

Lecture 11

Today: lots of practice with the calculus of variations and a little optimal control.

Let $f = \{x: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x(\cdot) \text{ is } C^2, x(0)=x(1)=0\}$

Consider the problem:

$$\underset{\text{minimize}}{I}[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 [\dot{x}(t)^2 + \cos(t) \cdot \cosh(x(t))] dt \quad \text{in } F$$

Q. Let $I_1[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 \dot{x}(t)^2 dt$

$$I_2[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 \cos(t) \cosh(x(t)) dt$$

Show that I_1 & I_2 are both convex

Before that, show F is convex

F is convex because:

if $x(\cdot)$ & $y(\cdot)$ belong to $F(\cdot)$ and $\theta \in [0,1]$, then we have to check

that $z(\cdot) := \theta x(\cdot) + (1-\theta)y(\cdot)$ belongs to F

In other words, must check that $z(\cdot)$ is C^2 & $z(0)=z(1)=0$

This is clear because:

$x(\cdot), y(\cdot) \in F \Rightarrow x(\cdot) \& y(\cdot)$ both C^2 , so linear combination is C^2 ,

so $z(\cdot)$ is C^2 .

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} x(\cdot), y(\cdot) \in F &\Rightarrow x(0)=y(0)=0 \\ &x(1)=y(1)=0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow z(0)=z(1)=0$$

Next: Is I_1 convex?

Show that I_1 is convex

Have to check for $x(\cdot)$ & $y(\cdot)$ as above.

$$I_1[\theta x(\cdot) + (1-\theta)y(\cdot)] \leq \theta I_1[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta)I_1[y(\cdot)]$$

Thus, we ask:

$$\int_0^1 (\theta \dot{x}(t) + (1-\theta) \dot{y}(t))^2 dt \stackrel{?}{\leq} \theta \int_0^1 (\dot{x}(t))^2 + (1-\theta) \int_0^1 (\dot{y}(t))^2 dt$$

This looks too hard, so let's ask can we use the fact that integrand contains a convex function $(\cdot - \cdot)^2$.

i.e. let $f(x) = x^2$ convex

$$f'(x) = 2x \quad f''(x) = 2$$

We are trying to show

$$\int_0^1 f(\theta \dot{x}(t) + (1-\theta) \dot{y}(t)) dt \stackrel{?}{\leq} \int_0^1 [\theta f(\dot{x}(t)) + (1-\theta) f(\dot{y}(t))] dt$$

Now this is clear, because for every t , $f(\theta \dot{x}(t) + (1-\theta)y(t)) \leq \theta f(x(t)) + (1-\theta)f(y(t))$

Integrate both sides from 0 to 1 $\Rightarrow \otimes$

Next: same for I_2 . Fix $x(\cdot)$ and $y(\cdot)$ in F & $\theta \in [0,1]$

want to check that

$$I_2[\theta x(\cdot) + (1-\theta)y(\cdot)] \leq \theta I_2[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta) I_2[y(\cdot)]$$

$$\text{Note: } I_2[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 \cos(t) \underbrace{\cosh(x(t))}_{\substack{\text{Convex fn of } x(t) \\ \text{positive for } t \in (0,1)}} dt$$

$$\sqrt{\int_0^1 \cos(t) \cosh(x(t)) dt} > 0$$

Claim: $\cosh(x)$ is convex

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cosh x = \sinh x$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \cosh x = \cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} > 0$$

\Rightarrow convex

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We want to show that } & \int_0^1 \cos(t) \cosh(\theta x(t) + (1-\theta)y(t)) dt \\ & \leq \int_0^1 \cos t [\theta \cosh(x(t)) + (1-\theta)\cosh(y(t))] dt \end{aligned} \quad \otimes$$

True because:

