# Controle ótimo um passo à frente via otimização e aplicações 

Optimization-based one step ahead optimal control

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## Outline

- What is control \& optimal control?
- What is one step ahead optimal control (OSAOC)?
- Optimal control via optimization
- Some examples
- Concluding remarks


## What is control?

- Dynamical system $\dot{x}=f(x)$ :object of study in mathematics
- Vector field on RHS is "God-given"
- Mathematician's job is to describe evolution of state $x$ : equilibria, limit cycles, etc.
- Control theory studies $\dot{x}=f(x, u)$ where $u$ is a control input
- Control engineer's job is to choose control input $u$ so that evolution described by RHS vector field behaves in prespecified fashion.
- For example, can $u$ be chosen so that all trajectories go to (a globally stable) equilibrium, or limit cycle?


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## Linear control: discrete-time case

- Dynamical system $x(k+1)=A x(k)+B u(k), x \in R^{n}, u \in$ $R^{m}, A \in R^{n \times n}, B \in R^{n \times m}$ : most well-understood case, complete theory.
- In this case, without control $(u(k)=0, \forall k)$, origin is stable if spectral radius $\rho(A)<1$.
- What if spectral radius $\rho(A)>1$ ?
- Assume that state $x(k)$ is measured and available to engineer
- Key idea of full state feedback: choose $u(k)=F x(k)$
- Dynamical system under feedback becomes $x(k+1)=(A+B F) x(k)$
- New question: given $A, B$, can $F$ be chosen such that $\rho(A+B F)<1$ ?
- Yes! Under simple algebraic condition (unstable "modes" are "controllable")


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## What is optimal control?

- Dynamical system $\dot{x}=f(x, u)$ : continuous-time case.
- Suppose that there is some mission objective: e.g., landing a spacecraft on the moon
- Also suppose that there are physical constraints: energy (=fuel) has weight, thus limited
- New problem: design control $u$ such that trajectory $x$ fulfills mission \& does not violate constraints.
- In most cases, we wish to do this optimally.
- Given an objective function (performance index, cost) $J(x, u)=\int_{0}^{T}\left(x(t)^{T} Q x(t)+u(t)^{T} R u(t)\right) d t$ (for example)
- Can $u(t)$ be chosen such that cost $J(x, u)$ is minimized?
- Yes! Complete theory: Bolza, Bliss, Pontryagin, Bellman.


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## Optimal control：mathematical formulation

－Given a dynamical system $\dot{x}=f(x, u)$
－and a cost function $J(x, u)$
－minimize $J(x, u)$ ，by choice of $u(t), t \in[0, T]$ ，subject to the dynamics $\dot{x}=f(x, u)$
－Control $u$ is a function；trajectory $x$ must satisfy an ODE with RHS dependent on the choice $u$ ．
－This is a difficult problem of variational calculus．
－Even when there are no additional constraints on the state $x$ and the control $u$ ！
－Without additional constraints：complete theory in LQ case （linear system，quadratic cost）
－LQ case：optimal control is found in feedback form（solving Riccati equation or by dynamic programming）
－Kalman，Bellman：early 1960s

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## Optimal control: discrete-time case

- Given a dynamical system

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x(k+1)=f(x(k), u(k)), k=1,2, \ldots, K
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- The recurrence relations $x(k+1)=f(x(k), u(k)), k=1,2, \ldots, K$ can be regarded as $K$ equality constraints
- We can now reinterpret the optimal control problem as an optimization problem.


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## Optimal control as mathematical optimization

- minimize $J(x(k), u(k))$, by choice of $u(k), k \in[1, K], x(k), k \in[1, K+1]$
- subject to the $K$ equality constraints $x(k+1)=f(x(k), u(k)), k=1,2, \ldots$
- This is a standard nonlinear programming problem, convex if $J$ is convex and $f$ is affine
- Easy to solve if convex, even if $J$ is nonlinear
- Convex constraints on $x$ and $u$ can be added without increasing the difficulty of solution!
- Price to be paid: $2 K+1$ decision variables.


