H^∞ CONTROL OF SYSTEMS WITH COMPENSATORS WHICH READ THE COMMAND SIGNAL *

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Abstract. This paper investigates H^∞ control design where the compensator is assumed to have immediate access to the command signal (usually denoted by W_1) but not to the disturbance signal (denoted by W_2). While the Doyle Glover paradigm only feeds a plant output Y into the compensator, in many industrial applications the command signal at time t can be transmitted to the compensator at time t if there is any advantage to doing so. In this article we analyze both linear and nonlinear systems and find that the advantage to this control architecture is great. The results in this paper generalize those of Ball *et al* 1993, Doyle *et al* 1988, Helton *et al* 1992. A necessary condition is given for the general nonlinear systems. These suggest formulas for controllers. For special cases such as: when there is no disturbance signal W_2 or the system is linear, we have very satisfactory conclusions. In particular, for linear systems with uncertainty, we derive conditions for the solution to the robust H^∞ control problem to exist.

Keywords: nonlinear systems, H^∞ control, output feedback, stabilization, uncertainty

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