

MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

LINEAR TIME-VARYING AND NONLINEAR MPC

Alberto Bemporad

<http://cse.lab.imtlucca.it/~bemporad>

✓ Linear model predictive control (MPC)

- Linear time-varying and nonlinear MPC
- MPC computations: quadratic programming (QP), explicit MPC
- Hybrid MPC
- Stochastic MPC
- Data-driven MPC

MATLAB Toolboxes:

- **MPC Toolbox** (linear/explicit/parameter-varying MPC)
- **Hybrid Toolbox** (explicit MPC, hybrid systems)

Course page:

http://cse.lab.imtlucca.it/~bemporad/mpc_course.html

LINEAR TIME-VARYING MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

- **Linear Parameter-Varying (LPV)** model

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} &= A(p(t))x_k + B(p(t))u_k + B_v(p(t))v_k \\ y_k &= C(p(t))x_k + D_v(p(t))v_k \end{cases}$$

that depends on a vector $p(t)$ of parameters

- The weights in the quadratic performance index can also be LPV
- The resulting optimization problem is still a QP

$$\begin{aligned} \min_z \quad & \frac{1}{2} z' H(p(t)) z + \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ r(t) \\ u(t-1) \end{bmatrix}' F(p(t))' z \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & G(p(t)) z \leq W(p(t)) + S(p(t)) \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ r(t) \\ u(t-1) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- The QP matrices must be constructed online, contrarily to the LTI case

LINEARIZING A NONLINEAR MODEL: LPV CASE

- An LPV model can be obtained by linearizing the **nonlinear model**

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_c(t) &= f(x_c(t), u_c(t), p_c(t)) \\ y_c(t) &= g(x_c(t), p_c(t)) \end{cases}$$

- $p_c \in \mathbb{R}^{n_p}$ = a vector of exogenous signals (e.g., ambient conditions)
- At time t , consider **nominal values** $\bar{x}_c(t)$, $\bar{u}_c(t)$, $\bar{p}_c(t)$ and linearize

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\tau}(x_c(t+\tau) - \bar{x}_c(t)) &= \frac{d}{d\tau}(x_c(t+\tau)) \simeq \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{\bar{x}_c(t), \bar{u}_c(t), \bar{p}_c(t)}}_{A_c(t)} (x_c(t+\tau) - \bar{x}_c(t)) + \\ &\underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \Big|_{\bar{x}_c(t), \bar{u}_c(t), \bar{p}_c(t)}}_{B_c(t)} (u_c(t+\tau) - \bar{u}_c(t)) + \underbrace{f(\bar{x}_c(t), \bar{u}_c(t), \bar{p}_c(t))}_{B_{vc}(t)} \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$$

- Convert $(A_c, [B_c \ B_{vc}])$ to discrete-time and get prediction model $(A, [B \ B_v])$
- Same thing for the output equation to get matrices C and D_v

- **Linear Time-Varying (LTV)** model

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} &= A_{\mathbf{k}}(t)x_k + B_{\mathbf{k}}(t)u_k \\ y_k &= C_{\mathbf{k}}(t)x_k \end{cases}$$

- At each time t the model can also change over the prediction horizon k
- The measured disturbance is embedded in the model
- The resulting optimization problem is still a QP

$$\begin{aligned} \min_z \quad & \frac{1}{2} z' H(\mathbf{t}) z + \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ r(t) \\ u(t-1) \end{bmatrix}' F(\mathbf{t})' z \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & G(\mathbf{t}) z \leq W(\mathbf{t}) + S(\mathbf{t}) \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ r(t) \\ u(t-1) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- As for LPV-MPC, the QP matrices must be constructed online

LINEARIZING A NONLINEAR MODEL: LTV CASE

- LPV/LTV models can be obtained by linearizing **nonlinear models**

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_c(t) &= f(x_c(t), u_c(t), p_c(t)) \\ y_c(t) &= g(x_c(t), p_c(t)) \end{cases}$$

