

# Adaptive Control of MIMO Systems Using Sparsely Parameterized Controllers

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**Abstract**—In applications, it is usually desirable to implement the simplest controller in terms of signal interconnections and controller order. In accordance with this goal, this paper presents an adaptive output-feedback control technique for MIMO systems, where the order and structure of each SISO entry of the controller can be assigned an arbitrary parameterization. The first parameterization is based on a MIMO input-output model of fixed window length. The second parameterization constrains all SISO entries of each row of the controller to have the same denominator of specified order; the third parameterization constrains all SISO entries of the controller to have the same denominator of specified order; and the fourth parameterization allows complete flexibility in setting the structure and order of each SISO entry of the controller. PID, infinite impulse-response, finite impulse-response, and sparsely parameterized controllers can be specified as special cases. This paper 1) defines the regressor structure for each parameterization; 2) enumerates the number of updated coefficients of each parameterization; 3) provides bounds on the McMillan degree of each parameterization; and 4) provides numerical examples to illustrate the relative effectiveness of each parameterization.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A well-known feature of dynamic output-feedback controllers based on the classical separation principle is the fact that the order of the controller is equal to the order of the plant. The same property applies to optimal controllers based on  $H_2$  and  $H_\infty$  performance criteria. Consequently, the order of the controller is generically equal to the order of the plant. If, in addition, the command or disturbance is generated by Lyapunov-stable or unstable exogenous dynamics (representing, for example, steps, ramps, or sinusoids), then the internal model principle can be used to augment the plant with the exogenous dynamics, and thus the order of the resulting controller is greater than the plant order.

For plants of very high order, which occur, for example, in structural vibration, it is desirable to implement controllers of reduced order. Consequently, the literature on controller reduction is extensive [1]. An alternative approach to reducing a full-order controller is to directly construct a controller of fixed order [2], [3]. This nonconvex optimization problem is computationally demanding, however, and global convergence to the global minimizer is difficult to ensure.

Beyond controller reduction and fixed-order controller synthesis, it is often desirable in practice to construct controllers of fixed structure. For example, if a PID controller is required, then the PID gains can be determined within a fixed PID controller structure. Likewise, in MIMO applications, it

may be desirable to seek a controller with internal structure in the sense that some entries—such as those that represent coupling paths of less importance—are of lower order than others. In some cases, it may be desirable to simplify the controller by omitting certain controller entries, which can be done by constraining them to be zero, and thus obtaining sparse controllers [4]. In the extreme case, communication constraints may require a decentralized controller structure, where only the diagonal entries of a square MIMO controller are nonzero [5], [6]. Decentralized control is highly relevant to applications but remains a longstanding challenge in feedback control. Fixed-structure control problems such as decentralized control are typically challenging due to the nonconvexity of the underlying optimization problem. At the same time, because of computational constraints and implementation simplicity, control practitioners invariably seek the simplest possible controllers that meet performance and robustness criteria. These controllers are thus *fixed-gain, fixed-structure control laws*.

Although the literature on adaptive control is extensive [7]–[9], output-feedback adaptive control with arbitrary but fixed controller structure has not been considered. The contribution of the present paper is thus the development of an adaptive control technique for *MIMO controllers of fixed-but-arbitrary order and structure*. This technique for *adaptive-gain, fixed-structure control* is based on retrospective cost adaptive control (RCAC) [10]. RCAC is based on a retrospective cost function, which is optimized at each step to update the controller coefficients for use at the next step.

The contribution of the present paper is an extension of the controller structure used in [10] to provide greater flexibility in the implementation of RCAC. In particular, the controller structure used in [10] is a MIMO input-output model. The number of matrix coefficients in the input-output model is chosen by the user, and all entries are subject to optimization. We thus refer to the controller structure used in [10] as the *dense parameterization*. In the present paper, we consider three variations of the dense parameterization. In the second formulation, called the *diagonal denominator parameterization*, we constrain the structure of the MIMO input-output model so that its “denominator” is diagonal. This means, in effect, that each row of the MIMO transfer function has the same denominator. In the third formulation, called the *scalar denominator parameterization*, we constrain the structure of the MIMO input-output model so that its “denominator” is a polynomial multiplying the identity matrix. This parameterization is thus a specialization of the diagonal denominator parameterization. Finally, in the fourth formulation, called

