



OPTIMAL CONTROL UNDER PARTIAL OBSERVATIONS AND STOCHASTIC UNIFORM OBSERVABILITY

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ABSTRACT. This paper discuss linear quadratic control problem for stochastic differential systems with partial observations. Following [4] and using the results in [8] concerning the Riccati equation, we apply the well known separation principle to obtain a solution of the optimal control problem considered.

1. Optimal control under partial observations

Let $H, U, V, \dim(V) < \infty$ be separable real Hilbert spaces. Throughout this section we will assume that the next hypothesis are satisfied:

Throughout this chapter we assume the following hypotheses:

(G1) $U(t,s)$ is a strong evolution operator generated by the family $A(t), t \in [0, \infty)$; there exists a sequence $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \subset C_s([0, \infty), L(H))$ such that for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$, the family $\{A_n(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ generates the strong evolution operator $U_n(t,s)$ and $U_n(t,s)x \rightarrow U(t,s)x, x \in H$ uniformly on

bounded subsets of Δ . The families $A^*(t), A_n^*(t), n \in \mathbf{N}, t \in [0, \infty)$ satisfy the hypothesis (G1) and we will say that G1 (A^*) holds.

(G2): $B \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(U, H)), B^* \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(H, U)), C \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(H, V)), C^* \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(V, H)), N, G, G^* \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(H)), \bar{V} \in C([0, \infty), L(V)), V(t)$ is nonsingular for all $t \in [0, \infty)$ and $K \in C_b(\mathbf{R}_+, L(U))$ is uniformly positive, that is there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $K(t) \geq \delta I$, for all $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$.

We consider the following stochastic system with control and partial observations

$$(1) \quad dy(t) = A(t)y(t)dt + B(t)u(t)dt + G(t)dw(t),$$

$$y(0) = y_0 \in L_s^2(H);$$

$$(2) \quad dz(t) = C(t)y(t)dt + \bar{V}(t)dv(t), z(0) = 0,$$

where $w(t), v(t), t \geq 0$ are real valued Wiener processes and y_0 is Gaussian with mean m_0 and covariance Q_0 and $y_0, w(t), v(t), t \geq 0$ are mutually independent. We also introduce the cost functional

$$(3) \quad J(u) = \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} E \int_0^t \|N(s)y(s)\|^2 + \langle K(s)u(s), u(s) \rangle ds$$

Our problem is to minimize $J(u)$ over a class of admissible controls $u(t)$, which are adapted to the σ -algebra generated by the observations $z(s), s \in [0, t]$. We will define the set of admissible controls later. Now, we recall some basic results on filtering theory. Let Z_t be the σ -algebra generated by $z(s), s \in [0, t]$ and let us consider the system

$$(4) dy(t) = A(t)y(t)dt + G(t)dw(t), y(0) = y_0$$

$$(5) dz(t) = Cy(t)dt + V(t)dv(t), z(0) = 0$$

The filtering problem consists in estimating the state $y(t)$ based on the observation process $z(s), 0 \leq s \leq t$. The most popular, optimal in the mean square sense, filtering estimator of $y(t)$ is its projection onto $L^2(\Omega, Z_t, P, H)$. This estimator is called *the best global estimator* of y given $z(s), 0 \leq s \leq t$ and is equal to the conditional expectation $E[y(t)|Z_t]$ [6]. The conditional expectation, as a function of $z(s), s \in [0, t]$, may have too complicated structure. Therefore, especially in engineering applications, it makes sense to use a linear function $\hat{y}(t)$ of $z(s), s \in [0, t]$, minimizing the mean square error $E\|y(t) - \hat{y}(t)\|^2$ in a class of linear filtering estimates. Then we define below the best affine estimator of $y(t)$.

Let $T > 0$ be fixed and let $z \in C([0, T], L^2(\Omega, \mathbf{F}, P, V)), y \in L^2(\Omega, P, H)$. We denote by H_z^t the closure in $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ of the linear space generated by the set $\{x + L(z(s_j)), x \in H, L \in L(V, H), s_j \in [0, t]\}$. Obviously H_z^t is the analogue of the Hilbert space H_y defined in the time invariant case and it is a Hilbert subspace of $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$. If P_z^t denotes the projection on $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ upon H_z^t then $P_z^t(y)$ is called *the best affine estimator* of $y \in L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ given $\{z(s), 0 \leq s \leq t\}$. As in the discrete-time case we note that if we set $\bar{z}(t) = z(t) - E(z(t))$, then $H_z^t = H_{\bar{z}}^t$.

