Trajectory Tracking Control for Reaction–Diffusion System with Time Delay Using P-Type Iterative Learning Method

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Abstract: This paper has dealt with a tracking control problem for a class of unstable reaction–diffusion system with time delay. Iterative learning algorithms are introduced to make the infinite-dimensional repetitive motion system track the desired trajectory. A new Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional is constructed to deal with the time-delay system. Picewise distribution functions are applied in this paper to perform piecewise control operations. By using Poincaré–Wirtinger inequality, Cauchy–Schwartz inequality for integrals and Young’s inequality, the convergence of the system with time delay using iterative learning schemes is proved. Numerical simulation results have verified the effectiveness of the proposed method.

Keywords: reaction–diffusion system; time-delay system; tracking control; iterative learning; Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional

1. Introduction

Time delay phenomenon is widespread in practice industrial production and various engineering systems. The existence of time delay will affect the stability and performance of the system. At the same time, it will greatly increase the complexity and difficulty for the stability or convergence analysis of the system. Therefore, the study of time-delay systems has attracted the attention from many scholars around the world. In the past few decades, fruitful results have been achieved in theory and application of time-delay systems. For example, the delay-dependent stability problem of time-varying delay systems has been addressed in [1–4], neural networks with time-varying delays [5–7], stabilizability of linear systems with time-varying input delay [8–10], finite time convergence problem of multi-agent systems [11–14], data-driven distributed adaptive control problem [15,16], and so on. Although there have been many results on time-delay systems, most of them focus on the ordinary differential equation systems. However, in actual engineering, most systems are modeled by partial differential equations. Therefore, the study of partial differential equation systems with time delay has important application value.

In recent years, the study of partial differential equation systems with time delay has made some remarkable achievements. The exponential stabilization for distributed parameter systems with multi-time delays has been studied in [17,18], where the Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional is utilized to deal with the problem of stability analysis and synthesis for time-delay systems. The stability for fuzzy time-delay system has been addressed in [19–22], where a Takagi–Sugeno fuzzy time-delay parabolic partial differential equation model is employed. Adaptive stabilization for time delay partial differential equation systems has been presented in [23–25]. The related study of the time-delay systems lays the theoretical foundation for the development of this paper.
In this paper, the trajectory tracking problem of the reaction–diffusion system with time delay is discussed. The reaction–diffusion system is naturally an infinite-dimensional system and modeled by parabolic partial differential equation. It is widely used in chemistry to represent the spatiotemporal dynamic changes of the chemical substance concentration. Recently, the study of the trajectory tracking control has developed rapidly. For example, distributed adaptive tracking synchronization approach has been addressed in [26], prescribed-time tracking method in [27], front tracking method in [28], robust tracking control in [29], and so on. So far, iterative learning algorithms have been proposed and widely used to deal with the problem of trajectory tracking control. Since iterative learning control requires little information about the system itself, or even completely unknown, it has unique advantages in the tracking control of the systems with nonlinear and unknown models. For example, the theoretical analysis of iterative learning control has been discussed in [30–32], the iterative learning algorithm applied in robotic manipulators has been studied in [33–35], the iterative learning control design for distributed parameter systems has been addressed in [36–41] and for flexible structure systems has been presented in [42–44].

However, to the authors’ best knowledge, there are no relevant results for the reaction–diffusion system with time delay using iterative learning and piecewise control methods. Therefore, the trajectory tracking control for the reaction–diffusion system with time delay using iterative learning and piecewise control method will be considered in this paper. Compared with the existing works, the contributions of this paper are as follows: (1) a new Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional is introduced to deal with the time-delay system (2) the piecewise distribution functions are applied to perform piecewise control operations (3) open-loop and closed-loop P-type iterative learning schemes are proposed to make the iterative learning system track the desired trajectory. The advantages of the proposed method is to use iterative learning approach to solve the tracking problem of the infinite-dimension reaction–diffusion systems.

The organizational structure of the remaining parts of this paper is arranged as follows: Section 2 presents the problem formulation and preliminaries. Section 3 addresses the open-loop and closed-loop iterative learning control design approaches. Section 4 shows simulation results. Section 5 gives some numerical results. Section 6 provides a brief conclusion.

**Notation:** \( \mathbb{R} \) denotes the set of all real numbers. \( A \) denotes a matrix, \( A^T \) denotes the transpose of \( A \). \( \mathcal{H} \equiv L^2([0, L]) \) is a real Hilbert space of square integrable functions with the inner product induced norm \( \| \cdot \|_2 \). \( z_k(x, t) \) denotes the state of the system at the \( k \)-th iteration. \( (z_k(x, t))_t \) stands for the partial derivative of \( z_k(x, t) \) with respect to \( t \), i.e., \( (z_k(x, t))_t = \partial z_k(x, t)/\partial t \). \( (z_k(x, t))_x \) and \( (z_k(x, t))_{xx} \) stands for the first-order and second-order partial derivative of \( z_k(x, t) \) with respect to \( x \), i.e., \( (z_k(x, t))_x = \partial z_k(x, t)/\partial x \), \( (z_k(x, t))_{xx} = \partial^2 z_k(x, t)/\partial x^2 \), respectively. \( z_k(x, t)|_{x = a} \) denotes the value of \( z_k(x, t) \) at the spatial position \( x = a \). \( \mathcal{M} \) denotes a set of natural numbers, i.e., \( \mathcal{M} \equiv \{1, 2, \cdots, M\} \).

