Intelligent Control Based on Neural Controller for Application in the ETE Spherical Tokamak

Luis Filipe de F. Wiltgen Barbosa¹, Gerson Otto Ludwig² e Cairo L. Nascimento Jr.³
¹Universidade do Vale do Paraíba – UNIVAP – FEAU
²Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – INPE – LAP
³Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica – ITA – EEC
wiltgen@univap.br, ludwig@plasma.inpe.br and cairo@ita.br

Abstract

This poster presents an approach to the problem of controlling the vertical displacement of the plasma in the ETE tokamak based on Artificial Neural Networks (ANN). ETE is a low aspect ratio tokamak that should operate with highly elongated plasmas, which are unstable to vertical displacements. To control the vertical position of the plasma, an intelligent controller is under development based on an ANN of the feed-forward type that uses multiple layer perceptions trained with an error back-propagation algorithm. There are several ways available to implement a neural controller. The ETE tokamak controller will use hybrid architecture of the feedback-error-learning type (FEL), composed of the neural part and a classic part. The classic part (Proportional Integral Derivative – PID) of the controller supplies the initial solution (starting point) so that the neural part can identify the problem and gradually substitute the classic one in the dynamic nonlinear control of the plasma equilibrium. To test this hybrid controller, a simple magnetic levitation (MagLev) system was constructed that in certain aspects is analogous to the tokamak plasma vertical equilibrium system. In the MagLev it is possible to implement the nonlinear control of the vertical position of a metallic sphere, both using a classic controller (PID) and a hybrid controller (PID+FEL). The controller to be installed in ETE will be implemented on a neural hardware. This intelligent controller running on neural hardware should be capable to act in a few microseconds time interval, allowing real time control of the vertical displacement of the plasma.

ETE Tokamak Plasmas

Complexity of this control system in this type of experiment it must characteristics of non-linear dynamic of plasmas column, that it becomes necessary the use of a non-linear control system that is capable to act in fast events, as of vertical displacement (250 ms), and still adapt the variation of plasma parameters in tokamak ETE.

Control Requirements in ETE

To act in the vertical plasma displacement, to prevent the premature end of discharge in ETE.
To easily adapt the new parameters of plasma, to allow the ETE to more investigate plasmas with elongated formats.
To be enough fast, to act some times in the vertical instability of plasma in ETE.

The main parameters of control for equilibriu of plasma in ETE are:
Period of system controller lesser 80 µs
Minimum vertical displacement ±5 mm

Design of Control Configuration of the ETE Tokamak

Neural Controller

Feedback-Error-Learning (FEL) Controller

Error Back-Propagation Algorithm
ANN type – Linear (BLP) e Non-Linear (NLW)
Feedback Controller
Analogic Controller Lead type
Lead + Integral Component

Magnetic Levitator (MagLev)

Control dynamic of MagLev, in this case a metallic sphere that approximately floats the distances of 20mm of electromagnet, is necessary to act on the electric current in the electromagnet making with that the electromagnetic forces compensates the mass and the acceleration of the gravity, in order to keep the sphere in equilibrium.