If $H_0 = \{y \in L^2(\Omega, P, H), E(y) = 0\}$ is the Hilbert subspace of $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ and $H_{0, \bar{z}}^t$ is the closure in $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ of the linear space generated by the set $\{L(z(s_j)), L \in L(V, H), s_j \in [0, t]\}$ then $P_{0, \bar{z}}^t(y)$ will denote the projection on $L^2(\Omega, P, H)$ upon $H_{0, \bar{z}}^t$. Obviously $H_{0, \bar{z}}^t \subset H_z^t$. Then $P_{0, \bar{z}}^t(y)$ is called the best linear estimator of $L^2(\Omega, P, H) y$ given $\{\bar{z}(s), 0 \leq s \leq t\}$. It is clear that $P_z^t(y) = E(y) + P_{0, \bar{z}}^t(y)$ and consequently the problem of finding the best affine estimator reduces to that of finding the best linear estimator [7]. We note here that the linear estimates are easier to calculate, but unlike the best global estimates they need not always exist.

It is known that if $y \in L^2(\Omega, P, H), z \in L^2(\Omega, P, V)$ are Gaussian random variables and the best linear estimate of y given z exists, then it coincides with the best global estimate [2].

As in the discrete-time case, the filtering problem for (4), (5) is to find the best affine estimate $\hat{y}(t) = P_z^t(y)$, $t \geq 0$. It is well known [2], [1], [7] that, because of the Gaussian property of the processes, the best affine estimate of the solution $y(t)$ of (4), (5) coincides with the best global estimator $E[y(t)|Z_t]$. Moreover, it is the unique mild solution of

$$(6) d\hat{y}(t) = A(t)\hat{y}(t)dt + P(t)C^*(t) \left[\bar{V}(t)\bar{V}^*(t) \right]^{-1} d\eta(t),$$

$$(7) \hat{y}(0) = E(y_0),$$

where η is the innovation process defined by

$$(8) d\eta(t) = dz(t) - C(t)\hat{y}(t)dt$$

and $P(t)$ is the covariance of the error process $e(t) = y(t) - \hat{y}(t)$. A rather surprising properties are the following: the innovation process $\eta(t)$ is a finite dimensional Wiener process with the covariance $t\bar{V}(t)\bar{V}^*(t)$ relative to the σ -algebra Z_t ; $H_{0,z}^t = H_{0,\eta}^t$ [2], [7]. Also it is known that the covariance of the error process is the unique mild solution of the following Riccati equation [2], [5]

$$(9) P'(t) = A(t)P(t) + P(t)A^*(t) + G(t)G^*(t) - P(t)C^*(t) \left[\bar{V}(t)\bar{V}^*(t) \right]^{-1} C(t)P(t)$$

$$(10) P(0) = P_0 = \text{cov}(e_0, e_0), e_0 = y_0 - \bar{y}_0.$$

The next result shows that, under stabilizability conditions, the above Riccati equation has a bounded on \mathbf{R}_+ solution. We recall here that the pair $\{A^* : C^*\}$ is *stabilizable* iff there exists $F \in C_b([0, \infty), L(H, V))$ such that $\{A^* + C^*F\}$ is uniformly exponentially stable.

Theorem 1 [4] *Assume $\{A^* : C^*\}$ is stabilizable. The solution $P(t)$ of (9)-(10) is bounded on \mathbf{R}_+ .*

Returning to the quadratic control problem, we now define the class of admissible controls \mathcal{U} . Let Γ_t be the σ -algebra generated by $\eta(s), s \in [0, t]$, where η is the innovation process given by (8).

Following [4], [5], [7] we that \mathcal{U} is the set of all controls $u \in L_{loc}^2([0, \infty) \times \Omega, U)$ that are \mathbf{F}_t -adapted and satisfy the conditions $u(t) \in L^2(\Omega, Z_t, P, H) \cap L^2(\Omega, \Gamma_t, P, H)$ for almost all t , $\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} E \int_0^t \|u(s)\|^2 ds < \infty$, $\sup_{t \geq 0} E \|y(s)\|^2 < \infty$.

