

AN ALGORITHM FOR COMPUTING BOUNDARY POINTS OF REACHABLE SETS OF CONTROL SYSTEMS UNDER INTEGRAL CONSTRAINTS¹

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Abstract: In this paper we consider a reachability problem for a nonlinear affine-control system with integral constraints, which assumed to be quadratic in control variables. Under controllability assumptions it was proved in [8] that any admissible control that steers the control system to the boundary of its reachable set is a local solution to an optimal control problem with an integral cost functional and terminal constraints. This leads to the Pontryagin maximum principle for boundary trajectories. We propose here a numerical algorithm for computing the reachable set boundary based on the maximum principle and provide some numerical examples.

Key words: Optimal control, Reachable set, Integral constraints, Boundary points, Pontryagin maximum principle.

Introduction

We consider here the reachable sets of a nonlinear affine-control system with joint integral constraints on the state and the control. The numerical algorithms for constructing approximations of reachable sets of control systems were investigated in many works (see, for example [2, 4, 7, 9–12, 14, 15, 17]). The properties of reachable sets under integral constraints and algorithms for their construction were studied in [1, 5, 6, 16]. For systems with pointwise constraints on the control it is known (see, for example, [13]) that the control, which steers the trajectory to the boundary of the reachable set, satisfies the Pontryagin maximum principle. In the paper [8] we have considered the reachability problem for a nonlinear affine-control system with constraints on the control variables given by the quadratic integral inequality. Assuming the controllability property of the linearized system, we proved that any admissible control that steers the control system to the boundary of its reachable set is a local solution to an optimal control problem with an integral cost functional and a terminal constraint. This leads to the maximum principle for boundary trajectories. The last result admits a generalization to the case of joint integral constraints on the state and the control given by the inequality

$$J(u(\cdot)) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} f_0(t, x(t), u(t))dt \leq \mu^2.$$

The reachable set in this case may be considered as the solution to the inverse optimal control problem: to find the terminal states reachable from the given initial state by the trajectories satisfying the constraints on the value of the cost functional. The aim of the present paper is to propose a numerical algorithm for computing boundary points of the reachable set. This algorithm is based on the solution of equations following from the maximum principle for boundary trajectories.

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1. Notation and definitions

Further by A^\top we denote the transpose of a real matrix A , I_n is an identity $n \times n$ -matrix, 0_n is a zero $n \times n$ -matrix, 0 stands for a zero vector of appropriate dimension. For $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ let $(x, y) = x^\top y$ denotes the inner product, $x^\top = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $\|x\| = (x, x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ be the Euclidean norm, and $B_r(\bar{x})$: $B_r(\bar{x}) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x - \bar{x}\| \leq r\}$ be a ball of radius $r > 0$ centered at \bar{x} . For a set $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ let ∂S be the boundary of S ; $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x)$ is the Jacobi matrix of a vector-valued function $f(x)$. For a real $k \times m$ matrix A a matrix norm is denoted as $\|A\|$. The symbol $\mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ denotes a space of $n \times r$ real matrices, the symbols \mathbb{L}_1 , \mathbb{L}_2 and \mathbb{C} stand for the spaces of summable, square summable and continuous vector-functions respectively. The norms in these spaces are denoted as $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{L}_1}$, $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{L}_2}$, $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{C}}$.

We consider the control system

$$\dot{x}(t) = f_1(t, x(t)) + f_2(t, x(t))u(t), \quad x(t_0) = x^0, \quad (1.1)$$

on the fixed interval $[t_0, t_1]$, where $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $u \in \mathbb{R}^r$, $f_1 : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $f_2 : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ are continuous mappings.

