

Continuous-time optimal control on discrete spaces. Applications to inventory management in commerce and finance

Pr. Olivier Guéant (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and ENSAE)

Spring 2021

Introduction

The lecturer



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- Undergraduate and graduate studies:
Mathematics / Computer Science /
Economics (Ecole Normale Supérieure,
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- PhD (Université Paris Dauphine) on Mean Field Games.
- First jobs in banks and in the start up I created with my PhD advisors.

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- Research: initially in mean field games, then in Quantitative Finance.

Greatest common divisor: optimal control theory

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- Discrete-time with discrete/continuous-state space: recursive equations (often untractable).
- Continuous-time with continuous state space: partial differential equations (sometimes very technical, e.g. viscosity solutions).
- **Continuous-time with discrete state space: ordinary differential equations (less technical, and reveals the main ideas).**

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- Derivation of the main results (continued).
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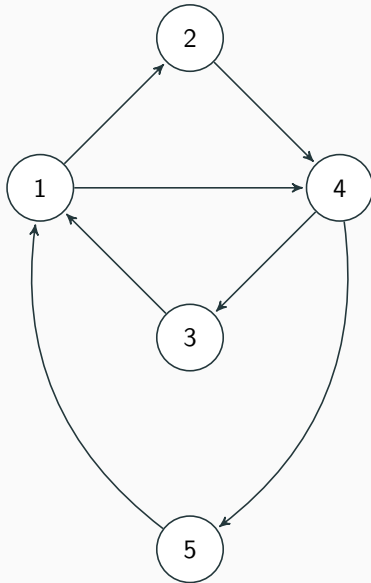
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- Discussion of applications to market making issues.

Introduction to the modelling framework: graphs



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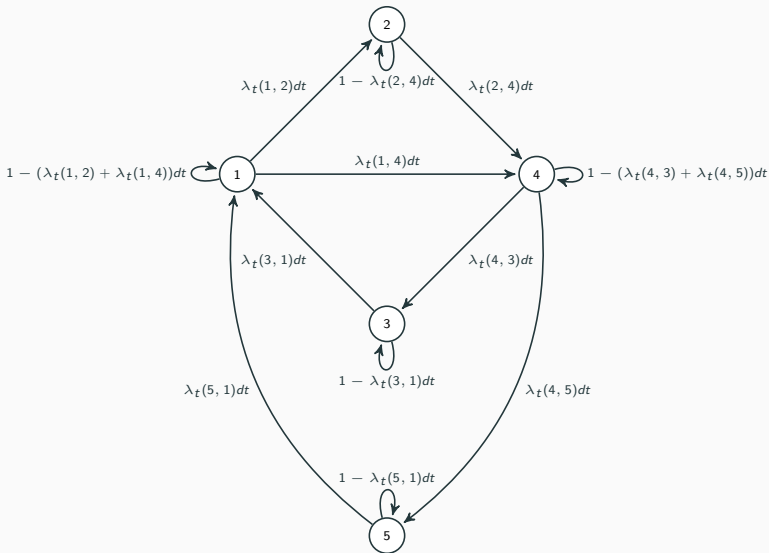
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- On transition probabilities: they are chosen by an agent. He/she cannot create edges.

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- If at time T the agent is at node/state i : final payoff $g(i)$
- Discount rate $r \geq 0$.

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State process

$(X_s^{t,i,\lambda})_{s \in [t, T]}$: continuous-time Markov chain on the graph starting from node i at time t , with instantaneous transition probabilities given by λ .

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Maximizing over the intensities the objective criterion

$$\mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^T e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, \left(\lambda_t \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda})} \right) dt \right. \\ \left. + e^{-rT} g \left(X_T^{0,i,\lambda} \right) \right]$$

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Remark: To be rigorous, we impose λ such that $t \mapsto \lambda_t(i, j) \in L^1(0, T)$.

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- What happens when $T \rightarrow \infty$ if $r > 0$? \rightarrow stationary problem.
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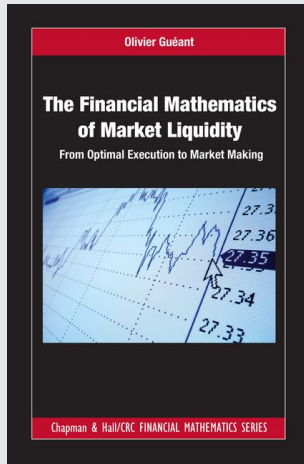
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- Guéant (2017). Optimal market making. AMF

On applications to market making

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And of course



Motivation / Example: a toy model of commerce / recommerce

The toy problem of a platform of (re)commerce

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Buying and selling a book

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- At time t , the platform proposes:
 - to buy at price $P - \delta_t^b$ (if the inventory is $< Q$),
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- The probability of trades over $[t, t + dt]$ are:
 - $\Lambda^b(\delta_t^b)dt$ for a buy trade (Λ^b decreasing),
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 - $\Lambda^b(\delta_t^b)dt$ for a buy trade (Λ^b decreasing),
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- The cost of holding an inventory q_t over $[t, t + dt]$ is $c(q_t)dt$ (where c is increasing).

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- the inventory $(q_t)_t$ verifies $q_t = N_t^b - N_t^s$.
- the money on the cash account $(Z_t)_t$ verifies:

$$dZ_t = -(P - \delta_t^b)dN_t^b + (P + \delta_t^s)dN_t^s = -Pdq_t + \delta_t^b dN_t^b + \delta_t^s dN_t^s.$$

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Optimization problem

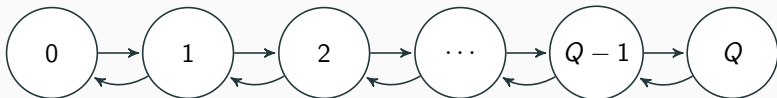
Maximizing

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[Z_T + Pq_T - \int_0^T c(q_t)dt \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \delta_t^b dN_t^b + \delta_t^s dN_t^s - c(q_t)dt \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \left(\delta_t^b \Lambda^b(\delta_t^b) + \delta_t^s \Lambda^s(\delta_t^s) - c(q_t) \right) dt \right], \quad \lambda_t^{b/s} = \Lambda^{b/s}(\delta_t^{b/s}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \left((\Lambda^b)^{-1}(\lambda_t^b) \lambda_t^b + (\Lambda^s)^{-1}(\lambda_t^s) \lambda_t^s - c(q_t) \right) dt \right] \end{aligned}$$

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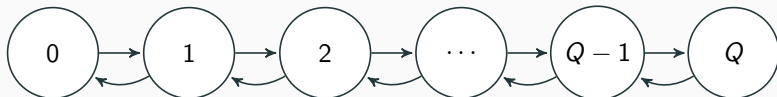
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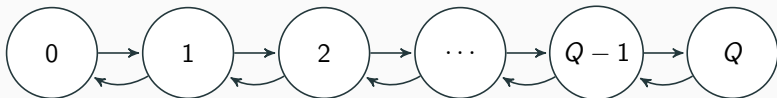
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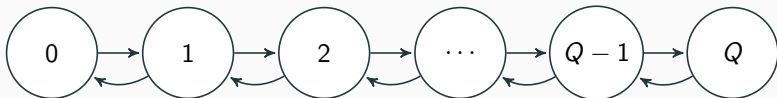
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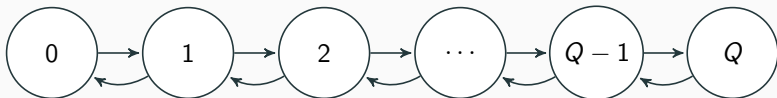
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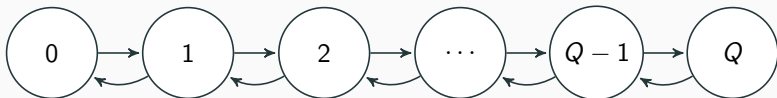
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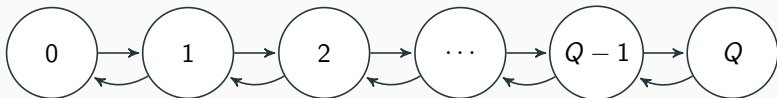
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 - $\forall q \in \{1, \dots, Q-1\},$

$$\begin{aligned} L(q, \lambda(q, q+1), \lambda(q, q-1)) = & -\lambda(q, q+1) (\Lambda^b)^{-1} (\lambda(q, q+1)) \\ & -\lambda(q, q-1) (\Lambda^s)^{-1} (\lambda(q, q-1)) + c(q) \end{aligned}$$

A general theory for optimal control on graphs – Finite-horizon problem

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Many methods of optimal control are based on computing the value function and deducing the optimal controls.

How to compute the value function? → **through the system of ODEs it solves: Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations.**

Heuristic derivation of Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

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- Let us consider a time $t \in [0, T)$ and let us assume that we know the values of the value function at time $t + dt$.

