

APPLICATION OF AN OPTIMAL CONTROL ALGORITHM FOR A GYROSCOPE SYSTEM OF A HOMING AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE

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Abstract. Missile homing precision depends mainly on the correct determination of the current angle between the Gyroscope System Axis (GSA) and the target line-of-sight (LOS). A gyroscope automatic control system shall ensure spontaneous levelling of this angle, hence, constant homing of the gyroscope system axis in on the LOS, i.e. tracking the target by the head. The available literature on the subject lacks a description of how to use the controlled gyro system in the process of guiding the missile onto the target. In this paper, the authors present the original development of an optimal control algorithm for a gyro system with a square quality indicator in conditions of interference and kinematic influence of the missile deck. A comparative analysis of the LQR with the PD regulator was made. PD regulator parameters are also selected optimally, using the Golubencev method, so that the transition process of the homing system fades over a minimal time, while simultaneously ensuring the overlapping of the gyroscope axis with the target line-of-sight. The computer simulation results have been obtained in a Matlab-Simulink environment and are presented in a graphic form.

Keywords: non-linear dynamics, gyroscope system, optimal regulator, guidance, missile flight.

Introduction

One of the most important air-air missile elements is the homing head. Homing heads utilizing infrared radiation are most commonly used. The head intercepts and tracks an air target. Missile homing involves, primarily, determining an engaged target line-of-sight – a straight line from the homing head to the target (Balakrishnan et al., 2013; Zarchan, 2012).

An optical target coordinator is the basic element of the head. A coordinator optical system is embedded in the gyroscope disc, suspended on the Cardan joint. The inflight task of a target coordinator is to determine the angle between the target line-of-sight (LOS) and the coordinator axis (gyroscope system axis-GSA) or its components or the angular velocities. This operation is automatic, so that the GS control system constantly directs the optical axis onto a moving target. When the gyroscope axis overlaps the target line-of-sight, the missile is deemed to track and follow the target. The sensors measure the angle between LOS and the missile axis and forward it to the autopilot. The autopilot, autonomously uses its own instrumentation to measure the angular position of the target axis relative to the Earth, and then determines control signals and forwards them to the control actuation system (Gapiński et al., 2018; Grzyb & Stefański, 2016).

Therefore, the accuracy of determining the actual angle between the GS axis and the LOS significantly impacts the precision of an air-air missile homing onto a manoeuvring air target, hence, it increases the efficiency of reaching and destroying the target (Gapinski & Krzysztofik, 2014). A gyroscope system is subject to the actions of the missile deck, which prevent long-term maintenance of a desired optical axis position with a specified accuracy. Thus, the control system parameters must be selected in an optimal manner so as to minimize the mean squared error and GS dynamic effects appearing within the transition process (Koruba & Krzysztofik, 2013; Krzysztofik et al., 2017).

Numerous researchers have studied the dynamics and control of a gyroscope system wherein a gyroscope was considered as a symmetrical solid body located on a vibrating support. The spatial position of a gyroscope was described using Euler angles, and the base vibrations adopted in the form of harmonics. Chaotic behaviours within the gyroscope system were mainly studied (Chen & Ge, 2005; Ge & Lee, 2005; Lei et al., 2005). Various algorithms for controlling and synchronizing these behaviours were also developed. Diverse control methods, such as

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This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. fuzzy logic control (Sargolzaei et al., 2013), sliding mode control (Wang & Yau, 2011), fuzzy sliding mode control (Chen et al., 2013; Yau, 2008) and adaptive fuzzy sliding mode control (Roopaei et al., 2010) were also considered.

In contrast to the aforementioned papers, this article is a study of the practical application of a gyroscope system suspended on a Cardan joint, as a homing head propulsion element. A system of such type is presented by Gapiński and Stefański (2014), Krzysztofik et al. (2017), Polo et al. (2008). Furthermore, Polo et al. (2008) developed a PID regulator and a procedure for determining its permissible parameters, while Krzysztofik et al. (2017) applied a fuzzy regulator, whereas Gapiński and Stefański (2014) implemented a control algorithm using phase trajectories of control deviations.

