

Optimal feedback solutions to the disturbance attenuation regulator

James B. Rawlings and Davide Mannini

Department of Chemical Engineering



Copyright © 2025 by James B. Rawlings

Systems Control and Optimization Laboratory
Universität Freiburg
Freiburg, Germany
September 15–19, 2025

Introduction: two control paradigms

Objective Find feedback solution of disturbance attenuation regulator (DAR) using game theory and dynamic programming

Standard LQR:

$$\min_u V(x, u) \quad x^+ = Ax + Bu$$

Disturbance attenuation regulator (DAR):

$$\min_u \max_w V(x, u, w) \quad x^+ = Ax + Bu + Gw \quad |w|^2 \leq \alpha$$

DAR: foundations & early East–West (1940s–1960s)

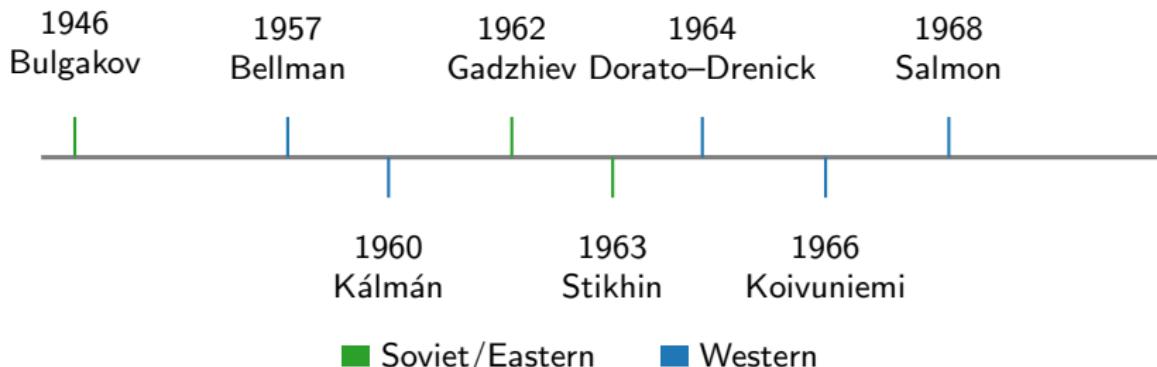
1957–1960: LQR foundations established

- 1957: Bellman – dynamic programming solution
- 1960: Kalman – first formulation and Riccati-based solution

1940s: Bulgakov laid the DAR foundations with his disturbance accumulation problem

1960s: The DAR race begins!

- Soviet researchers: Gadzhiev, Stikhin
- Western researchers: Dorato & Drenick influenced by Gadzhiev's research



Intense activity & a roadblock (Late 1960s–1970s)

- East: Ulanov (1971); Medanić & Andjelić (1971); Yakubovich (1975)
(Ulanov, 1971; Medanić and Andjelić, 1971; Yakubovich, 1975)
- West: Rhodes–Luenberger (1969); Kimura (1970); Bertsekas–Rhodes (1973)
(Rhodes and Luenberger, 1969; Kimura, 1970; Bertsekas and Rhodes, 1973)

Witsenhausen's early warning (1968) (Witsenhausen, 1968)

"The major feature of worst-case problems is this: a global minimum must be a local minimum, a global saddle-point must be a local saddle-point, but a global minimax need not be a local minimax."

(underemphasized for decades; modern *rediscovery* by Jin, Netrapalli, and Jordan (2020))

Consequence: progress stalled—global minmax pathology broke many “stationary-point” approaches

H_∞ turn and East–West threads (1980s–today)

1980s revival (mostly West)

- Zames (1981): proposed a frequency domain problem that **happened to be the same** as the 1960s–1970s time-domain problems (Zames, 1981)
- Glover–Doyle (1988), Başar (1989): mapped back to time/state space (Glover and Doyle, 1988; Basar, 1989)
- *But:* limited linkage back to the 60s/70s East/West corpus

Still missing

- A direct DP treatment for bounded disturbances with arbitrary initial conditions
- permitting *closed* disturbance sets
- and avoiding auxiliary problems

1990s and after

- Didinsky–Başar (1992): partial handling of nonzero initial conditions (Didinsky and Basar, 1992)
- Reviews: Dorato (1987) (Dorato, 1987); Khlebnikov–Polyak–Kuntsevich (2011) (Khlebnikov, Polyak, and Kuntsevich, 2011)

LQR problem assumptions

Assumptions:

- (A, B) stabilizable and (A, Q) detectable
- $Q \succeq 0, R \succ 0$

One-stage LQR problem

$$\min_u V(x, u) = \ell(x, u) + V_f(x^+) \quad \text{s.t. } x^+ = Ax + Bu$$

with

$$\ell(x, u) = (1/2)(x'Qx + u'Ru) \quad V_f(x) = (1/2)x'P_fx$$

Eliminate x^+ with the linear model

$$V(x, u) = (1/2)\left(|x|_Q^2 + |u|_R^2 + |Ax + Bu|_{P_f}^2\right)$$

This is quadratic in u

$$V(x, u) = (1/2)\left(u'(B'P_fB + R)u + 2u'B'P_fAx + |x|_{Q+A'P_fA}^2\right)$$

with $B'P_fB + R > 0$. Therefore solution to $\min_u V$ exists and is unique for all x

One-stage LQR problem solutions

$$u^*(x) = Kx \quad (\text{optimal control is linear state feedback})$$

$$V^*(x) = (1/2)x' \Pi x \quad (\text{optimal cost is quadratic in state})$$

with

$$K = -(B' P_f B + R)^{-1} B' P_f A \quad (\text{optimal feedback gain})$$

$$\Pi = Q + A' P_f A - A' P_f B (B' P_f B + R)^{-1} B' P_f A \quad (\text{Riccati iteration})$$

and the closed-loop system satisfies

$$x^+ = Ax + Bu = (A + BK)x$$

DAR problem assumptions

Assumptions:

- (A, B) stabilizable and (A, Q) detectable
- Range condition $\mathcal{R}(G) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(B)$
- $Q \succ 0, R \succ 0$

One-stage DAR problem

$$\min_u \max_w V(x, u, w) \quad \text{s.t. } x^+ = Ax + Bu + Gw \quad |w|^2 \leq \alpha$$

Eliminate x^+ with the linear model

$$V(x, u, w) = (1/2)(|x|_Q^2 + |u|_R^2 + |Ax + Bu + Gw|_{P_f}^2)$$

This is quadratic in (u, w)

$$V(x, u, w) = (1/2) \left(\begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix}' \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ (B' P_f G)' & G' P_f G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix} + \right. \\ \left. 2 \begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix}' \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A x + |x|_{Q+A' P_f A}^2 \right)$$

Proposition 1

Without loss of generality, $|w|^2 \leq \alpha$ can be replaced by $|w|^2 = \alpha$

Lagrangian approach

Define the Lagrange multiplier $\lambda > 0$ and Lagrangian function

$$L(x, u, \mathbf{w}, \lambda) = V(x, u, \mathbf{w}) - (\lambda/2)(\mathbf{w}'\mathbf{w} - \alpha)$$

The constrained problem becomes

$$\min_u \max_{\mathbf{w}} \min_{\lambda} L(x, u, \mathbf{w}, \lambda)$$

With strong duality, we can switch to

$$\min_{\lambda} \min_u \max_{\mathbf{w}} L(x, u, \mathbf{w}, \lambda)$$

One-stage DAR problem

$$\min_{\lambda} \min_u \max_w L(x, u, w, \lambda)$$

$$L(x, u, w, \lambda) = (1/2) \left(\begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix}' \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ (B' P_f G)' & G' P_f G - \lambda I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} u \\ w \end{bmatrix}' \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A x + |x|_{Q + A' P_f A}^2 \right) + (\lambda \alpha)/2$$

