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# **Spacecraft Attitude Dynamics**

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**Nonlinear attitude control**

# Nonlinear stability

## Lyapunov's Second Stability Theorem

Consider an autonomous nonlinear dynamic system described by:

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = f(\underline{x}), f(\underline{x}^*) = 0$$

Where  $\underline{x}^*$  is an isolated equilibrium point. If there exists in some finite neighbourhood  $D$ , of the equilibrium point  $\underline{x}^*$  a scalar function  $V(\underline{x})$  with continuous first partial derivative with respect to  $\underline{x}$  such that the following conditions hold

- (i)  $V(\underline{x}) > 0$  for all  $\underline{x} \neq \underline{x}^*$  in  $D$  and  $V(\underline{x}^*) = 0$
- (ii)  $\dot{V}(\underline{x}) < 0$  for all  $\underline{x} \neq \underline{x}^*$  in  $D$  except for  $\dot{V}(\underline{x}^*) = 0$

Then the system is said to be **asymptotically stable**. If  $D$  includes all possible states then the system is said to be **globally asymptotically stable**.



# DCM Control- slew motion - Lyapunov Function

$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = I\omega \times \omega + \underline{u}$$

$$\dot{A}_{B/N} = -[\omega \wedge] A_{B/N}$$

Equations of motion

$$A_e = AA_d^T$$

Attitude Error function

$$A_d = I_{3 \times 3}, \omega_d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Commanded state

Candidate Lyapunov functions

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \omega^T J \omega + k_2 \text{tr}(I - A)$$



# Quaternion Control- Lyapunov Function for slew motions

$$I \frac{d\omega}{dt} = I\omega \times \omega + \underline{u}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \dot{q}_3 \\ \dot{q}_4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega_z & -\omega_y & \omega_x \\ -\omega_z & 0 & \omega_x & \omega_y \\ \omega_y & -\omega_x & 0 & \omega_z \\ -\omega_x & -\omega_y & -\omega_z & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \\ q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Equations of motion

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{1e} \\ q_{2e} \\ q_{3e} \\ q_{4e} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{4c} & q_{3c} & -q_{2c} & -q_{1c} \\ -q_{3c} & q_{4c} & q_{1c} & -q_{2c} \\ q_{2c} & -q_{1c} & q_{4c} & -q_{3c} \\ q_{1c} & q_{2c} & q_{3c} & q_{4c} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \\ q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Error function

$$q_c \quad \omega_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Commanded state

Candidate Lyapunov functions

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \omega^T J \omega + k_2 (1 - q_{4e})$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \omega^T J \omega + k_2 (1 - q_{4e}^2)$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \omega^T J \omega + 2k_2 H(q_{4e})$$



# Spin rate damping: B-dot proportional control

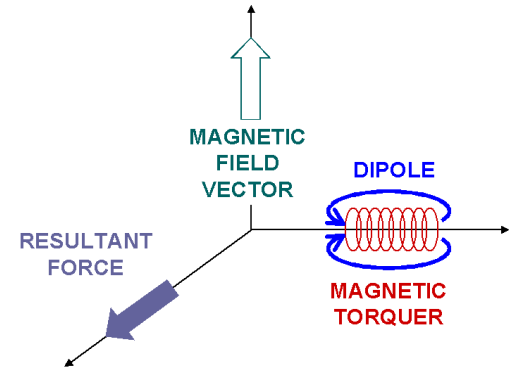
$\underline{m}$  Magnetic moment  $\underline{m} = -k_b \underline{\dot{B}}_m$

$$\underline{M}_c = \underline{m} \wedge \underline{B} = -k_b \underline{\dot{B}}_m \wedge \underline{B}.$$

rate of change of the kinetic energy of the satellite  $\dot{E}_k = \underline{\omega}^T \underline{\dot{M}}$

$$\dot{E}_k \approx \underline{\omega}^T \underline{M}_c = \underline{\omega}^T (\underline{m} \wedge \underline{B}) = k_b \underline{\dot{B}}^T (\underline{\omega}^T \wedge \underline{B}) = -k_b \underline{\dot{B}}^T \underline{\dot{B}}$$

Simplified logic  $\underline{m} = -m_0 \operatorname{sgn}(\underline{\dot{B}}_m)$



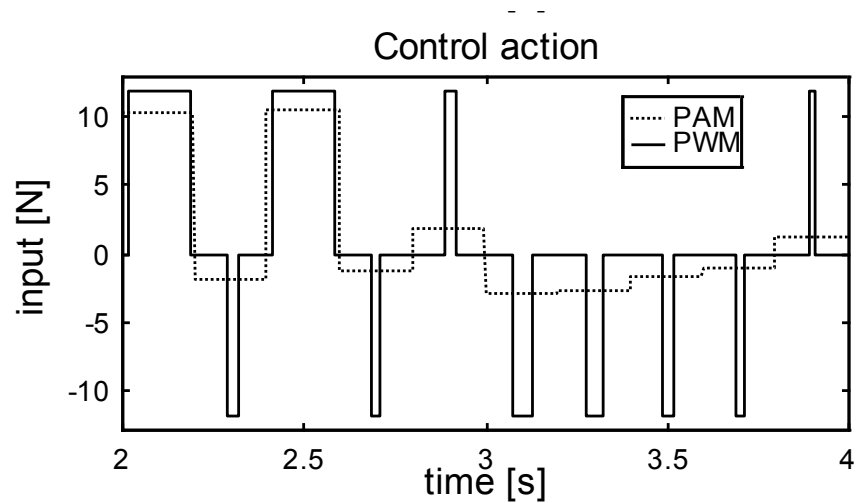
# General on-off thruster control

On-off controller

Sign-based logic

$$\vec{u}_{real} = T \operatorname{sgn}(\vec{u}_{ideal})$$

Sampled integral-based logic



# Schmidt-Trigger Logic

Nonlinear controller decoupled for each axis, phase plane analysis.

