EECE 574 - Adaptive Control Model-Reference Adaptive Control - Part I

Guy Dumont

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering University of British Columbia

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Model-Reference Adaptive Systems

The MRAC or MRAS is an important adaptive control methodology ¹



Guy Dumont (UBC EECE)

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¹see Chapter 5 of the Åström and Wittenmark textbook, or H. Butler, "Model-Reference Adaptive Control-From Theory to Practice", Prentice-Hall, 1992

- The MIT rule
- Lyapunov stability theory
- Design of MRAS based on Lyapunov stability theory
- Hyperstability and passivity theory
- The error model
- Augmented error
- A model-following MRAS



The MIT Rule

- Original approach to MRAC developed around 1960 at MIT for aerospace applications
- With $e = y y_m$, adjust the parameters θ to minimize

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}e^2$$

• It is reasonable to adjust the parameters in the direction of the negative gradient of *J*:

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta} = -\gamma e \frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta}$$

• $\partial e/\partial \theta$ is called the sensitivity derivative of the system and is evaluated under the assumption that θ varies slowly



The MIT Rule

• The derivative of *J* is then described by

$$\frac{dJ}{dt} = e\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} = -\gamma e^2 \left(\frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta}\right)^2$$

• Alternatively, one may consider J(e) = |e| in which case

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta} = -\gamma \frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta} \operatorname{sign}(\mathbf{e})$$

• The sign-sign algorithm used in telecommunications where simple implementation and fast computations are required, is

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta} = -\gamma \operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta}\right) \operatorname{sign}(e)$$



MIT Rule: Example 1

- Process: y = kG(s) where G(s) is known but k is unknown
- The desired response is $y_m = k_0 G(s) u_c$
- Controller is $u = \theta u_c$
- Then $e = y y_m = kG(p)\theta u_c k_0G(p)u_c$
- Sensitivity derivative

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta} = kG(p)u_c = \frac{k}{k_0}y_m$$

• MIT rule

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \gamma' \frac{k}{k_0} y_m e = -\gamma y_m e$$





Figure: MIT rule for adjustment of feedforward gain (from textbook).



Simulation



Figure: MIT rule for adjustment of feedforward gain: Simulation results (from textbook).



Consider the first-order system

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay + bu$$

The desired closed-loop system is

$$\frac{dy_m}{dt} = -a_m y_m + b_m u_c$$

Applying model-following design (see lecture notes on pole placement)

$$\deg A_0 \ge 0 \qquad \deg S = \deg R = \deg T = 0$$



The controller is then

$$u(t) = t_0 u_c(t) - s_0 y(t)$$

For perfect model-following

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay(t) + b[t_0u_c(t) - s_0y(t)]$$
$$= -(a + bs_0)y(t) + bt_0u_c$$
$$= -a_my_m(t) + b_mu_c$$

This implies

$$s_0 = \frac{a_m - a}{b}$$
$$t_0 = \frac{b_m}{b}$$



With the controller we can write²

$$y = \frac{bt_0}{p+a+bs_0}u_c$$

With $e = y - y_m$, the sensitivity derivatives are

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t_0} = \frac{b}{p+a+bs_0}u_c$$
$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial s_0} = \frac{b^2 t_0}{(p+a+bs_0)^2}u_c = \frac{b}{p+a+bs_0}y$$



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However, a and b are unknown³. For the nominal parameters, we know that

 $a+bs_0=a_m$

$$p+a+bs_0 \approx p+a_m$$

Then

$$\frac{dt_0}{dt} = -\gamma' b\left(\frac{1}{p+a_m}u_c\right)e = -\gamma\left(\frac{a_m}{p+a_m}u_c\right)e$$
$$\frac{ds_0}{dt} = \gamma' b\left(\frac{1}{p+a_m}y\right)e = \gamma\left(\frac{a_m}{p+a_m}y\right)e$$

with $\gamma = \gamma' b/a_m$, i.e. *b* is absorbed in γ and the filter is normalized with static gain of one.

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³after all, we want to design an adaptive controller!