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- Therefore

$$u_i^{T,r}(t) = \sup_{\lambda_t(\cdot, \cdot)} \left\{ -L\left(i, (\lambda_t(i, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) dt + e^{-rdt} \times \left(\left(1 - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j)dt \right) \cdot u_i^{T,r}(t + dt) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j)dt \cdot u_j^{T,r}(t + dt) \right) \right\}$$

Heuristic derivation of Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

Taylor expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & e^{-rdt} \left(\left(1 - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) dt \right) \cdot u_i^{T, r}(t + dt) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) dt \cdot u_j^{T, r}(t + dt) \right) \\ &= (1 - rdt) \left(u_i^{T, r}(t + dt) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) dt (u_j^{T, r}(t + dt) - u_i^{T, r}(t + dt)) \right) \\ &= (1 - rdt) \left(u_i^{T, r}(t) + \frac{d}{dt} u_i^{T, r}(t) dt + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) dt (u_j^{T, r}(t) - u_i^{T, r}(t)) + o(dt) \right) \\ &= u_i^{T, r}(t) + dt \left(-ru_i^{T, r}(t) + \frac{d}{dt} u_i^{T, r}(t) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) (u_j^{T, r}(t) - u_i^{T, r}(t)) \right) \\ &\quad + o(dt) \end{aligned}$$

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So, necessarily:

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} u_i^{T,r}(t) - ru_i^{T,r}(t) \\ + \sup_{\lambda_t(\cdot, \cdot)} \left(\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_t(i, j) (u_j^{T,r}(t) - u_i^{T,r}(t)) \right) - L\left(i, (\lambda_t(i, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \right),$$

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

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Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

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we are interested in the system of ODEs:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad 0 = & \frac{d}{dt} V_i^{T,r}(t) - r V_i^{T,r}(t) \\ & + \sup_{(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}} \left(\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} (V_j^{T,r}(t) - V_i^{T,r}(t)) \right) - L(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

with terminal condition $V_i^{T,r}(T) = g(i), \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

To simplify notations, we introduce the Hamiltonian functions associated with the cost functions $(L(i, \cdot))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$:

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, H(i, \cdot) : p \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|} \mapsto H(i, p)$$

where

$$H(i, p) = \sup_{(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}} \left(\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} p_j \right) - L \left(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) \right).$$

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

The ODEs then write:

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [0, T],$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} V_i^{T,r}(t) - r V_i^{T,r}(t) + H \left(i, \left(V_j^{T,r}(t) - V_i^{T,r}(t) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) = 0$$

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The solution will be the value function $(u_i^{T,r})_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and the optimal controls of an agent in state i at time t given by any maximizer of

$$\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} \left(u_j^{T,r}(t) - u_i^{T,r}(t) \right) \right) - L \left(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right)$$

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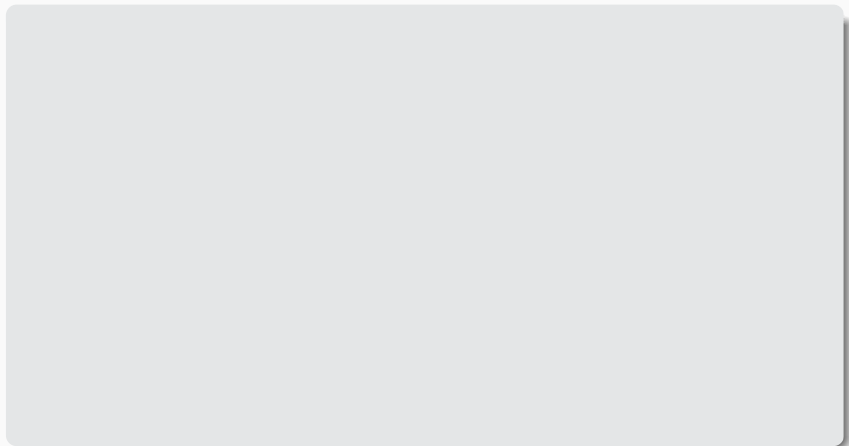
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From local to (half-)global existence

- Monotonicity properties
- Comparison principles
- A priori estimates
- etc.

Assumptions on the function L



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1. Non-degeneracy:

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \exists (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{*|\mathcal{V}(i)|}, L\left(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) < +\infty.$$

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$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}, L\left(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \geq \underline{C}.$$

Consequences for the function H

Proposition

$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}$, the function $H(i, \cdot)$ is finite and verifies the following properties:

- $\forall p = (p_j)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}, \exists (\lambda_{ij}^*)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|},$

$$H(i, p) = \left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij}^* p_j \right) - L \left(i, (\lambda_{ij}^*)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right).$$

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→ How to be sure that $[0, T]$ is included?

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- Convexity of $H(i, \cdot)$ derives from the definition of $H(i, \cdot)$ as a supremum of affine functions.
- Monotonicity of $H(i, \cdot)$ derives from the fact that the intensities $(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}$ are nonnegative.



From local to (half-)global existence

Proposition (Comparison principle)

Let $t' \in (-\infty, T)$. Let $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be two continuously differentiable functions on $[t', T]$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} v_i(t) - r v_i(t) + H\left(i, (v_j(t) - v_i(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &\geq 0, \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T], \\ \frac{d}{dt} w_i(t) - r w_i(t) + H\left(i, (w_j(t) - w_i(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &\leq 0, \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T], \end{aligned}$$

and $v_i(T) \leq w_i(T), \forall i \in \mathcal{I}$.

Then $v_i(t) \leq w_i(t), \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T]$.

Proof of the comparison principle

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Let us define

$$z : (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T] \mapsto z_i(t) = e^{-rt}(v_i(t) - w_i(t) - \varepsilon(T - t)).$$

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We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} z_i(t) &= -re^{-rt}(v_i(t) - w_i(t) - \varepsilon(T - t)) + e^{-rt} \left(\frac{d}{dt} v_i(t) - \frac{d}{dt} w_i(t) + \varepsilon \right) \\ &= e^{-rt} \left(\left(\frac{d}{dt} v_i(t) - rv_i(t) \right) - \left(\frac{d}{dt} w_i(t) - rw_i(t) \right) + \varepsilon + r\varepsilon(T - t) \right) \\ &\geq e^{-rt} \left(-H \left(i, (v_j(t) - v_i(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) + H \left(i, (w_j(t) - w_i(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + e^{-rt} (\varepsilon + r\varepsilon(T - t)). \end{aligned}$$

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$$t^* < T \implies \frac{d}{dt} z_{i^*}(t^*) \leq 0 \implies$$

$$H\left(i^*, ((v_j(t^*) - v_{i^*}(t^*))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)})\right) \geq H\left(i^*, ((w_j(t^*) - w_{i^*}(t^*))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)})\right) + \varepsilon + r\varepsilon(T - t^*).$$

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By definition of (i^*, t^*) , we know that

$$\forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*), v_j(t^*) - w_j(t^*) \leq v_{i^*}(t^*) - w_{i^*}(t^*)$$

i.e.

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From the monotonicity of $H(i^*, \cdot)$, it follows that

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This contradicts the above inequality.

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Therefore, $t^* = T$,

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$$H\left(i^*, (v_j(t^*) - v_{i^*}(t^*))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right) \leq H\left(i^*, (w_j(t^*) - w_{i^*}(t^*))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right).$$

This contradicts the above inequality.

Therefore, $t^* = T$, and we have:

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T], \quad z_i(t) \leq z_{i^*}(T) = e^{-rT}(v_{i^*}(T) - w_{i^*}(T)) \leq 0.$$

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Therefore, $\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T], \quad v_i(t) \leq w_i(t) + \varepsilon(T - t)$ and we conclude by sending ε to 0. □

Existence and uniqueness theorem

Theorem ((Half-)Global existence and uniqueness)

There exists a unique solution $(V_i^{T,r})_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ on $(-\infty, T]$ to the Hamilton-Jacobi/Bellman equation

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad 0 = \frac{d}{dt} V_i^{T,r}(t) - r V_i^{T,r}(t) + \sup_{(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}} \left(\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} (V_j^{T,r}(t) - V_i^{T,r}(t)) \right) - L(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}) \right)$$

with terminal condition $V_i^{T,r}(T) = g(i), \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$

Proof of the existence and uniqueness theorem

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$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}$, the function $H(i, \cdot)$ is locally Lipschitz. Therefore by Picard-Lindelöf theorem there exists a (left-)maximal solution $\left(V_i^{T,r}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ defined over $(\tau^*, T]$, where $\tau^* \in [-\infty, T)$.

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Our goal is to prove by contradiction that $\tau^* = -\infty$.

For $C \in \mathbb{R}$, let us consider

$$v^C : (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times (\tau^*, T] \mapsto v_i^C(t) = e^{-r(T-t)} (g(i) + C(T - t)).$$

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We see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} v_i^C(t) - r v_i^C(t) + H\left(i, (v_j^C(t) - v_i^C(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \\ &= -C e^{-r(T-t)} + H\left(i, e^{-r(T-t)} (g(j) - g(i))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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If τ^* is finite, the function

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is bounded.

So, there exist C_1 and C_2 such that $\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times (\tau^*, T]$,

$$- C_1 e^{-r(T-t)} + H \left(i, e^{-r(T-t)} (g(j) - g(i))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) \geq 0, \quad \text{and}$$

$$- C_2 e^{-r(T-t)} + H \left(i, e^{-r(T-t)} (g(j) - g(i))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) \leq 0.$$

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Applying the above comparison principle over any interval $[t', T] \subset (\tau^*, T]$, we obtain:

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [t', T], \quad v_i^{C_1}(t) \leq V_i^{T,r}(t) \leq v_i^{C_2}(t).$$

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In particular, τ^* finite implies that the functions $\left(V_i^{T,r}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ are bounded... in contradiction with the maximality of τ^* .



