

# CSC477

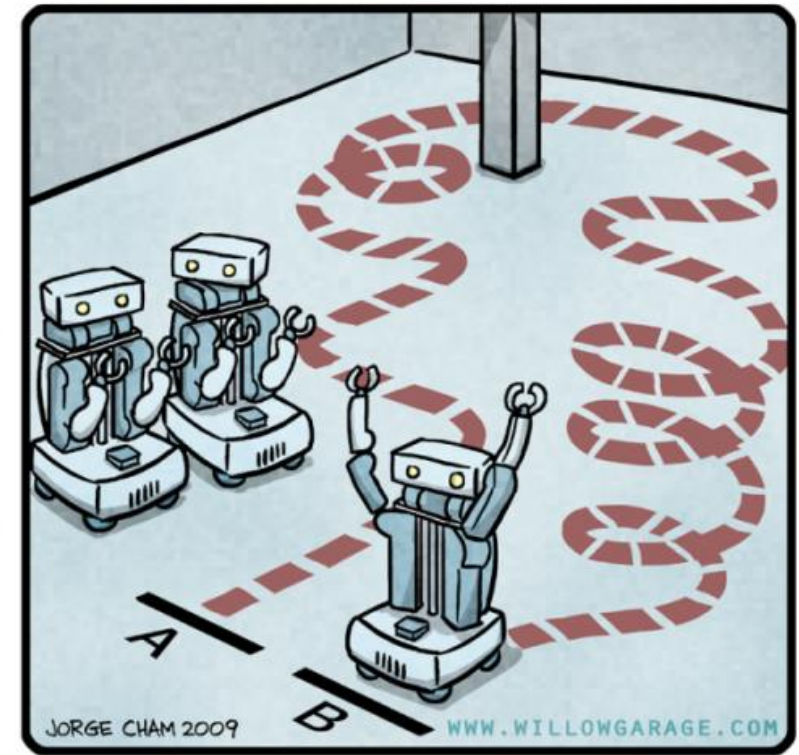
## Introduction to Mobile Robotics

Florian Shkurti

Week #4: Optimal Control and the Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

# Today's agenda

- Intro to Control
- Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

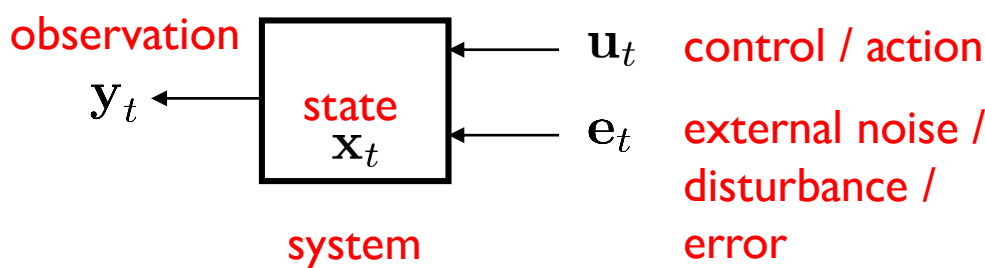


"HIS PATH-PLANNING MAY BE  
SUB-OPTIMAL, BUT IT'S GOT FLAIR."

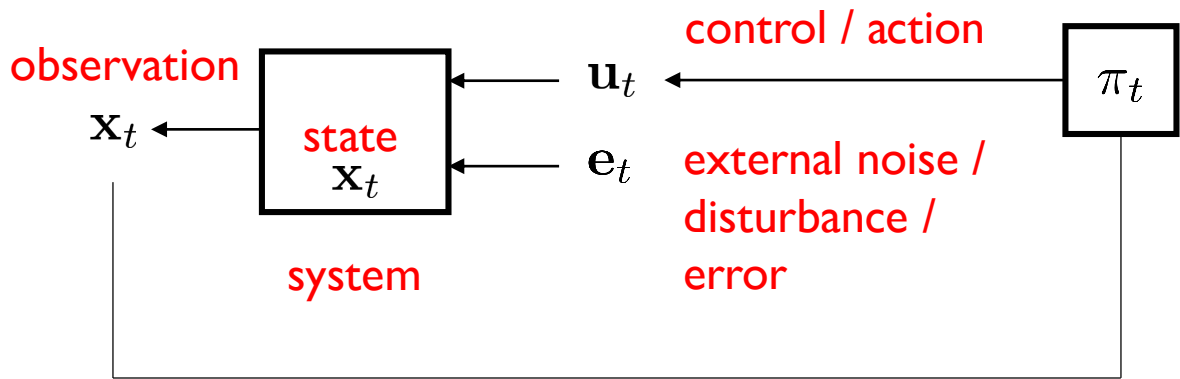
## Acknowledgments

Today's slides have been influenced by: Pieter Abbeel (ECE287), Sergey Levine (DeepRL), Ben Recht (ICML'18), Emo Todorov, Zico Kolter

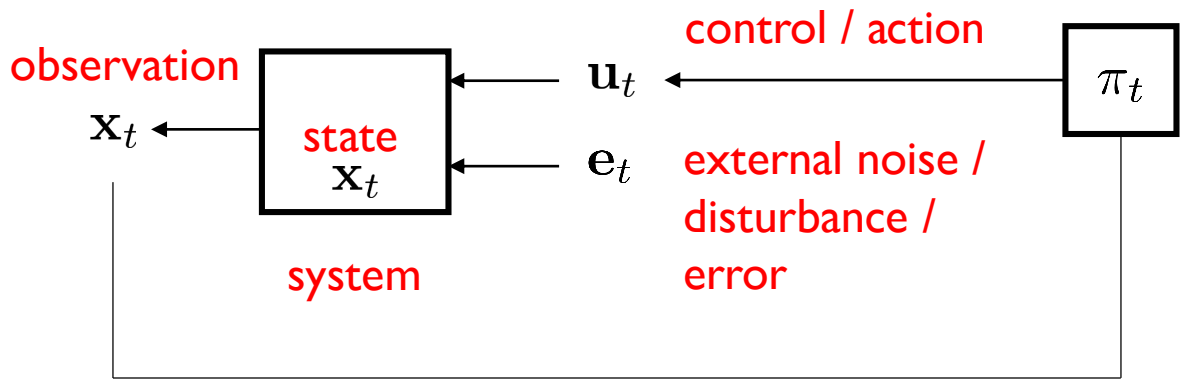
**Optimal Control**



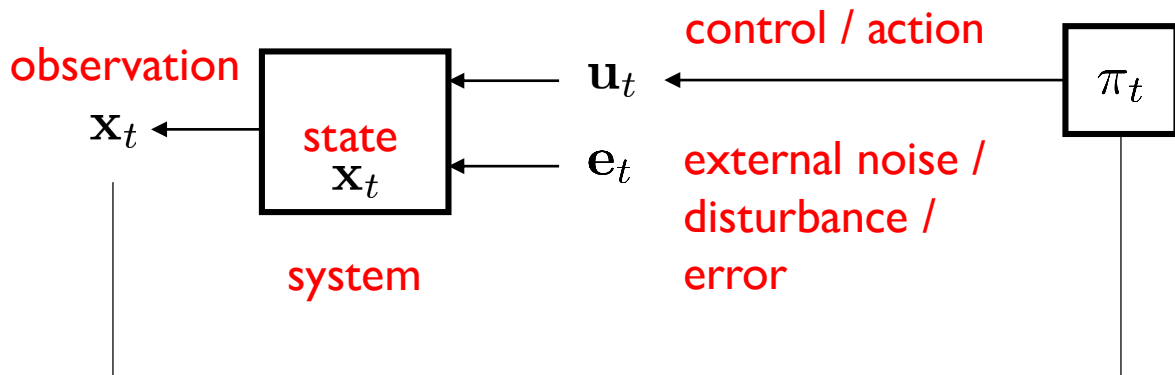
**Optimal Control**



Optimal Control



## Optimal Control



$$\underset{\pi_0, \dots, \pi_{T-1}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{e}_t} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^T c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) \right]$$