- At time t , consider **nominal trajectories**

$$U = \{\bar{u}_c(t), \bar{u}_c(t + T_s), \dots, \bar{u}_c(t + (N - 1)T_s)\}$$

(example: U = shifted previous optimal sequence or input ref. trajectory)

$$P = \{\bar{p}_c(t), \bar{p}_c(t + T_s), \dots, \bar{p}_c(t + (N - 1)T_s)\}$$

(no preview: $\bar{p}_c(t + k) \equiv \bar{p}_c(t)$)

- Integrate** the model and get nominal state/output trajectories

$$X = \{\bar{x}_c(t), \bar{x}_c(t + T_s), \dots, \bar{x}_c(t + (N - 1)T_s)\}$$

$$Y = \{\bar{y}_c(t), \bar{y}_c(t + T_s), \dots, \bar{y}_c(t + (N - 1)T_s)\}$$

- Examples: $\bar{x}_c(t)$ = current $x_c(t)$; $\bar{x}_c(t)$ = equilibrium; $\bar{x}_c(t)$ = reference

LINEARIZING A NONLINEAR MODEL: LTV CASE

- While integrating, also compute the **sensitivities**

$$\begin{aligned}A_k(t) &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}_c(t + (k + 1)T_s)}{\bar{x}_c(t + kT_s)} \\B_k(t) &= \frac{\partial \bar{x}_c(t + (k + 1)T_s)}{\bar{u}_c(t + kT_s)} \\C_k(t) &= \frac{\partial \bar{y}_c(t + kT_s)}{\bar{x}_c(t + kT_s)}\end{aligned}$$

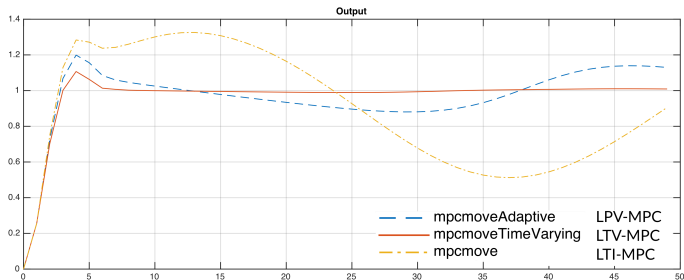
- Approximate the NL model as the LTV model

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \overbrace{x_c(k + 1) - \bar{x}_c(k + 1)}^{x_{k+1}} = A_k(t) \overbrace{(x_c(k) - \bar{x}_c(k))}^{x_k} + B_k(t) \overbrace{(u_c(k) - \bar{u}_c(k))}^{u_k} \\ \underbrace{y_c(k) - \bar{y}_c(k)}_{y_k} = C_k(t) \underbrace{(x_c(k) - \bar{x}_c(k))}_{x_k} \end{array} \right.$$

LTV-MPC EXAMPLE

- Process model is LTV

$$\frac{d^3 y}{dt^3} + 3 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dt} + (6 + \sin(5t))y = 5 \frac{du}{dt} + \left(5 + 2 \cos \left(\frac{5}{2}t \right) \right) u$$



- LTI-MPC cannot track the setpoint, LPV-MPC tries to catch-up with time-varying model, LTV-MPC has preview on future model values

(See demo `TimeVaryingMPCControlOfATimeVaryingLinearSystemExample` in MPC Toolbox)

LTV-MPC EXAMPLE

- Define LTV model

```
Models = tf; ct = 1;
for t = 0:0.1:10
    Models(:, :, ct) = tf([5 5+2*cos(2.5*t)], [1 3 2 6+sin(5*t)]);
    ct = ct + 1;
end

Ts = 0.1; % sampling time
Models = ss(c2d(Models, Ts));
```

- Design MPC controller

```
sys = ss(c2d(tf([5 5], [1 3 2 6]), Ts)); % average model time
p = 3; % prediction horizon
m = 3; % control horizon
mpcobj = mpc(sys, Ts, p, m);

mpcobj.MV = struct('Min', -2, 'Max', 2); % input constraints
mpcobj.Weights = struct('MV', 0, 'MVRate', 0.01, 'Output', 1);
```

LTV-MPC EXAMPLE

- Simulate LTV system with **LTI-MPC** controller

```
for ct = 1:(Tstop/Ts+1)
    real_plant = Models(:,:,ct); % Get the current plant
    y = real_plant.C*x;
    u = mpcmove(mpcobj,xmpc,y,1); % Apply LTI MPC
    x = real_plant.A*x + real_plant.B*u;
end
```

