



**WISCONSIN**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



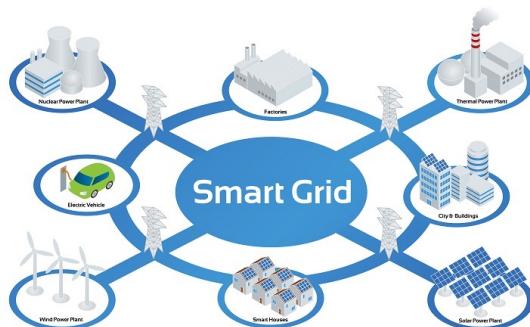
# Data-enabled Predictive Control Regularization and Robustness

Jeremy Coulson (joint work with Florian Dörfler & John Lygeros)  
2024 Midwest Workshop on Control and Game Theory

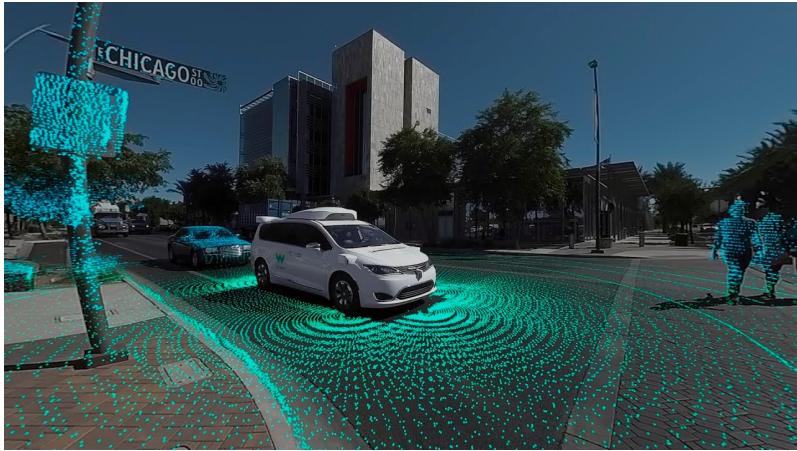
# Data in today's world



Artificial intelligence



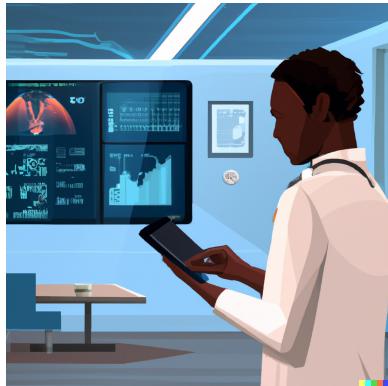
Smart infrastructure



Smart transportation



Smart agriculture



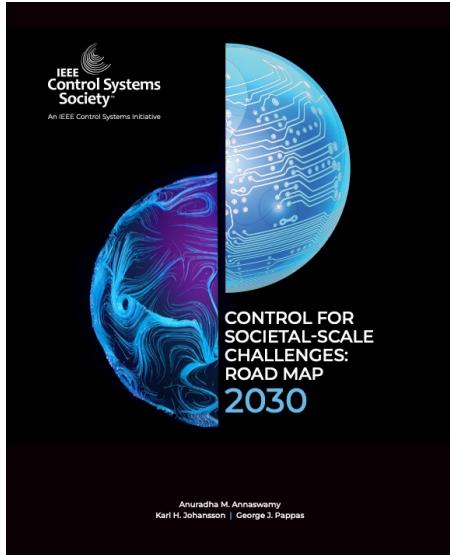
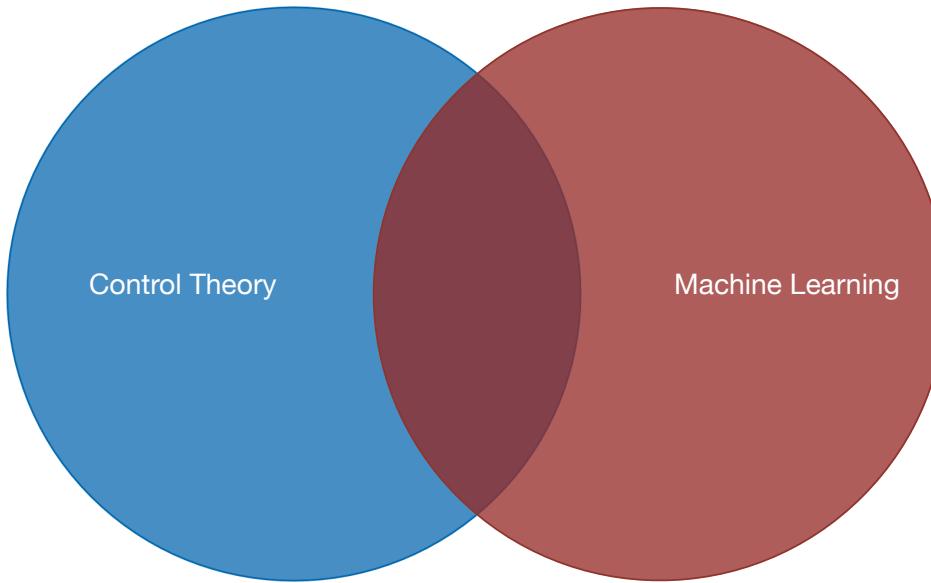
Smart healthcare



Not there yet...

