

Configuration space (q_i)

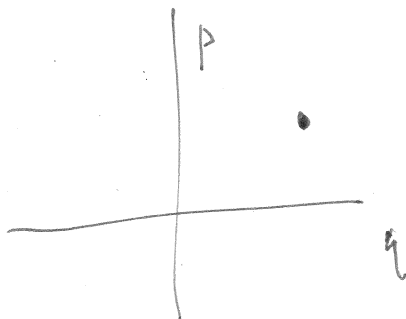
$\begin{matrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{matrix}$ need initial pos + init. vel.

k 1

Phase space :

2n-dimensional
space parametrized by
generalized coords + momenta

e.g. for one degree of freedom, phase space is 2-dimensional



Any state of the system is
characterized by a point
in phase space.

(give position + velocity
at a given time)

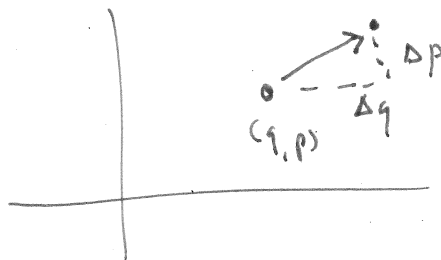
As system evolves in time, point ~~moves around~~
follows a trajectory in phase space, according to Hamilton's eqn

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta q = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \Delta t$$

$$\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta p = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \Delta t$$



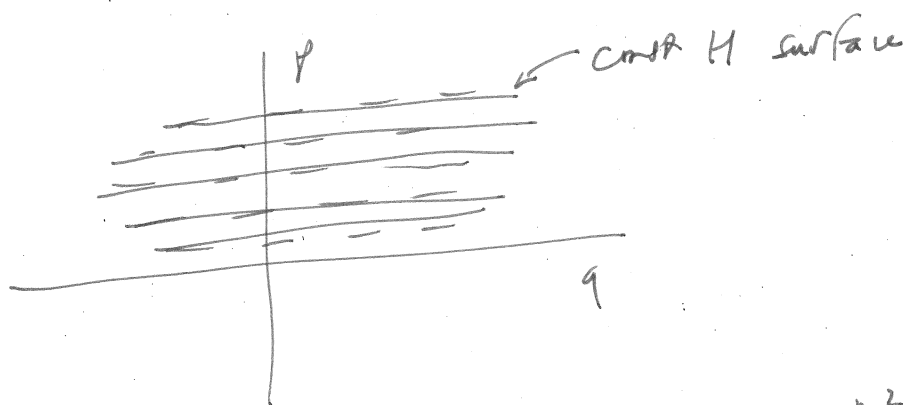
System moves along a vector in phase space

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta q \\ \Delta p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \end{pmatrix} \Delta t$$

The Hamiltonian ~~take on a value~~ is a function on phase space & divides it into surfaces of constant energy $\rightarrow$ (foliates)

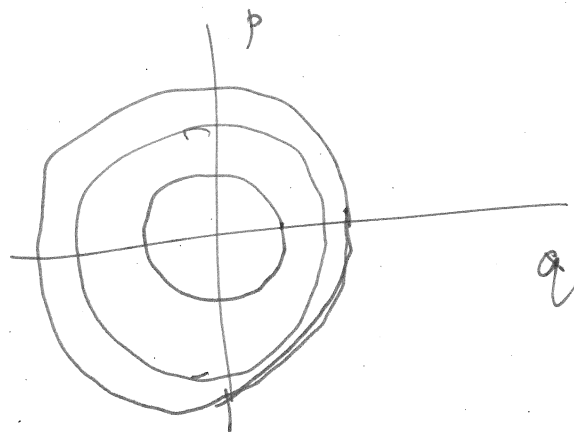
(in $2n$ -dim space, the surfaces are $(2n-1)$ dimensional $\rightarrow$ we say they have codimension 1)

eg for a free particle $H = \frac{p^2}{2m}$



for a harmonic oscillator $H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kq^2$

