

# Optimal Feedback Controllers for Aircraft Applications: A Survey

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**Abstract** This paper presents the literature survey into the development of Aircraft control applications for pitch, Roll and Yaw. The main motivation behind this research is to find which approach provides the best performance base on time response specification and disturbances rejection for both longitudinal dynamic and lateral dynamic in an aircraft Applications. To design any optimal feedback control system, it is necessary to model the system to obtain dynamical equations using standard techniques. Different control signals are applied to test the controllers. The liner models are easier to use in feedback control design algorithm.

**Key Words:** LQR (Linear Quadratic Regulator), LQG (Linear Quadratic Guassian) Static output-feedback (SOFB), FLC(Fuzzy Logic Controller), PID(Proportional-Integral-Derivative).

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One of the foremost issues of flight control device is due to the combination of nonlinear dynamics, modeling uncertainties and parameter variation in characterizing an plane and its running surroundings. The plane movement in free flight is extraordinarily complicated (Nelson, R.C., 1998). Generally, plane fly in 3-axes aircraft by means of controlling aileron, rudder and elevator. They are designed to trade and manage the moments approximately the roll, pitch and yaw axes. The manipulate device of the plane is divided into two quantities, longitudinal and lateral control. In longitudinal control, the elevator controls pitch or the longitudinal movement of plane machine

### 1.1 Literature Survey

The pitch of aircraft is manipulated by elevator which usually located on the rear of the plane going for walks parallel to the wing that houses the ailerons. The autopilot is a pilot relief mechanism that assists in preserving an attitude, heading, altitude or flying to navigation or touchdown references (Myint M. Et al., 2008).

Designing an autopilot calls for manage device idea background and know-how of balance derivatives at special altitudes and Mach numbers for a given plane (Shiau, J.K and Ma, D.M., 2009).

Lot of works have been completed in (Zugaj, M. And Narkiewicz, J.J., 2010), (Khaleel, Q., 2010), (Wahid, N. Et al., 2010), (Chen, F.C. And Kalil, H.K., 1990) and (Ekprasit, P. And

Sridhar, S., 2009), to control the pitch or longitudinal dynamic, yaw and roll of an aircraft for the purpose of flight balance and this studies nevertheless remains an open trouble inside the present and future works. Tools of computational clever together with fuzzy logic controller had been used in diverse applications including within the pitch manage and it's miles convenient to put in force within the complex procedure, (Lee, C.C., 1990) and (Lee, C.C., 1990). Several previous works on enhancing fuzzy logic controller may be determined in (Arrofig, M. And Saad, N., 2010), (Kuzelkaya, M. Et al., 2003) and (Woo, Z.W. Et al., 2000). (Vick, A. And Cohen, K., 2009) expanding a PID based fuzzy common sense pitch mindset maintain system for a standard fighter jet. In (Edgar, N. Et al., 2007), the synthesis of various flight controllers are advanced on two hybrid shrewd control structures combining computational intelligence methodologies with other manage strategies for altitude control of aircraft.

The predominant reason of this examine is to increase a traditional PID controller and hybrid clever manage scheme, PID-kind fuzzy good judgment controller to control the pitch of an aircraft machine. PID controllers are normally used in lots of control gadget due to their simple structures and intuitively understandable manage algorithms (Namazov, M. And Basturk, O., 2010). To show the effectiveness of the proposed control schemes, the disturbance impact is implemented to the gadget.

### 1.2 State-Space Dynamic Process Models

The linear state-variable equations are given by

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \quad y = Cx + Du$$

with  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  the internal state,  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  the control input, and  $y(t) \in \mathbb{R}^p$  the measured output. Matrix  $A$  is the system or plant matrix,  $B$  is the control input matrix,  $C$  is the output or measurement matrix, and  $D$  is the direct feed matrix.

