

# Nodal Profile Control for 1-D Wave Equation

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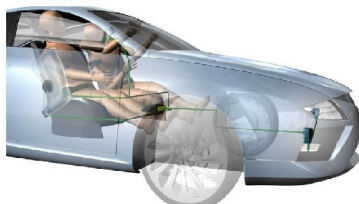
# Plan of the presentation

- ① Motivation
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  - Presentation of the problem
  - Main result
  - The dual sidewise observability problem
  - Construction of the Control
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Control theory is an interdisciplinary field of research that relates mathematical laws with rich applications in engineering, economics, and other sciences. It is nowadays a rich crossing point of engineering and mathematics.

Control theory is used to enhance production, efficiency and safety in many areas such as [agriculture](#), [military](#), [nuclear power plants](#), [radar tracking system](#), [food processing](#), [economics](#), [traffic system](#), [biology](#), [medicine](#), [radiotherapy](#), [oncology](#) etc.

# Control theory



Control theory is especially used in mechanical engineering.

# Presentation of Problem

Consider the following variable coefficients controlled 1-d wave equation:

$$\begin{cases} \rho(x)y_{tt} - (a(x)y_x)_x = 0, & 0 < x < L, 0 < t < T \\ y(x, 0) = y_0(x), y_t(x, 0) = y_1(x), & 0 < x < L \\ y(0, t) = u(t), y(L, t) = 0, & 0 < t < T. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

In (1),  $0 < T < \infty$  stands for the length of the time-horizon,  $L$  is the length of the string,  $y = y(x, t)$  is the **state** and  $u = u(t)$  is a **control** that acts on the system through the extreme  $x = 0$ .

The goal is to answer the following control problem:

*Given an initial data  $\{y_0(x), y_1(x)\}$  and a target  $p(t)$ , we want to find a control  $u = u(t)$  such that the corresponding solution fulfills:*

$$y_x(L, t) = p(t), \quad t \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

# Presentation of Problem

Because of the finite-velocity of propagation one does not expect this result to hold for all  $T > 0$ , but rather only for  $T > \tau$  large enough, so that the action of the control at  $x = 0$  can reach the other extreme  $x = L$  along characteristics,  $\tau > 0$  being this waiting.

We assume that the coefficients  $\rho$  and  $a$  are in  $BV$  and to be uniformly bounded above and below by positive constants, *i.e.*

$$0 < \rho_0 \leq \rho(x) \leq \rho_1, \quad 0 < a_0 \leq a(x) \leq a_1 \quad \text{a.e. in } (0, L) \quad (3)$$

and

$$\rho, a \in BV(0, L). \quad (4)$$

# Presentation of Problem

This is a non-standard controllability problem since, most often, controllability refers to the possibility of steering the solution to a target in the final time  $t = T$ .

But our aim is rather to assure that a given trace, the given profile  $p = p(t)$ , is achieved on the boundary after a waiting time by means of the boundary control.

# A list of classical and recent works

- Gugat, Herty and Schleper proposed a new kind of exact boundary controllability, called the nodal profile control (tracking control or sidewise profile control). The goal is to assure that the state fits a given profile on one or some nodes of the network, after a waiting time, by means of boundary controls.
  - [M. Gugat, M. Herty, V. Schleper\(2011\)](#)
- For the purpose of some practical applications, this analysis was extended to 1-D quasilinear hyperbolic systems by a constructive method employing the method of characteristics.
  - [T. Li \(2010\)](#)
  - [K. Wang, Q. Gu \(2014\)](#)
  - [T. Li, K. Wang, Q. Gu \(2016\)](#)
  - [K. Zhuang, G. Leugering, T. Li \(2019\)](#)



