

# **Linear Quadratic Integral Gaussian Differential Game applied to the Real-time Control of a Quadrotor Experimental setup**

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## **Abstract.**

The accurate attitude control of a quadrotor is necessary, especially when facing disturbance. Moreover, all the flight states of the quadrotor are not measured in practice. In this study, a linear quadratic Gaussian with integral action based on the differential game theory is implemented on the quadrotor experimental setup. A continuous state-space model of the setup is derived using the linearization of nonlinear equations of motion, and its parameters are identified with the experimental results. Then, the variables of the quadrotor setup are estimated based on an extended Kalman filter to compensate in the controller structure. Next, the attitude control commands of the quadrotor are derived based on two players; one finds the best attitude control command, and the other creates the disturbance by mini-maximizing a quadratic criterion, defined as the sum of outputs plus the weighted control effort and disturbance. The performance of the proposed structure is investigated in level flight and compared to the linear quadratic regulator controller. Results demonstrate that the proposed approach has an excellent performance in dissipating the disturbances.

**Keywords:** Linear Quadratic Gaussian, Differential Game, Quadrotor, State Estimation, 3DoF Experimental setup, Optimal Control, Robust Control.

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## 1 Introduction

A quadrotor is a type of helicopter with four rotors that plays a significant role in today's society (Fathoni, 2021), including research, military, imaging, recreation, and agriculture. The performance of the quadrotor relies on the control system, including attitude, altitude, and position subsystems. In the attitude control of the quadrotor, it is vital to maintain the attitude outputs at the desired level using control commands such as the rotational speed of the rotors (Sharifi, 2019), when the disturbances occur suddenly. Therefore, much research is being conducted on the automatic control of the attitudes' quadrotor in facing the disturbance. In (H. Bolandi, 2013) (Abdul Salam, 2019), a Proportional Integral Derivative (PID) controller is used to regulate the quadrotor attitude. However, the control objectives have not been effectively achieved with this controller when the disturbance occurs. To solve this problem the model-based approaches (Bouزيد, 2020) (Wang, 2020) are utilized for controller design. These controllers work based on information from the quadrotor's attitude model and disturbance to produce the best control command.

Various model-based controllers can be found within the literature, the most well-known of which are intelligent control, the nonlinear control, robust control, and optimal control to reduce the disturbance effect in the attitude control and provide a faster control algorithm in facing the modeling error. In the intelligent controller category, the artificial intelligence computing approaches like fuzzy logic (K. Liu, 2022) iterative learning (L. V. Nguyen, 2021) machine learning (C. Nicol, 2008), reinforcement learning (C.-H. Pi, 2021), and evolutionary computation (P. Ghiglini, 2013) have been utilized to regulate the quadrotor's attitude.

Nonlinear control methods such as Feedback Linearization (FBL) (A. Aboudonia, 2016), Sliding Mode Control (SMC) (Chen, 2014) and Synergetic Control (Chara, 2022) have been applied to control the roll, pitch, and yaw angles of the quadrotor. Moreover, robust control strategies such as  $H_\infty$  (Azar, 2020) (El-Badawy) and  $m$ -synthesis (Dean, 2017) have been implemented to stabilize the quadrotor attitudes based on the worst-case scenario and large uncertainty ranges. In the optimal controller category, a Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR) (Z. Shulong, 2013) and Linear Quadratic Gaussian (LQG) (E. Barzanooni, 2015) have been implemented on the quadrotor based on the minimization of a quadratic criterion, including regulation performance and control effort to provide optimally controlled feedback gains.

Linear Quadratic Regulator Differential Game (LQR-DG) control approach (Engwerda J. C., 2006), (Engwerda J. , 2022) is a class of optimal and robust controller methods that controls the outputs of a system based on its linear model and mini-maximization of a cost function. This approach has been utilized to stabilize and control various nonlinear and complex systems such as a ship controller (Zwierzewicz, 2014) (Li, 2011). Moreover, in the LQR-DG control method, the control commands are analytically generated based on a pursuit-evasion of two players, one tracks the best control command, and the other creates the disturbance. This is one of the distinctive features of the LQR-DG controller and an important difference from other optimal control methods.

In this study, a LQG controller method based on the differential game theory, with an integral action called Linear Quadratic Integral Gaussian Differential Game (LQIG-DG) controller, is proposed to generate the most efficient control command for an experimental setup of the quadrotor when facing the disturbance. Since the LQIG-DG is affected by an accurate model of the system, first, the dynamic of the three-degree-of-freedom setup of the quadrotor is modeled. Then, the linear state-space form the quadrotor model is extracted using the linearization of the nonlinear equations of motion to utilize in the proposed control problem. Moreover, the model's parameters are identified and verified against the experimental values. Next, the flight states of the quadrotor setup are estimated based on an Extended Kalman Filter (EKF) (Kunwu Zhang, 2016) (Azid, 2021) and then compensated using the LQIG-DG

controller architecture. Finally, the LQIG-DG technique is applied to the experimental setup of the quadrotor to reduce the effect of disturbance. The performance of the suggested controller is examined when the disturbance occurs. The results show the successful performance of the LQIR-DG scheme in reducing the disturbance.

