

Model Order Reduction by Balanced Truncation

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The overall goal of Model Order Reduction

Consider two systems

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu,$$

$$y = Cx + Du,$$

$$\dot{\tilde{x}} = \tilde{A}\tilde{x} + \tilde{B}u,$$

$$\tilde{y} = \tilde{C}\tilde{x} + \tilde{D}u,$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$, with $k \ll n$.

We are aiming for an approximation such that

$$\|y - \tilde{y}\|_{\mathcal{L}_2}$$

is small.

Definition

The space $\mathcal{H}_2 := \{\hat{f} : \mathbb{C}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \hat{f} \text{ holomorphic, } \|\hat{f}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2}^2 < \infty\}$ is called **Hardy space**, where $\|\hat{f}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2}^2 := \frac{1}{2\pi} \sup_{\sigma>0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \|\hat{f}(\sigma + i\omega)\|_2^2 d\omega$.

For the transfer functions

$$G(s) = D + C(sl_n - A)^{-1}B,$$

$$\tilde{G}(s) = \tilde{D} + \tilde{C}(sl_k - \tilde{A})^{-1}\tilde{B},$$

the following holds

$$\begin{aligned} \|y - \tilde{y}\|_{\mathcal{L}_2} &= \|\hat{y} - \hat{\tilde{y}}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \|G\hat{u} - \tilde{G}\hat{u}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \|(G - \tilde{G})\hat{u}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} \\ &\leq \|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} \|\hat{u}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} \|u\|_{\mathcal{L}_2}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\|G\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} := \sup_{\hat{u} \in \mathcal{H}_2 \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|\hat{y}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2}}{\|\hat{u}\|_{\mathcal{H}_2}}$.

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Balanced truncation is based on two ideas

- 1 **Balance** the full order system (A, B, C, D) , i.e. transform the system such that its Gramians are *equal* and *diagonal*.
- 2 **Truncate** the balanced system with a small error $\|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty}$.
- 3 Preserve nice properties of the original system if possible.

Definition

The **controllability Gramian** P and the **observability Gramian** Q of the system (A, B, C, D) can be uniquely defined by the solutions of the two Lyapunov equations

$$AP + PA^T = -BB^T,$$

$$A^T Q + QA = -C^T C.$$

Definition

A system (A, B, C, D) is called **balanced** if the Gramian P and the Gramian Q are equal, positive definite and have descending diagonal elements, i.e. $P = Q = \Sigma$ with

$$\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n), \quad \text{where } \sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n > 0.$$

The numbers $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s$ are the so-called **Hankel singular values**.

Idea of MOR: We want to eliminate states \tilde{x} that are

- "hard to reach"

$$\tilde{x}^T P^{-1} \tilde{x} = \min \left\{ \|u\|_{\mathcal{L}_2}^2 \mid \begin{array}{l} u \text{ solves } \dot{x} = Ax + Bu, \\ x(0) = 0, x(t_f) = \tilde{x} \end{array} \right\} \gg 1$$

- and "hard to observe"

$$\tilde{x}^T Q \tilde{x} = \{ \|y\|_{\mathcal{L}_2}^2 \mid y \text{ fulfills } y = Cx, \dot{x} = Ax, x(0) = \tilde{x} \} \ll 1$$

The gain of balancing

Balancing the system (A, B, C, D) will be useful to determine states that fulfill both of the above conditions.

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Lemma

Let $P, Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$ with $P, Q \geq 0$. Then there exists a similarity transformation S , such that

$$S^{-1}AS = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & A_{13} & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} & A_{24} \\ 0 & 0 & A_{33} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A_{34} & A_{44} \end{bmatrix}, \quad S^{-1}B = \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad CS = [c_1 \quad 0 \quad c_3 \quad 0]$$

and

$$S^{-1}PS^{-T} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & & & \\ & \Sigma_2 & & \\ & & 0 & \\ & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad S^TQS = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & & & \\ & 0 & & \\ & & \Sigma_3 & \\ & & & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

with $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3$ diagonal and SPD.

Note: (A_{11}, B_1, C_1, D) is a **balanced** realization of (A, B, C, D) .

Proof. 1/2

Consider the Cholesky decomposition of the Gramians

$$P = WW^T, \quad Q = RR^T$$

and the singular value decomposition (SVD)

$$W^T R = U\Sigma V^T, \quad \text{with } \Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n).$$

Define the transformation $S := WU\Sigma^{-1/2}$.

Then it holds

$$\begin{aligned} (\Sigma^{-1/2} V^T R^T) S &= (\Sigma^{-1/2} V^T R^T) (WU\Sigma^{-1/2}) \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2} V^T V \Sigma U^T U \Sigma^{-1/2} = I_n, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $S^{-1} = \Sigma^{-1/2} V^T R^T$.

