# Optimal Flower Pollination Based Nonlinear PID Controller for Pantograph Robot Mechanism

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Abstract—Pantograph Robot Mechanism is considered a type of parallel manipulator which has been developed largely for industrial applications that need high accuracy and speed. Whereas, it needs a high-performance controller to track preselected trajectory planning. It is also able to carry higher weights than the open-chain mechanism with suitable accuracy and stability; this is because it consists of four active links and one passive link, instead of two links as in the open chain. This study presents a mathematical model for a closed chain pantograph mechanism, where the boundary conditions are taken into account. A complete MATLAB Simulink has been developed to simulate the dynamics of the pantograph robot mechanism. To validate the proposed mathematical model of the pantograph, the corresponding Simscape model had been developed. Also, two different tracking controllers were designed. The first control is the PID controller which had optimized by Flower Pollination (FP) optimization. The second control is an enhanced Nonlinear PID (NLPID) controller where its parameters were obtained by Flower Pollination (FP) optimization based on the effective objective function. A rectangular trajectory was selected to be a position reference of the end effector of the pantograph robot. This task was done using the proposed controllers to investigate the performance. The results show that the NLPID controller-based FP has a better performance compared to the PID controller. The end effector has a less rise time and settling time with high accuracy in the case of the NLPID controller.

*Index Terms*—flower pollination, pantograph robot, Nonlinear PID (PID), manipulator dynamics

## I. INTRODUCTION

Parallel robots have become a necessary part of the robots used in academia and industry [1]. Besides, with the rapid development of parallel robots, the research on mechanism theory, mobility analysis, dimensional synthesis, kinematics and dynamics modeling, and design optimization has been increasing on a large scale [2]. The development of parallel robotics and controllable

mechanism has become widely used as a mechanical design, as shown in Fig. 1 [3].



Figure 1. Five bar planar (Pantograph).

The name pantograph refers to the five-sided links used. Four of the five links are moving platforms and the fifth one is the base platform [4]. The five-bar planar manipulator is a relatively simple mechanism that has twodegree-of-freedom (DOF) and its kinematics is explicit [5]. However, its characteristics are high speed, high accuracy, low inertia, and carrying more weights [6].

For these reasons, it draws a lot of researchers' attention. Some prototypes and commercial products were made, such as the 'double SCARA' RP-AH series offered by Mitsubishi Electrics, and DexTAR, a five-bar planar manipulator designed by ETS. The five-links planar of the pantograph, which is a simple two degree of freedom (DOF) mechanism (Fig. 2), one of them (L0) is passive and the other four links (L1, L2, L3, L4) are active.

The system contains only five revolute joints (Fig. 2). Links 1 and 4 are the driving links. With the help of the appropriate rotation of the actuating links, the characteristic point e of the system can follow the desired planar trajectory in the region of the working zone [7]. Especially, the need for exactly adaptive automation in

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varied applications has led to higher requirements for operational accuracy and cycle time with robots [8]. Examples of such needs are higher precision assembly, faster product handling, surface finishing, better measurements, surface finishing, and milling capabilities [9]. Additionally, there is a high demand for off-line programming to eliminate touch-up of programmed positions; in other words, robots must perform their task with better load capacity and accuracy in operations. A general trend of meeting these requirements is to make use of parallel robots, which have excellent potential capabilities, including high rigidity, high accuracy, and high loading capacities [10].

### (e) end effector



Figure 2. Two-DOF mechanism.

The PID controller is linear and commonly used in engineering applications because of its simple scheme and satisfying performance. Its gains are adjusted to assure both stability and performance. For such purpose, several design techniques were suggested in particular, intelligent techniques (Genetic Algorithm (GA), Evolutionary Programming (EP), and Simulated Annealing (SA), etc..) and animal mimics (Bacterial Foraging Algorithm (BFA), Bee's Algorithm (BA), Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), etc...) were studied [4]-[6]. Another category of PID controllers is the Nonlinear PID (NLPID) that can be improved the dynamic response of the conventional PID controller [11]. The NLPID controller has the advantage of adaptive, self-learning, online adjustment, and relatively lower requirements for stability and precision of controlled objects. Moreover, the structure of the NLPID controller is simple and reliable [12].