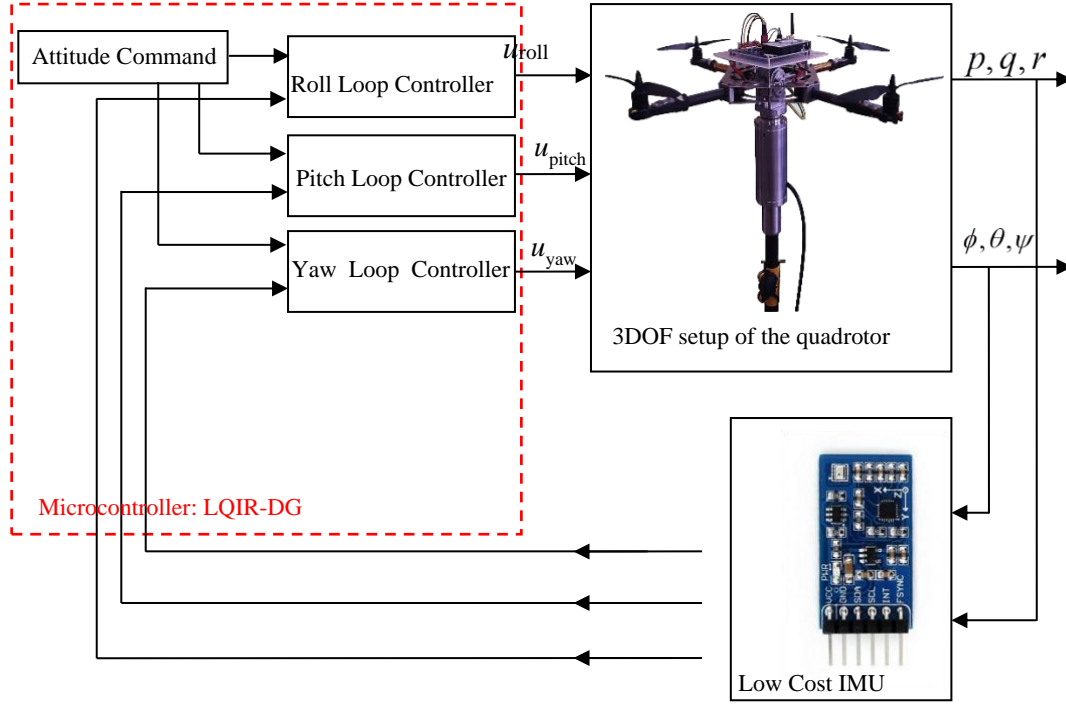
In the remainder of this study, the problem is defined in section 2. In sections 3, the dynamics model for the experimental setup of the quadrotor and the estimation problem are derived in details, respectively. In section , the LQIR-DG architecture is denoted. Finally, in sections 5 and 6, numerical results and conclusion are provided, respectively.

## 2 Problem Statement

Here, a nonlinear dynamic is presented for the setup of the quadrotor, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The quadrotor is free to rotate about its roll, pitch, and yaw axes. The acceleration and the angular velocities along three orthogonal axes are measured using the low cost Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU). These noisy measurements are utilized in a nonlinear filter for estimation of the quadrotor states including the Euler angles and angular velocities. These estimated states are compensated in the structure of the LQIG-DG controller to stabilize the quadrotor setup. The block diagram of the controller structure is illustrated in Fig. 2.



**Fig. 1.** 3DoF setup of the quadrotor.



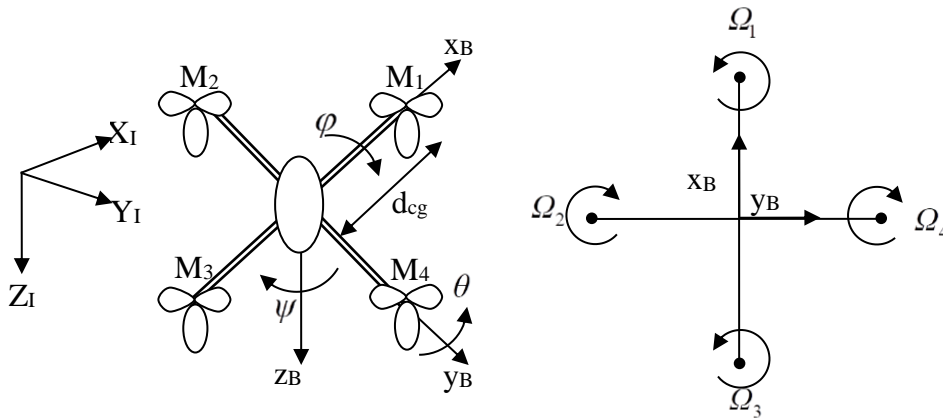
**Fig. 2.** Block diagram of the LQIG-DG controller structure.

### 3 Modeling of the Quadrotor Setup

Here, the model of the three-degree-of-freedom setup of the quadrotor is presented in details. For this purpose, first, the configuration of the quadrotor is denoted. Then, the nonlinear model of the attitude dynamics is derived to denote the state-space form. Finally, the nonlinear model is linearized to utilize in the control purposes.

#### 3.1 Configuration of the Quadrotor

Fig. 3 denotes the quadrotor schematic. Each rotor has an angular velocity,  $\Omega_i$ , rotating about the  $z_B$  axis in the body coordinate system. Rotors 1 and 3 rotate counterclockwise, while rotors 2 and 4 rotate clockwise, to cancel yawing moment.



**Fig. 3.** Configuration of the quadrotor

### 3.2 Dynamic Model

The quadrotor kinetic model, derived using the Newton-Euler method, is stated as (Bouabdallah, 2007), (Siegwart, 2007)

$$\dot{p} = \frac{I_{yy} - I_{zz}}{I_{xx}} qr + q \frac{I_{rotor}}{I_{xx}} \Omega_r + \frac{u_{roll}}{I_{xx}} + \frac{d_{roll}}{I_{xx}} \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{q} = \frac{I_{zz} - I_{xx}}{I_{yy}} rp + p \frac{I_{rotor}}{I_{xx}} \Omega_r + \frac{u_{pitch}}{I_{yy}} + \frac{d_{pitch}}{I_{yy}} \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{r} = \frac{I_{xx} - I_{yy}}{I_{zz}} pq + \frac{u_{yaw}}{I_{zz}} + \frac{d_{yaw}}{I_{zz}} \quad (3)$$

where  $(p, q, r)$  are the angular velocities.  $d_{roll}$ ,  $d_{pitch}$ , and  $d_{yaw}$  are the disturbances, generated in  $x_B$ ,  $y_B$ , and  $z_B$ , respectively. Moreover,  $I_{xx}$ ,  $I_{yy}$ , and  $I_{zz}$  are the principal moment of inertia and  $I_{rotor}$  is a rotor inertia about its axis. The relation between the angular body rates and the Euler angles rates are obtained as

$$\dot{\phi} = p + (q \sin(\phi) + r \cos(\phi)) \tan(\theta) \quad (4)$$

$$\dot{\theta} = q \cos(\phi) - r \sin(\phi) \quad (5)$$

$$\dot{\psi} = (q \sin(\phi) + r \cos(\phi)) / \cos(\theta) \quad (6)$$

where  $(\phi, \theta, \psi)$  are roll, pitch, and yaw angles. Moreover,  $\Omega_r$ , called the overall residual rotor angular velocity, is computed as