Convexity of $\cosh \Rightarrow \cosh(\theta x(t) + (1-\theta)y(t)) \leq \theta \cosh(x(t)) + (1-\theta)\cosh(y(t))$ for all t .
if $\theta \in (0,1)$

and since $\cos t > 0$ for $0 \leq t \leq 1$
it follows that

$$\cos t \cosh(\theta x(t) + (1-\theta)y(t)) \leq \cos t [\theta \cosh x(t) + (1-\theta)\cosh y(t)] \text{ for all } t \in [0,1]$$

Integrate from 0 to 1 to get \otimes

Remark: the general principle is:

If $L(t, x, v)$ is a convex function of (x, v) for every $t \in [a, b]$, then

$$I[x(\cdot)] = \int_a^b L(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt \text{ is a convex function of } x(\cdot).$$

In fact, $I[\cdot]$ is strictly convex since both $f(v) = v^2$, and $g(t, x) = \cos t \cosh x$ are strictly convex as functions of x and v (for every $t \in [0, 1]$)

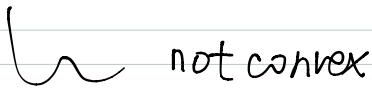
Conclusion so far: if $0 < \theta < 1$ then $I[\theta x(\cdot) + (1-\theta)y(\cdot)] = I_1[\dots] + I_2[\dots] < \theta I_1[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta)I_1[y(\cdot)]$

$$+ \theta I_2[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta) I_2[y(\cdot)] = \theta I[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta) I[y(\cdot)]$$

if $x(\cdot) \neq y(\cdot)$

Q: Show that there is at most one minimizer of $I[\cdot]$ in \mathcal{F} .

Idea:



not convex



not strictly convex

In 2nd picture, if x, y both minimizers then f at $\theta x + (1-\theta)y \geq \min f$ of $f = f(x)$ or $f(y)$
~~so $f(\theta x + (1-\theta)y) \geq f(x) + (1-\theta)f(y)$ contradicts strict convexity.~~

So

Answer to question: exactly the same argument works as for strictly convex function on E^n . if $x(\cdot)$ & $y(\cdot)$ are both minimizers of $I[\cdot]$ and $x(\cdot) \neq y(\cdot)$, then

$$I[\theta x(\cdot) + (1-\theta)y(\cdot)] \geq \min I[\cdot] = \theta I[x(\cdot)] + (1-\theta) I[y(\cdot)]$$

But this contradicts the strict convexity of $I[\cdot]$.

(Recall: a minimizer $x(\cdot)$ satisfies $I[x(\cdot)] \leq I[z(\cdot)]$ for all $z(\cdot)$ in \mathcal{F})

Next Recall derivation of "Euler Lagrange eqns" = first order necessary conditions

Problem: minimize $I[\cdot]$

subject to some constraints (boundary values, maybe more ...)

Suppose $x(\cdot)$ is a minimizer

① Given arbitrary function $y(\cdot)$ with same boundary conditions

Let $i(t) = I[x(\cdot) + t y(\cdot)]$
 satisfying same boundary conditions as $x(\cdot)$

② $x(\cdot)$ minimizer $\Rightarrow i'(0) = 0$

③ Compute $i'(0)$

④ Integrate by parts to move all derivatives from $y(\cdot)$ onto $x(\cdot)$.

⑤ If $\int [\dots] y(t) dt = 0$

something involving $x(\cdot)$ for all $y(\cdot)$
 then $[\dots] = 0$

Note: for problems with constraints, need to define

$$i(t) = I[\dots]$$

something containing $x(\cdot) + t y(\cdot)$

but modified to satisfy constraints

Ex: Let $I[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 (x''(t))^2 dt$

$$\text{let } F = \int x : [0,1] \Rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \begin{cases} x(0)=a \\ x'(0)=b \\ x(1)=c \\ x'(1)=d \end{cases}$$

find minimizer

[A] Follow above procedure to find equations for minimizer.

