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Modeling Nonlinear Physical Systems in a Real-Time Operating System Environment for Control and Cyber Threat Mitigation



Abstract: - Nonlinearity control and interconnection between physical systems are essential for many contemporary systems. Cyber Physical systems came about because of the growing number of security concerns with network control systems. Nonlinear physical systems are the primary subject of this study's investigation into control and cyber threat mitigation. Nonlinear physical systems are the focus of this study, which also delves into their control, modelling, and real-time implementation. Here, physical systems are defined as two kinds of benchmark nonlinear robotic systems: the Segway transporter and the cruise control system. Many see the Segway as an unstable and nonlinear physical system. By factoring in kinetic and potential energy, Lagrangian dynamics has allowed for the derivation of equations of motion. Next, a state-space model of the system is obtained by linearizing the nonlinear differential equations using Taylor series expansion of functions. This model is then transformed into two transfer functions, one for the tilt angle and one for the yaw angle. The Model Predictive Controller (MPC), GA Tuned PID, and PID are the building blocks of MATLAB's effective simulation study of nonlinear control.

Keywords: Nonlinear control, Cyber-physical systems, Networked control systems, Model predictive control (MPC), Genetic algorithm (GA)

I. INTRODUCTION

Modern times have seen widespread use of wireless control and network connection across all industries in response to rising automation needs. The hardware manufacturing side also develops advanced processors that provide data exchange and online control in all relevant domains. These processors have various features like SPI, I2C, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, and IOT, among others. They are based on ultra large scale technology. Therefore, to combat the growing issues caused by open public networks, it is becoming more necessary to enhance the control engineering. Cyberattacks describe these kinds of issues. It is of the utmost importance that nonlinear systems

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with network connection be secure. The focus of several academic institutions shifted to cyber assaults on control systems[1][2].

Attacks like this disrupt physical processes and control parameters via the communication infrastructure, piquing the interest of young researchers in creating tactics for attacks, methods for detecting and preventing cyberattacks, and other related fields. The cyber dangers to nonlinear systems and how to manage them are the subjects of this study [3].

Nonlinear System and Design Analysis

The world's real-time processes are inherently complicated and nonlinear. There are several limits and equilibrium points in these systems. A nonlinear system whose fluctuations vary in relation to the input frequency in multiples or submultiples; it may also generate complete periodic oscillations with frequencies that are not multiples of each other [4]. To a large extent, nonlinear analysis relies on seeing how systems behave around their equilibrium points. To study nonlinear systems' behaviour, linearization is done around a stable operating point. Many frequently seen events cannot be well described by the dynamics of linear systems [5]. Using an upper triangular matrix configuration, the forwarding technique performs a repeating control design approach for nonlinear systems.

In order to acquire the feedback link between the systems that meets the minimal gain criteria, this design approach carefully selects the variables. Developing the correct cross term is a hard process, making Lyapunov techniques fundamentally very difficult [6]. A lower triangular matrix structure is also used in the Back-stepping technique to accomplish a repeating control design practice for nonlinear systems. The idea that unique buildings, such as half-upper and half-lower structures, might also benefit from interwoven designs is naive [7]. You may think of sliding mode control as a repeating design technique, much as the backstepping procedure. A distinct rapid time scale is taken into account for the ignored high frequency phenomena in solitary perturbations. A change in the dynamical order of a system with differential conditions is treated as a parameter perturbation to achieve this effect [8].

