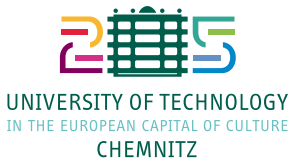


Data-Driven Methods in Control: Error Bounds and Guaranteed Stability

Manuel Schaller

Workshop and Summer School on Applied Analysis 2025

26.09.2025



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Forschungsgemeinschaft
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Koopman-based methods

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For $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $F : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$, consider the dynamical system

$$x_{i+1} = F(x_i), \quad x_0 \in \Omega.$$

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Predict observations from previous ones: $\varphi(x^+) = \mathcal{K}\varphi(x)$

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Illustration of the Koopman scheme

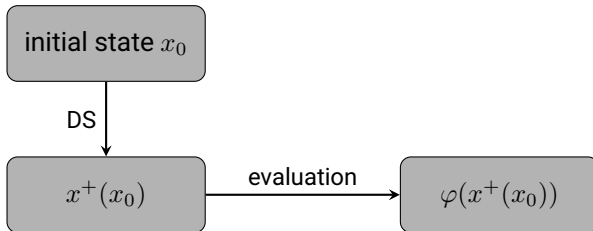


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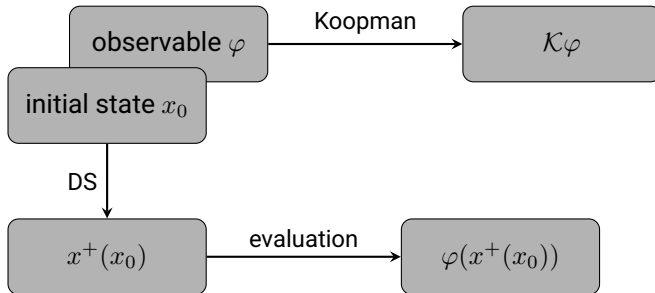


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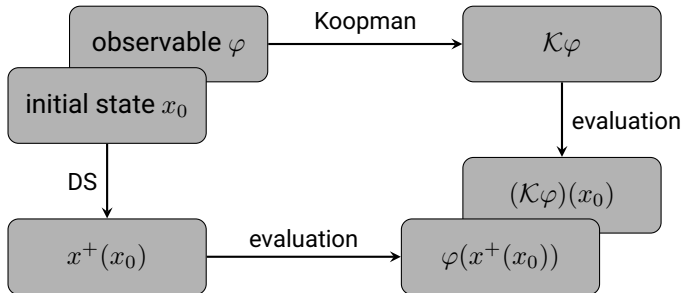
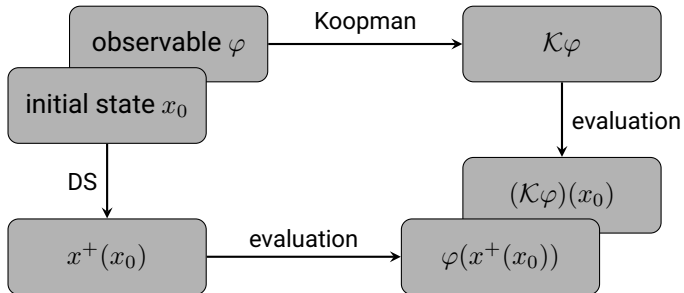
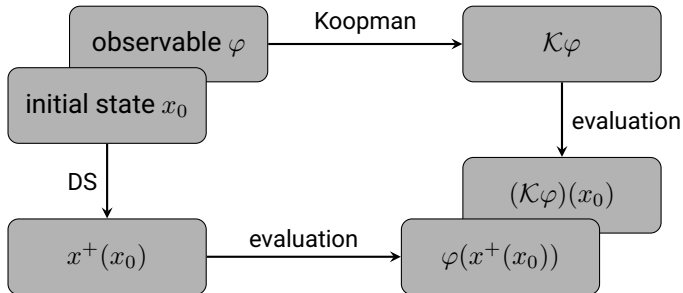


