

Last Time:

- Deterministic Optimal Control
- Pontryagin
- Indirect Shooting

Today:

- LQR Problem
- LQR as a QP
- Riccati Recursion

* LQR Problem:

$$\min_{\substack{x_{1:N} \\ u_{1:N-1}}} J = \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{2} x_n^T Q_n x_n + \frac{1}{2} u_n^T R_n u_n + \frac{1}{2} x_N^T Q_N x_N$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{n+1} = A_n x_n + B_n u_n$$

$$Q_n \geq 0, R_n > 0$$

* Example:

- "Double Integrator"

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \ddot{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

↖ Position
↖ Acceleration ↗ Velocity ↗ Force

- Think of this as a brick sliding on ice (no friction)

$$x_{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & h \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_n \\ \dot{x}_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} h^2 \\ h \end{bmatrix} u_n$$

↖ A ↖ x_n ↗ B ↗ time step

* LQR as a QP:

- Assume x_1 (initial state) is given (not a decision variable)

- Define $Z = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ x_2 \\ u_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$

- Define $H = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & & & & \\ Q_2 & 0 & & & \\ & R_2 & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & Q_N \end{bmatrix}$

such that $J = \frac{1}{2} Z^T H Z$

- Define C and d :

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} B_1 & -I & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 & B_2 & -I & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & \ddots & 0 \\ & & & & A_N & B_N & I \end{bmatrix}}_C \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ x_2 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}}_Z = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -A_1 x_1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_d$$

$$\Rightarrow Cz = d$$

- Now we can write LQR as a standard QP:

$$\min_z \frac{1}{2} z^T H z$$

s.t. $Cz = d$

- The Lagrangian of this QP is:

$$L(z, \lambda) = \frac{1}{2} z^T H z + \lambda^T [Cz - d]$$

- KKT conditions:

$$\nabla_z L = H z + C^T \lambda = 0$$

$$\nabla_\lambda L = Cz - d = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} H & C^T \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ d \end{bmatrix}$$

- We get the exact solution by solving one linear system!

* Example:

- Much better than shooting!

* A closer look at the LQR QP:

- The KKT system for LQR is very sparse (lots of zeros) and has lots of structure:

$$\begin{bmatrix} R & \beta^T \\ Q & R \\ & R \\ Q & I A^* \\ R & B^T \\ Q_1 & I \\ B & I \\ A^T B & -I \\ A B & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ x_2 \\ u_2 \\ x_3 \\ u_3 \\ x_4 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \\ \lambda_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ x_3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q_N x_4 - \lambda_4 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_4 = Q_N x_4$$

$$R u_3 + B^T \lambda_4 = R u_3 + B^T Q_N x_4 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow R u_3 + B^T Q_N (A x_3 + B u_3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u_3 = - \underbrace{(R + B^T Q_N B)^{-1} B^T Q_N A}_{K_3} x_3$$

$$Q x_3 - \lambda_3 + A^T \lambda_4 = 0 \quad) \text{ plug in } \lambda_4$$

$$Q x_3 - \lambda_3 + A^T Q_N x_4 = 0$$

$$Q x_3 - \lambda_3 + A^T Q_N (A x_3 + B u_3) = 0 \quad) \text{ plug in dynamics}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_3 = \underbrace{(Q + A^T Q_N (A - B K_3))}_{P_3} x_3 \quad) \text{ plug in } u_3 = -K_3 x_3$$

- Now we have a recursion for K and P :

$$P_n = Q_n$$

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

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

- This is called the Riccati equation/recursion

- We can solve the QP by doing a backward Riccati pass followed by a forward rollout to compute x_{fin} and $u_{1:N-1}$

- General (dense) QP has complexity $\mathcal{O}([N(n+m)]^3)$

horizon state dim control dim

- Riccati solution is $\mathcal{O}(N(n+m)^3)$

* Example

- Riccati exactly matches QP

- Feedback policy lets us change x_0 and reject noisy disturbances

* Infinite-Horizon LQR

- For time-invariant LQR converge to constants

- For stabilization problems we usually use constant K

- Backward recursion for P :

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

$$P_n = Q + A^T P_{n+1} (A + BK_n)$$

- Infinite-horizon limit $\Rightarrow P_{\infty} = P_n = P_{\text{inf}}$
 \Rightarrow solve as a root-finding / fixed-point problem
- Julia/Matlab/Python "clare" function does this for you