

# Static and Dynamic Optimization (42111)

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## Lecture 13: Time Optimal Problems

- Time optimal problems
- Motion control
- Bang-Bang control
- Reading: 63-72

Now let  $T$  be a part of the optimization. Find a function  $\underline{u_t \in \mathcal{U}_t} \ t \in [0; T]$  which takes the system system

$$\dot{x} = f_t(x_t, u_t)$$

from its initial state  $\underline{x_0}$  to a terminal situation where

$$\psi_T(x_T) = 0$$

such that the performance index

$$J = \phi_T(x_T) + \int_0^T L_t(x_t, u_t) dt$$

is minimized.

# Time Optimal Problems (Final-time-free problems)

Define the Hamilton function as:

$$H(x, u, \lambda, t) = L_t(x_t, u_t) + \lambda_t^T f_t(x_t, u_t)$$

Then the Maximum principle for this problem is

$$\dot{x} = f_t(x_t, u_t) \quad -\dot{\lambda}^T = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} H_t \quad u_t = \arg \min_{u_t \in \mathcal{U}_t} H_t$$

with boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad \lambda_T^T = \nu^T \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_T(x_T) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \phi_T(x_T)$$

Transversality condition:

$$\frac{\partial \phi_T}{\partial T} + \nu^T \frac{\partial \psi_T}{\partial T} + H_T = 0$$

The problem is to bring the system

$$\dot{x} = u_t \quad x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T$$

from the initial position,  $\underline{x}_0$ , to the final position,  $\underline{x}_T$ , in minimum time,

while the control action (or the decision function) is bounded to

$$|u_t| \leq c$$

The performance index is

$$J = T = T + \int_0^T 0 \, dt = 0 + \int_0^T 1 \, dt$$

Notice, either is  $(\phi_T = T, L = 0)$  or  $(\phi = 0, L = 1)$ . Let us chose  $\phi_T = T, L = 0$ .

The Hamiltonian function is:

$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

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$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

and the optimality conditions are simply

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= u_t \\ -\dot{\lambda} &= 0 \\ u_t &= \arg \min_u H \quad |u_t| \leq c\end{aligned}$$

with the boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T \quad \lambda_T = \nu$$

The **Transversality condition** is

$$1 + \lambda_T u_T = 0$$

The Hamiltonian function is:

$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

and the optimality conditions are simply

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= u_t \\ \lambda &= \nu \\ u_t &= \arg \min_u H & |u_t| \leq c\end{aligned}$$

with the boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T \quad \lambda_T = \nu$$

The **Transversality condition** is

$$1 + \lambda_T u_T = 0$$

The Hamiltonian function is:

$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

and the optimality conditions are simply

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= u_t \\ \lambda &= \nu \\ u_t &= -c \operatorname{sign}(\lambda_t) = -c \operatorname{sign}(\nu)\end{aligned}$$

with the boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T \quad \lambda_T = \nu$$

The **Transversality condition** is

$$1 + \lambda_T u_T = 0$$



The Hamiltonian function is:

$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

and the optimality conditions are simply

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= u_t \\ \lambda &= \nu \\ u_t &= -c \operatorname{sign}(\nu)\end{aligned}$$

with the boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T \quad \lambda_T = \nu$$

The **Transversality condition** is

$$1 - \nu c \operatorname{sign}(\nu) = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu = \pm \frac{1}{c}$$

# Motion control (State equation)

The Hamiltonian function is:

$$H = \lambda_t u_t$$

and the optimality conditions are simply

$$\begin{aligned}x_t &= \underline{x}_0 - c \operatorname{sign}(\nu) t & \text{and} & & x_T = \underline{x}_0 - c \operatorname{sign}(\nu) T \\ \lambda &= \nu \\ u_t &= -c \operatorname{sign}(\nu)\end{aligned}$$

with the boundary conditions:

$$x_0 = \underline{x}_0 \quad x_T = \underline{x}_T \quad \rightarrow \quad T = \frac{|\underline{x}_T - \underline{x}_0|}{c} \quad \operatorname{sign}(\nu) = -\operatorname{sign}(\underline{x}_T - \underline{x}_0) \quad \lambda_T = \nu$$

