

Polynomial and structured matrix methods in system theory and signal processing

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linear time-invariant
dynamic systems \leftrightarrow polynomial
matrices \leftrightarrow structured
matrices

Linear time-invariant (LTI) models are used for

- simulation
- filtering/smoothing/prediction, and
- control

they are in the core of control theory and signal processing.

Polynomials are used for representation of LTI systems.

Structured matrix methods are used for

- deriving LTI models from data — system identification
- analysis and synthesis of LTI models.

Outline

Introduction

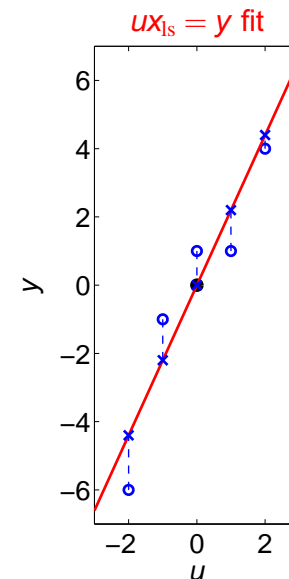
Polynomial representations of LTI systems

Structured low-rank approximation

Applications

Algorithms

What is a model?



Classic problem: Fit the points

$$w_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}, w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, w_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

by a line passing through the origin.

Classic solution: Define $w_i =: \text{col}(u_i, y_i)$ and solve the least squares problem

$$\text{col}(u_1, \dots, u_5)x = \text{col}(y_1, \dots, y_5).$$

The model is the line

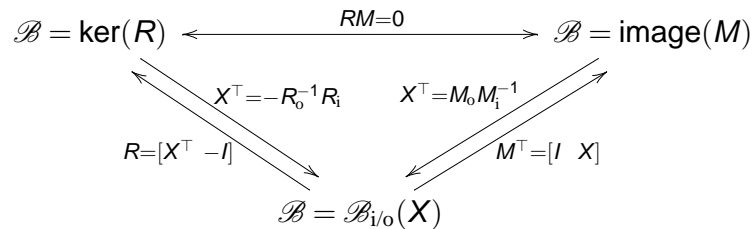
$$\mathcal{B} := \{ w = \text{col}(u, y) \mid ux_{ls} = y \}$$

and not the equation $ux_{ls} = y$.

Linear static model: subspace $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathbb{R}^w$

Representations of a linear static model $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^w$:

- **kernel** $\mathcal{B} = \ker(R) = \{ w \mid R w = 0 \}$ $(\begin{bmatrix} R_i & R_o \end{bmatrix} := R)$
- **image** $\mathcal{B} = \text{image}(M) = \{ w = M v \mid \text{for all } v \}$ $(\begin{bmatrix} M_i \\ M_o \end{bmatrix} := M)$
- **input/output** $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{i/o}(X) := \{ w = \text{col}(u, y) \mid X u = y \}$



Polynomial representations of LTI systems

Theorem (J. C. Willems)

$\mathcal{B} \subset (\mathbb{R}^w)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ is LTI if and only if there is a polynomial matrix

$$R(z) = R_0 + R_1 z + \dots + R_\ell z^\ell$$

such that

$$\mathcal{B} = \ker(R(\sigma)),$$

i.e., \mathcal{B} is the kernel of a linear difference operator $R(\sigma)$.

$$\begin{aligned} w \in \mathcal{B} &\iff R(\sigma)w = 0 \\ &\iff R_0 w + R_1 \sigma w + \dots + R_\ell \sigma^\ell w = 0 \\ &\iff R_0 w(t) + R_1 w(t+1) + \dots + R_\ell w(t+\ell) = 0, \text{ for all } t \end{aligned}$$

Linear time-invariant dynamic models

Static model with w variables is a subset of \mathbb{R}^w .

Dynamic model with w variables and time axis \mathbb{T} is a subset of the set of functions from \mathbb{T} to \mathbb{R}^w $(\mathbb{R}^w)^{\mathbb{T}} := \{ w \mid w : \mathbb{T} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^w \}$.

$\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{R}$ — continuous time, $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{Z}$ — discrete time

$\mathcal{B} \subset (\mathbb{R}^w)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ is **linear** if \mathcal{B} is a subspace.

