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## Standard Decomposed System

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## Abstract

Conditions for achieving noninteraction in nonlinear multivariable systems via the decomposition of state space are well established. The main contribution of this paper is to present a Standard Decomposed System (SDS). The SDS is similar to the decomposed system of Isidori, Krener, Gori-Giorgi, and Monaco but has a finer structure. The finer structure parallels the one used by Gilbert for linear systems. A weaker form of noninteraction, based on input-output behaviour, is decoupling. Some connections between decomposition and decoupling are also established.

## 1. Introduction

Consider a nonlinear system of the form :

$$(1.1) \quad \dot{x}(t) = F(x, u) \triangleq X_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m x_i(x) u_i, \quad y(t) = H(x),$$

where  $X_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, m$  are vector fields on an  $n$ -dimensional manifold  $\chi$ ;  $H: \chi \rightarrow R^m$  is the output map of the system; and  $u_i(t) \in R$ ,  $y_i(t) \in R$  are the  $i$ th components of  $u(t) \in R^m$ ,  $y(t) \in R^m$ , respectively. Decomposition (which is called noninteracting control in [8]) concerns the dynamic structure of systems in state space. Roughly speaking, the system (1.1) is decomposed if in an appropriate system of coordinates, it appears as a system having  $m$  independent subsystems such that for the  $i$ th subsystem, the input and output are  $u_i, y_i$ , respectively. Consider the following class of control laws :

$$(1.2) \quad u = K(x, \hat{u}) \triangleq \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u},$$

where  $\alpha: \chi \rightarrow R^m$  and  $\beta: \chi \rightarrow R^{m \times m}$ . The system (1.1) is decomposable if there is a control law (1.2) such that the feedback system :

$$(1.3) \quad \dot{\hat{x}} = F(x, \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u}), \quad y = H(x).$$

is decomposed. The corresponding control law is called a decomposing control law.

Conditions for (feedback) decomposition of nonlinear systems have been studied by many authors. See, e.g., [8-11, 13, 17]. The most common theoretical framework is some generalization of the geometric approach introduced by Wonham and Morse [12, 22] for linear systems. Here we emphasize instead decomposition structure and describe

a nonlinear system of a special structure, which we will call a Standard Decomposed System (SDS). We present conditions under which a nonlinear system can have the special structure of SDS. The SDS is similar to the decomposed system of Isidori, Krener, Gori-Giorgi, and Monaco [8] but has a finer structure. The structure parallels the one used by Gilbert [4] for linear systems. The SDS is useful for some engineering applications, which will be presented later.

A weaker form of noninteracting than decomposition is decoupling [2, 3, 5, 9, 14-16, 18]. Essentially, the system (1.1) is decoupled if for each  $i=1, \dots, m$ ,  $u_i$  affects only  $y_i$ . Note that decoupling concerns only the input-output map of systems, whereas decomposition concerns both the input-output map and the dynamic structure of systems in state space. Thus, decomposition may be more interesting from engineering viewpoint. As part of our presentation we will establish some connections between the two concepts of noninteraction.

The paper is organized as follows. In this section, we introduce notation and some basic differential geometric tools used in later sections. Precise definitions of decomposition and decomposability are given. In Section 2, necessary and sufficient conditions for a system to be decomposed and for a system to be decomposable are discussed. Section 3 contains the definition of the SDS and conditions under which nonlinear system can have the form of SDS. We also examine the relationship between the class of decomposing control laws and the class of the closed-loop decomposed systems. Section 4 contains concluding remarks.

Let  $M_{i,j}$  denote the set of integers  $\{i, i+1, \dots, j\}$ . We denote by  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  the abstract system (1.1) defined on a manifold  $\chi$ . At each  $p \in \chi$ , there exists a chart or coordinate neighborhood  $(U, \phi)$  such that in the coordinates  $z = \phi(x)$ , the system (1.1) is described by

$$(1.4) \quad \dot{z}(t) = f(z(t), u(t)) \triangleq f_0(z(t)) + \sum_{j \in M_{i,1}} f_j(z(t)) u_j(t) \\ y(t) = h(z(t)),$$

where the functions  $f_i: \phi(U) \rightarrow R^n$ ,  $i \in M_{0,m}$  are determined by, respectively, the local representation of the vector fields  $X_i$  in the chart. We denote this local representation by  $\{f, h, U\}$ . We denote by  $h_i, H_i$  the  $i$ th components of  $h, H$ , respectively. To simplify our definitions and proofs, all systems and control laws considered in this

paper are assumed to be at least smooth ( $C^\infty$ ). See [5] for the precise definitions of smoothness and real analyticity of systems and control laws. All control laws considered in this paper are assumed to be nonsingular;  $\beta(x)$  is nonsingular,  $x \in \chi$ .

