

# NECESSARY AND SUFFICIENT CONDITIONS FOR STABLE $H_\infty$ STABILIZABILITY \*

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## Abstract

In this paper, the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem is addressed. It is shown that the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem is reduced to finding a unimodular matrix such that a two block  $H_\infty$  optimization problem is solvable. And then it can be solved if an unimodular matrix is selected such that a Nehari problem is solvable. In fact, if the unimodular matrix is selected as a constant matrix, then the result of [10] is obtained.

## 1. Introduction

Recently, the  $H_\infty$  optimization theory has been extensively studied for a given linear time-invariant system, see [3, 5, 6, 11, 1]. However, it is well known that these design methods always yield an unstable controller, which is undesirable in practice. For example, even if an unstable controller is used for a stable plant, the system will become unstable when the feedback sensors fail, i.e., the system is open-loop. On the other hand, stabilization using an unstable controller always introduces additional right half-plane zeros into the closed-loop transfer function matrix beyond those of the original plant. As it is known that the right half-plane zeros of a system affect its stability to track reference signals and/or to reject disturbances. It is preferable to use a stable controller whenever possible.

It is well known that the strong stabilization problem is solvable if and only if the plant satisfies the parity interlacing property (PIP) condition [8]. For SISO systems, the strongly stabilizing controller can be constructed by Youla's interpolation approach [9, 8]. For the MIMO systems, Saif *et al.* [7] proposed an  $H_\infty$  optimization approach to construct the strongly stabilizing controller. In this paper, we will address the stable  $H_\infty$  controller design. We will prove that the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem can be reduced to finding an unimodular matrix such that a two-block  $H_\infty$

optimization problem is solvable and then it is solvable if a Nehari problem is solvable.

## 2. Preliminaries

In the following, a transfer function  $G(s)$  with realization  $(A, B, C, D)$  will be denoted by

$$G(s) = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A & B \\ \hline C & D \end{array} \right].$$

**Lemma 1** [8, 11] *Suppose a plant  $G$  is stabilizable and detectable. Select constant matrices  $F$  and  $H$  such that the matrices  $A_F = A + BF$  and  $A_H = A + HC$  are both Hurwitz stable such that  $G = NM^{-1} = \tilde{M}^{-1}\tilde{N}$ , where*

$$\begin{bmatrix} M & X \\ N & Y \end{bmatrix} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} A + BF & B & -H & \\ \hline F & I & 0 & \\ C + DF & D & I & \end{array} \right],$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{Y} & -\tilde{X} \\ -\tilde{N} & \tilde{M} \end{bmatrix} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} A + HC & -B + HD & -H & \\ \hline F & I & 0 & \\ C & -D & I & \end{array} \right]$$

satisfying

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{Y} & -\tilde{X} \\ -\tilde{N} & \tilde{M} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} M & X \\ N & Y \end{bmatrix} = I$$

Then all stabilizing controllers for  $G$  can be parameterized as

$$\begin{aligned} K(s) &= (X + MQ)(Y + NQ)^{-1} \\ &= (\tilde{Y} + Q\tilde{N})^{-1}(\tilde{X} + Q\tilde{M}) = \mathfrak{F}(J, Q) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathfrak{F}(J, Q)$  denotes a linear fractional transformation (LFT) on  $J$  and  $Q$ , with

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \begin{bmatrix} XY^{-1} & \tilde{Y}^{-1} \\ Y^{-1} & -Y^{-1}N \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} A + BF + HC + HDF & -H & B + HF & \\ \hline F & 0 & I & \\ -(C + DF) & I & -D & \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$

and  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  such that  $(I + Y^{-1}NQ)(\infty)$  is invertible.

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Assume  $Q(s)$  is given by

$$Q = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A_Q & B_Q \\ \hline C_Q & D_Q \end{array} \right],$$

then  $K(s)$  can be written to

$$K(s) = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A_K & B_K \\ \hline C_K & D_K \end{array} \right] \\ = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} \hat{A} & (B+HD)C_Q & \hat{B}_2 \\ -B_Q(C+DF) & A_Q & B_Q \\ \hline F-D_Q(C+DF) & C_Q & D_Q \end{array} \right]$$

where

$$\hat{A} = \bar{A} - (B+HD)D_Q(C+DF) \\ \hat{B}_2 = -H + (B+HD)D_Q$$

Obviously,  $K(s)$  is stable if and only if the matrix  $A_K$  is stable.

