

# **Model Predictive Control**

## ■ **Lecture 6**



# Outline

- Reactive Control & Optimal Control → strengths and weakness
- What is Model Predictive Control (MPC)? Why MPC?
- Brief history of MPC & research using MPC in robotics
- MPC design → pipeline and parameters choices
- Linear MPC → quadratic programming & MPC and LQR
- Explicit MPC
- Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC
- Tube MPC
- Hybrid MPC
- Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)



# Reactive Control

The Control Task: trajectory following for example

- Ideal case:

$$m\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{F} - mg\mathbf{z}_w$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{F}_{des}} = mg\mathbf{z}_w + m\mathbf{a}_{des} \quad \mathbf{z}_{b,des} = \frac{\mathbf{F}_{des}}{|\mathbf{F}_{des}|}$$

$$\mathbf{q}_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(1 + \mathbf{z}_b(3))}} (1 + \mathbf{z}_b(3), -\mathbf{z}_b(2), \mathbf{z}_b(1), 0)^T$$

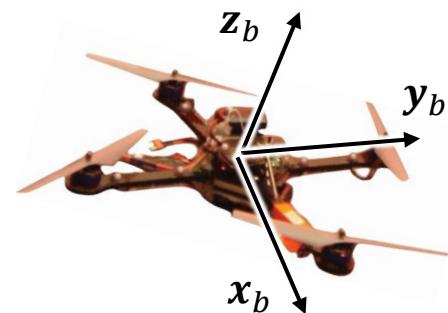
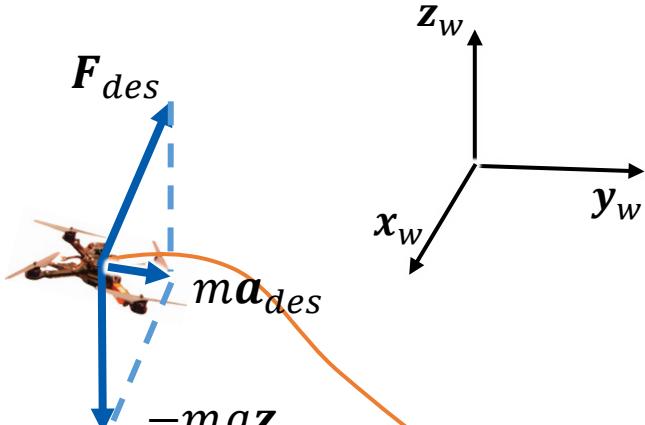
$$\underline{\mathbf{q}_{des}} = \underline{\mathbf{q}_z} \otimes \mathbf{q}_\psi \quad \text{desired thrust and attitude} \longrightarrow \text{Autopilot}$$

- Real case:

$$\mathbf{e}_p = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_{des}, \quad \mathbf{e}_v = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_{des} \quad \text{errors on position and velocity}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{F}_{des}} = -\underline{K_p} \mathbf{e}_p - \underline{K_v} \mathbf{e}_v + mg\mathbf{z}_w + m\mathbf{a}_{des}$$

control gains      Reactive Control





# Reactive Control

## Advantages of Reactive Control

- Easy to design
- Considers errors

## Limitations of Reactive Control

- Non-trivial for more complex systems
- Control gains must be tuned manually
- No handling of coupled dynamics and constraints
- Ignores future decisions



Legged robots:  
too complex



PID controller:  
separation into longitudinal and  
lateral controllers ignores coupling



# Optimal Control

How to **best** control the system?

- Model of the system dynamics

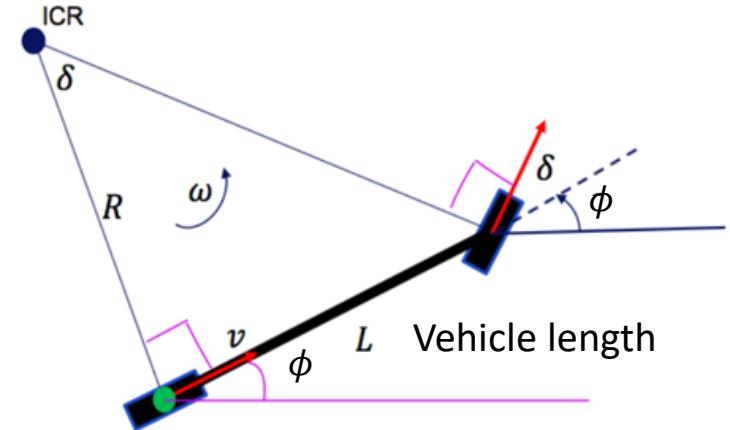
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f_c(x, u) \\ x_{k+1} &= f_d(x_k, u_k) \quad x_0 \text{ initial condition}\end{aligned}$$

state      input

- Kinematic Bicycle Model for e.g.

State:  $\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ v \\ \phi \end{bmatrix}$     Input:  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$



$(p_x, p_y)$  Cartesian position of rear wheel

$\phi$  vehicle orientation

$v$  velocity at rear wheel

$a$  longitudinal acceleration

$\delta$  steering input

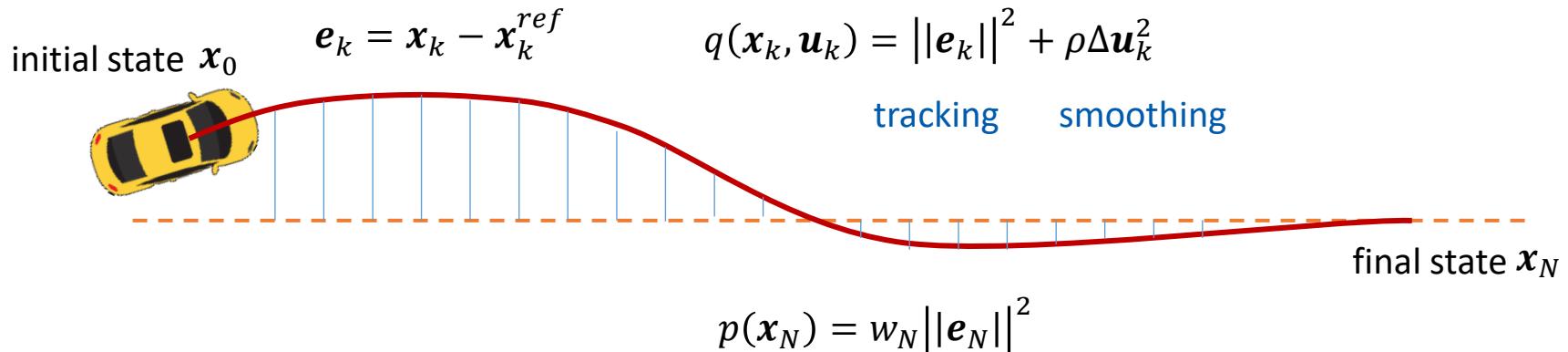


# Optimal Control

## Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(x_k, u_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(x_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$





# Optimal Control

## Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

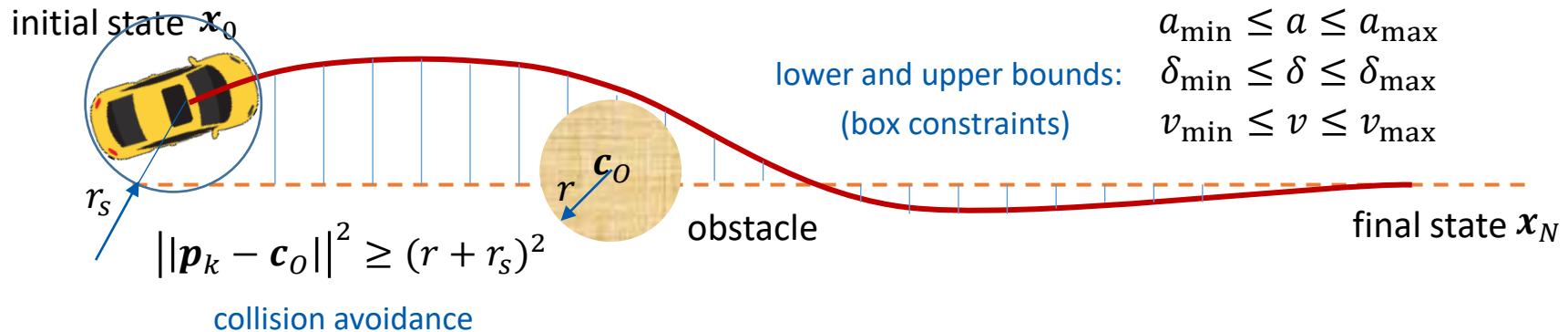
$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$

- Constraints

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f_d(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{equality constraints}$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) \leq \mathbf{0} \quad \text{inequality constraints}$$





# Optimal Control

## Optimal Control Procedure

- Objective function

$$\min_{u_{0:N-1}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{q(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)}_{\text{stage cost}} + \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_N)}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$

- Constraints

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f_d(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{equality constraints}$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k) \leq \mathbf{0} \quad \text{inequality constraints}$$

- Optimal solution vector

$$\mathbf{z}^* = [\mathbf{u}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T]^T \quad \text{optimizer}$$

Now we can **best** control the system using  $\mathbf{z}^*$ !

