# ECE 6553: Optimal Control Notes

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# Contents

1	Par	ameter Optimization	2
	1.1	What is optimal control?	
	1.2	Unconstrained Optimization	
	1.3	Numerical Methods	
	1.4	Constrained Optimization	
		1.4.1 Equality Constraints	1
		1.4.2 Inequality Constraints	1
	1.5	Directional Derivatives	1
	1.6	Calculus of Variations	1
		1.6.1 An (Almost) Optimal Control Problem	1
		1.6.2 Optimal Timing Control	2
		1.6.3 The Bolza Problem	2
	1.7	Numerical Methods	3

# Chapter 1

# Parameter Optimization

# 1.1 What is optimal control?

**Optimal** Maximize/minimize cost (subject to constraints):  $\min_u g(u)$  With constraints,

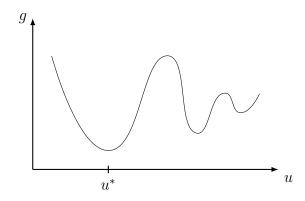
$$\min_{u} g(u)$$
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases}
h_1(u) = 0 \\
h_2(u) \le 0
\end{cases}$$

First-order necessary condition (FONC):

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

Optimality can be

- $\bullet\,$ local vs global
- max vs min



**Control** control design: pick u such that specifications are satisfied:

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u), \qquad \dot{x} = Ax + Bu,$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state,  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the control, and  $f(\cdot)$  is the dynamics. Actually, x and u are signals:

$$x:[0,T]\to\mathbb{R}^n, \qquad u:[0,T]\to\mathbb{R}^m$$

Optimal control find the "best" u!

For "best" to mean anything, we need a cost. The big/deep question is

$$\frac{\partial \text{"cost"}}{\partial u} = 0$$

#### Example

Suppose we have a car with position p. Its acceleration  $\ddot{p}$  is controlled by the gas/brake input u ( $\ddot{p} = u$ ). In order to express the dynamics of the system in the form  $\dot{x} = f(x, u)$ , we introduce state variables:

$$\begin{array}{c} x_1 = p \\ x_2 = \dot{p} \end{array} \Longrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = u \end{cases}$$

The task is to move the car from its initial position to a stop at a distance c away.

#### Minimum energy problem

$$\min_{u} \int_{0}^{T} u^{2}(t) dt$$
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases}
\dot{x}_{1} = x_{2} \\
\dot{x}_{2} = u
\end{cases}$$

$$x_{1}(0) = 0, x_{2}(0) = 0$$

$$x_{1}(T) = c, x_{2}(T) = 0$$

#### Minimum time problem

$$\min_{u,T} T = \int_{0}^{T} dt$$
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases}
\dot{x}_{1} = x_{2} \\
\dot{x}_{2} = u
\end{cases}$$

$$x_{1}(0) = 0, x_{2}(0) = 0$$

$$x_{1}(T) = c, x_{2}(T) = 0$$

$$u(t) \in [u_{\min}, u_{\max}]$$

The general optimal control problem we will solve will look like

$$\min_{u,T} \int_{0}^{T} L(x(t), u(t), t) dt + \Psi(x(T))$$
s.t.  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t), t), t \in [0, T]$ 

$$x(0) = x_{0}$$

$$x(T) \in S$$

$$u(t) \in \Omega, t \in [0, T]$$

where  $\Psi(\cdot)$  is the terminal cost and S is the terminal manifold. This is a so-called **Bolza Problem**.

#### What tools do we need to solve this?

- 1. optimality conditions  $\partial \cos t/\partial u = 0$
- 2. some way of representing the optimal signal  $u^*(x,t)$
- 3. some way of actually finding/computing the optimal controllers

## 1.2 Unconstrained Optimization

Let the decision variable be  $u = [u_1, \dots, u_m]^T \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . The cost is  $g(u) \in C^1$  ( $C^k$  means k times continuously differentiable). The problem is

$$\min_{u} g(u), \quad g: \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}$$

For  $u^*$  to be a minimizer, we need

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

**Definition.**  $u^*$  is a (local) minimizer to g if  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.

$$g(u^*) \le g(u) \quad \forall u \in B_{\delta}(u^*)$$
  
$$B_{\delta}(u^*) = \{u \mid ||u - u^*|| \le \delta\}$$

Note:

•  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)\delta u \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\delta u$  is  $m \times 1$ , so  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}$  is a  $1 \times m$  row vector. For the column vector,

$$\nabla g = \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

•  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u} \delta u$  is an inner product

$$\langle \nabla g, \delta u \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}, \delta u \right\rangle$$

•  $o(\varepsilon)$  encodes higher-order terms

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{o(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} = 0 \qquad \text{``faster than linear''}$$

This is opposed to big-O notation:

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} = c$$

•  $\delta u$  has direction and scale so we could write it as

$$\delta u = \varepsilon v, \quad \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}, \ v \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

**Theorem.** For  $u^*$  to be a minimizer, we need

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

or, equivalently,

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)v = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

*Proof.* Let  $u^*$  be a minimizer. Evaluating the cost g(u) in the ball and using Taylor's expansion,

$$g(u^* + \delta u) = g(u^*) + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)\delta u + o(\|\delta u\|) = g(u^*) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)v + o(\varepsilon)$$

Assume that  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u} \neq 0$ . Then we could pick  $v = -\frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u^*)$ , i.e.

$$g(u^* + \varepsilon v) = g(u^*) - \varepsilon \left\| \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u^*) \right\|^2 + o(\varepsilon)$$

Note that the second term is negative per our assumptions. So, for  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small, we have

$$g\left(u^* - \varepsilon \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u^*)\right) < g(u^*)$$

This contradicts  $u^*$  being a minimizer.  $\times$  (crossed swords)

**Definition** (Positive definite).  $M = M^{T} \succ 0$  if

$$z^{\mathrm{T}}Mz > 0 \quad \forall z \neq 0, \ z \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

 $\iff$  M has real and positive eigenvalues

**Theorem.** If  $g \in C^2$ , then a **sufficient** condition for  $u^*$  to be a (local) minimizer is

$$1. \ \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

2. 
$$\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2}(u^*) \succ 0$$
 (the Hessian is positive definite)

**Definition.**  $g: \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}$  is convex if

$$g(\alpha u_1 + (1 - \alpha)u_2) \le \alpha g(u_1) + (1 - \alpha)g(u_2) \quad \forall \alpha \in [0, 1], \ u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{R}^m$$



**Theorem.** If  $\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2}(u) \succeq 0 \ \forall u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , then g is convex.  $\iff$  for  $g \in C^2$ )

**Example**  $\min_{u} u^{\mathrm{T}} Q u - b^{\mathrm{T}} u$  where  $Q = Q^{\mathrm{T}} \succ 0$  (positive definite matrix)

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} (u^{\mathrm{T}} Q u - b^{\mathrm{T}} u) 
= u^{\mathrm{T}} Q^{\mathrm{T}} + u^{\mathrm{T}} Q - b^{\mathrm{T}} 
= 2u^{\mathrm{T}} Q - b^{\mathrm{T}} 
\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2} = 2Q$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u_1^2} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u_1 \partial u_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u_m \partial u_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u_n^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

From  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u} = 2u^{\mathrm{T}}Q - b^{\mathrm{T}} = 0$ ,

$$u = \frac{1}{2}Q^{-1}b$$

To see whether this is a minimizer, consider the Hessian. Since  $Q \succ 0$ , it follows that  $\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2}(u^*) \succ 0$  and  $u^* = \frac{1}{2}Q^{-1}b$  is a (local) minimizer. Additionally, since  $\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2} \succ 0$ , g is convex and  $u^*$  is a global minimizer. In fact, since we have strict convexity ( $\succ 0$  rather than  $\succeq 0$ ), it is the unique global minimizer.

