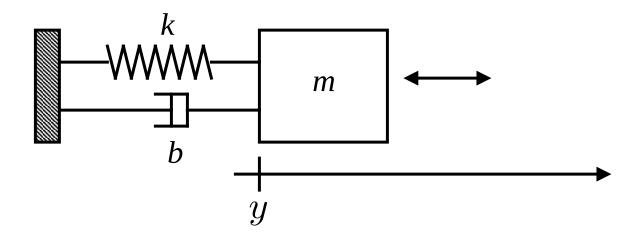
Linear Optimal Control



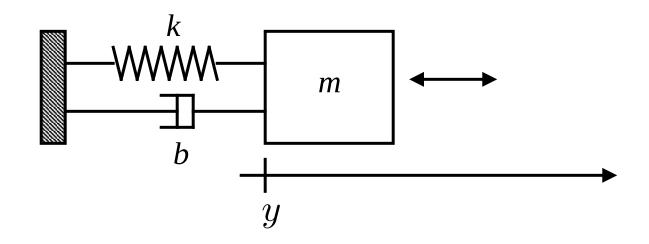
How does this guy remain upright?

Overview

- 1. expressing a linear system in state space form
- 2. discrete time linear optimal control (LQR)
- 3. linearizing around an operating point
- 4. linear model predictive control
- 5. LQR variants
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Force exerted by the spring:f = kyForce exerted by the damper: $f = b\dot{y}$ Force exerted by the inertia of the mass: $f = m\ddot{y}$



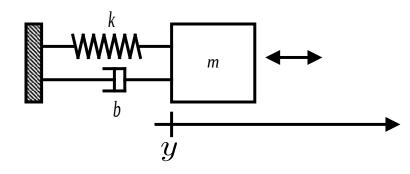
Consider the motion of the mass

- there are no other forces acting on the mass
- therefore, the equation of motion is the sum of the forces:

$$0 = m\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + ky$$

This is called a linear system. Why?

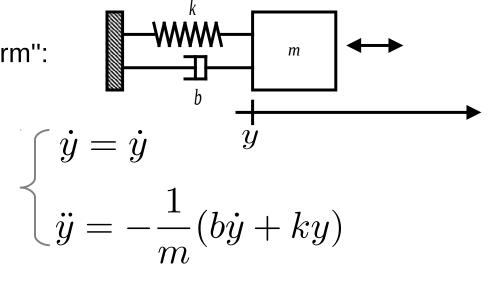
Let's express this in "state space form":

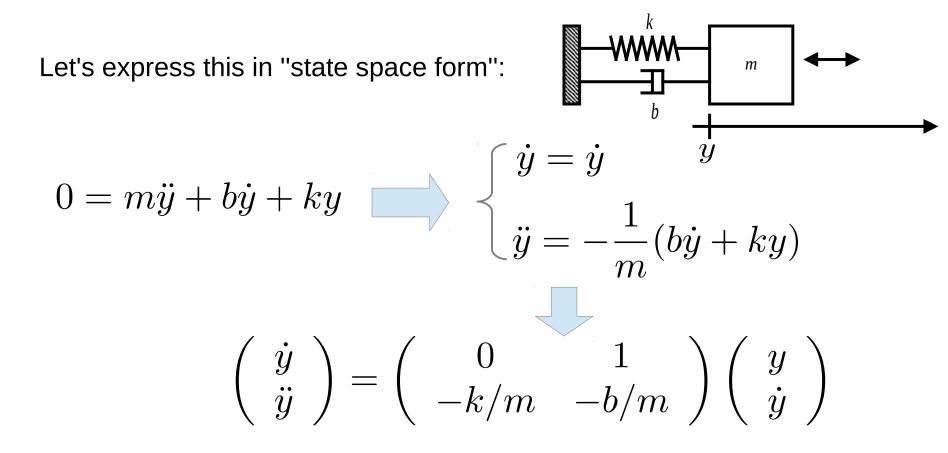


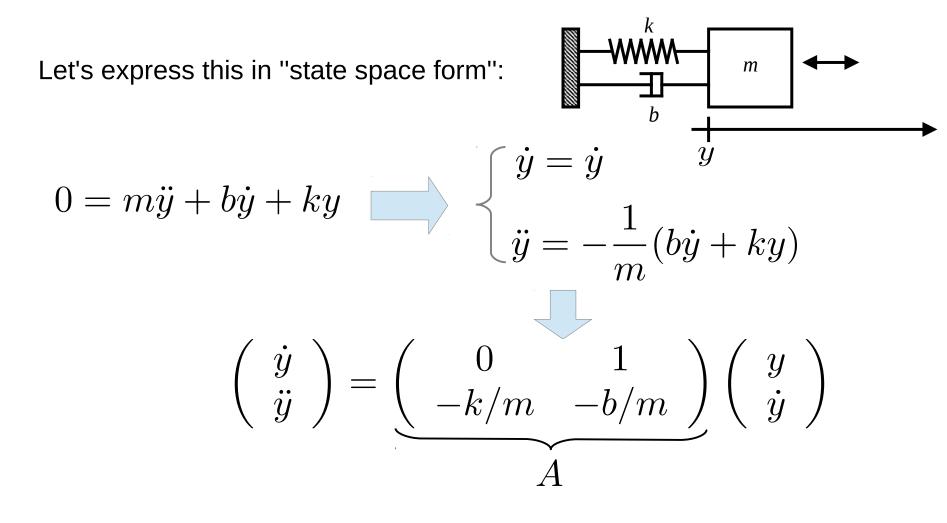
$$0 = m\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + ky$$

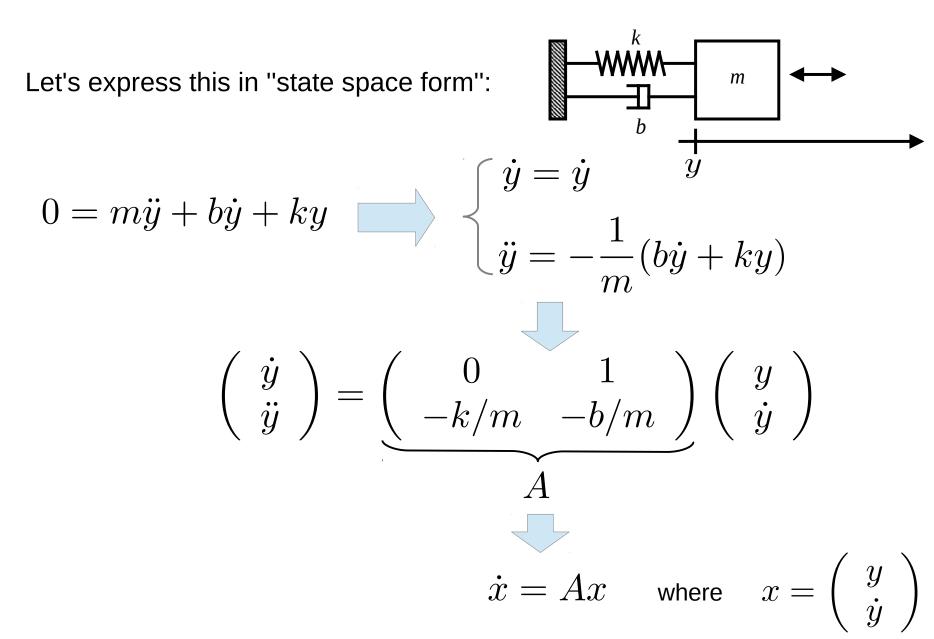
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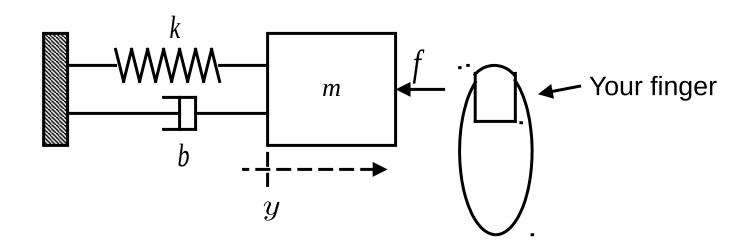
 $0 = m\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + ky$