The **Transversality condition** is

$$\nu = \pm \frac{1}{c} \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu = -\frac{1}{c} \operatorname{sign}(x_T - x_0)$$

This results in the control strategy

$$u_t = c \operatorname{sign}(\underline{x}_T - \underline{x}_0)$$

and

$$x_t = \underline{x}_0 + c \operatorname{sign}(\underline{x}_T - \underline{x}_0) t$$

# Bang Bang Control (in 1D).

Consider a mass affected by a force. This is a second order system given by

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ a \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} z \\ v \end{bmatrix}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_0 \\ \underline{v}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$z$  position       $v$  velocity       $a$  control action, specific force, **decision variable**

Assume the control action, i.e. the specific force is limited to

$$|a| \leq 1 \quad (\text{just to simplify})$$

while the objective is to take the system from its original state to the origin

$$\underline{x}_T = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_T \\ \underline{v}_T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

in minimum time. The performance index is accordingly

$$J = T \quad \phi = T \quad L = 0$$

The Hamilton function is

$$H = \lambda^z v + \lambda^v a$$



# Bang Bang Control.

The Hamilton function and the terminal contribution are

$$H = \lambda^z v + \lambda^v a \qquad \phi = T \quad L = 0$$

We can now write the conditions as the state equation,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ a \end{bmatrix}$$

the costate equations

$$-\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^z & \lambda^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \lambda^z \end{bmatrix} \quad \Leftarrow$$

the optimality condition (Pontryagin's maximum principle)

$$a_t = -\text{sign}(\lambda_t^v) \quad \bowtie$$

and the boundary conditions

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ v_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_0 \\ \underline{v}_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_T \\ \underline{v}_T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_T^z \\ \lambda_T^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \nu^z \\ \nu^v \end{bmatrix}$$

The transversality condition is:

$$1 + H_T = 1 + \lambda_T^z \textcolor{red}{v}_T + \lambda_T^v a_T = 1 + \lambda_T^v a_T = 0$$



# Bang Bang Control.

The Hamilton function is

$$H = \lambda^z v + \lambda^v a$$

We can now write the conditions as the state equation,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ a \end{bmatrix}$$

the costate equations

$$\lambda_t^z = \nu^z \quad \lambda_t^v = \nu^v + \nu^z (T - t)$$

⊗

the optimality condition (Pontryagins maximum principle)

$$a_t = -\text{sign}(\lambda_t^v) = \pm 1$$

⇐

and the boundary conditions

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_0 \\ v_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_0 \\ \underline{v}_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \underline{z}_T \\ \underline{v}_T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_T^z \\ \lambda_T^v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \nu^z \\ \nu^v \end{bmatrix}$$

The transversality condition is:

$$1 + \lambda_T^v a_T = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \lambda_T^v = \nu^v = \pm 1$$

⊗

# Bang Bang Control.

From the Costate equation we can conclude that  $\lambda^z$  is constant and that  $\lambda^v$  is linear. More precisely we have

$$\lambda_t^z = \nu^z \quad \lambda_t^v = \nu^v + \nu^z(T - t)$$

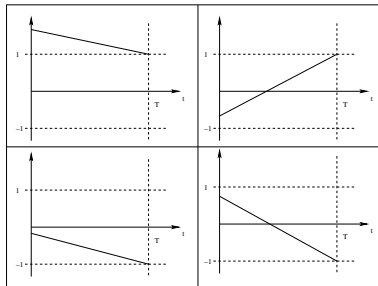
Since  $v_T = 0$  the transversality conditions gives us

$$\lambda_T^v a_T = -1$$

but since  $u_t$  is saturated at  $\pm 1$  we only have two possible values for  $u_T$  (and  $\lambda_T^v$ ), i.e.

