

Algorithms for exact identification

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An exact identification problem

Problem P1 (Exact identification)

Given two vector time series

$$\begin{aligned} u_d &= (u_d(1), \dots, u_d(T)) \in (\mathbb{R}^m)^T && \text{"inputs"} \\ y_d &= (y_d(1), \dots, y_d(T)) \in (\mathbb{R}^p)^T && \text{"outputs"} \end{aligned}$$

find an LTI system Σ of order n , such that (u_d, y_d) is a trajectory of Σ .

What does it mean "is a trajectory of"?

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What does it mean "is a trajectory of"?

let σ be the shift operator $\sigma x(t) = x(t+1)$ and let Σ be defined by a state space representation

$$\Sigma: \quad \sigma x = Ax + Bu, \quad y = Cx + Du \quad (\text{I/S/O})$$

(u_d, y_d) is a trajectory of Σ if there exists $x_{\text{ini}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, such that

$$y_d = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^{T-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{O}_T(A,C)} x_{\text{ini}} + \begin{bmatrix} D & & & & \\ CB & D & & & \\ CAB & CB & D & & \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ CA^{T-1}B & \dots & CAB & CB & D \end{bmatrix} u_d$$

i.e., y_d is the response of Σ to input u_d and some initial condition x_{ini}

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Comments

- P1 is an **exact fitting problem**, a most basic system id. problem
- easily generalizable to a **set of N time series**
- the **realization problem** (impulse response $\mapsto (A, B, C, D)$) is a special case of P1 for a set of m time series
- while m is given, **finding n is part of the problem**
in fact, $n \geq pT \rightsquigarrow$ trivial solution
- we are interested is a **solution of a minimal order n**

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An exact identification problem (revised)

Problem P1' (Exact identification)

Given two vector time series

$$\begin{aligned} u_d &= (u_d(1), \dots, u_d(T)) \in (\mathbb{R}^m)^T && \text{"inputs"} \\ y_d &= (y_d(1), \dots, y_d(T)) \in (\mathbb{R}^p)^T && \text{"outputs"} \end{aligned}$$

find the **smallest** $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and an LTI system Σ of order n , with m inputs and p outputs, such that (u_d, y_d) is a trajectory of Σ .

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Behavior and representation of a system

the **behavior** of an LTI system Σ is the set \mathcal{B} of all trajectories $w := (u, y)$ that Σ can possibly generate

$\mathcal{B}|_{[1,t]}$ — restriction of the behavior to the interval $[1, t]$

a **representation** of Σ is an equation whose solution set is equal to \mathcal{B}
e.g., (I/S/O), e.g., the **difference eqn repr.**

$$R_0 w(t) + R_1 w(t+1) + \dots + R_l w(t+l) = 0, \quad \text{for all } t, \quad \text{where } R_i \in \mathbb{R}^{g \times (m+p)}$$

also called **kernel representation** because

$$\mathcal{B} = \ker(R(\sigma)), \quad \text{where } R(\xi) := \sum_{i=0}^l R_i \xi^i$$

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Set of LTI systems with a fixed complexity

$\mathcal{L}_{m,1}^{w,n}$ — set of all LTI systems with

- w (external) variables,
- at most m inputs,
- state dimension at most n , and
- lag (= observability index = order of $R(\xi)$) at most l

$$\text{for } t \geq n, \quad \dim(\mathcal{B}|_{[1,t]}) \leq tm + n \leq tm + pl \quad (p(l-1) \leq n \leq pl)$$

$\implies (m, n)$ and (m, l) bound the complexity of the system

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An exact identification problem (revised)

Problem P2 (Exact identification)

Given a vector time series

$$w_d = (w_d(1), \dots, w_d(T)) \in (\mathbb{R}^w)^T$$

find the **smallest** $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $l \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}_{m,1}^w$, such that $w_d \in \mathcal{B}$.

comments:

- no separation between inputs and outputs
- the complexity is bounded by (m, l)

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Most powerful unfalsified model

The most powerful unfalsified model in the model class $\mathcal{L}_{m,1}^w$ of a time series $w_d \in (\mathbb{R}^w)^T$ is the system $\mathcal{B}_{\text{mpum}}$ that is

1. in the model class, i.e., $\mathcal{B}_{\text{mpum}} \in \mathcal{L}_{m,1}^w$,
2. unfalsified, i.e., $w_d \in \mathcal{B}_{\text{mpum}}|_{[1,T]}$, and
3. most powerful among all LTI unfalsified systems, i.e.,

$$\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}_{m,1}^w \text{ and } w_d \in \mathcal{B}|_{[1,T]} \implies \mathcal{B}_{\text{mpum}}|_{[1,T]} \subseteq \mathcal{B}|_{[1,T]}.$$

the MPUM need not exist, but if it does, then it is unique

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Identifiability question

P2 is the problem of computing the MPUM

the following related question is of interest:

Suppose that $w_d \in \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}^w$ and upper bounds n_{\max} and l_{\max} of the order n and the lag l of \mathcal{B} are given.

