Adaptive Control of Linearizable Systems

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Abstract—In this paper we give some initial results on the adaptive control of "minimum-phase" nonlinear systems which are exactly input-output linearizable by state feedback. Parameter adaptation is used as a technique to robustify the exact cancellation of nonlinear terms, which is called for in the linear state feedback case. Only the continuous-time case is discussed in this paper; extensions to the discrete-time and sampled-data case are not obvious.

I. INTRODUCTION

It is well known that, under rather mild assumptions, the input-output response of a nonlinear system can be rendered linear by means of state feedback. This was implicitly or explicitly pointed out in several papers dealing with the study of noninteracting control of nonlinear systems, like those of Porter [22], Singh and Rugh [16], Freudig and Isidori [17], and Isidori, Krener, Gori-Giorgi, and Monaco [18]. Independently, a substantially identical synthesis technique was successfully implemented in some relevant practical applications, like the control of flight dynamics (Meyer and Cicoli [10]) and the control of rigid-link robot manipulators via the so-called "computed torque" method, to mention a few. Parallel to these developments, beginning with the work of Brockett [23], several authors studied the problem of when the differential equation relating the input to the state can be rendered linear via state feedback and coordinates transformation. The problem was completely solved by Jakubczyk and Respondek [24] and, independently, by Hunt, Su, and Meyer [25]. The former design technique is often referred to as exact input-output linearization, while the latter one as exact state-space linearization. The bridge between the two techniques lies in the fact that the design of a state-space linearizing control is equivalent to the design of "output" functions for which input-output linearization is possible. The theory is now well developed and understood (see, for instance, expository surveys in Isidori [26], Isidori [8], and Claude [4] for the continuous-time case. For the discrete-time and sampled-data versions of the theory, see Monaco and Normand-Cyrot [11], Monaco, Normand-Cyrot, and Stornelli [12], and Jakubczyk [27]. The class of systems is described (in the continuous-time case) by

\[ x = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{p} g_i(x) u_i \]

\[ y_1 = h_1(x) \]

\[ \vdots \]

\[ y_p = h_p(x) \]

with \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), \( u \in \mathbb{R}^p \), and \( f, g_i, h_j \) smooth functions.

A number of applications of these techniques have been made: their chief drawback, however, appears to arise from the fact that they rely on an exact cancellation of nonlinear terms in order to get near input-output behavior. Consequently, if there are errors or uncertainty in the model of the nonlinear terms, the cancellation is no longer exact. In this paper we suggest the use of parameter adaptive control to help robustify, i.e., make asymptotically exact the cancellation of nonlinear terms when the uncertainty in the nonlinear terms is parametric. Some other attempts in this regard have been made by Marino and Nicosia [14] and Nicosia and Tomei [15], using a combination of high gain, sliding modes, and adaptation. Some previous work in this spirit is in Nam and Arapostathis [13]. Our development is, we believe, considerably more general and straightforward than theirs (specifically, no error augmentation and stronger stability theorems) and was in turn motivated by our work in the adaptive control of a specific class of linearizable systems—rigid link robot manipulators (see Craig, Hsu, and Sarts [5] for details, including implementation of the scheme on an industrial robot arm).

We would also like to mention the work done in parallel by Taylor, Kokotovic, and Marino [20] on the adaptive control of fully-state linearizable single-input, single-output systems. While our scheme specializes to their scheme in the instance that the system is state (rather than input-output) linearizable, their paper also considers the effect of parasitic dynamics on the adaptation scheme. Taylor, Kokotovic, and Marino prove the robustness of their scheme to parasitics; we have, however, not undertaken such a study here.

The paper is organized as follows: we give a brief review of input-output linearization theory for continuous-time systems along with the concept of a minimum-phase nonlinear system as developed in Byrnes and Isidori [3] in Section II. We discuss the adaptive version of this control strategy in Section III along with its applications to the adaptive control of robot manipulators. In Section IV, we collect a few comments about the discrete-time and sampled-data cases along with some future directions.

II. REVIEW OF EXACT LINEARIZATION TECHNIQUES

A. Basic Theory

A large class of nonlinear control systems can be made to have linear input-output behavior through a choice of nonlinear state feedback control laws. We review the theory here in order to fix notation. Consider the single-input, single-output system

\[ x = f(x) + g(x) u \]

\[ y = h(x) \]

(2.1)

with \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), \( f, g, h \) smooth. Differentiating \( y \) with respect to time, one obtains

\[ y = L_y h + L_u h u. \]

(2.2)

Here, \( L_y h, L_u h \) stand for the Lie derivatives of \( h \) w.r.t. \( f, g \), respectively. If \( (L_y h)(x) \neq 0 \) for \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), then the control law of the form \( u(x) = g(x) v \), namely

\[ u = \frac{1}{L_u h} (L_y h + v) \]
yields the linear system
\[ y = u. \]  
(2.3)

In the instance that \( L_j h(x) = 0 \), one differentiates (2.2) further to obtain
\[ \dot{y} = L_j^\gamma h + (L_j L_j) u. \]  
(2.4)

In (2.4) above, \( L_j^\gamma h \) stands for \( L_j (L_j h) \) and \( L_j L_j h \) stands for \( L_j (L_j h) \). As before, if \( L_j L_j h \neq 0 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), the law
\[ u = \frac{1}{L_j L_j h} (-L_j^\gamma h + v) \]
linearizes the system (2.4) to yield
\[ \dot{y} = v. \]

More generally, if \( \gamma \) is the smallest integer such that \( L_j L_j^\gamma h = 0 \) for \( i = 0, \cdots, \gamma - 2 \) and \( L_j L_j^\gamma h(x) \neq 0 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), then the control law
\[ u = \frac{1}{L_j L_j^\gamma h} (-L_j^\gamma h + v) \]  
(2.5)
yields
\[ y^{(\gamma)} = v. \]  
(2.6)

