
Implementation of PID Control

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Outline

- ❑ Definition **continuous** time real variables
- ❑ **Gain** benefits and behaviours
- ❑ Implementation: **discrete** time, integer variables
- ❑ How to **tune**
- ❑ How to **implement**
- ❑ Understanding what can go wrong.

Background

- ❑ PID control is the **most common** controller used in industry.
- ❑ **Simple** to implement – suitable for embedded systems
- ❑ Works **robustly** for most control problems
- ❑ **Computational** simple and well understood

Definitions

- ❑ Suppose we wish to control $x(t)$ to some **desired trajectory** $x^*(t)$ with the **input** $u(t)$.
- ❑ Define the **error**, $e(t) = x^*(t) - x(t)$
- ❑ A Proportional Integral Differential (PID) Controller

$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_i \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau + K_d \frac{d e(t)}{dt}$$

Proportional
Gain

Integral Gain

Differential
Gain

Motivation for Gains

- ❑ Increasing K_p gives system greater reaction to errors
 - Decreases **response time**
 - K_p too high results in **oscillatory** response or instability
- ❑ K_p alone cannot remove **steady state errors**.
 - ⇒ Need for **integral** feedback K_i
steady state errors **wind up** integral term, reducing error.
- ❑ Increasing K_i causes **overshoot** and oscillation.
 - Differential gain K_d **damps overshoot** by “predicting” errors using the current error derivative.

Getting the Sign Wrong!

❑ What happens when the feedback **sign is wrong**?

- Eg Optical shaft encoder swapping ϕA and ϕB
Eg Swapping DC motor voltage terminals

Digital Implementation

- ❑ Continuous time is mapped to **discrete time** at a *constant sample period Δt*
 - Variations in sample period generate controller errors
 - Eg scheduling latencies in RTOS
- ❑ Real variables approximated by **finite precision** *integer_bit.fraction_bits* or *i.f* (see *fixed point arithmetic notes*)
 - More controller errors.
 - Need to analyse effects.

Proportion Gain Implementation

- $K_p e(t)$ implemented directly with integer multiplication

Integral Gain Implementation

$$K_i \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau \cong K_i \Delta t \sum_{k=0}^{k=n} e(k\Delta t)$$

$$\equiv K_i \Delta t \sum_{k=0}^{k=n} e_k \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Discrete time} \\ \text{error} \end{array}$$

$$\equiv K_i \Delta t S(n) = K_i \Delta t (S(n-1) + e_n)$$

Error Sum

Recursive
formulation –
one addition
and multiply
per sample

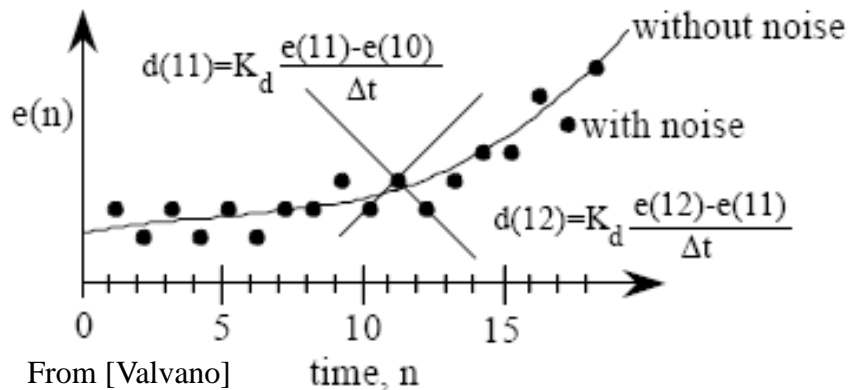
Integral Windup

- ❑ When steady state error cannot be corrected quickly, integral term **increases** indefinitely – called **integral windup**.
 - Controller saturates and cannot recover quickly
- ❑ Solutions:
 - **limiting integral term**, or
 - Limiting **time** period of integration
 - Disabling integral term **outside controllable region**

Differential Gain Implementation

$$K_d \frac{d e(t)}{dt} \cong K_d \frac{e_n - e_{n-1}}{\Delta t} = \frac{K_d}{\Delta t} (e_n - e_{n-1})$$

