DIESEL-ENGINE SPEED CONTROL WITH HANDLING OF DRIVELINE RESONANCES

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Abstract: A vehicular driveline transfer engine torque to the wheels. Resonances in the elastic parts of the driveline are important to handle when control of the engine and the transmission is optimized. Traditional diesel engine speed control maintains a well damped engine speed set by the driver. However, the resonance modes of the driveline are easily excited by accelerator-position changes or by road disturbances. A speed-control strategy is proposed that includes the behavior of the driveline, and reduces driveline resonances and vehicle shuffle by engine control. Implementation shows significant reduction, also when facing nonlinear torque limitations from maximum torque and diesel smoke delimiters. Copyright © 2001 IFAC

Keywords: engine control, active damping, power train handling.

1. INTRODUCTION

The main parts of a vehicular driveline are engine, clutch, transmission, shafts, and wheels. Since these parts are elastic, mechanical resonances may occur. The handling of such resonances is basic for functionality and driveability, but is also important for reducing mechanical stress. New driveline-management applications and high-powered engines increase the need for strategies for how to apply engine torque in an optimal way (Kiencke and Nielsen, 2000).

Traditional fuel-injection strategies are of torque control type or speed control type. Control performance is limited by driveline resonances for both control schemes. For diesel engines, speed control is often referred to as RQV (Regler Quer Verstellung) control (Automotive Handbook, 1993). With RQV control there is no active damping of driveline resonances, and for low gears this leads to wheel-speed oscillations known as vehicle shuffle (Mo et al., 1996; Pettersson and Nielsen, 1995). The resonance modes are excited by changes in accelerator pedal position or from impulses from towed trailers and road roughness. These oscillations are disturbing to the driver, and more im-

portant, limits the response time (from a change in accelerator position to changed wheel speed) of the engine. A desired property with RQV control is a load dependent velocity lag resulting from downhill and uphill driving (Pettersson, 1997).

Low-frequent driveline resonances can be damped by having a strategy that applies engine torque so that the engine inertia is forced to work in the opposite direction of the oscillations. This is referred to as active damping or engine controlled damping of driveline resonances.

In order to derive these strategies, models of the driveline are developed. The aim of the modeling and experiments is to find the most important physical effects that contribute to driveline oscillations. The frequency range of interest includes the first main resonance modes of the driveline. Experiments are performed with a heavy truck with different gears and road slopes in order to excite driveline resonances for modeling.

Model based control is used to extend the RQV control concept with active damping of wheel-speed oscillations, while maintaining the desired velocity lag characteristic for RQV control.

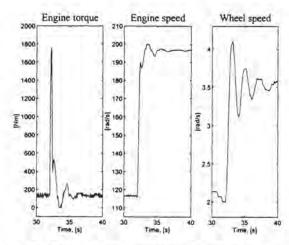


Fig. 1. Measured speed response of a step in accelerator position at t=32 s with a Scania 124L truck.

An RQV speed controller is controlling the engine speed with set point 2000 RPM.

2. PROBLEMS WITH DRIVELINE HANDLING

The traditionally used RQV controller is essentially a proportional controller calculating the fuel amount, m_f , as function of the difference between the desired speed set by the driver, r, and the actual measured engine speed, $\dot{\theta}_m$, according to

$$m_f = m_{f0} + K_p(ri - \dot{\theta}_m) \tag{1}$$

The constant i is the conversion ratio of the driveline, and m_{f0} is a working point dependent constant. The parameter K_p is the controller gain. The reason for this controller structure is the traditionally used mechanical centrifugal governor for diesel pump control (Automotive Handbook, 1993). This means that the controller will maintain the speed demanded by the driver, but with a stationary error (velocity lag), which is a function of the controller gain and the load (rolling resistance, air drag, and road inclination). With a cruise controller, the stationary error is compensated for, which means that the vehicle will maintain the same speed independent of load changes.

A specific example of how the RQV speed controller performs is seen in Fig. 1. The figure shows how the measured engine speed and wheel speed respond to a step input in accelerator position. It is seen how the engine speed is well behaved with no oscillations. With a stiff driveline this would be equivalent with also having well damped wheel speed. However, the more flexible the driveline is, the less sufficient a well damped engine speed is, since the flexibility of the driveline will lead to oscillations in the wheel speed.

