# The Interplay between Sparsity and Big Data in 

Systems Theory

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## Motivation 1: SysId



Goal: Find a low order, stable model

## Motivation 2: distributed sensing \& control



Goal: impose a sparse structure

## Motivation 3: decision making



How do we make (provably) correct decisions in a "data deluged" environments? (a hidden hybrid SysId problem)

## Hard or Easy?

- Claim 1: These problems are (NP!) hard


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Both can't be right, can they?

## Hard or Easy?

- Claim 1: These problems are generically NP-hard
- Claim 2: Many of these problems can be solved in polynomial time


## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem easy?
- A: Convexity?


## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem easy?
- A: Convexity? Not Necessarily!

Optimization over co-Positive matrices is NP-hard

## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem easy?
- A: Convexity + Self-Concordance?


## Hard or Easy?

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| Horizon | ADMM (secs) | SDP solver(secs) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 280 | 1071.8 | 4177.0 |
| 350 | 1828.0 | 12686.9 |
| 420 | 2657.7 | out of memory |

In (convex) SysId Big Data may be as low as $10^{2}$

## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem hard?
- A: Lack of Convexity?


## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem hard?
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$$
\min \sum \mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{1}} \text { subject to } \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{i}}= \pm \mathbf{1}
$$

## Hard or Easy?

- Q: What makes a problem hard/easy?
- A: Structure
- Self Similarity
- Sparsity
- Both observed in many practical problems
- Often they induces "good" convexity
- Exploited in Machine Learning for "static" problems


## Hard or Easy?

- Challenge
- Separate easy/hard problems
- Understand where does the complexity come from
- Use this understanding to design "easy" problems


## Main point of this talk: These issues are related to the sparsity structure of the problem

## Intuition: look at QCQP

$$
\begin{gathered}
p^{*}=\min _{x} \mathbf{x}^{\prime} \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{o}} \mathbf{x} \text { s.t. } \mathbf{x}^{\prime} \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x} \leq 0 i=1, . . n \\
p^{*}=\min _{x} \operatorname{Trace}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{o}} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right) \text { s.t. } \operatorname{Trace}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right) \leq 0 i=1, . . n \\
p_{S D P}=\min _{x} \operatorname{Trace}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{o}} \mathbf{X}\right) \text { s.t. } \operatorname{Trace}\left(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{X}\right) \leq 0, \mathbf{X} \succeq 0
\end{gathered}
$$

Clearly $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{SDP}} \leq \mathrm{p}^{*}$ and $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{SDP}}=\mathrm{p}^{*}$ if $\operatorname{rank}(\mathrm{X})=1$

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Clearly $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{SDP}} \leq \mathrm{p}^{*}$ and $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{SDP}}=\mathrm{p}^{*}$ if $\operatorname{rank}(\mathrm{X})=1$

Q: Can we get this for (almost) free?

## Exploiting sparsity in QCQP

- Complexity related to the topology of a graph:
- Each vertex corresponds to a variable
- There is an edge (i,j) if there are terms involving $\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{j}}$



## Exploiting sparsity in QCQP



- If the graph is a tree, then the SDP relaxation is exact
J. Lavaei, 2014


## Exploiting sparsity in QCQP



- If the graph is a tree, then the SOCP relaxation is exact
- Example: $\min \sum \mathrm{c}_{\mathbf{i}} \mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}+1}$ subject to $\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}}= \pm 1$


## Sparse polynomial optimization

- Many problems have a sparse structure (running intersection)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \min _{x} p_{1}(x)+p_{2}(x)+\ldots p_{m}(x) \text { s.t. } \\
& f_{1}\left(x^{\alpha}\right) \leq 0 \\
& f_{2}\left(x^{\alpha}\right) \leq 0 \\
& \quad \vdots \\
& f_{m}\left(x^{\alpha}\right) \leq 0
\end{aligned}
$$

where each $p_{i}(),. f_{i}($.$) depends only on a subset of variables such that$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P_{1} \\
& f_{1} \\
& x_{1}, x_{2}, . . x_{k^{\circ}} \cdot x_{d}, x_{d+1}, \ldots x_{d+k}, \ldots \ldots \ldots . . x_{n-d+1}, x_{n}
\end{aligned}
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$$
\begin{array}{ll}
P_{1} & P_{2} \\
f_{1} & f_{2}
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdot x_{k} \cdot x_{d d}, x_{d+1}, \ldots x_{d+k} \cdots \ldots \ldots . . . x_{n-d+1}, x_{n}
$$

## Sparse polynomial optimization

- Running intersection is related to cliques in the (chordal completion of the) csp graph



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Connecting Information, Sparsity \& Dynamics


## Where should we pay attention?:



Features (edges, regions, etc.) are important.

