Online Computation of Backwards-Reachable Sets for Robust Linear Discrete Time MPC

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Outline

(Active set solver for robust optimal control with quadratic (\mathcal{H}_{∞} -type) cost

- Riccati recursion
- constraint degeneracy
- computation and properties

Active set solver for robust optimal control with piecewise linear cost

- prediction tree structure
- computation and properties

Motivation

Robust Model Predictive Control (RMPC)	
open loop min-max problem solved repeatedly online	[Witsenhausen 1968]
Closed loop RMPC	
online optimization over feedback policies	[Lee & Yu 1997]
 large computational loads 	[Scokaert & Mayne 1998]
 optimality often sacrificed to gain computational efficiency [e.g. Goulart, Kerrigan & Alamo 2009; Rakovic, Kouvaritakis, Cannon & Panos 2012] 	
Parametric solution methods	
optimal feedback structure computed offline [Bemporad, Borelli & Morari 2003]
- requires solution at all points in state space	
- requires online search over polyhedral subsets of sta	te space
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	open loop min-max problem solved repeatedly online Closed loop RMPC online optimization over feedback policies – large computational loads – optimality often sacrificed to gain computational eff [e.g. Goulart, Kerrigan & Alamo 2009; Rakovic, Kon Parametric solution methods optimal feedback structure computed offline – requires solution at all points in state space – requires online search over polyhedral subsets of state

Motivation

Active set methods

local solution based on homotopy

- efficient technique for nominal MPC
- DP solution for:

min-max input-constrained RMPC

min-max input/state-constrained RMPC

[Cannon 2008; Ferreau 2008]

[Buerger, Cannon, Kouvaritakis 2012]

[Buerger, Cannon, Kouvaritakis 2013]

- computation per iteration depends linearly on horizon length
- . . . but
 - requires (offline) solution of robust controllable k-step sets, $k=1,\ldots,N$

• Objective

devise an active set method to compute robust controllable sets locally (online)

• Model
$$x^+ = Ax + Bu + Dw$$

• System constraints $x \in \mathcal{X}, \ u \in \mathcal{U}, \ w \in \mathcal{W},$ $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}$ compact, convex, polytopic sets

• Problem A: min-max optimal control with quadratic cost

$$\begin{aligned} \left(u_m^*(x), w_m^*(x, u)\right) &= \arg\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \; \max_{w \in \mathcal{W}} J_m(x, u, w) \\ \text{subject to } Ax + Bu \in \mathcal{X}_{m-1} \ominus D\mathcal{W} \end{aligned}$$

where $J_m : \mathcal{H}_{\infty}$ -type cost for *m*-stage problem $J_m(x, u, w) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\|x\|_Q^2 + \|u\|_R^2 - \gamma^2 \|w\|^2 \right) + J_{m-1}^*(x^+)$ \mathcal{X}_m : robustly controllable set to terminal set \mathcal{X}^f in *m* steps $\mathcal{X}_m = \mathcal{X} \cap \{x : \exists u \in \mathcal{U}, Ax + Bu \in \mathcal{X}_{m-1} \ominus D\mathcal{W}\}$

• Model
$$x^+ = Ax + Bu + Dw$$

• System constraints $x \in \mathcal{X}, \ u \in \mathcal{U}, \ w \in \mathcal{W},$ $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}$ compact, convex, polytopic sets

• Problem B: min-max optimal control with piecewise linear cost

$$(u_m^*(x), w_m^*(x, u)) = \arg\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \max_{w \in \mathcal{W}} V_m(x, u, w)$$

where
$$V_m^*(x) \le 1 \iff x \in \mathcal{X}_m$$

 $V_m(x, u, w) = \max\{||Ex||_{\infty}, V_{m-1}(x^+)\}$
with $\mathcal{X} = \{x : Ex \le 1\}$
 $V_m^* = c, c \text{ increasing}$
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• Problem A: terminal conditions

$$J_0^*(x) = rac{1}{2} \|x\|_P^2$$

 $\mathcal{X}_0 = \mathcal{X}^f$

where
$$\|x_0\|_P^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\|x_k\|_Q^2 + \|u_k\|_R^2 - \gamma^2 \|w_k\|^2)$$
 under $\begin{cases} u_k = u_\infty^f(x_k) \\ w_k = w_\infty^f(x_k, u_k) \end{cases}$
 $\mathcal{X}^f : \text{r.p.i. under } u_\infty^f(x) \iff A\mathcal{X}^f + Bu_\infty^f(x) \subseteq \mathcal{X}^f \ominus D\mathcal{W}$

