Fast Calibration of a Robust Model Predictive Controller for Diesel Engine Airpath

Gokul S. Sankar¹, Rohan C. Shekhar¹, Chris Manzie², Takeshi Sano³ and Hayato Nakada³

Abstract—A significant challenge in the development of control systems for diesel airpath applications is to tune the controller parameters to achieve satisfactory output performance, especially whilst adhering to input and safety constraints in the presence of unknown system disturbances. Model-based control techniques, such as model predictive control (MPC), have been successfully applied to multivariable and highly nonlinear systems, such as diesel engines, while considering operational constraints. However, efficient calibration of typical implementations of MPC is hindered by the high number of tuning parameters and their non-intuitive correlation with the output response. In this paper, the number of effective tuning parameters is reduced through suitable structural modifications to the controller formulation and an appropriate redesign of the MPC cost function to aid rapid calibration. Furthermore, a constraint tightening-like approach is augmented to the control architecture to provide robustness guarantees in the face of uncertainties. A switched linear time-invariant MPC strategy with recursive feasibility guarantees during controller switching is proposed to handle transient operation of the engine. The robust controller is first implemented on a high fidelity simulation environment, with comprehensive investigation of its calibration to achieve desired transient response under step changes in the fuelling rate. An experimental study then validates and highlights the performance of the proposed controller architecture for selected tunings of the calibration parameters for fuelling steps and over drive cycles.

Index Terms—Model predictive control, robust control, diesel engine, controller design, switched linear time-invariant MPC.

I. INTRODUCTION

Diesel engines used in automotive applications must meet increasingly stringent emissions standards whilst also satisfying drivability and fuel efficiency requirements. The actuators in the diesel airpath, namely the throttle valve, the exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) valve and the variable geometry turbocharger (VGT), influence the flows of fresh air and exhaust gas into the engine and thus can be used to control the responsiveness to driver demands and the formations of particulate matter (PM) and Nitrogen oxides (NOₓ) emissions. A diesel airpath controller is required to track two reference levels, namely an intake manifold pressure (also known as the boost pressure) reference and a EGR rate reference, which is defined as the ratio of the EGR outflow rate to the combined EGR and compressor outflow rates. For a given engine operating condition, characterised by an engine rotational speed, ω, and a fuelling rate, ˙mf, the references for boost pressure and EGR rate are determined by a high level controller to provide ‘optimal’ driver demand responsiveness and fuel efficiency, and satisfy emission regulations.

Diesel engine airpath control is challenging owing to its nonlinear multivariable nature [1, 2]. Conventional control approaches use look-up tables and single-input single-output (SISO) proportional-integral-differential (PID) loops ignoring the cross-sensitivities that can affect the controller performance. Sophisticated multivariable control algorithms will lead to an improved performance [3], whilst satisfying operating constraints on manifold pressures and physical limitations of the actuators.

The constraint handling ability of model predictive control (MPC) makes it an ideal choice of control architecture for constrained multi-input multi-output systems, such as diesel engines. However, several factors, namely the computational complexity, immense calibration effort and the plant-model mismatch, impede the implementation of MPC schemes for diesel engine applications. In the upcoming paragraphs of this paper, the aforementioned challenges, and the approaches proposed and adopted to enable real time implementation of an MPC architecture on a diesel engine are discussed.

Improvements in the control performance obtained by using nonlinear MPC over conventional control approaches for diesel airpath have been illustrated through simulation [4]. However, due to the lack of computational resources capable of solving nonlinear MPC problems online within the fast sampling time periods typically used in engine control, linear MPC formulations are applied for diesel airpath [5]. Furthermore, in order to avoid solving the quadratic program (QP) online, explicit MPC formulations are often employed [6, 7, 8, 9, 10], where the explicit piecewise-affine control law corresponding to the solution of the parametric QP is computed offline. A further reduction in computational complexity is achieved by strategies such as intermittent constraint enforcement [11]. However, this results in loss of constraint satisfaction guarantees during the intermediate time steps in which the constraints were not imposed. Similarly, enforcing soft constraints to ensure controller feasibility [9, 12, 11], leads to loss of guarantees on constraint adherence. Nevertheless, the growth

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in the number of regions in explicit MPC restricts the control horizon length to typically one or two steps for real-time implementation \cite{13, 10}. With such short control horizon, the controller has fewer degrees of freedom within the prediction horizon, which might lead to aggressive control actions being taken to achieve the desired objective, leading to increased wear and tear of the system. More importantly, these studies have not addressed the issue of requiring high calibration effort for the diesel airpath controller to achieve the desired output transient response.

The high number of tuning parameters and the non-intuitive relationship between the tuning parameters and the time domain characteristics of the output response, such as overshoot and settling time, are the reasons for the difficulty involved in the calibration of an MPC. In a standard MPC quadratic cost function with symmetric weighting matrices, there are \( \frac{n}{2} (n + 1) + \frac{m}{2} (m + 1) \) independent cost function parameters that require tuning (excluding the horizon length, terminal cost and set), where \( n \) and \( m \) are the state and input dimensions, respectively.

In \cite{14}, \( H_\infty \) loopshaping was proposed to tune infinite horizon MPC parameters but requires the system to operate away from the constraint boundary. This naturally cedes some of the advantages of explicitly considering constraints, particularly when finite horizons must be considered for computational reasons. As an alternative, in \cite{15, 16}, a novel parameterisation of the MPC cost function was proposed to provide an explicit relationship between a small number of tuning parameters and the time domain response. This approach is well suited for rapid calibration, and does not require calibrators to have explicit knowledge of advanced control techniques.

A perfect prediction model is assumed to be available in many previous works on the application of MPC to diesel engines. However, the presence of external disturbances and modelling errors might potentially lead to constraint violation. Robust MPC techniques, such as tube MPC and constraint tightening, can be used to guarantee constraint adherence and recursive feasibility of the controller in the presence of disturbances. In \cite{17}, a single step horizon is used to ensure computational tractability of the tube MPC for diesel air path, failing to utilise the potential of MPC to anticipate system behaviour over multiple time-steps. However, the constraint tightening (CT) approach, in which the constraints are systematically tightened and a margin is reserved along the horizon to correct for errors due to uncertainties \cite{18}, does not incur additional computational load when compared to the conventional MPC. In \cite{19}, a CT-MPC formulation is proposed for diesel generators in power tracking applications. In both \cite{17} and \cite{19}, the number of tuning parameters remain the same as in conventional MPC, requiring a significant effort to achieve the desired output time domain characteristics. Furthermore, as in \cite{20}, it might be infeasible to provide robustness guarantees with a large disturbance set because of lack of control authority to reject the disturbances by the end of the horizon in robust MPC formulations.

Many previous implementations of MPC on diesel engines \cite{8, 13, 21} divide the engine operational space into multiple regions and identify local models for employing multiple linear predictive controllers. In a transient operation, the controllers are switched based on the current engine operating point. This switched linear time-invariant (LTI) MPC architecture reduces computational complexity while retaining some desirable attributes of nonlinear MPC. However, switching between controllers might lead to bumps in the output response or loss of recursive feasibility during switching. In order to avoid bumps, \cite{8, 13} use the actual output values from the previous time step for all their local controllers, however recursive feasibility and hence, stability guarantees in the switched LTI-MPC architecture are not provided. The existing CT formulations for such architectures, either assume the future system representations are known \cite{22}, or do not account for the error due to change in trimming conditions of the linearisation models \cite{23}, thereby, losing robust feasibility guarantees.