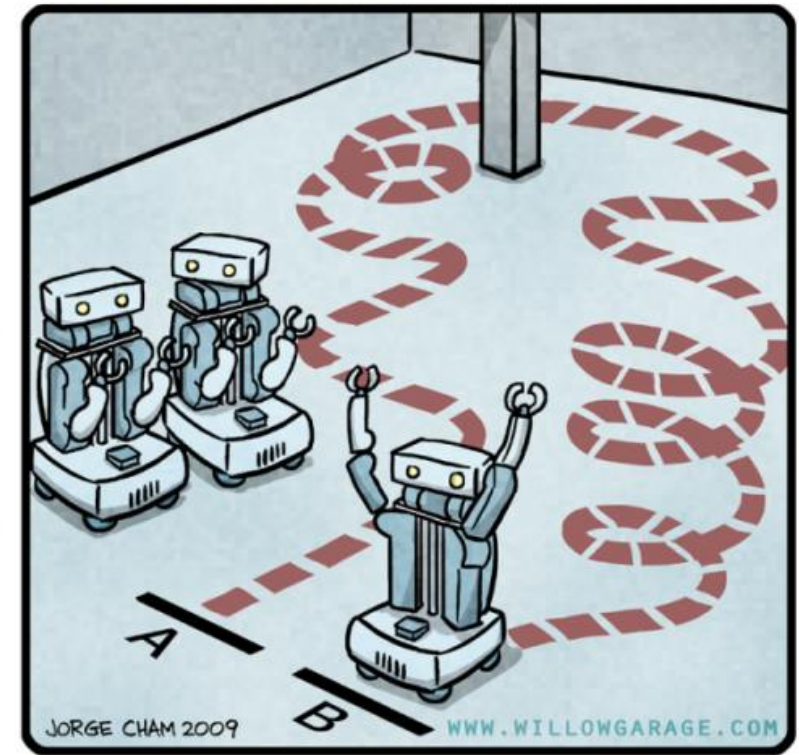
$$\text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{e}_t) \quad \text{known dynamics}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_t = \pi_t(\mathbf{x}_{0:t}, \mathbf{u}_{0:t-1})$$

control law / policy

# Today's agenda

- Intro to Control
- Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

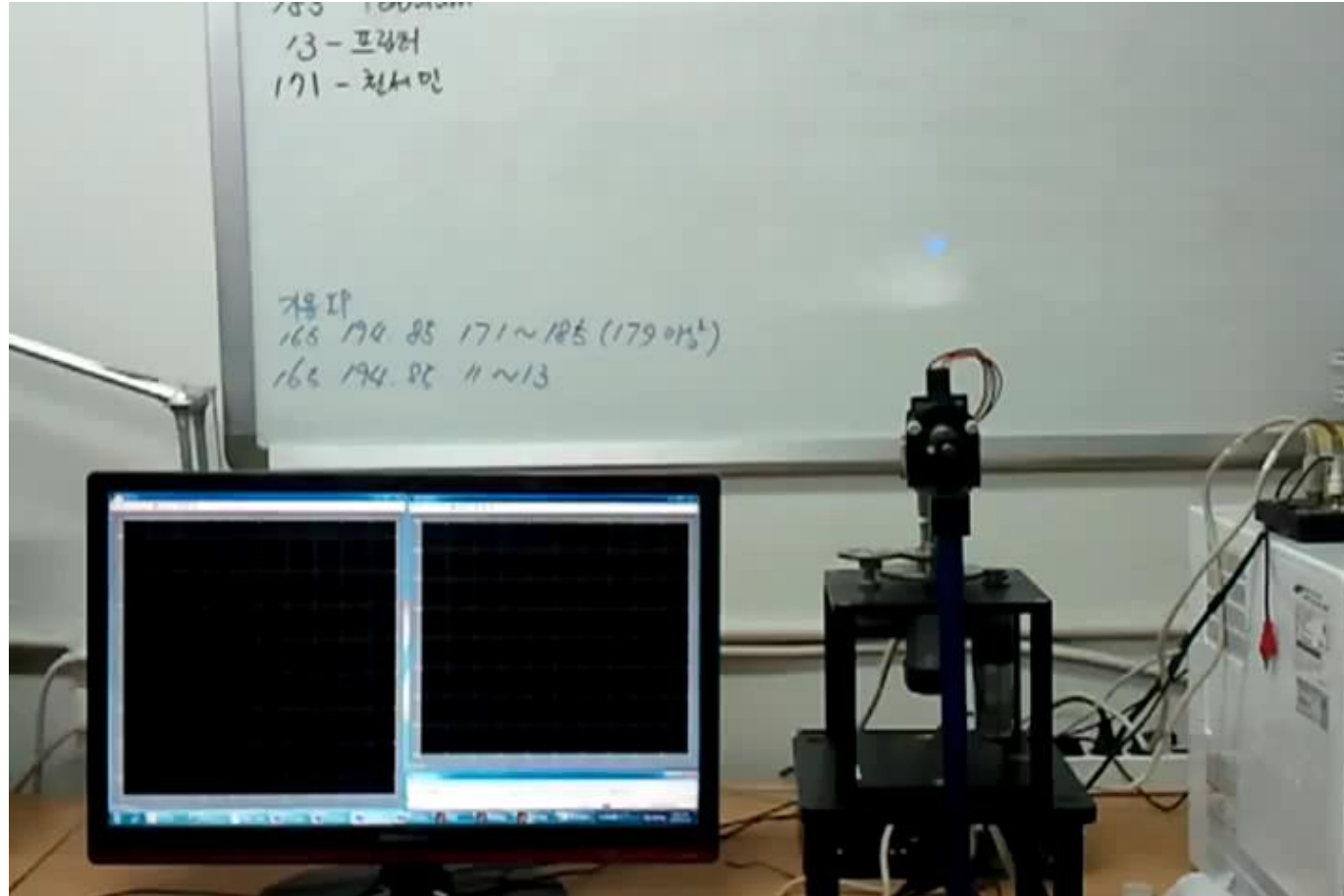


"HIS PATH-PLANNING MAY BE  
SUB-OPTIMAL, BUT IT'S GOT FLAIR."

## Acknowledgments

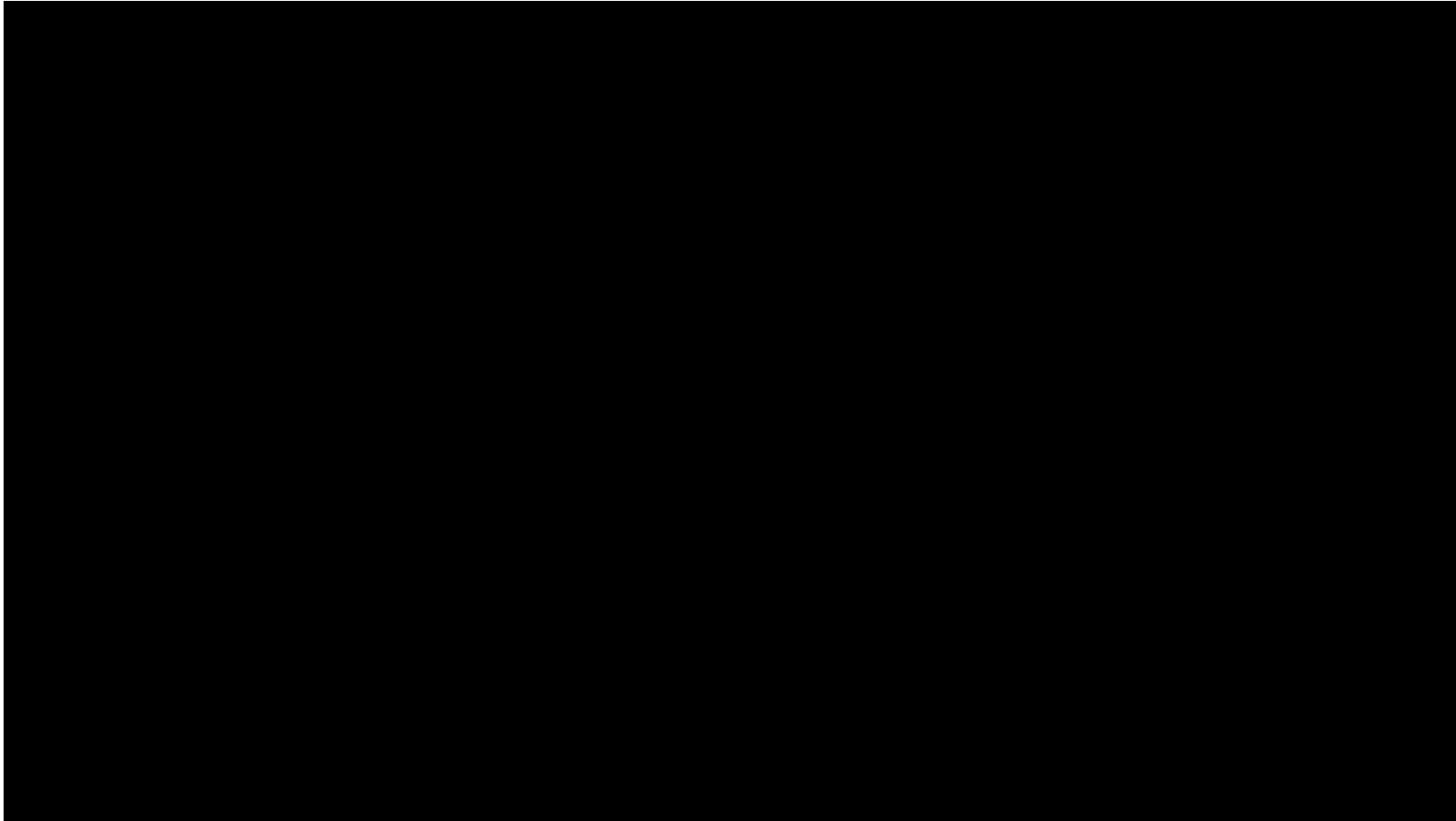
Today's slides have been influenced by: Pieter Abbeel (ECE287), Sergey Levine (DeepRL), Ben Recht (ICML'18), Emo Todorov, Zico Kolter

# What you can do with LQR control





# What you can do with (variants of) LQR control



# LQR: assumptions

- You know the dynamics model of the system
- It is linear:  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t$

State at the next time step

$\mathbb{R}^d$

Control / command / action applied to the system

$\mathbb{R}^k$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

$$B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$$

# Which systems are linear?



- Omnidirectional robot

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_x(t)\delta t$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t + v_y(t)\delta t$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \omega_z(t)\delta t$$



