H∞ Control for a Class of Singularly Perturbed Nonlinear Systems via Successive Galerkin Approximation

Young-Joong Kim and Myo-Taeg Lim*

Abstract: This paper presents a new algorithm for the closed-loop $H_\infty$ control of a class of singularly perturbed nonlinear systems with an exogenous disturbance, using the successive Galerkin approximation (SGA). The singularly perturbed nonlinear system is decomposed into two subsystems of a slow-time scale and a fast-time scale in the spirit of the general theory of singular perturbation. Two $H_\infty$ control laws are obtained to each subsystem by using the SGA method. The composite control law that consists of two $H_\infty$ control laws of each subsystem is designed. One of the purposes of this paper is to design the closed-loop $H_\infty$ composite control law for the singularly perturbed nonlinear systems via the SGA method. The other is to reduce the computational complexity when the SGA method is applied to the high order systems.

Keywords: Composite control, $H_\infty$ control, nonlinear system, singular perturbation, successive Galerkin approximation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Many real physical systems are described by singularly perturbed nonlinear systems. Singularly perturbed systems include two or multi time scales and have been studied by many researchers [1-3]. In the class of optimal control [4], design of the control law for the singularly perturbed systems has ill-defined numerical problems [2,3]. To avoid these problems, the full order system is decomposed into reduced slow and fast subsystems, and then optimal control laws are designed for each subsystem. Thus, the near-optimal composite control law consists of two optimal sub-control laws.

Recently, robust control is issued and developed by many researchers for linear systems [5-7]. But in the class of nonlinear systems, because conditions for the solvability of the robust $H_\infty$ control design problem are hard, still there are a lot of problems to be developed [8,9]. For nonlinear systems, the $H_\infty$ optimal control problem is reduced to the solution of the Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaac (HJI) equation, which is a nonlinear partial differential equation (PDE) [10]. These equations may be solved analytically for some, but not for all cases of interest. On the other hand, the solution of a nonlinear PDE is extremely difficult to solve and so some researchers have searched for methods of obtaining its approximate solution. In this paper, the approximated solutions are obtained via the SGA method developed in [11,12].

However, the SGA method has the difficulty that the complexity of computations increases according to the system order. Therefore, the full order system is decomposed into the reduced order subsystems via singular perturbation theory and then two robust $H_\infty$ sub-control laws are designed for the corresponding slow and fast nonlinear systems using the SGA method, respectively. Then, the obtained closed-loop $H_\infty$ composite control law is represented by a linear combination of the slow and fast variables. The purpose of this paper is to design the closed-loop $H_\infty$ composite control laws for singularly perturbed nonlinear systems using the SGA method. In order to obtain the closed-loop $H_\infty$ control law for $n$-th order systems using the SGA method, one must compute $n$-tuple integrals, and the number of computations increases according to $n$. Singularly perturbed systems can be decomposed into two subsystems, and we can obtain two sub-control laws for each subsystem through the SGA method. Therefore, $n_1$ and $n_2$-tuple integrals are computed and the number of computations are decreased, where $n = n_1 + n_2$. Thus, the near-optimal $H_\infty$ composite control law consists of two optimal $H_\infty$ sub-control laws.

The contents of this paper are as follows. In Section 2, singularly perturbed nonlinear systems with respect
to performance criteria are studied. We define the Generalized-Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaac (GHJI) equations for each subsystem. The solutions of GHJI equations are obtained using the SGA method and the composite $H_\infty$ control law is designed. We present the new algorithm for $H_\infty$ composite control of singularly perturbed nonlinear systems using the SGA method. Section 3 gives our conclusion.

2. MAIN RESULTS

In this section, the $H_\infty$ sub-control laws are designed for each subsystem using the SGA method, and the closed-loop $H_\infty$ composite control law consists of two optimal control laws for each subsystem.

2.1. $H_\infty$ composite control for singularly perturbed nonlinear systems

The infinite-time $H_\infty$ control problem considers a class of singularly perturbed nonlinear systems described by the following differential equations:

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + w(t)\alpha + h(t)\omega,$$

$$\dot{y} = L(x)\alpha,$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m$ are state variables, $u \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a control input, $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is an exogenous disturbance, $\epsilon$ is a small positive parameter, and $\gamma$ is a positive design parameter. We assume that $f_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1}$, $f_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2}$, $F_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$, $F_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2}$, $g_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_1}$, $g_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2}$, $h_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times p}$, and $h_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times p}$ are Lipschitz continuous on a compact set $\mathcal{K} \supset B(0)$, and $B$ is a ball around the states $[\alpha^T \beta^T]^T$. We also assume that $f_1(t_0) = 0$ and $f_2(t_0) = 0$. In addition, for simplification of development we assume that $h_2(\beta) = 0$.

