

Example of a cost functional:

$$J(y, u) = \|y - y_d\|^2 + \lambda \|u\|^2, \quad \|\cdot\|: \text{Euclidean norm}, y_d \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ given}$$

Assuming that the matrix  $A$  is invertible, we can solve for  $y$  in the state equation, obtaining

$$y = A^{-1}Bu,$$

and for any  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  there is a unique  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Hence, we can consider  $y = y(u)$  for a given control  $u$ .

Introduce the solution matrix  $S := A^{-1}B$ ,  $S: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , and we can eliminate  $y$  from  $J$  to obtain the reduced cost functional

$$f(u) := J(Su, u) = J(y, u).$$

E.g. using the cost functional example above, we get

$$f(u) = \|Su - y_d\|^2 + \lambda \|u\|^2$$

Problem (\*) has become a nonlinear optimisation problem,

$$\min f(u), \quad u \in U_{ad}.$$

In this reduced problem only  $u$  appears as an unknown.

### Existence of optimal controls

Definition: A vector  $\bar{u} \in U_{ad}$  is called an optimal control for (\*)

if  $f(\bar{u}) \leq f(u)$  for all  $u \in U_{ad}$ ; then  $\bar{y} := S\bar{u}$  is called optimal state associated with  $\bar{u}$ .

Note: Optimal (or locally optimal) quantities will be indicated by overlining, e.g.  $\bar{u}$  or  $\bar{y}$ .

Theorem 1.1: Suppose  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times U_{ad}$  and  $U_{ad}$  is non-empty, bounded and closed. If  $A$  is invertible, then (\*) has at least one solution.

Proof: By assumption,  $U_{ad}$  is non-empty, bounded and closed, hence compact; and  $f$  is continuous on  $U_{ad}$ .

By the Weierstrass extreme value theorem,  $f$  attains its minimum in  $U_{ad}$ . Hence, some  $\bar{u} \in U_{ad}$  exists such that  $f(\bar{u}) = \min_{u \in U_{ad}} f(u)$ .  $\square$

Note: In the case of optimal control for PDE, the equivalent statement will be harder to prove, since bounded and closed sets need not be compact in (infinite-dimensional) function spaces.

### First-order necessary optimality conditions

Aim: Find conditions to characterize  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{y}$ , to enable us to determine  $\bar{u}, \bar{y}$ .

Notation: For  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  let  $D_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$ ,  $D_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ ,

$$f'(x) = (D_1 f(x), \dots, D_m f(x)), \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(derivative)} \\ \leftarrow \text{row vector} \end{array}$$

$$\nabla f(u) = f'(u)^T, \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(gradient)} \\ \leftarrow \text{column vector} \end{array}$$

$$(u, v)_{\mathbb{R}^m} = u \cdot v = \sum_{i=1}^m u_i v_i \quad \text{(scalar product)}$$

$$\text{For } h \in \mathbb{R}^m: \quad f'(u)h = (\nabla f(u), h)_{\mathbb{R}^m} = \nabla f(u) \cdot h$$

Theorem 1.2: Let  $\bar{u}$  be optimal control for (\*) and  $f$  differentiable in  $\bar{u}$ . If  $U_{ad}$  is convex, then  $\bar{u}$  satisfies the variational inequality

$$f'(\bar{u})(\tilde{u} - \bar{u}) \geq 0 \quad \text{f.o. } \tilde{u} \in U_{ad}$$

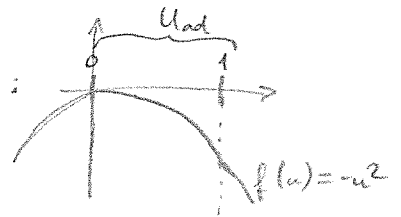
Proof: Let  $\tilde{u} \in U_{ad}$  and define  $u(t) = t\tilde{u} + (1-t)\bar{u} = \bar{u} + t(\tilde{u} - \bar{u})$ . Since  $U_{ad}$  is convex, the whole line  $u(t)$  is in  $U_{ad}$ .

Optimality of  $\bar{u}$  implies  $f(u(t)) \geq f(\bar{u})$ , hence

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{t} (f(u(t)) - f(\bar{u})) = \frac{1}{t} (f(\bar{u} + t(\tilde{u} - \bar{u})) - f(\bar{u}))$$

Since  $f$  is differentiable in  $\bar{u}$ , the limit  $t \rightarrow 0$  implies the claim.  $\square$

Note: In general, we cannot expect  $f'(\bar{u}) = 0$ :



"At a minimum  $\bar{u}$ ,  $f$  cannot decrease in any direction in  $U_{ad}$ ."

Interpretation of this necessary condition for  $J$ ? Recall:  
 $f(u) = J(Su, u)$   
and  $S = A^{-1}B$

By the chain rule we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\bar{u})h &= D_y J(S\bar{u}, \bar{u})Sh + D_u J(S\bar{u}, \bar{u})h \\ &= \left( \nabla_y J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}), A^{-1}Bh \right)_{\mathbb{R}^m} + \left( \nabla_u J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}), h \right)_{\mathbb{R}^m} \\ &= \left( B^T (A^{-1})^T \nabla_y J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) + \nabla_u J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}), h \right)_{\mathbb{R}^m}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the variational inequality takes the form

$$\left( B^T (A^{-1})^T \nabla_y J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) + \nabla_u J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}), \tilde{u} - \bar{u} \right)_{\mathbb{R}^m} \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } \tilde{u} \in U_{ad}.$$

It can be considerably simplified by introducing the so-called adjoint state.