

Module 2-2: Introduction to Optimal Control

Linear Control Systems (2020)

Ding Zhao

Assistant Professor

College of Engineering

School of Computer Science

Carnegie Mellon University

Introduction to Optimal Control

- With pole placement, we learned how to place the eigenvalues at desired locations for MIMO systems, however
 - What eigenvalues should we choose? Not a very clear relationship between eigenvalues and performance.
 - Even if we do know what eigenvalues we want, the state feedback is not unique (for MIMO systems). Then what's the “best” choice of K ?
- The solution: using **Optimal Control!**
- We will focus on one of the most useful optimal control schemes: **Linear Quadratic Control**
 - linear system dynamics
 - minimizing a quadratic (i.e. second order) function of the state and control

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- 6 Infinite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

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Finite Horizon (FH) Discrete-Time (DT) LQR

- Without loss of generality, the goal is set to **reach 0** from $x(0)$ in N steps.
- When the desired control target is a constant, we call the controller a regulator. If we need to follow a trajectory over time, we call it a “tracking” problem. In regulation problem, feedback is enough, while in tracking, it is desired to also have feedforward. We will work on the feedback controller first.
- The cost function (sometimes called “cost-to-go”) is

$$J_{0,N} = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k))$$

with S_N, Q, R constant positive definite matrices.

- S_N, Q, R are weights to “penalize” state and control. Higher entries mean you care more about a particular state or control
- To solve for this problem, first we need to understand the **Dynamic Programming**.

Dynamic Programming



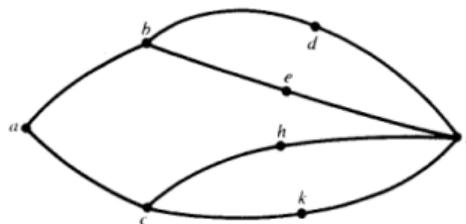
Bellman, 1920-1984

$J_{a,l}^*$ is the **min** cost from node a to the last node l .

$$J_{a,l}^* \triangleq \min [J_{a,b} + J_{b,l}^*, J_{a,c} + J_{c,l}^*] (*)$$

$$J_{b,l}^* = \min [J_{b,d} + J_{d,l}^*, J_{b,e} + J_{e,l}^*] = \min [J_{b,d} + J_{d,l}, J_{b,e} + J_{e,l}],$$

$$J_{c,l}^* = \min [J_{c,h} + J_{h,l}^*, J_{c,k} + J_{k,l}^*] = \min [J_{c,h} + J_{h,l}, J_{c,k} + J_{k,l}]$$



- recursive function
- Instantaneous cost: $J_{a,b}$ and $J_{a,c}$
- Minimum values of all future costs: $J_{a,l}^*, J_{b,l}^*, J_{c,l}^*$
- Start with the last optimal step and moving backward to the first
- We can also do this in time step (our focus in this lecture)

Dynamic Programming - My Graduation Trip



Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (1)

- Start from the last step.

$$J_{N-1,N} = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T Q x(N-1) + \frac{1}{2}u(N-1)^T R u(N-1)$$

- We are also subject to the dynamics

$$x(N) = Ax(N-1) + Bu(N-1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow J_{N-1,N} &= \frac{1}{2}((Ax(N-1) + Bu(N-1))^T S_N (Ax(N-1) + Bu(N-1))) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T Q x(N-1) + \frac{1}{2}u(N-1)^T R u(N-1) \end{aligned}$$

Matrix Calculus

Vector-by-scalar

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial t} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix}$$

Scalar-by-vector

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \left[\frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \quad \dots \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \right]$$

$$\nabla f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^T = \frac{\partial^T f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

Chain rule: $\frac{\partial g(u)}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial g(u)}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$

Vector-by-vector

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobian $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{a}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{a}^T, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T) = 2\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \quad (\text{if } \mathbf{A} \text{ is symmetric})$$

$$\nabla \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^T = 2 \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (\text{if } \mathbf{A} \text{ is symmetric})$$

Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (2)

- To find the optimal control, differentiate with respect to $u(N-1)$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^T J_{N-1,N}}{\partial u(N-1)} &= 0 \\ &= B^T S_N [Ax(N-1) + Bu(N-1)] + Ru(N-1) \\ &= [R + B^T S_N B]u(N-1) + B^T S_N Ax(N-1) \\ \Rightarrow u^*(N-1) &= -[R + B^T S_N B]^{-1} B^T S_N Ax(N-1)\end{aligned}$$

- The second derivative $R + B^T S_N B > 0 \Rightarrow$ global minimum
 - The control is of the form

$$\begin{aligned}u^*(N-1) &= K_{N-1}x(N-1) \\ \text{with constant } K_{N-1} &= -(R + B^T S_N B)^{-1} B^T S_N A\end{aligned}$$

Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (3)

With little algebra, we have

$$J_{N-1,N}^* = \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T[(A+BK_{N-1})^T S_N(A+BK_{N-1}) + Q + K_{N-1}^T R K_{N-1}]x(N-1)$$

Let $S_{N-1} = \frac{1}{2}[(A+BK_{N-1})^T S_N(A+BK_{N-1}) + Q + K_{N-1}^T R K_{N-1}]$. Just like S_N , we find S_{N-1} is also a constant!

We have

$$J_{N-1,N}^* = \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T S_{N-1} x(N-1)$$

We get a general form for $J_{N-1,N}^*$ given $x(N-1)$.

Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (4)

Step backwards again

$$J_{N-2,N}^* = \min_{u(N-2:N-1)} [J_{N-2,N-1}^{intermedia} + J_{N-1,N}]$$

because $J_{N-1,N}^* \leq J_{N-1,N}$

$$J_{N-2,N}^* = \min_{u(N-2:N-1)} [J_{N-2,N-1}^{intermedia} + J_{N-1,N}^*]$$

because $J_{N-1,N}^* = \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T S_{N-1}x(N-1)$, which is independent of $u(N-1)$

We will drop $u(N-1) \Rightarrow J_{N-2,N}^* = \min_{u(N-2)} [J_{N-2,N-1}^{intermedia} + J_{N-1,N}^*]$

$$= \min_{u(N-2)} \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T S_{N-1}x(N-1) + \frac{1}{2}x(N-2)^T Qx(N-2) + \frac{1}{2}u(N-2)^T Ru(N-2)$$

Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (5)

- Since S_{N-1} is a constant, this is identical in form to $J_{N-1,N}$, and the solution is similar

$$u^*(N-2) = K_{N-2}x(N-2)$$

$$\text{with } K_{N-2} = -(R + B^T S_{N-1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{N-1} A$$

- We can continue, resulting in the general formula

$$K_k = -(R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A$$

$$S_k = (A + BK_k)^T S_{k+1} (A + BK_k) + Q + K_k^T R K_k$$

- We can iteratively calculate $S_N \Rightarrow K_{N-1} \Rightarrow S_{N-1} \Rightarrow K_{N-2} \Rightarrow S_{N-2} \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow S(0)$, then use $u^*(k) = K_k x(k)$

Optimal Control for FH-DT-LQR (6)

We could combine the two equations together by substitute K_k in the S_K equation:

$$K_k = -(R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A$$

$$S_k = (A + BK_k)^T S_{k+1} (A + BK_k) + Q + K_k^T R K_k$$

$$= A^T S_{k+1} A + A^T S_{k+1} B K_k + \underbrace{K_k^T B^T S_{k+1} A + K_k^T B^T S_{k+1} B K_k + K_k^T R K_k}_{\text{This parts become 0 by substituting } K_k!} + Q$$

$$= A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

$$S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

is called “Discrete-time Difference Riccati Equation”. Can be computed backwards with k from N to 0 given S_N . Then K_k can be directly computed by the first equation.

Recap: Finite Horizon Discrete-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

Design control policy to minimize the cost function

$$J_{0,N} = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k))$$

where $S_N, Q, R \geq 0$, subject to the system dynamics

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$$

Induction backwards in time to obtain the optimal control solution at each time. We found the minimal cost from state k to the end has an elegant solution

$$\min J_{k,N} = J_{k,N}^* = \frac{1}{2}x(k)^T S_k x(k)$$

where $S_k \geq 0$ is a constant only dependent on A, B, S_N, Q, R .

Recap: Solve FH-DT-LQR with Principle of Optimality

$$\textcircled{1} J_{N,N}^* = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} J_{N-1,N}^* &= \min\{J_{N,N}^* + \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T Q x(N-1) + \frac{1}{2}u(N-1)^T R u(N-1)\} \\ &= \min\{\frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T Q x(N-1) + \frac{1}{2}u(N-1)^T R u(N-1)\} \\ u^*(N-1) &= -(R + B^T S_N B)^{-1} B^T S_N A x(N-1) = K_{N-1} x(N-1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_{N-1,N}^* &= \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T [(A + BK_{N-1})^T S (A + BK_{N-1}) + Q + K_{N-1}^T R K_{N-1}] x(N-1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x(N-1)^T S_{N-1} x(N-1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{3} S_N \Rightarrow K_{N-1} \Rightarrow S_{N-1} \Rightarrow K_{N-2} \Rightarrow S_{N-2} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow S(0)$$

$$K_k = -(R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A$$

$$S_k = (A + BK_k)^T S_{k+1} (A + BK_k) + Q + K_k^T R K_k$$

$$\Rightarrow S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q \quad (\text{DT Difference Riccati Equation})$$

Recap: Matrix Equations

Discrete-time Difference Riccati Equation

$$S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)

$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

Continuous-time Differential Riccati Equation

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t) B R^{-1} B^T P(t) - P(t) A - A^T P(t)$$

Continuous-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (CARE)

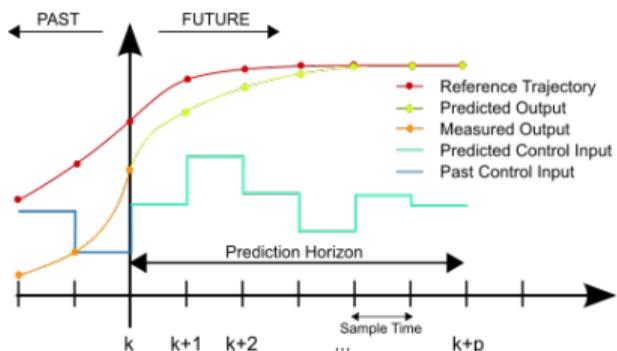
$$A^T P + P A - P B R^{-1} B^T P + Q = 0$$

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Finite-Horizon Discrete-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

Design control policy to minimize the cost function



$$J_{0,N} = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k))$$

where $S_N, Q, R \geq 0$, subject to the system dynamics

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$$

FH-DT-LQR, Constrained LQR, & MPC

Karush 1917-1997

Kuhn 1925-2014

Tucker 1905-1995



Constrained LQR

Design control policy to minimize the cost function

$$J_{0,N} = \frac{1}{2}x(N)^T S_N x(N) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k))$$

where $S_N, Q, R \geq 0$, subject to the system dynamics

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$$

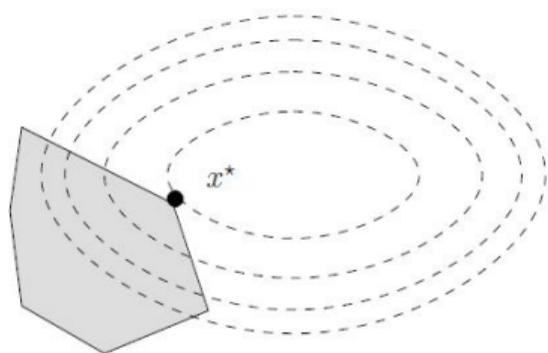
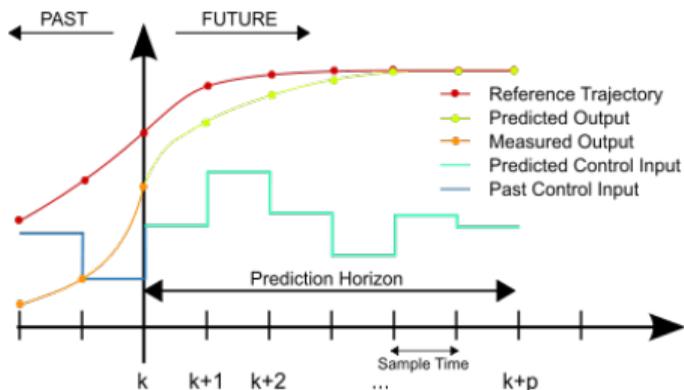
and constraints

