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Recent results on wheel slip control : Hybrid and continuous algorithms

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Collaboration with

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Contents of the talk

- Two main families of ABS algorithms
- Why doing research on ABS today?
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- Continuous wheel slip control algorithms
- Experimental results
- Hybrid five-phase ABS algorithms
- Experimental results
- Conclusions and future work perspectives
- Publications

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Why do we want to control wheel slip?

Tyre forces are generated by the wheel slip in the contact patch :

$$\lambda = \frac{R\omega - v_x}{v_x}.$$

They have a nonlinear characteristics with a coupling between longitudinal and lateral forces.

Controlling the wheel-slip improves safety : it reduces the braking distance and maintains steerability.



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Two main families of ABS algorithms

Algorithms based on **wheel slip** control :

- it is supposed (implicitly) that vehicle speed is measured (or estimated);
- the brake torque converges to a specific value (no oscillations);
- mainly present in an *academic* context...
- and in specific applications (ESP, motorcycles, tyre research).

Algorithms based on **angular acceleration** thresholds :

- do not need the vehicle speed, neither the value of optimal wheel slip;
- quite robust with respect to road conditions and tyre parameters;
- the brake torque oscillates around the optimal value (limit cycle);

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- mainly present in an *industrial* context;
- widely diffused on actual vehicles, but completely heuristic.

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Why doing research on ABS today?

Integrated chassis control :

- black box algorithms are difficult to integrate;
- open algorithms might clarify the architecture of ICC;
- decoupling the observation problem (for vehicle speed) from control.

Electric vehicles, In-wheel motors, EMB :

- standard ABS algorithms are not adapted to regenerative braking (Toyota Prius);
- these heuristic algorithms need the hydraulic lag in order to work properly...
- they loose performance or do not work at all with electric actuators.

Fault management :

• useful to have algorithms with a stability proof. W. Pasillas-Lépine (CNRS, Gif-sur-Yvette, France)



Comparison of our work with other approaches

- We propose a global analysis, not based on linearization Petersen et al. Nonlinear wheel slip control in ABS brakes using gain scheduled constrained LQR. In *Proc. of the European Control Conference*, 2001.
- Exponential stability in both the stable and unstable tyre domains Tanelli et al. Robust nonlinear output feedback control for brake by wire control systems. *Automatica*, 2008.
- We take an optimal wheel acceleration setpoint and propose feedforward terms

 Savaresi et al. Mixed slip-deceleration control in automotive braking systems. ASME J. of Dyn.

 Systems, Measurement, and Control, 2007.
- Other hybrid approaches that use only wheel acceleration information (Bosch) are based on heuristics, we propose a method based on the analysis of limit cycles.

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Wheel dynamics

The angular velocity ω of a given wheel of the vehicle has the following dynamics :

$$I\dot{\omega} = -RF_x + T,$$

where I denotes the inertia of the wheel, R its radius, F_x the longitudinal tyre force, and T the torque applied to the wheel.

The torque $T = T_e - T_b$ is composed of the engine torque T_e and the brake torque T_b .



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Tyre force modelling

The longitudinal tyre force F_x is often modeled as a function

$$F_x = \mu(\lambda)F_z,$$

of the wheel's slip

$$\lambda = \frac{R\omega - v_x}{v_x}$$

The curve $\mu(\cdot)$ can be approximated by a second order rational function

$$\mu(\lambda) = \frac{a_1 \lambda - a_2 \lambda^2}{1 - a_3 \lambda + a_4 \lambda^2}.$$

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Experimental validation



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Wheel slip and acceleration offsets

Define the variables x_1 and x_2 by

$$x_1(t) = \lambda(t)$$

$$x_2(t) = R \frac{d\omega(t)}{dt} - a_x(t),$$

where $a_x(t)$ is the vehicle's acceleration. Derivating these variables we obtain :

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \frac{1}{v_x(t)} \left(-a_x(t)x_1 + x_2 \right)$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -\frac{c\mu'(x_1)}{v_x(t)} \left(-a_x(t)x_1 + x_2 \right) + \frac{u}{v_x(t)} - \frac{da_x(t)}{dt},$$

where

$$c = \frac{R^2}{I}F_z$$
 and $u = v_x(t)\frac{R}{I}\frac{dT}{dt}$.

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Wheel-slip filtered setpoint

For a given wheel-slip reference $\lambda^*(t)$, we will define a filtered setpoint

$$\frac{d\lambda_1}{dt} = \frac{\lambda_2}{v_x(t)}$$
$$\frac{d\lambda_2}{dt} = \frac{-\gamma_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda^*) - \gamma_2\lambda_2}{v_x(t)},$$

where γ_1 and γ_2 are two positive real numbers.