In optimal control, *local* is typically all we can ask for. In optimization, we can do better! But wait, just because we know  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u} = 0$ , it doesn't follow that we can actually find  $u^*$ ...

## 1.3 Numerical Methods

Idea:  $u_{k+1} = u_k + \text{step}_k$ . What should step<sub>k</sub> be? For small step<sub>k</sub> =  $\gamma_k v_k$ ,

$$g(u_k \cdot \operatorname{step}_k) = g(u_k) + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u_k) \cdot \operatorname{step}_k + o(\|\operatorname{step}_k\|) = g(u_k) + \gamma_k \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u_k)v_k + o(\gamma_k)$$

A perfectly reasonable choice of step direction is

$$v_k = -\frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u_k),$$

known as the steepest descend direction. This produces

$$g\left(u_k - \gamma_k \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u_k)\right) = g(u_k) - \gamma_k \left\| \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u_k) \right\|^2 + o(\gamma_k)$$

Steepest descent

$$u_{k+1} = u_k - \gamma_k \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u_k)$$

#### Note:

• What should  $\gamma_k$  be?

• This method "pretends" that g(u) is linear. If we pretend g(u) is quadratic, we get

$$u_{k+1} = u_k - \left(\frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial u^2}(u_k)\right)^{-1} \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u_k),$$

i.e. Newton's Method

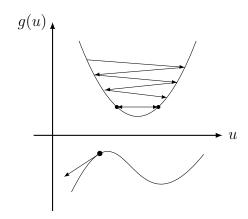
This course: steepest descent

#### Step-size selection?

• Choice 1:  $\gamma_k = \gamma$  "small"  $\forall k$ ; will get close to a minimizer if  $u_0$  is close enough and  $\gamma$  small enough

Problems:

- You may not converge! (but you'll get close)
- You may go off to infinity (diverge)



• Choice 2: Reduce  $\gamma_k$  as a function of k; will get close to a minimizer if  $u_0$  is close enough

Problem: slow

**Theorem.** If  $u_0$  is close enough to  $u^*$  and  $\gamma_k$  satisfies

$$-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k = \infty$$
$$-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k^2 < \infty$$

e.g.  $\gamma_k = c/k$ , then  $u_k \to u^*$  as  $k \to \infty$ .

• Choice 3: **Armijo step-size:** Take as big a step as possible, but no larger Pick  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ ,  $\beta \in (0,1)$ . Let *i* be the smallest non-negative integer such that

$$g\left(u_k - \beta^i \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u_k)\right) - g(u_k) < -\alpha\beta^i \left\| \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u_k) \right\|^2$$
$$u_{k+1} = u_k - \beta^i \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}(u_k)$$

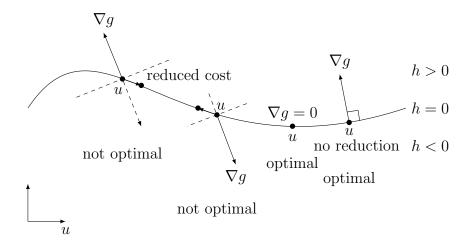
This will get to a minimizer blazingly fast if  $u_0$  is close enough.

## 1.4 Constrained Optimization

Equality constraints:

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{R}^m} g(u)$$
s.t.  $h(u) = \mathbf{0}$ 

Consider  $u \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $h: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ 



So u is (locally) optimal if  $\nabla g \parallel$  (is parallel to) the normal vector to tangent plane to h.

Fact: (HW# 1)

 $\nabla h \perp Th$  (tangent plane to h)



We need  $\nabla g \parallel \nabla h$  at  $u^*$  for optimality, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = \alpha \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u^*), \quad \text{for some } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$$

or  $(\lambda = -\alpha)$ ,

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) + \lambda \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

or

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} (g(u^*) + \lambda h(u^*)) = 0$$
, for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ 

More generally,

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{R}^m} g(u)$$
s.t.  $h(u) = \mathbf{0}, \quad h : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ 

Note that  $h(u) = [h_1(u), ..., h_k(u)]^{T}$ .

We need  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)$  to be a linear combination of  $\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial u}(u^*)$ ,  $i=1,\ldots,k$ , for exactly the same reasons, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial u}(u^*)$$

or  $(\lambda = -[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k]^T)$ 

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

or

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u} (g(u^*) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} h(u^*)) = 0, \text{ for some } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

**Theorem.** If  $u^*$  is a minimizer to

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{R}^m} g(u)$$
s.t.  $h(u) = \mathbf{0}, \quad h : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ 

then  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^k \ s.t.$ 

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u^*, \lambda) = 0\\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda}(u^*, \lambda) = 0 \end{cases}$$

where the Lagrangian L is given by

$$L(u, \lambda) = g(u) + \lambda^T h(u)$$

9

#### Note:

- $\lambda$  are the Lagrange multipliers
- $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} = 0$  is fancy speak for  $h(u^*) = 0$

#### Example

$$\min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^m} \frac{1}{2} ||u||^2$$
  
s.t.  $Au = b$ 

where A is  $k \times m$ ,  $k \leq m$ . Assume  $(AA^{T})^{-1}$  exists (constraints are linearly independent, none of the constraints are "duplicates", all the constraints are essential).

$$L = \frac{1}{2}u^{\mathrm{T}}u + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(Au - b)$$
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u} = u^{\mathrm{T}} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}A = 0$$
$$u^* = -A^{\mathrm{T}}\lambda$$

Using the equality constraint,

$$Au^* = b$$

$$-AA^{T}\lambda = b$$

$$\lambda = -(AA^{T})^{-1}b$$

$$u^* = A^{T}(AA^{T})^{-1}b$$

#### Example

$$\min \ u_1 u_2 + u_2 u_3 + u_1 u_3$$
s.t.  $u_1 + u_2 + u_3 = 3$ 

$$L = u_1 u_2 + u_2 u_3 + u_1 u_3 + \lambda (u_1 + u_2 + u_3 - 3)$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_1} = u_2 + u_3 + \lambda = 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_2} = u_1 + u_3 + \lambda = 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial u_3} = u_2 + u_1 + \lambda = 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} = u_1 + u_2 + u_3 = 3 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u_1^* = 1 \\ u_2^* = 1 \\ u_3^* = 1 \\ \lambda = -2 \end{cases}$$
 optimal solution

Note: This was actually the worst we can do—maximize! Even weirder: no local minimizer!

### 1.4.1 Equality Constraints

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{R}^m} g(u)$$
  
s.t.  $h(u) = \mathbf{0}, \quad h : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ 

**Theorem.** If  $u^*$  is a minimizer/maximizer then  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^k$  s.t.

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u^*, \lambda) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda}(u^*, \lambda) = 0 \qquad (\iff h(u^*) = 0)$$

where  $L(u, \lambda) = g(u) + \lambda^T h(u)$ .

