A Passive Repetitive Controller for Discrete-Time Finite-Frequency Positive-Real Systems

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Abstract—This work proposes and studies a new internal model for discrete-time passive or finite-frequency positive-real systems which can be used in repetitive control designs to track or to attenuate periodic signals. The main characteristic of the proposed internal model is its passivity. This property implies closed-loop stability when it is used with discrete-time passive plants, as well as the broader class of discrete-time finite-frequency positive-real plants. This work discusses the internal model energy function and its frequency response. A design procedure for repetitive controllers based on the proposed internal model is also presented. Two numerical examples are included.

Index Terms—Discrete-time control, discrete-time passivity, finite-frequency positive realness, repetitive control.

I. INTRODUCTION

Repetitive control is an established control design technique for systems handling periodical signals. The most important component in a repetitive controller is the periodic signal internal model [4]. The main drawback of the conventional internal model is its high order that makes the stability analysis of the closed-loop system difficult. In the pioneering work of Inoue [10], the stability of these systems is established by dissecting the closed-loop system into three series-connected subsystems. The stability checking of the first two subsystems is straightforward but, for the remaining third subsystem, the Small Gain Theorem needs to be used. This approach was extended and modified to improve high frequency robustness [7] and H∞ conditions and procedures were established [19]. Lyapunov based analysis was also introduced in [14]. These works provide stability conditions for passive (i.e. Positive Real (PR) in linear systems) systems. These results have been extended to Almost Strictly Positive Real (ASPR) and Almost Strictly Negative Real (ASNR) systems [3]. Although a discrete-time formulation exists [1], most works have set out and developed repetitive control in continuous time.

This work proposes a new structure for the repetitive controller that is discrete-time passive (equivalently, it is Discrete-Time Positive Real). When this internal model is used as a repetitive controller with a discrete-time passive plant, the closed-loop system stability is guaranteed. Furthermore, feedback passivizable plants [16] can also benefit from this property.

The passivity property of the proposed internal model implies a reduced phase lag and this finds its application to finite frequency positive-real (FFPR) and passive plants [11]. The FFPR property is less restrictive than passivity. In addition, being positive real in a certain frequency range is a necessary condition for good control performance in that frequency range [12].

The proposed internal model introduces configurable zeros to shape the open-loop frequency response and to provide an additional degree of freedom in control design. In view of time response, the proposed internal model will reduce the time delay of repetitive controllers due to its reduced phase lag. Furthermore, several internal models can be combined in parallel to obtain a multiperiodic repetitive control system. Besides this, the proposed internal model preserves all relevant properties of repetitive controllers: trajectory tracking and disturbance rejection capability, simple structure and low computational cost.

This work analyses and characterises the proposed internal model and presents a design methodology for FFPR discrete-time plants which is illustrated with two numerical examples.

II. PASSIVE INTERNAL MODEL

A. Internal Model Structure

The proposed internal model is described by the transfer function

\[ K(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{U(z)} = \frac{1}{z^N - H(z)\beta} \]

where \( \beta \in \mathbb{R}^+ \), \(-1 \leq \alpha \leq 1\), \(-1 \leq \beta \leq 1\) and \( H(z) \) is a low-pass filter.

For \( H(z) = 1 \), the poles of (1) are

\[ p_k = \frac{\pi}{N} \left( \exp\left(2\pi j N \right) + \left(1 - \alpha \right) \right) / 2N, \]

so they are uniformly distributed over a circumference of radius \( \frac{\pi}{N} \). The frequencies associated to the poles are

\[ \omega_k = \left( 2\pi / N \right) k + \left( \pi \left( 1 - \alpha \right) \right) / 2N, \]

so the poles are placed to cover all the harmonic frequencies of the fundamental one, \( 2\pi / N \). This pole placement is the same as the one obtained in the conventional internal model. The zeroes of (1) follow a similar placement [2].