This article discusses the most generic GS dynamics model. This is due to the fact that it has taken into account external forces, frame inertia and, most of all, the GS centre of gravity displacement relative to the rotation centre (a so-called "heavy" gyroscope). In addition, the paper concentrates on the control system for an axis of a gyroscope with a missile being its only support, which acts on the gyroscope bearings. Preliminary test reports involving the functioning of an LQR regulator onboard a missile were presented at the DSTA 2019 international conference.

The study involved developing an algorithm for the optimal control of a gyroscope system with a square quality indicator (minimum mean square error of GSA deflection from the target LOS) in conditions of interference in the form of the kinematic action of the missile deck. The gain matrices for an optimal regulator executing the developed algorithm were derived from the algebraic Riccati equation (after prior linearization of non-linear dynamic equations for the GS and expressing form in the form of equations of state). A block diagram of a gyroscope system control system operating within the homing process is shown in Figure 1.

The diagram above shows four main blocks – the homing air-to-air missile, autopilot, controlled gyroscope system and air target. A gyroscope system used within a homing head is a highly non-linear system. Therefore, let us first linearize the GS dynamics model and determine the state and control matrices. Next, the LQR method (equations 19) is used to determine the gain matrix, which is then sent to the input of the optimal regulator. The second regulator input signal is comprised of control deviations based on the current positions of the LOS and GSA. Ultimately, the determined optimum controls are sent to the input of a non-linear gyroscope system.

1. Governing equations and design of gyro system optimal control algorithm

A general view of a gyroscope system of a missile homing head, along with adopted coordinate systems is shown in Figure 2. Individual values mean: $O_m xyz$ – coordinate system associated with the missile body; $\vec{p}_m, \vec{q}_m, \vec{r}_m$ – components of a missile angular velocity vector; \vec{V}_m – missile flight speed vector; $O_g x_1 y_1 z_1$ – coordinate system associated with the outer frame of a gyroscope system; $O_g x_2 y_2 z_2$ – coordinate system associated with the inner frame of a gyroscope system; $O_g x_3 y_3 z_3$ – coordinate system associated with the rotor of a gyroscope system; θ_g, Ψ_g, Φ_g , – angles of inner frame rotation, outer frame rotation and specific rotation, respectively; \vec{U}_b, \vec{U}_c – vec-



Figure 1. Block diagram of a gyroscope system control system operation within the homing process



Figure 2. General view of a gyroscope system of a missile homing head

tors of force moments acting upon the inner and outer frame, respectively. Defining the coordinate systems, angular velocities and angles depicted in Figure 2 enable deriving the dynamic motion equations for the missile and gyroscope system that is reviewed later on in this paper.

A non-linear missile flight dynamics model has been derived using the Euler-Lagrange formalism. Equations describing the translational motion of a missile centre of gravity O_m have been derived in a coordinate system associated with air streams (also called the speed or aero-dynamic system) flowing around the missile and have the following form:

$$m_m \frac{dV_m}{dt} = P \cos(\alpha_m) \cos(\beta_m) - m_m g \sin(\gamma_m) + F_{A_x}; \quad (1)$$

$$m_m V_m \frac{d\gamma_m}{dt} = P \sin(\alpha_m) - m_m g \cos(\gamma_m) + F_{A_y} + Q_y; \quad (2)$$

$$-m_m V_m \cos(\gamma_m) \frac{d\chi_m}{dt} = -P \cos(\alpha_m) \sin(\beta_m) + F_{A_z} + Q_z,$$
(3)

where: V_m – missile velocity; m_m – missile mass; χ_m – flight trajectory yaw angle; γ_m – flight trajectory pitch angle; α_m – angle of attack; β_m – angle of slip; P – missile engine thrust; g – gravitational acceleration; F_{Ax} , F_{Ay} ,

 F_{Az} – aerodynamic action force; Q_y – vertical plane control force; Q_z – horizontal plane control force.

