The Continuity Equation for Hybrid Systems

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December 1st, 2023

Notation

Notation	Meaning
М	n dimensional manifold
f	vector field $f: M \to TM$ with flow ϕ_t
S	the impact surface $S \subset M$, codimension 1
Δ	discrete map / the impact/reset map $\Delta: S o M$
μ	reference volume form/reference measure on M
ρ	arbitrary measure on M
h	the density of measure $ ho$ with respect to μ , $h: M ightarrow \mathbb{R}$
$\mathcal{P}(M)$	all measures on M
$\Omega^n(M)$	all top/volume forms on M

Continuous vs. discrete dynamical systems



Discrete

- $x_{n+1} = \Delta(x_n), \Delta : M \to M$
- $\blacktriangleright \phi_k(x) = \Delta^k(x)$



Hybrid systems



 Collisions, state transitions, discontinuities, interventions, biological phenomena, robotics



$$f = \{\dot{x} = v, \dot{v} = 0\}$$
$$S = \{x_1 = x_2\}$$
$$\Delta(x, (v_1, v_2)) = (x, (v_2, v_1))$$

 Collisions, state transitions, discontinuities, interventions, biological phenomena, robotics



src:http://www.focus.org.uk/proton neutron.php

 Collisions, state transitions¹, discontinuities, interventions, biological phenomena, robotics



src: https://geodiode.com/biomes/savannah

¹Scheffer M. and Carpenter S.R. "Catastrophic regime shifts in ecosystems: linking theory to observation". In: *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 18 (2003).

 Collisions, state transitions, discontinuities, interventions, biological phenomena, robotics



src: https://www.seafoodsource.com/



src: https://doi.org/10.3390/act11030075

Lagrangian vs Eulerian perspective

Particles \implies densities.

Lagrangian

- Precision/ accuracy
- Small number of simulations, low dimension
- Solve an ODE / SDE to obtain the trajectory

Eulerian

- Ensemble of trajectories, many simulations
- Average behaviour
- No sensitive dependence on initial conditions
- Solve a PDE to obtain the evolution of a density

²Saidi M. S. et al. "Comparison between Lagrangian and Eulerian approaches in predicting motion of micron-sized particles in laminar flows". In: *Atmospheric Environment* 89 (2014).

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Ex: modelling aerosols though the human respiratory system²

²M. S. et al., "Comparison between Lagrangian and Eulerian approaches in predicting motion of micron-sized particles in laminar flows" (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)

Evolution of measures

Continuous

$$\phi_t(x) = x(t), \phi : \mathbb{R} \times M \to M$$



 $\blacktriangleright \rho \mapsto \phi_t \# \rho$

Discrete

$$\phi_k(x) = \Delta^k(x)$$



 $\blacktriangleright \ \rho \mapsto \Delta \# \rho$

Measures vs volume forms on a manifold

"Volume form = absolutely continuous*, infinitesimal measure"

▶ $\rho \in \Omega^n(M)$ ▶ $\rho \in \mathcal{P}(M)$



- $Vol = \rho_x(v_1, v_2, v_3)$
- $\blacktriangleright \ \rho = h\mu$
- In coordinates: $\mu = dx_1 \dots dx_n$

• $Vol = \rho(R)$ • $\rho << \mu \implies \rho = h\mu,$ $h = \frac{d\rho}{d\mu}$ • In coordinates: $\mu = Leb$

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The Frobenius-Perron operator

 (M, \mathcal{B}, μ) measure space and $\Delta : M \to M$ nonsingular.

Discrete³

The unique linear operator $P: L^1(M) \to L^1(M)$ defined by

$$\int_A Ph(x)d\mu(x) = \int_{\Delta^{-1}(A)} h(x)d\mu(x), \ \forall \ A \in \mathcal{B}$$



³Lasota and Mackey. Chaos, Fractals and Noise. Springer 1994. → E → E → C (12/55)

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The Frobenius-Perron operator

$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$
 with flow ϕ_t .

