

Learning-Based Predictive Control

Chapter 4

Adaptive MPC via on-line Set Membership identification

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Adaptive control with guaranteed constraint satisfaction

We have seen how SM estimation approaches can quantify uncertainty and deliver guaranteed uncertainty sets.

We will now see how these concepts can be used to set up a predictive control strategy that can **safely learn on-line** (i.e., during operation).

- Preserve performance when plant changes
- Avoid constraint violations during learning
- Self-tuning of control systems
- Improve performance over time

The focus is on **linear models with affine parametrization**.

Some remarks

How restrictive are our working assumptions?

- Linear systems
 - Affine parametrization
- ➔ Convex programs

This is essentially a tradeoff between **generality** and **computational tractability**.

- Engineered systems are often designed to behave linearly
- Closed-loop systems are almost always designed to behave linearly
- Nonlinear systems can be often partitioned into nonlinearly-interacting linear ones
- Nonlinear dynamics can be accounted for in the uncertainty and/or in linear time-varying approaches

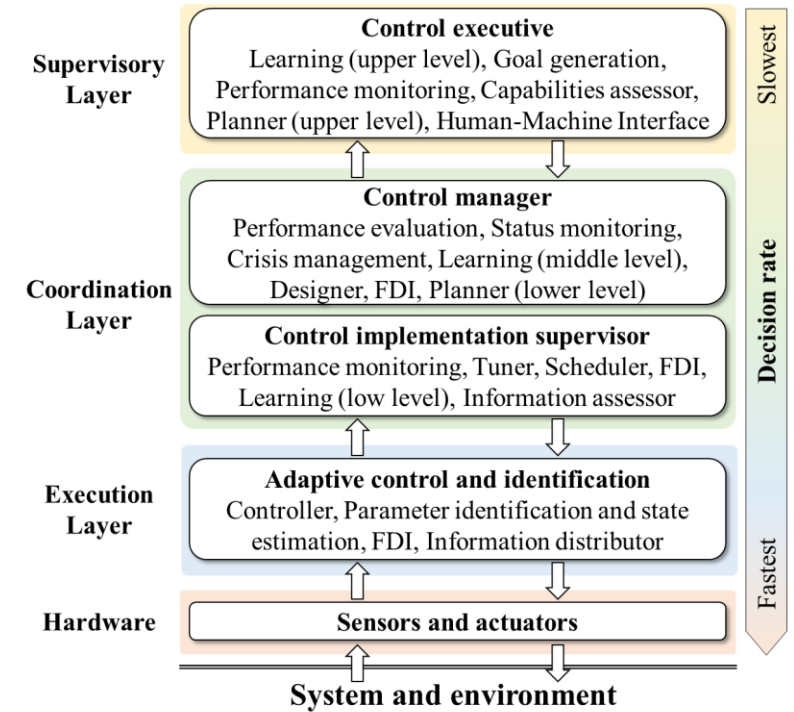


Figure adapted from [1]



Literature

There are many contributions that employ “set-membership” concepts together with robust MPC, with (more or less) different working assumptions. Increasing interest.

The image displays four overlapping screenshots of Google Scholar search results for the query "adaptive mpc" and "adaptive MPC" with the filter "set membership". Each screenshot shows a different time range selected in the "Custom range..." filter, with the result count and a red circle highlighting the filter area.

- Top-left screenshot:** Search for "adaptive mpc" with filter "set membership". The "Custom range..." filter is set to "1990 — 2010". The result count is "About 131 results (0.06 sec)".
- Top-middle screenshot:** Search for "adaptive mpc" with filter "set membership". The "Custom range..." filter is set to "2011 — 2015". The result count is "About 163 results (0.08 sec)".
- Bottom-middle screenshot:** Search for "adaptive mpc" with filter "set membership". The "Custom range..." filter is set to "2016 — 2021". The result count is "About 373 results (0.07 sec)".
- Right screenshot:** Search for "adaptive MPC" with filter "set membership". The "Custom range..." filter is set to "2022 — 2023". The result count is "About 295 results (0.02 sec)".

The results show a clear trend of increasing interest over time, with the number of results increasing from 131 in 1990-2010 to 373 in 2016-2021, and 295 in 2022-2023.

Adaptive MPC via on-line SM identification

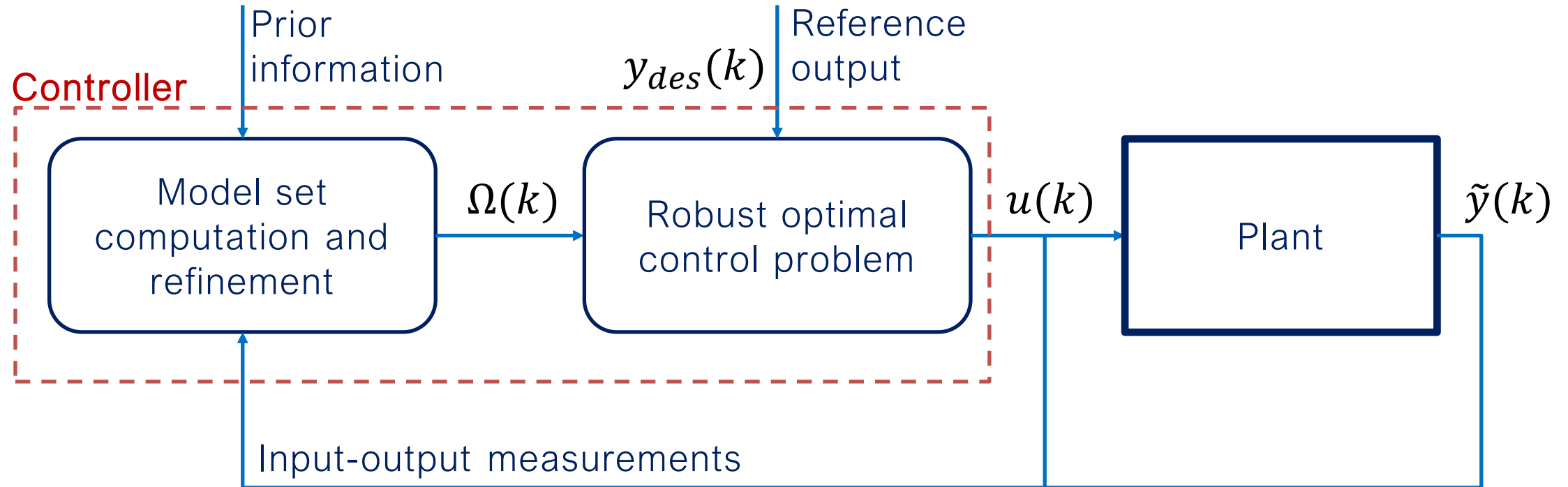
We will review the main concepts, then provide more insights on:

1. Output feedback with measurement noise & FIR structure
 - Time invariant systems [2]
 - Time varying systems [3]
2. State feedback w. polytopic model, time invariant (by L. Hewing in next lecture/exercise session, see refs. there)

Adaptive MPC – prototype algorithm

- 1) At time step k , obtain the plant output measurement $\tilde{y}(k)$ and update the model set $\Omega(k)$;
- 2) Select a nominal model of the plant inside $\Omega(k)$;
- 3) Formulate and solve a Finite Horizon Optimal Control Problem (FHOCPP) that:
 - Minimizes a convex cost function involving the nominal model trajectory;
 - Enforces input and output constraints for all models in $\Omega(k)$;
 - Guarantees recursive feasibility;
- 4) Apply the first element of the obtained optimal input sequence to the plant, set $k = k + 1$, go to 1)

General structure of the control system



NOTE: this is a **dynamic controller** (vs. classical and robust MPC, which are typically static control laws)

Adaptive MPC – key aspects

- 1) At time step k , obtain the plant output measurement $\tilde{y}(k)$ and **update the model set $\Omega(k) \rightarrow$ recursive (on-line) Set Membership identification**;
- 2) Select a nominal model of the plant inside $\Omega(k)$;
- 3) Formulate and solve a Finite Horizon Optimal Control Problem (FHOCPP) that:
 - Minimizes a convex cost function involving the nominal model trajectory;
 - **Enforces input and output constraints for all models in $\Omega(k) \rightarrow$ robust constraint satisfaction**
 - **Guarantees recursive feasibility \rightarrow terminal ingredients**
- 4) Apply the first element of the obtained optimal input sequence to the plant, set $k = k + 1$, go to 1)