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In the proof of the above results, the convexity of the Hamiltonian functions $(H(i, \cdot))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ does not play any role.

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In the proof of the above results, the convexity of the Hamiltonian functions $(H(i, \cdot))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ does not play any role.

The results indeed hold as soon as the Hamiltonian functions are locally Lipschitz and non-decreasing with respect to each coordinate.

Going back to the optimal control problem

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Theorem (Verification theorem)

- $\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [0, T], u_i^{T,r}(t) = V_i^{T,r}(t).$
- *The optimal controls are given by any feedback control function verifying for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$, for all $j \in \mathcal{V}(i)$, and for all $t \in [0, T]$,*

$$\lambda_t^*(i, j) \in \underset{(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \left(\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} \left(u_j^{T,r}(t) - u_i^{T,r}(t) \right) \right) - L \left(i, (\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) \right).$$

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The above argmax is always singleton if the Hamiltonian functions $(H(i, \cdot))_i$ are differentiable (which is guaranteed if $(L(i, \cdot))_i$ are convex functions that are strictly convex on their domain).

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Two cases: $r > 0$ and $r = 0$

A general theory for optimal control on graphs – Asymptotics when $r > 0$

Study of the $r > 0$ case

Study of the $r > 0$ case

Proposition

$$\exists (u_i^r)_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \in \mathbb{R}^N, \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(t) = u_i^r.$$

Furthermore, $(u_i^r)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ satisfies the following stationary Bellman equation:

$$-ru_i^r + H\left(i, (u_j^r - u_i^r)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$$

Study of the $r > 0$ case

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Proof.

Let us define

$$u_i^r = \sup_{\lambda} \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, \left(\lambda_t \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda})} \right) dt \right].$$

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Let us define a control λ on $[0, +\infty)$ by:

- $\lambda_t = \lambda_t^*$ for $t \in [0, T]$,
- $\lambda_t(i, j) = \tilde{\lambda}(i, j)$ for $t > T$, where $\tilde{\lambda}$ is such that $L \left(i, (\tilde{\lambda}(i, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) < +\infty$.

Study of the $r > 0$ case

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Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_i^r &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^\infty e^{-rt} L \left(x_t^{0,i,\lambda}, (\lambda_t(x_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}}(x_t^{0,i,\lambda}) \right) dt \right] \\
 &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^T e^{-rt} L \left(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*}, (\lambda_t^*(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*}, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}}(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*}) \right) dt \right] \\
 &\quad + \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_T^\infty e^{-rt} L \left(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \lambda}, \left(\lambda_t \left(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \lambda}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}}(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \lambda}) \right) dt \right] \\
 &\geq u_i^{T,r}(0) - e^{-rT} g(x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}) \\
 &\quad + e^{-rT} \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_T^\infty e^{-r(t-T)} L \left(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \tilde{\lambda}}, \left(\tilde{\lambda}_t \left(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \tilde{\lambda}}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}}(x_t^{T, x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}, \tilde{\lambda}}) \right) dt \right] \\
 &\geq u_i^{T,r}(0) - e^{-rT} g(x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}) - \frac{M}{r} e^{-rT}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Study of the $r > 0$ case

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_i^r &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^\infty e^{-rt} L \left(x_t^{0,i,\lambda}, (\lambda_t(x_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(x_t^{0,i,\lambda})} \right) dt \right] \\
 &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^T e^{-rt} L \left(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*}, (\lambda_t^*(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*}, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(x_t^{0,i,\lambda^*})} \right) dt \right] \\
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 &\geq u_i^{T,r}(0) - e^{-rT} g(x_T^{0,i,\lambda^*}) - \frac{M}{r} e^{-rT}.
 \end{aligned}$$

So $\limsup_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(0) \leq u_i^r$.

Study of the $r > 0$ case

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Proof.

Let us consider $\varepsilon > 0$ and λ^ε such that

$$u_i^r - \varepsilon \leq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^\infty e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon}, \left(\lambda_t^\varepsilon \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon})} \right) dt \right].$$

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We have

$$\begin{aligned} u_i^r - \varepsilon &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^T e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon}, \left(\lambda_t^\varepsilon \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon})} \right) dt \right] \\ &\quad + \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_T^\infty e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{T,X_T^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon},\lambda^\varepsilon}, \left(\lambda_t^\varepsilon \left(X_t^{T,X_T^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon},\lambda^\varepsilon}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{T,X_T^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon},\lambda^\varepsilon})} \right) dt \right] \\ &\leq u_i^{T,r}(0) - e^{-rT} g \left(X_T^{0,i,\lambda^\varepsilon} \right) - e^{-rT} \frac{c}{r} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{So } \liminf_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(0) \geq u_i^r - \varepsilon.$$

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Proof.

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We easily see that

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+, \forall T > t, u_i^{T+s,r}(t) = u_i^{T+s-t,r}(0) = V_i^{T,r}(t-s).$$

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Therefore

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(t) = u_i^r = \lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} V_i^{T,r}(s)$$

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$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(t) = u_i^r = \lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} V_i^{T,r}(s)$$

Using the ODEs, we see that $\left(V_i^{T,r} \right)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ has a finite limit in $-\infty$.

But, then, that limit is equal to 0.

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$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+, \forall T > t, u_i^{T+s,r}(t) = u_i^{T+s-t,r}(0) = V_i^{T,r}(t-s).$$

Therefore

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{T,r}(t) = u_i^r = \lim_{s \rightarrow -\infty} V_i^{T,r}(s)$$

Using the ODEs, we see that $\frac{d}{dt} \left(V_i^{T,r} \right)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ has a finite limit in $-\infty$.

But, then, that limit is equal to 0.

By passing to the limit in the ODEs, we obtain

$$-ru_i^r + H \left(i, (u_j^r - u_i^r)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \right) = 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$$



The limit case $r \rightarrow 0$

What happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

What happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

For studying the asymptotic behavior (as $T \rightarrow +\infty$) in the case $r = 0$, a first step consists in studying what happens when $r \rightarrow 0$ in the above.

Our goal is to prove the following proposition:

Proposition

We have:

- $\exists \gamma \in \mathbb{R}, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r u_i^r = \gamma.$
- *There exists a sequence $(r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converging towards 0 such that $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, (u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is convergent.*
- *For all $i \in \mathcal{I}$, if $\xi_i = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n}$, then we have*

$$-\gamma + H\left(i, (\xi_j - \xi_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0.$$

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Lemma

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Lemma

We have:

1. $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, r \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \mapsto ru_i^r$ *is bounded*;
2. $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), r \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \mapsto u_j^r - u_i^r$ *is bounded*.

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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We have:

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2. $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), r \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \mapsto u_j^r - u_i^r$ is bounded.

Proof.

Let us choose $(\lambda(i, j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathcal{A}$ as in the non-degeneracy assumption.

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Lemma

We have:

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2. $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), r \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \mapsto u_j^r - u_i^r$ is bounded.

Proof.

Let us choose $(\lambda(i, j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathcal{A}$ as in the non-degeneracy assumption.

By definition of u_i^r we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_i^r &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, \left(\lambda \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda})} \right) dt \right] \\ &\geq \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-rt} \inf_k -L \left(k, (\lambda(k, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(k)} \right) dt \\ &\geq \frac{1}{r} \inf_k -L \left(k, (\lambda(k, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(k)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Proof.

From the (lower) boundedness of the functions $(L(i, \cdot))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$, we also have for all $(\lambda(i, j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}$ that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[- \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-rt} L \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, \left(\lambda \left(X_t^{0,i,\lambda}, j \right) \right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0,i,\lambda})} \right) dt \right] \\ & \leq -\underline{C} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-rt} dt = -\frac{\underline{C}}{r}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $u_i^r \leq -\frac{\underline{C}}{r}$.

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Therefore, $u_i^r \leq -\frac{\underline{C}}{r}$.

We conclude that $r \mapsto ru_i^r$ is bounded.

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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Proof.

Take a family of positive intensities $(\lambda(i,j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}$ as in the non-degeneracy assumption.

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Proof.

Take a family of positive intensities $(\lambda(i,j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}$ as in the non-degeneracy assumption.

Because the finite graph is connected, for all $(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}^2$ the stopping time defined by $\tau^{ij} = \inf \left\{ t > 0 \mid X_t^{0,i,\lambda} = j \right\}$ verifies $\mathbb{E} [\tau^{ij}] < +\infty$.

A first lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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Take a family of positive intensities $(\lambda(i, j))_{i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}$ as in the non-degeneracy assumption.

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So $\forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}^2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_i^r + \frac{\underline{C}}{r} &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\tau^{ij}} e^{-rt} \left(-L \left(X_t^{0, i, \lambda}, (\lambda(X_t^{0, i, \lambda}, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(X_t^{0, i, \lambda})} \right) + \underline{C} \right) dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e^{-r\tau^{ij}} \left(u_j^r + \frac{\underline{C}}{r} \right) \right] \\ &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{\tau^{ij}} e^{-rt} dt \right] \left(\inf_k -L(k, (\lambda(k, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(k)}) + \underline{C} \right) + \mathbb{E} [e^{-r\tau^{ij}}] \left(u_j^r + \frac{\underline{C}}{r} \right) \\ &\geq \mathbb{E} [\tau^{ij}] \left(\inf_k -L(k, (\lambda(k, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(k)}) + \underline{C} \right) + u_j^r + \frac{\underline{C}}{r}. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{So } u_j^r - u_i^r \leq -\mathbb{E} [\tau^{ij}] \left(\inf_k -L(k, (\lambda(k, j))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(k)}) + \underline{C} \right).$$

A second lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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We now come to a comparison principle:

A second lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

We now come to a comparison principle:

Lemma

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be such that

$$-\varepsilon v_i + H\left(i, (v_j - v_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \geq -\varepsilon w_i + H\left(i, (w_j - w_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right), \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$$

Then $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, v_i \leq w_i$.

