Analytical-numerical methods for investigation of hidden oscillations in nonlinear control systems

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Abstract: The method of harmonic linearization, numerical methods, and the applied bifurcation theory together discover new opportunities for analysis of oscillations of control systems. In the present survey analytical-numerical algorithms for hidden oscillation localization are discussed. Examples of hidden attractor localization in Chua’s circuit and counterexamples construction to Aizerman’s conjecture and Kalman’s conjecture are considered.

Keywords: hidden oscillation, hidden attractor, localization, harmonic balance, harmonic linearization, describing function method, absolute stability, Aizerman problem, Kalman problem, Chua’s circuit.

1. INTRODUCTION

The problem of hidden oscillations in nonlinear control systems forces to develop new approaches of nonlinear oscillation theory. During initial establishment and development of theory of nonlinear oscillations in the first half of 20th century (see [Timoshenko (1928); van der Pol (1920, 1926); Andronov et al. (1966); Stoker (1950)]) a main attention has been given to analysis and synthesis of oscillating systems for which the solution of existence problems of oscillating regimes was not too difficult. The structure itself of many systems was such that they had oscillating solutions, the existence of which was “almost obvious”. The arising in these systems periodic solutions were well seen by numerical analysis when numerical integration procedure of the trajectories allowed one to pass from small neighborhood of equilibrium to periodic solution. Therefore main attention of researchers was concentrated on analysis of forms and properties of these oscillations (the “almost” harmonic, relaxation, synchronous, circular, orbitally stable ones, and so on).

Further there came to light so called hidden oscillations - the oscillations, the existence itself of which is not obvious (which are “small” and, therefore, are difficult for numerical analysis or are not “connected” with equilibrium i.e. the creation of numerical procedure of integration of trajectories for the passage from equilibrium to periodic solution is impossible). The simplest examples of such hidden oscillations are family of nested small or large limit cycles in two-dimension dynamical systems (see, e.g., [Kuznetsov & Leonov (2008); Leonov (2010); Leonov et al. (2011)].

In the midpoint of twentieth century M.A.Aizerman [Aizerman (1949)] and R.E. Kalman [Kalman (1957)] formulated two conjectures, which occupy, at once, attention of many famous scholars [Krasovsky (1952); Malkin (1952); Erugin (1952); Pliss (1958); Lefschetz (1965); Barabanov et al. (1996)]. The attempts to refute these conjectures lead to creation of effective methods for the search of hidden oscillations.

In this work these effective methods are described and a new approach for the study of hidden oscillations, based on the union of analytical and numerical methods, is considered. These methods allow to localize not only hidden oscillations, but also strange attractors [Leonov (2006); Leonov et al. (1995); Leonov & Kuznetsov (2007); Leonov (2008a,b)]. In this work localization of hidden attractors (a basin of attraction of which does not contain neighborhoods of equilibria) in Chua’s systems is demonstrated.

2. ANALYTICAL-NUMERICAL METHOD FOR HIDDEN OSCILLATION LOCALIZATION

In the works [Leonov (2009a,b,c, 2010)] the methods of search of periodic solutions of multidimensional nonlinear dynamical systems with scalar nonlinearity were suggested. In the present work the approach suggested is generalized on the systems of the form

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = P x + \psi(x),$$

where $P$ is a constant $n \times n$-matrix, $\psi(x)$ is a continuous vector-function, and $\psi(0) = 0$.  

* The work was supported by Academy of Finland, Ministry of Education and Science of Russian Federation, St.Petrsburg State University, and RFBR.
For the search of periodic solution close to harmonic oscillation, we consider matrix $K$ such that the matrix $P_0 = P + K$ has a pair of purely imaginary eigenvalues $\pm i\omega_0 (\omega_0 > 0)$ and the rest of its eigenvalues have negative real parts. Then system (1) can be rewritten as
\[
\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = P_0 \mathbf{x} + \varphi(\mathbf{x}), \quad (2)
\]
where $\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \psi(\mathbf{x}) - K\mathbf{x}$.

Since we are interested in periodic solutions of system (2), it is natural to introduce a finite sequence of continuous functions $\varphi^0(\mathbf{x}), \varphi^1(\mathbf{x}), \ldots, \varphi^n(\mathbf{x})$ in such a way that the graphs of neighboring functions $\varphi^j$ and $\varphi^{j+1}$ in a sense, are slightly different from each other, the function $\varphi^0(\mathbf{x})$ is small, and $\varphi^n(\mathbf{x}) = \varphi(\mathbf{x})$.

