

State-feedback control systems

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6 Sliding mode control

- Sliding mode control (SMC) is a nonlinear control method to regulate the behavior of dynamic systems subject to disturbances or uncertainties.
- The core idea behind SMC is to create a sliding surface in the state space of the system, such that
“Once the system reaches this sliding surface, it ideally remains there regardless of disturbances or uncertainties.”

- In other words, this control law is designed such that it drives the system toward the sliding surface and then maintains it there.
- One of prominent features is that this control involves the use of a **discontinuous** control signal which switches based on the system's position relative to the sliding surface.
- Sliding mode control has applications in various fields including aerospace, automotive, robotics, and power systems.

Let us consider the following linear systems with uncertainties and external disturbances:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = (A + \Delta A)x(t) + Bu(t) + N_1w(t). \\ z(t) = Cx(t) + N_2w(t) \end{cases} \quad (44)$$

Assumption: In general, the matrix B is of full column rank.

In this study, we employ the following switching function $s(t)$:

$$s(t) = Gx(t) - \int_0^t G(A + BK)x(\tau)d\tau \quad (45)$$

where $G \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is chosen so that $GB \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ is invertible and K denote the linear control gain to be designed later.

From (45), it follows that

$$\dot{s}(t) = G\dot{x}(t) - G(A + BK)x(t). \quad (46)$$

Additionally, according to (44), it is also available that

$$\dot{s}(t) = GBu(t) + G\Delta Ax(t) + GN_1w(t) - GBKx(t). \quad (47)$$

Theorem 5. The trajectories of system (44) can be driven onto the surface $s(t) = 0$ if the control input is given as

$$u(t) = Kx(t) + (GB)^{-1}\psi(t) \quad (48)$$

where

$$\psi(t) = -\text{sgn}(s(t)) \cdot (\alpha + \epsilon(x(t))) \quad (49)$$

$$\epsilon(x(t)) = \epsilon_A \cdot \|G\| \cdot \|x(t)\| + \epsilon_w \cdot \|GN_1\|.$$

Remark 2. The decision variables K and G will be designed from the stability condition of closed-loop system given that $\dot{s}(t) = 0$.

Proof: Consider the Lyapunov function:

$$V_s(t) = \frac{1}{2} s^T(t) s(t).$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_s(t) &= s^T(t) \dot{s}(t) \\ &= s^T(t) \left(GBu(t) + G\Delta Ax(t) + GN_1 w(t) - GBKx(t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using (48), it is given that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_s(t) &= s^T(t) \left(\psi(t) + G\Delta Ax(t) + GN_1 w(t) \right) \\ &\leq s^T(t) \psi(t) + \|s(t)\| \cdot \|G\Delta Ax(t)\| + \|s(t)\| \cdot \|GN_1 w(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|G\Delta Ax(t)\| + \|GN_1w(t)\| \\
 & \leq \|G\| \cdot \|\Delta A\| \cdot \|x(t)\| + \|GN_1\| \cdot \|w(t)\| \\
 & \leq \underline{\epsilon_A \cdot \|G\| \cdot \|x(t)\| + \epsilon_w \cdot \|GN_1\|} =: \epsilon(x(t))
 \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\dot{V}_s(t) \leq s^T(t)\psi(t) + \|s(t)\|\epsilon(x(t)).$$

Finally, using (49) implies

$$\dot{V}_s(t) \leq -\alpha\|s(t)\| < 0, \quad \forall s(t) \neq 0$$

which means that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} s(t) \rightarrow 0.$$

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According to sliding mode control theory, when the sliding motion takes place, it follows that $s(t) = 0$ and $\dot{s}(t) = 0$.

That is, from (47), the equivalent control be given as

$$u_{\text{eq}}(t) = Kx(t) - (GB)^{-1}G(\Delta Ax(t) + N_1w(t)).$$

Thus, the sliding motion is described as

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}(t) &= Ax(t) + Bu_{\text{eq}}(t) + \Delta Ax(t) + N_1w(t) \\ &= (A + BK)x(t) + (I - B(GB)^{-1}G)(\Delta Ax(t) + N_1w(t)) \\ &= (\bar{A} + \bar{G}\Delta A)x(t) + \bar{G}N_1w(t)\end{aligned}\tag{50}$$

where

$$\bar{A} = A + BK, \quad \bar{G} = I - B(GB)^{-1}G.$$

Theorem 6. System (50) is stable under the condition of $s(t) = 0$ if there exists matrices $\bar{P} = \bar{P}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $\bar{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and scalars $\epsilon > 0$, $\gamma > 0$, such that

$$\bar{P} > 0$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} -I & & & & \\ \hline (*) & \text{He}\{A\bar{P} + B\bar{K}\} + \epsilon\bar{G}EE^T\bar{G}^T & \bar{G}N_1 & & \bar{P}H^T \\ \hline (*) & & & -\gamma^2 I & 0 \\ \hline 0 & & & 0 & -\epsilon I \end{array} \right] < 0.$$

Furthermore, the control gain can be reconstructed as follows:

$$K = \bar{K}\bar{P}^{-1}.$$

Proof: Let us choose

$$V(t) = x^T(t)Px(t).$$

Then we have

$$\dot{V}(t) + z^T(t)z(t) - \gamma^2 w^T(t)w(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ w(t) \end{bmatrix}^T \Psi \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ w(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \text{He}\{P\bar{A} + P\bar{G}\Delta A\} & P\bar{G}N_1 \\ (*) & -\gamma^2 I \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} C^T \\ N_2^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C & N_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By the Schur complement, the robust \mathcal{H}_∞ stability condition $\Psi < 0$ is transformed into

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|cc} -I & C & N_2 \\ \hline (*) & \text{He}\{P\bar{A} + P\bar{G}\Delta A\} & P\bar{G}N_1 \\ (*) & (*) & -\gamma^2 I \end{array} \right] < 0. \quad (51)$$

Furthermore, pre- and post-multiplying (51) by $\text{diag}(I, \bar{P} := P^{-1}, I)$ and its transpose yields

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|cc} -I & C\bar{P} & N_2 \\ \hline (*) & \text{He}\{\bar{A}\bar{P} + \bar{G}\Delta A\bar{P}\} & \bar{G}N_1 \\ (*) & (*) & -\gamma^2 I \end{array} \right] < 0. \quad (52)$$

Noting that

$$\text{He}\{\bar{G}\Delta A\bar{P}\} = \text{He}\{\bar{G}E\Upsilon H\bar{P}\} \leq \epsilon\bar{G}E E^T \bar{G}^T + \epsilon^{-1}\bar{P}H^T H\bar{P}$$

and by apply the Schur complement, we can see that the following condition implies (52):

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} -I & & C\bar{P} & & N_2 & & 0 \\ \hline (*) & \text{He}\{A\bar{P} + B\bar{K}\} + \epsilon\bar{G}E E^T \bar{G}^T & & \bar{G}N_1 & & \bar{P}H^T \\ (*) & & (*) & & -\gamma^2 I & & 0 \\ \hline 0 & & (*) & & 0 & & -\epsilon I \end{array} \right] < 0$$

where $\bar{K} = K\bar{P}$.