- $a_T = 1$  and  $\lambda_T^v = -1$
- $a_T = -1$  and  $\lambda_T^v = 1$

The linear switching function,  $\lambda_t^v$ , can have one zero crossing. That leaves us with 4 possible situations as indicated in the figure.



## To summarize:

we have 3 unknown quantities,  $\nu^z$ ,  $\nu^v$  and  $T$  and 3 conditions to meet,

$$z_T = 0 \quad v_T = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu^v = \pm 1.$$

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If the control (in a period) has a constant values  $a$  ( $= \pm 1$ ), then the solution to the state equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ a \end{bmatrix}$$

is simply

$$\begin{aligned} v_t &= v_0 + at \\ z_t &= z_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2}at^2 \end{aligned}$$

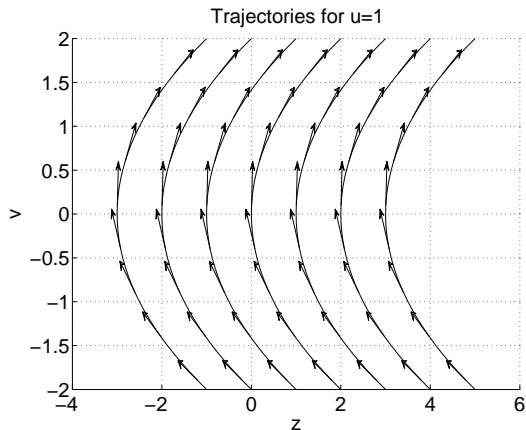


# Bang Bang Control.

$a = 1$  (Acceleration)

$$v_t = v_0 + t$$

$$z_t = z_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} t^2$$

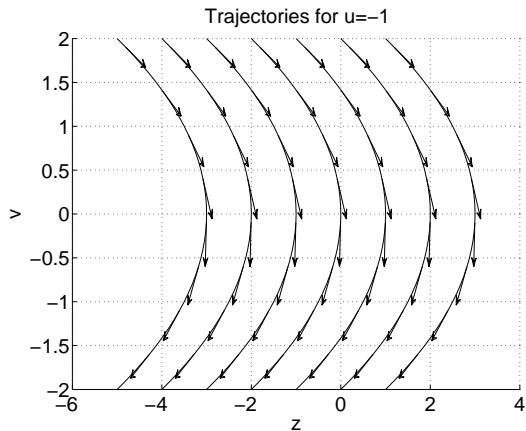


# Bang Bang Control.

$a = -1$  (Deacceleration)

$$v_t = v_0 - t$$

$$z_t = z_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2}t^2$$



## Bang Bang Control - On the switching curve.

If the terminal point (origin) and the starting point is on the same parabola (and in the directionis of arrows), i.e. satisfy the equations where  $T_f = T$ .

### Deacceleration ( $v_0 > 0, a = -1$ )

$$0 = v_0 - T_f$$

$$0 = z_0 + v_0 T_f - \frac{1}{2} T_f^2$$

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$$T_f = v_0$$

$$z_0 = -\frac{1}{2} v_0^2$$

### Accelertion ( $v_0 < 0, a = 1$ )

$$0 = v_0 + T_f$$

$$0 = z_0 + v_0 T_f + \frac{1}{2} T_f^2$$

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$$T_f = -v_0$$

$$z_0 = \frac{1}{2} v_0^2$$

# Bang Bang Control - On the switching curve.

## No switching.

If the terminal point (origin) and the starting point is on the same parabola (and in the directionis of arrows), i.e. satisfy the equations

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= v_0 + aT_f & a &= \pm 1 \\0 &= z_0 + v_0T_f + \frac{1}{2}aT_f^2\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

where  $T_f = T$ . Solution:

$$T_f = -\frac{v_0}{a} \geq 0 \quad z_0 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{v_0^2}{a} \quad (\text{must be satisfied})\tag{2}$$

for either  $a = 1$  or  $a = -1$ . Since  $T_f \geq 0$ :

