Adaptive tracking control of a wheeled mobile robot

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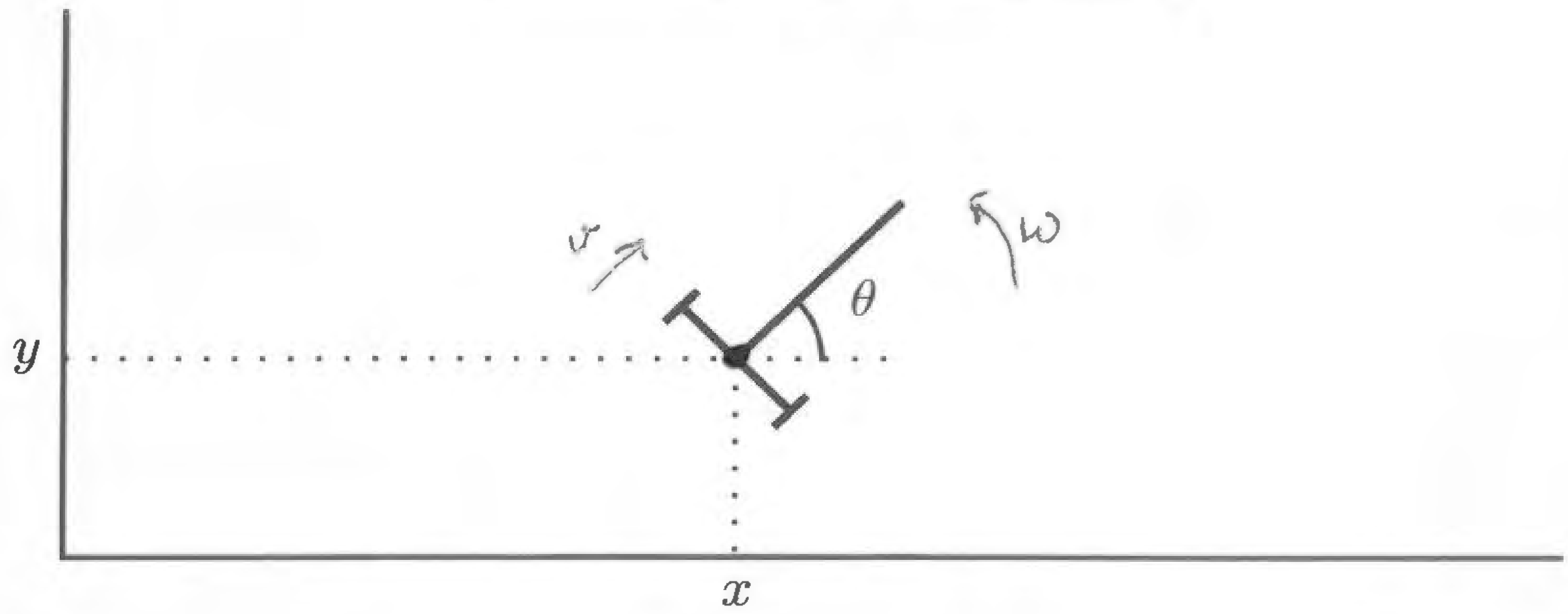
Outline

- A tracking control problem
- How to formulate the *adaptive* tracking control problem?
- A first attempt
- Evaluation
- Proposed formulation of adaptive tracking control problem
- Further research

A simple kinematic model



$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{x} &= v\cos\theta \\
\dot{y} &= v\sin\theta \\
\dot{\theta} &= \omega
\end{aligned}
$$

Formulating the tracking problem

Reference robot:

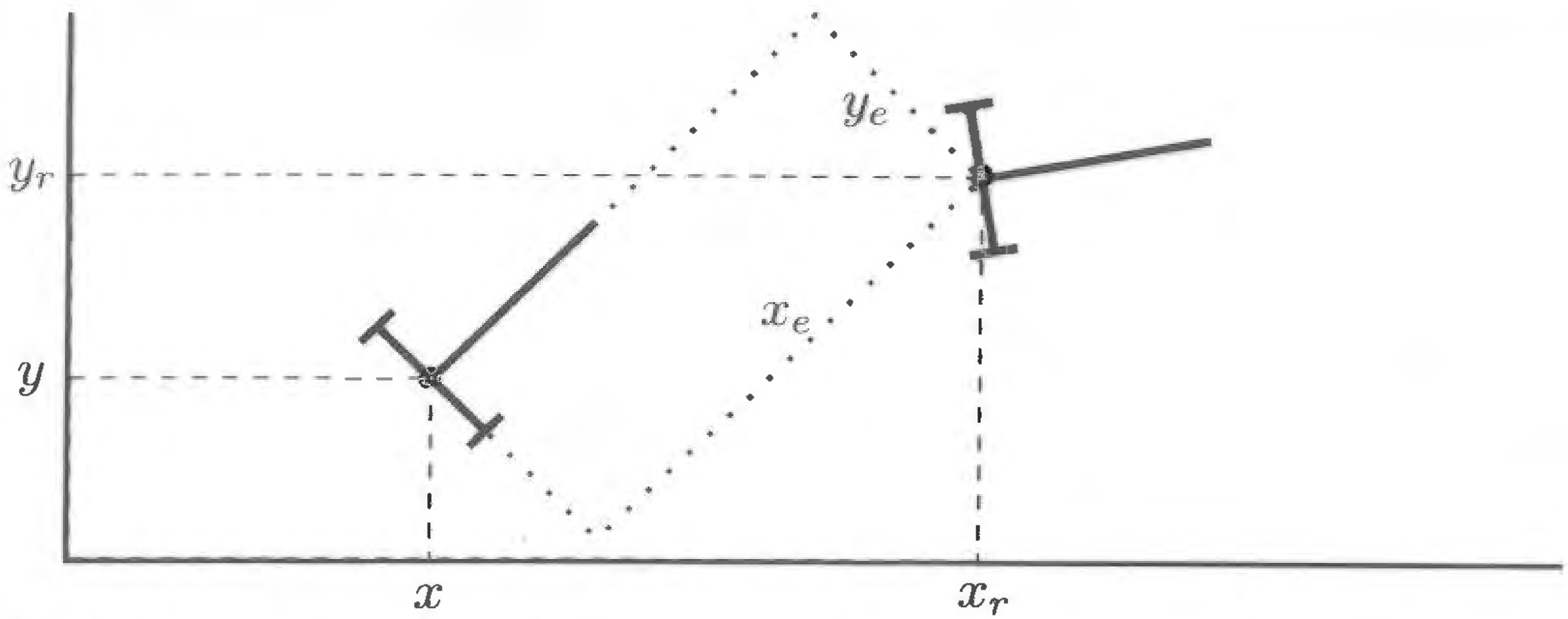
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_r &= v_r \cos\theta_r \\ \dot{y}_r &= v_r \sin\theta_r \\ \dot{\theta}_r &= \omega_r \end{aligned}$$

Find control laws

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv v(\underbrace{x, y, \theta}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, v_r, \omega_r}) \quad \dot{x}_r, \dot{y}_r, \ldots \\ \omega &\equiv \omega(\underbrace{x, y, \theta}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, v_r, \omega_r}) \end{aligned}$$

that yield

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} |x(t) - x_r(t)| + |y(t) - y_r(t)| + |\theta(t) - \theta_r(t)| = 0$$



Define new coordinates (Kanayama, Kimura, Miyazaki, Noguchi 1990))

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x}_e \\ \tilde{y}_e \\ \tilde{\theta}_e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_r - x \\ y_r - y \\ \theta_r - \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Several solutions have been found, e.g Jiang, Nijmeijer :

