

# On the inverse problem of Lagrangian dynamics on Lie algebroids

Liviu Popescu

**Abstract.** In the present paper we start the study of the inverse problem of Lagrangian dynamics on Lie algebroids. Using the notion of  $\mathcal{J}$ -regular section we prove the equivalence between the Helmholtz conditions and a Hamiltonian section on the prolongations of a Lie algebroid.

**M.S.C. 2010:** 17B66, 45Q05.

**Key words:** inverse problem; Lie algebroids.

## 1 Introduction

The inverse problem of Lagrangian mechanics is a subject which has been studied intensively in the several decades and can be formulated as follows. Under what conditions a system of second order differential equations on a  $n$ -dimensional manifold  $M$  can be derived from a variational principle? One solution of this problem is known as the Helmholtz conditions. There are various approaches to derive the Helmholtz conditions and we refer to the survey [6] and the monographs [1], [5] for comments on the history of the problem. Generally, the framework of these studies is the tangent bundle  $TM$  of the manifold  $M$ . A generalization of the Helmholtz conditions can be found in [7] and the case when  $M$  is a Lie group is given in [2]. A Lie algebroid is a generalization of the tangent bundle. Using the geometry of Lie algebroids, Weinstein [14] developed a generalized theory of Lagrangian mechanics and obtained the equations of motions, using the Poisson structure on the dual of a Lie algebroid and Legendre transformation associated with a regular Lagrangian. Thus it is natural to extend the study of the inverse problem to the more general framework of Lie algebroids. In [12] the expressions of the Helmholtz conditions on Lie algebroids are given. In this paper we prove the equivalence between the Helmholtz conditions and a Hamiltonian section on the prolongations of a Lie algebroids over the vector bundle projections.

## 2 Preliminaries on Lie algebroids

Let  $M$  be a differentiable,  $n$ -dimensional manifold and  $(TM, \pi_M, M)$  its tangent bundle. A Lie algebroid [9] over the manifold  $M$  is the triple  $(E, [\cdot, \cdot]_E, \sigma)$  where  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  is a vector bundle of rank  $m$  over  $M$ , whose  $C^\infty(M)$ -module of sections  $\Gamma(E)$  is equipped with a Lie algebra structure  $[\cdot, \cdot]_E$  and  $\sigma : E \rightarrow TM$  is a vector bundle homomorphism (called *the anchor*) which induces a Lie algebra homomorphism (also denoted  $\sigma$ ) from  $\Gamma(E)$  to  $\chi(M)$ , satisfying the Leibniz rule

$$[s_1, fs_2]_E = f[s_1, s_2]_E + (\sigma(s_1)f)s_2,$$

for every  $f \in C^\infty(M)$  and  $s_1, s_2 \in \Gamma(E)$ . Therefore, we get

$$\sigma[s_1, s_2]_E = [\sigma(s_1), \sigma(s_2)], \quad [s_1, [s_2, s_3]_E]_E + [s_2, [s_3, s_1]_E]_E + [s_3, [s_1, s_2]_E]_E = 0.$$

If  $\omega \in \wedge^k(E^*)$  then the *exterior derivative*  $d^E\omega \in \wedge^{k+1}(E^*)$  is given by the formula

$$\begin{aligned} d^E\omega(s_1, \dots, s_{k+1}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (-1)^{i+1} \sigma(s_i)\omega(s_1, \dots, \hat{s}_i, \dots, s_{k+1}) + \\ &\quad + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k+1} (-1)^{i+j} \omega([s_i, s_j]_E, s_1, \dots, \hat{s}_i, \dots, \hat{s}_j, \dots, s_{k+1}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $s_i \in \Gamma(E)$ ,  $i = \overline{1, k+1}$ , and it follows that  $(d^E)^2 = 0$ . Also, for  $\xi \in \Gamma(E)$  on can define the *Lie derivative* with respect to  $\xi$  by  $\mathcal{L}_\xi = i_\xi \circ d^E + d^E \circ i_\xi$ , where  $i_\xi$  is the contraction with  $\xi$ . If we take the local coordinates  $(x^i)$  on an open subset  $U \subset M$ , a local basis  $\{s_\alpha\}$  of sections of the bundle  $\pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U$  generates local coordinates  $(x^i, y^\alpha)$  on  $E$ . The local functions  $\sigma_\alpha^i(x)$ ,  $L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma(x)$  on  $M$  given by

$$\sigma(s_\alpha) = \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \quad [s_\alpha, s_\beta]_E = L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma s_\gamma, \quad i = \overline{1, n}, \quad \alpha, \beta, \gamma = \overline{1, m},$$

are called the *structure functions* of Lie algebroids.

