Sum-of-Norm(SON) Regularization in Estimation Problems



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Sparse Approximations (Compressed Sensing)

- Given a matrix A. Approximate it with a sparse matrix ("many" zero elements) \hat{A} .
- Make $||A \hat{A}||_2^2$ small while $||\hat{A}||_0$ small ($||x||_0 = #$ of nonzero elements in *x*.)
- various trade-offs controlled by

$$\min_{\hat{A}} \|A - \hat{A}\|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \|\hat{A}\|_{0}$$

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Replace the ℓ_0 -norm by the ℓ_1 -norm!

$$\min_{\hat{A}} \|A - \hat{A}\|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \|\hat{A}\|_{1}$$

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$$x(t+1) = A_t x(t) + B_t u(t) + G_t v(t)$$
$$y(t) = C_t x(t) + e(t).$$

Here, e is white measurement noise and v is a process disturbance.



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v is often modeled as Gaussian Noise ... (Kalman filter, LQG etc) But in many applications, v is mostly zero, and strikes only occasionally:

$$\begin{split} v(t) &= \delta(t) \eta(t) \\ \delta(t) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with probability } 1 - \mu \\ 1 & \text{with probability } \mu \end{cases} \\ \eta(t) &\sim N(0, Q) \end{split}$$

Examples of applications:

- Control: Load disturbance
- Tracking: Sudden maneuvers
- FDI: Additive system faults
- Recursive Identification (x=parameters): model segmentation

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All methods require some design variables that reflect the trade-off between measurement noise sensitivity and jump alertness.

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For one jump, estimate t^* and $v(t^*)$ as parameters.

$$x(t+1) = A_t x(t) + B_t u(t) + G_t v(t)$$
$$y(t) = C_t x(t) + e(t).$$

- If t^{*} is known it is a simple LS problem to estimate v(t^{*}). Using the variance of the estimate, the significance of the jump size can be decided in a χ² test.
- Find the time of the most significant jump and decide of that is significant enough.
- For detecting several jumps, each detected jump must be accounted for when looking for more.



The Willsky-Jones LS procedure can be written as

Let
$$W(v(\cdot)) = \sum_{t=1}^{N} ||(y(t) - Cx(t))||^2$$

such that

$$x(t+1) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) + Gv(t); x(1) = 0.$$

Solve
$$\min_{v(k),k=1,...,N-1} W(v(\cdot))$$

s.t. $\|V\|_0 = 1; V = [\|v(1)\|_2,...,\|v(N-1)\|_2].$ (3)

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$$\min_{v(k),k=1,...,N-1} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \left\| \left(y(t) - Cx(t) \right) \right\|^2 + \lambda \|V\|_0$$

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This problem is computationally forbidding, so relax the ℓ_0 norm:

$$\min_{v(k),k=1,...,N-1} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \left\| \left(y(t) - Cx(t) \right) \right\|^2 + \lambda \|V\|_1$$
$$= \min_{v(k),k=1,...,N-1} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \left\| \left(y(t) - Cx(t) \right) \right\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{t=1}^{N} \|v(t)\|_2$$

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[StateSON] Compare with Kalman Smoothing:

$$\min_{v(k),k=1,\dots,N-1} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \left\| R_e^{-1/2} \left(y(t) - Cx(t) \right) \right\|^2 + \sum_{t=1}^{N} \| R_v^{-1/2} v(t) \|_2^2$$

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There is a maximal value of λ above which $v(t) \equiv 0$. It can readily be computed as

$$\lambda^{\max} = \max_{k=1,\dots,N-1} \left\| 2\sum_{t=k+1}^{N} \left(CA^{t-k-1}G \right)^{T} \varepsilon_{t} \right\|_{2}$$

where ε are the no-jump residuals from the system.

Scale by assumed SNR.

Then use $\lambda = \frac{1}{10} \sqrt{\frac{\|R_e\|}{\|Q\|}} \lambda^{\max}$

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DC motor with impulse disturbances at t = 49, 55. State RMSE over 500 realizations. Dashed blue: Willsky-Jones, Solid green: StateSON



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Same system. Jump probability $\mu = 0.015$. Varying SNR: Q = jump size, R_e = measurement noise variance. For each SNR, RMSE averages over 500 MC runs. Many different approaches.



- A ℓ_1 (Sum-of-Norms) relaxation of Willsky-Jones's estimation problem.
- or The standard ML (Kalman smoother) formulation for smoothing with a quadratic regularization term has been studied for the case without squaring the regularization term
- Still Convex with efficient solution methods
- Favors "sparse" solutions
- Good idea for starting values of the regularization parameter λ
- Compares favorably with existing solutions
- Many extensions: Model/signal segmentation, path generation, sensor placement, LPV-modeling, Hybrid models.