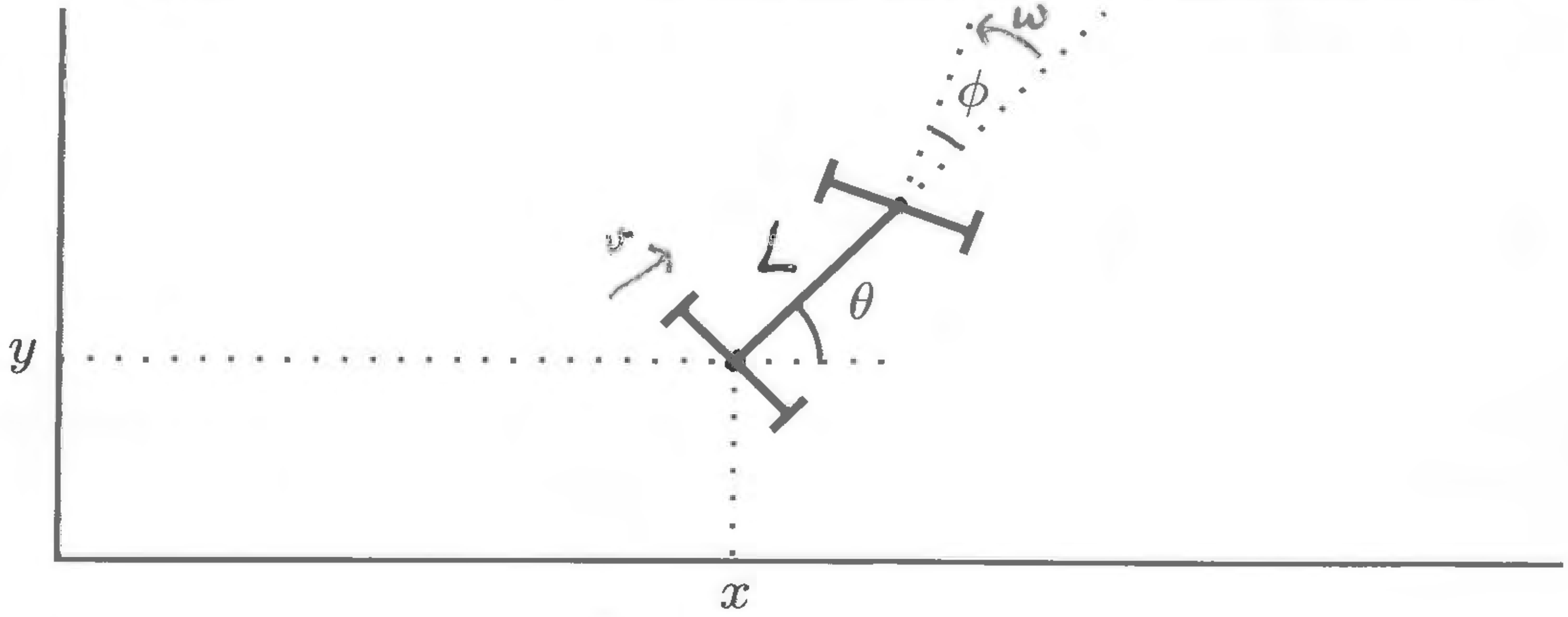
$$
\begin{aligned}
v &= \overset{v_r\cos\theta_e}{\cancel{v_r}} + c_x x_e + \gamma y_e v_r \int_0^1 \cos(s\theta_e)ds \qquad && \gamma, c_x > 0 \\
\omega &= \omega_r + c_\theta \theta_e && c_\theta > 0
\end{aligned}
$$

yields

$$
\lim_{t\to\infty} |x_e| + |y_e| + |\theta_e| = 0
$$

provided either $v_r \not\to 0$ or $\omega_r \not\to 0$.

