

# Optimal control problems on Lie groups related to Euler's elasticae (and pendulum)

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in collaboration with

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# Summary of the talk

- 1 Symmetries and optimality
- 2 Euler's elastic problem
- 3 Sub-Riemannian problem on  $E(2)$
- 4 Nilpotent  $(2, 3, 5)$  sub-Riemannian problem
- 5 The ball-plate problem

# Left-invariant optimal control problems on Lie groups

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q} &= f(q, u), \quad q \in M, \quad u \in U, \\ q(0) &= q_0 = \text{Id}, \quad q(t_1) = q_1, \quad t_1 \text{ fixed}, \\ J_{t_1}[u] &= \int_0^{t_1} g(u(t)) dt \rightarrow \min.\end{aligned}$$

- $M$  Lie group,  $U$  smooth manifold,
- $f = qf(u)$ ,  $g = g(u)$  left-invariant.

Suppose:  $\forall q_1 \in \mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1)$ , optimal control  $u(\cdot) \in L_\infty$  exists.

# PMP for left-invariant problems

- Trivialization  $T^*M \cong L^* \times M$ ,  $L = T_{\text{Id}} M$  Lie algebra of  $M$
- $F : L^* \times M \rightarrow T^*M$ ,  $F(x, q) = \bar{x}_q$ :  
 $\langle \bar{x}_q, qa \rangle = \langle x, a \rangle$ ,  $x \in L^*$ ,  $a \in L$
- maximized normal Hamiltonian  
 $H = \max_{u \in U} (\langle x, f(u) \rangle - g(u)) = H(x)$  smooth,
- normal Hamiltonian system triangular:

$$\dot{\lambda} = \vec{H}(\lambda), \quad \lambda \in T^*M \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = (\text{ad } \frac{dH}{dx})^* x, & x \in L^*, \\ \dot{q} = q \frac{dH}{dx}, & q \in M \end{cases}$$

# Normal extremals and their optimality

Exponential mapping for time  $t$ :

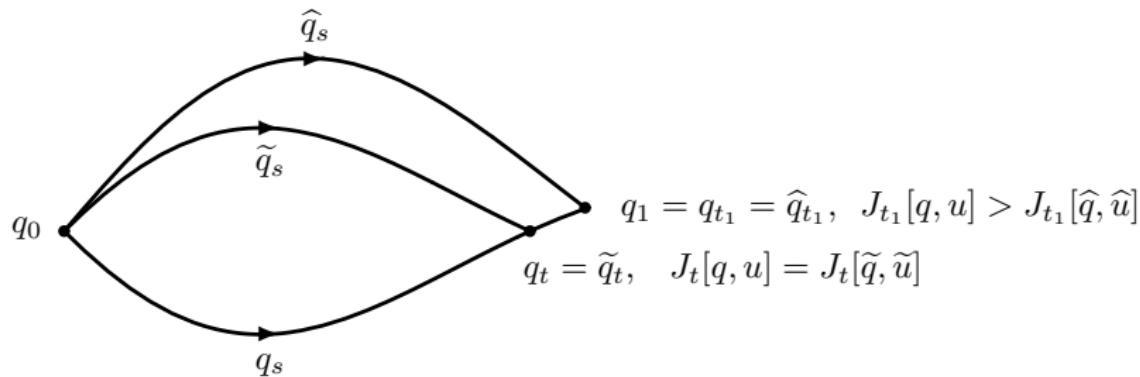
$$\text{Exp}_t : N = L^* \rightarrow M, \quad \text{Exp}_t(x) = \pi \circ e^{t\vec{H}}(x, q_0) = q_t.$$

Cut time

$$t_{\text{cut}}(x) = t_{\text{cut}}(q.) = \sup\{t \mid q_s \text{ optimal for } s \in [0, t]\}.$$

$H$  smooth  $\Rightarrow t_{\text{cut}}(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in N.$

# Maxwell points and cut points



- **Maxwell point**  $q_t$ :  $\exists \tilde{q}_s \neq q_s : q_t = \tilde{q}_t, J_t[q, u] = J_t[\tilde{q}, \tilde{u}]$ .  
 $q_., \tilde{q}_.$  — Maxwell pair.
- $q_t$  is a Maxwell point  $\Rightarrow q_s$  is not optimal for  $s > t$ .
- Time  $t$  Maxwell set in  $N = L^*$ :  
$$\text{MAX}_t = \{x \in N \mid \exists \tilde{x} \in N : \text{Exp}(x), \text{Exp}(\tilde{x}) \text{ — Maxwell pair}\}.$$
- $x \in \text{MAX}_t \Rightarrow t_{\text{cut}}(x) \leq t$

# Symmetries of the exponential mapping

- Invertible  $\Phi : N \rightarrow N$  is a **symmetry** of  $\text{Exp}_t$  if  $\exists \varphi : M \rightarrow M$  s. t.

$$\Phi \circ \text{Exp}_t = \text{Exp}_t \circ \varphi, \quad J_t[q.] = J_t[\varphi(q.)].$$

- **Maxwell set** corresponding to a group of symmetries  
 $G = \{\Phi : N \rightarrow N\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MAX}_t^G = \{x \in N \mid \exists \Phi \in G : \tilde{x} = \Phi(x) \neq x, \\ \text{Exp.}(x), \text{Exp.}(\tilde{x}) \text{ — Maxwell pair}\} . \end{aligned}$$

- $\text{MAX}_t^G \subset \text{MAX}_t$ .

# Construction of symmetries of $\text{Exp}_t$

$$\dot{x} = \left( \text{ad} \frac{d H}{d x} \right)^* x, \quad \dot{q} = q \frac{d H}{d x}, \quad x \in N, \quad q \in M. \quad (1)$$

- Take a diffeomorphism  $\Phi : N \rightarrow N$ .
- $\forall x_0 \in N, \tilde{x}_0 = \Phi(x_0) \in N$ , find:  
 $x_s, \tilde{x}_s \in N; q_s, \tilde{q}_s \in M$  the corresponding solutions to (1),
- Suppose that  $J_t[q.] = J_t[\tilde{q}.]$ .
- Suppose that  $\exists \varphi : M \rightarrow M$  such that  $\tilde{q}_t = \varphi(q_t)$ .

Then  $\Phi$  is a symmetry of  $\text{Exp}_t$ .

