

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN GEOMETRIC MECHANICS

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(Polish Academy of Sciences)



GEOMETRY OF JETS AND FIELDS
Będlewo, 10-16 May, 2015

Contents

- Graded and double graded bundles
- Tulczyjew triples
- Mechanics on algebroids with vakonomic constraints
- Higher order Lagrangians
- Lagrangian framework for graded bundles
- Higher order Lagrangian mechanics on Lie algebroids
- Geometric mechanics of strings (optionally)

The talk is based on some ideas of [W. M. Tulczyjew](#) and my collaboration with [A. Bruce](#), [K. Grabowska](#), [M. Rotkiewicz](#) and [P. Urbański](#):

- [Grabowski-Rotkiewicz, *J. Geom. Phys.* 62 \(2012\), 21–36.](#)
- [Grabowska-Grabowski-Urbański, *J. Geom. Mech.* 6 \(2014\), 503–526.](#)
- [Bruce-Grabowska-Grabowski, *J. Phys. A* 48 \(2015\), 205203 \(32pp\).](#)
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Vector bundles as graded bundles

- A **vector bundle** is a locally trivial fibration $\tau : E \rightarrow M$ which, locally over $U \subset M$, reads $\tau^{-1}(U) \simeq U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ and admits an atlas in which local trivializations transform linearly in fibers

$$U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x, y) \mapsto (x, A(x)y) \in U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$A(x) \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}).$$

- The latter property can also be expressed in the terms of the gradation in which base coordinates x have degrees 0 and 'linear coordinates' y have degree 1. Linearity in y 's is now equivalent to the fact that changes of coordinates respect the degrees.
- Morphisms in the category of vector bundles are represented by commutative diagram of smooth maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_1 & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & E_2 \\ \downarrow \tau_1 & & \downarrow \tau_2 \\ M_1 & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & M_2 \end{array}$$

being linear in fibres.

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Graded bundles

- Canonical examples and constructions: TM , T^*M , $E \otimes_M F$, $\wedge^k E$, etc.
- A straightforward generalization is the concept of a **graded bundle** $\tau : F \rightarrow M$ with a local trivialization by $U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ as before, and with the difference that the local coordinates (y^1, \dots, y^n) in the fibres have now associated positive integer weights w_1, \dots, w_n , that are preserved by changes of local trivializations:

$$U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x, y) \mapsto (x, A(x, y)) \in U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

- One can show that in this case $A(x, y)$ must be polynomial in fiber coordinates, i.e. any graded bundle is a **polynomial bundle**.
- As these polynomials need not to be linear, **graded bundles do not have, in general, vector space structure in fibers**. For instance, if $(y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ are coordinates of degrees 1, 2, respectively, then the map $(y, z) \mapsto (y, z + y^2)$ is a diffeomorphism preserving the degrees, but it is nonlinear.
- If all $w_i \leq r$, we say that the graded bundle is **of degree r** .

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- A straightforward generalization is the concept of a **graded bundle** $\tau : F \rightarrow M$ with a local trivialization by $U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ as before, and with the difference that the local coordinates (y^1, \dots, y^n) in the fibres have now associated positive integer weights w_1, \dots, w_n , that are preserved by changes of local trivializations:

$$U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x, y) \mapsto (x, A(x, y)) \in U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

- One can show that in this case $A(x, y)$ must be polynomial in fiber coordinates, i.e. any graded bundle is a **polynomial bundle**.
- As these polynomials need not to be linear, **graded bundles do not have, in general, vector space structure in fibers**. For instance, if $(y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ are coordinates of degrees 1, 2, respectively, then the map $(y, z) \mapsto (y, z + y^2)$ is a diffeomorphism preserving the degrees, but it is nonlinear.
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- In the above terminology, **vector bundles are just graded bundles of degree 1.**
- Graded bundles F_k of degree k admit, like many jet bundles, a tower of affine fibrations by their subbundles of lower degrees

$$F_k \xrightarrow{\tau^k} F_{k-1} \xrightarrow{\tau^{k-1}} \cdots \xrightarrow{\tau^3} F_2 \xrightarrow{\tau^2} F_1 \xrightarrow{\tau^1} F_0 = M.$$

- **Canonical examples:** $T^k M$, with canonical coordinates $(x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x}, \ddot{\ddot{x}}, \dots)$ of degrees, respectively, $0, 1, 2, 3$, etc.
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- Note that similar objects has been used in supergeometry by **Kosmann-Schwarzbach, Voronov, Mackenzie, Roytenberg** et al. under the name **N-manifolds**. However, we will work with classical, purely even manifolds during this talk.

