

Duality for Estimation AND Control

*AFOSR Dynamic Systems and Control
Program Review Meeting
Washington, DC*

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Duality in control and estimation

1. Solving control problem with an estimation algorithm (5 mins):
2. Solving estimation problems with control techniques (25 mins):

Papers related to Part 1:

- 1 Joshi, Taghvaei, M., Meyn. Controlled interacting particle algorithms for simulation-based reinforcement learning. SCL 2022.
- 2 Joshi, Taghvaei, M., Meyn. Dual Ensemble Kalman Filter for Stochastic Optimal Control. CDC 2024.
- 3 Joshi, Chang, Taghvaei, M., Meyn. Design of Interacting Particle Systems for Fast and Efficient Reinforcement Learning. arxiv preprint.



Linear quadratic (LQ) optimal control problem:

$$\min_u J_T(u) = \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} |Cx_t|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |u_t|_R^2 \right) dt + \frac{1}{2} |x_T|_{P_T}^2$$

Subj. to $\dot{x}_t = Ax_t + Bu_t =: f(x_t, u_t)$

LQR problem: represents the $[T = \infty]$ where additional conditions are necessary to relate the asymptotic solution of the DRE to the p.d. solution of the ARE.

Policy optimization algorithms: Starting with a stability control gain K^0 , obtain

$$K^0 \mapsto K^1 \mapsto K^2 \mapsto \dots \mapsto K^j \mapsto \dots \mapsto K^N$$

by designing a suitable gradient-descent algorithm to reduce the value $J_T(u)$ with $u_t = Kx_t$.

Literature: [Fazel, 2018], [Mohammadi, 2022] [Zhang, 2021] [Cui, 2023], [Krauth, 2019], Abbasi-Yadkori, 2019] and others. At the j -th step, simulations are used to evaluate the gradient of the value function

$$\dot{X}_t^i = AX_t^i + BK^j X_t^i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$



Dual EnKF (the details)

Filtering (data assimilation) algorithm to solve the LQ problem

dual EnKF [recall running cost = $|cx|^2 + |u|_R^2$; terminal cost = $x^T P_T x$]:

$$dY_t^i = \underbrace{AY_t^i dt + B d\eta_t^{\leftarrow i}}_{\text{i-th copy of model}} + \underbrace{K_t^{(N)} \left(\frac{CY_t^i + \hat{C}_t^{(N)}}{2} \right)}_{\text{coupling process}} dt, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

$$Y_T^i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, P_T^{-1}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$



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$$Y_T^i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, P_T^{-1}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- 1 SDE is run backward in time (starting from time $t = T$ to $t = 0$).
- 2 η_t^i is a W.P. with cov. R^{-1} (so cheap control directions are explored more).
- 3 Mean-field terms:
 - $\hat{C}_t^{(N)} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_j CY_t^j$ is the empirical mean.
 - $K_t^{(N)} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_j Y_t^j (CY_t^j)^T$ is the gain.

Connection to LQ:

- 4 The empirical covariance of the ensemble $S_t^N \approx P_t^{-1}$. (duality: $-\log p$ is the value function of an optimal control problem).

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Error analysis

Performance of dual EnKF



Error bound [Joshi, Taghvaei, M., Meyn, S&CL (2022)]

Under some technical conditions (controllability of (A,B) and a condition stronger than observability of (A,C) and P_T invertible)

$$\mathbb{E}[\|S_t^{(N)} - P_t^{-1}\|_F] \leq \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{N}} + C_2 e^{-2\lambda(T-t)} \mathbb{E}[\|S_T^N - P_T^{-1}\|_F],$$

where S_t^N is the empirical covariance of the ensemble $\{Y_t^i : 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ and P_t is the solution of the DRE at time t (λ is inherited from the theory of DRE).

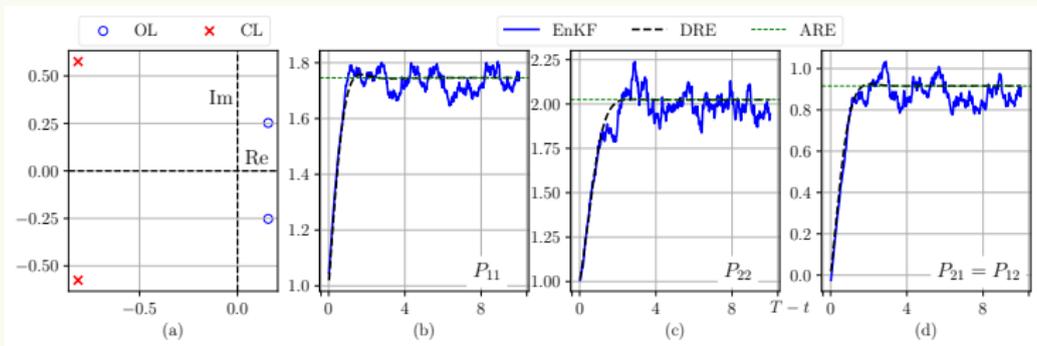


Figure: Performance on a 2 dimensional system ($N = 100$ particles).

