

Ch9: Centralized Control - Position Control

Introduction

Closed-loop Dynamic Equation

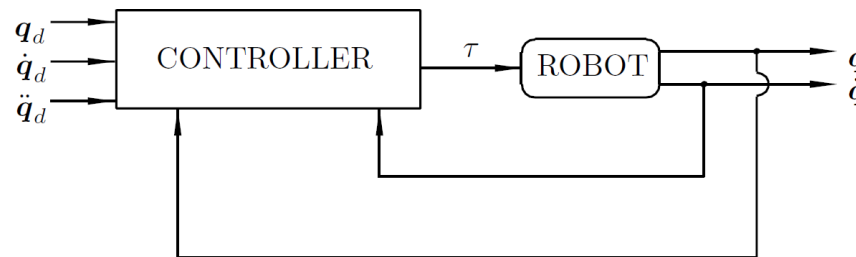
Consider the dynamic model of an n -DOF open-chain manipulator with no friction at the joints and no external force at the end-effector.

$$\tau = M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} q \\ \dot{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q} \\ M(q)^{-1}[\tau - C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} - g(q)] \end{bmatrix}$$

(state-space form)

In general, a position/motion [Control Law \(Controller\)](#) with desired joint position $q_d(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, velocity $\dot{q}_d(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and acceleration $\ddot{q}_d(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ can be expressed as a nonlinear function τ_c as

$$\tau = \tau_c(q, \dot{q}, q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d, M(q), C(q, \dot{q}), g(q))$$



Note: For practical purposes, it is desirable that the controller τ_c does not depend on the joint acceleration \ddot{q} since computing or measuring acceleration is usually highly sensitive to noise.

Closed-loop Dynamic Equation (cont.)

Thus, the **closed-loop dynamic equation** is derived as

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = \tau_c(q, \dot{q}, q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d, M(q), C(q, \dot{q}), g(q))$$

or in the state-space form as $\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} q_d - q \\ \dot{q}_d - \dot{q} \end{bmatrix} = f(q, \dot{q}, q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d, M(q), C(q, \dot{q}), g(q))$

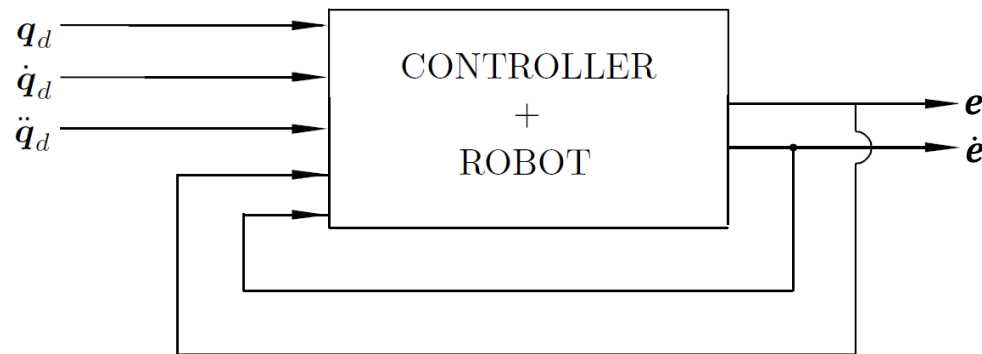
$$e = q_d - q \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$\dot{e} = \dot{q}_d - \dot{q} \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

and by replacing q with $q_d(t) - e$ and \dot{q} with $\dot{q}_d(t) - \dot{e}$ in f :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} e \\ \dot{e} \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{f}(t, e, \dot{e})$$

In general, a nonautonomous nonlinear ODE when $q_d = q_d(t)$.