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- With the use of coordinates (x^α, y^a) with degrees 0 for basic coordinates x^α , and degrees $w_a > 0$ for the fibre coordinates y^a , we can define on the graded bundle F a globally defined **weight vector field** (**Euler vector field**)

$$\nabla_F = \sum_a w_a y^a \partial_{y^a}.$$

- The flow of the weight vector field extends to a smooth action $\mathbb{R} \ni t \mapsto h_t$ of multiplicative reals on F , $h_t(x^\mu, y^a) = (x^\mu, t^{w_a} y^a)$. Such an action $h : \mathbb{R} \times F \rightarrow F$, $h_t \circ h_s = h_{ts}$, we will call a **homogeneity structure**.
- A function $f : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called **homogeneous of degree (weight) k** if $f(h_t(x)) = t^k f(x)$; similarly for the homogeneity of tensor fields.
- **Morphisms** of two homogeneity structures (F_i, h^i) , $i = 1, 2$, are defined as smooth maps $\Phi : F_1 \rightarrow F_2$ intertwining the \mathbb{R} -actions: $\Phi \circ h_t^1 = h_t^2 \circ \Phi$. Consequently, a **homogeneity substructure** is a smooth submanifold S invariant with respect to h , $h_t(S) \subset S$.

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Double Graded Bundles

The fundamental fact (c.f. Grabowski-Rotkiewicz) says that **graded bundles and homogeneity structures are in fact equivalent concepts.**

Theorem

For any homogeneity structure h on a manifold F , there is a smooth submanifold $M = h_0(F) \subset F$, a non-negative integer $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and an \mathbb{R} -equivariant map $\Phi_h^k : F \rightarrow T^k F|_M$ which identifies F with a graded submanifold of the graded bundle $T^k F$. In particular, there is an atlas on F consisting of local homogeneous functions.

As two graded bundle structure on the same manifold are just two homogeneity structures, the obvious concept of compatibility leads to the following: A **double graded bundle** is a manifold equipped with two homogeneity structures h^1, h^2 which are **compatible** in the sense that

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This covers of course the concept of a **double vector bundle** of Pradines and Mackenzie, and extends to **n -tuple** graded bundles in the obvious way.

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Double graded bundles - examples

- **Lifts.** If $\tau : F \rightarrow M$ is a graded bundle of degree k , then TF and T^*F carry canonical double graded bundle structure: one is the obvious vector bundle, the other is of degree k . A double graded bundle whose one structure is linear we will call a **\mathcal{GL} -bundle**. There are also lifts of graded structures on F to $T^r F$.
- In particular, if $\tau : E \rightarrow M$ is a vector bundle, then TE and T^*E are double vector bundles. The latter is isomorphic with T^*E^* . As a linear Poisson structure on E^* yields a map $T^*E^* \rightarrow TE^*$, a **Lie algebroid structure on E can be encoded as a morphism of double vector bundles, $\varepsilon : T^*E \rightarrow TE^*$ (!)**
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The Tulczyjew triple - Lagrangian side

M - positions,

TM - (kinematic)

configurations,

$L : TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ - Lagrangian

T^*M - phase space

$\mathcal{D} = \alpha_M^{-1}(dL(TM)) = \mathcal{TL}(TM)$, image of the Tulczyjew differential \mathcal{TL} ,

Legendre map: $\lambda_L : TM \rightarrow T^*M$, $\lambda_L(x, \dot{x}) = (x, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}})$,