$$Hx(k) \leq h$$

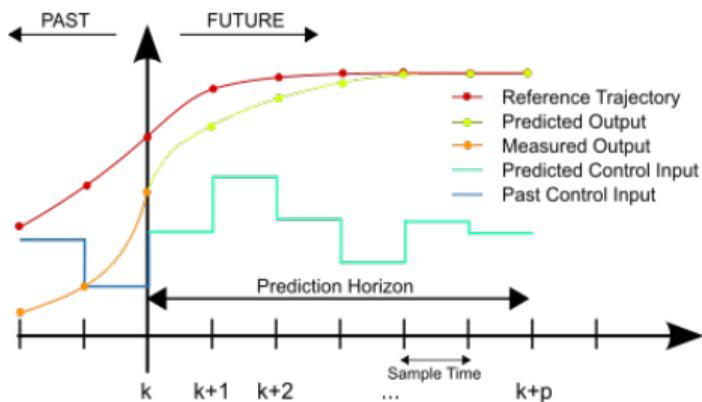
$$Fu(k) \leq f$$

Quadratic programming

Many efficient and reliable algorithms available (KKT).

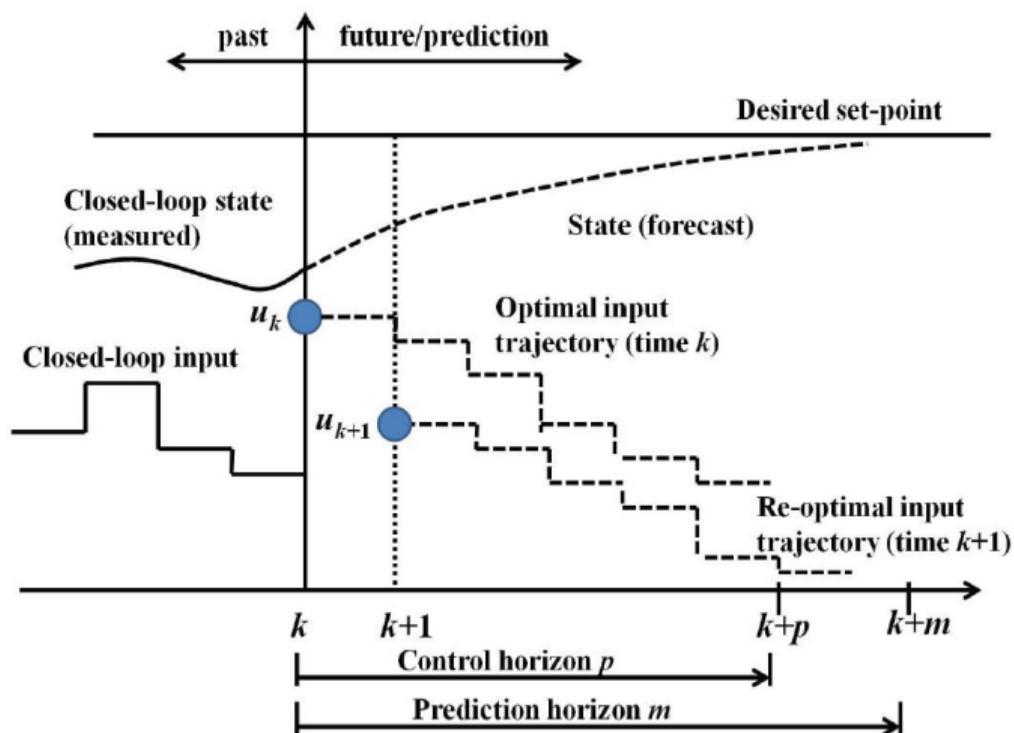


LQR, Constrained LQR, & MPC



Calculate $u^*(k : k + N)$, but only use $u^*(k)$ and recalculate $u^*(k + 1 : k + N + 1)$ in the next step. Essentially, it is a closed loop version of Constrained LQR, therefore, could be more robust by increasing computation budget.

(Linear) Modal Predictive Control or "Receding Horizon Control"



Real-World Application of MPC

- More and more popular
- Used in all kinds of industry, economics, politics, etc
- Thanks to the fast development of computational capability
- Many variants: Nonlinear MPC (nonlinear programming), Explicit MPC (offline, parametric programming for different control regions), etc

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Infinite Horizon Control

- In many mathematical cases, taking $k \rightarrow \infty$ may surprisingly simplify the analysis.
- It may cause little or no degradation in optimality because the optimal time-varying gains approach constant values in a few time constants after the control error diminishes.

Define

$$J_{0,\infty} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k)$$

with

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$$

Note that we do not have S_N penalty term in J because $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} x(N) = 0$

Solve Infinite Horizon Discrete-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

$$K_k = -(R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A$$
$$S_k = (A + B K_k)^T S_{k+1} (A + B K_k) + Q + K_k^T R K_k$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{k-1} = A^T S_k A - A^T S_k B (R + B^T S_k B)^{-1} B^T S_k A + Q \quad (\text{DT Difference Riccati Equation})$$

As $k \rightarrow \infty$, K_k, S_k converge. We can drop the index k

$$K^* = -(R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A$$
$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

The form of this equation of S is called **Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)**!
And there are powerful numerical algorithms to solve it!

