
Autopilot Design for an F16 Fighter Aircraft

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Outline



1. F16 Equation of Motion
2. Linearization and Longitudinal Motion Analysis
3. Control Law Development
4. Autopilot Design and Simulation
5. Future Work and Conclusion

F16 Equation of Motion

Total velocity and angle of attack and side slip angle

$$V_T = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2 + w^2}$$

$$\alpha = \arctan \frac{w}{u}$$

$$\beta = \arcsin \frac{v}{V_T}$$

Force equations

$$F_x = m(\dot{u} + qw - rv)$$

$$F_y = m(\dot{v} + ru - pw)$$

$$F_z = m(\dot{w} + pv - qu)$$

Aerodynamic forces

$$\bar{X} = \bar{q}SC_{x_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

$$\bar{Y} = \bar{q}SC_{y_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

$$\bar{Z} = \bar{q}SC_{z_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

Moment equations

$$M_x = \dot{p}I_x - \dot{r}I_{xz} + qr(I_z - I_y) - pqI_{xz}$$

$$M_y = \dot{q}I_y + pr(I_x - I_z) + (p^2 - r^2)I_{xz}$$

$$M_z = \dot{r}I_z - \dot{p}I_{xz} + pq(I_y - I_x) + qrI_{xz}$$

Aerodynamic moments

$$\bar{L} = \bar{q}S\bar{b}C_{l_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

$$\bar{M} = \bar{q}S\bar{c}C_{m_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

$$\bar{N} = \bar{q}S\bar{b}C_{n_T}(\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, \delta, \dots)$$

Navigation equations

$$\dot{f} = p + \tan q(q \sin f + r \cos f)$$

$$\dot{q} = q \cos f - r \sin f$$

$$\dot{y} = \frac{q \sin f + r \cos f}{\cos q}$$

$$\dot{x}_E = u \cos y \cos q + v(\cos y \sin q \sin f - \sin y \cos f) + w(\cos y \sin q \cos f + \sin y \sin f)$$

$$\dot{y}_E = u \sin y \cos q + v(\sin y \sin q \sin f + \cos y \cos f) + w(\sin y \sin q \cos f - \cos y \sin f)$$

$$\dot{z}_E = -u \sin q + v \cos q \sin f + w \cos q \cos f$$

Linearization Around a Trim Point

System of equation

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$$

At trim point

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e)$$

Taylor series expansion

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e) + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_e) + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_e)$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e) + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_e) + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_e)$$

Perturbed variables

$$\delta \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_e$$

$$\delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_e$$

$$\delta \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_e$$

Jacobian

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot \delta \mathbf{x} + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}$$

$$\delta \mathbf{y} = \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot \delta \mathbf{x} + \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{u}_e} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}$$

Linear system

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \delta \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}$$

$$\delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C} \cdot \delta \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{D} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}$$

State space format

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}$$

The controller

$$\delta \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_e \Rightarrow \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_e + \delta \mathbf{u}$$

Trimming the F16 Aircraft

State for the longitudinal dynamics

$$\mathbf{x} = [h \quad \theta \quad v \quad \alpha \quad q]^T$$

Trim point

$$\mathbf{x} = [15000 \quad 0.046492 \quad 600 \quad 0.046492 \quad 0]^T$$

Stability derivative matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 600 & 2.9557e-013 & -600 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.00011042 & -32.17 & -0.011313 & 3.8334 & -0.65696 \\ 1.7359e-006 & -1.1714e-013 & -0.00017784 & -0.76788 & 0.9396 \\ 2.8715e-020 & 0 & -2.942e-018 & -2.251 & -1.0462 \end{bmatrix}$$

Control derivative matrix

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0.0015683 & 0.1448 \\ -1.2161e-007 & -0.0016222 \\ 0 & -0.16416 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigen values

$$\begin{aligned} & -0.90832 + 1.4472i \\ & -0.90832 - 1.4472i \\ & -0.0043859 + 0.072077i \\ & -0.0043859 - 0.072077i \\ & 8.1796e-014 \end{aligned}$$

Analyzing the Longitudinal Motion

	Eigen Value	Damping ratio	Natural freq
Short period mode	-0.90832 + 1.4472i	0.5325	1.70863
	-0.90832 - 1.4472i	0.5325	1.70863

	Eigen Value	Damping ratio	Natural freq
Phugoid mode	-0.0043859 + 0.072077i	6.07e - 002	7.22e - 002
	-0.0043859 - 0.072077i	6.07e - 002	7.22e - 002

Altitude Characterization

Transfer function

$$\frac{h(s)}{\delta_e(s)} = \frac{4.441e^{-015} s^4 + 0.9733 s^3 - 4.905 s^2 - 73.47 s - 0.2997}{s^5 + 1.825 s^4 + 2.941 s^3 + 0.03508 s^2 + 0.01522 s - 1.245e^{-015}}$$

Poles and zero configuration

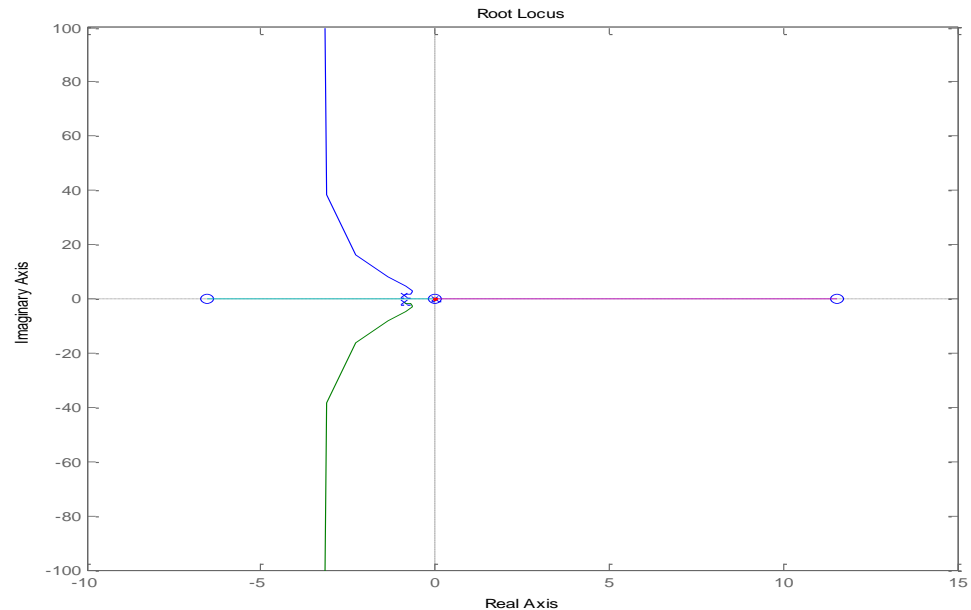
Poles

- 0.90832+ 1.4472i
- 0.90832- 1.4472i
- 0.0043859+ 0.072077i
- 0.0043859- 0.072077i
- 8.1796e-014

