Introduction to Nonlinear Control

Stability, control design, and estimation

Christopher M. Kellett & Philipp Braun





CHRISTOPHER M. KELLETT PHILIPP BRAUN

Part I: Dynamical Systems

6 Absolute Stability

- 6.1 A Commonly Ignored Design Issue
- 6.2 Historical Perspective on the Lur'e Problem 6.3 Sufficient Conditions for Absolute Stability
- - 6.3.1 Circle Criterion
 - 6.3.2 Popov Criterion
 - 6.3.3 Circle versus Popov Criterion
- 6.4 Exercises
- 6.5 Bibliographical Notes and Further Reading

Introduction to Nonlinear Control

STABILITY, CONTROL DESIGN, AND ESTIMATION



A Commonly Ignored Design Issue

Linear system: $(A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}, c \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n})$

 $\dot{x} = Ax + bu, \qquad y = cx,$

Feedback interconnection: u = -ky $\dot{x} = (A - bkc)x,$



A Commonly Ignored Design Issue

Linear system: ($A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$)

$$\dot{x} = Ax + bu, \qquad y = cx,$$

Feedback interconnection: u = -ky $\dot{x} = (A - bkc)x,$



A Commonly Ignored Design Issue

Linear system: $(A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}, c \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n})$

$$\dot{x} = Ax + bu, \qquad y = cx,$$

Feedback interconnection: u = -ky $\dot{x} = (A - bkc)x,$



A Commonly Ignored Design Issue (Example: A servo-valve)



A Commonly Ignored Design Issue (Example: A servo-valve)





 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Deadzone function} \\ \mathrm{dz}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{:} \end{array}$

$$dz(z) = \begin{cases} z+1, & \text{for } z \le -1 \\ 0, & \text{for } z \in [-1,1] \\ y-1, & \text{for } z \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

A Commonly Ignored Design Issue (The Lur'e Problem)

Consider the feedback interconnection:



Lur'e problem:

• Which conditions on the functions $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ guarantee asymptotic stability of the origin?

A Commonly Ignored Design Issue (The Lur'e Problem)

Consider the feedback interconnection:



Lur'e problem:

• Which conditions on the functions $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ guarantee asymptotic stability of the origin?

Definition (Sector condition)

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha < \beta$, and $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$. A nonlinearity $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfies a sector condition if

$$\alpha y^2 \le y \psi(t,y) \le \beta y^2$$

for all $t \ge 0$ and for all $y \in \Omega$. For $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$ we say that the sector condition is satisfied globally.



Common nonlinearities: sign : $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$,

$$\operatorname{sat}(y) = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{for } y \leq -1, \\ y, & \text{for } -1 \leq y \leq 1, \\ 1, & \text{for } y \geq 1. \end{cases}$$
$$\operatorname{dz}(y) = \begin{cases} y+1, & \text{for } y \leq -1, \\ 0, & \text{for } -1 \leq y \leq 1, \\ y-1, & \text{for } y \geq 1. \end{cases}$$
$$\operatorname{sign}(y) = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{for } y < 0, \\ 0, & \text{for } y = 0, \\ 1, & \text{for } y > 0, \end{cases}$$

Question:

• Which nonlinearity satisfies a sector condition?

Definition (Sector condition)

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha < \beta$, and $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$. A nonlinearity $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfies a sector condition if

$$\alpha y^2 \le y \psi(t,y) \le \beta y^2$$

for all $t\geq 0$ and for all $y\in \Omega.$ For $\Omega=\mathbb{R}$ we say that the sector condition is satisfied globally.



Absolute Stability

Definition (Sector condition)

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha < \beta$, and $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$. A nonlinearity $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfies a sector condition if

 $\alpha y^2 \le y \psi(t,y) \le \beta y^2$

for all $t \ge 0$ and for all $y \in \Omega$. For $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$ we say that the sector condition is satisfied globally.

Definition (Absolute stability)

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha < \beta$, and $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$. The Lur'e system

 $\dot{x} = Ax - b\psi(t, y)$

is called absolutely stable (with respect to α, β, Ω) if the origin is asymptotically stable for all $\psi : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ satisfying the sector condition for all $t \geq 0$ and for all $y_0 \in \Omega$.



Conjecture (Aizerman's Conjecture (1949))

Let $\alpha,\beta\in\mathbb{R},\,\alpha<\beta,$ and suppose the origin of the linear system

$$\dot{x} = Ax + bu$$

y = cx

is globally asymptotically stable for all linear feedback

 $u = -\psi(y) = -ky, \quad k \in [\alpha, \beta].$

Then the origin is globally asymptotically stable for all nonlinear feedback in the sector

$$\alpha \le \frac{\psi(y)}{y} \le \beta, \quad y \ne 0.$$

→ Conjecture was shown to be wrong through counterexamples.

