# Observers of a nonlinear neutral system modelling a musical brass instrument<sup>\*</sup>

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#### Abstract

A model of a trumpet-like instrument is described by a nonlinear neutral system controlled by the mouth pressure. The output is the pressure at the end of the pipe. A nonlinear state observer of this system is built. Local asymptotic stability of the error estimation is proved using a Lyapunov-based analysis and illustrated by simulations.

#### **Keywords**

Nonlinear neutral system, observer, Lyapunov function, musical instrument.

### 1 Introduction

The control of virtual musical instruments is as difficult as that of real instruments. Inverse problem techniques can help to capture skilled musicians' gestures, by recovering parameters and inputs from a target sound [1]. This paper solves a part of the global problem, building an asymptotically stable observer of the instrument state.

## 2 Simple model and neutral state-space representation

The trumpet-like instrument considered here couples an ODE (a valve including the mechanics of the lips) to a PDE (acoustic pipe ended with a real passive impedance) through a static nonlinear function (Bernoulli relation on the jet). Solving the PDE, the overall system can be described by the nonlinear neutral state space representation  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), x_3(t-\tau), \dot{x}_3(t-\tau), v(t-\frac{\tau}{2}))$ , with input  $v = [p_m, \dot{p}_m]^T$ , output  $y = [0, 0, 1 + \lambda]x$ ,  $(\lambda \in ] - 1, 1[)$ , state  $x(t) = [\xi(t) - \xi_e, \dot{\xi}, p^+(t)]^T$ , where

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 $\tau$ ,  $p_m$ ,  $\xi$  (/ $\xi_e$ ),  $p^+$  denote respectively the delay proportional to the length of the pipe, the mouth pressure, the distance between lips (/at equilibrium) and the ingoing pressure at the entrance of the pipe. Moreover,  $f_1(x, y, z, v) = [0, 1, 0]x$ ,  $f_2(x, y, z, v) = -\omega^2 x_1 - \alpha x_2 + \beta_0 x_3 + \lambda \beta_0 y + \beta_m v_1$ , and, if  $x_1 + \xi_e > 0$ ,  $f_3(x, y, z, v) = [v_2 - 2\lambda z + \frac{2x_2(v_1 - x_3 - \lambda y)}{x_1 + \xi_e}] [1 + \mu \frac{x_3 - \lambda y}{(x_1 + \xi_e)^2}]^{-1} + \lambda z$ , and if  $x_1 + \xi_e \leq 0$ ,  $f_3(x, y, z, v) = \lambda z$  where  $\beta_0$ ,  $\beta_m$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$  are positive coefficients depending on the lips and the pipe characteristics.

## 3 Observer, local robustness, and simulation results

An extended Kalman filter type observer is  $\dot{\hat{x}}(t) = f\left(\hat{x}(t), \hat{x}_3(t-\tau), \hat{x}_3(t-\tau), v(t-\frac{\tau}{2})\right) - \Lambda_1\left(y(t) - \hat{y}(t)\right) - \Lambda_2\left(y(t-\tau) - \hat{y}(t-\tau)\right)$  where the  $3 \times 1$  gain matrices  $\Lambda_1$ ,  $\Lambda_2$  are tuned so that the linearized error equation  $\dot{e}(t) = \hat{A}(t) e(t) + \hat{B}(t) e_3(t-\tau) + \hat{H}(t) \dot{e}_3(t-\tau)$  is asymptotically stable where  $e = x - \hat{x}$  and  $A(X, Y, Z, V) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial X}(X, Y, Z, V) + \Lambda_1[0, 0, 1+\lambda], \ B(X, Y, Z, V) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y}(X, Y, Z, V) + \Lambda_2(1+\lambda)$  and  $H(X, Y, Z, V) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial Z}(X, Y, Z, V)$  are evaluated at  $(X, Y, Z, V) = \left(\hat{x}(t), \hat{x}_3(t-\tau), \dot{x}_3(t-\tau), v(t-\frac{\tau}{2})\right)$ .

The tuning of  $\Lambda_1$ ,  $\Lambda_2$  and the proof rely on the four following key points:  $\Lambda_2$  can be tuned such that  $\hat{B} = 0$ ;  $||H(t)|| \le |\lambda| < 1$ ; let  $\chi > 0$ , then  $\Lambda_1$  can be chosen such that  $\hat{A}(t)$  takes the form  $\hat{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\omega^2 & -\alpha & 0 \\ \hline A_{31} & A_{32} & -\chi \end{pmatrix}$ , ensuring that  $e_1, e_2$  are decoupled from  $e_3$ ;  $\exists \kappa > 0, \eta > 0$  such that, for every solution of the error equation,

decoupled from  $e_3$ ;  $\exists \kappa > 0$ ,  $\eta > 0$  such that, for every solution of the error equation,  $e_1^2(t) + e_2^2(t) + e_3^2(t) + \int_{t-\tau}^t \dot{e_3}^2(s) ds \leq \kappa e^{-\eta t} \left( e_1^2(0) + e_2^2(0) + e_3^2(0) + \int_{-\tau}^0 \dot{e_3}^2(s) ds \right)$ (see [2] for a similar proof). Simulation results are given in Fig. 1.



Figure 1: Simulations of the system (-) and of the observer (--) from the measured output y (-) with  $\alpha = 150s^{-1}$ ,  $\chi = 160s^{-1}$ ,  $\tau = 2/340s$ ,  $p_m = 1.5e4Pa$  (Heaviside shape),  $\omega = 535s^{-1}$ , a deviation on initial conditions  $\hat{x}(0) = [1e - 3, 1e - 1, 0.2 p_m]^T$  and additional gaussian noise on the measured output with variance  $\sigma = 0.01p_m$ .

#### References

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