

# Stability and state-feedback control



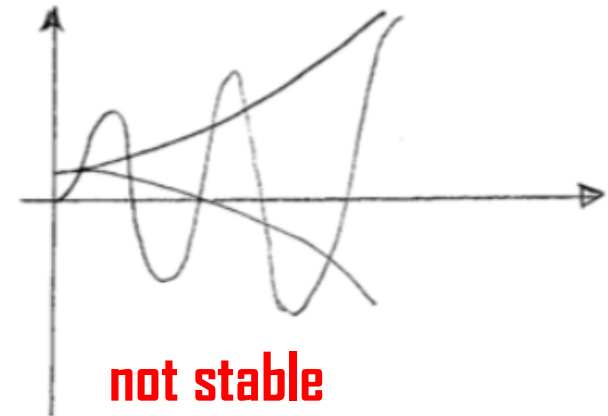
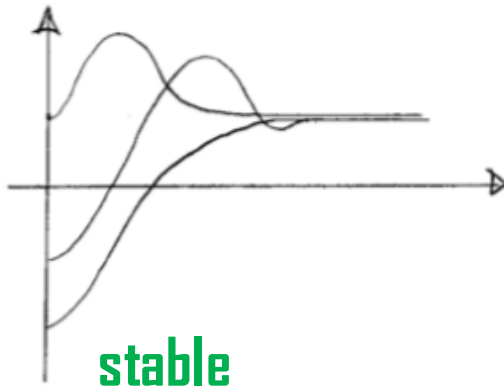
## Lecture 4

# Today's lecture

- **Stability in the state-space context**
- **Linear state-feedback control**
- **The Linear Quadratic Regulator**
- **Stabilization of linear systems around any equilibrium point**

## Stability for SS. rep in a nutshell:

Question: what is stability in the context of state-space representations?



**→** final behavior independent from initial conditions

Trivial first-order example:

$$\dot{x}(t) = -x(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

whose solution is  $x(t) = x_0 e^{-t}$

so that we have  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_0 e^{-t} = 0$

**→** system is stable

SDU 🌿 (final behavior is independent from initial conditions)

# Stability and state-feedback on the trivial example

start again with a scalar example

but with an input:  $\dot{x}(t) = x(t) + u(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$

assume first that  $u(t) = 0$

so that we have  $x(t) = x_0 e^t$

then  $\begin{cases} \text{if } x_0 > 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = +\infty \\ \text{if } x_0 = 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0 \\ \text{if } x_0 < 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = -\infty \end{cases}$

**→ system with  $u=0$  is NOT stable**

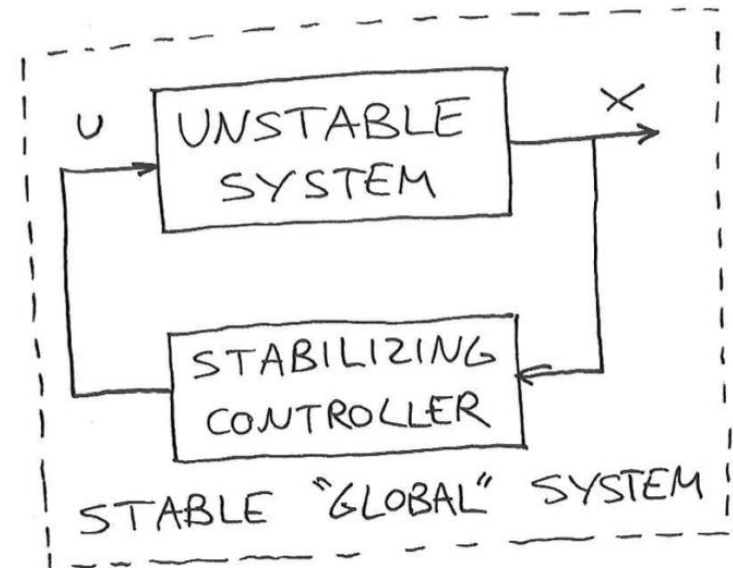
introduce the state-feedback control law

$$u(t) = -2x(t)$$

which gives  $\dot{x}(t) = x(t) - 2x(t) = -x(t)$  (stable!)

