

# **Control of Stochastic Systems**

## **Lecture 3**

### **Stochastic Systems**

Jan H. van Schuppen

27 February 2025  
Delft University of Technology

# Outline

## Example

## Concept of a Stochastic System

## Gaussian Systems Representations

## Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

## Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

## Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

## Concluding Remarks

# Outline

## Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

Gaussian Systems Representations

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

Concluding Remarks

# Example. Paper Machine

## Project. Control of a paper machine

Billerud Kraft Paper Mill, at Gruvön, Sweden.

Aim of project:

Establish that computers can carry out control of a paper mill and achieve the control objectives.

K.J. Aström carried out the project for the IBM company.

## Control objectives

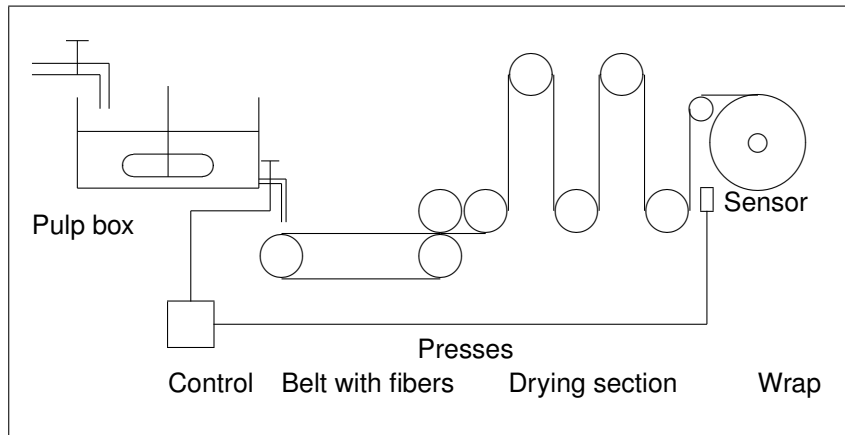
Reduce the standard deviation of dry paper weight, from  $1.3 \text{ g/m}^2$  to  $0.7 \text{ g/m}^2$ .

The control objective of reduction of the standard deviation (or reduction of the variance)

often occurs in the research area called **process control**.

# Example. Paper Machine

## - A diagram of a paper machine



# Example. Paper Machine

## Operation of paper machine

- ▶ Wood goes into the machine chest, with chemicals and water. After stirring this becomes a homogeneous solution called pulp.
- ▶ From machine chest flows the thick stock flow, onto a belt with fibers. After presses, which remove water, a paper web is formed.
- ▶ Steam-heated cylinders dry the paper. Paper is wrapped on another cylinder.

## Inputs and outputs

Inputs:

- (1) Thick stock flow amount and consistency.
- (2) Drying activity.

Outputs:

- (1) Wet paper weight by beta-ray gauge at end of drying section.
- (2) Water contents of paper.
- (3) Estimate of dry paper weight.

# Example. Paper Machine

## Control system

- ▶ Variables: output  $y$  dry basis weight and input  $u$  thick stock flow.
- ▶ Dynamics: only the transportation delay from the thick stock flow to the sensor for wet paper weight.
- ▶ Control system specified as an ARMAX representation,

$$y(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_y} a_i y(t-i) + \sum_{j=0}^{n_u} b_j u(t-j-k) + \sum_{m=0}^{n_v} c_m v(t-m),$$

$k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  models transportation delay between input and sensor.

- ▶  $v$  is Gaussian white noise.
- ▶ Gaussian stochastic control system (defined in Lecture 7) includes the above defined ARMAX representation.

# Example. Paper Machine

## Investigation phases

1. Modeling, described above.
2. System identification. Maximum likelihood method.  
Estimate the parameters of the ARMAX representation,  
 $\{a_i, b_j, c_m, \forall i, j, m\}$ .
3. Control synthesis and control design.  
Design a control law  $g$ .  
Then the input is  $u(t) = g(x(t))$ .
4. Test the control law on the actual paper machine;  
possibly adjust the control law.



# Example. Paper Machine

## Investigation outcome

1.3  $g/m^2$  dry paper weight before use of control,

0.7  $g/m^2$  dry paper weight control objective,

0.3  $g/m^2$  dry paper weight with control.

## Comments

- ▶ Process control can benefit from control engineering.
- ▶ Minimum variance control is much used in control engineering.
- ▶ Modeling of the control system and feedback control can be quite effective.  
Modeling takes about 2/3 to 3/4 of the duration of the project.
- ▶ There may be a saving of material used in case of minimum variance control.

