

FUZZY ANTI-WINDUP SCHEME FOR PRACTICAL CONTROL OF POINT-TO-POINT (PTP) POSITIONING SYSTEMS

WAHYUDI¹ & ABDULGHANI ALBAGUL²

Abstract. The positioning systems generally need a controller to achieve high accuracy, fast response and robustness. In addition, ease of controller design and simplicity of controller structure are very important for practical application. For satisfying these requirements, nominal characteristic trajectory following (NCTF) controller has been proposed as a practical PTP positioning control. However, the effect of actuator saturation cannot be completely compensated due to integrator windup because of plant parameter variations. This paper presents a method to improve the NCTF controller for overcoming the problem of integrator windup by adopting a fuzzy anti-windup scheme. The improved NCTF controller is evaluated through simulation using dynamic model of a rotary positioning system. The results show that the improved NCTF controller is adequate to compensate the effect of integrator windup.

Keywords: Positioning, point-to-point, fuzzy, anti-windup, compensation, controller, robustness

Abstrak. Sistem kedudukan biasanya memerlukan sebuah kawalan untuk mencapai ketepatan yang jitu, tindakbalas yang pantas dan tegap. Di samping itu, rekaan dan struktur kawalan yang ringkas dan mudah adalah amat penting untuk penggunaan yang praktikal. Untuk memenuhi keperluan tersebut, kaedah kawalan NCTF (*nominal characteristic trajectory following*) telah diutarakan sebagai kawalan untuk sistem kedudukan titik-ke-titik. Walaupun begitu, kesan daripada ketepatan penggerak tidak boleh digantikan sepenuhnya kerana wujudnya keadaan '*integrator windup*' yang disebabkan oleh variasi pembolehubah. Kertas ini menyarankan satu kaedah untuk meningkatkan keupayaan kawalan NCTF untuk mengatasi masalah '*integrator windup*' dengan mengaplikasikan skim '*fuzzy anti-windup*'. Kawalan NCTF yang telah diperbaharui ini telah dinilai melalui simulasi menggunakan sistem kedudukan rotari. Hasil kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa kawalan NCTF yang telah diperbaharui mampu mengurangkan kesan '*integrator windup*'.

Kata kunci: Kedudukan, titik-ke-titik, *fuzzy*, *anti-windup*, kompensasi, kawalan, ketepatan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Motion control systems play important roles in industrial process such as machine tools, semiconductor manufacturing systems, and robot systems. One type of motion control systems is point-to-point (PTP) positioning system, which is used to move a

^{1&2} Precision and Intelligent Systems Research Group, Department of Mechatronics Engineering, International Islamic, University Malaysia, Jalan Gombak, 53100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Tel: +603-2056-4469, Fax: +603-2056-4433.
Email: wahyudi@iiu.edu.my, albagul@iiu.edu.my

plant from one point to another point. The positioning systems generally need a controller to satisfy such requirements such as high accuracy, fast response, and robustness.

Up to now, many types of controllers have been proposed and evaluated for positioning systems; for example the following type controller such as controllers with disturbance observer [1-4], time-optimal controllers [5-8] and sliding mode controllers [9,10]. These controllers will give good positioning performance if experts on motion control system designed the controller using the exact model and values of its parameters. It is well known that exact modeling and parameter identifications are generally troublesome and a time consuming tasks. In general, advanced controllers tend to be complicated and required deep knowledge concerning controller theory and design. However, in practical applications, engineers who are not experts in control systems often need to design the controllers. Hence, ease of controller design and simplicity of controller structure are very important for practical applications.

In order to overcome the above-mentioned problems, nominal characteristic trajectory following (NCTF) controller has been proposed as a practical controller for point-to-point (PTP) positioning systems [11]. It has been shown that the NCTF control system has a good positioning performance and robustness [12,13]. The NCTF controller is also effective to compensate the effects of friction which is the source of positioning inaccuracy [14]. However, the effect of actuator saturation cannot be completely compensated due to integrator windup when the plant parameters vary [15]. The NCTF controller gives an excessive overshoot when actuator saturation as well as parameter variations (especially inertia variation) occur in the positioning systems.

This paper describes a method to improve the NCTF controller to overcome the degradation of the positioning performance due to integrator windup. First, NCTF control concept and its controller design procedures are introduced. Then, an improved compensator with a fuzzy anti-windup to overcome the integrator windup is described. Finally, the effectiveness of the improved NCTF controller is examined by simulation.

2.0 NCTF CONTROL SYSTEM

2.1 Basic Concept of NCTF Control System

The structure of the NCTF control system is shown in Figure 1. The NCTF controller consists of a nominal characteristic trajectory (NCT) and a compensator. The NCTF controller works under the following two assumptions:

- (i) A DC or an AC servomotor is used as an actuator of the plant.
- (ii) PTP positioning systems are chosen, so θ_r is constant and $\dot{\theta}_r \equiv 0$.

Here, the objective of the NCTF controller is to make the plant motion follows the NCT and ends at the origin of the phase plane (e, \dot{e}).

Figure 2 shows an example of a plant motion controlled by the NCTF controller. The motion comprises of two phases. The first one is the reaching phase and the second is the following phase. In the reaching phase, the compensator forces the plant motion to reach the NCT as fast as possible. However, in the following phase the compensator controls the plant motion so as to follow the NCT and end at the origin. The plant motion stops at the origin, which represents the end of the positioning motion. Thus, in the NCTF control system, the NCT governs the positioning response performance.

