

Fast MPC: Fundamentals for breaking through the speed barrier

Fast NMPC: A Reality-Steered Paradigm



Mazen Alamir

CNRS, University of Grenoble, France.

Overview of the tutorial session

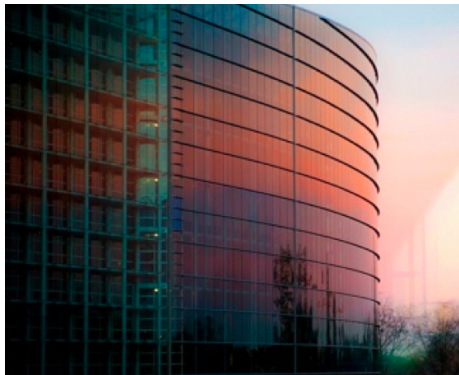
- | | |
|--|---------------|
| Fast MPC, a reality-steered paradigm | (M. Alamir) |
| Nonlinear MPC algorithms | (M. Diehl) |
| Exact penalty methods for fast MPC | (V. Zavala) |
| Splitting methods for embedded optimization and control | (C. Jones) |
| Co-Design of hardware and algorithms for embedded optimization | (E. Kerrigan) |

Overview of this talk



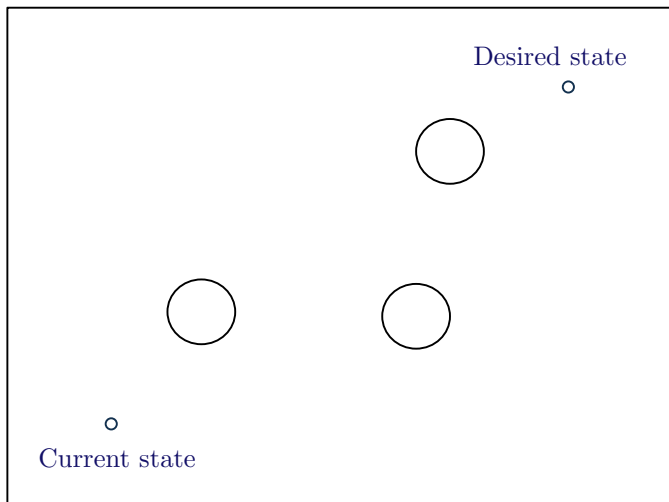
- 1 Ideal NMPC
- 2 Fast NMPC
- 3 Advanced Topics

