ORIGINAL PAPER

Pragmatical adaptive synchronization of different orders chaotic systems with all uncertain parameters via nonlinear control

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Received: 28 May 2010 / Accepted: 15 September 2010 / Published online: 21 October 2010 © The Author(s) 2010. This article is published with open access at Springerlink.com

Abstract A new adaptive synchronization scheme by pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem is proposed in this paper. Based on this theorem and nonlinear control theory, a new adaptive synchronization scheme to design controllers can be obtained and especially the constraints for minimum values of feedback gain K in controllers can be derived. This new strategy shows that the constraint values of feedback gain K are related to the error of unknown and estimated parameters if the goal system is given. Through this new strategy, an appropriate feedback gain K can be always decided easily to obtain controllers achieving adaptive synchronization. Two identical Lorenz systems with different initial conditions and two completely different nonlinear systems with different orders, augmented Rössler's system and Mathieu-van der Pol system, are used for illustrations to demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the new adaptive scheme in numerical simulation results.

Keywords Constraints of feedback gain · Adaptive synchronization · Uncertain parameters · Nonlinear control · Pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem

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1 Introduction

Nonlinear dynamics, commonly called the chaos theory, changes the scientific way of looking at the dynamics of natural and social systems, which has been intensively studied over the past several decades. The phenomenon of chaos has attracted widespread attention amongst mathematicians, physicists and engineers. Chaos has also been extensively studied in many fields, such as chemical reactions, power converters, biological systems, information processing, secure communications, etc. [1–9].

Synchronization of chaotic systems is essential in variety of applications, including secure communication, physiology, nonlinear optics and so on. Accordingly, following the initial work of Pecora and Carroll [10] in synchronization of identical chaotic systems with different initial conditions, many approaches have been proposed for the synchronization of chaotic and hyperchaotic systems such as linear and nonlinear feedback synchronization methods [11, 12], adaptive synchronization methods [13, 14], backstepping design methods [15, 16], and sliding mode control methods [17, 18], etc. However, to our best knowledge, most of the methods mentioned above and many other existing synchronization methods mainly concern the synchronization of two identical chaotic or hyperchaotic systems, the methods of synchronization of two different chaotic or hyperchaotic systems are far from being straightforward because of their different structures and parameter mismatch. Moreover,

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most of the methods are used to synchronize only two systems with exactly known structures and parameters. But in practical situations, some or all of the systems' parameters cannot be exactly known in priori. As a result, more and more applications of chaos synchronization in secure communication have made it much more important to synchronize two different hyperchaotic systems with uncertain parameters in recent years. In this regard, some works on synchronization of two different hyperchaotic systems with uncertain parameters have been performed [19, 20].

In current scheme of adaptive synchronization, traditional Lyapunov stability theorem and Barbalat lemma are used to prove that the error vector approaches zero as time approaches infinity, but the question that why those estimated parameters also approach the uncertain values remains no answer [21–23]. In this article, pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem and an assumption of equal probability for ergodic initial conditions [24, 25] are used to prove strictly that those estimated parameters approach the uncertain values. Moreover, traditional adaptive chaos synchronization in general is limited for the same system.

Recently, Meng and Wang [26] proposed a new control law which is designed to achieve the generalized synchronization of chaotic systems through Barbalat lemma [27]. In [26], they also derive a synchronization condition for controllers, and the generalized synchronization between two chaotic systems can be really attained via these conditions and the control law mentioned above. In this paper, we further expand the innovative idea proposed by [26] to discuss the adaptive synchronization with all uncertain parameters in master system by pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem. Based on this theorem and nonlinear control theory, the constraints of feedback gain K in controllers for adaptive synchronization are proposed and good effectiveness is shown in simulation results.

The layout of the rest of the paper is as follows. In Sect. 2, adaptive synchronization scheme is presented. In Sect. 3, two simulation cases are illustrated to verify the new adaptive scheme. In Sect. 4 conclusions are given. Pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem is enclosed in Appendix A.

2 Adaptive synchronization scheme

Consider the following master chaotic system:

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bf(x) \tag{2.1}$$

where $x = [x_1, x_2, ..., x_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ denotes a state vector, f is a nonlinear continuous vector function and A and B are $n \times n$ coefficient matrices.