### 2.1 The prolongation of a Lie algebroid over the vector bundle projection

Let  $(E, \pi, M)$  be a vector bundle. For the projection  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  we can construct the prolongation of  $E$  (see [3], [10], [8]). The associated vector bundle is  $(TE, \pi_2, E)$  where  $TE = \cup_{w \in E} \mathcal{T}_w E$  with

$$\mathcal{T}_w E = \{(u_x, v_w) \in E_x \times T_w E \mid \sigma(u_x) = T_w \pi(v_w), \quad \pi(w) = x \in M\},$$

and the projection  $\pi_2(u_x, v_w) = \pi_E(v_w) = w$ , where  $\pi_E : TE \rightarrow E$  is the tangent projection. We have also the canonical projection  $\pi_1 : TE \rightarrow E$  given by  $\pi_1(u, v) = u$ . The projection onto the second factor  $\sigma^1 : TE \rightarrow TE$ ,  $\sigma^1(u, v) = v$  will be the anchor of a new Lie algebroid over manifold  $E$ . An element of  $TE$  is said to be vertical if it is in the kernel of the projection  $\pi_1$ . We will denote  $(VTE, \pi_2|_{VTE}, E)$  the vertical bundle of  $(TE, \pi_2, E)$ . The local basis of  $\Gamma(TE)$  is given by  $\{\mathcal{X}_\alpha, \mathcal{V}_\alpha\}$ , where [10]

$$\mathcal{X}_\alpha(u) = \left( s_\alpha(\pi(u)), \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \Big|_u \right), \quad \mathcal{V}_\alpha(u) = \left( 0, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\alpha} \Big|_u \right),$$

and  $(\partial/\partial x^i, \partial/\partial y^\alpha)$  is the local basis on  $TE$ . The structure functions of  $TE$  are given by the following formulas

$$\sigma^1(\mathcal{X}_\alpha) = \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \quad \sigma^1(\mathcal{V}_\alpha) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\alpha},$$

$$[\mathcal{X}_\alpha, \mathcal{X}_\beta]_{TE} = L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \mathcal{X}_\gamma, \quad [\mathcal{X}_\alpha, \mathcal{V}_\beta]_{TE} = 0, \quad [\mathcal{V}_\alpha, \mathcal{V}_\beta]_{TE} = 0.$$

The differential of sections of  $(TE)^*$  is determined by

$$d^E \mathcal{X}^\alpha = -\frac{1}{2} L_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \mathcal{X}^\beta \wedge \mathcal{X}^\gamma, \quad d^E \mathcal{V}^\alpha = 0.$$

Other canonical geometric objects (see [8]) are *Euler section*  $C = y^\alpha \mathcal{V}_\alpha$  and the *vertical endomorphism* or *tangent structure*  $J = \mathcal{X}^\alpha \otimes \mathcal{V}_\alpha$ . A section  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $TE$  is called *semispray* (or *second order differential equation -SODE*) if  $J(\mathcal{S}) = C$ . In local coordinates a semispray has the expression

$$(2.1) \quad \mathcal{S}(x, y) = y^\alpha \mathcal{X}_\alpha + \mathcal{S}^\alpha(x, y) \mathcal{V}_\alpha$$