- Simulate LTV system with **LPV-MPC** controller

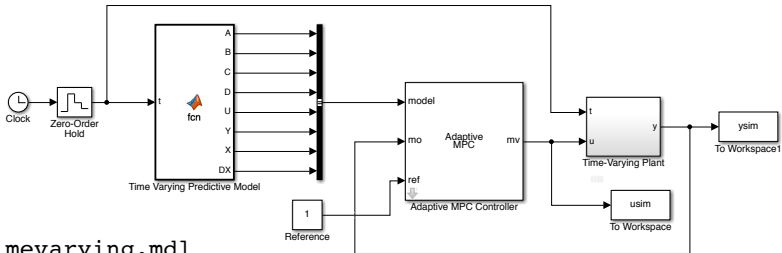
```
for ct = 1:(Tstop/Ts+1)
    real_plant = Models(:,:,ct); % Get the current plant
    y = real_plant.C*x;
    u = mpcmoveAdaptive(mpcobj,xmpc,real_plant,nominal,y,1);
    x = real_plant.A*x + real_plant.B*u;
end
```

LTV-MPC EXAMPLE

- Simulate LTV system with **LTV-MPC** controller

```
for ct = 1:(Tstop/Ts+1)
    real_plant = Models(:,:,ct); % Get the current plant
    y = real_plant.C*x;
    u = mpcmoveAdaptive(mpcobj,xmpc,Models(:,:,ct:ct+p),Nominals,y,1);
    x = real_plant.A*x + real_plant.B*u;
end
```

- Simulate in Simulink



mpc_timevarying.mdl

LTV-MPC EXAMPLE

- Simulink block

need to provide 3D array
of future models



`mpc_timevarying.mdl`

Block Parameters: Adaptive MPC Controller

Adaptive MPC (mask) (link)

The Adaptive MPC Controller block lets you design and simulate an adaptive model predictive controller defined in the Model Predictive Control Toolbox.

Parameters

Adaptive MPC Controller

Initial Controller State

General Online Features Others

Prediction Model

☒ Linear Time-Varying (LTV) plants (model expects 3-D signals)

Constraints

☐ Plant input and output limits (umin, umax, ymin, ymax)

Weights

☐ Weights on plant outputs (y.wt)

☐ Weights on manipulated variables (u.wt)

☐ Weights on manipulated variable changes (du.wt)

☐ Weight on overall constraint softening (ecr.wt)

MV Targets

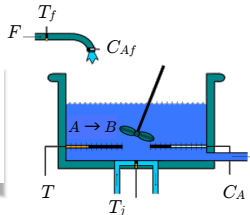
☐ Targets for manipulated variables (mv.target)

OK Cancel Help Apply

EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- MPC control of a diabatic **continuous stirred tank reactor (CSTR)**
- Process model is nonlinear

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dC_A}{dt} &= \frac{F}{V}(C_{Af} - C_A) - C_A k_0 e^{-\frac{\Delta E}{RT}} \\ \frac{dT}{dt} &= \frac{F}{V}(T_f - T) + \frac{UA}{\rho C_p V}(T_j - T) - \frac{\Delta H}{\rho C_p} C_A k_0 e^{-\frac{\Delta E}{RT}}\end{aligned}$$



- T : temperature inside the reactor $[K]$ (state)
 - C_A : concentration of the reactant in the reactor $[kgmol/m^3]$ (state)
 - T_j : jacket temperature $[K]$ (input)
 - T_f : feedstream temperature $[K]$ (measured disturbance)
 - C_{Af} : feedstream concentration $[kgmol/m^3]$ (measured disturbance)
- Objective: **manipulate** T_j to **regulate** C_A on desired setpoint

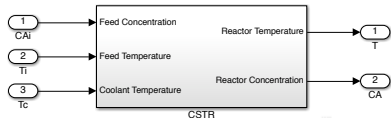
```
>> edit ampcstr_linearization
```

(MPC Toolbox)

EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

Process model:

```
>> mpc_cstr_plant
```



```
% Create operating point specification.
plant_mdl = 'mpc_cstr_plant';
op =operspec(plant_mdl);

op.Inputs(1).u = 10; % Feed concentration known @initial condition
op.Inputs(1).Known = true;
op.Inputs(2).u = 298.15; % Feed concentration known @initial condition
op.Inputs(2).Known = true;
op.Inputs(3).u = 298.15; % Coolant temperature known @initial condition
op.Inputs(3).Known = true;

[op_point, op_report] = findop(plant_mdl,op); % Compute initial condition

x0 = [op_report.States(1).x;op_report.States(2).x];
y0 = [op_report.Outputs(1).y;op_report.Outputs(2).y];
u0 = [op_report.Inputs(1).u;op_report.Inputs(2).u;op_report.Inputs(3).u];

% Obtain linear plant model at the initial condition.
sys = linearize(plant_mdl, op_point);
sys = sys(:,2:3); % First plant input CAi dropped because not used by MPC
```

EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- MPC design

```
% Discretize the plant model
Ts = 0.5; % hours
plant = c2d(sys,Ts);

% Design MPC Controller

% Specify signal types used in MPC
plant.InputGroup.MeasuredDisturbances = 1;
plant.InputGroup.ManipulatedVariables = 2;
plant.OutputGroup.Measured = 1;
plant.OutputGroup.Unmeasured = 2;
plant.InputName = 'Ti','Tc';
plant.OutputName = 'T','CA';

% Create MPC controller with default prediction and control horizons
mpcobj = mpc(plant);

% Set nominal values in the controller
mpcobj.Model.Nominal = struct('X', x0, 'U', u0(2:3), 'Y', y0, 'DX', [0 0]);
```


EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- MPC design (cont'd)

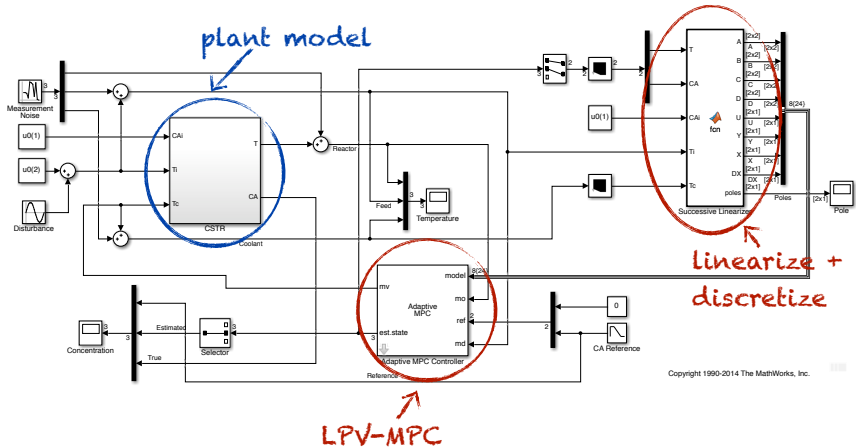
```
% Set scale factors because plant input and output signals have different
% orders of magnitude
Uscale = [30 50];
Yscale = [50 10];
mpcobj.DV(1).ScaleFactor = Uscale(1);
mpcobj.MV(1).ScaleFactor = Uscale(2);
mpcobj.OV(1).ScaleFactor = Yscale(1);
mpcobj.OV(2).ScaleFactor = Yscale(2);

% Let reactor temperature T float (i.e. with no setpoint tracking error
% penalty), because the objective is to control reactor concentration CA
% and only one manipulated variable (coolant temperature Tc) is available.
mpcobj.Weights.OV = [0 1];

% Due to the physical constraint of coolant jacket, Tc rate of change is
% bounded by degrees per minute.
mpcobj.MV.RateMin = -2;
mpcobj.MV.RateMax = 2;
```

EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- Simulink diagram

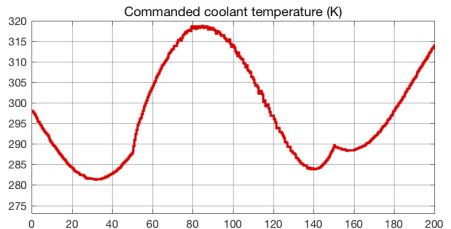
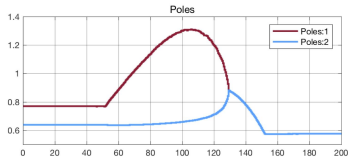
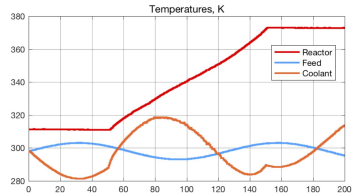
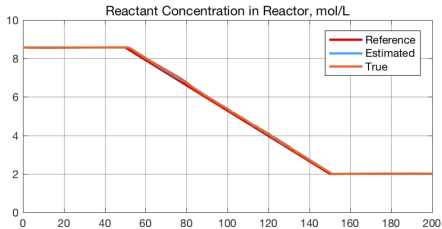


Copyright 1990-2014 The MathWorks, Inc.

```
>> edit ampc_cstr_linearization
```

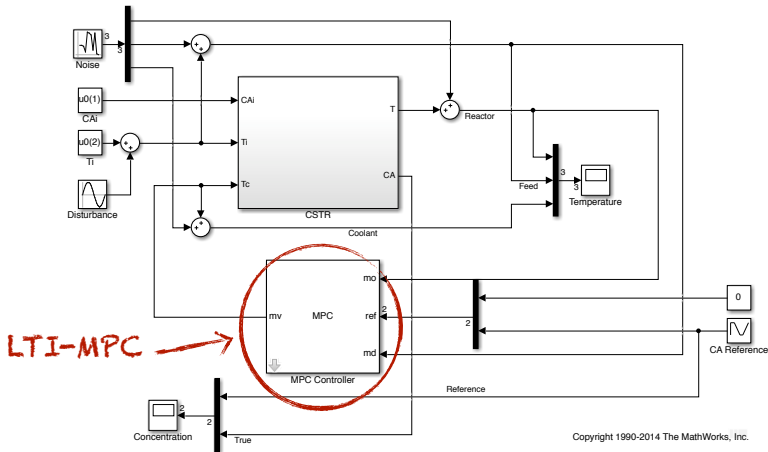
EXAMPLE: LPV-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- Closed-loop results



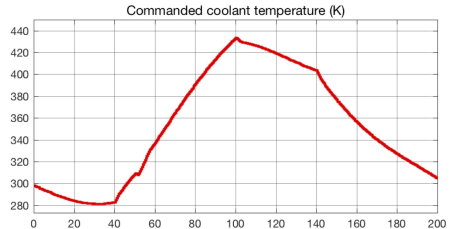
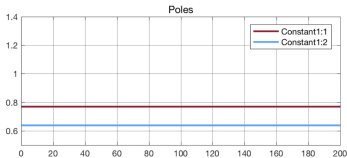
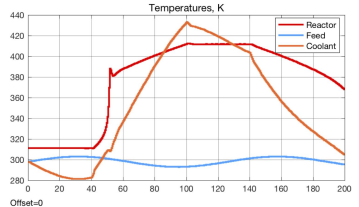
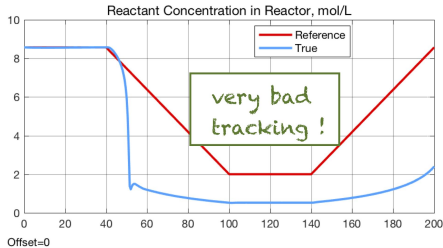
EXAMPLE: LTI-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- Closed-loop results with **LTI-MPC**, same tuning



EXAMPLE: LTI-MPC OF A NONLINEAR CSTR SYSTEM

- Closed-loop results



- Process model = **LTV model with noise**

$$\begin{aligned}x(k+1) &= A(k)x(k) + B(k)u(k) + G(k)\xi(k) \\ y(k) &= C(k)x(k) + \zeta(k)\end{aligned}$$

- $\xi(k) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ = zero-mean white **process noise** with covariance $Q(k) \succeq 0$
- $\zeta(k) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ = zero-mean white **measurement noise** with covariance $R(k) \succ 0$
- measurement update:**

$$\begin{aligned}M(k) &= P(k|k-1)C(k)'[C(k)P(k|k-1)C(k)' + R(k)]^{-1} \\ \hat{x}(k|k) &= \hat{x}(k|k-1) + M(k)(y(k) - C(k)\hat{x}(k|k-1)) \\ P(k|k) &= (I - M(k)C(k))P(k|k-1)\end{aligned}$$