In this case the smallness of function $\varphi^0(\mathbf{x})$ permits one to apply and justify the method of harmonic linearization for the system
\[
\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = P_0 \mathbf{x} + \varphi^0(\mathbf{x}), \quad (3)
\]
if the stable periodic solution $\mathbf{x}^0(t)$ close to harmonic one is determined. All the points of this stable periodic solution are located in the domain of attraction of stable periodic solution $\mathbf{x}^1(t)$ of the system
\[
\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = P_0 \mathbf{x} + \varphi^j(\mathbf{x}) \quad (4)
\]
with $j = 1$ or when passing from (3) to system (4) with $j = 1$, we observe the instability bifurcation destroying periodic solution. In the first case it is possible to find $\mathbf{x}^1(t)$ numerically, starting a trajectory of system (4) with $j = 1$ from the initial point $\mathbf{x}^0(0)$.

Starting from the point $\mathbf{x}^0(0)$, after transient process the computational procedure reaches the periodic solution $\mathbf{x}^1(T)$ and computes it. In this case the interval $(0, T)$, on which the computation is carried out, must be sufficiently large.

After the computation of $\mathbf{x}^1(T)$ it is possible to obtain the following system (4) with $j = 2$ and to organize a similar procedure of computing the periodic solution $\mathbf{x}^2(T)$, starting a trajectory, which with increasing $t$ approaches to periodic trajectory $\mathbf{x}^1(T)$, from the initial point $\mathbf{x}^2(0) = \mathbf{x}^1(T)$.

Proceeding this procedure and computing $\mathbf{x}^j(T)$, using trajectories of system (4) with the initial data $\mathbf{x}^0(0) = \mathbf{x}^j(0)$, we either arrive at periodic solution of system (4) with $j = m$ (i.e., at original system (2)) or observe, at a certain step, the instability bifurcation destroying periodic solution.

For system (3) with such function $\varphi^0(\mathbf{x})$ it turns out that it is possible to justify rigorously the method of harmonic linearization and to determine the initial conditions, for which system (3) has a stable periodic solution close to harmonic one.

Note that at some step the procedure may reach a locally stable attractor. This effect will be demonstrated here for Chua’s systems.

### 2.1 System reduction

By nonsingular linear transformation $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{S} \mathbf{y}$ system (3) can be reduced to the form
\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{y}_1 &= -\omega_0 y_2 + \phi_1(y_1, y_2, y_3), \\
\dot{y}_2 &= \omega_0 y_1 + \phi_2(y_1, y_2, y_3), \\
\dot{y}_3 &= \mathbf{A} y_3 + \phi_3(y_1, y_2, y_3),
\end{align*}
(5)
\]
where $\phi_1$ is an $(n-2)$-dimensional vector-function, $\phi_1, \phi_2$ are certain scalar functions; $y_1$ and $y_2$ are scalars, $y_3$ is an $(n-2)$-dimensional vector.

Here $\mathbf{A}$ is a constant $(n-2) \times (n-2)$ matrix, all eigenvalues of which have negative real parts. Without loss of generality, it may be assumed that for the matrix $\mathbf{A}$, there exists positive number $d > 0$ such that
\[
y_3^*(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^*) y_3 \leq -2d|y_3|^2, \quad \forall y_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{n-2} \quad (6)
\]
Here $*$ is a transposition operation.

For scalar case in (1) we have $\psi(y) = q \varphi(r^* y)$ and $K = k q r^*$, where $r$ and $q$ are $n$-dimensional vectors, $\varphi(\sigma)$ is a continuous scalar function ($\varphi(0) = 0$), $k$ is a coefficient of harmonic linearization. Here it is always possible by nonsingular linear transformation to reduce the system in a such way that
\[
\begin{align*}
\phi_1(y_1, y_2, y_3) &= b_1 \varphi(y_1 + c^* y_3), \\
\phi_2(y_1, y_2, y_3) &= b_2 \varphi(y_1 + c^* y_3), \\
\phi_3(y_1, y_2, y_3) &= b_3 \varphi(y_1 + c^* y_3),
\end{align*}
(7)
\]
where $b$ and $c$ are $(n-2)$-dimensional vectors, $b_1$ and $b_2$ are certain real numbers.

