# Sun-Avoidance Slew Planning Algorithm with Pointing and Actuator Constraints (AAS 19-801)

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Mohammad. A. Ayoubi<sup>1</sup> Junette Hsin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Santa Clara University, <sup>2</sup> Engineer, Dynamics and Control Analysis Group, Maxar Space Infrastructure (Formerly Space Systems/Loral)

### **Outlines**

- Previous Literature
- Introduction
- Sun-Avoidance Slew (SAS) Algorithm
- Computing Steering Profiles
- 5 Numerical Simulations
- Summary and Conclusion
- 7 Q& A

#### Introduction

The attitude reorientation problem in the presence of attitude constrained zones has been studied in the last three decades:

- McInnes (1994): artificial potential function. He proposed an entirely analytical guidance law which was suitable for onboard implementation.
  - However, he used Euler angles, which are singular for large slew angles.
- Spindle (1998), Hablani (1998), Biggs and Colley (2016), Frazzoli (2001): A geometric approach was proposed where a feasible attitude maneuver, or a guidance law, is precomputed based on the attitude-avoidance-zone constraints or randomized algorithms.
  - However, depending on the number of constraints and initial and final attitudes, this approach can be computationally expensive and not suitable for onboard implementation.

#### **Previous Literature**

- Spiller (2016): Particle swarm optimization (PSO) technique to find a sub-optimal solution with keep-out constraints.
- 2 Another approach casted the problem as a convex optimization problem and used semi-definite programming (SDP) or quadratically constrained quadratic programming (QCQP) in its solution (see for instance Kim and Mesbahi, Kim et al., Sun and Dai, and Lee and Mesbahi.
- Recently, Ramos and Schaub proposed a method based on the Lyapunov stability theorem and logarithmic barrier potential function to derive a steering law for attitude control of a spacecraft subject to conically constrained inclusion and exclusion regions. They also considered the control-torque constraint in their algorithm.

## SAS Algorithm

- The SAS algorithm is a geometric approach for a sun (or any bright object) avoidance slew maneuver with pointing and actuator constraints.
- Assumption: spacecraft has a single light-sensitive payload with control-torque and reaction wheels' angular momentum constraints
- Assumption: The initial and final attitudes, instrument boresight vector, and sun vector are known.
- Pontryagin's minimum principle (PMP) is used to derive the desired or target-frame quaternions, angular velocity and acceleration for two cases:
  - with control-torque and reaction wheels' angular momentum constraints
  - with control-torque constraints
- Numerical simulation is performed to show the viability of the proposed algorithm with control-torque and angular momentum constraints.

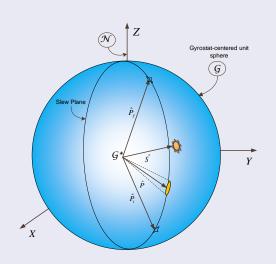


Figure: The gyrostat-centered unit sphere.

#### **Problem Statement:**

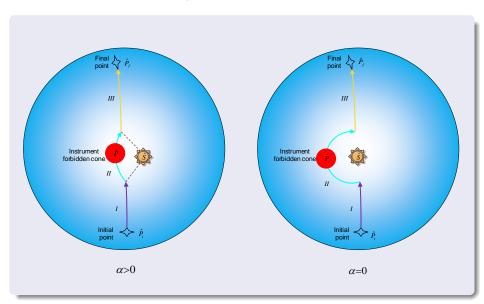
Given:  $_{\mathcal{N}}\hat{P}_{i}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{N}}\hat{P}_{f}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{N}}\hat{S}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{G}}\hat{P}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{G}}\hat{P}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{G}}\hat{P}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{G}}\hat{S}$ ,  $_{\mathcal{$ 

Assumption. The spaced

#### Find:

- A sequence of slew maneuvers to avoid sun vector.
- the commanded angular velocity, angular acceleration, and quaternion profiles.

