Theory in Model Predictive Control : Constraint Satisfaction and Stability

Colin Jones, Melanie Zeilinger





Linearized continuous-time model:

(at altitude of 5000m and a speed of 128.2 m/sec)

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1.2822 & 0 & 0.98 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5.4293 & 0 & -1.8366 & 0 \\ -128.2 & 128.2 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 \\ 0 \\ -17 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x$$

- Input: elevator angle
- States: x_1 : angle of attack, x_2 : pitch angle, x_3 : pitch rate, x_4 : altitude
- Outputs: pitch angle and altitude
- Constraints: elevator angle $\pm 0.262 rad (\pm 15^{\circ})$, elevator rate $\pm 0.524 rad (\pm 60^{\circ})$ pitch angle $\pm 0.349 (\pm 30^{\circ})$

Open-loop response is unstable (open-loop poles: 0, 0, -1.5594±2.2900*i*)

[J. Maciejowski, Predictive Control with constraints, 2002]







LQR and Linear MPC with quadratic cost

- Quadratic performance measure
- Linear system dynamics $x^+ = Ax + Bu$

$$y = Cx + Du$$

• Linear constraints on inputs and states

LQR:

MPC:

$$J^{\infty}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i$$

s.t. $x_{i+1} = A x_i + B u_i$
 $x_0 = x$

$$J^*(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i$$

s.t. $x_{i+1} = A x_i + B u_i$
 $x_0 = x$
 $C x_i + D u_i \le b$

Assume: $Q = Q^T \succeq 0$, $R = R^T \succ 0$

MPC problem can be translated into a quadratic program (QP)



Linear MPC with linear costs

- Linear performance measure (e.g. economically motivated cost, errors)
- Linear system dynamics $x^+ = Ax + Bu$

$$y = Cx + Du$$

• Linear constraints on states and inputs

Resulting MPC problem:

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} ||Qx_{i}||_{p} + ||Ru_{i}||_{p}$$

s.t. $x_{i+1} = Ax_{i} + Bu_{i}$
 $Cx_{i} + Du_{i} \leq b$
 $x_{0} = x$

Optimization problem can be translated into a linear program (LP) for $p=1/\infty$.



Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft LQR with saturation

Linear quadratic regulator with saturated inputs:

At time t = 0 the plane is flying with a deviation of 10m of the desired altitude, i.e. x(0)=[0; 0; 0; 10]



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Problem parameters:

Sampling time $T_s=0.25sec$, Q = I, R = 10

- \rightarrow Closed-loop system is unstable
- → Applying LQR control and saturating the controller can lead to instability...

Example: Cessna Citation 500 aircraft MPC with bound constraints on inputs

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$



Problem parameters:

Sampling time T_s =0.25*sec*, Q=I, R=10, N=10

The MPC controller uses the knowledge that the elevator will saturate, but it does not consider the rate constraints.

→ System does not converge to desired steady-state but to a limit cycle

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Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft MPC with all input constraints

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \le 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \le 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$

Problem parameters:

Sampling time T_s =0.25*sec*, Q=I, R=10, N=10

The MPC controller considers all constraints on the actuator

- → Closed-loop system is stable!
- → Efficient use of the control authority



Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Inclusion of state constraints

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \le 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \le 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$

Problem parameters:

Sampling time T_s =0.25*sec*, Q=I, R=10, N=10

Increase step:

At time t = 0 the plane is flying with a deviation of 100m of the desired altitude, i.e. x (0)=[0; 0; 0; 100]

→ Pitch angle too large during transient



Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Inclusion of state constraints

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \leq 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \leq 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$

Problem parameters:

Sampling time $T_s=0.25sec$, Q=I, R=10, N=10

Add state constraints for passenger comfort:

$$|x_2| \le 0.349$$



LABORATORY

Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Shorter horizon causes loss of stability

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \leq 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \leq 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$

Problem parameters:

0.5

Sampling time $T_s=0.25sec$, *Q*=*I*, *R*=10, *N*=4

Decrease in the prediction horizon causes loss of the stability properties

This part of the workshop: How can constraint satisfaction and stability in MPC be guaranteed?



