

Udacity PID Project reflection

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1. Describe the effect of the P, I, D component of the PID algorithm in their implementation.

Answer:

In the project 'main.cpp', I set the coefficient of PID gains: $K_p = 0.07$, $K_d = 0.9$, $K_i = 0.0005$. PID consist of three terms - proportional, deviations and integral term.

We want to minimize the crosstrack error by changing steering angle which is proportional by the the proportional term's coefficient - K_p . Large K_p can make CTE decrease/ oscillate faster and also overshoot easier

To avoid the overshoot, add the deviations term in control equation. It's means when the speed of reduction of crosstrack error is too fast, the derivation term help to slow rapid changes in CTE.

The integral term help to compensate the bias.

2. How i chose the final hyperparameters (P, I, D coefficient)

Answer:

This had been done through manual tuning. I add P, I and D terms one by one.

Firstly, I set the K_i and K_d values to zero. Increase K_p from 0.

When $K_p = 1.0$, compare p_error , i_error and d_error with $K_p = 10.0$ and other value, the error shows $K_p = 1$ better than larger value, and then I keep decrease K_p , $K_p = 0.07$ in the end. Next I add K_d until the oscillations about centerline began to decrease/ stable. And then I add K_i 's value with a small integral correction term.