

# Model Predictive Control Reachability and Invariance

F. Borrelli\*, M. Morari, C. Jones†

\*UC Berkeley

Institut für Automatik  
ETH Zürich

† EPFL

Fall Semester 2014 (revised September 2014)

---

## Table of Contents

### 1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

- 1.1 General Set Definitions and Operations
- 1.2 Basic Operations on Polytopes

### 2. Reachable Sets

- 2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition
- 2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation
- 2.3 Controllable Sets
- 2.4  $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

### 3. Invariant Sets

- 3.1 Invariant Sets
- 3.2 Control Invariant Sets

# Outline

## 1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

### 1.1 General Set Definitions and Operations

### 1.2 Basic Operations on Polytopes

## 2. Reachable Sets

## 3. Invariant Sets

# Table of Contents

## 1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

### 1.1 General Set Definitions and Operations

### 1.2 Basic Operations on Polytopes

## Definitions (Polyhedra and polytopes)

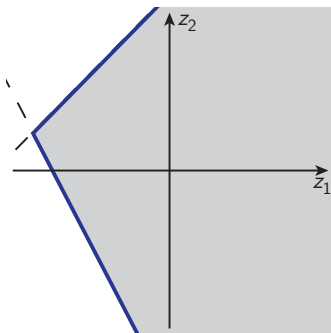
A **polyhedron** is the intersection of a *finite* number of closed halfspaces:

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \{z \mid a_1^\top z \leq b_1, a_2^\top z \leq b_2, \dots, a_m^\top z \leq b_m\} \\ &= \{z \mid Az \leq b\} \end{aligned}$$

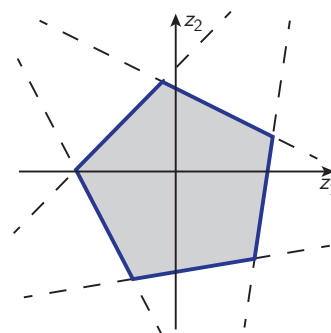
where  $A := [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]^\top$  and  $b := [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m]^\top$ .

A **polytope** is a *bounded* polyhedron.

Polyhedra and polytopes are always convex.



An (unbounded) polyhedron



A polytope

## General Set Definitions and Operations

- An  $n$ -dimensional ball  $B(x_0, \rho)$  is the set  $B(x_0, \rho) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \sqrt{\|x - x_0\|_2} \leq \rho\}$ .  $x_0$  and  $\rho$  are the center and the radius of the ball, respectively.
- The convex combination of  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  is defined as the point  $\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_k x_k$  where  $\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i = 1$  and  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .
- The convex hull of a set  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is the set of all convex combinations of points in  $K$  and it is denoted as  $\text{conv}(K)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{conv}(K) &\triangleq \{\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_k x_k \mid x_i \in K, \lambda_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, k, \\ &\quad \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i = 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

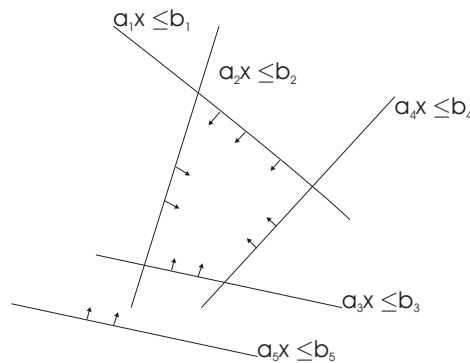
## Polyhedra Representations

An  $\mathcal{H}$ -polyhedron  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  denotes an intersection of a finite set of closed halfspaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$$

In Matlab:  $P = \text{Polytope}(A,b)$

A two-dimensional  $\mathcal{H}$ -polyhedron



Inequalities which can be removed without changing the polyhedron are called *redundant*. The representation of an  $\mathcal{H}$ -polyhedron is *minimal* if it does not contain redundant inequalities.