Error analysis

Performance of dual EnKF

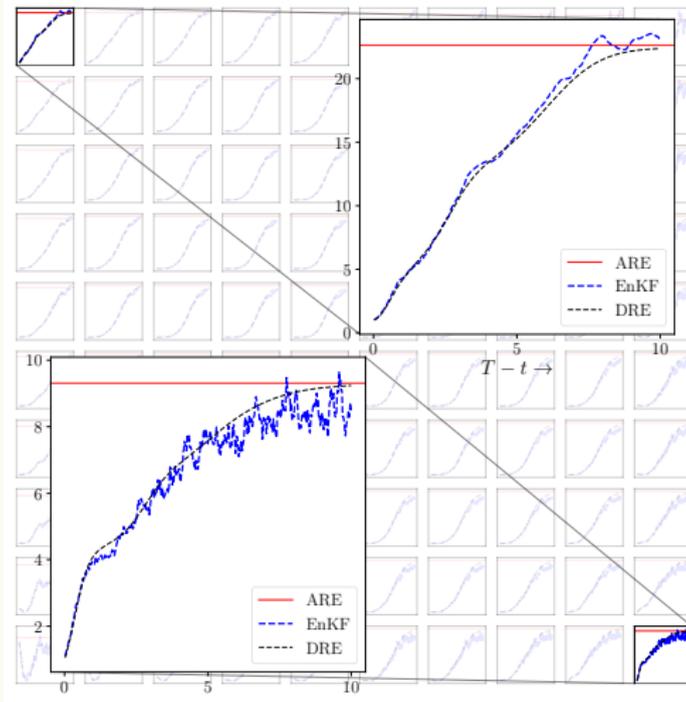
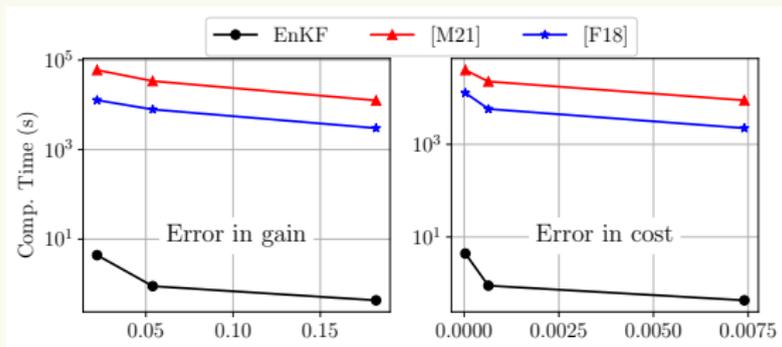


Figure: Performance on a 10 dimensional system ($N = 1000$ particles).



Numerical experiments (benchmark)

Comparison with policy optimization algorithms.



Algorithm	particles/samples	simulation time	iterations
EnKF	$O(1/\epsilon^2)$	$O(\log(1/\epsilon))$	1
Fazel [F18]	$\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$	$\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$	$O(\log(1/\epsilon))$
Jovanovic [M21]	$O(1)$	$O(\log(1/\epsilon))$	$O(\log(1/\epsilon))$

Table: Computational complexity comparison of the algorithms to achieve ϵ error in approximating the infinite-horizon LQR optimal gain.