## Optimal control as mathematical optimization

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## Optimal control as mathematical optimization

- minimize $J(x(k), u(k))$, by choice of $u(k), k \in[1, K], x(k), k \in[1, K+1]$
- subject to the $K$ equality constraints

$$
x(k+1)=f(x(k), u(k)), k=1,2, \ldots, K
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- This is a standard nonlinear programming problem, convex if $J$ is convex and $f$ is affine
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## Optimal control as mathematical optimization (history)

- Krasovskii (1957): Impulse response $\rightarrow$ linear program formulation (not explicitly identified as such).
- Zadeh (1962): made Krasovskii's contribution explicit as linear program.
- Cannon, Cullum and Polak (1970): Far-reaching theoretical extensions of Krasovskii/Zadeh ideas.
- Boyd, Barratt (1991): Linear Controller Design: Limits of Performance (convex formulations).
- Boyd et al. LMIs in System \& Control (1994) (convex optimization).
- Mayne, Rawlings et al. (2000) Constrained model predictive control: Stability and optimality.
- Goodwin et al. (2005): Constrained Control and Estimation An Optimisation Approach.
- Borrelli, Bemporad, Morari (2017): Predictive control for Linear and Hybrid Systems.


## This talk

- Optimization-based one step ahead optimal approach, discrete-time, implementable in real time.
- Not (necessarily) linear quadratic (LQ)
- Examples from Business Dynamics: index which takes both the management and financial aspects into account.
- Examples from numerical algorithm design, opinion dynamics \& dynamic games.
- Contributions: No prediction required, close to optimal, effect of delays, Julia + JuMP open source code.
- Drawback: Approach is deterministic, although some statistical simulation is done
- Challenge (to this audience): Redo using probabilistic/stochastic approaches!


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## Omniscient optimal control

- Dynamical system:
$x(k+1)=F(x(k), u(k), e(k), k), k=1, \ldots, K_{f}$
- $x(k)$ : state variable.
- $u(k)$ : control input chosen by the decision maker, usually subject to some constraints.
- e(k): exogenous input known at time $k$, but not known
for future times, and not under the control of the
decision maker.
- Omniscient optimal control problem: Given the exogenous input sequence $\{e(k)\}_{k=1}^{K_{f}}$ and initial state $x(1)$
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maximize $\quad J_{o m}\left(K_{f}+1\right)$
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## Types of performance index／objective function \＆ constraints

－Linear：linear combination of（nonnegative）states and controls．
－Piecewise linear：weighted combination of one－or infinity－norms of states and controls
－Quadratic：sum of quadratic forms in＂errors＂and controls
－Linear／nonlinear，equality／inequality involving states and controls．

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## Debt amortization: problem statement

- Amortizing given initial debts with target date (planning horizon) to pay off.
- Upper bounds on withdrawals from investment accounts to make amortization payments.
- Additional debts incurred during planning horizon.
- Deposits and dividends in the investment accounts during planning horizon.


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## Debt amortization: mathematical model

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\begin{aligned}
& x_{i}(k+1)=\left(1+\alpha_{i}\right) x_{i}(k)-\sum_{j=1}^{n} u_{i j}(k)+c_{i}(k), \forall i \\
& y_{j}(k+1)=\left(1+\beta_{j}\right) y_{j}(k)-\sum_{i=1}^{m} u_{i j}(k)-\gamma_{j} \sum_{i=1}^{m} u_{i j}(k)+d_{j}(k), \forall j
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- $x_{i}: i$ ith debt, $y_{j}: j$ th investment account balance.
- $\alpha_{i}, \beta_{j}$ : ith debt and $j$ th investment account interest rates, respectively.
- $\gamma_{j}$ :transaction cost per unit of cash transferred from investment account.
- Box constraints on $x_{i}, y_{j}$, upper bounds on
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## Debt amortization: Performance indices