Solve $\min_u \max_w L(x, u, w, \lambda)$ and obtain saddle point $(u^*(\lambda), w^*(\lambda))$, which requires

$$B' P_f B + R \succeq 0 \quad \text{convex in } u$$

$$G' P_f G - \lambda I \preceq 0 \quad \text{concave in } w$$

One-stage DAR problem scalar minimization

Applying Theorem 9 (minmax fundamentals lecture), the remaining optimization is

$$\min_{\lambda} L(x, u^*(\lambda), w^*(\lambda)), \lambda) \quad \text{s.t. } G' P_f G - \lambda I \preceq 0$$

The optimal $\lambda^*(x, \alpha)$ solves

$$\min_{\lambda \geq |G' P_f G|} \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi(\lambda) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \right)$$

with Riccati iteration

$$\Pi(\lambda) = Q + A' P_f A - A' P_f [B \quad G] \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ (B' P_f G)' & G' P_f G - \lambda I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

One-stage DAR problem solutions

From Theorem 9

$$\begin{bmatrix} u^*(x) \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} K(x, \alpha) \\ J(x, \alpha) \end{bmatrix} x \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(optimal control is nonlinear)} \\ \text{(inner max dummy variable)} \end{array}$$

$$V^*(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi(\lambda^*(x, \alpha)) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad \text{(optimal cost is nonquadratic)}$$

with optimal gains

$$K(x, \alpha) = -[I \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ (B' P_f G)' & G' P_f G - \lambda^*(x, \alpha) I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

$$J(x, \alpha) = -[0 \ I] \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ (B' P_f G)' & G' P_f G - \lambda^*(x, \alpha) I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

and the closed-loop system satisfies

$$x^+ = Ax + Bu + \mathbf{G}w = (A + BK(x, \alpha))x + \mathbf{G}w$$

Summary

Objectives

$$\text{LQR: } \min_u V(x, u)$$

$$\text{DAR: } \min_u \max_w V(x, u, w) \quad |w|^2 = \alpha$$

$$\lambda^*(x, \alpha) = \arg \min_{\lambda \geq |G'P_f G|} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi(\lambda) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

Gains

$$\text{LQR: } K = -(B'P_f B + R)^{-1} B'P_f A$$

$$\text{DAR: } K(x, \alpha) = - \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B'P_f B + R & B'P_f G \\ G'P_f B & G'P_f G - \lambda^* I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

Riccati iteration

$$\text{LQR: } \Pi = Q + A'P_f A - A'P_f B(B'P_f B + R)^{-1}B'P_f A$$

$$\text{DAR: } \Pi(x, \alpha) = Q + A'P_f A - A'P_f \begin{bmatrix} B & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B'P_f B + R & B'P_f G \\ G'P_f B & G'P_f G - \lambda^* I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

An important number: $|x| / \sqrt{\alpha}$

The optimal DAR control $u^*(x, \alpha)$ depends on x and α

- Parameter α tells us the size of the disturbance
- Parameter x tells us the size of the initial state
- The ratio

$$\frac{|x|}{\sqrt{\alpha}}$$

controls the scaling between the size of the disturbance and the size of the initial state

DAR solution for $x = 0$

The optimal $\lambda^*(x, \alpha)$ solves

$$\min_{\lambda \geq |G' P_f G|} \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi(\lambda) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \right)$$

For $x = 0$, $\lambda^*(0, \alpha)$ solves

$$\min_{\lambda \geq |G' P_f G|} \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

Thus

$$\lambda^* = |G' P_f G| \quad x = 0, \quad \text{all } \alpha > 0$$

Solution region \mathcal{X}_L

Definition 2 (Region \mathcal{X}_L)

For a given α , \mathcal{X}_L is the region of initial states x where $\lambda^*(x) = |G'P_fG|$

Proposition 3

For a given α , the optimal control $u^*(x) = Kx$ is linear in the region \mathcal{X}_L

$$K = -[I \quad 0] \begin{bmatrix} B'P_fB + R & B'P_fG \\ G'P_fB & G'P_fG - |G'P_fG|I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

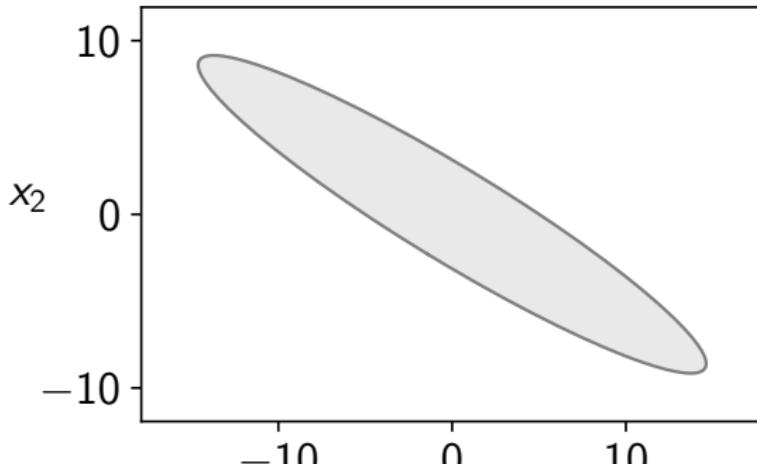
Note: $x = 0$ is always contained in \mathcal{X}_L

Solution region \mathcal{X}_L

The region \mathcal{X}_L is an ellipsoid centered at the origin. Set $w'w \leq \alpha$

$$x' J' J x \leq \alpha$$

$$J = -[0 \quad I] \begin{bmatrix} B' P_f B + R & B' P_f G \\ G' P_f B & G' P_f G - |G' P_f G| I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$



Solution region \mathcal{X}_{NL}

Definition 4 (Region \mathcal{X}_{NL})

For a given α , \mathcal{X}_{NL} is the region of initial states x where $\lambda^*(x) > |\mathbf{G}'P_f\mathbf{G}|$

Proposition 5

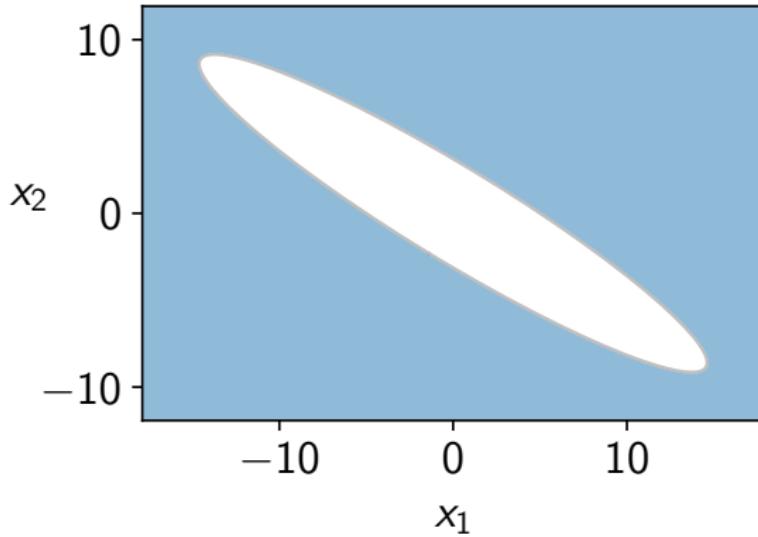
For a given α , the optimal control $u^*(x) = K(x)x$ is nonlinear x in the region \mathcal{X}_{NL}

$$K(x) = -[I \quad 0] \begin{bmatrix} B'P_fB + R & B'P_f\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{G}'P_fB & \mathbf{G}'P_f\mathbf{G} - \lambda^*(x)I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ \mathbf{G}' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