Depending on the signs of \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \), we have the following cases: if \( \text{sign}(\alpha) = \text{sign}(\beta) \), the poles and the zeroes are placed at the same frequencies, and if \( \text{sign}(\alpha) \neq \text{sign}(\beta) \) the poles and the zeroes are placed at shifted frequencies. In particular, in the later case, the frequencies associated with the zeroes are exactly the mean of the frequencies of the adjacent poles. However, in real world applications it is necessary to reduce the controller gain in the high frequency band and for this reason, the internal model includes the low-pass filter \( H(z) \).

B. Energy Properties of the Passive Internal Model

Let \((A, B, C, D)\) be the LTI discrete-time system

\[ x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k \]

\[ y_k = Cx_k + Du_k \]

where \( x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n \), \( y_k \in \mathbb{R}^n \); or in input-output form \( G(z) \rightarrow C(zI_n - A)^{-1}B + D \).

Definition 1 (Discrete-Time Passivity (DTP), [13]): System (2), (3) is discrete-time passive with storage function \( V_k = 1/2 x_k^T P x_k \) (V-passive) if, and only if

\[ \Delta V_k \geq V_{k+1} - V_k \leq y_k^T u_k. \]

Definition 2 ((Q,S,R)-Dissipative [5]): DTP systems with

\[ \Delta V_k = y_k^T Q y_k + 2y_k^T S u_k + u_k^T R u_k \]

\(3\text{sign}(x)\) equals 1 for \( x \geq 0 \) and \(-1 \text{ for } x < 0 \).

\(3\text{sign}(x)\) is necessary to assure the stability of the repetitive block. 

\(D_n\) being the \( n \)th order identity matrix.
where $Q$ and $R$ are symmetric matrices and $S$ an appropriate size matrix, are regarded as $(Q, S, R)$-Dissipative systems.

**Lemma 1** ([5]): If a single-input-single-output (SISO) system $(A, B, C, D)$ with transfer function $G(z)$ is $(Q, S, R)$-DTPR, then:

1) If $Q < 0$, then the graph of $G(e^{i\omega})$ lies inside the circle on the complex plane with center $S/Q$ and radius $(1/|Q|)|S^2 + R|Q|.

2) If $Q = 0$, then the graph of $G(e^{i\omega})$ lies to the right (if $S > 0$) or the left (if $S < 0$) of the vertical line $\text{Re} \{z\} = -(R/2S).

For $H(z) = 1$, a state-space description of the transfer function in (1) has the matrices

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, C = [k_0 (\alpha - \beta), 0, 0], D = [k_0].

**Proposition 1:** The passive internal model in (1), for $H(z) = 1$ and $k_0 > 0$, $|\alpha| \leq 1$, $|\beta| \leq 1$ and $\alpha \beta \neq 1$, is $(Q, S, R)$-DTPR and also DTPR.

**Proof:** Through inspection, $\Delta V_k$ can be written as in (5) by using $P = (k_0 (\alpha - \beta) e^{i\omega}/(1 - \alpha^2))L_k, Q = (1 - \alpha^2)/2k_0 (\alpha - 1) = k_0 (1 - \beta^2)/2(\alpha - 1)$ and $S = 1/2$. Also, according to Definition 4 and noting that $S = 1/2, Q < 0$ and $R < 0$ it is clear that the system is DTPR.

**Definition 3 (Discrete-Time Positive Real (DTPR)).** Let $G(z)$ be a square matrix of real rational functions. Then $G(z)$ is called Discrete-Time Positive Real (DTPR) if it satisfies the following properties:

a) The entries of $G(z)$ are analytic in $|z| > 1$.

b) Every pole of $G(z)$ on $z = e^{i\omega}$, if any, is simple and the corresponding residue matrix is Hermitian positive semidefinite.

c) $G(e^{i\omega}) + G^*(e^{i\omega}) \geq 0, \forall |\omega| \leq \pi$.

**Remark 1:** It is important to remark that in linear systems DTPR is equivalent to DTPR. The connection between both definitions is provided by the discrete-time KYP-Lemma [9].

