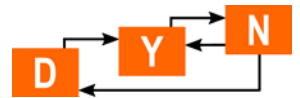


Dual multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles

Sakthi Thangavel[°], Radoslav Paulen[^], Sebastian Engell[°]

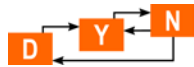
[°]Process Dynamics and Operations Group, Faculty of Biochemical and Chemical Engineering
Technische Universität Dortmund

[^]Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava



Motivation

- Optimal operation of the process
- Model based controllers (e.g. Model predictive control)

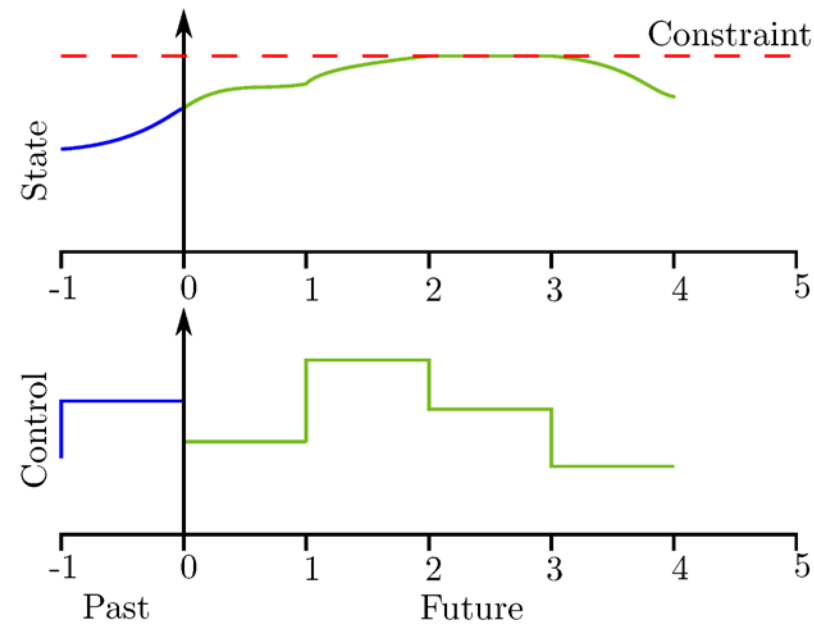


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Model Predictive Control (MPC)

- Uses a process model to predict the future behavior of the plant and optimizes its control input

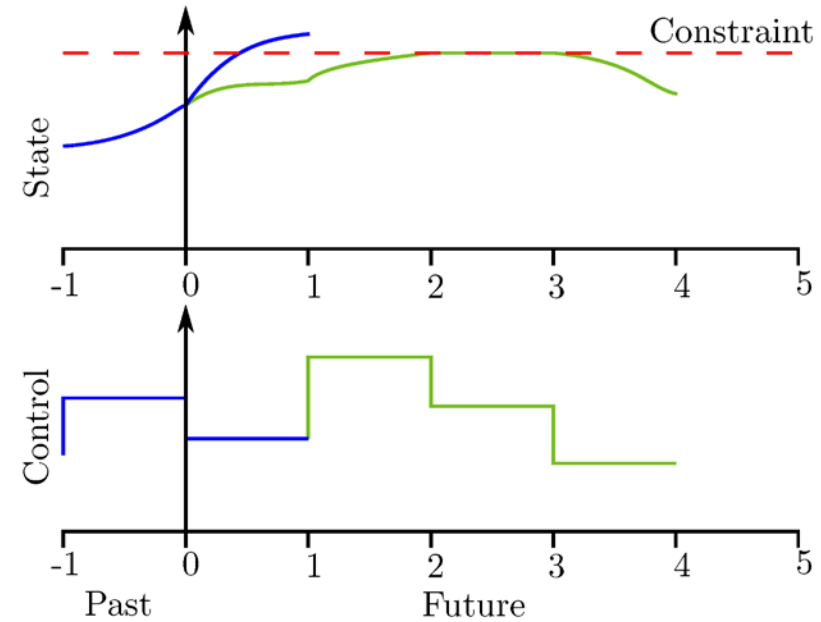


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- Uses a process model to predict the future behavior of the plant and optimizes its control input
- The presence of plant-model mismatch may lead to
 - ❑ Constraint violation
 - ❑ Performance degradation and instability

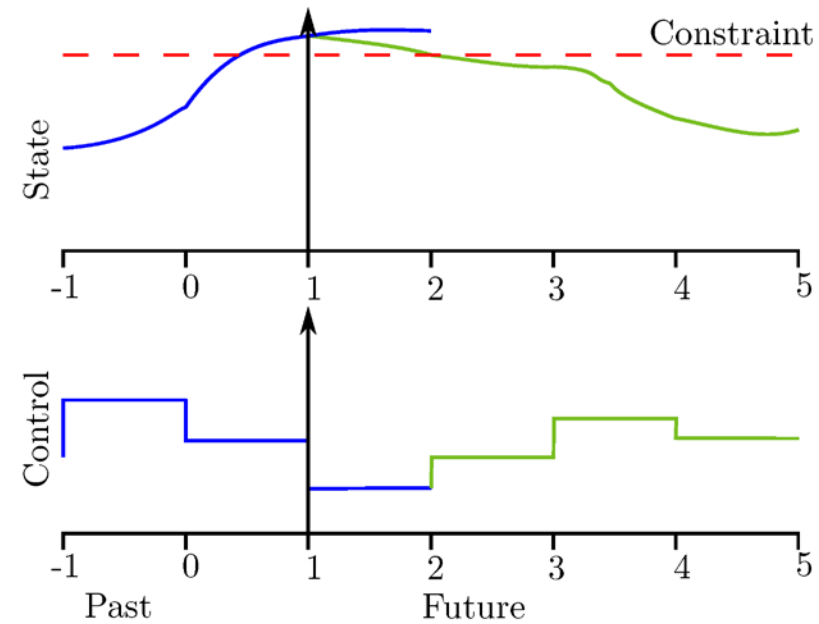


Motivation

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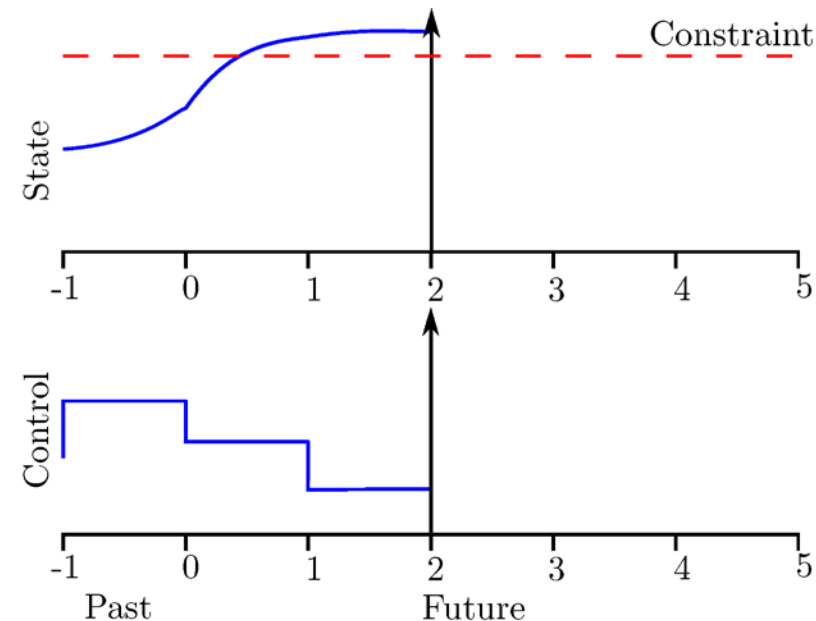


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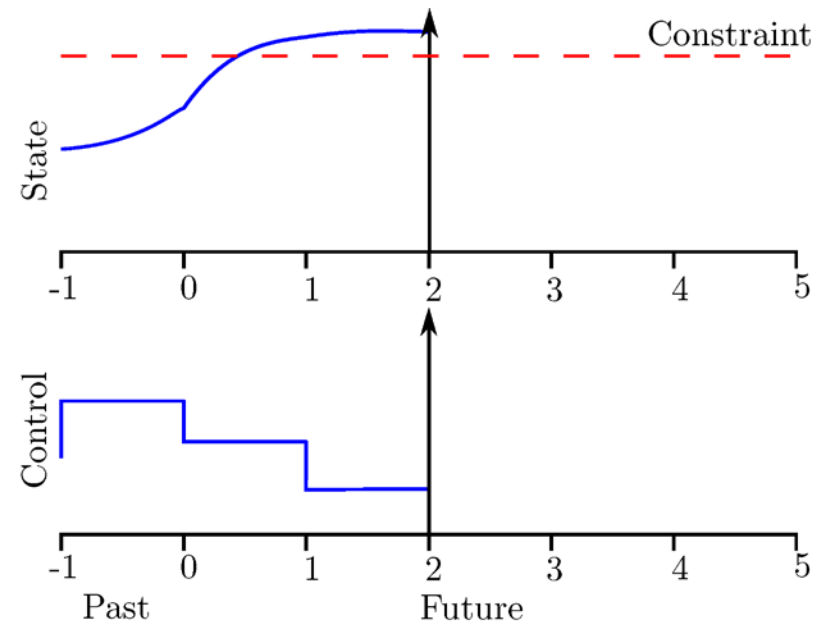
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Robust MPC

