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**Abstract:** Due to their large working space and fast response, cable driven systems have been widely applied in manufacturing, robotics and motion simulators, etc. However, the cable is flexible and tends to resonate at high frequencies, which raises challenges for the motion control of the cable driven system. To solve this problem, this paper proposes a singular-perturbation-based adaptive control method with  $\sigma$ -modification. Taking advantage of the multi-time scale characteristics, the flexible system is approximately decomposed into two subsystems, and then the damping compensation is designed in the boundary layer subsystem to enhance the tension stability. In addition, estimated parameters drift may occur for the reduced-order system. Thus, the  $\sigma$ -modification is proposed to ensure that the tracking and estimation errors converge to a bounded residual set. The Lyapunov stability theorem proves that the closed-loop system is stable and errors are ultimately uniformly bounded. A research prototype of a twin-motor cable driven system is developed, and experimental investigation is conducted on it. The experimental results show that the proposed control method can effectively suppress cable resonance at high frequencies. Compared with the conventional adaptive control method, it can significantly increase the system bandwidth.



### 1. Introduction

Cable driven systems have been widely used in lifting [1,2], telescopes [3], robotics [4,5], motion simulators [6,7] and other fields [8,9]. Different from a rigid transmission system, it has two inherent properties [5,10]: (1) the cable can only be pulled but not pressed, so redundant actuation must be adopted to make the end effector fully controllable; (2) the cable is elastic. At high frequencies, resonance often occurs, which severely affects the performance and stability of the system and brings great challenges to the system control. In existing literature, internal tension compensation is used to solve the problem of unidirectional force, and the motion control is achieved by treating the cable driven system as a rigid system [11–13]. Typical methods include the computed torque control method [14–16] and robust adaptive control method [17–23].

Inspired by the feedback linearization theory, Alp et al. [24] proposed a computed torque method based on the nominal model for the position control of a suspended robot, and proved the stability of the system. However, due to the parameter uncertainty in the system, the control performance is greatly compromised. To solve this problem, robust adaptive control is one good solution. To reduce the negative effect of dynamic parameters uncertainty, Li et al. [18] proposed a robust adaptive control, by adding online estimation of dynamic parameters. Wang et al. [19] proposed a time-delay estimation method, and combined it with terminal sliding mode control to achieve an adaptive integral terminal sliding mode control for cable-driven manipulators. Moreover, Wang et al. [20] introduced



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**Copyright:** © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). the super-twisting algorithm into the adaptive control scheme to ensure that the system can reach the sliding mode surface in limited time. Shang et al. [17] also conducted an in-depth study on the sliding mode control of the cable driven system. They combined the second-order sliding mode control with the synchronization control, and proposed a compound robust control with high precision and robustness. To further improve the control accuracy, Shang et al. [25] introduced the cross-coupled control and parameters adaptive compensation to the synchronization control, and then proposed an adaptive cross-coupled control scheme. Lamaury et al. [26] further extended the adaptive control to the workspace and joint space, and proposed a dual-space adaptive control strategy. The above studies are mainly on the motion control of systems in low dynamics. Because the high frequency characteristics of the cable are filtered, these control methods based on the rigid model can also perform well for the flexible systems.

However, for systems in high dynamic motion, the filtering effect weakens significantly. Thus, it is not equivalent to a rigid system anymore. Specifically, by considering the cable flexibility, the system is converted to a series-connected dual-mass system from a single-mass system. The controller based on a rigid model cannot guarantee the full state stability of a flexible system, especially the cable tension that easily becomes unstable due to insufficient cable damping. This problem has aroused the attention of researchers [27]. Khosravi et al. proposed the cascade control method to keep the tension stable by employing the internal tension control of the cable to avoid tension drift [28–30]. Theoretically, this method is feasible. However, it is difficult to collect high-quality tension signals, which affects the tension control. Furthermore, the dual closed loops in the cascade control is quite challenging. This method is poor to implement, especially for high-dynamics motion, a simpler controller is better, and cascade control contradicts this requirement. To solve this problem, the singular perturbation control was proposed [31,32]. The multi-time scales of the flexible system are employed to decompose the system into two subsystems, i.e., the boundary layer and the reduced-order system, and the damping compensation is designed in the boundary layer to keep the tension stable. Compared with the cascade controller, this method is simpler and more practical, and force sensors are not required in the system design.

However, so far the control algorithms of cable driven systems have not considered the drift of estimation parameters, which unavoidably compromises the motion control performance especially in high dynamics. Therefore, this paper proposed a singular-perturbation-based adaptive control with  $\sigma$ -modification to avoid the parameter drift instability, and to give the sufficient conditions for the system stability.

The main contributions of the paper are as follows.

- (1) Based on the singular perturbation theory, an adaptive control method with  $\sigma$ -modified adaptive law is proposed.
- (2) The stability of the flexible system is proved theoretically, and sufficient conditions for system stability are given.
- (3) This method is the first time to be used for the control of a flexible system with high-frequency motion.
- (4) The effectiveness of the proposed method is validated by experiments.

The rest is organized as follows. In Section 2, the schematic structure of the twin-motor cable driven system, a typical cable driven parallel mechanism, is introduced, and kinematics and dynamics models are formulated analytically. In Section 3, based on the singular perturbation theory, an adaptive composite control with  $\sigma$ -modification is proposed. In Section 4, the stability of the closed-loop system is proved, and sufficient conditions for the flexible system are given. In Section 5, the developed twin-motor cable driven system is presented, and an experiments are conducted. The experimental results are utilized to validate the proposed control method. Finally, the research work is concluded in Section 5.

# 2. Analysis of Flexible System Kinematics and Dynamics

## 2.1. System Architecture

The studied twin-motor cable driven system is shown in Figure 1. It is composed of motors, an arc guide rail, flexible cable, pulleys and the moving platform. Affected by the unidirectional force property of the flexible cable, the moving platform can only reciprocate along the arc guide under the cooperative traction of the motors on both sides. This system is a typical redundant actuation system. To facilitate subsequent discussion, the fixed coordinate system *E*: ( $x_e$ ,  $y_e$ ) on the base frame and the reference coordinate system *R*: ( $x_r$ ,  $y_r$ ) on the moving platform are set, and their origins  $O_e$  and  $O_r$  are coincident with the arc center and the centroid of the moving platform, respectively.