Numerical Experiments for a nonlinear example

Inverted Pendulum on Cart

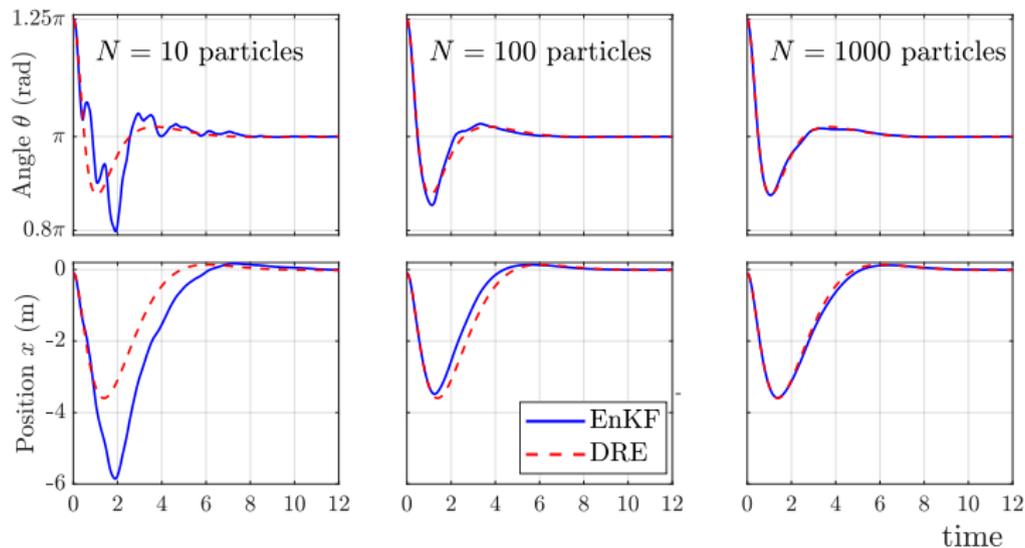


Figure: Nonlinear EnKF on Inverted Pendulum on Cart



Duality in control and estimation

Guiding philosophy (of this talk)

Faced with a control problem, do estimation

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1. Solving control problem with an estimation algorithm:

2. Solving estimation problems with control techniques:



Background

Dissipation in the study of stability of M.P.

Markov process (M.P.): Suppose $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ is a M.P.

- 1 taking values in state-space \mathbb{S} (e.g., $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ or $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}^d$);
- 2 with a given invariant measure $\bar{\mu}$.

Stochastic stability (definition):

(stochastic stability) $E(f(X_T)|X_0 = x) \rightarrow \bar{\mu}(f)$, as $T \rightarrow \infty$ (in $L^2(\bar{\mu})$ or some suitable sense)

Dissipation (or variance decay) in the study of M.P.:

(Markov operator) $(P_T f)(x) := E(f(X_T)|X_0 = x)$, $x \in \mathbb{S}$ (linear deterministic operator)

(variance) $\mathcal{V}^{\bar{\mu}}(f) := \text{var}^{\bar{\mu}}(f(X_T)) = \bar{\mu}(f^2) - \bar{\mu}(f)^2$

(candidate Lyapunov function) $\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{V}^{\bar{\mu}}(P_t f) = -\bar{\mu}(\Gamma(P_t f)) \leq 0$ (Γ is the carre du champ operator)

(Poincare inequality (PI)) $\bar{\mu}(\Gamma(f)) \geq c \mathcal{V}^{\bar{\mu}}(f) \implies \mathcal{V}^{\bar{\mu}}(P_T f) \leq e^{-cT} \mathcal{V}^{\bar{\mu}}(f)$ (stability)



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Aim of this talk: Generalize this (PI \implies variance decay \implies stability) story to nonlinear filter.



Math problem

Filter stability and key questions

Hidden Markov model (HMM):

(hidden state process) $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\} = \text{Markov}(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$ on state-space \mathbb{S}

(observation) $Z_t = \int_0^t h(X_s) ds + W_t$ (additive white noise observations)

Nonlinear filter:

(cond. expect.) $\pi_T(f) := E(f(X_T) | \mathcal{Z}_T)$, where $f \in C_b(\mathbb{S})$ and $\mathcal{Z}_T = \sigma(Z_t : 0 \leq t \leq T)$

(nonlinear filter) $d\pi_t(f) = \pi_t(\mathcal{A}f) dt + (\pi_t(hf) - \pi_t(h)\pi_t(f))(dZ_t - \pi_t(h) dt)$, $\pi_0 = \mu$

(superscript notation) $\pi_T^\mu(f)$ (resp., $\pi_T^\nu(f)$) with prior μ (resp., ν)

(filter stability) $E(|\pi_T^\mu(f) - \pi_T^\nu(f)|^2) \rightarrow 0$, as $T \rightarrow \infty$ (asymptotic forgetting of prior)

Questions:

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(superscript notation) $\pi_T^\mu(f)$ (resp., $\pi_T^\nu(f)$) with prior μ (resp., ν)

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Questions:

- 1 Q1. Model properties (e.g., detectability) that are necessary and sufficient for filter stability.
- 2 Q2. Bounds on (exponential) rate of convergence.



Math problem

Filter stability and key questions

Hidden Markov model (HMM):

(hidden state process) $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\} = \text{Markov}(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$ on state-space \mathbb{S}

(observation) $Z_t = \int_0^t h(X_s) ds + W_t$ (additive white noise observations)

Nonlinear filter:

(cond. expect.) $\pi_T(f) := E(f(X_T) | \mathcal{Z}_T)$, where $f \in C_b(\mathbb{S})$ and $\mathcal{Z}_T = \sigma(Z_t : 0 \leq t \leq T)$

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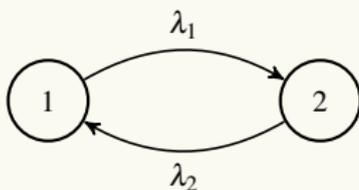
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Example and Literature survey

HMM and filter stability

HMM (A, H) on a finite state-space $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$:



$$A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\lambda_1 & \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 & -\lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{rate matrix}}$$

$$H = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} h(1) \\ h(2) \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{obs. matrix}}$$

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- 3 HMM is NOT detectable iff (both) $\lambda_{12} + \lambda_{21} = 0$ and $h(1) = h(2)$. (necessary and sufficient).

