

Geometric Results on the Well-Posedness of Piecewise Linear Systems

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Abstract

This paper supplements the recent results of Imura and van der Shaft on the well-posedness of a class of piecewise linear systems. We give a set of necessary and sufficient geometric conditions for well-posedness of a bimodal piecewise linear system with an affine switching surface.

1 Introduction

In a recent paper [1] Imura and van der Shaft have given a nice analysis of the well-posedness (existence and uniqueness of solutions) of a class of piecewise linear (discontinuous) systems. This paper addresses this issue for bimodal piecewise linear systems and supplements the results of [1] with a set of necessary and sufficient geometric conditions for well-posedness.

2 Bimodal Systems

Following [1], a piecewise linear bimodal system is defined by

$$\Sigma_O: \quad \dot{x} = \begin{cases} Ax, & \text{if } c^T x \geq 0 \text{ (mode 1)} \\ Bx, & \text{if } c^T x \leq 0 \text{ (mode 2)} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $A, B \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ and $c \in \mathbf{R}^n$. More formally the system Σ_O is given in integral form by

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(x(s)) ds \quad (2)$$

where $f(x)$ is the discontinuous vector field given by the right hand side of (1) and $x(t_0) = x_0$. If $x(t)$ satisfies (2) and t is a time when the the vector field switches from mode 1 to mode 2, then t is called an *event time* of the trajectory. A point t^* is a *right (resp. left) accumulation point* of the trajectory, if there exists a sequence of event times t_j with $t_j < t_j + 1$ (resp. $t_j > t_{j+1}$) such that $t_j \uparrow t^*$ (resp. $t_j \downarrow t^*$). A solution of Σ_O on the time interval $[t_0, t_1)$ from initial state x_0 at time t_0 is an absolutely continuous function satisfying (2) with no left accumulation points in $[t_0, t_1)$. The system Σ_O is *well-posed* if there exists a unique solution on $[0, \infty)$ for every initial state [1].

In [1] well-posedness is characterized in terms of the following concept. *Smooth continuation* with respect to $S \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ is possible from $x_0 \in S$ if there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $x(t)$ is a solution of Σ_O over $[0, \epsilon)$ and $x(t) \in S$ for all $t \in [0, \epsilon)$. The system Σ_O has a smooth continuation with respect to S if it has a smooth continuation with respect to each $x_0 \in S$.

Lemma 2.1 *The following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *The system Σ_O is well-posed;*

(2) From every initial state $x_o \in \mathbf{R}^n$ either:

- a) smooth continuation is possible with respect to exactly one of the modes, i.e., with respect to $\{x : c^T x \geq 0\}$ or $\{x : c^T x \leq 0\}$; or
- b) smooth continuation is possible over $[0, \epsilon)$ with respect to both modes and both solutions are identical over this time interval.

Proof: See [1]. ◇

From this point on we will abbreviate ‘smooth continuation’ to simply ‘continuation’.

3 Geometric Conditions for Well-Posedness

First some notation. For $M = A, B$ let $\mathcal{N}_{c,M}^j = \cap_{i=0}^j \ker(c^T M^i)$, $j = 0, \dots, n-1$, and let $\mathcal{N}_{c,M} = \cap_{j=0}^{n-1} \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^j$. Hence $\ker(c^T) = \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^0 \supseteq \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^1 \supseteq \dots \supseteq \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^{n-1} = \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$. Let $k_M = \min\{k \geq 0 : \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^k = \mathcal{N}_{c,A}\}$ and $\mathcal{N}_0 \triangleq \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^0 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^0 = \ker(c^T)$. \mathcal{N}_0 is called the *switching manifold*. The subspaces $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j$ and $\mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$, $j = 1, \dots, n-1$, are all subspaces of the switching manifold. In particular, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A} = \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{k_A}$ and $\mathcal{N}_{c,B} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^{k_B}$ are the unobservable subspaces of the pairs (c^T, A) and (c^T, B) , respectively. Finally, for $x_o \in \mathbf{R}^n$ let $x_M(t, x_o)$ denote the solution over $[0, \infty)$ of the linear system $\dot{x}(t) = Mx(t)$ with $x(0) = x_o$.