Agenda

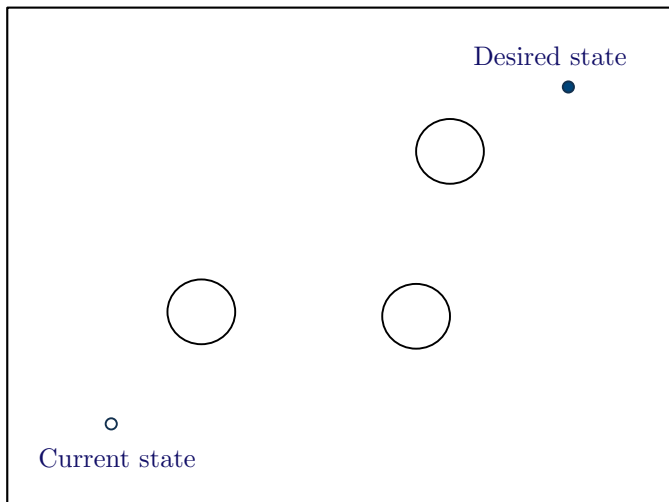


- 1** Ideal NMPC
Definition & Stability
- 2 Fast NMPC
- 3 Advanced Topics

Ideal NMPC: Informal Definition

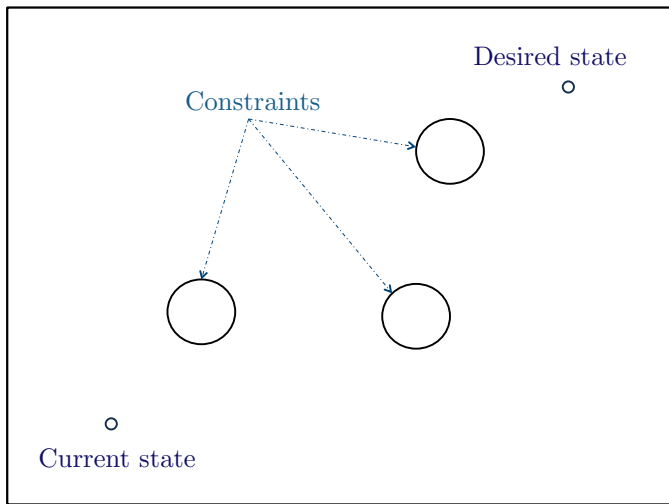


Ideal NMPC: Informal Definition



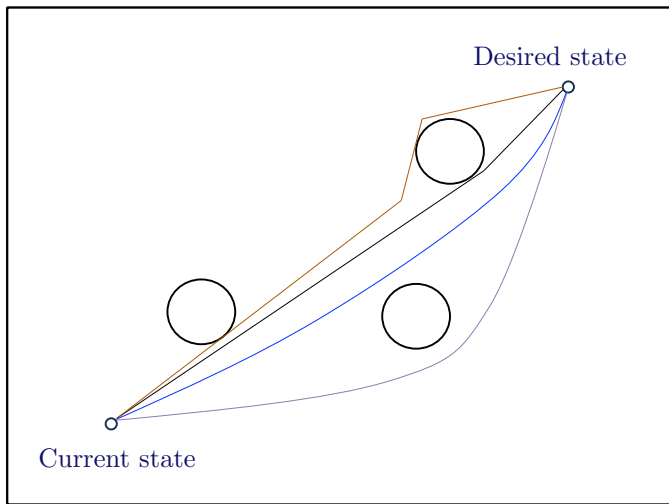
Ideal NMPC: Informal Definition

Constraints /



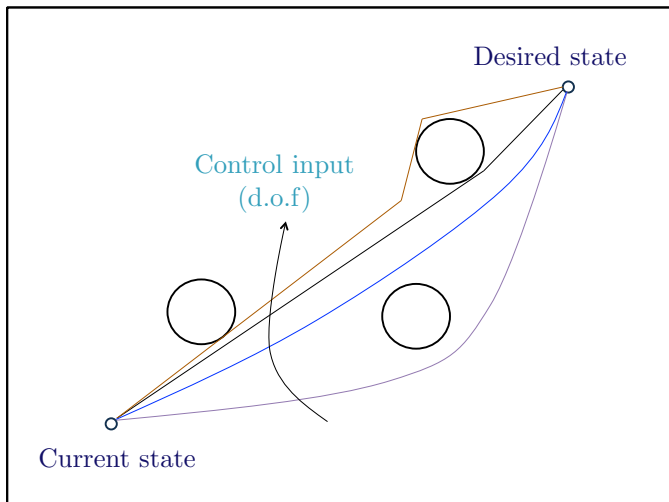
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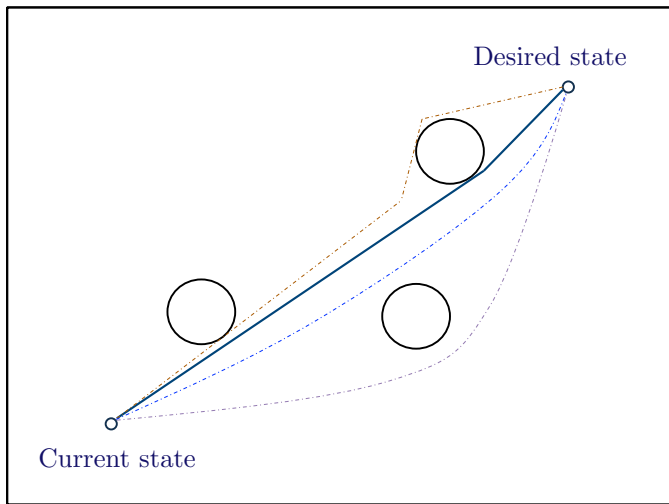
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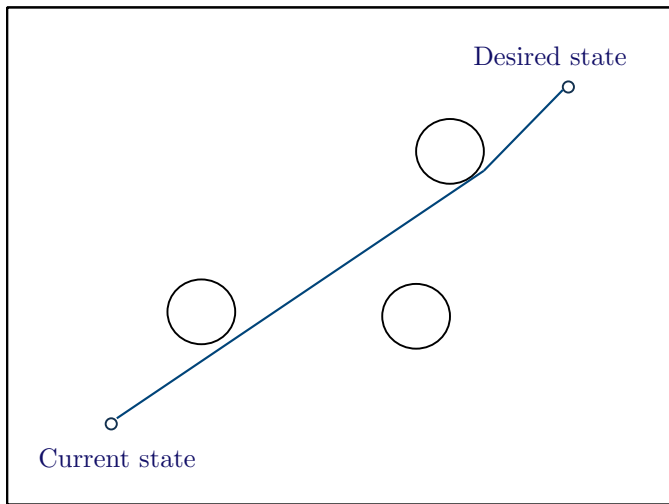
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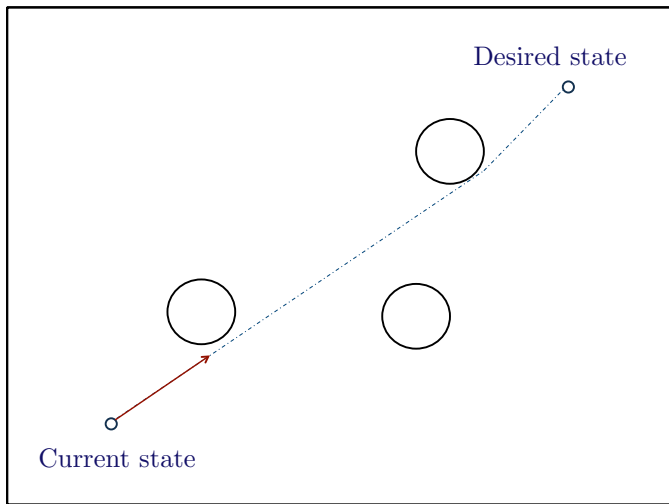
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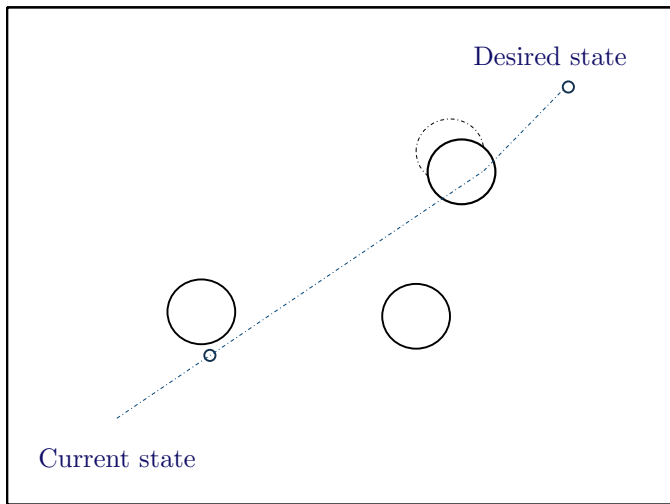
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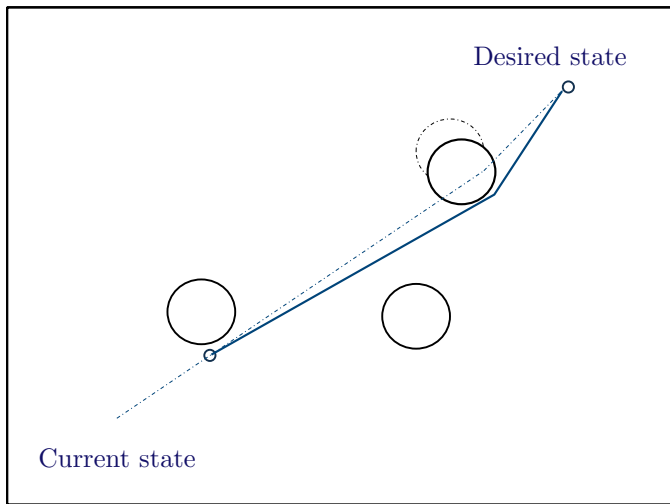
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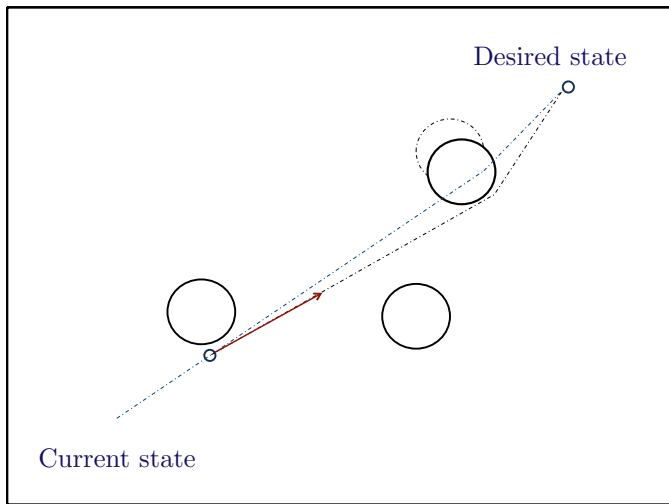
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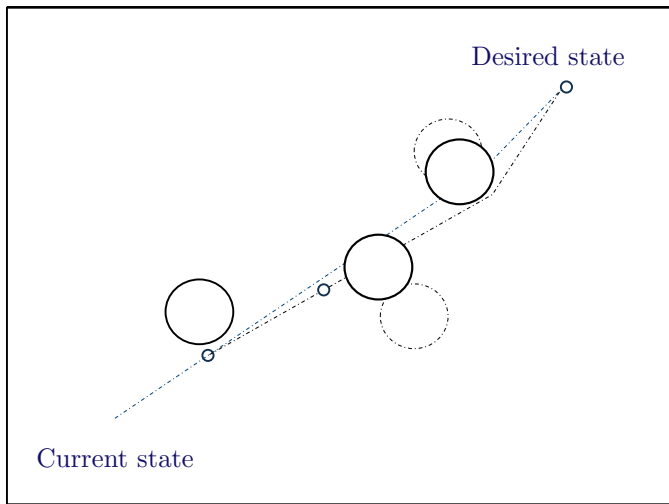
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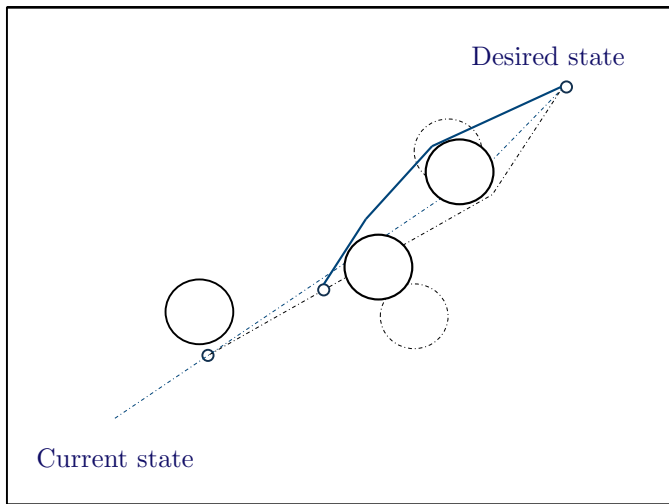
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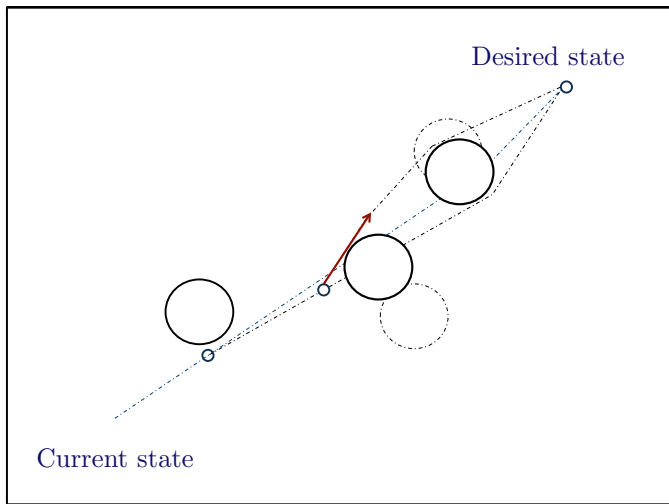
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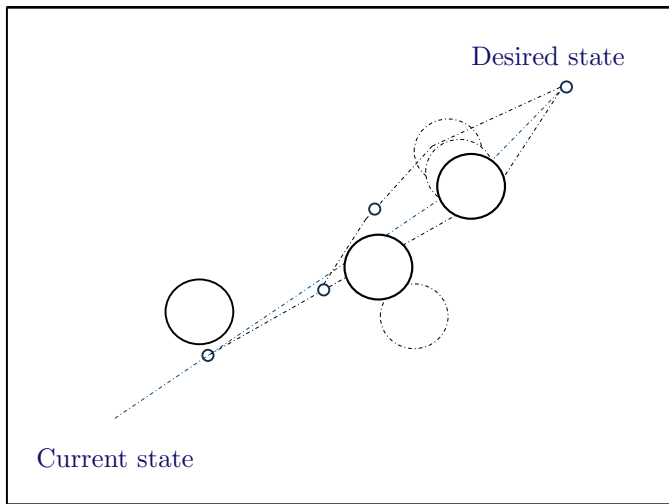
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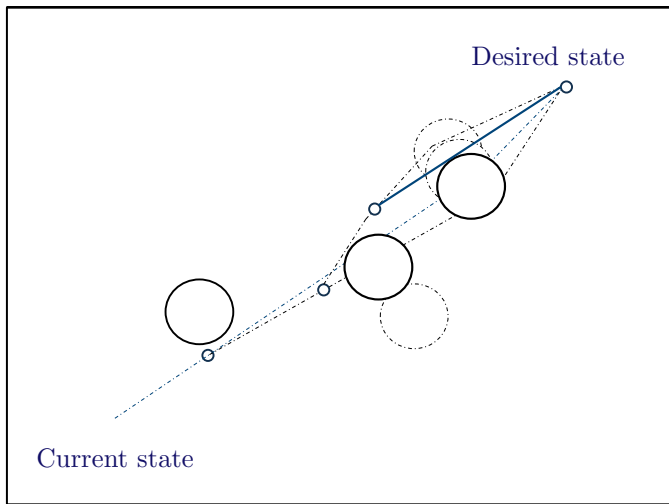
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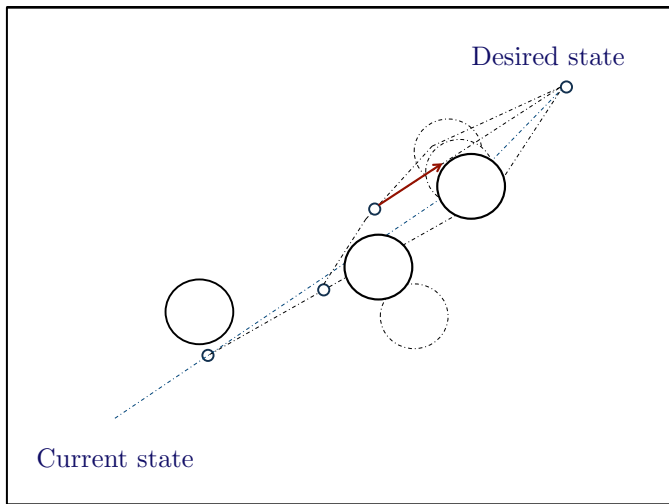
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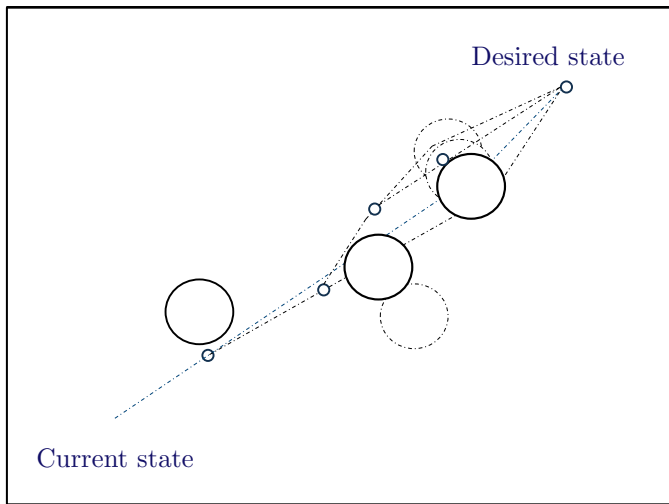
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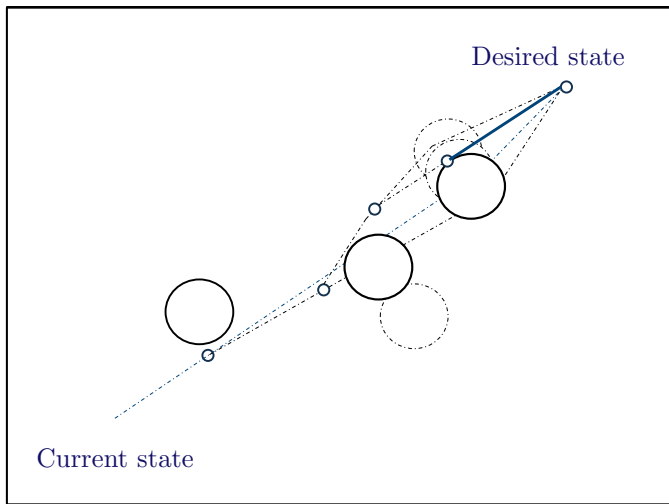
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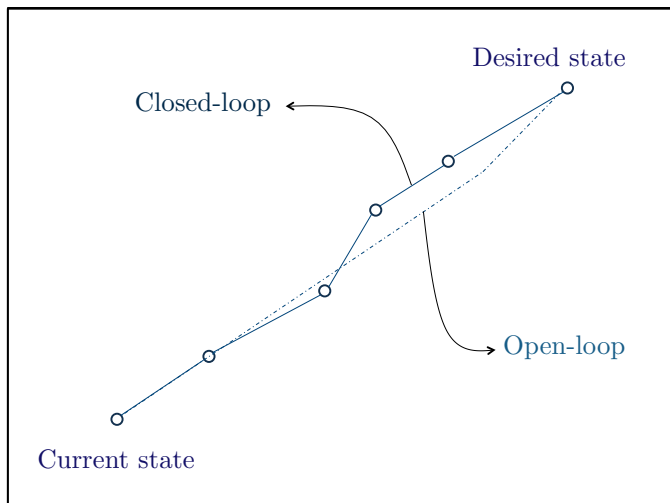
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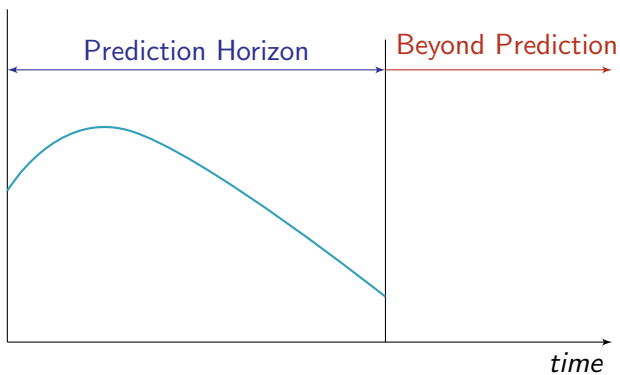
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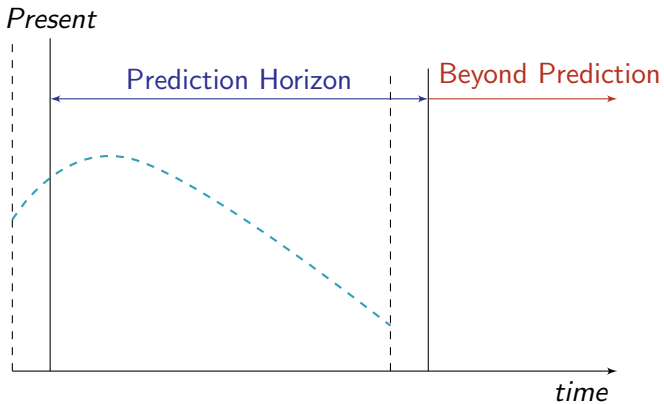


