

# Optimal attitude control of a satellite in real orbit using multiple fractional-order controllers

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## Abstract

The purpose of this work is to design three optimal fractional-order  $PI^{\lambda}D^{\mu}$  controllers for regulating the attitude of a three-axis satellite. The parameter gains of the controllers are tuned with the innovative Harris Hawks Optimizer (HHO). The state-space dynamic model of the satellite system is obtained by linearizing the nonlinear model around the Local Horizontal Local Vertical (LHLV) orbital frame. This allows for the model to be solved in state space. A study in which conventional PID controllers were used as a point of comparison was carried out so that it could be shown how valuable the fractional order is in the design that was proposed.

**Keywords**— Satellite system, Attitude control, PID Controller, Fractional-order, Harris Hawks Optimizer.

## 1 Introduction

Satellites are very complex space systems, and have received great attention from researchers and scientists since the turn of the last century [1, 2]. In recent years, attention has been drawn to concentrating focus on the development of very advanced guidance and control algorithms aboard microcomputers deposited at the core of these satellites. These enhancements include more precise aiming, agility, and better resistance to uncertainties and disruptions in the environment. Nevertheless, the majority of these findings are based on the presumption that the spacecraft is actively controlled by a number of actuators that is at least equal to the number of degrees of freedom possessed by the system [3, 6]. Thus, the

study of such systems for the purpose of controlling and directing them is of the utmost importance because of its profound impact on the control of military and civilian technologies [4]. In this regard, we have proposed a sophisticated optimal fractional-order PID controller [11] for satellites based on convex multidimensional optimization techniques [5, 9] especially the Harris Hawks Optimizers [7, 10], and we have provided a comparison study with the classical PID controller.

In this paper, the mathematical model of the attitude motion is described, and the linearization of the satellite model around the Local Horizontal Local Vertical (LHLV) reference frame is performed. Based on this linearized model, three optimal fractional-order  $PI^{\lambda}D^{\mu}$  controllers are designed for the stabilization and tracking of attitude trajectory.

## 2 Harris Hawks Optimizer

The HHO technique is used to find optimal solutions to constrained multidimensional optimization problems in a given set of dimensions [5, 9]. Find the minimal value of the objective function  $\left(\min_x f(x)\right)$  for a given set of constraints. HHO is an evolutionary novel population metaheuristic. HHO was primarily motivated by the cooperative behavior and pursuit strategy of Harris' hawks in nature, which is known as surprise pounce. Multiple hawks work together to ambush their victim by swooping in from all sides. Depending on the scenario and how the prey often escapes, Harris hawks can show a variety of pursuit tactics. See [5, 9, 8]. For a detailed explanation of the various phases of HHO depicted in Fig. 1, including the exploration stage, the transition from exploration to exploitation, the exploitation stage, the pseudo code of HHO, and its computational complexity.



### 4 Main results

The formulation of the fractional-order  $PI^\lambda D^\mu$  controller is given as [12]:

$$C(s) = \left( K_p + K_i \frac{1}{s^\lambda} + K_d s^\mu \right) e(s) \tag{3}$$

To find a optimal parameters gains of the three controllers  $(K_p, K_i, K_d, \lambda, \mu)$  which achieve the best tracking of attitude trajectory, we formulated to a convex minimization problem which can be solved by HHO optimizer [5], where the objective function  $f(x)$  is given as follows:

$$f(x) = \left\| \int (y_{ref} - y_{real})^2 dt \right\|_\infty = \left\| \int e^2 dt \right\|_\infty \tag{4}$$

Find  $x$  which minimize the objective function

$$\min_x \left\| \int e^2 dt \right\|_\infty \tag{5}$$

### 5 Results with interpretations

The figures Fig. 3, Fig. 4, Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 shown the evolution of the optimization process in term of the number of iterations, in the case of classical PID controller Num-iter = 500, and the search space of parameters gains = [0.001 200]. In the case of  $PI^\lambda D^\mu$  Num-iter = 10 and the search space of parameters gains = [0.001 200]. In the Table 1 and Table 2 we found the optimal parameters gains of the both classical and fractional-order PID controllers of the three axes, which are obtained based optimization HHO tools. Based on the obtained results shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8 respectively, we see that the fractional-order controller gives best tracking than the classical one, the parameters gain of the proposed  $PI^\lambda D^\mu$  is small compared with the classical PID controller, which mean ensuring a good tracking with minimum control energy.