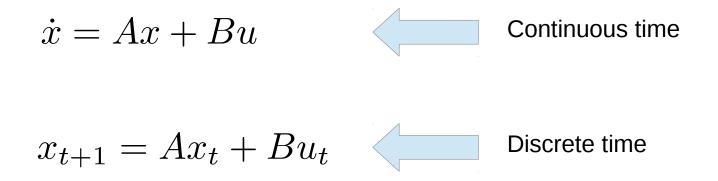


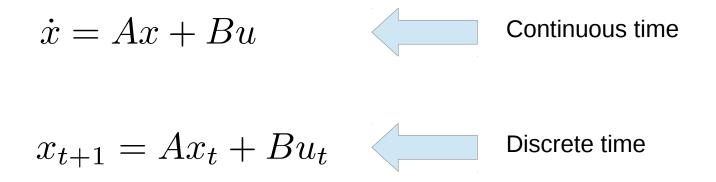


Suppose that you apply a force:

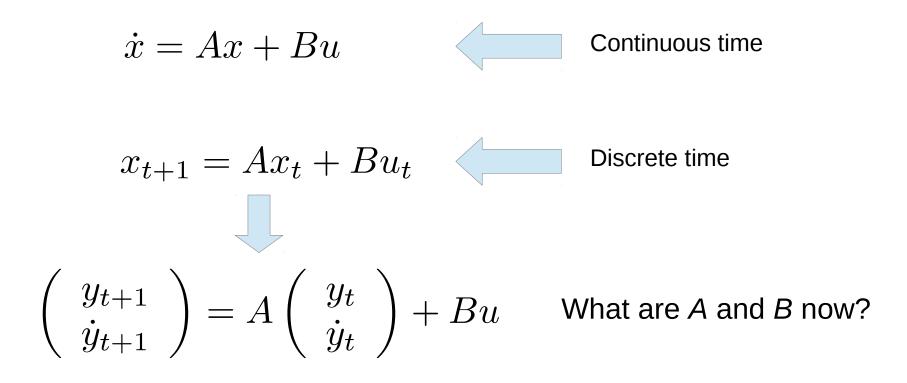
Suppose that you apply a force:

Suppose that you apply a force:





What are A and B now?



$$\left(\begin{array}{c} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{array}\right) = A \left(\begin{array}{c} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{array}\right) + Bu$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t + \dot{y}_t dt$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}y_{t+1}\\\dot{y}_{t+1}\end{array}\right) = A\left(\begin{array}{c}y_t\\\dot{y}_t\end{array}\right) + Bu$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t + \dot{y}_t dt$$
$$\dot{y}_{t+1} = \dot{y}_t + \ddot{y}_t dt$$
$$\dot{y}_{t+1} = \dot{y}_t - \frac{1}{m} (b\dot{y} + ky) dt + u dt$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{array}\right) = A \left(\begin{array}{c} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{array}\right) + Bu$$

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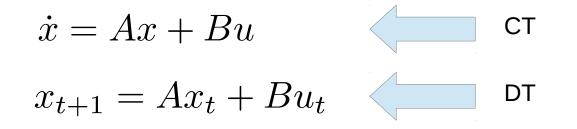
$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & dt \\ -\frac{k}{m}dt & 1 - \frac{b}{m}dt \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ dt \end{pmatrix} u$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{array}\right) = A \left(\begin{array}{c} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{array}\right) + Bu$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & dt \\ -\frac{k}{m}dt & 1 - \frac{b}{m}dt \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ dt \end{pmatrix} u$$

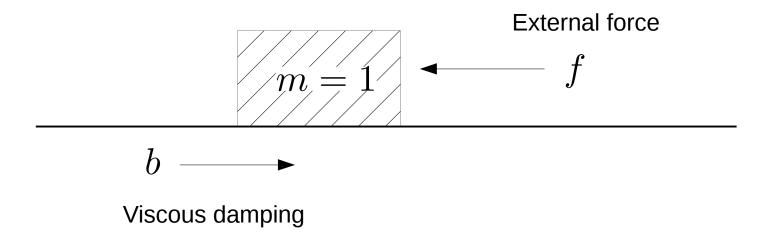
$$A \qquad B$$



$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \dot{y}\\ \ddot{y}\end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1\\ -k/m & -b/m\end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} y\\ \dot{y}\end{array}\right) + \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 1\end{array}\right) u \qquad \text{ст}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{t+1} \\ \dot{y}_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & dt \\ -\frac{k}{m}dt & 1 - \frac{b}{m}dt \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_t \\ \dot{y}_t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ dt \end{pmatrix} u \quad \text{DT}$$

Exercise: write DT system dynamics



Exercise: write DT system dynamics

Something else...

Overview

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Given:

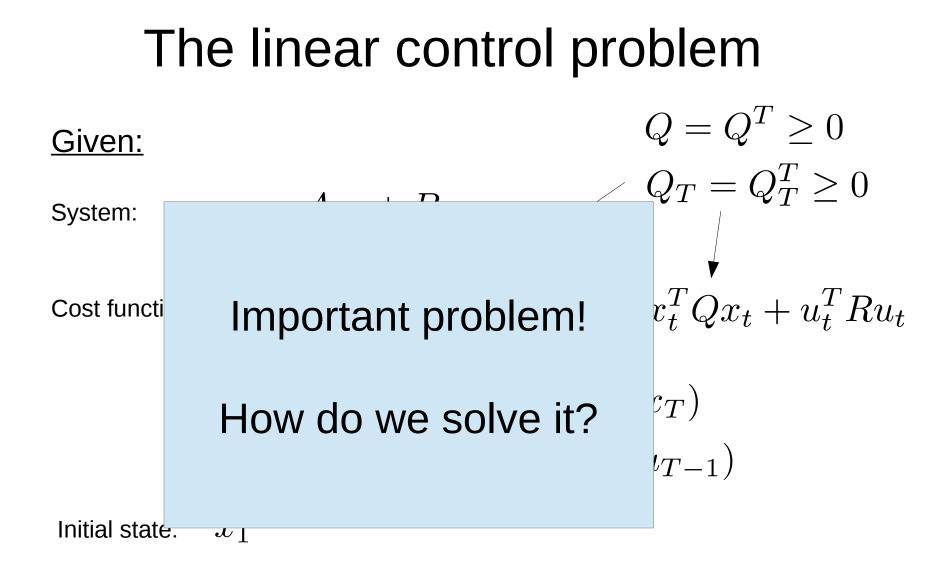
System: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

Given:

System: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$ Cost function: $J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T Ru_t$ where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$ $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(X, U)



<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(*X*,*U*)

