

# Software for Nonlinear Balancing and Control

## Background and Demonstrations

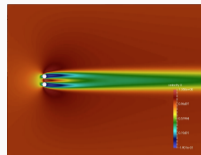
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Nonlinear Model Reduction for Control, May 2023

This work was supported in part by the National Science Foundation (DMS-1819110,CMMI-2130695)



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# Introduction

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# Optimal Control Problem

Find a control  $\mathbf{u}(\cdot)$  with  $\mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  that solves

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \int_0^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}(s), \mathbf{u}(s)) ds$$

subject to

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)), \quad \mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{z}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

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Assume the optimal control is given by  $\mathbf{u}_*(t) = \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}_*(t))$ , and define the value function as

$$v(\mathbf{z}_0) = J(\mathbf{z}_*(\cdot; \mathbf{z}_0), \mathbf{u}_*(\cdot)).$$

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$$v(\mathbf{z}_0) = J(\mathbf{z}_*(\cdot; \mathbf{z}_0), \mathbf{u}_*(\cdot)).$$

For  $\mathbf{f}$ ,  $\ell$ , and  $v$  smooth enough, the feedback relation satisfies the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman partial differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) \\ \mathbf{0} &= \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})). \end{aligned}$$

# Optimal Control Problem

This can be derived using the *dynamic programming principle*. If  $\mathbf{u}_*$  is used, then

$$\begin{aligned} v(\mathbf{z}_0) &= \int_0^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}_*(s), \mathbf{u}_*(s)) ds \\ &= \int_0^t \ell(\mathbf{z}_*(s), \mathbf{u}_*(s)) ds + \underbrace{\int_t^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}_*(s), \mathbf{u}_*(s)) ds}_{v(\mathbf{z}_*(t; \mathbf{z}_0))}. \end{aligned}$$

# Optimal Control Problem

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Our smoothness assumptions allow us to differentiate with respect to  $t$ . The result is

$$0 = \ell(\mathbf{z}_*(t), \mathbf{u}_*(t)) + \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}_*(t)) \dot{\mathbf{z}}_*(t),$$

which is

$$0 = \ell(\mathbf{z}_*(t), \mathbf{u}_*(t)) + \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}_*(t)) \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}_*(t), \mathbf{u}_*(t))$$

or

$$0 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})).$$



# Optimal Control Problem

Ideally, one could solve the HJB equations simultaneously for  $v$  and  $\mathcal{K}$ .

The feedback law  $\mathbf{u}(t) = \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}(t))$  is the quantity of interest.

The value function  $v(\mathbf{z})$  can serve as a Lyapunov function, providing information about the stability region around the steady-state solution  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$ .

However, these are notoriously difficult to solve as the HJB equations are nonlinear PDEs to be solved in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (or after model reduction  $\mathbb{R}^r$ ).

Instead, polynomial approximations are constructed of the form:

$$v(\mathbf{z}) \approx v^{[2]}(\mathbf{z}) + v^{[3]}(\mathbf{z}) + \dots + v^{[d+1]}(\mathbf{z})$$

and

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}) \approx \mathbf{k}^{[1]}(\mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{k}^{[2]}(\mathbf{z}) + \dots + \mathbf{k}^{[d]}(\mathbf{z}).$$

**ON THE OPTIMAL STABILIZATION OF  
NONLINEAR SYSTEMS**

(OB OPTIMAL'NOI STABILIZATSII  
NELINEINYKH SISTEM)

*PMM Vol. 25, No. 5, 1961, pp. 836-844*

E. G. AL'BREKHT  
(Sverdlovsk)

*(Received June 26, 1961)*

The Nonlinear Systems Toolbox (Krener, 2015) has a routine `hjb.m` to approximate the feedback relation based on an algorithm by Al'brekht (PMM-Journal of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics, **25**:1254-1266, 1961).

$$0 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}(\mathbf{z})\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) \quad (1)$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}(\mathbf{z})\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})). \quad (2)$$

- Specializes Al'Brekht's method to polynomial systems with control affine inputs.
- The running cost has a quadratic form:  $\ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}$ .
- Structured linear systems were obtained by using polynomial approximations in Kronecker product form (as we'll detail below).
- This has been used to perform feedback control approximations for systems with hundreds of states.
- A Matlab implementation is available on github (we'll install and test this later).

# Using Kronecker products also has a long history in systems theory

KRONECKER PRODUCTS AND THE SECOND METHOD  
OF LYAPUNOV

By

Richard Bellman

P-1097

May 29, 1957

Approved for OTS release

## Writing polynomials in Kronecker product form

The Kronecker product of two matrices  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{i_x \times j_x}$  and  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{i_y \times j_y}$ , with entries  $x_{ij}$  and  $y_{ij}$ , is defined as the block matrix  $\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{i_x i_y \times j_x j_y}$  with entries

$$\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{Y} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} \mathbf{Y} & x_{12} \mathbf{Y} & \cdots & x_{1j_x} \mathbf{Y} \\ x_{21} \mathbf{Y} & x_{22} \mathbf{Y} & \cdots & x_{2j_x} \mathbf{Y} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ x_{i_x 1} \mathbf{Y} & x_{i_x 2} \mathbf{Y} & \cdots & x_{i_x j_x} \mathbf{Y} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \mathbf{z} \\ z_2 \mathbf{z} \\ \vdots \\ z_n \mathbf{z} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The following properties are useful:

- $(\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{D})(\mathbf{E} \otimes \mathbf{F}) = (\mathbf{CE}) \otimes (\mathbf{DF})$
- $(\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{D})^\top = \mathbf{C}^\top \otimes \mathbf{D}^\top$
- $(\mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{b}) \otimes \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} \otimes (\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{c})$
- $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{XVY}^\top \leftrightarrow \text{vec}(\mathbf{K}) = (\mathbf{Y} \otimes \mathbf{X})\text{vec}(\mathbf{V})$

and the derivative of  $c(\mathbf{z}) \equiv \mathbf{c}_2^\top (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})$  in the direction  $\mathbf{f}$  is

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{c}_2^\top (\mathbf{f} \otimes \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{f}).$$

## Writing polynomials in Kronecker product form

There are many representations of the same monomial terms when written in Kronecker product form, e.g. for the quadratic monomials

$$[1 \ 0 \ 2 \ 1] (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) = [1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1] (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) = z_1^2 + 2z_1z_2 + z_2^2.$$

To simplify expressions, we will impose the symmetric form of the coefficients.

