

Trajectories of Differential Inclusions with State Constraints

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Abstract

The paper deals with solutions of a differential inclusion $\dot{x} \in F(x)$ constrained to a compact convex set Ω . Here F is a compact, possibly non-convex valued, Lipschitz continuous multifunction, whose convex closure coF satisfies a strict inward pointing condition at every boundary point $x \in \partial\Omega$. Given a reference trajectory $x^*(\cdot)$ taking values in an ε -neighborhood of Ω , we prove the existence of a second trajectory $x : [0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ which satisfies $\|x - x^*\|_{W^{1,1}} \leq C\varepsilon(1 + |\ln \varepsilon|)$. As shown by an earlier counterexample, this bound is sharp.

1 Introduction

Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a Lipschitz continuous multifunction with compact values. A Carathéodory solution of the differential inclusion

$$\dot{x} \in F(x) \tag{1.1}$$

will be called an F -trajectory. By definition, this is an absolutely continuous map $x(\cdot)$ from a time interval $[a, b]$ into \mathbb{R}^n , whose time derivative $\dot{x}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}x(t)$ satisfies the differential inclusion (1.1) at a.e. time t .

Given a closed convex set $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, we are interested in F -trajectories that remain inside Ω . More precisely, let $t \mapsto x^*(t)$ be an F -trajectory which remains within an ε -neighborhood of Ω , so that

$$d(x^*(t), \Omega) \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T]. \tag{1.2}$$

Moreover, let an initial data x_0 be given, satisfying

$$x_0 \in \Omega, \quad |x_0 - x^*(0)| \leq \varepsilon. \tag{1.3}$$

We seek a second F -trajectory $x : [0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ which satisfies the initial condition

$$x(0) = x_0 \tag{1.4}$$

and remains close to $x^*(\cdot)$ throughout the interval $[0, T]$.

Since we require that $x(t)$ be inside Ω at every time t , a natural assumption is that, at each boundary point $x \in \partial\Omega$, the convex hull of the set of velocities $F(x)$ should contain some vector \mathbf{a} which points strictly in the interior of Ω . If this condition holds, from earlier literature the following facts are known:

- If Ω is a compact set with \mathcal{C}^1 boundary, then for every F -trajectory $x^*(\cdot)$ satisfying (1.2) there exists an F -trajectory $x : [0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ with initial data (1.4) such that

$$\|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} \leq C\varepsilon, \quad (1.5)$$

for some constant C independent of x^* and ε . See [15] for details.

- On the other hand, if the boundary of Ω is not smooth, then the estimate (1.5), which is linear in ε , cannot hold in general. This was proved by the counterexample in [4].
- In the special case where $F(x) \equiv F$ is a fixed compact set, independent of x , and Ω is the intersection of two closed half-spaces, the analysis in [5] has proved that (1.5) can be replaced by the weaker estimate

$$\|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} \leq C\varepsilon |\ln \varepsilon| \quad (0 < \varepsilon < 1/4). \quad (1.6)$$

Aim of the present paper is to show that the “ $\varepsilon \ln \varepsilon$ ” estimate (1.6) can be achieved for a fully general class of Lipschitz multifunctions F and compact sets Ω . Our main assumption will be the following inward-pointing condition.

(A1) For every $x \in \Omega$ one has $\text{co}F(x) \cap \text{int}(T_\Omega(x)) \neq \emptyset$.

In other words, for every point x on the boundary of Ω , the convex hull of the velocity set $F(x)$ should contain at least one vector \mathbf{a} which lies in the interior of the tangent cone $T_\Omega(x)$. We recall that the tangent cone to the set Ω at the point x is defined as

$$T_\Omega(x) \doteq \left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}^n; \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} h^{-1} d(x + hy; \Omega) = 0 \right\}.$$

Our main result is the following.

Theorem 1. *Fix $T > 0$, let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a compact, convex domain, and let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be a Lipschitz continuous, compact valued multifunction, which satisfies (A1). Then there exists a constant K such that the following holds.*

Given any F -trajectory $x^ : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ and any initial point $x_0 \in \Omega$, calling*

$$\varepsilon \doteq |x_0 - x^*(0)| + \max_{t \in [0, T]} d(x^*(t), \Omega), \quad (1.7)$$

there exists a second F -trajectory $x : [0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ with $x(0) = x_0$ and such that

$$\|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([0, T])} \leq K\varepsilon, \quad (1.8)$$

$$\|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} \leq K\varepsilon(1 + |\ln \varepsilon|). \quad (1.9)$$

Remark 1. If $\varepsilon = 0$ in (1.7), one can simply take $x(t) = x^*(t)$. When ε is large, the result is also trivial, by the compactness of Ω . The above estimates have interest when ε is positive but small, say $0 < \varepsilon < 1/4$. In this case, (1.9) is equivalent to (1.6). Estimates such as (1.8)-(1.9) play a key role in determining the regularity of the value function, for optimal control problems with state constraints [4, 5, 13, 16, 15, 17].

The above theorem will be proved in several stages. In Section 2 we show that the same conclusions hold in the case $F(x) = F$ is a compact convex set, independent of x , and Ω is a closed convex set satisfying the following assumption.

