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ON THE MINIMUM TIME PROBLEM FOR DRIFTLESS LEFT-INVARIANT CONTROL SYSTEMS ON $SO(3)$

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Abstract. In this paper, we investigate the structure of time-optimal trajectories for a driftless control system on $SO(3)$ of the type $\dot{x} =3D x(u_1 f_1 + u_2 f_2)$, $|u_1|, |u_2| \leq 1$, where $f_1, f_2 \in so(3)$ define two linearly independent left-invariant vector fields on $SO(3)$. We show that every time-optimal trajectory is a finite concatenation of at most five (bang or singular) arcs. More precisely, a time-optimal trajectory is, on the one hand, bang-bang with at most either two consecutive switchings relative to the same input or three switchings alternating between two inputs, or, on the other hand, a concatenation of at most two bangs followed by a singular arc and then two other bangs. We end up finding a finite number of three-parameters trajectory types that are sufficient for time-optimality.

1. **Introduction and Statement of the Main Results.** We consider the time-optimal problem of the control system Σ given by:

$$\dot{x} =3D x(u_1 f_1 + u_2 f_2), \tag{1}$$

where $x \in SO(3)$, $|u_i| \leq 1$ and $f_i \in so(3)$ give rise to left invariant vector fields (acting on the right) on $SO(3)$. The control system Σ can be seen as a model for reorienting a satellite: the vector fields f_i represent infinitesimal rotations of the satellite about two non collinear fixed axis and the inputs u_i are scale multiples of the angular velocities of the rotors rotations. The problem consists of orienting the satellite from a given position to another one in minimum time.

The control system Σ is given as $\Big(SO(3), [-1,1]^2, Ad(\Sigma), (f_1, f_2)\Big)$ where $SO(3)$ is the state space, $[-1,1]^2$ is the control set, $Ad(\Sigma)$ is the control space (defined next) and f_1, f_2 are 3×3 skew-symmetric matrices, defining the dynamics of Σ by (1). The control space $Ad(\Sigma)$ is the set of admissible controls $u =3D(u_1, u_2)$ i.e. the set of measurable functions $u =3D(u_1, u_2) : [a,b] \rightarrow [-1,1]^2$, where a, b depend on u in general (see Jurdjevic [1] for a more general definition of control systems). A trajectory γ of Σ is an absolutely continuous curve $\gamma : J \rightarrow SO(3)$ with $J =3D [a,b]$

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is a compact segment of $\mathbb{R}$, such that there exists an admissible control $u \in Ad(\Sigma)$ for which:

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) =3D\ \gamma(t)(u_1(t)f_1 + u_2(t)f_2), \tag{2}$$

holds a.e. in J. We then say (γ, u) defined as before is an admissible pair for Σ. The initial and terminal states of γ are $In(\gamma) :=3D\ \gamma(a)$ and $Fi(\gamma) :=3D\ \gamma(b)$. The *time along* γ, $T(\gamma) =3D\ b - a$, is the length of J. We use $Tj(\Sigma)$ and $Pa(\Sigma)$ resp. to denote the set of admissible trajectories and the set of admissible pairs of Σ.

Definition 1. *A trajectory γ of Σ is time optimal if $T(\gamma) \leq T(\gamma')$ for every trajectory $\gamma' \in Tj(\Sigma)$ with initial and terminal state $In(\gamma)$ and $Fi(\gamma)$.*

Using the Lie isomorphism between $(so(3), [\cdot,\cdot])$ and $(R^3, \times)$, we can define the length $\|f\|$ of an arbitrary $f \in so(3)$. In the case where f_1 and f_2 are perpendicular and have the same length,Tang characterized in [7] the structure of time-optimal trajectories of Σ. He showed in particular that every time-optimal trajectory of Σ was either a concatenation of at most a bang, followed by a singular arc, and then another bang, or a bang-bang trajectory with at most three switchings alternating between u_1 and u_2. This results holds true when f_1 and f_2 have only the same length, case that was studied by Sussmann and Tang in an unpublished work [6].