$$\Omega_r = -\Omega_1 + \Omega_2 - \Omega_3 + \Omega_4 \quad (7)$$

### 3.3 Control Commands

The control inputs  $u_{roll}$ ,  $u_{pitch}$ , and  $u_{yaw}$  are roll, pitch, and yaw moments, obtained from the rotors, defined as

$$u_{roll} = bd_{cg}(\Omega_2^2 - \Omega_4^2) \quad (8)$$

$$u_{pitch} = bd_{cg}(\Omega_1^2 - \Omega_3^2) \quad (9)$$

$$u_{yaw} = d(\Omega_1^2 - \Omega_2^2 + \Omega_3^2 - \Omega_4^2) \quad (10)$$

Also,  $d$  and  $b$  are, respectively, drag and thrust coefficients.  $d_{cg}$  is the distance of rotors from the gravity center. Hence, the angular velocity commands are obtained as

$$\Omega_{c,1}^2 = \Omega_{mean}^2 + \frac{1}{2bd_{cg}} u_{pitch} + \frac{1}{4d} u_{yaw} \quad (11)$$

$$\Omega_{c,2}^2 = \Omega_{mean}^2 + \frac{1}{2bd_{cg}} u_{roll} - \frac{1}{4d} u_{yaw} \quad (12)$$

$$\Omega_{c,3}^2 = \Omega_{\text{mean}}^2 - \frac{1}{2bd_{\text{cg}}}u_{\text{pitch}} + \frac{1}{4d}u_{\text{yaw}} \quad (13)$$

$$\Omega_{c,4}^2 = \Omega_{\text{mean}}^2 - \frac{1}{2bd_{\text{cg}}}u_{\text{roll}} - \frac{1}{4d}u_{\text{yaw}} \quad (14)$$

where  $\Omega_{\text{mean}}$  is the nominal of the rotor angular velocities.

### 3.4 State-Space Form

Here, the state-space model is presented for the control purposes. By defining  $x_1 = p$ ,  $x_2 = q$ ,  $x_3 = r$ ,  $x_4 = \phi$ ,  $x_5 = \theta$ , and  $x_6 = \psi$ ; the model of in state-space form are denoted as

$$\dot{x}_1 = \frac{I_{yy} - I_{zz}}{I_{xx}}x_2x_3 + x_2\frac{I_{\text{rotor}}}{I_{xx}}\Omega_r + \frac{u_{\text{roll}}}{I_{xx}} + \frac{d_{\text{roll}}}{I_{xx}} \quad (15)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = \frac{I_{zz} - I_{xx}}{I_{yy}}x_1x_3 - x_1\frac{I_{\text{rotor}}}{I_{xx}}\Omega_r + \frac{u_{\text{pitch}}}{I_{yy}} + \frac{d_{\text{pitch}}}{I_{yy}} \quad (16)$$

$$\dot{x}_3 = \frac{I_{xx} - I_{yy}}{I_{zz}}x_1x_2 + \frac{u_{\text{yaw}}}{I_{zz}} + \frac{d_{\text{yaw}}}{I_{zz}} \quad (17)$$

$$\dot{x}_4 = x_1 + (x_2 \sin(x_4) + x_3 \cos(x_4)) \tan(x_5) \quad (18)$$

$$\dot{x}_5 = x_2 \cos(x_4) - x_3 \sin(x_4) \quad (19)$$

$$\dot{x}_6 = (x_2 \sin(x_4) + x_3 \cos(x_4)) / \cos(x_5) \quad (20)$$

Equations (15)-(17) are rewritten in the following form:

$$\dot{x}_1 = \alpha_1x_2x_3 + \alpha_2x_2\Omega_r + \alpha_3u_{\text{roll}} + \alpha_3d_{\text{roll}}$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = \beta_1x_1x_3 - \beta_2x_1\Omega_r + \beta_3u_{\text{pitch}} + \beta_3d_{\text{pitch}}$$

$$\dot{x}_3 = \gamma_1x_1x_2 + \gamma_2u_{\text{yaw}} + \gamma_2d_{\text{yaw}}$$

The measurement model is written as

$$z = [p_m \quad q_m \quad r_m \quad \phi_m \quad \theta_m \quad \psi_m]^T \quad (21)$$

### 3.5 Linear Model

The continuous-time linear model is utilized to drive the control commands on the quadrotor. The linear state-space model is denoted as

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) + B_d d(t) \quad (22)$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $B_d$  are the system, input and disturbance matrices, respectively.

Moreover,  $d$  is the disturbance. The measurements equation is stated as

$$z(t) = x(t) \quad (23)$$

According to Eqs.(15)-(20) the linear dynamic model around the equilibrium points ( $x_e = 0$  and  $u_e = 0$ ) of the quadrotor setup is denoted as

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{roll}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{pitch}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{\text{roll}} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_{\text{pitch}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{\text{roll}} \\ \mathbf{x}_{\text{pitch}} \\ \mathbf{x}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} \\
&+ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_{\text{roll}} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}_{\text{pitch}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\text{roll}} \\ \mathbf{u}_{\text{pitch}} \\ \mathbf{u}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} \\
&+ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_{\text{roll}} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}_{\text{pitch}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_{\text{roll}} \\ \mathbf{d}_{\text{pitch}} \\ \mathbf{d}_{\text{yaw}} \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{roll}} = [p \ \phi]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{pitch}} = [q \ \theta]^T$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{yaw}} = [r \ \psi]^T$ .

Moreover, the state and input matrices are presented as

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{roll}} = \mathbf{A}_{\text{pitch}} = \mathbf{A}_{\text{yaw}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{25}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{roll}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{I_{xx}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{B}_{\text{pitch}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{I_{yy}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \mathbf{B}_{\text{yaw}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{I_{zz}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{26}$$

### 3.6 System Identification

Here, the system identification was made using the simulation of the roll, pitch, and yaw states and sensor data output from the quadrotor setup. For this purpose, the same input is given to the simulated model and setup. In the case of system identification, the cost function was defined as the sum square error between simulations and quadrotor setup measurements. Then, the Nonlinear Least Squares (NLS) optimization technique minimizes the cost function. In NLS, the goal is to look for the model parameters

vector  $\rho = [\alpha_1 \ \alpha_2 \ \alpha_3 \ \beta_1 \ \beta_2 \ \beta_3 \ \gamma_1 \ \gamma_2]^T$  which would minimize the sum of squares of residual errors. In other words, the following cost function has to minimize:

$$\text{Residualsumofsquares} = \text{RSS} = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

$y$  is a function of setup model parameters vector  $\rho$ , and the system states  $\mathbf{x}$ , i.e.:

$$\hat{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i, \rho)$$

One way to minimize RSS is to differentiate RSS with respect to  $\rho$ , then set the differentiation to zero and solve for  $\rho$ , i.e.:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \rho_j} \text{RSS} = 0 \forall j \in [1, n]$$

Since there is no closed-form solution for this system of equations, so iterative optimization technique has to be used in which, at each iteration  $k$ , minor adjustments have been made to the values of  $\rho$  as shown below, and reevaluate RSS:

$$\rho_j^k = \rho_j^{k-1} + \delta \rho_j$$

Trust Region Reflective (TRR) has been devised to update  $\rho$  efficiently.

