



Nonlinear Predictive Proportional Integral Controller for Multiple Time Constants

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Abstract - The predictive proportional integral controller (PPI) is a compromise between model predictive control (MPC) and proportional integral derivative (PID) controller. PPI controller has good robust stability and control performance than PID. The controller is also suited for processes with varying dead times. In proposed method modified nonlinear predictive PI control strategy is implemented, tested on process models and is compared with existing linear predictive PI. Nonlinear PPI controller stabilizes the response and strongly removes the oscillatory behavior these are the advantages over linear PPI controller.

Keywords - Predictive PI, Nonlinear predictive PI, Linear predictive PI, Model predictive control

I. Introduction

Predictive control is used to control processes with long dead time. The control performance of PID is limited for long dead time. When the process has a long dead time then the performance of the system can be improved by using a predictor structure. These controllers are known as dead-time compensators (DTC). The prediction can be performed by an internal simulation of the process inside the controller. Smith predictor is one of the most popular dead time compensating methods and most widely used algorithm for dead time compensation for industry. They require a model of the process, typically consisting of a gain, a time constant, and a dead time. The following process model structure is commonly used for Smith Predictor [3],

$$Y(s) = \frac{K_p e^{-Ls}}{1+ST} U(s) \quad (1)$$

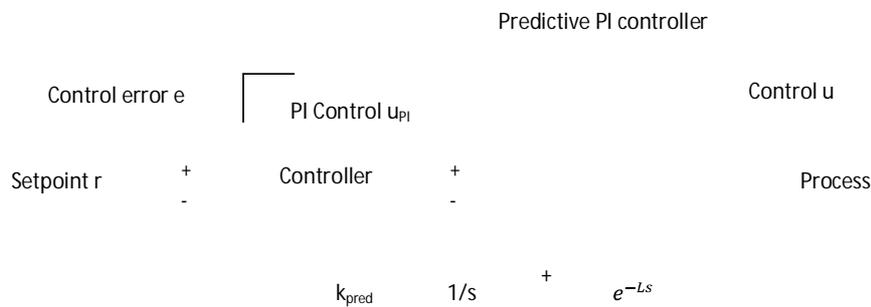


Figure 1. Structure of Predictive PI controller

i.e. a first order system with static gain K_p , time constant T and dead time L . Combined with a PI control algorithm, this means that they contain five parameters. i.e, PI controller parameters K and T_i and the process model parameters K_p , T , and L . These controllers are therefore difficult to tune by "trial and error" procedures. The advantage of the Predictive PI controller compared with the other dead time compensating controllers is that although it also contains five parameters, only three are adjusted by the operator. i.e., the parameters K , T_i , and L are determined by the operator. Parameters K_p and T are calculated as functions of the K and T_i in the following way:

$$K_p = \kappa/K$$

$$T = \tau T_i \quad (2)$$

Where, κ and τ are constants

The predictive controller can be expressed as,

$$u(t) = K \left(1 + \frac{1}{pT_i} \right) \left(e(t) - \frac{K_p}{1 + pT} [u(t) - u(t - L)] \right)$$

$$= K \left(1 + \frac{1}{pT_i} \right) \left(e(t) - \frac{\kappa(1+pT_i)}{pT_i(1+p\tau T_i)} [u(t) - u(t - L)] \right) \quad (3)$$

where p is the differential operator d/dt .

The open loop system has a pole at $s = -1/T$. With PI control the closed loop system is of second order. The design criterion is chosen so that the closed loop system has a double pole at $s = -1/T$. This gives the following values of κ and τ

$$\kappa = 1$$

$$\tau = 1 \quad (4)$$

Equation (3) is simplified as,

$$u(t) = K \left(1 + \frac{1}{pT_i} \right) e(t) - \frac{1}{pT_i} [u(t) - u(t - L)] \quad (5)$$

PPI controller has good robust stability and control performance than PID. The controller is also suited for processes with varying dead times. [3]

As shown in Fig.1, industrial processes generally are complex, containing interacting MIMO controller loops. It is required to select appropriate pairing of the input and output variables to ensure more effective control. There are different decoupling techniques. Predictive control for MIMO processes ensures inherent decoupling if the cost function does not include terms punishing the control increments. But these terms are used to keep the control variables within their limit values. Enhancing decoupling properties of predictive control algorithms is important for practical applications [6,11]. Most of the plants contain nonlinearities. The control algorithms generally consider linear or linearised models around the working points. Predictive control algorithms based on nonlinear model of the plant show the better performance in the whole operating range than linear models.