Recursive formulation –
one subtraction
and multiply per
sample



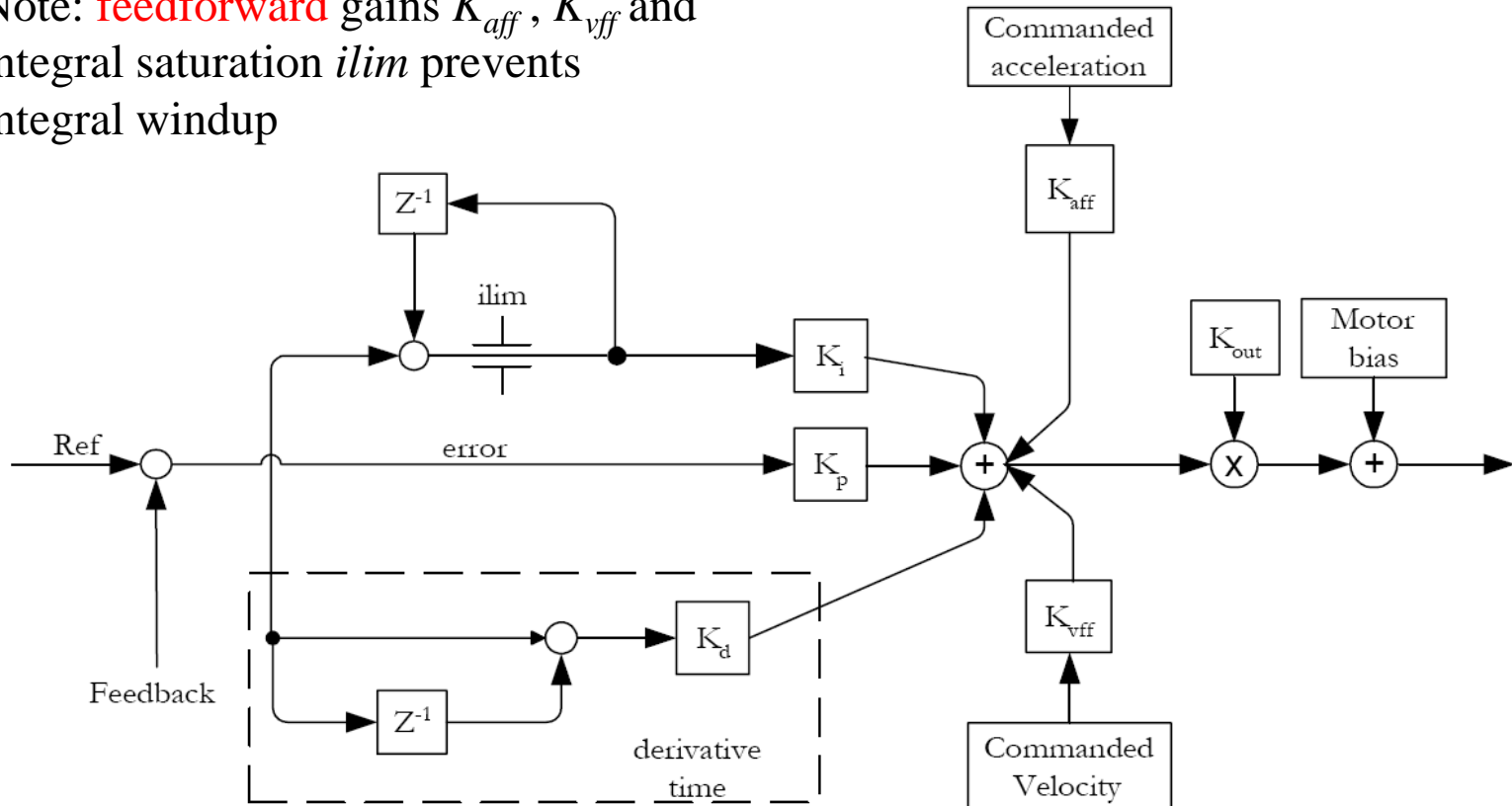
Error Difference can
be **noisy**: average
below better:

$$K_d \frac{d e(t)}{dt} \cong K_d \left(\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{e_n - e_{n-3}}{3\Delta t} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{e_{n-1} - e_{n-2}}{\Delta t} \right] \right)$$

$$= \frac{K_d}{6\Delta t} (e_n + 3e_{n-1} - 3e_{n-2} - e_{n-3})$$

Commercial Implementation

Note: **feedforward** gains K_{aff} , K_{vff} and integral saturation $ilim$ prevents integral windup



http://www.pmdcorp.com/downloads/app_notes/servoLoop.pdf

Pendulum Lab Implementation

$$MotorVolt_n = \left(K_p e_n + K'_d (e_n - e_{n-1}) + (128 + K'_i \sum_{j=0}^n e_j) / 256 + 128 \right) / 256$$

