

# EN530.603 Applied Optimal Control

## Lecture 5: Continuous Optimal Control Basics

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Lecturer: Marin Kobilarov

### 1 Continuous Systems with Terminal Constraints

Consider the cost

$$J = \underbrace{\phi(x(t_f), t_f)}_{\text{最终状态的cost}} + \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_f} L(x(t), u(t), t) dt}_{\text{过程中的cost}}, \quad (1)$$

↑ 此处 final time =  $t_f + \delta t_f$

subject to  $q$  constraints

$$\psi(x(t_f), t_f) = 0$$

对终端

and the dynamics

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t), t), \quad t_0 \text{ and } x(t_0) \text{ are given.}$$

对轨迹

2种 constraints

It will be useful to employ the shorthand notation  $f(t) \equiv f(x(t), u(t), t)$ , or  $\phi(t) \equiv \phi(x(t), t)$ , etc... Sometimes,  $f$  (or any other function) could also be without arguments, i.e.  $f \equiv f(x(t), u(t), t)$ .

Before we obtain the necessary conditions for optimality, let's see how to deal with variations of terms in the cost defined at  $t_f$ . Assume that our functional includes a term  $h(x(t_f), t_f)$ , i.e.

$$J = h(x(t_f), t_f) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \dots dt,$$

where  $\dots$  represent any other terms. We can express this as

$$J = h(x(t_0), t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \frac{d}{dt} h(x(t), t) + \dots dt,$$

which is equivalent to

$$J = h(x(t_0), t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \nabla_x h(x(t), t)^T \dot{x}(t) + \underline{\partial_t h(x(t), t)} + \dots dt. \quad \int u \dot{v} = uv - \int v \dot{u}$$

UV

Then using integration by parts and the definition of  $\delta x_f = \delta x(t_f) + \dot{x} \delta t_f$  we have

$$\delta J = \nabla_x h(t_f)^T \delta x_f + [\nabla_x h(t_f)^T \dot{x}(t_f) + \underline{\partial_t h(t_f)} - \nabla_x h(t_f)^T \dot{x}(t_f)] \delta t_f + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \nabla_x [\nabla_x h(t)^T \dot{x}(t) + \partial_t h(t)] - \frac{d}{dt} \nabla_x [\nabla_x h(t)^T \dot{x}(t) + \partial_t h(t)] + \delta(\dots) dt \quad (2)$$

After applying the derivatives under the integral, all terms there cancel and we end up with:

$$\delta J = \nabla_x h(x(t_f), t_f)^T \delta x_f + \partial_t h(x(t_f), t_f) \delta t_f + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \delta(\dots) dt \quad (3)$$

$x=c^2 \quad t^2+t$

直接得到  $\nabla_x h(x(t_f), t_f)^T \delta x(t_f) + \nabla_x h(x(t_f), t_f) \cdot \dot{x} \cdot \delta t_f + \partial_t h(x(t_f), t_f) \delta t_f$

and the dynamics

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t), t),$$

$t_0$  and  $x(t_0)$  are given.

之前是  $0 = f(x, u, t)$  的  
形式

$J_a$ : want to consider constrained problem as unconstrained problem

To obtain the necessary conditions for the original problem (??), form the augmented cost

$J_a = \phi(t_f) + \nu^T \psi(t_f) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \{L(x, u, t) + \lambda^T(t)[f(x, u, t) - \dot{x}]\} dt.$  t 不一定 fixed

只是与 terminal 有关, 所以与 t 无关

Let  $\Phi = \phi + \nu^T \psi$  and define the Hamiltonian  $H$  by

$$H(x, u, \lambda, t) = L(x, u, t) + \lambda^T(t)f(x, u, t).$$

与  $L$  的  $f$  不同 这里  $f = \dot{x}$

之前:  $f = 0$

Taking variations with respect to all variables including final time  $t_f$  (and using the relationship (??)) we obtain

$$\delta J = \nabla_x h(x(t_f), t_f)^T \delta x_f + \partial_t h(x(t_f), t_f) \delta t_f + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \delta(\dots) dt \quad J = h(x(t_f), t_f) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \dots dt,$$

$\delta J_a = ((\partial_t \Phi + L) \delta t_f + \partial_x \Phi \cdot \delta x_f)_{t=t_f} + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} (\partial_x H \cdot \delta x + \partial_u H \cdot \delta u - \lambda^T \delta \dot{x}) dt.$