AUTOMATIC CONTROL LABORATORY

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Outline

- Motivating Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft
- Constraint satisfaction and stability in MPC
 - Main idea
 - Problem setup for the linear quadratic case
- How to prove constraint satisfaction and stability in MPC
- Implementation
- Theory extensions



Loss of feasibility and stability guarantees

What can go wrong with standard MPC approach?

- → No feasibility guarantee, i.e. the MPC problem may not have a solution
- → No stability guarantee, i.e. trajectories may not converge to the origin



Definition: Feasible set

The *feasible set* X_N is defined as the set of initial states x for which the MPC problem with horizon N is feasible, i.e.

 $\mathcal{X}_N := \{x \mid \exists [u_0, \dots, u_{N-1}] \text{ such that } Cu_i + Dx_i \leq b, i = 1, \dots, N\}$



Example: Loss of feasibility

Consider the double integrator: $x^+ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$

subject to the input constraints $-0.5 \le u \le 0.5$

and the state constraints

$$\begin{bmatrix} -5\\-5\end{bmatrix} \le x \le \begin{bmatrix} 5\\5\end{bmatrix}$$

We choose
$$N = 3, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, R = 10$$

Time step 1: $x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & ; 4 \end{bmatrix}, u_0^*(x) = -0.5$
Time step 2: $x(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & ; 3 \end{bmatrix}, u_0^*(x) = -0.5$
Time step 3: $x(2) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & ; 2 \end{bmatrix}$ MPC problem
infeasible





Example: Loss of stability

Consider the unstable system:

 $x^{+} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$

subject to the input constraints

and the state constraints

$$\begin{bmatrix} -10\\ -10 \end{bmatrix} \le x \le \begin{bmatrix} 10\\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

-1 < u < 1

We choose
$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and investigate the stability properties for different horizons N and weights R by solving the finite horizon MPC problem in a receding horizon fashion ...



Example: Loss of stability

- 1 *R*=10, *N*=2
- 2 R=2, N=3
- \bigcirc R=1, N=4
- * Initial points leading to trajectories that converge to the origin
- Intitial points that diverge





Parameters have complex effect on closed-loop trajectory



Feasibility and stability in MPC – Main Idea

Main idea:

Introduce terminal cost and constraints to explicitly ensure stability and feasibility:

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_{i}^{T}Qx_{i} + u_{i}^{T}Ru_{i} + x_{N}^{T}Px_{N}$$
 Terminal cost
s.t. $x_{i+1} = Ax_{i} + Bu_{i}$
 $Cx_{i} + Du_{i} \leq b$
 $x_{N} \in \mathcal{X}_{f}$ Terminal constraint
 $x_{0} = x$

 \rightarrow How to choose *P* and \mathcal{X}_f ?



 $x_0 = x$

How to choose the terminal set and cost – Main Idea

- Problems originate from the use of a 'short sight' strategy
 - → Finite horizon causes deviation between the open-loop prediction and the closed-loop system:
 Set of feasible



 Ideally we would solve the MPC problem with an infinite horizon, but that is computationally intractable

ightarrow Design finite horizon problem such that it approximates the infinite horizon



How to choose the terminal cost

We can split the infinite horizon problem into two subproblems:

| Up to time $k = N$, where the (2) constraints may be active | | the 2 re | For $k > N$, where there are no constraints active | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| $J^*(x) = \min_{x,u}$ | $\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_i^T Q x$ | $u_i + u_i^T R u_i$ | $+ \min_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{u}} \sum_{i=N}^{\infty} x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i$ | |
| s.t. | X_{i+1} | $= Ax_i + Bu_i$ | s.t. $x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i$, | |
| | $Cx_i + Du_i$ x_0 | $\leq b$ = x | + $x_N^T P x_N$ Unconstrained LQR starting from state x_N | |
| | | | | |

- Bound the tail of the infinite horizon cost from N to ∞ using the LQR control law $u = K_{LQR} x$
- $x_N^T P x_N$ is the corresponding infinite horizon cost
- *P* is the solution of the discrete-time algebraic Riccati equation

Choice of N such that constraint satisfaction is guaranteed?



