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Multi-level Supervision and Modification of Artificial Pancreas Control System

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Abstract

Artificial pancreas (AP) systems provide automated regulation of blood glucose concentration (BGC) for people with type 1 diabetes (T1D). An AP includes three components: a continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) sensor, a controller calculating insulin infusion rate based on the CGM signal, and a pump delivering the insulin amount calculated by the controller to the patient. The performance of the AP system depends on successful operation of these three components.

Many APs use model predictive controllers that rely on models to predict BGC and to calculate the optimal insulin infusion rate. The performance of model-based controllers depends on the accuracy of the models that is affected by large dynamic changes in glucose-insulin metabolism or equipment performance that may move the operating conditions away from those used in developing the models and designing the control system. Sensor errors and missing signals will cause calculation of erroneous insulin infusion rates. And the performance of the controller may vary at each sampling step and each period (meal, exercise, and sleep), and from day to day.

Here we describe a multi-level supervision and controller modification (ML-SCM) module is developed to supervise the performance of the AP system and retune the controller. It supervises AP performance in 3 time windows: sample level, period level, and day level. At sample level, an online controller performance assessment sub-module will generate controller performance

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indexes to evaluate various components of the AP system and conservatively modify the controller. A sensor error detection and signal reconciliation module will detect sensor error and reconcile the CGM sensor signal at each sample. At period level, the controller performance is evaluated with information collected during a certain time period and the controller is tuned more aggressively. At the day level, the daily CGM ranges are further analyzed to determine the adjustable range of controller parameters used for sample level and period level.

Thirty subjects in the UVa/Padova metabolic simulator were used to evaluate the performance of the ML-SCM module and one clinical experiment is used to illustrate its performance in a clinical environment. The results indicate that the AP system with an ML-SCM module has a safer range of glucose concentration distribution and more appropriate insulin infusion rate suggestions than an AP system without the ML-SCM module.

Graphical abstract

Keywords

Artificial Pancreas; Sensor Error Detection; Controller Performance Assessment; Controller Retuning; Type 1 Diabetes

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview of Artificial Pancreas and performance assessment

Artificial pancreas (AP) systems regulate blood glucose concentration (BGC) of people with type 1 diabetes (T1D) and those without a functional pancreatic beta cell population. An AP relies on a continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) sensor to provide BGC information at a high frequency (sampling time of 5 minutes), a controller to calculate the insulin infusion rate based on the CGM signal (BGC estimate) and an insulin pump that infuses the insulin calculated by the controller to a subcutaneous port on the body.

The performance of the AP relies on correct operation of all the three components, the CGM sensor, controller, and insulin pump. Various control strategies, ranging from proportionalintegral-derivative (PID) control(Kovatchev et al., 2009; Renard et al., 2010; Ruiz et al., 2012; Sherr et al., 2013; G. Steil et al., 2006; G. M. Steil et al., 2011) to model-based techniques such as model predictive control(Harvey et al., 2014; Kovatchev et al., 2009; Luijf et al., 2013; Magni et al., 2007), generalized predictive control (GPC)(El-Khatib et al.,

2014; Eren-Oruklu et al., 2009; Turksoy et al., 2014b), and knowledge-based systems with fuzzy logic(Atlas et al., 2010; Mauseth et al., 2010)have been used in developing the control algorithms for the AP. All strategies except the fuzzy logic approach use mathematical models that estimate BGC and insulin in formulating the control algorithms. The fuzzy logic controllers use rules derived from experiential knowledge and medical facts.

One of the challenges for AP systems is variation in BGC dynamics among different people with T1D and also from day to day, even minute to minute, for the same person. Factors such as meals and exercise will influence BGC dynamics. Various AP control systems have been proposed to address the effects of these factors and improve AP system.(Dassau et al., 2008; Perfect et al., 2012; Turksoy et al., 2015; Turksoy et al., 2014b; Turksoy et al., 2016) In a fully automated AP system, no announcement of meals or exercise is provided by patients as to meals or activities, and the controller needs to adapt to the dynamic changes in the human body by updating its model and/or insulin dose calculation algorithm. GPC uses a recursively updated data-driven model when a new CGM signal value is available.(El-Khatib et al., 2014; Eren-Oruklu et al., 2009; Turksoy et al., 2014b) Various modules that identify specific conditions such as meal detection module(Lee et al., 2009; Turksoy et al., 2016) and exercise module(Turksoy et al., 2015) provide additional information for making more accurate control decisions. However, the controller performance is often limited by the size of the database and richness of the historical information for training and tuning the controllers. For a new patient with different BGC dynamics (e.g., different insulin sensitivity), unexpected conditions (e.g., large meal, different types of exercise) or illness, the AP system may not able to regulate the BGC. Besides the challenges of the BGC dynamics, the performance of AP system also relies on the accuracy of CGM values reported. Sensor failures such as signal bias and outliers, and missing data will also affect insulin infusion rate calculation and may endanger the safety of the patient. (Baysal et al., 2014; Del Favero et al., 2014; Facchinetti et al., 2016) In this paper, we focus on the detection of controller performance deterioration caused by changes in glucose and insulin concentration dynamics and sensor failures, the diagnosis of the cause for the deterioration, and the retuning of the controller.