Under what conditions is $\mathcal{B}_{\text{mpum}}(w_d)$ equal to the system \mathcal{B} that generated w_d ?

the answer is given by the following lemma

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Fundamental Lemma

Let $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}_m^{w,n}$ be controllable and let $w_d := (u_d, y_d) \in \mathcal{B}|_{[1,T]}$. Then, if u_d is persistently exciting of order $L+n$,

$$\text{image} \left(\begin{bmatrix} w_d(1) & w_d(2) & w_d(3) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+1) \\ w_d(2) & w_d(3) & w_d(4) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+2) \\ w_d(3) & w_d(4) & w_d(5) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+3) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ w_d(L) & w_d(L+1) & w_d(L+2) & \cdots & w_d(T) \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{B}|_{[1,L]}$$

\implies under the conditions of the FL, any L samples long response y of \mathcal{B} can be obtained as $y = \mathcal{H}_L(y_d)g$, for certain $g \rightsquigarrow$ algorithms

\implies with $L = l_{\max} + 1$, the FL gives conditions for identifiability

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Persistency of excitation

the sequence $u_d = (u_d(1), \dots, u_d(T))$ is persistently exciting of order $L+n$ if the Hankel matrix

$$\mathcal{H}_{L+n}(u_d) := \begin{bmatrix} u_d(1) & u_d(2) & u_d(3) & \cdots & u_d(T-L-n+1) \\ u_d(2) & u_d(3) & u_d(4) & \cdots & u_d(T-L-n+2) \\ u_d(3) & u_d(4) & u_d(5) & \cdots & u_d(T-L-n+3) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_d(L+n) & u_d(L+n+1) & u_d(L+n+2) & \cdots & u_d(T) \end{bmatrix}$$

is of full row rank

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Algorithms for exact identification

($w_d \mapsto$ representation of the MPUM)

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Overview of available algorithms

1. $w_d \mapsto R(\xi)$
2. $w_d \mapsto$ impulse response H
3. $w_d \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$ (possibly balanced)
- 3.a. $w_d \mapsto R(\xi) \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$ or $w_d \mapsto H \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$
- 3.b. $w_d \mapsto \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$
- 3.c. $w_d \mapsto (x_d(1), \dots, x_d(n_{\max} + m + 1)) \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$

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$$w_d \mapsto R(\xi)$$

under the assumptions of the FL, $\text{image}(\mathcal{H}_{1_{\max}+1}(w_d)) = \mathcal{B}|_{[1, 1_{\max}+1]}$

\implies a basis for $\text{left ker}(\mathcal{H}_{1_{\max}+1}(w_d))$ defines a kernel repr. of \mathcal{B}

let

$$[\tilde{R}_0 \ \tilde{R}_1 \ \dots \ \tilde{R}_{1_{\max}}] \mathcal{H}_{1_{\max}+1}(w_d) = 0, \quad \text{where } \tilde{R}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{g \times w}$$

and define $\tilde{R}(\xi) = \sum_{i=0}^{1_{\max}} \xi^i \tilde{R}_i$

then $\mathcal{B} = \ker(\tilde{R}(\sigma))$ is, in general, a “nonminimal” kernel representation

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$$w_d \mapsto R(\xi)$$

\tilde{R} can be made “minimal” by standard polynomial linear algebra alg.

find a unimodular polynomial matrix U , such that

$$U\tilde{R} = \begin{bmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } R \text{ is full row rank}$$

then $\ker(R(\sigma)) = 0$ is minimal kernel representation

refinements:

- efficient recursive computation (exploiting the Hankel structure)
- as a byproduct an input/output partition of the variables
- a shortest lag kernel representation (i.e., R row proper)

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$$w_d \mapsto H$$

under the conditions of FL, there is G , such that $H = \mathcal{H}_t(y_d)G$
the problem reduces to the one of finding a particular G . Define

