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# PASSIVATION OF UNDERACTUATED SYSTEMS WITH PHYSICAL DAMPING

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Abstract: In recent works, Interconnection and Damping Assignment Passivity-Based Control (IDA-PBC) has been successfully applied to mechanical control problems with no physical damping present. In some cases, the friction terms can be obviated without compromising stability in closed loop. However in methods that modify the kinetic energy, a controller designed for stabilizing the undamped system might lose passivity, a key property for nonlinear system stabilization, when damping is introduced. This paper presents a necessary and sufficient condition, namely the *dissipation condition*, for recovering passivity (and hence stability) in such cases. If the *dissipation condition* is fulfilled, an IDA-PBC redesign is necessary in general, and with this goal two different methods for passivating the damped system are presented.

Keywords: Nonlinear Control, Hamiltonian Systems, Passivity Based Control

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Recent works in underactuated control have commonly neglected a fundamental issue: physical damping. Intuitively, the effects caused by friction in certain directions may lie outside the reach of the controller and cannot be directly cancelled (Ortega *et al.*, 2002). Possibly because of this, friction terms have been repeatedly left unmatched and the classical approach reduces to solve the control problem for an undamped open loop model, and stay in the naive hope that physical dissipation will help in some way to reach the desired equilibrium point. Nevertheless, it has been proved that in control methods that modify the kinetic energy, such as Interconnection and Damping Assignment Passivity-Based Control (IDA-PBC) (Van der Schaft, 2000) and Controlled Lagrangians (A. Bloch and Marsden, 2000), unmodeled physical damping can cause instability. In some cases, not even the tangent linearization at the equilibrium point preserves stability after the introduction of open loop damping (see (Reddy *et al.*, 2004)).

This paper shows that, under very precise conditions, friction terms can be and must be considered in the design procedure in order to shape the sum of the damping effects (natural and injected) in such a way that the whole system is dissipative. In the cases where this is possible, physical damping will actually be a guarantee for local exponential

stability. Although the main problem is closed-loop stability, we will focus on the passivity property for two reasons: passivity is the cornerstone of the IDA-PBC method and further robustness analysis, and the open-loop conditions that will be presented here, are specific for passivity.

## 2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The IDA-PBC method for underactuated mechanical systems aims at passivating an open-loop model of the form

$$\Sigma_1(M, V, G, R) : \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q} \\ \dot{p} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ I_n & R(q) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} u,$$

where  $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are the generalized coordinates and  $p \in \mathbb{R}^n$  the momenta, defined as  $p = M\dot{q}$ ;  $M$  is the open-loop inertia matrix,  $R > 0$  the physical damping matrix and the Hamiltonian is defined as

$$H = \frac{1}{2} p^\top M^{-1}(q)p + V(q).$$

Assume  $G = G(q)$  has constant rank  $m < n$  and hence a matrix  $G^\perp$  of row rank  $n - m$  exists such that

$$G^\perp G = 0, \quad \text{rank}[G^\perp | G^\top] = n.$$

In (Ortega and Spong, 2000; Ortega *et al.*, 2002; Gómez-Estern *et al.*, 2001) the IDA-PBC control problem is solved for a class of energy-preserving open-loop models (of the form  $\Sigma_1(M, V, G, 0)$ ). In those papers, control laws are designed to transform  $\Sigma_1$  into a closed-loop Hamiltonian system with dissipation of the form

$$\Sigma_2(M_d, V_d, J_d, G, R_d) : \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q} \\ \dot{p} \end{bmatrix} = (J_d(q, p) \quad R_d(q, p)) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial q} \\ \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} v.$$

with  $J_d$  skew-symmetric and  $R_d \geq 0$ . The closed-loop Hamiltonian dynamics are obtained by setting

$$J_d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & M^{-1}M_d \\ M_d M^{-1} & J_2(q, p) \end{bmatrix} \quad R_d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2(q) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

with  $J_2 = J_2^\top$ , and then equating the open-loop and closed-loop state equations to solve the set of PDEs in the non-actuated space

$$G^\perp \{ \nabla_q H + R \nabla_p H \quad M_d M^{-1} \nabla_q H_d + J_2 M_d^{-1} p \} = 0 \quad (4)$$

