

1 Time Variable LQR

- System: $\mathbf{x}_{[t+1]} = \mathbf{A}_{[t]}\mathbf{x}_{[t]} + \mathbf{B}_{[t]}\mathbf{u}_{[t]}$
- Cost:

$$J = \sum_{t=1}^T g(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, \mathbf{u}_{[t]}) = \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbf{x}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{Q}_{[t]} \mathbf{x}_{[t]} + \mathbf{u}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{R}_{[t]} \mathbf{u}_{[t]}$$

- Value function:

$$V(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, t) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_{[t]}} [g(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, \mathbf{u}_{[t]}) + V(f(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, \mathbf{u}_{[t]}, t))]$$
 (1)

we assume that the value function takes the following form:

$$V(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, t) = \mathbf{x}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{S}_{[t]} \mathbf{x}_{[t]}$$

- solving Eq. 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{S}_{[t]} \mathbf{x}_{[t]} &= \min_{\mathbf{u}_{[t]}} \mathbf{x}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{Q}_{[t]} \mathbf{x}_{[t]} + \mathbf{u}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{R}_{[t]} \mathbf{u}_{[t]} + f(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, \mathbf{u}_{[t]}, t)^T \mathbf{S}_{[t+1]} f(\mathbf{x}_{[t]}, \mathbf{u}_{[t]}, t) \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}_{[t]}} \mathbf{x}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{Q}_{[t]} \mathbf{x}_{[t]} + \mathbf{u}_{[t]}^T \mathbf{R}_{[t]} \mathbf{u}_{[t]} + ((\mathbf{A}_{[t]}\mathbf{x}_{[t]})^T + (\mathbf{B}_{[t]}\mathbf{u}_{[t]})^T) \mathbf{S}_{[t+1]} (\mathbf{A}_{[t]}\mathbf{x}_{[t]} + \mathbf{B}_{[t]}\mathbf{u}_{[t]}) \end{aligned}$$
 (2)

dropping time notation, assume everything depends on t , while $\hat{\mathbf{S}} = \mathbf{S}_{[t+1]}$

$$Vt = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x})^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) + 2(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x})^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} (\mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}) + (\mathbf{B} \mathbf{u})^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} (\mathbf{B} \mathbf{u})$$

solving the minimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial Vt}{\partial \mathbf{u}} &= 2\mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \underbrace{(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B})}_{\mathbf{M}} \mathbf{u} &= -\underbrace{\mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}_{\mathbf{C}} \\ \mathbf{u} &= -\mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$
 (3)

Now we need to solve for $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$ by replacing 3 into 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{x}^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B})}_{\mathbf{C}^T} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B})}_{\mathbf{M}} \mathbf{u} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{M}^{-T} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C}) \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S} &= \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C} \\ &= \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{A} \end{aligned}$$