1. Ergodic signal case: (filter 'inherits' the ergodic property)

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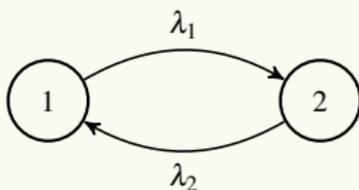
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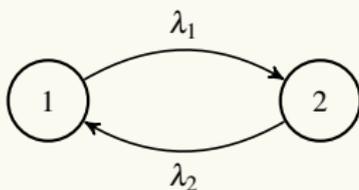
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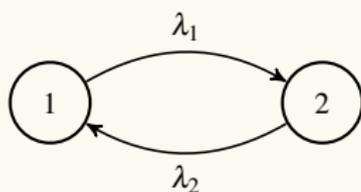
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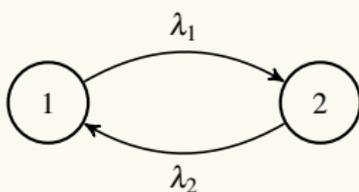
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Outline of the talk

Filter stability

Part 1: Backward map (This is the important contribution)

- 1 What is variance decay for nonlinear filter?
- 2 How is it related to filter stability?

Part 2: Model properties

- 1 How to define observability for HMM? 1 slide.
- 2 How to define Poincare constant for HMM? 1 slide.
- 3 What is the relationship between these? 1 slide.

Part 3: (combines parts 1 and 2.) 2 slides.

- 1 Main results on filter stability.

Papers related to Part 1:

- 1 Kim and M. Variance decay property for filter stability, TAC (To appear).
- 2 Joshi, Kim, and M. Backward map for filter stability, IEEE CDC (2024).



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(L^2 stability)
$$E^\mu (|\pi_T^\mu(f) - \pi_T^\nu(f)|^2) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } T \rightarrow \infty, \quad f \in C_b(\mathbb{S})$$

(likelihood ratio)
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(The problem of filter stability is to show that the ratio $\gamma_T \rightarrow 1$ as $T \rightarrow \infty$ (in a suitable sense).)

(χ^2 - divergence)
$$\chi^2(\pi_T^\mu | \pi_T^\nu) = \pi_T^\nu (|\gamma_T - 1|^2) \quad (\text{is a divergence metric})$$

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Backward map and variance decay

Definition of backward map:

(backward map) $y_0(x) := \mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{v}}(\gamma_T(X_T) | X_0 = x), \quad x \in \mathbb{S} \quad (\text{this is the key definition})$

(why is it useful?) $|\mathbb{E}^{\mu}(\chi^2(\pi_T^{\mu} | \pi_T^{\mathbf{v}}))|^2 \leq \text{var}^{\mathbf{v}}(y_0(X_0)) \chi^2(\mu | \mathbf{v}) \quad (\text{this is the key estimate})$

Definition of variance decay property:

(variance decay prop.) $\text{var}^{\mathbf{v}}(y_0(X_0)) \xrightarrow{(T \rightarrow \infty)} 0$

Q. *What is the appropriate notion of variance decay for a nonlinear filter?*

And how is it related to filter stability?

Answer. [Prop. 2 in Kim and M. (TAC, To appear)]

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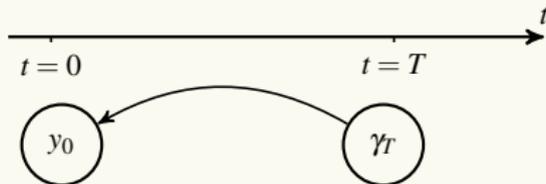
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Filter stability

Can we also get rates?



