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A Controller Architecture With Anti-Windup

Henrik Niemann 

Abstract—This letter presents a framework for anti-windup controllers based on the Youla–Jabr–Bongiorno–Kucera (YJBK) parameterization. Applying this architecture gives an additional YJBK matrix transfer function related to the input saturation. This additional YJBK transfer function can be applied for optimizing the feedback loop around the input saturation. Further, the connection with other anti-windup controller architectures is also considered in this letter.

Index Terms—Control system architecture, linear systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

SATURATION in control systems is a known problem. Almost every system includes input saturation due to the limitation in the actuators. It is therefore relevant to consider a system with input saturation. This has been investigated in a large number of papers and books in connection with traditional control, as well as in connection with optimal and robust control. Throughout the years, a number of results dealing with analysis and design of anti-windup controllers for actuator saturates have been published. These methods include different design methods [1], [3], [4], [5], [8], [13], [18], [19], different controller architectures, as well as the robustness aspect in anti-windup controller design, [2], [7], [17], to mention some of the central papers in the area. Some open problems are discussed in the tutorial papers [15], [20].

The main focus in this letter is to apply the YJBK controller architecture in connection with input saturation. The YJBK architecture has previously been applied in connection with saturation, see, e.g., [7] and [14]. In [14], the YJBK parameterization is included in an existing anti-windup controller, and applied for the optimization of the anti-windup part. Equivalent in [7], the YJBK parameterization is included in an existing anti-windup controller with respect to robustness in the closed-loop system.

In this letter, the YJBK architecture is applied directly in connection with input saturation. This can be done by using some known results from the YJBK parameterization, [9], [10], [16]. Together with the implementation of

the YJBK controller described in [11], a YJBK architecture including an anti-windup part, gets a simple structure.

The relation with other anti-windup architectures is also considered. The anti-windup architecture by Weston and Postlethwaite (named as the W-P architecture in the following) described in, e.g., [4], [7], [13], [19] and the architecture by Kothare *et al.* described in [6] is considered. It is shown that the W-P architecture and the YJBK architecture are equivalent. A W-P controller can be implemented in the YJBK architecture as well as the other way around. Further, it is shown that the architecture by Kothare *et al.* is as a special case of the W-P architecture and the YJBK architecture.

The rest of this letter is organized as follows. The system set-up and some preliminary results are given in Section II. The saturation setup described in the YJBK architecture is given in Section III. The relation between different anti-windup controllers is described in Section IV. A closed-loop stability is analyzed in Section V. An example is given in Section VI, and this letter is closed with a conclusion in Section VII.

II. SYSTEM SETUP AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Let a general system be given by:

$$\Sigma : \begin{cases} \dot{z} \\ y \end{cases} = \begin{pmatrix} G_{zw} & G_{zu} \\ G_{yw} & G_{yu} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ u \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where $w \in \mathcal{R}^k$ is an external input vector, $u \in \mathcal{R}^m$ is the control input signal vector, $z \in \mathcal{R}^k$ is an external output vector, and $y \in \mathcal{R}^p$ is the measurement vector.

A state space description of (1) is given by:

$$\Sigma : \begin{cases} \dot{x} \\ z \\ y \end{cases} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B_w & B_u \\ C_z & D_{zw} & D_{zu} \\ C_y & D_{yw} & D_{yu} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ w \\ u \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

where $x \in \mathcal{R}^n$ is the state vector

The external output z and the external input w be connected through the matrix Δ , i.e.,

$$w = \Delta z \quad (3)$$

Δ represent uncertainties in the system. The general system Σ_Δ including uncertainties is given by:

$$\Sigma_\Delta = \mathcal{F}_u(\Sigma, \Delta) \quad (4)$$

where $\mathcal{F}_u(\cdot, \cdot)$ is an upper linear fractional transformation (LFT), [12].

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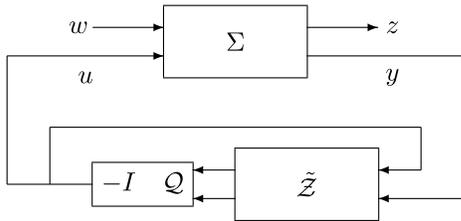


Fig. 1. An implementation of the YJBK parameterization based on the left factored form where \tilde{Z} and Q are given by (11).