(A2) There exists a non-zero vector $\mathbf{a} \in F$ and a positive number $\rho > 0$ such that, defining the closed convex cone

$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{a},\rho} \doteq \left\{ \lambda y; \lambda \geq 0, |y - \mathbf{a}| \leq \rho \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (1.10)$$

one has

$$\Omega + \Gamma_{\mathbf{a},\rho} = \Omega. \quad (1.11)$$

Notice that the above assumption is clearly satisfied if Ω is any convex cone, with $F \cap \text{int}(\Omega) \neq \emptyset$. Indeed, in this case it suffices to select $\mathbf{a} \in F \cap \text{int}(\Omega)$ and choose $\rho > 0$ small enough so that the closed ball $\overline{B}(\mathbf{a}, \rho)$ centered at \mathbf{a} with radius ρ is contained inside Ω .

If the assumption (A2) holds, we can write an explicit formula for the trajectory $x(\cdot)$, achieving a short, transparent proof.

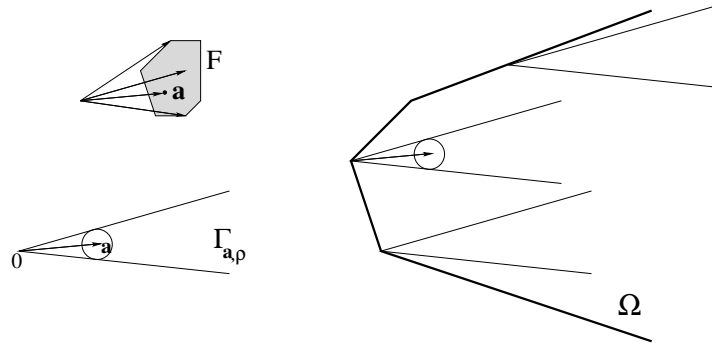


Figure 1: The set of velocities F , the cone $\Gamma_{\mathbf{a},\rho}$, and a set Ω satisfying the condition (A2).

In Sections 3–5 we prove Theorem 1 in full generality. This is achieved in three stages.

1. The case where the velocity sets $F(x)$ depend Lipschitz continuously on x is handled using a standard Gronwall type estimate.
2. The convexity assumption on the velocity sets $F(x)$ is removed using Lyapunov's theorem on the range of a vector measure [10, 14].
3. Finally, a straightforward covering argument allows us to extend the result to the case where Ω is an arbitrary compact convex domain.

The last section of paper provides some straightforward extensions of the main result. Indeed, Theorem 1 remains valid, more generally, on a domain Ω which locally coincides with the diffeomorphic image of a convex set.

We recall that the Hausdorff distance between two compact subsets $X, Y \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined as

$$d_H(X, Y) \doteq \max \left\{ \max_{x \in X} d(x, Y), \max_{y \in Y} d(y, X) \right\}.$$

A compact valued multifunction F is Lipschitz continuous if there exists a Lipschitz constant L such that

$$d_H(F(x), F(y)) \leq L|x - y| \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (1.12)$$

The multifunction F is bounded if there exists a constant M such that

$$|v| \leq M \quad \text{for all } v \in F(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (1.13)$$

A comprehensive introduction to the theory of set-valued functions and differential inclusions can be found in [1, 2].

2 An explicit formula

In this section, we prove a version of Theorem 1, valid in the case where the set of velocities is convex, and independent of x . In this case, the trajectory $x(\cdot)$ can be described by an explicit formula.

Lemma 1. *The conclusions of Theorem 1 hold when $F(x) = F$ is a fixed compact, convex set, and Ω is closed, convex domain satisfying the assumption (A2).*

Proof. Let $\mathbf{a} \in F$ and $\rho > 0$ be as in assumption (A2). We claim that the trajectory $x(\cdot)$ defined by

$$x(t) \doteq \begin{cases} x_0 + t\mathbf{a} & t \in [0, C\varepsilon] \\ x_0 + C\varepsilon\mathbf{a} + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)(x^*(t) - x^*(0)) & t \in [C\varepsilon, T] \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

satisfies all requirements, provided that the constant C is chosen large enough. Clearly, C will depend on F and Ω , but not on $x_0, x^*(\cdot)$.

1. First, we show that the state constraint is satisfied, namely

$$x(t) \in \Omega \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T]. \quad (2.2)$$

For $t \in [0, C\varepsilon]$, the inclusion $x(t) = x_0 + t\mathbf{a} \in \Omega$ is obvious.

On the other hand, for $t \in [C\varepsilon, T]$ we have $x(t) = \tilde{x}(t) + C\varepsilon\mathbf{a}$, where

$$\tilde{x}(t) \doteq x_0 + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)(x^*(t) - x^*(0)) = \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}x^*(0) + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)x^*(t) + (x_0 - x^*(0)). \quad (2.3)$$

For notational convenience, let $B \doteq \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n; |y| \leq 1\}$ be the closed unit ball in \mathbb{R}^n . The set $\Omega + \varepsilon B$ thus describes the closed ε -neighborhood around Ω . Since by assumption $x^*(t) \in \Omega + \varepsilon B$ and this ε -neighborhood is convex, it follows that

$$\frac{C\varepsilon}{t}x^*(0) + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)(x^*(t)) \in \Omega + \varepsilon B \quad \text{for all } t \geq C\varepsilon.$$

By (1.7) one has $x_0 - x^*(0) \in \varepsilon B$. Hence $\tilde{x}(t) \in \Omega + 2\varepsilon B$, i.e.