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(Jensen's inequality) $E^v(|y_0(X_0) - 1|^2) \leq E^v(|\gamma_T(X_T) - 1|^2)$ (backward map is non-expansive)

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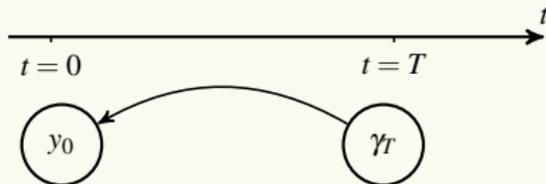
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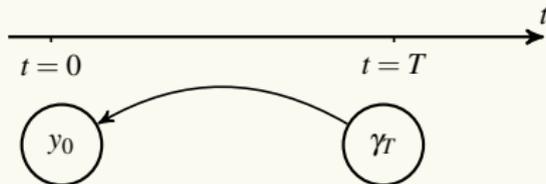
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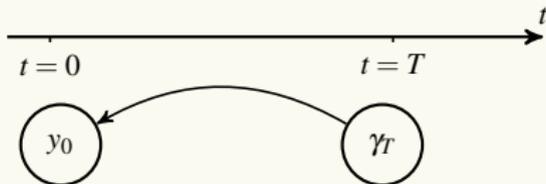
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$$E^v(|y_0(X_0) - 1|^2) \leq E^v(e^{-cT} |\gamma_T(X_T) - 1|^2) \quad (\text{trivially holds with } c = 0)$$

Filter stability

Suppose $\mu \ll v$. Then

(filter stability)
$$E^\mu(\chi^2(\pi_T^\mu | \pi_T^v)) \leq \frac{1}{\underline{a}} e^{-cT} \chi^2(\mu | v)$$

where $\underline{a} = \text{essinf}_{x \in \mathbb{S}} \gamma_0(x)$.

Embedding the backward map

BSDE (this is the only part that requires white noise observations)



(backward map) $y_0(x) = \mathbf{E}^V(\gamma_T(X_T) | X_0 = x), \quad x \in \mathbb{S}$

(BSDE) $-dY_t(x) = ((\mathcal{A}Y_t)(x) + h^T(x)(V_t(x)))dt - V_t^T(x)dZ_t, \quad x \in \mathbb{S}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$

$Y_T(x) = \gamma_T(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{S}$

Q. What is the appropriate generalization of the dissipation equation for the nonlinear filter?

Answer. [Prop. 2 in Joshi, Kim, M. [CDC 2024]]

Consider the BSDE. Then at time $t = 0$,

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(dissipation equation) $\frac{d}{dt} \text{var}^V(Y_t(X_t)) = \mathbf{E}^V(\pi_t^V(\Gamma Y_t) + \pi_t^V(|V_t|^2)), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$

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Rate bounds

Rate bounds for finite state HMM (\mathbf{A} is the rate matrix and $\bar{\mu}$ is the invariant measure):

#	Bound	Literature	Our work
(1)	$\min_{i \neq j} \sqrt{A(i,j)A(j,i)}$	[Atar and Zetouni (1997)]	Ex. 4 [CDC '21]
(2)	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \bar{\mu}(i) \min_{j \neq i} A(i,j)$	[Baxendale <i>et. al.</i> (2004)]	Ex. 2 [CDC '21]
(3)	$\sum_j \min_{i \neq j} A(i,j)$	[Moulines 2006]	Ex. 3 [CDC '21]



Outline of the talk

Filter stability

Part 1: Backward map

- 1 What is variance decay for nonlinear filter?
- 2 How is it related to filter stability?

Part 2: Model properties for filter stability (white noise observations)

- 1 How to define observability for HMM?
- 2 How to define Poincare constant for HMM?

Part 3: Combines parts 1 and 2

- 1 Main results on filter stability.

Papers related to Part 1:

- 1 Kim and M. Duality for nonlinear filtering: I. Observability., TAC (2024).
- 2 Kim and M. Duality for nonlinear filtering: II. Optimal Control., TAC (2024).
- 3 Kim and M. Variance decay property for filter stability. TAC (To appear).



Math problem

Filter stability and key questions

Hidden Markov model (HMM):

(hidden state process) $X = \{X_t : t \geq 0\} = \text{Markov}(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$ on state-space \mathbb{S}

(observation) $Z_t = \int_0^t h(X_s) ds + W_t$ (additive white noise observations)

Nonlinear filter:

(cond. expect.) $\pi_T(f) := E(f(X_T) | \mathcal{Z}_T)$, where $f \in C_b(\mathbb{S})$ and $\mathcal{Z}_T = \sigma(Z_t : 0 \leq t \leq T)$

(nonlinear filter) $d\pi_t(f) = \pi_t(\mathcal{A}f) dt + (\pi_t(hf) - \pi_t(h)\pi_t(f))(dZ_t - \pi_t(h) dt)$, $\pi_0 = \mu$

(superscript notation) $\pi_T^\mu(f)$ (resp., $\pi_T^\nu(f)$) with prior μ (resp., ν)

(filter stability) $E(|\pi_T^\mu(f) - \pi_T^\nu(f)|^2) \rightarrow 0$, as $T \rightarrow \infty$ (asymptotic forgetting of prior)

Questions:

- 1 Q1. Model properties (e.g., detectability) that are necessary and sufficient for filter stability.
- 2 Q2. Bounds on (exponential) rate of convergence.



