

defⁿ impt.

general examples

titles solution methods

in ch. 5, looked stationary values of f^n 's of a single variable, several variables, & constrained variables

Now bringing about a particular condition for given expression by varying the f^n 's on which the expression depends

Concerned w/ general maximisation or minimisation criterion by which the f^n $y(x)$ satisfies the problem

Want to study value of an integral whose integrand has specified form in terms of a certain f^n & its derivatives

Also look @ how value changes when f^n is varied

Goal: Find the f^n making the integral stationary (making value of integral a local max./min.)

22.1 The Euler-Lagrange Equation

Consider: $I = \int_a^b F(y, y', x) dx$ ① $y = y(x)$

$y(x)$ is to be chosen to make value of I stationary
↳ functional = $I = I[y(x)]$

consider making replacement:

$$y(x) \rightarrow y(x) + \alpha n(x) \quad \textcircled{2}$$

α is small
 $n(x)$ is arbitrary f^n

for value of I to be stationary, need:

$$\frac{dI}{d\alpha} \Big|_{\alpha=0} = 0 \quad \text{for all } n(x)$$

subst. ② into ①

$$\rightarrow I(y, \alpha) = \int_a^b F(y + \alpha n, y' + \alpha n', x) dx$$

Taylor in α

$$= \int_a^b F(y, y', x) dx + \int_a^b \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \alpha n, \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \alpha n' \right) dx + \dots \quad (O(\alpha^2))$$



↳ δI

change in I

$$\delta I = \int_a^b \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \delta y + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \delta y' \right) dx = 0$$

integration by parts \rightarrow

$$\left[n \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right]_a^b + \int_a^b \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right] \right) n(x) dx = 0$$

$\rightarrow 0 \text{ \& } n(a) = n(b) = 0$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \quad (3)$$

22.2 Special Cases

F does not contain y explicitly

with this: $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 0 \xrightarrow{(3)} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} = \text{constant}$

show shortest curve joining 2 points is a straight line

2 constraints: $(a, y(a))$ & $(b, y(b))$

$$ds = \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2} \cdot \frac{dx}{dx} = \sqrt{\frac{dx^2}{dx^2} + \frac{dy^2}{dx^2}} dx = \sqrt{1 + y'^2} dx$$

total path length: $L = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + y'^2} dx$

$$k = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} = \frac{y'}{\sqrt{1 + y'^2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{k} = \frac{\sqrt{1 + y'^2}}{y'} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{y'^2} + 1} \quad \frac{1}{k^2} - 1 = \frac{1 - k^2}{k^2} = \frac{1}{y'^2}$$

$$\rightarrow y' = \sqrt{\frac{k^2}{1 - k^2}}$$

$$\rightarrow y = \frac{k}{\sqrt{1 - k^2}} x + C$$

$$m = \frac{y(b) - y(a)}{b - a}$$

$$\leftarrow y = mx + C$$

$$y' = m$$

$$L = \sqrt{1 + m^2} \int_a^b dx = \sqrt{1 + m^2} (b - a)$$

$$L^2 = (1 + m^2)(b - a)^2 = \frac{(b - a)^2 + (y(b) - y(a))^2}{(b - a)^2} \cdot (b - a)^2 = (b - a)^2 + (y(b) - y(a))^2$$

F does not contain x explicitly

$$(3) * y' \rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left[y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right] = y' \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right] + y'' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'}$$

$\rightarrow E-L$

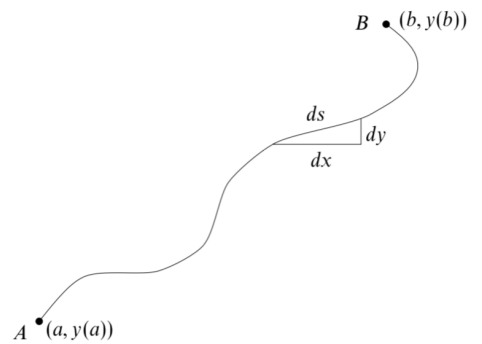


Figure 22.2 An arbitrary path between two fixed points.

$$\rightarrow y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} + y'' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} = \frac{d}{dx} \left[y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right]$$

$$\text{If } F \text{ doesn't depend on } x \text{ explicitly} \rightarrow \frac{dF}{dx} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \cdot \frac{dy'}{dx} = y' F_y + F_{y'} y''$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [F] = \frac{d}{dx} \left[y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right]$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[F - y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right] = 0$$

$$F - y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} = \text{constant} \quad \textcircled{4}$$

22.3 Some Extensions

consider problems w/ several dependent and/or indpt. variables or higher-order derivatives of the dependent variable

Several Dependent Variables

$$F = F(y_1, y_1', y_2, y_2', \dots, y_n, y_n', x) \quad y_i' = y_i'(x)$$

n separate but simultaneous eq^s

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial y_i} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y_i'} \right) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Several Independent Variables

w/ n indpt. variables, need to extremise multiple integrals

$$I = \int \dots \int F \left(y, \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \right) dx_1 dx_2 \dots dx_n$$

$y = y(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ must satisfy

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y_{x_i}} \right)$$

Higher Order Derivatives

w/ $F = F(y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}, x)$ do repeated integration by parts

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) + \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y''} \right) - \dots + (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y^{(n)}} \right) = 0$$

$$y = y' = \dots = y^{(n-1)} = 0 \quad \text{c endpoints}$$

Variable end points

$$I = \int_a^b F(y, y', x) dx$$

demand only lower end-point is fixed, allowing $y(b)$ to be arbitrary

require:
$$\left[n \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right]_a^b + \int_a^b \left[\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) \right] n(x) dx = 0$$

fixed lower, and $n(a) = 0$ for LHS to vanish, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \Big|_b = 0$

if both ends vary, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'}$ must vanish @ both ends

general case: lower endpoint fixed, upper endpoint free to lie on $h(x, y) = 0$

variation in I due to arbitrary constant given to first order:

$$\delta I = \left[\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} n \right]_a^b + \int_a^b \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) n dx + F(b) \Delta x$$

$$\delta I = 0$$

$$0 = \left[\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} n \right]_b + F(b) \Delta x$$

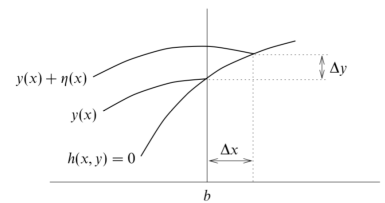


Figure 22.5 Variation of the end-point b along the curve $h(x, y) = 0$.

$$\Delta y = n(b) + y'(b) \Delta x$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \Delta y = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \Delta y = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} (n + y' \Delta x) = \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + y' \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} \right) \Delta x + \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} n = 0$$

∴ algebra

$$\left(F - y' \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = 0$$

2.2.4 Constrained Variation

$g(x, y) = \text{constant} \rightarrow f(x, y)$ constrained

$$I = \int_a^b F(y, y', x) dx \quad \text{w/constant} \quad J = \int_a^b G(y, y', x) dx$$

held constant

define a new functional: $K = I + \lambda J = \int_a^b (F + \lambda G) dx$

∴ find unconstrained stationary values

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) + \lambda \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial y} - \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial G}{\partial y'} \right) = 0$$

multiple constraints J_i : $K = I + \sum_i \lambda_i J_i$

22.5 Physical Variational Principles

Fermat & Hamilton