## Polyhedra Representations

- A  $\mathcal{V}$ -polytope  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is defined as

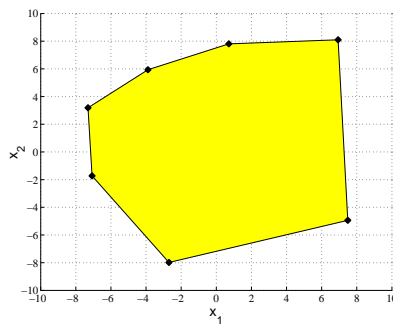
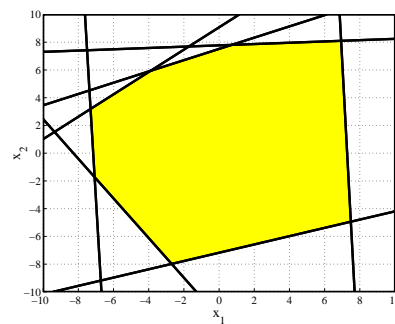
$$\mathcal{P} = \text{conv}(V)$$

for some  $V = [V_1, \dots, V_k] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ .

- Any  $\mathcal{H}$ -polytope is a  $\mathcal{V}$ -polytope and viceversa.
- A polytope  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , is full-dimensional if it is possible to fit a non-empty  $n$ -dimensional ball in  $\mathcal{P}$
- If  $\|A_i\|_2 = 1$ , where  $A_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th row of a matrix  $A$ , we say that the polytope  $\mathcal{P}$  is *normalized*.

# Polyhedra Representations

- The faces of dimension 0 and 1 are called vertices and edges, respectively.

(a)  $\mathcal{V}$ -representation.(b)  $\mathcal{H}$ -representation.

# Polytopal Complexes

A set  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a P-collection (in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) if it is a collection of a finite number of  $n$ -dimensional polytopes, i.e.

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{C}_i\}_{i=1}^{N_C},$$

where  $\mathcal{C}_i := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : C_i^x x \leq C_i^c\}$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{C}_i) = n$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N_C$ , with  $N_C < \infty$ .

In Matlab:  $Q = [P1, P2, P3]$ ,  $R = [P4, Q, [P5, P6], P7]$

# Functions on Polytopal Complexes

- A function  $h(\theta) : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , where  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^s$ , is piecewise affine (PWA) if there exists a strict partition  $R_1, \dots, R_N$  of  $\Theta$  and  $h(\theta) = H^i \theta + k^i, \forall \theta \in R_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ .
- A function  $h(\theta) : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , where  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^s$ , is piecewise affine on polyhedra (PPWA) if there exists a strict polyhedral partition  $R_1, \dots, R_N$  of  $\Theta$  and  $h(\theta) = H^i \theta + k^i, \forall \theta \in R_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ .
- A function  $h(\theta) : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^s$ , is piecewise quadratic (PWQ) if there exists a strict partition  $R_1, \dots, R_N$  of  $\Theta$  and  $h(\theta) = \theta' H^i \theta + k^i \theta + l^i, \forall \theta \in R_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ .
- A function  $h(\theta) : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^s$ , is piecewise quadratic on polyhedra (PPWQ) if there exists a strict polyhedral partition  $R_1, \dots, R_N$  of  $\Theta$  and  $h(\theta) = \theta' H^i \theta + k^i \theta + l^i, \forall \theta \in R_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ .

## Table of Contents

### 1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

#### 1.1 General Set Definitions and Operations

#### 1.2 Basic Operations on Polytopes

## Basic Operations on Polytopes

- Convex Hull of a set of points  $V = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^{N_V}$ , with  $V_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\text{conv}(V) = \left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x = \sum_{i=1}^{N_V} \alpha_i V_i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq 1, \sum_{i=1}^{N_V} \alpha_i = 1\right\}. \quad (1)$$

In Matlab:  $P = \text{hull}(V)$ ,  $V$  matrix containing vertices of the polytope  $P$

- Vertex Enumeration of a polytope  $\mathcal{P}$  given in  $\mathcal{H}$ -representation. (dual of the convex hull operation)  
In Matlab:  $V = \text{extreme}(P)$

Used to switch from a  $\mathcal{V}$ -representation of a polytope to an  $\mathcal{H}$ -representation.

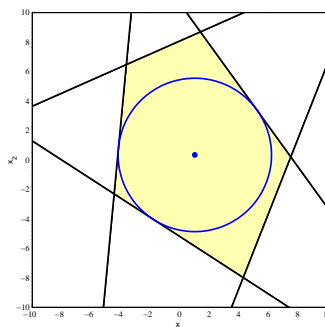
## Basic Operations on Polytopes

- Polytope reduction is the computation of the minimal representation of a polytope. A polytope  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$  is in a minimal representation if the removal of any row in  $Ax \leq b$  would change it (i.e., if there are no redundant constraints).

