Improved Results on Finite Time Stability of Time Delay Systems: Jensen's Inequality-based Approach

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In this study, finite-time stability of the linear continuous time-delay systems was investigated. A novel formulation of the Lyapunov-like function was used to develop a new sufficient delay-dependent condition for finite-time stability. The proposed function does not need to be positive-definite in the whole state space, and it does not need to have negative derivatives along the system trajectories. The proposed method was compared with the previously developed and reported methodologies. It was concluded that the stability investigation using the novel condition for stability investigation was less complicated for numerical calculations. Furthermore, it gives results in comparison with the ones obtained with other analyzed conditions, and it provides superior results for these class of systems.

Key words: Continuous time-delay systems, Finite time stability, Algebraic inequalities

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of Lyapunov asymptotic stability is widely known in the control community. However, in some cases, Lyapunov asymptotic stability approach is not sufficient in the practical applications. Sometimes large values of state variables are not practically acceptable, for instance in the cases where saturation is present. In these cases, it is of particular significance to consider the behavior of dynamical systems only over a finite time interval. For this purpose, the concept of finite-time stability (FTS) can be used. For a system, it is said to be FTS once a time interval is fixed if its state does not exceed some bounds during this time interval.

This concept stability dates back to the 1950s [1-3]. Since then, the researchers' interest has moved toward the classical Lyapunov stability due to the lack of operative test conditions for FTS. Recently, the concept of FTS has been revisited in the prospective of the linear matrix inequality theory, which has allowed the formulation of less conservative conditions that can guarantee both FTS and finite-time stabilization of the linear continuous time systems. Many valuable results have been obtained for this type of stability, such as the ones reported in [4-11]. Time delay and parameter uncertainty are commonly encountered in various technical systems, such as electric, pneumatic and hydraulic networks, chemical processes, and long transmission lines.

It has been shown that the existence of delay and uncertainty is the source of instability and poor performance of control systems.

Similar to the systems without delay, there is a need to investigate FTS for a class of time-delay systems. There are few results on FTS of time-delay systems. Some early results on FTS of time-delay systems can be found in [12–18]. The results of these investigations are conservative because they use boundedness properties of the system response, i.e, of the solution of system models.

Recently, based on the linear matrix inequality (LMI) theory, some results have been obtained for FTS
for some particular classes of time-delay systems [19–22].

In this article, a novel delay dependent condition for the finite-time stability of the linear continuous time-delay systems has been presented. To solve the problem of FTS, we used the Lyapunov-like method. The sufficient condition is expressed in the form of algebraic inequality. The computation of the proposed conditions was presented throughout the numerical example.

2. PRELIMINARIES AND PROBLEM FORMULATION

The following notations has been used throughout the paper. Superscript “T” stands for matrix transposition. $\mathbb{R}^n$ denotes the $n$-dimensional Euclidean space and $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ is the set of all real matrices having dimension $(n \times m)$. $F > 0$ means that $F$ is real symmetric and positive definite and $F > G$ means that the matrix $(F - G)$ is positive definite. $\mu(F)$ and $\mu_2(F)$, where $\mu_2(F) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\text{max}}(F + F^T)$ are the matrix measures of matrix $F$, respectively. Matrices are assumed to be compatible for algebraic operations if their dimensions are not explicitly stated.

Consider the following linear system with time delay:

$$
\dot{x}(t) = A_0 x(t) + A_1 (x(t - \tau))
$$

with a known vector valued function of the initial conditions:

$$
x(t) = \varphi(t), \quad t \in [-\tau, 0]
$$

where $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the state vector, $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is the control input, $A_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $A_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ are known constant matrices, $\tau$ is constant time delay. The initial condition, $\varphi(t)$ is a continuous and differentiable vector-valued function of $t \in [-\tau, 0]$.

In this study, the finite-time stability of the class of systems (1) has been investigated.

