

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Optimal control problems

Optimal control:

- Optimal decision making over time (over a time horizon)
- Optimisation problems with dynamic systems (differential/difference equations), e.g. constraints are differential equations

### [OP] Optimisation problem (calculus)

$$\min_u f(u) \triangleq \max_u -f(u) \quad (1.1)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \begin{aligned} h_i(u) &= 0 & i &= 1 \dots m \\ g_j(u) &\leq 0 & j &= 1 \dots M \end{aligned}$$

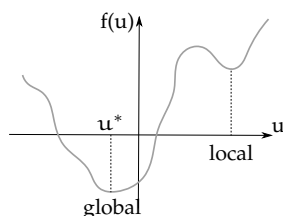
|       |   |                                       |
|-------|---|---------------------------------------|
| $u$   | decision/optimisation variables (unknown) | $\mathbb{R}^n$                        |
| $f$   | objective/cost function                   | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ |
| $h_i$ | equality constraint                       | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ |
|       | $h = [h_1 \dots h_m]^T$                   |                                       |
| $g_j$ | inequality constraint                     | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ |
|       | $g = [g_1 \dots g_M]^T$                   |                                       |

Feasible/admissible set

$$\text{FS} = \left\{ u \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{aligned} h_i(u) &= 0, & i &= 1 \dots m \\ g_j(u) &\leq 0, & j &= 1 \dots M \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Solution:  $u^*$  is a (global) solution of

$$f^* \leq f(u), \forall u \in \text{FS}$$

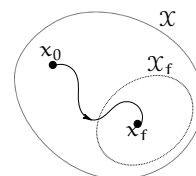


$u = u(x, t)$  feedback  
 $u = u(\cdot)$  all time instances  
 $u = u(t)$  at fixed time  $t$

### [OP] Opt. control problem – continuous time

$$\min_{u(\cdot), x(\cdot)} \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x(t), u(t)) dt}_{J} + \phi(t_f, x_f) \quad (1.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } \dot{x}(t) &= f(t, x(t), u(t)) \\ x(t) &\in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \\ u(t) &\in \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^q \\ &\in C^1 \\ x(t_0) &= x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_0 \\ x(t_f) &= x_f \in \mathcal{X}_f \\ t &\in [t_0, t_f] \end{aligned}$$



|                 |  |                                      |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| $J$             | cost/objective functional              |                                      |
| $f_0$           | running/infinitesimal/incremental cost |                                      |
| $\phi$          | terminal cost                          |                                      |
| $\mathcal{X}$   | state constraints                      | $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ |
| $\mathcal{X}_f$ | terminal/target set                    |                                      |
| $\mathcal{U}$   | input constraints                      | $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^q$ |

For all admissible  $x(\cdot), u(\cdot)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} J^* &= J(x^*(\cdot), u^*(\cdot)) \leq J(x(\cdot), u(\cdot)) \\ &\Rightarrow u^*(\cdot), x^*(\cdot) \text{ is a solution of } J^* \end{aligned}$$

### [OP] Opt. control problem – discrete time

$$\min \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{f_0(k, x(k), u(k))}_{\text{stage cost}} + \phi(x(N)) \quad (1.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } x(k+1) &= f(k, x(k), u(k)) \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N \\ x(0) &= x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_0 \\ x(N) &= x_N \in \mathcal{X}_f \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^*(\cdot) &= \{x^*(1), \dots, x^*(N)\} \\ u^*(\cdot) &= \{u^*(0), \dots, u^*(N-1)\} \end{aligned}$$

## 1.2 Topics/Tools

- Nonlinear programming approach (NLP)
- Dynamic programming (DP) – constraints are dynamic
- Receding horizon optimal control (MPC, MHE)
- Pontryagin maximum principle (PMP)

- Infinite vs. finite horizon  
 $t_f = \infty$  vs.  $t_f < \infty$   
 $N = \infty$  vs.  $N < \infty$
- Open loop vs. feedback
- Continuous time vs. discrete time
- Online (realtime) vs. offline computation

### 1.3 Examples

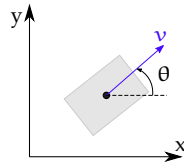
#### 1.3.1 Shortest path problem

Robot unicycle model  
with constant velocity  $v$

$$\dot{x} = v \cos \theta$$

$$\dot{y} = v \sin \theta$$

$$\dot{\theta} = u$$



**Goal:** Move robot along the shortest path ( $A \rightarrow B$ ) subject to angle/velocity constraints etc. ( $\therefore$  not a straight line).

**Length of a curve:**

$$\Delta l_1 = \sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2}$$

$$x(h) = x(0) + \dot{x}(0)h + \dots$$

$$\approx x(0) + \Delta x$$

$$\Delta x \approx \dot{x}(0)h$$

$$\Delta y \approx \dot{y}(0)h$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta l_1 = h \sqrt{\dot{x}^2(0) + \dot{y}^2(0)}$$

$\vdots$

$$\Delta l_i = h \sqrt{\dot{x}^2((i-1)h) + \dot{y}^2((i-1)h)}$$

$$l = \sum_{i=1}^N \Delta l_i = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} h \sqrt{\dot{x}^2(ih) + \dot{y}^2(ih)}$$

$$\text{For } h \rightarrow 0: \quad l = \int_0^{t_f} \sqrt{\dot{x}^2(t) + \dot{y}^2(t)} dt := J(\cdot)$$

#### Ex. 1.1 Shortest path problem

$$\min \int_0^{t_f} \sqrt{\dot{x}^2(t) + \dot{y}^2(t)} dt$$

$$\text{s.t. } u \in [-1, 1]$$

$$x(0) = x_0 \quad x(t_f) = x_f$$

$$y(0) = y_0 \quad y(t_f) = y_f$$

$$\theta(0) = \theta_0 \quad \theta(t_f) = \theta_f$$

$$\text{d.v. } x(t), y(t), \theta(t), u(t), t_f$$

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#### 1.3.2 Time optimal control problem

$t_f$  is the decision variable.

[OP] Time opt control problem formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{t_f, u(\cdot)} \int_0^{t_f} 1 dt &= t_f \\ \text{s.t. } \dot{x}, y, \theta &= \dots \\ u &\in [-1, 1] \\ \text{d.v. } t_f \end{aligned}$$

Finite horizon, time-optimal, open-loop OC problem

#### 1.3.3 Linear quadratic regulator problem (LQR)

**Given:**  $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$

**Find:** feedback  $u^* = k^*(x, t)$  such that

- The closed loop solution  $(x^*(t), u^*(t))$  minimises  $J = x^T(t)Qx(t) + u^T(t)Ru(t)$  (infinite horizon, closed loop)
- The closed loop is asymptotically stable with respect to  $x = 0$

[OP] LQR problem

$$\min \int_0^\infty x^T(t)Qx(t) + u^T(t)Ru(t) dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } \dot{x} &= Ax + Bu, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, u \in \mathbb{R}^q \\ x(0) &= x_0 \end{aligned}$$

$Q$  and  $R$  are positive definite matrices, i.e. their eigenvalues are positive

$$Q = Q^T > 0$$

$$R = R^T > 0$$

In 1-D:  $x, u \in \mathbb{R}$

$$Q \rightarrow q > 0 \quad R \rightarrow r > 0$$

$$J = \int_0^\infty qx^2 + ru^2 dt$$

(a) Control energy

$$\int_0^\infty ru^2 dt$$

e.g.  
Input  $u = i$

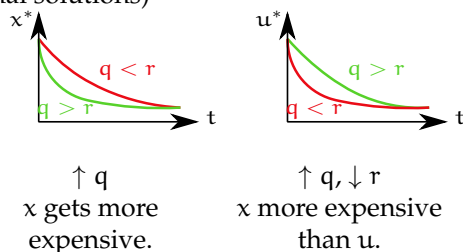
$$\Rightarrow P = Ri^2 = Ru^2$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \int Ru^2 dt$$

(b) Penalisation of deviation from  $x_0$

$$\int_0^\infty qx^2 dt$$

e.g. (both the green and red curves are optimal solutions)



$\therefore$  opt solution minimises  $x$  more quickly.

- $q = 0$  minimal control energy problem  
 $r = 0$  cheap control (energy costs nothing)

### Ex. 1.2 Nonlinear QR

$$\min \int_0^\infty q(x) + u^T R(t) u dt$$

$$\text{s.t. } \dot{x} = f(x) + Bu$$

$$u^* = k^*(x, t) = ?$$

Optimality, stability, robustness

### 1.3.4 State estimation problem

Given:

- System/Model  $(A, C)$

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k)$$

$$y(k) = Cx(k)$$

- Measurements  $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_N$

Estimate:  $x(0), x(N) = ?$

Idea Fit data to model in least squares sense.

### Ex. 1.3 Least Squares

$$\min_{\hat{x}_k, v_k} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \|v_k\|^2 + \|w_k\|^2 + \underbrace{\|x_0 - \xi_0\|^2}_{\text{prior knowledge}}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \hat{x}_{k+1} - A\hat{x}_k = w_k \quad \text{process noise}$$

$$y_k - C\hat{x}_k = v_k \quad \text{measurement noise}$$

$$k = 0, \dots, N-1$$

$\xi_0$ : initial guess for  $x_0$

How to deal with unbounded data? (e.g. stream of measurements; measurements arrive at each time step  $k, \uparrow N$ )

$\Rightarrow$  **recursive solution (DP)**

old solution is updated, e.g. in Kalman filter

OC automatically gives recursive solution,  $\therefore$  the dynamics  $\hat{x}_{k+1} - A\hat{x}_k$  are taken into account

## 1.4 Discrete-time systems

Continuous

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

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_0^t f(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau$$

1st order Euler approximation

$$x(\Delta t) \approx x_0 + f(x_0, u_0) \Delta t$$

$$x((k+1)\Delta t) \approx x(k\Delta t) + f(x(k\Delta t), u(k\Delta t)) \Delta t$$

$$x_{k+1} \approx x_k + f(x_k, u_k) \Delta t$$

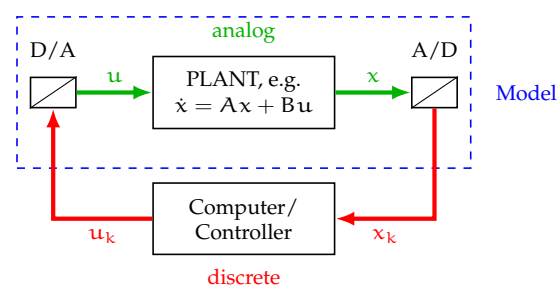
$$:= \tilde{f}(x_k, u_k)$$

Algorithms e.g. gradient descent

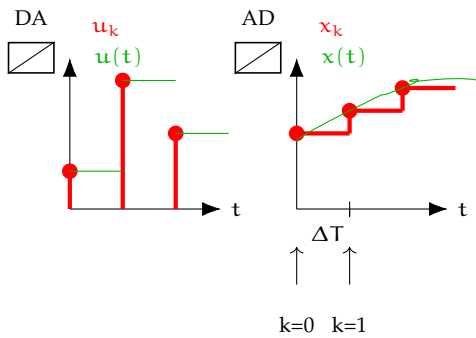
$$x_{k+1} = x_k + s_k \nabla f(x_k)$$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

Sampled-data / digital control systems



Model with discrete input and output



$\Delta T$  : sampling time

$$u(t) = u_k \text{ for } t \in [k\Delta T, (k+1)\Delta T]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow x((k+1)\Delta T) &= e^{A\Delta T}x(k\Delta T) \\ &+ \int_{k\Delta T}^{(k+1)\Delta T} e^{A[(k+1)\Delta T - \tau]} bu_k d\tau \\ x(t) &= e^{At}x_0 + \int_0^t e^{A(k-\tau)} bu(\tau) d\tau \\ x_{k+1} &= \underbrace{e^{A\Delta T}}_{\tilde{A}} x_k + \underbrace{u_k \int_0^{\Delta T} e^{A(\Delta T - \tau)} b d\tau}_{\tilde{b}} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{A}x_k + \tilde{b}u_k \quad (\text{Model})$$

Exact discretisation for LTI-system with piecewise constant inputs.

