



university of
groningen

faculty of science
and engineering

bernoulli institute for mathematics,
computer science and artificial intelligence

Model reduction for switched linear systems

Stephan Trenn

Jan C. Willems Center for Systems and Control
University of Groningen, Netherlands

Joint work with **Sumon Hossain** (North South University, Dhaka, Bangladesh)

This work was partially supported NWO Vidi grant 639.032.733.

4TU.AMI SRI Workshop on Model Reduction, Utrecht, NL, 16 June 2025

Problem formulation

System class: Switched linear ODEs

$$\dot{x} = A_{\sigma}x + B_{\sigma}u$$

$$y = C_{\sigma}x$$

$$\sigma : [t_0, t_f) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m\}$$

$$A_0, A_1, \dots, A_m \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

$$B_0, B_1, \dots, B_m \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$$

$$C_0, C_1, \dots, C_m \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$$

Reduced model

$$\dot{z} = \hat{A}_{\sigma}z + \hat{B}_{\sigma}u$$

$$y = \hat{C}_{\sigma}z$$

$$\hat{A}_0, \hat{A}_1, \dots, \hat{A}_m \in \mathbb{R}^{\hat{n} \times \hat{n}}$$

$$\hat{B}_0, \hat{B}_1, \dots, \hat{B}_m \in \mathbb{R}^{\hat{n} \times m}$$

$$\hat{C}_0, \hat{C}_1, \dots, \hat{C}_m \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times \hat{n}}$$

Related research

- › Simultaneous balancing (MONSHIZADEH et al. 2012)
- › Output-depending switching (PAPADOPOULUS & PRANDINI 2016)
- › Enveloping (non-switched) system (SCHULZE & UNGER 2018)
- › Gramian-based approaches (PETREZCKY, GOSEA, ...)

Novel viewpoint

Consider switched linear ODE as special case of **time-varying linear system**

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

$$y = C(t)x$$

In particular, consider switching signal as **given** time-varying system parameter

Existing approaches unsuitable

Existing approaches (IMAE, SHOKOOHI, SILVERMAN, VERRIEST):

- › Smoothness of coefficients assumed
- › Reduced model is fully time-varying (not piecewise-constant)

Challenge: Mode-wise reduction

Naive mode-wise reduction is not working

Example:

on $[t_0, t_1)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

on $[t_1, t_f)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x$$

Each mode is input-output equivalent to same scalar system

$$\dot{z} = u, \quad y = z$$

But **outputs do not match** anymore after switch!

Reducability of modes is effected by other modes

In example:

Second state is **unobservable** in first mode, but becomes **observable** in second mode

Challenge: Different reduced state-dimensions

Reduced switched system with non-equal state-dimensions

Example:

on $[t_0, t_1)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = [0 \ 1 \ 0] x$$

on $[t_1, t_f)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = [1 \ 0 \ 0] x$$

Reduced system (with identical input-output behavior):

on $[t_0, t_1)$:

$$\dot{z}^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} z^0 + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = [0 \ 1] z^0$$

on $[t_1, t_f)$:

$$\dot{z}^1 = 0 \cdot z^1 + u$$

$$y = z^1$$

with concatenation condition: $z^1(t_1) = [1 \ 0] z^0(t_1)$

New system class: Switched ODEs with jumps

Model reduction leaves original system class in general.

Challenge: Duration depend reduction

Reducability may depend on mode durations

Example:

on $[t_0, t_1)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

on $[t_1, t_2)$:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

$$y = 0$$

on $[t_2, t_f)$

$$\dot{x} = 0$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x$$

For $t_2 - t_1 = 2k\pi$ reduction possible to

on $[t_0, t_1)$:

$$\dot{z}^0 = 0 \cdot z^0 + u$$

$$y = z^0$$

on $[t_1, t_2)$:

no state

$$y = 0$$

on $[t_2, t_f)$

$$\dot{z}^2 = 0$$

$$y = z^2$$

For almost all other switching durations: First two modes **not reducible!**

Duration-dependent reduction methods?

Duration dependent methods challenging (numerically expensive, non-robust)

More general system class

Switched linear ODEs with jumps

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}^k &= A_k x^k + B_k u, & \text{on } (t_k, t_{k+1}) \\ \Sigma_\sigma : \quad x^k(t_k^+) &= J_k x^{k-1}(t_k^-), & k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad x^{-1}(t_0^-) := 0 \\ y &= C_k x^k \end{aligned}$$

Key features:

- › Known switching signal with $\sigma(t) = k$ on $[t_k, t_{k+1})$
- › states $x^k : (t_k, t_{k+1}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_k}$ may have **mode-dependent dimension**
- › $J_k : \mathbb{R}^{n_{k-1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_k}$ defines **jumps** at switch
- › Reduced model in **same** system class
- › Certain **switched DAEs** $E_\sigma \dot{x} = A_\sigma x + B_\sigma u$, $y = C_\sigma x$ fall into this class

Content

System models and challenges

Midpoint balanced truncation method

Academic example and summary

Time-varying Gramians

Key idea: Remove difficult to observe and difficult to reach states

Define suitable reachability and observability Gramians

$$\mathcal{P}_0^\sigma(t) := \int_{t_0}^t e^{A_0(\tau-t_0)} B_0 B_0^\top e^{A_0^\top(\tau-t_0)} d\tau, \quad t \in [t_0, t_1],$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_k^\sigma(t) &:= e^{A_k(t-t_k)} J_k \mathcal{P}_{k-1}^\sigma(t_k) J_k^\top e^{A_k^\top(t-t_k)} \\ &\quad + \int_{s_k}^t e^{A_k(\tau-t_k)} B_k B_k^\top e^{A_k^\top(\tau-t_k)} d\tau, \quad t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{Q}_m^\sigma(t) := \int_t^{t_f} e^{A_m^\top(t_f-\tau)} C_m^\top C_m e^{A_m(t_f-\tau)} d\tau, \quad t \in [t_m, t_f],$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_k^\sigma(t) &:= e^{A_k^\top(s_{k+1}-t)} J_{k+1}^\top \mathcal{Q}_{k+1}^\sigma(t_{k+1}) J_{k+1} e^{A_k(t_{k+1}-t)} \\ &\quad + \int_t^{t_{k+1}} e^{A_k^\top(t_{k+1}-\tau)} C_k^\top C_k e^{A_k(t_{k+1}-\tau)} d\tau, \quad t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]. \end{aligned}$$

