

## Problem 2: Simulation of a car-trailer system<sup>1</sup>

Let us consider the car-trailer system represented in Figure 1 which has the following state equations:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{\theta}_r \\ \dot{v} \\ \dot{\delta} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v \cos \delta \cos \theta \\ v \cos \delta \sin \theta \\ \frac{v \sin \delta}{L} \\ \frac{v \cos \delta \sin(\theta - \theta_r)}{L_r} \\ u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The state vector is given by

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \\ \theta_r \\ v \\ \delta \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $x, y, \theta$  corresponds to the pose of the car (in other words, its position and orientation),  $\theta_r$  is the orientation of the trailer,  $v$  is the speed and  $\delta$  is the angle of the front wheels of the car. The parameter  $L = 3$  [m] is the distance between the two axles of the car. The parameter  $L_r = 5$  [m] represents the distance between the attachment point and the middle of the axle of the trailer.

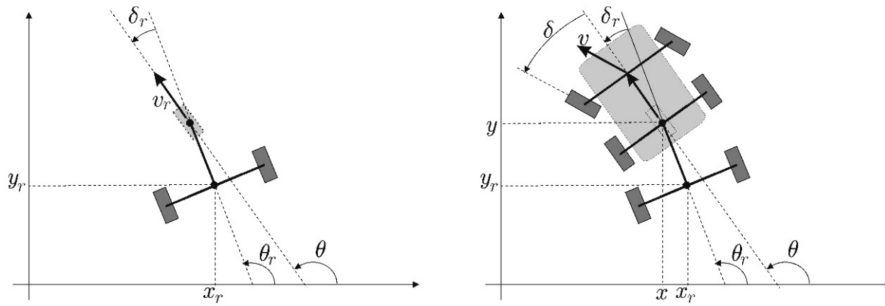


Figure 1: The car-trailer system.

- 1) Using homogeneous coordinates, design a function which draws a car-trailer system in a state  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, \theta, \theta_r, v, \delta)^T$  using the sketch of the car-trailer system represented in Figure 2 whose vertices in homogeneous coordinates are represented by the columns of the following matrix:

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from <https://www.ensta-bretagne.fr/jaulin/automooc.pdf>

$$M_{\text{trailer}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 5 & 5 & 2 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & -2 & -2 & -2 & -3 & -3 & -3 & -3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The corresponding Matlab code is:

```
M_trailer=[-1 2 5 5 2 -1 -1 -1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 2;
-2 -2 0 0 2 2 -2 -2 -2 -3 -3 -3 -3 3 3 3 3 2 2;
ones(1,19)];
```

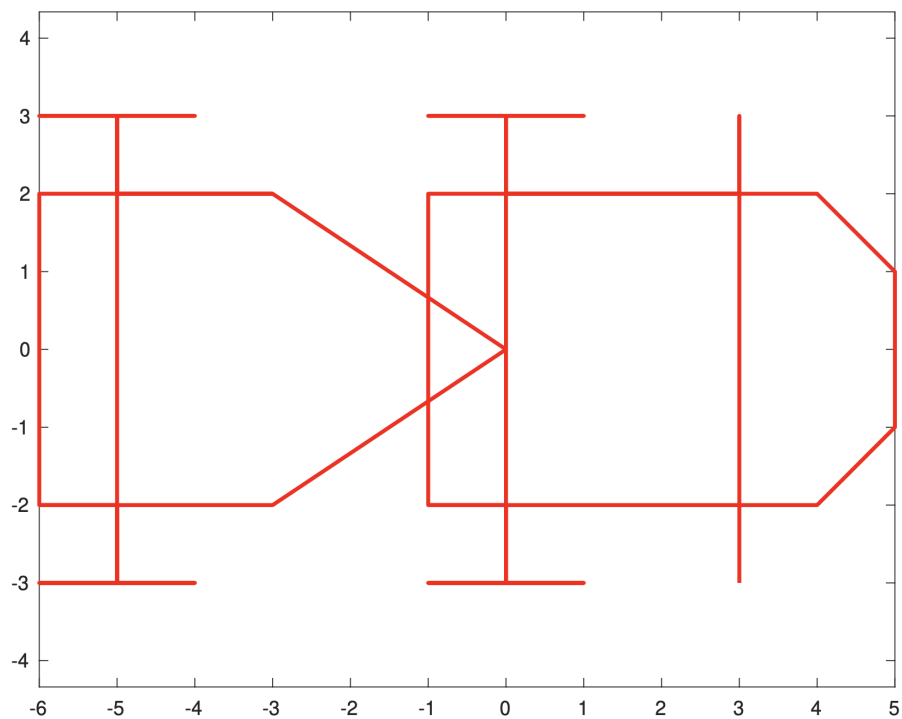


Figure 2: Sketch of the car-trailer system.