**Proposition 2:** If $k_0 > 0, |\alpha| \leq 1, |\beta| \leq 1$ and $\alpha \beta \neq 1$ with $H(z)$ stable, $H(1) = 1$ and $|H(e^{i\omega})| < 1, 0 < |\omega| < \pi$ the internal model, $K(z) = k_0((z^2 - \beta H(z))/\alpha H(z)))$, introduced in (1), is DTPR.

**Proof:** The proof is organized in the way following: firstly, we show that the Nyquist plot of $K'(z) = k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha))$ decomposes the complex plane into two connected regions; secondly, we show that the curves $k_0((e^{i\omega} - \beta)/(\alpha))$ and $k_0((e^{i\omega} - \beta)/(\alpha H(e^{i\omega})))$ have only one point in common; thirdly, we show that another point is in one of the partitions defined by the Nyquist plot of $K'(z)$ such that the curve is DTPR. Finally, it is proved that $K(z)$ is stable. This procedure, together with the assumption that the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ is continuous, will prove that it is DTPR.

1) The Nyquist plot $K'(z)$ defines a complex plane partition. In Proposition 1, it has been stated that $K'(z)$ is DTPR, so it is DTPR; or equivalently, the Nyquist plot of $K'(z)$ lies in the right half complex plane. The topology will be analyzed in two different cases:

a) In case $|\alpha| < 1$, the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ is a circumference of radius $r = k_0 (|\alpha| - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2)$ and center $z = k_0 (\alpha - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2)$. In this case, the two partitions are the interior and exterior of this circumference.

b) In case $|\alpha| = 1$, $\text{Re} \{K(e^{i\omega})\} = 1 + \beta/2$. In this case the two partitions are the left and right half plane of the vertical line $z = (1 + \beta)/2$.

2) The Nyquist plots of $K(z)$ and $K'(z)$ have only one point in common which is the initial point $z = 1(\omega = 0)$. To prove this statement lets assume that another intersection exists, so $k_0((e^{i\omega} - \beta)/(\alpha)) = k_0((e^{i\omega} - \beta - \beta H(e^{i\omega}))/((e^{i\omega} - \beta - \alpha H(e^{i\omega})))$ should be satisfied; which implies $e^{i\omega} - \beta = e^{i\omega} - \beta H(e^{i\omega})$. The only possible solution is for $H(e^{i\omega}) = 1$ and, according to the hypothesis made on $H$, this is only feasible for $\omega = 0$. Note that if $|\alpha| = 1$ this point is placed at $\infty$.

3) $K'(-1) = k_0((-1 - \beta)/(\alpha H(-1)))$ is inside one of the partitions.

- In the case of $|\alpha| < 1$ it is sufficient to prove that it is inside the circle described by $K'(e^{i\omega})$. In order to fulfill this, it is necessary that $(((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))/(z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))^2 \leq (\alpha^2 - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2)^2$ which can be rewritten as $-\alpha \beta^2/(1 - H(1) - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2)^2 < 0$. This inequality is always true in the proposition conditions $H(-1) < 1$.

- In the case $|\alpha| = 1$ it is not difficult to prove that $k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))/(z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z))) = -(1 + \beta)/2k_0 > 0$. So the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ lies in the right half plane of the Nyquist plane.

4) $K(z)$ is analytic in $|\omega| > 1$. By writing $K(z)$ as a diagram and applying the Small Gain Theorem it can be shown that the system is stable (marginally stable for $|\alpha| = 1$).

It has been proven that the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ lies in the right half plane of the Nyquist plane and that it is analytic for $|\omega| > 1$, so $K(z)$ is DTPR and, then, DTPR.

**Remark 2:** The parallel connection of two or more passive systems yields a passive system. So it is possible to use several internal models, with different values of $N$, and its parallel connection will be passive. This property can be used in order to design discrete-time multi-parallel repetitive controllers [15].

**C. Passive Internal Model Frequency Response**

**Proposition 3:** If $k_0 > 0, |\alpha| \leq 1, |\beta| \leq 1$ and $H(z)$ stable with $|H(e^{i\omega})| < h \forall \omega \in [\pi, \pi]$, then the Nyquist plot of $K(z) = k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$ lies in a disk of center $z = k_0((1 - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2))$ and radius $r = k_0(h(\alpha - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2))$.