Figure: MIT rule for first-order (from textbook)



Input and output



Figure: Simulation of MIT rule for first-order with $a = 1, b = 0.5, a_m = b_m = 2$ and $\gamma = 1$ (from textbook)





Figure: Simulation of MIT rule for first-order with $a = 1, b = 0.5, a_m = b_m = 2$. Controller parameters for $\gamma = 0.2, 1$ and 5(from textbook)



Figure: Simulation of MIT rule for first-order with a = 1, b = 0.5, $a_m = b_m = 2$. Relation between controller parameters θ_1 and θ_2 . The dashed line is $\theta_2 = \theta_1 - a/b$. (from textbook)



Consider again the adaptation of a feedforward gain

$$G = \frac{1}{s^2 + a_1 s + a_2}$$
$$e = (\theta - \theta_0)Gu_c$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta} = Gu_c = \frac{y_m}{\theta_0}$$
$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = -\gamma' e \frac{\partial e}{\partial \theta} = -\gamma' e \frac{y_m}{\theta_0} = -\gamma e y_m$$



Thus the system can be described as

$$\frac{d^2 y_m}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dy_m}{dt} + a_2 y_m = \theta_0 u_c$$
$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dy}{dt} + a_2 y = \theta u_c$$
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma (y - y_m) y_m$$

This is difficult to solve analytically



$$\frac{d^3y}{dt^3} + a_1\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + a_2\frac{dy}{dt} + \gamma u_c y_m y = \theta \frac{du_c}{dt} + \gamma u_c y_m^2$$

Assume u_c^o and y_m^o constant, equilibrium is

$$y(t) = y_m^o = \frac{\theta_0 u_c^o}{a_2}$$

which is stable if

$$a_1a_2 > \gamma u_c^o y_m^o = \frac{\gamma}{a_2} (u_c^o)^2$$

Thus, if γ or u_c is sufficiently large, the system will be unstable





Figure: Influence on convergence and stability of signal amplitude for MIT rule (from textbook)



Modified MIT Rule

- Normalization can be used to protect against dependence on the signal amplitudes
- With $\varphi = \partial e / \partial \theta$, the MIT rule can be written as

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma \varphi e$$

• The normalized MIT rule is then

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{-\gamma \varphi e}{\alpha^2 + \varphi^T \varphi}$$

• For the previous example,

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{-\gamma e y_m/\theta_0}{\alpha^2 + y_m^2/\theta_0^2}$$



Modified MIT Rule



Figure: Influence on convergence and stability of signal amplitude for modified MIT rule (from textbook)





- Aleksandr M Lyapunov (1857-1918, Russia)
- Classmate of Markov, taught by Chebyshev
- Doctoral thesis *The general* problem of the stability of motion became a fundamental contribution to the study of dynamic systems stability
- He shot himself three days after his wife died of tuberculosis



• Consider the nonlinear time-varying system

$$\dot{x} = f(x,t)$$
 with $f(0,t) = 0$

- If at time $t = t_0 ||x(0)|| = \delta$, i.e. if the initial state is not the equilibrium state $x^* = 0$, what will happen?
- There are four possibilities



- The system is stable. For a sufficiently small δ , *x* stays within ε of x^* . If δ can be chosen independently of t_0 , then the system is said to be uniformly stable.
- The system is unstable. It is possible to find ε which does not allow any δ .
- The system is asymptotically stable. For $\delta < R$ and an arbitrary ε , there exists t^* such that for all $t > t^*$, $||x x^*|| < \varepsilon$. It implies that $||x x^*|| \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$.
- If asymptotic stability is guaranteed for any δ , the system is globally asymptotically stable.



- A scalar time-varying function is locally positive definite if V(o,t) = 0and there exists a time-invariant positive definite function $V_0(x)$ such that $\forall t \ge t_0, V(x,t) \ge V_0(x)$. In other words, it dominates a time-invariant positive definite function.
- V(x,t) is radially unbounded if $0 < \alpha ||x|| \le V(x,t)$, $\alpha > 0$.
- A scalar time-varying function is said to be decrescent if V(o,t) = 0 and there exists a time-invariant positive definite function V₁(x) such that ∀t ≥ t₀, V(x,t) ≤ V₁(x).
- In other words, it is dominated by a time-invariant positive definite function.



Theorem (Lyapunov Theorem)

- **Stability:** if in a ball B_R around the equilibrium point 0, there exists a scalar function V(x,t) with continuous partial derivatives such that
 - **1** *V* is positive definite
 - 2 *V* is negative semi-definite

then the equilibrium point is stable.

- Uniform stability and uniform asymptotic stability: If furthermore,
 - V is decrescent

then the origin is **uniformly stable**. If condition 2 is strengthened by requiring that \dot{V} be negative definite, then the equilibrium is **uniformly asymptotically stable**.