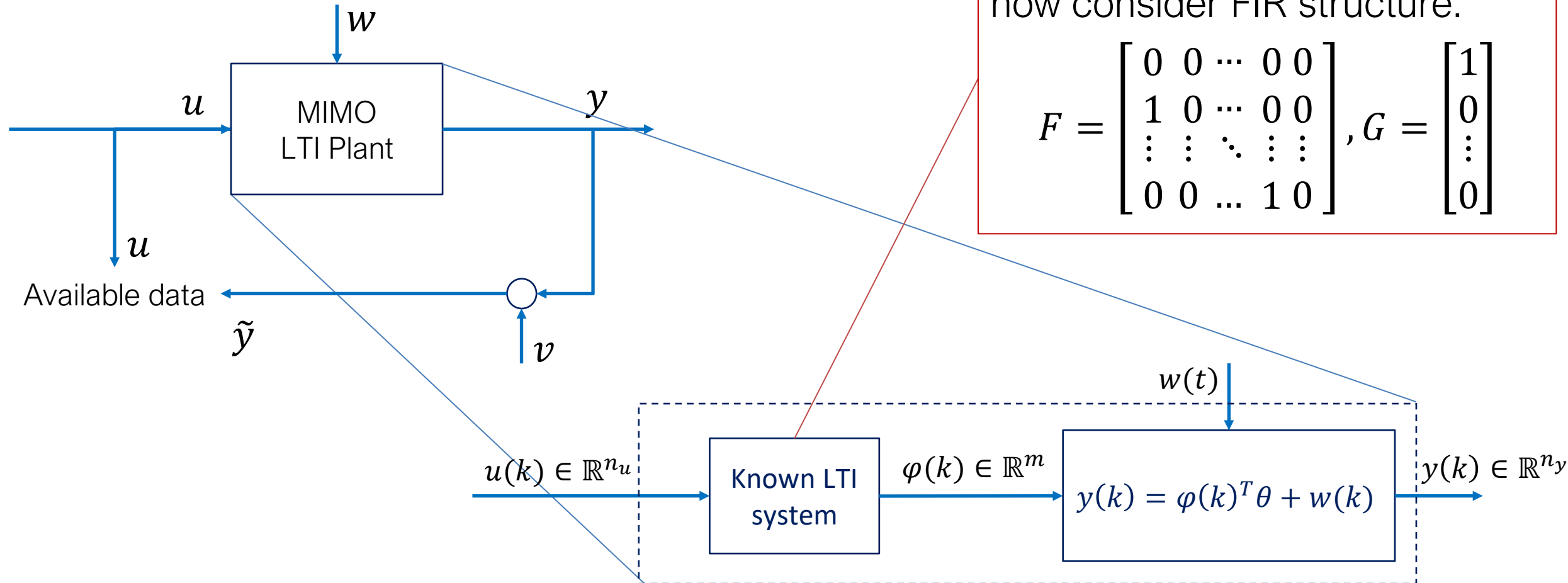
Adaptive MPC – challenges

- Recursive on-line SM identification
 - Deal with generally growing memory requirement;
 - Deal with time-varying case
- Robust constraint satisfaction
 - Deal with polytopic parameter set & time-varying case
- Recursive feasibility
 - Employ suitable terminal ingredients

We will see how these are addressed through the description of three specific approaches. Other techniques in the literature follow similar strategies.

Adaptive output-feedback MPC for LTI MIMO systems

Considered plant structure



Assumptions on system and signals

- $y_j(k) = \varphi(k)^T \theta_j + w_j(k), j =, \dots, n_y$, order m
(for FIR model: $\varphi(k) = [u(k-1)^T, \dots, u(k-m)^T]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u m}$)
- $\tilde{y}_j(k) = y_j(k) + v_j(k), j =, \dots, n_y$

Prior assumptions on w and v :

- $|w_j| \leq \bar{w}_j, j =, \dots, n_y$
- $|v_j| \leq \bar{v}_j, j =, \dots, n_y$

Prior assumptions on system

- Asymptotically stable
- $\theta = [\theta_1^T, \dots, \theta_{n_y}^T]^T \in \Omega_0 = \{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u m \times n_y} : H_{\Omega_0, j} \theta_j \leq h_{\Omega_0, j}, j =, \dots, n_y\}$ compact

From now on, we consider $j = 1$ and drop the index for notational simplicity. Then θ is a vector in $\mathbb{R}^{n_u m}$ and θ_i will denote its i -th component.

Assumptions on system and signals (2)

Asymptotic stability of the system is usually considered in identification and in adaptive control problems

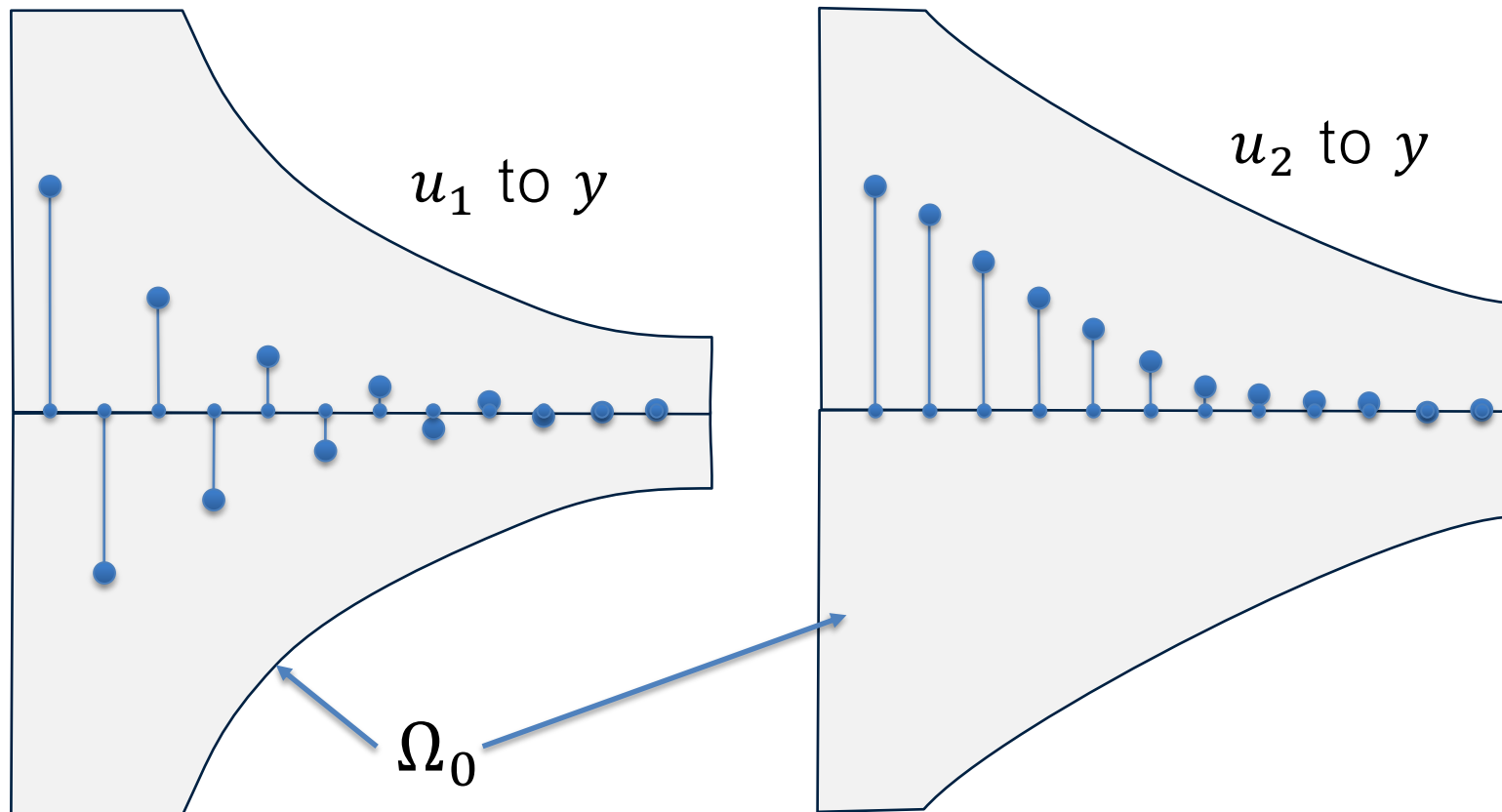
- Either explicitly
- Or implicitly (e.g., assuming the knowledge of a pre-stabilizing controller in technical proofs)

Under this assumption, the Infinite Impulse Response (IIR) coefficients of the system are exponentially decaying. Thus, sensible constraints Ω_0 are:

$$\begin{aligned} |\theta_i| &\leq L && \text{if } i \in [1, \mu] \\ |\theta_i| &\leq L\rho^{i-\mu} && \text{if } i \in [\mu + 1, m] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{for each input})$$

Assumptions on system and signals (3)

$$\begin{aligned} |\theta_i| &\leq L && \text{if } i \in [1, \mu] \\ |\theta_i| &\leq L\rho^{i-\mu} && \text{if } i \in [\mu + 1, m] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{for each input})$$



If additional prior information is available (e.g., the sign of the input-output gains), it can be included as further affine constraints in Ω_0 .