A multi-level supervision and modification (ML-SCM) module is developed to supervise the performance of the AP system and modify it to adapt to the patient's current state and mitigate the impact of CGM sensor faults. The ML-SCM module contains three submodules based on different time scales: sample level supervision module (SLSM), periodlevel supervision module (PLSM) and 24-hour day level supervision module (DLSM). In previous work, an index based online controller performance assessment (CPA) module (Feng, Turksoy, & Cinar, 2016) and a hybrid CGM sensor error detection and functional reconciliation (SED&FR) module(Feng, Turksoy, Samadi, et al., 2016) based on outlierrobust Kalman filter (ORKF) and locally-weighted partial least square (LW-PLS) were developed for a GPC based AP(Turksoy et al., 2014a; Turksoy et al., 2014b). These two modules were capable of retuning the controller and reconciling the CGM signal values at each sampling time. In the ML-SCM module, the performance of the AP will not only be assessed at the sample level but also at period-level and day level. The CPA module is enhanced with more indexes to track different aspects of controller performance and combined with the SED&FR module to formulate the SLSM. The dynamic changes in the

body triggered by meal or physical activity will last for many sampling times. Hence, the ML-SCM module should accommodate the effects of different situations over different time periods. The PLSM based on linear quadratic Gaussian (LQG) control-based tradeoff curve, and DLSM based on daily BG distribution analysis are developed to assess the AP performance in longer time scales.

1.2 Generalized predictive controller for the AP system

We have already developed an AP control system based on adaptive constrained weighted recursive identification methods and generalized predictive controller (GPC) (Figure 1), GPC model-based adaptive control.(Turksoy et al., 2014a) We have enhanced recursive time series modeling to assure the stability of every multi-input single-output model developed, used these models in our GPC, and introduced rules that improve its performance in presence of physical activity. (Turksoy et al., 2014a; Turksoy et al., 2014b; Turksoy et al., 2016) We also integrated a meal detection module to improve the performance against postmeal high glucose level for an AP without any meal announcement. (Turksoy et al., 2016)

A single-variable version of this controller is used to conduct simulations with the UVa/ Padova simulator. An autoregressive moving average model with exogenous inputs (ARMAX) is used to predict glucose concentration (GC) measured with a CGM.(Turksoy et al., 2014a) The insulin infusion rates computed in previous steps and past and current CGM readings are the inputs to the model. Model parameters are updated recursively at each sampling time and then the updated model provides GC predictions to the controller. The controller then computes the insulin dose to be infused.

In this paper, we outline the components of the controller that are relevant to the ML-SCM module and focus on the objective function for model estimation and the objective function of the GPC.

The optimum coefficients of the recursive ARMAX model are obtained by minimizing the objective function:

$$
V(\hat{\theta}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \lambda^{N-k} e(k)^2 \quad (1)
$$

where $\hat{\theta}$ is the vector of estimated model coefficients, N is the number of samples, λ is the forgetting factor, and e denotes the modeling error. The recursive model is updated by giving different weights to previous data based on part of the data that is more important to adjust the model. λ is the critical parameter that adjusts the relative importance of GC data collected and the effective size of the moving window for the input data.

Another important component of the controller is its objective function. The constrained controller signal $I(k)$ is calculated by minimizing the objective function $J(N_1,N_2,N_\mu w)$:

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$$
J(N_1, N_2, N_u, w) = \min_{I(k)} \sum_{j=N_1}^{N_2} \left[G C^{pred}(k+j|k) - r(k+j) \right]^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_u} w_j(k) * \Delta I(k+j-1)^2
$$
 (2)
s.t. $I_{Min} \le I \le I_{Max}$

where N_1 and N_2 are the first and last time instants of the modeling horizon and N_u is the control horizon. I denotes the insulin infusion rate suggestions and only the first element I (k) of is implemented. $G\mathcal{C}^{pred}(k+j|k)$ is the predicted CGM reading at step $k+j$ in the future based on the previous data at and before step k , r is the reference value, I represents the changes of insulin infusion, and w_j is the *j*th diagonal element of weight matrix $w(k)$ for I . Insulin delivery is constrained by both the ability of the insulin pump and the maximum value calculated by the model to prevent hypoglycemia, and insulin value cannot be negative.

At step k, the equations for $r(k+j)$ and $w(k)$ are

$$
r(k) = G(k) \quad (3)
$$

$$
r(k + j) = (1 - \mu)r(k + j - 1) + \mu r_0 \text{ s.t. } j = [1, 2, ..., N_u]
$$
 (4)

$$
ISC(k) = GC^{pred} \cdot I[r(k+1), r(k+2), ..., r(k+Nu)]T
$$
 (5)

 $TDD(k) = \textbf{ISC}(k)$. * BW (6)

$$
ISF(k) = 1800./TDD(k) \quad (7)
$$

$$
w(k) = diag(ISF(k)) \quad (8)
$$

where BW is the body weight and $r_0 = 100$ mg/dl is the constant "reference", the desired GC trajectory(Turksoy et al., 2014a) and ./ denotes elementwise division. For Eq. 2 - 8, μ (between 0-1) is the parameter that determines the speed of approximation of the reference trajectory to r_0 such that as μ is reduced, the reference trajectory becomes smoother. The

weight w_j in (2) is also influenced by μ and as μ is reduced, more weight is put on the insulin efficiency term. In other words, μ determines the aggressiveness of the controller in bringing the BGC closer to the reference r_0 , μ is closer to 1 for more aggressive control action. A constant value is assigned to μ according to the age group and insulin resistance level of the subject (Table 2). (Turksoy et al., 2014a)

This GPC-based AP is used to illustrate the performance of the ML-SCM. The detailed algorithm of failure detection and modification of AP system according to the ML-SCM is described in section 2. Simulations and results are reported in section 3. Discussion of the results is presented in section 4. Conclusions are provided in section 5.