For each attitude channel, the parameters were altered with the engine off, and then the parameters related to the engine were modified. To increase the accuracy of system identification, at first, the parameters of each channel were estimated separately, and then the coupled parameters of the attitude channels were modified. In the parameter modification process, after each parameter modification step mentioned above, the estimated parameters of the previous step are assumed to be fixed, and other parameters are modified. To identification of each stage, several experiments with different scenarios have been performed.

## 4 Formulation of the Controller Design

In the LQIR-DG controller structure, an integral action is added to the LQR-DG controller to cancel the steady-state errors for reference tracking. For this purpose, first, the augmented state space of the linear quadrotor model is defined to utilize in the controller architecture. Then, the LQR-DG controller design procedure is presented to produce the best control commands for the experimental setup of the quadrotor.

### 4.1 Augmented State Space Formulation

To add the integral action to the controller structure, the augmented states are defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{x}_{a_i} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_i & \int \mathbf{x}_i \end{bmatrix}^T \quad (27)$$

where  $i$  = roll, pitch, and yaw.

Then, the quadrotor dynamics model, denoted by Eq.(22), is denoted in the augmented state-space model as

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}_a(t) = \mathbf{A}_a \mathbf{x}_a(t) + \mathbf{B}_a \mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{B}_{d_a} \mathbf{d}(t) \quad (28)$$

where matrices  $\mathbf{A}_a$  and  $\mathbf{B}_a$  are defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{A}_a = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (29)$$

$$\mathbf{B}_a = \mathbf{B}_{d_a} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (30)$$

In the above equation  $\mathbf{I}$  denotes the identity matrix.

### 4.2 LQIR-DG Controller Method

The LQIR-DG controller is an optimal and robust method based on the differential game theory. This controller consists of two essential players: one finds the best control command, and the other creates the worst disturbance.

For this purpose, the first player tries to minimize a cost function; while the second player is assumed to maximize it. Therefore, the quadratic cost function equation is denoted using min-max operators as follows:

$$\min_u \max_d J(\mathbf{x}_{a_i}, \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{d}_i) = J(\mathbf{x}_{a_i}, \mathbf{u}_i^*, \mathbf{d}_i^*) = \min_u \max_d \int_0^{t_r} (\mathbf{x}_{a_i}^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{x}_{a_i} + \mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{d}_i^T \mathbf{R}_d \mathbf{d}_i) dt$$



(31)

where  $R$  and  $R_d$  are symmetric nonnegative definite matrices and  $Q_i$  is a symmetric positive definite matrix. Moreover,  $t_f$  is the final time. To solve this problem, connections between the general optimal problem and the LQIR problem are considered (Engwerda J. C., 2006) and consequently the optimum control effort is computed for the each control loop as follows:

$$u_i(t) = -K_i(t)x_{a_i}(t) \quad (32)$$

$$d_i(t) = K_{d_i}(t)x_{a_i}(t) \quad (33)$$

where  $K_i$  and  $K_{d_i}$  are a time varying gain, given by

$$K_i = R^{-1}B_{a_i}^T P_{a_i}(t) \quad (34)$$

$$K_{d_i} = R_d^{-1}B_{a_{d_i}}^T P_{a_{d_i}}(t) \quad (35)$$

where  $P_{a_i}(t)$  and  $P_{a_{d_i}}(t)$  satisfy

$$\dot{P}_{a_i}(t) = -A_a^T P_{a_i}(t) - P_{a_i}(t)A_a - Q_i + P_{a_i}(t)S_{a_i}(t)P_{a_i}(t) + P_{a_i}(t)S_{a_{d_i}}(t)P_{a_{d_i}}(t) \quad (36)$$

$$\dot{P}_{a_{d_i}}(t) = -A_a^T P_{a_{d_i}}(t) - P_{a_{d_i}}(t)A_a - Q_i + P_{a_{d_i}}(t)S_{a_{d_i}}(t)P_{a_{d_i}}(t) + P_{a_{d_i}}(t)S_{a_i}(t)P_{a_i}(t) \quad (37)$$

where  $S_{a_i} = B_{a_i} R^{-1} B_{a_i}^T$  and  $S_{a_{d_i}} = B_{a_{d_i}} R_d^{-1} B_{a_{d_i}}^T$ .

In this study, the steady-state values of the above equations ( $P$  as  $t_f \rightarrow \infty$ ) are utilized to generate a feedback control law.

## 5 Result and Discussion

Here, the results of the LQIR-DG controller method are devoted to the control loops of the roll, pitch, and yaw of the experimental setup of the quadrotor. First, the controller parameters are tuned using the results of numerical simulations. Moreover, the performance of the LQIR-DG controller is compared to an LQR control strategy. The quadrotor parameters are shown in **Table 1**. Moreover, the parameters of LQIR-DG controller weight are denoted in **Table 2**.