Definition 1. Time-delay system (1) satisfying the given initial condition (2) is said to be finite-time stable (FTS) with respect to $\{\alpha, \beta, T\}$ if:

$$
\sup_{t \in [-\tau, 0]} \varphi^T(t) \varphi(t) \leq \alpha \Rightarrow x(t)^T x(t) < \beta, \forall t \in [0, T]
$$

Lemma 1. (Jensen’s integral inequality) For any positive symmetric constant matrix $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, scalars $a, b$ satisfying $a < b$, a vector function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ exists, such that the integrations are well defined, and:

$$
\left( \int_a^b f(\theta) d\theta \right)^T M \left( \int_a^b f(\theta) d\theta \right) \leq (b - a) \int_a^b f(\theta) M f(\theta) d\theta
$$

(4)

In the following part, some existing results on delay dependent stability conditions are presented. These stability conditions were used for comparison against the results derived in this study.

Theorem 1. The time-delayed system (1) with the function of initial conditions (2) is finite time stable with respect to $\{\alpha, \beta, T\}$ if there exists a positive scalar $\Lambda^\alpha$ such that the following condition holds:

$$
e^{\alpha \max t} \frac{\beta}{\alpha}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{I}
$$

(5)

where:

$$
\Lambda^\alpha = \lambda_{\text{max}} \left( (A_0^T + A_0) + (A_1^T + A_1) \right)
$$

$$
+ \tau \cdot \lambda_{\text{max}} \left( \varphi (A_1 A_0 A_0^T + A_1 A_1 A_1^T) + 2 q^2 I \right)
$$

(6)

with: $\varphi > 0$, $q > 0$ and $\mathbb{I} = [0, T]$, [17].

Theorem 2. Time-delayed system (1) with the function of initial conditions (2) is finite time stable with respect to $\{\alpha, \beta, T\}$ if there exists a positive scalar $\Lambda$ such that the following condition holds:

$$
(1 + \tau) e^{\Lambda \max t} \frac{\beta}{\alpha}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{I}
$$

(7)

where:

$$
\Lambda = \lambda_{\text{max}} (\Pi),
$$

$$
\Pi = (A_0^T + A_0) + A_1 A_1^T + I
$$

(8)

with $\Pi$ being symmetric matrix with all eigenvalues defined over the set of real numbers, [18].

Theorem 3. Time-delayed system (1) with the function of initial conditions (2) is finite time stable with respect to $\{\alpha, \beta, T\}$ if non-negative scalars $\varphi, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$ exist as well as positive definite symmetric matrices $P$ and $Q$ such that the following conditions holds, [21]:

$$
\Xi = \begin{pmatrix}
A_0^T P + PA_0 + Q - \varphi P & PA_1 \\
A_1^T P & -Q
\end{pmatrix} < 0
$$

(9)

$$
\gamma_1 I < P < \gamma_2 I, \quad 0 < Q < \gamma_3 I
$$

(10)

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
-\gamma_1 \beta e^{-\alpha T} & \gamma_2 \sqrt{\alpha} & \gamma_3 \sqrt{\alpha} e^{-\alpha T} \\
* & -\gamma_2 & 0 \\
* & * & -\gamma_3
\end{pmatrix} < 0
$$

(11)
3. MAIN RESULT

In this section, the Lyapunov-like approach was used in order to find sufficient delay dependent conditions of finite time stability for the time delayed systems.

In the following part, a lemma necessary for construction of the system aggregation function is presented.

It was observed that the novel result presented here is based on the result given in [23].

Lemma 2. Let a scalar aggregation function $V(y(t))$ be defined as:

$$V(y(t)) = y^T(t)y(t)$$ (12)

where vector $y(t)$ is defined in the following manner:

$$y(t) = x(t) + \int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta$$ (13)

$Q(t)$ is $(n \times n)$ matrix which is continuous and differentiable over time interval $[0,\tau]$ satisfying the following differential matrix equation:

$$\dot{Q}(\theta) = \left(A_0 + Q(0)\right)Q(\theta), \quad \theta \in [0,\tau]$$ (14)

with initial condition:

$$Q(\tau) = A_1$$ (15)

Then Euler derivative of $V(y(t))$ is given as:

$$\dot{V}(y(t)) = y^T(t)\Xi y(t)$$ (16)

where:

$$\Xi = \left(A_0 + Q(0)\right)^T + \left(A_0 + Q(0)\right)$$ (17)

