Robust centralized and distributed bounded-error parameter estimation

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## **First Part**

# **Bounded-error estimation**

# **Parameter estimation**



- ${\bf y}$  : vector of experimental data
- $\mathbf{p}$  : vector of unknown, constant parameters
- $\mathbf{y}_{m}\left(\mathbf{p}
  ight)$  : vector of model output

Parameter estimation :

Determination of  $\widehat{p}$  from y.

#### **Problem formulation**

1. Minimisation of a cost function, e.g.,

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{p}} j_{\text{LS}}\left(\mathbf{p}\right) = \left(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_{\text{m}}\left(\mathbf{p}\right)\right)^{\text{T}}\left(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_{\text{m}}\left(\mathbf{p}\right)\right)$$

or

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}} = \arg\max_{\mathbf{p}} f_{P|Y}\left(\mathbf{p} \mid \mathbf{y}\right)$$

- Local techniques : Gauss-Newton, Levenberg-Marquardt...
- Random search : simulated annealing, genetic algorithms...
- Global guaranteed techniques : Hansen's algorithm
- 2. Parameter bounding

#### **Parameter bounding**

Experimental data :  $y(t_i)$ ,

 $t_i, i = 1 \dots, N$ , known measurement times  $[\varepsilon_i] = [\underline{\varepsilon}_i, \overline{\varepsilon}_i], i = 1, \dots, N$ , known acceptable errors  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_0$  deemed acceptable if for all  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $\varepsilon_i \leq y(t_i) - y_m(\mathbf{p}, t_i) \leq \overline{\varepsilon}_i.$ 

 $\implies$  Bounded-error parameter estimation :

Characterize  $S = \{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_0 \mid y(t_i) - y_m(\mathbf{p}, t_i) \in [\underline{\varepsilon}_i, \overline{\varepsilon}_i], i = 1, \dots, N \}$ 

# Sivia

Set to be characterized

$$\mathcal{S} = \{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_0 \mid y(t_i) - y_{\mathsf{m}}(\mathbf{p}, t_i) \in [\underline{\varepsilon}_i, \overline{\varepsilon}_i], i = 1, \dots, N \}$$
$$= \{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_0 \mid \mathbf{y}_{\mathsf{m}}(\mathbf{p}) \subset \mathcal{Y} \},\$$

with



Yellow box is undetermined



Red box proven to be outside  ${\mathcal S}$ 



Green box proven to be included in  ${\cal S}$ 

### Sivia with contractors

Reduce the size of undetermined boxes without any bissection



Contractors (Jaulin et al, 2001) based on

- interval constraint propagation
- linear programming
- parallel linearization

- ...

# **Robust parameter estimation**



Interpretation of empty solution set

$$\mathbb{S} = \bigcap_{\ell=1\dots N} \mathbb{S}_{\ell} = \emptyset.$$

#### Hypotheses on model or noise not satisfied

(easy detection)

Situation very frequently encountered when considering actual measurements

 $\downarrow$ 

Robust parameter estimation techniques are necessary

### Estimator robust to q outliers



New solution set,  $\boldsymbol{q}$  outliers are tolerated

$$\mathbb{S}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}} = \bigcup_{1 \leq \ell_{1} < \dots < \ell_{q} \leq N} \bigcap_{\ell \neq \ell_{1}, \dots, \ell \neq \ell_{q}} \mathbb{S}_{\ell}.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$

Union of intersections of  ${\cal N}-q$  sets among  ${\cal N}$ 

Interval analysis [JKDW01] allows to get

$$\underline{\mathbb{S}}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}} \subset \mathbb{S}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}} \subset \overline{\mathbb{S}}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}},$$

without combinatorial techniques.

Consider

$$t_{\ell}\left(\mathbf{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{\ell}^{\mathsf{m}}\left(\mathbf{p}\right) \in [y_{\ell}] \\ 0 & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$t\left(\mathbf{p}\right) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N} t_{\ell}\left(\mathbf{p}\right).$$

Then

$$\mathbb{S}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}} = \bigcup_{1 \leq \ell_{1} < \dots < \ell_{q} \leq N} \bigcap_{\ell \neq \ell_{1}, \dots, \ell \neq \ell_{q}} \mathbb{S}_{\ell}$$
$$= \{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{P} \mid t(\mathbf{p}) \geq N - q \}$$

and

- there is no combinatorial any more,
- it is not necessary to choose a priori the outliers.