An efficient covid-19 optimization algorithm to find the optimal values of the PD/PID cascaded controller was presented in [13]. A practical design and control for a delta robot based on a low-cost microcontroller were illustrated in [14]. A collocation method based on sinc function and Bernoulli wavelet is proposed to find numerical solution of pantograph Volterra fuzzy integro-differential equation was demonstrated in [15].

This paper presents the design steps for an enhanced optimal NLPID based on a flower pollination optimization algorithm. In the first step, the initial values of NLPID control parameters can be estimated by try and error and this takes a long time for the simulation. In the second step, the tuning optimization techniques used usually rely on the computation of an objective function representing the desired performance while satisfying the system constraints [16]. So, the Flower Pollination (FP) based on an effective objective function will be used to find the optimal values of controller parameters [17].

## II. PANTOGRAPH MECHANISM MODEL

## A. Direct Kinematics

The constrain of the five-link mechanisms as shown in Fig. 3 is given by

$$L_1\bar{a}_1 + L_2\bar{b}_1 - L_3\bar{c}_1 - L_4\bar{d}_1 - L_5\bar{n}_1 = 0$$
(1)

where  $L_i$  for i=1,....,5 is the length of links,  $(\bar{a}_1, \bar{b}_1, \bar{c}_1, \bar{d}_1, \bar{n}_1)$  are unit vectors [7]. The relation between the task space  $(X=(x_e y_e)^T)$  and joint space  $(\theta=(\theta_1 \ \theta_2 \ \theta_3 \ \theta_4)^T)$  of the five-link mechanism system can be calculated, where x and y are the Cartesian coordinates of Joint e with respect to the plane  $(n_1, n_2)$ [16], as shown in Fig. 3.



Figure 3. Direct kinematics mechanism.

The equations of x and y using  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_4$  are defined as follows [17]:

$$x_{e} = L_{1} \cos \theta_{1} + L_{2} \cos \theta_{2} = L_{3} \cos \theta_{3} + L_{4} \cos \theta_{4} + L_{5} \quad (2)$$

$$y_e = L_1 \sin \theta_1 + L_2 \sin \theta_2 = L_3 \sin \theta_3 + L_4 \sin \theta_4 (3)$$

Equations (2) and (3) can simulate the forward kinematics of the five-link mechanism. From equations (1, 2, and 3)  $\theta_2$  can be expressed in terms of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_4$  by the holonomic constraints. Where  $\theta_2$  is dependent angle and has to be described using the active angle of the device ( $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_4$ ).

Newton-Raphson method or Trigonometry method can be used to find  $\theta_3$  and  $\theta_2$ . In this work, the trigonometry method was used as follows:

$$\theta_3 = 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{A \pm \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 - C^2}}{B - C} \right) \tag{4}$$

where,

$$A = 2 L_3 L_4 \sin \theta_4 - 2 L_1 L_3 \cos \theta_1$$

$$B = 2L_3L_5 - 2L_1L_3\cos\theta_1 + 2L_4L_3\cos\theta_4$$

$$C = L_1^2 - L_2^2 + L_3^2 + L_4^2 + L_5^2 - L_1 L_4 \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_4$$
$$-2L_1 L_5 \cos \theta_1 - 2L_4 L_5 \cos \theta_4 \cos \theta_1$$

And,

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{L_3 \sin \theta_3 + L_4 \sin \theta_4 - L_1 \sin \theta_1}{L_2} \right)$$
(5)

# B. Inverse Kinematics

The direct relation between the coordinates of the endeffector and link lengths to the actuating  $angles\theta_1$  and  $\theta_4$  is in the following equations [18]:

$$\theta_1 = 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-E \pm \sqrt{D^2 + E^2 - F^2}}{-D - F} \right)$$
(6)

Where,

$$F = \frac{\frac{L_{1}^{2} - L_{2}^{2} + x_{e}^{2} + y_{e}^{2}}{2L_{1}}}{2L_{1}}$$

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And

$$\theta_4 = 2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-H \pm \sqrt{G^2 + H^2 - I^2}}{-G - I} \right)$$
(7)

Where,

$$G = x_{e} - L_{5}$$

$$H = y_{e}$$

$$I = \frac{L_{4}^{2} + L_{5}^{2} - L_{3}^{2} - 2x_{c}L_{5} + x_{e}^{2} + y_{e}^{2}}{2L_{4}}$$

The link lengths are constant for the robot, which helps to easily solve the above equations. From equations (12) and (17) it can be obtained  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_4$  without known  $\theta_2$  and  $\theta_3$  [17]. The only inputs needed for controlling the five-link mechanism are the location of the end-effector ( $x_e$  and  $y_e$ ).