If $u \in \mathcal{U}$, we associate to the system (6), (7) the following control system

$$(11) d\hat{y}(t) = A(t)\hat{y}(t)dt + B(t)u(t)dt + P(t)C^*(t) \left[\bar{V}(t)\bar{V}^*(t) \right]^{-1} d\eta(t),$$

$$(12) \hat{y}(0) = E(y_0)$$

Denoting by \hat{y}_u the solution of the above system, then $\hat{y} - \hat{y}_u$ is the unique solution of

the system

$$(13) \quad dx(t) = A(t)x(t)dt + B(t)u(t)dt, \quad x(0) = 0.$$

Choosing the same control u , we consider the unique mild solutions y_u and y of (4) and (1) respectively, and we see that $y - y_u$ is also the unique mild solution (13). Therefore $y - y_u = \hat{y} - \hat{y}_u$ and $y_u(t) - \hat{y}_u(t) = e(t)$. An easy computation shows that

$$E\|N(t)y_u(t)\|^2 = \text{Tr}N(t)\text{cov}(e(t), e(t))N^*(t) + 2E\langle N(t)\hat{y}_u(t), e(t) \rangle + E\|N(t)\hat{y}_u(t)\|^2.$$

If $U(t,s)$ is the evolution operator generated by A then

$$\hat{y}_u(t) = U(t,r)\bar{y}_0 + \int_0^t U(t,r)B(r)u(r)dr +$$

$$\int_0^t U(t,r)P(r)C^*(r)[V(r)V^*(r)]^{-1}d\eta(r) = T_1 + T_2 + T_3.$$

We note that $T_3 \in H_{0,\bar{\eta}}^t$ and $H_{0,\bar{\eta}}^t = H_{0,\bar{z}}^t \subset H_Z^t$. Since $e(t) \in (H_Z^t)^\perp$ we deduce

$$E\langle T_3, e(t) \rangle = 0. \quad \text{Also } T_1 \in H_Z^t \quad \text{and} \quad E\langle T_1, e(t) \rangle = 0. \quad \text{Further } \int_0^t U(t,r)B(r)u(r)dr \text{ is } Z_t$$

measurable and therefore $E\langle T_2, e(t) \rangle = E\left(E[\langle T_2, e(t) \rangle | Z_t]\right) = E\left[\langle T_2, E[e(t) | Z_t] \rangle\right] = 0$. We

just have proved that $E\langle \hat{y}_u(t), e(t) \rangle = 0$. Hence $2E\langle N(t)\hat{y}_u(t), e(t) \rangle = 0$ and

$$(14) \quad E\|N(t)y_u(t)\|^2 = \text{Tr}N(t)P(t)N^*(t) + E\|N(t)\hat{y}_u(t)\|^2,$$

where $P(t)$ is the solution of (9)-(10). Let now introduce the cost functional

$$(15) \quad \hat{J}(u) = \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} E \int_0^t \|N(s)\hat{y}_u(s)\|^2 + \langle K(s)u(s), u(s) \rangle ds.$$

If $P(t)$ is bounded on \mathbf{R}_+ we deduce by (14)

$$(16) \quad J(u) = \hat{J}(u) + \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \text{Tr}N(s)P(s)N^*(s)ds.$$

Now it is clear that the optimal control in the class \mathcal{U} , which minimize (15) subject to (11)-(12) is also optimal for our control problem with partial observations (separation principle).

Therefore, we can solve the linear quadratic control problem with complete observations (11)-(12), (15). Let us consider the Riccati equation

$$(17) \quad R'(t) + A^*(t)R(t) + R(t)A(t) + N(t)N^*(t) - R(t)B(t)[K(t)]^{-1}B^*(t)R(t) = 0.$$

We recall here that a global solution $R(t)$ of (17) is stabilizing for $\{A : B\}$ iff $\{A - B[K(t)]^{-1}B^*R\}$ is uniformly exponentially stable. The following result is known:

Proposition 2 [4,8] *Assume $\{A : B\}$ is stabilizable and $\{A; N\}$ is either uniformly*

observable or detectable. Then the Riccati equation (17) has a unique nonnegative, bounded on \mathbf{R}_+ and stabilizing solution $R(t)$.

Before to prove the main result of this section it is useful to introduce the following approximating systems

$$(18) R'_n(t) + A_n^*(t)R_n(t) + R_n(t)A_n(t) + N(t)N^*(t) - R_n(t)B(t)[K(t)]^{-1}B^*(t)R_n(t) = 0,$$

$$(19) d\hat{y}_n(t) = A_n(t)\hat{y}_n(t)dt + B(t)u(t)dt + P(t)C^*(t)\left[\bar{V}(t)\bar{V}^*(t)\right]^{-1}d\eta(t), \hat{y}_n(0) = \bar{y}_0, n \in \mathbf{N}.$$

Let $Q \in L^+(H)$. It is known [5] that (18) (respectively (17)) with the final condition $R_n(T) = Q$ (respectively $R(T) = Q$) has a unique classical (respectively mild) solution $R_n(T, s; Q)$. Moreover, $Q_n(T, s; R) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} Q(T, s; R)x$, uniformly on $[0, T]$. Analogously, the

system (19)-(20) has unique strong solution $\hat{y}_u^{(n)}(t)$, which converges to the unique mild solution $\hat{y}_u(t)$ of (11)-(12) uniformly on $[0, T]$.