Define the **shift operator** $(\sigma w)(t) = w(t+1)$.

$\mathcal{B} \subset (\mathbb{R}^w)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ is **time-invariant** if $\sigma \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}$.

Adding more structure: Input/output partitions

Define

$$\begin{bmatrix} Q & -P \end{bmatrix} := R \Pi, \quad \text{with } P \text{ square}$$

where $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times w}$ is a permutation matrix. Then

$$w = \Pi \begin{bmatrix} u \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q(\sigma)u = P(\sigma)y$$

$\det(P) \neq 0 \implies u$ is an “input” and y is an “output” of \mathcal{B}

Input/output partitions are not unique, however,

$$\mathbf{p}(\mathcal{B}) := \dim(y) = \text{rank}(R) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{m}(\mathcal{B}) := \dim(u) = w - \mathbf{p}(\mathcal{B})$$

are invariants of \mathcal{B} , called output and input cardinalities.

Input/output representation

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{i/o}}(\Pi, P, Q) := \{ \Pi \text{col}(u, y) \mid Q(\sigma)u = P(\sigma)y \} \quad (\text{I/O})$$

Theorem $\mathcal{B} \subset (\mathbb{R}^w)^\mathbb{Z}$ is LTI iff there is an I/O representation, i.e., there are Π, P, Q , such that $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{\text{i/o}}(\Pi, P, Q)$.

Generically, Π can be chosen to be the identity matrix I , in which case we write $\mathcal{B}_{\text{i/o}}(P, Q)$.

$\text{lag}(\mathcal{B})$ — the smallest possible $\deg(R) = \deg(P)$, such that $\ker(R(\sigma)) = \mathcal{B}$.

Controllability test in terms of I/O representation

For numerically checking controllability of \mathcal{B} , we need to relate this property to the parameters of \mathcal{B} in a particular representation.

Consider an I/O representation $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{\text{i/o}}(P, Q)$.

Theorem $\mathcal{B}_{\text{i/o}}(P, Q)$ is controllable iff P and Q are coprime.

\implies checking controllability is a **coprimeness test problem** for a pair of polynomial matrices.

Controllability

Definition \mathcal{B} is controllable if for all $w_1, w_2 \in \mathcal{B}$, $\exists w \in \mathcal{B}$, $\tau > 0$, such that $w_1(t) = w(t)$, for all $t < 0$ and $w_2(t) = w(t)$, for all $t \geq \tau$.

Think of w_1 as a given past traj. and w_2 as a desired future traj.

\mathcal{B} controllable \iff any given traj. can be steered to any desired trajectory

important condition for pole-placement, LQ, H_∞ , ... control, e.g.,

controllability \iff solvability of the state feedback pole-placement problem

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polynomial \times polynomial \iff Toeplitz matrix \times vector

$$c(z) = a(z)b(z) \iff \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{\ell_c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 & & & & \\ a_1 & a_0 & & & \\ \vdots & a_1 & \ddots & & \\ a_{\ell_a} & \vdots & \ddots & a_0 & \\ & a_{\ell_a} & & a_1 & \\ & & \ddots & \vdots & \\ & & & a_{\ell_a} & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_{\ell_b} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\iff : \quad c = S_{\ell_b}(a)b \quad \iff \quad c = S_{\ell_a}(b)a$$

polynomial $c(z) \in \mathbb{R}[z]$, $\deg(c) = \ell_c \iff$ vector $c \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell_c+1}$

polynomial operations \iff structured matrix operations

Degree of GCD \leftrightarrow rank of Sylvester matrix

Theorem The degree of the GCD c of p and q is equal to the rank deficiency of the Sylvester matrix $[S_{\ell_p}(q) \ S_{\ell_q}(p)]$, i.e.,

$$\deg(c) = \ell_p + \ell_q - \text{rank}([S_{\ell_p}(q) \ S_{\ell_q}(p)]).$$

computing the GCD's degree \iff rank test of Sylvester structured matrix

rank test is numerically notoriously bad problem

Numerical rank of an unstructured matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$
minimal rank of a matrix \hat{A} in an ε -neighbourhood of A

For Sylvester structured matrix, however, we want to find the minimal rank of a **Sylvester** matrix in an ε -neighbourhood of A

