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Uneven Grid-based Linear Parameter-Varying Controller Design for Guided Projectiles



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A joint initiative of





Flight Control Framework

- Traditionally based on LTI gain-scheduling design;
- Controller obtained as the interpolation of a collection of local controllers designed at specific flight points;
- Lack of a priori stability and performance guarantees at any intermediate flight conditions.

Linear Parameter Varying Framework

- Increasing number of applications concerning aircraft and missiles LPV modeling and control design;
- Stronger stability and performance guarantees across the flight envelope considered during the design;
- Limited applications on guided projectiles design.

Long Range Guided Projectile (LRGP)

Objectives

LPV grid-based modeling & control design.

Characteristics

- 155 mm fin-stabilized guided projectile;
- 2 front control canards, 4 symmetrical rear fins;
- Limited control authority/unstable behavior;



Figure 1. LRGP concept: (a) aerodynamic surfaces; (b) side-top view.





NOTE: First-order aerodynamics approximation^[2] to obtain an affine model-input dependence (δ_q).

^[1] Vinco, G.M., Theodoulis, S., and Sename, O. (2022). "Flight dynamics modeling and simulator design for a new class of long-range guided projectiles".
 ^[2] Vinco, G.M., Theodoulis, S., Sename, O., and Strub, G. (2022). "Quasi-LPV Modeling of Guided Projectile Pitch Dynamics through State Transformation Technique".

LPV State Transformation Approach ^[1]

- Select the set of scheduling variables: $\rho(t) = [\alpha, V, h]^T$;
- Reformulate the nonlinear system (1)-(2) as an output nonlinear model;
- Solution $\delta_{q,\text{dev}}, \delta_{q,\text{dev}}, \eta_{z,\text{dev}}$, to hide the nonlinearities:
- Integrate the input to avoid any parameter dependence:

 $\begin{cases} q_{\text{dev}} = q - q_{eq}(\alpha) \\ \delta_{q,\text{dev}} = \delta_q - \delta_{q,eq}(\alpha) \\ \eta_{z,\text{dev}} = \eta_z - \eta_{z,eq}(\alpha) \end{cases}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\alpha} \\ \dot{q}_{\text{dev}}(\alpha) \\ \dot{\delta}_{q,\text{dev}}(\alpha) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 + \frac{\bar{q}SdC_{Z_{D}}\cos\alpha}{2mV^{2}} & \frac{\bar{q}SC_{Z_{\delta q}}\cos\alpha}{mV} \\ 0 & \frac{\bar{q}Sd^{2}C_{m_{D}}}{2I_{yy}V} - \frac{\partial q_{eq}}{\partial \alpha} \left(1 + \frac{\bar{q}SdC_{Z_{D}}\cos\alpha}{2mV^{2}}\right) & \frac{\bar{q}SdC_{m_{\delta q}}}{I_{yy}} - \frac{\partial q_{eq}}{\partial \alpha} \left(\frac{\bar{q}SC_{Z_{\delta q}}\cos\alpha}{mV}\right) \\ 0 & -\frac{\partial \delta_{q,eq}}{\partial \alpha} \left(1 + \frac{\bar{q}SdC_{Z_{D}}\cos\alpha}{2mV^{2}}\right) & -\frac{\partial \delta_{q,eq}}{\partial \alpha} \left(\frac{\bar{q}SC_{Z_{\delta q}}\cos\alpha}{mV}\right) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ q_{\text{dev}}(\alpha) \\ \delta_{q,\text{dev}}(\alpha) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ I \end{bmatrix} \sigma$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ q_{\text{dev}}(\alpha) \\ 0 & \frac{\bar{q}SdC_{Z_{D}}}{mgV} & \frac{\bar{q}SC_{Z_{\delta q}}}{mg} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ q_{\text{dev}}(\alpha) \\ \delta_{q,\text{dev}}(\alpha) \end{bmatrix}$$

^[1] Shamma, J. S., and Cloutier, J. R. (1993). "Gain-scheduled missile autopilot design using linear parameter varying transformations".

(3)

Grid-based Model

- Arbitrary model-parameter dependency;
- Interpolation of a set of LTI local realizations (A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i) ;
- No restrictions on the interpolation method, a_i :

Grid-based Control Design

- * Resolution of a set of LMIs evaluated at all n_g grid points;
- ✤ Identification of a set of parameter-dependent Lyapunov functions ($X(\rho), Y(\rho)$);
- Fixed parameter dependency expressed through the selection of differentiable scalar functions (f_i, g_i) :

$$X(\rho) = X_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_i(\rho) X_i \quad ; \quad Y(\rho) = Y_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{N} g_i(\rho) Y_i$$
 (5)

LPV controller defined by the interpolation of the obtained LTI local controllers on the grid.

Critical aspects:

- Design grid points selection;
- Basis functions selection.