A simple kinematic model containing a parameter



$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{x} &= v\cos\theta \\
\dot{y} &= v\sin\theta \\
\dot{\theta} &= \frac{v}{L}\tan\phi \\
\dot{\phi} &= \omega
\end{aligned}
$$

Formulating the tracking problem

Reference robot:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{x}_r &= v_r \cos\theta_r \\
\dot{y}_r &= v_r \sin\theta_r \\
\dot{\theta}_r &= \frac{v_r}{L}\tan\phi_r \\
\dot{\phi}_r &= \omega_r
\end{aligned}
$$

Find control laws

$$
\begin{aligned}
v &\equiv v(\underbrace{x, y, \theta, \phi}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, \phi_r, v_r, \omega_r}) \\
\omega &\equiv \omega(\underbrace{x, y, \theta, \phi}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, \phi_r, v_r, \omega_r}) \quad \dot{x}_r, \dot{y}_r, \cdots
\end{aligned}
$$

that yield

$$
\lim_{t\to\infty} |x^{(k)} - x_r^{(k)}| + |y^{(k)} - y_r^{(k)}| + |\theta^{(k)} - \theta_r^{(k)}| + |\phi^{(k)} - \phi_r^{(k)}| = 0
$$

How to formulate the *adaptive* tracking problem?

Reference robot:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{x}_r &= v_r \cos\theta_r \\
\dot{y}_r &= v_r \sin\theta_r \\
\dot{\theta}_r &= \frac{v_r}{L}\tan\phi_r \\
\dot{\phi}_r &= \omega_r
\end{aligned}
$$

Find control laws for v and ω that yield

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} |x(t) - x_r(t)| + |y(t) - y_r(t)| + |\theta(t) - \theta_r(t)| + |\phi(t) - \phi_r(t)| = 0$$

where L is an unknown parameter.

Problem

How to specify the dynamics of the reference robot:

$$\dot{x}_r = v_r \cos\theta_r \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{y}_r = v_r \sin\theta_r \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{\theta}_r = \frac{v_r}{L}\tan\phi_r \quad (3)$$

$$\dot{\phi}_r = \omega_r \quad (4)$$

Not by specifying $x_r(t)$, $y_r(t)$, $\theta_r(t)$, $\phi_r(t)$! Since:

$$\begin{aligned} v_r &= \dot{x}_r \cos\theta_r + \dot{y}_r \sin\theta_r \\ L &= \frac{v_r}{\dot{\theta}_r}\tan\phi_r \end{aligned}$$

A first attempt

We know that $[x_r(t), y_r(t)]$ is flat output, i.e.

$$[x_r, y_r, \theta_r, \phi_r, v_r, \omega_r] = f(x_r, \dot{x}_r, \ddot{x}_r, x_r^{(3)}, y_r, \dot{y}_r, \ddot{y}_r, y_r^{(3)})$$

This can be seen as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_r &= v_r \cos\theta_r & \qquad \theta_r &= \arctan(\dot{y}_r/\dot{x}_r) \\ \dot{y}_r &= v_r \sin\theta_r & \qquad v_r &= \sqrt{\dot{x}_r^2 + \dot{y}_r^2} \\ \dot{\theta}_r &= \frac{v_r}{L}\tan\phi_r & \qquad \phi_r &= \arctan(L\dot{\theta}_r/v_r) \\ \dot{\phi}_r &= \omega_r & \qquad \omega_r &= \dot{\phi}_r \end{aligned}$$

So by specifying $[x_r(t), y_r(t)]$ we can recover the entire state.

What signals can we use in control law?

If we specify $x_r(t), y_r(t)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\theta_r &= \arctan(\dot{y}_r/\dot{x}_r) \\
v_r &= \sqrt{\dot{x}_r^2 + \dot{y}_r^2} \\
\phi_r &= \arctan(L\dot{\theta}_r/v_r) \\
\omega_r &= \dot{\phi}_r
\end{aligned}$$

What signals can we 'use' if L is unknown?

- $x_r(t)$, $y_r(t)$, $\theta_r(t)$, $v_r(t)$ are independent of L
- $\phi_r(t)$, $\omega_r(t)$ dependent of L.

A way to formulate the adaptive tracking problem

By specifying $x_r(t), y_r(t)$ we specify the entire reference dynamics:

- $x_r(t)$, $y_r(t)$, $\theta_r(t)$, $v_r(t)$ independent of L
- $\phi_r(t)$, $\omega_r(t)$ dependent of L.