A nonlinear connection  $N$  on  $TE$  is an  $m$ -dimensional distribution (called *horizontal distribution*)  $N : u \in E \rightarrow HT_u E \subset TE$  that is supplementary to the vertical distribution. This means that we have the following decomposition  $\mathcal{T}_u E = HT_u E \oplus VT_u E$ , for  $u \in E$ . A connection  $N$  on  $TE$  induces two projectors  $h, v : TE \rightarrow TE$  such that  $h(\rho) = \rho^h$  and  $v(\rho) = \rho^v$  for every  $\rho \in \Gamma(TE)$ , where  $h = \frac{1}{2}(id + N)$ ,  $v = \frac{1}{2}(id - N)$ . Locally, a connection can be expressed as  $N(\mathcal{X}_\alpha) = \mathcal{X}_\alpha - 2N_\alpha^\beta \mathcal{V}_\beta$ ,  $N(\mathcal{V}_\beta) = -\mathcal{V}_\beta$ , where  $N_\alpha^\beta = N_\alpha^\beta(x, y)$  are the local coefficients of  $N$ . The sections

$$\delta_\alpha = (\mathcal{X}_\alpha)^h = \mathcal{X}_\alpha - N_\alpha^\beta \mathcal{V}_\beta,$$

generate a basis of  $HTE$ . The frame  $\{\delta_\alpha, \mathcal{V}_\alpha\}$  is a local basis of  $TE$  called the Berwald basis. The dual basis is  $\{\mathcal{X}^\alpha, \delta\mathcal{V}^\alpha\}$  where  $\delta\mathcal{V}^\alpha = \mathcal{V}^\alpha - N_\beta^\alpha \mathcal{X}^\beta$ .

A semispray  $\mathcal{S}$  with local coefficients  $\mathcal{S}^\alpha$  determines an associated nonlinear connection  $N = -\mathcal{L}_\mathcal{S} J$  with local coefficients

$$(2.2) \quad N_\alpha^\beta = \frac{1}{2} \left( -\frac{\partial \mathcal{S}^\beta}{\partial y^\alpha} + y^\varepsilon L_{\alpha\varepsilon}^\beta \right).$$

The inverse problem of Lagrangian dynamics on Lie algebroids is to give necessary and sufficient conditions for a system of second order differential equation to be the Euler-Lagrange equations of some regular Lagrangian function. One solution is known as the Helmholtz conditions. If  $\mathcal{S}$  is a semispray on  $TE$  given by (2.1) and  $N_\beta^\alpha$  are the coefficients of the associated nonlinear connection (2.2) then the Helmholtz conditions are concerned with the local existence of the functions  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  such that [12]

$$i) \det g_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0, \quad g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\beta\alpha}, \quad \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial y^\varepsilon} = \frac{\partial g_{\alpha\varepsilon}}{\partial y^\beta},$$

$$(2.3) \quad ii) \mathcal{S}(g_{\alpha\beta}) - g_{\gamma\beta} N_\alpha^\gamma - g_{\gamma\alpha} N_\beta^\gamma = y^\varepsilon \left( g_{\gamma\beta} L_{\varepsilon\alpha}^\gamma + g_{\gamma\alpha} L_{\varepsilon\beta}^\gamma \right),$$

$$iii) g_{\alpha\gamma} \left( \sigma_\beta^i \frac{\partial \mathcal{S}^\gamma}{\partial x^i} + \mathcal{S} N_\beta^\gamma + N_\beta^\varepsilon N_\varepsilon^\gamma - (L_{\varepsilon\beta}^\delta N_\delta^\gamma + L_{\delta\varepsilon}^\gamma N_\beta^\delta) y^\varepsilon \right) = g_{\beta\gamma} \left( \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial \mathcal{S}^\gamma}{\partial x^i} + \mathcal{S} N_\alpha^\gamma + N_\alpha^\varepsilon N_\varepsilon^\gamma - (L_{\varepsilon\alpha}^\delta N_\delta^\gamma + L_{\delta\varepsilon}^\gamma N_\alpha^\delta) y^\varepsilon \right).$$

## 2.2 The prolongation of a Lie algebroid to its dual bundle

Let  $\tau : E^* \rightarrow M$  be the dual bundle of  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  and  $(E, [\cdot, \cdot]_E, \sigma)$  a Lie algebroid structure over  $M$ . One can construct a Lie algebroid structure over  $E^*$ , by taking the prolongation over  $\tau : E^* \rightarrow M$  (see [3], [8], [4]). The associated vector bundle is  $(\mathcal{T}E^*, \tau_1, E^*)$  where  $\mathcal{T}E^* = \bigcup_{u^* \in E^*} \mathcal{T}_{u^*}E^*$  and

