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LYAPUNOV FUNCTIONS FOR LIÉNARD-TYPE NONLINEAR SYSTEMS

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Abstract. *Lagrange-Charpit method has been employed to construct a generalized Lyapunov functions for the Lienard-type nonlinear system, which is important as a representative system expressing the general RLC electric circuits and networks, and mechanical spring systems etc. The function includes particular nonlinear terms as arbitrary functions, by which quadratic term appearing in the Lure-type Lyapunov function can be extended, By changing the forms of the arbitrary functions, the result yields all the conventional Lyapunov functions as special cases.*

Key words: *Lienard-type Nonlinear Systems, Lagrange-Charpit Method, System Stability, Lyapunov Functions.*

1 Introduction

In stability analysis of systems, it is common to utilize the Lyapunov method, and the energy-type Lyapunov function is widely used. The Lyapunov method has two main uses, i.e., establishment of the stability of a null solution of the system and determination of a stability region for the system. The latter is often important to system engineers, because a lot of systems appearing in engineering have nonlinearities in which only local stability is discussed. Moreover, the Lyapunov method gives only sufficient conditions for obtaining the stability. Hence, a Lyapunov function which gives good approximation to the true stability boundary is desired.

Most of the research in the area of stability of nonlinear systems has only dealt with the simple system given by Liénard's equation [1] – [5]. Liénard-type Nonlinear System given by n second-order differential equations, a generalization of Liénard's equation, has not been thoroughly discussed. Stability of that type of system has been studied to some level in [6] – [10].

This paper, which is derived from our work in [11], presents a generalized Lyapunov function for the Liénard-type Nonlinear System given by n second-order differential equations, using the Lagrange-Charpit method [4] which is a well-known technique for solving partial differential equations. The function includes an arbitrary function, by which the quadratic term appearing in the Luré-type Lyapunov function is extended. All Lyapunov functions presented so far are obtainable by means of changing the form of the arbitrary function. The Lyapunov function includes extended terms which contribute to the extension of the obtained stability boundary.

2 Liénard-type nonlinear system

The Liénard-type nonlinear system considered here is of the form [7]

$$\ddot{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{y})\dot{\mathbf{y}} + \gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{y} is an n vector, $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{y}) (> \mathbf{0})$ is a nonlinear damping defined by

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{D} \begin{bmatrix} g_1(\sigma_1) & & & \mathbf{0} \\ & g_2(\sigma_2) & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{0} & & & g_m(\sigma_m) \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}^T = \mathbf{D} \{diag[g_i(\sigma_i)]\} \mathbf{B}^T$$

\mathbf{D} and \mathbf{B} are $n \times m$ matrices, $\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$, $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{B}^T\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{f}^T(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = [f_1(\sigma_1), f_2(\sigma_2), \dots, f_m(\sigma_m)]$.

The nonlinear functions $g_i(\sigma_i)$ and $f_i(\sigma_i)$ are assumed to be continuous, differentiable and to satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) . $g_i(\sigma_i) > 0$ for $\sigma_i \neq 0$
- (ii) . $\sigma_i f_1(\sigma_1) > 0$ for $\sigma_i \neq 0$

(iii) . $|\Psi_i(\sigma_i)| \rightarrow \infty$ as $|\sigma_i| \rightarrow \infty$
 where $\Psi_i(\sigma_i) = \int_0^{\sigma_i} g_i(\sigma_i) d\sigma_i$

Making the replacements: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}_1$, $\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{x}_2$, we can rewrite system (1) in the form of first-order simultaneous equations as

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}); \quad (\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}) \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{x}_1^T, \mathbf{x}_2^T]^T$, $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) = [\mathbf{h}_1^T, \mathbf{h}_2^T]^T$, $\mathbf{x}_i = [x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{in}]^T$, $\mathbf{h}_i = [h_{i1}, h_{i2}, \dots, h_{in}]^T$; ($i = 1, 2$) and $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ is the equilibrium state which is asymptotically stable.

3 Lyapunov function for Liénard-type nonlinear systems

The problem concerning the stability analysis of the equilibrium state of the system (2) is formally taken up by the search for a Lyapunov function $V = V(x)$ which satisfies the partial differential equation

$$F(x, V, P) = P^T h(x) + \psi(x) = 0 \tag{3}$$

where $P = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = [P_1^T, P_2^T]$, $P_i = [P_{i1}, P_{i2}, \dots, P_{in}]^T$ and $\psi(x)$ is an arbitrary non-negative function whose opposite sign may be the time derivative of the obtained Lyapunov function. Separation of P into P_1, P_2 simplifies the application of the Lagrange-Charpit method to second-order differential equations.

In this section, we derive the generalized Lyapunov function for Liénard-type nonlinear systems.