The theory is considerably more complicated if \( L_j L_j^\gamma h = 0 \) for some values of \( x \). We do not discuss this case here. For the multi-input, multioutput case, consider the \( p \)-input, \( p \)-output nonlinear system of the form
\[ \begin{align*}
\dot{x} & = f(x) + g_1(x) u_1 + \cdots + g_p(x) u_p \\
y_1 & = h_1(x) \\
& \vdots \\
y_p & = h_p(x).
\end{align*} \]  
(2.7)

Here \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \), \( u \in \mathbb{R}^p \), \( y \in \mathbb{R}^p \), and \( f, g, h \) are assumed smooth. Now, differentiate the outputs \( y_j \) with respect to time to get
\[ y_j = L_j h_j + \sum_{i=1}^p (L_j h_i) u_i. \]  
(2.8)

In (2.8) \( L_j h_j \) stands for the Lie derivative of \( h_j \) with respect to \( f_j \); similarly \( L_j h_i \). Note that if each of the \( (L_j h_i(x)) = 0 \), then the inputs do not appear in (2.8). Define \( \gamma_j \) to be the smallest integer such that at least one of the inputs appears in \( y_j^{(\gamma_j)} \), i.e.,
\[ y_j^{(\gamma_j)} = L_j^{\gamma_j} h_j + \sum_{i=1}^p (L_j L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_i) u_i \]  
(2.9)

with at least one of the \( L_j L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_i \) \( \neq 0 \ \forall x \). Define the \( p \times p \) matrix \( A(x) \) as
\[ A(x) = \begin{bmatrix} L_1(L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_1) & \cdots & L_p(L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_1) \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
L_1(L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_p) & \cdots & L_p(L_j^{\gamma_j - 1} h_p) \end{bmatrix}. \]  
(2.10)

Then equations (2.9) may be written as
\[ \begin{bmatrix} y_1^{(\gamma_j)} \\
y_2^{(\gamma_j)} \\
\vdots \\
y_p^{(\gamma_j)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_j^{\gamma_j} h_1 \\
\vdots \\
L_j^{\gamma_j} h_p \end{bmatrix} + A(x) \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\
\vdots \\
u_p \end{bmatrix}. \]  
(2.11)

If \( A(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p} \) is bounded away from singularity, the state feedback control law
\[ u = -A(x)^{-1} y \]  
(2.12)
yields the closed-loop decoupled, linear system
\[ \begin{bmatrix} y_1^{(\gamma_j)} \\
y_2^{(\gamma_j)} \\
\vdots \\
y_p^{(\gamma_j)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\
\vdots \\
u_p \end{bmatrix}. \]  
(2.13)

Once linearization has been achieved, any further control objective such as model matching, pole placement, tracking may be easily met. The feedback law (2.12) is referred to as a static-state feedback linearizing control law.

If \( A(x) \) defined in (2.10) is singular, linearization may still be achieved using dynamic state feedback. The development may be followed by using integrators before some of the inputs; exact conditions under which linearization may be achieved by dynamic state feedback are given, for instance, in Descusse and Moog [6].

**B. Minimum-Phase Nonlinear Systems**

We briefly review the definitions of minimum-phase nonlinear systems due to Byrnes and Isidori [3].

1) The Single-Input, Single-Output Case: The theory is much simpler for the single-input, single-output case. We recall the following definition:

**Definition:** The system (2.1) is said to have strong relative degree \( \gamma \) if
\[ L_j h(x) = L_j L_j h(x) = \cdots = L_j L_j^{\gamma-1} h(x) = 0 \]
and
\[ L_j L_j^\gamma h(x) \neq 0 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \]

Thus, the system (2.1) is said to have strong relative degree \( \gamma \) if at each \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \) the output \( y \) needs to be differentiated \( \gamma \) times before terms involving the input appear on the right-hand side as in (2.5) and (2.6) above.

If a system has strong relative degree \( \gamma \), it is easy to verify that at each \( x^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \) there exists a neighborhood \( U^0 \) of \( x^0 \) such that the mapping
\[ T : U^0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \]
defined as
\[ \begin{align*}
T_1(x) & = z_1 = h(x) \\
& \vdots \\
T_p(x) & = z_p = L_j h(x) \\
T_{\gamma}(x) & = z_{\gamma} = L_j^{\gamma-1} h(x)
\end{align*} \]
with
\[ dT_i(x) g(x) = 0 \quad \text{for } i = \gamma + 1, \cdots, p \]
is a diffeomorphism onto its image. If we set \( z_2 = (T_{\gamma+1}(x), \cdots, T_{\gamma+p}(x)) \), it follows that the equations (2.1) may be written in the normal form as
\[ z_{i+1} = z_i \\
\vdots \\
\dot{z}_{\gamma+1} = z_\gamma \\
\dot{z}_1 = f(z_1, z_2) + g_1(z_1, z_2) \]  
(2.20)
\[ y = z_1. \quad (2.21) \]

In (2.20) \( f(z_1, z_2) \) represents \( L_f h(x) \) and \( g(z_1, z_2) \) represents \( L_g L_f^{-1} h(x) \). Now if \( x = 0 \) is an equilibrium point of the undriven system (i.e., \( f(0) = 0 \)) and \( h(0) = 0 \), then the dynamics

\[ z_2 = \dot{\psi}(0, z_2) \quad (2.22) \]

are referred to as the zero-dynamics.

**Remark:** The dynamics are referred to as the zero dynamics since they are the dynamics which are made unobservable by state feedback. It might help the reader to note that the linearizing state feedback law is the nonlinear equivalent of placing some of the closed-loop poles at the zeros of the system, thereby rendering them unobservable.