Proof. From (12), follows:

$$\dot{V}(y(t)) = x^T(t) + \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} x^T(t-\theta)\dot{Q}^T(\theta)d\theta \times$$

$$\times \left(x(t) + \int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\eta)x(t-\eta)d\eta\right)$$

$$+ \left(x^T(t) + \int_{0}^{\tau} x^T(t-\theta)\dot{Q}(\theta)d\theta\right) \times$$

$$\times \left(x(t) + \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\eta)x(t-\eta)d\eta\right)$$ (18)

The further part of the proof is straightforward if the following expression $\frac{d}{d\theta}(Q(\theta)x(t-\theta))$ was explicitly specified.

In that sense, let us look at this expression after the derivation on the variable $\theta$ has been performed:

$$\frac{d}{d\theta}(Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)) = \dot{Q}(\theta)x(t-\theta) + Q(\theta)\frac{d}{d\theta}(x(t-\theta))$$ (19)

It is noticeable that:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}(x(t-\theta)) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(x(t-\theta))$$ (20)

By substituting the previous equation into (19), the following equation can be obtained:

$$\frac{d}{d\theta}(Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)) = \dot{Q}(\theta)x(t-\theta)$$ (21)

or after rearrangement:

$$Q(\theta)\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(x(t-\theta)) = \dot{Q}(\theta)x(t-\theta)$$ (22)

The previous relation can be further derived as:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta =$$

$$= \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta - \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta$$ (23)

so, by virtue of (23), the expression can be derived as:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta = \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta$$

$$- \dot{Q}(\tau)x(t-\tau)$$

$$+ \dot{Q}(0)x(t)$$ (24)

By employing (15), the previous equation can be directly rewritten as:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta = \frac{d}{d\theta}\int_{0}^{\tau} Q(\theta)x(t-\theta)d\theta$$

$$- \dot{A}_1 x(t-\tau)$$

$$+ \dot{Q}(0)x(t)$$ (26)
Equation (18) becomes:

\[
V(y(t)) = \left[ x^T(t)A_0 x(t) + x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) \right] + \int_0^T x^T(t-\theta)Q^T(\theta)d\theta - x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) + x^T(t)Q(0)\right]
\]

or:

\[
\dot{V}(y(t)) = x^T(t)\left[ A_0 x(t) + Q(0)x(t-\tau) \right] + \int_0^T x^T(t-\theta)Q^T(\theta)d\theta - x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) + x^T(t)Q(0)\right]
\]

After rearrangement, the previous equation can be expressed as follows:

\[
\dot{V}(y(t)) = x^T(t)\left[ A_0 x(t) + Q(0)x(t-\tau) \right] + \int_0^T x^T(t-\theta)Q^T(\theta)d\theta - x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) + x^T(t)Q(0)\right]
\]

By virtue of (14), one can get:

\[
\dot{V}(y(t)) = x^T(t)\left[ A_0 x(t) + Q(0)x(t-\tau) \right] + \int_0^T x^T(t-\theta)Q^T(\theta)d\theta - x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) + x^T(t)Q(0)\right]
\]

and:

\[
\dot{V}(y(t)) = x^T(t)\left[ A_0 x(t) + Q(0)x(t-\tau) \right] + \int_0^T x^T(t-\theta)Q^T(\theta)d\theta - x^T(t-\tau)A_0 x(t-\tau) + x^T(t)Q(0)\right]
\]

(28)
\[
\mu(R) = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\text{max}} \left( R^T + R \right)
\]

and \( Q(0) \) is positive definite solution of the following nonlinear transcendental matrix equation:

\[
e^{A_0 + Q(0) \tau} Q(0) = A_1
\]

(42)

Proof. From (16), follows:

\[
\dot{V}(y(t)) = y^T(t) \Xi y(t) \leq \lambda_{\text{max}} (\Xi) V(y(t))
\]

(43)

By integrating (43) from 0 to \( t \), with \( t \in [0, T] \), it was obtained:

\[
V(y(t)) \leq e^{\lambda_{\text{max}}(\Xi) t} \cdot V(0)
\]

