

Quadrotor Modeling, Simulation, and Control¹

AE 540 - Flight Dynamics and Control I - 232

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¹Supplimentary material available [here](#)

Part I - Sunday 11 Feb, 2024

① Dynamical Modeling

Low-dimensional Quadrotor modeling

② Some Nostalgic Things

③ Linearizing Dynamics

④ Control Synthesis

⑤ Having All Together!

⑥ MATLAB Demo

Modeling Dynamics

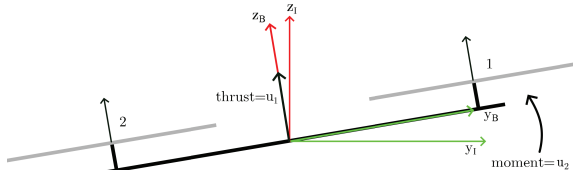


Figure: 3-DOF Quadrotor Configuration²

$$\mathcal{I}[\mathcal{R}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi) & -\sin(\phi) \\ \sin(\phi) & \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\omega = \dot{\phi}$$

²Image source: Z. M. Manaa et. al. *AIAA SCITECH*, 2024

Modeling Dynamics Contd'

$$m \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y} \\ \ddot{z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -mg \end{bmatrix} + {}^{\mathcal{I}}[\mathcal{R}]_{\mathcal{B}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -mg \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -u_1 \sin(\phi) \\ u_1 \cos(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$I_{xx} \ddot{\phi} = L(F_1 - F_2) = u_2$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y} \\ \ddot{z} \\ \ddot{\phi} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -g \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{m} \sin(\phi) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \cos(\phi) & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{I_{xx}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

① Dynamical Modeling

② Some Nostalgic Things

Runge-Kutta numerical integration methods

③ Linearizing Dynamics

④ Control Synthesis

⑤ Having All Together!

⑥ MATLAB Demo

General Objective

The aim is to integrate a first-order ordinary differential equation (ODE) on the form

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) \quad (1)$$

over a finite time interval Δt , to convert them to a difference equation,

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(t) + \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \mathbf{f}(\tau, \mathbf{x}(\tau)) d\tau \quad (2)$$

or alternatively, if we assume that $t_n = n\Delta t$ and $\mathbf{x}_n \triangleq \mathbf{x}_n(t_n)$,

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n + \int_{n\Delta t}^{(n+1)\Delta t} \mathbf{f}(\tau, \mathbf{x}(\tau)) d\tau \quad (3)$$

Runge-Kutta Methods

Utilizing the discrete formulation of the derivative we can write,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} \approx \frac{\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{x}(t)}{\Delta t} \approx \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) \quad (4)$$

The goal is to solve for the next step. So,

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) \approx \mathbf{x}(t) + \Delta t \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) \quad (5)$$

In a discrete format we can approximate the next step by using the forward difference formula:

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n + \Delta t \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{x}_n) \quad (6)$$

Part II - Tuesday 13 Feb, 2024

① Dynamical Modeling

② Some Nostalgic Things

③ Linearizing Dynamics

Taylor Series for Linearization
Jacobian Method
Linearized Quadrotor Equations

④ Control Synthesis

⑤ Having All Together!

Taylor Series for General Multivariate Functions

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} + \nabla^T f(\mathbf{x})|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) + \cdots + \epsilon \quad (7)$$

Where

$$\nabla^T f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon \text{ is a truncation error}$$

- **Example question:** Expand $f(x_1, x_2)$ around $(1, 2)$ where

$$f(x_1, x_2) = e^{-(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

Linearization of System of Multivariate Functions

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) \approx \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0) + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{x} + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{u} \quad (8)$$

$$\delta \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0, \quad \delta \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u_m} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u_m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial u_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

Linerization of System of Multivariate Functions Contd'

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0) \approx \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{x} + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{u} \quad (9)$$

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{x}} \approx \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{x} + \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0} \delta \mathbf{u} \quad (10)$$

We can reformat this to be,

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}} \approx \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{w} \quad (11)$$

where,

$$\mathbf{A} = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{u}_0}, \quad \mathbf{z} = \delta \mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{w} = \delta \mathbf{u}$$

Nominal Dynamics Revisited and Linearized

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{y} &= -\frac{u_1 \sin(\phi)}{m} = f_1(y, z, \phi, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{\phi}, u_1, u_2, g) \\ \ddot{z} &= -g + \frac{u_1 \cos(\phi)}{m} = f_2(y, z, \phi, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{\phi}, u_1, u_2, g) \\ \ddot{\phi} &= \frac{u_2}{J} = f_3(y, z, \phi, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{\phi}, u_1, u_2, g)\end{aligned}\quad (12)$$

To linearize the \ddot{y} we do,

$$\begin{aligned}\delta \ddot{y} &= \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta y + \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial z} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta z + \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \phi} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta \phi + \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \dot{y}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta \dot{y} \\ &\quad + \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \dot{z}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta \dot{z} + \left. \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \dot{\phi}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_0} \delta \dot{\phi}\end{aligned}\quad (13)$$

Nominal Dynamics Revisited and Linearized Contd

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\ddot{y} &= -9.8 \times \delta\phi \\ \delta\ddot{z} &= -\delta g + \frac{\delta u_2}{m} \\ \delta\ddot{\phi} &= \frac{\delta u_2}{J}\end{aligned}\tag{14}$$

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- ④ **Control Synthesis**
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- ⑥ MATLAB Demo

Error Dynamics

Problem

State, input $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}$

Plant model $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$

Find a control input function $u(t)$ so that $x(t)$ follows the desired trajectory $\mathbf{x}^{\text{des}}(t)$

General Approach

Define error,

$$\mathbf{e}(t) = \mathbf{x}^{\text{des}}(t) - \mathbf{x}(t)$$

Want $\mathbf{e}(t)$ to converge exponentially to zero

Strategy

Find $u(t)$ such that

$$\ddot{\mathbf{e}} + K_v \dot{\mathbf{e}} + K_p \mathbf{e} = 0 \quad K_p, K_v > 0$$

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⑤ **Having All Together!**
Trajectory tracking
Control

⑥ MATLAB Demo

Trajectory tracking

Discussion

Control Laws Following PD Controller

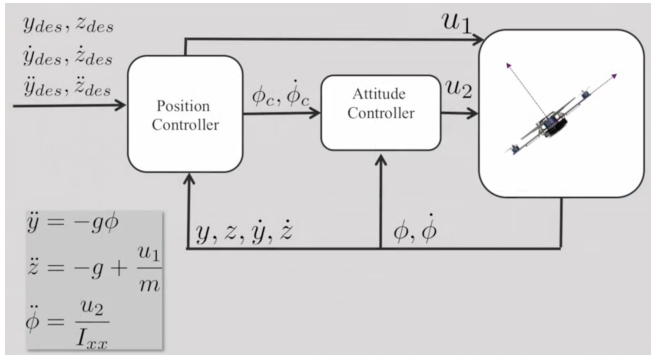


Figure: Control architecture³

³Image Source: GRASP Lab

Control Laws Following PD Controller Contd

$$\begin{aligned}u_1 &= m[g - k_{v,z}\dot{z} + k_{p,z}(z_0 - z)] \\u_2 &= I_{xx} \left(\ddot{\phi}_c + k_{v,\phi}(\dot{\phi}_c - \dot{\phi}) + k_{p,\phi}(\phi_c - \phi) \right) \\ \phi_c &= -\frac{1}{g} (k_{v,y}(-\dot{y}) + k_{p,y}(y_0 - y))\end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

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Demonstration



Questions?