II. PROPOSED NONLINEAR PREDICTIVE PI CONTROLLER

A. STRUCTURE OF NONLINEAR PREDICTIVE PI CONTROLLER

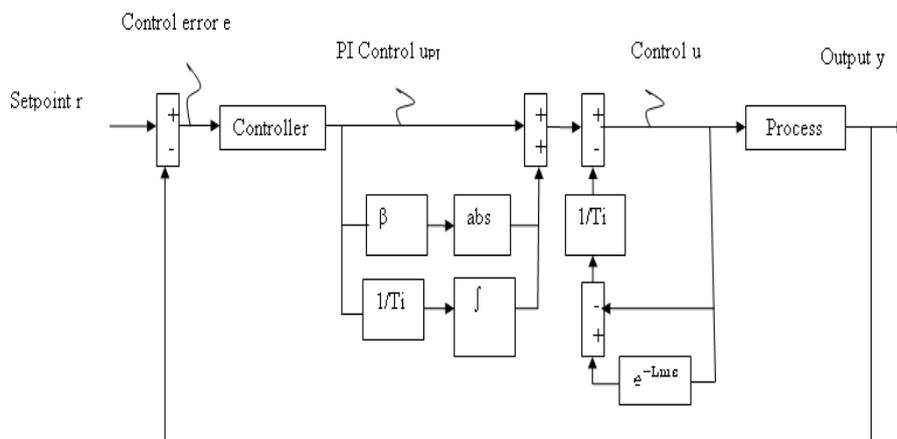


Figure 2. Nonlinear predictive PI controller structure

B. DESIGN OF NONLINEAR PREDICTIVE PI CONTROLLER

Let G_p and G_c be the transfer functions of the process and the controller. The closed-loop transfer function obtained with error feedback is then

$$G_0 = \frac{G_p G_c}{1 + G_p G_c} \quad (6)$$

Solving this equation for G_c we get

$$G_c = \frac{1}{G_p} \cdot \frac{G_0}{1 - G_0} \quad (7)$$

If the closed-loop transfer function G_0 is specified and G_p is known, it is thus easy to compute G_c . Consider a process with the transfer function

$$G_p = \frac{K_p}{1 + sT} e^{-sL} \quad (8)$$

Assume that the desired closed-loop transfer function is specified as

$$G_0 = \frac{e^{-sL}}{1 + \lambda sT} \quad (9)$$

Where λ is a tuning parameter. The time constants of the open- and closed-loop systems are the same when $\lambda = 1$. The closed-loop system responds faster than the open-loop system if $\lambda < 1$. It is slower when $\lambda > 1$.

It follows from Equation (2) that the controller transfer function becomes

$$G_c = \frac{1 + sT}{K_p(1 + \lambda sT - e^{-sL})} \quad (10)$$

The controller has integral action, because $G_c(0) = \infty$. The input output relation of the controller is,

$$U(s) = \frac{1}{\lambda K_p} \left(1 + \frac{1}{sT} \right) \left(E(s) - \frac{K_p}{1 + sT} (1 - e^{-sL}) U(s) \right) \quad (11)$$

The PPI controller can be written as,

$$U(s) = \frac{1}{\lambda K_p} \left(1 + \frac{1}{sT} \right) E(s) - \frac{1}{s\lambda T} (1 - e^{-sL}) U(s) \quad (12)$$

Linear PI controller with gain $K_c = \frac{1}{\lambda K_p}$ and integral time $T_i = T$.

