

# Event-Triggered Adaptive Prescribed Performance Control of Uncertain Nonlinear Systems

Haibo Xu, Xinyu Ouyang, Nannan Zhao and Yiqin Zhou

**Abstract**—An event-triggered based on prescribed performance control (PPC) for the tracking control problem of strict-feedback uncertain nonlinear systems with input saturation constraint is studied. First, a smooth nonlinear function is introduced to approximate the saturation function. Secondly, the PPC design process of a class of uncertain nonlinear systems and a new error transformation function are designed to guarantee the output of the system does not violate the set constraints of the preset functions. Thirdly, an event-triggered based on adaptive PPC for a class of uncertain nonlinear systems is implemented. It makes all closed-loop signals in the system uniformly ultimately bounded (UUB). Finally, an example is given to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed method.

**Index Terms**—Nonlinear systems, event-triggered control (ETC), prescribed performance control (PPC), unknown control direction

## I. INTRODUCTION

IN the past several decades, adaptive control based on backstepping technique has been one of the most commonly used nonlinear system design methods. This method provides a general iterative construction tool for designing controllers, and some significant control schemes have been developed [1]–[6]. Since the nonlinear systems contain unknown terms, neural networks [7]–[10] and fuzzy logic systems [11]–[14] have been widely applied to the control design for uncertain nonlinear systems.

Recently, a new method called prescribed performance control (PPC) has become a research hotspot. In practical control systems, PPC not only guarantees the stability of the nonlinear system but also guarantees the transient and steady state operation of the system [15]–[18]. For the strict-feedback nonlinear system with uncertain multi-input and multi-output, in [15], Malek et al. designed an adaptive tracking controller to make the tracking error converge to its predefined boundary. In [16], an adaptive fuzzy controller with prescribed constraint for a class of nonlinear strictly feedback nonlinear systems has been designed by using fuzzy approximation. In [17], Zhang et al. realized the control of the nonlinear feedback system with unknown direction

by using the preset performance, rather than using the neural/fuzzy system to approximate the results, which greatly reduced the computational complexity.

Remarkably, data transmission is accomplished through periodic sampling in the framework of classical sample-data control. Unfortunately, the network resources are limited, and the periodic transmission scheme causes a large amount of communication resources waste and increases the operating cost of the system. Therefore, a new control approach called event trigger control (ETC) [19]–[23] has been proposed to solve the above problems. ETC has made significant progress in recent years [24]–[27]. In [24], Xing et al. designed new design methods based on fixed threshold strategy, relative threshold strategy and switching threshold strategy. In [26], the results of [24] were extended to the event triggering control problem of uncertain nonlinear systems with actuator failure.

In addition, the control problem of saturated nonlinear systems has been taken concerned by researchers [28]–[31]. In [31], Wang et al. designed an adaptive tracking controller for a class of pure-feedback stochastic nonlinear systems with input saturation. They solved the problem of non-differential saturation nonlinearity by using a smooth nonlinear function.

Inspired by the work in [16], [24] and [31], we design an event-triggered with fixed threshold strategy based on adaptive PPC for a class of uncertain nonlinear systems with input saturation. The main contributions of this work are summarized as follows:

- (1) A new error transformation function is used for the first time to generalize an adaptive tracking control scheme for a class of strict-feedback uncertain nonlinear systems with input saturation constraints, where the problems of PPC and ETC are considered simultaneously.
- (2) Compared with PPC results in [16], this paper extends the conclusion to strict feedback systems with unknown disturbances and input saturation.

The rest of this paper is as follows: Section II introduces the unknown nonlinear system function, saturation function, new error transformation function and some preliminary contents. In Section III, backstepping technology is used to design the fixed threshold policy event-triggered adaptive controller. The simulation studies are carried out in Section IV to verify the effectiveness of the proposed method. Finally, Section V concludes the paper.

## II. SYSTEM DESCRIPTIONS AND BASIC KNOWLEDGE

Consider a single-input and single-output (SISO) strict-feedback nonlinear system with unknown control directions

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and unknown disturbances by the form

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_i = f_i(\bar{x}_i) + h_i(\bar{x}_i)x_{i+1}(t) + \lambda_i(t) \\ \dot{x}_n = f_n(\bar{x}_n) + h_n(\bar{x}_n)u(t) + \lambda_n(t) \\ y = x_1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{x}_i = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i]^T \in \mathbb{R}^i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) indicates the system state vector,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  is the system output.  $f_i(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $h_i(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are unknown smooth functions,  $\lambda_i(t)$  show the unknown perturbation and  $|\lambda_i(t)| < \bar{\lambda}_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $\bar{\lambda}_i$  are unknown positive constant, and  $u(t)$  denotes the actual control input subject to stochastic saturation nonlinearity, and  $S(v)$  represents the actuator saturation nonlinearity operator with unknown constants  $u_{\max} > 0$  and  $u_{\min} < 0$ , described by

$$u(t) = S(v) = \begin{cases} u_{\max}, v \geq u_{\max} \\ v, u_{\min} < v < u_{\max} \\ u_{\min}, v \leq u_{\min} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $v$  is the input signal of the saturation nonlinearity system. From (2), when  $v(t) = u_{\max}$  or  $v(t) = u_{\min}$ , there exist two sharp corners. In order to construct control input signal directly by the backstepping technique. As in [32],  $S(v)$  can be approximated by the sum of a smooth function  $G(v)$  and an approximation error  $g(v)$ , where  $G(v)$  can be defined as

