

Modular vector fields in b -symplectic manifolds

September 30 2021

Problem 1 (I)

Let (M^n, Π) an orientable, connected Poisson manifold. Then, we know that $\Omega^n(M) \cong \mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$. We define the **modular vector field** as

$$\begin{aligned} X_\Pi^\Omega : \mathcal{C}^\infty(M) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{C}^\infty(M) \\ f &\longmapsto \frac{\mathcal{L}_{u_f}\Omega}{\Omega} \end{aligned} ,$$

or, more formally, $X_\Pi^\Omega(f)$ is the only function such that $\mathcal{L}_{u_f}\Omega = X_\Pi^\Omega(f)\Omega$. Here, u_f denotes the Hamiltonian vector field of f , this means, such that $u_f(g) = \{f, g\}$.

Problem 1 (II)

- a) Show that X_{Π}^{Ω} is a well defined derivation.
- b) Show that, for any $H \in C^{\infty}(M)$ nowhere vanishing,

$$X_{\Pi}^{H\Omega} = X_{\Pi}^{\Omega} - u_{|\log|H|}.$$

- c) Let (M^{2m}, ω) a symplectic manifold. Show that the modular vector field $X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\Omega}$ is a Hamiltonian vector field.
(Hint: Compute the modular vector field in local Darboux coordinates and use the previous part of the exercise to get the global result)
- d) Compute the modular vector field for the b -Poisson manifold $(\mathbb{R}^2, \{\cdot, \cdot\})$, where $\{x, y\} = y$.

Problem 1 (III)

Show that X_{Π}^{Ω} is a well defined derivation (i.e. vector field)

$\{\cdot, \cdot\}$ is a biderivation, so

$$u_{\alpha f + \beta g} = \alpha u_f + \beta u_g ; \quad u_{fg} = gu_f + fu_g.$$

This implies that

$$X_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(\alpha f + \beta g) = \alpha X_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(f) + \beta X_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(g),$$

$$X_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(fg) = gX_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(f) + fX_{\Pi}^{\Omega}(g)$$

Problem 1 (IV)

Show that, for any $H \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$ nowhere vanishing,

$$X_\Pi^{H\Omega} = X_\Pi^\Omega - u_{\log |H|}.$$

First of all,

$$u_{\log |H|}(f) = \{\log |H|, f\} = -\{f, \log |H|\} = -u_f(\log |H|) = -\frac{1}{H}u_f(H).$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} X_\Pi^{H\Omega}(f)\Omega &= \frac{1}{H}X_\Pi^{H\Omega}(f)H\Omega = \frac{1}{H}\mathcal{L}_{u_f}(H\Omega) = \\ \mathcal{L}_{u_f}(\Omega) + \frac{1}{H}u_f(H)\Omega &= \left(X_\Pi^\Omega(f) - u_{\log |H|}(f)\right)\Omega \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1 (V)

Let (M^{2m}, ω) a symplectic manifold. Show that the modular vector field $X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\Omega}$ is a Hamiltonian vector field.

- ▶ ω^m is a volume form, and therefore $\Omega = F\omega^m$ for some $F \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty}(M)$ nowhere vanishing. Thus,

$$X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\Omega} = X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\omega^m} - u_{\log |F|}.$$

- ▶ Question: given $f \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty}(M)$, can we compute

$$\mathcal{L}_{u_f}\omega^m?$$

Problem 1 (VI)

Short answer: Yes.

The Hamiltonian vector field is symplectic, so it preserves the volume:

$$\mathcal{L}_{u_f}\omega^m = 0.$$

Problem 1 (VII)

Long answer: Wait, but can you compute it?

Also yes.

Taking Darboux coordinates,

$$\omega = \sum_{i=1}^m dx_i \wedge dy_i$$

$$u_f = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

$$\omega^m = dx_1 \wedge dy_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_m \wedge dy_m.$$

Using Cartan's formula,

$$\mathcal{L}_{u_f} \omega^m = d(i_{u_f} \omega^m)$$

Problem 1 (VIII)

Computing,

$$\begin{aligned} i_{u_f} \omega^m &= \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m -\frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} dx_1 \wedge dy_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \widehat{dx_i} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_k \wedge dy_m - \\ &\quad -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} dx_1 \wedge dy_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \widehat{dy_i} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_k \wedge dy_m \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$d(i_{u_f} \omega^m) = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_i \partial x_i} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial y_i} \right) dx_1 \wedge dy_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_m \wedge dy_m = 0$$

Problem 1 (IX)

In conclusion,

$$X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\omega^m} = 0,$$

and therefore

$$X_{\omega^{-1}}^{F\omega^m} = -u_{\log |F|},$$

which is Hamiltonian.

Problem 1 (X)

Compute the modular vector field for the b -Poisson manifold $(\mathbb{R}^2, \{\cdot, \cdot\})$, where $\{x, y\} = y$.

We take $\Omega = dx \wedge dy$.

$$\{f, g\} = y \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x},$$

so

$$u_f = y \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

Problem 1 (XI)

As in the last part we compute

$$\begin{aligned}X_{\pi}^{\Omega}(f)\Omega &= \mathcal{L}_{u_f}\Omega = d(i_{u_f}(dx \wedge dy)) = \\&= d\left(y\left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}dx - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}dy\right)\right) = \\&= -dy \wedge \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}dy\right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}dx \wedge dy \\&\Rightarrow X_{\pi}^{\Omega}(f) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, $X_{\pi}^{\Omega} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$.

Which is not a Hamiltonian vector field!

Problem (XII)

In the general case,

$$\omega = \frac{dz}{z} \wedge dt + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} dx_i \wedge dy_i,$$

then the modular vector field is

$$X_{\omega^{-1}}^{\Omega} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}.$$

This vector field is

1. A b -vector field (tangent to $Z = \{z = 0\}$).
2. Transverse to the leaves of the symplectic foliation within Z .