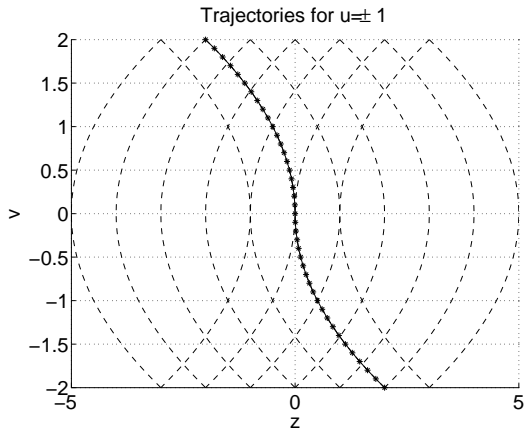
$$\begin{aligned}a &= -\text{sign}(v_0) & T_f &= |v_0| \\z_0 &= -\frac{1}{2}\text{sign}(v_0) v_0^2 & & (\text{The Switching curve})\end{aligned}$$

If  $v_0 > 0$  then  $a = -1$  and  $z_0 = -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2$ .  
If  $v_0 < 0$  then  $a = 1$  and  $z_0 = \frac{1}{2}v_0^2$ .

# Bang Bang Control.

Along the switching (or the acceleration/de-acceleration) curve:

$$z_0 = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 & \text{deacc.} & a = -1 & \text{for } v_0 > 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}v_0^2 & \text{acc.} & a = 1 & \text{for } v_0 < 0 \end{cases} = -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \text{sign}(v_0)$$



Let us return to the general case.

From Pontryagin and the solution to the costate equation:

$$a_t = -\text{sign}(\nu^v + \nu^z(T - t))$$

There will be a switching unless the initial point lies on switching curve. We will have 2 possibilities.

$$a_t = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq T_s \\ -1 & \text{for } T_s < t \leq T \end{cases} \quad z_0 < -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \text{sign}(v_0) \quad \text{Below the switching curve.}$$

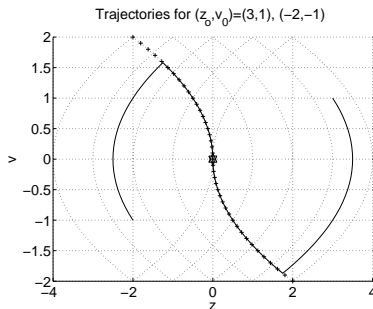
$$a_t = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq T_s \\ 1 & \text{for } T_s < t \leq T \end{cases} \quad z_0 > -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \text{sign}(v_0) \quad \text{Above the switching curve.}$$

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$$a_t = 1 \quad z_0 = \frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \quad v_0 < 0 \quad \text{On the switching curve}$$

$$a_t = -1 \quad z_0 = -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \quad v_0 > 0 \quad \text{On the switching curve}$$

# Bang Bang Control.



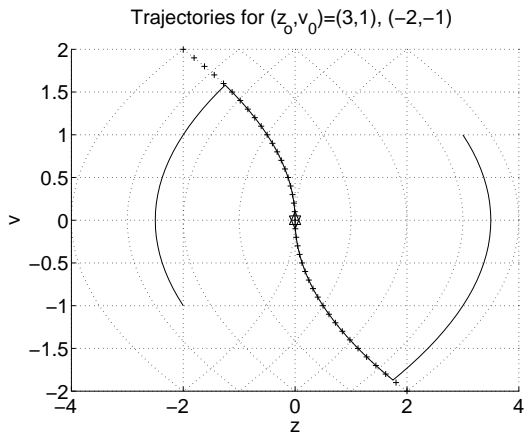
As a state feedback law

$$a_t = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } z < -\frac{1}{2}v^2 \text{sign}(v) & \text{(Below switching curve)} \\ -1 & \text{for } z = -\frac{1}{2}v^2 \text{ and } v > 0 & \text{(Down along switching curve)} \\ -1 & \text{for } z > -\frac{1}{2}v^2 \text{sign}(v) & \text{(Above switching curve)} \\ 1 & \text{for } z = \frac{1}{2}v^2 \text{ and } v < 0 & \text{(Up along switching curve)} \end{cases}$$