3.Grid Design Analysis

Objectives

- Verify the projectile dynamics across the flight envelope;
- Identify the most critical conditions;
- Allocate more design points of the grid in the most critical areas.



Figure 4. Pole-zero maps: (a) stable flight conditions; (b) stable/unstable flight conditions.

Observations

- System dynamics more unstable for :
 - ▶ Low AoA (stable $\forall \alpha \ge 10 \text{ deg}$);
 - Low Airspeed;
 - Low Altitude.

Stall conditions for $\alpha \ge 25$ deg.



Projectile Stability Map Unstable Stable Transition Figure 5. Stability analysis results: 3D stability grid.

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Objectives

- Baseline gliding phase Altitude/Airspeed trajectory relation;
- Identify the feasible areas of the flight envelope, based on the variation of the initial firing conditions;
- Select the design grid points inside those areas.

Observations

- Neglect the unfeasible areas from the design:
 - \succ A: High *h* low *V*;
 - \succ B: Low h high V.

Improve the accuracy of the grid points selection.



Figure 6. Reference h/V gliding trajectory constraints.



Figure 7. Analysis results: stability/reachable flight areas superposition.



Figure 8. Mixed sensitivity design scheme.

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Analysis

Basis functions selected based on the "mimic" principle:

$$\alpha \begin{cases} f_{a1} = a \\ f_{a2} = \sin(a) \\ f_{a3} = \cos(a) \end{cases} V \begin{cases} f_{V1} = V \\ f_{V2} = 1/V \\ f_{V3} = V^2 \end{cases} h \begin{cases} f_{h1} = h \\ f_{h2} = 1/h \\ f_{h3} = h^2 \end{cases}$$

Considered rages of variations:

 $\begin{aligned} \alpha \in [0, 15] \deg; & V \in [150, 280] \text{ m/s}; & h \in [1, 13] \text{ km}; \\ \dot{\alpha} \in [-10, 10] \text{ deg/s}; & \dot{V} \in [-5, 5] \text{ m/s}^2; & \dot{h} \in [-50, 50] \text{ m/s}; \end{aligned}$

Observations

- Linear parameter-dependence: uniform trend, lower performance;
- Nonlinear dependence: incoherent trend, average higher performance;
- Generally negligible relevance of n_g on the design performance.







Figure 10. Grid analysis: γ_{∞} index for $f_{h1} = h$, $f_{h2} = 1/h$.

Analysis Results

- Superpose the reachable flight points with the stability information.
- Select the flight points to cover the most critically feasible conditions.

Grid

$$n_g = 80$$

$$\begin{cases}
\alpha = [3, 7, 9, 12] \text{ deg} & \dot{\alpha} \in [-10, 10] \text{ deg/s} \\
V = [180, 200, 230, 270] \text{ m/s} & \dot{V} \in [-5, 5] \text{ m/s}^2 \\
h = [1, 3, 6, 9, 13] \text{ km} & \dot{h} \in [-50, 50] \text{ m/s}
\end{cases}$$

Lyapunov Functions

$$X(\rho) = Y(\rho) = X_0 + \sin(\alpha)X_{\alpha 1} + \cos(\alpha)X_{\alpha 2} + VX_{V1} + hX_{h1}$$



Simulation Objectives

- Tracking of a reference angle-of-attack guidance trajectory;
- Limit the control effort to avoid the saturation of the canards.

Simulation Environment

- Guidance: angle-of-attack reference signal based on a Lift-to-Drag optimization law ^[1];
- Atmosphere model: International Standard Atmosphere (ISA) 1975, ISO 2533;
- Aerodynamic model: multivariable regression model based on CFD dataset ^[2];
- Output deviation: measurements adjustment to comply with the State Transformation formulation.



Figure 12. 6-DoF nonlinear simulator environment.



Figure 13. 6-DoF simulator: Airframe architecture.



^[1] Kelley, H. J., Cliff, E. M., and Lutze, F. H. (1982). "Boost–glide range-optimal guidance".
^[2] Vinco, G.M., Theodoulis, S., and Sename, O. (2022). "Flight dynamics modeling and simulator design for a new class of long-range guided projectiles".

Simulation Results

- Reliable tracking performances affected by a reasonable steady state error (< 1%);
- Total canards pitch deflection far below from the saturation limits (< 25 deg);
- Stability ensured at all the flight conditions across the investigated gliding phase trajectory.



Figure 14. Simulation results: projectile gliding trajectory.



Simulation Trajectories

Conclusions

Achievements

- Suitable LPV grid-based model formulation of the projectile dynamics;
- Reduction of the grid-based design computational complexity;
- Reliable controller design performances.

Future works

- Controller robustness assessment on a dense grid of flight conditions;
- Performance comparison with alternative LPV design methods.







Thank you for your kind attention!

Any questions ?





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