The system is controlled by a stabilizing feedback controller given by:

$$\Sigma_C : \{ u = Ky \} \quad (5)$$

The coprime factorization of the nominal system G_{yu} from (1), and the stabilizing controller K from (5) are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} G_{yu} &= NM^{-1} = \tilde{M}^{-1}\tilde{N}, \quad N, M, \tilde{N}, \tilde{M} \in \mathcal{RH}_\infty \\ K &= UV^{-1} = \tilde{V}^{-1}\tilde{U}, \quad U, V, \tilde{U}, \tilde{V} \in \mathcal{RH}_\infty \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where the eight matrices in (6) must satisfy the double Bezout equation given by, see [16]:

$$I = \tilde{Z}Z = Z\tilde{Z} \quad (7)$$

where the two Bezout matrices are given by

$$Z = \tilde{Z}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} M & U \\ N & V \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{Z} = Z^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{V} & -\tilde{U} \\ -\tilde{N} & \tilde{M} \end{pmatrix}$$

Based on the above coprime factorization, a parameterization of all controllers that stabilize the system in terms of a stable YJBK matrix transfer function Q . Using a right factored form, all stabilizing controllers are given by [16]:

$$K(Q) = (U + MQ)(V + NQ)^{-1}, \quad Q \in \mathcal{RH}_\infty \quad (8)$$

or by using a left factored form:

$$K(Q) = (\tilde{V} + Q\tilde{N})^{-1}(\tilde{U} + Q\tilde{M}), \quad Q \in \mathcal{RH}_\infty \quad (9)$$

Using the Bezout equation, the controller given either by (8) or by (9) can be realized as a linear fractional transformation in the parameter Q :

$$K(Q) = \mathcal{F}_l \left(\begin{pmatrix} UV^{-1} & \tilde{V}^{-1} \\ V^{-1} & -V^{-1}N \end{pmatrix}, Q \right) = \mathcal{F}_l(J_K, Q) \quad (10)$$

The YJBK parameterization for the left factored form in (9) is shown in Fig. 1, where \tilde{Z} and Q are given by:

$$\tilde{Z} = \tilde{Z} - I_u, \quad Q = Q, \quad I_u = \text{diag}(I, 0) \quad (11)$$

Fig. 1 gives a direct relation between the Bezout equation and the YJBK controller architecture. This representation has been discussed in more details in [11]. The output vectors from \tilde{Z} is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} -u \\ \varepsilon_Q \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{Z} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

where ε_Q is the standard residual vector.

Further, we need some results from [10] dealing with coprime factorization of systems including additional sensors. Let additional sensors be included in the original system Σ in (1) resulting in an extra set of measurements given by y_s . Σ is then given by:

$$\Sigma_{ext} : \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} z \\ y \\ y_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} G_{zw} & G_{zu} \\ G_{yw} & G_{yu} \\ G_{y_s w} & G_{y_s u} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ u \end{pmatrix} \right. \quad (13)$$

where $y_s \in \mathcal{R}^{p_s}$. The coprime factorization of the extended system is then given by the following Bezout matrices, [10]:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{ext} &= \begin{pmatrix} M & (U \ 0) \\ (N) & (V \ 0) \\ (N_s) & (V_s \ I) \end{pmatrix} \\ \tilde{Z}_{ext} &= \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{V} & (-\tilde{U} \ 0) \\ -(\tilde{N}) & (\tilde{M} \ 0) \\ -(\tilde{N}_s) & (\tilde{M}_s \ I) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Further, the two matrix transfer functions \tilde{Z} and Q in (11) are given by:

$$\tilde{Z} = \tilde{Z}_{ext} - I_u, \quad Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q & Q_s \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

where Q_s is related to the extra measurements including in the system.

