



# Bang-bang and Singular Controls

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# Bang-Bang Control

A solution to a problem that is linear in the control frequently involves discontinuities in the optimal control

$$\max_u \int_0^T [f_1(t, x) + u f_2(t, x)] dt$$

$$x' = g_1(t, x) + u g_2(t, x)$$

$$x(0) = 1$$

$$a \leq u(t) \leq b$$

# Contd.

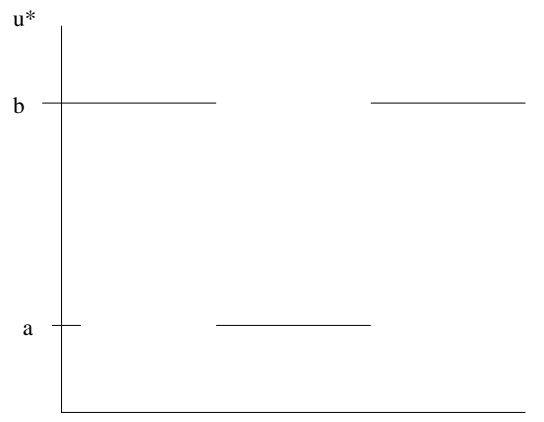
$$\begin{aligned} H &= f_1(t, x) + u f_2(t, x) + \lambda (g_1(t, x) + u g_2(t, x)) \\ &= u (f_2(t, x) + \lambda g_2(t, x)) + f_1(t, x) + \lambda g_1(t, x) \\ &= u \phi(t, x, \lambda) + \text{rest} , \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi$  is switching function. Maximize  $H$  w.r.t.  $u$  at  $u^*$

$$u^*(t) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } \phi(t, x^*, \lambda) < 0 \\ ? & \text{if } \phi(t, x^*, \lambda) = 0 \\ b & \text{if } \phi(t, x^*, \lambda) > 0 \end{cases}$$

If  $\phi(t, x^*, \lambda(t)) = 0$  is not sustained over an interval of time, then the control is bang-bang.

Bang-bang always at the extreme values of the control set.



If  $\phi(t, x^*, \lambda(t)) = 0$  over an interval of time, the value of  $u^*$  is singular.

The choice of  $u^*$  must be obtained from other information than “max  $H$  w.r.t.  $u$ ”.

The times when the OC switches from  $a$  to  $b$  or vice-versa or switches to singular control are called switch times.

(Sometimes difficult to find).

# Example

$$\max \int_0^T (1 - u)x \, dt \quad \text{max sales}$$
$$x' = ux \quad x(0) = x_0$$

$x(t)$  stock can be reinvested to expand capacity or sold for revenue

$u(t)$  fraction of stock to be reinvested

$$0 \leq u(t) \leq 1$$

$$H = (1 - u)x + \lambda ux$$

$$H = u(x(\lambda - 1)) + x$$

$$\lambda' = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = u - 1 - \lambda u, \quad \lambda(T) = 0$$

$$\text{when } \lambda(t) - 1 > 0, \quad u^* = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \lambda' = -\lambda$$

$$\text{when } \lambda(t) - 1 < 0, \quad u^* = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \lambda' = -1$$

$\lambda$  is decreasing and  $\lambda(T) = 0$ .

On  $[\hat{t}, T]$ ,  $\lambda < 1$   $\lambda = T - t$

$u^* = 0$ ,  $x^* = x^*(\hat{t})$ .

Switch time  $T - 1$

$$\text{If } T - 1 \leq 0, \quad T \leq 1$$

$$u^* \equiv 0$$

$$x^* = x_0$$

If  $T > 1$

$$u^* = 1$$

$$u^* = 0$$



$$x^* = x_0 e^t$$

$$x^* = x_0 e^{T-1}$$



# Example

$$\min_{-1 \leq u \leq 1} \int_0^1 (2 - 5t)u(t) dt$$

$$x' = 2x + 4te^{2t}u$$

$$x(0) = 0 \quad x(1) = e^2$$

$$H = (2 - 5t)u + \lambda (2x + 4te^{2t}u)$$

$$\lambda' = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = -2\lambda$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_0 e^{-2t} \quad \text{no transversality condition}$$

$$H = (2 - 5t + 4\lambda t e^{-2t})u + 2\lambda x$$

$$H = (2 - 5t + 4\lambda_0 t)u + 2\lambda x$$

$$H = (2 + 4\lambda_0 t - 5t) u + 2\lambda x$$

$(2 + 4\lambda_0 t - 5t)$  is switching function and it will switch from  $+$  to  $-$  at most once.