How to choose the terminal set

Terminal constraint provides a sufficient condition for constraint satisfaction:

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_{i}^{T} Q x_{i} + u_{i}^{T} R u_{i} + x_{N}^{T} P x_{N} \text{ Infinite horizon cost} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad x_{i+1} = A x_{i} + B u_{i} \\ C x_{i} + D u_{i} \leq b \\ x_{N} \in \mathcal{X}_{f} \\ x_{0} = x \end{array}$$

- All input and state constraints are satisfied for the closed-loop system using the LQR control law for $x \in \mathcal{X}_f$
- Terminal set is often defined by linear or quadratic constraints
- \rightarrow The bound holds in the terminal set and is used as a terminal cost
- \rightarrow The terminal set defines the terminal constraint

In the following: Show that this problem setup provides feasibility and stability



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Formalize goals: Definition of feasibility and stability

Goal 1: Feasibility at all times

Definition: Recursive feasibility

The MPC problem is called *recursively feasible*, if for all feasible initial states feasibility is guaranteed at every state along the closed-loop trajectory.

Goal 2: Stability

Definition: Lyapunov stability

The equilibrium point at the origin of system $x(k + 1) = Ax(k) + B\kappa(x(k)) = f_{\kappa}(x(k))$ is said to be *(Lyapunov) stable* in \mathcal{X} if for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$ such that, for every $x(0) \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$||x(0)|| \le \delta(\epsilon) \Rightarrow ||x(k)|| < \epsilon \ \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$$





Employed concept for the analysis of feasibility: Invariant sets

Definition: Invariant set

A set \mathcal{O} is called *positively invariant* for system $x(k+1) = f_{\kappa}(x(k))$, if

$$x(k) \in \mathcal{O} \Rightarrow f_{\kappa}(x(k)) \in \mathcal{O}, \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$$

The positively invariant set that contains every closed positively invariant set is called the maximal positively invariant set \mathcal{O}_∞ .



Analysis of Lyapunov stability

Lyapunov stability will be analyzed using Lyapunov's direct method:

Definition: Lyapunov function

Let \mathcal{X} be a positively invariant set for system $x(k+1) = f_{\kappa}(x(k))$ containing a neighborhood of the origin in its interior. A function $V : \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}_+^1$ is called a *Lyapunov function* in \mathcal{X} if for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$:

 $V(x) > 0 \ \forall x \neq 0, V(0) = 0,$ $V(x(k+1)) - V(x(k)) \le 0$



If a system admits a Lyapunov function in \mathcal{X} , then the equilibrium point at the origin is *(Lyapunov)* stable in \mathcal{X} .

¹ For simplicity it is assumed that V(x) is continuous. This assumption can be relaxed by requiring an additional state dependent upper bound on V(x), see e.g. [Rawlings & Mayne, 2009]



How to prove feasibility and stability of MPC

Main steps:

 Prove recursive feasibility by showing the existence of a feasible control sequence at all time instants when starting from a feasible initial point

NOTE: Recursive feasibility does not imply stability of the closed-loop system

 $x_N = 0$

Prove stability by showing that the optimal cost function is a Lyapunov function

We will discuss two main cases in the following:

- Terminal constraint at zero:
- Terminal constraint in some (convex) set: $x_N \in \mathcal{X}_f$