**Table 1.** The Parameter of the Quadrotor.

Parameter	Unit	Value
$I_{xx}$	$\text{kg.m}^2$	0.02839
$I_{yy}$	$\text{kg.m}^2$	0.03066
$I_{zz}$	$\text{kg.m}^2$	0.0439
$I_{\text{rotor}}$	$\text{kg.m}^2$	$4.4398 \times 10^{-5}$
$b$	$\text{N.sec}^2 / \text{rad}^2$	$3.13 \times 10^{-5}$
$d$	$\text{N.m.sec}^2 / \text{rad}^2$	$3.2 \times 10^{-6}$
$\Omega_{\text{mean}}$	rpm	3000
$d_{\text{cg}}$	m	0.2

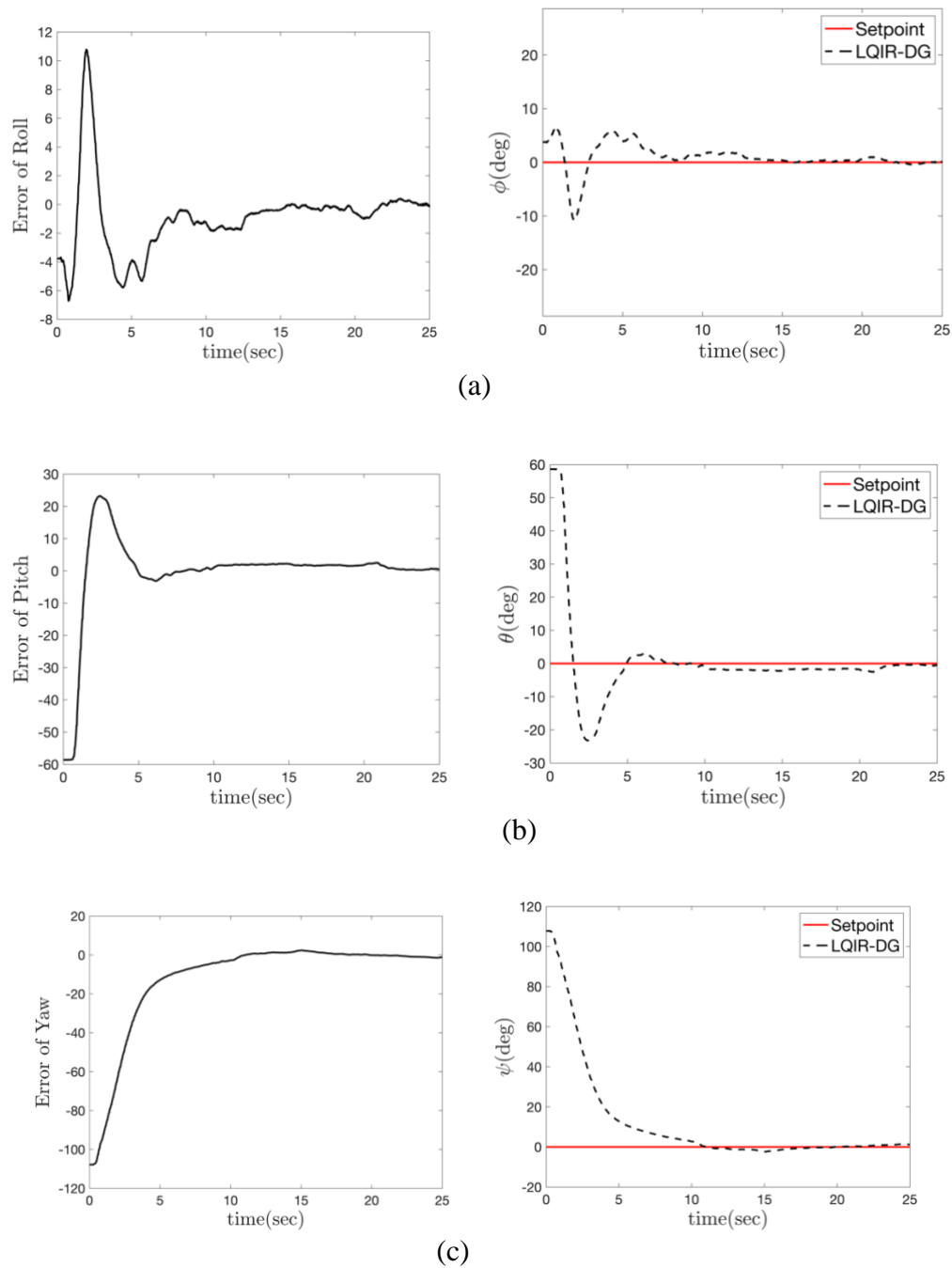
**Table 2.** The Parameters of the LQIR-DG Controller.

Control Loop	Weight	Value
Roll	$Q_{\text{roll}}$	$\text{diag}([7.91, 0.01, 631.85, 214.28])$
Pitch	$Q_{\text{pitch}}$	$\text{diag}([9853.09, 0.12, 0.01, 873.93])$
Yaw	$Q_{\text{yaw}}$	$\text{diag}([1.81\text{e-}4, 4.5\text{e-}4, 3\text{e-}6, 1.7\text{e-}5])$
-	$R$	1
-	$R_d$	1.2577

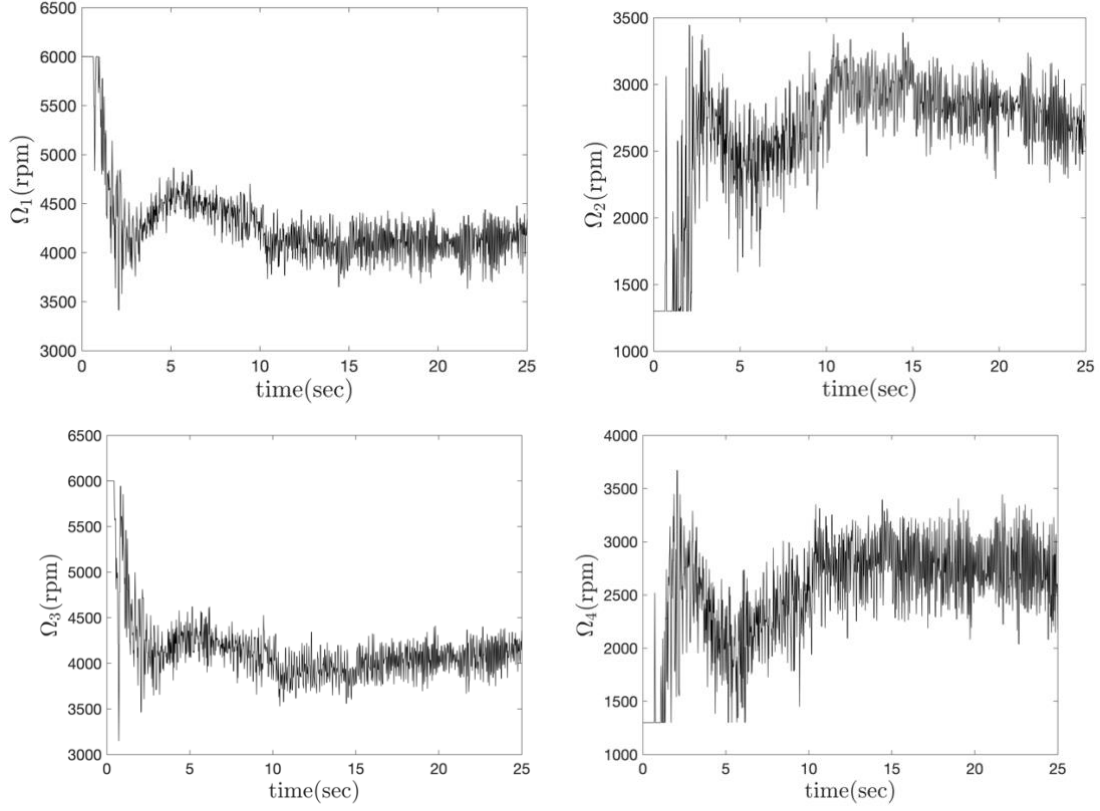
### 5.1 Performance of the LQIR-DG Controller