# Main result

For any given  $(y_0, y_1)$  with  $y_0 \in L^2(0, L)$  and  $\rho y_1 \in H^{-1}(0, L)$  and any  $u \in L^2(0, T)$ , the system admits a unique solution  $y$ , enjoying the regularity property

$$y \in C([0, T]; L^2(0, L)), \quad \rho y_t \in C([0, T]; H^{-1}(0, L)).$$

The solutions of the system in the above regularity class fulfill the added boundary regularity condition

$$y_x(L, t) \in H^{-1}(0, T).$$

## Theorem (S.-Zuazua, JOTA, 2022)

Consider

$$\begin{cases} \rho(x)y_{tt} - (a(x)y_x)_x = 0, & 0 < x < L, 0 < t < T \\ y(x,0) = y_0(x), y_t(x,0) = y_1(x), & 0 < x < L \\ y(0,t) = u(t), y(L,t) = 0, & 0 < t < T. \end{cases}$$

with coefficients  $\rho, a \in BV(0,L)$  satisfying

$$0 < \rho_0 \leq \rho(x) \leq \rho_1, \quad 0 < a_0 \leq a(x) \leq a_1 \quad \text{a.e. in } (0,L).$$

Let  $T > L\beta$  with

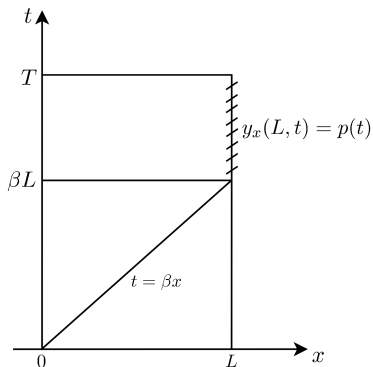
$$\beta = \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{x \in [0,L]} \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{a}}. \quad (5)$$

Then, for any  $p \in H_*^{-1}(L\beta, T)$  there exists a control  $u \in L^2(0, T)$  such that

$$y_x(L, t) = p(t) \quad \text{for all } t \in (L\beta, T).$$

- Note that in the present formulation of the sidewise controllability problem the velocity of propagation plays an important role.
- The sidewise controllability property is only guaranteed when  $T > L\beta$ .  
This is the natural minimal time to achieve our aim since, otherwise, because of the finite velocity of propagation, the action on  $x = 0$  will not reach the extreme  $x = L$ .
- The tracking condition is only assured in the time sub-interval  $(L\beta, T)$ .

# Main result



**Figure:** Sidewise controllability: The figure, which corresponds to the constant coefficient case, represents the time needed for characteristics emanating from  $x = 0$  to reach  $x = L$ , and to assure that the control of the trace to the given profile  $p = p(t)$  is achieved for  $T \geq L\beta$ . The situation is similar for variable coefficients.

# The dual sidewise observability problem

Let us now consider the adjoint system:

$$\begin{cases} \rho(x)\psi_{tt} - (a(x)\psi_x)_x = 0, & 0 < x < L, 0 < t < T \\ \psi(x, T) = 0, \psi_t(x, T) = 0, & 0 < x < L \\ \psi(0, t) = 0, \psi(L, t) = s(t), & 0 < t < T \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where the boundary data is of the form

$$s(t) = \begin{cases} s_0(t), & L\beta \leq t \leq T \\ 0, & 0 \leq t \leq L\beta \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

with  $s_0 \in H^1(L\beta, T)$ ,  $s_0(L\beta) = 0$ .

This system admits a unique finite-energy solution  $\psi$  such that

$$\left(\psi, \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}\right) \in C([0, T], H^1(0, L) \times L^2(0, L))$$

and

$$\psi_x(0, \cdot) \in L^2(0, L).$$

# Observability inequality

The question is reduced to analyze whether the observability inequality is true.

$$\|s_0(t)\|_{H^1(L,\beta,T)} \leq C_1 \|\psi_x(0,t)\|_{L_2(0,T)} \quad (8)$$

The dual version of the control problem leads to a non-standard observability inequality for the adjoint wave equation.

The observability inequality involves a non-homogeneous boundary condition at  $x = L$  that needs to be estimated out of measurements done at  $x = 0$ .

## Proposition (S.-Zuazua, JOTA, 2022)

Let  $T > L\beta$  ( $\beta$  is given as in (5)).