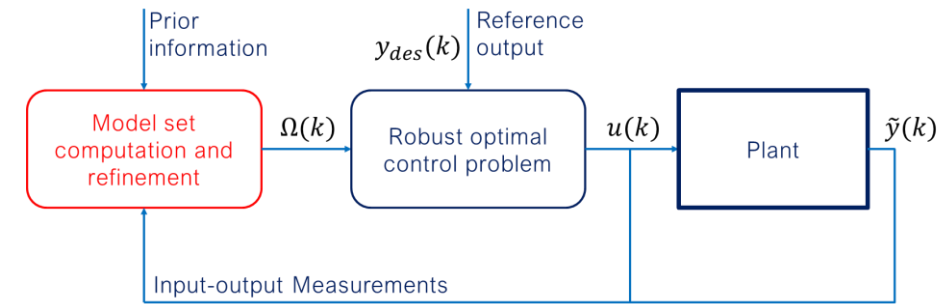
Constraints & control objective

$$\begin{aligned}Cu(k) &\leq g && \text{(input constraints)} \\L\Delta u(k) &\leq f && \text{(input rate constraints)} \\Ey(k) &\leq p && \text{(output constraints)}\end{aligned}$$

Bounded input + exponentially decaying rate of IIR can be used to estimate a bound on the error due to IIR truncation, which can be included in the disturbance bound \bar{w} .

The control objective is to track a desired output signal y_{des} (assumed constant for notational simplicity, no loss of generality).

On-line set Membership identification



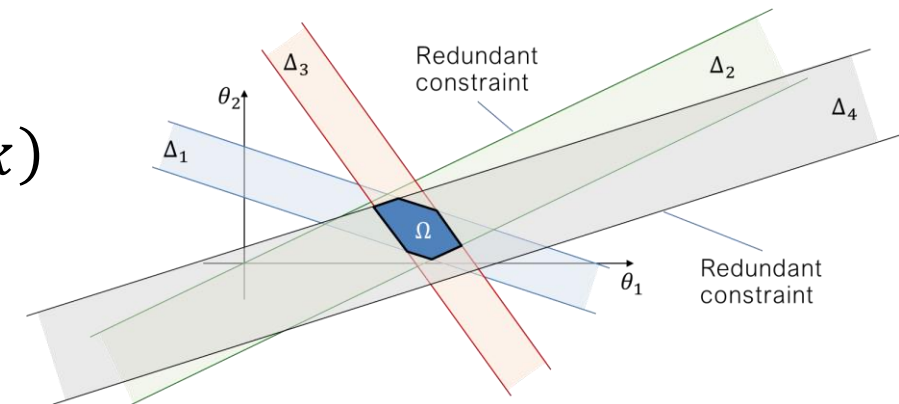
Recall what we have seen for affine parametrizations

- At time k , consider $\Omega(k - 1)$ (without loss of generality $\Omega(0) = \Omega_0$ if there are no data points available)
- Consider the available data pair $(\tilde{y}(k), \varphi(k))$. Compute the set $\Delta(k)$ as:

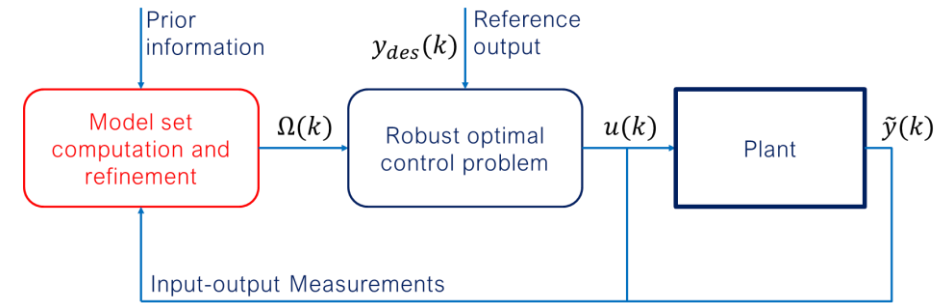
$$\Delta(k) = \{\theta \mid |\tilde{y}(k) - \varphi(k)^T \theta| \leq \bar{w} + \bar{v}\} = \left\{ \theta \mid \begin{array}{l} \varphi(k)^T \theta \leq \tilde{y}(k) + \bar{w} + \bar{v} \\ \varphi(k)^T \theta \geq \tilde{y}(k) - \bar{w} - \bar{v} \end{array} \right\} \text{ (slab in } m \text{ dimensions)}$$

- Then we can update the model set as:

$$\Omega(k) = \Omega(k - 1) \cap \Delta(k)$$



Limiting the complexity of $\Omega(k)$



In general, the number of inequalities defining $\Omega(k)$ grows linearly with k .

- Redundant constraints can be removed to limit such a growth, by solving auxiliary LPs. However, this does not solve the problem;
- A way to keep the number of constraints below a user-defined maximum value $M = M_1 + M_2$ is the following:
 - Apply the normal update rule as long as the number of inequalities is smaller than M_1 (separating hyperplanes are determined by data);
 - Once the limit M_1 has been reached, add new separating hyperplanes that are parallel to one of M_2 pre-defined directions inside a user-defined set D .

Limited-complexity model set update

$$\Omega(k) = \Omega(k-1) \cap \left\{ \theta \left| \begin{array}{l} \varphi^+(k)^T \theta \leq \tilde{y}(k) + \delta^+(k) \\ \varphi^-(k)^T \theta \leq -\tilde{y}(k) + \delta^-(k) \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^+(k) &= \arg \max_{f \in D} \varphi(k)^T f \\ \varphi^-(k) &= \arg \max_{f \in D} -\varphi(k)^T f \end{aligned}$$

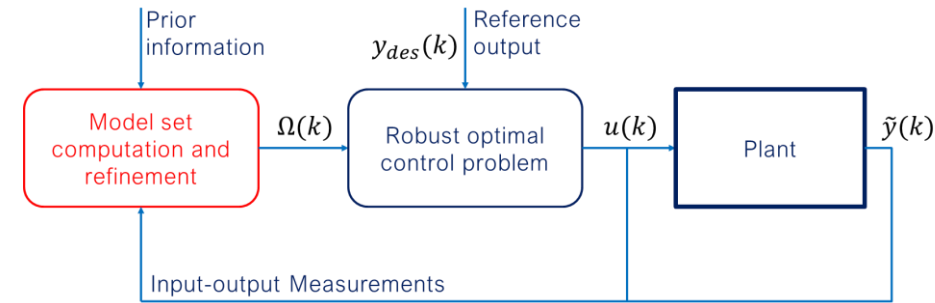
$$\delta^+(k) = \max_{\theta} \varphi^+(k)^T \theta - \tilde{y}(k)$$