Let  $T$  be a  $C^\infty$ -mapping from an  $n$ -dimensional smooth manifold  $\chi$  into an  $m$ -dimensional smooth manifold  $\hat{\chi}$ . A smooth function  $\hat{\phi}$  from  $\hat{\chi}$  into  $R$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to a smooth function  $\phi$  from  $\chi$  into  $R$  if  $\phi(p) = \hat{\phi} \circ T(p)$ ,  $p \in \chi$ , where  $\circ$  denotes the function decomposition. For a smooth vector field  $Y$  on  $\chi$ ,  $\hat{Y}$  denotes the tangent vector at  $p \in \chi$  assigned by  $\hat{Y}$ . A smooth vector field  $\hat{Y}$  on  $\hat{\chi}$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to a smooth vector field  $Y$  on  $\chi$  if  $\hat{Y} T(p) = \hat{\phi} \circ Y$ ,  $p \in \chi$  for all  $C^\infty$ -functions  $\hat{\phi}$  from  $\hat{\chi}$  into  $R$ . The Lie bracket of two vector fields  $Y, Z$  on  $\chi$  is denoted by  $[Y, Z] = YZ - ZY$ .

The following definition concerns state transformations between systems.

**Definition 1.1.** Suppose for two systems  $\{F, H, \chi\}$ ,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$ , there exists a  $C^\infty$ -diffeomorphism  $T: \chi \rightarrow \hat{\chi}$  such that (i)  $\hat{\chi}_1$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to  $X_1$ ,  $i \in M_{0,m}$ , and (ii)  $\hat{H}_1$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to  $H_1$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ . Then,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to  $\{F, H, \chi\}$ .  $\square$

Definitions similar to Definition 1.1 are found in the prior literature including [20].

Next, we introduce a general relation between systems, which takes into account both state and input-feedback transformations. Let  $T, \alpha, \beta$  be mappings from  $\chi$  into  $\hat{\chi}$ ,  $R^m$ , and  $R^{m \times m}$ , respectively, such that  $\beta(x)$  is nonsingular,  $x \in \chi$ . Define a mapping  $J: \chi \times R^m \rightarrow \hat{\chi} \times R^m$  by

$$(1.5) \quad J(x, u) = \begin{bmatrix} T(x) \\ [\beta(x)]^{-1}(u + \alpha(x)) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (x, u) \in \chi \times R^m.$$

We often write  $J = \{T, \alpha, \beta\}$ . Let  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  denote the feedback system of  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  corresponding to a control law  $u = \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u}$ . In other words,  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  stands for the feedback system  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$ , where  $\hat{F}(x, u) = F(x, \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u})$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Suppose there exists a  $C^\infty$ -diffeomorphism  $J: \chi \times R^m \rightarrow \hat{\chi} \times R^m$  defined by (1.5) such that  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  is  $T$ -related on  $\chi$  to the system  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$ . Then,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  is  $J$ -feedback related on  $\chi$  to  $\{F, H, \chi\}$ .  $\square$

Similar definitions appeared in the prior literature including [7, 10].

Now, we define decomposition and decomposability. The definitions are similar to those in [8].

**Definition 1.3.**  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposed at  $x_0 \in \chi$  if there exist: (a) an open neighborhood  $E$  of  $x_0$ ; (b) an open subset  $\bar{\chi}$  of  $R^n$ ; (c) a  $C^\infty$ -diffeomorphism  $T: E \rightarrow \bar{\chi}$ ; (d) integers  $\bar{s}_i \geq 1$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  and  $\bar{s}_{m+1} \geq 0$  satisfying  $n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \bar{s}_i$ ; and (e) a system  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  which is  $T$ -related on  $E$  to  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  such that its coordinate representation  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  has the form:

$$(1.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{\bar{x}}_i &= \bar{f}_i(\bar{x}_i) + g_i(\bar{x}_i)\bar{u}_i, & \bar{y}_i &= \bar{h}_i(\bar{x}_i), \\ & & i &\in M_{1,m}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\bar{x}}_{m+1} = \bar{f}_{m+1}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^m \bar{b}_j(\bar{x})\bar{u}_j,$$

where  $\bar{x}_i(t) \in R^{\bar{s}_i}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m+1}$ , and  $\bar{x} = (\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_m$ ,

$\bar{x}_{m+1}$ ). If  $E = \chi$  in the above statement,  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposed on  $\chi$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.4.**  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposable at  $x_0 \in \chi$  if there exists a control law  $u = \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u}$  such that  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  is decomposed at  $x_0$ .  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposable on  $\chi$  if there exists a control law  $u = \alpha(x) + \beta(x)\hat{u}$  such that  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  is decomposed on  $\chi$ .  $\square$

Similar terminology arises in the precise definition of decoupling [5, 9]. It should be clear from definitions of decomposition and decoupling that a decomposed system is always decoupled. As will be discussed later in Section 2, the converse statement is not necessarily true.

