ON THE OPTIMIZATION OF TRACKING SYSTEMS

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L. S. GNOENSKII (Moscow)

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Let the equation

$$L_n(y) \equiv a_0(t) y^{(n)} + a_1(t) y^{(n-1)} + \ldots + a_n(t) y = f(t) + c(t) f'(t)$$
 (1)

with initial conditions

$$y(0) = y'(0) = \dots y^{(n-1)}(0) = f(0) = 0$$
(2)

describe a tracking system whose input is supplied not only with a control function f(t) but also with its derivative f'(t), amplified by a variable amplification factor c(t). for the purpose of improving its performance. It is assumed that the function f(t) arriving at the input of the tracking system has been filtered free of high-frequency noise and interference. Nothing is known about f(t) except that

$$|f'(t)| \leqslant m \tag{3}$$

and f'(t) has a finite number of points of discontinuity in a finite interval of time.

The function c(t) must satisfy the constraint

$$|c(t)| \leqslant M \tag{4}$$

The error signal y(t) - f(t) will be denoted by $\delta(t, f(\tau), c(\tau))$.

Let us assume that at a fixed instant of time T the modulus of the error signal must not exceed a given value for any value of f'(t) satisfying (3), that is:

$$\sup_{f} |\delta(T, f(t), c(t))| \leqslant A, \quad |f'(t)| \leqslant m, \quad t \in [0, T]$$
(5)

and let the inequality

$$\inf_{c} \sup_{f} |\delta(T, f(t), c(t))| = A^{\circ} \langle A$$
$$|c(t)| \leq M, \quad |f'(t)| \leq m, \quad t \in [0, T]$$
(6)

be satisfied.

We shall now formulate the problem. In the set of integrable functions c(t) satisfying the conditions (4) and (5), required to find the function $c_{\min}(t)$ for which

$$\inf_{c} \sup_{f} |\delta_{T}'(T, f(t), c(t))| \qquad |f'(t)| \leqslant m, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

will be true.

At time T the values of y(T) and f(T) agree to the best first-order approximation possible for the given conditions for any f(t) satisfying (3).

The problem considered here is directly related to Bulgakov's method of accumulated perturbations [1], since all that is known about f(t) is the condition (3).

It should be noted that the method of supplying a linear combination of the control function f(t) and its derivative is fairly widespread in practice.

In a number of cases the control function may be differentiated exactly in practice, for example, when f'(t) is obtained by means of a tachometer. In other cases, for example, in the case of differentiation by means of *RC* networks, the error in finding the derivative consists in the fact that instead of the function f'(t) one obtains the function s(t), which is a solution of the equation

$$T^*\frac{dS}{dt} + S = \frac{df}{dt}$$

For sufficiently small values of the time constant T^* , $S(t) \approx f'(t)$. In the present note it is assumed that the differentiation is exact. However, the statement of the problem remains meaningful even for the case when S(t) is supplied to the input of the system instead of f'(t).

We shall assume in what follows that in the interval $[0, T_0]$, where $T_0 \ge T$, all coefficients $a_i(t)$ of Equation (1) are functions which have n - i continuous derivatives and $a_0(t)$ does not vanish in $[0, T_0]$. These conditions facilitate the calculation of certain functions introduced below. Representing f(t) in the form

$$f(t) = \int_{0}^{t} f'(\tau) d\tau$$

and changing the order of integration in the resulting repeated integral, taking Equation (2) into account, the error signal $\delta(T, f, c)$ may be represented in the form

$$\delta(T, f, c) = \int_{0}^{T} [K_{0}(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K(T, \tau)] j'(\tau) d\tau$$

$$K_{0}(T, \tau) = \int_{\tau}^{T} K(T, u) du - 1, \qquad K(T, \tau) = \sum_{r=1}^{n} y_{r}(T) \frac{W_{r}(\tau)}{a_{0}(\tau) W(\tau)}$$