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the *entrywise parameterization*, we constrain the structure of the MIMO input-output model so that each entry can have a different parameterization and order in terms of both its numerator and denominator. This means that a given entry could be chosen, for example, to be PID, infinite impulse response (IIR), or finite impulse response (FIR) of a specified order. Within the entrywise parameterization, it is possible to constrain chosen entries to be zero, and thus, sparsify the structure of the MIMO controller. Although the entrywise parameterization can be used to synthesize square MIMO controllers all of whose off-diagonal entries are zero, these controllers are not technically decentralized due to the use of a centralized information structure. A decentralized extension of RCAC is considered in [11] and RCAC was applied using entrywise parameterization in [12].

## II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

Consider a discrete-time system modeled by

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + Bw_k, \quad y_{0,k} = Cx_k + v_k, \quad (1)$$

$$y_k = y_{0,k} + v_k, \quad z_k \triangleq r_k - y_k, \quad (2)$$

where  $k \geq 0$  is the step,  $x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state,  $u_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u}$  is the control input,  $w_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_w}$  is the disturbance,  $y_{0,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_y}$  is the plant output,  $y_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_y}$  is the measurement,  $r_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_y}$  is the command,  $v_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_y}$  is the sensor noise, and the command-following error  $z_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_z}$  is the performance variable. Note that  $l_z = l_y$ .

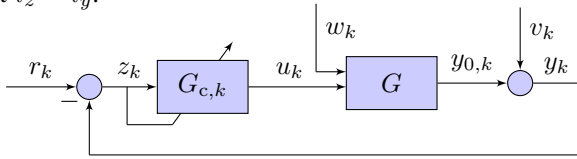


Fig. 1: Block diagram of the adaptive servo problem with the adaptive controller  $G_{c,k}$  and plant  $G$ .

The goal is to develop an adaptive output-feedback controller

$$u_k = G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q})z_k, \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{q}$  is the forward-shift operator, and  $G_{c,k}$  is a time-varying matrix of strictly proper, rational polynomials in  $\mathbf{q}$  that minimizes  $z_k$  in the presence of the disturbance signal  $d_k$  with limited modeling information about (1), (2). Note that each entry of  $G_{c,k}$  can be represented as a time-domain transfer function at each step  $k$ .

## III. CONTROLLER PARAMETERIZATIONS

We write (3) as

$$u_k = \phi_k \theta_k, \quad (4)$$

where  $\phi_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_\theta}$  is the regressor matrix constructed using the past error measurements  $z_k$  and control inputs  $u_k$ , and  $\theta_k \in \mathbb{R}^{l_\theta}$  is the vector of controller coefficients. There are multiple ways to parameterize (3) as (4). In this paper, we present and compare four such parameterizations of  $G_{c,k}$ . Namely, dense parameterization (DP), diagonal

denominator parameterization (DDP), scalar denominator parameterization (SDP), and entrywise parameterization (EP). Table I lists salient features of each parameterization. As all four controller parameterizations are expressed as (4), RCAC presented in [10] can be used to adapt the controller coefficients.

### A. Dense Parameterization (DP)

Consider a controller constructed as a strictly proper input-output model with an  $l_c$ -step data window, such that the control  $u_k$  is given by

$$u_k = \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} P_{i,k} u_{k-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} Q_{i,k} z_{k-i}, \quad (5)$$

where  $P_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_u}$  and  $Q_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_z}$  are the fully-populated controller coefficient matrices. The parameterization in (5) is called dense since the denominator coefficient matrices  $P_{i,k}$  are nonsparse. In terms of the forward-shift operator  $\mathbf{q}$ , the  $l_u \times l_z$  controller transfer function  $G_{c,k}$  from  $z_k$  to  $u_k$  is given by

$$G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q}) = (I_{l_u} \mathbf{q}^{l_c} - P_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} - \dots - P_{l_c,k})^{-1} \cdot (Q_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} + \dots + Q_{l_c,k}). \quad (6)$$

Equation (5) can be expressed as (4) by defining

$$\theta_k \triangleq \text{vec} [P_{1,k} \dots P_{l_c,k} Q_{1,k} \dots Q_{l_c,k}] \in \mathbb{R}^{l_\theta}, \quad (7)$$

$$\phi_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} u_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{k-l_c} \\ z_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{k-l_c} \end{bmatrix}^T \otimes I_{l_u} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_\theta}, \quad (8)$$

where  $l_\theta \triangleq l_c l_u (l_u + l_z)$ .