• Problem B: terminal conditions

$$V_0^*(x) = \|E^f x\|_{\infty}$$

where $\mathcal{X}^f = \{x : E^f x \leq \mathbf{1}\}$

Assume

- \triangleright (A, B) controllable
- $\triangleright \ Q \succeq 0, \ R \succ 0$
- $\triangleright \ (A,Q^{1/2})$ observable
- $\,\vartriangleright\,\,\gamma\,$ sufficiently large to ensure convexity
- Sequential min-max optimization performed over arbitrary feedback laws:

$$\mathbf{u} = \{u_N(x_0), \dots, u_1(x_{N-1})\}$$
$$\mathbf{w} = \{w_N(x_0, u_0), \dots, w_1(x_{N-1}, u_{N-1})\}$$
$$\mathbf{x} = \{x_0, \dots, x_N\}$$

• Receding horizon control law at time t for N-step horizon:

$$u_t = u_N^*(x_t^p)$$

 $(x_t^p = \text{plant state at } t)$

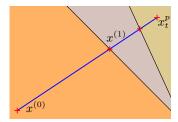
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Active set solution

Outline of method:

 \triangleright For a given active set, use Riccati recursions to solve KKT conditions \implies sequence of optimal control laws and worst case disturbances

 $\,\triangleright\,$ Line search through polyhedral partitions of x-space



▷ Update the set of active constraints

Problem A: 1st order optimality conditions

- Derive 1st order optimality (KKT) conditions by using the Wolfe dual to combine Lagrangian functions for $k = N - 1, \ldots, 1, 0$ assuming convexity
- kth stage subproblem (k = N m)
 - ▷ Inequality constraints

Primal Dual $u \in \mathcal{U} \iff Fu < 1 \qquad \mu > 0$ $w \in \mathcal{W} \iff Gw < 1$ $\eta > 0$ $Ax + Bu \in \mathcal{X}_{m-1} \ominus D\mathcal{W} \iff E^{N-m}\hat{x} \leq \mathbf{1}$ $\nu > 0$ Equality constraints Multipliers ĵ $\hat{x} = Ax + Bu$ $x^+ = \hat{x} + Dw$ λ $C\hat{x} = \mathbf{1}$ ζ ĉ

 $\hat{C}r = -1$

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Problem A: 1st order optimality conditions

 $N\mbox{-}{\sf stage}$ problem KKT conditions

$$\begin{split} \gamma^2 w_k + G^T \eta_k - D^T \lambda_k &= 0\\ \eta_k \ge 0, \quad \eta_k^T (\mathbf{1} - Gw_k) = 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - Gw_k \ge 0\\ \hat{C}_k x_{k+1} &= -\mathbf{1}\\ Ru_k + F^T \mu_k + B^T \hat{\lambda}_k &= 0\\ \nu_k \ge 0, \quad \nu_k^T (\mathbf{1} - E^k \hat{x}_{k+1}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - E^k \hat{x}_{k+1} \ge 0\\ \mu_k \ge 0, \quad \mu_k^T (\mathbf{1} - Fu_k) = 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - Fu_k \ge 0\\ C_k \hat{x}_{k+1} &= \mathbf{1}\\ \hat{x}_{k+1} &= Ax_k + Bu_k, \quad x_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1} + Dw_k\\ \lambda_k &= A^T \hat{\lambda}_{k+1} + Qx_{k+1} + \hat{C}_k^T \zeta_k\\ \hat{\lambda}_k &= \lambda_k + E^{k^T} \nu_k + C_k^T \hat{\zeta}_k \end{split}$$

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for $k=0,\ldots,N-1$

Initial and terminal conditions:

$$x_0 = x^p$$

$$x_{N-1} = P x_N$$

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Problem A: 1st order optimality conditions

