# Model reduction of Interconnected Systems

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#### Abstract

We consider a particular class of structured systems that can be modelled as a set of input/output subsystems that interconnect to each other, in the sense that outputs of some subsystems are inputs of other subsystems. Sometimes, it is important to preserve this structure in the reduced order system. Instead of reducing the entire system as a black box, it makes sense to reduce each subsystem (or a few of them) by taking into account its interconnection with the other subsystems in order to approximate the entire system. The purpose of this paper is to present both Krylov-based and Gramian-based model reduction techniques that preserve the structure of the interconnections. With our approach, several structured model reduction techniques existing in the literature appear as special cases of our approach, permitting to unify and generalize the theory to some extent.

Key words: Model reduction, Interconnected systems, Linear systems, Rational Approximation, Interpolation.

# 1 Introduction

Specialized model reduction techniques have been developed for various types of structured problems such as weighted model reduction, controller reduction and second order model reduction. Interconnected systems, also called aggregated systems, have been studied in the eighties [5] in the model reduction framework, but they have not been studied since that time, up to our knowledge. This is in contrast with controller and weighted SVD-based model reduction techniques that have been widely studied in the literature [16,1,4]. Controller reduction Krylov techniques have also been considered recently in [10]. It turns out that these structured systems and many others can be modelled as particular cases of more general *interconnected* systems defined below (the behavioral approach [13] for interconnected systems is not considered here).

In this paper, we define an *interconnected system* as a large scale linear system G(s) composed of an interconnection of k sub-systems  $T_i(s)$ . Each subsystem is assumed to be a linear MIMO transfer function. Subsys-

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tem  $T_j(s)$  has  $\alpha_j$  inputs denoted by the vector  $a_j$  and  $\beta_j$  outputs denoted by the vector  $b_j$ :

$$b_i(s) = T_i(s)a_i(s). \tag{1}$$

Define  $\alpha := \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_i$  and  $\beta := \sum_{j=1}^{k} \beta_j$ . The inputs of each subsystem are either outputs of other subsystems or external input that do not depend on the other subsystems. The transfer functions  $T_j(s)$  are complex rational matrix function with real coefficients:  $T_j(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{\beta_j \times \alpha_j}(s)$ .

Figure 1 gives an example of an interconnected system G(s) composed of three subsystems. The problem of *interconnected systems model reduction* proposed here consists in reducing the subsystems  $T_i(s)$  in order to approximate the global mapping from u(s) to y(s) and not the internal mappings from  $a_i(s)$  to  $b_i(s)$ . First, some words

Fig. 1. Example of interconnected system



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about the notation. The matrix  $I_n$  denotes the identity matrix of size n and the matrix  $0_{p,q}$  the  $p \times q$  zero matrix. Let  $M_1, \ldots, M_k$  be a set of matrices, then the matrix  $diag\{M_1, \ldots, M_k\}$  is defined as the block diagonal matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} M_1 \\ & \ddots \\ & & \\ & & M_k \end{bmatrix}$$

One can write the transfer function of an interconnected system using the "interconnection matrix" of the subsystems:

$$a_i(s) = u_i(s) + \sum_{j=1}^k K_{i,j} b_j(s).$$
 (2)

Sometimes it is preferable to define the external input  $u_i(s)$  as a linear function of a global external input u(s). This is written as  $u_i(s) = H_i u(s)$ , where  $H_i \in \mathbb{R}^{\alpha_i \times m}$ . The output of G(s), denoted by y(s) is a linear function of the outputs of the subsystems:

$$y(s) := \sum_{i=1}^{k} F_i b_i(s)$$

with  $F_i \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times \beta_i}$ . Define the vector  $a(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{\alpha}(s) := \begin{bmatrix} a_1(s)^T \dots a_k(s)^T \end{bmatrix}^T$ , the vector  $b(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{\beta}(s) := \begin{bmatrix} b_1(s)^T \dots b_k(s)^T \end{bmatrix}^T$ , the  $\beta \times \alpha$  transfer function  $T(s) := diag\{T_1(s), \dots, T_k(s)\}$ , the  $\alpha \times m$  real matrix  $H := \begin{bmatrix} H_1^T \dots H_k^T \end{bmatrix}^T$ , the  $p \times \beta$  real matrix  $F = \begin{bmatrix} F_1 \dots F_k \end{bmatrix}$  and finally the connectivity matrix K as follows

$$K := \begin{bmatrix} K_{1,1} \dots K_{1,k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ K_{k,1} \dots & K_{k,k} \end{bmatrix}.$$
 (3)

We assume that the Mc Millan degree of  $T_i(s)$  is  $n_i$  and that  $(A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i)$  is a minimal state space realization of  $T_i(s)$ . Define  $n := \sum_{i=1}^k n_i$ , then  $T(s) = C(sI_n - A)^{-1}B + D$  with

$$C := diag\{C_1, \dots, C_k\}, A := diag\{A_1, \dots, A_k\}, B := diag\{B_1, \dots, B_k\}, D := diag\{D_1, \dots, D_k\}.$$
 (4)