The usual approach assumes  $R = 0$  (undamped open-loop model), allowing us to split (4) into  $p$ -dependent (quadratic) and  $p$ -independent terms, giving rise to the kinetic and potential energy shaping equations, namely

$$G^\perp \{ \nabla_q (p^\top M^{-1} p) \quad M_d M^{-1} \nabla_q (p^\top M_d^{-1} p) + 2(J_2 \quad R_2) M_d^{-1} p \} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$G^\perp \{ \nabla_q V \quad M_d M^{-1} \nabla_q V_d \} = 0 \quad (6)$$

and  $R_2$  is introduced in the subsequent damping injection step. However if  $R \neq 0$  we have a third set of matching equations containing new terms that are *linear* in  $p$ , that is

$$G^\perp \{ R M^{-1} p + (J_{20} \quad R_2) M_d^{-1} p \} = 0, \quad (7)$$

where  $J_{20}$  is a new design parameter that can be introduced by just splitting the free matrix  $J_2$  in terms of the dependence on  $p$  as

$$J_2 = J_{20}(q) + J_{21}(q, p).$$

If this third matching equation is neglected, the closed-loop system may lose passivity and stability. Besides, the existence of a physical damping matrix  $R$  is related, as will be seen, with the following useful property:

*Definition 1.* (Strong dissipation). A Hamiltonian system defined on an open set  $\{q \in \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^n, p \in \mathbb{R}^m\}$  of the form  $\Sigma_2$  from (2) with  $R_d$  in the form (3), is said to be *strongly dissipative* if  $R_2(q) > 0 \forall q \in \mathcal{X}$ .

For such systems it is easy to check that there is a positive function  $\alpha(q) > 0$  such that the rate of dissipation is

$$\dot{H}_d = \left( \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} \right)^\top R_2 \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} < -\alpha(q) \|p\|^2$$

This is a useful property for stability analysis that in the case of underactuated systems can *only be achieved* with the aid of physical damping.

### 3. MAIN RESULT

In this section we will deal with four systems;  $\Sigma_1$  as defined in (1),  $\Sigma_2$  from (2) and the following two

$$\Sigma_3 = \Sigma_1(M, V, G, 0) \quad \text{Undamped open loop system}$$

$$\Sigma_4 = \Sigma_2(M_d, V_d, J_d, G, 0) \quad \text{Undamped closed loop system}$$

For stabilization purposes, the IDA-PBC method calculates first an *energy shaping* law  $u_{es}$  to transform the energy-conservative system  $\Sigma_3$  into  $\Sigma_4$ . The latter is conservative with respect to the new energy-storage function

$$H_d = \frac{1}{2} p^\top M_d^{-1}(q) p + V_d(q),$$

and has a *passive output*  $y_d = G^\top \nabla_p H_d = G^\top M_d^{-1} p$ .

Secondly, to turn  $\Sigma_4$  into a *dissipative*, thus asymptotically stable system, a *damping injection* term  $u_{di} = K_v y_d$  must be added, leading to the form  $\Sigma_2$ . However, the application of the full control law  $u = u_{es} + u_{di}$  to the physically damped system  $\Sigma_1$  instead of  $\Sigma_3$ , yields

$$\dot{x} = J_d \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} \quad R \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} K_v y_d.$$

where  $x = [q^\top \ p^\top]^\top$ . Therefore, for this system

$$\dot{H}_d = \left( \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} \right)^\top R \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \quad \left( \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} \right)^\top G K_v G^\top \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p},$$

which does not necessarily lead to  $\dot{H}_d \leq 0$  for all  $K_v \geq 0$  because of the sign-indefinite first term, due to friction.

From the *passivity* point of view, a control law  $u = u_{es} + v$  that passivates  $\Sigma_3$  with respect to the triplet  $\{H_d, v, y_d\}^1$  may no longer yield a passive system when applied to  $\Sigma_1$ , i.e. when physical damping appears.

Instead of searching for the rare cases where passivity is preserved upon the addition of physical damping leaving  $u_{es}$  unchanged, we will investigate the conditions for finding a new  $u_{es}$  for which  $\Sigma_1$  can be passivated for a given storage function  $H_d$ .

