Complex Order PI$^{a+jb}D^{c+jd}$ Controller Design for a Fractional Order DC Motor System

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**Abstract**

Industry 4.0 implementation stipulates effective actuator control. In the present work, a complex order controller was designed for a fractional order model of a direct current (DC) motor system. For comparisons, the DC motor system model was also controlled using the conventional proportional integral (PI), proportional integral derivative (PID), proportional resonant (PR) and fractional order PID controllers (FOPID). Time domain results indicated that the PR controller performed exceedingly well for output signal responses, but fared poorly in case of control signal specifications. The PI controller responses suffered from high time domain characteristics for both control and output signals. The PID controller performed moderately in terms of time domain and peak overshoot metrics. The FOPID controller attained the best time domain characteristics, but was unable to effectively limit the control and output signal peak overshoots. It was only the COPID controller that successfully minimised / eliminated peak overshoots in control and output signals (0.1 % and 0.0 % respectively). Moreover, the COPID controller was also successful in limiting the rise, peak and settling times. In addition, Bode diagram, root locus plot were obtained and system gain parameters were varied to confirm the robustness of the proposed COPID controller. Thus, COPID controller promises to be an effective solution towards accurate and robust actuator control in modern manufacturing.

1 Introduction

This paper is an extension of the paper presented at the IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics, Robotics and Systems Engineering, MoRSE 2019 [1]. Therein, a direct current (DC) motor system was successfully modeled by the application of fractional calculus to closed loop system identification approach. Of the four identified fractional order models, the best performing model comprised of three parameters and attained R-squared 0.9942, root mean square error (RMSE) 0.0084 and sum of squared estimate of errors (SSE) 0.0711. In the current work, that fractional order model has been utilised to implement PI, PR, PID, fractional order PID (FOPID) and complex order PI$^{a+jb}D^{c+jd}$ (COPID) controller designs with an aim to achieve stable and robust control of the DC motor system with minimum time domain characteristics.

The proportional, integral and derivative (PID) controllers have been implemented in industrial control systems on a large scale owing to their simplicity of design and maintenance [2]. Recently, fractional calculus has been employed to solve various complex problems in engineering and science [3–7]. One of these applications is designing controllers using fractional calculus. The fractional order controllers have been shown to exhibit superior control characteristics in numerous applications including the non-minimum phase systems [8–12]. This is due to the additional two parameters available for control in the fractional model structure. The complex order PI$^{a+jb}D^{c+jd}$ controller is a logical extension of the fractional calculus based control as it includes two more parameters for control as compared to the FOPID controller [13–16].

In [17], the authors implemented a complex order structure to identify hexapod robot movement on the basis of a transfer function for the foot-ground system. In [18], the authors obtained a transfer function to solve a complex order differential equation. In [19], the author employed genetic algorithm to optimize complex order controllers for non linear and linear systems. In [20], the authors investigated robust control of a non linear fuel cell system using complex order architecture. In [21], the authors modeled HIV infection drug resistance using a complex order model. In [22], the authors reviewed time domain, stability and frequency domain in

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complex order modeling of various systems. In [22], the authors tuned complex order controller by numerical optimization for a time delay resonant plant. In [23], the authors tuned complex order controller using genetic algorithm. In [19], the authors compared complex controller performances to integral and fractional order controllers for fractional order systems. They reported superior time domain characteristics attained by the complex order controllers. However, they did not apply complex order controllers to a DC motor system. A complex order controller was designed for DC motors [24]. However, the designed controller in this work [24] was unable to minimize the overshoot in the step response, minimizing peak overshoot in the output signal response is critical to prevent any undesired process variation which may damage the actuated machinery in the long run. Similarly, minimizing control signal overshoots is critical to prevent damage against voltage spikes and enhance the service life of DC motors in industry [25, 26].

The main contribution of the current work lies in the identification of the most suitable DC motor controller design based on minimal output/control signal peak overshoots and settling times among the various controllers considered in the scope of the current study. The following section (2) details upon the controller design methodology adopted in the current work pertaining to the PI, PID, PR, FOPID and COPID controllers. Time and frequency domain results of the investigated controllers are compared and discussed in section 3. Finally, conclusions of the present work are presented in the section 4.

2 Controller Design Methodology

The current work addresses the constant torque region for DC motor modeling and control. The field weakening region (figure 1) is not considered in the present work.