Ideal NMPC: Informal Definition

Constraints / Cost / Control / Disturbances



Present



Ideal NMPC: Instability may arise

In general

Closed-loop trajectory \neq Initial open-loop trajectory

and

Stability is not guaranteed for arbitrary choices of finite-horizon MPC ingredients

Ideal NMPC: Instability may arise

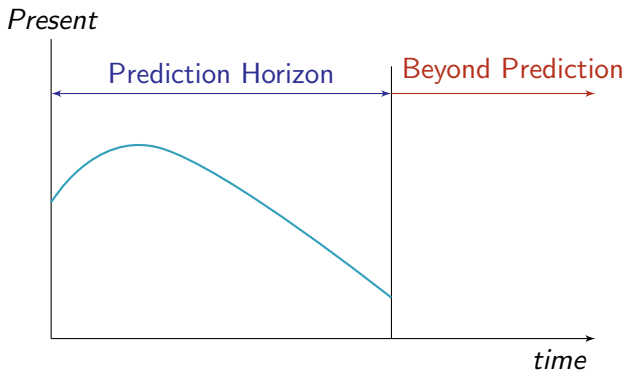
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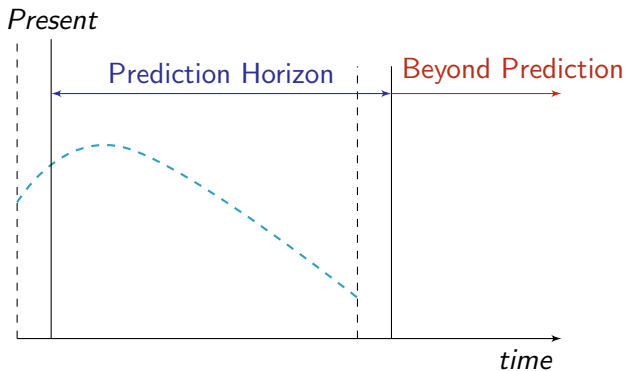
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Stability is not guaranteed for arbitrary choices of finite-horizon MPC ingredients **even with a perfect undisturbed model.**

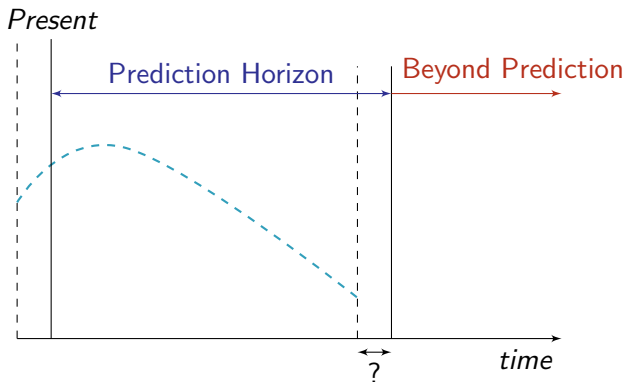
Ideal NMPC: Genesis of instability



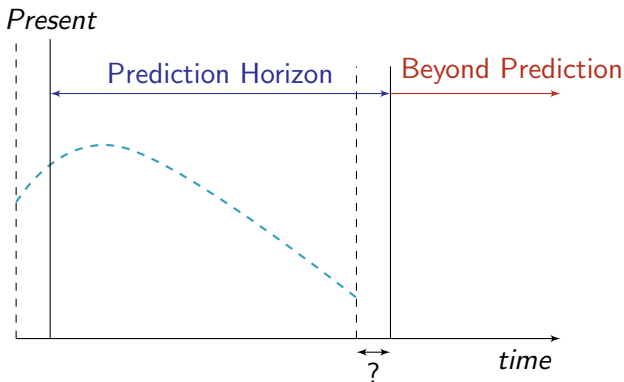
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Ideal NMPC: Genesis of instability



Stability assessment is based on the characterization of the terminal region that must be reached at the end of the finite prediction horizon.



[Mayne et al. Automatica 2000]

Ideal NMPC: Formal Definition

At each decision instant k

Solve a NLP problem,

$$p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) \leftarrow \min_p J(p \mid \mathbf{x}(k))$$

under $C(p \mid \mathbf{x}(k)) \leq 0$

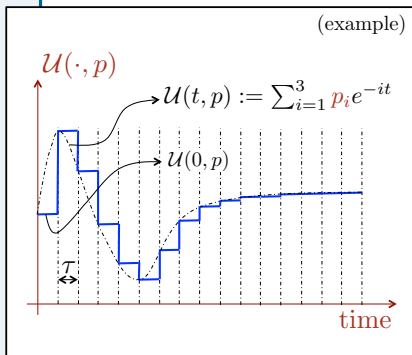
Apply the first control

$$\mathbf{u}(k) = \mathcal{U}(0, p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)))$$

over the updating period $[k, k + 1]$.