$$\delta^-(k) = \max_{\theta} \varphi^-(k)^T \theta - \tilde{y}(k)$$

subject to

$$\theta \in \Omega(k-1) \cap \Delta(k)$$

Needs 2 LPs
per output

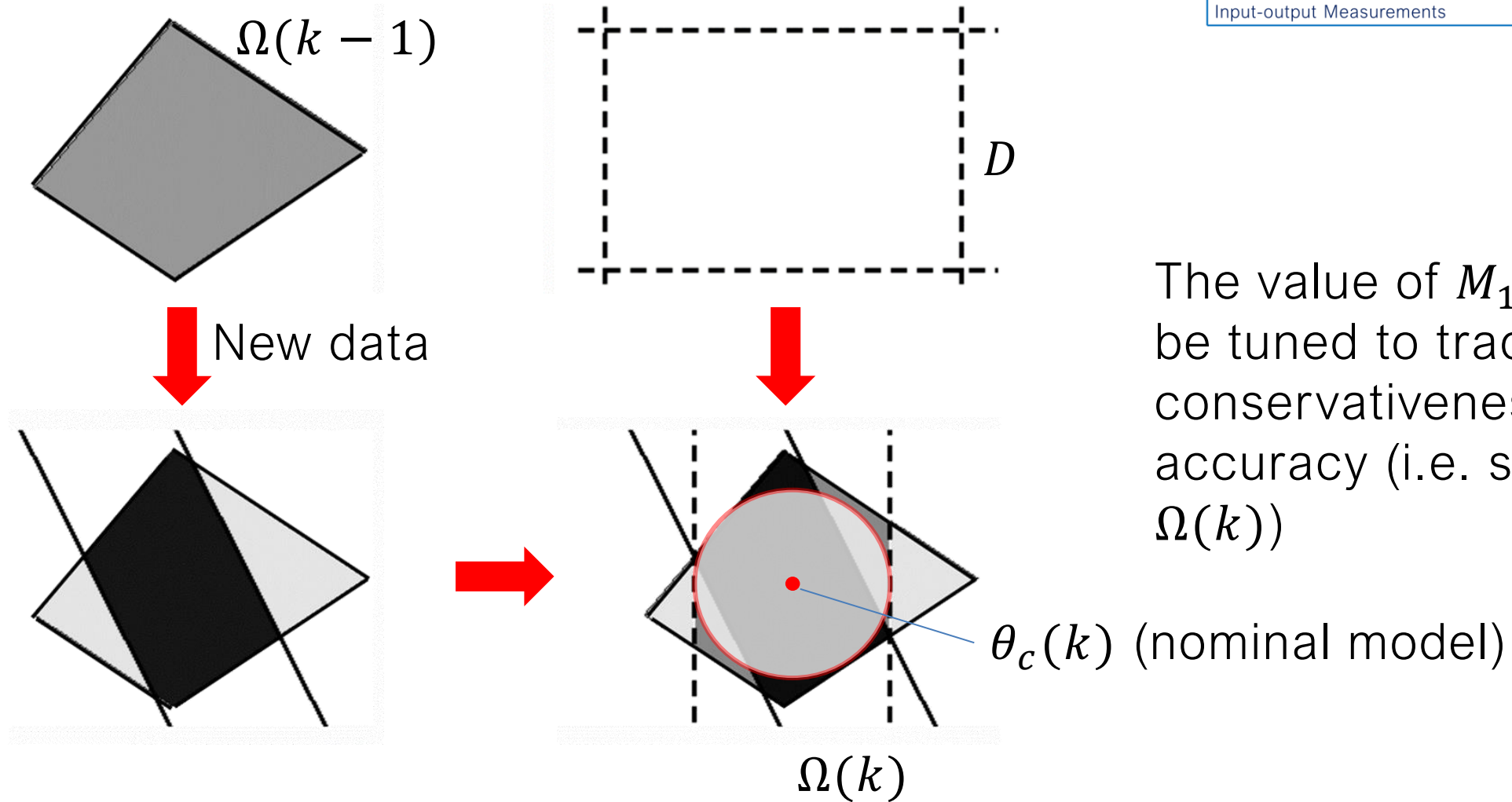
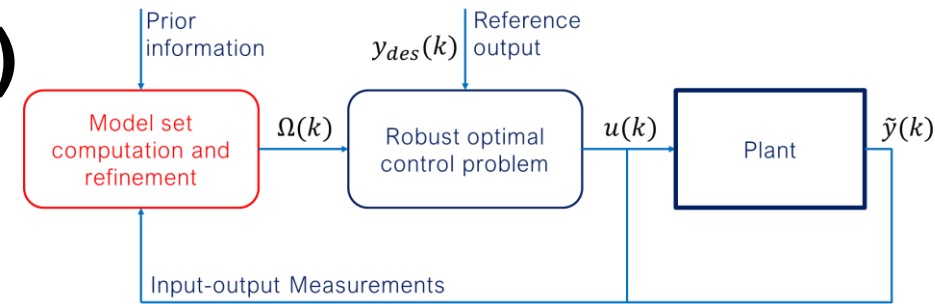


Directions inside D
that are “closest” to
the regressor $\varphi(k)$

Offset values are
computed to guarantee
that

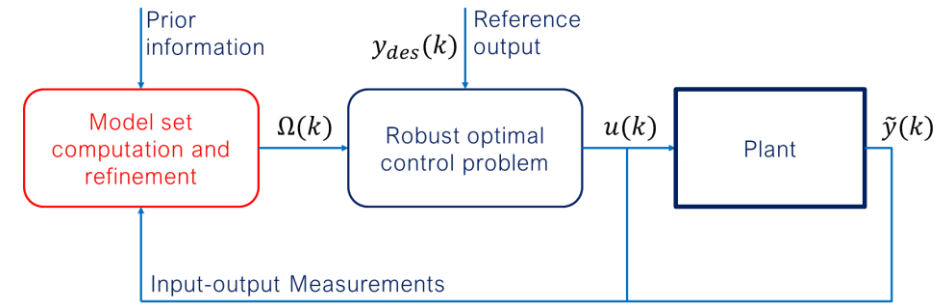
$$\Omega(k-1) \cap \Delta(k) \subseteq \Omega(k)$$

Limited-complexity model set update (2)



The value of $M_1 + M_2$ can be tuned to trade-off conservativeness and accuracy (i.e. size of $\Omega(k)$)

Guaranteed properties of the model set

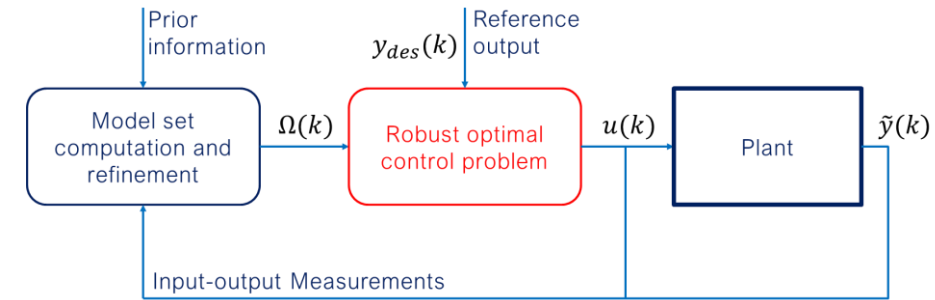


Under the considered prior assumptions, with the presented algorithm:

- $\Omega(k) \subseteq \Omega(k - 1), \forall k \geq 0$
- $\Omega(k) \neq \emptyset, \forall k \geq 0$
- $\Omega(k)$ contains the true systems parameters, $\forall k \geq 0$

Proof by induction, see [2]

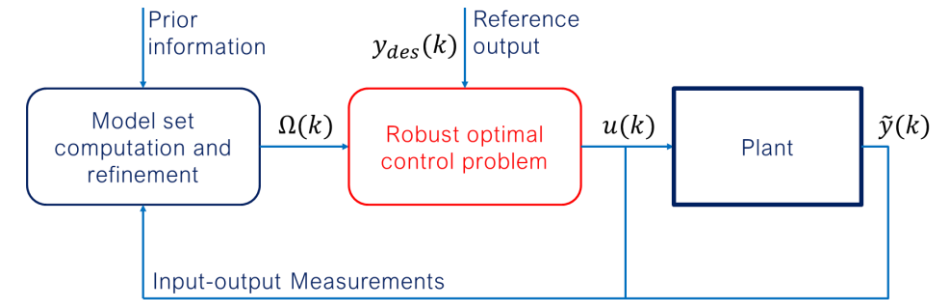
Robust optimal control problem



Denote with

- $N \geq m$ prediction horizon (minimum value needed to ensure recursive feasibility)
- φ_i predicted regressor (affine in the predicted input values $U = [u_0^T, \dots, u_{N-1}^T]^T$)
- Δu_i predicted input variations $(u_{i+1} - u_i)$, with $\Delta u_0 = u_0 - u(k-1)$
- $\hat{w}(k)$ estimate of the disturbance $w(k)$: $\hat{w}(k) = \tilde{y}(k) - \varphi(k)^T \theta_c(k)$
- \hat{y}_i predicted output with the nominal model, accounting for $\hat{w}(k)$: $\hat{y}_i = \varphi_i^T \theta_c(k) + \hat{w}(k)$

Robust optimal control problem (2)



Cost function:

$$J(U, \tilde{y}(k), \varphi(k)) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (\hat{y}_{i+1} - y_{des})^T Q (\hat{y}_{i+1} - y_{des}) + \Delta u_i^T R \Delta u_i \quad (1)$$