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Old idea: Koopman 1931

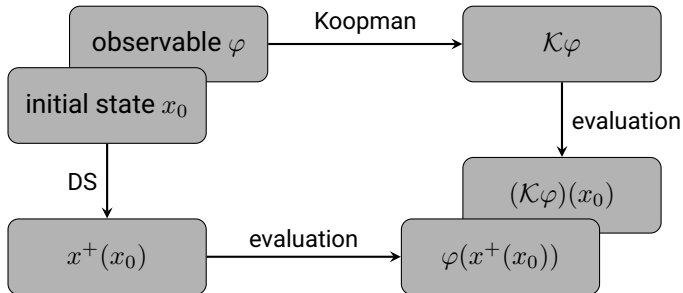
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Today: Powerful tools to approximate \mathcal{K} based on data: **Extended Dynamic Mode Decomposition**

Successfully applied in fluid dynamics, epidemiology, neuroscience, video processing and molecular dynamics [Schmid '10], [Tu et al. '14], [Brunton, Kutz et al. '16] [Noé et al. '15]

Wake behind a cylinder

$$\dot{v} + (v \cdot \nabla)v = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 v$$

$$\text{div } v = 0$$



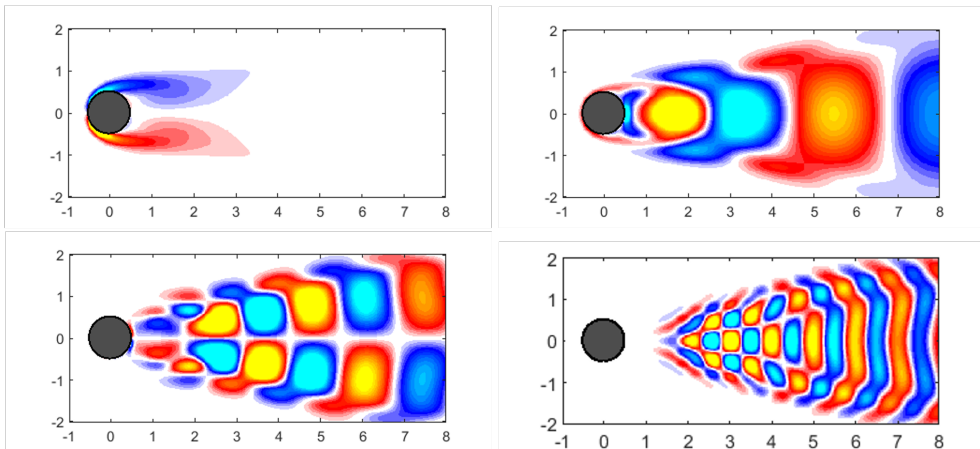
Click

Dynamic mode decomposition: data-driven modeling of complex systems, Kutz, Brunton, Brunton, Proctor, SIAM 2016
 Thanks to Emilia Krendelsberger and Karl Worthmann (TU Ilmenau)

Koopman eigenfunctions

Let $\varphi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfy

$$\mathcal{K}\varphi = \lambda\varphi.$$



Model reduction

True

$$r = 3$$

$$r = 11$$

$$r = 21$$

Consequences of linearity

Eigenfunctions and Koopman mode decomposition: Let $\varphi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy

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► **Conserved quantities:** $\lambda = 1$, i.e.,

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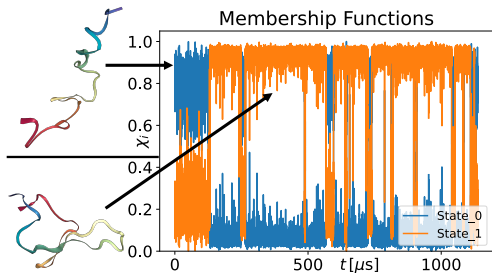
► **Multiple eigenvalues:** If φ_1 and φ_2 eigenfunctions with the same eigenvalue λ :

$$\frac{\varphi_1(x_k)}{\varphi_2(x_k)} = \frac{\lambda^k \varphi_1(x_0)}{\lambda^k \varphi_2(x_0)} = \frac{\varphi_1(x_0)}{\varphi_2(x_0)} = c \quad \text{invariant.}$$