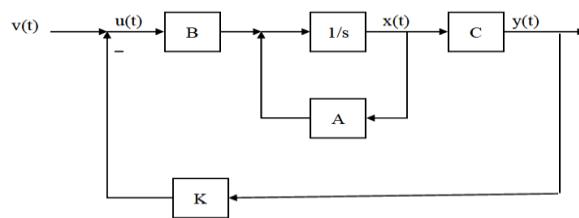


Figure 1:Output feedback

A simple feedback control scheme is to use the outputs to compute the control inputs according to the Proportional (P) feedback law  $u = -Kv + v$

where  $v(t)$  is the new external control input. With  $K$  the  $m \times p$  proportional feedback gain matrix. Note that  $K$  has  $mp$  entries in order that there are  $mp$  manage loops. This type of P feedback is enough to provide the desired closed-loop stability and overall performance for many structures. This scheme is known as OUTPUT FEEDBACK (OPFB).

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### 1.1.2 State Variable Feedback (SVFB).

An extra basic manipulate scheme is to expect that ALL the states are measured as outputs, so that one may additionally use the STATE-VARIABLE FEEDBACK (SVFB) control law  $u = -Kx + v$ . Feedback matrix  $K$  is  $m \times n$  so that there are now  $mn$  control loops. Note that SVFB is the same as OPFB with  $C = I$  the identity matrix. It is some distance less complicated to layout SVFB than OPFB. However, all the states are not normally to be had as measured indicators, in order that SVFB is often not realistic to enforce.

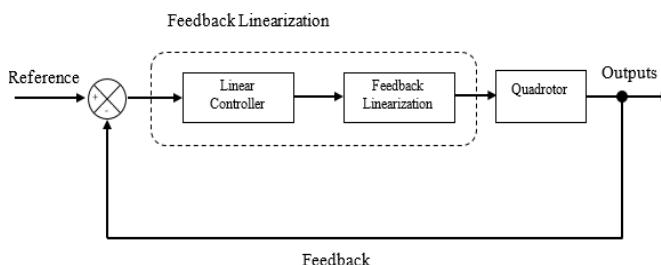


Figure 2: State Variable Feedback

## II. Linear Control Techniques

LQR control, PD or PID manipulate,  $H_\infty$  algorithm, and gain scheduling are the most usually and conventionally implemented linear control techniques. In the early 1970s, a full-scale helicopter, CH-53A, could reap waypoints autonomously the use of a classical linear controller.

### 2.1 PID Controller

PID controller may be considered as one of the most broadly used remarks controllers for quadrotors [14] due to its simplicity to layout and low complexity in implementation at the device. Moreover, it shows immoderate efficiency every in simulation and experimental work at the quadrotor platform. The outstanding gain of this controller is that it isn't obligatory

to recognize the dynamics of the quadrotor well to layout the controller wherein the trial and errors technique for tuning earnings of the controller can be sufficient. Studies display that many researchers correctly accomplished PID controller on quadrotor platform [15]. Interestingly, Ghiglino et al. (2013) superior online self-tuning PID to tackle disturbances, while different varieties of PID carry out offline optimization, which frequently very time-consuming. Figure 3 illustrates a block diagram of a PID controller.

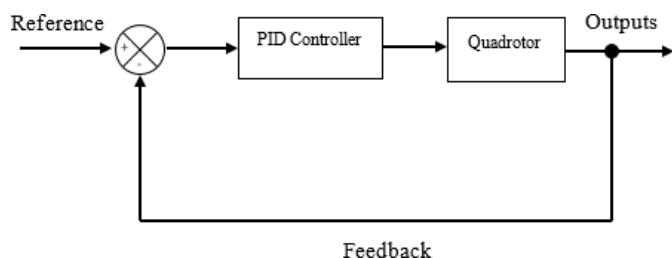


Figure 3:A block diagram of PID controller.

