

FINITE DIMENSIONAL APPROXIMATION FOR
A CLASS OF OPTIMAL CONTROL PROBLEMS FOR
SYSTEMS GOVERNED BY PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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1. Introduction. We shall consider optimal control problems connected with the boundary-value problems (B.V.P.) for the heat equation in a rectangle.

Let $l > 0$, $T > 0$, $Q_T = (0, l) \times (0, T)$, $f \in L_2(Q_T)$, $\varphi \in L_2(0, l)$ and $\alpha \geq 0$, $\beta \geq 0$.

Let us denote by $u(x, t; \varphi; f)$ the generalized solution of the following B.V.P. (first B.V.P.) (cf., e.g. [1], p. 392)

$$u_t - u_{xx} = f(x, t) \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in Q_T \quad (1)$$

$$u(0, t) = u(l, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } t \in (0, T) \quad (2)$$

$$u(x, 0; \varphi; f) = \varphi(x) \quad \text{for } x \in (0, l), \quad (3)$$

or the generalized solution of the B.V.P. (third B.V.P.) (cf., e.g. [1], p. 393)

$$u_t - u_{xx} = f(x, t) \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in Q_T \quad (1)$$

$$-u_x(0, t) + \alpha \cdot u(0, t) = u_x(l, t) + \beta \cdot u(l, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } t \in (0, T) \quad (2)$$

$$u(x, 0; \varphi; f) = \varphi(x) \quad \text{for } x \in (0, l). \quad (3)$$

When $\alpha = \beta = 0$ (in (2')) the problem (1), (2'), (3) is called second B.V.P.

Let us denote by $v_\kappa(x)$ and λ_κ the eigenfunctions and the eigenvalues of the problem

$$v''(x) - \lambda \cdot v(x) = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$v(0) = v(l) = 0,$$

or of the problem

$$v''(x) - \lambda \cdot v(x) = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$-v'(0) + \alpha \cdot v(0) = v'(l) + \beta \cdot v(l) = 0.$$

It is known that $\{v_k(x)\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ is an orthonormal basis in $L_2(0, l)$. We further denote:

$$\varphi_k = (\varphi, v_k)_{L_2(0, l)} ; f_k(t) = (f(x, t), v_k(x))_{L_2(0, l)} ;$$

$$U_k(t) = \varphi_k \cdot e^{\lambda_k t} + \int_0^t f_k(\tau) \cdot e^{\lambda_k(t-\tau)} d\tau.$$

The solution of the problem (1), (2), (3) or (1), (2'), (3) is given by

$$u(x, t; \varphi; f) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} U_k(t) \cdot v_k(x), \quad (6)$$

where $v_k(x)$ and λ_k in the formula for $U_k(t)$ are the eigenfunctions and the eigenvalues of (4) or (5) respectively (cf. [1], p. 399, Theorem 3).

The series in (6) is convergent in the norm of $H^{1,0}(Q_T)$ (cf. [1], p. 399, Theorem 3 and p. 166, §7.2). Using (6) it is easily shown that $u(x, t; \varphi; f) \in C[0, T; L_2(0, l)]$, i.e. for each $t \in [0, T]$ $u(\cdot, t; \varphi; f) \in L_2(0, l)$ and the mapping $u(\cdot, t; \varphi; f): [0, T] \rightarrow L_2(0, l)$ (φ and f being fixed) is continuous.

2. Statement of the problem and basic theorem. Let $y(x) \in L_2(0, l)$ be given. Let us denote

$$J(\varphi, f) = \int_0^l |u(x, T; \varphi; f) - y(x)|^2 dx = \|u(\cdot, T; \varphi; f) - y(\cdot)\|_{L_2(0, l)}^2,$$

$$B_1 = \{\varphi \in L_2(0, l); \|\varphi\|_{L_2(0, l)} \leq 1\}, \quad B_2 = \{g \in L_2(Q_T); \|g\|_{L_2(Q_T)} \leq 1\}.$$

We want to minimize $J(\varphi, f)$ over $B_1 \times B_2$:

$$J(\varphi, f) \rightarrow \min, \quad (\varphi, f) \in B_1 \times B_2. \quad (P1)$$

The investigation of (P1) is motivated by [2]. The problem is studied there in the particular case when $f=0$ and, what is more important, without constraints on the initial condition φ . The constrained case is only briefly mentioned (p. 376). A problem similar to (P1) (in the particular case when $f=0$) has been studied in [4]. The type of constraints on φ is different there.