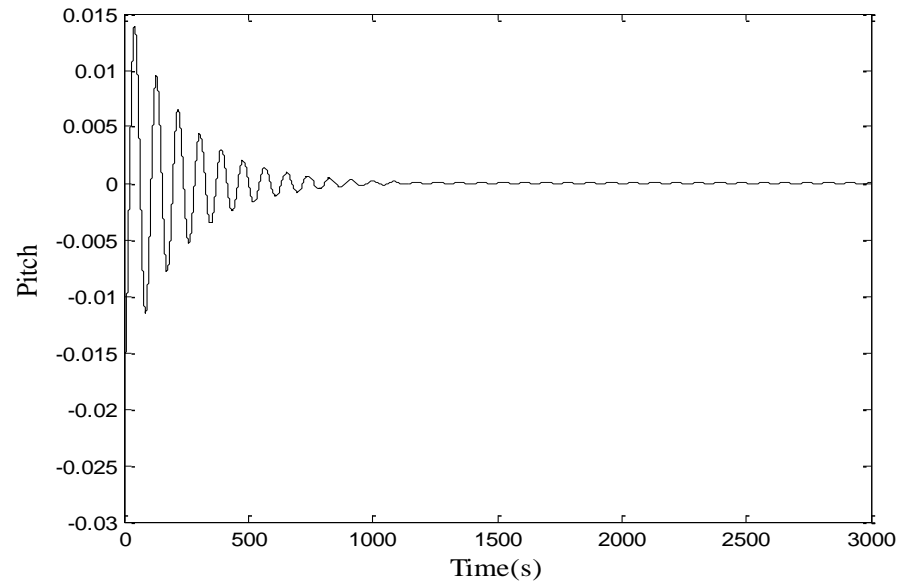
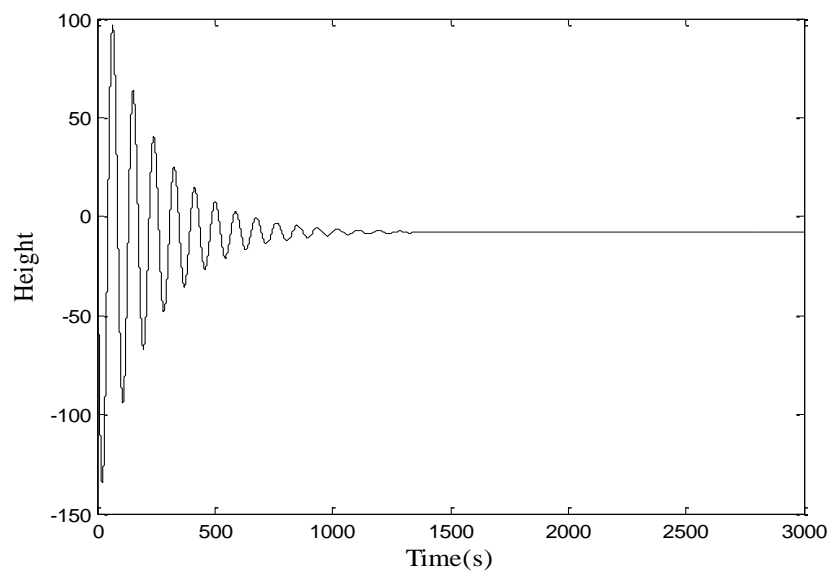
Zeros

- 2.1918e+014
- 11.567
- 6.5239
- 0.0040803

Root locus



Altitude Characterization Contd: Impulse Response



Pitch Characterization

Transfer function $\frac{\theta(s)}{\delta_e(s)} = \frac{3.553e-015 s^4 - 0.1642 s^3 - 0.1243 s^2 - 0.00161 s + 9.121e-017}{s^5 + 1.825 s^4 + 2.941 s^3 + 0.03508 s^2 + 0.01522 s - 1.245e-015}$

Poles and zero configuration

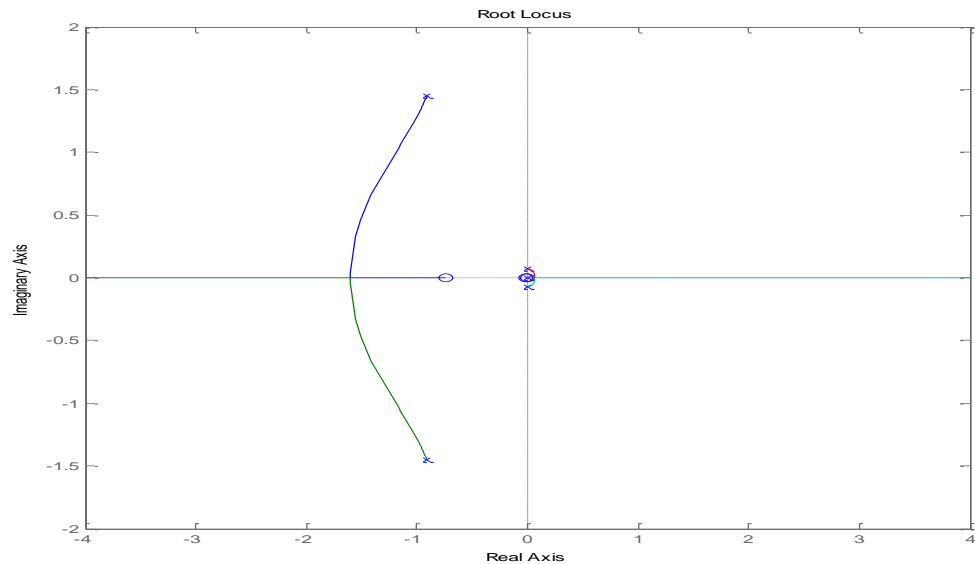
Poles

-0.90832+ 1.4472i
-0.90832- 1.4472i
-0.0043859+ 0.072077i
-0.0043859- 0.072077i
8.1796e-014

Zeros

4.6207e+013
-0.74377
-0.013184
5.6661e-014

Root locus



Controller Design Techniques: Pole Placement

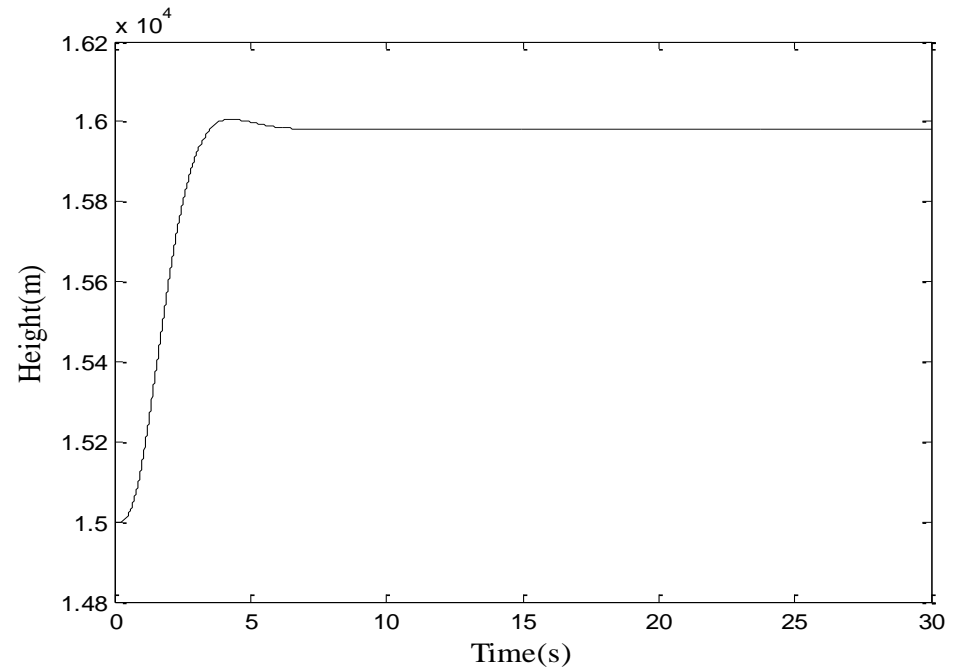
Controller

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}$$

Altitude tracking

Selected poles

$$\mathbf{p} = [-1+1j \quad -1-1j \quad -2 \quad -3 \quad -0.00407995]$$



Pole Placement Contd.