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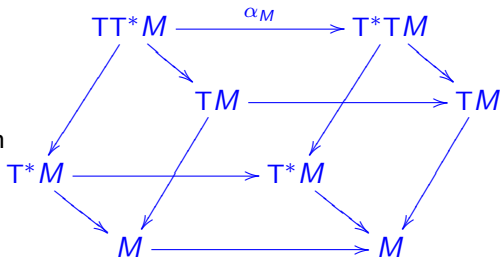
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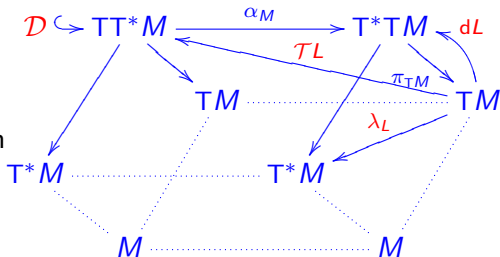
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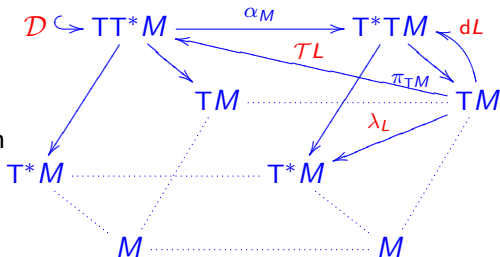
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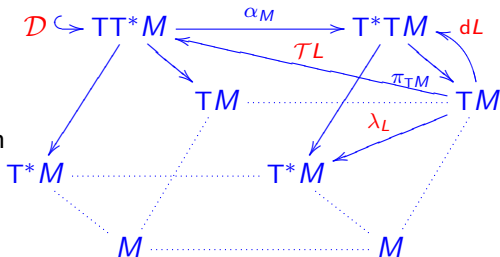
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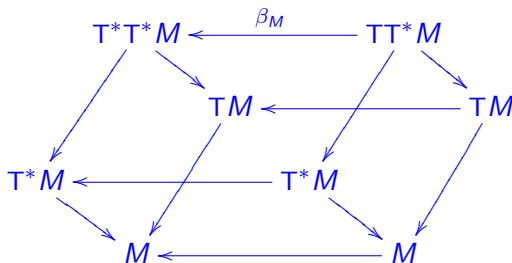
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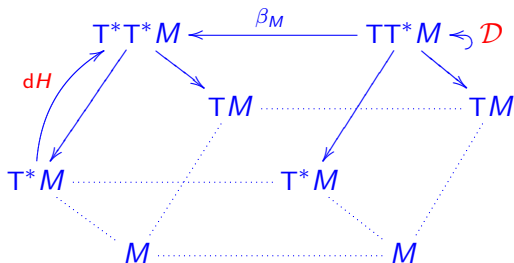
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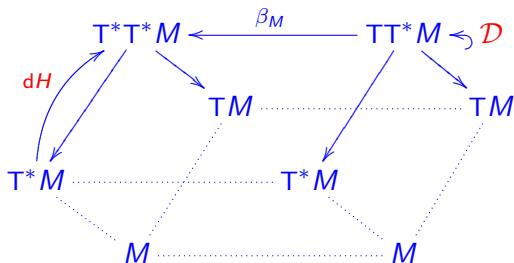
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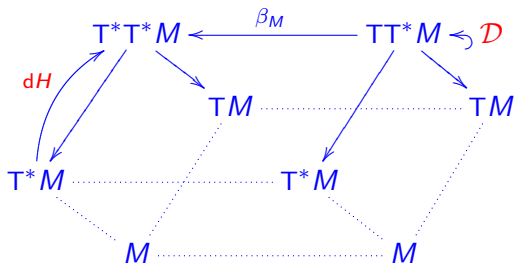
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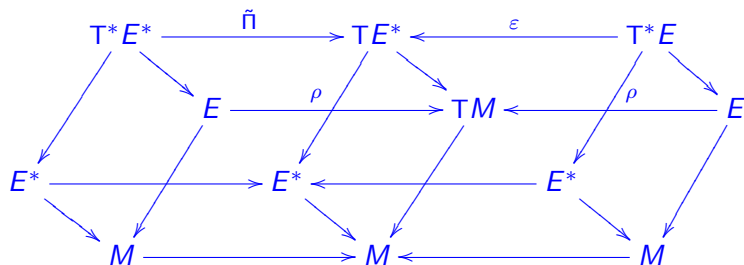


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Algebroid setting



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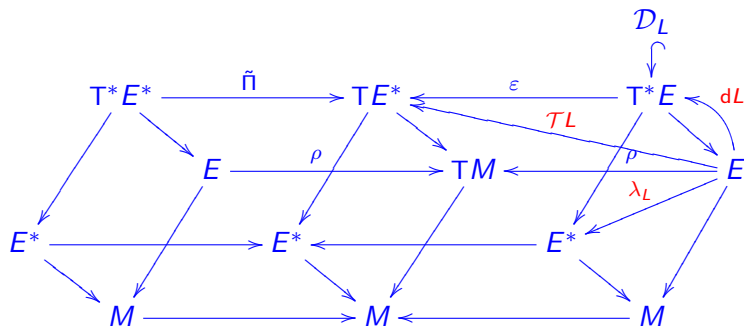
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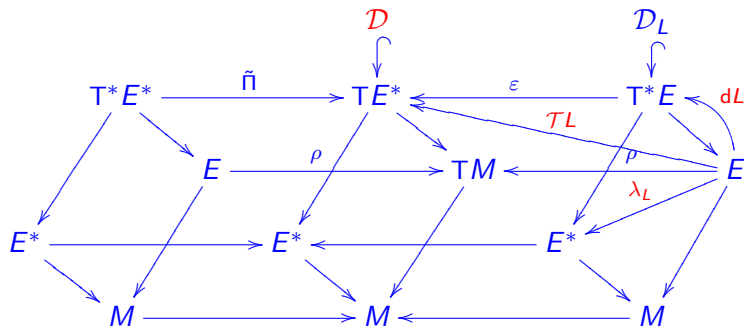
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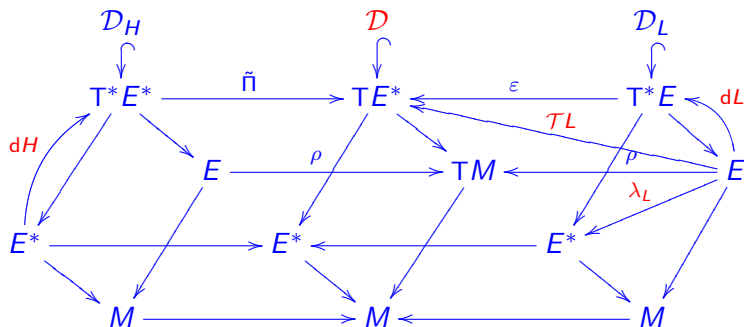
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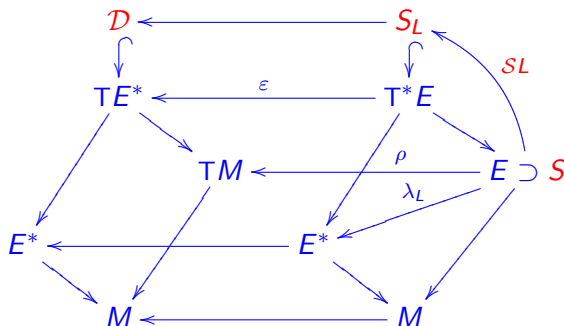
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Algebroid setting with vakonomic constraints

