

SSY281 Model Predictive Control

## Assignment 7

Feasibility, alternative formulations of MPC

Due March 14 at 23:59

Systems & Control  
Department of Electrical Engineering  
Chalmers University of Technology

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## Instructions

This assignment is **individual** and must be solved according to the following rules and instructions:

- Written report:
  - For those questions where a text (motivations, explanations, observations from simulations) rather than a numerical value is asked, the answers should be concisely written in the report.
  - Figures included in the report should have legends, and axes should be labeled.
  - The report should be uploaded *before the deadline* to your project document area in PingPong.
  - Name the report as A6\_XX.pdf, where XX is your *group* number.
- Code:
  - Your code should be written in the Matlab template provided with this assignment following the instructions therein.
  - Name the Matlab script as A7\_XX.m where XX is your *group* number.
  - Strictly follow the instructions in the Matlab template.
- Grading:
  - This assignment is worth **15 points** in total.

# 1 Linear MPC design

Consider the following system

$$x(t+1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1.2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t) \quad (1)$$

The state and input constraints are

$$\mathcal{U} : -1 \leq u(k) \leq 1; \quad (2a)$$

$$\mathcal{X} : \begin{bmatrix} -15 \\ -15 \end{bmatrix} \leq x(k) \leq \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}; \quad (2b)$$

**Question 1 (Points: 2).** Consider  $Q = I_2$ ,  $R = 100$ , and  $N = 3$ . Choose  $\mathcal{X}_f = \mathbf{0}$ , and a terminal weight  $P_f$  for the constraint receding horizon controller to guarantee asymptotic stability for all  $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_0$ . Motivate the choice of  $P_f$  in the report and plot  $\mathcal{X}_0$ .

**Question 2 (Points: 2).** Set  $x(0) = [4 \ -2.6]^T$  and design an MPC controller for  $N = 10, 15, 20$ . Provide three figures in the report where each one is simulated for  $N$  time steps and contains the state predictions at time zero and the actual states when MPC is implemented. Analyze and explain the mismatch between predicted vs closed-loop trajectories as you increase  $N$  in the MPC design.

**Question 3 (Points: 1).** Assume  $N = 1$ . Can you choose a new  $\mathcal{X}_f$  so that persistent feasibility is guaranteed for all  $x_0$  belonging to  $C_\infty$ ? Motivate your answer in the report.

# 2 Linear MPC design with soft-constraints

An oversimplified model of building air temperature regulation is used to show the basic principles of active thermal storage.

The temperature dynamics of a given space (say a room) can be modeled by using an RC circuit analogy

$$C\dot{T} = u + P_d + (T_{oa} - T)/R, \quad (3)$$

where  $T$  is the temperature of the room,  $P_d$  is the external disturbance load generated by occupants, direct sunlight, and electrical devices,  $T_{oa}$  is the temperature of outside air, and  $u$  is the heating and cooling power input to the zone. The zone is cooled when  $u \leq 0$ , and heated when  $u \geq 0$ .

The lumped parameter  $R$  describes the thermal resistance of walls and windows isolating the zone from the outside environment, and the parameter  $C$  captures the thermal capacitance of the room components including walls, floors, and furniture.

By using Euler discretization with a sampling rate of  $\Delta t$ , the representation of system (3) in discrete time is

$$T(k+1) = AT(k) + Bu(k) + d(k), \quad (4)$$

where  $A = 1 - \Delta t/RC$ ,  $B = \Delta t/C$ ,  $d = P_d\Delta t/C + T_{oa}\Delta t/RC$ .

A simple model predictive control problem is formulated with objectives of minimizing total heating and cooling energy consumption, minimizing the peak power consumption, and maintaining rooms within a desired temperature range despite predicted load changes.

The predictive controller solves at each time step the following problem (call it controller C2)

$$\min_{\mathbf{U}_t, \underline{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |u_{t+k|t}| + \kappa \max\{|u_{t|t}|, \dots, |u_{t+N-1|t}|\} + \rho \sum_{k=1}^N (|\bar{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t}| + |\underline{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t}|) \quad (5a)$$

$$T_{t+k+1|t} = AT_{t+k|t} + Bu_{t+k|t} + d_{t+k|t}, \quad (5b)$$

$$\underline{T} - \underline{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t} \leq T_{t+k|t} \leq \bar{T} + \bar{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t}, \quad (5c)$$

$$\underline{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t}, \bar{\varepsilon}_{t+k|t} \geq 0, \quad (5d)$$

$\mathbf{U}_t = [u_{t|t}, u_{t+1|t}, \dots, u_{t+N-1|t}]$  is the vector of energy control inputs,  $\underline{\varepsilon} = [\underline{\varepsilon}_{t+1|t}, \dots, \underline{\varepsilon}_{t+N|t}]$  is the temperature violations from the lower bounds,  $\bar{\varepsilon}$  the temperature violation from the upper bounds,  $T_{t+k|t}$  is the thermal zone temperature,  $d_{t+k|t}$  is the load prediction, and  $\underline{T}$  and  $\bar{T}$  are the lower and upper bounds on the zone temperature, respectively.  $\rho$  is the penalty on the comfort constraint violations, and  $\kappa$  is the penalty on peak power consumption.