Example: computing the GCD of two polynomials

$$\begin{aligned} p \in \mathbb{R}[z] \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{R}[z] \\ \text{have common divisor} \\ c \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(c) = \ell_c \end{aligned} \iff \begin{aligned} \exists a \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(a) = \ell_p - \ell_c \\ \exists b \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(b) = \ell_q - \ell_c \\ \text{such that } p = ca \text{ and } q = cb \end{aligned}$$

$$\iff qa - pb = 0$$

$$\iff [S_{\ell_a}(q) \ S_{\ell_b}(p)] \begin{bmatrix} a \\ -b \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\iff [S_{\ell_a}(q) \ S_{\ell_b}(p)] \text{ is rank deficient}$$

$$([S_{\ell_a}(q) \ S_{\ell_b}(p)]) \text{ is } (\ell_p + \ell_q + 1 - \ell_c) \times (\ell_p + \ell_q + 2 - 2\ell_c)$$

Approx. GCD \leftrightarrow Sylvester matrix low-rank approx.

Unstructured low-rank approximation:

$$\min_{\hat{A}} \|A - \hat{A}\| \quad \text{subject to} \quad \text{rank}(\hat{A}) \leq r.$$

Sylvester structured ℓ_c -rank approximation:

$$\varepsilon := \min_{\hat{p}, \hat{q}} \|\text{col}(p, q) - \text{col}(\hat{p}, \hat{q})\| \quad \text{subject to} \\ \text{rank}([S_{\ell_p - \ell_c}(\hat{q}) \ S_{\ell_q - \ell_c}(\hat{p})]) \leq \ell_p + \ell_q - 2\ell_c + 1.$$

By construction \hat{p} and \hat{q} have GCD c of degree at least ℓ_c
 \rightsquigarrow approximate GCD of p and q .

backward error ε of c — the smallest size perturbation on p, q that makes c exact GCD

System theoretic meaning of approx. GCD

The LTI system $\mathcal{B}_{i/o}(p, q)$ is controllable iff (p, q) are coprime.

In numerical linear algebra, **yes/no questions** (\mathcal{B} contr./uncontr.) are replaced by **quantitative measures** (distance of \mathcal{B} to uncontr.)

$$d(\mathcal{B}) := \min_{\hat{\mathcal{B}}} \text{dist}(\mathcal{B}, \hat{\mathcal{B}}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \hat{\mathcal{B}} \text{ is uncontrollable.}$$

With p, \hat{p} monic, p, q, \hat{p}, \hat{q} are unique (for given $\mathcal{B}, \hat{\mathcal{B}}$) and

$$\text{dist}(\mathcal{B}, \hat{\mathcal{B}}) := \|\text{col}(p, q) - \text{col}(\hat{p}, \hat{q})\|$$

becomes a property of the pair of systems $(\mathcal{B}, \hat{\mathcal{B}})$.

The problem of computing $d(\mathcal{B}_{i/o}(p, q))$ is equivalent to computing an approximate GCD of (p, q) with degree 1.

Optimal modelling \leftrightarrow structured low-rank appr.

Define

$$\mathcal{H}_\ell(\hat{w}) := \begin{bmatrix} \hat{w}(1) & \hat{w}(2) & \dots & \hat{w}(T-\ell) \\ \hat{w}(2) & \hat{w}(3) & \dots & \hat{w}(T-\ell+1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \hat{w}(\ell+1) & \hat{w}(\ell+2) & \dots & \hat{w}(T) \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{H}_\ell(\hat{w})) \leq \ell_{\mathcal{P}} \implies \hat{w} \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}, \text{lag}(\hat{\mathcal{B}}) \leq \ell, \mathbf{m}(\hat{\mathcal{B}}) \leq m$$

so that

$$\hat{w}^* := \arg \min_{\hat{w}} \|\hat{w}_d - \hat{w}\| \quad \text{subject to} \quad \text{rank}(\mathcal{H}_\ell(\hat{w})) \leq \ell_{\mathcal{P}}$$