3.1 Generalized Lyapunov function for Liénard-type nonlinear systems

Stability of Liénard-type nonlinear system (1), which is a generalization of Liénard’s equation, has been studied in [7] for the case $D = B$ and $D^T B = \text{diag}[\lambda_i]$ (λ_i : positive constants). In this section, we construct a generalized Lyapunov function which includes all Lyapunov functions presented so far, using the Lagrange-Charpit method.

The characteristic equation with $\frac{\partial F}{\partial V} = 0$ becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx_{11}}{h_{11}(x)} &= \dots = \frac{dx_{1n}}{h_{1n}(x)} = \frac{dx_{21}}{h_{21}(x)} = \dots = \frac{dx_{2n}}{h_{2n}(x)} \\ &= \frac{-dP_{11}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_{11}}} = \dots = \frac{-dP_{1n}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_{1n}}} = \frac{-dP_{21}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_{21}}} = \dots = \frac{-dP_{2n}}{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_{2n}}} \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

From equation (4), $2n$ equations can be derived containing P_1, P_2 and $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_2}$ as

$$\begin{aligned} Z^1 &= \alpha D\{\text{diag}[\phi_1(\sigma_1)]\} \mathbf{1} + \beta x_2 - P_2 = 0 \\ Z^2 &= \alpha \Phi'(\sigma) x_2 - \beta \{G(x_1) x_2 + Bf(\sigma)\} + P_1 - G(x_1) P_2 + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_2} = 0 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

where $Z^1 = [Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n]^T$, $Z^2 = [Z_{n+1}, Z_{n+2}, \dots, Z_{2n}]^T$, $\Phi(\sigma) = D\{\text{diag}[\phi'_i(\sigma_i)]\} B^T$, $\phi'_i(\sigma_i) = \frac{d\phi_i(\sigma_i)}{d\sigma_i}$. α and β are arbitrary constants, $\phi_i(\sigma_i)$ are arbitrary functions and $\mathbf{1}$ is a vector with all elements 1.

The conditions that functions $Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_{2n-1}$ and F have common solution can be written in the form,

$$\begin{aligned}
 [Z_i, Z_j] &= \sum_{k=1}^2 \left(\left[\frac{dZ_i}{dx_k} \right]^T \frac{\partial Z_j}{\partial P_k} - \left[\frac{dZ_j}{dx_k} \right]^T \frac{\partial Z_i}{\partial P_k} \right) = 0 \\
 [Z_i, F] &= \sum_{k=1}^2 \left(\left[\frac{dZ_i}{dx_k} \right]^T \frac{\partial F}{\partial P_k} - \left[\frac{dF}{dx_k} \right]^T \frac{\partial Z_i}{\partial P_k} \right) = 0
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{6}$$

where $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, 2n - 1, i \neq j$ and

$$\frac{dZ_i}{dx_k} = \frac{\partial Z_i}{\partial x_k} + P_k \frac{\partial Z_i}{\partial V}
 \tag{7}$$

Applying (6) to Z^1, Z^2 and F gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 [Z^1, Z^2] &= 2 \{ \beta G(x_1) - \alpha \Phi'(\sigma) \} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_2^2} = 0 \\
 [Z^2, F] &= \begin{bmatrix} x_2^T \left[\alpha \frac{\partial \Phi'(\sigma)}{\partial x_{11}} - \beta \frac{\partial G(x_1)}{\partial x_{11}} \right] x_2 \\ x_2^T \left[\alpha \frac{\partial \Phi'(\sigma)}{\partial x_{12}} - \beta \frac{\partial G(x_1)}{\partial x_{12}} \right] x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_2^T \left[\alpha \frac{\partial \Phi'(\sigma)}{\partial x_{1n}} - \beta \frac{\partial G(x_1)}{\partial x_{1n}} \right] x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} x_2 \\
 &\quad - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_1} + \alpha \frac{\partial \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) f_i(\sigma_i) \right]}{\partial x_1} = 0
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{8}$$

where $[Z^1, Z^2]$ and $[Z^2, F]$ have been defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 [Z^1, Z^2] &\equiv \begin{bmatrix} [Z_{n+1}, Z_1] & \cdots & [Z_{n+1}, Z_n] \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ [Z_{2n}, Z_1] & \cdots & [Z_{2n}, Z_n] \end{bmatrix} \\
 [Z^2, F] &\equiv \begin{bmatrix} [Z_{n+1}, F] \\ \vdots \\ [Z_{2n}, F] \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{9}$$

The condition $[Z^1, F] = 0$ becomes identical with $Z^2 = 0$.

