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Tracking Control of Chained Systems

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Introduction

Examples of chained systems



Fig 1: Mobile Robot



Fig 2: Vacuum

Problem

- Construct a control algorithm which assure the tracking of a feasible trajectory of the chained form system.

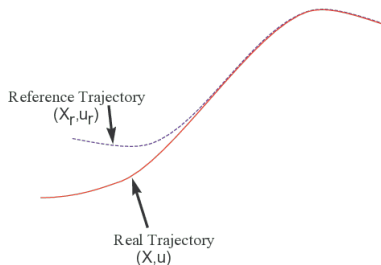


Figure: Tracking trajectory.

Definition and theorems

Let $|\cdot|$ denotes the Euclidean norm and let sgn designates the sign function ($sgn(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$ if $x \neq 0$ and $sgn(0) = 0$).

Definition [1]

The control system

$$\dot{x} = Y(x, \mathbf{u}); \quad Y(0, 0) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the state, $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ the control and $Y \in C^0(\mathbb{R}^{m+n}, \mathbb{R}^n)$, is said locally (resp. globally) polynomially stabilizable by means of continuous time-varying feedback laws if there exists $\mathbf{u} \in C^0(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ satisfying

$$\mathbf{u}(t, 0) = 0; \quad \forall t \geq 0, \quad (2)$$

such that $0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is locally (resp. globally) polynomially stable for the closed-loop system $\dot{x} = Y(x, \mathbf{u}(t, x))$.

Theorem 1 [1]

Consider the nonlinear continuous time-varying dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = X(x, t); \quad X(0, t) = 0, \forall t \geq 0 \quad (3)$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the state where $X : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a continuous vector field.

Assume that there exists a C^1 - function $V:]0, +\infty[\times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, some positive constants c_1, c_2, r_1 and r_2 such that,

(1) for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the Lyapunov function V satisfies

$$c_1 |x|^{r_1} \leq V(t, x) \leq c_2 |x|^{r_2} \quad (4)$$

(2) there exists a continuous and nonnegative function

$f :]0, +\infty[\rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ with the growth condition: $\int_0^t f(s) ds \geq kt^r$ where r and k are two nonnegative constants such that

$$\dot{V}(t, x) \leq -cf(t)V^\alpha(t, x), \alpha > 1 \text{ and } c > 0, \quad (5)$$

then $0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is globally polynomially stable.

Theorem 2 [3]

If the control system

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u),$$

is polynomially stabilizable with a feedback law in C^1 .

Then the dynamic extension

$$\dot{x} = f(x, y)$$

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

is polynomially stabilizable with a feedback law in C^0

Control Design of Chained Systems

Nonlinear chained system

The control chained system is written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= u_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= u_1 x_3 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= u_1 x_4 \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_{n-1} &= u_1 x_n \\ \dot{x}_n &= u_2.\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

The state vector is given by $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

The vector $(u_1, u_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ represents the control.

The basic aim is to present an explicit design of control laws u_1 and u_2 such that the chained form system tracks the time reference position.

Reference system

- $(x_{1r}(t), x_{2r}(t), \dots, x_{(n-1)r}(t), x_{nr}(t))$ describes the feasible reference trajectory of a chained form system.
- The reference control vector is $(u_{1r}(t), u_{2r}(t))$.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_{1r} &= u_{1r} \\ \dot{x}_{2r} &= u_{1r}x_{3r} \\ \dot{x}_{3r} &= u_{1r}x_{4r} \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_{(n-1)r} &= u_{1r}x_{nr} \\ \dot{x}_{nr} &= u_{2r}.\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

Note that $u_{1r}(t) \neq 0$ and $u_{2r}(t) \neq 0; \forall t \geq 0$.

Error system

Let's note that: $e_i = x_i - x_{ir}$ with $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $v_j = u_j - u_{jr}$ with $1 \leq j \leq 2$.

Therefore, differentiating (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) along the trajectories (6) and (7) with respect to time, we obtain the following error model:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{e}_1 &= v_1 \\ \dot{e}_2 &= v_1(e_3 + x_{3r}) + u_{1r}e_3 \\ \dot{e}_3 &= v_1(e_4 + x_{4r}) + u_{1r}e_4 \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{e}_{(n-1)} &= v_1(e_n + x_{nr}) + u_{1r}e_n \\ \dot{e}_n &= v_2.\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

The main idea is to treat the error system as two connected subsystems Σ_1 and Σ_2 .

$$\Sigma_1 : \dot{e}_1 = v_1 \quad ;$$

$$\Sigma_2 : \begin{cases} \dot{e}_2 & = v_1(e_3 + x_{3r}) + u_{1r}e_3 \\ \dot{e}_3 & = v_1(e_4 + x_{4r}) + u_{1r}e_4 \\ \vdots & \\ \dot{e}_{(n-1)} & = v_1(e_n + x_{nr}) + u_{1r}e_n \\ \dot{e}_n & = v_2. \end{cases}$$

To remove this coupling, we stabilize the subsystem Σ_1 in fixed-time faster than the remaining error variables (e_2, \dots, e_n) . Then we focus on stabilizing the subsystem Σ_2

Lemma

Under the static feedback law $v_1(e_1) = -\text{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{1/2} - \text{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{3/2}$, the one-dimensional control system Σ_1 is fixed-time stable. More precisely $e_1(t) = 0; \forall t \geq \pi$.