Note that the subset

\[ L = \{ x \in U^0 : h(x) = L_f h(x) = \cdots = L_f^{\frac{1}{2}} h(x) = 0 \} \]

\[ = \{ x \in U : z_2 = 0 \} \]

can be made invariant by choosing

\[ u = -\frac{1}{g(z_1, z_2)} (f(z_1, z_2) + \nu). \quad (2.23) \]

The dynamics of (2.22) are the dynamics on this subspace. The nonlinear system (2.1) is said to be minimum phase if the zero-dynamics are asymptotically stable.

**Remark:** Note that the previous analysis identifies the normal form (2.20), (2.21) and the zero-dynamics (2.22) only locally, around any point \( x^0 \) of \( \mathbb{R}^n \). Recent work of Byrnes and Isidori [29] has identified sufficient conditions for the existence of a globally defined normal form. They have shown that a global version of the notion of zero dynamics is that of a dynamical system evolving on the smooth submanifold of \( \mathbb{R}^n \)

\[ L = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : h(x) = L_f h(x) = \cdots = L_f^{\frac{1}{2}} h(x) = 0 \} \]

and hereby defined by the vector field

\[ f(x) = f(x) - L_f h(x) \]

\( L_g L_f^{-1} h(x) g(x) \quad x \in L \)

(note that this is a vector field of \( L \) because \( f(x) \) is tangent to \( L \).)

If \( L \) is connected and the zero-dynamics is globally asymptotically stable (i.e., if the system is globally minimum-phase, then the normal forms are globally defined if the vector fields

\[ g(x), ad f g(x), \ldots, ad f^{n-1} g(x) \]

are complete, where

\[ g(x) = \frac{1}{L_g L_f^{-1} h(x)} g(x), \quad f(x) = f(x) - L_f h(x) \]

\( L_g L_f^{-1} h(x) g(x) \). Note that this condition can be guaranteed by requiring that the vector fields in question are globally Lipschitz continuous, for example. In this paper we systematically assume global minimum-phase property and the existence of globally defined normal forms.

An interesting application of the notion of normal form and minimum-phase property is the following one. Assume the control \( u \) in (2.23) is chosen so that \( y(t) \) tracks \( y_M(t) \), i.e.,

\[ \gamma = y(t) + \alpha_1 (y_M^{(n-1)} - y(t)^{(n-1)}) + \cdots + \alpha_n (y_M - y) \quad (2.24) \]

with \( \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n \) chosen so that \( \gamma^2 + \alpha_1 \gamma^{2n-1} + \cdots + \alpha_n \gamma^{2n-1} + \alpha_n (y_M - y) \) is a Hurwitz polynomial. It is easy to see that this control results in asymptotic tracking and bounded state \( z_1 \) (or equivalently \( y, y, \ldots, y^{(n-1)} \) provided \( y_M, y_M, \ldots, y_M^{(n-1)} \) are bounded.

**Proposition 2.1** (Bounded Tracking in Minimum-Phase Systems): Assume that the zero dynamics of the nonlinear system (2.1) or equivalently (2.20), (2.21) as defined in (2.22) are exponentially-stable. Further assume that \( \psi(z_1, z_2) \) in (2.20) is Lipschitz in \( z_1, z_2 \). Then the control law (2.24) results in bounded tracking (i.e., \( x \in U^0 \) bounded and \( y(t) \to y_M(t) \)), provided that \( y, y, \ldots, y^{(n-1)} \) are bounded.

**Proof:** From the foregoing discussion it only remains to show that \( z_2 \) is bounded. We accomplish this using a converse theorem of Lyapunov (see Hahn [7]). This proof technique has also been used in Bodson and Sastry [2].

First since (2.25) is exponentially stable and \( \psi \) is Lipschitz in \( z_2 \), a converse Lyapunov theorem implies that \( V(z_2) \) such that

\[ \alpha_1 |z_2|^2 \leq V(z_2) \leq \alpha_2 |z_2|^2 \]

\[ \frac{dV}{dz_2} \psi(0, z_2) \leq -\alpha_1 |z_2|^2 \]

\[ \left| \frac{dV}{dz_2} \right| \leq \alpha_3 |z_2|. \quad (2.25) \]

Now the control law (2.24) yields bounded \( z_1 \), i.e.,

\[ |z_1(t)| \leq K \quad \forall t. \quad (2.26) \]

Using (2.25) in (2.20) yields

\[ \dot{V}(t) = \frac{dV}{dz_2} \psi(z_1, z_2) \leq -\alpha_1 |z_2|^2 + \frac{dV}{dz_2} \psi(0, z_2) - \psi(0, z_2) \]

\[ \leq -\alpha_1 |z_2|^2 + \alpha_3 K L |z_2| \]

\[ \quad (2.27) \]

with \( L \) representing the Lipschitz constant of \( \psi(z_1, z_2) \) w.r.t. \( z_1 \). It is now easy to see that

\[ \dot{V} \leq 0 \quad \text{for } |z_2| \geq \frac{\alpha_3 K L}{\alpha_3} \]

Using this along with the bounds (2.25) it is easy to establish that \( z_2 \) is bounded.

**Remarks:**

1) Proposition 2.1 establishes that a bounded input to the exponentially stable, unobservable dynamics yields a bounded state trajectory \( z_2 \).

2) The hypothesis of Proposition 2.1 calls for a strong form of stability—exponential stability; in fact, counterexamples to the Proposition exist if the zero-dynamics are not exponentially stable, for example, if some of the eigenvalues of \( \partial / \partial z_2 \psi(0, z_2) \) lie on the \( j \omega \)-axis.