- ❑ $K'_d = K_d / \Delta t$ and $K'_i = K_i * \Delta t$, so that K_p , K'_d and K'_i scale as $1/\Delta t$ and Δt
- ❑ K_p and K'_d 8.8 bit representation (8 integer + 8 fraction bits)
- ❑ K'_i 0.16 representation
- ❑ **Rounding** is used when removing fractional bits from results
- ❑ Δt approximately 10 msec.
 - If Δt too small =>
 - error difference mostly 0 and rarely 1, rendering K_d useless,
 - integral winds up since error ~constant
 - If Δt too large => poor control and slow.
Want $\Delta t \ll$ time constant of motor response.

Gain/Sample Time Tuning

Design controller (Ziegler and Nichol)

ΔT is the time step for the digital controller.

run P and PI controllers with $\Delta T = 0.1L$,

run a PID controller $\Delta T = 0.05L$.

Proportional Controller

$$K_P = \Delta U / (L \cdot R)$$

Proportional-Integral Controller

$$K_P = 0.9 \Delta U / (L \cdot R)$$

$$K_I = K_P / (3.33L)$$

Proportional-Integral-Derivative Controller

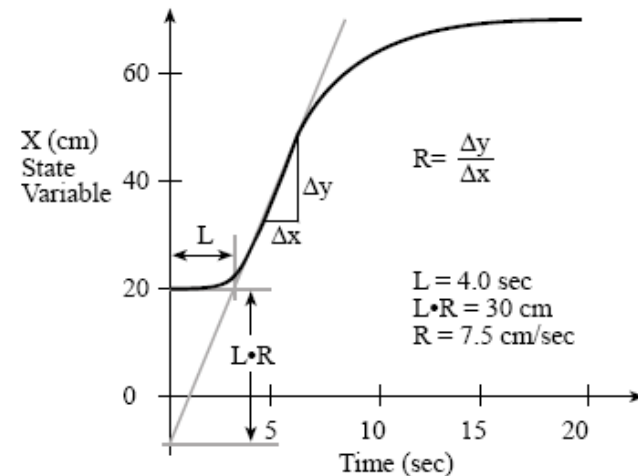
$$K_P = 1.2 \Delta U / (L \cdot R)$$

$$K_I = 0.5 K_P / L$$

$$K_D = 0.5 K_P L$$

From [Valvano]

Input step ΔU
At Time=0



Not suitable for DC motors with angle feedback
and voltage control – why?

Ziegler–Nichols Tuning

- ❑ K_i and K_d are first set to zero.
- ❑ K_p increased to "critical gain" K_c where starts to oscillate.
- ❑ K_c and the oscillation period P_c are used to set the gains as shown:

Ziegler–Nichols method			
Control Type	K_p	K_i	K_d
P	$0.5 \cdot K_c$	-	-
PI	$0.45 \cdot K_c$	$1.2 K_p / P_c$	-
PID	$0.6 \cdot K_c$	$2 K_p / P_c$	$K_p P_c / 8$

Discrete Time Version	K_p	K_i'	K_d'
P	$0.5 K_c$	-	-
PI	$0.45 K_c$	$1.2 \Delta t K_p / P_c$	-
PID	$0.6 K_c$	$2 \Delta t K_p / P_c$	$K_p P_c / (8 \Delta t)$

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PID_controller

Manual Tuning

Requires experience and trial and error

Effects of <i>increasing</i> parameters				
Parameter	Rise Time	Overshoot	Settling Time	S.S. Error
K_p	Decrease	Increase	Small Change	Decrease
K_i	Decrease	Increase	Increase	Eliminate
K_d	Small Decrease	Decrease	Decrease	None

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PID_controller

Summary

- ❑ PID is a low cost, popular & effective control strategy
- ❑ Tuning and servo sample time dependent on system dynamics
- ❑ Need good understanding of implementation issues:
 - Integral windup
 - Output saturation
 - Over/under sample rates
 - Benefits of feedforward: reduced errors, faster response.