

CONVERGENCE OF OPTIMAL
CONTROL ALGORITHMS
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The algorithm that we will discuss solves optimal control algorithms of the form

$$(1) \quad \min_{u} g(u) \equiv \int_0^1 L(x(t,u), u(t), t) dt + h(x(1,u)), \text{ subject to the constraints}$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{d}{dt}x(t,u) = f(x(t,u), u(t), t), \quad t \text{ in } [0,1], \text{ a.e.}$$

$$(3) \quad x(0, u) = x_0 \quad \text{where } f: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$L: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1, \quad h: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1, \text{ and } u \text{ is a bounded measurable}$$

function. Let T be the interval $[0,1]$.

ASSUMPTION 1:

The functions f and L above and their partial derivatives

$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}f, \frac{\partial}{\partial x}L$ exist and are continuous on $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times T$. The function h and its

partial derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}h$ exist and are continuous.

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ASSUMPTION 2:

For each compact $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$, there exists $M > 0$ such that

$$\|f(x, u, t)\| \leq M(\|x\| + 1) \quad \text{for all } (x, u, t) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \Omega \times T \text{ and}$$

$$\|f(x, u, t) - f(x', u, t)\| \leq M\|x - x'\| \quad \text{for all } x, x' \in \mathbb{R}^m, u \in \Omega, t \in T.$$

DEFINITION 1:

Let V be the set of all non-negative unit measures (probability measures) on

\mathbb{R}^m . A **relaxed control** v is a function $v(\bullet): T \rightarrow V$ such that there exists

some compact set U such that $\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} dv(t) = 1 = \int_U dv(t)$ for all t in T .

DEFINITION 2:

Let v be a measure in V and let $\phi(\bullet, \bullet, \bullet)$ be a continuous function in

(x, u, t) . The symbol $\phi_r(x, u, t)$ denotes for fixed (x, t) , the integral on \mathbb{R}^m

of $\phi(x, u, t)$ with respect to the probability measure v , i.e.

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$$\phi_r(x, v, t) \equiv \int_{R^m} \phi(x, u, t) dv.$$

The relaxed problem is obtained from the original problem (1)-(3) by substituting the cost

$$(4) \quad g_0(v) \equiv \int_0^1 L_r(x(t, v), v(t), t) dt + h_0(x(1, v))$$

for the cost (1) and the differential equation

$$(5) \quad \dot{x}(t) = f_r(x(t), v(t), t) \equiv \int_{R_m} f(x(t), u, t) dv(t)$$

for the differential equation (2).

THEOREM 1:

Suppose that assumptions (1) and (2) are satisfied. Then for any

measurable relaxed control $v(\cdot)$ satisfying

$$\int_{R^m} dv(t) = 1 = \int_U dv(t) \text{ for all } t \text{ in } T, \text{ for some compact } U \subset R^m,$$

there exists an absolutely continuous function $x(\cdot, v): T \rightarrow R^n$ that is the

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unique solution to (5) , satisfying $x(0,v) = x_0$.

DEFINITION 3: Let $\lambda(\cdot, v): T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ denote the solution of

$$(6) \quad -\dot{\lambda}(t, v) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} H \right)_r^T (x(t, v), v(t), \lambda(t, v), t)$$

$$(7) \quad \lambda(1, v) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} h \right)^T (x(1, v))$$

where $H: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ is defined by

$$(8) \quad H(x, u, \lambda, t) \equiv \lambda^T f(x, u, t) + L(x, u, t) \quad .$$

DEFINITION 4:

A sequence $\{v^i(\cdot)\}_0^\infty$ of relaxed controls converges in the sense of con-

trol measures (i.s.c.m) to a relaxed control \bar{v} if for every continuous real-

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valued function $g(t,u)$ defined on $T \times \mathbb{R}^m$ and every subinterval Δ of T , the

values $\int_{\Delta} g_r(t, v^i(t)) dt$ converge to $\int_{\Delta} g_r(t, \bar{v}(t)) dt$.

THEOREM 2:

Let $\{v^i(\cdot)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of relaxed controls such that for some

compact set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} dv^i(\cdot) \equiv 1 \equiv \int_U dv^i(\cdot)$ $i = 0, 1, \dots$. Then there

exists a relaxed control $\bar{v}(\cdot)$ and a subsequence indexed by a set

$K \subset \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ such that $\{v^i(\cdot)\}_{i \in K} \rightarrow \bar{v}(\cdot)$ i.s.c.m. .

DEFINITION 5:

If $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of relaxed controls, corresponding trajec-

tories and multipliers such that $v^i \rightarrow \bar{v}$ i.s.c.m., $x^i \rightarrow \bar{x}$ uniformly, and

$\lambda^i \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$ uniformly, then we denote this by $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \rightarrow (\bar{v}, \bar{x}, \bar{\lambda})$.