Optimal cost

$$J^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) := J(p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) \mid \mathbf{x}(k))$$



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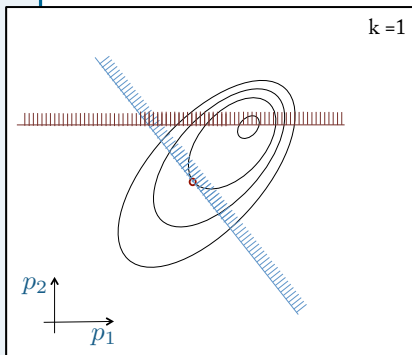
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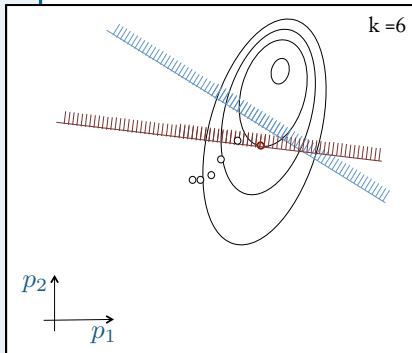
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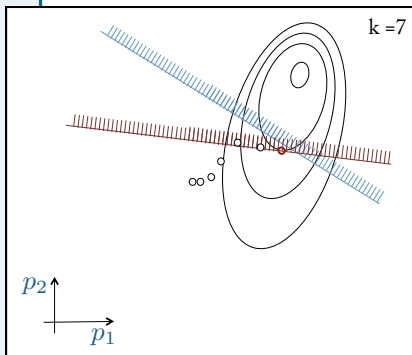
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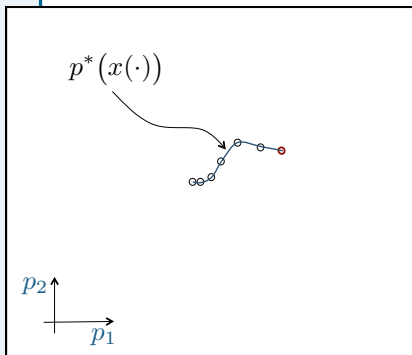
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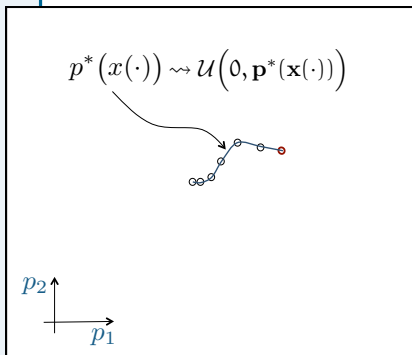
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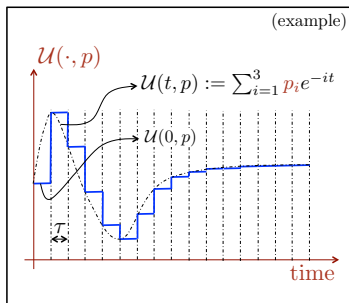
Ideal MPC: Common Control Parametrization

Trivial $\rightarrow p(k) := \tilde{\mathbf{u}}(k) := (\mathbf{u}(k), \dots, \mathbf{u}(k + N - 1))^T \in \mathbb{R}^{Nn_u}$

Ideal MPC: Common Control Parametrization

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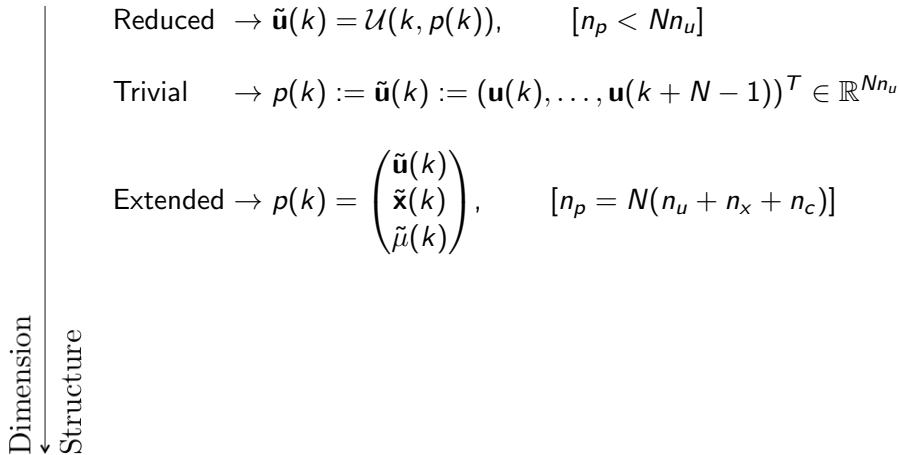
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$$\text{Extended} \rightarrow p(k) = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}(k) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k) \\ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(k) \end{pmatrix}, \quad [n_p = N(n_u + n_x + n_c)]$$

$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(k)$: KKT conditions-related
multiplier's profile

Ideal MPC: Common Control Parametrization



Ideal NMPC: Formal Definition

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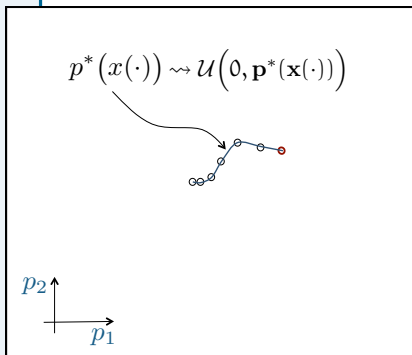
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Ideal NMPC: Closed-Loop Stability

Provided that:

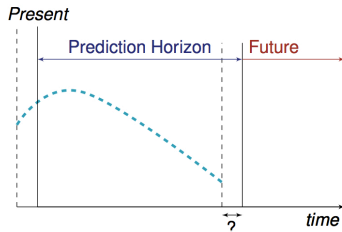
1. The formulation includes appropriate terminal assessment
2. The **optimal** solution $p^*(x(k))$ is obtained
3. The corresponding MPC control $\mathbf{u}(k) = \mathcal{U}(0, p^*(x(k)))$ is applied

Stability can be proved based on:

$$J^*(\mathbf{x}(k+1)) \leq J^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) - \ell(\mathbf{x}(k))$$



[Mayne et al. Automatica 2000]



Ideal NMPC: Closed-Loop Stability

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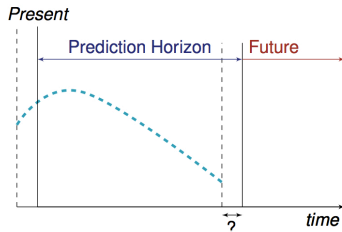
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$$J^*(\mathbf{x}(k+1)) - J^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) \leq -\ell(\mathbf{x}(k))$$



[Mayne et al. Automatica 2000]



Ideal NMPC: Closed-Loop Stability

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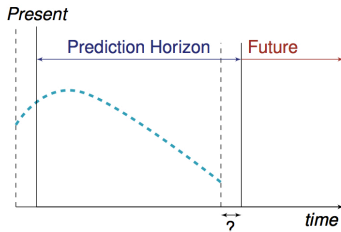
1. The formulation includes appropriate terminal assessment
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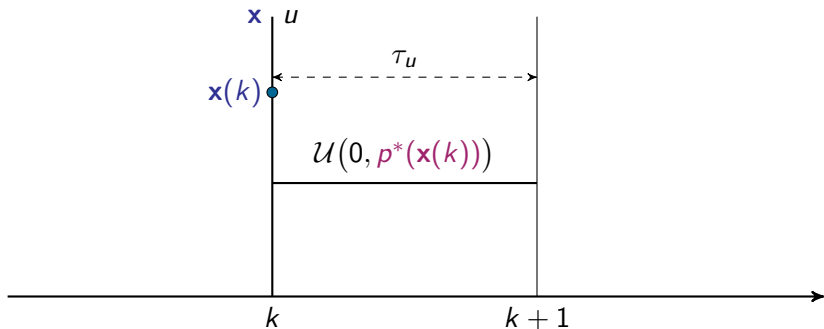
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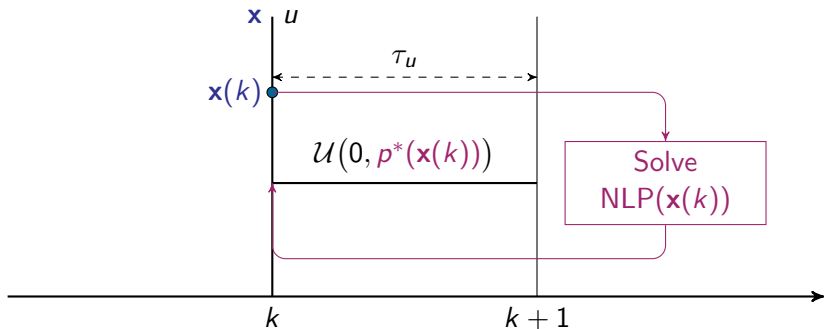
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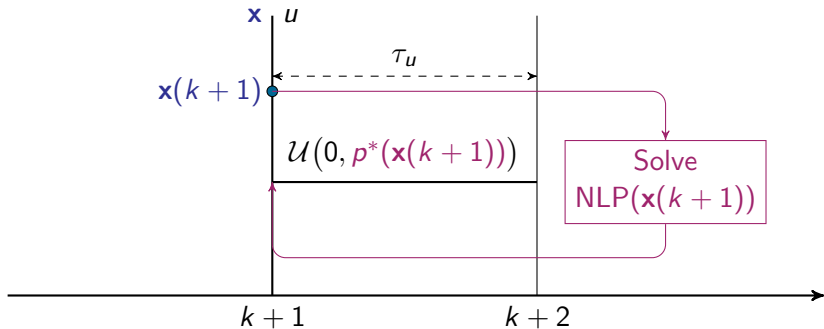
Ideal MPC: key assumption