If the coefficients are symmetric, then the following properties hold

- $\mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{a})$
- $\mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{I})$

(note  $\mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{M} \otimes \mathbf{N}) \neq \mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{N} \otimes \mathbf{M})$ )

# Quadratic-Quadratic Regulator

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## Quadratic-Quadratic Regulator (QQR) Problem

Find a control  $\mathbf{u}(\cdot)$  with  $\mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  that solves

$$\begin{aligned}\min_{\mathbf{u}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) &= \int_0^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) \, ds \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \mathbf{z}(s)^\top \mathbf{Q}_2 \mathbf{z}(s) + \mathbf{u}(s)^\top \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{u}(s) \, ds \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \mathbf{q}_2^\top (\mathbf{z}(s) \otimes \mathbf{z}(s)) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{u}(s) \otimes \mathbf{u}(s)) \, ds\end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathbf{q}_2 = \text{vec}(\mathbf{Q}_2)$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}_2 = \mathbf{Q}_2^\top \geq 0$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2 = \text{vec}(\mathbf{R}_2)$ ,  $\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_2^\top > 0$ , subject to

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) \\ &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{N}_2(\mathbf{z}(t) \otimes \mathbf{z}(t)), \quad \mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{z}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n.\end{aligned}$$



## Quadratic-Quadratic Regulator (QQR) Problem

Recall the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman partial differential equations

$$0 = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}))$$
$$\mathbf{0} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})) + \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{z}, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z})).$$

We now introduce Kronecker product expansions for  $v$  and  $\mathcal{K}$

$$v(\mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_2^\top(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{v^{[2]}(\mathbf{z})} + \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_3^\top(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{v^{[3]}(\mathbf{z})} + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{z}}_{\mathbf{k}^{[1]}(\mathbf{z})} + \underbrace{\mathbf{k}_2(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{\mathbf{k}^{[2]}(\mathbf{z})} + \dots$$

Substitute these expansions into the HJB PDEs and match terms of equal degree.

## QQR: Matching Degree 2 and Degree 1 Terms

$$v(\mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{v^{[2]}(\mathbf{z})} + \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{v^{[3]}(\mathbf{z})} + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{k}_1 \mathbf{z}}_{k^{[1]}(\mathbf{z})} + \underbrace{\mathbf{k}_2 (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})}_{k^{[2]}(\mathbf{z})} + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{N}_2(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) \quad \ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{q}_2^\top (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u})$$

For example, collecting the degree two from the value function and degree one terms from the feedback equation, leads to

$$\mathbf{v}_2^\top ((\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1)) + \mathbf{q}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) = \mathbf{0}.$$

and

$$\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m + \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) = \mathbf{0}.$$

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can be rearranged as

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1)^\top \mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{V}_2(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1) + \mathbf{k}_1^\top \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2 &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{V}_2 \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{k}_1^\top \mathbf{R}_2 &= \mathbf{0} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{coupled eqns. for } \mathbf{V}_2 \text{ and } \mathbf{k}_1$$

and upon substitution of  $\mathbf{k}_1$  into the first equation,

$$\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{V}_2 \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{V}_2 \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}_2^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{Q}_2 = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = -\mathbf{R}_2^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{V}_2.$$

Thus  $\mathbf{V}_2$  solves the algebraic Riccati equation and  $\mathbf{k}_1$  is the familiar solution to the linear-quadratic regulator problem.

## QQR: Matching Degree 3 and Degree 2 Terms

Let  $\mathbf{A}_c = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1$ . Collecting degree three terms from the value function equation

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c) \\ & = -\mathbf{v}_2^\top ((\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes (\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2)) - \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1). \end{aligned}$$

and the degree two terms from the feedback equation

$$\mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_{n^2} + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_{n^2} \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m + \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_2) = \mathbf{0}.$$

## QQR: Matching Degree 3 and Degree 2 Terms

Let  $\mathbf{A}_c = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1$ . Collecting degree three terms from the value function equation

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c) \\ & = -\mathbf{v}_2^\top ((\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes (\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2)) - \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1). \end{aligned}$$

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$$\mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_{n^2} + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_{n^2} \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m + \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_2) = \mathbf{0}.$$

To solve the equations above: identify all of the  $\mathbf{k}_2$  terms in the top equation

$$\begin{aligned} & -\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2) - \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) \\ & = -(\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_1)) (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) - (\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n)) (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{k}_2). \end{aligned}$$

Now, recall the degree one terms from the previous page:

$$\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) = \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m).$$

## QQR: Matching Degree 3 and Degree 2 Terms

Let  $\mathbf{A}_c = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1$ . Collecting degree three terms from the value function equation

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c) \\ & = -\mathbf{v}_2^\top ((\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes (\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2)) - \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1). \end{aligned}$$

and the degree two terms from the feedback equation

$$\mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_{n^2} + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_{n^2} \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m + \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_2) = \mathbf{0}.$$

To solve the equations above: identify all of the  $\mathbf{k}_2$  terms in the top equation

$$\begin{aligned} & -\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2) - \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) \\ & = -(\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_1)) (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) - (\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n)) (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{k}_2). \end{aligned}$$

Now, recall the degree one terms from the previous page:

$$\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) = \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{r}_2^\top (\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{I}_m).$$

So **all** of the  $\mathbf{k}_2$  terms in the top equation vanish, and eqns decouple.

The first equation can be solved for  $\mathbf{v}_3$ , then inserted into the second equation to compute  $\mathbf{k}_2$ .

## QQR: Simplification of the $\mathbf{v}_3$ Equation

$$\mathbf{v}_3^\top (\mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c) = -\mathbf{v}_2^\top (\mathbf{N}_2 \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{N}_2).$$

Taking the transpose of this equation:

$$(\mathbf{A}_c^\top \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c^\top \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 = -(\mathbf{N}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{I}_n + \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{N}_2^\top) \mathbf{v}_2.$$

We define the special Kronecker sum as

$$\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{X}) \equiv \underbrace{\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n}_{d \text{ terms}} + \cdots + \underbrace{\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{X}}_{d \text{ terms}}.$$

Then we can write equation for  $\mathbf{v}_3$  compactly as

$$\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 = -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_2^\top) \mathbf{v}_2.$$

