

# Physics Informed, not Physics Enforced

Many PIML methods are “encouraging” physics, rather than “enforcing” it

Post-training verification required of key properties Lyapunov, passivity, invariance, etc

# Verification & Analysis in Control

## System Dynamics and/or Controlled Systems

- Stability / dissipativity / region of attraction
- Lipschitz properties
- Robustness
- Safety properties (constraint satisfaction)

### Many people active in the area...

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## Many approaches being studied

- Conservative over-bounding
  - Lipschitz constants
  - GP bounds
- Sampling-based methods
- Function positivity / global optimization
  - Mixed-integer programming
  - SOS / Semi-definite programming

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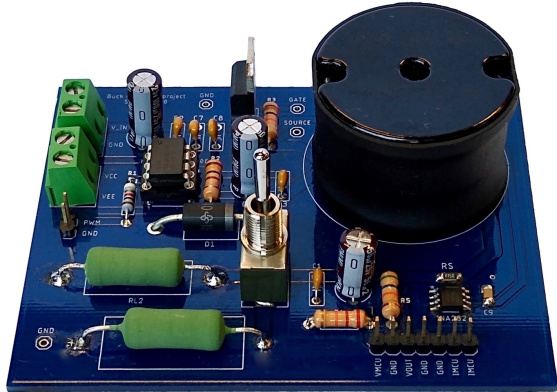
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# Standard MPC Design Process

DC-DC Buck Converter



Average dynamics over a switching period, then linearize

$$\min_{x, u} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} (\|x_t - x_{eq}\|_Q^2 + \|u_t - u_{eq}\|_R^2) + \|x_N - x_{eq}\|_P^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall t = 0, \dots, N-1$$

$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_L^{\min} \\ v_O^{\min} \end{bmatrix} \leq x_t \leq \begin{bmatrix} I_L^{\max} \\ v_O^{\max} \end{bmatrix}$$

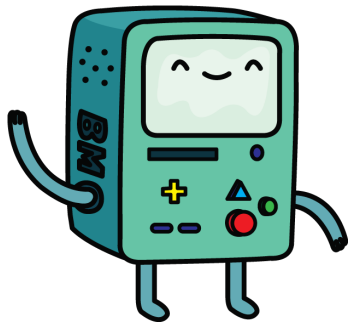
$$u^{\min} \leq u_t \leq u^{\max}$$

$$x_N \in \mathcal{X}_N$$

$$x_0 = x(0)$$

State Estimator +  
Offset-free Tracking  
MPC

Control frequency of 10 kHz!



STM32L476:

- 80 MHz clock
- 128 kB of RAM
- 1 MB of flash



25-dimensional QP  
with five parameters

# Control Approximation via Deep NN

$$\begin{aligned} z^*(x) &= \min \|Lz + Fx + f\|^2 + \epsilon\|z\|^2 \\ &\text{s.t. } z \geq 0 \\ \hat{u}(x) &= Gz^*(x) + g \end{aligned}$$

Choose parametric QP structure  
→ Approximation of the dual of a  
standard linear MPC controller

Affine layer

$$y_1 = Fx + f$$

$F, f$



QP layer

$$y_2 = \min_{z \geq 0} \|Lz + y_1\|^2 + \epsilon\|z\|^2$$

$L$

Optimal solution is differentiable  
[Amos et al, 2017], [Agrawal et al, 2019]



