### Optimal control of networks: energy scaling and open challenges

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 A large variety of natural and artificial systems can be represented in terms of networks. For instance:

Biological networks



A gene-regulatory network

 A large variety of natural and artificial systems can be represented in terms of networks. For instance:

- Biological networks
- Power networks



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Computer Networks



Map of the Internet at the AS level (US)

 A large variety of natural and artificial systems can be represented in terms of networks. For instance:

- Biological networks
- Power networks

- Computer Networks
- Traffic Networks



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ISSUES: •MODELING •DYNAMICS •CONTROL

- Computer Networks
- Traffic Networks
- Mechanical Networks



### **Dynamics of Complex Networks:** Synchronization

- Huygens (1665): synchronization of two weakly coupled clocks
- Current applications:
  - Epidemics
- Secure communications
- Flocking
- GPS







- Clock synchronization
- Neural networks



### **Cluster Synchronization**



$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}_i}{dt} = F(\mathbf{x}_i) + \sigma \sum_{j=1}^N C_{ij} H(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

<u>Identify the clusters?</u>
<u>Are the clusters stable?</u>
<u>Complex (large) networks</u>
<u>Any dynamics (fixed pt, periodic, quasiperiodic, chaotic</u>

L. M. Pecora, F. Sorrentino, A. M. Hagerstrom, T. E. Murphy, R. Roy, "Cluster Synchronization and Isolated Desynchronization in Complex Networks with Symmetries", *Nature Communications*, 5, 4079 (2014).

F. Sorrentino, L. M. Pecora, A. M. Hagerstrom, T. E. Murphy, R. Roy, "Complete characterization of stability of cluster synchronization in complex dynamical networks", *Science Advances* 2, e1501737 (2016).



•Power Grid Dynamics: maintaining frequency of generators in the presence of perturbations





- •Control of Mammalian Circadian •Rhythm
- •The dynamics is multistable (both fixed points and limit cycles)
- •Problem: moving from one attractor to the basin of attraction of another attractor





#### Chung, Son, Kim, Circadian

rhythm of adrenal glucocorticoid: Its regulation and clinical implications



#### Control of Autophagy in a single cell



# **One option: Optimal Control**

#### Controllability

Consider the continuous time system,

 $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}(t)$  $\mathbf{x}(t_0) = \mathbf{x}_0$  $\mathbf{x}(t_f) = \mathbf{x}_f$ 



# **One option: Optimal Control**

#### **Control Energy**

Control Energy,

$$J = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \mathbf{u}(t)^T \mathbf{u}(t) dt$$

#### **Optimal Control Input**

Optimal Control Input =  $\mathbf{u}^*(t)$ .

#### **Optimal Control Energy**

Optimal Control Energy,

$$J^* = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \mathbf{u}^*(t)^T \mathbf{u}^*(t) dt$$







•The dynamics of complex networks is nonlinear

•Control of nonlinear systems is difficult!

•Optimal control strategies for nonlinear systems are typically obtained numerically

•Numerical optimal control solutions for large highdimensional nonlinear systems are computationally expensive

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A network is described by two sets:

- 1) A set of nodes,  $\mathcal V$  (often these coincide with the states), and
- 2 A set of edges,  $\mathcal{E}$  (these are the linearized dynamical relations between nodes)



Figure: A 10 Node Network

$$\dot{x}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j + \sum_{k=1}^m b_{ik} u_k$$

There are three types of nodes:

- 1 Driver Nodes: These can be directly influenced by our control inputs,  $u_k$ , k = 1 m
  - $k=1,\ldots,m.$
- 2 Target Nodes: These are nodes with a desired final condition.
- 3 Neither: These are nodes that are neither driven nor targeted.

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A state,  $x_i(t)$ , i = 1, ..., n corresponds to a node  $v_i \in \mathcal{V}$ . We define our state vector as,

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{array} \right\}$$
(4)

The **adjacency matrix**,  $A = \{a_{ij}\}$ , contains the **edges**  $\in \mathcal{E}$  where if  $a_{ij} \neq 0$ , the state of  $v_j$  affects  $v_i$ .

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = A\mathbf{x}(t) + B\mathbf{u}(t)$$

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To start, we consider <u>all</u> nodes as target nodes. We define the **control energy** as,

$$E = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} ||\mathbf{u}(t)||^2 dt$$
 (5)

The optimization problem is:

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}(t)} \quad J = \frac{1}{2}E = \frac{1}{2}\int_{t_0}^{t_f} ||\mathbf{u}(t)||^2 dt$$
such that  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = A\mathbf{x}(t) + B\mathbf{u}(t)$ 

$$\mathbf{x}(t_0) = \mathbf{x}_0, \quad \mathbf{x}(t_f) = \mathbf{x}_f$$

$$(6)$$

 $J(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{u}(t))$  is the **cost function**, or penalty function.