Figure 1. The schematics of the twin-motor cable driven system.

#### 2.2. Analysis of System Kinematics

The vector of the *i*th cable is represented as

$${}^{E}\boldsymbol{l}_{i} = l_{i}{}^{E}\boldsymbol{n}_{i} = {}^{E}\boldsymbol{B}_{i} - {}^{E}\boldsymbol{X} - {}^{E}\boldsymbol{R}_{R}{}^{R}\boldsymbol{A}_{i}, \ (i = 1, 2), \tag{1}$$

where  $l_i$  denotes the cable length between points  $A_i$  and  $B_i$ ,  ${}^E n_i$  the unit vector of cable tension,  ${}^R A_i$  the position vector of point  $A_i$ ,  ${}^E B_i$  the position vector of point  $B_i$ ,  ${}^E X$  the position vector of the origin  $O_r$  and  ${}^E R_R$  the rotation matrix of frame  $\{R\}$  with respect to frame  $\{E\}$ .

From (1), the velocity mapping between the cable length and the end effector is

$$\dot{L} = -J_{\varphi}^{T}\dot{\varphi},\tag{2}$$

where  $\dot{L} = [\dot{l}_1, \dot{l}_2]^T$ ,  $\varphi$  denotes the angle between  $O_e O_r$  and the positive  $x_e$ , and

$$\mathbf{J}_{\varphi} = \begin{bmatrix} r_a \sin(\alpha_1 - \varphi - \beta_a) & r_a \sin(\alpha_2 - \varphi + \beta_a) \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{J}_{\varphi} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 2},$$
(3)

 $r_a$  denotes the radius of the guide rail,  $\alpha_i$  the angle between the cable tension and the positive  $x_e$  and  $\beta_a$  the structure parameter as shown in Figure 1.

It is worth noting that, affected by the elasticity of the cable, the speeds of the two ends of the same cable are different, and they meet the following conditions

$$\dot{L}_a = -\dot{L} = J_{\varphi}^T \dot{\varphi} = J_q^T \dot{q}, \tag{4}$$

$$\dot{L}_m = \dot{\theta} r_m, \tag{5}$$

where  $\dot{L}_a$  denotes the cable velocity at points  $A_i$ ,  $\dot{L}_m$  the cable velocity at motor connection,  $q = r_a \varphi$ ,  $\theta$  the motor rotation angle and  $r_m$  the radius of the winch,

$$J_q = \left[\sin(\alpha_1 - \varphi - \beta_a) \quad \sin(\alpha_2 - \varphi + \beta_a)\right], J_q \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 2}.$$
(6)

2.3. Analysis of System Dynamics

## 2.3.1. Dynamics Model

The force is shown in Figure 2. According to the theorem of momentum, the dynamics of the moving platform is

$$\boldsymbol{r}_{c} \times \boldsymbol{m}\boldsymbol{a}_{c} + \boldsymbol{I}_{c} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\omega}} = \sum \boldsymbol{r}_{a,i} \times \boldsymbol{T}_{i} + \sum \boldsymbol{r}_{a,i} \times \boldsymbol{f}_{i} + \boldsymbol{r}_{c} \times \boldsymbol{m}\boldsymbol{g}, \tag{7}$$

where  $r_c$  denotes the vector of the centroid of platform, m the platform mass,  $a_c$  the acceleration vector of the center of mass,  $I_c$  the moment of inertia of the platform about the centroid of mass,  $\dot{\omega}$  the rotational acceleration,  $r_{a,i}$  the position vector of point  $A_i$ ,  $T_i$  the tension vector, g the gravity acceleration, and  $f_i$  the friction vector

$$f_i = b_{v,i}\dot{\phi} + f_{c,i}\mathrm{sign}(\dot{\phi}),\tag{8}$$

 $b_{v,i}$  is the viscosity coefficient and  $f_{c,i}$  is the coulomb friction.





In (7), the cable tensions are

$$K(L_m - L_a) = T, (9)$$

where *K* denotes the cable stiffness,  $L_m$  and  $L_a$  the movement displacement of cables at motor and points  $A_i$ , respectively. The dynamics of motors is

$$I_m \ddot{\theta} + T r_m = \tau, \tag{10}$$

where  $I_m \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  denotes the inertia matrix,  $r_m$  the radius of the winch,  $\tau$  the motor torque. Combining (7)–(10), the dynamics of the flexible system are

$$M\ddot{q} + B_p\dot{q} + F\mathrm{sign}(\dot{q}) + G(q) = J_q K(L_m - L_a), \tag{11}$$

$$I_m \ddot{\theta} + K(L_m - L_a)r_m = \tau, \tag{12}$$

where

$$M = \left( mr_c^2 + I_c \right) / r_a^2, \quad B_v = (b_{v,1} + b_{v,2}) / r_a, F = (f_{c,1} + f_{c,2}) / r_a, \quad G(q) = G \cos(q/r_a), \quad G = r_c mg/r_a.$$
(13)

#### 2.3.2. Dynamics Model Analysis

In (11) and (12), the stiffness K is much larger than other parameters. To facilitate analysis, define

$$K = \frac{k_1}{\varepsilon^2} E_2,\tag{14}$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a small positive parameter,  $k_1$  is on the order of 1 and  $E_2$  is the unit matrix. Substituting (9) and (14) into (12), the dynamics of the motor can be rewritten as

$$\varepsilon^2 r_m^{-1} I_m \ddot{T} + k_1 T r_m = k_1 (\tau - r_m^{-1} I_m \ddot{L}_a).$$
(15)

Since  $\varepsilon$  is much smaller than other parameters, the changing rate of tension *T* in (15) far exceeds that of *q* in (11). On the time scale, the variables *T* and *q* can be divided into two types: fast and slow. When the fast variable *T* changes, the slow variable *q* can be considered frozen. Therefore, in (15), the transfer function from the torque to the cable tension can be approximated as a second-order system. At low frequencies, due to the filtering of the system itself, the high-frequency part of the system response is filtered, and the flexible system is equivalent to a rigid one. As the frequency increases, the system's ability to filter high-frequency response decreases, and the impact of the flexible cable on the system gradually increases. When a certain frequency is reached, the impact of the flexible cable cannot be ignored, and even damage the system stability. To solve this problem, a composite adaptive control scheme based on singular perturbation is proposed.

