

# Chapter 10

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## 1 | Monday, October 12: Audin Chapter 10 (From Floer to Morse)

### 1.1 Notation and Setup

- $(W, \omega, J)$  a symplectic manifold with an almost complex structure
- $H \in C^\infty(W, \mathbb{R})$  will be either a Morse function or a Hamiltonian
- $X$  will be a vector field, potentially  $X_H$ , the symplectic gradient of  $H$ :

$$\omega_x(\cdot, X_H(x)) = (dH)_x(\cdot).$$

- $DH$  will denote differentials,  $D^2H$  will denote Hessians (where they're defined)
- $CM_*(H, J)$  will be the Morse complex associated with a Morse function  $H$ , its vector field  $\text{grad}H$  the gradient for the metric defined by  $J, \omega$ .
- $CF_*(H, J)$  will be the Floer complex

#### Theorem 1.1.1 (Main Goal).

There exists a nondegenerate Hamiltonian that is sufficiently small in the  $C^2$  topology for which both the Floer and Morse complexes are well-defined, and

$$CF_*(H, J) \cong CM_{*+n}(H, J) = CM_*(H, J)[n].$$

### 1.2 Strategy

Need to show two things:

1.  $CF_* = CM_*[n]$ , and
2.  $\partial_F = \partial_M$ .

Orbits = critical pts!

$$\text{Ind}(x) = \mu(x) + n$$
$$\dim(W) = 2n?$$

Then section 7.2.2 p.199

## 1.2.1 Equality of Complexes

**Definition 1.2.1** (Nondegenerate 1: Critical Points of a Function).

For a function  $f \in C^\infty(W, \mathbb{R})$ , define a bilinear form

$$(D^2f)_p : T_pW \otimes T_pW \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) \mapsto \langle \mathbf{x}, (Y \cdot f)(p) \rangle$$

for some vector field  $Y$  extending  $\mathbf{y}$ .

A critical point  $p$  is **nondegenerate** iff  $(D^2f)_p$  is a nondegenerate quadratic form.

**Definition 1.2.2** (Nondegenerate 2: Critical Points of Periodic Trajectories).

For a Hamiltonian system  $H$ , a periodic solution  $x$  is **nondegenerate** iff  $1 \notin \text{Spec}(d\psi_1)$ , i.e. 1 is not an eigenvalue of the differential, i.e.

$$\det \left( \text{id} - (D\psi^1)_{x(0)} \right) \neq 0.$$

**Example 1.2.1.**

Motivation:

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum a_{ij} p_i p_j + \sum b_{ij} p_i q_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum c_{ij} q_i q_j \implies X_H \mathbf{p} = A \mathbf{p}, A \approx D^2H(0).$$

Yields a flow  $\psi_t = e^{tA}$ , then if  $\psi_1 = e^A$  doesn't have eigenvalue 1,  $A$  doesn't have eigenvalue zero, and the quadratic form  $H$  is nondegenerate, so the critical point of  $H$  at zero is nondegenerate.

**Proposition 1.2.1 (5.4.5).**

Definition 2 implies definition 1: if  $x$  is a critical point of  $H$  which is nondegenerate as a periodic solution of the Hamiltonian system, then  $a \in \text{crit}(H)$  is nondegenerate as a critical point of the function  $H$ .

- Can start with an  $H_0$  and rescale to define  $H := H_0/k$
- When  $H$  sufficiently small in the  $C^2$  sense (close sups of 1st and 2nd derivatives), the only periodic trajectories are constant
  - Use prop: def 2 implies def 1, conclude that  $H$  is Morse.
  - As a result,

$$\text{crit}(A_H) \iff \text{crit}(H) \iff \{\text{Constant trajectories}\}.$$

- Use remark 5.4.6: for the Hessian of  $H$ ,  $\text{Spec}(D^2H) \cap 2\pi\mathbb{Z} = \emptyset$
- Yields *Index Comparison Formula*:

$$\text{Ind}_H(x) = \mu(x) + n.$$

**Goal by end of Ch. 10:**

- Show that all Floer solutions connecting two consecutive critical points are *also* Morse trajectories,

- Regularity:  $d\mathcal{F}_u$  is surjective along these trajectories
  - Implies  $\mathcal{M}^{(H,J)}(x,y)$  is a manifold, allows defining Floer complex
- Index Comparison Formula yields equality of vector spaces, up to a dimension shift.