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{H}_{1_{\max}+t}(u_d) \\ \mathcal{H}_{1_{\max}+t}(y_d) \end{bmatrix} =: \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ U_f \\ Y_p \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{row dim}(U_p) = \text{row dim}(Y_p) = 1_{\max} \\ \text{row dim}(U_f) = \text{row dim}(Y_f) = t \end{array}$$

let u_d be p.e. of order $t + 1_{\max} + n_{\max}$. Then there is G , such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \end{bmatrix} G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ [I_m] \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{zero ini. conditions} \\ \text{impulse input} \end{array} \right\} \quad (1)$$

$$Y_f G = H$$

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$$w_d \mapsto H$$

block algorithm for computation of $(H(0), \dots, H(t-1))$:

1. Input: $u_d, y_d, 1_{\max}$, and t .
2. Solve the system of equations (1). Let \bar{G} be the computed solution.
3. Compute $H = Y_f \bar{G}$.
4. Output: the first t samples of the impulse response H .

refinements:

- solve (1) efficiently by **exploiting the Hankel structure**
- do the computations iteratively for pieces of $H \rightsquigarrow$ **iterative algorithm**
- **automatically choose t** , for a sufficient decay of H

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$$w_d \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$$

- $w_d \mapsto H(0 : 21_{\max})$ or $R(\xi) \xrightarrow{\text{realization}} (A, B, C, D)$
- $w_d \mapsto \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \xrightarrow{(2)} (A, B, C, D)$
- $w_d \mapsto (x_d(1), \dots, x_d(n_{\max} + m + 1)) \xrightarrow{(3)} (A, B, C, D)$

(2) and (3) are easy:

$$\mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \mapsto (A, C) \quad \text{and} \quad (u_d, y_d, A, C) \mapsto (B, C, x_{\text{ini}}) \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_d(2) & \cdots & x_d(n_{\max} + m + 1) \\ y_d(1) & \cdots & y_d(n_{\max} + m) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_d(1) & \cdots & x_d(n_{\max} + m) \\ u_d(1) & \cdots & u_d(n_{\max} + m) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

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$$\mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \mapsto (A, B, C, D)$$

C is the **first block entry** of $\mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C)$ and A is given by

$$(\sigma^* \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C))A = (\sigma \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C)) \quad \text{shift equation}$$

(σ^* removes the last block entry and σ removes the first block entry)

once C and A are known, the system of equations

$$y_d(t) = CA^t x_d(1) + \sum_{\tau=1}^{t-1} CA^{t-1-\tau} B u_d(\tau) + D \delta(t+1), \quad \text{for } t = 1, \dots, 1_{\max} + 1$$

is **linear in $D, B, x_d(1)$** and can be solved explicitly (e.g., by using Kronecker products)

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$$w_d \mapsto \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C)$$

the columns of $\mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C)$ are n linearly indep. free responses of Σ under the conditions of FL, **such responses can be computed from data**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{H}_t(u_d) \\ \mathcal{H}_t(y_d) \end{bmatrix} G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ Y_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{zero inputs} \\ \leftarrow \text{free responses} \end{array}$$

in order to obtain lin. indep. free responses, G should be maximal rank once we have a maximal rank matrix of free responses Y_0

$$Y_0 = \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{ini},1} & \cdots & x_{\text{ini},j} \end{bmatrix}}_{X_{\text{ini}}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{rank revealing} \\ \text{factorization} \end{array}$$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C)$ and X_{ini} , the factorization fixes the state space basis

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Relation to other exact identification algorithms

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$$w_d \mapsto (x_d(1), \dots, x_d(n_{\max} + m + 1))$$

if the free responses are **sequential**, i.e., if Y_0 is block-Hankel, then X_{ini} is a state sequence of Σ

computation of **sequential free responses** is achieved as follows

$$\begin{array}{c} \left. \begin{array}{c} \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \end{bmatrix} G = \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{sequential ini. conditions} \\ \leftarrow \text{zero inputs} \end{array} \\ Y_f \quad G = Y_0 \end{array} \quad (4)$$

note: now we use the splitting of the data into “past” and “future”

$$Y_0 = \mathcal{O}_{1_{\max}+1}(A, C) \begin{bmatrix} x_d(1) & \cdots & x_d(n_{\max} + m + 1) \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{rank revealing} \\ \text{factorization} \end{array}$$

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MOESP type algorithms

project orthogonally the rows of $\mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(y_d)$ on $\left(\text{row span}(\mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(u_d)) \right)^\perp$

$$Y_0 := \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(y_d) \Pi_{u_d}^\perp$$

where

$$\Pi_{u_d}^\perp := \left(I - \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}^\top(u_d) (\mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(u_d) \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}^\top(u_d))^{-1} \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(u_d) \right)$$

observe that $\Pi_{u_d}^\perp$ is maximal rank and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(u_d) \\ \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(y_d) \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{u_d}^\perp = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ Y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow **the orthogonal projection computes free responses**