The preceding equations can be rewritten as follows :

$$a(s) = Hu(s) + Kb(s), \quad b(s) = T(s)a(s),$$
  
$$y(s) = Fb(s), \tag{5}$$

from which it easily follows that

$$y(s) = F(I - T(s)K)^{-1}T(s)Hu(s).$$
 (6)

In others words,  $G(s) = F(I - T(s)K)^{-1}T(s)H$ and a state space realization of G(s) is given by  $(A_G, B_G, C_G, D_G)$  (see for instance [23], pg 66), where

$$C_G := F(I - DK)^{-1}C, A_G := A + BK(I - DK)^{-1}C, B_G := B(I - KD)^{-1}H, D_G := FD(I - KD)^{-1}H.$$
 (7)

If all the transfer functions are strictly proper, i.e. D = 0, the state space realization (7) of G(s) is much simpler :

$$C_G = FC, \quad A_G = A + BKC, \quad B_G = BH, \quad D_G = 0.$$

Let us finally remark that if all systems are in parallel, i.e. K = 0, then G(s) = FT(s)H.

This paper is organized as follows. After some preliminary results, a Balanced Truncation framework for interconnected systems is derived in Section 2. Krylov model reduction techniques for interconnected systems are presented in Section 3. In Section 4, several connections with existing model reduction techniques for structured systems are given. Concluding remarks are made in Section 5.

# 2 Interconnected Systems Balanced Truncation

The well-known Balanced Truncation algorithm is first recalled in Subsection 2.1, with an emphasis on the energetic interpretation of the gramians. In Subsection 2.2, auxiliary lemmas related to classical quadratic optimization problems are given. This permits to generalize the Balanced Truncation algorithm to the *Interconnected System Balanced Truncation* algorithm in Subsection 2.3.

## 2.1 Model Reduction by Balanced Truncation

We consider a general transfer function  $T(s) := C(sI_n - A)^{-1}B$  which corresponds to the linear system

$$S\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)\\ y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t) \end{cases}$$
(8)

If the matrix A is Hurwitz, the controllability and observability gramians, denoted respectively by P and Qare the unique solutions of the following equations

$$AP + PA^{T} + BB^{T} = 0$$
,  $A^{T}Q + QA + C^{T}C = 0.$ 

If we apply an input  $u(.) \in \mathcal{L}_2[-\infty, 0]$  to the system (8) for t < 0, the position of the state at time t = 0 (by

assuming the zero initial condition  $x(-\infty) = 0$  is equal to

$$x(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{0} e^{-At} Bu(t) dt := \mathcal{C}_o u(t).$$

By assuming that a zero input is applied to the system for t > 0, then for all  $t \ge 0$ , the output  $y(.) \in \mathcal{L}_2[0, +\infty]$ of the system (8) is equal to

$$y(t) = \mathcal{C}e^{At}x(0) := \mathcal{O}_b x(0).$$

The so-called controllability operator  $C_o: \mathcal{L}_2[-\infty, 0] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$  (mapping past inputs u(.) to the present state) and observability operator  $\mathcal{O}_b: \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathcal{L}_2[0, +\infty]$  (mapping the present state to future outputs y(.)) have dual operators, respectively  $\mathcal{C}_o^*$  and  $\mathcal{O}_b^*$ .

A physical interpretation of the gramians is the following. The controllability matrix arises from the following optimization problem. Let

$$J(v(t), a, b) := \int_{a}^{b} v(t)^{T} v(t) dt$$

be the *energy* of the vector function v(t) in the interval [a, b]. Then [8]

$$\min_{\mathcal{C}_0 u(t) = x_0} J(u(t), -\infty, 0) = x_0^T P^{-1} x_0, \qquad (9)$$

and, symmetrically, we have the dual property

$$\min_{\mathcal{O}_b^* y(t) = x_0} J(y(t), -\infty, 0) = x_0^T Q^{-1} x_0.$$
(10)

Two essential algebraic properties of gramians  $\mathcal{P}$ and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are as follows. First, under a coordinate transformation  $x(t) = S\bar{x}(t)$ , the new gramians  $\bar{\mathcal{P}}$ and  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  corresponding to the state-space realization  $(\bar{\mathcal{A}}, \bar{\mathcal{B}}, \bar{\mathcal{C}}) = (S^{-1}\mathcal{A}S, S^{-1}\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}S)$  undergo the following (so-called *contragradient*) transformation :

$$\bar{\mathcal{P}} = S^{-1} \mathcal{P} S^{-T} \quad \bar{\mathcal{Q}} = S^T \mathcal{Q} S. \tag{11}$$

This implies that there exists a state-space realization  $(A_{bal}, B_{bal}, C_{bal})$  of T(s) such that the corresponding gramians are equal and diagonal  $\bar{\mathcal{P}} = \bar{\mathcal{Q}} = \Sigma$  [23]. Secondly, because these gramians appear in the solutions of the optimization problems (9) and (10), they tell something about the energy that goes through the system, and more specifically, about the distribution of this energy among the state variables. The idea of the Balanced Truncation model reduction framework is to perform a state space transformation that gives equal and diagonal gramians and to keep only the most controllable and observable states. If the original transfer function is stable, the reduced order transfer function is guaranteed to be stable and an a priori global error bound between both systems is available.