Python Code

```
from __future__ import division, print_function
import numpy as np
import scipy.linalg
def dlqr(A,B,Q,R):
    """Solve the discrete time lqr controller.
     $x[k+1] = A x[k] + B u[k]$ 
     $cost = \sum x[k].T*Q*x[k] + u[k].T*R*u[k]$ 
    """
    #ref Bertsekas, p.151
    #first, try to solve the ricatti equation
    S = np.matrix(scipy.linalg.solve_discrete_are(A, B, Q, R))
    #compute the LQR gain
    K = -np.matrix(scipy.linalg.inv(B.T@S@B+R))@(B.T@S@A)
    eigVals, eigVecs = scipy.linalg.eig(A+B@K)
    return K, X, eigVals
```

Recap: Matrix Equations

Discrete-time Difference Riccati Equation

$$S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)

$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

Continuous-time Differential Riccati Equation

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t) B R^{-1} B^T P(t) - P(t) A - A^T P(t)$$

Continuous-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (CARE)

$$A^T P + P A - P B R^{-1} B^T P + Q = 0$$

Solving Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation

Unlike the finite horizon problem, we have to worry about stability, existence and uniqueness.

Theorem

Let Q be factored into $Q = T^T T$. A unique and positive definite solution to the DARE exists $\Leftrightarrow (A, B)$ is stabilizable (ensures convergence of J and existence of K) and (A, T) (ensures uniqueness) is detectable.

- For most of the system, (A, B) is stabilizable and (A, C) is often detectable. Therefore, Q is often chosen to be $C^T C$ to make (A, T) detectable.

Summary of IH-DT-LQR

Three ingredients to make IH-DT-LQR much computationally lighter compared to FH-DT-LQR:

$N \rightarrow \infty$, constant K , Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation

$$\min_K J = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x(k)^T Q x(k) + u(k)^T R u(k)$$

with

$$\begin{cases} x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k) \\ u(k) = Kx(k) \end{cases}$$

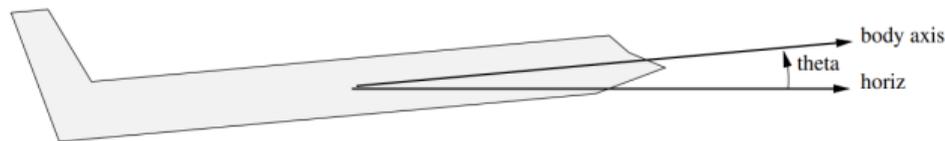
Optimal solution:

$$K^* = -(R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A$$

Where S can be solved by a DARE

$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

Example: Longitudinal Flight Control



(Courtesy: Jenny Hong, Nicholas Moehle, Stephen Boyd, EE103 Stanford University) Variables are (small) deviations from operating point or trim conditions;

State is $x_t = (w_t, v_t, \theta_t, q_t)$

- w_t : velocity of aircraft along body axis
- v_t : velocity of aircraft perpendicular to body axis (down is positive)
- θ_t : angle between body axis and horizontal (up is positive)
- $q_t = \dot{\theta}_t$: angular velocity of aircraft (pitch rate)

Control Input is $u_t = (e_t, f_t)$:

- e_t : elevator angle ($e_t > 0$ is down)
- f_t : thrust

Example: Longitudinal Flight Control

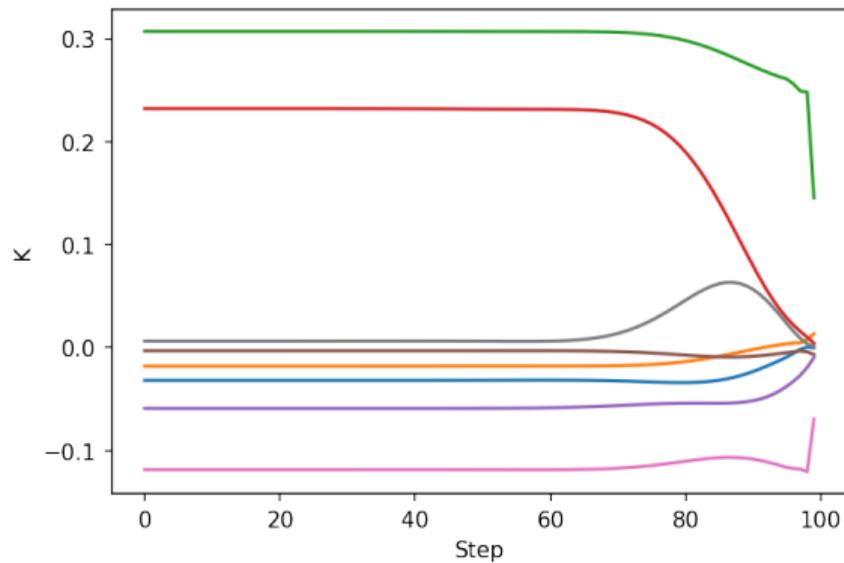
For Boeing 747, level flight, 40000 ft, 774 ft/sec, dynamics are $x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k$, where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} .99 & .03 & -.02 & -.32 \\ .01 & .47 & 4.7 & .00 \\ .02 & -.06 & .40 & -.00 \\ .01 & -.04 & .72 & .99 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0.01 & 0.99 \\ -3.44 & 1.66 \\ -0.83 & 0.44 \\ -0.47 & 0.25 \end{bmatrix}$$