**Lemma 2** [7] *If  $V(s) \in RH_\infty$ ,  $P(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$  and  $\|P^{-1}V\|_\infty < 1$ , then  $V(s) + P(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$ .*

**Lemma 3** *For any proper transfer function  $V(s) \in RH_\infty$ , there always exists a unimodular transfer function  $P(s)$  in  $RH_\infty$  such that  $V(s) + P(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$ .*

**Proof:** Let

$$\gamma > \|V(s)\|_\infty, \quad V_1(s) = \gamma^{-1}V(s)$$

then  $\|V_1(s)\|_\infty < 1$ . So  $V_1(s) + I$  is unimodular, i.e.  $V(s) + P(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$ , where  $P(s) = \gamma I$

**Lemma 4** *For any unimodular transfer function  $T(s)$  in  $RH_\infty$ , there always exists a factorization*

$$T(s) = V(s) + P(s)$$

where  $V(s), P(s) \in RH_\infty$  and  $P(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$  such that

$$\|P^{-1}V\|_\infty < 1$$

**Proof:** Select two scalars  $\gamma_0$  and  $\gamma$  such that

$$\|T(s) + \gamma_0 I\|_\infty < \gamma \quad (1)$$

Obviously,  $\|\gamma^{-1}(T(s) + \gamma_0 I)\|_\infty < 1$ . Let  $\gamma^{-1}(T(s) + \gamma_0 I) = P^{-1}V = P^{-1}(T - P)$ . Then

$$P[T(s) + (\gamma_0 + \gamma)I] = \gamma T$$

If we select  $\gamma$  satisfying (1) such that  $T(s) + (\gamma_0 + \gamma)I$  is unimodular, then a unimodular  $P(s)$  can be constructed as

$$P(s) = \gamma T(T(s) + (\gamma_0 + \gamma)I)^{-1}$$

It is easy to find that the selection  $\gamma > -\gamma_0 > 0$  can guarantee that  $T(s) + (\gamma_0 + \gamma)I$  is unimodular. ■

### 3. Problem Statement

Consider a linear time-invariant system  $G(s)$  with the

following minimal realizations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= Ax(t) + B_1w(t) + B_2u(t), \\ z(t) &= C_1x(t) + D_{11}w(t) + D_{12}u(t), \\ y(t) &= C_2x(t) + D_{21}w(t) + D_{22}u(t), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state vector of  $G(s)$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the control vector,  $w \in \mathbb{R}^p$  contains all the external input signals, such as disturbances, sensor noise, and commands,  $z \in \mathbb{R}^q$  is the control output vector, and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^q$  is the vector of the measured variables available for feedback control, all matrices in (2) are constant and with appropriate dimensions. Sometimes we denote  $G(s)$  as

$$G(s) = \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} A & B_1 & B_2 \\ \hline C_1 & D_{11} & D_{12} \\ C_2 & D_{21} & D_{22} \end{array} \right]$$

In this paper, without loss of generality, following the formulation in [3, 11], we assume that the system  $G(s)$  satisfies the following standard assumptions:

- A1  $(A, B_2)$  is stabilizable and  $(A, C_2)$  is detectable;
- A2  $D_{12}$  has full column rank and  $D_{21}$  has full row rank;
- A3  $\begin{bmatrix} A - j\omega I & B_2 \\ C_1 & D_{12} \end{bmatrix}$  has full column rank for all  $\omega$ ;
- A4  $\begin{bmatrix} A - j\omega I & B_1 \\ C_2 & D_{21} \end{bmatrix}$  has row column rank for all  $\omega$ .

The *Stable  $H_\infty$  Control Problem* is defined as the design of a stabilizing controller

$$u = K(s)y \quad (3)$$

where  $K(s) \in RH_\infty$ , such that

$$\|T_{zw}\|_\infty < \gamma \quad (4)$$

with  $\gamma > 0$  is the given  $H_\infty$  performance level,  $T_{zw}$  as the closed-loop transfer function from  $w$  to  $z$  subject to the feedback control (3). It is well known that  $T_{zw}$  can be described by a linear fractional transformation (LFT) on  $G(s)$  and  $K(s)$

$$T_{zw}(s) = \mathfrak{F}(G(s), K(s))$$

The standard  $H_\infty$  control problem (that is, when  $K(s)$  is not restricted to be stable) is solvable if and only if two algebraic Riccati equations (AREs) have unique positive semidefinite solutions, and a spectral radius condition is satisfied. Then all stabilizing controllers satisfying  $\|T_{zw}\|_\infty < \gamma$  can be parameterized as

$$K(s) = \mathfrak{F}(J(s), Q(s)), \quad Q(s) \in RH_\infty, \quad \|Q\|_\infty < \gamma \quad (5)$$

where  $J(s)$  is of the form

$$J(s) = \begin{bmatrix} J_{11}(s) & J_{12}(s) \\ J_{21}(s) & J_{22}(s) \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$= \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} \hat{A} & \hat{B}_1 & \hat{B}_2 \\ \hline \hat{C}_1 & \hat{D}_{11} & \hat{D}_{12} \\ \hat{C}_2 & \hat{D}_{21} & \hat{D}_{22} \end{array} \right] \quad (7)$$

such that  $\hat{D}_{12}$  and  $\hat{D}_{21}$  are invertible and  $\hat{A} - \hat{B}_2\hat{D}_{12}^{-1}\hat{C}_1$  and  $\hat{A} - \hat{B}_1\hat{D}_{21}^{-1}\hat{C}_2$  are both stable, i.e.,  $J_{12}^{-1}, J_{21}^{-1} \in$

$RH_\infty$ .

