

# 19 + 20 Wheel rolling on a plane.

This example is a first order system, with constraints, that is completely integrable.

Configuration space: Position of a point  $Q$  fixed on the rim of a wheel (= unit circle) free to roll on the  $x'y$ -plane without slipping or "twisting".

$P = (x, y, 0)$ , contact point of wheel on plane.

$\beta =$  angle from  $P$  to  $Q$

$e_1 =$  unit tangent to circle at  $P$  in direction of increasing  $\beta$ .

$e_1, e_2$  oriented o.n. frame in  $x'y$ -plane.

$\alpha =$  the angle from  $e_1$  to  $e_3$ , so  $e_1 = (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha, 0)$   
 $e_2 = (-\sin \alpha, \cos \alpha, 0)$

$C = (x, y, 1) =$  center of the wheel.

Then  $Q - C = -\sin \beta e_1 - \cos \beta e_3$ ,  $e_3 = (0, 0, 1)$ .

Proof.  $Q - C \in \text{span} \{e_1, e_3\}$ .

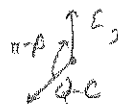
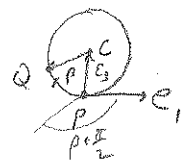
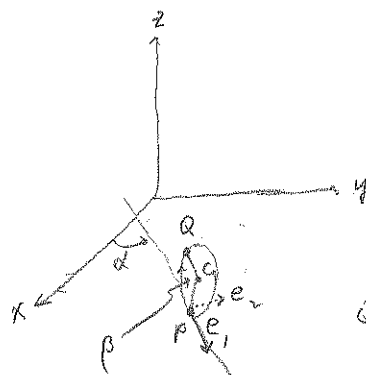
$$(Q - C) \cdot e_1 = \cos(\beta + \frac{\pi}{2}) = -\sin \beta$$

$$(Q - C) \cdot e_3 = \cos(\pi - \beta) = -\cos \beta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } Q &= (x, y, 1) - \sin \beta (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha, 0) - \cos \beta (0, 0, 1) \\ &= (x - \sin \beta \cos \alpha, y - \sin \beta \sin \alpha, 1 - \cos \beta) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $(x, y, \alpha, \beta) \in \underbrace{\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1 \times S^1}_{\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^2)}$ , where  $S^1 = \mathbb{R}/2\pi$ .

$$\text{so } M = \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}^2) \times S^1$$



Trajectories of  $Q$  in  $M$  are the integral curves of the canonical system  $(Q, \omega)$  on  $J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$

Local coords are  $t, x, y, \alpha, \beta, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}$  (use  $t$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  here).

The constraint of no slipping or twisting is expressed by the Pfaffian E.D.S.  $(K, \omega)$  on  $J'(\mathbb{R}) = \text{o.n. frame bundle on } \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\omega^1 = \omega - d\beta = 0, \quad \omega^1 \neq 0$$

$$\omega^2 = \omega^3 = 0$$

where  $(P, e_1, e_2)$  is an o.n. frame of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , as in  $J(\mathbb{R}^2)$

$$dP = \omega^1 e_1 + \omega^2 e_2 \quad \text{so} \quad \omega^1 = dP \cdot e_1 = (dx, dy, 0) \cdot (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha, 0) = \cos \alpha dx + \sin \alpha dy$$

$$\omega^2 = dP \cdot e_2 = -\sin \alpha dx + \cos \alpha dy$$

$$de_1 = \omega^1 e_2$$

$$de_2 = \omega^2 e_1, \quad \omega_1^2 = -\omega_2^1 = de_1 \cdot e_2 = (-\sin \alpha, \cos \alpha, 0) d\alpha \cdot (-\sin \alpha, \cos \alpha, 0) = d\alpha$$

satisfy the structure equations

$$d\omega^1 = -\omega_2^1 \omega^2$$

$$d\omega^2 = -\omega_1^2 \omega^1$$

$$d\omega^3 = 0$$

The equation  $\omega^1 = d\beta$  implies the turning  $d\beta$  is rolling by  $P$  moving  $\omega^1$  in the direction of  $e_1$  (no slipping).

The equation  $\omega^2 = 0$  implies no twisting: no infinitesimal motion of  $P$  in direction  $e_2$  obtained by twisting wheel on fixed  $P$ .