We first determine a set of necessary geometric conditions for well-posedness of Σ_O . Let $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_0$. The simplest case is when neither Ax_o nor Bx_o are in the null space of c^T . In this case, both Ax_o and Bx_o must point into the same mode space. Hence the inner product of the normal to the switching manifold at x_o , i.e., c , and the two vector fields at x_o both have the same sign: $\text{sgn}(c^T Ax_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T Bx_o)$. If these terms have different signs, then either there are two distinct valid trajectories or there is no valid trajectory from x_o . To complete this geometric picture we need to consider initial states $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_0$ with $x_A(t, x_o)$ or $x_B(t, x_o)$ tangent to the switching manifold. We do so in the following sequence of lemmas.

Lemma 3.1 *If Σ_O is well-posed, then $\mathcal{N}_{c,A} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$.*

Proof: Let $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}$ and $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$. Then $x_o \neq 0$ and $x_A(t, x_o) \in \mathcal{N}_0$ for all $t \geq 0$. The trajectory $x_B(t, x_o)$ must lie on one side of the switching surface for some interval $t \in (0, \epsilon)$. Since there is a valid local continuation from x_o with respect to mode 1, $c^T x_B(t, x_o) > 0$ for $t \in (0, \epsilon)$. But then from $-x_o$ we have two valid continuations: $x_A(t, -x_o)$ satisfies $c^T x_A(t, -x_o) = 0$ and for some $\epsilon > 0$, $x_B(t, -x_o)$ satisfies $c^T x_B(t, -x_o) < 0$ for $t \in (0, \epsilon)$. A contradiction. Thus $\mathcal{N}_{c,A} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$. A symmetric argument shows that $\mathcal{N}_{c,B} \subseteq \mathcal{N}_{c,A}$. ◇

When Σ_O is well-posed, let $\mathcal{N} \triangleq \mathcal{N}_{c,A} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$. For $M = A, B$ let $M|_{\mathcal{N}}$ denote the linear map M restricted to the linear subspace \mathcal{N} .

Lemma 3.2 *If Σ_O is well-posed, then $A|_{\mathcal{N}} = B|_{\mathcal{N}}$.*

Proof: Let $x_o \in \mathcal{N}$. Clearly, for $M = A, B$, $x_M(t, x_o) \in \mathcal{N}_0$ for all $t \geq 0$. Hence by well-posedness both trajectories must be equal. Since this holds for every state in \mathcal{N} , the result follows. ◇

Next we consider trajectories that leave the switching manifold. The direction in which they do so is determined by the first nonzero derivative of the trajectory, i.e., by the least k , with $0 \leq k \leq n-1$, for which $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^{k-1}$ but $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^k$, $M = A, B$. Well-posedness forces these subspaces to be the same for each mode. This the content of the next lemma.

Lemma 3.3 *If Σ_O is well-posed then, $k_A = k_B$ and for each j , $0 \leq j \leq k_A$, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$.*

Proof: We use induction on j . The second result holds for $j = 0$. Assume $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j-1} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^{j-1}$. Suppose that $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j$ and $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$. Then $x_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j-1} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^{j-1}$. Consider a small open ball in $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j-1}$ about x_o . This ball contains points z satisfying $c^T A^j z > 0$ as well as points z satisfying $c^T A^j z < 0$. If $c^T A^j z > 0$ (resp. $c^T A^j z < 0$), then for some $\epsilon > 0$ the trajectory $x_A(t, z)$ satisfies $c^T x(t, z) > 0$ (resp. $c^T x(t, z) < 0$) for all $t \in (0, \epsilon)$. Since $c^T B^j x_o \neq 0$ and the set where this holds within $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j-1}$ is open, by making the ball around x_o sufficiently small we can ensure that for all z in the ball, there exists an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $c^T x_B(t, z)$ has the same sign for $t \in (0, \epsilon)$. But this implies that there is some z in the ball for which the trajectories $x_A(t, z)$ and $x_B(t, z)$, $t \in (0, \epsilon)$, lie in different modes; A contradiction. Thus $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$. It follows that $k_A = k_B$. \diamond

Now that we have the above structural constraints we can return to the sign conditions on the derivatives of the trajectories. When Σ_O is well-posed, let $\bar{k} \triangleq k_A = k_B$ and $\mathcal{N}^j \triangleq \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$, $j = 0, \dots, \bar{k}$.