It is also possible to derive a parameterization of all systems that are stabilized by one controller in terms of a stable matrix transfer function S , i.e., the dual YJBK parameterization. The dual YJBK parameterization is given by [9], [16]:

$$G_{yu}(S) = (\tilde{M} + S\tilde{U})^{-1}(\tilde{N} + S\tilde{V}), \quad S \in \mathcal{RH}_\infty \quad (16)$$

using the left form. There exists also a right form for the dual YJBK parameterization. Further, S is given as an upper LFT by, [16]:

$$S = \mathcal{F}_u(J_K, G_{yu}(S)) \quad (17)$$

The matrix transfer function S is a function of the uncertainties in the system described with Δ as described in (4). $S(\Delta)$ is given by, [9]:

$$S(\Delta) = \tilde{M}G_{yw}\Delta(I - (G_{zw} + G_{zu}U\tilde{M}G_{yw})\Delta)^{-1}G_{zu}M \quad (18)$$

Note that the dual YJBK matrix transfer function S can be applied in different connections. From [9], [16], the closed-loop uncertain system is stable if the nominal closed-loop system is stable and the resulting S is stable. Here in the following, S will be used in connection with analysis of closed-loop stability when the YJBK controllers includes an anti-windup part.

III. SATURATION SET-UP

Consider now the system in (1) with a saturated control input vector given by u_s . The saturated input vector u_s is given by

$$u_s = \text{sat}(u) = [\text{sat}(u_1), \dots, \text{sat}(u_m)]^T \quad (19)$$

where $\text{sat}(u_i) = \text{sign}(u_i) \times \min\{|u_i|, u_{\max,i}\}$, $u_{\max,i} > 0 \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$. Further, let \mathcal{U} be given by:

$$\mathcal{U} := \mathcal{U}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{U}_m \quad (20)$$

From [19], we have the following design of Θ_1 and Θ_2 are given by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Theta_1 \\ \Theta_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M - I \\ G_{yu}M \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M - I \\ N \end{pmatrix} \quad (32)$$

Based on these matrices, Q_s take then the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_s &= (\tilde{V} - \tilde{U}) \begin{pmatrix} M - I \\ N \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \tilde{V}M - \tilde{V} - \tilde{U}N \\ &= I - \tilde{V} \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

One of the important issues in the W-P architecture, compared with the YJBK architecture, is the implementation of the anti-windup part. An advantage in the W-P implementation, compared with the YJBK implementation, is that the additional control vectors from the anti-windup part are included in the loop before and after the controller. In the YJBK implementation, a single control input vector for the anti-windup part is injected into the nominal controller. This will in some cases not be acceptable because the nominal controller is modified.

It is therefore also relevant to consider the other way around. The starting point for calculating Θ_1 and Θ_2 based on Q_s from the YJBK implementation is to consider (28). Using the Bezout equation in (7), \tilde{V}^{-1} can be

$$\tilde{V}^{-1} = M - \tilde{V}^{-1}\tilde{U}N = M - KN \quad (34)$$

Using (34) in (28) gives directly:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= Ky + (M - KN)Q_s\varepsilon_s \\ &= Ky + MQ_s\varepsilon_s - KNQ_s\varepsilon_s \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Compare (35) with (29) gives directly that Θ_1 and Θ_2 are given by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Theta_1 \\ \Theta_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M \\ N \end{pmatrix} Q_s + \begin{pmatrix} \Theta_{10} \\ \Theta_{20} \end{pmatrix} \quad (36)$$

where Θ_{10} and Θ_{20} are free parameters that need to satisfy:

$$(\tilde{V} - \tilde{U}) \begin{pmatrix} \Theta_{10} \\ \Theta_{20} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Note that Θ_1 and Θ_2 are not unique when the calculation is based on Q_s from the YJBK parameterization.

Note that the reformulation of the control input vector from the YJBK controller is not only restricted to the anti-windup case, but can also be used in the YJBK architecture.

The W-P anti-windup controller given by Q_s in (33) has an interesting implementation in the general YJBK architecture. To see this, first, let the control vector in (28) be rewritten into:

$$\tilde{V}u = \tilde{U}y + Q_s\varepsilon_s$$

which gives

$$u = \tilde{U}y - (\tilde{V} - I)u + Q_s\varepsilon_s. \quad (37)$$

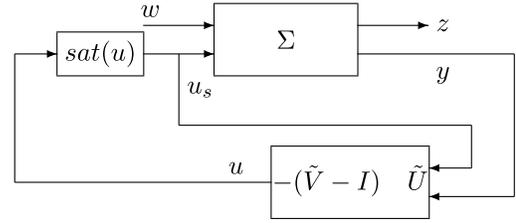


Fig. 3. The implementation of a feedback controller with anti-windup based on the left factored form.