For simplicity, we use the more general notation:

$$J(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} I(x_i, u_i) + V_f(x_N)$$

stage cost terminal cost

(In the quadratic case: $I(x_i, u_i) = x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i, V_f(x_N) = x_N^T P x_N$)



Stability of MPC – Zero terminal state constraint

Terminal constraint $x_N = 0$:

Assume feasibility of x and let [u₀^{*}, u₁^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}] be the optimal control sequence computed at x





Stability of MPC – Zero terminal state constraint

Terminal constraint $x_N = 0$:

- Assume feasibility of x and let [u₀^{*}, u₁^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}] be the optimal control sequence computed at x
- At x⁺ the control sequence [u₁^{*}, u₂^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}, 0] is feasible (apply 0 control input to stay at the origin)
- → Recursive feasibility





Stability of MPC – Zero terminal state constraint

Terminal constraint $x_N = 0$:

- Assume feasibility of x and let [u₀^{*}, u₁^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}] be the optimal control sequence computed at x
- At x⁺ the control sequence [u₁^{*}, u₂^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}, 0] is feasible (apply 0 control input to stay at the origin)
- \rightarrow Recursive feasibility
- The associated cost function value is given by:

$$\tilde{J}(x^+) = J(x) - I(x, u_0) + I(0, 0)$$

Subtract cost Add cost for at stage 0 staying at 0

• We obtain for the optimal solution $J(x) \leq \tilde{J}(x)$

$$J(x^{+}) - J(x) \le \tilde{J}(x^{+}) - J(x) \le -l(x, u_{0}) \le 0$$

$\rightarrow J^{*}(x)$ is a Lyapunov function \rightarrow (Lyapunov) Stability



Extension to more general terminal sets

Problem: The terminal constraint $x_N = 0$ reduces the feasible set **Goal:** Use convex set for \mathcal{X}_f that contains the origin in its interior





How can the proof be generalized to the constraint $x_N \in \mathcal{X}_f$?



Stability of MPC – Main result

Consider that the following standard assumptions hold:

- 1 The stage cost is a positive definite function, i.e. it is strictly positive and only zero at the origin
- 2 The terminal set is invariant under the local control law $\kappa_f(x)$:

 $x^+ = Ax + B\kappa_f(x) \in \mathcal{X}_f$ for all $x \in \mathcal{X}_f$

All state and input constraints are satisfied in \mathcal{X}_f : $\mathcal{X}_f \subseteq \mathbb{X}, \ \kappa_f(x) \in \mathbb{U}$ for all $x \in \mathcal{X}_f$

3 The terminal cost is a continuous Lyapunov function in the terminal set \mathcal{X}_f : $V_f(x^+) - V_f(x) \leq -I(x, \kappa_f(x))$ for all $x \in \mathcal{X}_f$

→ The closed-loop system under the MPC control law is stable in the feasible set \mathcal{X}_N .



Stability of MPC – Outline of the proof

Assume feasibility of x and let $[u_0^*, u_1^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^*]$ be the optimal • control sequence computed at x





Stability of MPC – Outline of the proof

- Assume feasibility of x and let [u₀^{*}, u₁^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}] be the optimal control sequence computed at x
- At x^+ the control sequence $[u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, \kappa_f(x_N^*)]$ is feasible: x_N is in $\mathcal{X}_f \rightarrow \kappa_f(x_N^*)$ is feasible and $x_N^+ = Ax_N^* + B\kappa_f(x_N^*)$ in \mathcal{X}_f
- \rightarrow Terminal constraint provides recursive feasibility





Stability of MPC – Outline of the proof

- Assume feasibility of x and let [u₀^{*}, u₁^{*}, ..., u_{N-1}^{*}] be the optimal control sequence computed at x
- At x^+ the control sequence $[u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, \kappa_f(x_N^*)]$ is feasible: x_N is in $\mathcal{X}_f \rightarrow \kappa_f(x_N^*)$ is feasible and $x_N^+ = Ax_N^* + B\kappa_f(x_N^*)$ in \mathcal{X}_f

