Product Dynamic Transitions Using A Derivative-Free Optimization Approach

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Introduction



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Introduction

Traditional Optimal Model-based dynamic transitions



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- Traditional Optimal Model-based dynamic transitions
- DFO Approaches for Product Transitions



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- Traditional Optimal Model-based dynamic transitions
- DFO Approaches for Product Transitions
 - Unconstrained optimization problem with penalized model



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 - Model Predictive control using black box dynamic modeling



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 - Fundamental differential equation



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Conclusions



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During start-up, shut-down or normal operation, optimal dynamic transitions among products are normally required to achieve an operation target in the best possible way.



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- During start-up, shut-down or normal operation, optimal dynamic transitions among products are normally required to achieve an operation target in the best possible way.
- The problem consists in computing the time domain values of the control variables u(t) such that the system response y(t) attains a desired value embedded in an objective function Ω(y, u).



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- We deal with extensions of trust-region methods, which are a subset of deterministic DFO algorithms, to address the solution optimization problems where no model gradient information is available.



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Traditional Optimal Model-based dynamic transitions

Take a dynamic system from an initial point to a final point in the best possible way



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Common Approaches for Solving Dynamic Optimization Problems



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Discretizing ODEs using Orthogonal Collocation

Given an ODE system:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, u, p), \quad x(0) = x_{init}$$

where x(t) are the system states, u(t) is the manipulated variable and p are the system parameters.

The aim is to approximate the behaviour of x and u by Lagrange interpolation polynomials (of orders K + 1 and K, respectively) at collocation or discretization points t_k :



Therefore replacing into the original ODE system, we get the system residual $\mathcal{R}(t_k)$:

$$\mathcal{R}(t_k) = \sum_{j=0}^{\mathcal{K}} x_j \frac{d\ell_j(t_k)}{dt} - f(x_k, u_k, p) = 0, \ k = 1, ..., \mathcal{K}$$

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Transformation of a Dynamic Optimization problem into a NLP

Original dynamic optimization problem

Discretized NLP

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$$\min_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{u}} \phi(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{u}) \qquad \qquad \min_{\mathbf{x}_k,\mathbf{u}_k} \phi(\mathbf{x}_k,\mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{s.t.} & \displaystyle \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \mathsf{F}\left(x(t), u(t), t, p\right) & \text{s.t.} & \displaystyle \sum_{j=0}^{\mathcal{K}} x_j \dot{\ell}_j(t_k) - \mathsf{F}\left(x_k, u_k\right) = 0, \ k = 1, \dots, \mathcal{K} \\ x(0) = x^0 & x_0 = x(0) \\ g(x(t), u(t), p) \leq 0 & g(x_k, u_k, p) \leq 0, \ k = 1, \dots, \mathcal{K} \\ h(x(t), u(t), p) = 0 & h(x_k, u_k, p) = 0, \ k = 1, \dots, \mathcal{K} \\ x^l \leq x \leq x^u & x^l \leq x \leq x^u \\ u^l \leq u \leq u^u & u^l \leq u \leq u^u \\ \end{array}$$

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Approximation of a Dynamic Optimization Problem using Orthogonal Collocation on Finite Elements

Sometimes it is convenient to use Orthogonal Collocation on Finite Elements to approximate the behavior of systems exhibiting fast dynamics.



element.



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Example: Dynamic optimal transition between two steady-states: Hicks CSTR

Desired Transition $B \rightarrow A$

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 $C=Concentration \ (c/c_f), \ T=temperature \ (T_r/Jc_f), \ y_c=Coolant \ temperature \ (T_c/Jc_f), \ y_f=feed$

Representation T_f/Jc_f , U = Cooling flowrate. c and T_r are nondimensionless concentration and reactor イロト イヨト イヨト イヨト

temperature.