In the present paper, the general case, i.e. f_1 and f_2 simply linearly independent, is completely solved. For this purpose, we use the techniques of modern geometric optimal control theory (see for instance the study of the shortest paths for the Reeds-Shepp car by Sussmann and Tang, [5]). We also develop a new technique (see Section 3.1), which mainly consists in a graphical visualization of the computations usually derived from the use of conjugate points (cf. [4]). After obvious normalizations ($\|f_1\| =3D\ 1$ and $a :=3D\ \|f_2\|$), the description of our results depends on the parameter $\rho :=3D\ f_1 \cdot f_2$ and it is decomposed in two cases $\rho \leq 1$ and $\rho > 1$. However, there is a global result given next:

Theorem 1. *For the system (2), assume that f_1 and f_2 are linearly independent. Then every time-optimal trajectory is a finite concatenation of at most four (bang or singular) arcs if $\rho \leq 1$ and five arcs if $\rho > 1$: it is either a concatenation of at most two bangs followed by a singular arc and then two other bangs, or a bang-bang trajectory with at most either two consecutive switchings of u_1 or three switchings alternating between u_1 and u_2.*

The strategy adopted here is standard: after showing the existence of time-optimal trajectories for any given pair of points of $SO(3)$, we consider the field of extremals given by the Pontryagin Maximum Principle. We only have to consider normal extremals and then certain periodic vector fields $X_\varepsilon :=3D\ f_1 + \varepsilon f_2$, $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}$, $S_1 =3D\ -\rho f_1 + f_2$ and $S_2 =3D\ f_1 - \frac{\rho}{a^2} f_2$ corresponding to bang and singular arcs (see below the precise meaning of the word "singular" in this paper). Then, we progressively exclude certain types of bang and singular trajectories by applying three techniques briefly described below:

- $(T1)$**:** Envelope theory (cf. [4, 5]): Let γ be a bang-bang trajectory corresponding to a normal extremal. We start by making a variation Γ of γ such that $\Gamma =3D\ \{\gamma_l, l \in [l_1, l_2]\}$ is a one-parameter family of normal extremals starting at $In(\gamma)$ at time 0 with $\gamma_{l_2} =3D\ \gamma$. We next establish that the curve f defined on $[l_1, l_2]$ by $f(l) =3D\ Fi(\gamma_l)$ is an envelope of Γ and the concatenation $\bar{\gamma}$ of γ_{l_1} from $In(\gamma)$ to $f(l_1)$ and f from $f(l_1)$ to $f(l_2) =3D\ Fi(\gamma)$ steers $In(\gamma)$ to $Fi(\gamma)$

in the same time as γ does. We finally try to show that the trajectory $\bar{\gamma}$ is not optimal and so γ is not optimal either.

($T2$)**:** Embedding of γ in a one-parameter family of trajectories steering $In(\gamma)$ to $Fi(\gamma)$ (cf. [6]). Then we try to show that there exists a trajectory of the family steering $In(\gamma)$ to $Fi(\gamma)$ in a smaller time than γ does.

($T3$)**:** Replacing of some interior piece of γ by another one and then trying to show that the time duration along the new trajectory γ' is smaller than the one along γ.

The organization and presentation of the computations lead to consider two parameters c_+ and c_- defined by:

$$c_+ :=3D \frac{1+\rho}{a^2+\rho} \quad c_- :=3D \frac{1-\rho}{a^2-\rho}, \tag{3}$$

where a =3D $_2\|\|f$ The pair of parameters (c_+, c_-) belongs to an open region $\mathcal{R}$ defined by $0 \leq |c_-| < c_+ < 1$ together with the boundary point P :=3D $(1,1)$. Note that for $\|f_1\|$ =3D$_2\|\|f$ the corresponding pair (c_+, c_-) is equal to P, whatever $\alpha \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$. In the sequel we refer to (c_+, c_-) =3D P as the degenerate case and to $(c_+, c_-) \in \mathcal{R}$ as the general case.

The most technical part of the work will focus on getting an upper bound on the number of switchings of an oscillatory bang-bang trajectory, i.e. with switchings alternating between u_1 and u_2. Depending on the values of those two parameters in $\mathcal{R}$, we use alternatively just one of the techniques or a combination of them in order to exclude from optimality oscillatory bang-bang trajectories with four switchings. The region $\mathcal{R}$ is then divided in subregions where some technique (or a combination of them) provides the desired upper bound. We end up finding a finite number of three-parameters families of trajectories whose union is sufficient for optimality.