The equations describing the rotational motion of a missile around its centre of gravity O_m have been derived in a coordinate system associated with the missile body, and have the following form:

$$I_{m_x} \frac{dp_m}{dt} = \left(I_{m_y} - I_{m_z} \right) q_m r_m + M_{A_x};$$
(4)

$$I_{m_{y}}\frac{dq_{m}}{dt} = \left(I_{m_{z}} - I_{m_{x}}\right)r_{m}p_{m} + M_{A_{y}} + M_{Q_{y}};$$
(5)

$$I_{m_z} \frac{dr_m}{dt} = \left(I_{m_x} - I_{m_y} \right) q_m p_m + M_{A_z} + M_{Q_z}, \tag{6}$$

where: I_{m_x} , I_{m_y} , I_{m_z} – missile moments of inertia relative to axis x, y and z, respectively; p_m , q_m , r_m – angular velocities of the missile – tilt, yaw and pitch velocity, respectively; M_{A_x} , M_{A_y} , M_{A_z} – moments of aerodynamic forces; M_{Q_y} , M_{Q_z} – moments of missile flight control forces.

The position of the missile and target relative to each other is determined by the following kinematic relationships (Krzysztofik & Koruba, 2014):

$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = V_t \Big[\cos(\gamma_t) \cos(\gamma_{LOS}) \cos(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_t) + \sin(\gamma_t) \sin(\gamma_{LOS}) \Big] - V_m \Big[\cos(\gamma_m) \cos(\gamma_{LOS}) \cos(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_m) + \sin(\gamma_m) \sin(\gamma_{LOS}) \Big],$$
(7)

$$\xi \frac{d\gamma_{LOS}}{dt} = -V_t \Big[\cos(\gamma_t) \sin(\gamma_{LOS}) \cos(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_t) - \sin(\gamma_t) \cos(\gamma_{LOS}) \Big] + V_m \Big[\cos(\gamma_m) \sin(\gamma_{LOS}) \cos(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_m) - \sin(\gamma_m) \cos(\gamma_{LOS}) \Big],$$
(8)

$$-\xi \frac{d\chi_{LOS}}{dt} \cos \gamma_{LOS} = V_t \cos(\gamma_t) \sin(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_t) - V_m \cos(\gamma_m) \sin(\chi_{LOS} - \chi_m),$$
(9)

where:
$$\xi$$
 – distance between the missile and target; γ_{LOS} –
LOS pitch angle; γ_{LOS} – LOS vaw angle; V_{4} – target ve

LOS pitch angle; χ_{LOS} – LOS yaw angle; V_t – target velocity; χ_t, γ_t – target velocity vector yaw and pitch angles.

Homing of a missile in on a target followed a proportional navigation algorithm:

$$\dot{\gamma}_m = a_1 \dot{\theta}_g, \dot{\chi}_m = a_2 \dot{\psi}_g, \tag{10}$$

where: a_1, a_2 – guidance constants; $\dot{\theta}_g$ and $\dot{\psi}_g$ – angular velocities derived from the equations below.

Just like in the case of missile equations, the Euler-Lagrange was also used to derive a complete, non-linear motion dynamics model for a gyroscope system onboard a missile:

$$(J_{gy_{2}} + J_{gy_{3}}) \frac{d\omega_{gy_{2}}}{dt} - m_{g} l_{g} \frac{dV_{gz_{2}}}{dt} - (J_{gz_{2}} + J_{gz_{3}} - J_{gx_{2}})\omega_{gx_{2}}\omega_{gz_{2}} + J_{gx_{3}}\omega_{gx_{3}}\omega_{gz_{2}} - m_{g} l_{g} \Big[V_{gy_{2}}\omega_{gx_{2}} - V_{gx_{2}}V_{gy_{2}} \Big] = U_{b} - U_{bf},$$