'Exact':  $\underbrace{x_k}_{\text{discrete}} = \underbrace{x(t)}_{\text{analog}}$

### Summary of some basic facts

#### • Solution

##### – Continuous

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u) \\ x(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t f(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau \\ \dot{x} &= Ax \\ x(t) &= e^{At}x_0 \end{aligned}$$

##### – Discrete

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= f(x_k, u_k) \\ x(k) &= f \circ f \circ \dots \circ f(x_0, u_0, u_1, u_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= f(x_k) \\ x(k) &= \underbrace{(f \circ \dots \circ f)}_{k\text{-times}}(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= Ax_k \\ x(k) &= A^k x_0 \end{aligned}$$

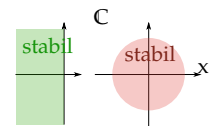
#### • Equilibrium points (fix points)

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{C} \quad \dot{x} &= f(x), \quad f(x_E) = 0 \\ \textcircled{D} \quad x_{k+1} &= f(x_k), \quad f(x_E) = x_E \end{aligned}$$

#### • Stability

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{C} \quad \dot{x} &= Ax \text{ asym.} \\ \text{stable } (x_E = 0) \\ \Leftrightarrow \forall i : \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_i(A)\} &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{D} \quad x_{k+1} &= Ax_k \text{ asym.} \\ \text{stable} \\ \Leftrightarrow \forall i : \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_i(A)\} &< 1 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} A &= T\Lambda T^{-1}, \text{ then} \\ x_k &= A^k x_0 \\ &= T\Lambda^k T^{-1} x_0 \end{aligned}$$

#### Lyapunov theory

##### – Continuous $\textcircled{C}$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x), \quad f(0) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \text{let } V : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ V &\in C^1 \end{aligned}$$

If

- \*  $V(0) = 0$  in neighbourhood  $V(x) > 0$  of  $x = 0$  ( $\forall x \neq 0$ )
  - \*  $\dot{V}(x) = \nabla V^T(x)f(x) < 0$  in a neighbourhood of  $x = 0$  ( $\forall x \neq 0$ )
  - \* ( $V(x) \rightarrow \infty$  wherever  $\|x\| \rightarrow \infty$ ),
- then  $x_E = 0$  is (globally) asym. stable.

For  $\dot{x} = Ax$

$$V(x) = x^T P x, \quad P = P^T > 0$$

$$\dot{V}(x) = x^T P A x + x^T A^T P x < 0$$

$$A \text{ Hurwitz} \Leftrightarrow \exists P > 0$$

$$\text{s.t. } PA + A^T P < 0$$

##### – Discrete $\textcircled{D}$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= f(x_k), \quad f(0) = 0 \\ V : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad V \in C^0 \end{aligned}$$

If

- \*  $V(0) = 0$  in neighbourhood  $V(x) > 0$  of  $x = 0$

\*  $\Delta V(x) := \underbrace{V(x^{k+1})}_{f(x)} - V(x^k) < 0$  in a neighbourhood of  $x = 0$   
 then  $x_E = 0$  is asym. stable.

For  $x_{k+1} = Ax_k$

$$V(x) = x^T P x, \quad P = P^T > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(x) &= V(x_{k+1}) - V(x_k) \\ &= x_k^T A^T P A x_k - x_k^T P x_k < 0 \end{aligned}$$

A Schur  $\Leftrightarrow \exists P > 0$

$$\text{s.t. } A^T P A - P < 0$$



## 2 Nonlinear programming approach

### 2.1 Nonlinear programming and optimal control

**Example** finite horizon, discrete time, open loop OC problems

$$\min \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x_k^T Q x_k + u_k^T R u_k}_{\text{Cost } f(x)}, \quad x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = A x_k + B u_k, \quad k = 0, \dots, (N-1)$$

$$x_0 = \bar{x}$$

$$x_N = 0$$

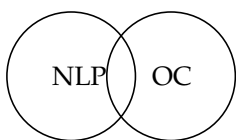
$$\text{d.v. } x = [x_0 \quad u_0 \quad x_1 \quad \dots \quad x_{N-1} \quad u_{N-1} \quad x_N]^T$$

$$f(x) = x^T H x \quad \Rightarrow \quad h_i(x) = c_i^T x - d_i$$

$n(N+2)$  equality constraints

$$\begin{array}{ll} x_1 - A x_0 - B u_0 = 0 & \} n \\ x_2 - A x_1 - B u_1 = 0 & \} n \\ \vdots & \\ x_0 - \bar{x} = 0 & \} n \\ x_N = 0 & \} n \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \min f(x) \\ \text{s.t. } h(x) = 0 \\ g(x) \leq 0 \end{cases}$$



**Remark** NLP theory (algo) is a basis for OC theory (algo)

### 2.2 Problem setup

[OP] NLP

$$\min f(x) \quad (2.1)$$

$$h(x) = 0$$

$$g(x) \leq 0$$

|     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| $x$ | decision/opt variables                      | $\mathbb{R}^n$                          |
| $f$ | objective/cost function                     | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   |
| $h$ | equality constraints                        | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ |
| $g$ | inequality constraints                      | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$ |
|     | $f, g, h \in C^{1/2} \leftarrow \text{NLP}$ |   |

**Feasible set**  $FS = \{x : h(x) = 0, g(x) \leq 0\}$   
all decision variables fulfilling the constraints

#### Optimality

- $x^*$  is a local minimum of  $f$ , if there exists a neighbourhood  $\mathcal{U}(x^*)$  such that  $\forall x \in \mathcal{U}(x^*) : f(x^*) \leq f(x)$   
 $x^*$  is a global minimum of  $f$ , if  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n : f(x^*) \leq f(x)$
- $x^*$  is a local minimum/solution of Problem (2.1), if  $\exists \mathcal{U}(x^*)$  s.t.  $\forall x \in \mathcal{U}(x^*) \cap FS : f(x^*) \leq f(x)$   
 $x^*$  is a minimum/solution of (2.1), if  $\forall x \in FS : f(x^*) \leq f(x)$

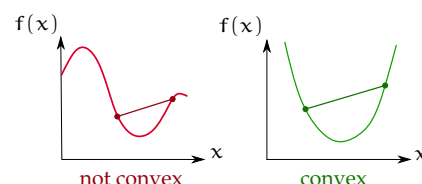
**Convexity** Problem (2.1) is convex if both

- $f(x)$  is a convex function

**DEF: Convex functions**

A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex, when

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall \lambda \in (0, 1) : \\ f(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda) x_2) \leq f(x_1) \lambda + (1 - \lambda) f(x_2)$$



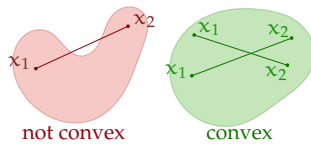
line segment always above the graph

- $FS$  is a convex set
  - $\hookrightarrow h$  is an affine function
  - $\hookrightarrow g$  is an affine function

**DEF: Convex sets**

A set  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex, if

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall \lambda \in (0, 1) : \\ \lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda) x_2 \in C$$



### DEF: Affinity

A function is affine, if

$$f(x) = c^T x + d, \quad f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$f$  is convex,  $f \in C^2 \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\nabla^2 f(x)}_{\text{Hessian}} \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} f(x) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} f(x) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f^T(x)$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} f(x) & \dots & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} f(x) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2} f(x) & \dots & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2} f(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

### EX. 2.4

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_2 \geq 0 \\ & x_1 x_2 \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

### EX. 2.5

$$\min f(x_1) = \begin{cases} x_1^2 & x_1 > 0 \\ 1 & x_1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

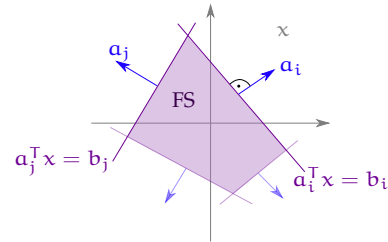
Minimum does not exist;  $\inf f = 0$

**Remark** Suppose  $f$  is continuous and FS is compact, then  $\min_{x \in \text{FS}} f(x)$  exists.

Consider the following problem:

### [OP] Quadratic Program (QP)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x + c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & a_i^T x \leq b_i \quad i = 1 \dots M \end{aligned}$$



**Remark**  $h(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow h(x) \geq 0$  and  $h(x) \leq 0$

### Convexity

$$\nabla f(x) = Qx + c$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x) = Q$$

$\therefore$  the problem is convex if  $Q \geq 0$ .

### QP (Quadratic Program)

$Q \not\geq 0$  general (worst) case, problem difficult to solve

$Q = 0 \Rightarrow$  linear program (LP)

## 2.3 Unconstrained optimisation

### [OP] Unconstrained optimisation

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x), \quad f(x) \in C^{1/2}$$

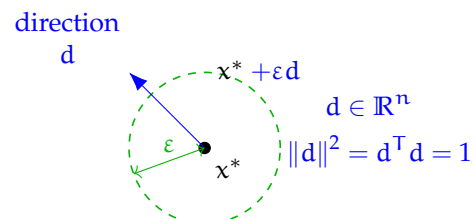
- a) Optimality condition
- b) Algorithms
  - i) Gradient descent
  - ii) Newton method

### 2.3.1 Optimality condition

**Idea** 'Explore neighbourhood'.

If  $\exists \mathcal{U}(x^*)$  ;  $\forall x \in \mathcal{U}(x^*)$  :

$f(x^*) \leq f(x) \Rightarrow x^*$  is a local minimum.



### DEF: Optimality Cond. – Unconstrained

If  $\exists \epsilon_0 > 0$  :  $\forall \epsilon \leq \epsilon_0, d \in \mathbb{R}^n, \epsilon > 0, \|d\| = 1$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow f(x^*) \leq f(x^* + \epsilon d)$



**Taylor approximation** around  $\varepsilon = 0$

$$f(x^*) \leq f(x^*) + \varepsilon \nabla f^T(x^*)d + \underbrace{\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} d^T \nabla^2 f(\xi) d}_{\text{upper bound } \alpha}$$

$$\xi \in [x^*, x^* + \varepsilon d]$$

$$0 \leq \varepsilon \nabla f^T(x^*)d + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2} \alpha$$

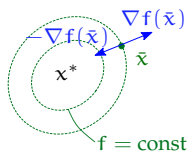
$$\Rightarrow \nabla f(x^*) = 0$$

**Why?** Suppose  $\nabla f(x^*) \neq 0$ ,

$$\text{choose } d = \frac{-\nabla f(x^*)}{\|\nabla f(x^*)\|}$$

$$\forall \varepsilon \gg 0 \quad 0 \leq -\varepsilon \underbrace{\|\nabla f(x^*)\|}_{\beta} + \alpha \varepsilon^2 / 2$$

$$0 \leq -\underbrace{\|\nabla f(x^*)\|}_{\beta} + \alpha \varepsilon / 2$$

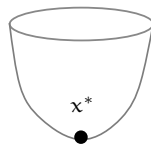


#### THEOREM: 1st & 2nd order necessary opt. conds

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f \in C^2, x^*$  be a local minimum. Then,

$$\nabla f(x^*) = 0 \quad (2.2)$$

$$\nabla^2 f(x^*) \geq 0 \quad (2.3)$$



Assume  $f$  is convex and  $f \in C^1$ ,

$$\nabla f(x^*) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^* \text{ is min.}$$

$\therefore$  'Every local minimum of a convex function is also a global minimum.'