#### 3.1 Passivation by interconnection assignment

Although this will be relaxed in subsequent sections, our first result applies for systems where  $G$  is constant and has the following form (possibly through variable change)

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{(n-m) \times m} \\ I_m \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

In these cases we define the left annihilator of rank  $n - m$  as

$$G^\perp = [I_{n-m} \quad 0_{(n-m) \times m}] \quad (10)$$

Assuming the existence of a control law  $u = u_{es} + v$  that transforms  $\Sigma_3$  (undamped) into  $\Sigma_4$ , the latter being passive with respect to  $\{H_d, v, y_d\}$ , the following proposition establishes the condition for the existence of a state feedback  $u_{es}^d \neq u_{es}$  that transforms the damped system  $\Sigma_1$  into a passive system  $\Sigma_2$  with respect to the same storage function  $H_d$ .

For ease of reading we define the following *linear operator*

<sup>1</sup> In the sequel we will denote that a system is *passive with respect to* the triplet  $\{H, u, y\}$  if it is *passive* with *storage function*  $H$ , *input*  $u$  and *passive output*  $y$ .

$$J_{20} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}G^\perp(RM^{-1}M_d & M_dM^{-1}R)(G^\perp)^\top & G^\perp RM^{-1}M_dG \\ G^\top M_dM^{-1}R(G^\perp)^\top & 0 \end{bmatrix} = J_{20}^\top \quad (8)$$

Fig. 1. Choice of  $J_{20}$  for passivation by interconnection.

*Definition 2.* For  $k, j \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \leq j$ , let  $\psi(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^{j \times j} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$  be the symmetric part of the  $k$ -order upper-left square submatrix of its argument, i.e. for a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{j \times j}$  we have

$$\psi_k(A) = \frac{1}{2}[A + A^\top]_{(1\dots k, 1\dots k)}$$

*Proposition 3.* (Passivation by interconnection). Consider the system  $\Sigma_1$  defined on an open set  $\{q \in \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^n, p \in \mathbb{R}^m\}$ , with  $G$  in the form (9). Assume there are smooth matrices  $M_d, J_2$  and a smooth function  $V_d$  satisfying Eqs.(5,6) with  $R = R_2 = 0$ , i.e. transforming  $\Sigma_3$  into  $\Sigma_4$ .

Then, there is an energy shaping control law  $u_{es}^d$  that passivates the damped system  $\Sigma_1$  in  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m$  with storage function  $H_d$  if and only if the following condition holds.

$$\psi_{n-m}(RM^{-1}M_d) \geq 0 \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{X} \quad (11)$$

This will be called the *dissipation condition*.

*Proof. (Necessity).* Given a particular choice of  $H_d$ , coming as a solution of the undamped problem (for which  $M_d$  is fixed), we will investigate if there is any solution  $u = u_{es} + v$  according to that makes  $\Sigma_2$  passive. The parameters of such  $u_{es}$  must satisfy the extended matching conditions (5,6,7). The  $p$ -linearly dependent matching equation becomes (all functional dependences have been obviated)

$$\begin{aligned} G^\perp [R\nabla_p H + (J_{20} \quad R_2)\nabla_p H_d] &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow G^\perp [RM^{-1} + (J_{20} \quad R_2)M_d^{-1}]p - 0 &\quad \forall p \\ \Rightarrow G^\perp [RM^{-1}M_d + (J_{20} \quad R_2)](G^\perp)^\top &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \text{symm}\{G^\perp [RM^{-1}M_d \quad R_2](G^\perp)^\top\} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \psi_{n-m}(R_2) = \psi_{n-m}(RM^{-1}M_d) \end{aligned}$$

because  $J_{20}$  is skew symmetric, and  $G^\perp$  has the particular form (10) for the class of systems considered. In order to check the passivity of  $\Sigma_2$  we observe that along its trajectories

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{H}_d &= \left(\frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p}\right)^\top R_2 \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} + \left(\frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x}\right)^\top Gv \\ &= p^\top M_d^{-1} R_2 M_d^{-1} p + M_d^{-1} p^\top Gv \\ &= p^\top M_d^{-1} R_2 M_d^{-1} p + v^\top y_d \end{aligned}$$