This paper is a significant extension of the previous work \cite{16, 20}. In this paper, a switched LTI-MPC architecture with robust feasibility guarantees using CT approach is proposed to handle transient engine operation. Furthermore, a methodology based on sequential convex programming (SCP) approach \cite{24} is proposed to produce less conservative disturbance set estimates that can be handled by the local controllers in comparison with \cite{20}. The switched LTI-MPC architecture consisting of local robust controllers is implemented on an engine and shown to maintain all input and state constraints in the presence of allowable disturbances. As a further extension to the ideas proposed in \cite{16}, a procedure is proposed for identifying the switched controllers requiring further tuning using feedback from performance over drive cycles.

A. Notation

The symbol \( \mathbb{R} \) represents a set of real numbers. The symbol \( \mathbb{Z}_{[a:b]} \) denotes a set of consecutive integers from \( a \) to \( b \) and \( 2\mathbb{Z}_{+} \) denotes set of positive even integers. \( 0_{m \times n} \) represents a zero matrix of size \( m \times n \), \( I_{n} \) denotes an \( n \times n \) identity matrix and \( I_{1} \) is a \( n \times 1 \) vector of ones. The operator \( \det(A) \) denotes the determinant of the matrix \( A \), \( A > 0 \) represents a positive definite matrix \( A \). The Euclidean norm of a vector \( x \) is denoted by \( \|x\| \); \( \|x\|_{1} \) represents its \( L_{1} \) norm; and \( \|A\|_{\text{max}} := \max_{i,j} |a_{ij}| \), where \( |a_{ij}| \) is the absolute value of the element in \( i^{\text{th}} \) row and \( j^{\text{th}} \) column of the matrix \( A \). The operator \( \ominus \) denotes the Pontryagin difference, defined for the sets \( \mathcal{A} \) and \( B \) as

\[
\mathcal{A} \ominus B := \{ a[a+b \in \mathcal{A} \forall b \in B] \}.
\]  

(1)

The operator \( \text{diag}\{\cdot\} \) denotes a diagonal matrix with the elements in parentheses along the leading diagonal. For a sequence of matrices with same row dimension \( \{A(a), A(a+1), \ldots, A(b)\} \), the operator \( \oplus \) concatenates the matrices horizontally as

\[
\mathcal{C}_{i=a}^{b} A(i) = \{A(a), A(a+1), \ldots, A(b)\}
\]  

(2)

where \( a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \) and \( a \leq b \). All inequalities involving vectors are to be interpreted row-wise.
Fig. 1. Diesel engine schematic.

Fig. 2. Engine operational space divisions and the corresponding linearisation points.

II. SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION AND DISTURBANCE SET ESTIMATION

A schematic representation of the diesel airpath with the positioning of the actuators and other components is shown in Fig. 1. The density of the fresh air entering the airpath is first increased by the compressor and then by the intercooler. A part of the burnt gas in the exhaust manifold is cooled and recirculated to the cylinders through the EGR system. The engine-out exhaust gas drives the VGT, whose shaft spins the compressor.

As the diesel airpath is a highly nonlinear system, the engine operating range is divided into 12 regions as shown in Fig. 2, with a linear model representing the engine dynamics in each region. The grid of the selected operating points is evenly spaced in the engine operational range as seen in Fig. 2.

Four states are selected for these models, as listed in Table I. This choice of the states rules out the need for designing a state estimator as complete state feedback is available either through direct sensor measurements or is reliably estimated within the engine control unit (ECU). It is, however, possible to include more states to improve the accuracy of model predictions at the cost of incurring additional online computational load and requiring state estimation.

The inputs for these models are the throttle position (percent closed), the EGR valve position (percent open) and the VGT vane position (percent closed). The steady state values are experimentally determined by sweeping through engine speeds and fuelling rates corresponding to the linearisation/model grid points, \((\bar{x}_g, \bar{y}_g)\), \(\forall g \in \{I, II, \ldots, XII\}\). At each grid point, the steady state input values are obtained by allowing sufficient time for the transients to settle and recording the actuator values applied by the ECU. The corresponding steady state and output values are also recorded at each operating point. These steady values denote the trimming conditions about which linear models need to be identified. The steady values for the input, state and output are denoted by the vectors \(\bar{x}^g \in \mathbb{R}^3\), \(\bar{x}^g \in \mathbb{R}^4\) and \(\bar{y}^g \in \mathbb{R}^2\), respectively.

System excitation is performed at each grid point, \((\bar{x}^g, \bar{y}^g)\), using a pseudo-random input perturbation sequence of ±15% of the steady state values, \(\bar{u}^g\), applied simultaneously to all actuators listed in Table II to capture the state and output (see Table III) perturbations. The resulting input and output trajectories are divided into training and validation datasets and MATLAB’s system identification toolbox \([25]\) is employed for model identification using the training dataset, while the validation dataset is used to determine whether or not the identification performance is adequate. The data for system identification is experimentally obtained from the test bench described in Section V-A.

The system identification performance at the linearisation grid point VI, over the training and test datasets are shown in Figs. 3 and 4, respectively. The model predictions are seen to follow the trend of the test data, however, as expected, discrepancies between the linear model predictions and the test data are observed. These disparities arise due to external disturbances, measurement errors and modelling errors as a consequence of using low-order discretised models. A pragmatic state disturbance set can now be estimated from the engine test bench data obtained for system identification.

### Table I: States of the Linear Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(P_{im})</td>
<td>Intake manifold pressure perturbation</td>
<td>kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(p_{em})</td>
<td>Exhaust manifold pressure perturbation</td>
<td>kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(W_{comp})</td>
<td>Compressor mass flow rate perturbation</td>
<td>g/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>EGR rate perturbation</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table II: Inputs of the Linear Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(u_{thr})</td>
<td>Perturbation in throttle valve position</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(u_{EGR})</td>
<td>Perturbation in EGR valve position</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(u_{VGT})</td>
<td>Perturbation in VGT position</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table III: Outputs of the Linear Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(P_{im})</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>EGR rate perturbation</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fig. 3. Model fit for the training dataset at the grid point VI.

In this work, the disturbance set at each grid point, $W^g$, is chosen as the hypercube (primarily for its simplicity) that contains the discrepancies between the linear model predictions and the actual engine data from the test dataset. The disturbance sets are convex, compact (closed and bounded) and include the origin. Fig. 5 shows the error distributions between the model predictions and the measurements in each state channel at the operating point VI.

The discrepancies between model predictions and the actual engine behaviour can be represented as additive uncertainties on the states. The resulting linear representation of the diesel airpath trimmed about a given grid point, $(\omega^g, \dot{m}^g)$, is

$$
\begin{align*}
x_{k+1} &= A^g x_k + B^g u_k + w_k, \\
y_k &= C^g x_k + D^g u_k,
\end{align*}
$$

where the perturbed states, $x_k := \{p_{im}, p_{em}, W_{comp}, y_{EGR}\}$ are respectively the perturbations in the intake and the exhaust manifold pressures, the flow rate through compressor and the EGR rate about $\bar{x}^g; y_k := \{p_{im}, y_{EGR}\}$ are the output perturba-

Fig. 4. Model fit for the test dataset at the grid point VI.

Fig. 5. Distribution of state disturbances at the operating point VI.
tions; the perturbed control inputs, \( u_k := \{ u_{\text{drive}}, u_{\text{EGR}}, u_{\text{VGT}} \} \) are respectively the perturbations in the throttle and the EGR valve positions and the VGT position about \( \bar{u} \); and \( w_k \in \mathbb{R}^4 \) is an unknown but bounded state disturbance, contained in the disturbance set \( \mathcal{W}^g := \{ w | \| w \| \leq \theta^g, \theta^g \in \mathbb{R}^4, \theta^g \in \mathbb{R}^4 \} \), with \( a \in 2\mathbb{Z}^+ \).

