

3.7 Generalised dynamics

Lagrangian dynamics

Action	$S = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}, t) dt$	(3.213)	S action ($\delta S = 0$ for the motion)
Euler–Lagrange equation	$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = 0$	(3.214)	$\mathbf{q}$ generalised coordinates $\dot{\mathbf{q}}$ generalised velocities L Lagrangian t time m mass
Lagrangian of particle in external field	$L = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 - U(\mathbf{r}, t)$	(3.215)	$\mathbf{v}$ velocity
	$= T - U$	(3.216)	$\mathbf{r}$ position vector U potential energy T kinetic energy
Relativistic Lagrangian of a charged particle	$L = -\frac{m_0 c^2}{\gamma} - e(\phi - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{v})$	(3.217)	m_0 (rest) mass γ Lorentz factor $+e$ positive charge ϕ electric potential $\mathbf{A}$ magnetic vector potential
Generalised momenta	$p_i = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i}$	(3.218)	p_i generalised momenta

Hamiltonian dynamics

Hamiltonian	$H = \sum_i p_i \dot{q}_i - L$	(3.219)	L Lagrangian p_i generalised momenta $\dot{q}_i$ generalised velocities
Hamilton's equations	$\dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}; \quad \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i}$	(3.220)	H Hamiltonian q_i generalised coordinates
Hamiltonian of particle in external field	$H = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + U(\mathbf{r}, t)$	(3.221)	v particle speed
	$= T + U$	(3.222)	$\mathbf{r}$ position vector U potential energy T kinetic energy
Relativistic Hamiltonian of a charged particle	$H = (m_0^2 c^4 + \mathbf{p} - e\mathbf{A} ^2 c^2)^{1/2} + e\phi$	(3.223)	m_0 (rest) mass c speed of light $+e$ positive charge ϕ electric potential $\mathbf{A}$ vector potential
Poisson brackets	$[f, g] = \sum_i \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_i} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial q_i} \right)$	(3.224)	$\mathbf{p}$ particle momentum t time
	$[q_i, g] = \frac{\partial g}{\partial p_i}, \quad [p_i, g] = -\frac{\partial g}{\partial q_i}$	(3.225)	f, g arbitrary functions
	$[H, g] = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = 0, \quad \frac{dg}{dt} = 0$	(3.226)	$[\cdot, \cdot]$ Poisson bracket (also see <i>Commutators</i> on page 26)
Hamilton–Jacobi equation	$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H \left(q_i, \frac{\partial S}{\partial q_i}, t \right) = 0$	(3.227)	S action