Constraints:

$$C u_i \leq g, i = 0, \dots, N - 1 \quad (2a)$$

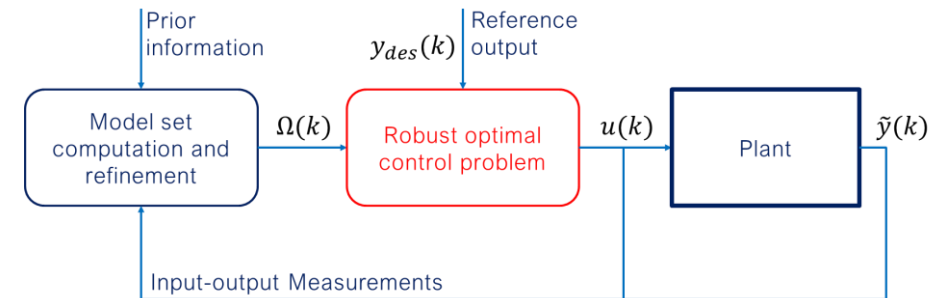
$$L \Delta u_i \leq f, i = 0, \dots, N - 1 \quad (2b)$$

$$E \varphi_i^T \theta + \bar{\bar{w}} \leq p, \forall \theta \in \Omega(k), i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3)$$

Robust
constraints

Computed on the basis of matrix E and bounds \bar{w}

Robust constraints - reformulation



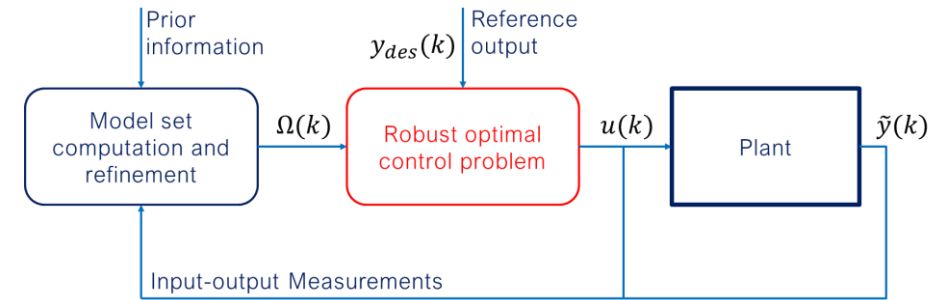
Let $E \in \mathbb{R}^{n_o}$ (n_o output constraints, recall that we consider a scalar output for notational simplicity). Let $\Omega(k) = \{\theta: H_{\Omega(k)}\theta \leq h_{\Omega(k)}\}$ with $H_{\Omega(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{\Omega(k)} \times n_u m}$. Finally let $\Lambda = [\lambda_{1,1}^T, \dots, \lambda_{1,n_o}^T, \dots, \lambda_{N,n_o}^T]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{\Omega(k)} n_o N}$.

THM The constraints (3) are satisfied if and only if there exist $\varphi_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ and Λ such that:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} H_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} &= E_l \varphi_i \\ h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} &\leq p_l - \bar{\bar{w}} \\ \lambda_{i,l} &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \right\} l = 1, \dots, n_o, i = 1, \dots, N \quad (4)$$

Robust constraints - proof

$$E \varphi_i^T \theta + \bar{\bar{w}} \leq p, \forall \theta \in \Omega(k), i = 1, \dots, N$$



1. Note that (3) holds $\Leftrightarrow \gamma_{i,l} \leq p_l - \bar{\bar{w}}, l = 1, \dots, n_o, i = 1, \dots, N$, where

$$\gamma_{i,l} = \max_{\theta \in \Omega(k)} E_l \varphi_i^T \theta \quad (5)$$

2. The dual of the LP (5) reads:

$$\tilde{\gamma}_{i,l} = \min_{\lambda_{i,l}} h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l}$$

subject to

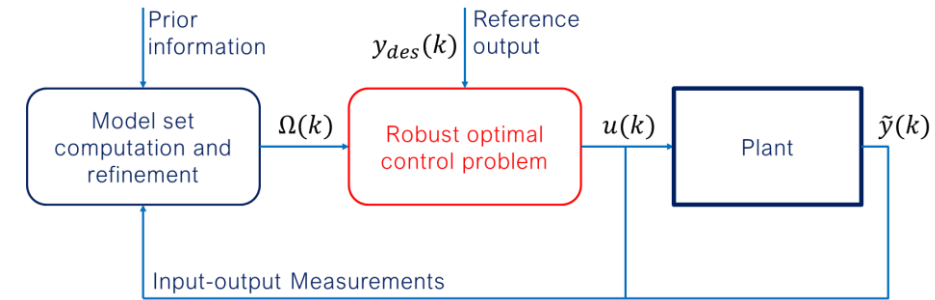
$$H_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} = E_l \varphi_i \quad (6)$$

$$\lambda_{i,l} \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

3. Since $\Omega(k)$ is compact, by strong duality we have $\gamma_{i,l} = \tilde{\gamma}_{i,l}$

4. Thus, for any $\lambda_{i,l}$ satisfying (6)-(7) it holds that $\gamma_{i,l} \leq h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l}$

Robust constraints – proof (2)



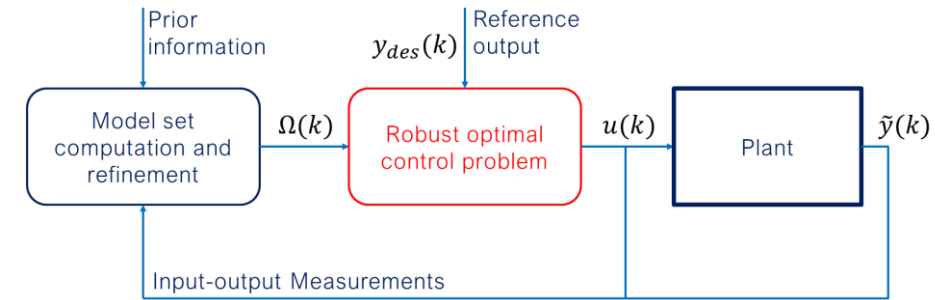
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} H_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} = E_l \varphi_i \\ h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} \leq p_l - \bar{\bar{w}} \\ \lambda_{i,l} \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} l = 1, \dots, n_o, i = 1, \dots, N$$

5. Thus, satisfaction of (4) implies $\gamma_{i,l} \leq h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} \leq p_l - \bar{\bar{w}}$, which in turn implies satisfaction of (3).

$$E \varphi_i^T \theta + \bar{\bar{w}} \leq p, \forall \theta \in \Omega(k), i = 1, \dots, N$$

6. Necessity can be proven in a similar way.

Robust optimal control problem (3)



$$J(U, \tilde{y}(k), \varphi(k)) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (\hat{y}_{i+1} - y_{des})^T Q (\hat{y}_{i+1} - y_{des}) + \Delta u_i^T R \Delta u_i$$

Minimize (1)

subject to

$$\begin{aligned} Cu_i &\leq g, i = 0, \dots, N-1 \\ L\Delta u_i &\leq f, i = 0, \dots, N-1 \end{aligned}$$

(2)

(4)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} H_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} &= E_l \varphi_i \\ h_{\Omega(k)}^T \lambda_{i,l} &\leq p_l - \bar{w} \\ \lambda_{i,l} &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \right\} l = 1, \dots, n_o, i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$u_i = u_{i-1}, i = N-m, \dots, N-1$$

This is a QP

Terminal steady-state (with FIR parametrization; it can be extended to other structures)

Close loop guarantees & other good features

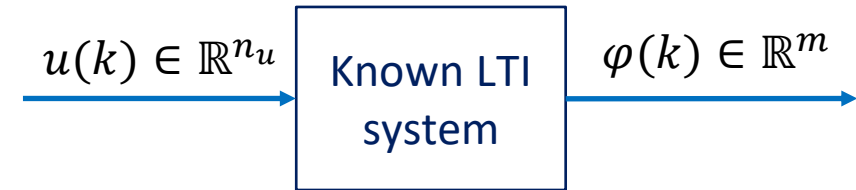
- Recursive feasibility, i.e. guaranteed constraint satisfaction
- Integral action (under further assumptions)
- Only convex programs (LPs and QPs), many can be parallelized
- Can trade-off intuitively computational complexity and model set accuracy