Cyber Physical System

Cyber Physical Systems (CPS) are the result of integrating cyber-based infrastructure (such as networks or Wi-Fi) with physical-based infrastructure (such as automobiles or process computers). It is difficult to examine and configure these behaviours due to their inherent interconnectedness, variety, and mix. Cyber physical system analysis and design should be possible with the use of simulation or design tools that can simulate complicated or hybrid behaviours with cyber components, as well as scenarios with disturbances and other external phenomena like time delays [8]. Many branches of engineering, including mechatronics, embedded systems, and control systems, have recently contributed to cyber physical system (CPS) research. According to Wayne Wolf (2009), CPS is energetically engaged with the actual environment in real time. More work goes into creating cyber physical systems, which necessitates hybrid design and simulation technology. Robots that make up cyber physical systems integrate and coordinate various software modules with actual robots, as well as various hardware and software resources [9]. Any cyberphysical system having an intelligent agent that negotiates to work with others to complete a shared task is considered a collaborative embedded system. Numerous future uses, including transportation, housework, and more, may make use of cyber physical system robots [10]. One promising new area of technology is the intricate closed-loop control system, which relies on the coordinated efforts of both physical and computational entities via networked communications[11][12]. Mechanical autonomy and sensing systems are key to the notion. The interconnection between computers and physical components will be improved by future scientific and design advances, leading to digital physical frameworks that are much easier to use, more versatile, self-governing, efficient, helpful, reliable, and secure [13]. Cyber physical frameworks will be able to do more in many areas as a result. These areas include nano-level assembly, mediation (like impact evasion), accuracy (like automated surgery), work in dangerous or hard-to-reach places (like inquiry and protect, fire fighting, and remote ocean investigation), coordination (like aviation control, war fighting), productivity (like zero-net vitality structures), and human capacity enhancement (like health monitoring and control) [14].

II. OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH WORK.

According to the present state of the art in research, Cyber Physical Systems (CPS) are quickly becoming the standard for embedded systems of the future. Mechatronics, embedded systems, control systems, and other branches of engineering are all involved. A nonlinear physical system is the backbone of a cyber physical system, which includes cyber security characteristics and interacts with the physical environment in real time using energy. Due to the need of hybrid technologies for both design and simulation, the development and management of nonlinear physical systems are exceedingly complex[15][16]. Autonomous robotics, nonlinearity control, sensor networks, and intelligent mechanisms in industrial automation are all closely related to the CPS, which greatly improves the system's adaptability, competence, dependability, and security.

Nonlinear robotic systems are the focus of this study, which looks at their modelling, control, and real-time implementation. Here we are talking about physical systems, and two examples of these are the Segway transporter (a two-wheeled inverted pendulum) and the cruise control system. There are a number of equilibrium points and limit cycles in these nonlinear systems. Typically, analysis is performed after linearizing the majority of the nonlinear system equations around a stable operating point. Because they need complex control techniques in conjunction with unparalleled Mechatronics developments, research into two-wheeled mobile robots has significantly ramped up.

In control engineering, a wheeled inverted pendulum is considered a classic benchmark complicated system due to its instability and nonlinearity [17]. The primary parts of physical systems, including plants, sensors, and actuators, are the focus of physical modelling. Reviewing the literature revealed that the majority of people were relying only on the tilt angle for system stabilisation and control. With some limitations, this study has examined both the tilt angle and the yaw angle. Additionally, it delves into the stability of the system by using different approaches, simulations, and the way controllers like PID, Model Predictive Controller, and Genetic Algorithm Based PID are implemented in real-time. This study also introduces online optimisation utilising the APMonitor tool via the Arduino processor, as real-time implementation of MPC is a lengthy operation [18]. In order to create an autonomous and adaptable model, several researchers and scientists have recently conducted unique investigations into the cruise control mechanism for autonomous robotics and cars. To put it simply, the Cruise Control System (CCS) is an extremely non-determinant and non-linear system. It uses sensors and actuators to keep cars at a safe distance from one another and automatically adjusts their speed according to the input value. Using a conventional PID control technique to regulate the CCS under optimal conditions is next to impossible [19]. Therefore, sophisticated intelligent control systems are required. Networked Control Systems are communication networks that provide feedback information among member systems in packet form and function as a closed control loop for all networked systems. Conventional control system design relies on the system's ability to function normally in the absence of threats [20]. Potential security risks to vital infrastructures have arisen as a result of the integration of control systems with contemporary information technologies. Because an assault on the controller brings the whole system crashing down, the control mechanism is quite susceptible to several kinds of assaults. There is a possibility that they are on the communication networks, the facility, or the controller. Malicious jamming and Denial-of-Service (DOS) assaults may compromise the control system's communication channels, resulting in significant delays and a decline in control performances. When it comes to protecting public healthcare, water management, industrial machinery, transportation, power zones, and robotics in a networked system, cyber security is paramount [7].

