

(b) Lagrange's Equations from D'Alembert's Principle : ✓

The co-ordinate transformation equations are

$$\mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{r}_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n, t),$$

so that

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_1} \frac{dq_1}{dt} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_2} \frac{dq_2}{dt} + \dots + \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial t} \frac{dt}{dt}$$

or

$$\mathbf{v}_i = \sum_j \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \dot{q}_j + \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial t} \dots (3)$$

Further infinitesimal displacement  $\delta \mathbf{r}_i$  can be connected with  $\delta q_j$  as

$$\delta \mathbf{r}_i = \sum_j \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j + \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial t} \delta t$$

But last term is zero since in virtual displacement only co-ordinate displacement is considered and not that of time. Therefore

$$\delta \mathbf{r}_i = \sum_j \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j$$

Now we write eq. (2) as 
$$\sum_i (\mathbf{F}_i - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i) \cdot \sum_j \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j = 0,$$

$$\sum_{ij} \mathbf{F}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j - \sum_{ij} \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j = 0.$$

We define the term

$$\sum_i \mathbf{F}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} = Q_j,$$

the components of the generalised force. As discussed under 'generalised force' art. 1.10,  $q$ 's may not have the dimensions of length, and similarly, it is not necessary for the  $Q$ 's to have the dimensions of force, but it is necessary that the product  $Q_j \delta q_j$  must have the dimensions of work.

Thus above equation takes the form

$$\sum_j Q_j \delta q_j - \sum_{ij} \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j = 0.$$

Let us evaluate the second term of above eq. (4) :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{ij} \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j &= \sum_{ij} m_i \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j \\ &= \sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{d}{dt} \left( m_i \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) - m_i \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) \right\} \delta q_j \\ &= \sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{d}{dt} \left( m_i \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) - m_i \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) \right\} \delta q_j \end{aligned}$$

Further

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) &= \sum_k \frac{\partial}{\partial q_k} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) \frac{dq_k}{dt} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \right) \frac{dt}{dt} \\ &= \sum_k \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_k \partial q_j} \dot{q}_k + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial t \partial q_j} \\ &= \sum_k \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j \partial q_k} \dot{q}_k + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j \partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} \left( \frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} \right) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_i}{\partial q_j} \end{aligned}$$

Also differentiating eq. (3) with respect to  $\dot{q}_j$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_i}{\partial \dot{q}_j} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j}$$

Putting eqs. (6) and (7) in eq. (5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{ij} \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}{\partial q_j} \delta q_j &= \sum_{ij} \left\{ \frac{d}{dt} \left( m_i \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_i}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - m_i \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_i}{\partial q_j} \right\} \delta q_j \\ &= \sum_j \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \left( \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2 \right) \right\} - \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} \left( \sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2 \right) \right] \delta q_j. \end{aligned}$$

With this substitution, eq. (4) becomes

$$\sum_j Q_j \delta q_j - \sum_j \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} \right] \delta q_j = 0,$$

or

$$\sum_j \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} - Q_j \right] \delta q_j = 0.$$

where for  $\sum_i \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2$ ,  $T$  is written since it represents the total kinetic energy of the system.

Since the constraints are holonomic,  $q_j$  are independent of each other and hence to satisfy above equation the coefficient of each  $\delta q_j$  should separately vanish, i.e.,

$$\left[ \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_j} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_j} \right] = Q_j. \quad \dots (8)$$

As  $j$  ranges from 1 to  $N$ , there will be  $N$  such second order equations.

EC-(3)

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