\rightarrow Terminal constraint provides recursive feasibility

• The associated cost function value is given by:

$$\widetilde{J}(x) = J(x) - I(x, u_0) + V_f(\widetilde{x}_{N+1}) - V_f(x_N) + I(x_N, \kappa_f(x_N))$$

$$V_f(x) \text{ is a Lyapunov function: } \leq 0$$

• We obtain for the optimal solution $J(x) \leq \tilde{J}(x)$:

$$J(x^{+}) - J(x) \le \tilde{J}(x^{+}) - J(x) \le -I(x, u_{0}) \le 0$$

$\rightarrow J^{*}(x)$ is a Lyapunov function \rightarrow (Lyapunov) Stability





Stability of MPC – Remarks

- The terminal set X_f and the terminal cost ensure recursive feasibility and stability of the closed-loop system.
 But: the terminal constraint usually reduces the region of attraction.
- If the open-loop system is stable, \mathcal{X}_{f} can be chosen as the positively invariant set of the system under zero control input, which is feasible.
- Often no terminal set \mathcal{X}_{f} , but N is required to be sufficiently large to ensure recursive feasibility
 - \rightarrow Applied in practice, makes MPC work without terminal constraint
 - \rightarrow Determination of a sufficiently long horizon difficult



Proof of asymptotic stability

Definition: Asymptotic stability

Given a PI set \mathcal{X} including the origin as an interior-point, the equilibrium point at the origin of system $x(k+1) = f_{\kappa}(x(k))$ is said to be *asymptotically stable* in \mathcal{X} if it is

- (Lyapunov) stable
- attractive in \mathcal{X} , i.e. $\lim_{k\to\infty} ||x(k)|| = 0$ for all $x(0) \in \mathcal{X}$.

Extension of Lyapunov's direct method: (see e.g. [Vidyasagar, 1993])

If the continuous Lyapunov function additionally satisfies

 $V(x(k+1)) - V(x(k)) < 0 \ \forall x \neq 0$

then the closed loop system converges to the origin and is hence asymptotically stable.

Recall: Decrease of the optimal MPC cost was given by

 $J(x(k+1)) - J(x(k)) \le -I(x(k), u_0)$

where the stage cost was assumed to be positive and only 0 at 0.

 \rightarrow The closed-loop system under the MPC control law is asymptotically stable.



Extension to nonlinear MPC

Consider the nonlinear system dynamics: $x^+ = f(x, u)$

 \rightarrow Nonlinear MPC problem:

| $J^*(x) = \min_{x,u}$ | $\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} I(x_i, u_i) + V_f(x_N)$ | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| s.t. | X_{i+1} | $= f(x_i, u_i)$ |
| | $Cx_i + Du_i$ | $\leq b$ |
| | X _N | $\in \mathcal{X}_{f}$, |
| | <i>x</i> ₀ | = x , |

- Presented assumptions on the terminal set and cost did not rely on linearity
- Lyapunov stability is a general framework to analyze stability of nonlinear dynamic systems
- \rightarrow Results can be directly extended to nonlinear systems.



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Multi-Parametric Toolbox



MPT Toolbox: M. Kvasnica, P. Grieder and M. Baotic

Real-Time Model Predictive Control via Multi-Parametric Programming: Theory and Tools Michal Kvasnica ISBN: 3639206444



Implementation using Matlab and MPT

 Compute terminal weight *P* and LQR control law *K* by solving the discrete time Riccati equation

[K,P]=dlqr(A,B,Q,R)

- 2. Compute terminal set \mathcal{X}_f :
 - Ellipsoidal invariant set of the form

 $\mathcal{X}_f := \{ x \, | \, x^T P_E x \le 1 \}$

→ Can be written in the form of a Linear Matrix inequality (LMI)

[Boyd et al., LMIs in System and Control Theory, 1994]

