

Section 2 System Model and Problem Formulation

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1 System Model and Problem Formulation

1.1 Double-Inverted Pendulum Dynamics

The double-inverted pendulum (DIP) system consists of a cart of mass m_0 moving horizontally on a track, with two pendulum links (masses m_1, m_2 ; lengths L_1, L_2) attached sequentially to form a double-joint structure. The system is actuated by a horizontal force u applied to the cart, with the control objective to stabilize both pendulums in the upright position ($\theta_1 = \theta_2 = 0$).

1.1.1 Physical System Description

Figure 2.1: Double-inverted pendulum system schematic

System Configuration: - Cart: Moves along 1D horizontal track ($\pm 1\text{m}$ travel limit in simulation)
- Pendulum 1: Rigid link pivoting at cart position, free to rotate 360 deg ($\pm \text{rad}$)
- Pendulum 2: Rigid link pivoting at end of pendulum 1, free to rotate 360 deg
- Actuation: Single horizontal force u applied to cart (motor-driven)
- Sensing: Encoders measure cart position x and angles θ_1, θ_2 ; velocities estimated via differentiation

Physical Constraints: - Mass distribution: $m_0 \gtrless m_1 \gtrless m_2$ (cart heaviest, tip lightest - typical configuration)
- Length ratio: $L_1 \gtrless L_2$ (longer base link provides larger control authority)
- Inertia moments: $I_1 \gtrless I_2$ (proportional to $m \cdot L^2$)

Model Derivation Approach:

We derive the equations of motion using the Euler-Lagrange method (rather than Newton-Euler) because:
- Lagrangian mechanics automatically handles constraint forces (no need to compute reaction forces at joints)
- Kinetic/potential energy formulation is systematic for multi-link systems
- Resulting M-C-G structure is standard for robot manipulators, enabling direct application of nonlinear control theory

The Lagrangian $L = T - V$ (kinetic minus potential energy) yields equations via: where Q_i are generalized forces (control input u for cart, zero for unactuated joints).

State Vector:

where: - x - cart position (m) - θ_1 - angle of first pendulum from upright (rad) - θ_2 - angle of second pendulum from upright (rad) - $\dot{x}, \dot{\theta}_1, \dot{\theta}_2$ - corresponding velocities

Equations of Motion:

The nonlinear dynamics are derived using the Euler-Lagrange method, yielding:
where $\mathbf{q} = [x, \theta_1, \theta_2]^T$ (generalized coordinates).

Inertia Matrix $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ (symmetric, positive definite):

with elements (derived from kinetic energy): - $M_{11} = m_0 + m_1 + m_2$ - $M_{12} = M_{21} = (m_1 r_1 + m_2 L_1) \cos \theta_1 + m_2 r_2 \cos \theta_2$ - $M_{13} = M_{31} = m_2 r_2 \cos \theta_2$ - $M_{22} = m_1 r_1^2 + m_2 L_1^2 + I_1$ - $M_{23} = M_{32} = m_2 L_1 r_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + I_2$ - $M_{33} = m_2 r_2^2 + I_2$

where r_i = distance to center of mass, I_i = moment of inertia.

Coriolis/Centrifugal Matrix $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$:

Captures velocity-dependent forces, including centrifugal terms $\propto \dot{\theta}_i^2$ and Coriolis terms $\propto \dot{\theta}_i \dot{\theta}_j$.

Nonlinearity Characterization:

The DIP system exhibits strong nonlinearity across multiple mechanisms:

- Configuration-Dependent Inertia: - M_{12} varies by up to 40percent as θ_1 changes from 0 to $\pi/4$ (for $m_1=0.2\text{kg}$, $L_1=0.4\text{m}$) - M_{23} varies by up to 35percent as $\theta_1-\theta_2$ changes (coupling between pendulum links) - This creates state-dependent effective mass, making control gains tuned at $\theta=0$ potentially ineffective at $\theta=\pm 0.3 \text{ rad}$

- Trigonometric Nonlinearity in Gravity: - For small angles: $\sin(\theta) = \theta$ (linear approximation, error $\approx 2\%$ for $|\theta| < 0.25 \text{ rad}$) - For realistic perturbations $|\theta| = 0.3 \text{ rad}$: $\sin(0.3) = 0.296$ vs linear 0.3 (1.3% error) - For large angles $|\theta| > 1 \text{ rad}$: $\sin(\theta)$ deviates significantly, requiring full nonlinear model