If the standard balanced truncation technique is applied to the state space realization (C, A, B) (4) of an interconnected system, the structure of the subsystems is lost in the resulting reduced order transfer function. We show in Subsection 2.3 how to preserve the structure in the balancing process.

# 2.2 Structured Optimization Problems

Let us develop some basic lemmas that will be used in the sequel.

**Lemma 1** Let  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i}$  and  $M_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_j}$  for  $1 \le i \le k$ . Define

$$x := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_k \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad M := \begin{bmatrix} M_{1,1} \ \dots \ M_{1,k} \\ \vdots \ \ddots \ \vdots \\ M_{k,1} \ \dots \ M_{k,k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Assume that the matrix M is positive definite. Let us consider the product

$$J(x,M) := x^T M^{-1} x.$$

Then, for any fixed  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_i}$ ,

$$\min_{x_{j}, j \neq i} J(x, M) = x_{i}^{T} M_{i, i}^{-1} x_{i}.$$

**PROOF.** Without loss of generality, let us assume that i = 1. For ease of notation, define  $y := \begin{bmatrix} x_2^T \dots x_k^T \end{bmatrix}^T$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} N_{1,1} & N_{1,2} \\ N_{1,2}^T & N_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} := M^{-1}$  with  $N_{1,1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_1}$ . We obtain the following expression

obtain the following expression

$$J(x, M) = x_1^T N_{1,1} x_1 + 2x_1^T N_{1,2} y + y^T N_{2,2} y.$$
(12)

Because M is positive definite,  $M^{-1}$  is also positive definite. This implies that  $N_{1,1}$  and  $N_{2,2}$  are positive definite. J(x, M) is a quadratic form and the Hessian of J(x, M) with respect to y is equal to  $N_{2,2}$ . This implies that the minimum is obtained by annihilating the gradient :

$$\frac{\partial J(x,M)}{\partial y} = 2N_{1,2}^T x_1 + 2N_{2,2}y.$$

The minimum is obtained for  $y^* = -N_{2,2}^{-1}N_{1,2}^Tx_1$ , which yields the optimal value

$$\min_{y} J(x, M) 
= x_{1}^{T} N_{1,1} x_{1} - x_{1}^{T} N_{1,2} N_{2,2}^{-1} N_{1,2}^{T} x_{1} = x_{1}^{T} M_{1,1}^{-1} x_{1},$$

where the last equality was obtained by using the Schur complement.

Another optimization result is often used in the context of weighted model reduction. Instead of finding the minimum of J with respect to the other variables, one might be interested in finding the value of J by putting the other states equal to zero. This gives rise to the following result :

**Lemma 2** Let  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i}$  and  $M_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_j}$  for  $1 \le i \le 2$ . Define

$$x := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $M := \begin{bmatrix} M_{1,1} & M_{1,2} \\ M_{2,1} & M_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}$ .

Assume that the matrix M is positive definite and consider the product

$$J(x,M) := x^T M^{-1} x$$

Then, for any fixed  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_i}$ ,

$$J(x, M)_{x_j=0, j\neq i} = x_i^T \left( M_{i,i} - M_{i,j} M_{j,j}^{-1} M_{j,i} \right)^{-1} x_i.$$

**PROOF.** The proof consists in rewriting the inverse of M by using the well known Schur Complement Formula (see for instance [23, section 2.3]).

The generalization to k different states is obvious.

#### 2.3 The ISBT Algorithm

Let us consider the controllability and observability gramians of G(s):

$$A_{G}P_{G} + P_{G}A_{G}^{T} + B_{G}B_{G}^{T} = 0,$$
  

$$A_{G}^{T}Q_{G} + Q_{G}A_{G} + C_{G}^{T}C_{G} = 0,$$
(13)

and let us decompose

$$P_{G} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{1,1} \dots P_{1,k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P_{k,1} \dots P_{k,k} \end{bmatrix} , \quad Q_{G} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{1,1} \dots Q_{1,k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Q_{k,1} \dots Q_{k,k} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $P_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_j}$ . If we perform a state space transformation  $\Phi_i$  to the state  $\bar{x}_i(t) = \Phi_i x_i(t)$  of each interconnected transfer function  $T_i(s)$ , we actually perform a state space transformation