Example [Entropy Maximization]

Given  $S = \{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$  and a distribution over S such that it takes the value  $x_j$  with probability  $p_j$ . The entropy is

$$E(p) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (-p_j \ln p_j).$$

The mean is

$$m = \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_j x_j.$$

Problem: Given m, find p such that E is maximized.

$$\min_{p} - \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{j} \ln p_{j}$$
s.t. 
$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{j} x_{j} = m$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{j} = 1$$

$$p_{j} \ge 0, \ j = 1, \dots, n \quad \text{(ignore this...)}$$

$$L = -\sum p_j \ln p_j + \lambda_1 \left[ \sum p_j x_j - m \right] + \lambda_2 \left[ \sum p_j - 1 \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial p_j} = -\ln p_j - 1 + \lambda_1 x_j + \lambda_2 = 0$$

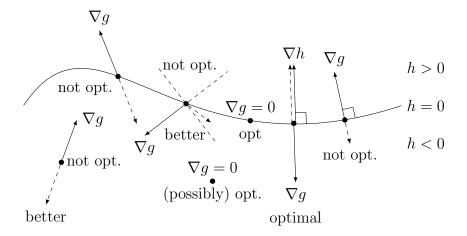
$$p_j = e^{\lambda_2 - 1 + \lambda_1 x_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n \qquad (p_j \ge 0 \text{ so we're ok with ignoring that})$$

$$\sum e^{\lambda_2 - 1 + \lambda_1 x_j} x_j = m$$
  $n + 2$  equations and 
$$\sum e^{\lambda_2 - 1 + \lambda_1 x_j} = 1$$
  $n + 2$  unknowns...

No analytical solution, but numerically "solvable"

### 1.4.2 Inequality Constraints

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{R}^m} g(u)$$
  
s.t.  $h(u) \le \mathbf{0}, \quad h : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ 



We need:

- if  $h(u^*) < 0$  then  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$
- if  $h(u^*) = 0$  then we need either

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = -\lambda \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u^*) \quad \text{for } \lambda > 0$$

or

Or, even better,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u}(g(u^*) + \lambda h(u^*)) = 0 \text{ for } \lambda \ge 0,$$

where  $\lambda h(u^*) = 0$ .  $(h < 0 \rightarrow \lambda = 0, h = 0 \rightarrow \lambda \ge 0)$ 

In general, if  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $h: \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k$ , we have that  $u^*$ , if optimal, has to satisfy

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u}L(u^*,\lambda) = 0$$
$$h(u^*) \le \mathbf{0}$$
$$\lambda^{\mathrm{T}}h(u^*) = 0$$
$$\lambda \ge \mathbf{0}$$

where the Lagrangian is  $L(u, \lambda) = g(u) + \lambda^{T} h(u)$ . Note that if we're maximizing, the same holds except we need  $\lambda \leq 0$ .

12

#### Example

min 
$$2u_1^2 + 2u_1u_2 + u_2^2 - 10u_1 - 10u_2$$
  
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases} u_1^2 + u_2^2 \le 5\\ 3u_1 + u_2 \le 6 \end{cases}$$

$$L = 2u_1^2 + 2u_1u_2 + u_2^2 - 10u_1 - 10u_2 + \lambda_1(u_1^2 + u_2^2 - 5) + \lambda_2(3u_1 + u_2 - 6)$$

FONC:

i) 
$$\partial L/\partial u_1 = 4u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 + 2\lambda_1 u_1 + 3\lambda_2$$

ii) 
$$\partial L/\partial u_2 = 2u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 + 2\lambda_1 u_2 + \lambda_2$$

iii) 
$$u_1^2 + u_2^2 \le 5$$

iv) 
$$3u_1 + u_2 \le 6$$

v) 
$$\lambda_1(u_1^2 + u_2^2 - 5) = 0$$

vi) 
$$\lambda_2(3u_1 + u_2 - 6) = 0$$

vii) 
$$\lambda_1 \geq 0$$

viii) 
$$\lambda_2 \geq 0$$

To solve, assume different constraints are active/inactive:

1. Both constraints are inactive  $(u_1^2 + u_2^2 < 5, 3u_1 + u_2 < 6) \Longrightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$ 

$$\begin{cases} 4u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 = 0 \\ 2u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 = 0 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u_1 = 0 \\ u_2 = 5 \end{cases}$$

Note: iii)  $0^2 + 5^2 \nleq 5$ 

Not feasible

2. Assume constraint 1 is active and constraint 2 is inactive  $(u_1^2 + u_2^2 = 5, \lambda_2 = 0)$ 

$$\begin{cases} 4u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 + 2\lambda_1 u_1 = 0 \\ 2u_1 + 2u_2 - 10 + 2\lambda_1 u_2 = 0 \\ u_1^2 + u_2^2 = 5 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u_1 = 1 \\ u_2 = 2 \\ \lambda_1 = 1 \end{cases}$$

This is a local minimizer

- 3. Assume constraint 2 is active and constraint 1 is inactive
- 4. Assume both constraints are active

Kuhn-Tucker Conditions (KKT conditions, Karush-Kuhn-Tucker)

Problem:

$$\min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^m} g(u)$$
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases}
h_1(u) = 0, & h_1 : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^p \\
h_2(u) \le 0, & h_2 : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^k
\end{cases}$$
(1.1)

**Theorem.** Let  $u^*$  be feasible  $(h_1 = 0, h_2 \le 0)$ . If  $u^*$  is a minimizer to (1.1) than there exists vectors  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^k$  with  $\mu \ge \mathbf{0}$  such that

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) + \lambda^T \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial u}(u^*) + \mu^T \frac{\partial h_2}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0\\ \mu^T h_2(u^*) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Looking ahead:  $\min \operatorname{cost}(u(\cdot))$  s.t.  $\dot{x} = f(x, u)$  (dynamics), where u is a function. Note the equality constraint.

**Question:** How do we go from  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  to  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  (function space)?

**Note:** Function space is a set of functions of a given kind from a set X to a set Y

- 1. linear function
- 2. square-integrable functions:  $L_2[0,T]: \int_0^T \|u(t)\|^2 dt < \infty$
- 3.  $C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$

What would  $\partial$  "cost"  $/\partial u$  mean?

## 1.5 Directional Derivatives

**Recall:** To minimize g(u), let  $u^*$  be a candidate minimizer and pitch a perturbation on  $u^*$  of  $\varepsilon v$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is the scale and v is the direction. Taking Taylor's expansion at the perturbation produces



$$g(u^* + \varepsilon v) = g(u^*) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)v + o(\varepsilon)$$
 FONC:  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*) = 0$ 

 $\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u^*)v$  tells us how much g(u) increases/decreases in the direction of v.

**Definition.** The directional (Gateaux) derivative is given by

$$\delta g(u; v) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{g(u + \varepsilon v) - g(u)}{\varepsilon}$$

Example

$$g(u) = \frac{1}{2}u_1^2 - u_1 + 2u_2, \quad g: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$$

Let's consider  $e_1 = [1 \ 0]^T$ ,  $e_2 = [0 \ 1]^T$ . What is  $\delta g(u; e_i)$ , i = 1, 2?

$$\begin{split} \delta g(u;v) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{g(u+\varepsilon v) - g(u)}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{g(u) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u)v + o(\varepsilon) - g(u)}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u)v \end{split}$$

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial u}(u) = [u_1 - 1 \ 2]$$

$$\delta g(u; e_1) = [u_1 - 1 \ 2]e_1 = u_1 - 1$$

$$\delta g(u; e_2) = [u_1 - 1 \ 2]e_2 = 2$$

But the beauty of directional derivatives is that they generalize beyond vectors,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , to function spaces  $(\mathcal{U})$  or other "objects" like matrices.

**Example**  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $F(M) = M^2$  What is  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial M}$ ? (ponder at home...)