# Estimates of cut time and conjugate times

- $\text{Exp}_{t_1} : N = L^* \rightarrow M$  onto, with singularities and multiple points.
- $G$  — a group of symmetries of  $\text{Exp}_{t_1}$ ,  
 $t_{\text{Max}}^G(x) = \min\{t > 0 \mid x \in \text{MAX}_{t_1}^G\}.$
- $t_{\text{cut}}(x) \leq t_{\text{Max}}^G(x) \quad \forall x \in N.$
- $N' = \{x \in N \mid t_{\text{Max}}^G(x) \leq t_1\},$   
 $\text{Exp}_{t_1} : N' \rightarrow M$  onto, with singularities and multiple points.
- Suppose:

the first conjugate time  $t_{\text{conj}}(x) \geq t_{\text{Max}}^G(x) \quad \forall x \in N.$

# Diffeomorphic domains in the preimage and image of $\text{Exp}_t$

- $N' = (\cup_{i=1}^{k_N} N_i) \cup N'', \quad \text{cl}(\cup_{i=1}^{k_N} N_i) \supset N',$
- $\mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1) = (\cup_{j=1}^{k_M} M_j) \cup M'', \quad \text{cl}(\cup_{j=1}^{k_M} M_j) \supset \mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1),$
- $N_i, M_j$  open, connected, simply connected,  
 $\text{Exp}_{t_1} : N_i \rightarrow M_{j(i)}$  nondegenerate, proper  $\Rightarrow$  diffeomorphic,
- $\text{Exp}_{t_1}(N'') = M''.$
- $k_N \geq k_M.$

# Group $G$ sufficient for deciding optimality

$$k_N = k_M \quad \Rightarrow$$

- $i \mapsto j(i)$  bijective,  $\text{Exp}_{t_1}(N_i) = M_{j(i)}$ ,
- $\forall q \in M_j \exists! x \in N', x \in N_i, j = j(i) : \text{Exp}_{t_1}(x) = q.$
- $\Rightarrow q_s = \text{Exp}_s(x)$  is optimal.

# Group $G$ not sufficient for deciding optimality

$$k_N > k_M \quad \Rightarrow$$

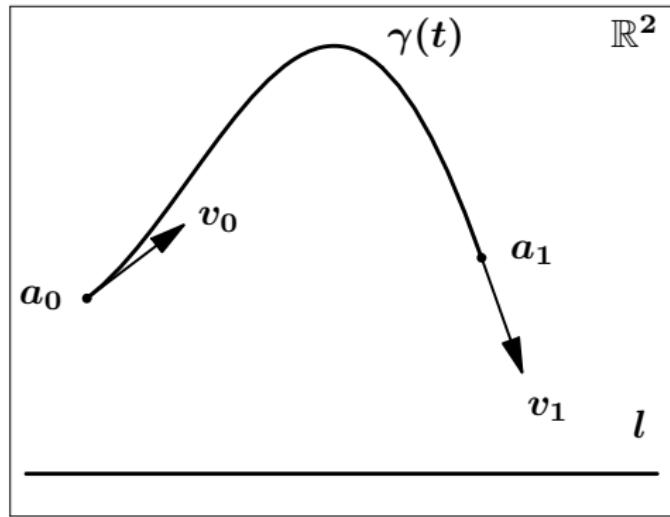
- $i \mapsto j(i)$  not bijective,  $\text{Exp}_{t_1}(N_i) = M_{j(i)}$ ,
- $\forall q \in M_j \exists x_{i_1} \in N_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_l} \in N_{i_l}$ :  
 $\text{Exp}_{t_1}(x_{i_1}) = \dots = \text{Exp}_{t_1}(x_{i_l}) = q$ ,
- $J_{t_1}[q_{i*}] = \min\{J_{t_1}[q_{i_1}], \dots, J_{t_1}[q_{i_l}]\}$ ,  
 $q_{i_m}(s) = \text{Exp}_s(x_{i_m})$ ,  $m = 1, \dots, l$ .
- $\Rightarrow q_{i*}(s)$  is optimal.

# Main steps for deciding controllability

- ① Construction of a group  $G$  of symmetries of  $\text{Exp}$   
(continuation of symmetries of adjoint system to symmetries of  $\text{Exp}$ ).
- ② Description of the Maxwell set  $\text{Max}_t^G$   
(bounds on Maxwell times and cut time).
- ③ Estimate of the first conjugate time  $t_{\text{conj}}$   
w.r.t. the first Maxwell time  $t_{\text{Max}}^G$ .
- ④ Study of the global structure of  $\text{Exp}$   
(diffeomorphic domains in the preimage and image).

# Euler's elastic problem

Stationary configurations of elastic rod



**Given:**  $l > 0$ ,  $a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $v_0 \in T_{a_0}\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $v_1 \in T_{a_1}\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $|v_0| = |v_1| = 1$ .

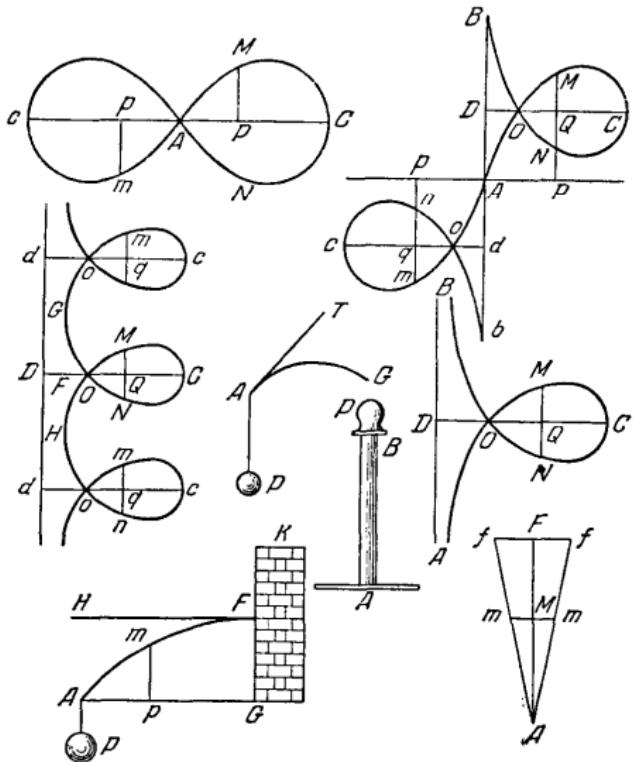
**Find:**  $\gamma(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, t_1]$ :

$\gamma(0) = a_0$ ,  $\gamma(t_1) = a_1$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(0) = v_0$ ,  $\dot{\gamma}(t_1) = v_1$ .  $|\dot{\gamma}(t)| \equiv 1 \Rightarrow t_1 = l$

**Elastic energy**  $J = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{t_1} k^2 dt \rightarrow \min$ ,  $k(t)$  — curvature of  $\gamma(t)$ .