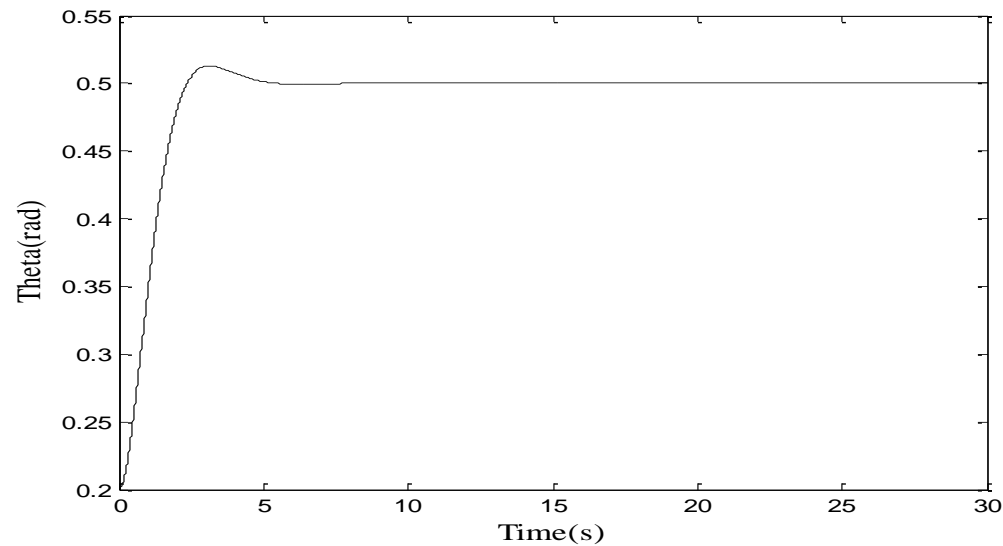
Controller design

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}$$

Pitch tracking

Selected poles

$$\mathbf{p} = [-1+1j \quad -1-1j \quad -0.013184 \quad -5.6661e-014 \quad -0.74377]$$



State Feedback with Input Gain

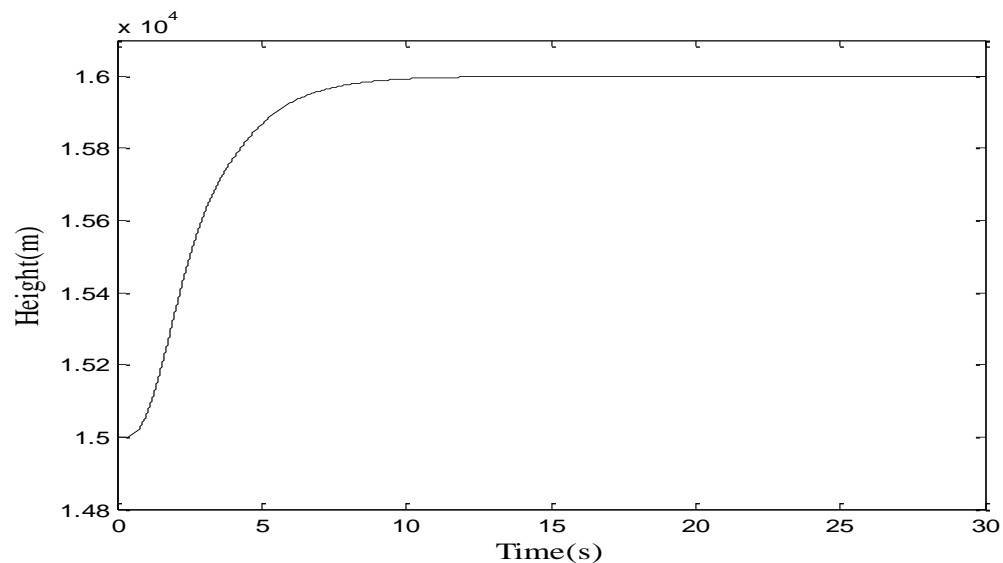
Gain

$$\mathbf{G} = -[\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{BK})^{-1}\mathbf{B}]^{-1}$$

Altitude tracking

Selected poles

$$\mathbf{p} = [-2+1j \quad -2-1j \quad -2 \quad -3 \quad -0.00407995]$$

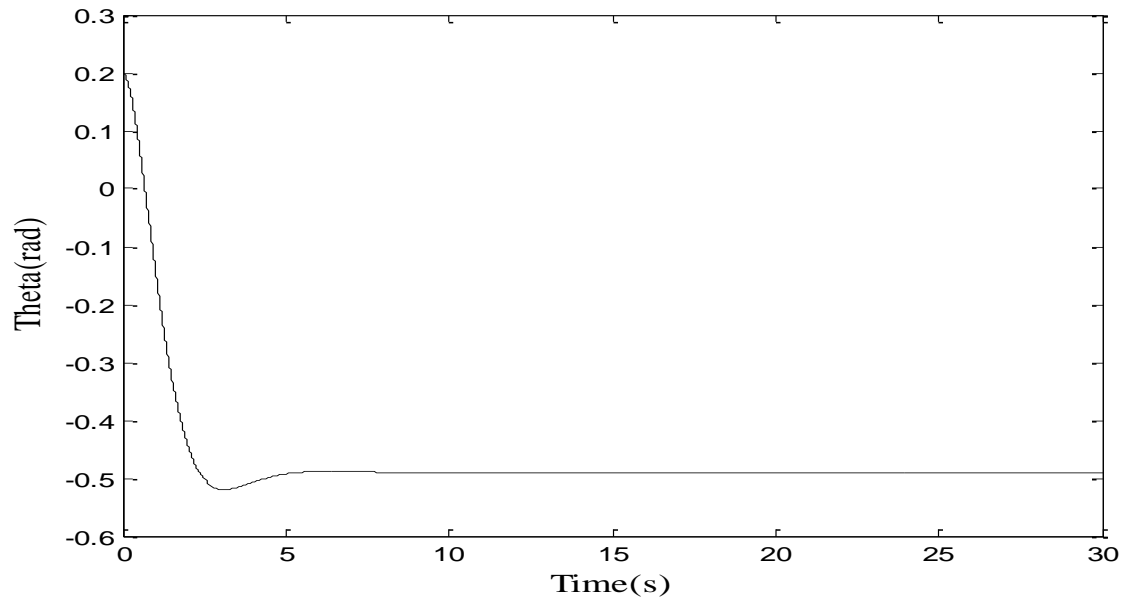


State Feedback with Input Gain Contd.