Continuous

The semigroup of transfer operators $P_t : L^1(M) \to L^1(M)$ defined by:

$$\int_{A} P_{t}(f) d\mu(x) = \int_{\phi_{-t}(A)} f(x) d\mu(x)$$
backwards in time

▶ Nonlinear finite dimensional \rightarrow linear infinite dimensional

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- Dominant eigenfunctions of P_t is the invariant densities⁴

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- Frobenius Perron = dual of Koopman
- Study of long term behaviour.

Example



$$M = [0,1], \quad \Delta(x) = 4x(1-x), \quad h(x) = 1$$

- Eigenfunctions of P_t are invariant densities⁵
- Frobenius Perron = dual of Koopman
- Study of long term behaviour.



Invariant density vs 3rd iterate of the transfer operator

⁵Lasota and Mackey, Chaos, Fractals and Noise. < => < => < => < => < => < => < <> <<

<u>Goal</u>: Obtain an equation for the evolution of h.

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Discrete

Fix measure $\rho = h\mu$

• Let
$$u(k, x) = P^k h(x)$$

• Change variables $\int_A Ph(x)d\mu(x) = \int_{\Delta^{-1}(A)} h(x)d\mu(x) \implies$

$$Ph(x) = \sum_{y \in \Delta^{-1}(x)} h(y) J^{-1}(y)$$

determinant of the inverse of the Jacobian matrix $(\Delta_*)_{ij} = \frac{\partial \Delta_i}{\partial x_i}$

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►
$$u(k,x) = \sum_{y \in \Delta^{-1}(x)} u(k-1,y) J^{-1}(y)$$

Continuous

 Fix initial h and define u(t,x) = P_th(x) = density of ρ_t = φ_t#ρ

► Goal: equation for *u*.

Lemma

If f "nice enough"⁶ then $\rho_t = \phi_t \# \rho$ satisfies the equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho_t}{\partial t} + \nabla (f \rho_t) = 0 \tag{1}$$

in the weak sense. Conversely, any solution of (1) can be written as $\rho_t = \phi_t \# \rho$ for some flow ϕ_t .

⁶Ambrosio Luigi, Gigli Nicola, and Savaré Giuseppe. *Gradient Flows in Metric Spaces and in the Space of Probability Measures*. Birkhäuser Verlag, 2005.

Continuous

Fix initial h and define u(t,x) = P_th(x) = density of ρ_t = φ_t#ρ

► Goal: equation for *u*.

How does the density evolve?

Continuous

- Fix initial h and define $u(t, x) = P_t h(x) = \text{density of}$ $\rho_t = \phi_t \# \rho$
- ▶ Goal: equation for *u*.

 $\langle \nabla u, f \rangle = \mathcal{L}_f u =$

the flow.

•
$$ho_t = u(t,x)\mu$$
 & product rule

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + du(f) + div_{\mu}(f)u = 0$$
(2)
 $\langle \nabla u, f \rangle = \mathcal{L}_{f}u = \text{how much}$
the density changes due to
the flow
 $\mathcal{L}_{f}\mu = \text{rate of expansion of a}$
unit volume as it goes around
the flow

The infinitesimal generator⁸

Define $\mathcal{A}: \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}) \to L^1(\mathcal{M}, \mu)$, $\mathcal{A}h = {}^7 \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{P_t h - h}{t}$

Example

• $T_t h = h(x - ct) \implies \mathcal{A} = -c \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ • Transport PDE : $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \mathcal{A}u = -c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$

Continuity equation $\iff A = -\mathcal{L}_f - div_\mu(f)$

⁷in the strong sense

Hybrid Transfer Operators

Hybrid Frobenius Perron Operator

Definition

Let $\mathcal{H} = (M, f, S, \Delta)$ a hybrid system and let $\varphi_t^{\mathcal{H}}$ be the hybrid flow. Then the Frobenius Perron operator associated to \mathcal{H} is the semigroup of operators $P_t^{\mathcal{H}} : L^1(M) \to L^1(M)$, satisfying

$$\int_{A} P_{t}^{\mathcal{H}} h(x) d\mu(x) = \int_{\varphi_{-t}^{\mathcal{H}}(A)} h(x) d\mu(x), \forall \ A \in \mathcal{B}$$