(let $m=1, k=1$)



$$H = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2)$$

const H

$$p = \pm \sqrt{E - q^2}$$

For a planar pendulum

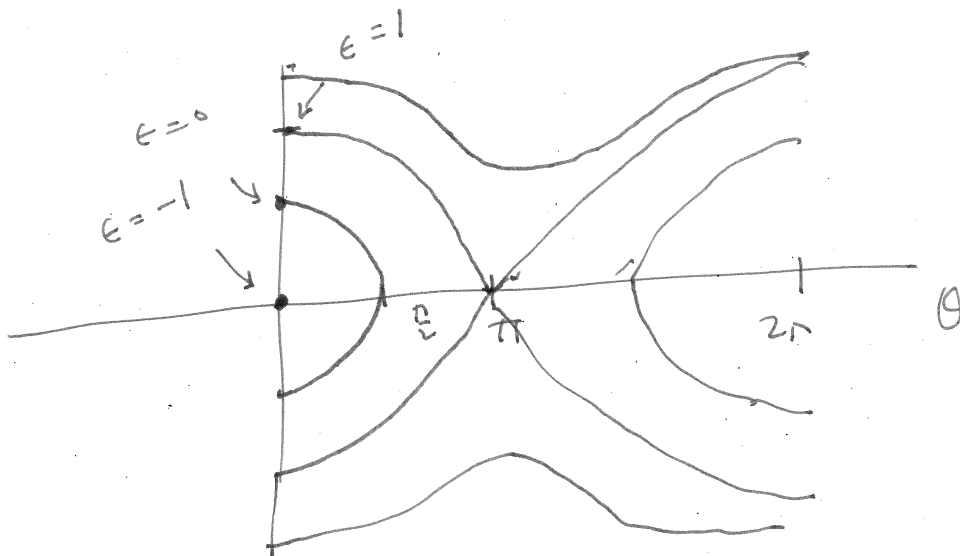
$$H = \frac{p_\theta^2}{2ml^2} - mgl \cos \theta$$



$$(\text{let } 2ml^2 = 1, mgl = 1)$$

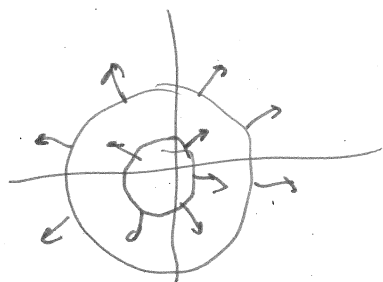
$$H = p_\theta^2 - \cos \theta = E$$

$$p_\theta = \pm \sqrt{E + \cos \theta}$$



Gradient of H is a vector field $\perp$ to
const energy surfaces

$$\vec{\nabla} H = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \end{pmatrix}$$



observe that the direction of flow $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \end{pmatrix}$
is always $\perp$ to the gradient

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} H = \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \left(-\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \right) = 0$$

$\therefore$ flow in phase space is always
always parallel to const energy surface

(i.e. energy is conserved
as system evolves in time)