**2. Problem Formulation and Preliminaries**

**2.1. Problem Formulation**

We consider a class of time-delayed reaction–diffusion systems with multiple inputs modeled by parabolic partial differential equations (PDEs)

\[
z_t(x, t) = z_{xx}(x, t) + \alpha z(x, t) + \beta z(x, t - \tau) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) u_i(t), \quad x \in (0, L) \tag{1}
\]

subject to the Dirichlet boundary conditions

\[
z(0, t) = z(L, t) = 0 \tag{2}
\]
and the initial value
\[
  z(x, 0) = z_0(x), \quad x \in [0, L]
\]  
(3)

where \(z(\cdot, t) \triangleq \{z(x, t), x \in [0, L]\} \in \mathcal{H}\) denotes the state variable of the reaction–diffusion system. \(\alpha\) and \(\beta\) denote the known constants. \(L \in \mathbb{R}\) denote the length of the spatial domain. \(\tau > 0\) denotes the time delay parameter. \(g_i(x), i \in \mathcal{M}\) denotes the distribution of \(i\)-th actuator. \(u_i(t), i \in \mathcal{M}\) denotes the control input of \(i\)-th actuator.

**Remark 1.** The reaction–diffusion system (1) is an infinite-dimensional system in nature. While finite number of actuators are applied in this paper to deal with the trajectory tracking problem of the infinite-dimensional system, which is a challenging work. It will bring a lot of difficulties to the control design and convergence analysis compared with the finite-dimensional system. Thus, to deal with the problem, the tracking control of reaction–diffusion system with multiple inputs and multiple outputs (MIMO) will be discussed in this paper.

For the reaction–diffusion system, the motion performs the same operation over and over again with high precision. This action is represented by the objective of accurately tracking a chosen reference signal on a finite time interval. Assume the reaction–diffusion system (1)–(3) is working in a repetitive mode over \([0, T]\), the equation of motion can be expressed as

\[
\begin{cases}
  (z_k(x, t))_t = (z_k(x, t))_{xx} + \alpha z_k(x, t) + \beta z_k(x, t - \tau) \\
  \quad + \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) u_{k,i}(t), x \in (0, L), t \in [0, T] \\
  z_k(0, t) = z_k(L, t) = 0, \quad t \in [0, T] \\
  z_k(x, 0) = z_{00}(x), \quad x \in [0, L]
\end{cases}
\]  
(4)

where \(k > 0\) is a positive integer and denotes the number of iterations. \(z_k(x, t)\) denotes the state variable of the system at the \(k\)-th iteration, \(u_{k,i}(t)\) denotes control input of \(i\)-th actuator at the \(k\)-th iteration.

The measurement outputs in the repetitive motion system are obtained as

\[
y_{k,i}(t) = \int_0^L c_i(x) z_k(x, t) dx + \gamma u_{k,i}(t)
\]  
(5)

where \(y_{k,i}(t), i \in \mathcal{M}\) denotes the measurement output of \(i\)-th sensor at the \(k\)-th iteration. \(c_i(x), i \in \mathcal{M}\) denotes the distribution status of \(i\)-th sensor. \(\gamma > 0\) is a scalar to be determined.

The main purpose of this paper is to design a suitable iterative learning algorithm to make the trajectory of repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) track the desired trajectory. The learning process using the information from previous repetitions to improve the control signal can be found iteratively. Hence, for the tracking control problem of the reaction–diffusion system, a desired PDE system is presented as follows:

\[
\begin{cases}
  (z_d(x, t))_t = (z_d(x, t))_{xx} + \alpha z_d(x, t) + \beta z_d(x, t - \tau) \\
  \quad + \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) u_{d,i}(t), x \in (0, L), t \in [0, T] \\
  z_d(x, t)|_{x=0} = z_d(x, t)|_{x=L} = 0, \quad t \in [0, T] \\
  z_d(x, 0) = z_{00}(x), \quad x \in [0, L] \\
  y_{d,i}(t) = \int_0^L c_i(x) z_d(x, t) dx + \gamma u_{d,i}(t), x \in (0, L), \quad t \in [0, T]
\end{cases}
\]  
(6)

where \(z_d(\cdot, t) \triangleq \{z_d(x, t), x \in [0, L], t \in [0, T]\} \in \mathcal{H}\) denotes the state of the desired system. \(u_{d,i}(t)\) denotes the desired input of \(i\)-th actuator. \(y_{d,i}(t)\) denotes the desired output of \(i\)-th sensor.