# Summary of the Algorithm



#### Check the Sun Vector Intrusion

• Check the angular separation,  $\alpha$ , between the sun vector,  $\hat{S}$ , and the  $\hat{P}_i - \hat{P}_f$  or "slew" plane.

$$\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2} - \cos^{-1}(\hat{S} \cdot_{\mathcal{N}} \hat{e})$$
 (1)

where the eigenaxis is determined by

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}} = \frac{\hat{P}_i \times \hat{P}_f}{|\hat{P}_i \times \hat{P}_f|} \tag{2}$$

② IF  $|\alpha| < \epsilon_p$ , THEN determine the projection of the sun vector into the slew plane.

$$\vec{S}_{||} = \hat{S}\cos\alpha \tag{3}$$

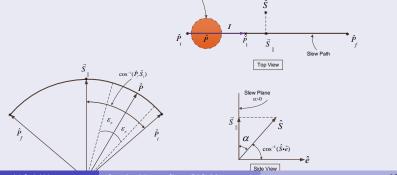


#### Slew Maneuvers

• The 1<sup>st</sup> slew around the eigenaxis,ê, through angle:

$$\phi_{1} = \begin{cases} \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{G} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{p} & \text{when } \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{G} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{p} \leq \pi \\ \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{G} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{p} - 2\pi & \text{when } \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{G} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{p} > \pi \end{cases}$$

$$(4)$$

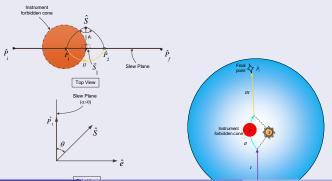


Instrument forbidden cone

#### Slew Maneuvers

- 2 The 2<sup>nd</sup> slew around the unit sun vector,  $\hat{S}$ , via  $\phi_2$ .
  - when  $\alpha \neq 0$

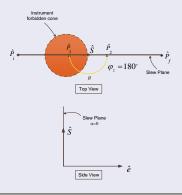
$$\phi_{2} = 2 \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{\hat{S} \cdot (\hat{P}_{1} \times \hat{S}_{||})}{(\hat{P}_{1} \cdot \hat{S}_{||}) - (\hat{S} \cdot \hat{P}_{1})(\hat{S} \cdot \hat{S}_{||})} \right], \tag{5}$$



#### Slew Maneuvers

② The 2<sup>nd</sup> slew around the unit sun vector,  $\hat{S}$ , via  $\phi_2 = 180^{\circ}$ .

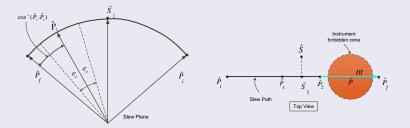
when  $\alpha = 0$ 



#### Slew Maneuvers

3 The 3<sup>rd</sup> slew about the ê through angle:

$$\phi_{3} = \begin{cases} \cos^{-1}(_{G}\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2}) & \text{when } _{G}\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2} \ge 0\\ \cos^{-1}(_{G}\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2}) - 2\pi & \text{when } _{G}\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2} < 0 \end{cases}$$
 (6)



The final slew is about the instrument boresight axis to go to the final attitude.

# Summary of the Algorithm

Slew around the eigenaxis,ê, through angle:

$$\phi_{1} = \begin{cases} \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{\mathcal{G}} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} & \text{when } \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{\mathcal{G}} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} \leq \pi \\ \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{\mathcal{G}} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} - 2\pi & \text{when } \cos^{-1}(\hat{P}_{i} \cdot_{\mathcal{G}} \hat{S}_{||}) - \epsilon_{\mathcal{P}} > \pi \end{cases}$$
(7)

2 Slew around the  $\hat{S}$  via:

$$\phi_2 = \begin{cases} \phi_2 = 2 \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}} \cdot (\hat{P}_1 \times \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{||})}{(\hat{P}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{||}) - (\hat{\hat{\mathbf{s}}} \cdot \hat{P}_1)(\hat{\hat{\mathbf{s}}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}}_{||})} \right], & \text{when } \alpha \neq 0 \\ \pi & \text{when } \alpha = 0 \end{cases}$$
(8)

3 Slew about the ê through angle:

$$\phi_{3} = \begin{cases} \cos^{-1}(g\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2}) & \text{when } g\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2} \ge 0\\ \cos^{-1}(g\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2}) - 2\pi & \text{when } g\hat{P}_{f}.\hat{P}_{2} < 0 \end{cases}$$
(9)

Single-Axis, Agile Slew Maneuver with Velocity and Acceleration Constraints.