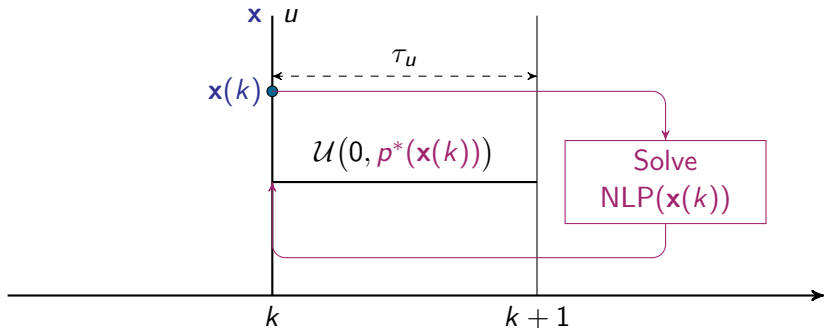
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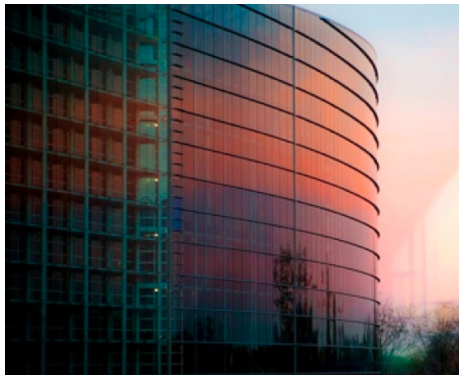
Ideal MPC: key assumption



Implicit assumption of ideal MPC

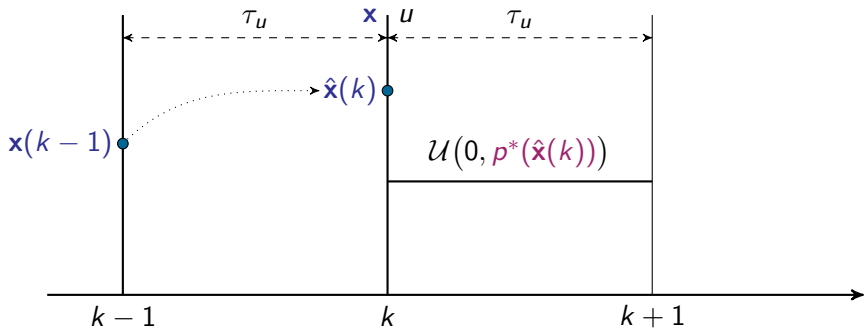
The time needed to get $p^*(\mathbf{x}(k))$ by solving NLP($\mathbf{x}(k)$) is **negligible** w.r.t the updating period τ_u .

Agenda

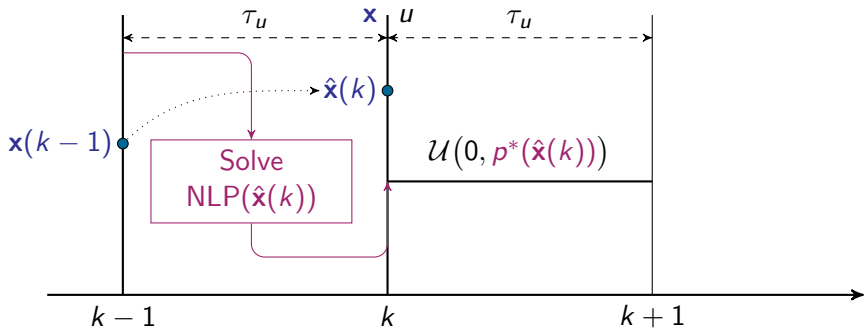


- 1 Ideal NMPC
- 2 Fast NMPC
What is it about?
- 3 Advanced Topics

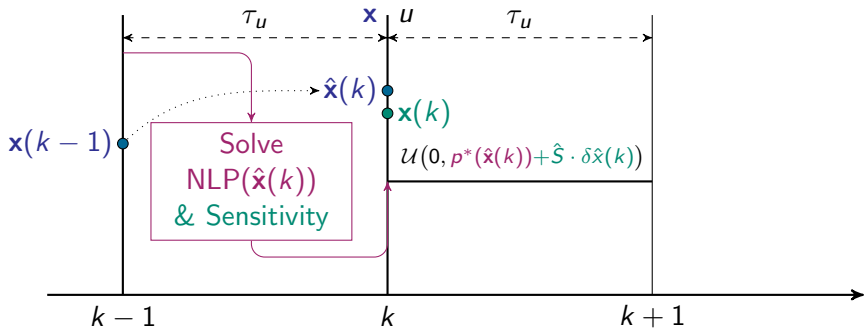
Quasi-Ideal MPC



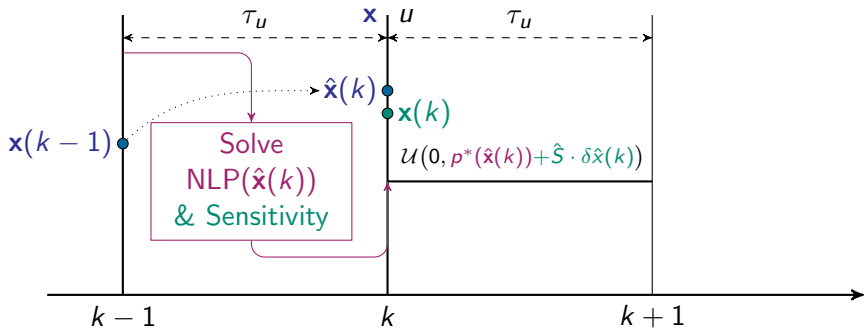
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Quasi-Ideal MPC



Implicit assumption of quasi-ideal MPC

The time needed to get $p^*(\hat{x}(k))$ by solving NLP($\hat{x}(k)$) is **lower** than the updating period τ_u .

Definition of a fast system

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$$\tau_u \leq \tau_u^{max}$$

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$$\text{Quasi-Ideal MPC} \Rightarrow \tau_{\text{solve}}(NLP(x)) \leq \tau_u \leq \tau_u^{max}$$

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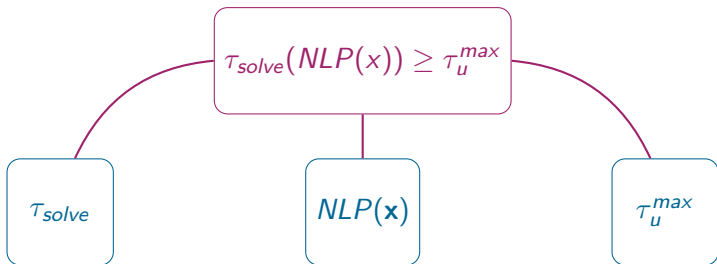
Fast Systems

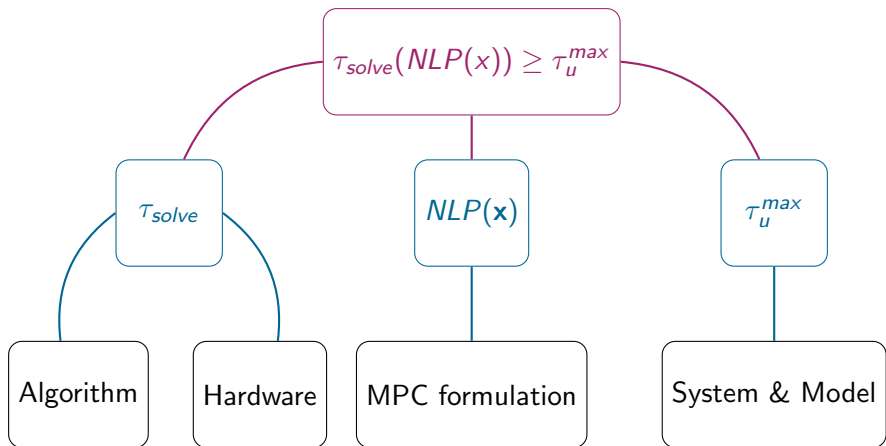
Fast systems are those for which:

$\tau_{solve}(NLP(x))$ is greater than τ_u^{max}

Did you say *Fast systems?*

$$\tau_{\text{solve}}(\text{NLP}(x)) \geq \tau_u^{\text{max}}$$

Did you say *Fast systems*?

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Fast MPC problems

Fast MPC problems are those for which:

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Fast MPC problems

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$\tau_{solve}(NLP(x))$ is greater than τ_u^{max}

What happens in this case?

1. Updating is still necessary ($\leq \tau_u^{max}$)
2. *Optimal* solution $p^*(\mathbf{x}(k))$ cannot be obtained.

Implication of Fast MPC: $p(k)$ is a dynamic state

- $p^*(\mathbf{x}(k))$ is obtained through an iterative process:

$$p^{(i)} \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(p^{(i-1)}, \mathbf{x}(k))$$

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- Assume that a single iteration needs τ_1 time unit.

Implication of Fast MPC: $p(k)$ is a dynamic state

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$$p^{(i)} \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(p^{(i-1)}, \mathbf{x}(k)) \quad \Rightarrow \quad [p^{(q)} \leftarrow \mathcal{S}^{(q)}(p^{(0)}, \mathbf{x}(k))]$$

- Assume that a single iteration needs τ_1 time unit.

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- $p(k) \neq p^*(\mathbf{x}(k))$ but rather an **dynamic internal state of the controller**.