- Polytopic invariant set of the form

 $\mathcal{X}_f := \{x \mid Hx \le K\}$

Double Integrator:

$$x^{+} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \le x \le \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad -0.5 \le u \le 0.5$$
$$N = 5, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, R = 10$$





Implementation using Matlab and MPT: Polytopic Invariant Terminal Set

- Linear system $x^+ = Ax + Bu$
- LQR controller u = Kx
- Input and state constraints $U = \{u \mid u_{\min} \le u \le u_{\max}\}$ $X = \{x \mid x_{\min} \le x \le x_{\max}\}$
- X = polytope([I;-I],[xmax; -xmin]) % State constraints
- U = polytope([K;-K],[umax; -umin]) % Input constraints
- Compute maximum invariant set that satisfies the constraints

$$\mathcal{O}_{\infty} = \{ x_k \mid (A + BK)^k x_k \in \mathcal{O}_{\infty}, \ \forall k \ge 0 \}$$





Implementation using Matlab and MPT: Polytopic Invariant Terminal Set

- Linear system $x^+ = Ax + Bu$
- LQR controller u = Kx

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- Input and state constraints $U = \{u \mid u_{\min} \le u \le u_{\max}\}$ $X = \{x \mid x_{\min} \le x \le x_{\max}\}$
- X = polytope([I;-I],[xmax; -xmin]) % State constraints
- U = polytope([K;-K],[umax; -umin]) % Input constraints
- Compute maximum invariant set that satisfies the constraints

$$\mathcal{O}_{\infty} = \{ x_k \mid (A + BK)^k x_k \in \mathcal{O}_{\infty}, \ \forall k \ge 0 \}$$



Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Revisited

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \le 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \le 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$



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Problem parameters:

Sampling time $T_s=0.25sec$, Q=I, R=10, N=4

Decrease in the prediction horizon causes loss of the stability properties

Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Terminal cost and constraint provide stability guarantee

MPC controller with input constraints $|u_i| \le 0.262$ and rate constraints $|\dot{u}_i| \le 0.349$ approximated by $|u_k - u_{k-1}| \le 0.349T_s$, $u_{-1} = u_{prev}$

Problem parameters:

Sampling time T_s =0.25*sec*, Q=I, R=10, N=4

➔ Inclusion of terminal cost and constraint provides stability



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 - Reference Tracking
 - Uncertain Systems
 - Soft constrained MPC



Extensions – Reference Tracking

Consider the system $x^+ = Ax + Bu$

$$y = Cx$$

Regulation vs. Tracking:

- **Regulation:** Reject disturbances around one desirable steady-state
- **Tracking:** Make output follow a given reference r

Steady-state computation:

Compute steady-state that yields the desired output

$$\begin{bmatrix} I - A & -B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{ss} \\ u_{ss} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$$
 Note: Many solutions possible

For a solution to exist the matrix must be full column rank and the steadystate must be feasible, i.e. $x_{ss} \in \mathbb{X}$, $u_{ss} \in \mathbb{U}$



Example: Cessna Citation Aircraft Reference tracking



Problem parameters:

Sampling time T_s =0.25*sec*, Q=I, R=10, N=10



Extensions – Reference Tracking

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MPC problem for reference tracking:

Penalize the deviation from the desired steady-state

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (x_{i} - x_{ss})^{T} Q(x_{i} - x_{ss}) + (u_{i} - u_{ss})^{T} R(u_{i} - u_{ss}) + (x_{N} - x_{ss})^{T} P(x_{N} - x_{ss})$$
s.t.
$$x_{i+1} = Ax_{i} + Bu_{i}$$

$$Cx_{i} + Du_{i} \leq b$$

$$x_{0} = x$$
Here: Reference assumed constant over horizon.
If reference trajectory is known this can be included \rightarrow Preview

- Steady-state is computed at each time step
- Same problem structure as the standard MPC problem with additional parameter r

Steady-state offset: If the model is not accurate the output will show an offset from the desired reference

ExtensionsOffset-free reference tracking

Goal: Zero steady-state tracking error, i.e. $y(k) - r(k) \rightarrow 0$ for $k \rightarrow \infty$

Consider the augmented model: $x^+ = Ax + Bu + B_w w$

$$y = Cx + C_w w$$

with $w \in \mathbb{R}^{w}$.