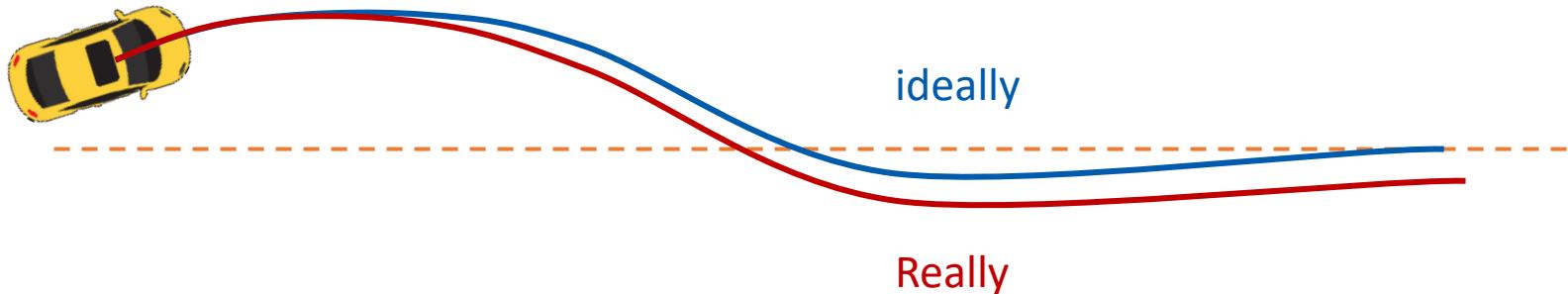
**Ideally**, of course.



# Optimal Control

## Difficulties of (Open-Loop) Optimal Control

- The dynamic model is usually **inaccurate**. Model errors accumulate over time.
- The optimizer we get  $z^*$  cannot be accurately applied.
- Long task-horizons make the problem **intractable**.
- The system may be affected by **external disturbances**.



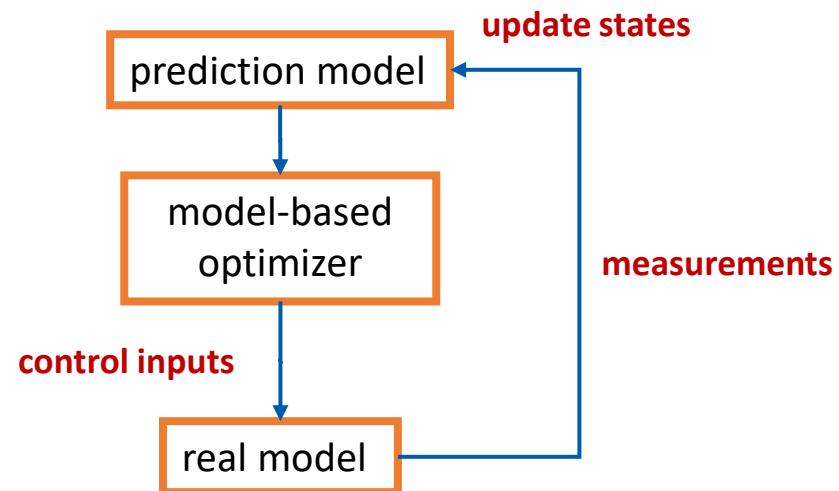


# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Use a dynamical **model** of the process to **predict** its future evolution and choose the “best” **control** action.

**finite time horizon**

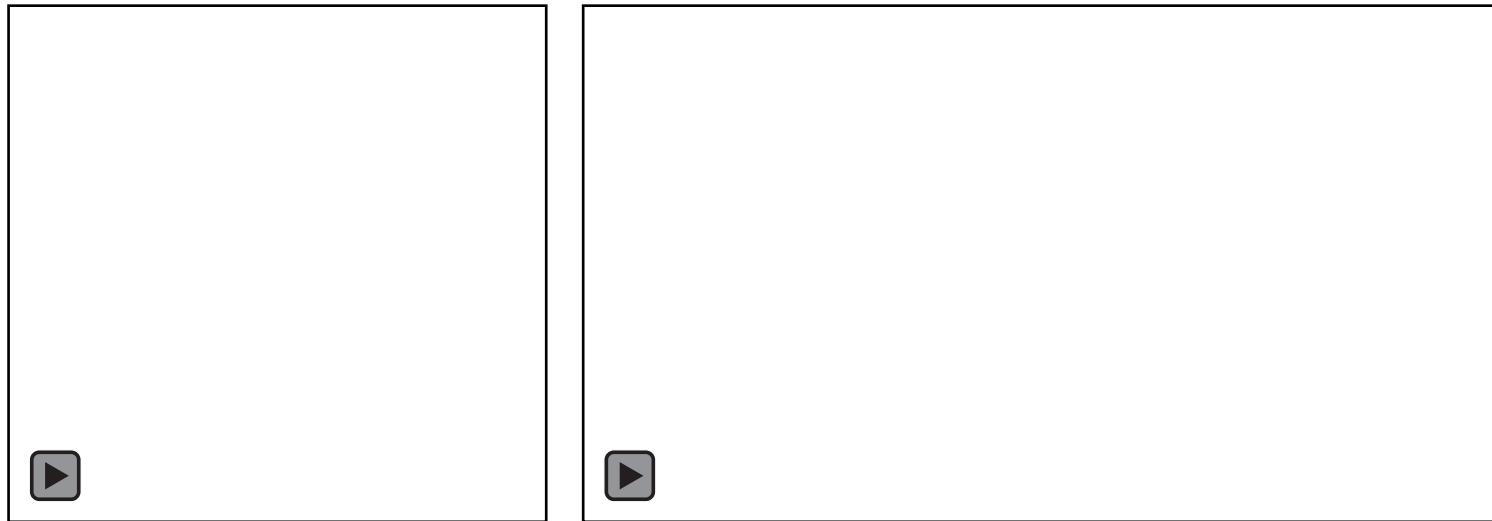
- **Feedback** of the measurement information
  - Start from the estimated **current state**
- **Optimize** the best control sequence
  - Find controls for **limited preview** into the future
- **Receding horizon** framework
  - Apply only the first input, then **re-plan**





# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Receding horizon framework





# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

## Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Use a dynamical **model** of the process to **predict** its future evolution and choose the “best” **control** action.

- MPC Formulation (reference tracking for e.g.)

$$\min_{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_N} \sum_k^N \|y_k - r(t)\|^2 + \rho \Delta u_k^2$$

$$\text{s. t. } \dot{x}_{k+1} = f(x_k, u_k)$$

$$y_k = g(x_k)$$

**prediction model**

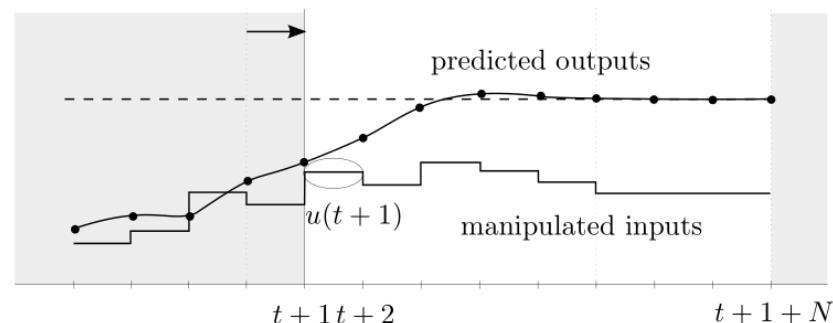
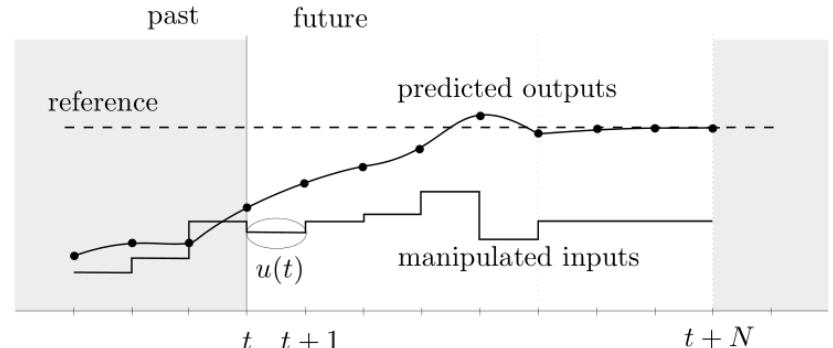
$$x_{min} \leq x_k \leq x_{max}$$