A second lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

A second lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Proof.

Let us consider $(z_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}} = (v_i - w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$.

A second lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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Let us consider $(z_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}} = (v_i - w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$.

Let us choose $i^* \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $z_{i^*} = \max_{i \in \mathcal{I}} z_i$.

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Let us choose $i^* \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $z_{i^*} = \max_{i \in \mathcal{I}} z_i$.

By definition of i^* , we know that

$$\forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*), v_{i^*} - w_{i^*} \geq v_j - w_j$$

i.e.

$$\forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*), v_j - v_{i^*} \leq w_j - w_{i^*}$$

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Because $H(i^*, \cdot)$ is nondecreasing

$$H\left(i^*, (v_j - v_{i^*})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right) \leq H\left(i^*, (w_j - w_{i^*})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right).$$

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We have therefore $\varepsilon(v_{i^*} - w_{i^*}) \leq 0$, so

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, v_i - w_i \leq v_{i^*} - w_{i^*} \leq 0.$$



A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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The last lemma to prove the result is:

A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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Lemma

Let $\eta, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be such that

$$\begin{aligned} -\eta + H\left(i, (v_j - v_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &= 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \\ -\mu + H\left(i, (w_j - w_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &= 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}. \end{aligned}$$

Then $\eta = \mu$.

A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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Proof.

By contradiction, we can assume $\eta > \mu$ (up to an exchange).

A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

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By contradiction, we can assume $\eta > \mu$ (up to an exchange).

Let

$$C = \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (w_i - v_i) + 1$$

and

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\eta - \mu}{\sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (w_i - v_i) - \inf_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (w_i - v_i) + 1} = \frac{\eta - \mu}{C + \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (v_i - w_i)}.$$

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From these definitions, we have

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad v_i + C > w_i \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \varepsilon(v_i - w_i + C) \leq \eta - \mu.$$

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We obtain

$$\varepsilon(v_i - w_i + C) \leq H\left(i, (v_j - v_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) - H\left(i, (w_j - w_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right)$$

A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

A third lemma to study $r \rightarrow 0$

Proof.

Reorganizing the terms, we have

$$-\varepsilon w_i + H\left(i, (w_j - w_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \leq -\varepsilon(v_i + C) + H\left(i, ((v_j + C) - (v_i + C))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right).$$

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From the previous lemma it follows that $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, v_i + C \leq w_i$, in contradiction with the definition of C .

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From the previous lemma it follows that $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, v_i + C \leq w_i$, in contradiction with the definition of C .

We conclude $\eta = \mu$.



What happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

What happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

We are now ready to prove our proposition:

Proposition

We have:

- $\exists \gamma \in \mathbb{R}, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} ru_i^r = \gamma.$
- *There exists a sequence $(r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converging towards 0 such that $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, (u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is convergent.*
- *For all $i \in \mathcal{I}$, if $\xi_i = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n}$, then we have*

$$-\gamma + H\left(i, (\xi_j - \xi_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0.$$

Proof of what happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

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Proof.

From the first lemma, we can consider a sequence $(r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converging towards 0, such that

$$r_n u_i^{r_n} \rightarrow \gamma_i$$

and

$$u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n} \rightarrow \xi_i.$$

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and

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We have

$$0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n (u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n u_i^{r_n} - \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n u_1^{r_n} = \gamma_i - \gamma_1.$$

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$$u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n} \rightarrow \xi_i.$$

We have

$$0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n (u_i^{r_n} - u_1^{r_n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n u_i^{r_n} - \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} r_n u_1^{r_n} = \gamma_i - \gamma_1.$$

Therefore, $\gamma_i = \gamma$ is independent of i .

Proof of what happens when $r \rightarrow 0$

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Proof.

Passing to the limit when $n \rightarrow +\infty$ in

$$-r_n u_i^{r_n} + H\left(i, \left(u_j^{r_n} - u_i^{r_n}\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0$$

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we obtain

$$-\gamma + H\left(i, (\xi_j - \xi_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0.$$

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we obtain

$$-\gamma + H\left(i, (\xi_j - \xi_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0.$$

To complete the proof, we need to prove that γ is independent of the choice of the sequence $(r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$: this is a consequence of third lemma. \square

Comments on the limit case $r \rightarrow 0$

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- The equation

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Comments on the limit case $r \rightarrow 0$

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is central in the study of the limit $T \rightarrow +\infty$ when $r = 0$.

- In the above equation, γ is unique (third lemma).
- Under some additional assumptions $(\xi_i)_i$ can be unique up a constant.

When the Hamiltonian functions are increasing

When the Hamiltonian functions are increasing

Proposition

Assume that $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, H(i, \cdot)$ is increasing with respect to each coordinate. Let $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be such that

$$\begin{aligned} -\gamma + H\left(i, (v_j - v_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &= 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \\ -\gamma + H\left(i, (w_j - w_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) &= 0, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}. \end{aligned}$$

Then $\exists C, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, w_i = v_i + C$, i.e. uniqueness is true up to a constant.

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When the Hamiltonian functions are increasing

Proof.

Let us consider $C = \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} w_i - v_i$.

By contradiction, assume there exists $j \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $v_j + C > w_j$.

Because the graph is connected, we can find $i^* \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $v_{i^*} + C = w_{i^*}$ and such that there exists $j^* \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)$ satisfying $v_{j^*} + C > w_{j^*}$.

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Let us consider $C = \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} w_i - v_i$.

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The strict monotonicity of the Hamiltonian functions implies that

$$H\left(i^*, ((v_j + C) - (v_{i^*} + C))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right) > H\left(i, (w_j - w_{i^*})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)}\right)$$

in contradiction with the definition of $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$.

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Let us consider $C = \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} w_i - v_i$.

By contradiction, assume there exists $j \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $v_j + C > w_j$.

Because the graph is connected, we can find $i^* \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $v_{i^*} + C = w_{i^*}$ and such that there exists $j^* \in \mathcal{V}(i^*)$ satisfying $v_{j^*} + C > w_{j^*}$.

The strict monotonicity of the Hamiltonian functions implies that

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in contradiction with the definition of $(v_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(w_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$.

Therefore $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, w_i = v_i + C$.



A general theory for optimal control on graphs – Asymptotics when $r = 0$

A change of variables

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A change of variables

- Compared to the case $r > 0$, the case $r = 0$ is more subtle and more complex.
- $u_i^{T,0}(0)$ is not indeed the right “object”, but rather $u_i^{T,0}(0) - \gamma T$ that will converge towards a finite limit $\rightarrow \gamma$ will appear to be the average gain per unit of time.

A change of variables

- Compared to the case $r > 0$, the case $r = 0$ is more subtle and more complex.
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- To study the problem, we consider a change of variables:

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This function solves

$$-\frac{d}{dt}U_i(t) + H\left(i, (U_j(t) - U_i(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0, \quad \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathbb{R}_+$$

with $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad U_i(0) = g(i).$

Towards convergence

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For any constant C , let us introduce

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We have

$$\begin{aligned} & -\frac{d}{dt} w_i^C(t) + H\left(i, (w_j^C(t) - w_i^C(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \\ &= -\gamma + H\left(i, (\xi_j - \xi_i)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}w_i^{C_1}(t) &= \gamma t + \xi_i + C_1 \text{ with } C_1 = \min_j (g(j) - \xi_j) \\w_i^{C_2}(t) &= \gamma t + \xi_i + C_2 \text{ with } C_2 = \max_j (g(j) - \xi_j)\end{aligned}$$

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We deduce that $\hat{v} : t \in [0, +\infty) \mapsto U(t) - \gamma t \vec{1}$ is bounded
→ Our goal is to show that it converges when $t \rightarrow +\infty$ **under the assumption of strict monotonicity for H .**

A slightly modified equation and its properties

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\hat{v} solves the slightly modified equation

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We introduce for all $(s, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^N$ the equation

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$(E_{s,y})$

with $\hat{y}_i(s) = y_i, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}$.

First property: comparison principle

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Proposition (Comparison principle)

Let $s \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Let $(\underline{y}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(\bar{y}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be two continuously differentiable functions on $[s, +\infty)$ such that

$$-\frac{d}{dt}\underline{y}_i(t) - \gamma + H\left(i, \left(\underline{y}_j(t) - \underline{y}_i(t)\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \geq 0, \quad \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, +\infty),$$

$$-\frac{d}{dt}\bar{y}_i(t) - \gamma + H\left(i, \left(\bar{y}_j(t) - \bar{y}_i(t)\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) \leq 0, \quad \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, +\infty),$$

and $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \underline{y}_i(s) \leq \bar{y}_i(s)$.

Then $\underline{y}_i(t) \leq \bar{y}_i(t), \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, +\infty)$.