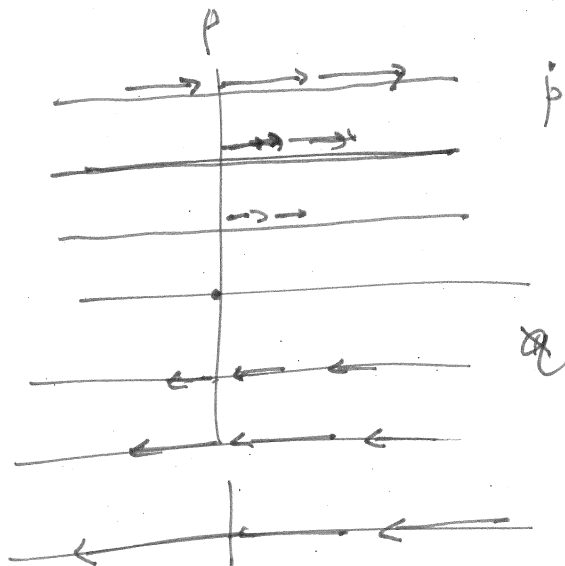
Free particle

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

h 5

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} = \frac{p}{m}$$

$$\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} = 0$$

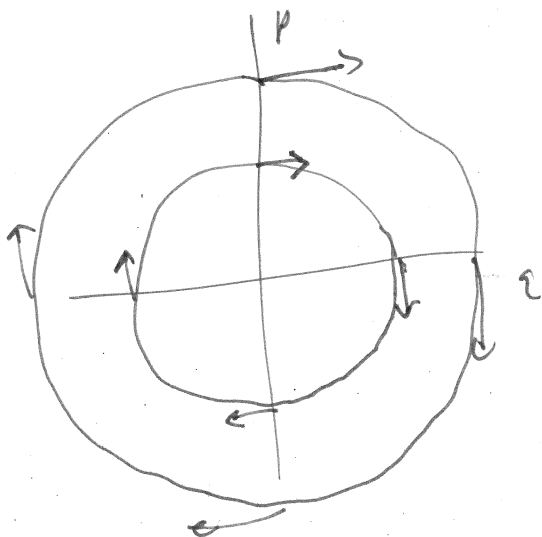


Harmonic oscillator

$$H = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2)$$

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} = p$$

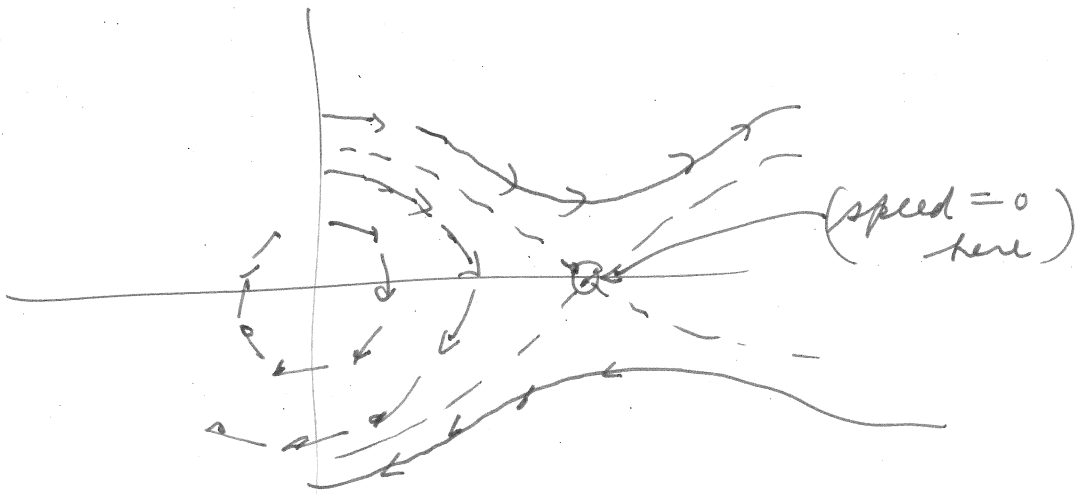
$$\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} = -q$$



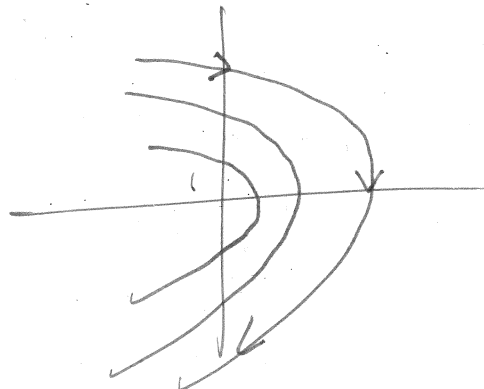
observe: time to
flow around circle
indep. of radius!

Pendulum

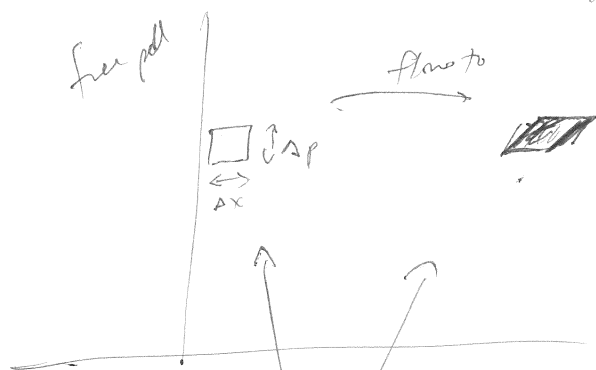
k6



[do particle in const grav field
as prob]]



Consider a region of phase space
reflecting uncertainty in
initial conditions

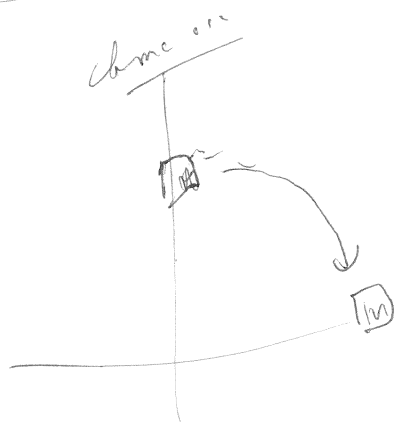


area const but
"Δx" increases

area of region remains constant (Liouville's theorem)

(flows as an incompressible fluid)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{because } \nabla \cdot \vec{v} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \left(\cancel{v} \right) + \frac{\partial v_p}{\partial p} = \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \left(+\frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left(-\frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \right) = 0 \end{aligned}$$



Spencer asked: if $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$ is $\vec{v} = \vec{\nabla} \times (\text{vector field})$?

Let $\vec{H} = (0, 0, H)$

$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \phi} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{\theta} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\vec{v} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \\ 0 & 0 & H \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \phi} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

$\vec{\nabla} H = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial \phi} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial r} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} H) = 0$

$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \phi} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

but $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} \sim \nabla^2 H \neq 0$