• *Global uniform asymptotic stability:* If *B_R* is replaced by the whole state space, and condition 1, the strengthened condition 2, condition 3 and the condition

(4) V(x,t) is radially unbounded

are all satisfied, then the equilibrium point at 0 is **globally uniformly asymptotically** *stable*.

- The Lyapunov function has similarities with the **energy content** of the system and must be **decreasing** with time.
- This result can be used in the following way to design a stable a stable adaptive controller
 - First, the **error equation**, i.e. a differential equation describing either the output error $y y_m$ or the state error $x x_m$ is derived.
 - Second, a Lyapunov function, function of both the signal error $e = x x_m$ and the parameter error $\phi = \theta \theta_m$ is chosen. A typical choice is

$$V = e^T P e + \phi^T \Gamma^{-1} \phi$$

where both *P* and Γ^{-1} are positive definite matrices.

The time derivative of V is calculated. Typically, it will have the form

$$\dot{V} = -e^T Q e + \text{ some terms including } \phi$$

Putting the extra terms to zero will ensure negative definiteness for \dot{V} if Q is positive definite, and will provide the adaptive law.





 $u_c = sin\omega t \ \omega = 1(a), 2(b) \text{ and } 3(c)$



Lyapunov Design of MRAC

- Determine controller structure
- Derive the error equation
- Find a Lyapunov equation
- Determine adaptation law that satisfies Lyapunov theorem



Process model

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay + ku$$

Desired response

$$\frac{dy_m}{dt} = -ay_m + k_0 u_c$$

Controller

$$u = \theta u_c$$

- Introduce error $e = y y_m$
- The error equation is

$$\frac{de}{dt} = -ae + (k\theta - k_0)u_c$$

• System model

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay + ku$$
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = ??$$

• Desired equilibrium

$$e = 0$$

$$\theta = \theta_0 = \frac{k_0}{k}$$



• Consider the Lyapunov function

$$V(e,\theta) = \frac{\gamma}{2}e^2 + \frac{k}{2}(\theta - \theta_0)^2$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = -\gamma ae^2 + (k\theta - k_0)(\frac{d\theta}{dt} + \gamma u_c e)$$

• Choosing the adjustment rule

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma u_c e$$

gives

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = -\gamma a e^2$$



Lyapunov rule:
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma u_c e$$

MIT rule:
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\gamma y_m e$$







Lyapunov rule:







Process model

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay + bu$$

• Desired response

$$\frac{dy_m}{dt} = -a_m y_m + b_m u_c$$

Controller

$$u=\theta_1u_c-\theta_2y$$

- Introduce error $e = y y_m$
- The error equation is

$$\frac{de}{dt} = -a_m e - (b\theta_2 + a - a_m)y + (b\theta_1 - b_m)u_c$$



• Candidate Lyapunov function

$$V(t,\theta_1,\theta_2) = \frac{1}{2} \left(e^2 + \frac{1}{b\gamma} (b\theta_2 + a - a_m)^2 + \frac{1}{b\gamma} (b\theta_1 - b_m)^2 \right)$$

Derivative

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{de}{dt} + \frac{1}{\gamma}(b\theta_2 + a - a_m)\frac{d\theta_2}{dt} + \frac{1}{\gamma}(b\theta_1 - b_m)\frac{d\theta_1}{dt}$$

$$= -a_m e^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma}(b\theta_2 + a - a_m)(\frac{d\theta_2}{dt} - \gamma ye) + \frac{1}{\gamma}(b\theta_1 - b_m)(\frac{d\theta_1}{dt} + \gamma u_c e)$$

• This suggests the adaptation law

$$\frac{d\theta_1}{dt} = -\gamma u_c e$$
$$\frac{d\theta_2}{dt} = \gamma y e$$



Lyapunov Rule

MIT Rule









Lyapunov-based MRAC Design

- The main advantage of Lyapunov design is that it guarantees a closed-loop system.
- For a linear, asymptotically stable governed by a matrix *A*, a positive symmetric matrix *Q* yields a positive symmetric matrix *P* by the equation

$$A^T P + P A = -Q$$

This equation is known as Lyapunov's equation.



Lyapunov-based MRAC Design

- The main drawback of Lyapunov design is that there is no systematic way of finding a suitable Lyapunov function V leading to a specific adaptive law.
- For example, if one wants to add a proportional term to the adaptive law, it is not trivial to find the corresponding Lyapunov function.
- The hyperstability approach is more flexible than the Lyapunov approach.