The functions f_1 and f_2 are assumed to be continuously differentiable in x and satisfying the following conditions:

$$\|f_1(t, x)\| \leq l_1(t)(1 + \|x\|), \quad \|f_2(t, x)\| \leq l_2(t), \quad (1.2)$$

where $l_1(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_1$, $l_2(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_2$. Under these assumptions for any $u(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_2$ there exists a unique absolutely continuous solution $x(t)$ of system (1.1) which satisfies the initial condition $x(t_0) = x^0$ and is defined on the interval $[t_0, t_1]$.²

Denote as $J(u(\cdot))$ the following integral functional

$$J(u(\cdot)) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (Q(t, x(t)) + u^\top(t)R(t, x(t))u(t))dt.$$

Here $x(t)$ is a solution of system (1.1) corresponding to the control $u(t)$ and the initial vector x^0 . The function $Q(t, x)$ and the positive definite symmetric matrix $R(t, x)$ are assumed to be continuous on $[t_0, t_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n$ and satisfying the inequalities $Q(t, x) \geq 0$, $u^\top R(t, x)u \geq \alpha\|u\|^2$ for some $\alpha > 0$ and any $(t, x, u) \in [t_0, t_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^r$.

Define the set

$$U = \{u(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_2 : J(u(\cdot)) \leq \mu^2\},$$

where $\mu > 0$ is a given number, and let P be a $m \times n$ full rank real matrix, $m \leq n$. Denote by $G(t_1)$ the (output) reachable set of the system (1.1) at the time t_1 for the fixed x^0 and the integral constraints:

$$G(t_1) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m : \exists u(\cdot) \in U, y = Px(t_1, u(\cdot))\},$$

where $x(t, u(\cdot))$ is a trajectory of system (1.1), corresponding to $u(\cdot)$.

The reachable set is a compact set in \mathbb{R}^m , but it may be empty.

Recall the following definitions: the linear control system

$$\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t), \quad t \in [t_0, t_1], \quad x(t_0) = x^0,$$

a) is said to be *controllable* on $[t_0, t_1]$ with respect to the output $y = Px$ if for any $y^1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$ there exists a control $u(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_2$ that transfers the system from the zero initial state $x(t_0) = 0$ to the final

²We use the same notation for the space \mathbb{L}_2 in the case of a scalar function $l_2(\cdot)$ and a vector-function $u(\cdot)$.

state $x(t_1)$ such that $Px(t_1) = y^1$;

b) is said to be the *linearization* of the system $\dot{x} = F(t, x, u)$ along the trajectory $x(t), u(t)$ if

$$A(t) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad B(t) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial u}(t, x(t), u(t)).$$

2. The Maximum Principle for Boundary Trajectories

2.1. Extremal Properties of Boundary Points

Let us show that any admissible control that steers the control system to the boundary of its reachable set is a local solution to an optimal control problem with an integral cost functional and terminal constraints.

Theorem 1. *Assume that:*

- 1) $y^1 \in \partial G(t_1)$;
- 2) $u(\cdot) \in U$ is a control that steers the system from the state $x(t_0) = x^0$ to the point $x(t_1)$, $Px(t_1) = y^1$, $x(t)$ is the corresponding trajectory;
- 3) the linearization along $(x(t), u(t))$ of system (1.1) is controllable on $[t_0, t_1]$ w.r.t. output $y = Px$;

Then there exists $\sigma > 0$ such that $J(v(\cdot)) \geq \mu^2$ for any $v(\cdot) \in B(u(\cdot), \sigma) \subset \mathbb{L}_2$ satisfying the condition $Px(t_1) = y^1$. Since $J(u(\cdot)) \leq \mu^2$, this implies that $J(u(\cdot)) = \mu^2$ and the control $u(\cdot)$ provides a local minimum in the optimal control problem

$$J(u(\cdot)) \rightarrow \min, \quad u(\cdot) \in \mathbb{L}_2, \quad x(t_0) = x^0, \quad Px(t_1) = y^1 \quad (2.3)$$

with terminal constraint $Px(t_1) = y^1$.

P r o o f. The proof follows the scheme of the proof of the Theorem 1 [8] and uses the Graves theorem [3]. \square

Since the local minimum in \mathbb{L}_2 admits the needle variations of the control, the local \mathbb{L}_2 -minimizer satisfies Pontryagin's maximum principle. Introduce the Pontryagin function (Hamiltonian) associated with (2.3)

$$H(p, t, x, u) = -p_0 f_0(t, x, u) + p^\top (f_1(t, x) + f_2(t, x)u),$$

$p_0 \geq 0$, $f_0(t, x, u) = Q(t, x) + u^\top R(t, x)u$. Assume additionally that $Q(t, x)$, $R(t, x)$ are continuously differentiable in x . A locally optimal control for (2.3) satisfies the maximum principle: there exist $p_0 \geq 0$, $l \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $(p_0, l) \neq 0$, and a function $p(t)$ such that

$$H(p(t), t, x(t), u(t)) = \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^r} H(p(t), t, x(t), v),$$

$$p \dot{(t)} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}(p(t), x(t), u(t)) = -A^\top(t)p(t) + p_0 \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial x}(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad p(t_1) = P^\top l.$$

