The left-invariant sub-Riemannian problem on the group of motions of a plane

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Problem statement: Optimal motion of a mobile robot in the plane



Optimal control problem

$$\begin{split} \dot{x} &= u\cos\theta, \quad \dot{y} = u\sin\theta, \quad \dot{\theta} = v, \\ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \theta \in S^1 = \mathbb{R}/(2\pi\mathbb{Z}), \\ q &= (x,y,\theta) \in M = \mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1, \\ (u,v) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \\ q(0) &= q_0, \qquad q(t_1) = q_1, \\ l &= \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u^2 + v^2} \, dt \to \min. \end{split}$$

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Continuous symmetries of the problem

- rotations
- translations



Group of motions (rototranslations) of a plane

$$\mathsf{SE}(2) = \mathbb{R}^2 \ltimes \mathsf{SO}(2) = \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & x \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \mid (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \ \theta \in S^1 \right\}$$

Left-invariant frame on SE(2):

$$X_1(q) = qE_{13}, \ X_2(q) = q(E_{21} - E_{12}), \ X_3(q) = [X_1, X_2](q) = -qE_{23}.$$

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Left-invariant sub-Riemannian problem on SE(2)

$$\dot{q} = uX_1(q) + vX_2(q), \quad q \in SE(2), \ (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

 $q(0) = q_0, \qquad q(t_1) = q_1,$
 $l = \int_0^{t_1} \langle \dot{q}, \dot{q} \rangle^{1/2} dt \to \min,$
 $\langle X_i, X_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}, \quad i, \ j = 1, 2.$



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Known results on 3-dimensional sub-Riemannian problems

- Left-invariant problem on the Heisenberg group: global solution (A.Vershik, V.Gershkovich, 1987),
- Contact problems in ℝ³: local study (A.Agrachev, 1996; J.-P.Gauthier, 1996),
- Martinet case: global solution (A.Agrachev, B.Bonnard, M.Chyba, I.Kupka, 1997),
- Left-invariant problems on SO(3), SU(2), SL(2): global solution (U.Boscain, F.Rossi, 2008).

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SR problem on SE(2) Existence of solutions

• $\dot{q} = uX_1(q) + vX_2(q)$, $\operatorname{span}(X_1(q), X_2(q), [X_1, X_2](q)) = T_q M \quad \forall \ q \in M$ \Rightarrow complete controllability (Rashevskii-Chow theorem)

- Filippov's theorem
 - \Rightarrow existence of optimal trajectories q(t).

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Pontryagin maximum principle

- Abnormal extremal trajectories constant.
- Normal extremals:

$$\dot{\gamma} = c, \quad \dot{c} = -\sin\gamma, \qquad (\gamma, c) \in C \cong (2S_{\gamma}^{1}) \times \mathbb{R}_{c},$$

 $\dot{x} = \sin\frac{\gamma}{2}\cos\theta, \quad \dot{y} = \sin\frac{\gamma}{2}\sin\theta, \quad \dot{\theta} = -\cos\frac{\gamma}{2}.$

• Arc length parametrization:

$$\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2 + \dot{ heta}^2 \equiv 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad l = t_1 \to \min$$

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Stratification of phase cylinder of pendulum $C = \bigcup_{i=1}^{5} C_i$

- Energy integral $E = c^2/2 \cos \gamma \in [-1, +\infty)$
- $C_1 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E \in (-1,1)\},\$
- $C_2 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E \in (1, +\infty)\},\$
- $C_3 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = 1, c \neq 0\},\$
- $C_4 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = -1\},$
- $C_5 = \{\lambda \in C \mid E = 1, c = 0\}.$



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Parameterisation of extremal trajectories

•
$$\lambda = (\gamma, c) \in C_1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_t &= s_1(\operatorname{am} \varphi - \operatorname{am} \varphi_t) \pmod{2\pi}, \\ x_t &= (s_1/k)[\operatorname{cn} \varphi(\operatorname{dn} \varphi - \operatorname{dn} \varphi_t) + \operatorname{sn} \varphi(t + \mathsf{E}(\varphi) - \mathsf{E}(\varphi_t))], \\ y_t &= (1/k)[\operatorname{sn} \varphi(\operatorname{dn} \varphi - \operatorname{dn} \varphi_t) - \operatorname{cn} \varphi(t + \mathsf{E}(\varphi) - \mathsf{E}(\varphi_t))]. \end{aligned}$$