$$(11)$$

$$J_{gz_{1}} \frac{d\omega_{gz_{1}}}{dt} + \left(J_{gz_{2}} + J_{gz_{3}}\right) \frac{d}{dt} \left(\omega_{gz_{2}} \cos\theta_{g}\right) - J_{gx_{2}} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\omega_{gx_{2}} \sin\theta_{g}\right) - J_{gx_{3}} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\omega_{gx_{3}} \sin\theta_{g}\right) + m_{g} l_{g} \frac{d}{dt} \left[V_{gy_{2}} \left(1 + \cos\theta_{g}\right)\right] - \left(J_{gx_{1}} - J_{gy_{1}}\right) \omega_{gx_{1}} \omega_{gy_{1}} - \left(J_{gz_{2}} + J_{gz_{3}}\right) \omega_{gz_{2}} \omega_{gy_{1}} \sin\theta_{g} + \left(J_{gy_{2}} + J_{gy_{3}}\right) \omega_{gy_{2}} \omega_{gx_{1}} - \left(J_{gx_{2}} \omega_{gx_{2}} + J_{gx_{3}} \omega_{gx_{3}}\right) \omega_{gx_{1}} \cos\theta_{g} - m_{g} V_{gx_{2}} \left[V_{gy_{1}} \cos\theta_{g} - l_{g} \omega_{gx_{1}} \sin\theta_{g}\right] - m_{g} V_{gy_{2}} \left[-V_{gx_{1}} + l_{g} \omega_{gy_{1}} \sin\theta_{g}\right] - m_{g} V_{gz_{2}} \left[V_{gy_{1}} \sin\theta_{g} + l_{g} \omega_{gx_{1}} \left(1 + \cos\theta_{g}\right)\right] = U_{c} - U_{cf},$$

$$(12)$$

where:

$$\begin{split} \omega_{gx_1} &= p_m \cos \psi_g + q_m \sin \psi_g ;\\ \omega_{gy_1} &= -p_m \sin \psi_g + q_m \cos \psi_g ;\\ \omega_{gz_1} &= \dot{\psi}_g + r_m ;\\ \omega_{gx_2} &= \omega_{gx_1} \cos \theta_g - \omega_{gz_1} \sin \theta_g ;\\ \omega_{gy_2} &= \omega_{gy_1} + \dot{\theta}_g ;\\ \omega_{gz_2} &= \omega_{gx_1} \sin \theta_g + \omega_{gz_1} \cos \theta_g ;\\ \omega_{gx_3} &= \omega_{gx_2} + n_g ;\\ V_{gx_1} &= V_m \cos \psi_g ;\\ V_{gy_1} &= -V_m \sin \psi_g ;\\ V_{gx_2} &= V_{gx_1} \cos \theta_g + l_g \omega_{gy_1} \sin \theta_g ;\\ V_{gy_2} &= V_{gx_1} \sin \theta_g - l_g \left(\omega_{gy_1} \sin \theta_g + \omega_{gy_2} \right) \end{split}$$

and ψ_g , θ_g , Φ_g – angles defining the GS rotor spatial position; J_{gx_1} , J_{gy_1} , J_{gz_1} – GS outer frame moments of inertia;

 $J_{gx_2}, J_{gy_2}, J_{gz_2}$ – GS inner frame moments of inertia; $J_{gx_3}, J_{gy_3}, J_{gz_3}$ – GS rotor moment of inertia; n_g – GS rotor specific rotation speed; m_g – system mass: inner frame – rotor; l_g – distance of the rotor-inner frame system centre of gravity from the centre of rotation; U_b, U_c – control moments; U_{bf}, U_{cf} – moment of friction forces in the bearings of the inner and outer frames, respectively.

The research adopted viscous-type friction, therefore the moments U_{bf} and U_{cf} are determined by the relationships:

$$U_{bf} = \eta_b \dot{\Theta}_g, U_{cf} = \eta_c \dot{\psi}_g, \qquad (13)$$

where: η_b, η_c – attenuation factors in gyro frame suspension bearings.

A diagram covering the determination of optimal controls for a gyroscope system of an anti-aircraft air-air missile homing head is shown in Figure 3.

