

Pontryagin Maximum Principle

Theorem: Suppose $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is closed & compact, (\bar{y}, \bar{u}) minimizes

$$J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) = \int_0^T f(t, \bar{y}, \bar{u}) dt$$

subject to $\dot{y} = \vec{g}(t, \vec{y}, \vec{u})$ & (a) or (b). Then $\exists \vec{p}^*$ such that $\dot{p}_i = -H_{y_i}$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, where

$$H = -f + \sum_{k=1}^n p_k g_k$$

& $\bar{u}^*(t)$ maximizes $H(t, \bar{y}, \vec{v}, \vec{p})$ for $\vec{v} \in U$.

In case (b), add $\vec{p}(T) = \vec{0}$. If T is variable, add $H|_{t=T} = 0$.
If T has no explicit dependence on t , $H = \text{const}$.

Ex. (modification of previous example)

$$\text{Minimize } \int_0^T dt = T$$

subject to $\dot{y} = u$, $y(0) = 1$, $y(T) = 0$, $T > 0$, AND $|u| \leq 1$

$$H = -1 + pu. \text{ again, } H = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p} = -H_y = 0 \\ \dot{y} = H_p = u \end{cases}$$

$$p = c$$

$$c \neq 0 \text{ maximize } H = -1 + cv \text{ s.t. } |v| \leq 1$$

If $c > 0$, $u = 1$, $\max H = -1 + c$

If $c < 0$, $u = -1$, $\max H = -1 - c$

$$u = \frac{1}{c}$$

If $c > 0$, $u = \frac{1}{c} = 1 \rightarrow c = 1$

If $c < 0$, $u = \frac{1}{c} = -1 \rightarrow c = -1$

$$c = 1: \dot{y} = 1 \rightarrow y = t + d \rightarrow y = t + 1 \quad y(T) = 0 \rightarrow T = -1 \quad \times$$

$$c = -1: \dot{y} = -1 \rightarrow y = -t + d \rightarrow y = -t + 1 \quad y(T) = 0 \rightarrow T = 1$$

Optimal values: $u = -1$, $T = 1$, $y = -t + 1$

Ex Rocket Car

Minimize $\int_0^T dt = T$

subject to $\begin{cases} \dot{y}_1 = y_2 \\ \dot{y}_2 = u \end{cases} \quad \vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} y_{10} \\ y_{20} \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{y}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad |u| \leq 1 \quad T > 0$

$H = -1 + p_1 y_2 + p_2 u \quad H = \text{const.} \quad H|_{t=T} = 0 \rightarrow 0 = H = -1 + p_1 y_2 + p_2 u$

$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_1 = -H_{y_1} = 0 \rightarrow p_1 = C \\ \dot{p}_2 = -H_{y_2} = -p_1 \rightarrow p_2 = -ct + d \end{cases}$

If $p_2 = 0 \forall t \rightarrow p_1 = 0 \forall t \rightarrow H = -1$ ✖

$p_2 = at + b, \quad p_2 \neq 0 \forall t \leftarrow ?$

maximize H for $|u| \leq 1$

When $p_2 > 0, u = 1$ maximizes H

when $p_2 < 0, u = -1$ maximizes H

$u(t) = \text{sgn}(p_2(t)) = \text{sgn}(at + b)$

Either $u = 1 \forall t, u = -1 \forall t$, or u switches sign once on $[0, T]$

Thus at most one switching time t_s .

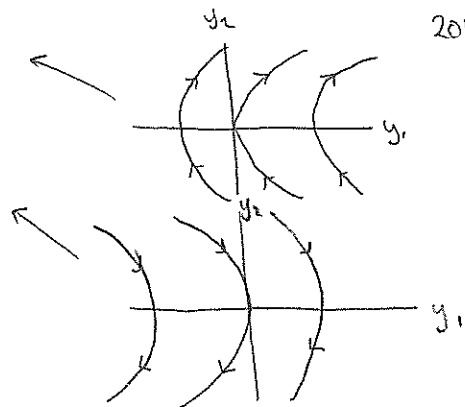
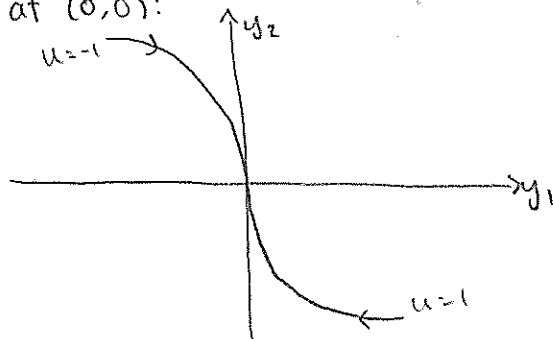
$u = 1: y_2 = t + c_2 \rightarrow y_1 = t^2/2 + c_2 t + c_1$