Proof:

In closed-loop, we have:

$$\dot{e}_1 = -\text{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{1/2} - \text{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{3/2}. \quad (9)$$

We fixed $e_1^0 = e_1(t_0)$, $t_0 > 0$,

then the solution of (9) is given by:

$$e_1(t) = \begin{cases} \text{sgn}(e_1^0)tg^2(\text{arctg}(\sqrt{|e_1^0|}) - t/2); & \text{for } t \leq 2\text{arctg}(\sqrt{|e_1^0|}) \\ 0; & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

then $t \leq 2\text{arctg}(\sqrt{|e_1^0|}) \leq \pi$.



Then for $t > T_0 = \pi$ the dynamic of the Σ_2 is reduced to:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{e}_2 = u_{1r} e_3 \\ \dot{e}_3 = u_{1r} e_4 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{e}_{(n-1)} = u_{1r} e_n \\ \dot{e}_n = v_2 \end{array} \right.$$

decoupling is thus carried out.

Application of backstepping approach $(n - 3)$ times:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{e}_2 &= u_{1r} e_3 \\ \dot{e}_3 &= v_2^{(n-3, n-3)} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_2 &= -K_1(e_n - v_2^{(1)}) \\ v_2^{(1,1)} &= -K_2(e_{n-1} - v_2^{(2)}) \\ &\vdots \\ v_2^{(n-5, n-5)} &= -K_{n-4}(e_5 - v_2^{(n-4)}) \\ v_2^{(n-4, n-4)} &= -K_{n-3}(e_4 - v_2^{(n-3)}), \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where:

$v_2^{(n-s, n-s)} = u_{1r} v_2^{(n-s)}$ and K_{n-s} are positive and large enough values;

$\forall 3 \leq s \leq n - 1$

Proposition

Let $p > 1$ and $k > \frac{1}{2}$ are two nonnegative odd rational numbers. Assuming that u_{1r} is continuously differentiable and satisfies the constraint $u_{1r}(t) > 0$; $\forall t \geq \pi$.

Under the choice of the following feedback law

$$\begin{aligned} v_2^{(n-3, n-3)} &= -u_{1r} e_2^{2k-1} - f'(t) e_2^p - p u_{1r} f(t) e_2^{p-1} e_3 \\ &\quad - u_{1r} f(t) (e_3 + f(t) e_2^p)^{1 + \frac{p-1}{k}}, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

with $f : [\pi, +\infty[\rightarrow]0, +\infty[$ is a C^{n-2} -function with the constraint $\int_{\pi}^t f(s) ds \geq \mu t^r$, $\mu, r > 0$.

The reduced system (10) is globally polynomially stabilizable for $t \geq \pi$.

Proof:

The construction of the polynomial feedback law that guarantees the stabilization of (10) can be obtained through the following candidate positive definite Lyapunov function

$$V_{k,p}(e_3, e_2, t) = \frac{1}{2k} e_2^{2k} + \frac{1}{2} (e_3 + f(t)e_2^p)^2 \geq 0$$

with $k > \frac{1}{2}$ and $p > 1$.

Differentiating V along the solutions of the closed-loop system (10) we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_{k,p}(e_3, e_2, t) &= u_{1r} e_2^{2k-1} e_3 + (e_3 + f(t)e_2^p) (v_2^{(n-3, n-3)} \\ &\quad + f'(t)e_2^p + p u_{1r} f(t) e_2^{p-1} e_3). \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

If we replace $v_2^{(n-3, n-3)}$ by the following expression:

$$v_2^{(n-3, n-3)} = -f'(t)e_2^p - p u_{1r} f(t) e_2^{p-1} e_3 - u_{1r} e_2^{2k-1} + v_2', \quad (14)$$

we obtain:

$$\dot{V}_{k,p}(e_3, e_2, t) = u_{1r} e_2^{2k-1} e_3 + (e_3 + f(t) e_2^p) (-u_{1r} e_2^{2k-1} + v_2'). \quad (15)$$

With the following choice of v_2' :

$$v_2' = -u_{1r} f(t) (e_3 + f(t) e_2^p)^{1 + \frac{p-1}{k}}, \quad (16)$$

we will have:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_{k,p}(e_3, e_2, t) = & -f(t) u_{1r} [(e_3 + f(t) e_2^p)^{2 + \frac{p-1}{k}} \\ & + e_2^{2k+p-1}], \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

implies that:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left(\frac{-1}{f(t)u_{1r}} \dot{V}_{k,p} \right)^{\frac{2k}{2k+p-1}} \geq \frac{1}{2} (e_3 + f(t)e_2^p)^2 \\ \left(\frac{-1}{f(t)u_{1r}} \dot{V}_{k,p} \right)^{\frac{2k}{2k+p-1}} \geq \frac{1}{2k} e_2^{2k}. \end{array} \right. \quad (18)$$

If we sum the two preceding inequalities, we get:

$$\dot{V}_{k,p} \leq -u_{1r} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^\alpha f(t) V_{k,p}^\alpha, \quad (19)$$

with $\alpha = \frac{2k+p-1}{2k} > 1$.

