

## Ans to the Ques No 1

(a)

The differential flatness method involves solving differential equations that describe the dynamics of the system. The differential flatness method is suited for continuous time control and trajectory tracking. It needs to execute in real time.

On the other hand, A\* method is used for planning paths. It is used to searching through a grid to find the right path. The computational complexity of A\* depends on the size of the search space, the presence of obstacles, and

Comparing those methods, the differential flatness method requires more computational resources due to the need to solve complex

differential equations. A\* method is only about searching paths and its computational demand depends on the size of grid.

Therefore, differential flatness ~~more~~ requires ~~more~~ resources than A\* algorithm.

(b)

Differential flatness models the system as a flat output system, which enables the generation of smooth trajectories.

A\* is a search based path planning which excels in finding optimal paths avoiding obstacles.

Comparing those methods, A\* method would be better for obstacle avoidance. A\* method has the ability to find the optimal path, balance path optimality

and computational cost, the differential flatness method is suited for continuous time system and effective for non grid environment. A\* method can find path that cover long distances and navigate through intricate obstacles, making it ideal when the robot must plan routes over extended areas, A\* will be best choice for obstacle avoidance.

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I would use differential flatness method for movement in obstacle free 3d space.

For movement in 3d space, which was obstacle free, there is no need for grid-based path planning. As the space are obstacle free, the smoothness, and



accuracy is important. Differential flatness are perfect for continuous environments allowing smoother and efficient path planning. In space without obstacles, differential flatness method simplify the process. The differential flatness method allows for the generation of precise control inputs.

Finally a space without obstacles, the path planning process is simplified with differential flatness.

As I didn't choose A\* method,

Drawbacks of A\* method:

- ① A\* method in open 3d space will require unnecessary computations as there was no obstacle to avoid.
- ② It's a grid based approach where the environment is divided into nodes. But for 3d system, it was ~~more~~ inefficient.
- ③ A\* method will consume more memory resources and take more time.
- ④ A\* method resulting more computational time without benefits for 3d space which was obstacle free.

Differential method offers the advantage of continuous and smooth control and more efficient for obstacle free 3d environment. A\* is not the best option for discrete path planning.

Ans to the Ques No 2

Unicycle robot model represented by,

$$\dot{x}(t) = v(t) \cos \theta(t)$$

$$\dot{y}(t) = v(t) \sin \theta(t)$$

$$\dot{\theta}(t) = \omega(t)$$

now, expressing in polar coordinate,

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1}(y, x) - \theta + \pi$$

$$\delta = \alpha + \theta$$

polar coordinates dynamics equation,

$$\dot{\rho}(t) = -v(t) \cos \alpha(t)$$

$$\dot{\alpha}(t) = \frac{v(t) \sin \alpha(t)}{\rho(t)} - \omega(t)$$

$$\dot{\delta}(t) = \frac{v(t) \sin \alpha(t)}{\rho(t)}$$

Performing Lyapunov stability analysis,

$$V(y, \alpha, \theta) = \frac{1}{2} \rho^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\alpha^2 + k_3 \delta^2)$$

Considering closed-loop control

$$v = k_1 y \cos \alpha$$

$$\omega = k_2 \alpha + k_1 \frac{\sin \alpha \cos \alpha}{\alpha} (\alpha + k_3 \delta)$$

$$k_1, k_2, k_3 > 0$$

now taking time derivative of  $v$ ,

$$\dot{v} = y \dot{y} + \alpha \dot{\alpha} + k_3 \delta \dot{\delta}$$

$$= y[-v \cos \alpha] + \alpha \left[ \frac{v \sin \alpha}{y} - \omega \right] + k_3 \delta \frac{v \sin \alpha}{y}$$

$$= -k_1 y^2 \cos^2 \alpha - k_2 \alpha^2 \quad \text{since } < 0$$

for,  $y \neq 0$ ,  $\alpha \neq 0$ ,  $\delta \neq 0$



### Ans to the Ques No 3

Lyapunov stability theory:

Given a system  $\dot{x} = f(x, u)$ , if

if there exists a function  $V(x, u)$  such

that,

①  $V(x, u) = 0$  for  $x = 0$

②  $V(x, u) > 0$  for  $x \neq 0$

③  $\dot{V}(x, u) < 0$  for  $x \neq 0$

then the system is stable

Given that,  $\dot{x}_1 = -x_1 + x_2^3$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -x_2 + u$$

Lyapunov function,  $V = \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4$

Hence,  $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$

for  $x = 0$  then  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  for that,

$$V = \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 = \frac{1}{2} 0 + \frac{1}{4} 0 = 0$$



$$\therefore \text{for, } x=0, \quad V(0,0)=0$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{ for, } x_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } x_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{for, } x_1 = 0 \text{ and } x_2 \neq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 \\ &= 0 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{for, } x_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } x_2 \neq 0$$

$$V(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} \quad \dot{V}(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{2} x_1^2 \right) + \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{4} x_2^4 \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 x_1 \cdot \frac{d}{dt} x_1 \right) + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 4 x_2^3 \cdot \frac{d}{dt} x_2 \\ &= x_1 \dot{x}_1 + x_2^3 \dot{x}_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Power} &= x_1(-x_1 + x_2^3) + x_2^3(-x_2 + u) \\
 &= -x_1^2 + x_1 x_2^3 - x_2^4 + u x_2^3 \\
 \text{the system} &= -x_1^2 + x_1 x_2^3 - x_2^4 + u x_2^3
 \end{aligned}$$

to stabilize the system,

$$-x_1^2 + x_1 x_2^3 - x_2^4 + u x_2^3 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u x_2^3 < x_1^2 - x_1 x_2^3 + x_2^4$$

$$\Rightarrow u < \frac{x_1^2 - x_1 x_2^3 + x_2^4}{x_2^3} \quad \text{the condition}$$

that's the condition to stabilize the system.