Let  $Z$  be a smooth vector field on  $\chi$ . The codistribution  $\Delta^Z$  of a distribution  $\Delta$  on  $\chi$  is  $Z$ -invariant on  $\chi$  if for any smooth function  $\phi$  from  $\chi$  into  $R$ ,  $d\phi \in \Delta^Z$  on  $\chi$  always implies  $dZ\phi \in \Delta^Z$  on  $\chi$ . Let  $\psi_i, i \in M_{1,k}$  be smooth functions from  $\chi$  into  $R$ . The differentials  $d\psi_i, i \in M_{1,k}$  are linearly independent on  $\chi$  if  $d\psi_i(p), i \in M_{1,k}$  are linearly independent,  $p \in \chi$ . The first derivative of a smooth function  $\psi: R^n \rightarrow R$  at  $x$  is denoted by  $D\psi(x) \in R^{1 \times n}$ .

For each  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,  $M_i$  denotes the set  $\{j: j \in M_{1,m}, j \neq i\}$ . For each  $i \in M_{1,m}$ , let

$$(1.7) \quad \Delta_i^{\circ}(\{F, H, \chi\}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [X_{i_1}, [X_{i_2}, [\dots [X_{i_k}, X_j] \dots]]] \\ : i_r \in \{0, i\}, r \in M_{1,k}, \\ k \in M_{0,\infty}, \text{ and } j \in M_i,$$

where  $[X_{i_1}, [X_{i_2}, [\dots [X_{i_k}, X_j] \dots]] \stackrel{\Delta}{=} X_j$  if  $k=0$ .

Define  $\Delta_i(\{F, H, \chi\})$  as the smallest subalgebra containing  $\Delta_i^{\circ}(\{F, H, \chi\})$ . Note that  $\Delta_i^{\circ}$  is  $x_0$ -invariant and  $\Delta_i$ -invariant on  $\chi$ .

## 2. Conditions for Decomposition and Decomposability

To state our results a variety of assumptions beyond smoothness and the nonsingularity of control laws are needed. To simplify the presentation we list them together here.

(A.1) The system  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies the controllability rank condition on  $\chi$  ([19]).

(A.2)  $\Delta_i^{\circ}(\{F, H, \chi\})$  has a dimension  $p_i \geq 1$  on  $\chi$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ .

(A.3) There exist nonnegative integers  $d_i, i \in M_{1,m}$  such that the following  $m$ -row vector conditions are satisfied:

$$(2.1) \quad [X_1^k X_0^k H(x), \dots, X_m^k X_0^k H(x)] = 0, \quad x \in \bar{\chi}, \\ k \in M_{0,(d_i-1)}, \text{ applies when } d_i > 0,$$

$$(2.2) \quad D_i^*(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [X_1^d X_0^d H_1(x), \dots, X_m^d X_0^d H_1(x)] \neq 0, \\ x \in \bar{\chi}.$$

The following Theorem concerns necessary and sufficient conditions for local decomposition.

**Theorem 2.1.** The system  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposed at  $x_0 \in \chi$  if and only if there exist an open neighborhood  $E$  of  $x_0$  and  $m$  involutive distributions  $\Delta_i^*$  on  $E$  which has dimension  $r_i < n$  such that

on E.

- (i)  $dH_i \in (\Delta_i^*)^\perp \subset \Delta_i^\perp$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,
- (ii)  $(\Delta_i^*)^\perp$  is  $X_0$ -invariant and  $X_i$ -invariant,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,
- (iii)  $(\Delta_i^*)^\perp$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  are mutually disjoint.  $\square$

Theorem 2.1 is implied by Theorem 5.1 in [8]. Note that it is not easy to check for the existence of  $\Delta_i^*$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  satisfying conditions specified in Theorem 2.1. This motivates the following result.

**Theorem 2.2.** Suppose that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.1) and (A.2). Then,  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposed at each  $x_0 \in \chi$  if and only if

$$(2.3) \quad dH_i \in \Delta_i(\{F, H, \chi\}) \text{ on } \chi, \quad i \in M_{1,m}. \quad \square$$

Apart from giving an easily verified condition for local decomposition, this result has other important implications. In [2,5,9], it was shown that (2.3) is a necessary and sufficient condition for decoupling of real analytic systems. From this and Theorem 2.1, we see that the conditions for decomposition are more complex than those for decoupling. Moreover, for real analytic systems satisfying the hypotheses of Theorem 2.2, the concepts of decomposition and decoupling are (at least locally) equivalent. It appears that this observation has not been made before. Proofs of Theorem 2.2 were obtained independently by Ha [6] and Nijmeijer [15].