$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = I\mathbf{x}_t + \delta t I \mathbf{u}_t$$

$$A = I$$

$$B = \delta t I$$



# Which systems are linear?



- Omnidirectional robot

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_x(t)\delta t$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t + v_y(t)\delta t$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \omega_z(t)\delta t$$



$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = I\mathbf{x}_t + \delta t I \mathbf{u}_t$$

$$A = I$$

$$B = \delta t I$$

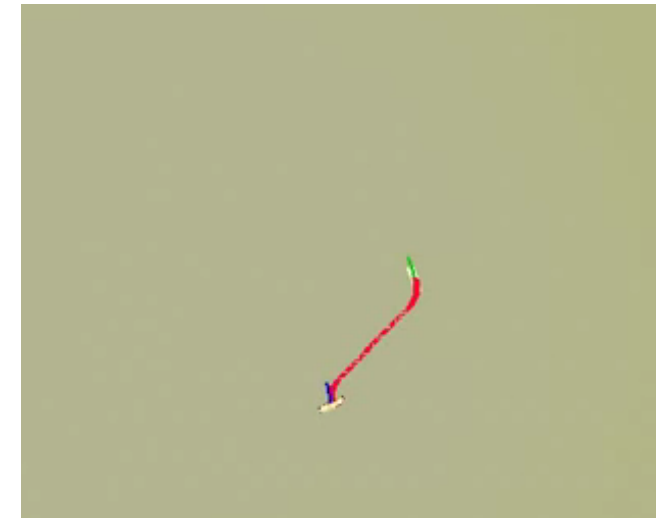


- Simple car

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_x(t)\cos(\theta_t)\delta t$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t + v_x(t)\sin(\theta_t)\delta t$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \omega_z\delta t$$



# Which systems are linear?



- Omnidirectional robot

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= x_t + v_x(t)\delta t \\y_{t+1} &= y_t + v_y(t)\delta t \\\theta_{t+1} &= \theta_t + \omega_z(t)\delta t\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{t+1} &= I\mathbf{x}_t + \delta t I \mathbf{u}_t \\A &= I \\B &= \delta t I\end{aligned}$$

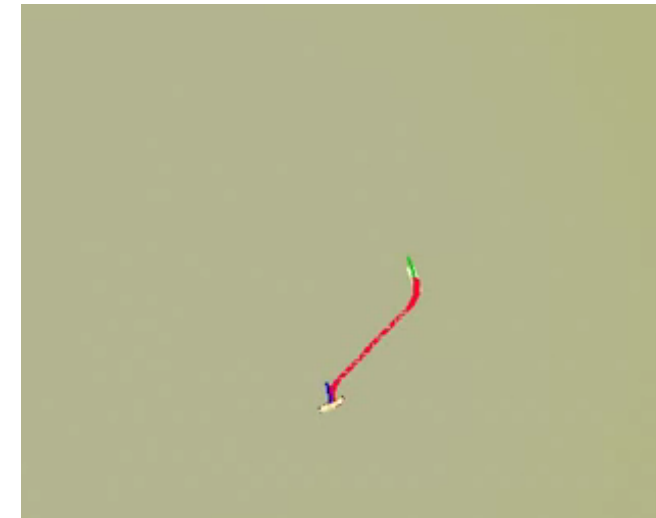


- Simple car

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= x_t + v_x(t)\cos(\theta_t)\delta t \\y_{t+1} &= y_t + v_x(t)\sin(\theta_t)\delta t \\\theta_{t+1} &= \theta_t + \omega_z\delta t\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{t+1} &= I\mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} \delta t \cos(\theta_t) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta t \sin(\theta_t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta t \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t \\A &= I \\B &= B(\mathbf{x}_t)\end{aligned}$$



# Which systems are linear?



## • Omnidirectional robot

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= x_t + v_x(t)\delta t \\y_{t+1} &= y_t + v_y(t)\delta t \\ \theta_{t+1} &= \theta_t + \omega_z(t)\delta t\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{t+1} &= I\mathbf{x}_t + \delta t I \mathbf{u}_t \\ A &= I \\ B &= \delta t I\end{aligned}$$



## • Simple car

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= x_t + v_x(t)\cos(\theta_t)\delta t \\y_{t+1} &= y_t + v_x(t)\sin(\theta_t)\delta t \\ \theta_{t+1} &= \theta_t + \omega_z\delta t\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{t+1} &= I\mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} \delta t \cos(\theta_t) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta t \sin(\theta_t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta t \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t \\ A &= I \\ B &= B(\mathbf{x}_t)\end{aligned}$$



# The goal of LQR

- Stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$  with control  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$
- Then  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \mathbf{0}$  and the system will remain at zero forever

# The goal of LQR

If we want to stabilize around  $\mathbf{x}^*$  then  
let  $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*$  be the state




- Stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$  with control  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$
- Then  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \mathbf{0}$  and the system will remain at zero forever



# LQR: assumptions

- You know the dynamics model of the system
- It is linear:  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t$
- There is an instantaneous cost associated with being at state  $\mathbf{x}_t$  and taking the action  $\mathbf{u}_t$ :  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$



Quadratic state cost:  
Penalizes deviation  
from the zero vector



Quadratic control cost:  
Penalizes high control  
signals

# LQR: assumptions

- You know the dynamics model of the system
- It is linear:  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t$
- There is an instantaneous cost associated with being at state  $\mathbf{x}_t$  and taking the action  $\mathbf{u}_t$ :  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$

Square matrices  $Q$  and  $R$  must be positive definite:

$$Q = Q^T \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x, x^T Q x > 0$$
$$R = R^T \quad \text{and} \quad \forall u, u^T R u > 0$$

i.e. positive cost for ANY nonzero state and control vector

# Finite-Horizon LQR

- Idea: finding controls is an optimization problem
- Compute the control variables that minimize the cumulative cost

$$\begin{aligned} u_0^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^* = & \underset{u_0, \dots, u_N}{\operatorname{argmin}} && \sum_{t=0}^N c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) \\ & \text{s.t.} && \\ & \mathbf{x}_1 = && A\mathbf{x}_0 + B\mathbf{u}_0 \\ & \mathbf{x}_2 = && A\mathbf{x}_1 + B\mathbf{u}_1 \\ & \dots && \\ & \mathbf{x}_N = && A\mathbf{x}_{N-1} + B\mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{aligned}$$

# Finite-Horizon LQR

- Idea: finding controls is an optimization problem
- Compute the control variables that minimize the cumulative cost

$$u_0^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^* = \underset{u_0, \dots, u_N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{t=0}^N c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$$

s.t.

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = A\mathbf{x}_0 + B\mathbf{u}_0$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = A\mathbf{x}_1 + B\mathbf{u}_1$$

...

$$\mathbf{x}_N = A\mathbf{x}_{N-1} + B\mathbf{u}_{N-1}$$

We could solve this as a constrained nonlinear optimization problem. But, there is a better way: we can find a closed-form solution.

# Finite-Horizon LQR

- Idea: finding controls is an optimization problem
- Compute the control variables that minimize the cumulative cost

$$u_0^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^* = \underset{u_0, \dots, u_N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{t=0}^N c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$$

s.t.

Open-loop plan!

Given first state compute  
action sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_1 &= A\mathbf{x}_0 + B\mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 &= A\mathbf{x}_1 + B\mathbf{u}_1 \\ &\dots \\ \mathbf{x}_N &= A\mathbf{x}_{N-1} + B\mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{aligned}$$

# Why not use PID control?

- We could, but:
- The gains for PID are good for a small region of state-space.
  - System reaches a state outside this set  $\rightarrow$  becomes unstable
  - PID has no formal guarantees on the size of the set
- We would need to tune PID gains for every control variable.
  - If the state vector has multiple dimensions it becomes harder to tune every control variable in isolation. Need to consider interactions and correlations.
- We would need to tune PID gains for different regions of the state-space and guarantee smooth gain transitions
  - This is called gain scheduling, and it takes a lot of effort and time

# Why not use PID?

LQR addresses these problems

A red text label 'LQR addresses these problems' is positioned on the left side of the slide. Three red arrows originate from this label and point to three specific bullet points in the list below: the first bullet point, the second bullet point's sub-bullet 'PID has no formal guarantees...', and the third bullet point.

- We could, but:
- The gains for PID are good for a small region of state-space.
  - System reaches a state outside this set → becomes unstable
  - PID has no formal guarantees on the size of the set
- We would need to tune PID gains for every control variable.
  - If the state vector has multiple dimensions it becomes harder to tune every control variable in isolation. Need to consider interactions and correlations.
- We would need to tune PID gains for different regions of the state-space and guarantee smooth gain transitions
  - This is called gain scheduling, and it takes a lot of effort and time

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

- Let  $J_n(\mathbf{x})$  denote the cumulative cost-to-go starting from state  $\mathbf{x}$  and moving for  $n$  time steps.
- I.e. cumulative future cost from now till  $n$  more steps
- $J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x}$  is the terminal cost of ending up at state  $\mathbf{x}$ , with no actions left to perform. Recall that  $c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u}$



# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

- Let  $J_n(\mathbf{x})$  denote the cumulative cost-to-go starting from state  $\mathbf{x}$  and moving for  $n$  time steps.
- I.e. cumulative future cost from now till  $n$  more steps
- $J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x}$  is the terminal cost of ending up at state  $\mathbf{x}$ , with no actions left to perform. Recall that  $c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \cancel{\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u}}$

Q: What is the optimal cumulative cost-to-go function with 1 time step left?