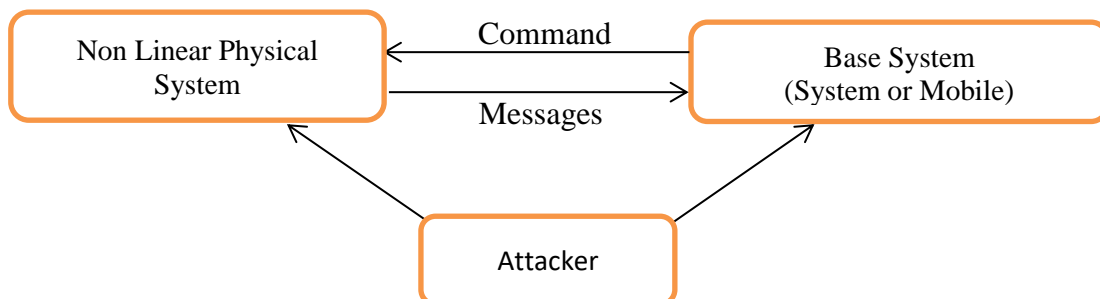


Figure1. Overview of Proposed Research Work

Cyberattacks target data stored in internet-connected devices, Wi-Fi networks, automated industrial machinery, robots, and other similar systems. A plethora of novel approaches are required for the detection of cyberattacks, their classification, and their prevention [9]. Common problems with data transmission in network control systems include delays and packet loss. Attacks such as Denial of Service, Fault Data Injection, and Time Delay Switched are often used against networked devices in cyberspace [10]. Data damage or abuse results from these assaults. Figure 1 shows the full research procedure.

Cyber Threats To Physical System

The contemporary transport system has seen tremendous infrastructure expansion. With the aid of embedded processors, the majority of automotive components are now becoming autonomous. V2V, or vehicle-to-vehicle communication, is a novel technology that allows cars to talk to each other and prevent collisions. That is why it's crucial to provide the cars with network connection throughout production. In common parlance, these vehicles and robots are called physical systems [11].

Anyone may get unauthorised access to these physical systems because of network connection. Those who gain unauthorised access to physical systems are posing a cyber hazard. As a result, Cyber Physical Systems (CPS) have emerged to address the dual needs of controlling vehicle behaviour and eliminating cyber attacks. Theoretical frameworks and practical applications of CPS face enormous challenges [12].

The objective of this investigation is to provide a more up-to-date understanding of this emerging interdisciplinary approach. Incorporating control engineering, networking, embedded systems, and mechatronics to operate, CPS is characterised as a framework. It is common practice to use a closed-loop system for monitoring, estimating, and regulating physical processes. Cyber risks might eventually impact every physical process step. The two worlds are not merging, but there is a close relationship between the cyber and physical realms, which must be acknowledged when discussing coordination [13][14]. Consequently, comprehending the combined dynamics of physical processes, computers, software, and networks forms the basis of the CPS's analysis and design.

Cyber Attacks

Manufacturing, transportation, robots, and space exploration are just a few of the many fields that benefit from control engineering. Designing and developing Network Control Systems (NCS) is a result of connecting and communicating amongst the systems. This network control raises serious security concerns, which many experts find to be a major challenge. When it comes to protecting common infrastructure and industrial machinery, security is a major concern in the NCS [15]. Industries including as power generation, healthcare, manufacturing, and the military are particularly vulnerable to assaults.

The regular operation of many common designs in control engineering, free from any threats, is assumed. However, in this case, the system's responsiveness can be compromised and it might become unstable due to a delay or cyberattack on any component, such as sensors, controllers, actuators, etc. [16].