$$G(v) = \begin{cases} u_{\max} * \tanh\left(\frac{v}{u_{\max}}\right), v \geq 0 \\ u_{\min} * \tanh\left(\frac{v}{u_{\min}}\right), v < 0 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} u_{\max} * \frac{e^{\frac{v}{u_{\max}}} - e^{-\frac{v}{u_{\max}}}}{e^{\frac{v}{u_{\max}}} + e^{-\frac{v}{u_{\max}}}}, v \geq 0 \\ u_{\min} * \frac{e^{\frac{v}{u_{\min}}} - e^{-\frac{v}{u_{\min}}}}{e^{\frac{v}{u_{\min}}} + e^{-\frac{v}{u_{\min}}}}, v < 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Then,  $S(v)$  in (2) can be given by:

$$u = S(v) = G(v) + g(v) = G_\sigma(v)v + g(v) \quad (4)$$

where  $G_\sigma(v) = (\partial G(v)/\partial v)|_{v=v_\sigma}$ , and  $v_\sigma = \sigma v$ , ( $0 < \sigma < 1$ ). In addition, according to  $g(v) = S(v) - G(v)$  is a bounded function, the following formula is established

$$\begin{aligned} |g(v)| &= |S(v) - G(v)| \\ &\leq \max\{u_{\max}(1 - \tanh(1)), \\ &u_{\min}(1 - \tanh(1))\} \\ &= D \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Substituting (4) into (1) results in

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_i &= f_i(\bar{x}_i) + h_i(\bar{x}_i)x_{i+1}(t) + \lambda_i(t) \\ \dot{x}_n &= f_n(\bar{x}_n) + h_n(\bar{x}_n)G_\sigma v + h_n(\bar{x}_n)g(v) \\ &+ \lambda_n(t) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

*Assumption 1:* For the functions  $h_i(1 \leq i \leq n)$ , there exist unknown positive constants  $b$  and  $b_M$  such that

$$0 < b \leq |h_i| \leq b_M < \infty \quad (7)$$

Apparently,  $h_i$  are strictly either positive or negative. Without loss of generality, it is further assumed that  $0 < b \leq h_i \leq b_M$ .

*Assumption 2:* The function  $G_\sigma$  in (6) is bounded by

$$0 < G_m \leq G_\sigma < 1 \quad (8)$$

where  $G_m$  is an unknown positive constant.

*Remark 1:* As stated in [32], the limitation in (8) was recommended. In many physical processes and systems, the actual control input signal  $v$  must be finite, so Assumption 2 is legitimate.

*Remark 2:* According to Assumptions 1 and 2, it produces  $0 < b_m \leq h_i, 0 < b_m \leq h_i G_\sigma$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ), where  $b_m = \min\{b, bG_m\}$ .

*Lemma 1:* [31] The desired signal  $y_r(t)$  and  $\dot{y}_r(t), \ddot{y}_r(t), \dots, y_r^{(n)}(t)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ) are continuous, bounded and known.

In this note, the fuzzy logic system is applied to estimate the function  $f(x)$  defined on some compact sets. The fuzzy logic system can be written as

$$y(x) = W^T \psi(x) \quad (9)$$

where  $W$  is a collection of points for a fuzzy membership function,  $\psi(x)$  is the set of maximum operation of fuzzy set. If all memberships are chosen as Gaussian functions, the following lemma holds.

*Lemma 2:* [33] Let the continuous function  $f(x)$  defined on a compact set  $\Omega$ . Then, for any given positive constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a fuzzy logic system (9) such that

$$\sup_{x \in \Omega} |f(x) - W^T \psi(x)| \leq \varepsilon$$

*Lemma 3:* [34] For  $\forall(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , we have:

$$xy \leq \frac{\beta^p}{p} |x|^p + \frac{1}{q\beta^q} |y|^q \quad (10)$$

where the positive constants  $\beta > 0, p > 1, q > 1$ , furthermore,  $p$  and  $q$  satisfy  $(p-1)(q-1) = 1$ .

### III. CONTROLLER DESIGN

#### A. Prescribed performance control

The state errors are defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= x_1 - y_r, \\ z_i &= x_i - \alpha_{i-1}, \quad i = 2, 3, \dots, n \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $y_r$  is the desired trajectory and  $\alpha_i (i = 2, \dots, n)$  denote virtual control law, which are used to stabilize each backstepping design step. In order to accomplish prescribed performance control (PPC) for each tracking trajectory error  $z_i$ , the convergence domain function is defined as

$$\varrho_1 = (\varrho_0 - \varrho_\infty)e^{-\xi t} + \varrho_\infty, \quad (12)$$

with  $\varrho_0 > \varrho_\infty$ , where  $\varrho_0$  describing the initial value,  $\varrho_\infty$  is the maximum allowed steady state error and  $\xi$  representing minimum speed of convergence, all of them are predefined positive constants. In order to stabilize (1) and guarantee  $|z_i(0)| < |\varrho_0|$  can constrained the transient and steady state bounds for the output tracking error  $z_i$ , the new error transformations is expressed as

$$\eta_1 = \ln\left(\frac{\varrho_1 + z_1}{\varrho_1 - z_1}\right) \quad (13)$$

*Remark 3:* The hyperbolic tangent function  $\tanh^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 + x/1 - x)$  is used to design the new error transformations  $\eta_1$ . According to the properties of  $\tanh^{-1}(\cdot)$ , if  $\eta_1^2(t)$  is bounded, then inequality  $|z_1(t)| < \varrho_1(t)$  holds. The tracking error  $z_1$  is constrained by the prescribed performance function  $\varrho_1$ , and the transient and steady state performance can be guaranteed with the desired trajectory  $y_r(t)$ . This also means that the design of the Lyapunov function in the form of (18) is reasonable.