The paper is organized as follows: Section 2 covers the definitions and notations used throughout the paper. In addition, we provide the basic properties of optimal trajectories. In Section 3, we start the classification of optimal trajectories by characterizing the singular and bang optimal trajectories, the relations between the times of the interior bangs and finally by providing the structure of all optimal trajectories except the oscillatory optimal trajectories. Section 4 is devoted to the presentation and application of the techniques (Ti), i =3D $1, 2, 3$ in order to show that any oscillatory bang-bang trajectories with four switchings is not optimal. We gather in Section 5 all the results and provide the three-parameters families of trajectories whose union is sufficient for optimality.

2. **Notations and Basic Properties of Optimal Trajectories.** We recall that the Lie algebra $(so(3), [.,.])$ is isomorphic to the Lie algebra $(\mathbb{R}^3, \times)$ where $\times$ denotes the vector product. This isomorphism is realized by the map:

$$\phi : so(3) \to \mathbb{R}^3 \tag{4}$$

$$\phi\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & c & -b \\ -c & 0 & a \\ b & -a & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) =3D \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}.$$

This isomorphism provides an inner product on $so(3)$:

$$< Z_1, Z_2 > :=3D < \phi(Z_1), \phi(Z_2) >,$$

where $Z_1, Z_2 \in so(3)$ and the symbol $< .,. >$ in the right hand side stands for the Euclidean inner product of $\mathbb{R}^3$. With this definition it follows that:

$$< Z_1, Z_2 > :=3D \frac{1}{2} Tr(Z_1 Z_2^t),$$

where Z^t denotes the transposed of the matrix $Z \in so(3)$. In the following, $\|Z\| :=3D \sqrt{< Z, Z >}$ and Id_3 is the 3×3 identity matrix. We will sometimes consider the 2×2 matrix corresponding to the planar rotation of angle β and we use R_β to denote it.

Here we consider the time-optimal problem of the control system Σ given by:

$$\dot{x} =3D x(u_1 f_1 + u_2 f_2), \tag{5}$$

where $x \in SO(3)$, $|u_i| \leq 1$ and $f_i \in so(3)$ are left invariant vector fields (acting on the right) on $SO(3)$. In the sequel we always assume that f_1 and f_2 are linearly independent in the sense that $\phi(f_1)$ and $\phi(f_2)$ are not collinear.

Let us use h to denote the Lie bracket of f_1 and f_2:

$$h :=3D [f_1, f_2] =3D f_1 f_2 - f_2 f_1. \tag{6}$$

Up to time-reparameterization, we can always assume that $\|f_1\| =3D 1$. Since the control problem is invariant by the transformation $f_1 \to -f_1$, we can assume that the non-oriented angle between f_1 and f_2 is $\alpha \in (0, \pi/ D2]$. Finally we orient $\mathbb{R}^3$ so that the oriented (counterclockwise) angle between f_1 and f_2 is indeed α. Let $a :=3D \|f_2\|$ and:

$$\rho :=3D f_1 \cdot f_2 =3D a \cos\alpha.$$

Define:

$$X_+ :=3D f_1 + f_2, \quad X_- :=3D f_1 - f_2, \quad \Gamma_+ ; =3D \|X_+\|, \quad \Gamma_- :=3D \|X_-\|.$$

We have:

$$\Gamma_\varepsilon =3D \sqrt{a^2 + 1 + 2\varepsilon\rho},$$

where ε assumes the values $+1$ (or simply "+") and -1 (or simply "−"). We will use this notation throughout all the paper.

For a vector field $Z \in so(3)$, we use the exponential e^{tZ} to denote the flow of Z, acting on the right, so that $t \mapsto pe^{tZ} \in SO(3)$ is the integral curve of Z starting at p at time 0. Since Z is linear, we have $e^{tZ} =3D \sum_{n=3D0}^{\infty} \frac{(Zt)^n}{n!}$.