- Weighted debt amortization with wealth maximization
- $J_{o S}(k+1)=\sum_{j=1}^{n} \kappa_{j} y_{j}(k+1)-\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mu_{i} x_{i}(k+1)$ - $J_{o m}=\sum_{j=1}^{n} \kappa_{j} y_{j}\left(K_{f}+1\right)-\sum_{i=1}^{m} \mu_{i} x_{i}\left(K_{f}+1\right)$


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## Debt amortization+wealth maximization: LP formulation

- maximize $J_{o m}\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.J_{o S}\right)$ [linear objective function]
- subj. to dynamics for all $k$ (resp. at $k$ ) [linear equality constraints]
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## Debt amortization+wealth maximization: example

|  | Mean | Standard deviation | Property |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Expenditures $c_{1}$ | 565 | 311 | Random |
| Expenditures $c_{2}$ | 501 | 288 | Random |
| Deposits $d_{1}$ | 345 | 147 | Random |
| Deposits $d_{2}$ | 320 | 231 | Random |

## Example: evolution of debt sequences


(a) Evolution of debts 1 and 2 under one step ahead policy, maximizing $J_{o s}^{m d, \omega}$.

(b) Evolution of debts 1 and 2: omniscient solution, maximizing $J_{o m, f}^{m d, ~} \omega$.

Debt sequences 1 and 2 for OSA and omniscient optimal controls are similar, but not identical.

## Example: amortization payments


(a) One step ahead amortization payments for debt 1 , maximizing $J_{o s}^{m d, \omega}$.

(b) Omniscient amortization payments for debt 1, maximizing $J_{o m, f}^{m d, \omega}$.

Total amortization payment $u_{1}=u_{11}+u_{12}$ tracks expenditure $c_{1}$, after initial period at $u_{1, \max }$.

## Example: investment account balances

$\alpha_{1}=0.05, \alpha_{2}=0.07, \beta_{1}=0.08, \beta_{2}=0.11, \gamma_{1}=0.02, \gamma_{2}=0.01, \kappa_{1}=0, \kappa_{2}=0$

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OSA: Investment account $1 \rightarrow$ minimum. Omniscient: Investment account $2 \rightarrow$ minimum.

## Debt amortization: choice of weights

| Row | Index | $\kappa_{1}$ | $\kappa_{2}$ | $\mu_{1}$ | $\mu_{2}$ | Final debt | Final wealth | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $J_{o m, f}^{m d, \omega}$ | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 93011 | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{2} \downarrow y_{2, \text { min }}$ |
| 2 | $J_{o s}^{m, \omega}$ | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 5 3 0 5}$ | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 3 | $J_{o m, f}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 22703 | 322604 | $y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 4 | $J_{o s}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 20000 | 160026 | $y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 5 | $J_{o m, f}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 319202 | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 6 | $J_{o s}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 194998 | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 7 | $J_{o m, f}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{3 1 9 2 0 6}$ | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{1} \downarrow y_{1, \text { min }}$ |
| 8 | $J_{o s}^{m d, \omega}$ | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 92731 | $x_{1}, x_{2} \downarrow 0, y_{2} \downarrow y_{2, \text { min }}$ |

- Similar outcomes: Row 2 OS (implementable)/Row 7 Omni $($ unimplementable $)=67 \%$.
(debt amortization) is good candidate for real time debt
management.


## Debt amortization: choice of weights

| Row | Index | $\kappa_{1}$ | $\kappa_{2}$ | $\mu_{1}$ | $\mu_{2}$ | Final debt | Final wealth | Comments |
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- Similar outcomes: Row 2 OS (implementable)/Row 7 Omni (unimplementable) $=67 \%$.
- Overall conclusion: choice of weights $\kappa_{i}=0, \mu_{j}=1, \forall i, j$ (debt amortization) is good candidate for real time debt management.