Gain

$$\mathbf{G} = -[\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{BK})^{-1}\mathbf{B}]^{-1}$$

Pitch tracking



State Feedback with Integral Action

Controller

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}(t) + k_I \xi(t)$$

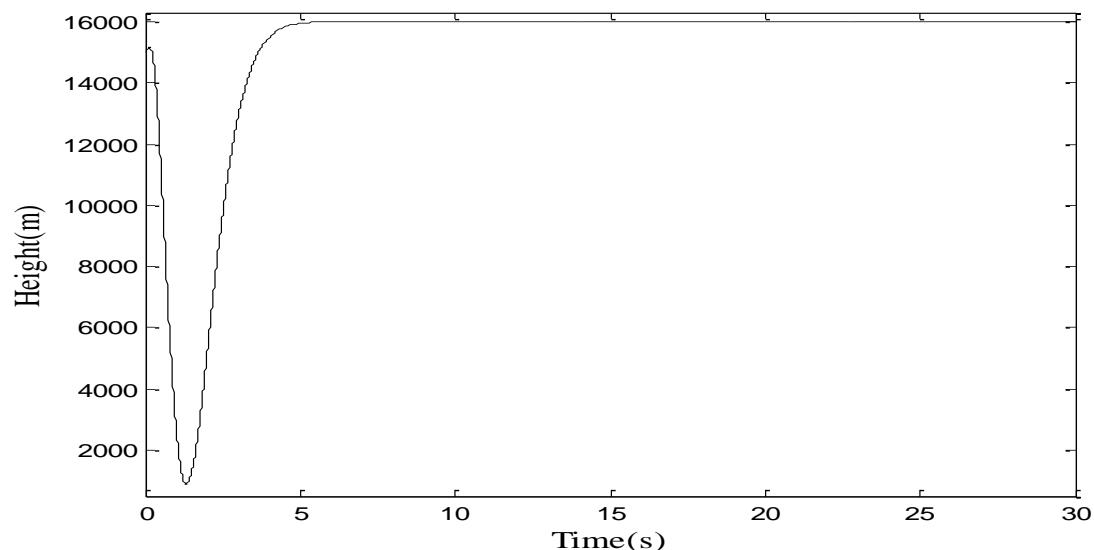
System

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) \\ \dot{\xi}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & 0 \\ -\mathbf{C} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(t) \\ \xi(t) \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} [\mathbf{K} \quad -k_I]$$

Gain

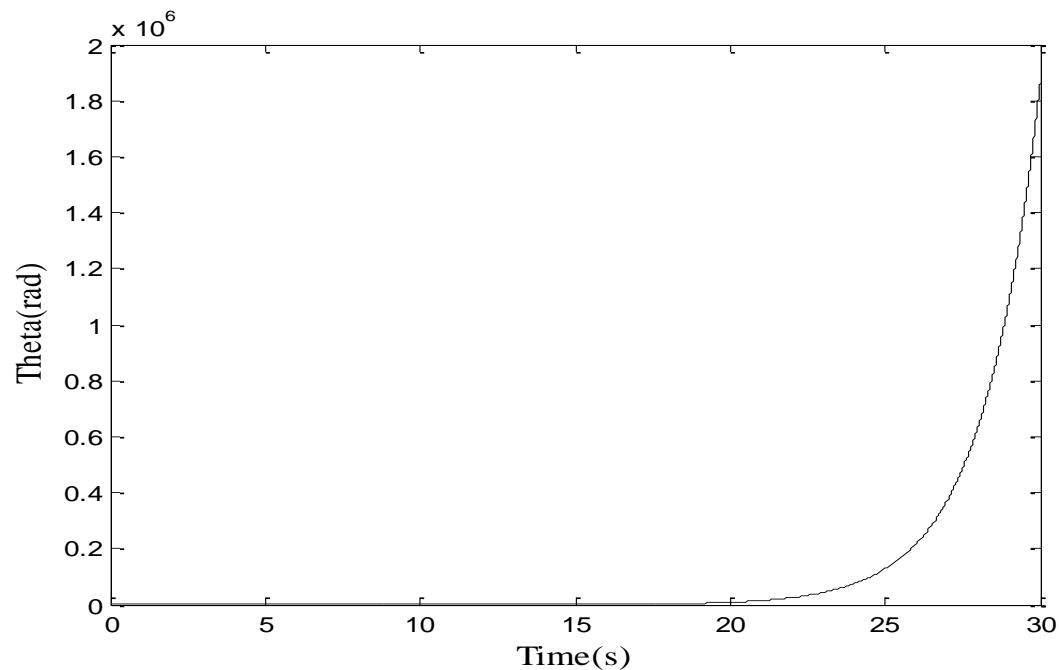
$$\mathbf{k}^* = [\mathbf{K} \quad -k_I]$$

Altitude tracking



State Feedback with Integral Action Contd.

Pitch tracking



LQR Controller Design with Integral Action

System

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t)$$

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}(t)$$

Augmented state

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = [\mathbf{x}(t) \quad \omega(t)]^T$$

Augmented system

$$\dot{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}(t) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & 0 \\ -\mathbf{C} & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\hat{\mathbf{A}}} \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\hat{\mathbf{B}}} \mathbf{u} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}}_d$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \underbrace{[\mathbf{C} \quad 0]}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}} \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

Cost function

$$J = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y}(t_f) - \mathbf{r}(t_f))^T \mathbf{P}_y (\mathbf{y}(t_f) - \mathbf{r}(t_f)) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}(t_f)^T \mathbf{P}_w \mathbf{w}(t_f) +$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{t_f} [(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{r})^T \mathbf{Q}_y (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{r}) + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{Q}_w \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}] dt$$

Control input

$$\mathbf{u}(t) = -\hat{\mathbf{K}}(t)\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t) + \mathbf{K}_r r$$

Ricatti equation

$$0 = \hat{\mathbf{Q}} + \mathbf{A}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}} + \hat{\mathbf{S}} \hat{\mathbf{A}} - \hat{\mathbf{S}} \hat{\mathbf{B}} \hat{\mathbf{R}}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{B}}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$

All the parameters are defined as

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}}(t) = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{B}}^T \hat{\mathbf{S}}(t)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{Q}_y \mathbf{C} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{Q}_w \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{K}_r = [\mathbf{G}^2 \quad -\mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{Q}_y]$$

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{B}}^T [(\hat{\mathbf{A}} - \hat{\mathbf{B}} \hat{\mathbf{K}})^T]^{-1} \\ = [\mathbf{W}_{(n_u \times n_x)}^{(1)} \quad \mathbf{W}_{(n_u \times n_x)}^{(2)}] n_u \times (n_x + n_y)$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{B}}^T [(\hat{\mathbf{A}} - \hat{\mathbf{B}} \hat{\mathbf{K}})^T]^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{S}} \\ = [\mathbf{G}_{(n_u \times n_x)}^{(1)} \quad \mathbf{G}_{(n_u \times n_y)}^{(2)}] n_u \times (n_x + n_y)$$