In Matlab:  $P = \text{Polytope}(A,b,\text{normal},\text{minrep})$ ,  $\text{minrep}=1$

- The Chebychev Ball of a polytope  $\mathcal{P}$  corresponds to the largest radius ball  $\mathcal{B}(x_c, R)$  with center  $x_c$ , such that  $\mathcal{B}(x_c, R) \subset \mathcal{P}$ .

In Matlab:  $P.x\text{Cheb}$ ,  $P.r\text{Cheb}$



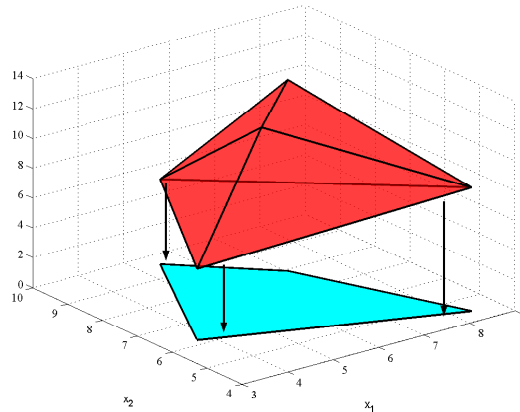
## Basic Operations on Polytopes

- Projection Given a polytope

$\mathcal{P} = \{[x' y']' \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} : A^x x + A^y y \leq b\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+m}$  the projection onto the  $x$ -space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is defined as

$$\text{proj}_x(\mathcal{P}) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \exists y \in \mathbb{R}^m : A^x x + A^y y \leq b\}.$$

In Matlab:  $Q = \text{projection}(P, \text{dim})$



## Affine Mappings and Polyhedra

- Consider a polyhedron  $\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Hx \leq k\}$ , with  $H \in \mathbb{R}^{n_P \times n}$  and an affine mapping  $f(z)$

$$f : z \in \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto Az + b, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad b \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- Define the composition of  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $f$  as the following polyhedron

$$\mathcal{P} \circ f \triangleq \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Hf(z) \leq k\} = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid HAz \leq k - Hb\}$$

- Useful for backward-reachability



# Affine Mappings and Polyhedra

- Consider a polyhedron  $\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Hx \leq k\}$ , with  $H \in \mathbb{R}^{n_P \times n}$  and an affine mapping  $f(z)$

$$f: z \in \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto Az + b, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad b \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- Define the composition of  $f$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  as the following polyhedron

$$f \circ \mathcal{P} \triangleq \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid y = Ax + b \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad Hx \leq k\}$$

- The polyhedron  $f \circ \mathcal{P}$  can be computed as follows. Write  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $\mathcal{V}$ -representation  $\mathcal{P} = \text{conv}(V)$  and map the vertices  $V = \{V_1, \dots, V_k\}$  through the transformation  $f$ . Because the transformation is affine, the set  $f \circ \mathcal{P}$  is the convex hull of the transformed vertices

$$f \circ \mathcal{P} = \text{conv}(F), \quad F = \{AV_1 + b, \dots, AV_k + b\}.$$

- Useful for forward-reachability

## Outline

### 1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

### 2. Reachable Sets

- 2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition
- 2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation
- 2.3 Controllable Sets
- 2.4  $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

### 3. Invariant Sets

# Table of Contents

## 2. Reachable Sets

### 2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition

### 2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation

### 2.3 Controllable Sets

### 2.4 $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

## Set Definition

We consider the following two types of systems **autonomous systems**:

$$x(t+1) = f_a(x(t)), \quad (2)$$

and **systems subject to external inputs**:

$$x(t+1) = f(x(t), u(t)). \quad (3)$$

Both systems are subject to state and input constraints

$$x(t) \in \mathcal{X}, \quad u(t) \in \mathcal{U}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

The sets  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are polyhedra and contain the origin in their interior.

## Reach Set Definition

For the autonomous system (2) we denote the one-step reachable set as

$$\text{Reach}(\mathcal{S}) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists x(0) \in \mathcal{S} \text{ s.t. } x = f_a(x(0))\}$$

For the system (3) with inputs we denote the one-step reachable set as

$$\text{Reach}(\mathcal{S}) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists x(0) \in \mathcal{S}, \exists u(0) \in \mathcal{U} \text{ s.t. } x = f(x(0), u(0))\}$$

## Pre Set Definition

“Pre” sets are the dual of one-step reachable sets. The set

$$\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S}) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : f_a(x) \in \mathcal{S}\}$$

defines the set of states which evolve into the target set  $\mathcal{S}$  in one time step for the system (2).