If it is desired to decrease the response time of the RQV controller (i.e., increase the bandwidth), the controller gain, K_p in (1), must be increased. Then the amplitude of the oscillations in the wheel speed will be higher.

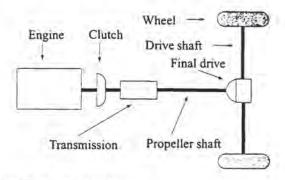


Fig. 2. A vehicular driveline.

2.1 Goals

Speed control is the extension of the traditionally used RQV speed control concept with active damping of driveline resonances. The control problems should be formulated so that it is possible to use established techniques and standard automotive sensors to obtain solutions. The designs should be robust against the following limitations:

- The engine torque is not smooth, since the firing pulses result in a pulsating engine torque.
- The output torque of the engine is not exactly known. The only measure is a static torque map from dynamometer tests.
- The engine friction is not known, and must be estimated.
- The engine output torque is limited in different modes of operation. The maximum engine torque is restricted as a function of the engine speed, and the torque level is also restricted at low turbo pressures for smoke prevention.

3. EXPERIMENTAL PLATFORM

Tests were performed with a Scania 124L truck. The driveline of the 6x2 truck (6 wheels, 2 driven) is shown in Fig. 2. The engine is a 12 liter, 6 cylinder turbo-charged DSC12 diesel engine with a unit-pump fuel injection system (Diesel Fuel Injection, 1994). The engine is connected to a manual range-splitter transmission GRS900R via a clutch. The transmission has 14 gears and a hydraulic retarder. The radius of the wheel is $r_w = 0.52$ m, the weight of the truck is m = 24 ton, the front area is $A_a = 9$ m^2 , and the drag coefficient is equal to $c_w = 0.6$.

A number of sensors are used along the driveline. The actuator is the diesel engine which is controlled by injecting different amounts of fuel. The truck is equipped with a CAN-bus that connects all control units of the truck. The control algorithms are implemented in a PC with CAN communication (Pettersson, 1997). The engine speed $(\hat{\theta}_m)$, the engine temperature

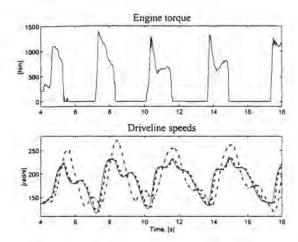


Fig. 3. Logged data on the CAN-bus during step inputs in accelerator position with a Scania 124L truck. Transmission speed (dashed) and wheel speed (dash-dotted) are scaled to engine speed in solid.

 (T_m) , and the engine torque (M_m) from a static torque map is measured. The transmission speed $(\dot{\theta}_t)$ is measured via the transmission node, and the wheel speed $(\dot{\theta}_w)$ is measured from the ABS control unit.

3.1 Experiments

A number of test roads at Scania were used for testing. They have different known slopes. The variables described above are logged during tests that excite driveline resonances. Fig. 3 shows a test with the 124L truck where step inputs in accelerator position excite driveline oscillations. It is seen that the main flexibility of the driveline is located between the output shaft of the transmission and the wheel (see Fig. 2), since the largest difference in speed is between the measured transmission speed and wheel speed.

4. DRIVELINE MODELING

4.1 Engine Torque and Friction

By measuring the amount of fuel, m_f , that is fed to the engine, a measure of the driving torque resulting from the explosions in the cylinders is obtained from dynamometer tests. This torque is labeled $M_m(m_f)$.

The engine friction, $M_{f\tau}$, is modeled as a function of the engine speed and the engine temperature (Pettersson, 1997). The resulting friction map is shown in Fig. 4.

4.2 Control Signal

The output torque of the engine is the driving torque subtracted by the engine friction. This signal, $u = M_m(m_f) - M_{fr}$, is the torque acting on the driveline, which is a pulsating signal with torque pulses from

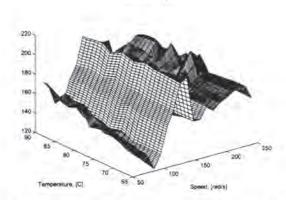


Fig. 4. Engine friction for the 124L truck, modeled as a function of engine speed and engine temperature.