# C. Boundary Conditions

It is an important part which is the permissible boundary for a mechanism so that the link does not reach the singularity state during the path [19]. For this to be achieved  $Q_5$  must not be equal to 180 degrees but rather greater.

So, 
$$Q_5 < 180$$
 shown in Fig. 4

$$Q_{5} = 540 \cdot (180 + \theta_{1}) \cdot (180 - \theta_{4} + \theta_{3}) \\ - (180 + \theta_{1} - \theta_{2}) \cdot (\theta_{4})$$
(8)

So the first boundary is:

$$Q_5 = (\theta_2 - \theta_3) < 180 \tag{9}$$

Second one: In order for the mechanism not to reach the position shown in Fig. 4,  $\theta_2$  must be greater than  $\theta_1$ . Third one:  $\theta_4$  must be greater than  $\theta_3$ .

$$(\theta_2 > \theta_1)$$
 (10)

$$(\theta_4 > \theta_3)$$
 (11)

The three rules (9), (10), and (11), can be implemented using the logic gate (AND).



Figure 4. Direct kinematics mechanism.

# D. Equation of Motion

Lagrangian equation:

$$T = Torque = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\theta}_{i}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta_{i}}$$
[18] (12)

By using Lagrangian equation obtain by torque, T1 and T2, Where (A, B, C, D, E, F) are constants.

$$T_{1} = (A_{1}\ddot{\theta}_{1} + B_{1}\ddot{\theta}_{4} + C_{1}\dot{\theta}_{1} + D_{1}\dot{\theta}_{4}) - (E_{1}\dot{\theta}_{1}^{2} + F_{1}\dot{\theta}_{4}^{2} + G_{1}\dot{\theta}_{1}\dot{\theta}_{4})$$
(13)

$$T_{2} = (A_{2}\ddot{\theta}_{1} + B_{2}\ddot{\theta}_{4} + C_{2}\dot{\theta}_{1} + D_{2}\dot{\theta}_{4}) - (E_{2}\dot{\theta}_{1}^{2} + F_{2}\dot{\theta}_{4}^{2} + G_{2}\dot{\theta}_{1}\dot{\theta}_{4})$$
(14)

where,

$$A_{1} = 2 (W_{1} + W_{4}) + 2 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{1}^{2} + 2 W_{6} Z_{1} Z_{5} + 2 Z_{3}^{2} (W_{7} + W_{9}) B_{1} = 2 Z_{1} Z_{2} (W_{3} + W_{5}) + (W_{6} + Z_{2} + Z_{5}) + 2 Z_{3} Z_{4} (W_{7} + W_{9}) + (W_{10} + Z_{3} + Z_{6} + Z_{3} + Z_{6}) C_{1} = 4 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{1}}{dt} + 2 W_{6} Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{5}}{dt} + 2 W_{6} Z_{5} \frac{dZ_{1}}{dt} + 4 (W_{7} + W_{9}) Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{3}}{dt}$$

$$\begin{split} D_{1} &= 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{2}}{dt} + 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{1}}{dt} \\ &+ W_{6} Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{5}}{dt} + W_{6} Z_{5} \frac{dZ_{2}}{dt} \\ &+ 2 \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{4}}{dt} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{dt} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} E_{1} &= 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{1}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ 2 \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{6} Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{5}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{6} Z_{5} \frac{dZ_{1}}{d\theta_{1}} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} F_{1} &= 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{2}}{d\theta_{1}} + 2 \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{4}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{4}}{d\theta_{1}} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} G_{1} &= 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{2}}{d\theta_{1}} + 2 \left( W_{3} + W_{5} \right) Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{1}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{6} Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{5}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{6} Z_{5} \frac{dZ_{2}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ 2 \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{4}}{d\theta_{1}} + 2 \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{4}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{3}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ W_{10} Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} + W_{10} Z_{7} Z_{6} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{6}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7}}{d\theta_{1}} \\ &+ Z \left( W_{7} + W_{9} \right) Z_{7} \frac{dZ_{7$$