## Simplified Description of the Al'brekht Algorithm

Using this special Kronecker sum,

$$\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{X}) \equiv \underbrace{\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n}_{d \text{ terms}} + \cdots + \underbrace{\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{X}}_{d \text{ terms}}.$$

we can write the higher degree terms in the same way, for example

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_2^\top) \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \mathcal{L}_4(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_4 &= -\mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 - (\mathbf{k}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_2^\top) \mathbf{r}_2, \\ \mathcal{L}_5(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_5 &= -\mathcal{L}_4((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top) \mathbf{v}_4 - \mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_3)^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_3 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2)^\top \mathbf{r}_2.\end{aligned}$$

and for all of these...

$$\mathbf{k}_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{R}_2^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{B}^\top) \mathbf{v}_{d+1})^\top.$$



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$$\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{X}) \equiv \underbrace{\mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n}_{d \text{ terms}} + \cdots + \underbrace{\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{X}}_{d \text{ terms}}.$$

we can write the higher degree terms in the same way, for example

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_2^\top) \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \mathcal{L}_4(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_4 &= -\mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 - (\mathbf{k}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_2^\top) \mathbf{r}_2, \\ \mathcal{L}_5(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) \mathbf{v}_5 &= -\mathcal{L}_4((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top) \mathbf{v}_4 - \mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_3)^\top) \mathbf{v}_3 \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_3 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2)^\top \mathbf{r}_2.\end{aligned}$$

and for all of these...

$$\mathbf{k}_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{R}_2^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{B}^\top) \mathbf{v}_{d+1})^\top.$$

This is consistent with the linear-quadratic regulator problem.

# Polynomial-Quadratic Regulator

---

# The Polynomial-Quadratic Regulator Problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \int_0^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) dt,$$

subject to the system dynamics

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)), \quad \mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{z}_0,$$

where now

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) \equiv \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{N}_2(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + \cdots + \mathbf{N}_p(\mathbf{z} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{z}),$$

with  $\mathbf{N}_d \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n^d}$  for  $d = 2, \dots, p$ .

The running cost is still quadratic in  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{u}$ :

$$\ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{q}_2^T (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{r}_2^T (\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}).$$

## Equations for $\mathbf{v}_{d+1}$ in the PQR Problem

Following the same process, we see that the systems are similar:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_3 &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_2^\top)\mathbf{v}_2, \\ \mathcal{L}_4(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_4 &= -\mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top)\mathbf{v}_3 - (\mathbf{k}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_2^\top)\mathbf{r}_2, \\ \mathcal{L}_5(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_5 &= -\mathcal{L}_4((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2)^\top)\mathbf{v}_4 - \mathcal{L}_3((\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{N}_3)^\top)\mathbf{v}_3 \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{k}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_3^\top + \mathbf{k}_3^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_2^\top)\mathbf{r}_2.\end{aligned}$$

We have the same decoupling of the  $\mathbf{v}_{d+1}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_d$  equations as in the QQR problem.

Furthermore,

$$\mathbf{k}_d = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{B}^\top)\mathbf{v}_{d+1})^\top. \quad (3)$$

# Simplified Description of the Al'brekht Algorithm

Generally,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_{d+1} &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_d^\top)\mathbf{v}_2 \\ &\quad - \sum_{i=3}^d \mathcal{L}_i(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_{d+2-i} + \mathbf{N}_{d+2-i})^\top \mathbf{v}_i \\ &\quad - \sum_{\substack{i,j>1 \\ i+j=d+1}} (\mathbf{k}_i^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_j^\top) \mathbf{r}_2\end{aligned}$$

# Quadratic Bilinear-Quadratic Regulator

---

# The Quadratic Bilinear-Quadratic Regulator Problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \int_0^{\infty} \ell(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) dt,$$

subject to the system dynamics

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)), \quad \mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{z}_0,$$

where now

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) \equiv \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{N}_2(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{N}_{zu}(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{N}_{uu}(\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}),$$

with  $\mathbf{N}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n^2}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}_{zu} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times nm}$  and  $\mathbf{N}_{uu} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m^2}$ .

The running cost is still quadratic in  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{u}$ :

$$\ell(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{q}_2^T (\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{r}_2^T (\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}).$$

## Equations for $\mathbf{v}_{d+1}$ in the QBQR Problem

Following the same process, we see that the systems are similar:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_3 &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{N}_{zu}(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) + \mathbf{N}_{uu}(\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1))^\top \mathbf{v}_2, \\ \mathcal{L}_4(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_4 &= -\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{N}_2 + \mathbf{N}_{zu}(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{k}_1) + \mathbf{N}_{uu}(\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1))^\top \mathbf{v}_3 \\ &\quad -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_{zu}(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{k}_2) + \mathbf{N}_{uu}(\mathbf{k}_1 \otimes \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_2 \otimes \mathbf{k}_1))^\top \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &\quad -(\mathbf{k}_2^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_2^\top)\mathbf{r}_2,\end{aligned}$$

We have the same decoupling of the  $\mathbf{v}_{d+1}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_d$  equations as in the above problems. However, the equations for  $\mathbf{k}_d$  are more complex to extract. For example, gathering  $O(z^2)$  terms has the form

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_3^\top [ &(\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n)(\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z}) + (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n)(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{z}) \\ &(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{B})(\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{I}_m)] + \text{many similar terms.}\end{aligned}$$



# Perfect Shuffle Matrices

Let  $\mathbf{S}_{pq}$  be the perfect shuffle matrix:

*Split a deck (vector) into  $p$  piles of  $q$  cards each, then recombine the deck (vector) by cyclically taking the first card from each pile.*

Interesting properties:

- if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  then  $\text{vec}(\mathbf{A}^\top) = \mathbf{S}_{nm} \text{vec}(\mathbf{A})$ .
- if  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_b \times n_b}$  and  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_c \times n_c}$ , then

$$\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{S}_{m_b m_c} (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{C}) \mathbf{S}_{n_b n_c}.$$

# Perfect Shuffle Matrices

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- if  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_b \times n_b}$  and  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_c \times n_c}$ , then

$$\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{S}_{m_b m_c} (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{C}) \mathbf{S}_{n_b n_c}.$$

Thus,

- $\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{S}_{mn} \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})$
- $\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{I}_m = \mathbf{S}_{mn^2} (\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{z})$

These are used to write equations for the feedback coefficients  $\mathbf{k}_d$  (omitting the details here).

# Software Implementation

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If you want to follow along in the software, download the following:

- KroneckerTools: <https://github.com/jborggaard/KroneckerTools>
- NLbalancing: <https://github.com/jborggaard/NLbalancing>
- PolynomialSystems: <https://github.com/jborggaard/PolynomialSystems>
- QQR: <https://github.com/jborggaard/QQR>

We'll need this software for the hands-on experiments after the break.