**Remark**

$$\left. \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon_0} f(x^* + \varepsilon d) = \nabla f^T(x^*)d \geq 0 \quad \forall d$$

$$\Uparrow$$

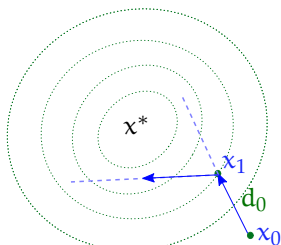
$$\nabla f(x^*)d = 0 \quad \forall d, \|d\| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x^*) = 0$$

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### 2.3.2 Algorithms



### Basic idea of classical optimisation algorithms

1. Initialise algorithm, choose  $x_0$
2. Determine a search direction  $d_k$
3. Line search, i.e. 1D optimisation problem

$$\alpha_k^* \approx \arg \min_{\alpha} f(x_k + \alpha d_k)$$

approximate (fast) solution.  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha \geq 0$

4. Update

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k^* d_k$$

Repeat from 2.

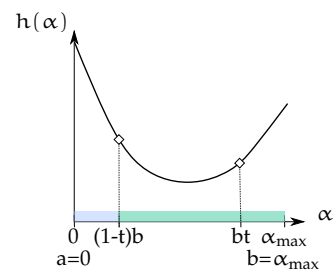
Iterate until  $\nabla f(x_k)$  small.

#### Line search (step-size rule)

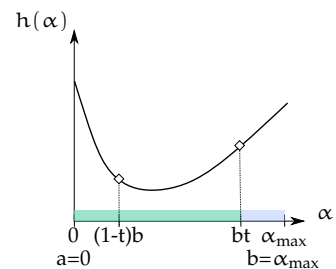
Step-size rule:  $\alpha_k = \frac{\alpha_{\max}}{k+1}, \dots$

Line search example: Golden sectioning

$$h(\alpha) = f(x_k + \alpha d_k), \quad t = 0.618$$



If  $h((1-t)b) \geq h(bt)$   
then  $a_{\text{new}} = (1-t)b$   
 $b_{\text{new}} = b$



If  $h((1-t)b) < h(bt)$   
then  $a_{\text{new}} = a = 0$   
 $b_{\text{new}} = bt$

Repeat the whole procedure until the interval  $[a, b]$  small.

#### Search direction

- gradient descent direction
- Newton direction

##### (i) Gradient descent algorithm

$$d_k = -\nabla f(x_k)$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)$$

Equilibrium points (fix points):

$$x_{k+1} \stackrel{!}{=} x_k \Leftrightarrow \nabla f(x) = 0 \\ (\alpha_k > 0)$$

Stability

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(x_k) &= V(x_{k+1}) - V(x_k) \\ &= f(x_{k+1}) - f(x_k) \\ &= f(x_k - \alpha \nabla f(x_k)) - f(x_k), \quad \alpha \text{ const.} \\ &\approx f(x_k) + \nabla f^T(x_k) (-\alpha \nabla f(x_k)) \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \nabla f^T(x_k) \nabla^2 f(\xi) \nabla f(x_k) - f(x_k) \\ &\quad \xi \in [x_k, x_{k+1}] \\ &< 0 \text{ for } \alpha \ll \end{aligned}$$

(ii) **Newton method** Assumptions

A1.  $f(x) \approx$  quadr. function

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow h(\alpha d) &= f(x + \alpha d) \\ &= f(x) + \nabla f^T(x) d \alpha \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} d^T \underbrace{\nabla^2 f(x)}_{\text{assume } > 0} d + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Higher order terms ignored,  $\approx 0$

A2.  $f(x)$  convex and quadratic  
 $\nabla^2 f(x)$  pos. def  $\Rightarrow$  invertible

$$\min_d h(d)$$

$h$  convex,  $\therefore d^*$  is min.  $\Rightarrow \nabla h(d^*) = 0$

$$\nabla h(d^*) = \nabla f(x) + \nabla^2 f(x) d^* \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$d^* = - \left( \nabla^2 f(x) \right)^{-1} \nabla f(x)$$

$x^* = x + d^*$  minimises  $f$

$$d_k = - \left( \nabla^2 f(x_k) \right)^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \alpha_k \left( \nabla^2 f(x_k) \right)^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$

Hessian: curvature

**Remarks** Alternative derivation

$\nabla f(x_k) \neq 0$ , choose  $d_k$  such that  $\nabla f(x_k + d_k) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$   
 $\rightarrow$  Taylor linearisation up to 1st order

$$\nabla f(x_k) + \nabla^2 f(x_k) d_k = 0$$

$$d_k = - \left( \nabla^2 f(x_k) \right)^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$

## Comparison

| Gradient descent               | Newton method  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| simple<br>(1st order algo)     | more complex<br>(2nd order, matrix inversion<br>necessary – expensive) |
| slow<br>e.g. if gradient small | fast   |

## 2.4 Constrained optimisation

[OP] Constrained optimisation

$$\min f(x) \quad (2.4)$$

$$h(x) = 0$$

$$g(x) \leq 0$$

|     |                         |   |
|-----|-------------------------|---|
| $x$ | decision/opt variables  | $\mathbb{R}^n$                          |
| $f$ | objective/cost function | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   |
| $h$ | equality constraints    | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ |
| $g$ | inequality constraints  | $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$ |
|     | $f, g, h \in C^2$       |   |

a) Optimality conditions

i) Equality constraints

ii) Inequality constraints

b) Lagrange multipliers, Lagrange function

c) Algorithms

### 2.4.1 Optimality conditions

EQUALITY CONSTRAINTS  $h(x) = 0$

**Idea** 'Explore neighbourhood' (differentials)

FS = M =  $\{x : h(x) = 0\}$  **surface (manifold)**

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- Equality constraints
- Inequality constraints

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## 2.5 NLP approach to optimal control

### 3 Dynamic programming

| NLP            | DP                  |
|----------------|---------------------|
| finite horizon | (in)finite horizon  |
| discrete time  | discrete/continuous |
| open loop      | feedback            |

#### 3.1 Principle of optimality

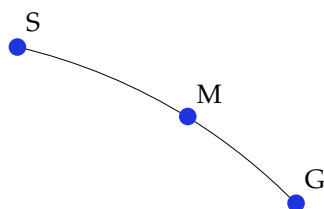
In NLP: principle of 'exploring the neighbourhood'

##### Example

Task: Find optimal route from Stuttgart to Graz.

Optimal: fastest, shortest, cheapest, ...

1. Suppose the optimal route passes through Munich (M)



Solution:

- split task into 2:  $S \rightarrow M$ ,  $M \rightarrow G$
- recursive solution

2. Find optimal route  $M \rightarrow G$  given the/an optimal route  $S \xrightarrow{M} G$

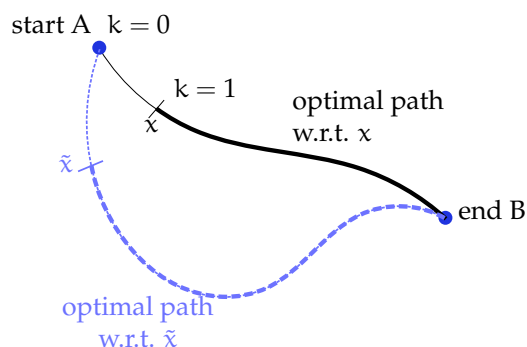
Solution: "endpiece of optimal routes/trajectories are optimal" → **principle of optimality**

- endpiece of  $S \xrightarrow{M} G$  is  $M \rightarrow G$
- holds in general, but not always (splitting of problems)

DEF: Principle of optimality

"An optimal policy has the property that whatever the initial state and optimal first decision may be, the remaining decisions constitute an optimal policy w.r.t. the state resulting from the first decision."

– (Bellman, 1957)



**Assumption:** cost sums up

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$$J^*(A \rightarrow X) = \alpha$$

$$J^*(X \rightarrow B) = \beta$$

$$\Rightarrow J^*(A \rightarrow B) = \alpha + \beta$$

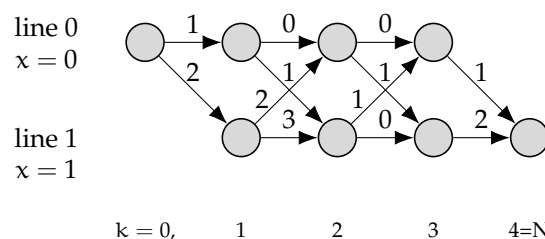
**Proof by contradiction**

$$J(A \rightarrow B) < J^*(A \rightarrow B)$$

$$\alpha + \beta' < \alpha + \beta$$

**Example** two production lines

Cost: time or money



- Goal: find optimal ('shortest') path from start to end point.
- Solution:
  - Brute force
  - Solve backwards in time

**Solution 1** brute force

List all possible paths and pick the best one.

- path = O XXX 1,  $x \in \{0, 1\}$   
number of paths =  $2^3 = 2^{N-1}$
- If M production lines:  
number of paths =  $M^{N-1}$  :
- Complexity  
 $(M^{N-1})(N-1) \approx O(NM^{N-1})$

**Solution 2** solving backwards

(Optimal) cost-to-go (to endpoint):  $J(x, k)$

$$k = 3 \quad J(0, 3) = 1$$

$$J(1, 3) = 2$$

$$k = 2 \quad J(0, 2) = \min\{0 + J(0, 3), 1 + J(1, 3)\} \\ = \min\{0 + 1, 1 + 2\} = 1$$

$$J(1, 2) = \min\{1 + J(0, 3), 0 + J(1, 3)\} \\ = \min\{1 + 1, 0 + 2\} = 2$$

$$k = 1 \quad J(0, 1) = \min\{0 + J(0, 2), 1 + J(1, 2)\} \\ = \min\{0 + 1, 1 + 2\} = 1$$

$$J(1, 1) = \min\{2 + J(0, 2), 3 + J(1, 2)\} \\ = \min\{2 + 1, 3 + 2\} = 3$$

$$k = 0 \quad J(0, 0) = \min\{1 + J(0, 1), 2 + J(1, 1)\} \\ = \min\{1 + 1, 2 + 3\} = 2$$

**Complexity** (count no. of +, -, min, max)

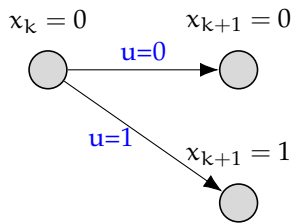
- $N - 1$  steps (backwards in time)
- for each production line:  $2 \cdot 2 (M - 2)$
- for  $M$  production lines:  $M^2$

$$\Sigma : \mathcal{O} (M^2 N)$$

**State space dynamics**

$$x_k = \{0, 1\}$$

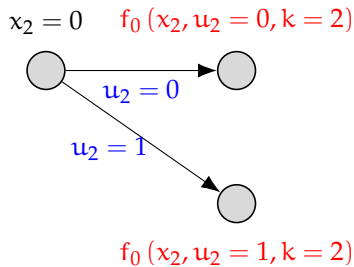
$$x_{k+1} = x_k + u_k$$



$$u_k = \begin{cases} \{0, 1\} & x_k = 0 \\ \{0, -1\} & x_k = 1 \end{cases} \quad k = 1 \dots N-2$$

$$u_0 \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$u_{N-1} = \begin{cases} -1 & x_{N-1} = 0 \\ 0 & x_{N-1} = 1 \end{cases}$$