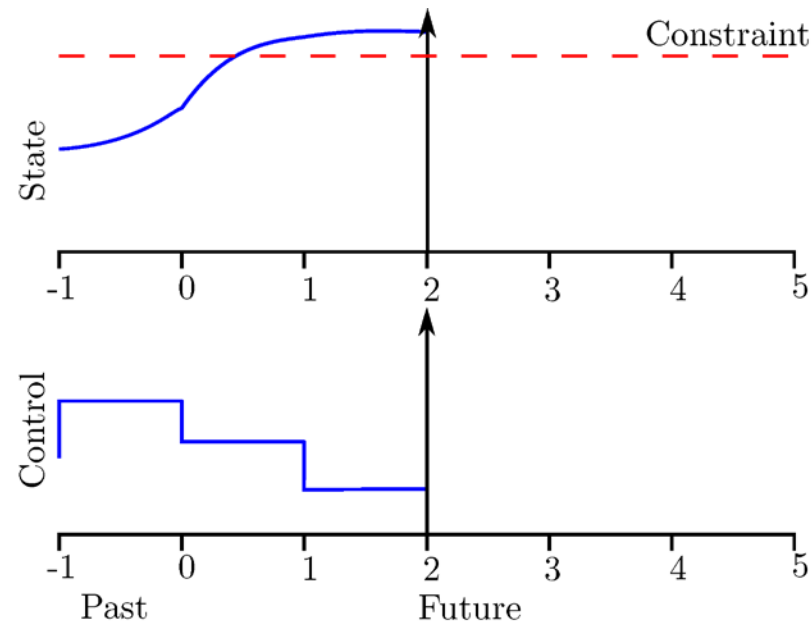


Motivation

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Nonlinear Model Predictive Control (NMPC)

- Uses a nonlinear process model to predict the future behavior of the plant and optimizes its control input
- Robust MPC**
- The presence of plant-model mismatch may lead to
 - ❑ Constraint violation
 - ❑ Performance degradation and instability
 - Robust MPC schemes are conservative when compared to the case where true information about the plant is available



Motivation



Motivation

- The plant measurements can be used to improve the knowledge about the plant and improve the performance of the robust controllers

Adaptive control^[1]

[1] Wittenmark, B. (2012) Adaptive Dual Control Methods: An Overview, IFAC Proceedings Volumes, Volume 28, Issue 13, 1995, Pages 67-72



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Adaptive control^[1]

- The amount of information gathered from the plant measurements can be improved by applying excitation signals (probing inputs) to the plant .
- There exists a trade-off between optimizing control inputs and excitation control signals

Dual control^[1]

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- The scenario tree representation is well suited for dual NMPC implementation

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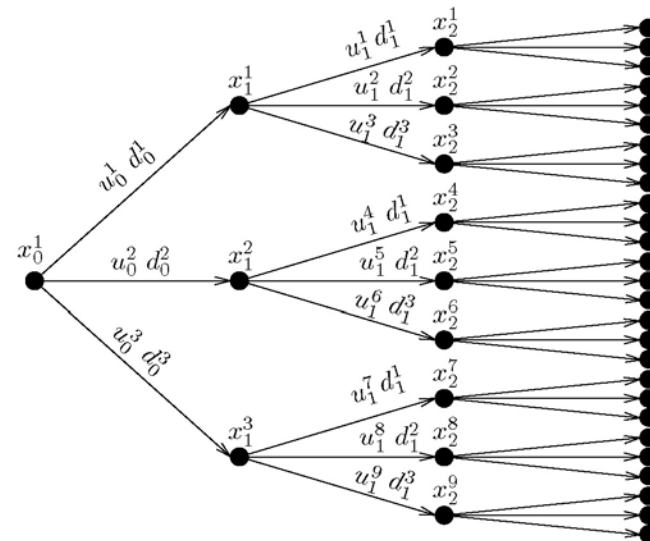
- The multi-stage NMPC considers the presence of future recourse actions and provides a closed loop formulation hence it is less conservative when compared to other robust approaches
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- In this talk, we focus on improving the performance of the robust multi-stage NMPC in the presence of an ellipsoidal uncertainty set using sigma point principles and dual control schemes

[1] Wittenmark, B. (2012) Adaptive Dual Control Methods: An Overview, IFAC Proceedings Volumes, Volume 28, Issue 13, 1995, Pages 67-72



Robust Multi-stage MPC [1], [2]

- Models uncertainty by a tree of discrete scenarios



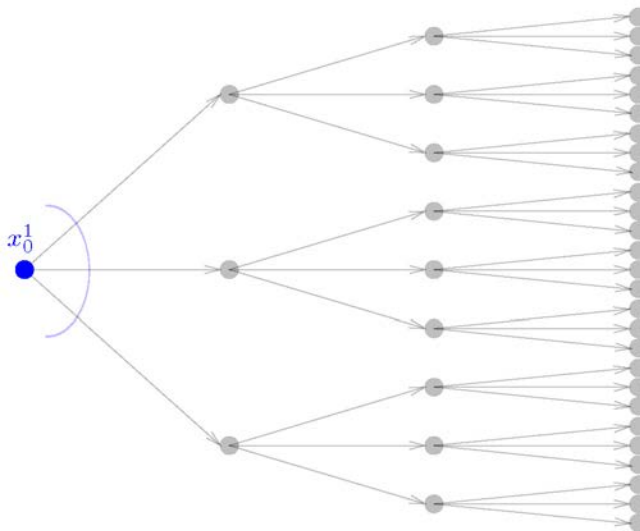
[1] Lucia, S., Finkler, T., Basak, D., and Engell, S. (2012), ADCHEM 2012, Volume 45, Issue 15, Pages 69-74

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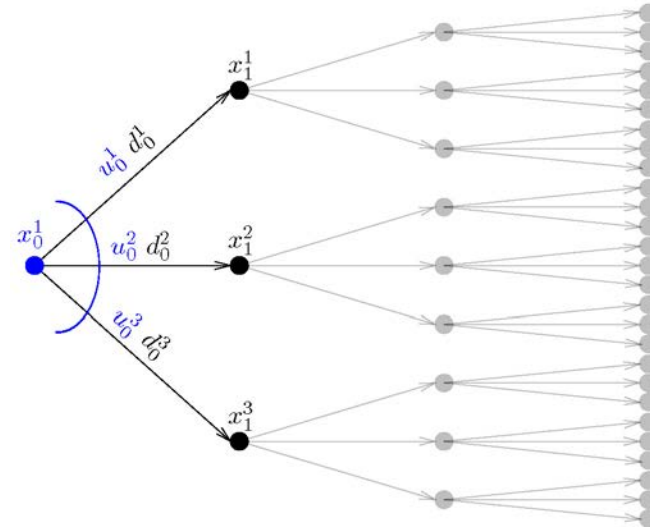
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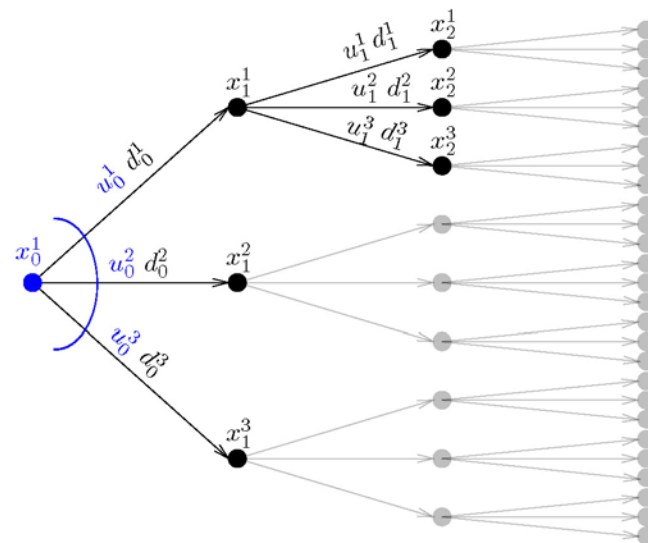
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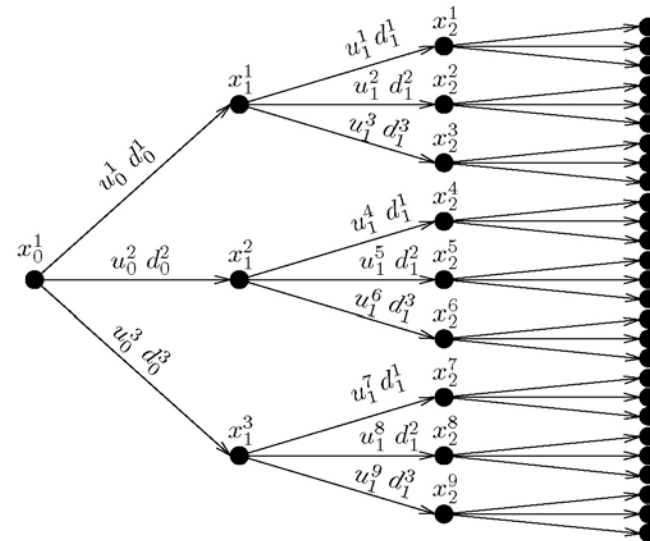
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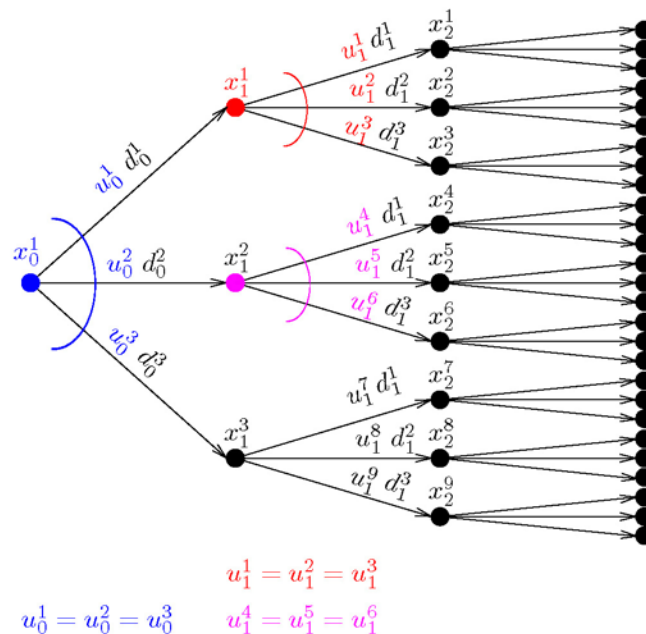
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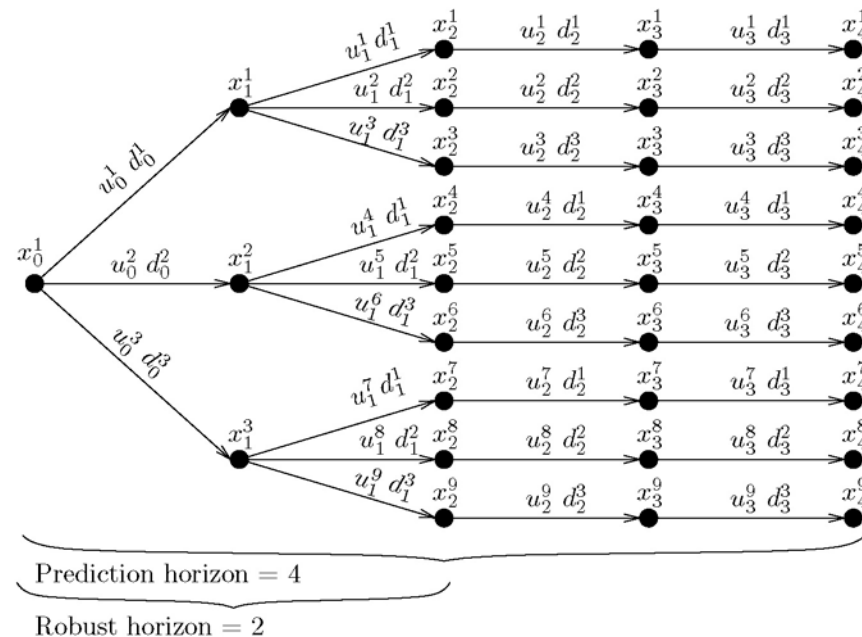
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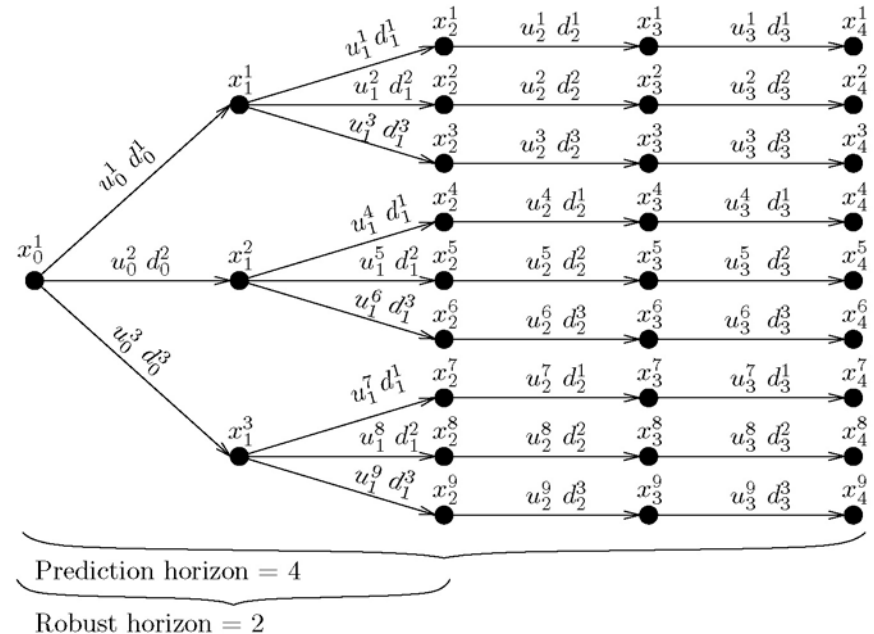