Controller equation in time domain

$$u_{(t)} = K_c e_{(t)} + \frac{K_c}{T_i} \int_0^t e_{(t)} dt - \frac{1}{\lambda T_i} \int_0^t (1 - e^{-sL}) u_{(t)} dt \quad (13)$$

Here, Linear PI controller is replaced by nonlinear PI controller

$$u_{(t)} = K_c (1 + \beta |e_{(t)}|) e_{(t)} + \frac{K_c}{T_i} \int_0^t e_{(t)} dt - \frac{1}{\lambda T_i} \int_0^t (1 - e^{-sL}) u_{(t)} dt \quad (14)$$

C. SIMULATION RESULTS

Simulation has been done for following processes for comparison between linear predictive PI and proposed nonlinear predictive PI controller. Processes are,

Example (1)

$$G_{1(s)} = \frac{e^{-4.48t_{ds}}}{2S^3 + 5S^2 + 6S + 2}$$

Example (2)

$$G_{2(s)} = \frac{e^{-5t_{ds}}}{(S + 1)(0.5S + 1)(0.25S + 1)(0.125S + 1)}$$

Example

$$G_{3(s)} = \frac{10e^{-10t_{ds}}}{S^4 + 10S^3 + 35S^2 + 50S + 24} \quad (3)$$

In figures 3 to 5 responses are controlled by predictive PI controller (12) and nonlinear predictive PI controller (14) are presented. From these figures it shows that nonlinear PPI controller proposed (14) in this paper gives shorter settling time, smaller overshoot and smaller rise time in comparison to predictive PI controller.

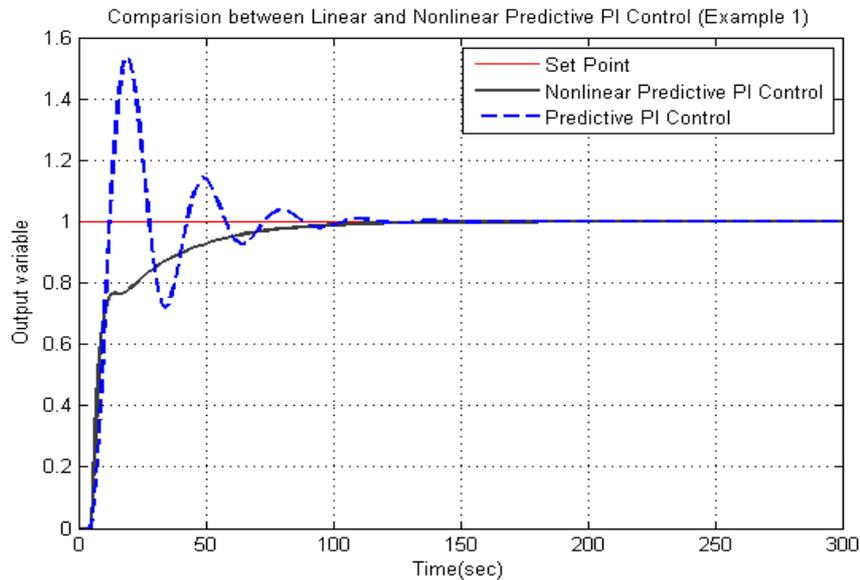


Figure 3. Comparison between linear and nonlinear predictive PI control (Example 1)