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Objective

Continuity equation for the hybrid system \iff infinitesimal generator of the hybrid transfer operator

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Continuity equation for the hybrid system \iff infinitesimal generator of the hybrid transfer operator

Naive approach

Discrete + continuous = hybrid

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(t,x) + \nabla u(t,x) \cdot f(x) = -\operatorname{div}_{\mu}(f)u(t,x), & \text{if } x \notin \Delta(S) \\ u(t^+,x) = J^{-1}(\Delta^{-1}(x))u(t^-,\Delta^{-1}(x)) & \text{if } x \in \Delta(S) \\ \downarrow & \text{impact} & \text{before impact} \end{cases}$$

Challenges

Dimensionality

$$\blacktriangleright \Delta: S \to M, \ dim(S) = n - 1.$$

Challenges

Dimensionality

∆: S → M, dim(S) = n - 1.
Determinant of n - 1 × n matrix
Change of variables S = {x_n = 0}
⇒ Δ_{*} =

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial_1 \Delta_1 & \partial_1 \Delta_2 & \dots & \partial_1 \Delta_n \\ & & \dots & \\ \partial_{n-1} \Delta_1 & \partial_{n-1} \Delta_2 & \dots & \partial_{n-1} \Delta_n \end{pmatrix}$$
Missing a row!
Challenges

Dimensionality

∆: S → M, dim(S) = n - 1.
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Change of variables S = {x_n = 0}
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Missing a row!

Fundamental

How does infinitesimal volume change when moving through S?

Fundamental challenge

• μ (n vectors) = volume of hypercube

Only n − 1 linearly independent tangent vectors available at y = Δ⁻¹(x) ∈ S



Requirements for the new direction

Choose: direction \tilde{v} & linear map such that

- $\blacktriangleright \{\tilde{v}, T_y S\} \text{ span } T_y M.$
- det(Δ) restricted to $T_y S$ and $\Delta_* T_y S = det(linear map)$

⁹Clark William and Bloch Anthony. "Invariant forms in hybrid and impact systems and a taming of Zeno". In: Arch. Rational Mech. Amal (2022). So Solution 2012 (2022).

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Natural choice: the flow direction and the extended differential⁹

Definition

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The extended differential Δ^f_* is the linear map : $T_y M \to T_x M$ defined by:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_*^f(v) = \Delta_*(v) & \text{if } v \in T_y S \\ \Delta_*^f(v) = c \cdot f(\Delta(y)) & \text{if } v = c \cdot f(y) \in Span(f(y)) \end{cases}$$

The hybrid Jacobian: $J^f_\mu := \det(\Delta^f_*)$

Illustration



Natural decomposition of the tangent space

- $f_X \not\parallel S \implies$ decomposition exists
- No extra structure needed!



Natural decomposition of the tangent space



Check:

$$J_{\mu}^{f} = \begin{vmatrix} \partial_{1}\Delta_{1} & \dots & \partial_{1}\Delta_{n-1} \\ & \dots \\ \partial_{n-1}\Delta_{1} & \dots & \partial_{n-1}\Delta_{n-1} \end{vmatrix} = \\ \begin{vmatrix} \partial_{1}\Delta_{1} & \dots & \partial_{1}\Delta_{n-1} & \partial_{1}\Delta_{n} \\ & \dots \\ \partial_{n-1}\Delta_{1} & \dots & \partial_{n-1}\Delta_{n-1} & \partial_{2}\Delta_{n} \\ f^{1} & \dots & f^{n-1} & f_{n} \end{vmatrix}$$

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Hybrid transfer operator

Theorem¹⁰

Let \mathcal{H} be a smooth hybrid dynamical system and suppose $|\Delta^{-1}(\{x\})|$ is finite $\forall x$. Additionally, let $\mu \in \Omega^n(M)$ be a reference volume-form and suppose that $J^f_{\mu} \neq 0$. Then, the hybrid transfer operator $u(t, x) = P^{\mathcal{H}}_t h(x)$ satisfies the following:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + du(f) = -u \operatorname{div}_{\mu}(f) & x \notin \Delta(S) \\ u(t^+, x) = \sum_{y \in \Delta^{-1}(x)} \frac{1}{J^f_{\mu}(\Delta) \circ \Delta^{-1}}(y) u(t^-, y) & x \in \Delta(S) \end{cases}$$