$L \delta t_f \approx \int_{t_f}^{t_f + \delta t_f} L dt$  t 不确定

Integrating by parts and using the relationship  $\delta \dot{x} = \frac{d}{dt} \delta x$  差 +  $(f \cdot \dot{x}) \cdot \delta \lambda^T$ ,  $f \cdot \dot{x} = 0$

we obtain  $\delta x_f = \delta x(t_f) + \dot{x} \delta t_f,$

$\int -\lambda^T \delta \dot{x} dt = -\lambda^T \delta x_{t_f} + \int \dot{\lambda}^T \delta x dt$

$$\delta J_a = \left( [\partial_t \Phi + L + \lambda^T \dot{x}] \delta t_f + [\partial_x \Phi - \lambda^T] \delta x_f \right)_{t=t_f} + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} [(\partial_x H + \dot{\lambda}^T) \delta x + \partial_u H \cdot \delta u] dt$$

Since all variations are arbitrary and independent the necessary conditions become

$\delta J_a = 0$

$$\dot{\lambda}^T = -\partial_x H = -\lambda^T \partial_x f - \partial_x L, \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda(t_f)^T = \partial_x \Phi|_{t=t_f} = (\partial_x \phi + \nu^T \partial_x \psi)_{t=t_f}, \quad (5) \quad \leftarrow \text{only when final state is free}$$

$$\partial_u H = \lambda^T \partial_u f + \partial_u L = 0, \quad (6)$$

$$(\partial_t \Phi + L + \lambda^T \dot{x})_{t=t_f} = \left( \frac{d\Phi}{dt} + L \right)_{t=t_f} = 0, \quad (7)$$

where

$\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = \partial_t \Phi + \partial_x \Phi \cdot \dot{x}.$

only when  $t_f$  is free

After substituting the expression for  $\lambda(t_f)$  the necessary conditions are summarized according to:

optimal:  $\delta J_a = 0$  推出这些条件  $\dot{x} = f(x, u, t)$  dynamics (8)

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\nabla_x H = -\nabla_x f \cdot \lambda - \nabla_x L, \quad (4) \quad (9)$$

$$\nabla_u H = \nabla_u f \cdot \lambda + \nabla_u L = 0, \quad (6) \quad (10)$$

$$\lambda(t_f) = \nabla_x \phi(x(t_f), t_f) + \nabla_x \psi(x(t_f), t_f) \cdot \nu, \quad (5) \quad (11)$$

$$(\partial_t \phi + \nu^T \partial_t \psi + L + \lambda^T f)_{t=t_f} = 0, \quad \text{dynamics} + (5) + (7) \quad (12)$$

When the final time  $t_f$  is fixed the last relationship (??) can be dropped.

only when final state is free

当  $L$  和  $f$  与  $t$  无关时  $H(t)$  是个常数, 即  $\dot{H} = 0$

**Hamiltonian conservation.** Note that whenever the Hamiltonian does not depend on time (that is when  $f$  and  $L$  do not depend on time)

$$\partial_t H(x, u, \lambda, t) = 0$$

then  $H$  is a conserved quantity along optimal trajectories  $x^*(t), u^*(t), \lambda^*(t)$ , i.e. we have that

$$\dot{H}(x, u, \lambda, t) = \partial_x H \cdot \dot{x} + \partial_u H \cdot \dot{u} + \partial_\lambda H \cdot \dot{\lambda} + \partial_t H \quad (13)$$

$$= -\dot{\lambda}^T f(x, u, t) + 0 \cdot \dot{u} + f(x, u, t)^T \dot{\lambda} + 0 = 0 \quad (14)$$

Therefore, in this case we have  $H(t) = \text{const}$  for all  $t \in [t_0, t_f]$ . Furthermore, in the special case when  $\partial_t \phi = 0$  and  $\partial_t \psi = 0$  the last condition (??) reduces to  $H(t) = 0$ .  $H(t) = 0$  到  $t_f$  只要一个点确定  $H$  值就确定

**Minimum-time problems.** For minimum-time problems we have  $\phi = 0$  and  $L = 1$  so that condition (??) reduces to

让时间最短

$$\left( \nu^T [\partial_t \psi + \nabla_x \psi^T \cdot f] + 1 \right)_{t=t_f} = 0 \quad (12)$$

which can be used along with the constraint  $\psi(x(t_f), t_f) = 0$  to determine the multipliers  $\nu$  and final time  $t_f$ .

都是 Necessary condition. 

