

An orthogonality result, and optimality

In Lecture 3(b) we saw that the problem of transferring a state x_0 at time t_0 , to a state x_1 at time $t_1 > t_0$, is equivalent to solving the equation for $u(\cdot)$

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1 &= L(u) \\ &= - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \underline{\Phi}(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma \end{aligned}$$

A solution exists iff $\exists \eta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that

$$x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1 = L L^* \eta$$

$$= W(t_0, t_1) \eta$$

where
$$W(t_0, t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \underline{\Phi}(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) B(\sigma)^T \underline{\Phi}(t_0, \sigma)^T d\sigma$$

and
$$(L^* \eta)(t) = - B^T(t) \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t)^T \eta$$

If such an η exists then,

$$u_0(t) = \cancel{L}^* \eta(t)$$

accomplishes the transfer.

If $u_1(t)$ is any other continuous control that also accomplishes the state transfer, then the following orthogonality result holds

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_1 - u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (u_1(\sigma) - u_0(\sigma))^T u_0(\sigma) d\sigma \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof

Since $u_1(t)$ accomplishes transfer

$$x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1 = L(u_1) = W(t_0, t_1)\eta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_1 - u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} &= \langle u_1, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \\ &= \langle u_1, L^* \eta \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle L^* \eta, L^* \eta \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \\ &= \langle Lu_1, \eta \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} - \langle LL^* \eta, \eta \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= \langle W\eta, \eta \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} - \langle W\eta, \eta \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= 0 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Corollary

u_0 solves the constrained optimization problem

$$\text{Min } \langle u, u \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$
$$L(u) = x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1$$

Proof

By symmetry of inner product, and the orthogonality property,

$$\langle u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = 0$$

Now, by positive definiteness of inner product,

$$0 \leq \langle u_1 - u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$= \langle u_1 - u_0, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_1 - u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$= \langle u_1 - u_0, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - 0 \quad (\text{orthogonality})$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_0 + u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} - \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \quad (\text{orthogonality})$$

Thus $\langle u, u \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \geq \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$ for all u , s.t. $L(u, \cdot) = x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1$.

Hence u_0 is ~~the~~^a global minimizer of the constrained optimization problem \square

Remark

u_0 depends on η with

$$W(t_0, t_1)\eta = x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1$$

η is not unique unless $W(t_0, t_1)$ is invertible. Hence u_0 is not unique unless $W(t_0, t_1)$ is invertible. But ~~the~~ all such u_0 have the same minimum cost,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} &= \langle L^* \eta, L^* \eta \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \\ &= \langle LL^* \eta, \eta \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= \eta^T W(t_0, t_1) \eta \end{aligned}$$

Remark

If $W(t_0, t_1)$ is invertible, then optimal cost $= (x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1)^T W(t_0, t_1)^{-1} (x_0 - \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_1)x_1)$

It is pleasing to note that the Gramian approach leads to an optimal control. In the case when $W(t_0, t_1)$ is invertible, the minimum cost is given by the quadratic form

$$(x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1)^T W(t_0, t_1)^{-1} (x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1).$$

Recall (Home Work Set 6, Problem 4) $W(t, t_1)^{-1}$ satisfies a Riccati differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -A^T P - PA + PBB^T P.$$

Such equations (and variants) arise in the full theory of linear optimal control with quadratic cost functionals.