**constraints**

$$u_{min} \leq u_k \leq u_{max}$$

$$x_0 = x(t)$$

**state feedback**





# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

## Model Predictive Control (MPC)

Other names:

- Open Loop Optimal Feedback
- Reactive Scheduling
- Receding Horizon Control

Advantages

- Considers future (although a limited future)
- Accounts for errors
- Reduces problem size (solver is usually warm-started with the previous solution)



# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

## Brief History of MPC

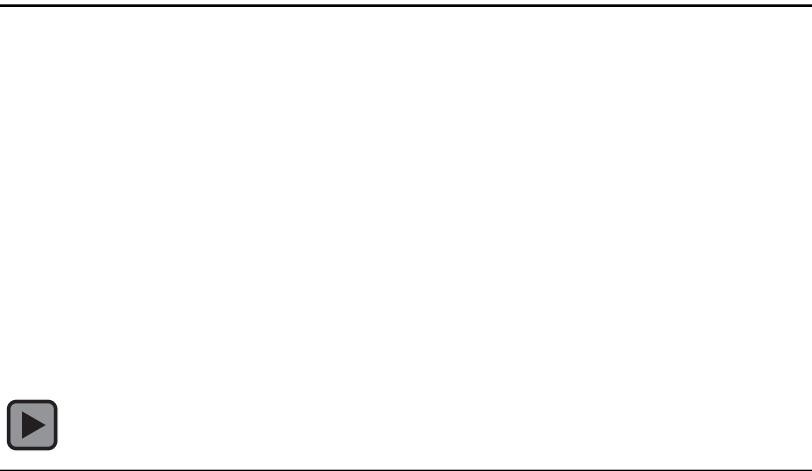
- Process control → **linear** MPC (some nonlinear too) 1970-2000
- Automotive control → **explicit, hybrid** MPC 2001-2010
- Aerospace systems and UAVs → **linear time-varying** MPC >2005
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)  
(wireless nets, cloud) → **distributed/decentralized** MPC >2005
- Energy, finance, automotive, water → **stochastic** MPC >2010
- Industrial production → **embedded optimization** solvers for MPC >2010
- Machine learning → **data-driven** MPC today



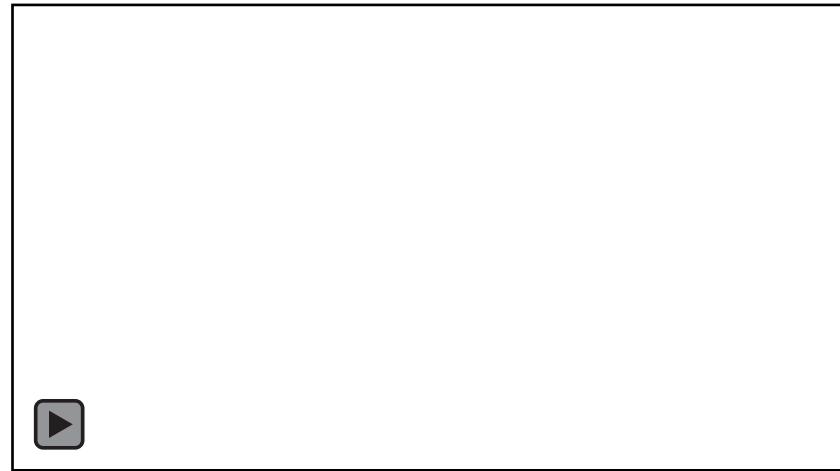


# Model Predictive Control (MPC)

## Research of MPC in Robotics



Nonlinear MPC for Quadrotor Fault-Tolerant Control



Whole-body MPC and online gait sequence generation for wheeled-legged robots

Nan, Fang, et al. "Nonlinear MPC for Quadrotor Fault-Tolerant Control." arXiv preprint arXiv:2109.12886 (2021).

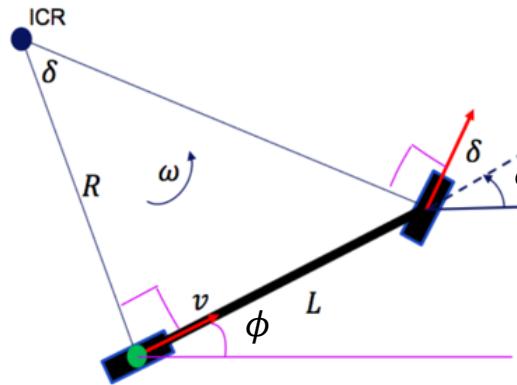
Bjelonic, Marko, et al. "Whole-body mpc and online gait sequence generation for wheeled-legged robots." 2021 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS). IEEE, 2020.



# MPC Design

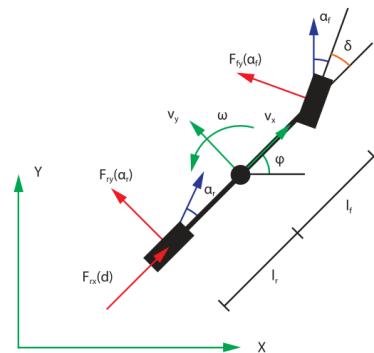
## Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off in choice of model family:



## Kinematic Bicycle Model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p_x} = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p_y} = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$



## Dynamic Bicycle Model

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= v_x \cos(\varphi) - v_y \sin(\varphi) \\ \dot{y} &= v_x \sin(\varphi) + v_y \cos(\varphi) \\ \dot{\varphi} &= \omega \\ \dot{v}_x &= \frac{1}{m} (F_{r,x} - F_{f,y} \sin(\delta) + m v_y \omega) \\ \dot{v}_y &= \frac{1}{m} (F_{r,y} + F_{f,y} \cos(\delta) - m v_x \omega) \\ \dot{\omega} &= \frac{1}{I_z} (F_{f,y} l_f \cos(\delta) - F_{r,y} l_r)\end{aligned}$$

# Simplicity

vs.

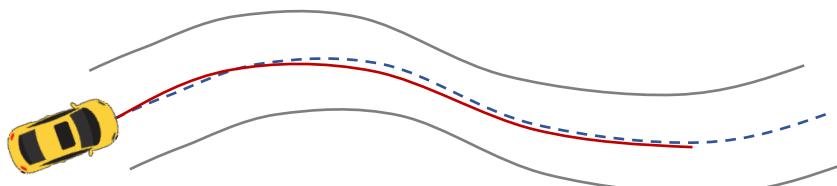
## Accuracy



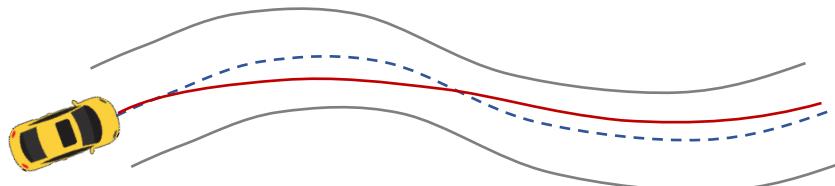
# MPC Design

## Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements



Minimize deviation from reference



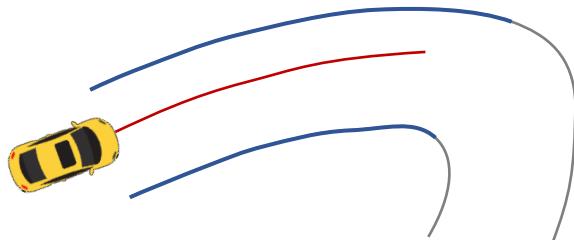
Maximize process inside track bounds



# MPC Design

## Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements
- Prediction horizon → trade-off of **computation overload** and **recursive feasibility**



- Short prediction horizon
  - **Reduced computation**
  - **Myopic behavior (potentially unsafe)**
- Additional constraints at the end of the prediction horizon can ensure **recursive feasibility**.



# MPC Design

## Design Parameters of MPC

- Prediction model → trade-off of **accuracy** and **simplicity**
- Cost function → vary in different requirements
- Prediction horizon → trade-off of **computation overload** and **recursive feasibility**
- Terminal constraints
- ...



# Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Linear prediction model: 
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k \\ \mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}_k \end{cases}$$
- Relation between input and states: 
$$\mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{A}^k \mathbf{x}_0 + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \mathbf{A}^j \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k-1-j}$$
- Forward simulation as matrix equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{AB} & \mathbf{B} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^{N-1}\mathbf{B} & \mathbf{A}^{N-2}\mathbf{B} & \cdots & \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^N \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_0$$



# Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Quadratic costs:

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$P = P^T > 0$   
 $Q = Q^T > 0$   
 $R = R^T > 0$

**Positive semi-definite**

- Goal: find the best control sequence  $\mathbf{u}_{0:N-1}^*$  that minimizes  $J$

$$J = \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_0 + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{P} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{R} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{R} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} B & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ AB & B & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A^{N-1}B & A^{N-2}B & \cdots & B \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{S}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_z + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} A \\ A^2 \\ \vdots \\ A^N \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{T}} x_0$$

$$J(z, x_0) = x_0^T Q x_0 + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} Q & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & Q & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & Q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & P \end{bmatrix}}_Q \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}}_z + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} R & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & R & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & R \end{bmatrix}}_R \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_u$$

$$\begin{aligned} J(z, x_0) &= (\bar{S}z + \bar{T}x_0)^T \bar{Q} (\bar{S}z + \bar{T}x_0) + z^T \bar{R} z + x_0^T Q x_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} z^T \underbrace{2 \left( \bar{R} + \bar{S}^T \bar{Q} \bar{S} \right)}_H z + x_0^T \underbrace{2 \bar{T}^T \bar{Q} \bar{S}}_F z + \frac{1}{2} x_0^T \underbrace{2 \left( Q + \bar{T}^T \bar{Q} \bar{T} \right)}_Y x_0 \end{aligned}$$



# Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \underbrace{2 \left( \bar{\mathbf{R}} + \bar{\mathbf{S}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{S}} \right)}_{\mathbf{H}} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \underbrace{2 \bar{\mathbf{T}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{S}}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \underbrace{2 \left( \bar{\mathbf{Q}} + \bar{\mathbf{T}}^T \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\mathbf{T}} \right)}_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{x}_0$$

- Condensed form of MPC:

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

The optimum is obtained by zeroing the gradient

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{z}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0 = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{z}^* = -\underline{\mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0} \quad (\text{"batch" solution})$$

unconstrained linear MPC = linear state-feedback!



# Linear MPC – Unconstrained Case

- Non-condensed form of MPC:
  - Keep also  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  as optimization variables

$$J(\mathbf{z}, x_0) = x_0^T \mathbf{Q} x_0 + \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & R & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \mathbf{Q} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

- Equality constraints

$$x_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}x_k + \mathbf{B}u_k$$

More variables and constraints but very sparse



# MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

- “Batch” solution:  $\mathbf{z}^* = -\mathbf{H}^{-1}\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{x}_0$ 
  - Analytically
  - Still requires to invert a large matrix  $\mathbf{H}^{-1}$
- Dynamic programming [LQR](#)
  - Exploiting the sequential structure of the problem
  - Bellman’s principle of optimality  $A \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow B \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C$

"An optimal policy has the property that, regardless of the decisions taken to enter a particular state, the remaining decisions made for leaving that stage must constitute an optimal policy."



# MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

## Dynamic programming LQR

- Exploiting the sequential structure of the problem
- Bellman's principle of optimality

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\mathbf{z}^* \quad \mathbf{u}_0^* \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{u}_k^* \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*$$

---





# MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

## Dynamic programming LQR

- Break up the problem into smaller tail problems

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$J_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-1} + J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}} \underline{\mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}} + \underline{J_N^*(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1})}$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}} \underline{\mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{x}_{N-1}} + \underline{\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1}} + \underline{2 \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}}$$

Zeroing the gradient:  $2(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^* + 2\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} = 0$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \quad \mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$



# MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

## Dynamic programming LQR

- Recursively solve the tail problems

$$J = \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$J_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N$$

$$J_{N-1}(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{x}_{N-1} + \mathbf{u}_{N-1}^T (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u}_{N-1} + 2 \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{N-1}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_{N-1} \quad \underline{\mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}}$$

$$J_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1}) = \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T \underline{\{\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{K}\}} \mathbf{x}_{N-1}$$

$$J_{N-2}(\mathbf{x}_{N-2}) \triangleq \mathbf{x}_{N-2}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_{N-2} + \mathbf{u}_{N-2}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{N-2} + J_{N-1}^*(\mathbf{x}_{N-1})$$

...

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_0^*(\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_0$$

Algebraic Riccati Equation



# MPC and Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

## Dynamic programming LQR

- Consider again the MPC cost function

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x}_N + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k)$$

“Batch” solution

$$\mathbf{z}^* = -\mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}_0$$

$O(N^3)$  complexity

- Update matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  and terminal gain  $\mathbf{K}$  iteratively

$$\mathbf{K} = -(\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{K}$$

...

→ Linear complexity in horizon  $N$

$$\mathbf{u}_0^*(\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{x}_0$$

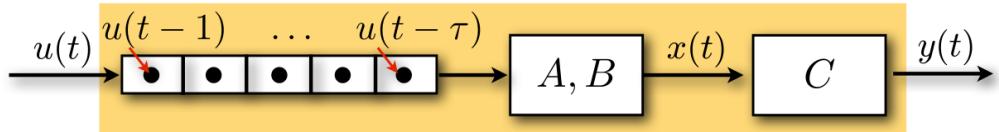
(unconstrained) **MPC = LQR** for any choice of the prediction horizon  $N$



# Linear MPC with Delays

- Linear model with delays

$$\mathbf{x}(t+1) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t-\tau)$$



- Delay-free model:

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \mathbf{x}(t+\tau) \approx \hat{\mathbf{x}}(t+\tau) = \mathbf{A}^\tau \mathbf{x}(t) + \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbf{A}^j \mathbf{B} \underbrace{\mathbf{u}(t-1-j)}_{\text{Past inputs}}$$

- We must have the prediction horizon  $N \geq \tau$ .
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t+\tau)$  can be computed by a more complex model (numerical solution of ODE).



# Constrained Linear MPC

Convex Quadratic Programming (QP)

$$J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{x}_0$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{z}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{z} \quad \text{(quadratic objective)}$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad \mathbf{G} \mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{W} + \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \text{(linear constraints)}$$

- Popular noncommercial QP solvers
  - OOQP, OSQP, qpOASES, ECOS (SOCP)
- Popular Commercial QP solvers
  - GUROBI, MOSEK (LPs, QPs, SOCPs, SDPs and MIPs ... )



# Explicit MPC

Can we implement constrained linear MPC **without an online QP solver**?

- **Online optimization:** given  $x(t)$ , solve the problem at each time step  $t$   
(the control law  $u = u_0^*(x)$  is **implicitly** defined by the QP solver)  
→ Quadratic Programming (QP)
- **Offline optimization:** solve the QP in advance for all  $x(t)$  in a given range to find the control law  $u = u_0^*(x)$  **explicity**  
→ Multi-parametric Quadratic Programming (mpQP)



# Explicit MPC

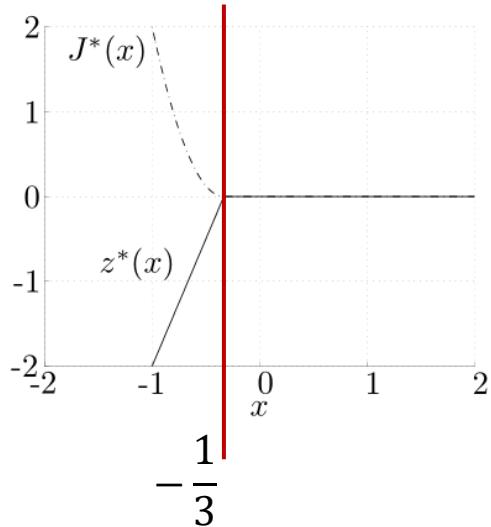
Example

$$J^*(x) = \min_z J(z, x) = \frac{1}{2}z^2$$

$$\text{s. t. } z \leq 1 + 3x$$

KKT condition:

$$\begin{aligned} z + \lambda &= 0 \\ \lambda(z - 3x - 1) &= 0 \\ \lambda &\geq 0 \\ z - 3x - 1 &\leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

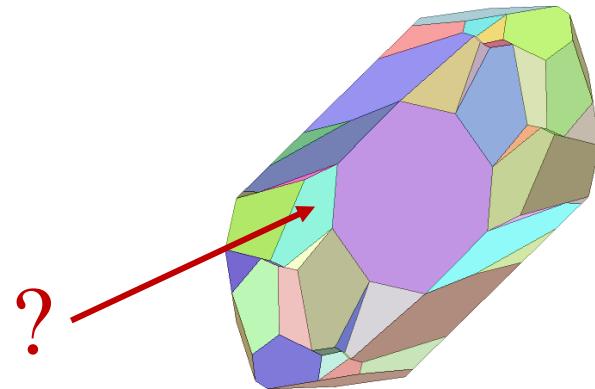


It can be proved that the multiparametric solution of a strictly convex QP is **continuous** and **piecewise affine**.