$$\tilde{x}(t) = y(t) + 2\varepsilon u(t), \quad \text{for some } y(t) \in \Omega, \quad u(t) \in B. \quad (2.4)$$

Choose $C = 2/\rho$ in (2.1). Without loss of generality, we can assume $\rho < T/2$, so that $C > T$. Then

$$x(t) = \tilde{x}(t) + C\varepsilon \mathbf{a} = y(t) + \frac{2\varepsilon}{\rho}(\mathbf{a} + \rho u(t)). \quad (2.5)$$

Clearly, $(\mathbf{a} + \rho u(t)) \in \Gamma_{\mathbf{a}, \rho}$, while $y(t) \in \Omega$. By (A2) we conclude $x(t) \in \Omega$, proving (2.2).

2. Next, we check that $x(\cdot)$ is indeed an F -trajectory. On the initial time interval one has

$$\dot{x}(t) = \mathbf{a} \in F \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, C\varepsilon[.$$

Moreover, for $t > C\varepsilon$ there holds

$$\dot{x}(t) = \left(\frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)\frac{x^*(t) - x^*(0)}{t} + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)\dot{x}^*(t) \in F \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [C\varepsilon, T]. \quad (2.6)$$

Indeed, $\dot{x}(t)$ is a convex combination of two vectors in the convex set F .

3. Toward the estimate (1.9), consider the upper bound on the velocities:

$$M \doteq \max_{v \in F} |v|.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{C\varepsilon}^T |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt &= \int_{C\varepsilon}^T \left| -\frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\dot{x}^*(t) + \frac{C\varepsilon}{t^2}(x^*(t) - x^*(0)) \right| dt \\ &\leq \int_{C\varepsilon}^T \frac{C\varepsilon}{t} M dt + \int_{C\varepsilon}^T \frac{C\varepsilon}{t^2} Mt dt \\ &= 2CM\varepsilon \ln\left(\frac{T}{C\varepsilon}\right) \leq 2CM\varepsilon |\ln \varepsilon|, \end{aligned}$$

where in the last inequality we used the fact that $\varepsilon < 1$ and $C > T$. This yields

$$\begin{aligned} \|\dot{x}(\cdot) - \dot{x}^*(\cdot)\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} &\leq \int_0^{C\varepsilon} |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt + \int_{C\varepsilon}^T |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt \\ &\leq C\varepsilon 2M + 2CM\varepsilon |\ln \varepsilon| = 2CM\varepsilon(1 + |\ln \varepsilon|), \end{aligned}$$

proving (1.9) with $K = 2CM$.

4. It remains to prove the estimate (1.8). For $t \in [0, C\varepsilon]$ one has

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t) - x^*(t)| &= |x_0 + t\mathbf{a} - x^*(t)| \leq |x_0 - x^*(0)| + |x^*(0) - x^*(t)| + t|\mathbf{a}| \\ &\leq \varepsilon + MC\varepsilon + MC\varepsilon = (1 + 2MC)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for $t \in [C\varepsilon, T]$ there holds

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t) - x^*(t)| &= \left| C\varepsilon\mathbf{a} + x_0 - x^*(0) - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}(x^*(t) - x^*(0)) \right| \\ &\leq C\varepsilon|\mathbf{a}| + \varepsilon + MC\varepsilon = (1 + 2MC)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (1.8) holds with $K = 1 + 2MC$. \square

Remark 2. Choosing the larger constant $C = 4/\rho$ in (2.1), the estimate (2.2) can be improved to

$$B(x(t), 2\varepsilon) \subseteq \Omega \quad \text{for all } t \in [C\varepsilon, T]. \quad (2.7)$$

Indeed, if $|\xi| < \varepsilon$ and $C = 4/\rho$, the estimate (2.5) can be replaced by

$$x(t) + \xi = (\tilde{x}(t) + \xi) + C\varepsilon\mathbf{a} \in \Omega + 4\varepsilon B + \frac{4\varepsilon}{\rho}\mathbf{a} \subseteq \Omega + \Gamma_{\mathbf{a},\rho} = \Omega. \quad (2.8)$$

3 Some auxiliary results

In order to extend the result in Lemma 1 to the case of a Lipschitz continuous multifunction F , possibly with non-convex values, some tools from measure theory and set-valued analysis will be needed. For convenience of the reader, these results are collected in the present section.

We first recall a version of Lyapunov's theorem on the range of a non-atomic vector measure. For a proof, see [10, 14].

Lemma 2. *Let $g_1, \dots, g_N : [a, b] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be Lebesgue integrable functions. Let $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_N : [a, b] \mapsto [0, 1]$ be measurable functions, with $\sum_{i=1}^N \theta_i(t) \equiv 1$. Then there exists a partition of the interval $[a, b]$ into disjoint measurable subsets J_1, \dots, J_N such that*

$$\text{meas}(J_k) = \int_a^b \theta_k(t) dt \quad \text{for all } k = 1, \dots, N, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\int_a^b \sum_{i=1}^N \theta_i(t) g_i(t) dt = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{J_i} g_i(t) dt. \quad (3.2)$$

For convenience we shall use the notation

$$B_0(v, r) \doteq \begin{cases} B(v, r) \doteq \{w \in \mathbb{R}^n; |w - v| < r\} & \text{if } r > 0, \\ \{v\} & \text{if } r = 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

Moreover, an upper bar indicates the closure of a set. A version of the next result can be found in [7].