The distributions of actuators and sensors are represented by the piecewise functions, the abstract structure diagram is shown in Figure 1. It can be implemented by patch-type
actuators and sensors in engineering system. The mathematical form of the distribution function is as follows

$$g_i(x) = c_i(x) \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [x_{li}, x_{ri}] \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}, i \in M$$ (7)

![Abstract structure diagram of the distributions of actuators in one-dimensional spatial domain.](image)

**Figure 1.** Abstract structure diagram of the distributions of actuators in one-dimensional spatial domain.

**Remark 2.** Based on the distributions of actuators and sensors, the spatial domain $(0, L)$ is divided into $m$ subdomains via spatial domain decomposition method. It can be expressed as $[x_1, x_2], [x_2, x_3], \cdots, [x_m, x_{m+1}]$, and should satisfy the condition $0 = x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_m < x_{m+1} = L$. The execution positions of the actuators and sensors are within the decomposed subdomains, i.e., $[x_{li}', x_{ri}'] \in (x_i, x_{i+1})$, $i \in M$.

### 2.2. Preliminaries

For the development of this study in this paper, some essential assumption and basic lemmas are presented as follows:

**Assumption 1.** The initial values of the repeatable reaction–diffusion system is equal to the initial value of the desired system for each k iteration, i.e., $z_{k0}(x) = z_{d0}(x)$.

**Lemma 1** (Poincaré–Wirtinger inequality [45,46]). For any scalar function $z(\cdot, t) \in H, x \in [0, L]$, we have

$$\int_{l_1}^{l_2} (z(x) - z(\bar{x}))^2 dx \leq 4\phi_1 \pi^{-2} \int_{l_1}^{l_2} (dz(x)/dx)^2 dx$$ (8)

where $\bar{x} \in [l_1, l_2] \subset [0, L], \phi_1 \triangleq \max\{(l_1 - l_2)^2, (l_2 - \bar{x})^2\}$.

**Lemma 2** (Cauchy–Schwartz Inequality for integrals). Let $\psi_1(x)$ and $\psi_2(x)$ be any two real integrable functions in $[a, b]$, then the following inequality holds

$$\left| \int_a^b \psi_1(x)\psi_2(x)dx \right|^2 \leq \int_a^b |\psi_1(x)|^2 dx \int_a^b |\psi_2(x)|^2 dx$$ (9)

**Lemma 3** (Young’s inequality with $\epsilon$). If $a \geq 0$ and $b \geq 0$ are nonnegative real numbers, then the following inequality holds for any real number $\epsilon > 0$

$$ab \leq \frac{a^2}{2\epsilon} + \frac{\epsilon b^2}{2}$$ (10)
3. Iterative Learning Control Design

In this section, we will present two iterative learning schemes: (1) Open-loop iterative learning scheme that the control signal is updated using the information from the previous iteration of the repetitive system. (2) Closed-loop iterative learning scheme that the control signal is updated using the information from the current iteration of the repetitive system. The objective of this paper is to make the trajectory of repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) can track the desired trajectory using the designed iterative learning schemes.

3.1. Open-Loop P-Type Iterative Learning Control Design

Firstly, an open-loop P-type iterative learning algorithm for the repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay is proposed. Define the iterative error between the output trajectory $y(t)$ and the desired trajectory $y_d(t)$ as

$$e_{k,i}(t) = y_{d,i}(t) - y_{k,i}(t)$$ (12)

The open-loop learning law is designed as follows

$$u_{k+1,i}(t) = u_{k,i}(t) + \Gamma_i e_{k,i}(t)$$ (13)

where $\Gamma_i > 0$, $i \in M$ are the open-loop learning gains to be determined.

Define the state error and input error at the $k$-th iteration as follows

$$z_k(x,t) \triangleq z_d(x,t) - z_k(x,t) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) \triangleq u_d(t) - u_{k,i}(t)$$ (14)

Applying the mean value theorem for integrals, we have the output error at the $k$-th iteration

$$e_{k,i}(t) = y_{d,i}(t) - y_{k,i}(t)$$

$$= \int_0^L c_i(x) (z_d(x,t) - z_k(x,t)) dx + \gamma (u_{d,i}(t) - u_{k,i}(t))$$

$$= \delta x_i z_k(\xi_i,t) + \gamma \bar{u}_{k,i}(t)$$ (15)

where $\xi_i \in [x_i^l, x_i^r]$ and $\delta x_i \triangleq x_i^r - x_i^l$, $i \in M$.

Then, the input error at the $(k+1)$-th iteration is

$$\bar{u}_{k+1,i}(t) = u_d(t) - u_{k+1,i}(t)$$

$$= u_d(t) - u_{k,i}(t) - \Gamma_i e_{k,i}(t)$$

$$= \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) - \Gamma_i e_{k,i}(t)$$ (16)

Substituting the Equation (15) into (16), we have

$$\bar{u}_{k+1,i}(t) = \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) - \Gamma_i (\delta x_i z_k(\xi_i,t) + \gamma \bar{u}_{k,i}(t))$$

$$= (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) - \Gamma_i \delta x_i z_k(\xi_i,t)$$ (17)
Differentiate \( z_k(x, t) \) and consider the boundary condition and initial value (4), we have
\[
(z_k(x, t))_t = (z_d(x, t) - z_k(x, t))_t \\
= (z_k(x, t))_{xx} + a z_k(x, t) + \beta z_k(x, t - \tau) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) \bar{u}_{k+1,i}(t) \\
= (z_k(x, t))_{xx} + a z_k(x, t) + \beta z_k(x, t - \tau) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) \\
- \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) \Gamma_i \delta x_i z_k(x_i, t), \quad x \in (0, L), \quad t \in [0, T] 
\] (18)
subject to the Dirichlet boundary conditions and initial value
\[
z_k(0, t) = z_k(L, t) = 0, \quad z_k(x, 0) = 0, \quad x \in [0, L] 
\] (19)