$$\Phi := diag\{\Phi_1, \ldots, \Phi_k\}$$

to the realization  $(\bar{A}, \bar{B}, \bar{C}, \bar{D}) = (\Phi A \Phi^{-1}, \Phi B, C \Phi^{-1}, D)$ of T(s). This, in turn, implies that  $(\bar{A}_G, \bar{B}_G, \bar{C}_G, \bar{D}_G) = (\Phi A_G \Phi^{-1}, \Phi B_G, C_G \Phi^{-1}, D_G)$  and

$$(\bar{P}_G, \bar{Q}_G) = (\Phi P_G \Phi^T, \Phi^{-T} Q_G \Phi^{-1}),$$

i.e. they undergo a contragradient transformation. This implies that  $(\bar{P}_{i,i}, \bar{Q}_{i,i}) = (\Phi_i P_{i,i} \Phi_i^T, \Phi_i^{-T} Q_{i,i} \Phi_i^{-1})$ , which is a contra-gradient transformation that only depends on the state space transformation on  $x_i$ , i.e. on the state space associated to  $T_i(s)$ .

Let us recall that the minimal past energy necessary to reach  $x_i(0) = x_i$  for each  $1 \le i \le k$  with the pair  $(A_G, B_G)$  is given by the expression

$$\left[ x_1^T \dots x_k^T \right] P_G^{-1} \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_k \end{array} \right].$$

The following result is a consequence of Lemma 1.

**Lemma 3** With the preceding notation, the minimal past input energy

$$J := \int_{-\infty}^{0} u(t)^T u(t) dt$$

needed to apply to the interconnected transfer function G(s) in order that for subsystem i at time  $t = 0, x_i(0) = x_i^*$  over all initial input condition  $x_j(0), j \neq i$ , is given by

$$x_i^* P_{i,i}^{-1} x_i.$$

Moreover, the minimal input needed in order that for subsystem i at time t = 0,  $x_i(0) = x_i^*$  and that for all the other subsystems,  $x_j(0) = 0$ ,  $j \neq i$ , is given by

$$x_i^* (P_G^{-1})_{i,i} x_i,$$

where  $(P_G^{-1})_{i,i}$  is the *i*, *i* block of the inverse of  $P_G$ , and this block is equal to the inverse of the Schur Complement of  $P_{i,i}$ .

Finally,

$$0 < P_{i,i}^{-1} \le (P_G^{-1})_{i,i}.$$
(14)

**PROOF.** The two first results are direct consequences of Lemma 1. Let us prove (14). For any nonzero vector  $x_i^*$ , the minimum energy necessary for subsystem *i* at time t = 0 to reach  $x_i(0) = x_i^*$  over all initial input condition  $x_j(0), j \neq i$ , cannot be larger than by imposing

 $x_j(0) = 0, j \neq i$ . This implies that for any nonzero vector x,

$$x^T \left( (P_G^{-1})_{i,i} - P_{i,i}^{-1} \right) x \ge 0.$$

Similar energy interpretations hold for the diagonal blocks of the observability matrix  $Q_G$  and of its inverse.

From Lemma 3, it makes sense to truncate the part of the state  $x_i$  of each subsystem  $T_i(s)$  corresponding to the smallest eigenvalues of the product  $P_{i,i}Q_{i,i}$ . We can thus perform a block diagonal transformation in order to make the gramians  $P_{i,i}$  and  $Q_{i,i}$  both equal and diagonal  $:P_{i,i} = Q_{i,i} = \Sigma_i$ . Then, we can truncate each subsystem  $T_i(s)$  by deleting the states corresponding to the smallest eigenvalues of  $\Sigma_i$ .

To resume, the *Interconnected Systems Balanced Truncation* (ISBT) algorithm proceeds as follows.

**Algorithm 1** Let  $(A_G, B_G, C_G, D_G) \sim G(s)$ , where G(s) is an interconnection of k subsystems

$$(A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i) \sim T_i(s),$$

of order  $n_i$ . In order to construct a reduced order system  $\hat{G}(s)$  while preserving the interconnections, perform as follows.