More applications

Folding kinetics of a 35-amino acid protein

$$dX_t = \nabla V(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t$$

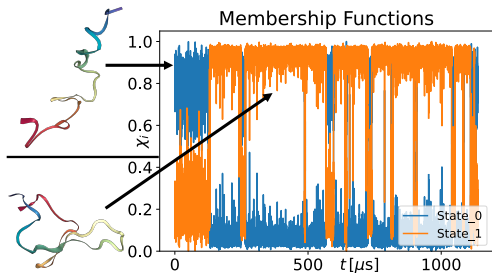


Wu, Nüske, Paul, Klus, Koltai, Noé. The Journal of Chemical Physics 2016
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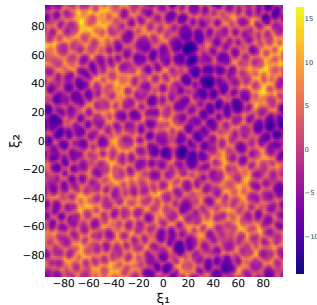
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Kuramoto-Sivashinsky: Chaotic flames

$$\partial_t x + \nabla^2 x + \nabla^4 x + |\nabla x|^2 = 0.$$



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Stochastic Differential Equations

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In the **deterministic case**, $\rho_t(x^0, A) = \delta_{x(t; x^0)}(A)$ such that $(\mathcal{K}\varphi)(x^0) = \varphi(x(t; x^0))$.

Extended Dynamic Mode Decomposition (EDMD)²

Consider **data points** $x_0, \dots, x_{d-1} \in \Omega$, a **dictionary** $\mathbb{V} := \text{span}\{\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^N\}$ with $\psi_j : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$X := \left(\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x_0) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x_0) \end{pmatrix} \middle| \dots \middle| \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x_{d-1}) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x_{d-1}) \end{pmatrix} \right), \quad Y := \left(\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x^+(x_0)) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x^+(x_0)) \end{pmatrix} \middle| \dots \middle| \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x^+(x_{d-1})) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x^+(x_{d-1})) \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

²Williams et al., Journal of Nonlinear Science, 2015

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$$P_{\mathbb{V}} \mathcal{K}|_{\mathbb{V}} \approx \operatorname{argmin}_{K \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}} \|Y - KX\|_2^2$$

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Convergence in infinite-data and infinite-dictionary limit³

³Korda, Mezić, Journal of Nonlinear Science, 2018

²Williams et al., Journal of Nonlinear Science, 2015

Sampling strategies

Data $x_0, \dots, x_{d-1} \in \Omega$ with successor states $y_0, \dots, y_{d-1} \in \Omega$ from **either**

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and that $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is **ergodic**, i.e. for all $t > 0$

$$\rho_t(x, A) = 1 \quad \forall x \in A \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu(A) \in \{0, 1\}$$

Theorem

For **i.i.d. sampling w.r.t. μ** , we have with $\varphi := \sum_{i=1}^N \psi_i^2 \in L_\mu^2$

$$\mathbb{P}(\|P_V \mathcal{K}|_V - K_d\|_F \leq \varepsilon) \gtrsim 1 - \frac{\|\varphi\|_{L_\mu^2}^2}{d\varepsilon^2}.$$