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x}$$

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

For notational convenience later on

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + J_0(A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})]$$

In RL this would be the  
state-action value function

Bellman Update  
Dynamic Programming  
Value Iteration

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + J_0(A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \end{aligned}$$

Q: How do we optimize a multivariable function with respect to some variables (in our case, the controls)?

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + J_0(A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \end{aligned}$$

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion


$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + J_0(A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}] \end{aligned}$$

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + J_0(A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})^T P_0 (A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u})] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}] \end{aligned}$$

  
Quadratic term in  $\mathbf{u}$       Linear term in  $\mathbf{u}$       Quadratic term in  $\mathbf{u}$

A: Take the partial derivative w.r.t. controls and set it to zero. That will give you a critical point.



# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}]$$

From calculus/algebra:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}) = (M + M^T) \mathbf{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{b}) = M \mathbf{b}$$

If  $M$  is symmetric:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}) = 2M \mathbf{u}$$

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}]$$

The minimum is attained at:

$$2R\mathbf{u} + 2B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + 2B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$(R + B^T P_0 B)\mathbf{u} = -B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

Q: Is this matrix invertible? Recall R, P<sub>0</sub> are positive definite matrices.

From calculus/algebra:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}) = (M + M^T) \mathbf{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{b}) = M \mathbf{b}$$

If M is symmetric:


$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}) = 2M \mathbf{u}$$

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}]$$


The minimum is attained at:


$$2R\mathbf{u} + 2B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + 2B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$(R + B^T P_0 B)\mathbf{u} = -B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$


Q: Is this matrix invertible? Recall  $R$ ,  $P_0$  are positive definite matrices.

$R + B^T P_0 B$  is positive definite, so it is invertible

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}]$$


The minimum is attained at:

$$2R\mathbf{u} + 2B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + 2B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$(R + B^T P_0 B)\mathbf{u} = -B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

So, the optimal control for the last time step is:

$$\mathbf{u} = -(R + B^T P_0 B)^{-1} B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = K_1 \mathbf{x}$$

Linear controller in terms of the state

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}]$$

The minimum is attained at:

$$2R\mathbf{u} + 2B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + 2B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$(R + B^T P_0 B)\mathbf{u} = -B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

So, the optimal control for the last time step is:

$$\mathbf{u} = -(R + B^T P_0 B)^{-1} B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = K_1 \mathbf{x}$$

Linear controller in terms of the state

We computed the location of the minimum.  
Now, plug it back in and compute the minimum value

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T A^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T B^T P_0 B \mathbf{u}] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \underbrace{(Q + K_1^T R K_1 + (A + B K_1)^T P_0 (A + B K_1))}_{P_1} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

Q: Why is this a big deal?

A: The cost-to-go function remains quadratic after the first recursive step.

# Finding the LQR controller in closed-form by recursion

Time N (planning horizon)

$$J_0(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_0 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = -(R + B^T P_0 B)^{-1} B^T P_0 A \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = K_1 \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{x}^T (Q + K_1^T R K_1 + (A + B K_1)^T P_0 (A + B K_1)) \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T P_1 \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

...

**J remains quadratic in x throughout the recursion**

$$\mathbf{u} = -(R + B^T P_{n-1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{n-1} A \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = K_n \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_n(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{x}^T (Q + K_n^T R K_n + (A + B K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A + B K_n)) \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T P_n \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

**u remains linear in x throughout the recursion**

...

Time 0

# Finite-Horizon LQR: algorithm summary

$$P_0 = Q$$

// n is the # of steps left

for n = 1...N

$$K_n = -(R + B^T P_{n-1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{n-1} A$$

$$P_n = Q + K_n^T R K_n + (A + B K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A + B K_n)$$

Optimal control for time  $t = N - n$  is  $\mathbf{u}_t = K_t \mathbf{x}_t$  with cost-to-go  $J_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_t \mathbf{x}$   
where the states are predicted forward in time according to linear dynamics



# Finite-Horizon LQR: algorithm summary

$$P_0 = Q$$

// n is the # of steps left

for n = 1...N

$$K_n = -(R + B^T P_{n-1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{n-1} A$$

$$P_n = Q + K_n^T R K_n + (A + B K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A + B K_n)$$

One pass **backward** in time:

Matrix gains are precomputed based on the dynamics and the instantaneous cost

Optimal control for time  $t = N - n$  is  $\mathbf{u}_t = K_t \mathbf{x}_t$  with cost-to-go  $J_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_t \mathbf{x}$

where the states are predicted forward in time according to linear dynamics

# Finite-Horizon LQR: algorithm summary

$$P_0 = Q$$

// n is the # of steps left

for n = 1...N

$$K_n = -(R + B^T P_{n-1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{n-1} A$$

$$P_n = Q + K_n^T R K_n + (A + B K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A + B K_n)$$

One pass **backward** in time:

Matrix gains are precomputed based on the dynamics and the instantaneous cost

Optimal control for time  $t = N - n$  is  $\mathbf{u}_t = K_t \mathbf{x}_t$  with cost-to-go  $J_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_t \mathbf{x}$

where the states are predicted forward in time according to linear dynamics

One pass **forward** in time

Predict states, compute controls and cost-to-go

# Finite-Horizon LQR: algorithm summary

$$P_0 = Q$$

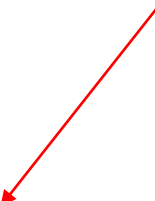
// n is the # of steps left

for n = 1...N

$$K_n = -(R + B^T P_{n-1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{n-1} A$$

$$P_n = Q + K_n^T R K_n + (A + B K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A + B K_n)$$

Potential problem for states of dimension  $\gg 100$ :  
Matrix inversion is expensive:  $O(k^{2.3})$  for the best known algorithm and  $O(k^3)$  for Gaussian Elimination.



Optimal control for time  $t = N - n$  is  $\mathbf{u}_t = K_t \mathbf{x}_t$  with cost-to-go  $J_t(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_t \mathbf{x}$   
where the states are predicted forward in time according to linear dynamics

# LQR summary

- Advantages:
  - If system is linear LQR gives the optimal controller that takes the system's state to 0 (or the desired target state, same thing)
- Drawbacks:

# LQR summary

- Advantages:
  - If system is linear LQR gives the optimal controller that takes the system's state to 0 (or the desired target state, same thing)
- Drawbacks:
  - Linear dynamics
  - How can you include obstacles or constraints in the specification?
  - Not easy to put bounds on control values

# What happens in the general nonlinear case?

$$u_0^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^* = \underset{u_0, \dots, u_N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{t=0}^N c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$$

s.t.

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = f(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{u}_1)$$

...

$$\mathbf{x}_N = f(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}, \mathbf{u}_{N-1})$$

Arbitrary differentiable functions  $c, f$

# What happens in the general nonlinear case?

$$u_0^*, \dots, u_{N-1}^* = \underset{u_0, \dots, u_N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{t=0}^N c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$$

s.t.

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = f(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = f(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{u}_1)$$

...

$$\mathbf{x}_N = f(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}, \mathbf{u}_{N-1})$$

Arbitrary differentiable functions  $c, f$

Idea: iteratively approximate solution by solving linearized versions of the problem via LQR

# LQR extensions: time-varying systems

- What can we do when  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A_t \mathbf{x}_t + B_t \mathbf{u}_t$  and  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$  ?
- Turns out, the proof and the algorithm are almost the same

$$P_0 = Q_N$$

// n is the # of steps left

for n = 1...N

$$K_n = -(R_{N-n} + B_{N-n}^T P_{n-1} B_{N-n})^{-1} B_{N-n}^T P_{n-1} A_{N-n}$$

$$P_n = Q_{N-n} + K_n^T R_{N-n} K_n + (A_{N-n} + B_{N-n} K_n)^T P_{n-1} (A_{N-n} + B_{N-n} K_n)$$

Optimal controller for n-step horizon is  $\mathbf{u}_n = K_n \mathbf{x}_n$  with cost-to-go  $J_n(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T P_n \mathbf{x}$



# Examples of models and solutions with LQR

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

- Similar to double integrator dynamical system, but with friction:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{u} - \alpha\dot{\mathbf{p}}$$

Force  
applied  
to the vehicle

Control  
applied  
to the vehicle

Friction  
opposed to  
motion

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

- Similar to double integrator dynamical system, but with friction:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{u} - \alpha\dot{\mathbf{p}}$$

- Set  $\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{v}$  and then you get:

$$m\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{u} - \alpha\mathbf{v}$$

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

- Similar to double integrator dynamical system, but with friction:

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{u} - \alpha\dot{\mathbf{p}}$$

- Set  $\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{v}$  and then you get:

$$m\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{u} - \alpha\mathbf{v}$$

- We discretize by setting

$$\frac{\mathbf{p}_{t+1} - \mathbf{p}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{v}_t$$

$$m \frac{\mathbf{v}_{t+1} - \mathbf{v}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{u}_t - \alpha\mathbf{v}_t$$

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

$$\frac{\mathbf{p}_{t+1} - \mathbf{p}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{v}_t$$

$$m \frac{\mathbf{v}_{t+1} - \mathbf{v}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{u}_t - \alpha \mathbf{v}_t$$

- Define the state vector  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix}$

Q: How can we express this as a linear system?