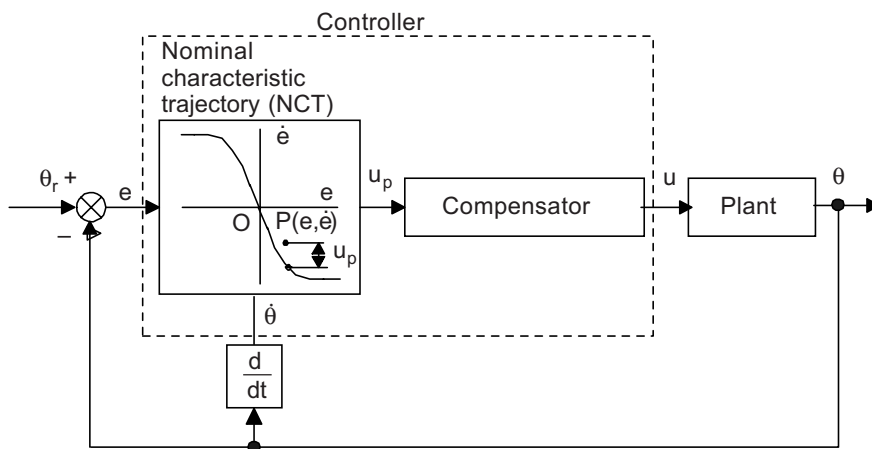


Figure 1 NCTF control system

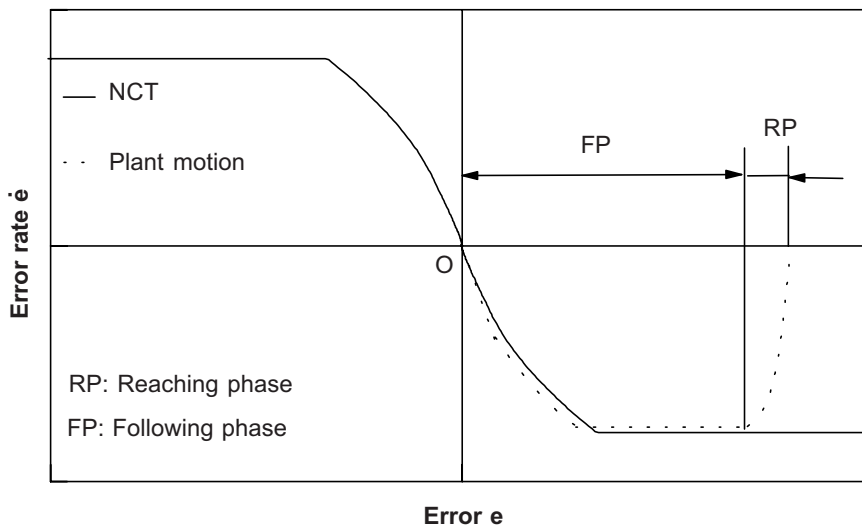
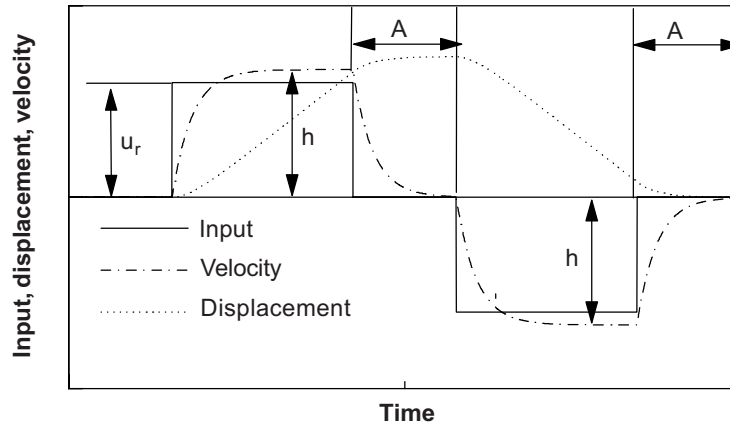
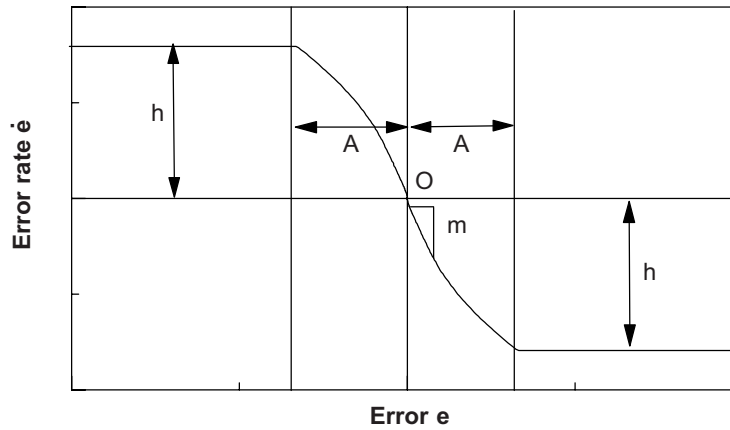


Figure 2 NCT and plant motion



(a) Stepwise inputs and responses



(b) Nominal characteristics trajectory (NCT)

Figure 3 NCT determination

The NCTF controller is designed based on a simple open-loop experiment of the plant as follows:

- (i) Open-loop-drive the plant with stepwise inputs and measure the displacement and velocity responses of the plant.
Figure 3(a) shows the stepwise inputs, and the velocity and displacement responses due to the stepwise inputs. In this paper, the rated input to the actuator u_r is used as the height of the stepwise inputs.
- (ii) Construct the NCT by using the plant responses.
The velocity and displacement responses are used to determine the NCT. Since the main objective of PTP system is to stop the plant at a certain position, a

deceleration process is used, see curve A, Figure 3(a). The h in Figure 3 represents the maximum velocity. From the curve in area A and h in Figure 3(a), the NCT in Figure 3(b) is determined. Since the NCT is constructed based on the actual responses of the plant, it includes nonlinearity effects such as friction and saturation. The important NCT information which will be used to design the compensator are NCT inclination m near the origin and maximum error rate of h . In this case, from the relationship between plant dynamics of Equation(1) and Figure 3(b), it is clear that the inclination near origin, m and the maximum error rate, h relate with parameters of the plant as follows [12,15]:

$$K = -\frac{h}{u_r} \quad (1)$$

$$\alpha = -m \quad (2)$$

(iii) Design the compensator based on the NCT information.