1744: Leonhard Euler

- Problem of calculus of variations
  - Euler-Lagrange equation
  - Reduction to quadratures
  - Qualitative analysis of the integrals
  - Types of solutions (elasticae)



# Optimal control problem

$$\dot{x} = \cos \theta, \quad \dot{y} = \sin \theta, \quad \dot{\theta} = u,$$

$$q = (x, y, \theta) \in \mathbb{R}_{x,y}^2 \times S_\theta^1, \quad u \in \mathbb{R},$$

$q(0) = q_0 = (x_0, y_0, \theta_0)$ ,  $q(t_1) = q_1 = (x_1, y_1, \theta_1)$ ,  $t_1$  fixed,

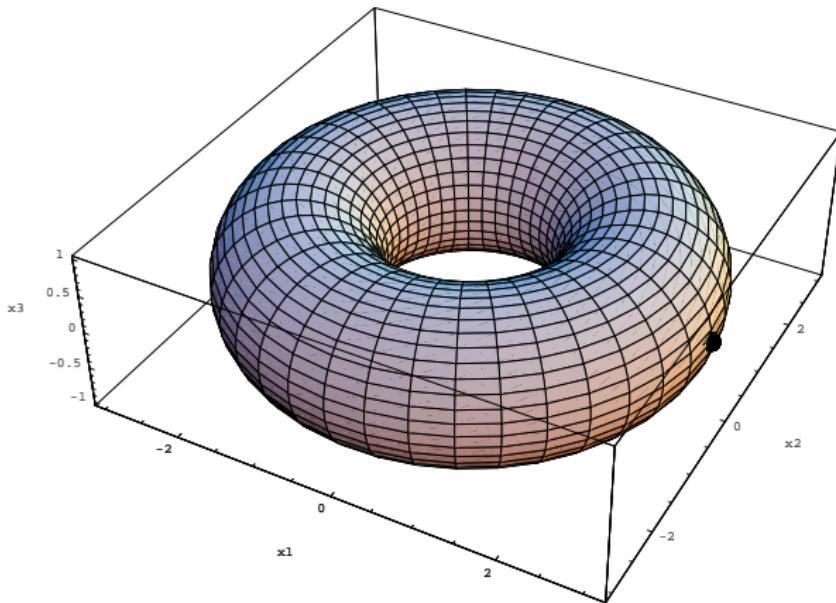
$$J = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{t_1} u^2 dt \rightarrow \min.$$

Left-invariant problem on the group of motions of a plane

$$E(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & x \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \theta \in S^1 \right\}.$$

# Attainable set and existence of optimal solutions

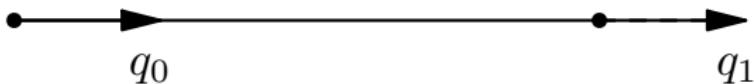
$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Id}}(1) = \{(x, y, \theta) \mid x^2 + y^2 < 1 \ \forall \theta \in S^1 \text{ or } (x, y, \theta) = (1, 0, 0)\}.$$



$$q_1 \in \mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \exists \text{ optimal } u(t) \in L_\infty.$$

# Abnormal extremal trajectories

$$u(t) \equiv 0 \Rightarrow \theta \equiv 0, \quad x = t, \quad y \equiv 0$$



$$J = 0 = \min \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow$  abnormal extremal trajectories optimal for  $t \in [0, t_1]$

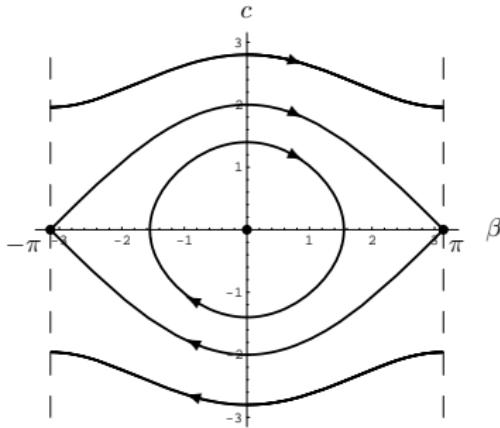
Unique trajectory from  $q_0$  to  $(t_1, 0, 0) \in \partial \mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1)$ .

# Normal Hamiltonian system of PMP

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{h}_1 &= -h_2 h_3, & \dot{h}_2 &= h_3, & \dot{h}_3 &= h_1 h_2, \\ \dot{x} &= \cos \theta, & \dot{y} &= \sin \theta, & \dot{\theta} &= h_2. \end{aligned}$$

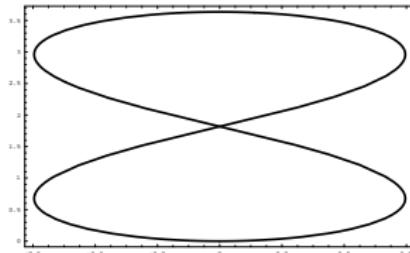
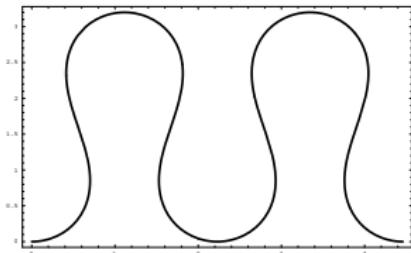
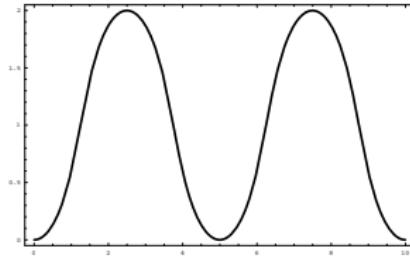
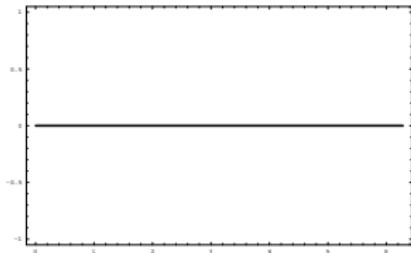
$$r^2 = h_1^2 + h_3^2 \equiv \text{const} \quad \Rightarrow \quad h_1 = -r \cos \beta, \quad h_3 = -r \sin \beta$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\beta} = c, \\ \dot{c} = -r \sin \beta \end{cases}$$