Drawbacks & extensions

Main drawback: FIR parametrization can lead to large number of parameters

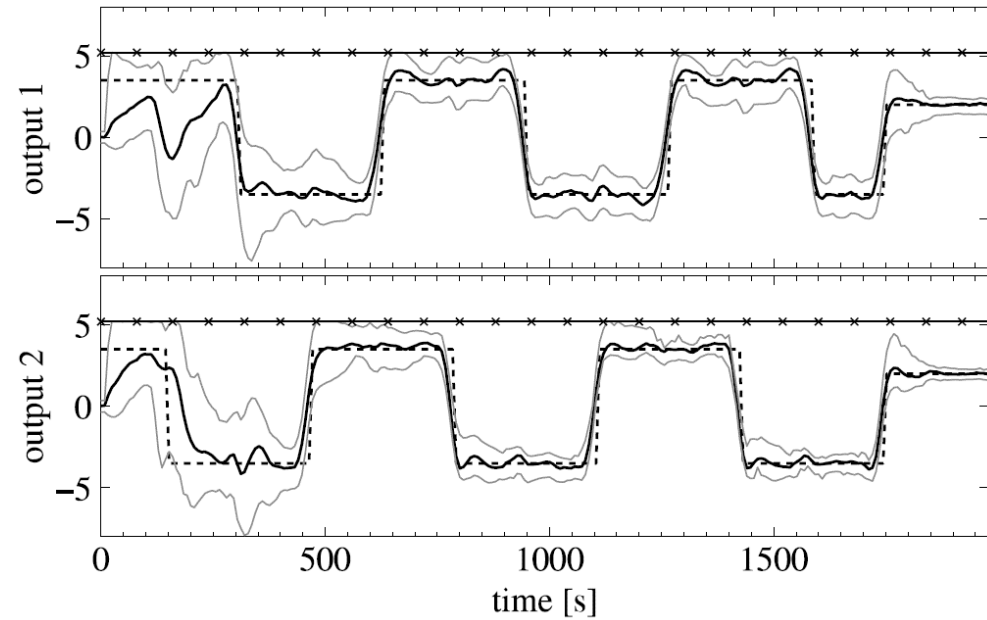
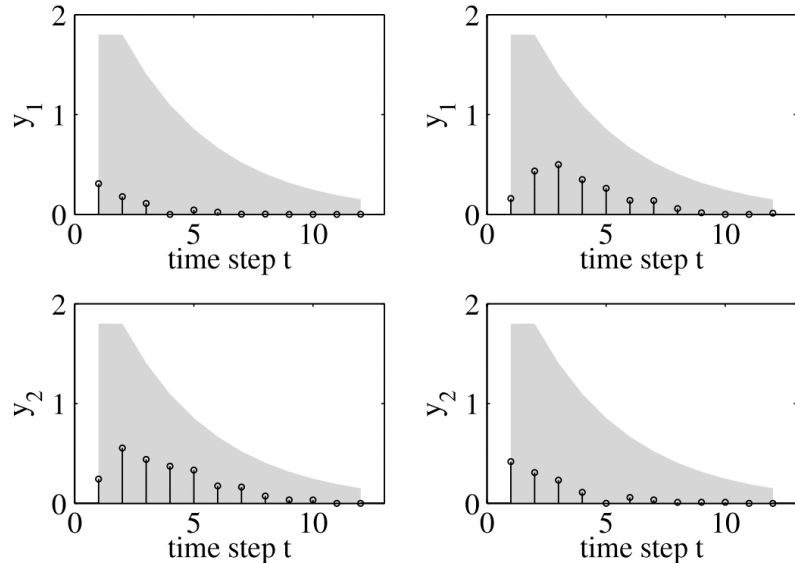
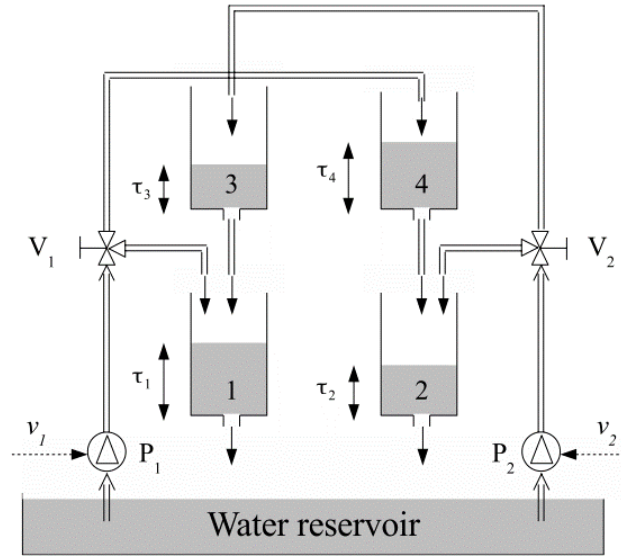
Extensions:

- Parametrization with basis functions

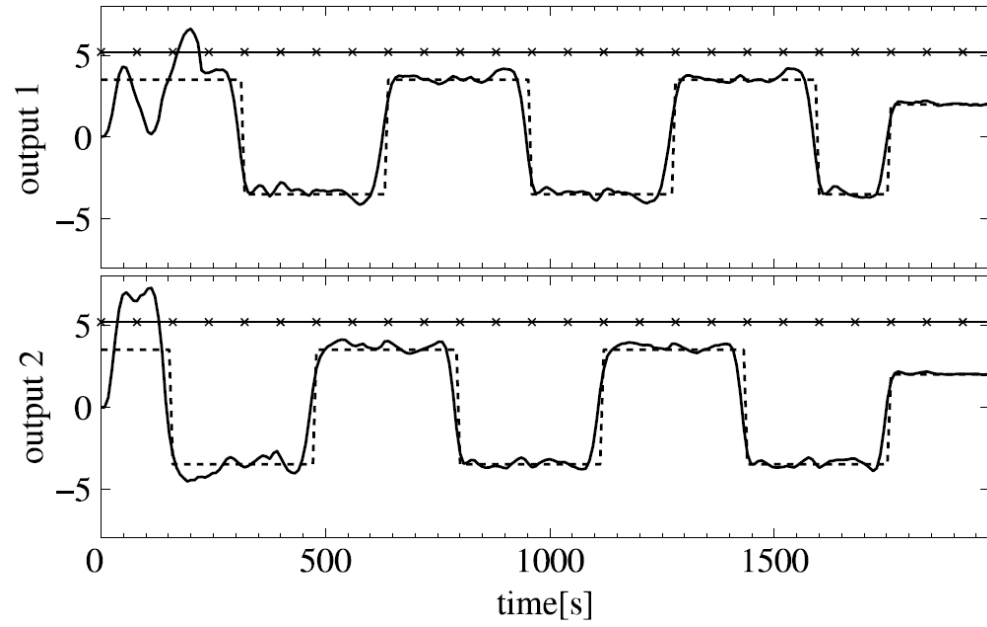


- Active exploration (albeit to a limited extent, still subject of research)

Experimental results (lab)



Adaptive MPC with SM model learning



Adaptive MPC with certainty equivalence & soft constraints

Adaptive output-feedback MPC for LTV MIMO systems

Almost all concepts and features carry over to the LTV case.

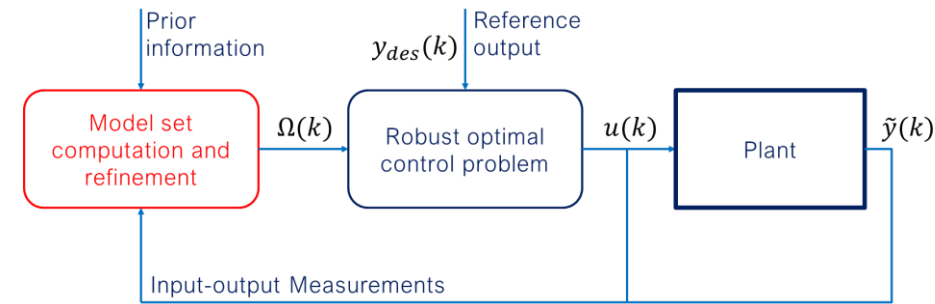
The main difference is in how the model set is updated, and in **additional prior assumptions to retain the theoretical guarantees**:

- Assume bounded rate of parameter variation:

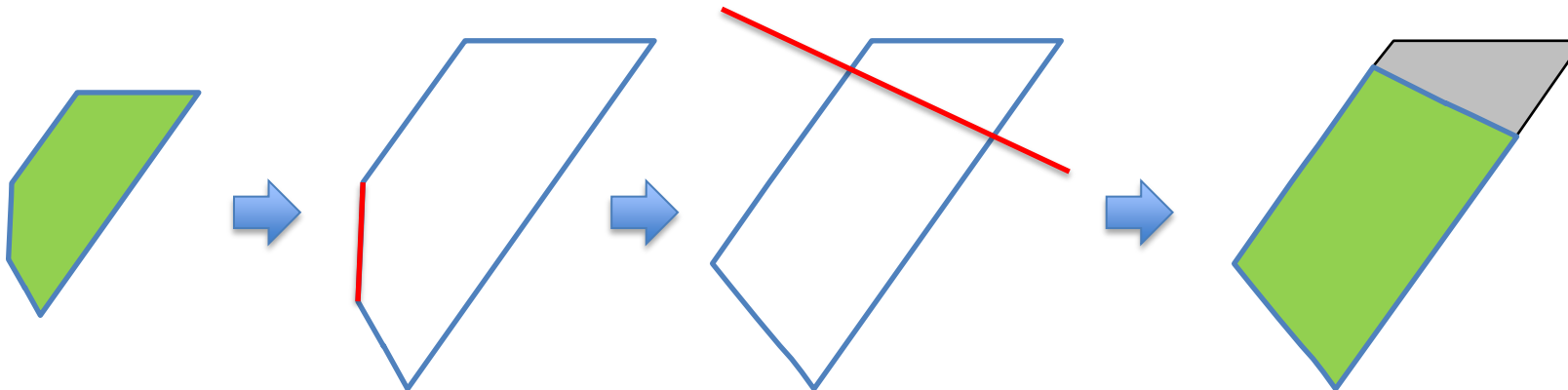
$$\Delta\theta(k) \doteq \theta(k) - \theta(k-1) \in \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D} \text{ polytope}$$

- Consequently, predict an expanding model set until the maximal one, Ω_0 , is reached.