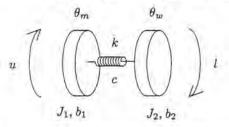


Fig. 5. Driveline model with two inertias connected by a damped torsional drive-shaft flexibility.

each cylinder explosion. However, this control signal, u, is treated as a continuous signal, which is reasonable for the frequency range considered for control design. A motivation for this is that an six-cylinder engine makes 60 strokes/s at an engine speed of 1200 rev/min. This means that a mean-value engine model is assumed (neglects variations during the engine cycle).

4.3 Main Flexibility

When studying the driveline during operation, the drive shaft (see Fig. 2) is subject to the relatively largest torsion. This is mainly due to the high torque difference that results from the amplification of the engine torque by the conversion ration of the transmission (i_t) and the final drive (i_f) . This number (i_ti_f) can be as high as 60 for the lowest gear.

The drive shaft can be modeled as a damped torsional flexibility which leads to the driveline model shown in Fig. 5. The symbols shown in Table 1 are used in the rest of the paper. In Fig. 5, the engine, the clutch, the transmission, and the propeller shaft are lumped together as one rotating inertia, J_1 , and the drive shaft connects this inertia to the inertia of the wheel. The wheel inertia is affected by the load, l, which consists of the air drag, rolling resistance, and vehicle mass. Viscous friction is assumed for both the rotating inertias with labels b_1 and b_2 . The dynamics of the suspension system is neglected, together with the tires.

J	Mass moment of inertia	T
i	Conversion ratio	1
k	Torsional stiffness	Ī
C	Torsional damping	1
6	Viscous friction component	1
θ	Angle	Ī
a	Road inclination	1
m	Subscript denoting engine	1
t	Subscript denoting transmission	Ī
f	Subscript denoting final drive, fuel	Ī
ш	Subscript denoting wheel	Ī

Table 1. Notations.

By using Newton's generalized second law a mathematical model is formulated (Kiencke and Nielsen, 2000). The state-space representation of this model is

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + H \, l \tag{2}$$

where A, B, H, x, and l are defined as

$$x_{1} = \theta_{m}/i_{t}i_{f} - \theta_{w}$$

$$x_{2} = \dot{\theta}_{m}$$

$$x_{3} = \dot{\theta}_{w}$$

$$l = r_{w}m\left(c_{r1} + gsin(\alpha)\right) + \frac{1}{2}c_{w}A_{a}\rho_{a}r_{w}^{3}\dot{\theta}_{w}^{2}$$
(3)

giving

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1/i & -1 \\ -k/iJ_1 & -(b_1 + c/i^2)/J_1 & c/iJ_1 \\ k/J_2 & c/iJ_2 & -(c+b_2)/J_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/J_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1/J_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

where

$$i = i_t i_f$$

$$J_1 = J_m + J_t / i_t^2 + J_f / i_t^2 i_f^2$$

$$J_2 = J_w + m r_w^2$$

$$b_1 = b_t / i_t^2 + b_f / i_t^2 i_f^2$$

$$b_2 = b_w + m c_{T2} r_w^2$$
(6)

with c_{r1} and c_{r2} characterizing the rolling resistance, and ρ the air density. The model is described by three states, and x_2 and x_3 are the engine speed and the wheel speed which can be measured. The first state, x_1 , is the drive-shaft torsion, which is not measured.

4.4 Sensor Location

A common architectural issue in driveline control is the influence of sensor location. Different sensor locations result in different control problems (Pettersson and Nielsen, 1995). A comparison is made between using feedback from the engine-speed sensor or the wheel-speed sensor. The investigation aims at understanding where to invest in increased sensor performance in future driveline management systems.

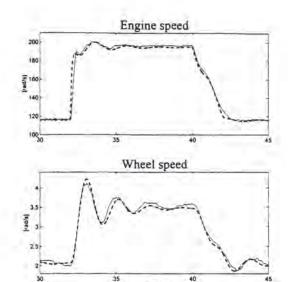


Fig. 6. Measured step response from 1100 RPM to 1900 RPM at t=32 s, with an RQV controller for speed control in solid. Simulations with the same controller and the driveline model is shown in dashed lines. The driveline model captures the main resonance in the measured engine speed and wheel speed.

