

# Lagrangian Hofer metric

Reference: Hofer's metric on the space of diameters  
M. Khanevsky, 2009

$(M, \omega)$  - symplectic manifold

$\mathcal{L}$  - a collection of Lagrangians in  $M$

$d_H$  - Lagrangian Hofer metric on  $\mathcal{L}$


Question: Does  $(\mathcal{L}, d_H)$  have finite or infinite diameter?

$$\sup_{L, L' \in \mathcal{L}} d_H(L, L') \stackrel{?}{\neq} \infty$$

Khanevsky:  $M =$  disk, cylinder, 2-sphere  
( $\infty$ ) ( $\infty$ ) (?)

## Background in Symplectic Geometry

$(M, \omega)$  symplectic manifold:  $M$  smooth manifold  
 $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$  closed and non-degenerate

	$\mathbb{D}^2$	$S^2$
manifold	$\mathbb{D} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x^2 + y^2 < 1\}$ (open)	$S^2 = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$ (compact)
symplectic structure	$\omega = \frac{1}{\pi} dx \wedge dy$	$\omega = \frac{1}{4\pi} \Omega$ $\Omega_x(\xi, \eta) = \langle \eta, x \times \xi \rangle$ $(x \in S^2, \xi, \eta \in T_x S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3)$ 



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Lagrangians  $L \subset M^{2n}$  are  $n$ -dimensional smooth submanifolds with

$$\omega|_{TL} = 0$$

ie.  $\forall p \in L, \forall \xi, \eta \in T_p L \subset T_p M: \omega(\xi, \eta) = 0.$

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Lagrangians	1-dimensional submanifolds $\omega _{TL} = 0$ automatic 	1-dimensional submanifolds 

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Given a smooth function  $H: \mathbb{R} \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (Hamiltonian), consider the Hamiltonian vector fields

$$\omega(X_t^H(p), \xi) = - (dH_t)_p(\xi) \quad \text{for } p \in M, \xi \in T_p M,$$
$$H_t(p) = H(t, p).$$

## Hamiltonian vector fields

Think of  $X_t^H$  as "orthogonal" to  $\nabla H_t$ : In  $(\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \sum dx_i \wedge dy_i)$

$$X_t^H = \mathbb{J}(\nabla H_t) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbb{J} = \begin{pmatrix} : & 0 \\ -: & 0 \\ 0 & : \\ 0 & : \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{in basis } x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n.$$

Example  $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{R}^2$

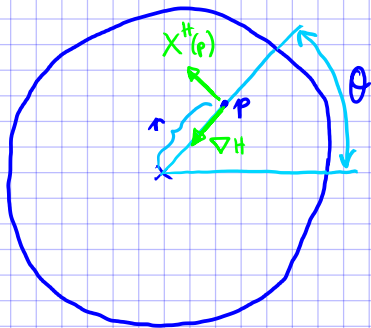
$$H_t(r, \theta) := -\frac{r^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{on } \{r \leq 1 - \varepsilon\}$$

$$H_t(r, \theta) = 0 \quad \text{on } \{r > 1 - \varepsilon\}$$

(independent of  $t$ )

$\Rightarrow X_t^H(p) = 2r \cdot \hat{t}$ , where  $\hat{t}$  is the unit vector tangential to  $p$  pointing counter-clockwise direction.

if  $p \in \{r \leq 1 - \varepsilon\}$



## Hamiltonian flow

Study the flow of  $X_t^H$ : Consider solutions  $\varphi_t^H: M \rightarrow M$  of

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t^H(x) = X_t^H(\varphi_t(x)) & \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}, x \in M \\ \varphi_0^H(x) = x & \text{for all } x \in M \end{cases}$$

Assume that  $H$  is compactly supported.

$\leadsto$  Unique solutions existing for all times.

$$\begin{cases} x \in M \\ t \mapsto \varphi_t^H(x) = \gamma(t) \\ \dot{\gamma}(t) = X_t^H(\gamma(t)) \\ \gamma(0) = x \end{cases}$$

Fact  $(\varphi_t^H)^* \omega = \omega$  and  $\varphi_t$  sends Lagrangians to Lagrangians.



## Lagrangian Hofer metric



Let  $L_0, L_1 \subset M$  be Lagrangians, that are Hamiltonian isotopic,  
i.e.  $\exists H: \mathbb{R} \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $\varphi_1^H(L_0) = L_1$ .

Lagrangian Hofer metric:

$$d_H(L_0, L_1) = \inf \left\{ \int_0^1 (\max_M H_t - \min_M H_t) dt \mid H: \mathbb{R} \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \varphi_1^H(L_0) = L_1 \right\}$$

This is often a metric on

$$\mathcal{L}(L_0) = \{ L \subset M \mid L \text{ Hamiltonian isotopic to } L_0 \}.$$

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Lagrangians	1-dimensional submanifolds	1-dimensional submanifolds
$\mathcal{L}$	$L_0 = \{y=0\} \subset D^2$ $\mathcal{L}(L_0) = \{L \text{ Hom. isotopic to } L_0\}$ = {all equators, coinciding with $L_0$ near $\partial D$ }	$L_0 = \{z=0\} \subset S^2$ $\mathcal{L}(L_0) = \{L \text{ Hom. isotopic to } L_0\}$ = {all equators in $S^2$ }
	 $L = \varphi_1^{\#}(L_0)$	

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Diameter	$\infty$	?

