

$$\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = dF,$$

(23)

the function $G$ is the generator of a constant of motion of degree one and the above function $F$ can be chosen such that

$$\mathcal{L}_\Gamma G + F = 0, \quad \mathcal{L}^2_\Gamma G = 0.$$

(24)

**Proof.** Consider the following equalities

$$i([X_\beta, \Gamma])\omega = -\mathcal{L}_\Gamma (i(X_\beta)\omega) + i(X_\beta)\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \omega = -\mathcal{L}_\Gamma (\alpha + dG),$$

(25)

we see that if $i([X_\beta, \Gamma]) = 0$ then $\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha$ is exact and using the defining property for $F$, (23), the function $F + \mathcal{L}_\Gamma G$ is constant in every connected component of $M$. With an adequate choice of the function $F$ in (23), $F + \mathcal{L}_\Gamma G$ can be set to zero. Moreover, the function $F$ is a constant of motion, because

$$\mathcal{L}_\Gamma F = i(\Gamma) dF = i(\Gamma)\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = \partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0,$$

and therefore $\mathcal{L}^2_\Gamma G = -\mathcal{L}_\Gamma F = 0$, i.e. $G$ is the generator of a constant of the motion of degree one.

qed

This result can also be stated by saying that if the function $G$ and the 1-form $\beta$ are related by (22) and $X_\beta$ is a dynamical symmetry of $\Gamma$, then $X_G$ is a master symmetry of degree one. If the dynamical system is Hamiltonian with $\Gamma = \Gamma_H$ then the relations (24) are

$$\{G, H\} + F = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \{F, H\} = 0.$$

(26)

There is a kind of converse property. If $G$ is the generator of a constant of the motion of degree one, then the function $F = -\mathcal{L}_\Gamma G$ is a constant of the motion. Now, for each 1-form $\alpha$ such that (23) is satisfied we obtain that $\partial_\Gamma \alpha = i(\Gamma)\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = 0$ and $d_\Gamma \alpha = d(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha) = 0$. Therefore, the 1-form $\beta$ given by (22) satisfies $d_\Gamma \beta = 0$, and consequently, $X_\beta$ generates a one-parameter group of canonoid transformations. Moreover, using the relations

$$0 = d(F + \mathcal{L}_\Gamma G) = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma (\alpha + dG) = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma (i(\Gamma)\omega),$$
as $\Gamma$ is locally-Hamiltonian, the preceding expression becomes

$$0 = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma (i(X_\beta)\omega - i(X_\beta)\mathcal{L}_\mathcal{L}_\omega = -i([X_\beta, \Gamma])\omega,$$

hence, $[X_\beta, \Gamma] = 0$, and $X_\beta$ is a canonoid dynamical symmetry.

Note that the connection between (canonoid) dynamical symmetries and generators of constants of motion of degree one is a generalisation of the strictly canonical case. In the latter $\alpha = 0$, $F$ vanishes and the master symmetry of degree one is actually of degree zero, i.e. $G$ is a constant of motion.

To illustrate the previous results we can consider the free particle in $\mathbb{R}$. The phase space $T^*\mathbb{R}$ is endowed with the canonical symplectic structure and the dynamics is $\Gamma = p \partial / \partial q$, with $H = p^2/2$. Let now $G$ be given by

$$G = q p f(p),$$

and then in order for $F$ to satisfy the first relation in (26), $\{G, H\} + F = 0$, we must choose $F = -p^2 f(p)$. If the 1-form $\alpha$ is given by $\alpha = -(2f(p) + pf'(p)) q \, dp$, that satisfy $i(\Gamma)\alpha = 0$, and therefore $\partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0$, then $\beta = \alpha + dG$ generates a canonoid transformation

$$X_\beta = f(p) \left( p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} + q \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \right),$$

that clearly does not preserve (even up to a factor) the symplectic form. Also notice that the previous expression (upon the addition of a Hamiltonian vector field $g(p) \partial / \partial q$) is the most general form for a dynamical symmetry of the one dimensional free particle.

We should remark that the correspondence between (Hamiltonian) master symmetries and dynamical symmetries is not one to one. In fact, for the same master symmetry as before we can choose a different one form $\alpha$ and obtain a completely different symmetry. For instance, if we take $\alpha = -d(p q f(p))$ that satisfies all the required properties and the same function $G$ as before, we obtain $X = 0$.

Also the other way around: for any canonoid dynamical symmetry $X_\beta$, as shown in the appendix, $\partial_\Gamma \beta = 0$, which means that we can always take $G = 0$ and the Hamiltonian master symmetry is trivial.