¹⁰ Et al. "A Study of the Long-Term Behavior of Hybrid Systems with Symmetries via Reduction and the Frobenius-Perron Operator". In: (20≩3). ⇒ ∽ <

APPLICATIONS

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The bouncing ball



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• e.o.m.
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \frac{1}{m}v\\ \dot{v} = -mg \end{cases}$$
• guard: $S = \{x = 0, v < 0\}.$
• reset: $\Delta(x, v) = (x, -c^2v), 0 < c \le 1.$

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The bouncing ball



The bouncing ball results (c = 1)



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The bouncing ball comparison

t=10



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An SIR model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{S} = \mu N - \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \mu S \\ \dot{I} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I - \mu I - \delta I \\ \dot{R} = \gamma I - \mu R \end{cases} \qquad \Delta = \begin{cases} S^+ = S^- \\ I^+ = (1 - f)I^- \\ R^+ = R^- + fI^- \end{cases}$$



- $\beta = \text{contact frequency}, \gamma = \text{recovery rate}$
- $\mu = birth/death$ rate, $\delta = mortality$ due to disease

SIR model results



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Bacteria in competition

- Human gut, soil \rightarrow enhances stability¹¹
- Toxin production after threshold is reached.



src:Zimina M.I. et al. "Identification and studying of the biochemical properties of lactobacillus strains Identification and studying of the biochemical properties of lactobacillus strains". In: Life Science Journal 11.11 (January 2014), pp. 338–341

¹¹Leonor García-Bayon and Laurie E. Comstock. "Bacterial antagonism in host-associated microbial communities". In: *Science* 361 (2018). (E) (E) (E) (C)

Bacteria in competition

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$$\dot{k} = \begin{cases} Rk \left(1 - \frac{k+s}{N} \right), & \text{if } \alpha s < k \\ (R - C)k \left(1 - \frac{k+s}{N} \right), & \text{if } s\alpha \ge k \end{cases}$$

$$\dot{s} = \begin{cases} Rs \left(1 - \frac{k+s}{N}\right), & \text{if } s\alpha < k \\ Rs \left(1 - \frac{k+s}{N}\right) - Aks, & \text{if } s\alpha \ge k \end{cases}$$

R - growth rate, C - cost for toxin production, N - carrying capacity, A - killing rate of the toxin, α - detection threshold

¹¹García-Bayon and Comstock, "Bacterial antagonism in host-associated microbial communities".

Bacteria in competition results



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FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Better numerical methods

Current state of the solver:

- Semi Lagrangian discretization
- Left neighbour interpolation
- Characteristics out of the grid ⇒ run until it goes back inside the grid, or until time 0 is reached



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- Semi Lagrangian discretization
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Better numerical methods

Finite differences - spacing next to the discontinuity¹²

- Discontinuous Galerkin method¹³
- Finite volumes¹⁴

¹³Miloslav Feistauer Vít Dolejší. *Discontinuous Galerkin Discontinuous Galerkin Method*. Springer Series in Computational Mathematics, 2010.

¹²Hogarth W. et al. "A comparative study of finite differences methods for solving the one dimensional transport equation with an initial boundary value discontinuity". In: *Computers Math. Applic* 20.11 (1990).

¹⁴Aymard Benjamin et al. "A numerical method for transport equations with discontinuity flux functions: application to mathematical modeling of cell dynamics". In: *SIAM J. Sci. Comput* 36 (2013).

