

# Nonlinear Model Predictive Control

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## Part A: Stabilizing Model Predictive Control

## (1) Introduction

What is Model Predictive Control (MPC)?

# Setup

We consider **nonlinear discrete time** control systems

$$x_{\mathbf{u}}(n+1) = f(x_{\mathbf{u}}(n), \mathbf{u}(n)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

or, briefly

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with  $x \in X$ ,  $u \in U$

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Additionally, we impose state constraints  $x_\mu(n) \in \mathbb{X}$   
and control constraints  $\mu(x(n)) \in \mathbb{U}$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and given sets  $\mathbb{X} \subseteq X$ ,  $\mathbb{U} \subseteq U$

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**Idea of MPC:** use an optimal control problem which **minimizes the distance** to  $x_*$  in order to synthesize a feedback law  $\mu$

# The idea of MPC

For defining the MPC scheme, we choose a **stage cost**  $\ell(x, u)$  penalizing the distance from  $x_*$  and the control effort, e.g.,

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- **minimize** the summed stage cost along **trajectories** generated from our model over a **prediction horizon**  $N$
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Notation in what follows:

- general feedback laws will be denoted by  $\mu$
- the **MPC feedback law** will be denoted by  $\mu_N$

# The basic MPC scheme

Formal description of the basic MPC scheme:

At each time instant  $n$  solve for the **current state**  $x_{\mu_N}(n)$

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_{\mu_N}(n), \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_{\mu_N}(n)$$

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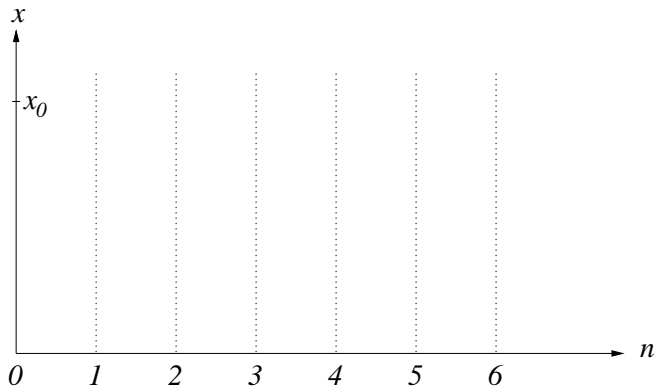
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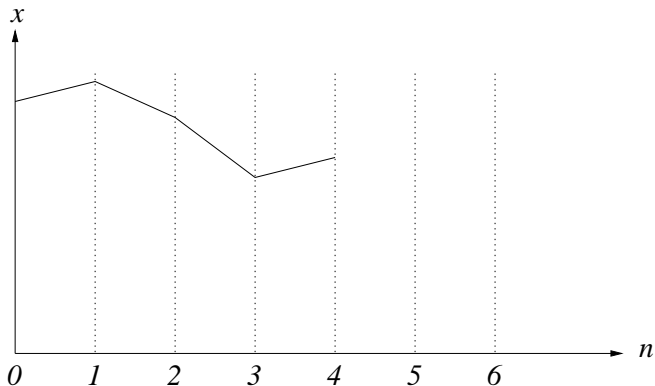
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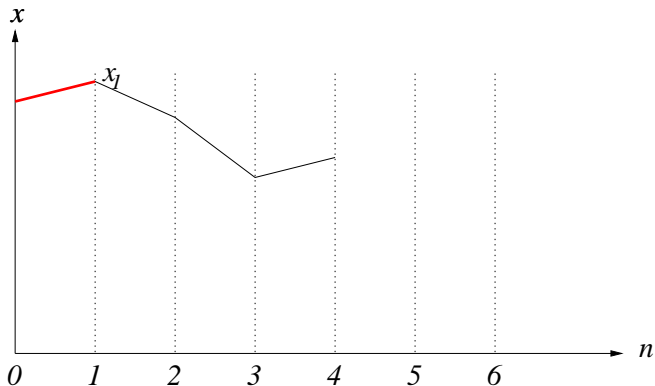


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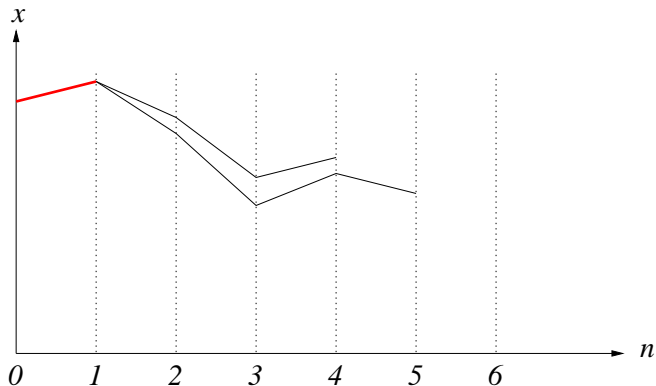
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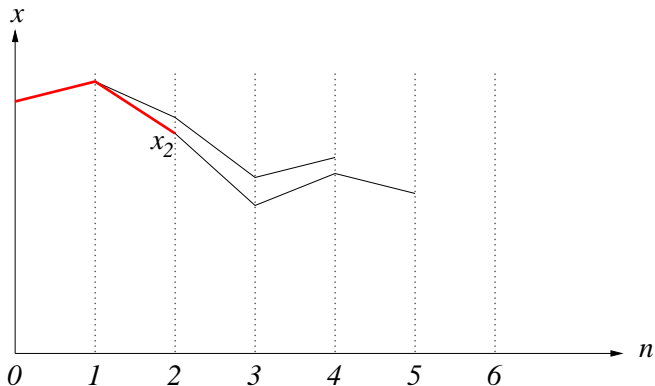


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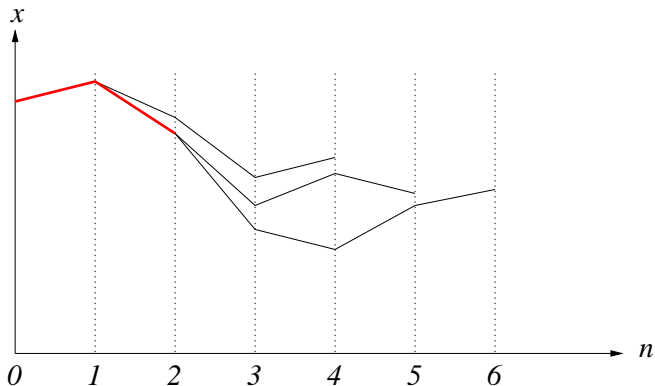
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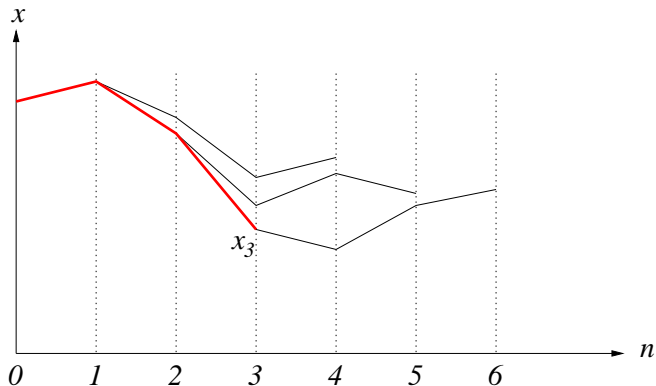
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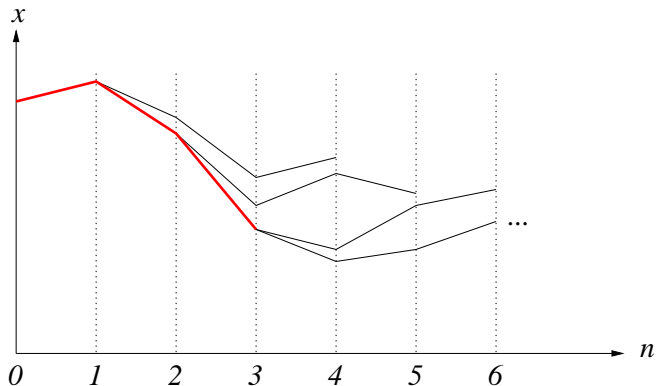
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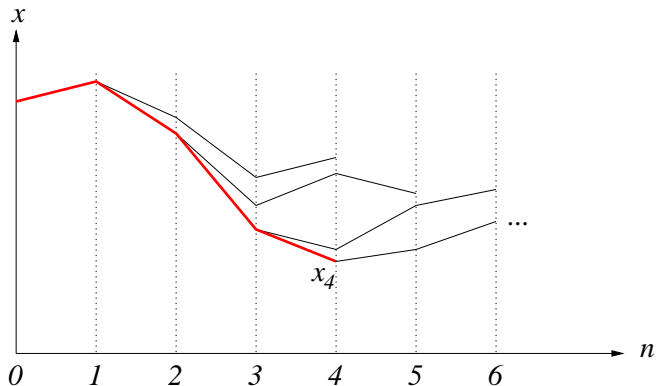
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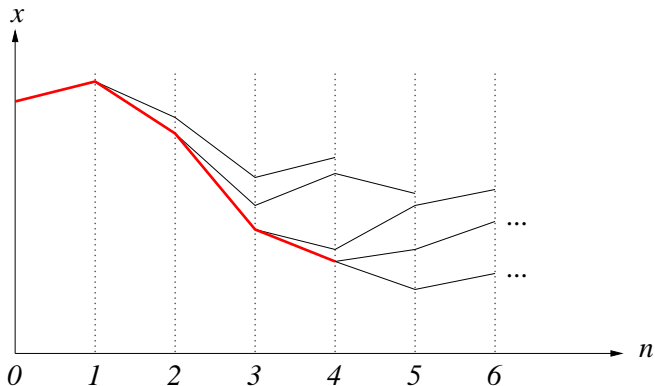
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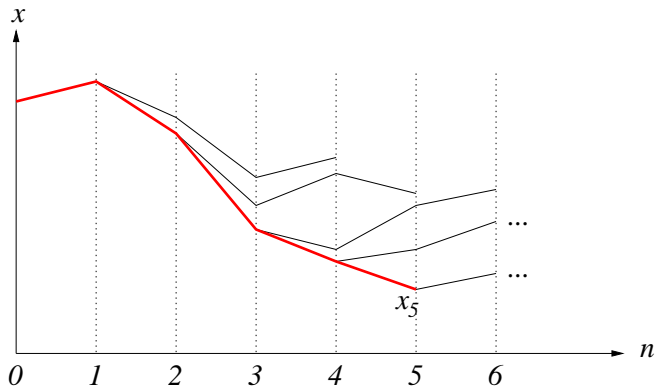
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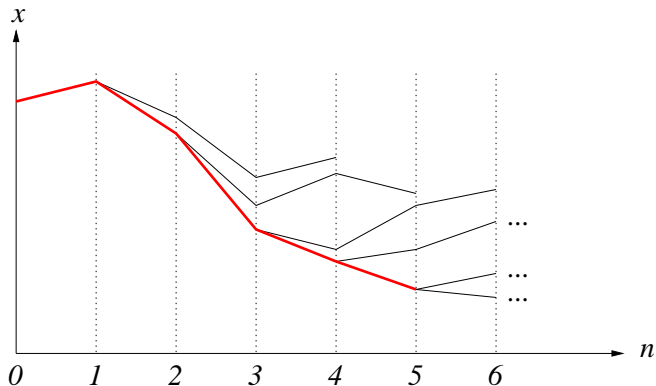
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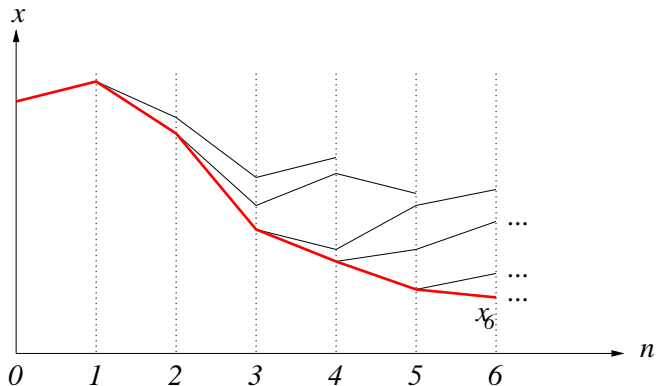


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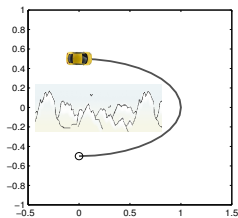
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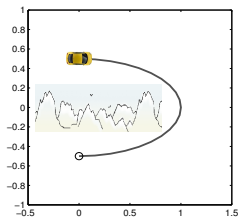
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and, of course, the development of good algorithms (not topic of this course)

# An example



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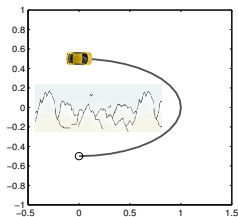
$$x_2^+ = \cos(\varphi + u)/2$$

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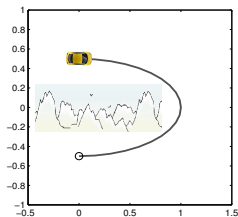
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- the **feedback value**  $\mu_N(x_0)$  is the **first element** of the resulting optimal control sequence
- the example shows that MPC does **not always yield an asymptotically stabilizing** feedback law

(2a) Background material:  
Lyapunov functions

# Purpose of this section

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with  $x \in X$  or, in long form

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(later we will apply the results to  $g(x) = f(x, \mu_N(x))$ )

**Note:** we do not require  $g$  to be **continuous**



# Comparison functions

For  $\mathbb{R}_0^+ = [0, \infty)$  we use the following classes of comparison functions

$$\mathcal{K} := \left\{ \alpha : \mathbb{R}_0^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+ \mid \begin{array}{l} \alpha \text{ is continuous and strictly} \\ \text{increasing with } \alpha(0) = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{K}_\infty := \left\{ \alpha : \mathbb{R}_0^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+ \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{K} \text{ and } \alpha \text{ is unbounded} \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{KL} := \left\{ \beta : \mathbb{R}_0^+ \times \mathbb{R}_0^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+ \mid \begin{array}{l} \beta \text{ is continuous,} \\ \beta(\cdot, t) \in \mathcal{K} \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}_0^+ \\ \text{and } \beta(r, \cdot) \text{ is strictly de-} \\ \text{creasing to 0 for all } r \in \mathbb{R}_0^+ \end{array} \right\}$$

# Asymptotic stability revisited

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We say that  $x_*$  is **asymptotically stable** for  $x^+ = g(x)$  on a forward invariant set  $Y$  if there exists  $\beta \in \mathcal{KL}$  such that

$$\|x(n) - x_*\| \leq \beta(\|x(0) - x_*\|, n)$$

holds for all  $x \in Y$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

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How can we **check** whether this property holds?

# Lyapunov function

Let  $Y \subseteq X$  be a forward invariant set and  $x_* \in X$ . A function  $V : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$  is called a **Lyapunov function** for  $x^+ = g(x)$  if the following two conditions hold for all  $x \in Y$ :

(i) There exists  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathcal{K}_\infty$  such that

$$\alpha_1(\|x - x_*\|) \leq V(x) \leq \alpha_2(\|x - x_*\|)$$

(ii) There exists  $\alpha_V \in \mathcal{K}$  such that

$$V(x^+) \leq V(x) - \alpha_V(\|x - x_*\|)$$

# Stability theorem

**Theorem:** If the system  $x^+ = g(x)$  admits a Lyapunov function  $V$  on a forward invariant set  $Y$ , then  $x_*$  is an asymptotically stable equilibrium on  $Y$

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The bounds  $\alpha_1(\|x - x_*\|) \leq V(x) \leq \alpha_2(\|x - x_*\|)$  imply that **asymptotic stability** holds with  $\beta(r, t) = \alpha_1^{-1}(\tilde{\beta}(\alpha_2(r), t))$

# Lyapunov functions — discussion

While the convergence  $x(n) \rightarrow x_*$  is typically **non-monotone** for an asymptotically stable system, the convergence  $V(x(n)) \rightarrow 0$  is **strictly monotone**

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**But** it is in general **difficult to find** a candidate for a Lyapunov function

For MPC, we will use the **optimal value functions** which we introduce in the next section

(2b) Background material:  
Dynamic Programming



# Purpose of this section

We define the **optimal value functions**  $V_N$  for the optimal control problem

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

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We present the **dynamic programming principle**, which establishes a relation for these functions and will eventually enable us to derive conditions under which  $V_N$  is a Lyapunov function

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**Note:** an optimal  $\mathbf{u}^*$  does not need to exist in general. In the sequel **we assume that  $\mathbf{u}^*$  exists if  $x_0$  is feasible**

# Dynamic Programming Principle

**Theorem:** (Dynamic Programming Principle) For any feasible  $x_0 \in \mathbb{X}$  the optimal value function **satisfies**

$$V_N(x_0) = \inf_{\substack{u \in \mathbb{U} \\ f(x_0, u) \in \mathbb{X}}} \{ \ell(x_0, u) + V_{N-1}(f(x_0, u)) \}$$



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Moreover, if  $\mathbf{u}^*$  is an **optimal control**, then

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**Idea of Proof:** Follows by **taking infima** in the identity

$$\begin{aligned} J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) &= \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(0), \mathbf{u}(0)) + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)) \\ &= \ell(x_0, \mathbf{u}(0)) + J_{N-1}(f(x_0, \mathbf{u}(0)), \mathbf{u}(\cdot + 1)) \end{aligned}$$

# Corollaries

**Corollary:** Let  $x^*$  be an optimal trajectory of length  $N$  with optimal control  $u^*$  and  $x^*(0) = x$ .

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In order to see why this can work, in the next section we briefly look at **infinite horizon optimal control problems**

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In order to see why this can work, in the next section we briefly look at **infinite horizon optimal control problems**

Moreover, for simple systems the principle can be used for **computing**  $V_N$  and  $\mu_N$  — we will see an example in the exercises

(2c) Background material:  
Relaxed Dynamic Programming

# Infinite horizon optimal control

Just like the finite horizon problem we can define the **infinite horizon optimal control problem**

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If we could compute an **optimal feedback**  $\mu_{\infty}$  for this problem (which is — in contrast to computing  $\mu_N$  — in general a **very difficult** problem), we would have solved the **stabilization problem**

# Infinite horizon dynamic programming principle

Recall the **corollary** from the finite horizon dynamic programming principle

$$V_N(x) = \ell(x, \mu_N(x)) + V_{N-1}(f(x, \mu_N(x)))$$



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Unfortunately, an equation of the type

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$$\rightsquigarrow V_N(x) \geq \alpha\ell(x, \mu_N(x)) + V_N(f(x, \mu_N(x)))$$

“relaxed dynamic programming inequality” [Rantzer et al. '06ff]

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$$\rightsquigarrow V_N(x) \geq \alpha\ell(x, \mu_N(x)) + V_N(f(x, \mu_N(x)))$$

“relaxed dynamic programming inequality” [Rantzer et al. '06ff]

What can we conclude from this inequality?

# Relaxed dynamic programming

We define the **infinite horizon performance** of the MPC closed loop system  $x^+ = f(x, \mu_N(x))$  as

$$J_{\infty}^{cl}(x_0, \mu_N) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \ell(x_{\mu_N}(k), \mu_N(x_{\mu_N}(k))), \quad x_{\mu_N}(0) = x_0$$

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**Theorem:** [Gr./Rantzer '08, Gr./Pannek '11] Let  $Y \subseteq \mathbb{X}$  be a **forward invariant set** for the MPC closed loop and assume that

$$V_N(x) \geq \alpha \ell(x, \mu_N(x)) + V_N(f(x, \mu_N(x)))$$

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Then for all  $x \in Y$  the **infinite horizon performance** satisfies

$$J_{\infty}^{cl}(x_0, \mu_N) \leq V_N(x_0)/\alpha$$

# Relaxed dynamic programming

**Theorem (continued):** If, moreover, there exists  $\alpha_2, \alpha_3 \in \mathcal{K}_\infty$  such that the **inequalities**

$$V_N(x) \leq \alpha_2(\|x - x_*\|), \quad \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \ell(x, u) \geq \alpha_3(\|x - x_*\|)$$

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$\Rightarrow$  **asymptotic stability**



# Relaxed dynamic programming

For proving the performance estimate  $J_{\infty}^{cl}(x_0, \mu_N) \leq V_N(x_0)/\alpha$ , the relaxed dynamic programming inequality implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \ell(x_{\mu_N}(k), \mu_N(x_{\mu_N}(k))) \\ & \leq \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \left( V_N(x_{\mu_N}(n)) - V_N(x_{\mu_N}(n+1)) \right) \\ & = V_N(x_{\mu_N}(0)) - V_N(x_{\mu_N}(K)) \leq V_N(x_{\mu_N}(0)) \end{aligned}$$

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- The performance of the MPC controller can be measured by looking at the **infinite horizon value** along the MPC closed loop trajectories
- **Relaxed dynamic programming** gives us conditions under which both asymptotic stability and performance results can be derived



# Application of background results

The main task will be to verify the assumptions of the **relaxed dynamic programming theorem**, i.e.,

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To this end, we present **two different approaches**:

- modify the optimal control problem in the MPC loop by adding **terminal constraints and costs**
- derive assumptions on  $f$  and  $\ell$  under which MPC works **without terminal constraints and costs**

### (3) Stability with stabilizing constraints

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of the relaxed dynamic programming theorem for the optimal value function

$$V_N(x_0) := \inf_{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

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(where “small” means that the error can be compensated replacing  $\ell(x, \mu_N(x))$  by  $\alpha \ell(x, \mu_N(x))$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ )

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Task: Find conditions under which

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$\rightsquigarrow$  additional **stabilizing constraints** were proposed



(3a) Equilibrium terminal constraint

# Equilibrium terminal constraint

Optimal control problem

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

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**Assumption:**  $f(x_*, 0) = x_*$  and  $\ell(x_*, 0) = 0$

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[Keerthi/Gilbert '88, ...]

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↪ we now solve

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{U}_{x_*}^N(x_0)}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

with  $\mathbb{U}_{x_*}^N(x_0) := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{U}^N \text{ admissible and } x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = x_*\}$

# Prolongation of control sequences

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Moreover, since

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the prolongation has zero stage cost

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## Reversal of $V_{N-1} \leq V_N$

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**But:** the dynamic programming principle **remains valid**

# Relaxed dynamic programming inequality

From the reversed inequality

$$V_{N-1}(x) \geq V_N(x)$$

and the dynamic programming principle

$$V_N(x) \geq \ell(x, \mu_N(x)) + V_{N-1}(f(x, \mu_N(x)))$$

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$\rightsquigarrow$  **stability** follows if we can ensure the **additional inequalities**

$$V_N(x) \leq \alpha_2(\|x - x_*\|), \quad \inf_{u \in \mathbb{U}} \ell(x, u) \geq \alpha_3(\|x - x_*\|)$$

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$\rightsquigarrow$  the feasible set  $\mathbb{X}_N$  is the “natural” **operating region** of MPC with equilibrium terminal constraints

# Stability theorem

**Theorem:** Consider the MPC scheme with **equilibrium terminal constraint**  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = x_*$  where  $x_*$  satisfies  $f(x_*, 0) = x_*$  and  $\ell(x_*, 0) = 0$ .

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**Sketch of proof:** All assertions follow from the relaxed dynamic programming theorem if we prove forward invariance of  $\mathbb{X}_N$  for the MPC closed loop system  $x^+ = f(x, \mu_N(x))$

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The additional condition

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ensures asymptotic stability in a **rigorously provable** way



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- system needs to be **controllable to**  $x_*$  **in finite time**
- **not very often used** in industrial practice

(3b) Regional terminal constraint  
and terminal cost

# Regional constraint and terminal cost

Optimal control problem

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

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**Idea:** add local Lyapunov function  $F : \mathbb{X}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$  as terminal cost

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$F$  is defined on a region  $\mathbb{X}_0$  around  $x_*$  which is imposed as **terminal constraint**  $x(N) \in \mathbb{X}_0$

[Chen & Allgöwer '98, Jadbabaie et al. '98 ...]

# Regional constraint and terminal cost

We thus **change** the optimal control problem to

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{X}_0}^N(x_0)}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)) + F(x_{\mathbf{u}}(N))$$

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Which **properties** do we need for  $F$  and  $\mathbb{X}_0$  in order to make this work?

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# Regional constraint and terminal cost

Assumptions on  $F : \mathbb{X}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$  and  $\mathbb{X}_0$

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- (ii)  $F$  is a Lyapunov function for  $x^+ = f(x, \kappa(x))$  on  $\mathbb{X}_0$   
which is compatible with the stage cost  $\ell$  in the following sense:  
for each  $x \in \mathbb{X}_0$  the inequality

$$F(f(x, \kappa(x))) \leq F(x) - \ell(x, \kappa(x))$$

holds



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By (ii) the **stage cost** of the prolongation is bounded by

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## Reversal of $V_{N-1} \leq V_N$

Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}^* \in \mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{X}_0}^{N-1}(x_0)$  be the optimal control for  $J_{N-1}$ , i.e.,

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for some  $\alpha_2 \in \mathcal{K}_\infty$  under **mild conditions**, while **outside**  $\mathbb{X}_N$  we get  $V_N(x) = \infty$



# Stability theorem

**Theorem:** Consider the MPC scheme with regional terminal constraint  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) \in \mathbb{X}_0$  and Lyapunov function terminal cost  $F$  compatible with  $\ell$ .

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**Proof:** Almost identical to the equilibrium constrained case

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In Section (5) we will see how stability can be proved without stabilizing terminal constraints

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- equilibrium constraints demand **more properties** of the system than regional constraints but **do not require a Lyapunov function terminal cost**
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## (4) Inverse optimality and suboptimality

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# Inverse optimality

**Theorem:** [Poubelle/Bitmead/Gevers '88, Magni/Sepulchre '97]

For both types of terminal constraints,  $\mu_N$  is **optimal** for

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$\Rightarrow V_N$  and  $\mu_N$  satisfy the principle for  $\tilde{\ell}$

# Inverse optimality

**Theorem:** [Poubelle/Bitmead/Gevers '88, Magni/Sepulchre '97]

For both types of terminal constraints,  $\mu_N$  is **optimal** for

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \tilde{J}_\infty(x_0, \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{\ell}(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_0$$

with  $\tilde{\ell}(x, u) := \ell(x, u) + V_{N-1}(f(x, u)) - V_N(f(x, u))$

**Note:**  $\tilde{\ell} \geq \ell$

**Idea of proof:** By the **dynamic programming principle**

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- knowing that  $\mu_N$  is optimal for  $\tilde{J}_\infty(x_0, u)$  doesn't give us a simple way to estimate  $J_\infty^{cl}(x_0, \mu_N)$

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**Without terminal constraints**, the inequality  $V_N \leq V_{\infty}$  is immediate

However, the terminal constraints also **reverse this inequality**, i.e., we have  $V_N \geq V_{\infty}$  and the gap is very difficult to estimate

# Suboptimality — example

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General estimates for **fixed**  $N$  appear difficult to obtain. But we can give an **asymptotic result** for  $N \rightarrow \infty$

# Asymptotic Suboptimality

**Theorem:** For both types of terminal constraints the assumptions of the stability theorems ensure

$$V_N(x) \rightarrow V_\infty(x)$$

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**Idea of proof:** uses that any approximately optimal trajectory for  $J_\infty$  converges to  $x_*$  and can thus be modified to meet the constraints with only moderately changing its value

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(5) Stability and suboptimality without stabilizing constraints

# MPC without stabilizing terminal constraints

We return to the basic MPC formulation

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In order to motivate why we want to avoid terminal constraints and costs, we consider an example of  $P$  double integrators in the plane

# A motivating example for avoiding terminal constraints

**Example:** [Jahn '10] Consider  $P$  4-dimensional systems

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_i, u_i) := (x_{i2}, u_{i1}, x_{i4}, u_{i2})^T, \quad i = 1, \dots, P$$

**Interpretation:**  $(x_{i1}, x_{i3})^T = \text{position}$ ,  $(x_{i2}, x_{i4})^T = \text{velocity}$

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**Stage cost:**  $\ell(x, u) = \sum_{i=1}^P \|(x_{i1}, x_{i3})^T - x_d\| + \|(x_{i2}, x_{i4})^T\|/50$

with  $x_d = (0, 0)^T$  until  $t = 20s$  and  $x_d = (3, 0)^T$  afterwards

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The simulation shows MPC for  $P = 128$  ( $\rightsquigarrow$  system dimension 512) with sampling time  $T = 0.02s$  and horizon  $N = 6$

# Stabilizing NMPC without terminal constraint

(Some) stability and performance results known in the [literature](#):

[Alamir/Bornard '95]

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Here we explain the [last approach](#)

# Bounds on the optimal value function

Recall the definition of the **optimal value function**

$$V_N(x) := \inf_{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k, x), \mathbf{u}(k))$$

**Boundedness assumption:** there exists  $\gamma > 0$  with

$$V_N(x) \leq \gamma \ell^*(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{X}, N \in \mathbb{N}$$

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(sufficient conditions for and relaxations of this bound will be discussed later)

# Stability and performance index

We choose  $\ell$ , such that

$$\alpha_3(\|x - x_*\|) \leq \ell^*(x) \leq \alpha_4(\|x - x_*\|)$$

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We can **compute**  $\alpha_N$  from the bound  $V_N(x) \leq \gamma \ell^*(x)$



## Computing $\alpha_N$

We assume  $V_N(x) \leq \gamma \ell^*(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  (\*)

We want  $V_N(f(x, \mu_N(x))) \leq V_N(x) - \alpha_N \ell(x, \mu_N(x))$

## Computing $\alpha_N$

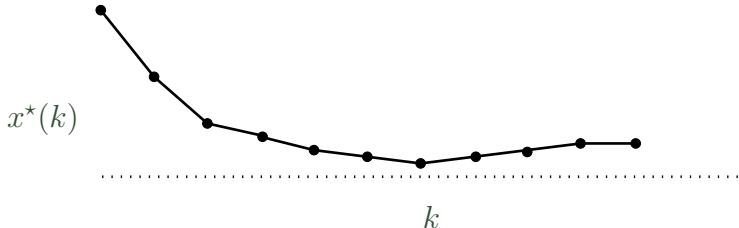
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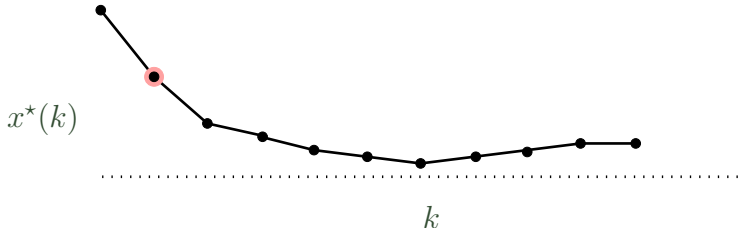
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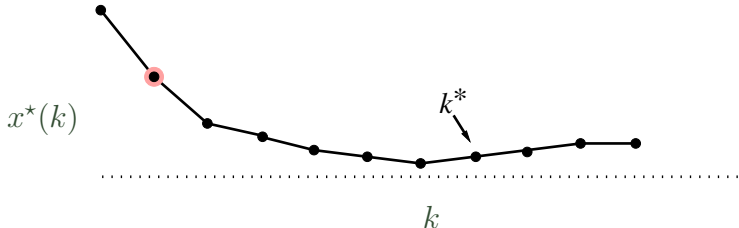


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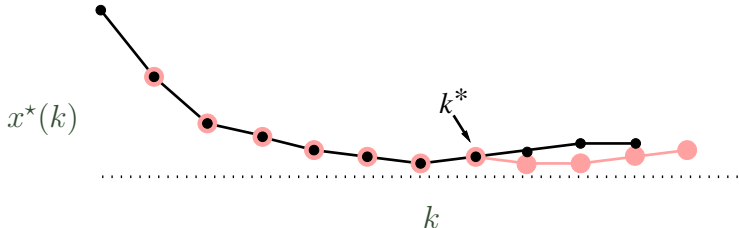


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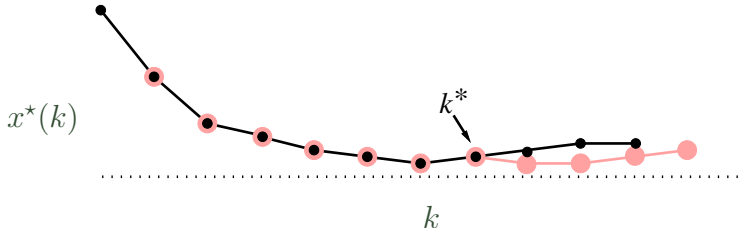


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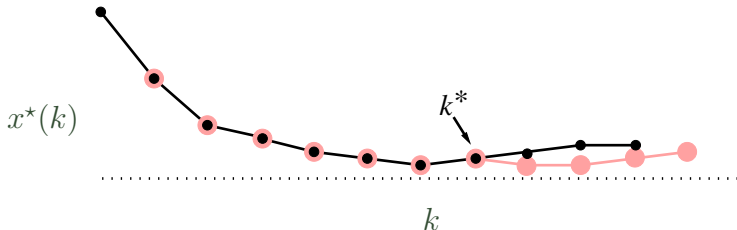
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$$\Rightarrow V_N(x^*(1)) \leq J_N(x^*(1), \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) \leq V_N(x^*(0)) - (1 - \gamma \eta_N) \ell(x^*(0), \mathbf{u}^*(0))$$





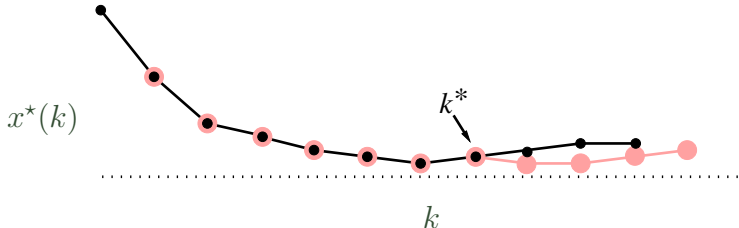
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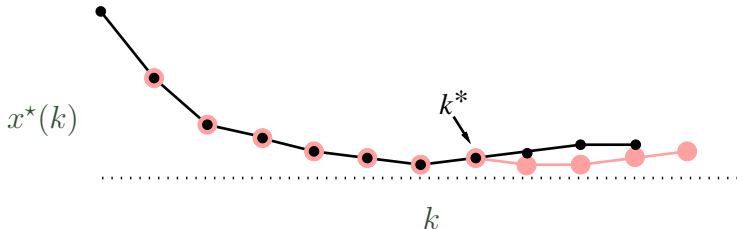
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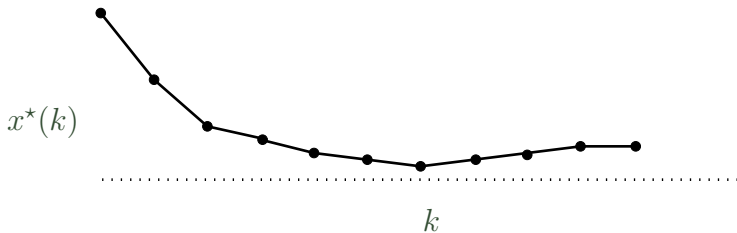
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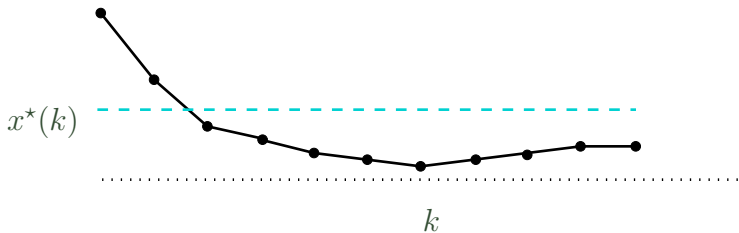
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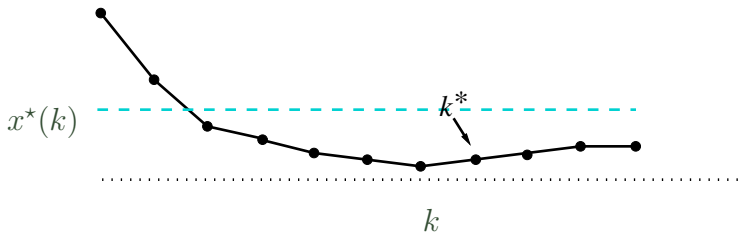
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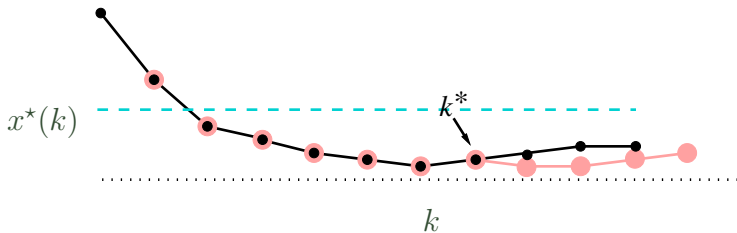
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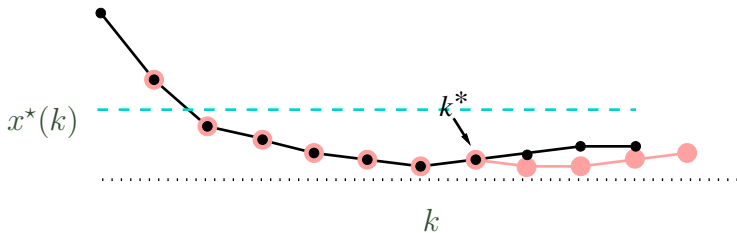
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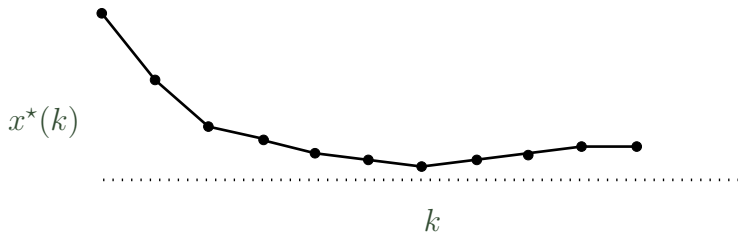
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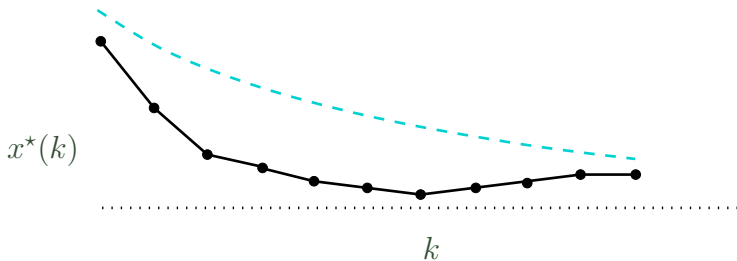
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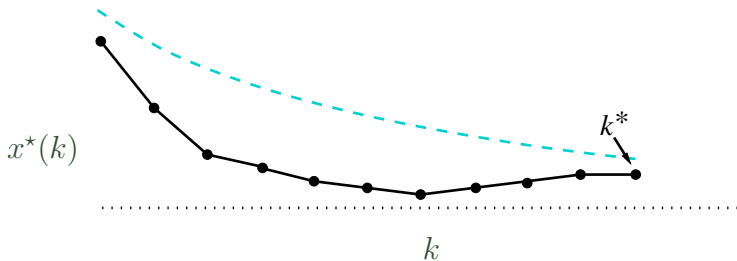
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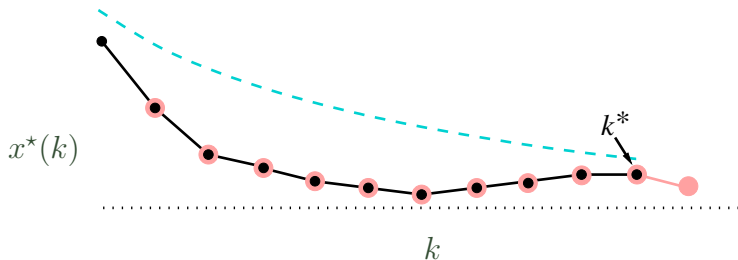
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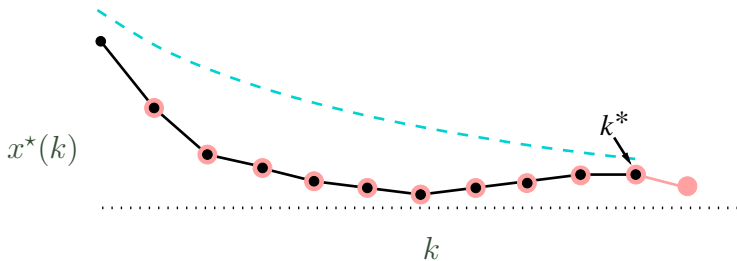
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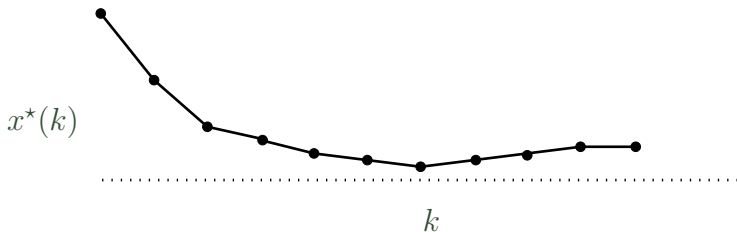
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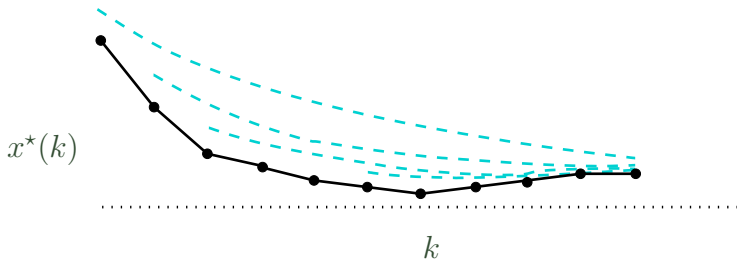
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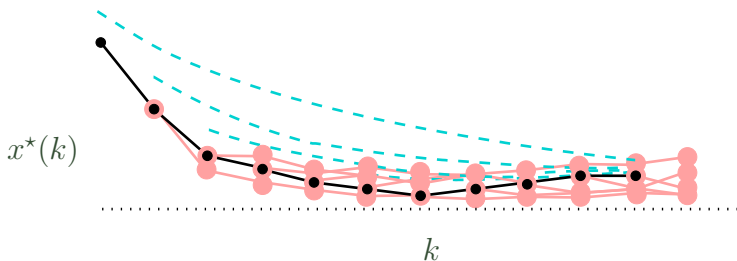
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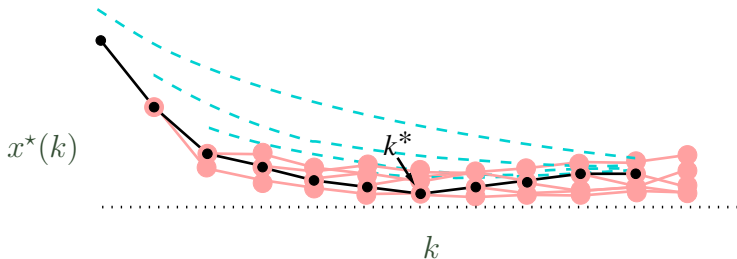
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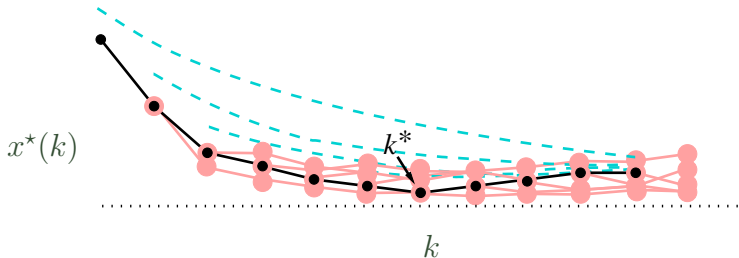
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We explain the optimization approach (Variant 3) in **more detail**. We want  $\alpha_N$  such that

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This is a linear optimization problem whose solution can be computed explicitly (which is nontrivial) and reads

$$\alpha_N = 1 - \frac{(\gamma - 1)^N}{\gamma^{N-1} - (\gamma - 1)^{N-1}}$$



# Stability and performance theorem

**Theorem:** [Gr./Pannek/Seehafer/Worthmann '10]: Assume  $V_N(x) \leq \gamma \ell^*(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ . If

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**Conversely**, if  $N < 2 + \frac{\ln(\gamma-1)}{\ln \gamma - \ln(\gamma-1)}$ , then there exists a system for which  $V_N(x) \leq \gamma \ell^*(x)$  holds but the NMPC closed loop is **not** asymptotically stable.