### 5 Final comments

In this paper we have studied, from a geometric perspective, the different transformations of a dynamical system that preserve the Hamiltonian character of the equations of motion. We emphasize their similarities and discuss in depth the case of canonoid transformations that are characterized by preserving the structure of the equations for a particular Hamiltonian. This type of transformations include, in particular, all the dynamical symmetries of the system.
We present different intrinsic characterizations of the infinitesimal generators for one-
parameter groups of canonoid transformations and how they are related to canonical trans-
formations. A useful tool for achieving this goal are certain twisted homological and coho-
mological operators that are discussed in the paper.

On the other hand we introduce a generalization of symmetries and constants of motion:
the so called master symmetries and generators of constants of motion. The latter, actually,
can be identified with a conserved quantity that is polynomial in time. We establish two types
of relations between master symmetries and canonoid transformations that are symmetries
of the dynamics.

An interesting point that could be worth studying is to try to extend the relation between
dynamical symmetries and canonoid transformations to the case of master symmetries. Ex-
actly as all dynamical symmetries are canonoid transformations on e could enlarge the class
of transformations so that they include all master symmetries of the system.

Appendix A

Let \( X \in \mathfrak{X}(M) \) be a vector field in a connected differentiable manifold. We define a map
\( d_X : \Lambda(M) \to \Lambda(M) \) as follows:

\[
d_X := d \circ i(X) \circ d = d \circ \mathcal{L}_X = \mathcal{L}_X \circ d.
\]

It is a degree one \( \mathbb{R} \)-linear map \( d_X : \Lambda^r(M) \to \Lambda^{r+1}(M) \) such that:

- \( d_X \circ d_X = 0 \) and \( d \circ d_X = d_X \circ d = 0 \).
- \( d_X \circ \mathcal{L}_X = \mathcal{L}_X \circ d_X \).
- \( d_X \circ i(X) + i(X) \circ d_X = \mathcal{L}_X^2 \).
- It is not a derivation but, for \( \alpha, \beta \in \Lambda^r(M) \), it satisfies
  \[
d_X(\alpha \wedge \beta) = d_X \alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^r \alpha \wedge d_X \beta + d \alpha \wedge \mathcal{L}_X \beta + (-1)^r \mathcal{L}_X \alpha \wedge d \beta.
  \]

As \( d_X \circ d_X = 0 \) we can define an associated cohomology where \( B^0_X(M) \) is defined as
\( B^0_X(M) = \{0\} \) and \( Z^r_X(M) \) and \( B^r_X(M) \), \( r \in \mathbb{N} \), are given by

\[
Z^r_X(M) = \{ \alpha \in \Lambda^r(M) \mid d_X \alpha = 0 \},
\]

and

\[
B^r_X(M) = \{ \alpha \in \Lambda^r(M) \mid \exists \beta \in \Lambda^{r-1}(M), \alpha = d_X \beta \}, \quad r \geq 1.
\]

We remark that a consequence of the definition of \( d_X \) is the following chain of inclusions
\[
B^r_X(M) \subset B^r(M) \subset Z^r(M) \subset Z^r_X(M).
\]
We can characterize differently the space of \( d_X \)-closed and exact forms

\[
B^r_X(M) = \{ \alpha \in \bigwedge^r(M) | \exists \beta \in B^r(M), \alpha = \mathcal{L}_X \beta \}
\]
\[
Z^r_X(M) = \{ \alpha \in \bigwedge^r(M) | \mathcal{L}_X \alpha \in Z^r(M) \}
\]
i.e. we can say that \( B^r_X(M) \) is the image of \( B^r(M) \) under \( \mathcal{L}_X \) while \( Z^r_X(M) \) is the preimage of \( Z^r(M) \).

We have also introduced a degree -1 operator \( \partial_X : \bigwedge^r(M) \rightarrow \bigwedge^{r-1} \) of the following form:

\[
\partial_X := i(X) \circ d \circ i(X) = i(X) \circ \mathcal{L}_X = \mathcal{L}_X \circ i(X).
\]

It satisfies

- \( \partial_X \circ \partial_X = 0 \) and \( i(X) \circ \partial_X = \partial_X \circ i(X) = 0 \).
- \( \partial_X \circ \mathcal{L}_X = \mathcal{L}_X \circ \partial_X \).
- \( \partial_X \circ d = i(X) \circ d_X \) and \( d \circ \partial_X = d_X \circ i(X) \).
- \( \partial_X \circ d + d \circ \partial_X = \mathcal{L}_X^2 \).
- \( \partial_X \circ d_X + d_X \circ \partial_X = \mathcal{L}_X^3 \).
- For \( \alpha, \beta \in \bigwedge^r(M) \), we have

\[
\partial_X(\alpha \wedge \beta) = \partial_X \alpha \wedge \beta + (-1)^r \alpha \wedge \partial_X \beta + i(X)\alpha \wedge \mathcal{L}_X \beta + (-1)^r \mathcal{L}_X \alpha \wedge i(X)\beta.
\]

**Appendix B**

Now we address the problem of existence of the *gauge fixing* 1-form i.e. given \( \alpha \) such that \( d_\Gamma \alpha = 0 \) does there exist a function \( f \) such that \( \partial_\Gamma (\alpha + df) = i(\Gamma) df(\Gamma)(\alpha + df) = 0 \)? We have two partial positive answers to that question: a global one when \( X_\alpha \) is a symmetry of the dynamics and a local one around a point in which \( \Gamma \) does not vanish.