Dual optimal control problem

Answer to Q1. Model properties for filter stability

Dual optimal control problem for HMM (\mathcal{A}, h) [Kim and M. (TAC 2004)]

minimize
 $U \in L^2_{\mathbb{Z}}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^m)$

$$J(U) = E^P \left(\text{var}^P(Y_0(X_0)) + \int_0^\tau \ell(Y_t, V_t, U_t; X_t) dt \right)$$

subj. to $-dY_t = ((\mathcal{A}Y_t)(x) + h(x)(U_t + V_t(x))) dt - V_t(x) dZ_t, \quad x \in \mathbb{S}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \tau$

$$Y_\tau(x) = F(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{S}$$

The cost function is: $\ell(y, v, u; x) = \underbrace{(\Gamma y)(x)}_{\text{carre du champ}} + |u + v(x)|_R^2$.

HMM on $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$:

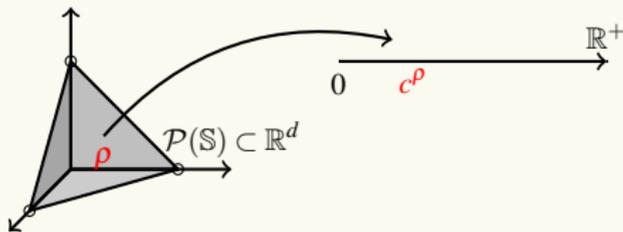
(dual control system) $-dY_t = ((\mathcal{A}Y_t)(x) + h(x)(U_t + V_t(x))) dt - V_t(x) dZ_t, \quad Y_T = c1$

(solution operator) $\mathcal{L} : U \mapsto Y_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$

(controllability defn.) $\mathcal{C}_\tau := \text{Range}(\mathcal{L}) = \mathbb{R}^d$

Dual optimal control problem

Answer to Q2. Poincare constant for the filter

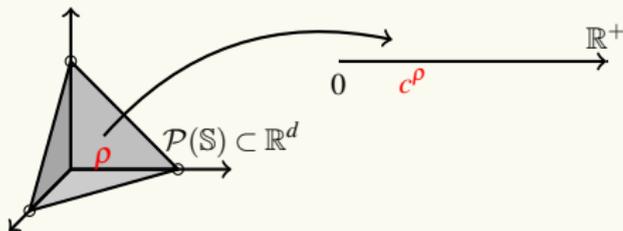


Definition of Poincare constant:

- (optimal control system) $-dY_t(x) = ((\mathcal{A}Y_t)(x) + h^T(x)(U_t^{\text{opt}} + V_t(x)))dt - V_t^T(x)dZ_t, x \in \mathbb{S}, 0 \leq t \leq \tau$
 $U_t^{\text{opt}} = -\mathcal{V}_t^\rho(h, Y_t) - \pi_t^\rho(V_t), 0 \leq t \leq \tau$ (linear feedback control law)
 $Y_\tau(x) = F(x), x \in \mathbb{S}$
- (energy) $\mathcal{E}^\rho(F) := \mathbb{E}^\rho \left(\int_0^\tau \ell(Y_t, V_t, U_t^{\text{opt}}; X_t) dt \right)$
- (optimality equation) $\text{var}^\rho(Y_0(X_0)) + \mathcal{E}^\rho(F) = \mathbb{E}^\rho(\mathcal{V}_\tau^\rho(F))$ (value function)
- (Poincare constant) $c^\rho := \frac{1}{\tau} \log(1 + \beta^\rho)$, where $\beta^\rho = \inf \{ \mathcal{E}^\rho(F) : F \in \mathbb{H}_\tau^\rho \text{ \& \; } \text{var}^\rho(Y_0(X_0)) = 1 \}$
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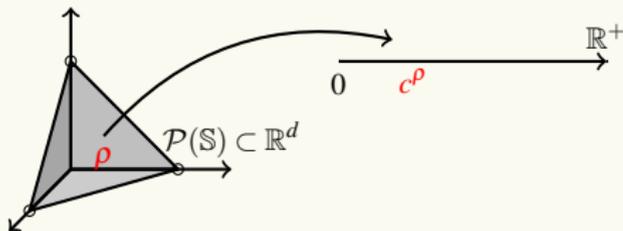
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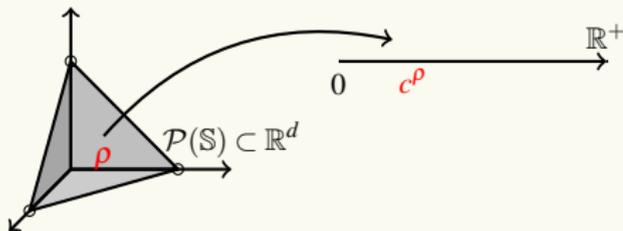
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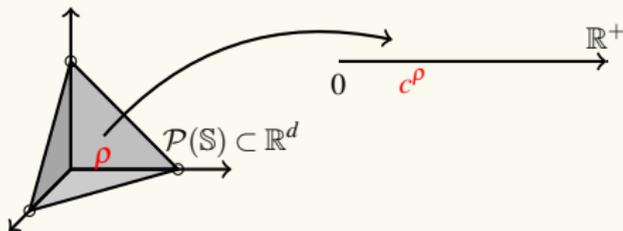
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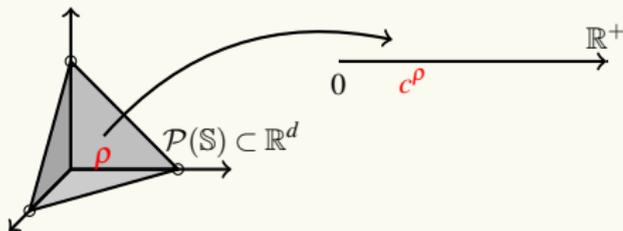
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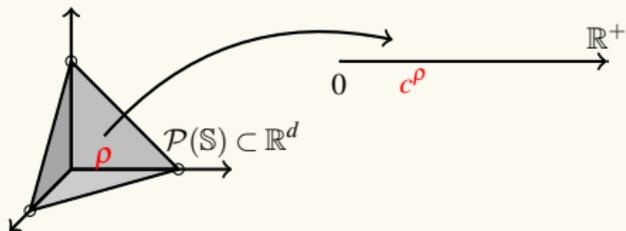
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Dual optimal control problem

