

# Particle-based Gaussian process optimization for input design in nonlinear dynamical models

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## Abstract

- A Gaussian process optimization method for input design is presented.
- The method is suitable for nonlinear models.

## Input design problem

### Nonlinear state-space model:

$$\begin{aligned} x_t | x_{t-1} &\sim f_\theta(x_t | x_{t-1}, u_{t-1}), \\ y_t | x_t &\sim g_\theta(y_t | x_t, u_t), \\ x_0 &\sim \mu_\theta(x_0), \end{aligned}$$

**Objective:** Design  $u_{1:T} := (u_1, \dots, u_T) \in \mathcal{C}^T$  optimizing

$$\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T}) := \frac{1}{T} \mathbf{E}_u \left\{ \mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0}(u_{1:T}) \right\},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0}(u_{1:T}) &:= \mathbf{E} \left\{ \mathcal{S}(\theta_0) \mathcal{S}^\top(\theta_0) | u_{1:T} \right\}, \\ \mathcal{S}(\theta_0) &:= \nabla \ell_\theta(y_{1:T}) |_{\theta=\theta_0}, \\ \ell_\theta(y_{1:T}) &:= \log p_\theta(y_{1:T} | u_{1:T}). \end{aligned}$$

**Problem:** Find an input signal  $u_{1:T}^{\text{opt}} \in \mathcal{C}^T$  as

$$u_{1:T}^{\text{opt}} := \arg \max_{u_{1:T} \in \mathcal{C}^T} h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T})),$$

where  $h: \mathbb{R}^{m \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a matrix nondecreasing function.

### Challenges:

- $\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T})$  unavailable in closed form.  
⇒ Estimate  $\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T})$  using particle methods.
- Tractable parametrization for  $u_{1:T}$ .  
⇒ Restrict  $\{u_t\}$  to, e.g., stationary AR process or stationary Markov process.
- $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T}))$  difficult to optimize.  
⇒ Use Gaussian process optimization technique.

## GPO in input design

- Given  $u_{1:T}^{(k)}$ , compute an estimate of  $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T}^{(k)}))$ , denoted by  $\hat{h}_k$ .
- Estimate  $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T}))$  given  $\mathcal{D}_k := \{u_{1:T}^{(j)}, \hat{h}_j\}_{j=0}^k$  and  $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(\cdot)) \sim \mathcal{GP}(m(\cdot), \kappa(\cdot, \cdot))$ .

(iii) Given  $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T}))$ , generate  $u_{1:T}^{(k+1)}$  as

$$u_{1:T}^{(k+1)} = \arg \max_{u_{1:T} \in \mathcal{C}^T} \mathbf{E} \{ I(u_{1:T}) | \mathcal{D}_k \},$$

$$I(u_{1:T}) := \max \left\{ 0, h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(u_{1:T})) - \mu_{\max} - \xi \right\},$$

$$\mu_{\max} := \max_{u_{1:T} \in \mathbf{u}_{1:T}^{(k)}} \mu(u_{1:T} | \mathcal{D}_k).$$

$\mu(\cdot | \mathcal{D}_k)$ : Posterior mean of  $h(\mathcal{I}_F^{\theta_0, \text{av}}(\cdot))$  given  $\mathcal{D}_k$ .

## Example

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1} | x_t &\sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{1}{\gamma + x_t^2} + u_t, 0.1^2\right), \\ y_t | x_t &\sim \mathcal{N}\left(\beta x_t^2, 1^2\right), \end{aligned}$$

$\theta = \{\gamma, \beta\}$ ,  $T = 10^3$ ,  $h(\cdot) = \log \det(\cdot)$  and  $\theta_0 = \{2, 0.8\}$ .  
 $\{u_t\}$ : Markov process with  $n_m = 1$  and three cases for  $\mathcal{C}$ :

- Case 1:  $\mathcal{C} = \{-1, 1\}$ .
- Case 2:  $\mathcal{C} = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ .
- Case 3:  $\mathcal{C} = \{-1, -1/3, 1/3, 1\}$ .

### Results:

Input	Binary	opt. Case 1	opt. Case 2	opt. Case 3
$h^{\text{opt}}$	4.11	4.11	4.15	4.44

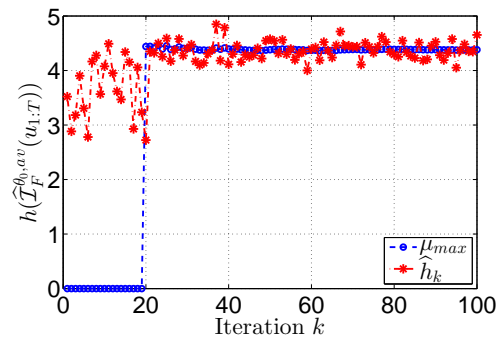


Figure 1.  $\hat{h}_k$  and  $\mu_{\max}$  at iteration  $k$  for Case 3.

### Future work

- Include model uncertainty.
- Online procedure to design  $u_{1:T}$ .

## References

B. Shahriari, K. Swersky, Z. Wang, R.P. Adams, and N. de Freitas, "Taking the human out of the loop: A review of Bayesian optimization," Proceedings of the IEEE, vol. 104, no. 1, pp. 148–175, 2016.

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