## Elements (under the hood)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_{d+1} &= -\mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{N}_d^\top)\mathbf{v}_2 - \sum_{i=3}^d \mathcal{L}_i(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_{d+2-i} + \mathbf{N}_{d+2-i})^\top \mathbf{v}_i \\ &\quad - \sum_{\substack{i,j>1 \\ i+j=d+1}} (\mathbf{k}_i^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_j^\top) \mathbf{r}_2\end{aligned}$$

- Linear System Solver: `KroneckerTools/src/KroneckerSumSolver.m`

*Solves systems of the form:  $\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{A}_c^\top)\mathbf{v}_{d+1} = \mathbf{b}$ .*

`[v] = KroneckerSumSolver(Ac.',b,d+1);`

- Forming the RHS: `KroneckerTools/src/LyapProduct.m`

*Performs the products:  $\mathcal{L}_i(\mathbf{M}^\top)\mathbf{v}_i$ .*

`[b] = LyapProduct(M.',v,i);`

- and  $(\mathbf{k}_i^\top \otimes \mathbf{k}_j^\top) \mathbf{r}_2 = \text{vec}(\mathbf{k}_j^\top \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{k}_i)$  ( $= \text{vec}((\mathbf{k}_i^\top \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{k}_j)^\top)$ )

Note that  $\mathbf{A}_c = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{k}_1$  is a stable matrix by construction.

We use an N-way variation of the Bartels-Stewart algorithm.

We perform a Schur decomposition on the matrix  $\mathbf{A}_c^\top = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{T}\mathbf{U}^*$ .

$$\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{A}_c^\top) = (\mathbf{U} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{U}) \mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{T}) (\mathbf{U} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{U})^*.$$

Therefore, using a change of variable  $\mathbf{U}$ , we can transform our problem to one of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{d+1}(\mathbf{T}) \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{d+1} = \tilde{\mathbf{b}},$$

where  $\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = (\mathbf{U}^* \otimes \mathbf{U}^* \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{U}^*) \mathbf{b}$ .

A special Kronecker sum system with triangular  $\mathbf{T}$  is an  $n^{d+1} \times n^{d+1}$  triangular system.

After solving for  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{d+1}$ , we compute  $\mathbf{v}_{d+1} = (\mathbf{U} \otimes \mathbf{U} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{U}) \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{d+1}$ .

- If we perform a Schur factorization of  $\mathbf{A}_c$ , we can make  $\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{A}_c)$  upper triangular. (but a direct solve would be  $\approx O(n^{2d})$  work)
- $\mathbf{A}_c$  is a stable matrix, by the above, the eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{A}_c)$  are sums of the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}_c$ . (these systems are solvable for  $\mathbf{v}_d$ )
- An n-Way version of the Bartels and Stewart algorithm has been implemented to solve these special Kronecker sum systems of equations.
- A block recursive algorithm by Chen and Kressner, which is suitable for more general Kronecker sum systems, is more efficient. (the complexity is just  $\approx O(n^{d+1})$  work)
- The assembly of the RHS can also be performed efficiently (products of  $\mathcal{L}_d \mathbf{v}_d$ )

For the change of variable:

```
[U,T] = schur(A.', 'complex');  
b = kroneckerLeft(U', b);
```

To simplify the  $n \times n$  block-backsubstitution steps:

```
X = zeros(n, n^(degree-1));  
B = reshape(b, n, n^(degree-1));
```

The diagonal blocks of  $\mathcal{L}_d(\mathbf{T})$  have the form (using  $\mathbf{T}$  for convenience):

```
diagT = 0;  
for i=2:degree  
    diagT = diagT + T(jIndex(i), jIndex(i));  
end  
Tt = T + diagT*eye(n);
```



For the current block, we extract the portion of the vector  $b$ :

```
rhs = B(:,colIdx);
```

The block-backsubstitution steps have the form:

```
rhs = rhs - X(:,jIdx)*T(jIndex(i),jRange{i}).';
```

Finally, the next  $n$  values of  $x$  are solved for

```
X(:,colIdx) = At\rhs;
```

When we are done, we reshape and apply the change of variables:

```
x = X(:);  
x = real(kroneckerLeft(U,x));
```

## Numerical Examples

---

## A Scalar Example

Minimize

$$J(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} z^2(t) + u^2(t) dt$$

subject to

$$\dot{z} = z - z^3 + u,$$

From  $z(0) = z_0 = 1$

$d$	$v^{d+1}(z_0)$	$\int_0^2 \ell(z, u) dt$
1	1.207110	0.912902
3	0.780330	0.828734
5	0.809793	0.824724
7	0.820841	0.824338

From  $z(0) = z_0 = 1.25$

$d$	$v^{d+1}(z_0)$	$\int_0^2 \ell(z, u) dt$
1	1.88610	1.27062
3	0.844169	1.15039
5	0.956561	1.05377
7	1.02242	1.04152

# Scalar Example Continued

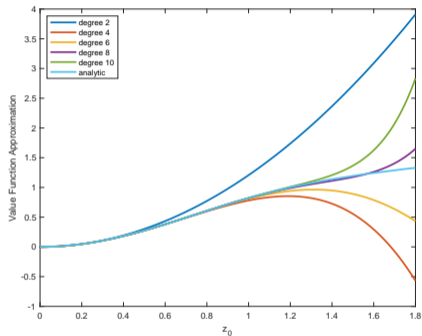


Figure 1: Value Function Approximation

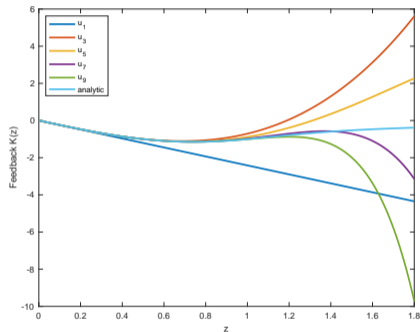
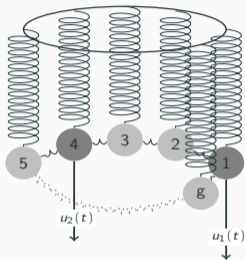


Figure 2: Feedback Approximation

# A Scalable Cubic Polynomial System

An example of a *polynomial system* is the ring of van der Pol oscillators



Specify controls  $\mathbf{u}(\cdot) \in L_2(0, \infty; \mathbb{R}^m)$  that stabilize

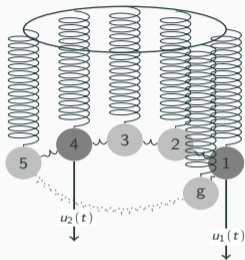
$$\ddot{y}_i + (y_i^2 - 1)\dot{y}_i + y_i = y_{i-1} - 2y_i + y_{i+1} + b_i u_i(t),$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, g$  with  $y_i(0) = y^0$  and  $\dot{y}_i(0) = 0$ .