Equation (33) together with (37) gives now:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \tilde{U}y - (\tilde{V} - I)u + (I - \tilde{V})\varepsilon_s \\ &= \tilde{U}y - (\tilde{V} - I)(u + \varepsilon_s) \\ &= \tilde{U}y - (\tilde{V} - I)u_s \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

by using $\varepsilon_s = u_s - u$.

Based on this control vector, the controller architecture from Fig. 1 takes the form as shown in Fig. 3.

The controller architecture showed in Fig. 3 is the same anti-windup architecture shown in [6]. The implementation showed in Fig. 3 demonstrates a simple way to include anti-windup in an existing controller. However, the controller still needs to be factorized and implemented using the coprime factors, so there is an internal feedback of the control vector. It is then simple to include the anti-windup part by moving the control feedback loop from the input side of the saturation block to the output side of the saturation block. The design freedom in this controller architecture is the coprime factorization of the controller. However, some controllers are implemented directly with this structure. An example of a controller with this structure is an observer based controller. The matrix transfer functions for the controller implementation shown in Fig. 3 are given by, [16]:

$$-(\tilde{V} - I)\tilde{U} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} A + LC_y & -(B_u + LD_{yu})L \\ \hline F & 0 \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} L \\ 0 \end{array} \right) \quad (39)$$

where F and L are the state feedback gain and observer gain, respectively. An implementation of the full-order observer based feedback controller including an anti-windup part is shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 4 shows that the anti-windup controller from [6], or the W-P anti-windup controller given by the parameters in (32), can be implemented directly in an observer-based controller without including extra terms.

Using an observer-based feedback controller, it is possible to give a coprime factorization of system and controller as used in (39). A state space description for coprime factorization of general feedback controllers can be found in, e.g., [16].

V. CLOSED-LOOP ANALYSIS

The stability analysis is based on the dual YJBK matrix transfer function $S(\Delta)$ given in (18). The closed-loop system is stable if the nominal closed-loop system is stable, and the dual YJBK matrix transfer function S is stable, [9], [16]. Using $\Delta = \psi_{\text{sat}}$ where ψ_{sat} is the non-linear function in (22) describing the input saturation. $S(\psi_{\text{sat}})$ can be then calculated

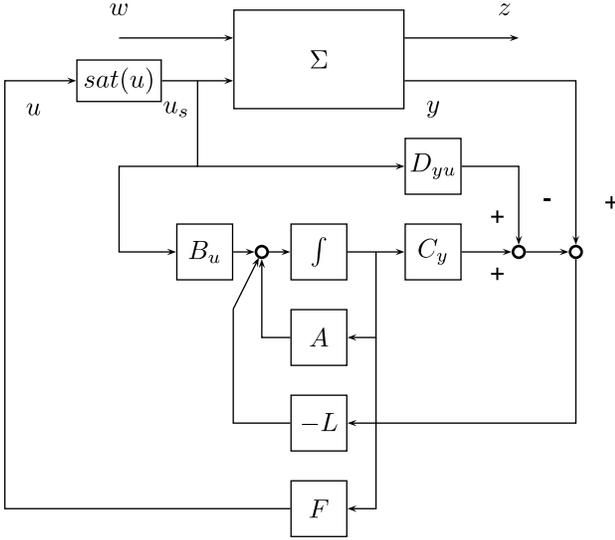


Fig. 4. An implementation on a full-order observer based feedback controller including an anti-windup part.

by using the system Σ_S in (24), and the associated coprime matrices for the system in (26). $S(\psi_{\text{sat}})$ is given by:

$$S(\psi_{\text{sat}}) = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{N} \\ I \end{pmatrix} \psi_{\text{sat}} (I - U\tilde{N}\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} M \quad (40)$$

$S(\psi_{\text{sat}})$ is stable if and only if

$$(I - U\tilde{N}\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} \in \mathcal{RH}_{\infty} \quad (41)$$

The stability can be checked using an LMI formulation, see, e.g., [3].