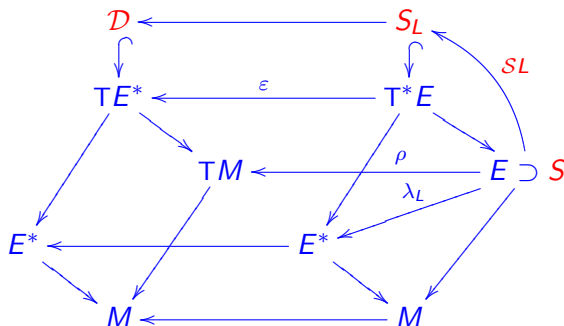


where S_L is the lagrangian submanifold in T^*E induced by the Lagrangian on the constraint S , and $SL : S \rightarrow T^*E$ is the corresponding relation,

$$S_L = \{ \alpha_e \in T_e^*E : e \in S \text{ and } \langle \alpha_e, v_e \rangle = dL(v_e) \text{ for every } v_e \in T_e S \}.$$

The vakonomically constrained phase dynamics is just $\mathcal{D} = \epsilon(S_L) \subset TE^*$.

Algebroid setting with vakonomic constraints

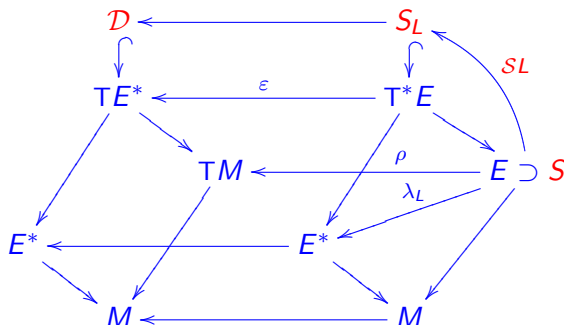


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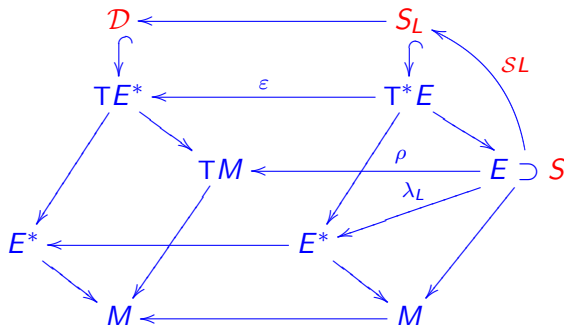


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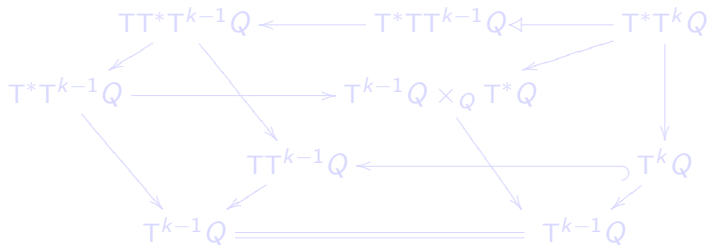
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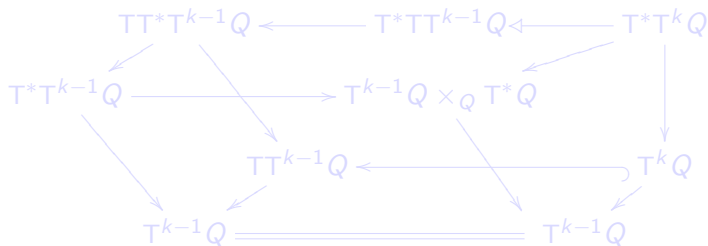
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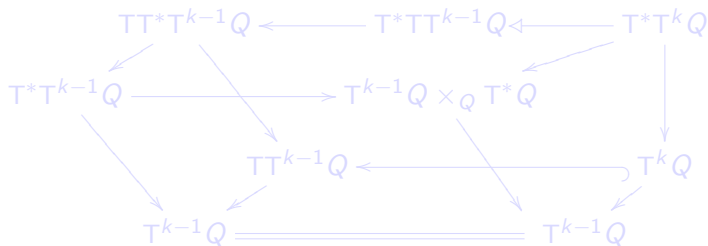
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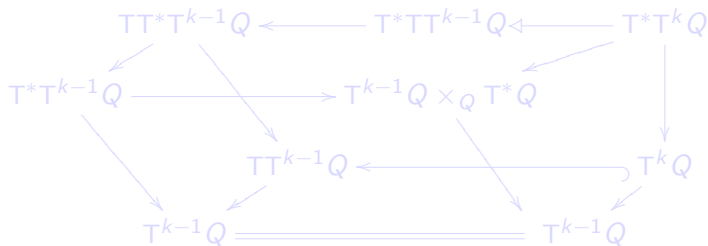
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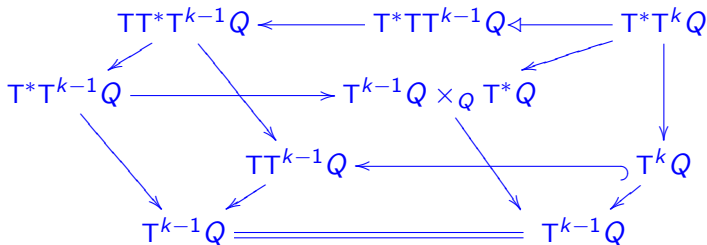
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Higher order Euler-Lagrange equations