## Where should we pay attention?:



Dynamics are important too!.

## Sparse signal recovery:

- Strong prior:
- Signal has a sparse representation

$$
f=\sum c_{i} \psi_{i}
$$

only a few $\mathrm{c}_{\mathrm{i}} \neq 0$

- Signal Recovery:
- "sparsify" the coefficients
$\min \left\|\left[c_{1}, \ldots, c_{n}\right]\right\|_{o}$ subject to : $f\left(x_{i}\right)=y_{i}$



## Sparse signal recovery:

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subject to : $f\left(x_{i}\right)=y_{i}$


## Sparse information extraction

- Strong prior:
- Actionable information is generated by low complexity dynamical systems.
- Information extraction:
- "sparsify" the dynamics $\min _{\mathbf{y}}\left\{\operatorname{rank}[\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{y})]+\lambda\|\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{y})\|_{o}\right\}$ y
- Where $M(),. E($.$) are affine in y$


## Example: Solving "Temporal Puzzles"



## Example: Solving "Temporal Puzzles"



D is a suitably chosen
dynamic dictionary

## Example: Solving "Temporal Puzzles"



Dynamic
sparsification


## Information Extraction as an ID problem



## Information extraction as an Id problem:



- Model data streams as outputs of switched systems
- "Interesting" events $\Leftrightarrow$ Model invariant(s) changes
- An identification/model (in)validation problem.



## SARX Id problem:

- Given:
- Bounds on noise ( $\|\eta\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon$ ), sub-system order $\left(n_{0}\right)$
- Input/output data (u,y)
- Number of sub-models
- Find:
- A piecewise affine model such that:


$$
y_{t}=\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} a_{i}\left(\sigma_{t}\right) y_{t-i}+\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} c_{i}\left(\sigma_{t}\right) u_{t-i}+f\left(\sigma_{t}\right)+\eta_{t}
$$




- Given $\mathbf{N}$ points in $\mathbf{R}^{\mathbf{n}}$, fit them to hyperplanes
- "Chicken and egg" problem
- Do not known the point "labels" NP Hard !
- Do not know the hyperplanes.


## Reformulation:



$$
\begin{array}{r}
\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-i}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-i}=0 \\
\quad \text { or } \\
\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{i}\left(\sigma_{2}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-i}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{i}\left(\sigma_{2}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-i}=0
\end{array}
$$

## QCQP reformulation:


$\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{t}}\left(\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-i}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-i}\right)=0$
and
$\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{t}}\left(\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{i}\left(\sigma_{2}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-i}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{i}\left(\sigma_{2}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-i}\right)=0$
Subject to: $\quad s_{i, t}=s_{i, t}^{2}$, and $\sum_{i} s_{i, t}=1$

$$
s \in\{0,1\}
$$

## QCQP reformulation:

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left|s_{i, j} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{x}_{j}\right| \leq \epsilon s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \\
s_{i, j}^{2}=s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \\
\Sigma_{i=1}^{N_{s}} s_{i, j}=1, \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \\
\mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{r}_{i}=1, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \\
\mathbf{r}_{1}(1) \geq \mathbf{r}_{2}(1) \geq \cdots \geq \mathbf{r}_{N_{s}}(1) \geq 0
\end{array}\right.
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\begin{cases}\left|s_{i, j} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{j}}\right| \leq \epsilon s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} & \mathbf{x}_{j} \text { is an inlier in } \mathcal{S}_{i} \text { if } s_{i j}=1 \\ s_{i, j}^{2}=s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} & s_{i j} \in\{0,1\} \\ \Sigma_{i=1}^{N_{s}} s_{i, j}=1, \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} & \\ \mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{r}_{i}=1, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} & \\ \mathbf{r}_{1}(1) \geq \mathbf{r}_{2}(1) \geq \cdots \geq \mathbf{r}_{N_{s}}(1) \geq 0 & \end{cases}
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\sum_{i=1}^{N_{s}} s_{i, j}=1, \forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \\
\mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{r}_{i}=1, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \\
\mathbf{r}_{1}(1) \geq \mathbf{r}_{2}(1) \geq \cdots \geq \mathbf{r}_{N_{s}}(1) \geq 0
\end{array}\right.
$$

$\mathbf{x}_{j}$ is an inlier in $\mathcal{S}_{i}$ if $s_{i j}=1$
$s_{i j} \in\{0,1\}$
each sample is assigned to one subspace

## Hidden Sparse Structure:

Model parameters

$$
\mathbf{S}_{1, \mathbf{t}}\left(\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-i}-\sum_{i=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{i}\left(\sigma_{1}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-i}\right)=0
$$

## Hidden Sparse Structure:



Complexity determined by the order of the model.