Here, the performance of the LQIR-DG controller is evaluated. The desired and actual outputs, including the roll, pitch, and yaw angles, are compared in **Fig. 4**. The desired scenario of the simulator is considered as a level flight. These figures show that the attitude outputs of the quadrotor converge to the desired values in less than three seconds. Moreover, **Fig. 5** show the angular velocity command of the quadrotor,

respectively. These results illustrate that the LQIR-DG approach appropriately controls the attitude of the experimental setup of the quadrotor.

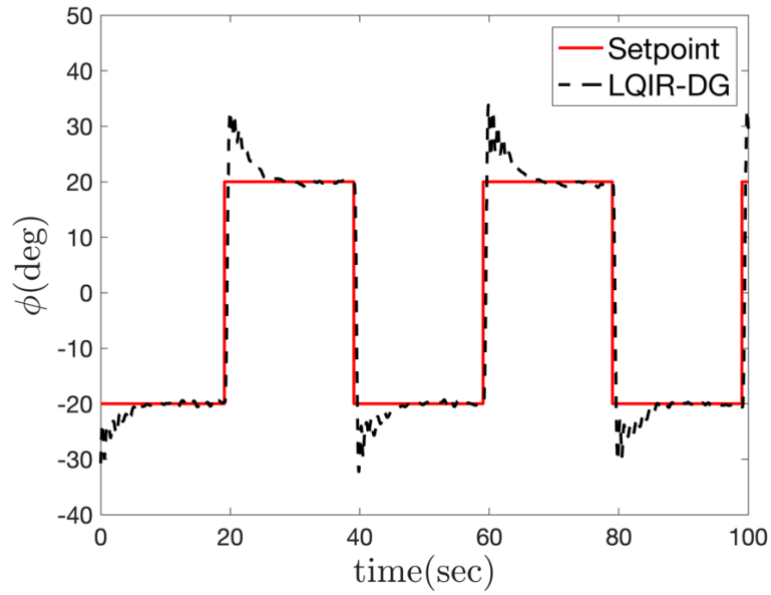


**Fig. 4.** Performance of the LQIR-DG controller (a) roll angle (b) pitch angle (c) yaw angle

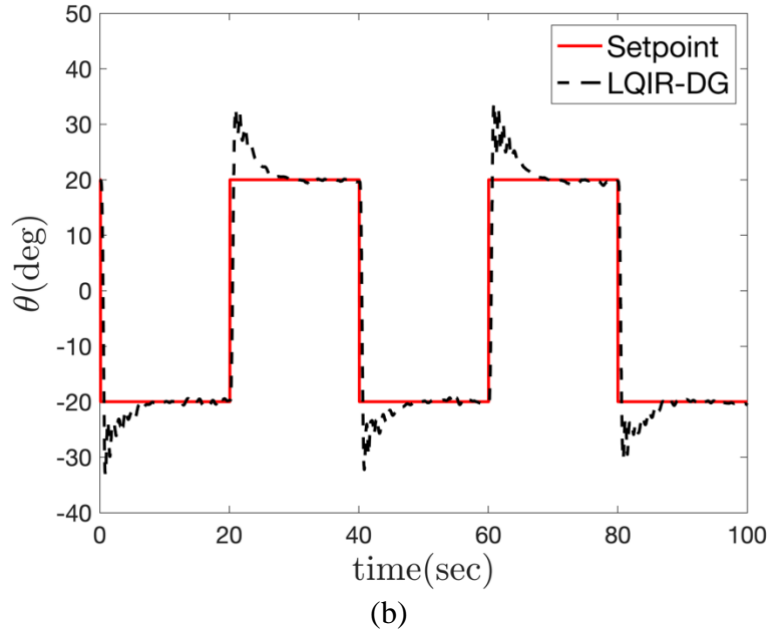


**Fig. 5.** Time history of angular velocity commands

**Fig. 9** illustrates the performance of the LQIR-DG controller in the coupling mode of the roll and pitch channels to track the desired angle as a square wave with a frequency of 0.02 Hz and an amplitude of 20 degrees.



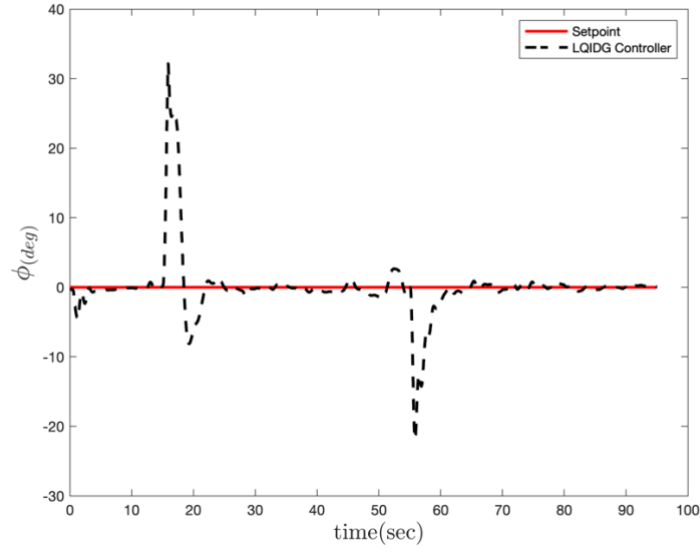
(a)