SDU 🌿

**→ the unstable system was stabilized by state-feedback**



# Stability of linear systems: from TFs to state-space (1/2)

Remember Transfer Functions?

$$\frac{y(s)}{u(s)} = \frac{b_m s^m + \dots + b_1 s + b_0}{s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 s + a_0}$$

The above system is stable if its poles are in the left half-plane

What about state-space representations? **Idea: use the result available for TFs**

start with  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t), \quad \mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{x}_0$

and get the Laplace transform  $s.\mathbf{x}(s) - \mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(s)$  **(with initial conditions)**

or  $(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathbf{x}_0$

so that we have  $\mathbf{x}(s) = (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{x}_0$

which can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \frac{\text{adj}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})}{\det(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})}\mathbf{x}_0$$

## Stability of linear systems: from TFs to state-space (2/2)

Hence  $\mathbf{x}(s) = \frac{\text{adj}(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})}{\det(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})} \mathbf{x}_0$  represents a TF, with  $\mathbf{x}_0$  an impulse (input)

➡ this TF is stable if the roots of its den. are in the left half-plane,  
ie if the solutions  $\lambda$  of the equation  $\det(\lambda\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) = 0$   
solutions of this eq. are call eigenvalues of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  are in the left half-plane

**Main result:** The system represented by  $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t)$  is stable if and only if the real part of each eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  is strictly negative.  $\square$

### Small examples:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \det(\lambda\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) = (\lambda + 1)^2 = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{eigenvalue}} \quad \lambda = -1 \quad (\text{system stable!})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{eigenvalues}} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \lambda_1 = -1 + i \\ \lambda_2 = -1 - i \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{system stable!})$$

## Linear state-feedback: the general case

start with the system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} \quad (1)$$

and introduce the control law

$$\mathbf{u}(t) = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}(t) \quad (2)$$

with  $\mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

(matrix gain)

putting (2) into (1) gives

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}(-\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}(t))$$

or  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K})\mathbf{x}(t) \quad (3) \quad \text{closed-loop dynamics}$

 if the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K}$  are in the left half-plane, then the closed-loop dynamics are stable and  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  converges to 0



# State-feedback on a multi-input example

consider the example

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}$$

→  $\dim(\mathbf{x}) = 3$  and  $\dim(\mathbf{u}) = 2$  →  $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3}$

exercise: check that this system is not stable when  $\mathbf{u} = 0$ .

state-feedback law?

rewrite the system in component form

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = 2x_1 + u_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 = x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 + 2u_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 = 2x_2 - x_3 \end{cases}$$

it would be great if we could have a cascade of 3 stable systems

so that we have

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = -x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 = x_1 - x_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 = 2x_2 - x_3 \end{cases}$$

(closed-loop dynamics)

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

let

$$\begin{cases} u_1 = -3x_1 \\ u_2 = -x_3 \end{cases}$$

exercise: check that this system is stable when  $\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3}$



## Towards a more “systematic” way to tune K

The previous example was useful but not very systematic:

we had to guess the values of K

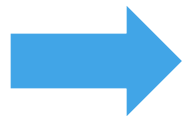
### Feedback control objective:

we would like the poles/eigenvalues of the system in closed-loop to be  $\lambda_{cl}$

hence we need to find the feedback gain K such that

$$\lambda_{cl} = \text{eig}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{BK})$$

(matrix algebraic equation)



many different algorithms/techniques exist so that, given matrices A, B and desired eigenvalues, K is calculated...

examples (also in Matlab): `K = acker(A,B,lambda_cl)`

(the “Ackerman” method)

`place` (more stable numerically than “Ackerman”)

# The Linear Quadratic Regulator

Optimal control: find signal  $\mathbf{u}(t)$  on  $[0, T]$

such that  $J = \int_0^T [\mathbf{x}^T(\tau) \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}(\tau) + \mathbf{u}^T(\tau) \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}(\tau)] d\tau$  is minimized  
with  $\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{R}$  tuning matrices

$\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{R}$  used to balance the relative importance between:

- distance between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{0}$ :  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}$ , (generalization of  $q||\mathbf{x}||^2 = q\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}$ )
- minimize energy consumption:  $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}$

when  $T \rightarrow \infty$  ie when  $J = \int_0^\infty [\mathbf{x}^T(\tau) \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}(\tau) + \mathbf{u}^T(\tau) \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}(\tau)] d\tau$

control signal  $\mathbf{u}(t)$  can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}$$

where  $\mathbf{K}$  is given

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P}$$

Linear  
Quadratic  
Regulator

SDU 

where  $\mathbf{P}$  is the solution of

$$\mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q} = 0$$

(matrix Riccati equation, solved on a computer)

## Tuning the LQR: the Bryson's rule

Question: How to choose/tune matrices Q and R?

Bryson's "rule": choose Q and R as diagonal matrices with entries

$$Q_{ii} = 1/\text{maximum acceptable value of } x_i^2$$

and

$$R_{ii} = 1/\text{maximum acceptable value of } u_i^2$$

**Remark:** only a guideline, improvement by further tweaking values afterwards (like ZN for PID)

## LQR: Stability result

Closed-loop system is stable as long as Q and R are both strictly positive definite

## LQR: the discrete-time case

For discrete-time systems  
described by

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(k) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(k)$$

the cost function at  $T = \infty$  is written as

$$J = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [\mathbf{x}^T(k)\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}(k) + \mathbf{u}^T(k)\mathbf{R}\mathbf{u}(k)]$$

...and the rest is the same!

