

Approximation of an optimal control problem posed on a network with a perturbed problem in the whole space

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- A lot of recent developments on optimal control problems and HJB equations on **networks** or **stratified structures** :

Achdou-Camilli-Cutri-Tchou (2013), Imbert-Monneau-Zidani (2013), Camilli-Schieborn (2013), Imbert-Monneau (2017), Barles-Briani-Chasseigne (2014), Achdou-Oudet-Tchou (2015), Lions-Souganidis (2016), Graber-Hermosilla-Zidani (2017), Carlini-Festa-Forcadel (2020), Fayad-Forcadel-Ibrahim (2022, Siconolfi (2022), ...

and, for a recent overview, Barles-Chasseigne (2024), ...

- A subject beyond the classical theory
- A new theory has been designed for issues on networks by, first considering trajectories and costs adapted to networks

A different approach

Perturbing a classical optimal control problem in \mathbb{R}^2 , with a singular term pushing the trajectories towards the network

- **Goals** :

- (1) Link between the limit problem and some known optimal control problems

- (2) Encode the geometry of the network in the perturbation

- A related work by [Achdou-Tchou \(2015\)](#) exists where the control problem on a junction is approximated by a state constraint problem in an ε -neighborhood of the junction

A classical optimal control problem in \mathbb{R}^2

Assumptions :

A : compact subset in \mathbb{R}^2 (the controls)

$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, $\ell : \mathbb{R}^2 \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: continuous s.t., for all $a \in A$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$|f(x, a)|, |\ell(x, a)| \leq M, \quad |f(x, a) - f(y, a)|, |\ell(x, a) - \ell(y, a)| \leq M|x - y|$$

Consider the infinite horizon control problem

$$V(x) := \inf_{\alpha \in L^\infty((0, \infty); A)} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \ell(X^{x, \alpha}(t), \alpha(t)) dt,$$

where

$$X^{x, \alpha}(0) = x \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \dot{X}^{x, \alpha}(t) = f(X^{x, \alpha}(t), \alpha(t)), \quad t > 0.$$

- Classical way : restrict the class of controls to those leading to $X^{x,\alpha}(\cdot)$ on Γ

$$\mathcal{A}_x := \{\alpha \in L^\infty((0, \infty); A) : X^{x,\alpha}(t) \in \Gamma \text{ for all } t \geq 0\}$$

- Under some additional assumptions on the set of controls,

$$V_\Gamma(x) := \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_x} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \ell(X^{x,\alpha}(t), \alpha(t)) dt$$

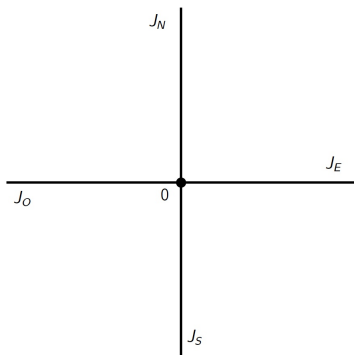
unique viscosity solution to a HJB equation on Γ (Achdou-Camilli-Cutrì-Tchou (2013) and Achdou-Oudet-Tchou (2015))

- A notion of solution, in many usual cases, equivalent to those developed in Imbert-Monneau-Zidani (2013).

Consider the very simple junction

$$\Gamma = \{O\} \cup \bigcup_{i \in \{E, N, W, S\}} (0, \infty) e_i,$$

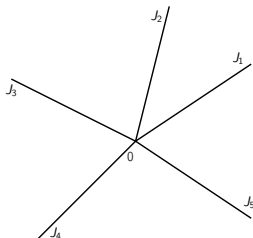
where $e_E = (1, 0)$, $e_N = (0, 1)$, $e_W = (-1, 0)$ and $e_S = (0, -1)$.



$$\Gamma = \{d = 0\} = \{\nabla d = (0, 0)\}, \quad \text{where } d(x) = x_1^2 x_2^2, \quad x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

