

1 Maneuvering a scalar plant

Consider the plant

$$\dot{p} = u, \quad p = \text{col}(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

and let the control objective be maneuvering Skjetne (2005), with geometric task to control p to and along a path $p_d(s)$ parameterized by a path variable s , and a dynamic task to satisfy a speed assignment $v_s(s, t)$ for \dot{s} .

Task 1 *Propose a parametrization for $p_d(s)$ that gives a straight-line path.*

Task 2 *Propose a parametrization for $p_d(s)$ that gives an ellipsoidal path, centered in (x_c, y_c) and with radius r_x in the x -direction and radius r_y in the y -direction.*

Let v_0 be a desired constant speed along the path for $\dot{p}(t)$.

Task 3 *Propose a speed assignment $v_s(t, s)$ for $\dot{s}(t)$, that ensures path-following at constant speed v_0 [m/s], along:*

1. *The straight-line path.*
2. *The ellipsoidal path.*

Hint: This shall ensure that $|\dot{p}| = |\dot{p}_d| = v_0$ when p is tracking $p_d(s)$.

Task 4 *Show that with the control law and CLF*

$$u = -K(p - p_d(s)) + p_d^s(s)v_s(t, s), \quad K = K^\top > 0$$

$$V(p, s) = \frac{1}{2}(p - p_d(s))^\top (p - p_d(s))$$

we get

$$\dot{V} = -(p - p_d(s))^\top K(p - p_d(s)) - V^s(p, s)(v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}).$$

What is the expression for $V^s(p, s)$?

Task 5 *Show that the update law for \dot{s} given by*

$$\dot{s} = v_s(t, s)$$

*solves the Maneuvering Problem. Why do we call this a **Tracking update law**?*

Task 6 *Show that the update law for \dot{s} given by*

$$\dot{s} = v_s(t, s) - \mu V^s(p, s), \quad \mu \geq 0$$

*solves the Maneuvering Problem. Why do we call this a **Gradient update law**?*

Note that the vector $p_d^s(s)$ is for any value s the tangent vector along the path at $p_d(s)$. A modified version of the gradient update law is to ensure that the tangent vector $p_d^s(s)$ is normalized. This will avoid a varying gain from $V^s(p, s)$ along the path according to the parametrization.

Task 7 *Show that the modified gradient update law for \dot{s} given by*

$$\dot{s} = v_s(t, s) - \frac{\mu}{|p_d^s(s)|} V^s(p, s), \quad \mu \geq 0$$

*solves the Maneuvering Problem. Why do we call this a **Unit-tangent gradient update law**?*

Task 8 Let the path be the straight-line, and determine path coefficients so that the path becomes the x -axis. Consider $V(p, s)$ to be a cost function, where you fix the position p to be constant and let s be a free optimization variable.

1. Let p be located at $p = \text{col}(5, 0)$. What is the value of s that minimizes $s \mapsto V(p, s)$?
2. Let p be located at $p = \text{col}(15, 7)$. What is the value of s that minimizes $s \mapsto V(p, s)$?

Task 9 Let $\omega_s = v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}$ be the path-variable speed error, and

$$V_2(p, s, \omega_s) := V(p, s) + \frac{1}{2\lambda\mu}\omega_s^2$$

(considering ω_s as an additional state in the system). Show that the update law for \dot{s} given by

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{s} &= v_s(t, s) - \omega_s \\ \dot{\omega}_s &= -\lambda(\omega_s - \mu V^s(p, s)), \quad \mu \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

gives

$$\dot{V}_2 = -(p - p_d(s))^\top K (p - p_d(s)) - \frac{1}{\mu}\omega_s^2,$$

and solves the Maneuvering Problem. Why do we call this a **Filtered gradient update law**?

You shall now implement the closed-loop system in Matlab/Simulink with the unit-tangent gradient update law, and the two alternative paths and speed assignments:

- The straight-line path, going through the points $(2, 0)$ and $(10, 4)$.
- The ellipsoidal path, centered at $(x_c, y_c) = (6, 0)$ with radii $(r_x, r_y) = (5, 3)$.