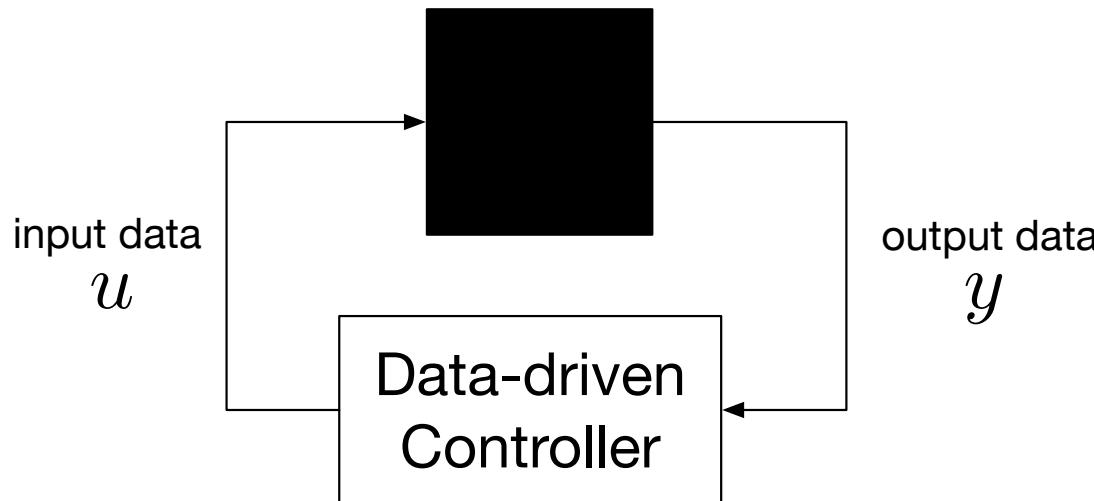
safety, robustness, reliability?

# Control meets Learning

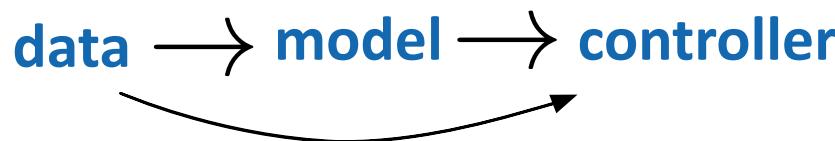


“One of the **major developments** in control over the past decade – and one of the **most important** moving forward – is the **interaction of machine learning and control systems**” – [Control for societal-scale challenges]

# Control without a model?



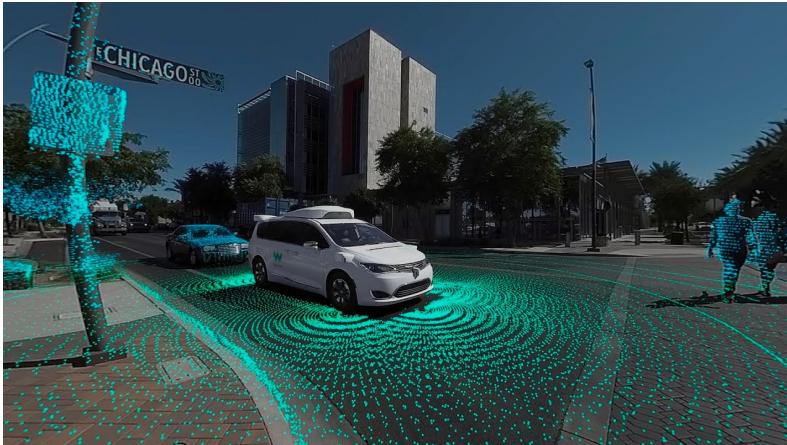
Learn a model?



...or learn a controller directly?

# Why direct data-driven control?

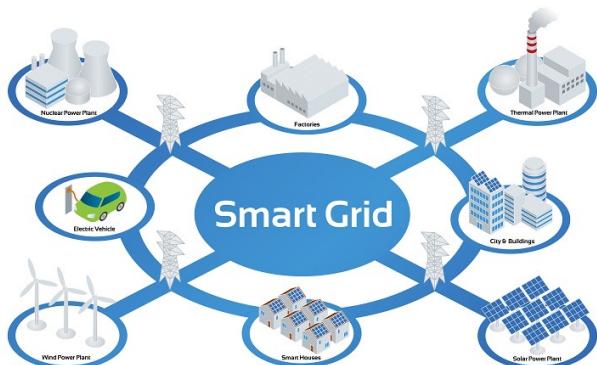
Model not conceivable



Too complex



Models not available

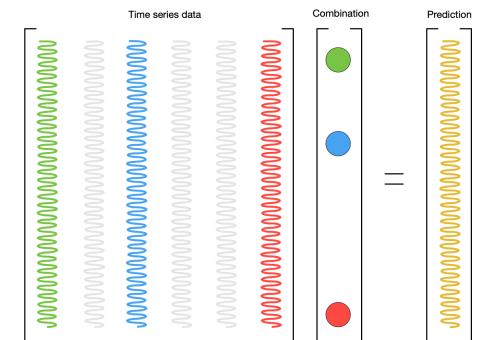


Too costly

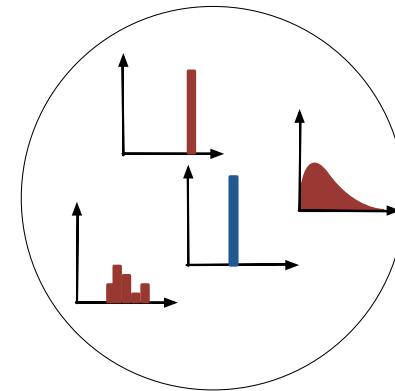


# Outline

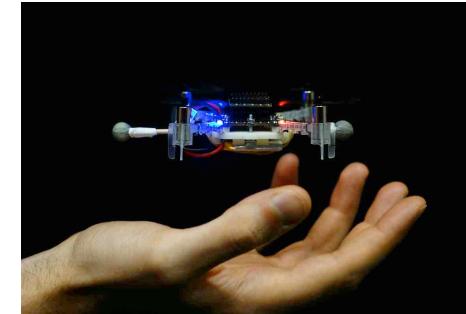
## Data-enabled Predictive Control (DeePC)



## Robustification via Regularization



## Applications in Robotics



# Behavioral System Theory



The behavior is  
all there is!