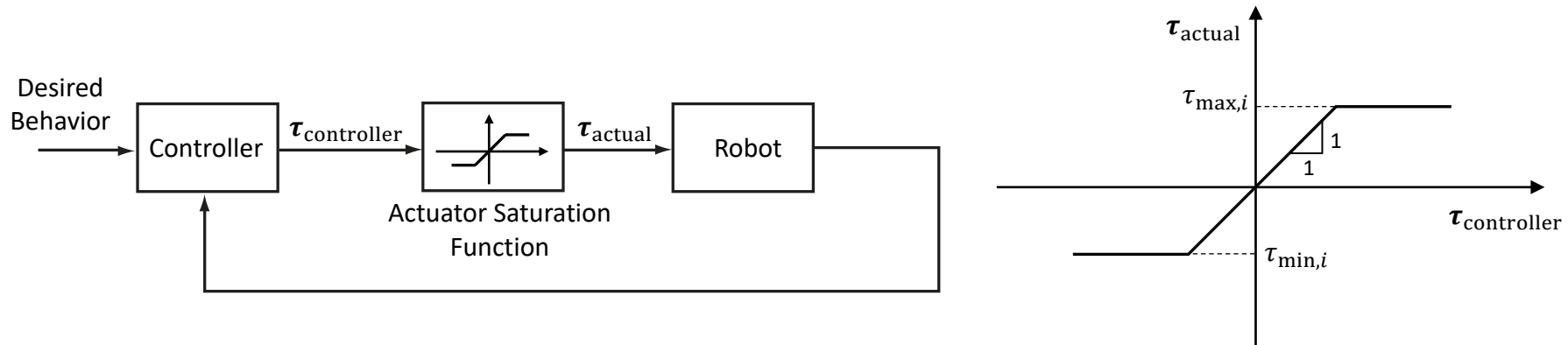


Actuator Saturation

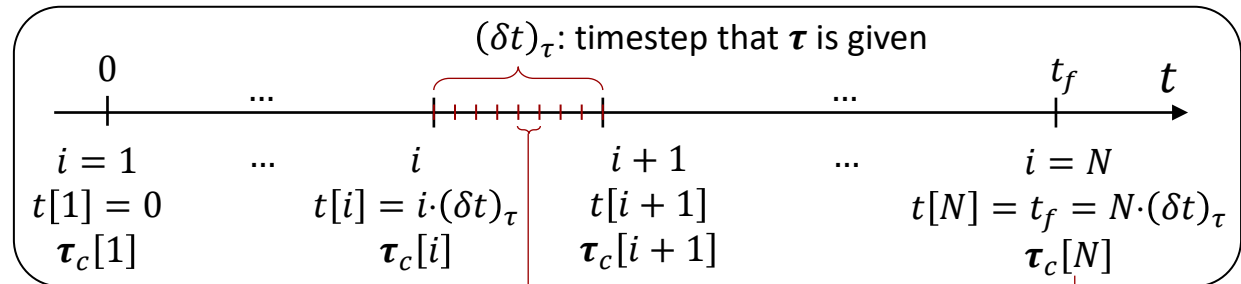
In some controllers, choosing large values for the control parameters causes a large (initial) control torque which is beyond the robot actuators capacity which are limited by maximum and minimum allowable values τ_{\max} , τ_{\min} . Therefore, the control parameters should be chosen properly.

To consider the actuator saturation limits in the simulation, we add a saturation function as follows:

$$\tau_{\text{actual}} = \text{sat}(\tau_{\text{controller}})$$



Pseudocode for Controllers



Given $\mathcal{F}_{\text{tip}}[i]$ ($i = 1, \dots, N$)

Set $\theta[1] = \theta(0)$, $\dot{\theta}[1] = \dot{\theta}(0)$, $e_{\text{int}} = 0$

Set $\bar{\theta} = \theta[1]$, $\ddot{\theta} = \dot{\theta}[1]$

For $i = 1$ to $N - 1$

$[\theta_d[i], \dot{\theta}_d[i]] = \text{trajectory}(t[i] = i \cdot (\delta t)_{\tau}, \dots)$

$\tau_c[i] = \text{controller}(\bar{\theta}, \ddot{\theta}, \theta_d[i], \dot{\theta}_d[i], \ddot{\theta}_d[i], e_{\text{int}}, \dots)$

$\tau_c[i] = \text{sat}(\tau_c[i])$

For $j = 1$ to n_{res}

$\ddot{\theta} = \text{ForwardDynamics}(\bar{\theta}, \ddot{\theta}, \tau_c[i], \mathcal{F}_{\text{tip}}[i])$

$\bar{\theta} = \bar{\theta} + \dot{\theta} \cdot (\delta t)_{\ddot{\theta}}$

$\dot{\theta} = \dot{\theta} + \ddot{\theta} \cdot (\delta t)_{\ddot{\theta}}$

end

$e_{\text{int}} = e_{\text{int}} + (\delta t)_{\tau}(\theta_d[i] - \bar{\theta})$ % error integral

$\theta[i + 1] = \bar{\theta}$

$\dot{\theta}[i + 1] = \dot{\theta}$

end

$(\delta t)_{\ddot{\theta}} = (\delta t)_{\tau} / n_{\text{res}}$: timestep for motion simulation and computing $\ddot{\theta}$.
 n_{res} : Integration resolution.