#### **Problem Statement**

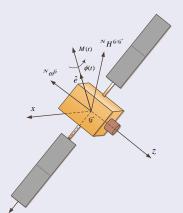
Consider the motion of a rigid spacecraft around a given inertially-fixed axis,  $_{G}\hat{e}=[e_{x},e_{y},e_{z}]^{T}$ . The problem of minimum-time slew maneuver around the  $\hat{e}$  axis can be formulated as

Minimze 
$$J[x(.), u(.), t_f] = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} dt$$
,

subject to the following dynamic constraint

$$\Sigma : \begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2, \\ \dot{x}_2 = M/I_{\hat{e}}^{G/G*} = u, \end{cases}$$
 (11)

where  $x_1 \triangleq \phi$  and  $x_2 = \dot{\phi}$ .



#### **Problem Statement Continued**

The boundary conditions are

$$BCs: \begin{cases} \phi(t_0) = 0, \phi(t_f) = \phi_f, \\ \dot{\phi}(t_0) = \dot{\phi}_0, \dot{\phi}(t_f) = \dot{\phi}_f, \end{cases}$$
(12)

and velocity (state) and acceleration (control) constraints are

$$C_1: \begin{cases} |x_2 = \dot{\phi}| \le \dot{\phi}_{max}, \\ |u = \ddot{\phi}| \le \dot{\phi}_{max}, \end{cases}$$
 (13)

**Find:**  $\phi(t)$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t)$ , and  $\ddot{\phi}(t)$ .

• Angular acceleration profile (bang-off-bang):

$$\ddot{\phi}(t) = u = \begin{cases} \ddot{\phi}_{max} & \text{when } t_0 \le t \le t_1, \\ 0 & \text{when } t_1 \le t \le t_2, \\ -\ddot{\phi}_{max} & \text{when } t_2 \le t \le t_f. \end{cases}$$

$$(14)$$

Angular velocity profile:

$$\dot{\phi}(t) = \begin{cases} \dot{\phi}_0 + \ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_0) & \text{when } t_0 \le t \le t_1, \\ \dot{\phi}_{max} & \text{when } t_1 \le t \le t_2, \\ \dot{\phi}_{max} - \ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_2) & \text{when } t_2 \le t \le t_f. \end{cases}$$
(15)

Angular position profile:

$$\phi(t) = \begin{cases} \dot{\phi}_0(t - t_0) + \frac{1}{2}\ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_0)^2 & \text{when } t_0 \le t \le t_1, \\ \phi(t_1) + \dot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_1) & \text{when } t_1 \le t \le t_2, \\ \phi(t_2) + \dot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_2) - \frac{1}{2}\ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_2)^2 & \text{when } t_2 \le t \le t_f. \end{cases}$$
(16)

• Using the conditions,  $\dot{\phi}(t_1) = \dot{\phi}_{max}$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t_f) = \dot{\phi}_f$ ,  $\phi(t_f) = \phi_f$ , we can determine switching times  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ , and final time  $t_f$  as:

$$t_1 = t_0 + \frac{\dot{\phi}_{max} - \dot{\phi}_0}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}},\tag{17}$$

$$t_{2} = t_{1} + \frac{1}{\dot{\phi}_{max}} \left[ \phi_{f} - \dot{\phi}_{0}(t_{1} - t_{0}) - \frac{1}{2} \ddot{\phi}_{max}(t_{1} - t_{0})^{2} - \frac{\dot{\phi}_{max}(\dot{\phi}_{max} - \dot{\phi}_{f})}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{(\dot{\phi}_{max} - \dot{\phi}_{f})^{2}}{2\ddot{\phi}_{max}} \right],$$
(18)

and

$$t_f = t_1 + \frac{1}{\dot{\phi}_{max}} \left[ \phi_f - \dot{\phi}_0(t_1 - t_0) - \frac{1}{2} \ddot{\phi}_{max} (t_1 - t_0)^2 + \frac{(\dot{\phi}_{max} - \dot{\phi}_f)^2}{2 \ddot{\phi}_{max}} \right]. \tag{19}$$

Steering profiles:

$${}^{N}q^{D}(t) = [e_{x} \sin \frac{\phi(t)}{2}, e_{y} \sin \frac{\phi(t)}{2}, e_{z} \sin \frac{\phi(t)}{2}, \cos \frac{\phi(t)}{2}]^{T}$$
 (20)

$${}_{G}^{N}\omega^{D}(t) = \dot{\phi}(t)_{G}\hat{\mathbf{e}} \tag{21}$$

$${}_{G}^{N}\alpha^{D}(t) = \ddot{\phi}(t)_{G}\hat{\mathbf{e}} \tag{22}$$

#### Introduction

- Matlab was used to numerically simulate and examine the proposed algorithm.
- 2 The initial, final, and sun position vectors were randomized for each run.
- Two cases shown in these slides one in which the sun angle is greater than 0 from the slew plane, the other in which the sun vector lies directly on the slew plane.
- Slew angles were found using the methods discussed in the description of the algorithm.