## Horizon dependent $\gamma$ -values

The theorem **remains valid** if we replace the bound condition

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This allows for **tighter bounds** and a **refined analysis**

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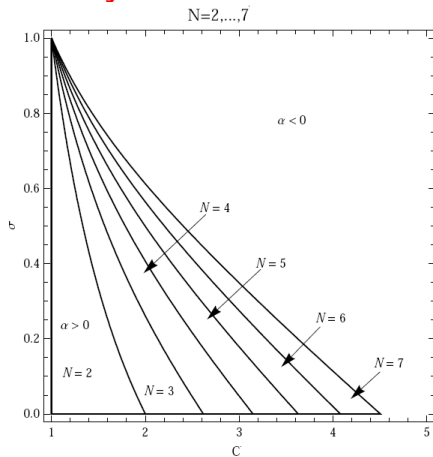
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This allows to compute the **minimal stabilizing horizon**

$$\min\{N \in \mathbb{N} \mid \alpha_N > 0\}$$

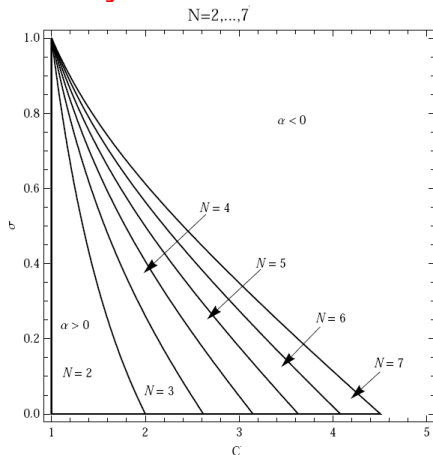
depending on  $C$  and  $\sigma$

# Stability chart for $C$ and $\sigma$



(Figure: Harald Voit)

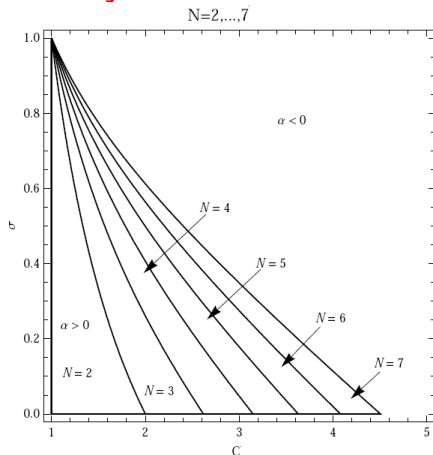
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**Conclusion:** for short optimization horizon  $N$  it is  
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(we will see in the next section how to use this information)



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- under appropriate uniformity assumptions, the results are easily carried over to **tracking time variant references**  $x_{\text{ref}}(n)$  instead of an equilibrium  $x_*$  [Gr./Pannek '11]

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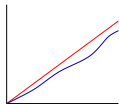


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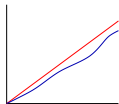


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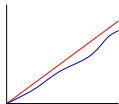


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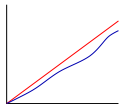


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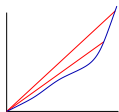
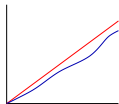


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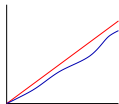


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[Grimm/Messina/Tuna/Teel '05, Gr./Pannek '11]

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(6) Examples for the design of MPC schemes

# Design of “good” MPC running costs $\ell$

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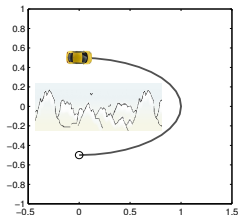
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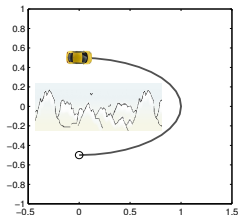
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The **trajectories**  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(n)$  are given, but we can use the **running cost**  $\ell$  as design parameter

# The car-and-mountains example reloaded



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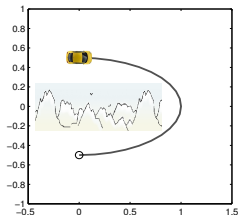


MPC with  $\ell(x, u) = \|x - x_*\|^2 + |u|^2$  and  $u_{\max} = 0.2$

↪ asymptotic stability for  $N = 11$  but not for  $N \leq 10$



# The car-and-mountains example reloaded

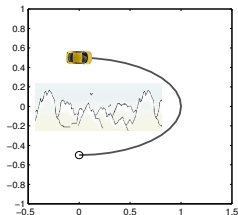


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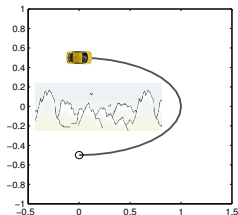
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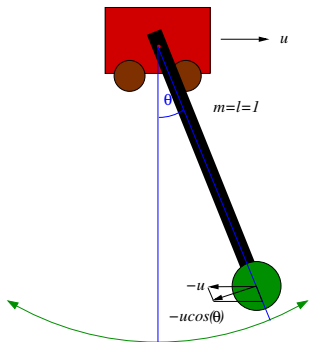
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# Example: pendulum on a cart



$x_1 = \theta = \text{angle}$

$x_2 = \text{angular velocity}$

$x_3 = \text{cart position}$

$x_4 = \text{cart velocity}$

$u = \text{cart acceleration}$

$\rightsquigarrow$  control system

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2(t)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -g \sin(x_1) - kx_2 - u \cos(x_1)$$

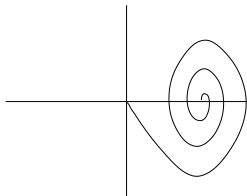
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Reducing overshoot for **swingup** of the pendulum on a cart:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2, & \dot{x}_2 &= g \sin(x_1) - kx_2 + u \cos(x_1) \\ \dot{x}_3 &= x_4, & \dot{x}_4 &= u\end{aligned}$$



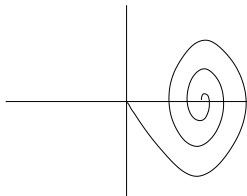
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Let  $\ell(x) = \sqrt{\ell_1(x_1, x_2) + x_3^2 + x_4^2}$



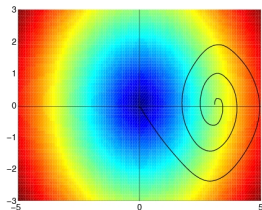
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$$\ell_1(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$$

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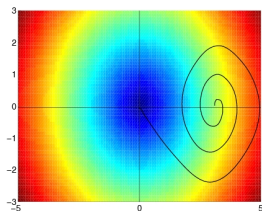
sampling time  $T = 0.15$

# Example: Inverted Pendulum

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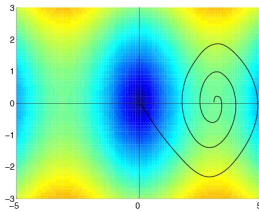
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$$4(1 - \cos x_1) + x_2^2$$

$$N = 10$$

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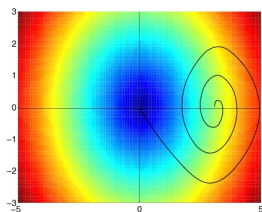


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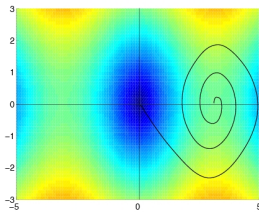
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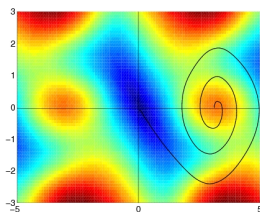
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$$\begin{aligned} & (\sin x_1, x_2)P(\sin x_1, x_2)^T \\ & + 2((1 - \cos x_1)(1 - \cos x_2)^2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$N = 4 \text{ (swingup only)}$$

sampling time  $T = 0.15$

# A PDE example

We illustrate this with the 1d controlled PDE

$$y_t = y_x + \nu y_{xx} + \mu y(y + 1)(1 - y) + u$$

with

domain  $\Omega = [0, 1]$

solution  $y = y(t, x)$

boundary conditions  $y(t, 0) = y(t, 1) = 0$

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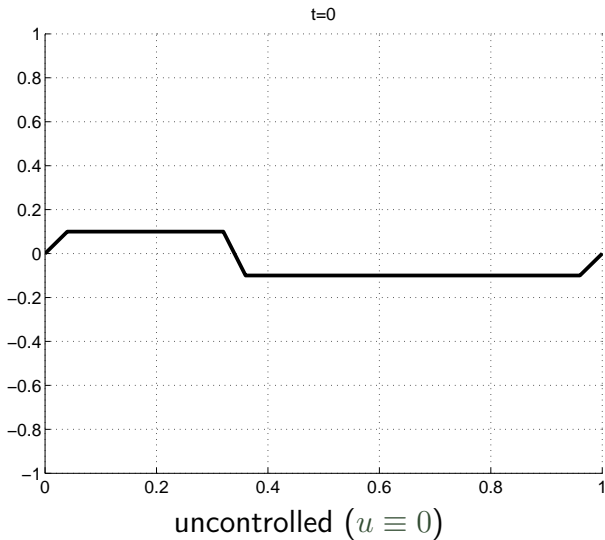
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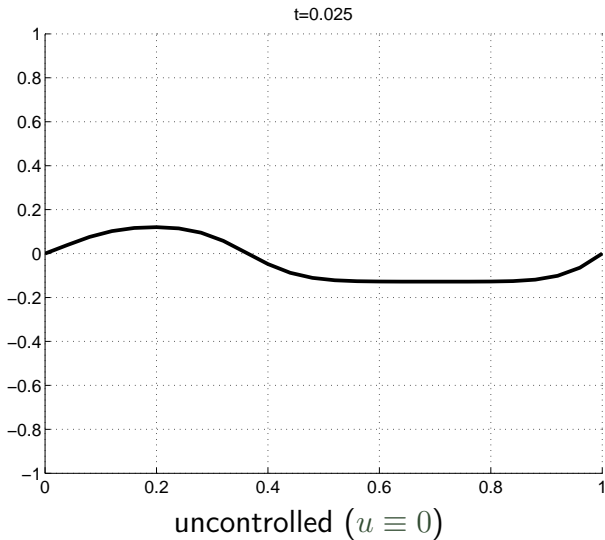
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Discrete time system:  $y(n) = y(nT, \cdot)$ , sampling time  $T = 0.025$

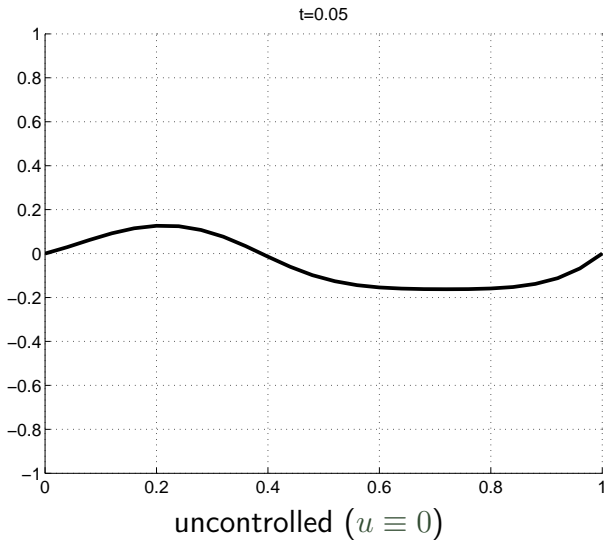
# The uncontrolled PDE



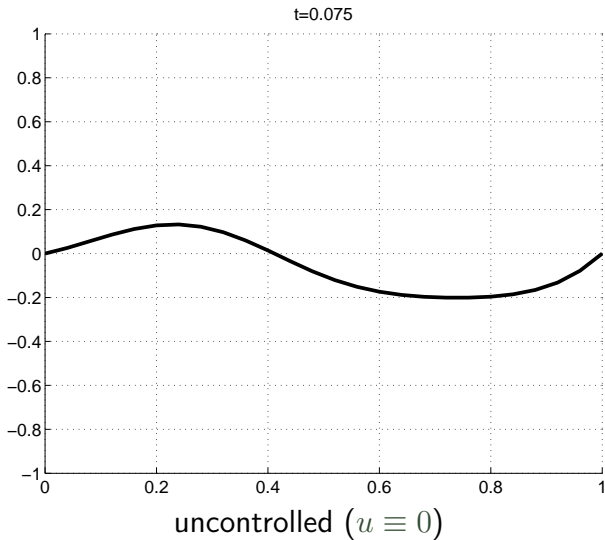
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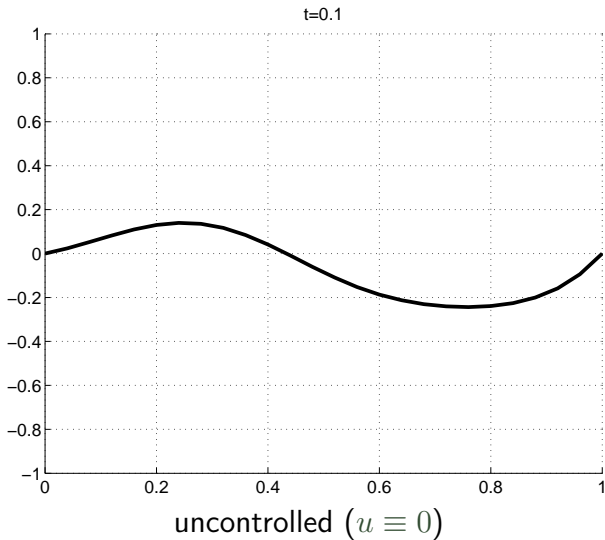
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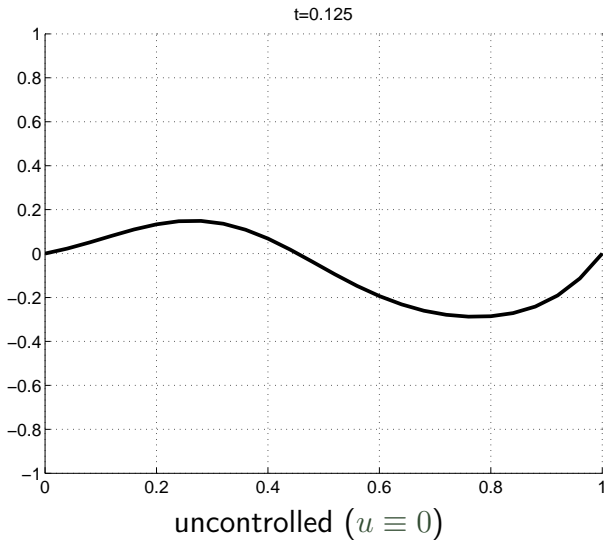


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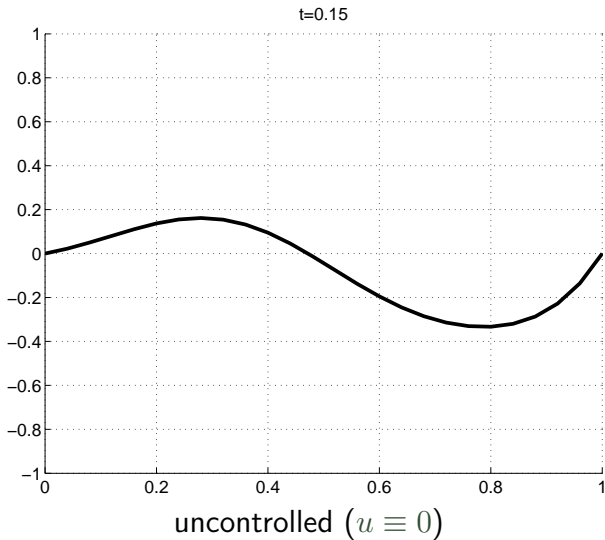




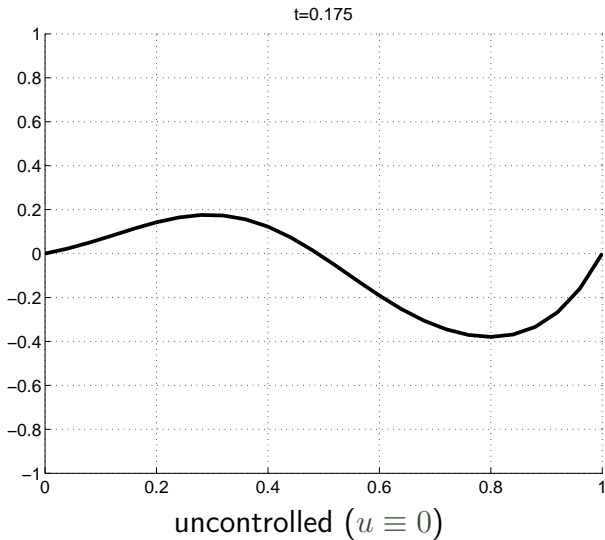
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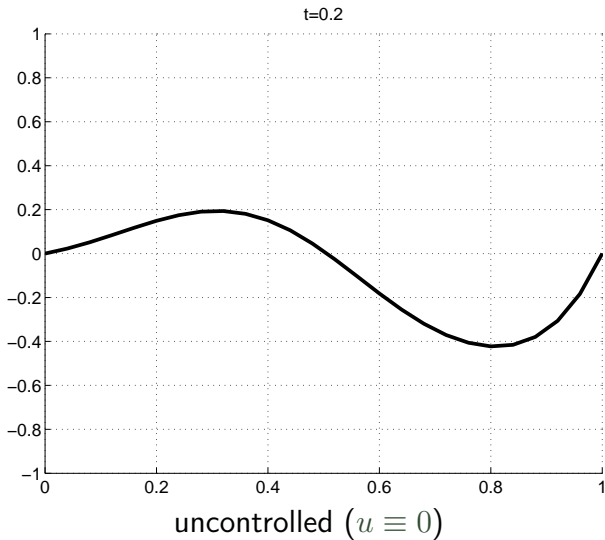
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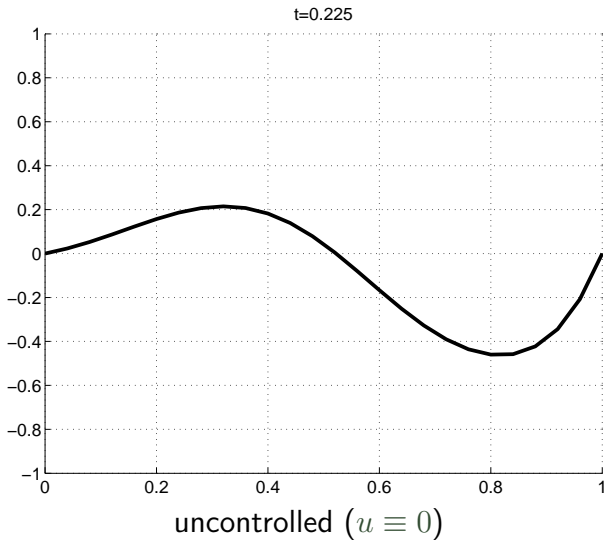
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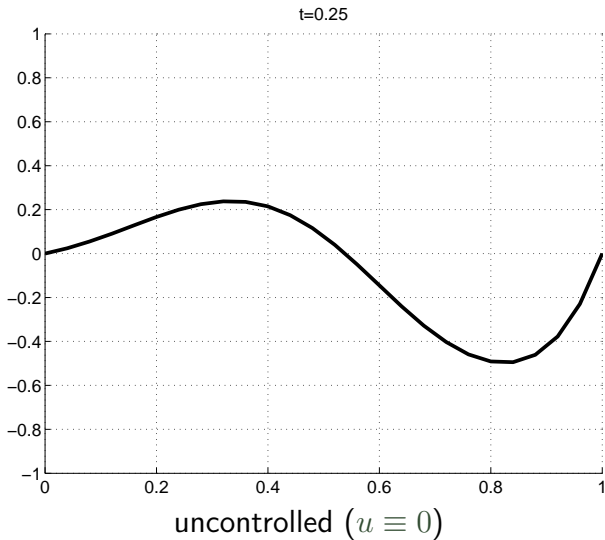
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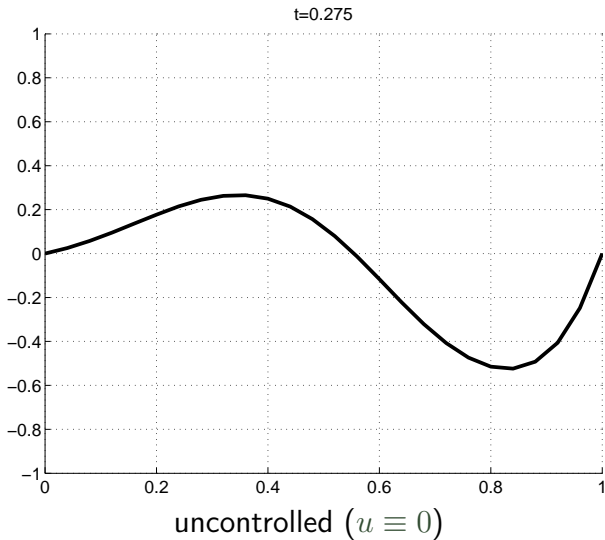
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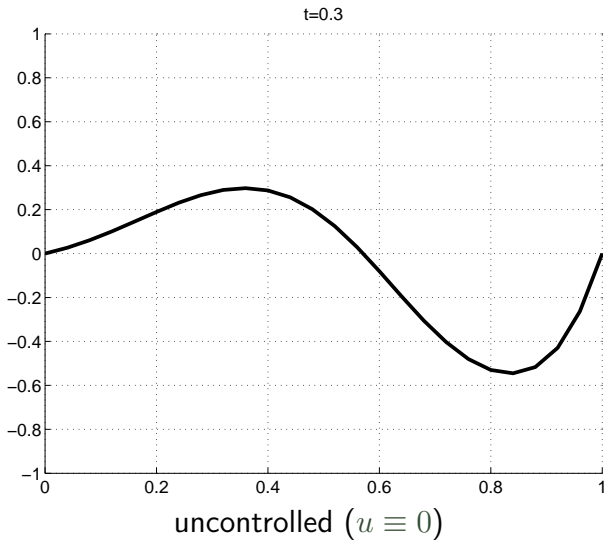
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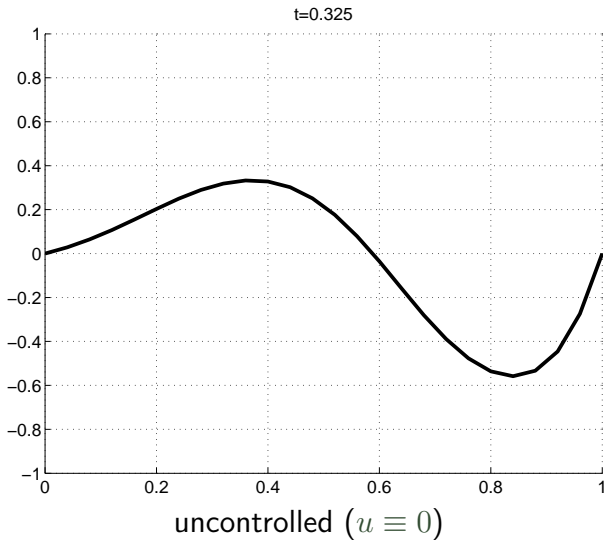


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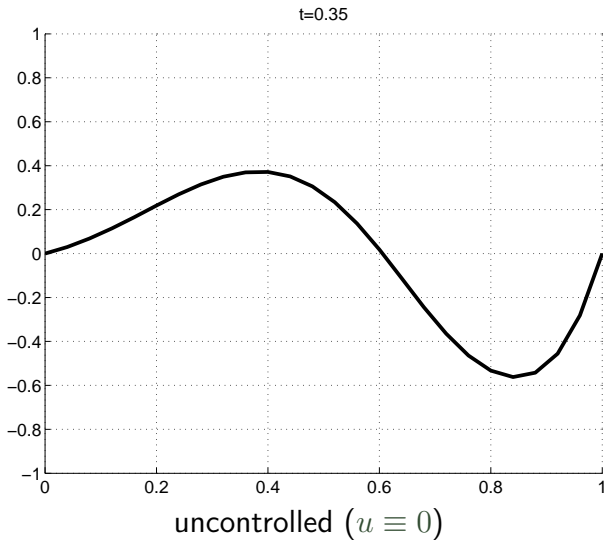




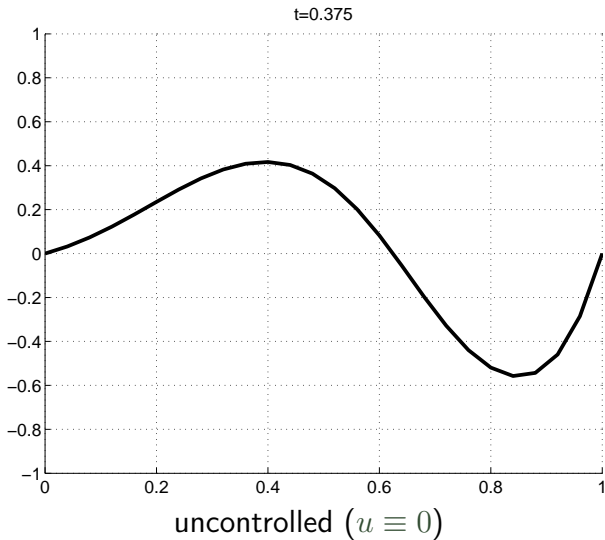
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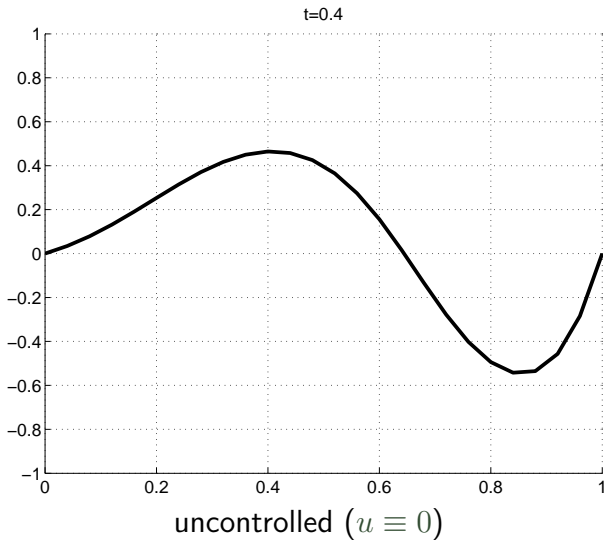
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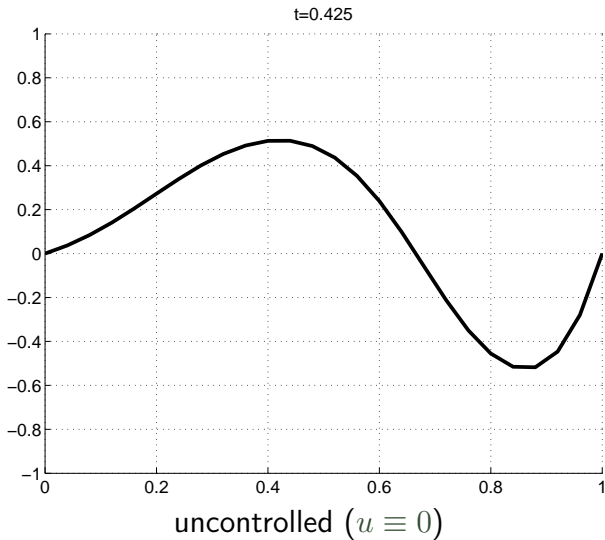
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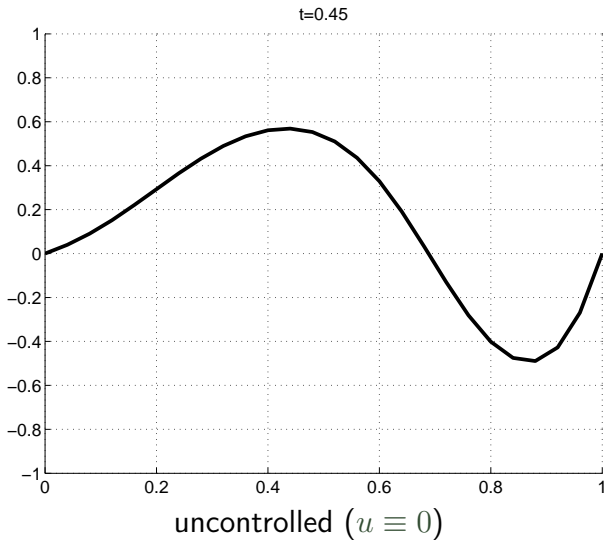
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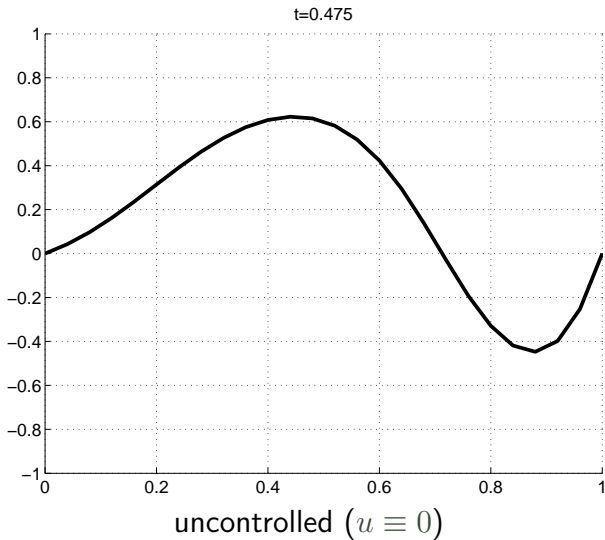
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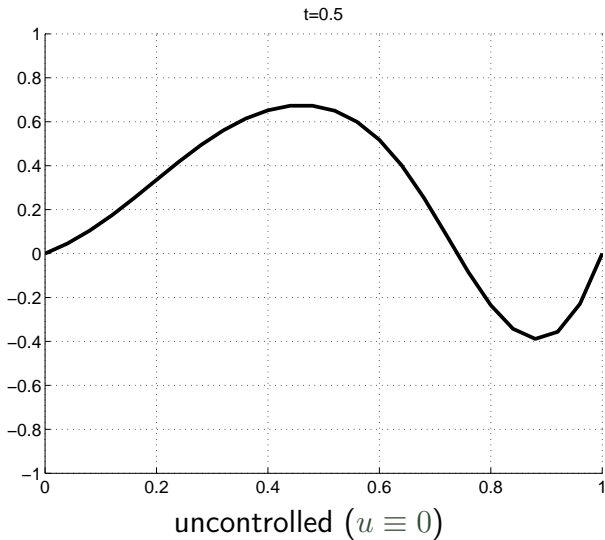
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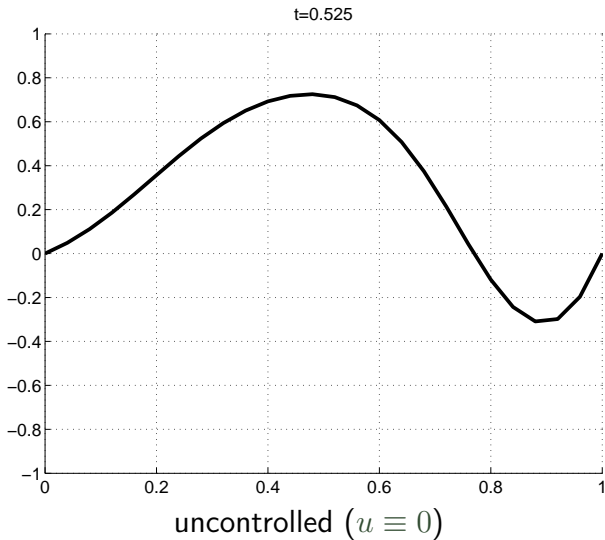


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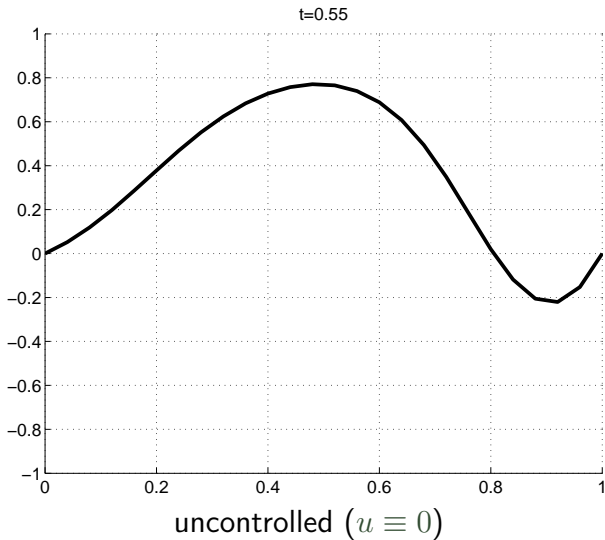




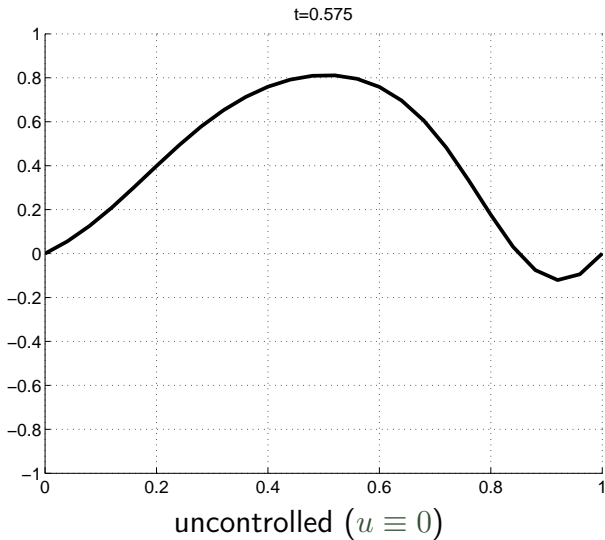
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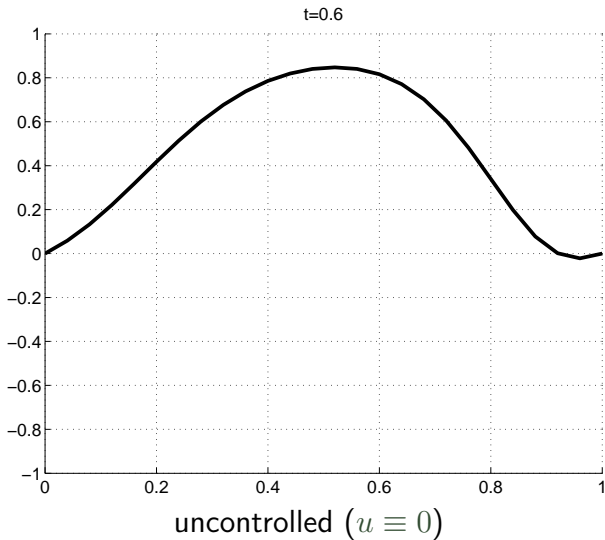
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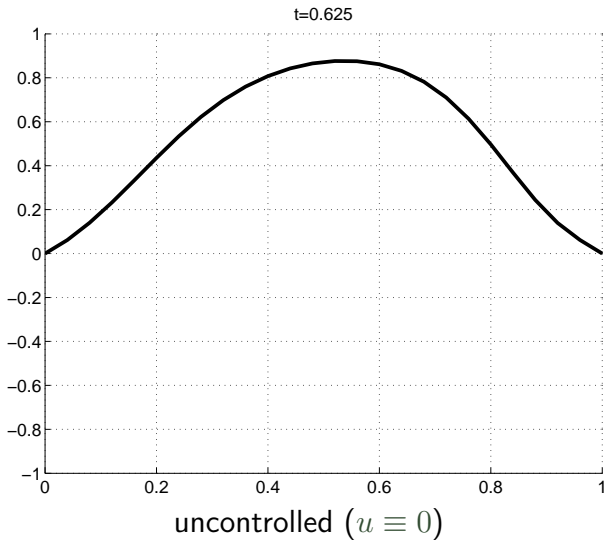
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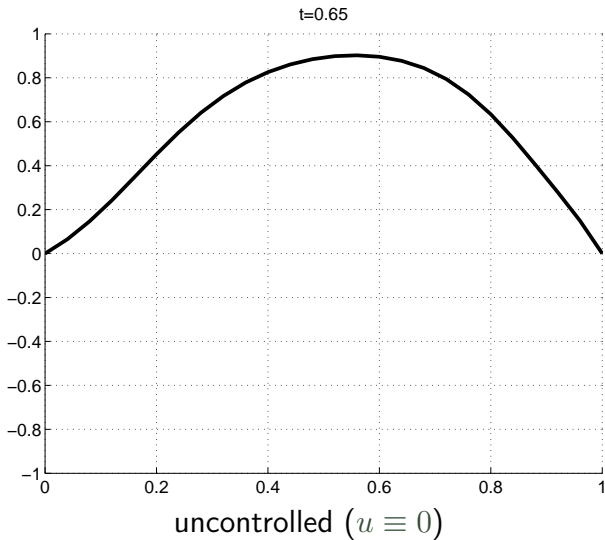
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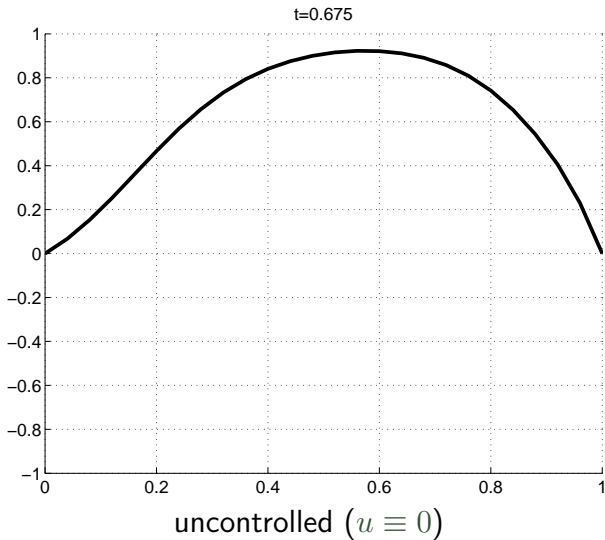
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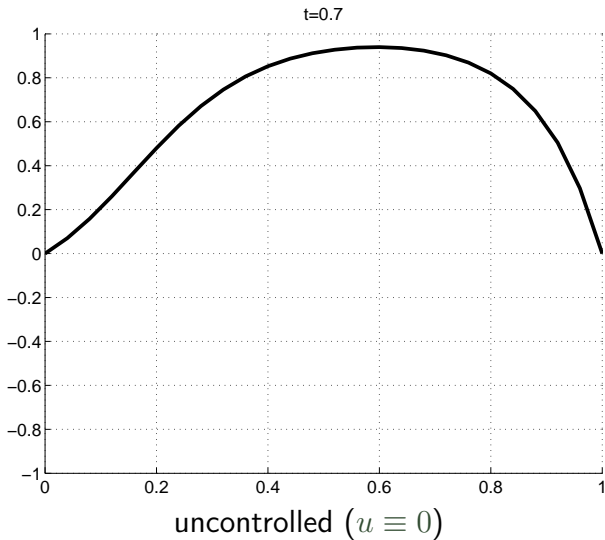
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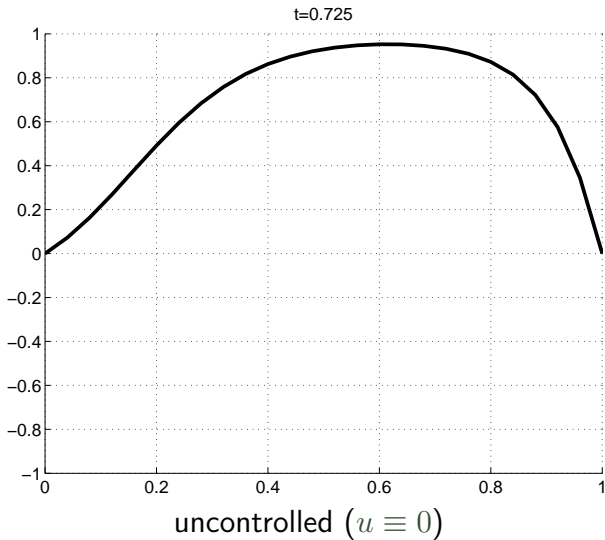


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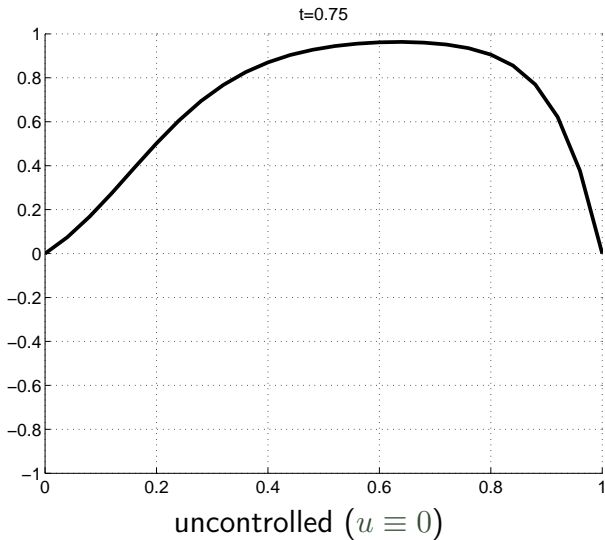




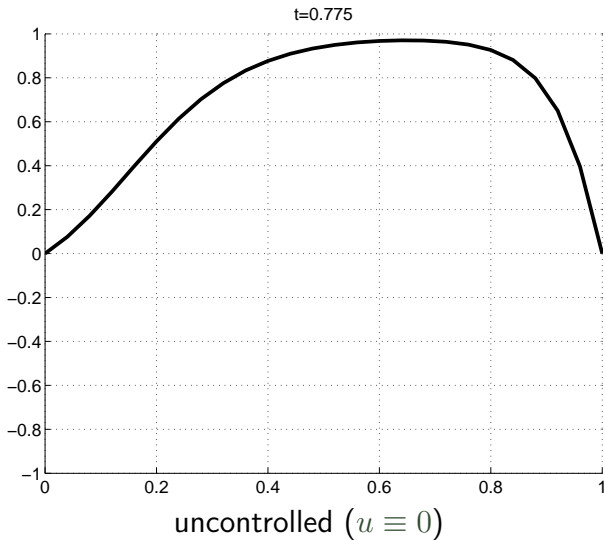
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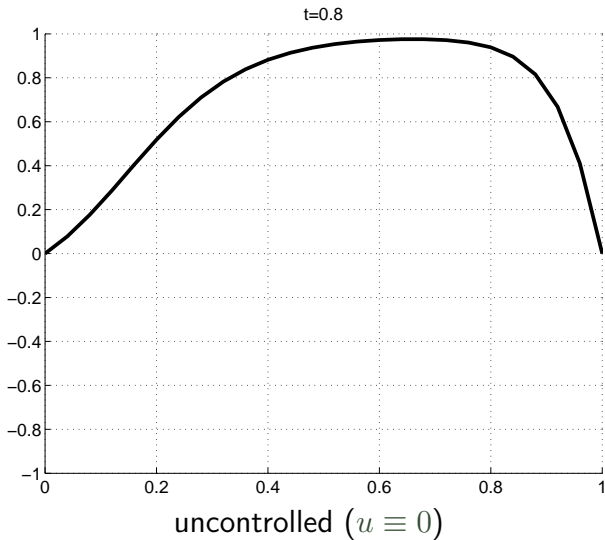
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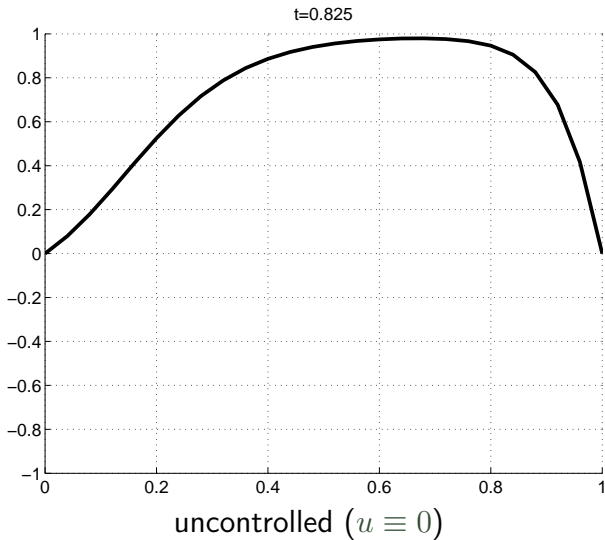
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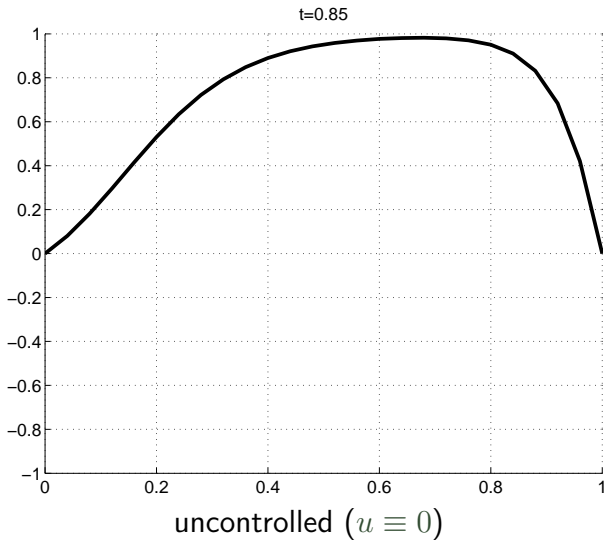
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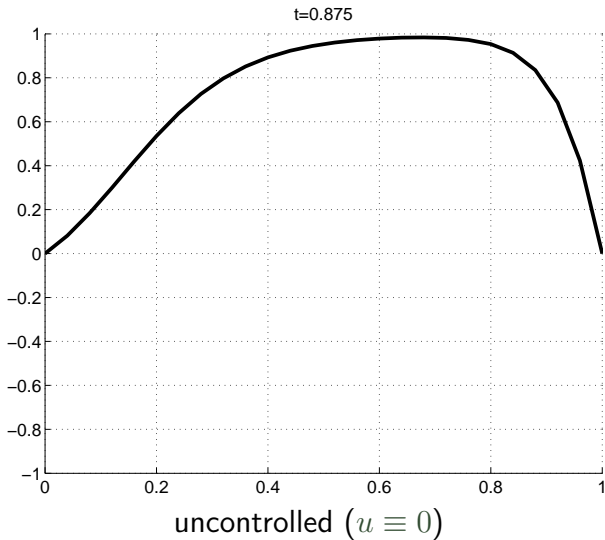
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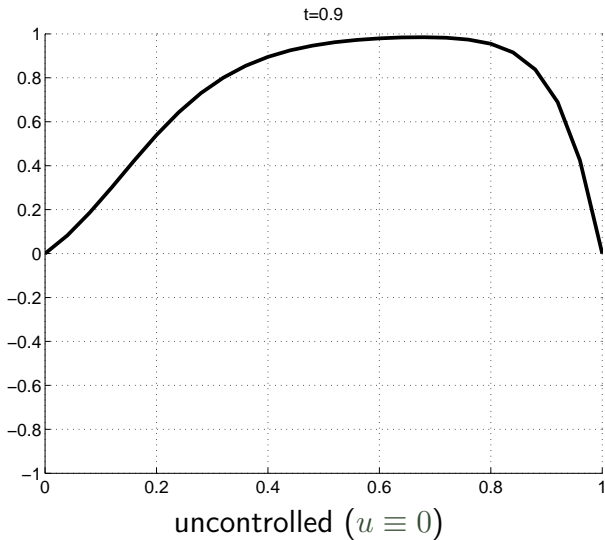
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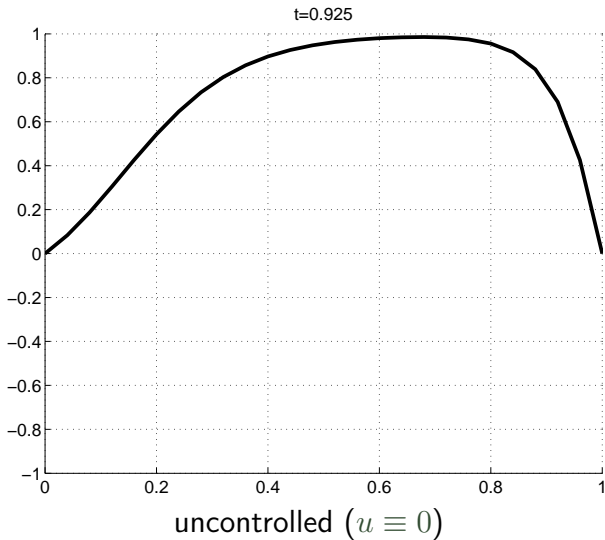


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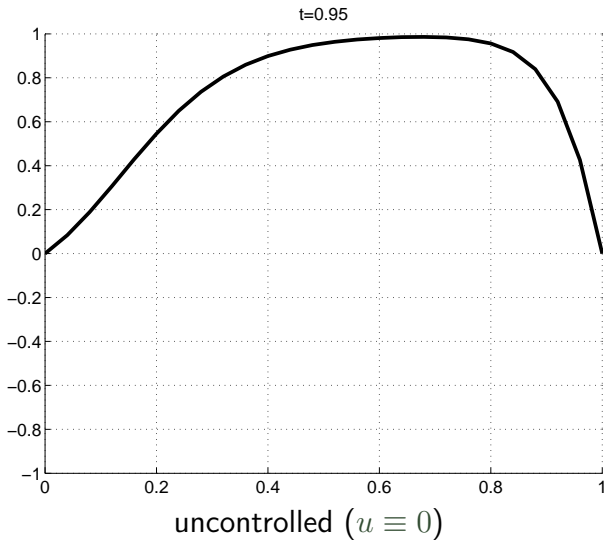




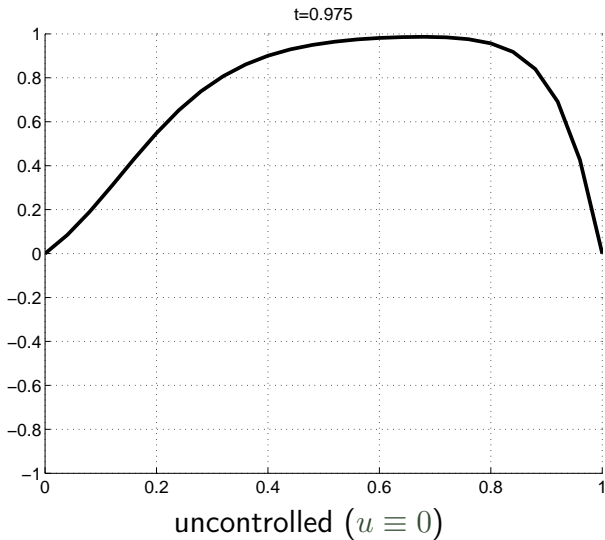
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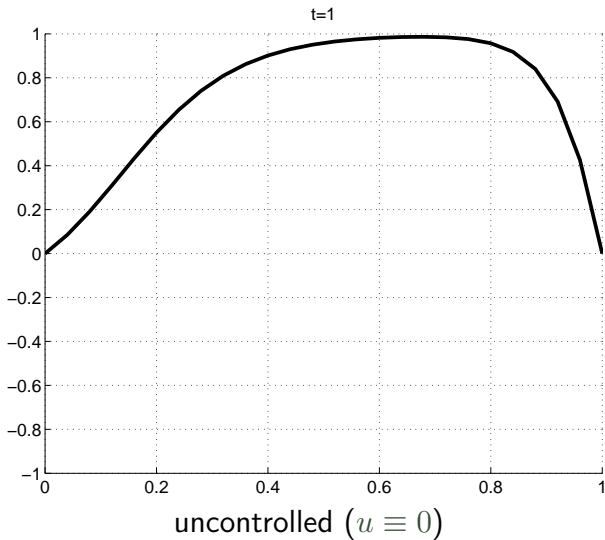
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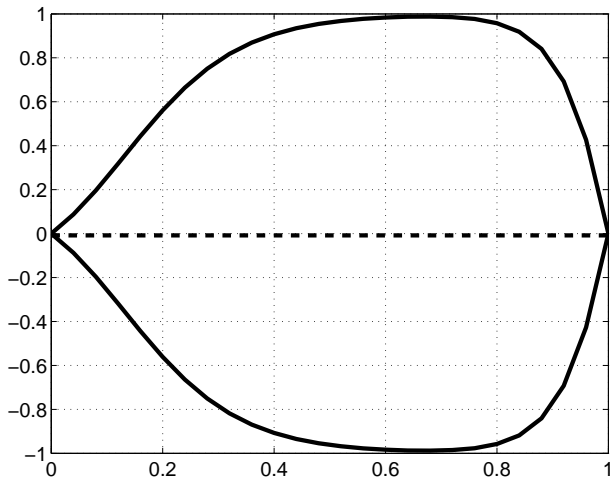
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all equilibrium solutions

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for  $\|y_x\|_{L^2} \gg \|y\|_{L^2}$  this can only hold if  $C \gg 0$

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Conclusion: because of

$$\|y(n)\|_{L^2}^2 + \lambda \|y_x(n)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C\sigma^n \|y(0)\|_{L^2}^2$$

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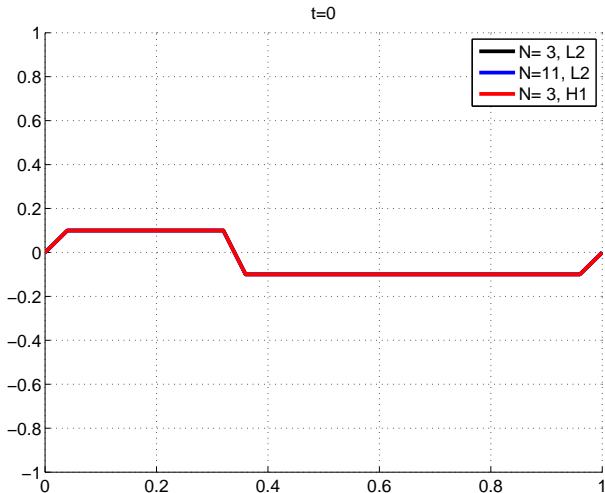
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Then an analogous computation yields

$$\|y(n)\|_{L^2}^2 + (1 + \lambda) \|y_x(n)\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C\sigma^n \left( \|y(0)\|_{L^2}^2 + \|y_x(0)\|_{L^2}^2 \right)$$

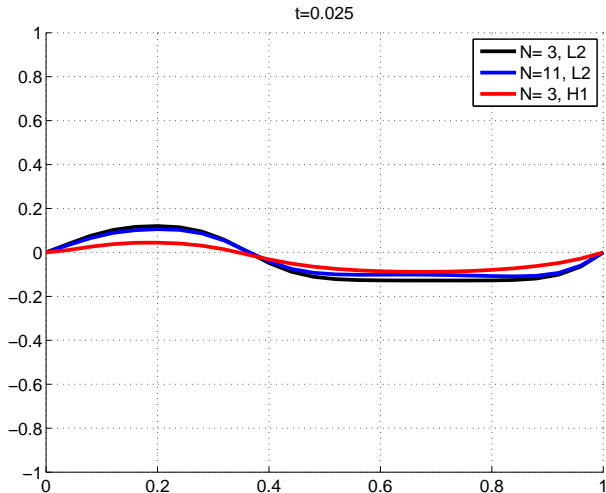


# MPC with $L_2$ vs. $H_1$ cost



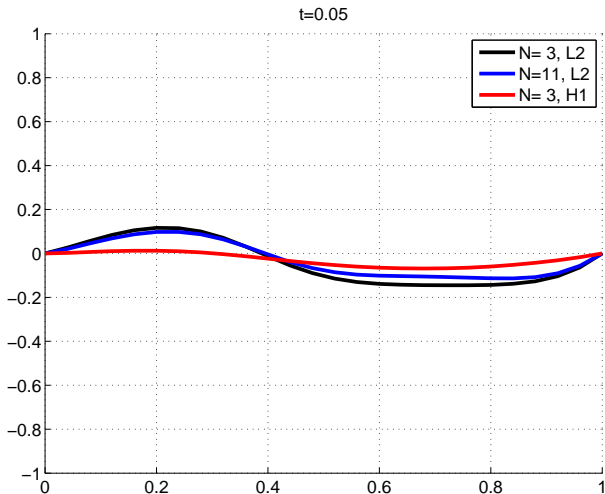
MPC with  $L_2$  and  $H_1$  cost,  $\lambda = 0.1$ , sampling time  $T = 0.025$