We now turn to the question of when a system is decomposable by a control law. When (A.3) is satisfied, let  $D^*(x)$  and  $A^*(x)$  denote, respectively the  $(m \times m)$  and  $(m \times 1)$  matrices of functions defined by

$$(2.4) \quad D^*(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \begin{bmatrix} D_1^*(x) \\ \dots \\ D_m^*(x) \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^*(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \begin{bmatrix} X_0^{(d_i+1)} H_1(x) \\ \dots \\ X_0^{(d_m+1)} H_m(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

**Theorem 2.3.** Suppose  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.3) then,  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposable at each  $x_0 \in \chi$  if and only if

$$(2.5) \quad D^*(x) \text{ is nonsingular at each } x \in \chi.$$

Furthermore,  $u = [D^*(x)]^{-1} (\hat{u} - A^*(x))$  decomposes  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  at each  $x \in \chi$ . That is, for  $\alpha(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [D^*(x)]^{-1}$ ,  $A^*(x)$  and  $\beta(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [D^*(x)]^{-1}$ , the system  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  is decomposed at each  $x \in \chi$ .  $\square$

In [5,6,9,18], it was shown that (2.5) is a necessary and sufficient condition for a smooth system to be decouplable on  $\chi$ . Hence, Theorem 2.3 has the important implication that under the assumption (A.3), decouplability and decomposability are locally equivalent.

The sufficiency of Theorem 2.3 was shown in [2,6,9]. We believe that the necessity of Theorem 2.3 is new. Since some details of the proofs are essential in the development of Section 3, we give the brief proofs.

**Lemma 2.1.** Suppose that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.3). Let  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  be J-feedback related on  $\chi$  to  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  by  $J = (T, \alpha, \beta)$ . Let  $\hat{X}_i$ ,  $i \in M_{0,m}$  be vector fields corresponding to  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$ . Similarly, let  $\hat{d}_i$ ,  $\hat{D}^*$ ,  $\hat{A}^*$  be determined by (2.1), (2.2), and (2.5) by replacing the  $X_i$  by the  $\hat{X}_i$ . Then:

- (i)  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  satisfies (A.3) with  $\hat{d}_i = d_i$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,

$$(ii) \quad \hat{D}^*(T(x)) = D^*(x) \beta(x), \quad \hat{A}^*(T(x)) = A^*(x) + D^*(x) \alpha(x), \quad x \in \chi,$$

$$(iii) \quad \hat{X}_0^k \hat{H}_i(T(x)) = X_0^k H_i(x), \quad x \in \chi, \quad k \in M_{0,d_i}$$

**Lemma 2.2.** Suppose that a system  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.3) and (2.5). Then,  $dX_0^k H_i$ ,  $k \in M_{0,d_i}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  are linearly independent on  $\chi$ .  $\square$

In [16] Lemma 2.1 was shown for the case when  $T$  is the identity map and  $\chi = \mathbb{R}^n$ . Lemma 2.2 appeared in [6,9].

**Proof of Theorem 2.3.** Suppose there exists  $\alpha, \beta$  such that  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  is decomposed at each  $x_0 \in \chi$ . Let  $\{\hat{F}, H, \chi\} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$ . Then, by Theorem 2.1,

$$(2.6) \quad dH_i \in \Delta_i(\{\hat{F}, H, \chi\}) \text{ on } \chi, \quad i \in M_{1,m}.$$

By the definition of the Lie bracket and  $\Delta_i$ , this implies

$$(2.7) \quad \hat{X}_j \hat{X}_0^{d_i} H_i(x) = 0, \text{ on } \chi, \quad j \in M_i, \quad i \in M_{1,m}.$$

By Lemma 2.1-(i) and the definition of  $\{d_i, i \in M_{1,m}\}$ , (2.7) implies

$$(2.8) \quad \lambda_i(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \hat{X}_i \hat{X}_0^{d_i} H_i(x) \neq 0, \quad x \in \chi, \quad i \in M_{1,m}.$$

On the other hand, by Lemma 2.1-(ii), (2.7), and (2.8),

$$(2.9) \quad D^*(x) \beta(x) = \text{diag } \lambda_i(x), \quad x \in \chi.$$

Then, (2.5) is a direct consequence of (2.8), (2.9), and the nonsingularity assumption of control laws.

Next, assume (2.5). Let  $\{\hat{F}, H, \chi\} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  with  $\alpha(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [D^*(x)]^{-1} A^*(x)$  and  $\beta(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} [D^*(x)]^{-1}$ . By Lemma 2.1, direct computation shows

$$(2.10) \quad \hat{X}_0^k \hat{H}_i(x) = X_0^k H_i(x), \quad k \in M_{0,d_i},$$

$$\hat{X}_0^{(d_i+1)} H_i(x) = 0,$$

$$(2.11) \quad \hat{X}_j \hat{X}_0^k H_i(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = i \text{ and } k = d_i, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

