

LECTURE 9

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DRE 707

- ① OPTIMAL CONTROL THEORY - CURRENT VALUE
- ② DISCRETE TIME DYNAMIC OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS  
FINITE HORIZON
- ③ INFINITE HORIZON

# OPTIMAL CONTROL THEORY - CURRENT VALUE FORMULATION

Optimal control with discount factor  $e^{-rt}$

$$\max_{u} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f(t, x, u) e^{-rt} dt \quad \text{when} \quad \begin{array}{l} x(t_0) = x_0 \\ \dot{x} = g(t, x, u) \\ u \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \\ \text{a) } x(t_1) = x_1 \\ \text{b) } x(t_1) \text{ free} \end{array}$$

Rewrite ordinary Hamiltonian

$$H = p_0 f(t, x, u) e^{-rt} + p g(t, x, u)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H^c = H e^{rt} &= p_0 f(t, x, u) + p e^{rt} g(t, x, u) \\ &= \lambda_0 f(t, x, u) + \lambda g(t, x, u) \end{aligned}$$

NOTE:

$$\lambda = p e^{rt}, \text{ so } \lambda' = p' e^{rt} + r p e^{rt} = p' e^{rt} + r \lambda$$

$$p' = e^{-rt} (\lambda' - r \lambda)$$

← compare →

$$\text{and } \frac{\partial H^c}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \cdot e^{rt} \text{ so } p' = - \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = - \frac{\partial H^c}{\partial x} e^{-rt}$$

## MAX PRINCIPLE - CURRENT VALUE

(A)  $u = u^*(t)$  maximizes  $H^c(t, x, u)$  ( $\frac{\partial H^c}{\partial u} = 0$ )

(B)  $\lambda' - r \lambda = - \frac{\partial H^c}{\partial x}$

(C) Transversality conditions  
 a)  $\lambda(t_1)$  no cond.      b)  $\lambda(t_1) = 0$

Sufficient if  $\lambda_0 = 1$  and  $H^c$  concave in  $(x, u)$

EX:  $\max \int_0^{20} (4K - u^2) e^{-0.25t}$

$\dot{K} = -0.25K + u$

$K(0) = K_0$

$K(20)$  is free  
 $u \in [0, \infty)$

$r = \frac{1}{4}$   
 easier to work with fractions

Current value Hamiltonian

$H^c = 4K - u^2 + \lambda(-\frac{1}{4}K + u)$  ( $\lambda_0 = 1$ )

Ⓐ  $\frac{\partial H^c}{\partial u} = -2u + \lambda$  ← concave in  $(K, u)$  as sum of concave

(Comes from a practical situation, so must have  $u^*(t) > 0$ .  
 Assuming  $u^*(t) > 0$  (checked later))

$u^*(t) = \frac{1}{2}\lambda$

Ⓑ  $\dot{\lambda} - \frac{1}{4}\lambda = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = -4 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda$

$\dot{\lambda} = \frac{1}{2}\lambda - 4$  s.s.  $\lambda_e = 8$

"eigenvalue"  $\frac{1}{2} - x = 0$   
 "eigenvector" 1

Analogous to the case with systems of lin diff eq.

$\lambda = Ce^{\frac{1}{2}t} + 8$

Transv. cond

$\lambda(20) = 0$  since  $K(t_1)$  free

implies  $\lambda(20) = Ce^{10} + 8 = 0$

$C = -8e^{-10}$

$\lambda = 8(1 - e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t})$

$u^*(t) = \frac{1}{2}\lambda = 4(1 - e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t})$  ( $> 0$  for  $t \in [0, 20)$ )

Diff of  $K$  eq

$\dot{K} = -\frac{1}{4}K + 4(1 - e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t})$

dep. of  $t$ , so not the simplest case.