## Ans to the Ques No 4

A\* is a label correcting algorithm that is modified version of Dijkstra's algorithm.

In Dijkstra's algorithm the goal vertex  $q$  is not taken into account, potentially leading to wasted effort in cases where the greedy choice make no progress towards the goal.

While A\* Dijkstra algorithm only prioritizes a vertex  $q$  based on its cost-of-arrival  $c(q)$ ,

A\* prioritizes based on cost-of-arrival  $c(q)$  plus an approximate cost-to-go  $h(q)$ .

This provides a better estimate of the total quality of a path than just using the cost-of-arrival alone. A\* algorithm is grid-based approach which is simple, and fast.

A\* algorithm,

$f(a) = c(a) + h(a)$ ; where,  $f(a)$ ,  $c(a)$  and  $h(a)$  are respectively estimated cost, cost of arrival and minimum cost to go.

Data:  $q_I$ ,  $q_G$ ,  $G$

$q_I \rightarrow$  Initial/start vertex,

$q_G \rightarrow$  Goal vertex

$G \rightarrow$  Graph

Result: path

$$c(q) = \infty, \quad f(q) = \infty, \quad \forall q$$

for all vertex  $q$ , cost of arrival and cost of estimated cost are infinite.

$$c(q_I) = 0, \quad f(q_I) = h(q_I)$$

for initial vertex  $q_I$ , cost of arrival are zero and estimated cost and minimum cost to go are equal.



$$Q = \{ q_i \}$$

The vertex only contain Initial vertex

While  $Q$  is not empty do

$$q = \arg \min_{q' \in Q} f(q')$$

if  $q = q_a$  then  
return path

$Q.remove(q)$

for  $q' \in \{ q' \mid (q, q') \in E \}$  do

$$\tilde{c}(q') = c(q) + c(q, q')$$

if  $\tilde{c}(q') < c(q')$  then

$$q'.parent = q$$

$$c(q') = \tilde{c}(q')$$

$$f(q') = c(q') + h(q')$$

if  $q' \notin Q$  then

$Q.add$

return failure

The algorithm shows,

① Enter starting node in graph

- (i) If the graph is empty, return failure
- (ii) Select node from graph which has smallest value and if node = goal, return path.
- (iii) Expand node and generate succession. Compute  $(g+h)$  for each node
- (iv) attach next node, to back point
- (v) go to (i)

Cons of A\* Algorithm:

- (i) Resolution dependent: In that method, not guaranteed to find solution if grid resolution is not small enough.
- (ii) Limited to simple robots: Grid size is exponential in the number of DOFs.

## Ans to the Ques No 5

Probabilistic Road Map (PRM) is conceptually quite similar to combinatorial planners.

The PRM algorithm also generates a topological graph  $G$  called a roadmap where the vertices are configurations  $q$  in the free part of configuration space  $C_{free}$  and edges connected to the vertices.

### The Algorithm

1. Randomly sample  $n$  configurations  $q_i$  from the configuration space.
2. Query a collision checker for each  $q_i$  to determine if  $q_i \in C_{free}$ . If  $q_i \notin C_{free}$  then it is removed from the sample set.
3. Create a Graph  $G = (V, E)$  with vertices from the sampled configurations  $q_i \in C_{free}$ .



Define a radius  $r$  and create edges for every pair of vertices  $q$  and  $q'$  where (i)  $\|q - q'\| \leq r$  and (ii) the straight line path between  $q$  and  $q'$  is collision free.

PRM is a multi-query planner, which generates a roadmap (graph)  $G$  embedded in the free space.

Cons of PRM

(1) Requires a large number of samples  $n$  to sufficiently cover configuration space.

(2) Insufficient sampling may result in wrong path.

(3) ~~Required large number of samples to sufficient~~

(3) PRM can be computationally intensive, especially in high-dimensional space.



## Ans to the Ques No 6

Rapidly-exploring random tree (RRT) is a single query planner, which grows a tree  $T$ , rooted at the start configuration  $s$ , embedded in  $C_{free}$ .

The RRT algorithm solves problem by incrementally sampling and building the graph, starting at the initial configuration  $q_i$ , until the goal configuration  $q_a$  is reached.

RRT algorithm begins by initializing a tree  $T = (V, E)$  with a vertex at initial configuration. At each iteration the RRT algorithm then performs the following steps:

1. Randomly sample a configuration  $q \in C$ .
2. Find the vertex  $q_{near} \in V$  that is closest to the sampled configuration  $q$ .
3. Compute a new configuration  $q_{new}$  that

Lies on the line connecting  $q_{new}$  and  $q$  such that the entire line from  $q_{new}$  to  $q$  is ~~cont~~ contained in the free configuration space  $C_{free}$ .

4. Add a vertex  $q_{new}$  and edge to the tree.

After a iteration only a single point is sampled and potentially added to the tree.

Cons of RRT:

① RRT can be arbitrary bad with non-negligible probability.

② According to this method, generate sub optimal in only terms of length

③ Difficult for handling dynamic obstacle.