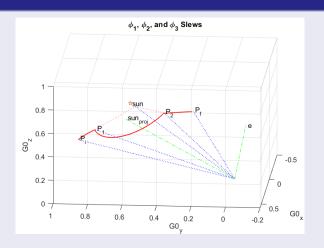


Figure: Attitude Profile of the Entire Slew

## $\alpha$ ¿0

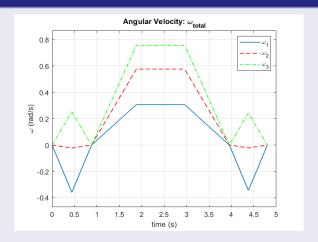


Figure: Angular Velocity in Spacecraft Frame

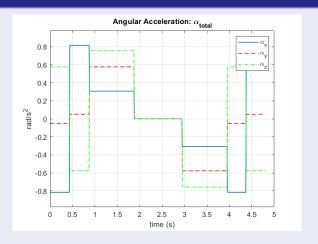


Figure: Angular Acceleration

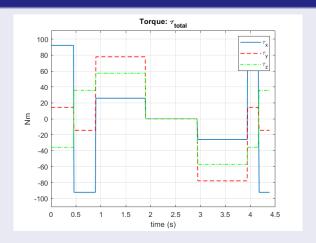


Figure: Torque Applied from Actuator System

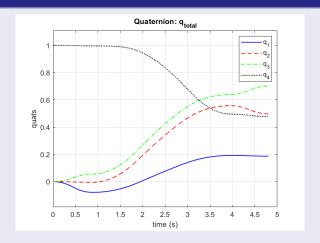


Figure: Quaternion Attitude

## Summary and Conclusion

- Geometric approach for large-angle slew planning with pointing and actuator constraints
- Assumed that initial and final attitudes, instrument boresight, and sun vector are known
- Target-frame quaternions, angular velocities, and angular accelerations are derived base on the PMP
- Limitation is for single sensitive-payload

## **Acknowledgments**

The research has been supported by Maxar Space Solutions (formerly Space Systems/Loral). The second author (Junette Hsin) would like to acknowledge Luke DeGalan for his useful comments.

# Q&A

# Back-up Slides

Case II: Single-Axis, Agile Slew Maneuver with Acceleration Constraint.

# Single-Axis, Agile Slew Maneuver with Acceleration Constraint

#### **Problem Statement:**

Consider the optimal control problem described by Eqs.(10), (11), (12), and subject to control constraint

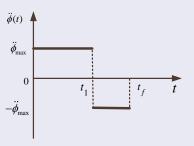
$$C_2: |u = \ddot{\phi}| \le \ddot{\phi}_{\text{max}}. \tag{23}$$

**Find:**  $\phi(t)$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t)$ , and  $\ddot{\phi}(t)$ .

# Single-Axis, Agile Slew Maneuver with Acceleration Constraint

• Angular acceleration about the ê axis:

$$\ddot{\phi}(t) = \ddot{\phi}_{\text{max}} \mathbb{U}(t_0) - 2\ddot{\phi}_{\text{max}} \mathbb{U}(t - t_1)$$
(24)



where the switching and the final times are given by

$$t_1 = t_0 - \frac{\dot{\phi}_0}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{\sqrt{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2(2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_f + \dot{\phi}_f^2 + \dot{\phi}_0^2)}}{\sqrt{2}\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2}$$

(25)

# Single-Axis, Agile Slew Maneuver with Acceleration Constraint

and

$$t_{f} = t_{0} - \frac{\dot{\phi}_{f} + \dot{\phi}_{0}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^{2}(2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_{f} + \dot{\phi}_{ef}^{2} + \dot{\phi}_{0}^{2})}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^{2}}$$
(26)