**Proof:** The proof follows the same steps as those in Proposition 2. By applying Lemma 1 and Proposition 1 to $k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$, it can be shown that its Nyquist plot is a circumference of radius $r = k_0(h(\alpha - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2))$ and center $z = k_0((1 - \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2)) + j0$.

In order to prove that $K(z)$ lies in the abovementioned circle it must be proved that if $|H(e^{i\omega})| < h$ no intersection between $k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$ and $k_0((e^{i\omega} - \beta)/(\alpha H(e^{i\omega})))$ exists and that the last point $(\omega, z)$, of the second curve, is inside the circle.

1) An intersection between the circumference and the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ in $\omega \in [\pi, \pi]$ should satisfy: $((-1 + \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2)) \leq (\omega, z)$. Note that this equality has no solution in $\omega \in [\pi, \pi]$ due to the fact that $|H(e^{i\omega})| < h \forall \omega \in [\pi, \pi]$. So, no intersection between the circumference and the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ in the frequency range $[\pi, \pi]$ exists.

2) The last point of the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ ($z = -1$) is in the circle defined by the Nyquist plot of $k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$. This fact can be proved by showing that $((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))/(z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$ is equivalent to $(-1 + \beta)/(1 - \alpha^2 h^2)$ and that $k_0((z^2 - \beta)/(\alpha H(z)))$ is easily proven true by assuming $|\alpha| < 1$ and $|H(-1)| < h < 1$.

As the Nyquist plot of $K(z)$ in $\omega \in [\pi, \pi]$ is smooth, does not cross the circumference and has one point inside, the complete curve is in the circle.

**Corollary 1:** The gain of the internal model, $K(e^{i\omega})$, in the frequency range $[\pi, \pi]$, for $k_0 > 0, |\alpha| \leq 1, |\beta| \leq 1, H(z)$ stable and
Corollary 2: The phase of the internal model, $\angle K(e^{j\omega})$, in the frequency range $[\pi, \pi]$, for $k_r > 0$, $|\alpha| \leq 1$, $|\beta| \leq 1$, $H(z)$ stable and $|H(e^{j\omega})| < h, \forall \omega \in [\pi, \pi]$ is in the interval $[\min\{k_r/(1-h\beta)/(1-h\alpha)), k_r/(1+h\beta)/(1+h\alpha))\max\{k_r/(1-h\beta)/(1-h\alpha)), k_r/(1+h\beta)/(1+h\alpha))\}]$.

Proof: Straightforward from Proposition 3.

Remark 4: If one of the systems connected in feedback is DTPR and the other is FFDT PR with bandwidth $\pi$, the previous results also apply.

If the plant to be controlled $G(z)$ is not DTPR and it is not feedback passivable then the following design procedure is proposed (see Fig. 1):

1) Determine the system bandwidth, $(\pi)$, in which the plant is PR.

If this bandwidth is not large enough for the desired performance, then $G(z)$ can be combined in feedback connection with an stabilizing controller $C_{int}(z)$ to increase the original plant bandwidth. This procedure will define a new bandwidth $\pi$ for the modified system $P(z)$. Note that it is necessary that $P(z)$ has low gain (lower than one) in the complementary range of frequencies where it is Positive Real [11].

The design of $C_{int}(z)$ can be addressed using different techniques such that $C_{int}(e^{j\omega})/G(e^{j\omega})/1 + C_{int}(e^{j\omega})G(e^{j\omega})$ is FFDT PR with bandwidth $\pi$ while minimizing $C_{int}(e^{j\omega})G(e^{j\omega})/1 + C_{int}(e^{j\omega})G(e^{j\omega})$ for $\omega > \pi$. Some commonly used techniques include phase cancellation [17] and generalized KYP techniques [11].

2) Choose $N$, $\alpha$, and $\beta$ of the internal model $K(z) = k_r(\pi - \beta H(z))/(\pi - \alpha H(z))$ to shape the frequency response according to the desired specifications.