Now, include Q_s in the controller as described in (28). This gives the closed-loop:

$$\begin{aligned} S(Q_s, \psi_{\text{sat}}) &= S(\psi_{\text{sat}})(I - Q_s S(\psi_{\text{sat}}))^{-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{N} \\ I \end{pmatrix} \psi_{\text{sat}} (I - (U\tilde{N} + MQ_s)\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} M \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

The closed-loop is stable if:

$$(I - (U\tilde{N} + MQ_s)\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} \in \mathcal{RH}_{\infty} \quad (43)$$

Consider the W-P controller given by Q_s in (33). This gives the following stability condition:

$$(I - (M - I)\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} \in \mathcal{RH}_{\infty} \quad (44)$$

This gives the same stability condition as given in [13], [18], [19]. Due to the fact that the coprime factorization is not unique, the coprime factorization of G_{yu} needs to be optimized with respect to the anti-windup controller as described in [13], [18], [19].

Consider the stability condition in (43). This condition can be satisfied by using a Q_s given by:

$$Q_s = -M^{-1}U\tilde{N} = -\tilde{U}G_{yu} \quad (45)$$

This Q_s can only be applied if the system is open-loop stable. Further, it will decouple the controller and the saturation with respect to the closed-loop stability. This can be seen

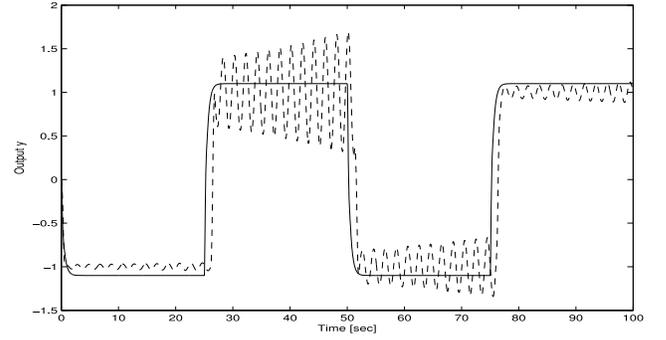


Fig. 5. Simulation of the system with the nominal controller. Solid line is the system without saturation and dashed line is system with saturation.

from (28) by including Q_s from (45). The control vector is then given by:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= Ky - \tilde{V}^{-1}\tilde{U}G_{yu}\varepsilon_s \\ &= KG_{yu}u_s - KG_{yu}(u_s - u) \\ &= KG_{yu}u \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

This shows that the closed-loop system is stable if the system without saturation is closed-loop stable.

Until now, it has been assumed that the original YJBK matrix transfer function Q in (27) is set to zero. Using a feedback controller based on the YJBK architecture, it is natural to apply Q for optimization of closed-loop performance or robust stability. It is therefore relevant to consider the stability of the saturation loop for a non-zero Q . Including Q in the controller gives the following $S(Q, \psi_{\text{sat}})$:

$$S(Q, \psi_{\text{sat}}) = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{N} \\ I \end{pmatrix} \psi_{\text{sat}} (I - (U\tilde{N} + MQ\tilde{N} + MQ_s)\psi_{\text{sat}})^{-1} M \quad (47)$$

The stability of the saturation loop depends on Q . The extra term that occurs in (47) from a non-zero Q can be compensated by selecting Q_s as:

$$Q_s(Q) = Q_s - Q\tilde{N} \quad (48)$$

The influence from Q on the stability of the saturation loop has then been removed completely. A redesign of the controller, using the YJBK matrix transfer function Q , can be done without a redesign of the anti-windup part of the controller.

VI. EXAMPLE

Consider the system and controllers from [17] given by:

$$\begin{aligned} G_{yu,0} &= \frac{10}{s^2 + 10s + 10} & G_{yu} &= \frac{10}{s^2 - 0.05s + 10} \\ K_{\text{feedback}} &= \frac{135(s+5)^2}{s(s+80)} & K_{\text{forward}} &= \frac{2.5}{s+2.5} K_{\text{feedback}} \end{aligned}$$

The maximal control input signal is limited to $u_{\text{max}} = 1.0$. $G_{yu,0}$ is the nominal model used for design of the anti-windup controller where G_{yu} is the system used in the simulations.