## 3. Composite Control Scheme

Since the system has multiple time scales, the system can be divided into fast (boundary layer) and slow (reduced-order) subsystems, and then the control laws are designed for each subsystem to form the composite control law, i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s + \boldsymbol{\tau}_f, \tag{16}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_f = \boldsymbol{r}_m \boldsymbol{K}_v (\dot{\boldsymbol{L}}_a - \dot{\boldsymbol{L}}_m), \tag{17}$$

where  $\tau_s$  denotes the slow control law,  $\tau_f$  the fast control law and  $K_v$  the feedback gains. Define

$$K_v = \frac{k_2}{\varepsilon} E_2, \tag{18}$$

where  $k_2$  is on the order of 1. Substituting (16) into (15), the system can be written as

$$\varepsilon^2 r_m^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m \ddot{\boldsymbol{T}} + \varepsilon k_2 r_m \dot{\boldsymbol{T}} + k_1 \boldsymbol{T} r_m = k_1 (\boldsymbol{\tau}_s - r_m^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m \ddot{\boldsymbol{L}}_a).$$
(19)

Moreover, from (19), it can be seen that the stability of the fast variable *T* can be improved by the compensation of fast control law without any impact on the reduced-order system. When  $\varepsilon = 0$ , both (15) and (19) can be degenerated into the same reduced-order model as the rigid model.

$$M_e(q)\ddot{q} + N_e(q,\dot{q})\dot{q} + B_e q + F_e \operatorname{sign}(\dot{q}) + G_e(q) = J_q \tau_s, \tag{20}$$

where

$$M_{e}(q) = r_{m}M + r_{m}^{-1}J_{q}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}, \quad N_{e}(q,\dot{q})\dot{q} = r_{m}^{-1}J_{q}I_{m}\dot{J}_{q}^{T},$$

$$F_{e} = r_{m}F, \quad B_{e} = r_{m}B, \quad G_{e}(q) = r_{m}G(q).$$
(21)

Therefore, the control schemes for the rigid system still work for the reduced-order system. Considering the uncertainty of dynamic parameters, the slow control law is designed as

$$\tau_s = \tau_{ex} + \tau_{in},\tag{22}$$

$$\tau_{ex} = J_q^+ [\hat{M}_e(q)q_a + \hat{N}_e(q,\dot{q})q_v + \hat{B}_e\dot{q} + \hat{F}_e \text{sign}(\dot{q}) + \hat{G}_e(q) - k_b q_r],$$
(23)

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{in} = (\boldsymbol{E}_2 - \boldsymbol{J}_a^+ \boldsymbol{J}_q)\boldsymbol{\xi},\tag{24}$$

where  $\tau_{ex}$  and  $\tau_{in}$  denote the effective force and internal force, respectively, ( $\hat{\bullet}$ ) the estimated parameter,  $J_q^+$  the pseudo-inverse and  $\xi$  any 2-dimensional column vector,

$$z = q - q_d,$$

$$q_v = \dot{q}_d - k_a z,$$

$$q_a = \dot{q}_v,$$

$$q_r = \dot{q} - q_v = \dot{z} + k_a z,$$
(25)

 $q_d$  is the desired trajectory,  $k_a$  and  $k_b$  are the adjustable gains. Then combining (20) and (22)–(25) gives the closed-loop dynamics of the reduced-order system

$$M_e(q)\dot{q}_r + [N_e(q,\dot{q}) + k_b]q_r = \mathbf{\Phi}^T(q,\dot{q},\dot{q}_d,\ddot{q}_d)\tilde{\theta},$$
(26)

where

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}(q,\dot{q},\dot{q}_{d},\ddot{q}_{d}) = [r_{m}\ddot{q}_{d} - k_{a}(\dot{q} - \dot{q}_{d}), r_{m}\dot{q}, r_{m}\mathrm{sign}(\dot{q}), r_{m}\mathrm{cos}(q/r_{a})]^{T},$$
(27)

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = [\tilde{M}, \tilde{B}_{v}, \tilde{F}, \tilde{G}]^{T}.$$
(28)

To prevent the estimated parameters from drifting, the adaptive law is designed as

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T(\boldsymbol{q}, \dot{\boldsymbol{q}}, \dot{\boldsymbol{q}}_d, \ddot{\boldsymbol{q}}_d) \boldsymbol{q}_r - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}},$$
<sup>(29)</sup>

where  $\Gamma$  is the gain matrix,  $\sigma$  a positive constant. According to the above, the designed composite adaptive controller is shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3. Control diagram of the composite adaptive controller.

## 4. Stability Analysis

Based on the singular perturbation theory and Lyapunov's stability theorem, the stability of a close-loop system is analyzed. It includes four parts: singular perturbation standardization, boundary layer stability analysis, reduced-order system stability analysis, and overall system stability analysis.

## 4.1. Singular Perturbation Standardization

Define the slow, fast and intermediate variables as

$$\boldsymbol{x} = [\boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{q}_r]^T, \tag{30}$$

$$\boldsymbol{w} = [\boldsymbol{r}_m \boldsymbol{T}^T, \varepsilon \boldsymbol{r}_m \dot{\boldsymbol{T}}^T]^T, \tag{31}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^* = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s - \boldsymbol{r}_m^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m \boldsymbol{\ddot{L}}_a. \tag{32}$$

Then from (11) and (19), the standard singular perturbation model of the closed loop is

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}, \varepsilon) = \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} + \Psi \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{A}_3 \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{B}_1 \tau^*, \tag{33}$$

$$\varepsilon \dot{w} = g(t, x, w, \varepsilon) = A_2 w + B_2 \tau^*, \qquad (34)$$

where

$$A_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} -k_{a} & 1 \\ 0 & -M_{e}(q)^{-1} [N_{e}(q,\dot{q}) + k_{b}] \end{bmatrix}, \Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 4} \\ M_{e}(q)^{-1} \Phi^{T} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{2} & \mathbf{E}_{2} \\ -k_{1}r_{m}^{2} \mathbf{I}_{m}^{-1} & -k_{2}r_{m}^{2} \mathbf{I}_{m}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}, \qquad B_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 2} \\ -M_{e}(q)^{-1} \mathbf{J}_{q} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A_{3} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 2} & \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 2} \\ M_{e}(q)^{-1} \mathbf{J}_{q} & \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 2} \end{bmatrix}, \qquad B_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{2} \\ k_{1}r_{m}^{2} \mathbf{I}_{m}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$
(35)