**Assumption 1.** Each pair \( (A^g, B^g) \) is stabilisable.

### III. Model Predictive Controller Development

The objective of the diesel airpath controller is to regulate the outputs, the intake manifold pressure and the EGR rate to their reference values, whilst adhering to an upper bound constraints on the intake and exhaust manifolds pressures for safety and reliability requirements, physical limitations of the actuators and slow rate constraints on the actuators in the presence of state disturbances. In this section, the online MPC and offline CT optimisation problem that are required to achieve the desired controller objectives are described.

#### A. Online MPC Optimisation

Let the polytopic pointwise-in-time state and input constraints be given as

\[
\begin{align*}
|x(k)| \in \mathcal{X} \equiv \{ x | E x \leq f, E \in \mathbb{R}^N, f \in \mathbb{R}^N \},
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
u(k) \in \mathcal{U} \equiv \{ u | G u \leq h, G \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times 3}, h \in \mathbb{R}^K \},
\end{align*}
\]

where \( x(k) = x_k + \bar{x}^q; u(k) = u_k + \bar{w}^q; q \) and \( r \) represent the number of facets of \( \mathcal{X} \) and \( \mathcal{U} \), respectively.

**Assumption 2.** There exists a positively invariant set, \( \mathcal{X}_f := \{ x | S x \leq t, S \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times 4}, t \in \mathbb{R}^N \} \subseteq \mathcal{X} \), under a stabilising controller \( \kappa_f(x) \in (A^q, B^q) \), \( q \in \{ I, II, \ldots, XII \} \) \( \mathbb{R} \); where the number of facets of \( \mathcal{X}_f \) is denoted by \( p \).

The novel MPC formulation proposed in [16] and [20] with exponentially decaying envelopes to aid fast calibration is summarised below. The MPC cost function is defined as

\[
\begin{align*}
V_N(x(k), \hat{u}_k) := \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \left( W^g Y_{k+j}[k] \right)^2 \\
&+ \sum_{j=0}^{N-2} \left( \| e^j W^g (\hat{y}_{k+j}[k] - \Gamma^g \hat{y}_{k+j}[k]) \right)^2 \\
&+ \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \gamma \| R \hat{u}_{k+j}[k] \|^2,
\end{align*}
\]

where \( N \) is the prediction horizon; \( \hat{u}_k := \{ \hat{u}_k[k], \hat{u}_{k+1}[k], \ldots, \hat{u}_{k+N-1}[k] \} \) is the input sequence applied over the horizon; the height of the envelope at a prediction step \( j \) is represented by \( Y_{k+j}[k] \in \mathbb{R}^2 \). Given an initial envelope height at the current time step, \( Y_{k}[k] \), and a sampling time, \( T_s \), the decay envelope is enforced by

\[
Y_{k+j}[k] = \Gamma^g Y_{k+j}[k], \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}|0:N-2|
\]

where \( \Gamma^g := \exp(-\text{diag} \{ T_s/\tau_{\text{boost}}, T_s/\tau_{\text{EGR}} \}) \). The envelope time constants corresponding to the output channels for a given for the envelope priority parameter \( w^g \in [0, 1] \) and normalisation constants \( w_{\text{boost}} \) and \( w_{\text{EGR}} \), that are chosen to scale the output variation to between zero and one over the engine operational range. The parameter \( w^g \) is used to fine-tune the relative time constants between the two output channels i.e., \( w^g \) defines the relative priority in minimising the envelope height corresponding to one output at the expense of increase in the envelope height of the other output channel. A value of \( w^g > 0.5 \) will prioritise intake manifold pressure over EGR rate.

The secondary objective is to encourage smooth exponential decay of the outputs through the second term in the MPC cost function [5]. The smoothness term penalises output deviation from an ideal exponential decay towards zero (or equivalently, the actual outputs decaying towards their steady state values). The parameter \( e^j := \text{diag} \{ e^j_{\text{boost}}, e^j_{\text{EGR}} \} \) is a diagonal matrix that is used to adjust the smoothness on each output channel.

Finally, the third term in the cost function [5], is used for input regularisation, through the constant \( \gamma \in [0, \infty) \) and the matrix \( R \). This term encourages the input perturbations to tend towards zero, which is equivalent to the actual inputs approaching their desired steady state values for the given operating point. In this work, \( \gamma \) is chosen sufficiently small such that the input regularisation is the tertiary objective and does not dominate the envelope and smoothness cost terms.

To handle transient operation of the engine over a drive cycle, a switched LTI-MPC strategy is proposed where the controller at the nearest grid point (see Fig. 2), \( (\omega_e, \hat{n}_f) \), to the current operating point, \( (\omega_e, \hat{n}_f) \), is chosen at each time instant. Therefore, the system matrices identified at the grid point \( (\omega_e, \hat{n}_f) \), \( A^q, B^q, C^q \) and \( D^q \); the corresponding tuning parameters, \( \tau_{\text{boost}}^g, \tau_{\text{EGR}}^g \), \( w_{\text{boost}}, \text{and} \ e_{\text{EGR}} ; \) and the constraint tightening margins reserved over the horizon for the state and input constraints, \( \sigma_{\text{N}} := \{ \sigma_{\text{N}}^g, \sigma_{\text{N}}^g, \ldots, \sigma_{\text{N}}^g \} \) and \( \mu_{\text{N}} := \{ \mu_0^g, \mu_1^g, \ldots, \mu_{\text{N}}^g \} \), respectively, used within the MPC optimisation problem, \( P_N(x(k), g) \), are updated at each sampling instant. The steady state values (or trimming conditions), \( \bar{x}_k, \bar{u}_k \) and \( \bar{y}_k \), for the current operating point, \( (\omega_e, \hat{n}_f) \), are determined using linear interpolation of the identified steady state values at the neighbouring grid points, \( \bar{x}^q, \bar{u}^q \) and \( \bar{y}^q \). The regions around the grid points as shown in Fig. 2 indicate the operating points for which each ‘local’ controller will be active.

The control law, \( \kappa_N(x(k)) = \hat{u}_{k+1}^g + \bar{u}_k \), is used to determine the control input applied to the engine at each sampling instant, where \( \hat{u}_{k+1}^g \) is the first element of the optimal input sequence, \( \hat{u}_k := \{ \hat{u}_k[k], \hat{u}_{k+1}[k], \ldots, \hat{u}_{k+N-1}[k] \} \), obtained by
Algorithm 1 \(\text{MPC over drive cycle.}\) At time step \(k\), given the current operating condition, \((\omega, e, \eta_f)\), and state, \(x(k)\):

1. Determine the nearest grid point \((\omega^g_k, \eta^g_f)\) and hence, define the corresponding model parameters \(- A^g, B^g, C^g \text{ and } D^g\); and the tuning parameters \(- \tau_{\text{boost}}^g, \tau_{\text{EGR}}^g, w^g, e_{\text{boost}}^g \text{ and } e_{\text{EGR}}^g\); and the tightening margins \(- \sigma^{g*} \text{ and } \mu^{g*}\).

2. Determine the steady state values, \(\bar{x}_k, \bar{u}_k \text{ and } \bar{y}_k\), by interpolating linearly from the neighbouring grid points.