In scalar case one can write out the transfer function of system (2):
\[
W_1(p) = r^*(P_0 - p I)^{-1} q = \frac{np + \theta}{p^2 + \omega_0^2} + \frac{R(p)}{Q(p)}, \quad (8)
\]
and the transfer function of system (5):
\[
W_2(p) = \frac{-b_1 p - b_2 \omega_0}{p^2 + \omega_0^2} + c^* (A - p I)^{-1} b. \quad (9)
\]

Here $\eta$, $\theta$ are certain real numbers, $Q(p)$ is a stable polynomial of degree $(n-2)$, $R(p)$ is a polynomial of degree smaller than $(n-2)$. Suppose, the polynomials $R(p)$ and $Q(p)$ have no common roots. By equivalence of systems (2) and (5) the transfer functions of these systems coincide. This implies the relations
\[
\begin{align*}
\eta &= -b_1, \quad \theta = b_2 \omega_0, \quad c^* b + b_1 = r^* c = - \lim_{p \to \infty} p W_1(p), \\
\frac{R(p)}{Q(p)} &= c^* (A - p I)^{-1} b.
\end{align*}
(10)
\]

### 3. Poincaré Map for Harmonic Linearization in Noncritical Case

Consider system (5) with nonlinearity $\phi = \varepsilon \varphi$, where $\varepsilon$ is “classical” small positive parameter.

Suppose, for the vector-function $\varphi(y)$ the estimate
\[
|\varphi(y') - \varphi(y'')| \leq L|y' - y''|, \quad \forall y', y'' \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (11)
\]
is satisfied.

In a phase space of system (5) we introduce the following set
\[
\Omega = \{|y_3| \leq D \varepsilon, \quad y_2 = 0, \quad y_1 \in [a_1, a_2]\}. \quad (12)
\]
Here \( D, a_1, a_2 \) are certain positive numbers, which will be determined below.

Define \( n \)-dimensional vector \( \mathbf{O}_n(\varepsilon) \) as

\[
\mathbf{O}_n(\varepsilon) = \begin{pmatrix} O(\varepsilon) \\ \vdots \\ O(\varepsilon) \end{pmatrix}
\]

From condition (11) and the form of system (5) for solutions with initial data from \( \Omega \) we obtain the following relations

\[
\begin{align*}
y_1(t) &= \cos(\omega_0 t) y_1(0) + O(\varepsilon), \\
y_2(t) &= \sin(\omega_0 t) y_1(0) + O(\varepsilon), \\
y_3(t) &= \exp(A t) y_3(0) + \mathbf{O}_{n-2}(\varepsilon).
\end{align*}
\]

From formulas (13) it follows that for any point \((y_1(0), y_2(0) = 0, y_3(0))\), belonging to \( \Omega \), there exists a number

\[
T = T(y_1(0), y_3(0)) = 2\pi/\omega_0 + O(\varepsilon)
\]

such that relations

\[
y_1(T) > 0, \quad y_2(T) = 0
\]

are satisfied and conditions

\[
y_1(t) > 0, \quad y_2(t) = 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, T)
\]

are not satisfied.

Construct a Poincare map \( F \) of the set \( \Omega \) for the trajectories of system (5):

\[
F \begin{pmatrix} y_1(0) \\ 0 \\ y_3(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1(T) \\ 0 \\ y_3(T) \end{pmatrix}.
\]

Introduce the describing function

\[
\Phi(a) = \int_0^{2\pi/\omega_0} \left[ \varphi_1(\cos\omega_0 t) a, (\sin\omega_0 t) a, 0 \right] \cos\omega_0 t + \\
+ \varphi_2(\cos\omega_0 t) a, (\sin\omega_0 t) a, 0 \sin\omega_0 t \right] dt.
\]

From estimates (13) and condition on nonlinearity (11) for solutions of system (5) we obtain the following relations

\[
|y_3(T)| \leq D \varepsilon,
\]

\[
y_3^2(T) - y_2^2(0) = 2 y_1(0) \Phi(y_1(0)) + O(\varepsilon^2).
\]

**Theorem 1.** If the inequalities

\[
\Phi(a_1) > 0, \quad \Phi(a_2) < 0
\]

are satisfied, then for small enough \( \varepsilon > 0 \) the Poincare map \( F \) of the set \( \Omega \) into itself is as follows

\[
F \Omega \subset \Omega.
\]

From this theorem and the Brouwer fixed point theorem we have the following

**Theorem 2.** If the inequalities (17) are satisfied, then for small enough \( \varepsilon > 0 \) system (5) has a periodic solution with the period

\[
T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0} + O(\varepsilon).
\]

This solution is stable in the sense that its neighborhood \( \Omega \) is mapped into itself: \( F \Omega \subset \Omega \).