Jan Willems

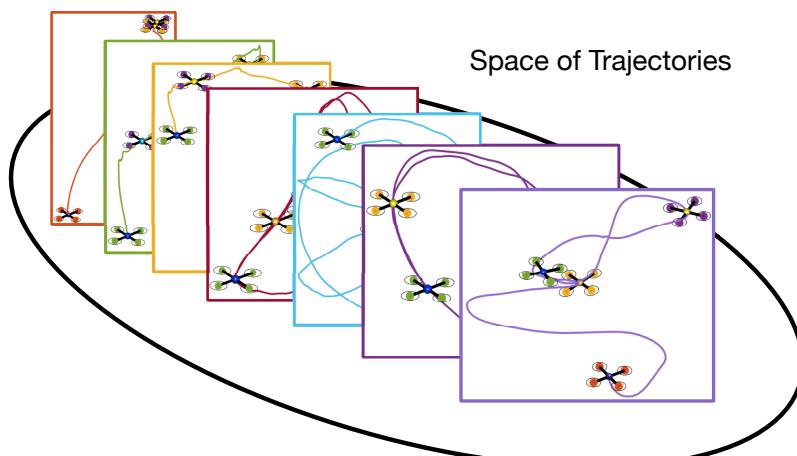
Introduced behavioral system theory  $\sim$  1980s

Possible to construct  $\mathcal{B}$  using data?

## Dynamical System

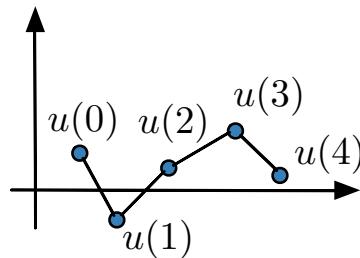
A discrete-time dynamical system is a 3-tuple  $(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, \mathbb{R}^{m+p}, \mathcal{B})$

where  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq (\mathbb{R}^{m+p})^{\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}$  is the behavior (set of allowable trajectories).

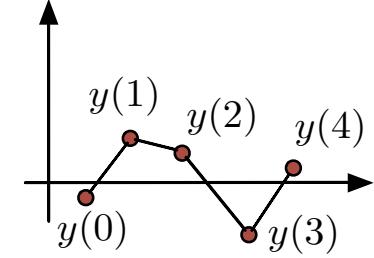


# Fundamental Lemma

[Willems et al. '05], [Markovsky, Dörfler '20]



$$\begin{aligned} x(t+1) &= Ax(t) + Bu(t) \\ y(t) &= Cx(t) + Du(t) \end{aligned}$$



Given data  $(u_{[0,T-1]}, y_{[0,T-1]})$  and parameters  $\begin{cases} \text{state dimension } n \\ \text{trajectory length } L \end{cases}$

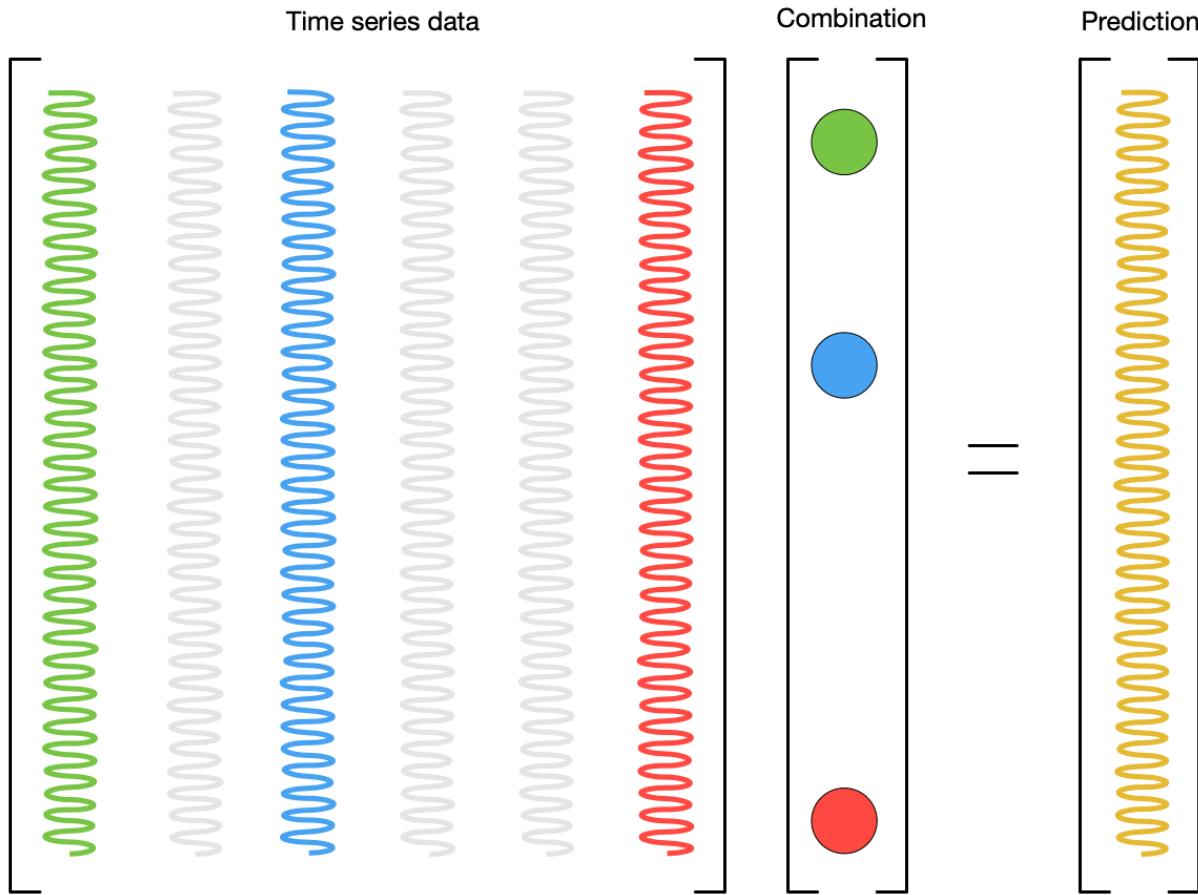
$\text{im} \begin{bmatrix} u(0) & u(1) & \cdots & u(T-L) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u(L-1) & u(L) & \cdots & u(T-1) \\ y(0) & y(1) & \cdots & y(T-L) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y(L-1) & y(L) & \cdots & y(T-1) \end{bmatrix} = \text{set of all } L\text{-length trajectories}$