2. METHOD

The ML-SCM includes three sub-level supervision modules: SLSM at sample level, PLSM at period level and DLSM at day (24-hour) level. The SLSM has an online CPA sub-module based on the computation and interpretation of several indexes, and a hybrid online sensor error detection and functional redundancy (SED&FR) sub-module. At each sampling time, the performance of the different components of the controller and the CGM sensor signal are evaluated and AP controller is modified conservatively. In PLSM, the controller performance during a specific time period is evaluated by the tradeoff curve method and the AP controller is modified more aggressively since more information has been collected and evaluated compared to SLSM. In DLSM, the BG variation within a 24-hour period is analyzed and the range of controller parameter retuning and insulin correction in SLSM and PLSM are modified.

2.1 Sample Level Supervision Module

The SLSM has two sub-modules, a CPA and a SED&FR. In previous work(Feng, Turksoy, & Cinar, 2016), an online CPA module with six indexes to track different aspects of a model-based controller was developed. The indexes used in the previous CPA module included model prediction error index (I_{MPE}) , model error elimination speed index (I_{MEES}) , dangerous change potential index (I_{DCP}) , dangerous change index (I_{DC}) , insulin constraints limitation index (I_{ICL}) , and weight ratio index (I_{WR}) . Three different types of controller failures, model prediction error, insulin constraints error, and weight ratio error, are detected and the controller is modified accordingly. The equations of these six indexes, controller failure detection and controller modification based on those indexes are described in the part I of appendix. Two additional indexes: idle index(Hägglund, 1999) (I_i) and performance watchdog(Rhinehart, 1995) (I_{PW}) are added to the CPA sub-module to detect sluggish control and offset from set-point (reference trajectory), respectively.

The I_i describes the relation between times of positive and negative correlation between the control signal (insulin infusion rate suggested) *I* and the controlled variable (CGM signal) increments G :

$$
I_i(k) = \frac{t_{pos}(k) - t_{neg}(k)}{t_{pos}(k) + t_{neg}(k)}
$$
(9)

$$
t_{neg}(k) \begin{cases} t_{neg}(k-1) * (1-\alpha_i) + T_s\alpha_i & \text{if } \Delta I(k) * \Delta G(k) > 0 \\ t_{neg}(k-1) & \text{if } \Delta I(k) * \Delta G(k) \ge 0 \end{cases} \tag{11}
$$

where k indicates the time steps with 5-minutes sampling time, and $I(k)$ is the change between two consecutive samples $(G(k) - G(k-1))$. The positive values of $I_i(k) > 0.4$ indicate sluggish control.(Horch, 2000)

The performance watchdog index $I_{PW}(k)$ represent the ratio of the controlled variable (CGM) variance, calculated in two different ways:

$$
I_{pw}(k) = \frac{\sigma_{y_1}^2(k)}{\sigma_{y_2}^2(k)} \quad (12)
$$

$$
\sigma_{y_1}^2(k) = \sigma_{y_1}^2(k-1) * (1 - \alpha_i) + \alpha_i * \left(\frac{G(k) - r_0}{r_0}\right)^2 \tag{13}
$$

$$
\sigma_{y2}^2(k) = \sigma_{y2}^2(k-1) * (1 - \alpha_i) + \alpha_i * (\frac{\Delta G(k)}{\Delta G^n})^2
$$
 (14)

The variance $\sigma_{y1}^2(k)$ represents the normalized accumulated deviation of sample k from the reference value (r_0) . Variance σ_{y2}^2 indicates the normalized distance between two consecutive samples. In this case, the averaged absolute consecutive samples difference is used for normalization ($\Delta G^n = \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{|\Delta G(j)|}{k}$ $\frac{d(u)}{dx}$). The forgetting factor a_i is introduced in both I_i and I_{PW} to make them adaptive to the time-varying characteristics of the human body. I_{PW} > 3 indicates that the CGM measurement is steady at a value which is far from the reference value (large offset).(Horch, 2000)

When I_i and I_{PW} indicate sluggish control or large offset, the parameter μ , which determines the aggressiveness of the controller, will be increased according to:

$$
I_{slug}(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_i(k) > 0.4 \& G_{k}(\kappa) > r_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{15}
$$

$$
I_{offset}(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{PW}(k) > 3 \& G\\ C(k) > r_0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
$$
 (16)

$$
\beta_f = \max(\frac{1}{\sum_{j=k-N_u}^{k} (I_{slug}(j))}, \frac{1}{\sum_{j=k-N_u}^{k} (I_{offset}(j))})
$$
(17)

$$
\mu(k) = \begin{cases} \beta_f * \mu(k-1) + (1 - \beta_f) * \mu_{max} & if \text{ GC}(k) > r_0 \& (I_{slug}(k) = 1 \text{ or } I_{offset}(k) = 1) \\ \mu(k-1) & otherwise \end{cases}
$$
(18)