- With such Γ and d computations are “simple”
- Our framework should be generalized to junctions with a finite number of branches

$$\Gamma = \{0\} \cup \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq \ell} (0, \infty)e_i$$



A $\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ -perturbed optimal control problem

Consider

$$V^\varepsilon(x) := \inf_{\alpha \in L^\infty((0, \infty); A)} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \ell(X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t), \alpha(t)) dt,$$

where $X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}$ is the solution to

$$(S_\varepsilon) \begin{cases} \dot{X}^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t) = F^\varepsilon(X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t), \alpha(t)) := f(X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t), \alpha(t)) - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \nabla d(X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t)), & t > 0 \\ X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(0) = x, \end{cases}$$

and set

$$k^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(t) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_0^t \nabla d(X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}(s)) ds, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Gradient trajectories

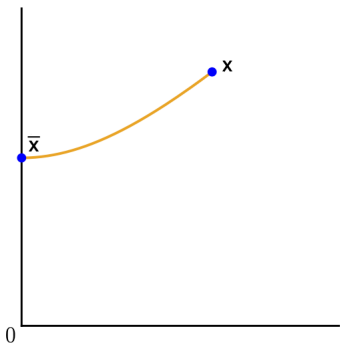
Consider

$$\begin{cases} \dot{X}(t) = -\nabla d(X(t)), & t > 0, \\ X(0) = x \in \mathbb{R}^2. \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Łojasiewicz (1984))

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$, the limit of X , as $t \rightarrow \infty$, exists and belongs to Γ

$$\bar{x} := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} X(t) \in \Gamma$$



Gradient trajectories

Theorem

Take $d_\Gamma \in C_{\text{loc}}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^2; [0, \infty))$ s.t. $\Gamma = \{d_\Gamma = 0\} = \{\nabla d_\Gamma = (0, 0)\}$

and there exists $\nu > 0$, $\theta \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$|\nabla d_\Gamma(x)| \geq \nu d_\Gamma(x)^\theta \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad (\text{\Lojasiewicz inequality})$$

Then, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^2$, the unique solution $Z^x : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ of

$$\dot{X} = -\nabla d_\Gamma(X), \quad X(0) = x$$

has a limit $\bar{x} \in \Gamma$, as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Moreover, the map

$$\phi_{d_\Gamma} : x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mapsto \bar{x} := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Z^x(t) \in \Gamma$$

is continuous.

Gradient trajectories

Proposition

For $d_{\Gamma}(x) = x_1^2 x_2^2$, $Z^x(t)$ lies on a hyperbola \perp to the level sets of d_{Γ} :

$$(Z_2^x(t))^2 - (Z_1^x(t))^2 = x_2^2 - x_1^2 \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0,$$

and

$$\phi_{d_{\Gamma}}(x) = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sgn}(x_2) \sqrt{x_2^2 - x_1^2} e_N & \text{if } |x_2| \geq |x_1|, \\ \operatorname{sgn}(x_1) \sqrt{x_1^2 - x_2^2} e_E & \text{if } |x_1| \geq |x_2|, \end{cases}$$

is $\frac{1}{2}$ -Hölder continuous on \mathbb{R}^2

Theorem (Convergence of trajectories)

Take $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $\alpha \in L^\infty((0, \infty); A)$. Then,

- 1 (S_ε) admits a unique solution $X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon} \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,\infty}([0, \infty))$
- 2 Up to extraction, $(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}, k^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon})$ converges locally uniformly on $(0, \infty)$ to some $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha}) \in H_{\text{loc}}^1(0, \infty) \times H_{\text{loc}}^1(0, \infty)$ when $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, s.t.

