

Observer invariant port Hamiltonian systems: first steps

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Objective

Express a mechanical problem using observer-invariant port-Hamiltonian-like formulation, i.e. define

- a configuration state α
- a scalar energy functional $H(\alpha)$
- flows $\mathbf{f}$ as a time-like variation of the state α
- efforts $\mathbf{e} = \delta_{\alpha} H$ as the energy variation

so that the physical system is governed by as a closed-form system that relates flows and efforts by a skew-adjoint operator $\mathcal{S}$ as

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathcal{S}\mathbf{e}$$

and that is observer invariant.

Outline

- 1 Hypotheses and physical principle
- 2 Invariant to change of observer PHS / Interpretation

Hypothesis 1

The universe lies in a 4D Riemanian manifold with a metric of signature $(+,-,-,-)$.

Hypothesis 2

The universe is occupied by physical ^a continuously distributed energy.

a. independent of the coordinate system.

Principle

The energy of any 4D-domain is left invariant by a vector field, which defines the velocity field.

Hypothesis 1 : the universe

4D manifold

Universe : 4D Riemannian manifold $\mathcal{M}$

- Metric tensor field g
- Event $P \in \mathcal{M}$ identified by a set x of four coordinates $(x^\mu)_{\mu \in \{0,1,2,3\}}$
- Worldline $\gamma_P(s)$ curve in $\mathcal{M}$,

$$\gamma_P : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}, s \mapsto \gamma_P(s) = \{\phi_s(P)\}.$$

- 4-velocity noted u :

$$u^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{ds} \quad \text{with} \quad ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu.$$

time-like future oriented unit vector :

$$u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu = 1$$

4D World-tube

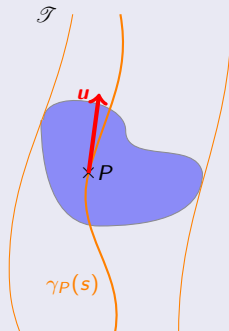


Figure – Representation of a world-tube $\mathcal{T}$ with world-lines.

Hypothesis 2 : Energy

Energy of a compact four-volume $\Omega \subset \mathcal{M}$

Given N ($1 \leq \mathcal{I} \leq \mathcal{N}$) function fields $\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(x)$ define the integral $\mathcal{E}_{\Omega}$:

$$\mathcal{E}_{\Omega}(A(\phi_{\mathcal{I}})) = \int_{\Omega} A(\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(x)) \text{vol}_g$$

where $\text{vol}_g = \sqrt{-\det(g)} (dx^0(m) \wedge dx^1(m) \wedge dx^2(m) \wedge dx^3(m)) = \sqrt{-\det(g)} dx^4$
is the volume form associated with the metric g .

Define the energy density $\mathcal{A} = A\sqrt{-\det(g)}$.

Physical quantities are independent of the choice of a coordinate system

A is a scalar field

Description of the physics

Choice of the fields $\phi_{\mathcal{I}}$ and choice of the function $\mathcal{A}(\phi_{\mathcal{I}})$

The energy of any 4D-domain is left invariant by a vector field, which defines the velocity field.

The integral

$$\mathcal{E}_{\Omega}(A(\phi_{\mathcal{I}})) = \int_{\Omega} A(\phi_{\mathcal{I}}) \sqrt{-\det(g)} dx^4 = \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{A}(\phi_{\mathcal{I}}) dx^4$$

is time-covariant, that is there exists a vector density field $\mathcal{B}$ such that

$$\sum_{\mathcal{I}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{A}}{\partial \phi_{\mathcal{I}}} \mathcal{L}_u^{\phi_{\mathcal{I}}} = \nabla \cdot \mathcal{B}$$

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Mass energy

$$\begin{aligned} H(f_\rho, g_{\mu\nu}) &= \int_{\Omega} f_\rho c^2 \text{vol}_g = \int_{\Omega} f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} \text{vol}_g = \int_{\Omega} f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} \sqrt{-\det(g)} dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \rho c^2 \sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} dx^4 \end{aligned}$$

where :

- $\sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} = 1$ (definition of the quadri-velocity)
- f_ρ is a scalar function
- $\rho = f_\rho \sqrt{-\det(g)}$ is the mass density (scalar density of weight 1).