The slave system is given by the following equation:

$$\dot{y} = \hat{A}y + \hat{B}g(y) + u(t)$$
 (2.2)

where $y = [y_1, y_2, ..., y_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ denotes a state vector, \hat{A} and \hat{B} are $n \times n$ estimated coefficient matrices, g is a nonlinear continuous vector function, and $u(t) = [u_1(t), u_2(t), ..., u_n(t)]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a control input vector.

Function f(x) is globally Lipschitz continuous; i.e., the following condition is satisfied: For function f(z), there exists constant L > 0, for any two different $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, such that

$$\|f(z_1) - f(z_2)\| \le L \|z_1 - z_2\|$$
(2.3)

Property 1 [28] For a matrix A, let ||A|| indicate the norm of A induced by the Euclidean vector norm as follow:

$$\|A\| = (\lambda_{\max}(A^{T}A))^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(2.4)

where $\lambda_{\max}(A^T A)$ represents the maximum eigenvalue of matrix $(A^T A)$.

Property 2 [11] For a vector,

$$\|x\| = (x^{\mathrm{T}}x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(2.5)

where x^{T} denotes the transpose of the vector x.

Our goal is to design a controller u(t) so that the state vector of the chaotic system (2.2) asymptotically approaches the state vector of the master system (2.1).

Theorem 1 If the parametric update laws are chosen as:

$$\dot{\hat{a}}_m = -\tilde{a}_m e, \quad m = 1 \sim p \tag{2.6}$$

where e = x - y are the state errors between the master and slave systems, p is the number of parameters,

 a_m are the unknown parameters in the master system, \hat{a}_m are the estimated parameters in the slave system, and $\tilde{a}_m = a_m - \hat{a}_m$ are the errors between the unknown and estimated parameters; and the controller u is designed as:

$$u = -\dot{y}_{out} + K(x - y) + Bf(y) + Ay - \tilde{a}_m^2(e - 1), \quad m = 1 \sim p$$
(2.7)

where \dot{y}_{out} is \dot{y} without controllers, gain $K = \text{diag}(k_1, \ldots, k_n)$ satisfies following constraint:

$$\frac{\min(K)}{(L\|B\| + \|A\| + \max(\sum_{i=1}^{p} \tilde{a}_i^2))} > 1$$
(2.8)

then master system (2.1) and slave system (2.2) will achieve the adaptive synchronization.

Proof The synchronization errors between master and slave systems are defined

$$e(t) = x(t) - y(t)$$
 (2.9)

controllers in (2.7) are substituted into the error dynamics system as follows:

$$\dot{e} = \dot{x} - \dot{y} = Ae + B(f(x) - f(y)) - Ke + \tilde{a}_m^2(e-1), \quad m = 1 \sim p$$
(2.10)

We choose a control Lyapunov function as the following form:

$$V(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{\mathrm{T}} e + \tilde{a}_{1}^{\mathrm{T}} \tilde{a}_{1} + \tilde{a}_{2}^{\mathrm{T}} \tilde{a}_{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p}^{\mathrm{T}} \tilde{a}_{p} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\|e\|^{2} + \tilde{a}_{1}^{2} + \tilde{a}_{2}^{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p}^{2} \right) > 0 \qquad (2.11)$$

The time derivative of V(t) in along any trajectory of (2.10) is

$$\begin{split} \dot{V}(t) &= e^{\mathrm{T}}Ae + e^{\mathrm{T}}B\big(f(x) - f(y)\big) - e^{\mathrm{T}}Ke \\ &+ e^{\mathrm{T}}\tilde{a}_{m}^{2}(e-1) + \tilde{a}_{1}^{2}e + \tilde{a}_{2}^{2}e + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p}^{2}e \\ &\leq \|A\| \|e\|^{2} + \|e\| \|B\| \left\| \big(f(x) - f(y)\big) \right\| \\ &- \min(K) \|e\|^{2} + \big(\tilde{a}_{1}^{2} + \tilde{a}_{2}^{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p}^{2}\big) \|e\|^{2} \\ &\leq \|A\| \|e\|^{2} + L\|B\| \|e\|^{2} - \min(K) \|e\|^{2} \\ &+ \max\big(\tilde{a}_{1}^{2} + \tilde{a}_{2}^{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p}^{2}\big) \|e\|^{2} \end{split}$$

$$= (||A|| + L||B|| - \min(K) + (\tilde{a}_{10}^2 + \tilde{a}_{20}^2 + \dots + \tilde{a}_{p0}^2))||e||^2$$
(2.12)

