



# Robustness Analysis of Model Predictive Control applied to a Hybrid Ground Coupled Heat Pump System

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# Outline

- Motivation
- Introduction to a Robustness Analysis algorithm
- How it is supposed to work
- How does it fail
- Conclusions
- Questions I have to you
- Questions you would have to me 😊

# Motivation

- Why am I here with this strange topic?
- What do you gain if you care for my research?
  - A sufficient condition for your simulated MPC to work stable in practice.
  - Can be used as a fast check for robustness

# It's about an off-line algorithm, used to analyze a given system with MPC.

- It computes the maximum allowed uncertainty, for which the controlled system remains robust
- It achieves that by using:
  - the controller model
  - the optimization problem of the MPC
  - the definition of uncertainty

The main principle is that the objective function should decrease in time.

Given an optimal trajectory

$$|x_0 \quad u_0^* \quad u_1^* \quad \cdots \quad u_{N-1}^*|^T$$

define that the objective function decreases in time

$$J_N(x) - J_N(Ax + Bu^*(\hat{x})) \geq \epsilon \|x\|_2^2$$

Then make sure that you stay close to the optimal trajectory.

Pre-solve the MPC optimization problem.

Take the objective function value  $J_N(x)$

Divide it by a chosen initial state  $\frac{J_N(x)}{x^T U_I x}$

Define that the objective function is bounded from above

$$J_N(x) \leq x^T U x$$

Finally, force the optimal trajectory  
to imply the objective function decrease

So, force

$$J_N(x) \leq x^T U x$$

to imply

$$J_N(x) - J_N(Ax + Bu^*(\hat{x})) \geq \epsilon \|x\|_2^2$$

given the uncertainty

$$\|\hat{x} - x\|_2 = \text{err} * \|x\|_2$$

Or, in a matrix form

Force

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T \Pi_i \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \geq 0, \quad i = 0 \dots N$$

to imply

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T \Pi_S \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$



Use S-procedure to do that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T \Pi_i \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \geq 0, \quad i = 0 \dots N \quad \text{implies} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T \Pi_S \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

if

$$\sum_{i=0}^N \tau_i \Pi_i - \Pi_S \preceq 0, \quad \tau_i \geq 0, \quad i = 0 \dots N$$

So, just solve the LMI

$$\max(\text{err})$$

s.t.

$$\tau_i \geq 0$$

$$\epsilon \geq 0$$

$$M \preceq 0$$

If the LMI was feasible, it holds that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$$

for all  $|x_0 \ u_0 \ u_1 \ \dots \ u_N|^T$

Then the system with MPC is robust for  $err \in [0 \ err^*]$

# However, so far it was all about zero-tracking

In such case the MPC solves

$$\min\{x^T Qx + u^T Ru\}$$

In result I demand

$$M \preceq 0$$

so that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$$

# But I need reference tracking

In such case the MPC solves

$$\min \left\{ (x - x^{ref})^T Q (x - x^{ref}) + u^T R u \right\}$$

In result I demand

$$M \preceq 0, \quad p^T M^{-1} p - 4q \leq 0$$

so that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} + p^T \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} + q \leq 0$$

To avoid matrix inversion I reformulate

So, represent 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} + p^T \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \end{bmatrix} + q \leq 0$$

as

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} M & \frac{1}{2}p \\ \frac{1}{2}p^T & q \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$$

And I try to solve the LMI

$$\max(\text{err})$$

s.t.

$$\tau_i \geq 0$$

$$\epsilon \geq 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} M & \frac{1}{2}p \\ \frac{1}{2}p^T & q \end{vmatrix} \preceq 0$$

If the LMI was feasible, it holds that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \\ m \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} M & \frac{1}{2}p \\ \frac{1}{2}p^T & q \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_N \\ m \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$$

for all  $|x_0 \ u_0 \ u_1 \ \cdots \ u_N \ m|^T$

But it is not feasible.

It is perhaps too much for all  $m$ . I only need for  $m = 1$ .



# Conclusions

1. (Imagine that it worked...)
  - A convenient way to quickly check the robustness of a system with MPC
  - Extended to the case for setpoint tracking
2. (...but it doesn't work yet.)
  - Difficulty to reach feasibility
  - Risky approach:  
an LMI is great! ...when it is feasible...

## I ask your opinion about:

1. How to relax  $M \preceq 0$   
such that  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$  holds for all  $x$ ?
2. Is that relaxation needed at all?
3. Theory of Moments?
4. Sum of Squares?
5. Positive Polynomials?
6. Other trick?

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