**Corollary 3.** If the conditions

\[
\Phi(a_0) = 0, \eta \frac{d \Phi(a)}{da} \bigg|_{a=a_0} > 0
\]

are satisfied, then for small enough \( \varepsilon > 0 \) system with scalar nonlinearity and with transfer function (8) has \( T \)-periodic solution such that

\[
r^* y(t) = a_0 \cos(\omega_0 t) + O(\varepsilon), \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0} + O(\varepsilon).
\]

Corollary 3 formally coincide with the procedure of search of stable periodic solutions by means of the harmonic linearization method [Khalil (2002)] (in noncritical case — nonlinearity does not belong to stability sector).

4. HIDDEN ATTRACTOR LOCALIZATION IN CHUA’S SYSTEM

Let us apply the above algorithm to fulfil localization of attractors of the systems, which were obtained by Chua and his progenies in studying nonlinear electrical circuits with feedback [Chua & Lin (1990); Chua (1992a,b); Bilotta & Pantano (2008); Chen & Ueta (2002)]. The systems of differential equations, describing the behavior of Chua’s circuits, are three-dimensional dynamical systems with scalar nonlinearity.

Let us consider Chua’s system represented in dimensionless quantities.

\[
\dot{x} = \alpha(y - x) - \alpha \psi(x),
\]

\[
\dot{y} = x - y + z,
\]

\[
\dot{z} = - (\beta y + \gamma z).
\]

Here the function

\[
\psi(x) = m_1 x + (m_0 - m_1) \operatorname{sat}(x) = \\
m_1 x + \frac{1}{2} (m_0 - m_1) [\left| x + 1 \right| - \left| x - 1 \right|]
\]

describes a nonlinear element of system, it is also called Chua’s diode, \( \alpha, \beta, \gamma, m_0, m_1 \) are parameters of the classical Chua’s system.

For attractor localization of this system we plug-in [Kuznetsov et al. (2010)] the coefficient \( k \) and the small parameter \( \varepsilon \) into system (18) and construct solutions of system (18) with the nonlinearity \( \varepsilon \psi(x) = \varepsilon (\psi(x) - k x) \) by means of sequential increasing \( \varepsilon \) with the step 0.1 from the value \( \varepsilon_1 = 0.1 \) to \( \varepsilon_0 = 1 \).

Corollary 3 allows to compute the initial data for the system (5). We have to calculate the matrix \( S \) transforming system (1) into (5) to obtain the initial data for the system (1).

Rewrite Chua’s system as a Lur’e system

\[
\frac{dx}{dt} = P x + q \psi(r^* x),
\]

where

\[
x \in \mathbb{R}^3, \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha (m_1 + 1) & 0 & 0 \\
1 & -1 & 1 \\
0 & -\beta & -\gamma \end{pmatrix}, \quad q = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha \\
0 \\
0 \end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
r = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\
0 \\
0 \end{pmatrix}.
\]
Further consider the coefficient $k$, small parameter $\varepsilon$ and rewrite system (20) in the form of (3)
\[
\frac{dx}{dt} = P_0x + \ldots
\]
where
\[
P_0 = P + kqr^* = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha(m_1 + 1 + k) & \alpha & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\beta & -\gamma \end{pmatrix},
\]
\[
\lambda_1^0 = \pm i\omega_0, \quad \lambda_1^0 = -d < 0,
\]
\[
\varphi(\sigma) = \psi(\sigma) - k\sigma.
\]
Using a nonsingular linear transformation $x = Sy$, it is possible to transform system (21) into the form
\[
\frac{dy}{dt} = Hy + b\varphi(u^*y),
\]
where
\[
H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\omega_0 & 0 \\ \omega_0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -d \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.
\]
Here the transfer functions $W_H(p)$ of system (22) can be represented as
\[
W_H(p) = -b_1p + b_2\omega_0 \frac{h}{p^2 + \omega_0^2} + \frac{h}{p + d}.
\]
Then, using the equality of transfer functions
\[
W_H(p) = r^*(P_0 - pI)^{-1}q
\]
of system (21) and system (22), one can obtain
\[
k = -\alpha(m_1 + m_2 + 1) + \alpha \omega_0^2 - \gamma - \beta,
\]
\[
d = \frac{\alpha + \omega_0^2 - \beta + 1 + \gamma + \gamma^2}{1 + \gamma},
\]
\[
h = \frac{\alpha(\gamma + \beta - (1 + \gamma)d + d^2)}{\omega_0^2 + d^2},
\]
\[
b_1 = \frac{\alpha(\gamma + \beta - \omega_0^2 - (1 + \gamma)d)}{\omega_0^2 + d^2},
\]
\[
b_2 = \frac{\alpha((1 + \gamma - d)\omega_0^2 + (\gamma + \beta)d)}{\omega_0^2 + d^2}.
\]
Since system (21) transforms into system (22) by nonsingular linear conversion $x = Sy$, therefore, the matrix $S$ satisfies the following equations
\[
S = S^{-1}P_0S, \quad b = S^{-1}q, \quad u^* = r^*S.
\]
Solving these matrix equations, for the matrix
\[
S = \begin{pmatrix} s_{11} & s_{12} & s_{13} \\ s_{21} & s_{22} & s_{23} \\ s_{31} & s_{32} & s_{33} \end{pmatrix},
\]
we obtain
\[
s_{11} = 1, \quad s_{12} = 0, \quad s_{13} = -h,
\]
\[
s_{21} = m_1 + 1 + k, \quad s_{22} = -\omega_0,
\]
\[
s_{23} = -\frac{h(a(m_1 + 1 + k) - \alpha)}{\alpha},
\]
\[
s_{31} = \frac{\alpha(m_1 + k) - \omega_0^2}{\alpha},
\]
\[
s_{32} = -\frac{\alpha(\beta + \gamma)(m_1 + k) + \alpha\beta - \gamma\omega_0^2}{\alpha},
\]
\[
s_{33} = \frac{h\alpha(m_1 + k)(d - 1) + d(1 + \alpha - d)}{\alpha}.
\]
For small enough $\varepsilon$ one can obtain the initial data
\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{y}(0) &= \begin{pmatrix} y_1(0) \\ y_2(0) \\ y_3(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},
\end{align*}
\]
Fig. 2. System with $\varepsilon = 1$: trajectory projection on $(x,y)$; stability sector and nonlinearity $\phi^{10}(\sigma) = \text{sat}(\sigma)$.