where $\tilde{a}_{10}, \tilde{a}_{20}, \ldots, \tilde{a}_{p0}$ are the initial values of $\tilde{a}_1, \tilde{a}_2, \ldots, \tilde{a}_p$, separately. If $\min(K)$ satisfies (2.8), then $\dot{V}(t) \leq 0$. Let $R = \min(K) - L ||B|| - ||A|| - (\tilde{a}_{10}^2 + \tilde{a}_{20}^2 + \cdots + \tilde{a}_{p0}^2)$, then $\dot{V} \leq -R ||e||^2$, where R > 0. \dot{V} is a negative semidefinite function of e and parameter differences. In current scheme of adaptive control of chaotic motion [21–23], traditional Lyapunov stability theorem and Barbalat lemma are used to prove the error vector approaches zero, as time approaches infinity. But the question, why the estimated or given parameters also approach to the uncertain or goal parameters, remains no answer. By pragmatical asymptotical stability theorem, the question can be answered strictly.

3 Numerical simulations

In this section, there are two examples for our new adaptive scheme in numerical simulation. In Case 1, two identical Lorenz systems with different initial conditions and parameters are used for master and slave systems to show the effectiveness of the new scheme. In Case 2, two completely different systems, *Rössler's* system and Mathieu–van der Pol system, are regarded as master and slave systems separately.

Case 1 Two identical Lorenz systems with different initial conditions and parameters.

Master Lorenz system [29]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a(x_2 - x_1) \\ cx_1 - x_1x_3 - x_2 \\ x_1x_2 - bx_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} -a & a & 0 \\ c & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$+ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x_1x_3 \\ x_1x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.1)

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -a & a & 0 \\ c & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -b \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x_1 x_3 \\ x_1 x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

 x_1, x_2, x_3 are states of master system, when initial condition $(x_{10}, x_{20}, x_{30}) = (-0.1, 0.2, 0.3)$ and parameters a = 10, b = 8/3 and c = 28. The chaotic behavior of (3.1) is shown in Fig. 1.

Slave Lorenz system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{y}_1\\ \dot{y}_2\\ \dot{y}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{a}(y_2 - y_1) + u_1\\ \hat{c}y_1 - y_1y_3 - y_2 + u_2\\ y_1y_2 - \hat{b}y_3 + u_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.2)

 y_1 , y_2 , y_3 are states of slave system, when initial condition $(y_{10}, y_{20}, y_{30}) = (5, 10, 5)$ and initial estimated parameters $\hat{a}_0 = 8$, $\hat{b}_0 = 3$ and $\hat{c}_0 = 25$. Thus, the errors between the estimated and uncertain parameters can be given as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{a}_0 = a - \hat{a}_0 = 2\\ \tilde{b}_0 = b - \hat{b}_0 = -1/3\\ \tilde{c}_0 = c - \hat{c}_0 = 3 \end{cases}$$
(3.3)

Through (3.1) and (3.3), ||A|| = 30.0731, ||B|| = 1, and max $(\tilde{a}^2 + \tilde{b}^2 + \tilde{c}^2) \cong 13.111$ can be obtained. According to our new adaptive scheme, gain *K* should satisfy (2.8), i.e.,

$$\frac{\min(K)}{(L \times 1 + 30.0731 + 13.111)} > 1 \tag{3.4}$$

choosing L = 1, the gain matrix can be selected as follows:

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 55 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 52 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 50 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.5)

By (3.2), we get $f(y) = [0 \ y_1 y_3 \ y_1 y_2]^T$, the parametric update laws and corresponding controllers can be decided by (2.6) and (2.7). Then we can obtain the time derivative of V(t) is semidefinite as follow:

$$\dot{V} \leq \left(\|A\| + L\|B\| - \min(K) + \max(\tilde{a}_0^2 + \tilde{b}_0^2 + \tilde{c}_0^2) \right) \|e\|^2$$
$$= (44.1842 - 50) \|e\|^2$$
$$= (-5.8158) \|e\|^2 < 0$$
(3.6)

which is a negative semidefinite function of e_1 , e_2 , e_3 , \tilde{a} , \tilde{b} , \tilde{c} . The Lyapunov asymptotical stability theorem is not satisfied. We cannot obtain that common origin of error dynamics and parameter dynamics is asymptotically stable. By pragmatical asymptotically stabil-





ity theorem (see Appendix A), *D* is a 6-manifold, n = 6, and the number of error state variables p = 3. When $e_1 = e_2 = e_3 = 0$ and $\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}$ take arbitrary values, $\dot{V} = 0$, so *X* is of 3 dimensions, m = n - p = 6 - 3 = 3, m + 1 < n is satisfied. According to the pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem, error vector e approaches zero and the estimated parameters also approach the uncertain parameters. The equilibrium point is pragmatically asymptotically stable. Under the assumption of equal probability, it is actually asymptotically stable. The simulation results are shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Fig. 4 Projections of phase portrait of chaotic *Rössler's* system with a = 0.2,

b = 0.2, and c = 5.7



Case 2 Adaptive synchronization between augmented new *Rössler's* system as a master system and Mathieu–van der Pol system as a slave one.