Easy to solve using integrating factor

$e^{\frac{1}{4}t}$

$\dot{K} + \frac{1}{4}K = 4(1 - e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t})$

$(e^{\frac{1}{4}t}K) = \int 4(1 - e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t})e^{\frac{1}{4}t} dt$

$e^{\frac{1}{4}t}K = \int 4e^{\frac{1}{4}t} - 4e^{-10 + \frac{3}{4}t} dt$

$e^{\frac{1}{4}t}K = 16e^{\frac{1}{4}t} - \frac{16}{3}e^{-10 + \frac{3}{4}t} + D$

$K(t) = 16 - \frac{16}{3}e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t} + De^{-\frac{1}{4}t}$

$K(0) = K_0 = 16 - \frac{16}{3}e^{-10} + D$

$D = K_0 - 16 + \frac{16}{3}e^{-10}$

$K^*(t) = 16 - \frac{16}{3}e^{-10 + \frac{1}{2}t} + (K_0 - 16 + \frac{16}{3}e^{-10})e^{-\frac{1}{4}t}$

# DISCRETE TIME DYNAMIC OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS FINITE HORIZON

$$(*) \max \underbrace{\sum_{t=0}^T f(t, x_t, u_t)}_{\text{objective function}} \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= g(t, x_t, u_t) \\ x_0 &\text{ given} \\ u_t &\in U \\ &\text{control functions} \end{aligned}$$

A choice of  $u_0, \dots, u_T$  determines  $x_0, \dots, x_T$

Admissible pairs  $(\{x_t\}, \{u_t\})$

Optimal pair  $(\{x_t^*\}, \{u_t^*\})$  maximizes  $(*)$

DEF: Optimal value function at time  $s$

$$J_s(x) = \max_{u_s, \dots, u_T \in U} \sum_{t=s}^T f(t, x_t, u_t) \quad \text{when} \quad \begin{aligned} x_s &= x \\ x_{t+1} &= g(t, x_t, u_t) \\ &\text{for } t \geq s \\ u_t &\in U \end{aligned}$$

BELLMAN EQUATION (12.1.1) - FMEA

$$(**) \quad J_s(x) = \max_{u \in U} [f(s, x, u) + J_{s+1}(g(s, x, u))] \\ s = 0, 1, \dots, T-1$$

$$J_T(x) = \max_{u \in U} \{f(T, x, u)\} \quad (s=T)$$

(same holds with min everywhere - EXAM 2017 (3))

APPROACH - BACKWARDS

- ① Find  $J_T(x)$  and  $u_T^*(x)$
- ② Use  $(**)$  to find  $J_{T-1}(x)$  and  $u_{T-1}^*(x)$ .  
And determine recursively all  $J_T(x), \dots, J_0(x)$ ,  
and  $u_T^*(x), \dots, u_0^*(x)$ .
- ③ Find  $x_{t+1}^* = g(t, x_t^*, u_t^*)$  by choosing  $u_0^*(x_0)$   
to compute  $x_1^* = g(0, x_0, u_0^*(x_0))$  and  $u_1^*(x_1^*)$   
to compute  $x_2^* = g(1, x_1^*, u_1^*(x_1^*))$  and so on.
- ④  $J_0(x) = J_0(x_0)$

EX. 2 (FMEA 427)

$$\max_x \sum_{t=0}^3 (1 + x_t - u_t^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= x_t + u_t \\ (t &= 0, 1, 2) \\ x_0 &= 0 \\ u_t &\in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

$$T=3 \quad f(t, x, u) = 1 + x_t - u^2$$

$$g(t, x, u) = x + u$$

$$J_3(x) = \max_u (1 + x - u^2)$$

obtained for  $u=0$

$$\underline{J_3(x) = 1 + x_3}$$

$$\underline{u_3^* = 0}$$

$$J_2(x) = \max_u (1 + x - u^2 + (1 + x_3))$$

$$= \max_u (1 + x - u^2 + 1 + x + u)$$

$$= \max_u (2 + 2x + u - u^2)$$

$$h_2(u) = 2 + 2x + u - u^2$$

$$h_2'(u) = 1 - 2u = 0 \\ u = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$h_2''(u) = -2 < 0 \\ \text{so max}$$