•
$$\lambda = (\gamma, c) \in C_2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta_t &= k^2 \operatorname{sn} \psi \operatorname{sn} \psi_t + \operatorname{dn} \psi \operatorname{dn} \psi_t, \\ \sin \theta_t &= k (\operatorname{sn} \psi \operatorname{dn} \psi_t - \operatorname{dn} \psi \operatorname{sn} \psi_t), \\ x_t &= s_2 k [\operatorname{dn} \psi (\operatorname{cn} \psi - \operatorname{cn} \psi_t) + \operatorname{sn} \psi (t/k + \mathsf{E}(\psi) - \mathsf{E}(\psi_t))], \\ y_t &= s_2 [k^2 \operatorname{sn} \psi (\operatorname{cn} \psi - \operatorname{cn} \psi_t) - \operatorname{dn} \psi (t/k + \mathsf{E}(\psi) - \mathsf{E}(\psi_t))]. \end{aligned}$$

• $\lambda = (\gamma, c) \in C_3 \cup C_4 \cup C_5 \implies$ hyperbolic and linear functions.

Extremal trajectories: generic cases



Figure: $\lambda \in C_1$

Figure: $\lambda \in C_2$

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Extremal trajectories: special cases



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Optimality of extremal trajectories

q(t) is locally optimal:

$$\exists arepsilon > 0 \quad orall ext{ trajectory } \widetilde{q} : \quad \|\widetilde{q} - q\|_C < arepsilon, \ q(0) = \widetilde{q}(0), \ q(t_1) = \widetilde{q}(\widetilde{t}_1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_1 \leq \widetilde{t}_1$$

q(t) is globally optimal:

orall trajectory $\widetilde{q}: \quad q(0) = \widetilde{q}(0), \; q(t_1) = \widetilde{q}(\widetilde{t}_1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_1 \leq \widetilde{t}_1$

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Loss of optimality

• Strong Legendre condition:

$$\frac{\partial^2 h_u^{-1}}{\partial u^2} < 0 \implies \text{short arcs } q(t) \text{ are optimal.}$$

• Cut time:

 $t_{\mathsf{cut}}(q) = \sup\{t > 0 \mid q(s) \text{ is optimal for } s \in [0, t]\}.$

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Reasons for loss of optimality: (1) Maxwell point (global)

Maxwell point q_t :

 \exists extremal trajectory $\widetilde{q}_s \not\equiv q_s$: $q_0 = \widetilde{q}_0, \ q_t = \widetilde{q}_t$



Figure: $t_2 < t_1$

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Reasons for loss of optimality: (2) Conjugate point (local)

 $q_t \in$ envelope of the family of extremal trajectories



 $t_{\text{cut}} \leq \min(t_{\text{Max}}, t_{\text{conj}})$

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Reflections ε^i in the phase cylinder of pendulum $\ddot{\gamma} = -\sin\gamma$

• Group of symmetries of parallelepiped

$$G = { \mathsf{Id}, \varepsilon^1, \ldots, \varepsilon^7 } = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

• Action of reflections ε^i : $\delta \mapsto \delta^i$ on trajectories of pendulum:



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Action of reflections ε^i on curves (x_t, y_t) modulo rotations



Figure: ε^1 , ε^2

Figure: ε^4 , ε^7



Figure: ε^5 , ε^6

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Maxwell points corresponding to reflections

• Fixed points of reflections ε^i :

$$t = t_{\varepsilon^i}^n, \qquad i = 1, 2, \dots, 7, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

- Upper bound of cut time: $t_{cut} \leq \mathbf{t} := \min(t_{\varepsilon^i}^1)$.
- Plot of function **t** = **t**(*E*):



Exponential mapping and conjugate points

• Exponential mapping

$$egin{array}{lll} {\sf Exp} & : & (\lambda,t) = (\gamma,c,t) \mapsto q(t), \ {\sf Exp} & : & {\it N} = {\it C} imes \mathbb{R}_+ o {\it M} \end{array}$$