Lemma 3. Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a multifunction with compact, possibly non-convex values, Lipschitz continuous with constant L . Let $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a compact set of times and let $t \mapsto \xi(t)$, $t \mapsto v(t)$ be continuous functions on J , such that

$$v(t) \in F(\xi(t)) \quad \text{for all } t \in J. \quad (3.4)$$

Then the multifunction

$$G(t, x) \doteq \overline{B_0(v(t), 2L|x - \xi(t)|) \cap F(x)} \quad (3.5)$$

is lower semicontinuous on $J \times \mathbb{R}^n$, with compact, nonempty values.

Proof. For every (t, x) , by (3.4) and the Lipschitz continuity of F , one can find an element $y \in F(x)$ such that $|y - v(t)| \leq L|x - \xi(t)|$. Therefore the right hand side of (3.5) is non-empty.

To show that G is lower semicontinuous, for any open set $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ we need to prove that the set

$$V_G \doteq \{(t, x) \in J \times \mathbb{R}^n; G(t, x) \cap V \neq \emptyset\}$$

is open in $J \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Assume $(\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) \in V_G$. We consider two cases.

Case 1: $\tilde{x} = \xi(\tilde{t})$. By definition, this means $v(\tilde{t}) \in V$. Since V is open, there exists $\rho > 0$ and

$$B(v(\tilde{t}), \rho) \subseteq V.$$

By continuity, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$B(v(t), 2L|x - \xi(t)|) \subseteq B(v(\tilde{t}), \rho), \quad F(x) \cap B(v(\tilde{t}), \rho) \neq \emptyset,$$

whenever

$$(t, x) \in J \times \mathbb{R}^n, \quad |t - \tilde{t}| < \delta, \quad |x - \tilde{x}| < \delta. \quad (3.6)$$

Hence all points (t, x) satisfying (3.6) lie in V_G , and (\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) is in the relative interior of V_G .

Case 2: $\tilde{x} \neq \xi(\tilde{t})$. Since V is open, there exists $\rho > 0$ and $\tilde{y} \in F(\tilde{x})$ such that

$$B(\tilde{y}, \rho) \subseteq V \cap B(v(t), 2L|\tilde{x} - \xi(t)|).$$

By continuity, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that (3.6) implies

$$B(\tilde{y}, \rho/2) \subseteq V \cap B(v(t), 2L|x - \xi(t)|), \quad F(x) \cap B(\tilde{y}, \rho/2) \neq \emptyset.$$

We again conclude that (\tilde{t}, \tilde{x}) is in the relative interior of V_G . Hence V_G is relatively open. \square

Next, we recall an existence theorem for lower semicontinuous differential inclusions [6, 8]. A multifunction $G = G(t, x)$ with (nonempty) compact values is called *Scorza-Dragoni lower semicontinuous* on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$ if the following holds. For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a compact set $J \subseteq [0, T]$ with $\text{meas}(J) > T - \varepsilon$ such that F is lower semicontinuous restricted to $J \times \mathbb{R}^n$. A result proved in [8] is

Lemma 4. Let $G = G(t, x)$ be a bounded, Scorza-Dragoni lower semicontinuous multifunction on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Then for every $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ the multivalued Cauchy problem

$$\dot{x}(t) \in G(t, x(t)), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

has at least one Caratheodory solution.

4 The Lipschitz continuous case

In this section we extend the arguments of Lemma 1 to the case where the multifunction F has non-convex values, possibly depending on x . The key step is the following local version of Theorem 1, valid on a sufficiently short time interval.

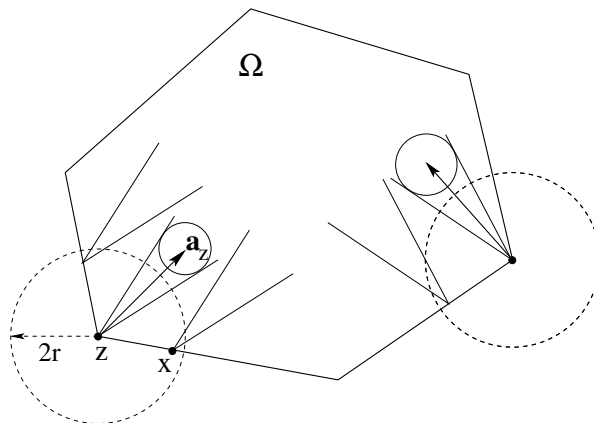


Figure 2: A set Ω which locally satisfies condition (A2).

Lemma 5. *Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a compact, convex domain, and let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be a Lipschitz continuous, compact valued multifunction. Let $z \in \Omega$ be a point such that*

$$\text{co}F(z) \cap \text{int}(T_{\Omega}(z)) \neq \emptyset. \quad (4.1)$$

Then there exists constants $r > 0$, $T > 0$ small enough, and K suitably large, so that the conclusions of Theorem 1 hold whenever $|x_0 - z| < r$ and $|x^(0) - z| < r$.*

Proof. 1. In the case where $z \in \text{int}\Omega$, the result is straightforward. Indeed, let M be an upper bound on the velocities, as in (1.13). Choose $r > 0$ so that $B(z, 2r) \subset \Omega$, and let $T = r/M$. Then every F -trajectory that starts at a point $x_0 \in B(z, r)$ will remain inside Ω during the time interval $[0, T]$. In this case, the existence of a trajectory $x(\cdot)$ satisfying

$$x(0) = x_0, \quad \|x(\cdot) - x^*(\cdot)\|_{W^{1,1}([0,T])} \leq K\varepsilon \quad (4.2)$$

follows directly from Filippov's theorem [11], valid when constraints are not present.