3.2. Closed-Loop P-Type Iterative Learning Control Design

Then, a closed-loop P-type iterative learning algorithm for the repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay is proposed. The closed-loop iterative learning law is designed as follows
\[
u_{k+1,i}(t) = u_{k,i}(t) + \chi_i e_{k+1,i}(t) 
\] (20)
where \( \chi_i > 0, \quad i \in M \) are the closed-loop learning gains to be determined.

According to the definition in (14), we have the input error at the \( (k+1) \)-th iteration
\[
\bar{u}_{k+1,i}(t) = u_{k,i}(t) - \chi_i e_{k+1,i}(t) 
\] (21)
and the output error at the \( k + 1 \) iteration
\[
e_{k+1,i}(t) = \delta x_i z_{k+1}(x_i, t) + \gamma \bar{u}_{k+1,i}(t) 
\] (22)
Substituting the Equation (22) into (21), we have the following expression
\[
u_{k+1,i}(t) = (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) - (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \chi_i \delta x_i z_{k+1}(x_i, t) 
\] (23)

Differentiate \( z_{k+1}(x, t) \) and consider the boundary condition and initial value (4), we have
\[
(z_{k+1}(x, t))_t = (z_{k+1}(x, t))_{xx} + a z_{k+1}(x, t) + \beta z_{k+1}(x, t - \tau) \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) \\
- \sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i(x) (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \chi_i \delta x_i z_{k+1}(x_i, t) 
\] (24)
subject to the Dirichlet boundary conditions and initial value
\[
z_{k+1}(0, t) = z_{k+1}(L, t) = 0, \quad z_{k+1}(x, 0) = 0, \quad x \in [0, L] 
\] (25)

4. Convergence Analysis

4.1. Open-Loop ILC Convergence Analysis

**Theorem 1.** For the repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay, \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) are known constants. Given suitable positive scalars \( \gamma, \epsilon, p \) and \( \eta, \) if there exist appropriate open-loop iterative learning gains \( \Gamma_i, i \in M \) making the following constraints satisfied:
\[
\Phi_i < 0, \quad i \in M \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < (1 + \epsilon^{-1}) (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i)^2 < 1 
\] (26)
Let construct a Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional cascade in terms of time delay as follows

\[ V(t) = V_1(t) + V_2(t), \quad t \in [0, T] \]  \hspace{1cm} (27)

where

\[ V_1(t) = 0.5 \int_0^L z_k^2(x, t) dx \]
\[ V_2(t) = p \int_{-\tau}^t \int_0^L z_k^2(x, s) dx ds \]

in which \( p > 0 \) is an unknown constant coefficient.

Differentiate \( V_1(t) \) along with time \( t \), obtaining

\[ \dot{V}_1(t) = \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \dot{z}_k(x, t) dx \]
\[ = \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \dot{z}_k(x, t) dx + \alpha \int_0^L z_k(x, t) z_k(x, t) dx + \beta \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \dot{z}_k(x, t - \tau) dx + \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^m g_i(x)(1 - \gamma \Delta) \tilde{u}_{k,i}(t) dx \]
\[ - \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma \Delta_i \delta x_i \dot{z}_k(x, t) = \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma \Delta_i \delta x_i \dot{z}_k(x, t) dx \]  \hspace{1cm} (28)

Based on the integration by parts technique, Poincaré–Wirtinger inequality in Lemma 1 and boundary condition in (19), it is obtained that

\[ \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma \Delta_i \delta x_i \dot{z}_k(x, t) dx = \int_0^L \dot{z}_k(x, t) \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma \Delta_i \delta x_i \dot{z}_k(x, t) dx \]
\[ \leq -\phi_i \int_0^L z_k(x, t) - z_k(x, t) dx \]  \hspace{1cm} (29)

where \( \phi_i \triangleq \max \{(x_{i+1} - x_i)^2, (x_{i+1}^2 - x_i)^2\}, i \in \mathcal{M} \).
Substituting the inequality (29) into (28), we have
\[
\dot{V}_1(t) \leq -0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} \int_0^L (z_k(x, t) - z_k(\xi_i, t))^2 dx + \alpha \int_0^L \tilde{z}_k^2(x, t) dx \\
+ \beta \int_0^L z_k(x, t)z_k(x, t - \tau) dx + \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \sum_{i=1}^m g_i(x)(1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) \bar{a}_{kj}(t) dx \\
- \int_0^L z_k(x, t) \sum_{i=1}^m g_i(x) \Gamma_i \delta \xi_i z_k(\xi_i, t) dx \\
= -0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} \int_0^L (z_k(x, t) - z_k(\xi_i, t))^2 dx + \alpha \int_0^L \tilde{z}_k^2(x, t) dx \\
+ \beta \int_0^L z_k(x, t)z_k(x, t - \tau) dx \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) z_k(\xi_i, t) \bar{a}_{kj}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i^2 \Gamma_i \tilde{z}_k^2(\xi_i, t) \\
(30)
\]