The Lagrangian function $L = L(q, \dots, \overset{(k)}{q})$ generates the phase dynamics

$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ (v, p, \dot{v}, \dot{p}) : \dot{v}_{i-1} = v_i, \dot{p}_i + p_{i-1} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \overset{(i)}{q}}, \dot{p}_0 = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q}, p_{k-1} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \overset{(k)}{q}} \right\}.$$

This leads to the **higher Euler-Lagrange equations** in the traditional form:

$$\overset{(i)}{q} = \frac{d^i q}{dt^i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k,$$
$$0 = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} - \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) + \dots + (-1)^k \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \overset{(k)}{q}} \right).$$

These equations can be viewed as a system of differential equations of order k on $T^k Q$ or, which is the standard point of view, as ordinary differential equation of order $2k$ on Q .

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inherits graded bundle structure of degree k as a graded subbundle of $T^k \mathcal{G}$. Of course, $A = A^1(\mathcal{G})$ can be identified with the Lie algebroid of \mathcal{G} .

Theorem

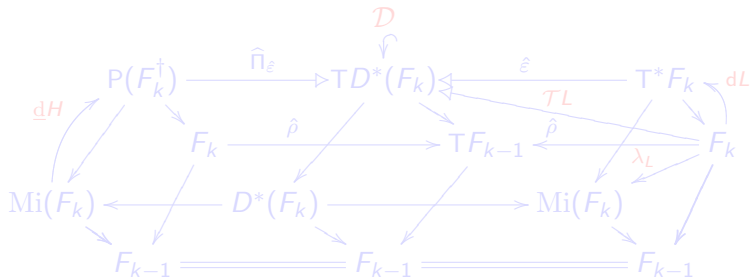
The linearisation of $A^k(\mathcal{G})$ is given as

$$D(A^k(\mathcal{G})) \simeq \{(Y, Z) \in A(\mathcal{G}) \times_M TA^{k-1}(\mathcal{G}) \mid \rho(Y) = T\tau(Z)\},$$

*viewed as a vector bundle over $A^{k-1}(\mathcal{G})$ with respect to the obvious projection of part Z onto $A^{k-1}(\mathcal{G})$, where $\rho : A(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow TM$ is the standard anchor of the Lie algebroid and $\tau : A^{k-1}(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow M$ is the obvious projection. Moreover, the above bundle is canonically a weighted Lie algebroid, a **Lie algebroid prolongation** in the sense of Popescu and Martínez.*

Lagrangian framework for graded bundles

A weighted Lie algebroid on $D(F_k)$ gives the Tulczyjew triple



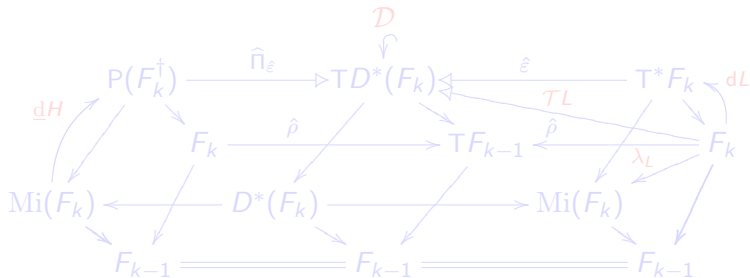
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\mathcal{TL} is the **Tulczyjew differential** and λ_L the **Legendre relation**.

The fact that we obtain the Euler-Lagrange equations of higher order comes from the vakonomic constraint and the additional gradation.