See Appendix A for the detailed derivation. When  $\varepsilon = 0$ , the isolated root of *w* is

$$\bar{w} = h(t, \bar{x}) = -A_2^{-1}B_2\tau^*,$$
(36)

where  $\bar{w}$  is the quasi-steady state of w. However, due to the difference of the initial conditions and perturbation of  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\bar{w}$  deviates from the actual w. The deviation is defined as

$$y = w - h(t, x) = w + A_2^{-1} B_2 \tau^*.$$
(37)

Substituting (37) into (33) and (34), and combining with (29), the standard singular perturbation model is rewritten as

$$S: \begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon) = \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} + \Psi \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{A}_3 \mathbf{y}, \\ \dot{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} = -\Gamma \Xi \mathbf{x} - \sigma \Gamma \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \\ \varepsilon \dot{\mathbf{y}} = g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon) - \varepsilon \dot{h}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{y} + \varepsilon \mathbf{A}_2^{-1} \mathbf{B}_2 \dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^*, \end{cases}$$
(38)

where  $\boldsymbol{\Xi} = [0, \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T]$ .

#### 4.2. Boundary Layer and Stability Analysis

Define the fast-time scale  $\eta = (t - t_0)/\varepsilon$ , then (38)-3 can be represented as

$$\frac{dy}{d\eta} = g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon) - \varepsilon \dot{h}(t, \mathbf{x}).$$
(39)

From the above formula, the boundary layer is

$$S_b: \frac{d\boldsymbol{y}}{d\eta} = g(t, \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y} + h(t, \boldsymbol{x}), \varepsilon = 0) = A_2 \boldsymbol{y}, \tag{40}$$

where  $A_2$  is a Hurwitz matrix that can be achieved by adjusting the gains  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ . Then for any given positive definite matrix Q, there exists a unique positive definite matrix Pthat satisfies

$$A_2^I P + P A_2 = -Q. ag{41}$$

Then for the boundary layer, choose the Lyapunov function candidate as

$$V_b(\boldsymbol{y}) = \boldsymbol{y}^T \boldsymbol{P} \boldsymbol{y}. \tag{42}$$

Along the boundary layer system  $S_b$ , the fast-time derivative of  $V_b$  is

$$V_b' = \left[\frac{\partial V_b(\boldsymbol{y})}{\partial \boldsymbol{y}}\right]^T g(t, \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y} + h(t, \boldsymbol{x}), \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = 0) = (\boldsymbol{A}_2 \boldsymbol{y})^T \boldsymbol{P} \boldsymbol{y} + \boldsymbol{y}^T \boldsymbol{P} \boldsymbol{A}_2 \boldsymbol{y} = -\boldsymbol{y}^T \boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{y}$$

$$\leq -\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{Q}) \|\boldsymbol{y}\|^2 = -\gamma_1 \|\boldsymbol{y}\|^2,$$
(43)

where  $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{Q}) = \gamma_1$  denotes the smallest eigenvalue of matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Hence, as presented in (42) and (43), for all  $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $V_b > 0$  and  $\dot{V}_b < 0$ , i.e., when  $\eta \to \infty$ ,  $\|\mathbf{y}\| \to 0$ , and the boundary layer is asymptotically stable.

## 4.3. Reduced-Order System and Stability Analysis

From (38), the reduced-order model of flexible system is obtained as

$$S_r: \begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} + \Psi \bar{\mathbf{\theta}}, \\ \dot{\mathbf{\theta}} = -\Gamma \Xi \mathbf{x} - \sigma \Gamma \hat{\mathbf{\theta}}. \end{cases}$$
(44)

Then for the reduced-order system, choose the Lyapunov function candidate as

$$V_r(\boldsymbol{x}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{H} \boldsymbol{x} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^T \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \qquad (45)$$

where  $H = \text{diag}(k_a, M_e(q))$ . Along the reduced-order system  $S_r$ , the time derivative of  $V_r$  is

$$\dot{V}_{r} = \left[\frac{\partial V_{r}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right]^{T} f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}) + \left[\frac{\partial V_{r}}{\partial \mathbf{H}}\right]^{T} \dot{\mathbf{H}} + \left[\frac{\partial V_{r}}{\partial \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}\right]^{T} \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

$$= -\mathbf{x}^{T} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{x} - \frac{\sigma}{2} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{T} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \frac{\sigma}{2} (\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \boldsymbol{\theta})^{T} (\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \frac{\sigma}{2} \boldsymbol{\theta}^{T} \boldsymbol{\theta}$$

$$\leq -\gamma_{2} \|\mathbf{x}\|^{2} - \frac{\sigma}{2} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|^{2} + \frac{\sigma}{2} \boldsymbol{\theta}^{T} \boldsymbol{\theta}$$

$$\leq - \left[\|\mathbf{x}\|, \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|\right] \mathbf{Q}_{r} \begin{bmatrix}\|\mathbf{x}\|\\\|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|\end{bmatrix} + \frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^{T} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max},$$
(46)

where  $\gamma_2 = \lambda_{\min}(\Lambda)$ ,

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} k_a^2 & -k_a/2 \\ -k_a/2 & k_b \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q}_r = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma/2 \end{bmatrix}, \tag{47}$$

**A** can be kept positive definite by adjustment of  $k_a$  and  $k_b$ . Define the sets:

$$\Omega_{V_r} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \Big\{ (\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|) : \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{x} + \frac{\sigma}{2} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \le \frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max} \Big\},$$
(48)

$$\Omega_{V_r}^C \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \Big\{ (\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|) : \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{x} + \frac{\sigma}{2} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} > \frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max} \Big\}.$$
(49)

Hence, as presented in (45) and (46), for all  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}||) \in \Omega_{V_r}^{\mathbb{C}}$ ,  $V_r > 0$  and  $\dot{V}_r < 0$ , i.e.,  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}||)$  will convergence to the residual set  $\Omega_{V_r}$ , and the reduced-order system is stable.