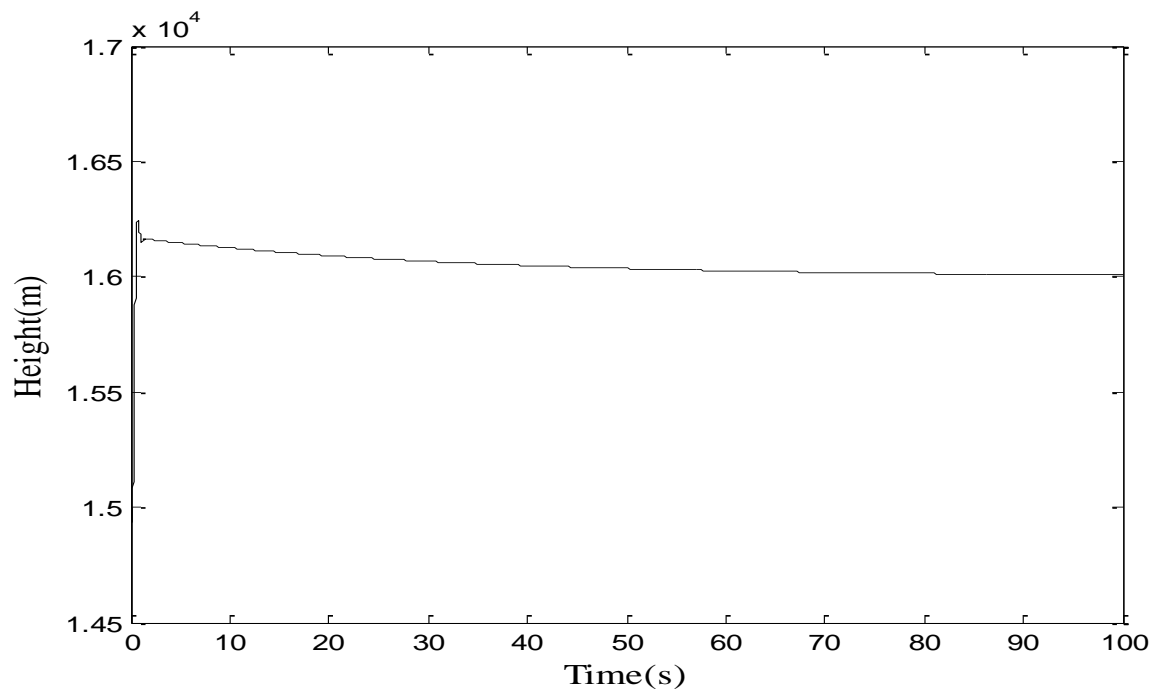
$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} = [\mathbf{K}_x \quad \mathbf{K}_w]$$

Control input

$$\mathbf{u} = -[\mathbf{K}_x \quad \mathbf{K}_w] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{K}_r r$$

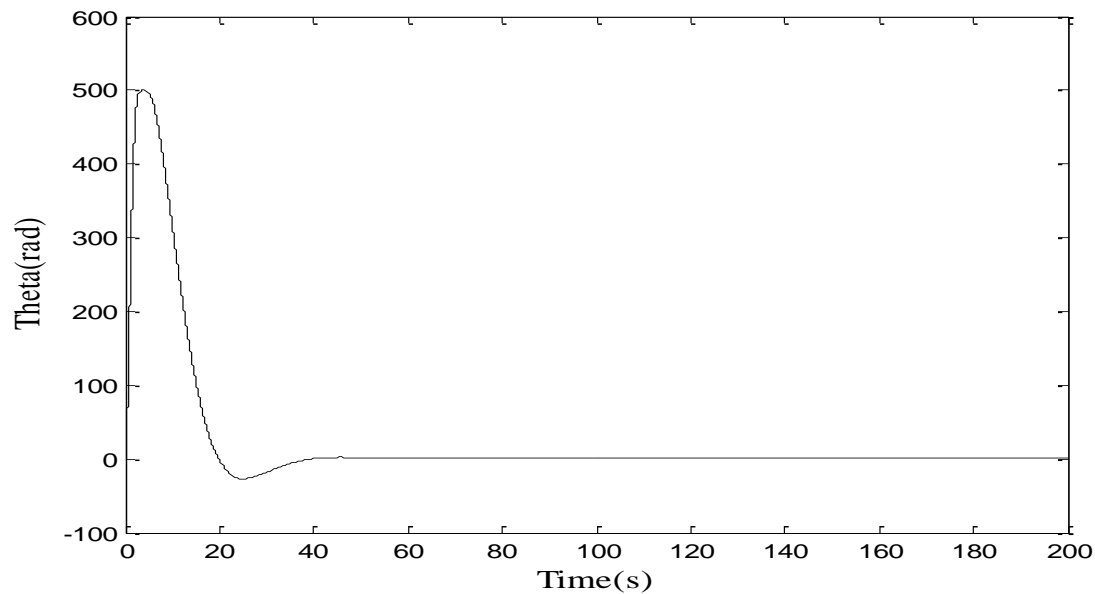
LQR with Integral Action Contd.

Altitude tracking



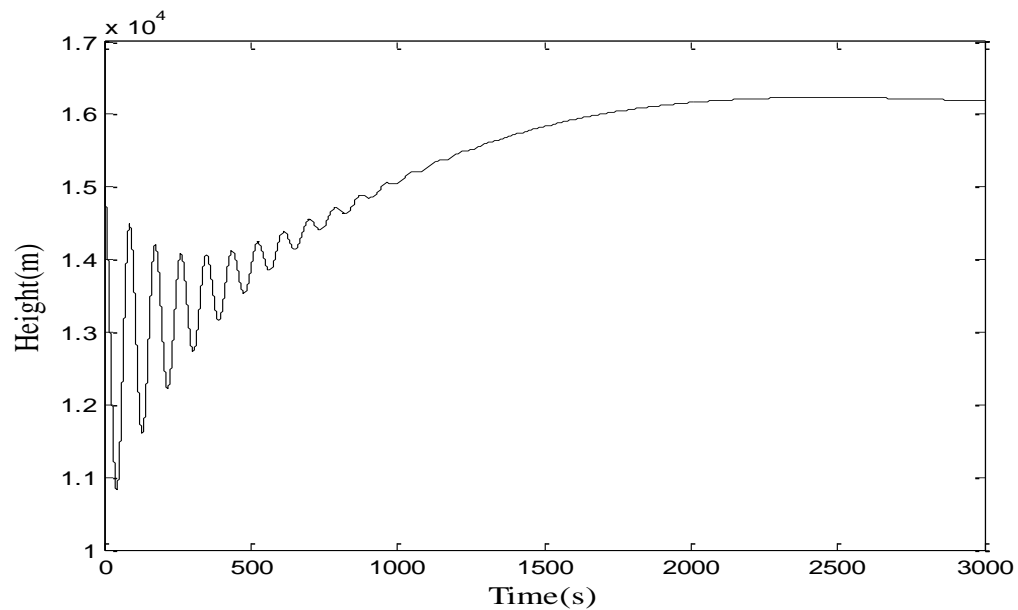
LQR with Integral Action Contd.

Pitch tracking



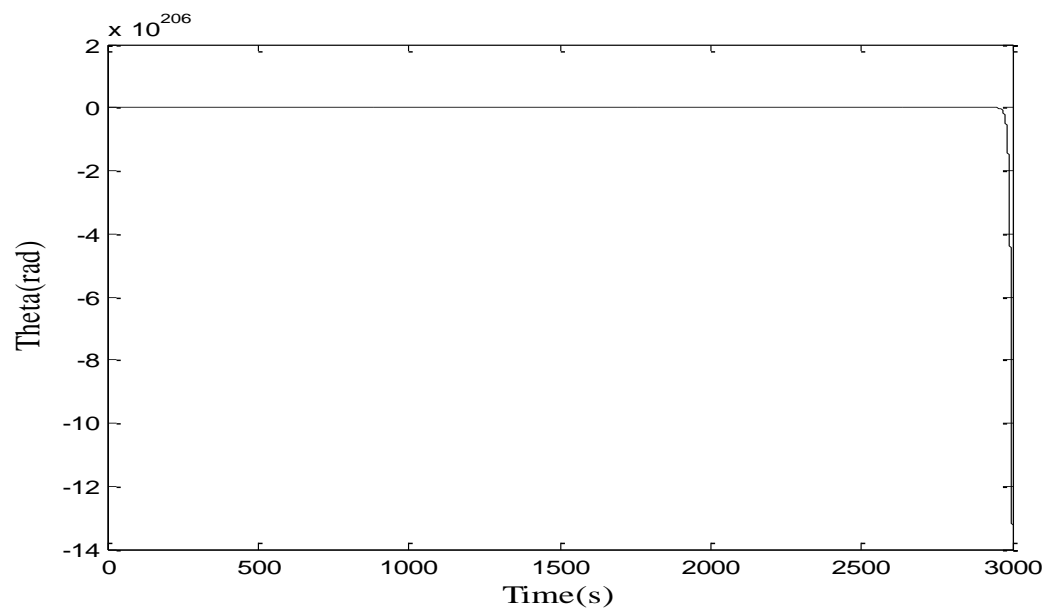
PID Controller

Altitude tracking



PID Controller

Pitch tracking



Input Output Linearization

System

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{x}} &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})\end{aligned}$$