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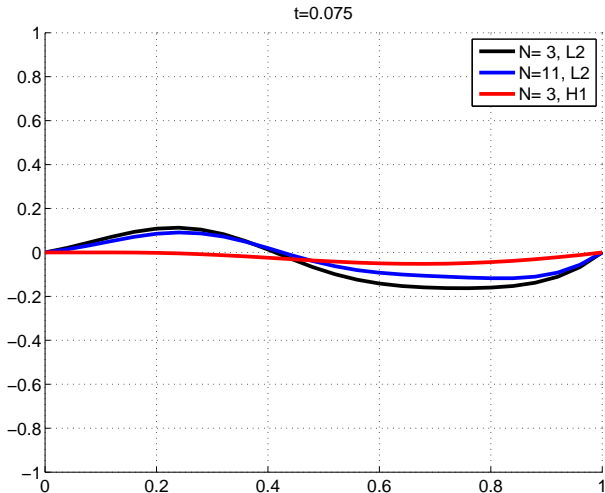
MPC with  $L_2$  and  $H_1$  cost,  $\lambda = 0.1$ , sampling time  $T = 0.025$

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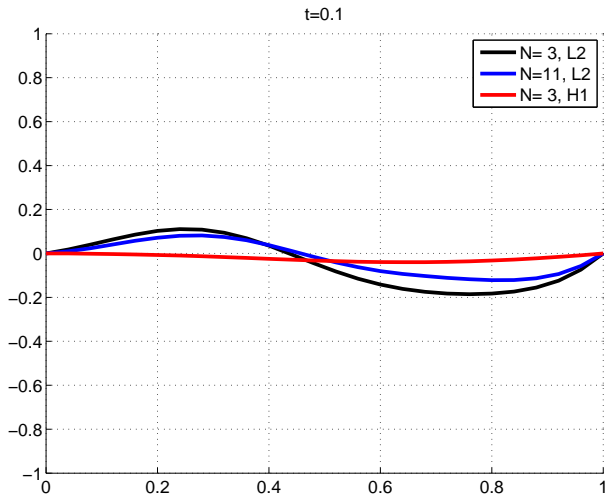
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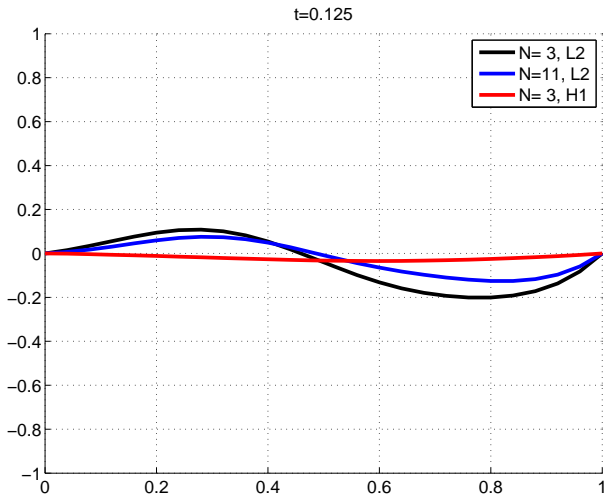
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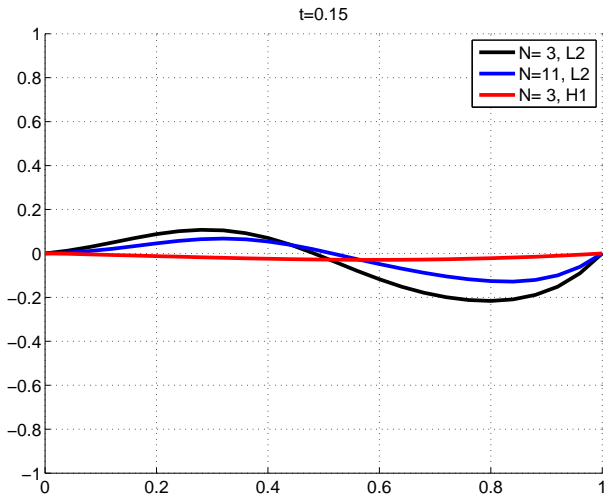
MPC with  $L_2$  and  $H_1$  cost,  $\lambda = 0.1$ , sampling time  $T = 0.025$

# MPC with $L_2$ vs. $H_1$ cost



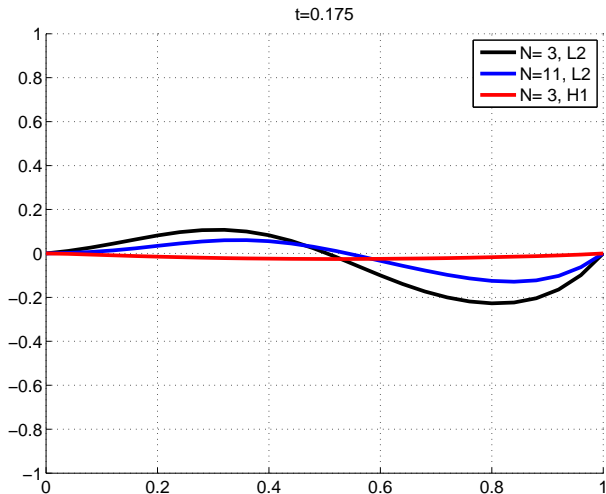
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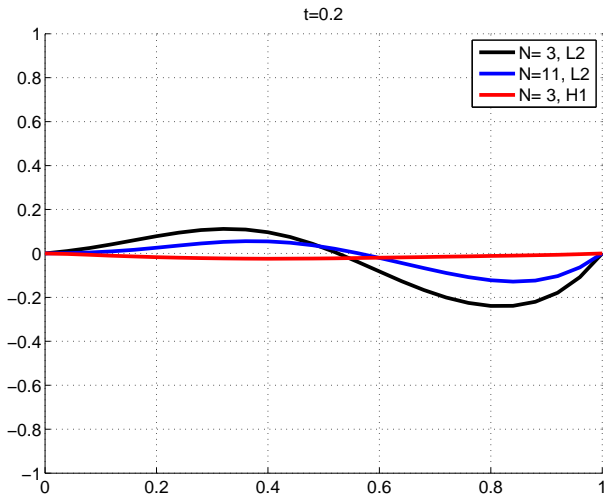
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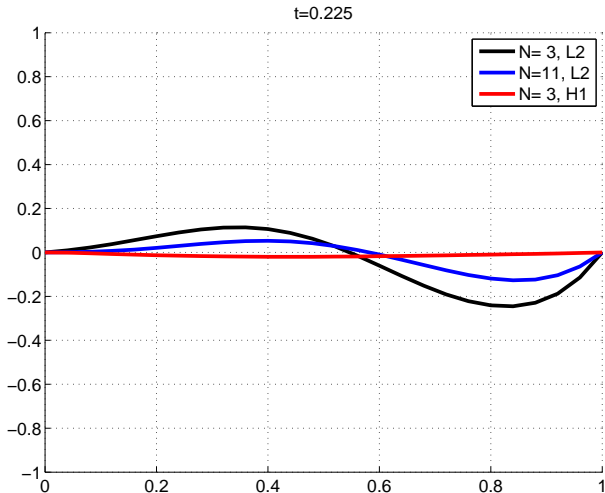


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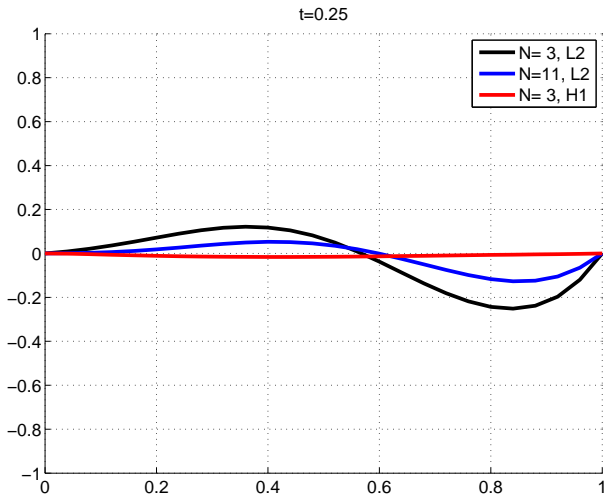
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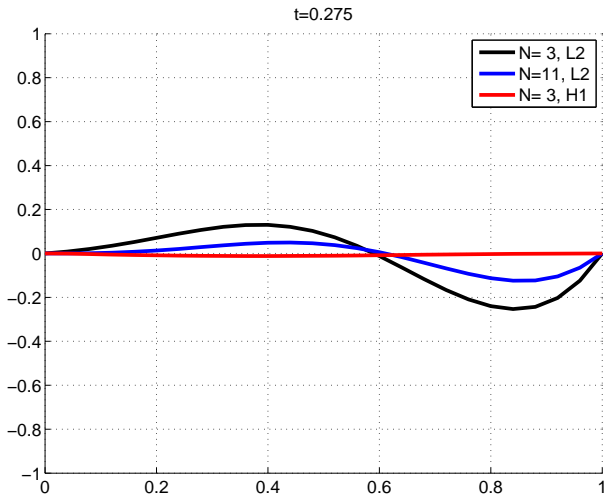
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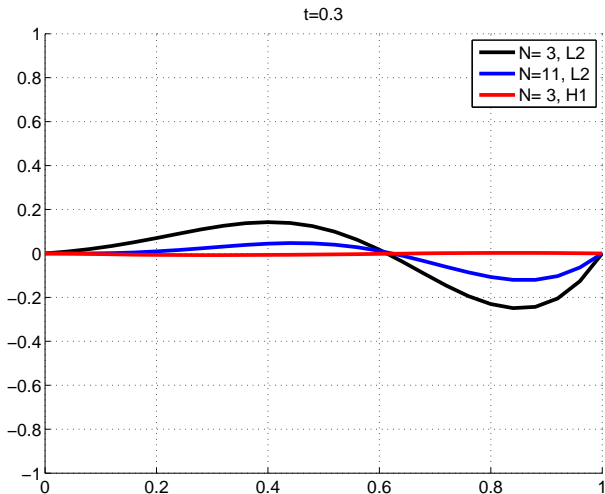
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# Boundary Control

Now we change our PDE from distributed to (Dirichlet-) boundary control, i.e.

$$y_t = y_x + \nu y_{xx} + \mu y(y + 1)(1 - y)$$

with

domain  $\Omega = [0, 1]$

solution  $y = y(t, x)$

boundary conditions  $y(t, 0) = u_0(t)$ ,  $y(t, 1) = u_1(t)$

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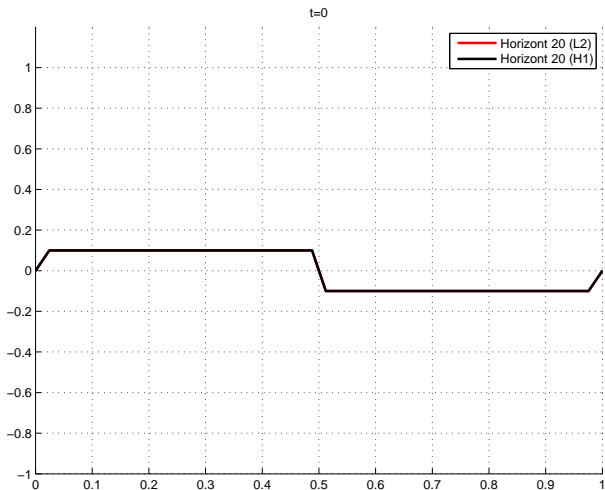
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with boundary control, stability can only be achieved via large gradients in the transient phase

$\rightsquigarrow L^2$  should perform better than  $H^1$

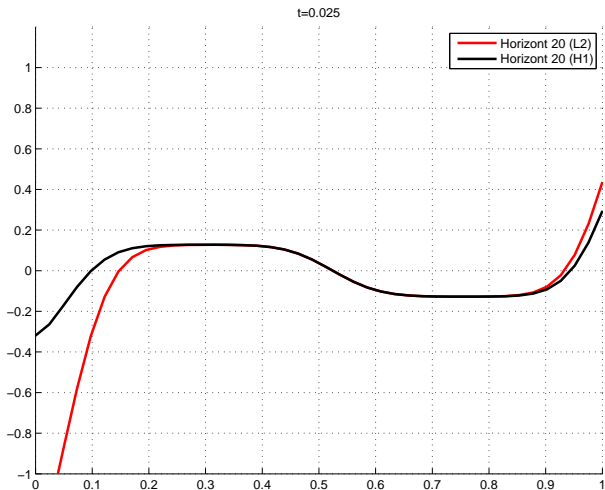


# Boundary control, $L_2$ vs. $H_1$ , $N = 20$



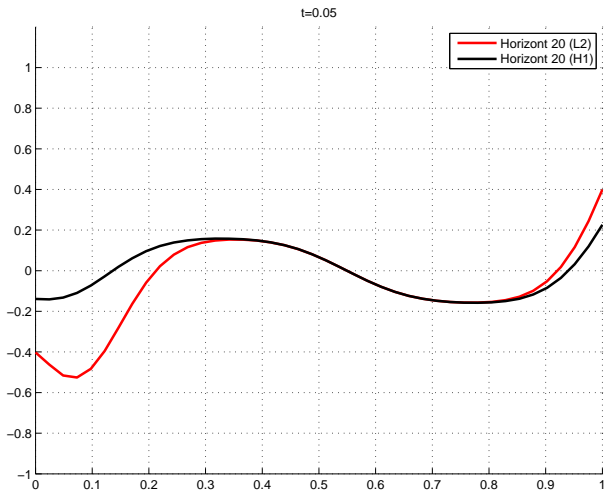
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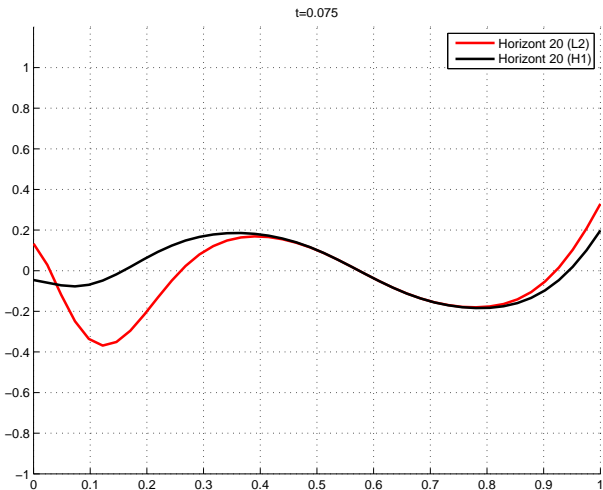
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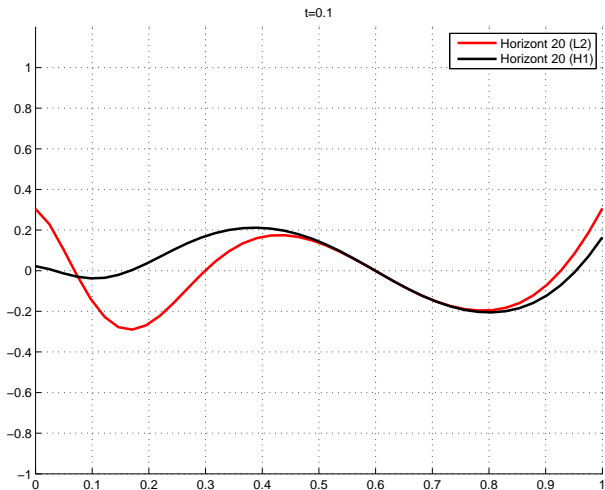
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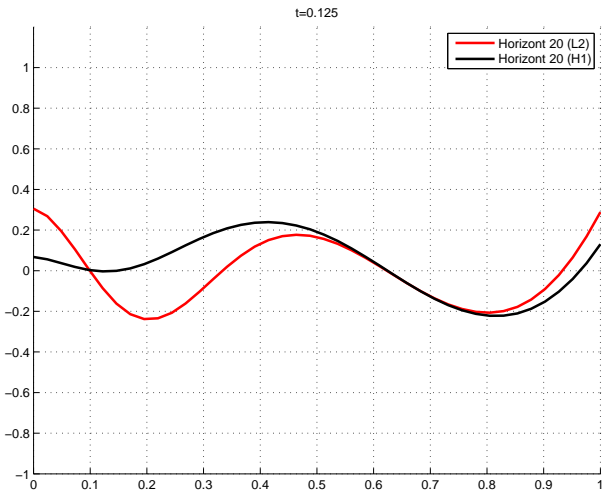
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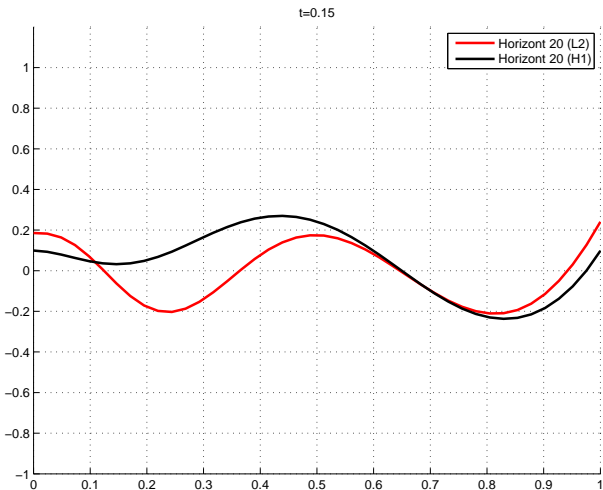
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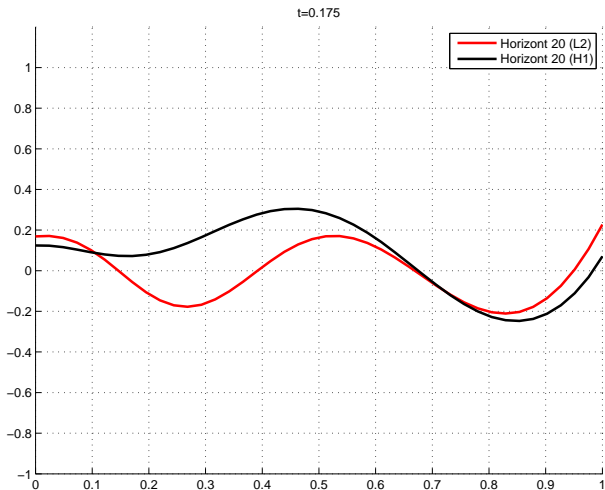
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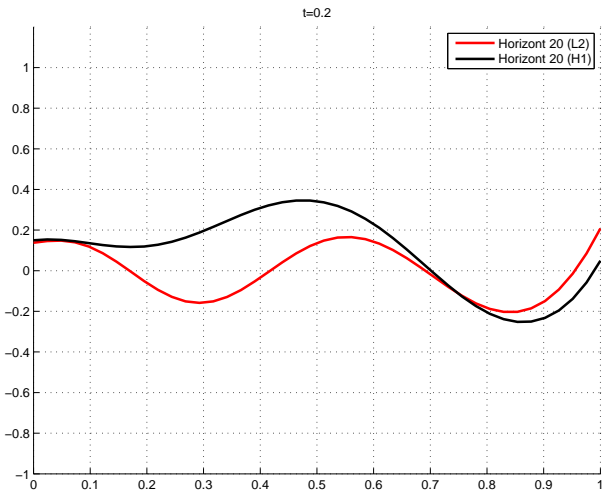
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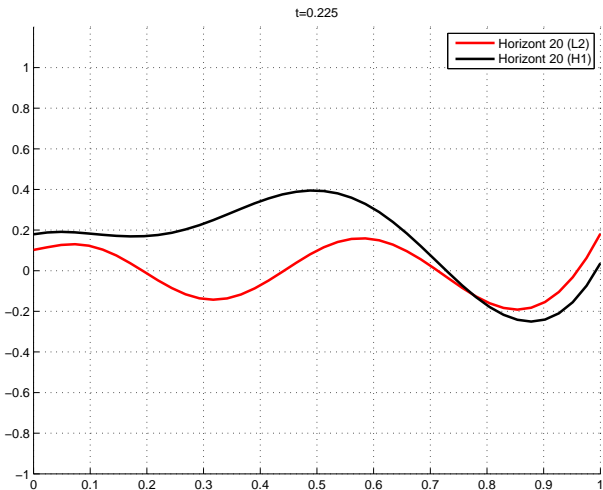


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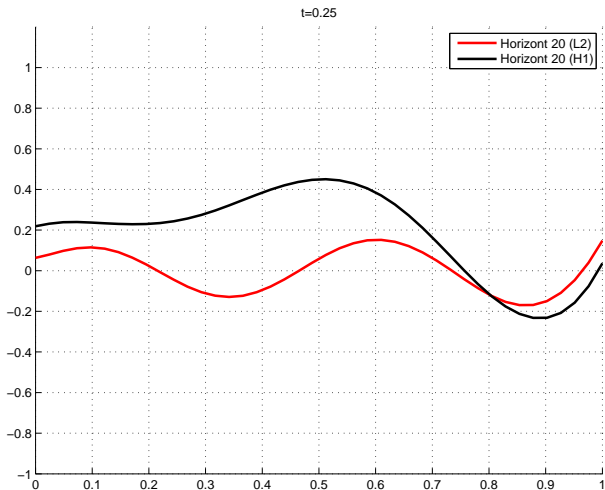
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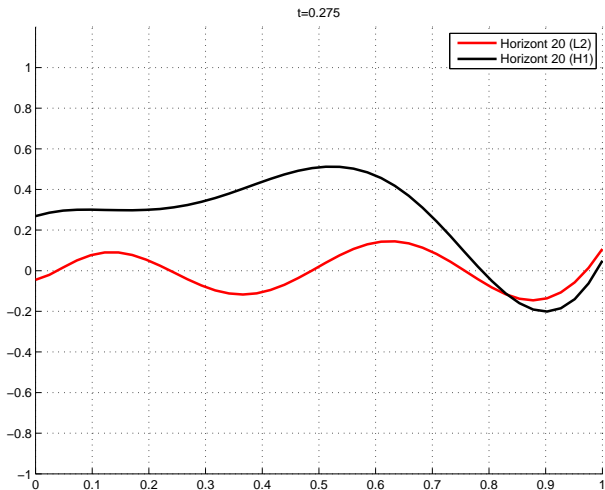
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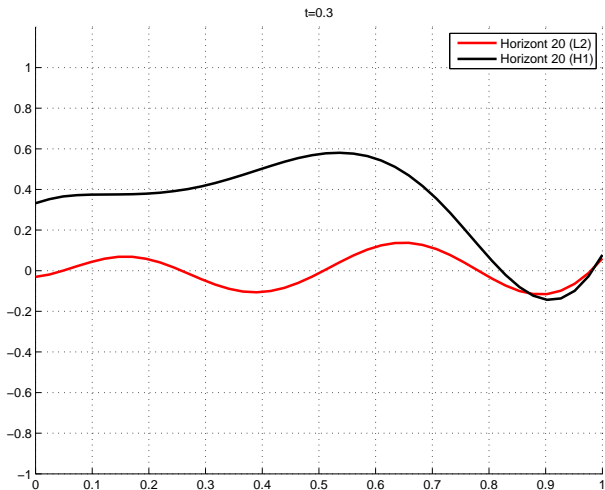
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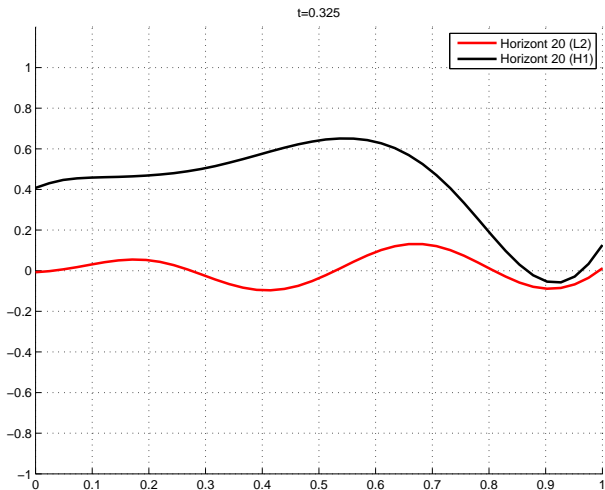
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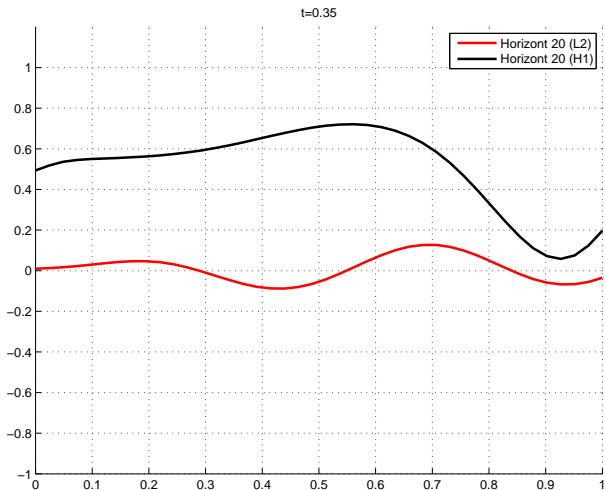
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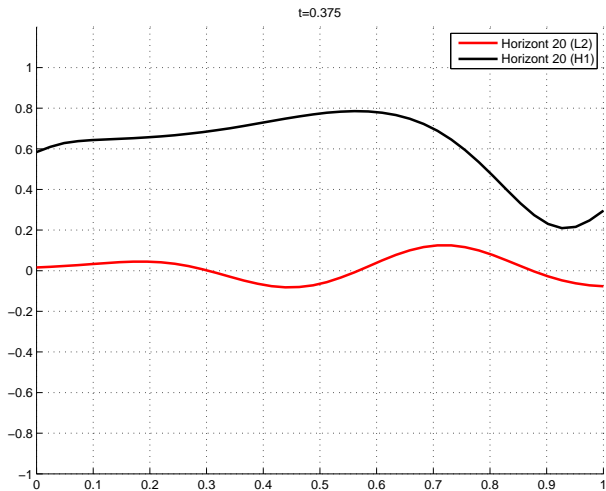
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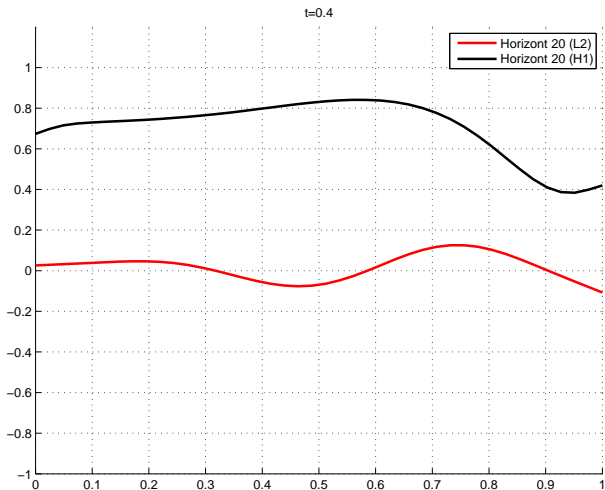
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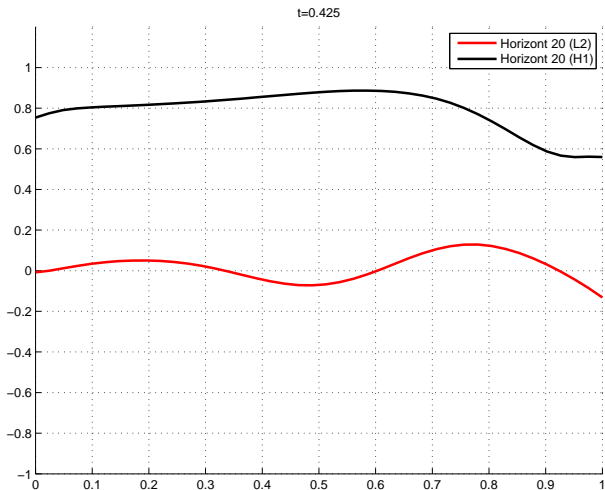


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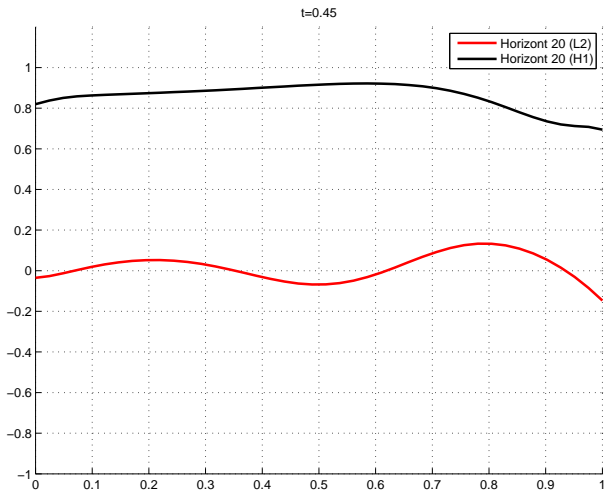
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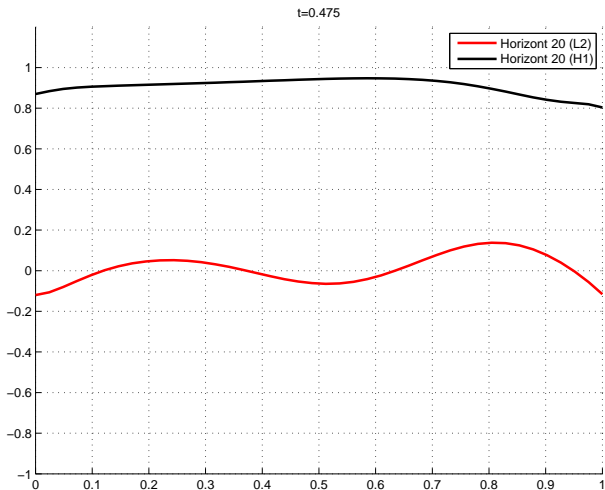
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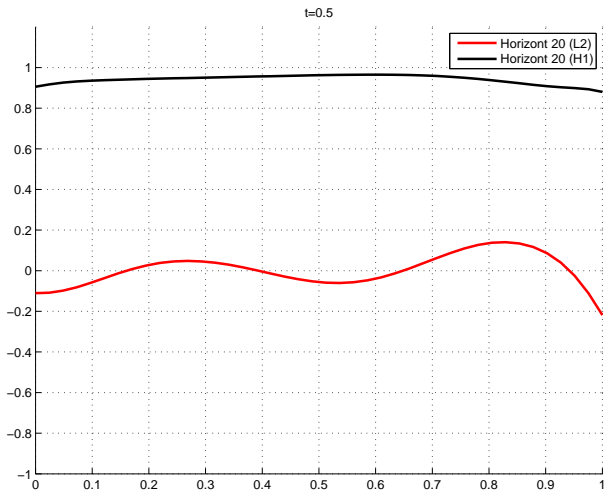
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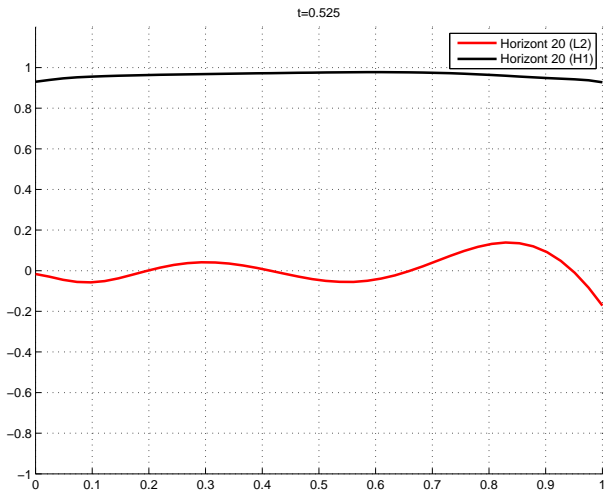
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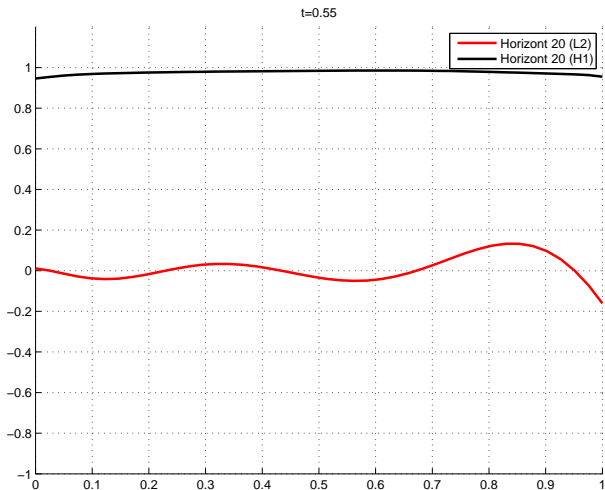
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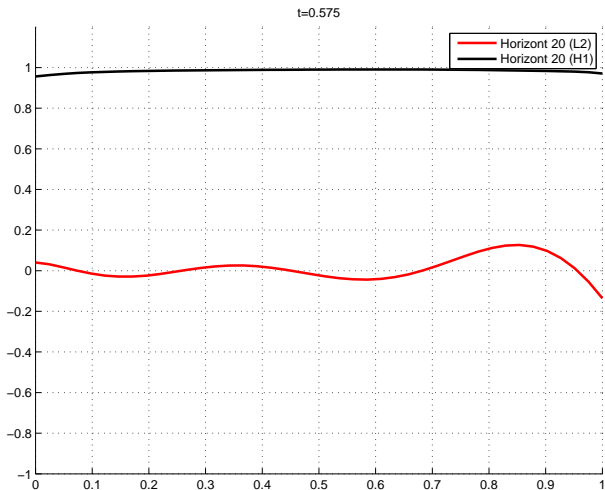
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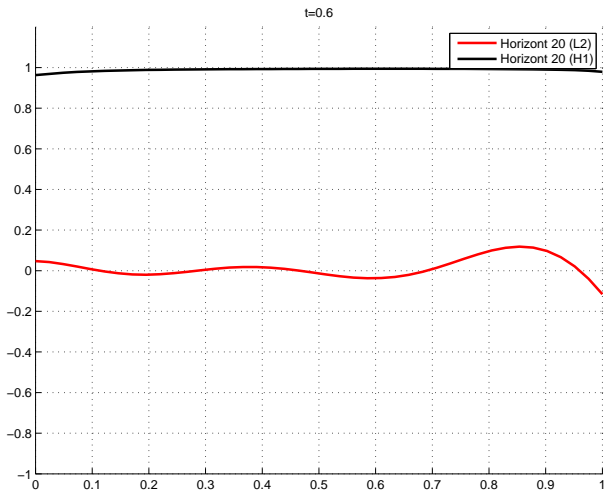
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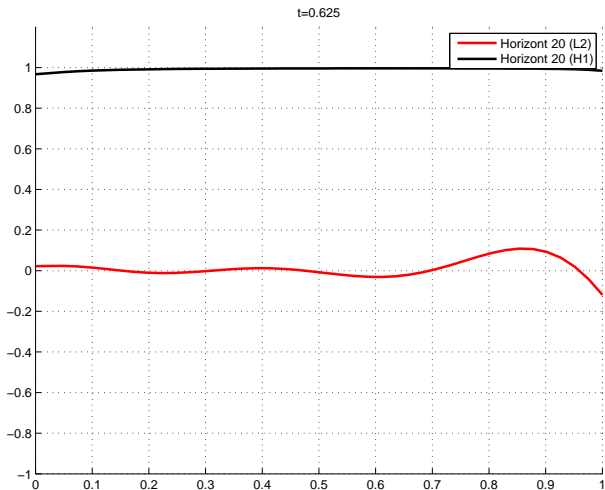


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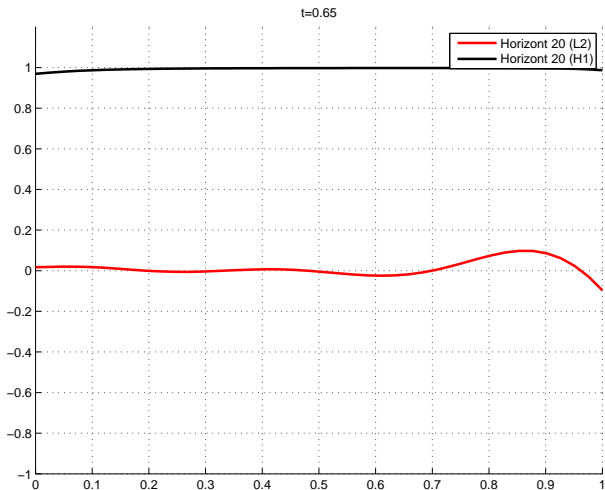
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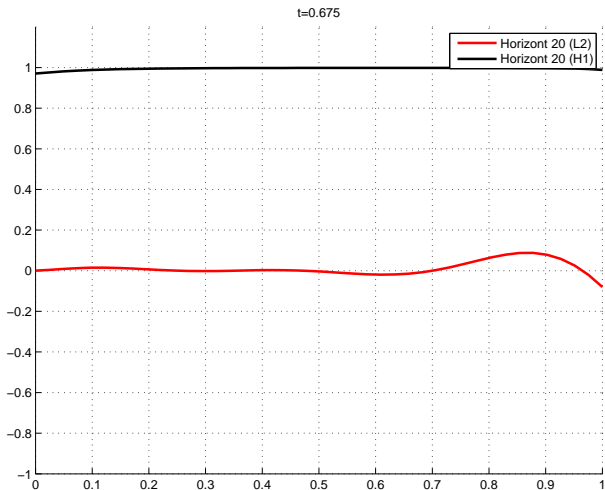
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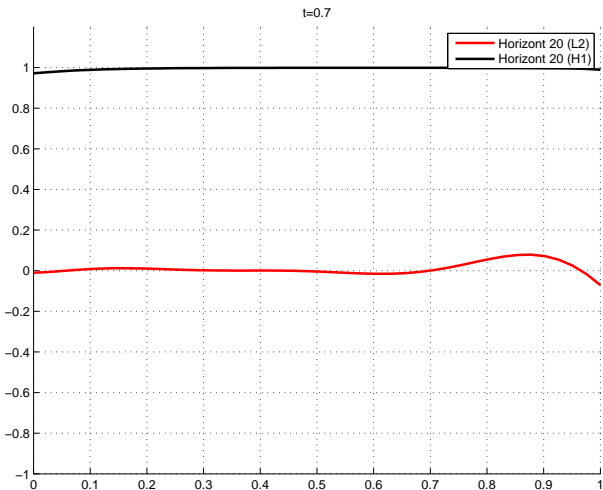
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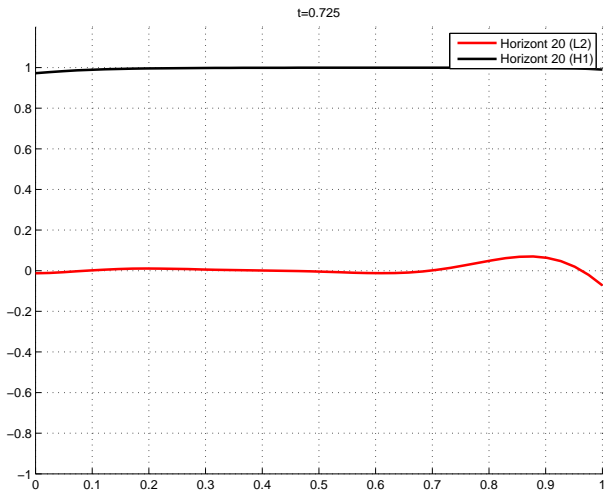
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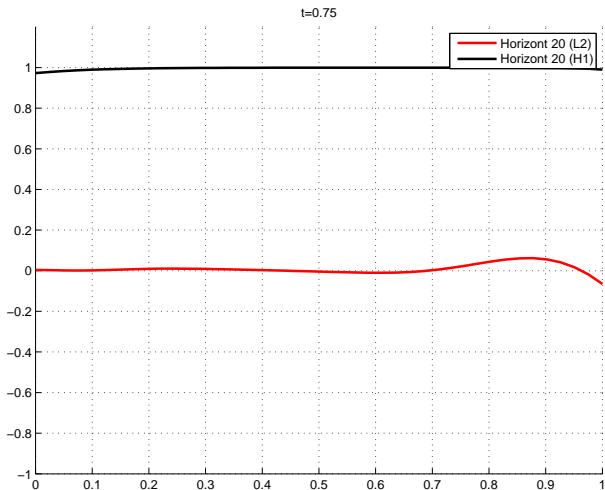
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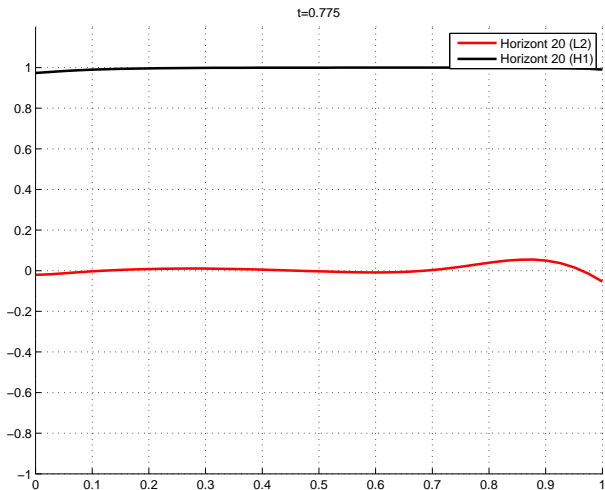
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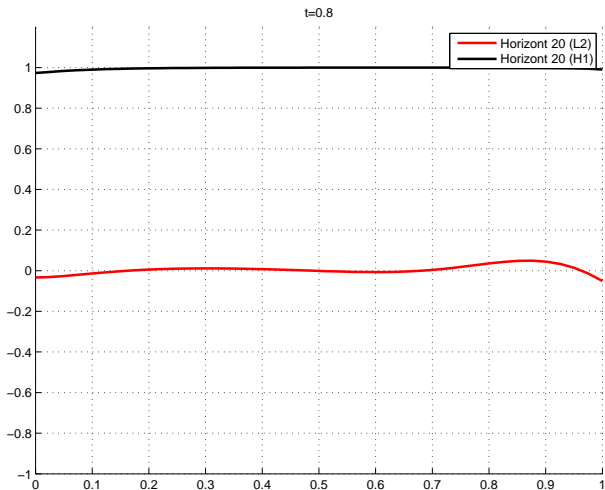
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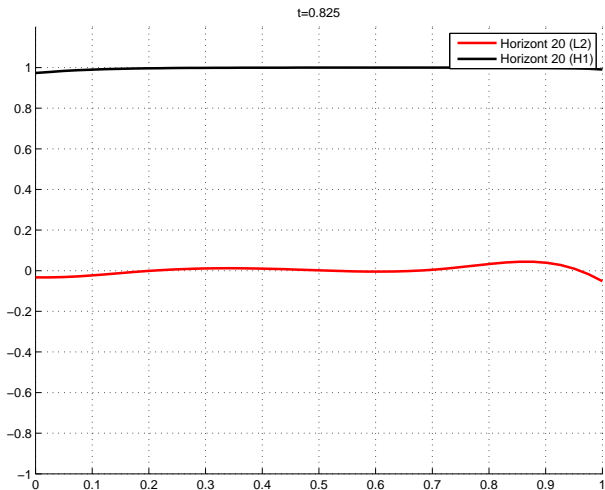


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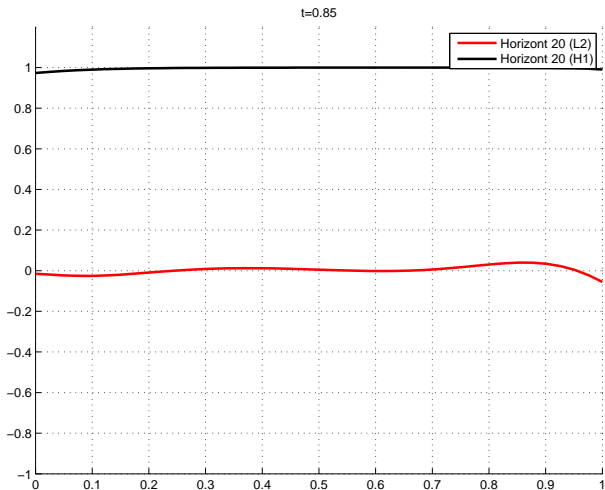
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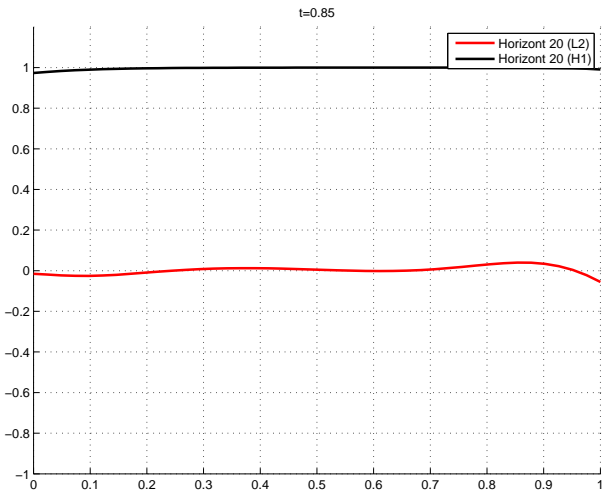
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Can be made rigorous for many PDEs [Altmüller et al. '10ff]

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- Reducing the overshoot constant  $C$  by choosing  $\ell$  appropriately can significantly reduce the horizon  $N$  needed to obtain stability
- Computing tight estimates for  $C$  is in general a difficult if not impossible task
- But structural knowledge of the system behavior can be sufficient for choosing a “good”  $\ell$

## (7) Feasibility



# Feasibility

Consider the **feasible sets**

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What **happens** if  $\mathcal{F}_N \neq \mathbb{X}$  for some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ?