## Solution Methods

We are faced with solving the differential equations for  $t = [t_0, t_f]$  :

$$\text{Euler-Lagrange (EL) : } \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{\lambda} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f(x, u, t) \\ -\nabla_x H \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

where  $u(t)$  is computed by minimizing  $H$  which corresponds to the condition  $\nabla_u H = 0$  (9) 求出  $u(t)$

不一定成立

$$\text{Control optimization : } \nabla_u H = 0, \quad (10)$$

which we assume can be solved and that  $u(t)$  is then expressed as a function of  $x(t)$  and  $\lambda(t)$ , subject to the boundary constraints  $\psi(x(t_f), t_f) = 0$   $\psi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

求出  $u(t)$  后

Transversality Conditions (TC):

再根据各种条件求其它函数

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x(t_f), t_f) &= 0 \quad \text{final terminal constraint} \\ \lambda(t_f) &= \nabla_x \phi(x(t_f), t_f) + \nabla_x \psi(x(t_f), t_f) \cdot \nu, \quad (16) \\ \left( \partial_t \phi + \nu^T \partial_t \psi + L + \lambda^T f \right)_{t=t_f} &= 0, \quad \leftarrow \text{free end time condition} \end{aligned}$$

The following solution methods are applicable based on whether EL can be integrated in closed-form and whether TC can be solved in closed form:

- general: two-point boundary value problem (BVP) works with any EL and TC, the conditions are satisfied using a numerical "collocation" procedure 用来解 BVP 的  $u$  再代入 EL 求解 TC
- EL integrable: pick  $\lambda(0)$  integrate from  $t_0$  to  $t_f$  and solve TC as an implicit equality for the unknown  $(\lambda(0), \nu)$ . When final time  $t_f$  is free then solve for  $(\lambda(0), \nu, t_f)$ .
- EL integrable and TC solvable: closed-form solution.

EL: always applies: what happens in trajectory

optimal control cond: same as EL

TC: what happens for final state

**Example 1.** Minimum Control Effort Landing Consider a second order system with state  $x = (p, v) \in \mathbb{R}^4$  where  $p \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is the position and  $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is the velocity. The system has a double integrator dynamics given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{p} \\ \dot{v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ u \end{pmatrix}, \quad u: \text{改变加速度, fuel} \dots$$

where  $u \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is the acceleration control input. The system starts with known initial state  $x_0 = (p_0, v_0)$  and must “land” with a prescribed velocity  $v_f$  somewhere on a unit circle centered at the origin, i.e. the final configuration must satisfy  $\psi(x(t_f)) = 0$ , where

$$\psi(x) = p^T p - 1. \quad \text{降落在一个圆上}$$

The objective function is the control effort given by

$$L(x, u) = \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2$$

We start with the Hamiltonian, and the multipliers  $\lambda = (\lambda_p, \lambda_v)$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} u^T u + \lambda_p^T v + \lambda_v^T u, \quad \lambda \cdot f$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\lambda} &= -\nabla_x H \Rightarrow \dot{\lambda}_p = 0, \quad \dot{\lambda}_v = -\lambda_p \\ \nabla_u H &= 0 \Rightarrow u = -\lambda_v, \quad \dot{u} = \lambda_p \end{aligned}$$

from which we get

$$\ddot{u} = -\ddot{\lambda}_v = \dot{\lambda}_p = 0, \Rightarrow \dot{u} \text{ is constant} \quad u \text{ is linear } u = a_1 t + a_2$$

which means that the path  $p(t)$  is a cubic spline that can be written according to

$$p(t_0 + t) = c_3 t^3 + c_2 t^2 + v_0 t + p_0,$$

while the velocity is

$$v(t_0 + t) = 3c_3 t^2 + 2c_2 t + v_0. \quad \psi(x(t_f)) = p^T p - 1 = 0 \quad (18)$$

Now from

$$\lambda_p(t_f) = \nabla_p \psi(x(t_f)) \nu = 2p(t_f) \nu. \quad (16) \leftarrow \text{min time, no terminal cost} \star$$

Note that above since the velocity is not present in the terminal constraint  $\psi$ , then there is no additional condition on  $\lambda_v(t_f)$ .

Now considering that  $\lambda_p(t_f) = \dot{u}(t_f) = 6c_3$  the above is equivalent to

$$6c_3 = 2p(t_f) \nu. \quad \text{ID 2D 2D}$$

Finally, assuming  $t_f$  is given we can solve for  $\nu, c_2, c_3$  (5 unknowns) the implicit equations (5 equations):