On the other hand, by Lemma 2.1-(iii) and Lemma 2.2,  $d\hat{X}_0^k H_i$ ,  $k \in M_{0,d_i}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  are linearly independent on  $\chi$ . Let  $T_{i,j} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \hat{X}_0^{(j-1)} H_i$ ,  $j \in M_{1,(d_i+1)}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ . Let  $T_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (T_{i,1}, \dots, T_{i,(d_i+1)})$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ . Let  $p_{i=1}^m (d_i+1)$  and  $p_{m+1} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} n-p$ . Fix  $x_0 \in \chi$ . Because  $d\hat{X}_0^k H_i$ ,  $k \in M_{0,d_i}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$  are linearly independent on  $\chi$ , it is possible to choose a  $C^\infty$ -mapping  $T_{m+1}: \chi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p_{m+1}}$  such that  $T \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (T_1, \dots, T_m, T_{m+1})$  has rank  $n$  at  $x_0$ . Then, it can be shown that there exist an open neighborhood  $E$  of  $x_0$  and a system  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  with  $\chi = T(E)$ ,  $\hat{s}_i = d_i + 1$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ .  $\hat{s}_{m+1} = p_{m+1}$  meet the requirement of Definition 1.3. In particular, its coordinate repre-

notation  $\{\bar{f}, \bar{h}, \bar{\chi}\}$  has the form (1.6) such that for each  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,

$$(2.12) \quad \bar{f}_i(\bar{x}_i) = \bar{A}_i \bar{x}_i, \quad \bar{g}_i(\bar{x}_i) = \bar{B}_i, \quad \bar{h}_i(\bar{x}_i) = \bar{C}_i \bar{x}_i,$$

where

$$\bar{A}_i \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & I_{d_i} \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{B}_i \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{C}_i \triangleq [1, 0, \dots, 0],$$

and  $I_d$  is the  $d$  by  $d$  identity matrix. Since  $\{\hat{F}, H, \chi\}$  is decomposed at each  $x_0 \in \chi$ ,  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is decomposable at each  $x_0 \in \chi$  by the control law  $u = [D^*(x)]^{-1}(\hat{U} - A^*(x))$ .

Because of its importance in our subsequent developments, we henceforth reserve the notation  $\{F^*, H, \chi\}$  for the system  $\{F, H, \chi\}^{\alpha, \beta}$  with  $\alpha(x) \triangleq -[D^*(x)]^{-1}A^*(x)$  and  $\beta(x) = [D^*(x)]^{-1}$ . It is well known [2, 3, 5, 9, 16, 18] that  $\{F^*, H, \chi\}$  is decoupled on  $\chi$ . In other words, the control law  $u = [D^*(x)]^{-1}(\hat{U} - A^*(x))$  is a "global" decoupling control law. In [2, 8, 9] and here, it is shown to be also a "local" decomposing control law. Note, however, that it is not necessarily a global decomposing control law.

### 3. Standard Decomposed System (SDS)

We begin this section by defining SDS which has a more detailed structure for  $\{\bar{f}, \bar{h}, \bar{\chi}\}$  than the one in (1.6) and (2.12).

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\bar{\chi}$  be an open connected subset of  $R^n$ . A system  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  is a standard decomposed system (SDS) if its coordinate representation  $\{\bar{f}, \bar{h}, \bar{\chi}\}$  has the following properties:

- (1) There exist nonnegative integers  $\bar{d}_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ , and  $\bar{p}_i, i \in M_{1,m+1}$ , satisfying  $n = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \bar{p}_i, \bar{p}_{m+1} \geq 0$ , and  $\bar{p}_i \geq \bar{d}_i + 1, i \in M_{1,m}$  so that  $\{\bar{f}, \bar{h}, \bar{\chi}\}$  has a form:

$$(3.1) \quad \dot{\bar{x}}_i = \bar{f}_i(\bar{x}_i, \bar{u}_i) \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \bar{A}_i \bar{x}_i \\ \bar{\theta}_i(\bar{x}_i) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \bar{B}_i \\ \bar{\gamma}_i(\bar{x}_i) \end{bmatrix} \bar{u}_i,$$

$$\bar{y}_i = \bar{h}_i(\bar{x}_i) \triangleq \bar{C}_i \bar{x}_i, \quad i \in M_{1,m},$$

$$(3.2) \quad \dot{\bar{x}}_{m+1} = \bar{F}_{m+1}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \bar{b}_i(\bar{x}) \bar{u}_i,$$

where:  $\bar{x}_i(t) \in R^{p_i}, i \in M_{1,m+1}; \bar{x} \triangleq (\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_{m+1}) \in R^n; \bar{A}_i, \bar{B}_i, \bar{C}_i$  are respectively  $(\bar{d}_i + 1) \times \bar{p}_i, (\bar{d}_i + 1) \times 1, 1 \times \bar{p}_i$  matrices such that

$$\bar{A}_i \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & I_{d_i} \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{B}_i \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{C}_i \triangleq [1, 0, \dots, 0];$$