Optimal modelling

Given a time series

$$w_d = (w_d(1), \dots, w_d(T))$$

find another time series

$$\hat{w} = (\hat{w}(1), \dots, \hat{w}(T))$$

- that is
1. as close as possible to w_d ,
 2. an exact trajectory of an LTI system $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$,
 3. $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ is of bounded complexity.

$$\min_{\hat{\mathcal{B}}, \hat{w}} \underbrace{\|\hat{w}_d - \hat{w}\|}_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \underbrace{\hat{w} \in \hat{\mathcal{B}}}_2, \quad \underbrace{\text{lag}(\hat{\mathcal{B}}) \leq \ell, \mathbf{m}(\hat{\mathcal{B}}) \leq m}_3$$

Applications of structured low-rank approximation in signal processing

We will consider the following signal processing problems:

1. **Linear prediction** \leftrightarrow sum-of-damped-exp. modelling
2. **Harmonic retrieval** \leftrightarrow sum-of-exp. modelling
3. **Deconvolution** \leftrightarrow FIR modelling
4. **2D deconvolution** \leftrightarrow image deblurring

Linear prediction problem

Future values of w are estimated as linear comb. of past values

$$w(t) = p_1 w(t-1) + p_2 w(t-2) + \dots + p_\ell w(t-\ell) \quad (\text{LP})$$

p_i are the linear prediction coefficients

Given an observed signal w_d , how do we find the coefficients p_i ?

There are many methods for doing this:

- Pisarenko, Prony, Kumaresan–Tufts methods
- subspace methods
- frequency domain methods
- maximum likelihood method

Linear prediction problem as low-rank approx.

$w = (w(1), \dots, w(T))$ **sum-of-damped-exp.** $\implies w$ satisfies

$$p_0 w(t) + p_1 w(t+1) + \dots + p_\ell w(t+\ell) = 0, \quad \text{for } t = 1, \dots, T-\ell$$

Written in a matrix form these equations are

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0 & p_1 & \dots & p_\ell \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w(1) & w(2) & \dots & w(T-\ell) \\ w(2) & w(3) & \dots & w(T-\ell+1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ w(\ell+1) & w(\ell+2) & \dots & w(T) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{H}_\ell(w)} = 0$$

which shows that the Hankel matrix $\mathcal{H}_\ell(w)$ is rank deficient

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{H}_\ell(w)) \leq \ell$$

Sum-of-damped-exponentials model

Model the signal w as

$$w(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i e^{d_i t} e^{i(\omega_i t + \phi_i)} \quad (\text{SDE})$$

where a_i , d_i , ϕ_i , and ω_i are parameters of the model

$$\begin{array}{ll} a_i & \text{— amplitudes} \\ \omega_i & \text{— frequencies} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} d_i & \text{— dampings} \\ \phi_i & \text{— initial phases} \end{array}$$

For all $\{a_i, d_i, \omega_i, \phi_i\}$ there are p_i and $w(-\ell+1), \dots, w(0)$, s.t. the solution of (LP) coincides with (SDE) and vice versa.

the LP problem \iff modelling by (SDE)

Harmonic retrieval problem

Corresponds to modelling w as a **sum-of-exponentials**

$$w(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i e^{i(\omega_i t + \phi_i)}$$

A special sum-of-damped-exp. model, with dampings $d_i = 0$.

$\implies w$ satisfies the linear prediction (LP) equation

Moreover, a sum-of-exp. signal w satisfies the equation

$$w(t-\ell) = p_1 w(t-\ell+1) + p_2 w(t-\ell+2) + \dots + p_\ell w(t) \quad (\text{LP}')$$

where p_i are the linear prediction coefficients.

(LP) — forward prediction (LP') — backward prediction

Harmonic retrieval problem as low-rank appr.