N : Number of samples

$(\delta t)_{\tau}, (\delta t)_{\ddot{\theta}} \in \mathbb{R}^+$

First-order Euler Integration

(we can also use any other ODE solver like **ode45** which is based on an explicit **Runge-Kutta** (4,5) formula)

Position Control

Position Control Objective

Given a desired constant joint position (set-point reference) $\mathbf{q}_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we wish to find joint torques/forces $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that the joint position $\mathbf{q}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ tend to \mathbf{q}_d accurately:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{q}_d \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{q}_d - \mathbf{q}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

position error

The most common position controllers:

- PD Control (or P Control Plus Velocity Feedback)
- PD Control with Gravity Compensation
- PD Control with Desired Gravity Compensation
- PID Control

PD Control

PD Control

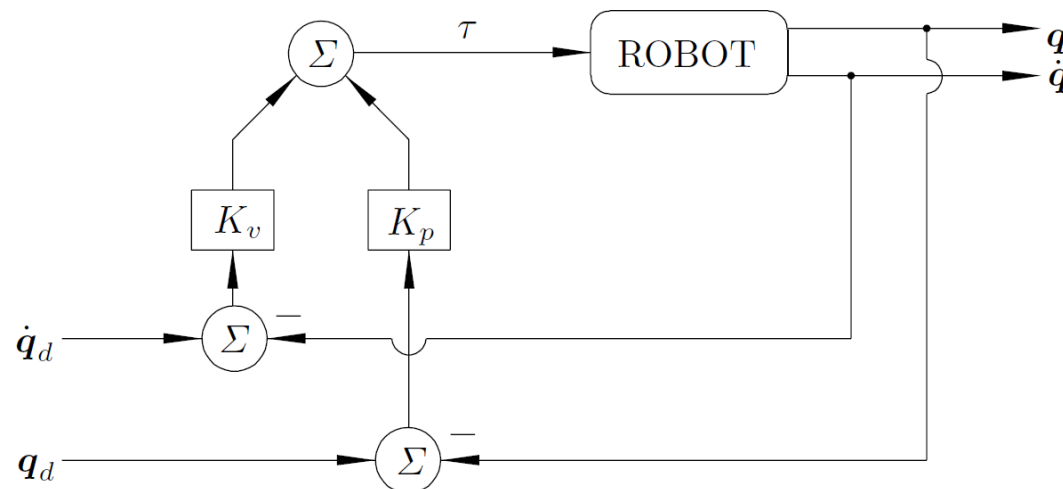
(or P Control Plus Velocity Feedback)

The PD (Proportional Derivative) control law is given by

$$\tau = K_p e + K_v \dot{e} \quad \xrightarrow[\dot{q}_d = 0]{\text{Since } q_d = \text{constant}} \quad \tau = K_p e - K_v \dot{q} \quad e = q_d - q$$

$K_p, K_v \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are symmetric positive definite matrices. If $K_p = \text{diag}\{K_{p,i}\}$, $K_v = \text{diag}\{K_{v,i}\}$, the controller is called PD Independent Joint Control.

This controller is the simplest (linear) controller that may be used to control robot manipulators.



PD Control

The closed-loop dynamic equation is derived as

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = K_p e - K_v \dot{q}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} e \\ \dot{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\dot{q} \\ M(q)^{-1} (K_p e - K_v \dot{q} - C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} - g(q)) \end{bmatrix} = f(e, \dot{q}) \quad (*) \quad q = q_d - e$$

The system is **autonomous** because q_d is constant.

Note: In general, this system may have several equilibrium points, and the origin $(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ is not necessarily an equilibrium point.

$$f(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{q} = \mathbf{0}, \quad K_p e - g(q_d - e) = \mathbf{0}$$

Note: If the manipulator model does not include the gravitational torques term $g(q)$ (e.g., those which move only on the horizontal plane), then the only equilibrium is the origin $(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$.

PD Control (when $g(q) = 0$)

To study the stability of the equilibrium we can use Lyapunov's direct method and LaSalle's Theorem to show asymptotic stability of the origin $(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0}$.