Here, the following PI compensator is adopted due to its simplicity:

$$u = K_p u_p + K_i \int u_p dt \quad (3)$$

where K_p and K_i are proportional and integral gains respectively. Using the PI compensator parameters, K_p and K_i , and the NCT characteristic near the origin (see Figure 3(b)), the transfer function of the closed-loop positioning system controlled by the NCTF controller can be approximated as follows [11-15]:

$$\frac{\Theta(s)}{\Theta_r(s)} = G(s) = G_1(s)G_2(s) \quad (4)$$

where

$$G_1(s) = \frac{\alpha}{s + \alpha} \quad (5a)$$

$$G_2(s) = \frac{2\zeta\omega_n + \omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n + \omega_n^2} \quad (5b)$$

$$K_p = \frac{2\zeta\omega_n}{K\alpha} \quad (5c)$$

$$K_i = \frac{\omega_n^2}{K\alpha} \quad (5d)$$

where K and α are positive constants which relate to the plant dynamics. Meanwhile, ζ and ω_n are damping factor and natural frequency respectively. When ζ and ω_n are

large enough, $G(s)$ becomes nearly equal to $G_1(s)$, which represent the condition when the plant motion follows the NCT as the objective of the NCTF control system. Moreover, large ζ and ω_n also make the closed-loop system robust to friction or inertia variation of the plant in continuous systems [9]. Finally, by using ζ and ω_n as design parameters and considering Equations (2) and (3), the PI compensator parameters are designed as follows:

$$K_p = \frac{2\zeta\omega_n u_r}{mh} \quad (6)$$

$$K_i = \frac{\omega_n^2 u_r}{mh} \quad (7)$$

Here, ω_n and ζ are design parameters which should be decided by the designer. Generally speaking, a higher ω and a larger ζ are preferable in the design of PI compensator parameters. However, physical constraint of the motor driver and digital implementation of the NCTF controller limits the design parameters to maintain the closed-loop stability as follows [12]:

$$\omega_n \leq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha K S_R}{h}} \quad (8)$$

$$\zeta\omega_n \leq \frac{2}{3T} \quad (9)$$

where S_R and T are motor driver slew rate and sampling time. Detailed discussion on the theoretical background of the NCTF control system can be seen in [12, 14, 15].

Due to the fact that the NCT and the compensator are constructed from a simple open-loop experiment of the plant, the exact model including the friction characteristic and the identification task of the plant parameters are not required to design the NCTF controller. Therefore, the controller design is simple and easy to implement in practical situation.

2.2 Fuzzy Anti-Windup Scheme

As the NCTF controller uses PI compensator to force plant motion so that it follows the NCT, the integrator windup up may occur in connection with large position reference. As discussed in reference [15], in the case of no parameter variations, there is no significant integrator windup due to the effect of the saturation. The effect of the saturation is successfully compensated by using NCTF controller. However, the integrator windup becomes a problem when the parameters vary [15].

In order to overcome the problem of integrator windup, the PI compensator is improved by adopting a fuzzy anti-windup (FAW) scheme. Hence an anti-windup PI

compensator is proposed to be used instead of a pure PI compensator. Here, the fuzzy anti-windup is designed based on the Mamdani fuzzy system. The structure of the anti-windup PI compensator is illustrated in Figure 4, where FAW is the proposed fuzzy anti-windup. By using the proposed anti-windup PI compensator, it is expected that once PI compensator output $U(s)$ exceeds the actuator limits, the FAW will generate a signal to reduce the effect of the integrator windup.

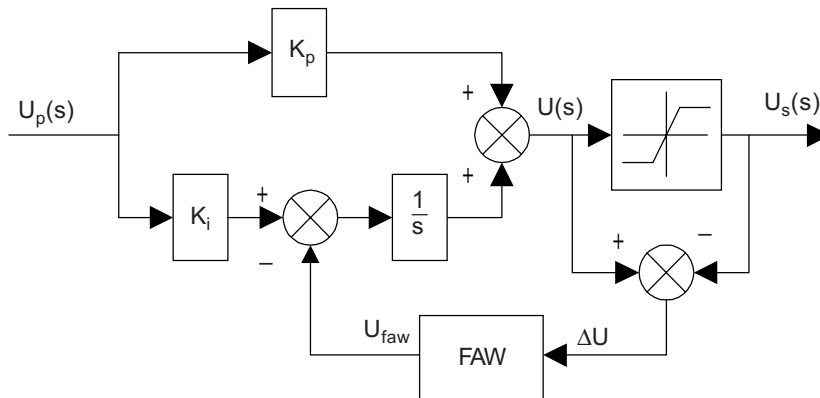


Figure 4 Proposed anti-windup PI compensator

The fuzzy anti-windup, as shown in Figure 5, consists of three conceptual components: a rule base which contains set of fuzzy rule, a data base which defines the membership function used in the fuzzy rules, and a reasoning mechanism which performs the inference procedure. Furthermore, since the input as well as the output of the FAW are