State configuration and energy expression

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} u^\mu \\ \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} \\ \varrho \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{physics}{=} \begin{pmatrix} u^\mu \\ \frac{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu}}{f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{-\det(g)}} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(\alpha) &= \int_{\Omega} \varrho \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu} dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{H}(\alpha) dx^4 \end{aligned}$$

Flows

This allows us to define the flow of the PHS formulation as

$$\mathfrak{f} = \mathcal{L}_u \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{L}_u u)^\mu \\ (\mathcal{L}_u \mathcal{G})_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Physical meaning of the flows :

- ① $\mathfrak{f}_u$ is the variation of u in the direction u , that is $\mathcal{L}_u u = 0$;
- ② $\mathfrak{f}_g = 2d$ corresponds to (twice the) rate of deformation d ;
- ③ $\mathfrak{f}_\rho$ is the mass density variation w.r.t. u . We choose $\mathfrak{f}_\rho = 0$.

$$\mathfrak{f} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ (\mathcal{L}_u g)_{\mu\nu} := 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \left(f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{-\det(g)} \right) = 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

Efforts

Remembering the energy

$$H(\alpha) = \int_{\Omega} \varrho \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\mu} u^{\nu}} dx^4,$$

the efforts are defined by its variationnal derivatives

$$\mathfrak{e} = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_u H \\ \delta_{\mathcal{G}} H \\ \delta_{\varrho} H \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \varrho u_{\mu} \\ \frac{\varrho}{2} u^{\mu} u^{\nu} \\ \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\mu} u^{\nu}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Physical meaning of the efforts :

- ① ρu^{μ} is the momentum,
- ② $\varrho u^{\mu} u^{\nu} = T^{\mu\nu}$ is the momentum-energy tensor,
- ③ $\sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\mu} u^{\nu}} = \|u\|_g$.

$$\mathfrak{e} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho c^2 u_{\mu} \\ \frac{T^{\mu\nu}}{2} \\ \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\mu} u^{\nu}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Interconnection matrix

Flows and efforts are related by a skew-adjoint operator ^a

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{L}_u u)^\mu \\ (\mathcal{L}_u \mathcal{G})_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\varrho}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta_u H \\ \delta_{\mathcal{G}} H \\ \delta_{\varrho} H \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\varrho}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varrho u_\mu \\ \frac{\varrho}{2} u^\mu u^\nu \\ \sqrt{\frac{\varrho}{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu}} \end{pmatrix}$$

leading to the three equations

$$0 = \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\varrho}{2} u^\mu u^\nu \right) = \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \tau$$

$$2d_{\mu\nu} = (\nabla + \nabla^T) \left(\frac{\varrho u_\mu}{\varrho} \right) = (\nabla + \nabla^T) u_\mu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_u \varrho = 0$$

^a [Andrea BRUGNOLI, Denis MATIGNON et Joseph MORLIER](#). "A linearly-implicit energy-momentum preserving scheme for geometrically nonlinear mechanics based on non-canonical Hamiltonian formulations". In : *Nonlinear Dynamics* 113.20 (2025), p. 27539-27566. ISSN : 1573-269X. DOI : <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11071-025-11601-6>.

Stress-energy tensor conservation

At non relativistic limit, energy and momentum conservation (1st principle of thermodynamics and mechanical equilibrium) :

$$\nabla \cdot T = 0$$

Strain rate tensor

Strain rate definition in 4D :

$$2d_{\mu\nu} = (\nabla + \nabla^T) u_\mu$$

Mass conservation

Under the hypothesis of mass conservation : we choose

$$\mathcal{L}_u \varrho = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \frac{\mathcal{L}}{u} \varrho \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\varrho}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varrho u_\mu \\ \frac{\varrho}{2} u^\mu u^\nu \\ \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu} \frac{\mathcal{L}}{u} \varrho \end{pmatrix}$$

Power balance

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{e}^T J \mathbf{e} dx^4 &= \int_{\Omega} \left(\varrho u_\mu \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{T}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} T_\rho^{\mu\nu} 2d_{\mu\nu} + \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu} \frac{\mathcal{L}}{u} \varrho \right) dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left(\varrho u_\mu \frac{1}{\varrho} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} T_\rho^{\mu\nu} 2d_{\mu\nu} + 1 \cdot 0 \right) dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} T^{\mu\nu} d_{\mu\nu} dx^4 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Mass and elastic energy

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(f_\rho, g_{\mu\nu}, \mathcal{C}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}, e_{\mu\nu}) &= \int_{\Omega} \left(f_\rho c^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \right) \text{vol}_g \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} \left(f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} + \frac{1}{8} \mathcal{C}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} (g_{\mu\nu} - b_{\mu\nu})(g_{\kappa\lambda} - b_{\kappa\lambda}) \right) \sqrt{-\det(g)} \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} \left(f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{u^\mu g_{\mu\nu} u^\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \right) \sqrt{-\det(g)} dx^4
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{C}$ is the elasticity tensor and with the strain $e = \frac{1}{2}(g - b)$ defined by the metric g and the deformation tensor b .