To express the constraint as a submanifold of  $J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$ ,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \omega^1 = d\beta \\ \omega^2 = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} \cos \alpha dx + \sin \alpha dy = d\beta \\ -\sin \alpha dx + \cos \alpha dy = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} dx = \cos \alpha d\beta \\ dy = \sin \alpha d\beta \end{aligned} \right. \text{ on } J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$$

∴ the constraint equations are

$$\dot{x} - \cos \alpha \dot{\beta} = 0$$

$$\dot{y} - \sin \alpha \dot{\beta} = 0$$

two independent equations on  $J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$ .

Let  $X$  be the submanifold defined by these two equations.

(\*)

Note  $X \subset J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$  is parametrized by

$$(t, x, y, \alpha, \rho, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\rho}) \mapsto (t, x, y, \alpha, \rho, \cos \alpha \dot{\rho}, \sin \alpha \dot{\rho}, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\rho})$$

$\dim X = 7.$

The canonical Pfaffian EDS restricted to  $X$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{I}: \quad \Theta^1 &= (dx - \dot{x}dt)|_X = dx - \dot{\rho} \cos \alpha dt \\
 \Theta^2 &= (dy - \dot{y}dt)|_X = dy - \dot{\rho} \sin \alpha dt \\
 \Theta^3 &= d\alpha - \dot{\alpha}dt \\
 \Theta^4 &= d\rho - \dot{\rho}dt
 \end{aligned}$$

An integral man.  $f: N \rightarrow X$  of  $(\Theta, \omega)$  yields an allowable trajectory of  $Q$  by  $f(t) = (t, x(t), y(t), \alpha(t), \rho(t), \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt})$  satisfying  $0 = f^* \Theta^1 \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d\rho}{dt} \cos \alpha(t)$  (no slipping) and  $0 = f^* \Theta^2 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{d\rho}{dt} \sin \alpha(t)$  (rolling).

Note:  $\exists$  an allowable trajectory taking any  $Q_0$  to  $Q_1$ . Say  $Q_0$  at  $(x_0, y_0, \alpha_0, \rho_0) \in M$ ,  $Q_1$  at  $(x_1, y_1, \alpha_1, \rho_1) \in M$ , then let  $\gamma(t)$  be any smooth unit speed curve in the  $x_0y_0$ -plane such that  $\gamma(0) = (x_0, y_0)$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = (\cos \alpha_0, \sin \alpha_0)$ , and  $\gamma(b) = (x_1, y_1)$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(b) = (\cos \alpha_1, \sin \alpha_1)$ , and  $b = \text{length}(\gamma) \equiv \rho_1 - \rho_0 \pmod{2\pi}$ .

$\omega = dt \neq 0.$

Consider the <sup>classical</sup> variational problem defined on  $X$  by

$$\mathcal{Q} = \int L dt$$

with Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{dQ}{dt} \right|^2 = \text{the kinetic energy of the trajectory } Q(t).$$

Now  $Q = (x - \sin \rho \cos \alpha, y - \sin \rho \sin \alpha, 1 - \cos \rho)$ , a trajectory

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dQ}{dt} = (\dot{x} + \sin \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\alpha} - \cos \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\rho}, \dot{y} - \sin \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\alpha} - \cos \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\rho}, \sin \rho \dot{\rho})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \left| \frac{dQ}{dt} \right|^2 &= \dot{x}^2 + 2\dot{x}(\sin \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\alpha} - \cos \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\rho}) + \sin^2 \rho \sin^2 \alpha \dot{\alpha}^2 - 2 \sin \rho \cos \alpha \sin \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\rho} \dot{\alpha} + \cos^2 \rho \cos^2 \alpha \dot{\rho}^2 \\
 &+ \dot{y}^2 - 2\dot{y}(\sin \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\alpha} + \cos \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\rho}) + \sin^2 \rho \cos^2 \alpha \dot{\alpha}^2 + 2 \sin \rho \sin \alpha \cos \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\rho} \dot{\alpha} + \cos^2 \rho \sin^2 \alpha \dot{\rho}^2 \\
 &+ \sin^2 \rho \dot{\rho}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \sin^2 \rho \dot{\alpha}^2 + \dot{\rho}^2 + 2\dot{x}(\sin \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\alpha} - \cos \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\rho}) - 2\dot{y}(\sin \rho \cos \alpha \dot{\alpha} + \cos \rho \sin \alpha \dot{\rho})$$

on  $J'(\mathbb{R}, M)$ .