Since the terminal constraints are regular ($\text{rank} P = m$), we have $p_0 + \|p(t)\| \neq 0$, $t \in [t_0, t_1]$. As previously, we denote here by $(A(t), B(t))$ the matrices of the linearization along $(x(t), u(t))$ of system (1.1). Applying the maximum principle to the solution of problem (2.3) we come the following

Corrolary 1. *Suppose that $u(t)$ satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 1. Then there exist $l \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $l \neq 0$ and a function $p(t)$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{p}(t) &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}(p(t), x(t), u(t)) = -A^\top(t)p(t) + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial f_0}{\partial x}(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad p(t_1) = P^\top l, \\ u(t) &= R^{-1}(t, x(t))f_2^\top(t, x(t))P(t), \quad t \in [t_0, t_1]. \end{aligned}$$

P r o o f. If a pair $(A(t), B(t))$ is controllable w.r.t. $y = Px$, then $p_0 > 0$. Indeed, if it turned out that $p_0 = 0$, then $p(\cdot)$ is a non zero solution of the equation

$$\dot{p}(t) = -A^\top(t)p(t), \quad p(t_1) = P^\top l,$$

and from the maximum principle we would obtain

$$p^\top(t)B(t)u(t) = \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^r} p^\top(t)B(t)v$$

almost everywhere in t . The last is valid only if $p^\top(t)B(t) \equiv 0$. Represent $p(t)$ in the form $p(t) = X^\top(t_1, t)P^\top l$, then $\|l^\top PX(t_1, t)B(t)\|^2 = 0$, $t \in [t_0, t_1]$. Integrating both sides of the last equality over $[t_0, t_1]$, we get $l^\top Vl = 0$. This contradicts to the controllability of $(A(t), B(t))$ w.r.t. $y = Px$, since $l \neq 0$. Thus we can take $p_0 = \frac{1}{2}$, from the maximum principle it follows that $H_u(p(t), t, x(t), u(t)) = 0$, hence $u(t) = u(t, x(t), p(t))$, where $u(t, x, p) = R^{-1}(t, x)f_2^\top(t, x)p$. \square

2.2. Algorithm

Let us describe the following algorithm for calculating boundary points of reachable sets based on the results of previous subsection. Further we assume that $P = [I_m, 0]$ if $m < n$ or $P = I_n$ if $m = n$. In this case the transversality conditions $p(t_1) = P^\top l$ take the form $p_i(t_1) = 0$, $i = m + 1, \dots, n$. Letting

$$\dot{x}_0(t) = f_0(t, x(t), u(t)), \quad x_0(t_0) = 0,$$

we get $J(u(\cdot)) = x_0(t_1)$. Substituting $u(t, x, p)$ into differential equations, we obtain the following system

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= f_1(t, x(t)) + f_2(t, x(t))u(t, x(t), p(t)), \quad x(t_0) = x^0, \\ \dot{p}(t) &= -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}H(p(t), x(t), u(t, x(t), p(t))), \quad p(t_0) = q, \\ \dot{x}_0(t) &= f_0(t, x(t), u(t, x(t), p(t))), \quad x_0(t_0) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

Denote by X the following $(2n + 1)$ -column vector $X = [x; p; x_0]$ and write equations (2.1) as the system

$$\dot{X}(t) = F(t, X(t)), \quad X(t_0) = [x_0; q; 0], \tag{2.2}$$

By $F(t, X)$ we denote the right-hand side of (2.1). Since x^0 is fixed, the solution of (2.2) depends only on the vector $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$, denote this solution as $X(t, q) = [x(t, q); p(t, q); x_0(t, q)]$. These functions have continuous derivatives $X_q(t, q)$ with respect to q , which can be found by integrating the linearization of (2.2) along the trajectory $X(t, q)$

$$\dot{X}_q(t, q) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(t, X(t, q))X_q(t, q), \quad X_q(t_0, q) = [0_n; I_n; 0]. \tag{2.3}$$