Consider a Lyapunov function candidate as $V(e, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}^T M(q) \dot{q} + \frac{1}{2} e^T K_p e > 0$ (PD)

$$\dot{V}(e, \dot{q}) = \dot{q}^T M(q) \ddot{q} + \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}^T \dot{M}(q) \dot{q} + e^T K_p \dot{e} \quad \forall e, \dot{q} \neq \mathbf{0}$$

Kinetic energy of the arm

$$M(q) \ddot{q} = K_p e - K_v \dot{q} - C(q, \dot{q}) \dot{q}, \quad \dot{e} = -\dot{q} \quad (*)$$

$$\dot{q}^T \left[\frac{1}{2} \dot{M} - C \right] \dot{q} = 0 \quad (\text{Property of dynamic model})$$

$$\dot{V}(e, \dot{q}) = -\dot{q}^T K_v \dot{q} \leq 0 \quad (\text{NSD})$$

Equilibrium Point Theorem →

The origin $(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0}$ is (globally) stable and the solutions $e(t)$ and $\dot{q}(t)$ are bounded.

PD Control (when $g(q) = 0$)

Now, we use LaSalle (invariant set) theorem to analyze the global asymptotic stability of the origin.

$$R = \{(e, \dot{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n} : \dot{V}(e, \dot{q}) = 0\}$$

$(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0}$ is the largest invariant set in R

\Rightarrow The origin $(e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0}$ is globally asymptotically stable for any initial condition $q(0), \dot{q}(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \mathbf{0} \qquad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{q}(t) = \mathbf{0}$$

\Rightarrow Thus, the control objective is achieved.

Note: Friction at the joints may also affect the position error.

PD Control (when $g(q) \neq 0$)

The study of unicity of the equilibrium and boundedness of solutions for a control system under PD control when $g(q) \neq 0$ is somewhat more complex than when $g(q) = 0$.

For robots with only revolute joints, we can prove that

- For any $K_p = K_p^T > 0$, $K_v = K_v^T > 0$, it is guaranteed that $e(t)$ and $\dot{q}(t)$ are bounded for all initial conditions. Moreover, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{q}(t) = 0$ (it does not guarantee $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t) = q_d$ or even $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t) = \text{constant}$).
- By choosing K_p sufficiently large, e.g., $\lambda_{\min}(K_p) > n \cdot \left(\max_{i,j,q} \left| \frac{\partial g_i(q)}{\partial q_j} \right| \right)$, then the closed-loop equation has a unique equilibrium (but not necessarily at origin).
- The error bound decreases, as $K_{v,i}$ become larger (in case $K_v = \text{diag}\{K_{v,i}\}$), however, large $K_{v,i}$ can saturate the robot actuators.

\Rightarrow Thus, the control objective cannot be achieved using PD control unless the desired position q_d is such that $g(q_d) = 0$ (i.e., the origin $(e, \dot{q}) = 0$ is an equilibrium).

Note: Friction at the joints may also affect the position error.