$$J_2(x) = 2 + 2x + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{9}{4} + 2x$$

$$\underline{u_2^* = \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$J_1(x) = \max_u (1 + x - u^2 + \frac{9}{4} + 2x_2)$$

$$= \max_u (\frac{13}{4} + x - u^2 + 2(x + u))$$

$$= \max_u (\frac{13}{4} + 3x - u^2 + 2u)$$

$$h_1(u) = \frac{13}{4} + 3x - u^2 + 2u$$

$$h_1'(u) = -2u + 2 = 0 \\ u = 1$$

$$h_1''(u) = -2 < 0 \\ \text{so max}$$

$$J_1(x) = \frac{13}{4} + 3x - 1 + 2$$

$$= \frac{17}{4} + 3x$$

$$\underline{u_1^* = 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_0(x) &= \max_u \left( 1 + x - u^2 + \frac{17}{4} + 3x_1 \right) \\
 &= \max_u \left( 1 + x - u^2 + \frac{17}{4} + 3(x+u) \right) \\
 &= \max_u \left( \frac{21}{4} + 4x - u^2 + 3u \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$h_0(u) = \frac{21}{4} + 4x - u^2 + 3u$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_0'(u) &= -2u + 3 = 0 \\
 u &= \frac{3}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$J_0(x) = \frac{21}{4} + 4x - \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + 3 \cdot \frac{3}{2} \quad \underline{u_0^* = \frac{3}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{21 - 9 + 18}{4} + 4x$$

$$= \frac{30}{4} + 4x$$

$$= \underline{\frac{15}{2} + 4x}$$

$$u_0^* = \frac{3}{2} \quad x_0^* = 0$$

$$u_1^* = 1 \quad x_1^* = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$u_2^* = \frac{1}{2} \quad x_2^* = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$u_3^* = 0 \quad x_3^* = 3$$

$$\underline{J_0(x_0) = J_0(0) = \frac{15}{2}}$$

NOTE: since  $T$  is small, it is possible to solve this with Calculus:

$$x_1 = x_0 + u_0 = u_0$$

$$x_2 = x_1 + u_1 = u_0 + u_1$$

$$x_3 = x_2 + u_2 = u_0 + u_1 + u_2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } I &= \sum_{t=0}^3 (1 + x_t - u_t^2) = (1 - u_0^2) + (1 + u_0 - u_1^2) + (1 + u_0 + u_1 - u_2^2) \\
 &\quad + (1 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 - u_3^2) \\
 &= 4 + 3u_0 + 2u_1 + u_2 - u_0^2 - u_1^2 - u_2^2 - u_3^2
 \end{aligned}$$

sum of concave functions, so stationary pt is max:

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial u_0} = 3 - 2u_0$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial u_1} = 2 - 2u_1$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial u_2} = 1 - 2u_2$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial u_3} = -2u_3$$

$$u_0^* = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$u_1^* = 1$$

$$u_2^* = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$u_3^* = 0$$

# DISCRETE TIME DYNAMIC OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS INFINITE HORIZON

$$J(x) = \max \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t f(x_t, u_t) \quad \text{when} \quad \begin{cases} x_0 \text{ given} \\ x_{t+1} = g(x_t, u_t) \\ u_t \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

- $\beta \in (0, 1)$  discount factor
- $t \rightarrow \infty$
- $f$  and  $g$  don't depend on  $t$  explicitly
- Assume  $f(x_t, u_t)$  bounded,  $|f(x_t, u_t)| < M$  for all  $t$  and some  $M > 0$ .