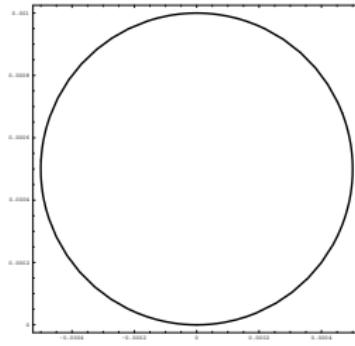
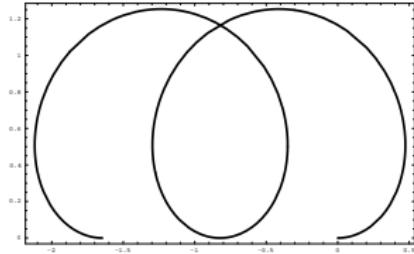
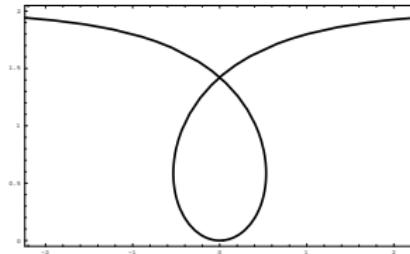
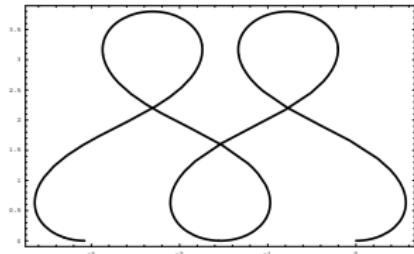


$\theta(t), x(t), y(t)$  parametrized by Jacobi's functions cn, sn, dn, E.

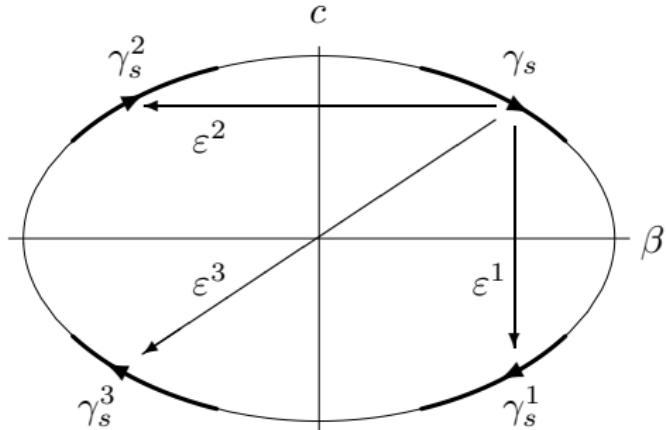
# Euler elasticae



# Euler elasticae



# Symmetries of the pendulum $\ddot{\beta} = -r \sin \beta$

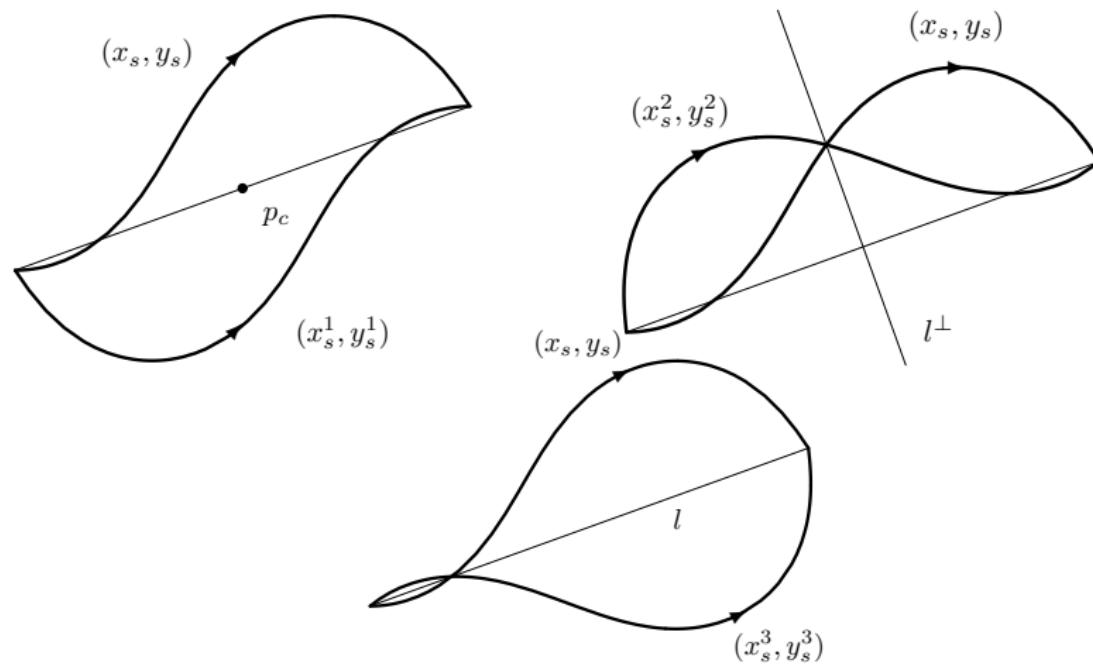


Group of symmetries  $G = \langle \varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3 \rangle$

	$\varepsilon^1$	$\varepsilon^2$	$\varepsilon^3$
$\varepsilon^1$	<b>Id</b>	$\varepsilon^3$	$\varepsilon^2$
$\varepsilon^2$	$\varepsilon^3$	<b>Id</b>	$\varepsilon^1$
$\varepsilon^3$	$\varepsilon^2$	$\varepsilon^1$	<b>Id</b>

# Group of symmetries of exponential mapping

Action of reflections  $\varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3$  on elasticae:



Group  $G = \langle \varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3 \rangle$  continued to  $\varphi : M \rightarrow M$   
and to symmetries of  $\text{Exp}_t$ .