if and only if trajectory matrix has rank  $mL + n$  for  $L$  large enough.

Any trajectory can be generated from finitely many,  
sufficiently rich data trajectories

# Trajectory Matrix: a predictive model

Idea: The trajectory matrix using raw data can serve as a non-parametric predictive model!



# Trajectory Prediction [Markovsky, Rapisarda '08]

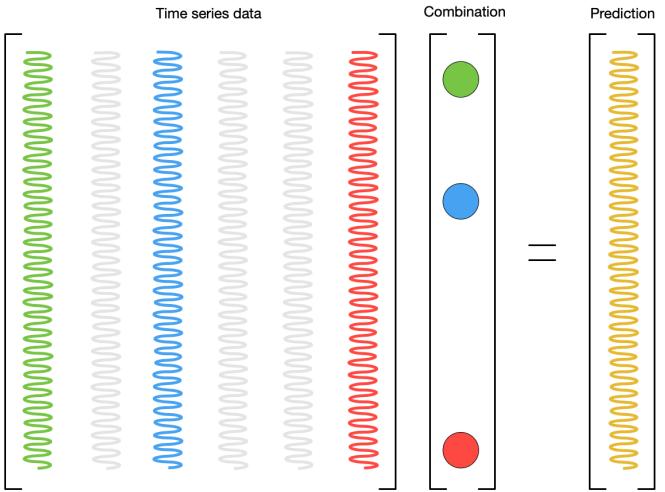
Given:

- Data  $(u_{[0,T-1]}^d, y_{[0,T-1]}^d)$
- Initial trajectory  $(u_{\text{ini}}, y_{\text{ini}}) \in \mathbb{R}^{(m+p)T_{\text{ini}}}$
- Future input  $u \in \mathbb{R}^{mT_f}$

Predict the future output  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{pT_f}$ .

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u^d(0) & u^d(1) & \cdots & u^d(T - T_{\text{ini}} - T_f) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u^d(T_{\text{ini}} - 1) & u^d(T_{\text{ini}}) & \cdots & u^d(T - T_f - 1) \\ \hline y^d(0) & y^d(1) & \cdots & y^d(T - T_{\text{ini}} - T_f) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y^d(T_{\text{ini}} - 1) & y^d(T_{\text{ini}}) & \cdots & y^d(T - T_f - 1) \\ \hline u^d(T_{\text{ini}}) & u^d(T_{\text{ini}} + 1) & \cdots & u^d(T - T_f) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u^d(T_{\text{ini}} + T_f - 1) & u^d(T_{\text{ini}} + T_f) & \cdots & u^d(T - 1) \\ \hline y^d(T_{\text{ini}}) & y^d(T_{\text{ini}} + 1) & \cdots & y^d(T - T_f) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y^d(T_{\text{ini}} + T_f - 1) & y^d(T_{\text{ini}} + T_f) & \cdots & y^d(T - 1) \end{bmatrix}}_{=: \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix}}$$

$$g = \left. \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} \\ u \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{set initial condition} \\ \text{prediction} \end{array}$$



Prediction unique if  $T_{\text{ini}}$  large enough

# Data-enabled Predictive Control

## Goal

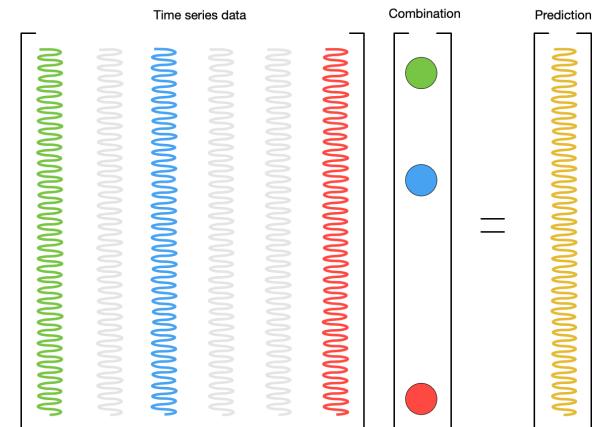
Design a controller to:

- track reference output trajectory
- satisfy safety constraints  $u(t) \in \mathcal{U}, y(t) \in \mathcal{Y}$

When the state space model (i.e.,  $A, B, C, D$ ) is unknown:

DeePC:

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min_{g,u,y} & \sum_{k=0}^{T_f-1} \|y_k - r_{t+k}\|_Q^2 + \|u_k\|_R^2 \\ \text{s.t.} & \left[ \begin{array}{c} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{array} \right] g = \left[ \begin{array}{c} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} \\ u \\ y \end{array} \right] \\ & u_k \in \mathcal{U}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\} \\ & y_k \in \mathcal{Y}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}\end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{performance} \\ \text{initial condition} \\ \text{prediction} \\ \text{safety} \end{array} \right\}$$



# Models vs data

**MPC:**

$$\min_{u,x,y} \sum_{k=0}^{T_f-1} \|y_k - r_{t+k}\|_Q^2 + \|u_k\|_R^2$$

s.t.