Implication of Fast MPC: The Extended System

Fast MPC Extended System

At updating instants, the system is described by:

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = f(\mathbf{x}(k), \overbrace{\mathcal{U}(0, p(k))}^{\mathbf{u}(k)})$$

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Ideal NMPC: Formal Definition

At each decision instant k

Solve a NLP problem,

$$p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) \leftarrow \min_p J(p \mid \mathbf{x}(k))$$

under $C(p \mid \mathbf{x}(k)) \leq 0$

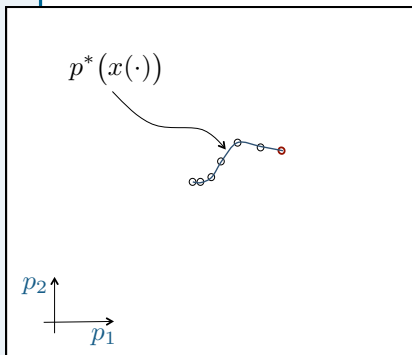
Apply the first control

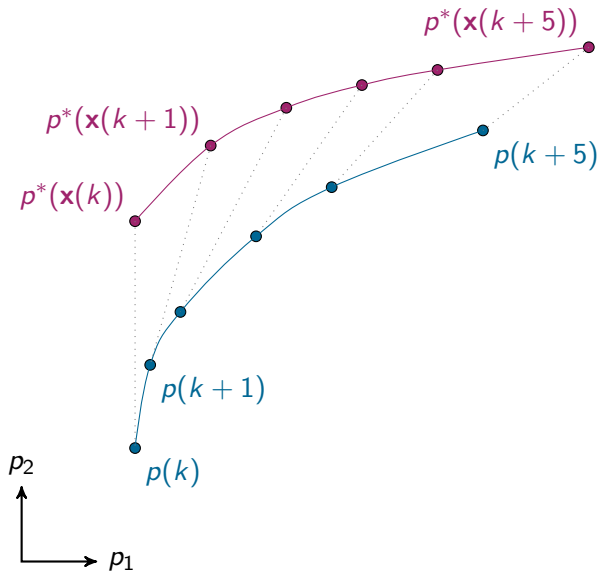
$$\mathbf{u}(k) = \mathcal{U}(0, p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)))$$

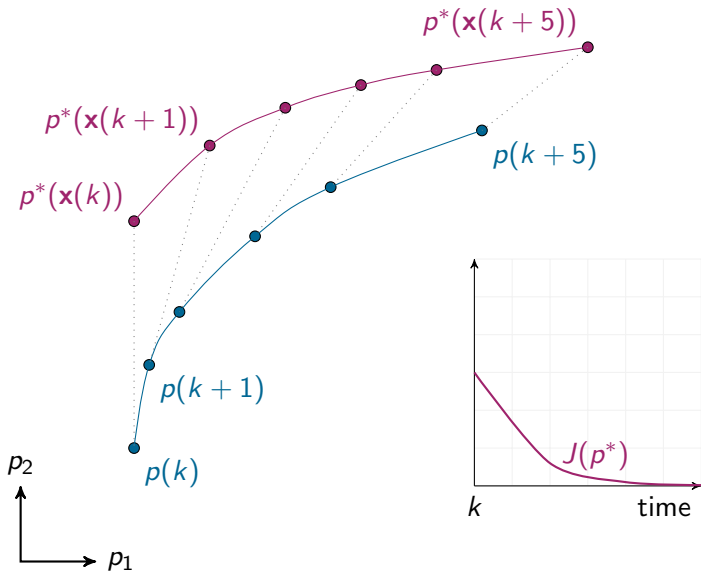
over the updating period $[k, k + 1]$.

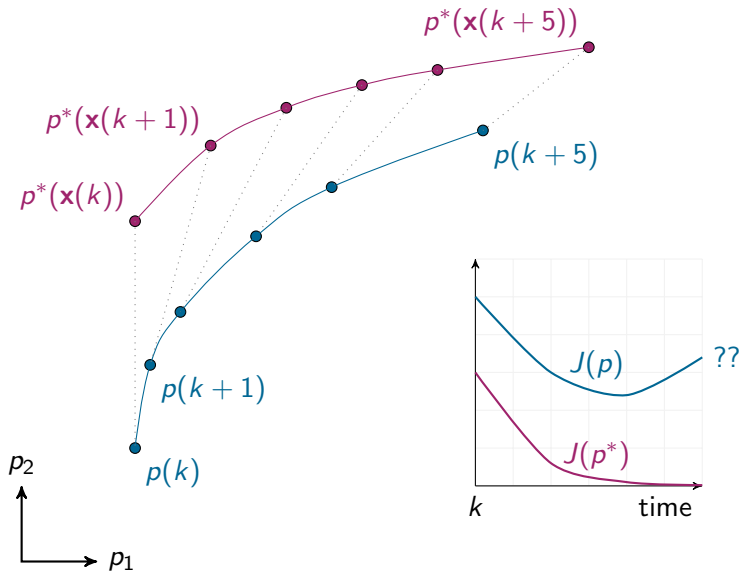
Optimal cost

$$J^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) := J(p^*(\mathbf{x}(k)) \mid \mathbf{x}(k))$$

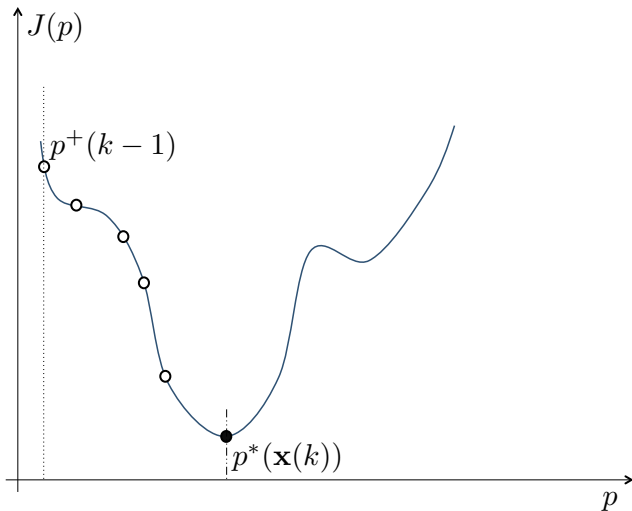


Optimal $p^*(\mathbf{x}(k))$ vs achievable $p(k)$ 

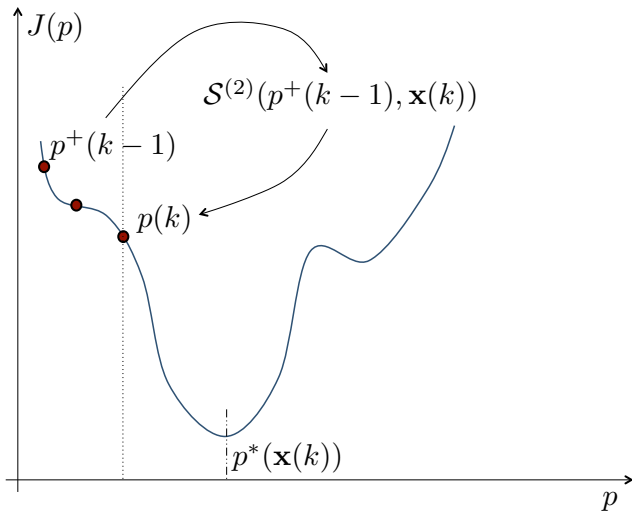
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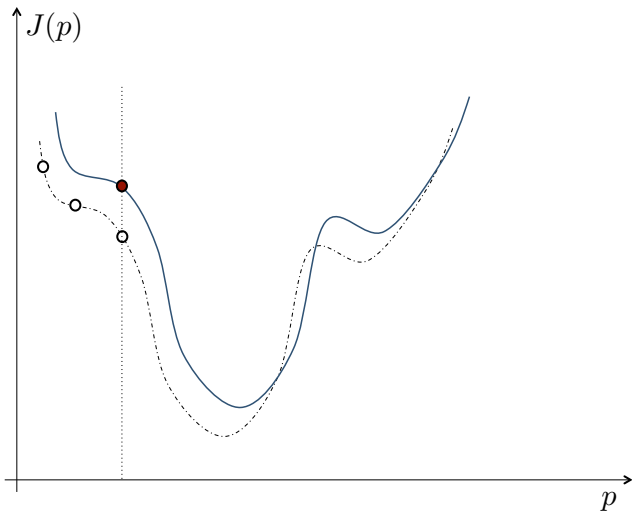
Closed-Loop Evolution of the Cost Function