We use ad_Z to denote the operator $W \mapsto [Z, W]$, acting on vector fields. If Z, W are vector fields, we define $e^{t\,\mathrm{ad}_Z}(W) :=3D e^{tZ} W e^{-tZ}$. From the Lie bracket relations between f_1, f_2, h one gets:

$$e^{t\,\mathrm{ad}_{X_\varepsilon}}(f_1) =3D \frac{x_\varepsilon + c_\varepsilon}{1 + c_\varepsilon} f_1 + \varepsilon \frac{c_\varepsilon}{1 + c_\varepsilon}(1 - x_\varepsilon) f_2 - \varepsilon \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} h, \tag{7}$$

$$e^{t\,\mathrm{ad}_{X_\varepsilon}}(f_2) =3D \varepsilon \frac{1 - x_\varepsilon}{1 + c_\varepsilon} f_1 + \frac{1 + c_\varepsilon x_\varepsilon}{1 + c_\varepsilon} f_2 + \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} h, \tag{8}$$

$$e^{t\,\mathrm{ad}_{X_\varepsilon}}(h) =3D \varepsilon(a^2 + \varepsilon\rho) \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} f_1 - (1 + \varepsilon\rho) \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} f_2 + (\cos\Gamma_\varepsilon t), h, \tag{9}$$

$$e^{t\,\mathrm{ad}_{X_\varepsilon}}(X_{-\varepsilon}) =3D (\cos\Gamma_\varepsilon t) X_{-\varepsilon} - (a^2 - 1) \frac{1 - \cos\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon^2} X_\varepsilon - 2\varepsilon \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} h, \tag{10}$$

$$e^{tX_\varepsilon} =3D Id_3 + \frac{\sin\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon} X_\varepsilon + \frac{1 - \cos\Gamma_\varepsilon t}{\Gamma_\varepsilon^2} X_\varepsilon^2, \tag{11}$$

where we set $x_\varepsilon :=3D \cos_\varepsilon\Gamma$ We will sometimes use the notations $x =3D \cos_-\Gamma$ and $y =3D \cos_+\Gamma$. Recall that the parameters c_ε were defined in (3). We also introduce:

$$k :=3D \frac{\Gamma_+(a^2-\rho)}{\Gamma_-(a^2+\rho)} =3D \frac{\Gamma_-(1+c_+)}{\Gamma_+(1+c_-)}. \tag{12}$$

<u>Remark</u> **1.** *To get relations (7) and (8), one can use the orthonormal generators of $so(3)$ obtained in the following way. Define $\bar f_1$ to be a unitary vector lying in the plane defined by f_1, and f_2, orthogonal to f_1 and such that $\bar f_1 \cdot f_2 \geq 0$. Let $\bar h :=3D_1[\not f_1]$; we have:*

$$[\bar f_1, \bar h] =3D_1 f[\bar h, f_1] =3D_1 f, \ \bar h =3D_1[\not f_1], \tag{13}$$

and $(f_1, \bar f_1, \bar h)$ are orthonormal. Useful relations are:

$$h =3D_1[\not f_2] =3D a\sin(\alpha)\bar h [f_2, h] =3D^2 f_1 - \rho f_2, \ [h, f_1] =3D \neg\rho f\ f_2.$$

To get (11) we used the relation $X_\varepsilon^3 =3D \frac{2}{\varepsilon}X_\varepsilon$ that one can prove as follows. By Cayley–Hamilton, we have $X_\varepsilon^3 =3D_1 X_\varepsilon^2 + a_2 X_\varepsilon + a_3 Id_3$. Since $X_\varepsilon^3 - a_2 X_\varepsilon$ is skew symmetric and $a_1 X_\varepsilon^2 + a_3 Id$ is symmetric, the previous relation reduce to $X_\varepsilon^3 =3D_2 X_\varepsilon$. Defining $M :=3D_\varepsilon X_\varepsilon^t =3D -\frac{2}{\varepsilon}X$ we get $M^2 + a_2 M =3D 0$. Since M is symmetric, positive semidefinite and $rank(M) =3D 2$ $(rank(M) =3D rank(X_\varepsilon)$ and $X_\varepsilon \neq$3D $0)$, it is diagonalizable with eigenvalues $(0, -a_2, -a_2)$, so we have $-2a_2 =3D Tr(M) =3D Tr(X^t X)$ It follows $a_2 =3D \frac{2}{\varepsilon}\Gamma$

<u>Remark</u> **2.** *As said previously, the parameters c_+ and c_- belong to the open region $\mathcal{R}$ given by $0 \leq |c_-| < c_+ < 1$ together with $P =3D (1,1)$. Note that, for every point (c_+, c_-) of $\mathcal{R}$, there exists a pair $(a, \alpha) \in (1, \infty) \times (0, \pi/$ D2$]$ such that (3) holds.*