A simulation of the system with the nominal controller with and without saturation is shown in Fig. 5. The amplitude of the reference input is 1.1. The feedback system without saturation is closed loop stable whereas it is unstable when input saturation is included.

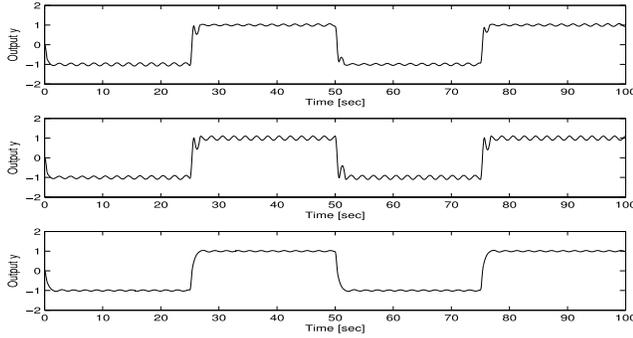


Fig. 6. Simulation of the system with three different anti-windup controllers. The top plot shows the output from the system y when the W-P controller is applied, the middle plot shows y when $Q_s = k$ is applied and the lower plot shows y when the decoupling Q_s is applied.

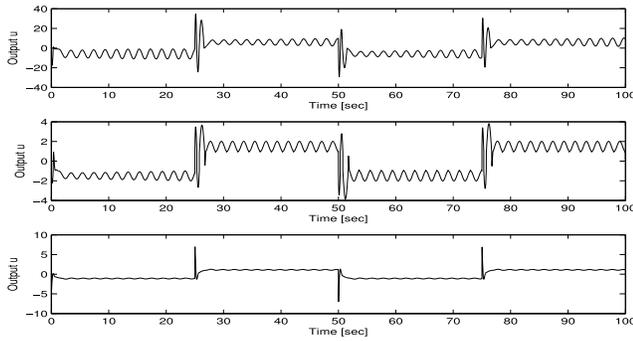


Fig. 7. Control signal from the three different anti-windup controllers. The top plot shows the control signal u when the W-P controller is applied, the middle plot shows u when $Q_s = k$ is applied and the lower plot shows u when the decoupling Q_s is applied.

Let's consider three different anti-windup controllers for the system. The anti-windup parts are given by:

$$Q_s = \begin{cases} I - \tilde{V} & \text{W-P controller} \\ k & \text{constant } Q_s \\ -G_{yu,0}\tilde{U} & \text{decoupling controller} \end{cases}$$

The constant $Q_s = k$ is designed by using a simple optimization. This gives $Q_s = 10$. The simulation results of the three anti-windup controllers are shown in Fig. 6.

All three anti-windup controllers results in stable closed-loop systems. The first two anti-windup controllers results in almost the same output with the first one as a little bit better than the second controller. The decoupling controller gives an output with a smaller oscillation than the other two controllers. The control signal generated by the anti-windup controllers are shown in Fig. 7. It can be seen from Fig. 7 that the W-P controller results in a high control signal compared with the two other controllers. $Q_s = k$ results in reasonable control signal, and the decoupling controller gives a smaller and a more smooth signal control signal than from the two other controllers, but have some spikes.

It is important to point out that the above results depend strongly on the applied coprime factorization of the system and the nominal controller. Other coprime factorizations of the system and nominal controller will give other results, special for the first two anti-windup controllers.

VII. CONCLUSION

A YJBK controller architecture has been applied in connection with input saturation. The YJBK architecture gives an additional YJBK transfer function related to the input saturation part of the system. This makes it easy to include anti-windup in the controller architecture. Standard analysis and design methods for input saturation can be applied.

Relations between the described YJBK architecture and other anti-windup controllers have also been considered. It is shown how the well-known Weston-Postlethwaite architecture can be implemented in the YJBK architecture, as well as the other way around.

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