$w = (w(1), \dots, w(T))$ **sum-of-exponentials** $\implies w$ satisfies

forward LP equation: $p\mathcal{H}_\ell(w) = 0$

and backward LP equation

$$[p_0 \ p_1 \ \dots \ p_\ell] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w(\ell+1) & w(\ell+2) & \dots & w(T) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ w(2) & w(3) & \dots & w(T-\ell+1) \\ w(1) & w(2) & \dots & w(T-\ell) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{T}_\ell(w)} = 0$$

$$\implies p(\mathcal{H}_\ell(w) + \mathcal{T}_\ell(w)) = 0, \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{H}_\ell(w) + \mathcal{T}_\ell(w)) \leq \ell$$

2D deconvolution and image deblurring

Deconvolution for signals with two independent variables

$$y(t_1, t_2) = (h \star u)(t_1, t_2) := \sum_{\tau_1=T_{\text{ini}1}}^{T_{\text{f}1}} \sum_{\tau_2=T_{\text{ini}2}}^{T_{\text{f}2}} h(\tau_1, \tau_2) u(t_1 - \tau_1, t_2 - \tau_2)$$

Interpretation:

u — true image y — blurred image
 h — **point spread function** (PSF of an blurring operator)

given a blurred image and PSF, find the true image

Deconvolution problem and FIR model

Given signals u and y , find a signals h , such that

$$y(t) = (h \star u)(t) := \sum_{\tau=T_{\text{ini}}}^{T_{\text{f}}} h(\tau) u(t - \tau)$$

Interpretation:

u — input y — output
 h — **impulse response** (of an FIR system)

model y as the output of an FIR system with input u

$T_{\text{ini}} \geq 0 \implies$ **causal** system

Multivariable and multidimensional systems

$$y = \mathcal{T}(h)u = \mathcal{T}(u)h$$

Toeplitz matrix times vector

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (u, y) \in \mathcal{B}(h) & \iff & y = h \star u & \iff & y(z) = h(z)u(z) \\ \text{FIR sys. traj.} & & \text{convolution} & & \text{polyn. multipl.} \end{array}$$

Multivariable case: **block Toeplitz structure**

$$\text{multivariable systems} \iff \text{matrix valued time series} \iff \text{matrix valued polynomials}$$

2D case: **block Toeplitz–Toeplitz block structure**

$$\text{multidim. system} \iff \text{function of several indep. variables} \iff \text{polyn. of several var.}$$

Unstructured low-rank approximation

$$\hat{A}^* := \arg \min_{\hat{A}} \|A - \hat{A}\|_F \quad \text{subject to} \quad \text{rank}(\hat{A}) \leq r$$

Closed form solution: Let $A = U\Sigma V^T$ be the SVD of A .

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \Sigma_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

An optimal low-rank approximate solution is

$$\hat{A}^* = U_1 \Sigma_1 V_1^T$$

It is unique if and only if $\sigma_r \neq \sigma_{r+1}$.

Variable projection vs. alternating projections

Two ways to approach the double minimisation:

- **Variable projections (VARPRO):**
solve the inner minimisation analytically

$$\min_{p, pp^T=1} p \mathcal{S}(w_d) (G^T(p)G(p))^{-1} \mathcal{S}^T(w_d)p^T$$

\rightsquigarrow a nonlinear least squares problem for p only.

- **Alternating projections (AP):**
alternate between solving two least squares problems

VARPRO is globally convergent with a super linear conv. rate.

AP is globally convergent with a linear convergence rate.

Structured low-rank approximation

No closed form solution is known for the general problem

$$\hat{w}^* := \arg \min_{\hat{w}} \|w_d - \hat{w}\| \quad \text{subject to} \quad \text{rank}(\mathcal{S}(\hat{w})) \leq r$$

($\mathcal{S} : \mathbb{R}^\bullet \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{\bullet \times \bullet}$ defines the structure, e.g., Hankel, Sylvester, ...)

NP-hard, consider solution methods based on local optimisation

Representing the constraint in a kernel form, the problem is

$$\min_{p, pp^T=1} \left(\min_{\hat{w}} \|w_d - \hat{w}\| \quad \text{subject to} \quad p \mathcal{S}(\hat{w}) = 0 \right)$$

Double minimisation with bilinear equality constraint.

There is a matrix $G(p)$, such that $p \mathcal{S}(\hat{w}) = 0 \iff \hat{w} G(p) = 0$.

Algorithmic details using the VARPRO approach

The structured low-rank approximation problem is equivalent to

$$\min_{p, pp^T=1} p \mathcal{S}(w_d) (G^T(p)G(p))^{-1} \mathcal{S}^T(w_d)p^T$$

To evaluate the cost function we need to solve the linear system

$$(G^T(p)G(p))x = (p \mathcal{S}(w_d))^T$$

What special structure does $G^T G$ have?