First integration

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{y}_i &= \frac{\partial h_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial h_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u}\} \\ &= \frac{\partial h_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\partial h_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u} \\ &= L_{\mathbf{f}} h_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^m L_{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j} h_i(\mathbf{x}) u_j\end{aligned}$$

Final output

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1^{r_1} \\ \vdots \\ y_p^{r_p} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{\mathbf{f}}^{r_1} h_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ L_{\mathbf{f}}^{r_p} h_p(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^m L_{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j} L_{\mathbf{f}}^{r_1-1} h_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{j=1}^m L_{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_j} L_{\mathbf{f}}^{r_p-1} h_p(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}_{p \times m} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_m \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1}$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{(r)} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u}$$

Control input

$$\mathbf{u} = \left\{ (\mathbf{E}^T \mathbf{E})^{-1} \mathbf{E}^T \right\} (\tilde{\mathbf{v}} - \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}))$$

Linearized equation

$$\mathbf{y}^{(r)} = \tilde{\mathbf{v}}$$

Tracking error

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{y}_r - \mathbf{y}$$

Control law

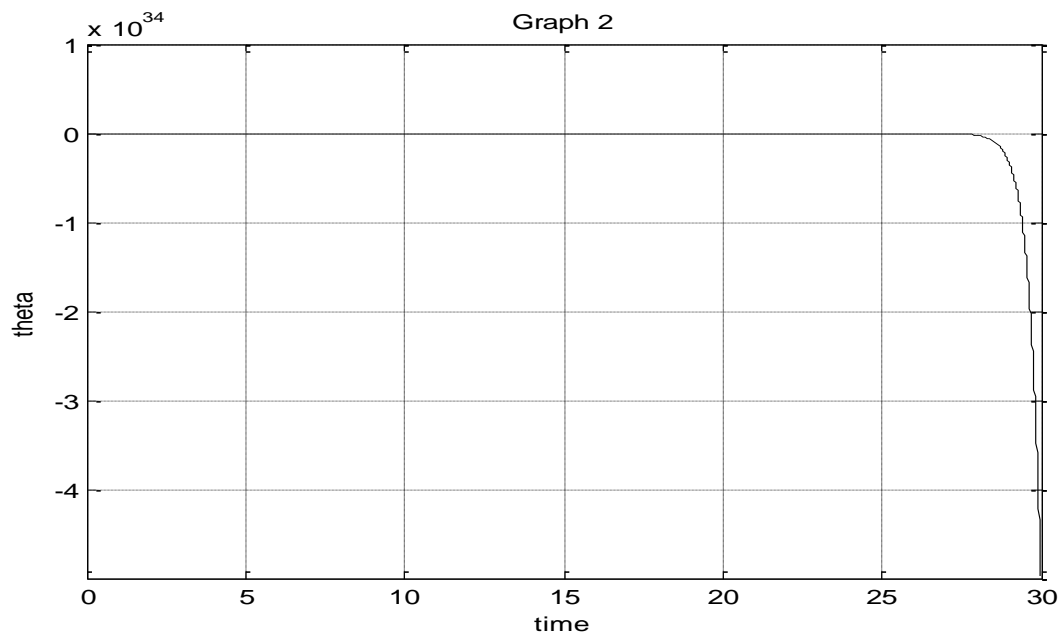
$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{y}_r^{(r)} + \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{e}^{(r-1)} + \dots + \mathbf{K}_{r-1} \dot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_r \mathbf{e}$$

Error dynamics

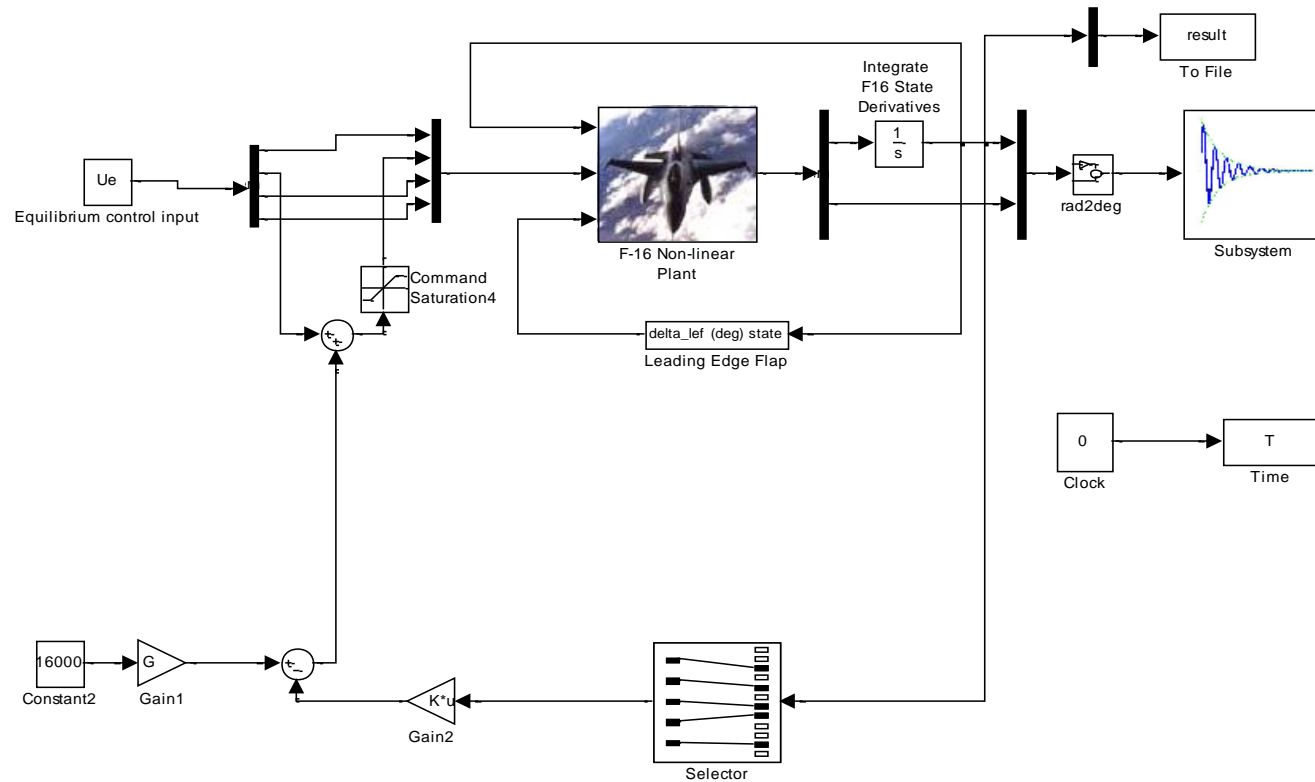
$$\mathbf{e}^{(r)} + \mathbf{K}_1 \mathbf{e}^{(r-1)} + \dots + \mathbf{K}_{r-1} \dot{\mathbf{e}} + \mathbf{K}_r \mathbf{e} = 0$$

Input Output Linearization Contd.