2.1. **The Pontryagin Maximum Principle and existence of optimal trajectories.** In the rest of the paper, optimality means time-optimality. We say that a control system is *complete*, if for every measurable control function $\eta : [a,b] \to U$ and every initial state p there exists a trajectory γ for η which is defined on the whole interval $[a,b]$ and satisfies $\gamma(a) =3D p$. Since $SO(3)$ is compact and connected, the system (5) is complete. Note that (f_1, f_2) satisfies the Strong Bracket Generating Condition (cf. [3]) and the control set is compact and convex. Then, (cf. for instance [6]):

Proposition 1. *For each pair of points p and q belonging to $SO(3)$, there exists a time optimal trajectory joining p to q.*

Moreover, thanks to the symmetries of the control set, the control system Σ is symmetric in the sense that every trajectory run backwards in time is also an admissible trajectory of Σ.

Define the following real-valued map on $T^*SO(3) \times [-1,1]^2$, called Hamiltonian,

$$\mathcal{H}(\lambda, x, u) :=3D< \lambda, x(u_1 f_1 + u_2 f_2) > .$$

Set:

$$H(p, x) =3D \min_{v \in [-1,1]^2} \mathcal{H}(p, x, v). \tag{14}$$

The Pontryagin Maximum Principle [2] asserts that, if $\gamma : [a,b] \to SO(3)$ is a time optimal trajectory corresponding to a control $u : [a,b] \to [-1,1]^2$, then there exist *a nontrivial field of covectors along* γ, that is an absolutely continuous function $\lambda : t \in [a,b] \mapsto \lambda(t) \in T^*_{\gamma(t)}SO(3) \sim so(3)$ never vanishing, and a constant $\lambda_0 \geq 0$ such that:

i): $\dot{\lambda}(t) =3D\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial x}(\lambda(t), \gamma(t), u(t))$,
ii): $\mathcal{H}(\gamma(t), \lambda(t), u(t)) + \lambda_0 =3D 0$ for a.e. $t \in Dom(\gamma)$,
iii): $\mathcal{H}(\gamma(t), \lambda(t), u(t)) =3D H(\gamma(t), \lambda(t))$ for a.e. $t \in Dom(\gamma)$.

In this case we say that the pair (γ, λ) is extremal. Moreover, if $\lambda_0 =3D 0$ then we say that (γ, λ) is an *abnormal extremal*. If γ is optimal we say that the pair (γ, λ) is optimal.

Since the system (5) is subject to the Strong Bracket Generating Condition (cf. [3]), there is no nontrivial abnormal extremals i.e. for every nontrivial extremal trajectory we have $\lambda_0 \neq 3D 0$. In the following we always normalize $\lambda_0 =3D 1$.

2.2. **Notations for Trajectories and Switching functions.** Let us introduce some notations to describe different types of controls. Let:

$$V :=3D \{(-1,-1), (-1,1), (1,-1), (1,1)\},$$

be the set of vertices of $[-1,1]^2$. A control $\eta : [a,b] \to [-1,1]^2$ is said to be *bang-bang* if $\eta(t) \in V$ a. e. in $[a,b]$. Moreover if $\eta(t) \in V$ and $\eta(t)$ is constant for almost every $t \in [a,b]$ then η is called a bang control. A *switching* time of η is a time $t \in [a,b]$ such that for each for every $\varepsilon > 0$, η is not bang on $(t-\varepsilon, t+\varepsilon) \cup [a,b]$. A control with a finite number of switchings is called *regular bang-bang*. A trajectory of Σ is a bang trajectory, bang-bang trajectory, regular bang-bang trajectory respectively, if it corresponds to a bang control, bang-bang control, regular bang-bang control respectively. If $\eta(.) =3D (u_1(.), u_2(.))$, with $\mathrm{Dom}(\eta) =3D [a,b]$, then a u_i*–switching time* is a time $t \in [a,b]$ for which u_i is neither a.e. equal to 1 nor a.e. equal to -1 on any interval of the form $(t-\varepsilon, t+\varepsilon) \cap [a,b]$ for each $\varepsilon > 0$.