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

$$\frac{\mathbf{p}_{t+1} - \mathbf{p}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{v}_t$$

$$m \frac{\mathbf{v}_{t+1} - \mathbf{v}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{u}_t - \alpha \mathbf{v}_t$$

- Define the state vector  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t + \delta t \mathbf{v}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t + \frac{\delta t}{m} \mathbf{u}_t - \frac{\alpha \delta t}{m} \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t + \delta t \mathbf{v}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t - \frac{\alpha \delta t}{m} \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

$$\frac{\mathbf{p}_{t+1} - \mathbf{p}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{v}_t$$

$$m \frac{\mathbf{v}_{t+1} - \mathbf{v}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{u}_t - \alpha \mathbf{v}_t$$

- Define the state vector  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t + \delta t \mathbf{v}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t + \frac{\delta t}{m} \mathbf{u}_t - \frac{\alpha \delta t}{m} \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

$$\frac{\mathbf{p}_{t+1} - \mathbf{p}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{v}_t$$

$$m \frac{\mathbf{v}_{t+1} - \mathbf{v}_t}{\delta t} \simeq \mathbf{u}_t - \alpha \mathbf{v}_t$$

- Define the state vector  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t + \delta t \mathbf{v}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t + \frac{\delta t}{m} \mathbf{u}_t - \frac{\alpha \delta t}{m} \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

**A**
**B**



# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

- Define the state vector  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_t + \delta t \mathbf{v}_t \\ \mathbf{v}_t + \frac{\delta t}{m} \mathbf{u}_t - \frac{\alpha \delta t}{m} \mathbf{v}_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha \delta t / m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

**A****B**

- Define the instantaneous cost function
 
$$\begin{aligned} c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} + \rho \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} \\ &= \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + \rho \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

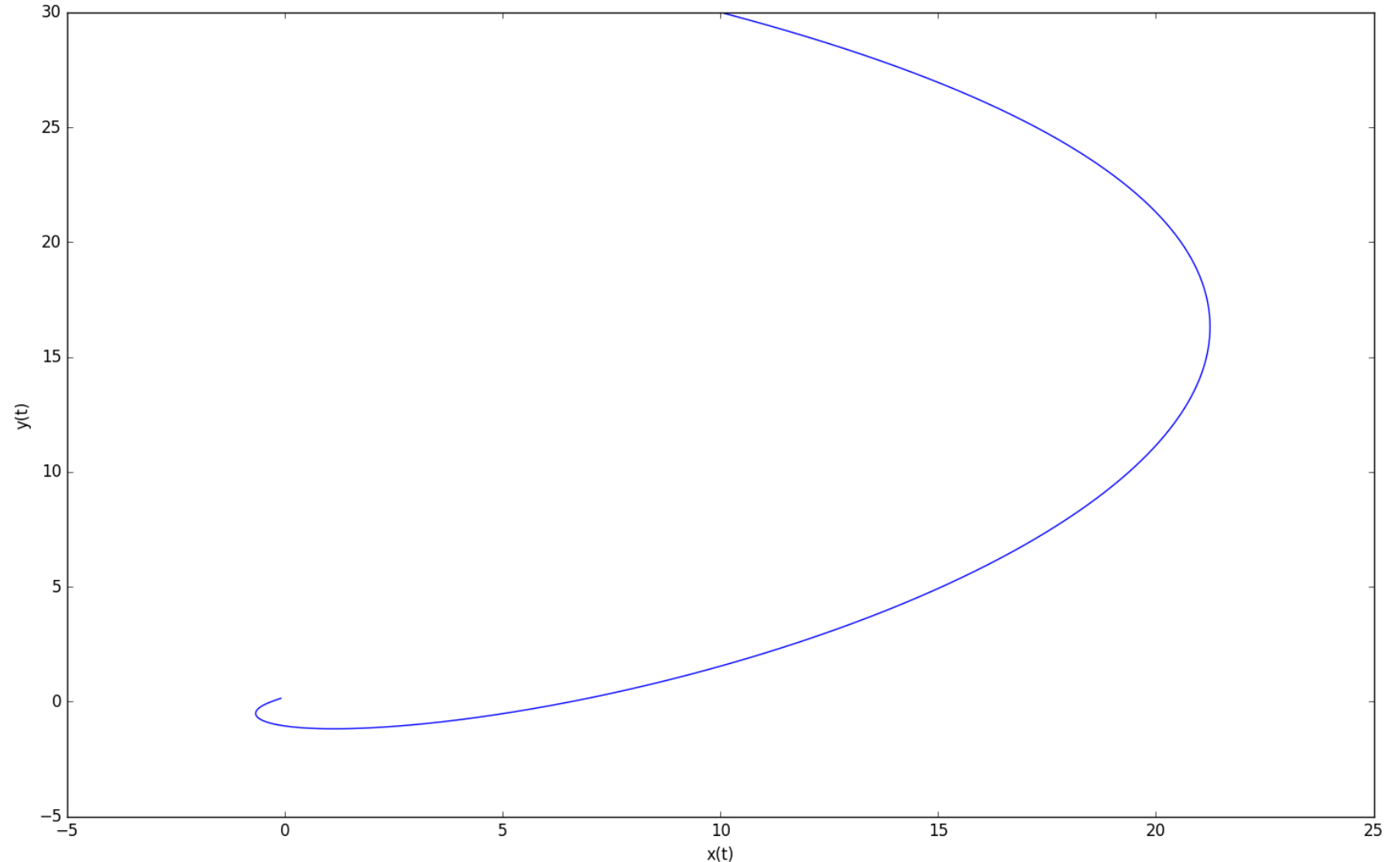
# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

With initial state

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 100\|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



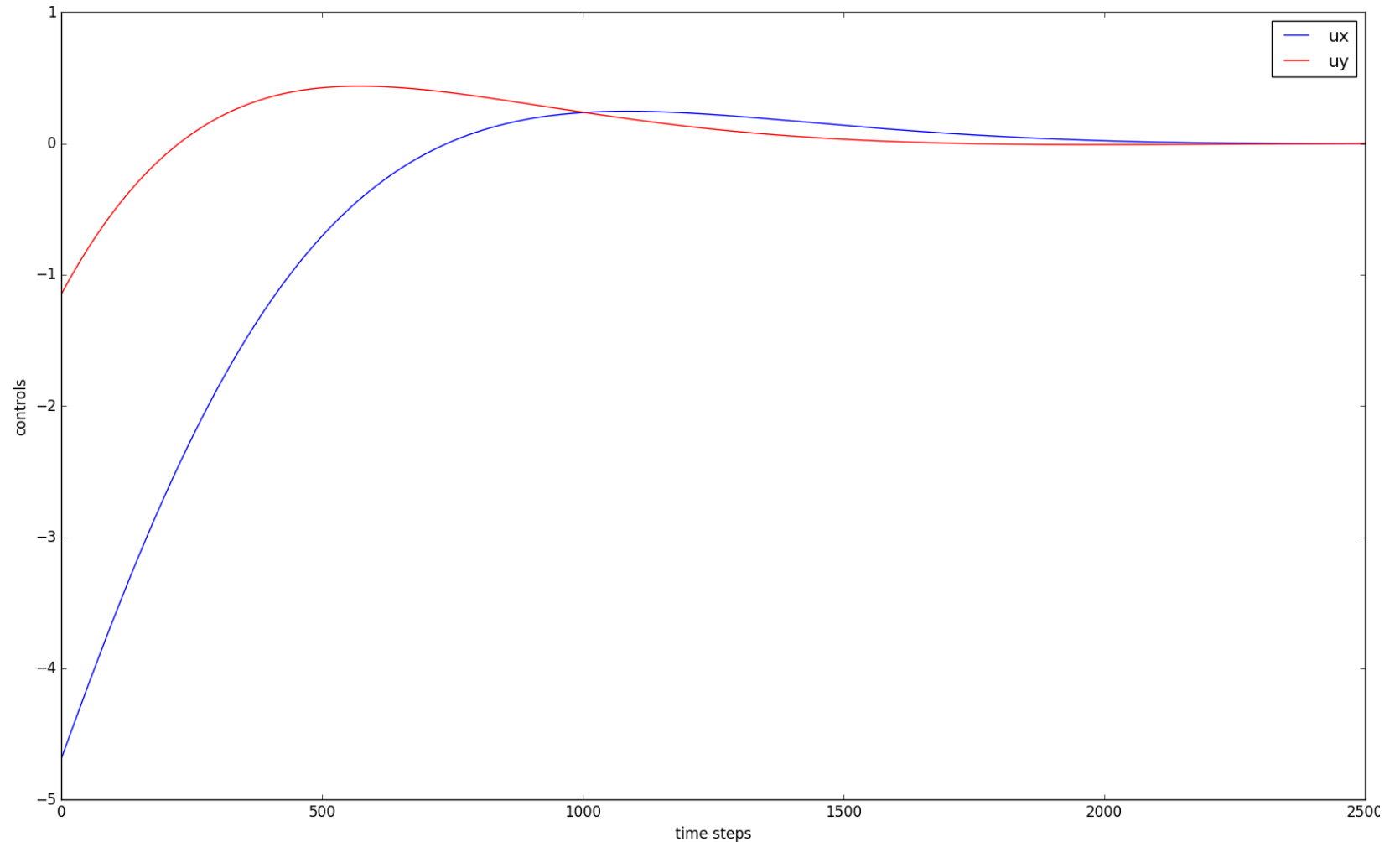
# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