The classical PID controller is simplest carried out with the linear model. This controller allows designing the controller consistent with the preferred model typical overall performance. However, it turns into greater challenging to layout a properly-completed PID controller while the model is nonlinear. The benefit cannot be chosen systematically as the classical PID controller requires.

### 2.2 LQR Control

Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR) is a form of commonly used maximum acceptable linear controller for quadrotor as proven in Figure 2. This controller adopts a fee feature minimizing method, also called the most effective control approach, at the manner to compute the states of any device. LQR can offer a short reaction, and it is straightforward to design. Referenced literature applied LQR on quadrotor platform in numerous times [20]. However, in lots of instances, it became placed that LQR offers normal-kingdom errors during tracking [15,38,39]. Therefore, Alsharif et al. (2017) introduces LQI so as to triumph over the ordinary-us of a mistake and stabilize the device at the same time as the system is affected by noise and uncertainty [20].

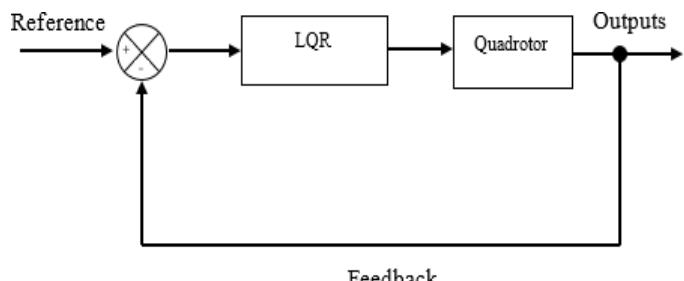


Figure 4: A block diagram of LQR.

LQR moreover requires a linear version to get a properly controlled gadget, and it could cope with multiple input and output concurrently, in comparison to the PID controller. The main disadvantage of LQR in comparison to PID is that it often affords a constant-state errors due to the lack of a essential part.

### 2.3. H Infinity

$H_\infty$  is a completely popular manipulate approach to make certain the robustness of the machine a number of the linear controllers. Researchers favor to use this manipulate approach while a system includes uncertain parameters and unmolded dynamics. Interestingly, a study reviews that it's far in a position to conquer uncertainties as much as 75% of the version. Literature indicates the implementations of the controller on the quadrotor platform in one-of-a-kind ways. Some researchers use easy linear even as others introduce non-linearly. A different organization of researchers is inquisitive about combining with other controllers if you want to improve the overall performance of the controller while the device is surrounded through noise and disturbance.

$H_\infty$  is a sturdy controller this is pretty accomplished when system incorporates multi- variables and states are go-coupled. Notwithstanding, it requires a properly-designed model to achieve best performance and high-level of mathematical knowledge to increase.

## III Nonlinear Control Techniques

As a linear model has some obstacles like bad performance round different operating points and lack of ability of dealing with the nonlinear part of a model, numerous nonlinear control approaches have been developed. Nonlinear manipulate tactics had been developed based on a nonlinear dynamic model which can include model uncertainties like noise, disturbance and gust, unmodeled parameters, or dynamics and parameter versions. Feedback linearization, version predictive manage, backstepping, sliding mode, and adaptive controller are generally used nonlinear manage techniques.

### 3.1 Feedback Linearization

In feedback linearization (FL), the state variables of a nonlinear dynamic system are transformed into a new coordinate system of a linear dynamic system using linear tools, and afterward, it is again transformed back to the original dynamic system through inverse transformation [5]. Several successful implementations of this controller are available in the literature. R. Bonna and J. F. In remarks linearization (FL), the nation variables of a nonlinear dynamic gadget are converted into a new coordinate gadget of a linear dynamic machine the use of linear gear, and afterward, it's far again converted returned to the original dynamic device via inverse transformation [5].