- (2) Let  $\bar{\chi} \triangleq \{\bar{x}_i : \bar{x}_i \in \bar{\chi}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_{m+1} \in \bar{\chi}\}$ . Each subsystems  $\{\bar{f}_i, \bar{h}_i, \bar{\chi}_i\}, i \in M_{1,m}$ , in (3.6) satisfies the controllability rank condition on  $\bar{\chi}_i$ ,

$$(3) \dim. \Delta_i^{\perp}(\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}) = \bar{p}_i \text{ on } \bar{\chi}, \quad i \in M_{1,m}. \quad \square$$

**Remark 3.1.** The SDS in Definition 3.1 is a nonlinear version of the system introduced by Gilbert [4]. When  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  is a linear system, it can be shown that property (3) is equivalent to condition (iv) in Definition 6 of [4]. It is worth noting that properties (2), (3) together imply the SDS  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  satisfies (A.1).  $\square$

Now, we are ready to state the following result.

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose that a system  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.1), (A.3), and (2.5). Further, assume that  $\{F^*, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.2). Then, at each  $x_0 \in \chi$ , there exist: (a) an open neighborhood  $E$  of  $x_0$ ; (b) an open connected subset  $\bar{\chi}$  of  $R^n$ ; (c) a  $C^\infty$ -diffeomorphism  $T: E \rightarrow \bar{\chi}$ ; and (d) a system  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$ , which is  $T$ -related on  $E$  to  $\{F^*, H, E\}$  and is a SDS with  $\bar{d}_i = d_i, \bar{p}_i = p_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ , and  $\bar{p}_{m+1} = p_{m+1} \triangleq n - \sum_{i=1}^m p_i$ , where the  $p_i$  and  $d_i$  appear in (A.2) and (A.3).  $\square$

For the proof of Theorem 3.1, we need the following Lemmas.

**Lemma 3.1.** Suppose that  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  is  $J$ -feedback related on  $\chi$  to  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  by  $J = \{\alpha, \beta, T\}$ . Then, if  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.1) on  $\chi$ ,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  satisfies (A.1) on  $T(\chi)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** Suppose that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.1) and (A.2). Then, at each point  $x_0 \in \chi$ , there exist  $(\sum_{i=1}^m p_i) C^\infty$ -functions  $\xi_{i,j}, j \in M_{1,p_i},$

$i \in M_{1,m}$  from an open neighborhood  $u$  of  $x_0$  into  $R$  such that

- (i)  $d\xi_{i,j}, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m}$  are linearly independent on  $u$ ,
- (ii)  $d\xi_{i,j} \in \Delta_i^{\perp}(\{F, H, \chi\})$  on  $u, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.1 seems to be well known. The proof of Lemma 3.2 is omitted because of limited space. It can be found in [6].

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** Let  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\} \triangleq \{F^*, H, \chi\}$ . By given hypotheses and Lemma 3.1,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  satisfies (A.1). Fix  $x_0 \in \chi$ . Then, by Lemma 3.2, there exist an open neighborhood  $u$  of  $x_0$  and

$(\sum_{i=1}^m p_i) C^\infty$ -functions  $\phi_{i,j}: u \rightarrow R, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,p_i}$ , such that on  $u$ ,

$$(3.3) \quad d\phi_{i,j}, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m} \text{ are linearly independent,}$$

$$(3.4) \quad d\phi_{i,j} \in \Delta_i^{\perp}(\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}), j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

As was shown in the proof of Theorem 2.3,  $\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}$  is decomposed at  $x_0$ . therefore by (i) of Theorem 2.1, there exists an open neighborhood  $\hat{u} \subset u$  of  $x_0$  such that

$$(3.5) \quad dH_i \in \Delta_i^{\perp}(\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}) \text{ on } \hat{u}, \quad i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Since  $\Delta_i^{\perp}$  is  $\hat{x}_0$ -invariant on  $\chi$ , this implies

$$(3.6) \quad d\hat{x}_0^k H_i \in \Delta_i^{\perp}(\{\hat{F}, \hat{H}, \hat{\chi}\}) \text{ on } \hat{u}, \quad k \in M_{0,d_i}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

This, (3.6), and Lemma 2.2 show

$$(3.7) \quad p_i \geq d_i + 1, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Next, we show that there exists an open neighborhood  $W \subset \hat{U}$  of  $x_0$  and a basis of  $\Delta_1^+ (\{\bar{F}, H, \chi\})$  on  $W$  which contains  $d\hat{x}_0^k H_i$ ,  $k \in M_{0,d_i}$ . By (3.3), (3.4), and (3.6), for each  $i \in M_{1,m}$ , there exist an open neighborhood  $V_i \subset \hat{U}$  of  $x_0$  and  $C^\infty$ -functions  $\psi_{i,j}$  from an appropriate subset of  $R^{p_i}$  into  $R$ ,  $j \in M_{1,(d_i+1)}$  such that

$$(3.8) \quad T_{i,j}(x) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \hat{x}_0^{(i-1)} H_i(x) = \psi_{i,j}(\phi_{i,1}(x), \dots, \phi_{i,p_i}(x)), x \in V_i, j \in M_{1,(d_i+1)}.$$