In the following lemmas, let U be an arbitrary compact set in \mathbb{R}^m and let S be

the set of measurable relaxed controls which vanish outside of U .

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Lemma 1:

Let g be a continuous function from $R^p \times R^m \times T$ into R^q . Let $Y^i(\bullet)$, $\bar{Y}(\bullet)$ be continuous functions from T into R^m such that $Y^i(\bullet)$ converges to $\bar{Y}(\bullet)$ uniformly. Let $\{v^i(\bullet)\}_0^\infty$ be a sequence of relaxed controls in S that converges i.s.c.m to a relaxed control $\bar{v}(\bullet)$ in S . Then for each subinterval Δ of T ,

$$(9) \quad \int_{\Delta} g_r(Y^i(\tau), v^i(\tau), \tau) d\tau \rightarrow \int_{\Delta} g_r(\bar{Y}(\tau), \bar{v}(\tau), \tau) d\tau.$$

Lemma 2:

Let $\{y^i(\bullet)\}_{i \in I}$, where I is some indexing set, be a collection of absolutely continuous functions from T into R^n such that $\{y^i(0)\}_{i \in I}$ or $\{y^i(1)\}_{i \in I}$ is contained in a compact set of R^n . Let functions $Y^i: T \rightarrow R$, i in I , be defined by

$$(10) \quad Y^i(t) = \|y^i(t)\|^2 + 1.$$

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If there exists an $M > 0$ such that $|\dot{Y}(t)| \leq M \cdot \dot{Y}(t)$ for almost all t in T , i in I

then the set $\{y^i(\bullet)\}_{i \in I}$ is equibounded and equicontinuous. If $I = \{0, 1, \dots\}$, there exists a subsequence indexed by a set $K \subset \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and an absolutely continuous function $\bar{y}(\bullet)$ such that $y^i(\bullet)$ converges uniformly to $\bar{y}(\bullet)$ for i in K .

Lemma 3: If $\{x^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of trajectories corresponding to a sequence of relaxed controls $\{v^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \subset S$, then $\{x^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is equibounded and equicontinuous, and there exists a subsequence indexed by a set

$K \subset \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, and an absolutely continuous \bar{x} such that $\{x^i\}_{i \in K} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ uniformly.

Lemma 4: If $\{(v^i, x^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of relaxed controls and corresponding trajectories such that $\{v^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \subset S$ and $\{x^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ uniformly,

then the sequence of multipliers $\{\lambda^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is equibounded and equicontinuous,

and there exists a subsequence of $\{(v^i, x^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$, indexed by some set

$K \subset \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and an absolutely continuous $\bar{\lambda}$ such that $\{\lambda^i\}_{i \in K} \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$ uniformly.

Theorem 3: Let U be an arbitrary compact set in \mathbb{R}^m and let S be the set of measurable relaxed controls which vanish outside of U . If

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$\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of relaxed controls, corresponding trajectories, and corresponding multipliers such that $\{v^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \subset S$, $\{v^i\} \rightarrow \bar{v}$ i.s.c.m., $\{x^i\} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ uniformly, and $\{\lambda^i\} \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$ uniformly. Then $\bar{x} = x(\cdot, \bar{v})$ and $\bar{\lambda} = \lambda(\cdot, \bar{v})$. Furthermore, given a sequence $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ such that $\{v^i\} \subset S$, there always exist a subsequence that satisfies the above hypotheses and conclusions.

ARMIJO GRADIENT ALGORITHM

Step 0: Select a bounded measurable function u^0 . Select a $\beta \in (0, 1)$.

Step 1: Set $i = 0$.

Step 2: Compute x^i with $u = u^i$.

Step 3: Compute λ^i with $x = x^i$ and $u = u^i$.

Step 4: Compute $\nabla g(u^i)(\cdot) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u} H \right)^T (x^i(\cdot), u^i(\cdot), \lambda^i(\cdot), \cdot)$.

Step 5: Set $\gamma = 1$.

Step 6: Compute

$$(11) \quad \theta(u^i, \gamma) \equiv \int_0^1 L(x(t, u^i - \gamma \nabla g(u^i)), u^i(t) - \gamma \nabla g(u^i)(t), t) dt \\ + h(x(1, u^i - \gamma \nabla g(u^i))) - \int_0^1 L(x(t, u^i), u^i(t), t) dt - h(x(1, u^i))$$

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$$+ \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\nabla g(u^i)\|_2^2.$$

Step 7: If $\theta(u^i, \gamma) > 0$, set $\gamma = \beta\gamma$ and go to Step 6, else let

$$u^{i+1}(\cdot) = u^i(\cdot) - \gamma \nabla g(u^i(\cdot)) \text{ and go to Step 2.}$$

Let U be an arbitrary compact set $\subset \mathbb{R}^m$, and let S be the set of measurable relaxed controls which vanish outside of U .