The augmented new *Rössler's* system with four orders is:

where

 $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -c & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$

B =	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 1 0	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	and	f(x) =	$\begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\b+x_1x_3\\0 \end{bmatrix}$
	$\lfloor 0$	0	0	0			

 x_1, x_2, x_3 and x_4 are states of new *Rössler's* system. We choose initial condition $(x_{10}, x_{20}, x_{30}, x_{40}) = (0.1, 0.5, 0.3, 0.7)$ and parameters a = 0.38, b = 0.3, and c = 4.820. Chaos of the new *Rössler's* system appears. The chaotic behavior of (3.7) is shown in Fig. 4.

Slave Mathieu-van der Pol system [30] is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{z}_1 \\ \dot{z}_2 \\ \dot{z}_3 \\ \dot{z}_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_2 + u_1 \\ -(\hat{a}_1 + \hat{b}_1 z_3) z_1 - (\hat{a}_1 + \hat{b}_1 z_3) z_1^3 - \hat{c}_1 z_2 + \hat{d}_1 z_3 + u_2 \\ z_4 + u_3 \\ -\hat{e}_1 z_3 + \hat{f}_1 (1 - z_3^2) z_4 + \hat{g}_1 z_1 + u_4 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.8)

 z_1, z_2, z_3 and z_4 are states of slave system, $\hat{a}_1, \hat{b}_1, \hat{c}_1, \hat{d}_1, \hat{e}_1, \hat{f}_1$ and \hat{g}_1 are uncertain parameters. This system exhibits chaos when the parameters of system are $\hat{a}_1 = 10$, $\hat{b}_1 = 3$, $\hat{c}_1 = 0.4$, $\hat{d}_1 = 70$, $\hat{e}_1 = 1$, $\hat{f}_1 = 5$, $\hat{g}_1 = 0.1$ and the initial states of system are $(z_{10}, z_{20}, z_{30}, z_{40}) = (0.1, -0.5, 0.1, -0.5)$. The projections of phase portraits are shown in Fig. 5. We choose $\hat{a}_1 = 3$, $\hat{b}_1 = 1$, $\hat{c}_1 = 0.4$, $\hat{d}_1 = 5$, $\hat{e}_1 = 1$, $\hat{f}_1 = 1$, $\hat{g}_1 = 0.1$, $\hat{a} = 0$, $\hat{b} = 0$, $\hat{c} = 0$ and the initial states



of system are $(z_{10}, z_{20}, z_{30}, z_{40}) = (5, 7, 9, 10)$. The initial values of $\hat{a}_{10}, \hat{b}_{10}, \hat{c}_{10}, \hat{d}_{10}, \hat{e}_{10}, \hat{f}_{10}, \hat{g}_{10}, \hat{a}_0, \hat{b}_0$ and \hat{c}_0 can be decided as: $\hat{a}_{10} = 3, \hat{b}_{10} = 1, \hat{c}_{10} = 0.4, \hat{d}_{10} = 5, \hat{e}_{10} = 0.3, \hat{f}_{10} = 1, \hat{g}_{10} = 0.1, \hat{a}_0 = 0, \hat{b}_0 = 0$ and $\hat{c}_0 = 0$. Therefore, the errors of the estimated unknown parameters can be decided as follow:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{a}_{10} = a_1 - \hat{a}_{10} = -3 \\ \tilde{b}_{10} = b_1 - \hat{b}_{10} = -1 \\ \tilde{c}_{10} = c_1 - \hat{c}_{10} = -0.4 \\ \tilde{d}_{10} = d_1 - \hat{d}_{10} = -5 \\ \tilde{e}_{10} = e_1 - \hat{e}_{10} = -1 \\ \tilde{f}_{10} = f_1 - \hat{f}_{10} = -1 \\ \tilde{g}_{10} = g_1 - \hat{g}_{10} = -0.1 \\ \tilde{a}_0 = a - \hat{a}_0 = 0.2 \\ \tilde{b}_0 = b - \hat{b}_0 = 0.2 \\ \tilde{c}_0 = c - \hat{c}_0 = 5.7 \end{cases}$$

