

Optimal Control (EE-736)

Introduction

Timm Faulwasser & Yuning Jiang

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Block course @ EPFL

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Block Course Optimal Control (EE-736) – Spring 2024

Teachers

- ▶ Timm Faulwasser
- ▶ Professor at TU Dortmund University
- ▶ Former postdoc at Laboratoire d'Automatique of EPFL, senior scientist at KIT
- ▶ Email: timm.faulwasser@ieee.org
- ▶ Research on optimization-based control of networked systems with applications in
 - ▶ multi-energy
 - ▶ mechatronics
 - ▶ climate economics
 - ▶ ...

Block Course Optimal Control (EE-736) – Spring 2024

Teachers

- ▶ Yuning Jiang
- ▶ Postdoc at Laboratoire d'Automatique of EPFL
- ▶ Email: yuning.jiang@epfl.ch
- ▶ Research:
 - ▶ distributed and federated optimization;
 - ▶ robust and stochastic optimization;
 - ▶ numerical optimal control and model predictive control;
 - ▶ learning theory and nonlinear system identification;
 - ▶ and their applications in autonomous systems (e.g., autonomous vehicles and smart buildings), multi-agent systems (e.g., power and energy systems, IoT and traffic networks).

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Expectations

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Content

- ▶ Part I
 - ▶ Basics of nonlinear programming
 - ▶ Primer on numerical methods for NLPs

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- ▶ Part II.1
 - ▶ Basics of calculus of variations
 - ▶ Optimal control theory

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 - ▶ Tricks for problem formulation

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 - ▶ Tricks for problem formulation
- ▶ Part III
 - ▶ From optimal to predictive control
 - ▶ Dissipativity and turnpike properties

Part I – Nonlinear Programming

Prototypical problem:

Topics covered:

Topics not covered:

Part II.1 – Optimal Control Theory

Prototypical problem:

Topics covered:

Topics not covered:

Part II.2 – Numerical Optimal Control

Prototypical problem:

Topics covered:

Topics not covered:

Part III – From Optimal to Predictive Control

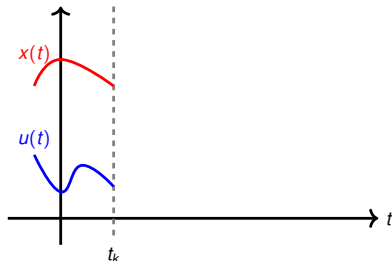
Prototypical problem:

Topics covered:

Topics not covered:

Part III – From Optimal to Predictive Control

Predictive control $\equiv$ repeated optimal control



1. State measurement/estimate $x(t_k)$

2. Solve $OCP(x(t_k))$:

$$\min_{u(\cdot|t_k)} \int_{t_k}^{t_k+T} \ell(x(\tau|t_k), u(\tau|t_k)) d\tau + V_f(x(t_k + T|t_k))$$

$$\forall \tau \in [t_k, t_k + T] : \frac{dx(\tau|t_k)}{d\tau} = f(x(\tau|t_k), u(\tau|t_k))$$

$$x(t_k|t_k) = x(t_k)$$

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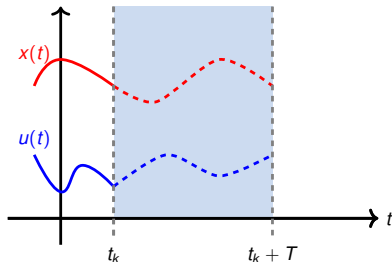
3. Apply $u^*(\tau|t_k)$ for $\tau \in [t_k, t_{k+1})$