We can easily compute  $\delta F(M; N)$ !

$$\begin{split} F(M+\varepsilon N) &= (M+\varepsilon N)(M+\varepsilon N) = M^2 + \varepsilon MN + \varepsilon NM + \varepsilon^2 N^2 \\ \delta F(M;N) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{F(M+\varepsilon N) - F(M)}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\varepsilon MN + \varepsilon NM + \varepsilon^2 N^2}{\varepsilon} = MN + NM \end{split}$$

Infinite Dimensional Optimization Let  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  (function space) and let J(u) be the cost:

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} J(u)$$

**Theorem.** If  $u^* \in \mathcal{U}$  is a (local) minimizer then

$$\delta J(u^*; v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{U}$$

**Example** Find minimizer  $u^*$  to

$$J(u) = \int_0^T L(u(t)) dt$$

$$J(u + \varepsilon v) - J(u) = \int_0^T L(u(t) + \varepsilon v(t)) dt - \int_0^T L(u(t)) dt, \quad u, v \in \mathcal{U}$$

$$= \int_0^T \left[ L(u(t)) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u(t))v(t) + o(\varepsilon) - L(u(t)) \right] dt$$

$$\delta J(u^*; v) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{J(u + \varepsilon v) - J(u)}{\varepsilon}$$

$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\int_0^T \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u(t))v(t) \, dt + o(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}$$

$$= \int_0^T \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u(t))v(t) \, dt$$

 $u^*$  optimizer:

$$\delta J(u^*; v) = \int_0^T \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u(t))v(t) dt = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{U}$$

$$\updownarrow$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u}(u(t)) = 0 \quad \forall t \in [0, T]$$

But, we want optimal control! We want our cost to look like

$$\int_0^T L(x(t), u(t)) dt$$
$$\dot{x} = f(x, u)$$

## 1.6 Calculus of Variations

What happens to x(t) when u(t) changes to  $u(t) + \varepsilon v(t)$ ? Let the system be given by

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, u) \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

After perturbation of u, the new system is

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\hat{x}} = f(\hat{x}, u + \varepsilon v) \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

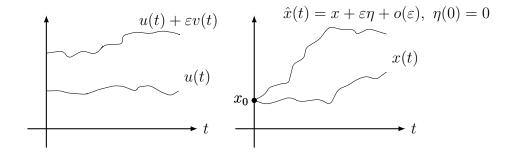


Figure 1.1: Variation in u causes a variation in x.

Consider

$$\tilde{x} = x + \varepsilon \eta$$
,

where

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u),$$
  $x(0) = x_0$   
 $\dot{\eta} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, u)\eta + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(x, u)v,$   $\eta(0) = 0$ 

**Theorem.** If f is continuously differentiable in x and u then

$$\hat{x}(t) = \tilde{x}(t) + o(\varepsilon)$$

Proof.

i) Initial conditions:

$$\hat{x}(0) = x_0$$

$$\tilde{x}(0) = x(0) + \varepsilon \eta(0) = x_0$$

ii) Dynamics:

$$\begin{split} \dot{\hat{x}} &= f(\hat{x}, u + \varepsilon v) \\ \dot{\hat{x}} &= \dot{x} + \varepsilon \dot{\eta} = f(x, u) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, u) \eta + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(x, u) v \\ &= f(x + \varepsilon \eta, u + \varepsilon v) + o(\varepsilon) \\ &= f(\tilde{x}, u + \varepsilon v) + o(\varepsilon) \end{split}$$

We can see that the dynamics of  $\hat{x}(t)$  are equal to those of  $\tilde{x}(t)$  plus higher order terms:

$$\dot{\tilde{x}} = f(\tilde{x}, u + \varepsilon v) + o(\varepsilon)$$
$$\dot{\hat{x}} = f(\hat{x}, u + \varepsilon v)$$

Therefore, if our perturbation is small enough, we can model  $\hat{x}(t)$  as  $\tilde{x}(t)$ .

Note: Taylor expansion with two elements is

$$h(w + \varepsilon v, z + \varepsilon y) = h(w, z + \varepsilon y) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial w}(w, z + \varepsilon y)\varepsilon v + o(\varepsilon)$$

$$= \left\{h(w, z) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial z}(w, z)\varepsilon y + o(\varepsilon)\right\}$$

$$+ \left\{\frac{\partial h}{\partial w}(w, z)\varepsilon v + \underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z\partial w}\varepsilon v \odot \varepsilon y}_{o(\varepsilon)} + o(\varepsilon)\right\}$$

$$= h(w, z) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial z}\varepsilon y + \frac{\partial h}{\partial w}\varepsilon v + o(\varepsilon)$$

#### Last class:

1.  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  (space of functions),  $J : \mathcal{U} \to \mathbb{R}$  (cost).

FONC: If  $u^*$  is optimal, then

$$\delta J(u; \nu) = 0 \quad \forall \nu \in \mathcal{U},$$

where the directional derivative is given by

$$\delta J(u;\nu) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{J(u+\varepsilon\nu) - J(u)}{\varepsilon}.$$

2. If

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, u) \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

then a variation in u:

$$u \longmapsto u + \varepsilon \nu$$

results in a variation in x:

$$x \longmapsto x + \varepsilon \eta + o(\varepsilon)$$

See Figure 1.1. Note  $\eta(0) = 0$ .

## 1.6.1 An (Almost) Optimal Control Problem

Let  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$ . Note we get to pick the initial condition!

#### Problem

$$\min_{x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m} J(x_0) = \int_0^T L(x(t)) dt$$
 s.t. 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) & \text{the } constraint! \text{ (equality)} \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

Note every constraint needs a Lagrange multiplier. We have infinitely many constraints:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) \quad \forall t \in [0, T]$$

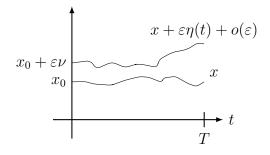
We need  $\lambda(t)$  as a function of t. Also, the sum in the Lagrangian has to become an integral. The continuous-time Lagrangian thus becomes

$$\tilde{J}(x_0, \lambda) = \int_0^T \left[ L(x(t)) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(t) (f(x(t)) - \dot{x}(t)) \right] dt$$

The task is to perturb  $x_0$  as  $x_0 \mapsto x_0 + \varepsilon \nu$ ,  $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and compute

$$\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\tilde{J}(x_0 + \varepsilon \nu) - \tilde{J}(x_0)}{\varepsilon}$$

and make this equal to  $0 \ \forall \nu \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . The variation in x is



Note:

 $x_0$  decision variable

 $\nu$  variation in  $x_0$ 

x(t) trajectory starting at  $x_0$ 

 $\eta(t)$  change in trajectory resulting from  $\nu$ -variation in  $x_0$ 

 $\lambda(t)$  time-varying Lagrange multiplier

$$\begin{split} \tilde{J}(x_0 + \varepsilon \nu) &= \int_0^T \left\{ L(x(t)) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(t) [f(x(t) + \varepsilon \eta(t)) - \dot{x}(t) - \varepsilon \dot{\eta}(t)] \right\} \mathrm{d}t + o(\varepsilon) \\ &= \int_0^T \left[ L(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(x) \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( f(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x) \eta - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t + o(\varepsilon) \\ \tilde{J}(x_0 + \varepsilon \nu) - \tilde{J}(x_0) &= \int_0^T \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(x) \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \varepsilon \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t + o(\varepsilon) \\ \delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) &= \int_0^T \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}(x) \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \eta - \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t \end{split}$$

A powerful idea: we want  $\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) = 0 \ \forall \nu$ . Somehow get this in the form

$$\int_0^T \left( \operatorname{stuff}(t) \right) \eta(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = 0$$

We can pick stuff $(t) = 0 \ \forall t \in [0, T]$ .

In  $\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu)$  we have  $\dot{\eta}$  (problem!). We can solve this using integration by parts.

$$\int_0^T \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{\eta} \, \mathrm{d}t = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) \eta(T) - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(0) \eta(0) - \int_0^T \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \eta \, \mathrm{d}t$$

Hence,

$$\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) = \int_0^T \underbrace{\left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}}\right)}_{\mathrm{pick} = 0} \eta \, \mathrm{d}t - \underbrace{\lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T)}_{\mathrm{pick} = 0} \eta(T) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(0) \underbrace{\eta(0)}_{\nu}$$

We are free to pick  $\lambda$  freely if it gives  $\delta \tilde{J} = 0$ .

