Iterative Model Improvement for Model-based Control

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Overview

We combine ideas from Identification for Control and Experiment Design tools aiming to maximize the life-time performance of a closed-loop system.

"A model-based controller is progressively improved using system identification. Excitation is given to the system when it is convenient."

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System running in closed loop, but the control performance is not optimal.

"Improve the control performance while limiting the excitation cost."

An identification experiment followed by the "normal operation"

- Control performance \mathcal{V} depends on the parameter covariance P.
- The parameter covariance P depends on the excitation signal r.
- Excitation cost \mathcal{E} depends on excitation signal r.

A trade-off between the excitation cost ${\mathcal E}$ and the control performance ${\mathcal V}$.

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For LTI systems

- The covariance *P* is a nonlinear, nonconvex function of the excitation signal (time domain).
- The information matrix $F = P^{-1}$ is a linear function of the excitation power spectrum $\Phi(\omega)$ (frequency domain).

Input design in the frequency domain using a two-step procedure:

- Determine an optimal spectrum $\Phi(\omega)$ (convex optimization).
- ⁽²⁾ Find a signal r(t) with spectrum $\Phi(\omega)$ (stochastic realization).

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Classical: "Given a maximum allowed perturbation, find the excitation signal that gives the best control performance."

 $\max \mathcal{V}(P) \qquad \text{such that} \qquad \mathcal{E} \leq \bar{\mathcal{E}}.$

M. Gevers and L.Ljung. Optimal experiment designs with respect to the intended model application. *Automatica*, 22(5):543-554, 1986

Least costly: "Given a minimum allowed performance level, find the excitation signal that minimizes the perturbation."

 $\min \mathcal{E} \qquad \text{such that} \qquad \mathcal{V}(P) \geq \bar{\mathcal{V}}.$

X.Bombois, G.Scorletti, M.Gevers, P.M.J. Van den Hof and R.Hildebrand. Least costly identification experiment for control. *Automatica*, 42(10):1651-1662, 2006

Limitations:

• Two distinct phases: identification and normal operation.

• \mathcal{V} and \mathcal{E} considered separately.

"Can we design experiments in such a way that the overall performance is optimized during the whole time of operation?"

Marco Forgione (TUD)

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Linear system operated in closed-loop over n consecutive learning intervals.

- After an interval, model update and controller re-design.
- Excitation signal r_k in each interval.



Excitation r_k has a dual effect. Worsens performance during the interval k, but can improve performance for interval k + 1.

"Design the signals r_k to optimize the performance over n intervals."

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For each learning interval:

- Identification
- Controller design
- Experiment design
- Execute interval k



Analogy with actively adaptive learning control algorithm.

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After the interval k is executed

- Data (Y_k, U_k) are collected.
- Previous estimate $\hat{\theta}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta_o, P_k)$ is available.

The updated parameter estimate $\hat{ heta}_{k+1}$ is computed as

$$\hat{\theta}_{k+1} = \arg\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{\sigma_e^2} \left\| Y_k - \hat{Y}(U_k, \theta) \right\|_2^2 + \left\| \theta - \hat{\theta}_k \right\|_{P_k^{-1}}^2.$$

$$\theta_o - \hat{\theta}_{k+1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, P_{k+1}^{-1}) \text{ with } P_{k+1}^{-1} = F_k(\Phi_k) + P_k^{-1}.$$

• Information matrix $F_k(\Phi_k)$ linear in the spectrum Φ_k (learning interval sufficiently large).

• Since $F_k(\Phi_k) \ge 0$, parameter uncertainty decreases at each step.

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We can define an uncertainty region

$$\mathcal{D}_k(\alpha, P_k^{-1}) = \{ \theta \in \mathbb{R}^p \mid (\theta - \hat{\theta}_k)^\top P_k^{-1} (\theta - \hat{\theta}_k) \le \chi_p^2(\alpha) \}$$

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Controller Design



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Controller Design

The controller is here designed based on a nominal criterion

 $C_k = C(\hat{\theta}_k)$

 \mathcal{H}_2 , \mathcal{H}_∞ , PID tuning rule,...



The controller will be applied on the true system S_o .

Stability of the uncertain controller system can be verified (in the uncertainty set \mathcal{D}_k) using established tools.