## 4.4. Stability Analysis of the Flexible System

According to the above two Lyapunov functions, the following composite Lyapunov function candidate for the flexible system is chosen as

$$V = (1-d)V_r(\boldsymbol{x}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) + dV_b(\boldsymbol{y}), \quad 0 < d < 1,$$
(50)

where d is constant parameter. Then along the original flexible system S, the time derivate of V is

$$\begin{split} \dot{V} &= (1-d) \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial x} \right]^T f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x})) + \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial H} \right]^T \dot{H} + \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \right]^T \dot{\tilde{\theta}} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{d}{\varepsilon} \left[ \frac{\partial V_b}{\partial y} \right]^T \left\{ g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon) - \varepsilon \dot{h}(t, \mathbf{x}) \right\} \\ &= (1-d) \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]^T f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}) + \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial H} \right]^T \dot{H} + \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \right]^T \dot{\tilde{\theta}} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{d}{\varepsilon} \left[ \frac{\partial V_b}{\partial y} \right]^T \left\{ g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon), \varepsilon = 0 \right\} \\ &+ (1-d) \left[ \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right]^T \left\{ f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x})) - f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}) \right\} \\ &+ \frac{d}{\varepsilon} \left[ \frac{\partial V_b}{\partial y} \right]^T \left\{ g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon) - \varepsilon \dot{h}(t, \mathbf{x}) - g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \varepsilon = 0) \right\}. \end{split}$$
(51)

Note that the first two terms in (51) are the time derivatives of  $V_r$  and  $V_b$  with respect to the reduced-order system and the boundary layer, respectively. From (43) and (46) we know that they are stable. The remaining two items are the interconnection between the slow/fast subsystem and the original system. Combining (38), (44) and (45) gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V_r}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix}^T \{ f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x})) - f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} + h(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}) \}$$
  
=  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H} \mathbf{A}_3 \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ J_q & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \le \|\mathbf{x}\| \|J_q\| \|\mathbf{y}\| \le \mu_0 \|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|,$  (52)

where  $\mu_0 = \sup \|J_q\|$ . Combining (38), (40) and (42) gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V_b}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}^T \{ g(t, x, y + h(t, x), \varepsilon) - \varepsilon \dot{h}(t, x) - g(t, x, y + h(t, x), \varepsilon = 0) \}$$
  
=  $2y^T P \varepsilon A_2^{-1} B_2 \dot{\tau}^* = 2\varepsilon y^T P \begin{bmatrix} -E_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \dot{\tau}^* \le 2\varepsilon \|y\| \|P\| \| \dot{\tau}^* \|,$  (53)

where P is defined in (41).

**Theorem 1.** For continuous and bounded  $q_d$ ,  $\dot{q}_d$ ,  $\ddot{q}_d$ ,  $\ddot{q}_d$ , there exists positive constants  $\kappa_1$ ,  $\kappa_2$ ,  $\kappa_3$  and positive function  $\kappa_4(t)$  satisfying

$$\|\dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^*\| \le (\kappa_3 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\kappa_2)\|\boldsymbol{y}\| + \kappa_1\|\boldsymbol{x}\| + \kappa_4(t).$$
(54)

**Proof of Theorem 1.** See Appendix B.  $\Box$ 

Substituting (54) into (53), we get

$$2\varepsilon \|\boldsymbol{y}\| \|\boldsymbol{P}\| \| \dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^*\| \le 2\varepsilon \|\boldsymbol{y}\| \|\boldsymbol{P}\| \left\{ (\kappa_3 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\kappa_2) \|\boldsymbol{y}\| + \kappa_1 \|\boldsymbol{x}\| + \kappa_4(t) \right\} \\ = \varepsilon (\mu_3 + \frac{1}{\mu_2}) \|\boldsymbol{y}\|^2 + \varepsilon \mu_1 \|\boldsymbol{x}\| \|\boldsymbol{y}\| + \varepsilon \mu_4(t) \|\boldsymbol{y}\| \\ \le \varepsilon (\mu_3 + \frac{1}{\mu_2}) \|\boldsymbol{y}\|^2 + \varepsilon \mu_1 \|\boldsymbol{x}\| \|\boldsymbol{y}\| + \mu_4^2(t) + \frac{1}{4} \|\boldsymbol{y}\|^2,$$
(55)

where,  $\mu_3 = 2\kappa_3 \|P\|$ ,  $\mu_2 = 2\kappa_2 \|P\|$ ,  $\mu_1 = 2\kappa_1 \|P\|$ ,  $\mu_4(t) = 2\kappa_4(t) \|P\|$ . Hence, substituting (43), (46), (52) and (55) into (51), we get

$$\dot{V} \leq -[\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\boldsymbol{y}\|] \boldsymbol{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \|\boldsymbol{x}\| \\ \|\boldsymbol{y}\| \end{bmatrix} - (1-d)\frac{\sigma}{2} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|^2 + d\mu_4^2(t) + (1-d)\frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}, \qquad (56)$$

where,

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} (1-d)\gamma_2 & -\frac{1}{2}[(1-d)\mu_0 + d\mu_1] \\ -\frac{1}{2}[(1-d)\mu_0 + d\mu_1] & \frac{d}{\varepsilon}\gamma_1 - d(\mu_3 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\mu_2) - \frac{1}{4}d \end{bmatrix}.$$
(57)

When

$$\varepsilon < \frac{d(\gamma_1 - \mu_2)}{\frac{1}{4} [(1 - d)\mu_0 + d\mu_1]^2} + d\mu_3 + \frac{1}{4}d} = \varepsilon_u,$$
(58)