Now assume that there exists some  $q^* \in \mathcal{X}$  not satisfying the dissipation condition, that is, there exists some vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$  such that

$$z^\top [\psi_{n-m}(R(q^*)M^{-1}(q^*)M_d(q^*))]z < 0$$

Defining the state  $(q^*, p^*) \in (\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m)$  with

$$p^* = M_d[z^\top, 0_{1 \times m}]^\top$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{H}_d(q^*, p^*) &= z^\top [\psi_{n-m}(R_2)]z + v^\top y_d \\ &= z^\top [\psi_{n-m}(R(q^*)M^{-1}(q^*)M_d(q^*))]z + v^\top y_d > v^\top y_d \end{aligned}$$

which means that the system is not passive in  $(\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m)$ . Since this holds for any possible IDA-PBC control law  $u_{es}^d$

solution of (5,6,7), we conclude that (11) is necessary for the passivation of  $\Sigma_1$  for a fixed  $M_d$ .

The proof for sufficiency is as follows. Assume that (11) holds on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m$ . Then we will construct an input  $u = u_{es}^d + v$  that passivates system  $\Sigma_3$  with storage function  $H_d$ , input  $v$  and output  $y_d = G^\top \nabla_p H_d$ . Matrix (8) cancels the non actuated terms of  $RM^{-1}M_d$  outside the  $(n-m)$ -order upper left block and removes the skew symmetric part of the latter<sup>2</sup>. Hence the  $p$ -linearly dependent equation is solved with

$$R_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{n-m}(RM^{-1}M_d) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, taking the matrices  $M_d, J_{21}$  and the function  $V_d$  from the solution of the undamped problem, we obtain a control law

$$\begin{aligned} u_{es}^d &= (G^\top G)^{-1} G^\top \{\nabla_q H + R\nabla_p H \quad M_d M^{-1} \nabla_q H_d \\ &\quad + (J_2 \quad R_2)M_d^{-1} p\} + v \end{aligned}$$

such that along the closed-loop trajectories

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{H}_d &= \left(\frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p}\right)^\top \psi_{n-m}(RM^{-1}M_d) \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} + v^\top y_d \leq v^\top y_d \\ &\quad \forall (q, p) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m, \end{aligned}$$

provided that the *dissipation condition*, holds in  $\mathcal{X}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

This proposition provides a criterion to check if physical damping can be an obstacle to achieving passivity in closed-loop. In the positive cases it provides a simple method to construct the passivating control law. For stabilizing the passivated system it is sufficient to add a damping term of the form  $v = K_v(q, p)y_d$ , with  $K_v \geq 0$ .

The procedure illustrated in Proposition 3 will be called *passivation by interconnection assignment*, as it exploits the interconnection matrix  $J_{20}$  to cancel the elements of  $RM^{-1}M_d$  outside the critical block  $\psi_{n-m}(RM^{-1}M_d)$ . This procedure has the drawback of requiring exact knowledge of some elements of matrix  $R$ , which are friction parameters normally nonconstant and hard to identify experimentally.

### 3.2 Passivation by damping injection

An alternative approach that relaxes the parameter identification requirements is the *passivation by damping injection* method. The following proposition states the conditions for passivation in presence of physical damping via a suitable output feedback (without modifying the interconnection matrix). Again, only the dissipation condition must be satisfied by  $R, M$  and  $M_d$  for feasibility, but with strict inequality.

<sup>2</sup> The upper left block of  $J_{20}$  is introduced to produce a solution of (7) where  $R_2$  is symmetric, and could be neglected without modifying the passivity result.