Angular velocity about the ê axis:

$$\dot{\phi}(t) = \dot{\phi}_0 + \ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_0)\mathbb{U}(t_0) - 2\ddot{\phi}_{max}(t - t_1)\mathbb{U}(t - t_1)$$
 (27)

• Angular position about the ê axis:

$$\phi(t) = \dot{\phi}_0(t - t_0) + \ddot{\phi}_{max} \frac{(t - t_0)^2}{2} \mathbb{U}(t_0)$$

$$-2\ddot{\phi}_{max} \frac{(t - t_1)^2}{2} \mathbb{U}(t - t_1)$$
(28)

## The Agile Sun-Avoidance Slew Maneuver

#### The First Slew Maneuver:

## A single-axis nonrest-to-rest maneuver around the ê

• The BCs:

$$\dot{\phi}(t_0) = \dot{\phi}_0, \phi(t_0) = 0, \dot{\phi}(t_{f1}) = 0, \phi(t_{f1}) = \phi_1. \tag{29}$$

The switching time,  $t_{11}$ , and minimum-time,  $t_{f1}$ , are

$$t_{11} = t_0 - \frac{\dot{\phi}_0}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{\sqrt{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2 (2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_1 + \dot{\phi}_0^2)}}{\sqrt{2}\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2}$$
(30)

$$t_{f1} = t_0 - \frac{\dot{\phi}_0}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{\sqrt{2\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2(2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_1 + \dot{\phi}_0^2)}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2}$$
(31)

The  $\ddot{\phi}(t)$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t)$ , and  $\phi(t)$ , can be found by substituting the boundary conditions given by (29) and  $t_{11}$  and  $t_{f1}$  in to Eqs. (24), (27), and (28), respectively.

## The Agile Sun-Avoidance Slew Maneuver

# The Second Slew Maneuver: A rest-to-rest maneuver around the sun vector

• The BCs:

$$\dot{\phi}(t_0) = 0, \phi(t_0) = 0, \dot{\phi}(t_{f2}) = 0, \phi(t_{f2}) = \phi_2.$$
 (32)

The switching time,  $t_{12}$ , and the minimum-time,  $t_{f2}$ , are

$$t_{12} = t_0 - \frac{\sqrt{\phi_2}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} \tag{33}$$

$$t_{f2} = t_0 - \frac{2\sqrt{\phi_2}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} \tag{34}$$

The  $\ddot{\phi}(t)$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t)$ , and  $\phi(t)$ , can be found by substituting the boundary conditions given by (32) and  $t_{12}$  and  $t_{f2}$  in to Eqs. (24), (27), and (28), respectively.

## The Agile Sun-Avoidance Slew Maneuver

# The Third Slew Maneuver: A single-axis rest-to-nonrest maneuver around the ê

• The BCs:

$$\dot{\phi}(t_0) = 0, \phi(t_0) = 0, \dot{\phi}(t_{f3}) = \dot{\phi}_f, \phi(t_{f3}) = \phi_3. \tag{35}$$

The switching time,  $t_{13}$ , and the minimum-time,  $t_{f3}$ , are

$$t_{13} = t_0 + \frac{\sqrt{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2 (2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_3 + \dot{\phi}_f^2)}}{\sqrt{2\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2}}$$
(36)

$$t_{f3} = t_0 - \frac{\dot{\phi}_f}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}} + \frac{\sqrt{2\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2(2\ddot{\phi}_{max}\phi_3 + \dot{\phi}_f^2)}}{\ddot{\phi}_{max}^2}$$
(37)

The  $\ddot{\phi}(t)$ ,  $\dot{\phi}(t)$ , and  $\phi(t)$ , can be found by substituting the boundary conditions given by (35) and  $t_{13}$  and  $t_{f3}$  in to Eqs. (24), (27), and (28), respectively.