## Cash balance problem: description

- Every firm/financial institution has cash current account to meet daily transaction requirements.
- Cash balance: large enough for requirements, not much larger
- Extra cash earns larger returns in an investment account.
- Cash flows, both deposits and withdrawals, into current accounts with low interest rates.
- Transfers from investment accounts to make negative current account balances positive.
- Transfer excess balance in current accounts to investment accounts (better returns)
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## Cash balance: notation



## Cash balance dynamics

$$
\begin{aligned}
x_{i}^{+} & =\left(1+\alpha_{i}\right) x_{i}+\sum_{j=1}^{M} u_{i j}-\sum_{j=1}^{M} \gamma_{i}\left|u_{i j}\right|-d_{i}+\sum_{m \neq i} c_{i m}, \forall i, \\
y_{j}^{+} & =\left(1+\beta_{j}\right) y_{j}-\sum_{i=1}^{N} u_{i j}, \forall j, \\
0 & =c_{i m}(k)+c_{m i}(k), \forall i, \forall m, \\
0 & <x_{i, \min } \leq x_{i}(k) \leq x_{i, \max }, \forall i, \\
0 & <y_{j, \min } \leq y_{j}(k), \forall j
\end{aligned}
$$

Total wealth: $w(k)=\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_{i}(k)+\sum_{j=1}^{M} y_{j}(k)$

## Cash balance problem: performance indices

- $J_{o s}(k+1)=\sum_{j} \kappa_{j} y_{j}(k+1)-\sum_{i} \mu_{i} x_{i}(k+1)$.
- $J_{o m}=\sum_{j} \kappa_{j} y_{j}\left(K_{f}+1\right)-\sum_{i} \mu_{i} x_{i}\left(K_{f}+1\right)$
- $\kappa_{j}=1, \forall j, \mu_{i}=-1, \forall i \Rightarrow$ maximization of total wealth
- $\kappa_{j}=1, \forall j, \mu_{i}=1, \forall i \Rightarrow$ maximizing investment account balance, while minimizing current account balances.
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- Wealth gain $=\frac{w\left(K_{f}\right)-w(1)}{w(1)}$, where $w(k)=\sum_{i} x_{i}(k)+\sum_{j} y_{j}(k)$, for a single demand
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## Cash balance: OSAOC block diagram



- In practice, demand estimates $\hat{d}_{i}(k)=d_{i}(k-1)$ work well.
- If transfers are end-of-the-day operations, $\hat{d}_{i}(k)=d_{i}(k)$.


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## Cash balance: classical Miller-Orr scheme (1966)

- Feedback control with dead zone, no explicit use of demand.
- $u_{i}(k)= \begin{cases}z_{i}-x_{i}(k) & \text { if } x_{i}(k) \geq z_{i H}, \\ 0 & \text { if } z_{i L} \leq x_{i}(k) \leq z_{i H} \\ z_{i}-x_{i}(k) & \text { if } x_{i}(k) \leq z_{i L} .\end{cases}$
- Miller \& Orr derived optimal thresholds for Bernoulli (equiprobable $\pm 1$ ) demands.
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## Cash balance: average performance of OSAOC

- Comparison of average and relative wealth gain (AWG,RWG).
- Current demand is assumed unknown: OSAOC uses $\hat{d}_{i}(k)=d_{i}(k-1)$
- Four methods OS_NI/WI, OM_NI/WI compared.
- Experiment design: 25 pairs $N_{C A}, N_{I A} \in\{2,4,6,8,10\}$
- 20 normally distributed 30 day cash demands, zero mean, unit std. dev. for each pair.
- Transfers between all pairs of CA, IA allowed, intra-account only for CA.
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## Cash balance：average performance of OSAOC

