Event-triggered stabilization of linear systems under channel blackouts

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# Networked control systems



#### Shared communication resource

- Time-varying communication rates
- Channel may not be available during some intervals (blackouts)
- Time-triggered strategies would be very conservative
- Event-triggered controllers typically assume *on-demand* availability of channel<sup>1</sup>

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Key to online state based transmission policy: data capacity

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#### **Plant dynamics:**

 $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t), \quad u(t) = K \hat{x}(t), \quad x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ 

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$$\Delta_k \leq \Delta(t_k, p_k) \triangleq \frac{b_k}{R_a(t_k)} = \frac{p_k}{R(t_k)}$$
  
# of bits transmitted at  $t_k$  is  $b_k = np_k$   
Can choose  $\{t_k\}, \{p_k\}, \{\tilde{r}_k\}$ 

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Dynamic controller flow:  $\dot{\hat{x}}(t) = A\hat{x}(t) + Bu(t) = \bar{A}\hat{x}(t), \quad t \in [\tilde{r}_k, \tilde{r}_{k+1})$ 

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**Dynamic controller jump:**  $\hat{x}(\tilde{r}_k) \triangleq q_k(x(t_k), \hat{x}(t_k^-))$ 



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**Encoding error:**  $x_e \triangleq x - \hat{x}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Tallapragada, Cortés (2016)

• If the decoder knows  $d_e(t_0)$  s.t.  $||x_e(t_0)||_{\infty} \le d_e(t_0)$ 

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- If the decoder knows  $d_e(t_0)$  s.t.  $||x_e(t_0)||_{\infty} \le d_e(t_0)$
- Both encoder and decoder compute recursively:

$$d_e(t) \triangleq \|e^{A(t-t_k)}\|_{\infty} \delta_k, \ t \in [\tilde{r}_k, \tilde{r}_{k+1}), \ k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\ge 0}$$
$$\delta_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2^{p_{k+1}}} d_e(t_{k+1}).$$



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• Then,  $||x_e(t)||_{\infty} \le d_e(t)$ , for all  $t \ge t_0$ 

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Suppose  $\overline{A} = A + BK$  is Hurwitz  $\iff P\overline{A} + \overline{A}^T P = -Q$ Lyapunov function:  $x \mapsto V(x) = x^T P x$  Suppose  $\bar{A} = A + BK$  is Hurwitz  $\iff P\bar{A} + \bar{A}^T P = -Q$ Lyapunov function:  $x \mapsto V(x) = x^T P x$ 

Desired performance function:  $V_d(t) = V_d(t_0)e^{-\beta(t-t_0)}$ Performance objective: ensure  $h_{pf}(t) \triangleq \frac{V(x(t))}{V_d(t)} \leq 1$ , for all  $t \geq t_0$  Suppose  $\bar{A} = A + BK$  is Hurwitz  $\iff P\bar{A} + \bar{A}^T P = -Q$ Lyapunov function:  $x \mapsto V(x) = x^T P x$ 

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#### Design objective:

- Design event-triggered communication policy that is applicable to channels with time-varying rates and blackouts
- Recursively determine  $\{t_k\}, \{p_k\}$  and  $\{\tilde{r}_k\}$
- Ensure a uniform positive lower bound for  $\{t_k t_{k-1}\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}}$

# Time-slotted channel model



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- $j^{\text{th}}$  time-slot is of length  $T_j = \theta_{j+1} \theta_j$
- Channel is not available when  $\bar{p} = 0$  (*channel blackout*)
- Channel evolution is known a priori

# Time-slotted channel model



 $egin{aligned} R(t) &= R_j, \ \ orall t \in ( heta_j, heta_{j+1}], \ \ extbf{min comm. rate:} \ rac{p_k}{\Delta(t_k, p_k)} \geq R(t_k) \ ar{p}(t) &= ar{\pi}_j, \ \ \ orall t \in ( heta_j, heta_{j+1}], \ \ extbf{max packet size:} \ p_k \leq ar{p}(t_k) \end{aligned}$ 

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Need to quantify *data capacity* 

max # of bits that can be *communicated* during the time interval  $[\tau_1, \tau_2]$ , overall all possible  $\{t_k\}$  and  $\{p_k\}$ 

$$\mathcal{D}(\tau_1, \tau_2) \triangleq \max_{\substack{\{t_k\}, \{p_k\}\\ \text{s.t. ...}}} n \sum_{k=\underline{k}_{\tau_1}}^{\overline{k}_{\tau_2}} p_k \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{c} \tau_3 & \tau_7 & \tau_8 \\ \tau_1 t_3 & \cdots & \tau_7 & \tau_8 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \underline{k}_{\tau_1} = 3, \ \overline{k}_{\tau_2} = 7 \end{array}$$

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Equivalent to optimal allocation of  $discrete \ \#$  bits to be transmitted in each time slot

# $\begin{aligned} & \text{Max $\#$ bits that may be transmitted in slot $j$} \\ & n\phi_j \leq \begin{cases} nR_jT_j + n\bar{\pi}_j, & \text{if $\bar{\pi}_j > 0$} \\ 0, & \text{if $\bar{\pi}_j = 0$} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$



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Available time in slot j is affected by prior transmissions  $n\phi_j \leq \begin{cases} nR_j \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) + n\bar{\pi}_j, & \text{if } \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 