We define the switching functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1 &:=3D\ < \lambda, x f_1 >, \\ \varphi_2 &:=3D\ < \lambda, x f_2 >, \\ \varphi_3 &:=3D\ < \lambda, x h >, \end{aligned}$$

as the Hamiltonian functions associated to the vector fields f_i and h (cf. Jurdjevic [1]). The switching functions are important because they determine where the controls may switch. Using the PMP one easily gets that a necessary condition for a time t to be a u_i-switching is that $\varphi_i(t) =3D 0$, $i =3D 1,2$. Therefore on any interval where both φ_1 and φ_2 have no zeros (respectively finitely many zeros) the corresponding control is bang (respectively bang-bang). On the other hand if φ_i has a zero at t and $\dot{\varphi}_i(t)$ exists and it is different from zero then t is an isolated u_i-switching.

A trajectory γ of Σ defined on $[c,d]$ admitting an extremal lift Γ is said to be u_i*-singular* if the switching functions φ_i vanishes on $[c,d]$. From the fact that there are not nontrivial abnormal extremals one easily gets that there are no trajectories that are both u_1-singular and u_2-singular.

In the sequel we will use the following convention. We use the letter B to refer to a bang trajectory and the letter S to refer a u_i–singular extremal trajectory. A concatenation of bang and singular trajectories will be labelled by the corresponding letter sequence, written in order from left to right. Sometimes, it is desirable to specify which is the component of the control that switches. For instance a $Bu_1Bu_1Bu_2$-trajectory has its first and second switchings with u_1 and its third with u_2. Sometimes we will use a subscript to indicate the duration of a trajectory so that, we use B_t to refer to a bang trajectory defined on an interval of length t and similarly S_t for a singular trajectory defined on an interval of length t. A bang-bang trajectory is said to be *oscillatory* if the switchings alternate between u_1 and u_2.

Using relation (11) one gets:

Proposition 2. *Periodicity of X_ε: If an optimal trajectory γ is a bang trajectory of the form $(\pm X_\varepsilon)_t$, then $t \leq \pi/\ \varepsilon D\Gamma$*

2.3. **The Adjoint System and Two Invariants.** Using the Lie bracket relations between f_1, f_2 and h, one gets that $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3$ satisfy a system of differential equations called the adjoint system and given by:

$$\dot{\varphi}_1 \ \text{=3D} \ -u_2\varphi_3, \tag{15}$$

$$\dot{\varphi}_2 \ \text{=3D} \ u_1\varphi_3, \tag{16}$$

$$\dot{\varphi}_3 \ \text{=3D} \ (\rho u_1 + a^2 u_2)\varphi_1 - (u_1 + u_2\rho)\varphi_2. \tag{17}$$

From the fact that H is constant along the extremal trajectories one immediately gets:

$$|\varphi_1(t)| + |\varphi_2(t)| \ \text{=3D} \ 1. \tag{18}$$

Moreover if (γ, u, λ) is an extremal lift of Σ, then there exists $K > 0$ such that for every t in the domain of γ:

$$(\rho\varphi_1 - \varphi_2)^2 + (a^2 - \rho^2)\varphi_1^2 + \varphi_3^2 \ \text{=3D}^2 K \tag{19}$$

From (18), it follows $K^2 \ \text{=3D}^2 K(|\varphi_1(t)| + |\varphi_2(t)|)^2$ and, depending on the sign of $a - K$, one can define three types of curves as next,

Type-A $a > K$: we get:

$$|\varphi_2|\left((a^2 - 1)|\varphi_2| + 2|\varphi_1|(a^2 + \varepsilon\rho)\right) > \varphi_3^2. \tag{20}$$

As a consequence, φ_2 is never zero along a trajectory of type-A. Therefore, such a trajectory has no u_2-switching;

Type-B a =3D K: then:

$$|\varphi_2|\left((a^2 - 1)|\varphi_2| + 2|\varphi_1|(a^2 + \varepsilon\rho)\right) \ \text{=3D} \ \varphi_3^2. \tag{21}$$

Along such a trajectory, φ_2 and φ_3 have the same zeros;

Type-C $a < K$: we have:

$$(a^2 - 1)\varphi_2^2 + 2|\varphi_1\varphi_2|(a^2 + \varepsilon\rho) < \varphi_3^2, \tag{22}$$

which implies that φ_3 is never zero.