Second property: strong maximum principle

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Proposition (Strong maximum principle)

Let $s \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Let $(\underline{y}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ and $(\bar{y}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$ be two continuously differentiable functions on $[s, +\infty)$ such that

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$$-\frac{d}{dt}\bar{y}_i(t) - \gamma + H\left(i, \left(\bar{y}_j(t) - \bar{y}_i(t)\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0, \quad \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, +\infty),$$

and $\underline{y}(s) \leq \bar{y}(s)$, i.e. $\forall j \in \mathcal{I}, \underline{y}_j(s) \leq \bar{y}_j(s)$ and $\exists i \in \mathcal{I}, \underline{y}_i(s) < \bar{y}_i(s)$.

Then $\underline{y}_i(t) < \bar{y}_i(t), \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times (s, +\infty)$.

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Proof.

If there exists $(i, \bar{t}) \in \mathcal{I} \times (s, +\infty)$ such that $\underline{y}_i(\bar{t}) = \bar{y}_i(\bar{t})$, then \bar{t} is a maximizer of the function $t \in (s, +\infty) \mapsto \underline{y}_i(t) - \bar{y}_i(t)$. Hence,
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$$\underline{y}_i(\bar{t}) = \bar{y}_i(\bar{t}) \implies H\left(i, \left(\underline{y}_j(\bar{t}) - \underline{y}_i(\bar{t})\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = H\left(i, \left(\bar{y}_j(\bar{t}) - \bar{y}_i(\bar{t})\right)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right)$$

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Because $H(i, \cdot)$ is increasing,

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If there exists $(i, \bar{t}) \in \mathcal{I} \times (s, +\infty)$ such that $\underline{y}_i(\bar{t}) = \bar{y}_i(\bar{t})$, we define

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\underline{y} and \bar{y} are two local solutions of the Cauchy problem $(E_{t^*, \underline{y}(t^*)})$ so they are equal in a neighborhood of t^* ... which contradicts the definition of t^* .

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We conclude that

$$\underline{y}_i(t) < \bar{y}_i(t), \forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times (s, +\infty).$$



Third property: semi-group and continuity

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For all $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$, we introduce the operator $S(t) : y \in \mathbb{R}^N \mapsto \hat{y}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^N$, where \hat{y} is the solution of $(E_{0,y})$.

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Proposition

S satisfies the following properties:

- $\forall t, t' \in \mathbb{R}_+, S(t) \circ S(t') = S(t + t') = S(t') \circ S(t)$.
- $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^N, \|S(t)(x) - S(t)(y)\|_\infty \leq \|x - y\|_\infty$. In particular, $S(t)$ is continuous.

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$$\underline{y} : t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto S(t)(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{y} : t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto S(t)(y) + \|x - y\|_\infty \vec{1}$$

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We have $\underline{y}(0) = x \leq y + \|x - y\|_\infty \vec{1} = \bar{y}(0)$, so

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Reversing the role of x and y we obtain

$$\|S(t)(x) - S(t)(y)\|_\infty \leq \|x - y\|_\infty.$$



Dynamics of the upper bound

In order to study the asymptotic behavior of \hat{v} , we define the function

$$q : t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto q(t) = \sup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (\hat{v}_i(t) - \xi_i).$$

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Lemma

q is a nonincreasing function, bounded from below. We denote by $q_\infty = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} q(t)$ its lower bound.

Dynamics of the upper bound

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Proof.

Let $s \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Let us define $\underline{y} : (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, \infty) \mapsto \hat{v}_i(t)$ and $\bar{y} : (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, \infty) \mapsto q(s) + \xi_i$.

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We have $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \underline{y}_i(s) \leq \bar{y}_i(s)$ and

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We conclude that $\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [s, +\infty), \underline{y}_i(t) \leq \bar{y}_i(t)$, i.e. $\hat{v}_i(t) \leq q(s) + \xi_i$. In particular $q(t) \leq q(s), \forall t \geq s$.

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Because \hat{v} is bounded, so is q and its limit $q_\infty = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} q(t)$.



The convergence theorem

The convergence theorem

Theorem

The asymptotic behavior of \hat{v} is given by

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \hat{v}_i(t) = \xi_i + q_\infty.$$

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Proof.

As \hat{v} is bounded, there exists $(t_n)_n$ converging towards $+\infty$ such that $\hat{v}(t_n) \rightarrow \hat{v}_\infty \leq \xi + q_\infty \vec{1}$.

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Because \hat{v} is bounded and satisfies $(E_{0,y})$ for $y = (y_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}} = (g(i))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$, we can apply Arzelà–Ascoli theorem to

$$\mathcal{K} = \{s \in [0, 1] \mapsto \hat{v}(t_n + s) | n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

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There exists a subsequence $(t_{\phi(n)})_n$ and a function $z \in C^0([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^N)$ such that $(s \in [0, 1] \mapsto \hat{v}(t_{\phi(n)} + s))_n$ converges uniformly towards z (with $z(0) = \hat{v}_\infty$).

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$$\begin{aligned} \forall t \in [0, 1], S(t)(z(0)) &= S(t) \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \hat{v}(t_{\phi(n)}) \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} S(t) (\hat{v}(t_{\phi(n)})) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \hat{v}(t + t_{\phi(n)}) = z(t). \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\hat{v}(t_{\phi(n)} + 1) < \xi + q_\infty \vec{1}$.

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Conclusion for the optimal control problem

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Corollary

The asymptotic behavior of the value functions associated with our problem when $r = 0$ is given by

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+, u_i^{T,r}(t) = \gamma(T - t) + \xi_i + q_\infty + \underset{T \rightarrow +\infty}{o}(1).$$

The limit points of the associated optimal controls for all $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ as $T \rightarrow +\infty$ are feedback control functions verifying $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i)$:

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Remark: if $(L(i, \cdot))_i$ are convex functions that are strictly convex on their domain, the Hamiltonian functions $(H(i, \cdot))_i$ are differentiable and the optimal controls converge towards the unique element of the above argmax .

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- A special case where all equations can be transformed into linear ones
→ Intensive use of linear algebra and matrix analysis.
- An important application to market making: the solution to Avellaneda-Stoikov equations.

Entropic costs: when nonlinearities vanish

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- These functions L satisfy the assumptions of the previous sections.
- Because of the term $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \lambda_{ij} \log(\lambda_{ij})$, we talk of entropic costs.

The Hamiltonian functions

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Proposition

$$\forall i, \forall p = (p_j)_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|},$$

$$H(i, p) = h(i) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} e^{-1-b_{ij}} e^{p_j}.$$

Moreover, the supremum in the definition of $H(i, p)$ is reached when

$$\forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \quad \lambda_{ij} = \lambda_{ij}^* = e^{-1-b_{ij}} e^{p_j}.$$

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Proof.

$$H(i, p) = h(i) + \sup_{(\lambda_{ij})_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{V}(i)|}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} (\lambda_{ij} p_j - (\lambda_{ij} \log(\lambda_{ij}) + b_{ij} \lambda_{ij})).$$

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Plugging that formula, we obtain

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Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

Hamilton-Jacobi / Bellman equations

The ODEs characterizing the value function writes:

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [0, T],$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} V_i^T(t) + H\left(i, (V_j^T(t) - V_i^T(t))_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)}\right) = 0$$

with terminal condition $V_i^T(T) = g(i), \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}.$

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In the present case:

$$\forall (i, t) \in \mathcal{I} \times [0, T],$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} V_i^T(t) + h(i) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} e^{-1-b_{ij}} \exp(V_j^T(t) - V_i^T(t)) = 0$$

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This is a system of linear ODEs!

Proposition

Let $B = (B_{ij})_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}^2}$ be the matrix defined by

$$B_{ij} = \begin{cases} e^{-1-b_{ij}}, & \text{if } j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \\ h(i), & \text{if } j = i, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let \mathbf{g} be the column vector $(e^{g(1)}, \dots, e^{g(N)})'$.

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Remark: $w^T(t) > 0$ (as a vector) is a consequence of the positiveness of

$$e^{\sup_i |h(i)|(T-t)} w^T(t) = e^{(B + \sup_i |h(i)| I_N)(T-t)} \mathbf{g} > 0$$

Value function and optimal controls

Theorem

We have:

- $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall t \in [0, T], u_i^T(t) = \log(w_i^T(t)).$
- *The optimal controls are given in feedback form by:*

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \forall t \in [0, T], \quad \lambda_t^*(i, j) = e^{-1-b_{ij}} \frac{w_j^T(t)}{w_i^T(t)}.$$

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We can guess that the ergodic constant γ and the vector ξ are linked to spectral properties of B : a matrix with nonnegative off-diagonal entries.

Classical results on nonnegative matrices

Some definitions

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Given two matrices $A, B \in M_{n,p}(\mathbb{C})$, we say that

- $A \leq B$ if the entries of $B - A$ are all real and nonnegative.
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Remark: The definitions apply to column vectors ($p = 1$).

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Definition

Given a matrix $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ we define

- $\text{Sp}(A)$ the set of its eigenvalues.
- $\text{Sp}_{\mathbb{R}}(A) = \text{Sp}(A) \cap \mathbb{R}$ the set of its real eigenvalues.
- $\rho(A) = \sup\{|z| \mid z \in \text{Sp}(A)\}$ the spectral radius of A .

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\Rightarrow is trivial using a Jordan decomposition and looking at diagonal terms.