2. In the remainder of the proof, we thus concentrate on the case where z lies on the boundary of Ω . By assumption, we can find $\mathbf{a}_z \in \text{co}F(z)$ and $\rho > 0$ such that

$$B(\mathbf{a}_z, 3\rho) \subset T_{\Omega}(z).$$

By the lower semicontinuity of the tangent cone to a convex set, there exists $r > 0$ such that

$$B(\mathbf{a}_z, 2\rho) \subset T_{\Omega}(x) \quad \text{whenever } x \in \Omega, |x - z| < 2r.$$

Therefore, a local version of (1.11) holds, namely

$$(\Omega + \Gamma_{\mathbf{a}_z, 2\rho}) \cap B(z, 2r) \subseteq \Omega. \quad (4.3)$$

Since the multifunction F is continuous by possibly reducing the size of $r > 0$, we can also assume the following: if $|x_0 - z| < r$ then there exists a vector $\mathbf{a} \in \text{co}F(x_0)$ with $|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}_z| < \rho$. By (4.3), this implies

$$(\Omega + \Gamma_{\mathbf{a}, \rho}) \cap B(z, 2r) \subseteq \Omega. \quad (4.4)$$

Since $\mathbf{a} \in \text{co}F(x_0) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a linear combination of vectors in $F(x_0)$, by a theorem of Carathéodory there exist $n + 1$ points $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n+1} \in F(x_0)$ and coefficients $\theta_i \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \theta_i = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \theta_i \mathbf{a}_i = \mathbf{a}. \quad (4.5)$$

By choosing $T < r/M$ we guarantee that every F -trajectory starting inside $B(z, r)$ will remain inside $B(z, 2r)$ for all $t \in [0, T]$.

3. Given $x_0 \in \Omega \cap B(z, r)$ and an F -trajectory $t \mapsto x^*(t)$ with $x^*(0) \in B(z, r)$ and $|x^*(0) - x_0| \leq \varepsilon$, choose $\mathbf{a} \in \text{co}F(x_0) \cap \text{int}T_\Omega(x_0)$ as in the previous step. Consider the auxiliary trajectory

$$y^*(t) \doteq \begin{cases} x_0 + t\mathbf{a} & t \in [0, C\varepsilon] \\ x_0 + C\varepsilon\mathbf{a} + \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t}\right)(x^*(t) - x^*(0)) & t \in [C\varepsilon, T] \end{cases} \quad (4.6)$$

Notice that this coincides with the definition (2.1). Since now we are not assuming that the multifunction F is constant or convex valued, in general $y^*(\cdot)$ will not be an F -trajectory. However, the steps **1.**, **3.**, and **4.** in the proof of Lemma 1 do not rely on these properties of F . Hence they remain valid in the present situation. According to Remark 2, by choosing $C = 4/\rho$, we thus achieve

$$B(y^*(t), 2\varepsilon) \subseteq \Omega \quad \text{for all } t \in [C\varepsilon, T], \quad (4.7)$$

together with

$$|y^*(t) - x^*(t)| \leq K_0\varepsilon \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T], \quad (4.8)$$

$$\|\dot{y}^* - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} \leq K_0\varepsilon(1 + |\ln \varepsilon|), \quad (4.9)$$

for a suitable constant K_0 .

4. In the remainder of the proof, we construct an F -trajectory $x(\cdot)$ which remains close to $y^*(\cdot)$. This step yields the construction on the initial time interval $[0, C\varepsilon]$, while the next two steps deal with the remaining interval $[C\varepsilon, T]$.

Let $(\tau_k)_{k \geq 1}$ be a decreasing sequence of times, satisfying

$$\tau_1 = C\varepsilon, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tau_k = 0, \quad 0 < \tau_k - \tau_{k+1} < \frac{\rho}{4M} \tau_k. \quad (4.10)$$

Let the vectors \mathbf{a}_i and the coefficients θ_i be as in (4.5). We divide each interval $J_k \doteq [\tau_{k+1}, \tau_k]$ into $n + 1$ subintervals $J_{k,i}$ with lengths proportional to the coefficients θ_i in (4.5). On the time interval $[0, C\varepsilon]$, let the functions $y(\cdot)$ and $x(\cdot)$ provide solutions to the following Cauchy problems:

$$\begin{cases} y(0) = x_0 \\ \dot{y}(t) = \mathbf{a}_i \end{cases} \quad \text{if } t \in \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} J_{k,i} \quad (4.11)$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0 \\ \dot{x}(t) \in \overline{F(x(t)) \cap B_0(\mathbf{a}_i, 2L|x(t) - x_0|)} \end{cases} \quad \text{if } t \in \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} J_{k,i}. \quad (4.12)$$

