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# Neural-network-based decentralized control of continuous-time nonlinear interconnected systems with unknown dynamics

**Neural-network-based decentralized control of continuous-time nonlinear interconnected systems with unknown dynamics**  
**(<https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/files/2019/03/Neural-network-based-decentralized-control-of-continuous-time-nonlinear-interconnected-systems-with-unknown-dynamics.pdf>)**

**– Math and Optimal Control**  
**([https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/files/2019/03/IMG\\_20190311\\_0004\\_NEW.pdf](https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/files/2019/03/IMG_20190311_0004_NEW.pdf))**

## Problem formulation

Consider a continuous-time nonlinear large-scale system  $\Sigma$  composed of  $N$  interconnected subsystems described by

$$\sum_{i=1, 2, \dots, N} : \dot{x}_i(t) = f_i[x_i(t)] + g_i[x_i(t)] \{u_i[x_i(t)] + Z_i[x(t)]\} \quad (1)$$

where

$x_i(t) \in R^{n_i}$ : state.

The overall state of the large-scale system  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $x = [x_1^T x_2^T \dots x_N^T]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $n = \sum_{i=1}^N n_i$

$u_i[x_i(t)] \in R^{m_i}$ : control input vector of the  $i$ th subsystem.

$f_i$ : continuous nonlinear internal dynamics function.  $f_i(0)=0$ .  $\mathbb{R}^{n_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_i}$

$g_i[x_i(t)]$ : input gain function  $\mathbb{R}^{n_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times m_i}$

$Z_i[x(t)]$ : interconnected term for the  $i$ th subsystem.

The  $i$ th isolated subsystem

$$\sum_i : \dot{x}_i(t) = f_i[x_i(t)] + g_i[x_i(t)] \{u_i[x_i(t)]\} \quad (2)$$

$i = 1, 2, \dots, N$

## Decentralized control law

### Optimal control

#### Reinforcement Learning and Optimal Control Methods for Uncertain Nonlinear Systems

(<https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/files/2019/03/Reinforcement-Learning-and-Optimal-Control-Methods-for-Uncertain-Nonlinear-Systems.pdf>)

Page 27-29 2.3 Infinite Horizon Optimal Control Problem is the same as Definition 1.

Notation:

$x(t) \in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ : state.

$u(t) \in U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ : control input.

$$\dot{x} = F(x, u) \quad (2-5)$$

Cost function for the system Eq. 2-5:

$$J(x(t), u(\tau)_{t \leq \tau < \infty}) = \int_t^\infty r(x(s), u(s)) ds \quad (2-6)$$

where  $t$ : initial time.

$r(x, u) \in R$ : immediate or local cost for the state and control.

$$r(x, u) = Q(x) + u^T R u \quad (2-7)$$

where  $Q(x) \in R$  continuously differentiable and positive definite.

$R \in R^{m \times m}$ : positive-definite symmetric matrix.

Optimal value function:

$$V^*(x(t)) = \min_{u(\tau) \in \Psi(\mathcal{X}), t \leq \tau < \infty} \int_t^\infty r\{x(s), u[x(s)]\} ds \quad (2-8)$$

where

$\Psi(\cdot)$ : set of admissible controls.

Bellman's principle of optimality can be used to derive the following optimality condition

$$0 = \min_{u(t) \in \Psi(\mathcal{X})} \left[ r(x, u) + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} F(x, u) \right] \quad (2-9)$$

which is a nonlinear partial differential equation (PDE), also called the **HJB equation**.

Optimal control: (using convex local cost in Eqs. 2-7 and 2-9.)

$$u^*(x) = -\frac{1}{2} R^{-1} \frac{\partial F(x, u)^T}{\partial u} \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \quad (2-10)$$

For the control-affine dynamics of the form

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)u = F(x, u) \quad (2-11)$$

Eq. 2-10 -> in terms of the system state

$$u^*(x) = -\frac{1}{2}R^{-1}g^T(x)\frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \quad (2-12)$$

The **HJB** in **Eq. 2-9** can be rewritten in terms of the optimal value function by substituting for the local cost in Eq. 2-7, the system in Eq. 2-11 and the optimal control in Eq. 2-12, as

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \min_{u(t) \in \Psi(x)} \left[ r(x, u) + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} F(x, u) \right] \\ &= \min_{u(t) \in \Psi(x)} \left[ Q(x) + u^T R u + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} [f(x) + g(x)u] \right] \\ &= Q(x) + u^{*T} R u^* + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} [f(x) + g(x)u^*] \\ &= Q(x) + \left[ -\frac{1}{2}R^{-1}g^T(x)\frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \right]^T R \left[ -\frac{1}{2}R^{-1}g^T(x)\frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \right] + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} \left\{ f(x) + g(x) \left[ -\frac{1}{2}R^{-1}g^T(x)\frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

⚠ Invalid Equation

$$\xrightarrow[\substack{R^T=R \\ R:\text{symmetric}}]{R^{-1T}} R^{-1T} = R^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \min_{u(t) \in \Psi(x)} \left[ r(x, u) + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} F(x, u) \right] \\ &= \min_{u(t) \in \Psi(x)} \left[ Q(x) + u^T R u + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} [f(x) + g(x)u] \right] \\ &= Q(x) + u^{*T} R u^* + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} [f(x) + g(x)u^*] \\ &= Q(x) + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} g(x) R^{-1T} g^T(x) \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} f(x) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} g(x) R^{-1} g^T(x) \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \\ &= Q(x) + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} g(x) R^{-1} g^T(x) \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} f(x) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} g(x) R^{-1} g^T(x) \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \\ &0 = Q(x) + \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} f(x) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial V^*(x)}{\partial x} g(x) R^{-1} g^T(x) \frac{\partial V^*(x)^T}{\partial x} \quad (2-13) \\ &0 = V^*(0) \end{aligned}$$

edit (<https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/wp-admin/post.php?post=4956&action=edit>)

Author: Z Pei (<https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/author/zp2130/>) on March 4, 2019

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• Finite-Sample Convergence Rates for Q-Learning and Indirect Algorithms ([https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/finite-sample\\_convergence\\_rates\\_for\\_q-learning\\_and\\_indirect\\_algorithms/](https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/finite-sample_convergence_rates_for_q-learning_and_indirect_algorithms/))

• Solving H-horizon, Stationary Markov Decision Problems In Time Proportional To Log(H) ([https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/paul\\_tseng\\_1990/](https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/paul_tseng_1990/))

• Randomized Linear Programming Solves the Discounted Markov Decision Problem In Nearly-Linear (Sometimes Sublinear) Run Time ([https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/randomized\\_linear\\_programming\\_solves\\_the\\_discounted\\_markov\\_decision\\_problem\\_in\\_nearly-linear/](https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/randomized_linear_programming_solves_the_discounted_markov_decision_problem_in_nearly-linear/))

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- KL Divergence ([https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/kl\\_divergence/](https://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/zp2130/kl_divergence/))
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