- $\forall t \geq 0, \quad X^{x,\alpha}(t) = x + \int_0^t f(X^{x,\alpha}(s), \alpha(s)) ds - k^{x,\alpha}(t),$
- $\forall t > 0, \quad X^{x,\alpha}(t) \in \Gamma,$
- $X^{x,\alpha}(0^+) = \bar{x}, \quad k^{x,\alpha}(0^+) = x - \bar{x},$

- 3 If $x \in \Gamma$, then, up to extraction, $(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}, k^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon})$ converges locally uniformly on $[0, \infty)$ to $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha}) \in H_{\text{loc}}^1[0, \infty) \times H_{\text{loc}}^1[0, \infty)$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.
- 4 $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha}) \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,\infty}(0, \infty) \times W_{\text{loc}}^{1,\infty}(0, \infty)$ and

$$|\dot{X}^{x,\alpha}(t)|, |\dot{k}^{x,\alpha}(t)| \leq |f|_\infty \quad \text{a.e. } t \in (0, \infty).$$

Set

$\omega(x, \alpha) = \{X^{x, \alpha} \in H_{loc}^1(0, \infty) : (X^{x, \alpha}, k^{x, \alpha}) \text{ is a subsequential limit of } (X^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon}, k^{x, \alpha, \varepsilon})\}.$

- $\omega(x, \alpha) \neq \emptyset$
- Does $\omega(x, \alpha)$ reduce to one element?
- We cannot characterize completely the solution $(X^{x, \alpha}, k^{x, \alpha})$ of the limit problem.
- $(X^{x, \alpha}, k^{x, \alpha})$ is a solution to a Skorokhod problem
- Such a problem on Γ faces nonuniqueness and instability

A partial characterization result inside the edges

Take $X^{x,\alpha} \in \omega(x, \alpha)$. By continuity of the trajectory for $t > 0$,

$$(0, \infty) = \mathcal{Z}(X^{x,\alpha}) \cup \bigcup_{0 \leq n \leq \ell} (a_n, b_n),$$

- $\mathcal{Z}(X^{x,\alpha}) := \{t \in (0, \infty) : X^{x,\alpha}(t) = O\}$: times when the trajectory is at O
- (a_n, b_n) : time intervals when the trajectory is inside a branch.
- $\ell = \ell(X^{x,\alpha})$ is possibly ∞

Theorem (Dynamic inside the branches : $\Gamma \setminus \{O\}$)

Take $X^{x,\alpha} \in \omega(x, \alpha)$.

① If $a_n = 0$, then, for all $t \in [0, b_n]$,

$$\begin{cases} X^{x,\alpha}(t) = \bar{x} + \int_0^t \langle f(X^{x,\alpha}(s), \alpha(s)), e_{i(n)} \rangle e_{i(n)} ds, \\ k^{x,\alpha}(t) = x - \bar{x} + \int_0^t \langle f(X^{x,\alpha}(s), \alpha(s)), e_{i(n)}^\perp \rangle e_{i(n)}^\perp ds, \end{cases}$$

② If $a_n \neq 0$, then, for all $t \in [a_n, b_n]$,

$$\begin{cases} X^{x,\alpha}(t) = \int_{a_n}^t \langle f(X^{x,\alpha}(s), \alpha(s)), e_{i(n)} \rangle e_{i(n)} ds, \\ k^{x,\alpha}(t) = k^{x,\alpha}(a_n) + \int_{a_n}^t \langle f(X^{x,\alpha}(s), \alpha(s)), e_{i(n)}^\perp \rangle e_{i(n)}^\perp ds. \end{cases}$$

- ▷ Characterization of $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha})$ inside the edges (in terms of projections of the dynamic f)
- ▷ $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha})$ uniquely determined once $(a_n)_n$ and $(b_n)_n$ known : hard to obtain for general f .
- A “Zeno effect” example, where $X^{0,\alpha}$ visits all the edges for arbitrary small t

Behavior of $X^{O,\alpha}$ with locally constant control near O

Once at O , it's difficult to say what happens later

- How long does the trajectory remain at O ?
- In which branch does it enter? ...