Several a success implementations of this controller are to be had inside the literature. R. Bonna and J. F. Camino (2015) used remarks linearization for trajectory monitoring to control rotational and translational dynamics. Freddi et al. (2014) designed a quadrotor version in any failure case of a rotor with the aid of the usage of comments linearization. In that work, two exclusive loops had been used in which one was used for regulating trajectory, and some other was used for editing the preferred trajectory that turned into succeeded in a simulation surroundings. Abdellah Mokhtari et al. (2006) designed a remarks linearization with the observer with the intention to ensure robustness to the gadget with a minimum number of sensors when the machine is tormented by wind. A block diagram of FLC has been illustrated in Figure 3.

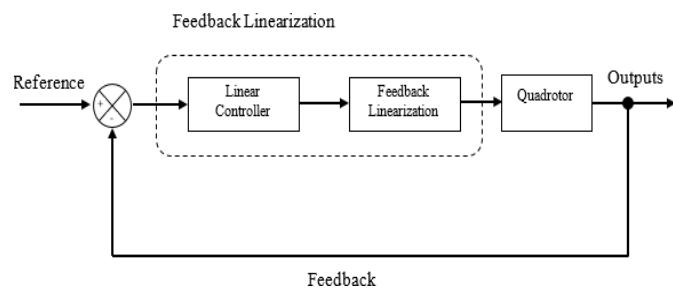


Figure 3. A block diagram of FLC.

A systematic framework for modeling a controller is the primary benefit of comments linearization. It is a well-carried out controller whilst the distinction among linear and nonlinear models is insignificant. However, it cannot assure a pleasant reaction inside the presence of model uncertainties and offer the functionality of constraints dealing with as nicely. Hence, the robustness of this controller isn't always continually high-quality [2].

### 3.2 Backstepping

Backstepping is referred to as a recursive technique to govern any underneath-actuated linear or nonlinear machine Figure four. It disseminates the controller into numerous steps and makes the system stabilized progressively [5]. It is useful when a few states of the system are controlled by way of other states. Notably, backstepping can offer promising overall performance when the dynamics and external disturbance are recognized exactly. Madani and Benallegue (2006) have implemented the backstepping manipulate approach based on Lyapunov concept to stabilize the quadcopter inside the preferred role and attitude. In that paintings, an below-actuated subsystem has been added to manipulate horizontal function thru roll and pitch angles, while a totally actuated subsystem is used to govern vertical role thru yaw and a propeller subsystem to manipulate propeller forces. Xing Huo et al. (2014) applied an essential backstepping controller to stabilize quadrotor mind-set. In that paintings, the controller could ensure the promising

performance of all of the states of the gadget considering the outside disturbances to the system inside the simulation surroundings. Zheng Fang and Weinan Gao (2011) superior the sooner controller by using adopting a further function that in the end can be named as adaptive integral backstepping manipulate set of rules a good way to enhance the robustness of the system within the presence of external disturbances on a quadrotor. The crucial strategies can remove the consistent-country blunders, limit the response time, and manage overshoot. Nirooumand et al. (2013) introduces fuzzy good judgment with quintessential backstepping for the improvement of robustness and higher disturbance rejection.

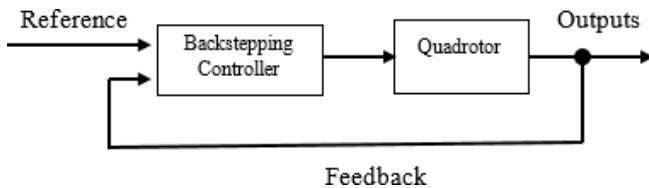


Figure 4. A block diagram of Backstepping.