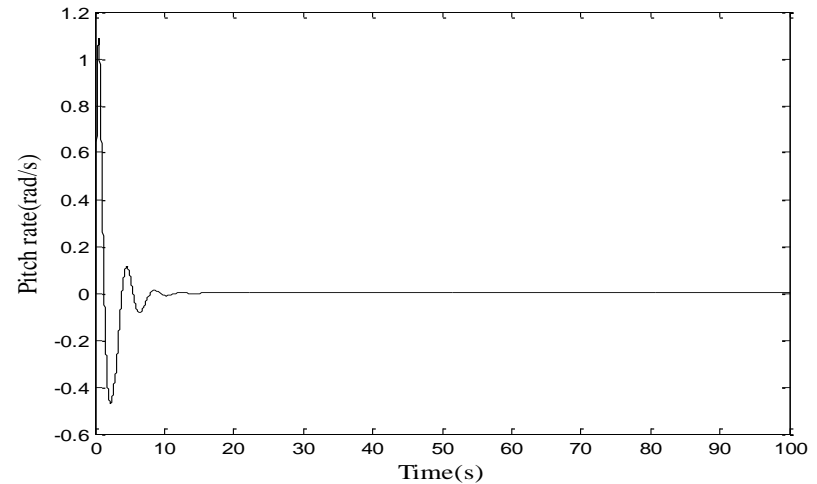
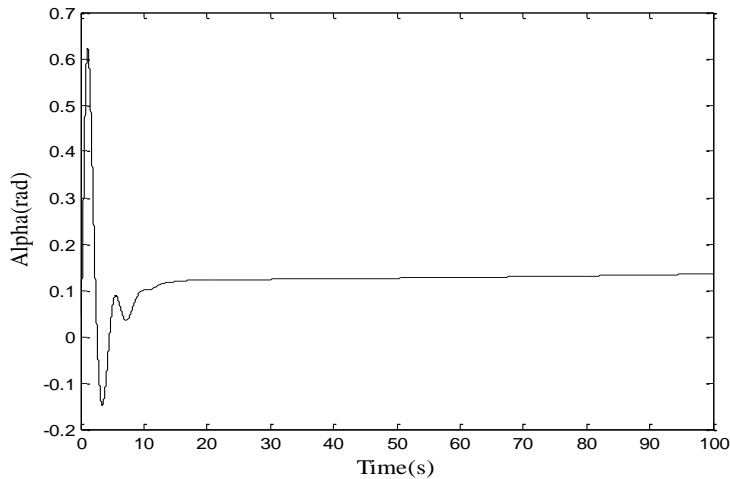
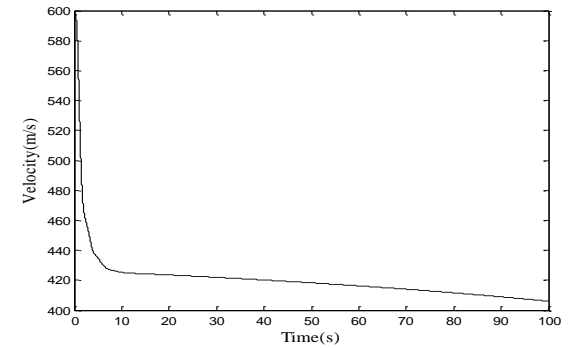
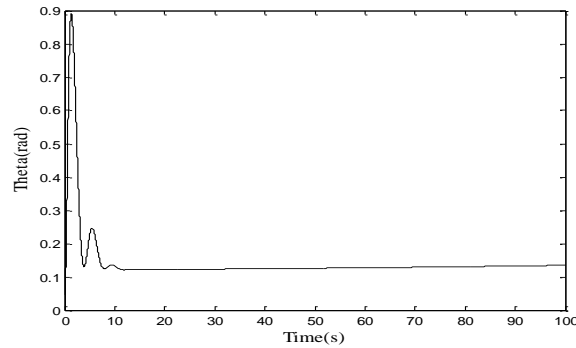
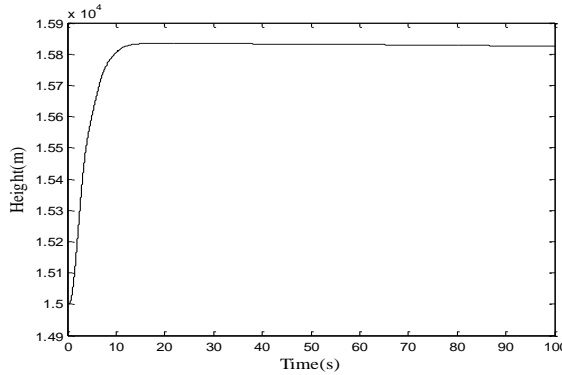
Pitch tracking