### **Inclusion functions**

To apply SIVIA, for example, an inclusion function for  $t_{\ell}\left(\mathbf{p}
ight)$  is needed...

$$[t_{\ell}]\left([\mathbf{p}]\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } [y_{\ell}^{\mathsf{m}}]\left([\mathbf{p}]\right) \subset [y_{\ell}] \\ 0 & \text{if } [y_{\ell}^{\mathsf{m}}]\left([\mathbf{p}]\right) \cap [y_{\ell}] = \emptyset \\ [0,1] & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

... which itself requires an inclusion function for  $y_{\ell}^{\mathsf{m}}\left(\mathbf{p}
ight)$  .

Guaranteed robust parameter estimation :

no  ${\bf p}$  consistent with more than N-q data and bounds is missed

If  $\mathbf{p}^*$  exists, and if there are not more than q outliers

# $\Downarrow$ $\mathbb{S}_{q}^{\mathsf{r}}$ guaranteed to contain $\mathbf{p}^{*}$ .

## **Example : Localization using UWB signals**

Using the Static WP RB database



UWB device : PulsOn220

### Environment



UWB Measurement campaign performed at ISMB, Italy

# Connectivity



Static scenario, 1000 measurements.





Two typical solution sets

### **Results**



MSE evaluated between middle of bounding box and true location

Robust bounded-error technique not always the best, never the worst...

# **Difficulties in Robust Distributed parameter estimation**

Each sensor should evaluate  $\mathbb{S}_n^r$ 

Main difficulties :

- Direct extension of centralized algorithm not possible
  - $\hookrightarrow$  involves all measurements.
- Local estimates are exchanged, information progressively available

Assumptions :

- Network is entirely connected
- Sensors exchange estimates
- Number of tolerated outliers fixed a priori.

# Idealized robust distributed approach

Consider  $J \subset [\![1,N]\!],$  and define

$$\mathbb{S}_{q}^{J} = \bigcup_{I \subset J, \operatorname{card}(I) = \operatorname{card}(J) - q} \left( \bigcap_{i \in I} \mathbb{S}_{i} \right), \tag{1}$$

with

$$\mathbb{S}_i = \{\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{P} | y_i^{\mathsf{m}}(\mathbf{p}) \in [y_i]\}.$$

Properties

1. 
$$\mathbb{S}_q^{\mathsf{r}} = \mathbb{S}_q^{\llbracket 1,N \rrbracket}$$
  
2.  $\forall J_1 \subset J_2 \subset \llbracket 1,N \rrbracket$ , one has  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1} \supset \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2} \supset \mathbb{S}_q^{\mathsf{r}}$ .

### **Combining robust estimates**

Assume that Sensor 1

- has evaluated  $\mathbb{S}_{q}^{J_{1}}$
- has received  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$  from Sensor 2.

To get a better approximation of  $\mathbb{S}_q^r$ , evaluate  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1 \cup J_2}$ .

- If  $J_1 \cap J_2 \neq \emptyset$ , no simple relation between  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1} \cap \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$ ,  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1} \cup \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$  and  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1 \cup J_2}$ . - If  $J_1 \cap J_2 = \emptyset$ , one has  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1 \cup J_2} \subset \mathbb{S}_q^{J_1} \cap \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$ , but in general  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1 \cup J_2} \neq \mathbb{S}_q^{J_1} \cap \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$ .







To compute  $\mathbb{S}_q^{J_1\cup J_2}$ , all  $\mathbb{S}_0^{J_1}, \ldots, \mathbb{S}_q^{J_1}$  and  $\mathbb{S}_0^{J_2}, \ldots, \mathbb{S}_q^{J_2}$  are needed

$$\mathbb{S}_{q'}^{J_1 \cup J_2} = \bigcup_{q_1 + q_2 = q'} \mathbb{S}_{q_1}^{J_1} \cap \mathbb{S}_{q_2}^{J_2}, q' = 0, \dots, q.$$

Each sensor has to transmit  $\Gamma_q^J = (\mathbb{S}_0^J, \mathbb{S}_1^J, \cdots, \mathbb{S}_q^J)$ 

- Initially sensor *i* processes its own measurement,

$$\stackrel{\hookrightarrow}{\to} \mathbb{S}_i, \\ \stackrel{\hookrightarrow}{\to} \Gamma_q^{\{i\}} = (\mathbb{S}_i, \mathbb{P}, \cdots, \mathbb{P}).$$

- Then, it broadcasts  $\Gamma_q^{\{i\}}$  and receives similar structures.
- The sensor i is able to improve its estimates if  $J_1 \cap J_2 = \emptyset$ ,

$$\forall q' \in \llbracket 0, q \rrbracket \qquad \mathbb{S}_{q'}^{J_1 \cup J_2} = \bigcup_{q_1 + q_2 = q'} \mathbb{S}_{q_1}^{J_1} \cap \mathbb{S}_{q_2}^{J_2}.$$

- Then sensor broadcasts the best  $\Gamma_q^J$  (with the largest  $\operatorname{card}(J)$ ).
- and so on until convergence.

