

24(2): Geodesic Method of Defining the Hamiltonian

This was first described in UFT416 and is based on the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} mc^2 = \frac{1}{2} m \left(\frac{ds}{d\tau} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} m g_{\mu\nu} \frac{dx^\mu}{d\tau} \frac{dx^\nu}{d\tau} \quad (1)$$

In the (r, ϕ) coordinate system:

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = m(r) c^2 dt^2 - \frac{dr^2}{m(r)} - r^2 d\phi^2 \quad (2)$$

The Hamilton Principle of Least Action is:

$$\delta \int \mathcal{L} d\tau = 0 \quad (3)$$

where τ is the proper time, and the Euler Lagrange equation is:

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}^\mu} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x^\mu} \quad (4)$$

It follows that the total relativistic energy is defined by:

$$E = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (dt/d\tau)} = m(r) mc^2 \frac{dt}{d\tau} = m(r) \gamma mc^2 \quad (5)$$

where

$$\gamma = \left(m(r) - \frac{\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\phi}^2}{m(r) c^2} \right)^{-1/2} \quad (6)$$

The Hamiltonian is therefore:

$$H = E + U \quad (7)$$
$$= m(r) \gamma mc^2 + U$$

and

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 0 \quad (8)$$

this is the first Ehrenfest / Eberdt equation.

Defining:

$$r_1 = \frac{r}{m(r)^{1/2}} \quad - (9)$$

the Euler Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial r_1} = \frac{d}{d\tau} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \left(\frac{dr_1}{d\tau} \right)} = 0 \quad - (10)$$

gives the linear momentum:

$$p_1 = m \frac{dr_1}{d\tau} \quad - (11)$$

and the associated relativistic linear momentum:

$$p = \gamma m \frac{dr}{dt} \quad - (12)$$

Finally the angular momentum is defined by: - (13)

$$L = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \left(\frac{d\phi}{d\tau} \right)} = m r_1^2 \frac{d\phi}{d\tau} = \frac{\gamma m r^2}{m(r)} \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

The second Euler Lagrange equation is:

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = 0. \quad - (14)$$

The complete momentum in the (r, ϕ) system is:

$$\underline{p}_N = m \underline{\dot{r}} = \dot{r} \underline{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \underline{e}_\phi \quad - (15)$$

so the complete relativistic momentum is:

$$\underline{p} = m\gamma (\dot{r} \underline{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \underline{e}_\phi) = \gamma \underline{p}_N \quad - (16)$$

where \underline{p}_N is the Newtonian momentum.

In n space the non-relativistic momentum is:

$$\underline{p}_0 = \frac{m}{m(r)^{1/2}} (\dot{r} \underline{e}_r + r \dot{\phi} \underline{e}_\phi) \quad - (17)$$

and the relativistic momentum is:

$$P = \frac{\gamma m}{n(r)^{1/2}} \left(\dot{r} \frac{e}{r} + r \dot{\phi} \frac{e}{r} \right) - (18)$$

It follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} p_0^2 &= \frac{m^2}{n(r)} (\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\phi}^2) \\ &= \frac{m^2}{n(r)} \left(\dot{r}^2 + \frac{L^2}{r^2} \right) - (19) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that dynamics and cosmology can be evaluated with

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = 0 - (20)$$

and

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = 0 - (21)$$

and that this is the most fundamental method.