- (1) Compute the gramians  $P_G$  and  $Q_G$  satisfying (13).
- (2) For each subsystem  $T_i(s)$ , perform the contragradient transformation  $\Phi_i$  in order to make the gramians  $P_{i,i}$  and  $Q_{i,i}$  equal and diagonal.
- (3) For each subsystem  $(A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i)$ , keep only the state corresponding to the largest eigenvalues of  $P_{i,i} = Q_{i,i} = \Sigma_i$ , giving the reduced subsystems  $\hat{T}_i(s)$ .
- (4) Define

$$\hat{G}(s) = F(I - \hat{T}(s)K)^{-1}\hat{T}(s)H,$$

with  $\hat{T}(s) := diag\{\hat{T}_i(s)\}.$ 

**Remark 4** A variant of Algorithm 1 consists in performing a balance and truncate procedure for each subsystem  $T_i(s)$  with respect to the Schur complements of  $P_{i,i}$  and  $Q_{i,i}$  instead of  $P_{i,i}$  and  $Q_{i,i}$ . From Lemma 3, this corresponds to sorting the state-space of each system  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$  with respect to the optimization problem  $\min_u || u(t) ||^2$  such that  $x_i(0) = x_0$  and  $x_j = 0$  for  $j \neq i$ . Mixed strategies are also possible (see for instance [20] in the Controller Order Reduction framework).

It should be mentioned that a related "balanced truncation" approach for second order systems can be found in [12,2]).

#### 2.4 On the stability of the reduced order system

A main criticism concerning the ISBT algorithm is that the reduced order system is not guaranteed to be stable. If all the subsystems  $T_i(s)$  are stable, it is possible to impose all the subsystems  $\hat{T}_i(s)$  to remain stable by following the same technique as in [21]:

Let us consider the (1, 1) block of  $P_G$  and  $Q_G$ , i.e.  $P_{1,1}$ and  $Q_{1,1}$ . These gramians are positive definite because  $P_G$  and  $Q_G$  are assumed to be positive definite (G(s) is assumed here stable and  $(A_G, B_G, C_G, D_G)$  a minimal realization). From (13), these sub-gramians satisfy the Lyapunov equation

$$A_1 P_{1,1} + P_{1,1} A_1 + X = 0, \qquad A_1^T Q_{1,1} + Q_{1,1} A_1 + Y = 0$$

where the symmetric matrices X and Y are not necessary positive definite. If one modifies X and Y to positive semi-definite matrices  $\bar{B}\bar{B}^T$  and  $\bar{C}^T\bar{C}$ , one is guaranteed to obtain a stable reduced system  $\hat{T}_1(s)$ . The main criticism about this technique is that the energetic interpretation of the gramians is lost.

# 3 Krylov techniques for interconnected systems

Krylov subspaces appear naturally in interpolationbased model reduction techniques. Let us recall that for any matrix M, Im(X) is the space spanned by the columns of M.

**Definition 5** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ . The Krylov matrix  $K_k(A, B) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times km}$  is defined as follows

$$K_k(A,B) := \left[ B AB \dots A^{k-1}B \right].$$

The subspace spanned by the columns of  $K_k(A, B)$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{K}_k(A, B)$ .

Krylov techniques have already been considered in the literature for particular cases of structured systems. See for instance [17] in the controller reduction framework, or [18] in the second-order model reduction framework. This last case has been revisited recently in [6] and [19]. But, to our knowledge, it is the first time they are studied in the general framework of *Interconnected Systems*.

The problem is the following. If one projects the statespace realizations  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$  of the interconnected transfer functions  $T_i(s)$  with projecting matrices  $Z_i, V_i$ containing Krylov subspaces, giving rise to reducedorder transfer functions  $\hat{T}_i(s)$  that satisfy interpolation conditions with respect to  $T_i(s)$ , what are the resulting relations between  $\hat{G}(s)$  and G(s)? If one imposes the same interpolation conditions for every pair of subsystems  $T_i(s)$  and  $\hat{T}_i(s)$ , then the same interpolation conditions hold between the block diagonal transfer functions T(s) and  $\hat{T}(s)$  as well. Let us investigate what this implies for G(s) and  $\hat{G}(s)$ . Let us assume that

$$(\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}) = (Z^T A V, Z^T B, C V)$$

such that  $Z^T V = I$  and

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right) \subseteq Im(V).$$

In such a case, it is well known that [3,9]  $\hat{T}(s) := \hat{C}(sI - \hat{A})^{-1}\hat{B}$  interpolates T(s) at  $s = \lambda$  up to the k first derivatives. Concerning G(s), the matrices F, K, D and H are unchanged, from which it easily follows that

$$\hat{G}(s) = C_G V (sI - Z^T A_G V)^{-1} Z^T B_G + D_G.$$

It can easily be proven recursively that

$$\mathcal{K}_k \left( A + BK(I - DK)^{-1}C, B(I - KD)^{-1}H \right)$$
  
$$\subseteq \mathcal{K}_k \left( A, B \right),$$

but it turns out that the preceding result holds for arbitrary points in the complex plane, as shown in the following lemma.