Denial of Service Attack

When an attacker launches a denial of service attack, he or she unlawfully blocks access to a server, website, or network resource, either momentarily or permanently [17]. In order to overwhelm website servers, machine receivers, or target resources, this attack is often carried out by sending an excessive number of requests. The first requests sent by the client users cannot be processed as a result of this action. Denial of service attacks are ubiquitous and pervasive, and they may cause serious financial harm to everyone who uses the internet or who has their online banking compromised.

Instead than taking over distant computers or stealing sensitive data like bank account numbers, a denial of service assault just disrupts service. In terms of the nature of communication on the internet, this assault is neither cracked nor hacked. The only goal of denial-of-service attacks is to disrupt the victim's services [8].

The victim will not be able to upload their information to the internet if there has been no effort to remove the assault from that location. Consequently, denial-of-service attacks are a kind of vandalism in the context of online services. It begins by trying to disrupt internet connections in various ways by exploiting a vulnerability in the IP protocol stack. That may be accomplished by classifying DoS assaults according to their point of origin [9]. A

single host or a small group of hosts in the same physical area often create the vast majority of normal denial-of-service assaults.

As a result of defects brought about by denial-of-service attacks, hosts are unable to respond to non-standard IP packets and may crash as a result. The data quantities involved in such an assault are often smaller. Anyway, with today's Internet connection, a denial-of-service assault isn't going to really harm premium services.

While denial-of-service attacks maintain the flow of information—typically sensor readings or control contributions—between subsystems, fake information injection attacks modify the payloads of packets to impact the data dependability of those packets[10].The DoS assault can withdraw administration or information from the controller to the plant or from the plant to the controller or both in the meantime. The general model of DOS attacks can be described as:

$$\tilde{y} = \begin{cases} y, & \textit{Otherwise} \\ \alpha, & \textit{Attack} \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha = 0$ or any random value

Time Delay Switched Attack

Time shifts in an input signal are known as delays, although they have no effect on the signal's properties. A further cyberattack variant known as a Time Delay Switched Attack (TDS) may be launched by manipulating the time delay. A time-dependent attack (TDS) is the most problematic kind of network control system because it alters the behaviour of control processes by inserting delays into them. All of the network's control mechanisms become unstable as a result of this as well [11].

The security and dependability of vital systems are put at risk when cyberattacks target CPS. Therefore, before CPSs can be broadly used, security must be addressed as a matter of utmost importance. Current CPS security approaches ignore the effects on physical systems in favour of cyberspace alone [12]. The physical domain may exhibit unexpected behaviour due to security measures, with the majority of these undesired tendencies emanating from CPS dynamic systems. Take cryptographic computation schemes as an example. They typically work with binary or non-negative integer data.

However, in control-theoretic systems like power systems, things like states and physical parameters are typically signed time series data generated by dynamic systems. This can cause unexpected system behaviour. Also, CPSs are always running, therefore how security measures affect them has a major bearing on how stable the system is overall [13].

In order to investigate the relationship between security methods and the stability of dynamic systems, it is necessary to thoroughly analyse the specific features of such systems. By simulating Denial-of-Service (DoS) and deception assaults, two of the most common types of cyber threats, we may evaluate how CPS security measures affect overall system reliability. In denial-of-service attacks, the attacker jams communication channels, but in deception attacks, data packets are manipulated[14].

The models are simulated using the TrueTime testbed, which is MATLAB-based. The TrueTime testbed is subjected to a CPS scenario in which an opponent launches denial-of-service and deception assaults. We create a security method using many cryptographic primitives based on the model's findings. As a further measure, we protect the CPS model against deception and DoS assaults using the indicated approach. Lastly, we quantify the effect on system stability and performance as well as compute the standard control performance indices of the proposed method to provide a control-theoretic view of security [15].