# Explicit MPC

The number of regions is (usually) **exponential** with the number of possible combinations of active constraints.



Too many regions make explicit MPC less attractive, due to memory (storage of polyhedra) and **throughput** requirements (time to locate  $x_0$ ).



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linear Time-Varying (LTV) model

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \underline{\mathbf{A}_k(t)}\mathbf{x}_k + \underline{\mathbf{B}_k(t)}\mathbf{u}_k$$

- Nonlinear model

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

- An LTV model can be obtained by linearizing a nonlinear model

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} \approx f(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \bigg|_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}} (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \bigg|_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}} (\mathbf{u} - \bar{\mathbf{u}})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}_c \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}_c \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{g}_c$$



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

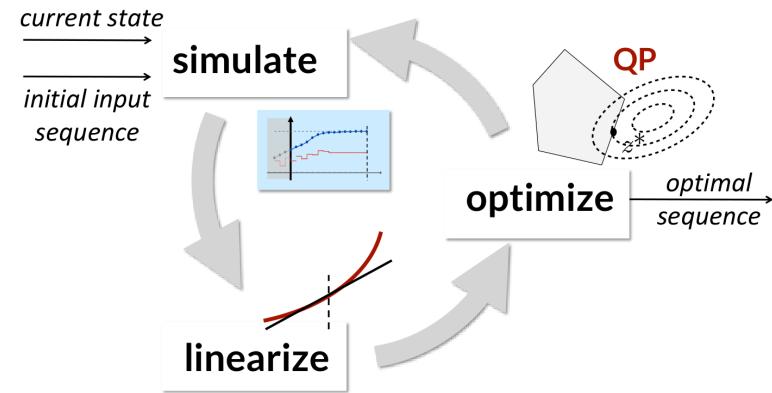
- Convert linear model to **discrete-time** using forward Euler method

$$\dot{x} = A_c x + B_c u + g_c$$

$$\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{T_s} = A_c x_k + B_c u_k + g_c$$

$$x_{k+1} = \underline{(I + T_s A_c)} x_k + \underline{T_s B_c} u_k + \underline{T_s g_c}$$

$$x_{k+1} = \underline{A_k} x_k + \underline{B_k} u_k + \underline{g_k}$$

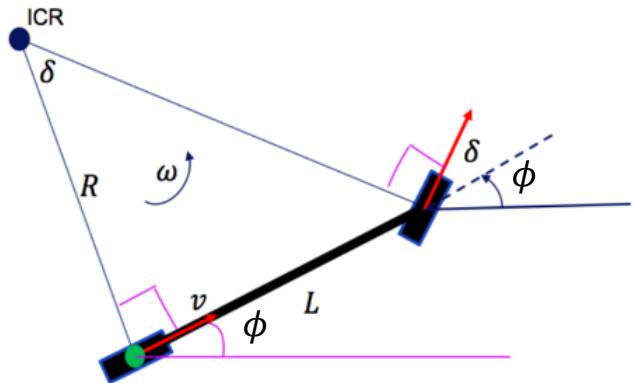


- Then we can solve a linear MPC online.



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Example: Control **longitudinal acceleration** and **steering angle** of the vehicle simultaneously for autonomous driving of tracking a reference trajectory



$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$

Input:  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$

State:  $\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \phi \\ v \end{bmatrix}$

$(p_x, p_y)$  Cartesian position of rear wheel

$\phi$  Vehicle orientation

$L$  Vehicle length

$v$  velocity at rear wheel

$a$  longitudinal acceleration

$\delta$  steering input



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization and discretization:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = v \cos(\phi) \\ \dot{p}_y = v \sin(\phi) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{v}{L} \tan(\delta) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \dot{p}_x = \bar{v} \cos(\bar{\phi}) + \cos(\bar{\phi})(v - \bar{v}) - v \sin(\bar{\phi})(\phi - \bar{\phi}) \\ \dot{p}_y = \bar{v} \sin(\bar{\phi}) + \sin(\bar{\phi})(v - \bar{v}) + v \cos(\bar{\phi})(\phi - \bar{\phi}) \\ \dot{\phi} = \frac{\bar{v}}{L} \tan(\bar{\delta}) + \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L}(v - \bar{v}) + \frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}}(\delta - \bar{\delta}) \\ \dot{v} = a \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_x \\ \dot{p}_y \\ \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{v} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -\bar{v} \sin \bar{\phi} & \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{v} \cos \bar{\phi} & \sin \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{A_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ \phi \\ v \end{bmatrix}}_x + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{v} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{B_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}}_u + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \bar{v} \bar{\phi} \sin \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \bar{\phi} \cos \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \\ -\frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \end{pmatrix}}_{g_c}$$



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization and discretization:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_x \\ \dot{p}_y \\ \dot{v} \\ \dot{\phi} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -\bar{v} \sin \bar{\phi} & \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{v} \cos \bar{\phi} & \sin \bar{\phi} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\tan \bar{\delta}}{L} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ v \\ \phi \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{B}_c} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{u}} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \bar{v} \bar{\phi} \sin \bar{\phi} \\ -\bar{v} \bar{\phi} \cos \bar{\phi} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{\bar{v}}{L \cos^2 \bar{\delta}} \bar{\delta} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{g}_c}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = (\mathbf{I} + T_s \mathbf{A}_c) \mathbf{x}_k + T_s \mathbf{B}_c \mathbf{u}_k + T_s \mathbf{g}_c$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}_k \mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{g}_k$$



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Stage cost to minimize:

$$(p_x - x_{ref})^2 + (p_y - y_{ref})^2 + w_v \underline{\Delta a^2} + w_\delta \underline{\Delta \delta^2} \quad \rightarrow \text{QP formulation}$$

- Augmented model:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix}_k + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u}_k \quad z = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } z = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u}_0 \\ \Delta \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \Delta \mathbf{u}_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Constraints on inputs and states:

$$a_{\min} \leq a \leq a_{\max}$$

$$\delta_{\min} \leq \delta \leq \delta_{\max}$$

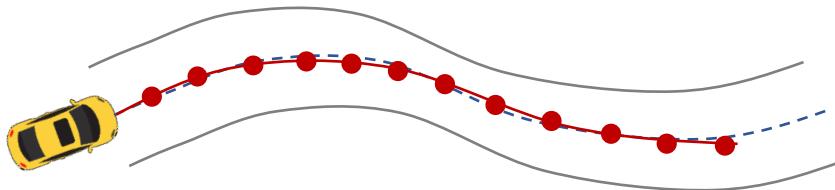
$$v_{\min} \leq v \leq v_{\max}$$

$\rightarrow$  Linear constrained QP formulation



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

- Linearization at which point?



The chicken or the egg

- Some engineering techniques:
  - Artificially given according to the reference trajectory
  - Warm-start: linearize the model at the last solution  $u_{k-1}^*, x_{k-1}^*$

Can we solve the nonlinear MPC directly?



# Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC

## Nonlinear programming problem ([NLP](#)) and nonlinear MPC ([NMPC](#))

- (Nonconvex) NLP is harder to solve than QP
- Convergence to a [global optimum](#) may not be guaranteed
- Some NLP methods exist
  - Sequential Quadratic Programming ([SQP](#))
  - Interior Point Methods
- Several embedded NMPC solvers exist
  - FORCES Pro (MATLAB C code generator)



# Tube MPC

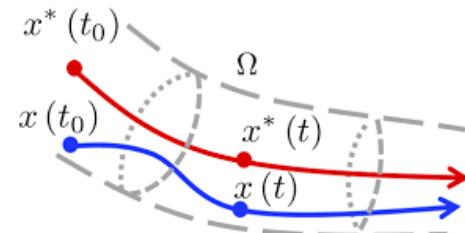
## Nonlinear MPC:

- Sometimes it's hard to carry out **system identification**, especially for nonlinear systems
- Recursive feasibility and stability cannot be guaranteed for complex systems

## Tube MPC:

- Use an independent **nominal model** of the system, and use a feedback controller to ensure the actual state converges to the nominal state.

an ancillary feedback controller is designed to keep the actual state within an invariant “**tube**” around a nominal trajectory computed neglecting **disturbances**.