The virtual control law  $\alpha_1$  is defined as

$$\alpha_1 = -\frac{\eta_1}{\phi_1} \left( a_1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2C_1^2} \hat{\theta} \psi_1^T(Z_1) \psi_1(Z_1) \right) \quad (14)$$

where  $Z_1 = [x_1, y_r, \dot{y}_r, \varrho_1, \dot{\varrho}_1]$ ,  $\alpha_1$  is the function of  $[x_1, \hat{\theta}, y_r, \dot{y}_r, \varrho_1, \dot{\varrho}_1]$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i &= -\left(a_i + \frac{1}{2}\right) z_i - \frac{1}{2C_i^2} z_i \hat{\theta} \psi_i^T(Z_i) \psi_i(Z_i) \\ \alpha_n &= -\left(a_n + \frac{1}{2d^2}\right) z_n - \frac{1}{2C_n^2} z_n \hat{\theta} \psi_n^T(Z_n) \psi_n(Z_n) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where  $a_i$ ,  $C_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) and  $d$  are positive design constants,  $Z_i = [\bar{x}_n, \hat{\theta}, y_r, \dot{y}_r, \dots, y_r^{(i)}, \varrho_1, \dot{\varrho}_1, \dots, \varrho_1^{(i)}]$ ,  $\alpha_i$  are the functions of  $[\bar{x}_n, \hat{\theta}, y_r, \dot{y}_r, \dots, y_r^{(i)}, \varrho_1, \dot{\varrho}_1, \dots, \varrho_1^{(i)}]$ ,  $\hat{\theta}$  is the estimate value of the adaptive law  $\theta$ , which is specified as

$$\theta = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \frac{\|W_i^*\|^2}{b_m} \right\} \quad (16)$$

$\hat{\theta}$  can be updated by

$$\dot{\hat{\theta}} = \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_i^2} z_i^2 \psi_i^T \psi_i - \delta \hat{\theta} \quad (17)$$

where  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  are positive design constants.

### B. Event-triggered controller design

In this subsection, an adaptive fuzzy control design procedure based on backstepping technique will be proposed. Furthermore, an event-triggered adaptive controller will be presented.

**Step 1:** A positive definite Lyapunov is defined as follows:

$$V_1 = \frac{1}{2} \eta_1^2 + \frac{b_m}{2\epsilon} \tilde{\theta}^2 \quad (18)$$

By combining (6), (13), (14) and (17), the derivative of  $V_1(t)$  can be obtained

$$\dot{V}_1 = \eta_1 \phi_1 (f_1 + h_1 x_2 + \lambda_1 - \dot{y}_r - \frac{\dot{\varrho}_1 z_1}{\varrho_1}) - \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \dot{\hat{\theta}} \quad (19)$$

Based on Lemma 3, it is not hard to obtain that  $\eta_1 \phi_1 \lambda_1 \leq \eta_1^2 \phi_1^2 / 2 + \bar{\lambda}_1 / 2$ . Using this inequality into (19) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_1 &\leq \eta_1 \phi_1 (f_1 + h_1 x_2 + \frac{\eta_1 \phi_1}{2} - \dot{y}_r - \frac{\dot{\varrho}_1 z_1}{\varrho_1}) \\ &\quad + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{2} - \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \dot{\hat{\theta}} \\ &\leq \eta_1 \phi_1 h_1 x_2 + \eta_1 F_1 + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{2} - \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \dot{\hat{\theta}} \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where  $F_1 = \phi_1 [f_1 + (\eta_1 \phi_1 / 2) - \dot{y}_r - (\dot{\varrho}_1 z_1 / \varrho_1)]$ . Since  $F_1$  contains the unknown function  $f(\bar{x}_1)$ ,  $F_1$  cannot be directly used to construct virtual control signal  $\alpha_1$ . By employing a fuzzy logic system  $W_1^T \psi_1(Z_1)$  to approximate  $F_1$ ,  $F_1$  can be expressed as

$$F_1 = W_1^{*T} \psi_1(Z_1) + \tau_1(Z_1), \quad |\tau_1(Z_1)| \leq \bar{\epsilon}_1 \quad (21)$$

where  $\tau_1(Z_1)$  is the approximation error and  $\bar{\epsilon}_1$  is an unknown positive constant. By Lemma 3, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_1 F_1 &\leq \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \frac{\|W_1^{*T}\|^2}{b_m} \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \frac{C_1^2}{2} + \frac{\eta_1^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_1^2}{2} \\ &\leq \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \theta \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \frac{C_1^2}{2} + \frac{\eta_1^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_1^2}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Based on (14), we can have