$$x_{1} = x_{1}$$

$$x_{2} = Ax_{1} + Bu_{1}$$

$$x_{3} = A(Ax_{1} + Bu_{1}) + Bu_{2} = A^{2}x_{1} + ABu_{1} + Bu_{2}$$

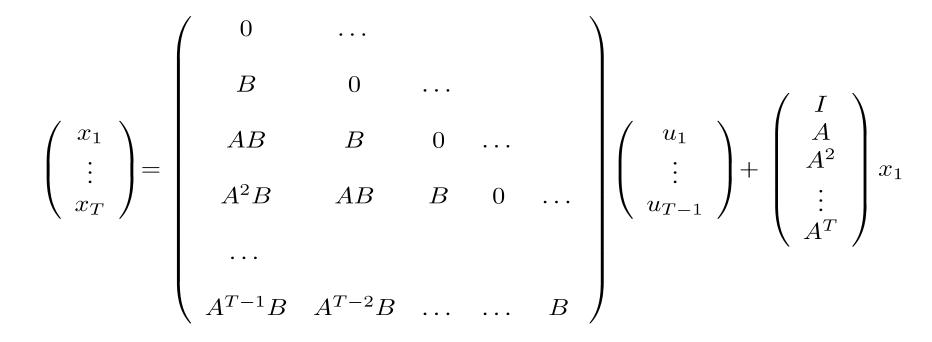
$$x_{4} = \dots$$

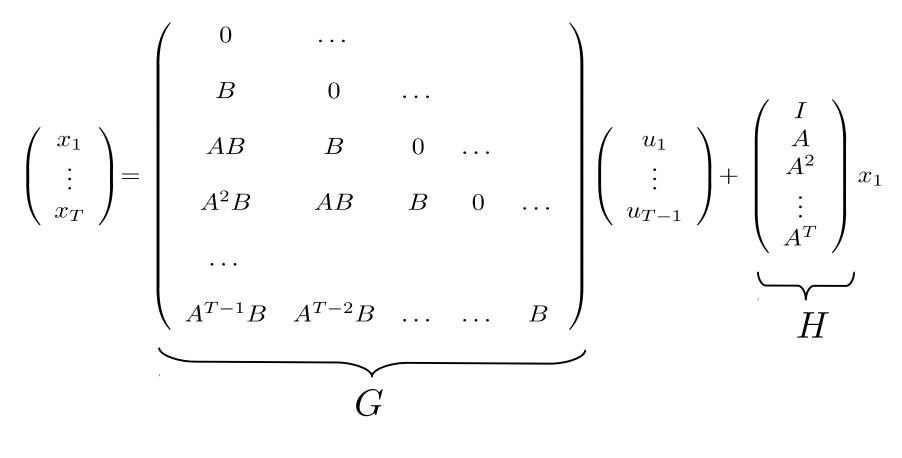
$$x_{1} = x_{1}$$

$$x_{2} = Ax_{1} + Bu_{1}$$

$$x_{3} = A(Ax_{1} + Bu_{1}) + Bu_{2} = A^{2}x_{1} + ABu_{1} + Bu_{2}$$

$$x_{4} = \dots$$





 $X = GU + Hx_1$

where

 $X = (x_1, \ldots, x_T)$

 $U = (u_1, \ldots, u_{T-1})$

$$J(X,U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

 $J(X,U) = X^T \mathbb{Q} X + U^T \mathbb{R} U$

where:

$$X = (x_1, \dots, x_T) \qquad \mathbb{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} Q & 0 & \dots & 0 & Q & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & Q & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & Q_T \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbb{R} = \begin{pmatrix} R & 0 & \dots & & \\ 0 & R & 0 & \dots & \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & R \end{pmatrix}$$

 $1 \circ \circ$

 \mathbf{X}

Given:

System: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

Cost function:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$
 $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(X, U)

<u>Given:</u>

System: $X = GU + Hx_1$

Cost function:
$$J(X,U) = X^T \mathbb{Q} X + U^T \mathbb{R} U$$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(*X*,*U*)

Substitute X into J:

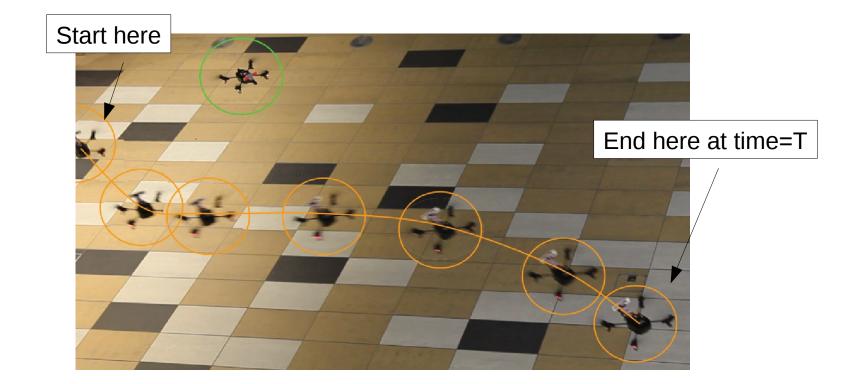
$$J(X,U) = (GU + Hx_1)^T \mathbb{Q}(GU + Hx_1) + U^T \mathbb{R}U$$
$$J(X,U) = U^T (G^T \mathbb{Q}G)U + U^T \mathbb{R}U + 2H^T x_1^T \mathbb{Q}GU$$

Minimize by setting dJ/dU=0:

$$\frac{\partial J(X,U)}{\partial U} = 2(G^T \mathbb{Q}G)U + 2\mathbb{R}U + 2H^T x_1^T \mathbb{Q}G = 0$$

Solve for U:
$$U = -(G^T \mathbb{Q}G + \mathbb{R})^{-1}G^T \mathbb{Q}Hx_1$$

What can this do?



Solve for optimal trajectory: $U = -(G^T \mathbb{Q}G + \mathbb{R})^{-1} G^T \mathbb{Q}H x_1$

Image: van den Berg, 2015

What can this do?

$U = -(G^T \mathbb{Q}G + \mathbb{R})^{-1} G^T \mathbb{Q}H x_1$

This is cool, but...

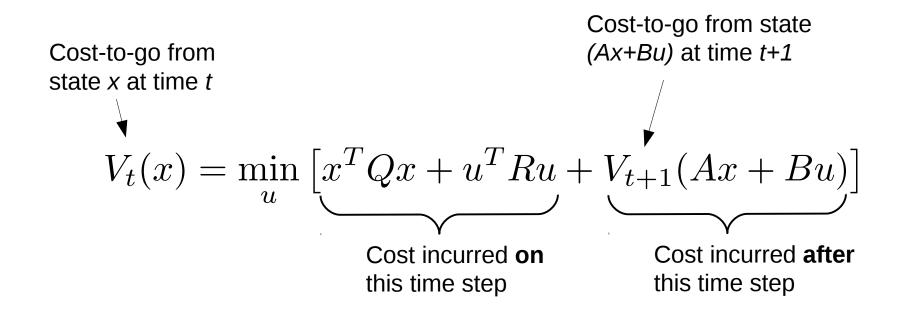
- only works for finite horizon problems
- doesn't account for noise
- requires you to invert a big matrix

Bellman optimality principle:

$$V_t(x) = \min_u \left[x^T Q x + u^T R u + V_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$$

Why is this equation true?

Bellman optimality principle:



For the sake of argument, suppose that the cost-to-go is always a quadratic function like this: $\longrightarrow V_t(x) = x^T P_t x$ where: $P_t = P_t^T \ge 0$

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Then:

$$V_t(x) = \min_u \left[x^T Q x + u^T R u + V_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$$
$$= x^T Q x + \min_u \left[u^T R u + (A x + B u)^T P_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$$

For the sake of argument, suppose that the cost-to-go is always a quadratic function like this: $\longrightarrow V_t(x) = x^T P_t x$ where: $P_t = P_t^T > 0$ Then: $V_t(x) = \min_{u} \left[x^T Q x + u^T R u + V_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$ $= x^T Q x + \min \left[u^T R u + (A x + B u)^T P_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$

> How do we minimize this term? – take derivative and set it to zero.

Let's try to solve this another way $V_t(x) = \min_u \left[x^T Q x + u^T R u + V_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$ $= x^T Q x + \min_u \left[u^T R u + (A x + B u)^T P_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]$ How do we minimize this term?

 $\frac{\partial V_t(x)}{\partial u} = \left[u^T R + u^T B^T P_{t+1} B + x^T A^T P_{t+1} B \right] = 0$ $u^* = -(R + B^T P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{t+1} Ax$ (n)

take derivative and set it to zero.

Let's try to solve this another way

$$V_{t}(x) = \min_{u} \left[x^{T}Qx + u^{T}Ru + V_{t+1}(Ax + Bu) \right]$$

$$= x^{T}Qx + \min_{u} \left[u^{T}Ru + (Ax + Bu)^{T}P_{t+1}(Ax + Bu) \right]$$
How do we minimize this term?

take derivative and set it to zero.

$$u^{*} = \underbrace{-(R + B^{T} P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^{T} P_{t+1} Ax}_{V_{t}(x) = \min_{u} \left[x^{T} Qx + u^{T} Ru + V_{t+1} (Ax + Bu) \right]}$$

$$u^{*} = \underbrace{-(R + B^{T} P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^{T} P_{t+1} A x}_{V_{t}(x) = \min_{u} \left[x^{T} Q x + u^{T} R u + V_{t+1} (A x + B u) \right]}_{V_{t}(x) = x^{T} \left[Q + A^{T} P_{t+1} A - A^{T} P_{t+1} B (R + B^{T} P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^{T} P_{t+1} A \right] x$$

$$u^{*} = \underbrace{-(R + B^{T} P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T} P_{t+1}Ax}_{V_{t}(x) = \min_{u} \left[x^{T}Qx + u^{T}Ru + V_{t+1}(Ax + Bu)\right]}_{V_{t}(x) = x^{T} \left[Q + A^{T}P_{t+1}A - A^{T}P_{t+1}B(R + B^{T}P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{t+1}A\right]x}_{P_{t}}$$

$$u^{*} = \underbrace{-(R + B^{T} P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T} P_{t+1}Ax}_{V_{t}(x) = \min u} [x^{T}Qx + u^{T}Ru + V_{t+1}(Ax + Bu)]$$

$$V_{t}(x) = x^{T} [Q + A^{T}P_{t+1}A - A^{T}P_{t+1}B(R + B^{T}P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{t+1}A]x$$