# Maxwell points corresponding to the group $G$

Fixed points of reflections  $\varepsilon^i \in G \quad \Rightarrow \quad$  Maxwell times:

$$t = t_{\varepsilon^i}^n, \quad i = 1, 2, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$T$  = period of pendulum  $\Rightarrow$

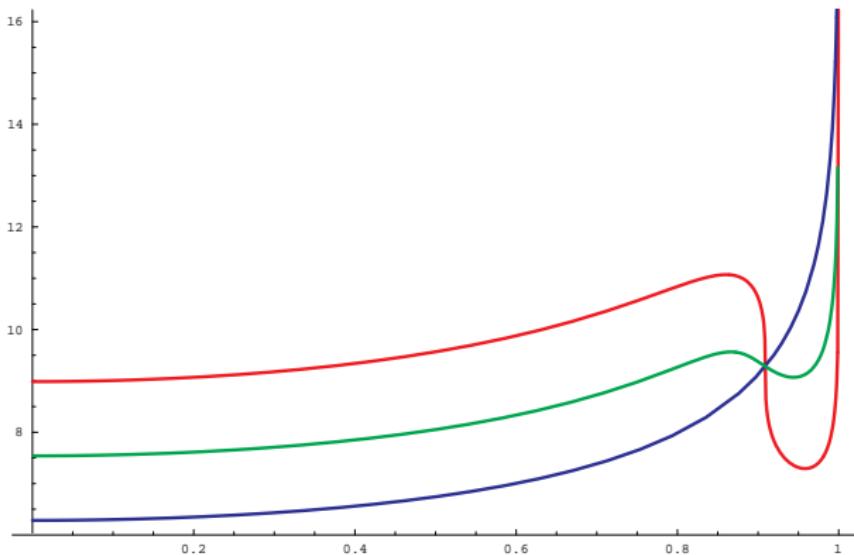
$$t_{\varepsilon^1}^n = nT, \quad \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right)T < t_{\varepsilon^2}^n < \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)T.$$

Upper bound of cut time:

$$t_{\text{cut}} \leq t_{\text{Max}}^G = \min(t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t_{\varepsilon^2}^1) \leq T.$$

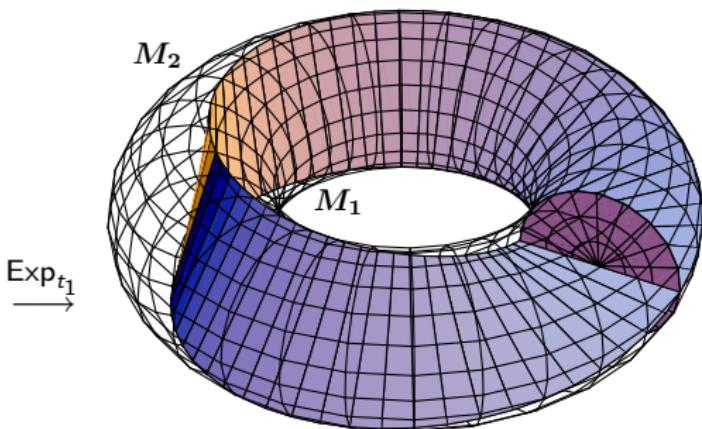
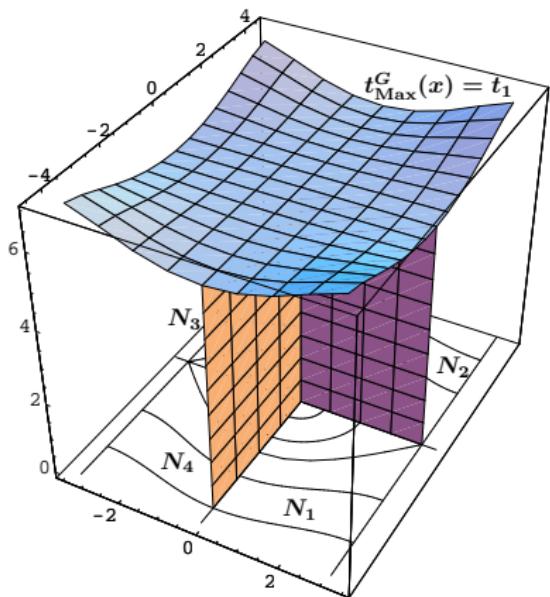
# Estimate of conjugate time in elastic problem

- Non-inflectional elasticae  $\Rightarrow$  no conjugate points.
- Inflectional elasticae  $\Rightarrow$   $t_{\text{conj}} \in [t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t_{\varepsilon^2}^1]$ :



Plots of  $t = t_{\varepsilon^1}^1$ ,  $t = t_{\varepsilon^2}^1$ ,  $t = t_{\text{conj}}$ .

# Global structure of Exp in Euler's elastic problem



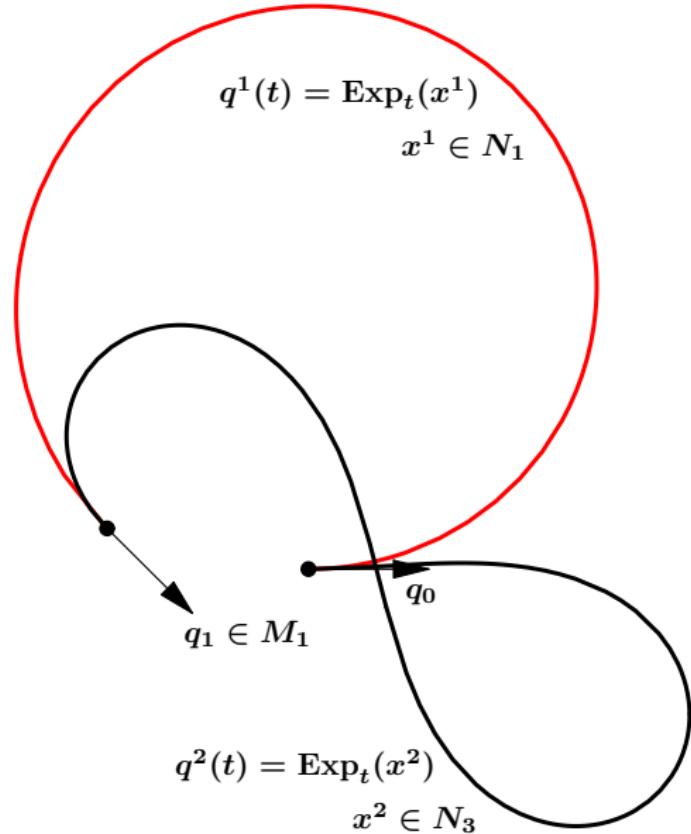
$$\text{Figure: } \mathcal{A}_{q_0}(t_1) = \cup_{j=1}^2 M_j \cup M''$$