$$(3.9)$$

Through (3.7) and (3.9), ||A|| = 5.8780, ||B|| = 1, and $\max(\tilde{a}^2 + \tilde{b}^2 + \tilde{c}^2 + \tilde{a}_1^2 + \dots + \tilde{g}_1^2) = 68.9300$ can be obtained. According to our new adaptive scheme, gain *K* must satisfy (2.8), i.e.

$$\frac{\min(K)}{(L \times 1 + 5.8780 + 68.9300)} > 1 \tag{3.10}$$

Choose L = 1. The gain matrix can be selected as follow:

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 90 & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 87 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 83 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 80 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.11)

In (3.8) we have $f(z) = [0\ 0\ b + z_1z_3\ 0]^T$, the parametric update laws and corresponding controllers can be decided by (2.6) and (2.7). Then we can obtain the time derivative of V(t) is negative semidefinite as follow:

$$\dot{V} \leq \left(\|A\| + L\|B\| - \min(K) + \max\left(\tilde{a}^2 + \tilde{b}^2 + \tilde{c}^2 + \tilde{a}_1^2 + \dots + \tilde{g}_1^2\right) \right) \|e\|^2$$

= (75.7080 - 80) $\|e\|^2$
= (-4.2920) $\|e\|^2 < 0$ (3.12)

which is a negative semidefinite function of e_1 , e_2 , e_3 , e_4 , \tilde{a} , \tilde{b} , \tilde{c} , \tilde{a}_1 , \tilde{b}_1 , \tilde{c}_1 , \tilde{d}_1 , \tilde{e}_1 , \tilde{f}_1 , \tilde{g}_1 . The Lyapunov asymptotical stability theorem is not satisfied. We cannot obtain that common origin of error dynamics and parameter dynamics is asymptotically stable. By pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem (see Appendix A), D is a 14-manifold, n = 14 and the number of error state variables p = 4. When $e_1 = e_2 =$ $e_3 = e_4 = 0$ and $\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}, \hat{a}_1, \hat{b}_1, \hat{c}_1, \hat{d}_1, \hat{e}_1, \hat{f}_1$ and \hat{g}_1

2.5





Fig. 7 Time histories of parametric errors \tilde{a} , \tilde{c} , \tilde{a}_1 and \tilde{b}_1 for Case 2

take arbitrary values, $\dot{V} = 0$, so X is of 4 dimensions, m = n - p = 14 - 4 = 10, m + 1 < n is satisfied. According to the pragmatical asymptotically stability theorem, error vector e approaches zero and the estimated parameters also approach the uncertain parameters. The equilibrium point is pragmatically asymptotically stable. Under the assumption of equal probability, it is actually asymptotically sta-

ble. The simulation results are shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 8.

4 Conclusions

In this paper, a new adaptive synchronization scheme which is derived by pragmatical asymptotically stabil-

Fig. 8 Time histories of parametric errors $\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{d}_1, \tilde{e}_1, \tilde{f}_1$ and \tilde{g}_1 for Case 2



ity theorem is proposed to achieve adaptive synchronization. We give a simple and useful result in this article as: If the master system is given, the minimum values in feedback gain K can be calculated by the sum of errors between unknown and estimated parameters, i.e. our new strategy proves the existence of relation between the constraint values of feedback gain K and the sum of the errors of unknown parameters and estimated parameters. By applying this new relation formula, an appropriate feedback gain K can be decided easily to obtain controllers achieving adaptive synchronization. Simulation results show that not only for two identical nonlinear systems with all unknown parameters adaptive synchronization can be achieved, but also for two completely different nonlinear systems with different orders and all unknown parameters this goal can be attained. Therefore, the new adaptive scheme is really useful and effective in adaptive synchronization of various kinds of different nonlinear systems.

Acknowledgements This research was supported by the National Science Council, Republic of China, under Grant Number NSC 96-2221-E-009-145-MY3.