Using the Pontryagin's minimum principle (PMP), we derive the necessary conditions for the optimal solution as follows:

O State Eqs.:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_{1} = x_{2}, \\ \dot{x}_{2} = u, \\ \dot{x}_{3} = (x_{2} + \dot{\phi}_{max})^{2} \mathbb{U}(-x_{2} - \dot{\phi}_{max}) + (\dot{\phi}_{max} - x_{2})^{2} \mathbb{U}(x_{2} - \dot{\phi}_{max}), \end{cases}$$
(38)

where the unit step function,  $\mathbb{U}$ , is defined as

$$\mathbb{U}(X) = \begin{cases} 1, X > 0, \\ 0, X \le 0. \end{cases}$$
 (39)

Note: 
$$(x_3(t_0) = x_3(t_f) = 0 \& x_3(t) \ge 0) \rightarrow x_3(t) = 0, \forall t \in [t_0, t_f].$$

4 Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = 1 + \lambda_1 x_2 + \lambda_2 u + \lambda_3 \left[ (x_2 + \dot{\phi}_{max})^2 \mathbb{U}(-x_2 - \dot{\phi}_{max}) \right]$$

$$(\dot{\phi}_{max} - x_2)^2 \mathbb{U}(x_2 - \dot{\phi}_{max})$$

$$(40)$$

Oostate Eqs.:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda}_{1} = -\frac{\partial \mathscr{H}}{\partial x_{1}} = 0, \\ \dot{\lambda}_{2} = -\frac{\partial \mathscr{H}}{\partial x_{2}} = -\lambda_{1} - 2\lambda_{3}(x_{2} + \dot{\phi}_{max})\mathbb{U}(-x_{2} - \dot{\phi}_{max}) \\ +2\lambda_{3}(\dot{\phi}_{max} - x_{2})\mathbb{U}(x_{2} - \dot{\phi}_{max}), \\ \dot{\lambda}_{3} = -\frac{\partial \mathscr{H}}{\partial x_{3}} = 0. \end{cases}$$
(41)

ullet Applying the Pontryagin's minimum principle (PMP),

$$u^* = \underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{H},$$
 (42)

where  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{U}}$  defines the domain of feasible controls. The optimal control can be determined as

$$u^*(t) = \begin{cases} \ddot{\phi}_{max} \lambda_2 < 0, \\ ?\lambda_2 = 0, \\ -\ddot{\phi}_{max} \lambda_2 > 0. \end{cases}$$
(43)

This is a *singular arc* optimal control problem.

Determining the optimal control in the singular arc:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial u} \right) = \ddot{\lambda}_2 = 0 \to \dot{x}_2 = 0 \to u^* = 0 \tag{44}$$

Checking the Generalized Legendre-Clebsch condition for optimality:

$$(-1)^{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left[ \frac{d^{2}}{dt^{2}} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial u} \right) \right] = 1 \ge 0$$
 (45)

The transversality condition:

$$\mathscr{H}|_{(*,t_f)} = 0 \text{ and } \mathscr{H} \neq \mathscr{H}(t) \to \mathscr{H} = 0, \forall t \in [t_0,t_f].$$
 (46)

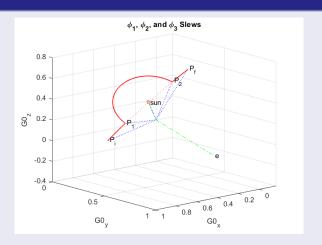


Figure: Attitude Profile of the Entire Slew

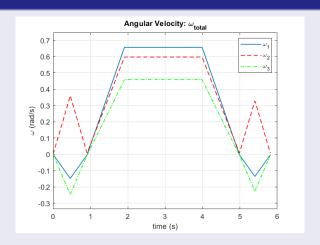


Figure: Angular Velocity in Spacecraft Frame

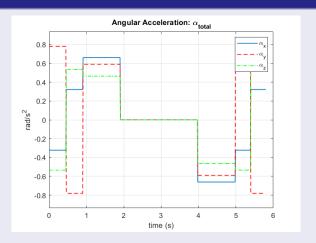


Figure: Angular Acceleration

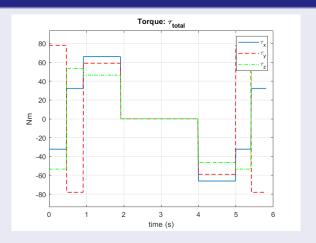


Figure: Torque Applied from Actuator System

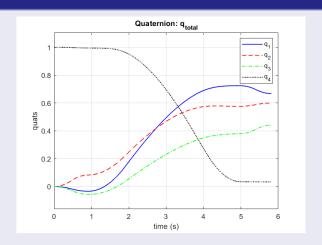


Figure: Quaternion Attitude