# The MPC feasibility problem

Even though the open-loop optimal trajectories are forced to satisfy  $x^*(k) \in \mathbb{X}$ , the closed loop solutions  $x_{\mu_N}(n)$  may violate the state constraints, i.e.,  $x_{\mu_N}(n) \notin \mathbb{X}$  for some  $n$

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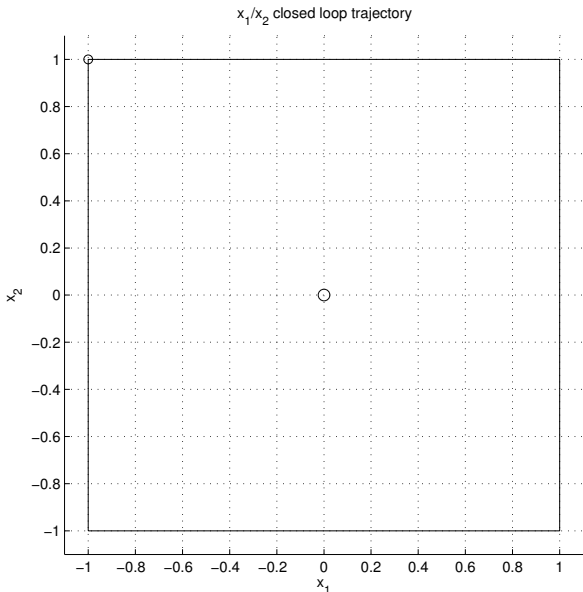
We illustrate this phenomenon by the simple example

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1^+ \\ x_2^+ \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + u/2 \\ x_2 + u \end{pmatrix}$$

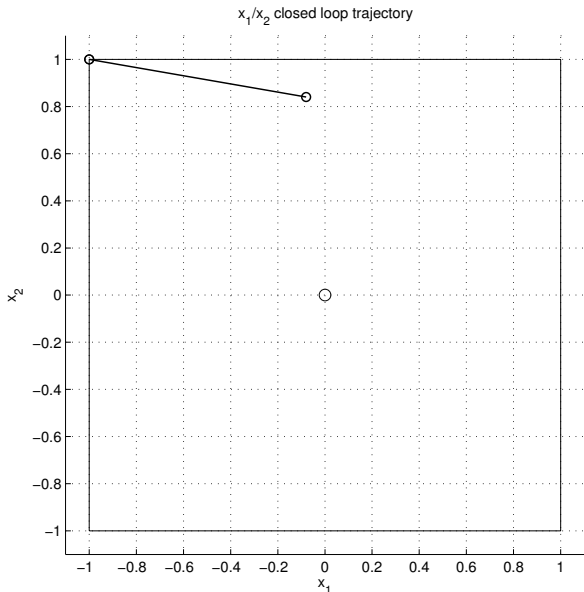
with  $\mathbb{X} = [-1, 1]^2$  and  $\mathbb{U} = [-1/4, 1/4]$ . For initial value  $x_0 = (-1, 1)^T$ , the system can be controlled to 0 without leaving  $\mathbb{X}$

We use MPC with  $N = 2$  and  $\ell(x, u) = \|x\|^2 + 5u^2$

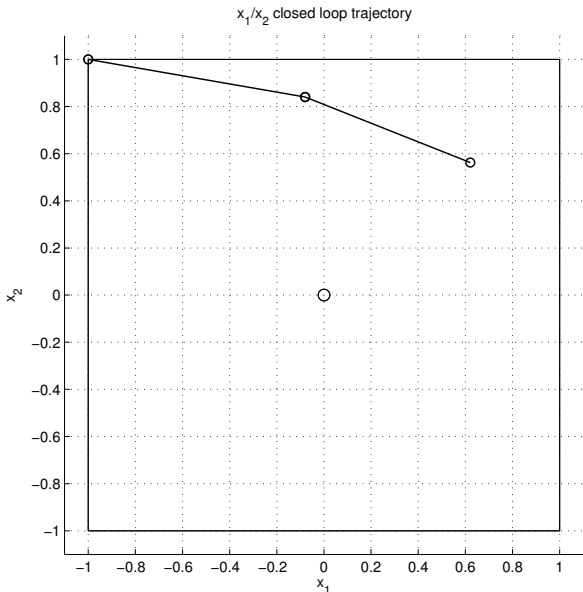
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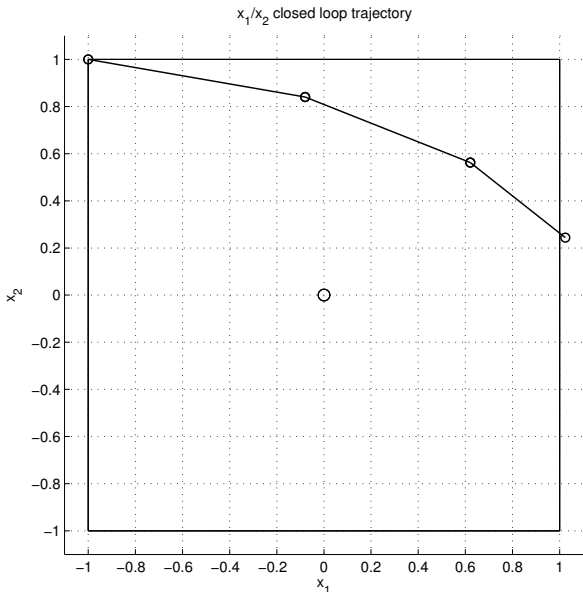


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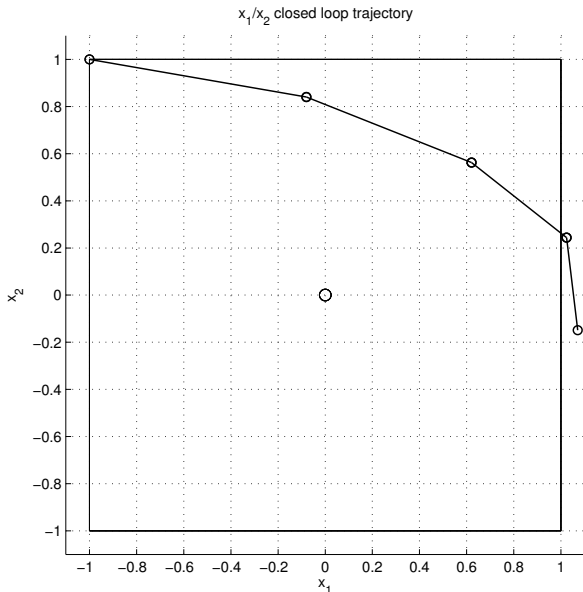




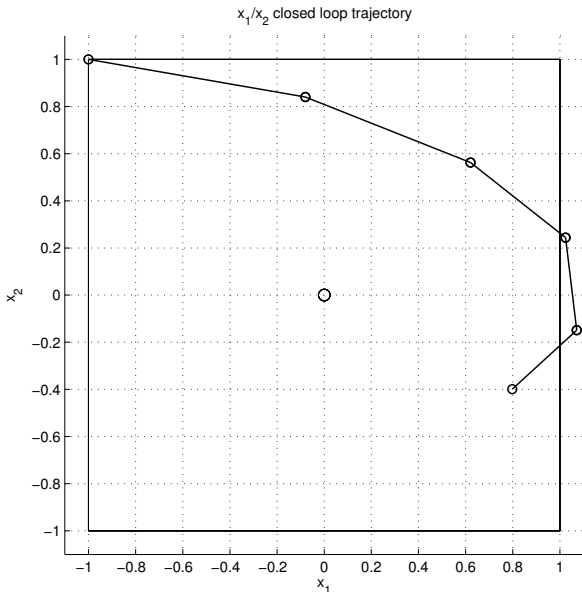
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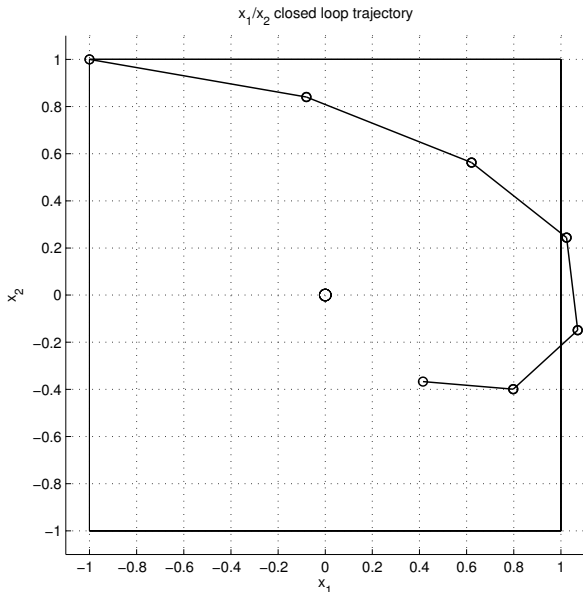
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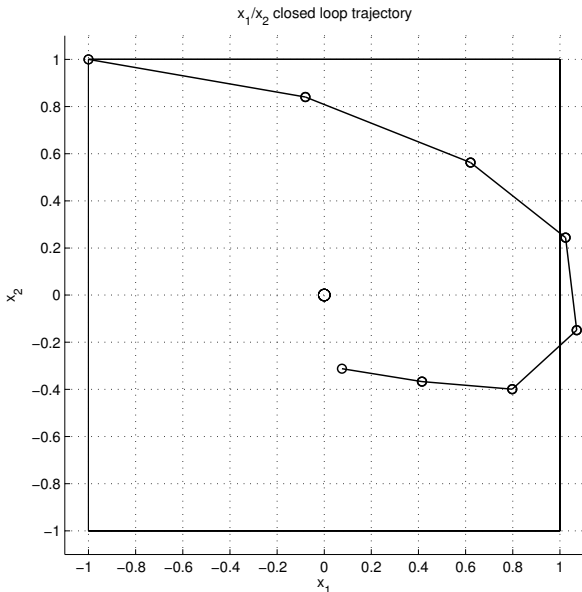
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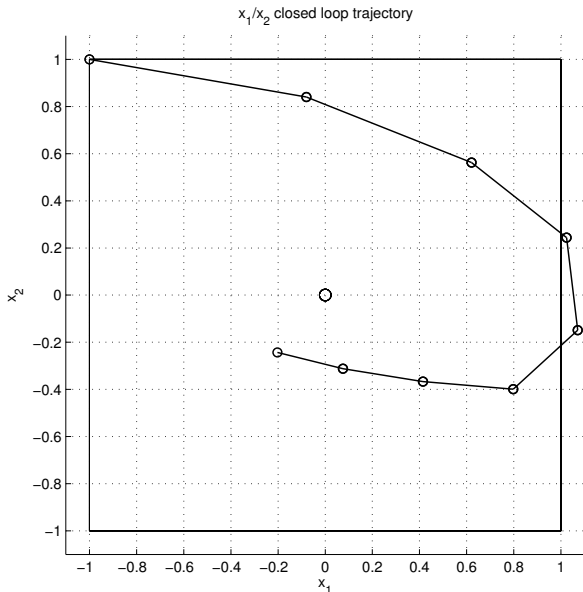
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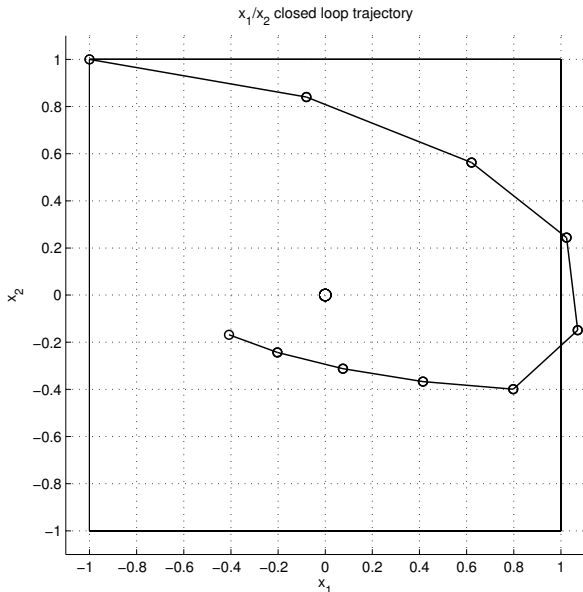
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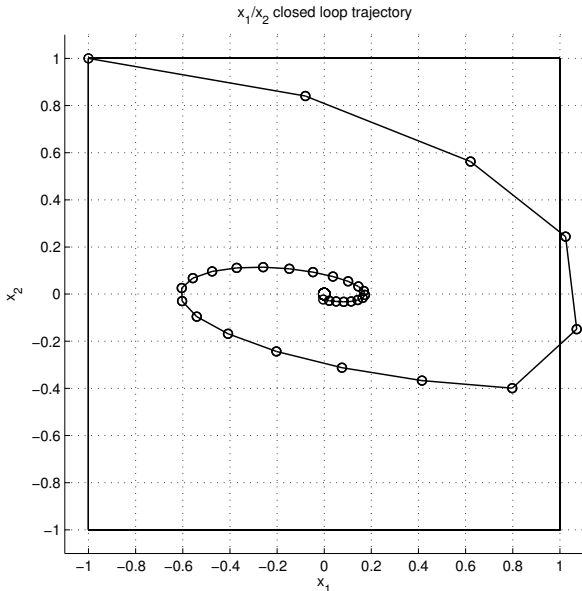
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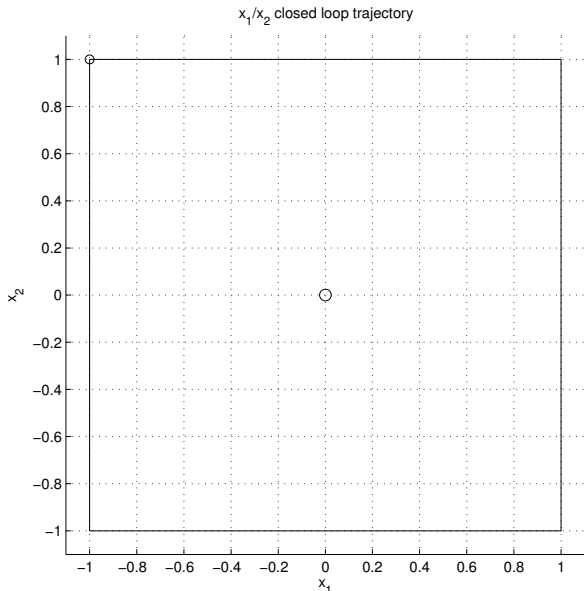
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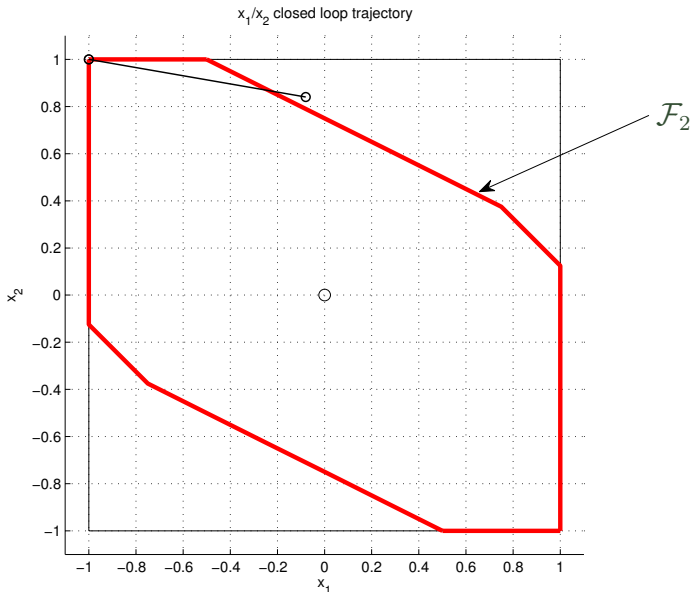
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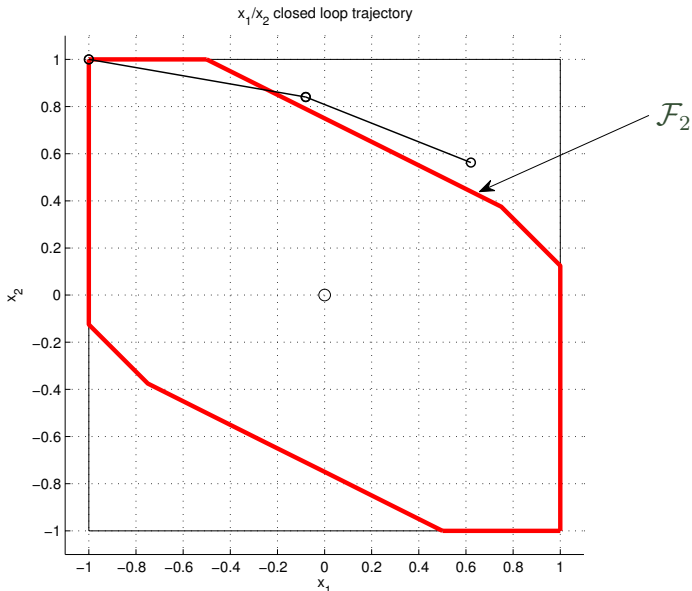


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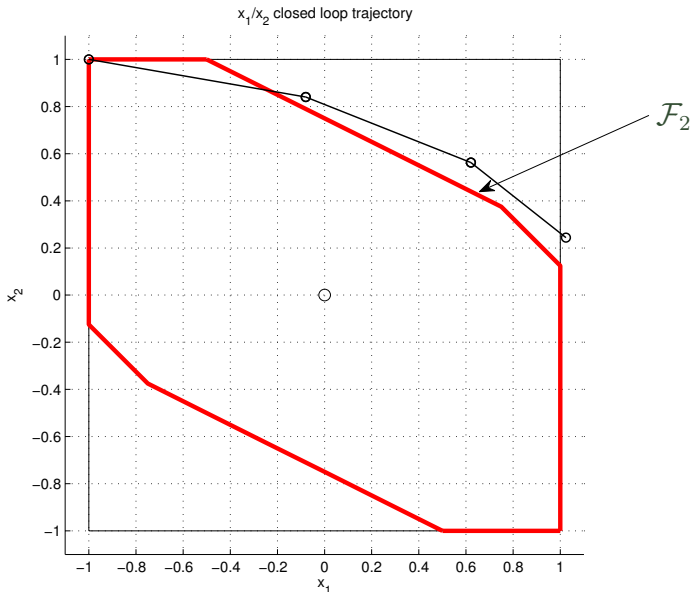




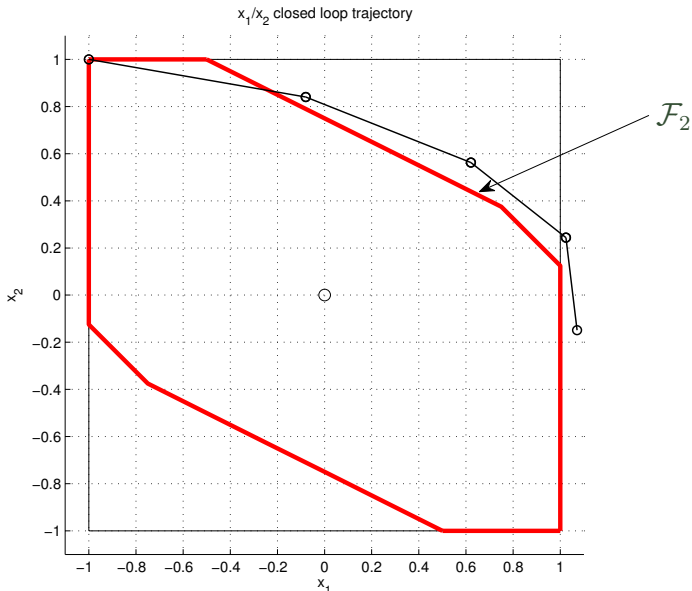
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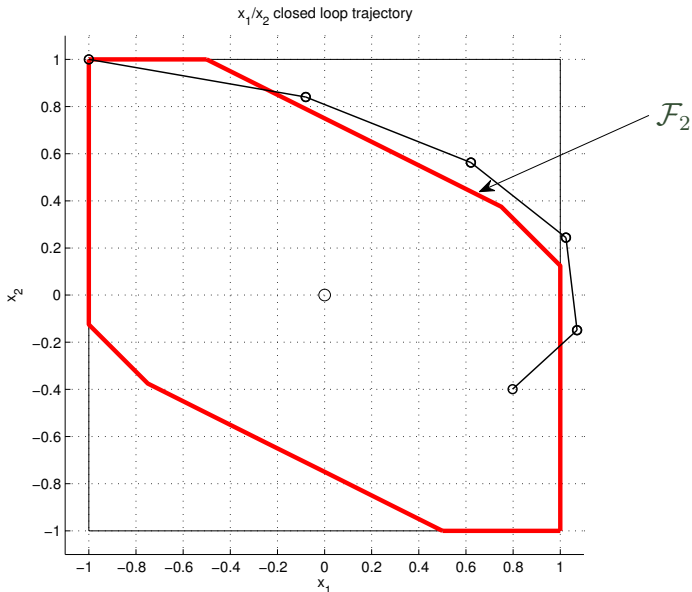
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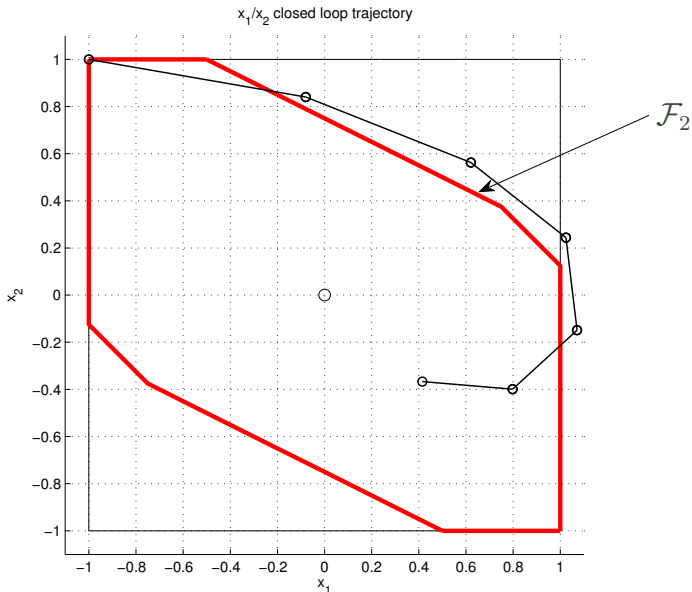
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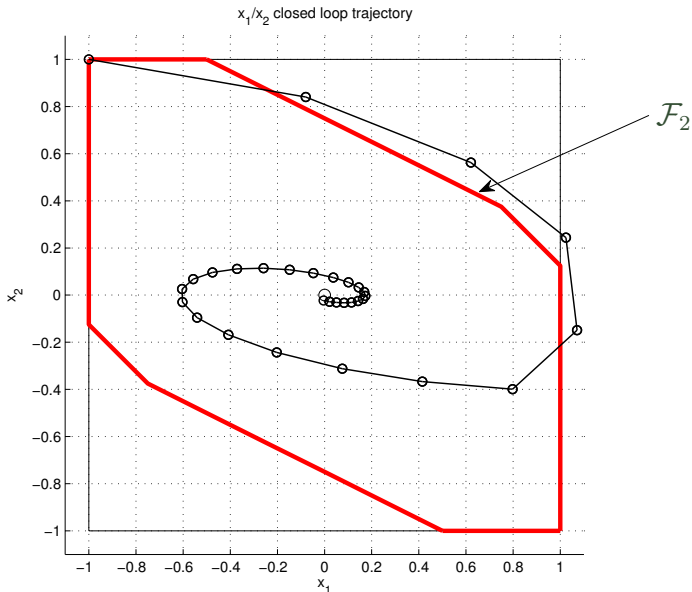
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Can we find recursively feasible sets for NMPC **without terminal constraints**?

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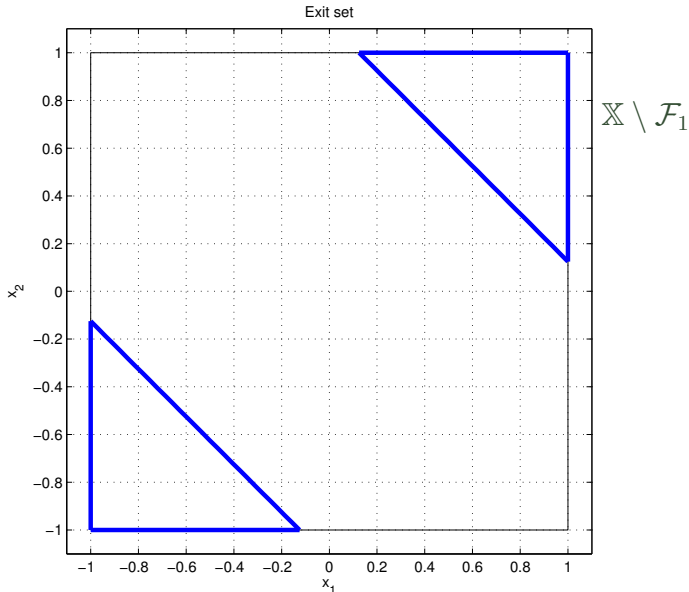
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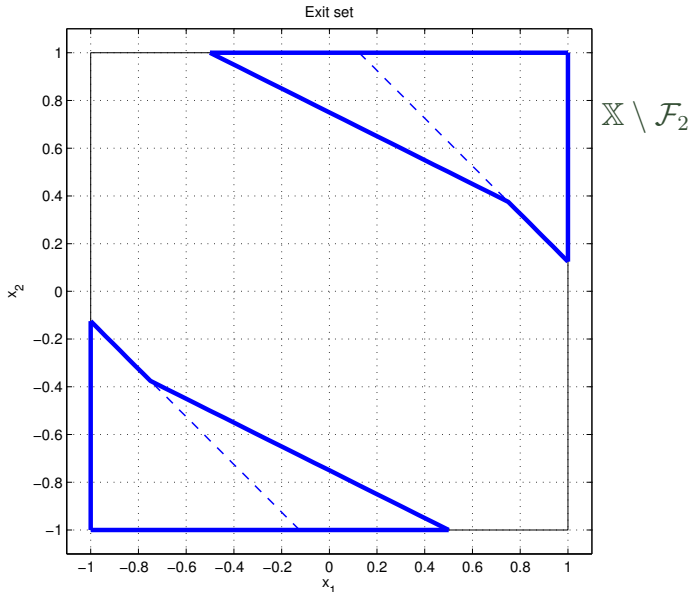
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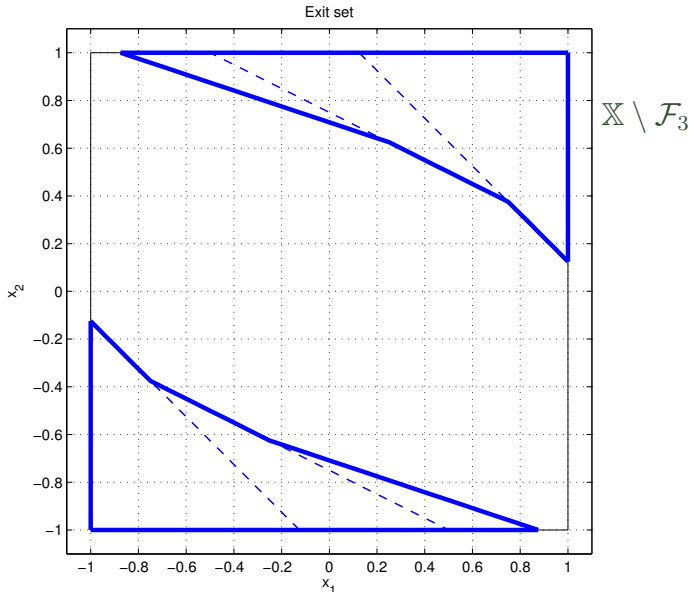
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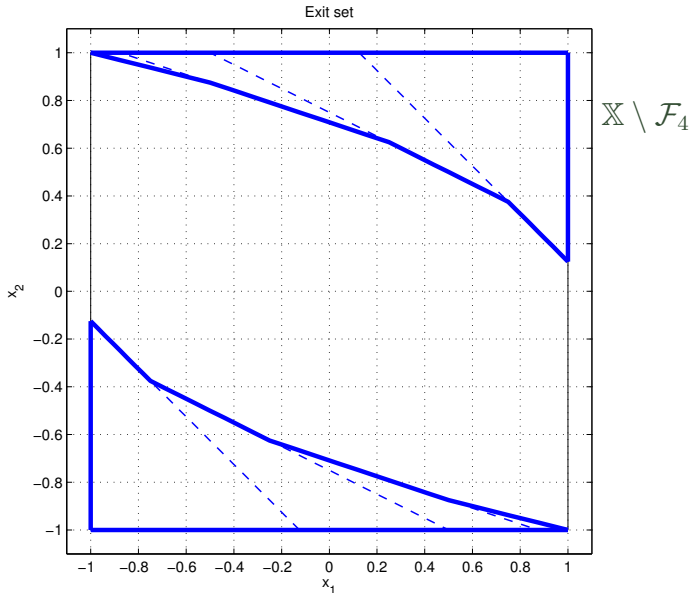


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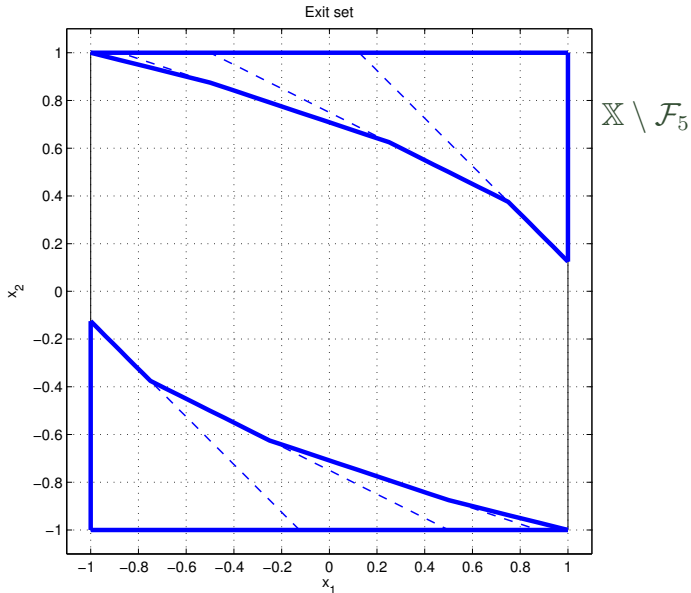




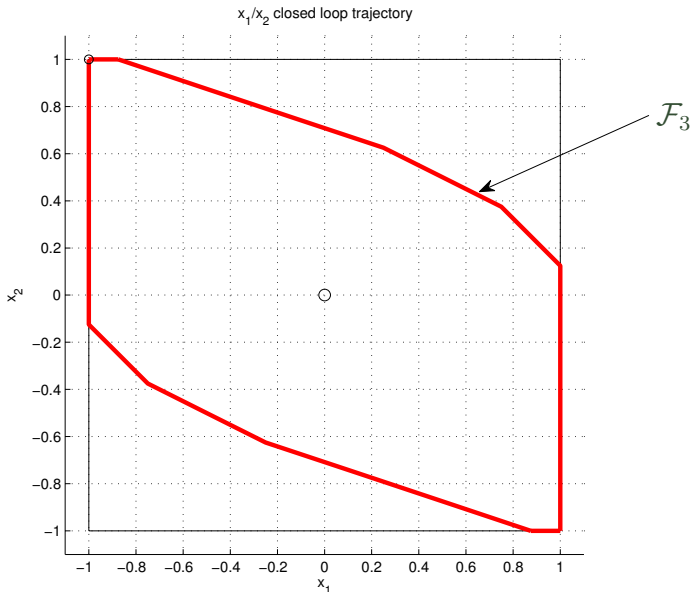
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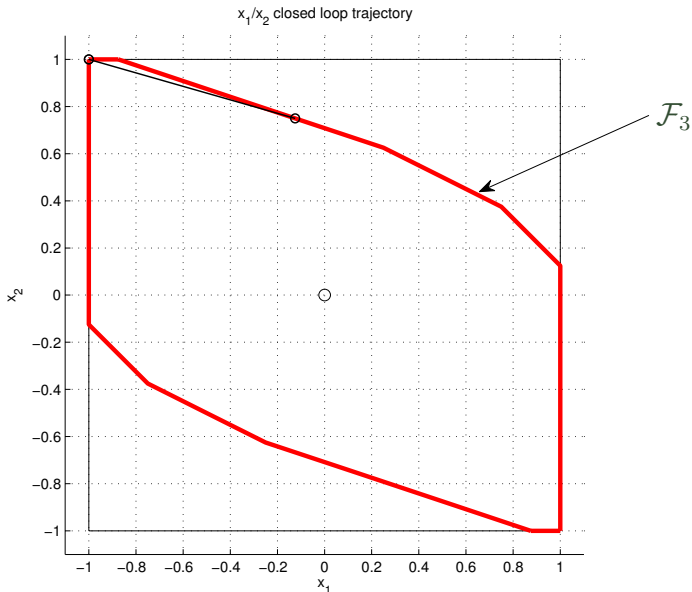
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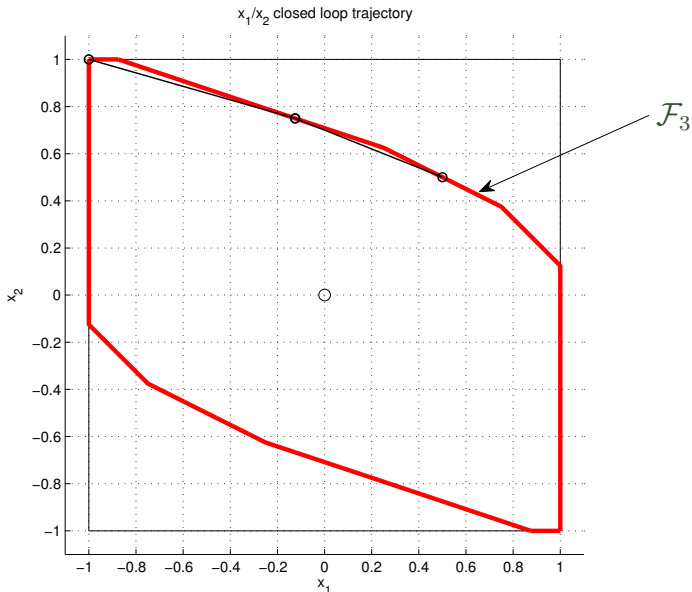
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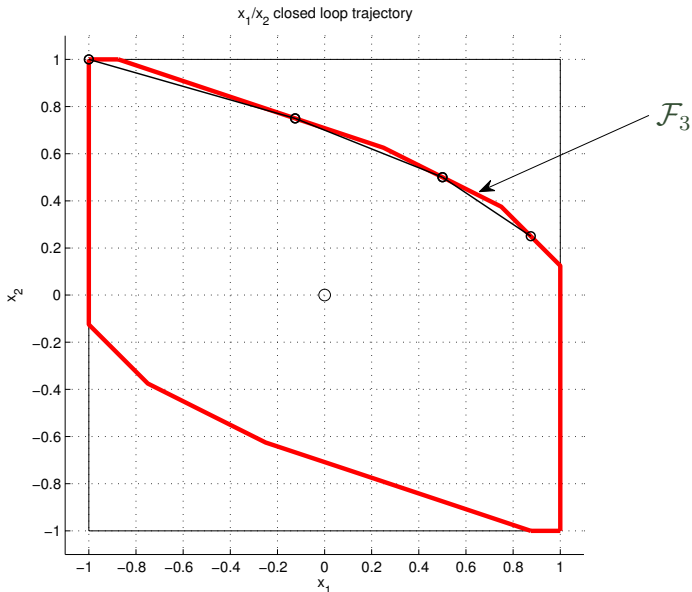
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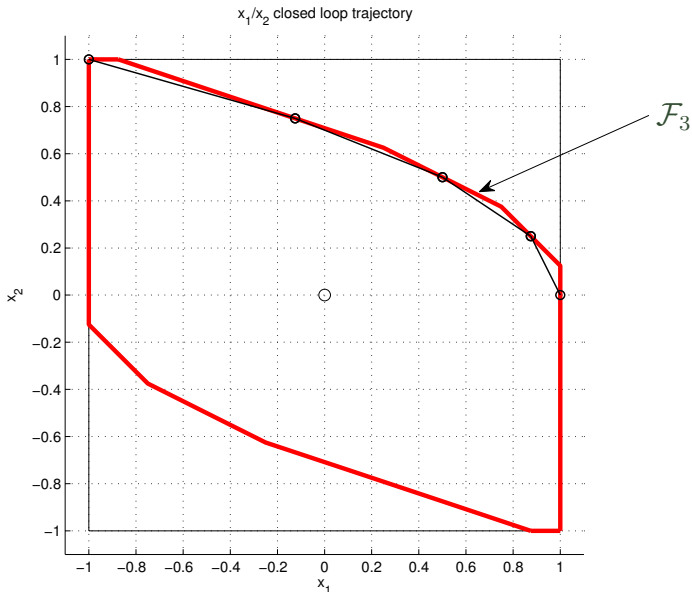
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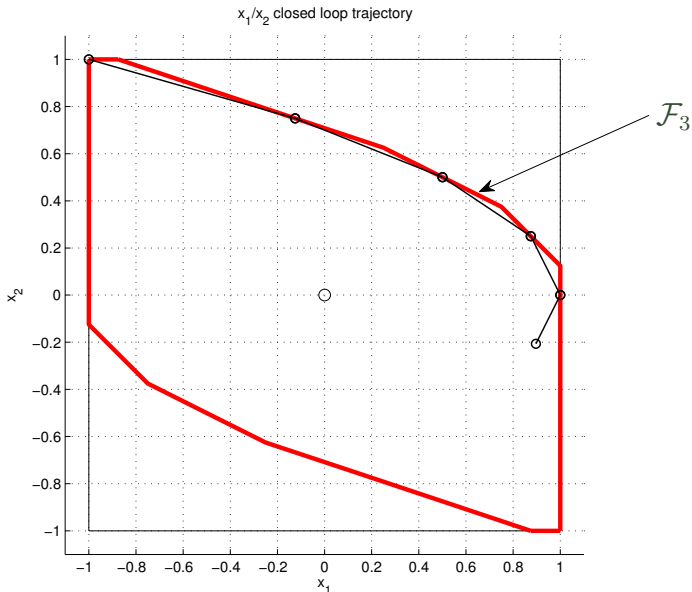
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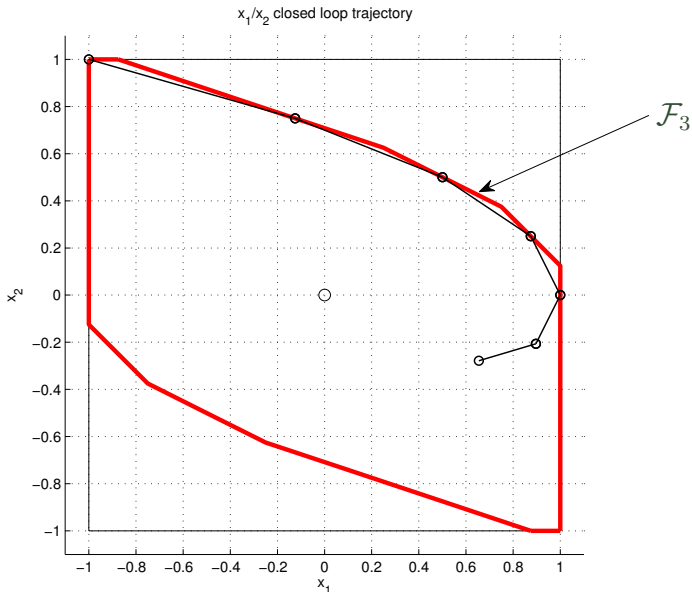


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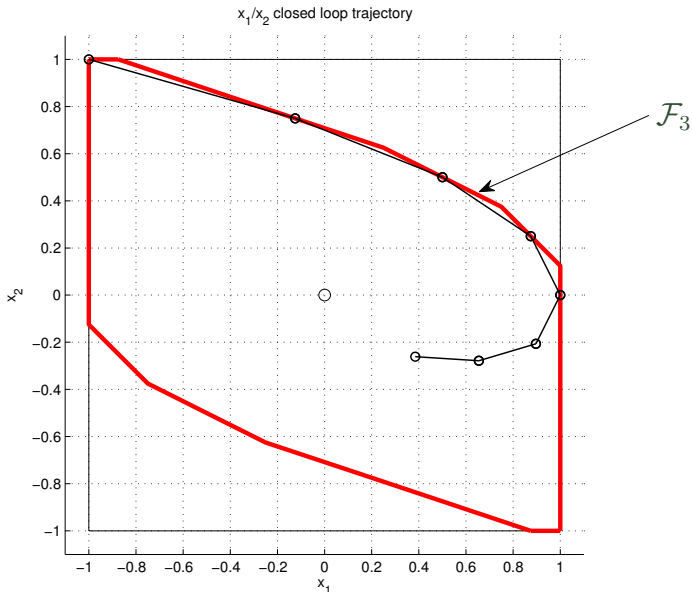




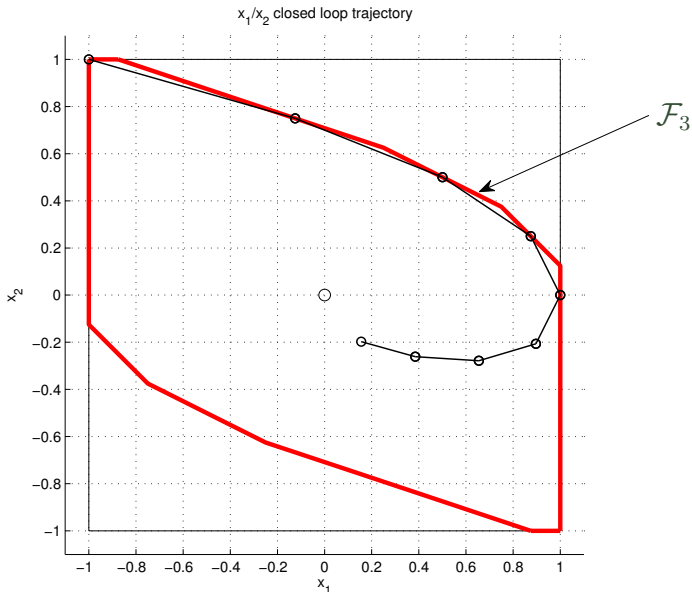
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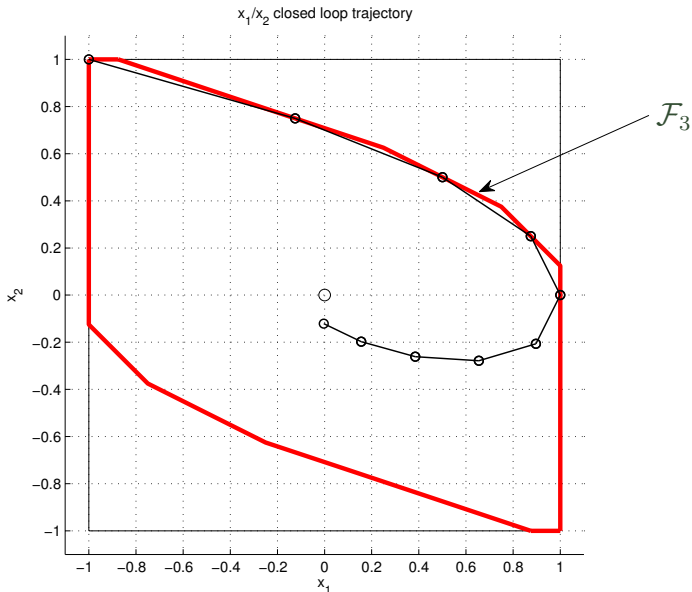
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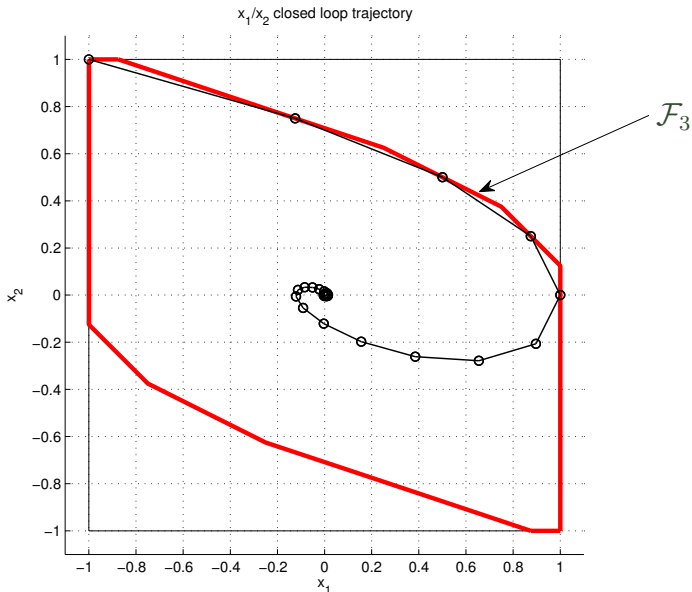
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Then for each  $c > 0$  there exists  $N_c > 0$  such that for all  $N \geq N_c$  **the level set**

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If  $\mathbb{X}$  is compact, then  $A_c = \mathcal{F}_\infty$  for all sufficiently large  $N$

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## Part B: Economic Model Predictive Control

## (8) Economic MPC with terminal constraints



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**Idea:** Use a stage cost  $\ell$  which does not penalize the distance to some  $x_*$  but **directly encodes** the desired economic criterion

# Mathematical difference of stabilizing and economic MPC

In **stabilizing MPC**, the stage cost  $\ell(x, u)$  penalizes the **distance** to some equilibrium  $(x_*, u_*) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{U}$ . In particular, we required

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We still consider equilibria, but they are now **implicitly defined** via the optimization criterion. In order to distinguish them from  $(x_*, u_*)$  in stabilizing MPC, they are denoted by  $(x^e, u^e)$

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**Example 1:** Keep the state of the system inside an admissible set  $\mathbb{X}$  minimizing the quadratic control effort

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with dynamics

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For this example, it is optimal to control the system to  $x^e = 0$  and keep it there with  $u^e = 0 \rightsquigarrow \ell(x^e, u^e) = 0$

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For this example, the optimal control policy is **less obvious**

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- How should **terminal constraints** be chosen in order to be useful?
- Can we expect **asymptotic stability** properties?

For answering these questions, we restrict ourselves to an **equilibrium analysis** (a generalization to **periodic orbits** is possible)

To this end, recall that  $(x^e, u^e) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{U}$  is an **equilibrium**, if

$$f(x^e, u^e) = x^e$$

# Economic MPC with terminal constraints

**Theorem:** [Angeli/Amrit/Rawlings '09] Consider an economic MPC problem with **bounded optimal value function**  $V_N$  which the optimal control problem

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \text{ admissible}}{\text{minimize}} \quad J_N(x_{\mu_N}(n), \mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \ell(x_{\mathbf{u}}(k), \mathbf{u}(k)), \quad x_{\mathbf{u}}(0) = x_{\mu_N}(n)$$

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with **terminal constraint**  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = x^e$  is used to generate the MPC feedback law  $\mu_N$ . Then the **inequality**

$$\bar{J}_{\infty}^{cl}(x, \mu_N) \leq \ell(x^e, u^e)$$

holds for the **averaged closed loop functional**

$$\bar{J}_{\infty}^{cl}(x, \mu_N) := \limsup_{K \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \ell(x_{\mu_N}(k, x), \mu(x_{\mu_N}(k, x)))$$

## Sketch of proof

Prolonging an optimal control  $\mathbf{u}^*$  with length  $N - 1$  at the end by the control value  $u^e$  yields a control  $\mathbf{u}$  satisfying

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Summing and averaging then implies

$$\bar{J}_K^{cl}(x, \mu_N) \leq \ell(x^e, u^e) + \frac{1}{K} \left( V_N(x) - V_N(x_{\mu_N}(K)) \right)$$

which shows the assertion for  $K \rightarrow \infty$ , since  $V_N$  is bounded

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Can we give an easily checkable sufficient condition for the existence of such an equilibrium?