### 1.2.2 Equality of Differentials

- Next need to show both differentials  $\partial_M, \partial_F$  can be defined, and they coincide
- Defining  $\partial_M$ :
  - Need a vector field  $X$  adapted to  $H$
  - $X$  needs to satisfy Smale condition (genericness)
- Recall the **Smale Condition**: all stable and unstable manifolds of critical points meet transversely,

$$W^u(a) \pitchfork W^v(b) \quad \forall a, b \in \text{crit}(H).$$

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The Smale condition forbids the existence of flow lines such as those shown in Figure 2.15. Figure 2.16 shows the trajectories of a neighboring field satisfying the **Smale condition** (obtained by the general method explained in the following subsection).

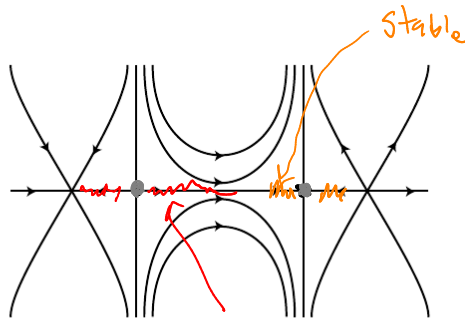


Fig. 2.15

Unstable

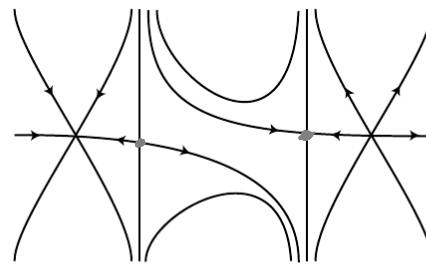


Fig. 2.16

(Milnor h-cobordism)

Figure 1: LHS: violates Smale condition. RHS: okay!

- Goal: given fixed data for the Floer theory, relate it to Morse data (define the Morse complex).
- Strategy: running ideas backwards, getting theorems for Morse functions similar to what we did when linearizing the Floer operator

### 1.2.3 Define Morse Differentials

- To define  $\partial_M$ : need to relate trajectories of  $X$  to solutions of Floer equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Solutions to} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + X(u) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \overset{\cong}{\longleftrightarrow} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Solutions to} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + J(u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \text{grad}H(u) = 0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

To do this: need  $X = \text{grad}H$  for the metric induced by  $J, \omega$ .

**Definition 1.2.3** (Pseudo-Gradient).

For  $f : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a Morse function, a vector field  $X$  is a **pseudo-gradient** for  $f$  iff

1.  $(Df)_p(X_p) \leq 0$  with equality iff  $p \in \text{crit}(f)$
2. In a Morse chart about  $p \in \text{crit}(f)$ , we have  $X = -\text{grad}_g f$  for the canonical metric  $g$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Definition 1.2.4** (Morse-Smale Pair).

A pair  $(f, X)$  of a function and a vector field is a **Morse-Smale pair** iff  $f$  is Morse and  $X$  is a pseudo-gradient for  $f$  satisfying the Smale condition.

**Theorem 1.2.1** (*Theorem to Prove*).

Let  $H$  be Morse on  $(W, \omega)$ . Then there exists a dense subset  $\mathcal{J}_{\text{reg}}(H)$  of almost complex structures  $J$  calibrated by  $\omega$  such that  $(H, -JX_H)$  is Morse-Smale.

Note: transversality result analogous to ones in 8.5

*Proof.*

$$L_u \xrightarrow{\text{linearized?}} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial s} + X \right) u$$

- Proof in two steps:
  - Step 1: Morse Side, arbitrary morse functions
    - ◇ Linearize the Morse equation  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + X(u) = 0$  of the flow of  $-X$  along one of its solutions  $L_u Y = 0$ .
    - ◇ Show that whenever  $H$  is Morse and  $u$  is a trajectory connecting critical points,  $L_u$  is Fredholm and
 
$$\text{Ind}(L_u) = \text{Ind}_H(y) - \text{Ind}_H(x).$$
    - ◇ Show that for  $H$  a nondegenerate Hamiltonian and  $u$  a trajectory of  $JX_H$ , the operators  $(d\mathcal{F})_u$  and  $L_u$  are Fredholm of equal index.
    - ◇ Show that  $X$  is Smale  $\iff L_u$  is surjective.
  - Step 2: Floer Side, specific case of Hamiltonian
    - ◇ Prove the actual result. ■