**Lemma 6** Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  be a point that is neither an eigenvalue of A nor an eigenvalue of  $A_G$  (defined in (7)). Then

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G\right) \\
\subseteq \mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right),$$
(15)

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-T}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-T}C_G^T\right) \\
\subseteq \mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-T}, (\lambda I - A)^{-T}C^T\right).$$
(16)

**PROOF.** Only (15) will be proven. An analog proof can be given for (16). First, let us prove that the column space of  $(\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G$  is included in the column space of  $(\lambda I - A)^{-1}B$ . In order to simplify the notation, let us define the following matrices

 $M := (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B,$   $X := K(I - DK)^{-1}C,$  $G := (I - KD)^{-1}H.$ 

From the preceding definitions and the identity  $(I - MX)^{-1}M = M(I - XM)^{-1}$ , it follows that

$$(\lambda I - A_G)^{-1} B_G = (\lambda I - A - BX)^{-1} B_G$$
  
= (I - MX)^{-1} MG = M (I - XM)^{-1} G.

This clearly implies that the column space of  $(\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G$  is included in the column space of  $(\lambda I - A)^{-1}B$ . Let us assume that

$$\mathcal{K}_{k-1}\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G\right)$$
  
$$\subseteq \mathcal{K}_{k-1}\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right),$$

and prove that this implies that

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G\right) \\
\subseteq \mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right).$$
(17)

Because the column space of  $(\lambda I - A_G)^{-k+1}B_G$  belongs to  $\mathcal{K}_{k-1}((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B)$ , there exists a matrix Y such that

$$(\lambda I - A_G)^{-k+1} B_G = K_{k-1} ((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1} B) Y.$$

One obtains then that

$$(\lambda I - A_G)^{-k} B_G$$
  
=  $(\lambda I - A_G)^{-1} (\lambda I - A_G)^{-k+1} B_G$   
=  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (MX)^i (\lambda I - A)^{-1} K_{k-1} ((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, M) Y_{k-1}$ 

Note that

$$Im\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}K_{k-1}\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, M\right)\right)$$
  
$$\subseteq \mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, M\right).$$

Moreover, for any natural number i > 0, it is clear that

$$Im\left((MX)^i\right) \in Im(M).$$

This proves that (17) is satisfied.

Thanks to the preceding lemma, there are at least two ways to project the subsystems  $T_i(s)$  in order to satisfy a set of interpolation conditions using Krylov subspaces as follows.

**Lemma 7** Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  be neither a pole of T(s) nor a pole of G(s). Define

$$V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times r} := \left[ V_1^T \dots V_k^T \right]^T,$$

such that  $V_i \in \mathbb{C}^{n_i \times r}$ . Assume that either

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G\right) \subseteq Im(V).$$
(18)

or

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right) \subseteq Im(V).$$
(19)

Construct left projecting matrices  $Z_i \in \mathbb{C}^{n_i \times r}$  such that  $Z_i^T V_i = I_r$ . Project each subsystem as follows :

$$(\hat{A}_i, \hat{B}_i, \hat{C}_i) := (Z_i^T A_i V_i, Z_i^T B_i, C_i V_i).$$

Then,  $\hat{G}(s)$  interpolates G(s) at  $\lambda$  up to the first k derivatives.

**PROOF.** As a consequence of Lemma 6, first note that (19) implies (18). Let us assume that (18) is satisfied. The preceding operation corresponds to projecting  $(A_G, B_G, C_G)$  with

$$\mathcal{Z} := \begin{bmatrix} Z_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & Z_k \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad \mathcal{V} := \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & V_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

This implies that  $\mathcal{Z}^T \mathcal{V} = I$  and  $Im(V) \subseteq Im(\mathcal{V})$ , which concludes the proof.

In some contexts, such as controller reduction or in the presence of weighting functions, one does not construct a reduced order transfer function  $\hat{G}(s)$  by projecting the state spaces of all the subsystems  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$  but one only project some of one subsystem. Let us consider this last possibility.

Corollary 8 Define

$$V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times r} := \left[ V_1^T \dots V_k^T \right]^T,$$

such that  $V_i \in \mathbb{C}^{n_i \times r}$ . Assume that either

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}B\right) \subseteq Im(V),$$

or

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}B_G\right) \subseteq Im(V).$$

Construct a reduced order transfer function  $\hat{G}(s)$  by only projecting one subsystem, say  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$ , as follows. Let  $Z_i \in \mathbb{C}^{n_i \times r}$  such that  $Z_i^T V_i = I_r$ . Project subsystem  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$  as follows :

$$(\hat{A}_i, \hat{B}_i, \hat{C}_i) := (Z_i^T A_i V_i, Z_i^T B_i, C_i V_i),$$
 (20)

and keep all the other subsystems unchanged. Then,  $\hat{G}(s)$  interpolates G(s) at  $\lambda$  up to the first k derivatives.

**PROOF.** Again, note that (19) implies (18). Let us assume that (18) is satisfied. The operation (20) corresponds to projecting  $(A_G, B_G, C_G)$  with



This implies that  $\mathcal{Z}^T \mathcal{V} = I$  and  $Im(V) \subseteq Im(\mathcal{V})$ , which concludes the proof.