The unknown functions $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2}$ and ψ are determined from (9). As the results, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} &= 2 \{ \beta G(\mathbf{x}_1) - \alpha \Phi'(\sigma) \} \mathbf{x}_2 + B \Omega \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \psi &= \mathbf{x}_2^T \{ \beta G(\mathbf{x}_1) - \alpha \Phi'(\sigma) \} \mathbf{x}_2 + \Omega^T(\mathbf{x}_1) B^T \mathbf{x}_2 + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) f_i(\sigma_i) \\ &= \dot{\sigma}^T \{ \text{diag}[\beta g_i(\sigma_i) - \alpha \phi_i'(\sigma_i)] \} \dot{\sigma} + \Omega^T(\mathbf{x}_1) \dot{\sigma} + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) f_i(\sigma_i) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where $\Omega(\mathbf{x}_1)$ is the arbitrary vector function. In (10), inequalities

$$\beta g_i(\sigma_i) - \alpha \phi_i'(\sigma_i) > 0, \quad \alpha \phi_i(\sigma_i) f_i(\sigma_i) > 0 \quad (11)$$

must be satisfied. Then we choose $\Omega(\mathbf{x}_1)$ as

$$\Omega(\mathbf{x}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} -2\sqrt{K_1(\sigma_1)} \alpha \lambda_1 \phi_1(\sigma_1) f_1(\sigma_1) \\ -2\sqrt{K_1(\sigma_1)} \alpha \lambda_1 \phi_1(\sigma_1) f_1(\sigma_1) \\ \vdots \\ -2\sqrt{K_1(\sigma_1)} \alpha \lambda_1 \phi_1(\sigma_1) f_1(\sigma_1) \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

in order for ψ to be the sum of perfect square forms, such that

$$\psi = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[\sqrt{K_i(\sigma_i)} \dot{\sigma}_i - \sqrt{\alpha \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) f_i(\sigma_i)} \right]^2 \quad (13)$$

where, $K_i(\sigma_i)$ ($i = 1 - m$) are given as $K_i(\sigma_i) = \beta g_i(\sigma_i) - \alpha \phi_i'(\sigma_i)$. Solving (5) for P_1 and P_2 , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= \alpha G(\mathbf{x}_1) D \{ \text{diag}[\phi_i(\sigma_i)] \} \mathbf{1} + \alpha \Phi'(\sigma) \mathbf{x}_2 + \beta B f(\sigma) - B \Omega(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ P_2 &= \alpha D \{ \text{diag}[\phi_i(\sigma_i)] \} \mathbf{1} + \beta \mathbf{x}_2 \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Choosing $\alpha = 1$ and $\beta = 1$, the scalar function V , where

$$V(\mathbf{x}) = \int_0^{\mathbf{x}} P^T dx, \quad (15)$$

is given as

$$\begin{aligned}
 V &= \frac{1}{2} \{ \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{D} \{ \text{diag}[\phi_i(\sigma_i)] \} \mathbf{1} \}^T \{ \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{D} \{ \text{diag}[\phi_i(\sigma_i)] \} \mathbf{1} \} \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^m \int_0^{\sigma_i} \mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) d\sigma_i + \int_0^\sigma \mathbf{f}^T(\sigma) d\sigma \\
 &+ 2 \sum_{i=1}^m \int_0^{\sigma_i} \sqrt{\mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) \mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i)} d\sigma_i
 \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

The time derivative of V is of the form

$$\dot{V} = - \sum_{i=1}^m \left[\sqrt{\mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i)} \dot{\sigma}_i - \sqrt{\lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) \mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i)} \right]^2 \tag{17}$$

Now, the conditions given in (11) result in

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) &> 0 \quad (\sigma_i \neq 0) \\
 \mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) &= g_i(\sigma_i) - \frac{d\phi_i(\sigma_i)}{d\sigma_i} \geq 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

We can easily see that \dot{V} in (17) satisfies Lyapunov's criteria ; $\dot{V}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$ for $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$, and $\dot{V}(\mathbf{x})$ is not identically equal to zero along any trajectory of the system other than the origin.

Next we inspect the definiteness of V in a region around the origin. Let us rewrite the right-hand side of (16) except the first term, such that

$$V_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m \int_0^{\sigma_i} H_i(\sigma_i) d\sigma_i \tag{19}$$

where

$$H_i(\sigma_i) = \mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) + \mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i) + \sqrt{\mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i) \mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i)} \tag{20}$$

As $H_i(i = 1 - m)$ in (20) are arranged in the forms

$$H_i(\sigma_i) = \begin{cases} [\sqrt{\mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i)} + \sqrt{\mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i)}]^2; & \sigma_i \geq 0 \\ -[\sqrt{-\mathbf{K}_i(\sigma_i) \lambda_i \phi_i(\sigma_i)} - \sqrt{-\mathbf{f}_i(\sigma_i)}]^2; & \sigma_i < 0 \end{cases} \tag{21}$$

we have

$$\sigma_i H_i(\sigma_i) \geq 0 \quad (22)$$

Hence, V_0 is verified to be a positive function. Thus, the scalar function V in (16) satisfies Lyapunov's criteria: $V(x)$ is a continuous scalar function which has continuous first partial derivatives with respect to x , $V(x) = 0$ for $x = 0$, and $V(x) > 0$ for $x \neq 0$ and becomes the Lyapunov function of the system (1).