- Now fix an almost complex structure to obtain a Smale vector field  $X$

### 1.2.4 Compare solutions to Floer equation and trajectories of $X$

- Goal: for  $\text{Ind}(x) - \text{Ind}(y) \leq 2$ , get an equality

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Trajectories of Floer equation} \\ \text{associated to } (H, J) \text{ connecting } x, y \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Trajectories of the Smale} \\ \text{vector field } -JX_H \end{array} \right\}.$$

- Solutions to Floer equation that *do not* depend on  $t$  are precisely trajectories of  $X = -\text{grad}H$ .
- Next show that elements in  $\ker(d\mathcal{F}_u)$  do not depend on  $t$ .
- Corollary:  $d\mathcal{F}_u$  is surjective along every trajectory of  $\text{grad}H$ .
- Then show that replacing  $H_k := H/k$  for  $k \gg 0$  preserves all critical points and all indices
- Punch line: all the solutions of the Floer equation that we need are time-independent.
  - Statement: For  $k \gg 0$ , solutions to the Floer equation for  $H_k$  connecting  $x \rightarrow y$  with  $\text{Ind}(x) - \text{Ind}(y) \leq 2$  are independent of  $t$ .

### 1.3 Summary

- Take  $H_k$  for  $k \gg 0$  and  $J \in \mathcal{J}_{\text{reg}}$  (dense)
- Then when  $\text{Ind}(x) - \text{Ind}(y) \leq 2$ , trajectories of Floer equation for  $(H, J)$  connecting critical points  $x, y$  are trajectories of the Smale vector field  $X = -JX_H$ .
  - $x, y$  will be critical points for both  $H$  and  $\mathcal{A}_H$
- Regularity? The linearized Floer operator is surjective along these trajectories
- Implies that  $\mathcal{M}^{(H, J)}(x, y)$  is a manifold, so  $CF_*$  can be defined.
- Claim: this shows the differentials coincide, and we're done.

## 1.4 Linearizing the Morse Equation

- Let  $f$  be morse on  $V \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  ( $m \gg 0$ ) with adapted pseudo-gradient field  $X$ , then

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Trajectories} \\ \text{of } X \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Solutions of} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + X(u(s))=0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

- Fix a metric  $g$  on  $V$  such that  $X = \text{grad}_g f$ .
- Define the space of solutions of finite energy:

$$E(u) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left\| \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} \right\|^2 ds$$

$$\mathcal{M} := \left\{ u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}, V) \mid \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \text{grad} f = 0, \quad E(u) < \infty \right\}.$$

- Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is compact and equal to  $\cup_{x,y} \mathcal{M}(x,y)$ , using the fact that if  $V$  is compact, *all* trajectories are of finite energy
- Now go to coordinates and linearize the equation of the flow along the solution  $u$  to get a linear differential equation
- Yields an equation

$$L_u : W^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$Y \mapsto \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} + A(s)Y := L_u Y,$$

where  $A$  is a matrix limiting to  $\text{grad}_x^2 f$  and  $\text{grad}_y^2 f$  at  $s = \pm\infty$

- Limiting to Hessians of nondegenerate critical points will yield symmetric invertible matrices
- We then consider  $\ker L_u \subseteq \ker(d\mathcal{F}_u)$ . Note: we have exponential decay.
- Note: the space of solutions to equation linearized at  $u$  is  $T_u \mathcal{M}(x,y)$ .

### 1.4.1 Showing $L_u$ is Fredholm

- Bootstrapping:  $Y \in \ker(L_u)$  in  $W^{1,2}$  is continuous, thus  $C^1$ , this  $C^\infty$  and form a finite-dimensional vector space.
- Behavior at infinity: reduces to

$$L_u Y = 0 \iff \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} = -AY$$

where  $A$  is a constant diagonal matrix

- This is a linear system, so solutions are

$$Y(s) = e^{-As} Y(0) \quad \text{i.e.} \quad y_i(s) = y_i e^{-\lambda_i s}.$$

- Will prove that if  $u$  is a trajectory of  $\text{grad} f$  connecting  $x \rightarrow y$  then  $L_u$  is Fredholm
  - Proof: involves bounding  $W^{1,2}$  norm of  $Y$  by  $L^2$  norms of  $Y, L_u Y$ .
  - Lots of integral estimates: Fourier transform, Plancherel, Cauchy-Schwarz
- Integral bound yields:  $\dim \ker L_u < \infty$  and  $\text{im}(L_u)$  is closed.
- Lemma:  $\dim \text{coker} < \infty$ .
  - Proof: compute kernel of adjoint

$$L_u^* = -\frac{\partial}{\partial s} + A^*$$

where the matrix is transposed.