Figure:  $N' = \cup_{i=1}^4 N_i \cup N''$

$\text{Exp}_{t_1} : N_1, N_3 \rightarrow M_1$  diffeo,

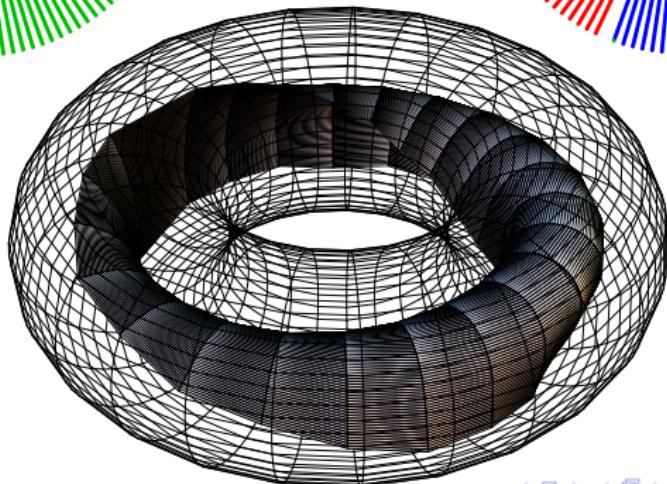
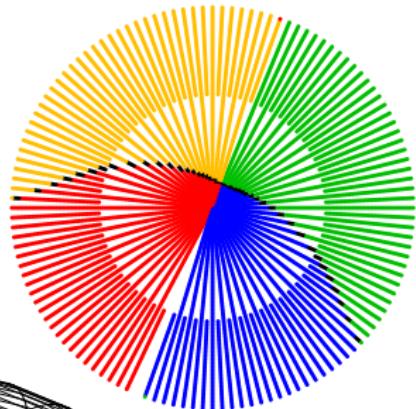
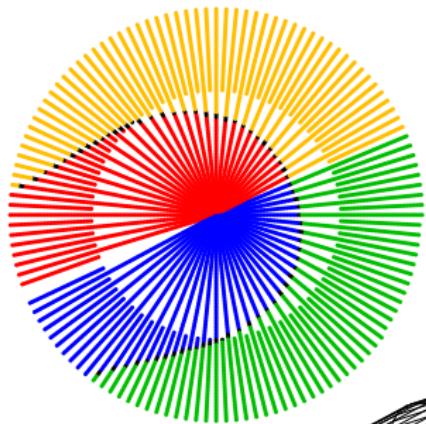
$\text{Exp}_{t_1} : N_2, N_4 \rightarrow M_2$  diffeo

# Deciding optimality



$$? : J[q^1] \leq J[q^2]$$

# Additional Maxwell stratum in Euler's elastic problem



# Sub-Riemannian problem on E(2)

$$\dot{x} = u \cos \theta,$$

$$\dot{y} = u \sin \theta,$$

$$\dot{\theta} = v,$$

$$q = (x, y, \theta) \in E(2) \simeq \mathbb{R}_{x,y}^2 \times S_\theta^1,$$

$$(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$q(0) = q_0, \quad q(t_1) = q_1,$$

$$I = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u^2 + v^2} dt \rightarrow \min.$$

# Extremals, symmetries, and cut time

- Normal Hamiltonian system of PMP

$$\dot{\gamma} = c, \quad \dot{c} = -\sin \gamma, \quad \gamma \in 2S^1 = [0, 4\pi], \quad c \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$\dot{x} = \sin \frac{\gamma}{2} \cos \theta, \quad \dot{y} = \sin \frac{\gamma}{2} \sin \theta, \quad \dot{\theta} = -\cos \frac{\gamma}{2}$$

integrated in Jacobi's functions  $\text{cn}$ ,  $\text{sn}$ ,  $\text{dn}$ ,  $E$ .

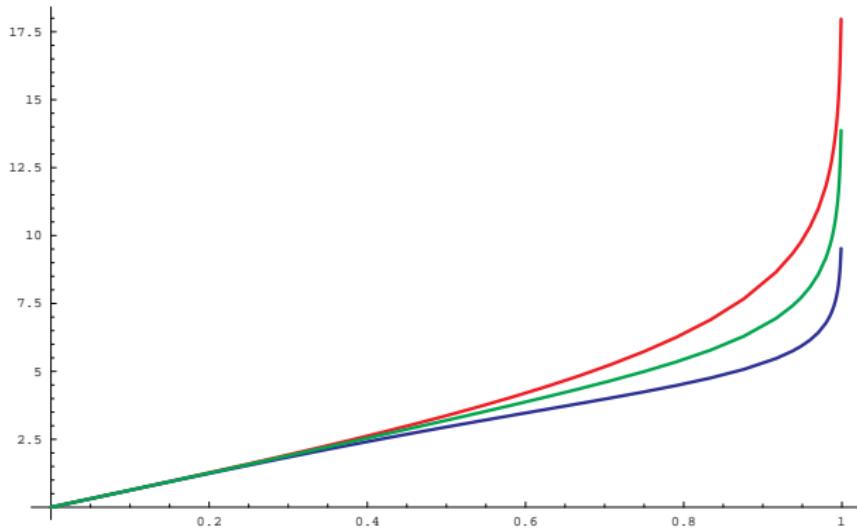
- Symmetries of Exp:

reflections of the pendulum  $G = \langle \varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3 \rangle$ .

- $t_{\text{Max}}^G = \min(t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t_{\varepsilon^2}^1)$  completely described.
- $t_{\text{conj}}$  estimated.
- $G$  sufficient to decide controllability.
- $t_{\text{cut}} = t_{\text{Max}}^G$ .

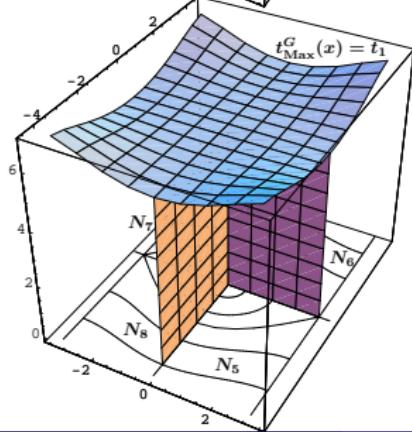
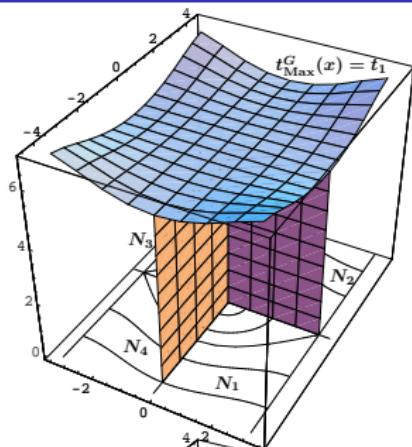
# Estimate of conjugate time in SR problem on $E(2)$

- non-inflectional trajectories  $\Rightarrow t_{\varepsilon^2}^1 = +\infty, t_{\text{conj}} + \infty.$
- inflectional trajectories  $\Rightarrow t_{\text{conj}} \in [t_{\varepsilon^2}^1, t_{\varepsilon^1}^1]:$



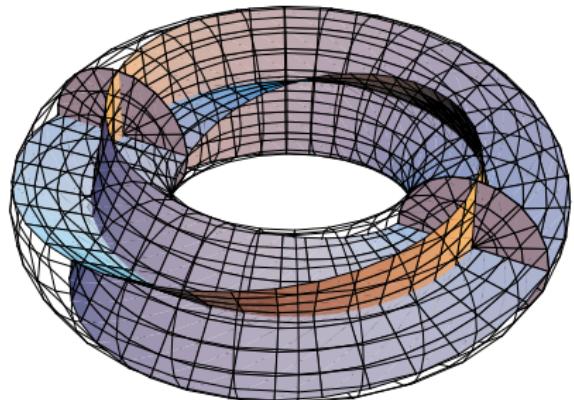
Plots of  $t = t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t = t_{\varepsilon^2}^1, t = t_{\text{conj}}$ .