$$B_{2} = 2 (W_{2} + W_{8}) + 2 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{2}^{2} + 2 (W_{7} + W_{9}) Z_{4}^{2} + (W_{10} + Z_{4} + Z_{6})$$

$$C_{2} = 2 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{1} \frac{dZ_{2}}{dt} + 2 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{1}}{dt} + W_{6} Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{5}}{dt} + W_{6} Z_{5} \frac{dZ_{2}}{dt} + 2 (W_{7} + W_{9}) Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{4}}{dt} + 2 (W_{7} + W_{9}) Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{3}}{dt} + W_{10} Z_{3} \frac{dZ_{6}}{dt} + W_{10} Z_{10} \frac{dZ_{3}}{dt} D_{2} = 4 (W_{3} + W_{5}) Z_{2} \frac{dZ_{2}}{dt} + 4 (W_{7} + W_{9}) Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{4}}{dt} + 2W_{10} Z_{4} \frac{dZ_{6}}{dt} + 2 W_{10} Z_{6} \frac{dZ_{4}}{dt}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{E}_{2} &= 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{3} + \mathrm{W}_{5} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{1} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{1}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + \mathrm{W}_{6} \mathrm{Z}_{1} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{5}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + \mathrm{W}_{6} \mathrm{Z}_{5} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{1}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{7} + \mathrm{W}_{9} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{3} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{3}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ \mathrm{F}_{2} &= 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{3} + \mathrm{W}_{5} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{2} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{2}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{7} + \mathrm{W}_{9} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{4} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{4}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ \mathrm{W}_{10} \mathrm{Z}_{4} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{6}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + \mathrm{W}_{10} \mathrm{Z}_{6} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{4}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ \mathrm{G}_{2} &= 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{3} + \mathrm{W}_{5} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{1} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{2}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{3} + \mathrm{W}_{5} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{2} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{1}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ \mathrm{W}_{6} \mathrm{Z}_{2} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{5}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} + \mathrm{W}_{6} \mathrm{Z}_{5} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{5}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{7} + \mathrm{W}_{9} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{3} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{4}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{7} + \mathrm{W}_{9} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{4} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{3}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ 2 \left( \mathrm{W}_{7} + \mathrm{W}_{9} \right) \mathrm{Z}_{4} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{3}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \\ &+ \mathrm{W}_{10} \mathrm{Z}_{3} \frac{\mathrm{dZ}_{6}}{\mathrm{d}\theta_{4}} \end{split}$$

An explanation of the details of the variables mentioned in the previous equations is attached in the Appendix.

# III. OPTIMAL NONLINEAR PID CONTROL

# A. PID Control

It is well known that the transfer function of the linear PID controller is  $K(s) = K_P + K_i/s + K_d s$ . Where  $K_p$ ,  $K_i$  and  $K_d$  are fixed gains. These gains can be defined as follows:  $K_p$  is the proportional gain which attempts to reduce the error responses,  $K_i$  is the integral gain and its role is to dampen the steady-state error, and  $K_d$  is the differential gain which decreases the overshoot of the system. Also, it ensures system stability [18], [19].

Despite linear fixed parameters PID controllers are often suitable for controlling a simple physical process, the demands for high-performance control with different operating point conditions or environmental parameters are often beyond the abilities of simple PID controllers [12], [20]. The performance of linear PID controllers can be enhanced using several techniques which will be developed to deal with sudden disturbances and complex systems, for example, the PID self-tuning methods, neural networks, fuzzy logic strategies, and other methods [21], [22].