Lemma (A trajectory visiting all branches instantaneously)

There exists a control $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_O$ such that $\omega(O, \alpha) = \{X^{O,\alpha}\}$ and, for all $\delta > 0$ and $i \in \{E, N, W, S\}$, there exists $t \in (0, \delta)$ such that $X^{O,\alpha}(t) \in (0, \infty)e_i$.

- With such α one cannot determine the branch the trajectory enters

Convergence to the control problem on the network

Consider the perturbed optimal control problem

$$V^\varepsilon(x) := \inf_{\alpha \in L^\infty((0,\infty);A)} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \ell(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t), \alpha(t)) dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

and the natural asymptotic optimal control problem on Γ

$$\bar{V}(x) := \inf_{\substack{\alpha \in L^\infty((0,\infty);A) \\ X^{x,\alpha} \in \omega(x,\alpha)}} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \ell(X^{x,\alpha}(t), \alpha(t)) dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Convergence to the control problem on the network

Two additional assumptions

- There exists $\eta > 0$ such that, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$\bar{B}(0, \eta) \subset f(x, A)$$

- For every $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $a \in A$,

$$\ell(x, a) = \ell(x)$$

Theorem

- 1 V^ε converges locally uniformly on \mathbb{R}^2 to \bar{V}
- 2 $\bar{V}(x) = V_\Gamma(\bar{x})$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^2$

Proof : by tracking the trajectories

Some remarks

- Complete answer to our problem. But, we need the assumptions

$$\overline{B}(0, \eta) \subset f(x, A) \quad \text{for some } \eta > 0$$

and

$$\ell(x, a) = \ell(x), \quad \forall (x, a) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times A$$

- In the literature on HJB equations on networks, costs may **depend directly on the control** but are designed for controls that **keep the trajectory on Γ**
- Here, we allow any control

Some estimates independent of α and $\varepsilon > 0$

Lemma (Well-posedness of (S_ε) for $\varepsilon > 0$)

There exists a unique solution $X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon} \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,\infty}([0, \infty))$ of (S_ε) and

$$|X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t)| \leq |x| + |f|_\infty t, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Lemma

There exists $C = C(T, |f|_\infty, |x|) > 0$ s.t., for any $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq T$,

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t)) dt \leq C(t_2 - t_1) + \frac{1}{4} \left(d^{\frac{1}{2}}(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_1)) - d^{\frac{1}{2}}(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_2)) \right).$$

Invariant subsets for (S_ε)

- $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is invariant for (S_ε) if, for any $t \geq 0$, $X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t) \in S$.

- A sufficient condition, for a subset S with C^1 boundary, to be invariant is

$$\langle F^\varepsilon(x, a), n_{\partial S}(x) \rangle \leq 0, \quad \text{for all } x \in \partial S, a \in A,$$

where $n_{\partial S}(x)$ = the outward unit normal vector to ∂S at x .

- For $\lambda > 0$, define the subset

$$Z(\lambda) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d(x) \leq \lambda\}.$$

- Entry time in $Z(\lambda)$ from an initial position $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$:

$$t^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(\lambda) := \begin{cases} \inf\{t \geq 0 : X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t) \in Z(\lambda)\}, & \text{if } X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(\cdot) \text{ reaches } Z(\lambda), \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proposition (Invariant subsets and entry times)

①

$$d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_2)) - d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_1)) \leq (t_2 - t_1) \frac{|f|_\infty^2}{4} \varepsilon, \quad \forall 0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2$$

② $\lambda \geq \lambda_\varepsilon := \frac{1}{4} |f|_\infty^{4/3} \varepsilon^{4/3} \implies Z(\lambda)$ is invariant for (S_ε) and

$$d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t)) \leq \frac{1}{4} |f|_\infty^{4/3} \varepsilon^{4/3}, \quad \text{for all } x \in \Gamma \text{ and } t \geq 0.$$

$$d(x) > \lambda_\varepsilon \implies d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_2)) \leq d(X^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(t_1)), \quad \forall 0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(\lambda_\varepsilon)$$