(ie K calculation, matrix Riccati equation)

# Stabilization of a linear system around an equilibrium point (1/3)

## Equilibrium points and linear state-space representations:

consider the linear ss rep.

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

which is controlled by state-feedback:

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}$$

 by applying this control law, we also have that  $\mathbf{x}^* = 0$ .

$$\text{indeed: } 0 = \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x}^* = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K})\mathbf{x}^*$$

**What about stabilizing around something different than 0?**

For linear systems represented by  $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}$

equilibrium points have to satisfy

$$0 = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^*$$

## Stabilization of a linear system around an equilibrium point (2/3)


### Calculating the error dynamics:

define 
$$\begin{cases} \Delta \mathbf{x}(t) := \mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}^* \\ \Delta \mathbf{u}(t) := \mathbf{u}(t) - \mathbf{u}^* \end{cases}$$

control objective: we want  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  to go to  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

Hence we want  $\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)$  to go to 0

dynamics of  $\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)$  ?

 
$$\frac{d}{dt} (\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)) = \frac{d}{dt} (\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}^*)$$

and recall that we also have  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^* = 0$

which gives 
$$\frac{d}{dt} (\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}^*$$

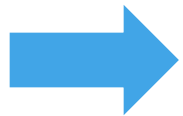
finally

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{A}\Delta \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\Delta \mathbf{u}(t)$$

**error dynamics**

# Stabilization of a linear system around an equilibrium point (3/3)

Stabilize  $\frac{d}{dt}(\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{A}\Delta \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\Delta \mathbf{u}(t)$  around 0?



use and tune the controller  $\Delta \mathbf{u}(t) = -\mathbf{K}.\Delta \mathbf{x}(t)$  (I)

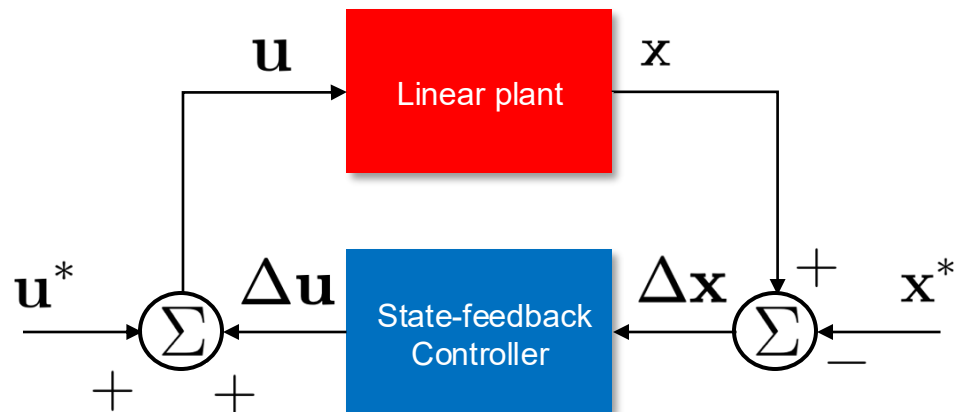
For implementation, rewrite (I) as

$$\mathbf{u}(t) = -\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}^*) + \mathbf{u}^*$$

or  $\mathbf{u} = \underbrace{-\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}}_{\text{feedback term}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{u}^* + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}^*}_{\text{feedforward term}}$

feedback term

feedforward term





## Following a constant reference signal $r$ (feedforward gain)

We would like to express the previous controller in a form where the output  $y$  follows a reference  $r$ ...  
(ie same as PID controller...)

we would like the controller to have the form  $u = -Kx + \bar{N}r$  (I)

write the equilibrium equation  $\begin{cases} 0 = Ax^* + Bu^* \\ y^* = Cx^* \end{cases}$  with the objective  $y^* = r$  and that  $y^* = r$

rewrite both in matrix form together  $\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x^* \\ u^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$

invert  $\begin{bmatrix} x^* \\ u^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$  and define  $N := \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} N_{11} & N_x \\ N_{21} & N_u \end{bmatrix}$

then  $\begin{bmatrix} x^* \\ u^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} N_{11} & N_x \\ N_{21} & N_u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} N_x r \\ N_u r \end{bmatrix}$

so that  $u = -Kx + u^* + Kx^*$  becomes  $u = -Kx + N_u r + KN_x r$

SDU 🌿

and we have (I) with the feedforward gain  $\bar{N} := N_u + KN_x$