to the stable one for the values $\varepsilon_1 = 0.1$ and $\varepsilon_{10} = 1$ respectively are shown in the Fig. 2.

4.1 Generalized Chua’s system with scalar nonlinearity

Let us consider system (18) with following nonlinearity (generalized Chua’s system)

$$
\psi(x) = m_1 x + (m_0 - m_1)\text{sat}(x) + \frac{1}{2}(s - m_0)(|x + \delta_0| - |x - \delta_0|),
$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, m_0, m_1$ are parameters of the classical Chua’s system, and $\delta_0$ and $s$ are parameters that determine the stability of zero equilibrium.

Modified and classical nonlinearities are shown in the Fig. 3. The shaded area is the stability sector.

The procedure described above can be used for numerical localization of attractor of the generalized Chua’s system. Here

$$
P_0 = P + kqr^* = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha(1 + k) & \alpha & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\beta & -\gamma \end{pmatrix},
$$

and $d, h, b_1, b_2$ are as in (23).

Solving matrix equations (24), for the matrix $S$ we obtain

$$
s_{11} = 1, \quad s_{12} = 0, \quad s_{13} = -h,
$$

$$
s_{21} = 1 + k, \quad s_{22} = \frac{\omega_0}{\alpha}, \quad s_{23} = \frac{h(d - ka - \alpha)}{\alpha},
$$

$$
s_{31} = \frac{k\alpha - \omega_0^2}{\alpha}, \quad s_{32} = \frac{(\alpha\beta + ka\beta + ka\gamma - \gamma\omega_0^2)}{\alpha\omega_0},
$$

$$
s_{33} = \frac{h(d^2 - (1 + \alpha + ka)d + ka)}{\alpha}.
$$

For small enough $\varepsilon$ one can obtain the initial data

$$
x(0) = a_0, \quad y(0) = a_0(1 + k), \quad z(0) = a_0\frac{ka - \omega_0^2}{\alpha},
$$

(28) for the first step of the multistep procedure for localization of hidden oscillation.

Let us apply localization procedure, described above. Consider an example $s = -0.31, \delta_0 = 0.2, a = 0.1691, b = -0.4768, \alpha = -1.398, \beta = -0.0136, \gamma = -0.0297$.

Firstly, we compute the coefficient of harmonic linearization $k = -0.3067$ and the value of “start” frequency $\omega_0 = 0.6436$. Using relations (28) we obtain initial data $x(0) = -1.1061, y(0) = -0.7669, z(0) = 0.0115$ for the first step of multistage procedure of construction of solutions. For $\varepsilon_1 = 0.1$ after transient process the computational procedure arrives at an almost periodic solution close to harmonic one. Further, with increasing parameter $\varepsilon$ this periodic solution will be transformed into chaotic attractor of the type “double-scroll” [Bilotta & Pantano (2008)].

