Model reduction and feedback control of the Blasius boundary-layer



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Motivation and aim of investigation



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- Discretized Navier-Stokes equations too complex for modern control design (H_2/H_{∞})
 - $n > 10^5$ degrees of freedom
 - Model reduction: approximate the high-dimensional system with a low-dimensional system
 - m<100 degrees of freedom
 - How can we find a low-dimensional model that describes the inputoutput behaviour?
 - → balanced truncation
- Objective: Design a reduced feedback controller (H_2/H_{∞}) to reduce the growth of linear perturbations and eventually delay transition to turbulence.



State-space formulation of Navier-Stokes



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Linearized Navier-Stokes in state-space formulation:

$$\dot{q} = Aq + Bu \quad q(0) = 0$$

 $y = Cq$

- For control design must analyze: Perturbations → Cost function Perturbations → Sensors Actuators → Cost function Actuators → Sensors
- Laplace transform to frequency domain:

$$y = \underbrace{C(sI - A)^{-1}B}_{G(s)} u$$



Input-output behavior of 2D Blasius flow





Snapshot-based balanced truncation



One SVD of small system $Y^T X = U \Sigma V^T$ (Rowley 2005)



Balanced modes as expansion basis

- One SVD of small system: $Y^T X = U \Sigma V^T$
- Balanced modes and adjoint balanced modes:

$$T = [T_1 \dots T_m] = XV\Sigma^{-1/2}$$

$$S = [S_1 \dots S_m] = YU\Sigma^{-1/2}$$



• Projection on balanced modes to obtain reduced system:

$$\dot{\hat{q}} = S^T A T \hat{q} + S^T B u y = C T \hat{q}$$

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Model reduction error



- The reduced model
 - m= 2 has its peak value for the same frequency as the full model.
 - m= 50 gives nearly the exact frequency response.
- Fast decay of model reduction error $||G G_r||_{\infty}$



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Optimal feedback control – H₂





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- H₂ Problem:
 - Find a control signal u(t) based on the measurements y(t) such that the influence of external disturbances w(t) and g(t) on the output z(t) is *minimized*.
- Control Objective:

$$\mathcal{J} = \|z\|_2^2 = \int_0^T q^T C_1^T C_1 q + l^2 u^T u \, \mathrm{d}t$$



Closed-loop: harmonic forcing

- Control design parameters:
 - control penalty I=10⁻⁴
 - noise contamination $\alpha = 0.01$
 - The closed-loop:

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- dampens the dominant frequencies
- amplifies certain high frequencies.





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Closed-loop: stochastic forcing



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Conclusions and outlook



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- The reduced balanced system with less than 50 dimensions captures in the input-output behavior of the 2D flat plate with 100 000 dimensions.
- The reduced model can be used to design modern control strategies, such as H_2 and H_{∞} to efficiently damp the linear growth of disturbances.
- Extend to 3D Blasius boundary layer.
- Realistic actuators (blowing and suction at the wall), sensors (skin friction), disturbances (free-stream turbulence)...
- Delay transition to turbulence and perform experiments!