Two types of disturbances are considered. Load disturbances (v) additive to the load (l), and measurement disturbances (e) additive to the measured output (y), which is specified by the output matrix C. Either the engine speed $\dot{\theta}_m$ $(C=C_m)$ or the wheel speed $\dot{\theta}_w$ $(C=C_w)$ is used as output giving

$$y = Cx + e \tag{7}$$

with

$$C_m = (0\ 1\ 0), \quad C_w = (0\ 0\ 1)$$
 (8)

The wheel speed, $\dot{\theta}_w$, is the performance output, z, specified by the matrix M as $z = Mx = \dot{\theta}_w$, $M = (0\ 0\ 1)$. Note that the engine speed sensor can be used $(y = C_m x)$ but still the signal that is requested to behave in a certain way is the performance output $z = \dot{\theta}_w$, i.e., the wheel speed.

The measured engine speed and wheel speed are used to estimate the parameters and initial conditions of the driveline model. The data is separated in two sets used for estimation and validation respectively. The prediction error estimation method (PEM) (Ljung, 1995) is used for estimation, with the material data of the unknowns as initial parameter guess. Fig. 6 shows validation of model structure and parameters in a closedloop test. Field trials are performed with the 124L truck with an ROV fuel-injection controller controlling the engine speed from 1100 RPM to 1900 RPM at t = 32 s. The same controller is used in simulations with the driveline model (2)-(6) with parameters estimated for the 124L truck. There is good agreement between model outputs and experiments, which shows that the model captures the main resonance in the engine speed and the wheel speed.

5. COST FUNCTION

The speed control problem can be described as minimizing the difference between the actual speed and the reference value, $(\dot{\theta}_w - r)$, but with a control signal, u, possible to realize by the diesel engine. This can be formulated in a cost criterion, consisting of two terms. The first term is $(\dot{\theta}_w - r)^2$, which describes the deviation in speed. The second term describes the deviation in control signal from the level needed to obtain $\dot{\theta}_w = r$. Let this level be u_0 , which will be derived later. The criterion is described by

$$\lim_{T \to \infty} \int_0^T (\hat{\theta}_w - r)^2 + \eta (u - u_0)^2 \tag{9}$$

The controller that minimizes this cost function is called the *speed controller*. Active damping of driveline resonances will be obtained since $(\theta_w - \tau)^2$ is minimized. The trade-off between rise time and control signal amplitude is controlled by tuning the parameter η .

The control signal, u, can take negative values, since if the fuel injection is turned off, the control signal is equal to the engine friction which is negative. This level is about 200 Nm according to Fig. 4. The maximum value of the control signal is restricted by the delimiters described in Section 2, which means that between 1000 and 1800 Nm is possible to generate, depending on driving situation.

The constant u_0 is derived by solving the driveline equations for a stationary point. For a given wheel speed, θ_w , and load, l, the driveline has the following stationary point

$$x_{0}(\dot{\theta}_{w}, l) = \begin{pmatrix} b_{2}/k & 1/k \\ i & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} / \dot{\theta}_{w}$$

$$= \delta_{x}\dot{\theta}_{w} + \delta_{l}l$$

$$u_{0}(\dot{\theta}_{w}, l) = \left((b_{1}i^{2} + b_{2})/i & 1/i \right) / \dot{\theta}_{w}$$

$$= \lambda_{x}\dot{\theta}_{w} + \lambda_{l}l$$

$$(10)$$

This means that the torque u_0 is a function of the reference value, r, and the load, l.

The controller that minimizes (9) has no stationary error in the wheel speed, since the load l is included and thus compensated for. A stationary error comparable with that of the RQV controller can be achieved by using only a part of the load, l, as will be demonstrated in Section 6.1.

6. SPEED CONTROLLER DERIVATION

The problem formulation (9) will be treated in two steps. First, without a stationary error characteristic for RQV control, and then extending the strategy to include this type of stationary error. The cost function (9) is in this section solved with LQG technique (Maciejowski, 1989). This is done by linearizing the driveline model and rewriting (9) in terms of the linearized variables. A state-feedback matrix is derived that minimizes (9).

The model (2) is affine since it includes a constant term l. The model is linearized in the neighborhood of a stationary point (x_0, u_0) . The linear model is

$$\Delta \dot{x} = A \Delta x + B \Delta u \tag{12}$$

where Δ expresses deviations from the stationary point given by (10) and (11). Note that the linear model is the same for all stationary points.