Differentiate the Lyapunov function \( V_2(t) \) along with time \( t \), we have
\[
\dot{V}_2(t) = p \int_0^L \tilde{z}_k^2(x, t) dx - p \int_0^L z_k^2(x, t - \tau) dx \\
(31)
\]

Substituting the time differentiation of \( V_1(t) \) and \( V_2(t) \) into the Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional cascade (27), we have
\[
\dot{V}(t) = \dot{V}_1(t) + \dot{V}_2(t) \\
\leq -0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} \int_0^L (z_k(x, t) - z_k(\xi_i, t))^2 dx + \alpha \int_0^L \tilde{z}_k^2(x, t) dx \\
+ \beta \int_0^L z_k(x, t)z_k(x, t - \tau) dx \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) z_k(\xi_i, t) \bar{a}_{kj}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i^2 \Gamma_i \tilde{z}_k^2(\xi_i, t) \\
+ p \int_0^L \tilde{z}_k^2(x, t) dx - p \int_0^L z_k^2(x, t - \tau) dx \\
= \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} \xi_{kj}(x, t) \Xi_i \xi_{kj}(x, t) dx + \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) z_k(\xi_i, t) \bar{a}_{kj}(t) \\
(32)
\]
where \( \xi_{kj}(x, t) \equiv [z_k(x, t) \quad z_k(\xi_i, t) \quad z_k(\xi_i, t - \tau)]^T, \ i \in M \), and
\[
\Xi_i \equiv \begin{bmatrix}
\alpha - 0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} + p & 0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} & 0.5\beta \\
0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} & -0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} - \frac{\delta \xi_i^2 \Gamma_i}{\Delta \xi_i} & 0 \\
0.5\beta & 0 & -p
\end{bmatrix}, \ i \in M
\]

Considering the inequality (32), we can obtain for any scalar \( \eta > 0 \)
\[
\dot{V}(t) - \eta \bar{a}_{kj}^2(t) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} \xi_{kj}(x, t) \Xi_i \xi_{kj}(x, t) dx \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^m \delta \xi_i (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i) z_k(\xi_i, t) \bar{a}_{kj}(t) - \eta \bar{a}_{kj}^2(t) \\
\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} \nu_{kj}^2(x, t) \Phi_i \nu_{kj}(x, t) dx \\
(33)
\]
where \( \nu_{kj+1,i}(x, t) \equiv [\xi_{kj}(x, t) \quad \bar{a}_{kj}(t)]^T \) and \( \Phi_i, \ i \in M \) is to be determined in Theorem 2.
If the LMI constraint \( \Phi_i < 0, i \in \mathcal{M} \) in Theorem 1 is fulfilled, it is obtained

\[
\dot{V}(t) \leq \eta \bar{a}_{k,i}^2(t) \tag{34}
\]

Integrating the inequality (34) from 0 to \( t \) and considering the initial value \( V(0) = 0 \), we have

\[
V(t) \leq \eta \int_0^t \bar{a}_{k,i}^2(s)ds \tag{35}
\]

From the definition of \( V(t) \) in (27), the following equation holds

\[
V(t) \geq 0.5 \| z_k^2(\cdot, t) \|_2^2 \tag{36}
\]

Thus, we can obtain from (35) and (36) that

\[
\| z_k^2(\cdot, t) \|_2^2 \leq 2\eta^2 \int_0^t \bar{a}_{k,i}^2(s)ds \tag{37}
\]

Multiplying both sides of the inequality (37) by \( \exp(-\lambda t) \), we can get

\[
\exp(-\lambda t) \| z_k(\cdot, t) \|_2^2 \leq \exp(-\lambda t)2\eta^2 \int_0^t |\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(s)|^2 ds
\]

\[
=2\eta \int_0^t \exp(-\lambda(t-s))|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(s)|^2 \exp(-\lambda s)ds d\tau
\]

\[
\leq 2\eta \int_0^t \exp(-\lambda(t-s))ds \sup_{\tau \in [0,t]} \left\{ \exp(-\lambda t)|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \right\}
\]

\[
\leq 2\eta \frac{1}{\lambda} \sup_{\tau \in [0,t]} \left\{ \exp(-\lambda t)|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \right\}
\]

\[
\leq \frac{2\eta}{\lambda} \sup_{\tau \in [0,t]} \left\{ \exp(-\lambda t)|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \right\} \tag{38}
\]

where \( \lambda > 0 \) is a constant.