- $x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$
- $y_k = Cx_k + Du_k, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$
- $x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k, \forall k \in \{-T_{\text{ini}}, \dots, -1\}$
- $y_k = Cx_k + Du_k, \forall k \in \{-T_{\text{ini}}, \dots, -1\}$
- $u_k \in \mathcal{U}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$
- $y_k \in \mathcal{Y}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$

**DeePC:**

$$\min_{g,u,y} \sum_{k=0}^{T_f-1} \|y_k - r_{t+k}\|_Q^2 + \|u_k\|_R^2$$

s.t.

$$\begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} g = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} \\ u \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$u_k \in \mathcal{U}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$

$y_k \in \mathcal{Y}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$

Theorem [Coulson et al. '19]

MPC and DeePC have equivalent closed-loop behavior.

What about noisy data?  
...Nonlinear systems?

We need a robustified approach!

# Robustify against what?

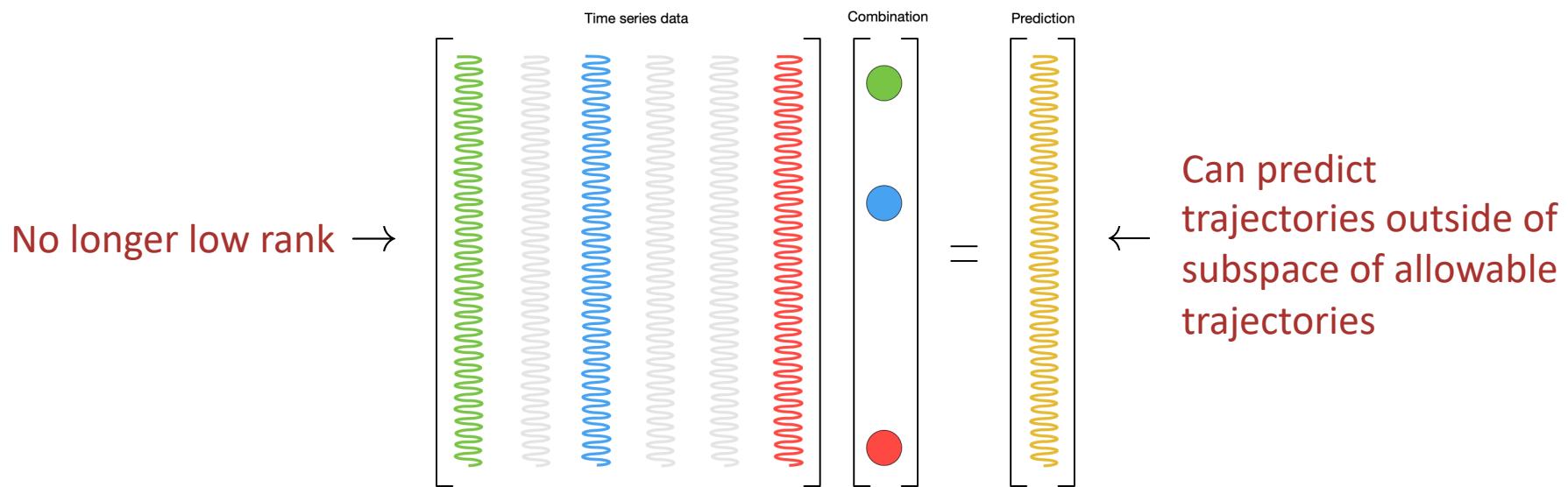
## Infeasibility

Online data  $(u_{\text{ini}}, y_{\text{ini}})$  may be inconsistent with data in the trajectory matrix

No  $g$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} g = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} \\ u \\ y \end{bmatrix}$  } initial condition

## Over-optimism

Trajectory matrix contains noisy data  $\implies$  Trajectory selection over-optimistic



r

robustification via regularization

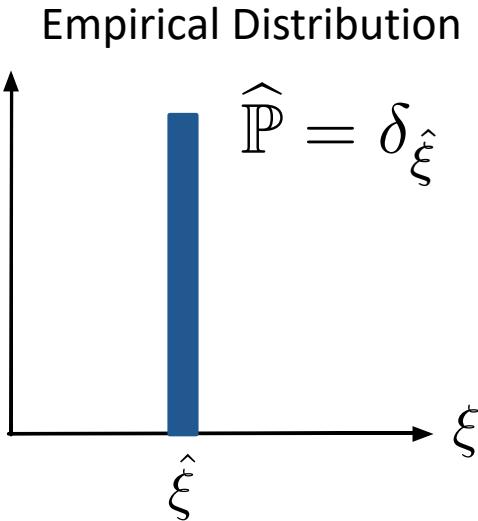
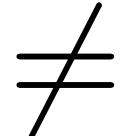
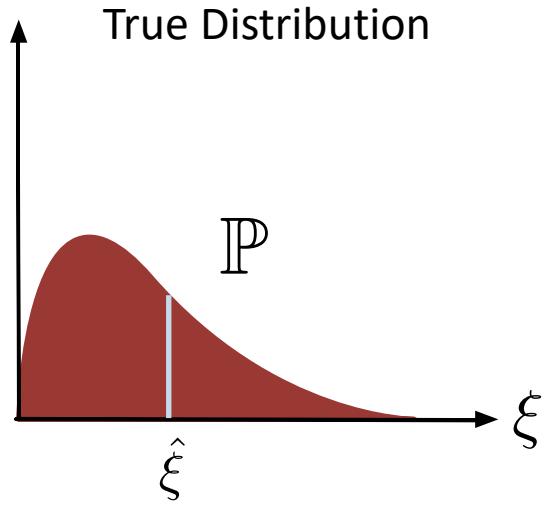
# Distributionally Robust Optimization