![Figure 1: Field weakening region](image)

Following sub-sections describe the PI, PID, PR, COPID and FOPID controllers for the DC motor system considered in the current study.

2.1 PI and PID controller

The PID controller is popular in industry because of its compatibility with the PLCs and its simple structure [2, 23]. The following PID controller structure was used for the DC motor system [29].

\[
C(s) = K_p + K_i \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) + K_d \left( \frac{N}{1 + N s^2} \right) \tag{1}
\]

where, \(N\) is the bandwidth of the low pass filter on the derivative, \(K_p\) is proportional gain, \(K_i\) is integral gain and \(K_d\) is derivative gain. This controller was tuned by the auto tuning capability available in the Matlab Simulink block. Auto-tuning can be done via time and frequency based methods. In this work, frequency based auto tuning method was implemented. In the case of PI controller, \(K_d\) is zero and there is no need of derivative filter. Its structure is given as follows.

\[
C(s) = K_p + K_i \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) \tag{2}
\]

2.2 PR Controller

The PI controller yields infinite gain at \(s = 0\) and generally responds in a slow mode to step inputs without any steady state error. Moreover, it is unable to trace sinusoidal reference input. The PR controller yields infinite gain at zero phase shift and resonant frequency. Its form is given as follows [30–32].

\[
C(s) = K_p + \frac{K_i \star s}{s^2 + \omega^2} \tag{3}
\]

2.3 FOPID controller

FOPID controllers are based on fractional calculus wherein the orders of derivation and integration are real numbers [9, 33]. Fractional calculus has been defined in many ways. The following definitions are generally applied in control system applications [34].

2.3.1 Grunwald-Letnikov definition

The GL (Grunwald-Letnikov) definition is very effective for obtaining numerical solutions of the fractional differential equations [35]. This definition is expressed as follows

\[
_{a}D_{+}^{\alpha}f(t) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h^\alpha} \sum_{r=0}^{[\frac{t-a}{h}]} (-1)^{r} \binom{n}{r} f(t-rh) \tag{4}
\]

where, the integer part is represented by \([\frac{t-a}{h}]\); \(t\) and \(a\) are the limits of operator; \(n\) is an integer subjected to \(n - 1 < \alpha < n\). The binomial coefficient is expanded as follows -

\[
\binom{n}{r} = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(r+1)\Gamma(n-r+1)} \tag{5}
\]

Similarly, the Gamma function in the above equation can also be defined as

\[
\Gamma(x) = \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt, \Re(z) > 0 \tag{6}
\]
2.3.2 Riemann-Liouville definition

The Riemann-Liouville definition is appropriate for the determination of analytical solutions of simple functions like \( e^t, t^k, \cos(t) \) [36]. Riemann and Liouville applied fractional operators to derive formulae for the integration of arbitrary numbers and for solving differential equations respectively. The Riemann-Liouville definition combines the distinct approaches followed by Riemann and Liouville in a composite formula expressed as follows -

\[
d_{\alpha}^{\alpha} f(t) = D^{\alpha} f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_{a}^{t} \frac{f(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\alpha-n+1}} d\tau,
\]

where, \( J \) is the integral operator, \( \alpha \) is a real number, \( n \) is an integer subjected to \( n-1 < \alpha < n \) and \( t, \tau \) are the limits of integration. For example, if \( \alpha = 1.8 \), \( n \) will be two because \( 1 < 1.8 < 2 \).

2.3.3 M. Caputo definition

The M. Caputo definition is very popular among engineers because it directly relates the type of fractional derivative to the corresponding type of initial conditions [37]. In this definition, initial conditions like \( y(0) \) and \( y'(0) \) are allowed; unlike \( y^{0.5}(0) \) (fractional conditions) [8]. The Caputo definition of fractional calculus is given as follows -

\[
d_{\alpha}^{\alpha} f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_{a}^{t} \frac{f(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\alpha-n+1}} d\tau
\]

where, \( \alpha \) is a real number, \( n \) is an integer subjected to \( n-1 < \alpha < n \) and \( t, \tau \) are the limits of integration. As stated before, fractional calculus is a branch of mathematics wherein the orders of integration and derivation are real numbers [9] [33] [38]. This real number feature has a significant impact towards improvement of the controller performance [39] [41]. The classical PID Controllers are particular cases of fractional controllers where \( \lambda \) and \( \mu \) are equal to one (figure 2). With reference to the PID plane, this implies that instead of moving between four fixed points it is possible for \( \lambda \) and \( \mu \) to move across the entire plane [42].