(44)

From (12), one can find:

\[
V(y(0)) = y^T(0)x(0) + \int_0^T \left( y^T(x(t))Q(x(t))x(t) + \dot{y}^T(x(t))Q(x(t))\dot{x}(t) \right) dt
\]

(45)

Based on the known inequality\(^1\), and with the particular choice of \( \Gamma = I \), one can get:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq x^T(0)x(0)
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( y^T(x(t))Q(x(t))x(t) \right) dt
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( y^T(x(t))Q(x(t))\dot{x}(t) \right) dt
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( \dot{y}^T(x(t))Q(x(t))\dot{x}(t) \right) dt
\]

(46)

Using the Jensen’s integral inequality, as in Lemma 1, the following inequalities are valid:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq y^T(0)x(0)
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T y^T(x(t))Q(x(t))x(t) dt
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T y^T(x(t))Q(x(t))\dot{x}(t) dt
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \dot{y}^T(x(t))Q(x(t))\dot{x}(t) dt
\]

(47)

Introducing the general solution of (14), given with:

\[
Q(\theta) = e^{R\theta}Q(0), \quad \theta \in [0, \tau]
\]

\[
R = A_0 + Q(0)
\]

(48)

and by substituting (48) into (47), the following expression is obtained:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq x^T(0)x(0)
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( y^T(x(t))e^{R\theta}Q(0)e^{R\theta}Q(0)e^{R\theta}x(t) \right) dt
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( \dot{y}^T(x(t))e^{R\theta}Q(0)e^{R\theta}x(t) \right) dt
\]

(49)

or:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq x^T(0)x(0)
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T \left( \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T \lambda_{\text{max}} e^{R\theta}e^{R\theta} \right) x^T(0)x(0) dt
\]

(50)

and:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq x^T(0)x(0)
\]

\[
+ \int_0^T x^T(0)x(0) \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T \lambda_{\text{max}} e^{R\theta} e^{R\theta} x^T(0)x(0) dt
\]

(51)

Based on Definition 1, one can find:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq \alpha
\]

\[
+ \alpha \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T \lambda_{\text{max}} e^{R\theta} e^{R\theta} d\theta
\]

\[
+ \alpha \tau + \alpha \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T \lambda_{\text{max}} e^{R\theta} e^{R\theta} d\theta
\]

(52)

From Coppell’s inequality given in the following form:

\[
\lambda_{\text{max}} \left( e^{F\tau}, e^{F\tau} \right) \leq e^{2\mu(F)\tau}
\]

(53)

with \( \mu(F) \) being any matrix measure, follows:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq \alpha(1 + \tau) + \alpha(1 + \tau) \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T e^{2\mu(R)\theta} d\theta
\]

(54)

or:

\[
V(y(0)) \leq \alpha(1 + \tau) + \alpha(1 + \tau) \lambda_{\text{max}} Q(0)Q(0) \int_0^T e^{2\mu(R)\theta} d\theta
\]

(55)
\[ V(y(0)) \leq \alpha (1 + r) \left( 1 + \lambda_{\text{max}}(Q(0)Q^T(0)) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \]

and finally:

\[ V(y(0)) \leq \alpha (1 + r)(1 + \psi) \]  

(56)

Based on the crucial assumption of Theorem 4, in connection with definiteness of matrix \( Q(v) \) over prescribed time interval and using the assumption given in (36), follows:

\[ 0 < 2 \int_0^T x^T(\tau)Q(\eta)x(\tau-\eta)d\eta \]  

(57)

what directly leads to:

\[ x^T(\tau)x(\tau) \leq V(y(\tau)) \]  

(58)

Taking into account (44) and (56), it follows:

\[ x^T(\tau)x(\tau) \leq e^{\lambda_{\text{max}}(\Xi)\tau} \cdot V(0) \leq \alpha (1 + r)(1 + \psi)e^{\lambda_{\text{max}}(\Xi)\tau} \]  

(59)

Finally, condition (37) and the above inequality imply:

\[ x^T(\tau)x(\tau) < \beta, \quad \forall \tau \in I \]  

(60)

what was to be proven. Q.E.D.