# Outline

Example

**Concept of a Stochastic System**

Gaussian Systems Representations

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

Concluding Remarks

# Concept Stochastic System

## Def. Stochastic system

Define a (discrete-time) stochastic system as a collection satisfying,

$$(F_t^{y+} \vee F_t^{x+}, F_{t-1}^{y-} \vee F_t^{x-} | F^{x(t)}) \in CI, \forall t \in T;$$

where,

$(\Omega, F, P)$ , complete probability space,

$T \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ , time index set,

$(Y, B_Y)$ , output space,  $(X, B_X)$ , state space,

$y : \Omega \times T \rightarrow Y$ , output process, is observed,

$x : \Omega \times T \rightarrow X$ , state process, in general not observed,

$$F_t^{x-} = \sigma(\{x(s), \forall s \leq t\}), \quad F_{t-1}^{y-} = \sigma(\{y(s), \forall s \leq t-1\}),$$

$$F_t^{x+} = \sigma(\{x(s), \forall s \geq t\}), \quad F_t^{y+} = \sigma(\{y(s), \forall s \geq t\}),$$

$$F_{-1}^{y-} = \{\Omega, \emptyset\};$$

$\{\Omega, F, P, T, Y, B_Y, X, B_X, y, x\}$ , notation.

# Concept Stochastic System

## Comments on definition of a stochastic system

- ▶ Definition in terms of conditional independence relation.
- ▶ Definition specifies that: the future and the past of the combination of the output process and of the state process are conditionally independent conditioned on the current state.
- ▶ Definition implies that the state process is a Markov process.
- ▶ Definition does not impose a restriction on the probability distributions of the state and of the output processes.
- ▶ With respect to the future and the past,
  - symmetry in  $F_t^{x+}$  and  $F_t^{x-}$   
because  $F^{x(t)} \subset F_t^{x+}$  and  $F^{x(t)} \subset F_t^{x-}$ , and
  - asymmetry in  $F_t^{y+}$  and  $F_{t-1}^{y-}$   
because  $F^{y(t)} \subset F_t^{y+}$  and  $F^{y(t)} \not\subset F_{t-1}^{y-}$ .
 This is a choice motivated by the representation to be presented shortly.
- ▶ Definition of a stochastic control system in Lecture 7.

# Concept Stochastic System

## Alternative conditions

$$(F_t^{y+} \vee F_t^{x+}, F_{t-1}^{y-} \vee F_t^{x-} | F^{x(t)}) \in CI, \forall t \in T;$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  the future conditioned on the past  
equals the future conditioned on the present state;

$\Leftrightarrow (F^{y(t)} \vee F^{x(t+1)}, F_{t-1}^{y-} \vee F_t^{x-} | F^{x(t)}) \in CI, \forall t \in T;$   
equivalently,

$$\Leftrightarrow E[z^+ | F_{t-1}^{y-} \vee F_t^{x-}] = E[z^+ | F^{x(t)}],$$

$$\forall z^+ \in L(\Omega, F_t^{y+} \vee F_t^{x+}, \mathbb{R}^+),$$

$$\Leftrightarrow E[a^+ | F_{t-1}^{y-} \vee F_t^{x-}] = E[a^+ | F^{x(t)}],$$

$$\forall a^+ \in L(\Omega, F^{x(t+1)} \vee F^{y(t)}, \mathbb{R}^+).$$

See Proposition 5.10.1 of the lecture notes and of the book.

# Concept Stochastic System

## Def. Stochastic system (continued)

Call a stochastic system:

(a) a **stationary system**

if the joint state and output process  $(x, y)$  is a jointly stationary process;

(b) a **Gaussian system**

if the state and output processes,  $(x, y)$  is a jointly Gaussian process;

(c) a **finite stochastic system**

if both the state process and the output process are finite-valued processes.

# Outline

Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

**Gaussian Systems Representations**

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

Concluding Remarks

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. Gaussian system representation (1)

Define a **time-varying Gaussian system representation** (in discrete-time and in a forward representation) if the output and the state process are specified by the system equations,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A(t)x(t) + M(t)v(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= C(t)x(t) + N(t)v(t);\end{aligned}$$

where the objects are described by the collection,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Omega, F, P, T, \mathbb{R}^{n_y}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_y}), \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_x}), \\ y, x, v, x_0, A, C, M, N \end{array} \right\}.$$

(continued on next slide)



# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. Gaussian system representation (2)

where the objects are described by,

$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ , a complete probability space,

$T = \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , **time index set**,

$x_0 : \Omega \rightarrow X = \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$ ,  $x_0 \in G(m_{x_0}, Q_{x_0})$ ,

$v : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_v}$ , standard Gaussian white noise,

$v(t) \in G(0, I_{n_v})$ ,  $\forall t \in T$ ,

$\mathcal{F}^{x_0}, \mathcal{F}_{\infty}^v$  independent  $\sigma$ -algebras,

$A : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_x}$ ,  $C : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_x}$ ,  $M : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_v}$ ,  $N : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_v}$ ,

$(\mathbb{R}^{n_y}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_y}))$ , **output space**,  $(\mathbb{R}^{n_x}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_x}))$ , **state space**,

$y : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_y}$ , **output process**,

$x : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$ , **state process**.