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_1 \phi_1 \alpha_1 &= -a_1 h_1 \eta_1^2 - \frac{\eta_1^2 h_1}{2} - \frac{\eta_1^2}{2C_1^2} h_1 \hat{\theta} \psi_1^T \psi_1 \\ &\leq -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \frac{\eta_1^2 b_m}{2} - \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \hat{\theta} \psi_1^T \psi_1 \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Then, one can deduce from (20), (22), and (23) that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_1 &\leq \eta_1 \phi_1 h_1 z_2 + \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \frac{C_1^2}{2} + \frac{\eta_1^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_1^2}{2} \\ &\quad - a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \frac{\eta_1^2 b_m}{2} - \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \hat{\theta} \psi_1^T \psi_1 \\ &\quad + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{2} - \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \dot{\hat{\theta}} \\ &\leq -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 + \eta_1 \phi_1 h_1 z_2 \\ &\quad + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) + \Delta_1 \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where

$$\Delta_1 = \frac{C_1^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_1^2}{2}$$

**Step 2:** Similarly, the virtual control signal  $\alpha_2$  will be constructed to control the system. According to  $z_2 = x_2 - \alpha_1$ , we can define the Lyapunov function as follows:

$$V_2 = V_1 + \frac{1}{2} z_2^2 \quad (25)$$

By substituting (11) and (24), we obtain the time derivative of  $V_2$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2 \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) + \Delta_1 \\ & + z_2 [h_1 \eta_1 \phi_1 + f_2 + h_2 x_3 + \frac{z_2}{2} \\ & - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial x_1} (f_1 + h_1 x_2) + z_2 \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 \\ & - \sum_{k=0}^1 \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \rho_1^{(k)}} \rho_1^{(k+1)} - \sum_{k=0}^1 \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} \\ & - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} z_2^2 \psi_2^T \psi_2 \\ & + \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta} - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_2 \sum_{l=3}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\ & + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{4} \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Therefore, we can rewrite (26) as

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2 \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) \\ & + \Delta_1 - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_2 \sum_{l=3}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\ & + z_2 (h_2 z_3 + h_2 \alpha_2 + F_2) + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{4} \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F_2 = & \eta_1 h_1 \phi_1 + f_2 + \frac{z_2}{2} - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial x_1} (f_1 + h_1 x_2) \\ & + z_2 \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 - \sum_{k=0}^1 \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \rho_1^{(k)}} \rho_1^{(k+1)} \\ & - \sum_{k=0}^1 \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \zeta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \\ & - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} z_2^2 \psi_2^T \psi_2 + \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, based on (22), the following result holds

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2 \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) \\ & + \Delta_1 - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_2 \sum_{l=3}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\ & + h_2 z_2 z_3 - b_m a_2 z_2^2 - \frac{b_m}{2} z_2^2 \\ & - \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} z_2^2 \hat{\theta} \psi_2^T \psi_2 + \frac{b_m}{2C_1^2} z_2^2 \theta \psi_2^T \psi_2 \\ & + \frac{C_2^2}{2} + \frac{z_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{4} \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

Then, (28) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2 \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - a_2 b_m z_2^2 \\ & + h_2 z_2 z_3 - \frac{\partial \alpha_1}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_2 \sum_{l=3}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\ & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) + \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

where

$$\Delta_2 = \frac{C_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_2^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{4} \tag{30}$$

**Step  $i$  ( $i = 3, 4, \dots, n-1$ ):** Based on step 2, the iterative method can be used to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_{i-1} \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \Delta_k \\ & + h_{i-1} z_{i-1} z_i + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) \\ & - \sum_{k=1}^{i-2} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} \sum_{l=i}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

where

$$\Delta_i = \frac{C_i^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\epsilon}_i^2}{2} + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_i^2}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \sum_{l=1}^k \frac{\bar{\lambda}_l^2}{4} \tag{32}$$

we can take the Lyapunov function as follows

$$V_i = V_{i-1} + \frac{z_i^2}{2} \tag{33}$$

and then taking the time derivative of  $V_i$  yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_i \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k \right. \\
 & \left. - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) - \sum_{k=1}^{i-2} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} \sum_{l=i+1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\
 & - \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_i \sum_{l=i+1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\
 & + z_i [h_{i-1} z_{i-1} \\
 & - \frac{\epsilon}{2C_i^2} z_i \psi_i^T \psi_i \sum_{k=1}^{i-2} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} + f_i \\
 & + h_i x_{i+1} + \frac{z_i}{2} \\
 & - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial x_k} (f_k + h_k x_{k+1}) \\
 & + z_i \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial x_k} \right)^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \rho_1^{(k)}} \rho_1^{(k+1)} \\
 & - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} \\
 & - \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \\
 & - \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \sum_{k=2}^i \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k \\
 & + \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta} \Big] + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_i^2}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\bar{\lambda}_k^2}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_i \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\
 & \left. + \sum_{k=2}^{i-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) \\
 & - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} \sum_{l=i+1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l \\
 & + z_i (h_i x_{i+1} + F_i) + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_i^2}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\bar{\lambda}_k^2}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_i = & h_{i-1} z_{i-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2C_i^2} z_i \psi_i^T \psi_i \sum_{k=1}^{i-2} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} + f_i \\
 & - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial x_k} (f_k + h_k x_{k+1}) \\
 & + z_i \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial x_k} \right)^2 - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \rho_1^{(k)}} \rho_1^{(k+1)} \\
 & - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} - \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \\
 & - \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \sum_{k=2}^i \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k + \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta}
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, according to (22) and (32), it produces

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_i \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^i a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^i \Delta_k + z_i z_{i+1} \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \sum_{k=2}^i \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \right) \\
 & - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} \sum_{l=i+1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{2C_l^2} z_l^2 \psi_l^T \psi_l
 \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