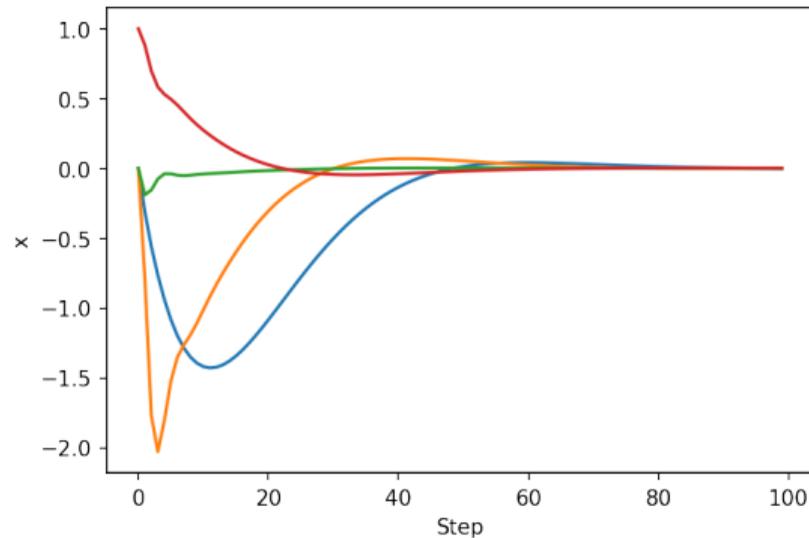
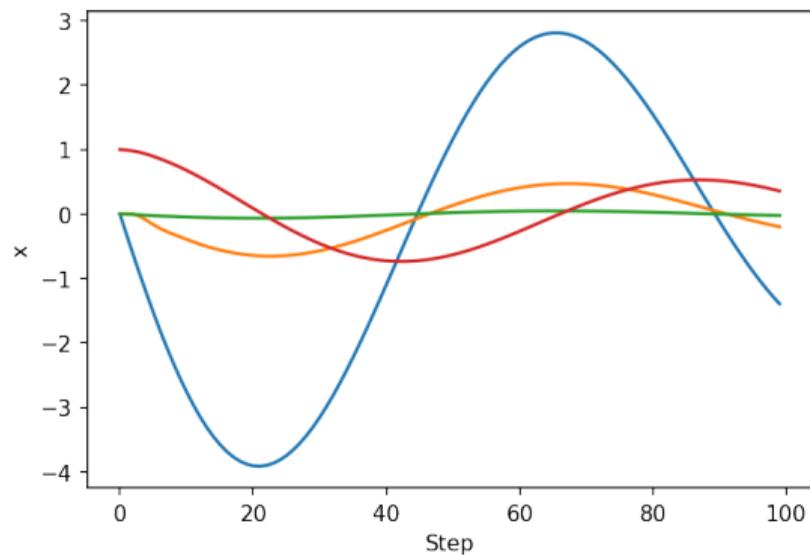
- units: ft, sec, crad(= 0.01rad)
- discretization is 1 sec

Code: <https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1xxfcQYjAvyYs8KDMi3cx6VCi8QbbQbU1?usp=sharing>

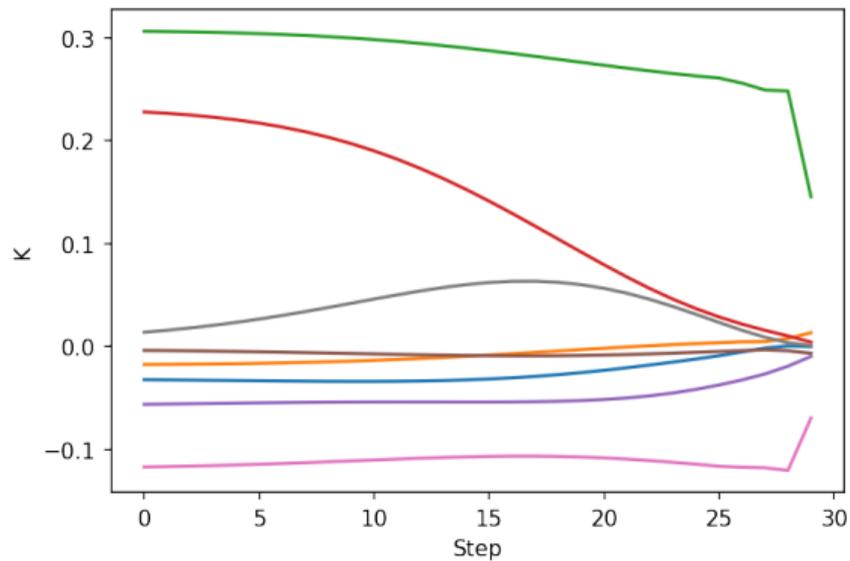
Example: $T=100$



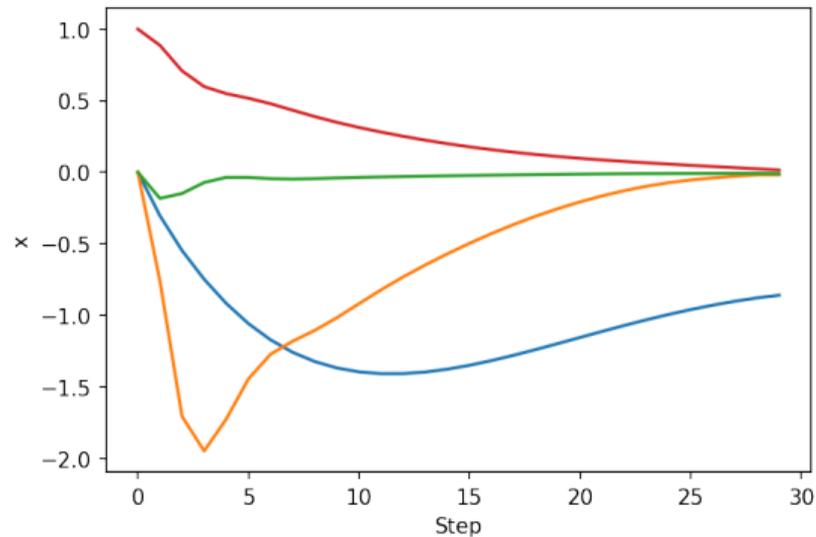
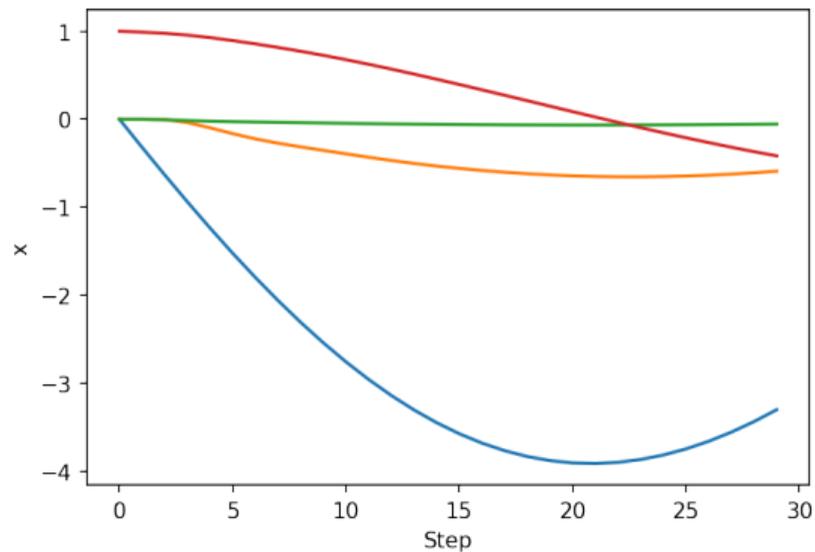
Example: $T=100$, Open-loop vs. Closed-loop