(continued on next slide)

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. Gaussian system representation (3)

Define a

time-invariant Gaussian system representation,

if  $\forall t \in T$ ,

$A(t) = A(0)$ ,  $C(t) = C(0)$ ,  $M(t) = M(0)$ ,  $N(t) = N(0)$ ; define,

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_x}$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_x}$ ,  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_v}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_v}$ ,

$A = A(0)$ , etc.;

$x(t+1) = Ax(t) + Mv(t)$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$ ,

$y(t) = Cx(t) + Nv(t)$ ;

where  $v(t) \in G(0, I_{n_v})$ ,  $x_0 \in G(m_{x_0}, Q_{x_0})$ ;

notation  $(n_y, n_x, n_v, A, C, M, N)$ .

See Lecture 4 for

- (1) properties of time-invariant Gaussian systems,
- (2) specific conditions to be used.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Comments. Gaussian system representation

In the literature one finds a Gaussian system representation of the form,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A(t)x(t) + M_1(t)r(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= C(t)x(t) + N_2(t)w(t), \\r : \Omega \times T &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_r}, \quad w : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_w},\end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  and  $w$  are each a standard Gaussian white noise process, and  $r$  and  $w$  are independent ( $\Leftrightarrow F_\infty^r$  and  $F_\infty^w$  are independent).

Apply a transformation,  $v : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_r+n_w}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}v(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} r(t) \\ w(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad Q_v(t) = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n_r} & 0 \\ 0 & I_{n_w} \end{pmatrix} = I_{n_r+n_w}, \\M(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} M_1(t) & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & N_2(t) \end{pmatrix}, \\&\Rightarrow M(t)v(t) = M_1(t)r(t), \quad N(t)v(t) = N_2(t)w(t).\end{aligned}$$

Hence one obtains a Gaussian system representation.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Comments. Gaussian system representation

In the literature one finds a Gaussian system representation of the form,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A(t)x(t) + M(t)v(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t+1) &= C(t)x(t) + N(t)v(t).\end{aligned}$$

In the literature,  
there are results for the system representation with  $y(t+1)$ .

The above system representation differs  
from the system representation of the Def. stated on a previous slide,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A(t)x(t) + M(t)v(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= C(t)x(t) + N(t)v(t).\end{aligned}$$

These two system representations cannot be converted into each other.  
Choice in this lecture based on the convention of system theory.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. State-output conditional independence

Consider a Gaussian system representation.

This system representation is called

**state-output conditionally independent** if,

$$(F^{x(t+1)}, F^{y(t)} | F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y) \in CI, \forall t \in T.$$

## Proposition 4.3.3. State-output conditional independence

A Gaussian system representation is state-output conditionally independent if and only if,

$$0 = M(t)N(t)^T = E[M(t)v(t) (N(t)v(t))^T], \forall t \in T.$$

In the literature, attention often restricted to the state-output conditional independent case by assuming that the state and the output noise terms are independent.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. State-transition function

Consider a Gaussian system representation.

Define the **state-transition function**,

$$\Phi(t+1, s) = \begin{cases} A(t)\Phi(t, s), & s < t+1, \\ I_{n_x}, & s = t+1, \\ 0, & s > t+1; \end{cases}$$

$\Phi : T \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_x}$ ; then,

$$\Phi(t, s) = A(t-1)A(t-2) \dots A(s), \quad s < t.$$

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties of a Gaussian system representation (1)

Consider a Gaussian system representation,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A(t)x(t) + M(t)v(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= C(t)x(t) + N(t)v(t).\end{aligned}$$

(a) Independence of the  $\sigma$ -algebras,

$$F_t^{v+} = \sigma(\{v(s), \forall s \geq t\}), \quad F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y, \quad \forall t \in T.$$

Proof.

$F_t^{v+}, F_{t-1}^{v-}$ , independent  $\forall t \in T$ , by  $v$  Gaussian white noise;

$F^{x_0}, F_\infty^v$ , independent by assumption,

$\Rightarrow F_t^{v+}, F^{x_0} \vee F_{t-1}^{v-}$ , independent,

$(F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y) \subseteq (F^{x_0} \vee F_{t-1}^v), \forall t \in T$ , by induction,

$\Rightarrow F_t^{v+}, F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y$ , independent  $\forall t \in T$ .

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties of a Gaussian system representation (2)

(b) Explicit expressions for  $s, t \in T, s < t$ ,

$$x(t) = \Phi(t, s)x(s) + \sum_{r=s}^{t-1} \Phi(t-1, r)M(r)v(r),$$

$$y(t) = C(t)\Phi(t, s)x(s) + \sum_{r=s}^{t-1} C(t)\Phi(t-1, r)M(r)v(r) + N(t)v(t).$$

Proof. By induction.

$$x(t) = A(t-1)x(t-1) + M(t-1)v(t-1),$$

$$y(t) = C(t)x(t) + N(t)v(t), \text{ etc.}$$



# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties of a Gaussian system representation (3)

(c) The process  $(x, y)$  is a jointly Gaussian process.