Lemma 3.4 *If Σ_O is well-posed, then for $1 \leq j \leq \bar{k}$ and for each $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1}$ with $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}^j$, $\text{sgn}(c^T A^j x_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^j x_o)$.*

Proof: For $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}^j)^c$, $c^T x_A(t, x_o) = c^T \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} A^i t^i x_o / i! = c^T A^j x_o t^j / j! + \text{H.O.T.s}$. Thus for sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, the sign of $c^T x_A(t, x_o)$, $t \in (0, \epsilon)$, is determined by the sign of $c^T A^j x_o$. Similarly, the sign of $c^T x_B(t, x_o)$, for $t \in (0, \epsilon)$, is determined by the sign of $c^T B^j x_o$. Well-posedness requires these signs be the same. \diamond

3.1 Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

Now we put the results of the previous lemmas together to obtain a set of necessary and sufficient geometric conditions for well-posedness.

Theorem 3.5 *The bimodal system Σ_O is well-posed if and only if each of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- 1) $k_A = k_B \triangleq \bar{k}$;
- 2) For each $0 \leq j \leq \bar{k}$, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j \triangleq \mathcal{N}^j$;
- 3) $A|\mathcal{N}^{\bar{k}} = B|\mathcal{N}^{\bar{k}}$;
- 4) For each $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1}$ with $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}^j$, $\text{sgn}(c^T A^j x_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^j x_o)$, $0 \leq j \leq \bar{k}$.

Proof: Necessity has been demonstrated in the previous lemmas. Sufficiency follows by demonstrating a continuation at $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^0$. First consider $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}^j)^c$, $1 \leq j \leq \bar{k}$. Since $x_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1}$ and $x_o \notin \mathcal{N}^j$, the sign of $c^T x_A(t, x_o)$ for small t is determined by the sign of $c^T A^j x_o$. Similarly, the sign of $c^T x_B(t, x_o)$ for small t is determined by the sign of $c^T B^j x_o$. For well-posedness at x_o it is sufficient that these signs be the same. This is ensured by 4). Finally, for $x_o \in \mathcal{N}$, 3) ensures that the trajectories under each mode are identical. \diamond

The verification of conditions 1)-3) of Theorem 3.5 requires standard algebraic tests. Condition 4) can be verified by testing the sign condition at \bar{k} states. This is the result of the following corollary.

Corollary 3.6 *The bimodal system Σ_O is well-posed if and only if conditions 1)-3) of Theorem 3.5 hold and for any set of \bar{k} points x_j with $x_j \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}^j)^c$, $j = 1, \dots, \bar{k}$,*

$$\text{sgn}(c^T A x_1 \quad c^T A^2 x_2 \quad \dots \quad c^T A^{\bar{k}} x_{\bar{k}}) = \text{sgn}(c^T B x_1 \quad c^T B^2 x_2 \quad \dots \quad c^T B^{\bar{k}} x_{\bar{k}}) \quad (3)$$

Proof: (Outline) Necessity is clear. Sufficiency follows if (3) implies condition 4) of Theorem 3.5. To show this use linearity of the vector fields and the fact that the sign test is a linear functional. \diamond

For $n > 2$ the well-posedness of the bimodal system Σ_O is not robust with respect to small *arbitrary* perturbations in A and B . The equality of the subspaces $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^1 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^1$ requires $\ker(c^T) \cap \ker(c^T A) = \ker(c^T) \cap \ker(c^T B)$. For $n > 2$ these subspaces are generically not the zero subspace. In this case, small perturbations of B can change the orientation of $\ker(c^T B)$, and hence of $\ker(c^T) \cap \ker(c^T B)$, thus violating the conditions required for well-posedness.

3.2 Examples

The following examples are taken from [1]. The first models a collision with an elastic wall. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & -d \end{pmatrix} \quad c^T = (1 \quad 0)$$

Then $\ker(c^T) = \text{span}\{(0, 1)^T\}$, and $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^1 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^1 = \{0\}$. Thus $k_A = k_B = 1$ and conditions 1)-3) of Theorem 3.5 are satisfied. To check condition 4) select $x_1 = (0, 1)^T$. Then $\text{sgn}(c^T A x_1) = 1 = \text{sgn}(c^T B x_1)$. Thus the system is well-posed.