Linear in the number of data points

## Exploiting the Sparse Structure:

Original problem:
Scales as $\mathrm{O}\left(\left(\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{p}} \mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{s}}\right)^{6}\right)$

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
P_{0}:\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{r}_{i}=1, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \\
\mathbf{r}_{1}(1) \geq \mathbf{r}_{2}(1) \geq \cdots \geq \mathbf{r}_{N_{s}}(1) \geq 0
\end{array}\right. \\
\forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}}: P_{j}:\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left|s_{i, j} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{x}_{j}\right| \leq \epsilon s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \\
s_{i, j}^{2}=s_{i, j}, \forall_{i=1}^{N_{s}} \\
\sum_{i=1}^{N_{s}} s_{i, j}=1
\end{array}\right.
\end{array}\right.
$$

Reduced problem: Scales as $\mathbf{O}\left(\mathbf{N}_{\mathrm{p}}\left(\mathbf{N}_{\mathrm{s}}\right)^{6}\right)$

$$
\left\{\begin{array} { l } 
{ \operatorname { T r } ( \overline { \mathbf { Q } } _ { k , 0 } \mathbf { M } _ { 0 } ) \leq 0 , \forall _ { k = 1 } ^ { K _ { 0 } } } \\
{ \mathbf { M } _ { 0 } \succeq 0 , \mathbf { M } _ { 0 } ( 1 , 1 ) = 1 } \\
{ \operatorname { r a n k } ( \mathbf { M } _ { 0 } ) = 1 }
\end{array} \left\{\begin{array}{l}
\operatorname{Tr}\left(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_{k, j} \mathbf{M}_{j}\right) \leq 0, \forall_{k=1}^{K_{j}} \\
\forall_{j=1}^{N_{p}}:\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{M}_{j} \succeq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{M}_{j}(1,1)=1 \\
\mathbf{M}_{j}\left(1: n N_{s}+1,1: n N_{s}+1\right)=\mathbf{M}_{0}
\end{array}\right.
\end{array}\right.\right.
$$

Linear in the number of data points

## Exploiting the Sparse Structure:

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$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\operatorname{Tr}\left(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_{k, 0} \mathbf{M}_{0}\right) \leq 0, \forall_{k=1}^{K_{0}} \\ \mathbf{M}_{0} \succ 0, \mathbf{M}_{0}(1,1)=1\end{array}\left\{\begin{array}{l}\operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{M}_{0}\right)=1\end{array}, \begin{array}{l}V_{j=1}^{N_{p}}:\left\{\begin{array}{l}\operatorname{Tr}\left(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_{k, j} \mathbf{M}_{j}\right) \leq 0, \forall_{k=1}^{K_{j}} \\ \mathbf{M}_{j} \succeq 0, \mathbf{M}_{j}(1,1)=1 \\ \mathbf{M}_{j}\left(1: n N_{s}+1,1: n N_{s}+1\right)=\mathbf{M}_{0}\end{array}\right.\end{array}\right.\right.$

## Example: Human Activity Analysis



WALK BEND WALK

## (In)Validating SARX Models



## Model (In)validation of SARX Systems

- Given:
- A nominal switched model of the form:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{y}_{t}=\sum_{k=1}^{n_{a}} \mathbf{A}_{k}\left(\sigma_{t}\right) \mathbf{y}_{t-k}+\sum_{k=1}^{n_{c}} \mathbf{C}_{k}\left(\sigma_{t}\right) \mathbf{u}_{t-k}+\mathbf{f}\left(\sigma_{t}\right) \\
& \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{t}=\mathbf{y}_{t}+\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t}
\end{aligned}
$$

- A bound on the noise $\left(\|\eta\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon\right)$
- Experimental Input/Output Data $\left\{\mathbf{u}_{t}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{t}\right\}_{t=t_{0}}^{T}$
- Determine:
- whether there exist noise and switching sequences consistent with a priori information and experimental data


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Reduces to SDP via
Putinar's Positivstellensatz

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- Determine:
- whether there exist noise and switching sequences consistent with a priori information and experimenta data