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We have therefore for $m \geq p$:

$$\tilde{A}^m = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} C_m^k \lambda^{m-k} J^k \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow +\infty} 0$$



Spectral radius: Gelfand's formula

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Proposition (Gelfand's formula)

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for any norm on $M_n(\mathbb{C})$.

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If x is an eigenvector of A for the eigenvalue λ with $|\lambda| = \rho(A)$, then

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So $\rho(A) \leq \|A\|$ and $\rho(A) = \rho(A^m)^{1/m} \leq \|A^m\|^{1/m}$.

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Proof.

Now, for any $\epsilon > 0$, $\rho\left(\frac{A}{\rho(A)+\epsilon}\right) < 1$. Therefore, there exists $m_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\forall m \geq m_\epsilon$:

$$\left\| \left(\frac{A}{\rho(A) + \epsilon} \right)^m \right\| \leq 1$$

i.e.

$$\|A^m\|^{1/m} \leq \rho(A) + \epsilon.$$

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We conclude that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \|A^m\|^{1/m} = \rho(A)$$



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$$0 \leq A \leq B \Rightarrow 0 \leq A^m \leq B^m \rightarrow \|A^m\| \leq \|B^m\|$$

where the norm on matrices is the 2-norm (Frobenius norm).

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Using Gelfand's formula, we obtain $\rho(A) \leq \rho(B)$. □

Positive matrices: a first lemma

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Positive matrices: a first lemma

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Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a positive matrix.

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$\begin{aligned}x \leq y \text{ and } x \neq y &\implies Ax < Ay \\ &\implies \exists \epsilon > 0, (1 + \epsilon)Ax < Ay\end{aligned}$$

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Proof.

For all $i \in \mathcal{I}$,

$$(A(y - x))_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij}(y_j - x_j) \geq \underbrace{\min_k A_{ik}}_{>0} \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^n (y_j - x_j)}_{>0} > 0$$

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So $Ax < Ay$ and there exists $\epsilon > 0$, such that $(1 + \epsilon)Ax < Ay$. \square

Positive matrices: Perron's theorem

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Theorem (Perron's theorem)

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a positive matrix. We have the following:

- $\rho(A) > 0$.
- $\rho(A)$ is an eigenvalue of A .
- the associated eigenspace is of dimension 1 and spanned by a positive vector.
- the algebraic multiplicity of $\rho(A)$ is 1.

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So $(1 + \epsilon)\rho(A)^2|x| < A^2|x|$ and we can iterate:

$$(1 + \epsilon)^2\rho(A)^3|x| = (1 + \epsilon)^2\rho(A)^2\rho(A)|x| \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2\rho(A)^2A|x| < A^3|x|$$

...

$$\forall m \geq 2, \quad (1 + \epsilon)^{m-1}\rho(A)^m|x| < A^m|x|$$

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We deduce that for the matrix norm induced by the sup-norm on \mathbb{R}^n :

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We conclude

$$\rho(A)|x| = A|x|$$

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$$|x| \geq 0 \implies \rho(A)|x| = A|x| > 0 \implies |x| > 0.$$

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$$\rho(A)|\tilde{x}| = |A\tilde{x}| \leq A|\tilde{x}| = \rho(A)|\tilde{x}|$$

So we have an equality case in the triangular inequality $|A\tilde{x}| \leq A|\tilde{x}|$.

Positive matrices: Perron's theorem

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Proof.

The first coordinate gives that $\arg(A_{1j}\tilde{x}_j)$ is independent of j . As $A > 0$, we have $\tilde{x} = e^{i\theta}|\tilde{x}|$.

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Now, let us consider $c = \min_{|\tilde{x}_i| \neq 0} |x_i|/|\tilde{x}_i|$.

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If $|x| \neq c|\tilde{x}|$, then

$$|x| \geq c|\tilde{x}| \implies \rho(A)|x| = A|x| > cA|\tilde{x}| = c\rho(A)|\tilde{x}| \implies |x| > c|\tilde{x}|$$

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We conclude that $|x| = c|\tilde{x}| = ce^{-i\theta}\tilde{x}$, i.e. the eigenspace associated with $\rho(A)$ is of dimension 1.

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Proof.

Applying the above reasoning to both A and A' , we exhibit two positive vectors u and v such that

$$Au = \rho(A)u \quad \text{and} \quad A'v = \rho(A)v.$$

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$$PAP^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho(A) & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{A} \end{pmatrix}$$

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We conclude that $\rho(A)$ has algebraic multiplicity 1. □

A first extension to nonnegative matrices

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A natural question is “what can be generalized to nonnegative matrices?”.

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A first result is the following:

Proposition

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a nonnegative matrix.

Then $\rho(A)$ is an eigenvalue of A and there exists a nonnegative eigenvector associated with $\rho(A)$.

A first extension to nonnegative matrices

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Proof.

We define $A_p = A + \frac{1}{p}J$ where J is a matrix with all entries equal to 1.

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We define $A_p = A + \frac{1}{p}J$ where J is a matrix with all entries equal to 1. By Perron's theorem, there exists for each $p \geq 1$, a positive vector x_p such that

$$A_p x_p = \rho(A_p) x_p \quad \|x_p\| = 1$$

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Because $A \leq A_p \leq A_q$ for $p \geq q$, the sequence $(\rho(A_{p'}))_{p'}$ is nonincreasing and converges towards $\rho \geq \rho(A)$.

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We obtain

$$Ax = \rho x \quad \|x\| = 1 \quad x \geq 0$$

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$$Ax = \rho x \quad \|x\| = 1 \quad x \geq 0$$

As $\rho \geq \rho(A)$ is an eigenvalue, we have $\rho = \rho(A)$. □

A song of matrices and graphs

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We shall relate properties of A with properties of $\Gamma(A)$.

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Lemma

For $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and $1 \leq i, j \leq n$, the three following statements are equivalent:

- $(|A|^m)_{ij} > 0$
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- *there exists a path a length m from i to j in the graph $\Gamma(A)$.*

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Proof.

$$(|A|^m)_{ij} = \sum_{k_1=i, k_2, \dots, k_{m-1}, k_m=j} |a_{k_1 k_2}| \cdots |a_{k_{m-1} k_m}|$$

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So $(|A|^m)_{ij} > 0$ if and only if there exist $k_1 = i, k_2, \dots, k_{m-1}, k_m = j$ such that $|a_{k_1 k_2}|, \dots, |a_{k_{m-1} k_m}| \neq 0$,

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To complete the proof, simply notice that $\Gamma(A) = \Gamma(M(A))$. □

A song of matrices and graphs

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Proposition

For $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ the three following statements are equivalent:

- $(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} > 0$
- $(I_n + M(A))^{n-1} > 0$
- *The graph $\Gamma(A)$ is connected.*

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$$(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} = \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} C_{n-1}^m |A|^m$$

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$$(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} = \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} C_{n-1}^m |A|^m$$

So the diagonal entries of $(I_n + |A|)^{n-1}$ are positive and the off-diagonal are positive if and only if for all $1 \leq i \neq j \leq n$, there exists $m \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ such that $(|A|^m)_{ij} > 0$.

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Proof.

Using the above lemma, we have $(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} > 0$ if and only if any two distinct nodes of $\Gamma(A)$ are linked by a path of length at most equal to $n - 1$.

A song of matrices and graphs

Proof.

Using the above lemma, we have $(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} > 0$ if and only if any two distinct nodes of $\Gamma(A)$ are linked by a path of length at most equal to $n - 1$.

As the graph has n nodes, $(I_n + |A|)^{n-1} > 0$ is equivalent to $\Gamma(A)$ connected.

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The matrices verifying any of the three above assumptions are called **irreducible**.

Remark: This name comes from another characterization with the impossibility to permute lines/columns to obtain a block-triangular matrix (but we shall not use that in what follows).

Nonnegative and irreducible matrices: Perron-Frobenius theorem

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Theorem (Perron-Frobenius theorem)

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a nonnegative and irreducible matrix. We have the following:

- $\rho(A) > 0$
- $\rho(A)$ is an eigenvalue of A
- the associated eigenspace is of dimension 1 and spanned by a positive vector.
- the algebraic multiplicity of $\rho(A)$ is 1.

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However, because $\Gamma(A)$ is connected, there exist paths of any length in the graph, so $\rho(A) > 0.$

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The second point of the theorem does not require irreducibility (see above). Let $x \geq 0$ be such that $Ax = \rho(A)x$. Then

$$(I + |A|)^{n-1}x = (I + A)^{n-1}x = (1 + \rho(A))^{n-1}x$$

But

$$\rho((I + |A|)^{n-1}) = \rho(I + |A|)^{n-1} = \rho(I + A)^{n-1} \leq (1 + \rho(A))^{n-1}.$$

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So x is in fact an eigenvector of $(I + |A|)^{n-1}$ corresponding to its spectral radius. □

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Remark: With positive matrices, $\rho(A)$ is the unique eigenvalue with modulus equal to $\rho(A)$. This is not anymore true for nonnegative matrices. However we can prove that, if there are several such eigenvalues in the nonnegative and irreducible case, they form a polygon inside the circle of radius $\rho(A)$ in the complex plane.