The performance criterion (4) can be written in the equivalent form:

$$J = \int_0^\infty \left( \dot{z}^T z - \gamma^2 \omega^T \omega \right) dt,$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n_1$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^n_2$ are state variables, $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is a control input, $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is an exogenous disturbance, $\epsilon$ is a small positive parameter, and $\gamma$ is a positive design parameter. In the following, we solve slow and fast robust optimal control problems and combine their solutions to form a composite control:

$$u_c = u_s^* + u_f^*,$$

where $u_s^*$ and $u_f^*$ are the optimal control for slow and fast time scale problems, respectively. A subscript $s$ denotes slow time scale and $f$ denotes fast time scale. The near-optimality of the composite control law (6) is stated in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1:**

$$u^*(t) = u_c(t) + O(\epsilon), \quad t \geq t_0,$$

$$\alpha(t) = \alpha_s(t) + O(\epsilon), \quad t \geq t_0,$$

$$\beta(t) = \beta_s(t) + \beta_f(t) + O(\epsilon), \quad t \geq t_0.$$  

**Proof:** The proof of this theorem can be drawn from [3].

Let us assume that the open-loop system (1)-(2) is a standard singularly perturbed system for every $u \in B(u) \subset R^m$, that is, the equation

$$\dot{\beta}_s = -F_2^{-1}(\alpha_s)\{f_2(\alpha_s) + g_2(\alpha_s)u_s\}$$

has a unique solution.

The slow time scale problem of order $n_1$ is defined by eliminating $\beta_f$ and $u_f$ from (1)-(3) and (5) using (6)-(10). Then the resulting slow time scale problem becomes optimal control of the slow subsystem

$$\dot{\alpha}_s = f_0(\alpha_s) + g_2(\alpha_s)u_s, \quad \alpha_2(t_0) = \alpha_0$$

with respect to the performance criterion:

$$J_s = \int_0^\infty \left( \dot{z}_s^T z_s - \gamma^2 \omega_s^T \omega_s \right) dt,$$

where $f_0 = f_1 - F_1 F_2^{-1} f_2$, $g_s = g_1 - F_1 F_2^{-1} g_2$, $l_s = l^T I + f_2^T F_2^{-1} I^T L f_2^{-1} f_2$, $D_s = D^T D + g_2^T F_2^{-1} L^T L f_2^{-1} g_2$.

From robust $H_\infty$ control theory [5,6], it is well known that if $J_s'(\alpha_s)$ is a unique positive-definite solution of the HJI equation:

$$l_s + \frac{\partial J_s^*}{\partial \alpha_s}^T f_s - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial J_s^*}{\partial \alpha_s} g_s D_s^{-1} g_s^T - \gamma^2 h_s^T \frac{\partial J_s^*}{\partial \alpha_s} = 0,$$

(13)
with the boundary condition:

\[ J_s^*(0) = 0. \]  

(14)

Then the \( H_\infty \) control of the slow time scale problem is given by

\[ u_s^* = -D_s^{-1} \left( L_s^T + \frac{1}{2} g_s^T \frac{\partial J_s^*}{\partial \alpha_s} \right) \]  

(15)

and the exogenous disturbance of the worst case is given by

\[ \omega_s^* = \frac{\gamma^2}{2} h_1^T \frac{\partial J_s^*}{\partial \alpha_s}, \]  

(16)

where

\[ f_s = f_0 - g_s D_s^{-1} L_s^T, \]

\[ l_s = l_0 - L_s D_s^{-1} L_s^T. \]

The fast time scale problem of order \( n_2 \) is defined by freezing the slow variable \( \alpha_s \) and shifting the equilibrium of the fast subsystem to the origin.

\[ \alpha_f = \beta_f = \beta - \beta_s. \]  

(17)

The performance criterion of the fast time scale problem is given by

\[ J_f = \int_0^\infty \left\{ \beta_f^T L_f^T (\alpha_s) \dot{L}(\alpha_s) \beta_f + u_f^T D_f^T \dot{D} u_f \right\} dt. \]  

(18)

where \( \alpha_s \in B \) is fixed parameter.