In this system, in despite of the existence of stable zero equilibrium, the described procedure also allows one to go on “hidden” attractor by means of sequential approximations. The projections of solutions on the plane $\{x, y\}$ for the values $\varepsilon_1 = 0.1, \varepsilon_3 = 0.3, \varepsilon_7 = 0.7$, and $\varepsilon_{10} = 1$, are shown in the Fig. 4 respectively.

4.2 Generalized Chua’s system with vector nonlinearity

Consider modification of Chua’s system

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

$$
\dot{y} = x - y + z + g(y),
$$

$$
\dot{z} = -\beta y + \gamma z,
$$

where

$$
f_m(x) = (k_1 x + k_3 x^3 + k_5 x^5), \quad g(x) = cy^2.
$$

(30)

Let $k_1 = -0.3092, k_3 = 0.6316, k_5 = -0.3$, then zero solution of system (29) is stable.

Taking $\omega_0 = 2.5, d = 10$ (so we define matrix $H$, and one can obtain linearization matrix $K$), the above procedure
allows us to get initial data $x(0) = -1.5728$, $y(0) = 0$, $z(0) = 0$ for the first step of multistage procedure of construction of solutions. For $\varepsilon_1 = 0.1$ after transient process the computational procedure arrives at a almost periodic solution close to harmonic one. Further, with increasing parameter $\varepsilon$ this periodic solution will be transformed into hidden attractor.

Consider (1) with scalar nonlinearity
\[ \frac{dx}{dt} = P x + q_\varphi(r^* x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \tag{31} \]
where $\varphi(\sigma)$ is a continuous piecewise-differentiable scalar function and $\varphi(0) = 0$. Suppose that for all $k \in (\mu_1, \mu_2)$ a zero solution of system (31) with $\varphi(\sigma) = k\sigma$ is asymptotically stable in the large (i.e., a zero solution is Lyapunov stable and any solution of system (31) tends to zero as $t \to \infty$. In other words, a zero solution is a global attractor of system (31) with $\varphi(\sigma) = k\sigma$.

In 1949 M.A. Aizerman formulated [Aizerman (1949)] the following conjecture: any system (31) with a nonlinearity, satisfying the property
\[ \mu_1 \sigma < \varphi(\sigma) < \mu_2 \sigma \quad \sigma \neq 0, \tag{32} \]
is stable in the large.

The necessary criteria of absolute stability [Leonov et al. (1996)] contradict this hypothesis.

In 1957 R.E. Kalman has formulated a similar hypothesis [Kalman (1957)] with more restrictive condition: if at the points of differentiability of $\varphi(\sigma)$ the condition
\[ \mu_1 < \varphi'(\sigma) < \mu_2 \tag{33} \]
is satisfied, then system (31) is stable in the large.

It is well known that this hypothesis is valid for $n = 2$ and $n = 3$ (see, e.g., Leonov et al. (1996)).

The only widely cited in literature counterexample to this hypothesis is due to Fitts [Fitts (1966)]. It is obtained by numerical modeling of system (31) for $n = 4$ with the transfer function
\[ W(p) = \frac{p^2}{[(p + \beta)^2 + 0.9^2][(p + \beta)^2 + 1.1^2]} \tag{34} \]
and the cubic nonlinearity $\varphi(\sigma) = k\sigma^3$.

Below we describe a computer modeling of the Fitts’ system. Reconstructing the system from transfer function (34) for $\beta = 0.01$ and $k = 10$, we obtain
\[ \begin{align*}
\dot{x}_1 &= x_2,
\dot{x}_2 &= x_3,
\dot{x}_3 &= x_4,
\dot{x}_4 &= -0.9803x_1 - 0.0404x_2 - 2.0206x_3 - 0.0400x_4 + \varphi(-x_3),
\end{align*} \tag{35} \]
where $\varphi(\sigma) = 10\sigma^3$.

Modeling this system with initial data $x_1(0) = 85.1189$, $x_2(0) = 0.9222$, $x_3(0) = -2.0577$, $x_4(0) = -2.6850$, we obtain a “periodic” solution (Fig. 6).
the results of experiments performed by Fitts for some of the parameter values $\beta \in (0.572, 0.75)$ are incorrect.

In [Barabanov (1988)] a proof of the existence of a system of the form (31) with $n = 4$ for which Kalman’s conjecture is false was presented; this is an “existence theorem” and needs to be carefully checked.