Entropic costs: spectral characterization of the ergodic constant

Towards asymptotic results

Let us recall that the value function and the optimal controls depend on

$$w^T : t \in [0, T] \mapsto w^T(t) = e^{B(T-t)} \mathfrak{g}$$

where

$$\mathfrak{g} = (e^{g(1)}, \dots, e^{g(N)})'$$

and

$$B_{ij} = \begin{cases} e^{-1-b_{ij}}, & \text{if } j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \\ h(i), & \text{if } j = i, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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We now study the spectrum and deduce the asymptotic behavior of the value function and the optimal controls.

The spectrum of B and asymptotic results

The spectrum of B and asymptotic results

Theorem

$Sp_{\mathbb{R}}(B)$ is a nonempty set and $\gamma = \max Sp_{\mathbb{R}}(B)$ is an algebraically simple eigenvalue whose associated eigenspace is spanned by a positive vector f .

Moreover $\forall \lambda \in Sp(B) \setminus \{\gamma\}, \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) < \gamma$.

γ is the ergodic constant associated with our control problem and

$$\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^T(t) - \gamma(T - t) = \alpha + \log(f_i).$$

Moreover, the asymptotic behavior of the optimal controls is given by

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda_t^*(i, j) = e^{-1-b_{ij}} \frac{f_j}{f_i}.$$

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Let us consider $\sigma = -\min_{i \in \mathcal{I}} h(i)$ and denote by $B(\sigma)$ the nonnegative matrix $B + \sigma I_N$.

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Shifting the spectrum by $-\sigma$ we see that $\text{Sp}_{\mathbb{R}}(B)$ is a nonempty set and its maximum γ , equal to $\rho(B(\sigma)) - \sigma$, is an algebraically simple eigenvalue of B whose associated eigenspace is spanned by f .

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$$\psi \in \text{Im}(B(\sigma) - \rho(B(\sigma))I_N) = \text{Ker}(B(\sigma)' - \rho(B(\sigma))I_N)^\perp = \text{span}(\phi)^\perp.$$

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As $\psi = \mathbf{g} - \beta f \perp \phi$ and all coefficients of \mathbf{g} , f , and ϕ are positive, we must have $\beta > 0$.

Spectrum of B and asymptotic results

Proof.

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}e^{-\gamma(T-t)}w^T(t) &= e^{(B-\gamma I_N)(T-t)}\mathbf{g} \\&= e^{(B-\gamma I_N)(T-t)}\beta\mathbf{f} + e^{(B-\gamma I_N)(T-t)}\psi \\&= \beta\mathbf{f} + e^{(B-\gamma I_N)(T-t)}\psi \rightarrow_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \beta\mathbf{f}.\end{aligned}$$

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By taking logarithms, we obtain that

$$\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \quad \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} u_i^T(t) - \gamma(T-t) = \log(\beta) + \log(f_i).$$

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For optimal controls, we obtain $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}(i), \forall t \in [0, T]$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_t^*(i, j) &= e^{-1-b_{ij}} \frac{w_j^T(t)}{w_i^T(t)} \\ &= e^{-1-b_{ij}} \frac{e^{-\gamma(T-t)} w_j^T(t)}{e^{-\gamma(T-t)} w_i^T(t)} \rightarrow_{T \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-1-b_{ij}} \frac{f_j}{f_i}. \end{aligned}$$

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We now apply our results to market making and to the Avellaneda-Stoikov equation.

An application to market making

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What is a market maker?

- Liquidity provider: provide bid and ask/offer prices to other market participants

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What is a market maker?

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- Today, replaced by algorithms.

Setup of models à la Avellaneda-Stoikov

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- Point processes N^b and N^a for the transactions (size Δ). Inventory $(q_t)_t$:

$$dq_t = \Delta dN_t^b - \Delta dN_t^a.$$

Setup of models à la Avellaneda-Stoikov

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- The intensities of N^b and N^a depend on the distance to the reference price:

$$\lambda_t^b = \Lambda^b(\delta_t^b)1_{q_t- < Q} \text{ and } \lambda_t^a = \Lambda^a(\delta_t^a)1_{q_t- > -Q}.$$

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- Cash process $(X_t)_t$:

$$dX_t = \Delta S_t^a dN_t^a - \Delta S_t^b dN_t^b = -S_t dq_t + \delta_t^a \Delta dN_t^a + \delta_t^b \Delta dN_t^b.$$

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Three state variables: X (cash), q (inventory), and S (price).

Several objective functions

Naïve: Risk-neutral

$$\sup_{(\delta_t^a)_t, (\delta_t^b)_t \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E}[X_T + q_T S_T].$$

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The original Avellaneda-Stoikov's model considers a CARA utility function:

CARA objective function (Model A)

$$\sup_{(\delta_t^a)_t, (\delta_t^b)_t \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E}[-\exp(-\gamma(X_T + q_T S_T))],$$

where γ is the absolute risk aversion parameter, and \mathcal{A} the set of predictable processes bounded from below.

Several objective functions

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Models à la Cartea, Jaimungal *et al.* with a running penalty for the inventory:

Risk-neutral with running penalty (Model B)

$$\sup_{(\delta_t^a)_t, (\delta_t^b)_t \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E} \left[X_T + q_T S_T - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sigma^2 \int_0^T q_t^2 dt \right],$$

where γ is a kind of absolute risk aversion parameter.

HJB equation (Model A)

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In what follows, u is a candidate for the value function.

Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(HJB)} \quad 0 = & \partial_t u(t, x, q, S) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \partial_{SS}^2 u(t, x, q, S) \\ & + 1_{q < Q} \sup_{\delta^b} \Lambda^b(\delta^b) [u(t, x - \Delta S + \Delta \delta^b, q + \Delta, S) - u(t, x, q, S)] \\ & + 1_{q > -Q} \sup_{\delta^a} \Lambda^a(\delta^a) [u(t, x + \Delta S + \Delta \delta^a, q - \Delta, S) - u(t, x, q, S)] \end{aligned}$$

with final condition:

$$u(T, x, q, S) = -\exp(-\gamma(x + qS))$$

Change of variables (Model A)

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$$u(t, x, q, S) = -\exp(-\gamma(x + qS + \theta(t, q)))$$

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New equation (Model A)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & \partial_t \theta(t, q) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \sigma^2 q^2 \\ & + 1_{q < Q} \sup_{\delta^b} \frac{\Lambda^b(\delta^b)}{\gamma} (1 - \exp(-\gamma(\Delta \delta^b + \theta(t, q + \Delta) - \theta(t, q)))) \\ & + 1_{q > -Q} \sup_{\delta^a} \frac{\Lambda^a(\delta^a)}{\gamma} (1 - \exp(-\gamma(\Delta \delta^a + \theta(t, q - \Delta) - \theta(t, q)))) \end{aligned}$$

with final condition $\theta(T, q) = 0$.

Equation for θ (Model A)

A new transform

$$H_{\xi}^b(p) = \sup_{\delta} \frac{\Lambda^b(\delta)}{\xi} (1 - \exp(-\xi \Delta(\delta - p)))$$

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$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \partial_t \theta(t, q) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \sigma^2 q^2 + 1_{q < Q} H_{\gamma}^b \left(\frac{\theta(t, q) - \theta(t, q + \Delta)}{\Delta} \right) \\ + 1_{q > -Q} H_{\gamma}^a \left(\frac{\theta(t, q) - \theta(t, q - \Delta)}{\Delta} \right) \end{aligned}$$

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HJB equation (Model B)

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{(HJB)} \quad 0 = & \partial_t u(t, x, q, S) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \sigma^2 q^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \partial_{SS}^2 u(t, x, q, S) \\ & + 1_{q < Q} \sup_{\delta^b} \Lambda^b(\delta^b) [u(t, x - \Delta S + \Delta \delta^b, q + \Delta, S) - u(t, x, q, S)] \\ & + 1_{q > -Q} \sup_{\delta^a} \Lambda^a(\delta^a) [u(t, x + \Delta S + \Delta \delta^a, q - \Delta, S) - u(t, x, q, S)] \end{aligned}$$

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A unique family of equations

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Same equations as those studied earlier (written in a slightly different manner)

The intensity functions Λ^b and Λ^a

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Assumptions on Λ^b and Λ^a .

1. $\Lambda^{b/a}$ is C^2 .
2. $\Lambda^{b/a'} < 0$.
3. $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow +\infty} \Lambda^{b/a}(\delta) = 0$.
4. The intensity functions $\Lambda^{b/a}$ satisfy:

$$\sup_{\delta} \frac{\Lambda^{b/a}(\delta) \Lambda^{b/a''}(\delta)}{\left(\Lambda^{b/a'}(\delta)\right)^2} < 2.$$

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Exponential intensity

In Avellaneda and Stoikov ($\Delta = 1$):

$$\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}.$$

The functions H_ξ^b and H_ξ^a

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Proposition

- $\forall \xi \geq 0$, $H_\xi^{b/a}$ is a decreasing function of class C^2 .
- In the definition of $H_\xi^{b/a}(p)$, the supremum is attained at a unique $\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p)$ characterized by

$$\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p) = \Lambda^{b/a-1} \left(\xi H_\xi^{b/a}(p) - \frac{H_\xi^{b/a'}(p)}{\Delta} \right).$$

- The function $p \mapsto \tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p)$ is increasing.