**Cost (stage cost  $f_0$ )**

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_0(x_k, u_k, k)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = x_k + u_k$$

$$u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k)$$

$$= \begin{cases} \{0, 1\} & x_k = 0 \\ \{0, -1\} & x_k = 1 \end{cases} \quad k = 1 \dots N-2$$

$$J(k, x_k) = \min_{u_k} \{f_0(x_k, u_k, k) + J(k+1, x_{k+1})\}$$

### 3.2 Discrete-time, finite-dimension DP

$$\min \sum_{k=k_0}^{N-1} f_0(k, x_k, u_k) + \phi(N, x_N) \quad (3.1)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(k, x_k, u_k)$$

$$u_k \in \mathcal{U}(k, x_k)$$

DEF: (Optimal) cost to go

$$J^*(k, x) = \min_{u_j \in \mathcal{U}(j, x_j)} \sum_{j=k}^{N-1} f_0(j, x_j, u_j) + \phi(N, x_N) \quad (3.2)$$

“optimal cost of endpiece”

DEF: Optimal cost

$$J^*(k_0, x) = V(x) \quad (3.3)$$

“optimal value starting at point  $x$ ”  
optimal value function

**Theorem** Backward DP recursion

Let:

$$\bar{J}(N, x) = \phi(N, x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (3.4)$$

$$\bar{J}(k, x) = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(k, x)} \{f_0(k, x, u) + \bar{J}(k+1, f(x, u, k))\} \quad (3.5)$$

“Going backwards in time”

$$\therefore \bar{J}(k, x) = f(\dots k+1 \dots)$$

$$\bar{u}(k, x) = \arg \min \{f_0(k, x, u) + \bar{J}(k+1, f(x, u, k))\}$$

Then

$$J^*(k, x) = \bar{J}(k, x) \quad (3.6)$$

$$u^*(k, x) = \bar{u}(k, x) \quad (3.7)$$

**Proof** By induction

$$J^*(N, x) = \phi(N, x) = \bar{J}(N, x) \quad \text{by definition}$$

$$J^*(k+1, x) = \bar{J}(k+1, x)$$

$$\Rightarrow J^*(k, x) = \bar{J}(k, x)$$

$$= \min_{u_j} \left\{ \sum_{j=k}^{N-1} f_0(j, x_j, u_j) + \phi(N, x_N) \right\}$$

$$= \min_{u_{k \dots N-1}} \{f_0(k, x_k, u_k)$$

$$+ \min_u \left\{ \sum_{j=k+1}^{N-1} f_0(j, x_j, u_j) + \phi(N, x_N) \right\} \}$$

$$= \min_{u_k \in \mathcal{U}(k, x_k)} \{f_0(k, x_k, u_k) + \bar{J}(k+1, x_{k+1})\}$$

$$= \bar{J}(k, x_k)$$

**DP**  $J^*(x, k_0) = V(x)$  value function

$$\begin{aligned} \min \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_0(x_k, u_k, k) + \phi(x_N, N) \\ x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ u_k \in \mathbb{R}^q \\ \text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(k, x_k, u_k), \quad k = k_0 \dots (N-1) \\ u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k, k) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^q \\ x_0 = x \end{aligned}$$

**Cost-to-go**

$$\bar{J}(x_k, k) = \min \left\{ \sum_{j=k}^{N-1} f_0(x_j, u_j, j) + \phi(x_N, N) \right\}$$

**Backward DP recursion** If  $\bar{J} = \bar{J}(x, k)$  such that

$$\bar{J}(x, N) = \phi(x, N) \quad \forall x \quad (3.8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{J}(x_k, k) = \min_{u_k \in \mathcal{U}(k, x_k)} \{ f_0(x_k, u_k, k) \\ + \bar{J}(f(k, x_k, u_k), k+1) \} \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u}(x_k, k) = \arg \min \{ f_0(x_k, u_k, k) \\ + \bar{J}(f(k, x_k, u_k), k+1) \} \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

then

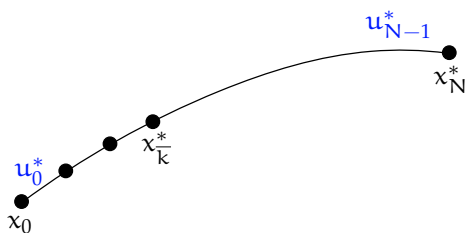
$$\bar{J}(k, x) = J^*(k, x) \quad \forall x, k = k_0 \dots N-1 \quad (3.11)$$

$$\bar{u}(x, k) = \text{optimal feedback} \quad (3.12)$$

- (+) quite general, feedback, constructive (algorithm)
- (-) computational complexity (solve a NLP for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ )  
→ discretisation → curse of dimensionality  
no. grid points in state space =  $N$ , dim =  $n$   
 **$N^n$  points :(**
- between analytic soln (LQR) — brute force discretisation:  
approximate DP lat approx.  $\bar{J}, \bar{u}, f$  by some basic function

**PoO  $\triangleq$  DP recursion** ( $k_0 = 0$  without loss of generality)

$$J^*(0, x_0) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_0(x_k^*, u_k^*, k) + \phi(x_N^*, N)$$



**Discretisation algo** (handout)

Idea: discretise state space and input space

→ problem on a graph

(no. of states is finite, production line problem)

**LQR – analytic solution**

$$\begin{aligned} \min \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x_k^T Q x_k + u_k^T R u_k + x_N^T S_N x_N, \\ R > 0, S_N \geq 0 \\ \text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = A x_k + B u_k = f(x_k, u_k) \end{aligned}$$

**DP:** ( $k = N$ )

Step 0:

$$(\bar{J}(x, k) =: J(x, k))$$

$$\bar{J}(x_N, N) = x_N^T S_N x_N$$

Step 1: ( $k = N-1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} J(x_{N-1}, N-1) \\ = \min_u \{ x_{N-1}^T Q x_{N-1} + u_{N-1}^T R u_{N-1} \\ + J(A x_{N-1} + B u_{N-1}, N) \} \\ = \min_u \{ x_{N-1}^T Q x_{N-1} + u_{N-1}^T R u_{N-1} \\ + (A x_{N-1} + B u_{N-1})^T S_N (A x_{N-1} + B u_{N-1}) \} \\ = \min_{u(x)} \{ x_{N-1}^T (Q + A^T S_N A) x_{N-1} \\ + u_{N-1}^T \underbrace{(R + B^T S_N B)}_{>0} u_{N-1} \\ + x_{N-1}^T A^T S_N B u_{N-1} + u_{N-1}^T B^T S_N A x_{N-1} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \{ \} = 2 (R + B^T S_N B) u + 2 B^T S_N A x \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$u^*(x) = - (R + B^T S_N B)^{-1} B^T S_N A x$$

$$u^*(x_{N-1}) = -K_{N-1} x_{N-1}$$

$$J(x, N-1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} = x^T (Q + K_{N-1}^T R K_{N-1} \\ + (A - B K_{N-1})^T S_N (A - B K_{N-1})) x \\ = x^T S_{N-1} x \end{aligned}$$

Because  $J(x, k)$  is  $\forall k$  always quadratic and  $\bar{u}(x)$  can be computed analytically, a recursive (efficient/analytic) solution is feasible.

Ricatti equation, discrete time:

$$\begin{aligned} S_{i-1} = Q + K_{i-1}^T R K_{i-1} \\ + (A - B K_{i-1})^T S_i (A - B K_{i-1}) \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} u^*(i-1) = -K_{i-1} x_{i-1} \\ = - (R + B^T S_i B)^{-1} B^T S_i A x_{i-1} \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

$$J(i-1, x_{i-1}) = x_{i-1}^T S_{i-1} x_{i-1} \quad (3.15)$$

### Ex. 3.6 Forward DP recursion

$$\min \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_0(x_{k+1}, u_k) + \underbrace{\phi(x_0)}_{\text{note}^1}$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k)$$

$$J_a(k+1, x_{k+1}) \quad (3.16)$$

$$= \min_u \{f_0(x_{k+1}, u_k) + J_a(k, x_k)\} \quad (3.17)$$

$J_a$  arrival cost  
(summarises "past cost")

$J_a(0, x)$  optimal cost

Kalman filter / estimation:  $\phi(x_0) = \|x_0 - \xi\|^2$ , where  $\xi$  is the initial guess/estimate of state.  
 $f_0 = \|y_k - cx_k\|^2 + \dots$

**Why correct?** time transformation

$$\bar{k} = N - k \quad k = 0 \dots N-1$$

$$\bar{k} = 1 \dots N$$

$$x_k = \xi_{\bar{k}} = \xi_{N-k}$$

$$(x_0 = \xi_N, x_1 = \xi_{N-1}, \dots, x_N = \xi_0)$$

$$u_k = v_{\bar{k}-1} = v_{N-k-1}$$

$$(u_0 = v_{N-1}, u_1 = v_{N-2}, \dots, u_{N-1} = v_0)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_0(x_{k+1}, u_k) + \phi(x_0)$$

$$= \sum_{\bar{k}=1}^N f_0(\xi_{\bar{k}-1}, v_{\bar{k}-1}) + \phi(\xi_N)$$

$$\text{where } \xi_{\bar{k}-1} = f(\xi_{\bar{k}}, v_{\bar{k}})$$

$$\xi_0 = x_N = f(x_{N-1}, u_{N-1})$$

$$= \sum_{\bar{k}=0}^{N-1} f_0(\xi_{\bar{k}}, v_{\bar{k}}) + \phi(\xi_N)$$

$$\text{where } \xi_{\bar{k}-1} = f(\xi_{\bar{k}+1}, v_{\bar{k}})$$

$$g(\xi_k, \xi_{k+1}, v_k) = 0$$

### Ex. 3.7 Backward DP recursion

$$J(\tilde{k}, \xi_{\tilde{k}}) = \min_{v_{\tilde{k}}} \{f_0(\xi_{\tilde{k}}, v_{\tilde{k}}) + J(\tilde{k}+1, \xi_{\tilde{k}+1})\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \xi_{\tilde{k}} = f(\xi_{\tilde{k}+1}, v_{\tilde{k}})$$

Consider  $\tilde{k} = N-1$

$$x_1 = \xi_{N-1}$$

$$u_0 = v_{N-1}$$

$$J(N-1, x_1) = \min_{u_0} \{f_0(x_1, u_0) + J(N, x_0)\}$$

...compare with (3.17)

$$\Rightarrow J_a(k, x) = J(N - \tilde{k}, x)$$

## 3.3 Discrete time, infinite horizon DP

### 3.3.1 Problem formulation

#### Ex. 3.8 Problem setup

$$\min \sum_{k=0}^{N=\infty} f_0(x_k, u_k) \quad (3.18)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k)$$

$$u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k)$$

(Optimal) cost to go

$$J(k, x_k) = \min \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} f_0(x_j, u_j) \quad (3.19)$$

Value function

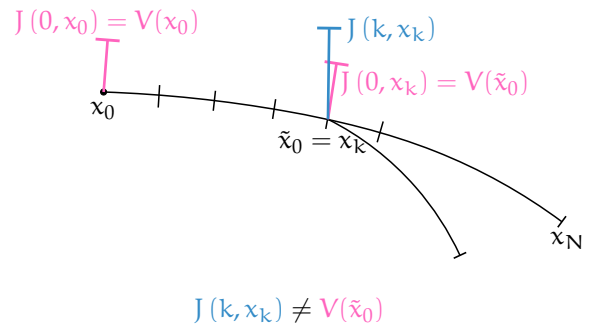
$$V(x) = J(0, x) \quad (3.20)$$

**Remark:** 'Cannot go backwards starting from infinity!'

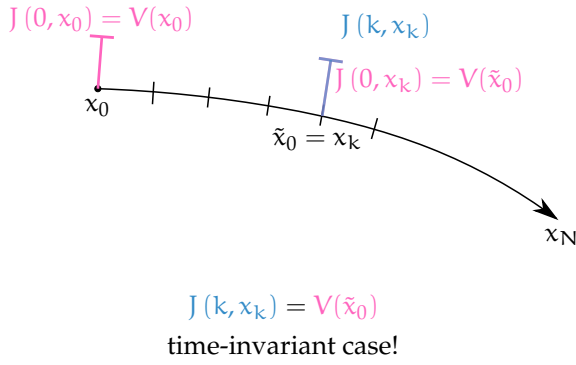
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- N finite ( $N < \infty$ ):

$$J(k, x_k) = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \{f_0(x, u) + J(k+1, f(x, u))\}$$