State and Hamiltonian expression

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} u^\mu \\ \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} \\ \varrho \\ \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \\ e_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{\text{physics}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} u^\mu \\ g_{\mu\nu} \\ f_\rho c^2 \sqrt{-\det(g)} = c^2 \rho \\ \sqrt{-\det(g)} \mathcal{C}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} \\ e_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

$$H(\alpha) = \int_{\Omega} \left(\varrho \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \right) dx^4 = \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{H}(\alpha) dx^4$$

PHS flows

This allows us to define the flow of the PHS formulation as

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}} = \mathcal{L}_u \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{L}_u u = 0 \\ \mathcal{L}_u \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \\ \mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) \\ \mathcal{L}_u e_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

Physical meaning :

- ① $\mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) = 0$ material properties are conserved (not related to strain)
- ② $\mathcal{L}_u e_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_u (g_{\mu\nu} - b_{\mu\nu}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_u g_{\mu\nu}$ since $\mathcal{L}_u b_{\mu\nu} = 0$.

$$\dot{\mathbf{f}} = \mathcal{L}_u \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \mathcal{L}_u \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} := 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho = 0 \\ \mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) = 0 \\ \mathcal{L}_u e_{\mu\nu} := d_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (10)$$

Effort

$$H(\alpha) = \int_{\Omega} \left(\varrho \sqrt{u^{\mu} \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\nu}} + \frac{\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \right) dx^4$$

The efforts are defined by

$$\mathfrak{e} = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_u H \\ \delta_{\mathcal{G}} H \\ \delta_{\mathcal{E}} H \\ \delta_e H \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \varrho u_{\mu} \\ \varrho \frac{u^{\mu} u^{\nu}}{2} \\ \sqrt{u^{\mu} \mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\nu}} \\ \frac{1}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \\ \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\kappa\lambda} \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

Physical meaning :

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 $\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\mu\nu}$ the elastic part $T_{\mathcal{E}}$ of the stress-energy tensor T .

$$\mathfrak{e} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho c^2 u_{\mu} \\ \frac{1}{2} T^{\mu\nu}_{\rho} \\ \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^{\mu} u^{\nu}} \\ \frac{1}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \\ T^{\mu\nu}_{\mathcal{E}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

Interconnection matrix

Flows and efforts are related by a skew-adjoint operator ^a

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{L}_u u)^\mu \\ (\mathcal{L}_u \mathcal{G})_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \\ \mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) \\ \mathcal{L}_u e_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\varrho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{2\varrho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta_u H(X) \\ \delta_{\mathcal{G}} H(X) \\ \delta_{\varrho} H(X) \\ \delta_{\mathcal{E}} H \\ \delta_e H \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u \varrho \\ \mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) \\ d_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\varrho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{2\varrho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varrho u_\mu \\ \frac{1}{2} T_\rho^{\mu\nu} \\ \sqrt{\mathcal{G}_{\mu\nu} u^\mu u^\nu} \\ \frac{1}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \\ T_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix}$$

^a. BRUGNOLI, MATIGNON et MORLIER, "A linearly-implicit energy-momentum preserving scheme for geometrically nonlinear mechanics based on non-canonical Hamiltonian formulations".

Stress-energy tensor

$$T^{\mu\nu} = T_{\rho}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mu\nu} = \varrho u^{\mu} u^{\nu} + \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\kappa\lambda}$$

Five equations

$$0 = \frac{2}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\varrho}{2} u^{\mu} u^{\nu} \right) + \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} e_{\kappa\lambda}) = \frac{1}{\varrho} \nabla \cdot (T_{\rho}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mu\nu})$$

$$2d_{\mu\nu} = (\nabla + \nabla^T) \left(\frac{\varrho u_{\mu}}{\varrho} \right) = (\nabla + \nabla^T) u_{\mu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_u \varrho = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}_u (\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) = 0$$

$$d_{\mu\nu} = (\nabla + \nabla^T) \left(\frac{\varrho u_{\mu}}{2\varrho} \right) = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla + \nabla^T) u_{\mu}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2d_{\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_u^\rho \\ \mathcal{L}_u^\varepsilon(\mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda}) \\ d_{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{\rho}\nabla\cdot & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\rho}\nabla\cdot \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{\rho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\nabla + \nabla^T)(\frac{\cdot}{2\rho}) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \rho u_\mu \\ \frac{1}{2}T_\rho^{\mu\nu} \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}e_{\mu\nu}e_{\kappa\lambda} \\ T_\varepsilon^{\mu\nu} \end{pmatrix}$$

Power balance

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \mathfrak{e}^T J \mathfrak{e} dx^4 &= \int_{\Omega} \left(\rho u_\mu \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot T^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} T_\rho^{\mu\nu} 2d_{\mu\nu} + 1 \cdot \mathcal{L}_u^\rho + \frac{1}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \cdot \mathcal{L}_u^\varepsilon \mathcal{E}^{\mu\nu\kappa\lambda} + T_\varepsilon^{\mu\nu} d_{\mu\nu} \right) dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left(\rho u_\mu \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} T_\rho^{\mu\nu} 2d_{\mu\nu} + 1 \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} e_{\mu\nu} e_{\kappa\lambda} \cdot 0 + T_\varepsilon^{\mu\nu} d_{\mu\nu} \right) dx^4 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} T^{\mu\nu} d_{\mu\nu} dx^4 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Results

- Observer-invariant port-Hamiltonian formulation for the case
 - of the mass
 - of the mass with elasticity

Outlook

- Modelling and numerical simulation for large transformations models.