Philipp, S., Boshoff, Peitz, Nüske, Worthmann, arXiv:2402.02494, 2024.
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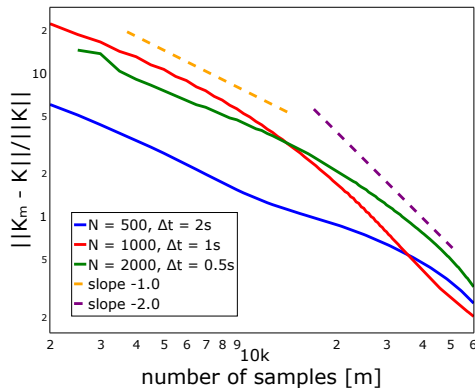
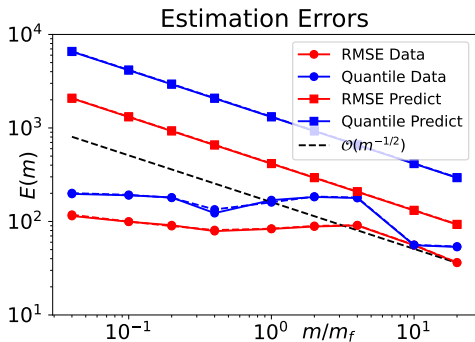
$\lambda = 1$ is never isolated for deterministic systems: Condition related to the spectral measure

Philipp, S., Boshoff, Peitz, Nüske, Worthmann, arXiv:2402.02494, 2024.

Nüske, Peitz, Philipp, S., Worthmann, Journal of Nonlinear Science, 2023

Kostic et al., NeurIPS, 2022/2023

Back to examples



Intuition: Monte-Carlo Integration

We may write the projected Koopman operator via¹

$$P_{\mathbb{V}}\mathcal{K}|_{\mathbb{V}} = C^{-1}A \quad \text{with} \quad C_{i,j} = \langle \psi_i, \psi_j \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)}, \quad A_{i,j} = \langle \psi_i, \mathcal{K}\psi_j \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

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Data-driven approximation:

$$K_d = \operatorname{argmin}_{K \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}} \|Y - KX\|_2^2$$

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$$K_d = (XX^{\top})^{-1}XY^{\top} = C_d^{-1}A_d$$

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$$(C_d)_{i,j} = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} \psi_i(x_k) \psi_j(x_k), \quad (A_d)_{i,j} = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} \psi_i(x_k) \cdot (\mathcal{K}\psi_j)(x_k)$$

as

$$X := \left(\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x_0) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x_0) \end{pmatrix} \middle| \cdots \middle| \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x_{d-1}) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x_{d-1}) \end{pmatrix} \right), \quad Y := \left(\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x^+(x_0)) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x^+(x_0)) \end{pmatrix} \middle| \cdots \middle| \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x^+(x_{d-1})) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N(x^+(x_{d-1})) \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

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Decay of $\frac{1}{d} \cdot \text{remainder term}$: Ergodic theory and mixing conditions.

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Decay of $\frac{1}{d}$ · remainder term: Ergodic theory and mixing conditions.

Approximation error:

- **Projection:** $\mathcal{K} - P_{\mathbb{V}} \mathcal{K}|_{\mathbb{V}}$ due to finite dictionary $\mathbb{V} := \text{span}\{(\psi_j)_{j=1}^N\}$
- **Estimation:** $P_{\mathbb{V}} \mathcal{K}|_{\mathbb{V}} - K_d$ due to finite data points $x_0, \dots, x_{d-1} \in \Omega$

Kernel Extended Dynamic Mode Decomposition

A **Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space** \mathbb{H} is a

- ▶ Hilbert space of functions $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- ▶ with s.p.d. kernel $k : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $k(x, \cdot) \in \mathbb{H}$ for all $x \in \Omega$ and

$$\forall \varphi \in \mathbb{H} : \quad \varphi(x) = \langle \varphi, k(x, \cdot) \rangle \quad \text{reproducing property}$$

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Dictionary: For data points $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_d\} \subset \Omega$ set $V_{\mathcal{X}} := \text{span}\{k(x_1, \cdot), k(x_2, \cdot), \dots, k(x_d, \cdot)\} \subset \mathbb{H}$