Remark 1. It can be noticed that the sufficient condition (37) entirely depends on the existence of the solution of (42). This requires that nonlinear algebraic matrix equation (42) have a positive definitive solution for \( Q(0) \).

Remark 2. The brief explanation of condition (36) leads towards the conclusion that the considered system is restricted to unstable time delay systems with monotone growing solutions.

4. NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

The main result is numerically analyzed throughout the results of Theorem 4.

Example 1. The system of the following form has been given:

\[ \dot{x}_i(t) = A_i x_i(t) + A_{i0} x_i(t-0.1) \]

\[ A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -1.7 & 1.7 & 0 \\ 1.3 & -1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 & -0.6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_i = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 & -1.7 & 0.1 \\ -1.3 & 1.5 & -0.3 \\ -0.7 & 1 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix} \]  

(61)

It is possible to show that:

\[ \sigma \{ A_0 \} = \{ 0.7125, -2.8758, -1.1367 \} \]

\[ \sigma \{ A_i \} = \{ 2.8606, 0.1197, 0.1197 \} \]  

(62)

Consequently, all conditions given (36) are satisfied.

In order to verify the finite time stability of system, given (61), the system operation is simulated under the following conditions:

\[ \varphi(t) = [1 \quad 1]^T, \quad t \in [-\tau, 0] \]

It is noticeable that:

\[ \varphi^T(t)\varphi(t) = 3 = \alpha, \quad t \in [-\tau, 0] \]

Figures 1 and 2 show the initial response \( x_i(t) \) and the norm of state vector \( x_i^T(t)x_i(t) \) of system (61).

It is observed that the state variables \( x_i(\infty) \rightarrow \infty, \) \( i = 1, 2, 3 \) which means that system (61) is not asymptotically stable.

From (38) and (42), one can find:

\[ Q(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5279 & -1.7336 & 0.0994 \\ -1.2328 & 1.4145 & -0.2936 \\ -0.5249 & 0.8069 & 0.1575 \end{pmatrix} \]
It is calculated that Theorem 4 (this study) gives noticeably better results than all other obtained using the previous Theorems. However, unlike Theorem 3 which uses LMI, Theorem 4 [23] is based on algebraic inequalities only.

That inequality can be solved without using appropriate optimization methods.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper extends some of the basic results in the area of the non-Lyapunov stability to the linear continuous invariant time-delay systems.

Under certain assumptions, the new sufficient, delay-dependent criteria for the finite time stability has been presented.

The derived result is based on algebraic inequalities only, which can be solved without using appropriate optimization methods. It has been shown that, under some circumstances, the conditions derived in this study leads to significant improvement in the finite time stability analysis, particularly in comparison with results given in [23], [24]

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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REZIME

POBOLJŠANI REZULTATI PO PITANJU STABILNOSTI SISTEMA SA KAŠNJENJEM NA KONAČNOM VREMENSKOM INTERVALU: PRILAZ SA POSICIJA JENSENOVE NEJEDNAČINE

U ovom radu razmatra se stabilnost na konačnom vremenskom interval jedne posebne klase vremenski neprekidnih Sistema sa kašnjenjem. Iskorišćen je novi oblik agregacione funkcije, tj. kvazi-Ljapunovljev funkcional kako bi se došlo do novih dovoljnih uslova ovog koncepta stabilnosti i to u formi koja uključuje i iznos čisto vremenkog kašnjenja. Predložena agregaciona funkcija ne mora da poseduje pozitivnu određenost u celom prostoru stanja, niti njen vremenski izvod duž kretanja sistema mora da bude negativno određen. Izloženi postupak, je kroz primer, upoređen sa ranijim rezultatima i pokazano je da je daleko jednostavniji sa numeričke tačke gledišta a u određenim prilikama daje i manje konzervativnije rezultate od postojećih za ovu klasu razmatranih sistema.

**Ključne reči:** Vremenski neprekidni sistemi sa kašnjenjem, Stabilnost na konačnom vremenskom intervalu, algebarske nejednačine