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Appendix A: Pragmatical asymptotical stability theory

The stability for many problems in real dynamical systems is actual asymptotical stability, although may not be mathematical asymptotical stability. The mathematical asymptotical stability demands that trajectories from all initial states in the neighborhood of zero solution must approach the origin as $t \to \infty$. If there are only a small part or even a few of the initial states from which the trajectories do not approach the origin as $t \to \infty$, the zero solution is not mathematically asymptotically stable. However, when the probability of occurrence of an event is zero, it means the event does not occur actually. If the probability of occurrence of the event that the trajectories from the initial states are that they do not approach zero when $t \to \infty$, is zero, the stability of zero solution is actual asymptotical stability though it is not mathematical asymptotical stability. In order to analyze the asymptotical stability of the equilibrium point of such systems, the pragmatical asymptotical stability theorem is used.

Let *X* and *Y* be two manifolds of dimensions *m* and *n* (*m* < *n*), respectively, and φ be a differentiable map from *X* to *Y*, then $\varphi(X)$ is subset of Lebesque measure 0 of *Y* [31]. For an autonomous system,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \tag{A.1}$$

where $x = [x_1, \ldots, x_n]^T$ is a state vector, the function $f = [f_1, \ldots, f_n]^T$ is defined on $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $||x|| \le H > 0$. Let x = 0 be an equilibrium point for the system (A.1). Then

$$f(0) = 0 \tag{A.2}$$

For a nonautonomous systems,

$$\dot{x} = f(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1})$$
 (A.3)

where $x = [x_1, ..., x_{n+1}]^T$, the function $f = f_1, ..., f_n]^T$ is defined on $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+$ here $t = x_{n+1} \subset \mathbb{R}_+$. The equilibrium point is

$$f(0, x_{n+1}) = 0 \tag{A.4}$$

Definition The equilibrium point for the system (A.1) is pragmatically asymptotically stable provided that with initial points on *C* which is a subset of Lebesque measure 0 of *D*, the behaviors of the corresponding trajectories cannot be determined, while with initial points on D - C, the corresponding trajectories behave as that agree with traditional asymptotical stability [21–23].

Theorem Let $V = [x_1, ..., x_n]^T : D \to R_+$ be positive definite and analytic on D, where $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$ are all space coordinates such that the derivative of V through (A.1) or (A.3), \dot{V} , is negative semidefinite of $[x_1, x_2, ..., x_n]^T$.

For autonomous system, let X be the m-manifold consisted of point set for which $\forall x \neq 0$, $\dot{V}(x) = 0$ and D is a n-manifold. If m + 1 < n, then the equilibrium point of the system is pragmatically asymptotically stable.

For nonautonomous system, let X be the m + 1manifold consisting of point set of which $\forall x \neq 0$, $\dot{V}(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) = 0$ and D is n + 1-manifold. If m + 1 + 1 < n + 1, i.e., m + 1 < n then the equilibrium point of the system is pragmatically asymptotically stable. Therefore, for both autonomous and nonautonomous system, the formula m + 1 < n is universal. So the following proof is only for autonomous system. The proof for nonautonomous system is similar.

Proof Since every point of X can be passed by a trajectory of (A.1), which is onedimensional, the collection of these trajectories, A, is a (m + 1)-manifold [24, 25].

If m + 1 < n, then the collection *C* is a subset of Lebesque measure 0 of *D*. By the above definition, the equilibrium point of the system is pragmatically asymptotically stable.

If an initial point is ergodically chosen in D, the probability of that the initial point falls on the collection C is zero. Here, equal probability is assumed for every point chosen as an initial point in the neighborhood of the equilibrium point. Hence, the event that the initial point is chosen from collection C does not occur actually. Therefore, under the equal probability assumption, pragmatical asymptotical stability becomes actual asymptotical stability. When the initial point falls on D - C, $\dot{V}(x) < 0$, the corresponding trajectories behave as they agree with traditional asymptotical stability because by the existence and uniqueness of the solution of initial-value problem, these trajectories never meet C.

In (2.11), V is a positive definite function of n variables, i.e., p error state variables and n - p = m differences between unknown and estimated parameters, while $\dot{V} = e^{T}Ce$ is a negative semidefinite function of n variables. Since the number of error state variables is always more than one, p > 1, m + 1 < n is always satisfied, by pragmatical asymptotical stability theorem, we have

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} e = 0 \tag{A.5}$$

and the estimated parameters approach the uncertain parameters. The pragmatical adaptive control theorem is obtained. Therefore, the equilibrium point of the system is pragmatically asymptotically stable. Under the equal probability assumption, it is actually asymptotically stable for both error state variables and parameter variables.

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