Let  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  denote the least common denominator of  $G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q})$  in (6). It follows from [13, p. 522] that the order of  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  is bounded from above by  $l_c l_u$ . Consequently, the McMillan degree of (5) is bounded from above by  $l_c l_u l_z$ .

### B. Diagonal Denominator Parameterization (DDP)

Next, consider a controller constructed as a strictly proper input-output model with  $l_c$ -step data window, such that the control  $u_k$  is given by

$$u_k = \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} P_{i,k} u_{k-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} Q_{i,k} z_{k-i}, \quad (9)$$

where  $P_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_u}$  and  $Q_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_z}$  are the controller coefficient matrices, and  $P_{i,k}$  are diagonal.

In terms of the forward-shift operator  $\mathbf{q}$ , the controller transfer function  $G_c$  from  $z_k$  to  $u_k$  is given by

$$G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q}) = (I_{l_u} \mathbf{q}^{l_c} - P_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} - \dots - P_{l_c,k})^{-1} \cdot (Q_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} + \dots + Q_{l_c,k}). \quad (10)$$

Note that the denominator matrix in (10) is diagonal, and thus all entries in each row of  $G_c$  have the same poles.

Parameterization	Controller coefficient size $l_\theta$	Maximum order of each SISO entry	Maximum McMillan degree	Remarks
Dense	$l_c l_u^2 + l_c l_u l_z$	$l_c l_u$	$l_c l_u l_z$	Same denominator in all entries
Diagonal Denominator	$l_c l_u + l_c l_u l_z$	$l_c$	$l_c l_u l_z$	Same denominator in all entries of each row
Scalar Denominator	$l_c + l_c l_u l_z$	$l_c$	$l_c l_z$	Same denominator in all entries
Entrywise	$\sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} 2l_{ij}$	$l_{ij}$	$l_z \sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{ij}$	Different denominator in each entry

TABLE I: Properties of the four controller parameterizations. The bound on the MIMO McMillan degree for each parameterization is based on the order of a possibly nonminimal state space realization of  $G_c$ .

We write (9) as

$$u_k = \phi_k \theta_k = \phi_{u,k} \theta_{u,k} + \phi_{z,k} \theta_{z,k}, \quad (11)$$

where

$$\phi_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{u,k} & \phi_{z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times (l_u l_c + l_u l_z l_c)}, \quad (12)$$

$$\phi_{u,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}g u_{k-1} & \cdots & \mathbf{d}g u_{k-l_c} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_u l_c}, \quad (13)$$

$$\phi_{z,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{k-l_c} \end{bmatrix}^T \otimes I_{l_u} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_u l_z l_c}, \quad \theta_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{u,k} \\ \theta_{z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_\theta}, \quad (14)$$

$$\theta_{u,k} \triangleq \text{vec} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}g^{-1} P_{1,k} & \cdots & \mathbf{d}g^{-1} P_{l_c,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u l_c}, \quad (15)$$

$$\theta_{z,k} \triangleq \text{vec} \begin{bmatrix} Q_{1,k} & \cdots & Q_{l_c,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u l_z l_c}, \quad (16)$$

$\mathbf{d}g: \mathbb{R}^{l_x} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{l_x \times l_x}$  maps a vector into a diagonal-square matrix with diagonal entries of the vector,  $\mathbf{d}g^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^{l_x \times l_x} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{l_x}$  maps a square matrix into a vector of its diagonal entries, and  $l_\theta \triangleq l_u l_c + l_u l_z l_c$ .

Let  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  denote the least common denominator of  $G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q})$  in (10). It follows from [13, p. 522] that the order of  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  is bounded from above by  $l_c l_u$ . Consequently, the McMillan degree of (9) is bounded from above by  $l_c l_u l_z$ .

### C. Scalar Denominator Parameterization (SDP)

Next, consider a controller constructed as a strictly proper input-output model with  $l_c$ -step data window, such that the control  $u_k$  is given by

$$u_k = \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} p_{i,k} u_{k-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{l_c} Q_{i,k} z_{k-i}, \quad (17)$$

where  $p_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $Q_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_z}$  are the controller coefficients.