Here $y_1(t)$, $y_2(t)$, ..., $y_n(t)$ form a fundamental system of solutions of the homogeneous equation corresponding to Equation (1), $W(\tau)$ is the Wronskian of this system, and $W_r(\tau)$ is the cofactor of the element of the last row and rth column of the Wronskian. Therefore

$$K(T, T) = 0, \qquad K_0(T, T) = -1$$

Let us recall that the functions $Z_r(\tau) = W_r(\tau)/a_0(\tau)W(\tau)$ form a fundamental system of solutions of the equation

$$M_n(Z) \equiv (-1)^n (a_0 Z)^{(n)} + (-1)^{n-1} (a_1 Z)^{(n-1)} + \dots - (a_{n-1} Z)' + a_n Z = 0$$
(7)

Here M_n is the operator conjugate to L_n .

Since $c(\tau)$ and $f'(\tau)$ are integrable, $K(T, \tau)$, $K_0(T, \tau)$, and their derivatives with respect to T are continuous in T and τ and K(T, T) = 0, $K_0(T, T) = -1$, it follows that

$$\delta_{T}'(T, f, c) = \int_{0}^{T} \left[K_{0}'(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K'(T, \tau) \right] f'(\tau) d\tau - f'(T)$$

if $f'(\tau)$ is continuous in T. If $f'(\tau)$ has a discontinuity at T, then for the derivatives from left and right, respectively, the second term of the formula is equal to $f'(T_{-0})$ and $f'(T_{+0})$, respectively. The derivatives of $K_0(T, \tau)$ and $K(T, \tau)$ are calculated with respect to the argument T. Since f'(t) is not known in advance and merely satisfies the condition (3), it follows that

$$\sup_{j} |\delta(T, j, c)| = m \int_{0}^{T} |K_{0}(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K(T, \tau)| d\tau$$

$$\sup_{t} |\delta_{T}'(T, t, c)| = m \int_{0}^{T} |K_{0}'(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K'(T, \tau)| d\tau + m$$

Therefore

$$\inf_{c} \sup_{f} \delta|_{T}'(T, f, c)|, \qquad \inf_{c} m \int_{0}^{T} |K_{0}'(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K'(T, \tau)| d\tau$$

will be true for the same function $c_{\min}(\tau)$.

It is shown in [2] that (6) is true for the function $c^{O}(\tau)$:

$$c^{\circ}(\tau) = -\frac{K_{0}(T,\tau)}{K(T,\tau)} \quad \text{for } \left| \frac{K_{0}(T,\tau)}{K(T,\tau)} \right| < M$$
$$c^{\circ}(\tau) = -M \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_{0}(T,\tau)}{K(T,\tau)} \quad \text{for } \left| \frac{K_{0}(T,\tau)}{K(T,\tau)} \right| \ge M$$
(8)

We set

$$K_0(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K(T, \tau) = N(\tau) + \varphi(\tau) K(\tau)$$

$$K_0'(T, \tau) + c(\tau) K'(T, \tau) = R(\tau) + \varphi(\tau) G(\tau)$$
(9)

where

$$N(\tau) = K_0(T, \tau) + c^{\circ}(\tau) K(T, \tau), \qquad R(\tau) = K_0'(T, \tau) + c^{\circ}(\tau) K'(T, \tau)$$

$$\varphi(\tau) = c(\tau) - c^{\circ}(\tau), \qquad K(\tau) = K(T, \tau), \qquad G(\tau) = K'(T, \tau)$$
(10)

$$a(\tau) = -M - c^{\circ}(\tau); \leq \varphi(\tau) \leq M - c^{\circ}(\tau) = b(\tau)$$
(11)

The above problem is thus equivalent to the following:

On the set D of functions $\phi(\tau)$ satisfying (11) and the condition

$$Q(\varphi) = m \int_{0}^{T} |N(\tau) + \varphi(\tau) K(\tau)| d\tau < A$$
(12)

required to find the function $\phi_{\min}(\tau)$ for which

$$\inf_{\varphi} E(\varphi) = \inf_{\varphi} m \int_{0}^{T} |R(\tau) + \varphi(\tau) G(\tau)| d\tau$$
(13)