**Remark 4:** This paper only designs one adaptive law  $\dot{\hat{\theta}}$  in each step of virtual control input, which is similar to literature [31]. This greatly reduces computational complexity. Because of the term  $(\partial \alpha_{i-1} / \partial \hat{\theta}) \dot{\hat{\theta}}$  contains the terms  $z_{i+1}, \dots, z_n$ , the fuzzy logic system  $W_i^T \psi_i(Z_i)$  can not be directly used to approximate it. To overcome this difficulty, we divided the term  $(\partial \alpha_{i-1} / \partial \hat{\theta}) \dot{\hat{\theta}}$  into two parts in (34):  $(\partial \alpha_{i-1} / \partial \hat{\theta}) [(\epsilon / 2C_1^2) \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \sum_{k=2}^i (\epsilon / 2C_k^2) z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \delta \hat{\theta}]$  and  $(\partial \alpha_{i-1} / \partial \hat{\theta}) [\sum_{k=i+1}^n (\epsilon / 2C_k^2) z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k]$ . The first term can be summed up in the package function  $F_i$ , and the second part will be dealt with in the later design steps.

**Step  $n$ :** The event triggering mechanism is used to design the actual controller  $v(t)$  in step  $n$ . Now, select the Lyapunov function candidate  $V_n$  as

$$V_n = V_{n-1} + \frac{z_n^2}{2} \tag{36}$$

The derivative of  $V_n$  can be obtained

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_n \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\
 & + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \Big) \\
 & + z_n [h_{n-1} z_{n-1} \\
 & - \frac{\epsilon}{2C_n^2} z_n \psi_n^T \psi_n \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} + f_n \\
 & + h_n G_\sigma v + h_n g + \frac{z_n}{2} \\
 & - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial x_k} (f_k + x_{k+1}) \\
 & + z_n \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial x_k} \right)^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{i-1}}{\partial \varrho_1^{(k)}} \varrho_1^{(k+1)} \\
 & - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} - \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta} \Big] \\
 & + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_n^2}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\bar{\lambda}_k^2}{4}
 \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

Therefore, we can rewrite (37) as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_n \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\
 & + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \Big) \\
 & + z_n (h_n G_\sigma v + h_n g + F_n) \\
 & + \frac{\bar{\lambda}_n^2}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\bar{\lambda}_k^2}{4}
 \end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_n = & h_{n-1} z_{n-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2C_n^2} z_n^2 \psi_n^T \psi_n \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_k}{\partial \hat{\theta}} z_{k+1} \\
 & + f_n + \frac{z_n}{2} - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial x_k} (f_k + h_k x_{k+1}) \\
 & + z_n \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial x_k} \right)^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial \varrho_1^{(k)}} \varrho_1^{(k+1)} \\
 & - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial y_d^{(k)}} y_d^{(k+1)} - \frac{\partial \alpha_{n-1}}{\partial \hat{\theta}} \delta \hat{\theta}
 \end{aligned}$$

Next, the adaptive controller is given as

$$\omega(t) = \alpha_n - \bar{\mu} \tanh \left( \frac{z_n \bar{\mu}}{\gamma} \right) \tag{39}$$

The triggering event is defined as

$$\begin{aligned}
 v(t) &= \omega(t_s), \quad \forall t \in [t_s, t_{s+1}), \quad p \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \\
 t_{s+1} &= \inf \{ t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \mid |e_v(t)| \geq \mu \}
 \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

where  $\mu, \gamma$  and  $\bar{\mu} > \mu$  are all ensure positive constant, and the measurement error is given as

$$e_v(t) = \omega(t) - v(t) \tag{41}$$

Similar to the analysis of [24], the inequality  $|\omega(t) - v(t)| \leq \mu$  holds for the time  $t \in [t_s, t_{s+1})$ , so there exists a continuous function  $\chi(t)$ , which satisfies  $|\chi(t)| \leq 1$  with  $\chi(t_s) = 0$  and  $\chi(t_{s+1}) = \pm 1$ , the following expression holds

$$v(t) = \omega(t) - \chi(t) \mu \tag{42}$$

*Remark 5:*  $\mu$  is the fixed threshold. The value of  $\mu$  needs to make the system stable and has the least number of events triggered at the same time

By taking (6), (11), (39) and  $v(t) = \omega(t) - \chi(t) \mu$  into consideration, one has

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_n \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k \right. \\
 & - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \Big) + z_n h_n G_\sigma \alpha_n + z_n h_n g + \frac{b_m}{2C_n^2} z_n^2 \theta \psi_n^T \psi_n \\
 & + z_n h_n G_\sigma \left( -\bar{\mu} \tanh \left( \frac{z_n \bar{\mu}}{\gamma} \right) - \chi(t) \mu \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

Note that the hyperbolic tangent function  $\tanh(\cdot)$  has the following property [35]:

$$0 \leq |\iota| - \iota \tanh \left( \frac{\iota}{\gamma} \right) \leq 0.2785 \gamma \tag{44}$$

where  $\gamma > 0$  and  $\iota \in \mathbb{R}$ , eventually we can get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{V}_n \leq & -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a_k b_m z_k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \Delta_k \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{\epsilon} \tilde{\theta} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2C_1^2} \eta_1^2 \psi_1^T \psi_1 \right. \\
 & + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{\epsilon}{2C_k^2} z_k^2 \psi_k^T \psi_k - \dot{\hat{\theta}} \Big) \\
 & + z_n h_n G_\sigma \alpha_n + z_n h_n g \\
 & + \frac{b_m}{2C_n^2} z_n^2 \theta \psi_n^T \psi_n + 0.2785 \gamma h_n G_\sigma
 \end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