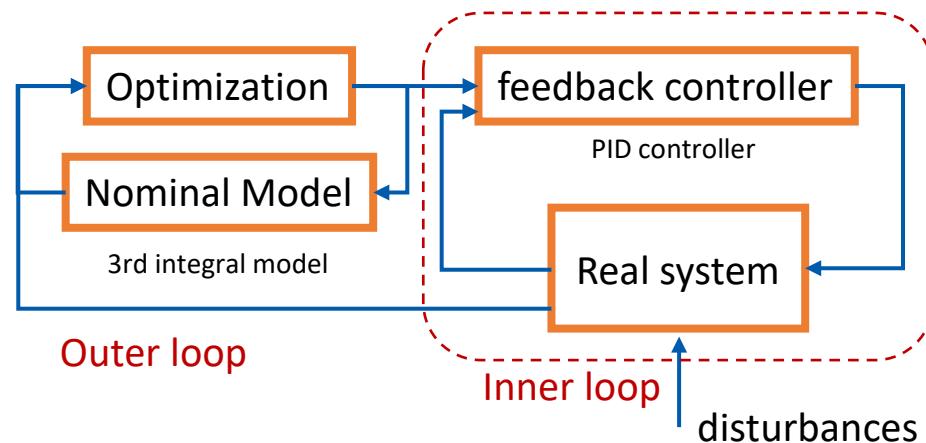
# Tube MPC

## Tube MPC:

Example: three order integral model

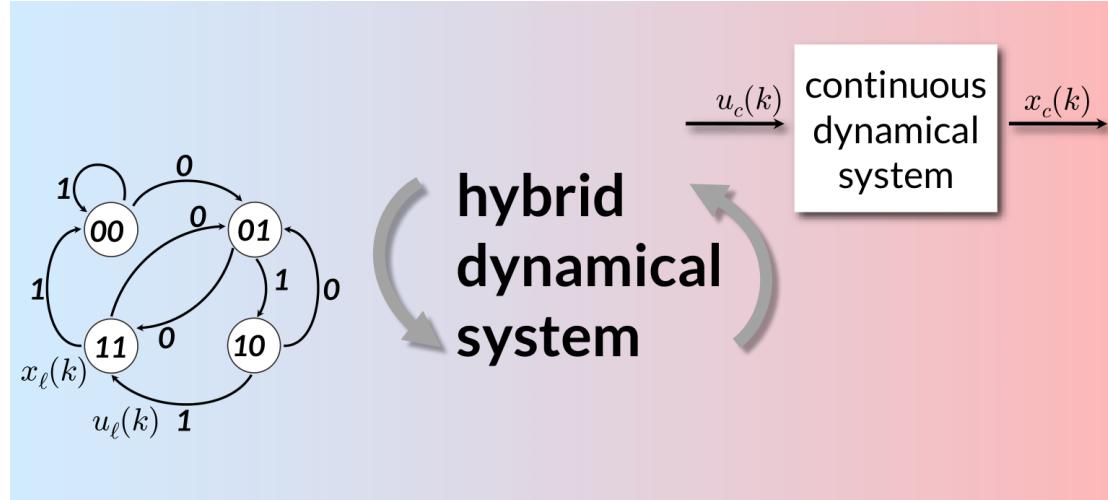
$$\begin{bmatrix} p \\ v \\ a \end{bmatrix}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & T_s & \frac{1}{2}T_s^2 \\ 0 & 1 & T_s \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ v \\ a \end{bmatrix}_k + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{6}T_s^3 \\ \frac{1}{2}T_s^2 \\ T_s \end{bmatrix} j_k$$

$p, v, a, j$  denote the position, velocity, acceleration and jerk of the quadrotor.





# Hybrid MPC



- Variables are binary-valued  
 $x_l \in \{0,1\}^{n_l}, u_l \in \{0,1\}^{m_l}$
- Dynamics = finite state machine
- Logic constraints
- Variables are real-valued  
 $x_c \in \mathbb{R}^{n_c}, u_c \in \mathbb{R}^{m_c}$
- Difference/differential equations
- Linear inequality constraints



# Hybrid MPC

- Vehicle



continuous variables  
(speed, torque, ...)

discrete command  
(R, N, 1, 2, 3, ...)

continuous commands  
(brakes & gas pedal)

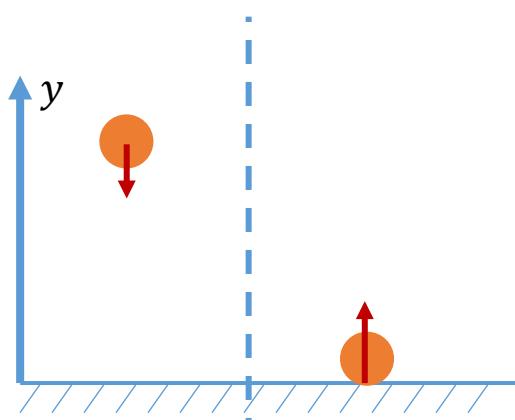


# Hybrid MPC

## Mixed Logical Dynamical (MLD) system

- converting logic relations into **mixed-integer** linear inequalities

bouncing ball for e.g.



$$\begin{cases} y_{k+1} = y_k + v_k t_s \\ y > 0 \rightarrow v_{k+1} = v_k - g t_s \\ y \leq 0 \rightarrow v_{k+1} = -(1 - \alpha) v_k \end{cases}$$

We need a binary variable  $\delta = 0 \text{ or } 1$

collision or not  $-M * \delta \leq y \leq M * (1 - \delta)$

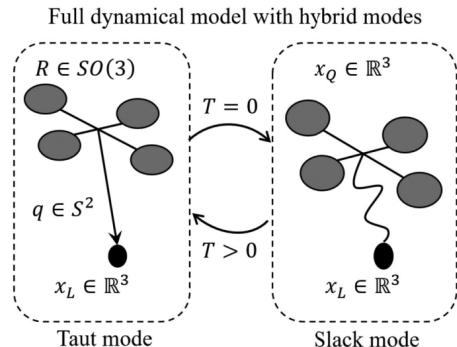
$$\begin{cases} -M * \delta \leq v_{k+1} - v_k + g t_s \leq M * \delta \\ -M * (1 - \delta) \leq v_{k+1} + (1 - \alpha) v_k \leq M * (1 - \delta) \end{cases}$$



# Hybrid MPC

## Mixed Logical Dynamical (MLD) system

- converting logic relations into mixed-integer linear inequalities
- MLD models allow solving MPC, verification, state estimation, and fault detection problems via **mixed-integer programming**.
- Further equivalences exist with other classes of hybrid dynamical systems, such as **Linear Complementarity (LC) systems**.



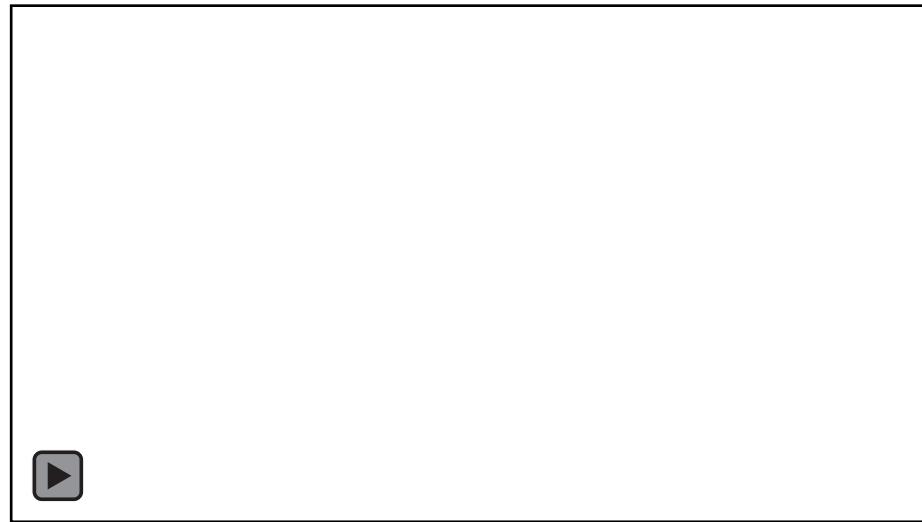
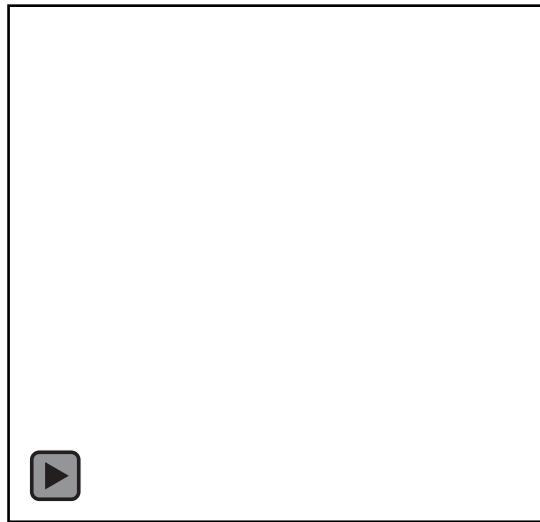
$$-Tq = m_L \ddot{p}_L + m_L g e_3$$