Among these techniques, nonlinear PID (NLPID) control is presented as one of the most appropriate and effective methods for industrial applications. The nonlinear PID (NLPID) control is carried out in two broad categories of applications. The first category is particular to nonlinear systems, where NLPID control is used to absorb the nonlinearity. The second category deals with linear systems, where NLPID control is used to obtain enhanced performance not realizable by a linear PID control, such as reduced over-shoot, diminished rise time for the step or rapid command input, obtained better-

tracking accuracy and used to compensate the nonlinearity and disturbances in the system [23]. The NLPID controllers have the advantage of high initial gain to achieve a fast dynamic response, followed by a low gain to avoid unstable behavior. In this study, the traditional linear PID controller can be enhanced by combining a sector-bounded nonlinear gain into linear fixed gain PID control architecture.

## B. Nonlinear PID Control

The proposed enhanced nonlinear PID (NLPID) controller consists of two parts. The first part is a sec-tor bounded nonlinear gain  $K_n(e)$  while the second part is a linear fixed-gain PID controller ( $K_p$ ,  $K_i$  and  $K_d$ ). The nonlinear gain  $K_n(e)$  is a sector-bounded function of the errore(t). The previous research has been considered the nonlinear gain  $K_n(e)$  as a one scalar value.



Figure 5. The enhanced nonlinear PID controller structure.

The new in this research, the one scalar value of  $K_n(e)$  will be replaced with a row vector that can be expressed as  $K_n(e) = [K_{n1}(e) \ K_{n2}(e) \ K_{n3}(e)]$  as shown in Fig. 5 which will lead to improving the performance of nonlinear PID controller where the values of nonlinear gains will be adjusted according to the error and the type of fixed parameters ( $K_p$ ,  $K_i$  and  $K_d$ ).

The proposed form of NLPID control can be described as follows.

$$u(t) = K_{p}[K_{n1}(e). e(t)] + K_{i} \int_{0}^{t} [K_{n2}(e). e(t)] dt + K_{d} \left[ K_{n3}(e). \frac{de(t)}{dt} \right]$$
(15)

where  $K_{n1}(e)$ ,  $K_{n2}(e)$  and  $K_{n3}(e)$  are nonlinear gains. The nonlinear gains represent any general nonlinear function of the error which is bounded in the sector  $0 < K_n(e) < K_n(e)$ max.

There is a wide range of choices available for the nonlinear gain  $K_n(e)$ . One simple form of the nonlinear gain function can be described as.

$$K_{ni}(e) = ch(w_i e) = \frac{exp(w_i e) + exp(-w_i e)}{2}$$
 (16)

where i = 1, 2, 3.

$$e = \begin{cases} e & |e| \le e_{max} \\ e_{max} \operatorname{sgn}(e) & |e| > e_{max} \end{cases}$$
(17)

The nonlinear gain  $K_n(e)$  is lower bounded by  $K_n(e) \min = 1$  when e = 0, and upper-bounded by  $K_n(e)\max = ch(w_i e_{max})$ . Therefore,  $e_{max}$  stand for the range of deviation, and  $w_i$  describes the rate of variation of  $K_n(e)$ .

The critical point in the PID and NLPID controllers is selecting the proper parameters to be appropriate for the controlled plant.

There are different approaches to finding the parameters of PID controller, for instance, try and error and Ziegler-Nichols method but, most of these approaches are rough roads. In this paper, the flower pollination optimization technique will be used to obtain the optimal values of both PID and NLPID controllers.

### C. The Flower Pollination (FP)

In nature, the objective of flower pollination (FP) is the survival of the fittest and optimal reproduction of flowering plants. Pollination in flowering plants can take two major forms, i.e. biotic and abiotic [11]. About 90% of flowering plants belong to biotic pollination. Pollen is transferred by pollinators such as bees, birds, insects, and animals about 10% remaining of pollination take abiotic such as wind and diffusion in water. Pollination can be achieved by self-pollination or cross-pollination. Self-pollination is the fertilization of one flower from the pollen of the same flower (Autogamy) or different flowers of the same plant (Geitonogamy).

They occur when the flower contains both male and female gametes. Self-pollination usually occurs at a short distance without pollinators. It is regarded as local pollination. Cross-pollination, Allogamy, occurs when pollen grains are moved to a flower from another plant.

The process happens with the help of biotic or abiotic agents as pollinators. Biotic, cross-pollination may occur at a long distance with biotic pollinators. It is regarded as global pollination. Bees and birds as biotic pollinators behave L évy flight behavior [24] with jump or fly distance steps obeying a L évy distribution. The FPA algorithm was proposed by Yang [25].