Instead of a constant value related only to the insulin sensitivity and age group of the patient (Table 2), μ is updated at each sampling time based on the current conditions of the AP. The values listed in Table 2 now become the initial value of $\mu(\mu(I))$. μ is increased only when CGM is larger than reference value. When sluggish control or large offset was detected based on the accumulated time of error, μ is increased towards its upper bound (μ_{max}). When large offset is detected by I_{PW} , a correction insulin bolus (I_{cor}) needs to be delivered in order to bring the GC back to the reference value. I_{cor} is based on *ISF*:

$$
I_{cor}(k) = \min(\frac{GC(k) - r_0}{ISF(k, 1, 1)}, I_{cor}^{max}) \text{ if } \sum_{j=k}^{k-1} (I_{cor}(k)) = 0 \& I_{offset}(k) = 1 \quad (19)
$$

where $ISF(k,1,1)$ denotes the first element of $(SF(k))$ More correction insulin need to wait until the effect of previous correction insulin bolus is cleared or it becomes clear that the previous correction is insufficient. A maximum constraint I_{cor}^{max} was defined to prevent potential hypoglycemia that may be caused by the correction bolus. The clearance time (N_{cor}) changes according to the type of rapid-acting insulin. For this experiment, N_{cor} =24 to simulate 2-hour insulin clearance time.

If CGM< r_0 and may have potential towards hypoglycemia, then μ will be decreased towards the lower bound (μ_{min}). To include this change, Eq. 18 is modified as:

$$
\beta_{hypo} = \frac{r_0 - \text{GC}(k)}{r_0} \text{ if } \text{GC}(k) < r_0 \quad (20)
$$

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$$
\mu(k) = \begin{cases} (1 - \beta_{hypo})\mu(k - 1) + (\beta_{hypo})\mu_{min} & \text{if } \text{GC}(k) < r_0 \\ \beta_f \mu(k - 1) + (1 - \beta_f)\mu_{max} & \text{if } \text{GC}(k) > r_0 \& (I_{slug}(k) = 1 \text{ or } I_{offset}(k) = 1) \text{ (21)} \\ \mu(k - 1) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
$$

In the CPA sub-module, μ is varied between μ_{min} to μ_{max} , in order to optimize the aggressiveness of the controller. The insulin infusion rate suggestion from the controller is modified when sluggish control or prediction error occurs (Eq. 19 and A.11), and these additional insulin doses are constrained by I_{cor}^{max} . The constraints μ_{min} , μ_{max} and I_{cor}^{max} may also be changed as more information is collected from the operation of the AP, as described in Section 2.3 (PLSM).

The hybrid sensor error detection and functional redundancy (SED&FR) module of the SLSM detects and mitigates the effects of abnormal CGM sensor behavior (Figure 2).(Feng, Turksoy, Samadi, et al., 2016) All CGM sensor signals are analyzed and reconciled in SED&FR module before transmission to other modules of the controller. This module uses two techniques, an outlier-robust Kalman filter (ORKF) and a locally-weighted partial least squares (LW-PLS) regression model, which leverage the advantages of automatic measurement error elimination with ORKF and data-driven prediction with LW-PLS. The module includes a nominal angle analysis (NAA) method to distinguish between signal faults and large changes in sensor values caused by real dynamic changes in glucose-insulin metabolism and insulin kinetics. The SED&FR module also smooths CGM signal jumps caused by CGM calibration with BGC measurements collected from finger sticks.

At each CGM reading (5 min sampling time), the SLSM module (Figure 3) will first reconcile the CGM value in the SED&FR sub-module. The reconciled CGM value and the information from the controller will be sent to the CPA sub-module. CPA sub-module will generate 8 indexes to assess different aspects of controller performance and modify the controller parameters such as λ , insulin constraints, weight in controller objective function, and the aggressiveness parameter μ . GC prediction and insulin infusion rate suggestions will also be corrected based on the faults indicated by these indexes.

2.2 Period-Level Supervision Module

The PLSM is developed based on LQG tradeoff curve to assess the performance of GC regulation during a specific period of time that may include various disturbances to GC such as meals and exercise.

For GPC objective function (Eq. 2) if $N_1 = 1$, $N_u = N_2$, $N \rightarrow \infty$, the objective function converges to the LQG objective function(CLARKF et al., 1987):

$$
\frac{J}{N_2} \rightarrow J_{GPC} = E[GC - r]^2 + wE[\Delta I]^2 \quad (22)
$$

The GPC control decisions optimized its objective function irrespective of the fact that only the first control move is actually implemented.(Huang, 1998) Hence, the LQG problem can be solved by the infinite GPC solution. The infinite value of N_2 may cause a large calculation burden to solve the linear least squares problem. The model in GPC may not accurate enough to give a GC prediction over a long horizon. In practice, a finite value of N_2 is usually enough to achieve the approximate infinite horizon LQG solution via the GPC approach(Huang, 1998). In this case, N_1 , N_2 , and N_u in LQG objective function are set to the same values used in the GPC objective function (Eq. 2).