$$T(l - l_0) = 0$$



# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

Optimization-based autonomous racing of 1: 43 scale RC cars

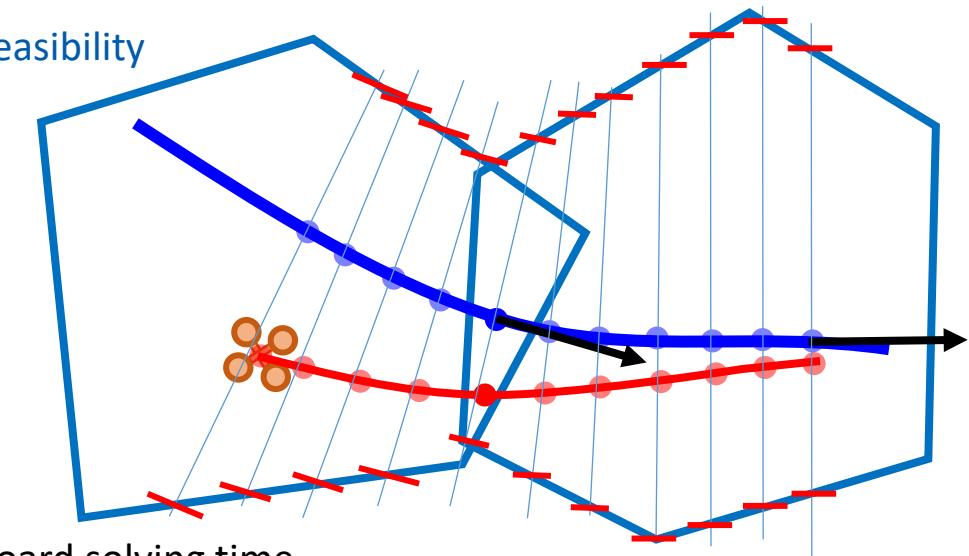




# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

## CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Trade off tracking accuracy and travelling progress
- Terminal speed constraints guarantee **feasibility**
- Naturally resist external **disturbances**
- Corridor constraints guarantee **safety**
- QP formulation with less than **5ms** onboard solving time





# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

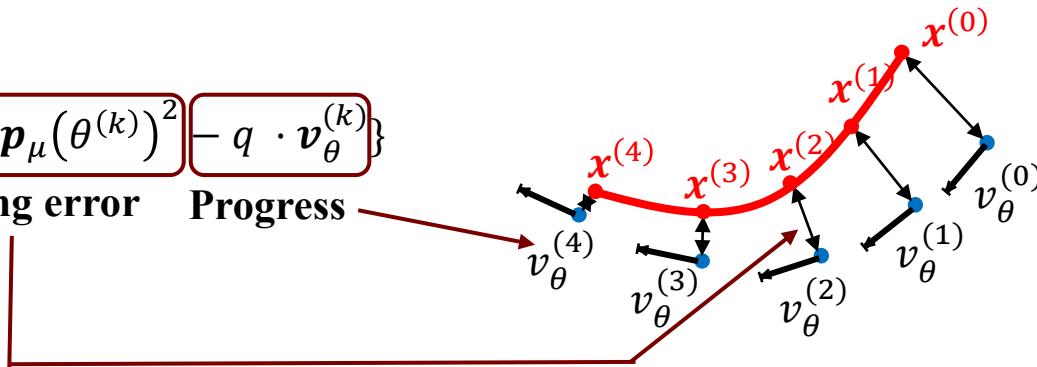
CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

State:  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = [x, v_x, a_x, y, v_y, a_y, z, v_z, a_z, \theta, v_\theta, a_\theta]^T$

Input:  $\mathbf{u}^{(k)} = [j_x, j_y, j_z, j_\theta]^T$

$$J = \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}} \sum_{k=1}^N \left\{ \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \left[ \mathbf{u}^{(k)} - \mathbf{p}_\mu(\theta^{(k)}) \right]^2 \right\}$$

Tracking error      Progress



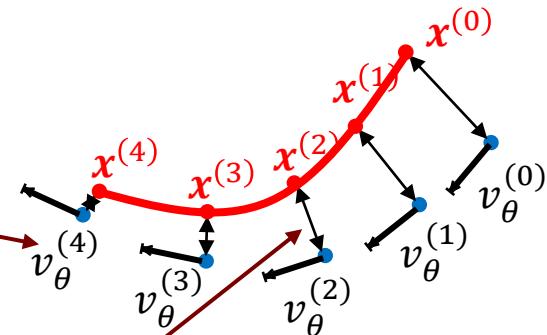


# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

$$J = \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}} \sum_{k=1}^N \left\{ \sum_{\mu=x,y,z} \left[ (\mathbf{u}^{(k)} - \mathbf{p}_\mu(\theta^{(k)})^2 \right] \left[ -q \cdot \mathbf{v}_\theta^{(k)} \right] \right\}$$

Tracking error      Progress



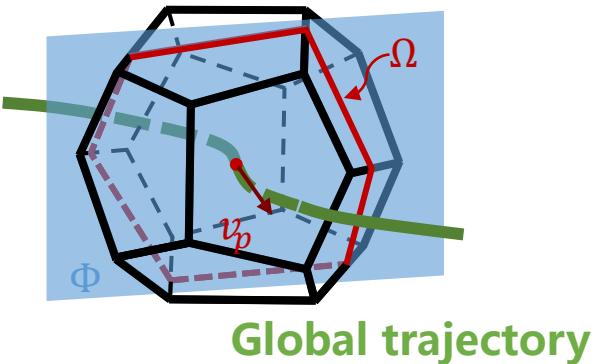
$$\text{s. t. } \mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \mathbf{B}_d \mathbf{u}^{(k)} + \mathbf{g}^{(k)}, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$\mathbf{x}_l \leq \mathbf{x}^k \leq \mathbf{x}_u, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$\mathbf{u}_l \leq \mathbf{u}^k \leq \mathbf{u}_u, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$\mathbf{C}^k \cdot [\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{y}^k, \mathbf{z}^k]^T \leq \mathbf{b}^k, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$|v_\mu^{(N)}| \leq v_{t\mu}, \mu = x, y, z$$