Proof.

- (1)  $x_0 \in G$ ,  $v$  Gaussian white noise process,  
 $F^{x_0}, F_\infty^v$ , independent,  
 $\Rightarrow x_0, v(0), v(1), \dots$ ,  
 are independent jointly Gaussian random variables;
- (2)  $\forall t_0 = 0, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in T$ ,  
 $(x(0), x(t_1), x(t_2), \dots, x(t_k), y(0), y(t_1), \dots, y(t_k))$ ,  
 are jointly Gaussian random variables,  
 because by (b) every element is a linear function  
 of the same jointly Gaussian random variables,  
 $x_0, v(0), v(1), \dots, v(t_k)$ .

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties of a Gaussian system representation (4)

(d) A Gaussian system representation defines a stochastic system.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E \left[ \exp \left( i \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \right) \mid F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y \right] \\
 &= \exp \left( i \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} A(t) \\ C(t) \end{bmatrix} x(t) \right) E \left[ \exp \left( i \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} M(t) \\ N(t) \end{bmatrix} v(t) \right) \mid F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y \right] \\
 &= \exp \left( i \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} A(t) \\ C(t) \end{bmatrix} x(t) - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} M(t)M(t)^T & M(t)N(t)^T \\ N(t)M(t)^T & N(t)N(t)^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix} \right) \\
 &= E \left[ \exp \left( i \begin{bmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \right) \mid F^{x(t)} \right], \quad \forall (w_x, w_y) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_y}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Last step by a property of conditional expectation.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties of a Gaussian system representation (5)

(e) The state process is a Gauss-Markov process with,

$$x(t) \in G(m_x(t), Q_x(t)),$$

$$m_x(t) = E[x(t)], \quad m_x : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x},$$

$$Q_x(t) = E[(x(t) - m_x(t))(x(t) - m_x(t))^T], \quad Q_x : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_x},$$

$$m_x(t+1) = A(t)m_x(t), \quad m_x(0) = m_{x_0},$$

$$Q_x(t+1) = A(t)Q_x(t)A(t)^T + M(t)M(t)^T, \quad Q_x(0) = Q_{x_0},$$

$$W_x(t, s) = E[(x(t) - m_x(t))(x(s) - m_x(s))^T]$$

$$= \begin{cases} Q_x(t), & s = t, \\ \Phi(t, s)Q_x(s), & s < t, \\ Q_x(t)\Phi(s, t)^T, & s > t. \end{cases}$$

$m_x$  called the **mean value function** of  $x$ ,

$Q_x$  called the **variance function** of  $x$ ,

$W_x$  called the **covariance function** of  $x$ .

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties Gaussian system representation (6)

(e) Proof.

$$m_x(t+1) = E[x(t+1)] = E[A(t)x(t) + M(t)v(t)] = A(t)m_x(t),$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_x(t+1) &= E[(x(t+1) - m_x(t+1))(x(t+1) - m_x(t+1))^T] \\ &= E[(A(t)(x(t) - m_x(t)) + M(t)v(t))(\dots)^T] \\ &= A(t)Q_x(t)A(t)^T + M(t)M(t)^T; \end{aligned}$$

$$x(t) - m_x(t) = \Phi(t, s)(x(s) - m_x(s)) + \sum_{r=s}^{t-1} \Phi(t-1, r)M(r)v(r),$$

$$\begin{aligned} W_x(t, s) &= E[(x(t) - m_x(t))(x(s) - m_x(s))^T] \\ &= \Phi(t, s)W_x(s, s) = \Phi(t, s)Q_x(s), \text{ if } s < t; \end{aligned}$$

continued;

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties Gaussian system representation (7)

(e) Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E[\exp(iw^T x(t+1)) | F_t^x] \\
 &= \exp(iw^T A(t)x(t)) E[E[\exp(iw^T M(t)v(t)) | F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^v] | F_t^x] \\
 &= \exp(iw^T A(t)x(t) - \frac{1}{2} w^T M(t)M(t)^T w) \\
 &= E[\exp(iw^T x(t+1)) | F^{x(t)}];
 \end{aligned}$$

hence  $x$  is a Markov process.

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Theorem. Properties Gaussian system representation (8)

(f) Output process is a Gaussian process,

$$\begin{aligned}
 y(t) &\in G(m_y(t), Q_y(t)), \\
 m_y(t) &= E[y(t)] = C(t)m_x(t), \\
 Q_y(t) &= C(t)Q_x(t)C(t)^T + N(t)N(t)^T, \\
 W_y(t, s) &= E[(y(t) - m_y(t))(y(s) - m_y(s))^T] \\
 &= \begin{cases} Q_y(t), & \text{if } s = t, \\ C(t)\Phi(t, s)Q_x(s)C(s)^T + C(t)\Phi(t-1, s)M(s)N(s)^T, & \text{if } s < t, \end{cases} \\
 Q_{x+,y}(t) &= E[(x(t+1) - m_x(t+1))(y(t) - m_y(t))^T] \\
 &= A(t)Q_x(t)C(t)^T + M(t)N(t)^T; \\
 y(t) - m_y(t) &= C(t)\phi(t, s)(x(s) - m_x(s)) + \sum \dots + N(t)v(t), \\
 y(s) - m_y(s) &= C(s)(x(s) - m_x(s)) + N(s)v(s).
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof. See book, similar to proof of (e).

