# Distributed Parametric-Nonparametric Estimation in Networked Control Systems 

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## Research topics

## topics



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## Multi-agent systems: examples of applications



## First problem considered in this speech

## Assumption

 noisy measurements of$$
f(x, t): \mathbb{R}^{3} \times \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}
$$

that are
O non uniformly sampled in space $x$
O non uniformly sampled in time $t$
O taken by different agents
Objective smoothing in space $(x)$ and forecast in time $(t)$ the quantity $f(x, t)$

## Example 1 - channel gains in geographical areas


$x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}:$
$t$ : time
$f(x, t)$ :
position channel gain
source: Dall'Anese et al., 2011

## Example 2 - waves power extraction


$x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}: \quad$ position
$t$ : time
$f(x, t)$ : sea level
source: www.graysharboroceanenergy.com

## Example 3 - multi robot exploration



$$
\begin{aligned}
x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}: & \text { position } \\
f(x): & \text { ground level }
\end{aligned}
$$

source: http://www-robotics.jpl.nasa.gov

## Difficulties related to this problem

## Information-related difficulties

O non-uniform samplings both in time and in space
O unknown dynamics of $f$
O unknown or extremely complex correlations in time and space

Hardware-related difficulties
O energy \& computational \& memory \& bandwidth limitations

Framework-related difficulties
O mobile and time varying network

## State of the art

 Choi et al. 2009, Predd et al. 2006, Boyd et al. 2005
## Maximum Likelihoods

Schizas et al. 2008, Barbarossa and Scutari 2007, Boyd et al. 2010

## proposed distributed solutions

Kalman Filtering

Cressie and Wikle 2002, Olfati-Saber 2007, Carli et al. 2008

Kriging $\rightarrow$ Dall'Anese et al. 2011, Cortés 2010
Other Learning Techniques
Nguyen et al. 2005, Bazerque et al. 2010

## State of the art

dynamic scenarios
Least Squares $\rightarrow$ Choi et al. 2009, Predd et al. 2006, Boyd et al. 2005

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## State of the art - Vision

obtain

$$
\widehat{f}(x, t)=\Psi \text { (past measurements) }
$$

being
O distributed
O capable of both smoothing and prediction
Our approach nonparametric: $\Psi(\cdot)$ lives in an infinite dimensional space

## Why should we use a nonparametric approach?

## Motivations

O it could be difficult or even impossible to define a parametric model (e.g. when only regularity assumptions are available)

O parametric models could involve a large number of parameters (could require nonlinear optimization techniques)

O lead to convex optimization problems
O consistent, i.e. $\widehat{f} \rightarrow f$ when $\#$ measurements $\rightarrow \infty$ (De Nicolao,
Ferrari-Trecate, 1999)

## State of the art - where we actually contributed

## our small <br> puzzle-piece

## agents estimate the same $f$

e.g. exploration

## Regularization

Network approach
static scenario ( $f$ independent of $t$ )
no needs to discard
old measurements

## Our goal

## obtain a simple, self-evaluating and autotuning multi-agent regression strategy

## Framework



Agents:
O noisily sample the same $f$

- limited computational \& communication capabilities
- 1 measurement $\times$ agent (ease of notation)
O $M$ measurements in total


## Measurement model

$$
\begin{equation*}
y_{m}=f\left(x_{m}\right)+\nu_{m} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

O $f: \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ unknown ( $\mathcal{X}$ compact)
○ $\nu_{m} \perp x_{m}$, zero mean and variance $\sigma^{2}$
○ $x_{m} \sim \mu$ i.i.d. (agents know $\left.\mu!!\right)$
examples of $\mu$ :

uniform

jitter

generic

## Considered cost function

$$
Q(f)=\sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(y_{m}-f\left(x_{m}\right)\right)^{2}+\gamma\|f\|_{K}^{2}
$$