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Proof. 2/2

The transformed system

$$A_b = S^{-1}AS, \quad B_b = S^{-1}B, \quad C_b = CS$$

is balanced because

$$\begin{aligned} P_b &= S^{-1}PS^{-T} \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2}V^T R^T WW^T RV\Sigma^{-1/2} \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2}V^T V\Sigma U^T U\Sigma V^T V\Sigma^{-1/2} = \Sigma, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_b &= S^T QS \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2}U^T W^T RR^T WU\Sigma^{-1/2} \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2}U^T U\Sigma V^T V\Sigma U^T U\Sigma^{-1/2} = \Sigma. \end{aligned}$$



The reduced system

Assume (A_{11}, B_1, C_1, D) is a balanced realization with Gramians $P = Q = \Sigma_1 = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$, where $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n > 0$.

Consider the partition

$$A_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{A} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{B} \\ B_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_1 = [\tilde{C} \quad C_2].$$

The reduced system is given by $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}, D)$ with Gramians $\tilde{P} = \tilde{Q} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r)$ and transfer function \tilde{G} .

The reduced system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\tilde{x}} &= \tilde{A}\tilde{x} + \tilde{B}u, \\ \tilde{y} &= \tilde{C}\tilde{x} + \tilde{D}u,\end{aligned}$$

has the following properties:

- 1 The following error bound holds $\|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} \leq 2 \sum_{k=r+1}^n \sigma_k$,
- 2 stability is preserved.

Note that property 1 is nice because of

$$\|y - \tilde{y}\|_{\mathcal{L}_2} \leq \|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} \|u\|_{\mathcal{L}_2}$$

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Stability is preserved

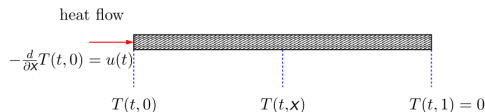
Theorem

Given a stable full order system (A, B, C, D) , then the reduced system $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}, \tilde{D})$ obtained by balanced truncation has the following properties:

- 1 *\tilde{A} has no eigenvalues in the open right half plane, i.e. the reduced system is **stable**.*
- 2 *If, additionally, $\sigma_i \neq \sigma_j$, for $i = 1, \dots, r, j = r + 1, \dots, n$, then \tilde{A} has no eigenvalues on $i\mathbb{R}$, i.e. the reduced system is **asymptotically stable**.*

A numerical Example

Consider the following control problem



for the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} T(t, x) = k \cdot \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} T(t, x)$$

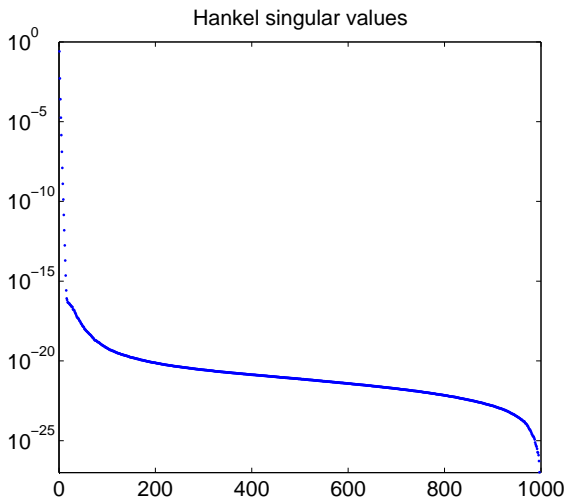
with boundary conditions

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial x} T(t, 0) = u(t), \quad T(t, 1) = 0,$$

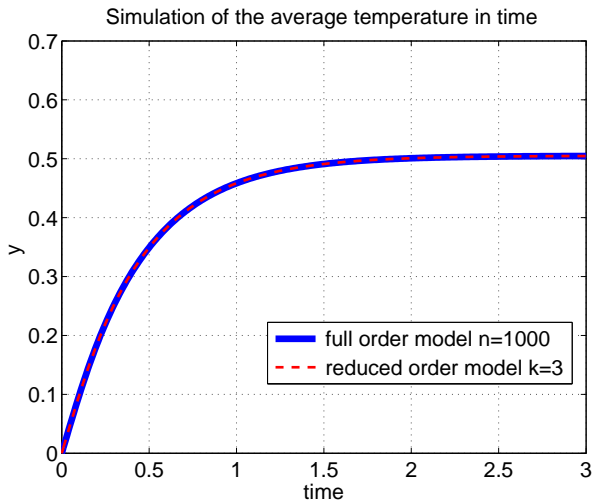
and output

$$y(t) := \int_0^1 T(t, x) dx.$$

Decay of the Hankel singular values



Numerical solution



Summary

- Balanced truncation is a model order reduction algorithm with guaranteed error bound on the output approximation.
- In our example, an ODE system of dimension $n = 1000$ was reduced by balanced truncation to a system of dimension $k = 3$ with an error bound of $\|G - \tilde{G}\|_{\mathcal{H}_\infty} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-5})$.
- For very large dimension n , the balanced truncation method is no longer computational feasible due to the SVD which has complexity $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$.

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