Average wealth gain for 10 investment accounts

（a）Average wealth gain
Average wealth gain for 10 investment accounts

（a）Average wealth gain

Relative AWG for 10 investment accounts

（b）Relative average wealth gain
Relative AWG for 10 investment accounts

（b）Relative average wealth gain

## Cash balance scalability: OSA vs. Omni



Memory use for 10 investment accounts


- Hierarchy OSA_NI $\leq$ OSA_WI $\leq \mathrm{OM} \_\mathrm{NI} \leq \mathrm{OM}$ _WI
- Variance of AWG decreases as $N_{C A}, N_{I A} \uparrow$ in both cases (current demand known/unknown).
- AWG $\approx 40 \%$, RWG $\approx 70 \%$ (normal demand), AWG $\approx 30 \%$, RWG $\approx 60 \%$ (uniform,Bernoulli)
- Compute time, memory requirements: scale linearly (OSAOC), scale exponentially (Omni)


## Inventory control and management

$$
s_{e}(k)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
d(k) \text {, if } d(k) \leq s_{t}(k)-w+x_{1}(k) \\
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$$

A


B


Shipping pipeline

## Inventory control and management



## Inventory control: robustness to demand uncertainty

## Efficiency Surfaces



## Inventory control: robustness to lead time uncertainty

| Controller | Variable delay efficiency | Constant delay efficiency |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| APIOBPCS | $63.65( \pm 8.38) \%$ | $83.44 \%$ |
| OSAO | $70.32( \pm 3.68) \%$ | $85.69 \%$ |
| $(s, S)$ | $48.44( \pm 8.96) \%$ | $66.06 \%$ |

## OSAO inventory control: summary

- Novel scheme: no prediction, robust to demand, delay uncertainties.
- Uses Economic Value Added as objective function.
- Efficient, attaining 80\% of (unattainable) omniscient global optimum.
- Computationally efficient: LP in small number of decision variables
- Candidate for cheap and universal inventory control scheme.


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## Opinion dynamics

- Morris deGroot, Reaching a Consensus, JASA, March 1974, vol 69, no 345, pp.118-121 (4366 citations as of today!)
- Key ideas: vector $x(k) \in R^{n}$ of $n$ individual agent opinions; Network or Graph: nodes $=$ agents, edges $=$ connect agents
- Update at time $k$ : each agent updates its opinion by taking weighted average of connected neighbors' opinions.
- de Groot used a row stochastic matrix (one-step transition probabilities of a Markov chain) \& limit theorems.
- Huge boom in this area in the last decade due to interest in social networks.
- Many alternative models (sociologists, physicists, control theorists, ...): Friedkin-Johnson, Hegselmann-Krause, Galam, Altafini


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## Opinion dynamics games with OSAO control

Ingredients of OD games with control

- OD model on graph for agents.
- Each player acts on a set of agent nodes and has a cost function (involving target and control)
- Game playing procedure: sequential ([randomized] Gauss-Seidel), parallel (Jacobi) or simultaneous.
- Players are assumed to be rational, i.e., optimize cost one step ahead (in each round of play)
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- Closed-form expression for OSAOC.
- OSAOC results in computable Nash equilibria under J, GS and RGS game-playing procedures.
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## ODG under OSAOC: flipping polarization



Figure 11. Directed graph of ten polarized agents in 2 clusters: agents $\{1,2,3,4,5\}$ have initial opinions close to 1 and agents $\{6,7,8,9,10\}$ have initial opinions close to -1 . Two players target these clusters with the objective of flipping the polarization.

## Concluding remarks

- One step ahead optimal control is simple and useful!
- Descriptive name (OSAOC) avoids terms like "greedy" "myopic", "simple MPC".
- Discrete-time setting allows immediate use of powerful optimization tools, enabling real time control.
- Suboptimal, but often not too far from omniscient optimal, as seen in many applications.
- Many models are piecewise linear, indices are often linear or quadratic: OSAOC should work!
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