Set the other variables to:

$$\begin{aligned}K &= 1.0 \cdot I \\ v_0 &= 1.0 \text{ [m/s]}\end{aligned}$$

Test different initial conditions for $p(0) = (x_0, y_0)$ and $s(0)$ for the two paths and speed assignments, and observe the fast transient response for $s(t)$ the first second of simulation and thereby the overall behavior of the trajectories.

Simulate also with $\mu = 0$ and discuss the differences in the responses.

In particular, test and report the following:

Task 10 For the straight-line path, start with initial condition $s(0) = 0$ and $p(0) = (6, 5)$.

1. Set $\mu = 0$ and simulate for 3 seconds, and store the data.
2. Set $\mu = 10$ and simulate for 3 seconds, and store the data.

For both cases, plot the 2D position responses of $(p(t), p_d(s(t)))$ in the same figure during the two seconds. Plot also the time-plots of $s(t)$ in another figure. Add the figures to your report, using the provided 'plotpdf.tex.m' script. Discuss the behavior of the tracking update law ($\mu = 0$) versus the gradient update law ($\mu = 10$).

Task 11 For the ellipsoidal path, start with initial condition $s(0) = 0$ and $p(0) = (7, 2)$.

1. Set $\mu = 0$ and simulate for 25 seconds, and store the data.
2. Set $\mu = 10$ and simulate for 25 seconds, and store the data.

For both cases, plot the 2D position responses of $(p(t), p_d(s(t)))$ in the same figure during the five seconds. Plot also the time-plots of $s(t)$ in another figure. Add the figures to your report, using the provided 'plotpdf.tex.m' script. Discuss the behavior of the tracking update law ($\mu = 0$) versus the gradient update law ($\mu = 10$).

1 Solutions: Maneuvering a scalar plant

Consider the plant

$$\dot{p} = u, \quad p = \text{col}(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

and let the control objective be maneuvering Skjetne (2005), with geometric task to control p to and along a path $p_d(s)$ parameterized by a path variable s , and a dynamic task to satisfy a speed assignment $v_s(s, t)$ for \dot{s} .

Task 1 Propose a parametrization for $p_d(s)$ that gives a straight-line path.

Answer: Let $p_0, p_1 \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be two points on the straight-line path. Then

$$p_d(s) = (1 - s)p_0 + sp_1, \quad s \in \mathbb{R}$$

is a straight-line path such that $p_d(0) = p_0$ and $p_d(1) = p_1$.

Task 2 Propose a parametrization for $p_d(s)$ that gives an ellipsoidal path, centered in (x_c, y_c) and with radius r_x in the x -direction and radius r_y in the y -direction.

Answer: Let $p_0 = (x_c, y_c) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be the center, $R_{xy} = \text{diag}(r_x, r_y)$, and $\xi(s) = \text{col}(\cos(2\pi s), \sin(2\pi s))$. An ellipsoidal path is then given by

$$p_d(s) = p_0 + R_{xy}\xi(s).$$

This is such that $s : 0 \rightarrow 1$ corresponds to tracing the ellipsoid one revolution.

Let v_0 be a desired constant speed along the path for $\dot{p}(t)$.

Task 3 Propose a speed assignment $v_s(t, s)$ for $\dot{s}(t)$, that ensures path-following at constant speed v_0 [m/s], along:

Answer: We get

$$|\dot{p}_d| = |p_d^s(s)\dot{s}| = |p_d^s(s)| |\dot{s}| = |v_0|$$

We want $\text{sgn}(\dot{s}) = \text{sgn}(v_0)$. Hence,

$$\dot{s} = v_s(t, s) := \frac{v_0}{|p_d^s(s)|}$$

1. The straight-line path.

Answer: We get

$$v_s(t, s) = v_s := \frac{v_0}{|p_d^s(s)|} = \frac{v_0}{|p_1 - p_0|}$$

2. The ellipsoidal path.

Answer: We get

$$v_s(t, s) = v_s(s) := \frac{v_0}{|p_d^s(s)|} = \frac{v_0}{\sqrt{(x_d^s(s))^2 + (y_d^s(s))^2}} = \frac{v_0}{\sqrt{(-2\pi r_x \sin(\frac{s}{2\pi}))^2 + (2\pi r_y \cos(\frac{s}{2\pi}))^2}}$$