Thus, restricted to  $X$ , we get

$$L = \frac{1}{2}(\dot{\beta}^2 + \dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta + \dot{\rho}^2 + 2\dot{\beta} \cos \alpha (\sin \beta \dot{\alpha} - \cos \beta \dot{\rho}) - 2\dot{\beta} \sin \alpha (\sin \beta \dot{\rho} \cos \alpha + \cos \beta \sin \alpha \dot{\rho}))$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(2\dot{\beta}^2 + \dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta - 2(\cos \beta \cos^2 \alpha + \cos \beta \sin^2 \alpha)\dot{\beta}^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow L = \dot{\beta}^2(1 - \cos \beta) + \frac{1}{2}\dot{\alpha}^2 \sin^2 \beta \quad \text{on } X.$$

Consider the variational problem  $(\mathcal{L}, \omega, \varphi)$  on  $X$ ,

where  $\omega = L dt$ ,  $\varphi = \int_N \varphi$  is the total energy of

the trajectory of  $Q$  defined by an integral manifold

$$f: N \rightarrow X.$$

Euler-Lagrange system for  $(\mathcal{L}, \omega, \varphi)$  on  $Z = X \times \mathbb{R}^4$

$$\psi = \varphi + \lambda_i \theta^i, \quad i=1,2,3,4.$$

*check this*  $\Psi = d\psi = (L_\alpha - \lambda_2) d\alpha \wedge dt + (L_\beta - \lambda_4 - \lambda_1 \cos \alpha - \lambda_2 \sin \alpha) d\beta \wedge dt + (d\lambda_2 - (L_\alpha + \dot{\beta}(\lambda_1 \cos \alpha - \lambda_2 \sin \alpha)) dt) \wedge \theta^3 + (d\lambda_4 - L_\beta dt) \wedge \theta^4 + \sum_{i=1}^2 d\lambda_i \wedge \theta^i$

where  $L_\alpha = \dot{\alpha} \sin^2 \beta$

$$L_\beta = 2\dot{\beta}(1 - \cos \beta)$$

$$L_\alpha = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha \text{ is a cyclic variable}$$

$$L_\beta = \dot{\beta}^2 \sin \beta + \dot{\alpha}^2 \sin \beta \cos \beta$$

Coframe on  $Z$ :  $dt, \theta^1, \theta^2, \theta^3, \theta^4, d\alpha, d\beta, d\lambda_1, \dots, d\lambda_4.$

Dual frame:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^3}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^4}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_4}$

The Euler-Lagrange system is generated by the Paffian equations

$$u \lrcorner \bar{\Psi}, \quad u \in C^\infty(Z, T\bar{Z}):$$

$$i) \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{x}} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = (L_x - \dot{\lambda}_3) dt = 0$$

$$ii) \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{p}} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = (L_p - \dot{\lambda}_4 - \dot{\lambda}_1 \cos \alpha - \dot{\lambda}_2 \sin \alpha) dt = 0$$

$$\textcircled{*} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = \dot{\theta}^i = 0, \quad i=1,2,3,4 \quad (C(\bar{\Psi}) \supset \mathcal{D}).$$

$$iii) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^3} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = -d\lambda_3 + (L_x - \dot{p}(\lambda_1 \cos \alpha - \lambda_2 \sin \alpha)) dt = 0$$

$$iv) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^4} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = -d\lambda_4 + L_p dt = 0$$

$$v) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^1} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = -d\lambda_1 = 0$$

$$vi) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^2} \lrcorner \bar{\Psi} = -d\lambda_2 = 0$$

Then (i), (ii), (v), & (vi)  $\Rightarrow Z_1 \subset \bar{Z}$  given by

$$L_x = \dot{\lambda}_3$$

$$L_p = \dot{\lambda}_4 + \dot{\lambda}_1 \cos \alpha + \dot{\lambda}_2 \sin \alpha$$

$$\lambda_1 = \text{constant}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \text{constant}$$