# Outline

Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

Gaussian Systems Representations

**Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations**

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

Concluding Remarks

# Gaussian Systems Representations

## Def. Backward Gaussian system representation

Define a **backward Gaussian system representation** by the formulas,

$$x(t-1) = A_b(t)x(t) + M_b(t)v_b(t), \quad x(0) = x_0,$$

$$y(t-1) = C_b(t)x(t) + N_b(t)v_b(t),$$

$$T = \{0, -1, -2, \dots\}.$$

See book for corresponding result on probability distributions of  $(x, y)$ .  
Backward representations needed in stochastic realization theory.



# Forward and Backward Representations

## Theorem. Forward and backward representations (1)

Consider a Gaussian stochastic system with  $(x, y)$ . Assume,

$$0 = E[x(t)], 0 = E[y(t)], \forall t \in T,$$

$$Q_x(t) = E[x(t)x(t)^T] \succ 0, \forall t \in T.$$

(a) There exists a forward Gaussian system representation of the form,

$$x(t+1) = A_f(t)x(t) + M_f v_f(t), \quad x(0) = x_0,$$

$$y(t) = C_f(t)x(t) + N_f v_f(t),$$

$$A_f(t) = E[x(t+1)x(t)^T]Q_x(t)^{-1}, \quad C_f(t) = E[y(t)x(t)^T]Q_x(t)^{-1},$$

$$v_f(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t+1) - A_f(t)x(t) \\ y(t) - C_f(t)x(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_f : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x+n_y},$$

$$v_f \text{ Gaussian white noise, } v_f(t) \in G(0, Q_{v_f}(t)),$$

$$F^{x_0}, F_t^{v_f}, \text{ independent, } \forall t \in T,$$

$$M_f = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n_x} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N_f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_{n_y} \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Forward and Backward Representations

## Theorem. Forward and backward representations (2)

(b) There exists a backward Gaussian representation of the form,

$$x(t-1) = A_b(t)x(t) + M_b v_b(t), \quad x(0) = x_0,$$

$$y(t-1) = C_b(t)x(t) + N_b v_b(t),$$

$$A_b(t) = E[x(t-1)x(t)^T]Q_x(t)^{-1},$$

$$C_b(t) = E[y(t-1)x(t)^T]Q_x(t)^{-1},$$

$$v_b(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t-1) - A_b(t)x(t) \\ y(t-1) - C_b(t)x(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_b : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x+n_y},$$

$v_b$  Gaussian white noise,  $v_b(t) \in G(0, Q_{v_f}(t))$ ,

$F^{x_0}, F_t^{v_b}$ , independent,  $\forall t \in T$ ,

$$M_b = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n_x} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N_b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_{n_y} \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Forward and Backward Representations

## Theorem. Forward and backward representations (3)

(c) Relations between forward and backward Gaussian representations.

$$A_f(t)Q_x(t) = Q_x(t+1)A_b(t+1)^T,$$

$$C_b(t)Q_x(t) = C_f(t-1)Q_x(t-1)A_f(t-1)^T + N_bQ_{v_f}(t-1)M_b^T,$$

$$C_f(t)Q_x(t) = C_b(t+1)Q_x(t+1)A_b(t+1)^T + N_bQ_{v_f}(t+1)M_b^T.$$

# Forward and Backward Representations

## Proof. Forward and backward representations

(a) Because by assumption there is a Gaussian system with the (state, output) processes  $(x, y)$ , one obtains,

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[ \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \mid F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y \right] &= E \left[ \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \mid F^{x(t)} \right] \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} A_f(t) \\ C_f(t) \end{bmatrix} x(t), \quad \text{by } (x(t+1), y(t), x(t)) \in G, \end{aligned}$$

by conditional expectation of Gaussian rvs (Theorem 2.8.3.(a)),

$$\begin{aligned} &E \left[ \exp \left( i w^T \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \right) \mid F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y \right] \\ &= \exp \left( i w^T \begin{bmatrix} A_f(t) \\ C_f(t) \end{bmatrix} x(t) - \frac{1}{2} w^T Q_{v_f}(t) w \right), \end{aligned}$$

by a property of conditional expectation (Theorem 2.8.3.(c)).