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The solution is,

$$\mathbf{u}^*(t) = B^T e^{A^T(t_f - t)} W^{-1} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$
(7)

where,

$$W = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} e^{A(t_f - \tau)} B B^T e^{A^T(t_f - \tau)} d\tau, \qquad \beta = \left( \mathbf{x}_f - e^{A(t_f - t_0)} \mathbf{x}_0 \right)$$

W is the controllability Gramian. More importantly, the minimum energy is,

$$E_{\min} = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} ||\mathbf{u}^*(t)||^2 dt$$

$$= \beta^T W^{-1} \beta$$
(8)

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The controllability Gramian tends to be poorly conditioned when,

- **1** The time interval,  $t_f t_0$  is 'small', or
- 2 The percentage of nodes which are drivers is small.

Why does the condition of *W* matter? Min-Max Theorem

$$E_{\min}^{(\min)} \le \frac{1}{||\boldsymbol{\beta}||^2} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T W^{-1} \boldsymbol{\beta} \le E_{\min}^{(\max)}$$
(9)

So,

$$E_{\min}^{(\max)} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{\min}(W)}$$
(10)

which can be prohibitively large.

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We define an output,

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = C\mathbf{x}(t), \qquad \mathbf{y}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times 1}, \qquad p \le n \qquad (11)$$

which is a linear combination of the states.

The output can be used to **target** nodes by choosing *C* such that each row has only one nonzero element.

Problem Statement for MEOCS:

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}(t)} J = \frac{1}{2}E = \frac{1}{2}\int_{t_0}^{t_f} ||\mathbf{u}(t)||^2 dt$$
(12)  
such that  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = A\mathbf{x}(t) + B\mathbf{u}(t)$   
 $\mathbf{x}(t_0) = \mathbf{x}_0, \quad \mathbf{y}(t_f) = \mathbf{y}_f$ 



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The optimal control input,

$$\mathbf{u}^{*}(t) = Be^{A^{T}(t_{f}-t)}C^{T}\left(CWC^{T}\right)^{-1}\beta$$
(13)

The minimum energy is,

$$E_{\min} = \beta^T \left( CWC^T \right)^{-1} \beta = \beta^T W_p^{-1} \beta$$
(14)

where  $W_p$  is a **minor** of W.

This method reduces the **control space** of the system.

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The system on the left uses the MECS formulation to place each node at a final condition. The integral of the energy magnitude curve is E = 382.

The system on the right assumes only node three needs to have a final condition, a MEOCS, and is the only node targeted. This time E = 66.3, only a sixth of the MECS formulation.

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A four dimensional example:

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & W_{13} & W_{14} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & W_{23} & W_{24} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & W_{33} & W_{34} \\ W_{41} & W_{42} & W_{43} & W_{44} \end{bmatrix}, \qquad C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then,

$$W_p = CWC^T = \begin{bmatrix} W_{22} & W_{24} \\ W_{42} & W_{44} \end{bmatrix}$$

#### Cauchy Interlacing Theorem:

Proves that the minimum eigenvalue of the minor of a matrix is larger than the minimum eigenvalue of the original matrix.

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When nodes are chosen by degree, we see much less smooth behavior.

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We define *q* as the number of non-targeted nodes (the dimension of the complement of the target set).

We define  $\mu_1^{(q)}$  as the minimum eigenvalue of  $C\tilde{W}C^T$  when n-q nodes are targeted.

$$\mu_1^{(q)} = \mu_1^{(0)} \left(\prod_{i=1}^q \eta_i\right) = \mu_1^{(0)} (\eta_{1q})^q \tag{18}$$

 $\eta_{1q} = \left(\prod_{i=1}^{q} \eta_i\right)^{1/q} > 1$  which explains the exponential improvements as the target set is reduced

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Figure: **a**) The exponential increase of  $\mu_1$  as q increases. **b**) The value of  $\eta_{1q}$  is larger than one.



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## **Example: Regulating Autophagy**

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# Regulating autophagy (P. Szymanska, et al. PloS one, 10(3) e0116550, 2015)

### **Example: Regulating Autophagy**

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We consider control of large dimensional dynamical networks with applications to biological, technological, ecological systems and so on

By choosing targets, the control energy can be reduced exponentially with respect to the size of the target set.

Optimal control of a nonlinear network (to some nonlocal point) can be achieved by performing a sequence of local optimal controls

## **Main References**

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 I. Klickstein, A. Shirin, F. Sorrentino, Energy Scaling of Targeted Optimal Control of Complex Networks, Nature Communications, 8, 15145 (2017).