By construction, the trajectory $y(\cdot)$ satisfies

$$y(\tau_k) = y^*(\tau_k) = x_0 + \tau_k \mathbf{a} \quad \text{for all } k \geq 1. \quad (4.13)$$

On the other hand, by Lemmas 3 and 4, the multivalued Cauchy problem (4.12) has at least one solution. If $x(\cdot)$ is any such solution, recalling the definitions of the constants L, M at (1.12)-(1.13) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} |x(t) - y(t)| &\leq 2L d(x(t), x_0) \leq 2LMt, \\ |x(t) - y(t)| &\leq LMt^2 \leq LMC\varepsilon t \leq \frac{\rho}{4} t \quad t \in [0, C\varepsilon], \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

provided that $\varepsilon > 0$ is sufficiently small. The inclusion (4.4) implies

$$B(y^*(t), \rho t) = B(x_0 + t\mathbf{a}, \rho t) \subset \Omega.$$

Therefore, if $t \in [\tau_{k+1}, \tau_k]$, from (4.14) and (4.13) it follows

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &\in B(x(\tau_k), M|\tau_k - \tau_{k+1}|) \subseteq B(y^*(\tau_k), M|\tau_k - \tau_{k+1}| + \frac{\rho t}{4}) \\ &\subseteq B(x_0 + \tau_k \mathbf{a}, \frac{\rho \tau_k}{4} + \frac{\rho \tau_k}{4}) \subseteq \Omega. \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

In particular, for $t = \tau_1 = C\varepsilon$ we have

$$|x(\tau_1) - y^*(\tau_1)| \leq LMC^2\varepsilon^2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4}, \quad (4.16)$$

provided that $\varepsilon > 0$ is sufficiently small.

5. We now focus on the remaining subinterval $[C\varepsilon, T]$.

Choose $0 < \delta < \varepsilon/2M$ and construct a finite partition of the interval $[C\varepsilon, T]$, say

$$C\varepsilon = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = T, \quad (4.17)$$

such that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \leq \delta < \frac{\varepsilon}{2M} < \frac{1}{M} d(y^*(t_k), \partial\Omega). \quad (4.18)$$

Notice that here the last inequality follows from (4.7).

For every $0 < t \leq T$ one has

$$\frac{x^*(t) - x^*(0)}{t} = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \dot{x}^*(s) ds \in \overline{coB(F(x^*(0)), LMt)}.$$

By Carathéodory's theorem, for each $k = 0, \dots, N-1$ we can thus choose vectors $\mathbf{a}_{k,i} \in \overline{B(F(x^*(0)), LMt_k)}$ and coefficients $\theta_i \in [0, 1]$, $i = 1, \dots, n+1$ so that

$$\frac{x^*(t_k) - x^*(0)}{t_k} = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \theta_{k,i} \mathbf{a}_{k,i} \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \theta_{k,i} = 1. \quad (4.19)$$

We now set

$$\lambda_k \doteq \frac{C\varepsilon}{t_k} \in [0, 1] \quad (4.20)$$

and apply Lemma 2 (i.e., Lyapunov's theorem) on the interval $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$, in connection with the $n + 2$ coefficients $(1 - \lambda_k), \lambda_k \theta_{k,1}, \dots, \lambda_k \theta_{k,n+1}$. This yields a measurable partition

$$[t_k, t_{k+1}] = J_{k,0} \cup J_{k,1} \cup \dots \cup J_{k,n+1}$$

with the following properties:

$$\text{meas}(J_{k,0}) = (1 - \lambda_k)(t_{k+1} - t_k), \quad \text{meas}(J_{k,i}) = \lambda_k \theta_{k,i} (t_{k+1} - t_k) \quad i = 1, \dots, n+1, \quad (4.21)$$

$$\int_{J_{k,0}} \dot{x}^*(s) ds = \left(1 - \frac{C\varepsilon}{t_k}\right) [x^*(t_{k+1}) - x^*(t_k)]. \quad (4.22)$$

Finally, we let $x : [C\varepsilon, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be a solution to the following differential inclusion

$$\dot{x}(t) \in \begin{cases} \overline{F(x(t)) \cap B_0(\dot{x}^*(t), 2L|x(t) - x^*(t)|)} & t \in \bigcup_k J_{k,0}, \\ \overline{F(x(t)) \cap B_0(\mathbf{a}_{k,i}, 2L(2Mt + \varepsilon))} & t \in \bigcup_k J_{k,i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n+1. \end{cases} \quad (4.23)$$

Here the initial value $x(C\varepsilon)$ is set to be equal to the terminal value of the F -trajectory $x : [0, C\varepsilon] \mapsto \Omega$ constructed in step 4.

We claim that, if $T > 0$ and $\delta > 0$ are suitably small (with T depending on Ω, F but not on $x^*(\cdot)$ or ε), then the F -trajectory $x(\cdot)$ satisfies all requirements.