Reduces to SDP via
Putinar's Positivstellensatz

Guaranteed convergence for the $n=T$ relaxation

## (In)validation Certificates:

- The model is invalid if and only if

$$
d^{*} \doteq\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min _{\mathbf{s}, \boldsymbol{\eta}} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{s}} e_{i, t}^{2} \\
\operatorname{subject~to:~} \\
\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{t}}\left(\mathbf{g}_{i, t}+\mathbf{h}_{i, t} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-n_{a}: t}\right)=\mathbf{e}_{i, t} \\
\sum_{i} s_{i, t}=1 \\
s_{i, t}^{2}=1 \\
\|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon
\end{array}\right\}>0
$$

## Model (In)validation of SARX Systems

Noise from to t-n
 similar to the Id case

## Example: Activity Monitoring

- A priori switched model: walking and waiting, 4\% noise
- Test sequences of hybrid behavior:

WALK, WAIT
RUN
WALK, JUMP


Not Invalidated


Invalidated


Invalidated

## Adding topological constraints:

- The model is invalid if and only if

$$
d^{*} \doteq\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min _{\mathbf{s}, \boldsymbol{\eta}} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{s}} e_{i, t}^{2} \\
\operatorname{subject~to:~}^{=} \\
\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{t}}\left(\mathbf{g}_{i, t}+\mathbf{h}_{i, t} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-n_{a}: t}\right)=\mathbf{e}_{i, t} \\
\sum_{i} s_{i, t}=1 \\
s_{i, t}^{2}=1 \\
\|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon
\end{array}\right\}>0
$$

plus additional linear constraints:


$$
s_{i, t}+s_{j, t+1} \leq 1, \forall i \in I, \forall j \in J
$$

These destroy sparsity patterns!

## Example: Activity Monitoring

A Priori information


Not Invalidated ( $\mathrm{d}=-3 \mathrm{e}-8$ )


Invalidated ( $\mathrm{d}=0.175$ )

## Identifying Sparse Dynamical Networks



Who is in the same team?
Who reacts to whom?

## Formalization as a graph id problem:

Each time series becomes a node in a graph

Each edge is a dynamical system

$$
\begin{gathered}
x_{i}(t)=\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^{P} \sum_{n=k}^{N}\left(a_{j i}(n) x_{j}(t-n)\right)+u_{i}(t)+\eta_{i}(t) \\
=\underset{?}{a_{1} W \operatorname{Wh} \mu \sim}+\underset{?}{a_{2} \rightarrow \sim+\square}+
\end{gathered}
$$



## A Sparsification Problem:

- Find block sparse solutions to:

$$
\mathbf{x}=[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{I}]\left[\mathbf{a}^{t} \mathbf{u}^{t}\right]^{t}+\eta
$$

-Efficient solutions using atomic norm minimization
-Atoms are the time series at other nodes

- Projection free Frank-Wolfe algorithm

$$
\mathbf{x}=[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{I}]\left[\mathbf{a}^{t} \mathbf{u}^{t}\right]^{t}+\eta \quad \begin{array}{ll}
\min _{\mathbf{z}} & \left\|\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|_{2} \\
\text { s.t. } & \|\mathbf{z}\|_{s \mathcal{A}} \leq \tau
\end{array}
$$

## Algorithm

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\min _{\mathbf{z}} & f(\mathbf{z}) & \min _{\mathbf{z}} \\
\text { s.t. } & \|\mathbf{z}\|_{\mathcal{A}} \leq \tau & \mathbf{x}_{j} \|_{2} \\
\text { s.t. } & \|\mathbf{z}\|_{s \mathcal{A}} \leq \tau
\end{array}
$$

## Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

1: Initialize:
$\mathbf{z}^{(0)} \leftarrow \tau \mathbf{a}_{0}$ for arbitrary $\mathbf{a}_{0} \in \mathcal{A}$
2: for $k=0,1,2, \cdots$ do
3: $\quad \mathbf{a} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}}\left\langle\partial f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right), \mathbf{a}\right\rangle$
4: $\quad \alpha_{k} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\alpha \in[0,1]} f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}+\alpha\left[\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]\right)$
5: $\mathbf{z}^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \mathbf{z}^{(k)}+\alpha_{k}\left[\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]$

6: end for

## Algorithm

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## Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

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$\mathbf{z}^{(0)} \leftarrow \tau \mathbf{a}_{0}$ for arbitrary $\mathbf{a}_{0} \in \mathcal{A}$
2: for $k=0,1,2, \cdots$ do

$$
\begin{aligned}
L & \leftarrow \arg \max _{l}\left\{\left\|\left[\partial f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right)\right]^{T} \mathbf{A}_{l}\right\|_{1}\right\} \\
\mathbf{c} & \leftarrow-\operatorname{sign}\left(\left[\partial f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right)\right]^{T} \mathbf{A}_{L}\right) \\
\mathbf{a} & \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_{L} \mathbf{c}
\end{aligned}
$$