3. Evaluate \(\hat{u}_k\) as the solution to \(P_N(x(k), g)\).

4. Apply the input \(u(k) = \hat{u}_k + \bar{u}_k\) to the actuators.

5. Set \(k \leftarrow k + 1\) and return to step 1.

Remark 1. The maximum input change magnitude, \(\delta\), in (8k)-(8s) is chosen such that \(\delta\) is at least the maximum difference in the reserved input tightening margin between successive time instants along the horizon, i.e.,

\[
\delta \geq \max \left(\|\mu_{j+1}^g - \mu_j^g\|_1\right) \text{ for all } j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0,N-2]} \text{ and } g \in \{I, II, \ldots, XII\}.
\]

Remark 2. Incorporation of the output envelopes to the MPC formulation and the appropriate cost function parameterisation significantly reduces the number of tuning parameters when compared to conventional MPC, thereby, greatly reducing the calibration effort. For the nominal identified system (without the disturbance term \(w_k\) in (3)), used in the conventional QP MPC framework, a standard quadratic cost on the states and inputs with semidefinite matrices and no terminal cost would require 16 parameters per model grid point in the symmetric \(Q\) and \(R\) matrices to be calibrated, whereas, the proposed calibration-friendly MPC formulation requires at most five parameters namely, \(\tau_{\text{boost}}^g, \tau_{\text{EGR}}^g, w^g, e_{\text{boost}}^g \text{ and } e_{\text{EGR}}^g\) per grid point to be tuned. Furthermore, there is an intuitive relationship between these parameters and the open-loop output transient response.

Remark 3. While in transient operation over a drive cycle, at each sampling instant, the proposed MPC with exponential envelopes solves a regulation problem. The calibration of the controllers is dependent on the closed-loop response obtained for the set point problem. This provides a structured way of approaching drive cycle calibration by isolating an ‘under-performing’ controller and systematically target its calibration.

The smoothness term in the proposed MPC cost function \(\mathcal{P}_N\) involves a weighted difference of the output predictions at consecutive time steps over the horizon. Hence, monotonicity of the cost function required for establishing asymptotic stability (26) is achieved only for certain choices of the design parameters (tuning parameters), thereby, establishing practical stability of the closed-loop system about the origin.

Assumption 3. The terminal controller satisfies the tightened input constraint at the terminal step of the horizon, i.e., \(\kappa_f(x) \in U_{N-1}^f, \forall x \in X_f \text{ and } g \in \{I, II, \ldots, XII\}\).

Lemma 1 (Local asymptotic stability [27]). A steady state \(\bar{x}_0\) is locally asymptotically stable if there exists a class KL function \(\beta(\cdot, \cdot)\) such that

\[
|x(k) - \bar{x}_0| \leq \beta(|x(0) - \bar{x}_0|, k), \forall x(0) - \bar{x}_0 < c, k \geq 0.
\]

Theorem 1 (Practical stability). Consider the system represented by (3), subjected to the constraints (4) and let the Assumptions 2 and 3 hold. Let \(\mathcal{X}_N\) be the feasible region for \(\mathcal{P}_N(x(k), g)\). Then given a constant trim point \(\bar{x}_0\), \(x(0) \in \mathcal{X}_N\) and the control law \(\kappa_N(x(k))\), there exists a class KL function \(\beta(\cdot, \cdot)\) such that \(\forall k \geq 0:\)

\[
|x(k) - \bar{x}_0| \leq \beta(|x(0) - \bar{x}_0|, k) + O(\|e\|^2 + \|\kappa_f\|^2).
\]
Proof. At a given time instant $k$, the optimal control sequence, $\hat{u}_k^* = \{\hat{u}_{k|k}, \ldots, \hat{u}_{k+N-1|k}\}$, obtained by solving the MPC optimisation problem, $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k), g)$, in (3), satisfies the tightened input constraint i.e., $\hat{u}_{k+j|k}^* \in \mathcal{U}_j^g$ for $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]}$ and the corresponding optimal state sequence, $\hat{x}_k^* = \{\hat{x}_{k|k}, \ldots, \hat{x}_{k+N|k}\}$, satisfies the tightened state and terminal constraints, i.e., $\hat{x}_{k+j|k}^* \in \mathcal{X}_j^g$ for $j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]}$ and $\hat{x}_{k+N|k}^* \in \mathcal{X}_f$. Let the corresponding optimal output and envelope sequences be $\hat{y}_k^* = \{\hat{y}_{k|k}, \ldots, \hat{y}_{k+N-1|k}\}$ and $Y_k^* = \{Y_{k|k}, \ldots, Y_{k+N-1|k}\}$. Consider the following candidate control, output and envelope sequences, respectively, $\hat{u}_{k+1}^0 = \{\hat{u}_{k+1|k+1}, \ldots, \hat{u}_{k+N|k+1}\}$, $\hat{y}_{k+1}^0 = \{\hat{y}_{k+1|k+1}, \ldots, \hat{y}_{k+N|k+1}\}$ and $Y_{k+1}^0 = \{Y_{k+1|k+1}, \ldots, Y_{k+N|k+1}\}$, for the problem (5) at $k+1$, where $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]}$:

$$
\hat{u}_{k+1|k+1}^0 = \hat{u}_{k+1|k+j}^*,
\hat{y}_{k+1|k+1}^0 = \hat{y}_{k+1|k+j}^*,
Y_{k+1|k+1}^0 = Y_{k+1|k+j}^*,
\hat{u}_{k+N|k+1}^0 = \kappa_f (\hat{x}_{k+N|k}^*),
\hat{y}_{k+N|k+1}^0 = C^g \hat{x}_{k+N|k}^* + D^g \hat{u}_{k+N|k+1},
Y_{k+N|k+1}^0 = \Gamma^g Y_{k+N-1|k}^*.
$$

Let the corresponding candidate state sequence be $\hat{x}_{k+1}^0 = \{\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}, \ldots, \hat{x}_{k+1+N|k+1}\}$, with $\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}^0 = \hat{x}_{k+1|k+j}^*$, $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]}$, $\hat{x}_{k+1+N|k+1}^0 = A^g \hat{x}_{k+N|k}^* + B^g \hat{u}_{k+N|k+1}$. The candidate control sequence is feasible for $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k+1), g)$ as:

- the terminal set $\mathcal{X}_f$ is positively invariant under the terminal controller, $\kappa_f(\hat{x})$, when $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{X}_f$, where $\kappa_f(\hat{x})$ satisfies the tightened input constraint, $\mathcal{U}_f^g$, and

- a $N_{np}$ step nilpotent disturbance feedback policy is used.

The cost function of the problem $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k+1), g)$ for the feasible candidate control sequence is

$$
V_N(x(k+1), \hat{u}_{k+1}^0) = V_N(x(k), \hat{u}_k^* + W^g \Gamma^g Y_{k+N-1|k}^*)
+ \|W^g \Gamma^g Y_{k+N-1|k}^*\|^2
+ \|r^g \|Y_{k+N-1|k}^* - \Gamma^s \hat{y}_{k+N-1|k}^*\|^2
- \|r^g \|Y_{k+N-1|k}^* - \Gamma^s \hat{y}_{k+N-1|k}^*\|^2
+ \|R \kappa_f (\hat{x}_{k+N|k})\|^2 - \|R \hat{u}_{k+N|k}\|^2.
$$

The optimal cost at $k+1$, therefore, for the optimal control sequence, $\hat{u}_{k+1}^*$, is

$$
V_N(x(k+1), \hat{u}_{k+1}^*) \leq V_N(x(k), \hat{u}_{k+1}^0)
\leq V_N(x(k), \hat{u}_k^*) + O(\|\epsilon^g\|^2 + \|\kappa_f\|^2).
$$

Eq. (10) follows from (14) by considering the definite positiveness of the optimal cost function $V_N(x(k), \hat{u}_k^*)$ and its non-increasing evolution. Then practical stability of the trim point $\hat{x}_0$ is established by virtue of Lemma 1 and 10. 

The CT policy required for handling the uncertainties due to modelling errors and controller switching under the LTI-MPC architecture is proposed after stating the underlying assumption about the sizes of the state and input feasible sets.

Assumption 4. The sets $\mathcal{X}$ and $\mathcal{U}$ are sufficiently large such that non-empty tightened state and input constraints are obtained at the terminal step of the horizon while performing constraint tightening for a $N$-step predictive controller.