Solution region \mathcal{X}_{NL}

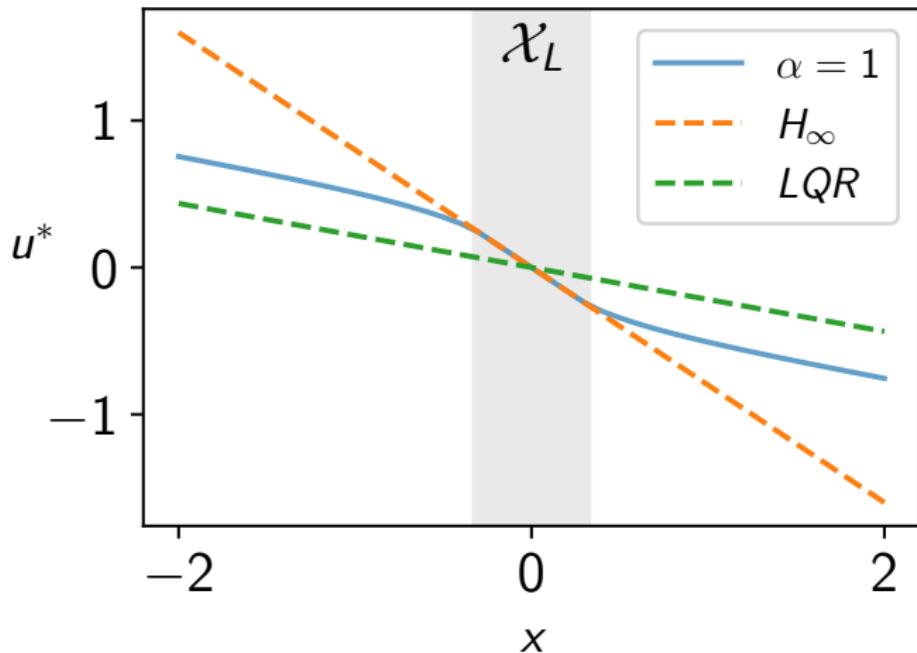
The region \mathcal{X}_{NL} is the exterior of ellipsoid \mathcal{X}_L