### 3.3 Sliding Mode

The sliding mode controller (SMC) is a switching manage approach. In this manage method, the gadget states are commanded closer to a certainly selected favored floor referred to as the sliding surface, where gadget states remain on the frame with the assist of a properly designed manage law. Literature introduces numerous successes of simple sliding mode manipulate for quadrotors. R. Xu and U. Ozguner (2006) proposed a sliding mode manage to stabilize the below-actuated subsystem of the quadrotor with a PID controller's help. They established the robustness of the controller through dealing with parametric uncertainties. Swamp (2016) brought a second-order sliding mode manage that became designed based on Lyapunov principle to stabilize the quadrotor. This 2nd-order sliding mode controller confirmed promising consequences evaluating to the traditional sliding mode and guarantees robustness as well. A simple SMC has been portrayed in Figure 5

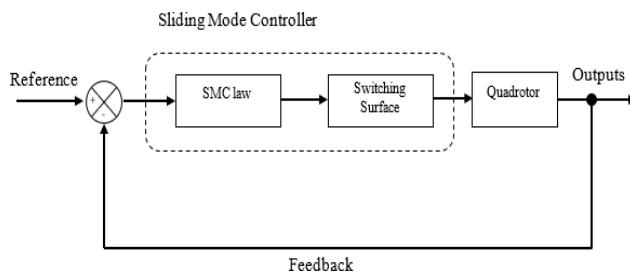


Figure 5. A block diagram of Sliding Mode Controller.

SMC technique has achieved tremendous attention for designing sturdy controllers in high- order nonlinearity of any system beneath uncertainties. It is less sensitive to disturbances and parametric uncertainties which can make

certain robustness to the system. However, it offers a chattering trouble that takes place due to continuous switching of the managed model. As a end result, it is able to initiate strength loss, unmodeled dynamics, and system instability this is unsafe for the gadget now and again.

### 3.4 Model Predictive Control

Model Predictive Control (MPC) turns into one of the considerable controllers these days due to its capability in running with constraints and disturbances, predictive behavior, simplicity in tuning, and advanced overall performance with multi-variables at the identical time. It is considered as a nonlinear manage gadget that works on predicting future states and mistakes [5]. MPC works on the basis of optimization in which the price feature is minimized depending at the cutting-edge control inputs and destiny time c language by handling the restrictions of states and inputs. Raffo et al. (2008) proposed an MPC to music the reference trajectory considering disturbances and included a nonlinear H-infinity to acquire the robustness of the gadget in quadcopter. In a previous have a look at, MPC is implemented to gain strong performance from the system below wind-gust disturbance conditions for attitude reference tracking inside the quadcopter. The gadget ought to correctly tune the reference factors by means of the usage of a single MPC method where constraints have been considered at control input. Patrick Bouffard et al. (2012) used Learning-Based Model Predictive Control (LBMPC) for robustness, and it's also demonstrated that the performance can be stepped forward by way of updating the version on line, which plays higher than linear MPC. A few experimental works on MPC are available in literature at the same time as most of the time, nonlinear controllers with complexity are theoretical and simulation-primarily based for quadrotor. A simple MPC has been proven in Figure 6.

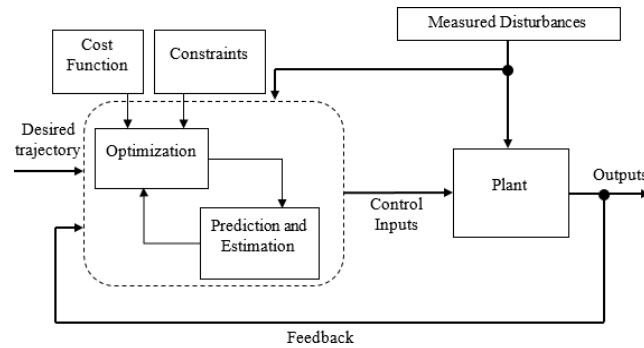


Figure 6. A block diagram of MPC.