X. Bombois and M. Gevers and L.Ljung. Robustness analysis tools for an uncertainty set obtained by prediction error identification. Automatica, 37(10):1651-1636, 2001

If robust stability is verified for the interval k, it is very unlikely that it will be violated for k + 1 since D_{k+1} is always smaller than D_k.

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Overview

Let us define:



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Objective

Define the total cost for a batch as



Excitation signals r_k are designed in order to

- minimize $\sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_k$.
- satisfy constraints $\mathcal{T}_k \leq \overline{\mathcal{T}}_k$ for each interval.

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Total Cost, Modeling Error Cost & Excitation Cost

Total Cost: power of output difference between the two loops:

$$\mathcal{T}_k \triangleq E[(y_k^{ol,e} - y_k^{el,er})^2].$$



Since r_k and e_k are independent:

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Experimental Loop



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• Experiment Design Problem (for the learning interval 1): minimize the summation of the total cost over the future *n* intervals

$$\min \sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_{k}$$
 subject to
 $\mathcal{T}_{k} \leq \bar{\mathcal{T}}_{k}, \ k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

- Optimization variables: spectra of all the excitation signals r_1, \ldots, r_n .
- $T_k = V_k + \mathcal{E}_k$ random variables \Rightarrow minimization in a worst-case sense.

 $\mathcal{V}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}$ and $\mathcal{E}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}$ are computed by taking the maximum of their second order approximation over the uncertainty set \mathcal{D}_k . $\mathcal{T}_k^{\mathrm{wc}} = \mathcal{V}_k^{\mathrm{wc}} + \mathcal{E}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}$.

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Receding Horizon Implementation

- We use the uncertainty set \mathcal{D}_k to compute $\mathcal{V}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}, \mathcal{E}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}$.
- The uncertainty set \mathcal{D}_k depends on the covariance P_k , which is linear in the spectrum.
- However, the covariance P_k is also a function of θ_o (unknown!). Typical chicken & the egg issue.
- Typical solution: replace $heta_o$ with $\hat{ heta}_1$.

Dividing the time in learning intervals allows us to mitigate the effect of this approximation.

The Experiment Design is implemented in Receding Horizon over the learning intervals.

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Receding Horizon Implementation



- ED(1) for interval 1 based on θ̂₁. Spectra (Φ₁,...,Φ_n) found.
 r₁ applied in interval 1. Interval 1 executed, data (Y₁, U₁) collected.
- Parameter \(\theta_2\) identified from the data. ED(2) for interval 2 based on \(\theta_2\). New spectra \((\Delta_2, \ldots, \Delta_n)\) found. Signal \(r_2\) applied in interval 2. Interval 2 executed, data \((Y_2, U_2)\) collected.

Receding Horizon Implementation



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- Parameter θ̂₂ identified from the data. ED(2) for interval 2 based on θ̂₂. New spectra (Φ₂,...,Φ_n) found. Signal r₂ applied in interval 2. Interval 2 executed, data (Y₂, U₂) collected.

Receding Horizon Implementation



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Flow Diagram



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ERNSI 2013 17 / 24

Flow Diagram



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Flow Diagram



Marco Forgione (TUD)

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Flow Diagram



Marco Forgione (TUD)

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Numerical Example

Second-order system S_o in a full BJ model structure.

- N = 2400 total samples.
- n = 12 batches of length 200.
- Constraints:

•
$$T_k \leq 0.7$$
 for $k = 1, ..., 6$.

•
$$\mathcal{T}_k \le 0.005$$
 for $k = 7, \dots, 12$.



 ITERATIVE IDENTIFICATION

 V

 K = k+1

 CONTROLLER DESIGN

 V

 EXPERIMENT DESIGN

 EXECUTE BATCH k

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Excitation Spectra



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-

Total cost



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= 990





Total cost



Note: n = 2 learning intervals corresponds to a more classical two-phase experiment design.

Intuitively, better performance with shorter intervals. However, asymptotic assumptions in the interval length are used here...

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Iterative Model Improvement

Total cost



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Iterative Model Improvement

Conclusions

A framework for iterative model improvement for model-based control.

- Aims to maximize the overall performance.
- No distinction between identification and control batches.
- Excitation is introduced only when it pays back.

The framework was thought for industrial batch processes (learning interval = batch). However, batch processes are often severley nonlinear.

On-going work for nonlinear experiment design.

Thank you. Questions?