PD Control with Gravity Compensation

PD Control with Gravity Compensation

The PD control law with gravity compensation is given by

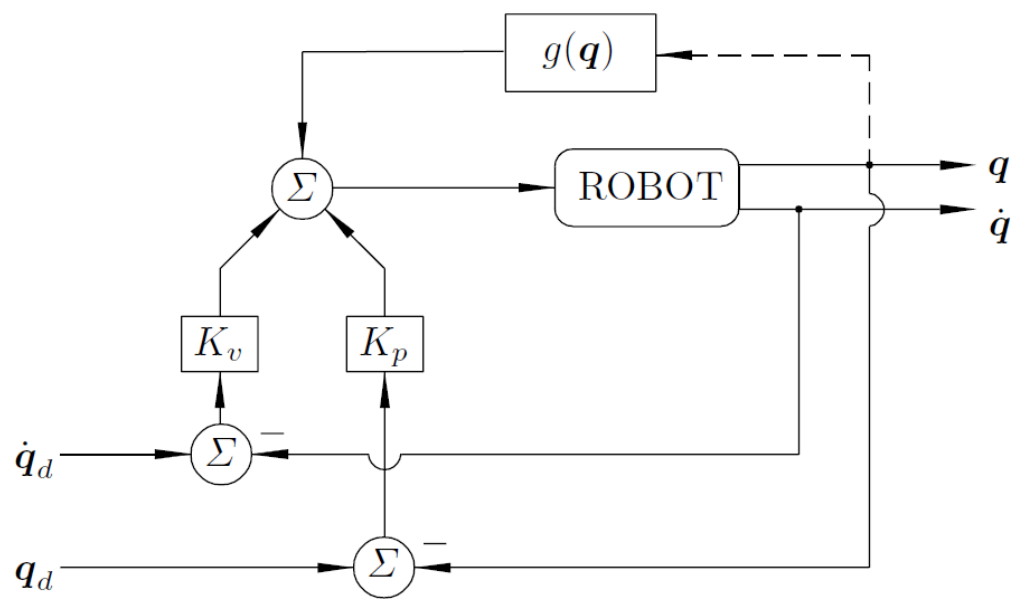
$$\tau = K_p e + K_v \dot{e} + g(q)$$

Since $q_d = \text{constant}$
 $\dot{q}_d = 0$

$$\tau = K_p e - K_v \dot{q} + g(q)$$

$K_p, K_v \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are symmetric positive definite matrices.

$e = q_d - q$



PD Control with Gravity Compensation

The closed-loop dynamic equation is derived as

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q})$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\dot{\mathbf{q}} \\ \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})^{-1}(\mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}}) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) \quad \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_d - \mathbf{e}$$

The system is **autonomous**, and the origin $(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ is the only equilibrium point.

Note: Using the same proof given for PD Control when $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{0}$, we can show that the origin $(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0}$ is globally asymptotically stable for any initial condition $\mathbf{q}(0), \dot{\mathbf{q}}(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{0} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t) = \mathbf{0}$$

\Rightarrow Thus, the position control objective is achieved.

Note: Friction at the joints may also affect the position error.

PD Control with Desired Gravity Compensation

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PD Control with Desired Gravity Compensation

The closed-loop dynamic equation is derived as

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}_d)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\dot{\mathbf{q}} \\ \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})^{-1} \left(\mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{K}_v \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}} - \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}_d) \right) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})$$

$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_d - \mathbf{e}$

The system is **autonomous** (since \mathbf{q}_d is constant), and in general, may have multiple equilibria which the origin $(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ is always one of them:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{K}_p \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}_d - \mathbf{e}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}_d) = \mathbf{0}$$

PD Control with Desired Gravity Compensation

For robots with only revolute joints, we can prove that

- For any $\mathbf{K}_p = \mathbf{K}_p^T > 0$, $\mathbf{K}_v = \mathbf{K}_v^T > 0$, it is guaranteed that $\mathbf{e}(t)$ and $\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)$ are bounded for all initial conditions. Moreover, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t) = \mathbf{0}$ (it does not guarantee $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{q}_d$ or even $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{q}(t) = \text{constant}$).
- By choosing \mathbf{K}_p sufficiently large, e.g., $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{K}_p) > n \cdot \left(\max_{i,j,q} \left| \frac{\partial g_i(\mathbf{q})}{\partial q_j} \right| \right)$, then the closed-loop equation has a unique equilibrium at origin $(\mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0}$ and it is globally asymptotically stable.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{0} \qquad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t) = \mathbf{0}$$

\Rightarrow Thus, the position control objective is achieved.

Note: Friction at the joints may also affect the position error.