With initial state

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 100\|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



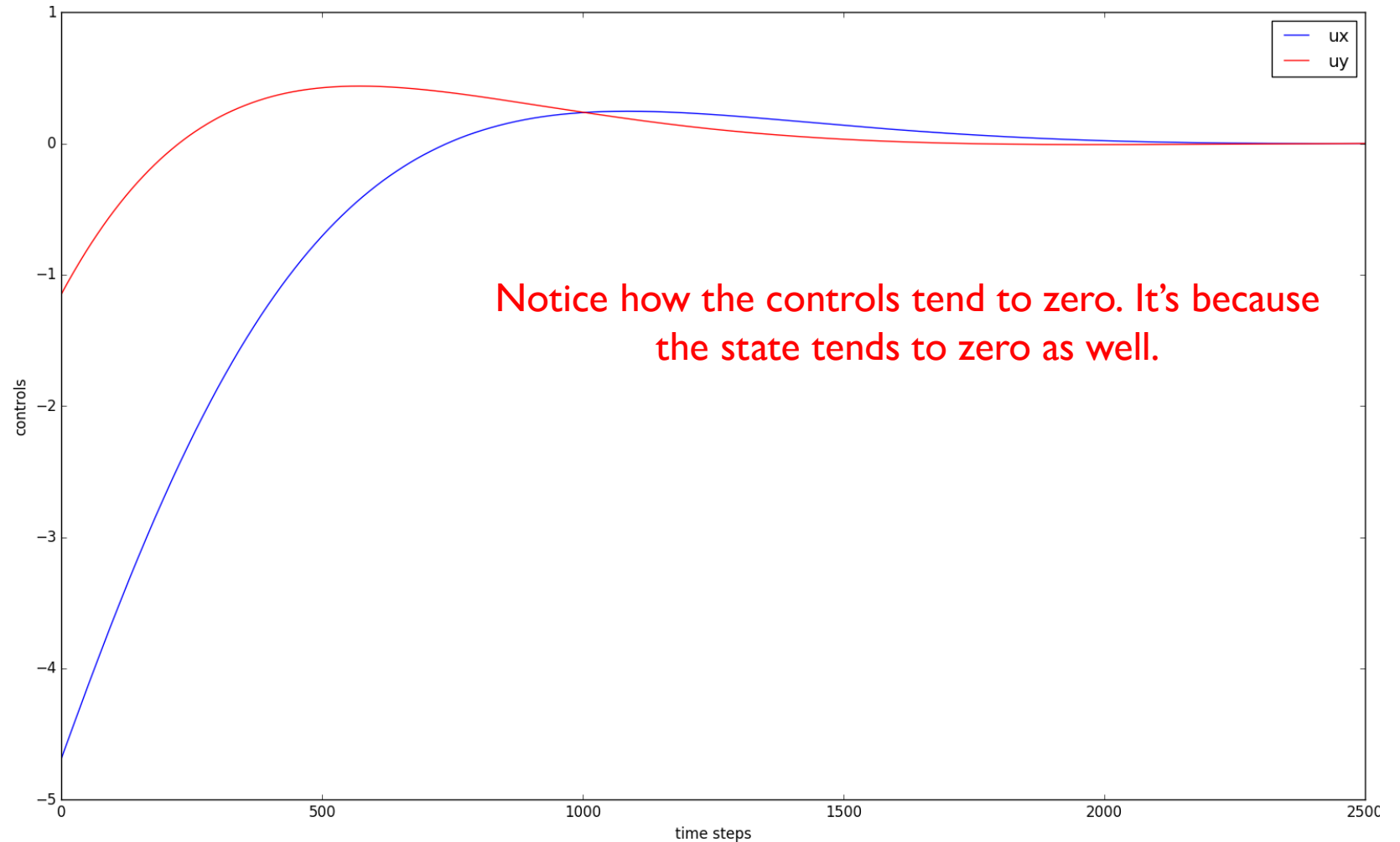
# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

With initial state

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 100\|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



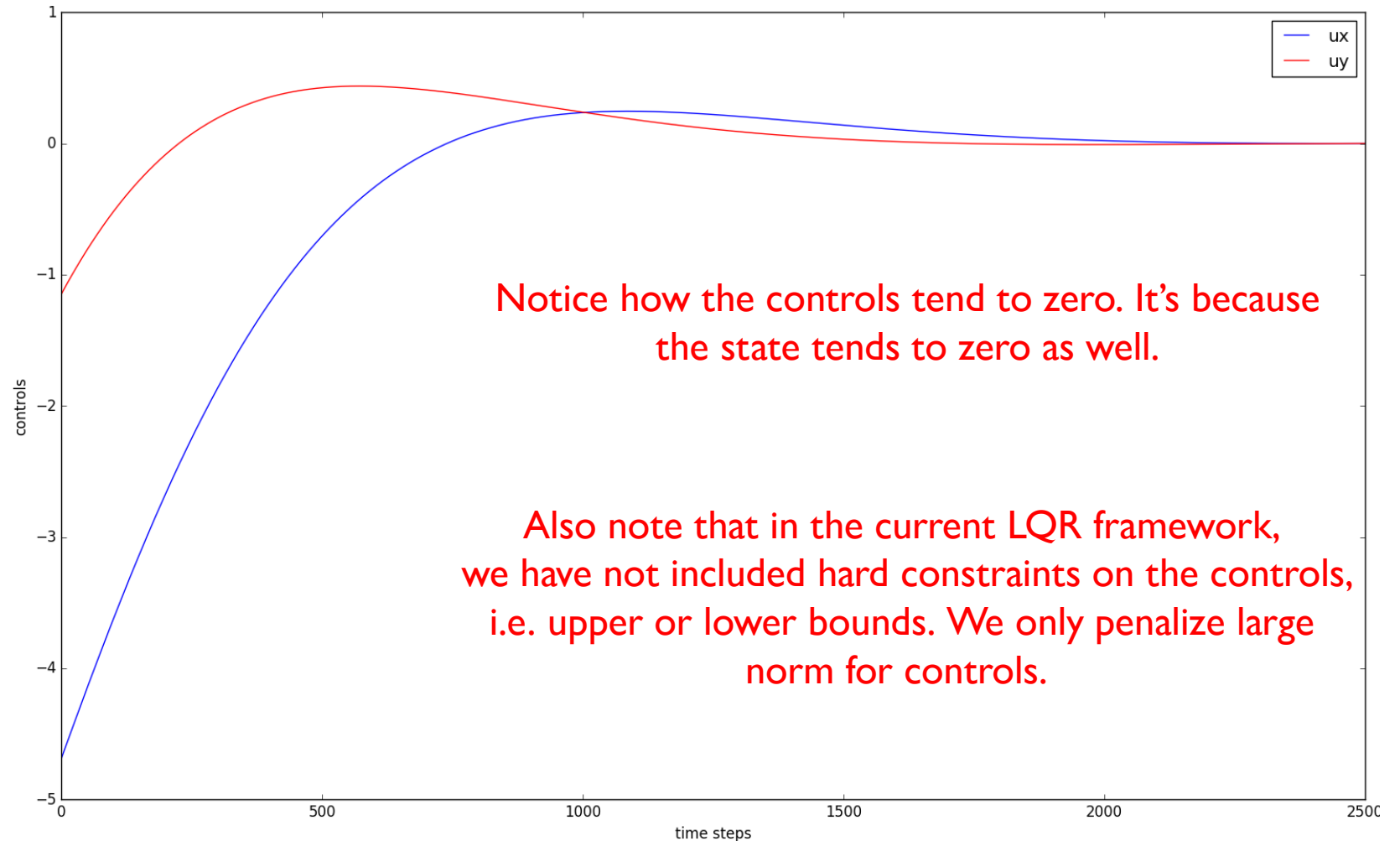
# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

With initial state

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 100\|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