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- To avoid the exponential growth of the tree, branching is stopped after the **robust horizon**
- In the nonlinear case, the scenario tree is rigorously valid in the presence of discrete valued uncertainty but it is an approximation in the presence of continuously valued uncertainty

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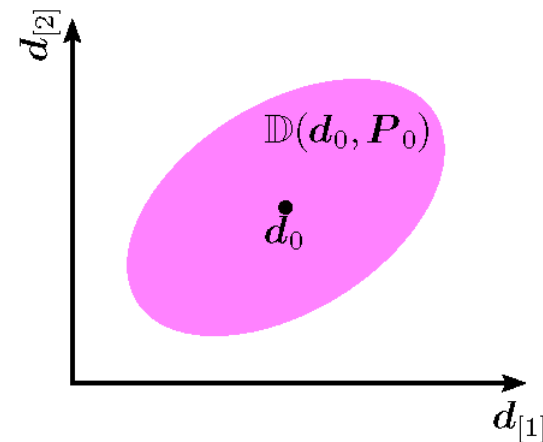


Building the scenario tree of robust multi-stage NMPC

➤ Plant model:

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{d}), \forall \mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{D}(\mathbf{d}_0, \mathbf{P}_0)$$

$$\mathbb{D}(\mathbf{d}_0, \mathbf{P}_0) := \{\hat{\mathbf{d}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_d} | (\hat{\mathbf{d}} - \mathbf{d}_0)^T \mathbf{P}_0^{-1} (\hat{\mathbf{d}} - \mathbf{d}_0) \leq 1\}$$



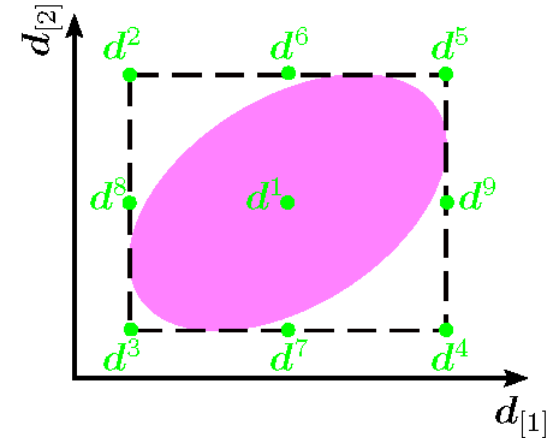
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- In practice, the scenario tree built for all combinations of minimal, nominal and maximal values of uncertainty provides very good results [2]
- 3^{n_d} branches to be considered at each node in the scenario tree
- The robust constraint satisfaction is guaranteed if the parametric monotonic property of the nonlinear model is satisfied [3]



[2] Lucia, S., Finkler, T. and Engell, S. (2012), Journal of Process Control, Volume 23, Issue 9, Pages 1306-1319

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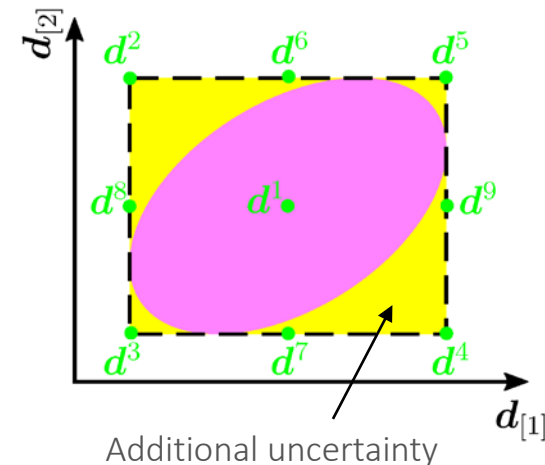
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- The additional uncertainty considered in the scenario tree reduces the performance of the multi-stage NMPC



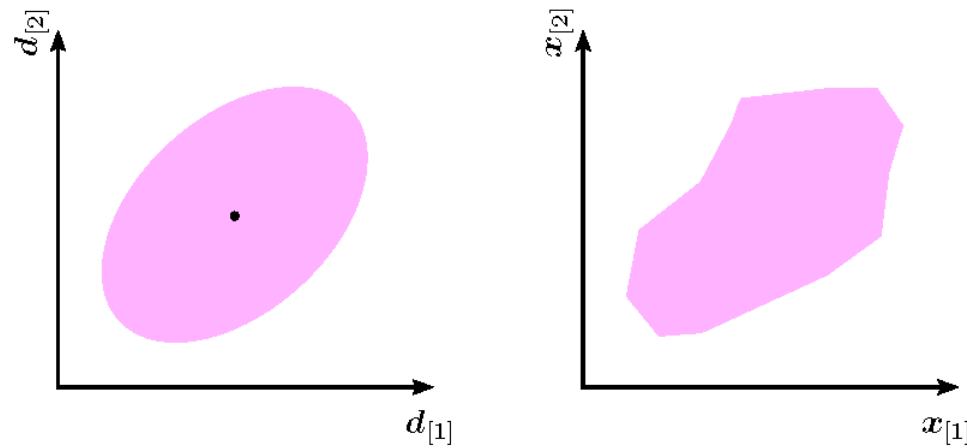
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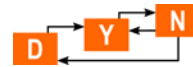
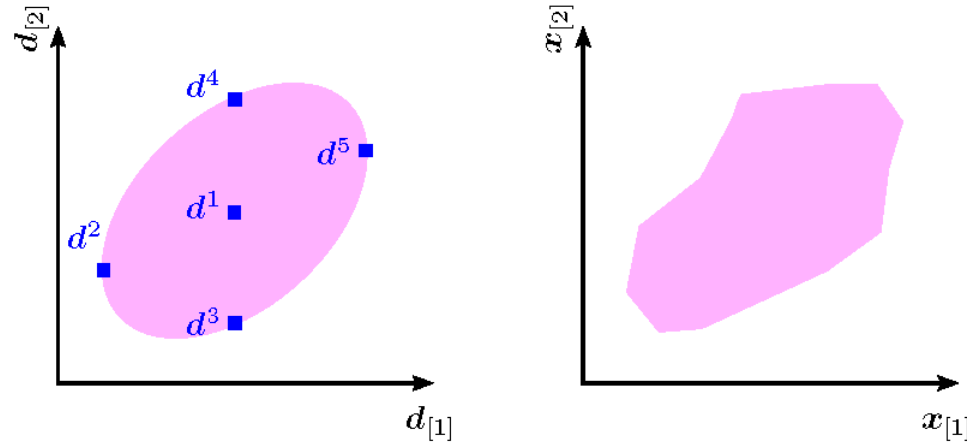
Sigma points