Centralized optimal solution as a Regularization Network
$f_{c}=\sum_{m=1}^{M} c_{m} K\left(x_{m}, \cdot\right)$

$$
\left[\begin{array}{c}
c_{1} \\
\vdots \\
c_{M}
\end{array}\right]=\left(\left[\begin{array}{c}
K\left(x_{1}, x_{1}\right) \\
\vdots \\
K\left(x_{M}, x_{1}\right)
\end{array}\right.\right.
$$

$$
\left.\left.\begin{array}{c}
K\left(x_{1}, x_{M}\right) \\
\vdots \\
K\left(x_{M}, x_{M}\right)
\end{array}\right]+\gamma I\right)^{-1}\left[\begin{array}{c}
y_{1} \\
\vdots \\
y_{M}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Considered cost function

$$
Q(f)=\sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(y_{m}-f\left(x_{m}\right)\right)^{2}+\gamma\|f\|_{K}^{2}
$$

lives in an infinite dimensional space
regularization factor,

$$
K: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}
$$

Centralized optimal solution as a Regularization Network

$$
f_{C}=\sum_{m=1}^{M} C_{m} K\left(X_{m}, \cdot\right) \quad\left[\begin{array}{c}
c_{1} \\
\vdots \\
c_{M}
\end{array}\right]=\left(\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
K\left(x_{1}, x_{1}\right) & \cdots & K\left(x_{1}, x_{M}\right) \\
\vdots & & \vdots \\
K\left(x_{M}, x_{1}\right) & \cdots & K\left(x_{M}, x_{M}\right)
\end{array}\right]+\gamma /\right)
$$

## Drawbacks

$$
f_{c}=\sum_{m=1}^{M} c_{m} K\left(x_{m}, \cdot\right)\left[\begin{array}{c}
c_{1} \\
c_{1} \\
c_{n}
\end{array}\right]=\left(\left[\begin{array}{lll}
K\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) & \cdots & K\left(x_{1}, x_{m}\right) \\
k\left(x_{m}, x_{2}\right) & \cdots & k\left(x_{m}, x_{m}\right)
\end{array}\right]+\gamma 1\right)^{-1}\left[\begin{array}{c}
v_{1} \\
\vdots \\
y_{m}
\end{array}\right]
$$

O computational cost: $O\left(M^{3}\right)$ (inversion of $M \times M$ matrix)
O transmission cost: $O(M)$ (knowledge of whole $\left\{x_{m}, y_{m}\right\}_{m=1}^{M}$ )

## need to find alternative solutions

## Alternative centralized optimal solution ( $1^{\text {st }}$ on 2 )

Structure of $K$ implies

- $K\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right)=\sum_{e=1}^{+\infty} \lambda_{e} \phi_{e}\left(x_{1}\right) \phi_{e}\left(x_{2}\right)$
$\lambda_{e}=$ eigenvalue
$\phi_{e}=$ eigenfunction
- $f(x)=\sum_{e=1}^{+\infty} b_{e} \phi_{e}(x)$
$\Rightarrow$ measurement model can be rewritten as

$$
y_{m}=\overbrace{\left[\phi_{1}\left(x_{m}\right), \phi_{2}\left(x_{m}\right), \ldots\right]}^{c_{m}:=} \overbrace{\left[\begin{array}{c}
b_{1}  \tag{2}\\
b_{2} \\
\vdots
\end{array}\right]}+\nu_{m}
$$

## Alternative centralized optimal solution ( $2^{\text {nd }}$ on 2 )

$$
\begin{equation*}
b_{c}=\left(\frac{1}{M} \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{\lambda_{e}}\right)+\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} C_{m}^{T} C_{m}\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} C_{m}^{T} y_{m}\right) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

involves infinite dimensional objects:

$$
b_{c}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\bullet & \cdots & \cdots \\
\vdots & \ddots & \\
\vdots & & \ddots
\end{array}\right]^{-1}\left[\begin{array}{c}
\bullet \\
\vdots \\
\vdots
\end{array}\right]
$$

$\Rightarrow$ cannot be computed exactly

## Suboptimal finite dimensional solution

New estimator

$$
b_{r}=\left(\frac{1}{M} \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{\lambda_{e}}\right)+\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E}\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} y_{m}\right)
$$

O computable (involves $E \times E$ matrices and $E$-dimensional vectors)
○ minimizes $Q^{E}(b):=\sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(y_{m}-C_{m}^{E} b\right)^{2}+\gamma \sum_{e=1}^{E} \frac{b_{e}^{2}}{\lambda_{e}}$

## Suboptimal finite dimensional solution

New estimator

$$
b_{r}=\left(\frac{1}{M} \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{\lambda_{e}}\right)+\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E}\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} y_{m}\right)
$$

O computable (involves $E \times E$ matrices and $E$-dimensional vectors)