For a given controller at a model grid point, to provide recursive feasibility guarantees in the presence of system disturbances and uncertainties due to controller switching, the tightened state and input constraints under the constraint tightening approach with a disturbance feedback parameterisation are defined $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]}$, as

$$
\tilde{x}_{0}^g := x, \tilde{x}_{j+1}^g := \tilde{x}_{j}^g + L_j^g \mathcal{W}^g + \mathcal{N}_j \oplus \mathcal{S}_j \oplus \Delta \mathcal{X},
$$

$$
\tilde{x}_{N}^g := x_f \oplus L_{N-1}^g \mathcal{W}^g \oplus \mathcal{N}_{N-1} \oplus \mathcal{S}_{N-1} \oplus \Delta \mathcal{X},
$$

$$
\tilde{u}_0^g = \mathcal{U}, \tilde{u}_{j+1}^g := \tilde{u}_j^g + L_j^g \mathcal{W}^g \oplus \mathcal{M}_j \oplus \Delta \mathcal{U},
$$

where at a prediction step $j$, $P_j^g$ is the CT policy matrix providing direct feedback on the disturbance [28]: $L_j^g$ is the disturbance transition matrix with $L_0^g := I_n$ and $L_j^g := A^g L_{j-1}^g + B^g P_j^g \mathcal{W}^g \oplus \mathcal{N}_{j-1} \oplus \mathcal{S}_{j-1} \oplus \Delta \mathcal{U}$, $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]}$; the sets $\mathcal{N}_j$ and $\mathcal{S}_j$ contain the uncertainties in state predictions and disturbance propagation, respectively, due to controller switching; $\mathcal{M}_j$ includes the feedback actions to reject those uncertainties in state predictions because of change in model and the sets $\Delta \mathcal{X}$ and $\Delta \mathcal{U}$ contain all possible deviations of steady state and input values, respectively.

Theorem 2 (Robust feasibility under switched LTI approach). Consider that Assumptions 1-4 hold. Let the tightening margins required to satisfy the constraint tightening policy in (15) for the state and input constraints, respectively, be $\tilde{\sigma}^g := \{\tilde{\sigma}_0^g, \ldots, \tilde{\sigma}_N^g\}$ and $\tilde{\mu}^2 := \{\tilde{\mu}_0^2, \ldots, \tilde{\mu}_{N-1}^2\}$ and substitute $\sigma^g = \tilde{\sigma}^g$ and $\mu^2 = \tilde{\mu}^2$ in (8). If $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k), g)$ has a feasible solution, then subsequent optimisation problems $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k+j), g')$, are feasible $\forall j > 0$, where $g' \in \{I, II, \ldots, XII\}$ represents a model grid point.

Proof. Robust feasibility proof of the MPC optimisation problem [8] under the switched LTI architecture is based on recursion, showing that feasibility of $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k), g)$ implies feasibility of $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k+1), g')$. Feasibility of $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k+1), g')$ is proven by showing the feasibility of a candidate solution constructed from the solution of $\mathcal{P}_N(x(k), g)$. At a given time instant $k$, assume the optimal control sequence and the corresponding optimal state sequences be represented by $\hat{u}^*_k = \{\hat{u}_{k|k}, \hat{u}_{k+1|k}, \ldots, \hat{u}_{k+N-1|k}\}$ and $\hat{x}^*_k = \{\hat{x}_{k|k}, \hat{x}_{k+1|k}, \ldots, \hat{x}_{k+N|k}\}$. The optimal sequence $\hat{u}^*_k$ at the current time instant $k$ is then calculated by solving the MPC optimisation problem as described above.
\[
\left\{ \hat{x}_k^+; \hat{x}_{k+1}^+; \ldots; \hat{x}_{k+N|k}^+ \right\}, \text{respectively. Consider the following candidate control sequence:}
\]
\[
\begin{align*}
\hat{u}_k^0 &= \hat{u}_{k+1+j|k}^0 + p_j^\sigma \omega_k + m_{k+1+j|k+1} \\
&\quad + \Delta \hat{u}, \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]}, \quad (17a) \\
\tilde{u}_k^0 &= \kappa f \left( \hat{x}_{k+N|k}^0 \right). \quad (17b)
\end{align*}
\]

The initial condition, state and output dynamics in (18a)-(18d), the envelope constraints (18e)-(18f), and (18g) (according to (17)) are satisfied by construction. Feasibility at time \(k\) satisfies the dynamic constraint \( (18c), \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k} = A^\sigma \tilde{x}_{k+j|k} + B^\sigma \tilde{u}_{k+1+j|k} \). Substituting into system dynamics (3) gives the initial condition, \( \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k} = \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k}^0 + \tilde{w}_k, \) for time \( k + 1 \). Hence, using the initial condition and the candidate control sequence (17), the candidate state sequence is given as
\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k+1}^0 &= \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k} + L_j^\sigma \omega_k + n_{k+1+j|k+1} \\
&\quad + s_j + \Delta \tilde{x}, \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]}, \quad (18a) \\
\tilde{x}_{k+1+N|k+1} &= A^\sigma \tilde{x}_{k+N|k+1} + B^\sigma \tilde{u}_{k+N|k+1}, \quad (18b)
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \forall k, \sigma \) and \( g' \in \{1, \ldots, \ldots, \} \).

\[
\begin{align*}
n_{k+1+j|k+1} &= \begin{cases} 0, & j = 0 \\
e_{k+1} + A^\sigma n_{k+j|k+1}, & j > 0 \\
+ B^\sigma m_{k+j+1|k+1} \end{cases} \quad (19a) \\
m_{k+1+j|k+1} &= -K_x (e_{k+1} + A^\sigma n_{k+j|k+1}) \quad (19b) \\
e_k &= (A^\sigma - A^\sigma) \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k} \\
&\quad + \left( B^\sigma - B^\sigma \right) \hat{u}_{k+1+j|k}, \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]}, \quad (19c)
\end{align*}
\]

The set \( S_j \) is chosen such that it satisfies \( \forall g \) and \( g' \in \mathbb{Z}_{[1:12]} \).

\[
s_j = \sum_{i=1}^j \left\{ \left( A^\sigma L_j^\sigma + B^\sigma P_j^\sigma \right) - \left( A^\sigma L_j^\sigma + B^\sigma P_j^\sigma \right) \right\} w_k \\
\in S_j \forall k, \sigma \in \mathbb{W}^\sigma. \quad (20)
\]

Feasibility at \( k \) implies \( \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k}^0 \in \tilde{X}_{k+1}^0, \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]} \). Because of the Pontryagin difference in (15a), the state sequence in (18a) implies \( \tilde{x}_{k+1+j|k+1}^0 \in \tilde{X}_{k+1}^0, \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]} \), satisfying (18b) at \( k + 1 \). Similarly, feasibility at \( k \) also implies \( \tilde{x}_{k+N|k}^0 \in \tilde{X}_N^0 \) and hence, (18a) and (18b) imply \( \tilde{x}_{k+N|k}^0 \in \tilde{X}_N \). Since \( \tilde{X}_k \) is a control invariant set under the controller \( \kappa \) following from Assumption 2 together with the nilpotent tightening policy implies \( \tilde{x}_{k+N|k+1}^0 + L_{N-1}^\sigma \omega_k + n_{k+N|k} + s_{N-1} + \Delta \tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}_N \), which combined with the definition (15b) implies \( \tilde{x}_{k+N|k+1}^0 \in \tilde{X}_N \), satisfying the terminal constraint (8) at \( k + 1 \). Furthermore, the choice of \( \delta \) in accordance with Remark 1 ensures the satisfaction of (8k) at \( k + 1 \). Therefore, all the constraints are satisfied at \( k + 1 \) with the candidate solution constructed from the optimal solution obtained at time \( k \) and hence, the optimisation problem \( \mathcal{P}_N (x(k + j), g') \) is feasible \( \forall j > 0 \).

\[\square\]

\textbf{B. Offline CT Optimisation}

The Pontryagin set difference operations in (15) can be parameterised as affine functions of the disturbance feedback policy, \( P_j^\sigma \), to determine the constraint tightening margins for the facets of state and input constraints (29). However, the sufficiently large size of the empirical disturbance sets obtained at grid points from the system identification data and the lack of control authority to reject the disturbances entered at a time instant \( k \) completely before \( k + N_{mp} \), caused violation of Assumption 4.