N-stage problem KKT conditions for a given active set

$$\gamma^{2} w_{k} + G^{T} \eta_{a,k} - D^{T} \lambda_{k} = 0$$

$$\eta_{a,k} \ge 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - G_{k} w_{k} = 0$$

$$\hat{C}_{k} x_{k+1} = -\mathbf{1}$$

$$Ru_{k} + F^{T} \mu_{a,k} + B^{T} \hat{\lambda}_{k} = 0$$

$$\nu_{a,k} \ge 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - E_{k} \hat{x}_{k+1} = 0$$

$$\mu_{a,k} \ge 0, \quad \mathbf{1} - Fu_{a,k} = 0$$

$$C_{k} \hat{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_{N-k}^{*}(x_{k})$$

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$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{x}_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k, \quad x_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1} + Dw_k \\ \lambda_k = A^T \hat{\lambda}_{k+1} + Qx_{k+1} + \hat{C}_k^T \zeta_k \\ \hat{\lambda}_k = \lambda_k + E_k^T \nu_{a,k} + C_k^T \hat{\zeta}_k \end{array} \right\} \implies \begin{array}{l} \lambda_k(x_{k+1}), \\ \hat{\lambda}_k(\hat{x}_{k+1}) \end{pmatrix}$$

for $k=0,\ldots,N-1$

Initial and terminal conditions:

$$x_0 = x^p$$

 $\lambda_{N-1} = P x_N$

Problem A: Riccati recursion

 ${\tt State/co-state\ dependence:}$

$$\lambda_k = P_k x_{k+1} + q_k \hat{\lambda}_k = \hat{P}_k \hat{x}_{k+1} + \hat{q}_k + E_k^T \nu_{a,k}$$
 $k = 0, \dots, N-1$

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 \triangleright kth stage maximization:

Problem A: Riccati recursion

 ${\sf State}/{\sf co}{\sf -}{\sf state} \ {\sf dependence}{:}$

$$\lambda_{k} = P_{k} x_{k+1} + q_{k} \hat{\lambda}_{k} = \hat{P}_{k} \hat{x}_{k+1} + \hat{q}_{k} + E_{k}^{T} \nu_{a,k}$$
 $\} k = 0, \dots, N-1$

 \triangleright *k*th stage minimization:

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Problem A: Riccati recursion

State/co-state dependence:

$$\frac{\lambda_k = P_k x_{k+1} + q_k}{\hat{\lambda}_k = \hat{P}_k \hat{x}_{k+1} + \hat{q}_k + E_k^T \nu_{a,k} } \right\} k = 0, \dots, N-1$$

- Introduce equality (compatibility) constraints into preceding stage whenever constraints are degenerate
- \triangleright Set $\zeta = 0$, $\hat{\zeta} = 0$ to preserve continuity

Problem A: active set method

• Forward simulation: $x^+ = Ax_k + Bu^*_{N-k}(x_k) + Dw^*_{N-k}(x_k, u^*_{N-k}(x_k))$

$$x_k = \Phi_k x_0 + \phi_k$$

• For given active set \mathcal{A} ,

 $\mathbf{p}(x_0,\beta_0,\mathcal{A}) = \left\{ \mathbf{u}(x_0,\mathcal{A}), \mathbf{w}(x_0,\mathcal{A}), \boldsymbol{\mu}(x_0,\beta_0,\mathcal{A}), \boldsymbol{\nu}(x_0,\beta_0,\mathcal{A}), \boldsymbol{\eta}(x_0,\beta_0,\mathcal{A})) \right\}$ is affine in x_0 (and possibly β_0)

- Define $\mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}) = \{x_0 : \mathcal{A}^*(x_0) = \mathcal{A}, \text{ for some } \beta_0\}$, then
 - $\begin{array}{l} \ \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}) \text{ is convex and polyhedral} \\ \ \bigcup_{\mathcal{A} \in \Omega} \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}) \text{ covers the set of feasible initial conditions, } \mathcal{X}_N \end{array}$

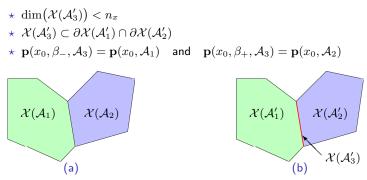
Problem A: geometric properties of solution

(a) If $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ are non-degenerate, then

$$\star \dim (\mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_i)) = n_x \quad i = 1, 2$$

*
$$\mathbf{p}(x_0, \mathcal{A}_1) = \mathbf{p}(x_0, \mathcal{A}_2) \quad \forall x_0 \in \partial \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_1) \cap \partial \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_2)$$

(b) If $\mathcal{A}_1', \mathcal{A}_2'$ are non-degenerate and \mathcal{A}_3' is degenerate at stage k=0, then