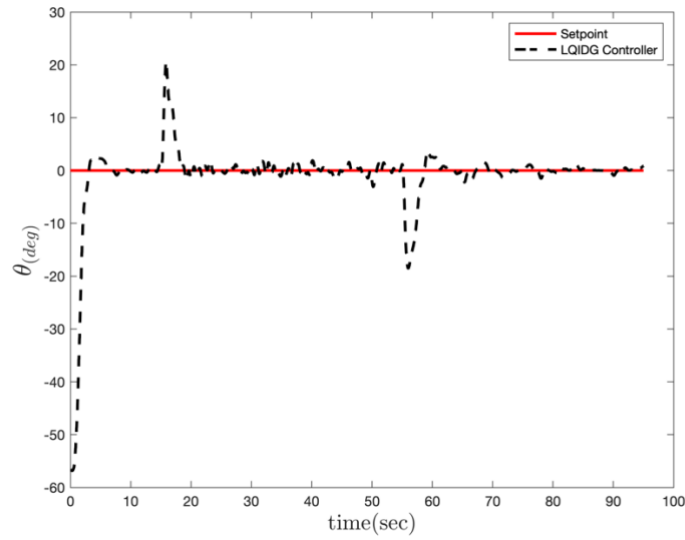
**Fig. 6.** LQIR-DDG controller performance in order to track the desired angles in the two-degree-of-freedom coupling mode a) Comparison of the roll angle with the desired value b) Comparison of the pitch angle with the desired

## 5.2 Investigating the possibility of removing the disturbance

This section aims to investigate the possible removal of input disturbances by the LQIR-DG controller in regulation. For this purpose, a disturbance with an amplitude of 0.5 N is added to the input from 26 to 36 seconds. As shown in **Fig. 7**, the LQIR-DG controller performs well in coupling the roll and screw channels to remove the input disturbance. In **Fig. 7** (a), the performance of this controller is checked by comparing the desired roll angle with the actual roll angle. Also, **Fig. 7** (b) compares the desired turn angle with the actual pitch angle of the 3DoF experimental setup in removing the input disturbance. The results indicate the proper performance of the controller in removing the input disturbance.



(a)



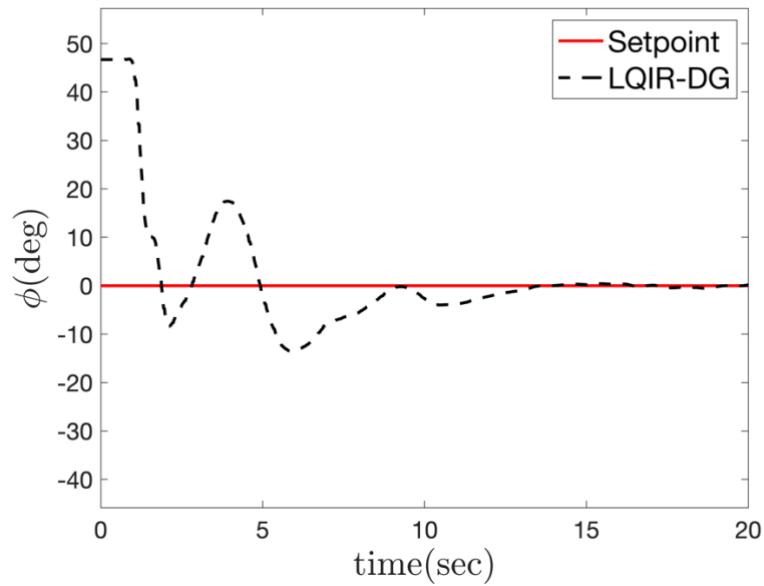
(b)

**Fig. 7.** The performance of the LQIR-DG controller in the presence of the input disturbance in the two-degree-of-freedom coupling mode a) Comparison of the desired roll angle with the actual value b) Comparison of the desired pitch angle with the actual value.

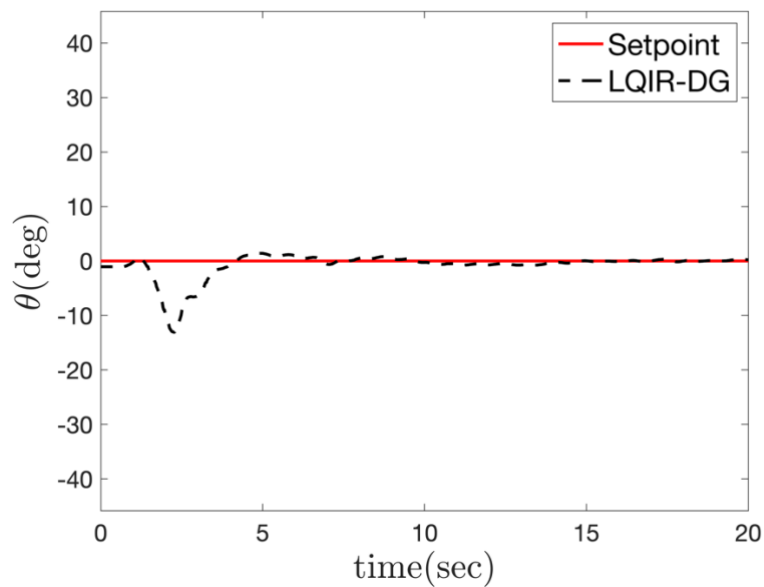
### 5.3 Investigating the impact of uncertainty in modeling

This section examines the performance of the LQIR-DG controller designed by considering the uncertainty in 3DoF experimental setup modeling. The performance of the sliding mode controller in the coupling mode of the roll, pitch, and yaw channels is checked by considering the uncertainty in the 3DoF experimental setup modeling in **Fig. 8**. For this purpose, 50 grams is added to the roll axis and 100 grams to the pitch axis. In **Fig. 8** (a), the performance of this controller is checked by comparing the desired roll angle with the actual roll angle; In