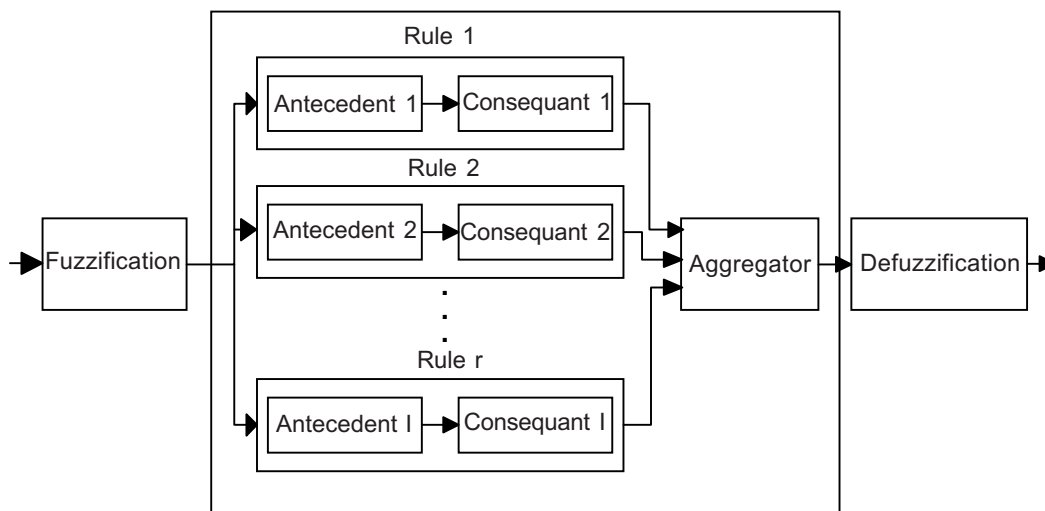


Figure 5 Fuzzy anti-windup scheme

crisp values, fuzzification and defuzzification are also included in the FAW. Fuzzification is a mapping from the crisp input (observed numerical input) into the fuzzy sets defined in the corresponding universe of discourse, while defuzzification is a method to extract a crisp output value that best represents the fuzzy output.

The first element of the fuzzy anti-windup is the fuzzy interface which is used to convert crisp input of the control output into linguistic variables. To map the crisp inputs into related linguistic fuzzy sets, associated membership functions have to be constructed. Figure 6 shows the membership functions of the FAW. As shown in Figure 6, each of the input and output of the FAW consists of five fuzzy sets (linguistic variables), namely Negative Big (NB), Negative Small (NS), Zero (ZE), Positive Small (PS) and Positive Big (PB). The linguistic variables NS, ZE, and PS use triangle membership function, while NB and PB adopt trapezoidal membership function.

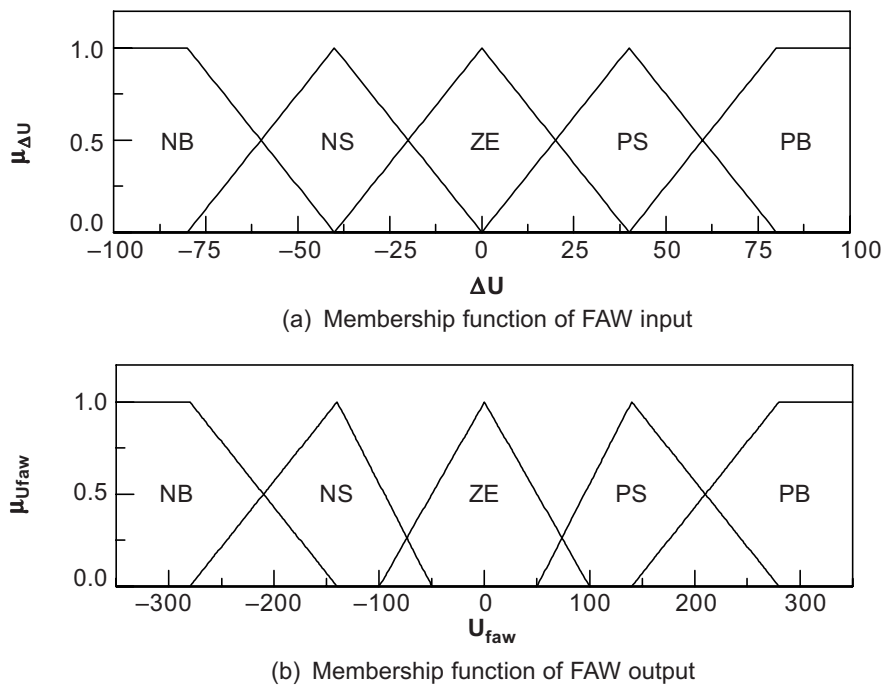


Figure 6 Membership function of the FAW input and output

Fuzzy rule base is the second element of the FAW. The fuzzy rule-base is composed of IF-THEN rules like:

$$\text{IF antecedent 1 THEN Consequent 1} \quad (10)$$

The following fuzzy rules are derived to reduce the effect of the integrator windup:

- (i) IF ΔU is NB THEN U_{faw} is PB
- (ii) IF ΔU is NS THEN U_{faw} is PS

- (iii) IF ΔU is ZE THEN U_{faw} is ZE
- (iv) IF ΔU is PS THEN U_{faw} is NS
- (v) IF ΔU is PB THEN U_{faw} is NB

Furthermore, the fuzzy inference engine and the defuzzifier are used to carry out all the fuzzy operations and hence determine the FAW output U_{faw} on the activated rules along with the membership degrees of the associated fuzzy inputs. In this paper, Mamdani fuzzy inference engine is used to determine the FAW output. The Mamdani inference engine used in this paper was based on Mamdani implication (Min operation) and disjunctive aggregator (Max operator), while the FAW output is converted into crisp output based on the centroid method [16].