Indeed, consider the auxiliary function $w : [C\varepsilon, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ defined by

$$w(C\varepsilon) = y^*(C\varepsilon) = x_0 + C\varepsilon \mathbf{a}, \quad (4.24)$$

$$\dot{w}(t) \in \begin{cases} \dot{x}^*(t) & t \in \bigcup_k J_{k,0} \\ \mathbf{a}_{k,i} & t \in J_{k,i}. \end{cases} \quad (4.25)$$

As the mesh δ of our partition approaches zero, comparing (4.6) with (4.19)–(4.22), it is clear that $w(t)$ converges to $y^*(t)$, uniformly for $t \in [C\varepsilon, T]$. We can thus assume that $\delta > 0$ was chosen so that

$$|w(t) - y^*(t)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \quad \text{for all } t \in [C\varepsilon, T]. \quad (4.26)$$

Next, we work toward an estimate of $|x - w|$. For $t \in J_{k,0}$, recalling (4.8)) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}|x(t) - w(t)| &\leq 2L|x(t) - x^*(t)| \leq 2L(|x(t) - w(t)| + |w(t) - y^*(t)| + |y^*(t) - x^*(t)|) \\ &\leq 2L|x(t) - w(t)| + (1 + K_0)\varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

On the other hand, for $t \in J_{k,i}$ we have

$$\frac{d}{dt}|x(t) - w(t)| \leq 2L(2Mt + \varepsilon). \quad (4.28)$$

We now combine the two previous estimates and use Gronwall's lemma. More precisely, set $Z(t) \doteq |x(t) - w(t)|$. Then we can write

$$Z(C\varepsilon) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4}, \quad \frac{d}{dt}Z(t) \leq 2LZ(t) + (1 + K_0)\varepsilon + \psi(t),$$

where

$$\psi(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \in \bigcup_k J_{k,0}, \\ 2L(2Mt + \varepsilon) & \text{if } t \notin \bigcup_k J_{k,0}. \end{cases}$$

By (4.21) and the definition of λ_k in (4.20), it follows

$$\int_{C\varepsilon}^T \psi(t) dt \leq \int_{C\varepsilon}^T 2L(2Mt + \varepsilon) \frac{C\varepsilon}{t} dt \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{5},$$

provided that the time $T > 0$ is chosen small enough. Gronwall's lemma now yields

$$|x(t) - w(t)| = Z(t) \leq \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{4} + (1 + K_0)\varepsilon T + \frac{\varepsilon}{5} \right) e^{2LT} \leq \frac{3\varepsilon}{4} \quad t \in [C\varepsilon, T], \quad (4.29)$$

provided that $T > 0$ is small enough. Together, the estimates (4.26), (4.29), and (4.8) yield

$$|x(t) - y^*(t)| \leq |x^*(t) - w(t)| + |w(t) - y^*(t)| \leq \varepsilon, \quad (4.30)$$

$$|x(t) - x^*(t)| \leq (K_0 + 1)\varepsilon \quad t \in [C\varepsilon, T]. \quad (4.31)$$

Recalling (4.7), from (4.30) we also deduce

$$x(t) \in \Omega \quad t \in [C\varepsilon, T].$$

6. It now only remains to estimate the difference in the velocities $\|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1}$. On the initial interval $[0, C\varepsilon]$ we trivially have

$$\int_0^{C\varepsilon} |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt \leq 2MC\varepsilon. \quad (4.32)$$

On the remaining interval $[C\varepsilon, T]$, recalling (4.23), (4.20), (4.21), and (4.31), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{C\varepsilon}^T |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt &= \left(\int_{t \in \bigcup_k J_{0,k}} + \int_{t \notin \bigcup_k J_{0,k}} \right) |\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}^*(t)| dt \\ &\leq \int_{C\varepsilon}^T 2L|x(t) - x^*(t)| dt + \int_{C\varepsilon}^T 2M \frac{C\varepsilon}{t} dt \\ &\leq 2MT(K_0 + 1)\varepsilon + 2MC\varepsilon(\ln T - \ln(C\varepsilon)). \end{aligned} \quad (4.33)$$

Together, (4.32) and (4.33) yield an estimate of the form (1.9), for a suitably large constant K . \square

5 Proof of the Theorem.

Using Lemma 5 together with a covering argument, we can now conclude the proof of Theorem 1. Consider a covering of Ω consisting of open balls $B(z, r/2)$, where $z \in \Omega$ and r satisfies (4.3), for some $\mathbf{a}_z \in \text{co}F(z)$ and $\rho > 0$. Since Ω is compact we can extract a finite subcovering, say $\{B(x_j, r_j/2); j = 1, \dots, N\}$. For each j , by Lemma 5 there exist constants

$$0 < T_j \leq \frac{r_j}{2M}, \quad K_j \geq 1,$$

such that the following holds. Whenever $x_0 \in B(z_j, r_j)$ and $x^* : [0, T_j] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ is an F -trajectory with $x^*(0) \in B(z_j, r_j)$, one can construct a second F -trajectory $x : [0, T_j] \mapsto \Omega$ with $x(0) = x_0$ and such that

$$\|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([0, T_j])} \leq K_j \varepsilon, \quad (5.1)$$

$$\|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T_j])} \leq K_j \varepsilon (1 + |\ln \varepsilon|). \quad (5.2)$$

As in (1.7), ε is here defined as

$$\varepsilon \doteq |x_0 - x^*(0)| + \max_{t \in [0, T_j]} d(x^*(t), \Omega),$$

We now choose constants $K_* \geq 1$ and $T_0 > 0$ such that

$$K_* \doteq \max_j K_j, \quad T_0 \doteq \frac{T}{m} \leq \min_j T_j,$$

for some integer m large enough.