A non-convex optimisation problem was proposed by (20) to estimate the maximal disturbance set that can be handled by the local controller and the corresponding constraint tightening margins to provide robust feasibility guarantees for the disturbances originating from the maximal disturbance set. However, convexity can be recovered by applying convex approximation approaches (30), (24). For each grid point, the following convex optimisation problem is solved sequentially to potentially obtain an improved locally optimal solution to the nonlinear problem in (20), to determine the maximal disturbance set, \( \mathcal{W}_\text{max}^\sigma \), and the respective tightening margins, \( \sigma_g := \{\sigma^g_0, \ldots, \sigma^g_N\} \) and \( \mu^g := \{\mu^g_0, \ldots, \mu^g_{N-1}\} \) with \( \sigma^g_0 := 0_{\alpha \times 1} \) and \( \mu^g_0 := 0_{\alpha \times 1} : \quad \mathcal{P}_\text{CTSCP}(g, i) : \quad \min_{\sigma^g, \mu^g} - \log(\det(\hat{\sigma}^g)) \]
\[
+ \rho \left( \| \hat{Z}^g - \hat{Z}^g_0 \|_{\text{max}} + \| \hat{Z}^g - \hat{Z}^g_1 \|_{\text{max}} + \| \hat{Z}^g - \hat{Z}^g_2 \|_{\text{max}} \right)
\]

s.t \( \forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-1]} \)
\[
L_j^g = 0_{\alpha \times n}, \forall j \geq N_{mp} \quad (21b) \\
\hat{Z}^g_j \geq 0_{\alpha \times g} \quad (21c) \\
E L_j^g = \hat{Z}^g_j \hat{Z}^g_j \quad (21d) \\
0_{\alpha \times 1} \geq f - E \hat{Z}^g - \sigma^g_j \quad (21e) \\
\sigma^g_{j+1} = \sigma^g_j + \left( \hat{Z}^g_{j+1} \hat{Z}^g - \hat{Z}^g_{j+1} \hat{Z}^g_0 \hat{Z}^g_1 \right) \quad (21f) \\
\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}_{[0:N-2]} \)
\]
\[
\hat{Z}^g_j \geq 0_{\alpha \times r} \quad (21g) \\
G P_j^g = \hat{Z}^g_j \quad (21h) \\
0_{\alpha \times 1} \geq h - G \hat{Z}^g - \hat{Z}^g_j \quad (21i) \\
L_j^g = A^\sigma L_j^\sigma + B^\sigma P_j^\sigma \quad (21j) \\
\hat{Z}^g_j = \hat{Z}^g_j \hat{Z}^g_j \quad (21k) \\
\hat{Z}^g_j \geq 0, \quad (21l)
where the dual variables $\tilde{Z}_i^g \in \mathbb{R}^{a \times q}$ and $\tilde{Z}_j^g \in \mathbb{R}^{a \times r}$ are subject to duality constraints $(21d)$ and $(21h)$, and elementwise inequality constraints $(21c)$ and $(21g)$ (see $(29)$); $\tilde{Z}_i^0, \tilde{Z}_j^0, \tilde{Z}_k$ and $\tilde{Z}_l$ denote the horizontal concatenation of the corresponding matrices, i.e., $\tilde{Z}_i^0 = (\tilde{g}^{N-1} \tilde{Z}_i^0)^T$, $\tilde{Z}_j^0 = (\tilde{g}^{N-2} \tilde{Z}_j^0)^T$, $\tilde{Z}_k = (\tilde{g}^{N-1} \tilde{Z}_k^T)^T$ and $\tilde{Z}_l = (\tilde{g}^{N-2} \tilde{Z}_l^T)^T$, respectively; $\tilde{Z}_i^g$ and $\tilde{Z}_j^g$ are the feasible solution obtained at the iteration $i$; $\tilde{Z}_i^g$ and $\tilde{Z}_j^g$ are the solution obtained at the previous iteration, $\alpha_i^g$, $\alpha_j^g$ and $\alpha_k^g$ are determined by solving $(21)$.

The primary objective of $(21)$ is to maximise the volume of the estimated disturbance set whilst ensuring a non-empty tightened constraint set and nilpotent disturbance feedback policy are obtained for the estimated disturbance set, $W^g(\tilde{\alpha})$. The regularisation term scaled by a sufficiently small parameter, $\rho \in \mathbb{R}$, as the secondary objective, penalises the maximum deviation of the elements, $\bar{\alpha}^g, \bar{Z}^g$ and $\tilde{Z}^g$ from the solution obtained at the previous iteration, $\bar{\alpha}_i^g, \bar{Z}_i^g$ and $\tilde{Z}_i^g$, respectively. The constraints $(21c)$ and $(21h)$ ensure that the tightened state and input constraints remain non-empty along the horizon. The nominal system, $\dot{x}_{i+1} = A^g x_i + B^g u_i$, is driven to the origin in $N_{fp} \leq N$ steps by an $N_{fp}$-step nilpotent tightening policy as a result of the constraint $(21b)$. Furthermore, $\alpha_i^g = 0$ if $i$, i.e., no tightening is applied to the positively invariant terminal set, $X^g$, i.e., $L^g_{N-1} = 0$. The tightening margins follow the recursions in $(21d)$ and $(21k)$.

The following algorithm defines how to solve $\mathcal{T}^g_{\text{CTSCP}}(q)$ iteratively to determine a locally optimal solution, $\bar{\alpha}^g$, $\bar{Z}^g$, $\tilde{Z}^g$, $\sigma^g$ and $\mu^g$, to the nonlinear problem used in $(20)$. The initial feasible solution, $\tilde{\alpha}^g, \tilde{Z}^g$ and $\tilde{Z}^g$, used in the algorithm is obtained by solving the nonlinear maximal disturbance set estimation problem proposed by $(20)$.

**Algorithm 2** (Sequential convex program).

\begin{equation}
  i \leftarrow 0 \quad \tilde{\alpha}^g, \tilde{Z}^g \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{Z}^g_i \leftarrow \tilde{\alpha}^g, \tilde{Z}^g, \tilde{Z}^g \quad \text{repeat} \quad \text{repeat}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
   i \leftarrow i + 1 \quad \text{Solve} \quad (21) \quad \text{for} \quad \tilde{\alpha}^g, \bar{Z}^g \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{Z}^g
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
   \tilde{\alpha}^g_i \leftarrow \tilde{\alpha}^g \quad \bar{Z}^g_i \leftarrow \bar{Z}^g \quad \bar{Z}^g_i \leftarrow \bar{Z}^g
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
   \text{until} \quad \max \left\{ \| \tilde{\alpha}^g_i - \tilde{\alpha}^g_{i-1} \|, \| \bar{Z}^g_i - \bar{Z}^g_{i-1} \| \right\} \leq \delta_{\text{tol}} \quad \text{and} \quad \max \left\{ \| \tilde{Z}^g_i - \tilde{Z}^g_{i-1} \| \right\} \leq \delta_{\text{tol}} \quad \text{for} \quad i \leq i_{\text{max}}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
   \text{if} \quad i = i_{\text{max}} \quad \text{then} \quad \tilde{\alpha}^g_{i_{\text{max}}} \quad \tilde{Z}^g_{i_{\text{max}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{Z}^g_{i_{\text{max}}} \leftarrow \tilde{\alpha}^g, \tilde{Z}^g, \tilde{Z}^g \quad \text{end if}
\end{equation}