③ For any $\gamma < 1$ and ε small enough, we have $t^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(\varepsilon^\gamma) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{d(x)} \varepsilon^{1-\gamma}$

④ For any $\lambda > 0$ and $T > 0$, there exists $C = C(T, |f|_\infty, |x|)$ such that

$$t^{x,\alpha,\varepsilon}(\lambda) \leq C \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda}$$

Qualitative properties of the trajectories $X^{x,\alpha}$

Behavior of the trajectories passing through O with constant controls

Take $e_\theta = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ and consider a trajectory $X^{x,\alpha}$ such that

$$X^{x,\alpha}(t_0) = O, \text{ for some } t_0 \geq 0,$$

and $\alpha(t) \equiv e_\theta$ in some interval $[t_0 - \tau, t_0 + \tau]$.

- If $x \neq O$, scaling and permutation arguments allow to assume $x = (0, 1) = e_N$

Lemma (Scaling property)

$$X^{x, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t) = \frac{1}{\rho} X^{\rho x, e_\theta, \rho^3 \varepsilon}(\rho t), \quad \forall \rho > 0$$

$$(S_\varepsilon) \quad \begin{cases} \dot{X}_1^\varepsilon(t) &= \cos \theta - \frac{2}{\varepsilon} X_1^\varepsilon(t) (X_2^\varepsilon(t))^2, \\ \dot{X}_2^\varepsilon(t) &= \sin \theta - \frac{2}{\varepsilon} (X_1^\varepsilon(t))^2 X_2^\varepsilon(t), \\ X(0) &= x. \end{cases} \quad t > 0.$$

Proposition (Trajectories starting from O)

Let $\alpha(t) \equiv e_\theta$ for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $x = O$. Then, $\omega(O, e_\theta) = \{X^{O, e_\theta}\}$ and :

① (Non bisector case, $\theta \notin \{\frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{4}, \frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{7\pi}{4}\}$)

If $i \in \{E, N, W, S\}$ s.t. $\langle e_\theta, e_i \rangle > \max_{j \neq i} \langle e_\theta, e_j \rangle$, then, X^{O, e_θ} enters the branch i :

$$X^{O, e_\theta}(t) = \langle e_\theta, e_i \rangle t e_i, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

② (Bisector case, $\theta \in \{\frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{4}, \frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{7\pi}{4}\}$) If $i \neq j$

s.t. $\langle e_\theta, e_i \rangle = \langle e_\theta, e_j \rangle$, then, X^{O, e_θ} remains at O :

$$X^{O, e_\theta}(t) = O, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Proposition (Trajectories starting inside a branch)

Let $\alpha(t) \equiv e_\theta$ for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $x = e_N$. Then, $\omega(e_N, e_\theta) = \{X^{e_N, e_\theta}\}$ and :

① $\theta \in [0, \pi] \implies X^{e_N, e_\theta}$ never reaches O .

② $\theta \in (\pi, \frac{5\pi}{4}] \implies X^{e_N, e_\theta}$ enters the branch W after passing through O :

$$X^{e_N, e_\theta}(t) = \begin{cases} (0, 1 + (\sin \theta)t) & \text{if } t \in [0, (-\sin \theta)^{-1}], \\ ((\cos \theta)t, 0) & \text{if } t \in [(-\sin \theta)^{-1}, \infty). \end{cases}$$

③ $\theta \in (\frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{7\pi}{4}) \implies X^{e_N, e_\theta}$ continues into the branch S after passing through O :

$$X^{e_N, e_\theta}(t) = (0, 1 + (\sin \theta)t) \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

④ $\theta \in [\frac{7\pi}{4}, 2\pi) \implies X^{e_N, e_\theta}$ enters the branch E after passing through O .