Stochastic dynamics, deterministic transition

$$\begin{cases} dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma(X_t, t)dW_t, & \text{if } X_t \notin S \\ X_t = \Delta(X_t), & \text{if } X_t \in S \end{cases}$$

Focker Plank equation instead of continuity

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}p + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\mu p) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x}\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}p\right) = 0$$

Issue: hybrid jacobian

Example

•
$$f(x) = \sin(x), \ \sigma(x) = x, \ \Delta(x) = -x, \ S = \{x = \pm 0.5\}$$

Example

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$$f(x) = \sin(x), \ \sigma(x) = x, \ \Delta(x) = -x, \ S = \{x = \pm 0.5\}$$









Deterministic dynamics, stochastic impact surface
 Teleportation: transition happens at any point with probability λ.

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- Example: $\dot{x} = x$ transition to $\dot{x} = -x$ with probability 0.4.



Deterministic dynamics, stochastic impact surface

- Teleportation: transition happens at any point with probability λ.
- Example: $\dot{x} = x$ transition to $\dot{x} = -x$ with probability 0.4.



- Teleportation after time $t \approx \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$
- Stochastic dynamics, stochastic transition surface

Introduce controls



Thank you for your attention

Publications:

- ~, Aden Shaw, Robi Huq, Kaito Iwasaki, Dora Kassabova and William Clark A Study of the Long-Term Behavior of Hybrid Systems with Symmetries via Reduction and the Frobenius-Perron Operator arXiv:2309.12569 (2023).
- ~ and William Clark How do we walk? Using hybrid holonomy to approximate non-holonomic systems 2022 IEEE 61st Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) 2022.
- ~, Max Ruth, Dora Kassabova, William Clark Optimal Control of Nonholonomic Systems via Magnetic Fields IEEE Control Systems Letters, 7, 793-798, 2022.

Thanks for listening

- William Clark and ~ Optimality of Zeno Executions in Hybrid Systems
 2023 American Control Conference (ACC), 3983-3988, 2023.
- ~, Mark Walth, Robert Stephany, Gabriella Torres Nothaft, Arnaldo Rodriguez-Gonzalez, William Clark Learning the Delay Using Neural Delay Differential Equations arXiv:2304.01329, 2023. poyyguyfo
- William Clark, ~ and Andrew J. Graven A Geometric Approach to Optimal Control of Hybrid and Impulsive Systems arXiv:2111.11645, 2021.
- William Clark and ~ Optimal control of hybrid systems via hybrid lagrangian submanifolds IFAC-PapersOnLine 54, 88-93, 2021.

SUPPLEMENTARY SLIDES

Lebesque measure on a manifold

(M,g) (paracompact) Riemannian manifold Volume form¹⁵ $dV_g \in \Omega^n(M)$ is the unique form such that

$$dV_g = \sqrt{det(g_{ij})} dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

Equivalently $dV_g = \epsilon^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \epsilon^n$ for $\{\epsilon_i\}$ oriented orthonormal coframe on T^*M .

Lebesque measure

 $S \subset M$ measurable if $x(S \cap U) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ measurable $\forall (U, x)$ chart.

$$\lambda_{x}^{M}(S \cap U) = \int_{x(S \cap U)} \sqrt{\det(g(\partial_{x_{i}}, \partial_{x_{j}}))} d\lambda$$

Determinants¹⁶

M and *N* be *n*-dimensional manifolds $\mu \in \Omega^n(M)$ and $\eta \in \Omega^n(N)$. Let $F: TM \to TN$ be linear map. Then the determinant of *F* with respect to μ and η is defined to be the unique $C^{\infty}(M)$ function such that

$$\det_{\mu o \eta}(F) \cdot \mu = F^* \eta$$

 $\det_{\mu o \eta}(F) = rac{dF^* \eta}{d\mu}$

 Continuity equation precise statement¹⁷

Lemma

Let f be a Borel vector field satisfying

$$\int_{0}^{T} sup_{B}|f| + Lip(f, B)dt \leq \infty$$
$$\int_{0}^{T} \int_{M} |f(x)|d\mu(x)dt \leq \infty$$

and let ϕ_t be the maximal solution of $\dot{x} = f(x)(*)$. Then $\rho_t = \phi_t \# \rho$ is a solution to $\partial_t \rho_t + \nabla(f \rho_t) = 0$ in the interval $(0, \tau(x) - \epsilon) \forall \epsilon > 0$ where $\tau(x) =$ maximal time on which solutions to (*) starting from x are defined.