3) The hypotheses of Proposition 2.1 can, however, be weakened substantially by requiring only that all trajectories of (2.22) are eventually attracted to a compact set, for instance, by requiring that

\[ z_2^2 \dot{\psi}(0, z_2) \leq -\alpha |z_2|^2 \quad \text{for } |z_2| \geq R. \quad (2.28) \]

Condition (2.28) can be thought of as being an attractivity condition—a simple contradiction argument involving

\[ \frac{d}{dt} \quad |z_2|^2 \leq z_2^2 \dot{\psi}(0, z_2) \]

should convince the reader that (2.28) guarantees that all trajectories of (2.22) eventually enter a ball of radius \( R \). With condition (2.28) replacing the exponential stability hypotheses of Proposition 2.1 and the Lipschitz dependencies as before, we see that the proof goes through. Condition (2.28) itself can be restated in a form reminiscent of (2.28) involving a more general
Lyapunov function $V(z_i)$ with the weakening that

$$\frac{dV}{dz_2} \psi(0, z_2) \leq -\alpha |z_2|^2 \quad \text{only for } |z_2| \geq R. \quad (2.29)$$

Thus, bounded tracking only requires that the conditions (2.25) only hold outside a ball of radius $R$. We refer to this condition as exponential boundedness of the zero dynamics.

2) The Multiinput, Multiooutput Case: Definitions of minimum phase for the square multinput, multiooutput nonlinear systems parallel the development on the SISO case above only if the matrix $A(x)$ defined in (2.10) is nonsingular for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. In this case, locally around any point $x_0$ of $\mathbb{R}^n$, a diffeomorphism $(z_1, z_2) = T(x)$ can be defined, with

$$z_1 = (h_1, L h_1, \cdots, L^{n-1} h_1, h_2, \cdots, L^{n-1} h_2, \cdots, h_p, \cdots, L^{n-1} h_p).$$

In these coordinates the equations (2.1) read

$$\begin{align*}
\dot{z}_1 &= z_{12} \\
\dot{z}_{11} &= f_1(z_1, z_2) + g_1(z_1, z_2) u \\
\dot{z}_{1i} &= z_{1i+1} \\
\dot{z}_{1m} &= f_m(z_1, z_2) + g_m(z_1, z_2) u \\
\dot{z}_2 &= \psi_1(z_1, z_2) + \psi_2(z_1, z_2) u \\
y_1 &= z_{11} \\
y_2 &= z_{1i+1} \\
\vdots \\
y_m &= z_{1m-\gamma p+1}.
\end{align*} \tag{2.30}$$

In (2.28) $f_i(z_1, z_2)$ stands for $L^j h_i(x)$, $g_i(z_1, z_2)$ for the first row of $A(x)$, $\cdots$ in the $(z_1, z_2)$ coordinates. Note that the $z_2$ variables are driven by the input. Consequently, a change is needed in the definition of zero-dynamics. Let $u^*(z_1, z_2)$ be the linearizing control, i.e.,

$$u^*(z_1, z_2) = -\left[ \begin{array}{c} g_1(z_1, z_2) \\
\vdots \\
g_m(z_1, z_2) \\
\end{array} \right]^{-1} \left[ \begin{array}{c} f_1(z_1, z_2) \\
\vdots \\
f_m(z_1, z_2) \\
\end{array} \right]. \tag{2.32}$$

Using this control in the equations for $z_2$ and assuming as before that $0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the equilibrium point of the undriven system (i.e., $f(0) = 0$) and $h_i(0) = \cdots = h_m(0) = 0$, we see that the subspace $\{0, z_2 \} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is an invariant subspace and the zero dynamics are the dynamics of

$$\begin{align*}
\dot{z}_2 &= \psi(z_1, z_2) u^*(0, z_2) \\
\end{align*} \tag{2.33}$$

If $A(x)$ is singular, the definition of zero dynamics is more subtle. As a matter of fact, there are different and nonequivalent ways to extend the concept of "transmission zero," as pointed out in Isidori and Moog [9], depending on which linear definition one chooses to generalize: 1) the dynamics associated with the subsystem that becomes unobservable when a certain state feedback is implemented (to the extent of maximizing unobservability); 2) the internal dynamics consistent with the constraint that the output is zero; 3) the dynamics of the inverse system. In particular, the notion that is behind 2) has some interesting features that render it particularly suitable for the design of stabilizing feedback (see Byrnes and Isidori [28]) and to study asymptotic tracking.

III. ADAPTIVE CONTROL OF LINEARIZABLE SYSTEMS

In practical implementations of exactly linearizing control laws, the chief drawback is that they are based on exact cancellation of nonlinear terms. If there is any uncertainty in the knowledge of the nonlinear functions $f$ and $g$, the cancellation is not exact and the resulting input–output equation is not linear. We suggest the use of parameter adaptive control to get asymptotically exact cancellation. The following simple example makes our philosophy clear.

A. The SISO Relative Degree One Case

Consider a SISO system of the form (2.1) with $L^j h(x) \neq 0$ (relative degree one). Further, let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ have the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \theta_i^1 f_i(x) \tag{3.1}$$

$$g(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \theta_j^2 g_j(x) \tag{3.2}$$

with $\theta_i^1, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_1; \theta_j^2, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_2$ unknown parameters and the $f_i(x), g_j(x)$ known functions. At time $t$, our estimates of the functions $f$ and $g$ are, respectively,

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \tilde{\theta}_i^1 f_i(x) \tag{3.3}$$

$$\hat{g}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \tilde{\theta}_j^2 g_j(x) \tag{3.4}$$

with $\tilde{\theta}_i^1, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_1; \tilde{\theta}_j^2, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_2$ standing for the estimates of the parameters $\theta_i^1, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_1; \theta_j^2, \cdot \cdot \cdot, n_2$, respectively, at time $t$. Consequently, the control law $u$ is replaced by

$$u = \frac{1}{L^h} (-L^h v + v) \tag{3.5}$$

and $L^h, L^h_1, L^h_2$ are the estimates of $L^h, L^1 h, L^2 h$, respectively, based on (3.3), (3.4), i.e.,

$$L^h_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \tilde{\theta}_i^1 L^h_i \tag{3.6}$$

$$L^h_2 = \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \tilde{\theta}_j^2 L^h_j \tag{3.7}$$