Affine layer

$$y_3 = Gy_2 + g$$

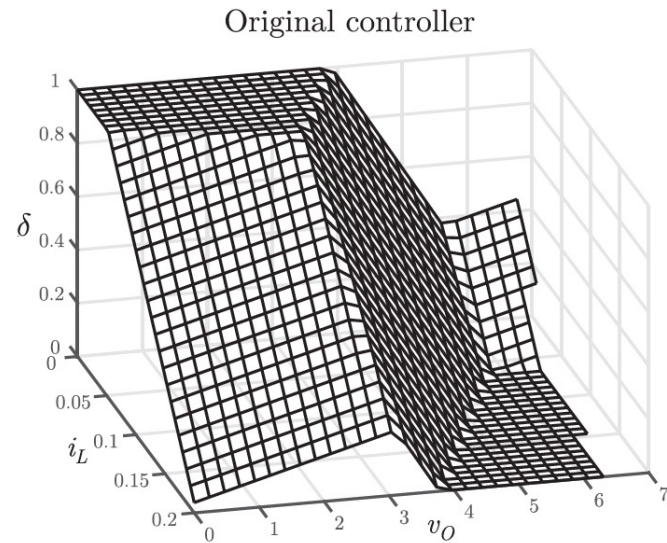
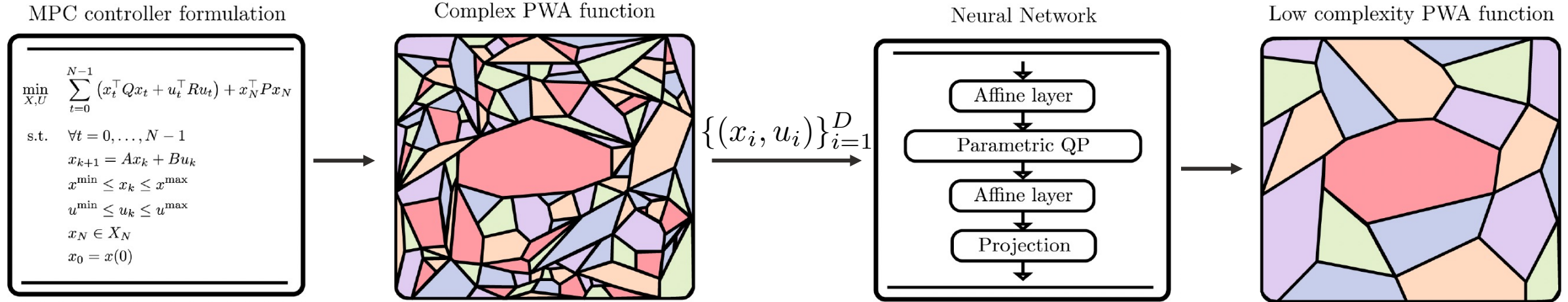
$G, g$



Saturation layer

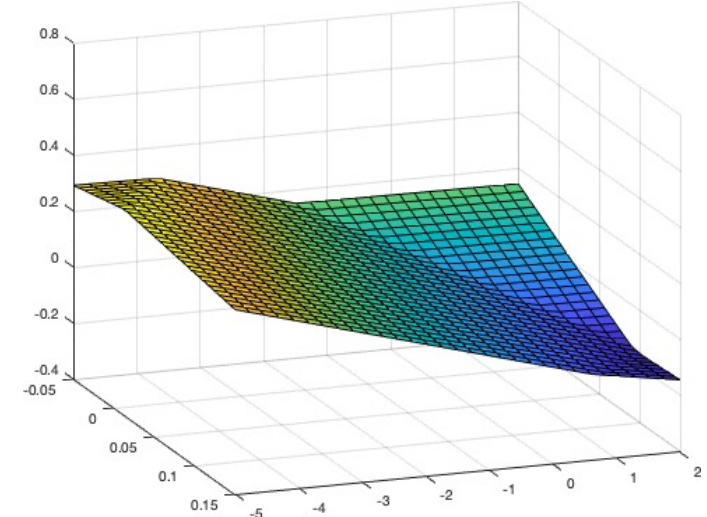
$$\hat{u} = \text{sat}(y_3)$$

# Differentiable Programming → Approximate Explicit MPC



**91% complexity  
reduction**

Training : 35min



# Verification of Approximate Controllers $\leftrightarrow$ Function Positivity

Verify that the approximation error is nowhere greater than  $\gamma$

$$0 \leq \gamma - \max_x \|u^*(x) - \hat{u}(x)\|_\infty$$

Optimal control  
law

Approximate  
control law

Verification

Proving non-negativity of a function

# Verification of Approximate Controllers $\leftrightarrow$ Function Positivity

Verify that the approximation error is nowhere greater than  $\gamma$

$$0 \leq \gamma - \max_x \|u^*(x) - \hat{u}(x)\|_\infty$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } u^*(x_0) &= \arg \min \sum_{i=0}^N l(x_i, u_i) \\ &\text{s.t. } \forall i = 0, \dots, N-1 \\ &\quad x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i \\ &\quad x_i \in X, u_i \in U \\ &\quad x_N \in X_N, x_0 = x \end{aligned}$$

Optimal control law

$$\begin{aligned} z^*(x) &= \min \|Lz + Fx + f\|^2 + \varepsilon \|z\|^2 \\ &\text{s.t. } z \geq 0 \\ \hat{u}(x) &= Gz^*(x) + g \end{aligned}$$

Approximate control law

Verification

Proving non-negativity of a function



# MILP-Representable Functions

A function  $\psi : X \rightarrow V$  with domain  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and range  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  is MILP representable if there exists a polyhedral set  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^c \times \mathbb{R}^b$  such that  $v = \psi(x)$  if and only if there exists  $z \in \mathbb{R}^c$  and  $\beta \in \{0, 1\}^b$  such that  $(x, v, z, \beta) \in P$ .

