

Taylor expansion:

$$m^{-1}(m(q) + \epsilon) = m^{-1}(m(q)) + \frac{\epsilon}{m'(m^{-1}(m(q)))} + \dots = q + \frac{\epsilon}{m'(q)} + \dots \quad (1)$$

Cost functional:

$$C[m] = \int_0^1 \int_{-\bar{\epsilon}}^{\bar{\epsilon}} (q - m^{-1}(m(q) + \epsilon))^2 \cdot \frac{d\epsilon}{2\bar{\epsilon}} \cdot g(q) dq \quad (2)$$

$$\approx \int_0^1 \int_{-\bar{\epsilon}}^{\bar{\epsilon}} \left(q - \left(q + \frac{\epsilon}{m'(q)} \right) \right)^2 \cdot \frac{d\epsilon}{2\bar{\epsilon}} \cdot g(q) dq \quad (3)$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_{-\bar{\epsilon}}^{\bar{\epsilon}} \frac{\epsilon^2}{m'(q)^2} \cdot \frac{d\epsilon}{2\bar{\epsilon}} \cdot g(q) dq \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{\bar{\epsilon}^2}{3} \cdot \int_0^1 \frac{g(q) dq}{m'(q)^2} \quad (5)$$

Euler-Lagrange:

$$0 = \frac{d}{dq} \left(\frac{g(q)}{m'(q)^3} \right) = \frac{g'(q)m'(q)^3 - 3g(q)m'(q)^2m''(q)}{m'(q)^6}. \quad (6)$$

Equivalently:

$$0 = g'(q)m'(q) - 3g(q)m''(q) \quad (7)$$

subject to $m(0) = 0$ and $m(1) = 1$. Solution:

$$\boxed{m(q) = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^q g(t)^{1/3} dt} \quad (8)$$

where

$$C = \int_0^1 g(t)^{1/3} dt \quad (9)$$

from which it immediately follows that

$$m'(q) = C^{-1} g(q)^{1/3}. \quad (10)$$

Example. $g(q) = q^3 \Rightarrow m(q) = q^2$. Put

$$m_n(q) = \sum_{k=0}^n \mathbf{1}_{q_{k-1} \leq q < q_k}. \quad (11)$$

The optimal action is

$$a_k = A(q_k, q_{k+1}) \equiv \frac{\int_{q_k}^{q_{k+1}} t g(t) dt}{\int_{q_k}^{q_{k+1}} g(t) dt}. \quad (12)$$

The q_k obey the second-order difference equation

$$2q_k = A(q_{k-1}, q_k) + A(q_k, q_{k+1}) \quad (13)$$

subject to $q_0 = 0$ and $q_{n+1} = 1$.