If we define $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1+n_2}$ to be the "true" parameter vector $(\theta^1, \theta^2)^T$, $\hat{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1+n_2}$ the parameter estimate, and $\phi = \theta - \hat{\theta}$ the parameter error, then using $u$ of (3.5) in (2.2) yields after some calculation

$$\dot{y} = v + \phi^T w_1 + \phi^T w_2 \tag{3.8}$$
3) It has recently become popular in the literature not to use adaptation but to replace the control law of (3.12) by the ‘‘sliding mode’’ control law

$$u = \frac{1}{L_y h} (\frac{L_j h}{L_i h} \hat{y}_M + k \begin{cases} \text{sign} (y_M - y) \end{cases})$$

(3.15)

The error equation (3.11) is then replaced by one of the form

$$\dot{e} + k \text{sign} e = d(t)$$

(3.16)

where $d(t)$ is a mismatch term which may be easily bounded using bounds on $f_i$, $g_i$, and the $\phi_i$'s above. It is then easy to see that if $k > \sup \{ d(t) \}$, then the error $e$ goes to zero (in fact, in finite time). This philosophy is not at odds with adaptation as described in Theorem 3.1. We feel that it can be used quite gainfully when the parameter error $\phi(t)$ is small. If, however, $\phi$ is large, the gain $k$ is large resulting in unacceptable chatter, large control activity, and other such undesirable behavior. Adaptation offers a less traumatic scheme of parameter tuning in this instance.

4) It is important to note that here and in what follows the parameter update laws require knowledge of the state variables. This in turn is necessitated by the state-feedback linearization methodology.

B. Extensions to Higher Relative Degree SISO Systems

We first consider the extensions of the results of the previous section to SISO systems with relative degree $\gamma$, i.e., $L_i h = L_2 L_1 h = \cdots = L_{\gamma} L_1 h = 0$ with $L_{\gamma+1} h \neq 0$. The nonadaptive linearizing control law then is of the form

$$u = \frac{1}{L_2 h} (\frac{L_j h}{L_i h} \hat{y}_M + v)$$

(3.17)

If $f$ and $g$ are not completely known, but of the form (3.1), (3.2), we need to replace $L_j h$ and $L_{\gamma} L_{\gamma-1} h$ by their estimates. We define these as follows:

$$\hat{L}_j h = L_j h$$

(3.18)

$$L_{\gamma} L_{\gamma-1} h = L_{\gamma} h$$

(3.19)

For $\gamma \geq 2$, (3.18), (3.19) are not linear in the unknown parameters $\theta_j$. For example,

$$L_j h = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} f_i \theta_j$$

(3.20)

and

$$L_{\gamma} L_{\gamma-1} h = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} f_i \theta_j$$

(3.21)

and so on. The development of the preceding section could easily be repeated if we defined each of the parameter products to be a new parameter in which case the $\theta_j^{(i)}$ and $\theta_j^{(i)}$ of (3.20) and (3.21) are parameters. Let $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be the $k$-dimensional vector of parameters $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \ldots$. Thus, for example, if $\gamma = 3$ then $\Omega$ contains $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6, \theta_7, \theta_8, \theta_9$. Now for the purposes of tracking, the control law to be implemented is

$$v = y_M^{(i)} + \alpha_i (y_M^{(i-1)} - y_M^{(i-1)}) + \cdots + \alpha_i (y_M - y)$$

where $\hat{y} = L_j h$, $\hat{y} = L_j h$, etc., are state feedback terms. In the absence of precise information about $L_j h$, $L_{\gamma} L_{\gamma-1} h$, etc., the tracking law to be implemented is

$$\hat{v} = \hat{y}^{(i)} + \alpha_i (\hat{y}_M^{(i-1)} - \hat{y}_M^{(i-1)}) + \cdots + \alpha_i (y_M - y)$$

(3.22)
The overall adaptive control law then is
\[ u = \frac{1}{L \tau} (L \dot{v} + \dot{\hat{v}}) \] (3.23)

Using this yields the error equation (with \( \Phi := \Theta - \hat{\Theta} \) representing the parameter error)
\[ e = e^{(i)} + \alpha_1 e^{(i-1)} + \cdots + \alpha_i e = \Phi^T W_1 + \Phi^T W_2. \] (3.24)

The two terms on the right-hand side arise, respectively, from the mismatch between the ideal linearizing control and the actual linearizing law and the mismatch between the ideal tracking control \( \hat{v} \) and the actual tracking control \( \dot{v} \). For definiteness, consider the case that \( \gamma = 2 \) and \( n_1 = n_2 = 1 \). Then with \( \Phi^T = [\theta^1, \theta^2, (\theta^2)^T, \theta^1 \theta^1 \theta^2] \), we get
\[ W_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \end{bmatrix} \] (3.25)
and
\[ W_2 = [\alpha_1 L \tau] [0 [0 [0 [0 [0]. \] (3.26)

Note that \( W_1 \) and \( W_2 \) can be added to get a new regressor vector \( W \). It is of interest to note that \( \alpha^2 \) cannot be explicitly identified in this case since the regressor multiplying it is zero. Also note that \( W \) is a function of \( x, s, \mu, \) and \( \theta \). Note that terms involving only \( \alpha^2 \) or even any products of the \( \alpha^2 \) are absent and may be dropped from the vector \( \zeta \).