The FP optimization has been used to determine the optimal values for the six parameters that are important in the design of the NLPID control, these parameters are  $K_p$ ,  $K_i$ ,  $K_d$ ,  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$  and  $w_3$ . The used objective function for this purpose is as follows equation (18).

$$f = \frac{1}{(1 - e^{-\beta})(M_p + e_{ss}) + e^{-\beta}(t_s - t_r)}$$
(18)

The actual closed-loop specification of the system with controller, rise time  $(t_r)$ , maximum overshoot  $(M_p)$ , settling time  $(t_s)$ , and steady-state error  $(e_{ss})$ .

This objective function can fulfill the designer's requirement using the weighting factor value ( $\beta$ ). The factor is set larger than 0.7 to reduce overshoot and steady-state error. If this factor is set smaller than 0.7 the rise time and settling time will be reduced [26].

Comparison between Nonlinear PID Controller and PID Controller by using flower pollination algorithm to optimize the performance of variables as shown in the Table below:

PID	NLPID
Kp = 20	Kp = 90
Ki = 3	Ki = 3.5
Kd = 5	Kd = 1.3
-	W1 = 0.19
-	W2 = 3
-	W3 = 1.14

TABLE I. PARAMETERS VALUE

## IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

The required path is a rectangle shown in Fig. 6 with the coordinates for the four corners as follows: home position (-0.1, 0.373), starter point (-0.05, 0.36), first corner (-0.05, 0.35), second corner (-0.14, 0.35), third corner (-0.14, 0.25), fourth corner (-0.05, 0.25).



Figure 6. Required trajectory.

The dynamic response of  $\theta 1$  for each control technique applied to the pantograph model was shown in Fig. 7. It can be noted the FP-based NLPID controller has a faster response compared to the FP-based PID controller. Also, the FP-based PID controllers suffer from high steady-state error. It can be noted that the FP-based NLPID controller performance dynamic response is better than the recent research [27].

Moreover, the FP-based NLPID controller has a very small overshoot while it has a relatively high undershoot.





Figure 7. The position response of  $\theta 1$  and  $\theta 4$  through the control techniques.

The corresponding velocity responses of  $\theta 1$  and  $\theta 4$  for control techniques were demonstrated in Fig. 8. It is obvious that the FP-based NLPID controller has a highvelocity response compared to the FP-based PID controller. Also, the velocity peak of the FP-based PID controller is very low in contrast to the FP-based NLPID controller.



Figure 8. The velocity of both modeling output: velocity of  $\theta 1$  and  $\theta 4$  both as m/s.

Fig. 9 illustrates the corresponding output torque of controllers. It is clear that the FP-based NLPID controller generates a high torque compared to the FP-based PID controller. Also, the torque peak of the FP-based PID controller is very small while the FP-based NLPID controller has high torque in a small period.





Figure 9. The controller output (torque) is shown for the first controller and the second one respectively.

Fig. 10 displays the trajectory planning of controllers. It is clear that the FP-based NLPID controller has high accuracy compared to the FP-based PID controller. Also, it can be noted that high deviation for both controllers through the transition from horizontal line to vertical line due to the sharp corner.



Figure 10. The controller output (torque) is shown for the first controller and the second one respectively.

The trajectory planning errors of each control technique was displayed in Fig. 11. It is obvious that the FP-based NLPID controller has low error compared to the FP-based PID controller. Also, the mean square error value of proposed control techniques has been demonstrated in Table I.





Figure 11. The entering error to the controller is shown for the first controller and the second one.

Table II demonstrates the performance of the pantograph by using the PID controller. It can be noted the error in the xdirection is 6.9% while the error in the y-direction is 0.15%. in contrast to the research [27], the trajectory with a maximum error of 17.2%. Then this model was tested using the PID control also, on a circuit-shaped trajectory with a maximum error of 11%

TABLE II. PID CONTROLLER COMPARED TO THE DESIRE

PID				
Reference Values		Real Values		
Х	Y	X	Y	
-0.08825	0.333675	-0.0825074	0.33417685	
The Di	ifference of X	The Differ	rence of Y	
0.0	05742582	0.0005	601853	
The Error of X (%)		The Error of Y (%)		
6.960080251		0.150175798		

Table III displays the performance of the pantograph by using the NLPID controller. It is clear that the error percentage will be decreased compared to the PID controller. It is clear that the system performance was improved using the proposed FP-based NLPID controller compared to the recent research [27].