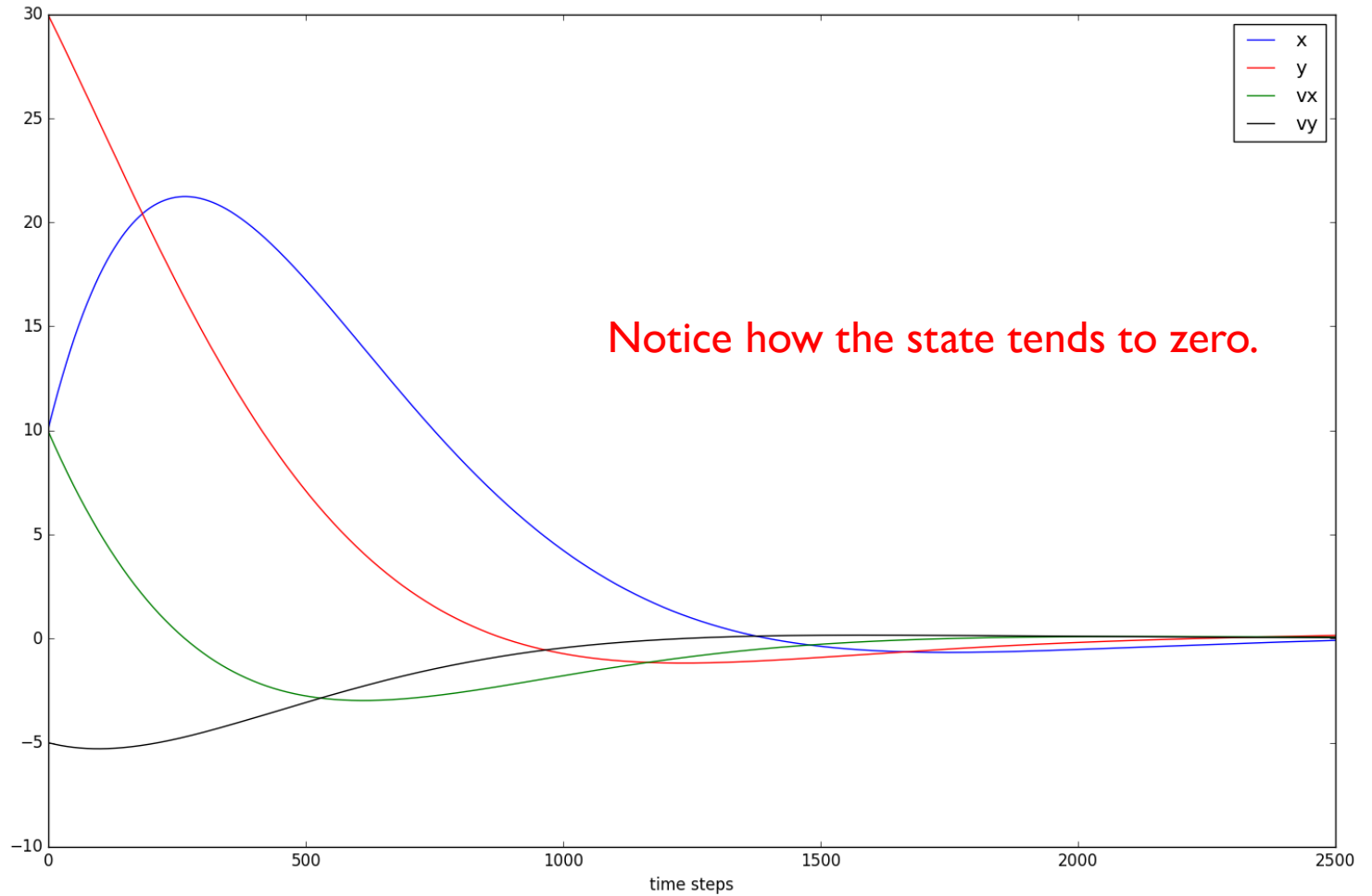
# LQR example #1: omnidirectional vehicle with friction

With initial state

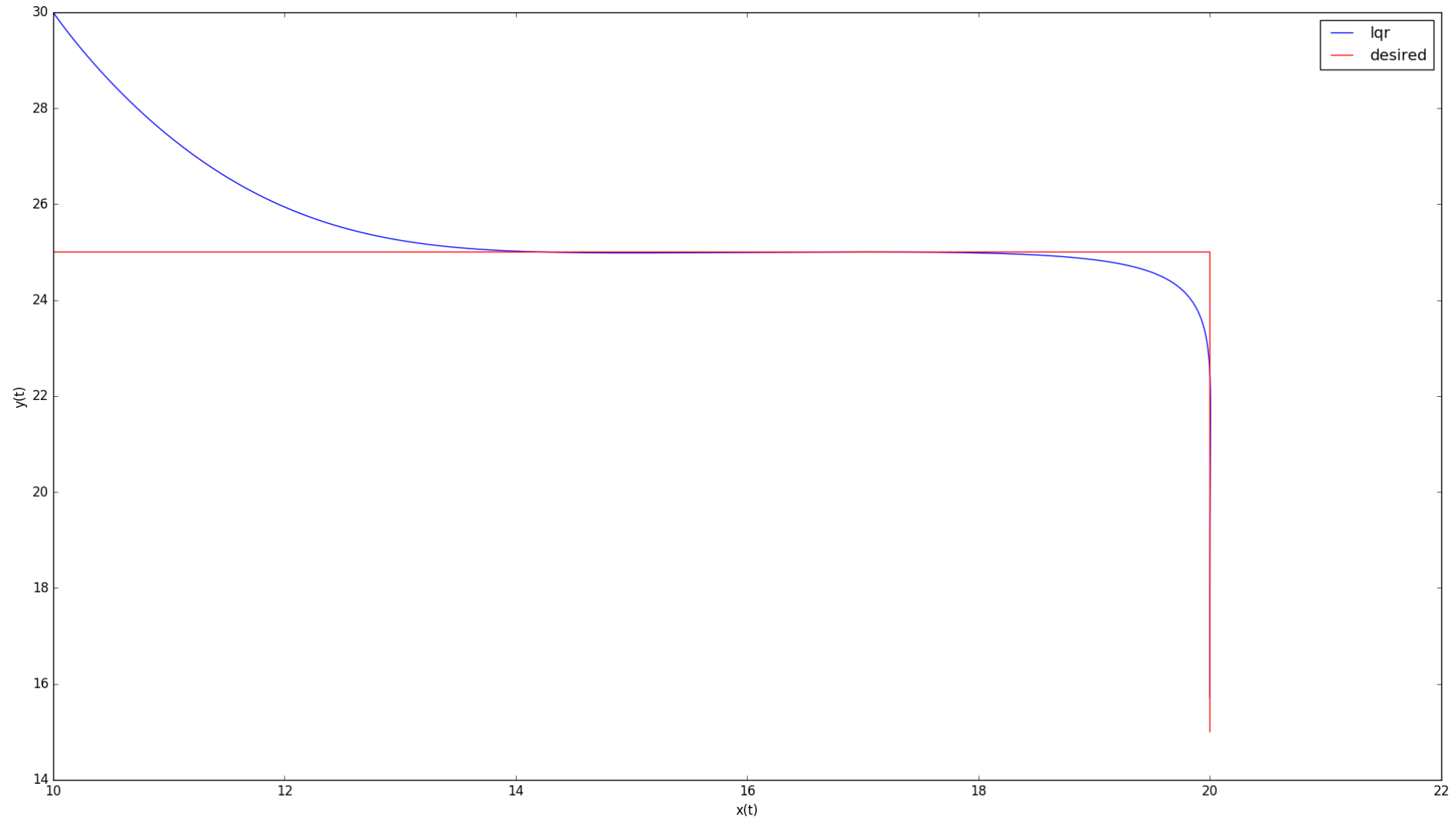
$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 100\|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle



# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

We are given a desired trajectory  $\mathbf{p}_0^*, \mathbf{p}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{p}_T^*$

Instantaneous cost  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = (\mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p}_t^*)^T Q (\mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p}_t^*) + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$



# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} &= \mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* + A\mathbf{x}_t^* \end{aligned}$$

We want  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} = \bar{A}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$

# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} &= \mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* + A\mathbf{x}_t^* \end{aligned}$$

We want  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} = \bar{A}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$

← Need to get rid of this additive term

# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Define } \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} &= \mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* + A\mathbf{x}_t^* \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{We want } \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} = \bar{A}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$$

**C**

Need to get rid of this additive term

$$\text{Redefine state: } \mathbf{z}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} B \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t = \bar{A}\mathbf{z}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$$

# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{t+1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \alpha\delta t/m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta t}{m} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\delta t}{m} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Define } \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} &= \mathbf{x}_{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\mathbf{x}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* \\ &= A\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + B\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^* + A\mathbf{x}_t^* \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{We want } \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} = \bar{A}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$$

Need to get rid of this additive term  
Idea: augment the state

$$\text{Redefine state: } \mathbf{z}_{t+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} B \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_t = \bar{A}\mathbf{z}_t + \bar{B}\mathbf{u}_t$$

$$\text{Redefine cost function: } c(\mathbf{z}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{z}_t^T \bar{Q} \mathbf{z}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$$