In terms of the forward-shift operator  $\mathbf{q}$ , the controller transfer function  $G_c$  from  $z$  to  $u$  is given by

$$G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{Q_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} + \cdots + Q_{l_c,k}}{\mathbf{q}^{l_c} - p_{1,k} \mathbf{q}^{l_c-1} - \cdots - p_{l_c,k}}. \quad (18)$$

We write (17) as

$$u_k = \phi_k \theta_k = \phi_{u,k} \theta_{u,k} + \phi_{z,k} \theta_{z,k}, \quad (19)$$

where

$$\phi_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{u,k} & \phi_{z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times (l_c + l_u l_z l_c)}, \quad (20)$$

$$\phi_{u,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} u_{k-1} & \cdots & u_{k-l_c} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_c}, \quad (21)$$

$$\phi_{z,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{k-l_c} \end{bmatrix}^T \otimes I_{l_u} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_u l_z l_c}, \quad \theta_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{u,k} \\ \theta_{z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_\theta}, \quad (22)$$

$$\theta_{u,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} p_{1,k} & \cdots & p_{l_c,k} \end{bmatrix}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{l_c}, \quad (23)$$

$$\theta_{z,k} \triangleq \text{vec} \begin{bmatrix} Q_{1,k} & \cdots & Q_{l_c,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u l_z l_c}, \quad (24)$$

and  $l_\theta \triangleq l_c + l_u l_z l_c$ .

Let  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  denote the least common denominator of  $G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q})$  in (18). It follows from [13, p. 522] that the order of  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  is bounded from above by  $l_c$ . Consequently, the McMillan degree of (17) is bounded from above by  $l_c l_z$ .

### D. Entrywise Parameterization (EP)

Finally, we consider an adaptive controller such that

$$G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} G_{c,11,k}(\mathbf{q}) & \cdots & G_{c,1l_z,k}(\mathbf{q}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ G_{c,l_u 1,k}(\mathbf{q}) & \cdots & G_{c,l_u l_z,k}(\mathbf{q}) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (25)$$

where each entry  $G_{c,ij,k}$  of the  $l_u \times l_z$  transfer function  $G_{c,k}$  is an IIR or FIR controller of order  $l_{ij}$ , or a PID controller. For each SISO controller entry  $G_{c,ij}$  we define

$$u_{ij,k} \triangleq G_{c,ij,k}(\mathbf{q}) z_{j,k}, \quad (26)$$

and construct  $\phi_{ij,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_\theta, i, j}$ ,

$$\phi_{ij,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} z_{j,k-1} \\ \sum_{p=1}^{k-1} z_{j,p} \\ z_{j,k-1} - z_{j,k-2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \phi_{ij,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} u_{ij,k-1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{ij,k-l_{ij}} \\ z_{j,k-1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{j,k-l_{ij}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (27)$$

$$\phi_{ij,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} z_{j,k-1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{j,k-l_{ij}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (28)$$

for a PID, IIR, or FIR  $G_{c,ij,k}(\mathbf{q})$ , respectively, where

$$l_{\theta,ij} = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{PID } G_{c,ij,k}(\mathbf{q}), \\ 2l_{ij}, & \text{IIR } G_{c,ij,k}(\mathbf{q}), \\ l_{ij}, & \text{FIR } G_{c,ij,k}(\mathbf{q}). \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

Additionally, we define

$$\phi_{i,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{i1,k} \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{il_z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_{\theta_i}}, \quad \theta_{i,k} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{i1,k} \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{il_z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_{\theta_i}}, \quad (30)$$

where  $l_{\theta_i} \triangleq \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{\theta,ij}$ . Finally, define

$$\phi_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{1,k}^T & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \phi_{l_u,k}^T \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_u \times l_{\theta}}, \quad \theta_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,k} \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{l_z,k} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{l_{\theta}}, \quad (31)$$

where  $l_{\theta} \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{\theta,ij}$ . Note that fixed-structure controller parameterization allows us to separately specify the structure of each entry (25) of  $G_c$  through the construction of  $\phi_k$ .

Let  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  denote the least common denominator of  $G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q})$  in (25). It follows from [13, p. 522] that the order of  $\bar{p}_k(\mathbf{q})$  is bounded from above by  $\sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{ij}$ . Consequently, the McMillan degree of (25) is bounded from above by  $\sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{ij} l_z$ .