Let  $u_{es}$  be an energy shaping control law transforming  $\Sigma_3$  into the passive system  $\Sigma_4$  with storage function  $H_d$ . Then defining the passive output feedback

$$u_{di} = \bar{R}(q, p)y_d = \bar{R}(q, p)G^\top M_d^{-1}p,$$

with  $R = R^\top \geq 0$  and applying  $u = u_{es} + u_{di} + v$  to the damped system  $\Sigma_1$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q} \\ \dot{p} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ I_n & R(q) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} u \\ &= J_d \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} (u_{di} + v) \\ &= J_d \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & RM^{-1}M_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial q} \\ M_d^{-1}p \end{bmatrix} \\ &\quad + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G\bar{R}G^\top M_d^{-1}p \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} v \\ &= J_d \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & RM^{-1}M_d & G\bar{R}G^\top \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G \end{bmatrix} v \end{aligned}$$

Now defining the matrices

$$C \triangleq \frac{1}{2}(RM^{-1}M_d + M_dM^{-1}R) \quad D \triangleq G\bar{R}G^\top, \quad (12)$$

we can investigate the passivity of the map  $v \rightarrow y_d$  in  $(\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^n)$  by computing

$$\dot{H}_d = \left( \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} \right)^\top (C + D) \frac{\partial H_d}{\partial p} + v^\top y_d \quad (13)$$

that will be passive if and only if  $(C + D) \geq 0$  in  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

This new approach aims at passivating the damped system  $\Sigma_1$  by simply feeding back the passive output of  $\Sigma_4$ , namely  $y_d = G^\top M_d^{-1}p$  and leaving unchanged the energy shaping control law used to passivate the undamped model  $u_{es}$ . If the matrix  $\bar{R}$  can be found, the technique is robust in the sense that any positive matrix  $R' > \bar{R}$  would do the job, and hence no exact cancellation of damping terms is needed.

The following proposition provides a sufficient condition for the existence of the required  $\bar{R}$ . It also applies in the cases where  $G$  is  $q$ -dependent and it is not *integrable*, i.e. it cannot be transformed into a constant matrix through feedback and variable change. The idea is based in Lemma 12.31 of (Nijmeijer and Van der Schaft, 1990).

*Proposition 4.* (Passivation by damping injection). Assume there is an IDA-PBC control law  $u = u_{es} + v$  that transforms system  $\Sigma_3$  with  $G = G(q)$  into a passive system  $\Sigma_4$  with respect to  $\{v, H_d, G^\top \nabla_p H_d\}$ . Then, there exists a passivating output feedback

$$u_{di} = R(q)y_d$$

such that  $u = u_{es} + u_{di} + v$  transforms the damped system  $\Sigma_1$  into a passive system  $\Sigma_2$  with  $R_2 > 0$  if and only if

$$A \triangleq \text{symm}[G^\perp(RM^{-1}M_d)(G^\perp)^\top] > 0 \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{X} \quad (14)$$

Furthermore,  $\bar{R}^*$  can be taken diagonal.

*Proof.* (Necessity). Assume that for some  $q$  we have  $A(q) \leq 0$ , i.e., there is a nonzero vector  $x$  such that  $x^\top Ax \leq 0$ . Defining  $z = (G^\perp)^\top x$  and using definitions (12) we have

$$\begin{aligned} z^\top R_2 z &= z^\top (C + D)z = x^\top G^\perp C (G^\perp)^\top x \\ &= x^\top Ax \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

thus  $R_2$  cannot be positive definite. To prove the sufficiency direction we will assume that  $A(q) > 0 \forall q \in \mathcal{X}$ . Let  $V$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix whose columns span the orthogonal complement of  $C(\ker G)$ . First we prove that the  $n \times n$  matrix  $[V|(G^\perp)^\top]$  is nonsingular. Let  $V\alpha + (G^\perp)^\top \beta = 0$ , with  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$ . Then

$$0 = G^\perp C(V\alpha + (G^\perp)^\top \beta) = G^\perp C (G^\perp)^\top \beta = A\beta$$

Since  $A$  is assumed to be positive definite, this implies that  $\beta = 0$  and  $\alpha = 0$ . Then we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} [V|(G^\perp)^\top]^\top (C + D)[V|(G^\perp)^\top] &= \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} V^\top CV + V^\top DV & 0 \\ 0 & G^\perp C (G^\perp)^\top \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\text{rank } V^\top DV =$

$$\text{rank } [V|(G^\perp)^\top]^\top D [V|(G^\perp)^\top] = \text{rank } D$$

we conclude that as  $D = G\bar{R}G^\top$ ,  $R_2 = C + D$  can be made positive definite by choosing an appropriate  $\bar{R} = \bar{R}^\top$  (if necessary diagonal). This would give a *strongly dissipative* closed-loop system.  $\triangleleft$