Let $x_0 \in \Omega$ and an F -trajectory $x^* : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be given. Assume $x_0 \in B(x_{i(1)}, r_{i(1)}/2)$, for some index $i(1) \in \{1, \dots, N\}$. An application of Lemma 5 yields an F -trajectory $x : [0, T_0] \mapsto \Omega$ such that

$$x(0) = x_0, \quad \|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([0, T_0])} \leq K_* \varepsilon, \quad \|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T_0])} \leq K_* \varepsilon (1 + |\ln \varepsilon|).$$

Next, choose an index $i(2) \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ such that $x(T_0) \in B(z_{i(2)}, r_{i(2)}/2)$. We can now apply Lemma 5 on the interval $[T_0, 2T_0]$, with the initial point x_0 replaced by $x(T_0)$ and with ε replaced by

$$|x(T_0) - x^*(T_0)| + \max_{t \in [T_0, 2T_0]} d(x^*(t), \Omega) \leq 2K_* \varepsilon.$$

This yields a new trajectory $x : [T_0, 2T_0] \mapsto \Omega$ such that

$$\|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([T_0, 2T_0])} \leq K_*(2K_* \varepsilon), \quad \|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([T_0, 2T_0])} \leq K_*(2K_* \varepsilon)(1 + |\ln(2K_* \varepsilon)|).$$

Iterating the above construction, after m steps we obtain an F -trajectory $x : [(m-1)T_0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([(m-1)T_0, T])} &\leq K_*(2K_*)^{m-1} \varepsilon, \\ \|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([(m-1)T_0, T])} &\leq K_*(2K_*)^{m-1} \varepsilon (1 + |\ln(2K_*)^{m-1} \varepsilon|). \end{aligned}$$

The concatenation of these m trajectories yields an F -trajectory $x : [0, T] \mapsto \Omega$ which satisfies $x(0) = x_0$ together with

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - x^*\|_{\mathcal{C}^0([0, T])} &\leq K_*(2K_*)^{m-1} \varepsilon, \\ \|\dot{x} - \dot{x}^*\|_{\mathbf{L}^1([0, T])} &\leq \sum_{i=1}^m K_*(2K_*)^{i-1} \varepsilon \left(1 + \left|\ln((2K_*)^{i-1} \varepsilon)\right|\right). \end{aligned}$$

The above two estimates are equivalent to (1.8)-(1.9), for a suitable constant K . \square

6 Non-convex domains

It is clear that the result stated in Theorem 1 remains valid under smooth changes of coordinates. In particular, if Ω is the image of a compact convex set $\tilde{\Omega}$ under a smooth diffeomorphism, then the estimates (1.8)-(1.9) still hold. More generally, consider the following assumption:

(A3) For every $z \in \Omega$ there exists a $\mathcal{C}^{1,1}$ diffeomorphism defined on a neighborhood V_z of z which maps $\Omega \cap V_z$ into a convex set.

More precisely, we assume that there exists a neighborhood V_z of z and one-to-one map $\phi : V_z \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$, such that both ϕ and ϕ^{-1} are continuously differentiable with Lipschitz continuous first derivatives, and such that the image $\phi(\Omega \cap V_z)$ is convex. Relying on this assumption, Theorem 1 can be extended to domains Ω which need not be convex.

Corollary 1. *Theorem 1 remains valid if the assumption that Ω is convex is replaced by the assumption (A3).*

Proof. For each $z \in \Omega$, let the neighborhood V_z and the $\mathcal{C}^{1,1}$ transformation of coordinates $\phi : V_z \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ be as in (A3). We can then rewrite the original system (1.1) locally in terms of the coordinates $y = \phi(x)$. This yields an equivalent differential inclusion

$$\dot{y} \in \tilde{F}(y), \quad y(t) \in \tilde{\Omega} \doteq \phi(\Omega).$$

By the assumption (A3), the multifunction \tilde{F} is Lipschitz continuous, and the intersection of the image $\tilde{\Omega}$ with a small neighborhood of $\phi(z)$ is convex. By the assumption (A1) it follows

$$co\tilde{F}(\phi(z)) \cap int\left(T_{\tilde{\Omega}}(\phi(z))\right) \neq \emptyset.$$

Therefore, Lemma 5 can be applied. In turn, taking a finite covering of the compact set Ω , the same argument used in Section 5 yields the result. \square

Remark 3. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a compact domain satisfying the following property.

(A4) For every point $z \in \Omega$, there exists a neighborhood V_z of z and $\mathcal{C}^{1,1}$ scalar functions ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_m (with $m \geq 0$) such that

$$\Omega \cap V_z = \{x \in V_z; \phi_i(x) \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m\} \tag{6.1}$$

and such that the gradients $\nabla\phi_1(z), \dots, \nabla\phi_m(z)$ are linearly independent.

Then Ω satisfies the assumption (A3). Indeed, given $z \in \Omega$, we can construct $n - m$ additional linear maps $\phi_{m+1}, \dots, \phi_n$, so that the gradients $\nabla\phi_1(z), \dots, \nabla\phi_n(z)$ are linearly independent, and hence form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n . In view of (6.1), the map $x \mapsto \phi(x) = (\phi_1(x), \dots, \phi_n(x))$ satisfies the assumptions (A3), for a suitable choice of the neighborhood V_z .

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