$$\mathcal{T}_{u^*}E^* = \{(u_x, v_{u^*}) \in E_x \times T_{u^*}E^* \mid \sigma(u_x) = T_{u^*}\tau(v_{u^*}), \tau(u^*) = x \in M\},$$

and the projection  $\tau_1 : \mathcal{T}E^* \rightarrow E^*$ ,  $\tau_1(u_x, v_{u^*}) = u^*$ . The anchor is the projection  $\sigma^1 : \mathcal{T}E^* \rightarrow TE^*$ ,  $\sigma^1(u, v) = v$ . Notice that if  $\mathcal{T}\tau : \mathcal{T}E^* \rightarrow E$ ,  $\mathcal{T}\tau(u, v) = u$  then  $(V\mathcal{T}E^*, \tau_1|_{V\mathcal{T}E^*}, E^*)$  with  $V\mathcal{T}E^* = \text{Ker}\mathcal{T}\tau$  is a subbundle of  $(\mathcal{T}E^*, \tau_1, E^*)$ , called the *vertical subbundle*. If  $(q^i, \mu_\alpha)$  are local coordinates on  $E^*$  at  $u^*$  and  $\{s_\alpha\}$  is a local basis of sections of  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  then a local basis of  $\Gamma(\mathcal{T}E^*)$  is  $\{\mathcal{Q}_\alpha, \mathcal{P}^\alpha\}$  where [8]

$$\mathcal{Q}_\alpha(u^*) = \left( s_\alpha(\tau(u^*)), \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} \Big|_{u^*} \right), \quad \mathcal{P}^\alpha(u^*) = \left( 0, \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_\alpha} \Big|_{u^*} \right).$$

The structure functions on  $\mathcal{T}E^*$  are given by the following formulas

$$\sigma^1(\mathcal{Q}_\alpha) = \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i}, \quad \sigma^1(\mathcal{P}^\alpha) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_\alpha},$$

$$[\mathcal{Q}_\alpha, \mathcal{Q}_\beta]_{\mathcal{T}E^*} = L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \mathcal{Q}_\gamma, \quad [\mathcal{Q}_\alpha, \mathcal{P}^\alpha]_{\mathcal{T}E^*} = 0, \quad [\mathcal{P}^\alpha, \mathcal{P}^\beta]_{\mathcal{T}E^*} = 0,$$

and therefore

$$d^E \mathcal{Q}^\gamma = -\frac{1}{2} L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \mathcal{Q}^\alpha \wedge \mathcal{Q}^\beta, \quad d^E \mathcal{P}_\alpha = 0, \quad d^E q^i = \sigma_\alpha^i \mathcal{Q}^\alpha, \quad d^E \mu_\alpha = \mathcal{P}_\alpha,$$

where  $\{\mathcal{Q}^\alpha, \mathcal{P}_\alpha\}$  is the dual basis of  $\{\mathcal{Q}_\alpha, \mathcal{P}^\alpha\}$ . In local coordinates the *Liouville section* is given by  $\theta_E = \mu_\alpha \mathcal{Q}^\alpha$ . The *canonical symplectic structure*  $\omega_E$  is defined by  $\omega_E = -d^E \theta_E$ . It follows that  $\omega_E$  is a non degenerate 2-section,  $d^E \omega_E = 0$  and

$$(2.4) \quad \omega_E = \mathcal{Q}^\alpha \wedge \mathcal{P}_\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \mu_\alpha L_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \mathcal{Q}^\beta \wedge \mathcal{Q}^\gamma.$$

## 3 Regular sections and the inverse problem of Lagrangian dynamics on Lie algebroids

An almost tangent structure  $\mathcal{J}$  on  $\mathcal{T}E^*$  is a bundle morphism  $\mathcal{J} : \mathcal{T}E^* \rightarrow \mathcal{T}E^*$  of rank  $m$ , such that  $\mathcal{J}^2 = 0$ . An almost tangent structure  $\mathcal{J}$  on  $\mathcal{T}E^*$  is called *adapted* if  $\text{im}\mathcal{J} = \text{ker}\mathcal{J} = V\mathcal{T}E^*$ . Locally, an adapted almost tangent structure is given by

$$\mathcal{J} = t_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{Q}^\alpha \otimes \mathcal{P}^\beta,$$

where the matrix  $(t_{\alpha\beta}(x, \mu))$  is nondegenerate. It follows that  $\mathcal{J}$  is an integrable structure if and only if [4]

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{\partial t^{\alpha\gamma}}{\partial \mu_\beta} = \frac{\partial t^{\beta\gamma}}{\partial \mu_\alpha},$$

where  $t^{\alpha\gamma} t_{\gamma\beta} = \delta_\beta^\alpha$ .