The cost function is expressed in Δx and Δu as

$$\lim_{T \to \infty} \int_0^T (M\Delta x + r_1)^2 + \eta(\Delta u + r_2)^2 \qquad (13)$$

with

$$r_1 = Mx_0 - r$$
 (14)
 $r_2 = u_0 - u_0(r, l)$

The constants r_1 and r_2 are expressed as state variables by augmenting the plant model (A, B) with models of the constants r_1 and r_2 . The augmented state variable is $x_r = (\Delta x^T r_1 r_2)^T$, which the gives the new state matrices A_r and B_r (Pettersson, 1997). By using these equations, the cost function (13) is written in the form

$$\lim_{T \to \infty} \int_0^T x_r^T Q x_r + R \Delta u^2 + 2x_r^T N \Delta u \qquad (15)$$

with

$$Q = (M \ 1 \ 0)^{T} (M \ 1 \ 0) + \eta (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1)^{T} (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1)$$

$$N = \eta (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1)^{T}$$

$$R = \eta$$
(16)

The cost function (13) is minimized by using

$$\Delta u = -K_c x_\tau \tag{17}$$

with

$$K_c = Q^{-1}(B_r^T P_c + N^T)$$
 (18)

where Pc is the solution to the Riccati equation

$$A_r^T P_c + P_c A_r + R - (P_c B_r + N) Q^{-1} (P_c B_r + N)^T = 0$$
(19)

The control law (17) becomes

$$u = K_0 x_{30} + K_l l + K_\tau r - (K_{c1} \ K_{c2} \ K_{c3}) x$$
 (20)

$$K_0 = (K_{c1} K_{c2} K_{c3}) \delta_x - K_{c4} M \delta_x + \lambda_x - K_{c5} \lambda_x$$

 $K_r = K_{c4} + K_{c5} \lambda_x$ (21)
 $K_l = (K_{c1} K_{c2} K_{c3}) \delta_l - K_{c4} M \delta_l + \lambda_l$

where δ_x , δ_l , λ_x , and λ_l are described in (10) and (11).

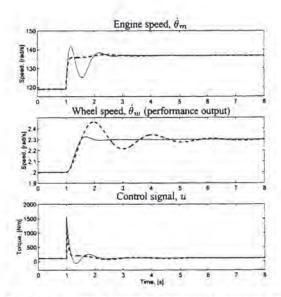


Fig. 7. Response of step in accelerator position at t=1 s. The driveline model is controlled with the speed control law (20) in solid lines. RQV control (1) is seen in dashed lines.

A step-response simulation with the speed controller (20) is shown in Fig. 7, with gear 1, l=3000 Nm, $\eta=5\cdot 10^{-8}$, and $\alpha=0.0001$. The peak value of the control signal is about the same for the two controllers. However the overshoot is significantly reduced when using the speed controller (20) compared to the RQV controller (1). The driving torque is controlled such that the oscillations in the wheel speed are actively damped. This means that the controller applies the engine torque in a way so that the engine inertia works in the opposite direction of the oscillation. Then the engine speed oscillates, but the important wheel speed is well behaved as seen in Fig. 7.

6.1 Extending with RQV Behavior

The RQV controller has no information about the load, l, and therefore a stationary error will be present when the load is different from zero. The speed controller (20) is a function of the load, and the stationary error is zero if the load is estimated and compensated for. There is however a demand from the driver that the load should give a stationary error, and it should be zero only when using a cruise controller.

The speed controller can be modified such that a load different from zero gives a stationary error. This is done by using βl instead of the complete load in (20). The constant β ranges from $\beta=0$ which means no compensation for the load, to $\beta=1$ which means fully compensation of the load and no stationary error. The compensated speed control law becomes

$$u = K_0 x_{30} + K_l \beta l + K_r r - (K_{c1} K_{c2} K_{c3}) x (22)$$

In Figure 8, the RQV controller with its stationary error (remember the reference value $\tau=2.3$ rad/s) is compared to the compensated speed controller (22) for

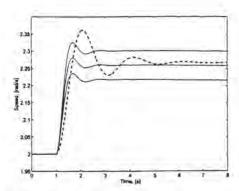


Fig. 8. Wheel-speed response of step in accelerator position at t=1 s. The driveline model is controlled with the RQV controller (1) in dashed line, and the speed controller with stationary error (22) with $\beta = 0$, 0.5, 1 in solid lines.

three values of β . By adjusting β , the speed controller with active damping is extended with a stationary error comparable with that of the RQV controller.