- The sigma points are chosen such that they represent true mean and covariance of the uncertainty set



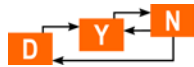
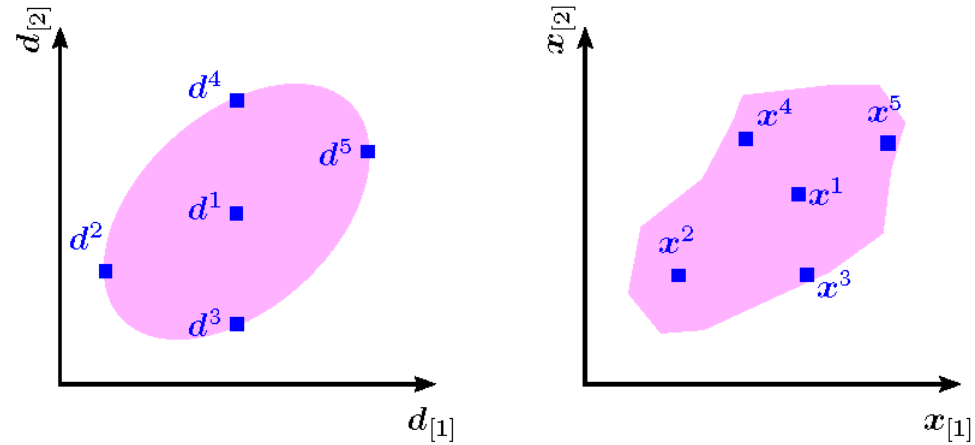
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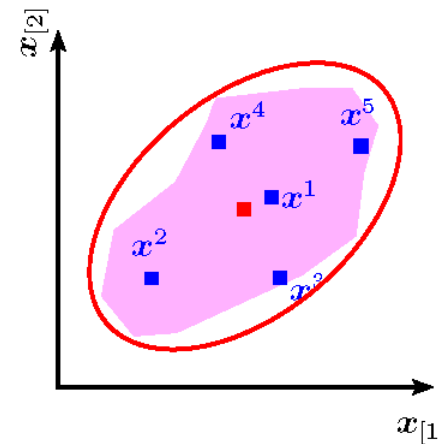
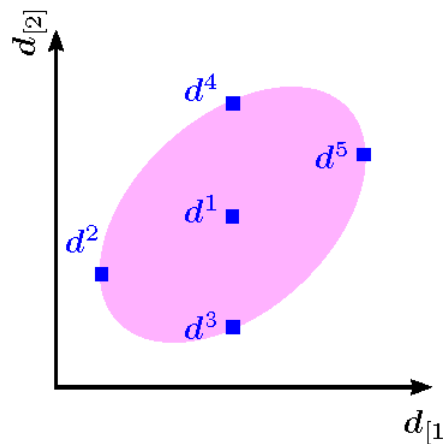
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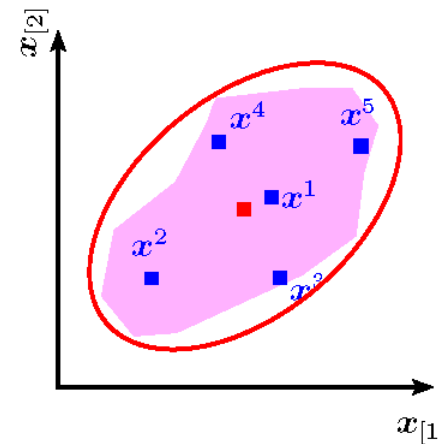
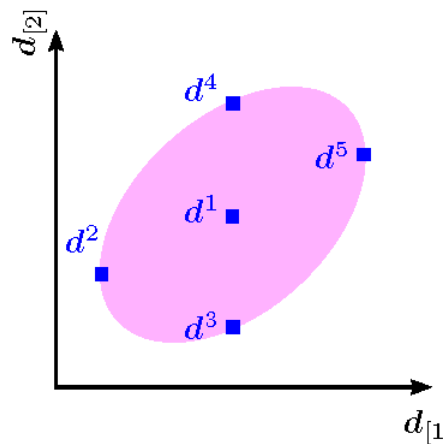
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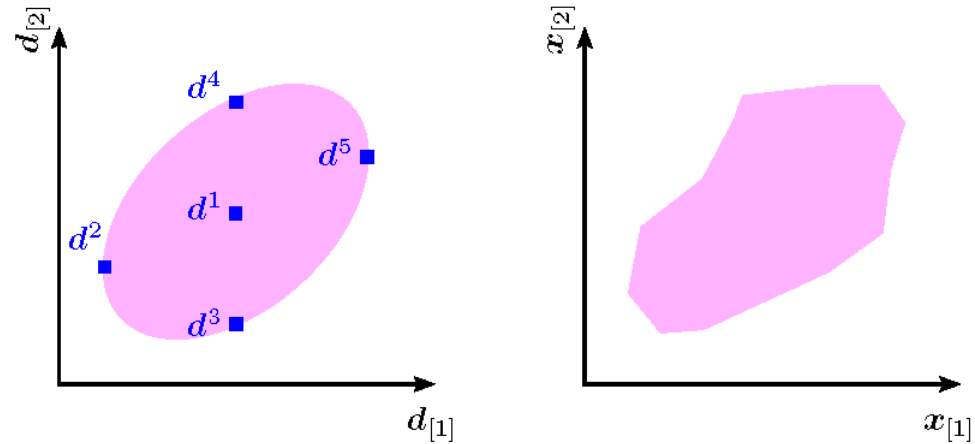
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- Such state ellipsoid can be obtained using unscented transformation



Unscented Transformation [4]

- The $2n_d + 1$ sample points (sigma points) are propagated through the nonlinear model to compute state mean and state covariance matrix

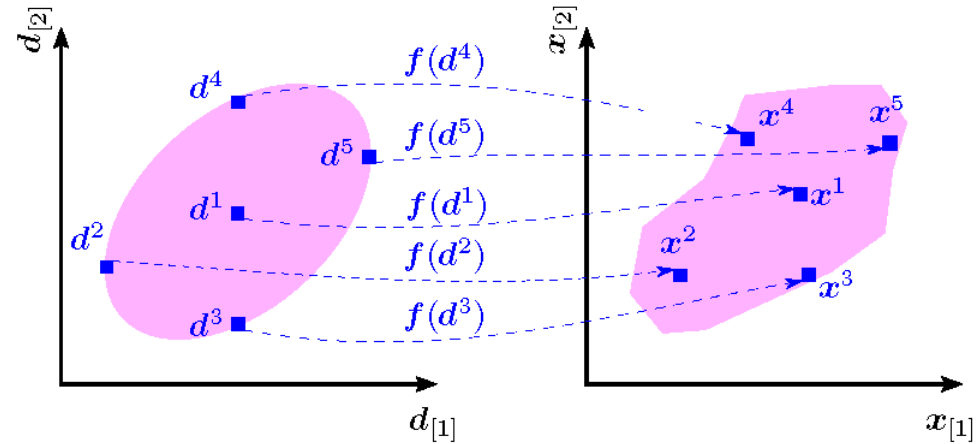


[4] Julier, S.J., (2002), The scaled unscented transformation- In Proceedings of the 2002 American Control Conference, Volume 6, Pages 4555-4559



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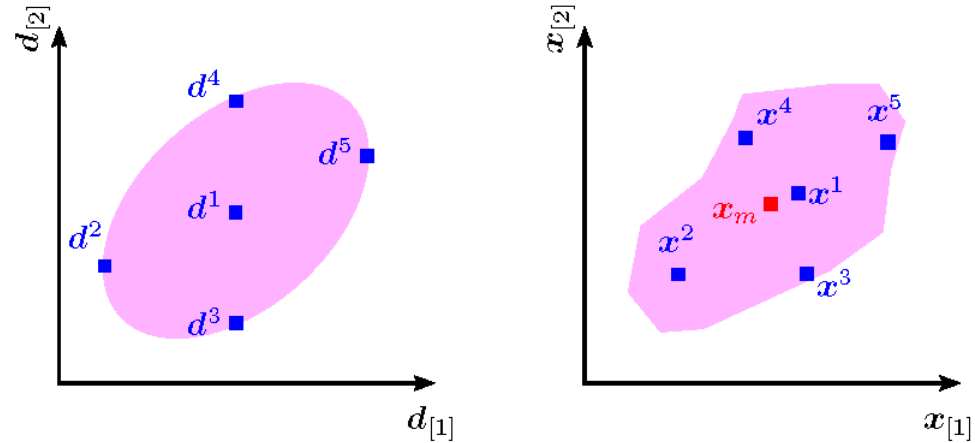
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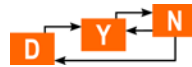
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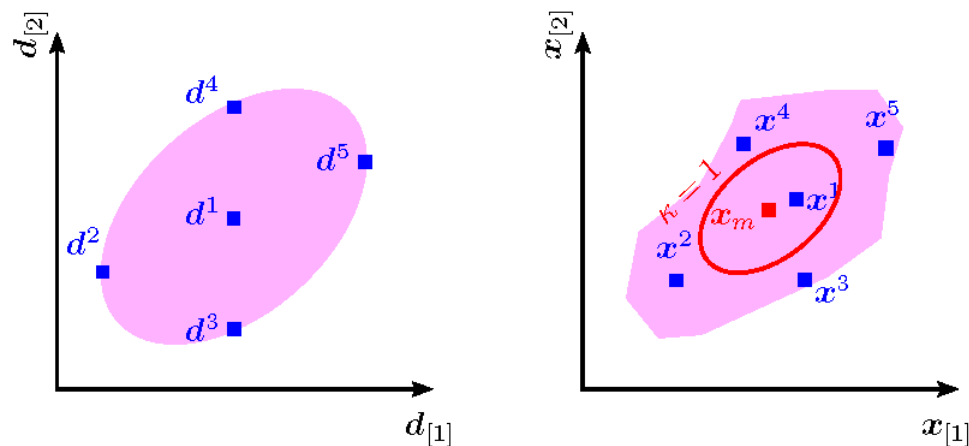
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- State covariance matrix factor

$$\mathbf{X}_{c,k+1} = \kappa^2 \sum_{i=1}^{2n_d+1} v_i \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}^i \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}^{i T}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}^i = \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^i - \mathbf{x}_{m,k+1}$$