We set

$$\varphi^{\circ}(\tau) = a(\tau) \quad \text{for } -\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} \leqslant a(\tau), \qquad \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) = b(\tau) \quad \text{for } -\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} \ge b(\tau)$$
$$\varphi^{\circ}(\tau) = -\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} \quad \text{for } a(\tau) < -\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} < b(\tau)$$

Let $\sigma(y)$ be a subset of [0, T] such that if $\tau \in \sigma(y)$, then

1156

$$\frac{G(\tau)}{K(\tau)} \ge y, \qquad y \in [B^-, B^+], \qquad B^- = \inf_{\tau} \frac{G(\tau)}{K(\tau)}, \qquad B^+ = \sup_{\tau} \frac{G(\tau)}{K(\tau)}$$

We now consider the function $\psi(\tau, y)$, dependent on the parameter y,

$$\psi(\tau, y) = \varphi^{\circ}(\tau)$$
 for $\tau \in \sigma(y)$, $\psi(\tau, y) = 0$ for $\tau \in \lambda(y) = [0, T] \setminus \sigma(y)$

and the function

$$\Phi\left(y\right) = m\int_{0}^{T} |N\left(\tau\right) + \psi\left(\tau, y\right) K\left(\tau\right)| d\tau$$

Let us now note that for any arbitrary constant d the equation

$$\frac{G\left(\mathbf{\tau}\right)}{K\left(\mathbf{\tau}\right)}=d$$

can have only a finite number of zeros in the interval [0, T]. In fact

$$G(\tau) = \sum_{r=1}^{n} y_{r}'(T) Z_{r}(\tau), \qquad K(\tau) = \sum_{r=1}^{n} y_{r}(T) Z_{r}(\tau)$$
$$Z^{\circ}(\tau) \equiv G(\tau) - dK(\tau) = \sum_{r=1}^{n} [y_{r}'(T) - dy_{r}(T)] Z_{r}(\tau)$$

In the last equality at least one of the coefficients $y_r'(T) - dy_r(T)$ is different from zero, since otherwise the Wronskian would be equal to zero. Therefore, $Z^O(\tau)$ is a nontrivial solution of Equations (7). But this solution can have only a finite number of zeros in the interval [0, T]. The function $\Phi(y)$ is continuous and decreases monotonically as y varies from B^- to B^+ .

Indeed, if
$$y_2 \ge y_1$$
 then $\sigma(y_2) \subset \sigma(y_1)$. Therefore $|\psi(\tau, y_1)| \ge |\psi(\tau, y_2)|$.

It follows from (8) to (11) that if $N(\tau)\psi(\tau, y)K(\tau) \neq 0$, then

$$\operatorname{sign} \left[N\left(\tau\right) + \psi\left(\tau, y\right) K\left(\tau\right) \right] = \operatorname{sign} N\left(\tau\right) = \operatorname{sign} \psi\left(\tau, y\right) K\left(\tau\right)$$

These equations may be obtained as follows: We have

sign
$$N = \operatorname{sign} K_0$$
, $c^\circ = -M \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_0}{K}$, $|K_0| > M |K|$, $\psi = \varphi^\circ$

and therefore

$$\mathbf{A} = M\left(-1 + \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_0}{K}\right) \leqslant \varphi^{\circ} \leqslant M\left(1 + \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_0}{K}\right) = b, \qquad -M \leqslant M \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_0}{K} - \varphi \quad \leqslant M$$

Since

$$N + \psi K = K_{\rm p} - K \left(M \operatorname{sign} \frac{K_0}{K} - \varphi^{\circ} \right)$$

it follows that

$$\operatorname{sign}\left(N+\psi K\right)=\operatorname{sign}K_{0}=\operatorname{sign}N$$

Moreover, sign $\psi K = \text{sign } \phi^{O} K = \text{sign } K_{O} = \text{sign } N$, since

$$-2M \leqslant \varphi^{\circ} < 0$$
 if $\operatorname{sign} \frac{K_{\circ}}{K} = -1$, $0 < \varphi^{\circ} \leqslant 2M$ if $\operatorname{sign} \frac{K_{\circ}}{K} = 1$

Therefore $\Phi(y_1) \ge \Phi(y_2)$. The continuity of $\Phi(y)$ follows from the above noted property of $G(\tau)/K(\tau)$. Two cases are possible: either $\Phi(B^-) \ge A$ or $\Phi(B^-) \le A$.