We choose the reference control $u_{1r} = \frac{g(t)}{f(t)}$ where g is a non-negative C^0 -function satisfying the constraint $\int_\pi^t g(s) ds \geq \delta t^m, \delta, m > 0$.

$$\dot{V}_{k,p} \leq -cg(t) V_{k,p}^\alpha \quad (20)$$

Hence, the subsystem (10) is globally polynomially stabilizable. ■

Application: Unicycle Mobile Robots

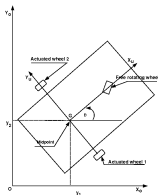


Figure: Unicycle Mobile Robots.

The study model motion is governed by the following well-known non-linear driftless control system:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_1 &= d_1 \cos(\theta) \\ \dot{y}_2 &= d_1 \sin(\theta) \\ \dot{\theta} &= d_2, \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

where:

- y_1 and y_2 are the instantaneous position planar coordinates of G .
- θ is the angle between the heading direction and the x-axis.
- (d_1, d_2) the pair of input variables which represents respectively the forward command and the steering control.

Let us consider the following change of variables:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= \theta \\x_2 &= y_1 \sin(\theta) - y_2 \cos(\theta) \\x_3 &= y_1 \cos(\theta) + y_2 \sin(\theta).\end{aligned}$$

Simple calculation yields

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= u_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= u_1 x_3 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= u_2,\end{aligned}\tag{22}$$

with $u_1 = d_2$ and $u_2 = d_1 - d_2 x_2$.

The error system is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{e}_1 &= v_1 \\ \dot{e}_2 &= v_1(e_3 + x_{3r}) + u_{1r}e_3 \\ \dot{e}_3 &= v_2,\end{aligned}\tag{23}$$

where $e_i = x_i - x_{ir}$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$, $v_j = u_j - u_{jr}$ for $1 \leq j \leq 2$.

- 1st step : Stabilization of the first variable of (23) in fixed-time:

$$v_1(e_1) = -\operatorname{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{1/2} - \operatorname{sgn}(e_1)|e_1|^{3/2} \quad \text{when } t < \pi \tag{24}$$

- 2nd step :Stabilization of the remaining variables:

Let $p > 1$ and $k > \frac{1}{2}$ are two nonnegative odd rational numbers.

Let $u_{1r} > 0, \forall t > 0$ and is continuously differentiable, under the continuous time varying feedback law

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_2 = & -u_{1r}e_2^{2k-1} - f'(t)e_2^p - pu_{1r}f(t)e_2^{p-1}e_3 \\
 & - u_{1r}f(t)(e_3 + f(t)e_2^p)^{1+\frac{p-1}{k}}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

With $f : [\pi, +\infty[\rightarrow]0, +\infty[$ is a C^1 -function with the constraint $\int_{\pi}^t f(s)ds \geq \mu t^r, \mu, r > 0$.

the subsystem is globally polynomially stabilizable for $t \geq \pi$.

Simulation results

- The reference laws $d_{1r} = 1$ and $d_{2r} = \cos(t) + 2$.
- The reference initial conditions: $y_{1r}(0) = y_{2r}(0) = 0$ and $\theta_r(0) = 0$.
- The parameters: k and p are such that $(k, p) = (1, 3)$.
- $f(t) = 1 + t^5; \forall t \geq \pi$

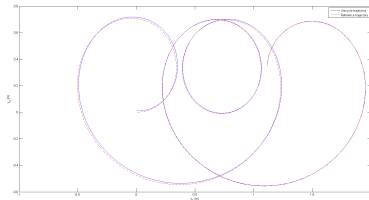


Fig 1: Tracking trajectory $y_1 = 0.01$ and $y_2 = 0.01$

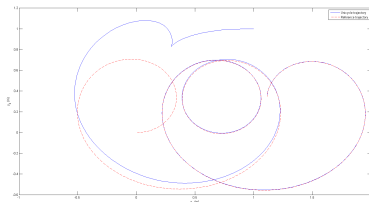





Fig 2: Tracking trajectory $y_1 = 1$ and $y_2 = 1$

Conclusion and perspective

- Tracking time-varying feedback law combined with fixed-time control design problem is investigated for a chained system.

- Use this approach for a chained system including measurement noise.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION