

# Log-Canonical Coordinates for Poisson Brackets

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March 2019

# Outline

- 1 Notation and Terminology
- 2 Symplectic Geometry
- 3 Main Question
- 4 Main Results
- 5 Proofs

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**Remark:** For  $f \in P$ , the map  $\text{ad}_f = \{f, -\}$  is a derivation of the associative and Lie products.

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A manifold  $M$  is a *Poisson manifold* if  $C^\infty(M)$  is a Poisson algebra.

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For each  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ , since  $\text{ad}_f = \{f, -\}$  is a derivation of  $C^\infty(M)$ , it induces a vector field  $X_f$ . We call this the “Hamiltonian vector field” of  $f$ .

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$$\begin{aligned}\{f, g\} &= \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} \varphi_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{i < j} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \right) \varphi_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

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## Poisson Bracket

Define a bracket on  $C^\infty(M)$  by:

$$\{f, g\} = \omega(X_f, X_g)$$

# Darboux's Theorem

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These are called *Darboux coordinates* or *canonical coordinates*.

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# Poisson Varieties

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So...in this particular example, the answer is “yes”.

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**Cluster Algebras:** Any cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has a natural Poisson bracket for which the cluster variables form a log-canonical coordinate system.

# Main Theorems

Let  $R_\omega$  denote  $\mathbb{C}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  with the bracket  $\{x_i, x_j\} = \omega_{ij}x_i x_j$ .

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So...the bracket on  $R_\omega$  is already “as simple as possible”.

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## Lemma

$$\{x^I, x^J\} = \omega(I, J)x^{I+J}$$



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But... $\omega$  is skew-symmetric, so  $I + J = 0 \implies \omega(I, J) = 0$ .

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This contradicts **Theorem 1**.

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Then there is some  $g$  so that  $\{f, g\} \neq 0$ , but  $\{f, \{f, g\}\} = 0$ . But then

$$\left\{ f, \frac{g}{\{f, g\}} \right\} = \frac{1}{\{f, g\}} \{f, g\} = 1$$

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Since  $F$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space and  $\text{ad}_{f_i}$  has only zero eigenvalues, it must be nilpotent.

Suppose that  $\text{ad}_{f_i} \neq 0$ .

Then there is some  $g$  so that  $\{f, g\} \neq 0$ , but  $\{f, \{f, g\}\} = 0$ . But then

$$\left\{ f, \frac{g}{\{f, g\}} \right\} = \frac{1}{\{f, g\}} \{f, g\} = 1$$

This contradicts **Theorem 1**.

## Proof of Theorem 2

Since  $F$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space and  $\text{ad}_{f_i}$  has only zero eigenvalues, it must be nilpotent.

Suppose that  $\text{ad}_{f_i} \neq 0$ .

Then there is some  $g$  so that  $\{f, g\} \neq 0$ , but  $\{f, \{f, g\}\} = 0$ . But then

$$\left\{ f, \frac{g}{\{f, g\}} \right\} = \frac{1}{\{f, g\}} \{f, g\} = 1$$

This contradicts **Theorem 1**. So all  $\text{ad}_{f_i}$  must be identically zero.

# Thank You!



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