#### Transnational Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications

Vol. 5, Issue 1, 2017, Pages 1-15 ISSN 2347-9086 Published Online on March 28, 2017 © 2017 Jyoti Academic Press http://jyotiacademicpress.org

# HAMILTON-JACOBI SYSTEM OF PDES GOVERNED BY HIGHER-ORDER LAGRANGIANS

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#### **Abstract**

This paper aims to present some aspects of Hamilton-Jacobi theory involving higher-order Lagrangians. More precisely, using a non-standard Legendrian duality, we investigate: Hamilton-Jacobi PDE and Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs.

## 1. Introduction

Over time, many researchers have been interested in the study of Hamilton-Jacobi equations. It is well-known that the classical (single-time) Hamilton-Jacobi theory appeared in mechanics or in information theory from the desire to describe simultaneously the motion of a particle by a wave and the information dynamics by a wave carrying information.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 70H03, 70H05, 70H20, 70H50, 49K15, 49K20. Keywords and phrases: Hamilton-Jacobi PDE, Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs, generating function, non-standard Legendrian duality, multi-time.

Communicated by Lubin Georgiev Vulkov.

Received February 7, 2017; Revised March 7, 2017

Thus, the Euler-Lagrange ODEs or the associated Hamilton ODEs are replaced by PDEs that characterize the generating function. Later, using the geometric setting of k-osculator bundle, Miron [5] and Roman [8] studied the geometry of higher-order Lagrange spaces, providing some applications in mechanics and physics. Also, Krupkova [3] investigated the Hamiltonian field theory in terms of differential geometry and local coordinate formulas.

The *multi-time* version of Hamilton-Jacobi theory has been extensively studied by many researchers in the last few years (see, for instance, Rochet [7], Motta and Rampazzo [6], Cardin and Viterbo [1], Udrişte et al. [16], Treanță [10]). The present work can be seen as a natural continuation of a recent paper (Treanță [10]), where only multitime Hamilton-Jacobi theory via second-order Lagrangians is considered. In this paper, we develop our points of view, by developing new concepts and methods for a theory that involves single-time and multi-time higher-order Lagrangians. For other different but connected ideas to this subject, the reader is directed to Ibragimov [2], Lebedev and Cloud [4], Treanță and Vârsan [11], Treanță [12], Udrişte and Ţevy [15]. This work can be used as source for research problems and it should be of interest to engineers and applied mathematicians.

### 2. Hamilton ODEs and Hamilton-Jacobi PDE

This section introduces Hamilton ODEs and Hamilton-Jacobi PDE based on single-time higher-order Lagrangians.

Consider  $k \geq 2$  a fixed natural number,  $t \in [t_0, t_1] \subseteq R$ ,  $x : [t_0, t_1] \subseteq$ 

$$R \to R^n, x = (x^i(t)), i = \overline{1, n}, \text{ and } x^{(a)}(t) := \frac{d^a}{dt^a} x(t), a \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}.$$

We shall use alternatively the index a to mark the derivation or to mark the summation. The real  $C^{k+1}$ -class function  $L(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t))$ ,

called  $single-time\ higher-order\ Lagrangian,\ depends\ by\ (k+1)n+1$  variables. Denoting

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(a)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) = p_{ai}(t), \quad a \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\},\$$

the link  $L = x^{(a)i}p_{ai} - H$  (with summation over the repeated indices!) changes the following simple integral functional

$$I(x(\cdot)) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) dt$$
 (P)

into

$$J(x(\cdot), p_1(\cdot), \dots, p_k(\cdot)) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left( x^{(a)i}(t) p_{ai}(t) - H(t, x(t), p_1(t), \dots, p_k(t)) \right) dt$$
(P')

and the (higher-order) Euler-Lagrange ODEs,

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(1)i}} + \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(2)i}} - \dots + (-1)^k \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(k)i}} = 0, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\},$$

(no summation after k) written for (P'), are just the higher-order ODEs of Hamiltonian type,

$$\sum_{a=1}^{k} (-1)^{a+1} \frac{d^a}{dt^a} p_{ai} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^i}, \quad \frac{d^a}{dt^a} x^i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_{ai}}, \quad a \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$