$$6c_3 - 2p(t_f) \nu = 0, \quad 2eq \quad 2D \quad (19)$$

$$p(t_f)^T p(t_f) - 1 = 0, \quad 1eq \quad 1D \quad (20)$$

$$v(t_f) - v_f = 0, \quad 2eq \quad 2D \quad (21)$$

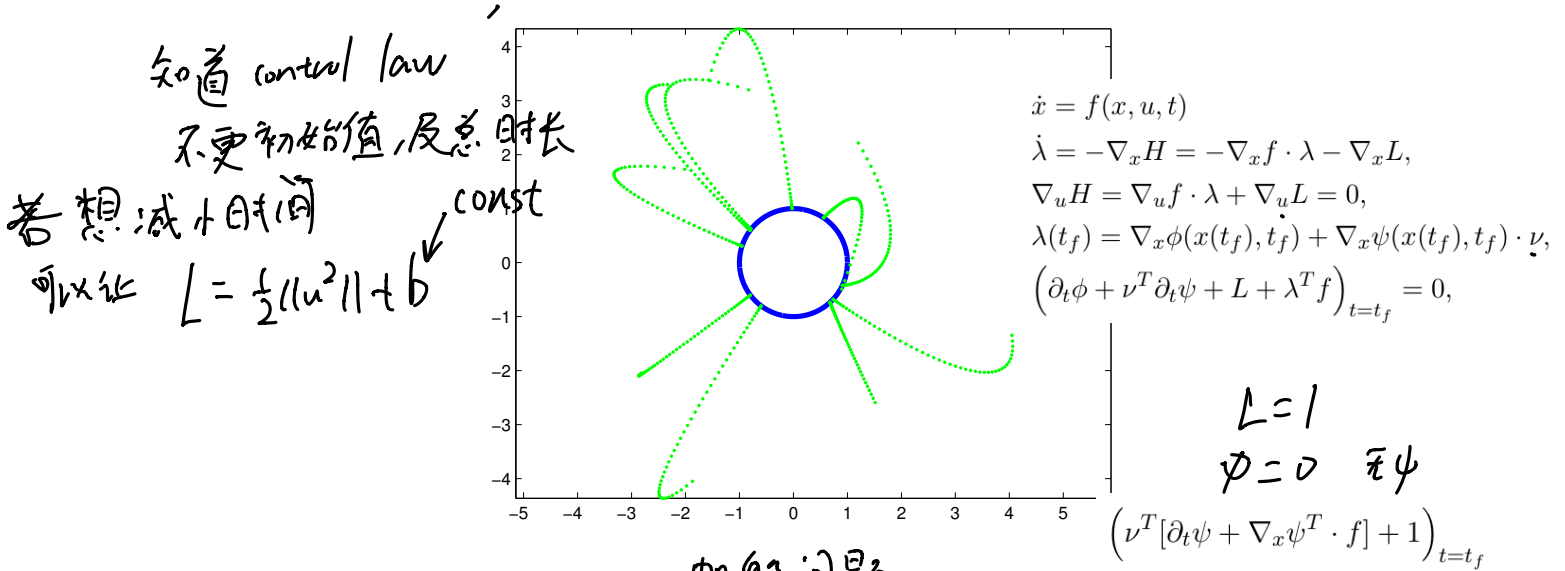
option 1:

$$\delta x(t_f) \text{ is free.} \quad \psi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} p^T p - 1 \\ v - v_f \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\text{option 2: } \delta p(t_f) \text{ is free} \quad \psi(x) = p^T p - 1 = 0 \\ \delta v(t_f) = 0, \quad v = v_f$$

where  $p(t_f)$  and  $v(t_f)$  are given by (??) and (??). Note that it is necessary that  $\nu \neq 0$  to ensure that the constraint is satisfied.

Examples of the resulting trajectories from randomly initialized states are given. In all examples we have  $v_f = (0, 0)$



### 帆船问题

**Example 2.** Example: Zermelo's problem (Bryson §2.7) Consider a ship with dynamics

$u, V$  是已知函数

$$\dot{x} = V \cos \theta + u(x, y) \quad (22)$$

$u = \theta$ : control, 要求的表达式

$$\dot{y} = V \sin \theta + v(x, y), \quad (23)$$

where  $(x, y)$  is the position,  $V$  is a constant velocity,  $\theta$  is the heading angle input and  $u$  and  $v$  denote velocity due to currents. The goal is to travel between points  $A$  and  $B$  in minimum time.