- time update:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}(k+1|k) &= A(k)\hat{x}(k|k) + B(k)u(k) \\ P(k+1|k) &= A(k)P(k|k)A(k)' + G(k)Q(k)G(k)'\end{aligned}$$

EXTENDED KALMAN FILTER

- Process model = **nonlinear model with noise**

$$\begin{aligned}x(k+1) &= f(x(k), u(k), \xi(k)) \\ y(k) &= g(x(k), u(k)) + \zeta(k)\end{aligned}$$

- measurement update:**

$$\begin{aligned}C(k) &= \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(\hat{x}_{k|k-1}, u(k)) \\ M(k) &= P(k|k-1)C(k)'[C(k)P(k|k-1)C(k)' + R(k)]^{-1} \\ \hat{x}(k|k) &= \hat{x}(k|k-1) + M(k)(y(k) - g(\hat{x}(k|k-1), u(k))) \\ P(k|k) &= (I - M(k)C(k))P(k|k-1)\end{aligned}$$

- time update:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}(k+1|k) &= f(\hat{x}(k|k), u(k)) \\ A(k) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\hat{x}_{k|k}, u(k), E[\xi(k)]), \quad G(k) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \xi}(\hat{x}_{k|k}, u(k), E[\xi(k)]) \\ P(k+1|k) &= A(k)P(k|k)A(k)' + G(k)Q(k)G(k)'\end{aligned}$$

NONLINEAR MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL

- Nonlinear prediction model

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} &= f(x_k, u_k) \\ y_k &= g(x_k, u_k) \end{cases}$$

- Nonlinear constraints $h(x_k, u_k) \leq 0$
- Nonlinear performance index $\min \ell_N(x_N) + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_k, u_k)$
- Optimization problem: **nonlinear programming problem (NLP)**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_z & F(z, \mathbf{x}(t)) \\ \text{s.t.} & G(z, \mathbf{x}(t)) \leq 0 \\ & H(z, \mathbf{x}(t)) = 0 \end{array}$$

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

(Nocedal, Wright, 2006)

- (Nonconvex) NLP is harder to solve than QP
- Convergence to a global optimum may not be guaranteed
- Several NLP solvers exist (such as **Sequential Quadratic Programming (SQP)**)
- NL-MPC is not used in practice so often, except for dealing with strong dynamical nonlinearities and slow processes (such as chemical processes)

- **Fast MPC:** exploit **sensitivity analysis** to compensate for the computational delay caused by solving the NLP
- **Key idea:** pre-solve the NLP between time $t - 1$ and t based on the predicted state $x^*(t) = f(x(t - 1), u(t - 1))$ in background
- Get $u^*(t)$ and sensitivity $\left. \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial x} \right|_{x^*(t)}$ within sample interval $[(t - 1)T_s, tT_s)$
- At time t , get $x(t)$ and compute

$$u(t) = u^*(t) + \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial x}(x(t) - x^*(t))$$

- Note that still one NLP must be solved within the sample interval

FROM LTV-MPC TO NL-MPC

- **Key idea:** Solve a **sequence of LTV-MPC** problems at the same time t
- Given the current state $x(t)$ and reference $\{r(t+k), u_r(t+k)\}$, initial guess $U_0 = \{u_0^0, \dots, u_{N-1}^0\}$ and corresponding state trajectory $X_0 = \{x_0^0, \dots, x_N^0\}$
- A good initial guess U_0, X_0 is the previous (shifted) optimal solution
- At a generic iteration i , **linearize** the NL model around U_i, X_i :

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} &= f(x_k, u_k) \\ y_k &= g(x_k) \end{cases}$$

$$A_i = \frac{\partial f(x_0^i, u_0^i)}{\partial x}, \quad B_i = \frac{\partial f(x_0^i, u_0^i)}{\partial u}, \quad C_i = \frac{\partial g(x_0^i, u_0^i)}{\partial x}$$

