

Background: NL Stabilization

Given a nonlinear control system

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)u \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, u \in \mathbb{R}^m, f, g \text{ smooth}$$

When can we find a smooth feedback $u = \alpha(x)$ that makes the closed loop system asymptotically stable:

$$(*) \quad \dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)\alpha(x)$$

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t. Stable
I.S.L.
 $\|x(0)\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|x(t)\| < \varepsilon \quad \forall t$
 and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$

Defn A smooth, proper, positive definite function $V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a control Lyapunov function (CLF) if

$$\inf_{u \in \mathbb{R}^m} L_F V(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \dot{q}_i V(q_i) < 0$$

For all $x \neq 0$. [Proper: $V(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $\|x\| \rightarrow \infty$; $L_F V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}(f(x))$]

Thm (Artstein, 1973) If there exists a CLF $V(x)$ for system (*) then $\exists u = \alpha(x)$ with α smooth on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ that asymptotically stabilizes (*).

Remarks

1. We will prove via explicit construction (Sontag, 1989)
2. For a linear system $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$, this is equivalent to stabilizability (exercise). Can extend to linearized.
3. Conditions can be shown to be necessary as well

(2)

Defn A CLF satisfies the small control property if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that if $x \neq 0$ and $\|x\| < \delta$, there exists u with $\|u\| < \varepsilon$ such that

$$L_f V(x) + L_g V(x) u_i < 0$$

Thm Suppose V is a CLF for (x) with V satisfying the small control property. Then \exists a ~~smooth~~ Reeb back $u = \alpha(x)$ that is smooth on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ and continuous everywhere that stabilizes the closed loop.

pf Consider first the scalar case

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x) + g(x) u & a(x) &:= L_f V \\ && b(x) &:= L_g V \end{aligned}$$

Since V is a CLF, $b(x) = 0 \Rightarrow a(x) < 0$. Let $A = a(x)$ and $B = b(x)$ define a family of linear systems $\dot{z} = Ax + Bu$. ∇ CLF $\Rightarrow (A, B)$ is stabilizable for each x . (Remember this is scalar for now).

$$\text{Define } \alpha(x) = -\frac{a(x) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^4}}{b}. \quad \text{Claim } \alpha(x) \text{ is}$$

stabilizing, ~~smooth~~ continuous everywhere and smooth away from 0.

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} (a(x) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^4}) = \cancel{\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} a(x)} + \cancel{\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \sqrt{a^2 + b^4}} \\ &= L_f V + L_g V \alpha(x) = -\sqrt{a^2 + b^4} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

(3)

The control law $\alpha(x)$ is clearly smooth when $b(x) \neq 0$.
 To show continuity when $b(x) = 0$, use ε - δ proof (see Sontag).

Vector version

$$\begin{aligned} a(x) &= L_f V & B(x) &= (b_1(x), \dots, b_m(x)) \\ b_i(x) &= L g_i V & \|B(x)\|^2 &= \sum b_i^2(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$u_i = \alpha_i(x) = -\frac{b_i(x)}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} = \frac{a(x) + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{b}$$

Can show this gives $\dot{V} = -\sqrt{a^2(x) + b^2(x)} < 0$ and get continuity by ε - δ argument \square

Remarks

1. Why b^2 inside sqrt? A: Suppose we choose

$$\alpha(x) = -\frac{a + \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{b} \approx \frac{a + \sqrt{|a|} + |b|}{b} = \frac{|b|}{b} \text{ when } a \ll 0$$

By using b^4 , we get $\alpha(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$

2. The main reason this formula is useful is ~~to~~ in proofs.

No guarantee of robustness or performance

3. ~~No~~ No assumption of linearity or even that the linearization is ~~not~~ reachable \Rightarrow very general result.

4. Bad news: finding CLFs is not a convex problem \Rightarrow hard in general.

Strongly nonlinear systems

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u)$$

(4)

Thm (Brockett) Let $B_{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2}$ be a ball of size $\varepsilon_1 > 0, \varepsilon_2 > 0$ in $\mathbb{R}^{n,m}$. If $f(B_{\varepsilon_1}, B_{\varepsilon_2})$ does not contain a nbhd of the origin, then there does not exist a continuous stabilizer $u = \alpha(x)$.

Example

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= u_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= u_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= x_2 u_1 - x_1 u_2\end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow No continuous stabilizer (and no CLF)

Remarks

- More generally, $\dot{x} = q(x)u$ cannot be C⁰ stabilized even if it is reachable, in a nonlinear setting. Note that these systems also have a nonreversible linearization.
- If we allow $u = \alpha(x, t)$, can get C⁰ asymptotic stabilizers, but not C¹ exponential stabilizers (Coron).
- If we allow non-Lipschitz feedback, we can get exponential stability in individual states (H_1 , Closter)

$$\begin{aligned}u_1 &= -x_1 + \sqrt{|x_3|} \sin \omega t \\ u_2 &= -x_2 + \sqrt{|x_3|} \cos \omega t\end{aligned}$$