### 3.5 Adaptive Controller

The adaptive controller gives a mechanism of parametric adjustability to control a device. Structurally this nonlinear controller includes two loops in which one is used for the ordinary remarks technique, and some other one is used for parameter adjustment [9]. Adaptive control is extensively

applied in quadrotor, and maximum of the time, it is coupled with different controllers like neural network, SMC, fuzzy control, backstepping, benefit-scheduling, LQR. Koshkouei and Zinober (2000) combined a couple of techniques like adaptive backstepping with sliding mode manage so as to attain the advantages of the controllers. The adaptive technique allows to overcome the trouble of parametric uncertainty; Lyapunov theory that belongs to backstepping ensures the stability of the system, and sliding mode control tackles the unmeasured disturbances. Interestingly, literature suggests two varieties of adaptive manipulate technique based on de- signal philosophies inclusive of self-tuning regulator and model reference. Sadeghzadeh et al. (2011) delivered 8 specific approaches to design version reference adaptive controller and they selected MIT rule to layout the controller in their respective observe. In Figure 7, a block diagram of the adaptive controller has been portrayed.

The adaptive controller is especially popular when the gadget is exploited with parametric uncertainty and version uncertainties like noise or disturbance. There are five specific approaches for parameter adjustment of an adaptive controller like advantage scheduling approach, automobile-tuning, model reference, self-tuning control, and dual manage. This controller is specifically used whilst method dynamics vary, the man or woman of disturbances modifications and engineering efficiency is concerned. However, it turns into challenging to make certain robustness whilst the unknown parameters input complicatedly in-process model. Moreover, sometimes it performs slower so one can adapt the desired parameters.

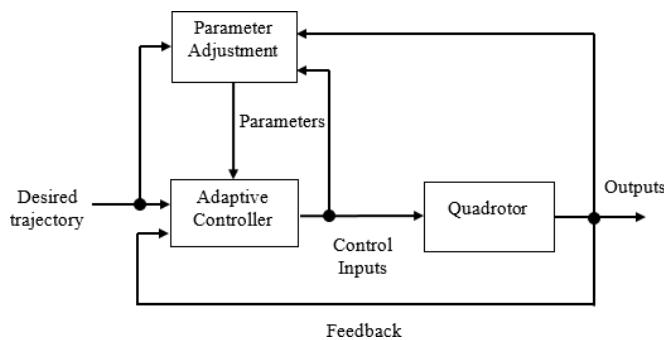


Figure 7. A block diagram of Adaptive Controller.

### 3.6 Fuzzy Logic Control

Fuzzy good judgment manage is usually introduced as a model-loose and heuristic controller. It is taken into consideration as a hit outcome of fuzzy sets and systems. Successfully fuzzy controller proves its efficiency on complicated nonlinear and non-analytic structures.

In unique, the fuzzy controller has carried out recognition on quadrotor platforms each in standalone technique or blended with different control tactics. Santos

et al. (2010) evolved a sensible fuzzy controller that might make certain satisfactory performance inside the device's stability and precise movement. The controller parameters

tuning with the assist of inter-dependent variables were the most a hit a part of the work. Coza and Macnab (2006) blended both adaptive and fuzzy controllers with stabilizing quadrotors underneath buffering wind with an unknown payload. Three different types of fuzzy fashions are very popular within the literature, including Takagi-Sugeno (T-S) fuzzy model, Mamdani fuzzy version and type-II fuzzy which are being applied on a quadrotor.

Fuzzy manipulate can be taken into consideration as one of the maximum appropriate controllers for a nonlinear device with uncertainty. It has carried out amazing interest the various researchers as it offers the exceptional-fitted answer whilst the gadget is complicated, unwell-defined, and unsure. The maximum exciting part of the fuzzy controller is that it is able to provide the implementation of professional know-how linguistically and can imitate human reasoning to simplify any complicated device. Nevertheless, it isn't clean to design the linguistic manipulate rule and examine the machine balance. In addition, it calls for plenty time for parameter tuning, gives approximations errors and indicates the presence of unknown nonlinear features whilst it is required to cope with below-actuated structures. The clothier's understanding and precise experience also are big to make it practical properly.

