

summary: robot dynamics, LQR

a linear quadratic regulator has the form of a *state feedback controller* with gain K :

$$\mathbf{u} = -K\mathbf{q}$$

it minimizes the quadratic cost function given by

$$J = \int_0^{\infty} (\mathbf{q}^T Q \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u}) dt.$$

shifts the design problem from gain choices to weight choices

dynamics with pure vectors

$$\Sigma \mathbf{f} = m \dot{\mathbf{v}}$$

$$\Sigma \boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{J} \dot{\boldsymbol{\omega}} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{J} \boldsymbol{\omega}$$

dynamics for simulation

$$\Sigma \mathbf{f} = m \dot{\mathbf{v}} \quad \text{world coordinates}$$

$$\Sigma \boldsymbol{\tau}' = \mathbf{J} \dot{\boldsymbol{\omega}}' + \boldsymbol{\omega}' \times \mathbf{J} \boldsymbol{\omega}' \quad \text{body-attached coordinates}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}} = \mathbf{R} \boldsymbol{\omega}'^{\times} \quad \text{orientation}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{v} \quad \text{world coordinates}$$

remarks on linear quadratic regulator

- computing K requires solving “algebraic riccati equation”
 - tricky to solve & requires numerical iteration $K = -R^{-1}B^T P$
 \Rightarrow best to use software from experts $0 = PA + A^T P - PBR^{-1}B^T P + Q$
- `ct.lqr(A, B, Q, R)` or **MATLAB** `lqr(A, B, Q, R)`
- LQR is a special case of general optimization problem: find \mathbf{u} that minimizes given cost function and satisfies constraints (e.g. max throttle). This can be used to guide system to desired state/trajectory
- sketch for how LQR is solved:
 - use pontryagin’s maximum principle (variational calculus)
 - in special case of linear, time-invariant system, quadratic cost, and infinite time horizon, result is that input is a linear function of state: $\mathbf{u} = -K\mathbf{q}$
- for control far away from equilibrium (e.g. aggressive maneuvers), need full nonlinear *trajectory tracking*
 - common “engineering” approach is receding horizon control (a.k.a. “model predictive control”): repeatedly calculate optimal \mathbf{u} over a short horizon
 - biology-inspired: explore the solution space, reward if success (reinforcement learning). parameterize controller/“policy” with a neural network