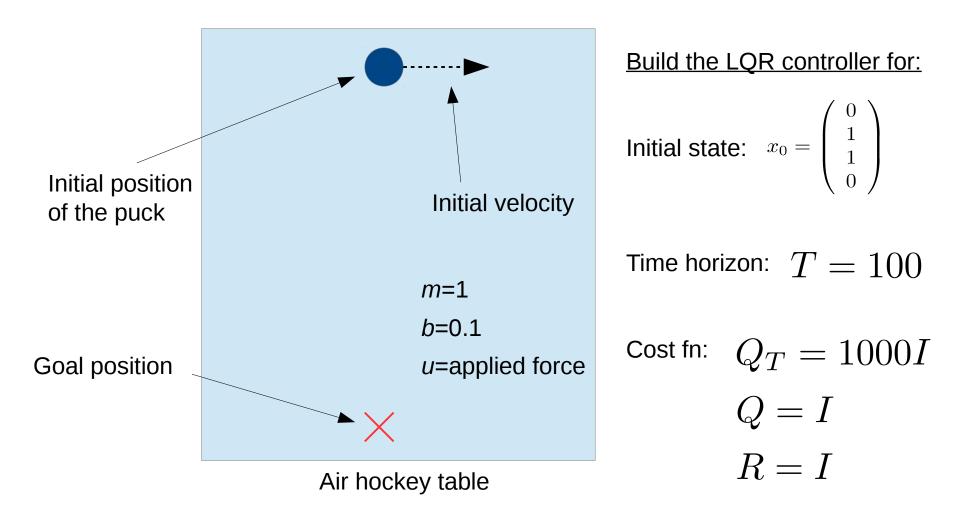
$$P_{t}$$

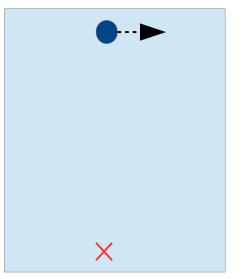
$$P_{t} = Q + A^{T}P_{t+1}A - A^{T}P_{t+1}B(R + B^{T}P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{t+1}A$$

Substitute *u* into *V_t(x)*:

$$u^{*} = \underbrace{-(R + B^{T}P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{t+1}Ax}_{V_{t}(x) = \min \left[x^{T}Ox + u^{T}Ru + V_{t+1}(Ax + Bu)\right]}$$

$$V_{t}(x) = x^{T} \left[\underbrace{\mathsf{Oynamic Riccati Equation}_{t+1}A \right] x}_{P_{t} = Q + A^{T}P_{t+1}A - A^{T}P_{t+1}B(R + B^{T}P_{t+1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{t+1}A} \right]$$





<u>Step 1:</u> Calculate P backward from T: P_100, P_99, P_98, ... , P_1

HOW?

Air hockey table

<u>Step 1:</u> Calculate P backward from T: P_100, P_99, P_98, ... , P_1

 $P_{100} = 1000I$



Air hockey table

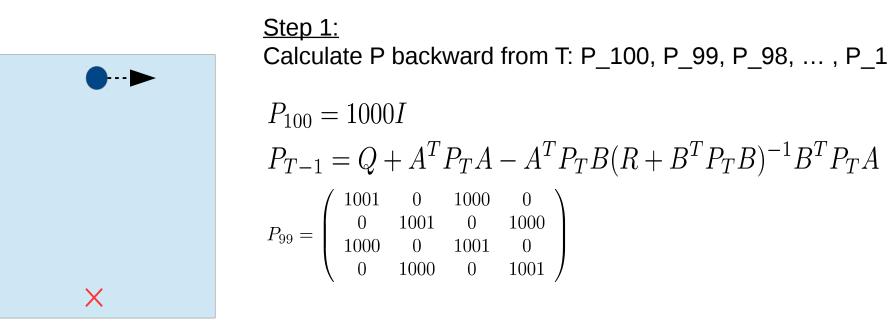
<u>Step 1:</u> Calculate P backward from T: P_100, P_99, P_98, ... , P_1

$$P_{100} = 1000I$$

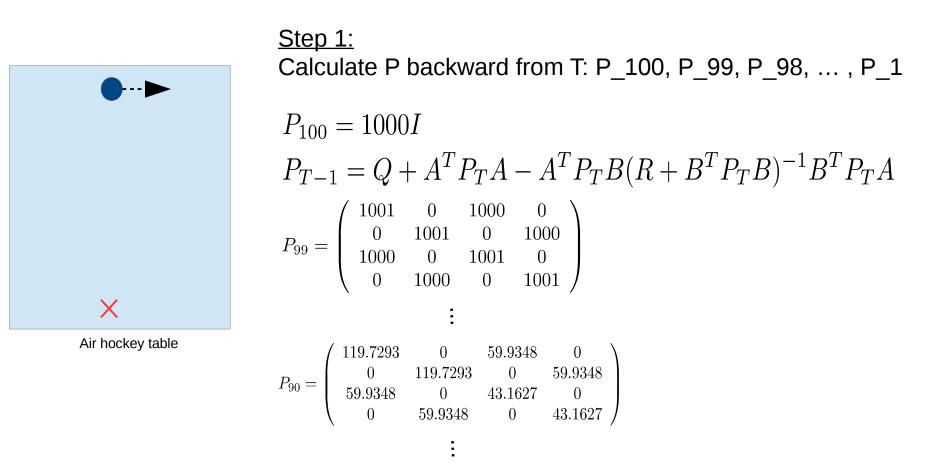
$$P_{T-1} = Q + A^T P_T A - A^T P_T B (R + B^T P_T B)^{-1} B^T P_T A$$

Air hockey table

X



Air hockey table



<u>Step 2:</u>

Calculate u starting at t=1 and going forward to t=T-1

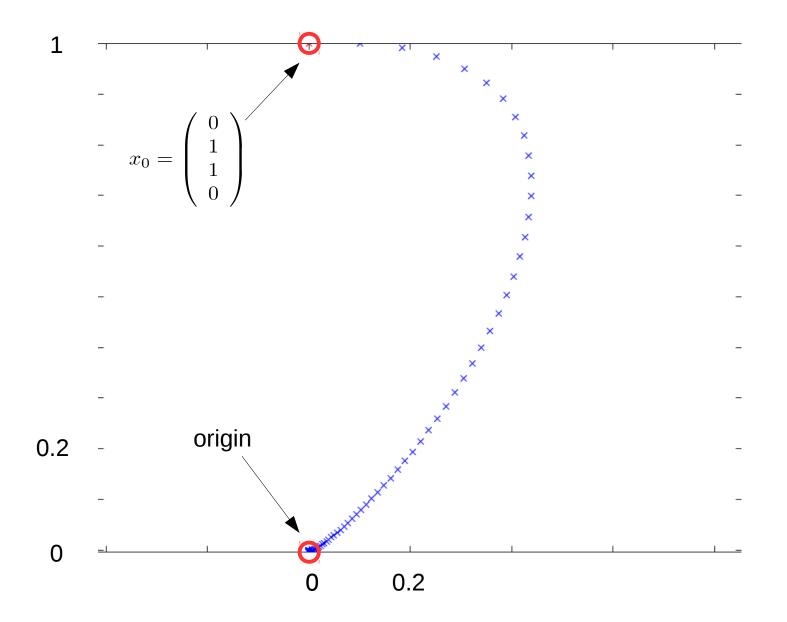
$$u_{1} = -(R + B^{T}P_{1}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{1}Ax$$