Answer to Q2. Poincare constant for the filter



For $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$, we show that

- 1 c^ρ is attained as a minimum (i.e., a minimizer F^ρ exists in \mathbb{H}_τ^ρ).
- 2 $\rho \mapsto c^\rho$ is continuous w.r.t the separating norm topology on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}) \setminus \mathcal{N}$.

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Dual optimal control problem

In finite state-space settings, all of this is easily computed

Prop 1 in [Kim, M. (TAC 2004)]

The controllable subspace \mathcal{C}_τ is the smallest such subspace $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ that satisfies two properties:

- (i) The constant function $\mathbf{1} \in \mathcal{C}$; and
- (ii) If $g \in \mathcal{C}$ then $\mathcal{A}g \in \mathcal{C}$ and $gh \in \mathcal{C}$.

Definition (of HMM model properties (from duality))

- 1 HMM (\mathcal{A}, h) is *observable* if $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{R}^d$.
- 2 HMM (\mathcal{A}, h) is *detectable* if $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{S}_0 := \{f \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \Gamma f(x) = 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{S}\}$.

Relationship to positivity of c^P [Prop. 6 in [Kim and M., TAC 2025]]

Suppose $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ and any of the following conditions holds:

- (i) \mathcal{A} is ergodic.
- (ii) (\mathcal{A}, h) is observable.
- (iii) (\mathcal{A}, h) is detectable.

Then $c^P > 0$.



Outline of the talk

Filter stability

Part 1: Backward map

- 1 What is variance decay for nonlinear filter?
- 2 How is it related to filter stability?

Part 2: Model properties for filter stability

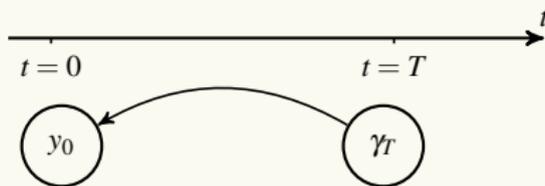
- 1 How to define observability for HMM?
- 2 How to define Poincare constant for HMM?

Part 3: Combines parts 1 and 2

- 1 Main results on filter stability.

Recap of parts 1 and 2

Backward map, BSDE, and Poincare constants



(Jensen's for backward map) $\mathbf{E}^V(|y_0(X_0) - 1|^2) \leq \mathbf{E}^V(|\gamma_T(X_T) - 1|^2)$

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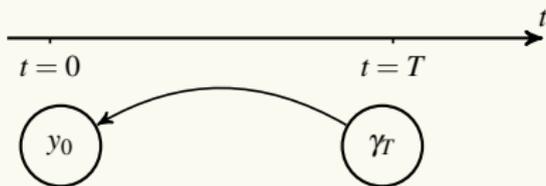
(cumulative) $C_N := \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c \pi_{k\tau}^V$

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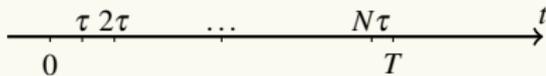
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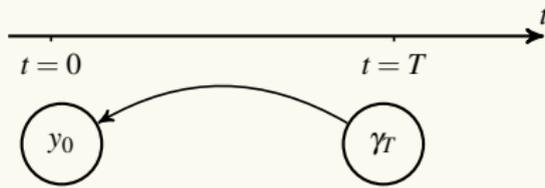