7. INFLUENCE FROM SENSOR LOCATION

The speed controller (20) uses feedback from all states $(x_1 = \theta_m/i_t i_f - \theta_w, x_2 = \dot{\theta}_m, \text{ and } x_3 = \dot{\theta}_w)$. A sensor measuring shaft torsion (e.g., x_1) is normally not used, and therefore an observer is needed to estimate the unknown states. In this work, either the engine speed or the wheel speed is used as input to the observer. This results in different control problems depending on sensor location. Especially the difference in disturbance rejection is investigated.

The observer gain is calculated using Loop-Transfer Recovery (LTR) (Maciejowski, 1989). Two different observer problems result depending on which sensor location is used. The speed controller (20) becomes

$$u = K_0 x_{30} + K_r \tau + K_l l - (K_{c1} \ K_{c2} \ K_{c3}) \bar{x}$$
 (23)

with K_0 , K_r , and K_l given by (21). The estimated states \hat{x} are given by the Kalman filter

$$\Delta \hat{x} = A \Delta \hat{x} + B \Delta u + K_f (\Delta y - C \Delta \hat{x})$$
 (24)

$$K_f = P_f C^T V^{-1} (25)$$

where P_f is found by solving the Riccati equation

$$P_f A^T + A P_f - P_f C^T V^{-1} C P_f + W = 0$$
 (26)

The covariance matrices W and V corresponds to disturbances v and e respectively. The output matrix C is either equal to C_m or C_w in (8).

To recover the properties achieved in the previous design step when all states are measured, the following values are selected

$$V = 1, \quad W = \rho B B^{T}$$

$$C = C_{m} \text{ or } C_{w}, \quad \rho = \rho_{m} \text{ or } \rho_{w}$$

$$(27)$$

and solving (25) and (26) for K_f .

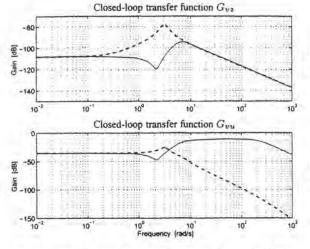


Fig. 9. Closed-loop transfer functions from load disturbance v to performance output z and control signal u. Feedback from $\dot{\theta}_w$ is shown in solid and feedback from $\dot{\theta}_m$ is shown in dashed lines. With $\dot{\theta}_m$ feedback the transfer functions have a resonance peak, resulting from the open-loop zeros.

When using LQG with feedback from all states, the phase margin, φ , is at least 60° and the amplitude margin, a, is infinity as stated before. This is obtained also when using the observer by increasing ρ towards infinity. For the simulation case presented in Fig. 7, the following values are used

$$\rho_m = 5 \cdot 10^5 \implies \varphi_m = 60.5^\circ, \ a_m = \infty$$
 (28)

$$\rho_w = 10^{14} \implies \varphi_w = 59.9^{\circ}, \ a_w = 35.0$$
 (29)

where the aim has been to have at least 60° phase margin.

The observer dynamics-is cancelled in the transfer function from reference value to performance output $(z=\dot{\theta}_w)$ and control signal (u). Hence, these transfer functions are not affected by sensor location. However, the observer dynamics will be included in the transfer functions from disturbances v and e to both z and u.

Influence from Load Disturbances Fig. 9 shows how the performance output and the control signal are affected by the load disturbance v. There is a resonance peak in G_{vz} (transfer function from signal v to signal z) when using feedback from the engine speed sensor, which is not present when feedback from the wheel speed sensor is used. The reason for this can be seen when studying the closed-loop transfer function G_{vz}

$$(G_{vz})_{cl} = \frac{G_{vw}}{1 + G_{vw}F_v}$$
 (30)

when the sensor measures the wheel speed, and

$$(G_{vz})_{cl} = \frac{G_{vw} + F_y(G_{um}G_{vw} - G_{uw}G_{vm})}{1 + G_{um}F_y}$$
(31)

when the sensor measures the engine speed (Pettersson, 1997). The subscript cl stands for closed loop, and F_y