From Youla's parameterization, (5) can be written as the following alternative representation [11]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{F}(J, Q) &= (X_J + M_J Q)(Y_J + N_J Q)^{-1} \\ &= (\tilde{Y}_J + Q\tilde{N}_J)^{-1}(\tilde{X}_J + Q\tilde{M}_J) \quad (8)\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} M_J & X_J \\ N_J & Y_J \end{bmatrix} &= \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} \hat{A} - \hat{B}_1 \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{C}_2 & \hat{B}_2 - \hat{B}_1 \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{D}_{22} & \hat{B}_1 \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \\ \hat{C}_1 - \hat{D}_{11} \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{C}_2 & \hat{D}_{12} - \hat{D}_{11} \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{D}_{22} & \hat{D}_{11} \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \\ -\hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{C}_2 & -\hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \hat{D}_{22} & \hat{D}_{21}^{-1} \end{array} \right], \\ \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{M}_J & \tilde{N}_J \\ \tilde{X}_J & \tilde{Y}_J \end{bmatrix} &= \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} \hat{A} - \hat{B}_2 \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{C}_1 & \hat{B}_1 - \hat{B}_2 \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{D}_{11} & -\hat{B}_2 \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \\ \hat{C}_2 - \hat{D}_{22} \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{C}_1 & \hat{D}_{21} - \hat{D}_{22} \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{D}_{11} & -\hat{D}_{22} \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \\ \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{C}_1 & \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \hat{D}_{11} & \hat{D}_{12}^{-1} \end{array} \right]\end{aligned}$$

Assume  $Q(s)$  is given by

$$Q = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A_Q & B_Q \\ \hline C_Q & D_Q \end{array} \right]$$

then  $K(s)$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}K(s) &= \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A_K & B_K \\ \hline C_K & D_K \end{array} \right] \\ &= \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} \hat{A} + \hat{B}_2 D_Q \hat{C}_2 & \hat{B}_2 C_Q & \hat{B}_1 + \hat{B}_2 D_Q \hat{D}_{21} \\ B_Q \hat{C}_2 & A_Q & B_Q \hat{D}_{21} \\ \hline \hat{C}_1 + \hat{D}_{12} D_Q \hat{C}_2 & \hat{D}_{12} C_Q & \hat{D}_{11} + \hat{D}_{12} D_Q \hat{D}_{21} \end{array} \right]\end{aligned}$$

Obviously,  $K(s) \in RH_\infty$  if and only if the matrix  $A_K$  is stable, that is to make  $K(s)$  stable is equivalent to find a stable compensator  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  to stabilize the associated plant  $J_{22}(s)$ .

**Lemma 5** [10] *Given a linear time-invariant plant  $G(s)$  satisfying assumptions (A1-A4) and the  $H_\infty$  performance index  $\gamma > 0$ , the set of all  $H_\infty$  controllers are parameterized as (5). Then there exists a stable  $H_\infty$  controller if and only if there exists a stable controller  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  with  $\|Q(s)\|_\infty < \gamma$  stabilizes the associated plant  $J_{22}(s)$ .*

The above lemma means that the stable  $H_\infty$  controller problem is reduced to a strong stabilization problem with the controller satisfying the  $H_\infty$ -norm constraint. It is well known that the strong stabilization problem is solvable if and only if the plant satisfies the parity interlacing property (PIP) condition [8]. For SISO systems, the strongly stabilizing controller can be constructed by Youla's interpolation approach [9, 8]. For MIMO systems, Saif *et al.* [7] proposed a  $H_\infty$  optimization approach to construct the strongly stabilizing controller. In the following, we will propose a design method of the stable  $H_\infty$  controller design.

## 4. Main Results

Assume that  $J(s)$  has been computed and that  $J_{22}(s)$

is unstable. A necessary condition for the system to be strongly  $H_\infty$  stabilizable is that  $J_{22}(s)$  satisfies the PIP condition. For any coprime factorization

$$J_{22}(s) = N_J M_J^{-1}$$

where  $N_J(s), M_J(s) \in RH_\infty$ , there exists a  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  such that  $K(s) \in RH_\infty$  if and only if there exists a  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  such that  $M_J + QN_J$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$ , i.e.,  $(M_J + QN_J)^{-1} \in RH_\infty$ .