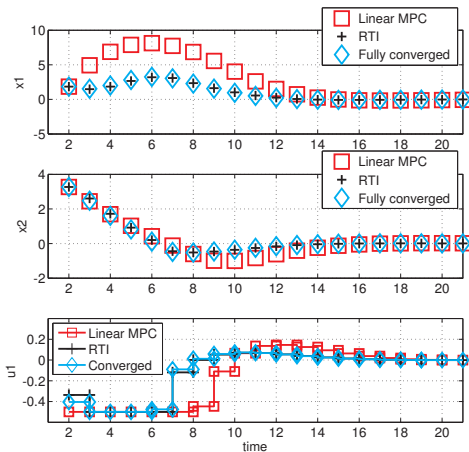
For $h = 0$ to $h_{\max} - 1$ do:

1. Simulate from $x(t)$ with inputs U_h , parameter sequence P and get state trajectory X_h and output trajectory Y_h
2. Linearize around (X_h, U_h, P) and discretize in time with sample time T_s
3. Let U_{h+1}^* be the solution of the QP problem corresponding to LTV-MPC
4. Find optimal step size $\alpha_h \in (0, 1]$;
5. Set $U_{h+1} = (1 - \alpha_h)U_h + \alpha_h U_{h+1}^*$;

Return solution $U_{h_{\max}}$

- The method above is a **Gauss-Newton method** to solve the NL-MPC problem
- Special case: just solve one iteration with $\alpha = 1$ (a.k.a. **Real-Time Iteration**)
(Diehl, Bock, Schlöder, Findeisen, Nagy, Allgower, 2002)

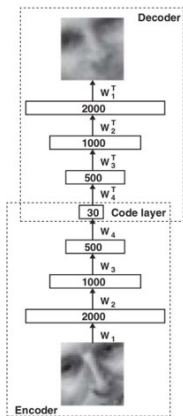
- Example



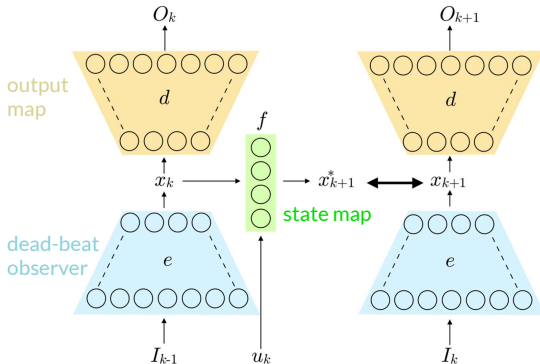
LEARNING NONLINEAR MODELS FOR MPC

(Masti, Bemporad, CDC 2018)

- Idea:** use **autoencoders** and artificial neural networks to learn a **nonlinear state-space model** of **desired order** from input/output data



(Hinton, Salakhutdinov, 2006)



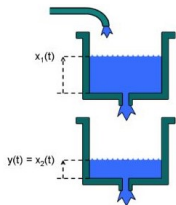
$$O_k = [y'_k \dots y'_{k-m}]'$$

$$I_k = [y'_k \dots y'_{k-n_a+1} \ u'_k \dots u'_{k-n_b+1}]'$$

LEARNING NONLINEAR MODELS FOR MPC - AN EXAMPLE

(Masti, Bemporad, CDC 2018)

- System generating the data = nonlinear 2-tank benchmark

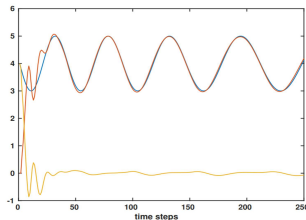


www.mathworks.com

$$\begin{cases} x_1(k+1) = x_1(k) - k_1 \sqrt{x_1(k)} + k_2(u(k) + w(k)) \\ x_2(k+1) = x_2(k) + k_3 \sqrt{x_1(k)} - k_4 \sqrt{x_2(k)} \\ y(k) = x_2(k) + v(k) \end{cases}$$

Model is totally unknown to learning algorithm

- Artificial neural network (ANN): 3 hidden layers
60 exponential linear unit (ELU) neurons
- For given number of model parameters,
autoencoder approach is superior to NNARX
- Jacobians** directly obtained from ANN structure
for Kalman filtering & MPC problem construction



LTV-MPC results