The integration of equations (2.1)and (2.2) over the interval $[t_0, t_1]$ may be performed simultaneously. To this end, we unite both systems into one system of dimension $(2n + 1)(n + 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{X}(t) &= F(t, X(t)), \quad X(t_0) = [x_0; q; 0], \\ \dot{X}_q(t, q) &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(t, X(t, q))X_q(t, q), \quad X_q(t_0, q) = [0_n; I_n; 0]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Consider the following continuously differentiable functions

$$\psi_0(q) = x_0(t_1, q) - \mu^2, \quad \psi_i(q) = p_{m+i}(t_1, q), \quad i = 1, \dots, n - m,$$

their derivatives in q may be found by numerical integration of differential equations (2.4). The calculations of boundary points require the solution of the system of equations

$$\psi_i(q) = 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, n - m, \quad (2.5)$$

and also the integration of system (2.1) with zeros of system (2.5) as the initial points for (2.1). In case $m = n$ the system (2.5) consists of a single equation $\psi_0(q) = 0$.

Let us describe a simple version of the algorithm for calculating zeros of $\psi_i(q)$ in the case $m = n = 2$. Represent $q \in \mathbb{R}^2$ in polar coordinates: $q_1(\theta) = r(\theta) \cos(\theta + \theta_0) + q_1^0$, $q_2(\theta) = r(\theta) \sin(\theta + \theta_0) + q_2^0$. Here $r(\theta)$ is a distance from a reference point q^0 and θ is an angle between $q - q^0$ and the reference direction $\bar{q} = (\cos \theta_0, \sin \theta_0)$. Differentiating the identity $\psi_0(q(\theta)) = 0$, we get a differential equation for $r(\theta)$

$$\dot{r}(\theta) = r(\theta) \frac{\psi_{0q_1}(q(\theta)) \sin(\theta + \theta_0) - \psi_{0q_2}(q(\theta)) \cos(\theta + \theta_0)}{\psi_{0q_1}(q(\theta)) \cos(\theta + \theta_0) + \psi_{0q_2}(q(\theta)) \sin(\theta + \theta_0)}, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi. \quad (2.6)$$

To start the solution we use a one-dimensional search procedure for finding the root of equation $\psi(q^0 + r\bar{q}) = 0$ and after this take this root as the initial state for differential equation (2.6).

3. Examples

Here we illustrate the above procedure for two examples of 2-dimensional control systems.

Example 1. Consider the Duffing equation

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \varphi(x_1) + u, \quad t \in [0, t_1], \quad x_1(0) = 0, \quad x_2(0) = 0, \quad (3.1)$$

$\varphi(x_1) = -\alpha x_1 - \beta x_1^3$, $\alpha, \beta > 0$, which describes the motion of nonlinear stiff spring on impact of an external force u . Consider the integral constraint on the state and the control

$$\int_0^{t_1} (ax_1^2(t) + bx_2^2(t) + u^2(t)) dt \leq 2,$$

where a, b are nonnegative parameters and take $P = I_2$.

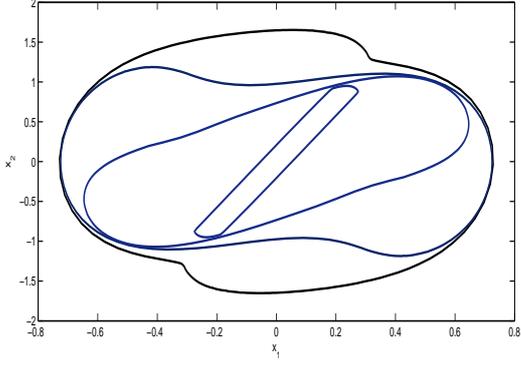
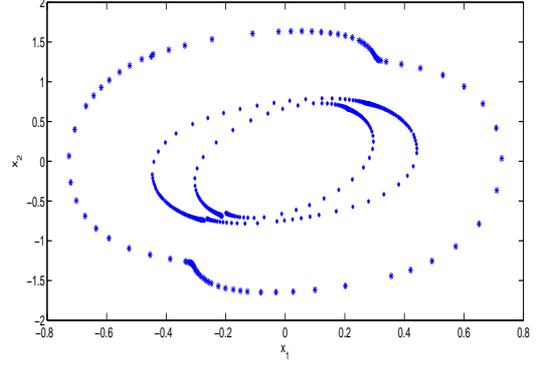
It is easy to verify that the controllability assumptions of Theorem 1 are satisfied here. Really, consider any trajectory $(x(t), u(t))$ of (3.3). The linearization of (3.3) along $(x(t), u(t))$ has the matrices