3: $\quad \mathbf{a} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}} \operatorname{faf}\left(\frac{(k)}{(k)}, \mathrm{a}\right)$
4: $\quad \alpha_{k} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\alpha \in[0,1]} f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}+\alpha\left[\mathbf{r a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]\right)$
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$$
\alpha_{k} \leftarrow \max \left\{\min \left\{\frac{\left[\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]^{T}\left[\mathbf{x}_{j}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]}{\left\|\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right\|_{2}^{2}}, 1\right\}, 0\right\}
$$

6: end for

## Algorithm

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \min _{\mathbf{z}} f(\mathbf{z}) \\
& \min _{\mathbf{z}}\left\|\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|_{2} \\
& \text { s.t. }\|\mathbf{z}\|_{\mathcal{A}} \leq \tau \\
& \text { s.t. }\|\mathbf{z}\|_{s \mathcal{A}} \leq \tau
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$$

## Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

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\mathbf{a} & \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_{L} \mathbf{c}
\end{aligned}
$$

3: $\quad \mathbf{a} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}} \frac{\left.\operatorname{Laf}\left(\frac{(k)}{4}\right), \mathbf{a}\right\rangle}{}$
4: $\quad \alpha_{k} \leftarrow \arg \min _{\alpha \in[0,1]} f\left(\mathbf{z}^{(k)}+\alpha\left[\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]\right)$
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\alpha_{k} \leftarrow \max \left\{\min \left\{\frac{\left[\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]^{T}\left[\mathbf{x}_{j}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right]}{\left\|\tau \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{z}^{(k)}\right\|_{2}^{2}}, 1\right\}, 0\right\}
$$

6: end for

## Closed form solutions to each step

## Example



Interactions between human agents

## More examples:



## Tracking by detection



Reduces to an assignment problem with "dynamics- induced" weights


$$
\frac{\operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{H}_{i}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{H}_{j}\right)}{\operatorname{rank}\left(\left[\mathbf{H}_{i} \mathbf{H}_{j}\right]\right)}-1
$$



## Crowd photography sequencing



## More examples where sparsity \& self similarity help

- Semi-supervised SysId
- Wiener systems identification
- Identification with outliers
- Identification of PWA systems
- (In)validation of PWA systems
- Sparse network Id.
- Optimal sensor placement
- Controller design subject to sparsity constraints

All of these are known to be NP-hard, yet often solvable in polynomial time using sparsity based convex relaxations

## What is Big Data?

|  | $X_{4}$ $X_{4}$ $X_{5}$ $X_{5}$ $x_{6}$ $X_{6}$ $X_{7}$ $X_{7}$ $X_{8}$ $X_{8}$ $x_{9}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $x_{0}$ $x_{1}$ $x_{2}$ $x_{3}$ <br> $x_{0}$ $x_{1}$   <br> $x_{1}$ $x_{1}$ $x_{2}$ $x_{3}$ <br> $x_{1}$ $x_{2}$ $x_{3}$ $x_{4}$ <br> $x_{2}$ $x_{3}$ $x_{3}$ $x_{4}$ <br> $x_{2}$ $x_{5}$   <br> $x_{3}$ $x_{4}^{3}$ $x_{4}$ $x_{5}$ <br> $y_{3}$ $y_{4}$ $y_{5}$ $y_{6}$ |  |

## What is Big (Dynamic) Data?

Computational complexity is related to data interconnectivity, not data size!!



Hard

## What is Big (Dynamic) Data?

Computational complexity is related to data interconnectivity, not data size!!


Related to max clique size of an underlying graph

## Big Data \& Sparsity:

## Sparsity can provide a way around the curse of dimensionality

- Challenge: how to build in and exploit the "right" sparsity
- Graphs with small tree width (network design)
- Low order models
- Submodularity also helps
- what other properties can we exploit?
- An interesting connection between several communities:
- Control, semi-algebraic optimization, machine learning,....


## Big Data \& Sparsity:

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## SoS for "real sized" problems :

- Many promising advances towards making SoS/Moments practical:
- ADMM, Frank-Wolfe, Factorizations
- Empirical experience: force $\mathbf{M}$ to be rank 1

In many practical problems (e.g. subspace clustering) forcing a small matrix (much smaller than the running intersection) to have rank 1 guarantees $\operatorname{rank}(M)=1$

- New developments covered elsewhere in this workshop
- Ahmadi \& Hall: DSoS and SDSoS
- Lasserre: Krivine+Putinar P-satz (LP+fixed size SDC)
- Getting there, but more work needed. Keep tuned for more


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