Once the problem is formulated as an LQG problem, the tradeoff curve (Figure 4) can be calculated by varying the weight *w*. The weights used to generate the tradeoff curve are denoted as w_t , w is varying at each time step (Eq. 1 to 8). In order to generate the tradeoff curve, w_t is assigned values in the range 0.1 **w* (*k*) to 2 * *w* (*k*) with increment of 0.1 * *w* (*k*). By using different w_b , a set of $E[GC - r f]^2$ and $E[\int_0^2$ are plotted as tradeoff curve at each time period (period length= N_u). The operation point is calculated based on previous data by using

$$
E_{y}(k) = \sum_{j=N_1}^{N_2} [GC(k+j-N_2) - r(k+j-N_2)]^2 / N_u \quad (23)
$$

$$
E_I(k) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_u} \Delta I(k+j-1-N_2)^2/N_u \quad (24)
$$

Comparing the tradeoff curve and the operation point positions, the performance of controller is as expected or better than expected if the operation point is at or below the tradeoff curve, respectively. If the operation point is above the tradeoff curve, the controller is not at its optimal condition. And if current $GC(k)$ is close or at hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia thresholds (indicated by dangerous change index (I_{DC}) in Eq A.4) the controller will be retuned through the following procedure:

$$
hypo(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{DC} = -1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{25}
$$

$$
hyper(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{DC} = 1\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{26}
$$

When k mod $N_u = 0$, if operating point $(E_I(k), E_y(k))$ is above the tradeoff curve:

$$
\mu(k) = \begin{cases}\n\max(\mu(k-1) - \mu_{SL}^d, \mu_{min}) & \text{if } \left| \sum_{j=k-N_u}^k hypo(j) \right| > 0 \\
\max(\mu_{SL}^i + \mu(k-1), \mu_{max}) & \text{if } \left| \sum_{j=k-N_u}^k hypo(j) \right| = 0 \& \left| \sum_{j=k-N_u}^k hyper(j) \right| > 0 \\
\mu(k-1) & \text{otherwise}\n\end{cases}
$$

$$
s \cdot t \cdot \mu_{SL}^d = \mu(k - N_u) - \min(\mu(k - N_u + 1), \mu(k - N_u + 2), \dots, \mu(k - 1))
$$

$$
\mu_{SL}^i = \max(\mu(k - N_u), \mu(k - N_u + 1), \dots, \mu(k - 1)) - \mu(k - N_u) \tag{27}
$$

 $hypo(k)$ and $hyper(k)$ are denoting the hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia danger indicated by I_{DC} , respectively. Once the operation point $(E_I(k), E_Y(k))$ is above the tradeoff curve if $hypo =1$ during every N_u samples, μ will be decreased by μ_{SL}^d , and if no such hypo $\frac{d}{s}$, and if no such hypo exists and *hyper* =1, μ will be increased by μ_{SL}^t . The factor μ is still l $\frac{i}{s}$. The factor μ is still limited by upper and lower bounds, μ_{max} and μ_{min}^a μ_{SL}^a and μ_{SL}^i are the large $\frac{d}{sL}$ and μ_{SL}^i are the largest reduct $\frac{i}{s}$ are the largest reduction or increase increments of μ in the past N_u steps, respectively. This way, PLSM has a more aggressive parameter retuning strategy than SLSM since more information is available to PLSM.

2.3 Day Level Supervision Module

BGC dynamic changes can be affected by many factors such as a meal, physical activity and sleep throughout the day. The performance assessment of AP based on just one time period is not informative about various changes that may occur at different times and cannot tune the controller for optimal performance over a day. For example, a large value is assigned to μ for post-meal hyperglycemia, will yield an aggressive controller during sleep and may drive the BGC into hypoglycemia. The day Level Supervision Module (DLSM) analyzes the performance of AP during past 24 hours and guides future controller retuning accordingly.

In the DLSM, first the CGM values are separated into 3 different categories and their frequency of occurrence is captured by parameters C_1 , C_2 , and C_3 based on the values of GC. The classification procedure is:

When k mod 288 = 0, set C_1 , C_2 , and C_3 equal to 0.

For j from $k - 287$ to k:

if
$$
GC(j) \le 70
$$
 $C_1 = C_1 + 1$
\nelse if $180 \le GC(j) \le 70$ $C_2 = C_2 + 1$ (28)
\nelse $C_3 = C_3 + 1$

where, C_1 , C_2 , and C_3 indicate the number of GC samples in hypoglycemia, euglycemia, and hyperglycemia range in the last 24 hours, respectively. For a sampling time of 5 minutes, there are 288 samples in 24 hours. If $C_1 > 0$, hypoglycemia has occurred during the last 24hours period and the adjustable range of the controller parameters and constraints for insulin need to be changed to be more conservative to reduce hypoglycemia potential in the future. The maximum and minimum GC within the previous 24 hours are denoted as GC_{max} and GC_{min} . The adjustable range of controller parameters and the constraints for insulin calculations are modified as

$$
ISF_m = \sum_{j=k-287}^{k} ISF(j, 1, 1) \quad (29)
$$

$$
I_{cor}^{max} = \max(0.1, I_{cor}^{max} - \frac{r_0 - GC_{min}}{ISF_m})
$$
\n
$$
\mu_{max} = \max(0.1, \mu_{max} - \min(0.05, \frac{r_0 - GC_{min}}{r_0}))
$$
\n
$$
t f C_1 > 0
$$
\n
$$
\mu_{min} = \max(0.05, \mu_{min} - \min(0.05, \frac{r_0 - GC_{min}}{r_0}))
$$
\n
$$
I_{cor}^{max} = \max(3, I_{cor}^{max} + \frac{180 - GC_{max}}{ISF_m})
$$
\n
$$
\mu_{max} = \min(1, \mu_{max} + \min(0.05, \frac{180 - GC_{max}}{r_0}))
$$
\n
$$
t f C_3 > 0 & \text{if } \sum_{j=k-287}^{k} hypo(k) = 0
$$
\n
$$
\mu_{min} = \min(0.05, \mu_{min} - \min(0.05, \frac{180 - GC_{max}}{r_0}))
$$