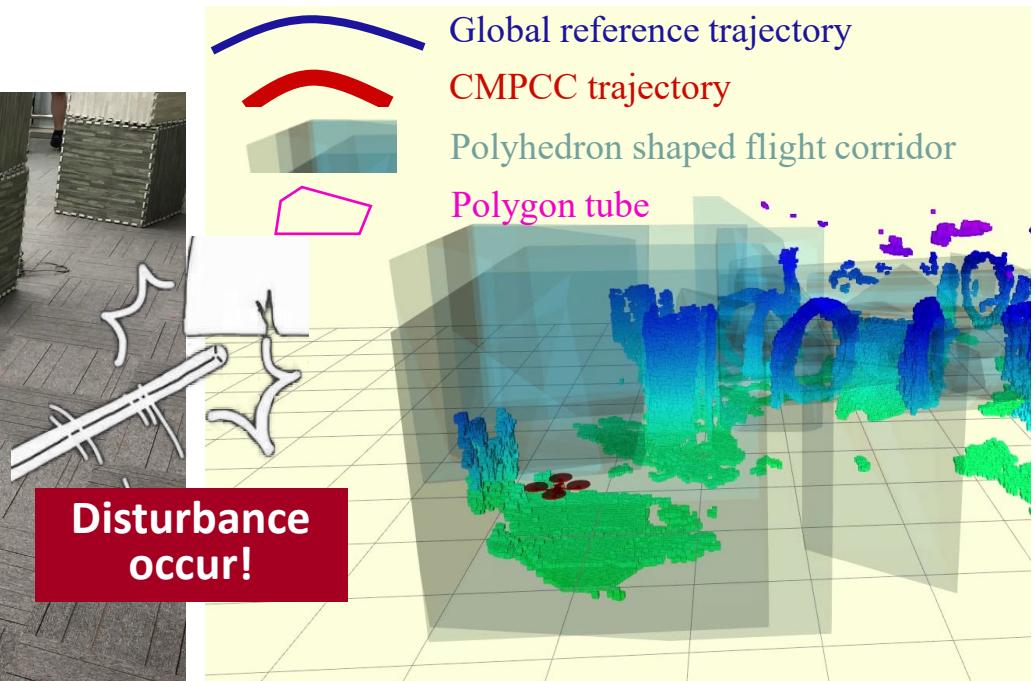
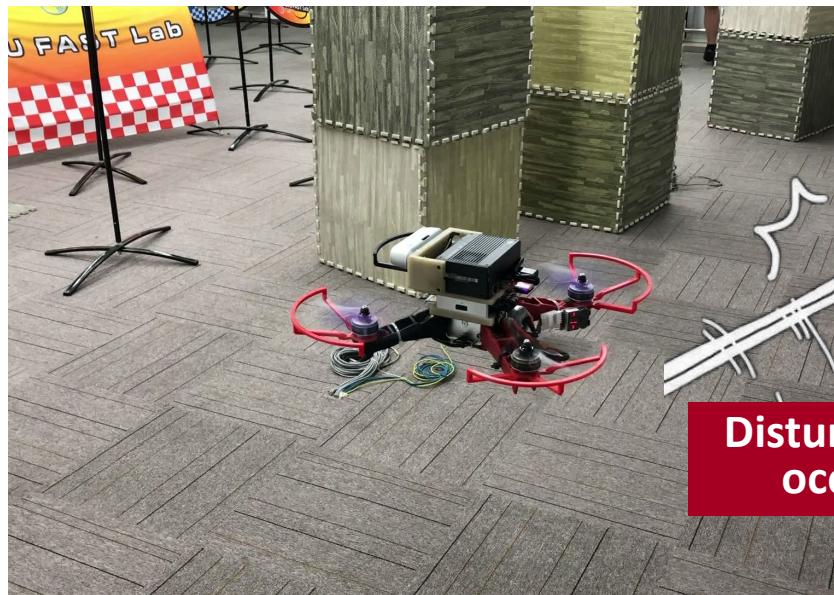




# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

## CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Contact disturbance

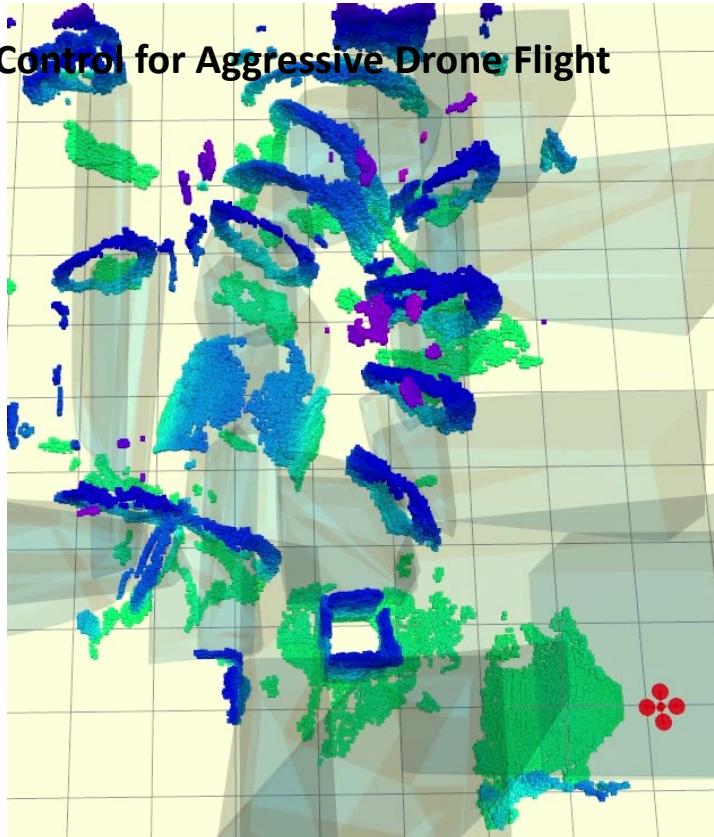




# Model Predictive Contouring Control (MPCC)

## CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Contact disturbance



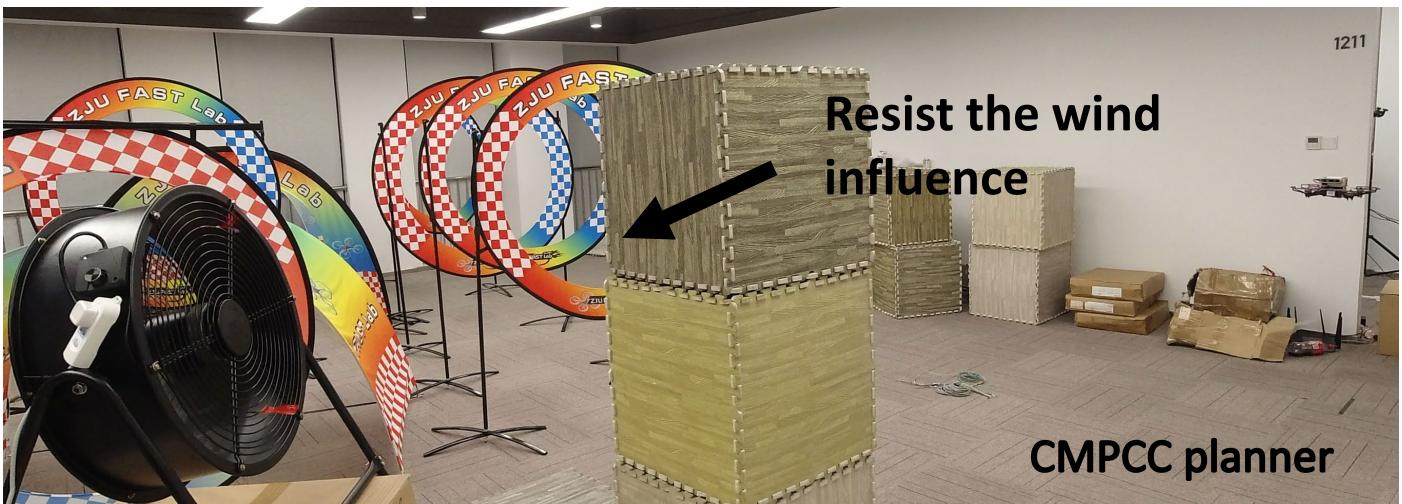


# Model Predictive Contouring Control

CMPCC: Corridor-based Model Predictive Contouring Control for Aggressive Drone Flight

- Wind disturbance

Fan





# Summary

- Reactive Control & Optimal Control
- Model Predictive Control → receding horizon
- MPC design
- Linear MPC (unconstrained and constrained case)
- MPC and LQR
- MPC with delays
- Explicit MPC
- Linear Time-Varying MPC and Nonlinear MPC
- Tube MPC
- Hybrid MPC
- Model Predictive Contouring Control



# Assignment

1. **Implement MPC of tracking reference trajectory in C++;**
2. **Implement MPC with delays in C++;**
3. **Implement MPCC in C++ (optional);**

The framework is ready, only coding for MPC problem formulation is required.



# Reference

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaD8Lngfkzk>
- [http://cse.lab.imtlucca.it/~bemporad/mpc\\_course.html](http://cse.lab.imtlucca.it/~bemporad/mpc_course.html)
- Borrelli, Francesco, Alberto Bemporad, and Manfred Morari. *Predictive control for linear and hybrid systems*. Cambridge University Press, 2017.
- Mellinger, Daniel, and Vijay Kumar. "Minimum snap trajectory generation and control for quadrotors." 2011 IEEE international conference on robotics and automation. IEEE, 2011.
- Kong, Jason, et al. "Kinematic and dynamic vehicle models for autonomous driving control design." 2015 IEEE intelligent vehicles symposium (IV). IEEE, 2015.
- Liniger, Alexander, Alexander Domahidi, and Manfred Morari. "Optimization-based autonomous racing of 1:43 scale RC cars." Optimal Control Applications and Methods 36.5 (2015): 628-647.
- Ji, Jialin, et al. "CMPCC: Corridor-based model predictive contouring control for aggressive drone flight." International Symposium on Experimental Robotics. Springer, Cham, 2020.

Thanks for Listening!