A linearized model of a controlled gyroscope system shall, therefore, be expressed in both vector and matrix forms:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}}}{dt} = \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}} - \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{g}},\tag{14}$$

where: \mathbf{x}_{g} – vector of state, \mathbf{A}_{g} – matrix of state, \mathbf{B}_{g} – control matrix, \mathbf{u}_{g} – control vector, with the following components:

$$\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{g} \\ \dot{\theta}_{g} \\ \psi_{g} \\ \dot{\psi}_{g} \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\eta_{b} / J_{gk} & 0 & -J_{go} n_{g} / J_{gk} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & J_{go} n_{g} / J_{gk} & 0 & -\eta_{c} / J_{gk} \end{bmatrix},$$



Figure 3. Diagram for the determination of optimal controls

$$\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1/J_{gk} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/J_{gk} \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} U_b \\ U_c \end{bmatrix}$$

where: J_{go} , J_{gk} – moment of inertia of a GS rotor relative to the longitudinal and transverse axes, respectively.

Let a square quality indicator be known, with the following form (Lewis et al., 2012):

$$J = \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{g}} \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}} + \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{g}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{g}} \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{g}} \right) dt,$$
(15)

where: Q_g, R_g – weight matrices selected via experiments. The control law shall be expressed as follows:

$$\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{g}} = -\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{g}} \mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{g}},\tag{16}$$

where: $\mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{g}} = (\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{g}} - \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{gd}})$ – control errors;

 $\mathbf{x_{gd}} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{LOS} & \dot{\gamma}_{LOS} & \chi_{LOS} & \dot{\chi}_{LOS} \end{bmatrix}^T - \text{vector of desired} \\ \text{state variables, with the components derived from Equations (7)–(9).}$

The feedback matrix $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{g}}$ is determined based on the following relationship:

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{g}} = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{g}}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{g}} \ . \tag{17}$$

For the purposes of the paper, the matrix $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{g}}$ has been determined using the *lqr* (Tewari, 2002) Matlab function:

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{g}} = lqr\left(\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{g}}, \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}}, \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{g}}, \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{g}}\right).$$
(18)

The matrix $\mathbf{P_g}$ present in the equation is derived from the algebraic Riccati equation:

$$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{g}}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{g}} + \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{g}} - \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}}\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{g}}^{-1}\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{g}}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{g}} + \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{g}} = 0.$$
(19)

2. Numerical simulation results

This section presents the results of simulation tests conducted in order to evaluate the LQR designed for controlling a gyroscope system during the process of homing an air-air missile in on a manoeuvring air target. The numerical simulations were performed using the Matlab/ Simulink software, utilizing the procedure *ode45*, with a variable integration step (Baranowski, 2013), for the following parameters:

Target and missile initial parameters

$$\begin{split} X_t = & 1500 \text{ m} ; \ Y_t = & 500 \text{ m} ; \ Z_t = & 350 \text{ m} ; \ V_t = & 200 \text{ m/s} ; \\ \gamma_t = & 0.0 \text{ rad} ; \ \chi_t = & 0.0 \text{ rad} ; \ \Omega_t = & 0.15 \text{ rad/s} ; \\ X_m = & 1000 \text{ m} ; \ Y_m = & 500 \text{ m} ; \ Z_m = & 100 \text{ m} ; \ V_m = & 50 \text{ m/s} . \\ \text{Guidance constants} \end{split}$$

 $a_1 = a_2 = 3.5$.

Gyroscope system parameters

$$J_{go} = 5 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ kgm}^2; J_{gk} = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ kgm}^2;$$

$$n_g = 600 \text{ rad/s}; \eta_b = \eta_c = 0.01 \text{ Nm/s}.$$

LQR parameters (weight matrices)

$$\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} 200 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 100 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 100 \end{bmatrix}; \ \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{g}} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The operation of an LQR was compared with the operation of a PD regulator, the coefficients of which have been selected optimally so as not to exceed permissible control values during the manoeuvring and to obtain a lower target function value. This was the reason why the study utilized the optimization algorithm reviewed by Awrejcewicz and Koruba (2012):

$$\begin{split} U_b &= -k_b \left(\theta_g - \gamma_{LOS} \right) + k_c \left(\psi_g - \chi_{LOS} \right) - h_g \left(\dot{\theta}_g - \dot{\gamma}_{LOS} \right), \\ U_c &= -k_c \left(\theta_g - \gamma_{LOS} \right) - k_b \left(\psi_g - \chi_{LOS} \right) - h_g \left(\dot{\psi}_g - \dot{\chi}_{LOS} \right), \\ k_b &= 2.5 \; ; \; k_c = 3.46 \; ; \; h_g = 1.73 \; . \end{split}$$

Figures 4–13 show selected simulation test results. Figure 4 reveals a missile intercepting a manoeuvring air target after 5.3 s. Figures 5 and 6 demonstrate good convergence of the desired and executed flight angles. In the case of using an LQR for controlling a GS, fast and effective overlapping of the gyroscope axis and the target line-of-sight can also be noticed – Figures 7, 10 and 11. There are only slight deviations of the gyroscope system axis path from the set value in the initial phase of homing a missile on a target (Figure 8).