Plug these into (iii) & (iv) & use  $\textcircled{*}$  to get (on  $Z_1$ )

$$(vii) \begin{cases} dL_x = d\lambda_3 = (L_x - \dot{p}(\lambda_1 \cos \alpha - \lambda_2 \sin \alpha)) dt \\ dL_p = d\lambda_4 + (-\dot{\lambda}_1 \sin \alpha + \dot{\lambda}_2 \cos \alpha) dt = L_p dt - (\lambda_1 \dot{\alpha} \sin \alpha - \lambda_2 \dot{\alpha} \cos \alpha) dt \end{cases}$$

To obtain a solution  $(N, \delta)$  of this  $\mathcal{E}$ - $\mathcal{I}$  system, consider the space  $\tilde{X} \subset X$  with coords  $t, \alpha, \beta, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}$  with the classical variational problem  $(\tilde{\mathcal{I}}, \omega, \tilde{\varphi})$ ,

$$\tilde{\mathcal{I}}: \quad \tilde{\Theta}' = d\alpha - \dot{\alpha} dt = 0$$

$$\tilde{\Theta} = d\beta - \dot{\beta} dt = 0$$

$$\omega = dt \neq 0$$

$$\tilde{\varphi} = ((1 - \cos \beta) \dot{\beta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \beta \dot{\alpha}^2) dt = L(\alpha, \beta, \dot{\alpha}, \dot{\beta}) dt$$

Prop. (II.9.45, p.126). The curves in  $X$  obtained from solution curves to  $(\tilde{\mathcal{I}}, \omega, \tilde{\varphi})$  in  $\tilde{X}$  by integrating equations

$$\textcircled{*} \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos \alpha \frac{d\beta}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \sin \alpha \frac{d\beta}{dt}$$

are solution curves of  $(\mathcal{I}, \omega, \varphi)$  in  $X$ . These curves describe energy minimizing trajectories of  $\mathcal{Q}$ .

Proof. Let  $\gamma(t) = (t, \alpha(t), \beta(t), \frac{d\alpha}{dt}, \frac{d\beta}{dt})$  be a solution curve of  $(\tilde{\mathcal{I}}, \omega, \tilde{\varphi})$  in  $\tilde{X}$ . Along this curve let

$$d_3 = L_{\dot{\alpha}} \circ \gamma$$

$$d_4 = L_{\dot{\beta}} \circ \gamma$$

$$d_1 = d_2 = 0$$

and  $x(t), y(t)$  solutions of  $\textcircled{*}$ .

The Euler-Lagrange system of  $(\tilde{\mathcal{I}}, \omega, \tilde{\varphi})$  is

$$\textcircled{*} \begin{cases} dL_{\dot{\alpha}} - L_{\alpha} dt = 0 \\ dL_{\dot{\beta}} - L_{\beta} dt = 0 \end{cases}$$

as computed before for any classical var. prob.

Then (next page)

$\tilde{f}(t) = (t, x(t), y(t), \alpha(t), \beta(t), \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt})$  is a curve in  $X$

satisfying:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i. } \tilde{f}^* \mathcal{L} = 0, \quad \therefore \tilde{f}^* \theta^1 &= \frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{df}{dt} \cos \alpha(t) = 0 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ holds} \\ &+ \tilde{f}^* \theta^2 = \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{df}{dt} \sin \alpha(t) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and

ii. the Euler-Lagrange system i) - (vi), (\*) & (vii).

In fact: i)  $L_2 - \lambda_3 = 0$  by def of  $\lambda_3$

v) & vi)  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$  are constant.

ii)  $L_1 - \lambda_4 = 0$  by def of  $\lambda_4$ .

iii)  $\tilde{f}^*(d\lambda_3 - L_\alpha dt) = \tilde{f}^*(dL_2 - L_\alpha dt) = 0$  by (\*) or (vii).

iv)  $\tilde{f}^*(d\lambda_4 - L_\beta dt) = \tilde{f}^*(dL_1 - L_\beta dt) = 0$  by \*.

$\tilde{f}(t)$  yields a stable trajectory of  $Q$ . //

Note: Griffiths says not all stable trajectories of  $Q$  are solution curves of  $(\mathcal{L}, \omega, \varphi)$ . More on this later, maybe. //

The variational problem  $(\tilde{J}, w, \tilde{\varphi})$  on  $\tilde{X}$ . (pp 128-129)