# Dissipativity

Given an **equilibrium**  $(x^e, u^e)$ , we use the following

**Definition:** [Willems '72] The optimal control problem is called **strictly dissipative** if there exists  $\lambda : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{K}_\infty$  such that

$$(D) \quad \ell(x, u) + \lambda(x) - \lambda(f(x, u)) - \ell(x^e, u^e) \geq \alpha(\|x - x^e\|)$$

holds for all  $x \in \mathbb{X}$  and  $u \in \mathbb{U}$  and some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{K}_\infty$



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strict dissipativity: some amount of energy is **dissipated** (=lost)

# Strict dissipativity

$$(D) \quad \ell(x, u) + \lambda(x) - \lambda(f(x, u)) - \ell(x^e, u^e) \geq \alpha(\|x - x^e\|)$$

Strict dissipativity (D) is

- satisfied for affine linear  $f$  and linear quadratic  $\ell$  under mild regularity conditions on  $f$ ,  $\ell$ ,  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{U}$   
[Damm/Gr./Stieler/Worthmann '12]

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- more restrictive for **nonlinear dynamics**, see, e.g., the bilinear example in [Müller/Allgöwer '12]
- sufficient and “close to necessary” for the **existence** of an infinite horizon averaged **optimal equilibrium** [Müller/Angeli/Allgöwer '13]

# Example 1: minimum energy control

Example 1:

$$x(n+1) = 2x(n) + \mathbf{u}(n), \quad \ell(x, u) = u^2$$

with constraints  $\mathbb{X} = [-2, 2]$ ,  $\mathbb{U} = [-3, 3]$

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# Example 1: minimum energy control

## Example 1:

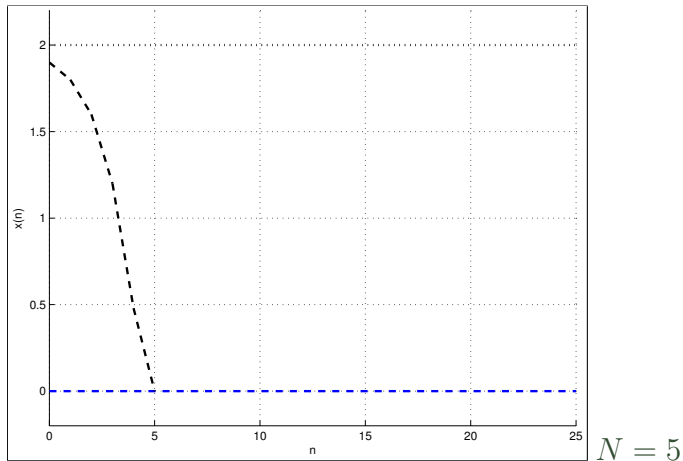
$$x(n+1) = 2x(n) + \mathbf{u}(n), \quad \ell(x, u) = u^2$$

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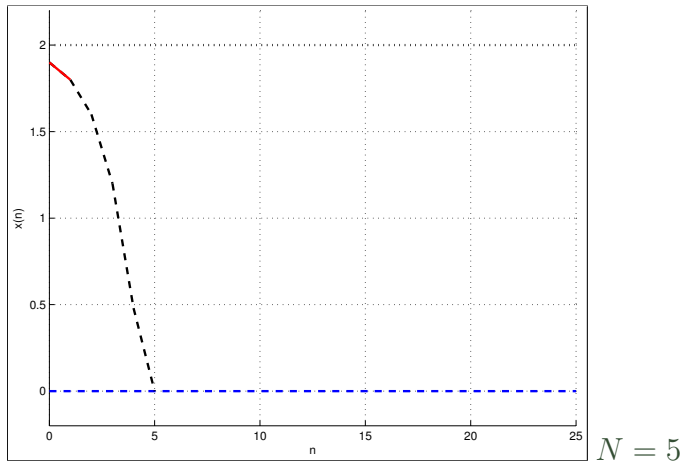
The system has an **optimal equilibrium** at  $(x^e, u^e) = (0, 0)$  and is **strictly dissipative** with  $\lambda(x) = -x^2/2$

Using the terminal constraint  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = 0$ , we will see that the **closed loop trajectories** converge to 0 (and the **averaged functional** equals 0)

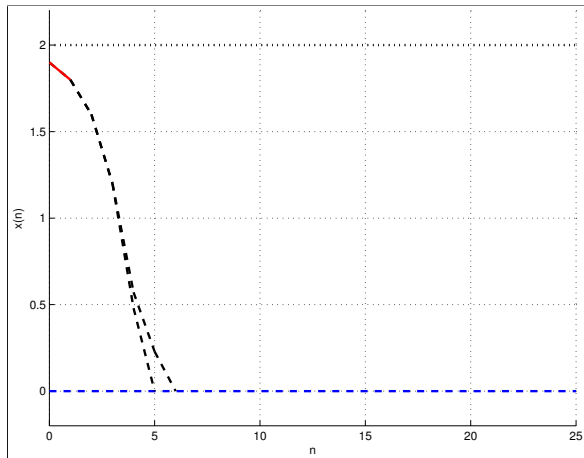
# Example 1: trajectories



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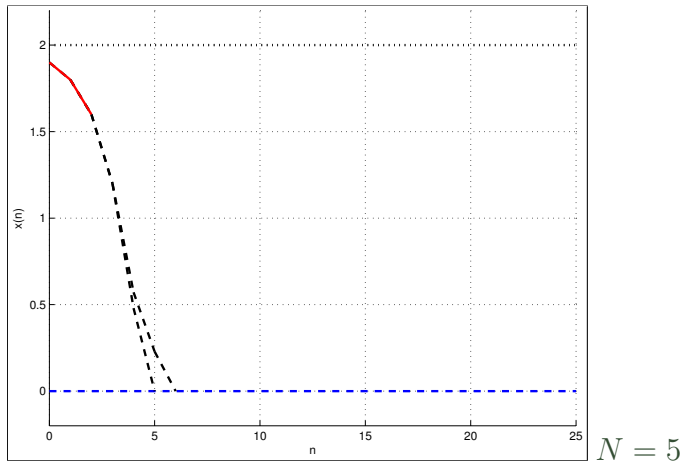


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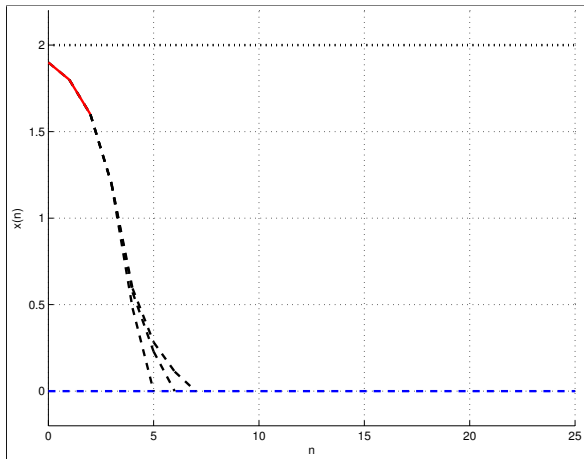


$N = 5$

# Example 1: trajectories

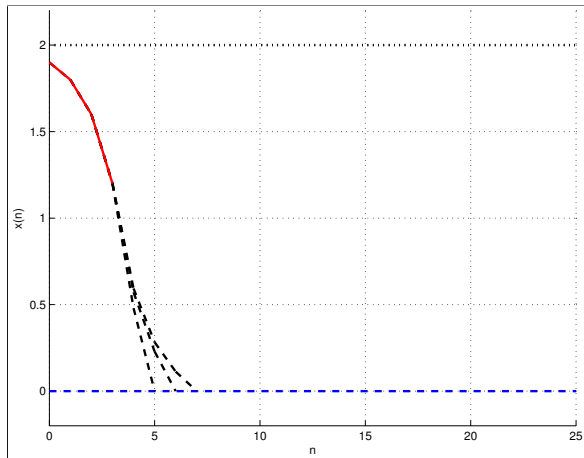


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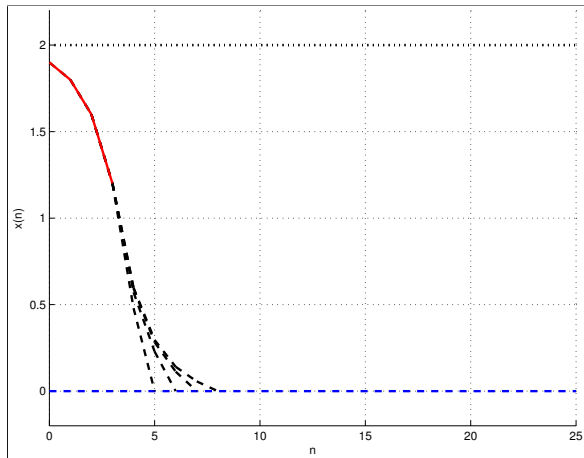
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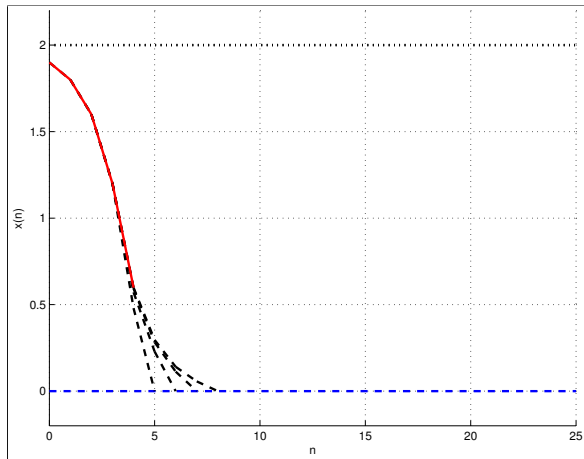
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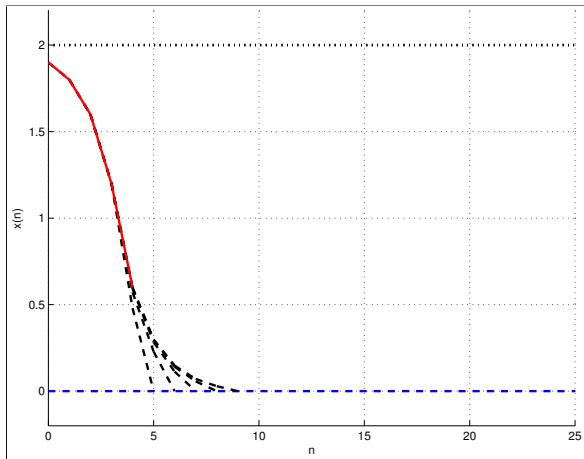


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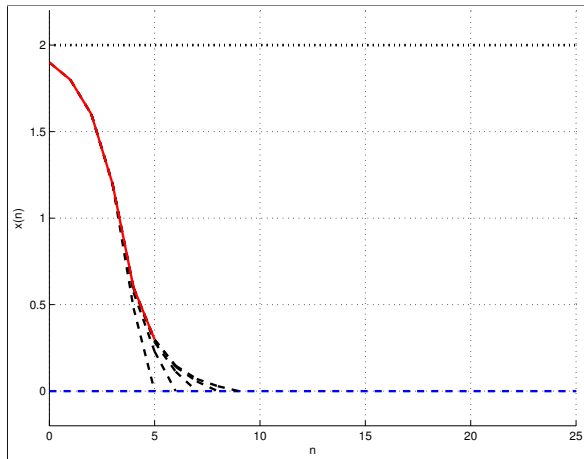
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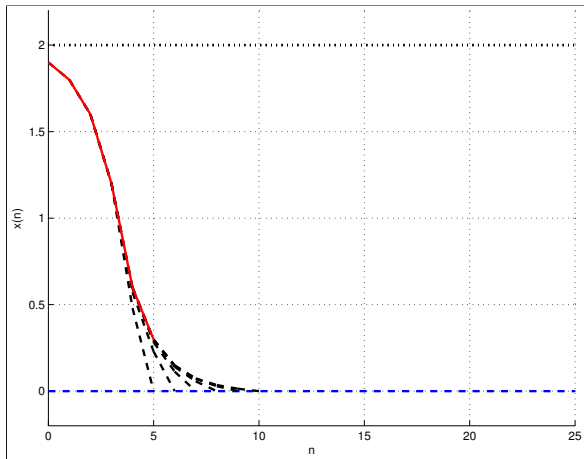
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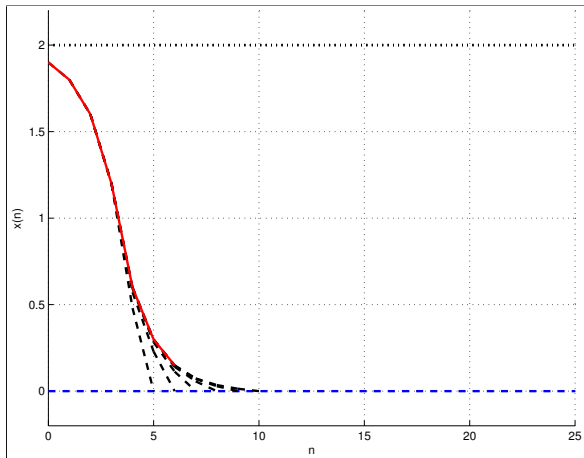
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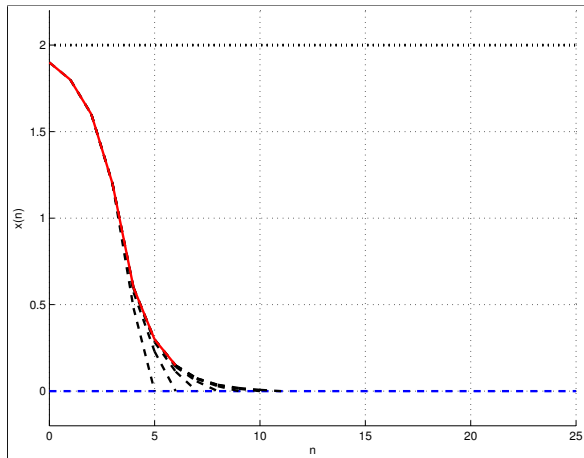
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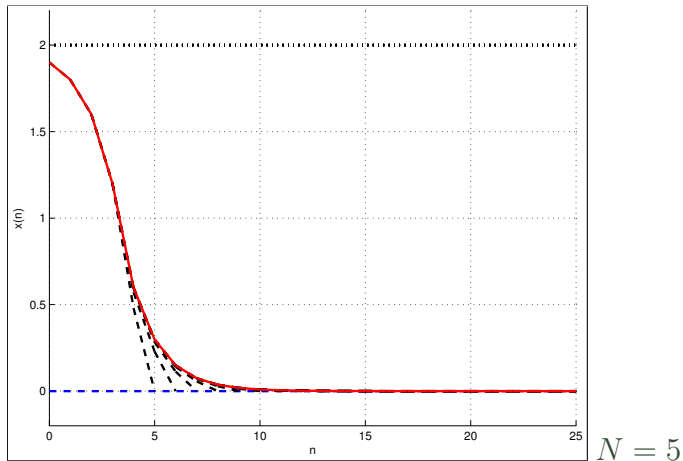
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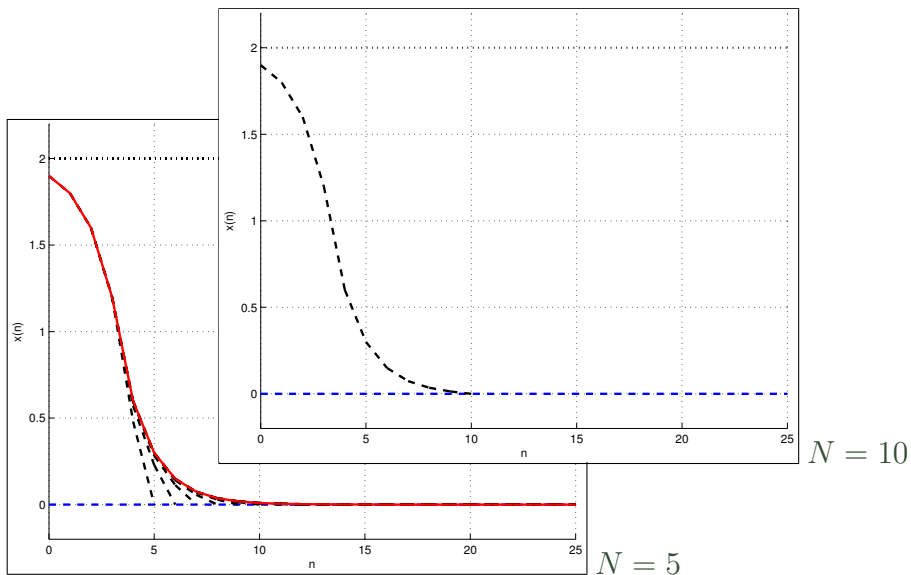


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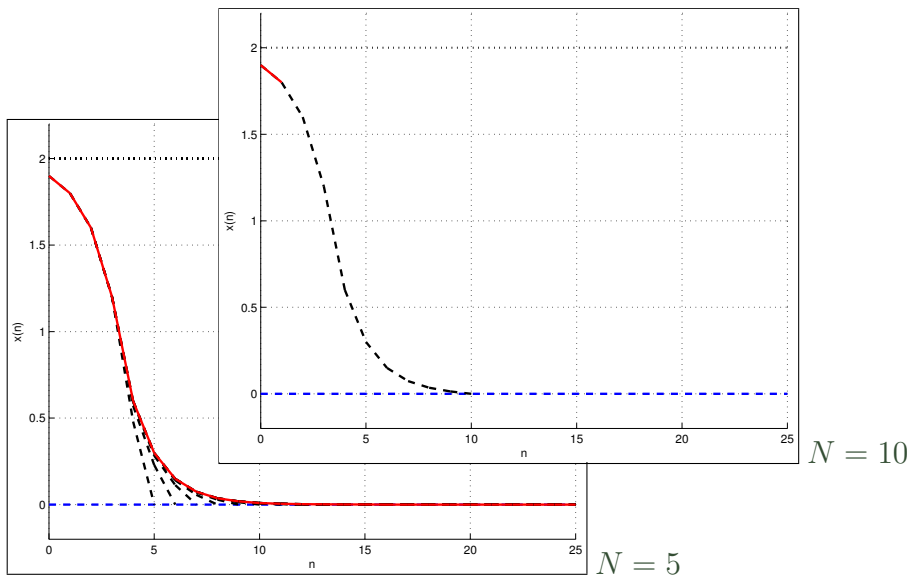


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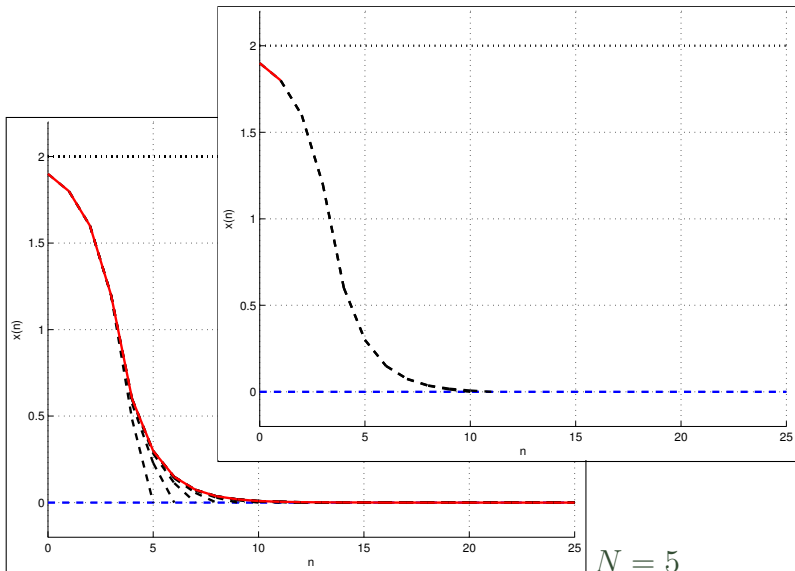




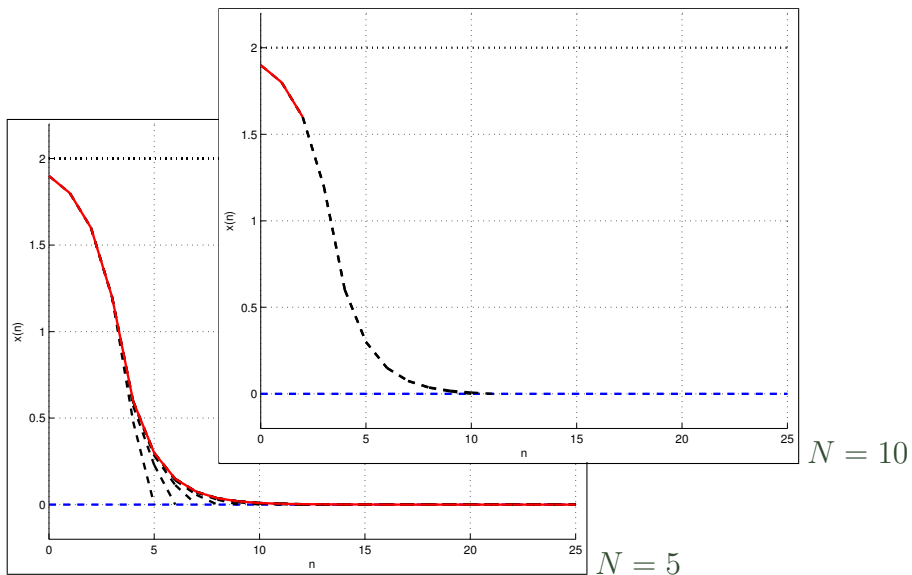
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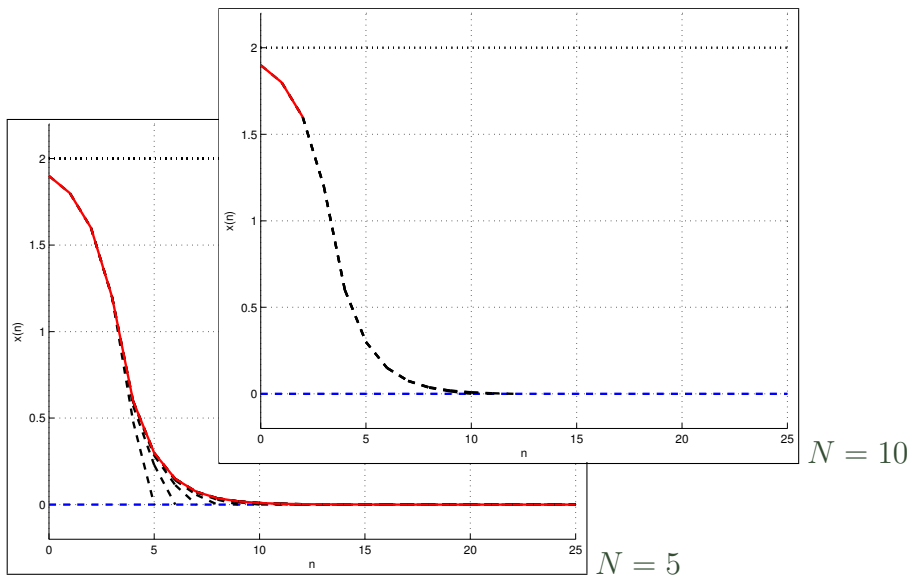
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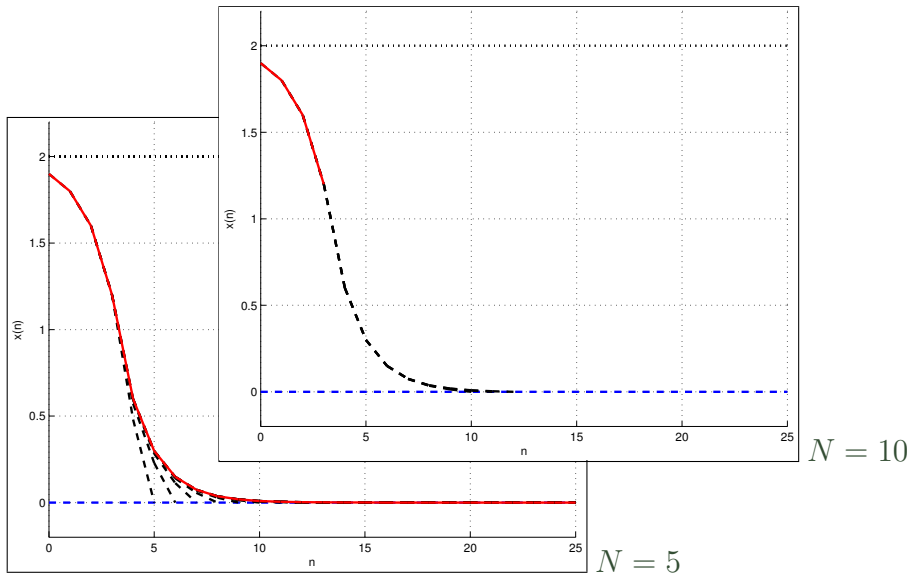
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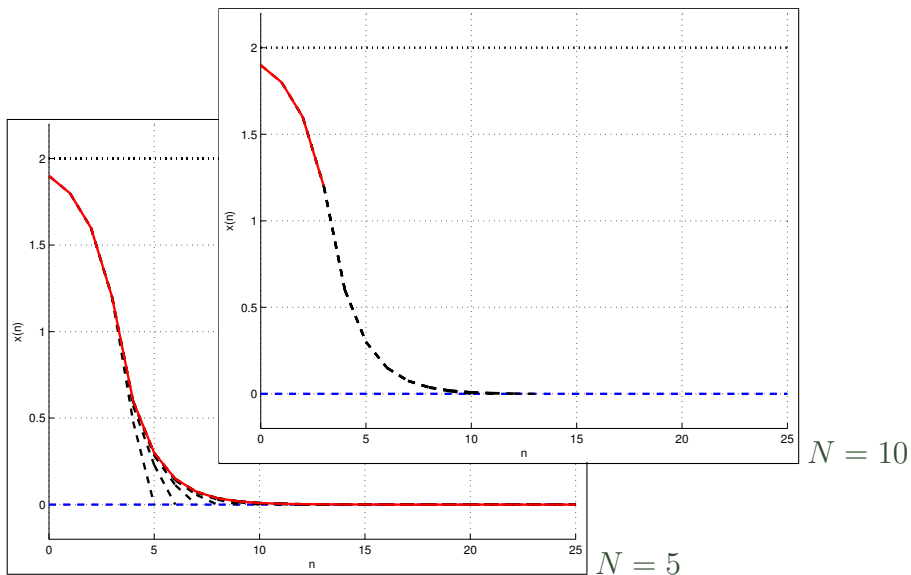
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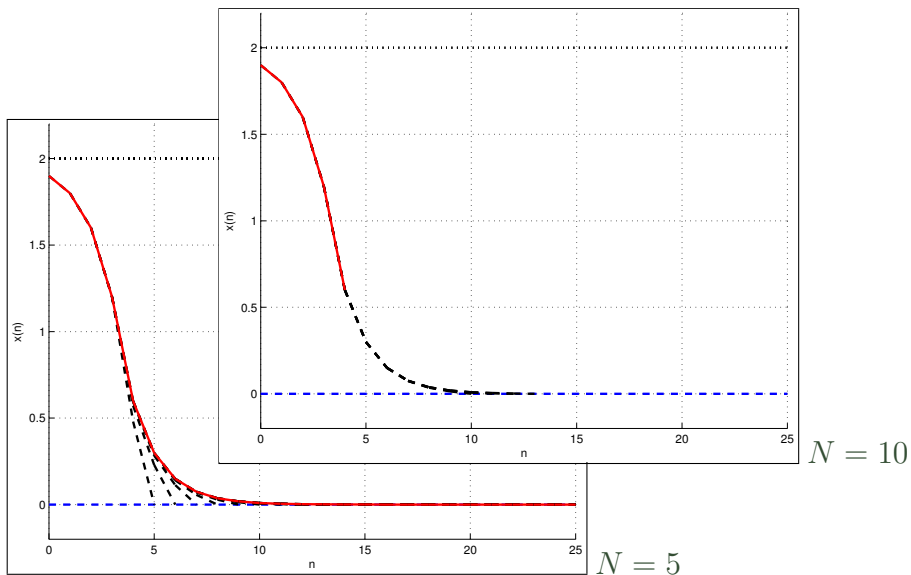
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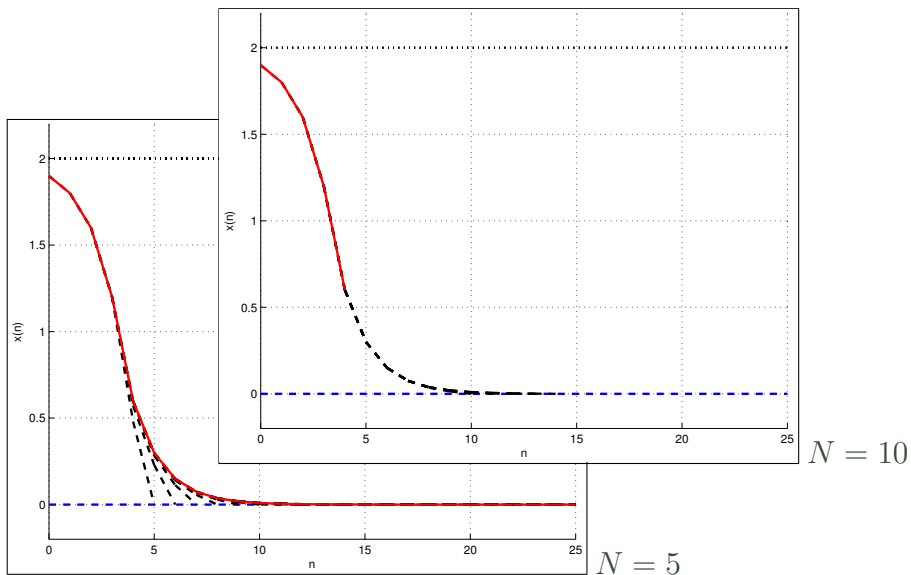
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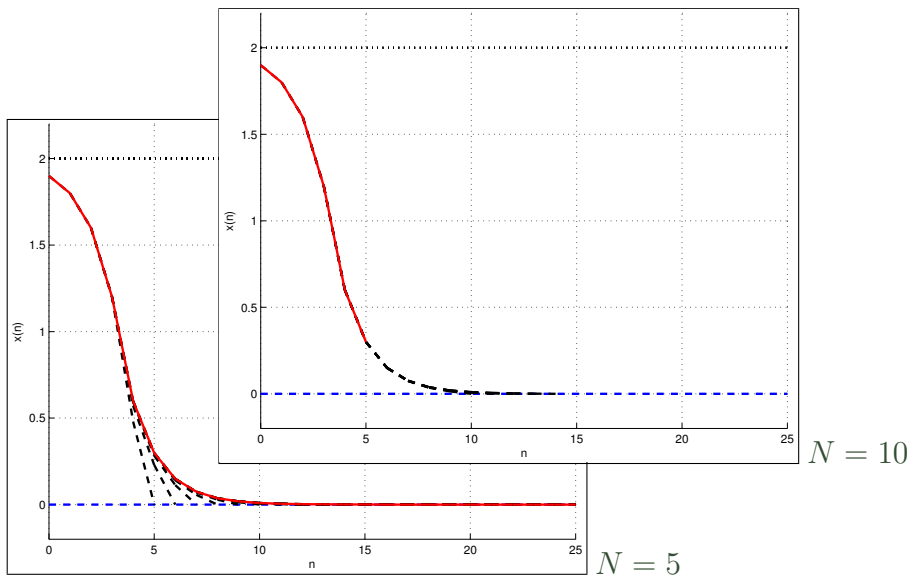


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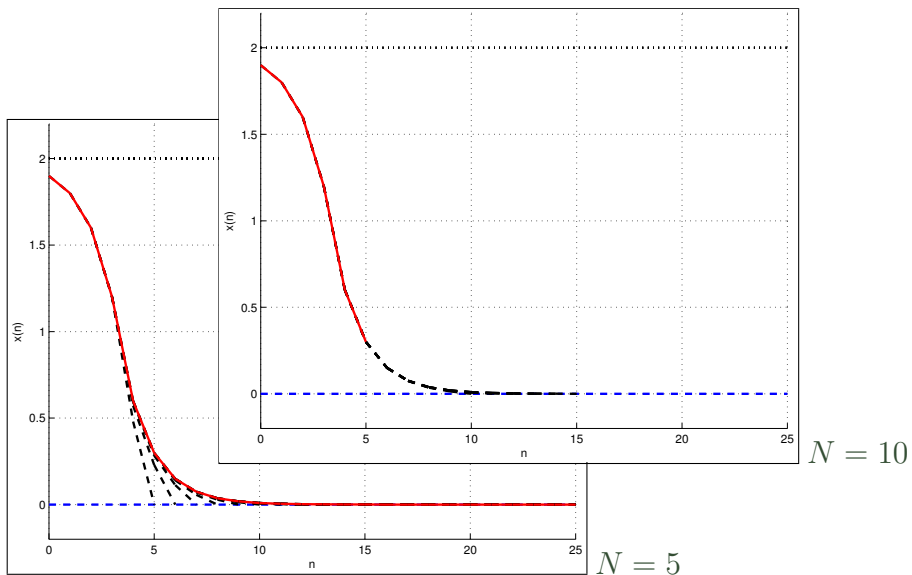




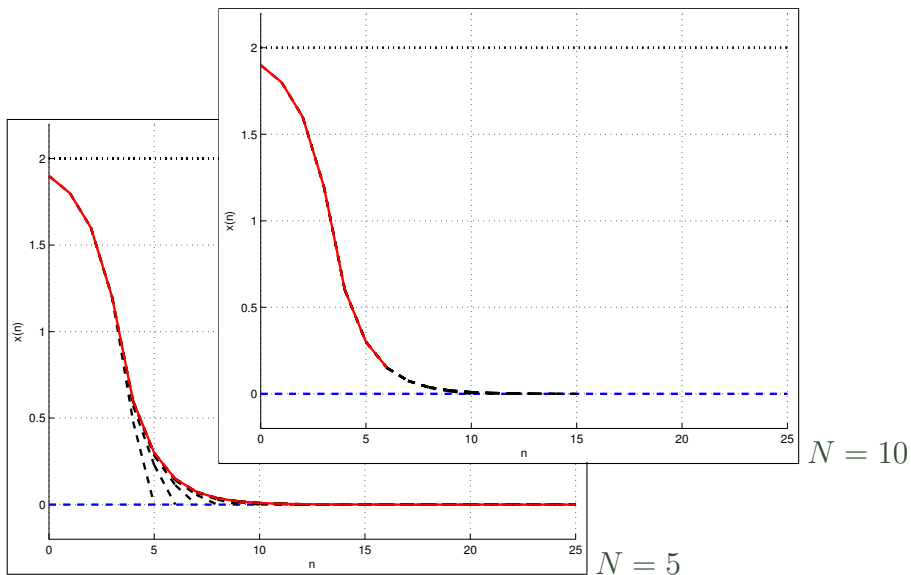
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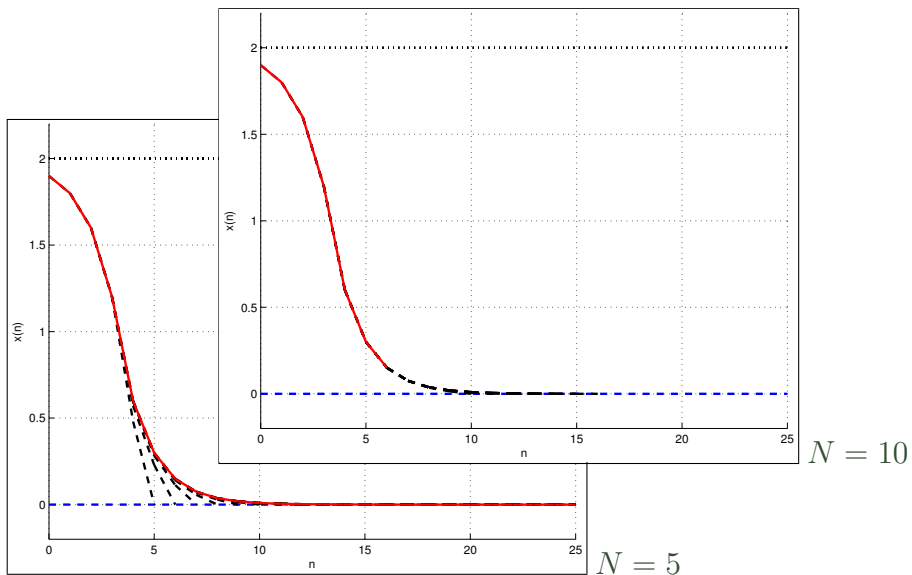
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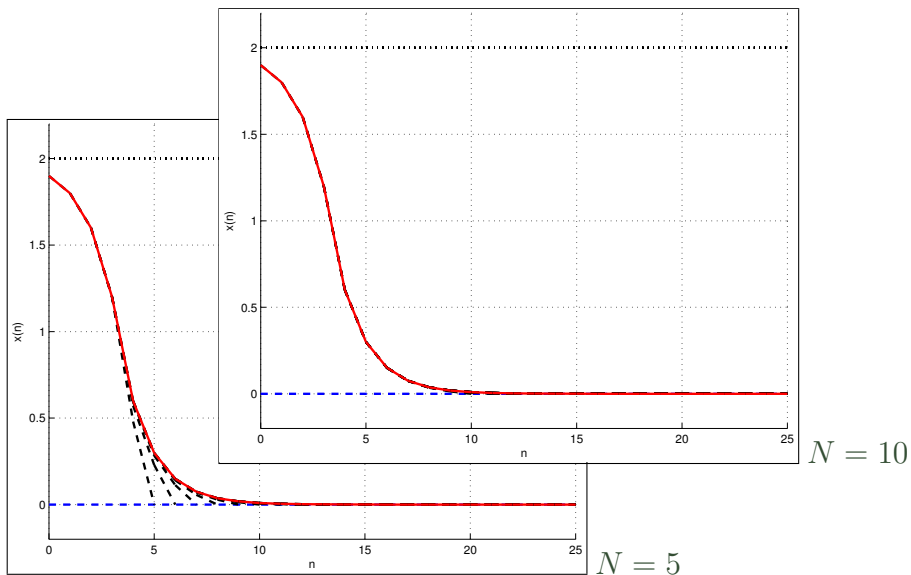
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## Example 2: Macroeconomic model

[Brock/Mirman '72]

Minimize the average performance with

$$x(n+1) = \mathbf{u}(n), \quad \ell(x, u) = -\ln(Ax^\alpha - u)$$

with  $A = 5, \alpha = 0.34$  and constraints  $\mathbb{X} = [0.1, 10], \mathbb{U} = [0.1, 5]$

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This problem exhibits the **optimal equilibrium**

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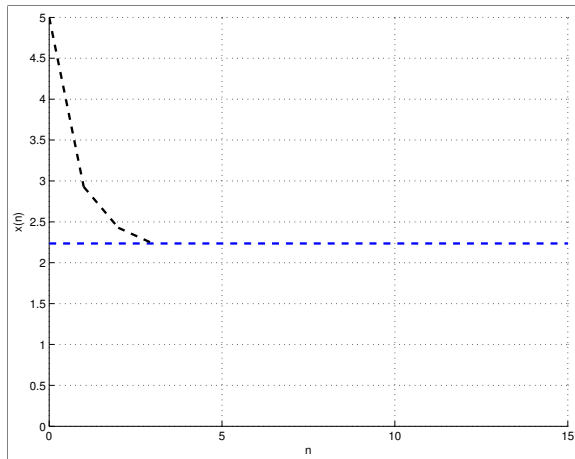
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Again, with the terminal constraint  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = x^e$  the **closed loop trajectories** converge to  $x^e$  (and the **averaged functional** equals  $\ell(x^e, u^e)$ )

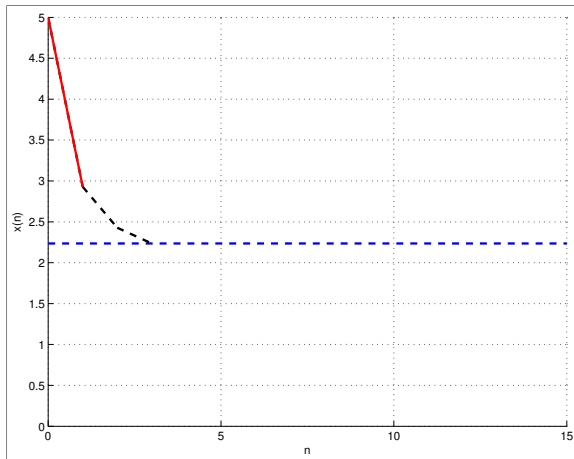


## Example 2: trajectories



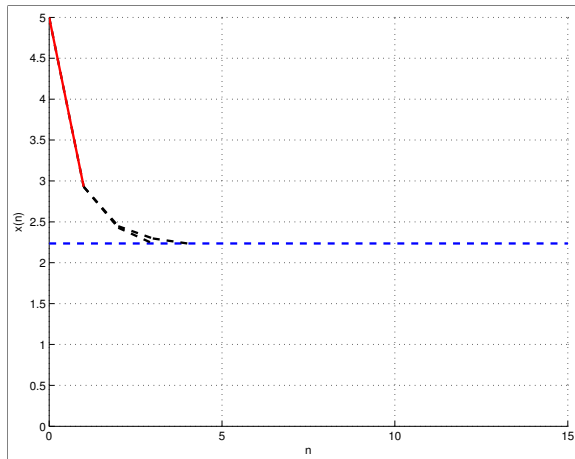
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## Example 2: trajectories



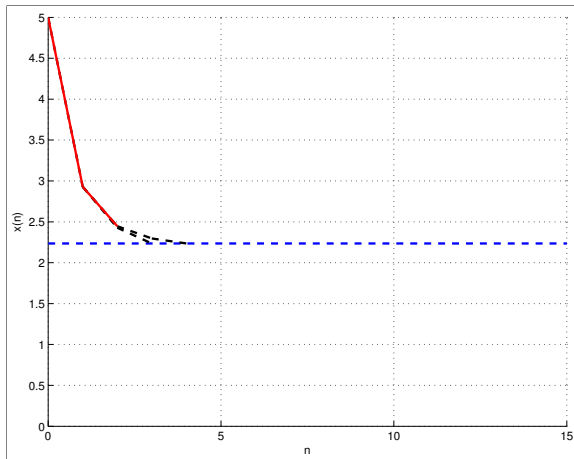
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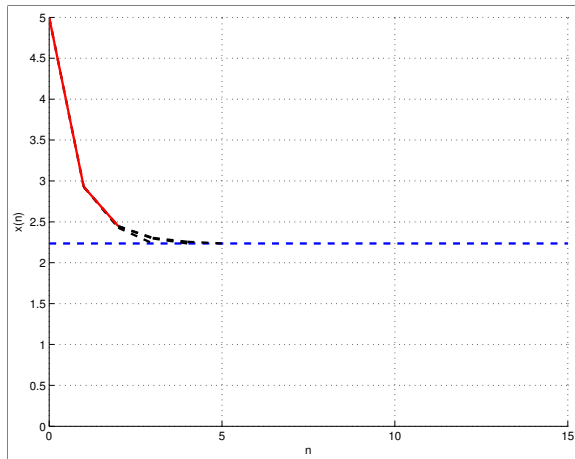
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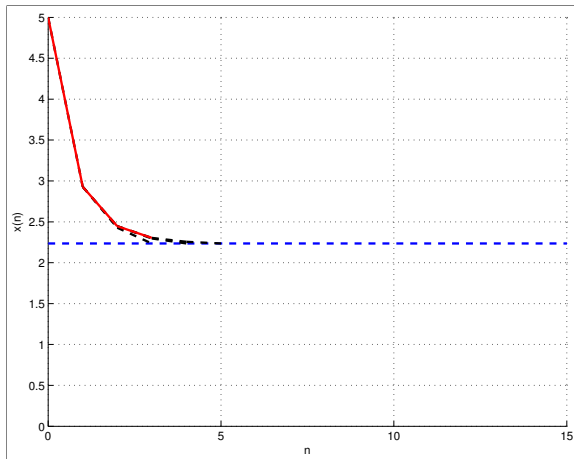
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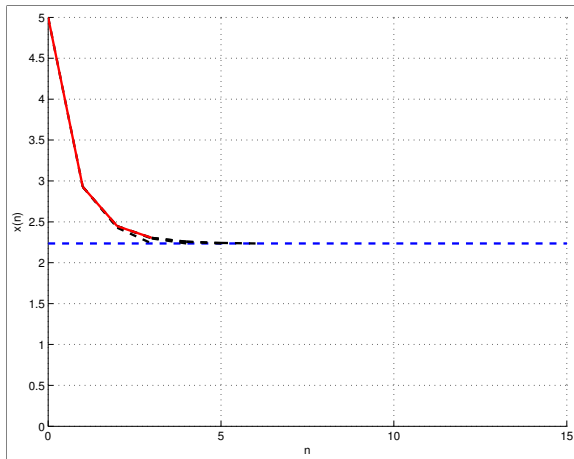
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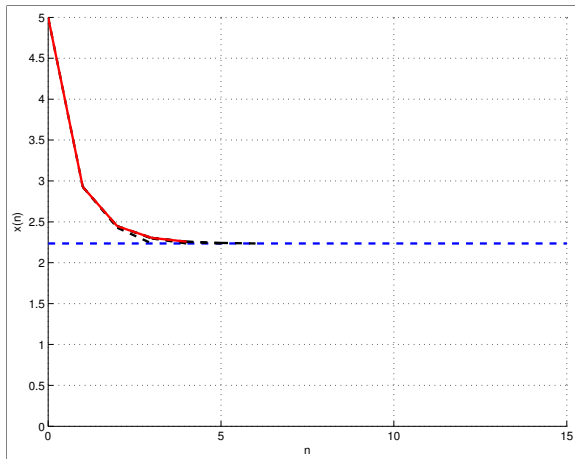
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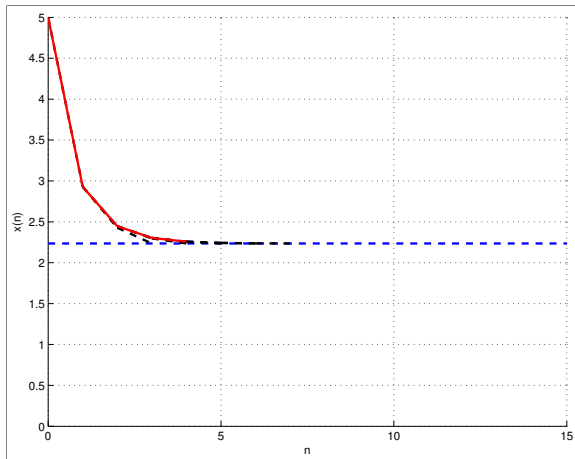
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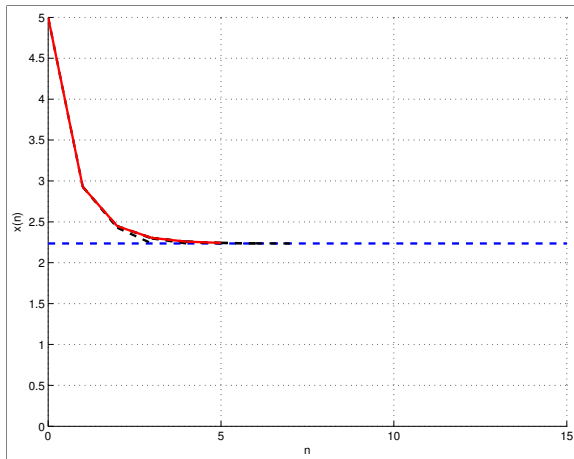


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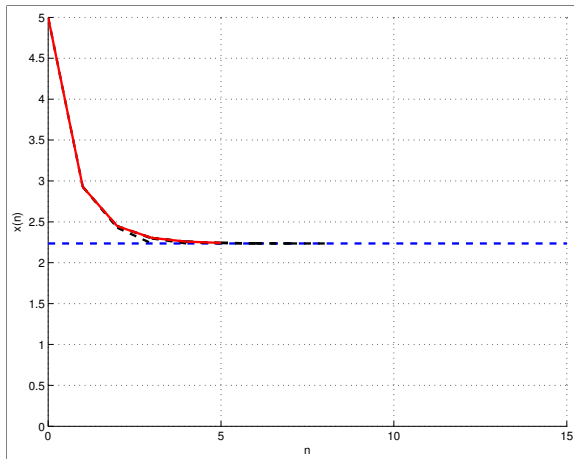
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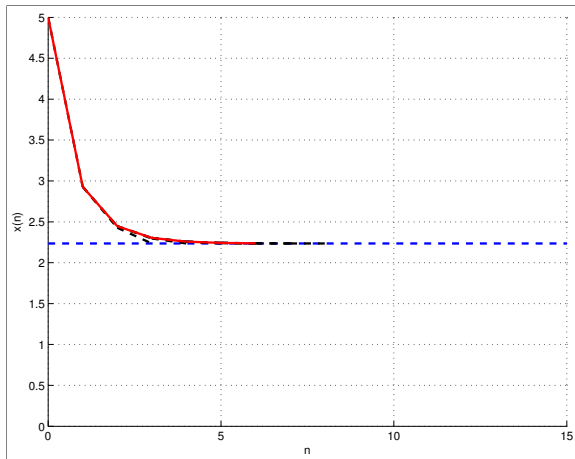
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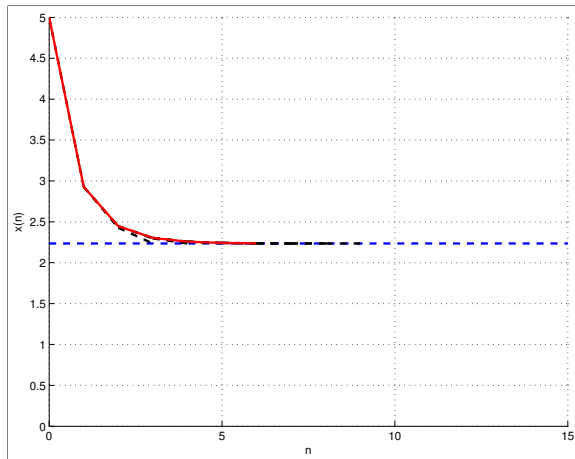
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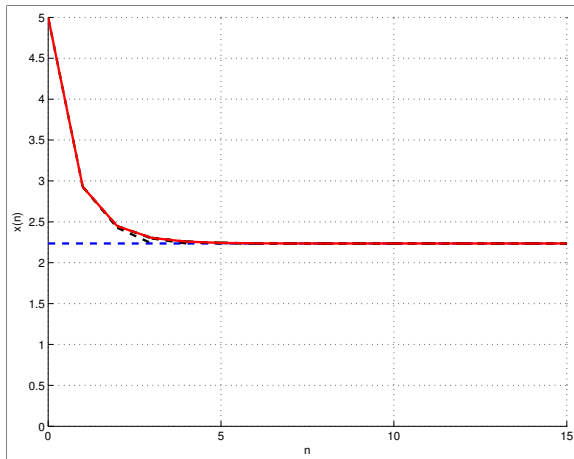
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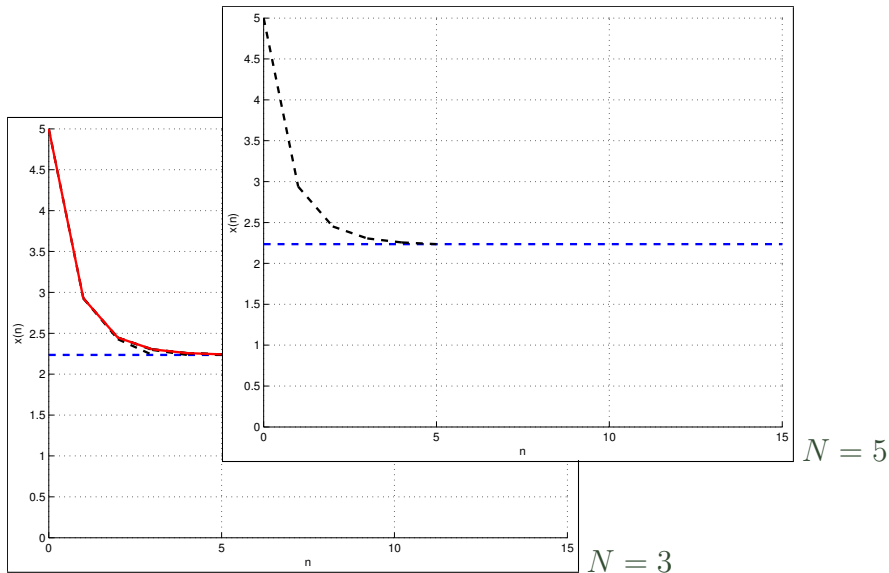
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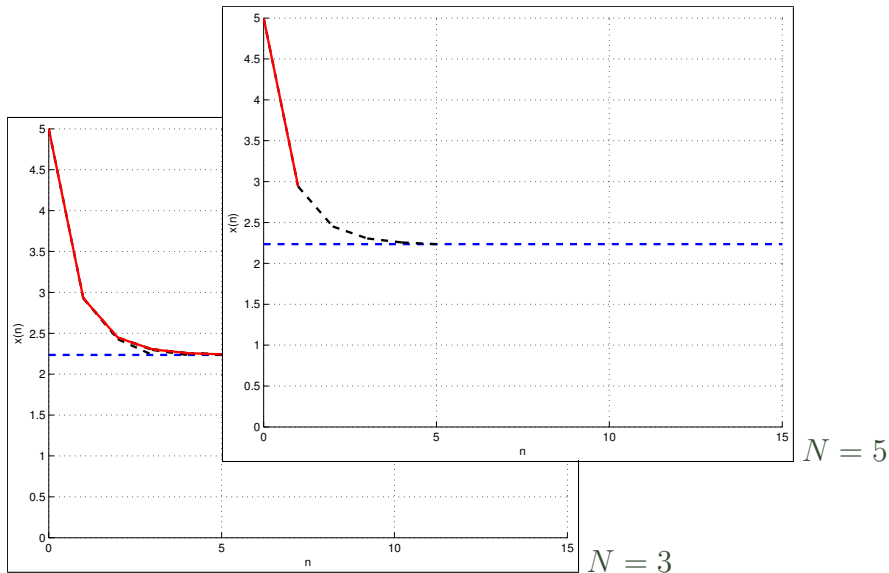


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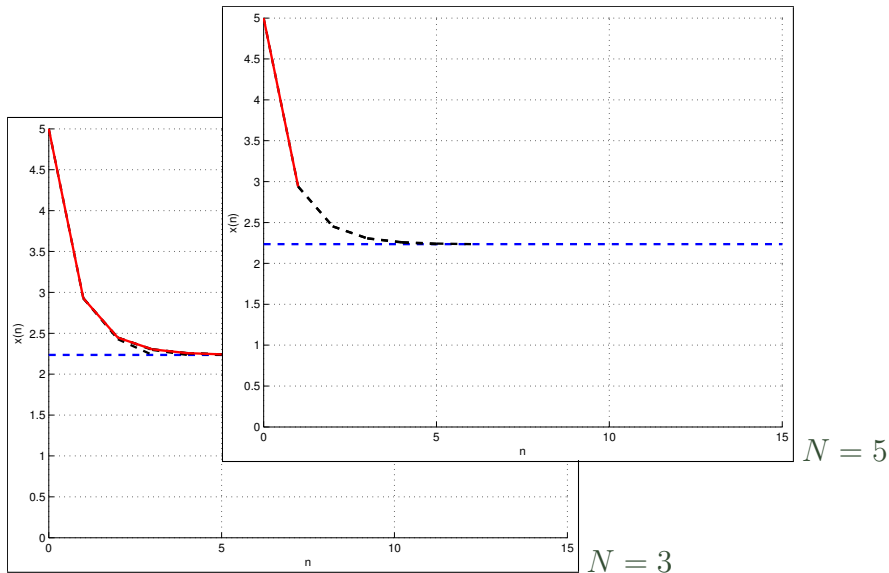