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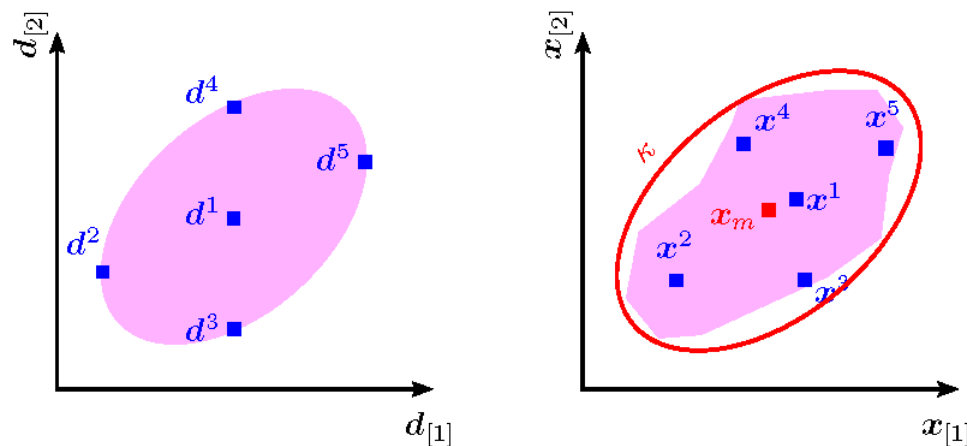
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- The state covariance matrix can be scaled using the scaling factor κ such that the state ellipsoid encloses the reachable set of the model which is a tuning parameter^[5]

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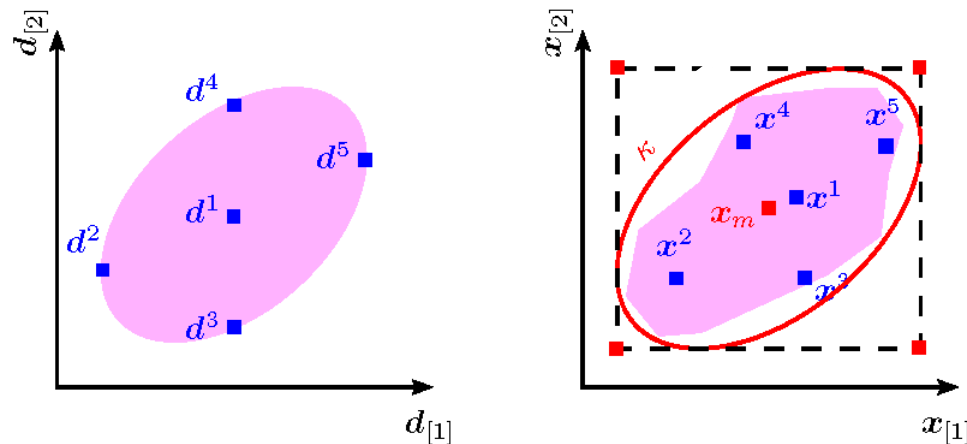
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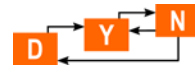
Confidence region using observed measurements

- An estimate of the uncertain parameters can be obtained using the observed measurements (e.g. least-squares estimates)



Confidence region using observed measurements

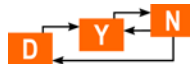
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Confidence region using observed measurements

- An estimate of the uncertain parameters can be obtained using the observed measurements (e.g. least-squares estimates)
- A confidence region (CR) which encloses the true parameters can be obtained from the parameter covariance matrix
- The inverse of the Fisher information matrix gives the upper bound on the parameter covariance matrix

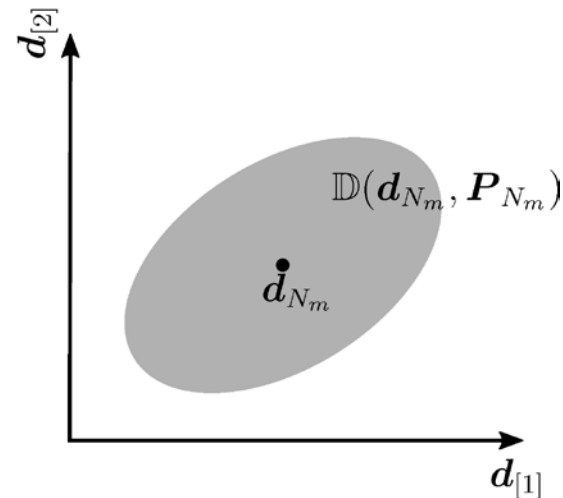
$$\mathbf{F}_{N_m} = \sum_{k=0}^{N_m} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{d}}^T \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{d}}$$



Confidence region using observed measurements

- An estimate of the uncertain parameters can be obtained using the observed measurements (e.g. least-squares estimates)
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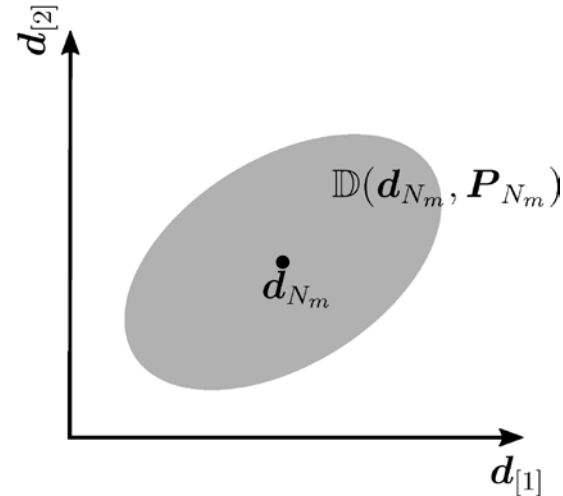


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- The new confidence region is used to reduce the uncertainty in the parameters and update the scenario tree of the multi-stage NMPC



Updating the scenario of the adaptive multi-stage NMPC

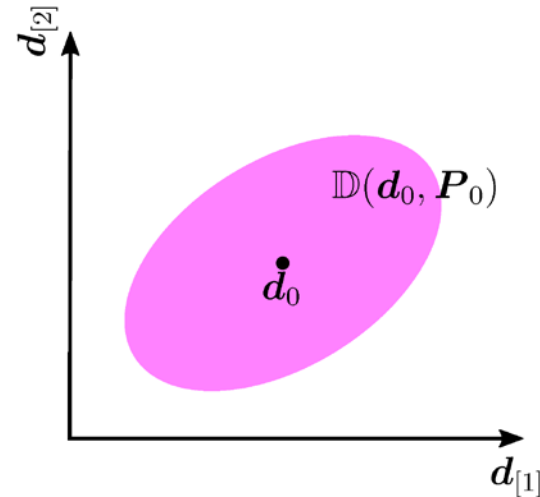
- The information provided by the initial confidence region and the confidence region obtained using the observed measurements should be taken into account

[6] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ECC 2020

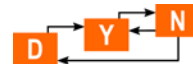


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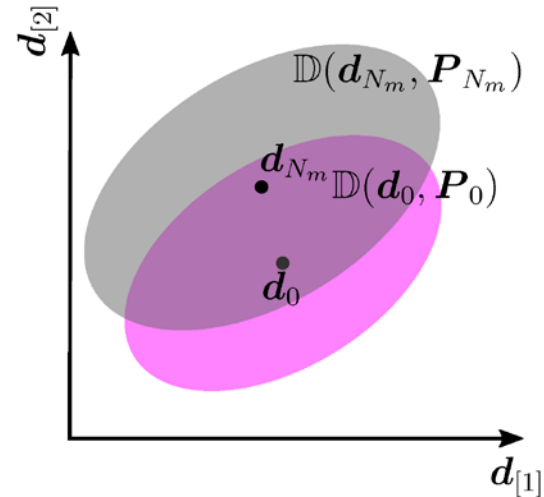


[6] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ECC 2020



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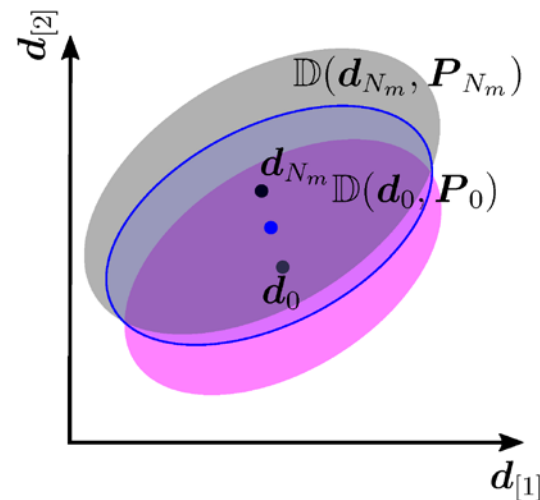