We identify  $y_{g+1} = y_1$  and  $y_g = y_0$  to close the ring.

# A Scalable Cubic Polynomial System

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for  $i = 1, \dots, g$  with  $y_i(0) = y^0$  and  $\dot{y}_i(0) = 0$ .

We identify  $y_{g+1} = y_1$  and  $y_g = y_0$  to close the ring.

Find a control  $\mathbf{u}(\cdot)$  with  $\mathbf{u}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  that solves

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} J(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{u}) = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{z}(s)^\top \mathbf{Q}_2 \mathbf{z}(s) + \mathbf{u}(s)^\top \mathbf{R}_2 \mathbf{u}(s) ds \quad (\mathbf{Q}_2 = \mathbf{Q}_2^\top \geq 0, \mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}_2^\top > 0)$$

subject to

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)), \quad \mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{z}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (n = 2g, m < n).$$

# Cubic-Quadratic Regulator Problems

- The second-order model

$$\ddot{y}_i + (y_i^2 - 1)\dot{y}_i + y_i = y_{i-1} - 2y_i + y_{i+1} + b_i u_i(t),$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, g$  can be written as

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{N}_3\mathbf{z}^{\textcircled{3}}$$

with initial conditions set using  $y_i(0) = 0.3$  and  $\dot{y}_i(0) = 0$ .

- We identify  $y_{g+1} = y_1$  and  $y_g = y_0$  to close the ring.
- The stability of this system was studied in Nana and Woafu 2006 and a related control problem considered in Barron 2016.
- Choosing different values of  $g$  and rewriting as a first-order system of differential equations allows us to study the *cubic-quadratic* regulator problem for problems of size  $n = 2g$ .
- We set  $b_i$  as 0 or 1 with  $m = \|\mathbf{b}\|_1$ .

# Convergence of the Value Function with Increasing Degree

Experiment:  $g = 4$ ,  $b_1 = b_2 = 1$ .

**Table 1:** van der Pol: Value Function Approx.

d	$\sum_{i=2}^{d+1} v^{[i]}(\mathbf{z}_0)$	$\int_0^{50} \ell(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) dt$
1	4.6380	4.4253
2	4.6380	4.4253
3	4.4125	4.4208
4	4.4125	4.4208
5	4.4246	4.4208
6	4.4246	4.4208
7	4.4242	4.4208



# Nonlinear Feedback for the Chafee-Infante Equation

Find  $u(\cdot)$  that minimizes

$$J(z, u) = \int_0^\infty \left( \int_0^1 z^2(x, t) dx + \|u(t)\|^2 \right) dt$$

subject to

$$\dot{z}(x, t) = \nu z_{xx} + \alpha z - z^3 + \sum_{k=1}^m \chi_{[(k-1)/m, k/m)}(x) u_k(t)$$

$$z(x, 0) = 1.25 \cos(3\pi x) \in H^1(0, 1), \quad z_x(0, t) = 0 = z_x(1, t),$$

The zero solution is unstable when  $\alpha > 4\pi^2\nu$ .

Discretize with 20 linear FE ( $n = 21$ ),  $m = 10$ , and consider a range of values of  $\alpha$  and  $\nu$ .

Approximate the cubic-quadratic regulator to compute the control.

**Table 2:** Chafee-Infante Value Function: Source Control

$d + 1$	$\sum_{i=2}^{d+1} v^{[i]}(\mathbf{z}_0)$	$\int_0^T \ell(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) dt$
$\nu = 1, \alpha = 100$		
2	160.3403039	167.6456054
4	167.1904854	167.2009756
6	167.2013401	167.2009701
$\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$		
2	16.4303086	36.6666702
4	23.1192400	23.2573375
6	23.3103412	23.2549197
$\nu = 0.01, \alpha = 1$		
2	3.4886482	diverged
4	7.9363494	10.0721129
6	11.0884438	9.7386884

# Closed-loop Simulations, $\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$ Case

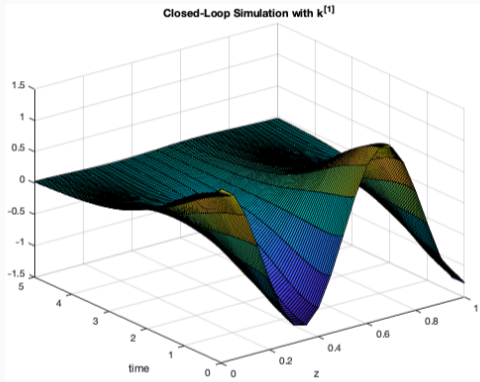


Figure 3: Linear Feedback

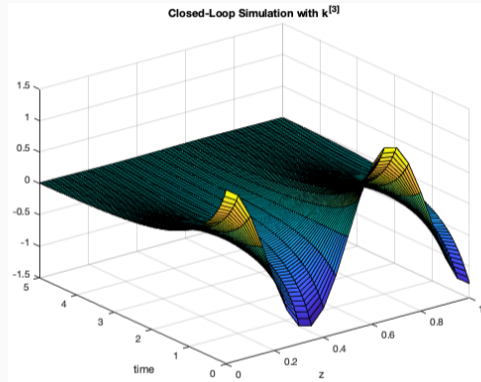
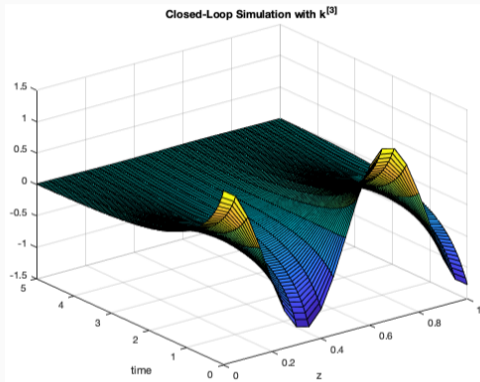
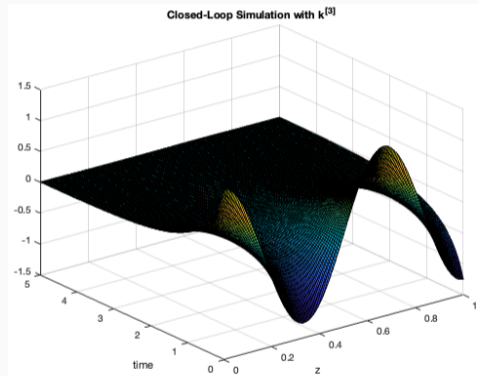