Q is a positive definite matrix, which can be easily achieved by adjusting d in this system. Then define the following sets

$$\Omega_{V} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Theta} : [\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\boldsymbol{y}\|] \boldsymbol{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \|\boldsymbol{x}\|\\\|\boldsymbol{y}\| \end{bmatrix} + (1-d) \frac{\sigma}{2} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|^{2} \le d\bar{\mu}_{4}^{2}(t) + (1-d) \frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^{T} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max} \right\}, \quad (59)$$

$$\Omega_V^C \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Theta} : [\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\boldsymbol{y}\|] \boldsymbol{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \|\boldsymbol{x}\| \\ \|\boldsymbol{y}\| \end{bmatrix} + (1-d) \frac{\sigma}{2} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|^2 > d\bar{\mu}_4^2(t) + (1-d) \frac{\sigma}{2} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\max} \right\}, \quad (60)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\Theta} = (\|\boldsymbol{x}\|, \|\boldsymbol{y}\|, \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\|), \bar{\mu}_4(t) = \sup \mu_4(t).$ 

Therefore, according to (56), for all  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\mathbf{y}||, ||\tilde{\mathbf{\theta}}||) \in \Omega_V$ ,  $\dot{V}$  can be positive or negative, but for all  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\mathbf{y}||, ||\tilde{\mathbf{\theta}}||) \in \Omega_V^C$ ,  $\dot{V} < 0$  definitely. It means that for all  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\mathbf{y}||, ||\tilde{\mathbf{\theta}}||) \in \Omega_V$ , they either converge or diverge, but once they exceed the set  $\Omega_V$ ,  $(||\mathbf{x}||, ||\mathbf{y}||, ||\tilde{\mathbf{\theta}}||)$  will remove towards the origin and converge to the set  $\Omega_V$  again. The singular-perturbation-based adaptive control with  $\sigma$ -modification method avoids the drift of estimated parameters, and enables all errors to converge to a residual set. The closed-loop of the flexible system is stable.

## 5. Experimental Validation

## 5.1. Experimental Setup

One research prototype of the twin-motor cable driven system is developed as shown in Figure 4. It is mainly composed of two parts: the transmission system and the control system. The transmission system includes motors, cables, an arranging mechanism, a guide rail and sensors. Cables are connected between the motors and the moving platform. To prevent cables from winding irregularly, the cable arrangement mechanism is also designed and installed on each motor, so that the cables can be arranged on the rotating shaft regularly.

The measurement and control system is shown in Figure 5, the hardware includes the host and slave computers, A/D and D/A boards, drivers, motors and sensors. Based on the Labview software, the control program is designed with functions of command input, status detection, data processing and storage. All data in the slave computer will be processed within 1 ms. Therefore, the applicability of the control method should be considered.



Base frame & rail

Figure 4. Component of the flexible cable driven system.





Experiments are conducted on the test bed to validate the proposed composite adaptive control with  $\sigma$ -modification ( $\sigma$ -CAC), and compare with the traditional adaptive control algorithm (TAC). Specifically, it is to verify that the proposed method helps to improve the bandwidth of the cable driven system. The parameters of the two controllers are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Parameters of two controllers.

Symbol	Specification $\sigma$ -CAC		TAC
$\hat{M}_0$	Initial Value of $\hat{M}$	20 kg	20 kg
$\hat{B}_{p0}$	Initial Value of $\hat{B}_p$	10 N/m/s	10 N/m/s
$\hat{F}_0$	Initial Value of $\hat{F}$ 100 N		100 N
$\hat{G}_0$	Initial Value of $\hat{G}$	200 N	200 N
$k_{\Gamma 1}$	Gain of $\dot{M}$	0.2	0.2
$k_{\Gamma 2}$	Gain of $\dot{B}_p$	1	1
$k_{\Gamma 3}$	Gain of Ê	0.4	0.4
$k_{\Gamma 4}$	Gain of Ĝ	0.2	0.2
$k_a$	Feedback gain	15	15
$k_b$	Feedback gain	100	100
$k_1$	Coefficient	10	-
$k_2$	Coefficient	10	_
σ	Constant positive value	0.1	-

## 5.2. Experimental Results and Discussion

The tracking command is

$$q_d = A_d [1 - \exp(-0.1t^3)] \sin(2\pi f_d t), \tag{61}$$

where  $A_d$  denotes the amplitude, and  $f_d$  the frequency. The amplitude is fixed at 10 mm, and experiments with frequencies of  $f_d = 2 \sim 9$  Hz have been done, respectively. As shown in Figure 6, both TAC and  $\sigma$ -CAC perform well at 3 Hz, except for the start-up phase. They both can keep the tracking error within  $\pm 1$ mm. However, because of the compensation of the fast control law in the  $\sigma$ -TCT, it has a stronger control effect and further reduces the error within  $\pm 0.5$  mm. The high-frequency characteristics of the flexible cable show little effect at 3 Hz.



**Figure 6.** Comparison results at 3 Hz. (a) Trajectory tracking of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (b) position error of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (c) trajectory tracking of TAC; (d) position error of traditional adaptive control (TAC).

The frequency is further increased to 5 Hz, as shown in Figure 7. Compared with 3 Hz, the performance of the TAC deteriorates. Specifically, the tracking error increases from  $\pm 1$  to  $\pm 1.5$  mm, and the phase lags obviously. While the  $\sigma$ -CAC continues to maintain high accuracy, its error is kept within  $\pm 0.5$  mm, and phase follows closely. The  $\sigma$ -CAC shows advantage at 5 Hz.

The frequency is increased to 7 Hz again, as shown in Figure 8. Compared with 3 and 5 Hz, the performance of the TAC gets worse as the frequency increases. The tracking error increases from the initial  $\pm 1$  to  $\pm 3$  mm, and there is a serious phase lag. The  $\sigma$ -CAC showed consistency in 3, 5, and 7 Hz experiments. This consistency is the evidence that the  $\sigma$ -CAC can make the flexible system more stable. Compared with TAC, the  $\sigma$ -CAC significantly improves the performance at 7 Hz.



**Figure 7.** Comparison results at 5 Hz. (a) Trajectory tracking of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (b) position error of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (c) trajectory tracking of TAC; (d) position error of TAC.



**Figure 8.** Comparison results at 7 Hz. (a) Trajectory tracking of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (b) position error of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (c) trajectory tracking of TAC; (d) position error of TAC.