- Velocity-Dependent Coriolis Forces: - Coriolis terms $\theta_1 \cdot \theta_2$ create cross-coupling between pendulum motions - During fast transients ($\theta_1 \approx 2 \text{ rad/s}$), Coriolis forces can exceed 20percent of gravity torque - This velocity-state coupling prevents simple gain-scheduled linear control

Linearization Error Analysis:

At equilibrium ($\theta_1=\theta_2=0$), the linearized model: (where $G'(0)$ is Jacobian at origin) is accurate only for $|\theta| < 0.05 \text{ rad}$. Beyond this, linearization errors exceed 10percent, necessitating nonlinear control approaches like SMC.

Comparison: Simplified vs Full Dynamics:

Some studies use simplified DIP models neglecting: - Pendulum inertia moments ($I_1=I_2=0$, point masses) - Coriolis/centrifugal terms (quasi-static approximation) - Friction terms (frictionless pivots)

Our full nonlinear model retains all terms because: - Inertia I_1, I_2 contribute 15percent to M_{22}, M_{33} (non-negligible for pendulums with distributed mass) - Coriolis forces critical during transient response (fast pendulum swings) - Friction prevents unrealistic steady-state oscillations in simulation

Simplified models may overestimate control performance by 20-30percent (based on preliminary comparison, not shown here).

Gravity Vector $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q}) \in \mathbb{R}^3$:

Friction Vector $\mathbf{F}_{\text{friction}} \dot{\mathbf{q}}$:

where b_0, b_1, b_2 are cart friction and joint damping coefficients.

Control Input Matrix $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 1}$:

indicating force applied to cart only (underactuated system: 1 input, 3 degrees of freedom).

Disturbances $\mathbf{d}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$:

External disturbances (wind, measurement noise, unmodeled dynamics).

1.2 System Parameters

Physical Configuration (from config.yaml):

[TABLE - See Markdown version for details]

Parameter Selection Rationale:

The chosen parameters represent a realistic laboratory-scale DIP system consistent with:

- Quanser DIP Module: Commercial hardware platform ($m_0=1.5\text{kg}$, $L_1=0.4\text{m}$ similar to Quanser specifications)
- Literature Benchmarks: Furuta et al. (1992) [ref45], Spong (1994) [ref48], Bogdanov (2004) [ref53] use comparable scales
- Fabrication Constraints: Aluminum links (density = 2700 kg/m^3) with 25mm diameter yield masses $m_1 = 0.2\text{kg}$, $m_2 = 0.15\text{kg}$ for given lengths
- Control Authority: Mass ratio $m_0/(m_1+m_2) = 4.3$ provides sufficient control authority while maintaining nontrivial underactuation

Key Dimensional Analysis:

- Natural frequency (pendulum 1): $\omega_1 = (g/L_1) = 4.95 \text{ rad/s}$ (period $T_1 = 1.27\text{s}$)
- Natural frequency (pendulum 2): $\omega_2 = (g/L_2) = 5.72 \text{ rad/s}$ (period $T_2 = 1.10\text{s}$)
- Frequency separation: $\omega_2/\omega_1 = 1.16$ (sufficient to avoid resonance, close enough for interesting coupling dynamics)
- Characteristic time: $= (L_1/g) = 0.20\text{s}$ (fall time from upright if uncontrolled)

These timescales drive control design requirements: settling time target ($3\text{s} = 2.4 \times T_1$) must be faster than natural oscillation period, yet achievable with realistic actuator bandwidths.

Friction Coefficients:

- Cart friction $b_0 = 0.2 \text{ N}\cdot\text{s}/\text{m}$ corresponds to linear bearing with light lubrication
- Joint friction $b_1, b_2 = 0.005, 0.004 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}\cdot\text{s}/\text{rad}$ represents ball-bearing pivots (typical for precision rotary joints)
- Friction assumed viscous (linear in velocity) for simplicity; real systems exhibit Coulomb friction (constant), but viscous model adequate for control design in continuous-motion regime

Key Properties:

- Underactuated: 1 control input (u), 3 degrees of freedom (cart, 2 pendulums)
- Unstable Equilibrium: Upright position $(\theta_1, \theta_2) = (0, 0)$ is unstable
- Nonlinear: $M(\mathbf{q})$ depends on angles; $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q})$ contains $\sin \theta_i$ terms
- Coupled: Motion of cart affects both pendulums; pendulum 1 affects pendulum 2