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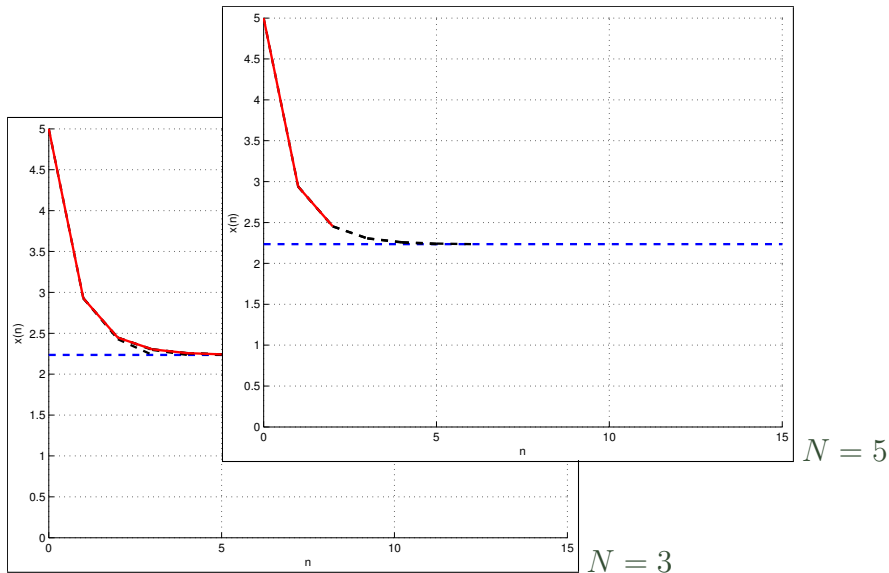




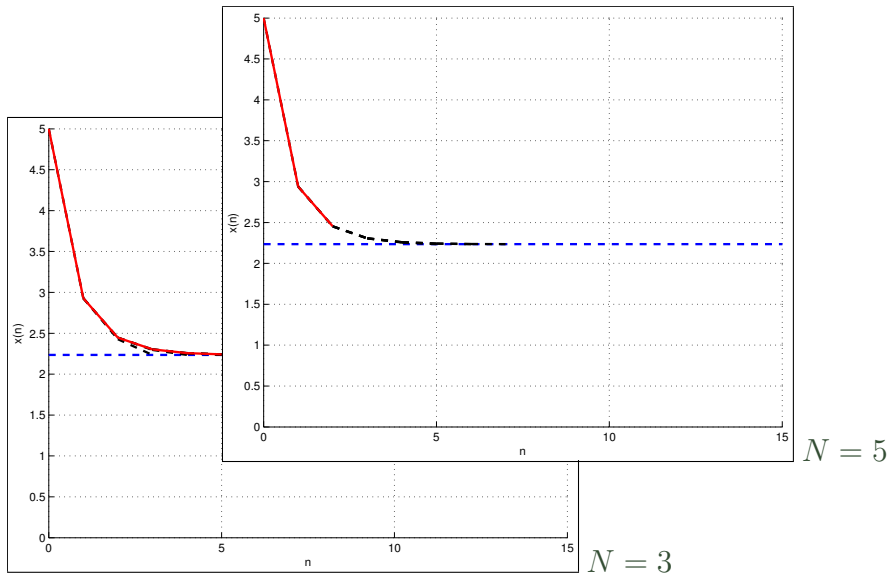
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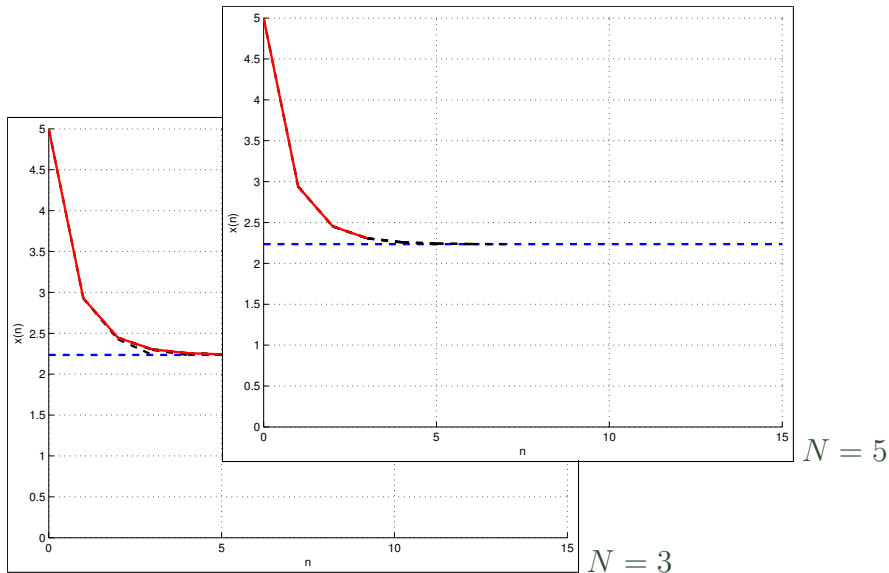
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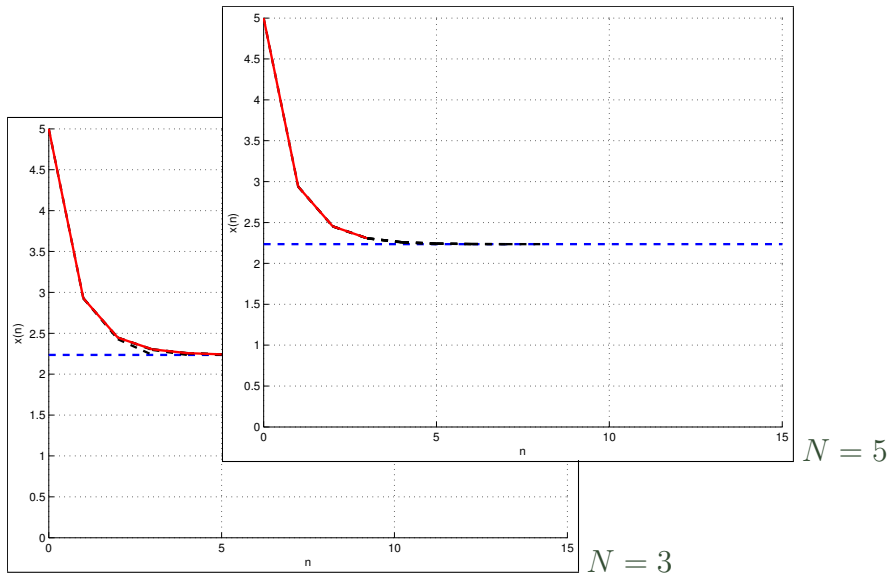
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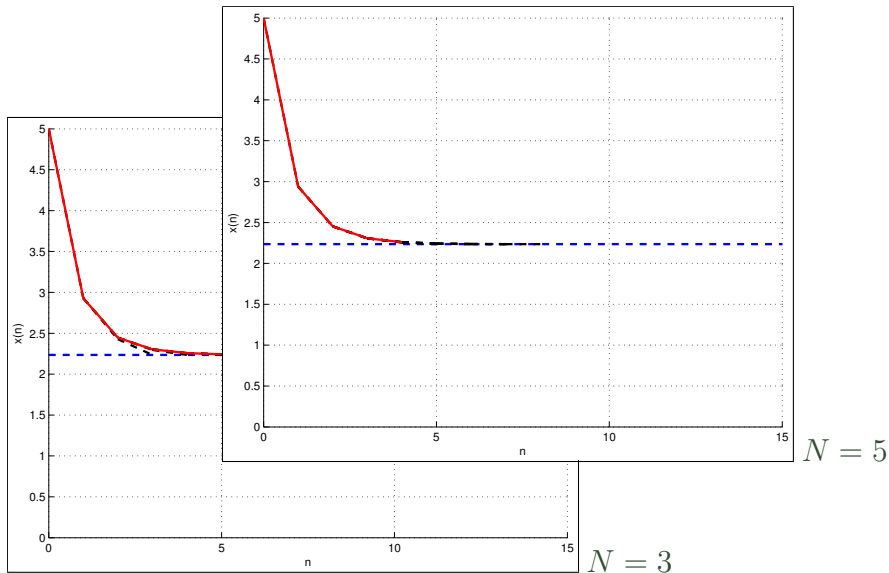
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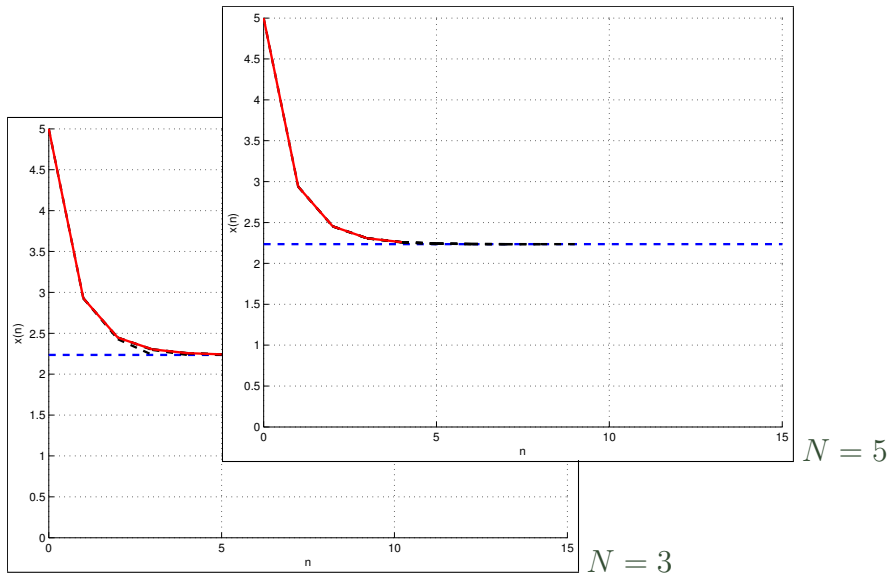
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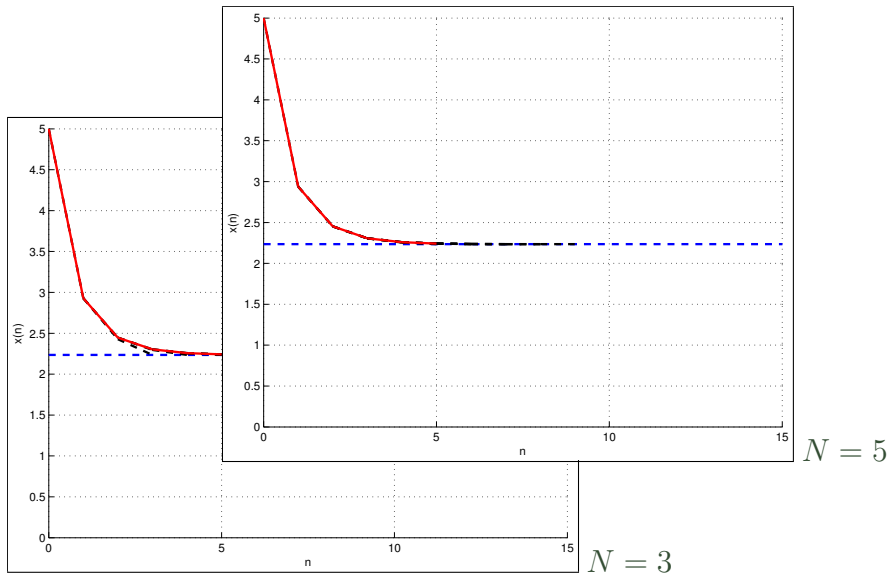
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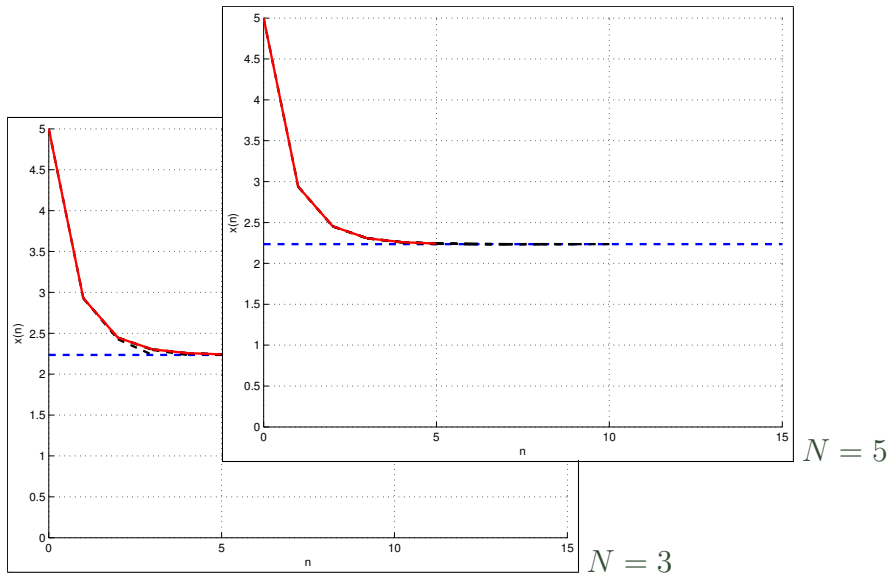


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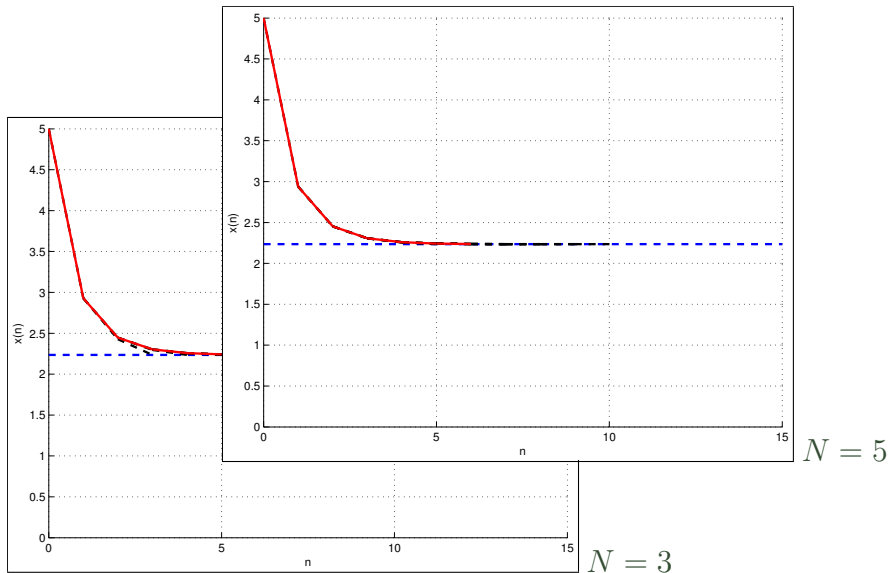




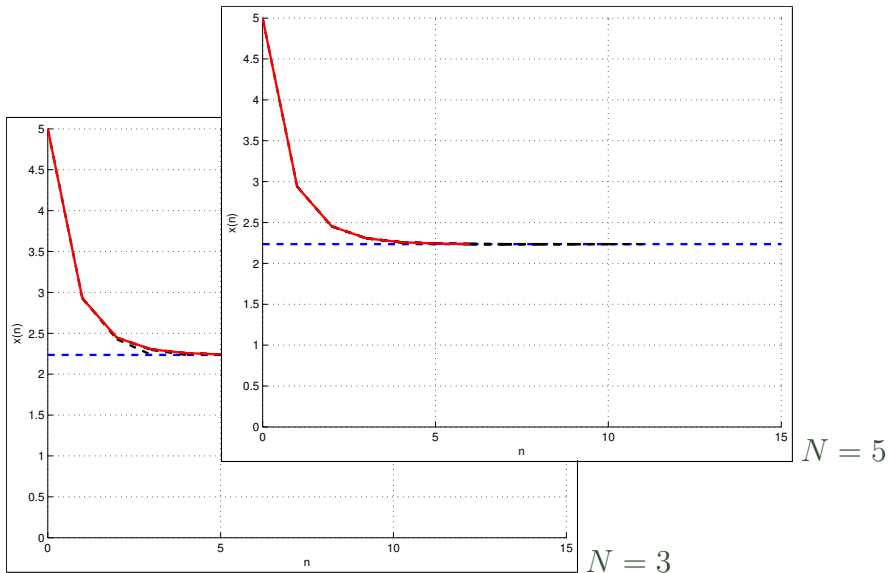
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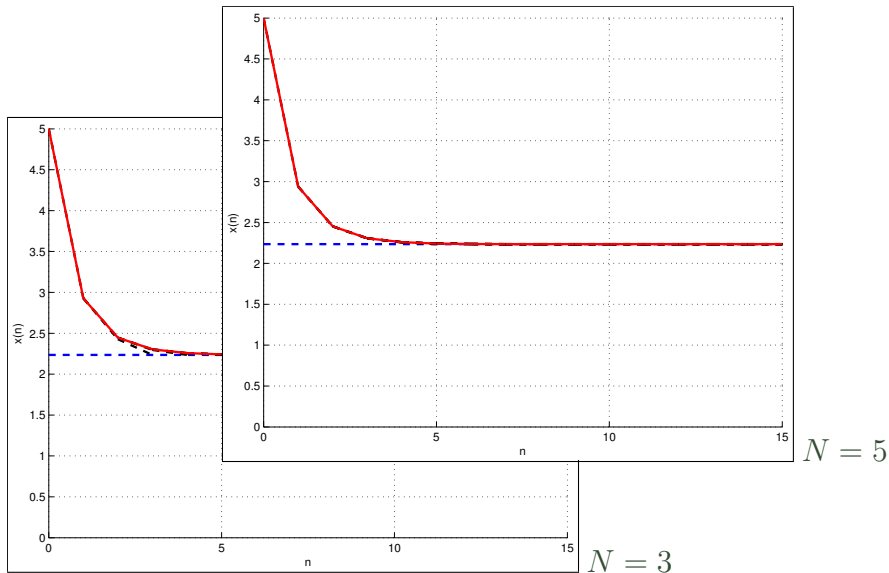
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**Extensions:** instead of equilibria, the terminal constraints can be formulated for **periodic solutions** [Angeli/Amrit/Rawlings '09]

Regional terminal constraints and **Lyapunov-like terminal costs** are also possible, but their construction is difficult

# Asymptotic stability

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**Theorem:** [Diehl/Amrit/Rawlings '11, Angeli/Amrit/Rawlings '12]  
Assume that the optimal control problem is **strictly dissipative** for the equilibrium  $(x^e, u^e)$ . Then the MPC closed loop for the scheme with **terminal constraint**  $x_{\mathbf{u}}(N) = x^e$  is **asymptotically stable** at  $x^e$ .

# Sketch of proof

$$(D) \quad \ell(x, u) - \ell(x^e, u^e) + \lambda(x) - \lambda(f(x, u)) \geq \alpha(\|x - x^e\|)$$

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- Optimality can be proven in a (rather weak) **averaged sense**, though simulations suggest **better optimality properties**
- **Strict dissipativity** ensures both the existence of an optimal equilibrium and **asymptotic stability** of the closed loop

(9) Economic MPC without  
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What happens **without terminal constraints**? We investigate this for the examples from the last section:

**Example 1:** Keep the state of the system **inside an admissible set**  $\mathbb{X}$  minimizing the quadratic control effort

$$\ell(x, u) = u^2$$

with dynamics

$$x(n+1) = 2x(n) + \mathbf{u}(n)$$

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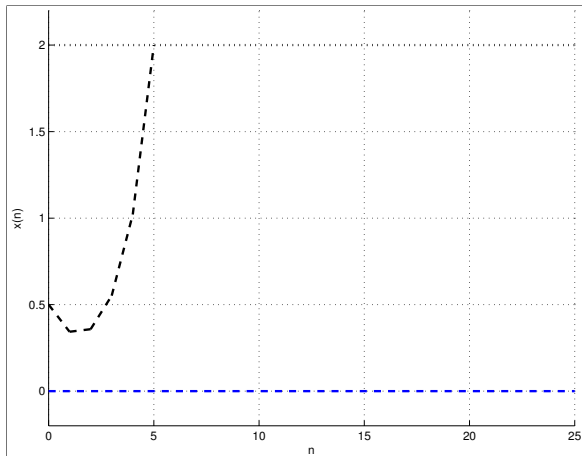
$$x(n+1) = 2x(n) + \mathbf{u}(n)$$

and constraints  $\mathbb{X} = [-2, 2]$ ,  $\mathbb{U} = [-3, 3]$

For this example, it is optimal to **control the system to**  $x^e = 0$   
**and keep it there with**  $u^e = 0 \rightsquigarrow \inf_{\mathbf{u}} J_{\infty}(x, \mathbf{u}) = 0$

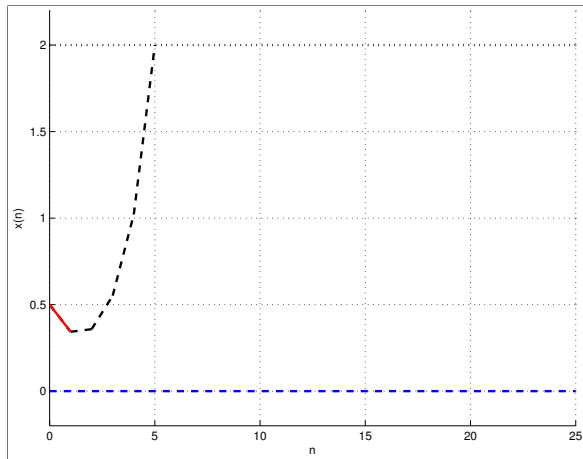


# Example 1: trajectories



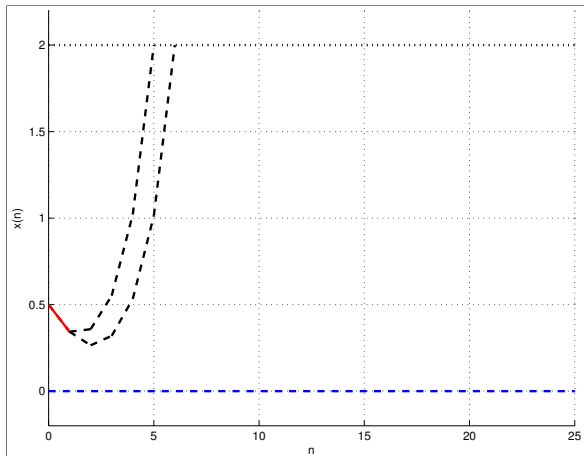
$N = 5$

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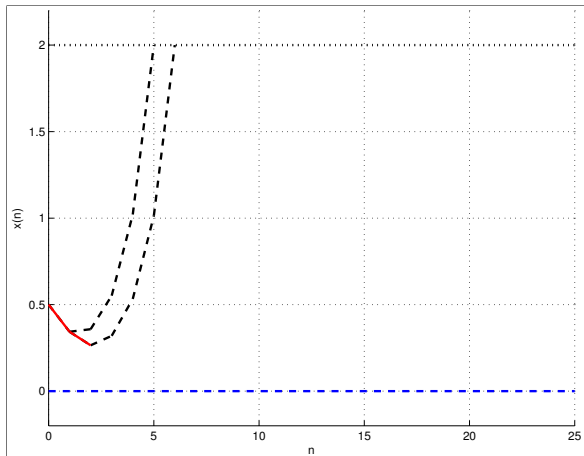
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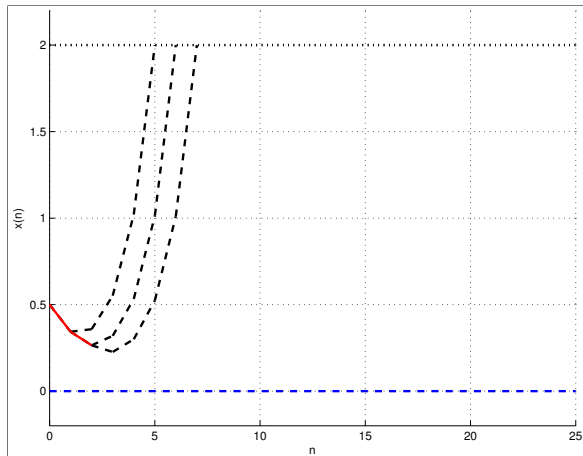
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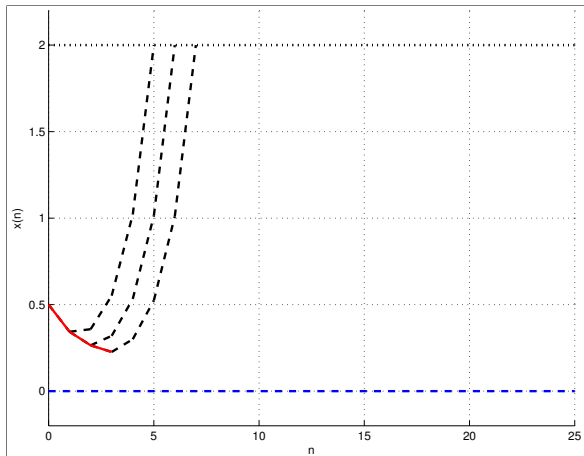
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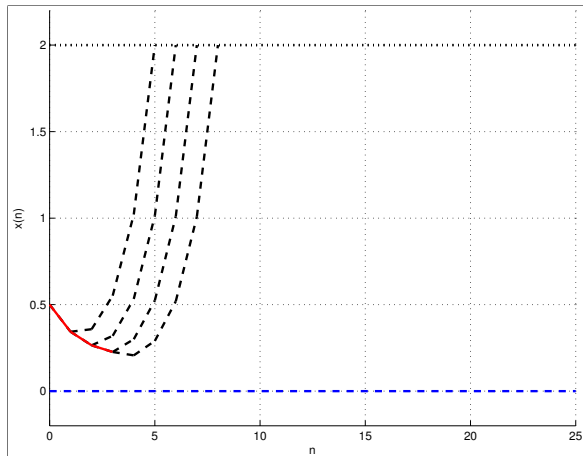
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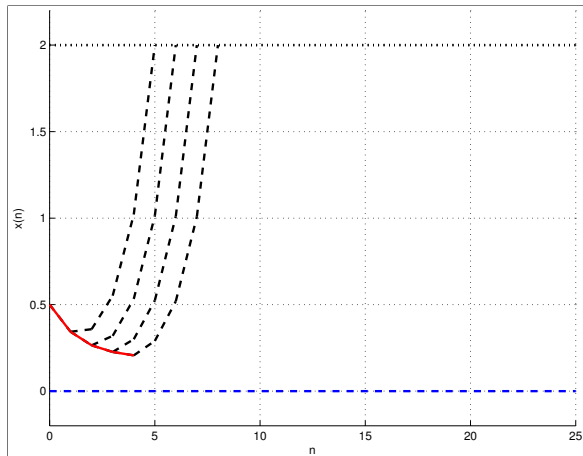
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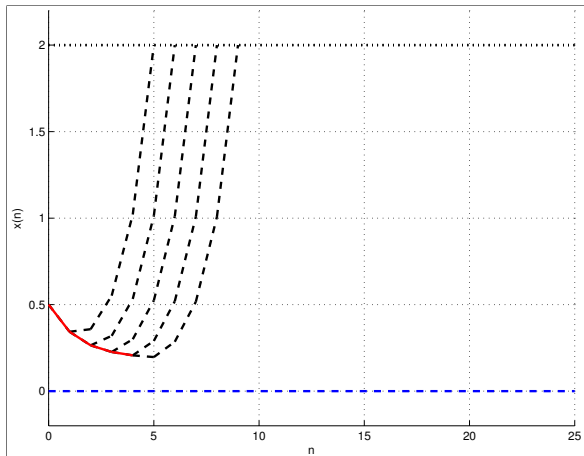
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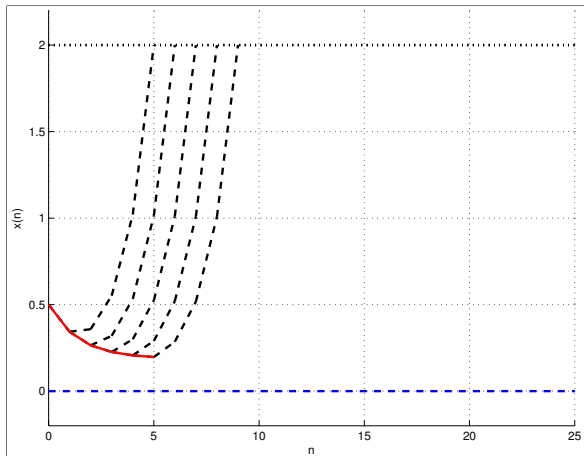


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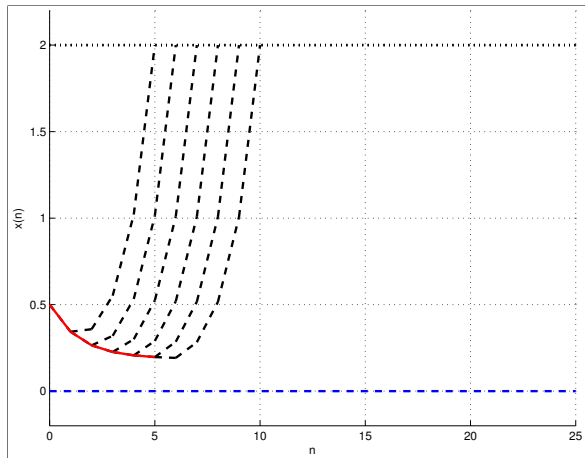
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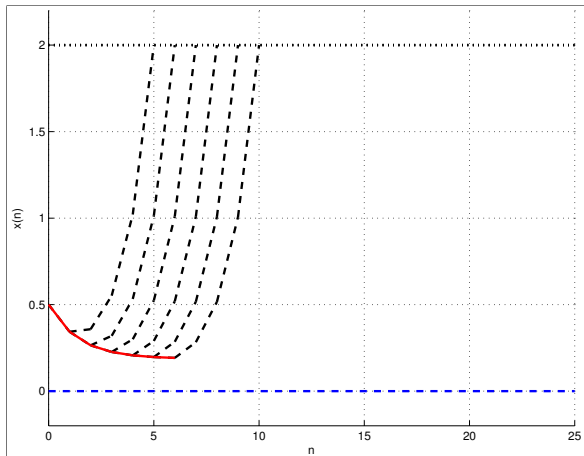
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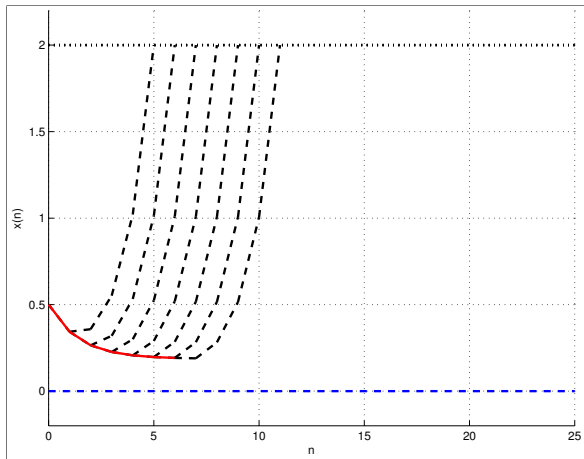
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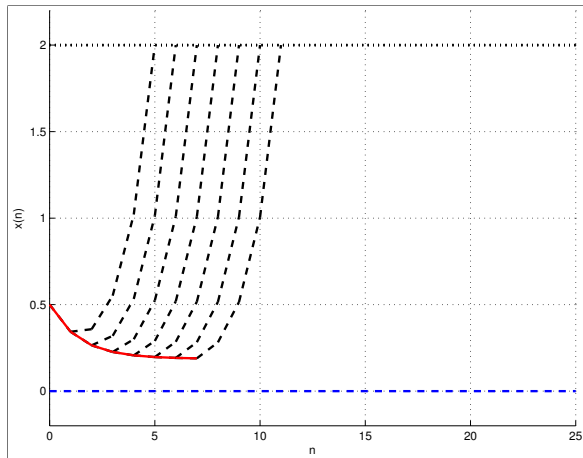
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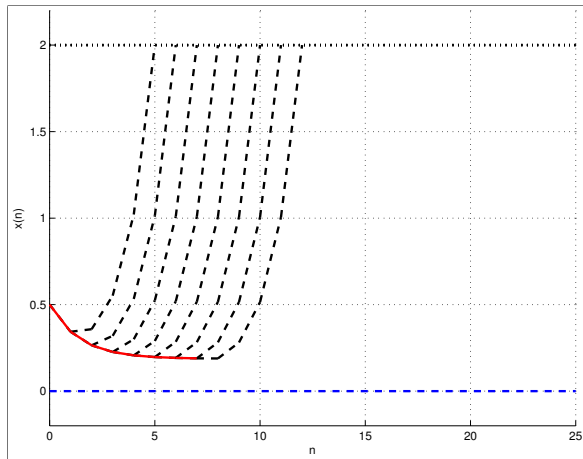
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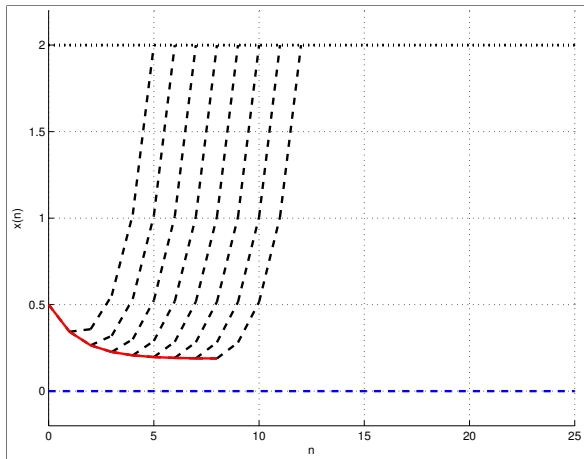
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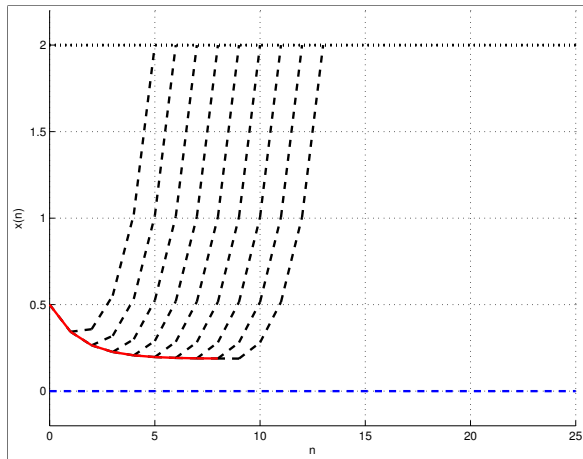
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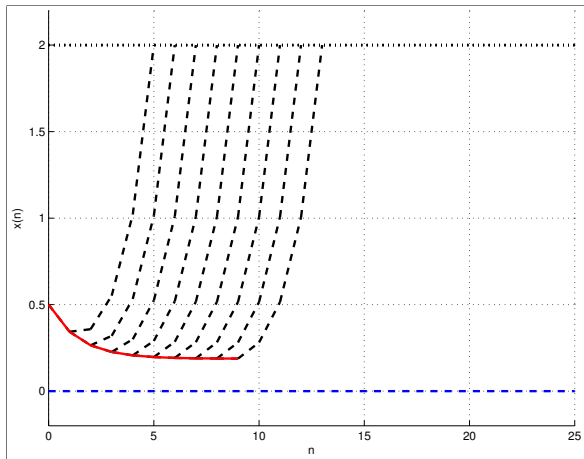


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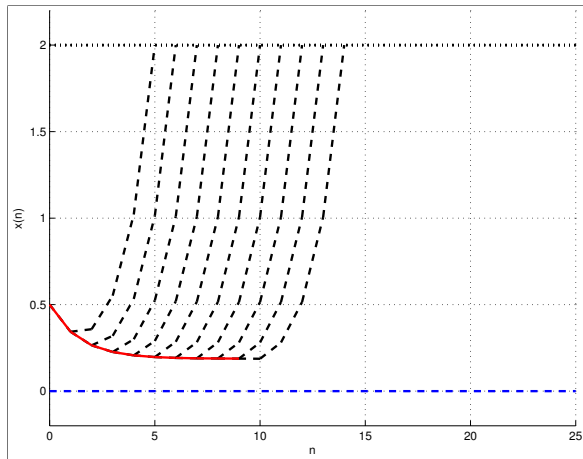
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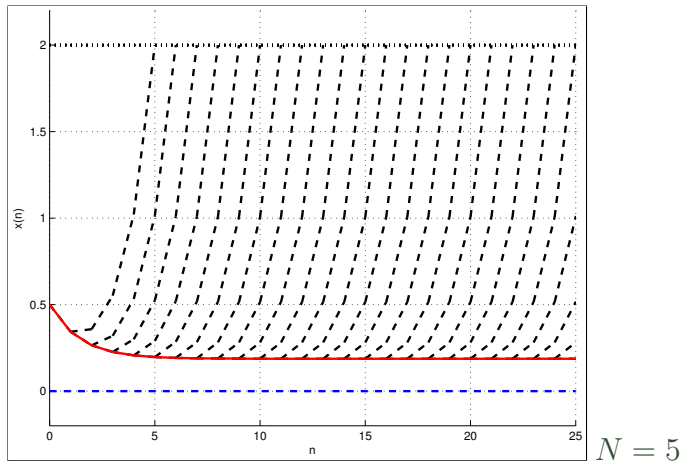
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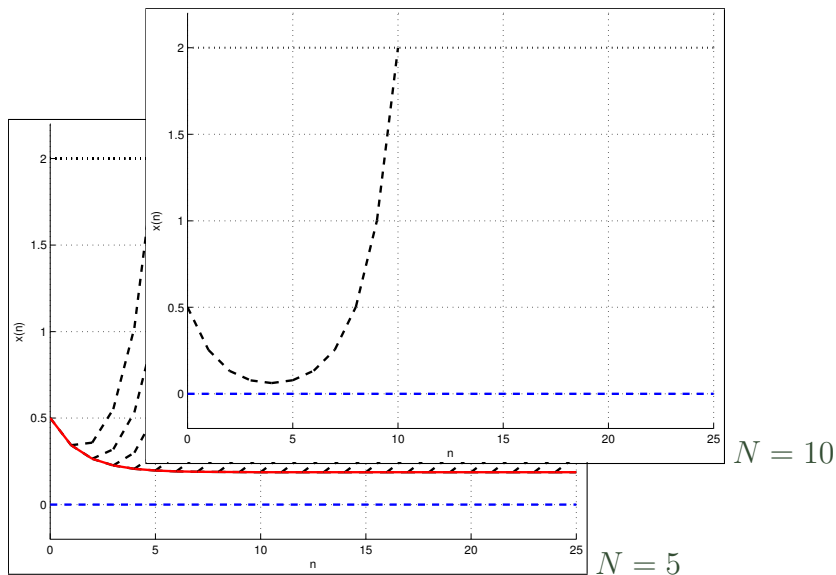


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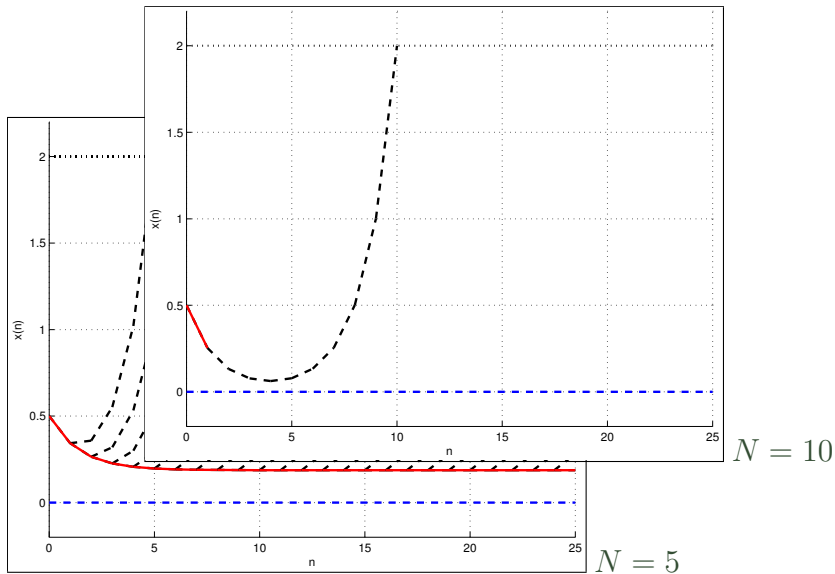
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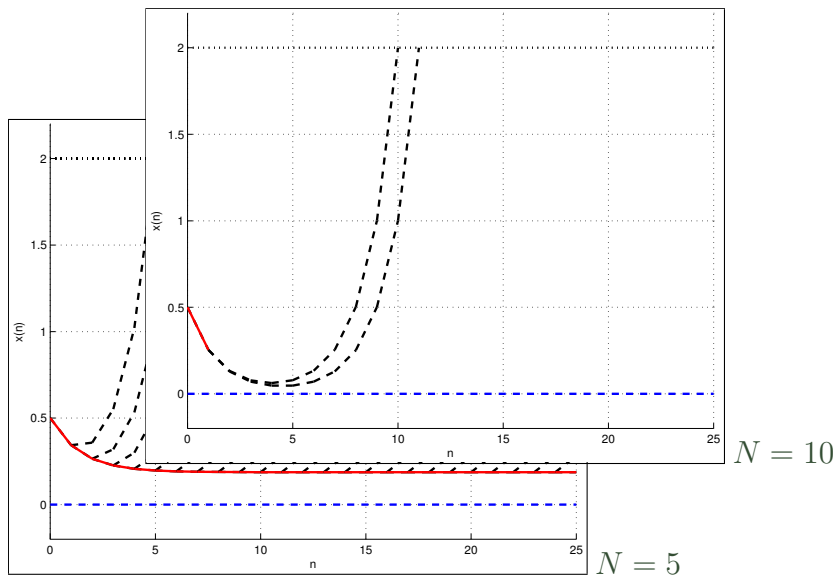
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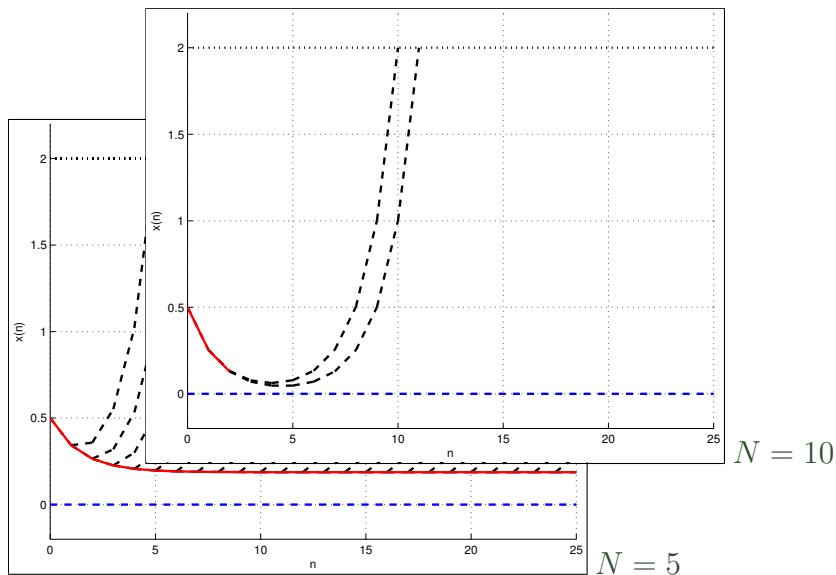
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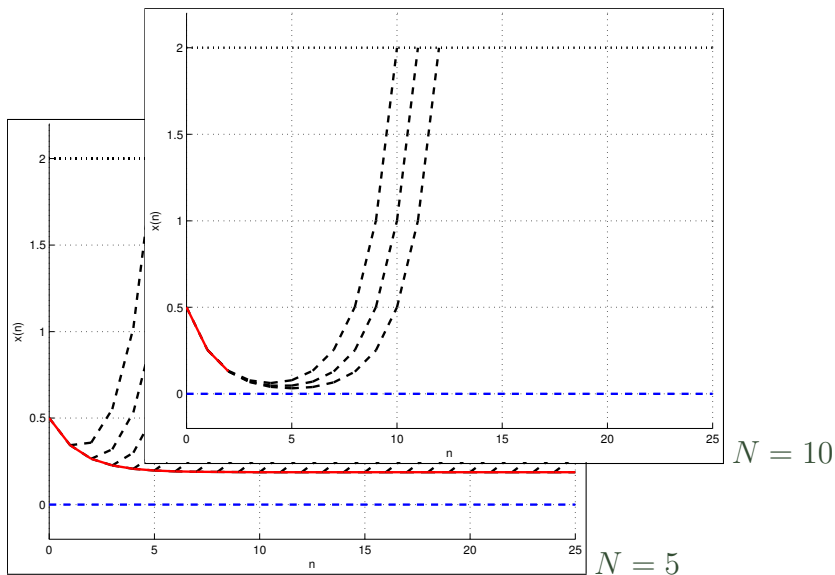


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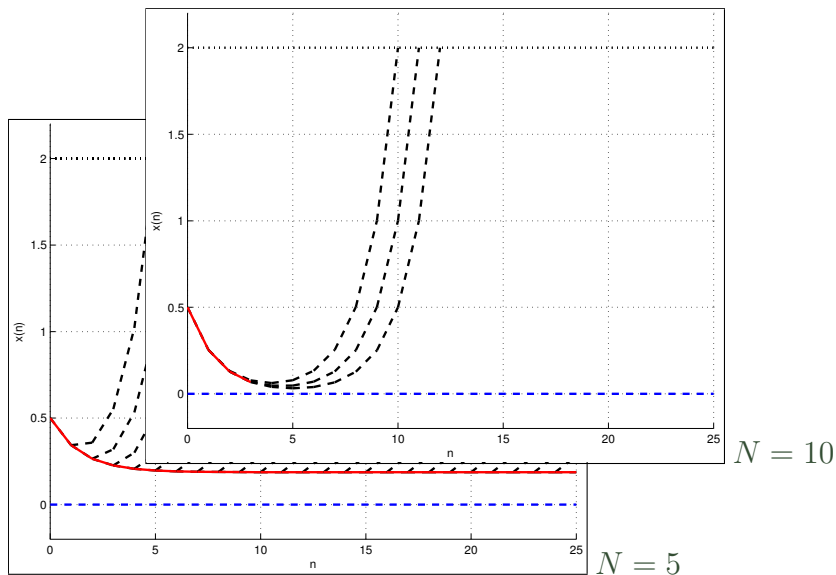