Figure 2: FOPID region in \( \lambda - \mu \) plane [9]

The fractional PID controller structure implemented in the current work (figure 3) is given as follows.

\[
C(s) = K_P + K_I \left(\frac{1}{s}\right)^\lambda + K_D s^\mu
\]

where \( \lambda \) is the order of integration and \( \mu \) is the order of derivative. In FOPID, there are two more parameters in the controller structure as compared to PID controller. Because of this, two more specifications can be achieved using the FOPID controller. The parameter range of orders is generally accepted 0 to 2 for the stability of the closed loop system because the locations of closed-loop poles lie mostly in the first sheet of Riemann [44] in this order range. The same approach has been followed in the current study as well. The fractional differentiator can be synthesised for FOPID controller application using Oustaloup’s recursive approximation method as follows -

\[
s^\mu \approx K \prod_{k=-N}^{N} \left( 1 + \frac{s}{\omega_k} \right)
\]

\[
\omega_k = \sqrt{\omega_h \omega_l}
\]

\[
\omega_h = \alpha^{-0.5} \omega_0; \omega_0 = \alpha^{0.5} \omega_0;
\]

\[
\frac{\omega_{k+1}}{\omega_k} = \eta > 1
\]

\[
\frac{\omega_{k+1}}{\omega_k} = \eta > 0; \frac{\omega_k}{\omega_{k+1}} = \alpha > 0
\]

\[
N = \frac{\log(\omega_N/\omega_0)}{\log(\eta)}
\]

where \( \omega_h, \omega_l \) are the approximation frequency bounds, \( \nu \) is the order of the fractional differentiator, \( N \) is the order of fractional differentiator approximation and \( K \) is a constant. In the present work, the fractional order controller was implemented using FOMCON toolbox for fractional calculus [45] [46]. In this toolbox, fractional calculus can be approximated using the refined Oustaloup approximation method by varying the order and frequency ranges. This toolbox can be used for time domain, frequency domain and many more analyses for fractional calculus. The fractional order parameters in the current study were tuned based on the approach given in related literature [39].

2.4 COPID controller

Just as the FOPID controller is an extension of the classical PID controller, similarly the COPID controller is an extension of the FOPID controller. In complex order PID controller, integration and
derivative orders are expressed in the form of a complex number $(x+jy)$. The genesis of COPID controller is related to the CRONE controller (third generation) \cite{47,48}. The complex order PID controller structure for the DC motor fractional order model in the current study is given as follows \cite{14,20,49}.

\begin{equation}
C(s) = K_P + K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^{a+jb} + K_D (s)^{c+jd}
\end{equation}

where, $a, b, c, d$ are the complex order controller orders. The integral gain component of this equation is simplified as follows.

\begin{equation}
K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^{a+jb} = K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^a e^{\ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) jb}
\end{equation}

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\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^{a+jb} = K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^a e^{j \ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^{a+jb} = K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^a \left[ \cos \left( b \ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) \right) + j \sin \left( b \ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) \right) \right]
\end{equation}

It is necessary to omit the imaginary part of the above equation because it cannot be synthesized for time domain implementation of the closed loop system with COPID controller in Simulink \cite{14}.

\begin{equation}
K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^{a+jb} = K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^a \left[ \cos \left( b \ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) \right) \right]
\end{equation}

Similarly, the derivative part of Eq. \cite{16} is simplified as follows.

\begin{equation}
K_D \left( s \right)^{c+jd} = K_D \left( s \right)^c e^{j \ln \left( s \right) d}
\end{equation}

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K_D \left( s \right)^{c+jd} = K_D \left( s \right)^c \left[ \cos \left( d \ln \left( s \right) \right) + j \sin \left( d \ln \left( s \right) \right) \right]
\end{equation}

As followed in case of the integral gain component, it is necessary to omit the imaginary part of the derivative equation as well because it cannot be synthesized for time domain implementation of the closed loop system with COPID controller in Simulink \cite{14}.