The Hamiltonian is

$$H = \lambda_x (V \cos \theta + u) + \lambda_y (V \sin \theta + v) + 1. \quad \sim \text{wrt. time}$$

The Euler-Lagrange equations are

根据 EL 求  $\lambda$

$$\dot{\lambda}_x = -\partial_x H = -\lambda_x \partial_x u - \lambda_y \partial_x v \quad (24)$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_y = -\partial_y H = -\lambda_x \partial_y u - \lambda_y \partial_y v \quad (25)$$

optim. control cond:  $0 = \partial_\theta H = V(-\lambda_x \sin \theta + \lambda_y \cos \theta) \Rightarrow \tan \theta = \frac{\lambda_y}{\lambda_x} \quad (26)$

Since this is a minimum-time problem we have  $H = 0$  and from (??) that

$$\lambda_x = \frac{-\cos \theta}{V + u \cos \theta + v \sin \theta}, \quad \lambda_y = \frac{-\sin \theta}{V + u \cos \theta + v \sin \theta}$$

This leads to

$$\dot{\theta} = \sin^2 \theta \partial_x v + \sin \theta \cos \theta (\partial_x u - \partial_y v) - \cos^2 \theta \partial_y u$$

Now, in order to reach  $B$  one has to select the start angle  $\theta_A$  and the final time  $t_f$ .

$L, f$  与  $t$  无关 第4条没变  
 $\phi = 0$  及 fixed  
 $\psi$  与  $t$  无关 第5条:  
 $\partial_t \psi = 0 \quad H(t_f) = 0$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $H = 0$

只能 pick  $Q_A$ ,  $t_f$

integrate  $\dot{\theta}$  to get  $x(t_f)$  until close enough to  $(0,0)$   
 $y(t_f)$  第4条使 goal  $\nearrow$

# Special case !!!

**Special Case.** For the special case when

$$u = -V(y/h), \quad v = 0 \quad \text{及只在 } x \text{ 轴方向上}$$

consider starting at  $(x_0, y_0)$  with the goal to reach the origin  $(0, 0)$ . We have

$$t_f = 0 \Rightarrow \dot{\lambda}_x = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_x = \text{const}$$

and therefore

$$\lambda_x = \frac{-\cos \theta}{V - V(y/h) \cos \theta} = \frac{-\cos \theta_f}{V} = -\text{const} \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{\cos \theta_f}{1 + (y/h) \cos \theta_f}$$

In the above, it turned out that it is convenient to work in terms of  $\theta_f$  rather than  $t_f$ . The solution can be obtained analytically as

根据  $x, y$  可求出  $\theta$  (方向)

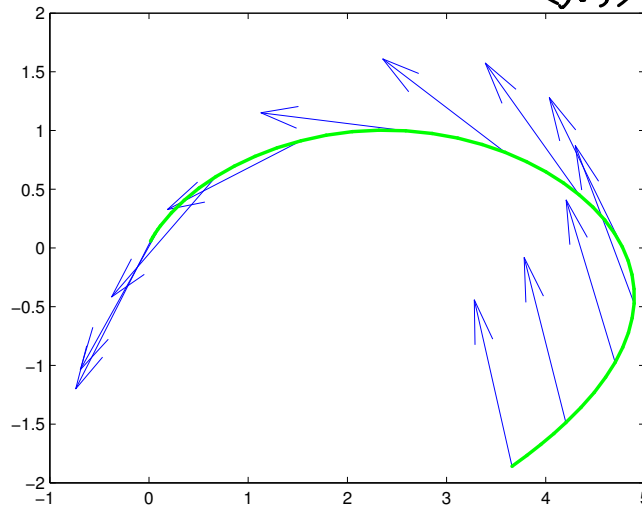
$$x = \frac{h}{2} \left[ \sec \theta_f (\tan \theta_f - \tan \theta) - \tan \theta (\sec \theta_f - \sec \theta) + \log \frac{\tan \theta_f + \sec \theta_f}{\tan \theta + \sec \theta} \right], \quad (27)$$

$$y = h(\sec \theta - \sec \theta_f), \quad (28)$$

from which one can compute the initial angle  $\theta$  and final angles  $\theta_f$  to achieve given final position  $(x, y)$ .

The computed path with initial conditions given by  $x_0 = 3.66$  and  $y_0 = -1.86$  with  $h = 1$ ,  $V = .3$  are given below

solve  $\begin{bmatrix} x(\epsilon) \\ y(\epsilon) \end{bmatrix} = 0$  in terms of  $\theta_0$  and  $\theta_f$



**Example 3.** Minimum Control Effort Landing with Optimal Time Consider the minimum control effort landing §?? with free final time  $t_f$  and a cost function given by

$$L(x, u) = b + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2,$$

for some constant  $b > 0$  which controls the balance between penalizing total time and total control effort.

We need to add the third transversality condition from (??)

$$\partial_t \phi(t_f) + H(t_f) = 0,$$

which in our case is

$$b - \frac{1}{2} \|u(t_f)\|^2 + \dot{u}(t_f)^T v(t_f) = 0$$

This can be solved along with the other five conditions to obtain the unknowns  $c_2, c_3, \nu, t_f$ . Plots of computed trajectories with varying  $b$  are given below.