# Global structure of Exp for SR problem on $E(2)$



Exp

$\text{Exp} : N_i \rightarrow M_i$  diffeo,  
 $i = 1, \dots, 8.$



# Nilpotent (2, 3, 5) sub-Riemannian problem

- Lie algebra  $L = \text{span}(X_1, \dots, X_5)$  with

$$[X_1, X_2] = X_3, \quad [X_1, X_3] = X_4, \quad [X_2, X_3] = X_5,$$

- $M$  — the corresponding connected simply connected Lie group,
- SR structure on  $M$ :  $\Delta = \text{span}(X_1, X_2)$ ,  $\langle X_i, X_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ ,
- SR problem:

$$\dot{q} = u_1 X_1(q) + u_2 X_2(q), \quad q \in M, \quad u = (u_1, u_2) \in U = \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$q(0) = q_0, \quad q(t_1) = q_1,$$

$$I = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2} dt \rightarrow \min.$$

# Optimal control problem

$$\dot{q} = u_1 X_1 + u_2 X_2, \quad q = (x, y, z, v, w) \in M = \mathbb{R}^5, \quad u = (u_1, u_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$
$$q(0) = q_0 = 0, \quad q(t_1) = q_1,$$

$$I = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2} dt \rightarrow \min,$$

$$X_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{y}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial w},$$

$$X_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{x}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v}.$$

# Normal extremals

Normal Hamiltonian system of PMP:

$$\dot{\lambda} = \vec{H}(\lambda) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{\theta} = c, \\ \dot{c} = -\alpha \sin(\theta - \beta), \\ \dot{\alpha} = 0, \\ \dot{\beta} = 0, \\ \dot{q} = (\cos \theta) X_1(q) + (\sin \theta) X_2(q), \end{cases}$$
$$\lambda = (\theta, c, \alpha, \beta; q) \in T^*M \cap \{H(\lambda) = 1/2\}.$$

$(x_t, y_t)$  Euler elasticae

Symmetries of the exponential mapping:

- rotations  $e^{r\vec{h}_0}$  :  $\beta \mapsto \beta + r$ ,
- reflections of the pendulum  $\varepsilon^i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

# Maxwell time and cut time

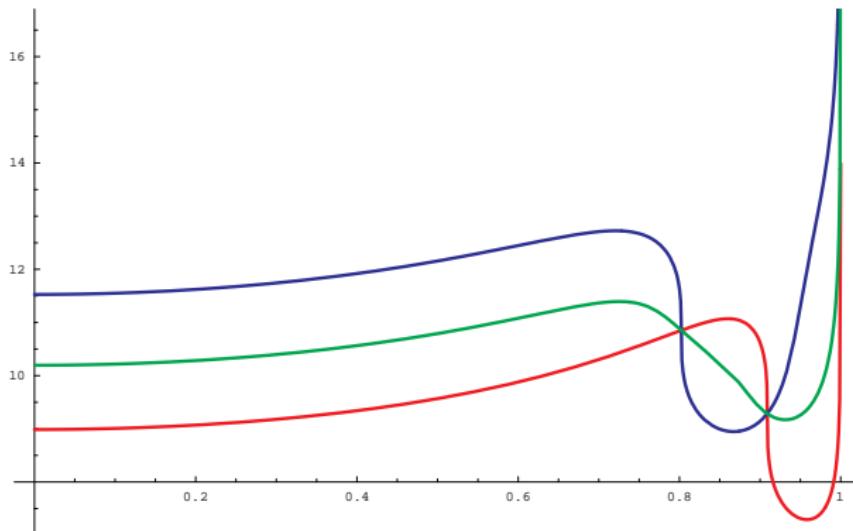
- $G = \langle e^{r\vec{h}_0}, \varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3 \rangle$  group of symmetries of Exp,
- $\text{MAX}^G$  computed,
- for any extremal trajectory  $q_\cdot$ , the first Maxwell time is evaluated :

$$t_{\text{Max}}^G(q_\cdot) \in (0, +\infty].$$

- Conjecture:  $t_{\text{cut}}(q_\cdot) = t_{\text{Max}}^G(q_\cdot)$ .

# Estimate of conjugate time in (2,3,5) SR problem

- non-inflectional elasticae  $\Rightarrow t_{\varepsilon^1}^1 = +\infty, t_{\text{conj}} \geq t_{\varepsilon^2}^1$ .
- inflectional elasticae  $\Rightarrow t_{\text{conj}} \in [t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t_{\varepsilon^2}^1]$ :



Plots of  $t = t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t = t_{\varepsilon^2}^1, t = t_{\text{conj}}$ .

# The ball-plate problem

$$\dot{x} = u, \quad \dot{y} = v, \quad \dot{R} = R(vA_1 - uA_2),$$

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$q = (x, y, R) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathrm{SO}(3), \quad (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$q(0) = q_0 = \mathrm{Id}, \quad q(t_1) = q_1,$$

$$I = \int_0^{t_1} \sqrt{u^2 + v^2} dt \rightarrow \min.$$

# Results of V.Jurdjevic (1993)

- vertical subsystem of the Hamiltonian system of PMP:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\theta} &= c, & \dot{c} &= -A \sin \theta, & \dot{\alpha} &= 0, \\ \dot{x} &= \cos(\theta + \alpha), & \dot{y} &= \sin(\theta + \alpha), \\ \dot{R} &= R(\sin(\theta + \alpha)A_1 - \cos(\theta + \alpha)A_2).\end{aligned}$$

- projections  $(x, y)$  of extremal trajectories are Euler elasticae,
- Hamiltonian system of PMP integrable in quadratures (elliptic functions and their integrals).