Nonlinear switch called “Schmitt trigger”, based on  $\varepsilon = \theta + \tau\dot{\theta}$

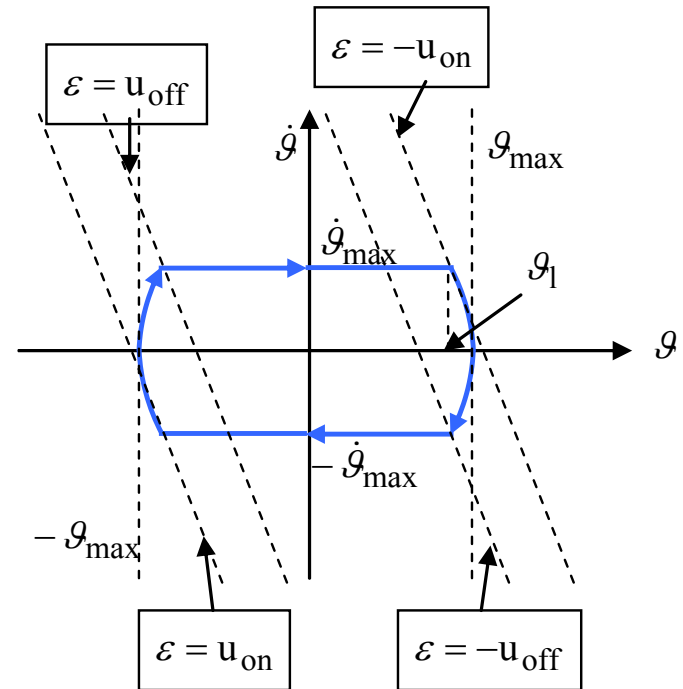
$u_{on}$ ,  $u_{off}$  determined considering  $\vartheta_{max}$ ,  $d\vartheta_{max}$   $\tau$ .

$$\vartheta_1 = \vartheta_{max} - \frac{d\vartheta_{max}^2}{2u_c}$$

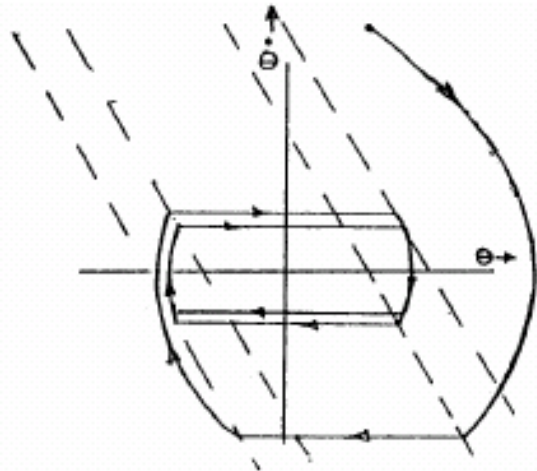
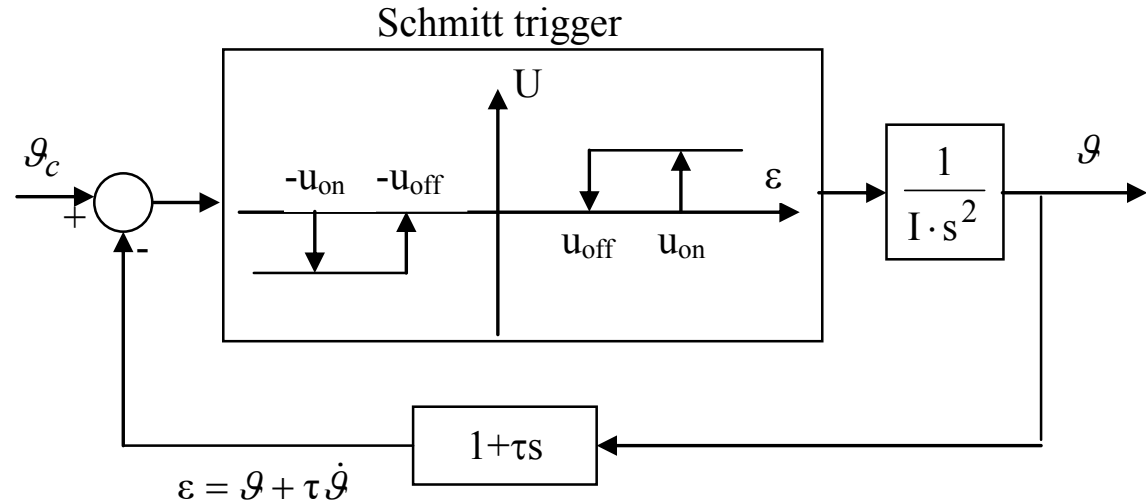
$u_c = M/I$  is the control command

$$u_{on} = \tau d\vartheta + \vartheta_1$$

$$u_{off} = -\tau d\vartheta + \vartheta_1$$



# Schmidt-Trigger Logic





# Pulse-Width-Pulse-Frequency Modulator

Varies both the width of the control pulse and the frequency of the switchings.