The first result is contained in the following proposition.

**Proposition 7** Given a locally-Hamiltonian dynamical system \((M, \omega, \Gamma)\), if the 1-form \( \alpha \) is such that \([X_\alpha, \Gamma] = 0\), then \( d_\Gamma \alpha = 0 \) and \( \partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0 \).

**Proof.** The relation

\[
\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = \mathcal{L}_\Gamma (i(X_\alpha) \omega) = i([\Gamma, X_\alpha]) \omega
\]

shows that if \( X_\alpha \) is a symmetry we have \( \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = 0 \) and applying to this identity the operator \( d \) or \( i(\Gamma) \) we obtain both results, because

\[
d(\mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha) = d_\Gamma \alpha = 0, \quad i(\Gamma) \mathcal{L}_\Gamma \alpha = \partial_\Gamma \alpha = 0.
\]
The local result is made more precise in the following proposition.

**Proposition 8** Let $p$ be a point in a Hamiltonian dynamical system $(M, \omega, H)$ such that $(\Gamma_H)_p \neq 0$ and $\alpha$ any 1-form in $M$. Then, there exists a function $f$, locally defined around $p$, such that $\partial_{\Gamma_H}(\alpha + df) = i(\Gamma_H)di(\Gamma_H)(\alpha + df) = 0$.

**Proof.** Note first that if the function $f$ is such that

\[ \mathcal{L}_{\Gamma_H} f = -i(\Gamma_H)\alpha \tag{27} \]

applying $i(\Gamma_H) \circ d$ to both sides we obtain $\partial_{\Gamma_H}(\alpha + df) = 0$.

But using the straightening out theorem (see e.g. [3],[32]), if $\Gamma_H$ is different from zero at the point $p$, (27) can be transformed into an explicit first-order ordinary differential equation around $p$, whose solution always exists locally.

qed

As the previous proposition shows the difficulties for finding a locally defined 1-form in the family satisfying locally condition $i(\Gamma_H)d i(\Gamma_H)\alpha = 0$ arise when the dynamical vector field vanishes at one point. In this case we can exhibit an example in which the equation (27) cannot be solved.

Consider the Harmonic oscillator in one dimension with Hamiltonian given by the function in the phase space $T^*\mathbb{R}$, endowed with its canonical symplectic structure $\omega_0$,

\[ H = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2), \]

and therefore

\[ \Gamma_H = p\frac{\partial}{\partial q} - q\frac{\partial}{\partial p}. \]

Note that $dH$, and therefore also $\Gamma_H$, vanish at the point $(0, 0)$.

Take the canonical 1-form $\alpha = \theta_0 = pdq$. One easily sees that $i(\Gamma_H)\alpha = p^2$, $i(\Gamma_H)d\alpha = -dH$, and it shows that $di(\Gamma_H)d\alpha = 0$ but the equation (27) in this case reads

\[ q\frac{\partial f}{\partial p} - p\frac{\partial f}{\partial q} = p^2, \]

and the smooth solution should satisfy

\[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial q}(q, p) = qg(q, p) - p, \]
\[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial p}(q, p) = pg(q, p). \]
for some smooth function \( g \). This pair of equations cannot be solved around \( p = q = 0 \) because from them we get

\[
0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial q} \right) (q, p) = 1 - q \frac{\partial g}{\partial p}(q, p) + p \frac{\partial g}{\partial q}(q, p)
\]

and the right hand side does not vanish at \( p = q = 0 \).

In this situation, however, instead of the stronger condition \( (27) \) we can satisfy the weaker condition \( i(\Gamma_H) d i(\Gamma_H) \alpha = 0 \), i.e.

\[
\Gamma_H(\Gamma_H f) = -i(\Gamma_H) d i(\Gamma_H) \alpha,
\]

or in other words

\[
\left( p \frac{\partial}{\partial q} - q \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \right)^2 f = 2 qp
\]

which can be solved by \( f(q, p) = -\frac{1}{2} q p \). The new equivalent 1-form

\[
\alpha' = \alpha + df = \frac{1}{2} (p \, dq - q \, dp),
\]

satisfies \( \partial_T \alpha' = 0 \).

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