# Symmetries and Maxwell points in the ball-plate problem

- Symmetries of Exp:

$$G = \langle \varepsilon^1, \varepsilon^2, \varepsilon^3, e^{r\vec{h}_0} \rangle, \quad e^{r\vec{h}_0} : \theta \mapsto \theta + r.$$

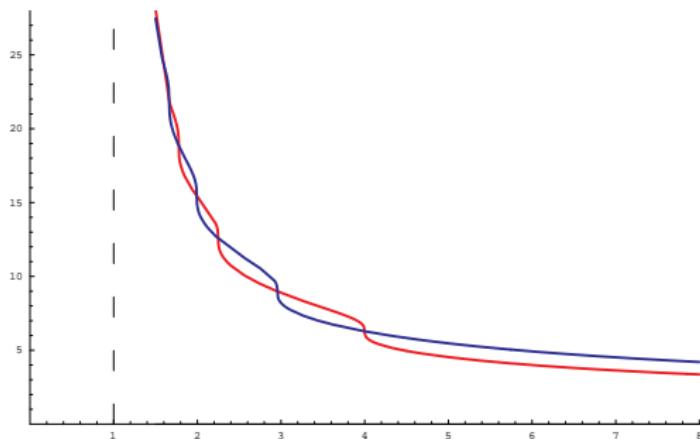
- Maxwell strata corresponding to reflections

$$\text{Max}_{\varepsilon^1} = \{f_{\varepsilon^1} = 0\}, \quad \text{Max}_{\varepsilon^2} = \{f_{\varepsilon^2} = 0\}.$$

- Implicit description  $t_{\text{Max}}^G = \min\{t > 0 \mid f_{\varepsilon^1} f_{\varepsilon^2} = 0\}$ .
- Upper bound  $t_{\text{cut}} \leq t_{\text{Max}}^G$ .
- Conjecture:  $t_{\text{cut}} = t_{\text{Max}}^G$ .

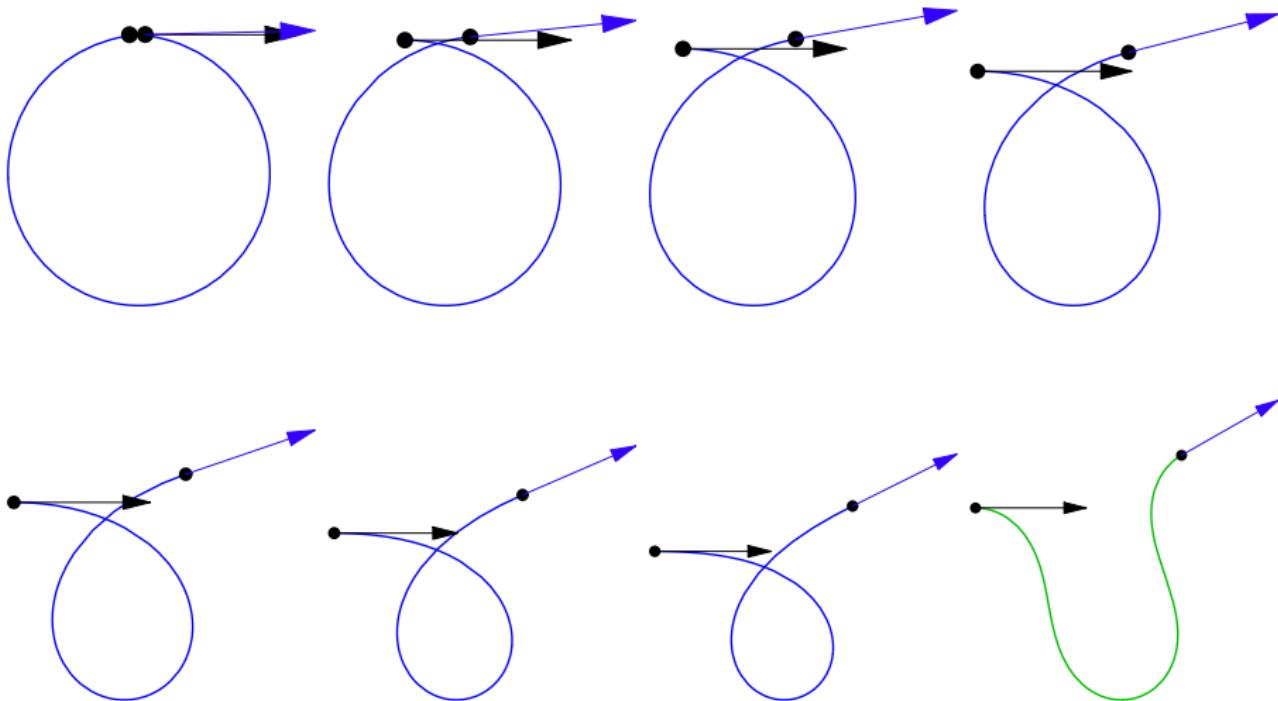
# Asymptotics near the stable equilibrium of pendulum

- Sphere rolling along sinusoids of small amplitude.
- Asymptotics of Exp,  $f_{\varepsilon^i}$  computed.
- Complete description of  $t_{\varepsilon^i}^1, t_{\text{Max}}^G$ .
- $t_{\text{conj}} \in [t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t_{\varepsilon^2}^1]$ .



Plots of  $t = t_{\varepsilon^1}^1, t = t_{\varepsilon^2}^1$ .

# Movies with optimal curves



# Publications

<http://www.botik.ru/PSI/CPRC/sachkov/>

- [1] Yu. L. Sachkov, Exponential mapping in generalized Dido's problem, *Sbornik: Mathematics*, **194** (2003).
- [2] Yu. L. Sachkov, Discrete symmetries in the generalized Dido problem, *Sbornik: Mathematics*, **197** (2006), 2: 235–257.
- [3] Yu. L. Sachkov, The Maxwell set in the generalized Dido problem, *Sbornik: Mathematics*, **197** (2006), 4: 595–621.
- [4] Yu. L. Sachkov, Complete description of the Maxwell strata in the generalized Dido problem, *Sbornik: Mathematics*, **197** (2006), 6: 901–950.
- [5] Yu. L. Sachkov, Maxwell strata in Euler's elastic problem, *Journal of Dynamical and Control Systems* (accepted), available at arXiv:0705.0614 [math.OC], 3 May 2007.
- [6] Yu. L. Sachkov, Conjugate points in Euler's elastic problem, *Journal of Dynamical and Control Systems* (accepted), available at arXiv:0705.1003 [math.OC], 7 May 2007.
- [7] Yu. L. Sachkov, Optimality of Euler elasticae, *Doklady Mathematics*, **417** (2007), No. 1, pp. 23–25.