As $(21)$ is solved offline, $i_{\text{max}}$ and $\delta_{\text{tol}}$ are chosen as 100 and $10^{-5}$, respectively. The maximal disturbance set for a grid point, $W^g_{\text{max}} = W^g(\tilde{\alpha}^g)$, that can be handled by a given controller at a model grid point $(\tilde{\omega}_{1}, \tilde{\mu}_{1})$, and the corresponding constraint tightening margins, $\sigma^g := \{\sigma^g_0, \ldots, \sigma^g_N\}$ and $\mu^g := \{\mu^g_0, \ldots, \mu^g_{N-1}\}$, are determined by solving $(21)$ iteratively according to Algorithm 2. These tightening margins are then used in the online MPC optimisation problem $(8)$ by substituting $\sigma^g = \sigma^g$ and $\mu^g = \mu^g$.

**C. Controller Calibration**

As mentioned earlier, each local controller at a grid point has just five tuning parameters and there exists an intuitive correlation between these parameters and the output transient response. To calibrate a local controller, first, for a given choice of tuning parameters, the closed-loop response for a fuelling step or a change in engine speed and fuelling rate is obtained and the type of oscillation observed at each output channel is classified into one of the following:

- **Type 0** - The oscillations in the output are suitably small
- **Type 1** - There is too much undershoot
- **Type 2** - There is too much overshoot or other non-undershooting oscillation
- **Type 3** - There are oscillations of both Type 1 and Type 2.

Then for a pair of identified types of oscillations, the calibration table, Table IV, provides heuristic tuning rules/suggestions for selected tuning parameters. If there are multiple rules, then the rules are implemented independently, before applying the possible combinations. Algorithm 3 defines the calibration procedure followed over a drive cycle.

**Algorithm 3** (Calibration over drive cycle).

\begin{enumerate}
   \item Set baseline values for the tuning parameters.
   \item Obtain the closed-loop response over the drive cycle.
   \item Identify the regions along the drive cycle where a better transient response is expected.
   \item The active controllers in the corresponding regions are determined.
   \item The types of oscillations in both output channels are determined from the transient response.
   \item The tuning rules are identified from the calibration table, Table IV, and applied for each local controller that requires calibration.
   \item Return to step 2 and repeat until no further improvements are achieved in the output response.
\end{enumerate}

**IV. Simulation Study**

The robust controller is implemented in simulations on a nonlinear MVEM of a diesel airpath. The effect of reduced set
of calibration parameters on the output transient response is investigated for a step change from ‘high’ to ‘mid-low’ fuelling rate, at ‘high’ engine speed. Therefore, the local controller ‘X’ and the state and input constraint tightening margins, $\sigma_X^{\text{boost}}$ and $\mu_X^{\text{EGR}}$, corresponding to the maximal disturbance set, $\gamma_{\text{max}}$, are employed in [9]. The length of the MPC prediction horizon is chosen as $N = 7$ and the sampling rate used in this work is consistent with that of the production ECUs.

For the grid point labelled X, the estimated maximal disturbance set arising from Algorithm 2 contains approximately 50% of the observed disturbances. It is worth noting that the disturbance set is generated from a large number of data points arising from a pseudo random excitation sequence, and so is likely to be more aggressive than would be encountered in typical engine operation. Furthermore, in practice the high sampling rate was found to aid rapid recovery from a constraint violation.

**Remark 4.** Multiple aspects of the proposed control architecture helped in achieving a significant prediction horizon length: (i) use of low order model, (ii) avoiding estimators by using physical quantities as states of the linear models, (iii) switching between a family of controllers instead of online linearisations and finally, (iv) use of constraint tightening approach to handle uncertainties due to model mismatch and controller switching, incurs no additional online computational cost.

**Remark 5.** When the steady state input, $\bar{u}_k$, is saturated at a constraint boundary, the size of the maximal disturbance set estimate might be increased by considering disturbances only in certain directions.

The boost pressure and EGR rate responses for different time constants of the boost pressure envelope are shown in plots (a) and (b) of Fig. 6. As expected, lower values of $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X$, for instance $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X = 0.08$, encourages the boost pressure response to decay at a faster rate compared to that obtained for greater values of $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X$. However, lower values of $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X$ will increase the initial height of the boost pressure envelope such that it dominates the primary cost term, resulting in a poor transient response on the EGR rate as seen in Fig. 6 (b).

The effect of the parameter $w_X^X$ on the two output channels is shown in plots (a) and (b) Fig. 7. From (7)(c), it can be seen that the magnitude of overshoot in the EGR rate response increases as the value of $w_X^X$ is increased greater than 0.5. Since when $w_X^X > 0.5$, minimisation of the boost pressure envelope is given priority over minimising the EGR rate envelope and vice versa. The discussion on the effect of the smoothness parameters, $\epsilon_{\text{boost}}^X$ and $\epsilon_{\text{EGR}}^X$, is omitted for brevity.

The output response for fuelling rate step changes of magnitude $\pm 20 \text{ mm$^3$/stroke}$ about the grid point X is shown in Fig. 8 for baseline and final choice of calibration parameters. The baseline parameters are chosen as: $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X = 1, \tau_{\text{EGR}}^X = 1, w_X = 0.5, \epsilon_{\text{boost}}^X = 0$ and $\epsilon_{\text{EGR}}^X = 0$. A Type 0 oscillation is observed in the boost pressure channel, whereas, an overshooting response is observed in the EGR rate for both fuel steps, indicating a Type 1 oscillation. The controller is calibrated by using the calibration table, Table IV to reduce the peak overshoot in the EGR rate, whilst not adversely affecting the boost pressure response. As shown in Fig. 8 the magnitude of the overshoots are reduced in the EGR rate response with the final choice calibration parameters - $\tau_{\text{boost}}^X = 1, \tau_{\text{EGR}}^X = 5, w_X = 0.4, \epsilon_{\text{boost}}^X = 0$ and $\epsilon_{\text{EGR}}^X = 0$. Increasing $\tau_{\text{EGR}}^X$ > 5, will reduce the overshoot in the EGR rate, however, will result in a sluggish boost pressure response, which is undesirable. Similarly, decreasing $w_X^X < 0.4$ worsens the boost response and hence, the calibration is finished.

Extensive simulation studies (which are not presented in the paper for brevity) conducted at different operating points over several fuelling steps indicate that the calibration rules suggested in Table IV produce the desired consequence at the output responses.

**V. Experimental Results**

In this section, the experimental results obtained by implementing the proposed MPC on a diesel engine bench and calibrating for fuelling step changes about a steady operating condition and over drive cycles are presented.

**A. Real Time Implementation**

A test bench at Toyota’s Higashi-Fuji Technical Center in Susono, Japan is used to experimentally demonstrate the calibration efficacy of the proposed controller. The test bench
is equipped with a diesel engine and a transient dynamometer. A dSPACE DS1006 real-time processor board [31] is used to implement the control system described in Section III. A block diagram of the controller configuration on the test bench is shown in Fig. 9. The ECU logs sensor data from the engine and transmits the current state information to the controller. Also, the ECU directly controls all engine sub-systems. However, the ECU commands for the three actuators - throttle, EGR valve and VGT, can be overridden with the MPC commands through enabling a virtual switch shown in Fig. 9 from the ControlDesk interface. For the current engine speed and fuelling rate, \((\omega_c, \bar{n}_f)\), the model, tuning parameters and CT margins are selected based on the switched LTI-MPC strategy and used by the MPC at each time instant as shown in Fig. 9.