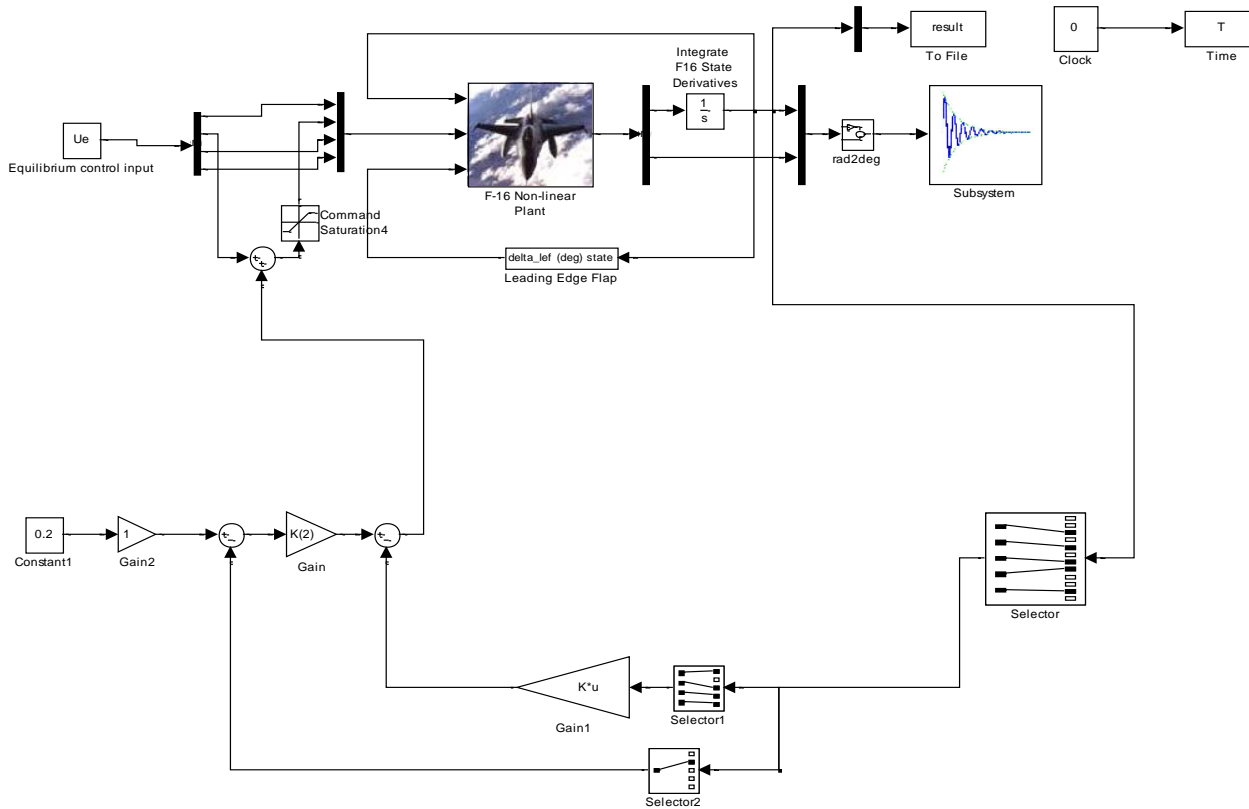
Auto Pilot Design: Altitude Tracking



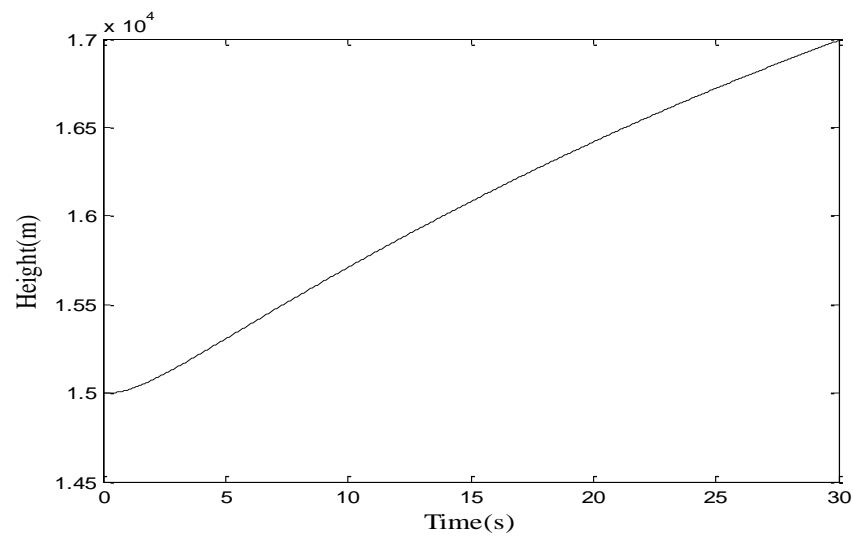
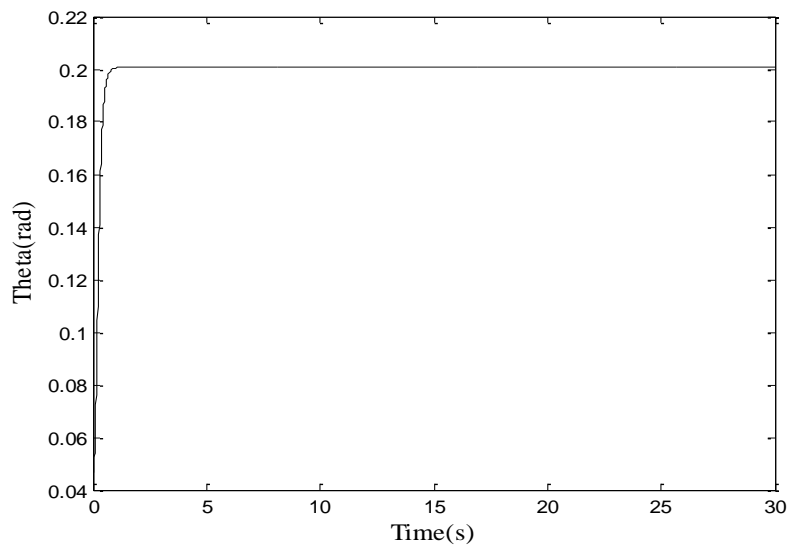
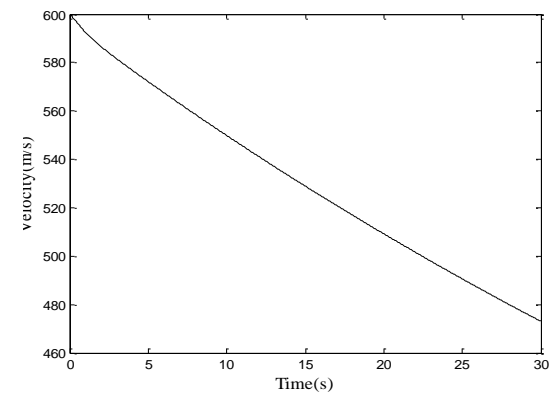
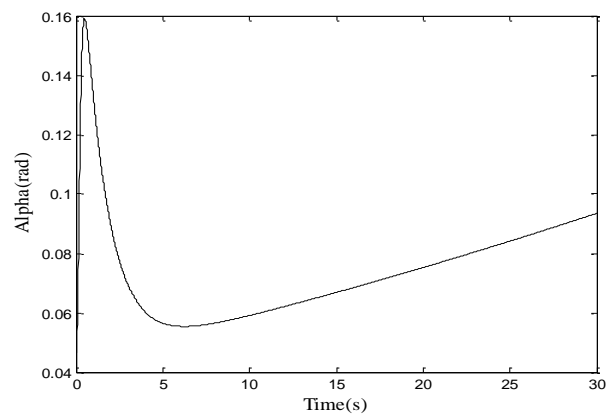
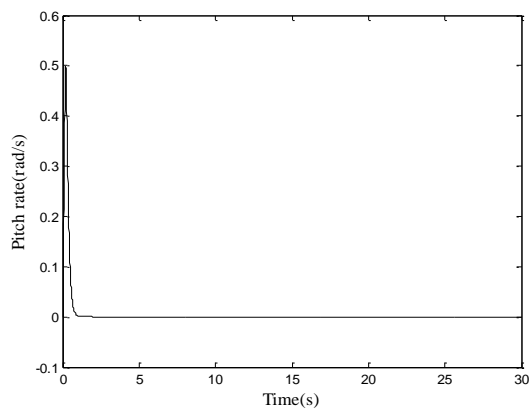
Results: Altitude Tracking



Auto Pilot Design: Pitch Tracking



Results: Pitch Tracking



Conclusion

- ❖ Altitude tracking and pitch tracking is achieved with elevator input
- ❖ Six different controllers were tried to find the best controller that achieves the desired result when applied to the nonlinear F16 dynamics
- ❖ Altitude tracking is achieved with state feedback with input gain controller that eliminates steady state error
- ❖ Pitch hold is achieved with pole placement controller

Future Work

- ❖ Trim the system at various trim points and find various gains to increase the operating region (Gain Scheduling)
- ❖ Analyzing the motion in lateral direction
- ❖ Analyzing and develop controllers for the nonlinear system instead of linearizing the system at a trim point
Ex: Dynamic feedback linearization(input- state feedback), Sliding mode controller, back stepping controller or adaptive robust controller
- ❖ Experimental verification and implementation of the F16 aircraft

Group Contribution

Gunneet Singh 100%

Manuel Vergara 100%

Sivaram Wijenddra 100%

Thank you