Figure 4: Cubic Feedback

# Closed-loop Simulations, $\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$ Case



**Figure 5:** Cubic Feedback,  $n = 20$



**Figure 6:** Cubic Feedback,  $n = 200$

**Table 3:** Chafee-Infante Value Function: Neumann Control

$d + 1$	$\sum_{i=2}^{d+1} v^{[i]}(\mathbf{z}_0)$	$\int_0^T \ell(\mathbf{z}(t), \mathbf{u}(t)) dt$
$\nu = 1, \alpha = 100$		
2	5.5621284	6.2714968
4	6.1631359	6.2076474
6	6.2054292	6.2073693
$\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$		
2	1.1756343	diverges
4	1.8783304	2.9177025
6	2.2771905	2.5498542

# Closed-loop Simulations, $\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$ Case

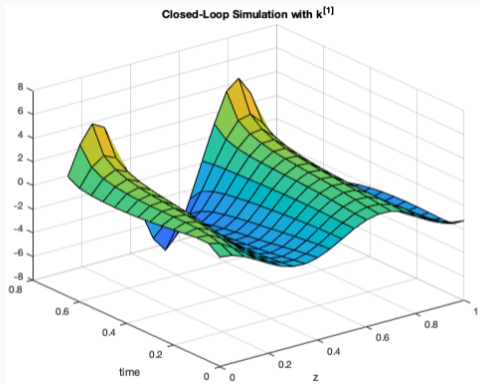


Figure 7: Linear Feedback

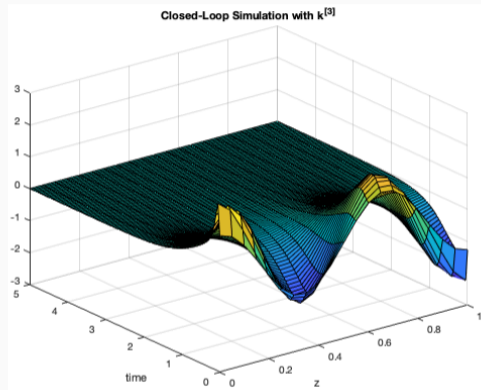


Figure 8: Cubic Feedback

# Closed-loop Simulations, $\nu = 0.1, \alpha = 10$ Case

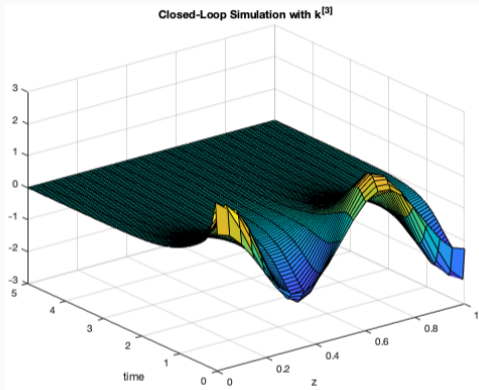


Figure 9: Cubic Feedback

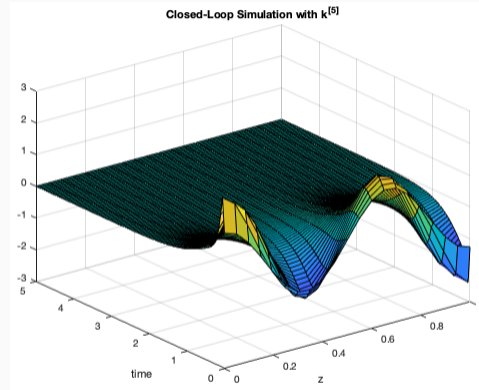


Figure 10: Quintic Feedback

## Future Work

- Test on a flow control problem
- DAEs
- Look at other polynomial representations (SoS, tensor).
- Show convergence in PDE setting.



Borggaard and Zietsman, *The Quadratic-Quadratic Regulator problem: Approximating feedback controls for quadratic-in-state nonlinear systems*, arXiv: 1910.03396 (2020 American Control Conference).

Borggaard and Zietsman, *On approximating Polynomial-Quadratic Regulator problems*, arXiv: 2009.11068 (IFAC Papers Online, 54(9), 329–334 (2021)).

<https://github.com/jborggaard/QQR>

Chen and Kressner, *Recursive blocked algorithms for linear systems with Kronecker product structure*, Numerical Algorithms, v. 84, 1199–1216 (2020), arXiv: 1905.09539.

Lunasin and Titi, *Finite determining parameters feedback control for distributed nonlinear dissipative systems—A computational study*, arXiv: 1506.03709v2.

# Hands-on Experiments

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# Software Installation

At <https://github.com/jborggaard>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for `jborggaard/QQR`. The repository is public. The navigation bar includes links for Code, Issues, Pull requests, Discussions, Actions, and Projects. The repository name is `main` with 1 branch and 2 tags. A dropdown menu is open over the `Code` button, showing options to clone the repository. The `Clone` option is selected, and the `HTTPS` method is chosen. The URL `https://github.com/jborggaard/QQR.git` is displayed in a text box. Below the text box, there is a note: "Use Git or checkout with SVN using the web URL." Other options in the dropdown include "Open with GitHub Desktop" and "Download ZIP".

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Code Issues Pull requests Discussions Actions Projects

main 1 branch 2 tags Go to file Add file Code

Jeff Borggaard refactoring

- docs adding
- examples refactor
- testScripts added
- .gitignore chang
- KnownIssues exam
- LICENSE chang
- README.md update

Local Codespaces

Clone ?

HTTPS SSH GitHub CLI

`https://github.com/jborggaard/QQR.git`

Use Git or checkout with SVN using the web URL.