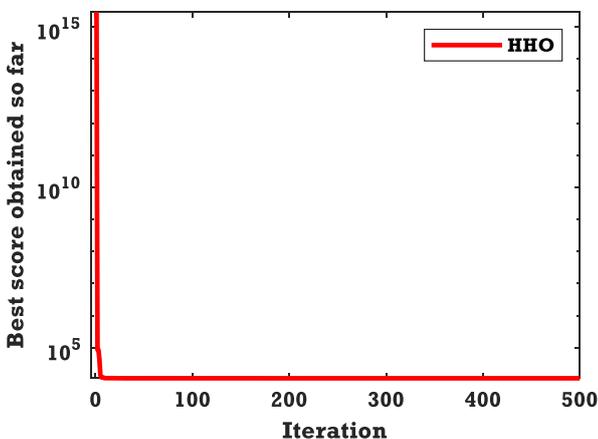


Figure 3: The objective function of classical controller.

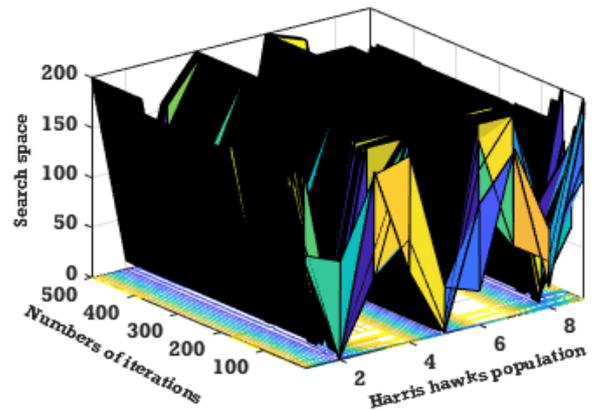


Figure 4: The evolution of HHO population of classical

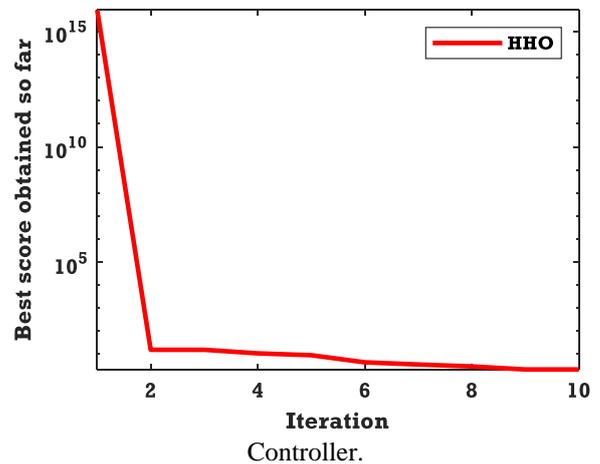


Figure 5: The objective function of Fractional-order Controller.