- 2) Propose a program which simulates the dynamic evolution of this car-trailer system during 5 seconds with Euler's method and a sampling step of 0.01 [s]. Take the initial state for the car-trailer system as  $\mathbf{x}(0) = (0, 0, 0, 0, 50, 0)^T$ , which means that, at time  $t = 0$ ,
  - the car is centered around the origin, with a zero orientation angle, a speed of 50 [m s<sup>-1</sup>] and the front wheels parallel to the axis of the car.
  - the trailer has zero orientation angle.

We assume that the vectorial control  $u(t)$  remains constant and equal to  $(0, 0.05)$ . Which means that the car does not accelerate (since  $u_1 = 0$ ) and that the steering wheel is turning at a constant speed of  $0.05 \text{ [rad s}^{-1}\text{]}$ .

## Solution of Problem 2

- 1) Using homogeneous coordinates, design a function which draws a car-trailer system in a state  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, \theta, \theta_r, v, \delta)^T$  using the sketch of the car-trailer system represented in Figure 2 whose vertices in homogeneous coordinates are represented by the columns of the following matrix:

$$M_{\text{trailer}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 5 & 5 & 2 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & -2 & -2 & -2 & -3 & -3 & -3 & -3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The corresponding Matlab code is:

```
M_trailer=[-1 2 5 5 2 -1 -1 -1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 2;
-2 -2 0 0 2 2 -2 -2 -2 -3 -3 -3 -3 3 3 3 3 2 2;
ones(1,19)];
```

Your solution goes here

File car\_trailer.f.m

```
function xdot = f(x,u)
% state x = (x,y,theta,theta_r,v,delta)
% control u=(u1 u2)
L=3;
L_r=5;

px=x(1);
py=x(2);
theta=x(3);
%%%%%%

%%%%%%%%
theta_r=x(4);
v=x(5);
delta=x(6);

xdot=[v*cos(delta)*cos(theta); v*cos(delta)*sin(theta); v*sin(delta)/L;
(v*cos(delta)*sin(theta-theta_r))/L_r; u(1); u(2)];
end
```

Para dibujar el trailer unido al coche debemos de modificar la representacion de estados que teniamos del coche sin trailer. Por lo tanto añadiremos  $\theta_r$  para representar el sistema coche-trailer. Gracias a esta funcion obtenemos para poder simular la evolucion del sistema tal como especifica el siguiente apartado.

- 2) Propose a program which simulates the dynamic evolution of this car-trailer system during 5 seconds with Euler's method and a sampling step of 0.01 [s]. Take the initial state for the car-trailer system as  $\mathbf{x}(0) = (0, 0, 0, 0, 50, 0)^T$ , which means that, at time  $t = 0$ ,
- the car is centered around the origin, with a zero orientation angle, a speed of 50 [m s<sup>-1</sup>] and the front wheels parallel to the axis of the car.
  - the trailer has zero orientation angle.

We assume that the vectorial control  $u(t)$  remains constant and equal to (0,0.05). Which means that the car does not accelerate (since  $u_1 = 0$ ) and that the steering wheel is turning at a constant speed of 0.05 [rad s<sup>-1</sup>].

```
File init.m

close all;
clear all;
clc;

%size = get(0,'ScreenSize'); % full screen
figure%('Position',[0 0 size(3)/2 size(4)/2]);
hold
% set(gca,'FontSize',12);
xmin=-10;
xmax=100;
ymin=-10;
ymax=100;

axis([xmin xmax ymin ymax]);
axis ('square');
```