Example: $T=30$



Example: $T=30$, Open-loop vs. Closed-loop



Example: $T=100$ vs. $T=30$, Comparison between FH and IH

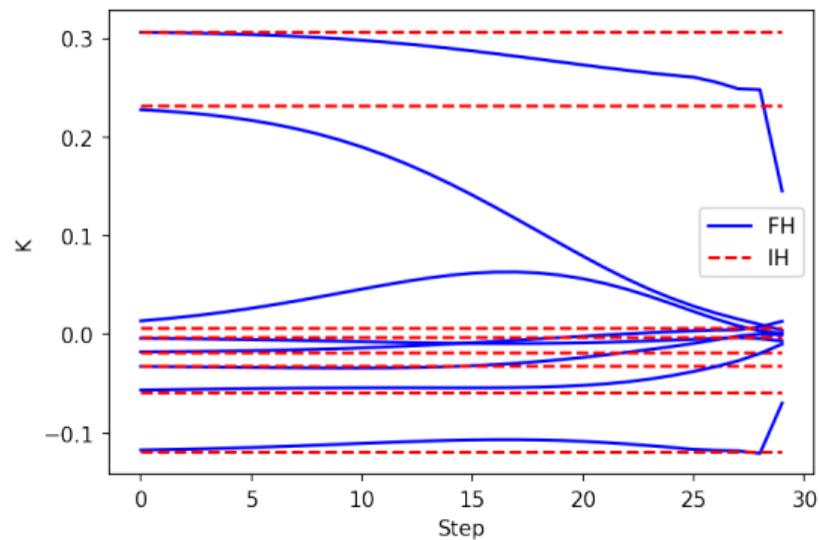
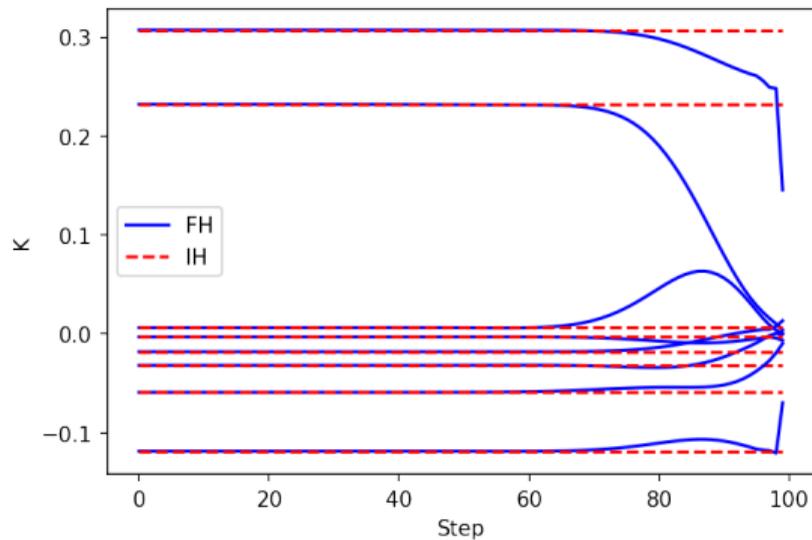


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Formation of the Tracking Problem

$$J_{0,N} = \frac{1}{2} [x(N) - x_d]^T S_N [x(N) - x_d] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \{ [x(k) - \eta(k)]^T Q [x(k) - \eta(k)] + u(k)^T R u(k) \}$$

- This cost function attempts to make $x(k)$ follow the specified sequence $\eta(k)$
- Most of the solution details are the same as for the regulator problem. Expanding the quadratic terms in J shows that there are four additional terms to deal with, due to $x_d(k)$ and $\eta(k)$.

General Solution of Regulator Problem

With dynamic programming, the min cost at step k can be expressed as a difference equation

$$J_{k,N}^* = \min_{u(k)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} x^T(k) Q x(k) + \frac{1}{2} u^T(k) R u(k) + J_{k+1,N}^* \right\} \quad (1)$$

with boundary condition: $g[x(N)] = \frac{1}{2} x(N)^T S_N x(N) - x(N)^T S_N x_d + \frac{1}{2} x_d^T S_N x_d$
For tracking problem, $J_{k,N}^*$ cannot be expressed as the simple form $J_{k,N}^* = \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T S_k x(k)$.
We solve by assuming a general solution quadratic matrices function of $x(k)$:

$$J_{k,N}^* = \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T S_k x(k) + x(k)^T V_k + Z_k \quad (2)$$

where $S_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $V_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$ and scalar Z_k are all unknowns.