- N infinite  $N = \infty$



$J(k, x)$  replaced by  $V(x)$  in DP recursion:

DP equation | Bellman equation

$$V(x) = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \{f_0(x, u) + V(f(x, u))\} \quad (3.21)$$

#### THEOREM: (necessity)

Consider:

$$\bar{V}(x) = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \{f_0(x, u) + \bar{V}(f(x, u))\} \quad (3.22)$$

$$\bar{u}(x) = \arg \min \{f_0(x, u) + \bar{V}(f(x, u))\} \quad (3.23)$$

Suppose  $V$  in problem setup exists, then  $V$  solves  $\bar{V}(x)$  in (3.22) (and the optimal feedback solves  $\bar{u}(x)$  in (3.23))

#### Remark

- Not sufficient!
- DP equation is a fix point equation (in a function space) in the value function

$$\bar{V} = \bar{f}(\bar{V})$$

#### Value function iteration and policy iteration algorithm

$$\min \sum_{k=0}^{N=\infty} \alpha^k f_0(x_k, u_k), \quad \alpha \in (0, 1) \quad (3.24)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k) \\ u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k)$$

$\alpha$  discount factor (forgetting)

**Assumption** Suppose  $|f_0(x, u)| \leq M \quad \forall x, u$ .

$$\sum \alpha^k f_0(x_k, u_k) \leq \sum_{k=0}^{N=\infty} \alpha^k M = M \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}$$

#### Notice

$$\begin{aligned} J(k, x_k) &= \min \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \alpha^j f_0(x_j, u_j) \\ &= \alpha^k \min \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \alpha^j f_0(\tilde{x}_j, \tilde{u}_j) \\ &= \alpha^k V(\tilde{x}_0) = \alpha^k V(x_k) \\ \alpha^k V(x) &= \min \{f_0(x, u) \alpha^k + \alpha^{k+1} V(f(x, u))\} \\ V(x) &= \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \{f_0(x, u) + \alpha V(f(x, u))\} \end{aligned}$$

#### EX. 3.9 DP operator T

$$TV(.) := \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(.)} \{f_0(., u) + \alpha V(f(., u))\} \quad (3.25)$$



$$T_{w(x)} V(x) := \{f_0(x, w(x)) + \alpha V(f(x, w(x)))\} \quad (3.26)$$

**Properties** Let  $V_1, V_2$  be some functions

contribution:

$$\|TV_1 - TV_2\|_{\infty} \leq \alpha \|V_1 - V_2\|_{\infty} \quad (3.27)$$

monotonicity:

$$V_1 \geq V_2 \Rightarrow TV_1 \geq TV_2 \quad (3.28)$$

$$\exists \bar{V} : T\bar{V} = \bar{V} \quad (3.29)$$

iteration converges to unique fix point:

$$T \dots T(TV_1) =: T^{\infty} V_1 = \bar{V} \quad (3.30)$$

#### Remark

$$\bar{V} = T\bar{V} \quad (\cong \text{ DP equations})$$

$$T^{\infty} V_1 = \bar{V}$$

$$(V_2 := TV_1 \dots V_{k+1} = TV_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \bar{V}), \text{ note}^2$$

**Proof** Banach space fixpoint theorem

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a Banach space.

Let  $\Phi : X \rightarrow X$  be continuous and let  $\|\Phi(x) - \Phi(y)\| \leq \alpha \|x - y\|, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

<sup>2</sup>value function iteration algorithm

Then there exists a unique fixpoint  $x^* = \Phi(x^*)$  and  $x_{k+1} = \Phi(x_k, x_k) \rightarrow x^*$ .

$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &= \|x - x^*\| \\ V(x_{k+1}) - V(x_k) &= \|\Phi(x_k) - \Phi(x^*)\| - \|x_k - x^*\| \\ &\leq \alpha \|x_k - x^*\| - \|x_k - x^*\| < 0 \end{aligned}$$

(and the opt. feedback)

$$\left\| \min_u f(u) - \min_u g(u) \right\| \leq \max_u \|f(u) - g(u)\|$$

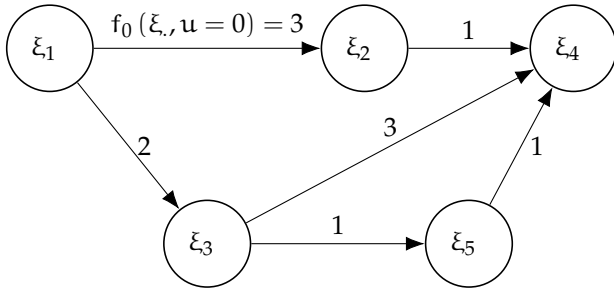
### Value function iteration

- Take any  $V_0$
- Compute  $V_{k+1} = TV_k$
- Iterate until 'convergence'

### Example

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X} &= \{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_5\} & \text{state space} \\ \mathcal{U} &= \{0, 1\} & \text{input space} \end{aligned}$$

Dynamics:



$$V_1 = V(\xi_1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\xi_1, u=0) &= \xi_2 \\ f(\xi_1, u=1) &= \xi_3 \\ f(\xi_2, u=0|1) &= \xi_4 \\ &\vdots \\ f(\xi_4, u=0|1) &= \xi_4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cost: } & \sum_{k=0}^{N=\infty} \underbrace{(0.9)}_{\alpha} f_0(x_k, u_k) \\ f_0(\xi_2, 0|1) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V &= [V(\xi_1) \dots V(\xi_5)] = [V_1 \dots V_5] \\ V^{(k+1)} &= TV^{(k)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(\xi_1^{\text{new}}) &= V_1^{\text{new}(k+1)} \\ &= \min \left\{ f_0(\xi_1, 0) + \underbrace{0.9 V_2^{\text{old}}}_{\text{note}^3}, 2 + 0.9 V_3^{\text{old}} \right\} \\ &\vdots \\ V_2^{\text{new}} &= \\ &\vdots \\ V_5^{\text{new}} &= \end{aligned}$$

MC:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{old}} &= [1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 5] \\ V_{\text{new}} &= V_{\text{old}} \\ \text{for } i &= 1 : 100 \\ V_{\text{new}}(1) &= \min\{3 + \alpha V_{\text{old}}(2), 2 + \alpha V_{\text{old}}(3)\} \\ &\vdots \\ V_{\text{new}}(5) &= \dots \\ V_{\text{old}} &= V_{\text{new}} \\ \text{end} \end{aligned}$$

### 3.3.2 Policy iteration algorithm

$$u = [u(\xi_1), u(\xi_2), \dots, u(\xi_5)]$$

1.  $u^0$  arbitrary (initial policy)
2. Solve  $V^*(x) = Tu^k V^k(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$
3. Solve

$$\begin{aligned} u^{k+1} &= \arg(TV^k)(x) \\ &= \arg \min \left\{ f_0(x, u) + \alpha V^k(f(x, u)) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

4. Go to 2.

**Remark**  $V^k \geq V^{k+1}$

FR.  
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### 3.3.3 Summary

#### Discrete time DP

$$\min \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \alpha^k f_0(x_k, u_k) + \phi(x_N) \quad (3.31)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } x_{k+1} &= f(x_k, u_k) \quad k = 0 \dots N \\ u_k &\in \mathcal{U}(x_k) \end{aligned}$$

<sup>3</sup> $V_2^{\text{old}} = V(f(\xi_1, 0)) = V(\xi_2)$



For  $N < \infty$ : DP recursion

$$J(k, x_k) = \min_{u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k)} \left\{ \alpha^k f_0(x_k, u_k) + \underbrace{J(k+1, x_{k+1})}_{\text{cost to go}} \right\} \quad (3.32)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k) \quad k = 0 \dots N$$

$$J(N, x) = \phi(x) \quad (3.33)$$

- Necessary and sufficient optimal condition

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{opt FB } \bar{u}(k, x_k) \\ &= \arg \min \left\{ \alpha^k f_0(x_k, u_k) + J(k+1, x_{k+1}) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

- Algorithms: discretisation  
(Approximated Dynamic Programming / ADP algorithm)  
→ curse of dimensionality

For  $N = \infty$  ( $\phi = 0$ ): DP (Bellman) equation

$$V(x_k) = \min_{u_k \in \mathcal{U}(x_k)} \{f_0(x_k, u_k) + \alpha V(x_{k+1})\}$$

- Necessary (and sufficient under additional assumptions) condition

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{opt FB } \bar{u}(x_k) \\ &= \arg \min \{f_0(x_k, u_k) + \alpha V(x_{k+1})\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.35)$$

- Algorithms: fix point iteration algorithm (+ discrete → ADP algorithm)  
 $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

**Remark** Mann iteration

$T : \text{Hilbert space} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$

$$x_{k+1} = (1 - \lambda_k)x_k + \lambda_k T(x_k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} x^* \quad (3.36)$$

$$T(x^*) = x^*, \exists x^*, \text{ if } \|TV_1 - TV_2\| \leq \alpha \|V_1 - V_2\|$$

### 3.4 Continuous time, finite horizon DP (HJB theory)

HJB: Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman

#### 3.4.1 Problem formulation

##### EX. 3.10 Problem setup

$$\min_{u(\cdot)} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \phi(t_f, x_f) \quad (3.37)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } \quad & \dot{x} = f(t, x, u) \quad t \in [t_0, t_f] \\ & u(t) \in \mathcal{U}(t, x(t)) \subset \mathbb{R}^q \\ & u \text{ piecewise continuous} \end{aligned}$$

- Optimal cost to go

$$J^*(t_1, x_1) = \min_{u(\cdot)} \int_{t_1}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \phi(x_f) \quad (3.38)$$

- Value function

$$J(t_0, x_0) = V(x_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} J(t_0, x_0) &\stackrel{\text{Def.}}{=} \min \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \phi(x_f) \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x^*(t), u^*(t)) dt + \phi(x_f^*) \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f_0(t, x^*(t), u^*(t)) dt \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\int_{t_1}^{t_f} f_0(t, x^*(t), u^*(t)) dt}_{\text{PoO } J(t_1, x_1)} \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f_0(t, x^*(t), u^*(t)) dt + J(t_1, x_1) \end{aligned}$$

PoO as a formula:

$$J(t_0, x_0) = \min_u \left\{ \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} f_0(t, x, u) dt}_{\text{note}^4} + J(t_1, x_1) \right\}$$

<sup>4</sup>'DP recursion' but not as useful as in discrete-time since  $\int_{t_0}^{t_1} \dots dt$