3.0 CONTROLLER DESIGN

3.1 Plant Description

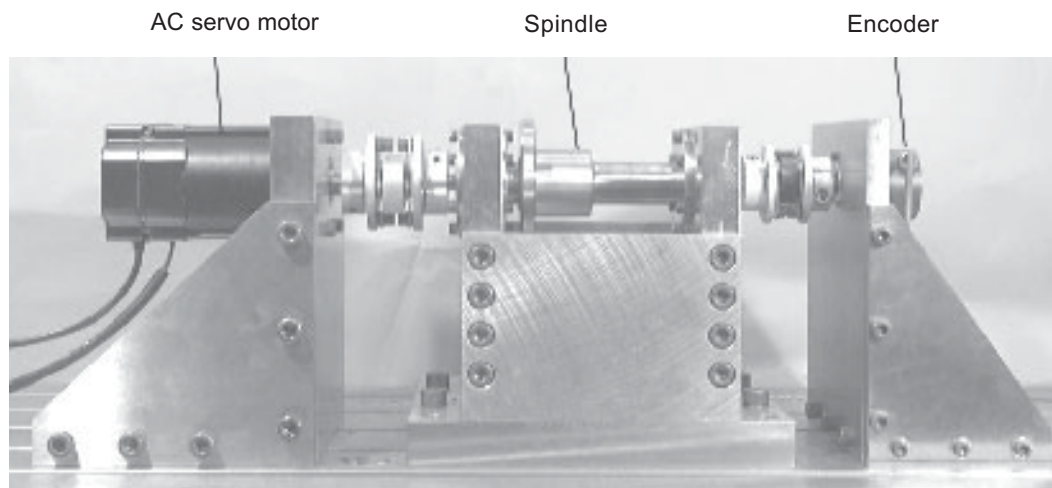


Figure 7 Experimental rotary positioning system

The NCTF controller with anti-windup PI compensator was tested using a dynamic model of the experimental rotary positioning system as shown in Figure 7. The positioning system consists of an AC servomotor, a driver and an inertia mass (spindle). The positioning performance was examined using the detailed model in Figure 8. Its parameters are shown in Table 1. The positioning performance is examined under two conditions, namely normal plant and increased inertia plant. Normal plant has the nominal plant parameters as described in Table 1, while increased inertia plant has about 10 times spindle inertia than that of normal plant.

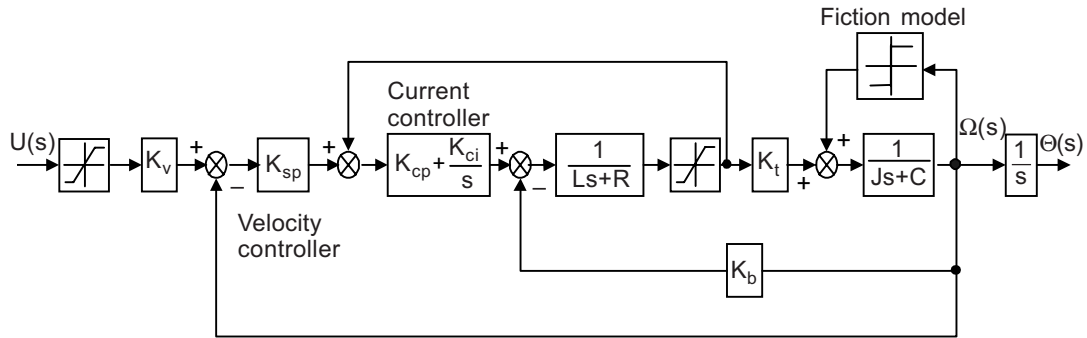


Figure 8 Detailed model of rotary positioning system

Table 1 Parameters of the plant

Parameter	Value
Inertia load, J	$1.17 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kgm}^2$
Motor resistance, R	1.2Ω
Motor inductance, L	8.7 mH
Motor torque constant, K_t	0.57 Nm/A
Back-Emf constant, K_b	0.57 Vs/rad
Viscous friction, C	$1.67 \times 10^{-3} \text{ Nms/rad}$
Frictional torque, t_f	0.215 Nm
Proportional current gain, K_{cp}	26.2 V/A
Integral current gain, K_{ci}	$3.62 \times 10^3 \text{ V/As}$
Proportional velocity gain, K_{sp}	$8.60 \times 10^{-2} \text{ As/rad}$
Input voltage range, u_r	$\pm 6 \text{ Volt}$

3.2 Controller Design

First, the NCTF controller was designed based on the normal plant. Figure 9 shows the NCT as a result of a simulated experiment. With reference to Figure 9, the inclination m and maximum error rate h of the NCT are 67.4 rad and 240 rad/s respectively. The compensator parameters are designed by using h and m of the NCT. For the PI compensator, design parameters ζ and ω_n are chosen as 13 and 29 respectively [15]. Table 2 shows the values of the compensator parameters calculated using Equations (6) and (7).

The performances of the positioning system using the NCTF controllers are also compared to that of a PID controller with the following transfer function:

$$U(s) = \left[K_p + \frac{K_I}{s} + K_D s \right] E(s) \quad (11)$$

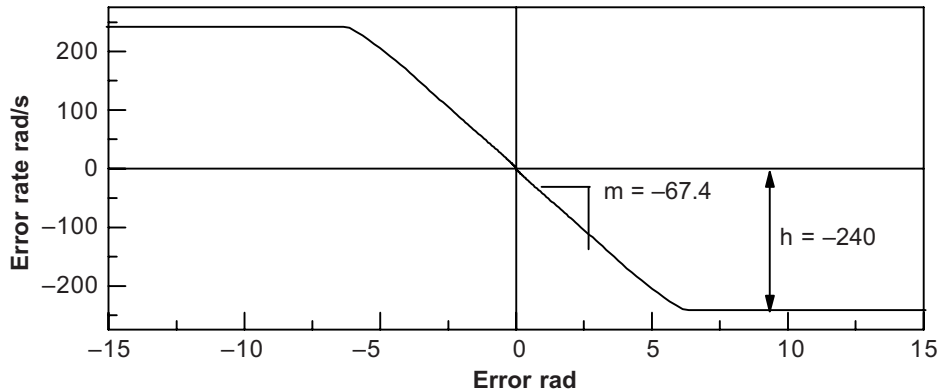


Figure 9 Nominal characteristic trajectory (NCT)

where K_p , K_i and K_d are proportional, integral and derivative gains respectively. The PID controller was designed so that it has a similar bandwidth with the NCTF control system [15]. In this paper, the PID controller tuned with Ziegler-Nichols rule is not discussed again since it gives a bad robustness to parameter variations [15]. The PID controller parameters are also shown in Table 2.