A crucial role in what follows will play

Theorem 1. Let E be a uniformly convex Banach space, $\{F_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of closed convex subsets of E , $F_k \supset F_{k+1}$ for each natural k and $F = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} F_k \neq \emptyset$. Let z be an arbitrary element of E and

$$\|z - x_k\| = \min_{x \in F_k} \|z - x\| \quad \text{for each natural } k, \quad \|z - y\| = \min_{x \in F} \|z - x\|.$$

Then $\|x_k - y\| \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

3. Solving (P1) when $f(x,t)=0$ a.e. in Q_T . In this particular case the problem (P1) is reduced to

$$J(\varphi, 0) \longrightarrow \min, \varphi \in B_1, \quad (P2)$$

i.e. we want to minimize $J(\varphi, 0)$ over B_1 .

When $f(x,t)=0$ a.e. in Q_T we have

$$u(x,t;\varphi;0) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi_k \cdot e^{\lambda_k t} \cdot v_k(x).$$

We define a linear operator $A: L_2(0,\ell) \rightarrow L_2(0,\ell)$:

$$(A\varphi)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} u(x,T;\varphi;0) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi_k \cdot e^{\lambda_k T} \cdot v_k(x) \quad (\varphi \in L_2(0,\ell)).$$

Then $J(\varphi, 0) = \|A\varphi - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2$. It is known that A is compact.

Since $B_1 = \left\{ \varphi \in L_2(0,\ell); \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi_k v_k)_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2 \leq 1 \right\}$, it follows immediately that

$$A(B_1) = \left\{ \varphi \in L_2(0,\ell); \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\varphi_k v_k)_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2}{e^{2\lambda_k T}} \leq 1 \right\},$$

where $A(B_1) = \{ \varphi \in L_2(0,\ell); \varphi = A\psi \text{ for } \psi \in B_1 \}$ is the image of B_1 .

The set $A(B_1)$ is closed convex subset of $L_2(0,\ell)$. Let us denote by $Pr_{A(B_1)} y$ the projection of y on the set $A(B_1)$, i.e.

$$\|Pr_{A(B_1)} y - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)} = \min_{z \in A(B_1)} \|z - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}.$$

Let $\varphi_0 \in B_1$ be such that $A\varphi_0 = Pr_{A(B_1)} y$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} J(\varphi_0, 0) &= \|A\varphi_0 - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2 = \|Pr_{A(B_1)} y - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2 = \min_{z \in A(B_1)} \|z - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2 \\ &= \min_{\varphi \in B_1} \|A\varphi - y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2 = \min_{\varphi \in B_1} J(\varphi, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the problem (P2) is equivalent to the problem:

$$\text{find } Pr_{A(B_1)} y \quad (P2^*)$$

We further denote $y_n = \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi_k v_k)_{L_2(0,\ell)} \cdot v_k$ and $F_n = \left\{ \varphi \in L_2(0,\ell); \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(\varphi_k v_k)_{L_2(0,\ell)}^2}{e^{2\lambda_k T}} \leq 1 \right\}$.

It is easily seen that

i) F_n is closed convex subset of $L_2(0,\ell)$ for each natural n ;

ii) $F_n \supset F_{n+1}$ for each natural n ;

iii) $A(B_1) = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n$.

Theorem 1 then yields $\|Pr_{F_n} y - Pr_{A(B_1)} y\|_{L_2(0,\ell)} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

Since $\|y_n - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ and $\|\text{Pr}_{K_n} x - \text{Pr}_K y\|_X \leq \|x - y\|_X$ for

each $x, y \in X$ where X is a Hilbert space and K_n is a closed convex subset of X (cf., e.g. [3]), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n - \text{Pr}_{A(B, \cdot)} y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} &\leq \|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n - \text{Pr}_{F_n} y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} + \|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y - \text{Pr}_{A(B, \cdot)} y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} \leq \\ &\leq \|y_n - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} + \|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y - \text{Pr}_{A(B, \cdot)} y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

So we have

$$\|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)}^2 \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\text{Pr}_{A(B, \cdot)} y - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)}^2 = \min_{\varphi \in B_1} J(\varphi, 0). \quad (8)$$

It is clear that $\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n$ lies in the linear subspace spanned by $\{v_k\}_{k=1}^n$. Thus the problem of computing $\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n$ is a finite-dimensional one and is formulated in the following way:

find the projection of the point $((y, v_1)_{L_2(0, \ell)}, \dots, (y, v_n)_{L_2(0, \ell)}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

on the ellipsoid $\tilde{F}_n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n; \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{x_k^2}{e^{2\lambda_k T}} \leq 1\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$.