Applications. (a) The optimal growth problem ([13]). In order to formulate our study problem, let us introduce the following tools: the consumption level function  $C = Y(K) - \dot{K}$ , where Y is the Gross national income (thus, C is the Gross national product left over after the capital accumulation  $\dot{K}$  is accomplished); the growth rate  $\dot{C}$  and the utility  $U(C, \dot{C})$ . To transform the previous utility into a linear in acceleration second-order Lagrangian, it is suitable to consider Y(K) = bK, b = const.,

and  $U(C, \dot{C}) = C^a + \alpha \dot{C}$ , where  $a, \alpha \in [0, 1]$ . Therefore, our study refers to maximizing the functional

$$I(K(\cdot)) = \int_0^T U(K(t), \dot{K}(t), \ddot{K}(t)) dt.$$

The necessary optimality conditions

$$ab(bK - \dot{K})^{a-1} - a(1-a)(bK - \dot{K})^{a-2}(b\dot{K} - \ddot{K}) = 0,$$

gives the solution

$$K(t) = A_1 \exp(bt) + A_2 \exp\left(\frac{bt}{1-a}\right),\,$$

where  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  are constants generated by the boundary conditions  $K(0)=K_0$ ,  $K(T)=K_T$ .

**(b)** The motion of a spinning particle ([14]). The motion of a particle rotating around its translating center is described by the following fourth-order differential system

$$\frac{d^4x}{dt^4} + \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 0,$$

coming (differentiating two times) from

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x = at + b,$$

with a, b constant vectors and  $x = (x^1, x^2, x^3) \in (R^3, \delta_{ij})$ . The previous fourth-order differential system arises from the second-order Lagrangian

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \dot{x}^i \dot{x}^j - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \ddot{x}^i \ddot{x}^j,$$

and it admits the first integral

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ij} p_i p_j - \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ij} q_i q_j + \delta^{ij} p_i \dot{q}_j, \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}.$$

### 2.1. Hamilton-Jacobi PDE based on higher-order Lagrangians

Further, we shall describe Hamilton-Jacobi PDE governed by higherorder Lagrangians with single-time evolution variable.

Let us consider the real function  $S: R \times R^{kn} \to R$  and the constant level sets  $\sum_c : S(t, x, x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(k-1)}) = c, k \ge 2$  a fixed natural number, where  $x^{(a)}(t) := \frac{d^a}{dt^a} x(t), a = \overline{1, k-1}$ . We assume that these sets are hypersurfaces in  $R^{kn+1}$ , that is the normal vector field satisfies

$$\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}\right) \neq (0, \dots, 0).$$

Let  $\widetilde{\Gamma}: (t, x^i(t), x^{(1)i}(t), \ldots, x^{(k-1)i}(t)), t \in R$ , be a transversal curve to the hypersurfaces  $\sum_c$ . Then, the function  $c(t) = S(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \ldots, x^{(k-1)}(t))$  has nonzero derivative

$$\frac{dc}{dt}(t) := L(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) = \frac{\partial S}{\partial t}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)) 
+ \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)) x^{(1)i}(t) 
+ \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(r)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)) x^{(r+1)i}(t).$$
(2.1)

By computation, we obtain the *canonical momenta* 

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(a)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) = \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(a-1)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t))$$

$$:= p_{ai}(t),$$

where  $a \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ . In these conditions, the relations

$$x^{(a)} = x^{(a)}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k), \quad a \in \{1, 2, ..., k\},\$$

become

$$x^{(a)} = x^{(a)} \left( t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)}} \right), \quad a \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$

On the other hand, the relation (2.1) can be rewritten as

$$-\frac{\partial S}{\partial t}\left(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)\right)$$

$$=\frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}\left(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)\right)x^{(1)i}\left(t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}(\cdot)\right)$$

$$+\sum_{r=1}^{k-1}\frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(r)i}}\left(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)\right)x^{(r+1)i}\left(t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}(\cdot)\right)$$

$$-L\left(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)\right). \tag{2.2}$$

**Definition 2.1.** The Lagrangian  $L(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), ..., x^{(k)}(t))$  is called *super-regular* if the system

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(a)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) = p_{ai}(t), \quad a \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\},\$$

defines the function of components

$$x^{(a)} = x^{(a)}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k), \quad a \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}.$$

The super-regular Lagrangian L enters in duality with the function of Hamiltonian type

$$H(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k) = x^{(a)i}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k) \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{(a)i}}(t, x, ..., x^{(k)i}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k))$$

$$-L(t, x, x^{(1)i}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k), ..., x^{(k)i}(t, x, p_1, ..., p_k)),$$

(single-time higher-order non-standard Legendrian duality) or, shortly,

$$H = x^{(a)i} p_{ai} - L.$$

At this moment, we can rewrite (2.2) as Hamilton-Jacobi PDE based on higher-order Lagrangians,

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H\left(t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}\right) = 0, \quad i = \overline{1, n}.$$

As a rule, this Hamilton-Jacobi PDE based on higher-order Lagrangians is endowed with the initial condition

$$S(0, x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)}) = S_0(x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)}).$$

The solution  $S(t, x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)})$  is called the *generating function* of the canonical momenta.