For real time implementation of the controller on the dSPACE platform, it is necessary to carefully choose a QP solver designed to run fast on embedded hardware. The quadratic programming in C (QPC) solver suite [32] is chosen for this purpose. In particular, the interior-point solver qpip is used for solving the MPC optimisation problem [3], in conjunction with MATLAB R2010b & Simulink Real-Time Workshop and dSPACE RTI & HIL Software v7.4. During steady state calibration, the dynamometer controller maintains the engine at the desired speed while the changes in the fuelling rate are implemented through the dSPACE ControlDesk interface.

### B. Calibration at a Steady State Condition

The controller calibration based on the response of the closed-loop system and the calibration table, for step changes in the fuelling rate about the steady state linearisation/model grid point VI is presented. The fuelling steps considered in this study are \(\pm 10\), \(\pm 15\) and \(\pm 20\) mm³/stroke.

The performance of the controller for step changes in the fuelling rate with baseline settings of the tuning parameters is shown in Fig. 10. The baseline tuning parameters are chosen as: \(\gamma^{VI}_{\text{boost}} = 1\), \(\gamma^{VI}_{\text{EGR}} = 1\), \(w^{VI} = 0.5\), \(\epsilon^{VI}_{\text{boost}} = 0\) and \(\epsilon^{VI}_{\text{EGR}} = 0\). The fixed cost function parameters in [3] are chosen as \(\gamma = 2 \times 10^{-4}\), \(R = I_3\), \(w^{\text{boost}} = 40\) kPa and \(w^{\text{EGR}} = 0.6\). The horizon length and the controller sampling time are identical to those used in the simulation study. From the Fig. 10 (a), a smooth response is noticed in the transients obtained for the
C. Calibration over Drive Cycles

The performance of the switched LTI-MPC architecture and the procedure followed for tuning the family of twelve calibration-friendly local controllers based on Algorithm 3 over the extra-urban driving cycle (EUDC) and the medium phase of the worldwide harmonised light vehicle test procedure (WLTP) will be discussed.

1) Calibration over EUDC: The controllers with baseline parameter setting are tested over EUDC and the tracking performance is shown in Fig. 12. The highlighted regions along the drive cycle in Fig. 12 have undesired transient responses in one or both output channels as listed in Table V. For example, in the region $B_e$ in Fig. 12, an oscillatory behaviour is observed in the EGR rate response whilst the boost pressure response is acceptable. Hence, the types of oscillations in the output channels are identified as Type 0 and Type 3, respectively, will be represented as (0, 3).

The active controllers corresponding to the highlighted regions are identified from the bottom plot of Fig. 12. For instance, in region $B_e$, the controllers V and VI are active. Now, these controllers are calibrated according to the tuning rules from Table IV based on the identified types of oscillations.

The output trajectories for the final tuning parameters and the corresponding sections are shown in Fig. 13. It can be seen that the oscillations in the EGR rate response in region $B_e$ in Fig. 13 are smoothed and hence by following Algorithm 3.
Fig. 12. Boost pressure and EGR rate trajectories over EUDC for baseline calibration (top and middle) and active controller (bottom). The controllers in the highlighted sections $A_e - F_e$ require further calibration.

Fig. 13. Boost pressure and EGR rate trajectories over EUDC for final tuning parameters (top and middle) and active controller (bottom).

**TABLE V**

PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE HIGHLIGHTED REGIONS OF THE OUTPUT TRAJECTORIES OVER EUDC AND THE TYPE OF OSCILLATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Identified problem in the output trajectories</th>
<th>Controllers Type of oscillation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$A_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>$V$, $VI$ (0, 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$B_e$</td>
<td>Oscillations in EGR rate</td>
<td>$V$, $VI$ (0, 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>$V$ (0, 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$D_e$</td>
<td>Oscillatory behaviour in boost pressure and EGR rate</td>
<td>$V$, $VI$, $X$, $XI$ (3, 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_e$</td>
<td>Undershoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>$VI$, $VII$ (0, 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$F_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>$VII$ (0, 2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a desired transient response was achieved by appropriate calibration of the controllers $V$ and $VI$ using the reduced set of tuning parameters.

The improvements in the output response achieved through calibration of the selected controllers are reported in Table VI.

In regions such as $D_e$ in Fig. 12 an oscillatory behaviour is observed in both output channels. These oscillations are caused due to large model mismatch while operating near a boundary, resulting in repeated switching of the controllers. By introducing more linearisation points, the model mismatch can be limited, however, additional linearisation points can increase the calibration effort. In this work, the use of 12 controllers provided a sufficient balance between enough model accuracy to provide good transient response without introducing too much switching between controllers. The resulting output responses following calibration are shown in Fig. 13.

2) Calibration over WLTP-Medium Phase: The proposed diesel airpath control framework is tested when the engine is running over the medium phase of WLTP. The closed-loop response obtained with the baseline parameters ($\tau_{\text{boost}}^d = 0.5$, $\tau_{\text{EGR}}^d = 0.5$, $w^d = 0.5$, $\epsilon_{\text{boost}}^d = 0$ and $\epsilon_{\text{EGR}}^d = 0$) is shown in Fig. 14. Five regions are identified to improve the transient response in one or both output channels. Oscillations are observed in both output channels in region $A_w$ while overshoots and an undershooting behaviour in the EGR rate channel are observed in regions $B_w$, $C_w$, $E_w$ and $D_w$.

**TABLE VI**

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TRAJECTORIES AFTER CALIBRATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Before calibration</th>
<th>After calibration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$A_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>Overshoot magnitude is reduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$B_e$</td>
<td>Oscillation in EGR rate</td>
<td>Oscillations removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>No improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$D_e$</td>
<td>Oscillatory behaviour in boost and EGR rate</td>
<td>Reduced oscillations in both outputs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_e$</td>
<td>Undershoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>Undershoot magnitude is reduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$F_e$</td>
<td>Overshoot in EGR rate</td>
<td>Overshoot is removed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
are removed completely. These improvements in the output responses were achieved with a low degree of calibration effort utilising the proposed controller structure and calibration rules.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a calibration-friendly model predictive controller has been proposed for diesel engines and its calibration efficacy has been experimentally demonstrated. The proposed MPC cost function parameterisation and the controller structure have facilitated a significant reduction in the number of effective tuning parameters compared to the conventional MPC. In addition, the new set of tuning parameters has an intuitive correlation with the output transient response which helps with efficient engine calibration.

A switched LTI-MPC architecture with multiple linear controllers has been proposed to handle the transient operation of the engine. The maximal disturbance set that can be handled by each local controller and the corresponding constraint tightening margins have been obtained as a solution to an offline sequential convex program. The tightening margins are then used in the online MPC optimisation to guarantee constraint adherence in the presence of disturbances originating from the maximal disturbance set.

The calibration efficacy of the controller architecture, based on the developed calibration rules, has been experimentally demonstrated at a steady state condition for fuelling step and over EUDC and the medium phase of WLTP cycles. The proposed calibration methodology provides a systematic approach in which the under-performing controllers are identified and calibrated using the reduced set of tuning parameters, resulting in a good tracking performance in both output channels over both drive cycles. The improvements achieved in the output transient responses by tuning a small number of parameters demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed MPC formulation in reducing the calibration effort and aiding in rapid calibration.

Future research can test the performance of the proposed approach with severely ill-conditioned families of linear models, where adjacent grid points have zero-gain in some input-output channels or a gain sign change. This may provide insight for developing extensions to the proposed tuning rules to reduce or remove oscillatory responses as well as minimise the time actuators spend in saturation.

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REFERENCES


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