By Lemma 2.1-(iii), Lemma 2.2, and (3.3),  $D\psi_{i,j}(\phi_{i,1}(x_0), \dots, \phi_{i,p_i}(x_0))$ ,  $j \in M_{1,(d_i+1)}$  are linearly independent  $(1 \times p_i)$  row vectors. Now, for each  $i \in M_{1,m}$ , let  $r_i = p_i - d_i - 1$  and choose  $r_i$   $(1 \times p_i)$  row vectors  $\eta_{i,j}$  such that  $D\psi_{i,j}(\phi_{i,1}(x_0), \dots, \phi_{i,p_i}(x_0))$ ,  $j \in M_{1,(d_i+1)}$  and  $\eta_{i,j}$ ,  $j \in M_{1,r_i}$  are

linearly independent. Let

$$(3.9) \quad E_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\phi_{i,1}, \dots, \phi_{i,p_i}), T_{i,(d_i+i+j)} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \eta_{i,j} E_i, j \in M_{1,r_i}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Then, by the construction of  $T_{i,j}$ ,  $j \in M_{1,p_i}$ ,  $i \in M_{1,m}$ ,

$$(3.10) \quad dT_{i,j}(x_0), j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m} \text{ are linearly independent,}$$

$$(3.11) \quad dT_{i,j}(x_0) \in \Delta_1^+ (\{\bar{F}, H, \chi\}) \text{ on } V_i, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Let  $V \stackrel{\Delta}{=} V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$  and  $p_{m+1} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} n - \sum_{i=1}^m p_i$ . If  $p_{m+1} \geq 1$ , choose a  $C^\infty$ -mapping  $T_{m+1}$  from  $V$  into  $R^{p_{m+1}}$  such that  $T$  has rank  $n$  at  $x_0$ , where

$$(3.12) \quad T \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (T_1, \dots, T_m, T_{m+1}), T_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (T_{i,1}, \dots, T_{i,p_i}), i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Then, by the local inverse function theorem, there exists an open neighborhood  $W \subset V$  of  $x_0$  such that

$$(3.13) \quad T \text{ is a } C^\infty\text{-diffeomorphism on } W,$$

$$(3.14) \quad \{dT_{i,j}(p), j \in M_{1,p_i}\} \text{ is a basis of}$$

Now, using (3.13) and (3.14), we show property (1) of Definition (3.1). Since  $\Delta_1$  is  $X_0$ -invariant and  $X_1$ -subvaruabt  $i b m (3,14)$

$$(3.15) \quad d\hat{x}_0 T_{i,j}, d\hat{x}_1 T_{i,j} \in \Delta_1^+ (\{\bar{F}, H, \chi\}) \text{ on } W, j \in M_{1,p_i}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

Then, (3.14) and (3.15) imply that there exist an open connected neighborhood  $E \subset W$  of  $x_0$  and  $C^\infty$ -functions  $\bar{\theta}_{i,j}, \bar{\gamma}_{i,j}$  from appropriate subsets of  $R^{p_i}$  into  $R$ ,  $j \in M_{1,r_i}, i \in M_{1,m}$  such that

$$(3.16) \quad \hat{X}_0 T_{i,(d_i+1+j)}(x) = \bar{\theta}_{i,j}(T_i(x)), \hat{X}_1 T_{i,(d_i+1+j)}(x) = \bar{\gamma}_{i,j}(T_i(x)), x \in E$$

On the other hand, by (3.13), there exist  $C^\infty$ -functions  $\bar{f}_{m+1,j}, \bar{b}_{i,j}, i \in M_{1,m}, j \in M_{1,p_{m+1}}$  defined on appropriate subsets of  $R^{p_{m+1}}$  such that

$$(3.17) \quad \hat{X}_0 T_{m+1,j}(x) = \bar{f}_{m+1,j}(T(x)), \hat{X}_1 T_{m+1}(x) = \bar{b}_{i,j}(T(x)), x \in E.$$

Let  $\bar{\chi} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} T(E)$ . Let  $\bar{x} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (x_1, \dots, x_m, x_{m+1}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (T_1(x), \dots, T_{m+1}(x))$ . Let  $\bar{\theta}_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\bar{\theta}_{i,1}, \dots, \bar{\theta}_{i,r_i}), \bar{\gamma}_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\bar{\gamma}_{i,1}, \dots, \bar{\gamma}_{i,r_i}), i \in M_{1,m}$ . Let  $\bar{f}_{m+1} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\bar{f}_{m+1,1}, \dots, \bar{f}_{m+1,p_{m+1}}), \bar{b}_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\bar{b}_{i,1}, \dots, \bar{b}_{i,p_{m+1}}), i \in M_{1,m}$ . Define vector fields  $\bar{X}_i, i \in M_{0,m}$  by