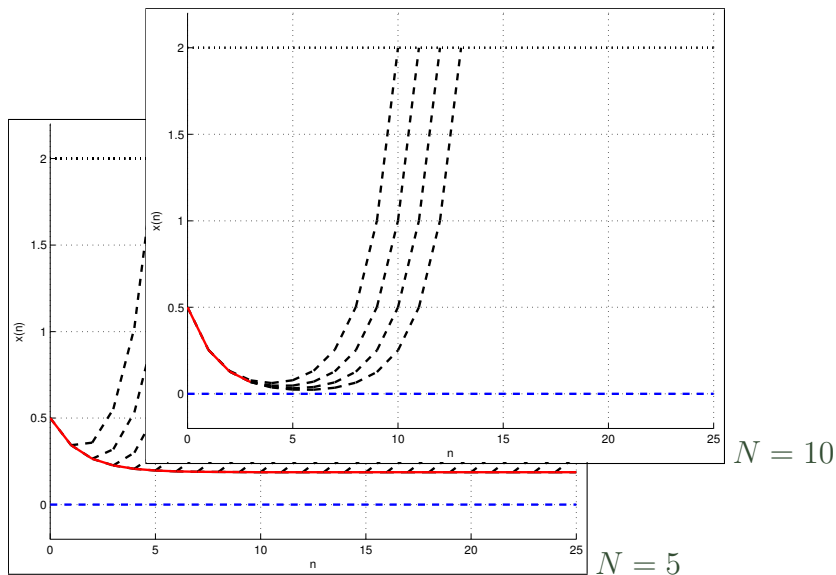
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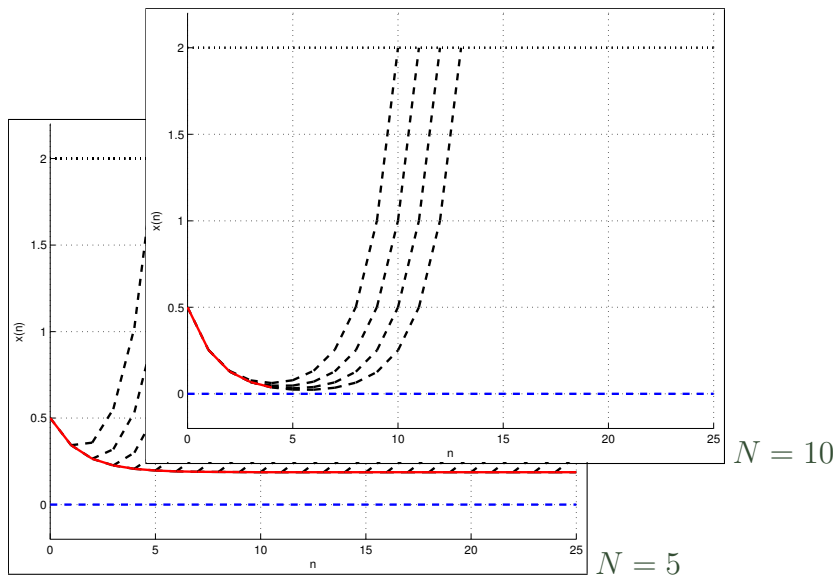
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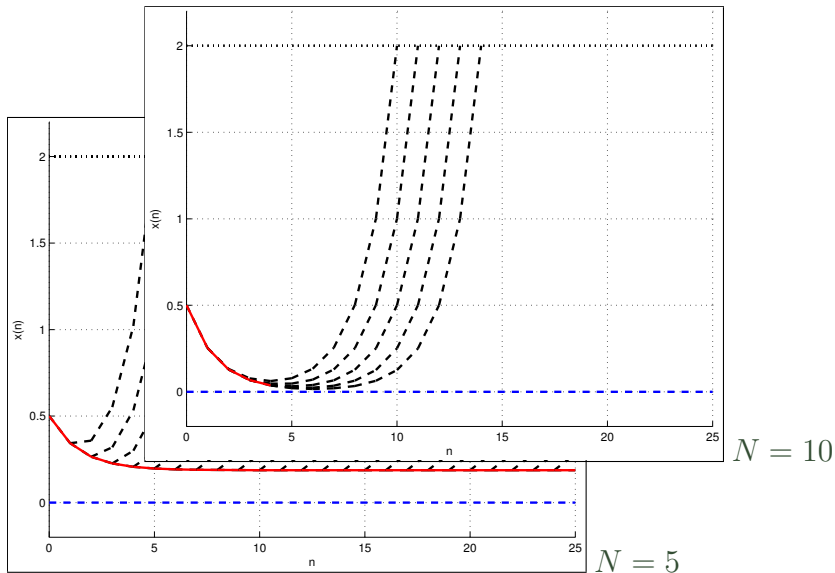
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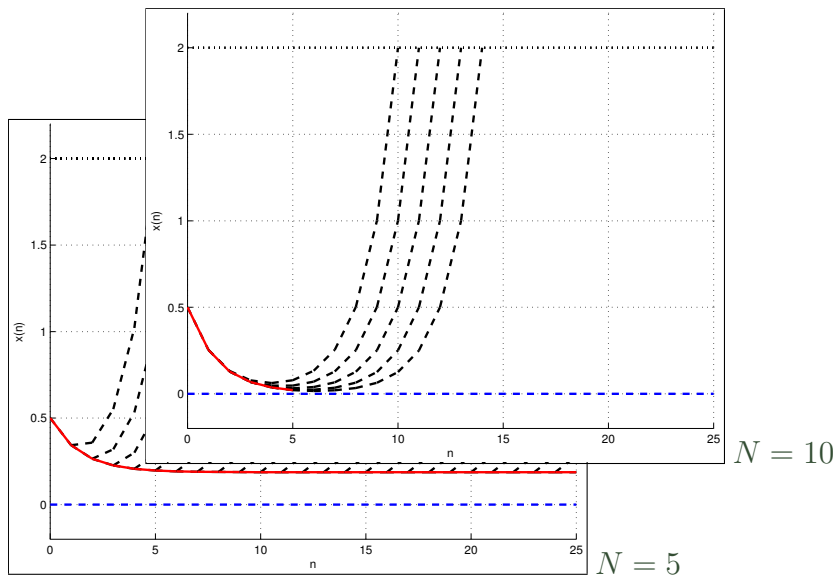
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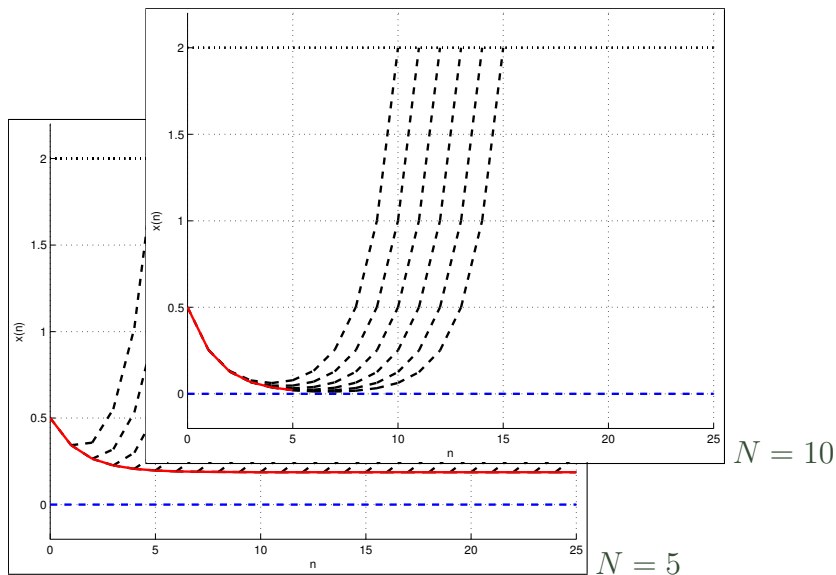
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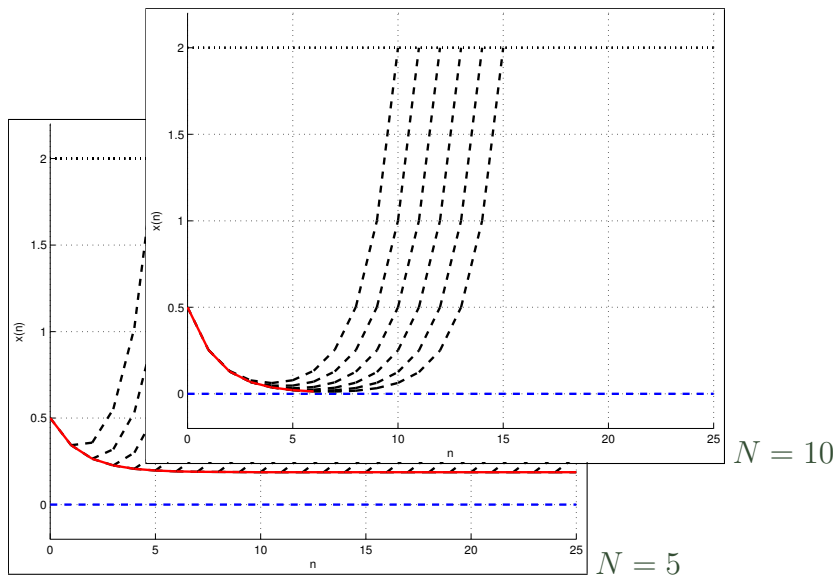
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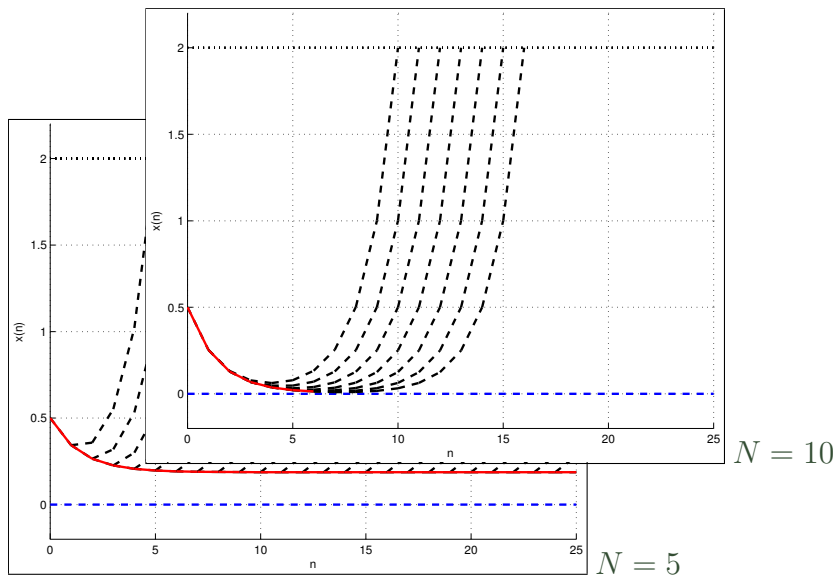


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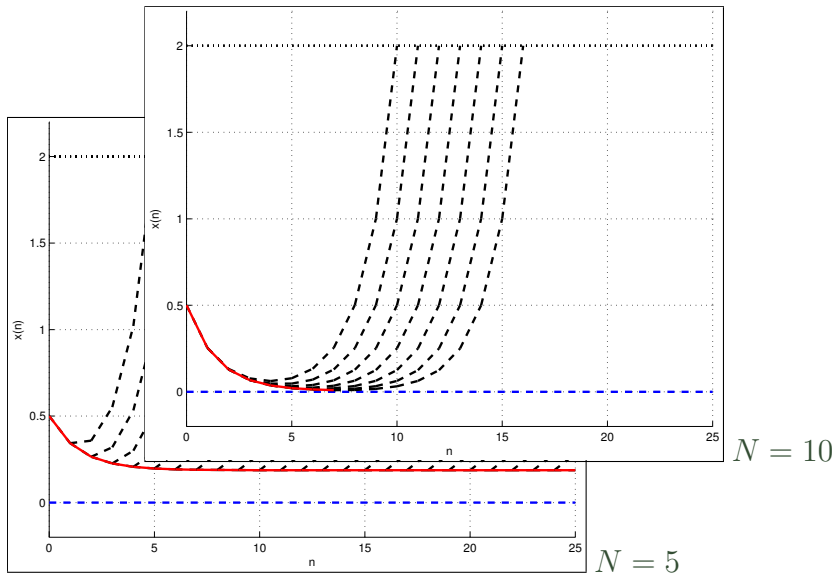




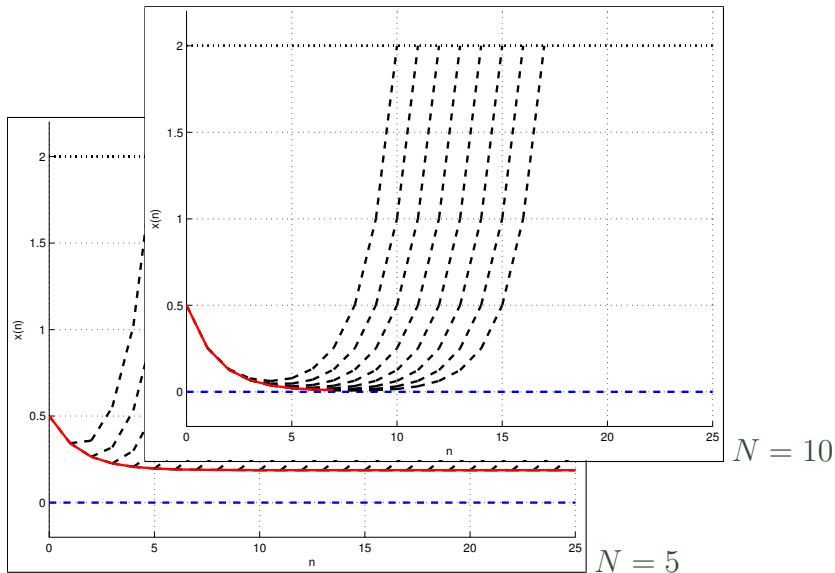
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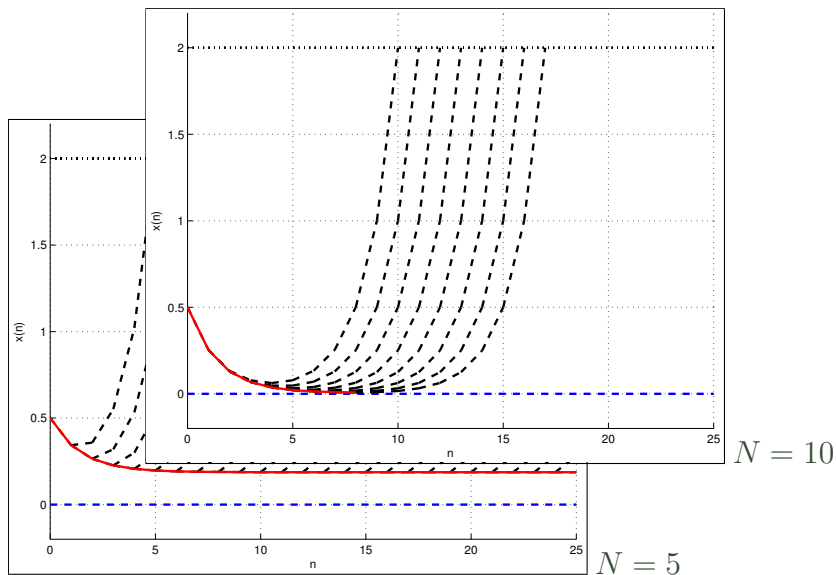
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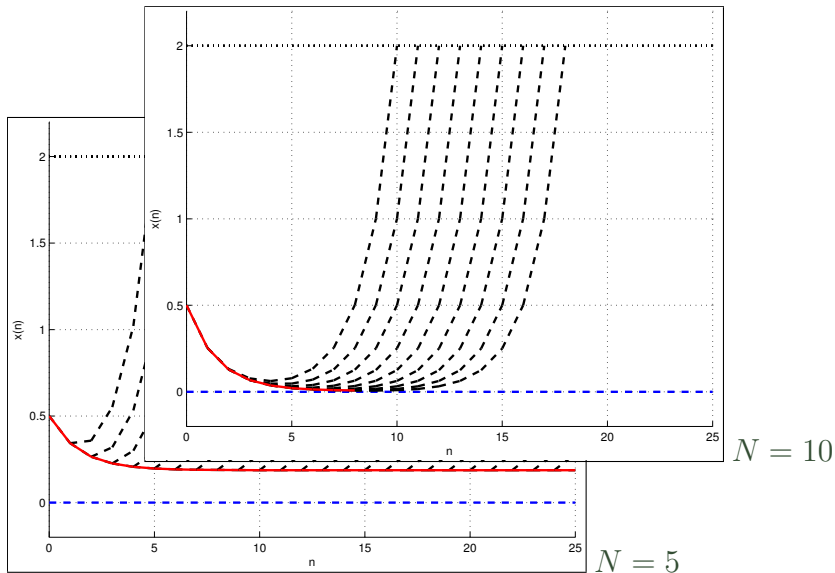
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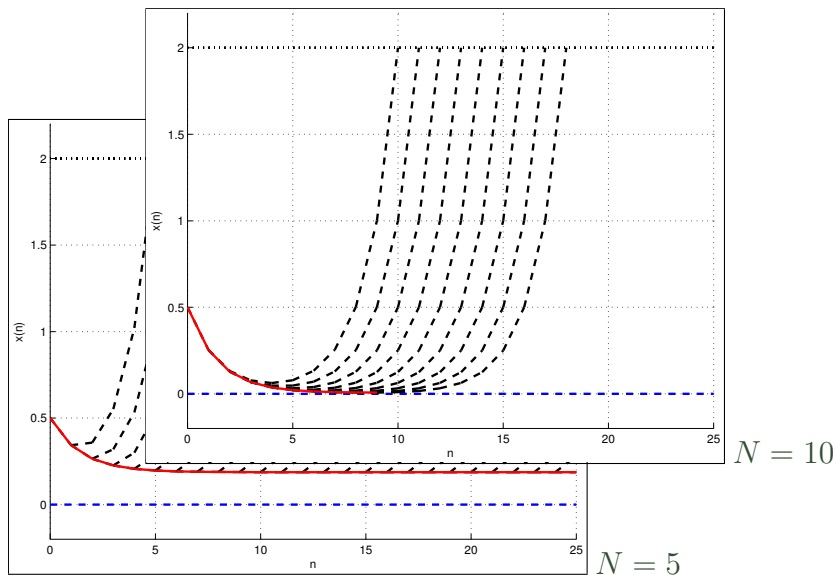
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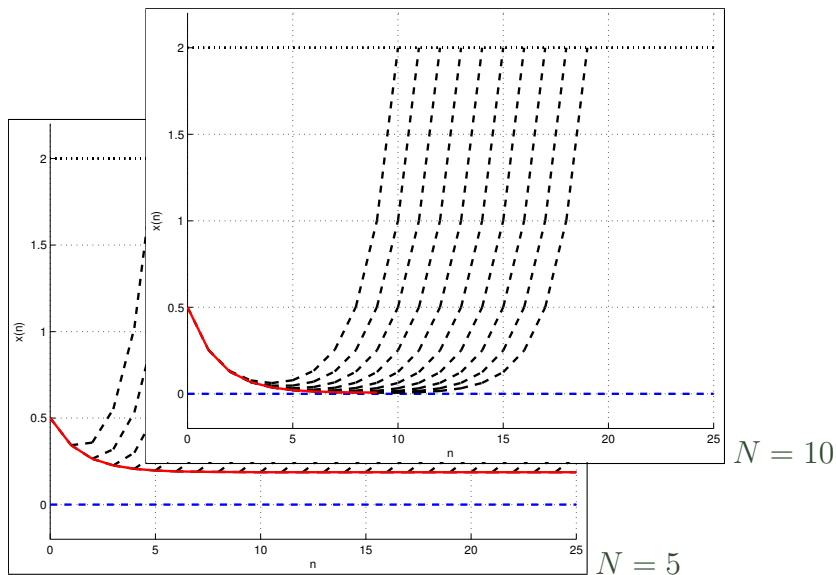
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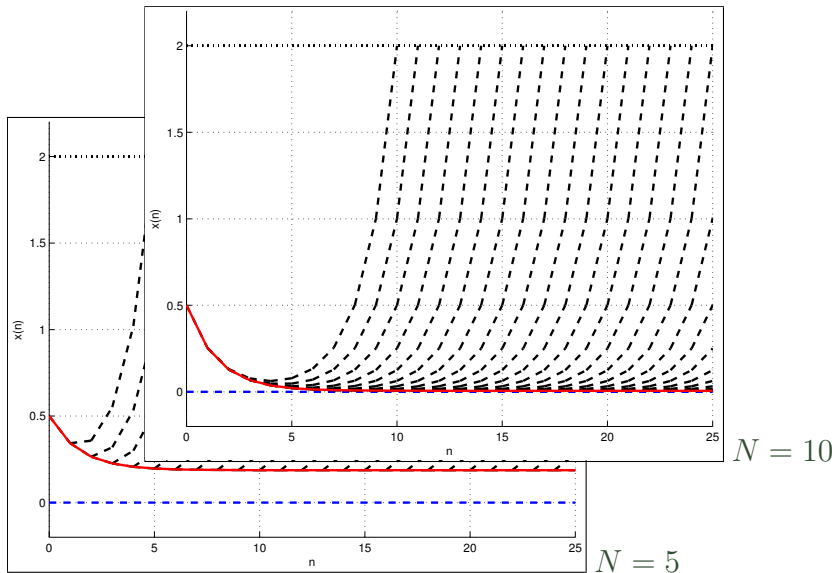
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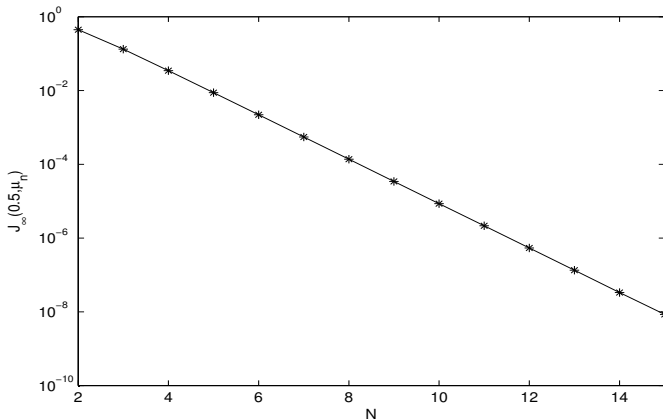


# Example 1: trajectories





## Example: closed loop performance



$J_\infty(0.5, \mu_N)$  depending on  $N$ , logarithmic scale

# Economic MPC without terminal constraints

Next we look once more at the macroeconomic [example](#)

[Brock/Mirman '72]

Minimize the average performance with

$$\ell(x, u) = -\ln(Ax^\alpha - u), \quad A = 5, \alpha = 0.34$$

with dynamics  $x(n+1) = \mathbf{u}(n)$

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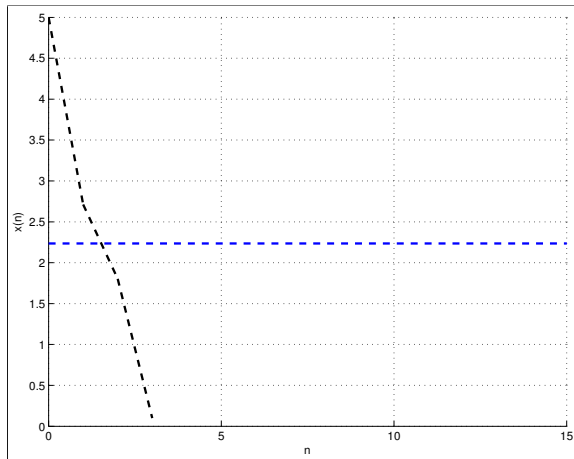
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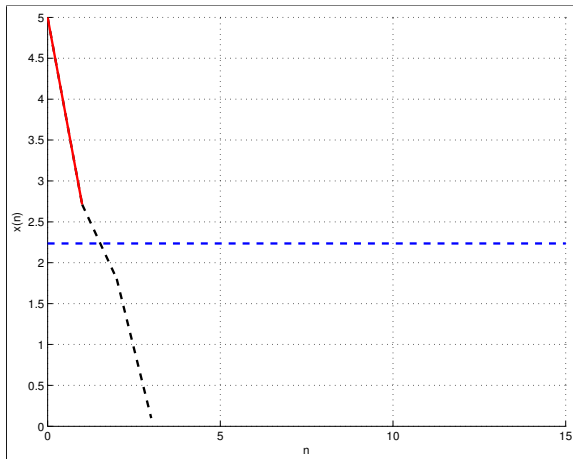
**Note:** now the NMPC algorithm knows neither  $x^e$  nor  $\lambda$

# Example: trajectories



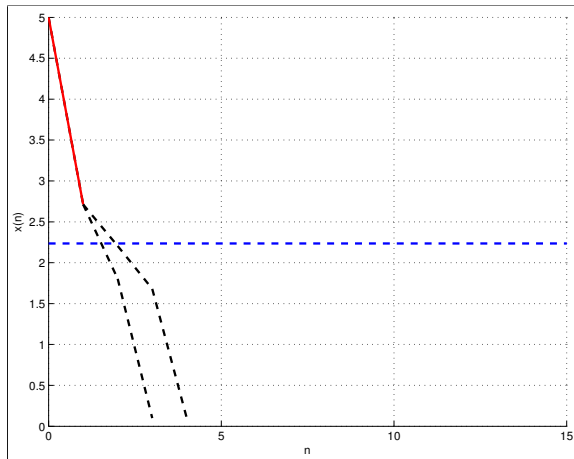
$N = 3$

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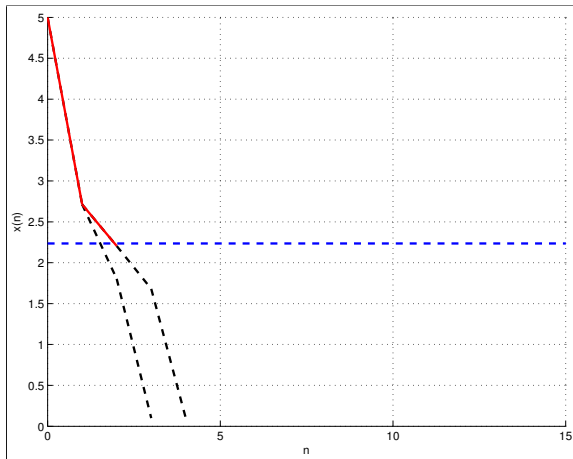
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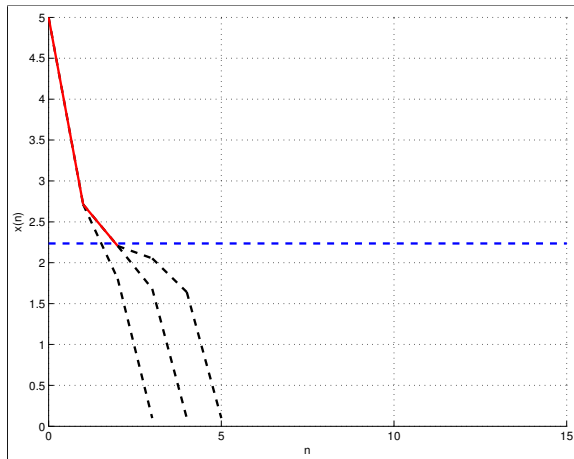
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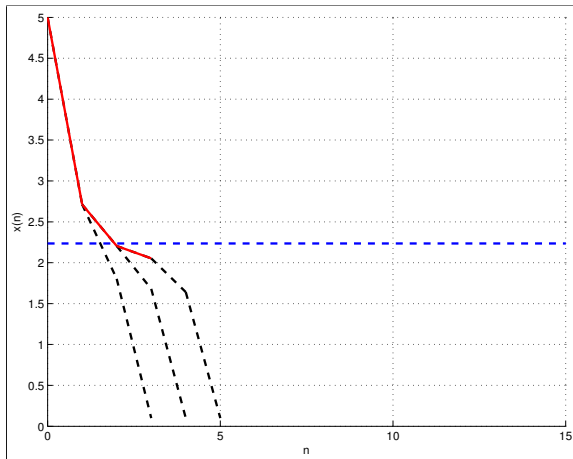


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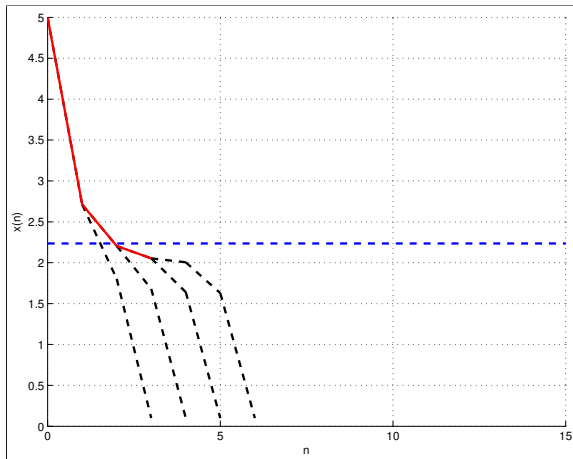
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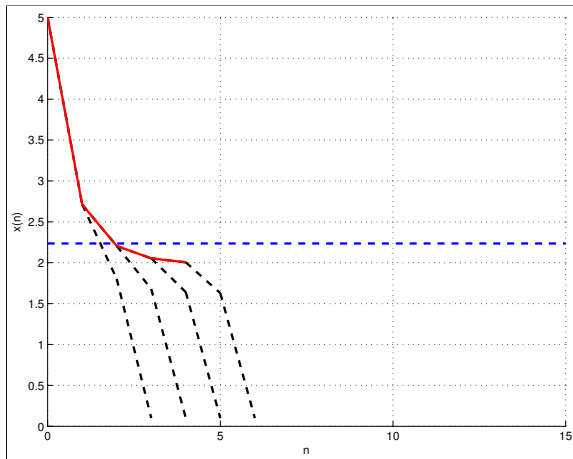
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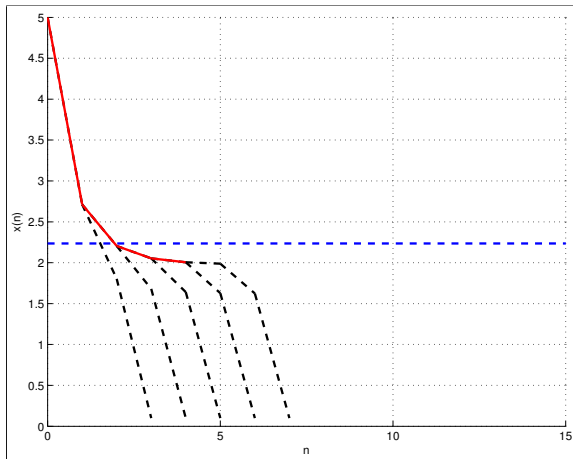
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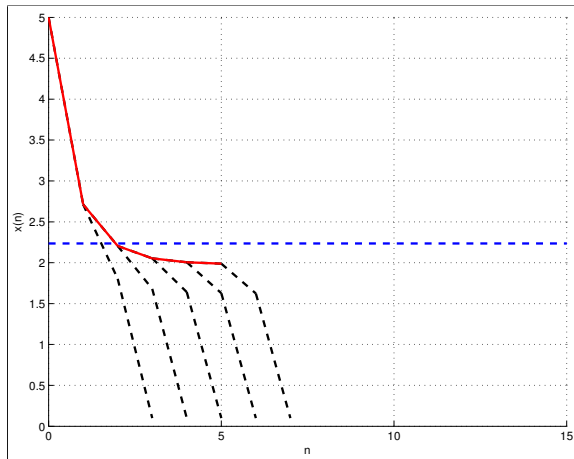
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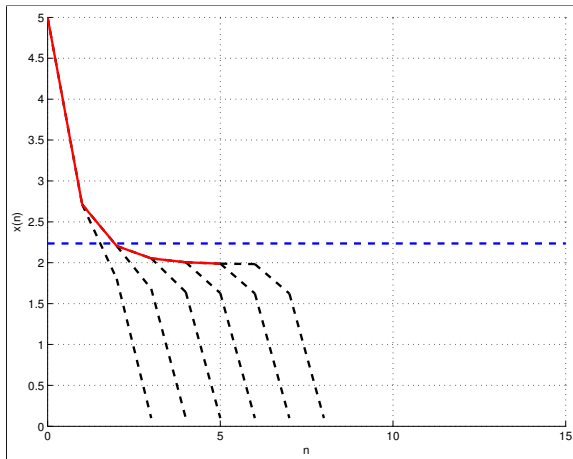
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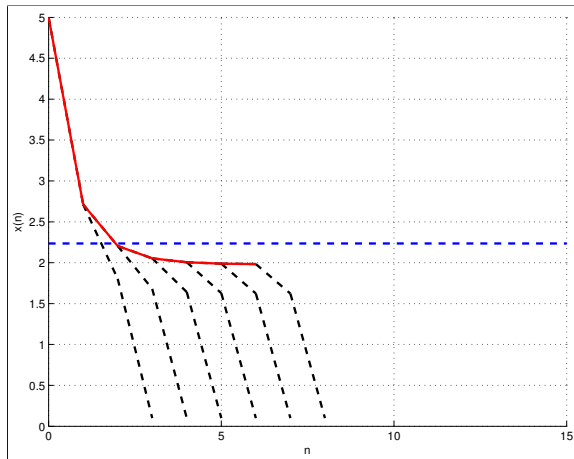
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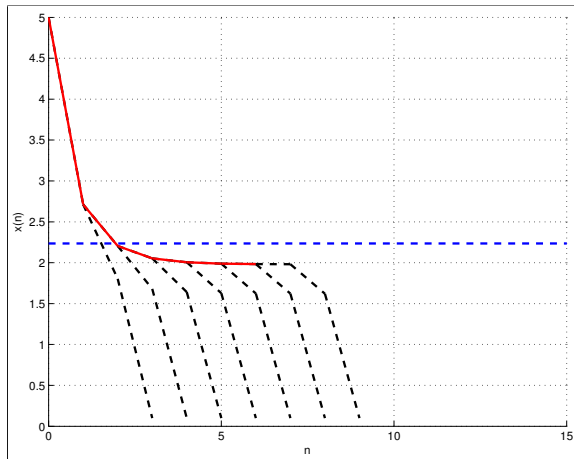
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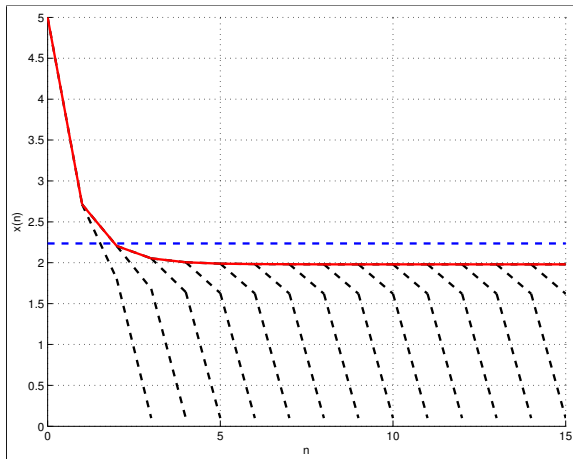


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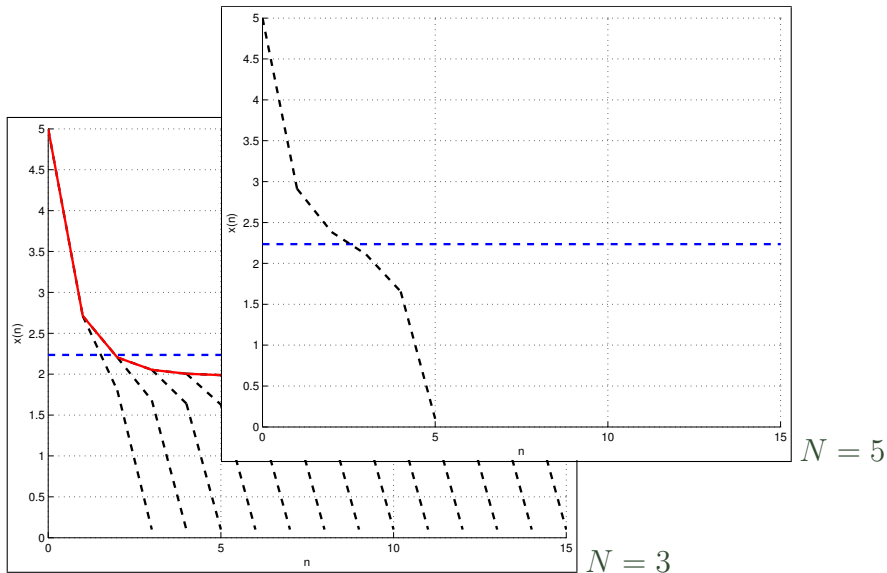
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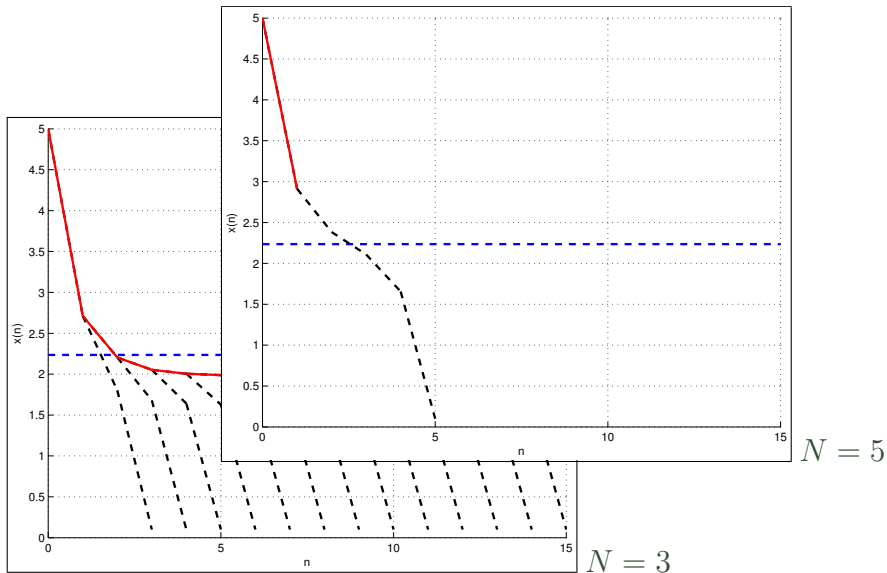


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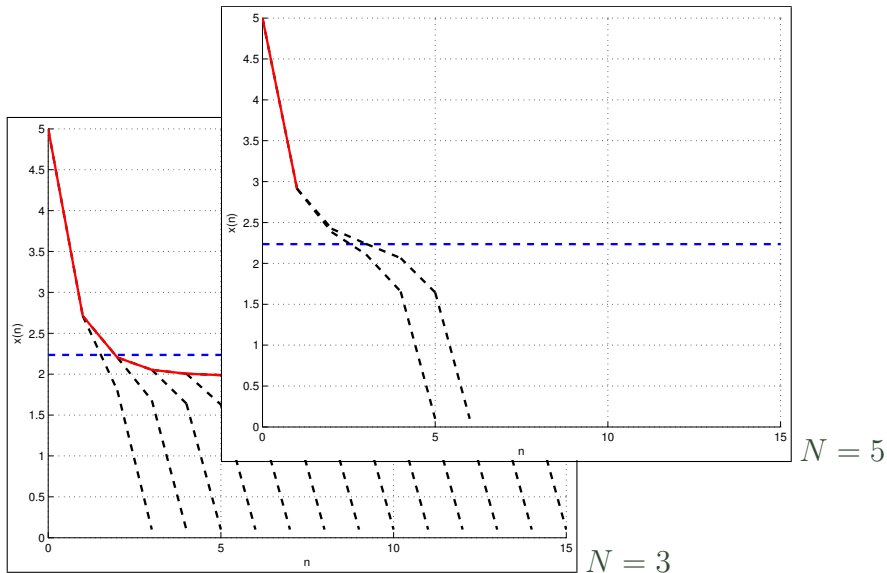
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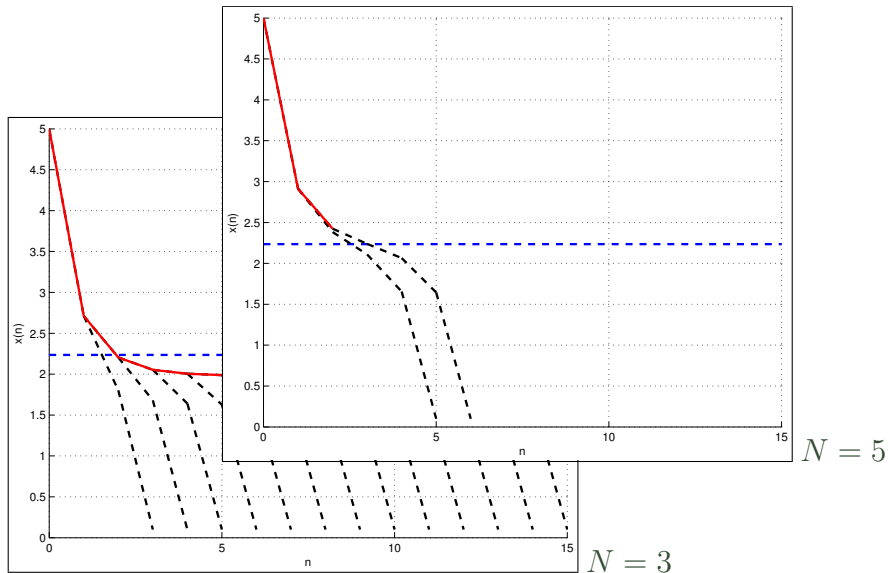
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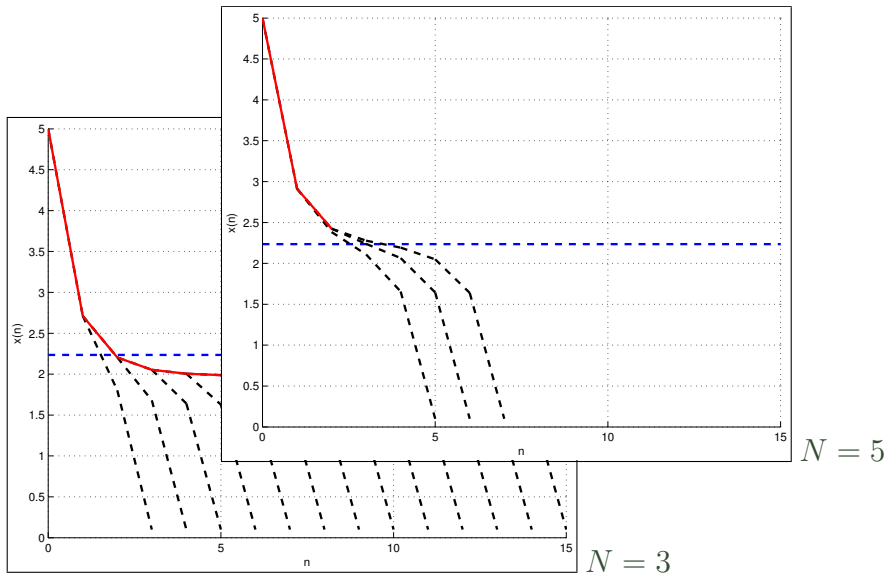
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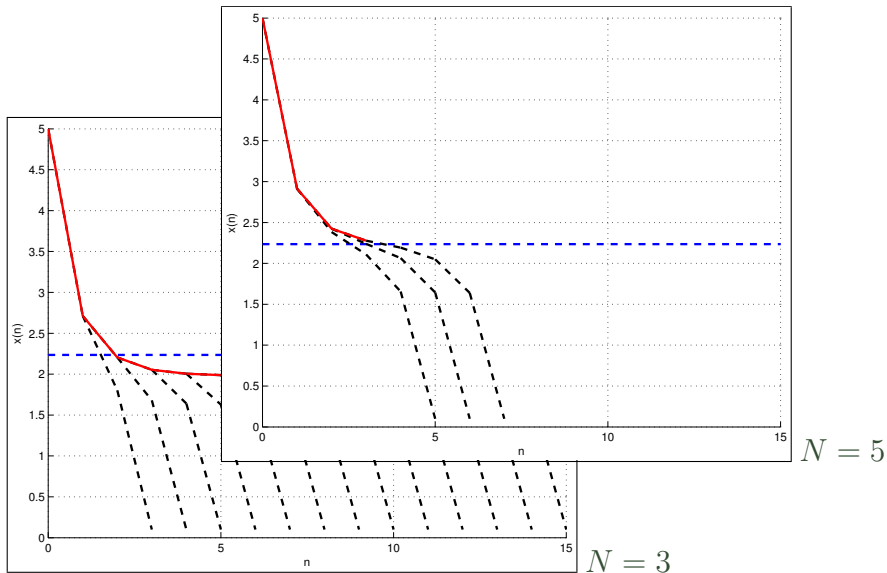
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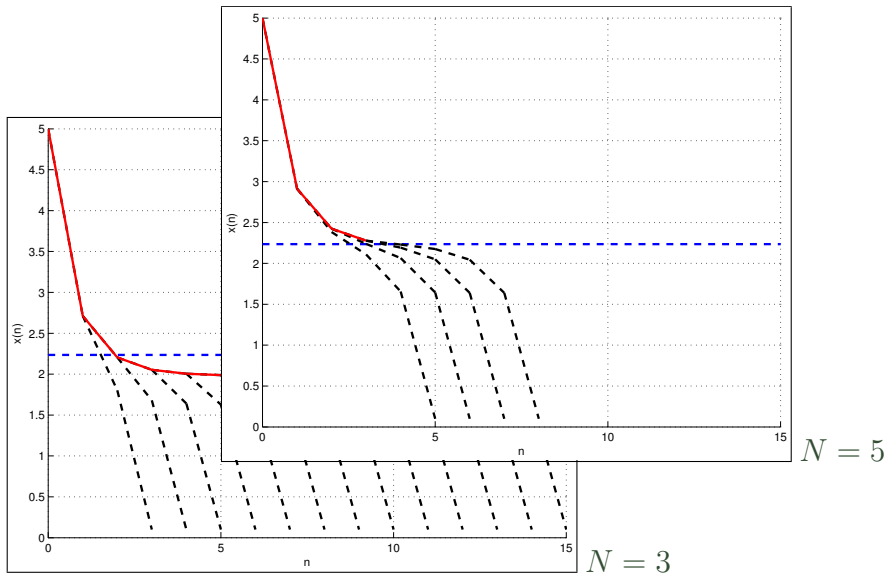


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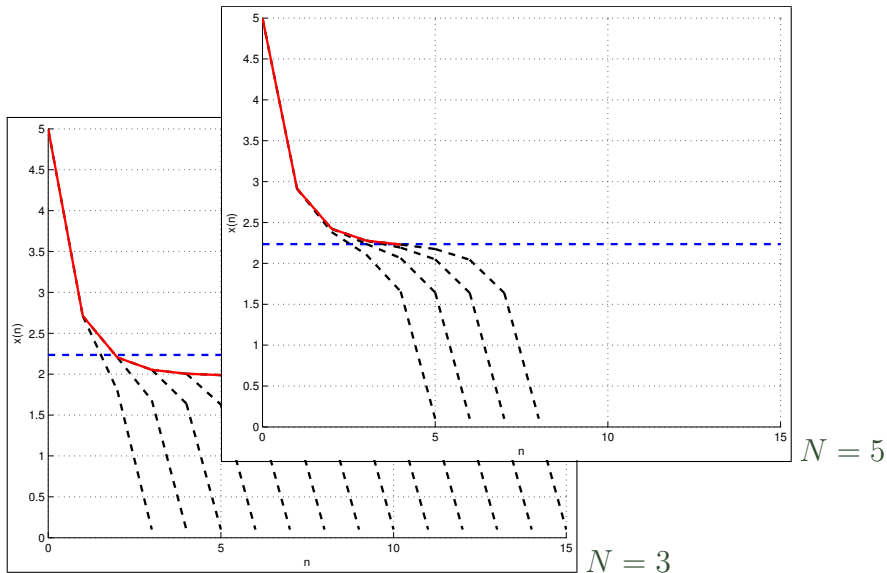




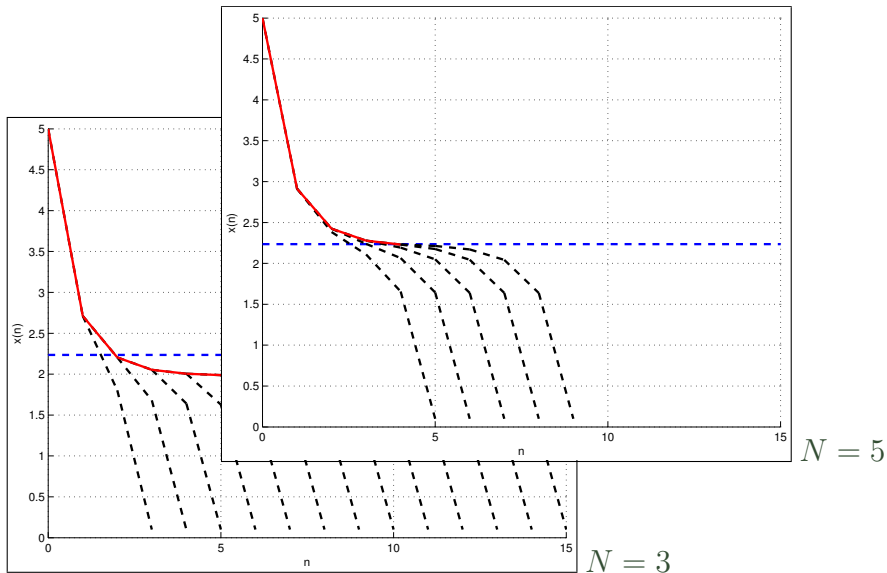
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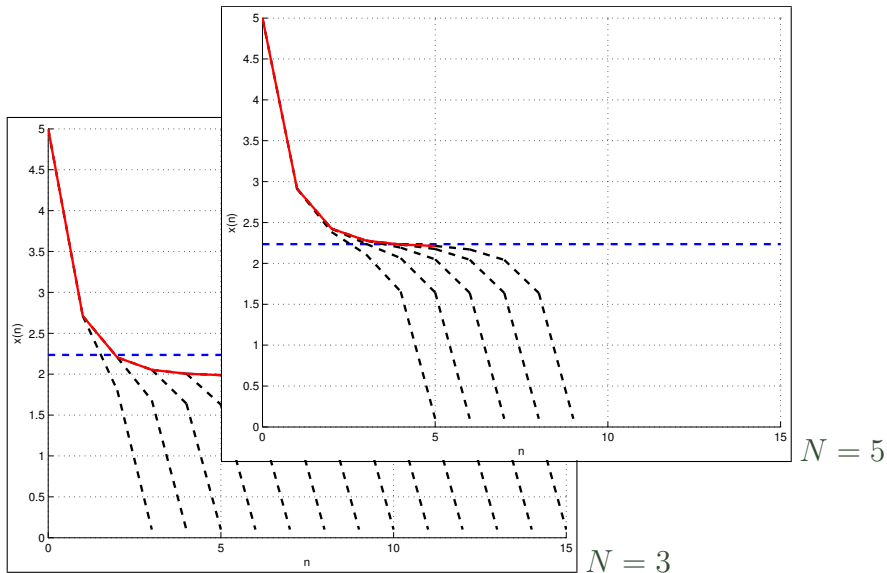
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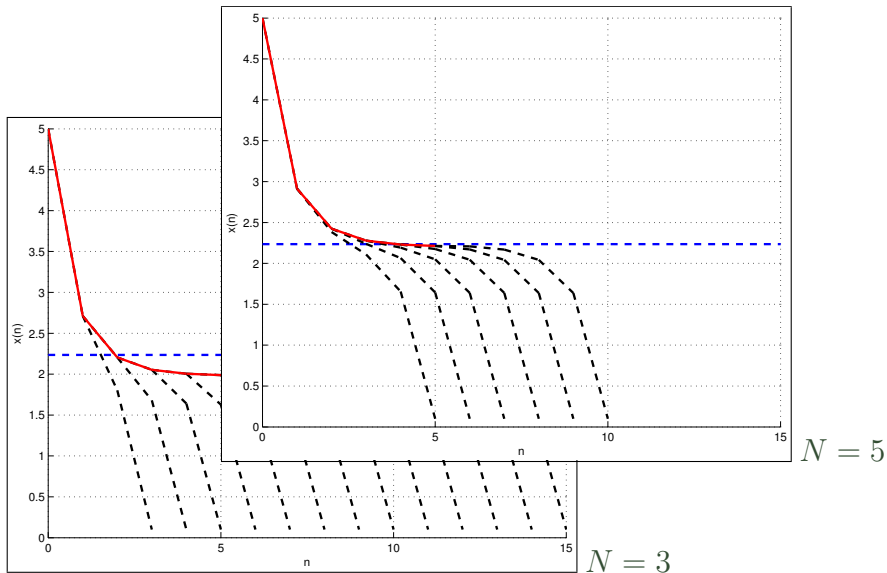
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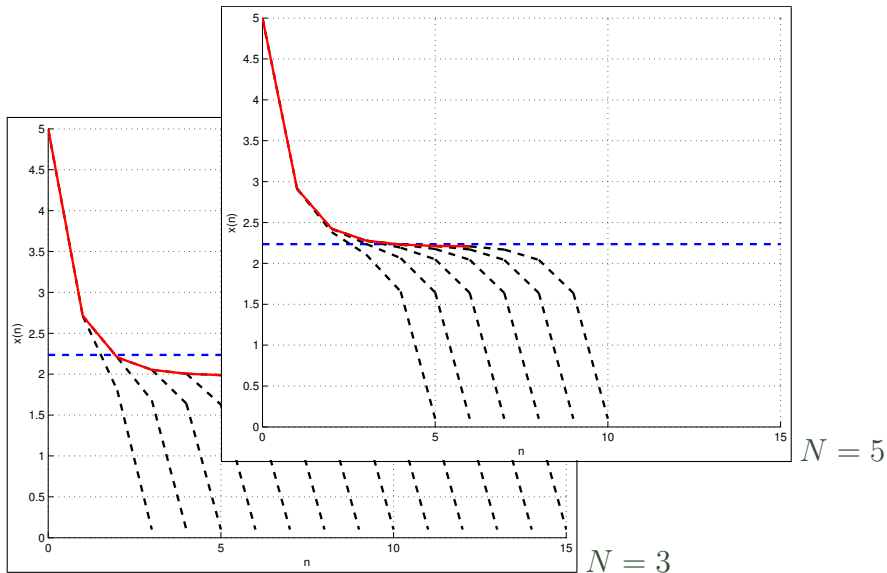
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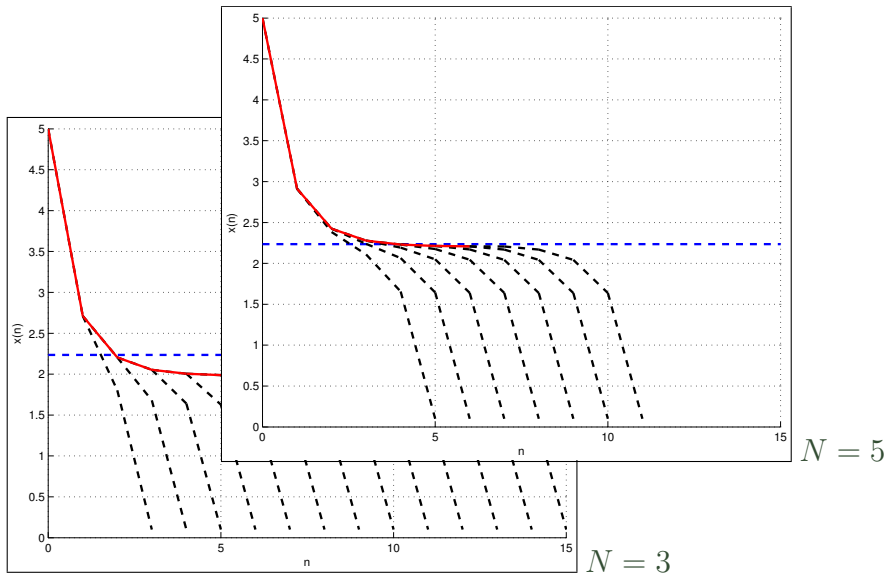
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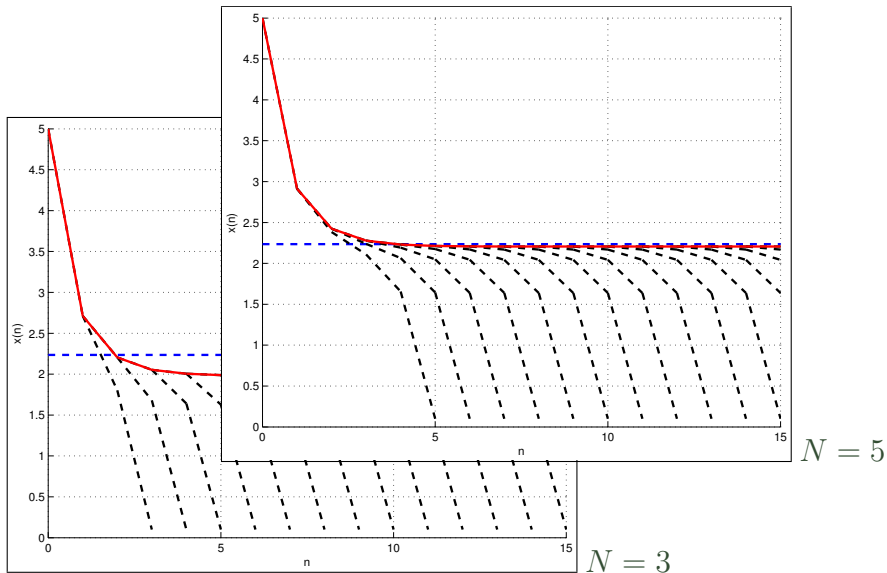
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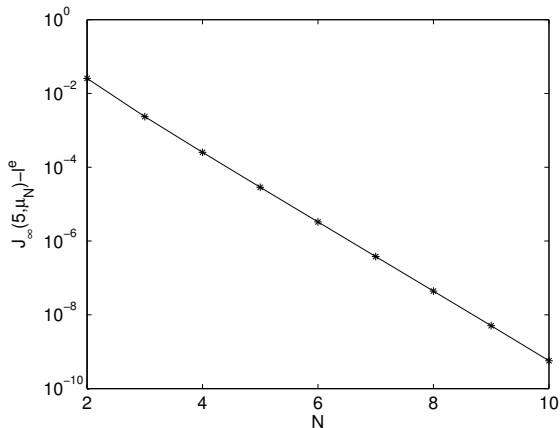


