

Model Predictive Control

■ Lecture 6



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Outline

- Reactive Control & Optimal Control → strengths and weakness
- What is Model Predictive Control (MPC)? Why MPC?
- Brief history of MPC & research using MPC in robotics
- MPC design → pipeline and parameters choices
- Linear MPC → quadratic programming & MPC and LQR
- Explicit MPC
- Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC
- Tube MPC
- Hybrid MPC
- Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)



Reactive Control

The Control Task: trajectory following for example

- Ideal case:

$$m\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{F} - mg\mathbf{z}_w$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{F}_{des}} = mg\mathbf{z}_w + m\mathbf{a}_{des} \quad \mathbf{z}_{b,des} = \frac{\mathbf{F}_{des}}{|\mathbf{F}_{des}|}$$

$$\mathbf{q}_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(1 + z_b(3))}} (1 + z_b(3), -z_b(2), z_b(1), 0)^T$$

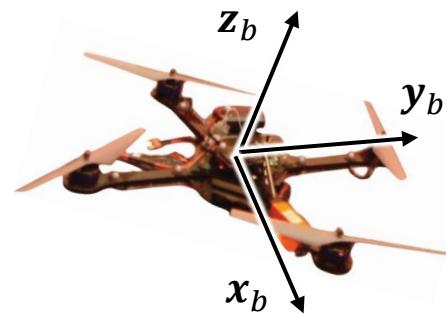
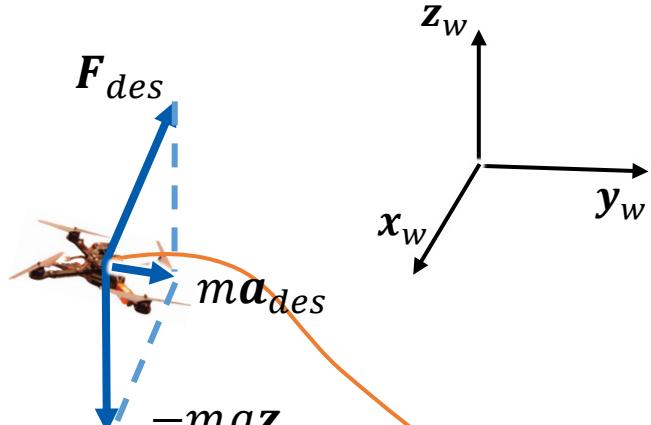
$$\underline{\mathbf{q}_{des}} = \underline{\mathbf{q}_z} \otimes \mathbf{q}_\psi \quad \text{desired thrust and attitude} \longrightarrow \text{Autopilot}$$

- Real case:

$$\mathbf{e}_p = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_{des}, \quad \mathbf{e}_v = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_{des} \quad \text{errors on position and velocity}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{F}_{des}} = -\underline{K_p} \mathbf{e}_p - \underline{K_v} \mathbf{e}_v + mg\mathbf{z}_w + m\mathbf{a}_{des}$$

control gains Reactive Control





Reactive Control

Advantages of Reactive Control

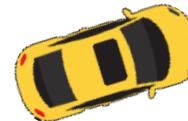
- Easy to design
- Considers errors

Limitations of Reactive Control

- Non-trivial for more complex systems
- Control gains must be tuned manually
- No handling of coupled dynamics and constraints
- Ignores future decisions



Legged robots:
too complex



PID controller:
separation into longitudinal and
lateral controllers ignores coupling



Optimal Control

How to **best** control the system?

- Model of the system dynamics

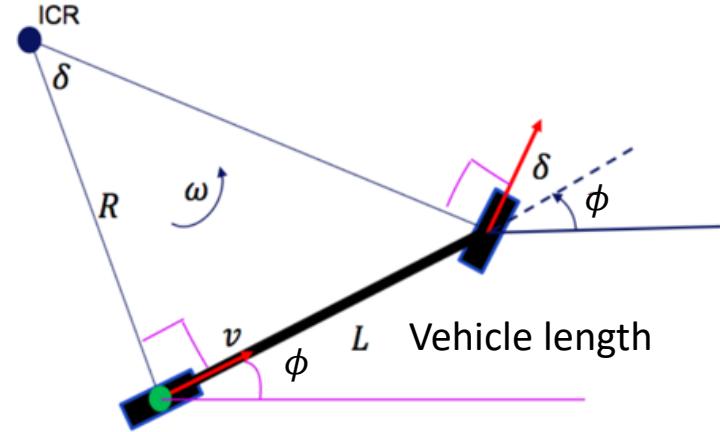
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f_c(x, u) \\ x_{k+1} &= f_d(x_k, u_k) \quad x_0 \text{ initial condition}\end{aligned}$$

state input

- Kinematic Bicycle Model for e.g.

State: $\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ v \\ \phi \end{bmatrix}$ Input: $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$



(p_x, p_y) Cartesian position of rear wheel

ϕ vehicle orientation

v velocity at rear wheel

a longitudinal acceleration

δ steering input

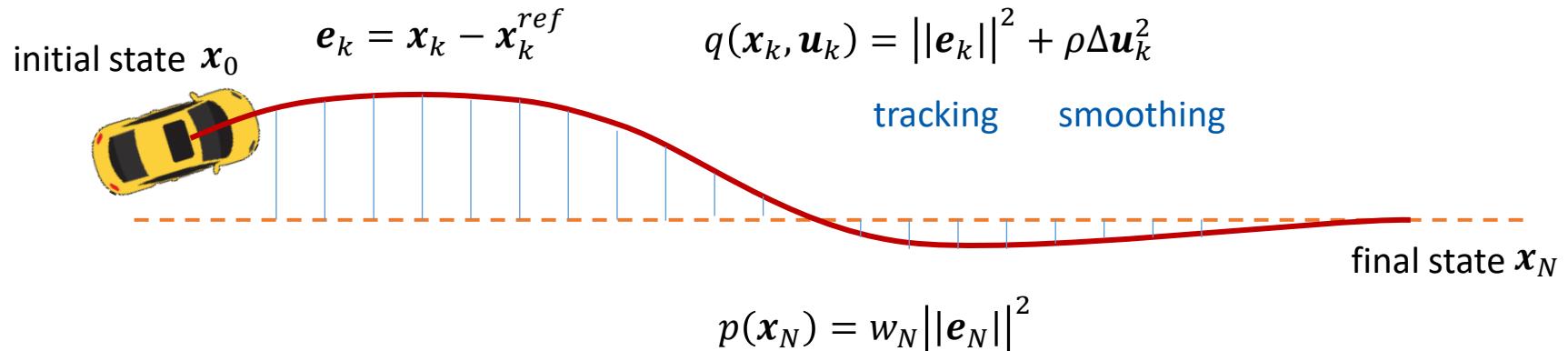


Optimal Control

Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(x_k, u_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(x_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$