[6] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ECC 2020



Updating the scenario of the adaptive multi-stage NMPC

- The information provided by the initial confidence region and the confidence region obtained using the observed measurements should be taken into account
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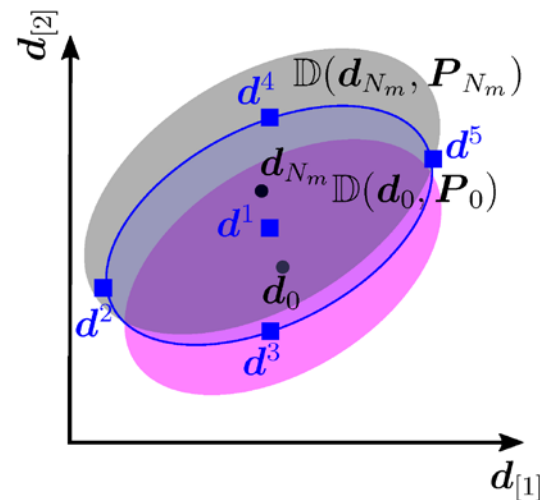


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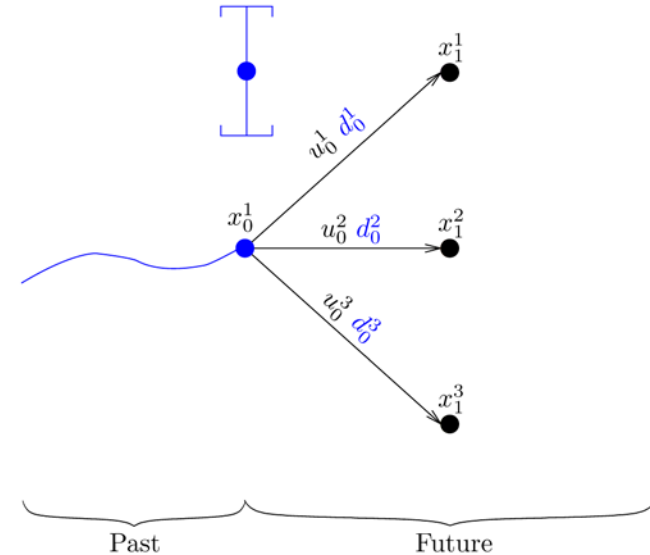


[6] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ECC 2020



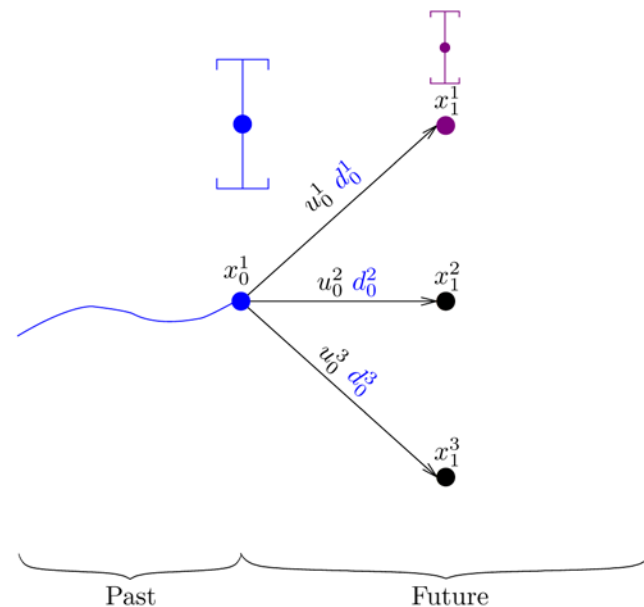
Proposed dual multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles

- Dual NMPC considers the effect of the control input on the future reduction in uncertainty along the prediction horizon to improve the objective



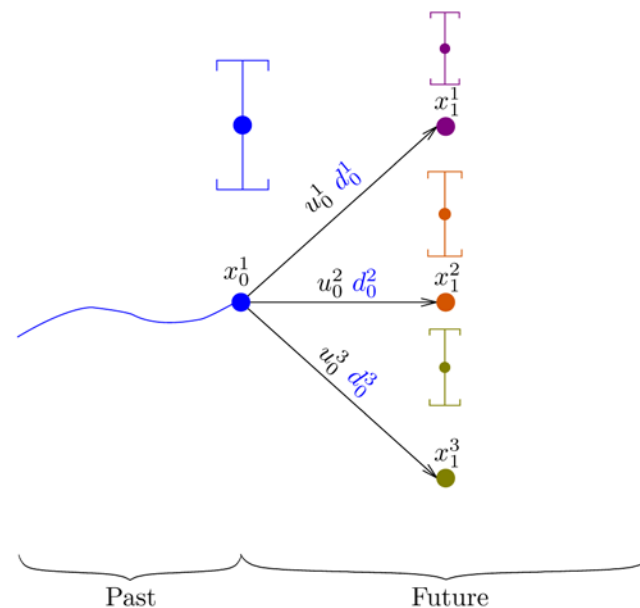
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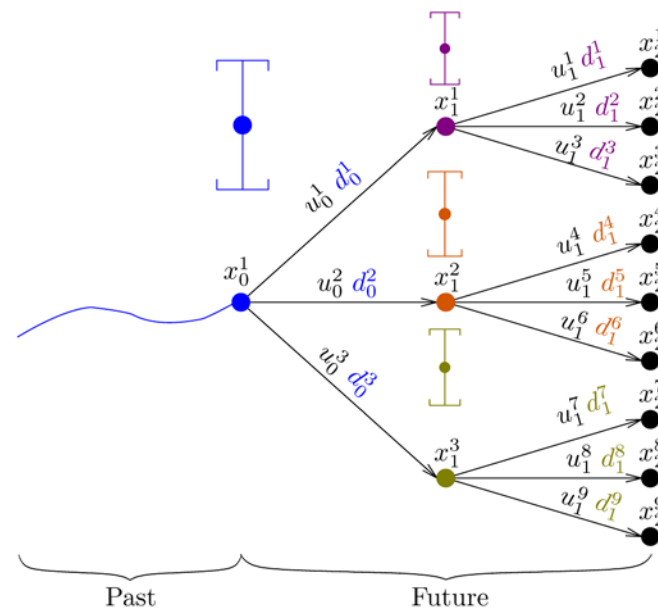
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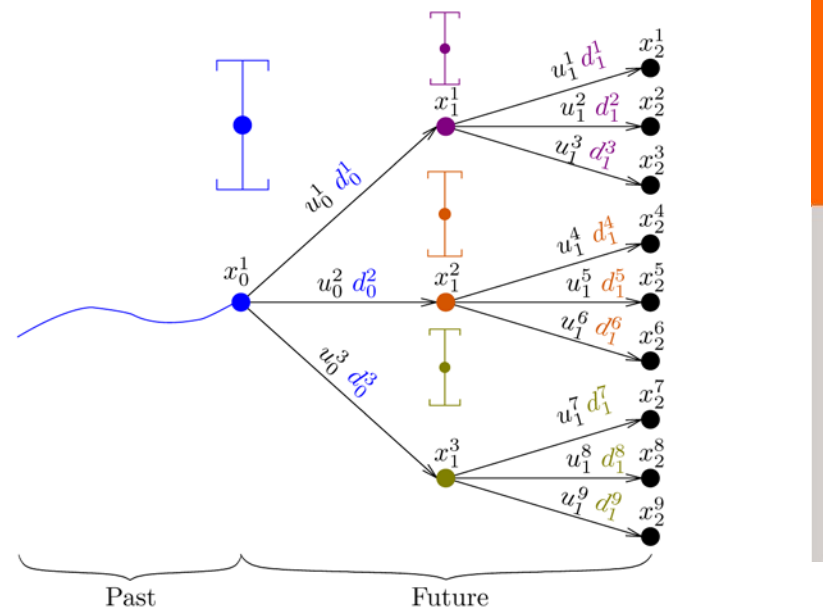
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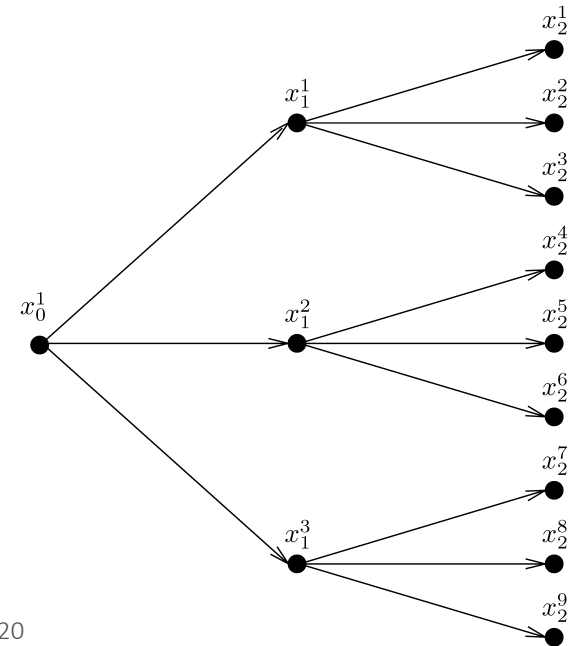
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- The scenario tree is dual multi-stage NMPC is built based on the sigma points of the predicted future confidence region
- The scenario tree narrows down along the prediction horizon



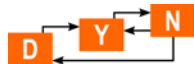


Scenario tree of different multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles

- Non-adaptive: sigma points of the **initial confidence region** of the uncertain parameters^[5]