**Remark 9** Krylov techniques have recently been generalized for MIMO systems with the tangential interpolation framework [7]. It is also possible to project the subsystems  $T_i(s)$  in such a way that the reduced interconnected transfer function  $\hat{G}(s)$  satisfies a set of tangential interpolation conditions with respect to the original interconnected transfer function G(s), but special care must be taken. Indeed, Lemma 6 is generically not true anymore for generalized Krylov subspaces corresponding to tangential interpolation conditions. In other words, the column space of the matrix

$$\mathcal{K}_k \left( (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1} B_G, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, Y \right) := \begin{bmatrix} y_0 & \dots & y_{k-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 & \dots & y_{k-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

is in general not contained in the column space of the matrix  $% \left( {{{\mathcal{T}}_{{{\rm{s}}}}}} \right)$ 

$$\mathcal{K}_k\left((\lambda I - A)^{-1}B, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}, Y\right) := \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \dots y_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \dots y_{k-1} \\ \vdots \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In such a case, interchanging matrices  $(A_G, B_G, C_G)$  by (A, B, C), as done in Lemma 7 and Corollary 8 is not always permitted. Nevertheless, Lemma 7 and Corollary 8 can be extended to the tangential interpolation framework by projecting the state space realizations  $(A_i, B_i, C_i)$  with generalized Krylov subspaces of the form  $\mathcal{K}_k ((\lambda I - A_G)^{-1} B_G, (\lambda I - A_G)^{-1}, Y)$  and not of the form  $\mathcal{K}_k ((\lambda I - A)^{-1} B, (\lambda I - A)^{-1}, Y)$ .

# 4 Examples of Structured Model Reduction Problems

As we will see in this section, many structured systems can be modelled as *interconnected systems*. Three well known structured systems are presented, namely *weighted* systems, *second-order* systems and *controlled* systems. For each of these specific cases one recovers well-known formulas. It turns out that several existing model reduction techniques for structured systems are particular cases of our ISBT algorithm.

The preceding list is by no means exhaustive. For instance, because linear fractional transforms correspond to making a constant feedback to a part of the state, this can also be described by an interconnected system. Periodic systems are also a typical example of interconnected system that is not considered below.

# Weighted Model Reduction

As a first example, let us consider the following *weighted* transfer function :

$$y(s) = W_{out}(s)T(s)W_{in}(s)u(s) := G(s)u(s).$$

Let  $(A_o, B_o, C_o, D_o)$ , (A, B, C, D) and  $(A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i)$  be the state space realizations of respectively  $W_{out}(s)$ , T(s)and  $W_{in}(s)$ , of respective order  $n_o$ , n and  $n_i$ . A state space realization  $(A_G, B_G, C_G, D_G)$  of G(s) is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_G \mid B_G \\ \hline C_G \mid D_G \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} A_o \mid B_o C \mid B_o D C_i \mid B_o D D_i \\ 0 \mid A \mid B C_i \mid B D_i \\ \hline 0 \mid 0 \mid A_i \mid B_i \\ \hline C_0 \mid D_o C \mid D_o D C_i \mid D_o D D_i \end{bmatrix}.$$
(21)

The transfer function G(s) corresponds to the *interconnected* system S with

$$S : \begin{cases} b_1(s) = W_o(s)a_1(s), \ b_2(s) = T(s)a_2(s), \\ b_3(s) = W_i(s)a_3(s), \ y(s) = b_1(s), \\ a_1(s) = b_2(s), \ a_2(s) = b_3(s), \ a_3 = u(s) \end{cases}$$

and

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ I \end{bmatrix} , \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} , \quad F = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A frequency weighted balanced reduction method was first introduced by Enns [4,23]. Its strategy is the following. Note that Enns assumes that D = 0 (otherwise Dcan be added to  $\hat{T}(s)$ ). **Algorithm 2** 1. Compute the gramians  $P_G$  and  $Q_G$  satisfying (13) with  $(A_G, B_G, C_G, D_G)$  defined in (21).

2. Perform a state space transformation on (A, B, C) in order to obtain  $P = Q = \Sigma$  diagonal, where P and Q are the diagonal blocs of  $P_G$  and  $Q_G$  corresponding to the T(s):

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{n,n_o} & I_n & 0_{n,n_i} \end{bmatrix} P_G \begin{bmatrix} 0_{n_o,n} \\ I_n \\ 0_{n_i,n} \end{bmatrix},$$
$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{n,n_o} & I_n & 0_{n,n_i} \end{bmatrix} Q_G \begin{bmatrix} 0_{n_o,n} \\ I_n \\ 0_{n_i,n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Truncate (A, B, C) by keeping only the part of the state space corresponding to the largest eigenvalues of  $\Sigma$ .