File car\_trailer\_main.m

```
init;

%For this system, the state is x =(x,y,theta,theta_r,v,delta)

x=[0;0;0;0;50;0]; % Initial state

dt=0.01;

frame_counter=0;

car_trailer_draw(x);
plot(x(1), x(2),'red.','MarkerSize',12)

for t=0:dt:5

    u1=0;
    u2=0.05;
    u=[u1;u2];
    x=x+car_trailer_f(x,u)*dt; % Euler

    pause(dt);

    frame_counter =frame_counter+1;

    % Frame sampling
    if frame_counter == 30
        car_trailer_draw(x);
        plot(x(1), x(2),'red.','MarkerSize',12)
        frame_counter =0;
    end
end;

end;
```

## File car\_trailer\_draw.m

```
% For this system, the state is x =(x,y,theta,v,delta)
% The v state variable, since it is a speed, it is not used in this
% graphical representation

function car_trailer_draw(x)

    % Extraction of the state variables
    px = x(1);
    py = x(2);
    theta = x(3);
    theta_r = x(4);
    v = x(5);
    delta = x(6);

    % Model of the chassis of the car without front wheels (in homogeneous coordinates)
    M_chassis=[-1 4 5 5 4 -1 -1 -1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 3 3 3;
               -2 -2 -1 1 2 2 -2 -2 -2 -3 -3 -3 3 3 3 3 3 2 2 3 -3;
               ones(1,21)];

    % Model of a front wheel (in homogeneous coordinates)
    M_wheel=[-1 1;
              0 0;
              1 1];

    % Translation and rotation of the whole car (chassis and front wheels)
    % with respect to the fixed frame
    TR_px_py_theta = [cos(theta),-sin(theta), px;
                      sin(theta),cos(theta), py;
                      0 0 1];

    % Chassis of the car translated and rotated
    M_chassis_transformed=TR_px_py_theta * M_chassis;

    % Translation and rotation matrix for the right wheel
    % with respect to the chassis frame
    TR_right_wheel_delta = [cos(delta),-sin(delta), 3;
                            sin(delta),cos(delta), 3 ;
                            0 0 1];

    % Translation and rotation matrix for the left wheel
    % with respect to the chassis frame
    TR_left_wheel_delta = [cos(delta),-sin(delta), 3;
                           sin(delta),cos(delta), -3;
                           0 0 1];

    % Right front wheel translated and rotated (first with respect to the chassis frame
    % and then with respect to the fixed frame)
    M_right_wheel_transformed = TR_px_py_theta*TR_right_wheel_delta*M_wheel;

    % Left front wheel wheel translated and rotated
    % (first with respect to the chassis frame
    % and then with respect to the fixed frame)
    M_left_wheel_transformed = TR_px_py_theta*TR_left_wheel_delta*M_wheel;
```

#### File car\_trailer\_draw.m

```
%-----

% Model of the trailer (in homogeneous coordinates)
M_trailer = [-1 2 5 5 2 -1 -1 -1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 -1 1 0 0 2 ;
             -2 -2 0 0 2 2 -2 -2 -2 -3 -3 -3 -3 3 3 3 3 2 2 ;
             ones(1,19)];

T_trailer = [1 0 -5;0 1 0;0 0 1];

TR_trailer_px_py_theta = [cos(theta_r),-sin(theta_r), px;
                          sin(theta_r),cos(theta_r), py;
                          0 0 1];

M_trailer_transformed = TR_trailer_px_py_theta*T_trailer*M_trailer;

%-----

plot(M_chassis_transformed(1,:), M_chassis_transformed(2,:), 'red', 'LineWidth', 1);

plot(M_right_wheel_transformed(1,:), M_right_wheel_transformed(2,:),
     'black', 'LineWidth', 1);

plot(M_left_wheel_transformed(1,:), M_left_wheel_transformed(2,:),
     'black', 'LineWidth',1);

plot(M_trailer_transformed(1,:), M_trailer_transformed(2,:), 'blue', 'LineWidth', 1);

end
```

Mediante el empleo de estos 4 ficheros teniendo en cuenta el mostrado en el apartado 1, podemos recrear la simulación del sistema de coche y trailer, siendo el coche representado en color rojo y el trailer en azul para que sea mas facil diferenciarlos. En el fichero init.m, inicializamos los ejes; el fichero car\_trailer\_draw.m realizamos las traslaciones y las rotaciones necesarias de las ruedas frontales del coche y del trailer, ambos con respecto al chasis del coche; y por ultimo en el fichero car\_trailer\_main.m, aplicamos el metodo de Euler para realizar la simulacion del sistema durante 5 segundos tal como se especifica. A continuacion se muestra el resultado final de la simulacion del sistema:

