OCP/MPC Workshop 2024

Impact tutorial: part 2

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1 Point-to-point MPC for a robot manipulator

In this assignment, you will create a model predictive controller for a point-to-point motion of a robot manipulator (Franka Panda).

Given:

- $\mathbf{x}_{current} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_0 \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}}_0 \end{bmatrix}$: Initial state of the robot
- \bullet \mathbf{p}_f : Desired position to reach in Cartesian coordinates

We want to minimize the position error along and at the end of the horizon T and regularize the joint variables over the trajectory. The state vector is $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q} \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix}$ and the control input is $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}$. The optimization problem can be formulated as:

where:

- **p(q)** is the forward kinematics mapping from joint space to Cartesian space.
- w_i is a weighting factor for the control effort.
- \mathbf{q}_{\min} and \mathbf{q}_{\max} are the lower and upper bounds on joint positions.
- $\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{\min}$ and $\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{\max}$ are the lower and upper bounds on joint velocities.
- $\bullet~\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{\min}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{\max}$ are the lower and upper bounds on joint accelerations.

2 Getting started

This exercise uses the robot manipulator of a Franka Panda robot provided in the Robotics Toolbox for Python. This library can be installed by running

pip install roboticstoolbox-python

To generate robot dynamics and kinematics, we use the interface between the state-of-the-art rigid-body dynamics library Pinocchio. You can install Pinocchio by running:

conda install conda-forge:pinocchio

and the interface by executing:

pip install git+https://gitlab.kuleuven.be/meco-software/robot-models-meco.git@pin3-devel

All this libraries are already included in the provided mecoverse-robotics conda environment, which you can create by running

conda env create -f mecoverse_robotics_environment.yml

Once you have your environment ready, go to the directory Tutorials/3_impact/part-2. You should work on the controller.py script to specify the optimal control problem underpinning the model predictive controller for the task at hand.