**Question 4 (Points: 10).** Design the MPC controller as in (5) with the following parameters. Thermal capacitance  $C = 9.2 \times 10^3$  kJ/°C, thermal resistance  $R = 50$  °C/kW, sampling rate  $\Delta t = 1$  hour, prediction horizon  $N = 24$  hours, and thermal comfort interval  $[\underline{T}, \bar{T}] = [21, 26]$  °C.

Assume that weather and load are periodic with a period of one day. The outside air temperature profile  $T_{oa}(t)$  and the disturbance load profile  $P_d(t)$  used in (3) are depicted in Figures 1(b), 1(a), respectively. The corresponding .mat files are given in pingpong.

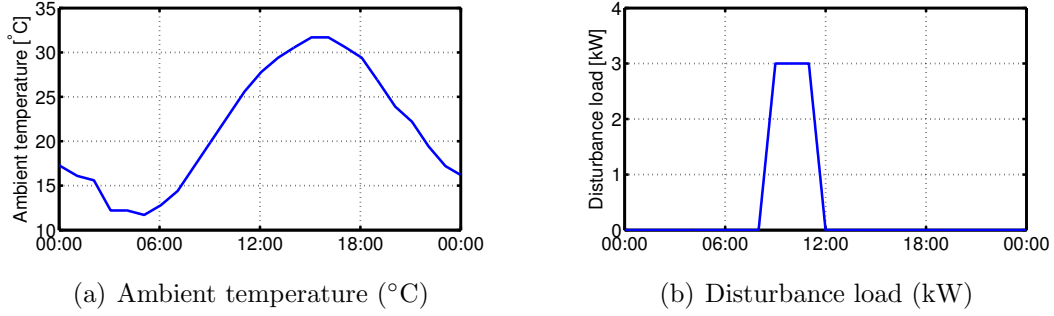


Figure 1: Predicted Ambient Temperature and Load Profiles.

- **Design three MPC controllers** by assuming that (i)  $T_{oa}(t)$  and  $P_d(t)$  are known and their predictions are perfect without mismatch between predictions and actual measurements, (ii) only the current values of  $T_{oa}(t)$  and  $P_d(t)$  are known and (iii) both  $T_{oa}(t)$  and  $P_d(t)$  are unknown.
- **Simulate the three MPC controllers** designed at the previous point in closed-loop with  $\rho = 1000$  and  $\kappa = 2$  from  $T(0) = 22^\circ\text{C}$ . After a transient period the system will settle at steady state, i.e.,  $T(k) = T(k + 24)$ . Plot a steady state closed-loop profile for one day.
- **Implement the proportional controller** (call it controller C1) designed to reject the load without predictive information:

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} K(\bar{T} - T(t)) & T(t) \geq \bar{T}, \\ 0 & \underline{T} \leq T(t) \leq \bar{T}, \\ K(\underline{T} - T(t)) & T(t) \leq \underline{T} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

**Simulate the proportional controller in closed-loop** with  $K = 400$  and sampling time of one minute. Use  $T(0) = 22^\circ\text{C}$ . After a transient period the system will settle at steady state, i.e.,  $T(k) = T(k + 24)$ . Plot a steady state closed-loop profile for one day.

p.s.: A fair comparison would require to implement the P-controller with sampling time of 1hr. Unfortunately this is too coarse for a P-controller and it does not perform well. Please use a sampling time for the P-controller of 1 minute.

- The performance of the first MPC controller (i) and the P controller are measured by the closed loop total energy consumption

$$J^u = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |u^*(k)| \Delta t, \quad (7)$$

the peak power consumption

$$J^p = \max\{|u^*(0)|, \dots, |u^*(N-1)|\}, \quad (8)$$

and the total comfort violation

$$J^\varepsilon = \sum_{k=0}^N (|\bar{\varepsilon}^*(k)| + |\underline{\varepsilon}^*(k)|) \Delta t. \quad (9)$$

All cost are computed **at steady state**.

Comment on the differences (**at steady state**) between the MPC controller (i) and the  $P$  controller simulations above by using these indices.