

In advanced mechanics, there are several things on which I am still a little confused:

Euler originally drafted the equation

$$Q_k = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}} - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q}$$

Whereas we use Lagrange's equation

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} \text{ where } L = T - V \text{ to solve for equations of motion.}$$

Do we use the Euler equation for anything specific?

Well I was very confused, what I needed was Euler's second equation:

$$f - \frac{\partial f}{\partial \dot{q}} \dot{q} = \text{constant}$$

I am also confused when we have non-holonomic equations where the energies depend on $\dot{\vec{r}}$ such as frictional forces, how does this change the Lagrange equations?

So for non-holonomic equations we set the Lagrange = Q_k instead of 0.

$$\text{where } Q_k = \sum F_i \cdot \frac{dr_i}{dq_k}$$

Finally, I am very confused by the δ operator when it is used in conjunction with an integral such as Hamilton's equation

$$\delta \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt = 0. \text{ Why } \delta \text{ and not just } d?$$

In this case δ was a special derivative dealing with the Calculus of variations where $y = f(x, \alpha)$.