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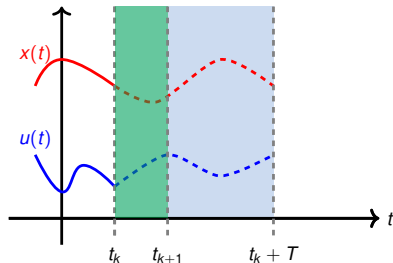
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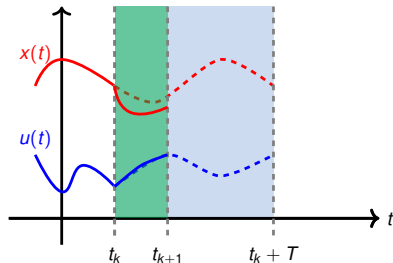
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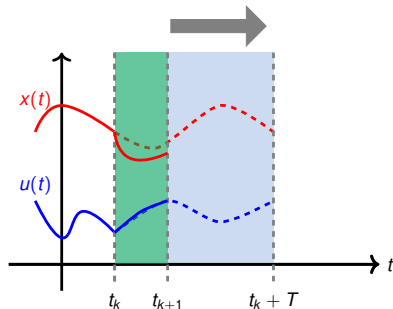
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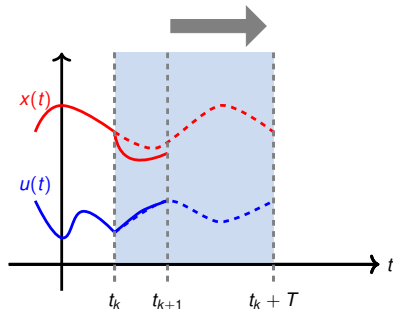
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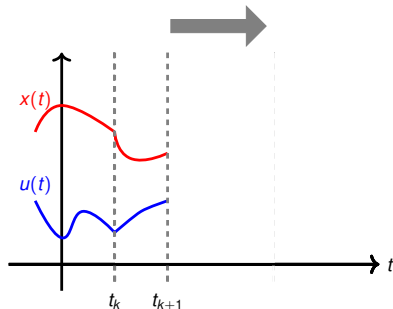
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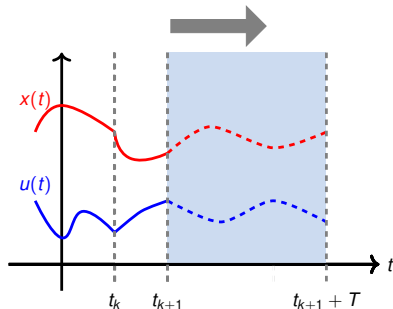
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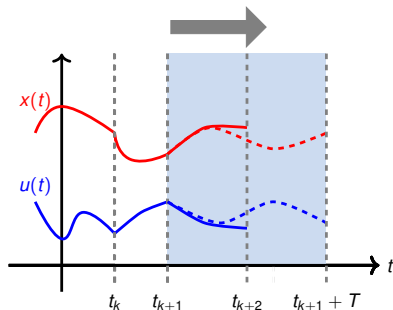
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Goal – Master Optimization-Based Control

4. Real-time NMPC Design

- Stability? State estimation? Robustness? ...

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4. Real-time NMPC Design

- ▶ Stability? State estimation? Robustness? ...

3. Solve OCP

- ▶ Choose a numerical strategy to obtain an (approximated) solution.
- ▶ Implement numerical solution. Use available toolboxes.
- ▶ Construct feasible initial guess → Solve OCP

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2. Problem Analysis

- ▶ Does the model have a solution for any admissible control?
- ▶ Can the constraints be met? → feasibility
- ▶ Can the system outputs be observed/measured?
- ▶ Existence of optimal solutions?

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1. Problem Formulation

- ▶ Model of system dynamics and constraints (physical restrictions)?
- ▶ Choose a performance criterion (objective functional).
- ▶ Choose the decision variables.

Reading & Exercises

Parts I-II follow the lecture notes:

B. Chachuat. *Nonlinear and Dynamic Optimization - From Theory to Practice*. EPFL, 2009. URL: [https://infoscience.epfl.ch/record/111939/files/Chachuat_07\(IC32\).pdf](https://infoscience.epfl.ch/record/111939/files/Chachuat_07(IC32).pdf)

Further references are provided on the slides.

Reading & Exercises

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Part III (incomplete lecture notes) T. Faulwasser. “Nonlinear Model Predictive Control – Theory and Applications”. Lecture notes, ie3, TU Dortmund University. Incomplete and preliminary version can be downloaded from the moodle page of the course. 2021

Exercises

- ▶ Directly integrated into course
- ▶ Pen and paper as well as coding
- ▶ Bring your own laptop with MATLAB
- ▶ We will use CasADi (open source Matlab and Python toolbox)
- ▶ Coding Exercises can be also done in Python

Block Course Optimal Control (EE-736) – Spring 2024

Dates for course

► Block I

- Mar 06 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 Intro & NLPs
- Mar 07 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 16:00 NLPs & Casadi Intro

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► Block II

- Mar 11 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 16:00 Optimal Control
- Mar 12 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 18:00 Optimal Control & Consultation on projects
- Mar 13 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 16:00 Numerical Optimal Control
- Mar 14 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 16:00 Dissipativity & NMPC
- Mar 15 2024, 09:15 – 12:00 & 14:15 – 16:00 NMPC & Wrap-Up

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► Project Presentations: t.b.d.

Additional exercises on demand (webinar sessions): to be discussed

Have Laptop with recent Matlab version at hand

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Moodle page

- ▶ Lecture slides
- ▶ Additional material
- ▶ Exercises (tasks and solutions)
- ▶ <https://moodle.epfl.ch/course/view.php?id=14143>
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Credits and Examination

- ▶ 3 ECTS
- ▶ Project-based examination
- ▶ Pick project related to your research
- ▶ Write report (max 20 pages)
- ▶ Present project to the class (15-20 minutes)

Questions?