

observers

goal: estimate state of a linear system using an "observer", that is, a second linear system that processes observations from the first

refs: Hespanha 2009 Ch 16
Stengel 1994 Ch 4.3

• consider linear time-invariant system $\dot{x}/x^+ = Ax + Bu$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$
with observations $y = Cx + Du$, $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$

ex: in mechanical system, y contains positions, not velocities
in electrical circuits, y contains voltages, not currents

idea: construct a second linear system — the "observer":

$$\hat{\dot{x}}/\hat{x}^+ = A\hat{x} + Bu \leftarrow \hat{x} \neq x, \text{ but we use the same } A, B \text{ \& } u$$

→ show that error $e = x - \hat{x} \rightarrow 0 \iff A$ is stable

$$- \dot{e}/e^+ = \dot{x}/x^+ - \hat{\dot{x}}/\hat{x}^+ \quad \uparrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \dot{e}/e^+ &= \dot{x}/x^+ - \dot{\hat{x}}/\hat{x}^+ \\
 &= Ax + \cancel{Bu} - (A\hat{x} + \cancel{Bu}) \\
 &= Ax - A\hat{x} = A(x - \hat{x}) = Ae
 \end{aligned}$$

idea: when A is not stable / to tune performance independently:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{\hat{x}}/\hat{x}^+ &= A\hat{x} + Bu - L(\hat{y} - y) \\
 \hat{y} &= C\hat{x} + Du
 \end{aligned}$$

→ show that $\dot{e}/e^+ = (A - LC)e$

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \dot{e}/e^+ &= \dot{x}/x^+ - \dot{\hat{x}}/\hat{x}^+ \\
 &= Ax + \cancel{Bu} - (A\hat{x} + \cancel{Bu} - L(\hat{y} - y)) \\
 &= Ax - A\hat{x} + LC\hat{x} - LCx \\
 &= Ae - LCe = (A - LC)e \quad \checkmark
 \end{aligned}$$

takeaway: if $A - LC$ is stable

$$\text{i.e. } \forall \lambda \in \text{spec}(A - LC): \begin{cases} \text{Re } \lambda < 0, & \dot{x} \\ |\lambda| < 1, & x^+ \end{cases}$$

then $e \rightarrow 0$, so $\hat{x} \rightarrow x$

recall: if (A, C) observable then eigenvalues of $A - LC$

recall: if (A, c) observable then eigenvalues of $A - Lc$
can be placed anywhere by appropriate choice of L
 $\rightarrow L^T = \text{place}(A^T, C^T, \text{eivals})$ yields L
s.t. $\text{spec}(A - Lc) = \text{eivals}$