We keep the form (3.24) of the error equation. Note that \( s^T + \alpha_1 s^{T-1} + \cdots + \alpha_i \) is Hurwitz by choice of tracking control. For the purposes of adaptation we need a signal of the form
\[ e_1 = \beta_1 e^{(i-1)} + \cdots + \beta_i e \] (3.27)
with the transfer function
\[ \beta_1 s^{T-1} + \cdots + \beta_i s^{T-i} \] (3.28)
strictly positive real. Indeed, if such a signal \( e_1 \) were measurable, the basic tracking theorem would follow immediately from arguments similar to the linear arguments. The difficulty in constructing the signal (3.27) is that \( e, e^{(i)}, \cdots, e^{(i-1)} \) are not measurable since
\[ e = \dot{y}_M - \dot{L}^T h \]
and so on, with the \( L^T \) not explicitly available.

Motivated by the linear case, where a so-called augmented error scheme is necessitated, we define the augmented error. Some notation is needed at this point. Define
\[ M(s) = \frac{1}{s^T + \alpha_1 s^{T-1} + \cdots + \alpha_i} \] (3.29)
Then the equation (3.29) may be written as
\[ e = M(s) \cdot \Phi^T W \] (3.30)
with the convention (standard in the adaptive control literature) that the hybrid notation (3.30) refers to the convolution between the inverse Laplace transform of \( M(s) \) and \( \Phi^T W \). Also the exponentially decaying initial condition terms are dropped since they do not alter the stability proof (for these points and a review of linear adaptive control, we refer Sastry and Bodson [19], or the survey paper Sastry [21]). Define the augmented error
\[ e_1 = e + (\Theta^T M(s) W - M(s) \Phi^T W) \] (3.24)
Note that the last two terms are not equal and refer, respectively, to each component of \( W \) being multiplied by \( M(s) \) before being multiplied by \( \Theta^T \) and filtering by \( \Theta^T W \) by \( M(s) \). If \( \theta \) were indeed constant they would be identical. This observation enables us to rewrite
\[ e_1 = e + (\Phi^T M(s) W - M(s) \Phi^T W). \] (3.32)

Note that \( e_1 \) in the form (3.31) can be obtained from measurable signals unlike (3.32), since \( \Phi \) is not available. However, (3.32) is critical to our analysis, since we may use (3.30) in (3.32) to get
\[ e_1 = \Phi^T M(s) W. \] (3.33)
For convenience, we will denote
\[ \xi := M(s) W \in \mathbb{R}^k. \] (3.34)
The error equation (3.33) is key to the choice of the identification algorithm. Here is one choice of parameter update law
\[ \Theta = \Theta - \frac{e_1 \xi}{1 + e^T \xi \xi}. \] (3.35)

Equation (3.35) is referred to as a normalized gradient-type algorithm [unlike the unnormalized update law (3.13)]. Some properties of \( \Phi, e_1 \) follow immediately with no assumptions on the boundedness of \( \xi \). In what follows we will use the following notation.

i) \( \beta \) is a generic \( L_1 \cap L_\infty \) function which goes to zero as \( t \to \infty \).
ii) \( \gamma \) is a generic \( L_2 \cap L_\infty \) function.
iii) \( \lambda \) is a (large) bound.
iv) \( ||z||_1 \) will refer to the norm \( \sup_{s \in S} |z(s)| \), the truncated \( L_\infty \) norm.

Proposition 3.2 (Properties of the Identifier): Consider the error equation
\[ e_1 = \Phi^T \xi \] (3.35)
with the update law
\[ \dot{\Phi} = -e_1 \xi \] (3.36)
Then
\[ \Phi \in L_\infty, \Phi \in L_2 \cap L_\infty \text{ and } \|\Phi^T \xi(t)\| \leq \gamma(1 + \|\xi\|_1) \forall t. \] (3.37)
Proof: Consider the Lyapunov function
\[ V(\Phi) = \Phi^T \Phi. \] Then we have
\[ \dot{V} = -2e_1^T \xi \leq 0 \] (3.38)
so that we get that \( \Phi \in L_\infty \). Since \( \dot{V} dt < \infty \), we also have that \( e_1/(1 + \xi^T \xi)^{1/2} \in L_2 \). Further, since
\[ \Phi = \Phi^T \Phi \] (3.39)
we have that \( \Phi \in L_\infty \). Also since
\[ \|\Phi\|^2 = e_1^T \frac{\xi^T \xi}{1 + \xi^T \xi} \] (3.40)
we see that \( \Phi \in L_2 \) (the first term in (3.40) is integrable, see
(3.38) above and the second bounded). Finally, define
\[
\gamma = \frac{e_1}{\sqrt{1 + \xi^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \xi^2}}
\]
The first term is in \(L_2 \cap L_\infty\) and the second bounded. Thus, \(\gamma\) is indeed in \(L_2 \cap L_\infty\). Hence, (3.37) follows. 

Remarks: The conclusions of Proposition 3.2 are generic identifier properties. Other identifiers such as the normalized least-squares identifier also yield these properties; for details, see Sastry and Bodson [19].

We are now ready to state and prove the main theorem.

**Theorem 3.3 (Basic Tracking Theorem for SISO for Relative Degree Greater than 1):** Consider the control law of (3.22), (3.23) applied to an exponentially minimum-phase nonlinear system with parameter uncertainty as given in (3.1), (3.2).

If \(y_M, y_M, \cdots, y_{M-1}\) and \(L_2L_\xi^{-1}h\) are bounded away from zero, \(f, g, h, L_1\) are Lipschitz continuous functions of \(x, \bar{h}\) and \(W(x, \bar{h})\) has bounded derivatives in \(x, \bar{h}\), then the parameter update law
\[
\dot{\Phi} = -\frac{e_{1}}{1 + \xi^2} \xi
\]
(3.36)
with
\[
\xi = L_2^{-1}W
\]
yields bounded tracking (i.e., \(x\) is bounded and \(y \to y_M\) as \(t \to \infty\)).