It is clear the algorithm of Enns is exactly the same as the ISBT Algorithm applied to weighted systems. As for the ISBT Algorithm 1, there is generally no known a priori error bound for the approximation error and the reduced order model is not guaranteed to be stable either.

There exists other weighted model reduction techniques. See for instance [21] where an elegant error bound is derived.

A generalization of weighted systems are cascaded systems. If we assume that the interconnected systems are such that the output of  $T_i(s)$  is the input of  $T_{i+1}(s)$ , we obtain a structure similar than for the weighted case. For instance, the matrix K has the form

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ I_{\beta_1} & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & I_{\beta_{k-1}} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

#### Second-Order systems

Second order systems arise naturally in many areas of engineering (see, for example, [14,15,22]) with the following form :

$$\begin{cases} M\ddot{q}(t) + D\dot{q}(t) + Sq(t) = F^{in} u(t), \\ y(t) = F^{out} q(t). \end{cases}$$
(22)

We assume that  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $y(t) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $q(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $F^{in} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ ,  $F^{out} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ , and  $M, D, S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  with M invertible. For mechanical systems the matrices M, D and S represent, respectively, the mass (or inertia), damping and stiffness matrices, u(t) corresponds to the vector of external forces,  $F^{in}$  is the input distribution matrix,  $y(\cdot)$  is the output measurement vector,  $F^{out}$  is the output measurement matrix, and q(t) to the vector of internal generalized coordinates.

Second-Order systems 22 can be seen as an interconnection of two subsystems as follows. For simplicity, the mass matrix M is assumed equal to the identity matrix.

Define  $T_1(s)$  and  $T_2(s)$  corresponding to the following system :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1(t) = -Dx_1(t) - Sy_2(t) + F_{in}u(t) \\ y_1(t) = x_1(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) = 0x_2(t) + y_1(t) \\ y_2(t) = x_2(t) \end{cases},$$
(23)

From this,  $y_1(s) := T_1(s)a_1(s) = (sI_n + D)^{-1}a_1(s)$  with  $a_1(s) := u_1(t) - Sy_2(s)$  (with the convention  $u_1(t) = F_{in}u(t)$ ) and  $y_2(s) = F_{out}s^{-1}a_2(s) := T_2(s)a_2$  with  $a_2(s) = y_1(s)$ . Matrices F, H, K are given by

$$F := \begin{bmatrix} 0 \ F_{out} \end{bmatrix}, \quad H := \begin{bmatrix} F_{in} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad K := \begin{bmatrix} 0 \ -S \\ I \ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

From the preceding definitions, one obtains

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix},$$
$$C_G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & F_{out} \end{bmatrix}, A_G = \begin{bmatrix} -D & -K \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B_G = \begin{bmatrix} F_{in} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The matrices  $(A_G, B_G, C_G)$  are clearly a state space realization of  $F_{out}(s^2I_n + Ds + S)^{-1}F_{in}$ . It turns out that the Second-Order Balanced Truncation technique proposed in [2] is exactly the same as the Interconnected Balanced Truncation technique applied to  $T_1(s)$  and  $T_2(s)$ . In general, systems of order k can be rewritten as an interconnection of k subsystems by generalizing the preceding ideas.

# Controller Order Reduction

The Controller Reduction problem introduced by Anderson and Liu [1] is the following. Most high-order linear plants T(s) are controlled with a high order linear system K(s). In order to model such *structured* systems by satisfying the computational constraints, it is sometimes needed to approximate either the plant, or the

#### Fig. 2. Controller Order Reduction



controller, or both systems by reduced order systems, denoted respectively by  $\hat{T}(s)$  and  $\hat{K}(s)$ .

The objective of Controller Order Reduction is to find  $\hat{T}(s)$  and/or  $\hat{K}(s)$  that minimize the *structured* error

$$|G(s) - G(s)||, \quad with G(s) := (I - T(s)K(s))^{-1}T(s), \hat{G}(s) := (I - \hat{T}(s)\hat{K}(s))^{-1}\hat{T}(s).$$

Balanced Truncation model reduction techniques have also been developed for this problem. Again, most of these techniques are very similar to the ISBT Algorithm. See for instance [20] for recent results. Depending on the choice of the pair of gramians, it is possible to develop balancing strategies that ensure the stability of the reduced system, under certain assumptions [11].

# 5 Concluding Remarks

In this paper, general structure preserving model reduction techniques have been developed for interconnected systems, and this for both SVD-based and Krylov-based techniques. Of particular interest, the ISBT Algorithm is a generic tool for performing structured preserving balanced truncation. The advantage of studying model reduction techniques for general interconnected systems is twofold. Firstly, this permits to unify several model reduction techniques developed for weighted systems, controlled systems and second order systems in the same framework. Secondly, our approach permits to extend existing model reduction techniques for a large class of structured systems, namely those that can fit our definition of *interconnected* systems.

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