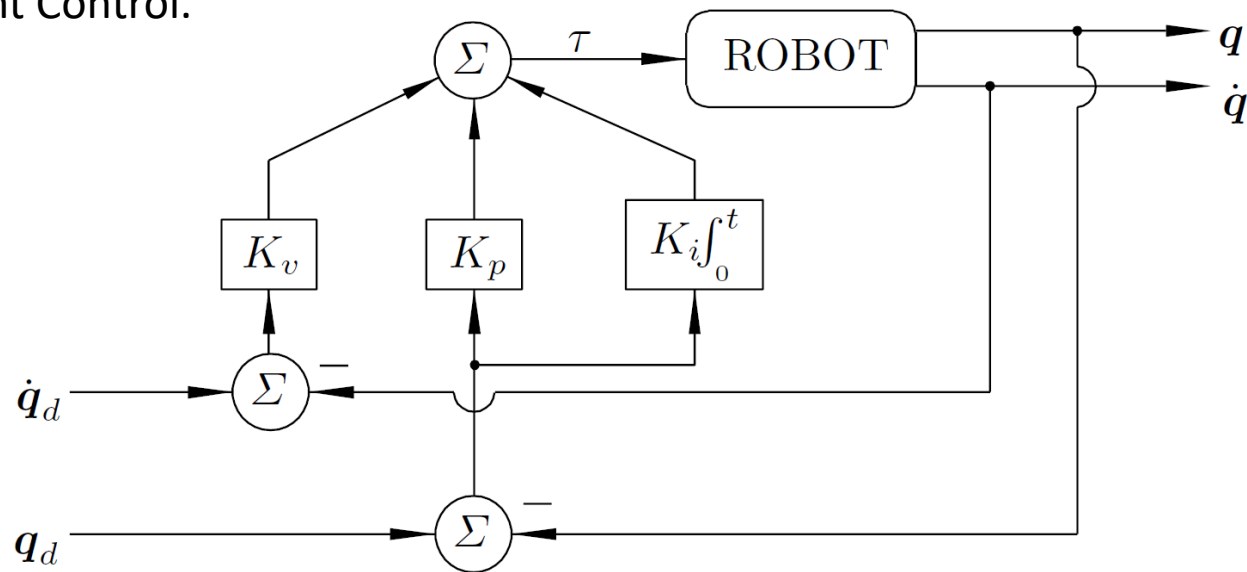
PID Control

PID Control

The PID (Proportional Integral Derivative) control law is given by

$$\tau = K_p e + K_v \dot{e} + K_i \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau \quad e = q_d - q$$

$K_p, K_v, K_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ (position, velocity, and integral gains) are symmetric positive definite matrices. If $K_p = \text{diag}\{K_{p,i}\}$, $K_v = \text{diag}\{K_{v,i}\}$, $K_i = \text{diag}\{K_{i,i}\}$, the controller is called PID Independent Joint Control.



PID Control

The closed-loop dynamic equation is derived as

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = K_p e + K_v \dot{e} + K_i \overbrace{\int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau}^{\xi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + g(q) = K_p e + K_v \dot{e} + K_i \xi \\ \dot{\xi} = e \end{cases} \quad q = q_d - e$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \xi \\ e \\ \dot{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e \\ -\dot{q} \\ M(q)^{-1} (K_p e - K_v \dot{q} + K_i \xi - C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} - g(q)) \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{point}]{\text{equilibrium}} \begin{bmatrix} K_i^{-1} g(q_d) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Translating this equilibrium point to the origin via a suitable change of variable:

$$z = \xi - K_i^{-1} g(q_d)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ e \\ \dot{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e \\ -\dot{q} \\ M(q)^{-1} (K_p e - K_v \dot{q} + K_i z + g(q_d) - C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} - g(q)) \end{bmatrix}$$

The system is **autonomous**, and its unique equilibrium is the origin $(z, e, \dot{q}) = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$.

PID Control: Tuning Method

For robots with only revolute joints, we can prove that the symmetric positive definite matrices \mathbf{K}_p , \mathbf{K}_i , \mathbf{K}_v which satisfy the following relations can only guarantee achievement of the position control objective by making the origin $(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{0}$ locally asymptotically stable (i.e., if $\mathbf{e}(t)$, $\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)$ are “sufficiently small”, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{0}$).

$$\lambda_{\max}\{\mathbf{K}_i\} \geq \lambda_{\min}\{\mathbf{K}_i\} > 0$$

$$\lambda_{\max}\{\mathbf{K}_p\} \geq \lambda_{\min}\{\mathbf{K}_p\} > n \cdot k_g$$

$$\lambda_{\max}\{\mathbf{K}_v\} \geq \lambda_{\min}\{\mathbf{K}_v\} > \frac{\lambda_{\max}\{\mathbf{K}_i\}}{\lambda_{\min}\{\mathbf{K}_p\} - k_g} \cdot \frac{\lambda_{\max}^2(\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}))}{\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}))}$$

$$k_g = \max_{i,j,q} \left| \frac{\partial g_i(\mathbf{q})}{\partial q_j} \right|$$

Note: A system with \mathbf{K}_p , \mathbf{K}_i , \mathbf{K}_v parameters which satisfy these relations does not necessarily achieve a proper settling time. It is possible to find a set of the symmetric PD matrices \mathbf{K}_p , \mathbf{K}_i , \mathbf{K}_v which achieve a small settling time, while violating these relations.