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Comments

- $T - n_{\max} + 1$ free responses are computed via the orth. proj. while n_{\max} such responses suffice for the purpose of exact identification
- the orth. proj. is a **geometric operation**, whose system theoretic meaning is not revealed
- the **condition for $\text{rank}(Y_0) = n$** , given in the MOESP literature,

$$\text{rank} \left(\begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{ini}} \\ \mathcal{H}_{n_{\max}}(u_d) \end{bmatrix} \right) = n + n_{\max}m$$

is **not verifiable from the data (u_d, y_d)**

\Rightarrow can not be checked whether the computation gives $\mathcal{O}(A, C)$

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N4SID-type algorithms

consider the splitting of the data into “past” and “future”

$$\mathcal{H}_{2n_{\max}}(u_d) =: \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ U_f \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{H}_{2n_{\max}}(y_d) =: \begin{bmatrix} Y_p \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix}$$

with $\text{row dim}(U_p) = \text{row dim}(U_f) = \text{row dim}(Y_p) = \text{row dim}(Y_f) = n_{\max}$ and let

$$W_p := \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \end{bmatrix}$$

the key step of the N4SID algorithms is the **oblique projection** of the rows of Y_f along $\text{row span}(U_f)$ onto $\text{row span}(W_p)$

$$Y_0 := Y_f /_{U_f} W_p := Y_f \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} W_p^\top & U_f^\top \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W_p W_p^\top & W_p U_f^\top \\ U_f W_p^\top & U_f U_f^\top \end{bmatrix}^+}_{\Pi_{\text{obl}}} \begin{bmatrix} W_p \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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N4SID-type algorithms

observe that

$$\begin{bmatrix} W_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} \Pi_{\text{obl}} = \begin{bmatrix} W_p \\ 0 \\ Y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(in fact Π_{obl} is the least-norm, least-squares solution)

\Rightarrow **the oblique projection computes sequential free responses**

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Comments

- $T - 2n_{\max} + 1$ sequential free responses are computed via the oblique projection while $n_{\max} + m + 1$ such responses suffice for exact ident.
- the oblique proj. is a **geometric operation**, whose system theoretic meaning is not revealed
- the **conditions for $\text{rank}(Y_0) = n$** , given in the N4SID literature,
 1. u_d persistently exciting of order $2n_{\max}$ and
 2. $\text{row span}(X_{\text{ini}}) \cap \text{row span}(U_f) = \{0\}$

are **not verifiable from the data (u_d, y_d)**

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Conclusions

- the **ARMAX problem** is invariably considered in the sys. id. literature
we discussed the less usual exact deterministic identification problem
- exact identification** is interesting and nontrivial; it has two parts:
 - check if w_d completely specifies $\mathcal{B} \rightsquigarrow$ **FL**
 - find a desired representation of \mathcal{B} from w_d

$$w_d \mapsto R(\xi) \quad w_d \mapsto H \quad w_d \mapsto (A, B, C, D) \quad w_d \mapsto \text{balanced}$$

- of course we want to find **approximate (stochastic) model**

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Conclusions

The Fundamental Lemma:

Let $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}_m^{w,n}$ be controllable and let $w_d := (u_d, y_d) \in \mathcal{B}|_{[1,T]}$.
Then, if u_d is persistently exciting of order $L+n$,

$$\text{image} \left(\begin{bmatrix} w_d(1) & w_d(2) & w_d(3) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+1) \\ w_d(2) & w_d(3) & w_d(4) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+2) \\ w_d(3) & w_d(4) & w_d(5) & \cdots & w_d(T-L+3) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ w_d(L) & w_d(L+1) & w_d(L+2) & \cdots & w_d(T) \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{B}|_{[1,L]}$$

is a convenient tool for computing responses from data.

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Conclusions

- we gave **system theoretic interpretation** of the orth. and oblique proj.
- MOESP and N4SID alg. are computationally inefficient; more than what is necessary for exact ident. is computed \rightsquigarrow **cheaper algorithms**
- the FL gives **sharp conditions for identifiability**, verifiable from the data
 \rightsquigarrow our alg. might be applicable in cases when the classical alg. are not
- we clarified the **role of the splitting**: the “past” assigns the initial conditions and in the “future” a desired response is computed

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Thank you!

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