Assume size of w=number of states, C_w =I and $det \begin{bmatrix} A - I & B_w \\ C & I \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$. Then the augmented system is observable.

→ We can correct for the disturbance by choosing x_{ss} , u_{ss} such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} I - A & -B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{ss} \\ u_{ss} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -B_w \hat{w} \\ r - C_w \hat{w} \end{bmatrix}$$

where \hat{w} is an estimate of the uncertainty obtained from a state observer. \rightarrow See [Mäder et al., Automatica 2009] for more details.



Extensions – Uncertain systems

In practice, the nominal system model will not be accurate due to *model mismatch* or *external disturbances* that are acting on the system.

Consider the uncertain system

 $x^+ = Ax + Bu + B_w w$

where $w \in \mathcal{W}$ is a bounded disturbance.

Stability:

- In the presence of uncertainties, asymptotic stability of the origin can often not be achieved. Instead, it can be shown that the trajectories converge to a neighborhood of the origin.
- Stability can be analyzed in the framework of input-to-state stability.
 Idea: Effect of the uncertainty on the system is bounded and depends on the size of the uncertainty.

Feasibility?



Extensions Approaches for uncertain systems



$$x^+ = Ax + Bu + B_w w$$

Trajectories differ from what is expected using the nominal system model

→ Uncertainties can lead to infeasibility of the MPC problem

Soft constrained MPC:

Idea: Tolerate temporary violation of state constraints by constraint relaxation

ightarrow Feasibility of the optimization problem despite disturbances

Robust MPC:

Idea: Design MPC problem for the worst-case disturbance by constraint tightening

 \rightarrow Constraint satisfaction and stability of the uncertain system



Extensions – Soft constrained MPC

Idea: Input constraints are hard (e.g. actuator limitations), state constraints may (temporarily) be violated

- Introduce soft state and terminal constraints by means of slack variables
- Introduce penalties on the slack variables in the cost

$$J^{*}(x) = \min_{x,u} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} l(x_{i}, u_{i}) + l_{\epsilon}(\epsilon_{i}) + V_{f}(x_{N}) + l_{\epsilon}(\epsilon_{N})$$
Penalties on the amount of constraint violation
s.t. $x_{i+1} = Ax_{i} + Bu_{i}$
 $Cx_{i} + Du_{i} \le b + \epsilon_{i}$
 $G_{N}x_{N} \le f_{N} + \epsilon_{N}$ Slack variables
 $x_{0} = x$

Standard soft constrained MPC setup does not provide stability guarantees

→ New soft constrained MPC setup with (robust) stability properties developed in [Zeilinger et al., CDC 2010]



Further extensions

- Reference tracking with recursive feasibility guarantees [Gilbert et al., 1994; Bemporad 1998; Gilbert & Kolmanovsky 1999, 2002; Limon et al., 2008; Borrelli et al., 2009; Ferramosca et al., 2009; ...]
- Move blocking: Reduce the computational complexity by fixing the inputs or its derivatives to be constant over several time steps [Li & Xi 2007, 2009; Cagienard et al. 2007; Gondhalekar & Imura, 2010; ...]
- Stochastic MPC: Consider uncertainties that are unbounded and/or follow a certain distribution
 - Probabilistic constraints
 - Expected value constraints
 - Expected value cost

[Lee et al. 1998; Couchman et al., 2005; Cannon et al., 2007; Grancharova et al. 2007; Hokayem et al., 2009; Cinquemani et al., 2011; ...]