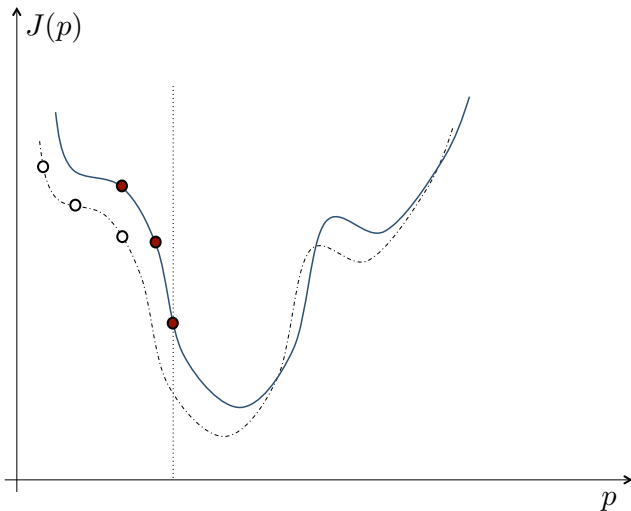
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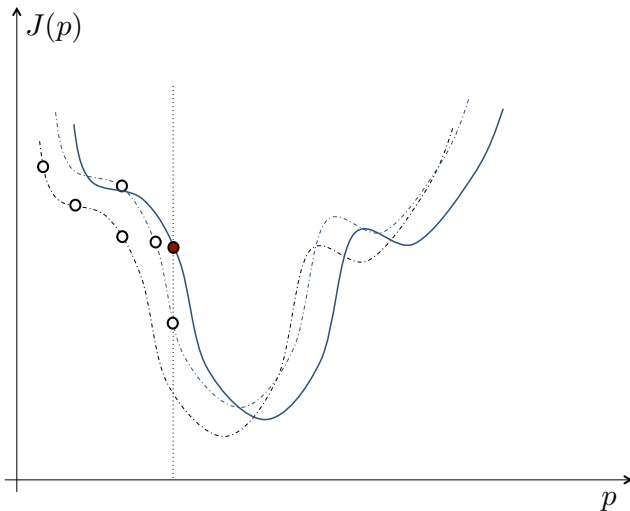
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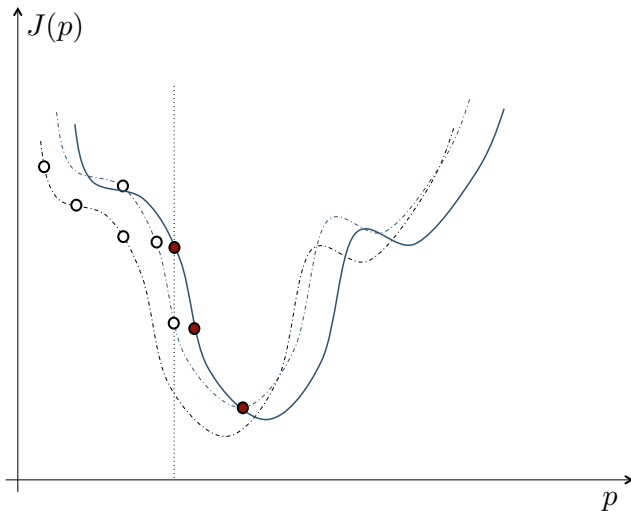
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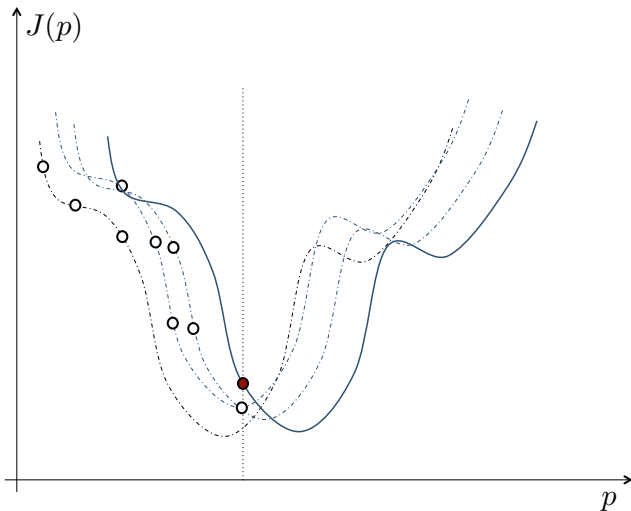
Closed-Loop Evolution of the Cost Function



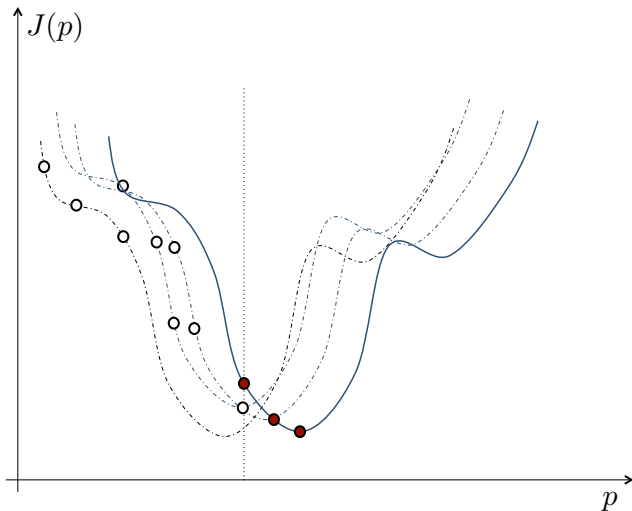
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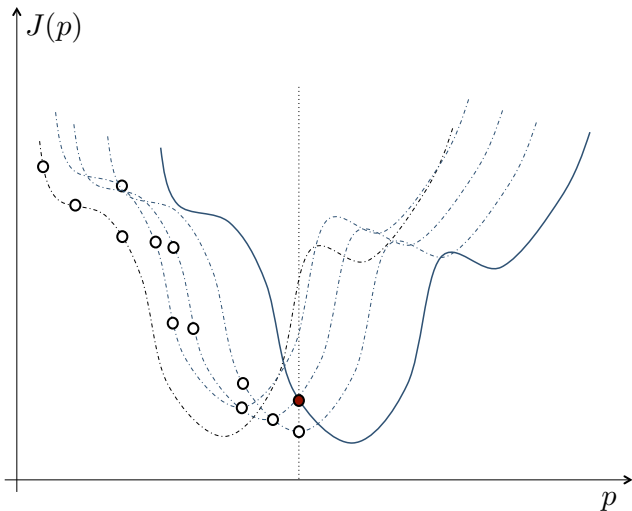
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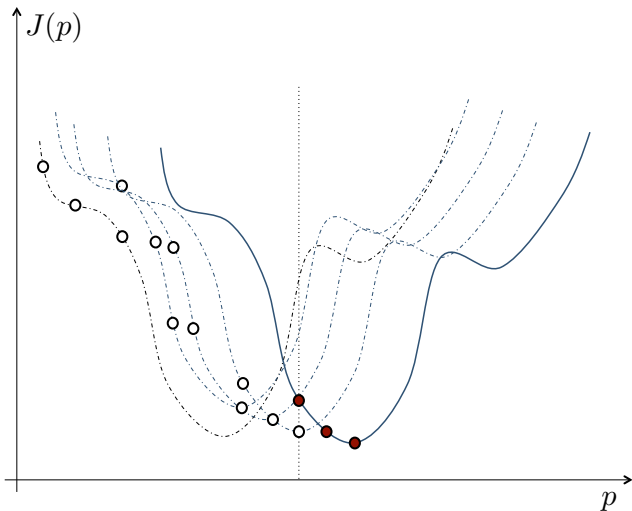
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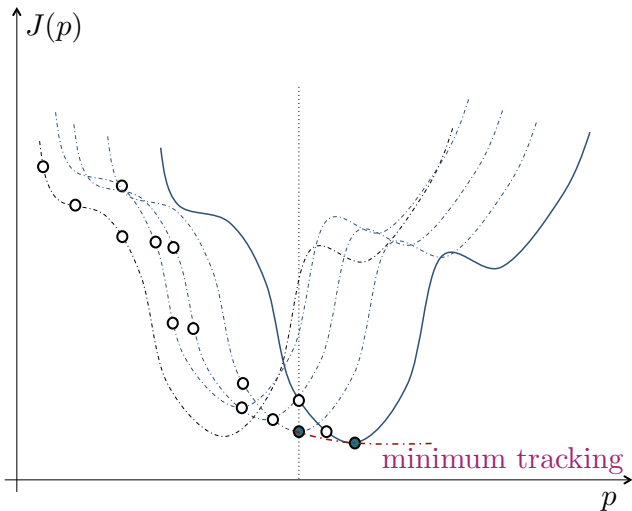
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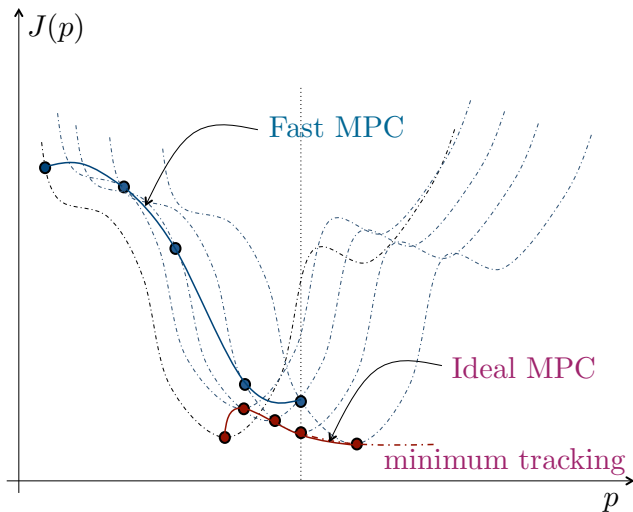
Closed-Loop Evolution of the Cost Function



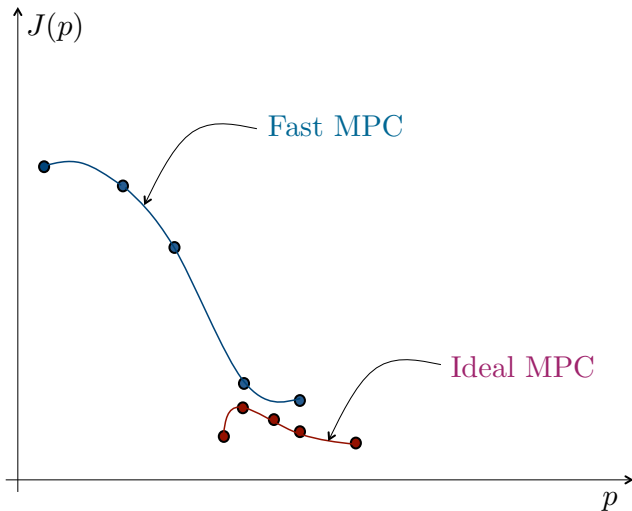
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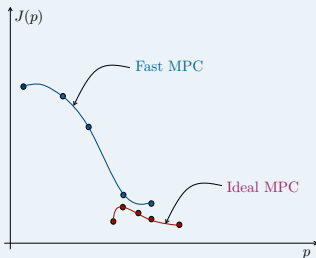


Fast MPC: A Competition

Game view of Fast MPC

Fast MPC: a competition:

Cost	$J(p, x)$
Good guy	Optimizer managing p
Bad guy	Reality ^a managing x

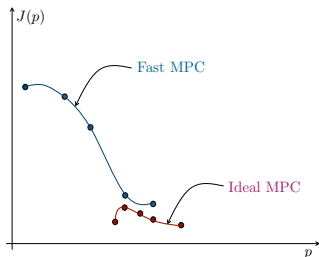


^afast dynamic, model mismatch, disturbance, set-point changes, control parametrization, bad MPC formulations, etc.