- Use the fact that

$$Z \in \text{coker}(L_u) \iff Z \in \ker(L_u^*),$$

i.e.  $L_u^* Z = 0$  in the sense of distributions

### 1.4.2 Computing $\text{Ind} L_u$

- Unsurprisingly, will show  $\text{Ind}(L_u) = \text{Ind}_f(x) - \text{Ind}_f(y)$ .
- Ideas in proof:
  - Will choose two real numbers  $\sigma, s$  to plug into  $u$ , and consider *resolvent*: map between tangent spaces to  $V$  at  $u(\sigma), u(s)$ .
  - Look at the tangent spaces at  $u(\sigma)$  of the stable and unstable manifolds will be the Floer complex

$$E^u(\sigma) := T_{u(\sigma)} W^u(x)$$

$$E^s(\sigma) := T_{u(\sigma)} W^s(x)$$

- Then  $\ker L_u$  is isomorphic to the intersection for all  $\sigma$ .

### 1.4.3 Smale Condition

- Recall  $X = \text{grad}_g f$  for  $g$  a metric.
- Statement: the vector field  $X$  satisfies the Smale condition  $\iff$  all  $L_u$  are surjective.

*Proof .*

- $L_u$  is surjective  $\iff \text{coker}(L_u) = 0 \iff \ker(L_u^*)$  is injective
- This is equivalent to

$$T_{u(\sigma)} W^u(x) + T_{u(\sigma)} W^s(x) = T_{u(\sigma)} V.$$

- This is exactly the transversality condition for the stable and unstable manifolds



– We want this for all critical points ■

## 1.5 10.4: Morse and Floer Trajectories Coincide

### 1.5.1 Comparing Kernels

- Note  $\ker(L_u) \subset \ker(d\mathcal{F}_u)$  since

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial s} + S(s)\right)Y = 0 \implies \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial s} + J\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + S(s)\right)Y = 0,$$

so just need to show reverse inclusion.

- Use a lemma: for  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\|f\|_{L^p([0,1])} \leq \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\|_{L^p([0,1])},$$

then apply this to  $f(t) := Y(s, t)$  and  $p = 2$ .

- Yields an equation

$$\left\| \frac{\partial Y}{\partial s} \right\|_{L^2}^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial Y}{\partial t} \right\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \sup_s \|S(s)\|_{\text{op}}^2 \|Y\|_{L^2}^2 \implies \|Y\|_{L^2}^2 \leq \sup_s \|S(s)\|_{\text{op}} \|Y\|_{L^2}^2$$

where the sup term being small forces  $Y = 0$ .

### 1.5.2 Trajectories are Independent of $t$

**WTS:** Trajectories of  $H_k$  appearing in the Floer complex are exactly those appearing in the Morse complex. I.e. proving 10.1.9

Idea of proof:

- Contradiction: suppose there exists a sequence  $n_k \rightarrow \infty$  with time-dependent solutions  $u_{n_k}$  connecting  $x \rightarrow y$  which solve the Floer equation
- Consider case where indices differ by 1: using broken trajectories theorem, extract a subsequence converging to some  $v \in \mathcal{M}(x, y, H)$ .
  - Show  $v$  doesn't depend on  $t$
  - Since  $d\mathcal{F}_v$  is surjective,  $v$  is in a 1-dim component, and thus an isolated point of  $\mathcal{L}(x, y)$
  - Get a contradiction from taking  $k \gg 0$  and using

$$v_{n_k}(s, t) = v(s + \sigma_k, t) = v(s + \sigma_k),$$

which does *not* depend on time

- Consider case where indices differ by 2
  - Use Smale property of the gradient  $-JX_H$  of  $H$ : trajectories  $x \rightarrow y$  form a 2-manifold

- Since trajectories are also in  $\mathcal{M}(x, y, H)$ , parameterizes a submanifold in a neighborhood of  $v$ .
- Show that convergence toward broken orbits in Morse setting corresponds to converges toward broken trajectories in Floer setting
- Use gluing from last chapter:  $\hat{v}_{n_k} \in \text{im}(\hat{\varphi})$  for  $k \gg 0$ , contradicting the fact that  $v_{n_k}$  doesn't depend on  $t$