Find control laws

$$
\begin{aligned}
v &\equiv v(\underbrace{x, y, \theta, \phi}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, v_r}) \\
\omega &\equiv \omega(\underbrace{x, y, \theta, \phi}, \underbrace{x_r, y_r, \theta_r, v_r})
\end{aligned}
$$

$\dot{x}_r, \dot{y}_r, \ldots$

NOT $\phi_r, \omega_r, \dot{\phi}_r, \ldots$!

that yield

$$
\lim_{t\to\infty} |x(t) - x_r(t)| + |y(t) - y_r(t)| + |\theta(t) - \theta_r(t)| + |\phi(t) - \phi_r(t)| = 0
$$

$\hookrightarrow \phi \to \phi_r$ even though we don't know ϕ_r (since it "depends" on the unknown L)

Do we need flatness?

Two properties of a flat output are:

- Dimension of flat output = Number of (independent) inputs,
- We can reconstruct the state and inputs without integrating.

Example 1

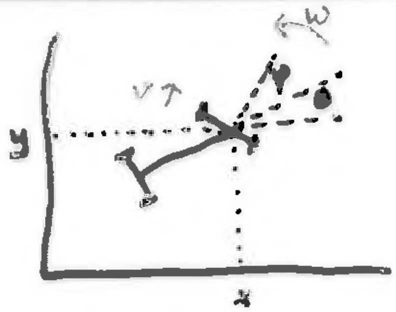
Consider the system

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= v\cos\theta \\ \dot{y} &= v\sin\theta \\ \dot{\theta} &= \frac{v}{L}\tan\phi \\ \dot{\phi} &= \omega \end{aligned}$$

where v, L are parameters, ω (only) input.

Not (dynamic) feedback linearizable $\Rightarrow$ no flat output.

However, we still have that by specifying $x_r(t), y_r(t)$ we specify the entire reference dynamics.



Example 2

Consider the system

$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{x} &= v\cos(\theta+\phi) && (5)\\
\dot{y} &= v\sin(\theta+\phi) && (6)\\
\dot{\theta} &= \frac{v}{L}\overset{\sin}{\cancel{\tan}}\phi && (7)\\
\dot{\phi} &= \omega && (8)
\end{aligned}
$$

with inputs v and ω.

From $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ we obtain $v(t)$ and $(\theta+\phi)(t)$. Then (7,8) yields:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\theta+\phi)(t) = \frac{v(t)}{L}\overset{\sin}{\cancel{\tan}}\phi + \dot{\phi}$$

which (knowing $\phi(0)$) gives $\phi(t)$. That also gives $\theta(t)$ and $\omega(t)$.

By specifying $x_r(t), y_r(t)$ we specify the entire reference dynamics:

- $x_r(t)$, $y_r(t)$, $(\theta_r + \phi_r)(t)$, $v_r(t)$ independent of L
- $\phi_r(t)$, $\theta_r(t)$, $\omega_r(t)$ dependent of L.

Find control laws

$$\begin{aligned} v &\equiv v(x, y, \theta, \phi, x_r, y_r, \theta_r + \phi_r, v_r) \\ \omega &\equiv \omega(x, y, \theta, \phi, x_r, y_r, \theta_r + \phi_r, v_r) \end{aligned}$$

that yield

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} |x - x_r| + |y - y_r| + |\theta - \theta_r| + |\phi - \phi_r| = 0$$

Proposed formulation of adaptive tracking problem

- Consider a system with state x, input u, unknown parameters θ
- Look for a θ-independent $y(t)$ that uniquely determines both $x(t)$ and $u(t)$
- Specify a reference $y_r(t) \Rightarrow x_r^\theta(t), u_r^\theta(t)$ (given $x(0), u(0)$)
- Define a set $\mathcal{K}$ of signals given by $y_r(t)$, not depending on θ.
- Find a controller $u(t)$ depending on $x(t)$ and elements of $\mathcal{K}$ such that

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \|x(t) - x_r(t)\| = 0$$

Remaining questions for further research

- How to find a θ-independent y that determines x and u?
- What are 'useful' choices for $y(t)$?
- What can be said about $\mathcal{K}$?
- How to solve the adaptive tracking problem?