**Definition 3.1.** An adapted almost tangent structure  $\mathcal{J}$  on  $TE^*$  is called symmetric if

$$(3.2) \quad \omega_E(\mathcal{J}\rho_1, \rho_2) = \omega_E(\mathcal{J}\rho_2, \rho_1), \quad \forall \rho_1, \rho_2 \in \Gamma(TE^*).$$

Considering  $\rho_1 = \xi_1^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_{1\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta$  and  $\rho_2 = \xi_2^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_{2\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta$  we obtain

$$\omega_E(\xi_1^\alpha t_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta, \xi_2^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_{2\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta) = \omega_E(\xi_2^\alpha t_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta, \xi_1^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_{1\beta} \mathcal{P}^\beta),$$

which lead to the symmetry of  $t_{\alpha\beta}$ .

If  $g$  is a pseudo-Riemannian metric on the vertical subbundle  $VTE^*$  (i.e. a  $(0, 2)$ -type symmetric  $E$ -tensor  $g = g^{\alpha\beta}(q, \mu) \mathcal{P}_\alpha \otimes \mathcal{P}_\beta$  of rank  $m$  on  $TE^*$ ) then there exists a unique symmetric adapted almost tangent structure on  $TE^*$  such that

$$(3.3) \quad g(\mathcal{J}\rho, \mathcal{J}v) = -\omega_E(\mathcal{J}\rho, v), \quad \forall \rho_1, \rho_2 \in \Gamma(TE^*),$$

and we say that  $\mathcal{J}$  is induced by the metric  $g$ . Locally, the relation (3.3) implies  $t^{\alpha\beta} = g^{\alpha\beta}$ .

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $\mathcal{J}$  be an adapted almost tangent structure on  $TE^*$ . A section  $\rho$  of  $TE^*$  is called  $\mathcal{J}$ -regular if

$$(3.4) \quad \mathcal{J}[\rho, \mathcal{J}\nu]_{TE^*} = -\mathcal{J}\nu, \quad \forall \nu \in \Gamma(TE^*).$$

Locally, the section  $\rho = \xi^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_\beta \mathcal{P}^\beta$  is  $\mathcal{J}$ -regular if and only if [4]

$$t^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\partial \xi^\beta}{\partial \mu_\alpha},$$

where  $t^{\alpha\beta} t_{\alpha\gamma} = \delta_\gamma^\beta$ . We have to remark that if the equation (3.4) is satisfied for any section  $\nu \in \Gamma(TE^*)$  with  $\text{rank}[t^{\alpha\beta}] = m$ , then  $\mathcal{J}$  is an integrable structure.

**Definition 3.3.** A section  $\psi$  on  $TE^*$  is called the *Hamilton section* if it is  $\mathcal{J}$ -regular and

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi \omega_E = 0,$$

where  $\omega_E$  is the canonical symplectic section.

If  $\psi = \xi^\alpha \mathcal{Q}_\alpha + \rho_\alpha \mathcal{P}^\alpha$  then by direct computation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_\psi \omega_E &= \frac{\partial \xi^\beta}{\partial \mu_\alpha} \mathcal{P}_\alpha \wedge \mathcal{P}_\beta + \left( \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial \xi^\beta}{\partial q^i} + \frac{\partial \rho_\alpha}{\partial \mu_\beta} - \xi^\gamma L_{\gamma\alpha}^\beta - \mu_\varepsilon L_{\gamma\alpha}^\varepsilon \frac{\partial \xi^\gamma}{\mu_\beta} \right) \mathcal{Q}^\alpha \wedge \mathcal{P}_\beta + \\ &\left( -\sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial \rho_\beta}{\partial q^i} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_\gamma L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma + \mu_\varepsilon \xi^\gamma \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial L_{\gamma\beta}^\varepsilon}{\partial q^i} + \mu_\varepsilon L_{\gamma\beta}^\varepsilon \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial \xi^\gamma}{\partial q^i} - \frac{1}{2} \mu_\varepsilon \xi^\theta L_{\theta\gamma}^\varepsilon L_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \right) \mathcal{Q}^\alpha \wedge \mathcal{Q}^\beta, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\mathcal{L}_\psi \omega_E = 0$  leads to the equations [13]