3) Calculate $\gamma = \inf_{\omega \in [\pi, \pi]} \{1/P(e^{j\omega})\}$. The value of $k_r < (0, \gamma)$ makes, together with the condition in the next step, the closed-loop system stable and it must be chosen using a trade-off between robustness and time response [8].

4) Finally, to ensure the closed-loop stability, it is necessary to find a lowpass filter, $H(z)$, such that $\left| k_r e^{-j\omega N} - \beta H(e^{-j\omega}) e^{-j\omega N - \alpha\omega} \right| \leq \gamma, \forall \omega \in [\pi, \pi]$ and, by applying Remark 3, this condition can be transformed to the following specification for $H(z)$:

\begin{equation}
\left| H(e^{j\omega}) \right| < \left| \frac{k_r - \gamma}{k_r \beta - \alpha \gamma} \right|, \quad \omega \in [\pi, \pi].
\end{equation}

IV. NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

A. Example 1

This example shows how the proposed internal model can be used with a DTPR plant. In this case it can be used without a stabilizing controller, so the complete controller would be simpler than the one obtained with a conventional repetitive controller. It is worth to note that taking advantage of the proposed internal model passivity, several internal models can be combined in a very straightforward manner to obtain good performances with multiperiodic references or disturbances.

In this example, we design a repetitive controller to force the DTPR plant, $G(z) = \left( (z-0.6)/(z-0.25) \right)/(\left( z-0.9 \right)/(z-0.3))$, to track the signal, $r(k) = 2 \sin(2\pi N_2 k) + 0.7 \sin(2\pi N_1 k)$ with $N_1 = 17$ and $N_2 = 50$. As this signal is composed by two sinusoidal signals with non harmonic frequencies, the multi-periodic internal model is

\begin{equation}
K(z) = k_r \left( \frac{z^{50} + 0.6}{z^{50} + 1} + \frac{z^{77} + 0.6}{z^{77} + 1} \right)
\end{equation}
with a term for each frequency to be tracked. As stated in Remark 2, in this case \( K(z) \) will be DTP because it is the addition of two DTP transfer functions. The design with this combination would not be so straightforward with the conventional repetitive internal models. It is important to note that, as both the plant and the controller are DTP, there is no need of an stabilizing controller which is also an important difference with respect to the conventional repetitive control.

Fig. 2 shows the system behavior for two values of \( K_r \). As expected, in both cases the output follows the reference signal in steady state. Note that higher is \( K_r \) smaller is the settling time. The repetitive controller does not use the plant model to guarantee closed-loop stability because the plant is DTP and, clearly, this strategy is an improvement in comparison to the conventional repetitive control designs.

### B. Example II

The purpose of this example is to illustrate the design procedure proposed in Section III for FFDTPR plants. The control objective is to force the plant \( G_p(z) = (0.03196 z + 0.03079)/(z^2 - 1.832 z + 0.8948) \) to track a \( F_p = 50 \) Hz sinusoidal signal. This plant corresponds to the discrete-time model of a pulse-width modulated (PWM) dc-ac converter with sampling time \( T_s = 1/F_s = 10^{-1} \) s [20] and the sinusoidal signal to be tracked is the reference ac voltage of the closed-loop system. The design procedure for this example is as follows:

- **Step 1:** As shown in Fig. 3, this plant is FFDTPR with bandwidth \( \omega_n = 0.2507 \) rad (399 Hz) and \( \gamma = \inf_{\omega \in [\omega, \pi]} (1/P(e^{\jmath \omega})) = 0.43. \) Unfortunately, the bandwidth in which this plant is PR is very small. So, in order to allow the internal model to introduce high gain in a broader bandwidth it is needed to increase the bandwidth in which the system is PR. A stabilizing controller, \( C_{s.t.} \), which enlarges PR frequencies range of \( P \), is designed following the phase cancellation [17] approach. Then, the complete plant, \( P \), equals to \( 0.3/(z - 0.7) \) which is FFDTPR with bandwidth \( \omega_n = 0.7956 \) rad (1266.3 Hz) (Fig. 3). It is important to note that the stabilizing controller, \( C_{s.t.} \), can be designed using any control methodology and that is a clear improvement when compared to the conventional repetitive control design by a plant inversion method.