Similarly, for the system (3) the set of states which can be driven into the target set  $\mathcal{S}$  in one time step is defined as

$$\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S}) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists u \in \mathcal{U} \text{ s.t. } f(x, u) \in \mathcal{S}\}$$

# Table of Contents

## 2. Reachable Sets

### 2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition

### 2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation

### 2.3 Controllable Sets

### 2.4 $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

## Pre Set Computation - Autonomous Systems

Assume the system is linear and autonomous

$$x(t+1) = Ax(t)$$

Let

$$\mathcal{S} = \{x : Hx \leq h\}, \tag{4}$$

Then the set  $\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S})$  is

$$\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S}) = \{x : HAx \leq h\}$$

Note that by using polyhedral notation, the set  $\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S})$  is simply  $\mathcal{S} \circ A$ .

## Reach Set Computation - Autonomous Systems

The set  $\text{Reach}(\mathcal{S})$  is obtained by applying the map  $A$  to the set  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Write  $\mathcal{S}$  in  $\mathcal{V}$ -representation

$$\mathcal{S} = \text{conv}(V) \quad (5)$$

and map the set of vertices  $V$  through the transformation  $A$ .

Because the transformation is linear, the reach set is simply the convex hull of the transformed vertices

$$\text{Reach}(\mathcal{S}) = A \circ \mathcal{S} = \text{conv}(AV) \quad (6)$$

## Pre Set Computation - System with Inputs

Consider the system

$$x(t+1) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

Let

$$\mathcal{S} = \{x \mid Hx \leq h\}, \quad \mathcal{U} = \{u \mid H_u u \leq h_u\}, \quad (7)$$

The Pre set is

$$\text{Pre}(\mathcal{S}) = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \exists u \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} HA & HB \\ 0 & H_u \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} h \\ h_u \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

which is the projection onto the  $x$ -space (with dimension  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) of the polyhedron

$$\mathcal{T} := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} HA & HB \\ 0 & H_u \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} h \\ h_u \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

In Matlab:  $Q = \text{projection}(\mathcal{T}, n)$

# Table of Contents

## 2. Reachable Sets

2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition

2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation

2.3 Controllable Sets

2.4  $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

## Controllable Sets

### Definition ( $N$ -Step Controllable Set $\mathcal{K}_N(\mathcal{O})$ )

For a given target set  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ , the  $N$ -step controllable set  $\mathcal{K}_N(\mathcal{O})$  is defined as:

$$\mathcal{K}_N(\mathcal{O}) \triangleq \text{Pre}(\mathcal{K}_{N-1}(\mathcal{O})) \cap \mathcal{X}, \quad \mathcal{K}_0(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{O}, \quad N \in \mathbb{N}^+.$$

All states  $x_0 \in \mathcal{K}_N(\mathcal{O})$  can be driven, through a time-varying control law, to the target set  $\mathcal{O}$  in  $N$  steps, while satisfying input and state constraints.

### Definition (Maximal Controllable Set $\mathcal{K}_\infty(\mathcal{O})$ )

For a given target set  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ , the maximal controllable set  $\mathcal{K}_\infty(\mathcal{O})$  for the system  $x(t+1) = f(x(t), u(t))$  subject to the constraints  $x(t) \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $u(t) \in \mathcal{U}$  is the union of all  $N$ -step controllable sets contained in  $\mathcal{X}$  ( $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ).

# Table of Contents

## 2. Reachable Sets

- 2.1 Pre and Reach Sets Definition
- 2.2 Pre and Reach Sets Computation
- 2.3 Controllable Sets
- 2.4  $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

## $N$ -Step Reachable Sets

### Definition ( $N$ -Step Reachable Set $\mathcal{R}_N(\mathcal{X}_0)$ )

For a given initial set  $\mathcal{X}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ , the  $N$ -step reachable set  $\mathcal{R}_N(\mathcal{X}_0)$  is

$$\mathcal{R}_{i+1}(\mathcal{X}_0) \triangleq \text{Reach}(\mathcal{R}_i(\mathcal{X}_0)), \quad \mathcal{R}_0(\mathcal{X}_0) = \mathcal{X}_0, \quad i = 0, \dots, N - 1$$

All states  $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_0$  can will evolve to the  $N$ -step reachable set  $\mathcal{R}_N(\mathcal{X}_0)$  in  $N$  steps

Same definition of Maximal Reachable Set  $\mathcal{R}_\infty(\mathcal{X}_0)$  can be introduced.