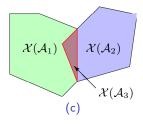
 \implies **p** is continuous in x_0, β_0

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Problem A: geometric properties of solution

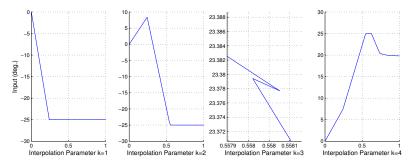
(c) If A_1, A_2 are non-degenerate and A_3 is degenerate at k > 0, then

- $\star \dim (\mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_i)) = n_x \quad i = 1, 2, 3$
- $\star \ \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_3) \subset \mathcal{X}(A_1) \cap \mathcal{X}(A_2)$
- ★ regions overlap so $\mathcal{A}^*(x_0)$ non-unique for $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}_3)$



but \mathbf{p} is still continuous in x_0

Problem A: example of degeneracy

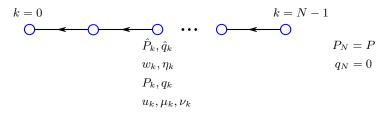


Example: variation of $\mathbf{u} = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3\}$ with linesearch parameter

degenerate constraints at k = 3

Initialize with $x_0^{(0)}$ and $\mathcal{A}^{(0)}$ such that $x_0^{(0)} \in \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}^{(0)})$. At iteration $i = 0, 1, \ldots$:

1. backwards recursion



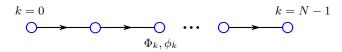
computation: $O(N(6n_x^3 + an_w^3 + bn_u^3))$

a, b: constants depending on QP subproblem factorization

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Initialize with $x_0^{(0)}$ and $\mathcal{A}^{(0)}$ such that $x_0^{(0)} \in \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}^{(0)})$. At iteration $i = 0, 1, \ldots$:

2. forward simulation

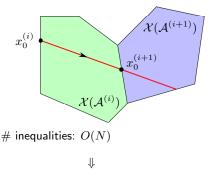


computation: $O(Nn_x^2)$

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Initialize with $x_0^{(0)}$ and $\mathcal{A}^{(0)}$ such that $x_0^{(0)} \in \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}^{(0)})$. At iteration $i = 0, 1, \ldots$:

3. perform line search & update $\mathcal{A}^{(i)}$



Overall complexity is O(N) per iteration,

but bounds on number of iterations could be large

- Initialization
 - $\begin{array}{ll} \triangleright \mbox{ cold start:} & x_0^{(0)} = 0, & \mathcal{A}^{(0)} = \emptyset \\ \mbox{ } \nu \mbox{ warm start:} & x_0^{(0)} = x_1^* \mbox{ at time } t 1, & \mathcal{A}^{(0)} \mbox{ computed from } \mathcal{A}^*(x_{t-1}^p) \end{array}$

• Convergence:
$$\mathcal{A}^{(i)}=\mathcal{A}^*(x^p)$$
 in finite number of iterations follows from

 $\,\triangleright\,$ uniqueness of transition $\mathcal{A}^{(i)} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{(i+1)}$ at each iteration

 $\,\triangleright\,$ finite number of admissible active sets ${\cal A}$

- Closed loop stability: $u_t = u_N^*(x_t)$ ensures
 - $\triangleright \ \mathcal{X}_N$ robustly invariant
 - \triangleright l^2 -gain bound:

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \left(\|x_t\|_Q^2 + \|u_t\|_R^2 \right) \le \gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \|w_t\|^2 + 2J_N^*(x_0)$$

Computation and performance of:

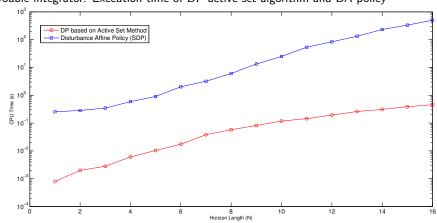
DP active set algorithm vs Disturbance Affine (DA) feedback policy [Goulart, Kerrigan, Alamo 2009]

(i) double integrator plant model:
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

with
$$U = \{u \in \mathbb{R} : -1 \le u \le 1\}$$

 $W = \{w \in \mathbb{R}^2 : -0.3 \le w_i \le 0.3 \text{ for } i = 1, 2\},\$

 (ii) 4th order plant (aircraft pitch dynamics) with input and state constraints disturbance: uncertainty in wing and elevator lift forces