- minimizes $Q^{E}(b):=\sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(y_{m}-C_{m}^{E} b\right)^{2}+\gamma \sum_{e=1}^{E} \frac{b_{e}^{2}}{\lambda_{e}}$


## Drawbacks

(1) $O\left(E^{3}\right)$ computational effort
(2) $O\left(E^{2}\right)$ transmission effort
(3) must know $M$

## Derivation of the distributed estimator

$$
b_{r}=\left(\frac{1}{M} \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{\lambda_{e}}\right)+\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E}\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} y_{m}\right)
$$

Consider the approximations
○ $M \rightarrow M_{g}$ (guess)

- $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_{\mu}\left[\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E}\right]=1$


## Derivation of the distributed estimator

$$
\text { obtain: } \quad b_{d}=\left(\frac{1}{M_{g}} \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{\lambda_{e}}\right)+1\right)^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} y_{m}\right)
$$

## Advantages

(1) $O(E)$ computational effort
(2) $O(E)$ transmission effort

## Summary of proposed estimation schemes

$b_{c}: O\left(M^{3}\right)$ comput., $O(M)$ transm
$b_{r}: O\left(E^{3}\right)$ comput., $O\left(E^{2}\right)$ transm.
$b_{d}: O(E)$ comput., $O(E)$ transm.
$b_{c}$
0

## Summary of proposed estimation schemes

$$
\begin{aligned}
& b_{c}: O\left(M^{3}\right) \text { comput., } O(M) \text { transm. } \\
& b_{r}: O\left(E^{3}\right) \text { comput., } O\left(E^{2}\right) \text { transm. } \\
& b_{d}: O(E) \text { comput., } O(E) \text { transm. }
\end{aligned}
$$


original hyp. space

## Summary of proposed estimation schemes



## Quantification of performances

Assumption: $E, M_{g}$ already chosen, $b_{d}$ already computed


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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \propto \frac{1}{M_{\min }}-\frac{1}{M_{\max }} \\
&\left\|b_{c}-b_{d}\right\|_{2} \leq \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left|r_{m}\right|+\left\|U_{M} b_{d}\right\|_{2}+\left\|U_{C} b_{d}\right\|_{2} \\
& \text { local residuals } \propto 1-\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M}\left(C_{m}^{E}\right)^{T} C_{m}^{E}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Tuning of the parameters - key ideas

Assumption: have some information on the energy of $f$
parameters to
be estimated

## number of eigenfunctions $E$

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number of mealsurements $M_{g}$
assure $\left\|b_{c}-b_{r}(E)\right\|$
to be sufficiently small

## Tuning of the parameters - key ideas

Assumption: have some information on the energy of $f$
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## number of eigenfunctions $E$


assure $\left\|b_{c}-b_{r}(E)\right\|$
to be sufficiently small
number of measurements $M_{g}$

minimize the bound
on $\left\|b_{c}-b_{d}\left(E, M_{g}\right)\right\|$

## Regression strategy effectiveness example

 $M=100, E=20, M_{\text {min }}=90, M_{\max }=110, S N R \approx 2.5$

- meas. true $f$


## Regression strategy effectiveness example

 $M=100, E=20, M_{\text {min }}=90, M_{\max }=110, S N R \approx 2.5$

## Accuracy of the computed bound

 $M=100, E=20, M_{\min }=90, M_{\max }=110$

## Comparison with oracle

$M=100, E=20, M_{\min }=90, M_{\max }=110$


## Conclusions and future works for this part

## Conclusions

Strategy:
O is effective and easy to be implemented
O has self-evaluation capabilities
O has self-tuning capabilities

## Future works

O exploit statistical knowledge about $M$
O incorporate effects of finite number of steps in consensus algorithms

O extend to dynamic scenarios (long term objective)

## Part Two

## Privacy-aware number of agents estimation

Estimation of the number of agents $(A)$ can be important in:
O distributed estimation
O analysis of connectivity

We assume privacy concerns $\rightarrow$ do not use IDs!