Open with GitHub Desktop

Download ZIP

## Software Installation (continued)

1. Download KroneckerTools, NLbalancing, QQR, and PolynomialSystems
2. Open MATLAB
  - Navigate to NLbalancing
    - Edit `setKroneckerToolsPath.m`
  - Navigate to PolynomialSystems
    - Edit `setPaths.m`
  - Navigate to QQR
    - Edit `setKroneckerToolsPath.m`
    - Edit `setPolynomialSystemsPath.m`

## Convenience Functions in KroneckerTools

- `[Y] = kroneckerLeft(M,B)`  
Applies  $Y = (M \otimes M \otimes \dots \otimes M)B$  and was used to perform the change of variables.
- `[zd] = KroneckerPower(z,d)`  
Computes  $z^{\textcircled{d}}$ .
- `[c] = kronMonomialSymmetrize(c,n,d);`  
Symmetrizes monomial coefficients that multiply  $z^{\textcircled{d}}$  ( $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ).
- `[Ns] = kronMatrixSymmetrize(N,n,d);`  
Same as above, but for  $\mathbf{N}_2, \mathbf{N}_3$ , etc.
- `[Ns] = kronNxuSymmetrize(Nxu,n,d);`  
Same as above, but when multiplying  $z^{\textcircled{d}} \otimes \mathbf{u}$ .
- `[u] = kronPolyEval(k,z,d);`  
evaluates a polynomial in Kronecker form with coefficients  $k$ .  
$$u = k\{1\}*z + k\{2\}*kron(z,z) + \dots + k\{d\}*kron(kron(\dots z),z),z)$$

- `[S] = perfectShuffle(p,q)`

Calculates the (sparse) perfect shuffle matrix.

```
A = rand(m1,n1); B = rand(m2,n2);  
Smm = perfectShuffle(m1,m2); Snn = perfectShuffle(n1,n2);  
norm(kron(A,B) - Smm.'*kron(B,A)*Snn)           % should be zero  
  
vec = @(x) x(:);                                % create a convenience function  
S = perfectShuffle(m1,n1);  
norm(S.'*vec(A) - vec(A.'))                     % should be zero
```

## Convenience Functions in KroneckerTools

- `[A,B,Nzz,Nzu] = kronPolyApprox(f,g,n,m,d);`

Given a (nice) system of the form  $\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z})u$ , where  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{g} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  then `kronPolyApprox` uses the symbolic toolbox to provide a polynomial approximation in the desired Kronecker product form.

E.g.

```
f = @(z) [z(1)^2; z(1)*z(2)]; g = @(z) [1+z(1) 2+z(2);3+z(2) 4+z(1)];
```

then `[A,B,Nzz,Nzu] = kronPolyApprox(f,g,2,2,2)` gives matrices A and B and the expected cell arrays, e.g.

```
>> Nzz{2}
ans =
    1.0000         0         0         0
         0    0.5000    0.5000         0
```

The QQR repository has two primary functions: `pqr` and `pqrBilinear`.

The `pqr` function has the following function call.

$$[k, v] = \text{pqr}(A, B, Q, R, N, \text{degree})$$

where `N` is a cell array from `N{2}` through `N{d}` of sizes  $n \times n^2$  through  $n \times n^d$ , respectively.

The outputs are cell arrays of the feedback coefficients `k` and coefficients of the value function approximation `v`.



The `pqrBilinear` function has the following function call.

```
[k,v] = pqrBilinear(A,B,Q,R,Nzz,Nzu,Nuu,degree)
```

where `Nzz` is a cell array from `Nzz{2}` through `Nzz{d}` of sizes  $n \times n^2$  through  $n \times n^d$ , `Nzu` contains a cell array from `Nzu{1}` through `Nzu{q-1}` of sizes  $n \times nm$  through  $n \times n^{q-1}m$ , and `Nuu` is a single matrix of size  $n \times m^2$ .

The outputs are cell arrays of the feedback coefficients `k` and coefficients of the value function approximation `v`.

Currently, we require `degree < 6`

## Feedback Control of a Bilinear Chemical Reaction Model

This model is described in *An iterative method for the finite-time bilinear-quadratic control problem*, by Hofer and Tibken, J Optimization Theory and Applications, 57(3), 1988.

Their model, on p. 423 includes temperature ( $z_1$ ) and concentration ( $z_2$ ) and is

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \begin{bmatrix} 13/6 & 5/12 \\ -50/3 & -8/3 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{z} + \begin{bmatrix} -1/8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u + \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{z} \otimes u.$$

They perform design to minimize the LQR cost for  $\mathbf{Q} = 10\mathbf{I}_2$  and  $R = 1$ . Simulations from  $\mathbf{z}_0 = [0.15, 0]^\top$  are reported in their paper.

Let's reproduce this for the infinite horizon case here.

# Feedback Control of a Bilinear Chemical Reaction Model

Define the problem

```
>> A = [13/6 5/12; -50/3 -8/3]; B = [-1/8; 0];  
>> Nzz{2} = zeros(2,4); Nzu{1} = [-1 0; 0 0];  
>> Nu = zeros(2,1);  
>> Q = 10*eye(2);  
>> R = 1;
```

Solve the problem

```
>> setPaths  
>> [k,v] = pqrBilinear(A,B,Q,R,Nzz,Nzu,Nu,3);  
>> u = @(z) kronPolyEval(k,z);  
>> rhs = @(t,z) A*z + B*u(z) + Nzu{1}*kron(z,u(z));  
>> [T,Z] = ode23(rhs,[0 3],[.15;0]);  
>> plot(T,Z(:,1))
```

# Feedback Control of a Bilinear Chemical Reaction Model

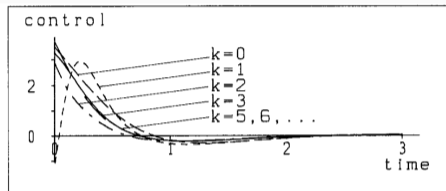
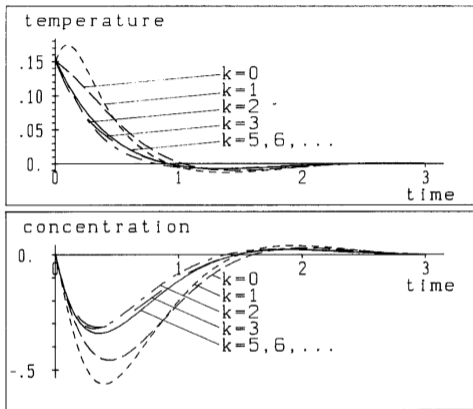
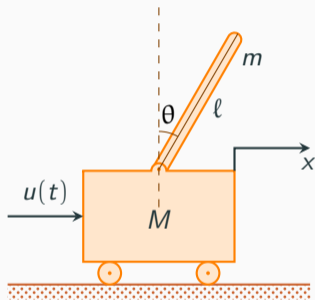


Fig. 4. Profiles for temperature, concentration, and control for  $x^0 = (0.15, 0)^T$ .