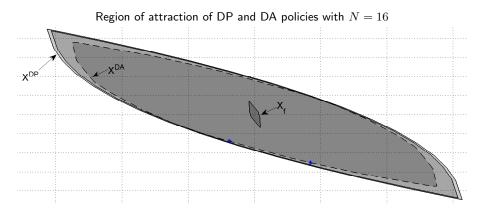


Double integrator: Execution time of DP active set algorithm and DA policy

ightarrow average data for 50 plant states $x^p \in \mathcal{X}_N - \mathcal{X}_{N-1}$

 \triangleright DP active set is around 100 times faster despite being optimal

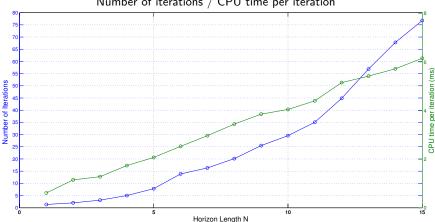
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Predicted cost for 50 plant states on $\partial \mathcal{X}_{16}^{DA}$:

- \triangleright average suboptimality of DA policy: 4.2%
- \triangleright maximum suboptimality of DA policy: 22%

4th order plant (aircraft pitch dynamics) with input and state constraints:



Number of iterations / CPU time per iteration

average data for 50 plant states $x^p \in \mathcal{X}_N - \mathcal{X}_{N-1}$

Problem B: solution structure

Maximization problem is NP-hard:

$$\max_{w \in \mathcal{W}} V_m(x, u, w) = \max_{w \in \mathcal{W}} \|E_k(Ax + Bu + Dw) + e_k\|_{\infty}$$

 \triangleright If $\mathcal{W} = \operatorname{co}\{w^{(j)}, \ j = 1, \dots, n_{\mathcal{W}}\}$, then

$$w^{(j_k^*)} = \arg\max_{w\in\mathcal{W}} \|E_k(Ax + Bu + Dw) + e_k\|_{\infty}$$
$$j_k^* = \arg\max_{j=1,\dots,n_{\mathcal{W}}} \|E_k Dw^{(j)}\|_{\infty}$$

▷ results in a tree of predictions [Scokaert, Mayne 1998] e.g. for $n_{\mathcal{W}} = 2$, N = 3: k = 1 $w^{(1)}$ $w^{(2)}$ $w^{(2)}$ $w^{(1)}$ $w^{(2)}$ $w^{(1)}$ $w^{(2)}$ $w^{$

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Problem B: continuity and uniqueness of solution

Equivalent maximization problem at stage k:

$$\max_{w \in \mathcal{W}} V_m(x, u, w) = \max_{j=1, \dots, n_{\mathcal{W}}} \left\{ E_k^{(j)} (Ax + Bu) + e_k^{(j)} \right\}$$
$$= E_k^{(j_k^*)} (Ax + Bu) + e_k^{(j_k^*)}$$

▷ min-max problem is a parametric LP:

$$\begin{split} V_m^*(x) &= \min_{\alpha, u} & \alpha \\ \text{subject to} & \alpha \geq E_k^{(j)}(Ax + Bu) + e_k^{(j)}, \ j = 1, \dots n_W \\ & Fu \leq \mathbf{1} \end{split}$$

Problem B: 1st order optimality conditions

• KKT system for *k*th stage subproblem:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Primal:} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & -E \\ 0 & F \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_k \\ u_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} EA \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} e \\ \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} \\ \mbox{Dual:} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^T & 0 \\ B^T E^T & F^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_{a,k} \\ \mu_{a,k} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

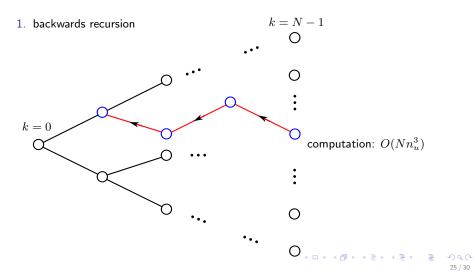
▷ primal and dual problems linked only by active set