In the first case

$$\varphi_{\min}(\tau) = \psi(\tau, y_0) \equiv \psi^{\circ}(\tau)$$
(14)

where y_0 is the smallest root of the equation

$$\Phi(y) = A \tag{15}$$

Equation (15) has at least one root, since

$$\Phi\left(B^{+}\right) = m \int_{0}^{T} |N\left(\tau\right)| d\tau = A^{\circ} < A$$

It follows from the above that $\psi(\tau, y_i) \equiv \psi(\tau, y_j)$ if y_i and y_j satisfy (15).

In the second case

$$\varphi_{\min}(\tau) = \psi(\tau, B^{\perp}) = \varphi^{\perp}(\tau)$$

It is evident that $\psi^{O}(\tau)$ and $\phi^{O}(\tau)$ belong to the set D.

We shall prove Equation (14). Let $\phi(\tau)$ be an arbitrary function belonging to D.

Noting that for any
$$\tau$$
 belonging to $\sigma(y_0)$ we have
 $|\varphi| + |\psi^\circ| \ge \left|\frac{R}{G} + \varphi\right| - \left|\frac{R}{G} + \psi^\circ\right| = \left|\frac{R}{G} + \varphi\right| - \left|\frac{R}{G}\right| + |\psi^\circ| \ge |\psi^\circ| - |\varphi|$
 $\left|\frac{R}{G} + \varphi\right| \ge \left|\frac{R}{G} + \psi^\circ\right|, \quad \frac{G(\mu)}{K(\mu)} > \frac{G(\nu)}{K(\nu)} \quad \text{for } \mu \in \sigma(y_0), \nu \in \lambda(y_0)$
 $\frac{A}{m} = \int_{\gamma}^{T} |N + \psi^\circ K| d\tau = \int_{\alpha}^{T} |N| d\tau + \int_{\sigma(y_0)} |\psi^\circ| |K| d\tau = \frac{A^\circ}{m} + \int_{\sigma(y_0)} |\psi^\circ| |K| d\tau$

1158

$$\frac{Q\left(\varphi\right)}{m} = \int_{0}^{T} |N + \varphi K| d\tau \ge \frac{A^{\circ}}{m} + \int_{0}^{T} |\varphi| |K| d\tau$$

it follows that

$$\begin{split} &\sum_{\sigma} \left[\left| R + \varphi G \right| - \left| R + \psi^{\circ} G \right| \right] d\tau = \sum_{\sigma (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \left| \frac{G}{K} \left| \left[\left| \frac{R}{G} + \varphi \right| - \left| \frac{R}{G} + \psi^{\circ} \right| \right] d\tau + \right. \\ &+ \sum_{\lambda (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \left| \frac{G}{K} \left| \left[\left| \frac{\dot{R}}{G} + \varphi \right| - \left| \frac{R}{G} \right| \right] d\tau = \left| \frac{G(\tau^{*})}{K(\tau^{*})} \right| \sum_{\sigma (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \left[\left| \frac{R}{G} + \varphi \right| - \right. \\ &- \left| \frac{R}{G} + \psi^{\circ} \right| \right] d\tau + \sum_{\lambda (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \left| \frac{G}{K} \left| \left[\left| \frac{R}{G} + \varphi \right| - \left| \frac{R}{G} \right| \right] d\tau \right] d\tau \right] d\tau \\ &\geq \left| \frac{G(\tau^{*})}{K(\tau^{*})} \right| \sum_{\sigma (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \left[\left| \psi^{\circ} \right| - \left| \varphi \right| \right] d\tau - \left| \frac{G(\tau^{**})}{K(\tau^{**})} \right| \sum_{\lambda (y_{\phi})} \left| K \right| \varphi | d\tau = \\ &= \left| \frac{G(\tau^{*})}{K(\tau^{*})} \right| \frac{(A - A^{\circ})}{m} - \left| \frac{G(\tau^{*})}{K(\tau^{*})} \right| \sum_{\sigma (y_{\phi})} \left| K \left\| \varphi \right| d\tau - \\ &- \left| \frac{G(\tau^{**})}{K(\tau^{**})} \right| \sum_{\lambda (y_{\phi})} \left| K \left\| \varphi \right| d\tau \right| d\tau \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \left| \frac{G(\tau^{*})}{K(\tau^{*})} \right| \left| A - A^{\circ} - (Q(\varphi) - A^{\circ}) \right| \ge 0 \end{split}$$