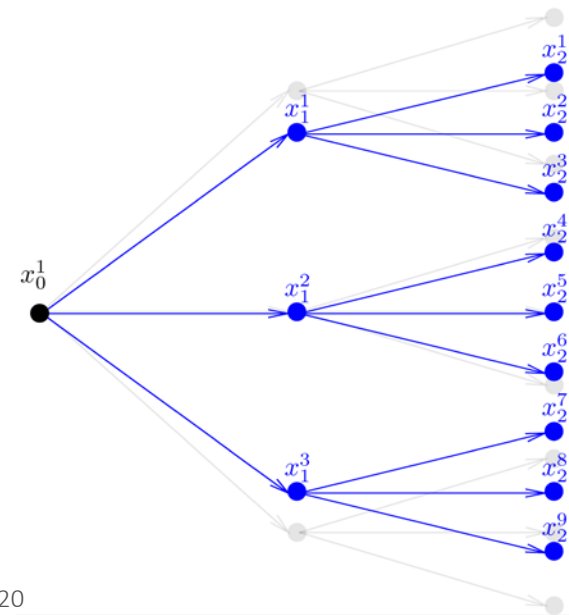
[5] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ACODS 2020





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- Non-adaptive: sigma points of the **initial confidence region** of the uncertain parameters^[5]
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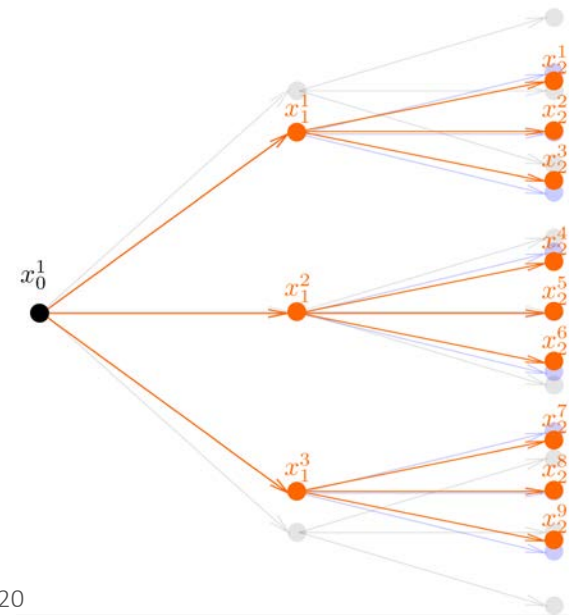
[5] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ACODS 2020

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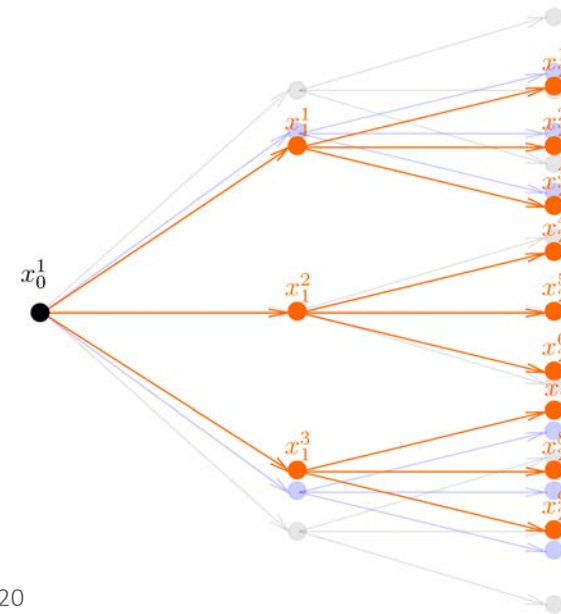
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- Proposed Dual: Sigma point of the ellipsoidal over-approximation of the intersection region between the **initial confidence region and confidence region obtained using the past and future measurements**
- The probing inputs will be applied to the plant if they result in a better performance along the prediction horizon



[5] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ACODS 2020

[6] Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., and Engell, S. (2020), Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, ECC 2020



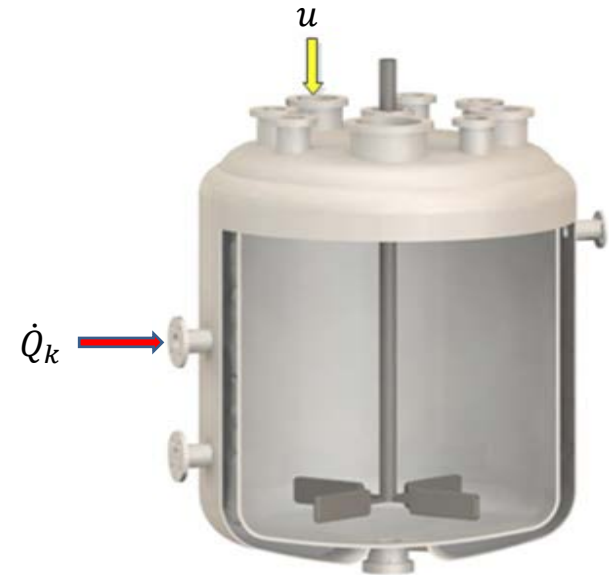
Semi-batch reactor^[5]

[5] Srinivasan, B., Palanki, S., and Bonvin, D., (2003) Dynamic optimization of batch processes: I. Characterization of the nominal solution, Computers & Chemical Engineering, Volume 27, Issue 1, Pages 1-26

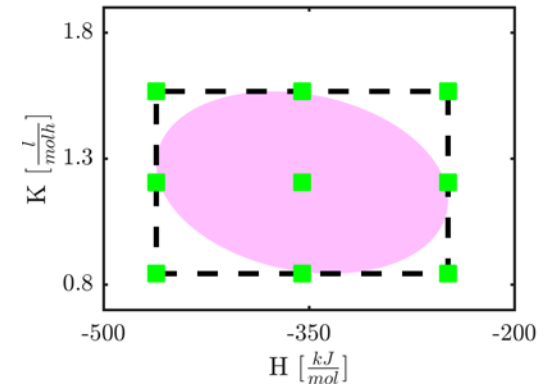
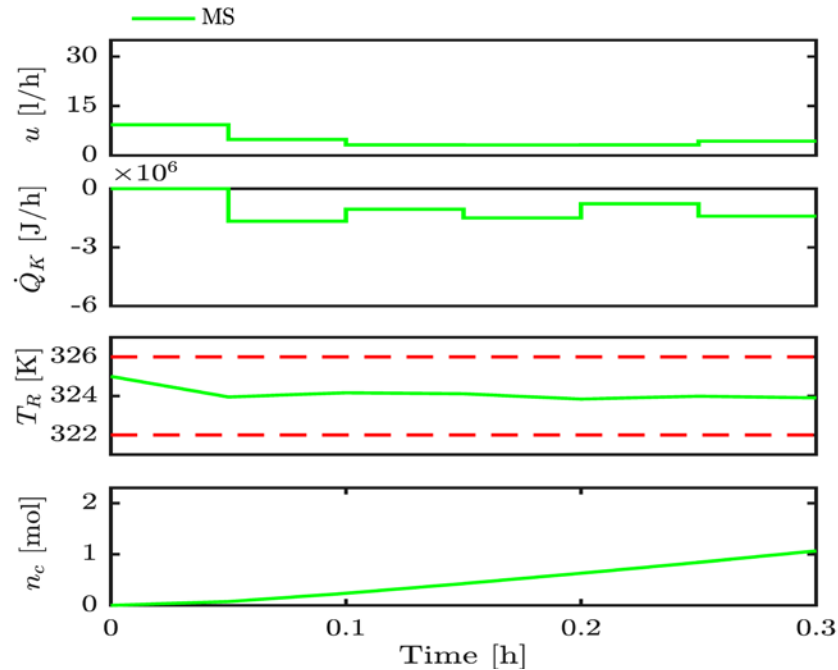
Reaction scheme



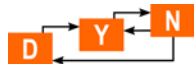
- The reaction is exothermic
- **Objective function:** Maximize the amount of product C produced
- **Constraint function:** $322 \leq T_R \leq 326$
- **Manipulated variables:**
 - ❑ Feed rate of reactant (u)
 - ❑ Cooling energy (\dot{Q}_k)
- **Uncertain parameters:**
 - ❑ Reaction enthalpy (H)
 - ❑ Reaction rate constant (K)



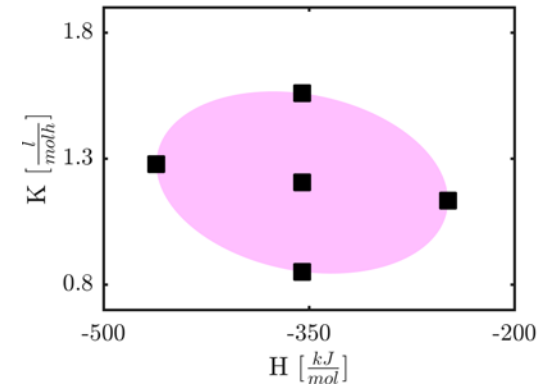
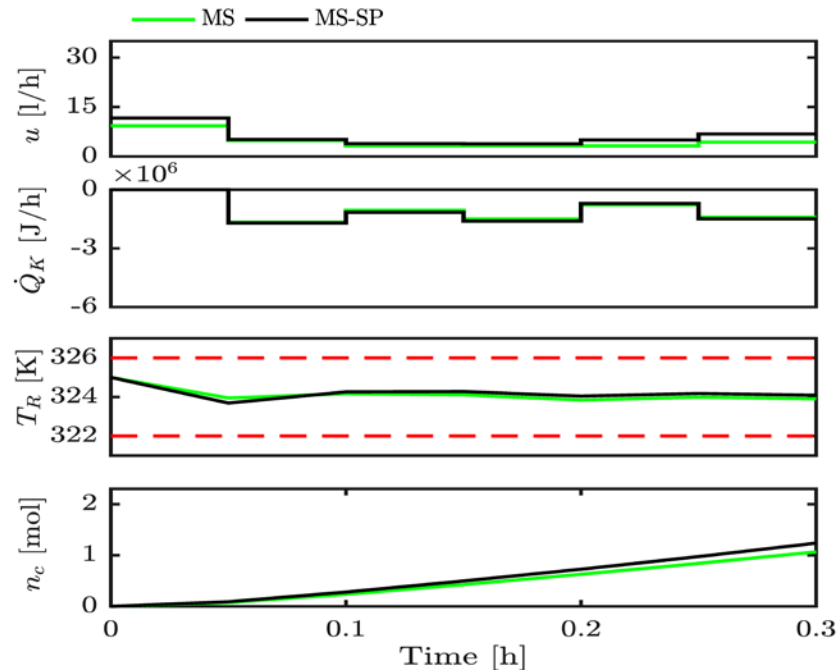
Simulation results