Optimal Control

Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

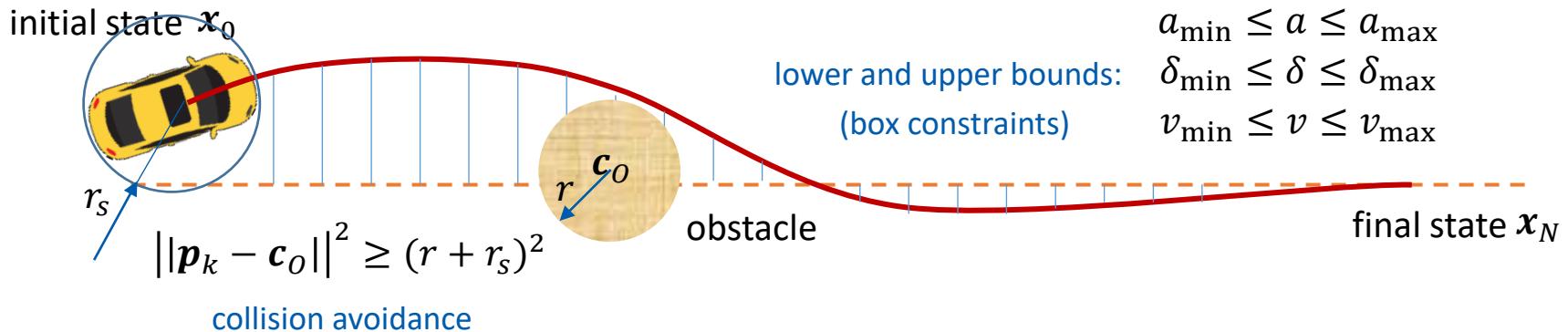
$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$

- Constraints

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f_d(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{equality constraints}$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) \leq \mathbf{0} \quad \text{inequality constraints}$$





Optimal Control

Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$

- Constraints

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f_d(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{equality constraints}$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) \leq \mathbf{0} \quad \text{inequality constraints}$$

- Optimal solution vector

$$\mathbf{z}^* = [\mathbf{u}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T]^T \quad \text{optimizer}$$

Now we can **best** control the system using \mathbf{z}^* !

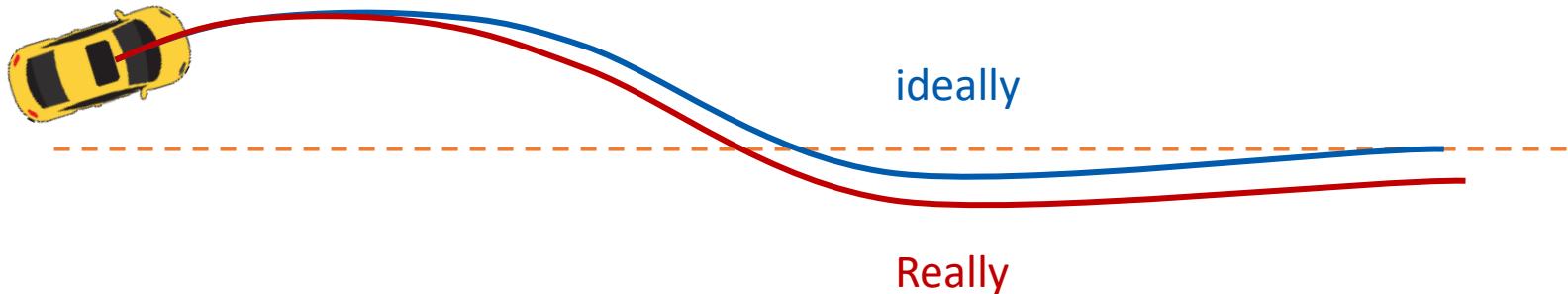
Ideally, of course.



Optimal Control

Difficulties of (Open-Loop) Optimal Control

- The dynamic model is usually **inaccurate**. Model errors accumulate over time.
- The optimizer we get z^* cannot be accurately applied.
- Long task-horizons make the problem **intractable**.
- The system may be affected by **external disturbances**.



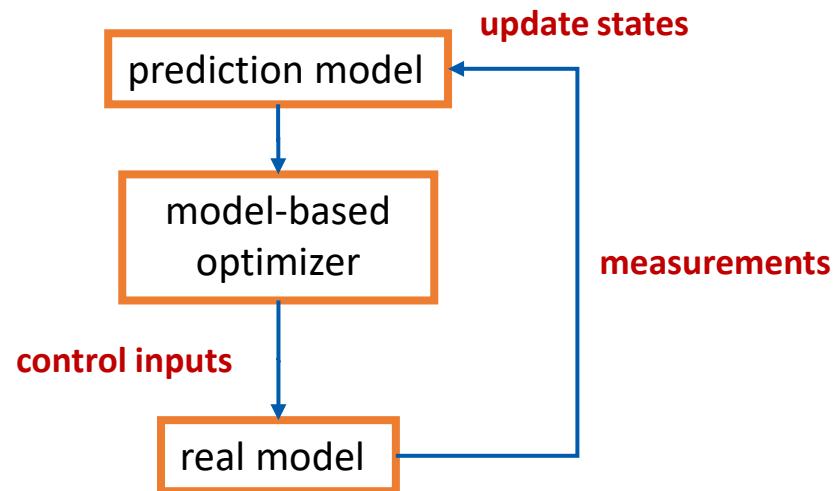


Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Use a dynamical **model** of the process to **predict** its future evolution and choose the “best” **control** action.

finite time horizon

- **Feedback** of the measurement information
 - Start from the estimated **current state**
- **Optimize** the best control sequence
 - Find controls for **limited preview** into the future
- **Receding horizon** framework
 - Apply only the first input, then **re-plan**





Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Receding horizon framework





Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Use a dynamical **model** of the process to **predict** its future evolution and choose the “best” **control** action.

- MPC Formulation (reference tracking for e.g.)

$$\min_{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_N} \sum_k^N \|y_k - r(t)\|^2 + \rho \Delta u_k^2$$

$$\text{s. t. } \dot{x}_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k)$$

$$y_k = g(x_k)$$

$$x_{\min} \leq x_k \leq x_{\max}$$

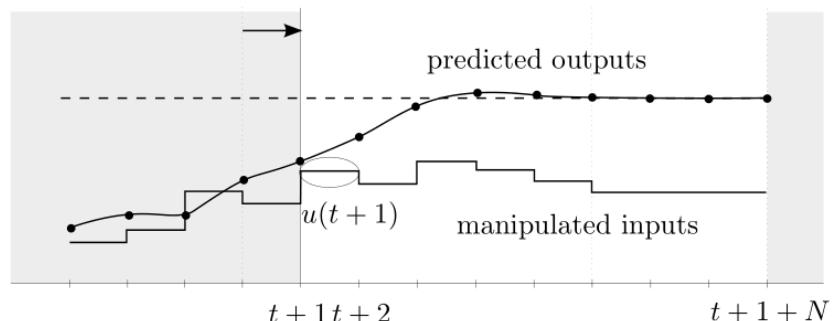
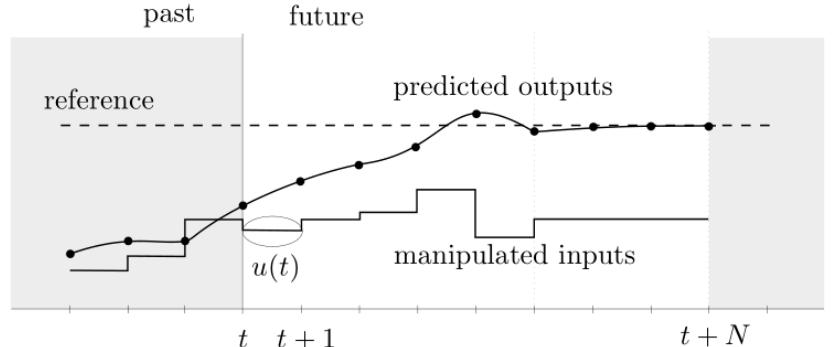
$$u_{\min} \leq u_k \leq u_{\max}$$

$$x_0 = x(t)$$

prediction model

constraints

state feedback





Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Other names:

- Open Loop Optimal Feedback
- Reactive Scheduling
- Receding Horizon Control

Advantages

- Considers future (although a limited future)
- Accounts for errors
- Reduces problem size (solver is usually warm-started with the previous solution)



Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Brief History of MPC

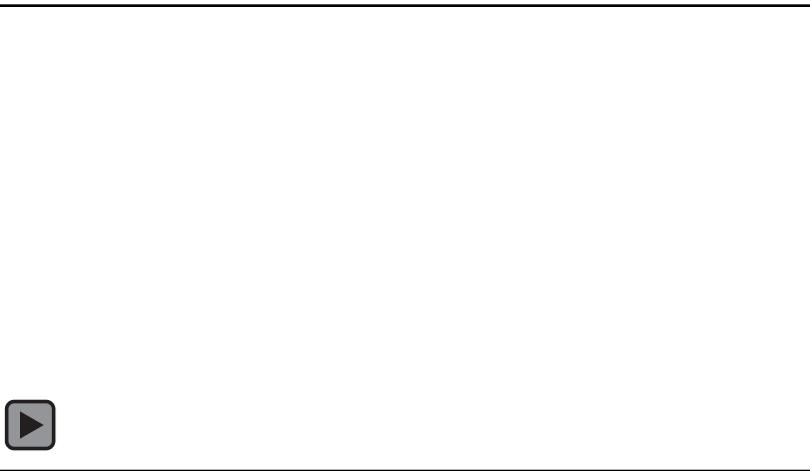
- Process control → linear MPC (some nonlinear too) 1970-2000
- Automotive control → explicit, hybrid MPC 2001-2010
- Aerospace systems and UAVs → linear time-varying MPC >2005
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
(wireless nets, cloud) → distributed/decentralized MPC >2005
- Energy, finance, automotive, water → stochastic MPC >2010
- Industrial production → embedded optimization solvers for MPC >2010
- Machine learning → data-driven MPC today



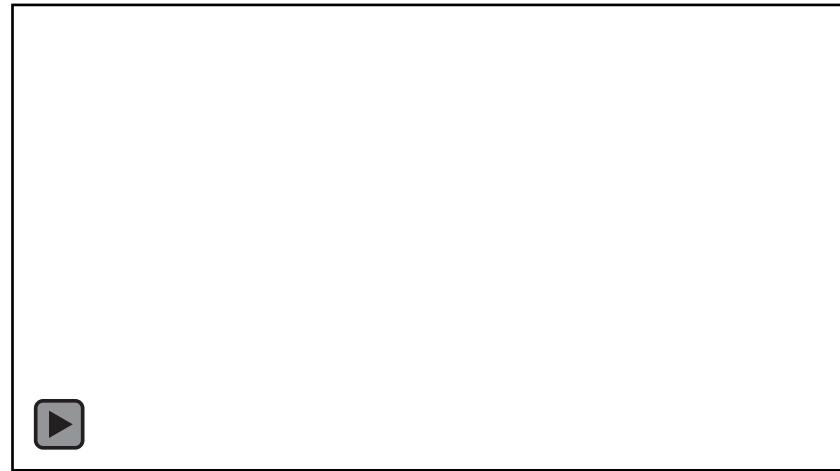


Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Research of MPC in Robotics



Nonlinear MPC for Quadrotor Fault-Tolerant Control



Whole-body MPC and online gait sequence generation for wheeled-legged robots

Nan, Fang, et al. "Nonlinear MPC for Quadrotor Fault-Tolerant Control." arXiv preprint arXiv:2109.12886 (2021).

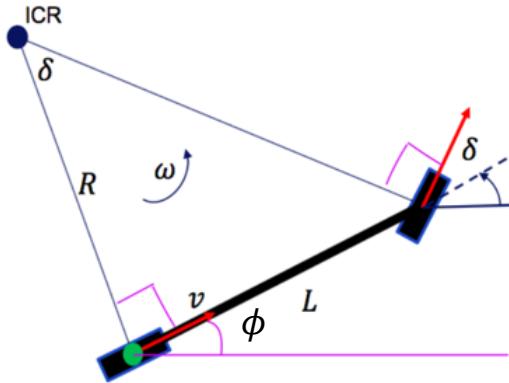
Bjelonic, Marko, et al. "Whole-body mpc and online gait sequence generation for wheeled-legged robots." 2021 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS). IEEE, 2020.



MPC Design

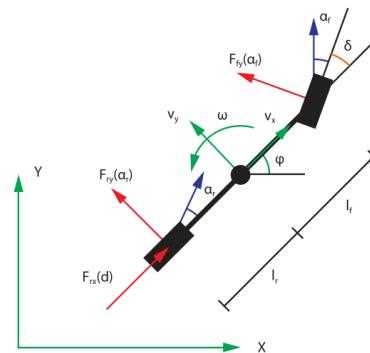
Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off in choice of model family:



$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$

Kinematic Bicycle Model



Dynamic Bicycle Model

Simplicity

VS.

Accuracy

Kong, Jason, et al. "Kinematic and dynamic vehicle models for autonomous driving control design." 2015 IEEE intelligent vehicles symposium (IV). IEEE, 2015.

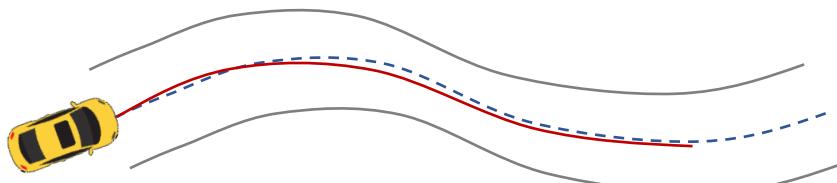
Liniger, Alexander, Alexander Domahidi, and Manfred Morari. "Optimization-based autonomous racing of 1: 43 scale RC cars." Optimal Control Applications and Methods 36.5 (2015): 628-647.



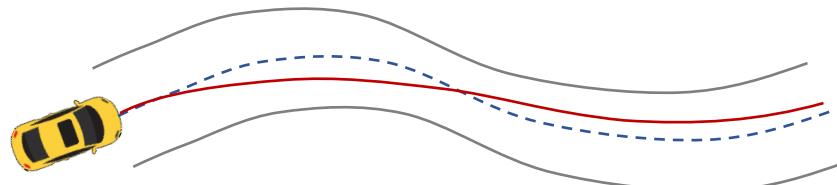
MPC Design

Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements



Minimize deviation from reference



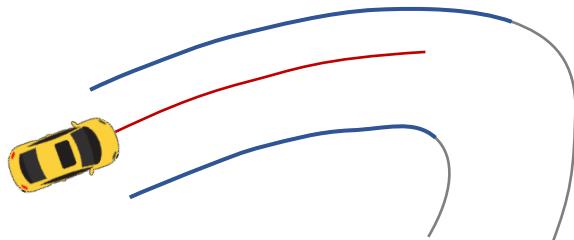
Maximize process inside track bounds



MPC Design

Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements
- Prediction horizon → trade-off of **computation overload** and **recursive feasibility**



- Short prediction horizon
 - **Reduced computation**
 - **Myopic behavior (potentially unsafe)**
- Additional constraints at the end of the prediction horizon can ensure **recursive feasibility**.



MPC Design

Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements
- Prediction horizon → trade-off of **computation overload** and **recursive feasibility**
- Terminal constraints
- ...



Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Linear prediction model: $\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k \\ \mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}_k \end{cases}$
- Relation between input and states: $\mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{A}^k \mathbf{x}_0 + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \mathbf{A}^j \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k-1-j}$
- Forward simulation as matrix equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{AB} & \mathbf{B} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^{N-1}\mathbf{B} & \mathbf{A}^{N-2}\mathbf{B} & \cdots & \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^N \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_0$$



Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Quadratic costs:

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$P = P^T > 0$
 $Q = Q^T > 0$
 $R = R^T > 0$

Positive semi-definite

- Goal: find the best control sequence $\mathbf{u}_{0:N-1}^*$ that minimizes J

$$J = \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_0 + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{P} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{R} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{R} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$



Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} B & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ AB & B & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A^{N-1}B & A^{N-2}B & \cdots & B \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{S}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_z + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} A \\ A^2 \\ \vdots \\ A^N \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{T}} x_0$$

$$J(z, x_0) = x_0^T Q x_0 + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} Q & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & Q & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & Q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & P \end{bmatrix}}_Q \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}}_z + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} R & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & R & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & R \end{bmatrix}}_R \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_u$$

$$\begin{aligned} J(z, x_0) &= (\bar{S}z + \bar{T}x_0)^T \bar{Q} (\bar{S}z + \bar{T}x_0) + z^T \bar{R} z + x_0^T Q x_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} z^T \underbrace{2(\bar{R} + \bar{S}^T \bar{Q} \bar{S})}_H z + x_0^T \underbrace{2\bar{T}^T \bar{Q} \bar{S}}_F z + \frac{1}{2} x_0^T \underbrace{2(Q + \bar{T}^T \bar{Q} \bar{T})}_Y x_0 \end{aligned}$$



Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \underbrace{2 \left(\bar{\mathbf{R}} + \bar{\mathbf{S}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{S}} \right)}_{\mathbf{H}} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \underbrace{2 \bar{\mathbf{T}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{S}}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \underbrace{2 \left(\mathbf{Q} + \bar{\mathbf{T}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{T}} \right)}_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{x}_0$$

- Condensed form of MPC:

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

The optimum is obtained by zeroing the gradient

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{z}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0 = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{z}^* = -\underline{\mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0} \quad (\text{"batch" solution})$$

unconstrained linear MPC = linear state-feedback!



Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Non-condensed form of MPC:
 - Keep also x_1, \dots, x_N as optimization variables

$$J(\mathbf{z}, x_0) = x_0^T Q x_0 + \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & R & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & Q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

- Equality constraints

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k$$

More variables and constraints but very sparse



MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

- “Batch” solution: $\mathbf{z}^* = -\mathbf{H}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0$
 - Analytically
 - Still requires to invert a large matrix \mathbf{H}^{-1}
- Dynamic programming LQR
 - Exploiting the sequential structure of the problem
 - Bellman’s principle of optimality $A \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow B \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C$

" An optimal policy has the property that, regardless of the decisions taken to enter a particular state, the remaining decisions made for leaving that stage must constitute an optimal policy."



MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

Dynamic programming LQR

- Exploiting the sequential structure of the problem
- Bellman's principle of optimality

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\mathbf{z}^* \quad \underline{\mathbf{u}_0^* \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{u}_k^* \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*}$$



MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

Dynamic programming LQR

- Break up the problem into smaller tail problems

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$J_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-1} + J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}} \underline{\mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}} + \underline{J_N^*(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1})}$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}} \underline{\mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{x}_{N-1}} + \underline{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1}} + \underline{2 \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}}$$

Zeroing the gradient: $2(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^* + 2\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} = 0$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \quad \mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$



MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

Dynamic programming LQR

- Recursively solve the tail problems

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$J_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1} + 2 \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \quad \underline{\mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}}$$

$$J_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \underline{\{\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{K}\}} \mathbf{x}_{N-1}$$

$$J_{N-2}(\mathbf{x}_{N-2}) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_{N-2}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-2} + \mathbf{u}_{N-2}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-2} + J_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1})$$

...

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_0^*(\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_0$$

Algebraic Riccati Equation



MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

Dynamic programming LQR

- Consider again the MPC cost function

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

“Batch” solution

$$\mathbf{z}^* = -\mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0$$

$O(N^3)$ complexity

- Update matrix \mathbf{P} and terminal gain \mathbf{K} iteratively

$$\mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{K}$$

...

→ Linear complexity in horizon N

$$\mathbf{u}_0^*(\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_0$$

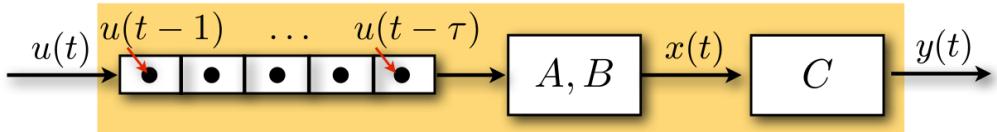
(unconstrained) **MPC = LQR** for any choice of the prediction horizon N



Linear MPC with Delays

- Linear model with delays

$$\mathbf{x}(t+1) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t-\tau)$$



- Delay-free model:

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \mathbf{x}(t+\tau) \approx \hat{\mathbf{x}}(t+\tau) = \mathbf{A}^\tau \mathbf{x}(t) + \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbf{A}^j \mathbf{B} \underbrace{\mathbf{u}(t-1-j)}_{\text{Past inputs}}$$

- We must have the prediction horizon $N \geq \tau$.
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t+\tau)$ can be computed by a more complex model (numerical solution of ODE).



Constrained Linear MPC

Convex Quadratic Programming (QP)

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{x}_0$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{z}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} \quad (\text{quadratic objective})$$

$$\text{s. t. } \mathbf{G} \mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{W} + \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x}_0 \quad (\text{linear constraints})$$

- Popular noncommercial QP solvers
 - OOQP, OSQP, qpOASES, ECOS (SOCP)
- Popular Commercial QP solvers
 - GUROBI, MOSEK (LPs, QPs, SOCPs, SDPs and MIPs ...)



Explicit MPC

Can we implement constrained linear MPC **without an online QP solver**?

- **Online optimization:** given $x(t)$, solve the problem at each time step t
(the control law $u = u_0^*(x)$ is implicitly defined by the QP solver)
→ Quadratic Programming (QP)
- **Offline optimization:** solve the QP in advance for all $x(t)$ in a given range to find the
control law $u = u_0^*(x)$ explicitly
→ Multi-parametric Quadratic Programming (mpQP)



Explicit MPC

Example

$$J^*(x) = \min_z J(z, x) = \frac{1}{2}z^2$$

$$\text{s. t. } z \leq 1 + 3x$$

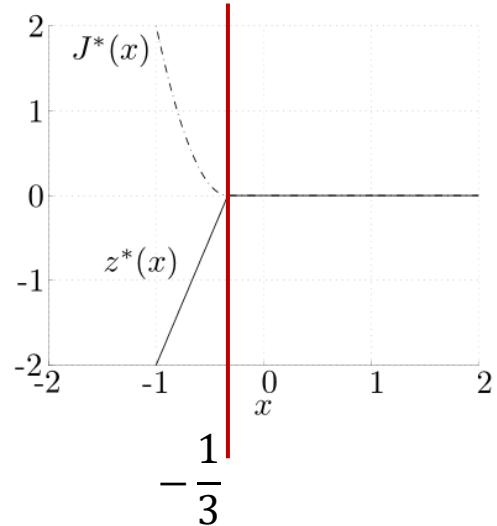
KKT condition:

$$z + \lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda(z - 3x - 1) = 0$$

$$\lambda \geq 0$$

$$z - 3x - 1 \leq 0$$

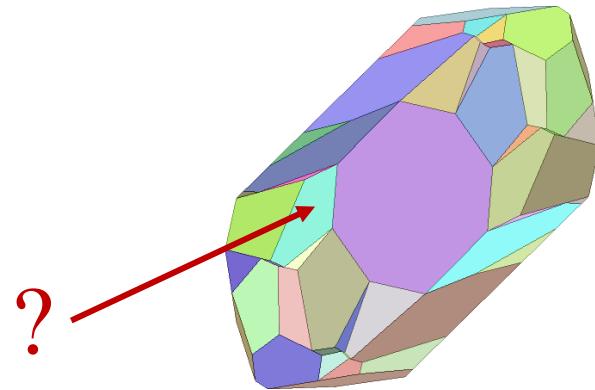


It can be proved that the multiparametric solution of a strictly convex QP is **continuous** and **piecewise affine**.