The second example is a variation on the first. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad c^T = (1 \quad 0)$$

Then $\ker(c^T) = \text{span}\{(0, 1)^T\}$, and $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^1 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^1 = \{0\}$. Thus $k_A = k_B = 1$ and conditions 1)-3) of Theorem 3.5 are satisfied. To check condition 4) select $x_1 = (0, 1)^T$. This time $\text{sgn}(c^T A x_1) = 1 \neq -1 = \text{sgn}(c^T B x_1)$. Thus the system is not well-posed.

The third example models an elastic collision between two objects (Example 4.1 of [1]).

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -k_2 & -d_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -k_1 & -d_1 & k_1 & d_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ k_1 & d_1 & -k_1 - k_2 & -d_1 - d_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad c^T = (1 \quad 0 \quad -1 \quad 0)$$

For $k_2 \neq 0$ elementary calculation yields:

$$\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^1 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^1 = \text{span}\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^2 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^2 = \text{span}\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -d_2/k_2 \\ 1 \\ -d_2/k_2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^3 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^3 = 0$$

So $\mathcal{N}_{c,A} = \mathcal{N}_{c,B} = 0$ and $A|\mathcal{N}_{c,A} = B|\mathcal{N}_{c,B}$. Thus the structural conditions of Theorem 3.5 are met. To check the sign conditions we use Corollary 3.6 with $x_1 = (0 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0)^T$, $x_2 = (\alpha \quad 1 \quad \alpha \quad 1)^T$, $x_3 = (\beta \quad 1 \quad \beta \quad 1)^T$ where $\alpha \neq -d_2/k_2$ and $\beta = -d_2/k_2$. This yields $\text{sgn}(c^T A x_1 \quad c^T A^2 x_2 \quad c^T A^3 x_3) = \text{sgn}(1 \quad \alpha k_2 + d_2 \quad k_2) = \text{sgn}(c^T B x_1 \quad c^T B^2 x_2 \quad c^T B^3 x_3)$. Thus the system is well-posed. The same conclusion holds when $k_2 = 0$. The computations are similar and hence omitted.

4 Affine Switching Manifold

Now consider an affine switching manifold. In this case the system becomes:

$$\Omega_O: \quad \dot{x} = \begin{cases} Ax, & \text{if } c^T x \geq d \text{ (mode 1)} \\ Bx, & \text{if } c^T x \leq d \text{ (mode 2)} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $A, B \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$, $c \in \mathbf{R}^n$ and $d \in \mathbf{R}$. Let $S = \{x: c^T x = d\}$ and $h = dc/(c^T c)$. S is the switching manifold and h is the normal from the origin to S . Any $x_o \in S$ can be uniquely written as $x_o = h + z_o$ where $z_o \in \ker(c^T)$. As before, the well-posedness of Ω_O is determined by the existence of unique, mode-consistent continuations from the initial states on S . We will determine a set of necessary conditions for the well-posedness of Ω_O . We begin with the following preliminary result.

Lemma 4.1 *For $M = A, B$, if $Mc \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$, there exists a least positive integer $1 \leq j_M \leq n$ such that $c^T M^j c \neq 0$. Conversely, if $Mc \in \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$, then M is singular and for all $i \geq 1$, $c^T M^i c = 0$.*

Proof: Omitted. ◇

For $x_o \in S$ write $x_o = h + z_o$ for $z_o \in \mathcal{N}^0$. Then for $M = A, B$, $x_M(t, x_o) = x_M(t, h) + x_M(t, z_o)$. If $Mc \in \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$, then for all t , $c^T x_M(t, h) = d$ and $\text{sgn}(c^T x_M(t, x_o) - d)$ is determined by $\text{sgn}(c^T x_M(t, z_o))$. In particular, if $Ac \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}$ and $Bc \in \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$, the well-posedness of Ω_O is completely determined by the well-posedness of Σ_O . The more interesting situation is when $Mc \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$ for at least one of $M = A, B$.

For simplicity of the presentation we will assume henceforth that both (c^T, A) and (c^T, B) are observable and that for at least one of $M = A, B$, $Mc \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,M}$. Let $\bar{j} = \min\{j_A, j_B\}$.