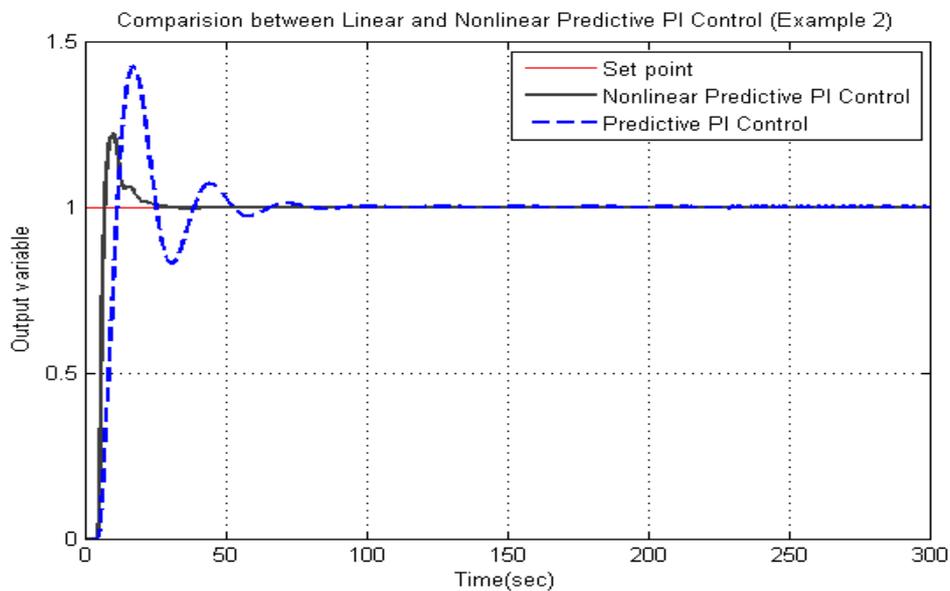


Figure 4. Comparison between linear and nonlinear predictive PI control (Example 2)

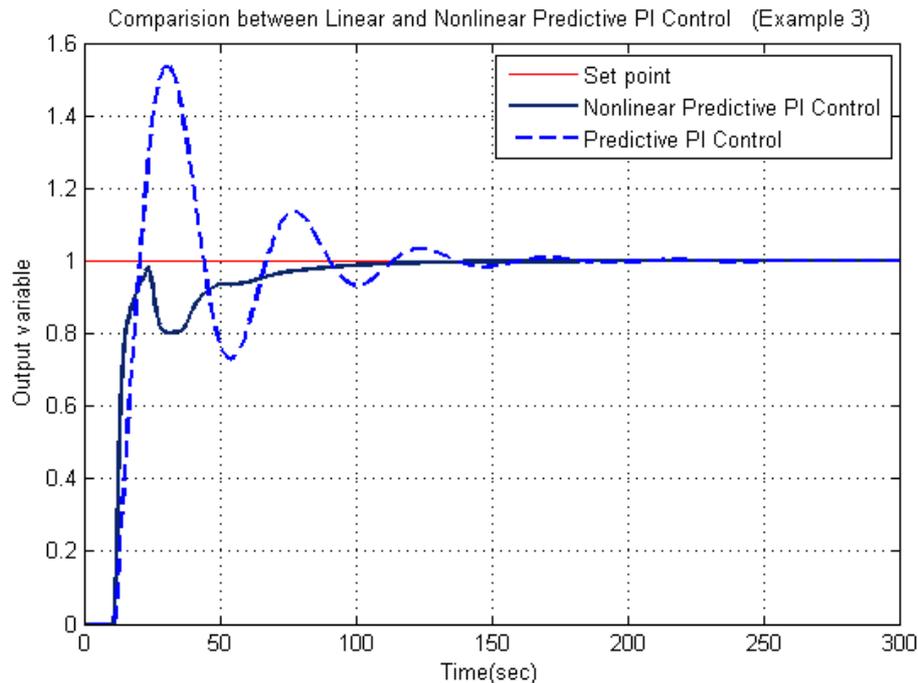


Figure 5. Comparison between linear and nonlinear predictive PI control (Example 3)

CONCLUSION

In this paper nonlinear predictive PI control (14) strategy is implemented, tested on process models and is compared with linear predictive PI (12). It can be concluded that proposed nonlinear PPI controller has good robust stability and control performance than PPI controller. This controller is also suited for processes with varying dead times. Simulated results show excellent tracking performance than linear PPI controllers with minimum reaching time and less oscillation.

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