### 3.4.2 Principle of optimality

**Idea** Infinitesimal version of the PoO:

$$t_1 = t_0 + \Delta t, \quad \Delta t \rightarrow 0, (J \in C^1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & J(t_0, x_0) \\ &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \left\{ \int_{t_0}^{t_0 + \Delta t} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \underbrace{J(t_0 + \Delta t, x(t_0 + \Delta t))}_{g(t_0 + \Delta t), \text{note}^5} \right\} \\ &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \left\{ f_0(t_0, x_0, u_0) \Delta t + J(t_0, x_0, u_0) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left[ \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial x} f(t_0, x_0, u_0) \right] \Delta t \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Divide by  $\Delta t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \cancel{J(t_0, x_0)} &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \{ f_0(t_0, x_0, u_0) + \cancel{J(t_0, x_0, u_0)} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial t} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial x} f(t_0, x_0, u_0) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t) \} \\ 0 &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \left\{ f_0(t_0, x_0, u_0) + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial t} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial x} f(t_0, x_0, u_0) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ :

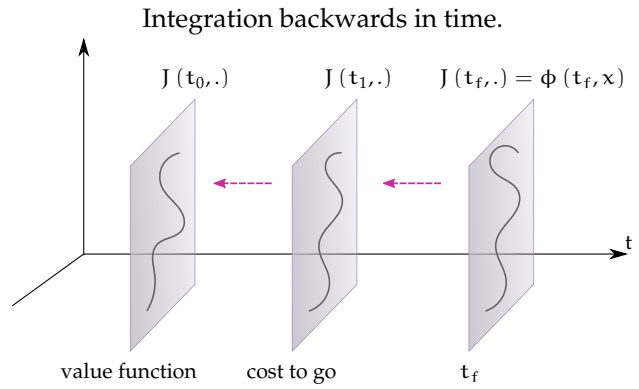
$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0)}{\partial t} \\ &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \left\{ f_0(t_0, x_0, u_0) + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial x} f(t_0, x_0, u_0) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.39)$$

### 3.4.3 Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation

PDE, nonlinear<sup>6</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0)}{\partial t} \\ &= \min_{u(\cdot)} \left\{ f_0(t_0, x_0, u_0) + \frac{\partial J(t_0, x_0, u_0)}{\partial x} f(t_0, x_0, u_0) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.39)$$

$$J(t_f, x) = \phi(t_f, x) \quad (3.40)$$



### 3.4.4 Verification theorem

**THEOREM: necessity**

If  $J \in C^1$ , then  $J$  is a solution of the HJB equation (3.39).

**THEOREM: sufficiency, verification theorem**

Suppose  $\bar{J}(t, x) \in C^1$ , and

$$-\frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x)}{\partial t} = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \left\{ f_0(t, x, u) + \frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x, u)}{\partial x} f(t, x, u) \right\} \quad (3.39)$$

$$J(t_f, x) = \phi(t_f, x) \quad (3.40)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u}(t, x) &= \arg \min \left\{ f_0(t, x, u) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x, u)}{\partial x} f(t, x, u) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.41)$$

Then  $\bar{J} = J$  and  $\bar{u}$  is the (an) optimal feedback.

**Proof:**

$$g(t_1) - g(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \dot{g}(t) dt$$

Find theorem of calculus.

**Step 1**  $\bar{J} \geq J$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x)}{\partial t} &= \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \left\{ f_0(t, x, u) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x, u)}{\partial x} f(t, x, u) \right\} \\ &= f_0(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x)) \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x))}{\partial x} f(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x)) \\ -\dot{\bar{J}}(t, x) &= f_0(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x)) \end{aligned}$$

<sup>5</sup>  $g(t_0 + \Delta t) = g(t_0) + \dot{g}(t_0)\Delta t + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$

<sup>6</sup> nonlinear due to min...

Integrate from  $t_0$  to  $t_f$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{J}(t_0, x_0) &= \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x)) dt + \bar{J}(t_f, x_f) \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, \bar{u}(t, x)) dt + \phi(t_f, x_f)\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \bar{J}$  indeed represents the cost to go.

**Step 2**  $\bar{J} \leq J, \forall u(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}(t, x)$

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x)}{\partial t} &\leq f_0(t, x, u) + \frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x, u)}{\partial x} f(t, x, u) \\ -\dot{\bar{J}}(t, x) &\leq f_0(t, x, u)\end{aligned}$$

Integrate from  $t_0$  to  $t_f$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{J}(t_0, x_0) &\leq \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \bar{J}(t_f, x_f) \\ \bar{J}(t_0, x_0) &\leq \int_{t_0}^{t_f} f_0(t, x, u) dt + \phi(t_f, x_f) \\ &\quad \forall u(t, x) \in \mathcal{U}(t, x), \text{ note}^7 \\ \bar{J}(t_0, x_0) &\leq J(t_0, x_0)\end{aligned}$$

$\bar{u}$  is optimal, because  $(\leq) \rightarrow (=)$ .

#### Remarks

- Solving HJB (3.39) is in general hard (analytically + computationally<sup>8</sup>)
- Sometimes helpful:

$$\text{opt FB} = \bar{u}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial x}\right) \quad (3.42)$$

$$\bar{u}(t, x, \lambda) = \arg \min \left\{ f_0(t, x, u) + \lambda^T f(t, x, u) \right\} \quad (3.43)$$

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial t} &= f_0\left(t, x, \bar{u}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial x}\right)\right) \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\frac{\partial \bar{J}(t, x)}{\partial x}}_{\lambda^T} f\left(t, x, \bar{u}\left(t, x, \frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial x}\right)\right)\end{aligned} \quad (3.44)$$

#### Example: LQR

$$\begin{aligned}\min \int_{t_0}^{t_f} x^T Q x + u^T R u dt + x_f^T S_f x_f, \quad R > 0, S_f > 0 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad \dot{x} = A x + B u\end{aligned}$$

Find optimal feedback  $\bar{u}(t, x)$

$$\bar{u}(t, x) = \arg \min \left\{ x^T Q x + u^T R u + \lambda^T (A x + B u) \right\} \quad (3.45)$$

<sup>7</sup>Holds also for the optimal feedback  $u^*$

<sup>8</sup> $\dim(x) \leq 10$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( x^T Q x + \bar{u}^T R \bar{u} + \lambda^T (A x + B \bar{u}) \right) &= 0^T \\ 2R \bar{u} + B^T \lambda &= 0 \\ \bar{u}(\lambda) &= -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} B^T \lambda\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial t} &= x^T Q x + \frac{1}{4} \lambda^T B R^{-1} B^T \lambda + \lambda^T A x \\ &\quad + \lambda^T B \left( -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} B^T \lambda \right) \quad (3.44)\end{aligned}$$

$$= x^T Q x - \frac{1}{4} \lambda^T B R^{-1} B^T \lambda + \lambda^T A x \quad (3.45)$$

$$\bar{J}(t_f, x) = x^T S_f x \quad (3.40)$$

We try:  $\bar{J}(t, x) = x^T S(t) x$ , with

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial t} &= x^T \dot{S}(t) x \\ \frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial x} &= 2x^T S(t) = \lambda^T \\ &\rightarrow \text{plug into } -\frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial t} \text{ in (3.45)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}-x^T \dot{S}(t) x &= x^T Q x - \frac{4}{4} x^T S(t) B R^{-1} B^T S(t) x \\ &\quad + 2x^T S(t) A x \quad \forall x \\ 0 &= x^T \underbrace{\left( \dot{S}(t) + Q - S(t) B R^{-1} B^T S(t) + 2S(t) A \right)}_{\stackrel{!}{=0}} x\end{aligned}$$

Ricatti equation (ODE)<sup>9</sup>:

$$0 = \dot{S}(t) + Q - S(t) B R^{-1} B^T S(t) + 2S(t) A \quad (3.46)$$

$$S(t_f) = S_f \quad (3.47)$$

$$\bar{u}(\lambda) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} B^T \lambda = -R^{-1} B^T S(t) x$$

Mo.  
03/12/18

## 3.5 Continuous time infinite horizon DP

### EX. 3.11 Problem setup

$$\min \int_0^{t_f=\infty} f_0(x, u) dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{s.t.} \quad \dot{x} &= f(x, u) \\ u(t) &\in \mathcal{U}(x(t))\end{aligned}$$

#### Assumptions

- $f_0(x, u) \geq 0 \quad \forall x, u, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, u \in \mathbb{R}^q$
- $f_0(x, u) > 0$  whenever  $u \neq 0$
- $f_0(x, 0)$  is zero state detectable  
i.e.,  $y = f_0(x(t), 0) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow x(t) = 0$
- $f_0(0, 0) = 0$

<sup>9</sup>PDE is converted into an ODE

**Cost-to-go**  $J(x_1, t_1)$

"Cost with  $x_1$  as new initial condition."

$$J(x_1, t_1) = \min_u \int_{t_1}^{\infty} f_0(x, u) dt$$

$$t_f < \infty$$

$$-\frac{\partial J(t, x)}{\partial t} = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \left\{ f_0(x, u) + \frac{\partial J(t, x)}{\partial x} f(x, u) \right\}$$

$$t_f = \infty$$

cost-to-go  $\triangleq$  cost/value function

$$J(t_1, x_1) = V(x_1)$$

$$0 = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \left\{ f_0(x, u) + \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} f(x, u) \right\}$$

### Main questions

- Optimality, stability
- Robustness

#### a) Optimality, stability

##### THEOREM:

Suppose the assumptions above hold true. Let  $\bar{V} \in C^1$ , which is positive definite (and radially unbounded), be

$$\text{s.t. } 0 = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}(x)} \left\{ f_0(x, u) + \frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x, u) \right\}$$

$$\text{and } \bar{u}(x) = \arg \min \left\{ f_0(x, u) + \frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x, u) \right\}$$

then  $\bar{V} = V$  (value function  $V^*$ ) and  $\bar{u}$  is an optimal feedback which is (globally) asymptotically stabilising (w.r.t.  $x = 0$ ).

### Proof

Step 1: stability

$$0 = f_0(x, \bar{u}(x)) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x, \bar{u}(x))}_{\dot{\bar{V}}(x) = L_f \bar{V}(x)} \quad \text{HJBE}$$

$$\dot{\bar{V}}(x) = -f_0(x, \bar{u}(x)) \leq 0$$

$\Rightarrow x = 0$  is (globally) stable

Provided  $\bar{V}$  is positive definite (and radially unbounded).

Step 2: asymptotic stability

$$\dot{\bar{V}}(x) = -f_0(x, \bar{u}(x))$$

$$(\text{La Salle}) \quad x(t) \rightarrow \{x : \dot{\bar{V}}(x) = 0 = f_0(x, \bar{u}(x)) = 0\}$$

For  $f_0(x, u) > 0, u \neq 0$ :

$$\Rightarrow x(t) \rightarrow \{x : f_0(x, 0) = 0\}$$

Step 3: HJBE

$$0 \leq f_0(x, u) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x, u)}_{\dot{\bar{V}}}$$

$$\left( 0 = f_0(x, u) + \frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x, u) \right)$$

$$\dot{\bar{V}}(x) \leq f_0(x, u)$$

$$\bar{V}(x_0) - \bar{V}(x(t)) \leq \int_0^t f_0(x, u) d\tau, \quad t \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\bar{V}(x_0) \leq \int_0^{\infty} f_0(x, u) d\tau \quad \forall u(x) \in \mathcal{U}(x), n^{10}$$

- $\bar{V}(x_0)$  is a lower bound of the value function ( $\bar{V} \leq V$ )
- $\bar{V}$  is achieved by  $\bar{u}$ , hence  $\bar{V} = V, \bar{u} = u^*$

#### b) Robustness

Setup:

$$\min \int_0^{\infty} q(x) + u^R(x)u dt \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^q, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{s.t. } \dot{x} = f(x) + G(x)u, \quad q(x) > 0, R(x) > 0$$

HJBE:

$$0 = \min \left\{ q(x) + u^T R(x)u + \frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} f(x) + \frac{\partial \bar{V}(x)}{\partial x} G(x)u \right\} \quad (3.48)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \{ \cdot \} = 2R(x)\bar{u} + G^T(x) \frac{\partial \bar{V}^T(x)}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\bar{u}(x) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1}(x) G^T(x) \frac{\partial \bar{V}^T(x)}{\partial x} \quad (3.49)$$

$$\bar{u}(x) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1}(x) L_g V(x), \quad u \in \mathbb{R}, (G = \varphi)$$

' $L_g V$ ' control law  $\rightarrow$  nonlinear control

Substitute (3.49) in (3.48)

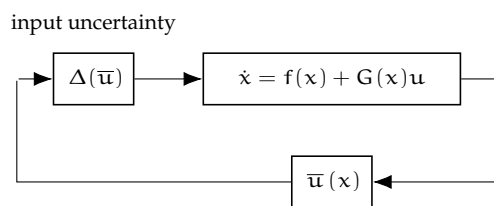
$$0 = q(x) + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) R(x) G^T(x) \frac{\partial V^T(x)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} f(x) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) R^{-1}(x) G^T(x) \frac{\partial V^T(x)}{\partial x}$$

$$0 = q(x) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) R^{-1}(x) G^T(x) \frac{\partial V^T(x)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} f(x)$$

$$0 = q(x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) \bar{u}(x) + \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} f(x)$$

<sup>10</sup>in particular  $u^* \in \mathcal{U}(x)$

**Uncertainties** e.g. actuator nonlinearities (unmodelled)



For which  $\Delta$ 's is the closed-loop asymptotically stable?