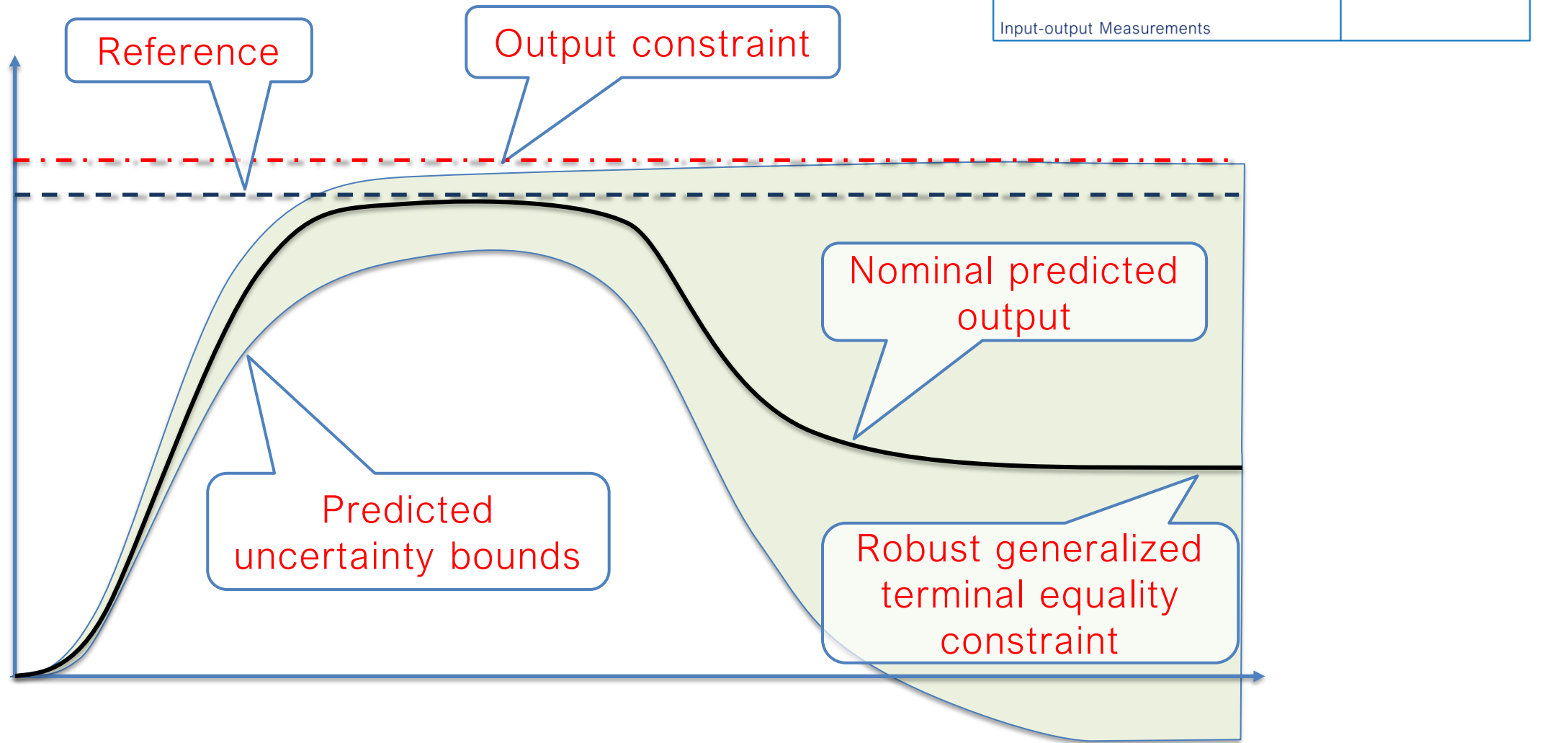
LTV systems – parameter set update



- Consider the assumed bounded rate of variation of the plant dynamics
- Inflate accordingly the Feasible Parameter set at each time step
- Apply a forgetting factor for older data (to avoid memory saturation)
- Refine the model-set set with new data



LTV systems – optimal control problem



Final considerations

Adaptive MPC with on-line set membership identification has been actively researched in the last years

Probably one of the best trade-offs between theoretical guarantees, computational tractability, and practical performance

Good results obtained so far, yet research questions still remain:

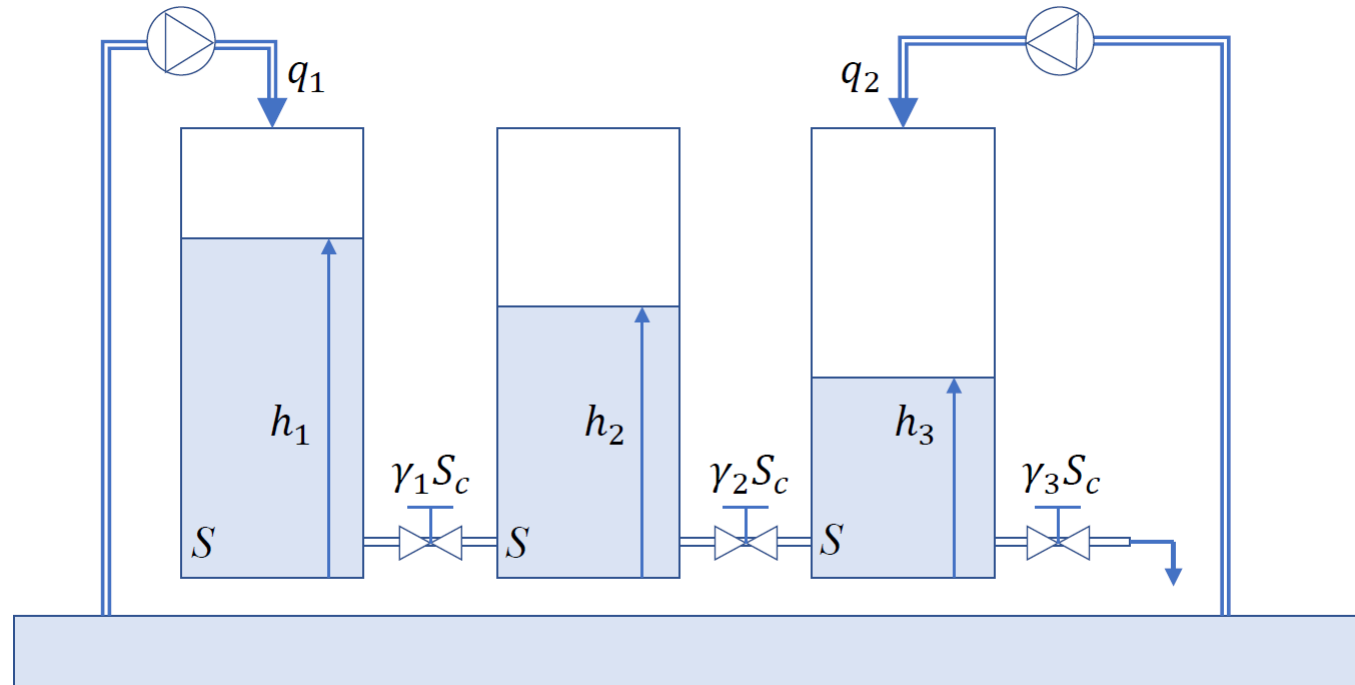
- How to incorporate active learning?
- How to deal with faults and/or system reconfiguration?