Note that, because  $D(\mathbf{q})$  in EP is not diagonal, the coefficients of the MIMO transfer function are not directly optimized by RCAC. In contrast, in DDP, SDP, and EP, RCAC directly updates each numerator and denominator coefficient of  $G_c$ . Table I summarizes the key features of the parameterizations discussed above.

To illustrate the parameterizations, consider the MIMO transfer function

$$G_c(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}+1} & \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}+2} \\ \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}+3} & \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}+4} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (32)$$

which is written in entrywise parameterization, where  $l_c = 1$  and  $l_{\theta} = 2l_u l_z l_c = 8$ . The diagonal denominator parameterization of (32) is

$$G_c(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}^2 + 3\mathbf{q} + 2 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{q}^2 + 7\mathbf{q} + 12 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q} + 2 & \mathbf{q} + 1 \\ \mathbf{q} + 4 & \mathbf{q} + 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (33)$$

where  $l_c = 2$  and  $l_{\theta} = l_c l_u + l_u l_z l_c = 12$ . The scalar denominator parameterization of (32) is

$$G_c(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^4 + 10\mathbf{q}^3 + 35\mathbf{q}^2 + 50\mathbf{q} + 24} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}^3 + 9\mathbf{q}^2 + 26\mathbf{q} + 24 & \mathbf{q}^3 + 8\mathbf{q}^2 + 19\mathbf{q} + 12 \\ \mathbf{q}^3 + 7\mathbf{q}^2 + 14\mathbf{q} + 8 & \mathbf{q}^3 + 6\mathbf{q}^2 + 11\mathbf{q} + 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (34)$$

where  $l_c = 4$  and  $l_{\theta} = l_c + l_u l_z l_c = 20$ . Finally, the dense parameterization of (32) is

$$G_c(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} \\ D_{21} & D_{22} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} N_{11} & N_{12} \\ N_{21} & N_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (35)$$

where

$$N_{11}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{q}^3 + 5\mathbf{q}^2 - \frac{34}{3}\mathbf{q} + 8, \quad (36)$$

$$N_{12}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{q}^3 + 5\mathbf{q}^2 - \frac{34}{3}\mathbf{q} + 7, \quad (37)$$

$$N_{21}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq -2\mathbf{q}^4 - 20\mathbf{q}^3 - 70\mathbf{q}^2 - 100\mathbf{q} - 48, \quad (38)$$

$$N_{22}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq -2\mathbf{q}^4 - 20\mathbf{q}^3 - 70\mathbf{q}^2 - 100\mathbf{q} - 48, \quad (39)$$

$$D_{11}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq -\frac{1}{3}\mathbf{q}^5 - \frac{7}{2}\mathbf{q}^4 - \frac{40}{3}\mathbf{q}^3 - \frac{45}{2}\mathbf{q}^2 - \frac{49}{3}\mathbf{q} - 4, \quad (40)$$

$$D_{12}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{q}^5 + \frac{29}{6}\mathbf{q}^4 + \frac{80}{3}\mathbf{q}^3 + \frac{415}{6}\mathbf{q}^2 + \frac{83}{3}\mathbf{q} + 36, \quad (41)$$

$$D_{21}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \mathbf{q}^6 + 13\mathbf{q}^5 + 67\mathbf{q}^4 + 175\mathbf{q}^3 + 244\mathbf{q}^2 + 172\mathbf{q} + 48, \quad (42)$$

$$D_{22}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq -\mathbf{q}^6 - 17\mathbf{q}^5 - 117\mathbf{q}^4 - 415\mathbf{q}^3 - 794\mathbf{q}^2 - 768\mathbf{q} - 288, \quad (43)$$

where  $l_c = 6$  and  $l_{\theta} = l_c l_u^2 + l_u l_z l_c = 48$ .

This example shows that, for a given controller transfer function  $G_c$ , the dense, diagonal denominator, scalar denominator, and entrywise parameterizations of  $G_c$  may be different in terms of the data window  $l_c$  and the number of coefficients  $l_{\theta}$  that are optimized. In particular, the McMillan degree of  $G_c$  given by (32) is 4, which means that a minimal state space realization of  $G_c$  has 4 states. For EP, DDP, SDP, and DP,  $l_c$  is given by 1, 2, 4, and 6, respectively, and  $l_{\theta}$  is given by 8, 12, 20, and 48, respectively. These numbers show that EP is the most efficient representation of  $G_c$  given by (32). However, this observation is specific to  $G_c$  given by (32), since DP with  $l_c = 6$  and  $l_{\theta} = 48$  can represent a much larger class of  $2 \times 2$  transfer functions than EP can represent with  $l_c = 1$  and  $l_{\theta} = 8$ .