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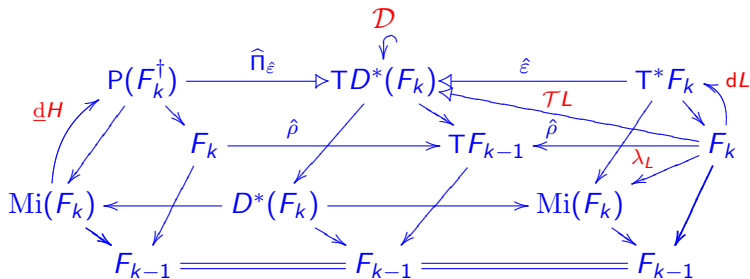
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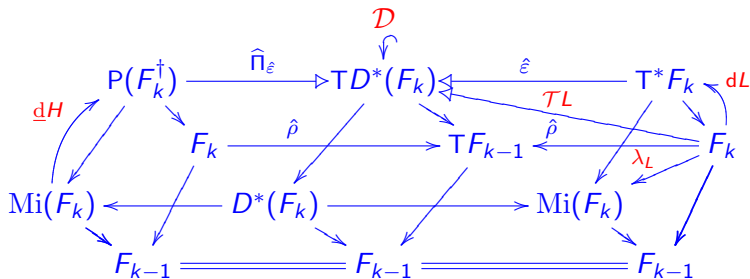
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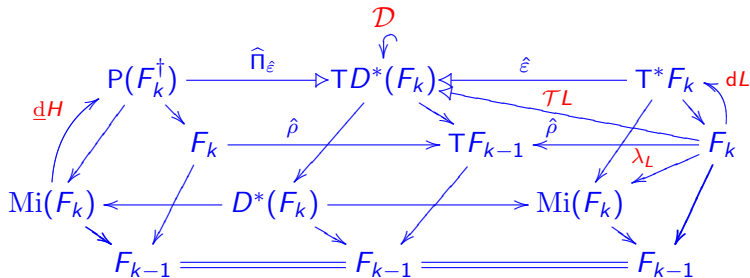
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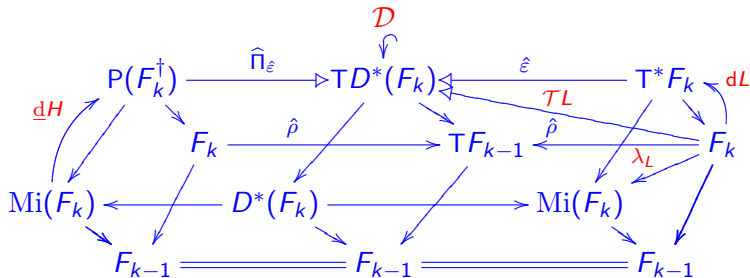
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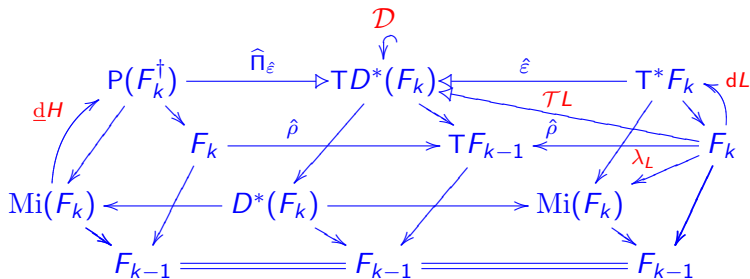
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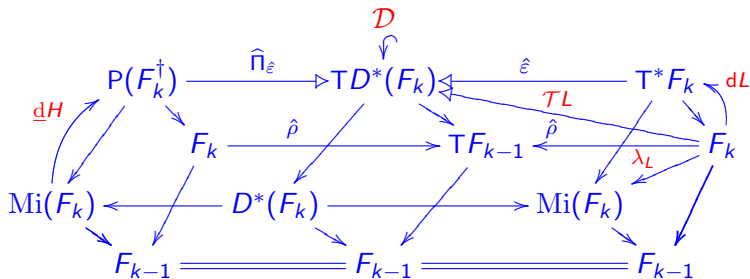
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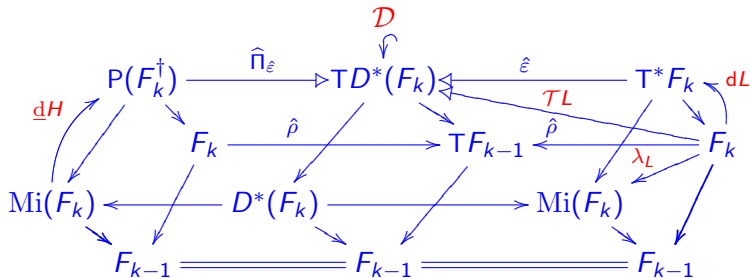
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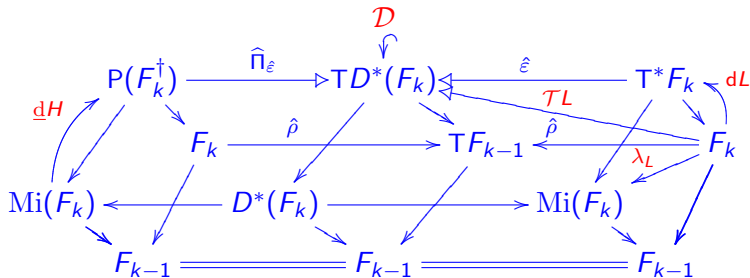
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Example

Let \mathfrak{g} be a Lie algebra and put $F_2 = \mathfrak{g}_2 = \mathfrak{g}[1] \times \mathfrak{g}[2]$, with coordinates (x^i, z^j) on \mathfrak{g}_2 and coordinates (x^i, y^j, z^k) on $D(\mathfrak{g}_2) = \mathfrak{g}[1] \times \mathfrak{g}[1] \times \mathfrak{g}[2]$.