$$x' \mathbf{J}' \mathbf{J} x > \alpha$$



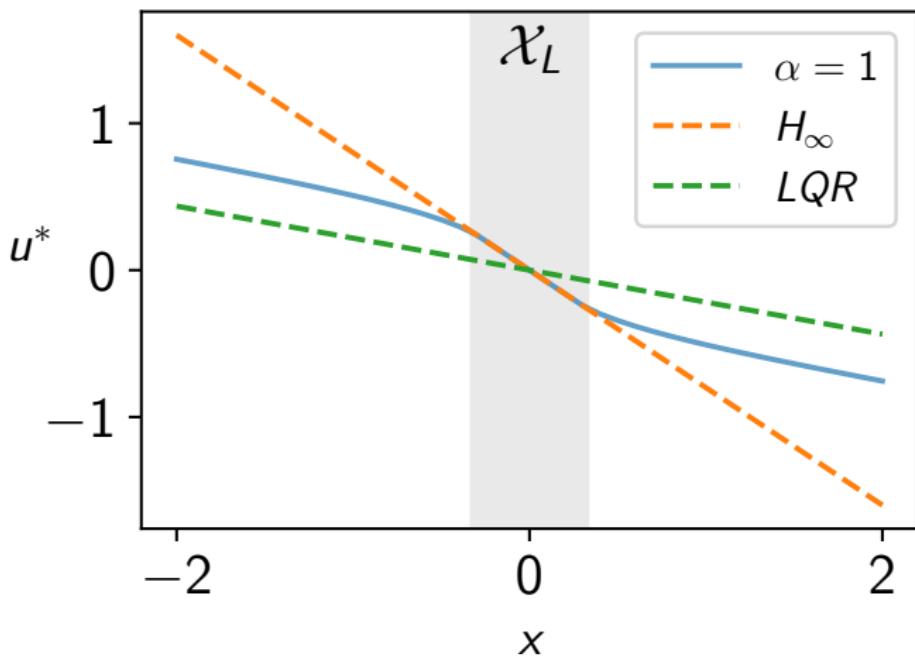
DAR optimal control

The DAR solution is a **nonlinear** control

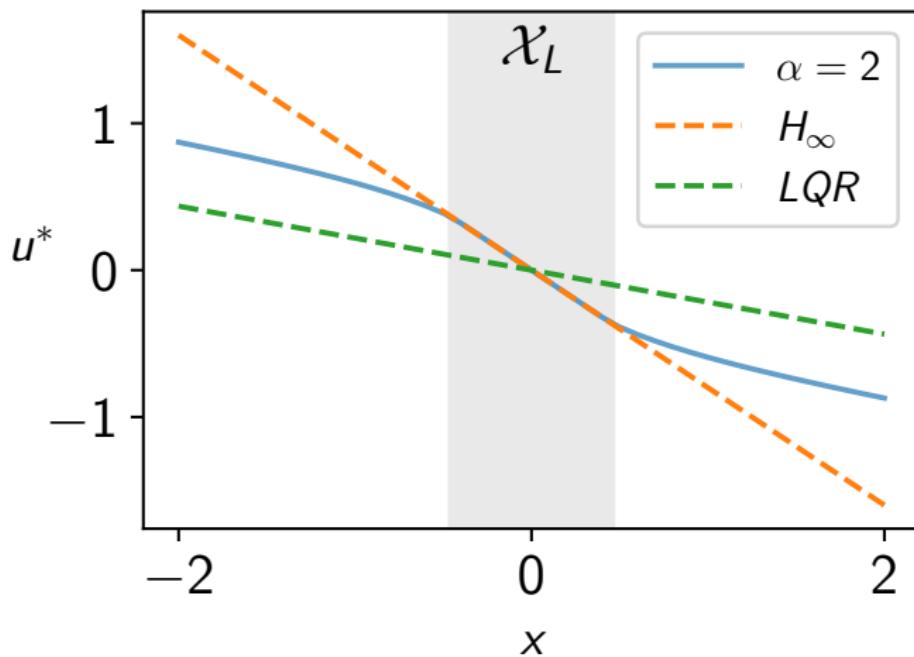


DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 1$

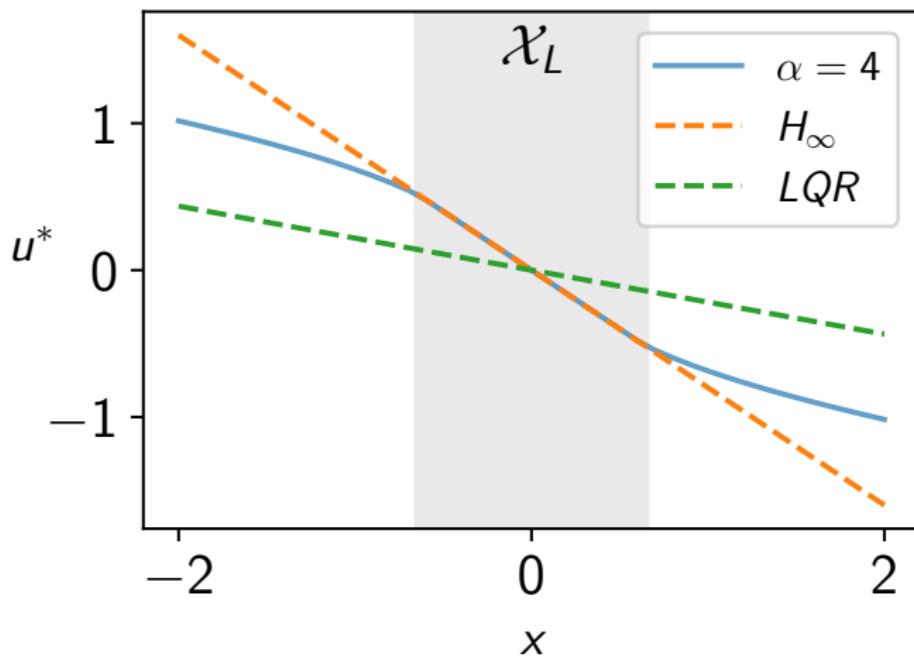
Let's increase α



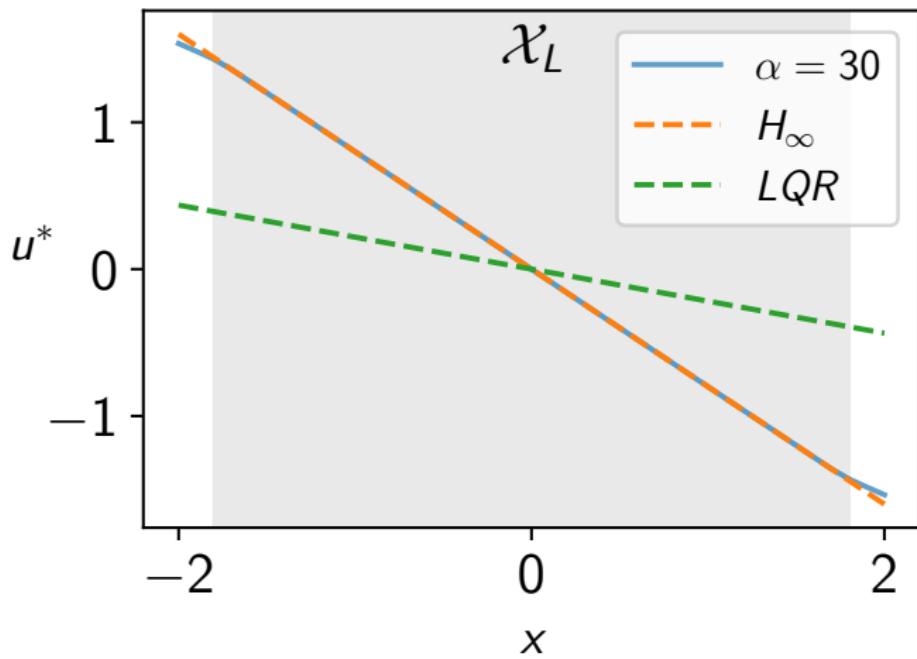
DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 2$



DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 4$

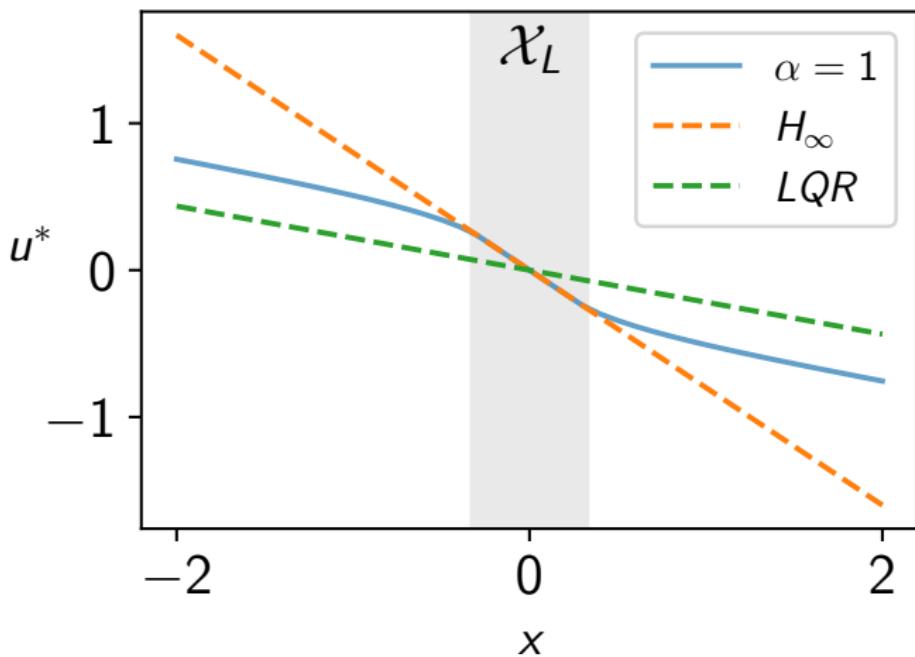


DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 30$

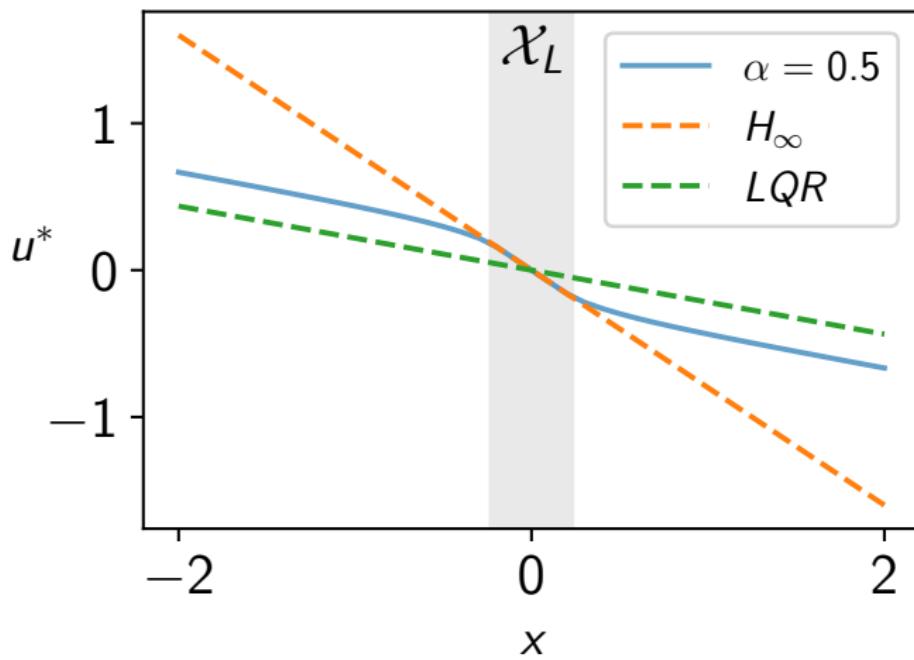


DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 1$

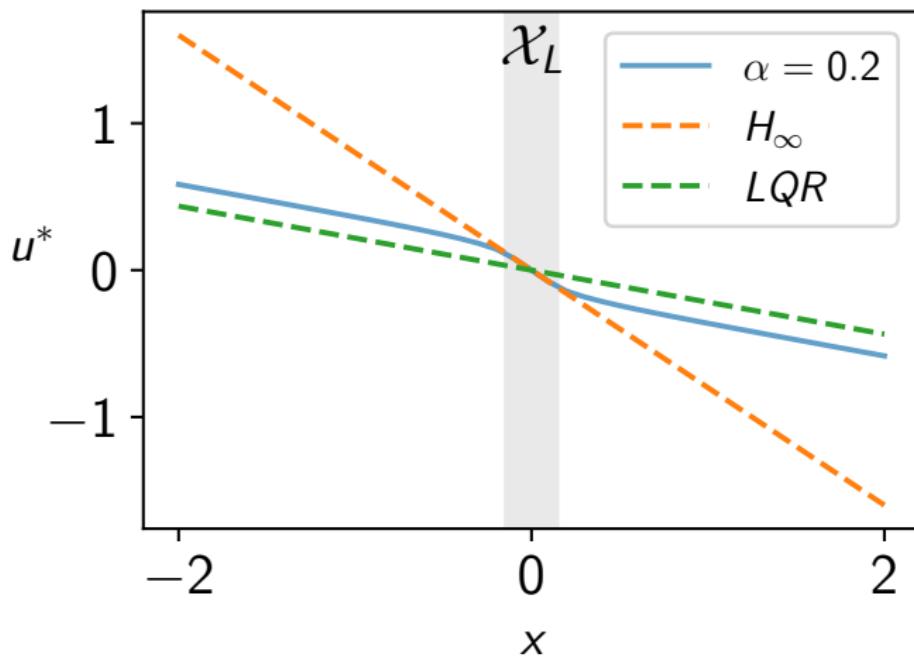
Let's decrease α



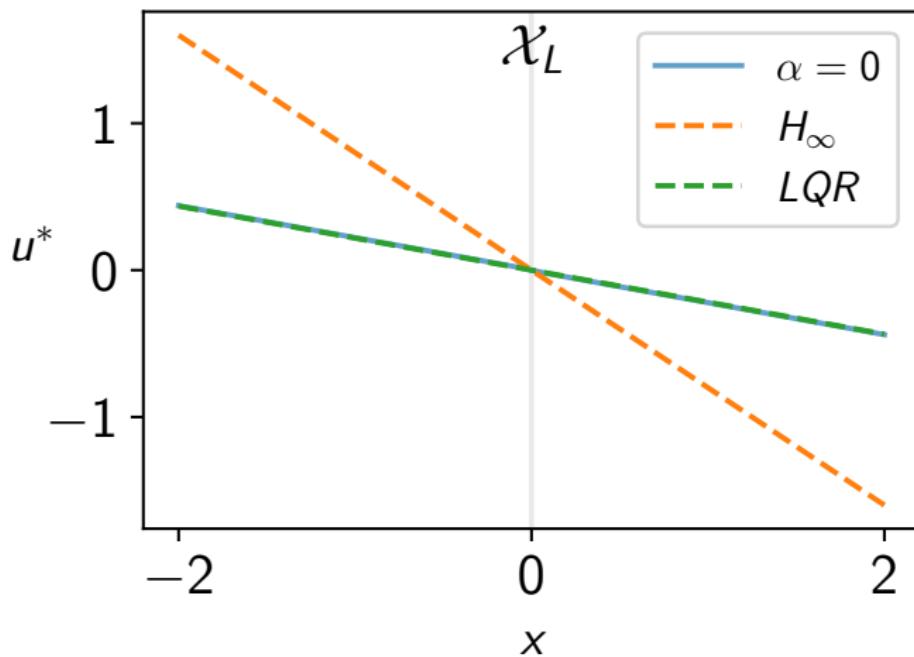
DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 0.5$



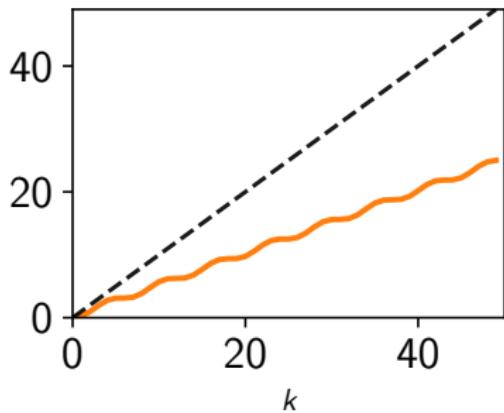
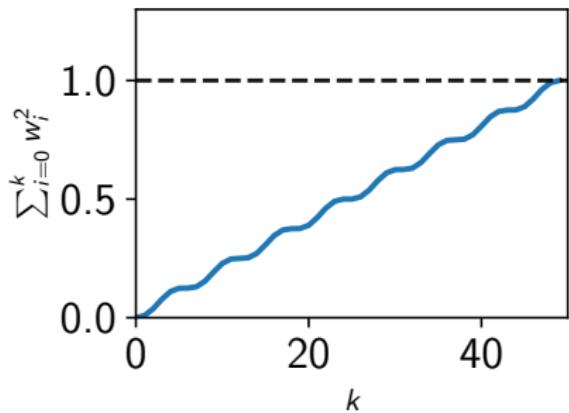
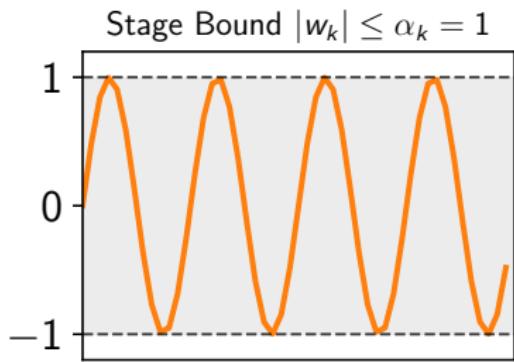
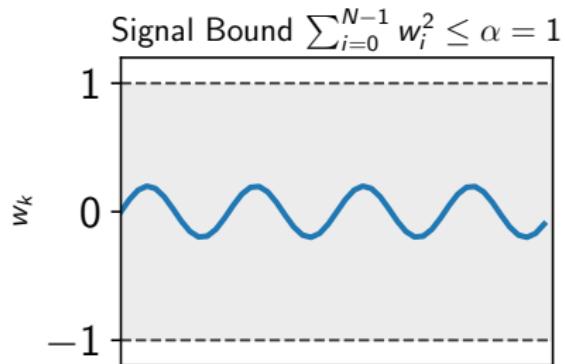
DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 0.2$



DAR optimal control: $\alpha = 0$



Two disturbance paradigms



Two disturbance paradigms horizon visualization

Finite horizon DAR

Given a horizon length N , the finite horizon DAR problem is

$$V^*(x_0) := \min_{u_0} \max_{w_0} \min_{u_1} \max_{w_1} \cdots \min_{u_{N-1}} \max_{w_{N-1}} V(x_0, u, w) \quad w \in \mathbb{W}$$

where \mathbb{W} enforces either a signal bound or stage bound disturbance constraint

Finite horizon DAR: signal-bounded

For $k = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$

$$\min_{\lambda \in [\lambda_1, \infty)} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_0(\lambda) \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$\lambda_k := \begin{cases} \min_{\lambda \geq \lambda_{k+1}} \{ \lambda : \lambda = |\mathbf{G}' \Pi_{k+1}(\lambda) \mathbf{G}| \} & \text{if } |\mathbf{G}' \Pi_{k+1}(\lambda_{k+1}) \mathbf{G}| > \lambda_{k+1} \\ \lambda_{k+1} & \text{if } |\mathbf{G}' \Pi_{k+1}(\lambda_{k+1}) \mathbf{G}| \leq \lambda_{k+1} \end{cases}$$

$$\lambda_N := |\mathbf{G}' P_f \mathbf{G}| \quad \Pi_N = P_f$$

$$\Pi_k(\lambda) = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A$$

$$- A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \quad \mathbf{G}] \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R & B' \Pi_{k+1} \mathbf{G} \\ (B' \Pi_{k+1} \mathbf{G})' & \mathbf{G}' \Pi_{k+1} \mathbf{G} - \lambda I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ \mathbf{G}' \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{k+1} A$$

Finite horizon DAR: stage-bounded

For $k = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$

$$\min_{\lambda_k} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_k}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_k(\lambda_k) \left(\frac{x_k}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda_k}{2}$$

$$\lambda_k \geq |G' \Pi_{k+1} G| \quad \Pi_N = P_f$$

$$\Pi_k(\lambda_k) = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A$$

$$- A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \quad G] \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R \\ (B' \Pi_{k+1} G)' \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{k+1} A$$