# Bang Bang Control - (Searching for $T$ and $T_s$ ).

## Searching for $T$ and $T_s$ .

Assume  $z_0 > -\frac{1}{2}v_0^2 \text{sign}(v_0)$  (above (to the right of) the switching curve)



For  $t < T_s$   $a_t = -1$  and  $T_s < t \leq T$   $a_t = 1$



For  $t < T_s$   $a_t = -1$  and

$$v_t = v_0 - t \qquad z_t = z_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2}t^2 \qquad (1)$$

which is valid until we reach the switching curve given by

$$z = -\frac{1}{2}v^2 \operatorname{sign}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v^2 \quad (\text{because } v < 0) \qquad (2)$$

This happens at  $T_s$  where (solution meets switching curve)

$$z_0 + v_0 T_s - \frac{1}{2}T_s^2 = \frac{1}{2}(v_0 - T_s)^2$$

or

$$T_s = v_0 + \sqrt{z_0 + \frac{1}{2}v_0^2}$$

The velocity and position at the switching point is

$$v_s = v_0 - T_s \quad (\leq 0) \qquad z_s = \frac{1}{2}(v_0 - T_s)^2 \quad (\geq 0)$$

For  $T_s \leq t \leq T$  we have  $a_t = 1$  and

$$v_t = v_s + \tilde{t} \qquad z_t = z_s + v_s \tilde{t} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{t}^2 \qquad \tilde{t} = t - T_s$$

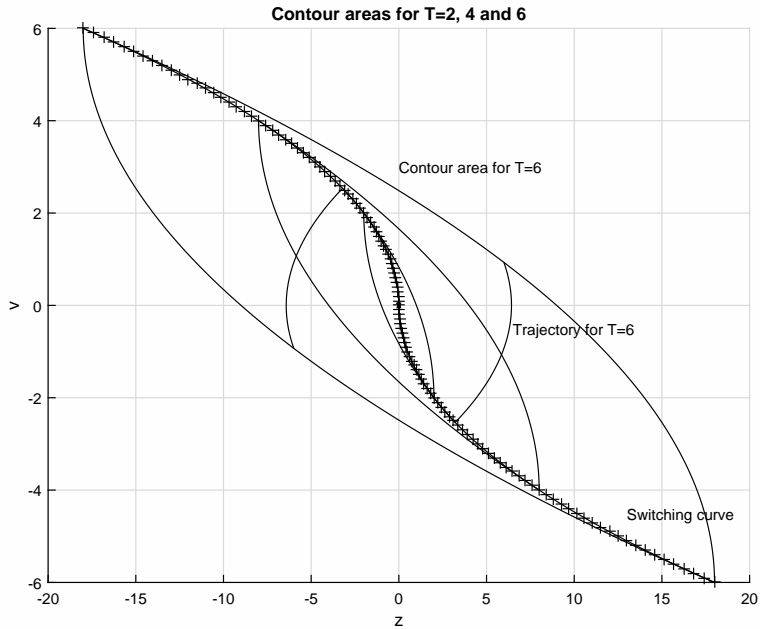
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The time left for the origin is

$$\tilde{T} = -v_s = T_s - v_0$$

For  $t > T_s$  we accelerate ( $u_t = 1$ ) and in total

$$T = \tilde{T} + T_s = T_s - v_0 + T_s = v_0 + 2\sqrt{z_0 + \frac{1}{2}v_0^2}$$



- One person - one report in pdf (essential m-files eventually listed in appendix or uploaded in a zipped file).
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