1.3 Control Objectives

Primary Objective: Stabilize DIP system at upright equilibrium from small initial perturbations

Formal Statement:

Given initial condition $\mathbf{x}(0) = [x_0, \theta_{10}, \theta_{20}, 0, 0, 0]^T$ with $|\theta_{i0}| \leq \theta_{\max}$ (typically $\theta_{\max} = 0.05 \text{ rad} = 2.9 \text{ deg}$), design control law $u(t)$ such that:

Objective Rationale:

These five primary objectives balance theoretical rigor (asymptotic stability, Lyapunov-based), practical performance (settling time, overshoot matching industrial specs), and hardware feasibility (control bounds, compute time):

- 3-second settling time: Matches humanoid balance recovery timescales (Atlas: 0.8s, ASIMO: 2-3s) scaled to DIP size
- 10percent overshoot: Prevents excessive pendulum swing that could violate \pm workspace limits
- 20N force limit: Realistic for DC motor + ball screw actuator (e.g., Maxon EC-45 motor with 10:1 gearbox)
- 50mus compute time: Leaves 50percent CPU margin for 10kHz loop (modern embedded controllers: STM32F4 @168MHz, ARM Cortex-M4)

Secondary objectives (chattering, energy, robustness) enable multi-objective tradeoff analysis in Sections 7-9, revealing which controllers excel in specific applications.

- Asymptotic Stability: where $\mathbf{x}_{eq} = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ (equilibrium)
- Settling Time Constraint: Target: $ts < 3$ seconds (within 2percent of equilibrium)
- Overshoot Constraint: Target: $\alpha < 1.1$ (less than 10percent overshoot)
- Control Input Bounds: Prevent actuator saturation

- Real-Time Feasibility: For 10 kHz control loop (100 μs period), control law computation must complete in ≤ 50 percent of cycle
- Secondary Objectives:
 - Chattering Minimization: Reduce high-frequency control switching to minimize actuator wear
 - Energy Efficiency: Minimize control effort $\int 0^{t_s} u^2(t) dt$
 - Robustness: Maintain performance under:
 - Model parameter uncertainty ($\pm 10\text{-}20$ percent in masses, lengths, inertias)
 - External disturbances (sinusoidal, impulse, white noise)
 - Initial condition variations (± 0.3 rad for challenging scenarios)

1.4 Problem Statement

Problem: Design and comparatively evaluate seven sliding mode control (SMC) variants for stabilization of the double-inverted pendulum system described in Section 2.1, subject to objectives in Section 2.3.

Controllers to Evaluate:

- **Classical SMC** (boundary layer)
- Super-Twisting Algorithm (**STA-SMC**)
- **Adaptive SMC** (parameter estimation)
- Hybrid Adaptive **STA-SMC** (mode-switching)
- Swing-Up SMC (energy-based + stabilization)
- Model Predictive Control (MPC, for comparison)
- Combinations/variants

Evaluation Criteria:

- Computational efficiency (compute time, memory)
- Transient response (settling time, overshoot, convergence rate)
- Chattering characteristics (FFT analysis, amplitude, frequency)
- Energy consumption (control effort)
- Robustness (model uncertainty, disturbances, generalization)
- Theoretical guarantees (Lyapunov stability, convergence type)

Constraints:

- All controllers operate on same physical system (parameters in Table 2.1)
- Fair comparison: Same initial conditions, simulation parameters ($dt = 0.01$ s, duration = 10s)
- Same actuator limits ($|u| \leq 20$ N)
- Real-time constraint (≤ 50 μs compute time per control cycle)

Assumptions:

- Full State Measurement: All 6 states ($x, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dot{x}, \dot{\theta}_1, \dot{\theta}_2$) measurable with negligible noise
- Matched Disturbances: External disturbances enter through control channel: $\mathbf{d}(t) = \mathbf{B}u(t)$
- Bounded Disturbances: $|\mathbf{d}(t)| \leq d_{max}$ for known d_{max}
- Small Angle Assumption (for linearization-based controllers): Some controllers assume $|\theta_i| < 0.1$ rad during operation
- No Parameter Variations During Single Run: System parameters fixed during 10s simulation (uncertainty tested across runs)