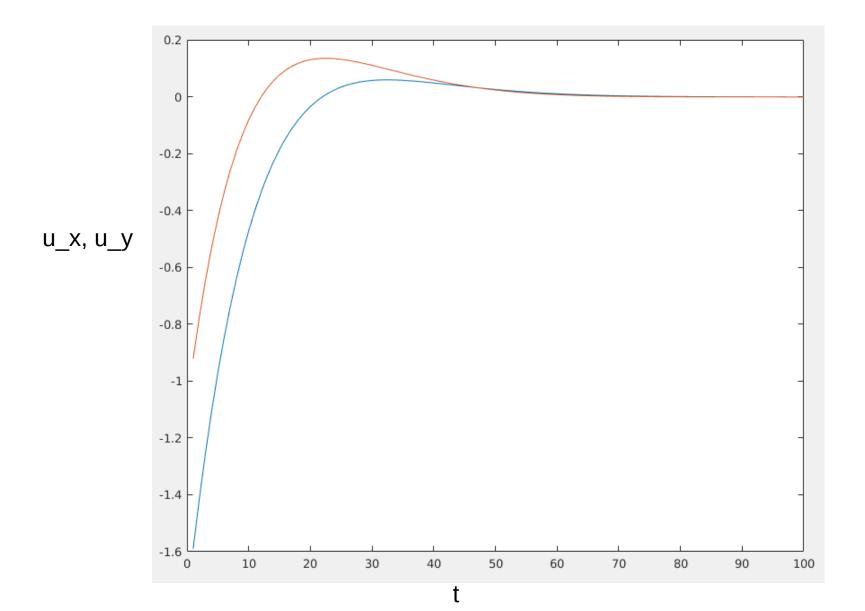
:
$$u_{2} = -(R + B^{T}P_{2}B)^{-1}B^{T}P_{2}Ax$$

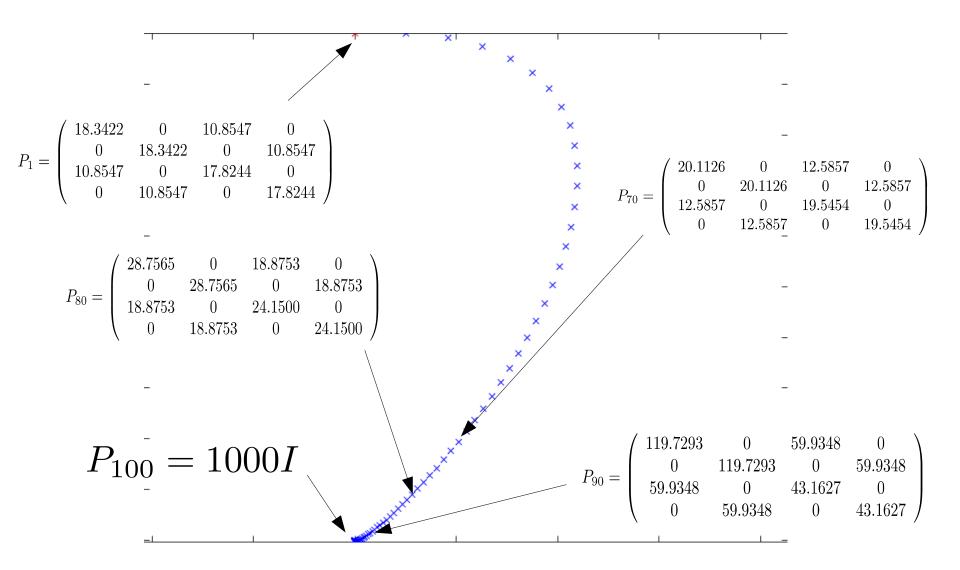
:

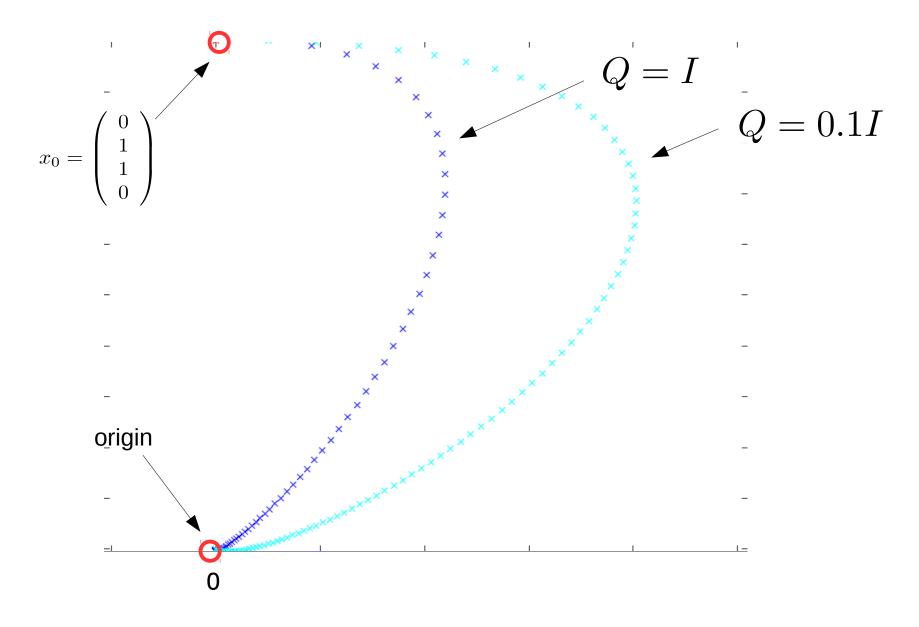
Air hockey table

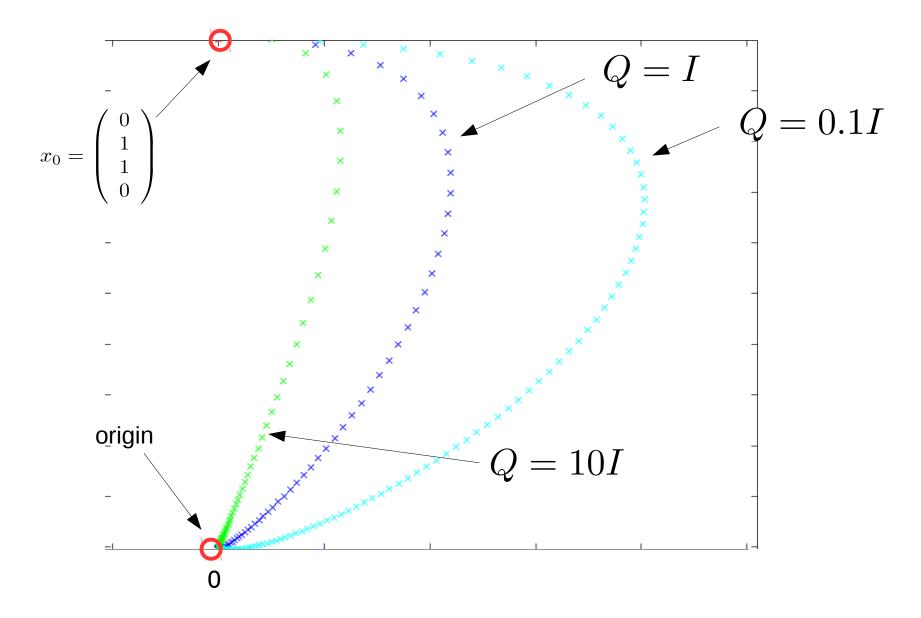
X









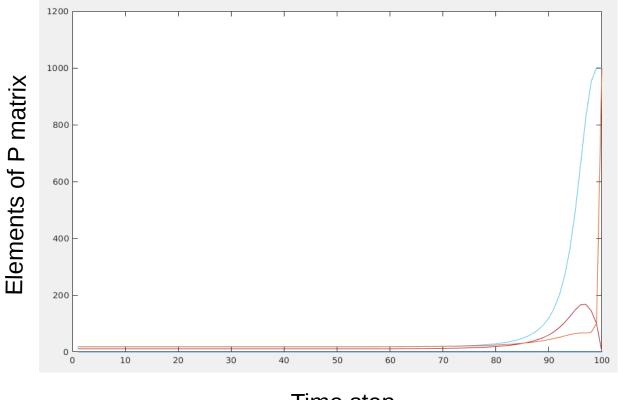


So far: we have optimized cost over a fixed horizon, *T*. – optimal if you only have *T* time steps to do the job

But, what if time doesn't end in *T* steps?

One idea:

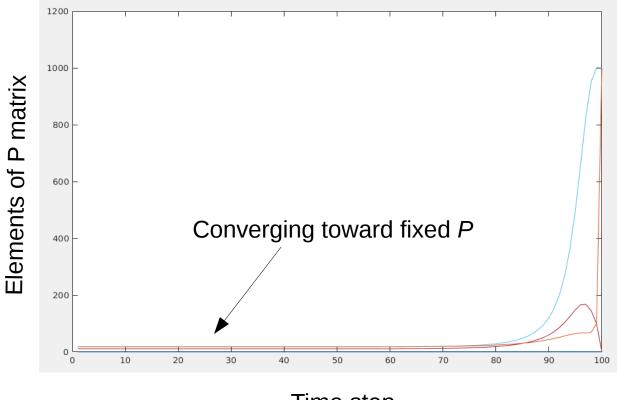
- at each time step, assume that you *always* have *T* more time steps to go
- this is called a *receding horizon* controller



Time step

Notice that elt's of *P* stop changing (much) more than 20 or 30 time steps prior to horizon.