It is thus shown that if $E(\varphi)$ is attained on $\varphi^{O}(\tau)$, that is, Equation (14) is valid. Formula (16) is proved in a similar manner.

Let us consider the computational side of the above problem. The determination of the function $K(T, \tau)$ reduces to the calculation of the fundamental systems of equations $y_1(t)$, $y_2(t)$, ..., $y_n(t)$ and $Z_1(t)$, $Z_2(t)$, ..., $Z_n(t)$. The methods of finding these solutions by means of high-speed digital computers or analog computers are well known. Thereafter the functions $N(\tau)$, $R(\tau)$, $\phi^{O}(\tau)$ can easily be found. Since $\Phi(y)$ is a monotonic continuous function, a suitable method for solving Equations (15) to a predetermined degree of accuracy is the well-known numerical method of successive approximations called the rule of false position.

From the above property of the function $G(\tau)/K(\tau)$ it follows that for any given y the set $\sigma(y)$ consists of a finite number of intervals. The boundaries of these intervals are the roots of the equation

$$\frac{G\left(\tau\right)}{K\left(\tau\right)}=y$$

Finding the roots of this equation is equivalent to finding the zeros of the solution

$$\mathbf{z}^{\circ}(\mathbf{\tau}) = \sum_{r=1}^{\mathbf{R}} \left[y_{r}'(T) - yy_{r}(T) \right] Z_{r}(\mathbf{\tau})$$

of Equations (7), which may be done by means of digital or analog computers. The calculation of the value of the function $\Phi(y)$ after finding the structure of the set $\sigma(y)$ reduces to the calculation of a finite number of intervals.

To illustrate the method of finding the function $\Phi(y)$, we shall consider an example.

Let the equation

$$y'' + y = f(t) + c(t) f'(t), \qquad y(0) = y'(0) = f(0) = 0, \quad |f'(t)| \le m; \ |c(t)| \le M$$

be given.

As is known, for this equation $K(T, \tau) = \sin(T - \tau)$. For simplicity, we set $T = 2\pi n$, where n is a positive integer. Then

e.

$$K(T, \tau) = -\sin \tau, \qquad K_0(T, \tau) = \int_{\tau}^{\tau} K(T, u) \, du - 1 = -\cos (T - \tau) = -\cos \tau$$
$$K'(T, \tau) = \cos (T - \tau) = \cos \tau, \qquad K_0'(T, \tau) = \sin (T - \tau) = -\sin \tau$$
$$c^{\circ}(\tau) = -\cot \tau \quad \text{if } |\cot \tau| \leq M, \qquad c^{\circ}(\tau) = -M \text{ sign cot } \tau \quad \text{if } |\cot \tau| \geq M$$