Table 2 NCTF compensator and PID controller parameters

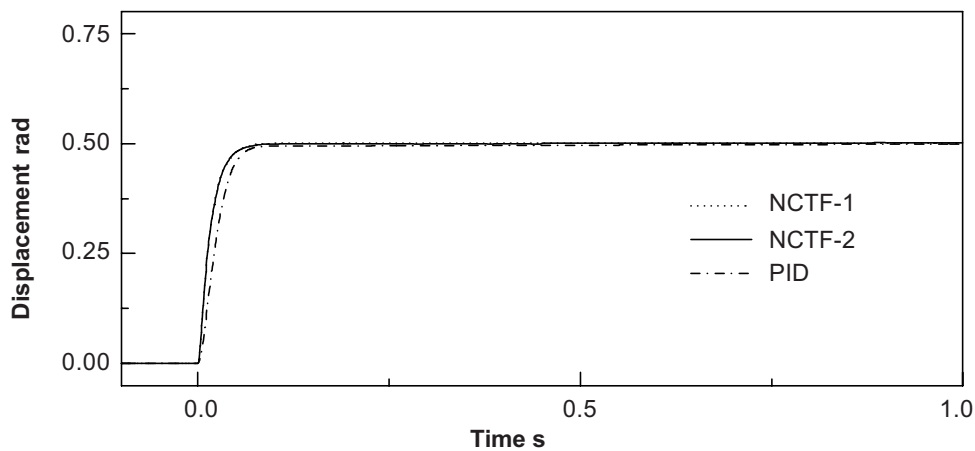
Controller	K_p	K_i	K_d
NCTF	0.279	0.312	-
PID	1.68	0.168	0.025

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

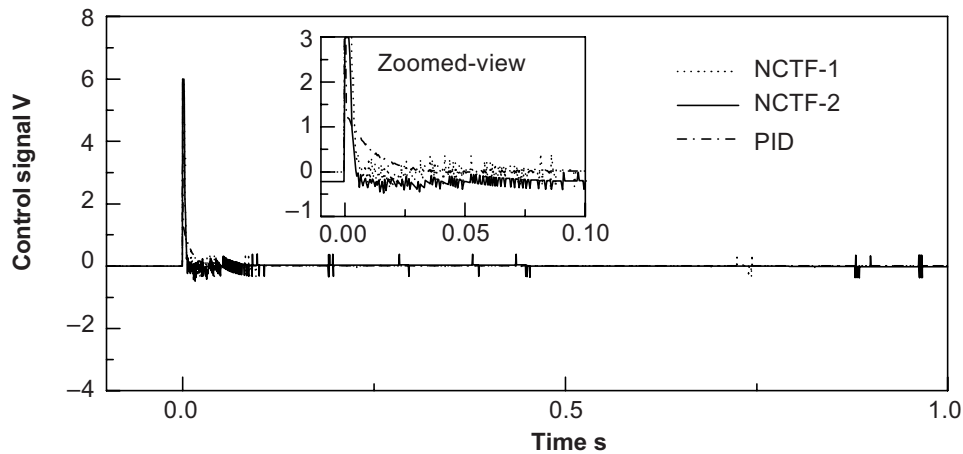
In this section, the performance of the positioning system using the NCTF (NCTF-2) controller with the anti-windup PI compensator was compared to that of a normal NCTF (NCTF-1) and PID controllers. Figure 10 shows the step responses to a 0.5-rad step input when the controllers were used to control normal plant and their positioning performances are summarized in Table 3. The positioning performance was evaluated based on maximum overshoot and 2% settling time. As shown in Figure 10(b), the 0.5-rad step input does not cause the saturation of the control signal. Here, it is clear that all of the controllers produce similar responses due to a similar bandwidth. Hence in terms of overshoot and settling time, all of the controllers gave a similar performance.

Moreover, in order to evaluate the robustness of the control system to inertia variation, all of the controllers were implemented using increased inertia plant. Figure 11 shows the step responses to a 0.5-rad step input when all of the controllers are implemented for controlling increased inertia plant. Table 3 shows the positioning performance

resulting from all of the controllers. Figure 11 and Table 3 show that both NCTF controllers give similar overshoot and settling time, while the PID controller results in the largest overshoot and longest settling time. Hence it can be concluded that both NCTF controllers give a better robustness to inertia variation than the PID controller. Both NCTF controllers give similar results because there is no significant saturation of the actuator as shown Figure 11(b). The result confirms that the use of anti-windup PI compensator does not affect the positioning performance, when there is no saturation of the actuator.