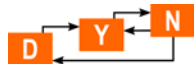
Confidence region described by the observed measurement information after the 2nd NMPC iteration



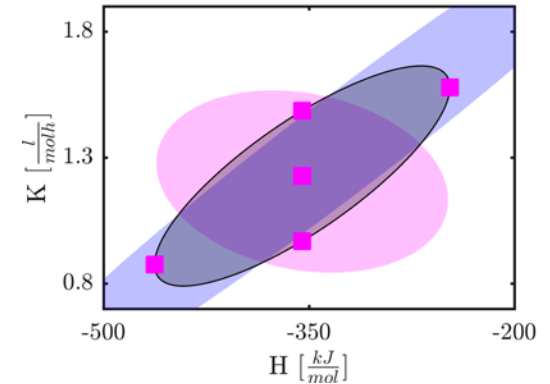
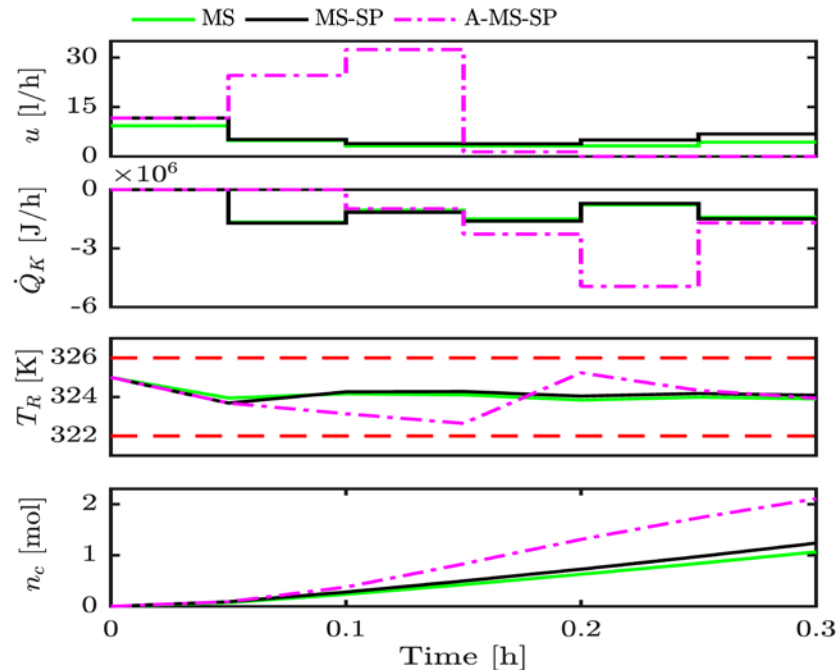
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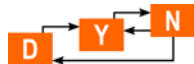
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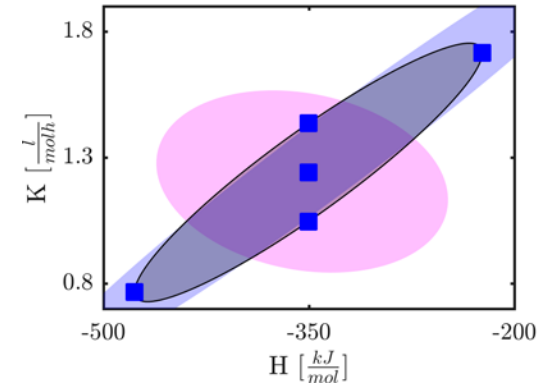
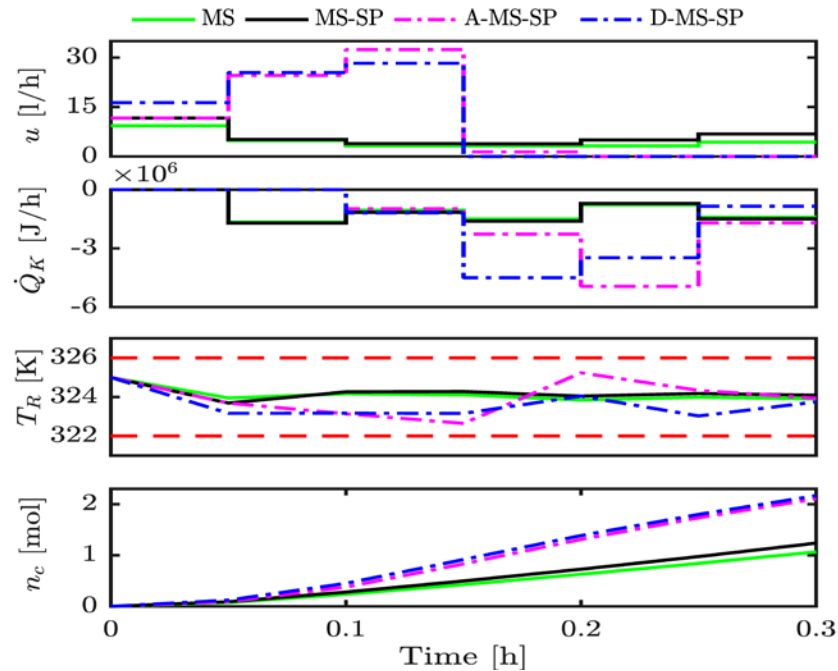
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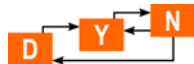
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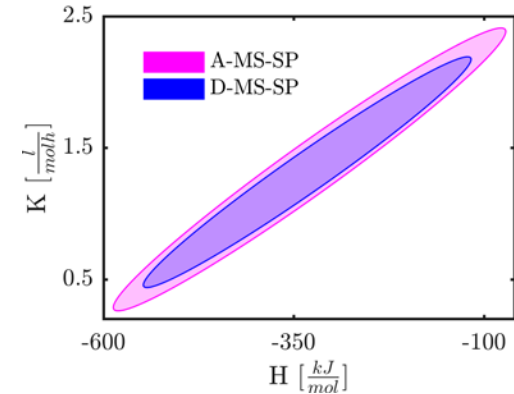
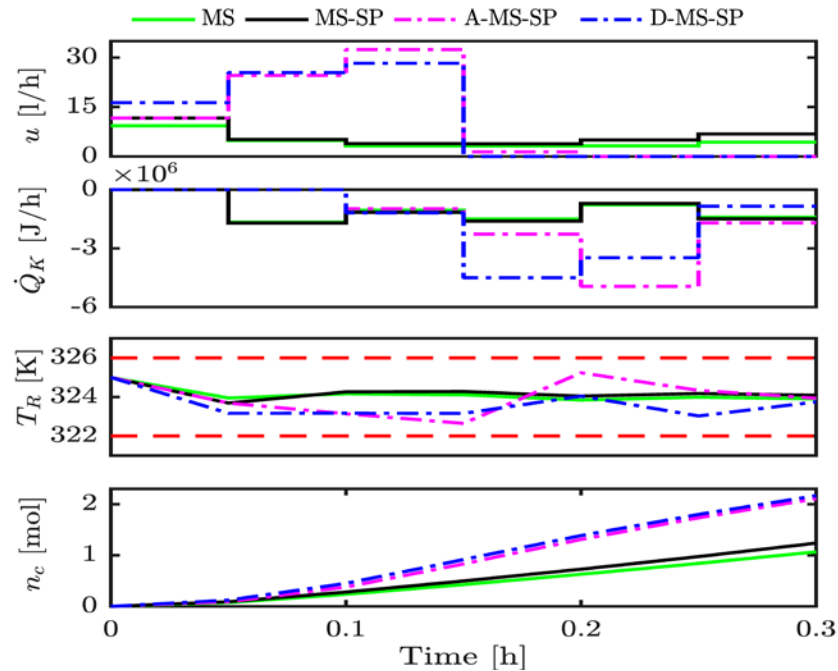
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Summary and Current work

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- The sigma points are chosen such that the uncertainty set is tightly approximated
- The ellipsoidal over-approximation of the reachable set of the model is computed along the prediction horizon of the multi-stage NMPC based on sigma point principles
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Current work

- Extending the proposed dual control actions to compute the objective and constraint covariance matrix using the unscented transformation instead of the states



Relevant works

- Thangavel, S., Lucia, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2018) Dual robust nonlinear model predictive control: A multi-stage approach, Journal of Process Control, Volume 72, pages 39-51
- Thangavel, S., Lucia, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2015) Towards dual robust nonlinear model predictive control: A multi-stage approach, American Control Conference, pages 428-433
- Thangavel, S., Lucia, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2017) Robust nonlinear model predictive control with reduction of uncertainty via dual control, 21st International Conference on Process Control, pages 48-53
- Thangavel, S., Aboelnour, M., Lucia, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2018) Robust Dual Multi-stage NMPC using Guaranteed Parameter Estimation, 6th IFAC Conference on Nonlinear Model Predictive Control, Volume 51, Issue 20, pages 72-77
- Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2020) Multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, 2020 Advances in Control & Optimization of Dynamical Systems
- Thangavel, S., Paulen, R., Engell, S., (2020) Adaptive multi-stage NMPC using sigma point principles, 19th European Control Conference



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