$dy_1/dy_2 = y_2 \rightarrow y_1 = y_2^2/2 + \alpha$

$u = -1: y_2 = -t + \bar{c}_2 \rightarrow y_1 = -t^2/2 + \bar{c}_2 t + \bar{c}_1$

$dy_1/dy_2 = -y_2 \rightarrow y_1 = -y_2^2/2 + \beta$

End at $(0, 0)$:



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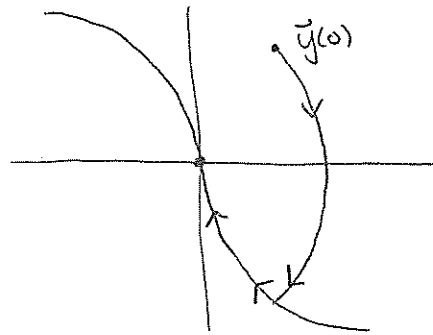
Switching curve

$$y_1 = \begin{cases} -\frac{y_2^2}{2}, & y_2 \geq 0 \\ \frac{y_2^2}{2}, & y_2 \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

If $\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$ is on the switch curve then $u=1$ or $u=-1$ on $[0, T]$.

If $\vec{y}(0)$ is above the switching curve, $u=-1$ until the switching is met then change to $u=1$

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} -1 & 0 \leq t < t_s \\ 1 & t_s < t \leq T \end{cases}$$



If $\vec{y}(0)$ is below the switching curve, $u=1$ until the switching curve is met then it changes to $u=-1$

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq t < t_s \\ -1 & t_s < t \leq T \end{cases}$$

Special case: $\vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\omega_0 > 0$

$$t_s = \sqrt{\omega_0}, \quad T = 2\sqrt{\omega_0}$$

$$\text{For } 0 \leq t \leq t_s: \quad y_1 = -t^2/2 + \omega_0, \quad y_2 = -t$$

$$\text{For } t_s \leq t \leq T: \quad y_1 = t^2/2 - 2\sqrt{\omega_0}t + 2\omega_0, \quad y_2 = t - 2\sqrt{\omega_0}$$

Ex. Optimal Control of a Simple Harmonic Oscillator

Minimize $\int_0^T T dt = T$ $\leftarrow \begin{cases} \dot{y}_1 = y_2 \\ \dot{y}_2 = -y_1 + u \end{cases}$
 subject to $\vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} y_{10} \\ y_{20} \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\vec{y}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $|u(t)| \leq 1$

$$H = -1 + p_1 y_2 + p_2 (-y_1 + u) \quad \begin{cases} H \text{ const.} \\ H|_{t=T} = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow H = 0$$

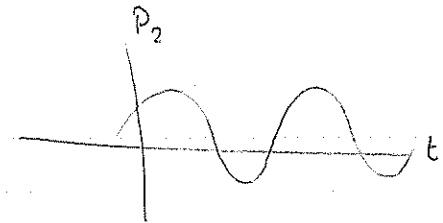
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{p}_1 &= -H_{y_1} = p_2 \\ \dot{p}_2 &= -H_{y_2} = -p_1 \\ \rightarrow \ddot{p}_1 &= -\dot{p}_1 = -p_2 \rightarrow p_2(t) = A \cos(t + \delta) \\ \rightarrow \dot{p}_2 + p_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$u = \operatorname{argmax}_{|u| \leq 1} (-1 + p_1 y_2 - p_2 y_1 + p_2 u) = \operatorname{sgn}(p_2)$$

If $p_2 \equiv 0 \Rightarrow p_1 \equiv 0 \Rightarrow H = -1$ ✖

Thus $A \neq 0$.