Let $x(\cdot) = \text{minimizer}$

Let $y(\cdot) = \text{any function such that}$
 $y(0)=y'(0)=y(1)=y'(1)=0$

Then $x(\cdot) + t y(\cdot)$ satisfies some boundary conditions as $x(\cdot)$

$$\text{Let } i(t) = I[x(\cdot) + t y(\cdot)]$$

② $x(\cdot)$ minimizer $\Rightarrow i'(0) = 0$

$$i'(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 (x''(t) + t y''(t))^2 dt = \int_0^1 2(x''(t) + t y''(t)) y''(t) dt$$

$$\text{so } i'(0) = 2 \int_0^1 x''(t) y''(t) dt$$

③ Integrate by parts

$$i'(0) = 2 \int_0^1 x''(t) y''(t) dt = uv \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 y'(t) x'''(t) dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \boxed{\begin{aligned} u &= x''(t) \\ v &= y''(t) \end{aligned}} \quad \uparrow \\ & \text{repeat} \quad = y(t) x'''(t) \Big|_0^1 + \int_0^1 x''''(t) y(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{so } i'(0) = 2 \int_0^1 x''''(t) y(t) dt$$

④ Since this holds for all $y(\cdot)$, it follows that $\boxed{x''''(t)=0}$ $y(0)=y'(0)=y(1)=y'(1)$

Solution of ODE is $\boxed{x(t)=c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 t^2 + c_4 t^3}$

To finish problem, choose c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 to satisfy boundary conditions: $\begin{cases} x(0)=a \\ x'(0)=b \\ x(1)=c \\ x'(1)=d \end{cases}$

Ex: Minimize $I[x(\cdot)] = - \int_0^1 x(t) dt$

subject to $x(0)=x(1)=0$ and $G[x(\cdot)] = \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+x'(t)^2} dt = \pi/2$

i.e. maximize "area under the graph"
with constraint: arc length of curve $= \frac{\pi}{2}$



Some # > 1

① Compute the Euler-Lagrange equations

Let $x(\cdot)$ be a minimizer

Fix any $y(\cdot)$ s.t. $y(0)=y(1)=0$

define $i(\tau) = I\left[\frac{x(\cdot) + \tau y(\cdot)}{\alpha(\tau)}\right]$ where $\alpha(\tau)$ is defined by requiring that

$$G\left[\frac{x(\cdot) + \tau y(\cdot)}{\alpha(\tau)}\right] = \pi/2$$

So $\frac{x(\cdot) + \tau y(\cdot)}{\alpha(\tau)}$ satisfies all constraints

$$\text{so } i(\tau) = I\left[\frac{x(\cdot)}{\alpha(\tau)}\right] \geq I[x(\cdot)] = i(0)$$

Hence $i'(0) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = i'(0) &= -\frac{d}{dt}\left[\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\alpha(\tau)} (x(t) + \tau y(t)) dt\right]_{\tau=0} \\ &= -\frac{d}{dt}\left[\alpha(\tau)^{-1} \int_0^1 (x(t) + \tau y(t)) dt\right]_{\tau=0} \\ &= -\left[-\alpha(\tau)^{-2} \alpha'(0) \int_0^1 (x(t) + \tau y(t)) dt + \alpha(\tau)^{-1} \int_0^1 y(t) dt\right] \end{aligned}$$

Note $\alpha(0)=1$, since $G\left[\frac{x(\cdot)}{1}\right] = \frac{\pi}{2} = \alpha'(0) \cdot \int_0^1 x(t) dt - \int_0^1 y(t) dt$ ①

How to find $\alpha'(\tau)$

Only hope: look at $\frac{d}{dt} G\left[\frac{x(\cdot) + \tau y(\cdot)}{\alpha(\tau)}\right] = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\dot{x}(t) + \tau \dot{y}(t)}{\alpha(t)}\right)^2} dt \Big|_{\tau=0} \\ = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \left(\dots\right)^{-1/2} \cancel{\left(\frac{\dot{y}(t)\alpha(t) - (\dot{x}(t) + \tau \dot{y}(t))\alpha'(t)}{\alpha(t)^2}\right)} \times \left(\frac{\dot{x}(t) + \tau \dot{y}(t)}{\alpha(t)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Set $t=0$, recall $\alpha(0)=1$

$$0 = \int \frac{\dot{x}(t) \dot{y}(t)}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}(t)^2}} - \alpha'(0) \int \frac{\dot{x}^2(t)}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}^2(t)}} dt \quad ②$$