Each of the four parameterizations of an  $l_u \times l_z$  controller transfer function is represented as an input-output model with an  $l_c$ -step data window. This is in contrast to a state space controller representation  $(A_c, B_c, C_c)$ , where  $A_c$  is of size  $n_c \times n_c$ . If  $(A_c, B_c, C_c)$  is minimal, then  $n_c$  is the McMillan degree of the transfer function corresponding to  $(A_c, B_c, C_c)$  [14, p. 319].

Although the relationship between the order  $l_c$  and the McMillan degree of a controller in state space form is straightforward, the relationship is more complicated for a controller in input-output model form. Writing (32) as

$$G_c(\mathbf{q}) = D_c(\mathbf{q})^{-1} N_c(\mathbf{q}), \quad (44)$$

it follows that, if  $D_c$  and  $N_c$  are left coprime, then the McMillan degree of  $G_c$  is given by  $\deg \det D_c$ . Note, however, that, for the scalar denominator parameterization (34),  $\deg \det D_c = 16$ , which is not equal to the McMillan degree of  $G_c$ , and thus (34) is not left coprime.

#### IV. NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

In this section we compare the controller complexity needed to achieve step-command following for a  $2 \times 2$  system using LQG and RCAC with each of the four parameterizations described in the preceding section. In particular, we consider two oscillators connected in series with springs and dampers, as shown in Figure 2. Forces  $f_a, f_b$  can be applied on masses  $m_a, m_b$ , respectively, and positions measurements

$q_a, q_b$  of the two masses  $m_a, m_b$  are available. Thus, the system has two inputs and outputs. The objective is to follow setpoint commands to  $q_a, q_b$ .

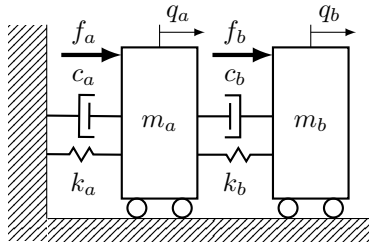


Fig. 2: Series dual-mass oscillator. Position measurements  $q_a, q_b$  of the masses  $m_a, m_b$  are available. Forces  $f_a$  and  $f_b$  are applied to masses  $m_a$  and  $m_b$ , respectively.

	$m$ (kg)	$c$ (N/m <sup>2</sup> )	$k$ (N/m)
$a$	1	7	4
$b$	0.8	3.5	10

TABLE II: Values of coefficients used to construct the oscillator model.

For the values of masses, stiffnesses, and damping coefficients listed in Table II an exact discretization of the continuous-time system using zero-order hold with a sample rate of 5 Hz is given by (1), (2) where

$$A \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0.8777 & 0.0847 & 0.0777 & 0.0338 \\ -0.7630 & 0.1363 & 0.4241 & 0.2262 \\ 0.1436 & 0.0423 & 0.8429 & 0.1333 \\ 1.0741 & 0.2827 & -1.2433 & 0.4077 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (45)$$

$$B \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0.0112 & 0.0034 \\ 0.0847 & 0.0423 \\ 0.0034 & 0.0191 \\ 0.0423 & 0.1666 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T, \quad (46)$$

$$x_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} q_{a,k} & \dot{q}_{a,k} & q_{b,k} & \dot{q}_{b,k} \end{bmatrix}^T, \quad (47)$$

$$u_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} f_{a,k} & f_{b,k} \end{bmatrix}^T. \quad (48)$$

We specify  $w_k \sim (0, 0.01^2)$ ,  $v_k \sim (0, 0.001^2)$ ,  $x_0 = 0$ , and the command is

$$r_k = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^T, & t < 50 \text{ sec}, \\ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}^T, & t \geq 50 \text{ sec}. \end{cases} \quad (49)$$