- **Step 2:** In this step the parameters \( N, \alpha \) and \( \beta \) of the internal model, \( K(z) \), are selected. As the frequency of the signal to be tracked is \( F_s \) and assuming that the possible disturbances of the system are odd-harmonic periodic signals, \( N = F_s/2F_p = 100 \) and \( \alpha = -1 \) [6]. Furthermore, as a very selective (in frequency) system is desired, \( \beta = -0.5 \). For this particular example, the open-loop transfer function has high gain only where it is necessary and, then, the behaviour of the closed-loop system is better in the presence of the measurement noise. This additional degree of freedom is an improvement with respect to the conventional repetitive controllers which do not allow to shape the open-loop frequency response.

- **Step 3:** Once \( P \) is designed, and \( N, \alpha \) and \( \beta \) are fixed, \( \gamma \) is obtained as \( \gamma = 2.381 \). Then, \( K_r \) can be chosen in the interval \((0, 2.381)\).

- **Step 4:** Selecting \( K_r = 1 \), \( H(z) \) is designed according to (8). This condition states that \( H(z) \) must have a maximum gain of \( |K_r - \gamma|/(k_r \beta - \alpha \gamma) \approx 0.7312 \) in the frequency range \([0.7956, \pi]\) rad \((1266.3, 5000) \) Hz. To obtain this attenuation, a third-order null-phase low-pass FIR filter can be designed accordingly. With this filter, the order of the controller \( K(z) \) is 103.

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6The frequency range is \( \omega \in [0, \pi] \) with \( \pi \) corresponding to half the sampling frequency \( F_s = 1/T_s \).

7In this procedure any standard filter design procedure can be used.
V. CONCLUSION

This work has proposed an internal model for repetitive control design. This internal model is a Discrete-Time Passive, or equivalently, Discrete-Time Positive Real. According to this, the proposed internal model can be connected in feedback form with a generic DTP system with the closed-loop stability being ensured.

Taking advantage of the passivity structure, a design procedure for FFDTPR systems has been proposed and analyzed. The design procedure allows to set the desired gain margin through the value of parameter $k_0$ and filter $H(z)$. Furthermore, the proposed internal model allows to shape the open-loop frequency response in a more accurate way because it adds an additional degree of freedom to its structure.

Additionally, this passivity structure of the internal model establishes a simple way to deal with multi-periodic references and disturbances.

REFERENCES


Entropy Optimization Filtering for Fault Isolation of Nonlinear Non-Gaussian Stochastic Systems

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Abstract—In this paper, the fault isolation (FI) problem is investigated for nonlinear non-Gaussian systems with multiple faults (or abrupt changes of system parameters) in the presence of noises. By constructing a filter to estimate the states, the FI problem can be reduced to an entropy optimization problem subjected to the non-Gaussian estimation error systems. The design objective for the FI purpose is that the entropy of the estimation error is maximized in the presence of diagnosed fault and is minimized in the presence of the nuisance faults or noises. It is shown that the error dynamics is represented by a nonlinear non-Gaussian stochastic system, for which new relationships are applied to formulate the probability density functions (PDFs) of the stochastic error in terms of the PDFs of the noises and the faults. The Renyi’s entropy has been used to simplify the computations in the filtering for the recursive design algorithms. It is noted that the output can be supposed to be immeasurable (but with known stochastic distributions), which is different from the existing results where the output is always measurable for feedback. Finally, simulations are given to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed data-driven FI filtering algorithms.

Index Terms—Entropy optimization, fault isolation, non-Gaussian systems, non-linear filtering, optimal control.

I. INTRODUCTION

Fault detection and isolation (FDI) for stochastic systems has drawn a considerable attention in the past decades, where many effective methodologies have been seen from the survey works.