Pick: 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda}(t) = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(t)) - \frac{\partial f^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(t))\lambda(t) \\ \lambda(T) = 0 \end{cases}$$
 backwards diff. eq

Under this choice of  $\lambda$  we get

$$\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(0)\nu$$

This is linear in  $\nu$  so the FONC is  $\lambda(0) = 0$ .

Moreover, we really have a "normal" optimization problem

$$\min_{x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m} \tilde{J}(x_0)$$
$$\delta \tilde{J}(x_0; \nu) = \frac{\partial \tilde{J}}{\partial x_0}(x_0)\nu$$

which means that

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_0} = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(0)$$

If  $x_0^*$  minimizes

s.t. 
$$\begin{cases} \int_0^T L(x(t)) dt \\ \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) \\ x(0) = x_0^* \end{cases}$$

then

$$\lambda(0) = \mathbf{0}$$

where  $\lambda(t)$  satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda}(t) = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(t)) - \frac{\partial f^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(t))\lambda(t) \\ \lambda(T) = 0 \end{cases}$$

So what? We actually have a two-point boundary value problem.

$$\dot{x} = f(x) \qquad \qquad \dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x} \lambda$$

$$x(0) = x_0 \qquad \qquad \lambda(T) = 0$$

$$x_0 \qquad \qquad \lambda(0) \qquad \qquad \lambda$$

We want to find  $x_0$  that gives f(x) such that after solving backwards for  $\lambda(t)$ , we find that

$$\lambda(0) = \frac{\partial \tilde{J}^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x_0} = 0.$$

This leads to the following:

#### An algorithm

Pick 
$$x_{0,0}$$
 $k=1$ 

repeat

Simulate  $x(t)$  from  $x_{0,k}$  over  $[0,T]$ 

Simulate  $\lambda(t)$  from  $\lambda(T)=0$  backwards using  $x(t)$ 

Update  $x_{0,k}$  as  $x_{0,k+1}=x_{0,k}-\gamma\lambda(0)$ 
 $k:=k+1$ 

until  $\lambda(0)=0$ 

Example: optinit.m

$$\dot{x} = Ax, \quad L = x^{\mathrm{T}}Qx - q, \quad Q = Q^{\mathrm{T}} \succ 0$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -2Qx - A^{\mathrm{T}}\lambda$$

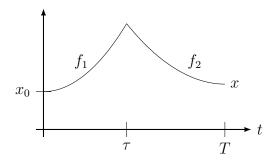
$$\lambda(0) = 0$$

## 1.6.2 Optimal Timing Control

When to switch between modes?

$$\dot{x} = \begin{cases} f_1(x) & \text{if } t \in [0, \tau) \\ f_2(x) & \text{if } t \in [\tau, T] \end{cases}$$

$$x(0) = x_0 \tag{1.2}$$

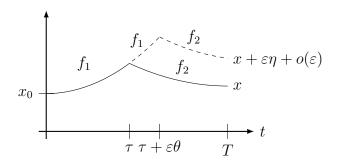


$$\min_{\tau} \int_{0}^{T} L(x(t)) dt = J(\tau)$$
 s.t. (1.2) holds

Step 1: Augment cost with constraint

$$\tilde{J} = \int_0^{\tau} \left[ L(x) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f_1(x) - \dot{x}) \right] dt + \int_{\tau}^{T} \left[ L(x) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f_2(x) - \dot{x}) \right] dt$$

Step 2: Variation  $\tau \longmapsto \tau + \varepsilon \theta$ 



Step 3: Compute  $\delta \tilde{J}(\tau;\theta)$ 

$$\tilde{J}(\tau + \varepsilon \theta) = \int_0^{\tau + \varepsilon \theta} \left\{ L(x + \varepsilon \eta) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} [f_1(x + \varepsilon \eta) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta}] \right\} dt 
+ \int_{\tau + \varepsilon \theta}^T \left\{ L(x + \varepsilon \eta) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} [f_2(x + \varepsilon \eta) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta}] \right\} dt + o(\varepsilon)$$

Note that  $\eta = \dot{\eta} = 0$  on  $[0, \tau)$ .

$$\tilde{J}(\tau + \varepsilon\theta) = \int_{0}^{\tau} \left\{ L(x) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} [f_{1}(x) - \dot{x}] \right\} dt 
+ \int_{\tau}^{\tau + \varepsilon\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{L(x + \varepsilon\eta)}_{L(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \underbrace{\left[ f_{1}(x + \varepsilon\eta) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right]}_{f_{1}(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial x} \eta} + \int_{\tau + \varepsilon\theta}^{T} \left\{ \underbrace{L(x + \varepsilon\eta)}_{L(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \underbrace{\left[ f_{2}(x + \varepsilon\eta) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right]}_{f_{2}(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial x} \eta} \right\} dt + o(\varepsilon)$$

$$\delta \tilde{J}(\tau;\theta) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\tilde{J}(\tau + \varepsilon\theta) - \tilde{J}(\tau)}{\varepsilon}$$

$$\tilde{J}(\tau + \varepsilon\theta) - \tilde{J}(\tau) = \int_{0}^{\tau} 0 \cdot dt + \underbrace{\int_{\tau}^{\tau + \varepsilon\theta} \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( f_{1}(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial x} \eta - f_{2}(x) - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] dt}_{I_{1}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{\int_{\tau + \varepsilon\theta}^{T} \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] dt}_{I_{2}} + o(\varepsilon)$$

**Theorem** (Mean-value theorem).

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_2} h(t) dt = (t_2 - t_1)h(\xi) \quad \text{for some } \xi \in [t_1, t_2]$$

The first integral is

$$I_{1} = \int_{\tau}^{\tau + \varepsilon \theta} \left\{ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left[ f_{1}(x) + \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{1}}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} - f_{2}(x) \right] \right\} dt$$
$$= \varepsilon \theta \left\{ \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\xi) \left[ f_{1}(x(\xi)) - f_{2}(x(\xi)) \right] \right\} + o(\varepsilon)$$

Note that as  $\varepsilon \to 0$ ,  $\xi \to \tau$ . Using integration by parts, the second integral is

$$\int_{\tau}^{T} \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{\eta} \, \mathrm{d}t = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) \eta(T) - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\tau) \underbrace{\eta(\tau)}_{=0} - \int_{\tau}^{T} \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \eta \, \mathrm{d}t$$

$$I_{2} = \int_{\tau}^{T} \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t - \underbrace{\int_{\tau}^{\tau + \varepsilon \theta} \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \eta + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \varepsilon \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t}_{o(\varepsilon)}$$

$$= \varepsilon \int_{\tau}^{T} \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f_{2}}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \right] \eta \, \mathrm{d}t - \varepsilon \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) \eta(T) + o(\varepsilon)$$

Hence,

$$\delta \tilde{J}(\tau;\theta) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{J(\tau + \varepsilon\theta) - J(\tau)}{\varepsilon}$$
$$= \theta \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\tau) \left[ f_1(x(\tau)) - f_2(x(\tau)) \right] + \int_{\tau}^{T} \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \right] \eta \, \mathrm{d}t - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) \eta(T)$$

Step 4: Select the costate  $\lambda(t)$ . The key idea is to get rid of any term that has  $\eta$  in it, i.e.