**Example 1. Discrete-time LQG controller.** A discrete-time LQG controller with integral action is designed for the plant using the MATLAB command `lqg` with the weights

$$Q_{xu} = I_6, \quad Q_{wv} = I_6, \quad Q_i = 100I_2. \quad (50)$$

The resulting controller is given by

$$x_{c,k+1} = A_c x_{c,k} + B_c z_k, \quad (51)$$

$$u_k = C_c x_{c,k}, \quad (52)$$

where  $x_{c,k} \in \mathbb{R}^6$ ,  $A_c \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}$ ,  $B_c \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 2}$ , and  $C_c \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 6}$ . As shown in Figure 3, step-command following is achieved.  $\diamond$

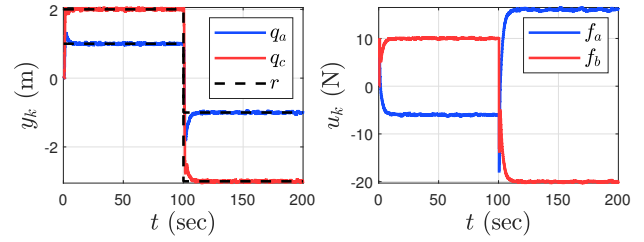


Fig. 3: Example 1: Step-command following using a discrete-time LQG controller with integral action.

**Example 2. RCAC with dense parameterization.** RCAC is applied with dense parameterization with  $l_c = 3$ ,  $P_0 = 10^3 I$ ,  $R_u = 10^{-5} I$ . The number of controller coefficients adapted is 24. The maximum achievable McMillan degree of the adaptive controller is  $l_u l_z l_c = 12$ . For this and all examples that follow we set  $G_f(\mathbf{q}) = -\frac{1}{\mathbf{q}} CB$ . As shown in Figure 4, step-command following is achieved.  $\diamond$

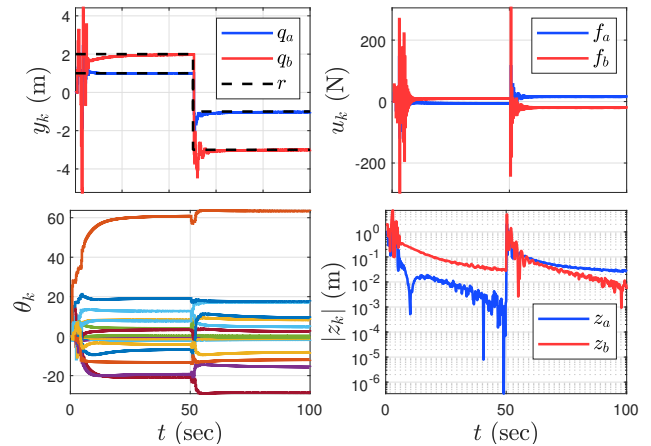


Fig. 4: Example 2: Step-command following with RCAC using the dense parameterization.

**Example 3. RCAC with diagonal denominator parameterization.** RCAC is applied with diagonal denominator parameterization with  $l_c = 7$ ,  $P_0 = 10^3 I$ ,  $R_u = 10^{-5} I$ . The number of controller coefficients adapted is 18. The maximum achievable McMillan degree of the adaptive controller is  $l_u l_z l_c = 28$ . As shown in Figure 5, step-command following is achieved.  $\diamond$

**Example 4. RCAC with scalar denominator parameterization.** RCAC is applied with scalar denominator parameterization with  $l_c = 8$ ,  $P_0 = 10^3 I$ ,  $R_u = 10^{-5} I$ . The number of controller coefficients adapted is 35. The maximum achievable McMillan degree of the adaptive controller is  $l_z l_c = 16$ . As shown in Figure 6, step-command following is achieved.  $\diamond$

**Example 5. RCAC with entrywise parameterization.** RCAC is applied with entrywise parameterization with  $P_0 = 0.1 I$ ,  $R_u = 0$ , where  $G_c$  has the structure

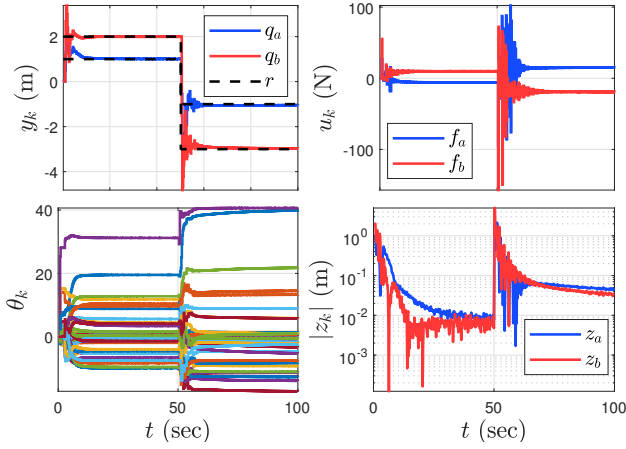


Fig. 5: Example 3: Step-command following with RCAC using the diagonal denominator parameterization.