\begin{equation}
K_D \left( s \right)^{c+jd} = K_D \left( s \right)^c \left[ \cos \left( d \ln \left( s \right) \right) \right]
\end{equation}

Thus, Eq. \cite{16} may be rewritten for tuning as follows.

\begin{equation}
C(s) = K_P + K_I \left( \frac{1}{s} \right)^a \left[ \cos \left( b \ln \left( \frac{1}{s} \right) \right) \right] + K_D \left( s \right)^c \left[ \cos \left( d \ln \left( s \right) \right) \right]
\end{equation}

The tuning of complex order controller is more challenging than FOPID and classical PID controller as there are seven parameters in the complex order controller. In this work, Eq. \cite{27} was utilised for the implementation of complex order controller. \begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{simulink.png}
\caption{Complex $PF^{a+jb}D^{c+jd}$ controller structure}
\end{figure}

This controller was tuned based on the tuning principles provided in literature \cite{39,50}. Figure 4 shows the structure of the COPID controller implemented in Simulink (Matlab). The initial value of the integer order integration was assumed to be a small number for this implementation. For all controllers, high control signal overshoots were limited by adding saturation block in the closed loop system models.
3 Results and Discussions

The fractional order DC motor system model derived in the work reported in the 2019 IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics, Robotics and Systems Engineering (MoRSE) [1] is given below.

\[ G(s) = \frac{0.7992}{s^{1.9018} + 80.0440} \]  \hspace{1cm} (28)

It may be noted that this model has a low DC gain. Low DC gains in second / higher integer order system models are expected to cause the system responses to become sluggish due to the presence of the non-dominant pole(s) in the pole zero map. Similar effect is observed in the pole zero map (figure 5) of the fractional order system model considered in the current study as well. However, the presence of a large number of dominant poles keep the system response fast; overcoming the adverse impact of low DC gain. This model consisting three parameters was employed for designing the PI, PR, PID, FOPID and COPID controllers in the current work. The PI controller design for the DC motor system was obtained as follows -

\[ C(s) = 10 + 92.6736 \frac{1}{s} \]  \hspace{1cm} (29)

Figures 6 and 7 show the output and control signal plots for the PI controller respectively.
Similarly, the following PR controller structure for the DC motor system was generated -

\[ C(s) = 1.0469E05 + \frac{-8.2380E08 \times s}{s^2 + 10000} \]  \hspace{1cm} (30)

The output and control signal responses for the PR controller are depicted in figures 8 and 9.

\[ C(s) = 0.00001 + 9.25368 \times \frac{1}{s} + 0.001 \times \frac{100}{1 + 100s} \]  \hspace{1cm} (31)

The auto tuned PID controller architecture for the fractional order DC motor plant model considered in the current study was obtained as follows -

\[ C(s) = 125 + 1125 \times \frac{1}{s^{0.95}} + 51s^{0.77} \]  \hspace{1cm} (32)

Figures 10 and 11 depict the output and control signal responses for this FOPID controller, respectively.

The fractional order PID controller structure was obtained as follows -
The complex order PID controller structure was obtained as follows -

\[ C(s) = 11 + 125 \left( \frac{1}{s^{0.99+0.7\beta}} + 273^{0.5+0.\beta} \right) \] (33)

Figures 13 and 15 show the output response and the control signal of the complex controller designed for the DC motor system.

Table 1 gives the output signal rise and peak time domain specifications of all controllers explored for the DC motor system considered in the current study. The PR controller is successful in attaining the least rise time and peak time among all controllers. The FOPID controller attains the second best peak and rise time characteristics. The COPID controller registers higher rise and peak times as compared to FOPID output signals. The PI and PID controller output signals consume relatively higher rise and peak times. Figures 16 and 17 showcase graphical presentations of output signal overshoots and settling times.