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{\partial \xi^\beta}{\partial \mu_\alpha} = \frac{\partial \xi^\alpha}{\partial \mu_\beta},$$

$$(3.6) \quad \sigma_\alpha^i \frac{\partial \xi^\beta}{\partial q^i} + \frac{\partial \rho_\alpha}{\partial \mu_\beta} = \xi^\gamma L_{\gamma\alpha}^\beta + \mu_\varepsilon L_{\gamma\alpha}^\varepsilon \frac{\partial \xi^\gamma}{\mu_\beta},$$

$$(3.7) \quad \sigma_{\beta}^i \frac{\partial \rho_{\alpha}}{\partial q^i} - \sigma_{\alpha}^i \frac{\partial \rho_{\beta}}{\partial q^i} = \mu_{\varepsilon} \xi^{\gamma} \left( \sigma_{\beta}^i \frac{\partial L_{\gamma\alpha}^{\varepsilon}}{\partial q^i} - \sigma_{\alpha}^i \frac{\partial L_{\gamma\beta}^{\varepsilon}}{\partial q^i} + L_{\nu\gamma}^{\varepsilon} L_{\alpha\beta}^{\nu} \right) + \\ + \mu_{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \xi^{\gamma}}{\partial q^i} (\sigma_{\beta}^i L_{\gamma\alpha}^{\varepsilon} - \sigma_{\alpha}^i L_{\gamma\beta}^{\varepsilon}) - \rho_{\gamma} L_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}.$$

Next, we consider a local diffeomorphism  $\Phi$  to  $E^*$  to  $E$  given locally by

$$(3.8) \quad x^i = q^i, \quad y^{\alpha} = \xi^{\alpha}(q, \mu),$$

and its inverse  $\Phi^{-1}$  has the following local coordinates expression

$$(3.9) \quad q^i = x^i, \quad \mu_{\alpha} = \zeta_{\alpha}(x, y),$$

There always exists a local diffeomorphism  $\Phi$  to  $E^*$  to  $E$  given, for instance, by Legendre transformation associated with a regular Hamiltonian on  $E^*$  and the Lagrangian is  $\mathcal{L}(x, y) = \zeta_{\alpha} y^{\alpha} - \mathcal{H}(x, \mu)$  where the components  $\zeta_{\alpha}(x, y)$  define a 1-section on  $E$ . From the condition for  $\Phi^{-1}$  to be the inverse of  $\Phi$  we get the following formulas:

$$(3.10) \quad \mathcal{V}_{\beta}(\zeta_{\alpha}) \circ \Phi = g_{\alpha\beta}, \quad \mathcal{X}_{\beta}(\zeta_{\alpha}) \circ \Phi = -g_{\alpha\gamma} \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}(\xi^{\gamma}),$$

$$(3.11) \quad \Phi_* \mathcal{P}^{\alpha} = (g^{\alpha\beta} \circ \Phi^{-1}) \mathcal{V}_{\beta}, \quad \Phi_*(\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}) = \mathcal{X}_{\alpha} + (\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}(\xi^{\beta}) \circ \Phi^{-1}) \mathcal{V}_{\beta},$$

$$(3.12) \quad \Phi_*^{-1}(\mathcal{V}_{\alpha}) = g_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{P}^{\beta}, \quad \Phi_*^{-1}(\mathcal{X}_{\alpha}) = \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha} - g_{\gamma\varepsilon} \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}(\xi^{\varepsilon}) \mathcal{P}^{\gamma},$$

where  $\Phi_*$  is the tangent map of  $\Phi$  and  $g^{\alpha\beta} = \partial \xi^{\alpha} / \partial \mu_{\beta}$ ,  $g^{\alpha\beta} g_{\beta\gamma} = \delta_{\gamma}^{\alpha}$ . We denote  $g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta} \circ \Phi^{-1}$  by abuse.