Conjecture (Aizerman's Conjecture (1949))

Let $\alpha,\beta\in\mathbb{R},\,\alpha<\beta,$ and suppose the origin of the linear system

$$\dot{x} = Ax + bu$$

y = cx

is globally asymptotically stable for all linear feedback

 $u=-\psi(y)=-ky,\quad k\in [\alpha,\beta].$

Then the origin is globally asymptotically stable for all nonlinear feedback in the sector

$$\alpha \leq \frac{\psi(y)}{y} \leq \beta, \quad y \neq 0.$$

→ Conjecture was shown to be wrong through counterexamples.

Conjecture (Kalman's Conjecture (1957))

Let $\alpha,\beta\in\mathbb{R},\,\alpha<\beta,$ and suppose the origin of the linear system

$$\dot{x} = Ax + bu,$$
$$u = cx$$

is globally asymptotically stable for all linear feedback

$$u = -\psi(y) = -ky, \quad k \in [\alpha, \beta].$$

Then the origin is globally asymptotically stable for all nonlinear feedback belonging to the incremental sector

$$\alpha \le \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\psi(y) \le \beta.$$

→ Conjecture was shown to be wrong through counterexamples.

Absolute stability through the Circle Criterion and Popov Criterion

Theorem (Circle Criterion)

Suppose (A,b,c) is a minimal realization of G(s) and $\psi(t,y)$ satisfies the sector condition

 $\alpha y^2 \leq y \psi(t,y) \leq \beta y^2 \qquad \forall \ y \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \forall \ t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.$

Then the system is absolutely stable if:

- $\alpha = 0 < \beta$, the Nyquist plot is to the right of the line $\operatorname{Re}(s) = -\frac{1}{\beta}$, (i.e., to the right of $D(0,\beta)$) and G(s) is Hurwitz;
- O < α < β, the Nyquist plot does not enter the disk D(α, β), and encircles it in the counter-clockwise direction as many times, N, as there are right-half plane poles of G(s); or
- α < 0 < β, the Nyquist plot lies in the interior of the disk D(α, β), and G(s) is Hurwitz.

Definitions: (Disc in the complex plane)

- center $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}_{>0} \to \mathbb{R}$
- radius $r : \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}_{>0} \to \mathbb{R}$
- for $\alpha \neq 0$ and $\beta > 0$ we define

$$\sigma(\alpha,\beta) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} \right), \quad r(\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\operatorname{sign}(\alpha)}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\beta} \right)$$

Then, the disc $D(\cdot, \cdot)$ is defined as

$$D(\alpha,\beta) = \begin{cases} \{x \in \mathbb{C} : x = -\frac{1}{\beta} + j\omega, \omega \in \mathbb{R}\}, & \alpha = 0 < \beta, \\ \{x \in \mathbb{C} : |x - \sigma(\alpha, \beta)| = r(\alpha, \beta)\}, & 0 < \alpha < \beta, \\ \{x \in \mathbb{C} : |x - \sigma(\alpha, \beta)| = r(\alpha, \beta)\}, & \alpha < 0 < \beta. \end{cases}$$



Theorem (Circle Criterion)

Suppose (A,b,c) is a minimal realization of G(s) and $\psi(t,y)$ satisfies the sector condition

 $\alpha y^2 \le y \psi(t,y) \le \beta y^2 \qquad \forall \ y \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \forall \ t \in \mathbb{R}_{\ge 0}.$

Then the system is absolutely stable if:

- $\alpha = 0 < \beta$, the Nyquist plot is to the right of the line $\operatorname{Re}(s) = -\frac{1}{\beta}$, (i.e., to the right of $D(0,\beta)$) and G(s) is Hurwitz;
- 2 0 < α < β, the Nyquist plot does not enter the disk D(α, β), and encircles it in the counter-clockwise direction as many times, N, as there are right-half plane poles of G(s); or

 α < 0 < β, the Nyquist plot lies in the interior of the disk D(α, β), and G(s) is Hurwitz.

Theorem (Popov Criterion)

Suppose A is Hurwitz, (A, b) is controllable, (A, c) is observable, and $\psi(y)$ satisfies the sector condition

 $0 \le y\psi(y) \le \beta y^2 \qquad \forall \ y \in \mathbb{R}.$

Then the Lur'e system with

 $G(s) = c(sI - A)^{-1}b$

is absolutely stable if there is an $\eta \ge 0$ with $-\frac{1}{\eta}$ not an eigenvalue of A such that

$$H(s) = 1 + (1 + \eta s)\beta G(s)$$

is strictly positive real.

Part I: Dynamical Systems

- 1. Nonlinear Systems -Fundamentals & Examples
- 2. Nonlinear Systems Stability Notions
- 3. Linear Systems and Linearization
- 4. Frequency Domain Analysis
- 5. Discrete Time Systems
- 6. Absolute Stability
- 7. Input-to-State Stability

Part II: Controller Design

- 8. LMI Based Controller and Antiwindup Designs
- 9. Control Lyapunov Functions
- 10. Sliding Mode Control
- 11. Adaptive Control
- 12. Introduction to Differential Geometric Methods
- 13. Output Regulation
- 14. Optimal Control
- 15. Model Predictive Control

Part III: Observer Design & Estimation

- Observer Design for Linear Systems
- 17. Extended & Unscented Kalman Filter & Moving Horizon Estimation
- Observer Design for Nonlinear Systems