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Worst-case modeling error cost

• From Parseval relation $\mathcal{V}_k = E[(y_k^{ol,e} - y_k^{el,e})^2] =$

$$\mathcal{V}_k(\theta_o, \hat{\theta}_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \frac{1}{1 + C(\hat{\theta}_k)G(\theta_o)} - \frac{1}{1 + C(\theta_o)G(\theta_o)} \right|^2 |H|^2 \left(\theta_o\right) \sigma_e^2 \, d\omega$$

• We approximate $\mathcal{V}_k(\theta_o, \hat{\theta}_k)$ as a quadratic function of θ_o locally around $\hat{\theta}_k$

$$\mathcal{V}_k(\theta_k + \delta_k, \hat{\theta}_k) \approx \frac{1}{2} \Delta_k^\top V''(\hat{\theta}_k) \delta_k.$$

• Since $\Delta_k = \theta_o - \hat{\theta}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, P_k)$, $\Delta_k \in \mathcal{D}_k(\alpha, P_k^{-1})$ w.p. α

 $\mathcal{D}_k(\alpha, P_k^{-1}) = \{ \delta \in \mathbb{R}^p \mid \delta^\top P_k^{-1} \delta \le \chi_p^2(\alpha) \}$

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Worst-case modeling error cost

The optimization problem becomes

$$\mathcal{V}^{\mathrm{wc}} = \max_{\delta} \frac{1}{2} \delta^{\top} V'' \delta \qquad \text{such that} \qquad \delta^{\top} P^{-1} \delta \leq \chi_p^2(\alpha)$$

Using the S-procedure, it is equivalent to...

$$\mathcal{V}^{\mathrm{wc}} = \min_{\lambda} \frac{1}{\lambda}$$
 such that $P^{-1} \ge \frac{\lambda V'' \chi_p^2(\alpha)}{2}$

that is convex (in P^{-1}).

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Worst-case excitation cost

The excitation cost

$$\mathcal{E}_k(\theta_o, \hat{\theta}_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \frac{G(\theta_o)}{1 + C(\hat{\theta}_k) G(\theta_o)} \right|^2 \Phi_k^r(\omega) \, d\omega = \mathbf{R}_k^{\top} c(\hat{\theta}_o, \theta_k).$$

where R_k are the coefficients parametrizing $\Phi_k^r(\omega)$

$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{\theta}_k + \delta_k, \theta_k) \approx R_k^\top c(\hat{\theta}_k, \hat{\theta}_k) + R_k^\top J_c(\hat{\theta}_k) \delta_k + \frac{1}{2} \delta_k^\top \left(\sum C_j(\hat{\theta}_k) R_k(j) \right) \delta_k$$

Second order expansion in δ_k , linearly dependent in R_k .

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Worst-case excitation cost

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Using the S-procedure, it is equivalent to...

Bilinear if P^{-1} depends on variables. P_k^{-1} kept constant to P_1^{-1} ...

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$$\begin{split} \mathcal{E}^{\mathrm{wc}} &= \min_{\gamma,\tau} \gamma \; \text{ such that} \\ \tau &\geq 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j} C_{j} R(j) - \tau \frac{P^{-1}}{\chi^{2}} & \frac{1}{2} (R^{\top} J_{c})^{\top} \\ & \frac{1}{2} R_{k}^{\top} J_{c} & R^{\top} c_{o} + \tau_{k} - \gamma_{k} \end{bmatrix} \leq 0 \end{split}$$

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Worst-case excitation cost

Sample-based approach

A sample-based approach...

Using the distribution of $\Delta_1=\theta_o-\hat{\theta}_1\sim\mathcal{N}(0,P_1)$:

- **1** Draw q samples $\tilde{\delta}_s$.
- 2 Compute $\mathcal{E}_{k,s} = \mathcal{E}_k(\hat{\theta}_k + \tilde{\delta}_s, \theta_k)$ for $s = 1, \dots, q$.
- **③** Extract the empirical maximum $\mathcal{E}_k^{\mathrm{wc}} = \max_s \mathcal{E}_{k,s}$.

The number of samples q can be tuned such that $\mathcal{E}_k^{\mathrm{wc}}$ is the Worst Case Excitation Cost with probability α (randomized algorithms).

Sample extracted from Δ_1 . Similar approximation as taking P_k^{-1} to P_1^{-1} for the second order approach.

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