Then, there exists  $C_1 > 0$  such that

$$\|s_0(t)\|_{H^1(L\beta, T)} \leq C_1 \|\psi_x(0, t)\|_{L_2(0, T)} \quad (9)$$

*is satisfied for every solution of the adjoint system.*

The proof of the proposition can be obtained by using the sidewise energy estimates similar as in (Fernández-Cara and Zuazua, 2002) and (Cox and Zuazua, 1995).

# Construction of the Control

The control is

$$u(t) = -a(0)\psi_x(0, t)$$

where  $\psi$  is the solution of the adjoint system corresponding to boundary condition  $s(t) \in H_*^1(0, T)$  minimizing the functional

$$J(s) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \{(a\psi_x)(0, t)\}^2 dt - a(L) \langle p(t), s_0(t) \rangle_{H^{-1} \times H_*^1} \quad (10)$$

in the space  $H_*^1(0, T)$  ( $H_*^1(0, T)$  is a subspace of the space  $H^1(0, T)$  constituted by the functions vanishing in the time sub-interval  $(0, L\beta)$ ).

The solution of the system corresponding to the control  $u = u(t)$  fulfills:

$$y_x(L, t) = p(t), \quad L\beta \leq t \leq T, \quad (11)$$

when the initial data  $y_0 \equiv y_1 \equiv 0$ .



# Construction of the Control

Note that  $J$  is convex. The continuity of  $J$  is guaranteed by the fact that  $\psi_x(0, t) \in L^2(0, T)$ .

The observability inequality above guarantees that the functional is also coercive. The Direct method of the Calculus of Variations then ensures that  $J$  has a unique minimizer.

## Remark

*Once the control is built for  $y_0 \equiv y_1 \equiv 0$ , using the linear superposition of solutions of the wave equation, the control for arbitrary initial data can be built.*

*The functional  $J$  above can be also modified so to lead directly the control corresponding to non-trivial initial data.*

## Other boundary conditions

Our techniques apply to some similar problems with other boundary conditions.

One could for instance consider the same model with Neumann boundary conditions and control:

$$\begin{cases} \rho(x)y_{tt} - (a(x)y_x)_x = 0, & 0 < x < L, 0 < t < T, \\ y(x, 0) = y_0(x), y_t(x, 0) = y_1(x), & 0 < x < L, \\ y_x(0, t) = u(t), y_x(L, t) = 0, & 0 < t < T. \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

The aim is to find a control  $u = u(t)$  such that

$$y(L, t) = p(t), \quad t \geq 0 \quad (13)$$

for a given function  $p = p(t)$ .

Our methods apply in this case too, leading to similar results with minor changes.

Instead of considering the sidewise controllability problem one could adopt a more classical optimal control approach.

The problem could be formulated as that in which one minimizes a functional of the form

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[ \int_0^T u^2(t) dt + \kappa \|y_x(L, t) - p(t)\|_{H^{-1}(L, \beta, T)}^2 \right],$$

depending on  $u \in L^2(0, T)$ , with  $\kappa > 0$  any penalty parameter.

Optimal controls for this problem exist for all  $T > 0$ . This is simply due to the quadratic structure of the functional to be minimized, its coercivity and continuity.

# Semilinear wave equation

Consider the following system

$$\begin{cases} y_{tt} - y_{xx} + f(y) = 0, & \text{in } (0, L) \times (0, T) \\ y(x, 0) = y_0(x), y_t(x, 0) = y_1(x), & \text{for } x \in (0, L) \\ y(0, t) = u(t), y(L, t) = 0, & \text{for } t \in (0, T) \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

where  $T$  is a given positive number and  $f$  is a given function.

Our aim is to answer the following control problem:

*Given a time-horizon  $T > 0$ , an initial data  $(y_0(x), y_1(x))$  and a target  $p(t)$ , we want to find  $u(t)$  such that*

$$y_x(L, t) = p(t), \quad t \geq 0$$

*under nonlinearity assumptions.*

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# Thank You!