Midpoint based balanced truncation

$$m_k := (t_k + t_{k+1})/2$$

Use midpoint-Gramians

Use $\mathcal{P}_k^\sigma(m_k)$ and $\mathcal{Q}_k^\sigma(m_k)$ for balance truncation of mode k

Reminder: Balanced Truncation

Given: System matrices (A, B, C) , Gramians (P, Q)

Method:

1. Find **balancing** coordinate transformation T , such that Gramians $\tilde{P}, \tilde{Q}$ of $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}) = (TAT^{-1}, TB, CT^{-1})$ are **equal and diagonal**
2. Balanced Gramians $\rightsquigarrow$ how **difficult to reach and observe** are state directions
3. Remove difficult to observe state directions $\rightsquigarrow$ **left- and right-projection** matrices Π^l, Π^r
4. **Reduced** system matrices $(\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}) = (\Pi^l A \Pi^r, \Pi^l B, C \Pi^r)$

Overall reduction algorithm for switched systems

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}^k &= A_k x^k + B_k u, & \text{on } (t_k, t_{k+1}) \\ \Sigma_\sigma : \quad x^k(t_k^+) &= J_k x^{k-1}(t_k^-), & k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad x^{-1}(t_0^-) := 0 \\ y &= C_k x^k \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm

Step 1a: Calculate midpoint reachability Gramians $\mathcal{P}_k^\sigma(m_k)$ forward in time

Step 1b: Calculate midpoint observability Gramians $\mathcal{Q}_k^\sigma(m_k)$ backward in time

Step 2a: Based on singular values of $\mathcal{P}_k^\sigma(m_k)\mathcal{Q}_k^\sigma(m_k)$ decide on reduction order $\hat{n}_k$

Step 2b: Calculate left/right projectors Π_k^l, Π_k^r via **standard balanced truncation**

Step 3: Calculate reduced modes $(\hat{A}_k, \hat{B}_k, \hat{C}_k) := (\Pi_k^l A_k \Pi_k^r, \Pi_k^l B_k, C_k \Pi_k^r)$

Step 4: Calculate reduced jump map $\hat{J}_k := \Pi_k^l J_k \Pi_{k-1}^r$

Content

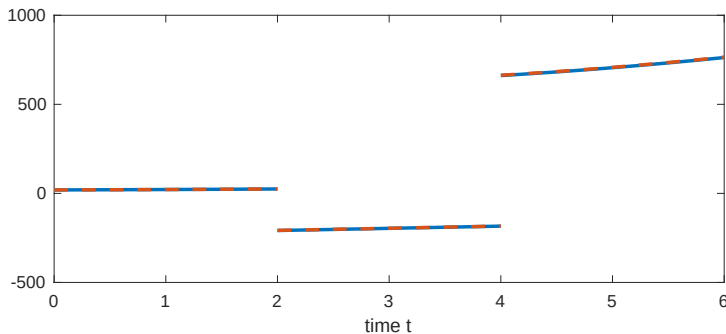
System models and challenges

Midpoint balanced truncation method

Academic example and summary

Random medium size example

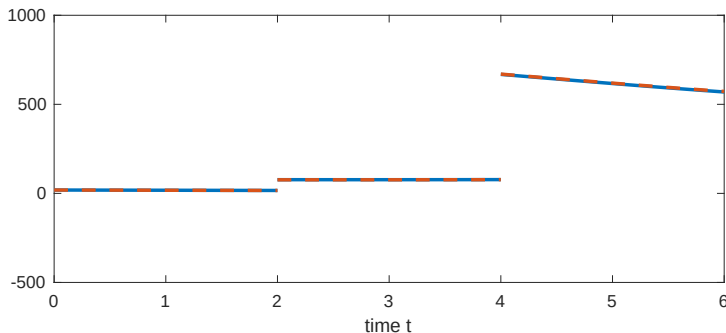
Consider a switched system with 3 random modes of sizes $n_1 = 50$, $n_2 = 60$, $n_3 = 40$



Reduction threshold $10^{-3} \rightsquigarrow$ reduced sizes $\hat{n}_1 = 8$, $\hat{n}_2 = 9$, $\hat{n}_3 = 5$

Random medium size example

Consider a switched system with 3 random modes of sizes $n_1 = 50$, $n_2 = 60$, $n_3 = 40$



Reduction threshold $10^{-3} \rightsquigarrow$ reduced sizes $\hat{n}_1 = 8$, $\hat{n}_2 = 9$, $\hat{n}_3 = 5$

Rerun simulation with a different input and different initial values (same reduced model!)

Summary

- › Midpoint-based balanced truncation method, suitable for switched linear systems with
 - known switching signal
 - mode-dependent state dimension
 - state-jumps
 - arbitrary non-zero initial values
 - arbitrary input signals
- › Remaining challenges
 - resolve numerical challenges with (almost) singular Gramians
 - relax dependence on exact knowledge of switching signal
 - error bounds
 - extension to nonlinear case