Computation: signal-bounded

Decision variables: $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Minimize (final scalar solve):

$$\min_{\lambda \geq \lambda_1} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_0(\lambda) \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2}.$$

$$M_k(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R & B' \Pi_{k+1} G \\ G' \Pi_{k+1} B & G' \Pi_{k+1} G - \lambda I \end{bmatrix} \quad \phi_{k+1}(\lambda) := |G' \Pi_{k+1}(\lambda) G|$$

$$\lambda_k := \begin{cases} \min_{\lambda \geq \lambda_{k+1}} \{ \lambda : \lambda = \phi_{k+1}(\lambda) \} & \text{if } \phi_{k+1}(\lambda_{k+1}) > \lambda_{k+1} \\ \lambda_{k+1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Subject to: $\Pi_N = P_f \quad \lambda_N := |G' P_f G| \quad k = N-1, \dots, 1$

$$\Pi_k(\lambda) = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A - A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \quad G] M_k(\lambda)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{k+1} A$$

Computation: stage-bounded

Decision variables: $\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_{N-1} \in \mathbb{R}$

Minimize:

$$\min_{\lambda_{0:N-1}} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_0(\lambda_{0:N-1}) \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \lambda_k$$

$$M_k(\lambda_k) = \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R & B' \Pi_{k+1} G \\ G' \Pi_{k+1} B & G' \Pi_{k+1} G - \lambda_k I \end{bmatrix}$$

Subject to:

$$\Pi_N = P_f \quad \lambda_k \geq |G' \Pi_{k+1}(\lambda_{k+1:N-1}) G| \quad k = N-1, \dots, 0$$

$$\Pi_k(\lambda_{k:N-1}) = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A - A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \quad G] M_k(\lambda_k)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{k+1} A$$

Computation: signal-bounded (alternative)

Decision variables: $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, $\Pi_0, \dots, \Pi_{N-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

Minimize:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_0 \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

Subject to:

$$\Pi_N = P_f$$

$$\lambda I - G' \Pi_{k+1} G \succeq 0$$

$$\Pi_k = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A - A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \ G] M_k^{-1} [B' \ G']' \Pi_{k+1} A$$

where

$$M_k = \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R & B' \Pi_{k+1} G \\ G' \Pi_{k+1} B & G' \Pi_{k+1} G - \lambda I \end{bmatrix}$$

Computation: stage-bounded (alternative)

Decision variables: $\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_{N-1} \in \mathbb{R}$, $\Pi_0, \dots, \Pi_{N-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

Minimize:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi_0 \left(\frac{x_0}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \lambda_k$$

Subject to:

$$\Pi_N = P_f$$

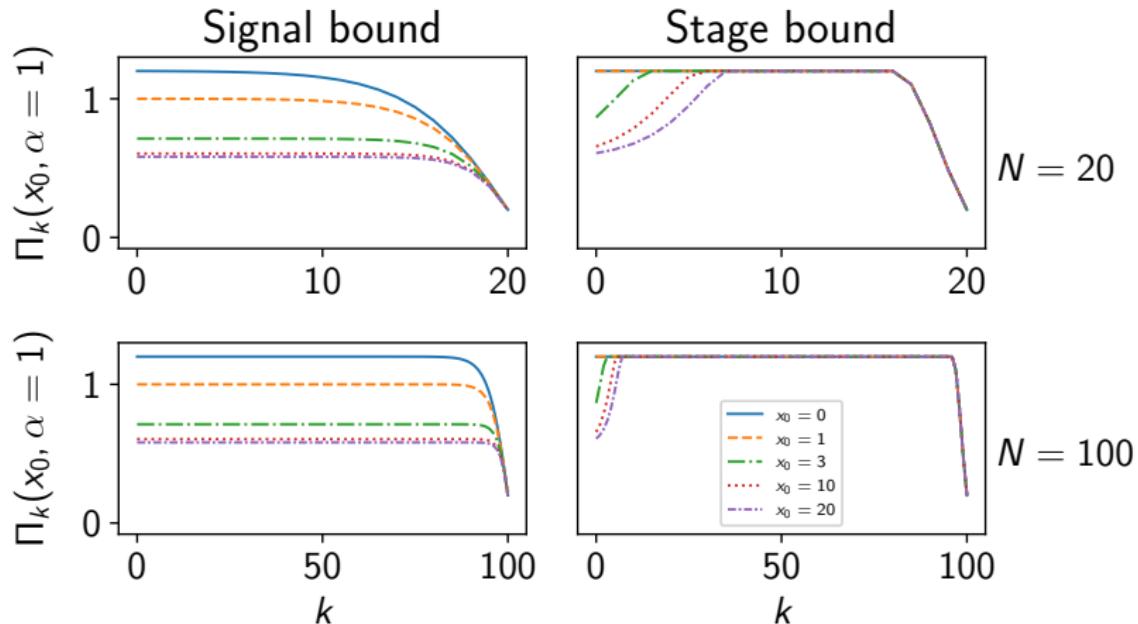
$$\lambda_k I - G' \Pi_{k+1} G \succeq 0$$

$$\Pi_k = Q + A' \Pi_{k+1} A - A' \Pi_{k+1} [B \ G] M_k^{-1} [B' \ G']' \Pi_{k+1} A$$

where

$$M_k = \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi_{k+1} B + R & B' \Pi_{k+1} G \\ G' \Pi_{k+1} B & G' \Pi_{k+1} G - \lambda_k I \end{bmatrix}$$

Two disturbance paradigms: DAR optimal solutions



$$\Pi_{H_\infty} = 1.2$$

$$\Pi_{LQR} = 0.55$$

The steady-state problem

Define a steady-state signal bound problem in (Π, λ)

$$\min_{\Pi, \lambda \geq |G' \Pi G|} \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \right)$$

subject to

$$\Pi = Q + A' \Pi A - A' \Pi \begin{bmatrix} B & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B' \Pi B + R & B' \Pi G \\ (B' \Pi G)' & G' \Pi G - \lambda I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} \Pi A$$

Denote this steady-state solution $(\bar{\Pi}, \bar{\lambda})$

Signal bound disturbances: LMI formulation

The steady-state signal bound DAR problem can be solved efficiently as an LMI

Proposition 6 (Steady-state solution as an LMI)

$$\min_{\lambda, \chi, P, F} \frac{\chi}{2} + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

subject to:

$$\begin{bmatrix} P & (AP - BF)' & 0 & (P\bar{Q}' - F'\bar{R}')' \\ AP - BF & P & G' & 0 \\ 0 & G & \lambda I & 0 \\ P\bar{Q}' - F'\bar{R}' & 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \quad \begin{bmatrix} P & \frac{\chi}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \\ \frac{x'}{\sqrt{\alpha}} & \chi \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

where

$$K = -FP^{-1} \quad \Pi = P^{-1}$$

This is a **convex** optimization with $O(n^3)$ complexity!