From the definition of \( \lambda \)-norm in Definition 1, the inequality (38) is rewritten as

\[
\| z_k(\cdot, t) \|_\lambda^2 \leq \frac{2\eta}{\lambda} |\bar{a}_{k,i}(t)|^2 \tag{39}
\]

Based on Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for integrals in Lemma 2, the following inequality holds

\[
|z_{k,i}(x_i,t)|^2 = \left( \int_0^L c_i(x) z_k(x,t) dx \right)^2 \leq \int_0^L |c_i(x)|^2 dx \int_0^L z_k^2(x,t) dx = \frac{1}{\delta_{x_i}} \| z_k(\cdot, t) \|_2^2 \tag{40}
\]

From the derivation of \( \bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t) \) in (17) and the \( \lambda \)-norm in Definition 1, we have

\[
|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon^{-1})(1 - \gamma \Gamma_i)^2 |\bar{a}_{k,i}(t)|^2 \delta_{x_i}^2 (1 + \epsilon)(\Gamma_i \delta_{x_i})^2 |z_k(x_i, t)|^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon^{-1}) (1 - \gamma \Gamma_i)^2 |\bar{a}_{k,i}(t)|^2 \delta_{x_i}^2 (1 + \epsilon)(\Gamma_i \delta_{x_i})^2 \frac{2\eta}{\lambda} |\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \tag{41}
\]

Then, we can obtain from (41)

\[
|\bar{a}_{k+1,i}(t)|^2 \leq \omega |\bar{a}_{k,i}(t)|^2 \tag{42}
\]
where $\omega_i = \frac{(1 + e^{-1})(1 - \gamma_i)^2}{1 - (1+e)(\Gamma_i \delta x)^2 \omega_i}$.

If $\lambda$ is large enough, then $\lim_{\lambda \to \infty} \frac{2\eta^2}{\lambda} = 0$. From the constraint in Theorem 1 that $(1 + e^{-1})(1 - \gamma_i)^2 < 1$, it is obtained $0 < \omega_i < 1$. It is easily derived from (42) that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} |\bar{u}_{k,i}(t)|_\lambda = 0$$

Meanwhile, from the derivation of (39), we can get

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} ||\bar{z}_k(\cdot, t)||_\lambda = 0$$
$$\lim_{k \to \infty} |e_{k,i}(t)|_\lambda = 0$$

Based on the definition of $\lambda$-norm, it can be derived from (44) that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \bar{z}_k(x, t) = 0$$
$$\lim_{k \to \infty} e_{k,i}(t) = 0$$

Hence, the trajectory of repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) can track the desired trajectory using the designed open-loop iterative learning schemes (13). The proof is completed.

4.2. Closed-Loop ILC Convergence Analysis

**Theorem 2.** For the repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay, $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are known constants. Given suitable positive scalars $\gamma, \epsilon, q$ and $\zeta$, if there exist appropriate parameter $\mu_i, i \in \mathcal{M}$ making the following constraints satisfied:

$$\Omega_i < 0, i \in \mathcal{M} \text{ and } 0 < (1 + e^{-1})\mu_i^2 < 1$$

where

$$\Omega_i = \begin{bmatrix}
\alpha - 0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} + q & 0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} & 0.5\beta & 0 \\
0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} & -0.25\pi^2 \phi_i^{-1} - \frac{\delta x_i^2}{\delta x_i} (1 - \mu_i) & 0 & \frac{\delta x_i \mu_i}{\delta x_i} \\
0.5\beta & 0 & -q & 0 \\
0 & \frac{\delta x_i \mu_i}{\delta x_i} & 0 & -\frac{\zeta}{\delta x_i}
\end{bmatrix}, i \in \mathcal{M}$$

and the closed-loop iterative learning gain is

$$\chi_i = \frac{1}{\gamma} \left( \frac{1}{\mu_i} - 1 \right), i \in \mathcal{M}$$

Then the trajectory of repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) can track the desired trajectory using the designed closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20).

**Proof.** Let construct a Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional cascade in terms of time delay as follows

$$V(t) = V_3(t) + V_4(t), \ t \in [0,T]$$

where

$$V_3(t) = 0.5 \int_0^L z_{k+1}^2(x, t) dx$$
$$V_4(t) = q \int_0^T \int_0^L z_{k+1}^2(x, s) dx ds$$

where $q > 0$ is an unknown constant coefficient.
Differentiate $V_3(t)$ along with time $t$ and consider the Poincaré–Wirtinger inequality, it is obtained

$$
V_3(t) = \int_0^L z_{k+1}(x,t)(z_{k+1}(x,t))dx \\
\leq -\int_0^L (z_{k+1}(x,t))^2 dx + \alpha \int_0^L z_{k+1}^2(x,t)dx + \beta \int_0^L z_{k+1}(x,t)z_{k+1}(x,t-\tau)dx \\
+ \frac{m}{\sum_{i=1}^m} g_i(x)dx (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \bar{u}_{k,i}(t) \\
- \int_0^L z_{k+1}(x,t) \sum_{i=1}^m g_i(x)dx (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \chi \delta x_i \bar{z}_{k+1}(x_i, t) \\
- \sum_{i=1}^m (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \chi \delta x_i^2 \bar{z}_{k+1}^2(x_i, t)
$$

(48)