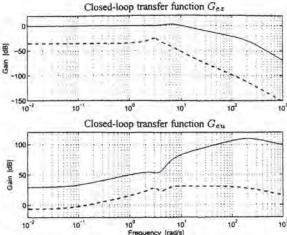


Fig. 10. Closed-loop transfer functions from measurement noise e to performance output z and control signal u. Feedback from $\dot{\theta}_w$ is shown in solid and feedback from $\dot{\theta}_m$ is shown in dashed. Measurement disturbances are better attenuated with engine speed feedback.

is the controller. Hence, when using the wheel speed sensor, the controller is not present in the numerator, and when the engine speed sensor is used, the controller is present.

The optimal return ratio in the LQG step is (Maciejowski, 1989)

$$K_c(sI - A)^{-1}B \tag{32}$$

Hence, in the optimal return ratio, the poles from A is kept, but there are new zeros that are placed such that the relative degree of (32) is one, the phase margin is at least 60°, and the gain margin is infinite. In the LTR step the return ratio is

$$F_y G_{uy} = K_c (sI - A - BK_c - K_f C)^{-1} K_f C (sI - A)^{-1} B$$
(33)

When ρ in (27) is increased towards infinity, (32) equals (33). This means that the zeros in the open-loop system $C(sI-A)^{-1}B$ are cancelled by the controller. Hence, the open-loop zeros will become poles in the controller F_y . This means that the closed-loop system will have the open-loop zeros as poles when using the engine speed sensor. Thus, G_{vz} will have the poles $-0.52 \pm 3.08i$ causing the resonance peak in Fig. 9.

Influence from Measurement Disturbances The influence from measurement disturbances e is seen in Fig. 10. The closed-loop transfer function G_{ez} can be rewritten as

$$(G_{ez})_{cl} = -\frac{G_{uz}F_y}{1 + G_{uy}F_y}$$
 (34)

When ρ in (27) is increased towards infinity, (32) equals (33). Then (34) gives

$$(G_{ez})_{cl,m} = (G_{ez})_{cl,w} \frac{G_{uw}}{G_{um}}$$
 (35)

where cl,m and cl,w means closed loop with feedback from $\dot{\theta}_m$ and $\dot{\theta}_w$ respectively.

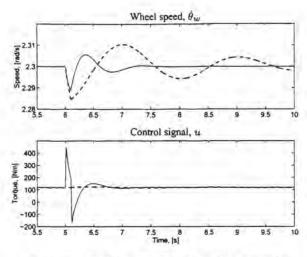


Fig. 11. Simulated load impulse disturbance at t=6 s. The solid line corresponds to $\dot{\theta}_w$ -feedback and feedback from $\dot{\theta}_m$ is seen in dashed line. The load impulse generates a control signal that damps the impulse disturbance when feedback from the wheel-speed sensor is used, but not with enginespeed feedback.

Hence, the difference in G_{ez} depending on sensor location is described by the dynamic output ratio $G_{w/m} = G_{uw}/G_{um}$ (Pettersson and Nielsen, 1995). Measurement disturbances are better attenuated with engine speed feedback. The difference in low-frequency level is equal to the conversion ratio of the driveline as can be seen in Fig. 10. Therefore, this effect increases with lower gears.

8. EVALUATION

8.1 Influence from disturbances

An important step in a principle simulation study is that such disturbances can be introduced that hardly can be generated in systematic ways in real experiments. One such example is impulse disturbances from a towed trailer. Disturbance rejection is demonstrated by simulating a more complete nonlinear driveline model (Pettersson, 1997), briefly described in Section 4, with the speed controller (23) and the observer (24) based on the reduced driveline model with drive-shaft flexibility.

The simulation case presented here is a load impulse disturbance simulated at t=6 s at an engine speed of about 1300 RPM with gear 1. The disturbance is generated as a square pulse with 0.1 s width and 1200 Nm height, and both feedback principles are simulated. Fig. 11 shows the result of the simulation.

The load impulse disturbance is better attenuated with feedback from the wheel-speed sensor, which is a verification of the behavior that was discussed in Section 7.