By using the virtual control law  $\alpha_n$  and Lemma 3, it is easy to obtain the following inequalities

$$z_n h_n G_\sigma \alpha_n \leq -a_n b_m z_n^2 - \frac{h_n G_\sigma z_n^2}{2d^2} - \frac{b_m}{2C_n^2} z_n^2 \hat{\theta} \psi_n^T \psi_n \quad (46)$$

$$z_n h_n g \leq \frac{h_n G_\sigma z_n^2}{2d^2} + \frac{b_M d^2 \bar{g}^2}{2b_m} \quad (47)$$

where  $d > 0$  is a design parameter. Combing (45) with (47) and (46), together with the fact  $\dot{\hat{\theta}} \leq (-1/2)\hat{\theta}^2 + (1/2)\theta^2$  result in

$$\dot{V}_n \leq -a_1 b_m \eta_1^2 - \sum_{k=2}^n a_k b_m z_k^2 - \frac{b_m \delta}{2\epsilon} \tilde{\theta}^2 + \rho_0 \quad (48)$$

where  $\rho_0 = (b_m \delta / 2\epsilon) \theta^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \Delta_k + 0.2785 \gamma d_M + b_M / d^2 \bar{g}^2 2b_m$ . Defining  $\gamma_0 = \min\{2b_m a_i, \delta, i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , (48) can be rewritten as

$$\dot{V}_n \leq \gamma_0 V + \rho_0 \quad (49)$$

**Theorem 1:** Consider the uncertain nonlinear systems (1), the adaptive law (16) and the event-trigger mechanism (40) controller. If the assumptions 1-3 are satisfied, then the inter-execution intervals  $\{t_{s+1} - t_s\}$  for  $\forall s \in Z^+$  are lower bounded by a positive constant  $t^* > 0$  such that Zeno-behavior does not occur.

*Proof 1:* In order to prove that there exists a constant  $t^* > 0$  such that  $\{t_{s+1} - t_s\} \geq t^*, \forall s \in Z^+$ , by recalling  $e_v(t) = \omega(t) - v(t), \forall t \in (t_s, t_{s+1})$ , we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt} |e_v| = \frac{d}{dt} (e_v * e_v)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \text{sign}(e_v) \dot{e}_v \leq |\dot{\omega}| \quad (50)$$

It can be seen from (39) that  $\dot{\omega}(t)$  is a function of the variables,  $x, \hat{\theta}$  and  $\psi(Z_n)$ , where  $x$  and  $\hat{\theta}$  have been proved to be bounded, and  $\psi(Z_n)$  is a differentiable Gauss function, so  $\dot{\omega}(t)$  must be a continuous function. Hence, there must exist a constant  $\bar{\omega} > 0$  such that  $|\dot{\omega}(t)| < \bar{\omega}$ . From  $e_v(t_s) = 0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_{s+1}} e_v(t) = \mu$ , we obtain that the lower bound of inter-execution interval  $t^*$  must satisfy  $t^* \geq m/s$ , the Zeno-behavior [36] is successfully avoided.

The proof of the Theorem is therefore completed.

**Remark 6:** Based on the above proof, the designed adaptive controller (14)-(15) with parameter update law (17) and trigger mechanism (39), (40) not only ensures that the tracking error does not violate the preset performance function, but also ensures that all signals of the closed-loop system are bounded, and also realizes the event trigger mechanism well.

#### IV. SIMULATION

In this section, the effectiveness of the proposed control method is verified by the following numerical simulation example.

A second-order nonlinear system with unknown control direction is considered as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 + \lambda_1, \\ \dot{x}_2 = A \cos(x_1) + Bu + \lambda_2, \\ y = x_1 \end{cases} \quad (51)$$

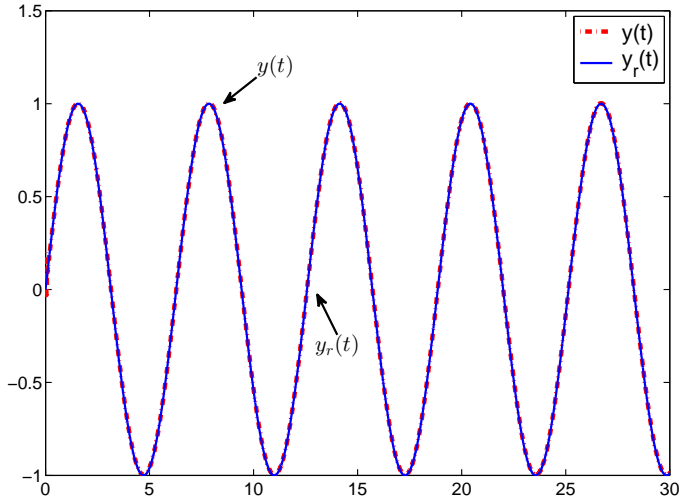


Fig. 1. Desired signal  $y_r(t)$  and system output  $y(t)$ .