Fast MPC: Intuitive Set of Success Conditions

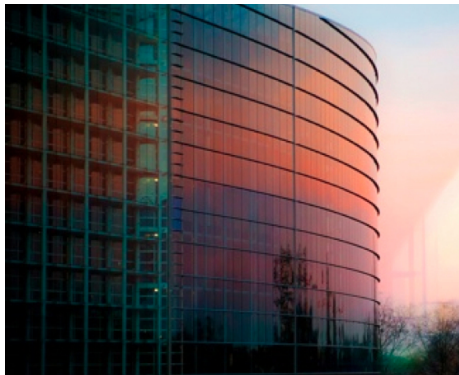
Success Conditions

1. No finite escape time.
2. Efficient iteration vs not so fast dynamics
3. Stabilizing NMPC formulation (in the ideal case)



[Diehl et al. IEE Proc. Control Theory Appl. (2005)]

Agenda



1 Ideal NMPC

2 Fast NMPC

3 **Advanced Topics**
Monitoring the updating period
Quantum of Computation
Miscellaneous

The Controlled Extended System

Fast MPC Extended System

At updating instants, the system is described by:

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = f(\mathbf{x}(k), \mathcal{U}(0, p(k)))$$

$$p(k+1) = \mathcal{S}^{(q)}(p^+(k), \mathbf{x}(k))$$

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The Controlled Extended System

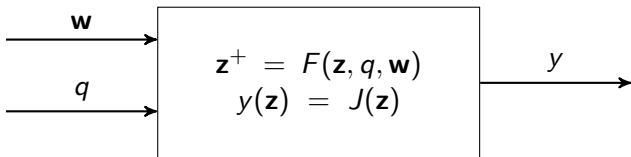
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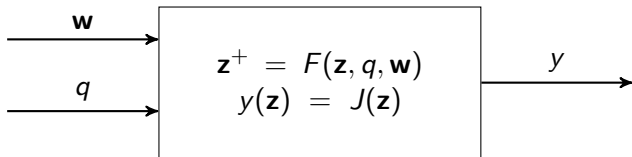
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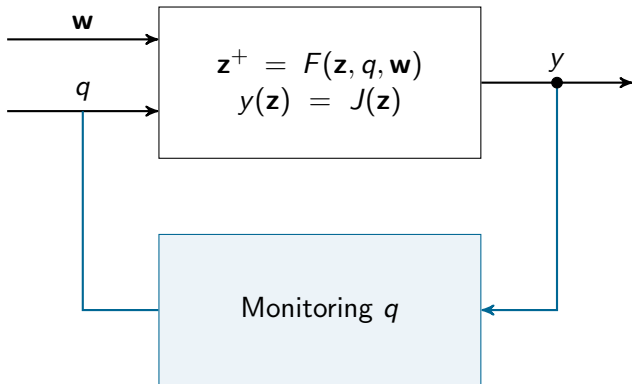
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Updating the Number of Iterations

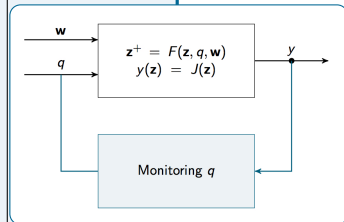
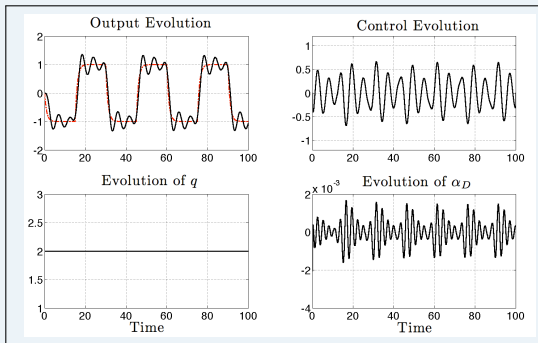


Updating the Number of Iterations



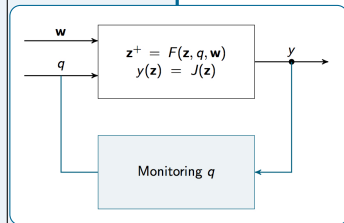
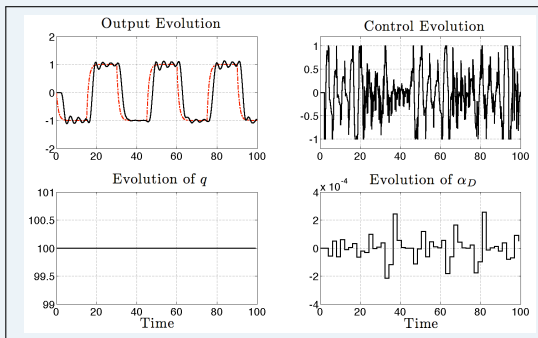
[MA, ECC2013, Zurich.]

Example

 $q = 2$ without adaptation

[MA, ECC2013, Zurich.]

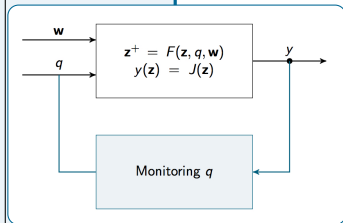
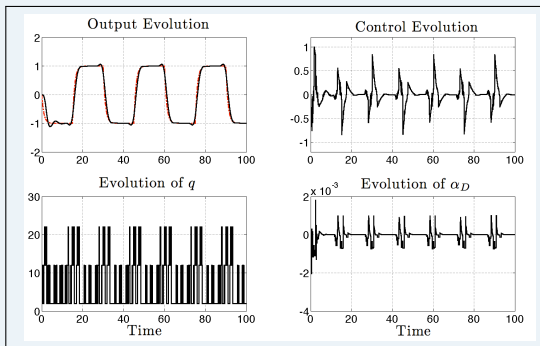
Example

 $q = 100$ without adaptation

[MA, ECC2013, Zurich.]

Example

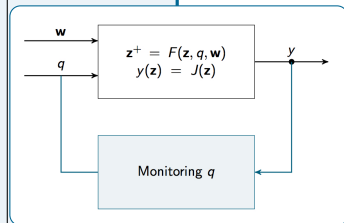
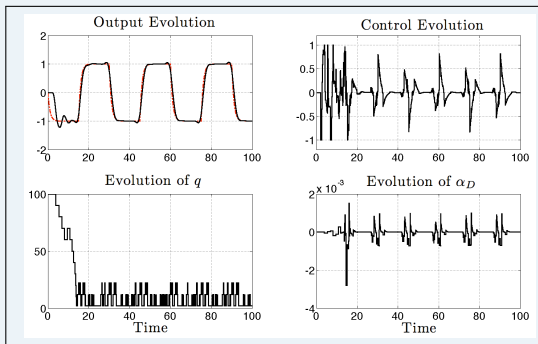
$q^{(0)} = 2$ with adaptation



[MA, ECC2013, Zurich.]

Example

$q^{(0)} = 100$ with adaptation



[MA, ECC2013, Zurich.]

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The Quantum amount of Interruptible Computation

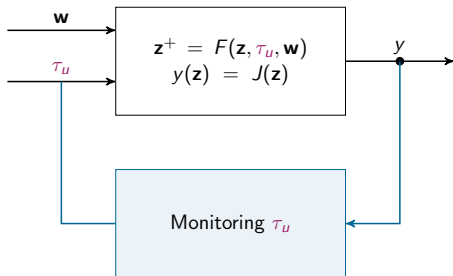
$$\tau_u = q \times \tau_1$$

- τ_u Updating period
- q Number of iterations
- τ_1 Time for a single iteration.

The Quantum amount of Interruptible Computation

$$\tau_u = q \times \tau_1$$

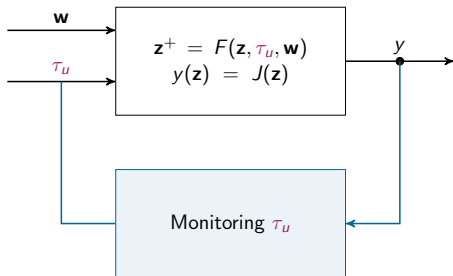
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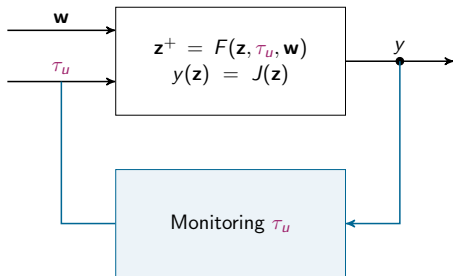
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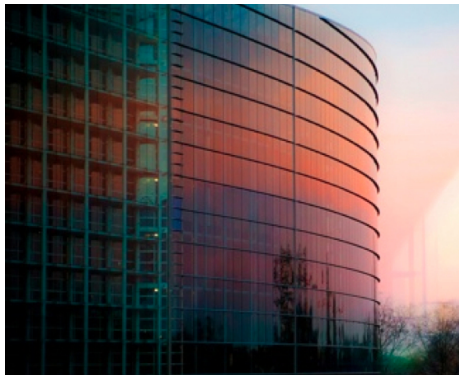


(Newton-like, gradient, partial gradient, parametrization, etc.) does not show the same τ_1 and hence enable different updating periods.



[Semi-Plenary, ECC2014]

Agenda



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Other Topics ...

Some Facts

- Many ready-to-use and user friendly [software](#) are available.
- [Parallel computing](#) on multi-core processors coming soon.
- Transposition to [Moving-Horizon-Observers](#) implementation

Some open issues

- [Explicit NMPC](#) vs on-line Fast MPC?
- Fast robust [min/max](#) frameworks?
- Automatic tuning?