Mathematical Modelling of CPS Cyber Attacks

The closed-loop control system (CPS) is made up of many subsystems that are linked together via a communication network. Sensor data gathering, controller/actuator control, and network data transfer are the three main components of a CPS subsystem. The two most prevalent types of CPS cyberattacks, denial-of-service (DoS) and deception attacks, are discussed in this section. We formalise both assaults using mathematical formulas and discuss their properties.

At the Sending End (Secure Send)

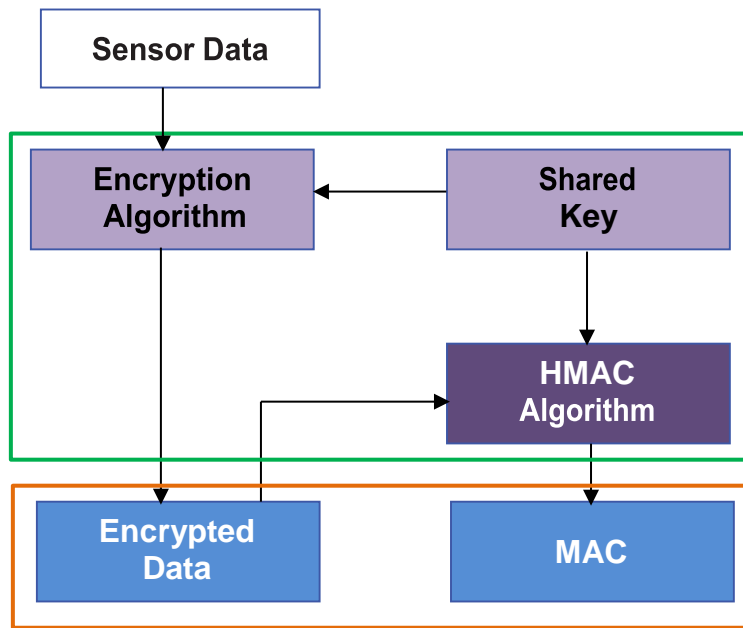


Figure 2: Security mechanism at the sending end

For ensuring confidentiality, the data exchanged among CPS blocks are encrypted. Towards ensuring data integrity, the message authentication code (MAC) is computed (Figure 2). MAC is computed from encrypted data using a shared secret key based on the keyed Hash Message Authentication Code (HMAC) algorithm. In our case, the HMAC-MD5 algorithm is used. MAC is appended with encrypted data, and the resulting packet is transmitted to the CPS controller

At the Receiving End (Secure Receive)