$$A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \varphi'(x_1(t)) & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

An adjoint system $\dot{s} = -A^\top(t)s$ is as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{s}_1(t) &= -\varphi'(x_1(t))s_2(t), \\ \dot{s}_2(t) &= -s_1(t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the identity $s^\top(t)B(t) = s_2(t) \equiv 0$ for $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ implies $s_1(t) \equiv 0$. This means the controllability of the pair $(A(t), B(t))$.


 Figure 1. Reachable sets for different values of t_1 .

 Figure 2. Reachable sets for different values of a, b .

The system (2.4) takes the following form

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{X}_1 &= X_2, \\
 \dot{X}_2 &= \varphi(X_1) + X_4, \\
 \dot{X}_3 &= aX_1 - \varphi'(X_1)X_4, \\
 \dot{X}_4 &= bX_2 - X_3, \\
 \dot{X}_5 &= aX_1^2 + bX_2^2 + X_4^2, \\
 \dot{X}_{5+i} &= X_{6+i}, \\
 \dot{X}_{6+i} &= \varphi'(X_1)X_{5+i} + X_{8+i}, \\
 \dot{X}_{7+i} &= aX_{5+i} - \varphi''(X_1)X_4X_{5+i} - \varphi'(X_1)X_{8+i}, \\
 \dot{X}_{8+i} &= bX_{6+i} - X_{7+i}, \\
 \dot{X}_{9+i} &= 2aX_1X_{5+i} + 2bX_2X_{6+i} + 2X_4X_{8+i}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

In equations (3.2) $i = 1, 6$, so (3.2) is a system of 15-th order. Integrating this system over $[0, t_1]$ for initial state $X^\top(0) = (0, 0, q_1, q_2, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0)$ we get

$$\psi_0(q) = X_5(t_1, q) - \mu^2, \quad \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial q_1}(q) = X_{10}(t_1, q), \quad \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial q_2}(q) = X_{15}(t_1, q), \quad q^\top = (q_1, q_2).$$

Since $x(0) = 0$ and $\varphi(x_1)$ is an odd function having even derivative it is not difficult to prove that the set $\{q : \psi_0(q) = 0\}$ is symmetric with respect to the origin. In this case it is natural to take the reference point $q^0 = 0$. As the reference direction we choose $\bar{q} = (1, 0)$. The results of numerical simulations for the case $\alpha = 1, \beta = 10$ are shown in Fig. 1–2.