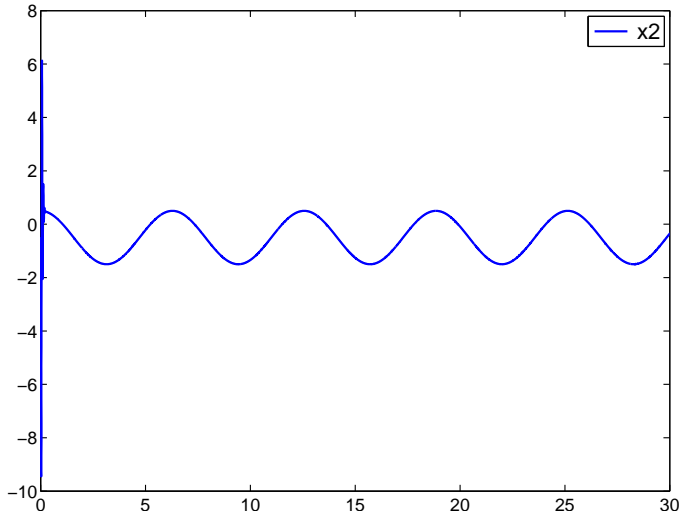


Fig. 2. System state  $x_2$ .

where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are the state variables,  $y$  is the system output,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are the disturbance, and  $u$  is the actual control input, which defined in (2). And the nonsymmetrical input saturation limits are chosen as  $u_{max} = 500$  and  $u_{min} = -400$ , respectively.

To verify the tracking performance of the proposed algorithm, the reference signal is chosen as  $y_r = \sin(t)$ . The parameters of the prescribed performance function  $\varrho_1$  is specified as  $\varrho_0 = 1, \varrho_\infty = 0.04$  and  $\ell = 0.4$ . The control parameters are selected as  $A = 9, B = 0.9, C_1 = 50, C_2 = 50, a_1 = 100, a_2 = 70, d = 1, \epsilon = 1, \delta = 1, \gamma = 10, \mu = 0.1, \bar{\mu} = 7$ . The disturbances are taken as  $\lambda_1 = 0.5, \lambda_2 = 0.8$ . The initial conditions are taken as  $[x_1(0), x_2(0)]^T = [0.2 - 0.5]^T$  and  $\hat{\theta}(0) = 0$ . The simulation results are shown by Figs. 1-8. Desired signal  $y_r(t)$  and system output  $y(t)$  are shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 2 displays the system state  $x_2$ . The tracking error of the proposed method is presented in Fig. 3. The bounded curve of adaptive rate  $\hat{\theta}$  is shown in Fig. 4. The trajectories of event-triggered control signal  $v(t)$  and continuous control signal  $\omega(t)$  are shown in Fig. 5. Figs. 6 and 7 show the event-triggered control input  $v(t)$  and the saturated control input  $u(t)$ , respectively. The time intervals of each event are shown in Fig. 8.

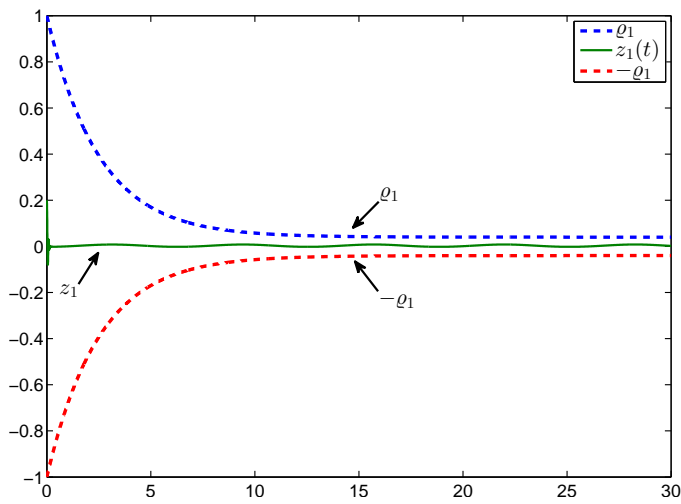


Fig. 3. Tracking error  $z_1$  under the prescribed performance constraint  $\rho_1$ .

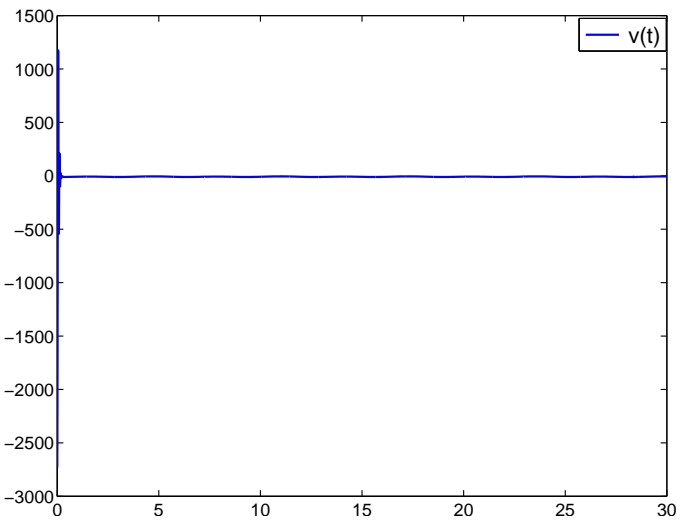


Fig. 6. Event-triggered control signal  $v(t)$ .