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kEDMD approximant

$$K_d = (XX^\top)^{-1}X^\top Y = X^{-1}X^{-1}XY = X^{-1}Y$$

Representation of the Koopman operator

Compatibility assumptions such that $\mathbb{H} \xrightarrow{d} L^2_\mu(\Omega)$

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Adjoint $\mathcal{E}^* : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow L^2_\mu(\Omega)$ is the **compact** inclusion operator from \mathbb{H} into $L^2_\mu(\Omega)$

$$\mathcal{E}^*\eta = \eta, \quad \eta \in \mathbb{H}.$$

Koopman through the lens of the Mercer operator

Set

$$C_{\mathbb{H}}^t = \mathcal{E} \mathcal{K} \mathcal{E}^*$$

such that

$$\langle \eta, C_{\mathbb{H}}^t \psi \rangle = \langle \eta, \mathcal{K} \psi \rangle_{\mu}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 L_{\mu}^2 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{K}} & L_{\mu}^2 \\
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Strategy: Approximate $C_{\mathbb{H}}^{-1}$, $C_{\mathbb{H}}^t$ and transfer to Koopman operator

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Caution: \mathcal{E}^{-1} , \mathcal{E}^{-*} are unbounded

Empirical estimator for $C_{\mathbb{H}}^t$

We compute

$$C_{\mathbb{H}}^t \psi = \mathcal{E} \mathcal{K} \mathcal{E}^* \psi = \int (\mathcal{K} \psi)(x) k(x, \cdot) d\mu(x) = \int \int \underbrace{\psi(y) k(x, \cdot)}_{=: C_{xy} \psi} \rho_t(x, dy) d\mu(x).$$

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Empirical estimator of time-lagged cross-covariance:

$$\hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^{d,t} := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{k=0}^{d-1} C_{x_k, y_k} \quad \text{with matrix rep.} \quad \frac{1}{d} (Y)_{ij} = k(x_i, y_j)$$

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Empirical estimator of kernel covariance:

$$C_{\mathbb{H}} = \mathcal{E}^* \mathcal{E} = \int C_{xx} d\mu(x) \approx \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} C_{x_k, x_k} =: \hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^d \quad \text{with matrix rep.} \quad \frac{1}{d} (X)_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$$

Finite-data error bound

Theorem

For all $\varepsilon > 0$, there is $d_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $d \geq d_0$

$$\mathbb{P}(\|C_{\mathbb{H}}^t - \hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^{d,t}\|_{HS} > \varepsilon) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}_0(t) + R(d)}{d\varepsilon^2},$$

Philipp, S., Worthmann, Peitz, Nüske, Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis, 2024
Mollenhauer, Klus, Schütte, Koltai, Journal of Machine Learning Research, 2022.

Main tool: Variance representations¹

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^{d,t} - C_{\mathbb{H}}^t\|_{HS}^2] = \frac{1}{d} \left[\mathbb{E}_0(t) + \underbrace{2 \sum_{k=1}^{d-1} \frac{d-k}{d} \cdot \mathbb{E}[\langle C_{z_k} - C_{\mathbb{H}}^t, C_{z_0} - C_{\mathbb{H}}^t \rangle_{HS}]}_{R(d)} \right],$$

²Philipp, S., Boshoff, Peitz, Nüske, Worthmann, arXiv:2402.02494, 2024

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For **ergodic sampling**, if 1 is an isolated eigenvalue of \mathcal{K} , then with $\mathcal{K}_0 = \mathcal{K}|_{\mathbb{1}^\perp}$

$$R(d) \leq 8\mathbb{E}_0(t) \|(I - \mathcal{K}_0)^{-2}\|$$

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Similar variance representations for arbitrary dictionaries²

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Remedy: Mercer basis of eigenfunctions of trace class operator $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{H}} = \mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}^* (f_j, \lambda_j)$, $\lambda_j \rightarrow 0$ with

$$(f_j) \text{ is ONB of } \mathbb{H} \quad \text{and} \quad (e_j) = (\lambda_j^{-1/2} f_j) \text{ is ONB of } L_{\mu}^2$$