**Remark 2.1.** Conversely, let  $S(t, x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)})$  be a solution of the Hamilton-Jacobi PDE based on higher-order Lagrangians. We define

$$p_{ai}(t) = \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(a-1)i}}(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)), \quad a \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$

Then, the following link appears (see summation over the repeated indices!)

$$\begin{split} &\int_{t_0}^{t_1} L(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t)) dt \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left[ x^{(a)i}(t) p_{ai}(t) - H\left(t, x^{i(t)}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^i}(\cdot), \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}(\cdot) \right) \right] dt \\ &= \int_{\Gamma} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(a-1)i}} \, dx^{(a-1)i} + \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} \, dt = \int_{\Gamma} dS. \end{split}$$

The last formula shows that the action integral can be written as a path independent curvilinear integral.

**Theorem 2.1.** The generating function of the canonical momenta is solution of the Cauchy problem

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H\left(t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}\right) = 0,$$

$$S(0, x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)}) = S_0(x, x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(k-1)}).$$

Theorem 2.2. If

$$\begin{split} L \Big( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k)}(t) \Big) \\ &= \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^i} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) x^{(1)i}(t) \\ &+ \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(r)i}} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) x^{(r+1)i}(t) \end{split}$$

is fulfilled and its domain is convex, then

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H\left(t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}}\right)$$

is invariant with respect to the variable x.

**Proof.** By direct computation, we get

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x^{j}} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k)}(t) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial t \partial x^{j}} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial x^{i} \partial x^{j}} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) x^{(1)i}(t) \\ &+ \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial x^{(r)i} \partial x^{j}} \left( t, \, x(t), \, x^{(1)}(t), \, \dots, \, x^{(k-1)}(t) \right) x^{(r+1)i}(t), \end{split}$$

equivalent with

$$-\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^{j}}\left(t, x(t), \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}(\cdot), \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)}}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)}}(\cdot)\right)$$

$$= \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial t \partial x^{j}}\left(t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)\right)$$

$$+ \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial x^{i} \partial x^{j}} (t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)) x^{(1)i}(t)$$

$$+ \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial x^{(r)i} \partial x^{j}} (t, x(t), x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(t)) x^{(r+1)i}(t),$$

or,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{j}} \left[ \frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H \left( t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}} \right) \right] = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + H \left( t, x^{i}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(1)i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{(k-1)i}} \right) = f(t, x^{(1)}(t), \dots, x^{(k)}(t))$$

and the proof is complete.

# 3. Hamilton-Jacobi System of PDEs via Multi-Time Higher-Order Lagrangians

In this section, we shall introduce Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs governed by higher-order Lagrangians with multi-time evolution variable.

Let  $S: R^m \times R^n \times R^{nm} \times R^{nm(m+1)/2} \times \cdots \times R^{[nm(m+1)\dots(m+k-2)]/(k-1)!} \to R$  be a real function and the constant level sets,

$$\sum_{c}: S(t, x, x_{\alpha_1}, \ldots, x_{\alpha_1 \ldots \alpha_{k-1}}) = c,$$

where  $k \geq 2$  is a fixed natural number,  $t = (t^1, \ldots, t^m) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $x_{\alpha_1} := \frac{\partial x}{\partial t^{\alpha_1}}$ , ...,  $x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_{k-1}} := \frac{\partial^{k-1} x}{\partial t^{\alpha_1} - \partial t^{\alpha_{k-1}}}$ . Here  $\alpha_j \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m\}$ ,  $j = \overline{1, k-1}$ ,

 $x=(x^1,\ldots,x^n)=(x^i), i\in\{1,\,2,\ldots,n\}$ . We assume that these sets are submanifolds in  $R^{m+n+\ldots+[nm(m+1)\cdot\ldots\cdot(m+k-2)]/(k-1)!}$ . Consequently, the normal vector field must satisfy

$$\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}^{i}}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}^{i}}\right) \neq (0, \dots, 0).$$

Let  $\widetilde{\Gamma}: \left(t,\, x^i(t),\, x^i_{\alpha_1}(t),\, \ldots,\, x^i_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{k-1}}(t)\right)$ ,  $t\in R^m$ , be an m-sheet transversal to the submanifolds  $\sum_c$ . Then, the real function

$$c(t) = S(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_1}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{k-1}}(t))$$

has nonzero partial derivatives,

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t^{\beta}}(t) \coloneqq L_{\beta}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k}}(t))$$

$$= \frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}(t))$$

$$+ \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}(t))x_{\beta}^{i}(t)$$

$$+ \sum_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}; r = \overline{1, k-1}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}}^{i}}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}(t))x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}\beta}^{i}(t).$$
(3.1)