(30)

Hypoglycemia may cause more immediate treats than the hyperglycemia. Consequently, the constraints for aggressive control system modification are stricter when BGC is near the hypoglycemia limit. If there has been a hypoglycemia episode in the past 24 hours, the constraints for correction insulin and the upper bound of μ are reduced based on the distance between the minimum GC value and the reference value. And if GC values larger than 180mg/dl occurred in the past 24 hours and there were no hypoglycemia threat during that period, the constraints for correction insulin and the upper bound of μ are reduced based on

the distance between the maximum GC value and the hyperglycemia threshold (180mg/dl). To prevent extreme cases causing large variation in I_{cor}^{max} and μ_{min} , the absolute deviation of μ_{max} and μ_{min} is limited as 0.1 for each 24-hour period supervision and the constraints for the I_{cor}^{max} , μ_{max} , and μ_{min} are set as [0.1, 3], [0.1 1], and [0.05 1], respectively. The initial values for I_{cor}^{max} , μ_{max} , and μ_{min} are 1, 0.65, and 0.4.

2.4 Multi-level Supervision Module

The ML-SCM (Figure 5) is developed to supervise the performance of AP system in different time scales by using and coordinating SLSM, PLSM, and DLSM. The ML-SCM is capable of detecting the errors in CGM readings reported to the AP, assessing the performance of the AP control system, and retuning it to improve its performance. The CGM signal is reconciled by SED&FR sub-module at each sampling time. The reconciled CGM signal is used by all other modules of the AP. SLSM and PLSM will modify the AP controller settings to suggest more accurate insulin infusion rate and these modifications are guided by DLSM.

The summary of parameters, index, and indicators used in the ML-SCM is described in Table 3.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Simulations

Thirty in silico subjects (10 adults (Adu), 10 adolescents (Ado), and 10 children (Chi)) in the UVa/Padova simulator were tested by using AP control systems with four different supervision conditions: without any supervision and modification (S&M), with SLSM, with SLSM and PLSM, and with ML-(including SLSM, PLSM and DLSM). Each patient was simulated 10 times with a 3-day scenario. For CGM seeds provided by the simulator. Different meal plans are given for different age groups (Table 4). The detailed result of AP system when different sub-modules of ML-SCM are operational is displayed in the part II of appendix. The comparison of average percent time in various ranges of BGC for AP systems for each age group is reported in Table A.5 (Detailed data of each subject is displayed in Table A.4). The number of severe hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia periods, maximum and minimum BGC, and insulin usage are listed in Table A.6 and Table A.7. The BGC percent time in each BGC concentration range on different days for AP systems with different ML-SCM modules is given in Table A.6.

The performance of the AP system is consistently improving by using additional supervision modules (Tables A.5 to A.7). Overall, more BGC values are shown to be in the euglycemia range with ML-SCM, average the BGC values in range (70-180 mg/dl) have increased by 14% compared to the AP system without S&M. The AP system with the ML-SCM successfully modified its parameters to reduce serious hypo- and hyperglycemia (BGC>250 or BGC<50) (Table A.6). AP system with ML-SCM had better insulin efficiency for keeping BGC in target range. For the 3-day simulation, the total insulin use is reduced by about 2.3% on average compared to the AP system without S&M.

3.2 Clinical Assessment of the AP with ML-SCM

A clinical experiment was conducted to illustrate the performance of the AP with and without ML-SCM. A multivariable AP was used(Turksoy et al., 2014a). The same subject participated in two experiments using the AP with and without ML-SCM. Both experiments lasted for 56 hours (From first day 8:00 to third day 16:00). The AP suggested insulin boluses, and the subject had the same meal scenarios (Table 5) and basal insulin plan.

Besides the meal, the subject may also eat additional carbohydrates, the so-called rescue carbohydrate (RC), when the BGC level is considered to be dangerous in order to prevent the occurrence of hypoglycemia. After the warning for RC is issued, consuming the RC is decided by the subject and the endocrinologist based on the CGM measurements and their experience. Since it is potentially dangerous to keep the subject in the low BGC range, the amount of RC is considered to evaluate the number of hypoglycemia episodes the subject may have during the experiment. The CGM measurements in the three days and insulin infusion rate of the two experiments are compared in Figure 6 along with the carbohydrate information.

The CGM values are higher for the AP with ML-SCM for two reasons. First, the subject had much higher GC in the morning every day and then had breakfast and lunch but did not perform any exercise, challenging the AP controller. Second, the controller was modified to be less aggressive in order to reduce the reliance on RC for preventing hypoglycemia. The intent was to move away from the GC remaining close to hypoglycemia threshold because hypoglycemia is more dangerous in the short term to cause immediate harm to the subject (Cryer et al., 2003). For AP system without ML-SCM, the CGM values remain above the hypoglycemia limit but low even after taking RC based on predictive hypoglycemia alarms. Without taking RC, there would have been a large number of hypoglycemic events. During the three-day experiment, the subject consumed 184 g when the AP with ML-SCM was used compared to 402 g RC using the AP without ML-SCM. The AP without ML-SCM was too aggressive for this subject and the subject had to rely on taking additional carbohydrates as RC to maintain the CGM in range.