Task 4 **Answer:** With the control law and CLF

$$u = -K(p - p_d(s)) + p_d^s(s)v_s(t, s), \quad K = K^\top > 0$$

$$V(p, s) = \frac{1}{2}(p - p_d(s))^\top (p - p_d(s))$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} &= (p - p_d(s))^\top (\dot{p} - \dot{p}_d(s)) \\ &= (p - p_d(s))^\top (-K(p - p_d(s)) + p_d^s(s)v_s(t, s) - p_d^s(s)\dot{s}) \\ &= -(p - p_d(s))^\top K(p - p_d(s)) + (p - p_d(s))^\top p_d^s(s)(v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}) \\ &= -(p - p_d(s))^\top K(p - p_d(s)) - V^s(p, s)(v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}), \quad Q.E.D. \end{aligned}$$

where

$$V^s(p, s) = -(p - p_d(s))^\top p_d^s(s).$$

Task 5 Answer: Choosing $\dot{s} = v_s(t, s)$ gives

$$\dot{V} = -(p - p_d(s))^\top K (p - p_d(s)).$$

Letting $e := p - p_d(s)$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{e} &= \dot{p} - p_d^s(s)\dot{s} = -Ke + p_d^s(s)(v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}) = -Ke \\ V &= \frac{1}{2}e^\top e, \quad \dot{V} = -e^\top Ke \end{aligned}$$

Hence $e = 0$ is UGES. We call this a **Tracking update law** because for

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{\xi} &= v_s(t, \xi) \\ s &= \xi \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \bar{p}_d(t) := p_d(s(t))$$

forms a tracking problem of $p(t) \rightarrow \bar{p}_d(t)$ where $s(t)$ just becomes a time signal generated by an exosystem.

Task 6 Answer: For $\dot{s} = v_s(t, s) - \mu V^s(p, s)$, $\mu \geq 0$, and $e := p - p_d(s)$, we get

$$\dot{V} = -e^\top Ke - \mu V^s(p, s)^2 \leq -e^\top Ke.$$

Hence $e = 0$ is again UGES. We call this a **Gradient update law** because \dot{s} in addition to being driven by $v_s(t, s)$ takes feedback from the gradient of the Lyapunov function w.r.t. s . This mechanism ensures for large μ that s is rapidly driven to a minimizer of $s \mapsto V(p, s)$.

Note that the vector $p_d^s(s)$ is for any value s the tangent vector along the path at $p_d(s)$. A modified version of the gradient update law is to ensure that the tangent vector $p_d^s(s)$ is normalized. This will avoid a varying gain from $V^s(p, s)$ along the path according to the parametrization.

Task 7 Answer: For $\dot{s} = v_s(t, s) - \frac{\mu}{|p_d^s(s)|} V^s(p, s)$, $\mu \geq 0$, and $e := p - p_d(s)$, we get

$$\dot{V} = -e^\top Ke - \frac{\mu}{|p_d^s(s)|} V^s(p, s)^2 \leq -e^\top Ke.$$

Hence $e = 0$ is again UGES. We call this a **Unit-tangent gradient update law** because now \dot{s} takes feedback from

$$\frac{V^s(p, s)}{|p_d^s(s)|} = -\frac{p_d^s(s)^\top (p - p_d(s))}{|p_d^s(s)|} = -\frac{p_d^s(s)^\top}{|p_d^s(s)|} e,$$

that is, the inner product between the unit path tangent vector $\frac{p_d^s(s)}{|p_d^s(s)|}$ and the error vector $e = p - p_d(s)$. Obviously, the minimum is attained when these are perpendicular.

Task 8 Let the path be the straight-line, and determine path coefficients so that the path becomes the x -axis. Consider $V(p, s)$ to be a cost function, where you fix the position p to be constant and let s be a free optimization variable.