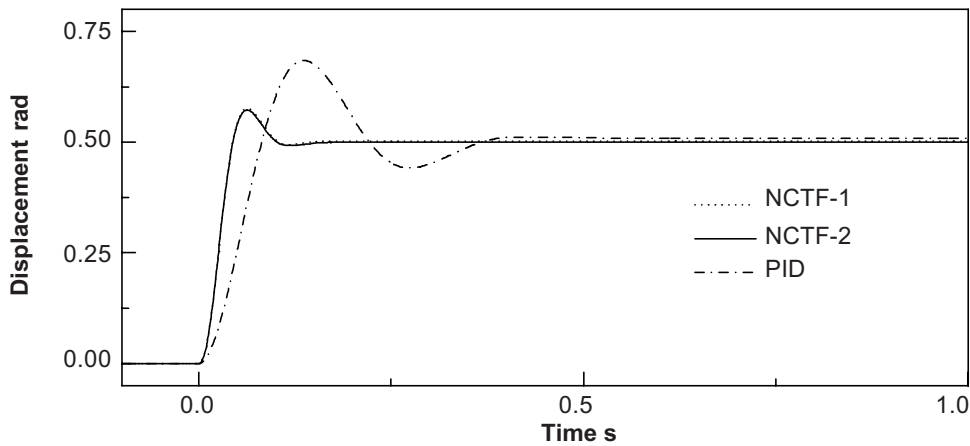


(a) Step responses to a 0.5-rad step input

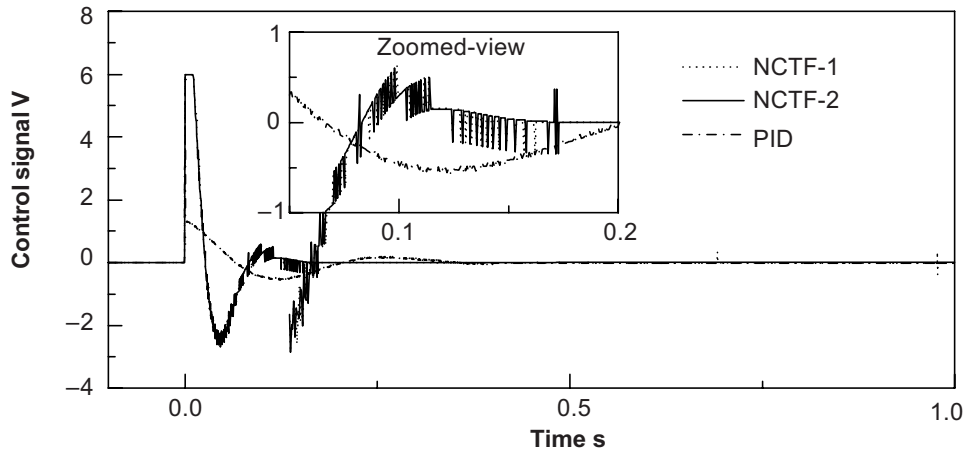


(b) Control signal

Figure 10 Comparison of response to a 0.5-rad step input, normal plant



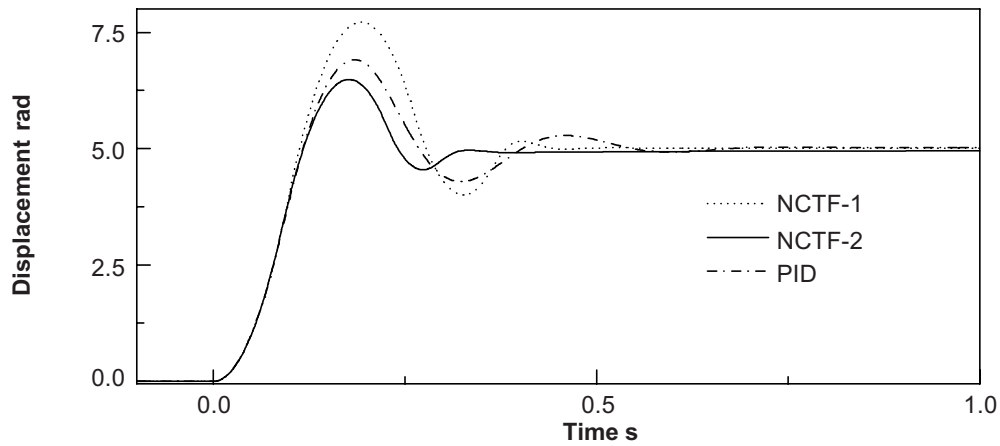
(a) Step responses to a 0.5-rad step input



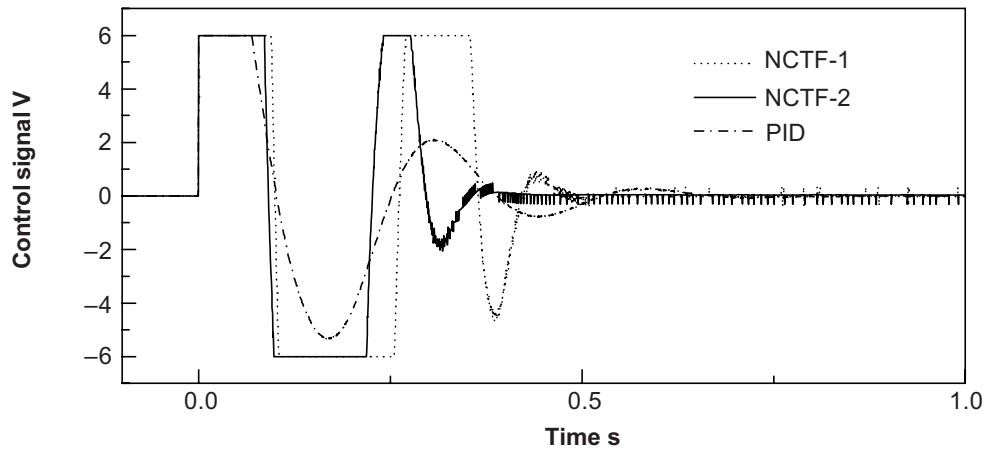
(b) Control signal

Figure 11 Comparison of response to a 0.5-rad step input, increased inertia plant

Next, simulation was done for a larger step input so that the actuator saturates. Figure 12 shows the step responses to a 5-rad step input when all of the controllers are implemented for controlling increased inertia plant. Table 4 shows the positioning performance resulting from all of the controllers. The saturation of the actuator occurs as shown in Figure 12(b). The saturation of the actuator causes an integrator windup when the positioning system is controlled by both NCTF-1 and PID controller. However, Figure 12(a) and Table 4 show that the performance of the positioning system with NCTF-1 is worse than that with PID controller since the NCTF-1 produces a larger overshoot than the PID controller. Hence the NCTF-1 becomes less robust to inertia variations when the saturation occurs compared to that of the PID controller. On the other hand, NCTF-2 which uses the anti-windup PI compensator can



(a) Step responses to a 0.5-rad step input



(b) Control signal

Figure 12 Comparison of response to a 5-rad step input, increased inertia plant**Table 3** Performance comparison, 0.5-rad step input

Plant	Controller	Settling time (sec)	Overshoot (%)
Normal	NCTF-1	0.059	0
	NCTF-2	0.060	0
	PID	0.072	0
Increased inertia	NCTF-1	0.097	15.2
	NCTF-2	0.095	14.8
	PID	0.486	36.8

Table 4 Performance comparison, 5-rad step input

Plant	Controller	Settling time (sec)	Overshoot (%)
Increased inertia	NCTF-1	0.420	54.3
	NCTF-2	0.312	29.7
	PID	0.520	38.2

successfully compensate the effect of integrator windup due to actuator saturation. As the results show, the improved NCTF controller (NCTF-2) gives a smaller overshoot and a shorter settling time than the other controllers. Hence it can be concluded that the improved NCTF controller which uses anti-windup PI compensator can maintain the robustness to parameter variations even if the actuator of the plant saturates.