Explicit MPC

The number of regions is (usually) **exponential** with the number of possible combinations of active constraints.



Too many regions make explicit MPC less attractive, due to memory (storage of polyhedra) and **throughput** requirements (time to locate x_0).



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linear Time-Varying (LTV) model

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \underline{\mathbf{A}_k(t)}\mathbf{x}_k + \underline{\mathbf{B}_k(t)}\mathbf{u}_k$$

- Nonlinear model

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

- An LTV model can be obtained by linearizing a nonlinear model

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} \approx f(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \Big|_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}} (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \Big|_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}} (\mathbf{u} - \bar{\mathbf{u}})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}_c \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}_c \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{g}_c$$



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

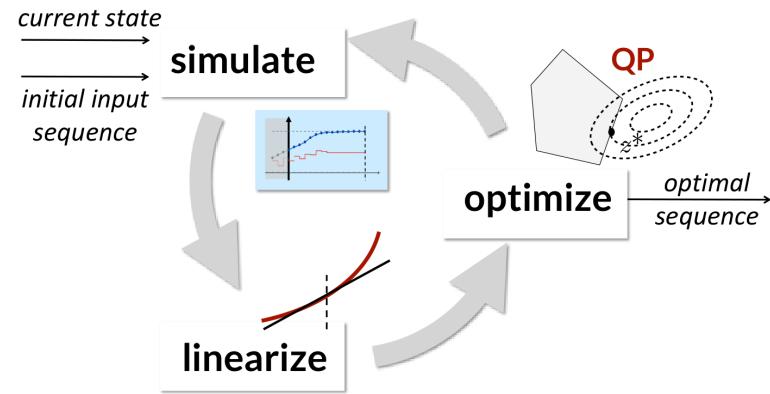
- Convert linear model to **discrete-time** using forward Euler method

$$\dot{x} = A_c x + B_c u + g_c$$

$$\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{T_s} = A_c x_k + B_c u_k + g_c$$

$$x_{k+1} = \underline{(I + T_s A_c)} x_k + \underline{T_s B_c} u_k + \underline{T_s g_c}$$

$$x_{k+1} = \underline{A_k} x_k + \underline{B_k} u_k + \underline{g_k}$$

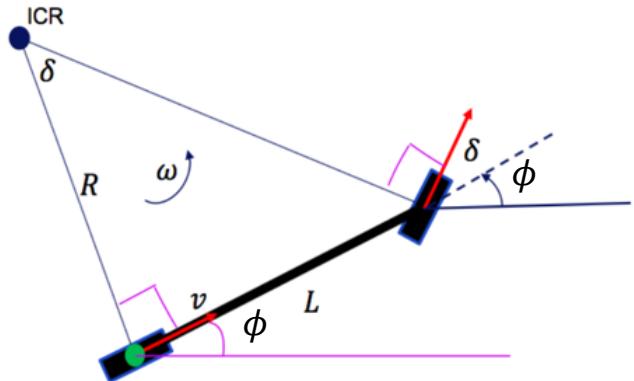


- Then we can solve a linear MPC online.



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Example: Control **longitudinal acceleration** and **steering angle** of the vehicle simultaneously for autonomous driving of tracking a reference trajectory



$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$

Input: $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$

State: $\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \phi \\ v \end{bmatrix}$

(p_x, p_y) Cartesian position of rear wheel

ϕ Vehicle orientation

L Vehicle length

v velocity at rear wheel

a longitudinal acceleration

δ steering input



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization and discretization:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = \bar{v} \cos(\bar{\phi}) + \cos(\bar{\phi})(v - \bar{v}) - v \sin(\bar{\phi})(\phi - \bar{\phi}) \\ \dot{p}_y = \bar{v} \sin(\bar{\phi}) + \sin(\bar{\phi})(v - \bar{v}) + v \cos(\bar{\phi})(\phi - \bar{\phi}) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{\bar{v}}{L} \tan(\bar{\delta}) + \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L}(v - \bar{v}) + \frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}}(\delta - \bar{\delta}) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_x \\ \dot{p}_y \\ \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{v} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -\bar{v} \sin \bar{\phi} & \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{v} \cos \bar{\phi} & \sin \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{A_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \phi \\ v \end{bmatrix}}_x + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{v} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{B_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}}_u + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \bar{v} \bar{\phi} \sin \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \bar{\phi} \cos \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \\ -\frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \end{pmatrix}}_{g_c}$$



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization and discretization:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_x \\ \dot{p}_y \\ \dot{\nu} \\ \dot{\phi} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -\bar{v} \sin \bar{\phi} & \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{v} \cos \bar{\phi} & \sin \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{A_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \nu \\ \phi \end{bmatrix}}_x + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{B_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}}_u + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \bar{v} \bar{\phi} \sin \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \bar{\phi} \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \bar{\delta} \end{pmatrix}}_{g_c}$$

$$x_{k+1} = (I + T_s A_c) x_k + T_s B_c u_k + T_s g_c$$

$$x_{k+1} = A_k x_k + B_k u_k + g_k$$



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Stage cost to minimize:

$$(p_x - x_{ref})^2 + (p_y - y_{ref})^2 + w_v \underline{\Delta a^2} + w_\delta \underline{\Delta \delta^2} \quad \rightarrow \text{QP formulation}$$

- Augmented model:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \end{bmatrix}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \end{bmatrix}_k + \begin{bmatrix} B \\ I \end{bmatrix} \Delta u_k \quad z = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } z = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u_0 \\ \Delta u_1 \\ \vdots \\ \Delta u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Constraints on inputs and states:

$$a_{\min} \leq a \leq a_{\max}$$

$$\delta_{\min} \leq \delta \leq \delta_{\max}$$

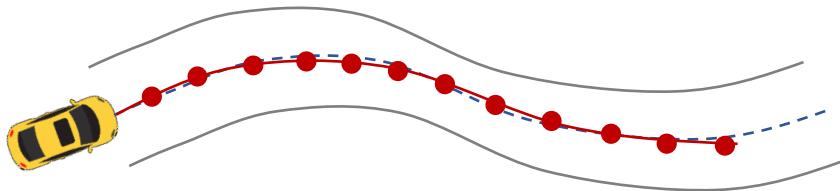
$$v_{\min} \leq v \leq v_{\max}$$

\rightarrow Linear constrained QP formulation



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization at which point?



The chicken or the egg

- Some engineering techniques:
 - Artificially given according to the reference trajectory
 - Warm-start: linearize the model at the last solution u_{k-1}^*, x_{k-1}^*

Can we solve the nonlinear MPC directly?



Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

Nonlinear programming problem ([NLP](#)) and nonlinear MPC ([NMPC](#))

- (Nonconvex) NLP is harder to solve than QP
- Convergence to a [global optimum](#) may not be guaranteed
- Some NLP methods exist
 - Sequential Quadratic Programming ([SQP](#))
 - Interior Point Methods
- Several embedded NMPC solvers exist
 - FORCES Pro (MATLAB C code generator)



Tube MPC

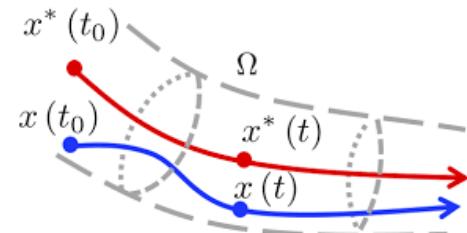
Nonlinear MPC:

- Sometimes it's hard to carry out **system identification**, especially for nonlinear systems
- Recursive feasibility and stability cannot be guaranteed for complex systems

Tube MPC:

- Use an independent **nominal model** of the system, and use a feedback controller to ensure the actual state converges to the nominal state.

an ancillary feedback controller is designed to keep the actual state within an invariant “**tube**” around a nominal trajectory computed neglecting **disturbances**.





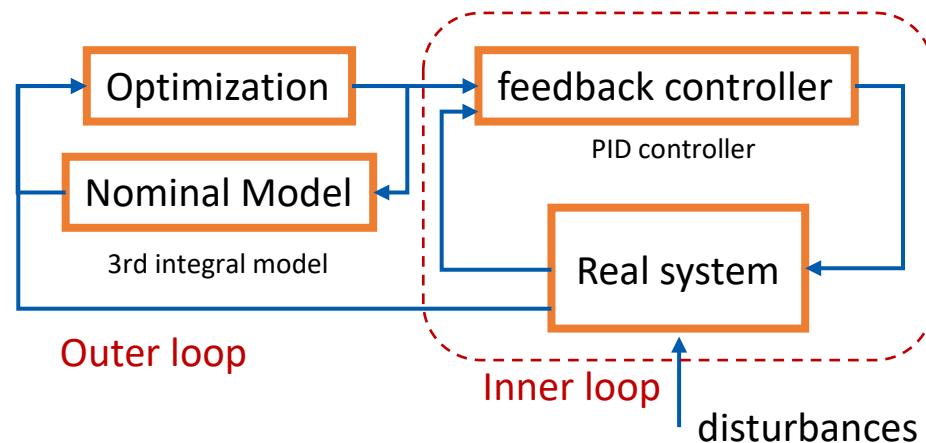
Tube MPC

Tube MPC:

Example: three order integral model

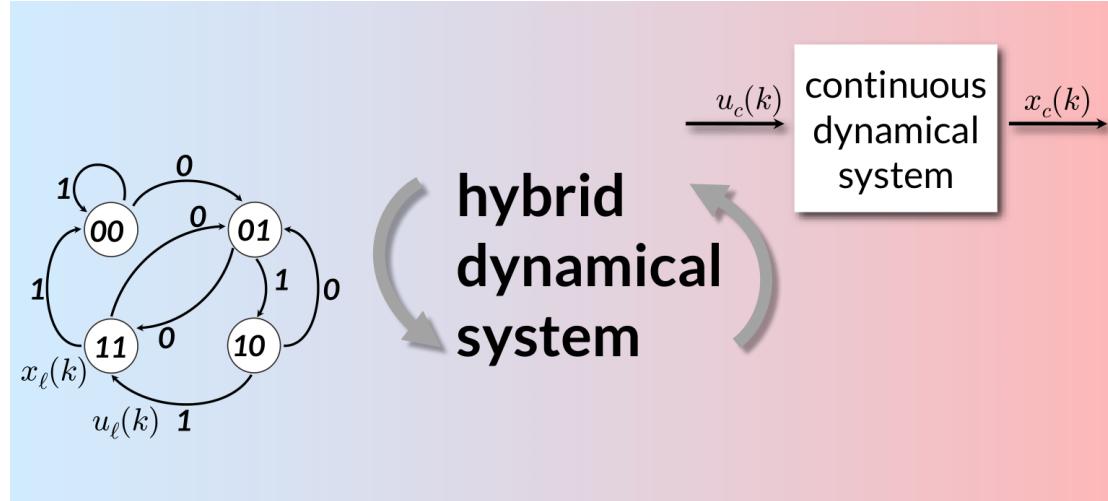
$$\begin{bmatrix} p \\ v \\ a \end{bmatrix}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & T_s & \frac{1}{2}T_s^2 \\ 0 & 1 & T_s \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ v \\ a \end{bmatrix}_k + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{6}T_s^3 \\ \frac{1}{2}T_s^2 \\ T_s \end{bmatrix} j_k$$

p, v, a, j denote the position, velocity, acceleration and jerk of the quadrotor.





Hybrid MPC



- Variables are binary-valued
 $x_l \in \{0,1\}^{n_l}, u_l \in \{0,1\}^{m_l}$
- Dynamics = finite state machine
- Logic constraints
- Variables are real-valued
 $x_c \in \mathbb{R}^{n_c}, u_c \in \mathbb{R}^{m_c}$
- Difference/differential equations
- Linear inequality constraints



Hybrid MPC

- Vehicle



continuous variables
(speed, torque, ...)

discrete command
(R, N, 1, 2, 3, ...)

continuous commands
(brakes & gas pedal)

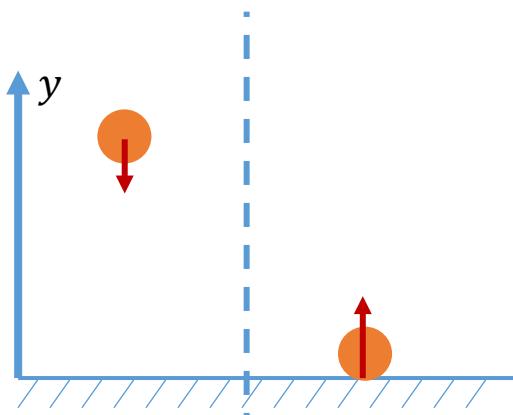


Hybrid MPC

Mixed Logical Dynamical (MLD) system

- converting logic relations into **mixed-integer** linear inequalities

bouncing ball for e.g.



$$\begin{cases} y_{k+1} = y_k + v_k t_s \\ y > 0 \rightarrow v_{k+1} = v_k - g t_s \\ y \leq 0 \rightarrow v_{k+1} = -(1 - \alpha)v_k \end{cases}$$

We need a binary variable $\delta = 0 \text{ or } 1$

collision or not $-M * \delta \leq y \leq M * (1 - \delta)$

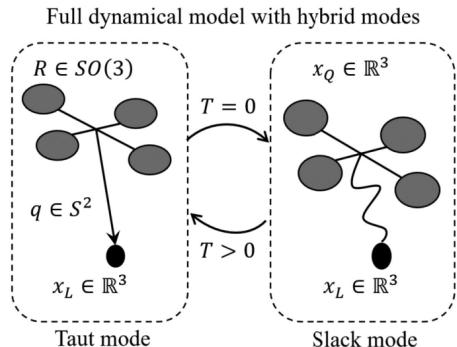
$$\begin{cases} -M * \delta \leq v_{k+1} - v_k + g t_s \leq M * \delta \\ -M * (1 - \delta) \leq v_{k+1} + (1 - \alpha)v_k \leq M * (1 - \delta) \end{cases}$$



Hybrid MPC

Mixed Logical Dynamical (MLD) system

- converting logic relations into mixed-integer linear inequalities
- MLD models allow solving MPC, verification, state estimation, and fault detection problems via **mixed-integer programming**.
- Further equivalences exist with other classes of hybrid dynamical systems, such as **Linear Complementarity (LC)** systems.