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and we approximate with $\hat{e}_j = (\hat{\lambda}_j^{-1/2} \hat{f}_j)$ are eigenfunctions of $\hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^d = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} C_{x_k, x_k}$

$$\mathcal{K}_N \psi = \sum_{j=1}^N \langle C_{\mathbb{H}}^t \psi, e_j \rangle_{\mathbb{H}} e_j \approx \sum_{j=1}^N \langle \hat{C}_{\mathbb{H}}^{t,d} \psi, \hat{e}_j \rangle_{\mathbb{H}} e_j =: \hat{\mathcal{K}}_N^d \psi$$

Back to kEDMD: \hat{K}_N^d corresponds to K_d via $K_d = X^{-1}Y \approx X_N^{\dagger}Y$ with a rank- N truncation of X .

Main result: Estimation error

Theorem

Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and assume the gap condition

$$\gamma_N := \min_{j=1,\dots,N} \frac{\lambda_j - \lambda_{j+1}}{2} > 0.$$

Then, for each error bound $\varepsilon \in (0, \delta_N)$ and probabilistic tolerance $\delta \in (0, 1)$ and

$$d \geq \max\left\{N, \frac{\mathbb{E}_0(t) + R(d)}{\varepsilon^2 \delta}\right\}$$

we have with probability at least $1 - \delta$

$$\|\mathcal{K}_N - \hat{\mathcal{K}}_N^m\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow L^2_\mu(\Omega)} \lesssim \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_N}} + \frac{N+1}{\gamma_N \lambda_N} \right) \varepsilon.$$

Invariance of the RKHS: Projection error

Corollary

Assume in addition that $\|\mathcal{K}_{\mathbb{H}}\| < \infty$. Then for $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\varepsilon > 0$, $\delta \in (0, 1)$, there is $m_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $d \geq d_0$

$$\|\mathcal{K} - \hat{\mathcal{K}}_N^d\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow L^2_{\mu}(\Omega)} \lesssim \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_N}} + \frac{N+1}{\gamma_N \lambda_N} \right] \varepsilon + \sqrt{\lambda_{N+1}} \|K\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}}.$$

From L^2 to L^∞ bounds

With $P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}}$ \mathbb{H} -orthogonal projection onto $V_{\mathcal{X}} = \text{span}\{k(x_i, \cdot), i = 0, \dots, d-1\}$

$$\mathcal{K} \approx K_d := P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}} \mathcal{K} P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}} \rightsquigarrow \text{matrix representation } K_X^{-1} K_{X, X+}$$

with

$$(K_X)_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j), \quad (K_{X, X+})_{ij} = k(x_i, F(x_j)).$$

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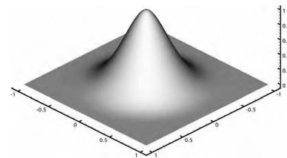
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Projection error $P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}} - I$ controlled by fill distance

$$h_{\mathcal{X}} := \sup_{x \in \Omega} \min_{1 \leq i \leq d} \|x - x_i\|_2$$



Error bound on $\mathcal{K} - P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}} \mathcal{K} P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}}$

Theorem²

If flow is in C^m , then, for $\sigma(p) \leq m$, $\mathcal{K}H^{\sigma(p)}(\Omega) \subset H^{\sigma(p)}(\Omega)$, and, for $f \in H^{\sigma(p)}(\Omega)$,

$$\|\mathcal{K}f - K_d f\|_{\infty} \lesssim h_{\mathcal{X}}^{p+1/2} \|f\|_{H^{\sigma(p)}(\Omega)}.$$

²Köhne, Philipp, S., Schiela, Worthmann, SIADS 2025

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Theorem (Wendland 1995)

There are $C, h_0 > 0$ such that for every set $\mathcal{X} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^d \subset \Omega$ with $h_{\mathcal{X}} \leq h_0$ and all $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^d$, $|\alpha| \leq k$,

$$\|I - P_{V_{\mathcal{X}}}\|_{\mathbb{H}_{\Phi_{n,k}} \rightarrow C_b(\Omega)} \leq C h_{\mathcal{X}}^{k+1/2}.$$