The detailed comparison results of the two controllers in the frequency domain are recorded in Table 2. It shows that as the frequency increases, their performance deteriorates. However, the deterioration rate of the  $\sigma$ -CAC is much slower than the TAC. At 9 Hz, the  $\sigma$ -CAC can still ensure that the phase lag of system is less than 10 degrees and the amplitude error does not exceed 10%, while, the TAC is already worse than this performance at 6 Hz.



The  $\sigma$ -CAC successfully increases the system bandwidth from 5 to 9 Hz. As shown in Figure 9, at 9 Hz, the  $\sigma$ -CAC can still work stably, and the phase lag is about -9.2 degrees.

**Figure 9.** Results of  $\sigma$ -CAC at 9 Hz. (a) Trajectory tracking of  $\sigma$ -CAC; (b) position error of  $\sigma$ -CAC.

Frequency (Hz)	$\sigma$ -CAC		TAC	
	Magnitude	Phase (deg)	Magnitude	Phase (deg)
2	3.65%	-2.4	-0.72%	3.6
3	0.39%	-3.24	-1.38%	-4.32
4	-2.09%	-1.44	1.09%	-6.91
5	-1.39%	-2.16	-6.54%	-9.1
6	-0.99%	0.864	-4.64%	-12.96
7	-1.17%	-1.8	-2.55%	-16.13
8	-2.58%	-5.78	-	-
9	-2.01%	-9.2	-	-

 Table 2. Comparison results of the two control methods.

The above comparative results consistently show that with the increase of the frequency, the influence of the flexible characteristics of the cable on the system control increases. At low frequencies that far away from the cable characteristics, TAC and  $\sigma$ -CAC both perform well. However, at high frequencies, the TAC performs poorly for the cable flexibility. While, the  $\sigma$ -CAC, due to the fast control law compensation, can effectively weaken the flexible cable influence. Hence, the  $\sigma$ -CAC shows obvious advantages in the high-frequency experiments. Figures 6–8 and Table 2 directly show that the  $\sigma$ -CAC is significantly effective for increasing the bandwidth of the flexible system.

## 6. Conclusions

Based on the singular perturbation theory, a  $\sigma$ -modified adaptive control algorithm has been proposed to solve the control of a twin-motor cable driven system. The special feature of this method is that it uses the multi-time scale characteristics of the system to design a composite control law, which can be divided into fast and slow parts. In addition, to prevent instability of estimated parameters drift, a  $\sigma$ -modification was applied to the adaptive law. Then, stability was proved by the Lyapunov stability theorem. Results show that the closedloop of the flexible system is stable, and all errors converge into a residual set. One research prototype of the twin-motor cable driven system has been developed, and experimental investigation was conducted on both the proposed  $\sigma$ -modified adaptive control method and conventional adaptive control method. The comparison of experimental results show that the proposed  $\sigma$ -modified adaptive control method can improve the tracking performance well, especially for high-frequency motion control, the fast control law compensation effectively reduces the risk of internal tension instability and enables the system to be stable with large control gains. The proposed  $\sigma$ -modified adaptive control algorithm successfully increases the system bandwidth from 5 Hz in the traditional adaptive control algorithm to 9 Hz.

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#### Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

 $\sigma$ -CACcomposite adaptive control with  $\sigma$ -modificationTACtraditional adaptive control

### Appendix A

Recall (11), the equation can be rewritten as

$$r_m M\ddot{q} + r_m B_p \dot{q} + r_m F \operatorname{sign}(\dot{q}) + r_m G(q) = r_m J_q T + J_q \tau^* - J_q \tau^*.$$
(A1)

Then combining (4), (32) and (A1), we get

$$M_e(q)\ddot{q} + N_e(q,\dot{q})\dot{q} + B_eq + F_e \operatorname{sign}(\dot{q}) + G_e(q) = r_m J_q T + J_q \tau_s - J_q \tau^*.$$
(A2)

Substituting the slow control law (22) into (A2) gives

$$M_e(q)\dot{q}_r + [N_e(q,\dot{q}) + k_d]q_r = \mathbf{\Phi}^T(q,\dot{q},\dot{q}_d,\ddot{q}_d)\tilde{\mathbf{\theta}} + r_m J_q \mathbf{T} - J_q \tau^*.$$
(A3)

Then replace the variables in (A3) with the fast and slow variables defined in (30) and (31) to get

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{z} \\ \dot{q}_r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -k_a & 1 \\ 0 & -M_e(q)^{-1} [N_e(q,\dot{q}) + k_b] \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ q_r \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 4} \\ M_e(q)^{-1} \mathbf{\Phi}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ M_e(q)^{-1} J_q & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r_m T \\ \varepsilon r_m \dot{T} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ M_e(q)^{-1} J_q \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\tau}^*,$$
(A4)

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A_1 \mathbf{x} + \Psi \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + A_3 w + B_1 \tau^*. \tag{A5}$$

Substituting (30) and (31) into (19) gives

$$\varepsilon \begin{bmatrix} r_m \dot{T} \\ \varepsilon r_m \ddot{T} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{E} \\ -k_1 r_m^2 \mathbf{I}_m^{-1} & -k_2 r_m^2 \mathbf{I}_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r_m T \\ \varepsilon r_m \dot{T} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ k_1 r_m^2 \mathbf{I}_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\tau}^*, \tag{A6}$$

$$\varepsilon \dot{w} = A_2 w + B_2 \tau^*. \tag{A7}$$

# Appendix B

Recall the  $au^*$  defined in (32) and expand it as

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^* = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s - \boldsymbol{r}_m^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m (\boldsymbol{J}_q^T \dot{\boldsymbol{q}} + \boldsymbol{J}_q^T \ddot{\boldsymbol{q}}). \tag{A8}$$

Combining (11) and (A8) gives

$$\tau^{*} + [r_{m}^{-2}M^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}J_{q}, \mathbf{0}]w$$
  
=  $\tau^{*} + [r_{m}^{-2}M^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}J_{q}, \mathbf{0}](y - A_{2}^{-1}B_{2}\tau^{*})$   
=  $\tau_{s} - r_{m}^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}\dot{q} + r_{m}^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}M^{-1}[B_{p}\dot{q} + Fsign(\dot{q}) + G(q)].$  (A9)