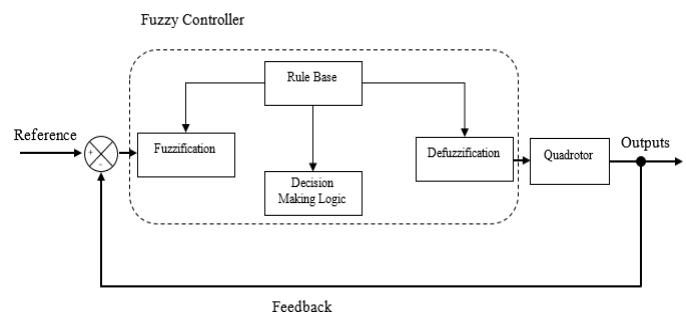


Figure 8. A block diagram of Fuzzy Controller (Mamdani Model).

### 3.7 Neural Network Control

An artificial neural community, inspired through human mind shape, has substantially been used in cutting-edge manipulate engineering due to its capacity to address intractable and cumbersome systems from extracted information through a systematic getting to know procedure. This controller can adapt itself to new environments and extract the specified data from noisy, indistinct, and inconsistent records throughout the gaining knowledge of procedure. Several a hit tries may be observed in the literature of neural networks as quadrotor controllers. A pattern of the block diagram a Mamdani fuzzy controller is illustrated in Figure 8.

The neural network has done recognition because of its blessings like human reasoning for statistics evaluation from incomplete and inconsistent information, high excellence in gaining knowledge of and flexibility, and robustness to the gadget. Despite a lot of these factors, it calls for enough training and cannot make sure stability to the machine constantly [11].

Apart from different controllers based on literature survey, aircraft applications can be even used in Switching.

Multiple models shape represents one of a success solution for the real-time control of the nonlinear or multi-regime methods. Best set of rules/version choice, switching among control algorithms and so forth. The switching control is a theoretical and practical examine issue for a number of recently researches.

In terms of classical control, multi-model control needs considering specific supplementary aspects:

1. Appropriate dimensioning of multiple-model configuration based on process particularities;
2. Selection of the best algorithm for a specific state in the process dynamics;
3. Control algorithms switching
4. Solid consideration about structure stability while commuting between models.

Multi-model structure's design implies that after finding the best algorithm for the current process's functioning point, a switch between the active control algorithm and the best found control algorithm must be realized. Two essential conditions must be verified with respect to this operation:

1. No stability issues arise at commutation (no bumps in the applications of the control law are encountered)
2. The dynamics of the command law during switching must be fast.

### 3.8. Stability of Nominal System

Almost all of the linear and nonlinear controllers can make sure machine balance on the nominal state and make certain nominal performance as properly. However, getting to know-primarily based controllers like fuzzy and neural networks do now not provide gadget stability at nominal conditions but can offer excessive maneuvering overall performance.

The earlier segment describes the evaluation the various controllers based totally on nominal stability, robustness, and implementation complexity. In the section, it is located that a few controllers like LQR and PID are exact at presenting balance at nominal conditions while they're inefficient in ensuring robustness. Table 2 info the answers from the referenced literature on quadrotor. On the other

hand, learning-based controllers like fuzzy and neural networks are not able to make sure nominal stability, while they may be pretty efficient in robust overall performance. Therefore, hybrid controllers are initiated as a unit where a couple of controllers can work altogether a good way to make certain

each nominal stability and robustness to a device. For example, LQR will become LQG (as shown in Figure 9) while LQR adopts Kalman Filter to establish a state observer and conquer the noise of the sign [133].

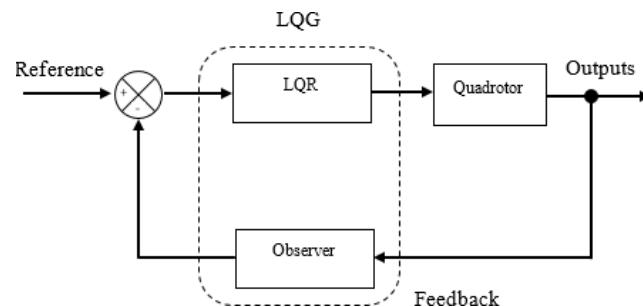


Figure 9. A block diagram of LQG.