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Dynamic Transitions profiles for the Hicks CSTR example

As objective function the requirement of minimum transition time between the initial and final steady-states will be imposed:

$$\mathsf{Min} \int_{0}^{t_{\mathsf{f}}} \left\{ \alpha_{1} (\mathsf{C}(\mathsf{t}) - \mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{des}})^{2} + \alpha_{2} (\mathsf{T}(\mathsf{t}) - \mathsf{T}_{\mathsf{des}})^{2} + \alpha_{3} (\mathsf{U}(\mathsf{t}) - \mathsf{U}_{\mathsf{des}})^{2} \right\} \mathsf{d}\mathsf{t}$$



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Unconstrained optimization problem with penalized model.



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- Unconstrained optimization problem with penalized model.
 - Product transition problems were solved using a dynamic model to compare NLP and DFO solutions.



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 - The constrained dynamic optimization problem was transformed into an unconstrained optimization problem,



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- MPC is a closed-loop control technique well suited for the control of nonlinear systems using a receding horizon approach.



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- A set of values of the input or manipulated variables (i.e. u₁,..., u_N) are computed such that the output or controlled variables (i.e. x₁,..., x_M) are forced towards target or desired values.



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- When a new measurement becomes available, the control scenario is moved ahead by a time

equivalent to the sampling time and the procedure is repeated until the target values are obtained.



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 DFO algorithms can be used when a dynamic model or derivatives of the underlying systems are not available.



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We deploy a kind of DFO algorithms based on using trust-region optimization techniques.



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$$\Omega = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [(x_i - x^f)^2 + (u_i - u^f)^2] + \lambda_x \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta x_i]^2 + \lambda_u \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta u_i]^2$$

where the superscript f stands for final, desired or target values, λ_x , λ_u are penalties impossed on variations of the magnitude of the states and the manipulated variables, respectively.



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The aim of the last two terms is to penalize for large changes in both the states and manipulated variable values.



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The aim of the last two terms is to penalize for large changes in both the states and manipulated variable values.

$$\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$$
$$\Delta u_i = u_i - u_{i-1}$$



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In summary, the computation of optimal product dynamic transitions using a DFO approach can be cast as follows:

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} \Omega = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [(x_i - x^f)^2 + (u_i - u^f)^2] + \lambda_x \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta x_i]^2 + \lambda_u \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta u_i]^2$$

s.t.
$$\begin{aligned} x^{l} &\leq x_{i} \leq x^{u}, \qquad i = 1, \dots, N \\ u^{l} &\leq u_{i} \leq u^{u}, \qquad i = 1, \dots, N \\ \Delta x^{l} &\leq \Delta x_{i} \leq \Delta x^{u}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\ \Delta u^{l} &\leq \Delta u_{i} \leq \Delta u^{u}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned}$$

where the I and u superscripts stand for lower and upper bounds, respectively.



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Given:

 An objective function representing the target grade or product plant transitions.



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Given:

- An objective function representing the target grade or product plant transitions.
- A black box system (either industrial or laboratory system or computer simulation) from which only input and output information about the dynamic performance of such a system is recorded.



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Given:

- An objective function representing the target grade or product plant transitions.
- A black box system (either industrial or laboratory system or computer simulation) from which only input and output information about the dynamic performance of such a system is recorded.
- A set of simple box bound constraints on the system states.



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Given:

- An objective function representing the target grade or product plant transitions.
- A black box system (either industrial or laboratory system or computer simulation) from which only input and output information about the dynamic performance of such a system is recorded.
- A set of simple box bound constraints on the system states.
- We assume that numerical values of the system derivatives of the objective function are not available.



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- A black box system (either industrial or laboratory system or computer simulation) from which only input and output information about the dynamic performance of such a system is recorded.
- A set of simple box bound constraints on the system states.
- We assume that numerical values of the system derivatives of the objective function are not available.



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$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay(t) + bu(t), \ a = b = 1$$

where y is the state variable, t is the independent variable, u is a control variable.



