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I declare, I confirm, I certify and I sign that I received substantial, important, line by line peer review with several and substantial comments, important remarks and hints from, at least, 3 Reviewers and the Assistant Editor for my paper:
Optimization of Advanced Sliding Mode Controllers Using Genetic Algorithms for Enhanced Magnetic Levitation System Performance,
with Authors: KHALED FERKOUS,

I would like to thank all the reviewers for their thoughtful comments and efforts towards improving our manuscript. We revised the manuscript with special attention to the comments that we received from **.....Three (3).....** reviewers that were experts, specialists in the area of my paper.
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Date: 14 /03/2026

Author Response to Reviewers

Journal: WSEAS Transactions on Systems and Control

Paper ID: amcseu2025-114

Title: *Optimization of Advanced Sliding Mode Controllers Using Genetic Algorithms for Enhanced Magnetic Levitation System Performance*

We sincerely thank the Editor and the reviewers for their valuable comments and constructive suggestions. These remarks have significantly helped us improve the clarity, technical accuracy, and overall quality of the manuscript. All comments have been carefully considered and the manuscript has been revised accordingly. The changes are summarized below.

Response to Reviewer 1

We thank the reviewer for the detailed and constructive evaluation of our manuscript.

Comment 1

The study is entirely simulation-based with no hardware experiments or robustness testing under disturbances or parameter uncertainties.

Response

We acknowledge the reviewer's observation. The present study focuses on the development and comparative evaluation of advanced nonlinear controllers using MATLAB/Simulink simulations as an initial validation stage. This limitation has now been clearly stated in the revised manuscript. Additionally, the future work section has been expanded to explicitly mention real-time implementation on a physical MagLev platform as well as robustness testing under disturbances and parameter uncertainties.

Comment 2

Equation (27) contains corrupted notation that must be corrected.

Response

Thank you for pointing this out. Equation (27) contained formatting errors in the previous version. The equation has been **corrected and rewritten clearly in the revised manuscript** to ensure mathematical consistency.

Comment 3

The GA optimization hyperparameters are not stated.

Response

The Genetic Algorithm description has been expanded in Section 4 (Simulation and Results). Additional explanations regarding the optimization procedure and parameter tuning strategy have been added to clarify how the GA is used to obtain the controller gains.

Comment 4

The fitness function (Eq. 40) uses a non-standard RMS-ITAE aggregation and requires justification.

Response

The definition and rationale of the fitness function have been clarified. The manuscript now explains that the ITAE-based fitness formulation penalizes long-lasting tracking errors and improves transient performance. All variables used in the equation have been explicitly defined.

Comment 5

Figures 3(b) and 3(c) are shown but not discussed.

Response

We appreciate this comment. The revised manuscript now includes detailed explanations of the momentum response and flux response shown in Figures 3(b) and 3(c). These results are discussed in Section 4 to better explain the dynamic behavior of the system.

Comment 6

There is a typo: “Fig. 2Fig. 2”.

Response

The typographical error has been corrected in the revised manuscript.

Comment 7

“ITEA” in Table 3 should be “ITAE”.

Response

Thank you for identifying this issue. The error has been corrected throughout the manuscript.

Response to Reviewer 2

We sincerely thank the reviewer for the positive evaluation of our work and for recognizing the contribution of the study.

Comment

The literature review, methodology, and results are clearly presented and well-structured.

Response

We appreciate the reviewer's encouraging feedback. Minor improvements in clarity and formatting were also implemented in the revised manuscript to further enhance readability.

Response to Reviewer 3

We thank the reviewer for the insightful comments and constructive suggestions that helped improve the technical clarity of the manuscript.

Comment 1

There are mathematical inconsistencies and typographical errors in some equations.

Response

All equations in the manuscript have been carefully reviewed and corrected where necessary. Formatting issues and notation inconsistencies were addressed to ensure mathematical clarity.

Comment 2

Some derivations omit intermediate steps and are difficult to follow.

Response

Additional clarifications have been included in the modeling and controller design sections to improve readability and logical flow.

Comment 3

The Lyapunov stability analysis is somewhat informal.

Response

The Lyapunov analysis has been revised to improve clarity and consistency. The stability argument has been rewritten to clearly demonstrate that the derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative definite under the proposed control law.

Comment 4

Figures and tables are not fully integrated into the narrative.

Response

The revised manuscript now explicitly links all figures and tables to the corresponding discussion in the text. Additional explanations have been added to improve the interpretation of the simulation results.

Comment 5

Abbreviations are sometimes introduced without explanation.

Response

All abbreviations have been carefully reviewed and defined at their first occurrence in the revised manuscript.

Final Statement

We are grateful to the Editor and reviewers for their constructive comments, which significantly improved the quality of this manuscript. We hope that the revised version satisfactorily addresses all concerns and meets the standards of the journal.