Literature introduces some a success simulated overall performance and properly-accomplished experimental works to triumph over the disability and inefficiency of controllers. This examine classifies the solutions based totally on literature into sorts inclusive of (a) a combination of other controllers with the existing controller or hybrid controller and (b) improvement of the modern controller. Additionally, the development can be achieved by using adopting extra capabilities or algorithms such as observer, estimator, necessary, filter, compensator, etc., development of manipulate algorithm by amendment consisting of cascaded characteristic, self-tuning, discretization, and so on. Or considering both procedures.

### 4. Conclusions

The present study outlines a evaluate of various usually carried out controllers on a quadrotor. Different manipulate strategies have their very own specialties and obstacles with their unique algorithms. Therefore, the applications and overall performance of the quadrotor determine the proper controller.

Linear controllers always draw the eye of the researchers because of their simplicity in design and implementation with proper experimental statistics. Nonlinear controllers provide functions like robustness, noise and disturbance rejection, constraint handling at enter and outputs, and greater accurate trajectory monitoring. However, a few experimental works are available within the literature the use of the nonlinear controller. Highly correct parameter tuning and unmodeled parameters and dynamics make it hard to achieve similar results from each the simulation and experiment. In the case of gaining knowledge of-primarily

based controllers, high computation, substantial education statistics, approximation mistakes, and the presence of uncertainty are the demanding situations to be overcome in order to attain excellent outcomes although they're able to make certain promising overall performance while the device is troubled with the aid of uncertainty.

Interestingly, a few research adopt multiple controllers and algorithms to make certain the promising performance

of the controllers. Therefore, the required overall performance improvement of any controller relies upon on choosing a suitable controller, adoption of addition or amendment of a controller or algorithm, or both the controller and algorithm. Future works encompass however aren't restricted to reviewing to be had modeling, navigation, and steering of quadrotors.

**Table 1: A review of different controllers**

Controllers	Advantages	Disadvantages
PID	Easy to choose gain; Can overcome steady-state error.	Cannot handle constraints, noise and disturbance; Cannot deal with multiple inputs and outputs at the same time.
LQR	Can deal with multiple inputs and outputs.	Sometimes fails to overcome steady-state error.
H $\infty$	Well performed when system is multivariable with cross-coupling among channels.	Requires well-designed model.
Feedback Linearization	Systematic model framework; Well-performed when linear and nonlinear models are almost similar.	Incapability of constraints handling and model uncertainties, poor robustness.
Backstepping	Systematic and recursive designed; Precisely designed model is not required; Can handle nonlinearities to the system; Can overcome mismatched perturbations and ensures stability.	Over-parameterization; Difficult to choose proper parameters.
SMC	Well-performed in high-nonlinearity; Less sensitivity in disturbances and model uncertainties.	Chattering problem sometimes create system instability.
MPC	Predicts future behavior of the states; Deals with multiple inputs and outputs at the same time; can handle constraints at inputs and outputs; Can overcome noise and disturbances.	Slow in tracking.
Adaptive	Very effective when parameters are unknown, dynamic and disturbance model changes continuously; Engineering efficiency is comparatively satisfactory.	Takes time to adapt with the parameters.
Fuzzy Logic	Offers effective solution of a complex, ill-defined and uncertain model; Does not require accurate model	Difficult to design control rule and system analysis; Takes longer time for parameter tuning; Approximation error; Presence of unknown nonlinear function.
Neural Network	Model free; Excellent in parallel distributed processing, learning and adaptation; Provide robustness to the system	Requires ample of data for learning; Poor system stability.

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