This setpoint filter gives :

- A smooth reference setpoint (that one can differentiate twice) even if the original setpoint is discontinuous (for exemple, piecewise constant).
- A system for which all equations are divided by the vehicle's velocity. This homogeneity allows an analysis of the system in a new (nonlinear) time-scale in which

the dependence on speed disappears.

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Changing the time-scale

In order to have $dt = v_x(t)ds$, we will use a new time-scale

$$s(t) = \int_0^t \frac{d\tau}{v_x(\tau)}.$$

We use a dot to denote the new time-derivative

$$\dot{\varphi}(s) = \frac{d\varphi(s)}{ds}.$$

When the acceleration a_x is constant, in the new time-scale the system is simpler :

$$\dot{x}_1 = -a_x x_1 + x_2$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -c\mu'(x_1)(-a_x x_1 + x_2) + u$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_1 = \lambda_2$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_2 = -\gamma_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda^*) - \gamma_2 \lambda_2.$$

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Choice of the operating point

Let $x_1^* = \lambda_1$ be the desired operating point for x_1 . Define the error coordinates by

$$z_1 = x_1 - x_1^*$$

 $z_2 = x_2 - x_2^*,$

where

$$x_2^* = \lambda_2 + a_x x_1 - \alpha z_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha > 0.$$

The closed-loop equation for z_1 reads

$$\dot{z}_1 = -\alpha z_1 + z_2,$$

which is exponentially stable if $z_2 = 0$. The objective is thus to design a control u such that x_2 converges towards x_2^* asymptotically.

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Our cascaded control law

Driving x_2 towards the dynamic setpoint

$$x_2^* = a_x x_1 + \lambda_2 - \alpha z_1$$

is achieved using the control law

$$u = \underbrace{-\gamma_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda^*) + (-\gamma_2 + a_x + a\mu'(x_1))\lambda_2}_{feedforward} \underbrace{-k_1 z_1 - k_2 z_2}_{feedback}.$$

The dynamic setpoint x_2^* is the core of the cascade :

- The steady state is $a_x x_1$.
- Other terms to reduce error z_1 using cascaded feedback ($-\alpha z_1$) and cascaded feedforward (λ_2).

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Global exponential stability

Theorem 1 Consider an arbitrary piecewise-continuous wheel slip reference $\lambda^*(t)$. If $\lambda^*(t)$ is injected into the filtered setpoint equations and the control law

$$u = -\gamma_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda^*) + (-\gamma_2 + a_x + c\mu'(x_1))\lambda_2 - k_1z_1 - k_2z_2$$

is introduced into the system, then a time-varying closed-loop system

$$\dot{z} = \begin{bmatrix} -\alpha & 1\\ -k_1 + a_x \alpha - \alpha^2 + \alpha \eta(t) & -k_2 + \alpha - a_x - \eta(t) \end{bmatrix} z,$$

is obtained. If the control gains k_1 and k_2 satisfy

$$k_1 > a_x lpha - lpha^2$$
 and $k_2 > lpha - a_x + \eta_m$

then the origin of this closed loop system is globally exponentially stable.

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Robustness

Corollary 1 Consider a constant wheel slip reference λ^* . If λ^* is injected into the filtered setpoint equations and the control law

$$u = -\gamma_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda^*) + (-\gamma_2 + a_x + c\hat{\mu}'(x_1))\lambda_2 - k_1z_1 - k_2z_2$$

is introduced into the system, then a time-varying closed-loop system

$$\dot{z} = A(t)z + B(t)w$$
 $\dot{w} = C(t)w$

is obtained, with the same matrix A(t) as in Theorem 1, and $w = (\lambda_1 - \lambda^*, \lambda_2)$. If the control gains k_1 and k_2 satisfy the bounds

$$k_1>a_xlpha-lpha^2$$
 and $k_2>lpha-a_x+\eta_m$

of Theorem 1, then the closed loop system is globally exponentially stable.

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Simulations — Pure feedforward control

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Simulations — Pure feedback control

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Simulations — With both feedback and feedforward control

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Simulations — With a delay of $15\,ms$

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Simulations — With a perturbation of $\mu(\cdot)$

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TU Delft's Tyre Setup

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Hybrid five-phase algorithms (WPL – VSD 2006)

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A method based on first integrals

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Simulation

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Conclusion

- We proposed a new cascaded wheel slip controller.
- It uses a feedforward to speed up convergence, but a perfect knowledge of the tyre is not required (the feedback part does not use it).
- It leads to a proof of global exponential stability of the closed-loop system.
- Robust to practical phenomena (delays, relaxation length, tyre parameters).
- Validated experimentally with a tyre in-the-loop, by Mathieu Gerard (TU Delft).

Perspectives

- A controller that takes into account actuation delays is currently developed.
- The algorithms for computing angular wheel acceleration need to be improved.

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