**Proof:** The proof uses three technical lemmas proven in Sastry–Bodson [19] and summarized in the Appendix.

**Step 1—Bound on the Error Augmentation:** By the Swap-ping Lemma (3.2 of the Appendix) with \(M\) playing the role of \(H\) and
\[
\Phi^TW - M^T\Phi = -c(sI - A)^{-1}[(sI - A)^{-1}bW^T]\Phi
\]
(3.41)
Using the fact that \(\Phi \in L_2\) and that \((sI - A)^{-1}b\) is stable (since \(M\) is stable), we get
\[
\|[(sI - A)^{-1}bW^T]\Phi\| \leq \gamma \|W\| + \gamma, \quad (3.42)
\]
Now using Lemma 2 of the Appendix and the fact that \(c(sI - A)^{-1}\) is strictly proper, we get
\[
\|\Phi^TW - M^T\Phi|W\| \leq \beta \|W\| + \beta, \quad (3.43)
\]
**Step 2—Regularity of \(W, \Phi^TW\):** Note that the differential equation for
\[
z_i = (y, \dot{y}, \cdots, y_{M-1})^T
\]
is
\[
z_i = M(s)
\]
\[
\begin{bmatrix}
1 \\
\vdots \\
M^{-1}
\end{bmatrix}
\Phi^TW
+ \begin{bmatrix}
y_M \\
\vdots \\
y_{M-1}
\end{bmatrix}. \quad (3.44)
\]
Since \(\Phi\) is bounded and \(y_M, \cdots, y_{M-1}\) are bounded by hypothesis and \(sM(s)\) are all proper stable transfer functions, we have that
\[
\|z_i\| \leq K \|W\| + K. \quad (3.45)
\]
Using (3.45) in the exponentially minimum-phase zero dynamics
\[
z_2 = \Phi(z_1, z_2) \quad (3.46)
\]
\[
\|z_2\| \leq K \|W\| + K. \quad (3.47)
\]
Combining (3.45), (3.46) and noting that \(x\) is a diffeomorphism of \(z_1, z_2\), we see that
\[
\|x\| \leq K \|W\| + K
\]
and
\[
\|\dot{x}\| \leq K \|W\| + K. \quad (3.48)
\]
Using the facts that \(\|\dot{W}/\dot{x}\|\) and \(\|\dot{W}/\dot{h}\|\) are bounded and (3.48), we get
\[
\|W\| \leq K \|W\| + K \quad (3.49)
\]
thus \(W\) is regular \(\Rightarrow \xi = M\) is regular as well (since \(M\) is stable). A similar calculation yields \(\Phi^TW\) to be regular as well. For consider,
\[
\frac{d}{dt}(\Phi^TW) = \Phi^T(W + \Phi^T W). \quad (3.50)
\]
Using (3.49) and \(\Phi, \Phi \in L_\infty\) we get
\[
\|\frac{d}{dt}(\Phi^TW)\| \leq K \|W\| + K. \quad (3.51)
\]
But from (3.44), (3.47)
\[
\|x\| \leq K \|\Phi^TW\| + K \quad (3.52)
\]
so that
\[
\|W\| \leq K \|\Phi^TW\| + K \quad (3.53)
\]
Combining (3.53) with (3.51) yields the regularity of \(\Phi^TW\). From the regularity of \(\xi, \Phi^TW\), one can establish that \(\Phi^T \xi + \|\xi\|\) has bounded derivative and so is uniformly continuous. Since by (3.37)
\[
(\Phi^T \xi(t)) \in L_1 \cap L_\infty.
\]
we see that it in fact goes to zero as \(t \to \infty\). (A uniformly continuous \(L_1\) function tends to zero as \(t \to \infty\)... Thus,
\[
\|\Phi^T \xi(t)\| \leq \beta(1 + \|\xi(t)\|). \quad (3.54)
\]
**Step 3—Final Estimates:**
\[
e = e_1 + \Phi^T L^{-1}W - L^{-1} \Phi^T W
\]
is the equation relating the true output error to the augmented error. Using (3.43) we get
\[
|e| \leq |e_1| + \beta \|W\| + \beta. \quad (3.55)
\]
Using (3.37) we get
\[
|e| \leq |e_1| + \beta \|\Phi^TW\| + \beta. \quad (3.55)
\]
Apply the BOBJ lemma (Lemma 1) of the Appendix to
\[
e = M(s) \Phi^TW
\]
along with the established regularity of \(\Phi^TW\) to get
\[
\|\Phi^TW\| \leq K |e| + K. \quad (3.56)
\]
Using (3.56) in (3.55) we get
\[
|e| \leq |e_1| + \beta \|W\| + \beta. \quad (3.57)
\]
Using (3.54) for \(e_1 = \Phi^T \xi\), we get
\[
|e| \leq \beta \|\xi\| + \beta + \beta \|\xi\|. \quad (3.58)
\]
\( \xi \) is related to \( W \) by stable filtering. Hence,

\[
\| \xi \| \leq K \| W \| + \beta.
\]  

(3.59)

Using the estimate (3.53) followed by (3.56) in (3.55) we see that (3.58) may be written as

\[
\| e \| \leq \beta \| e \| + \beta.
\]  

(3.60)

Since \( \beta \to 0 \) as \( t \to \infty \) we see from (3.60) that \( e \) goes to zero as \( t \to \infty \). This in turn can be verified to yield bounded \( W, x, \) etc.  