MILP representable functions are dense in the family of continuous functions on a compact domain

Verification Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \tau \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_0 \in X \\ & v_1 = \psi_1(x_0) \\ & v_2 = \psi_2(x_0) \\ & \tau = f(x_0, v_1, v_2) \end{aligned}$$



Mixed-Integer Optimization Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \tau \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_0 \in X \\ & (x_0, v_1, z_1, \beta_1) \in P_1 \\ & (x_0, v_2, z_2, \beta_2) \in P_2 \\ & (v_1, v_2, \tau, z_3, \beta_3) \in P_f \\ & \beta_i \in \{0, 1\}^{b_i} \end{aligned}$$

# Some Examples

## Compositions

$$\psi_1 \circ \psi_2$$

## Max / min

$$\psi(x) = \max\{\psi_1(x), \psi_2(x)\}$$

## Piecewise Affine Functions

$$\psi(x) = A_i x + c_i \quad \forall x \in X_i, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}$$

## Parametric convex QPs

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x) = \arg \min_z \quad & \frac{1}{2} z^T P z + (Qx + q)^T z \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Az = Bx + b \\ & Fz \leq Gx + g \end{aligned}$$

# MILP-Representable Functions → Mixed-integer programming

## Verification Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \tau \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_0 \in X \\ & v_1 = \psi_1(x_0) \\ & v_2 = \psi_2(x_0) \\ & \tau = f(x_0, v_1, v_2) \end{aligned}$$

Various approximate control laws can be captured

- Deep neural networks
- Quadratic programs
- Simple saturations
- etc

Verification of various properties can be made

- Lyapunov function
- Worst-case error
- Region of attraction
- etc

A number of people have developed similar formulations for polynomial control laws and SOS solvers

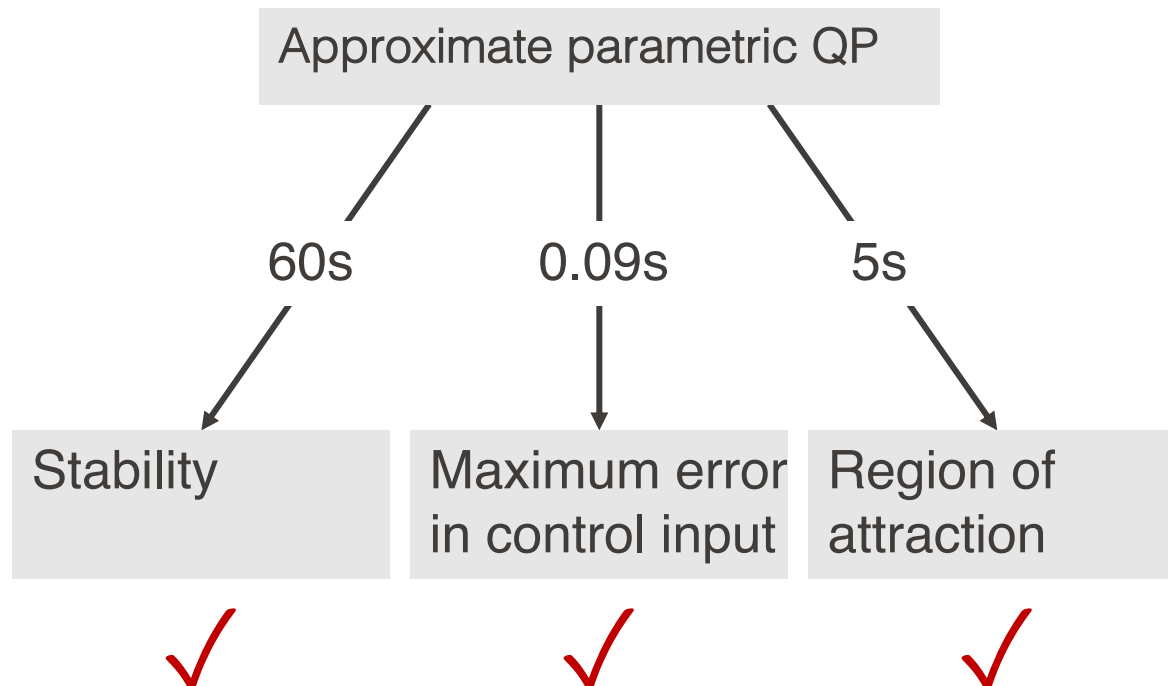
# EVANQP

DOI 10.48550/arXiv.2206.13374 Preprint arXiv Grant NCCR Automation (51NF40180545)

EPFL Verifier for Approximate Neural Networks and QPs

<https://github.com/PREDICT-EPFL/evanqp>

Software tool to train approximate controllers using neural networks and/or parametric quadratic programs, and then to verify key properties.



A similar tool targeted at power systems:  
*[Venzke, Qu, Low, Chatzivasileiadis, 2020]*

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