In Barabanov (1988), the system
\[\begin{align*}
\dot{x}_1 &= x_3, \\
\dot{x}_2 &= -x_4, \\
\dot{x}_3 &= x_1 - 2x_4 - \varphi(x_4), \\
\dot{x}_4 &= x_1 + x_3 - x_4 - \varphi(x_4),
\end{align*}\]
was considered. To construct counterexample to Kalman’s conjecture here one has to choose a nonlinearity “close” to $\text{sign}(\sigma)$ and with positive derivative (because linear stability sector here is $(0,k)$). So we slightly change the form of this nonlinearity as
\[\varphi(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 
5\sigma, & \forall |\sigma| \leq \frac{1}{5}; \\
\text{sign}(\sigma) + \frac{1}{25}(\sigma - \text{sign}(\sigma)\frac{1}{5}), & \forall |\sigma| > \frac{1}{5}.
\end{cases}\] (37)
The graph of this nonlinearity is shown in Fig. 7.

Fig. 7. The graph of $\varphi(\sigma)$ and the stability sector

Let us find a periodic solution to system (36) with nonlinearity (37). Modeling this system with initial data $x_1(0) = 0, x_2(0) = 1/2, x_3(0) = 0, x_4(0) = 0$, we obtain the periodic solution shown in (Fig. 8).

Fig. 8. The projection of the trajectory of system (36) with initial data $x_1(0) = 0, x_2(0) = 1/2, x_3(0) = 0, x_4(0) = 0$ on the plane $(x_3, x_4)$

In [Bernat & Llibre (1996); Meisters (1996); Glutsyuk (1997)], “gaps” presented in [Barabanov (1988)] were pointed out: thus, in [Bernat & Llibre (1996)], we read “He tried to prove that this system and systems close to this have a periodic orbit. But his arguments are not complete, and we checked numerically that in the region where he tries to find the periodic orbit all the solutions have $\omega$-limit equal to the origin”.

In [Bernat & Llibre (1996)] an attempt to overcome these “gaps” by analytical-numerical methods was made.

Let us model the system proposed in [Bernat & Llibre (1996)], namely,
\[\begin{align*}
\dot{x}_1 &= x_2, \\
\dot{x}_2 &= -x_4, \\
\dot{x}_3 &= x_1 - 2x_4 - \frac{9131}{900} \varphi(x_4), \\
\dot{x}_4 &= x_1 + x_3 - x_4 - \frac{1837}{180} \varphi(x_4),
\end{align*}\] (38)
where
\[\varphi(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 
\sigma, & \forall |\sigma| \leq \frac{900}{9185}; \\
\text{sign}(\sigma) \frac{900}{9185}, & \forall |\sigma| > \frac{900}{9185}.
\end{cases}\] (39)
The graph of such a nonlinearity is shown in Fig. 9.

Fig. 9. The graph of $\varphi(\sigma)$ and the stability sector

Modeling the solution of system (38) with initial data $x_1(0) = 0, x_2(0) = 1/2, x_3(0) = 0, x_4(0) = 0$, we obtain the periodic solution shown in Fig. 10.

Fig. 10. Trajectory of system (38) projection on $(x_3, x_4)$

To construct counterexample to Kalman’s conjecture here one has to choose a nonlinearity “close” to $\text{sat}(\sigma)$ and with
positive derivative (because linear stability sector here is
(0,k)).

It should be mentioned that in the examples considered
above the search procedure for systems with periodic
solutions is empirical. The search for systems themselves,
as well as for their solutions, is very time- and labor-
consuming.

In the present work an effective algorithm for the con-
struction of classes of systems (31), for which Kalman’s
conjecture is untrue, is suggested.

5.1 Justification of harmonic linearization in critical case

It is well known that the method of harmonic balance
gives wrong answer to Aizerman and Kalman problems
(no periodic solutions: $a_0$ from corollary 3 is always equal
to zero). But for a special class of nonlinearities there it is
possible to justify describing functions method.

Let us assume first that $\mu_1 = 0, \mu_2 > 0$ and consider
system (5) with nonlinearity $\varphi^0(\sigma)$ of special form

$$\varphi^0(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \mu \sigma, & \forall |\sigma| \leq \varepsilon; \\
\text{sign}(\sigma)M\varepsilon^3, & \forall |\sigma| > \varepsilon. \end{cases} \quad (40)$$

Here $\mu < \mu_2$ and $M$ are certain positive numbers, $\varepsilon$ is a
small positive parameter.

Then the following result occurs.

