

Robust Spectral Shaping for Time-Delay Systems

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Abstract:

Time-delay systems in technological and other processes are assumed to contain delays or latencies within inner feedback loops, not only in the input-output relationship. Such systems belong to the class of infinite-dimensional systems, having an infinite number of characteristic roots (poles). By considering a designed control system with a controller that includes a finite number of free (tunable) parameters, one must address the problem of appropriately placing the decisive part of the feedback. The robustness (i.e., a sufficient insensitivity to control system dynamics fluctuations or model uncertainties) of such an assignment is a significant perspective on this issue. This requirement often leads to interesting optimization (minimization or minmax) problems, with or without constraints, where the cost function might be non-smooth and/or non-convex, or even non-Lipschitz. In particular, neutral delayed systems can have very sensitive eigenvalue loci.

This dissertation should focus on the implementation of known and recent universal or “ad hoc” algorithms for (partial) eigenvalue assignment in time-delay systems, with emphasis on robustness. Some original ideas, approaches, or algorithms should accompany known methods, and the results should be compared to other robustness approaches. It is expected to use modified advanced and up-to-date optimization techniques, such as nature-inspired or technology-inspired metaheuristics, to cope with the formulated optimization tasks. The theoretical results should be verified through laboratory experiments.

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