# Forward and Backward Representations

## Proof. Forward and backward representations (continued)

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E[\exp(iw^T v_f(t)) | F_{t-1}^{v_f}] \\
 &= E \left[ E \left[ \exp \left( iw^T \begin{bmatrix} x(t+1) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} \right) | F_t^x \vee F_{t-1}^y \right] \times \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \exp \left( iw^T \begin{bmatrix} -A_f(t) \\ -C_f(t) \end{bmatrix} x(t) \right) | F_{t-1}^{v_f} \right] \\
 &= \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} w^T Q_{v_f}(t) w \right) = E[\exp(iw^T v_f(t))],
 \end{aligned}$$

hence  $v_f(t)$  is independent of  $F_{t-1}^{v_f}$  for all  $t \in T$ ,

$v_f(t) \in G(0, Q_{v_f}(t))$  for all  $t \in T$ ,

hence  $v_f$  is a Gaussian white noise process.

(b) This proof is similar to that of (a).

(c) This follows directly from (a) and (b).

# Outline

Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

Gaussian Systems Representations

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

**Observability of a Deterministic Linear System**

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

Concluding Remarks

# Observability

## Motivation of observability

- ▶ Observability is a major concept of system theory and of control theory.
- ▶ It is used as a condition for observers and for control with partial observations.
- ▶ Observability of a linear deterministic system and of a nonlinear deterministic system have been defined. These are used often in control theory.
- ▶ Equivalent conditions for observability have been proven which can be checked by computations.
- ▶ Needed for a stochastic system:  
What is a definition of stochastic observability?
- ▶ Below discussed first,  
observability of a linear deterministic system.

# Observability

## Def. Injectivity of a function

Call a function  $h$  **injective** if,

$$h : \mathbb{R}^{n_x} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_y}, \quad n_x, n_y \in \mathbb{Z}_+;$$

$$\forall x_a, x_b \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, \quad h(x_a) = h(x_b) \Rightarrow x_a = x_b.$$

## Remark

- ▶ Think of  $y = h(x)$  with  $x$  a state and  $y$  an observation.
- ▶ A direct consequence of this definition is that:  
if  $h$  is injective  
then from  $y_a = h(x_a)$  one can **uniquely** determine  $x_a$ .
- ▶ Concept of an injective function  
is from the area **algebra of sets**.



# Observability

## Proposition. Characterization

Consider the linear observation function

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= Cx, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_x}; \quad \text{define,} \\ \ker(C) &= \{x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x} \mid Cx_a = 0\} = N(C), \\ \text{Im}(C) &= \{Cx_b \in \mathbb{R}^{n_y} \mid \forall x_b \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}\} = \text{Range}(C). \end{aligned}$$

Call  $\ker(C)$  the **kernel** of  $C$  or the **null space** of  $C$ , and call  $\text{Im}(C)$  the **image** of  $C$  or the **range space** of  $C$ .

Equivalence:

- (a)** The function  $h(x) = Cx$  is injective.
- (b)**  $\forall x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, Cx_a = 0 \Rightarrow x_a = 0$ .
- (c)**  $\ker(C) \subseteq \{0\} \Leftrightarrow \ker(C) = \{0\}$ .
- (d)**  $\text{rank}(C) = n_x$ .

# Observability

## Proof of proposition

$h(x) = Cx$  is injective

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x_a, x_b \in X, Cx_a = Cx_b \Rightarrow x_a = x_b,$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x_a, x_b \in X, C(x_a - x_b) = 0 \Rightarrow x_a - x_b = 0,$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x_a \in X, Cx_a = 0 \Rightarrow x_a = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ker(C) \subseteq \{0\},$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ker(C) = \{0\}, \text{ converse inclusion always true,}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(C) = n_x; \text{ by linear algebra, because}$$

$$\text{rank}(C) + 0 = \dim(\text{Range}(C)) + \dim(\ker(C)) = \dim(\text{Domain}(C)) = n_x.$$

For formula of linear algebra, see:

Chapter 17, [1], Section 8.7, Th. 11, p. 242;

Chapter 17, [8], paragraph 50, Th. 1, p. 90.

# Observability

## Example

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} I_{n_x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_y \times n_x}, \text{ rank}(C) = n_x;$$

$$0 = Cx_a = \begin{bmatrix} I_{n_x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x_a \Rightarrow x_a = 0.$$

How to determine  $x_a$  from  $y$  if map is injective?

$$y = Cx_a$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_{n_x} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x_a \Rightarrow x_a = y_1.$$

# Observability

## Def. Observability of a linear deterministic system

Consider a time-varying linear deterministic system,

$$x(t+1) = A(t)x(t), \quad x(0) = x_0,$$

$$y(t) = C(t)x(t), \quad T = \mathbb{N}, \quad x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x},$$

$x : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$ ,  $y : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_y}$ , defined above;

define  $\forall t_0 \in T$ ,  $t_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that  $t_0 + t_1 - 1 \in T$ ,

the state  $x(t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$  to be

observable from the future outputs on the interval

$$\{t_0, t_0 + 1, \dots, t_0 + t_1 - 1\} \subseteq T,$$

if the following state-to-output map is injective

$$x(t_0) \mapsto \{y(t_0), y(t_0 + 1), \dots, y(t_0 + t_1 - 1)\}.$$

Call this system an **observable system** if the above condition holds for all  $t_0 \in T$ ,  $t_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  sufficiently large, and for all  $x(t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$ .