[Bertsimas et al. '04], [Ben-Tal et al. '09], [Kuhn et al. '19]

Objective:  $\underset{g \in G}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}[c(\xi, g)]$

$\xi$  is a random variable distributed according to unknown distribution  $\mathbb{P}$

We only have access to measured data sample  $\hat{\xi}$



Solve sample average approximation problem

$$g^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{g \in G} \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[c(\xi, g)]$$

Poor true expected cost



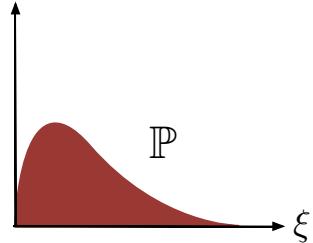
$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}[c(\xi, g^*)]$$

# Wasserstein Ball

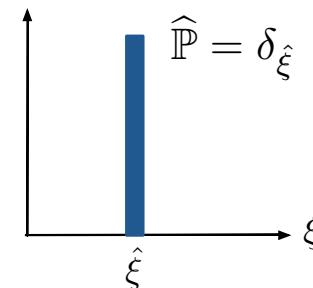
[Kuhn et al. '19]

Robustify against the fact that:

True Distribution



Empirical Distribution

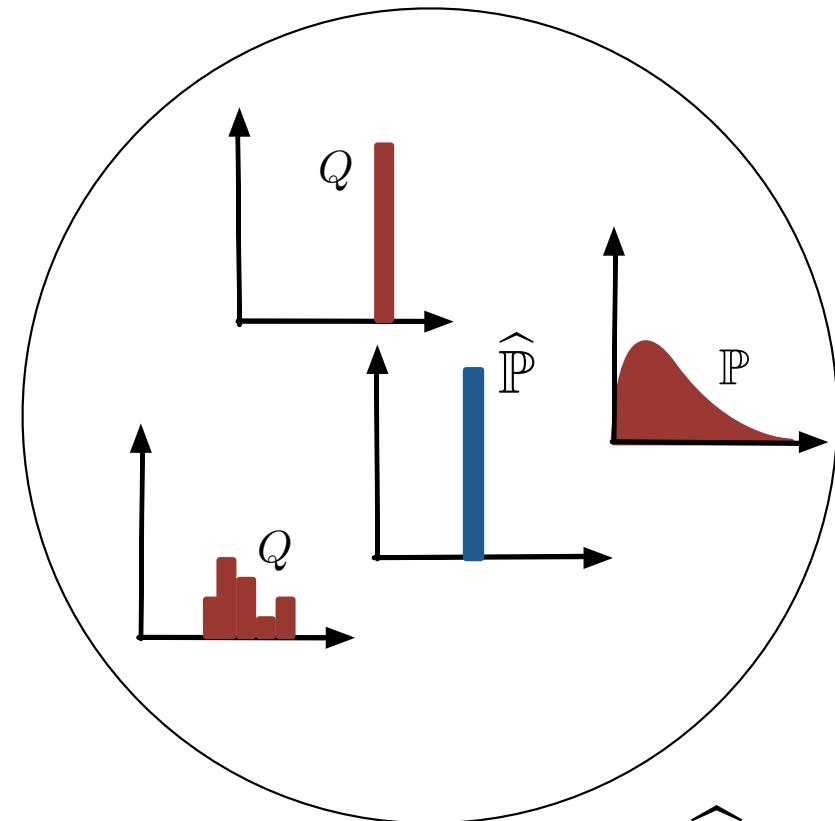


Distributionally Robust Optimization

$$\inf_{g \in G} \sup_{Q \in B_\epsilon(\hat{P})} \mathbb{E}_Q[c(\xi, g)]$$

$$\text{where } B_\epsilon(\hat{P}) = \left\{ Q \left| \int_{\Xi} \|\xi - \hat{\xi}\| Q(d\xi) \leq \epsilon \right. \right\}$$

is the [Wasserstein ball](#).



$B_\epsilon(\hat{P})$

Contains distributions that  
could have generated the data

# Abstracted DeePC

## DeePC + slack

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{g,u,y} \quad & \sum_{k=0}^{T_f-1} f(u_k, y_k) + h(\sigma_y) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} g = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} + \sigma_y \\ u \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\ & u_k \in \mathcal{U}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\} \end{aligned}$$

## Abstracted DeePC

$$\underset{g \in G}{\text{minimize}} \quad c(\hat{\xi}, g)$$

$$\text{with } \hat{\xi} = [U_p^\top \quad Y_p^\top \quad U_f^\top \quad Y_f^\top]^\top$$

$$G = \left\{ g \mid \begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ U_f \end{bmatrix} g = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ u \end{bmatrix}, u \in \mathcal{U}^{T_f} \right\}$$

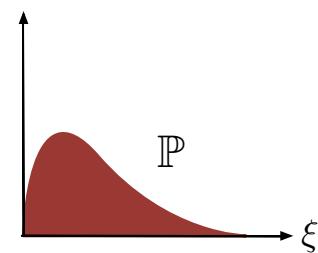
Data  $\hat{\xi}$  is a **particular measurement (realization)** of **random variable**  $\xi$  distributed according to **unknown distribution**  $\mathbb{P}$ .