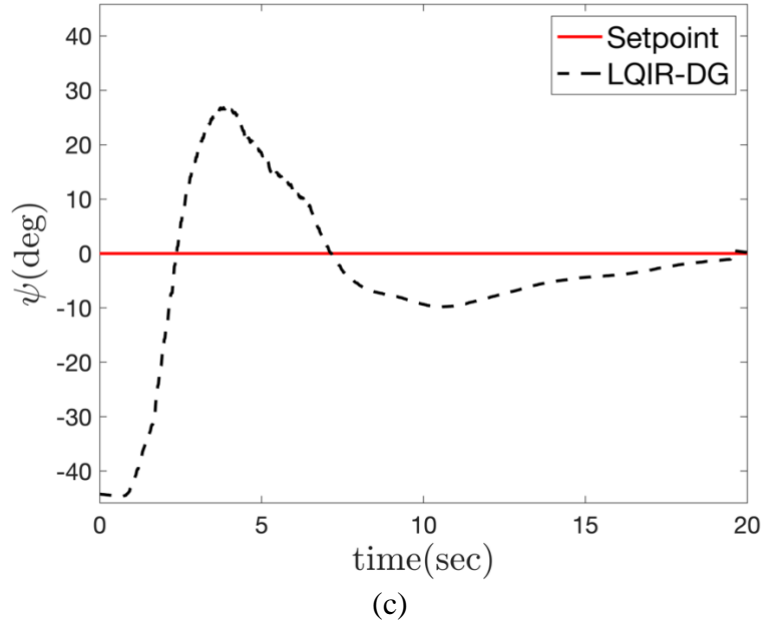
**Fig. 8** (b), the performance of this controller is checked by comparing the desired pitch angle to the actual pitch angle. Also, **Fig. 8** (c) compares the desired yaw angle with the actual yaw angle of the 3DoF experimental setup. The implementation results indicate the proper efficiency of the LQIR-DG controller in pursuit of the desired value, taking into account the uncertainty in the values of the moments of inertia around each axis of the body coordinate system.



(a)



(b)

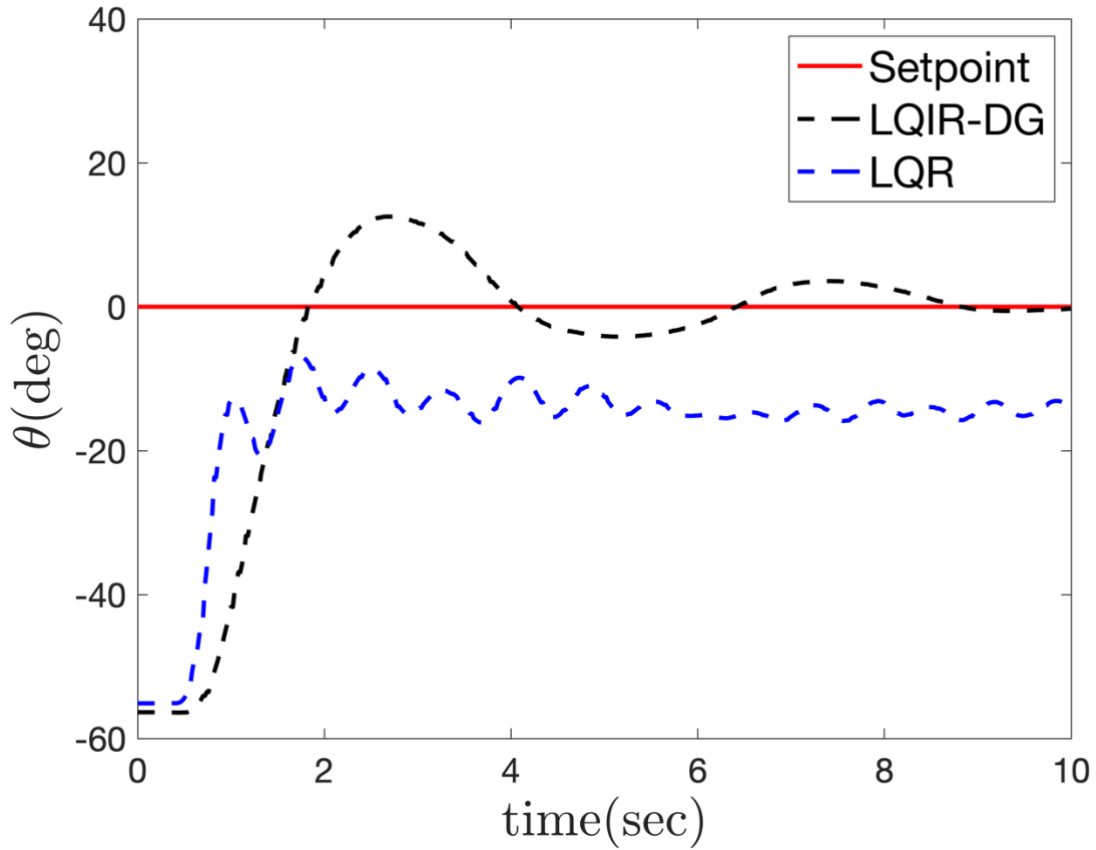


**Fig. 8.** The performance of the LQIR-DG controller by adding weight to each of the roll and pitch axes in the three-degree-of-freedom coupling mode a) Comparison of the roll angle with the actual value b) Comparison of the pitch angle with the actual value c) Comparison of the yaw angle with the actual value

#### 5.4 Comparison with LQR

Here, the LQIR-DG controller performance is compared with famous control strategy such as LQR controller method. **Fig. 9** compares the quadrotor's desired and actual pitch angle in the presence of these controllers. This results indicates that the LQIR-DG controller can provide high tracking performance, such as good transient response and high rapid convergence relative to LQR controller for pitch angle control of the quadrotor setup.





**Fig. 9.** Comparison of the LQIR-DG to the LQR in control of the pitch angle of the experimental setup

## 6 Conclusion

In this study, a linear quadratic with integral action based on the differential game theory, called LQIR-DG, was implemented for level attitude control in an experimental setup of a quadrotor. To implement the proposed controller structure, first, an accurate model of the quadrotor was linearized in the state-space form, and then the model parameters were estimated. Next, two players were considered for each of the quadrotor's roll, pitch, and yaw channels. The first player found the best control command for each channel of the setup of a quadrotor based on the mini-maximization of a quadratic criterion; when the second player produced the worst disturbances. Finally, the performance of the proposed controller was investigated in level flight and compared to the LQR controller. The implementation results verify the successful performance of the LQIR-DG method in the level flight of the attitude control for the actual plant.

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