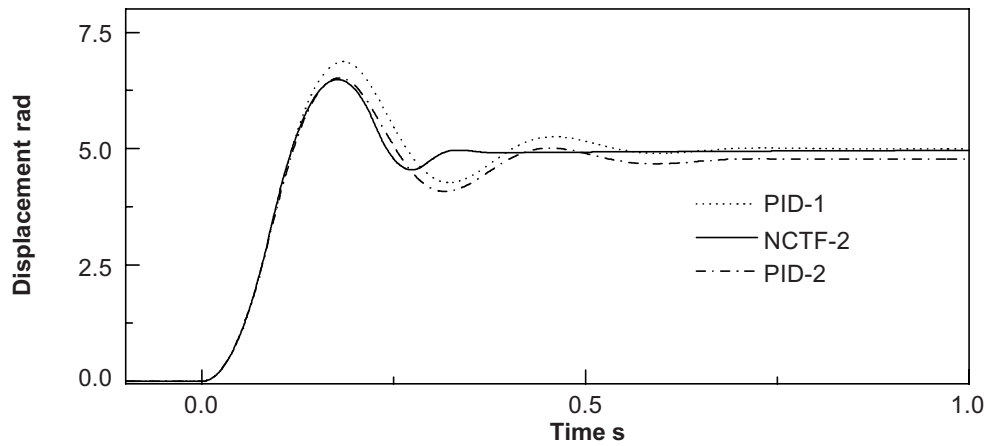
Another simulation was done to compare the improved NCTF controller with anti-windup PID controller. For this purpose, a conventional anti-windup discussed in reference [17] is adopted. The anti-windup PID controller has the following transfer function [17]:

$$U(s) = \left[K_p + \frac{K_I}{s} + K_D s \right] E(s) - \frac{KT}{s} [U(s) - U_s(s)] \quad (12)$$

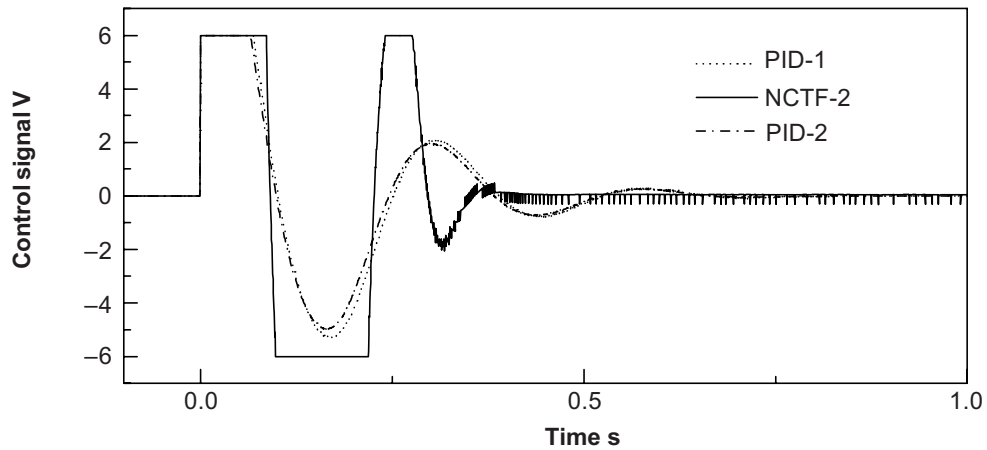
where K_T , $U(s)$ and $U_s(s)$ are tracking gain, unsaturated and saturated control outputs respectively. In this paper, two tracking gains, KT , were used. The first anti-windup PID controller (PID-1) uses a $K_T = K_I$, while the second anti-windup PID controller (PID-2) uses a tracking gain ratio $K_T = 12 K_I$. Figure 13 shows the step responses to a 5-rad step input when all of the controllers are implemented for controlling increased inertia plant. Table 5 shows the positioning performance resulting from all of the controllers. Figure 13 and Table 5 show that the use of anti-windup PID controllers improves the robustness to inertia variation compared with the normal PID controller shown in Table 4. However, as shown in Figure 13 and Table 5, they still give a larger overshoot and longer settling time than the improved NCTF controller. Therefore, they are still less robust to inertia variation compared with the improved NCTF controller. Hence it can be concluded that the improved NCTF controller is more robust than the anti-windup PID controllers.

Table 5 Anti-windup performance comparison, 5-rad step input

Plant	Controller	Settling time (sec)	Overshoot (%)
Increased inertia	NCTF-2	0.312	29.7
	PID-1	0.514	37.4
	PID-2	1.000	30.4



(a) Step responses to a 0.5-rad step input



(b) Control signal

Figure 13 Comparison of response to a 5-rad step input, increased inertia plant

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

This paper has documented the improvement of the NCTF controller to overcome the effects of integrator windup due to actuator saturation. A fuzzy anti-windup PI compensator was used as compensator for the NCTF controller instead of a conventional PI compensator. Through simulation using dynamic model of a rotary positioning system, the effectiveness of the NCTF controller with anti-windup PI compensator was evaluated. The improved NCTF controller was compared with the normal NCTF, PID and anti-windup PID controllers. The results confirm that the NCTF controller with the fuzzy anti-windup PI compensator is better than the other controllers. The use

of the fuzzy anti-windup PI compensator is more effective to overcome the problem due to integrator windup, compared to that of the other controllers. Moreover, the simulation results also confirm that the NCTF controller with an anti-windup PI compensator, which is designed based on a simple open loop experiment, gave the best positioning performance as well as performance robustness to parameter variations. Hence the ease of NCTF controller design process and a better performance and robustness compared to the PID controllers become the major advantage of the NCTF controller in the practical applications.

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