Estimation and communication performed until all sensors have obtained  $\mathbb{S}_q^{\llbracket 1,N \rrbracket} = \mathbb{S}_q^r$  $\hookrightarrow$  occurs in finite time when the network is connected.

If computations stopped before convergence, each sensor of the network has an outer-approximation of  $\mathbb{S}_q^r$ , which improves when more data are exchanged.

# **Implementation issues**

### **Representation of sets**

Sets such as  $\mathbb{S}_q^J$  have to be transmitted : not possible in general.  $\downarrow \downarrow$ Wrappers  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_q^J$  for  $\mathbb{S}_q^J$  are considered  $\downarrow \downarrow$ Allows to get  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_q^r$ .

Wrappers : ellipsoids, polytopes, or subpavings [JKDW01].

- $\overline{\Gamma}_{q}^{J}$  represented by a regular paving of  $\mathbb P$
- Paving described by a binary tree.
- Each leaf labeled with  $\ell$  (corresponding box is a subset of  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_{\ell}^{J}$ ).

Computation for each sensor by only unions and intersections of subpavings (of trees).

#### **Transmission protocol**

Each node :

- stores intermediate results with  $\overline{\Gamma}_q^J = \left(\overline{\mathbb{S}}_0^J, \overline{\mathbb{S}}_1^J, \cdots, \overline{\mathbb{S}}_q^J\right)$  in place of  $\Gamma_q^J$ - transmits  $\overline{\Gamma}_q^J$  to neighboring nodes.

*Optimized Link State Routing Protocol* [CJL<sup>+</sup>01], used to satisfy the combination constraint more easily.

- $\hookrightarrow$  Nodes of the network use *multipoint distribution relays* (MPR) for transmission.
- $\hookrightarrow$  For a given node, only a subset of its neighbors relay its message.
- $\hookrightarrow$  Selection of MPRs adaptive and done in real time.

Dynamic hierarchical structure :

a sensor selects his MPRs and sends its sets  $\overline{\Gamma}$  only to its MPRs.

# Simulations

Single source localization in 2D-environment with NWS.



Considered network of 9 sensors (blue) and one source (red)

Each sensor measures the power it receives from the source.

All measurement errors are bounded :

- received power  $y_i$  by the *i*-th sensor,
- noise-free measurement belongs to  $[y_i] = [y_i/w, y_iw]$  with w = 1.7.

Two outliers are introduced by hand (Sensors 4 and 6).

Location of the source  $\mathbf{p}^* = (\theta_1, \theta_2)$  has to be estimated.

Measurement model for the i-th sensor

$$y_{i}^{m}(\theta_{1},\theta_{2}) = \frac{P_{0}}{\left(\sqrt{(\theta_{1}-\theta_{1i})^{2}+(\theta_{2}-\theta_{2i})^{2}}\right)^{\eta}}$$
(2)

where  $(\theta_{1i}, \theta_{2i})$  is location of Sensor *i*.

 $P_0 = 1$  and  $\eta = 2$  are assumed to be known.

### **Centralized estimation**

Number of tolerated outliers  $q \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ 



all plots are in  $[-2,2]^2$ 

### **Distributed estimation**

Estimates  $\overline{\Gamma}_2^J$  available at the 4-th sensor using the proposed distributed estimator. Number of tolerated outliers q=2



With  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_0^J$  in *dark-red*,  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_1^J$  in *red*, and  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_2^J$  in *light-red*.



 $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_0^J$  in *dark-red*,  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_1^J$  in *red*, and  $\overline{\mathbb{S}}_2^J$  in *light-red* 



Evolution of convergence time with number of sensor

# Conclusion

- Guaranteed robust bounded-error distributed estimation algorithm
  - $\hookrightarrow \operatorname{Robust}$  to any number q of outliers
  - $\hookrightarrow$  Outer-approximation of  $\mathbb{S}_q^{\mathsf{r}}$  at each iteration
- Not ,necessary to specify a priori the measurements which are deemed as outliers.
- Number of outliers has to be specified a priori.
- Complexity of the algorithm has to be evaluated more carefully.  $\hookrightarrow$  Sets  $\overline{\Gamma}$  are quite complex, transmission requires some resources.
- Robust estimator by exchanging measurements within clusters, and exchange estimates between cluster heads.

# Références

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