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f_2^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x} \lambda \quad \text{on } [\tau, T]$$
$$\lambda(T) = 0$$

Step 5: With this choice of  $\lambda(t)$ , we have

$$\delta \tilde{J}(\tau;\theta) = \theta \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\tau) \left[ f_1(x(\tau)) - f_2(x(\tau)) \right] = \frac{\partial \tilde{J}}{\partial \tau} \theta.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{J}}{\partial \tau} = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\tau) \left[ f_1(x(\tau)) - f_2(x(\tau)) \right] = 0 \quad \text{(for optimality)}$$

#### Algorithm

```
Pick \tau_0
k=0

repeat

Simulate x forward in time from x(0)=x_0

Simulate \lambda backwards from \lambda(T)=0

Update \tau_k as \tau_{k+1}=\tau_k-\gamma\lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(\tau_k)\big[f_1(x(\tau_k))-f_2(x(\tau_k))\big]
k:=k+1

until \|\lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(f_1-f_2)\|<\varepsilon
```

Where are we going? Come up with general principles for  $\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} J(u)$ :

- Costate equations
- Optimality conditions
- Algorithms
- Applications

#### 1.6.3 The Bolza Problem

Up until now, we have optimized with respect to finite-dimensional parameters. Today, we will minimize with respect to  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ .

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} J(u) = \int_0^T L(x(t), u(t), t) dt + \underbrace{\Psi(x(T))}_{\substack{\text{terminal cost (parking cost)} \\ \text{(parking cost)}}}_{\text{(parking cost)}}$$
s.t.  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t), t)$ 

$$x(0) = x_0$$

Assume that f and L are  $C^1$  in x, u and piecewise continuous in t. Then, a small change in u causes small changes in f and L. The variation:  $u \mapsto u + \varepsilon v$ ,  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $v \in \mathcal{U}$ . See Figure 1.1.

$$\begin{split} \tilde{J}(u) &= \int_0^T \left[ L(x,u,t) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f(x,u,t) - \dot{x}) \right] \mathrm{d}t + \Psi(x(T)) \\ \tilde{J}(u + \varepsilon v) &= \int_0^T \left[ L(x + \varepsilon \eta, u + \varepsilon v, t) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f(x + \varepsilon \eta, u + \varepsilon v, t) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta}) \right] \mathrm{d}t \\ &+ \Psi(x(T) + \varepsilon \eta(T)) + o(\varepsilon) \\ \tilde{J}(u + \varepsilon v) - \tilde{J}(u) &= \int_0^T \left[ L(x + \varepsilon \eta, u + \varepsilon v, t) - L(x, u, t) \right. \\ &+ \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( f(x + \varepsilon \eta, u + \varepsilon v, t) - f(x, u, t) - \dot{x} - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} + \dot{x} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t \\ &+ \Psi(x(T) + \varepsilon \eta(T)) - \Psi(x(T)) + o(\varepsilon) \\ &= \int_0^T \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \varepsilon \eta + \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} \varepsilon v + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \varepsilon \eta + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \varepsilon v - \varepsilon \dot{\eta} \right) \right] \mathrm{d}t \\ &+ \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) \varepsilon \eta(T) + o(\varepsilon) \end{split}$$

(See Taylor expansion with respect to two variables.)

$$\delta \tilde{J}(u;v) = \int_0^T \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \right) v \, \mathrm{d}t + \int_0^T \left[ \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) \eta - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{\eta} \right] \mathrm{d}t + \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) \eta(T)$$

Integrating by parts,

$$\begin{split} \int_0^T \lambda^\mathrm{T} \dot{\eta} \, \mathrm{d}t &= \lambda^\mathrm{T}(T) \eta(T) - \lambda^\mathrm{T}(0) \eta(0) - \int_0^T \dot{\lambda}^\mathrm{T} \eta \, \mathrm{d}t \\ &= \lambda^\mathrm{T}(T) \eta(T) - \int_0^T \dot{\lambda}^\mathrm{T} \eta \, \mathrm{d}t \\ \delta \tilde{J}(u;v) &= \int_0^T \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} + \lambda^\mathrm{T} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \right) v \, \mathrm{d}t + \int_0^T \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^\mathrm{T} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^\mathrm{T} \right) \eta \, \mathrm{d}t \\ &+ \left( \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) - \lambda^\mathrm{T}(T) \right) \eta(T) \end{split}$$

For optimality, we need the directional derivative to be zero for every  $v \in \mathcal{U}$ , where v represents the direction of the derivative. Therefore, the term  $(\frac{\partial L}{\partial u} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u})$  in the first integral has to be identically zero. Thus, we need

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} = 0, & \forall t \in [0, T] \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} = 0, & \forall t \in [0, T] \\ \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (T) = 0 \end{cases}$$

**Definition.** Let the *Hamiltonian*  $H(x, u, t, \lambda)$  be given by

$$H(x, u, t, \lambda) = L(x, u, t) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} f(x, u, t)$$

**Theorem.** For u to solve the Bolza problem, it has to satisfy

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u}(x, u, t, \lambda) = 0,$$

where the costate satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^T}{\partial x}(x, u, t, \lambda) \\ \lambda(T) = \frac{\partial \Psi^T}{\partial x}(x(T)) \end{cases}$$

#### Example

$$\min_{u} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}{2} u^{2}(t) dt + \frac{1}{2} x^{2}(1)$$
s.t. 
$$\begin{cases}
\dot{x} = u, & x, u \in \mathbb{R} \\
x(0) = 1
\end{cases}$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2}u^2 + \lambda u$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = u + \lambda = 0 \Longrightarrow u = -\lambda$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = 0 \Longrightarrow \lambda(t) = c$$

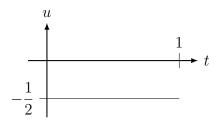
$$\lambda(T) = c = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}(x(1)) = x(1)$$

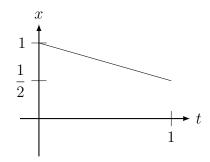
$$\dot{x} = u = -c \Longrightarrow x(t) = -ct + x(0) = -ct + 1$$

$$x(1) = -c + 1$$

$$\lambda(1) = c = x(1) = -c + 1 \Longrightarrow c = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$u^* = -\frac{1}{2}$$





We really used five different equations to solve this!

i) 
$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = 0$$

ii) 
$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}$$

iii) 
$$\lambda(T) = \frac{\partial \Psi^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(T))$$

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

v) 
$$x(0) = x_0$$

There is a sixth condition that is pretty useful if L and f do not depend on t (L(x, u), f(x, u)). This is called a *conservative system*. Then, along optimal trajectories (equations i-v are satisfied), the total time derivative of the Hamiltonian is

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}H = \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}}_{H(x,u,\lambda)} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}}_{-\dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}}} \dot{x} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial u}}_{u \text{ is optimal}} \dot{u} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda}}_{f^{\mathrm{T}} = \dot{x}^{\mathrm{T}}} \dot{\lambda} = -\dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{x} + \dot{x}^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{\lambda} = 0$$

Therefore, for conservative systems,

vi) H is constant along optimal trajectories. (Hamilton's Principle in analytical mechanics)

Back to the example,

$$H = \frac{1}{2}u^2 + \lambda u = \frac{1}{2}c^2 - c^2 = -\frac{1}{2}c^2 = -\frac{1}{8}$$

The Hamiltonian

$$H(x, u, t, \lambda) = L(x, u, t) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} f(x, u, t)$$

lets us write the Lagrangian as

$$\tilde{J}(u) = \int_0^T \left[ L + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f - \dot{x}) \right] dt + \Psi = \int_0^T \left( H - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{x} \right) dt + \Psi$$

The optimality conditions are

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = 0,\tag{1.3}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x} \\ \lambda(T) = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}(x(T)) \end{cases}$$
(1.4)

#### Example Hamilton's Principle

Let q be the generalized coordinates (positions and angles). Then,  $\dot{q} = u$  are generalized velocities, which we assume we can control. Let  $T(q, u) = u^{T}M(q)u$ ,  $M \succ 0$ , be the kinetic energy and V(q) be the potential energy.