On the first day, since the initial CGM value is higher in CGM 1 (AP with ML-SCM) compared with CGM 2 (AP without ML-SCM), more small doses of insulin bolus were given to bring the CGM back to safe range (Figure 6). Around 5 PM on the first day a low CGM value appeared and the controller was modified to be less aggressive to prevent future hypoglycemia. For the CGM 2 trace (AP without ML-SCM), since the controller is not modified by the ML-SCM module, low CGM values appeared at 1 PM, 4:40 PM, 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM on the first day.

On the second day, CGM 2 still has multiple low CGM values including one after lunch (1:30PM). For CGM 1, only one CGM value is close to the hypoglycemia threshold because of exercise. On the third day, there was no exercise when the AP system with ML-SCM was used and the CGM 1 value is higher compared with CGM 2, and the controller is modified to be more aggressive. Hence, the insulin bolus amount is much larger on the third day compared to the case using the AP without ML-SCM.

4. DISCUSSION

The percentage of time in severe hyperglycemia (BGC>250 mg/dl) has increased for some subjects such as Adu3 and Adu10, when SLSM was used with respect to the AP without an ML-SCM (Table A.5). This is because the factors that influence the BGC dynamics, such as meals, often last much longer than one sampling time (5 minutes). The AP system modification based on one sample need to be more conservative to avoid a controller tuning that would be too aggressive. For example, as the BGC increases after a meal, the insulin infusion rate should be large enough to prevent hyperglycemia but not too large to cause hypoglycemia later. Since hypoglycemia may have more immediate threat to patient, the system is modified conservatively to reduce the potential for hypoglycemia.

By adding SLSM and PLSM, the improvement of BGC percentage between 180-70 mg/dl is almost the same in different days comparing with AP system without S&M (Table A.8). Improvement with ML-SCM is more significant in the second and third day than the first day, because DLSM has modified the adjustable range of the parameters in the AP system and constraints for correction insulin 24 hours after the beginning of the experiment. With data of a whole day, more information is available about the performance of the AP system, and the AP system is modified to reduce both hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia (Tables A.5, A.7, A.8).

In the PLSM, the horizon in LQG tradeoff curve is set the same as the GPC in the AP system, because there is no explicit information about the exact disturbance(s) (such as meal and sleep) to the glucose metabolism of the subject. If the information about the conditions were available, the range of the time period can be set to cover that condition from the beginning to end of the disturbance.

Besides meals, other factors such as exercise, stress and sleep may influence the dynamics of BGC. Because of the limitations of the simulator, the effects of exercise are not tested in this paper. In future work, different condition such as meal, exercise, and sleep need to be identified and the AP system should be modified to have a specified strategy to calculate insulin infusion rates for these various conditions.

5. CONCLUSION

A novel module for AP system performance assessment and modification based on multiple time scales is developed and tested. The ML-SCM integrates the CGM sensor error detection and signal reconciliation with controller performance assessment and modification. Three different levels of supervision modules are developed based on their time windows. The results indicate that the AP system with ML-SCM can improve its performance.

Acknowledgments

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APPENDIX

Part I: Index based controller failure detection and controller modification

Table A.1

Summary of all indexes and indicators in CPA

Index generation:

$$
I_{\text{MPE}}(k) = |GC^{\text{pred}}(k|k - 1) - GC(k)| \quad (A.1)
$$

$$
I_{MEES}(k) = \begin{cases} I_{MEES}(k-1) + st & \text{if } I_{MPE}(k) \geq M E^{max} \\ 0 & \text{if } I_{MPE}(k) < M E^{max} \end{cases}
$$
 (A.2)

$$
I_{DCP}(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{180 - GC(k)}{GC(k) - GC(k-1)} & \text{if } GC(k) - GC(k-1) > 0 & 70 < GC(k) < 180\\ \frac{GC(k) - 70}{GC(k-1) - GC(k)} & \text{if } GC(k-1) - GC(k) > 0 & 70 < GC(k) < 180 \end{cases} \tag{A.3}
$$

$$
I_{DC}(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (I_{DCP}(k) < I_{DCP}^{\max} \& GC(k) - GC(k-1) > 0) \text{ or } (GC(k) > 180) \\ -1 & \text{if } (I_{DCP}(k) < I_{DCP}^{\max} \& GC(k) - GC(k-1) < 0) \text{ or } (GC(k) > 70) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{A.4}
$$

$$
I_{\text{ICL}}(k) = \begin{cases} I_{\text{ICL}}(k-1) + 1 & \text{if } I(k) = I_{\text{Max}} \\ 0 & \text{if } I(k) < I_{\text{Max}} \end{cases} (A.5)
$$

$$
I_{WR} = \frac{\sum_{j=N1}^{N2} [GC^{pred}(k+j|k) - r(k+j)]^{2}}{\sum_{j=1}^{Nu} w * \Delta I(k+j-1)^{2}}
$$
 (A.6)