Some elements of the proof

$$X^{e_N, e_\theta}(t) = (1 + (\sin \theta)t)e_N \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, \underline{t} := \inf\{s \geq 0 : X^{e_N, e_\theta}(s) = O\}]$$

Keystone to obtain the result :

prove that, for $t > (-\sin \theta)^{-1}$, $X_1^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t) \leq -\eta$ (resp. $X_2^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t) \leq -\eta$) for some $\eta > 0$ independent of ε .

Lemma

Let $\theta \in (\pi, \frac{3\pi}{2}]$. There exists $t_\varepsilon \in (0, (-\sin \theta)^{-1}]$ such that

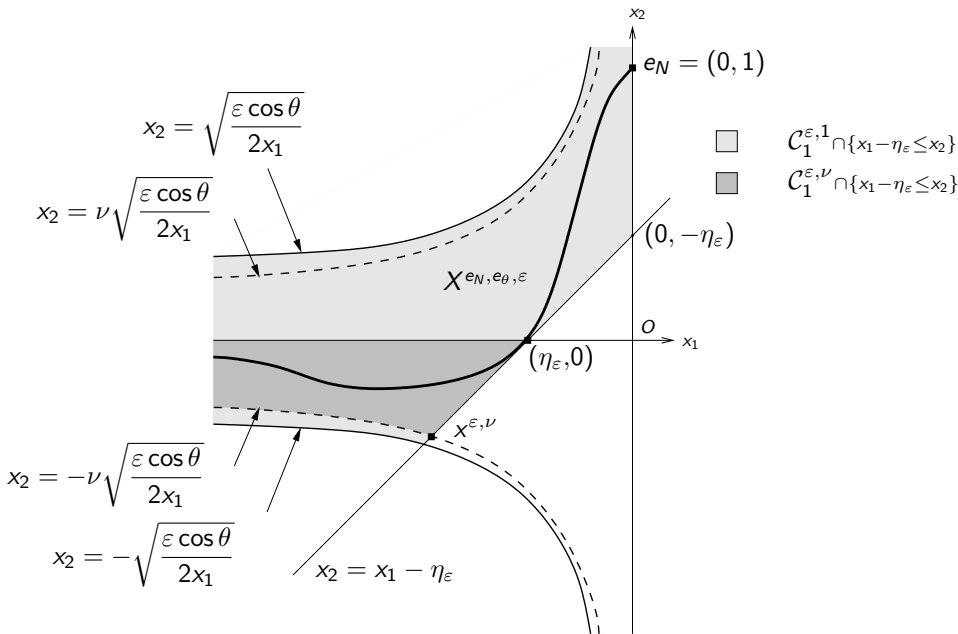
$$\eta_\varepsilon := X_1^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t_\varepsilon) \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X_2^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t_\varepsilon) = 0,$$

and, for all $t \geq t_\varepsilon$, $X^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t) \in \{x_1 \leq 0\} \cap \{x_2 \leq 0\}$

Lemma

Let $\theta \in (\pi, \frac{3\pi}{2}]$. There exists $\gamma > 0$ (independent of ε) such that

$$-\frac{3}{2} \frac{(-\cos \theta)}{(-\sin \theta)^{2/3}} \varepsilon^{1/3} \leq \eta_\varepsilon = X_1^{e_N, e_\theta, \varepsilon}(t_\varepsilon) \leq -\gamma \varepsilon^{1/3}$$



Lemma

Let $\theta \in (\frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{2}]$. For $0 < \nu \leq 1$, define

$$\mathcal{C}_2^{\varepsilon, \nu} := \left\{ x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : F_2^\varepsilon(x, e_\theta) = \sin \theta - \frac{2}{\varepsilon} x_1^2 x_2 \leq (1 - \nu) \sin \theta \right\}.$$

There exist $0 < \nu < 1$ sufficiently close to 1, and $\rho > 0$ small enough, independent of ε , such that the set

$$\mathcal{C}_2^{\varepsilon, \nu} \cap \{x_2 \leq x_1 + \rho\varepsilon^{1/3}\} \cap \{x_1 \leq 0\} \cap \{x_2 \leq 0\}$$

is invariant for (S_ε) .