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Proof pt. 2

$$\|\mathcal{K} - K_d\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow C_b} = \|\mathcal{K} - P_{V_x} \mathcal{K} P_{V_x}\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow C_b} \lesssim (1 + \|\mathcal{K}\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}}) \|I - P_{V_x}\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow C_b}$$

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Theorem³

Let \mathbb{H} be a **Gaussian** RKHS on $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$. Then $\mathcal{K}\mathbb{H} \subset \mathbb{H}$ if and only if the flow is affine-linear, i.e., $x(t; x^0) = A(t)x^0 + b(t)$.

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The Koopman operator on RKHS is always closed.

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Koopman is closed

Adjoint-like property:

$$\langle \mathcal{K}\varphi, k(x, \cdot) \rangle = \varphi(F(x)) = (\mathcal{K}\varphi)(x) = \langle \varphi, k(F(x), \cdot) \rangle$$

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Corollary⁵

If flow F is in C^m , then for Wendland kernels with $\mathbb{H} = H^{\sigma(p)}(\Omega)$, $\sigma(p) \leq m$,

$$\|\mathcal{K}\|_{\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}} < \infty$$

Sketch of the proof: Chain rule, as $\mathcal{K}\varphi = \varphi \circ F$.

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EDMD for control systems

Consider the control-affine system

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t)) = g_0(x(t)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} g_i(x(t)) u_i(t)$$

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No linearity to be expected for nonlinear liftings.

Bilinear surrogates

Bilinear surrogate model [Williams et al. '16, Surana '16, Peitz et al. '20]

Let $u \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u}$ and consider the Koopman operator

$$(\mathcal{K}_u^t \varphi)(x^0) = \varphi(x(t; x^0, u))$$

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Strongly continuous semigroup (in L^2 or C):

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$$\mathcal{L}_u \varphi := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{K}_u^t \varphi - \varphi}{t} = \frac{d}{dt} \varphi(x(t; \cdot, u))|_{t=0} = \nabla \varphi \cdot \left(g_0 + \sum g_i u_i \right)$$

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hence $\mathcal{L}_u = \mathcal{L}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} u_i (\mathcal{L}_{e_i} - \mathcal{L}_0)$, such that

$$\dot{\varphi} = \mathcal{L}_u \varphi = \mathcal{L}_0 \varphi + \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} u_i (\mathcal{L}_{e_i} - \mathcal{L}_0) \varphi$$

EDMD-based exponentially stabilizing controller

Approximately **bilinear system**

$$\varphi^+ = \mathcal{K}\varphi + u^\top \mathcal{B}\varphi + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$$

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↪ LMI-based tools from robust control to design **state-feedback controller**

$$\mu(x) = (I - L_w(\Lambda^{-1} \otimes \hat{\Phi}(x)))^{-1} L P^{-1} \hat{\Phi}(x)$$

ensuring **exponential stability** (with probability $1 - \delta$) for all initial conditions in the safe operating region

$$\hat{x} \in \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \hat{\Phi}(x)^\top P^{-1} \hat{\Phi}(x) \leq 1\},$$

where $P, L, L_w, \Lambda, \dots$ solve two Linear Matrix Inequalities.

EDMD-based exponentially stabilizing controller

Nonlinear inverted pendulum

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1(t) &= x_2(t), \\ \dot{x}_2(t) &= \frac{g}{l} \sin(x_1(t)) - \frac{b}{ml^2} x_2(t) + \frac{1}{ml^2} u(t)\end{aligned}$$

with mass m , length l , rotational friction coefficient b , and gravitational constant g .

Nonlinear system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1(t) &= \rho x_1(t), \\ \dot{x}_2(t) &= \lambda(x_2(t) - x_1(t)^2) + u(t)\end{aligned}$$

with $\rho, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