The operational efficiency of an LQR was also assessed for a scenario in which a missile is impacted by highamplitude harmonic kinematic forces over a short time interval. These forces, converging through the gyroscope frame bearings, adversely impact the stabilization of a GS axis along the target LOS. In Figures 10 and 11, it is seen that the control system, together with the LQR regulator, rapidly restores the GS axis to a desired position. This is also confirmed by the results in Figure 12. After the disturbance passes, the actual and set gyroscope axis path fully coincide.

The presented research results indicate that optimal regulator parameters enable the constant up-keep of a stable target in the line of sight of the homing head optical system (Figures 7a, 10a and 11a). This can be of significant



Figure 4. Missile and target flight trajectories



Figure 5. Actual γ_m and desired γ_{md} missile flight angles over time, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator



Figure 6. Actual χ_m and desired χ_{md} missile flight angles over time, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator



Figure 7. Pitch and yaw angles for LOS and gyroscope system axis over time, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator



Figure 8. Actual and desired gyroscope system trajectories, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator







Figure 10. Pitch angle for LOS and gyroscope system axis, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator







Figure 12. Actual and desired gyroscope system axis trajectories, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator



Figure 13. Control moments over time, for: a) LQR, b) PD regulator

importance when a target is detected with high angular deflection with respect to the missile's longitudinal axis relative to the target line of sight.

It should be stressed that the control moments adopt minor values (Figures 9a and 13a) that determine their feasibility in the conditions of an actual homing process. The operation of an optimal regulator for a gyroscope system is also stable under the impact of large interference by the missile deck (Figure 12a).

Disclosure statement

The authors do not have any competing financial, professional, or personal interests from other parties.

Conclusions

The obtained tests results indicate the correctness of the original operation developed by the authors of the control algorithm for a gyroscope in a homing missile. The outcome of the tests presented in the research paper also demonstrate the high efficiency of the optimal control algorithm in controlling a gyroscope system within the process of homing an air to air missile on a manoeuvring air target. Furthermore, the conducted comparative analysis showed that an LQR ensured higher homing precisions of a missile on a manoeuvring air target, relative to a PD regulator, despite the fact that the parameters of the latter were selected in an optimal manner, following the Golubencev method. This can be clearly seen in the conditions of active strong external interference. This is of significant importance in terms of the homing process, since it determines in many cases effective anti-aircraft defence.

The future research of the authors will focus on including the non-stationarity of a guidance system (time-variable state matrix components) and the implementation of a developed controlled algorithm within an actual homing missile, as well as its verification in field conditions.

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Notations

Variables and functions

 X_t, Y_t, Z_t – target position coordinates;

 X_m, Y_m, Z_m – missile position coordinates;

 X_{md}, Y_{md}, Z_{md} – desired position coordinates of missile;

 γ_m , γ_{md} – actual and desired pitch angles of missile velocity vector, respectively;

 χ_m, χ_{md} – actual and desired yaw angles of missile velocity vector, respectively;

 γ_{LOS} – LOS pitch angle;

 χ_{LOS} – LOS yaw angle;

 ψ_g – the rotation angle of the outer frame of the gyroscope system;

 θ_g – the rotation angle of the inner frame of the gyroscope system;

 U_h, U_c – control moments.

Abbreviations

GSA - Gyroscope System Axis;

GS – Gyroscope System;

LOS – Line-of-Sight;

PID – Proportional-Integral-Derivative;

PD – Proportional-Derivative;

LQR - Linear-Quadratic Regulator.