Theorem 3 Assume that $\{A^* : C^*\}$ is stabilizable and the hypotheses of the above proposition are satisfied. Then the optimal control for the problem (11)-(15) is given by the feedback law $\tilde{u}(t) = -[K(t)]^{-1}B^*(t)R(t)\hat{y}_u(t)$, where R is the unique bounded and nonnegative solution of (17). The optimal cost is

$$(20) \hat{J}(\tilde{u}) = \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \text{Tr} R(s)P(s)C^*(s)\left[\bar{V}(s)\bar{V}^*(s)\right]^{-1}C(s)P(s)ds.$$

Moreover, the control \tilde{u} is also optimal for the control problem with partial observations (1)-(2), (3) and

$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} J(u) = J(\tilde{u}) = \hat{J}(\tilde{u}) + \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \text{Tr} N(s)P(s)N^*(s)ds.$$

Proof. Let $R(t)$ be the unique global solution of (17). If $R_n(s) = R_n(t, s, R(t))$ is the solution of (18), then we consider the function $F_n(s, x) = \langle R_n(s)x, x \rangle$ which is continuous together its partial derivatives $F_{n,s}$, $F_{n,x}$, $F_{n,xx}$ on $[0, \infty) \times H$. Let $u \in \mathcal{U}$ and $\hat{y}_u(s)$ be its response.

Using Ito's formula for $F_n(s, x)$ and the strong solution $\hat{y}_u^{(n)}(s)$ of (19) and taking expectations we get

$$\begin{aligned} E \left\langle R_n(t)\hat{y}_u^{(n)}(t), \hat{y}_u^{(n)}(t) \right\rangle - \langle R_n(0)\bar{y}_0, \bar{y}_0 \rangle &= -E \int_0^t \left\| N(s)\hat{y}_u^{(n)}(s) \right\|^2 ds + \langle K(s)u(s), u(s) \rangle ds \\ &+ E \int_0^t \left\| K(s)^{1/2} \left[u(s) + [K(s)]^{-1}B^*(s)R_n(s)\hat{y}_u^{(n)}(s) \right] \right\|^2 ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \text{Tr} R_n(s)P(s)C^*(s)\left[\bar{V}(s)\bar{V}^*(s)\right]^{-1}C(s)P(s)ds. \end{aligned}$$

We first note that $R_n(s) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} R(s)$ uniformly on $[0, t]$. Letting $n \rightarrow \infty$ in the above relation and using the Dominated Convergence Theorem of Lebesgue we get

$$\begin{aligned} E \langle R(t) \hat{y}_u(t), \hat{y}_u(t) \rangle - \langle R(0) \bar{y}_0, \bar{y}_0 \rangle &= -E \int_0^t \left\| N(s) \hat{y}_u(s) \right\|^2 + \langle K(s) u(s), u(s) \rangle ds \\ &+ E \int_0^t \left\| K(s)^{1/2} \left[u(s) + [K(s)]^{-1} B^*(s) R(s) \hat{y}_u(s) \right] \right\|^2 ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \text{Tr} R(s) P(s) C^*(s) \left[\bar{V}(s) \bar{V}^*(s) \right]^{-1} C(s) P(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

We make use of the boundedness of $R(t)$ and we easily deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{J}(u) &= \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \text{Tr} R(s) P(s) C^*(s) \left[\bar{V}(s) \bar{V}^*(s) \right]^{-1} C(s) P(s) ds \\ &+ \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} E \int_0^t \left\| K(s)^{1/2} \left[u(s) + [K(s)]^{-1} B^*(s) R(s) \hat{y}_u(s) \right] \right\|^2 ds. \end{aligned}$$

It is not difficult to see that $\tilde{u}(s) = -[K(s)]^{-1} B^*(s) R(s) \hat{y}_u(s), s \geq 0$ belongs to \mathcal{U} and minimize $\hat{J}(u)$ in the class of admissible controls. Obviously, (20) follows by (16). The proof is complete.

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