

# The Lagrangian Setting for the Optimization Prob.

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Our optimization problem reads

$$(P) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } \min_{\xi \in H_{\#}^1} \int G \dot{\xi}(t) \cdot \dot{\xi}(t) dt \\ \text{under the constraints} \\ \int M_i \xi(t) \cdot \ddot{\xi}(t) dt = \delta p_i, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_6, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\delta p \in \mathbb{R}^6 \simeq \bigwedge^2 \mathbb{R}^4 \simeq \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathfrak{so}(3)$  is a prescribed net displacement. So we are in the setting of a variational problem with six isoperimetric constraints. We already know that (P) admits a solution. Now we want to characterize it in terms of a differential equation, the Euler-Lagrange equation.

Denote by  $K_i : H_{\#}^1 \times L_{\#}^2 \times \mathbb{T} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the map  $K_i(\xi, \eta, t) := M_i \xi(t) \cdot \eta(t)$  for  $i \in \mathbb{N}_6$ .

Furthermore, denote by  $\mathcal{K}_i : H_{\#}^1 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the functional  $\mathcal{K}_i(\xi) = \int K_i(\xi, \dot{\xi}, t) dt$ . Finally, we denote by  $\delta G$  and  $\delta \mathcal{K}_i$  the first variations of  $G$  and  $\mathcal{K}_i$ , respectively.

Then a slight adaption of Prop. 2.1.3 in [Kielhöfer] shows that if  $\xi \in \dot{H}_{\#}^1$  is a minimizer of (P) and if  $\xi$  is not critical for the constraints, i.e.  $\delta \mathcal{H}_1(\xi), \dots, \delta \mathcal{H}_6(\xi)$  are linearly independent, then  $\xi$  satisfies the Euler - Lagrange equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( G_{\xi} \xi(t) \cdot \dot{\xi}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^6 \mu_i K_i \right)_q = \left( G_{\xi} \xi(t) \cdot \dot{\xi}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^6 \mu_i K_i \right)_p,$$

for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^6$ .

Let now  $\delta_p$  be a net displacement which identifies to a non-simple bivector. Then we have

Prop. Let  $\xi$  be a minimizer of (P) with  $\delta_p$  as above. Then the functionals  $\delta \mathcal{H}_1(\xi), \dots, \delta \mathcal{H}_6(\xi)$  are linearly independent.

Proof. Assume that  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_6 \in \mathbb{R}$  are such that  $\sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_i \delta \mathcal{H}_i(\xi) \in (\dot{H}_{\#}^1)^*$  is the zero functional.

Note that

$$\delta \mathcal{H}_i(\xi)h = \int J K_{i,\xi}(\xi, \dot{\xi}, t) h + K_{i,\dot{\xi}}(\xi, \dot{\xi}, t) \dot{h} dt$$

$$= \int \xi^T M_i h - \dot{\xi}^T M_i h dt$$

$$\stackrel{\text{I.B.P.}}{=} -2 \int \dot{\xi}^T M_i h dt.$$

Setting  $\Omega(\lambda) := \sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_i M_i$ , for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^6$  yields

$$\sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_i \delta \mathcal{H}_i(\xi) h = -2 \int \Omega(\lambda) \dot{\xi} \cdot h dt$$

and thus  $\sum_{i=1}^6 \lambda_i \delta \mathcal{H}_i(\xi) \equiv 0$  is

equivalent to  $h \mapsto \int \Omega(\lambda) \dot{\xi} \cdot h \equiv 0$ .

Choosing  $h = \Omega(\lambda) \dot{\xi}$ , we get (\*) Not necessarily  $H^1$

$$0 = \int \Omega(\lambda) \dot{\xi} \cdot h dt = \int |h|^2 dt,$$

which implies that  $h \equiv 0$  a.e.

This can only happen in four cases:

i)  $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_6 = 0$ , then we are done

ii)  $\dot{\xi}(t) \in \bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}_6} \ker M_i = \{0\} \quad \forall t \Rightarrow \dot{\xi} \equiv 0$ ,

this is excluded since  $\gamma p \neq 0$ .

iii)  $\dot{\zeta} \equiv 0$ , which is excluded for the same reason as ii)

iv) Note that  $\Omega(\underline{1})$  is skew-symmetric. Therefore its complex eigenvalues are two pairs  $\pm \lambda_{\pm} i$  of imaginary eigenvalues. In particular, one finds  $S \in O(4)$  such that  $\Omega(\underline{1}) = S \Sigma(\underline{1}) S^T$

where  $\Sigma(\underline{1}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda_+ & 0 & 0 \\ -\lambda_+ & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_- \\ 0 & 0 & -\lambda_- & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Denoting by  $P$  and  $Q$  the orthogonal projections on the first and the last three coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , respectively, we find

$$\lambda_{\pm} = 2\sqrt{3} \sqrt{A \pm \sqrt{A^2 - K}},$$

with  $A := \alpha^2 |P\underline{1}|^2 + \delta^2 |Q\underline{1}|^2$

$$K := 4\alpha^2\delta^2 |P\underline{1} \cdot Q\underline{1}|^2.$$

So we note that  $h \equiv 0$  can happen for  $P\underline{1} \cdot Q\underline{1} = 0$ . But then  $\dot{\zeta}$  and therefore  $\zeta$  must lie in a subspace of dimension 2 of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . This is excluded by the

Lemma below since  $\delta_p$  was assumed  $\neq 0$  to be non-simple.  $\square$

Lemma. Let  $\xi \in H_{\#}^1$  be a control curve.

Suppose that  $\xi(t) \in D \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{T}$ , where  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^4$  is a plane through the origin.

Then the net displacement produced by  $\xi$  is a simple bivector.

Proof. Recall the relation between the produced net displacement  $\delta_p$  and the rescaled Fourier coefficients  $(u_n)_n, (v_n)_n$  of  $\xi$  from the simple case. There we had

$$\sqrt{\det \Delta_g} (\Delta_h \hat{\Delta}_g)^{-1} \delta_p = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{v_n \wedge u_n}{n},$$

where on the RHS we have an absolutely convergent series in  $\wedge^2 \mathbb{R}^4$ . However, by assumption  $u_n, v_n \in D \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , thus

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{v_n \wedge u_n}{n} \in \wedge^2 D.$$

The plane  $D$  being of dimension 2<sup>6</sup>  
 implies that  $\sum_n \frac{u_n \wedge v_n}{n}$  must be a  
 simple bivector in  $\wedge^2 D$  which we  
 then can naturally embed into  
 $\wedge^2 \mathbb{R}^4$ . This proves the claim.  $\square$ .