Similar to the derivation of (31), the time differentiation of Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional cascade $V(t)$ is rewritten as

$$
\dot{V}(t) = V_3(t) + V_4(t) \\
\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \xi_{k+1,i}^T(x,t) \Psi_{i} \xi_{k+1,i}(x,t) dx + \sum_{i=1}^m \delta x_i (1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} z_{k+1}(x_i, t) \bar{u}_{k,i}(t)
$$

(49)

where $\xi_{k+1,i}(x,t) \triangleq [z_{k+1}(x,t) \ z_{k+1,i}(x_i, t) \ z_{k+1}(x_i, t-\tau)]^T$, $i \in \mathcal{M}$, and

$$
\Psi_{i} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix}
\alpha - 0.25\pi^2 \phi_{i}^{-1} + q & 0.25\pi^2 \phi_{i}^{-1} & 0.5\beta \\
0.25\pi^2 \phi_{i}^{-1} & -0.25\pi^2 \phi_{i}^{-1} - \frac{\chi \delta x_i^2}{(1 + \gamma \chi_i)\delta x_i} & 0 \\
0.5\beta & 0 & -q
\end{bmatrix}, i \in \mathcal{M}
$$

Similar to the derivation of (33), it is obtained that

$$
\dot{V}(t) - \xi_{k+1,i}^2(t) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \xi_{k+1,i}^T(x,t) \Omega_i \xi_{k+1,i}(x,t) dx
$$

(50)

where $\xi_{k+1,i}(x,t) \triangleq [\xi_{k+1,i}(x,t) \ \bar{a}_{k,i}(t)]^T$ and $\Omega_i$, $i \in \mathcal{M}$ is to be determined in Theorem 2.

If the LMI constraint $\Omega_i < 0$, $i \in \mathcal{M}$ in Theorem 2 is fulfilled, similar to the derivation of (34)–(36), it is obtained

$$
\|z_{k+1}'(\cdot, t)\|_2^2 \leq 2\zeta \int_0^t \xi_{k+1,i}^2(s)ds
$$

(51)

Multiplying both sides of the inequality (51) by $\exp(-\lambda t)$, we can get

$$
\|z_{k+1}'(\cdot, t)\|_2^2 \leq \frac{2\zeta}{\lambda} |\bar{a}_{k,i}(t)|_A^2
$$

(52)
Considering the derivation of $u_{k+1,j}(t)$ in (23) and applying Young’s inequality in Lemma 3, we have

$$\begin{align*}
|a_{k+1,j}(t)|^2 \leq & (1 + e^{-1})(1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} |a_{k,j}(t)|^2 \\
& + (1 + e)((1 + \chi_i)^{-1} \chi_i \delta x_i)^2 |z_{k+1}(x_i, t)|^2 \\
& \leq (1 + e^{-1})(1 + \chi_i)^{-1} |a_{k,j}(t)|^2 \\
& + (1 + e)|x_i|^{-1} \chi_i \delta x_i|^2 \frac{2\gamma}{\lambda} |a_{k+1,j}(t)|^2
\end{align*}$$

(53)

The inequality (53) can be rewritten as

$$|a_{k+1,j}(t)|^2 \leq \bar{\omega}_j |a_{k,j}(t)|^2$$

(54)

where $\bar{\omega}_j = \frac{(1 + e^{-1})(1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-2}}{1 - e^{-1}((1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-1} \chi_i \delta x_i)^2} \frac{2\gamma}{\lambda}$. 

If $\lambda$ is large enough, then $\lim_{\lambda \to \infty} \bar{\omega}_j = 0$. From the constraint in Theorem 2 that $0 < (1 + e^{-1})(1 + \gamma \chi_i)^{-2} < 1$, then $0 < \bar{\omega}_j < 1$. It is easily derived from (54) that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} |a_{k,j}(t)| = 0$$

(55)

Then, it can be derived from (55) based on the definition of $\lambda$-norm

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} z_{k}(x, t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{k \to \infty} e_{k}(t) = 0$$

(56)

Hence, the trajectory of the repeatable reaction–diffusion system (4) can track the desired trajectory using the designed closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20). The proof is completed. □

5. Numerical Simulation

In this section, we will present some numerical simulation experiments to verify the effectiveness of the proposed method. Through given some scalar parameters, the controller gains of the open-loop and closed-loop ILC can be obtained from Theorems 1 and 2. Bringing the ILC controllers into the reaction–diffusion system and operating $k$ iterations, the trajectory of the iterative system will track the desired trajectory. Next, the simulation results of the open-loop and closed-loop ILC approaches will be addressed below, respectively.