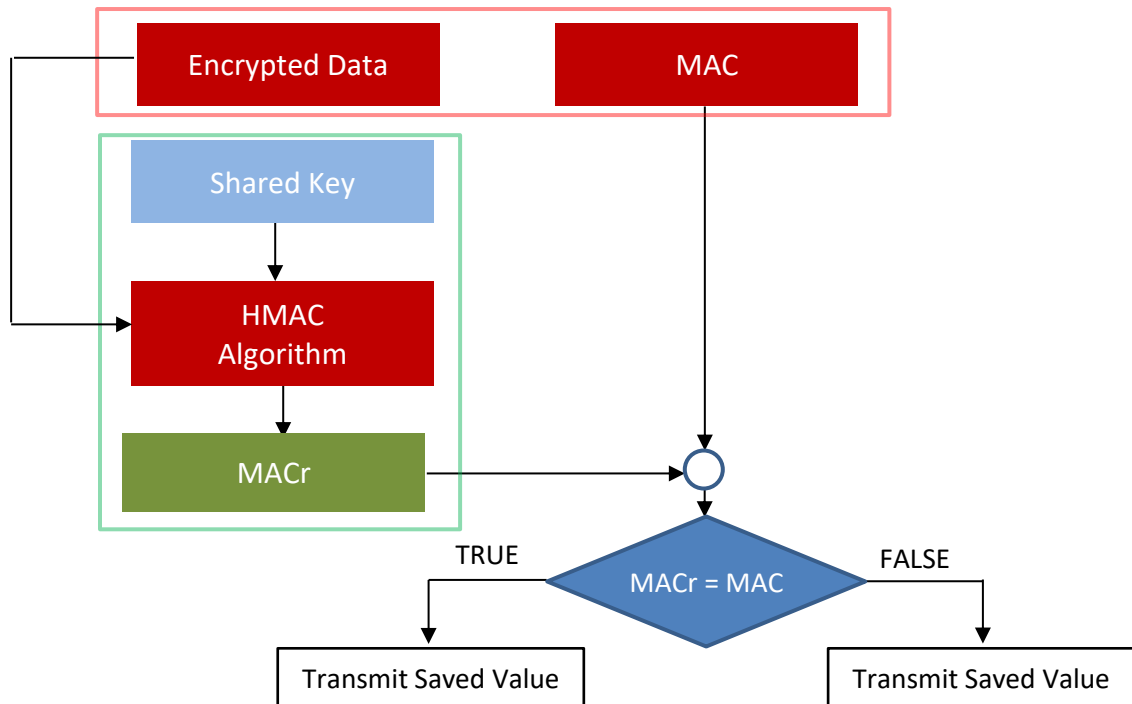


Figure 3: Security mechanism at the receiving end

At the receiving end, MAC and encrypted data are separated from the received packet (Figure 3). From the encrypted data, MAC is recomputed. To check for mismatches, the recomputed MAC is compared with the

received MAC. If no MAC mismatches are found, the data authenticity is ensured. Data is then transmitted to the controller and saved as “legitimate”. In the case of MAC mismatch, the packet is discarded. Now, the last legitimate data saved in the system is used instead. Thus, during attacks, the legitimate data packet saved in the system before the attack is transmitted to the controller.

In contemporary engineering landscapes, the intricate interplay between physical systems and their digital counterparts has become increasingly pervasive. The advent of cyber-physical systems (CPS) signifies the convergence of physical processes with computing and communication capabilities, creating a paradigm where control and network connectivity are paramount.

However, this integration brings forth a new set of challenges, particularly concerning the security and stability of these systems in the face of cyber threats. The necessity for robust control strategies for nonlinear physical systems within a networked environment has become more pronounced with the proliferation of interconnected devices. Nonlinearity in physical systems introduces complexities that demand sophisticated control methodologies to ensure stability and performance.

Moreover, the interconnected nature of these systems exposes them to cyber threats, necessitating the development of strategies for cyber threat mitigation. This research endeavors to address these challenges by investigating the modeling, control, and practical implementation of nonlinear physical systems within a real-time operating system (RTOS) environment.

The primary focus is twofold: to develop effective control strategies for nonlinear systems and to mitigate cyber threats that may compromise their operation and security.

III. SCOPE OF THE FUTURE WORK

When optimising the Segway system online, hackers pose a threat that might compromise the system's stability and reaction. The Observer-Based Event Triggered Model will provide the basis for the future design and implementation of a Resilient Cyber Defence Mechanism, which will help to minimise cyber attacks.

Cyber Physical Systems is a hot issue with potential applications in many other areas, such as Smart Agriculture, Industrial Control, Transportation, Power production and distribution, Military systems, and Automobiles. In the future, we may create more advanced algorithms to identify other types of cyber assaults, including DOS, TDS, and replay attacks.

The algorithms have been tested in both simulated and real-world environments. Additional goals of this study include developing and implementing highly secure novel control strategies for nonlinear physical systems.

IV. CONCLUSION

This study has provided a comprehensive overview of the methods used to model nonlinear physical systems dynamically, analyse their stability and control, and implement them in real time using embedded processors. Segway Robotic system findings show that Model Predictive Controller outperforms PID and GA-PID controllers in real-time and simulation. Additionally, when contrasted with other controllers, the MPC-based system's real-time gyro output has the lowest number of oscillations. The Nonlinear Physical Systems' protections are bolstered by this cyber security measure. The researchers and design engineers may now better comprehend the characteristics and real-world applications of cyber physical systems that combine nonlinear physical systems with cyber security, thanks to this study.

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