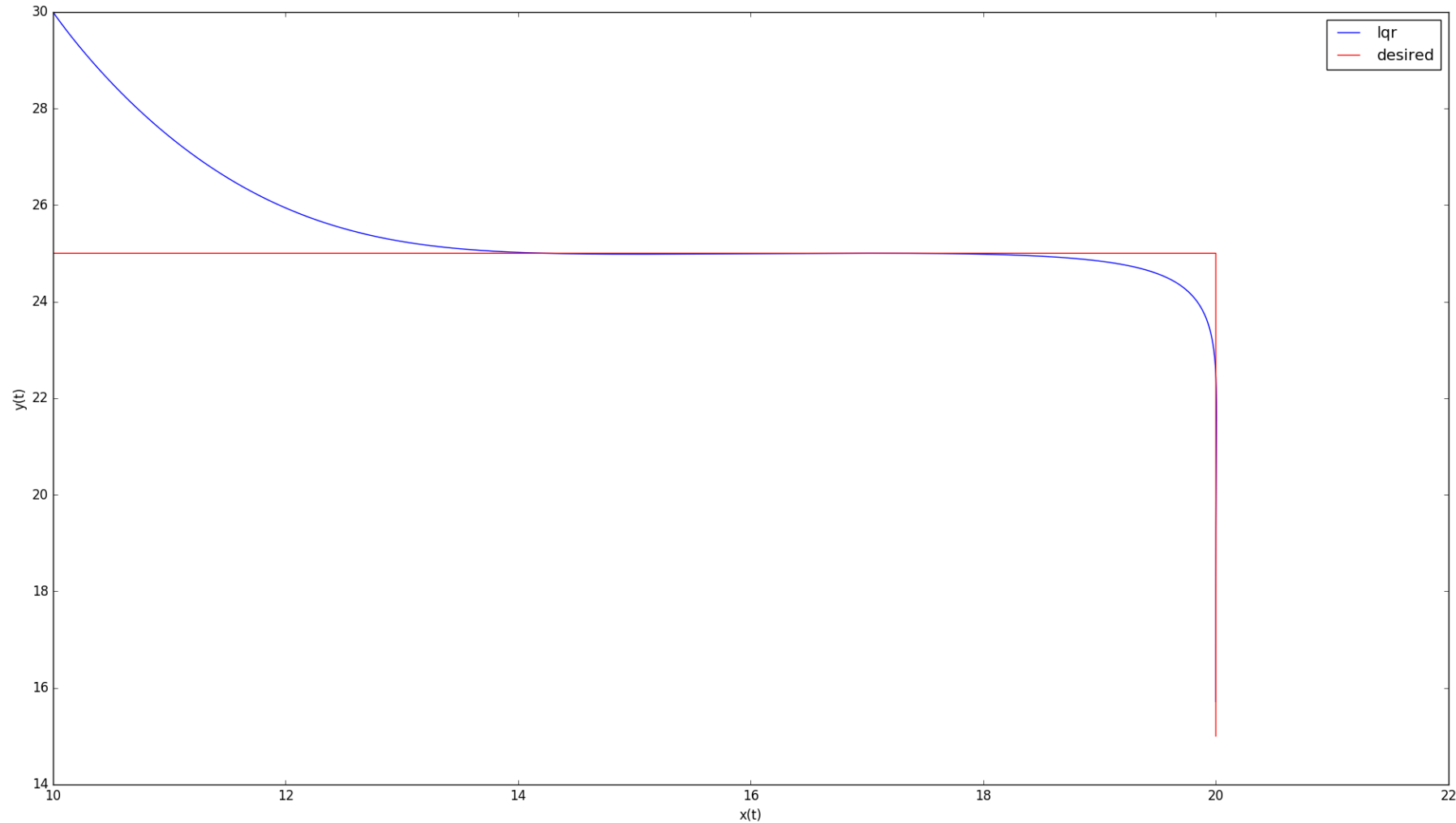
# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

With initial state

$$\mathbf{z}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{z}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



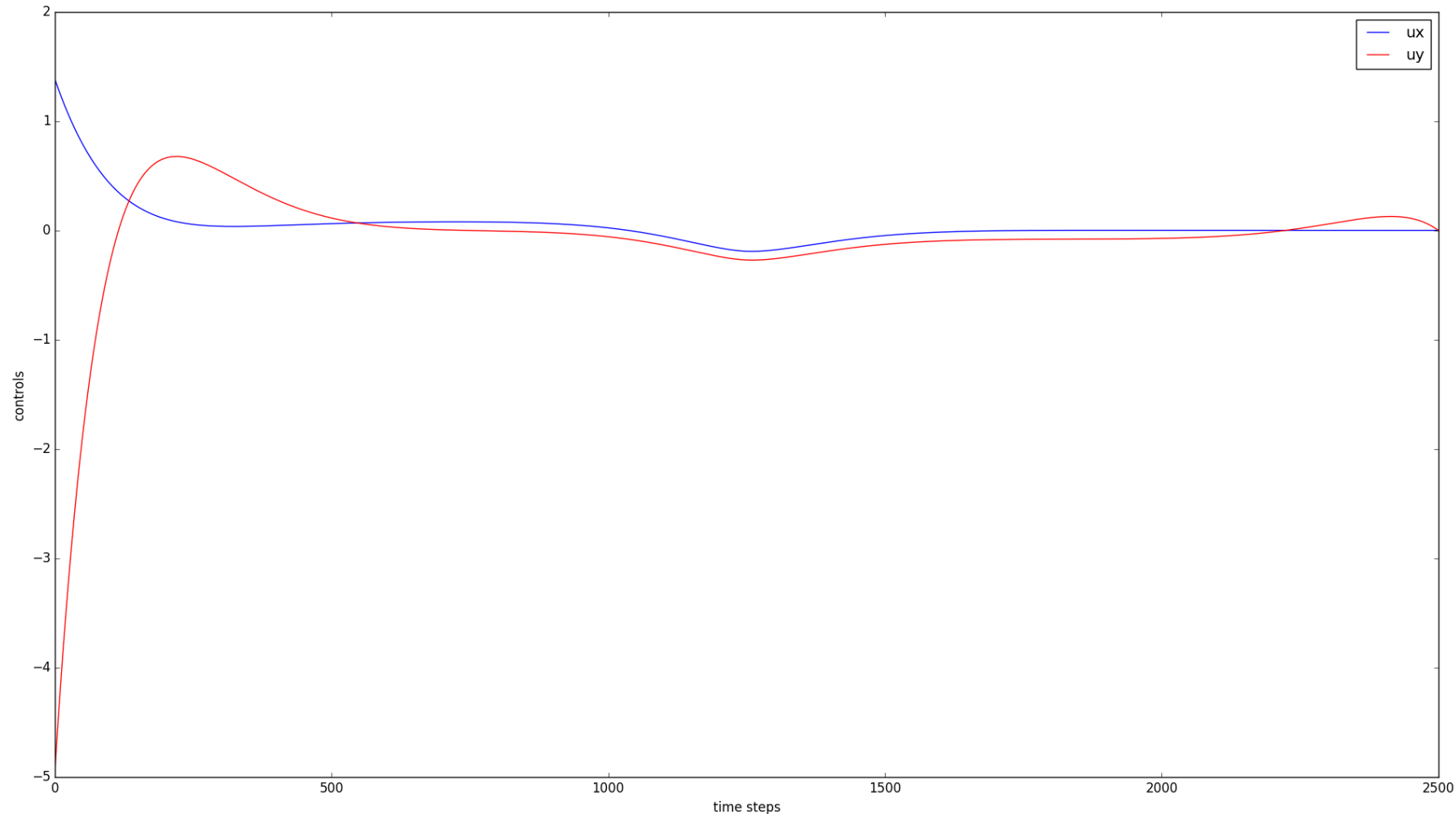
# LQR example #2: trajectory following for omnidirectional vehicle

With initial state

$$\mathbf{z}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 30 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Instantaneous cost function

$$c(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{z}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{u}\|^2$$



# LQR extensions: trajectory following

- You are given a reference trajectory (not just path, but states and times, or states and controls) that needs to be approximated

$$\mathbf{x}_0^*, \mathbf{x}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N^* \qquad \mathbf{u}_0^*, \mathbf{u}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{u}_N^*$$

Linearize the nonlinear dynamics  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$  around the reference point  $(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{u}_t^*)$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \simeq f(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{u}_t^*) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{u}_t^*)(\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_t^*) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{u}_t^*)(\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_t^*)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1} \simeq A_t \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + B_t \bar{\mathbf{u}}_t$$

$$c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^T Q \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t + \bar{\mathbf{u}}_t^T R \bar{\mathbf{u}}_t$$

where

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t = \mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{x}_t^*$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}_t = \mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_t^*$$

Trajectory following can be implemented as a time-varying LQR approximation. Not always clear if this is the best way though.

LQR with nonlinear dynamics, quadratic cost



# LQR variants: nonlinear dynamics, quadratic cost

What can we do when  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$  but the cost is quadratic  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$  ?

We want to stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$

But with nonlinear dynamics we do not know if  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$  will keep the system at the zero state.

# LQR variants: nonlinear dynamics, quadratic cost

What can we do when  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$  but the cost is quadratic  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$  ?

We want to stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$

But with nonlinear dynamics we do not know if  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$  will keep the system at the zero state.

→ Need to compute  $\mathbf{u}^*$  such that  $\mathbf{0}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{0}_t, \mathbf{u}^*)$

# LQR variants: nonlinear dynamics, quadratic cost

What can we do when  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$  but the cost is quadratic  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$  ?

We want to stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$

But with nonlinear dynamics we do not know if  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$  will keep the system at the zero state.

→ Need to compute  $\mathbf{u}^*$  such that  $\mathbf{0}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{0}_t, \mathbf{u}^*)$

Taylor expansion: linearize the nonlinear dynamics around the point  $(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \simeq f(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)}_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{0}) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)}_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}^*)$$

# LQR variants: nonlinear dynamics, quadratic cost

What can we do when  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$  but the cost is quadratic  $c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t^T Q \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{u}_t^T R \mathbf{u}_t$  ?

We want to stabilize the system around state  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{0}$

But with nonlinear dynamics we do not know if  $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0}$  will keep the system at the zero state.

→ Need to compute  $\mathbf{u}^*$  such that  $\mathbf{0}_{t+1} = f(\mathbf{0}_t, \mathbf{u}^*)$

Taylor expansion: linearize the nonlinear dynamics around the point  $(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \simeq f(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)(\mathbf{x}_t - \mathbf{0}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{u}^*)(\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}^*)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \simeq A\mathbf{x}_t + B(\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}^*)$$

Solve this via LQR

# LQR examples: code to replicate these results

- [https://github.com/florianshkurti/csc477\\_fall19.git](https://github.com/florianshkurti/csc477_fall19.git)
- Look under `csc477_fall19/lqr_examples/python`