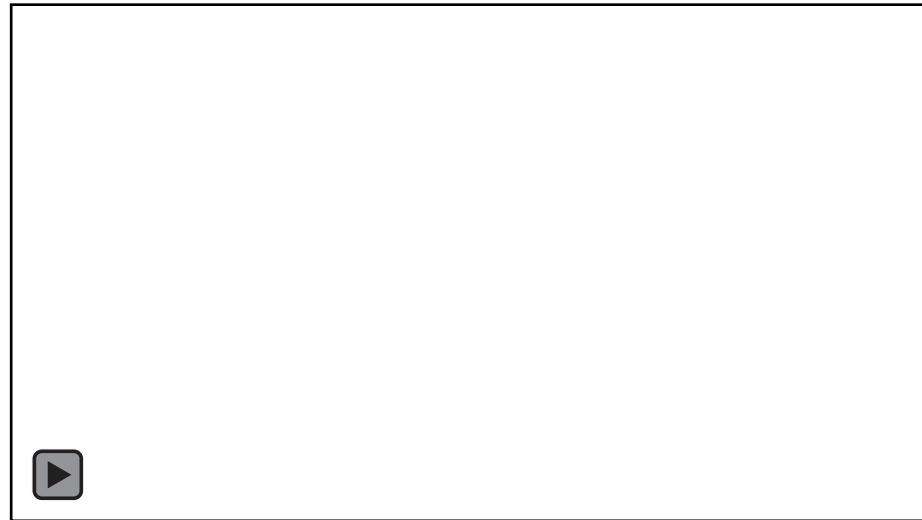
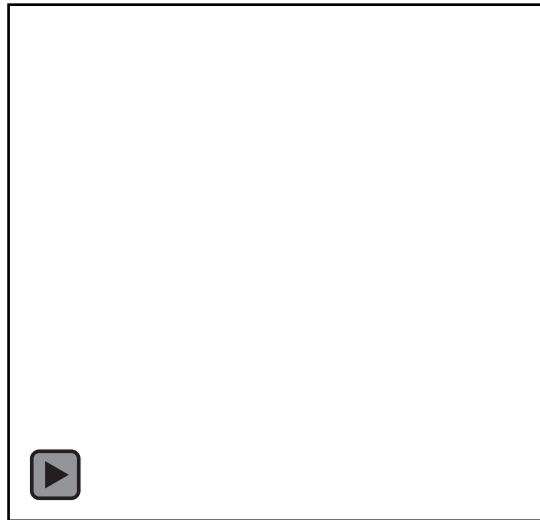
$$-\mathbf{T}\mathbf{q} = m_L \ddot{\mathbf{p}}_L + m_L g \mathbf{e}_3$$

$$\mathbf{T}(l - l_0) = 0$$



Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

Optimization-based autonomous racing of 1: 43 scale RC cars

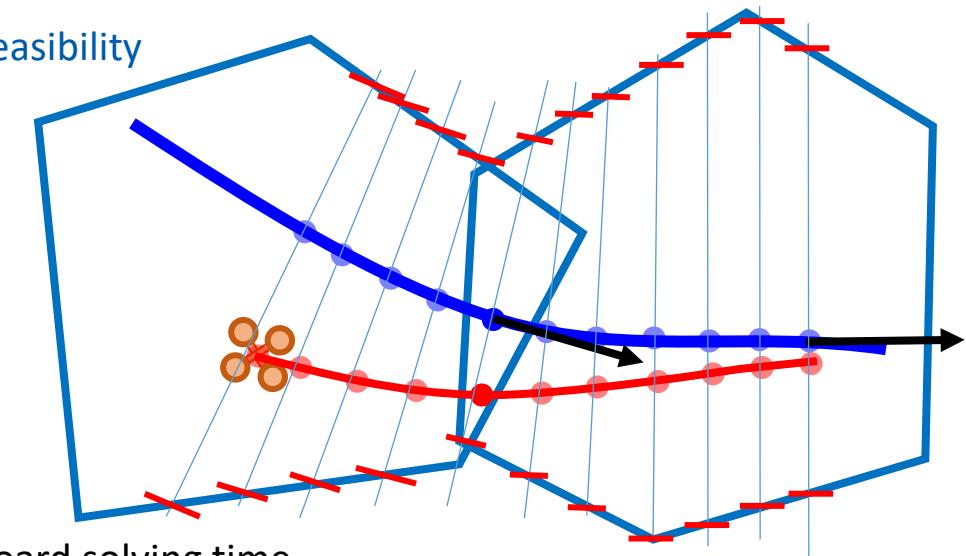




Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Trade off tracking accuracy and travelling progress
- Terminal speed constraints guarantee **feasibility**
- Naturally resist external **disturbances**
- Corridor constraints guarantee **safety**
- QP formulation with less than **5ms** onboard solving time





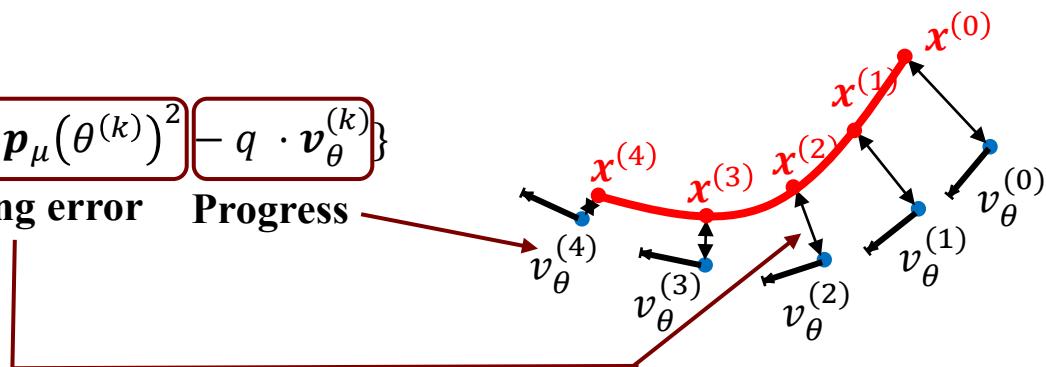
Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

State: $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = [x, v_x, a_x, y, v_y, a_y, z, v_z, a_z, \theta, v_\theta, a_\theta]^T$

Input: $\mathbf{u}^{(k)} = [j_x, j_y, j_z, j_\theta]^T$

$$J = \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}} \sum_{k=1}^N \left\{ \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Tracking error} \\ (\mathbf{u}^{(k)} - p_\mu(\theta^{(k)})^2 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Progress} \\ -q \cdot v_\theta^{(k)} \end{array} \right] \right\}$$



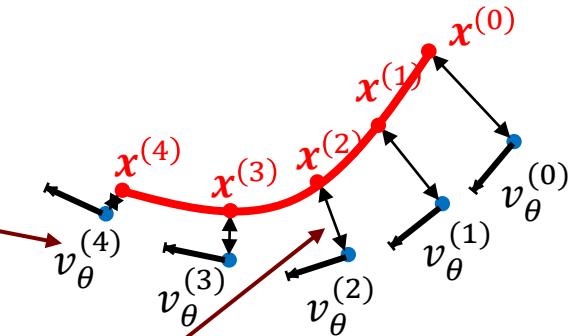


Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

$$J = \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}} \sum_{k=1}^N \left\{ \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \left[(\mathbf{u}^{(k)} - \mathbf{p}_\mu(\theta^{(k)})^2 \right] \left[-q \cdot v_\theta^{(k)} \right] \right\}$$