Definition 6: For any v in S , $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^1$, and $k \in C_m[T \times U]$, let $x(\cdot, v, \alpha, k)$ denote the solution of

$$(12) \quad \frac{d}{dt}x(t, v, \alpha, k) = \int_U f(x(t, v, \alpha, k), u + \alpha k(t, u), t) dv(t) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

$$(13) \quad x(0, v, \alpha, k) = x_0.$$

Let $g(v, \alpha, k)$ denote

$$(14) \quad g(v, \alpha, k) = \int_0^1 \left(\int_U L(x(t, v, \alpha, k), u + \alpha k(t, u), t) dv(t) \right) dt + h(x(1, v, \alpha, k)).$$

Definition 7: Define $\nabla g(v)(t, u)$ and $\|\nabla g(v)\|_v$ by

$$(15) \quad \nabla g(v)(t, u) = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} H^T(x(t, v), u, \lambda(t, v), t)$$

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$$(16) \quad \|\nabla g(v)\|_v = \left[\int_0^1 \left(\int_U \|\nabla g(v)(t,u)\|^2 dv(t) \right) dt \right]^{1/2}$$

Lemma 5: Let $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^\infty$ be a sequence of relaxed controls and corresponding trajectories and multipliers converging to $(\bar{v}, \bar{x}, \bar{\lambda})$ where $\{v^i\} \subset S$, $\bar{v} \in S$. Then for each $\alpha \in [-1, 1]$, there exists an infinite subset

$$J(\alpha) \subset \{0, 1, 2, \dots\} \text{ such that } x(\cdot, v^i, \alpha, \nabla g(v^i)) \xrightarrow{J(\alpha)} x(\cdot, \bar{v}, \alpha, \nabla g(\bar{v})).$$

$$\text{Furthermore, } g(v^i, \alpha, \nabla g(v^i)) \xrightarrow{J(\alpha)} g(\bar{v}, \alpha, \nabla g(\bar{v})).$$

Assumption 3: We will assume also that the functions f , L and h and their partial derivatives with respect to x and u up to second order exist and are continuous in (x, u, t) .

Lemma 6: Let $\bar{v} \in S$ and $\bar{x}, \bar{\lambda}$ be its corresponding trajectory and multiplier. Then there exists a $P > 0$ such that

$$(17) \quad \left| g(\bar{v}, \alpha, \nabla g(\bar{v})) - g(\bar{v}, 0, 0) - \alpha \|\nabla g(\bar{v})\|_{\bar{v}}^2 \right| \leq P \alpha^2 \quad \forall \alpha \in [-1, 1].$$

In particular, there exists an integer $l(\bar{v})$ such that

$$(18) \quad g(\bar{v}, -\beta^{l(\bar{v})}, \nabla g(\bar{v})) - g(\bar{v}, 0, 0) + \frac{\beta^{l(\bar{v})}}{2} \|\nabla g(\bar{v})\|_{\bar{v}}^2 \leq -\frac{\beta^{l(\bar{v})}}{4} \|\nabla g(\bar{v})\|_{\bar{v}}^2.$$

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Lemma 7: Let $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of ordinary controls, corre-

sponding trajectories and multipliers converging to $(\bar{v}, \bar{x}, \bar{\lambda})$ where $(v^i) \subset S$, $\bar{v} \in S$.

Suppose $\|\nabla g(\bar{v})\|_{\bar{v}}^2 > 0$. Then there exists a $\delta(\bar{v}) < 0$, an integer $M > 0$, and an infinite subset $K \subset (0, 1, 2, \dots)$ such that

$$(19) \quad g(v^i, -\gamma_i, \nabla g(v^i)) - g(v^i, 0, 0) \leq \delta(\bar{v}) \quad \forall i \in K, \forall i \geq M \text{ where } \gamma_i \text{ is the}$$

step size that the algorithm would construct in step 7 if $v = v^i$.

Theorem 4: Let $\{(v^i, x^i, \lambda^i)\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of relaxed controls, corre-

sponding trajectories and multipliers constructed by the algorithm. Suppose

that there exists a compact set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ such that $\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} dv^i(\cdot) \equiv 1 \equiv \int_U dv^i(\cdot)$ for

all i . Let S be the set of relaxed controls that vanish outside of U . Then either

the sequence is finite, in which case the last element is desirable, or it is

infinite and every accumulation point of this sequence is desirable. i.e.

$$\|\nabla g(\bar{v})\|_{\bar{v}}^2 = 0 \text{ if } (\bar{v}, \bar{x}, \bar{\lambda}) \text{ is an accumulation point. Furthermore, at least}$$

one accumulation point exists.