# Observability

## Comments on observability of a linear system

- ▶ Observability means that from the future outputs  $\{y(t_0), y(t_0 + 1), \dots, y(t_0 + t_1 - 1)\}$ , one can uniquely determine the state  $x(t_0)$  at the initial time  $t_0 \in T$ .
- ▶ In state-to-output map, one understands output as the output on the corresponding interval of time.
- ▶ See Section 21.3 of the book for observability of a deterministic linear system.

# Observability

## Proposition

Consider a time-varying linear system and  $t_0 \in T$  and  $t_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  etc.

The state  $x(t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$

is observable from the future outputs on the interval  
if and only if,

$$n_x = \text{rank}(O(A, C, t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1));$$

define,

$$O(A, C, t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1) = \begin{bmatrix} C(t_0) \\ C(t_0 + 1)\Phi(t_0 + 1, t_0) \\ \vdots \\ C(t_0 + t_1 - 1)\Phi(t_0 + t_1 - 1, t_0) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Call  $O(\cdot)$  the **observability matrix of the corresponding interval**.

# Observability

## Proof of proposition

The state-to-output map for this linear system has the form,

$$\bar{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y(t_0) \\ y(t_0 + 1) \\ \vdots \\ y(t_0 + t_1 - 1) \end{bmatrix} = O(A, C, t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1) x(t_0).$$

$x(t_0) \mapsto \bar{y}$  is injective,

$\Leftrightarrow$  (by an earlier proposition),

$$n_x = \text{rank}(O(A, C, t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)).$$

# Observability

## Def. Observable pair

Consider a time-invariant linear system representation,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= Ax(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= Cx(t).\end{aligned}$$

Call the matrix tuple  $(A, C)$  an **observable pair** if

$$n_x = \text{rank}(O_f(A, C)); \quad \text{define}$$

$$O_f(A, C) = \text{obsmat}(A, C) = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n_x-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Call  $O_f(A, C)$  the **observability matrix** of the time-invariant linear system.



# Observability

## Proposition

Consider a time-invariant linear system and  $t_0 \in T$ .

Equivalence of:

- (a) The state  $x(t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$   
is observable from the future outputs on a sufficient large interval;
- (b)  $(A, C)$  is an observable pair;
- (c)  $n_x = \text{rank}(O_f(A, C))$ .

# Outline

Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

Gaussian Systems Representations

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

**Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability**

Concluding Remarks

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Def. Stochastic observability

Consider a stochastic system,

$$\{\Omega, F, P, T, \mathbb{R}^{n_y}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_y}), \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_x}), y, x\}.$$

Call this system

stochastically observable on the interval

$$\{t_0, t_0 + 1, \dots, t_0 + t_1 - 1\} \subseteq T$$

if the stochastic state-to-output map

is injective on the support of  $x(t_0)$ ,

$$x(t_0) \mapsto \text{cpdf}(\{y(t_0), y(t_0 + 1), \dots, y(t_0 + t_1 - 1)\} | F^{x(t_0)}).$$

The stochastic state-to-output map

goes from a random variable to a conditional probability measure.

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Comments on stochastic observability

- ▶ Terms used:  
the stochastic state-to-output map  
the stochastic state-to-future-output map.
- ▶ By measurements one can **in principle** approximate the conditional measure used above.
- ▶ Support of the Gaussian random variable  $x(t_0)$  is  $\text{Range}(Q_x(t_0))$ .

$$\text{Range}(Q_x(t_0)) = \{Q_x(t_0)x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x} \mid \forall x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}\}.$$

- ▶ Stochastic observability of a time-invariant stochastic system is to be presented in Lecture 4.

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Def. Stochastic co-observability

Consider a stochastic system,

$$\{\Omega, F, P, T, \mathbb{R}^{n_y}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_y}), \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, B(\mathbb{R}^{n_x}), y, x\}.$$

Call this system

stochastically co-observable on the interval

$$\{t_0 - 1, t_0 - 2, \dots, t_0 - t_1\} \subseteq T$$

if the stochastic state-to-past-output map

is injective on the support of  $x(t_0)$ ,

$$x(t_0) \mapsto \text{cpdf}(\{y(t_0 - 1), y(t_0 - 2), \dots, y(t_0 - t_1)\} | F^{x(t_0)}).$$

## Remark

Stochastic observability and stochastic co-observability are different concepts.