Our goal: obtain an easily implementable distributed estimator satisfying the constraints

## The basic idea

## Algorithm:



## The basic idea

Algorithm:

$$
y_{5} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)
$$

local
generation

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
y_{2} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1) & \ldots \ldots \\
& y_{3} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1) & y_{1} \\
& y_{4} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)
\end{array}
$$

## The basic idea

Algorithm:

$$
y_{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{A} \sum_{a=1}^{A} y_{a} \rightarrow \frac{1}{A} \sum_{a=1}^{A} y_{a}
$$

average
consensus

## The basic idea

Algorithm:

$$
\begin{gathered}
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right) \\
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right) \\
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right) \\
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

local
generation
average consensus

Maximum
Likelihood

$$
\widehat{A^{-1}}=y_{\mathrm{ave}}^{2}
$$

## The basic idea

Algorithm:
local
generation
average consensus

$$
\begin{gathered}
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right) \\
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y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right) \\
y_{\text {ave }} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{A}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## does not require

 sending IDs
## Reformulating the idea as a block scheme



## Plausible ways to generalize the idea



- $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right)$
- $\mathcal{U}[\alpha, \beta]$
- ??
- average
- max
- ??
- ML
- MMSE
- MAP
- ??


## Which cost function we consider

notice: we want to estimate $A^{-1}$ instead of $A$
$\downarrow$
estimator $=: \widehat{A^{-1}}$
Considered cost function

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\widehat{A^{-1}}-A^{-1}\right)^{2}\right] \quad\left(\equiv \text { variance if } \widehat{A^{-1}} \text { unbiased }\right)
$$

Why?
O convenient in order to obtain mathematical results
O in our cases, asymptotically in $r$ :

$$
\lim _{r \rightarrow+\infty} \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{\widehat{A^{-1}}-A^{-1}}{A^{-1}}\right)^{2}\right]=\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{\widehat{A}-A}{A}\right)^{2}\right]
$$

## Theoretical results: average-consensus + ML



Assumptions
O $y_{a}^{\prime}$ generated through Gaussian distributions $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right)$
O fusion of $y_{a}$ is through average-consensus

Theoretical results: average-consensus + ML


Assumptions
O $y_{a}^{a}$ generated through Gaussian distributions $\mathcal{N}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right)$
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Results: ML estimators:
O writable in closed form

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O writable in closed form O are MVUE (Minimum Variance and Unbiased)

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O writable in closed form O are MVUE (Minimum Variance and Unbiased)
O performances: $\operatorname{var}\left(\frac{\widehat{A^{-1}}-A^{-1}}{A^{-1}}\right)=\frac{2}{r} \quad$ (independent of $\mu$ and $\sigma^{2}$ )

## Theoretical results: average-consensus + ML



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O (conjecture: Law of Large Numbers) if $r \rightarrow+\infty$ then performances are independent of $p(\cdot)$

## Theoretical results: max-consensus + ML



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O cumulative distribution $P(\cdot)$ of $y_{a}^{\prime}$ is strictly monotonic and continuous

O fusion of $y_{a}$ is through max-consensus

## Theoretical results: max-consensus + ML



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O cumulative distribution $P(\cdot)$ of $y_{a}$ is strictly monotonic and continuous

O fusion of $y_{a}$ is through max-consensus
Results: ML estimators:
O writable in closed form O are MVUE (Minimum Variance and Unbiased)
O performances: $\operatorname{var}\left(\frac{\widehat{A^{-1}}-A^{-1}}{A^{-1}}\right)=\frac{1}{r} \quad$ independent of $P(\cdot)$
O performances are twice as good as average-consensus

## Results of various simulated systems (1)

$$
\mathcal{N}(0,1) \quad \text { average consensus } \quad \mathrm{ML} \quad \mathrm{~A}=10
$$



## Results of various simulated systems (2)



## Results of various simulated systems (3)



## Conclusions

## .. and future extensions

## Conclusions

O effective and robust algorithm
O quantifiable performances
O rely on statistical concepts $\rightarrow$ preserves privacy
O inherits good qualities of consensus strategies

## Future extensions

O analyze optimal quantization strategies
O find optimal distributions for average consensus
O use the strategy for topological change detection purposes

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| q / esc | exit |
| tab | overview toggling |
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| home | go to first slide |
| end | go to last slide |
| I | go to the previously last seen slide |
| b | fade the screen to black |
| w | fade the screen to white |
| f | full screen toggling |
| enter | spotlight toggling |
| + / - | adjust the spotlight size |
| mouse wheel | adjust the spotlight size |
| left mouse (dragging a box) | highglight a box |
| right mouse (on a highlighted box) | remove the highlight of that box |
| z | zoom toggling |
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