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• q- conjugate point $\iff q-$ critical value of Exp

•
$$\operatorname{Exp}(\gamma, c, t) = (x, y, \theta)$$

•
$$\frac{\partial(x, y, \theta)}{\partial(\gamma, c, t)} = 0$$

Bounds of conjugate time

• Trajectories without inflexion points:

$$\lambda \in \mathcal{C}_1 \cup \mathcal{C}_3 \cup \mathcal{C}_4 \cup \mathcal{C}_5 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t^1_{\operatorname{conj}}(\lambda) = +\infty.$$

• Trajectories with inflexion points:

$$\lambda \in \mathcal{C}_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t^1_{arepsilon^6}(\lambda) \geq t^1_{\mathsf{conj}}(\lambda) \geq t^1_{arepsilon^2}(\lambda) = \mathbf{t}(\lambda).$$

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Stratifications in preimage and image of exponential mapping

- $\widehat{N} = \{(\lambda, t) \in \mathcal{C} \times \mathbb{R}_+ \mid t \leq \mathbf{t}(\lambda)\}, \qquad \widehat{M} = M \setminus \{q_0\}$
- Exp : $\widehat{N} \to \widehat{M}$ surjective
- $\widehat{N} = \bigcup_{i \in I} N_i$, $N_i \cap N_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j \in I$
- $\widehat{M} = \bigcup_{i \in I} M_i$, $I = J \cup K$, $J \cap K = \emptyset$
- $\forall i \neq j \in J$ $M_i \cap M_j = \emptyset$
- $\forall i \in K \exists j \in K, j \neq i : M_i = M_j$
- N_i , M_i smooth manifolds of dim $\in \{0, \ldots, 3\}$

• #I = 66, #J = 32, #K = 34.

Global structure of exponential mapping

- Exp : $N_i \rightarrow M_i$ diffeomorphism $\forall i \in I$.
- $\widehat{M} = \operatorname{Max} \cup \widetilde{M}$, $\operatorname{Max} = \bigcup_{i \in K} M_i$, $\widetilde{M} = \bigcup_{i \in J} M_i$
- $\widehat{N} = N_{Max} \cup \widetilde{N}$, $N_{Max} = \cup_{i \in K} N_i$, $\widetilde{N} = \cup_{i \in J} N_i$

- Exp : $\widetilde{N} \to \widetilde{M}$ bijection
- Exp : $N_{Max} \rightarrow Max$ double mapping

Global structure of exponential mapping



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Cut time and cut points

$$t_{\rm cut}(\lambda) = \mathbf{t}(\lambda) = \begin{cases} t_{\varepsilon^5}^1 = 2K(k) = T/2, & \lambda \in C_1, \\ t_{\varepsilon^2}^1 = 2kp_1^1(k) \in (T, 2T), & \lambda \in C_2, \\ +\infty, & \lambda \in C_3 \cup C_5, \\ t_{\varepsilon^5}^1 = \pi = T/2, & \lambda \in C_4 \end{cases}$$
$$p = p_1^1(k) \quad : \quad \operatorname{cn}(p, k)(\mathsf{E}(p, k) - p) - \operatorname{dn}(p, k)\operatorname{sn}(p, k) = 0$$



Maxwell strata

• $Max = Max_{loc} \cup Max_{glob}$

•
$$Max_{glob} = \{q \in M \mid \theta = \pi\}$$

•
$$Max_{loc} = \{q \in M \mid \theta \in (-\pi, \pi), R_2 = 0, |R_1| > R_1^1(|\theta|)\},\$$

 $R_1 = y \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - x \sin \frac{\theta}{2}, R_2 = x \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + x \sin \frac{\theta}{2},\$
 $R_1^1(\theta) = 2(p_1^1(k) - E(p_1^1(k), k)),\$
 $k = k_1^1(\theta) \text{ inverse of } \theta = k \operatorname{sn}(p_1^1(k), k).$

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• $q_1 \in \mathsf{Max} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 2 \text{ optimal trajectories,}$

• $q_1 \in M \setminus Max \Rightarrow 1$ optimal trajectory.