If we choose

$$\phi_i(\sigma_i) = \alpha' \int_0^{\sigma_i} g_i(\sigma_i) d\sigma_i \quad (0 \leq \alpha' \leq 1) \quad (23)$$

(16) is equivalent to that obtained in [7]. The Lyapunov function given in (16) is regarded as a generalized Lyapunov function for the system (1) satisfying $D = B$ and $D^T B = \text{diag}[\lambda_i]$, (λ_i : positive constants).

3.2 Example

Let us consider a Liénard-type nonlinear system [7].

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{y}_1 + \{g_1(\sigma_1) + g_2(\sigma_2)\} \dot{y}_1 + \{g_1(\sigma_1) - g_2(\sigma_2)\} \dot{y}_2 + f_1(\sigma_1) - f_2(\sigma_2) &= 0 \\ \ddot{y}_2 + \{g_1(\sigma_1) - g_2(\sigma_2)\} \dot{y}_1 + \{g_1(\sigma_1) + g_2(\sigma_2)\} \dot{y}_2 + f_1(\sigma_1) + f_2(\sigma_2) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $\sigma_1 = y_1 + y_2$, $\sigma_2 = y_2 - y_1$

We can rewrite the equation (24) in the form of (2) as

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y}_1 \\ \ddot{y}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} g_1(\sigma_1) & 0 \\ 0 & g_2(\sigma_2) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{y}_1 \\ \dot{y}_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\sigma_1) \\ f_2(\sigma_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where

$$D = B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D^T B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

For the system (25), the generalized Lyapunov function (16) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
V &= \frac{1}{2}[x_{21} + \phi_1(\sigma_1) - \phi_2(\sigma_2)]^2 + \frac{1}{2}[x_{22} + \phi_1(\sigma_1) + \phi_2(\sigma_2)]^2 \\
&+ 2 \int_0^{\sigma_1} K_1(\sigma_1)\phi_1(\sigma_1)d\sigma_1 + 2 \int_0^{\sigma_2} K_2(\sigma_2)\phi_2(\sigma_2)d\sigma_2 \\
&+ \int_0^{\sigma_1} f_1(\sigma_1)d\sigma_1 + \int_0^{\sigma_2} f_2(\sigma_2)d\sigma_2 \\
&+ 2 \int_0^{\sigma_1} \sqrt{2K_1(\sigma_1)\phi_1(\sigma_1)f_1(\sigma_1)}d\sigma_1 \\
&+ 2 \int_0^{\sigma_2} \sqrt{2K_2(\sigma_2)\phi_2(\sigma_2)f_2(\sigma_2)}d\sigma_2
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{V} &= -[\sqrt{K_1(\sigma_1)}\dot{\sigma}_1 - \sqrt{2\phi_1(\sigma_1)f_1(\sigma_1)}]^2 \\
&+ [\sqrt{K_2(\sigma_2)}\dot{\sigma}_2 - \sqrt{2\phi_2(\sigma_2)f_2(\sigma_2)}]^2
\end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

4 Conclusions

This paper has given the generalized Lyapunov function for the Liénard-type nonlinear system which is important as the general system expressing LRC electric circuits and spring systems etc.. The Lagrange-Charpit method which is a well known technique for solving partial differential equations was applied to construct the Lyapunov function. The proposed function includes arbitrary functions, by which the Luré-type Lyapunov function is extended. The result yields all conventional Lyapunov functions as special cases, selecting the arbitrary functions appropriately.

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LJAPUNOVLJEVE FUNKCIJE ZA NELINEARNE SISTEME LIENARD-OVOG TIPa

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Lagrange-Charpit-ov metod je primenjen za konstruisanje generalisanih Ljapunovljevih funkcija za nelinearne sisteme Lienard-ovog tipa što je značajno kao reprezentativni sistem koji izražava opšta RLC električna kola i mreže i sisteme mehaničkih opruga itd. Funkcija uključuje partikularne nelinearne članove kao proizvoljne funkcije pomoću kojih se može proširiti kvadratni član u Ljapunovljevoj funkciji Lure-ovog tipa. Menjanjem oblika proizvoljnih funkcija rezultat daje sve konvencionalne Ljapunovljeve funkcije kao specijalne slučajeve.