Derivation

Substitute Eq. (2) into Eq. (1)

$$J_{k,N}^* = \min_{u(k)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} x^T(k) Q x(k) + \frac{1}{2} u^T(k) R u(k) + \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{2} x(k+1)^T S_{k+1} x(k+1) + x(k+1)^T V_{k+1} + Z_{k+1} \right\}$$

Substitute $x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$

$$J_{k,N}^* = \min_{u(k)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T [Q + A^T S_{k+1} A] x(k) + \frac{1}{2} u(k)^T [R + B^T S_{k+1} B] u(k) \right. \\ \left. + u(k)^T [B^T V_{k+1} + B^T S_{k+1} A x(k)] + x(k)^T A^T V_{k+1} + Z_{k+1} \right\} \quad (3)$$

Derivation Cont.

The minimizing $u(k)$ is found by setting $\partial\{\}/\partial u(k) = 0$.
(Assume $u(k)$ does not exceed its limits.)

$$\begin{aligned} u^*(k) &= - [R + B^T S_{k+1} B]^{-1} B^T [V_{k+1} + S_{k+1} A x(k)] \\ &= \underbrace{G_{ff}(k) V_{k+1}}_{\text{feedforward control}} - \underbrace{G_{fb}(k) x(k)}_{\text{feedback control}} \end{aligned}$$

Define $U_{k+1} = [R + B^T S_{k+1} B]^{-1}$. The goal of tracking controller design is to find the optimal:

- Feedforward control gain: $G_{ff}(k) = -U_{k+1} B^T$
- Feedback control gain: $G_{fb}(k) = U_{k+1} S_{k+1} A$
- Feedforward input: V_{k+1}

Derivation Cont.: Three Key Variables

Substitute $u(k)$ into Eq. (3)

$$\begin{aligned} J_{k,N}^* &= \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T [Q + A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B U_{k+1} B^T S_{k+1} A] x(k) \\ &\quad + x(k)^T [A^T V_{k+1} - A^T S_{k+1} B U_{k+1} B^T V_{k+1}] \\ &\quad + [Z_{k+1} - \frac{1}{2} V_{k+1}^T B U_{k+1} B^T V_{k+1}] \end{aligned}$$

Remember we assume $J_{k,N}^* = \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T S_k x(k) + x(k)^T V_k + Z_k$. Compare the quadratic terms, the linear terms, and the terms not involving x , we have the equations to solve S_k , V_k , and Z_k .

Derivation Cont.: Three Key Variables

$$S_k = Q + A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B U_{k+1} B^T S_{k+1} A \quad (4)$$

$$V_k = A^T V_{k+1} - A^T S_{k+1} B U_{k+1} B^T V_{k+1} - Q \eta(k) \quad (5)$$

$$Z_k = Z_{k+1} - \frac{1}{2} V_{k+1}^T B U_{k+1} B^T V_{k+1} + \frac{1}{2} \eta(k)^T Q \eta(k) \quad (6)$$

with the boundary conditions $W_N = S_N$, $V_N = -S_N x_d$, and $Z_N = \frac{1}{2} x_d^T S_N x_d$.

- Since $U_{k+1} = [R + B^T S_{k+1} B]^{-1}$, a computer, backward in time, easily solves S_k .
- Then solve V_k in Eq. (5) using S_k as a known coefficient matrix and we know $\eta(k)$.
- Now we could calculate Eq. (6) given S_k , V_k are available. But it actually never needs to be solved if the only interest is in finding the optimal control. Z_k is only needed if we want to know $J_{k,N}^*$.
- For regulator, $x_d = \eta(k) = 0$. Eq. (5) becomes a homogeneous equation with zero initial conditions, so V_k is zero for all stages. Similarly, Z_k is 0 too. Therefore, we get back to the quadratic term for $J_{k,N}^* = \frac{1}{2} x(k)^T S_k x(k)$.

Comparison of Feedback and Feedforward Control

- Feedback (FB) Control

Advantages:

- Corrective action occurs regardless of the source and type of disturbances.
- Requires little knowledge about the desired tracking trajectories
- Versatile and robust (Conditions change? May have to re-tune controller).

Disadvantages:

- FB control takes no corrective action until a deviation in the controlled variable occurs.
- FB control is incapable of correcting a deviation from set point at the time of its detection.
- Theoretically not capable of achieving “perfect control.”
- For frequent and severe disturbances, process may not settle out.

Comparison of Feedback and Feedforward Control

- Feedforward (FF) Control

Advantages:

- Takes corrective action before the disturbance arrives
- Theoretically capable of "perfect control"
- Does not affect system stability.

Disadvantages:

- Disturbance must be measured (operating costs)

Feedforward Plus Feedback Control

- FF Control: Attempts to eliminate the effects of measurable (nonlinear) disturbances.
- FB Control: Corrects for unmeasurable disturbances, modeling errors, etc.

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Finite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator (1)

- Derive on the blackboard again. The continuous version of the FH LQR is in the form

$$\text{minimize } J = \frac{1}{2} x^T(t_f) S x(t_f) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^t x^T(t) Q x(t) + u^T(t) R u(t) dt$$

subject to $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$

- Define the “cost-to-go” function $J(x(t), t), t \in [t_0, t_f]$ as the cost from t to t_f . As in DT, break the procedure into two steps: from t to $t + \delta t$ and from $t + \delta t$ to t_f

$$J(x(t), t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_t^{t+\delta t} [x^T(t) Q x(t) + u^T(t) R u(t)] dt + \frac{1}{2} x^T(t_f) S x(t_f) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{t+\delta t}^{t_f} [x^T(t) Q x(t) + u^T(t) R u(t)] dt$$

- Apply Dynamic Programming. The optimal “cost-to-go” function

$$J^*(x(t), t) = \min_{u(t:t_f)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_t^{t+\delta t} (x^T(t) Q x(t) + u^T(t) R u(t)) dt + J^*(x(t + \delta t), t + \delta t) \right\}$$

Finite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator (2)