Conclusion: combine ① & ② to find

$$\alpha'(0) \leftarrow \int \frac{\int \frac{\dot{x}(t) \dot{y}(t)}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}(t)^2}}}{\int \frac{\dot{x}(t)^2 dt}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}^2(t)}}} \int_0^1 x(t) dt - \int_0^1 y(t) dt = 0$$

This says:

$$i'(0) = \int \left[\lambda \frac{\dot{x}(t)}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}^2(t)}} \dot{y}(t) - y(t) \right] dt = 0$$

$$\text{for } \lambda = \underbrace{\left(\frac{\int_0^1 x(t) dt}{\int_0^1 \frac{\dot{x}(t)^2}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{x}^2(t)}} dt} \right)}$$

independent of y .

Now: integrate by parts: $\dot{y}(0) = \int_0^t \lambda \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\dot{x}(t)}{\sqrt{1+\dot{x}(t)^2}} \right) - 1 \right] y(t) dt = 0$

E-L eqns: this = 0

i.e. $\boxed{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\dot{x}(t)}{\sqrt{1+\dot{x}(t)^2}} \right) = -\frac{1}{\lambda} = \text{constant}}$

We can check that $x(t) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} - (t - \frac{1}{2})^2$ satisfies the equation (graph is semi-circle) set $t=0$, recall $\dot{x}(0)=1$

Optimal control problems:

$$\dot{x}(t) = Mx(t) + N\alpha(t) \quad \alpha(t) \in [-1, 1] \text{ for all } t$$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $C(t) = fx^0$: there is a control $\alpha(\cdot)$ steering the system from x to origin in time t

$$C = \bigcup_{t>0} C(t)$$

Q: Is 0 in interior of C?

A: Let $G_i = [N, MN, M^2N]$

check rank of G

$$MN = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad M^2N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{rank } G = 3$$

So theorem says yes, $0 \in C^\circ$

Q: Is $\mathbb{R}^3 = C$?

Thm says ok if $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_i \leq 0$ for all eigenvalues λ_i of M.

eigenvalues of $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ are 1 & 0

(For upper triangular matrix, eigenvalues are the diagonal entries)

The thm does not say

Q: Assume that $x^0 \in C$ & that $\alpha^*(\cdot)$ is an optimal control for reaching the origin in minimal time.

What can we say about $\alpha^*(\cdot)$?

i.e. what does Pontryagin Max Principle tell us?

A: Thm says: \exists a vector $h \in \mathbb{R}^3$ s.t.

$$h^T e^{-Mt} N \alpha^*(t) = \min_{\alpha \in [-1, 1]} (h^T e^{-Mt} N \alpha) \quad \forall t \in [0, T^*]$$

$$e^{Mt} = ? = I + M + \frac{(tM)^2}{2!} + \frac{(tM)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M^k = M^2 = \quad \forall k \geq 2$$

$$e^{tM} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} t & & \\ & t & \\ & & t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} & & \\ & t^2/2 & \\ & & t^3/6 \end{pmatrix} + \dots = \begin{pmatrix} 1+t^0 & & \\ 0 & 1+t^0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 1+t^2+\frac{t^3}{3!}+\dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t^0 & \\ 0 & 1 & t^0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix}$$

so thm says

$$(h_1 \ h_2 \ h_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t^0 & \\ 0 & 1 & t^0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \alpha(t) = \max_{|a| \leq 1} (\text{same})$$

$$(h_1 t + h_2 + h_3 e^t) \alpha(t) = \max_{|a| \leq 1} (h_1 t + h_2 + h_3 e^t) a$$

$$\text{Conclusion: } \alpha(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } h_1 t + h_2 + h_3 e^t > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } h_1 t + h_2 + h_3 e^t < 0 \end{cases}$$

change sign at most twice.