Remarks:

1) The parameter update law appears not to take into account prior parameter information such as the mutual existence of \( \theta_i, \theta_j, \theta \), and so on. It is important, however, to note that the best estimate of \( \tilde{\theta} \) in the transient period may not be \( \tilde{\theta} \). If, however, the parameters are close to their correct values, such information is useful. But, since parameter convergence is not guaranteed in the Proof of Theorem 3.3, it may not be a good idea to constrain the estimate of \( \tilde{\theta} \) to be close to \( \hat{\theta} \).

The preceding remarks are not designed, however, to ameliorate completely one’s concerns that the number of parameters increases very rapidly with \( n \).

2) In several problems it turns out that \( L \gamma h \) and \( L \gamma h \) depend linearly on some unknown parameters. It is then clear that the development of the previous theorem can be carried through.

3) Thus far, we have only assumed parameter uncertainty in \( f \) and \( g \); but not in \( h \). It is not hard to see that if \( h \) depends linearly on unknown parameters, then we can mimic the aforementioned procedure quite easily.

4) Parameter convergence can be guaranteed in Theorem 3.3 if \( W \) is sufficiently rich in the sense stated after Theorem 3.1.

5) If some of the \( \theta_i \)'s are known, they can be replaced in the algorithm by these true values and adaptation for them turned off.

6) The parameter update law is a state feedback law as before.

C. Adaptive Control of MIMO Systems Decouplable by Static State Feedback

From the preceding discussion it is easy to see how the linearizing, decoupling static state feedback control law for square systems (minimum-phase) can be made adaptive—by replacing the control law of (2.12) by

\[
u = \tilde{A}(x)^{-1} \left( - \begin{bmatrix} L_j \gamma h_j \\ L_k \gamma h_k \\ \vdots \\ L_p \gamma h_p \end{bmatrix} + \beta \right).
\]  

(3.61)

Note that if \( A(x) \) is invertible, then the linearizing control law is also the decoupling control law. Thus, if \( A(x) \) and the \( L \gamma h \) depend linearly on certain unknown parameters, the schemes of the previous sections (those of Section III-A if \( \gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \cdots = \gamma_p = 1 \) and those of Section III-B in other cases) can be readily adapted. The details are more notationally cumbersome than insightful. We refer the interested reader to Craig, Hsu, and Sastry [5] for the application of these ideas to the adaptive control of rigid link robot manipulators with \( \gamma_i = 2 \) for all \( i = 1, \ldots, p \).

We end this section with two remarks.

1) Adaptive control of square multivariable nonlinear systems decouplable by static feedback is straightforward; it is, however, important to have the linearizing control depend linearly on parameters.

2) Adaptive control of nonlinear systems not decouplable by static state feedback is not easy or obvious; some of the reasons are also discussed in the next section.

IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS

We have presented some initial results on the use of parameter adaptive control for obtaining asymptotically exact cancellation in linearizing control laws for a class of continuous-time systems decouplable by static state feedback. The extension to continuous-time systems not decouplable by static state feedback is not as obvious for two reasons.

i) The different matrices involved in the development of the control laws in this case depend in extremely complicated fashion on the unknown parameters.

ii) While the "true" \( A(x) \) may have rank \( q < p \), its estimate \( \tilde{A}(x) \) during the course of adaptation may well be full rank in which case the procedure of Section II-A cannot be followed.

The discrete-time and sampled-data case are also not obvious for similar reasons.

i) The nonadaptive theory, as discussed in Monaco, Normand-Cyrot, and Stornelli [11] is fairly complicated since

\[
y_{k+1} = h \circ (f(x_k) + g(x_k)u_k)
\]  

(4.1)

is not linear in \( u_k \) in the discrete-time case and a formal series for (4.1) in \( u_k \) needs to be obtained (and inverted!) for the linearization. Consequently, the parametric dependence of the control law is complex.

ii) The notions of zero-dynamics are not yet completely developed. Further, even in the linear case, the zeros of a sampled system can be outside the unit disk even when the continuous-time system is minimum-phase and the sampling is fast enough (Astrom, Hagander, Sterng
d [11]).

Thus, we feel that the present contribution is only a first step in the development of a comprehensive theory of adaptive control for linearizable systems.

APPENDIX

TECHNICAL LEMMATA

We state three important lemmas which are proven in Sastry-Bodson [19]. The notation \( \gamma, \beta, K \) from the text is widely used in the Appendix.

Lemma 1 (BOBI Stability):

Let \( y = H(s)u \) be the output of a proper, minimum-phase linear system with input \( u \). If \( u, \bar{u} \in L_{\infty} \), and \( u \) is regular, i.e.,

\[
\| \bar{u} \| \leq K \| u \| + \beta.
\]  

Then

\[
1 = \| u \| \leq K \| y \| + \beta.
\]  

Remark: If the input is regular and the plant is minimum-phase, then bounded system output implies bounded system input.

Lemma 2: Let \( y = H(s)u \) be the output of a proper stable system \( H(s) \) driven by \( u \).

If

\[
\| u \| \leq \gamma \| q \| + \gamma,
\]  

then

\[
\| y \| \leq \gamma \| q \| + \gamma.
\]  

If, in addition \( H \) is strictly proper

\[
\| y \| \leq \beta \| q \| + \beta.
\]  

Remark: This is a slight generalization of several standard results; note that if \( H \) is strictly proper we get a \( L_2 \cap L_{\infty} \) function which goes to zero as the bound.

Lemma 3 (Swapping Lemma): If \( H(s) = c(sI - A)^{-1}b + d \) is the minimal realization of a proper transfer function, then

\[
H(s)(W^T \Phi) - (H(s)W^T) \Phi = c(sI - A)^{-1} \{ c(sI - A)^{-1}b W^T \Phi \}.
\]
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S. Shankar Sastry (S'79-M'80), for a photograph and biography, see p. 404 of the April 1989 issue of this TRANSACTIONS.

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