- When δt is small, $x(t + \delta t) - x(t) = \dot{x}(t)\delta t = (Ax(t) + Bu(t))\delta t$.
- Expand the last term with the Taylor series.

$$\begin{aligned} J^*(x(t + \delta t), t + \delta t) &\approx J^*(x(t), t) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial t} \Big|_{x(t), t} (t + \delta t - t) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} \Big|_{x(t), t} (x(t + \delta t) - x(t)) \\ &= J^*(x(t), t) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial t} \Big|_{x(t), t} \delta t + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} \Big|_{x(t), t} (Ax(t) + Bu(t))\delta t \end{aligned}$$

Substitute this back to $J^*(x(t), t)$, $J^*(x(t), t)$

$$= \min_u \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_t^{t+\delta t} (x^T Q x + u^T R u) dt + J^*(x(t), t) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial t} \delta t + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} (Ax + Bu)\delta t \right\}$$

$J^*(x(t), t)$ cancelled \Rightarrow

$$\frac{\partial J^*}{\partial t} \delta t + \min_u \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (x^T Q x + u^T R u) \delta t + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} (Ax(t) + Bu(t))\delta t \right\} = 0$$

Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman Equation

Hamilton 1805-1865

Jacobi 1804-1851

Bellman 1920-1984



- We get the **Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman Equation**, one of the cornerstones of optimal control

$$\frac{\partial J^*}{\partial t} + \min_u \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (x^T Q x + u^T R u) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} (A x + B u) \right\} = 0$$

- Define the Hamiltonian

$$H(x, u, J^*, t) \equiv \frac{1}{2} (x^T Q x + u^T R u) + \frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} (A x + B u)$$

- To calculate $\min_u H$, take $\frac{\partial^T H}{\partial u} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^T H}{\partial u} &= R u + B^T \left(\frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} \right)^T = 0 \\ \Rightarrow u^* &= -R^{-1} B^T \left(\frac{\partial J^*}{\partial x} \right)^T \end{aligned}$$

Finite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator (3)

- We saw that $J^* = \frac{1}{2}x^T(k)S_kx(k)$ for DT... let's assume $J^* = \frac{1}{2}x^T(t)P(t)x(t)$.
Substitute it to u^*

$$u^* = -R^{-1}B^T Px$$

where $P \leq 0$

- How to find $P(t)$? Plug u^* back to the HJB equation!

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \frac{1}{2}x^T \dot{P}x + \frac{1}{2}x^T Qx + \frac{1}{2}(R^{-1}B^T Px)^T RR^{-1}B^T Px + x^T P(Ax - BR^{-1}B^T Px) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^T \dot{P}x + \frac{1}{2}x^T Qx - \frac{1}{2}x^T PBR^{-1}B^T Px + x^T PAx\end{aligned}$$

- $x^T PAx$ is a scalar. So

$$\begin{aligned}x^T PAx &= (x^T PAx)^T = x^T A^T P^T x = x^T A^T Px \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^T \dot{P}x + \frac{1}{2}x^T Qx - \frac{1}{2}x^T PBR^{-1}B^T Px + \frac{1}{2}x^T PAx + \frac{1}{2}x^T A^T Px \\ \Rightarrow x^T \left(\dot{P} + Q - PBR^{-1}B^T P + PA + A^T P \right) x &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Finite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator (4)

- This must hold for all $x \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{P} &= -Q + PBR^{-1}B^T P - PA - A^T P \\ u &= -R^{-1}B^T P x\end{aligned}$$

- Solve an ODE in P with boundary condition $P(t_f) = S$
- This is called differential Riccati Equation
- Could certainly solve for $P(t)$ for a scalar system, but otherwise would resort to numerical solution \Rightarrow back to DT LQR

Recap: Finite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

$$\text{minimize } J = \frac{1}{2} x^T(t_f) S x(t_f) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^t x^T(t) Q x(t) + u^T(t) R u(t) dt$$

subject to

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

The optimal control

$$u^*(t) = -R^{-1} B^T P(t) x(t)$$

where $P(t)$ is the solution of a Continuous-time Differential Riccati Equation

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t) B R^{-1} B^T P(t) - P(t) A - A^T P(t)$$

with boundary condition $P(t_f) = S$.

Recap: Matrix Equations

Discrete-time Difference Riccati Equation

$$S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)

$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

Continuous-time Differential Riccati Equation

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t) B R^{-1} B^T P(t) - P(t) A - A^T P(t)$$

Continuous-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (CARE)

$$A^T P + P A - P B R^{-1} B^T P + Q = 0$$

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Infinite Horizon Continuous-Time Linear Quadratic Regulator

Like in the discrete case, we make simplify the calculation of FH-CT-LQR as follows:

- extend the planning horizon to ∞
- remove the penalty for the final state
- use a constant control gain

$$J = \int_0^{\infty} x^T(t)Qx(t) + u^T(t)Ru(t) dt$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

$$u(t) = Kx(t)$$

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t)BR^{-1}B^T P(t) - P(t)A - A^T P(t)$$

- Because K is a constant, P must be a constant. $\dot{P} = 0$

$$A^T P + PA - PBR^{-1}B^T P + Q = 0$$

- This is in the form of the solution to the Continuous-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (CARE). There are many reliable numerical solvers.
- The optimal control is then

$$K = -R^{-1}B^T P$$

Recap: Matrix Equations

Discrete-time Difference Riccati Equation

$$S_k = A^T S_{k+1} A - A^T S_{k+1} B (R + B^T S_{k+1} B)^{-1} B^T S_{k+1} A + Q$$

Discrete-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)

$$S = A^T S A - A^T S B (R + B^T S B)^{-1} B^T S A + Q$$

Continuous-time Differential Riccati Equation

$$\dot{P}(t) = -Q + P(t) B R^{-1} B^T P(t) - P(t) A - A^T P(t)$$

Continuous-time Algebraic Riccati Equation (CARE)

$$A^T P + P A - P B R^{-1} B^T P + Q = 0$$