Signal bound disturbances: degenerate systems

Definition 7 (Degenerate systems)

A system is degenerate if the infinite horizon solution $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\Pi})$ obtained from the LMI satisfies for all x

$$\bar{\lambda} > |G' \bar{\Pi} G|$$

For x contained in the region \mathcal{X}_L , the finite horizon optimal solution is on the boundary

$$\lambda^* = |G' P_f G|$$

Proposition 8

*For degenerate systems, the finite horizon DAR problem does **not** converge as $N \rightarrow \infty$ to the steady-state solution obtained from the LMI for states x in the region \mathcal{X}_L*

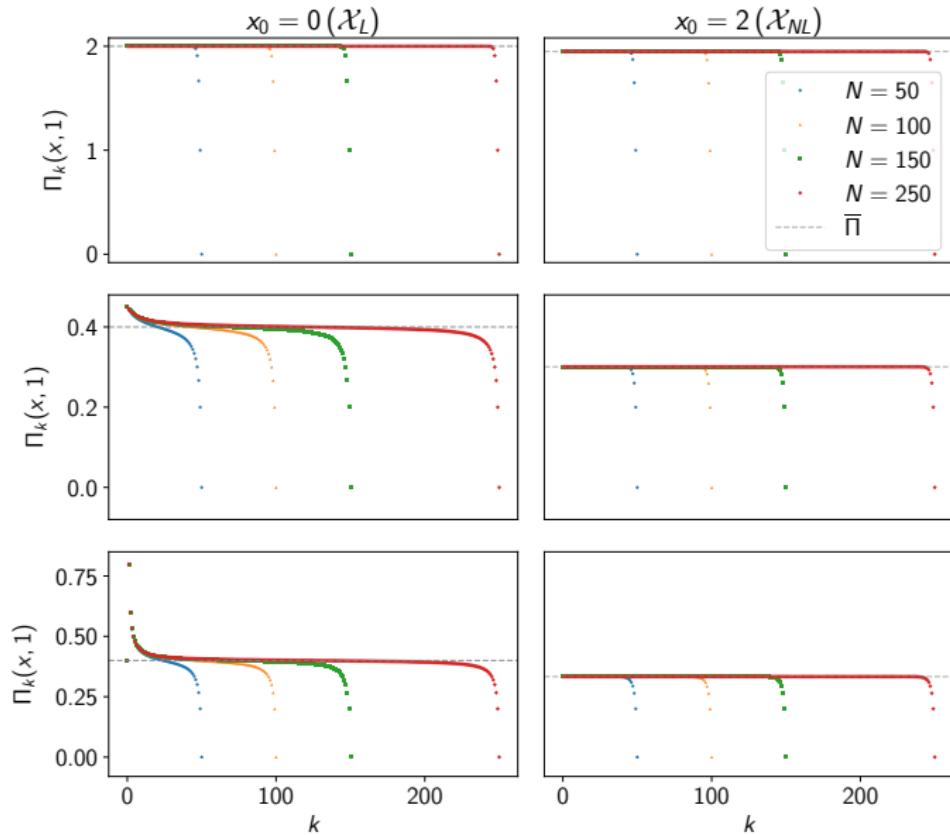
Degenerate systems: numerical examples

Consider three systems

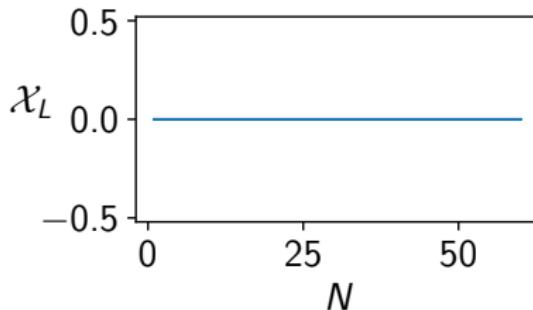
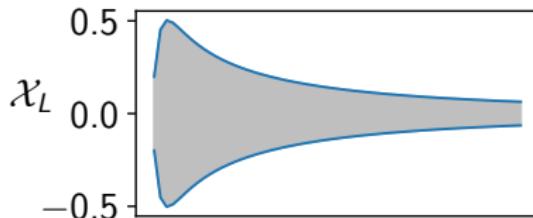
- ① $A = 1.0 \quad B = 1 \quad G = 1 \quad R = 1 \quad Q = 1$
- ② $A = 0.5 \quad B = 1 \quad G = 1 \quad R = 1 \quad Q = 0.2$
- ③ $A = 0.5 \quad B = 0 \quad G = 1 \quad R = 1 \quad Q = 0.2$

System 1 is non-degenerate, system 2 is degenerate, and system 3 violates Assumption 2, $\mathcal{R}(G) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(B)$

Degenerate systems: Riccati recursion



Degenerate systems: \mathcal{X}_L regions



Signal bound disturbances: stability

The steady-state DAR solution with **signal bound disturbances** is **stabilizing**

Proposition 9 (Infinite horizon control is stabilizing)

Any feasible LMI solution yields:

- ① Stabilizing feedback: $\rho(A + BK) < 1$
- ② ℓ_2 -to- ℓ_2 gain bound:

$$\|\mathbf{z}\|^2 \leq V(x_0) + (\lambda/2) \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

$$z := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} Q^{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & R^{1/2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \end{bmatrix} \quad |z|^2 = \ell(x, u)$$

Connection to H_∞ control: For $x_0 = 0$, the DAR LMI and stability results reduce to the standard H_∞ LMI formulation

Monte Carlo validation: quarter-car suspension

Quarter-car suspension

$$m_b \ddot{x}_b = -k_s(x_b - x_w) - b_s(\dot{x}_b - \dot{x}_w) + u$$

$$m_w \ddot{x}_w = k_s(x_b - x_w) + b_s(\dot{x}_b - \dot{x}_w) - k_t(x_w - x_r) - u$$

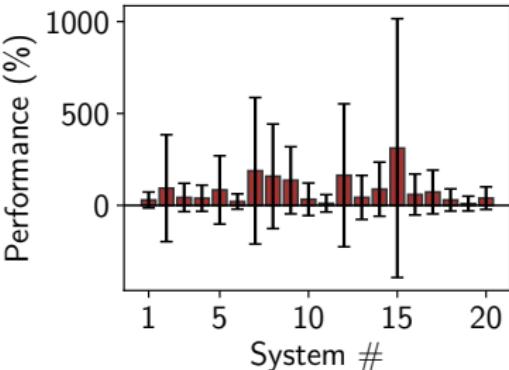
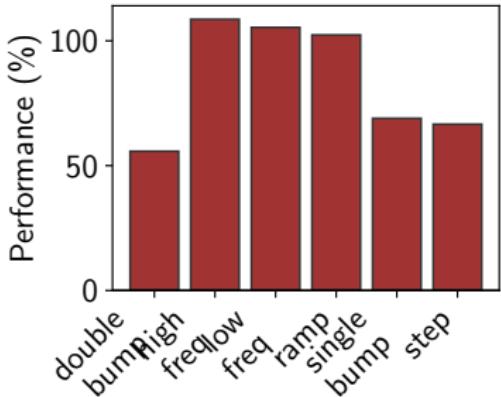
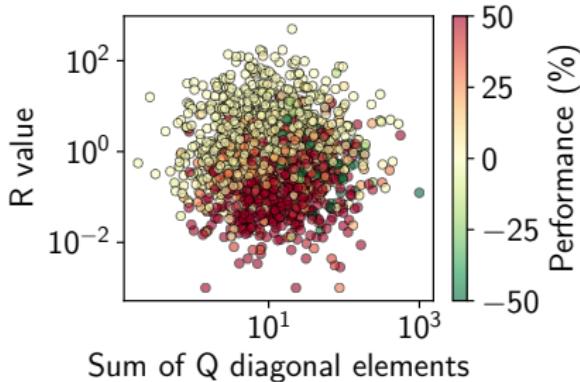
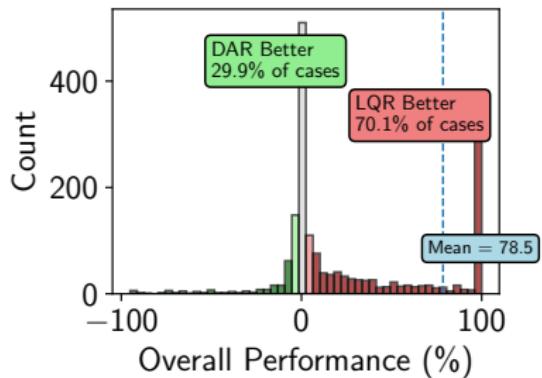
$$\dot{x}_b = v_b$$

$$\dot{x}_w = v_w$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_b \\ v_b \\ x_w \\ v_w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{body position} \\ \text{body velocity} \\ \text{wheel position} \\ \text{wheel velocity} \end{bmatrix}$$