If \( J_f^*(\beta_f) \) is a unique positive-definite solution of the HJI equation:

\[ \beta_f^T L_f^T \dot{L_f} + \frac{\partial J_f^*}{\partial \beta_f} F_f \beta_f + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial J_f^*}{\partial \beta_f} g_f^2 (2D_f^T D_f)^{-1} g_f^2 \frac{\partial J_f^*}{\partial \beta_f} = 0 \]  

(19)

with the boundary condition:

\[ J_f^*(0) = 0. \]  

(20)

Then the \( H_\infty \) control of the fast time scale problem is given by

\[ u_f^* = -\frac{1}{2} (D_f^T D_f)^{-1} g_f^2 \frac{\partial J_f^*}{\partial \beta_f}. \]  

(21)

It is appropriate to consider the following decomposition of feedback controls where \( u_s^* = G_0(\alpha_s) \) and \( u_f^* = G_2(\beta_f) \) are separately designed for the slow system (11) and fast system (17). A composite control (6) for the full system (1)-(3) might then plausibly be taking as

\[ u_c = G_0(\alpha_s) + G_2(\beta_f). \]  

(22)

However, a realizable composite control requires that the system states \( \alpha_s \) and \( \beta_f \) be expressed in terms of the actual system states \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \). This can be achieved by replacing \( \alpha_s \) by \( \alpha \) and \( \beta_f \) by \( \beta \) so that

\[ u_c = G_1(\alpha) + G_2(\beta), \]  

(23)

where

\[ G_1 = G_0 + G_2 F_2^{-1} g_2 G_0 + G_2 F_2^{-1} f_2. \]

2.2. Generalized-Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaac equation

In order to obtain the \( H_\infty \) composite control law \( u_c \), we need to find the solutions, \( \partial J_s^* / \partial \alpha_s \) and \( \partial J_f^* / \partial \beta_f \), using the SGA method.

**Assumption 1:** \( \Omega \) is a compact set of \( \mathbb{R}^n \), and all states are bounded on \([ t_0, t_f ] \times \Omega \).

Under Assumption 1, we can define the GHJI equation for singular perturbed nonlinear systems which is defined in the following.

**Definition 1:** If initial control laws \( u_s^{(0)} : \mathbb{R}^m \times \Omega_s \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \) and \( u_f^{(0)} : \mathbb{R}^m \times \Omega_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \) are admissible, and functions \( J_s^{(i)} : \mathbb{R}^n \times \Omega_s \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \) and \( J_f^{(i)} : \mathbb{R}^{n_2} \times \Omega_f \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_2} \) satisfy the following GHJI equations, written by \( GHJI(J_s^{(i)}, u_s^{(i)}) = 0 \), namely

\[ \frac{\partial J_s^{(i)}}{\partial \alpha_s} f_s + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial J_s^{(i-1)}}{\partial \alpha_s} \left( g_s D_s^{-1} g_s - \gamma^2 h_1^T h_1 \right) \frac{\partial J_s^{(i-1)}}{\partial \alpha_s} + l_s = 0 \]  

(24)

with boundary condition:

\[ J_s^{(i)}(0) = 0. \]  

(25)

then \( i \)-th slow control law is

\[ u_s^{(i)} = -D_s^{-1} \left( L_s^T + \frac{1}{2} g_s^T \frac{\partial J_s^{(i-1)}}{\partial \alpha_s} \right). \]  

(26)
and \( GHJ(J_f^{(i)}, u_f^{(i)}) = 0 \), namely
\[
\frac{\partial J_f^{(i)}}{\partial \beta_f} f_2 \beta_f + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial J_f^{(i-1)}}{\partial \beta_f} g_2(D^T D)^{-1} g_2^T \frac{\partial J_f^{(i-1)}}{\partial \beta_f} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial J_f^{(i-1)}}{\partial \beta_f} g_2(D^T D)^{-1} g_2^T \frac{\partial J_f^{(i-1)}}{\partial \beta_f} + \beta_f^T L \beta_f = 0
\]
(27)
with boundary condition:
\[
J_f^{(i)}(0) = 0,
\]
(28)
then \( i \)-th fast control law is
\[
u_f^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} (D^T D)^{-1} g_2^T \frac{\partial J_f^{(i-1)}}{\partial \beta_f} .
\]
(29)
where \( i \) is an iteration number.