For conservative systems, the following quantity is minimized:

$$\int_{0}^{T} \underbrace{\left[T(q, u) - V(q)\right]}_{L(q, u) = \text{Lagrange's "action function}} dt$$

The Hamiltonian is

$$H(q, u, \lambda) = L(q, u) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} f(q, u) = L(q, u) + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} u$$

In mechanics,  $\lambda$  is called a generalized momentum, satisfying

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial q} = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial q} + 0$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \Longrightarrow \lambda = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u}$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial u} = -\frac{\partial L^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial q}$$

This produces the Euler-Lagrange Equation:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} = 0$$

Recall, along optimal trajectories

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}H}{\mathrm{d}t} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}}_{=0 \text{ if } L \text{ and } f \text{ do not depend explicitly on } t}^{-\dot{\lambda}^\mathrm{T}\dot{x}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial u}}_{=0} \dot{u} \underbrace{\frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda}}_{f^\mathrm{T} = \dot{x}^\mathrm{T}} \dot{\lambda} = -\dot{\lambda}^\mathrm{T}\dot{x} + \dot{x}^\mathrm{T}\dot{\lambda} = 0$$

Therefore, along optimal trajectories, the Hamiltonian is constant! We had

$$H = L + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} u$$
$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} = 0$$

Along optimal trajectories,

$$H = L - \frac{\partial L}{\partial u}u$$

Recall, L(q, u) = T(q, u) - V(q).

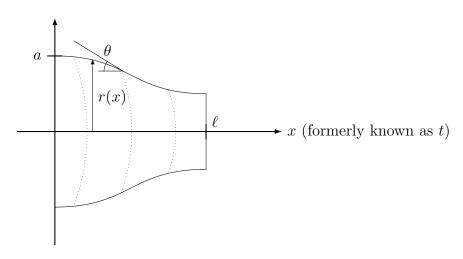
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial T}{\partial u} - 0$$
$$T(q, u) = u^{\mathrm{T}} M(q) u$$
$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial u} = 2u^{\mathrm{T}} M$$

So,

$$H = \underbrace{T}_{u^{T}Mu} - V - 2u^{T}Mu = -(V + u^{T}Mu) = -(V + T)$$

Therefore, the total energy (kinetic plus potential energy) remains constant for conservative systems.

**Example** minimum drag nose shape (Newton 1686)



The drag is

$$D = -2\pi q \int_{x=0}^{\ell} C_p(\theta) r \, \mathrm{d}r,$$

where q is a pressure constant and  $C_p(\theta) = 2\sin^2\theta$  is Newton's pressure formula. Geometry tells us

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}x} = -\tan\theta = -u$$

Choose the control as  $\tan \theta$ . Manipulating the drag,

$$\frac{D}{4\pi q} = \int_0^\ell \frac{ru^3}{1+u^2} \, \mathrm{d}x + \frac{1}{2}r(\ell)^2$$

The optimal control problem is

$$\min_{u} \int_{0}^{\ell} \frac{ru^{3}}{1+u^{2}} dx + \frac{1}{2}r(\ell)^{2}$$
s.t. 
$$\frac{dr}{dx} = -u$$

This is in the standard form with the following changes of variables:

$$\begin{array}{c} \ell \longleftarrow T \\ x \longleftarrow t \\ r \longleftarrow x \end{array}$$

Refer to (1.3) and (1.4) for the following steps.

$$H = \frac{ru^{3}}{1+u^{2}} - \lambda u$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = \frac{3ru^{2}(1+u^{2}) - ru^{3} \cdot 2u}{(1+u^{2})^{2}} - \lambda$$

$$= \frac{ru^{4} + 3ru^{2}}{(1+u^{2})^{2}} - \lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{ru^{2}(u^{2} + 3)}{(1+u^{2})^{2}}$$

$$\frac{d\lambda}{dx} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial r} = -\frac{u^{3}}{1+u^{2}}$$

$$\lambda(\ell) = r(\ell)$$
(1.5)

Right now, we know

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}x} = -u\\ r(0) = a\\ \frac{\mathrm{d}\lambda}{\mathrm{d}x} = -\frac{u^3}{1 + u^2}\\ \lambda(\ell) = r(\ell) \end{cases}$$

We need to remove u and get a function of r and  $\lambda$  instead. However, it is difficult to solve (1.5). Maybe H = const. gives us something nicer?

$$H = \frac{ru^3}{1+u^2} - \lambda u$$

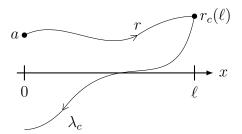
$$= \frac{ru^3}{1+u^2} - \frac{ru^2(u^2+3)}{(1+u^2)^2} u$$

$$= -\frac{2ru^3}{(1+u^2)^2} = c$$

Assume we can find u = G(r, c), either numerically or some other way. So, now we have

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}x} = -G(r,c) \\ r(0) = a \end{cases}$$
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\lambda}{\mathrm{d}x} = -\frac{G^3(r,c)}{1 + G^2(r,c)}$$
$$\lambda(\ell) = r(\ell)$$

We do not know c, but we can guess c and simulate r forward in "time" (x) from r(0) = a. Then, we simulate  $\lambda$  backwards from  $r(\ell)$ .



Problem: we can do this for any c. Which c is it? Last 15 minutes was a dead end! Back to  $u = F(r, \lambda)$ . Assume we have F (numerically).

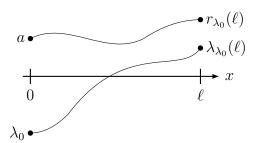
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}x} = -F(r,\lambda)$$

$$r(0) = a$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\lambda}{\mathrm{d}x} = -\frac{F^3(r,\lambda)}{1 + F^2(r,\lambda)}$$

$$\lambda(\ell) = r(\ell)$$

The mistake before was that the simulation forward from a depends on  $\lambda$ .



Therefore, we should guess  $\lambda_0$  and simulate both r and  $\lambda$  to get  $r_{\lambda_0}(\ell)$  and  $\lambda_{\lambda_0}(\ell)$ . We need

$$r_{\lambda_0}(\ell) = \lambda_{\lambda_0}$$

for optimality. To do this, we need numerics.

#### **Terminal Constraints**

Let  $x = [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and solve

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \int_0^T L(x, u, t) dt + \Psi(x(T))$$
s.t. 
$$\dot{x} = f(x, u, t)$$

$$x(0) = x_0$$

$$x_i(T) = x_{iT} \quad \text{given for } i \in \mathcal{T} \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$$

First, we augment the cost:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{J}(u) &= \int_0^T \left[ L + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (f - \dot{x}) \right] \mathrm{d}t + \Psi \\ &= \int_0^T (H - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{x}) \, \mathrm{d}t + \Psi \\ \tilde{J}(u + \varepsilon v) - \tilde{J}(u) &= \int_0^T \left( \varepsilon \frac{\partial H}{\partial u} v + \varepsilon \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \eta - \varepsilon \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} \dot{\eta} \right) \mathrm{d}t + \varepsilon \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) \eta(T) + o(\varepsilon) \\ \delta \tilde{J}(u; v) &= \int_0^T \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \right) \eta \, \mathrm{d}t + \int_0^T \frac{\partial H}{\partial u} v \, \mathrm{d}t \\ &+ \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (0) \eta(0) - \lambda^{\mathrm{T}} (T) \eta(T) + \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} (x(T)) \eta(T) \end{split}$$

As always,

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = 0 \quad (\text{FONC})$$

Additionally,

$$\eta(0) = 0$$
 $\eta_i(T) = 0 \quad \text{for } i \in \mathcal{T}$ 

Note that if  $x(T) = x_T$  is given, then  $x(T) = x(T) + \varepsilon \eta(T) + o(\varepsilon)$ , so  $\eta(T) = 0$ . Here, we have  $x_i(T) = x_{iT}$  fixed for  $i \in \mathcal{T}$  so  $\eta_i(T) = 0$  for  $i \in \mathcal{T}$ .