Define

$$U_J(s) = M_J(s) + QN_J(s)$$

Then there exists a factorization

$$U_J(s) = R(s) + \gamma_0 T(s)$$

such that  $\|T^{-1}R\|_\infty < \gamma_0$ , where  $R(s), T(s) \in RH_\infty$ ,  $\gamma_0$  is a constant and  $T(s)$  is unimodular in  $RH_\infty$ . So the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem is solvable if there exists a  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  such that

$$\|T^{-1}(M_J + QN_J - \gamma_0 T)\|_\infty < \gamma_0, \quad \|Q(s)\|_\infty < \gamma$$

Let  $\gamma_0 = \gamma \|T^{-1}\|_\infty$ , the above condition is satisfied if

$$\|(M_J + QN_J - \gamma_0 T)\|_\infty < \gamma, \quad \|Q(s)\|_\infty < \gamma$$

It holds if

$$\begin{aligned}\| [ M_J + QN_J - \gamma_0 T \quad Q ] \|_\infty &< \gamma \\ - \| \hat{M} + Q\hat{N} \|_\infty &< \gamma, \quad Q(s) \in RH_\infty\end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{M} = [ M_J - \gamma_0 T \quad 0 ]$ ,  $\hat{N} = [ N_J \quad I ]$ . This means that the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem can be reduced to select a unimodular transfer matrix  $T(s) \in RH_\infty$  and a transfer function  $Q(s) \in RH_\infty$  such that

$$\| \hat{M} + Q\hat{N} \|_\infty < \gamma$$

**Theorem 1** *The stable suboptimal  $H_\infty$  control problem is solvable if there exists a unimodular matrix  $T(s)$  such that  $\min_{Q \in RH_\infty} \| \hat{M} + Q\hat{N} \|_\infty < \gamma$ .*

**Remark 1** *After  $T$  is selected, it reduces to a one-side model matching problem and it can be solved using the inner-outer factorization approach [2, 4]. On the other hand, if we set  $\gamma_0 = 1 + \varepsilon \geq \gamma$ ,  $T = I$ , then we can obtain a similar result of [10].*

Let  $\hat{N}$  have a co-inner/co-outer factorization as  $\hat{N} = \hat{N}_o \hat{N}_i$ , (see [4]), and define

$$M = [ M_1 \quad M_2 ] = \hat{M} [ \hat{N}_i^* \quad (\hat{N}_i^\perp)^* ]$$

$$\hat{Q} = Q\hat{N}_o$$

where  $\hat{N}_i^\perp$  is a complementary co-inner factor such that  $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{N}_i \\ \hat{N}_i^\perp \end{bmatrix}$  is square and inner, then

$$\min_{Q \in RH_\infty} \| \hat{M} + Q\hat{N} \|_\infty = \min_{\hat{Q} \in RH_\infty} \| [ M_1 + \hat{Q} \quad M_2 ] \|_\infty$$

which is a two-block  $H_\infty$  optimization problem. Define

$$\gamma_{\text{opt}} \triangleq \min_{\hat{Q} \in RH_\infty} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} M_1 + \hat{Q} & M_2 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_\infty$$

$\gamma_{\text{opt}}$  can be obtained using the “ $\gamma$ -iteration” approach [2, 4]. So for the stable  $H_\infty$  control problem, it is solvable if  $\gamma \geq \gamma_{\text{opt}} \geq \|M_2\|_\infty$  [2, 4]. When  $\gamma > \|M_2\|_\infty$ , to find a  $\hat{Q} \in RH_\infty$  such that

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} M_1 + \hat{Q} & M_2 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_\infty < \gamma$$

if and only if

$$\left\| S^{-1}(M_1 + \hat{Q}) \right\|_\infty < 1 \quad (9)$$

where  $S$  is a spectral factor of the para-Hermitian matrix  $(\gamma^2 I - M_2 M_2^*)$ , i.e.,

$$S S^* = \gamma^2 I - M_2 M_2^*$$

Define

$$Y = S^{-1} M_1, \quad X = S^{-1} \hat{Q}$$

we have following result.

**Theorem 2** *The stable  $H_\infty$  control problem is solvable if there exists a unimodular matrix  $T(s)$  such that  $\|M_2\|_\infty < \gamma$  and*

$$\|Y + X\|_\infty < 1 \quad (10)$$

where  $X \in RH_\infty$ .

To find a matrix  $X \in RH_\infty$  such that (10) holds is a Nehari problem and it can be solved using the method in [4].

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