

On a Refraction Problem

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Abstract

A condition on the point of refraction is stated in connection with the rank of matrices. (Main Theorem) As an application a condition on the points of refraction of light is given.

1. Main Theorem

In this paper we are concerned with a refraction problem which is stated as follows :

Let V^{n+1} be an $(n+1)$ -dimensional real vector space whose points are denoted as (x, y) , where y is a vector in V^n .

Let π be the intersection of m hypersurfaces $\varphi_i(x, y) = 0$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, m$), and let $A(x_1, y_1)$ and $B(x_2, y_2)$, where $x_1 < x_2$, be two fixed points in V^{n+1} , and $g(x, y, y')$ and $h(x, y, y')$ are functions on $V \times V^n \times V^n$ having continuous derivatives up to the third order.

An admissible curve $y(x)$ has a piecewise continuous first derivative y' and joins A and B .

Let $P(\xi, \eta)$ be any point in π , with $x_1 < \xi < x_2$, and let I be the integral defined by

$$I = \int_{x_1}^{\xi} g(x, y, y') dx + \int_{\xi}^{x_2} h(x, y, y') dx$$

A refraction problem is the problem to find both the point P_0 in π and the admissible function $y(x)$ which make I minimum.

The following assumptions are made :

(A) For any point P (ξ, η) in π , where $x_1 < \xi < x_2$, Euler equations for g : $g_{y_i} - \frac{d}{dx} g'_{y_i} = 0$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, m$) satisfy two points boundary conditions, that is, the set of solutions of the equations which pass through A (x_1, y_1) and P (ξ, η) is uniquely determined, and the solution minimizes

$$I_1 = \int_{x_1}^{\xi} g(x, y, y') dx$$

(B) Likewise the same conditions for $h(x, y, y')$ and $I_2 = \int_{\xi}^{x_2} h(x, y, y') dx$ as for g and I_1 in (A) are satisfied:

Euler equations $h_{y_i} - \frac{d}{dx} h'_{y_i} = 0$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, m$) satisfy two points boundary conditions and the solution minimizes I_2 .

Define $I(P) = \int_{x_1}^{\xi} g(x, y, y') dx + \int_{\xi}^{x_2} h(x, y, y') dx$, where y is determined by the assumptions (A) and (B).

Let Q $(\xi + \delta\xi, \eta + \delta\eta)$ be any neighboring point in π , and let the corresponding y be $y + \delta y$. Then δy satisfies $\delta y(x_1) = 0$, $\delta y(x_2) = 0$ and $\delta y(\xi + \delta\xi) = \eta + \delta\eta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta I &= I(Q) - I(P) \\ &= \int_{x_1}^{\xi + \delta\xi} g(x, y + \delta y, y' + \delta y') dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\xi + \delta\xi}^{x_2} h(x, y + \delta y, y' + \delta y') dx \\ &\quad - \int_{x_1}^{\xi} g(x, y, y') dx - \int_{\xi}^{x_2} h(x, y, y') dx \end{aligned}$$

Let δI be the first variation of I (linear principal part of ΔI):

$$\delta I = \{(g - \Sigma y'_i g_{y'_i})_P - (h - \Sigma y'_i h_{y'_i})_P\} \delta\xi + \Sigma \{(g_{y'_i})_P - (h_{y'_i})_P\} \delta\eta_i = 0 \quad (1)$$

For the proof of the equation (1) and the other related facts see the references 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Note that $(y'_i)_P$ takes two values since a refraction takes place at P.

P and Q are in π and so $(\delta\xi, \delta\eta_1, \dots, \delta\eta_n)$ is not arbitrary. It satisfies the following conditions

$$\varphi_{ix} \delta\xi + \sum_{j=1}^n \varphi_{iy_j} \delta\eta_j = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, m) \quad (2)$$

(1) must be satisfied by any $(\delta\xi, \delta\eta_1, \dots, \delta\eta_n)$ satisfying (2), that is (2) imply (1).

Let us define the following fundamental matrix of φ :

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{1x} & \varphi_{1y_1} & \dots & \varphi_{1y_n} \\ \varphi_{2x} & \varphi_{2y_1} & \dots & \varphi_{2y_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \varphi_{mx} & \varphi_{my_1} & \dots & \varphi_{my_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } \kappa = \left((g - \Sigma y'_i g_{y'_i})_P - (h - \Sigma y'_i h_{y'_i})_P, (g_{y'_1})_P - (h_{y'_1})_P, \dots, (g_{y'_n})_P - (h_{y'_n})_P \right)$$

Lemma. (2) imply (1) if and only if

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi \\ \kappa \end{pmatrix} = \text{rank } \Phi$$

Then we have the following theorem.

Theorem Under the suitable differentiability conditions made in the precedings and under the assumptions (A) and (B), the point of refraction, the point P in π which minimizes I, satisfies the condition

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi \\ \kappa \end{pmatrix} = \text{rank } \Phi$$

2. An Application

$$\text{Let } n = 2, m = 1 \text{ and } g = \frac{\sqrt{1+y'^2+z'^2}}{v_1}, h = \frac{\sqrt{1+y''^2+z''^2}}{v_2}$$

The problem of refraction of light is in the case. g and h satisfy the necessary conditions. Put $\alpha = y'(\xi)$, $\beta = z'(\xi)$ with respect to g, and $\gamma = y''(\xi)$, $\delta = z''(\xi)$ with respect to h.

$$\text{Put } L = \frac{1}{v_1 \sqrt{1+\alpha^2+\beta^2}}, M = \frac{1}{v_2 \sqrt{1+\gamma^2+\delta^2}},$$

then the rank condition in the Theorem is :

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} L-M & \alpha L - \gamma M & \beta L - \delta M \\ (\varphi_x)_P & (\varphi_y)_P & (\varphi_z)_P \end{pmatrix} = 1,$$

or equivalently $(L-M, \alpha L - \gamma M, \beta L - \delta M)$ is proportional to $(\varphi_x, \varphi_y, \varphi_z)$ at P :

$$\begin{cases} L - M = k \varphi_x \\ \alpha L - \gamma M = k \varphi_y \\ \beta L - \delta M = k \varphi_z \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

If $k = 0$, then $L = M$, $\alpha L = \gamma M$, $\beta L = \delta M$, and so $\alpha = \gamma$ and $\beta = \delta$, and then $v_1 = v_2$.

Thus we have, if $v_1 \neq v_2$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & \varphi_x \\ \alpha & \gamma & \varphi_y \\ \beta & \delta & \varphi_z \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (4)$$

(4) means that the vectors $\mathbf{p} = (1, \alpha, \beta)$, $\mathbf{q} = (1, \gamma, \delta)$ and $\mathbf{n} = (\varphi_x, \varphi_y, \varphi_z)$ are coplanar.

The other condition implied by (3) is

$$\frac{\sin(\widehat{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n}})}{v_1} = \frac{\sin(\widehat{\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{n}})}{v_2}$$

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1 つ の 屈 折 問 題

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$n+1$ 次元の実ベクトル空間で $f(x, y, y')$ は m 個の超曲面の交わり π を境として不連続とし, その両側では必要な条件を満足するものとする。双方の側の 2 定点 A, B があるとき π 上の 1 点 P を求めて, A, P, B を通る $y(x)$ を求めて

$$\int_a^b f(x, y, y') dx$$

を極小とする。 P の満足すべき条件として行列の階数についての条件を求める。(主定理)
応用として光の屈折問題について考察する。