- what does this imply about the infinite horizon case?



Time step

Notice that elt's of *P* stop changing (much) more than 20 or 30 time steps prior to horizon.

- what does this imply about the infinite horizon case?

We can solve for the infinite horizon *P* exactly:

 $P_{T-1} = Q + A^T P_T A - A^T P_T B (R + B^T P_T B)^{-1} B^T P_T A$

 $P = Q + A^T P A - A^T P B (R + B^T P B)^{-1} B^T A$

Discrete Time Algebraic Riccati Equation

So, what are we optimizing for now?

Given:

System:
$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$$

Cost function: $J(X, U) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$
where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_{\infty})$
 $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{\infty})$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(X, U)

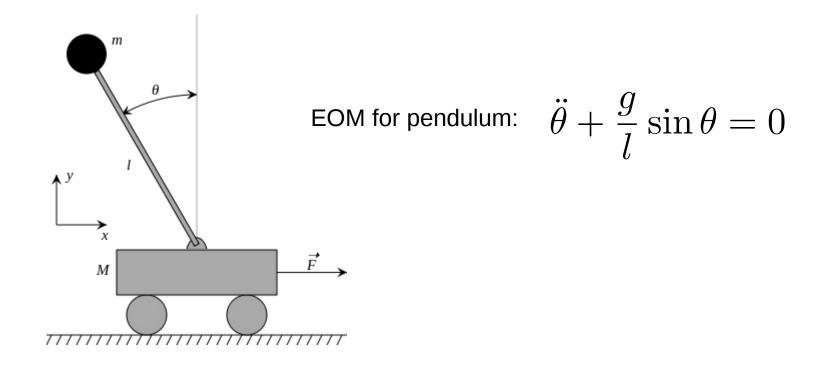
So, how do we control this thing?



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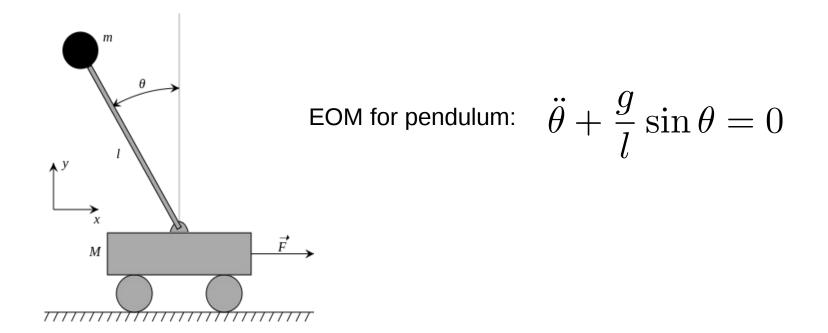
Inverted pendulum



How do we get this system in the standard form: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

?

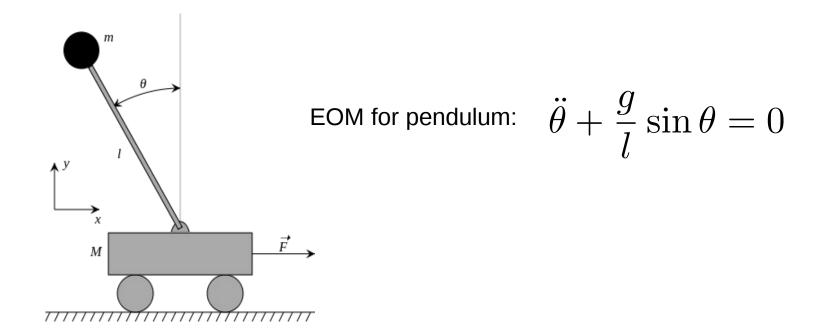
Inverted pendulum



How do we get this system in the standard form: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \dot{\theta}_t dt$$
$$\dot{\theta}_{t+1} = \dot{\theta}_t - \frac{g}{l} \sin \theta_t dt$$

Inverted pendulum



How do we get this system in the standard form: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

Linearizing a non-linear system

Idea: use first-order Taylor series expansion

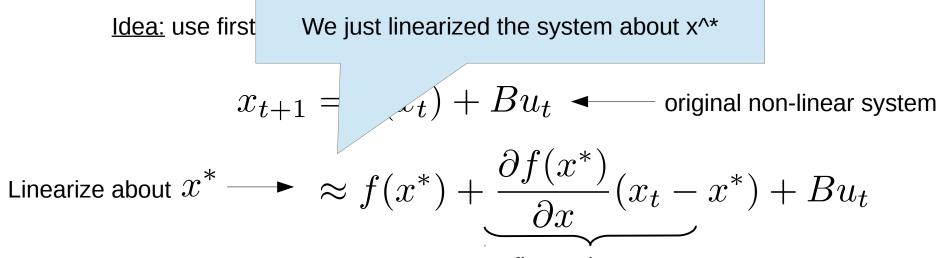
$$x_{t+1} = f(x_t) + Bu_t$$
 - original non-linear system

Idea: use first-order Taylor series expansion

$$x_{t+1} = f(x_t) + Bu_t \quad \text{original non-linear system}$$

Linearize about $x^* \longrightarrow \approx f(x^*) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x}(x_t - x^*) + Bu_t}_{OX}$

first order term



first order term

$$x_{t+1} \approx f(x^*) + \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x}(x_t - x^*) + Bu_t$$

Suppose that x^{*} is a fixed point (or a steady state) of the system...

Then: $f(\boldsymbol{x}^*) = \boldsymbol{x}^*$

$$x_{t+1} \approx f(x^*) + \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x}(x_t - x^*) + Bu_t$$

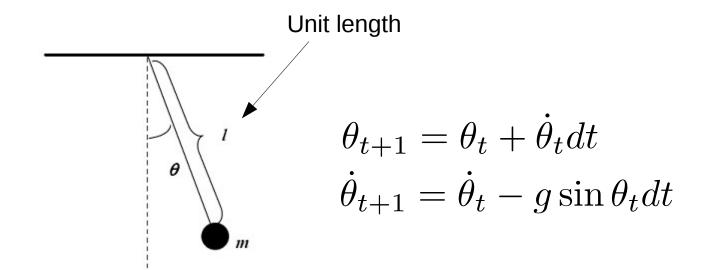
Suppose that x^{*} is a fixed point (or a steady state) of the system...

Then:
$$f(x^*) = x^*$$

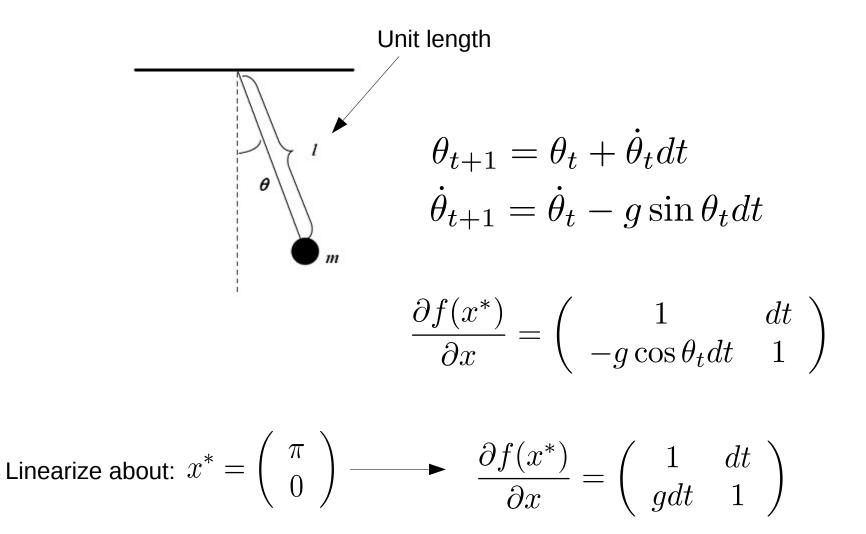
 $x_{t+1} - f(x^*) \approx \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x}(x_t - x^*) + Bu_t$
 $x_{t+1} - x^* \approx \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x}(x_t - x^*) + Bu_t$
 $\bar{x}_{t+1} \approx \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x} \bar{x}_t + Bu_t$ where $\bar{x}_t = x_t - x^*$