Let us consider  $\mathcal{S} = y^{\alpha} \mathcal{X}_{\alpha} + \mathcal{S}^{\alpha}(x, y) \mathcal{V}_{\alpha}$  a semispray on  $\mathcal{T}E$  and  $\Phi^{-1} : E \rightarrow E^*$  the diffeomorphism given by (3.9). Then we set:

**Theorem 3.1.** *The section  $\rho = \Phi_*^{-1} \mathcal{S}$  is a Hamiltonian section on  $\mathcal{T}E^*$  if and only if  $\mathcal{S}$  and the function  $g_{\alpha\beta} = \partial \zeta_{\alpha} / \partial y^{\beta}$  satisfy the Helmholtz conditions and the equation*

$$\mathcal{X}_{\alpha}(\zeta_{\theta}) - \mathcal{X}_{\theta}(\zeta_{\alpha}) = N_{\theta}^{\varepsilon} g_{\varepsilon\alpha} - N_{\alpha}^{\varepsilon} g_{\varepsilon\theta} + \zeta_{\varepsilon} L_{\alpha\theta}^{\varepsilon}.$$

*Proof.* Since  $\Phi$  is a local diffeomorphism it results  $\det(g_{\alpha\beta}) \neq 0$ . Using (3.12) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_*^{-1} \mathcal{S} &= \Phi_*^{-1}(y^{\alpha} \mathcal{X}_{\alpha}) + \Phi_*^{-1}(\mathcal{S}^{\alpha} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha}) = \xi^{\alpha} (\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha} - g_{\gamma\varepsilon} \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}(\xi^{\varepsilon}) \mathcal{P}^{\gamma}) + \mathcal{S}^{\alpha} g_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{P}^{\beta} \\ &= \xi^{\alpha} \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha} + (-g_{\gamma\varepsilon} \xi^{\alpha} \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}(\xi^{\varepsilon}) + \mathcal{S}^{\alpha} g_{\alpha\gamma}) \mathcal{P}^{\gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

From the condition (3.5) it results  $\frac{\partial \xi^{\beta}}{\partial \mu_{\alpha}} = \frac{\partial \xi^{\alpha}}{\partial \mu_{\beta}}$  which leads to the first Helmholtz condition. The condition (3.6) lead to

$$\sigma_{\gamma}^i \frac{\partial \xi^{\alpha}}{\partial q^i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_{\alpha}} (-\xi^{\beta} g_{\gamma\varepsilon} \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}(\xi^{\varepsilon}) + \mathcal{S}^{\beta} g_{\beta\gamma}) = \xi^{\beta} L_{\beta\gamma}^{\alpha} + \mu_{\varepsilon} L_{\beta\gamma}^{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \xi^{\beta}}{\partial \mu_{\alpha}},$$

and using (3.10) it results

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\gamma}(\xi^{\alpha}) + g^{\beta\alpha} \mathcal{X}_{\beta}(\zeta_{\gamma}) + \xi^{\beta} \mathcal{X}_{\beta}(g_{\varepsilon\gamma}) g^{\alpha\varepsilon} + \mathcal{P}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}^{\beta}) g_{\beta\gamma} + \mathcal{S}^{\beta} \mathcal{P}^{\alpha}(g_{\beta\gamma}) + \xi^{\beta} L_{\gamma\beta}^{\alpha} + \mu_{\varepsilon} L_{\gamma\beta}^{\varepsilon} g^{\beta\alpha} = 0$$

which is equivalent with

$$g^{\theta\beta} (\mathcal{X}_\theta(\zeta_\alpha) - \mathcal{X}_\alpha(\zeta_\theta) + \mathcal{V}_\theta(\mathcal{S}^\varepsilon)g_{\varepsilon\alpha} + \xi^\varepsilon \mathcal{X}_\varepsilon(g_{\alpha\theta}) + \mathcal{S}^\varepsilon \mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(g_{\alpha\theta}) + \zeta_\varepsilon L_{\alpha\theta}^\varepsilon) + y^\varepsilon L_{\alpha\varepsilon}^\beta = 0.$$