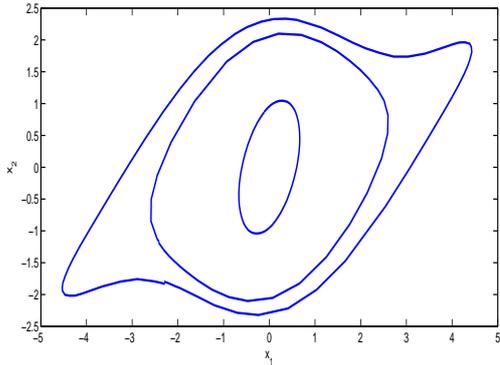
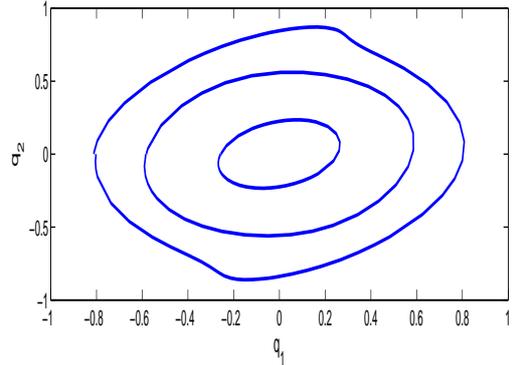
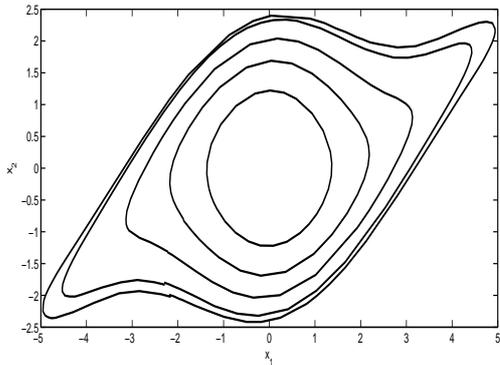
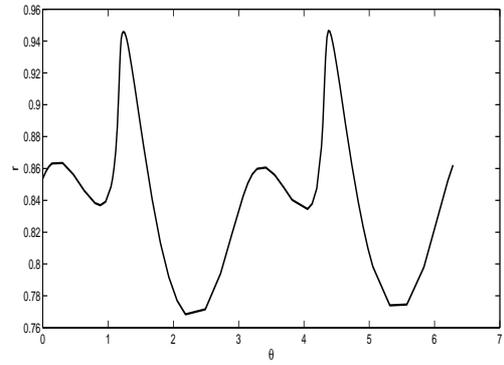
The Fig. 1 shows the plot of the reachable sets boundaries for $t_1 = 0.5, 1, 1.5$, and 2 respectively, and for $a = 0, b = 0$. The reachable sets boundaries for the values of $a = 0, b = 0; a = 5, b = 10; a = 30, b = 15$ and $t_1 = 2$ are presented in Fig. 2.

Example 2. Consider the following system [16]

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \varphi(x_1) + u, \quad t \in [0, 2\pi], \quad x_1(0) = 0, \quad x_2(0) = 0, \tag{3.3}$$

where $\varphi(x_1) = -\sin x_1$. The integral constraint on the state and the control are given by the inequality

$$\int_0^{2\pi} (ax_1^2(t) + bx_2^2(t) + u^2(t))dt \leq 2$$

Figure 3. Reachable sets for different values of a, b Figure 4. Zero-level lines of $\psi_0(q)$ for different values of a, b Figure 5. Reachable sets for different values of μ^2 .Figure 6. Graph of the function $r(\theta)$.

as in Example 1. As above the controllability assumptions of Theorem 1 are satisfied for the considered system.

The results of numerical simulation are shown in the Fig. 3–6. The Fig. 3 shows the plot of the reachable sets boundaries for $t_1 = 2$, and for $a = 0, b = 0$; $a = 0.1, b = 0$; $a = 0.5, b = 0.1$ respectively. This plot demonstrates that reachable sets are nonconvex for $a = 0, b = 0$ and became convex under increase of parameters a, b .

The next plot (Fig. 4) exhibits the zero-level lines of $\psi_0(q)$ corresponding to the curves of Fig. 3.

The Fig. 5 demonstrates the dependence of reachable sets on the value $\mu^2 = 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.2$. It shows that reachable sets that are convex for small μ^2 loose their convexity as μ^2 increases (see [16]). In this example the method fails for $\mu^2 > 2.2$ because a numerical integration of (2.6) unable to meet integration tolerances. Note that the considered procedure may be applied if the zero-level line $\psi_0(q) = 0$ is a differentiable curve. Differentiability can be violated in the points where $\psi_{0q_1}(q) = \psi_{0q_2}(q) = 0$ or the right-hand side of (2.6) is singular. The graph of the solution of (2.6) corresponding to the value $\mu^2 = 2.2$ is shown in Fig. 6.

4. Conclusion

This paper describes an algorithm for computing the boundaries of the reachable sets under joint integral constraints on state and control variables. The reachable set may be considered here as the solution to the inverse optimal control problem: to find the terminal states reached from the given initial state by the trajectories satisfying the constraints on the value of the cost functional. The Pontryagin maximum principle for boundary trajectories is applied to construct a numerical algorithm for computing the boundary points. The results of numerical simulation for two examples of second order nonlinear control systems are presented.

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