## Sketch of proof for $\mathcal{D}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

Prop There exists a non-trivial homogeneous quasimorphism

$$\tau: \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D}^2) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

so that

$$(1) \quad |\tau(\phi)| \leq C \cdot \|\phi\|_H$$

$$(2) \quad \tau(\phi) = 0 \text{ if } \phi(L_0) = L_0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D}^2) &= \{ \text{Hamiltonian diffeos} \} = \{ \varphi_t^H: \mathbb{D}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^2 \mid H \text{ Hamilt.} \} \\ &= \{ \text{area-pres diffeos isotopic to id} \} = \{ \text{area-pres diffeos} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\|\phi\|_H = \inf \left\{ \int_0^1 \max H_t - \min H_t dt \mid H: \phi_1^H = \phi \right\}$$

$$d(L_0, \phi(L_0)) = \inf \left\{ \|\psi\|_H \mid \psi(L_0) = \phi(L_0) \right\}$$

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\* If  $\phi, \phi' \in \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D})$  with  $\phi(L_0) = \phi'(L_0) = L'$ , one has

$$|\tau(\phi) - \tau(\phi')| \leq \text{defect}(\tau).$$

$$\phi \phi'^{-1}(L_0) = L_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau(\phi \phi'^{-1}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |\tau(\phi) - \tau(\phi')| = |\tau(\phi) + \tau(\phi'^{-1}) - \tau(\phi \phi'^{-1})| \leq \text{defect}(\tau)$$

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$$* d_H(L_0, L') \geq \frac{1}{C} |\tau(\phi_0)| - \frac{\mathcal{D}}{C} \text{ for any } \phi_0 \text{ with } \phi_0(L_0) = L'$$

$$\inf \left\{ \|\phi\|_H \mid \phi(L_0) = L' \right\} \geq \frac{1}{C} (\tau(\phi_0) - \mathcal{D})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\substack{(1) \\ \geq \frac{1}{C} |\tau(\phi)|}}$

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$$* \quad d_H(L_0, \phi_0^n(L_0)) \geq \frac{1}{C} |\tau(\phi_0^n)| - \frac{D}{C} = \frac{1}{C} \tau(\phi_0) \cdot n - \frac{D}{C}$$

$$\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} +\infty$$

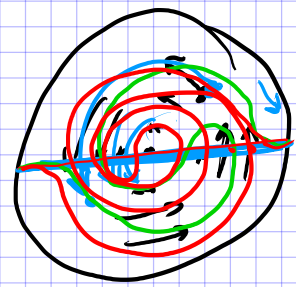
if  $\tau(\phi_0) \neq 0$ .

Two Remarks:  $d_{\#}(L_0, \varphi_t^{\#}(L_0)) = \inf \left\{ \int_0^1 \max k_t - \min k_t dt \mid k : \Phi_1^k(L_0) = \varphi_t^{\#}(L_0) \right\}$

1) The Hamiltonian  $H : \mathbb{D}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $H(r, \theta) = -\frac{r^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$  on  $\{r < 1 - \varepsilon\}$  induces  $\varphi_0 := \varphi_1^{\#} \in \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D}^2)$  which satisfies

$$r(\varphi_0) \neq 0.$$

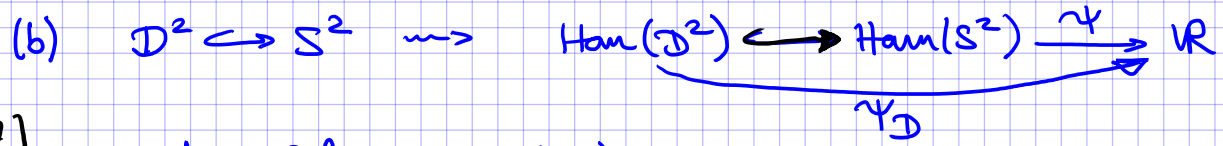
Thus  $d(L_0, \varphi_0^n(L_0)) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \infty.$



2) Construction of  $r : \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D}^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  :

(a)  $\gamma : \text{Ham}(S^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  homogeneous "Calabi" quasimorphism, coming from Floer theory (spectral numbers)

[Entor-Polterovich, 2002]



$$\text{Cal}_{\mathbb{D}^2}(\varphi_1^{\#}) = \int \int_{\mathbb{D}^2} H_t \omega dt$$

and  $\text{Cal}_{\mathbb{D}^2} : \text{Ham}(\mathbb{D}^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  homomorphism.

Then  $r := \text{Cal}_{\mathbb{D}^2} - \Psi_{\mathbb{D}}$  satisfies the proposition.



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