Compare your solution to the final iteration reported in the Hofer and Tibken paper (they are solving the finite horizon problem with large final cost at  $t = 3$  and we are solving the infinite horizon problem).

# Feedback Control for Cart-Pole System

This is a classic problem in control (see Barto, Sutton, and Anderson, 1983).



Assuming no friction, the equations of motion can be written as

$$\dot{z} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} z_2 \\ r\ell z_4^2 \sin(z_3) - \frac{r \cos(z_3)(g \sin(z_3) - \ell r z_4^2 \sin(2z_3)/2)}{(4/3 - r \cos^2(z_3))} \\ z_4 \\ \frac{g \sin(z_3) - \ell r z_4^2 \sin(2z_3)/2}{\ell(4/3 - r \cos^2(z_3))} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{f}(z)} + \mathbf{g}(z)u$$

where  $z_1 = x$ ,  $z_3 = \theta$ , and  $r = \frac{m}{m+M}$ .

modified from latexdraw.com

## Feedback Control for Cart-Pole System

We first create an approximate polynomial model for the system

```
[A,B,Nzz,Nzu] = cartpolePolynomial(m,M,L,g);
```

This function has been setup to provide a degree 5 approximation for  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$  and a degree 2 approximation for  $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z})$ .

We then define the state and control weights  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$ .

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The feedback laws are defined using either

```
[K,V] = lqr(A,B,Q,R);
```

or

```
[k,v] = pqrBilinear(A,B,Q,R,Nzz,Nzu,zeros(4,1),3);
```

## Feedback Control for Cart-Pole System

We can evaluate the effectiveness of different feedback controls from various initial conditions by defining the control and using one of the built-in Matlab adaptive ODE solvers.

For instance, if functions  $f = @(z) \dots$  and  $g = @(z) \dots$  for the state equation and  $u = @(z) \dots$  for the feedback law are defined, then we could define  $\text{rhs} = @(t,z) f(z) + g(z)*u(z)$  and use

```
[T,Z] = ode45(rhs,[0 tFinal],z0);
```

The ODE solver can be leveraged to estimate the quadratic control cost by adding an additional state:

```
rhs = @(t,z) [f(z(1:n)) + g(z(1:n))*u(z(1:n)); ...  
             z(1:n).'*Q*z(1:n) + u(z(1:n)).'*R*u(z(1:n))];
```

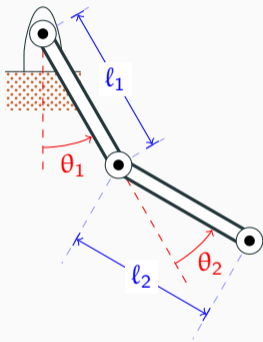
Then using  $[T,Z] = \text{ode45}(\text{rhs},[0 \text{ tFinal}], [z0;0]);$  results in  $Z(\text{end},\text{end})$  being our approximation to the value function.



# Feedback Control for Cart-Pole System

Try different feedback laws and different starting points in the script `cartpoleScript.m` located in the `PolynomialSystems` folder.

## Another Example: The Acrobot



modified from texample.net

This model is from *Underactuated robotics*, Russ Tedrake, 2023 and has the form

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} = \tau_g(q) + Bu$$

where

$$M(q) = \begin{bmatrix} l_1 + l_2 + m_2 l_1^2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \cos(\theta_2) & l_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \cos(\theta_2)/2 \\ l_2 + m_2 l_1 l_2 \cos(\theta_2)/2 & l_2 \end{bmatrix},$$
$$C(q, \dot{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} -m_2 l_1 l_2 \sin(\theta_2) \dot{\theta}_2 & -m_2 l_1 l_2 \sin(\theta_2) \dot{\theta}_2 / 2 \\ m_2 l_1 l_2 \sin(\theta_2) \dot{\theta}_1 / 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$
$$\tau_g(q) = \begin{bmatrix} -m_1 g l_1 \sin(\theta_1) / 2 - m_2 g (l_1 \sin(\theta_1) + l_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) / 2) \\ -m_2 g l_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) / 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The actuation is a torque applied at the joint between links 1 and 2.

The system has 4 equilibrium points (3 are unstable).

Similarly, there is a script that builds the polynomial system for this model of the form

$$\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{N}_{zz}\{3\}\mathbf{z}^{\otimes 3} + \mathbf{N}_{zu}\{2\}(\mathbf{z}^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathbf{u}(t))$$

where the polynomial system can be linearized about any of the equilibrium points:

```
[A,B,Nzz,Nzu] = acrobotPolynomial(ze,parameters);
```

Since the equilibrium point is not necessarily  $\mathbf{0}$ , when we apply feedback on the full model, the control has the form  $\mathbf{u} = \text{@}(z) \text{ kronPolyEval}(k, z(1:4) - z_e)$ ;

The script `acrobotScript` has suggestions for the initial conditions that are within the stability region for the closed-loop equations.

Test this out for several initial conditions and equilibrium points.

- In a number of examples, higher degree feedback expanded the radius of convergence for the closed-loop system. Sometime, it only improves the quality of the feedback law very locally.
- This enables higher degree feedback computation in many mathematical models of interest, including flow control problems using ROMs.

## Overview of NLbalancing

Functions in the NLbalancing repository are available for polynomial approximations to past and future energy functions, respectively

$$\mathcal{E}_{\gamma}^{-}(\mathbf{z}) \approx \mathbf{v}_2^{\top} \mathbf{z}^{(2)} + \dots + \mathbf{v}_d^{\top} \mathbf{z}^{(d)}$$

and

$$\mathcal{E}_{\gamma}^{+}(\mathbf{z}) \approx \mathbf{w}_2^{\top} \mathbf{z}^{(2)} + \dots + \mathbf{w}_d^{\top} \mathbf{z}^{(d)}.$$

These are used as follows

```
[v] = approxPastEnergy(A,N,B,C,eta,d);
```

and

```
[w] = approxFutureEnergy(A,N,B,C,eta,d);
```

## Overview of NLbalancing

A polynomial approximation to the input-normal transformation is computed using

```
[sigma,T] = inputNormalTransformation(v,w,degree);
```

and finally, the approximation to the singular value functions is

```
[c] = approximateSingularValueFunctions(T,w,sigma,maxDegree-1);
```