This ensures finite sum

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t (f(x_t, u_t)) \leq \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t M \stackrel{\text{geom. series}}{=} \frac{M}{1-\beta} \leftarrow \text{finite}$$

## BELLMAN EQUATION

$$(*) \quad J(x) = \max_{u \in U} \{ f(x, u) + \beta J(g(x, u)) \}$$

- Difficult to solve functional eq. for  $J(x)$  (if not known)
- When <sup>①</sup> $\beta \in (0, 1)$  and <sup>②</sup> $f$  is bounded the Bellman equation has a unique bounded solution  $J^*(x)$ .

↓

Guess a function  $J(x)$ .

If  $(*)$  holds with  $J(x)$ , it is the unique solution.

- Proof:
  - $B(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  is a complete metric space (supnorm)
  - $T: B(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  is a contraction
  - $J \mapsto x \mapsto \max_{u \in U} \{ f(x, u) + \beta J(g(x, u)) \}$
  - Fixed pt theorem for contractions on complete metric spaces.

EX 12.3.1.

$$\max \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t (-e^{-u_t} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x_t})$$

$x_0$  given

$$x_{t+1} = 2x_t - u_t$$

$$U = \mathbb{R}$$

$$0 < \beta < 1$$

Goal: Find  $\alpha > 0$  s.t.  $J(x) = -\alpha e^{-x}$  solves the Bellman eq. and show  $\alpha$  unique.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS: } J(x) &= \max_{u \in U} \left( -e^{-u} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} + \beta J(2x - u) \right) \\ &= \max_{u \in U} \left( -e^{-u} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} + \beta(-\alpha) e^{-(2x-u)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$h(u) = -e^{-u} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} - \alpha \beta e^{-2x+u}$$

$$h'(u) = e^{-u} - \alpha \beta e^{-2x+u} = 0$$

$$e^{-u} = \alpha \beta e^{-2x} \cdot e^u \quad | \cdot e^u \cdot e^{2x} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha \beta}$$

$$e^{2u} = \frac{1}{\alpha \beta} e^{2x}$$

(or just take logarithms)

$$\ln e^{2u} = \ln \left( \frac{1}{\alpha \beta} \right) + \ln e^{2x} \quad (\text{lots of logarithms})$$

$$2u = -\ln(\alpha \beta) + 2x$$

$$u^* = \frac{-\ln(\alpha \beta) + 2x}{2}$$

$$J(x) = -e^{\frac{1}{2} \ln(\alpha \beta) - x} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} - \alpha \beta e^{-(2x + \frac{1}{2} \ln(\alpha \beta) - x)}$$

$$= -e^{\ln(\alpha \beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \cdot e^{-x} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} - \alpha \beta e^{-x} \cdot e^{-\ln(\alpha \beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$= e^{-x} \left( -(\alpha \beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} - (\alpha \beta) (\alpha \beta)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

$$= e^{-x} \left( -\frac{1}{2} - 2(\alpha \beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

RHS

$$= -\alpha e^{-x}, \text{ so:}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} + 2\sqrt{\alpha \beta}$$



$$\alpha - \frac{1}{2} = 2(\alpha\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{let } z = \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$z^2 - 2\beta^{\frac{1}{2}}z - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

$$z = \frac{2\beta^{\frac{1}{2}} \pm \sqrt{4\beta - 4 \cdot \frac{1}{2}}}{2}$$

$$\sqrt{\alpha} = \sqrt{\beta} \pm \frac{2\sqrt{\beta - \frac{1}{2}}}{2}$$

$$\sqrt{\alpha} = \sqrt{\beta} \pm \sqrt{\beta - \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\alpha = \beta + 2\sqrt{\beta^2 - \frac{1}{2}\beta} + \beta - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 2\beta + 2\sqrt{\beta^2 - \frac{1}{2}\beta} - \frac{1}{2}$$

but since  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\sqrt{\quad}$  increasing,  $+$  is the only solution

$$\underline{\underline{J(x) = -(\sqrt{\beta} + \sqrt{\beta - \frac{1}{2}})^2 e^{-x}}}$$

is the solution