Fact: For Sylvester, Toeplitz, Hankel, Toeplitz+Hankel \mathcal{S} , $G^T(p)G(p)$ is banded-Toeplitz

Special case: sum-of-damped-exp. modelling

In the sum-of-damped-exp. modelling, the structure is

$$\mathcal{S}(w) = \mathcal{H}_\ell(w)$$

What matrix G satisfies

$$p\mathcal{H}_\ell(w) = 0 \iff wG(p) = 0$$

for all p and w ? What is the structure of $G^\top G$?

Special case: sum-of-damped-exp. modelling

$$[p_0 \ p_1 \ \cdots \ p_\ell] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w(1) & w(2) & \cdots & w(T-\ell) \\ w(2) & w(3) & \cdots & w(T-\ell+1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ w(\ell+1) & w(\ell+2) & \cdots & w(T) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{H}_\ell(w)}$$

$$= [w_1 \ w_2 \ \cdots \ w_T] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} p_0 & & & & \\ p_1 & p_0 & & & \\ \vdots & p_1 & \ddots & & \\ p_\ell & \vdots & \ddots & p_0 & \\ & p_\ell & & p_1 & \\ & & \ddots & \vdots & \\ & & & p_\ell & \end{bmatrix}}_{G(p)}, \quad \text{Note that } G(p) = S_{T-\ell}(p)$$

Special case: sum-of-damped-exp. modelling

Therefore,

$$G^\top G = \begin{bmatrix} p_0 & p_1 & \cdots & p_\ell & & \\ & p_0 & p_1 & \cdots & p_\ell & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & p_0 & p_1 & \cdots & p_\ell \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 & p_0 \\ \vdots & p_1 & \ddots \\ p_\ell & \vdots & \ddots & p_0 \\ & p_\ell & & p_1 \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & p_\ell \end{bmatrix}$$

(All missing elements are zeros.)

Special case: sum-of-damped-exp. modelling

$$G^\top G = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} p_i p_i & \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} p_i p_{i-1} & \cdots & p_\ell p_0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} p_{i-1} p_i & \ddots & & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ p_0 p_\ell & & \ddots & \ddots & p_\ell p_0 \\ & \ddots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} p_i p_{i-1} \\ & & & p_0 p_\ell & \cdots & \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} p_{i-1} p_i & \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} p_i p_i \end{bmatrix}$$

banded Toeplitz, bandwidth $2\ell + 1$

Special case: approximate GCD

Remind the following equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p \in \mathbb{R}[z] \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{R}[z] \\
 & \text{have common divisor} \\
 & c \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(c) = \ell_c \\
 & \iff \exists a \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(a) = \ell_p - \ell_c \\
 & \exists b \in \mathbb{R}[z], \deg(b) = \ell_q - \ell_c \\
 & \text{such that } p = ca \text{ and } q = cb \\
 & \iff qa - pb = 0 \\
 & \iff \begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_a}(q) & S_{\ell_b}(p) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ -b \end{bmatrix} = 0 \\
 & \iff \begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_a}(q) & S_{\ell_b}(p) \end{bmatrix} \text{ is rank deficient}
 \end{aligned}$$

We have the following equivalent problems for approx. GCD

Theorem Problem (*) is equivalent to

$$\min_{c \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell_c}} \text{trace} \left(\begin{bmatrix} p^\top \\ q^\top \end{bmatrix} \left(I - S(\begin{bmatrix} \ell \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}) (S^\top(\begin{bmatrix} \ell \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}) S(\begin{bmatrix} \ell \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}))^{-1} S^\top(\begin{bmatrix} \ell \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}) \right) \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

Proof (assuming $\ell_p = \ell_q = \ell$): Rewrite the constraint of (*) as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} \\ \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_c}(a) \\ S_{\ell_c}(b) \end{bmatrix} c \iff \begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} & \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} = S_{\ell-\ell_c}(c) \begin{bmatrix} a & b \end{bmatrix}$$

so that

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} \\ \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} p & q \end{bmatrix} - S_{\ell-\ell_c}(c) \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \right\|_F$$