Thus switching times are π apart



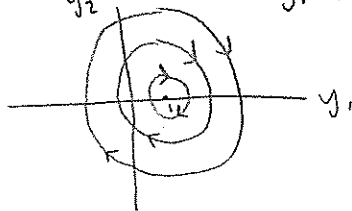
$$u = 1: \ddot{y}_2 + y_2 = 0 \rightarrow \ddot{y}_2 + y_2 = 0$$

$$y_2 = A_1 \cos(t + \delta), \quad y_1 = 1 - \dot{y}_2 = 1 + A_1 \sin(t + \delta)$$

$$\frac{dy_1}{dy_2} = \frac{y_2}{-y_1 + 1} \rightarrow (-y_1 + 1) dy_1 = y_2 dy_2$$

$$-\frac{y_1^2}{2} + y_1 + C = \frac{y_2^2}{2} \rightarrow y_1^2 + y_2^2 - 2y_1 = 2C$$

$$(y_1 - 1)^2 + y_2^2 = C_1$$

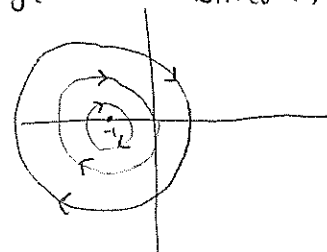


$$u = -1: \ddot{y}_2 + y_2 = 0, \quad y_2 = \bar{A} \cos(t + \bar{\delta}), \quad y_1 = -\dot{y}_2 - 1 = -1 + \bar{A} \sin(t + \bar{\delta})$$

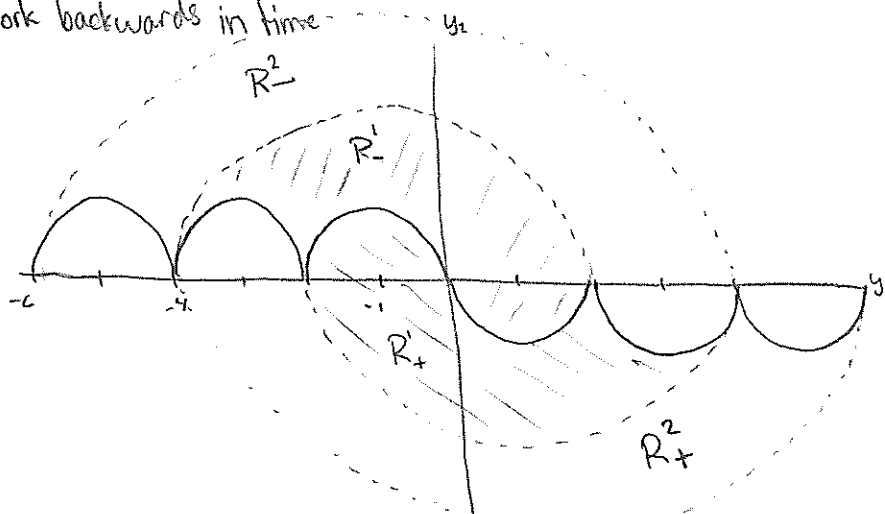
$$\frac{dy_1}{dy_2} = \frac{y_2}{-y_1 - 1}$$

$$-(y_1 + 1) dy_1 = y_2 dy_2 \rightarrow y_1^2 + y_2^2 + 2y_1 = 2C$$

$$-\frac{y_1^2}{2} - y_1 + C = \frac{y_2^2}{2} \rightarrow (y_1 + 1)^2 + y_2^2 = C_2$$

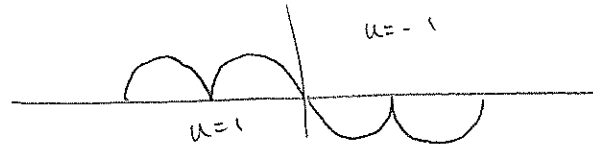


work backwards in time -



In R_-^1 , start with $u = -1$, switch to $u = 1$ when the switching curve is met.
 In R_+^1 , start with $u = 1$, switch to $u = -1$ when the switching curve is met.
 Etc.

Switching curve



$u = -1$ above switching curve or on the switching curve with $y_1 < 0$
 $u = 1$ below switching curve or on the switching curve with $y_1 > 0$
 Special case: $\begin{pmatrix} y_{10} \\ y_{20} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < t < \pi \\ -1 & \pi < t < 2\pi \\ 1 & 2\pi < t < 3\pi \end{cases}$$

$$(y_1(t), y_2(t)) = \begin{cases} (1 + 5\cos t, -5\sin t) & 0 \leq t \leq \pi \\ (-1 + 3\cos t, -3\sin t) & \pi \leq t \leq 2\pi \\ (1 + \cos t, -\sin t) & 2\pi \leq t \leq 3\pi \end{cases}$$