Change of coordinates

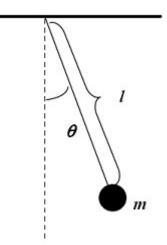
Example: pendulum

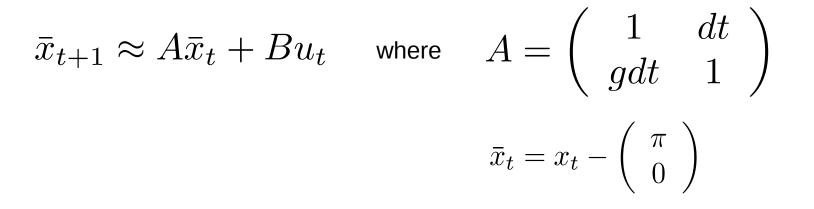


Example: pendulum



Example: pendulum





Overview

- 1. expressing a linear system in state space form
- 2. discrete time linear optimal control (LQR)
- 3. linearizing around an operating point
- 4. linear model predictive control
- 5. LQR variants
- 6. model predictive control for non-linear systems

Drawbacks to LQR: hard to encode constraints

- suppose you have a hard goal constraint?
- suppose you have piecewise linear state and action constraints?

Answer:

- solve control as a new optimization problem on every time step

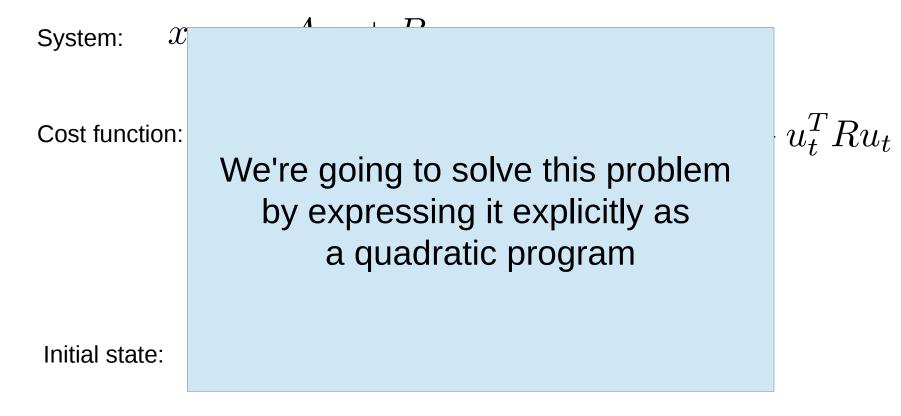
Given:

System: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$ Cost function: $J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T Ru_t$ where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$ $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$

Initial state: x_1

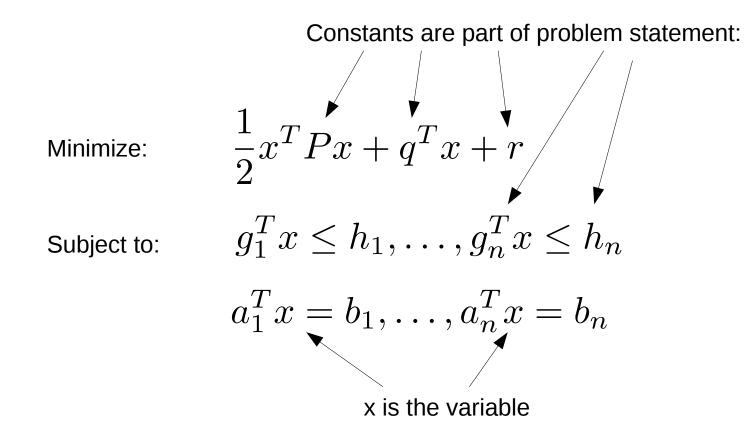
<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(*X*,*U*)



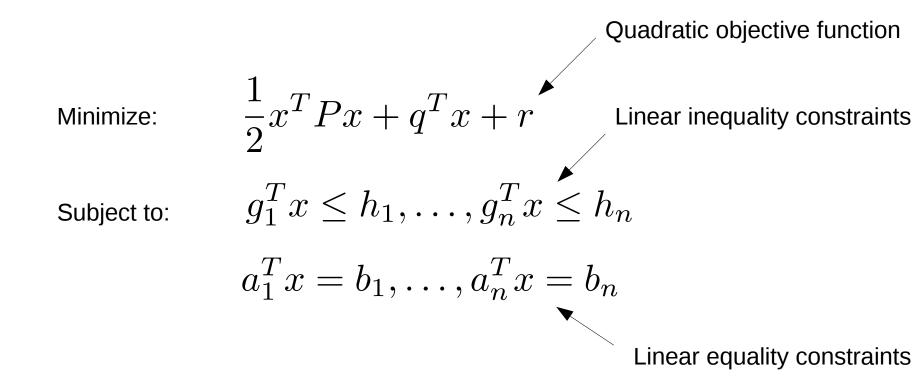


<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(*X*,*U*)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimize:} & \displaystyle \frac{1}{2} x^T P x + q^T x + r \\ \\ \text{Subject to:} & \displaystyle g_1^T x \leq h_1, \ldots, g_n^T x \leq h_n \\ & \displaystyle a_1^T x = b_1, \ldots, a_n^T x = b_n \end{array}$$



Problem: find the value of x that minimizes the objective subject to the constraints



Quadratic program $P = P^T > 0$ $\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r$ Minimize: $g_1^T x \leq h_1, \ldots, g_n^T x \leq h_n$ Subject to: $a_1^T x = b_1, \ldots, a_n^T x = b_n$

Quadratic program $P = P^T \ge 0$ $P = P^T \ge 0$ why?ize: $\frac{1}{2}x^TPx + q^Tx + r$

Minimize:

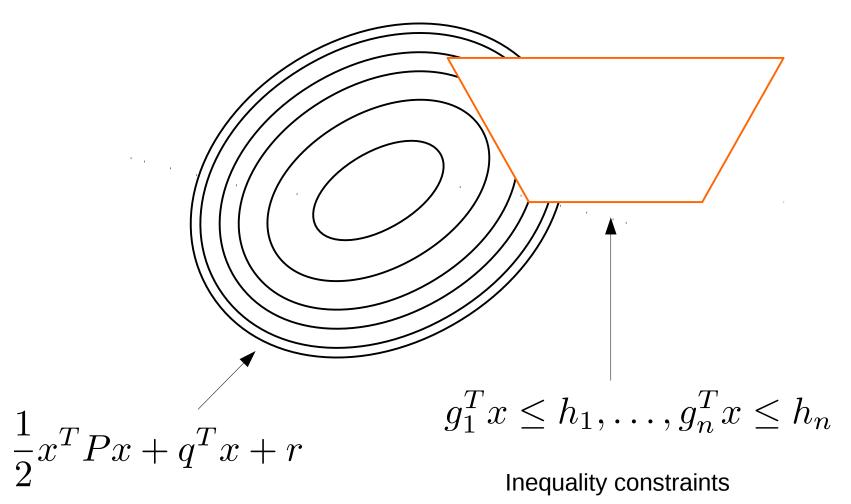
Subject to:

 $g_1^T x \le h_1, \dots, g_n^T x \le h_n$

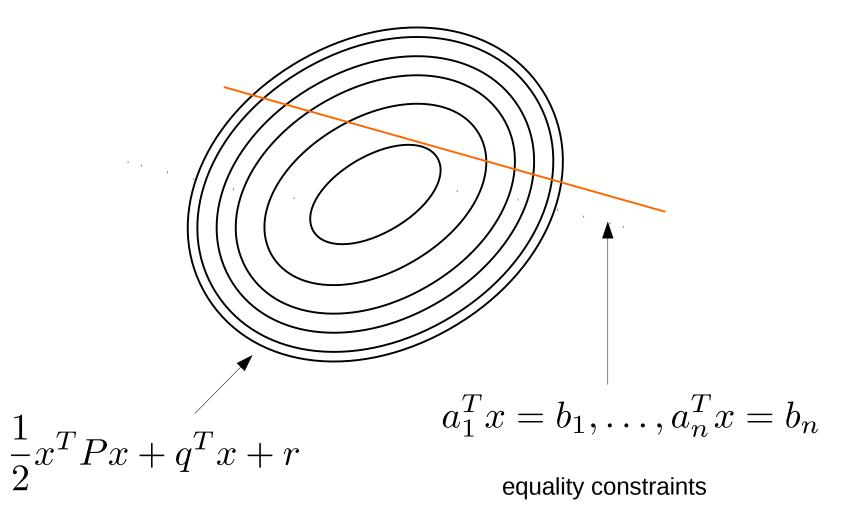
$$a_1^T x = b_1, \dots, a_n^T x = b_n$$

$$\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r$$

Quadratic objective function



Quadratic objective function



Quadratic objective function

Original QP

Minimize:

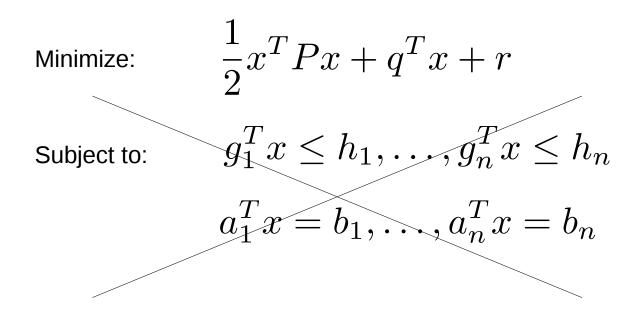
 $\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r$

Subject to:

$$g_1^T x \le h_1, \dots, g_n^T x \le h_n$$

$$a_1^T x = b_1, \dots, a_n^T x = b_n$$

Unconstrained version of original QP



Unconstrained version of original QP

Minimize:

$$\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r$$

How do we minimize this expression?

Unconstrained version of original QP

Minimize:

$$\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r$$

How do we minimize this expression?

$$\frac{\partial \left[\frac{1}{2}x^T P x + q^T x + r\right]}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$x = -P^{-1}q$$

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

 $x_1 = \text{start state}$ $x_T = \text{goal state}$

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

 $x_1 = \text{start state}$ $x_T = \text{goal state}$

What are the variables?

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

$$x_1 = \text{start state}$$

 $x_T = \text{goal state}$

What other constraints might we want add?

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

 $x_1 = \text{start state}$ $x_T = \text{goal state}$ $|\dot{y}_t| \le c$ $\dot{y}_{20} = 0$

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

$$x_{1} = \text{start state}$$

$$x_{T} = \text{goal state}$$

$$|\dot{y}_{t}| \leq c$$

$$\dot{y}_{20} = 0$$

Can't express these constraints in standard LQR

Linear MPC Receding Horizon Control

Re-solve the quadratic program on each time step: – always plan another T time steps into the future

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$

 $x_1 = \text{start state}$

A system is **controllable** if it is possible to reach any goal state from any other start state in a finite period of time.

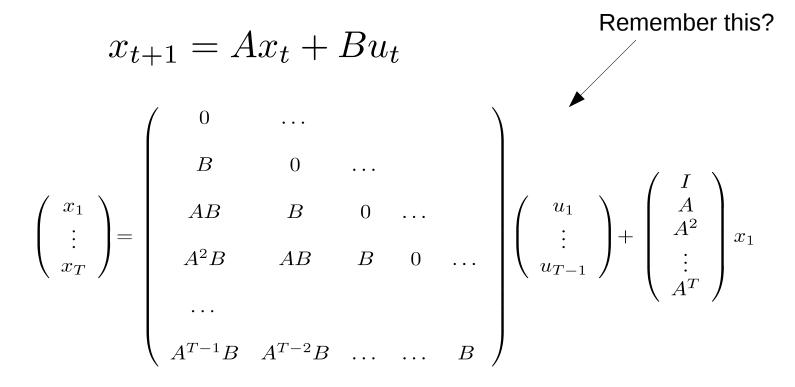
When is a linear system controllable?

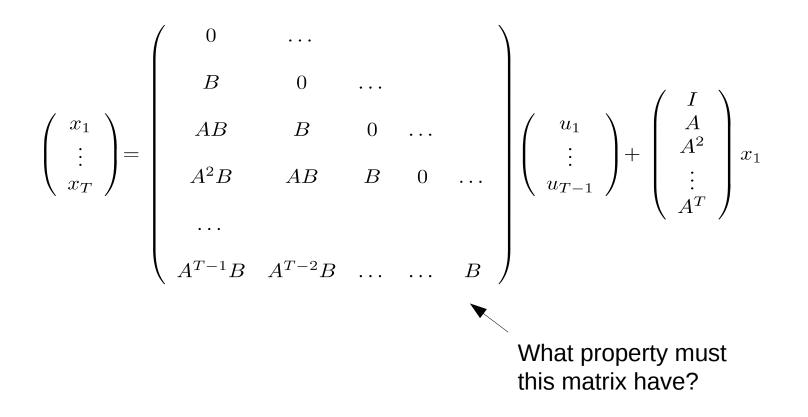
$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$$
 . It's provide the second second

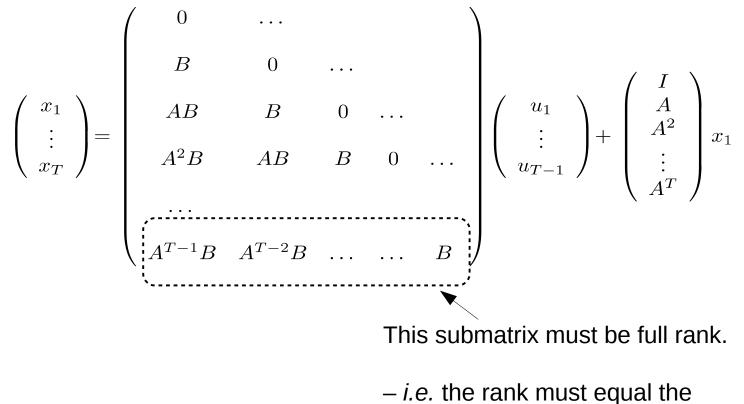
It's property of the system dynamics...

A system is **controllable** if it is possible to reach any goal state from any other start state in a finite period of time.

When is a linear system controllable?







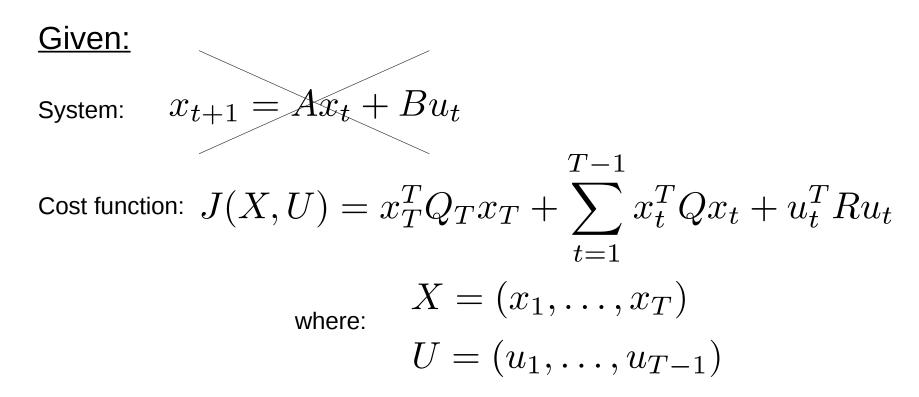
dimension of the state space

<u>Given:</u>

System: $x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t$ Cost function: $J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T Ru_t$ where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$ $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(*X*,*U*)



Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> U that minimizes J(X,U)

Given:

System:
$$x_{t+1} = f(x_t, u_t)$$

Cost function: $J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$
where: $X = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$
 $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$

Initial state: x_1

<u>Calculate:</u> *U* that minimizes J(X, U)

Minimize:
$$J(X, U) = x_T^T Q_T x_T + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t$$

Subject to: $x_{t+1} = f(x_t, u_t)$
 $x_1 = \text{start state}$
 $x_T = \text{goal state}$
But, this is a nonlinear constraint - so how do we solve it now?

Sequential quadratic programming

iterative numerical optimization for problems with non-convex objectives or constraints

- similar to Newton's method, but it incorporates constraints
- on each step, linearize the constraints about the current iterate
- implemented by FMINCON in matlab...