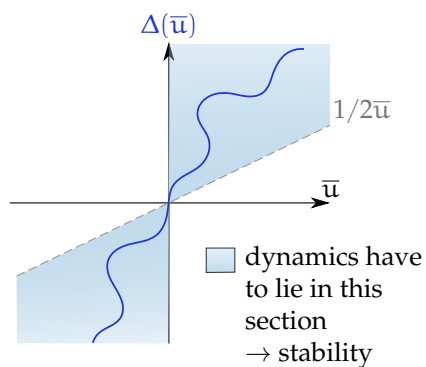
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} &= \dot{V}(x) = \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} (f(x) + G(x)\Delta(\bar{u})) \stackrel{!}{\leq} 0 \\ \dot{V}(x) &= \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) \bar{u}(x) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) \bar{u}(x) + \frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) \Delta(\bar{u}) \\ &= \underbrace{-q(x)}_{<0} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x) \left( \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}(x) \right)}_{*} \end{aligned}$$

Asymptotically stable if  $* \leq 0$ :

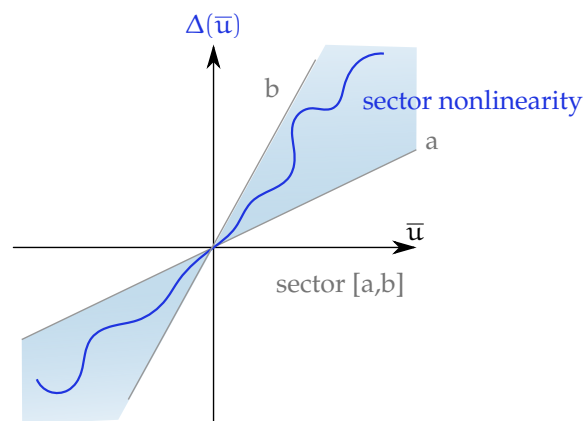
$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{\frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} G(x)}_{-2\bar{u}^T R} \left( \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}(x) \right) &\leq 0 \\ -2\bar{u}^T(x) R(x) \left( \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}(x) \right) &\stackrel{?}{\leq} 0 \\ \bar{u}^T(x) R(x) \left( \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}(x) \right) &\stackrel{?}{\geq} 0 \end{aligned}$$

**q=1** ( $u \in \mathbb{R}$ )  $R(x) = r(x) > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u} \cdot \left( \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}(x) \right) &\geq 0 \\ \bar{u} \Delta(\bar{u}) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}^2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Remark:



**THEOREM:** (similar to  $q = 1$ )

Suppose

$$R(x) = \begin{bmatrix} r_x(1) & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & r_q(x) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.50)$$

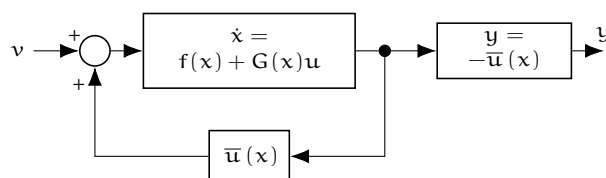
$$\Delta(\bar{u}) = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_1(\bar{u}_1) \\ \vdots \\ \Delta_q(\bar{u}_q) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.51)$$

then  $\bar{u}$  achieves a sector margin of  $[1/2, \infty]$

$q > 1$

Remark:

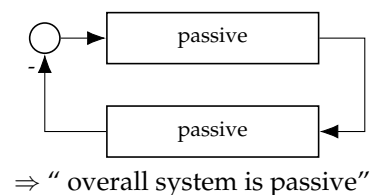
- LQR gain margin  $[1/2, \infty]$
- disc margin (as a generalisation of phase margin)  $\rightarrow$  nonlinear control



From  $v \rightarrow y$ , system is passive, i.e.

$$\dot{V} = -\frac{1}{2} y^T y + y^T v$$

Passive systems



**Example**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= x^2 + u \\ u &= -x^2 - x \Rightarrow \text{closed loop} \\ \Rightarrow \dot{x} &= -x \quad \text{FB linearisation} \end{aligned}$$

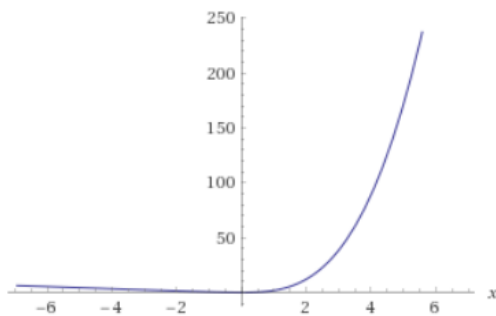
$$\Delta(u) = (1 + \varepsilon) u, \quad \varepsilon > 0$$

$$\dot{x} = x^2 + (1 + \varepsilon) \left( -x^2 - x \right) - (1 + \varepsilon) x - \varepsilon x^2$$

→ closed loop is not globally stable – even worse, shows finite escape behaviour<sup>11</sup>, even for small uncertainties.

### Integrating the HJBE:

$$V(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^3 + \frac{2}{3} \left( 1 + x^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{2}{3} > 0 \quad \text{pos. def.}$$



$$\min \int_0^\infty \underbrace{x^2 + u^2}_{f_0} dt$$

$$\bar{u}(x) = -x^2 - \underbrace{\left( \sqrt{1 + x^2} \right)}_{\text{state-dependent gain}} x$$

### Remark

- **Inherent robustness**

uncertainties/unmodelled dynamics are not taken into account in the control design

- **Robust design**

uncertainties are explicitly taken into account in the control design

worst case represented by maximum disturbance  $w$  (unmodelled dynamics) →  $\max_w$

$$\min_u \max_w \int_0^\infty f_0(x, u, w) dt$$

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

HJBIE<sup>12</sup>:

$$0 = \min_u \max_w \left\{ f_0 + \dot{V} \right\}$$

(2 player zero sum differential game)

- $u$ : control engineer
- $w$ : nature/disturbance

→ LQ-Setup:  $H_2/H_\infty$  control (robust control)

- **Inverse optimality**

“normal case”: use value function as Lyapunov function

“inv. opt”: use control/Lyapunov function as value function

Applications: robust stabilisation, nonlinear control

<sup>11</sup>finite escape behaviour  $\triangleq |x(t)| \rightarrow \infty, t \rightarrow t^*$ , “system explodes”

<sup>12</sup>I: Isaacs

## 4 Receding Horizon Optimal Control

So far:

| NLP              | DP                  |
|------------------|---------------------|
| finite horizon   | (in)finite horizon  |
| discrete time    | discrete/continuous |
| open loop        | feedback            |
| "efficient algo" | fix point eqn, PDE  |

Now:

**Receding horizon optimal control (RHOC)** merges advantages of NLP (computability) and DP (feedback, infinite horizon)

- MPC (model predictive control)
- MHE (moving horizon estimation)

**Motivation** optimal feedback design

$$\begin{aligned} \min \int_0^\infty f_0(x, u) dt \\ \text{s.t. } \dot{x} = f(x, u) \\ u \in \mathcal{U} \\ x \in \mathcal{X} \end{aligned}$$

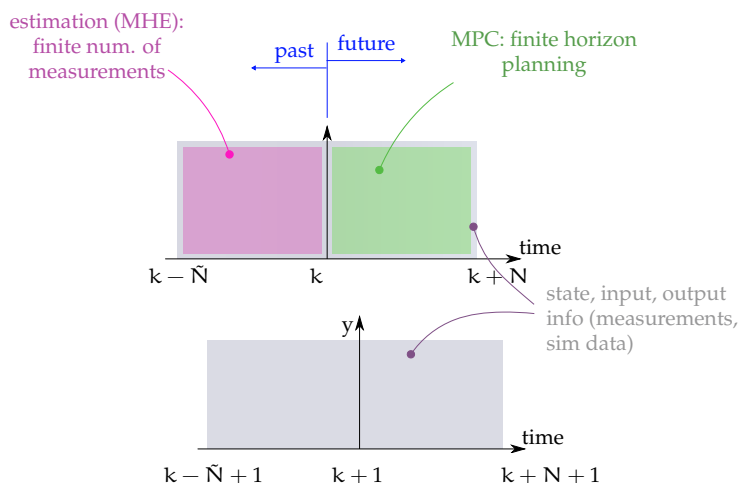
solve PDE, fixpoint equation, NLP  $\rightarrow \infty$  many decision variables (constraints)

**State estimation** use all past information (measurements) for estimation  $\rightarrow$  unbounded data

### 4.1 Receding Horizon Online Decision Making

**Decision making**  $\triangleq$  find feedback  $u(x)$  or find state estimate  $\hat{x}$ ; "principle of chapter 4"

**RH decision making** (real-time, online) decision making based on a moving (receding) finite-time window of past and future information



**(RH) online decision making**  $\triangleq$  solve (compute) at each/some time instances a decision problem/optimisation problem (based on the receding horizon information)

#### History

- Economics (1950s), rolling (horizon) plans
- 1963, Propoi: MPC
- 1970, Jazwinski: MHE
- $\geq 1980$ s: process control (MPC)<sup>13</sup>

### 4.2 MPC

- "online (repeated) open loop computations  $\triangleq$  feedback"
- repeated open-loop finite-horizon OC policy (implemented in a receding horizon fashion)

[OP] Foundation of OC (book)

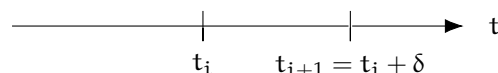
(1967, Marcus, Lee)

"One technique for obtaining a feedback controller/synthesis from knowledge of open-loop controllers is to measure the current process control state and then compute **very rapidly** for the open loop control.

"The first portion of this [open-loop] function is used during a short time interval, after which a new measurement of the state is made and a new open loop control function is computed for this measurement.

"Then the procedure is repeated."