Using Formulas (10) and (11), we obtain

$$N(\tau) = 0, \qquad R(\tau) = -\operatorname{cosech} \tau \qquad (|\operatorname{cot} \tau| \leq M)$$

$$N(\tau) = -\cos\tau + M\sin\tau, \qquad R(\tau) = -\sin\tau - M\cos\tau \qquad (\operatorname{cot} \tau \geq M)$$

$$N(\tau) = -\cos\tau - M\sin\tau, \qquad R(\tau) = -\sin\tau + M\cos\tau \qquad (\cot\tau \leq M)$$

$$a(\tau) = -M + \cot\tau, \qquad b(\tau) = M + \cot\tau \qquad (|\cot\tau| \leq M)$$

$$a(\tau) = 0, \qquad b(\tau) = 2M \qquad (|\cot\tau \geq M)$$

$$a(\tau) = -2M, \qquad b(\tau) = 0 \qquad (\cot\tau \leq -M)$$

$$-\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} = \frac{1}{\sin\tau\cos\tau} = \frac{2}{\sin2\tau} \qquad (|\cot\tau| \leq M)$$

$$-\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} = \frac{\sin\tau + M\cos\tau}{\cos\tau} = \tan\tau + M \qquad (\cot\tau \leq M)$$

$$-\frac{R(\tau)}{G(\tau)} = \frac{\sin\tau - M\cos\tau}{\cos\tau} = \tan\tau - M \qquad (\cot\tau \leq -M)$$

Consequently, $\tau \in \sigma(y)$ if $-\cot \tau \ge y$. Let τ_y be a value of $\cot^{-1}(-y)$ belonging to $[0, \pi]$. Then $\sigma(y)$ consists of the intervals $[\tau_y, \pi]$, $[\tau_y + \pi + 2\pi]$, ..., $\tau_y + \pi(2n - 1)$, $2\pi n$). We assume for the sake of definiteness that $M \ge 1$. Then from the determination of $\varphi^{O}(t)$ it follows that

1160

$$\begin{split} \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) &= \tan \tau + M & (\cot \tau \ge M) \\ \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) &= \tan \tau + \cot \tau & (M \ge |\cot \tau| \ge M^{-1}) \\ \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) &= M + \cot \tau & (M^{-1} \ge \cot \tau \ge 0) \\ \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) &= -M + \cot \tau & (-M^{-1} \le \cot \tau < 0) \\ \varphi^{\circ}(\tau) &= \tan \tau - M & (\cot \tau < -M) \end{split}$$

In the interval $\left[0,\ \pi\right]$

$$\psi(\tau, y) = \phi^{\circ}(\tau) \quad \text{if } \tau \in [\tau_{y}, \pi], \qquad \psi(\tau, y) = 0 \quad \text{if } \tau \in [0, \tau_{y}]$$

Let

$$\cot \tau_0 = M$$
, $\cot \tau_1 = M^{-1}$ $(\tau_0, \tau_1 \in [0, \pi])$

Then for $y \leq -M$

$$\Phi(y) = 4\pi nm \left\{ \int_{0}^{\tau_{y}} |-\cos \tau + M\sin \tau| d\tau + \int_{\tau_{y}}^{\tau_{o}} |-\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau + \int_{\tau_{o}}^{\tau_{1}} |\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau + \int_{\tau_{o}}^{\tau_{1}} |\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau + \int_{\tau_{o}}^{\pi/2} |(M + \cot \tau)(-\sin \tau)| d\tau + \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi-\tau_{1}} |(-M + \cot \tau)(-\sin \tau)| d\tau + \int_{\pi-\tau_{1}}^{\pi-\tau_{0}} |-\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau + \int_{\pi-\tau_{0}}^{\pi-\tau_{0}} |-\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau + \int_{\pi-\tau_{0}}^{\pi-\tau_{0}} |-\frac{1}{\cos \tau}| d\tau \right\} = 4\pi nm \left\{ \frac{1-My}{V1+y^{2}} + 2 - M + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left[\frac{V1+y^{2}-1}{V1+y^{2}+1} \left(\frac{V1+M^{2}+M}{V1+M^{2}-M} \right)^{2} \right] \right\}$$

Performing similar calculations, we find that

We note that

$$\Phi(B^{-}) = \Phi(-\infty) = 4\pi nm \left[2 + \ln \frac{\sqrt{1+M^2}+M}{\sqrt{1+M^2}-M}\right]$$

$$\Phi(B^{+}) = \Phi(\infty) = 8\pi nm \left[\sqrt{1+M^2}-M\right]$$

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