TABLE III. NLPID CONTROLLER COMPARED TO THE DESIRE

NLPID				
Reference Values		Real Values		
Х	Y	Х	Y	
0.08825	0.333675	-0.089533	0.3367585	
The Difference of X		The Difference of Y		
-0.001283172		0.003083471		
The Error of X %		The Error of Y %		
1.43318043		0.9	15632853	

Table IV illustrates the performance of the pantograph by using NLPID controller compared to PID controller:

The Difference of Value between PID & NLPID for X	0.007025754
The Difference of Value between PID & NLPID for Y	0.002581618
The Difference of Errors between PID & NLPID % for X	8.39326068
The Difference of Errors between PID & NLPID % for Y	0.765457056

#### V. CONCLUSION

This paper presents a new mathematical model for a closed chain pantograph mechanism, where the boundary conditions are considered. An overall MATLAB Simulink has been implemented to describe the dynamic behavior of the pantograph robot mechanism. The proposed mathematical model for the pantograph and the corresponding model mechanism using the Simscape were validated to give the same results. Moreover, two control techniques were designed. The first control presents the PID controller which had adjusted by Flower Pollination (FP) optimization. The second control is Nonlinear PID (NLPID) controller where its parameters were determined by Flower Pollination (FP) optimization based on a certain objective function. A rectangle trajectory position reference is applied to the end effector of the pantograph robot. This purpose was done by the proposed controllers to ensure robustness and performance. The simulation results offer that the FP-Based NLPID controller-based FP gives more accuracy and better performance compared to the PID controller. The end effector has a less rise time and settling time with high accuracy and low vibration at the FP- Based NLPID controller.

#### APPENDIX

$W_1 = \frac{1}{6} m_A L_1^2$	$W_2 = \frac{1}{6} m_D L_4^2$
$W_3 = \frac{1}{24} m_B L_2^{2}$	$W_4 = \frac{1}{2} m_B L_1^2$
$W_5 = \frac{1}{8} m_B L_2^2$	$W_6 = \frac{1}{2} m_B L_1 L_2$

$$W_7 = \frac{1}{24} m_C L_3^2 \qquad \qquad W_8 = \frac{1}{2} m_C L_4^2$$

$$W_9 = \frac{1}{8} m_C L_3^2 \qquad \qquad W_{10} = \frac{1}{4} m_C L_3 L_4$$

. .

$$Z_{1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial} \frac{\theta_{2}}{\theta_{1}} \qquad \qquad Z_{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial} \frac{\theta_{2}}{\theta_{4}} \\ = \frac{L_{1} \sin(\theta_{3} - \theta_{1})}{L_{2} \sin(\theta_{2} - \theta_{3})} \qquad \qquad = \frac{L_{4} \sin(\theta_{4} - \theta_{3})}{L_{2} \sin(\theta_{2} - \theta_{3})}$$

$$Z_{3} = \frac{\partial \theta_{3}}{\partial \theta_{1}} \qquad \qquad Z_{4} = \frac{\partial \theta_{3}}{\partial \theta_{4}}$$
$$= \frac{L_{1} \sin(\theta_{2} - \theta_{1})}{L_{3} \sin(\theta_{2} - \theta_{3})} \qquad \qquad = \frac{L_{4} \sin(\theta_{4} - \theta_{2})}{L_{3} \sin(\theta_{2} - \theta_{3})}$$
$$Z_{5} = \cos(\theta_{1} - \theta_{2}) \qquad \qquad Z_{6} = \cos(\theta_{3} - \theta_{4})$$

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Layla M EL-Tehewy: Implementation the overall simulation and collect the results. Mohamed A. Shamseldin: Design and analysis the proposed control techniques. Mohamed Sallam: Build the system pantograph system model. A. M. Abdel Ghany: Analysis the results and manuscript revision.

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