From (2.2) we obtain

$$(3.13) \quad \mathcal{X}_\alpha(\zeta_\theta) - \mathcal{X}_\theta(\zeta_\alpha) = \mathcal{S}(g_{\alpha\theta}) - 2N_\theta^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\alpha} + y^\beta L_{\theta\beta}^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\alpha} + y^\beta L_{\alpha\beta}^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\theta} + \zeta_\varepsilon L_{\alpha\theta}^\varepsilon.$$

The antisymmetric part of (3.13) leads to the equation

$$\mathcal{S}(g_{\alpha\theta}) - N_\theta^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\alpha} - N_\alpha^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\theta} + y^\beta (L_{\theta\beta}^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\alpha} + L_{\alpha\beta}^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\theta}) = 0$$

which is the second Helmholtz condition. The symmetric part of (3.13) leads also to the equation

$$\mathcal{X}_\alpha(\zeta_\theta) - \mathcal{X}_\theta(\zeta_\alpha) = N_\theta^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\alpha} - N_\alpha^\varepsilon g_{\varepsilon\theta} + \zeta_\varepsilon L_{\alpha\theta}^\varepsilon.$$

Finally, the section  $\rho = \Phi_*^{-1}\mathcal{S}$  is a Hamilton section if the condition (3.7) is satisfied. In the same way, by straightforward computation the third Helmholtz condition is obtained, which ends the proof.  $\square$

**Acknowledgements.** The author wishes to express his thanks to the referee for useful remarks concerning this paper and for the references [5], [7].

## References

- [1] I. M. Anderson, G. Thompson, *The inverse problem of the calculus of variations for ordinary differential equations*, Mem. Amer. Math. Soc., 98 (1992).
- [2] M. Crampin, T. Mestdag, *The inverse problem for invariant Lagrangians on a Lie group*, J. Lie Theory, 18, no. 2 (2008) 471-502.
- [3] P. J. Higgins, K. Mackenzie, *Algebraic constructions in the category of Lie algebroids*, J. Algebra, 129 (1990) 194-230.
- [4] D. Hrimiuc, L. Popescu, *Nonlinear connections on dual Lie algebroids*, Balkan J. Geom. Appl., 11, 1 (2006) 73-80.
- [5] O. Krupkova, *The geometry of ordinary variational equations*, New York: Springer Verlag, 1997.
- [6] O. Krupkova, G. E. Prince, *Second-order ordinary differential equations in jet bundles and the inverse problem of the calculus of variations*, In the Handbook of Global Analysis ed. D. Krupka and D. Saunders, Elsevier 2007.
- [7] O. Krupkova., M. Radka, *Helmholtz conditions and their generalizations*, Balkan J. Geom. Appl., 15, 1 (2010) 80-89.
- [8] M. de Leon, J. C. Marrero, E. Martinez, *Lagrangian submanifolds and dynamics on Lie algebroids*, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen., 38 (2005) 241-308.
- [9] K. Mackenzie, *Lie groupoids and Lie algebroids in differential geometry*, London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series, Cambridge, 124, 1987.
- [10] E. Martinez, *Lagrangian mechanics on Lie algebroids*, Acta Appl. Math., 67, (2001) 295-320.
- [11] L. Popescu, *Geometrical structures on Lie algebroids*, Publ. Math. Debrecen, 72, 1-2 (2008) 95-109.

- [12] L. Popescu, *Metric nonlinear connections on Lie algebroids*, Balkan J. Geom. Appl., 16, 1 (2011) 111-121.
- [13] L. Popescu, *Dual structures on the prolongations of a Lie algebroid*, An. Stiinț. Univ. Al. I. Cuza Iași. Mat. (N.S.), 59, 2 (2013) 373-390.
- [14] A. Weinstein, *Lagrangian mechanics and groupoids*, Fields Inst. Comm., 7 (1996) 206-231.

*Author's address:*

Liviu Popescu  
Department of Applied Mathematics, University of Craiova  
13, Al. I. Cuza, st., Craiova 200585, Romania.  
E-mail: liviupopescu@central.ucv.ro , liviunew@yahoo.com