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- $\forall \xi \geq 0$, $H_\xi^{b/a}$ is a decreasing function of class C^2 .
- In the definition of $H_\xi^{b/a}(p)$, the supremum is attained at a unique $\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p)$ characterized by

$$\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p) = \Lambda^{b/a-1} \left(\xi H_\xi^{b/a}(p) - \frac{H_\xi^{b/a'}(p)}{\Delta} \right).$$

- The function $p \mapsto \tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p)$ is increasing.

Remark: $H_\xi^{b/a}$ decreasing corresponds to increasing Hamiltonian functions in our optimal control theory on graphs.

Existence and uniqueness

Existence and uniqueness

Results for θ

There exists a unique C^1 (in time) solution $t \mapsto (\theta(t, q))_{|q| \leq Q}$ to

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \partial_t \theta(t, q) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \sigma^2 q^2 + 1_{q < Q} H_\xi^b \left(\frac{\theta(t, q) - \theta(t, q + \Delta)}{\Delta} \right) \\ + 1_{q > -Q} H_\xi^a \left(\frac{\theta(t, q) - \theta(t, q - \Delta)}{\Delta} \right) \end{aligned}$$

with final condition $\theta(T, q) = 0$.

Solution of the initial problems (verification argument)

Solution of the initial problems (verification argument)

By using a verification argument, the functions u are the value functions associated with the problems of Model A and Model B.

Optimal quotes

The optimal quotes in models A ($\xi = \gamma$) and B ($\xi = 0$) are:

$$\delta_t^{b*} = \tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b*} \left(\frac{\theta(t, q_{t-}) - \theta(t, q_{t-} + \Delta)}{\Delta} \right)$$

$$\delta_t^{a*} = \tilde{\delta}_\xi^{a*} \left(\frac{\theta(t, q_{t-}) - \theta(t, q_{t-} - \Delta)}{\Delta} \right)$$

where

$$\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p) = \Lambda^{b/a-1} \left(\xi H_\xi^{b/a}(p) - \frac{H_\xi^{b/a'}(p)}{\Delta} \right).$$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

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The functions $H_\xi^{b/a}$ and $\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}$

If $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$, then $H_\xi^{b/a}(p) = \frac{A\Delta}{k} C_\xi \exp(-kp)$, with

$$C_\xi = \begin{cases} \left(1 + \frac{\xi\Delta}{k}\right)^{-\frac{k}{\xi\Delta}-1} & \text{if } \xi > 0 \\ e^{-1} & \text{if } \xi = 0. \end{cases}$$

and

$$\tilde{\delta}_\xi^{b/a*}(p) = \begin{cases} p + \frac{1}{\xi\Delta} \log\left(1 + \frac{\xi\Delta}{k}\right) & \text{if } \xi > 0 \\ p + \frac{1}{k} & \text{if } \xi = 0, \end{cases}$$

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This corresponds exactly to our framework with entropic costs

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The system of ODEs

$$0 = \partial_t \theta(t, q) - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \sigma^2 q^2 + \\ + \frac{A\Delta}{k} C_\xi \left(1_{q < Q} e^{k \frac{\theta(t, q+\Delta) - \theta(t, q)}{\Delta}} + 1_{q > -Q} e^{k \frac{\theta(t, q-\Delta) - \theta(t, q)}{\Delta}} \right),$$

with final condition $\theta(T, q) = 0$.

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with final condition $\theta(T, q) = 0$.

Change of variables: $v_q(t) = \exp\left(\frac{k\theta(t, q)}{\Delta}\right)$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

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A linear system of ODEs

$$v'_q(t) = \alpha q^2 v_q(t) - \eta_\xi (1_{q < Q} v_{q+\Delta}(t) + 1_{q > -Q} v_{q-\Delta}(t)),$$

with

$$\alpha = \frac{k}{2\Delta} \gamma \sigma^2, \quad \eta_\xi = AC_\xi$$

and the terminal condition $v(T, q) = 1$.

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

A linear system of ODEs

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and the terminal condition $v(T, q) = 1$.

This corresponds to

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha Q^2 & \eta_\xi & & & \\ \eta_\xi & -\alpha(Q - \Delta)^2 & \eta_\xi & & \\ & \eta_\xi & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \eta_\xi \\ & & & \eta_\xi & -\alpha Q^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is symmetric here!

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Optimal quotes

The optimal quotes in models A ($\xi = \gamma$) and B ($\xi = 0$) are:

$$\delta_t^{b*} = \delta^{b*}(t, q_{t-}) := D_\xi + \frac{1}{k} \ln \left(\frac{v_{q_{t-}}(t)}{v_{q_{t-}+\Delta}(t)} \right)$$

$$\delta_t^{a*} = \delta^{a*}(t, q_{t-}) := D_\xi + \frac{1}{k} \ln \left(\frac{v_{q_{t-}}(t)}{v_{q_{t-}-\Delta}(t)} \right)$$

$$D_\xi = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\xi\Delta} \log \left(1 + \frac{\xi\Delta}{k} \right) & \text{if } \xi > 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & \text{if } \xi = 0, \end{cases}$$

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The optimal quote functions far from T only depend on q :

Asymptotics

$$\delta_{\infty}^{b*}(q) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \delta^{b*}(0, q) = D_{\xi} + \frac{1}{k} \ln \left(\frac{f_q^0}{f_{q+\Delta}^0} \right)$$

$$\delta_{\infty}^{a*}(q) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \delta^{a*}(0, q) = D_{\xi} + \frac{1}{k} \ln \left(\frac{f_q^0}{f_{q-\Delta}^0} \right)$$

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Because B is symmetric, $f^0 \in \mathbb{R}^{2Q/\Delta+1}$ is characterized by a Rayleigh ratio:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\|f\|_2=1} \sum_{|q| \leq Q} \alpha q^2 f_q^2 + \eta_{\xi} \left(\sum_{q=-Q}^{Q-\Delta} (f_{q+\Delta} - f_q)^2 + (f_Q)^2 + (f_{-Q})^2 \right).$$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

Continuous counterpart

$\tilde{f}^0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ characterized by:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}=1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\alpha x^2 \tilde{f}(x)^2 + \eta_{\xi} \Delta^2 \tilde{f}'(x)^2 \right) dx.$$

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$$\tilde{f}^0(x) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\Delta} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\eta_{\xi}}} x^2 \right)$$

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$$\tilde{f}^0(x) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\Delta} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\eta_{\xi}}} x^2 \right)$$

Hence, we get an approximation of the form:

$$f_q^0 \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\Delta} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\eta_{\xi}}} q^2 \right)$$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

Using the continuous counterpart, we get:

Closed-form approximations: optimal quotes (Model A: $\xi = \gamma$)

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{\infty}^{b*}(q) &\simeq \frac{1}{\Delta\xi} \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right) + \frac{2q + \Delta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2}{2kA\Delta} \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right)^{1 + \frac{k}{\Delta\xi}}} \\ \delta_{\infty}^{a*}(q) &\simeq \frac{1}{\Delta\xi} \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right) - \frac{2q - \Delta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2}{2kA\Delta} \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right)^{1 + \frac{k}{\Delta\xi}}}\end{aligned}$$

Remark: these formulas are used by many practitioners in Europe and Asia on quote-driven markets.

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

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Using the continuous counterpart, we get:

Closed-form approximations: optimal quotes (Model B: $\xi = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{\infty}^{b*}(q) &\simeq \frac{1}{k} + \frac{2q + \Delta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2 e}{2kA\Delta}} \\ \delta_{\infty}^{a*}(q) &\simeq \frac{1}{k} - \frac{2q - \Delta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2 e}{2kA\Delta}}\end{aligned}$$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

A good way to analyze the result is to consider the spread $\psi = \delta^b + \delta^a$ and the skew $\zeta = \delta^b - \delta^a$.

Closed-form approx.: spread and skew (Model A, $\xi = \gamma$)

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{\infty}^*(q) &\simeq \frac{2}{\Delta\xi} \ln \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right) + \Delta \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2}{2kA\Delta} \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right)^{1+\frac{k}{\Delta\xi}}} \\ \zeta_{\infty}^*(q) &\simeq 2q \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\sigma^2}{2kA\Delta} \left(1 + \frac{\Delta\xi}{k} \right)^{1+\frac{k}{\Delta\xi}}}\end{aligned}$$

The case $\Lambda^b(\delta) = \Lambda^a(\delta) = Ae^{-k\delta}$

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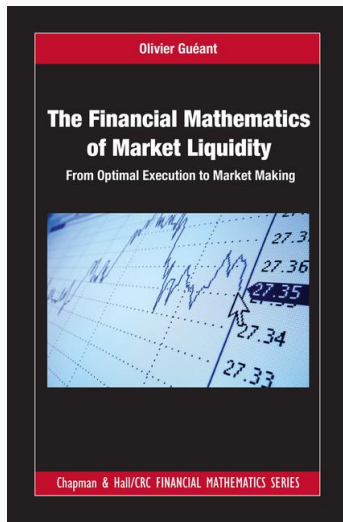
Closed form approx.: spread and skew (Model B, $\xi = 0$)

$$\psi_{\infty}^*(q) \simeq \frac{2}{k} + \Delta \sqrt{\frac{\gamma \sigma^2 e}{2kA\Delta}}$$

$$\zeta_{\infty}^*(q) \simeq 2q \sqrt{\frac{\gamma \sigma^2 e}{2kA\Delta}}$$

If you want to know more about market making

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Questions



Thanks for your attention.
Questions.