For a fixed function  $x(\cdot)$ , let us define the *generalized multi-momenta*  $p = (p_{\beta,i}^{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}), i \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}, j \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}, \alpha_j, \beta \in \{1, 2, ..., m\}, \text{ by}$   $p_{\beta,i}^{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}(t) \coloneqq \frac{1}{n(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, ..., \alpha_j)} \frac{\partial L_{\beta}}{\partial x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}^i}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_1}(t), ..., x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_k}(t)).$ 

**Remark 3.1.** Here (for more details, the reader is directed to [9]),

$$n(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, ..., \alpha_k) := \frac{|1_{\alpha_1} + 1_{\alpha_2} + ... + 1_{\alpha_k}|!}{(1_{\alpha_1} + 1_{\alpha_2} + ... + 1_{\alpha_k})!}$$

denotes the number of distinct indices represented by  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_k\}$ ,  $\alpha_j \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m\}, \ j = \overline{1, k}$ .

By computation, for  $j = \overline{1, k}$  and  $\frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_0}^i} := \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^i}$ , we get the non-zero

components of p, namely,

$$p_{\alpha_j,\,i}^{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{j-1}\alpha_j}(t)=\frac{1}{n(\alpha_1,\,\alpha_2,\,\dots,\,\alpha_j)}\frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{j-1}}^i}(t,\,x(t),\,x_{\alpha_1}(t),\,\dots,\,x_{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{k-1}}(t)).$$

**Definition 3.1.** The Lagrange 1-form  $L_{\beta}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_1}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k}(t))$  is called *super-regular* if the algebraic system

$$p_{\beta,i}^{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}(t) = \frac{1}{n(\alpha_1,\,\alpha_2,\,\ldots,\,\alpha_j)} \frac{\partial L_\beta}{\partial x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}^i}(t,\,x(t),\,x_{\alpha_1}(t),\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_k}(t)),$$

defines the function

$$x_{\alpha_1}^i = x_{\alpha_1}^i(t, x, p_{\alpha_1}^{\alpha_1}, \dots, p_{\alpha_k}^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k}),$$
:

$$x^i_{\alpha_1...\alpha_k} = x^i_{\alpha_1...\alpha_k}(t,\,x,\,p^{\alpha_1}_{\alpha_1},\,\ldots,\,p^{\alpha_1...\alpha_k}_{\alpha_k}).$$

In these conditions, the previous relations become

$$x_{\alpha_1}^i = x_{\alpha_1}^i \left( t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, \dots, \frac{1}{n(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k)} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_{k-1}}} \right),$$

$$x_{\alpha_{1}...\alpha_{k}}^{i} = x_{\alpha_{1}...\alpha_{k}}^{i} \left(t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, ..., \frac{1}{n(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, ..., \alpha_{k})} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}...\alpha_{k-1}}}\right).$$

On the other hand, the relation (3.1) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{split} &-\frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}}\left(t,\,x(t),\,x_{\alpha_{1}}(t),\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k-1}}(t)\right)\\ &=\frac{\partial S}{\partial x^{i}}\left(t,\,x(t),\,x_{\alpha_{1}}(t),\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k-1}}(t)\right) \end{split}$$

$$\cdot x_{\beta}^{i} \left( t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{1}{n(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \dots, \alpha_{k})} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}}(\cdot) \right) 
+ \sum_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}; r = \overline{1, k-1}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}}^{i}} (t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}(t)) 
\cdot x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{r}\beta}^{i} \left( t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}(\cdot), \dots, \frac{1}{n(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \dots, \alpha_{k})} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}}(\cdot) \right) 
- L_{\beta}(t, x(t), x_{\alpha_{1}}(t), \dots, x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k}}(t)).$$
(3.2)

The super-regular Lagrange 1-form  $L_{\beta}$  enters in duality with the following Hamiltonian 1-form:

$$\begin{split} H_{\beta}(t,\,x,\,p_{\alpha_{1}}^{\alpha_{1}},\,\ldots,\,p_{\alpha_{k}}^{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}}) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{j};\,j=\overline{1,k}} \frac{1}{n(\alpha_{1},\,\alpha_{2},\,\ldots,\,\alpha_{j})} x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{j}}^{i}(t,\,x,\,p_{\alpha_{1}}^{\alpha_{1}},\,\ldots,\,p_{\alpha_{k}}^{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}}) \\ &\cdot \frac{\partial L_{\beta}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{j}}^{i}}(t,\,x,\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}}(\cdot)) \\ &- L_{\beta}(t,\,x,\,x_{\alpha_{1}}(t,\,x,\,p_{\alpha_{1}}^{\alpha_{1}},\,\ldots,\,p_{\alpha_{k}}^{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}}),\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}} \\ &(t,\,x,\,p_{\alpha_{1}}^{\alpha_{1}},\,\ldots,\,p_{\alpha_{k}}^{\alpha_{1}\ldots\alpha_{k}})), \end{split}$$