(*) becomes an ordinary least-squares problem in u, v

\rightsquigarrow closed form expression in c

Sylvester structured low-rank approximation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\hat{p}, \hat{q}} \left\| \text{col}(p, q) - \text{col}(\hat{p}, \hat{q}) \right\|_2 \quad \text{subject to} \\
 & \text{rank} \left(\begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_p-\ell_c}(\hat{q}) & S_{\ell_q-\ell_c}(\hat{p}) \end{bmatrix} \right) \leq \ell_p + \ell_q - 2\ell_c + 1. \\
 & \iff
 \end{aligned}$$

Adding auxiliary variables a and b :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\hat{p}, \hat{q}, a, b} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} \\ \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_p-\ell_c}(\hat{q}) & S_{\ell_q-\ell_c}(\hat{p}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ -b \end{bmatrix} = 0 \\
 & \quad \text{and} \quad \left\| \text{col}(a, b) \right\| = 1 \quad (\text{or } b \text{ monic}) \\
 & \iff
 \end{aligned}$$

Adding auxiliary variables a, b , and c :

$$\min_{\hat{p}, \hat{q}, a, b, c} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} \\ \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \hat{p} \\ \hat{q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{\ell_c}(a) \\ S_{\ell_c}(b) \end{bmatrix} c \quad (*)$$

Notes on the theorem

- eliminates in (*) the var. \hat{p}, \hat{q}, a, b and the constraint
- gives standard nonlinear least squares problem
- locally optimal solution can be obtained by any local optimization method (e.g., Levenberg–Marquardt)
- the optimization variable is a vector of dimension ℓ_c
- cost function evaluations: solve a structured LS problem
- exploiting structure, comput. complexity per iteration $O(n)$

Suboptimal initial approximations

can be computed from unstructured low rank approx. (SVD) of

1. Sylvester matrix $S(p, q)$
2. Bezout matrix $B(p, q)$
3. Hankel matrix $H(h)$
4. Balanced model reduction

$$B(p, q) := \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & \cdots & p_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \\ p_n & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_0 & \cdots & q_{n-1} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & q_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & \cdots & q_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \\ q_n & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_0 & \cdots & p_{n-1} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & p_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H(h) := \begin{bmatrix} h_1 & h_2 & \cdots & h_n \\ h_2 & h_3 & \ddots & h_{n+1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ h_n & h_{n+1} & \cdots & h_{2n} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{q(z)}{p(z)} = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} h_t z^{-t-1}$$

Conclusions

- Mathematical models are subsets of the data space.
Linear models are subspaces.
- LTI model representations: kernel, image, input/output.
The parameter (identifying the model) is a polynomial matrix.
- Polynomial multiplication \leftrightarrow Toeplitz matrix \times vector
Approximate GCD computation \leftrightarrow Sylvester low-rank approx.
Approximate LTI modelling \leftrightarrow Hankel low-rank approx.

Adapted version for approximate GCD with known multiplicity structure

Problem: Find an optimal approx. GCD that has the form

$$c(z) = (z - z_1)^{\ell_1} \cdots (z - z_k)^{\ell_k}, \quad (**)$$

where ℓ_1, \dots, ℓ_k are given and z_1, \dots, z_k are to-be-determined.

More specifically, we add (**) as a constraint in (*).

The local optimization method becomes:

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^k} \text{trace} \left(\begin{bmatrix} p^\top \\ q^\top \end{bmatrix} \left(I - S(c(z)) \left(S^\top(c(z)) S(c(z)) \right)^{-1} S^\top(c(z)) \right) \begin{bmatrix} p & q \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

where $\mathbf{c} : \mathbb{C}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\ell_1 + \dots + \ell_k + 1}$ is the mapping $z \mapsto c$, given by (**).

Conclusions

- Applications in signal processing
 - Linear prediction \leftrightarrow sum-of-damped-exp. modelling,
 - Harmonic retrieval \leftrightarrow sum-of-exp. modelling,
 - deconvolution \leftrightarrow FIR modelling.
- Algorithms based on local optimisation
Efficient cost function evaluation exploiting the structure.

LTI systems	\leftrightarrow	polynomials	\leftrightarrow	structured matrices
system theory	\leftrightarrow	abstract algebra	\leftrightarrow	numerical linear algebra