at  $t = 0$ ,  $2 + (4\lambda_0 - 5)(0) > 0$ ,

$u^* = -1$  on  $[0, \hat{t})$

If  $u^* \equiv -1$  on  $[0, 1]$

$$x' \text{ DE } \& x(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -2t^2 e^{2t}.$$

That solution does not satisfy  $x(1) = e^2$ .

There must be one switch.

On  $(\hat{t}, 1]$ ,  $2 + (4\lambda_0 - 5)t < 0$ ,  $u^* = 1$

$$x' \text{ DE } \& x(1) = e^2 \Rightarrow x = e^{2t}(2t^2 - 1).$$

$x^*$  must be continuous at  $\hat{t}$

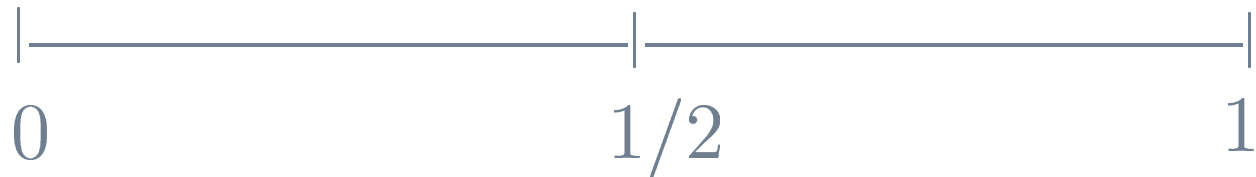
$$e^{2\hat{t}}(2\hat{t}^2 - 1) = -2\hat{t}^2 e^{2\hat{t}} \Rightarrow \hat{t} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Switching function = 0 at  $\hat{t}$

$$2 + (4\lambda_0 - 5)\hat{t} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_0 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$u^* = -1$$

$$u^* = 1$$



$$x^* = -2t^2 e^{2t}$$

$$x^* = e^{2t}(2t^2 - 1)$$

# Basic resource Model

(Clark p. 95) “Fishery”

$$\max \int_0^T e^{-\delta t} (pq - c) E dt$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = F(x) - qEx$$

$E$  control (effort),  $p$  price and  $q$  “catchability”

$$0 \leq E(t) \leq E_{\max}$$

max discounted profit

revenue - cost

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c)E + \lambda(F(x) - qEx) \\
 &= [e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c) - \lambda qx] E + \lambda F(x).
 \end{aligned}$$

Singular control occurs when the coefficient of control  $E$  is zero over a time interval (switching function is zero).

$$\text{when } e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c) - \lambda qx > 0 \quad E^* = E_{\max}$$

$$e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c) - \lambda qx < 0 \quad E^* = 0$$

$$e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c) - \lambda qx = 0 \quad \text{singular case}$$

Suppose

$$e^{-\delta t}(pqx - c) - \lambda qx = 0$$

on a time interval. Solve for  $\lambda$

$$\lambda = e^{-\delta t} \left( p - \frac{c}{qx} \right)$$

$$\frac{d\lambda}{dt} = e^{-\delta t} (-\delta) \left( p - \frac{c}{qx} \right) + e^{-\delta t} \frac{c}{qx^2} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$= e^{-\delta t} \left[ -\delta \left( p - \frac{c}{qx} \right) + \frac{c}{qx^2} (F(x) - qEx) \right]$$