# Outline

1. Polyhedra and Polytopes

2. Reachable Sets

**3. Invariant Sets**

3.1 Invariant Sets

3.2 Control Invariant Sets

# Table of Contents

**3. Invariant Sets**

**3.1 Invariant Sets**

3.2 Control Invariant Sets



## Invariant Sets

### Invariant sets

- are computed for **autonomous systems**
- for a *given* feedback controller  $u = g(x)$ , provide the set of initial states whose trajectory will never violate the system constraints.

### Definition (Positive Invariant Set)

A set  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  is said to be a positive invariant set for the autonomous system  $x(t+1) = f_a(x(t))$  subject to the constraints  $x(t) \in \mathcal{X}$ , if

$$x(0) \in \mathcal{O} \quad \Rightarrow \quad x(t) \in \mathcal{O}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{N}^+$$

### Definition (Maximal Positive Invariant Set $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ )

The set  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$  is the maximal invariant set if  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$  is invariant and  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$  contains all the invariant sets contained in  $\mathcal{X}$ .

## Invariant Sets

### Algorithm

**Input:**  $f_a, \mathcal{X}$

**Output:**  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$

```

1   let  $\Omega_0 = \mathcal{X}$ ,
2   let  $\Omega_{k+1} = \text{Pre}(\Omega_k) \cap \Omega_k$ 
3   if  $\Omega_{k+1} = \Omega_k$  then  $\mathcal{O}_\infty \leftarrow \Omega_{k+1}$ 
4   else go to 2

```

The algorithm generates the set sequence  $\{\Omega_k\}$  satisfying  $\Omega_{k+1} \subseteq \Omega_k, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$  and it terminates when  $\Omega_{k+1} = \Omega_k$  so that  $\Omega_k$  is the maximal positive invariant set  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$  for  $x(t+1) = f_a(x(t))$ .

# Table of Contents

## 3. Invariant Sets

### 3.1 Invariant Sets

### 3.2 Control Invariant Sets

## Control Invariant Sets

### **Control** invariant sets

- are computed for systems **subject to external inputs**
- provide the set of initial states for which *there exists* a controller such that the system constraints are never violated.

### Definition (Control Invariant Set)

A set  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  is said to be a control invariant set if

$$x(t) \in \mathcal{C} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \exists u(t) \in \mathcal{U} \text{ such that } f(x(t), u(t)) \in \mathcal{C}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{N}^+$$

### Definition (Maximal Control Invariant Set $\mathcal{C}_\infty$ )

The set  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$  is said to be the maximal control invariant set for the system  $x(t+1) = f(x(t), u(t))$  subject to the constraints in  $x(t) \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $u(t) \in \mathcal{U}$ , if it is control invariant and contains all control invariant sets contained in  $\mathcal{X}$ .

## Control Invariant Sets

Same geometric condition for control invariants holds:  $\mathcal{C}$  is a control invariant set if and only if

$$\mathcal{C} \subseteq \text{Pre}(\mathcal{C}) \quad (8)$$

### Algorithm

**Input:**  $f$ ,  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{U}$

**Output:**  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$

```

1   let  $\Omega_0 = \mathcal{X}$ ,
2   let  $\Omega_{k+1} = \text{Pre}(\Omega_k) \cap \Omega_k$ 
3   if  $\Omega_{k+1} = \Omega_k$  then  $\mathcal{C}_\infty \leftarrow \Omega_{k+1}$ 
4   else go to 2

```

The algorithm generates the set sequence  $\{\Omega_k\}$  satisfying  $\Omega_{k+1} \subseteq \Omega_k, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$  and it terminates if  $\Omega_{k+1} = \Omega_k$  so that  $\Omega_k$  is the maximal control invariant set  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$  for the constrained system.

## Invariant Sets and Control Invariant Sets

- The set  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$  ( $\mathcal{C}_\infty$ ) is **finitely determined** if and only if  $\exists i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\Omega_{i+1} = \Omega_i$ .
- The smallest element  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\Omega_{i+1} = \Omega_i$  is called the **determinedness index**.
- For all states contained in the maximal control invariant set  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$  there exists a control law, such that the system constraints are never violated.