# Example: trajectories





# Example: averaged closed loop performance



$\bar{J}_{\infty}^{cl}(5, \mu_N) - \ell(x^e, u^e)$  depending on  $N$ , logarithmic scale

# Example: a linearized tank reactor

[Diehl/Amrit/Rawlings '11]

Minimize the average performance with

$$\ell(x, u) = \|x\|^2 + 0.05u^2$$

with dynamics

$$x(n+1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.8353 & 0 \\ 0.1065 & 0.9418 \end{pmatrix} x(n) + \begin{pmatrix} 0.00457 \\ -0.00457 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}(n) + \begin{pmatrix} 0.5559 \\ 0.5033 \end{pmatrix}$$

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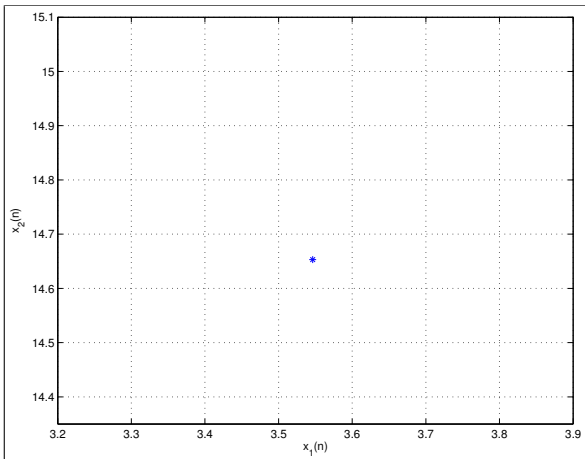
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This problem exhibits the **optimal steady state**

$$x^e \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.546 \\ 14.653 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad \ell(x^e, u^e) \approx 229.1876$$

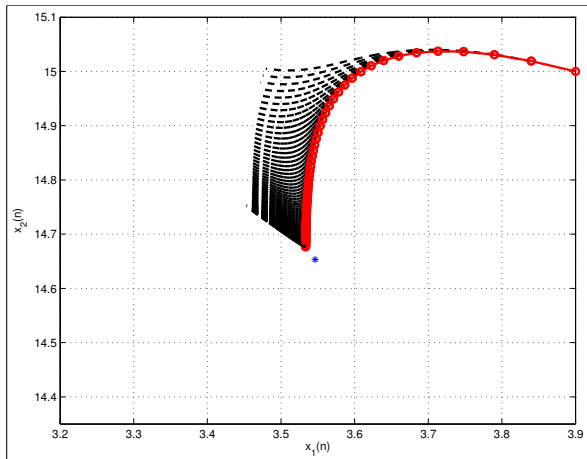
and is **dissipative** with  $\lambda(x) = (-368.6684, -503.5415)^T x$

# Tank reactor example: trajectories



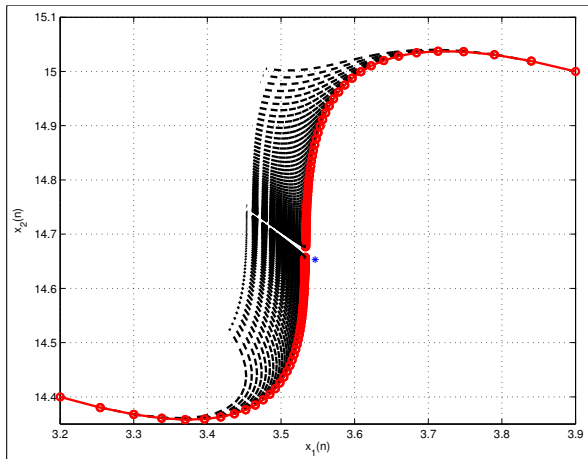
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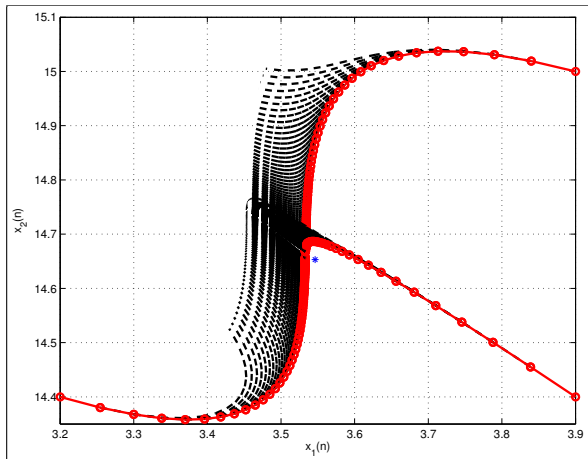
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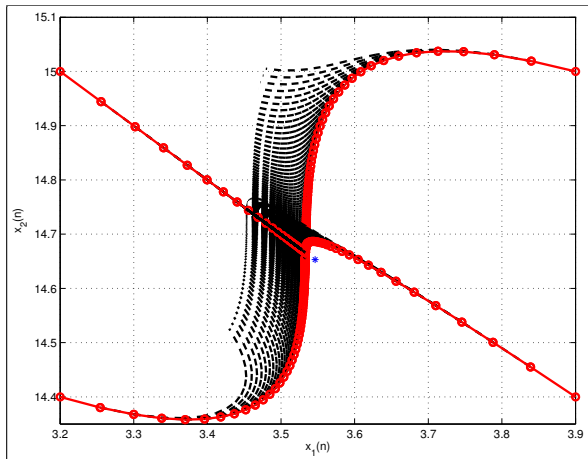


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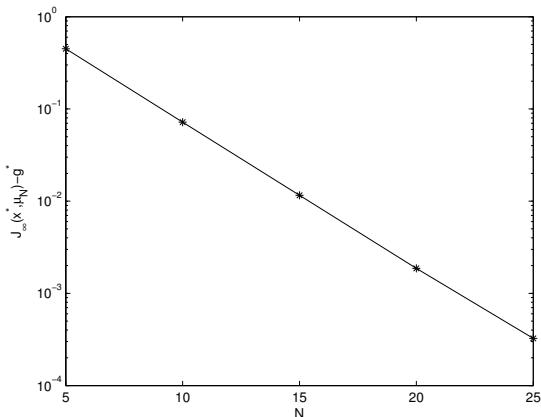
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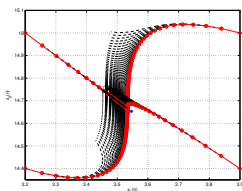
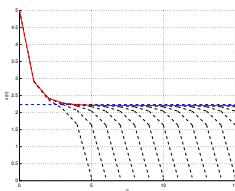
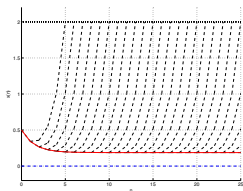


# Tank reactor example: averaged closed loop performance

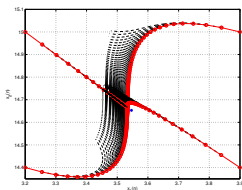
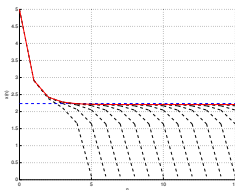
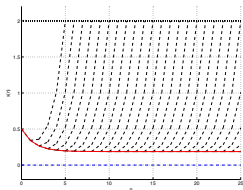


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# Observations

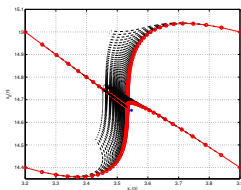
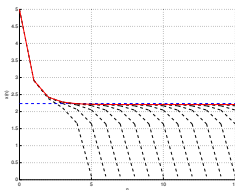
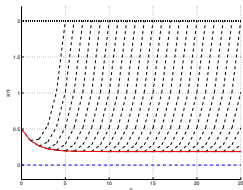


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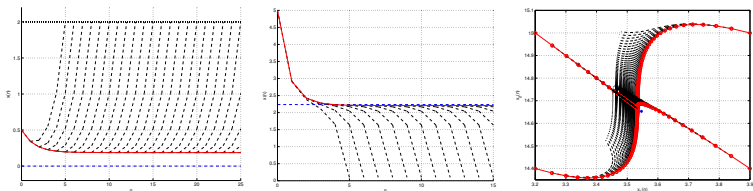
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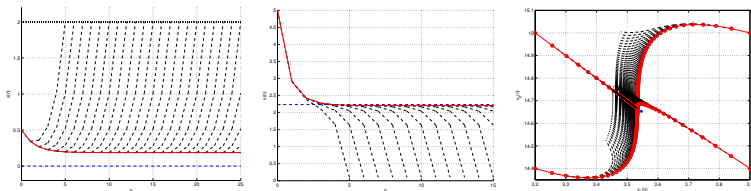
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Can we prove this behavior?

# Idea of proof

The following **inequality** plays the role of the “ $\alpha_N$ -inequality” from stabilizing NMPC:

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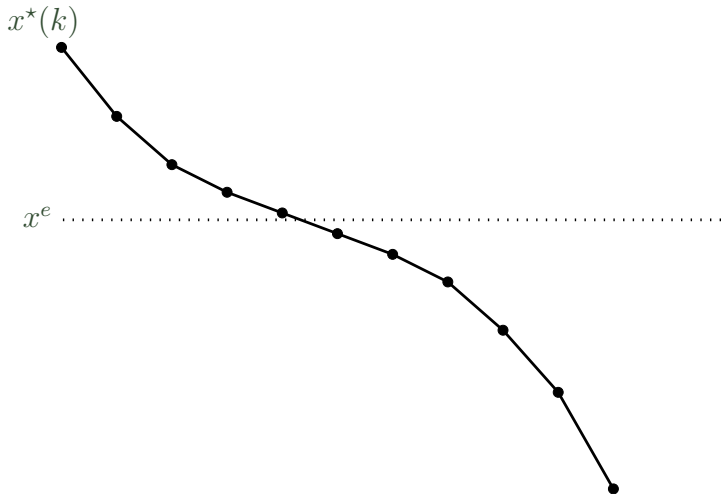
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**Remedy:** prolong the optimal trajectory **in the middle**

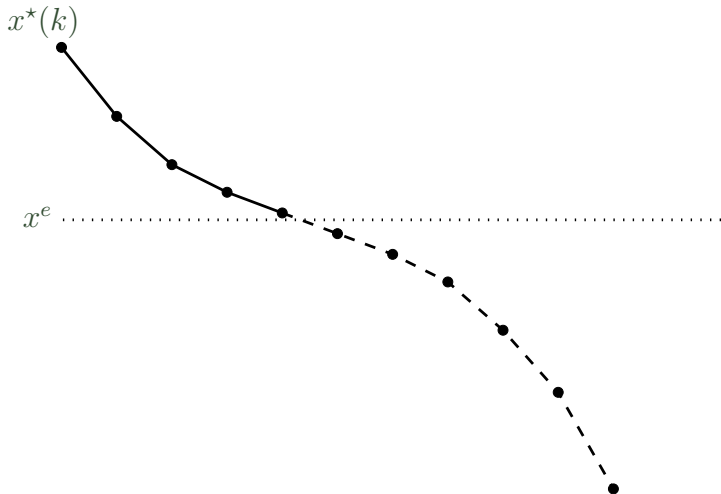
# Prolonging in the middle

Sketch of the idea:



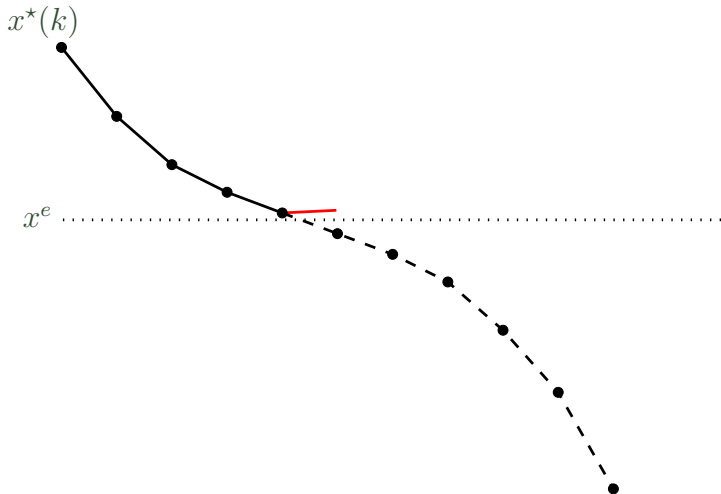
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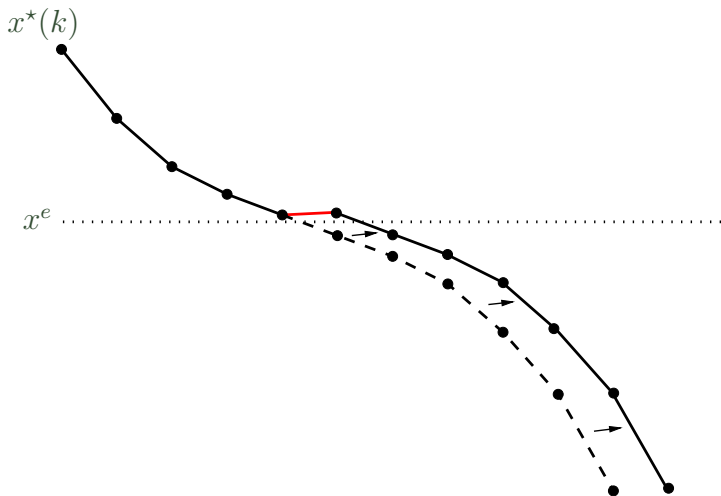
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- ▶ note: in numerical examples we often observe **exponential turnpike**, i.e.,  $\sigma(N) = \theta^N$

The next theorem provides **checkable sufficient conditions** for these properties

# Economic MPC theorem

**Theorem:** [Gr./Stieler '14]

Let  $f$  and  $\ell$  be Lipschitz,  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{U}$  be compact and assume

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- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) local controllability near } x^e \\ \text{(ii) strict dissipativity} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{uniform continuity of } V_N$
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# Economic MPC theorem

**Theorem:** [Gr./Stieler '14]

Let  $f$  and  $\ell$  be Lipschitz,  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{U}$  be compact and assume

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(i)–(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  exponential turnpike  
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(for alternative conditions see also [Porretta/Zuazua '13])



# Economic MPC theorem

Under assumptions (i)–(iii), there exist  $\varepsilon_1(N), \varepsilon_2(K) \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  and  $K \rightarrow \infty$ , exponentially fast if additionally (iv) holds, such that the following properties hold

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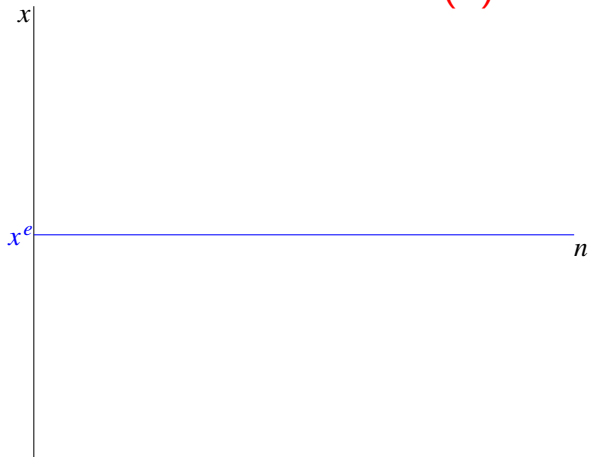
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(3) Approximate transient optimality: for all  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ :

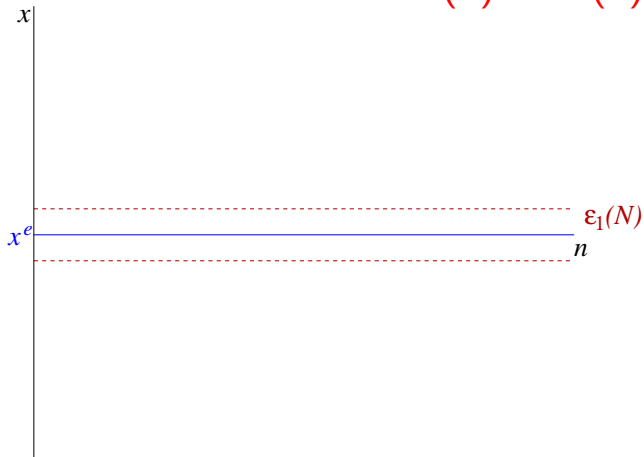
$$J_K^{\text{cl}}(x, \mu_N(x)) \leq J_K(x, \mathbf{u}) + K\varepsilon_1(N) + \varepsilon_2(K)$$

for all admissible  $\mathbf{u}$  with  $\|x_{\mathbf{u}}(K, x) - x^e\| \leq \beta(\|x - x^e\|, K) + \varepsilon_1(N)$

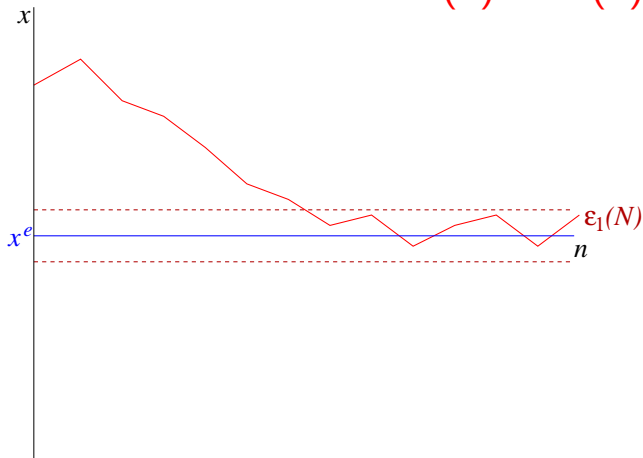
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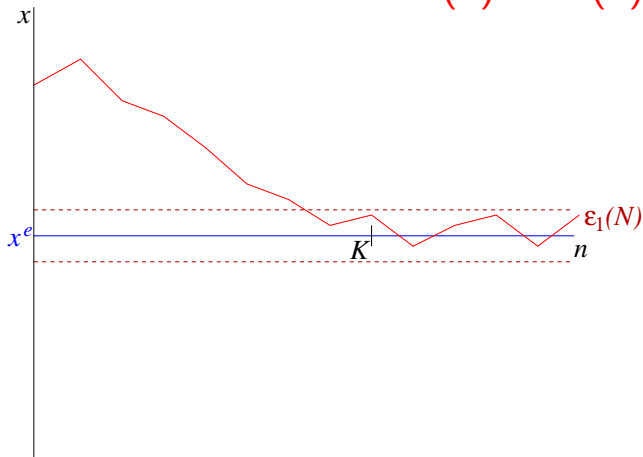


## Illustration of (2) and (3)



(2):  $x_{\mu_N}(n)$  converges to the  $\varepsilon_1(N)$ -ball around  $x^e$

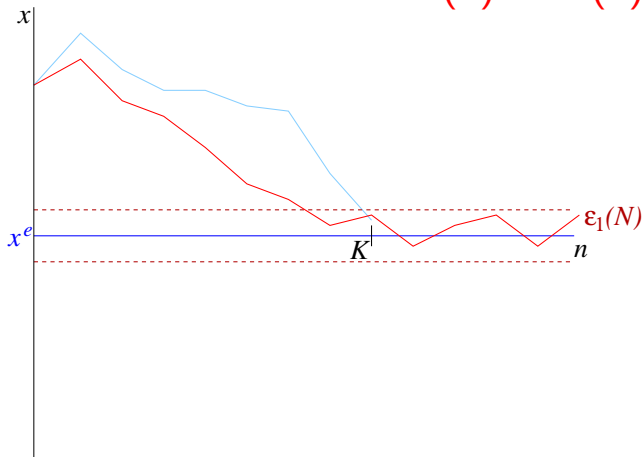
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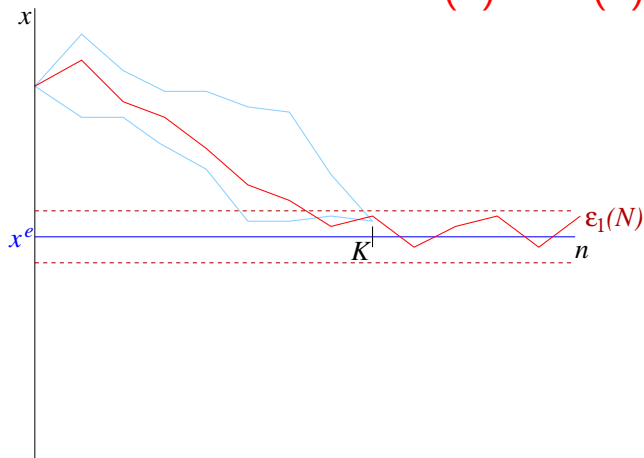


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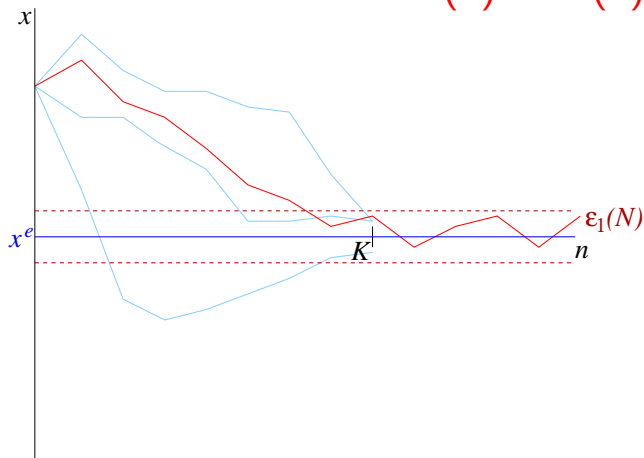
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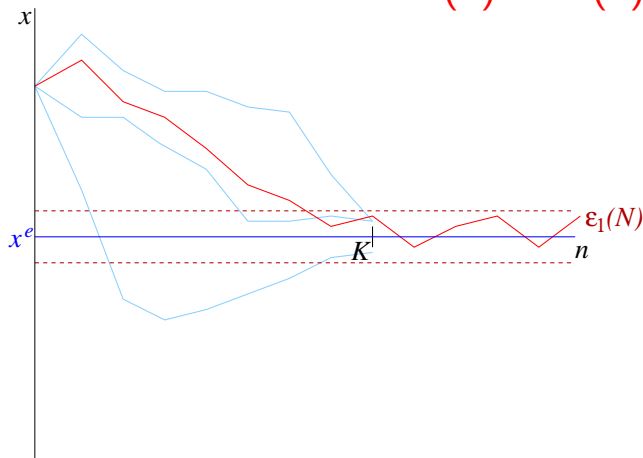
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(3): cost of light blue trajectories is higher than that of  $x_{\mu_N}(n)$  up to error terms  $K\varepsilon_1(N) + \varepsilon_2(K)$

# Linear quadratic convex problems

**Theorem:** [Gr./Stieler '14] For  $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $U = \mathbb{R}^m$  and

$$f(x, u) = Ax + Bu + c$$

$$\ell(x, u) = x^T R x + u^T Q u + d^T x + e^T u, \quad R, Q > 0$$

the condition

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Moreover, all error terms converge to 0 exponentially fast

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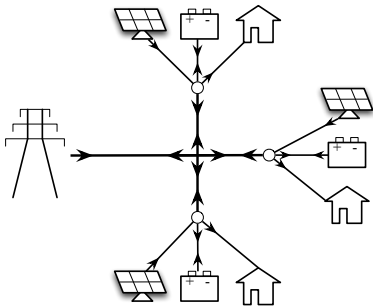
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- **Exponential turnpike** plus polynomial bounds in addition ensure **exponential decay** of the error terms
- As in the case with terminal constraints **dissipativity** plus **controllability** (or **stabilizability**) are the important structural conditions

## (10) Application to a smart grid control problem

with Philipp Braun (Bayreuth), Chris Kellett (Newcastle),  
Steve Weller (Newcastle) and Karl Worthmann (Ilmenau)

# An application to a smart grid control problem

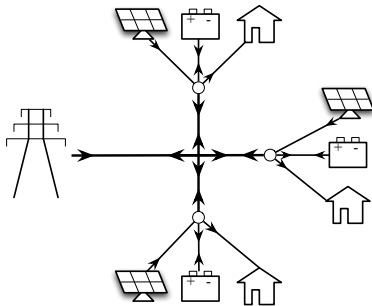
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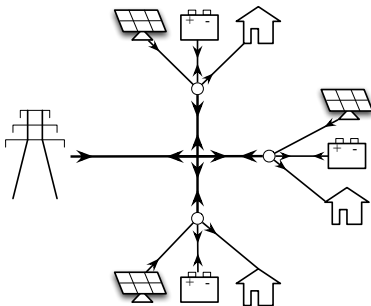
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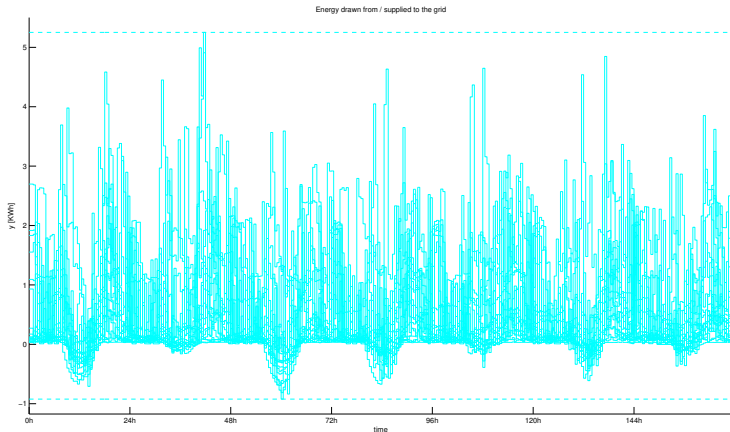
(batteries could be replaced  
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**Control goal:** Use the batteries as buffer in order to avoid  
**large variations** in demand and supply

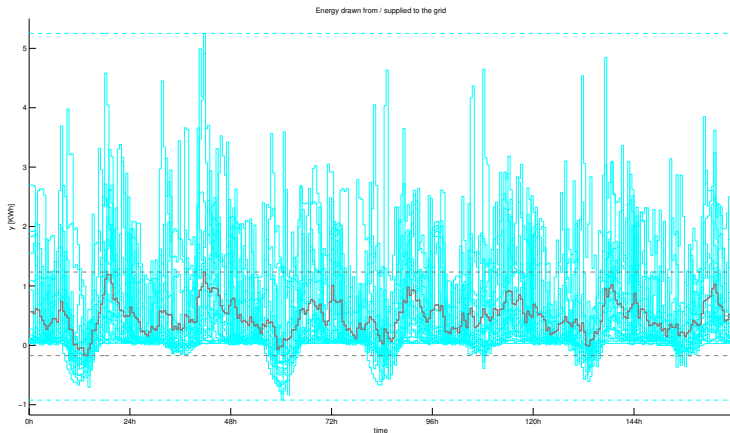


# Data: net energy demand



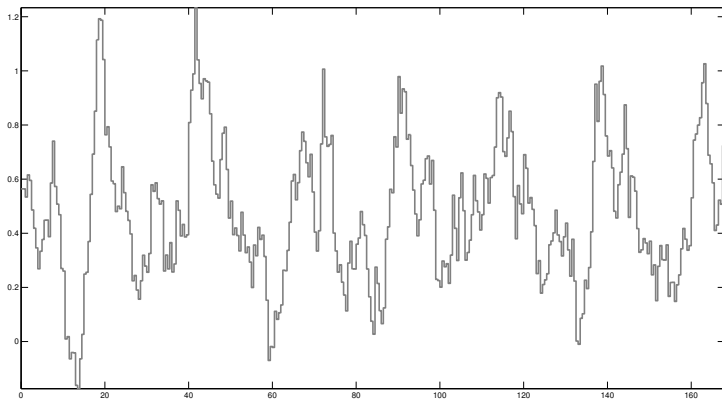
Ausgrid Data: individual units

# Data: net energy demand



Ausgrid Data: individual units, averaged

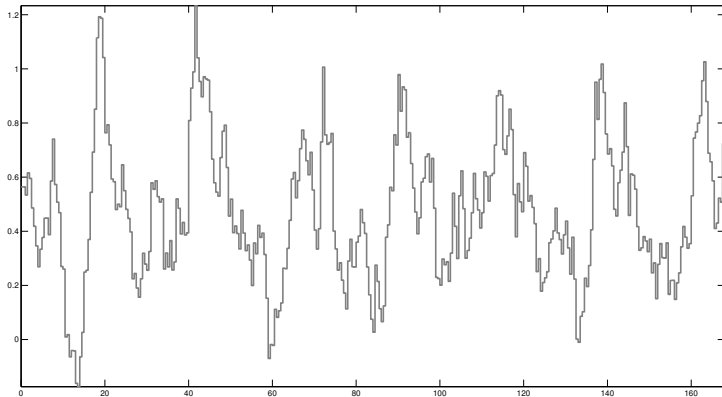
# Data: net energy demand



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In practice, forecasted data will be used

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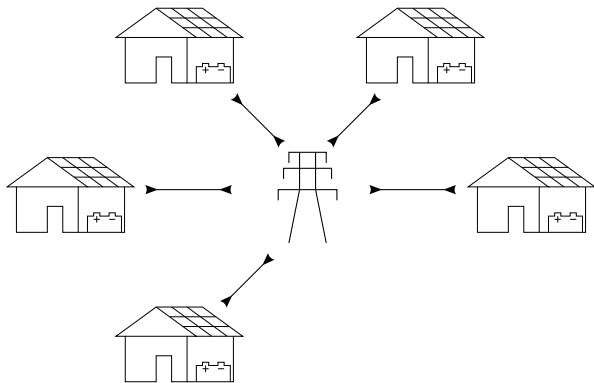
$$\underline{u}_i \leq u_i \leq \bar{u}_i$$

$$x_i(k+1) = x_i(k) + Tu_i(k)$$

$$y_i(k) = w_i(k) + u_i(k)$$

sampling time  $T = 30$  min

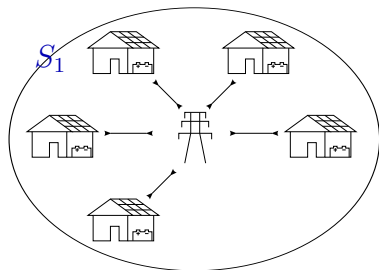
# MPC approach



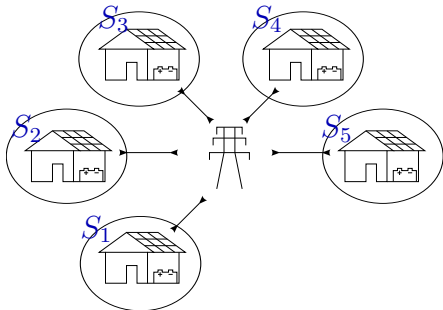
**Objective:** keep  $y_i$  close to average (in time) consumption using MPC with  $\ell$  penalizing the deviation from the average

# Control Schemes

## Centralized Control

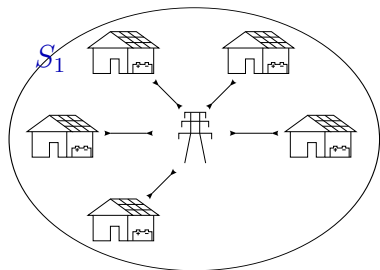


## Decentralized Control

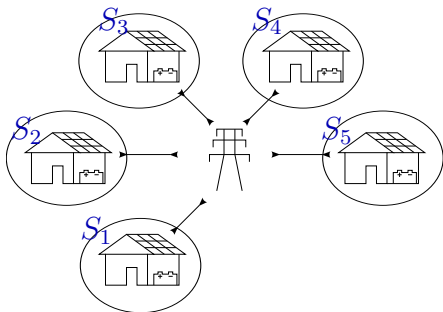


# Control Schemes

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## Decentralized Control



Compute at sampling instant  $n$

$$\bar{\zeta}(n) = \frac{1}{NP} \sum_{i=1}^P \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_i(n+j)$$

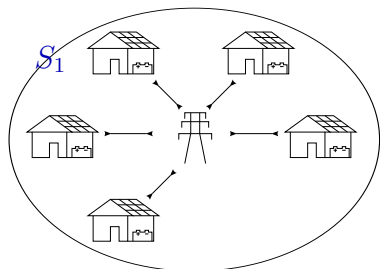
and minimize over  $(u_1, \dots, u_P)$

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w.r.t. global constraints

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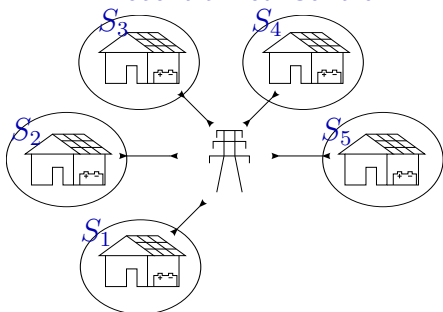
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## Decentralized Control



For each unit  $i$  compute

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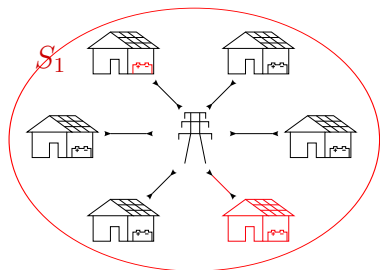
and minimize over  $u_i$

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# Control Schemes

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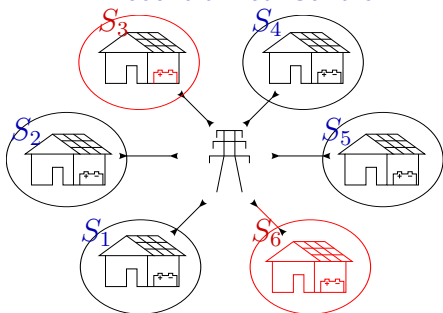
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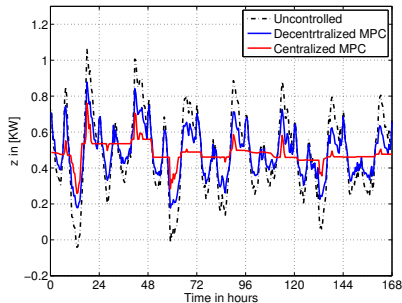
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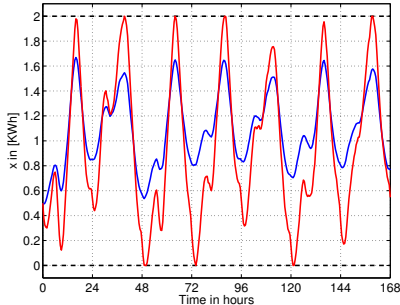


# Numerical Results

## Performance



## Average Battery Profiles



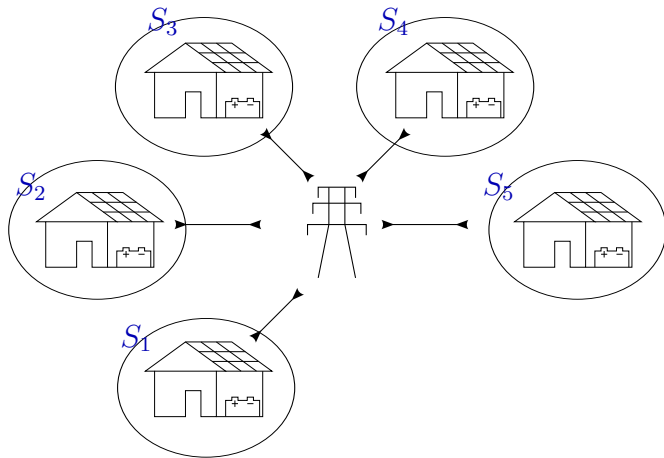
## Setting:

- 100 units; 1 week simulation length
- prediction horizon 24[h]; sampling time 0.5[h]
- maximal charging/discharging rates per hour: 0.3[kWh]

# Control Schemes

## Alternative: Distributed Control

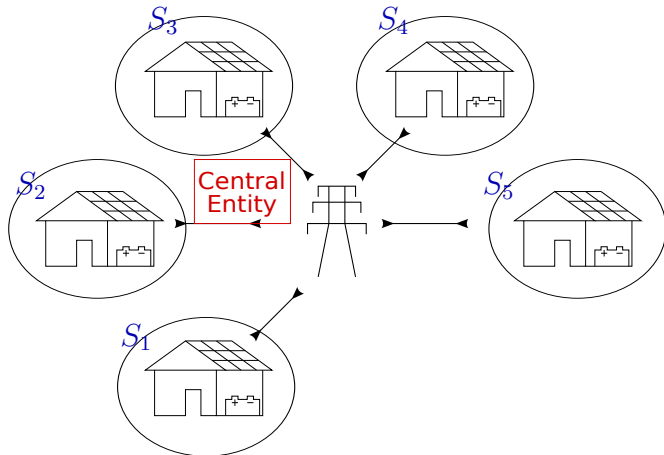
(Optimization in units with communication via Central Entity)



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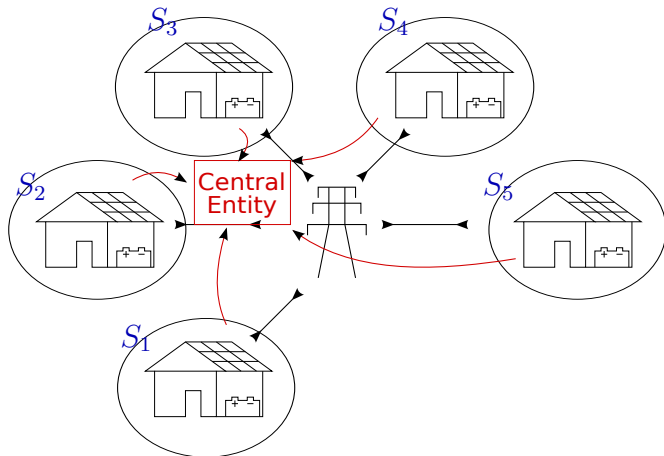
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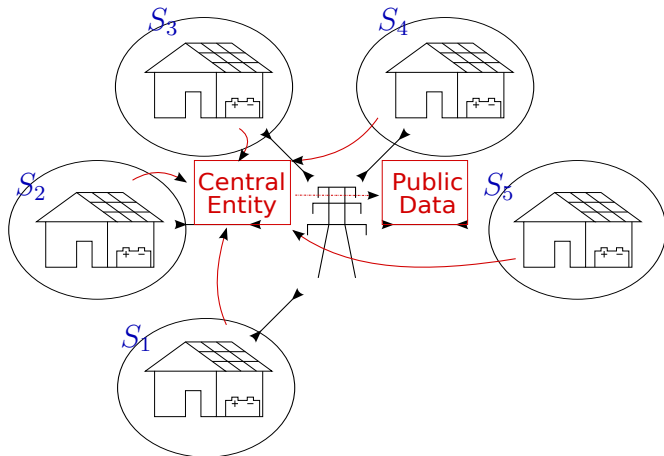
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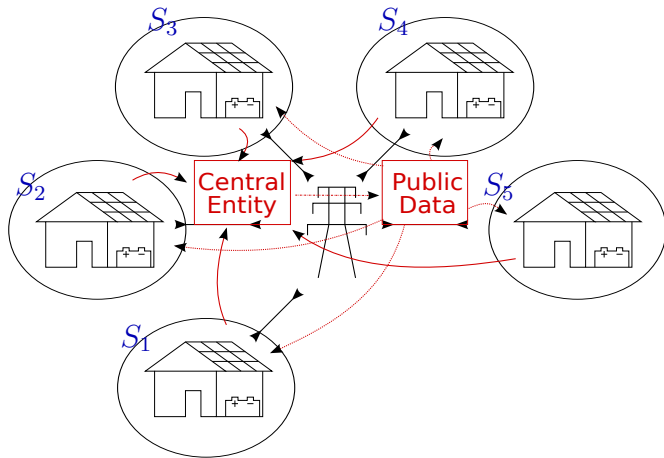
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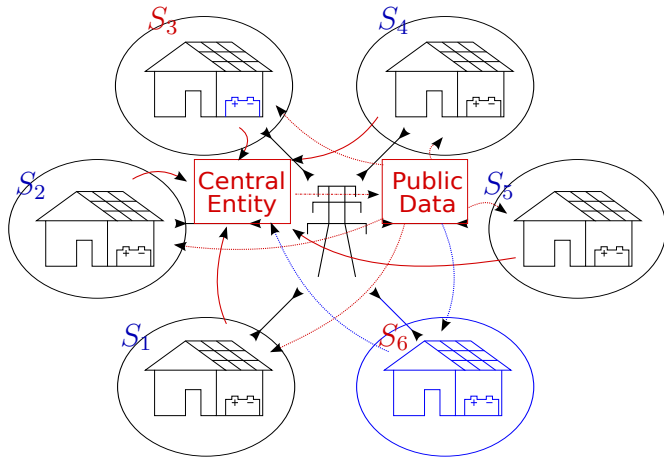
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# The Centralized Optimization Algorithm

At each sampling instant  $n$ :

1. Set  $x_0 = [x_1(n), \dots, x_P(n)]^T$

2. Compute  $\bar{\zeta}(n) = \frac{1}{NP} \sum_{i=1}^P \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} w_i(n+k)$

3. Minimize  $J_N(x_0, u(\cdot)) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( \bar{\zeta}(n) - \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P (u_i(k) + w_i(n+k)) \right)^2$

s.t.

- ▶  $x_i(0) = x_{\mu_N, i}(n)$  and  $x_i(k+1) = x_i(k) + T u_i(k)$
- ▶  $y_i(n+k) = w_i(n+k) + u_i(k)$
- ▶  $0 \leq x_i(k+1) \leq C_i$  and  $\underline{u}_i \leq u_i(k) \leq \bar{u}_i$

for  $k = 0, \dots, N-1$  and  $i = 1, \dots, P$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \text{optimal control sequence} & u^*(0), \dots, u^*(N-1) \\ \text{performance output} & y^*(0), \dots, y^*(N-1) \end{cases}$$



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# The Distributed Optimization Algorithm

At each sampling instant  $n$ :

1. Initialize  $y_i^0(j) := w_i(j)$ ,  $j = n, \dots, n + N - 1$  (i.e.,  $u_i \equiv 0$ )
2. Perform iteratively for  $\ell = 0, 1, \dots$

a. **Units:** send  $y_i^\ell$  to the Central Entity

b. **Central Entity:** Compute and broadcast  $\bar{\zeta}(n)$  and

$$Y^\ell(j) := \sum_{i=1}^P y_i^\ell(j), \quad j = n, 1, \dots, n + N - 1$$

c. **Units:** For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, P\}$  minimize (in parallel)

$$J_{N,i}(x_i, y_i(\cdot)) = \sum_{j=n}^{n+N-1} (P\bar{\zeta}(n) - Y^\ell(j) + y_i^\ell(j) - y_i(j))^2$$

send the (unique) minimizer  $y_i^{\ell,*}(\cdot)$  to the Central Entity

d. **Central Entity:** Compute and broadcast

$$\theta = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in [0,1]} \sum_{j=n}^{n+N-1} \left( \bar{\zeta}(n) - \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P \left[ (1 - \theta)y_i^\ell(j) + \theta y_i^{\ell,*}(j) \right] \right)^2$$

e. **Units:** Set  $y_i^{\ell+1}(\cdot) = (1 - \theta)y_i^\ell(\cdot) + \theta y_i^{\ell,*}(\cdot)$

# Convergence of Distributed Optimization (1)

**Lemma:** If  $y^{\ell, \star}(\cdot) \neq y^{\ell}(\cdot)$ , then  $V^{\ell+1} < V^{\ell}$  holds for

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Local minimization leads to  $y^{\ell,*}(\cdot) \neq y^{\ell}(\cdot)$  in the limit which by the lemma above implies an improvement of  $V^{\star}$ . ⚡

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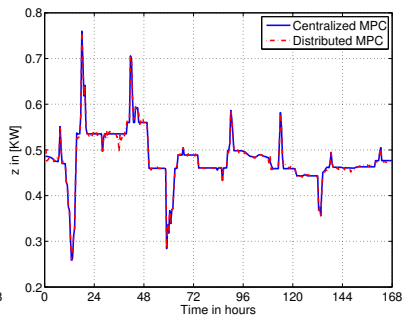
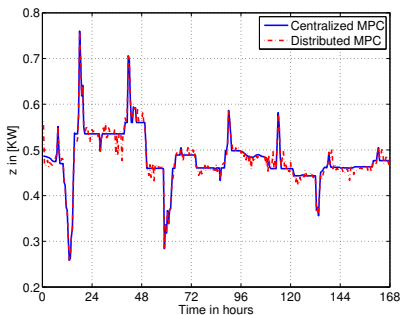
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**Question:** When should the iterative distributed optimization be **terminated**?  $\rightarrow$  numerical simulation studies

# Numerical Results

## Closed loop (MPC) performance with incomplete optimization



- iteration until  $\ell = 3$  (left) and  $\ell = 10$  (right) at every sampling instant
- Simulation for 100 units, simulation length one week

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- **Flexibility** due to local optimization
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- **Price to pay:** existence of a Central Entity and communication during the iteration

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- Can we derive a performance bound for the **time varying situation** of this example?
- What replaces the **optimal equilibrium** for this time-varying problem? Is there a suitable **dissipativity notion**?
- What can we say about the MPC closed loop if the units cannot reach an optimum but, e.g., only a **Nash equilibrium**?

## Selected literature

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