What we care about:

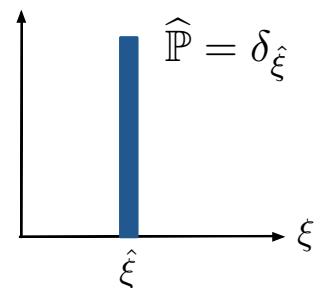
$$\min_{g \in G} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}[c(\xi, g)]$$

What DeePC is solving:

$$\min_{g \in G} c(\hat{\xi}, g) = \min_{g \in G} \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} [c(\xi, g)]$$



True Distribution



Empirical Distribution

# Distributionally Robust DeePC

Theorem [Coulson et al. '21]

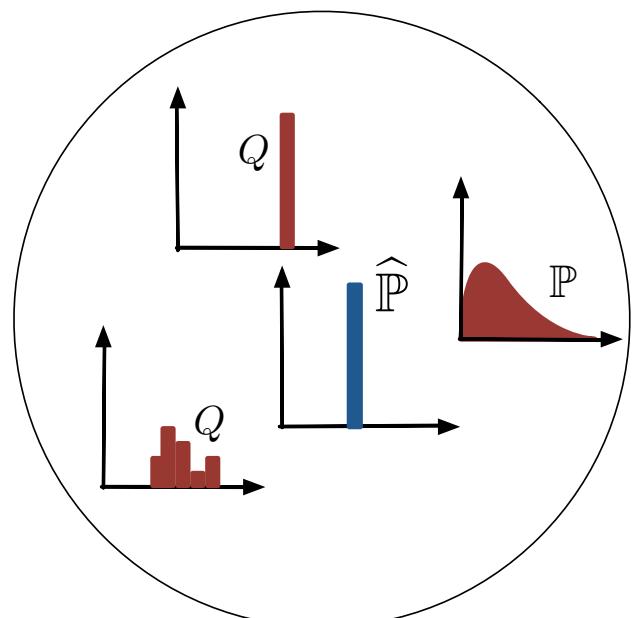
Under minor technical conditions

$$\inf_{g \in G} \sup_{Q \in B_\epsilon(\hat{\mathbb{P}})} \mathbb{E}_Q[c(\xi, g)] = \underbrace{\inf_{g \in G} c(\hat{\xi}, g)}_{\text{nominal DeePC}} + \underbrace{\epsilon \text{Lip}(c) \|g\|_*}_{\text{regularization}}$$

$p$ -norm robustness  $\iff$   $q$ -norm regularization

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

The Wasserstein ball contains more than just LTI systems with additive noise



Proof uses methods from [Mohajerin Esfahani, Kuhn '18]

# Regularized and Robust DeePC

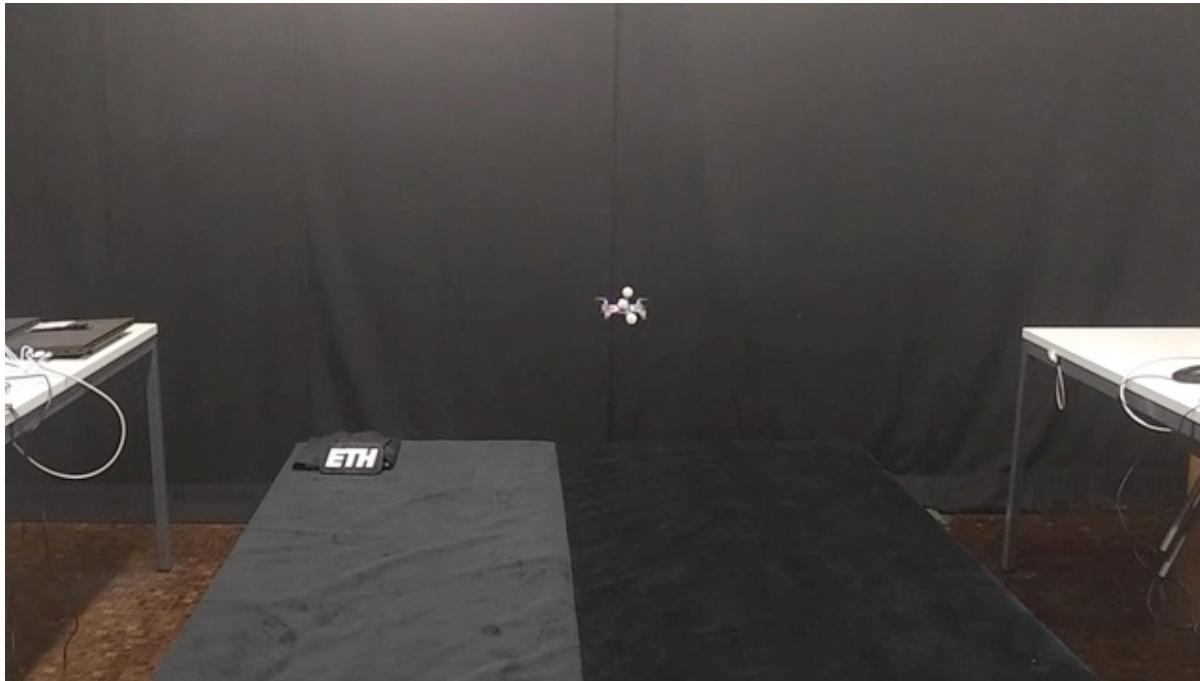
$$\min_{g, u, y} \sum_{k=0}^{T_f-1} \|y_k - r_{t+k}\|_Q^2 + \|u_k\|_R^2 + \lambda_y \|\sigma_y\|_2^2 + \lambda_g \|g\|_1$$

s.t.

