

An Example

Zermelo's Problem

- Our current version of the M.P. admits only problems wherein the end condition are in the form $\theta_i^1(x) = 0$. Since our Zermelo problem has a specified

final time we include an
additional state $x_3 \equiv \tau$

$$\dot{x} = \cos \theta + \kappa y$$

$$\dot{y} = \sin \theta$$

$$\dot{\tau} = 1$$

with $-\pi \leq \theta \leq \pi$.

➤ We are to minimize

$$J[x(\cdot), u(\cdot)] = \int - [\cos \theta + \kappa y] \, dt$$

➤ with

$$\tau(t_f) - T = 0$$

Zermelo Problem

- The variational Hamiltonian is

$$H = (\lambda_x - \lambda_0) [\cos \theta + \kappa y] \\ + \lambda_y \sin \theta + \lambda_\tau$$

- The adjoint differential

equations are

$$\dot{\lambda}_x = 0$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_y = -(\lambda_x - \lambda_0)\kappa$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_\tau = 0$$

➤ The terminal transversality

condition is

$$\vec{\lambda}(t_f) = \mu \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\lambda_x(t_f) = 0$$

$$\lambda_y(t_f) = 0$$

➤ This leads to

$$\lambda_y(t) = \lambda_0 \kappa(t - T)$$

➤ From $\min_{\theta} H$ we get

$$-(\lambda_x - \lambda_0) \sin \theta + \lambda_y \cos \theta = 0$$

or (careful about quadrant here)

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\lambda_y}{(\lambda_x - \lambda_0)} = \kappa(T - t)$$

- Note the M.P. allows $\lambda_0 \geq 0$. If $\lambda_0 = 0$ then we get $\lambda_y = 0$. We already have $\lambda_x = 0$ and the condition $H = 0$ then implies $\lambda_\tau = 0$. Since we know that $(\lambda_0, \vec{\lambda}) \neq 0$ we can rule out the possibility that $\lambda_0 = 0$.
- For our problem the optimal

control is given by the rule

$$\tan \theta^*(t) = \kappa(T - t)$$

Note that $\tan \theta^*(T) = 0$.