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Then define

$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}(q) = \boldsymbol{E}_2 + r_m^{-2} \boldsymbol{M}^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m \boldsymbol{J}_q^T \boldsymbol{J}_q, \tag{A10}$$

Equation (A9) can be rewritten as

$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}(q)\boldsymbol{\tau}^* = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s - r_m^{-1}\boldsymbol{I}_m \boldsymbol{J}_q^T \dot{\boldsymbol{q}} + r_m^{-1}\boldsymbol{I}_m \boldsymbol{J}_q^T \boldsymbol{M}^{-1} \big[ B_p \dot{\boldsymbol{q}} + F \text{sign}(\dot{\boldsymbol{q}}) + \boldsymbol{G}(\boldsymbol{q}) \big]$$

$$- \big[ r_m^{-2} \boldsymbol{M}^{-1} \boldsymbol{I}_m \boldsymbol{J}_q^T \boldsymbol{J}_q, \boldsymbol{0} \big] \boldsymbol{y}.$$
(A11)

Substituting the slow control law (22) into (A11) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(q)\boldsymbol{\tau}^{*} = & J_{q}^{+} [\hat{M}_{e}(q)q_{a} + \hat{N}_{e}(q,\dot{q})q_{v} + \hat{B}_{e}\dot{q} + \hat{F}_{e}\text{sign}(\dot{q}) + \hat{G}_{e}(q) - k_{b}q_{r}] \\ &+ (E_{2} - J_{q}^{+}J_{q})\boldsymbol{\xi} - r_{m}^{-1}I_{m}\dot{J}_{q}^{T}\dot{q} + r_{m}^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}M^{-1}[B_{p}\dot{q} + F\text{sign}(\dot{q}) + G(q)] \\ &- [r_{m}^{-2}M^{-1}I_{m}J_{q}^{T}J_{q}, \mathbf{0}]\boldsymbol{y}, \end{aligned}$$
(A12)

that is,

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^* = \boldsymbol{\tau}^*(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, q_d, \dot{q}_d, \ddot{q}_d). \tag{A13}$$

Hence the time derivative of  $au^*$  is

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^* = \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}^*}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}} \dot{\boldsymbol{x}} + \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}^*}{\partial \boldsymbol{y}} \dot{\boldsymbol{y}} + \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}^*}{\partial \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} \dot{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} + \rho(t), \tag{A14}$$

where

$$\rho(t) = \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial q_d} \dot{q_d} + \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial \dot{q_d}} \ddot{q_d} + \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial \ddot{q_d}} \ddot{q_d}.$$
(A15)

Combining (A14) with (38) gives

$$\dot{\tau}^* = \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial x} (A_1 x + \Psi \tilde{\theta} + A_3 y) + \Pi \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial y} A_2 y + \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} (-\Gamma \Xi x - \sigma \Gamma \hat{\theta}) + \Pi \rho(t).$$
(A16)

From (A16), there exist corollaries satisfying

• Corollary 1

$$\|\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial x} A_3 y + \Pi \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \tau^*}{\partial y} A_2 y\| \le \left(\kappa_3 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \kappa_2\right) \|y\|, \tag{A17}$$

where

$$\kappa_{2} = \sup \|\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} A_{2}\| = \sup \|[r_{m}^{-2} M^{-1} I_{m} J_{q}^{T} J_{q}, \mathbf{0}] A_{2}\|,$$

$$\kappa_{3} = \sup \|\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} A_{3}\|.$$
(A18)

• Corollary 2

$$\|(\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x}A_{1} - \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial \tilde{\theta}}\Gamma \Xi)x - \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial \tilde{\theta}}\sigma\Gamma\hat{\theta} + \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x}\Psi\tilde{\theta}\| \leq \kappa_{1}\|x\| + \sigma\kappa_{6}(t) + \kappa_{7}(t) + \kappa_{8}(t),$$
(A19)
$$\|\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x}\Psi\tilde{\theta}\| = \|\Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1\times r} \\ M_{e}(g)^{-1}\Phi\tilde{\theta} \end{bmatrix}\| \leq \kappa_{1,3}\|x\| + \kappa_{7}(t) + \kappa_{8}(t),$$
(A20)

where

$$\kappa_{1,1} = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} A_{1} \|, \kappa_{1,2} = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \Gamma \Xi \|,$$

$$\kappa_{1,3} = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times r} \\ M_{e}(q)^{-1} Y_{1}(q, \dot{q}) \end{bmatrix} \|,$$

$$\kappa_{1} = \kappa_{1,1} + \kappa_{1,2} + \kappa_{1,3},$$

$$\kappa_{6}(t) = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \Gamma \hat{\theta} \|,$$

$$\kappa_{7}(t) = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times r} \\ M_{e}(q)^{-1} Y_{2}(q, \dot{q}, \dot{q}_{d}, \ddot{q}_{d}) \end{bmatrix} \|,$$
(A21)
$$\kappa_{8}(t) = \sup \| \Pi \frac{\partial \tau^{*}}{\partial x} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{1 \times r} \\ M_{e}(q)^{-1} Y_{3}(q, \dot{q}) \end{bmatrix} \|,$$

$$Y_{1}(q, \dot{q}) = [\tilde{M}_{e}(q)k_{a}^{2} - \tilde{N}_{e}(q, \dot{q})k_{a} + \tilde{B}_{e}, -\tilde{M}_{e}(q)k_{a}],$$

$$Y_{2}(q, \dot{q}, \dot{q}_{d}, \ddot{q}_{d}) = \tilde{M}_{e}(q)\ddot{q}_{d} + \tilde{N}_{e}(q, \dot{q}).$$

• Corollary 3

$$\kappa_9(t) = \sup \| \mathbf{\Pi} \rho(t) \|. \tag{A22}$$

Hence, combining (A17), (A19) and (A22) gives

$$\|\dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^*\| \le \left(\kappa_3 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\kappa_2\right) \|\boldsymbol{y}\| + \kappa_1 \|\boldsymbol{x}\| + \kappa_4(t), \tag{A23}$$

where,

$$\kappa_4(t) = \sigma \kappa_6(t) + \kappa_7(t) + \kappa_8(t) + \kappa_9(t).$$
(A24)

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