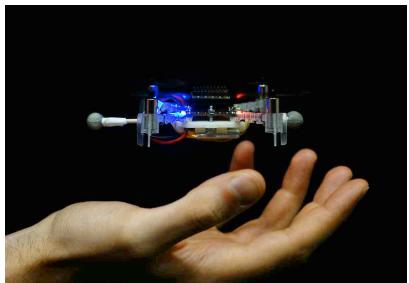
$$\begin{bmatrix} U_p \\ Y_p \\ U_f \\ Y_f \end{bmatrix} g = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{ini}} \\ y_{\text{ini}} + \sigma_y \\ u \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u_k \in \mathcal{U}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$$

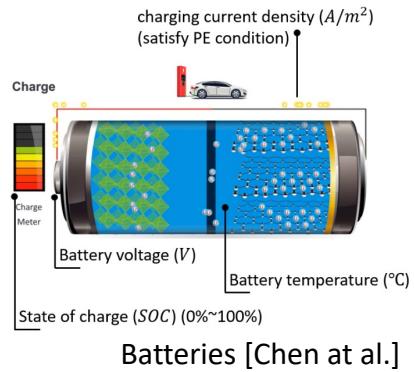
$$y_k \in \mathcal{Y}, \forall k \in \{0, \dots, T_f - 1\}$$



# Versatile method



## Quadcopter



Batteries [Chen et al.]



## Autonomous excavator



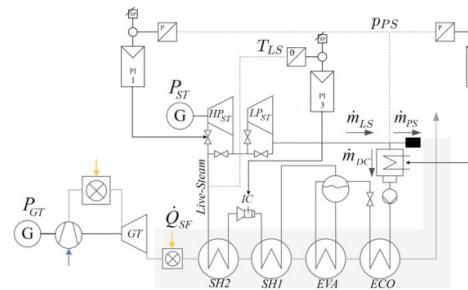
## Buildings & energy hubs [Lian et al.]



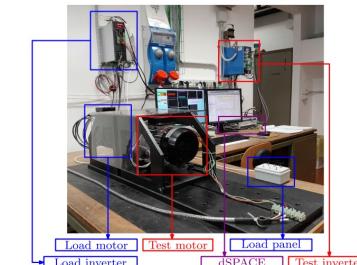
## Quadruped [Fawcett et al.]



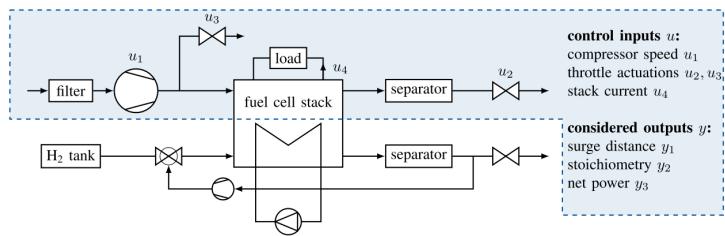
Traffic [Wang et al.]



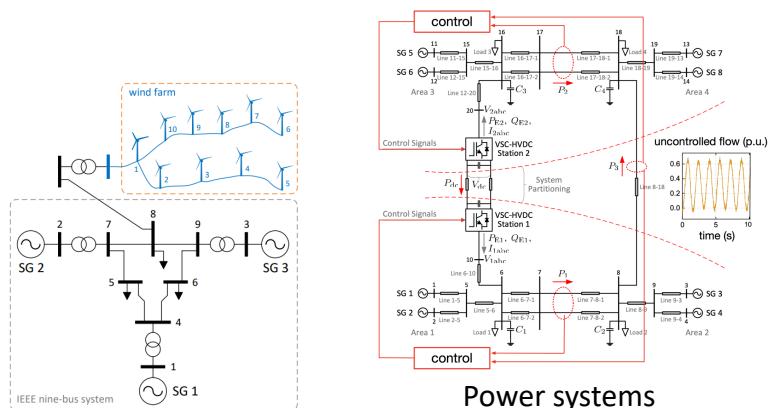
## Power plant [Mahdavipour et al.]



## Synchronous motor drive [Carlet et al.]



Fuel cell [Schmitt et al.]



## Wind farm [Markovsky et al.]

# Further results

## Distributionally Robust Chance Constrained Data-Enabled Predictive Control

Jeremy Coulson , John Lygeros , Fellow, IEEE, and Florian Dörfler 

- Leverage more data
- Safety through output chance constraints
- Fundamental lemma for better matrix structures

## Bridging Direct and Indirect Data-Driven Control Formulations via Regularizations and Relaxations

Florian Dörfler , Senior Member, IEEE, Jeremy Coulson , Member, IEEE, and Ivan Markovsky , Associate Member, IEEE

- Regularizations via indirect data-driven control

## A Quantitative Notion of Persistency of Excitation and the Robust Fundamental Lemma

Jeremy Coulson , Henk J. van Waarde , Member, IEEE, John Lygeros , Fellow, IEEE, and Florian Dörfler , Senior Member, IEEE

- Quantitative fundamental lemma

# Summary

- Matrix of time-series data is a predictive model
- Robustification = regularization
- Successful deployment on many experiments and simulations

Open & ongoing:

- Real-time adaptation using streaming data
- Incorporating prior (physical) knowledge
- Large scale integration (distributed control)