Lemma 4.2 *If Ω_O is well-posed then, for each $1 \leq j \leq \bar{j}$, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j$ and for each $z_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j$, $\text{sgn}(c^T A^j z_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^j z_o)$.*

Proof: (Outline) Note $c^T x_M(t, x_o) = c^T x_M(t, h) + c^T x_M(t, z_o) = d + c^T M^{j_M} h t^{j_M} / (j_M!) + \text{H.O.T.s} + x_M(t, z_o)$. For $j < \bar{j}$ and $z_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,M}^{j-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}_{c,M}^j)^c$ the sign of $c^T x_M(t, x_o) - d$ for all small t is determined by the signs of $c^T M^j z_o$, $M = A, B$. This is the same situation as Σ_O and the result follows. For $j = \bar{j}$ select $\|z_o\|$ so large that $c^T M^j z_o$ determines the sign of $c^T x_M(t, x_o) - d$, $M = A, B$, for all small t . \diamond

Lemma 4.3 *If Ω_O is well-posed, $j_A = j_B = \bar{j}$ and $\text{sgn}(c^T A^{\bar{j}} c) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^{\bar{j}} c)$.*

Proof: (Outline) Assume $j_A < j_B$. Since $\mathcal{N}_{c,B} = 0$ we can select $z_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^{j_A-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}_{c,B}^{j_A})^c$ with $z_o \neq 0$. Then $z_o \in \mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j_A-1} \cap (\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^{j_A})^c$. Select $\|z_o\|$ small so that for all small t the sign of $x_A(t, x_o) - d$ is determined by the sign of $c^T A^{j_A} c$ and the sign of $c^T x_B(t, x_o) - d$ by the sign of $c^T B^{j_A} z_o$. By replacing z_o by $-z_o$ we contradict well-posedness. \diamond

4.1 Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

Now we put the results of the previous lemmas together to obtain a set of necessary and sufficient geometric conditions for the well-posedness of Ω_O .

Theorem 4.4 *Assume (c^T, A) and (c^T, B) are observable and that either $Ac \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,A}$ or $Bc \notin \mathcal{N}_{c,B}$. Then the bimodal system Ω_O is well-posed if and only if each of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- 1) $j_A = j_B \triangleq \bar{j}$;
- 2) $\text{sgn}(c^T A^{\bar{j}} c) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^{\bar{j}} c)$;
- 3) For each $0 \leq j \leq \bar{j}$, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^j = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^j \triangleq \mathcal{N}^j$;
- 4) For each $z_o \in \mathcal{N}^{j-1}$ with $z_o \notin \mathcal{N}^j$, $\text{sgn}(c^T A^j z_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T B^j z_o)$, $0 \leq j \leq \bar{j}$.

Proof: Necessity has been demonstrated in the previous lemmas. The proof of sufficiency is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.5. \diamond

Generically, (c^T, A) and (c^T, B) are observable, $Ac \neq 0$, $Bc \neq 0$, and $j_A = j_B = 1$. In this case Ω_O is well posed if and only if $\text{sgn}(c^T Ac) = \text{sgn}(c^T Bc)$, $\mathcal{N}_{c,A}^1 = \mathcal{N}_{c,B}^1 \triangleq \mathcal{N}^1$ and for each $z_o \in \mathcal{N}^0$ with $z_o \notin \mathcal{N}^1$, $\text{sgn}(c^T A z_o) = \text{sgn}(c^T B z_o)$. The first and third conditions are robust with respect to small arbitrary changes in the matrices A , B and c , but the second is not. However, the second condition arises by taking $\|z_o\|$ large in Lemma 4.2. If $\|z_o\|$ is restricted to be smaller than a bound B determined by the size of $c^T A h$, then the second and third conditions are not necessary. Hence, generically, well-posedness of the system Ω_o is not robust with respect to small arbitrary perturbations of A , B and c . However, it is robust for initial conditions in a neighborhood of h .

References

- [1] Jun-ichi Imura and Arjan van der Schaft. "Characterization of Well-Posedness of Piecewise Linear Systems" *IEEE Trans. on Auto. Control*, Vol. 45, No. 9, Sept. 2000.