From necessary conditions

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\lambda}{dt} &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = -\left[e^{-\delta t} p q E + \lambda(F'(x) q E)\right] \\ &= -\left[e^{-\delta t} p q E + e^{-\delta t} \left(p - \frac{c}{qx}\right) (F'(x) - qE)\right]\end{aligned}$$

after substituting in  $\lambda$ . Set 2 expressions for  $\frac{d\lambda}{dt}$  equal  
(cancel  $e^{-\delta t}$ )

$$\begin{aligned}-\delta \left(p - \frac{c}{qx}\right) + \frac{c}{qx^2} (F(x) - qEx) \\ = -pqE + \left(p - \frac{c}{qx}\right) (qE - F'(x))\end{aligned}$$



Term involving control  $E$  cancel

$$-\delta p + \frac{\delta c}{qx} + \frac{c}{qx^2}F(x) = F'(x) \left( \frac{c}{qx} - p \right)$$

⋮

$$F'(x) + \frac{cF(x)}{x(pqx - c)} = \delta$$

optimal state should satisfy this equation when in the singular control case.

(find  $x^*$  and use state DE to find  $u^*$ ).

## Simple case

$$F(x) = x(1 - x)$$

$p = q = 1, c = 0$  ignoring cost of fishing

## Singular case

$$F'(x) + \frac{cF(x)}{x(pqx - c)} = \delta$$

$$1 - 2x + 0 = \delta \Rightarrow x^* = (1 - \delta)/2$$

$\Rightarrow (x^*)' = 0$  during singular case

$$x^*(1 - x^*) - E^*x^* = 0 \Rightarrow 1 - x^* - E^* = 0$$

During singular case

$$1 - x^* - E^* = 0$$

$$x^* = \frac{1 - \delta}{2}$$

$$1 - \left(\frac{1 - \delta}{2}\right) - E^* = 0 \Rightarrow E^* = \frac{1 + \delta}{2}$$

If  $\delta = 0$ , singular case

$$x^* = 1/2$$

$$E^* = 1/2$$

# Back to Bioreactor Model

$$x' = Gux - x^2 \quad \text{state (bacteria)}$$

$$x(0) = x_0$$

$$\max \int_0^T (Kx(t) - u(t)) dt$$

$$0 \leq u(t) \leq M \quad \text{control (nutrient input)}$$

$$H = Kx - u + \lambda(Gux - x^2)$$

$$\lambda' = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = -(K + \lambda(Gu - 2x))$$

$$\lambda(T) = 0$$

$$H = u(G\lambda x - 1) + kx - \lambda x^2$$

If  $G\lambda x^* - 1 = 0$  on a time interval, singular control  $u^*$  may satisfy  $0 < u^*(t) < M$

$$(\lambda x^*)' = (\lambda x^* - K)x^* \quad \text{using } \lambda, x \text{ DE}$$

$$(\lambda x^*)(T) = 0$$

$$(\lambda x^*)(t) = K \left[ 1 - \exp \left( - \int_t^T x^*(s) ds \right) \right]$$

$$0 \leq (\lambda x^*)(t) < K$$

$(\lambda x^*)(t)$  is a strictly decreasing function. Thus

$$G\lambda x - 1 = 0$$

cannot be maintained on an interval. No singular case here.

One switch occurs when

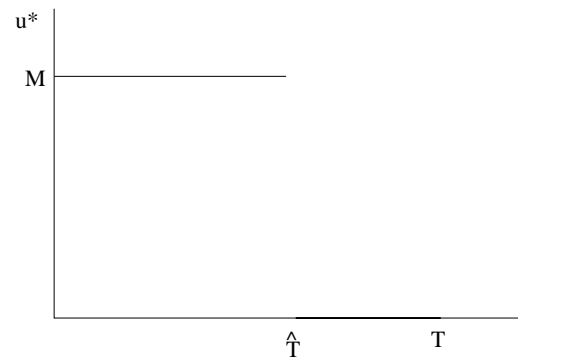
$$(\lambda x^*)(t) = \frac{1}{G}$$

can show if  $\frac{1}{G} < K$  and  $T$  sufficiently large, there is a switch.

If  $KG > 1$

$K$  or  $G$  large

Where  $K$  is decay rate of contaminant and  $G$  is growth rate of bacteria and  $T$  sufficiently large, there is a switch



Otherwise  $u^* \equiv 0$  i.e. no nutrient feeding.