2.3. Galerkin projections of the Generalized-Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaac equations
Given an initial control \( u_s^{(0)} \), we compute an approximation to its cost \( J_s^{(0)} = \left\langle \Phi_s^{(0)} f_s, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} \), where \( \Phi_s^{(0)} \) is the solution of Galerkin approximation of GHB equation (24), i.e.,
\[
A_s^{(0)} \Phi_s^{(0)} + b_s^{(0)} = 0,
\]
(30)
where
\[
A_s^{(0)} = \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(0)} f_s, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} + \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(0)} (g_s u_s^{(0)} + h_s \omega^{(0)}), \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
b_s^{(0)} = \left\langle \nu_s^{(0)}, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} + \left\langle u_s^{(0)^T} D_s u_s^{(0)} - \gamma^2 \omega^{(0)^T} \omega^{(0)}, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} .
\]
We can compute the updated control law and the exogenous disturbance which are based on the approximated solution, \( J_s^{(i-1)} \):
\[
\tilde{u}_s^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2} D_s^{-1} g_s^T \frac{\partial J_s^{(i-1)}}{\partial \alpha_s} - \frac{1}{2} D_s^{-1} g_s^T \nabla \Phi_s^{(i-1)} \Phi_s^{(i-1)} ,
\]
\[
\omega^{(i)} = \frac{\gamma^2}{2} h_s^T \frac{\partial J_s^{(i-1)}}{\partial \alpha_s} - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} h_s^T \nabla \Phi_s^{(i-1)} \Phi_s^{(i-1)} .
\]
Then we can obtain the approximation
\[
J_s^{(i)} = \left\langle \Phi_s^{(i)} f_s, \Phi_s^{(i)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
\]
(31)
where \( \Phi_s^{(i)} \) is the solution of
\[
A_s^{(i)} \Phi_s^{(i)} + b_s^{(i)} = 0,
\]
(32)
where
\[
A_s^{(i)} = \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(i)} f_s, \Phi_s^{(i)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} - \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(i)} (g_s D_s^{-1} g_s^T - \gamma^2 h_s^T \nabla \Phi_s^{(i)} \Phi_s^{(i)}), \Phi_s^{(i)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
b_s^{(i)} = \left\langle \nu_s^{(i)}, \Phi_s^{(i)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} + \frac{1}{4} \left\langle \Phi_s^{(i-1)^T} \nabla \Phi_s^{(i)} (g_s D_s^{-1} g_s^T - \gamma^2 h_s^T \nabla \Phi_s^{(i)} \Phi_s^{(i)}), \Phi_s^{(i)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
\]
and \( i \) is an iteration number.
Similarly, given an initial control \( u_f^{(0)} \), we can compute an approximation to its cost \( J_f^{(0)} = \left\langle \Phi_f^{(0)} f_f, \Phi_f^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_f} \), where \( \Phi_f^{(0)} \) is the solution of Galerkin approximation of GHB equation for the fast-time case. A detailed description of Galerkin approximation can be founded in [12-15].

2.4. A new SGA method for \( H_\infty \) composite control
The following algorithm shows that the \( H_\infty \) composite control can be designed by two closed-loop control laws of fast- and slow-subsystems using the SGA method for singularly perturbed nonlinear systems.

**Algorithm 1:**

**Initial Step**
Compute
\[
A_s^{(0)} = \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(0)} f_s, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} + \left\langle \nabla \Phi_s^{(0)} (g_s u_s^{(0)} + h_s \omega^{(0)}), \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
b_s^{(0)} = \left\langle \nu_s^{(0)}, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} + \left\langle u_s^{(0)^T} D_s u_s^{(0)} - \gamma^2 \omega^{(0)^T} \omega^{(0)}, \Phi_s^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_s} ,
\]
and
\[
A_f^{(0)} = \left\langle \nabla \Phi_f^{(0)} f_f, \Phi_f^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_f} + \left\langle \nabla \Phi_f^{(0)} (g_f u_f^{(0)} + h_f \omega^{(0)}), \Phi_f^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_f} ,
b_f^{(0)} = \left\langle \nu_f^{(0)}, \Phi_f^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_f} + \left\langle u_f^{(0)^T} D_f u_f^{(0)} - \gamma^2 \omega^{(0)^T} \omega^{(0)}, \Phi_f^{(0)} \right\rangle_{\Omega_f} ,
\]
Find \( \Phi_s^{(0)} \) and \( \Phi_f^{(0)} \) satisfying the following linear
The simulation results we can compute and approximate the following theorem demonstrates that the realizable composite control law is

\[ \tilde{u}^*_c = u^*_c + O(\varepsilon). \]