References

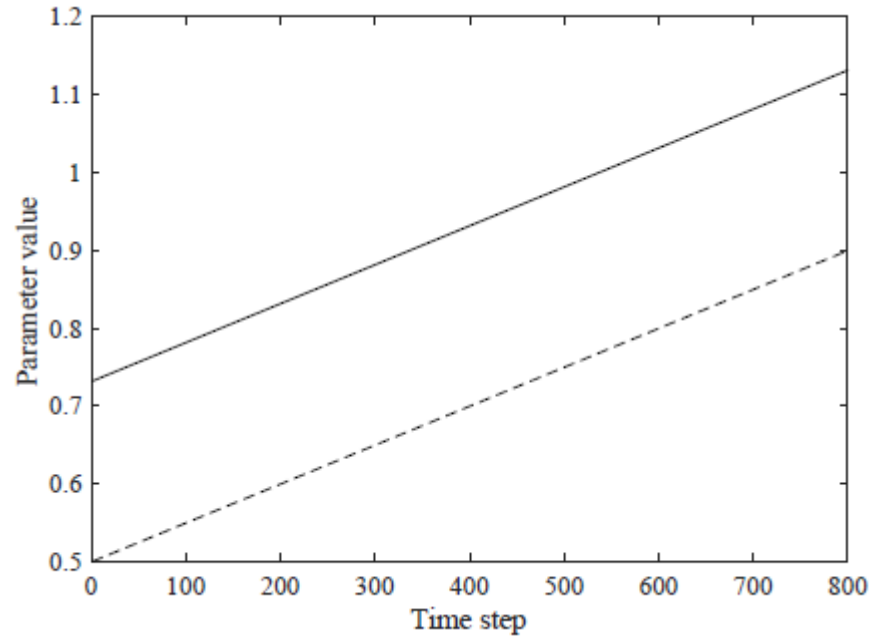
- [1] P. J. Antsaklis, K. M. Passino, and S. J. Wang, “An introduction to autonomous control systems,” *IEEE Control Systems Magazine*, vol. 11, no. 4, pp. 5–13, June 1991.
- [2] M. Tanaskovic, L. Fagiano, R. Smith, and M. Morari, “Adaptive receding horizon control for constrained MIMO systems,” *Automatica*, vol. 50, no. 12, pp. 3019–3029, 2014.
- [3] M. Tanaskovic, L. Fagiano, and V. Gligorovski, “Adaptive model predictive control for linear time varying MIMO systems,” *Automatica*, vol. 105, pp. 237 – 245, 2019

Adaptive MPC for LTV system - example

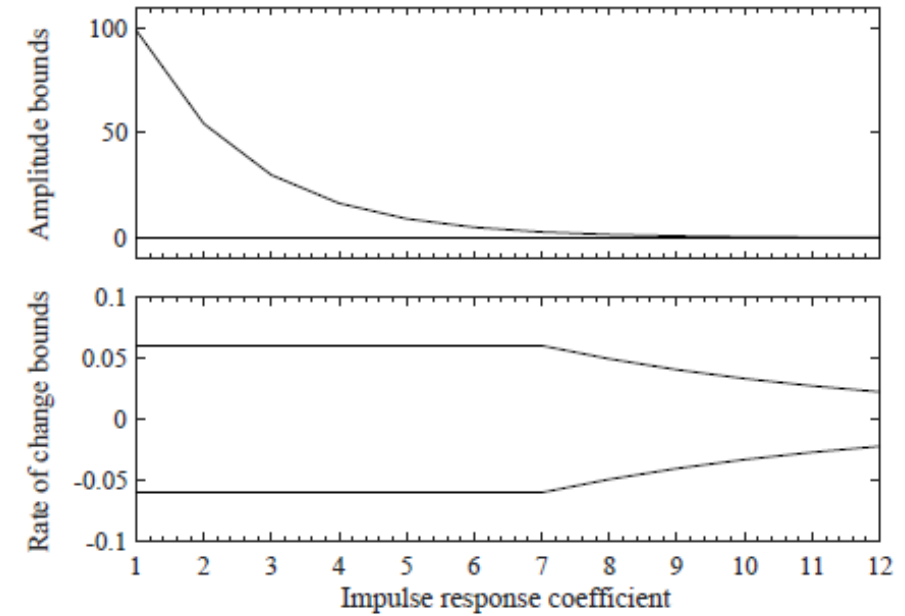
- q_1, q_2 inputs, h_1, h_2, h_3 outputs
- Valve positions γ_1, γ_2 change over time
- Want to robustly keep $h_1 > h_2 > h_3$ and track reference for h_2



Adaptive MPC for LTV system - example

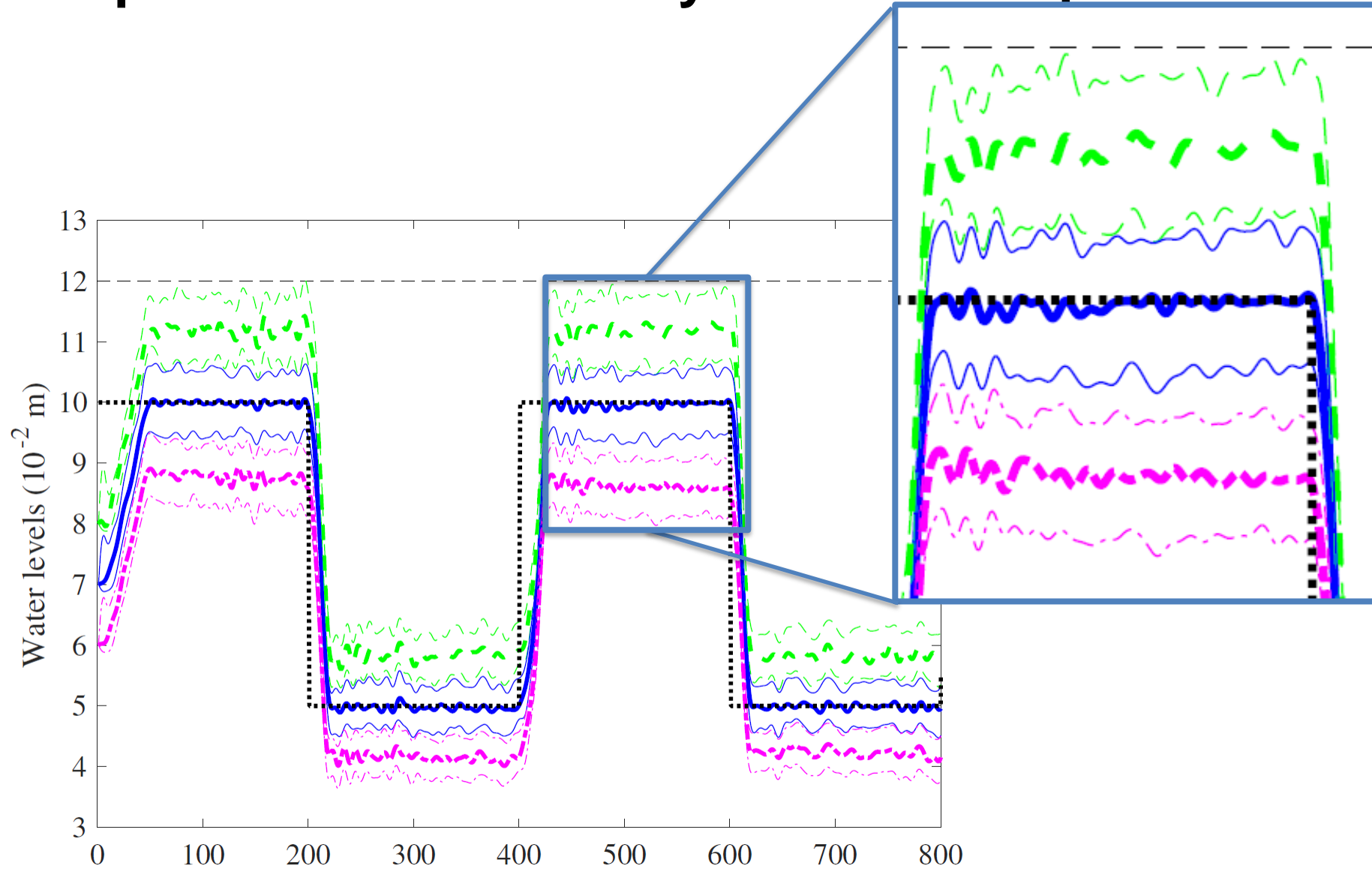


Time variation of the parameters γ_1 (dashed) and γ_3 (solid)



Initial assumed bounds on FIR parameters (top) and on their rate of change (bottom)

Adaptive MPC for LTV system - example



Adaptive MPC for LTV system - example

Comparison: certainty equivalence adaptive MPC