Theorem 4. (Leonov (2009a)). If the inequalities

$$b_1 < 0,$$

$$0 < \mu b_2 \omega_0 (c^* b + b_1 + b_1 \omega_0^2)$$

are satisfied, then for small enough $\varepsilon$ system (5) with
nonlinearity $\phi = b_1 \varphi^0$ has orbitally stable periodic solution,
satisfying the following relations

$$y_1(t) = -\sin(\omega_0 t)x_2(0) + O(\varepsilon),$$
$$y_2(t) = \cos(\omega_0 t)x_2(0) + O(\varepsilon), y_3(t) = O(\varepsilon),$$
$$y_1(0) = O(\varepsilon^2),$$
$$y_2(0) = -\frac{\mu b_2 \omega_0 (c^* b + b_1 + b_1 \omega_0^2)}{-3 \omega_0^2 M b_1} + O(\varepsilon),$$
$$y_3(0) = O(\varepsilon^2).$$

The methods for the proof of this theorem are developed in
[Leonov et al. (1996); Leonov (2009a, 2010)].

Based on this theorem, it is possible to apply described
above multi-step procedure for the localization of hidden
oscillations: initial data obtained in this theorem allow to
step aside from stable zero equilibrium and to start nu-
merical localization of possible oscillations [Leonov (2010);
Leonov et al. (2010), Bragin et al. (2010)]

For that we consider a finite sequence of piecewise-linear
functions

$$\varphi^j(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \mu \sigma, & \forall |\sigma| \leq \varepsilon_j; \\
\text{sign}(\sigma)M\varepsilon^3, & \forall |\sigma| > \varepsilon_j. \end{cases} \quad (42)$$

Here function $\varphi^m(\sigma)$ is monotone continuous piecewise-
linear function $\text{sat}(\sigma)$ (“saturation”).
output of system $r^* x(t) = x_1(t) - 10.1 x_3(t) - 0.1 x_4(t)$ are shown in Fig. 12.

Fig. 12. $\varepsilon = 0.1$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

From the figure it follows that after transient process stable periodic solution is reached. At the first step the computational procedure is ended at the point $x_1(T) = 0.7945$, $x_2(T) = 1.7846$, $x_3(T) = 0.0018$, $x_4(T) = -0.0002$, where $T = 1000\pi$.

Further, for $j = 2$ we take the following initial data: $x_1(0) = 0.7945$, $x_2(0) = 1.7846$, $x_3(0) = 0.0018$, $x_4(0) = -0.0002$, and obtain next periodic solutions.

Fig. 13. $\varepsilon = 0.2$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Proceeding this procedure for $j = 3, \ldots, 10$, we sequentially approximate (Fig. 14–20) a periodic solution of system (44) (Fig. 21).

Fig. 14. $\varepsilon = 0.3$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Note that for $\varepsilon_j = 1$ the nonlinearity $\varphi^j(\sigma)$ is monotone. The computational process is ended at the point $x_1(T) = 1.6193$, $x_2(T) = -29.7162$, $x_3(T) = -0.2529$, $x_4(T) = 1.2179$, where $T = 1000\pi$.

We also remark that here if instead of sequential increasing of $\varepsilon_j$, we compute a solution with initial data according to (41) for $\varepsilon = 1$, then the solution will “falls down” to zero.

Fig. 15. $\varepsilon = 0.4$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Fig. 16. $\varepsilon = 0.5$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Fig. 17. $\varepsilon = 0.6$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Fig. 18. $\varepsilon = 0.7$: trajectory projection on the plane $(x_1, x_2)$

Change the nonlinearity $\varphi(\sigma)$ to the strictly increasing function $\psi(\sigma)$, where $\mu = 1, \varepsilon_m = 1, N = 0.01$, for $i=1,\ldots,5$, and, continue the sequential construction of periodic solutions for system (44). The graph of such nonlinearity is shown in Fig. 22.

The periodic solutions obtained are shown in Fig. 23–27.

In the case of the computation of solution for $i = 6$ there occurs the vanishing of periodic solution (Fig. 28).
Example 2. For system (44) with smooth strictly increasing nonlinearity

\[ \varphi(\sigma) = \tanh(\sigma) = \frac{e^\sigma - e^{-\sigma}}{e^\sigma + e^{-\sigma}} \]  

there exists a periodic solution (Fig. 29). Here

\[ 0 < \frac{d}{d\sigma} \tanh(\sigma) \leq 1, \forall \sigma. \]

Here on the first step it is possible to apply described above method to reach saturation function; on the second — “slightly” by small steps transform saturation to tanh.
N.E. Barabanov et al. Frequency theorem (Yakubovich-Kalman lemma) in the control theory. Avtomatika i Telemekhanika, Iss. 9, 3–40, 1996.
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