This implies that for any small positive constant, we can choose \( N \) satisfying

\[ \| u^*_c - u^*_c(N) \| < \sigma. \]

Proof: It was proved that \( u^* \) converges to \( u_N \), where \( u_N \) is a control law designed using the SGA. It implies that for a sufficiently large \( i \), we can choose \( N \) satisfying

\[ \| u^*_c - u^*_c(N) \| < \sigma, \]

where \( u^*_c \) is the composite control law obtained by the reduced order scheme for singularly perturbed nonlinear systems and \( \sigma \) is a small positive constant. By the help of singular perturbation theory, \( u^*_c = u^* + O(\varepsilon) \). This implies that for any small positive constant \( \sigma \), we can choose \( N \) for a sufficiently large \( i \) satisfying (33). □

3. A NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

Now, we apply the proposed algorithm to a numerical example. Consider the fifth-order numerical example which is the standard singularly perturbed nonlinear system (1)-(3). The states variables are \( \alpha = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^T \) and \( \beta = [x_4 \ x_5]^T \), and the control variable is \( u = [u_1 \ u_2]^T \). The problem matrices have the following values:

\[
\begin{align*}
f_1(\alpha) &= \begin{bmatrix}
-0.04611 x_1 \\
-2.149 x_1 - x_1 x_3 \\
x_1 x_2 - 2.146 x_3 
\end{bmatrix}, \\
f_2(\alpha) &= \begin{bmatrix}
0.146 x_1 + 0.068 x_1 x_3 \\
-0.068 x_1 x_2 + 0.146 x_3 
\end{bmatrix}, \\
f_1(\alpha) &= \begin{bmatrix}
-16.6 x_3 \\
0.146 \\
0.146 
\end{bmatrix}, \\
f_2(\alpha) &= \begin{bmatrix}
-0.00225 \\
-0.00225 
\end{bmatrix}, \\
g_1(\alpha) &= 0, \quad g_2(\alpha) = 0.0399 l_2, \\
h_1(\alpha) &= \begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 
\end{bmatrix}^T, \quad \varepsilon = 0.00262.
\end{align*}
\]

In this example, we assume that the exogenous disturbance \( \omega = 130 \sin(148 \pi t) \). The simulation results are presented in Figs. 1-6 with initial states \( x_0 = [10 \ -0.07 \ 0.04 \ 15 \ 47]^T \). The dashed lines...
(−) are the trajectories obtained from the full-order SGA method and the solid lines (—) are the trajectories obtained from the proposed algorithm. Fig. 6 indicates that the performance criterion trajectory of the proposed algorithm is better than that of the full-order SGA method, because errors of the full-order SGA method are greater than those of the proposed algorithm. In the full-order SGA method, ten-dimensional basis $\Phi_{10} = \{x_1^2, x_1x_2, x_2^2, x_2x_3, x_3^2, x_3x_4\}$,


\[ x_4^2, x_4 x_5, x_5^2, x_1 x_3 \] are used and five-dimensional integrals of \(10 \times (1+10+100)=1110\) times are performed. However, in the proposed algorithm, we can use only six-dimensional basis \(\Phi_6 = \{x_1^2, x_1 x_2, x_2^2, x_2 x_3, x_3^2, x_1 x_3\}\) computing three-dimensional integrals of \(6 \times (1+6+36)=248\) times for slow-time scale subsystems, and two-dimensional integrals of \(3 \times (1+3+9)=39\) times based on three-dimensional basis \(\Phi_3 = \{x_2^2, x_4 x_5, x_5^2\}\) for fast-time scale subsystems in parallel. Therefore, the computational complexity is greatly reduced.

### 4. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have presented the closed-loop \(H_\infty\) composite control scheme for a class of singularly perturbed nonlinear systems using the SGA method. The difficulty of the SGA method is a computational complexity, but in the proposed algorithm, \(n\)-tuple integrals are reduced to \(n_1\)- and \(n_2\)-tuple integrals in parallel. Moreover, the computational complexity according to \(n\) state variables is decreased to \(n_1\) and \(n_2\) state variables. The presented simulation results show that the performance of the proposed algorithm is better than those of the full order SGA method.

### REFERENCES


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