Controller failure detection (Binary numbers 1 and 0 are used to indicate the presence or absence of such errors):

$$
I_{PE} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{MPE} > I_{MPE}^{\text{max}} \text{ or } I_{MEES} \ge I_{MEES}^{\text{max}} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} (A.7)
$$

$$
I_{\text{ICE}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{\text{DC}} = 1 \& I_{\text{ICL}} \ge I_{\text{ICL}}^{\text{max}} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{A.8}
$$

$$
I_{\text{WRE}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } I_{\text{WR}} > 1 \& I_{\text{DC}} = 1 \text{ or } I_{\text{DC}} = -1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{A.9}
$$

Controller retuning based on indexes:

$$
\lambda'(k|k-1) = \begin{cases} 1 - \left(1 - \frac{I_{MPE}}{\text{den}}\right) * \lambda(k|k-1) & \text{if } I_{PE} = 1 \& I_{MPE} < I_{MPE}^{\text{SE}} < I_{MPE}^{\text{SE}} \& \lambda'(k|k-1) > 0.5 \\ 0.05 & \text{if } I_{PE} = 1 \& \left(I_{MPE} < I_{MPE}^{\text{SE}} \text{ or } \lambda'(k|k-1) < 0.5\right) \end{cases}
$$

(A.10)

 $I'(k) =$

$$
\begin{cases}\nI(k) * \left(1 + \frac{\log_{10}(GC(k) - GC^{pred}(k|k-1)) * BW}{\alpha}\right) * ISF & \text{if } GC(k) - GC^{pred}_{k-1}(k|k-1) > 0 \& (I_{DC} = 1 \text{ or } I_{DC} = 0) \& I_{PE} = 1 \\
\min(I(k) * \left(1 - \frac{\log_{10}(GC^{pred}(k|k-1) - GC(k)) * BW}{\alpha}\right) * ISF & \text{if } GC(k) - GC^{pred}_{k-1}(k|k-1) < 0 \& I_{DC} = 0 \& I_{PE} = 1\n\end{cases}
$$

$$
s\ldotp t\ldotp 0 < I'(k) < I(k)
$$

 $+ I_{cor}^{ma}$ max

(A.11)

$$
GC^{pred'}(k + 1|k) = GC^{pred}(k + 1|k) - (GC^{pred}(k|k - 1) - GC(k)) * \beta \text{ if } I_{PE} = 1 \quad (A.12)
$$

$$
I'_{Max} = \begin{cases} I_{Max} * \gamma & \text{if } I'_{Max} < 35 \text{ (U/hour) & I}_{ICE} = 1\\ 35(U/hour) & \text{if } I'_{Max} \ge 35 \text{ (U/hour) & I}_{ICE} = 1 \end{cases} (A.13)
$$

$$
J(N1, N2) = \min_{I(k)} \sum_{j=N1}^{N2} [GC^{pred}(k+j|k) - r(k+j)]^{2} \text{ if } I_{WRE} = 1 \quad (A.14)
$$

Table A.2

Value for parameter ISF

Summary of parameters and their values in CPA

Part II: Comparison of AP performance under different conditions

Table A.4

Comparison of performance between AP system without S&M, with SLSM, SLSM and PLSM, and with ML-SCM (percent time in each concentration range. The insulin sensitivity level (ISL): S sensitive, N normal, and R resistant. A: <250 mg/dl, B: 250-180 mg/dl, C: 180-70 mg/dl, D: 70-50 mg/dl, E: >50 mg/dl)

Table A.5

Comparison of performance between AP system without S&M, with SLSM, SLSM and PLSM, and with ML-SCM. Average percent time for each population group in each concentration range (A: <250 mg/dl, B: 250-180 mg/dl, C: 180-70 mg/dl, D: 70-50 mg/dl, E: >50 mg/dl)

Comparison of performance between AP systems with SLSM and without S&M

Comparison of performance between AP systems with SLSM and PLSM, and with ML-SCM

Comparison BGC percent time in each concentration range for AP systems without S&M, with SLSM, SLSM and PLSM, and with ML-SCM on different days (percent time in each concentration range. A: >250 mg/dl, B: 250-180 mg/dl, C: 180-70 mg/dl, D: 70-50 mg/dl, E: <50 mg/dl)

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Highlights

- **•** A multi-level supervision module is developed for model-based control systems.
- Sensor error detection and controller performance assessment are integrated.
- The performance of artificial pancreas is evaluated in different time scales.
- **•** The controller is retuned by adjusting controller parameters and constraints.

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Figure 2. Flow diagram of SED&FR algorithm

Figure 3. Flow diagram of SLSM procedure

Figure 4. Example of tradeoff curve analysis

Figure 6.

Performance comparison of AP system with and without ML-SCM (1: AP system with ML-SCM, 2: AP system without ML-SCM)

Table 1

Acronyms List

Table 2

Value setting for μ

 $\overline{}$

Table 3

Summary of parameters, index and indicators

Table 4

Three-day meal scenarios for different age groups (Carbohydrate (g))

Time Adolescent Adult Children Day 1 09:45 48 60 36 13:30 47 59 35 17:45 75 94 56 21:30 31 39 23 Day 2 09:10 55 69 41 13:45 70 88 53 18:00 65 81 49 22:00 20 25 15 Day 3 09:00 40 50 30 14:00 68 85 51 18:20 75 94 56 22:30 25 31 19 Daily average 206 258 155

Table 5

Meal scenarios for the clinical experiments Meal scenarios for the clinical experiments