5.1. Open-Loop ILC Simulation

Firstly, the numerical simulation for the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay using open-loop iterative learning schemes (13) is presented. The parameter settings are shown in Table 1 and there are two actuators acting at [0.1 $L$, 0.4 $L$] and [0.6 $L$, 0.9 $L$]. By solving the LMI constraint (26) via Matlab software, we can obtain $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2 = 42.1705$. Set $\rho_i \triangleq (1 + e^{-1})(1 - \gamma \chi_i)^2$, it can be calculated that $\rho_1 = \rho_2 = 0.6688$, which implies $0 < \rho_i < 1$. Assume the desired outs as $y_{d,1}(t) = 0.5 \cos(10\pi t)$, $y_{d,2}(t) = t \cos(10\pi t)$. Then, the numerical simulation results for the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay using open-loop iterative learning schemes (13) are presented in the following graphics.
Table 1. Parameter Settings.

| Symbol | Explanation                  | Value  |
|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| $L$    | Spatial Length               | 1      |
| $T$    | Finite Time Interval         | 0.4    |
| $\alpha$ | Model Parameter            | 4      |
| $\beta$ | Delay-Model Parameter       | 1      |
| $\tau$ | Time Delay Parameter        | 0.1    |
| $\epsilon$ | Scalar Parameter   | 1      |
| $\gamma$ | Coefficient Parameter       | 0.01   |
| $p$    | Lyapunov Parameter          | 0.6272 |
| $\eta$ | Scalar Parameter            | 0.5824 |
| $t_s$  | Sampling Time               | 0.001s |

Figure 2 shows the output trajectories of $y_{k,i}(t)$ in the iterative learning process marked with blue solid lines, and the desired output trajectories $y_{d,i}(t)$ marked with red dotted lines. Figure 3 shows the trajectory of $z_k(x,t)$ in the iterative learning process at several specified iterations. Figure 4 shows the trajectories of rms inputs $|u_{k,i}(t)|$ and rms output errors $|e_{k,i}(t)|$ in the iterative learning process. It can be seen from Figures 2 and 3 that along with the number of iterations increases, the outputs $y_{k,i}(t)$ will gradually track the desired trajectories $y_{d,i}(t)$, and from Figure 4 that the output errors $e_{k,i}(t)$ will tend to zero and the inputs $u_{k,i}(t)$ will remain unchanged. Therefore, we can conclude that the designed open-loop iterative learning schemes (13) can make the iterative process of the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay convergent.

![Figure 2](image-url)  

(a) Trajectory of output $y_{k,1}(t)$ at the specified $k$-th iteration

![Figure 3](image-url)  

(b) Trajectory of output $y_{k,2}(t)$ at the specified $k$-th iteration

Figure 2. Trajectories of outputs $y_{k,i}(t)$ at the specified $k$-th iteration using open-loop iterative learning schemes (13).
5.2. Closed-Loop ILC Simulation

Then, the numerical simulation for the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay using closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20) is presented. The parameter settings are shown in Table 1. By solving the LMI constraint (46) via Matlab software, we can obtain $\chi_1 = \chi_2 = 88.1587$. Set $\varphi_i = (1 + \epsilon^{-1})\mu_i^2$, it can be calculated that $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0.5135$, $\rho_1 = \rho_2 = 0.5650$, which implies $0 < \varphi_i < 1$. Then, the numerical simulation results for the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay using closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20) are presented in the following graphics.

Figure 5 shows the output trajectories of $y_{k,i}(t)$ in the iterative learning process and the desired trajectories $y_{d,i}(t)$, and Figure 6 shows the trajectories of rms inputs $|u_{k,i}(t)|$ and rms output errors $|e_{k,i}(t)|$ in the iterative learning process. It can be seen from Figure 5 that along with the number of iterations increases, the outputs $y_{k,i}(t)$ will gradually track...
the desired trajectories $y_{d,i}(t)$, and from Figure 6 that the output errors $e_{k,i}(t)$ will tend to zero and the inputs $u_{k,i}(t)$ will remain unchanged. Therefore, we can conclude that the designed closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20) can make the iterative process of the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay convergent. It can be easily obtained from Figures 4 and 6 that the reaction–diffusion system (4) using closed-loop iterative learning approach will converge faster than the open-loop method.

Figure 5. Trajectories of outputs $y_{k,i}(t)$ at the specified $k$-th iteration using closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20).

Figure 6. Trajectories of inputs $|u_{k,i}(t)|$ and output errors $|e_{k,i}(t)|$ using closed-loop iterative learning schemes (20).
6. Conclusions

This paper has presented two iterative learning schemes to deal with the trajectory tracking problem of the reaction–diffusion system. For open-loop P-type iterative learning scheme, the control signal is updated using the information from the previous iteration of the repeatable system, and for closed-loop P-type iterative learning scheme, the control signal is updated using the information from the current iteration. A new Lyapunov–Krasovskii functional is constructed to solve the time delay problem in the iterative learning process. Two theorems satisfying the sufficient conditions are provided for the convergence of the iterative learning process are proposed. Numerical simulation experiments for the open-loop and closed-loop iterative learning schemes are presented, respectively. Through numerical simulation experiments, it can be concluded that the designed iterative learning schemes can make the iterative process of the reaction–diffusion system (4) with time delay convergent. In future work, robust iterative learning control for reaction–diffusion system with input and output constraints will be studied.

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Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

| Abbreviation | Description |
|--------------|-------------|
| ILC          | Iterative Learning Control |
| PDE          | Partial Differential Equation |
| D-PDE        | Delay Partial Differential Equation |
| MIMO         | Multiple Inputs and Multiple Outputs |
| RMS          | Root Mean Square |

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