### 3.3 Local exponential stability

From Proposition 4 it is clear that if the dissipation condition holds strictly, the system can be made strongly dissipative by damping injection. But for this condition to hold, it is necessary that  $\det(R) \neq 0$ . Hence strong dissipation is a property exclusive to physically damped systems. This feature is very convenient for stability analysis, because as will be shown, strongly dissipative systems are locally exponentially stable (LES). To illustrate this point we will analyze the Jacobian linearization close to the origin, namely

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{z}_q \\ \dot{z}_p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & M^{-1} \\ M_d M^{-1} \frac{\partial^2 V_d}{\partial q^2} & (J_{20} \quad R_2) M_d^{-1} \end{bmatrix}_{x=0} \begin{bmatrix} z_q \\ z_p \end{bmatrix}$$

Asymptotic stability of this system will be investigated by defining the positive Lyapunov function

$$V = \frac{1}{2} z^\top Q z, \quad Q \triangleq \frac{\partial^2 H_d}{\partial z_p^2}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 V_d}{\partial q^2}(0) & 0 \\ 0 & M_d^{-1}(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly,  $Q > 0$  in a well designed controller. The time derivative of  $V$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} &= z^\top Q \dot{z} \\ &= z_p^\top M_d^{-1}(0) [J_2(0) \quad R_2(0)] M_d^{-1}(0) z_p \\ &= z_p^\top M_d^{-1}(0) R_2(0) M_d^{-1}(0) z_p < 0, \quad \forall z_p \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

As we have built a positive definite  $R_2$ , the linearized system will converge asymptotically to the largest invariant set where  $z_p \equiv 0$ . This set is such that

$$\dot{z}_p = 0 \Rightarrow M_d M^{-1} \frac{\partial^2 V_d}{\partial q^2}(0) z_q = 0 \Rightarrow z_q = 0$$

hence linear asymptotic stability is a fact and local exponential stability is the corollary.

#### 4. EXAMPLE: BALL ON BEAM

This system has been successfully addressed in the IDA-PBC framework (see (Ortega *et al.*, 2002)). Yet, physical dissipation has been neglected. Besides the risk of instability, the closed-loop dissipation matrix is not full rank, a situation leading to cumbersome stability proofs and not ensuring local exponential stability.

##### 4.1 System model

The commonly used physical model, under some time and constant scaling (Ortega *et al.*, 2002), the Euler Lagrange equations become

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{q}_1 + g \sin(q_2) - q_1 \dot{q}_2^2 + \beta_1(q, p) \dot{q}_1 &= 0 \\ (L^2 + q_1^2) \ddot{q}_2 + 2q_1 \dot{q}_1 \dot{q}_2 + gq_1 \cos(q_2) + \beta_2(q, p) \dot{q}_2 &= u, \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where  $q_1$  is the position of the ball on the beam and  $q_2$  is the angle of the bar, with the origin at the horizontal position. Here we have introduced the positive damping functions  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  as suggested in (Reddy *et al.*, 2004) but here we also admit the possibility of some dependence on the state.

##### 4.2 Stability of the standard IDA-PBC controller

In (Ortega *et al.*, 2002) an IDA-PBC control law was developed for a damping-free model (i.e setting  $\beta_i(q, p) = 0$  in (15)), which is not included here for the sake of brevity. As expected from the preceding arguments, the closed-loop dissipation matrix is not full rank,

$$R_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k_v \end{bmatrix}$$

and the asymptotic stability analysis is nontrivial, as when the derivative of the closed-loop Hamiltonian

$$\dot{H}_d = k_v \left( \frac{p_1 \sqrt{L^2 + q_1^2} - p_2 \sqrt{2}}{(L^2 + q_1^2)^{3/2}} \right)^2,$$

reaches zero,  $p$  need not be zero.