 $\triangleright\;$ dual variables are piecewise constant functions of x_0

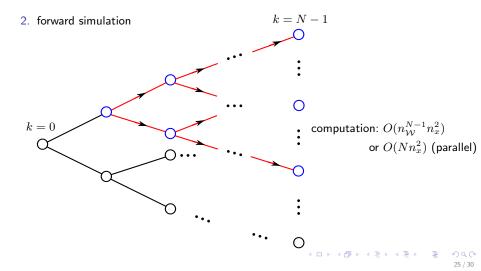
•
$$E_{N-1} = E^f$$
, $e_{N-1} = \max_j E^f Dw^{(j)}$ (row-wise max)
 E_{k-1}, e_{k-1} obtained from $\alpha_k(x) \implies$ backwards recursion along path within tree

• Forwards simulation computes $\alpha_k(x_0), u_k(x_0)$ at all nodes in a sub-tree

Initialize with $x_0^{(0)}$ and $\mathcal{A}^{(0)}$ such that $x_0^{(0)} \in \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{A}^{(0)})$. At iteration $i = 0, 1, \ldots$:

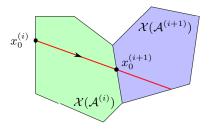


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3. perform line search & update $\mathcal{A}^{(i)}$



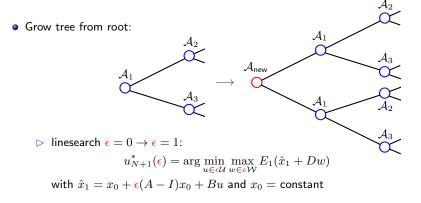
inequalities: $O(n_{W}^{N-1})$

Overall complexity is $O(Nn_u^3 + n_W^{N-1}n_x^2)$ per iteration or $O(N(n_u^3 + n_x^2))$ per iteration using parallel processing

- $\,\triangleright\,$ number of matrix inversions required per iteration is linear in N
- \triangleright number of constraints grows exponentially with N

Problem B: growing the prediction tree

• Optimal terminal feedback law is not available in closed form hence initialization (cold start) requires tree growth



 $\triangleright \ \mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{new}}$ obtained by inspection for $\epsilon = 0$

Problem B: growing and shrinking the prediction tree

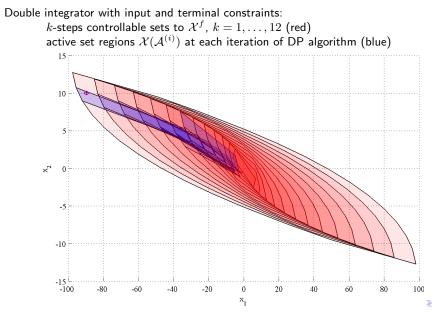
• During linesearch over x_0 ,

if $V_N^*(x_0) \ge 1$, then: set N := N + 1grow the tree and perform linesearch $\epsilon = 0 \rightarrow \epsilon = 1$ \downarrow $u_N^*(x) = \text{optimal minimum-time control law}$

- Minimum-time optimal shrinking of tree requires computation of $V_{N-1}(x_0)$
- Shrink the tree suboptimally during linesearch over x₀:

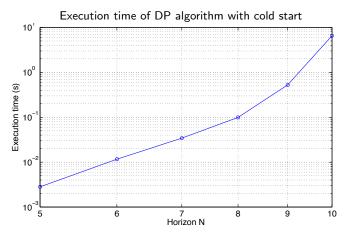
if $V_N^*(x_0) < v_{\min}$, then: perform linesearch $\epsilon = 1 \to \epsilon = 0$ prune the tree and set N := N-1

where $V_N^*(x) < v_{\min} \implies x \in \mathcal{X}_{N-1}$



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4th order plant (aircraft pitch dynamics) with input and state constraints



 \triangleright average times for 30 plant states $x^p \in \mathcal{X}_N - \mathcal{X}_{N-1}$

▷ forward simulation <u>not</u> implemented using parallel processing

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Conclusions

- Active set method for DP based on homotopy of optimal trajectories
- Quadratic \mathcal{H}_{∞} cost:
 - \blacktriangleright computational load per iteration depends linearly on horizon N overall load approx. quadratic in N
 - requires knowledge of robust controllable k-step sets, $k = 1, \ldots, N$
- Piecewise linear cost:
 - enables local exploration of robust controllable sets
 - number of matrix inversions per iteration depends linearly on N
 - \blacktriangleright number of constraints in line search grows exponentially with N
- Future work: multiplicative uncertainty & stochastic problems