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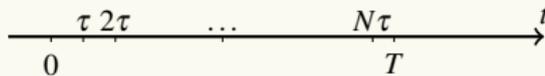
Recap of parts 1 and 2

Backward map, BSDE, and Poincare constants



(Jensen's for backward map) $\mathbf{E}^V(|y_0(X_0) - 1|^2) \leq \mathbf{E}^V(|\gamma_T(X_T) - 1|^2)$

(dissipation equation) $\frac{d}{dt} \text{var}^V(Y_t(X_t)) = \mathbf{E}^V(\pi_t^V(\Gamma Y_t) + \pi_t^V(|V_t|^2)), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$



(cumulative) $C_N := \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c \pi_{k\tau}^V$

(variance decay) $\text{var}^V(y_0(X_0)) \leq \mathbf{E}^V\left(e^{-\tau C_N} \chi^2(\pi_T^\mu | \pi_T^V)\right)$



Filter stability

Main results

Because $\{C_N : N = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is non-negative and monotone, define

$$C_\infty(\omega) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \uparrow C_N(\omega), \quad \omega \in \Omega$$

Theorem (2 in Kim and M. TAC (To appear))

Suppose $\{\mathcal{V}_T^v(\gamma_T) : T \geq 0\}$ is P^v -u.i. and $c^p : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}) \setminus \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous. Then

- (i) Either $P^v([C_\infty = \infty]) = 1$, in which case the variance decay property holds and the filter is stable in χ^2 -divergence; or
- (ii) $P^v([C_\infty = \infty]) < 1$, in which case

$$c^p \pi_T^v(\omega) \xrightarrow{(T \rightarrow \infty)} 0, \quad P^v\text{-a.e. } \omega \in [C_\infty < \infty]$$

Theorem (3 in Kim and M. TAC (To appear))

Suppose $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, \mathbb{S}\}$, $\min_{x \in \mathbb{S}} \gamma_0(x) > 0$, and (\mathcal{A}, h) is detectable. Then the filter is stable in χ^2 -divergence.

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University of Washington

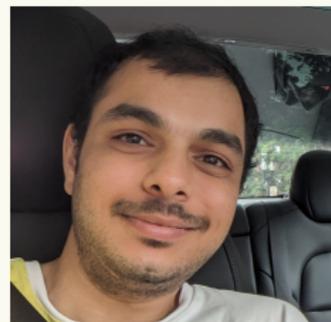


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Heng-Sheng Chang



Anant Joshi



Conclusions

- 1 *“establishing duality [of the optimal estimator] with the optimal regulator is a favorite technique for establishing estimator stability”* – Rawlings, Mayne, and Diehl (MPC textbook).
- 2 For MHE and MEE, there have been a number of important contributions: [Krener, 2003], [Rao's PhD Thesis (2000)], [Ch. 4 of Rawlings et. al.], [van Handel's PhD thesis (2006)].
- 3 Yet these attempts are somewhat dis-connected from stochastic filtering theory – both in terms of model properties and rate estimates for convergence.
- 4 Minimum variance duality appears to be better suited for this purpose.



Math preliminaries

Some technicalities (everything in Part 1 applies to general HMMs)

Probability space: $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, P^\mu)$ where $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S})$ is the true prior. HMM is (X, Z) with $X_0 \sim \mu$.

Let $\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S})$. On the common measurable space (Ω, \mathcal{F}_T) , P^ρ is used to denote another prob. measure such that the transition law of (X, Z) is identical but $X_0 \sim \rho$. Examples:

- $\rho = \mu$. Then $\pi_T^\mu(f) = E^\mu(f(X_T)|\mathcal{Z}_T)$. (The measure μ has meaning of the true prior.)
- $\rho = \nu$. Then $\pi_T^\nu(f) = E^\nu(f(X_T)|\mathcal{Z}_T)$. (ν is the incorrect prior used to compute the filter.)

Lemma 2.1 in Clark, Ocone, Coumarbatch (1999).

Suppose $\mu \ll \nu$. Then

- $P^\mu \ll P^\nu$, and the change of measure is given by

$$\frac{dP^\mu}{dP^\nu}(\omega) = \frac{d\mu}{d\nu}(X_0(\omega)) \quad P^\nu\text{-a.s. } \omega$$

- For each $t > 0$, $\pi_t^\mu \ll \pi_t^\nu$, $P^\mu|_{\mathcal{Z}_t}$ -a.s..

Clark, Ocone, and Coumarbatch. Relative entropy and error bounds for filtering of Markov processes. *Mathematics of Control, Signals and Systems*. (1999).

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