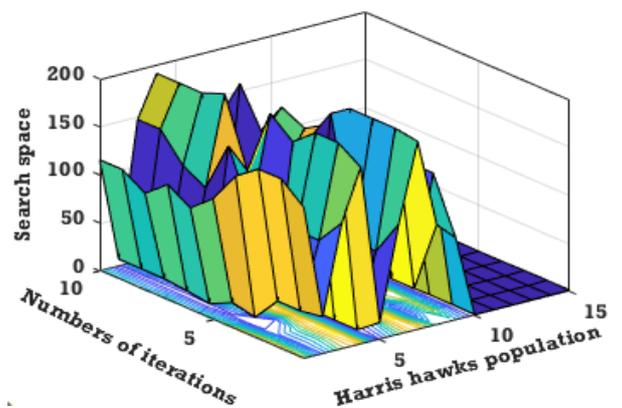


Figure 6: The evolution of HHO population of Fractional-order Controller

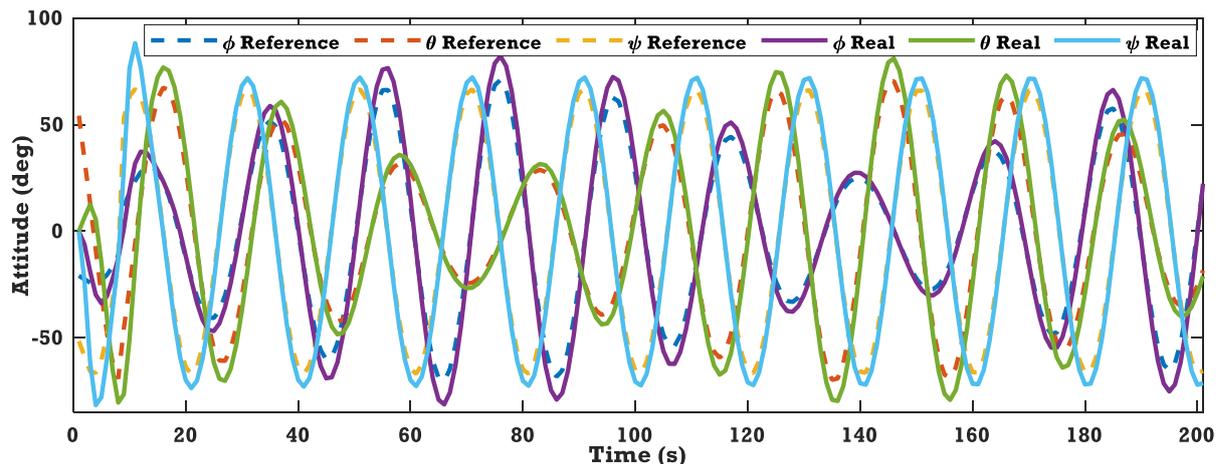


Figure 7: Attitude satellite control real and reference: Classical PID controllers.

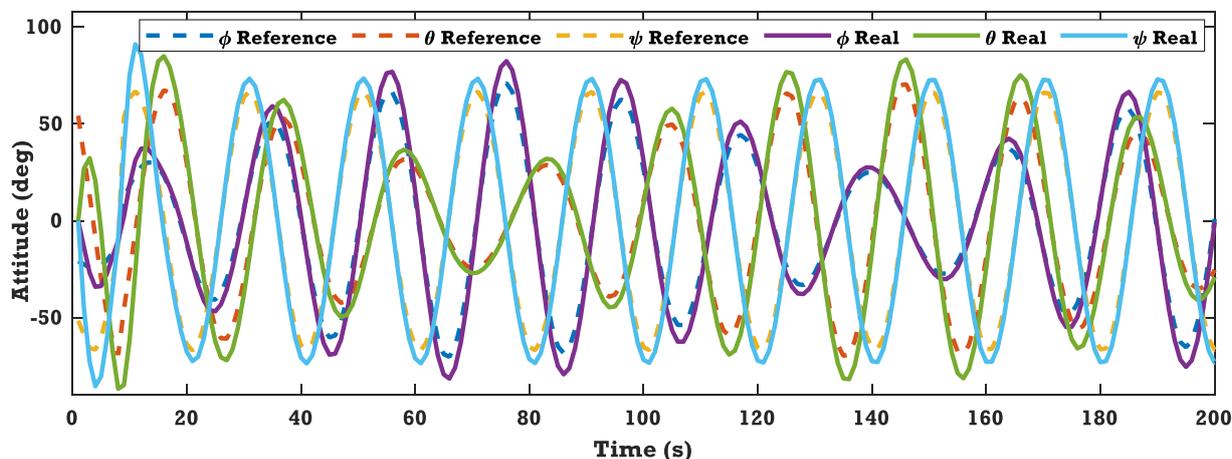


Figure 8: Attitude satellite control real and reference: Fractional-order  $PI^\lambda D^\mu$  controllers.

Table 1: Parameters gains of classical PID controllers

Controller	$K_p$	$K_i$	$K_d$
PID $\phi$	200	7.641	156.531
PID $\theta$	200	0.001	200
PID $\psi$	187.092	7.963	161.060

Table 2: Parameters gains of  $PI^\lambda D^\mu$  controllers

Controller	$K_p$	$K_i$	$K_d$	$\lambda$	$\mu$
$PI^\lambda D^\mu \phi$	115.82	7.32	147.78	0.983	1.018
$PI^\lambda D^\mu \theta$	190.68	3.85	142.12	1.5	1.273
$PI^\lambda D^\mu \psi$	145.66	40.31	76.99	1.004	1.339

## 6 Conclusion

In this work, an optimal control attitude of satellite system has been achieved, based on three fractional-order  $PI^{\lambda}D^{\mu}$  controllers, using a new HHO optimizer. The fractional-order action in the both integral and derivative made the difference, by giving the controller a considerable degree of freedom to select the precise parameters to the proposed controller, counter to the classical PID controller with integer-order. Further studies focus on the design of one optimal fractional-order compensator, which can be smoother than the proposed controller.

## 7 Appendix

Table 3: Simulation satellite system parameters values

Param	Value
Principal momentum of inertia without payload $kgm^2$	$J_x = 305.89126$ $J_y = 314.06488$ $J_z = 167.33919$
Torque arm (m)	$l = 1.0$
Mean orbital motion (rad/s)	$\omega_0 = 0.001$
Mass (kg)	578.05239
Orbit altitude (km)	750
Maximum force (N)	5
Eccentricity	$\cong 0$

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