The embedding $\iota : \mathfrak{g}_2 \hookrightarrow D(\mathfrak{g}_2)$ takes the form $\iota(x, z) = (x, x, z)$ and the vector bundle projection is $\tau(x, y, z) = x$.

The Lie algebroid structure $\varepsilon : T^*D(\mathfrak{g}_2) \rightarrow TD^*(\mathfrak{g}_2)$ reads

$$(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \mapsto (x, \beta, \gamma, z, \text{ad}_x^* \beta, \alpha).$$

Given a Lagrangian $L : \mathfrak{g}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the Tulczyjew differential relation $TL : \mathfrak{g}_2 \rightarrow TD^*(\mathfrak{g}_2)$ is

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Hence, for the phase dynamics,

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This leads to the Euler-Lagrange equations on \mathfrak{g}_2 :

$$\dot{x} = z,$$
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These equations are second order and induce the Euler-Lagrange equations on \mathfrak{g} which are of order 3:

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For instance, the 'free' Lagrangian $L(x, z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i l_i (z^i)^2$ induces the equations on \mathfrak{g} (c_{ij}^k are structure constants, no summation convention):

$$l_j \ddot{x}^j = \sum_{i,k} c_{ij}^k l_k x^i \dot{x}^k.$$

The latter can be viewed as 'higher Euler equations'.

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$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(x, \dot{x}) - \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial z}(x, \dot{x}) \right) \right) = \text{ad}_x^* \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(x, \dot{x}) - \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial z}(x, \dot{x}) \right) \right).$$

For instance, the 'free' Lagrangian $L(x, z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i l_i (z^i)^2$ induces the equations on g (c_{ij}^k are structure constants, no summation convention):

$$l_j \ddot{x}^j = \sum_{i,k} c_{ij}^k l_k x^i \dot{x}^k.$$

The latter can be viewed as '**higher Euler equations**'.

Higher order Lagrangian mechanics on Lie algebroids

Let us consider a general Lie groupoid \mathcal{G} and a Lagrangian $L : A^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ on $A^k = A^k(\mathcal{G})$. We will refer to such systems as a **k-th order Lagrangian system on the Lie algebroid $A(\mathcal{G})$** . The relevant diagram here is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
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 & & D^*(A^k(\mathcal{G})) & & \\
 & & \swarrow & \searrow & \\
 & & & & A^k(\mathcal{G}) \\
 \downarrow & & \swarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 TA(\mathcal{G}) & \xleftarrow{\rho} & D(A^k(\mathcal{G})) & \xleftarrow{\iota} & A^k(\mathcal{G})
 \end{array}$$

$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{d}L \\ \downarrow \end{array}$

Here, $D(A^k(\mathcal{G}))$ is the corresponding Lie algebroid prolongation, $\mathcal{D} = \varepsilon \circ r \circ \text{d}L(A^k(\mathcal{G}))$, and λ_L is the **Legendre relation**.

Note that we deal with reductions: in the case \mathcal{G} is a Lie group,

$$A^k(\mathcal{G}) = T^k(\mathcal{G})/\mathcal{G} \quad \text{and} \quad D(A^k(\mathcal{G})) = \text{TT}^{k-1}(\mathcal{G})/\mathcal{G}.$$

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For instance, using x^A as base coordinates, and y_i^a as fibre coordinates of degree $i = 1, \dots, k$ in A^k , extended by the appropriate momenta π_b^j of degree $j = 1, \dots, k$ in $D^*(A^k)$, we get the equations for the Legendre relation in the form (no Lie algebroid structure appears!):

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The remaining equation for the dynamics is

$$\frac{d}{dt}\pi_a^k = \rho_a^A(x) \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^A} + y_1^b C_{ba}^c(x) \pi_c^k,$$

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which we define to be the **k-th order Euler–Lagrange equations** on $A(\mathcal{G})$.

The above higher order algebroid Euler-Lagrange equations are in complete agreement with the ones obtained by [Jóźwickowski & Rotkiewicz](#), [Colombo & de Diego](#), as well as [Martínez](#). We clearly recover the standard higher Euler–Lagrange equations on $T^k M$ as a particular example.

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$$\frac{d}{dt}\pi_a^k = \rho_a^A(x) \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^A} + y_1^b C_{ba}^c(x) \pi_c^k,$$

where ρ_a^A and C_{ba}^c are structure functions of the Lie algebroid $A = A(\mathcal{G})$. The above equation can then be rewritten as

$$\rho_a^A(x) \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^A} = \left(\delta_a^c \frac{d}{dt} - y_1^b C_{ba}^c(x) \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_1^c} - \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_2^c} \right) \cdots - (-1)^k \frac{1}{k!} \frac{d^{k-1}}{dt^{k-1}} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_k^c} \right) \right)$$

which we define to be the **k-th order Euler–Lagrange equations** on $A(\mathcal{G})$.

The above higher order algebroid Euler-Lagrange equations are in complete agreement with the ones obtained by [Jóźwikowski & Rotkiewicz](#), [Colombo & de Diego](#), as well as [Martínez](#). We clearly recover the standard higher Euler–Lagrange equations on $T^k M$ as a particular example.