Tracking error Progress



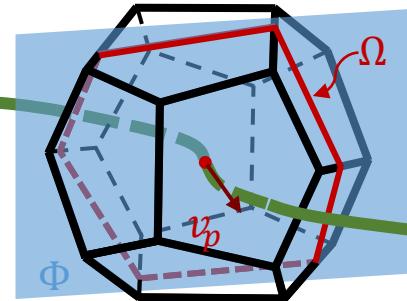
$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \mathbf{B}_d \mathbf{u}^{(k)} + \mathbf{g}^{(k)}, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$x_l \leq x^k \leq x_u, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$\mathbf{u}_l \leq \mathbf{u}^k \leq \mathbf{u}_u, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$\mathbf{C}^k \cdot [\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{y}^k, \mathbf{z}^k]^T \leq \mathbf{b}^k, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$|v_\mu^{(N)}| \leq v_{t\mu}, \mu = x, y, z$$



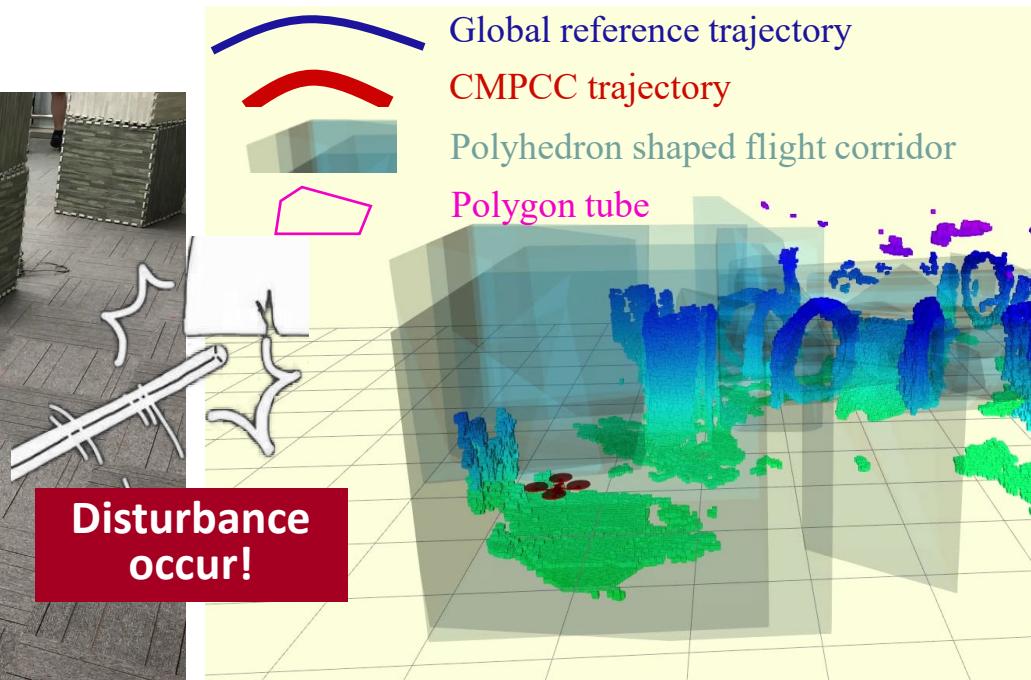
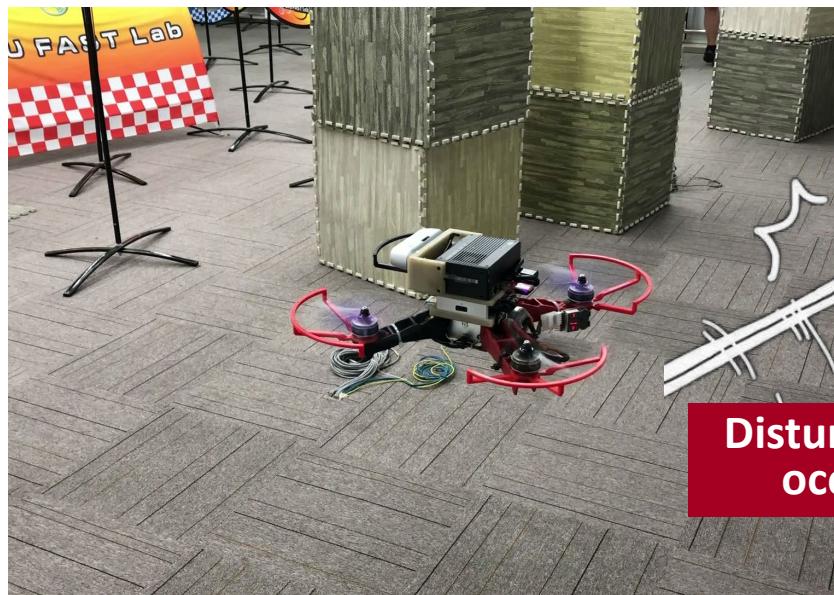
Global trajectory



Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Contact disturbance

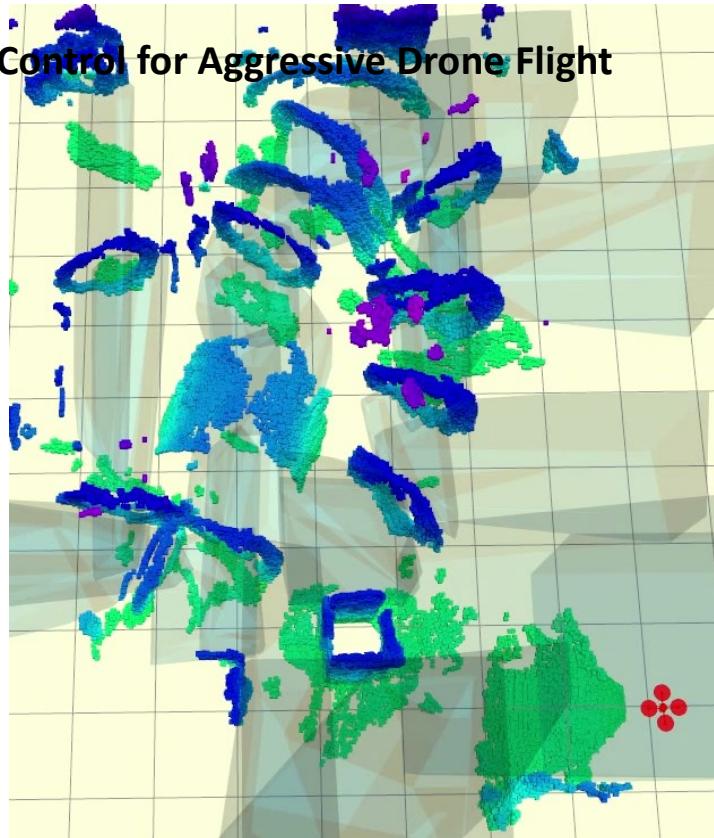




Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Contact disturbance





Model Predictive Contouring Control

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Wind disturbance

Fan





Summary

- Reactive Control & Optimal Control
- Model Predictive Control → receding horizon
- MPC design
- Linear MPC (unconstrained and constrained case)
- MPC and LQR
- MPC with delays
- Explicit MPC
- Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC
- Tube MPC
- Hybrid MPC
- Model Predictive Contouring Control



Assignment

1. **Implement MPC of tracking reference trajectory in C++;**
2. **Implement MPC with delays in C++;**
3. **Implement MPCC in C++ (optional);**

The framework is ready, only coding for MPC problem formulation is required.



Reference

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Thanks for Listening!