Answer: We let $p_0 = \text{col}(0, 0)$ and $p_1 = \text{col}(1, 0)$. Then s traces the x -axis with

$$\begin{aligned} p_d(s) &= sp_1 = \text{col}(s, 0), \quad s \in \mathbb{R}. \\ V(p, s) &= \frac{1}{2} |p - sp_1|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (x - s)^2 + \frac{1}{2} y^2 \end{aligned}$$

1. Let p be located at $p = \text{col}(5, 0)$. What is the value of s that minimizes $s \mapsto V(p, s)$?

Answer: We get $V(p, s) = \frac{1}{2} (5 - s)^2$ and $s = 5$ will minimize V .

2. Let p be located at $p = \text{col}(15, 7)$. What is the value of s that minimizes $s \mapsto V(p, s)$?

Answer: We get $V(p, s) = \frac{1}{2} (15 - s)^2 + 24.5$ and $s = 15$ will minimize V .

Task 9 Let $\omega_s = v_s(t, s) - \dot{s}$ be the path-variable speed error, and

$$V_2(p, s, \omega_s) := V(p, s) + \frac{1}{2\lambda\mu}\omega_s^2$$

(considering ω_s as an additional state in the system). Show that the update law for \dot{s} given by

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{s} &= v_s(t, s) - \omega_s \\ \dot{\omega}_s &= -\lambda(\omega_s - \mu V^s(p, s)), \quad \mu \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

gives

$$\dot{V}_2 = -(p - p_d(s))^\top K (p - p_d(s)) - \frac{1}{\mu}\omega_s^2,$$

and solves the Maneuvering Problem.

Answer: We get

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}_2 &= \dot{V} + \frac{1}{\lambda\mu}\omega_s\dot{\omega}_s = -e^\top K e - \omega_s \left(V^s(p, s) - \frac{1}{\lambda\mu}\dot{\omega}_s \right) \\ &= -e^\top K e - \omega_s \left(V^s(p, s) + \frac{\omega_s - \mu V^s(p, s)}{\mu} \right) = -e^\top K e - \frac{\omega_s^2}{\mu} < 0\end{aligned}$$

so that $(e, \omega_s) = (0, 0)$ is UGES.

We call this a **Filtered gradient update law** because the gradient term $u = V^s(p, s)$ is input to and filtered by the 1st-order lowpass filter $\dot{\omega}_s = -\lambda(\omega_s - \mu u)$ before entering the path speed dynamics \dot{s} .

You shall now implement the closed-loop system in Matlab/Simulink with the modified gradient update law, and the two alternative paths and speed assignments:

- The straight-line path, going through the points (2, 0) and (10, 4).
- The ellipsoidal path, centered at $(x_c, y_c) = (6, 0)$ with radii $(r_x, r_y) = (5, 3)$.

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Test different initial conditions for $p(0) = (x_0, y_0)$ and $s(0)$ for the two paths and speed assignments, and observe the fast transient response for $s(t)$ the first second of simulation and thereby the overall behavior of the trajectories.

Simulate also with $\mu = 0$ and discuss the differences in the responses.

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1. Set $\mu = 0$ and simulate for 3 seconds, and store the data.
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For both cases, plot the 2D position responses of $(p(t), p_d(s(t)))$ in the same figure during the two seconds. Plot also the time-plots of $s(t)$ in another figure. Add the figures to your report, using vector graphics. Discuss the behavior of the tracking update law ($\mu = 0$) versus the gradient update law ($\mu = 10$).

Task 11 For the ellipsoidal path, start with initial condition $s(0) = 0$ and $p(0) = (7, 2)$.

1. Set $\mu = 0$ and simulate for 25 seconds, and store the data.
2. Set $\mu = 10$ and simulate for 25 seconds, and store the data.

For both cases, plot the 2D position responses of $(p(t), p_d(s(t)))$ in the same figure during the five seconds. Plot also the time-plots of $s(t)$ in another figure. Add the figures to your report, using the provided 'plotpdfex.m' script. Discuss the behavior of the tracking update law ($\mu = 0$) versus the gradient update law ($\mu = 10$).

Answer: See and run the Matlab script "Exc7_ManeuveringTasks.m" and run the different tasks by setting the "Task_mode" flag.

References

Skjetne, R. (2005). *The Maneuvering Problem*. PhD thesis, Norwegian Univ. Sci. & Tech., Trondheim, Norway.