¹⁷Luigi, Nicola, and Giuseppe, *Gradient Flows in Metric Spaces and in the Space of Probability Measures.*

The divergence of a vector field

Let $\phi_t : M \to M$ be the flow of a vector field $f : M \to TM$. Let $\mu \in \Omega^n(M)$. Consider

 $\lim_{t\to 0}\phi_t\#\mu$

This is a measure in $\Omega^n(M)$. Hence $\exists div_{\mu}(f) : M \to M$ such that:

$$\lim_{t\to 0}\phi_t\#\mu=\operatorname{div}_\mu(f)\mu$$

In coordinates with $\mu = dx_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_n$, $div_{\mu}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$

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The augmented differential and the hybrid Jacobian¹⁹

Definition

The hybrid Jacobian is the unique function $J_{\mu}(\Delta): S \to \mathbb{R}$ such that

 $\Delta^* \iota^*_{\Delta(S)} i_f \alpha = J_{\mu}(\Delta) \iota^*_S i_f \alpha$

 $\frac{\mathsf{Theorem}^{18}}{\det_{\mu \to \mu} \Delta^{f}_{*}} = J_{\mu}(f)$

¹⁸ Et al., "A Study of the Long-Term Behavior of Hybrid Systems with Symmetries via Reduction and the Frobenius-Perron Operator".

¹⁹William and Anthony, "Invariant forms in hybrid and impact systems and a taming of Zeno".

Hybrid invariant differential forms²⁰

Assume \mathcal{H} is a hybrid system and $\alpha \in \Omega^k(M)$.

- A differential form is invariant of $(\varphi_t^{\mathcal{H}})^* \alpha = \alpha$.
- ► This is equivalent to $\alpha_{\Delta(y)}(\Delta_*^f v_1, \ldots, \Delta_*^f v_n) = \alpha_y(v_1, \ldots, v_n)$
- Three conditions have to be satisfied:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_{f}(\alpha) = 0\\ \Delta^{*}\iota_{\Delta(S)}^{*}\alpha = \iota_{S}^{*}\alpha & \leftarrow \text{ specular condition}\\ \Delta^{*}\iota_{\Delta(S)}^{*}i_{f}\alpha = \iota_{S}^{*}i_{f}\alpha & \leftarrow \text{ energy condition} \end{cases}$$

²⁰William and Anthony, "Invariant forms in hybrid and impact systems and a taming of Zeno".

Extension to non-invertible maps



The hybrid transfer PDE equation

The bouncing ball

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{v}{m} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - mg \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} = 0, & \text{for } x \neq 0; \\
u(t^+, 0, v) = u(t^-, 0, -v), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The SIR model

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (\mu - \mu s - (\beta - \delta)si)\frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + (\beta si + \delta i^2 - (\gamma + \mu + \delta)i)\frac{\partial u}{\partial i} \\ &= (2\mu - \beta(s - i) + \gamma + \delta - 3\delta i) u, \\ u(t^+, s, \alpha(1 - f)) = \\ &= \frac{-\beta\alpha s + \delta\alpha^2 - (g + \mu + \delta)\alpha}{-\beta\alpha s(1 - f) + \delta\alpha^2(1 - f)^2 - (g + \mu + \delta)\alpha(1 - f)}u(t^-, s, \alpha). \end{aligned}$$

The hybrid jacobian for mechanical systems

Theorem $(^{21})$

Let $H : T^*M \to \mathbb{R}$ be a natural Hamiltonian. Let ω be the symplectic form on T^*M , and assume Δ is the impact map coming from the corner conditions. Assume moreover that S is the 0 level set of $h : M \to \mathbb{R}$.

$$\Delta = \left(x, p - (1 + c^2) \frac{p(\nabla h)}{dh(\nabla h)} dh\right)$$

Then the hybrid Jacobian is $J_{\omega^n}f = c^4$

²¹ Et al., "A Study of the Long-Term Behavior of Hybrid Systems with Symmetries via Reduction and the Frobenius-Perron Operator".