The latter can be solved, say, using the Kuhn-Tucker theorem. By solving it, we obtain the coefficients $\tilde{\lambda}_{k, n}$ in the formula

$$\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{\lambda}_{k, n} \cdot v_k. \quad \text{Thus } \varphi^n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\tilde{\lambda}_{k, n}}{e^{\lambda_k T}} \cdot v_k \quad \text{can serve as an}$$

"approximate" solution to the problem (P2), because (8) yields

$$J(\varphi^n, 0) = \|A\varphi^n - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)}^2 = \|\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n - y\|_{L_2(0, \ell)}^2 \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \min_{\varphi \in B_1} J(\varphi, 0).$$

Thus the problem (P2*), which is an infinite dimensional one, has been approximated by finite-dimensional problems (find $\text{Pr}_{F_n} y_n$) in the sense that their solutions converge to the solution of (P2*) (see (7)).

4. Solving (P1) when $\varphi(x) = 0$ a.e. in $(0, \ell)$. In this particular case the problem (P1) is reduced to

$$J(0, f) \longrightarrow \min, f \in B_2, \quad (P3)$$

i.e. we want to minimize $J(0, f)$ over B_2 .

When $\varphi(x) = 0$ a.e. in $(0, \ell)$ we have the expansion

$$u(x, t; 0; f) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_0^t f_k(\tau) e^{\lambda_k(t-\tau)} d\tau \right\} \cdot v_k(x).$$

We define a linear operator $\tilde{A}: L_2(Q_T) \rightarrow L_2(0, \ell)$:

$$(\tilde{A}f)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} u(x, T; 0; f) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_0^T f_k(\tau) e^{\lambda_k(T-\tau)} d\tau \right\} \cdot v_k(x).$$

It can be shown that \tilde{A} is compact and that

$$\tilde{A}(B_2) = \left\{ \psi \in L_2(0, l); \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\psi, v_k)_{L_2(0, l)}^2}{\rho_k^2} \leq 1 \right\}, \text{ where}$$

$$\rho_k = \sqrt{\int_0^T e^{2\lambda_k(T-\tau)} d\tau} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{A}(B_2) = \left\{ \psi \in L_2(0, l); \psi = \tilde{A}f \text{ for } f \in B_2 \right\}$$

is the image of B_2 .

$\tilde{A}(B_2)$ is closed convex subset of $L_2(0, l)$. Hereafter, denoting

$$G_n = \left\{ \psi \in L_2(0, l); \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(\psi, v_k)_{L_2(0, l)}^2}{\rho_k^2} \leq 1 \right\}$$

we can proceed exactly as in the case of (P2).

5. Solving (P1) in the general case. It is clear that

$u(x, T; \psi; f) = A\psi + \tilde{A}f \in L_2(0, l)$. Since $A(B_1)$ and $\tilde{A}(B_2)$ are convex compacts, $A(B_1) + \tilde{A}(B_2) = \{ \psi \in L_2(0, l); \psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2, \text{ where } \psi_1 \in A(B_1), \psi_2 \in \tilde{A}(B_2) \}$ is a closed convex subset of $L_2(0, l)$. Thus $\text{Pr}_{A(B_1) + \tilde{A}(B_2)} y$ is well

defined and

$$\| \text{Pr}_{A(B_1) + \tilde{A}(B_2)} y - y \|_{L_2(0, l)}^2 = \min_{(\psi, f) \in B_1 \times B_2} J(\psi, f).$$

We can apply the technique used for solving (P2) and (P3) because of the following

Lemma 1. It is true that $A(B_1) + \tilde{A}(B_2) = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} (F_k + G_k)$.

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