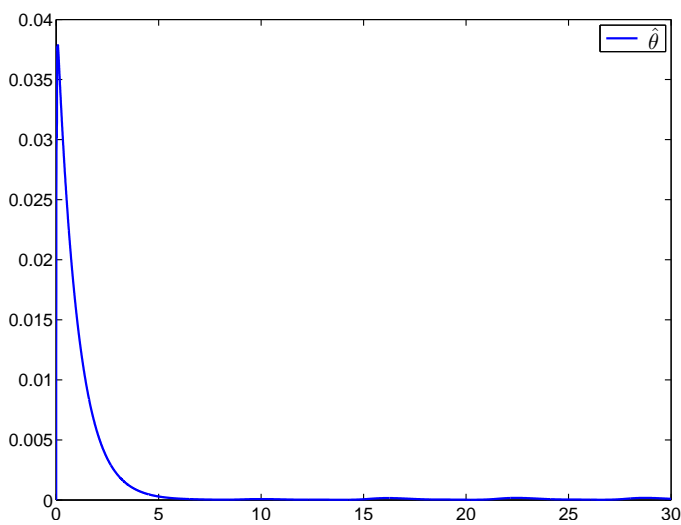


Fig. 4. Adaptive law  $\hat{\theta}$ .

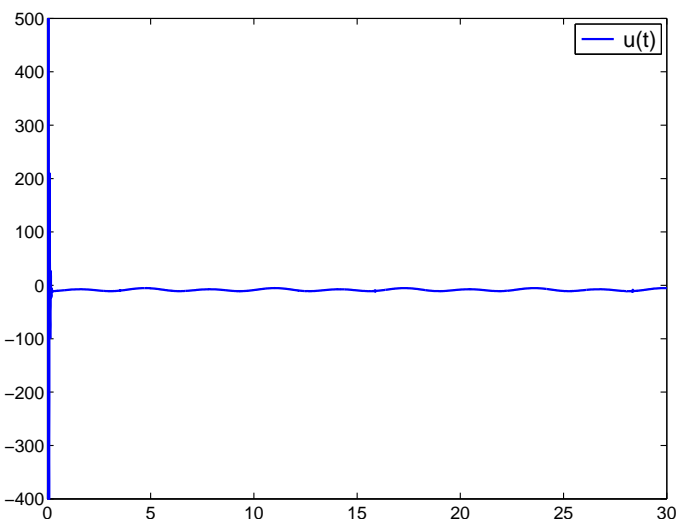


Fig. 7. Actual control signals  $u(t)$  with saturation constraints.

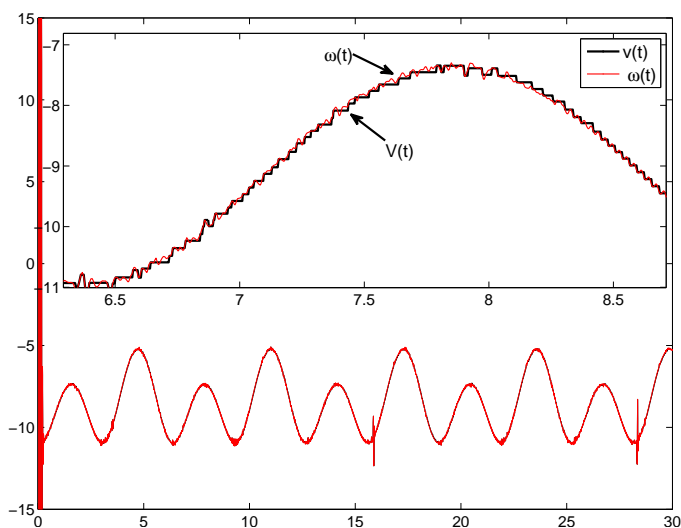


Fig. 5. The trajectories of event-triggered control signal  $v(t)$  and continuous control signal  $\omega(t)$ .

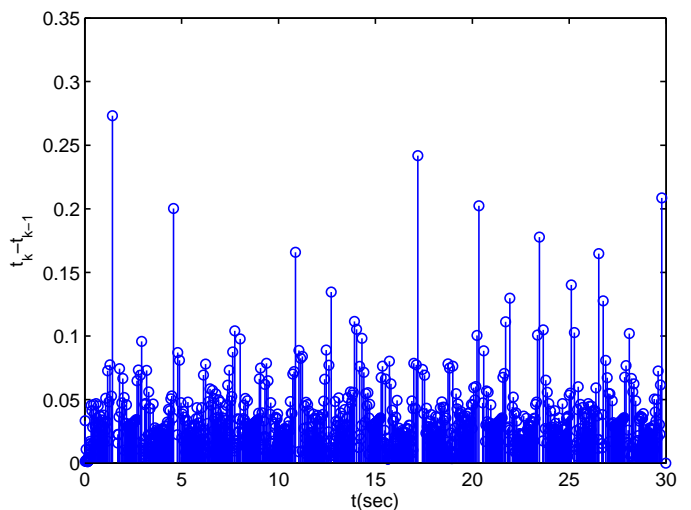


Fig. 8. Time interval of triggering events.

### V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a new control scheme based on event triggering is designed for strictly feedback uncertain nonlin-

ear systems with input saturation constraints. The unknown function is approximated by adaptive fuzzy control, a new error exchange function is proposed, and the tracking error is constrained by the preset constraint function. An event-



triggered fixed threshold strategy is designed, which is theoretically and experimentally proved to be feasible and effective. How to extend the algorithm to nonaffine stochastic nonlinear control system and other event triggering strategies will be a further topic.

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