The FOPID controller achieves the least settling time, whereas the COPID controller minimizes peak overshoot percentage to zero. In contrast, the PR, PI, PID and FOPID output signals record overshoots of 1.3 %, 1.0 %, 1.4 % and 2.2 % respectively. This result proves the efficacy of the complex order controller in limiting the output signal overshoot for the DC motor system. The DC motor system output is the output shaft revolutions per minute. In indus-

![Control Signal](image1)

Figure 13: Control signal for Fractional PID controller output for fractional order DC motor plant model

![Output Signal Overshoots (%)](image2)

Figure 16: Output signal overshoots (%)

![Output Signal Settling Time (sec)](image3)

Figure 17: Output signal settling time (sec)
Table 1: Time domain specifications of output signals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>PR</th>
<th>PID</th>
<th>FOPID</th>
<th>COPID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rise Time (sec)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>0.0003</td>
<td>2.2473</td>
<td>0.1946</td>
<td>1.7366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak Time (sec)</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>5.4711</td>
<td>0.5011</td>
<td>5.0000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Time domain specifications of control signals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>PR</th>
<th>PID</th>
<th>FOPID</th>
<th>COPID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rise Time (sec)</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.5285</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
<td>1.7365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak Time (sec)</td>
<td>9.75</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.6835</td>
<td>0.0184</td>
<td>4.7587</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shows the control signal time domain characteristics for the five controllers under the scope of the current study. In this case, the PR controller performed very poorly and registered extremely high overshoot (of the order of 10E6); rise, peak and settling times. The FOPID control signals attained minimum rise and peak times, followed by COPID and PID control signals. The PI control signals achieved much higher rise and peak time metrics. Figures 18 and 19 showcase graphical presentations of control signal overshoots and settling times. The PI controller also under performed with respect to the settling time metric. However, it performed much better in case of control signal peak overshoots. Similarly, the PID controller attained very low peak overshoot but suffered from higher settling time. The FOPID controller attained minimum settling time, but was unable to keep the control signal overshoot in check. Thus, it was only the COPID which consistently outperformed all other controllers with minimum peak overshoot and second best settling time characteristics. For DC motor systems, the control signal corresponding to the voltage input. Excessive voltage spikes (as evident in FOPID control signal response) may prove detrimental to the motor’s active service life and might even result in premature damage. It is important for the controller design to ensure protection to the DC motor against high voltage shocks. Moreover, faster settling of the input voltage corresponding to the desired output set point is desirable for a highly responsive system. The COPID controller exhibited reliable performances in both aspects.

Figures 20 and 21 show the Bode plot and root locus diagram for the closed loop system with COPID controller. The Bode plot indicates that the gain and phase margin for the closed loop system with COPID controller is $\infty$. This implies that the system is robust against variations in the system parameters. Similarly, the location of closed loop poles to the left side of the s-plane in root locus diagram also proves that the DC motor system performance is stable and robust under complex order controller. Figure 22 depicts the robustness of the COPID controller against variations in the gain of the DC motor system. The system gain was varied with values of 0.5, 0.8, 2, 5, 10 and 20. The gain variations do not have any significant impact on the settling trends of the COPID controller responses, which is a positive indication.

4 Conclusions

The current work is an extension of the one reported in the 2019 IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics, Robotics and Systems Engineering (MoRSE). Building upon the fractional order
model of the DC motor system identified in the previous work; the current work involved design of PI, PR, PID, FOPID and COPID controllers for the same. Primary results indicate that the PR controller performed very well in output signal responses; but fared very poorly in control signal time specifications. The PI controller also performed poorly in terms of output and control signal rise, peak and settling times. However, it performed comparatively better in terms of peak output and control signal overshoots. The PID controller’s performance was mediocre in terms of control and output signal peak, rise and settling times. Its performance was also not very impressive with regards to the output signal peak overshoots, but it did much better in minimizing the control signal overshoot percentage. The FOPID controller attained very low rise, peak and settling times for its output signals. However, it suffered from the highest peak overshoots for both output and control signal responses. The COPID controller exhibited excellent performance with regards
to minimizing / eliminating the peak overshoots in the control (0.1 \%) and output signal (0.0 \%) responses. COPID controller also attained the second best low range rise, peak and settling time values. Minimisation and possible elimination of the peak overshoots in the control and output signals is vital for ensuring the safety of the controlled process machinery as well as for the long service life of the DC motor based industrial actuators. The COPID controller fulfills this requirement without sacrificing the settling time much. In addition, the Bode plot, root locus diagram and stable controller responses under varying system gain parameter confirm the stability and robustness of the designed complex order controller for the fractional order DC motor plant model considered in the current study. Thus, complex order controllers can be extensively and safely applied towards industry 4.0 oriented implementation of advanced industrial control systems such as smart actuators and collaborative robots.

References