$u = F_a = \text{actuator force}$ $w = x_r = \text{road disturbance}$

Monte Carlo validation: quarter-car suspension results



Monte Carlo validation: CSTR

CSTR

$$\dot{C}_A = \frac{F}{V}(C_{Af} + \delta C_{Af} - C_A) - k_0 e^{-E/RT_r} C_A$$

$$\dot{T}_r = \frac{F}{V}(T_f + \delta T_f - T_r) + \frac{(-\Delta H)}{\rho C_p} k_0 e^{-E/RT_r} C_A - \frac{UA}{\rho C_p V} (T_r - T_j)$$

$$\dot{T}_j = \frac{q}{V_j} (T_{c,in} - T_j) + \frac{UA}{\rho_j C_{pj} V_j} (T_r - T_j)$$

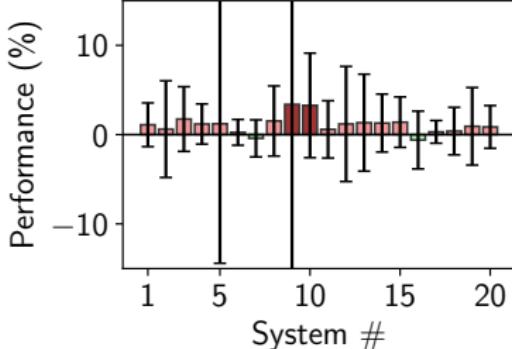
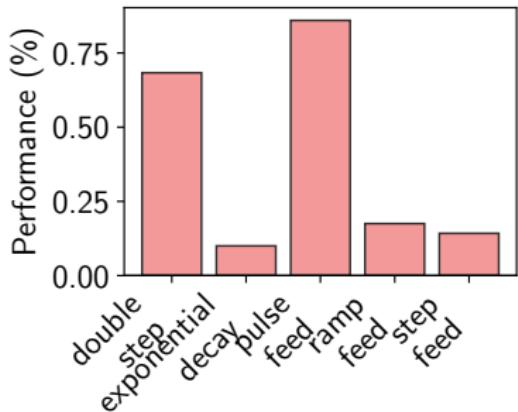
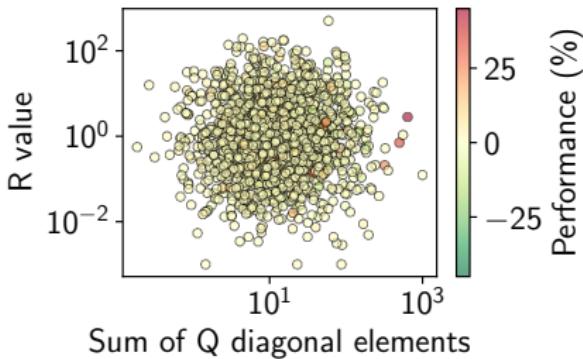
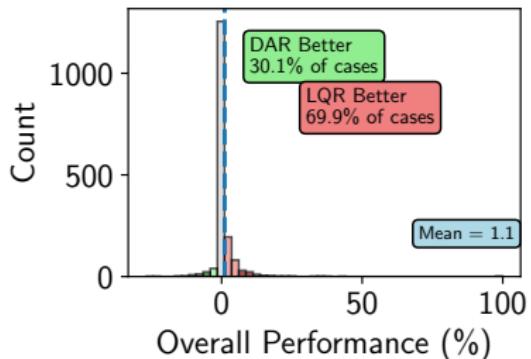
$$\dot{q} = \frac{-q + u}{\tau_v}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} C_A \\ T_r \\ T_j \\ q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{concentration} \\ \text{reactor temp} \\ \text{jacket temp} \\ \text{actual coolant flow} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u = q_{sp} = \text{coolant flow setpoint} \quad w = \begin{bmatrix} \delta C_{Af} \\ \delta T_f \end{bmatrix} = \text{feed disturbances}$$

System linearized around steady-state operating point

Monte Carlo validation: CSTR results



Summary

Objectives

$$\text{LQR: } \min_u V(x, u)$$

$$\text{DAR: } \min_u \max_{\mathbf{w}} V(x, u, \mathbf{w}) \quad |\mathbf{w}|^2 = \alpha$$

$$\lambda^*(x, \alpha) = \arg \min_{\lambda \geq |G'P_f G|} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)' \Pi(\lambda) \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right) + \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

Gains

$$\text{LQR: } K = -(B'P_f B + R)^{-1} B'P_f A$$

$$\text{DAR: } K(x, \alpha) = - \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B'P_f B + R & B'P_f G \\ G'P_f B & G'P_f G - \lambda^* I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

Riccati iteration

$$\text{LQR: } \Pi = Q + A'P_f A - A'P_f B(B'P_f B + R)^{-1} B'P_f A$$

$$\text{DAR: } \Pi(x, \alpha) = Q + A'P_f A - A'P_f \begin{bmatrix} B & G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B'P_f B + R & B'P_f G \\ G'P_f B & G'P_f G - \lambda^* I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} B' \\ G' \end{bmatrix} P_f A$$

For signal bound disturbances: DAR infinite horizon solution is **stabilizing** and obtained with an LMI

Further reading I

- T. Basar. A dynamic games approach to controller design: Disturbance rejection in discrete time. In *Proceedings of the 28th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control*, pages 407–414, 1989.
- D. P. Bertsekas and I. B. Rhodes. Sufficiently informative functions and the minimax feedback control of uncertain dynamic systems. *IEEE Trans. Auto. Cont.*, 18(2):117–124, Apr 1973.
- G. Didinsky and T. Basar. Design of minimax controllers for linear systems with non-zero initial states under specified information structures. *Int. J. Robust and Nonlinear Control*, 2(1):1–30, 1992.
- P. Dorato. A historical review of robust control. *IEEE Control Systems Magazine*, 7(2):44–47, 1987.
- K. Glover and J. C. Doyle. State-space formulae for all stabilizing controllers that satisfy an H_∞ -norm bound and relations to risk sensitivity. *Sys. Cont. Let.*, 11(3):167–172, 1988.

Further reading II

- C. Jin, P. Netrapalli, and M. Jordan. What is local optimality in nonconvex-nonconcave minimax optimization? In *International conference on machine learning*, pages 4880–4889. PMLR, 2020.
- M. V. Khlebnikov, B. T. Polyak, and V. M. Kuntsevich. Optimization of linear systems subject to bounded exogenous disturbances: The invariant ellipsoid technique. *Automation and Remote Control*, 72: 2227–2275, 2011.
- H. Kimura. Linear differential games with terminal payoff. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 15(1):58–66, 1970.
- J. Medanić and M. Andjelić. On a class of differential games without saddle-point solutions. *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, 8:413–430, 1971.
- I. Rhodes and D. Luenberger. Differential games with imperfect state information. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 14(1):29–38, 1969.

Further reading III

- G. Ulanov. Dinamicheskaya tochnost'i kompensatsiya vozmushchenii v sistemakh avtomaticheskogo upravleniya, 1971.
- H. Witsenhausen. A minimax control problem for sampled linear systems. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 13(1):5–21, 1968.
- E. Yakubovich. Solution of a problem in the optimal control of a discrete linear system. *Avtomatika i Telemekhanika*, (9):73–79, 1975.
- G. Zames. Feedback and optimal sensitivity: Model reference transformations, multiplicative seminorms, and approximate inverses. *IEEE Trans. Auto. Cont.*, 26(2):301–320, Apr 1981.