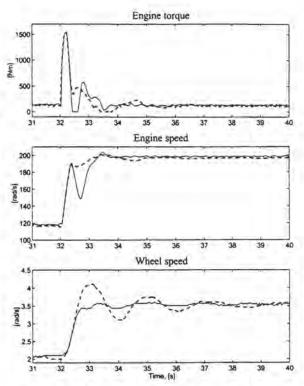


Fig. 12. Speed step at t=32 s with active damping and engine-speed feedback (solid) compared to traditional RQV control with K_p=50 (dashed). Experiments are performed without smoke delimiter on a flat road. After 32.5 s, the control signals differ depending on control scheme. With speed control, the engine inertia works in the opposite direction of the oscillations, which are significantly reduced.

8.2 Field Trials

Field trials are performed with the 124L truck on an almost flat test road with a minimum of changes from test to test. The focus of the tests is low gears, with low speeds and thus little impact from air drag. The speed controller (23) and the observer (24) are discretized by Tustin's method (Franklin et al., 1990), and implemented with a sampling time of 50 Hz.

The test presented here is a velocity step response from 2.1 rad/s to 3.6 rad/s (about 1200 RPM to 2000 RPM) with gear 1. At first the smoke delimiter (see Section 2) is not used in order to be able to investigate the control design with as small restrictions on the control signal as possible.

In Fig. 12, the speed controller is compared to traditional RQV control. The engine torque, the engine speed, and the wheel speed are shown. The speed controller uses feedback from the engine speed, and the RQV controller has the gain $K_p=50$. With this gain the rise-time and the peak torque output is about the same for the two controllers. A high torque output is possible because no smoke delimiter is used.

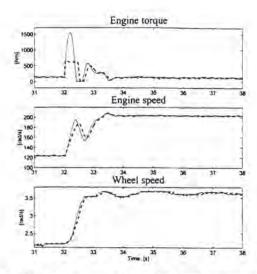


Fig. 13. Speed control with active damping with and without smoke delimiter. The dashed lines correspond to experiments with smoke delimiter. At t=32 s, a speed step is commanded. When using smoke delimiter, a reduced torque level is obtained. Also the case with torque limitations is well handled and active damping is obtained.

With RQV control, the engine speed reaches the desired speed but the wheel speed oscillates, as in the simulations made earlier. Speed control with active damping significantly reduces the oscillations in the wheel speed. This means that the controller applies the engine torque in a way that the engine inertia works in the opposite direction of the oscillation, as seen in Fig. 12.

Experiments with Smoke Delimiter The design thus works well when no smoke delimiter is used. However, the peak values in the control signal (e.g., at t=32.5 s in Fig. 12) results in smoke emissions, which must be avoided.

The restrictions on the design imposed by the smoke delimiter are depicted in Fig. 13. Speed control with active damping is demonstrated with and without smoke delimiter. It is seen how the maximum engine torque is restricted when using the smoke delimiter.

Limitations in engine torque for diesel smoke attenuation is seen to have little impact on the performance of the speed controller. Also, this case is well behaved and active damping of wheel-speed oscillations is obtained. The only detectable effect is a small reduction in bandwidth, giving larger rise-time.

9. CONCLUSIONS

A new diesel engine speed-control strategy, that includes the behavior of the driveline in the control scheme, is proposed. The derived model-based statefeedback controller calculates the fuel amount such that driveline oscillations are reduced. At the same time the speed is maintained with the same type of velocity lag (when going uphill or downhill) as with the traditional control scheme. Implementation shows significantly reduced driveline oscillations, also when facing nonlinear torque limitations from maximum torque and diesel smoke delimiters.

A basis for the control strategy is the modeling conclusions. The main flexibility of the driveline is shown to be the drive shaft, located between the final drive and the wheels. A key result is that a simple linear model with a drive-shaft flexibility can capture the first main resonance of the driveline. The derived strategies are based on this model, which is shown to be sufficiently detailed for control design, and is easy to implement with only three states.

Successful implementations show that the response time of the diesel engine is clearly sufficient for reducing low-frequent driveline oscillations, despite the simplified treatment of the dynamical behavior of the engine. Sufficient accuracy in the estimated values can be obtained with standard automotive sensors. However, an investigation about how different sensor locations influence control performance has demonstrated the importance of the wheel-speed sensor for disturbance rejection and robustness properties. This investigation aims at understanding where to invest in increased sensor quality in future driveline management systems, which is interesting since successful field trials have demonstrated the advantage of active damping.

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