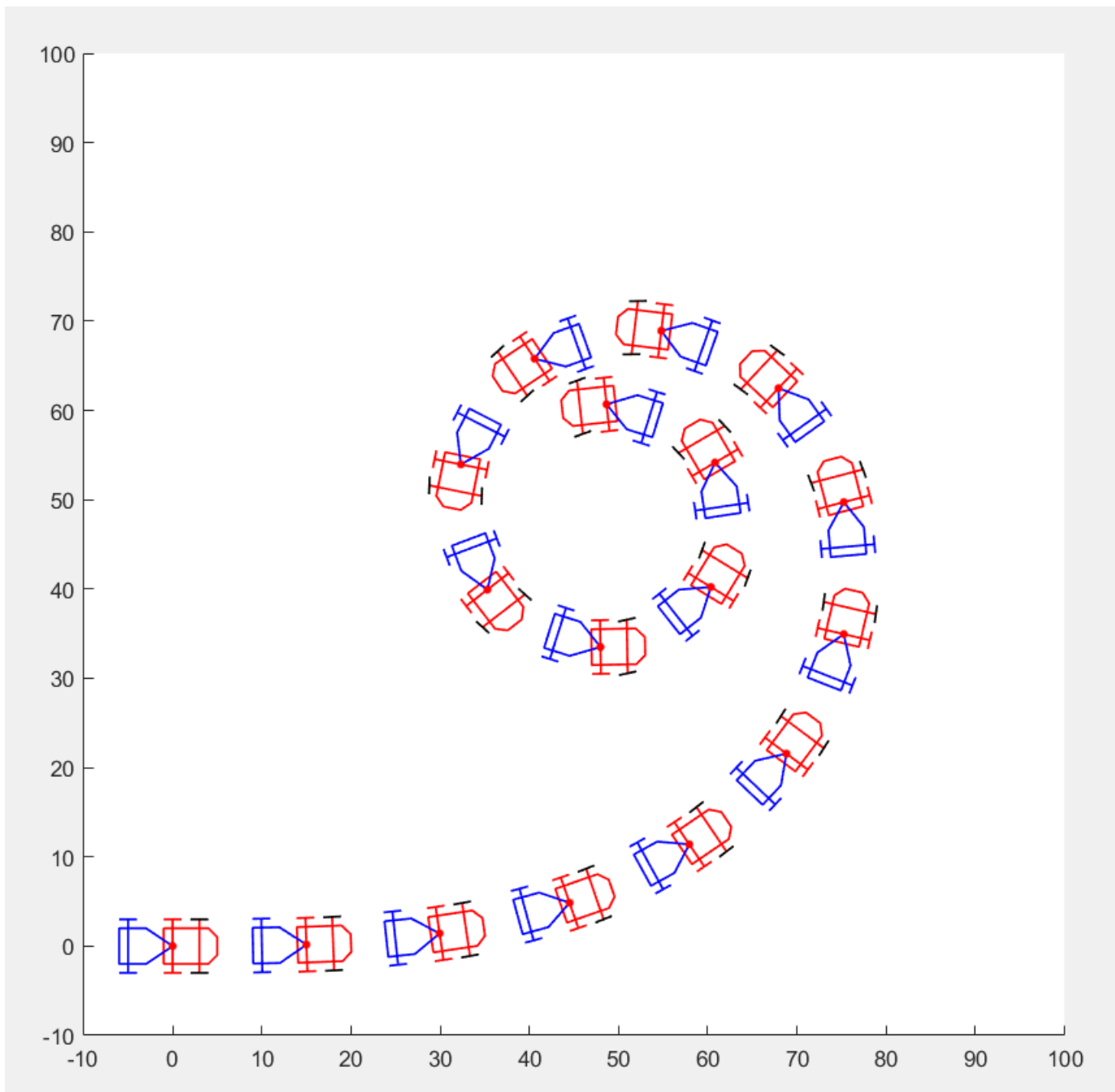


Figure 3: Simulation of the car-trailer system.