Cut locus

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- $Cut = {Exp(\lambda, t) | \lambda \in N, t = t_{cut}(\lambda)}$
- $Cut = cl(Max) \setminus \{q_0\} = Cut_{loc} \cup Cut_{glob}$
- $Cut_{loc} = cl(Max_{loc}) \setminus \{q_0\}$
- $\bullet \ \mathsf{Cut}_{\mathsf{glob}} = \mathsf{Max}_{\mathsf{glob}}$

Cut locus in rectifying coordinates (R_1, R_2, θ)



Cut locus: global view



$$x_1 \neq 0, \qquad y_1 = 0, \qquad \theta_1 = 0$$









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$$x_1=0, \qquad y_1\neq 0, \qquad \theta_1=0$$



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Generic boundary conditions:

systems of equations in Jacobi's functions $\quad \Rightarrow \quad$

 \Rightarrow software (MATHEMATICA).

Sub-Riemannian caustic $\{ Exp(\lambda, t) \mid \lambda \in N, t = t_{conj}^1(\lambda) \}$



Sub-Riemannian spheres

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- $d(q_0, q_1) = \inf\{l(q(\cdot)) \mid q(0) = q_0, q(t_1) = q_1\},\$
- $S_R = \{q \in M \mid d(q_0, q) = R\},\$
- R=0 \Rightarrow $S_R=\{q_0\},$
- $R \in (0,\pi)$ \Rightarrow $S_R \cong S^2$,
- $R = \pi$ \Rightarrow $S_R \cong S^2 / \{N = S\}$,
- $R > \pi \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_R \cong T^2.$

Global structure of sub-Riemannian spheres: $R < \pi$, $R = \pi$, $R > \pi$



Application: Antropomorphic restoration of isophotes



Neurogeometry and sub-Riemannian problem on $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}P^1$

- J.Petitot, The neurogeometry of pinwheels as a sub-Riemannian contact structure, *J. Physiology - Paris* 97 (2003), 265–309.
- J.Petitot, Neurogeometrie de la vision Modeles mathematiques et physiques des architectures fonctionnelles, 2008, Editions de l'Ecole Polytechnique.

$$\begin{split} \dot{x} &= u\cos\theta, \qquad \dot{y} = u\sin\theta, \qquad \dot{\theta} = v, \\ q &= (x, y, \theta), \qquad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}P^1 = \mathbb{R}/(\pi \mathbb{Z}), \\ (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \\ q(0) &= q_0, \qquad q(t_1) = q_1, \\ l &= \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u^2 + v^2} \, dt \to \min. \end{split}$$

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Restored curves



Smooth and non-smooth arcs



Parallel software for restoration of images



Initial image



Corrupted image



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Restored image



Perfect parallelization



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Summing up:

Left-invariant sub-Riemannian problem on SE(2)

- Continuous symmetries
- Optimal trajectories exist
- Extremal trajectories parameterised by Jacobi's functions
- Discrete symmetries
- Maxwell points and time corresponding to symmetries
- Bounds on the first conjugate time
- Global structure of the exponential mapping
- Cut time and cut points
- Maxwell strata
- Cut locus
- Optimal synthesis
- Software for computation of optimal controls and trajectories

• Applications: robotics, vision

Publications

http://www.botik.ru/PSI/CPRC/sachkov/

[1] I. Moiseev, Yu. L. Sachkov, Maxwell strata in sub-Riemannian problem on the group of motions of a plane, *ESAIM: COCV*, 16 (2010), 380–399, available at arXiv:0807.4731 [math.OC].

[2] Yu. L. Sachkov, Conjugate and cut time in sub-Riemannian problem on the group of motions of a plane, *ESAIM: COCV*, 16 (2010), 1018–1039, available at arXiv:0903.0727 [math.OC].

[3] Yu. L. Sachkov, Cut locus and optimal synthesis in the sub-Riemannian problem on the group of motions of a plane, *ESAIM: COCV*, 17 (2011) *accepted*, available at arXiv:0903.0727 [math.OC].

Classification of invariant sub-Riemannian structures on 3D Lie groups (A.Agrachev)