For optimality, we want

$$\left[ -\lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) + \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}(x(T)) \right] \eta(T) = 0 \quad \text{for all } admissible \text{ variations}$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_1} - \lambda_1, \cdots, \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_n} - \lambda_n \right] \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1(T) \\ \vdots \\ \eta_n(T) \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Hence, we need

$$\lambda_j(T) = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_j}(x(T))$$
 if  $j \notin \mathcal{T}$   
 $\lambda_i(T) = \text{free}$  if  $i \in \mathcal{T}$ 

So we have

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f \\ \dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}, \end{cases}$$

an ODE with 2n variables. We need 2n boundary conditions for this ODE to be well-posed.

So we have n + q + (n - q) = 2n boundary conditions.

We could even fix some but not all of x(0), i.e.

$$x_i(0) = x_{i0}$$
 if  $i \in \mathcal{I}$   
 $x_j(0) = \text{free}$  if  $j \notin \mathcal{I}$ 

Recall,

$$\delta \tilde{J}(u;v) = \int_0^T \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} + \dot{\lambda}^{\mathrm{T}} \right) \eta \, \mathrm{d}t + \int_0^T \frac{\partial H}{\partial u} v \, \mathrm{d}t + \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(0) \eta(0) + \left[ \lambda^{\mathrm{T}}(T) - \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}(x(T)) \right] \eta(T)$$

For  $x_i(0) = x_{i0}$  fixed, we have  $\eta_i(0) = 0$  and  $\lambda_i(0)$  free. For  $x_j(0)$  free, we have  $\eta_j(0)$  free and  $\lambda_j(0) = 0$ .

To ponder, what if  $J = \int L dt + \Psi(x(T)) + \Theta(x(0))$ ?

To summarize, the minimizer to

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \int_0^T L(x, u, t) dt + \Psi(x(T))$$
s.t. 
$$\dot{x} = f(x, u, t)$$

$$x_i(0) = x_{i0}, \quad i \in \mathcal{I}$$

$$x_j(T) = x_{jT} \quad j \in \mathcal{T}$$

has to satisfy

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial u} = 0$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}$$

$$\lambda_i(0) = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I}$$

$$\lambda_j(T) = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_j}(x(T)), \quad j \notin \mathcal{T}$$

#### Example

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

$$x_1(0) = 1, \ x_3(0) = 7, \ x_4(0) = 0, \ x_1(1) = 2$$

$$\mathcal{I} = \{1, 3, 4\}, \ \mathcal{T} = \{1\}$$

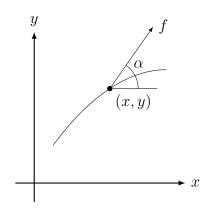
$$\min \int_0^1 L(x, u) \, dt + \left(x_2^2(1) - x_3^2(1) + 7x_1(1) + 14\right)$$

Note there are 4 boundary conditions on x so there must be 4 boundary conditions on  $\lambda$ :

$$\lambda_1(0)$$
 free/unspecified  $\lambda_1(1)$  free  $\lambda_2(0) = 0$   $\lambda_2(1) = 2x_2(1)$   $\lambda_3(0)$  free  $\lambda_3(1) = -2x_3(1)$   $\lambda_4(0)$  free  $\lambda_4(1) = 0$ 

#### Example

A force f acts on a particle at position (x, y) (mass = 1).



$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= v_x \\ \dot{y} &= v_y \\ \dot{v}_x &= |f| \cos \alpha \\ \dot{v}_y &= |f| \sin \alpha \\ \alpha &= \text{control variable} \end{aligned}$$

Assume we only care about where the particle ends up (to be specified later), i.e. L=0.

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_x & \lambda_y & \lambda_{v_x} & \lambda_{v_y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ |f| \cos \alpha \\ |f| \sin \alpha \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_x = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = 0 \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \lambda_x(t) = c_1$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_y = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} = 0 \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \lambda_y(t) = c_2$$

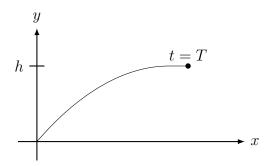
$$\dot{\lambda}_{v_x} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial v_x} = -\lambda_x \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \lambda_{v_x}(t) = -c_1 t + c_3$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_{v_y} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial v_y} = -\lambda_y \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \lambda_{v_y}(t) = -c_2 t + c_4$$

Moreover,

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \alpha} = -\lambda_{v_x} |f| \sin \alpha + \lambda_{v_y} |f| \cos \alpha = 0$$
$$\tan \alpha = \frac{\lambda_{v_y}}{\lambda_{v_x}} = \frac{-c_2 t + c_4}{-c_1 t + c_3}$$

We want to drive the particle from  $[0,0,0,0]^T$  to a path parallel to the x-axis with y(T)=h.



Choose  $\Psi = -v_x$ ,

$$y(T) = h$$
  $v_y(T) = 0$   
 $x(T)$  free  $v_x(T)$  free, but costs  
 $\lambda_i(0)$  free  
 $\lambda_y(T)$  free  $\lambda_{v_y}(T)$  free  
 $\lambda_x(T) = 0$   $\lambda_{v_x}(T) = -1$ 

$$c_1 = \lambda_x(t) = 0$$

$$\Longrightarrow \lambda_{v_x} = -c_1 t + c_3 = c_3 = -1$$

$$\Longrightarrow \tan \alpha = -\frac{-c_2 t + c_4}{-1} = c_2 t + c_4$$

How do we find  $c_2$  and  $c_4$ ? Plug into  $\dot{x}$  and  $\dot{\lambda}$  and try to satisfy the remaining boundary conditions. (This is hard=numerics.)

### 1.7 Numerical Methods

Optimal control boils down to solving two sets of differential equations:

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u) \qquad \frac{\partial H}{\partial u}(x, u, \lambda) = 0$$

$$\lambda = -\frac{\partial H^{T}}{\partial x}(x, u, \lambda) \qquad u = F(x, \lambda)$$

$$\Longrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, F(x, \lambda)) \\ \dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H^{T}}{\partial x}(x, F(x, \lambda), \lambda) \end{cases}$$

The equations are functions of x and  $\lambda$ . They are completely determined by the boundary conditions on x(0), x(T),  $\lambda(0)$ ,  $\lambda(T)$ . This is known as the Boundary Value Problem.

How do we solve this? Test shooting

- Guess initial conditions
- Simulate forward in time
- Update the guess (clearly...)

**Algorithm** Guess  $\lambda_0$  and solve for x(t),  $\lambda(t)$ . Let's define a cost:

$$\|\lambda(T) - \frac{\partial \Psi^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial x}(x(T))\|^2 = g(\lambda_0)$$

Update  $\lambda_0$  through

$$\lambda_0 := \lambda_0 - \gamma \frac{\partial g^{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial \lambda_0}(\lambda_0)$$

any choice of step size works

Repeat

Let  $e_1$  be the *i*th unit vector, i = 1, ..., n:

$$e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, e_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example