##### 4.3 Physical damping and nonlinear damping injection

For any positive values of  $\beta_i(q, p)$ , the *dissipation condition* is trivially satisfied *globally*. Hence it is always possible to inject enough damping to overcome this difficulty. Here we will design the damping injection terms to get a globally positive definite closed-loop dissipation matrix. The novelty with respect to (Ortega *et al.*, 2002), where linear damping injection was used, appears in the nonlinear output feedback

$$u_{di} = k_v(q, p) y_d = k_v(q, p) G^T \nabla_p H_d$$

that is needed for the system to be globally *strongly dissipative*. Actually this happens when the closed-loop dissipation matrix is globally positive, that is,

$$k_v > \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \frac{6\beta_1 (L^2 + q_1^2)^2 \beta_2 + \beta_1^2 (L^2 + q_1^2)^2 + \beta_2^2}{\sqrt{L^2 + q_1^2}}$$

This can be satisfied with a constant  $k_v^*$  on any compact set. However, for  $q \in \mathbb{R}^n$  there is no constant output feedback satisfying this equation, thus we recourse to a state dependent form of  $k_v$  like

$$u_{di} = \frac{\bar{\beta}_1^2 (L^2 + q_1^2)^2 + \bar{\beta}_2^2}{2\sqrt{L^2 + q_1^2}} \left( \frac{p_1 \sqrt{L^2 + q_1^2} - p_2 \sqrt{2}}{(L^2 + q_1^2)^{3/2}} \right) \quad (16)$$

where

$$\bar{\beta}_1 > \max_{(q, p)} (\beta_1(q, p)) \quad \bar{\beta}_2 > \max_{(q, p)} (\beta_2(q, p))$$

are some *estimated* upper bounds on the friction parameters. With this controller parameters, the closed-loop system is locally exponentially stable and in virtue of the strong dissipation property it can be easily proved that the trajectories converge to the set

$$\{q \in \mathbb{R}^n | \nabla V_d(q) = 0\} \cap \{p = 0\}$$

which is a countable set of isolated points of the form

$$\bar{q} = (L \sinh(\sqrt{2}i\pi), i\pi), \quad i \in \mathbb{N}$$

including the origin and other points outside  $\{q_2 \in (\pi, \pi)\}$ . This results significantly simplifies the stability proofs.

#### 5. SIMULATIONS

System (15) has been simulated with the energy shaping control law from (Ortega *et al.*, 2002) and the two possible damping injection terms discussed in Section 4.3. First, we will use a constant linear feedback as proposed in (Ortega *et al.*, 2002) (setting  $k_v > 0$  constant) and secondly the nonlinear output feedback (16). While for sufficiently large  $k_v$  both controllers will work fine locally, for initial conditions further away from the origin the linear output feedback will be insufficient to keep  $H_d$  always decreasing, whereas (16) ensures global dissipation.

Figure 2 depicts the simulation results of the ball and beam under different dissipation conditions. The three graphs in the upper row show the trajectories of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  vs. time. The lower row shows the time dependence of the closed-loop Hamiltonian function  $H_d$  corresponding to each trajectory in the above graph. Three different conditions have been simulated. The first case, (graphs (a1) and (a2)), illustrates the IDA-PBC controller with  $k_v$  constant acting on a damping-free model, as in (Ortega *et al.*, 2002). For any  $k_v > 0$ , the semidefinite dissipation matrix is sufficient to ensure stability and no further considerations must be done. The second simulation, (b1) and (b2) shows how the performance of the constant  $k_v$  controller is downgraded when physical damping is introduced in the model and not considered for design. Figure (b2) has been zoomed in to stress out that the closed-loop energy is not monotonic: stability can be compromised. Graphs (c1) and (c2) show the closed-loop behavior of the physically damped system when the nonlinear damping term (16) is added to the controller. This controller recovers a monotonic Lyapunov function for every initial state, even without exact knowledge of the  $\beta$  parameters.

#### 6. A NEGATIVE EXAMPLE

In order to highlight how critical the *dissipation condition* can be, we have searched for a negative example for which (14) is never fulfilled for any choice of  $M_d$  compatible with the requirements of the IDA-PBC method. Such a pathology is found in the Inertia Wheel Pendulum, for which the IDA-PBC control problem has been easily solved in the undamped case. While not going into detail for brevity, we refer the reader to (Acosta *et al.*, 2004), where the conditions for IDA-PBC stability can be summarized as

- (i)  $m_{11}^0 > 0, m_{11}^0 m_{22}^0 > m_{12}^0{}^2$ .
- (ii)  $m_{11}^0 + m_{12}^0 < 0$ .

