Nonlinear control problem (direct approach)

Optimization of the shuttle's thrust, based on direct transcription method with free-end state, fixed final time.

NASA space shuttle has been taken as reference for parameters and trajectory data [1].

	$\mathbf{Initial}(\mathbf{x}_0)$	$\mathbf{Final}(\mathbf{x}_f)$	Unit
x_1	0	$50 \cdot 10^3$	[m]
x_2	50	1200	[m/s]
x_3	$2050 \cdot 10^3$	$880 \cdot 10^{3}$	[kg]
x_4	89	30	$[\deg]$

Cost function matrices chosen to prioritize final state accuracy while also limiting control effort. Upper bound on control given by maximum available thrust force ($u \le 31,25 \cdot 10^6 \, [N]$).

$$J(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}(t_f) - \mathbf{x}_f)^T \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}(t_f) - \mathbf{x}_f) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \text{diag}([\text{zeros}(4, 1)]);$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \text{diag}([\text{1e-6}]);$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \text{diag}([300 \ 1000 \ 0.01 \ 1]);$$

[1] Velocity-and-Acceleration-Profiles-of-Space-Shuttles_Kwan-Jie-Lee.pdf

Space Shuttle Simulation Direct transcription (direct)