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Penalized state transition objective function, which includes the discretization of the dynamic mathematical model, reads:

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$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (y^2 + u^2) dt + \mathbf{F}(y, \dot{y}, \lambda)$$

where $\mathbf{F}(y, \dot{y}, \lambda)$ stands for a function which represents the discretized dynamic model as a function of the states (y), states derivates (\dot{x}) and penalty parameters (λ) .



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Transitions as computed by the CONOPT NLP and the BOBYQA DFO solvers



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- Transitions as computed by the CONOPT NLP and the BOBYQA DFO solvers
- The vectors of initial $[y_0, u_0]$ and target $[y^f, u^f]$ transition conditions are given by [-0.375, 1] and [3, 0], respectively.



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Example 2: Hicks reactor



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Example 2: Hicks reactor

$$\frac{dy_1}{dt} = \frac{1-y_1}{\theta} - k_{10}e^{-N/y_2}y_1 \frac{dy_2}{dt} = \frac{y_f - y_2}{\theta} - k_{10}e^{-N/y_2}y_1 - \alpha U(y_2 - y_c)$$

Parameter	Value	Description
θ	20	Residence time
J	100	$(-\Delta H)/(\rho C_p)$
Cf	27.6	Feed concentration
α	1.95e ⁻⁴	Dimensionless heat transfer area
T _f	300	Feed temperature
k ₁₀	300	Preexponential factor
Tc	290	Coolant temperature
N	5	$E_1/(RJc_f)$



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Objective function



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Objective function

min
$$\Omega = \int_0^t \{(y_1(t) - y_1^d)^2 + (y_2(t) - y_2^d)^2 + (u(t) - u^d)^2\} dt + \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{y}, \dot{\mathbf{y}}, \lambda)\}$$

where y_1 is the dimensionless concentration, y_2 is the dimensionless temperature and u is the cooling water flowrate, the superscript d stands for desired or target values. The term $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{y}, \dot{\mathbf{y}}, \lambda)$ is a function representing the discretized dynamic model.



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► A product transition from steady-state *B* to the steady-state *A* will be carried out.



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- ► A product transition from steady-state *B* to the steady-state *A* will be carried out.
- 10 finite elements with three internal collocation points were used for the discretization of the dynamic model.



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Process simulators which have embedded powerful first-order mathematical models.



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- Process simulators which have embedded powerful first-order mathematical models.
- An explicit dynamic model of the underlying system and or its gradient are not available.



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- A first-order dynamic model of a benzene/toluene binary distillation column was built using the ASPEN Dynamics simulation environment.



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- The equimolar feedstream is composed of a total flowrate of 1000 kmol/hr at 100 C and 2 bar. The distillation column has 6 trays and total condenser. Moreover, the column operates at 1 bar constant pressure and at reflux ratio of 1.4116.



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- The steady-state simulation of the process was exported to obtain a dynamic model of the binary

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$$\Omega = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [(c_i - c^d)^2 + (u_i - u^d)^2] + \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta c_i]^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N} [\Delta u_i]^2$$

where c stands for the benzene mol fraction distillate stream which is the controlled variable, u stands for the reflux ratio which is the manipulated variable, N is the prediction and control horizons, the superscript d stands for desired or target values.



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Two product dynamic transitions: (a) the initial steady-state is given by [c₀, u₀]=[0.8, 1.4116], whereas the target steady state is given by [c^d, u^d]=[0.9, 5.86] and (b) then the product transition in the opposite direction was done.



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We have assumed that on-line measurements of the benzene mol fraction in the distillate stream will be available every hour.



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For implementing both product dynamic transitions we proceeded as follows. (1) First, we initialize the simulation with the steady state conditions. (2) Then, change to dynamic mode and (3) run the dynamic simulation for 1 hr, (4) stop the simulation, (5) use the values of reflux ratio and concentration in the DFO BOBYQA solver as decision variables and solve the DFO problem; BOBYQA yields the new calculated value of the reflux ratio to be implemented in the simulation environment. Repeat steps (3)-(5) when new measurements become available until the target steady-state is reached.



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