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The tip of a javelin

For instance, let L be the Lagrangian, governing the motion of the tip of a javelin defined on $T^2\mathbb{R}^3$,

$$L(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 (y^i)^2 - (z^i)^2 \right).$$

We can understand $G = \mathbb{R}^3$ here as a commutative Lie group, and since L is G -invariant, we get immediately the reduction to the graded bundle $\mathbb{R}^3[1] \times \mathbb{R}^3[2]$. The Euler-Lagrange equations on $T^2\mathbb{R}^3$,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial y^i} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial z^i} \right) \right) = 0,$$

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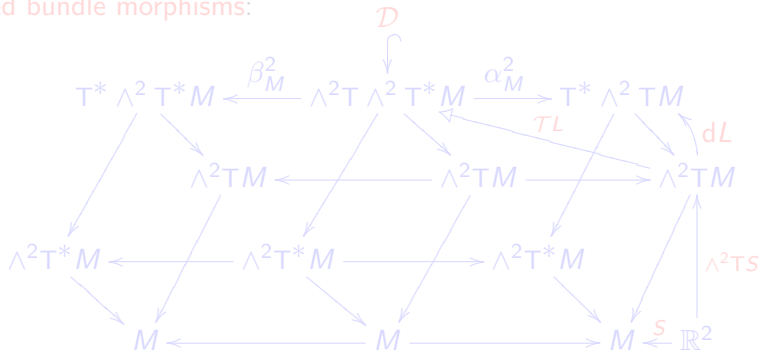
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The Tulczyjew triple for strings

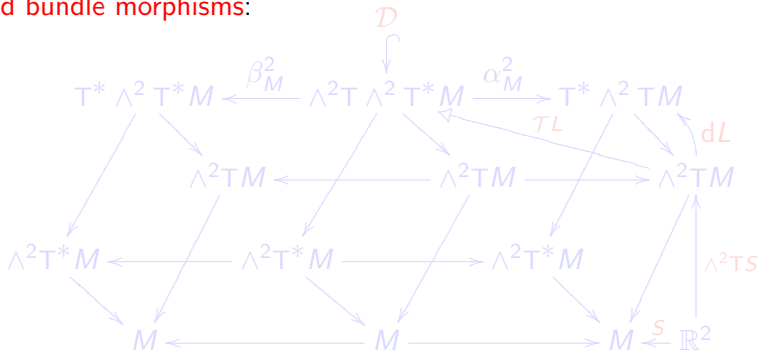
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The way of obtaining the implicit phase dynamics \mathcal{D} , as a submanifold of $\wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^* M$, from a Lagrangian $L : \wedge^2 TM \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (or from a Hamiltonian $H : \wedge^2 T^* M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$) is now standard: $\mathcal{D} = TL(\wedge^2 TM)$.

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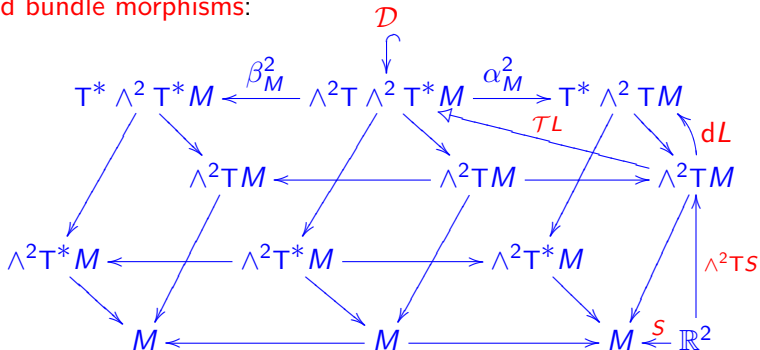
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The Euler-Lagrange equations

A surface $S : (t, s) \mapsto (x^\sigma(t, s))$ in M satisfies the Euler-Lagrange equations if the image by dL of its prolongation to $\wedge^2 TM$,

$$(t, s) \mapsto \left(x^\sigma(t, s), \dot{x}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial t} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial x^\mu}{\partial s} \frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial t} \right),$$

is α_M^2 -related to an admissible surface, i.e. the prolongation of a surface living in the phase space $\wedge^2 T^*M$ to $\wedge^2 T \wedge^2 T^*M$.

In coordinates, the Euler-Lagrange equations read

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Plateau problem

In particular, if $M = \mathbb{R}^3 = \{(x^1 = x, x^2 = y, x^3 = z)\}$ with the Euclidean metric, the canonically induced 'free' Lagrangian on $\wedge^2 TM$ reads

$$L(x^\mu, \dot{x}^{\kappa\lambda}) = \sqrt{\sum_{\kappa,\lambda} (\dot{x}^{\kappa\lambda})^2}.$$

The Euler-Lagrange equation for surfaces being graphs $(x, y) \mapsto (x, y, z(x, y))$ provides the well-known equation for **minimal surfaces**, found already by Lagrange :

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