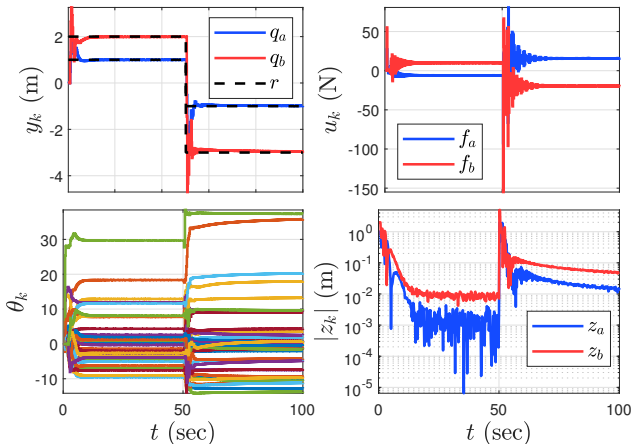


Fig. 6: Example 4: Step-command following with RCAC using the scalar denominator parameterization.

$$G_{c,k}(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{PID} & \text{6th-order IIR} \\ 0 & \text{PID} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (53)$$

The number of controller coefficients adapted is 18. The maximum achievable McMillan degree of the adaptive controller is  $l_z \sum_{i=1}^{l_u} \sum_{j=1}^{l_z} l_{ij} = 24$ . As shown in Figure 7, step-command following is achieved.  $\diamond$

## V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

This paper presented four parameterizations for MIMO controllers—dense (DP), diagonal denominator (DDP), scalar denominator (SDP), and entrywise (EP)—that can be used with retrospective cost adaptive control (RCAC). The three new parameterizations, which constitute the contribution of this paper, provide greater flexibility in constraining the internal structure of the compensator. For a fixed number of optimized parameters, each parameterization can potentially produce a controller of different McMillan degree. To compare the efficacy of these parameterizations, all four parameterizations were applied to a setpoint command-following problem for a two-input, two-output, LTI system. Similar performance was obtained for DP, DDP, SDP, and EP using 24, 18, 35, and 18 parameters, respectively.

For a sufficiently large data-window size  $l_c$ , each parameterization can represent a controller of arbitrary McMillan

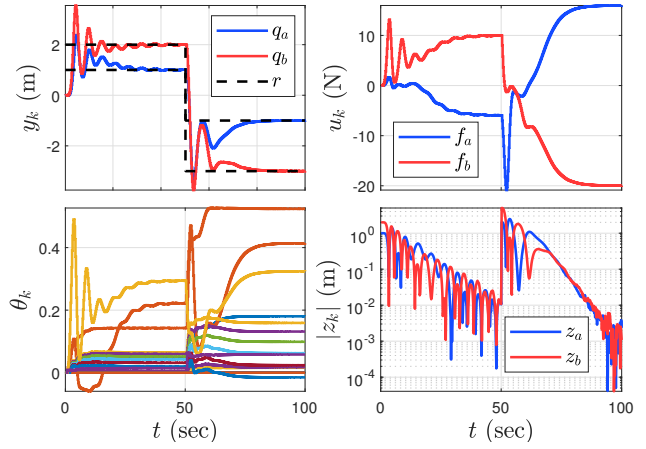


Fig. 7: Example 5: Step-command following with RCAC using the entrywise parameterization.

degree. However, the required value of  $l_c$  depends on the choice of parameterization. In addition, since  $l_\theta$  also depends on the choice of parameterization, it is of interest to compare the performance of DP, DDP, SDP, and EP for the same value of  $l_\theta$ . A key question for future research is thus to determine which parameterization is the most effective for a given number of controller parameters. A related question concerns the class of controllers that are achievable by each parameterization for a given value of  $l_c$ . The examples in this paper suggest that EP is potentially the most effective since it allows independent poles in each entry of  $G_c$ , and thus the largest achievable McMillan degree for a given number of controller parameters.

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