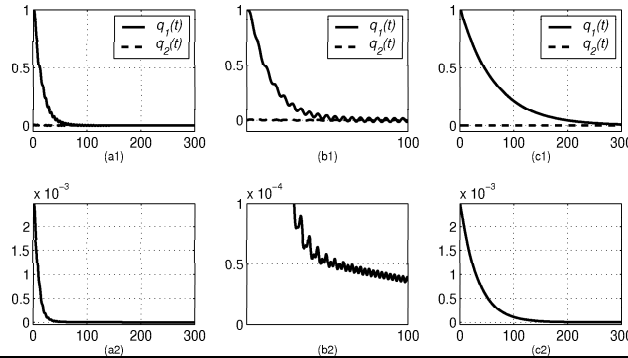


Fig. 2. Simulation results for the Ball and Beam. Upper row: Position vs. time. Lower row: Energy vs. time.

where  $m_{ij}^0$  are the elements of the  $2 \times 2$  closed-loop inertia matrix  $M_d$  obtained in the kinetic energy shaping step. Condition (i) yields a positive inertia matrix, while (ii) is related to the minimum assignment of the closed-loop potential energy. If we introduce physical damping in the problem, the following proposition stems.

*Proposition 5.* For the Inertia Wheel Pendulum, with dynamics described in (Acosta *et al.*, 2004), there is no matrix  $M_d$  achievable by the IDA-PBC method as proposed in (Ortega and Spong, 2000), satisfying (14).

*Proof.* Condition (14), for passivating the Inertia Wheel Pendulum yields

$$\begin{aligned} G^\perp R M^{-1} M_d (G^\perp)^\top > 0 \Rightarrow \\ \eta^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ r_1 & r_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r_1 + r_2 & r_2 \\ r_2 & r_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_{11}^0 & m_{12}^0 \\ m_{12}^0 & m_{22}^0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} > 0 \\ \Rightarrow \eta^2 r_1 (m_{11}^0 + m_{12}^0) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

and this inequality contradicts the stability condition (ii).  $\triangleleft$  As a consequence, standard IDA-PBC for this system with physical damping is not possible.

*Remark 6.* In (Acosta *et al.*, 2004),  $M_d$  was given explicitly for with a free parameter  $\Psi(q_1)$ . In that paper the undamped Inertia Wheel problem was solved simply setting  $\Psi(q_1)$  to zero—yielding a constant  $M_d$ . Here, we prove that even with a nonzero free parameter  $\Psi(q_1) \neq 0$ , the Inertia Wheel pendulum with natural damping cannot be passivated.

*Proof.* Choosing the most general form for the closed-loop inertia matrix given in (Acosta *et al.*, 2004), we have

$$M_d(q_1) = \int_{q_{1*}}^{q_1} \Psi(\mu) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} d\mu + \begin{bmatrix} m_{11}^0 & m_{12}^0 \\ m_{12}^0 & m_{22}^0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Checking Assumption A.1 from (Acosta *et al.*, 2004), regarding the existence of solution for the kinetic energy PDE, it is easy to see that the  $\Psi(q_1)$ —dependent term of  $M_d(q_1)$  cancels. Thus the constant  $\eta$  is the same as the one given in the proof of Proposition 5 and therefore, the stability Assumption A.2 from (Acosta *et al.*, 2004) remains unchanged, i.e. the condition (ii) given in Proposition 5.  $\triangleleft$

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper the IDA-PBC control technique for underactuated mechanical systems has been revised to incorporate an

important phenomenon that has been neglected in previous related works: open-loop damping. Given a solution of the IDA-PBC matching equations for the undamped model, this paper provides necessary and sufficiency conditions for passivating the damped system. An interesting open issue is the application of the previous results to nonsmooth friction forces, like Coulomb friction. In this case the open-loop damping matrix  $R$  tends to infinity at the zero crossings of  $p$  and the system cannot be turned dissipative by feedback with the illustrated method. A novel approach specific for this case is under study.

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