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Theorem. Stochastic observability of a Gaussian system

Consider a time-varying forward Gaussian system representation,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t+1) &= A_f(t)x(t) + M_f(t)v_f(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t) &= C_f(t)x(t) + N_f(t)v_f(t), \\v_f(t) &\in G(0, I_{n_v}), \quad x(t) \in G(0, Q_x(t)).\end{aligned}$$

This system is stochastically observable on the interval,

$$\{t_0, t_0 + 1, \dots, t_0 + t_1 - 1\},$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ker(O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)Q_x(t_0)) = \ker(Q_x(t_0));$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)) = n_x, \quad (\text{if } 0 \prec Q_x(t_0));$$

$$O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} C_f(t_0) \\ C_f(t_0 + 1)\Phi_f(t_0 + 1, t) \\ \vdots \\ C_f(t_0 + t_1 - 1)\Phi_f(t_0 + t_1 - 1, t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Proof of theorem (1)

$$\bar{y}(t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} y(t_0) \\ y(t_0 + 1) \\ \vdots \\ y(t_0 + t_1 - 1) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{t_1 n_y}, \quad \bar{v}_f = \begin{bmatrix} v_f(t_0) \\ \vdots \\ v_f(t_0 + t_1) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(t_1+1)n_{v_f}},$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t_0 + s) = & C_f(t_0 + s)\Phi(t_0 + s, t_0)x(t_0) + \\ & + \left[ \sum_{r=t_0}^{t_0+s-1} C_f(t_0 + s)\Phi(t_0 + s - 1, r)M_f(r)v_f(r) \right] + \\ & + N_f(t_0 + s)v_f(t_0 + s), \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{y}(t_0) = O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)x(t_0) + \bar{M}_f(t_0)\bar{v}_f;$$

Continued.

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Proof of theorem (2)

Note the stochastic state-to-output map,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & x(t_0) \mapsto E[\exp(iw^T \bar{y}(t_0)) | F^{x(t_0)}] \\
 & = \exp(iw^T O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)x(t_0) - w^T Q w/2), \quad \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^{t_1 n_y}, \\
 & \quad \text{injective on the support of } x(t_0), \\
 & \Leftrightarrow x(t_0) \mapsto O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)x(t_0), \text{ injective on the support of } x(t_0), \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \forall x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}, O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)Q_x(t_0)x_a = 0 \Rightarrow Q_x(t_0)x_a = 0, \\
 & \quad \text{injectivity of a linear map,} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \ker(O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)Q_x(t_0)) \subseteq \ker(Q_x(t_0)), \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \ker(O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)Q_x(t_0)) = \ker(Q_x(t_0)), \\
 & \quad \text{because the converse inclusion always holds;} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \\
 & n_x = \text{rank}(O_f(t_0 : t_0 + t_1 - 1)), \text{ (if } 0 \prec Q_x(t_0)\text{)}.
 \end{aligned}$$



# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Theorem. Stochastic co-observability of a Gaussian system

Consider a time-varying backward Gaussian system representation,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t-1) &= A_b(t)x(t) + M_b(t)v_b(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \\y(t-1) &= C_b(t)x(t) + N_b(t)v_b(t), \quad v_b(t) \in G(0, I_{n_v}), \\x(t) &\in G(0, Q_x(t)).\end{aligned}$$

This system is stochastically co-observable on the interval,

$$\{t_0 - 1, t_0 - 2, \dots, t_0 - t_1\},$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ker(O_b(t_0 - 1 : t_0 - t_1)Q_x(t_0)) = \ker(Q_x(t_0));$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(O_b(t_0 - 1 : t_0 - t_1)) = n_x, \text{ (if } 0 \prec Q_x(t_0)\text{);}$$

$$O_b(t_0 - 1 : t_0 - t_1)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} C_b(t_0) \\ C_b(t_0 - 1)\Phi_b(t_0 - 1, t_0) \\ \vdots \\ C_b(t_0 - t_1 + 1)\Phi_b(t_0 - t_1 + 1, t_0) \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Stochastic Observability and Co-Observability

## Remark

- ▶ Stochastic observability and stochastic co-observability are not identical.  
A Gaussian system representation can be stochastically observable and simultaneously not be stochastically co-observable.  
See an exercise of Homework Set 4.
- ▶ Stochastic observability and stochastic co-observability of a finite stochastic system is not fully characterized.  
More research to be done.

# Outline

Example

Concept of a Stochastic System

Gaussian Systems Representations

Forward and Backward Gaussian System Representations

Observability of a Deterministic Linear System

Stochastic Observability and Stochastic Co-Observability

**Concluding Remarks**

# Concluding Remarks

## Overview of Lecture 03

- ▶ Concept of a stochastic system.  
Symmetric in time (forward and backward representations), and for any probability distributions.  
Concept of a state of a stochastic system.  
The state process is a Markov process.
- ▶ Gaussian system representations.
- ▶ Any Gaussian system has both a forward and a backward Gaussian system representation.  
The relation of these two representations is specified.
- ▶ Concepts of time-varying stochastic observability and of time-varying stochastic co-observability, and their characterizations.