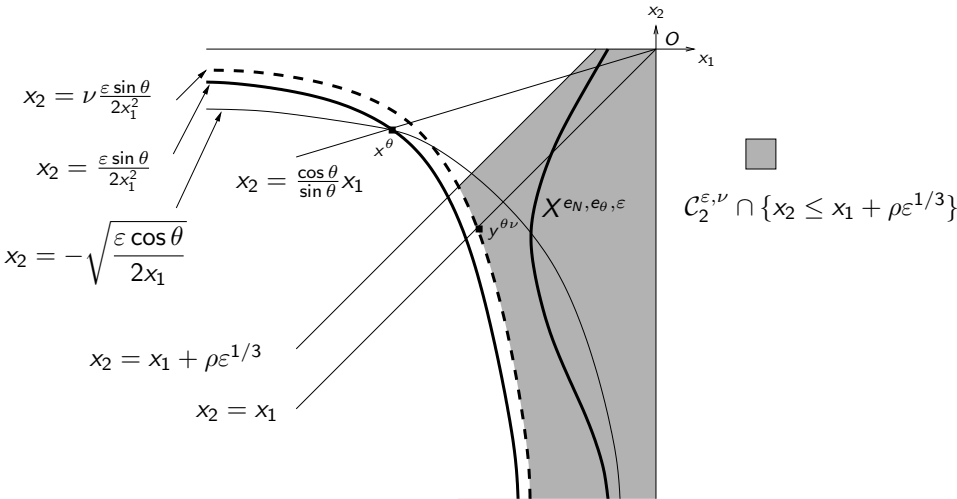


FIGURE -

Failure of the semigroup property

The limit trajectories $X^{x,\alpha}$ do not satisfy the semigroup property and are not stable.

Corollary

Take $x \in \Gamma$ and $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_x$.

- ① (Failure of the semigroup property) *We may have*

$$X^{x,\alpha} \in \omega(x, \alpha)$$

$$X^{X^{x,\alpha}(t), \alpha(t+\cdot)} \in \omega(X^{x,\alpha}(t), \alpha(t+\cdot)) \quad \text{for some } t > 0$$

and

$$X^{x,\alpha}(t+s) \neq X^{X^{x,\alpha}(t), \alpha(t+\cdot)}(s)$$

- ② (Instability) *It can happen that $x_n \rightarrow x$ and $X^{x_n, \alpha}$ converges locally uniformly in $(0, \infty)$ to some $Y \neq X^{x, \alpha}$.*

- Take $\alpha(t) \equiv e_{5\pi/4}$ and $x = e_N$. Then, $X^{x,\alpha}(t)$ is explicit and, in particular, for $s \geq 0$,

$$X^{x,\alpha}(\sqrt{2} + s) = (-1 - 2^{-1/2}s, 0) \neq O \equiv X^{O,\alpha}(s) = X^{X^{x,\alpha}(\sqrt{2}),\alpha(\sqrt{2}+\cdot)}(s)$$

- Replace the starting point $x = e_N$ with $x_n = \frac{1}{n}e_N \rightarrow O$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

This provides a sequence of trajectories $X^{x_n,\alpha}$ still going to the branch W whereas $X^{O,\alpha} \equiv O$ is stuck at O .

Perspectives

- Uniqueness of the limit $(X^{x,\alpha}, k^{x,\alpha})$
- The proof of $V^\varepsilon \rightarrow \bar{V}$ relies on some optimal control techniques. Is it possible to obtain the result by PDE techniques, passing to the limit directly in the viscosity inequalities satisfied by V^ε ?
- Weaken the additional assumptions

$$\bar{B}(0, \eta) \subset f(x, A) \quad \text{for some } \eta > 0$$

and

$$\ell(x, a) = \ell(x), \quad \forall (x, a) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times A$$

- More general networks

Thank you for your attention !