#### Model Predictive Control Scheme



$T_p$  prediction/planning horizon  
 $\delta$  sampling interval

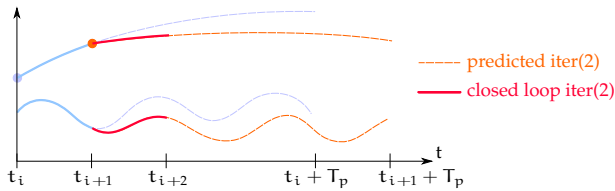
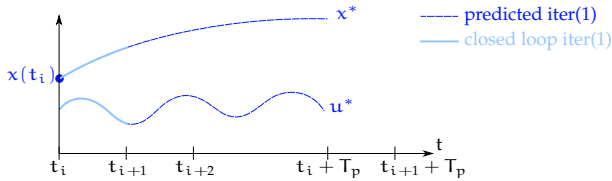
#### Typical scheme:

1. Measure the state  $x(t_i)$  and initialise it to be the current state
2. Predict the solution

$$\begin{aligned} u_{\text{MPC}}(\cdot, x(t_i)) &= \arg \min \int_{t_i}^{t_i+T_p} f_0(t, x, u) dt \\ &\quad + \phi(t_i + T_p, x(t_i + T_p)) \\ \text{s.t. } \dot{x} &= f(t, u, x) \\ x_0 &= x(t_i) \quad \text{IC} \\ x &\in \mathcal{X} \\ u &\in \mathcal{U} \end{aligned}$$

<sup>13</sup>processes are slow  $\therefore$  plans can be recomputed every minute

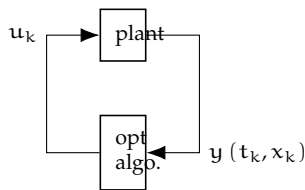
3. Implement  $u(t, x(t_i))$  within the sampling interval,  $t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}] \rightarrow$  'closed loop'
4. Set value at end of sampling period  $t_{i+1}$  to be the new initial value of the next iteration  
 $\rightarrow$  step 1  $i \leftarrow i + 1$



$\Rightarrow$  predicted solution  $\neq$  closed loop solution  
 $u_{MPC}(t, x(t_i))$

### Discussion / Challenges

MPC  $\subseteq$  (online) optimisation-based control



Fast and reliable (feasible) algorithms needed<sup>14</sup>!

### Sequential/recursive feasibility

"if solution at  $t_i$  is feasible, guarantee that there exists a solution at  $t_{i+1}$ "

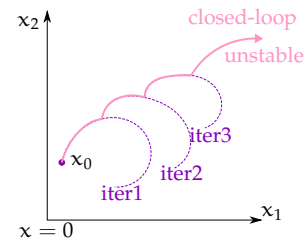
$$\min \int_{t_i}^{t_i+T_p} \dots dt + \phi \quad \text{is feasible}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\min \int_{t_{i+1}}^{t_{i+1}+T_p} \dots dt + \phi \quad \text{feasible?}$$

### Stability of MPC

**Problem:** predicted trajectory  $\neq$  closed-loop trajectory



Mo.  
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exercise

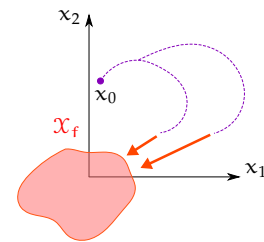
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**Solution:** "change/modify objective function, constraints, prediction horizons ..."

- Terminal set based conditions/MPC schemes

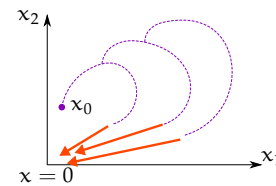
1. Terminal set constraint

$$x(t_i + T_p) \in \mathcal{X}_f$$



2. Zero terminal state constraint

Special case of the above, where 0 is the desired equilibrium point,  $x(t_i + T_p) = 0$



- Terminal set free approaches

e.g. choose  $T_p$  **sufficiently large**

Disadvantage: no. of decision variables increases, more computation power needed,  $T_p$  difficult to quantise

### THEOREM: A stability theorem

Consider

$$V(x(t_i)) = \min \int_{t_i}^{t_i+T_p} f_0(x(t), u(t)) dt + \phi(x(t_i + T_p))$$

$$\text{s.t. } \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t)), \quad t \in [t_i, t_i + T_p]$$

$$u(t) \in \mathcal{U}$$

$$x(t) \in \mathcal{X}$$

$$IC \ x(t_i)$$

$$x(t_i + T_p) \in \mathcal{X}_f$$

which is solved at each sampling time  $t_i$ ,  $t_{i+1} = t_i + \delta$  and implemented in a receding horizon fashion.

<sup>14</sup>fast: opt algo has to be faster than the plant; reliable: algo not allowed to crash



**THEOREM: (cont.)**

Suppose

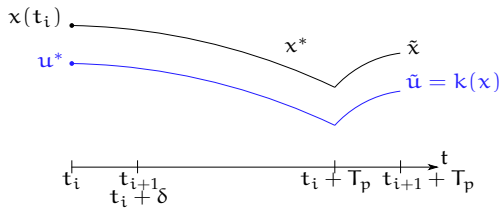
- $f(0,0) = 0$   
 $f_0, \phi$  are positive definite  
 $\phi \in C^1$
- $V$  well-defined in a set  $\mathcal{X}_0 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  of initial conditions, where the problem is feasible.  
 $V \in C^1$  in (interior) of  $\mathcal{X}_0$   
 $V$  positive definite
- $0 \in \mathcal{X}_f \subseteq \mathcal{X}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{X}$
- There exists a 'local feedback controller'  $k(x)$  such that
  - A1.  $k(x) \in \mathcal{U}, x \in \mathcal{X}$
  - A2.  $\dot{x} = f(x, k(x))$  renders  $\mathcal{X}_f$  invariant, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} x(0) &\in \mathcal{X}_f \\ x(t) &\in \mathcal{X}_f, t > 0 \end{aligned}$$

A3.

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\phi}(x) &= \nabla \phi^T(x) f(x, k(x)) \\ &\leq -f_0(x, k(x)) \end{aligned}$$

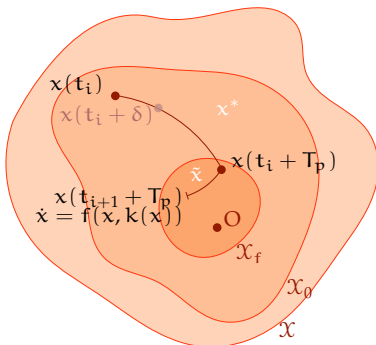
$\Rightarrow$  Then the MPC scheme is recursively feasible and converges  $x(t_i) \rightarrow 0, i \rightarrow \infty$  (and the MPC closed loop is asymptotically stable for  $\delta \rightarrow \infty$ )

**Proof**


- a) Recursive feasibility
- b) Convergence

**a) Recursive feasibility** OCP is feasible for  $x(t_i) = \text{IC}$

$\Rightarrow$  OCP is feasible for  $x(t_{i+1}) = \text{IC}$ .



Candidate solution (suboptimal, feasible solution at  $t_{i+1}$ :

$$v(t, x(t_{i+1})) = \begin{cases} u^*(t) & t \in [t_i + \delta, t_i + T_p] \\ \tilde{u} = k(x(t)) & t \in [t_i + T_p, t_{i+1} + T_p] \end{cases}$$

We have:

$$x(t_{i+1} + T_p) \in \mathcal{X}_f \quad \because (A2)$$

$$v(t_i, x(t_{i+1})) \in \mathcal{U} \quad \because (A1)$$

$\Rightarrow$  recursive feasibility

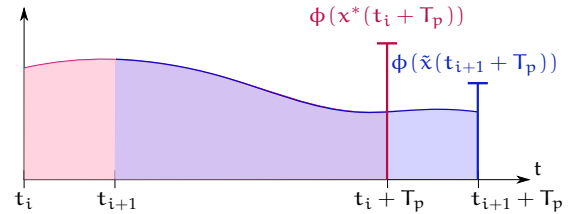
(state constraints ok, since  $\mathcal{X}_f$  is invariant and  $\mathcal{X}_f \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ )

**b) Convergence**  $x(t_i) \rightarrow 0$

$$V(x(t_{i+1})) \stackrel{\text{by def./opt.}}{\leq} V(x(t_{i+1}, v)) \stackrel{?}{<} V(x(t_i))$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x(t_i)) &= \int_{t_i}^{t_i + T_p} f_0(x^*, u^*) dt \\ &\quad + \phi(x^*(t_i + T_p)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x(t_{i+1}), v) &= \int_{t_{i+1}}^{t_i + T_p} f_0(x^*, u^*) dt \\ &\quad + \int_{t_i + T_p}^{t_{i+1} + T_p} f_0(\tilde{x}, \tilde{u}) dt \\ &\quad + \phi(\tilde{x}(t_{i+1} + T_p)) \end{aligned}$$



$V(x(t_{i+1}), v) < V(x(t_i))$  if  
endpiece area < cost difference

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_i + T_p}^{t_{i+1} + T_p} f_0(\tilde{x}, \tilde{u}) dt &< \phi(x^*(t_i + T_p)) \\ &\quad - \phi(\tilde{x}(t_{i+1} + T_p)) \end{aligned}$$

$V(x(t_{i+1}), v) = V(x(t_i)) + \text{Rest}$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x(t_{i+1}), v) &= \int_{t_i}^{t_i + T_p} f_0(x^*, u^*) dt + \int_{t_i + T_p}^{t_{i+1} + T_p} f_0(\tilde{x}, \tilde{u}) dt + \phi(\tilde{x}(t_{i+1} + T_p)) \\ &\quad + \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} f_0(x^*, u^*) dt - \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} f_0(x^*, u^*) dt \\ &\quad + \phi(x^*(t_i + T_p)) - \phi(x^*(t_i + T_p)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x(t_{i+1}), v) &\leq V(x(t_i)) + \phi(\tilde{x}(t_{i+1} + T_p)) \\ &\quad - \phi(x^*(t_i + T_p)) \\ &\quad + \int_{t_i + T_p}^{t_{i+1} + T_p} f_0(\tilde{x}, \tilde{u}) dt \end{aligned}$$

If  $\phi(\tilde{x} \dots) - \phi(x^* \dots) + \int_{t_i + T_p}^{t_{i+1} + T_p} f_0 \dots dt \leq 0$  (A3)

**Remark**

$$\begin{aligned}
\min \quad & \sum_{j=k}^{k+N_p-1} f_0(x(j), u(j)) + \phi(x(k+N_p)) \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & x(j+1) = f(x(j), u(j)), \\
& j = k, \dots, k+N_p-1 \\
& u(j) \in \mathcal{U} \\
& x(j) \in \mathcal{X} \\
& \text{IC} = x(k) \\
& \text{current state of the plant} \\
& x(k+N_p) \in \mathcal{X}
\end{aligned}$$

**Stability proof** see exercise

$$x_k \in \mathcal{X}_f \Rightarrow x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{X}_f \quad (4.1)$$

$$x_{k+1} = f(x_k, \bar{k}(x_k))$$

$$x_k \in \mathcal{X}_f \Rightarrow \bar{k}(x_k) \in \mathcal{U} \quad (4.2)$$

$$\phi(x_{k+1}) - \phi(x_k) \leq -f_0(x_k, \bar{k}(x_k)) \quad (4.3)$$

 $\Rightarrow$  parametrised, time-varying NLP

$$\begin{aligned}
\min \quad & f(u, p) \quad p = x(k) \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & g(u, p) \leq 0
\end{aligned}$$

**Pros and cons of MPC**

- easy to handle state and input constraints
- good model needed
- fast and reliable algorithm needed

Mo.  
17/12/18  
exercise

Fr.  
21/12/18

**4.3 Moving Horizon Estimation (MHE)**

MHE = (online) optimisation-based, state estimation approach (algo) based on a receding horizon idea, i.e.



**Goal** least squares parameter estimation  $\leftrightarrow$  recursive estimation (Kalman)  $\leftrightarrow$  MHE