$$(3.18) \quad \bar{X}_0(\bar{x}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \sum_{j=1}^{d_i} \bar{x}_i^{(j)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{i,j}} + \sum_{j=d_i+2}^{p_i} \bar{\theta}_{i,(j-d_i-1)}(\bar{x}_i) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{i,j}} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^{p_{m+1}} \bar{f}_{m+1,j}(\bar{x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{m+1,j}}.$$

$$(3.19) \quad \bar{X}_i(\bar{x}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_i}(\bar{x}), i \in M_{1,m} + \sum_{j=d_i+2}^{p_i} \bar{\gamma}_{i,(j-d_i-1)}(\bar{x}_i) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{i,j}} + \sum_{j=1}^{p_{m+1}} \bar{b}_{i,j}(\bar{x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{m+1,j}}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

$$(3.20) \quad \bar{H}_i(\bar{x}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \bar{x}_{i,1}, i \in M_{1,m}.$$

where  $x_{i,j}$  is the  $j$ th component of  $\bar{x}_i$ . Let  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  be the system constructed as above. By (2.10), (2.11) and (3.16)-(3.20), the coordinate representation  $\{\bar{f}, \bar{h}, \bar{\chi}\}$  of  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  has the form indicated in (1) of Definition 3.1, where  $\bar{d}_i = d_i, i \in M_{1,m}$  and  $\bar{p}_i = p_i, i \in M_{1,m+1}$ .

Let  $\bar{Y}_i$  be a  $C^\infty$ -vector field in  $\Delta_1(\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\})$ . Then, using (3.18) and (3.19), we can show that if  $\bar{Y}_i \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} \bar{\gamma}_{i,j} \bar{Y}_{i,j}(\cdot) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{x}_{i,j}}$  is a local representation of  $\bar{Y}_i$  on  $\bar{\chi}$ ,

$$(3.21) \quad \bar{Y}_{i,k}(\bar{x}) = 0, \bar{x} \in \bar{\chi}, k \in M_{1,p_i}$$

By Lemma 3.1,  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  must satisfy (A.1). Thus, (3.26) implies property (2) of Definition 3.1. Property (3) follows from the fact that by (3.13),  $(\Delta_1)_p(\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{E}\})$  and  $(\Delta_1)_i T(p)(\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\})$  are isomorphic at each  $p \in E$ .  $\square$

Next, we state a converse result.

**Theorem 3.2.** Suppose that at each  $x_0 \in X$ , there exist: (a) an open neighborhood  $E$  of  $x_0$ ; (b) an open connected subset  $\bar{X}$  of  $R^n$ ; and (c) a SDS  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  which is  $J$ -feedback related on  $E$  to

$\{F, H, E\}$  by  $J = \{T, \alpha, \beta\}$ . Then, the following properties hold :

- (i)  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (2.5), (A.1), and (A.3)  $d_i = \bar{d}_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ ,
- (ii)  $\{F^*, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.2) with  $p_i = \bar{p}_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ ,
- (iii)  $\alpha(x) = -[D^*(x)]^{-1} A^*(x)$  and  $\beta(x) = [D^*(x)]^{-1}$ .

Proof. By Remark 3.1,  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  satisfies (A.1). By Lemma 3.1, this implies that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.1). Direct computation shows that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (A.3) with  $d_i = \bar{d}_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ ,  $\bar{D}^*(x) = I_m$ , and  $\bar{A}^*(x) = 0$ . By this, Lemma 2.1, and the nonsingularity assumption of control laws, we see that  $\{F, H, \chi\}$  satisfies (2.5), (A.3) with  $d_i = \bar{d}_i, i \in M_{1,m}$ , and, furthermore (iii). Since  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  is J-feedback related on E to  $\{F, H, E\}$  by  $J = \{T, \alpha, \beta\}$ , (iii) implies that  $\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\}$  is T-related on E to  $\{F^*, H, \chi\}$ . Consequently,  $(\Delta_1^q)(\{F^*, H, \chi\})$  and  $(\Delta_1^q)_T(q)(\{\bar{F}, \bar{H}, \bar{\chi}\})$  are isomorphic at each  $q \in E$ . This implies (ii).  $\square$

## 5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have characterized a class of nonlinear systems which can be transformed into a SDS by the J-feedback relation. The two concepts, decoupling and decomposition are not globally equivalent for nonlinear systems. Some conditions under which the two concepts are at least locally equivalent are found.

The results in this paper can be extended to more general class of nonlinear systems : (i) systems in which  $F(x, u)$  is not affine in  $u$  and/or (ii) systems in which the  $y_i(t)$  are vectors instead of scalars. Decoupling conditions for the above

more general cases, obtained by Flies [3] and Nijmeijer [15], are useful for the extension because under their assumptions, the two concepts of decoupling and decomposition are locally equivalent.

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