(multi-time higher-order non-standard Legendrian duality) or, shortly,

$$H_{\beta} = x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_j}^i p_{\beta,i}^{\alpha_1...\alpha_j} - L_{\beta}.$$

Now, we can rewrite (3.2) as Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs based on higher-order Lagrangians

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}} + H_{\beta}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}}\right) = 0, \quad \beta \in \{1, \dots, m\}.$$

Usually, the Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs based on higher-order Lagrangians is accompanied by the initial condition

$$S(0,\,x,\,x_{\alpha_1},\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{k-1}})=S_0(x,\,x_{\alpha_1},\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{k-1}}).$$

The solution  $S(t, x, x_{\alpha_1}, ..., x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_{k-1}})$  is called the *generating function* of the generalized multi-momenta.

**Remark 3.2.** Conversely, let  $S(t, x, x_{\alpha_1}, ..., x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_{k-1}})$  be a solution of the Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs based on higher-order Lagrangians. We assume (the non-zero components of p)

$$p_{\alpha_j,i}^{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{j-1}\alpha_j}(t)\coloneqq\frac{1}{n(\alpha_1,\;\alpha_2,\;\dots,\;\alpha_j)}\frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{j-1}}^i}(t,\;x(t),\;x_{\alpha_1}(t),\;\dots,\;x_{\alpha_1\dots\alpha_{k-1}}(t)),$$

for 
$$j = \overline{1, k}$$
 and  $\frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_0}^i} := \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^i}$ .

Then, the following formula shows that the action integral can be written as a path independent curvilinear integral:

$$\begin{split} &\int_{\Gamma_{t_0},t_1} L_{\beta}(t,\,x(t),\,x_{\alpha_1}(t),\,\ldots,\,x_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_k}(t))dt^{\beta} \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_{t_0},t_1} \left[ x^i_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_j}(t) p^{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_j}_{\beta,i}(t) - H_{\beta}\bigg(t,\,x,\,\frac{\partial S}{\partial x}(\cdot),\,\ldots,\,\frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{k-1}}}(\cdot)\bigg) \right] dt^{\beta} \\ &= \int_{\Gamma} \sum_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{j-1};\,j=\overline{1,k}} \frac{1}{n(\alpha_1,\,\alpha_2,\,\ldots,\,\alpha_j)} \frac{\partial S}{\partial x^i_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{j-1}}} dx^i_{\alpha_1\ldots\alpha_{j-1}} + \frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}} dt^{\beta} = \int_{\Gamma} dS. \end{split}$$

**Theorem 3.1.** The generating function of the generalized multimomenta is solution of the Cauchy problem

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t^{\beta}} + H_{\beta}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x}, \dots, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1} \dots \alpha_{k-1}}}\right) = 0, \quad \beta \in \{1, \dots, m\},$$

$$S(0, x, x_{\alpha_1}, ..., x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_{k-1}}) = S_0(x, x_{\alpha_1}, ..., x_{\alpha_1...\alpha_{k-1}}).$$

**Application.** Suppose t is the time,  $x = (x^i)$  is the vector of spatial coordinates, the function (operator)  $H_1 = I$  is associated with the information as a measure of organization (synergy and purpose), the function (operator)  $H_2 = H$  with the energy as a measure of movement, the function  $S^1$  is the generating function for entropy, and  $S^2$  is the generating function for action. A PDEs system of the type

$$\frac{\partial S^{1}}{\partial t} + H_{1}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial S^{1}}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial S^{2}}{\partial x}\right) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial S^{2}}{\partial t} + H_{2}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial S^{1}}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial S^{2}}{\partial x}\right) = 0$$

is called *physical control*. This kind of system can be written using the real vector function  $S = (S^1, S^2) : R \times R^n \to R$ .

### 4. Conclusion

In the present paper, using a non-standard Legendrian duality for single-time and multi-time higher-order Lagrangians, we have introduced Hamilton-Jacobi PDE and Hamilton-Jacobi system of PDEs. In this way, our results have extended, unified and improved several existing theorems in the current literature.

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