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Count only the bits also received  $\frac{\phi_j}{R_j} \leq \begin{cases} \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) + \theta_{j_f} - \theta_{j+1}, & \text{if } \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 



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Available time in slot i is affected by prior transmissions  $n\phi_j \le \begin{cases} nR_j \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) + n\bar{\pi}_j, & \text{if } \bar{T}_j(\phi_{j_0}^{j_f}) > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 

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$$\mathcal{D}(\theta_{j_0}, \theta_{j_f}) = \max_{\substack{\phi_j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \\ \text{s.t. ...}}} n \sum_{j=j_0}^{\infty} \phi_j.$$

# A suboptimal solution for "slowly varying channels"

#### Proposition

Assume  $\frac{\bar{\pi}_j}{R_j} < T_{j+1}, \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_{j_0}^{j_f}$  (any bits transmitted in slot j are

received before the end of slot j + 1).

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Assume  $\frac{\bar{\pi}_j}{R_j} < T_{j+1}, \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_{j_0}^{j_f}$  (any bits transmitted in slot j are received before the end of slot j + 1). Let  $\phi^r = \underset{\substack{\phi_j \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}\\s.t. \dots}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{j=j_0}^{j_f-1} \phi_j$  (LP). Let

$$\phi^N \triangleq \lfloor \phi^r \rfloor \triangleq (\lfloor \phi_{j_0}^r \rfloor, \dots, \lfloor \phi_{j_f-1}^r \rfloor), \quad \mathcal{D}_s(\theta_{j_0}, \theta_{j_f}) \triangleq n \sum_{j=j_0}^{j_f-1} \phi_j^N.$$

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#### Then

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# Real time computation of data capacity

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# Let $\phi^*$ (or $\phi^N$ ) be any optimizing solution to $\mathcal{D}(\theta_{j_0}, \theta_{j_f})$ (or $\mathcal{D}_s(\theta_{j_0}, \theta_{j_f})$ ).

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$$\hat{\mathcal{D}}(t,\theta_{j_f}) \triangleq \left[ n \left[ \phi_{j_0}^* - R_{j_0}(t-\theta_{j_0}) \right] \right]_+ + n \sum_{j=j_0+1}^{j_f-1} \phi_j^* \\ \hat{\mathcal{D}}_s(t,\theta_{j_f}) \triangleq \left[ n \left[ \phi_{j_0}^N - R_{j_0}(t-\theta_{j_0}) \right] \right]_+ + n \sum_{j=j_0+1}^{j_f-1} \phi_j^N,$$

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Then,  $0 \leq \mathcal{D}(t, \theta_{j_f}) - \hat{\mathcal{D}}(t, \theta_{j_f}) \leq n \text{ and } 0 \leq \mathcal{D}_s(t, \theta_{j_f}) - \hat{\mathcal{D}}_s(t, \theta_{j_f}) \leq n.$ 

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Significance: Sufficient to solve the data capacity problem for intervals  $[\theta_{j_0}, \theta_{j_f}]$  of interest.

Recall performance objective: ensure  $h_{\rm pf}(t) \triangleq \frac{V(x(t))}{V_d(t)} \leq 1$ , for all  $t \geq t_0$ 

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Channel trigger function: 
$$h_{\rm ch}(t) \triangleq \frac{\epsilon(t)}{\rho_T(h_{\rm pf}(t))}, \quad \epsilon(t) \triangleq \frac{d_e(t)}{c\sqrt{V_d(t)}}$$

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#### Lemma

If  $h_{\rm pf}(t) \leq 1$  and  $h_{\rm ch}(t) \leq 1$ 

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#### Lemma

If  $h_{\rm pf}(t) \leq 1$  and  $h_{\rm ch}(t) \leq 1$  then  $h_{\rm pf}(s) \leq 1$ ,  $\forall s \in [t, t + T']$ .

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Idea for triggering:

• Make sure 
$$h_{pf}(t) \le 1, \forall t \in [t_k, \tilde{r}_k]$$

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- Make sure  $h_{ch}(\tilde{r}_k) \leq 1$  so that future ability to control is not lost

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• Make sure  $h_{ch}(\tilde{r}_k) \leq 1$  so that future ability to control is not lost

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{1}(t) \triangleq \bar{h}_{\mathrm{pf}}\left(\mathcal{T}(t), h_{\mathrm{pf}}(t), \epsilon(t)\right)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{2}(t) \triangleq \bar{h}_{\mathrm{ch}}\left(\mathcal{T}(t), h_{\mathrm{pf}}(t), \epsilon(t), \psi^{\tau_{l}}(t)\right)$$

$$\mathcal{T}(t) \triangleq$$

$$\begin{cases} T_{M}(\psi^{\tau_{l}}(t)), & \text{if } \psi^{\tau_{l}}(t) \geq 1 \\ \frac{2}{R(t)}, & \text{if } \psi^{\tau_{l}}(t) = 0. \end{cases}$$

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![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation  $\Phi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq [[\mathcal{P}_j - R_j(t - \theta_j)]]_+, t \in (\theta_j, \theta_{j+1}] \text{ (optim. alloc. in } (t, \theta_{j+1}])$ 

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation  $\Phi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq [[\mathcal{P}_j - R_j(t - \theta_j)]]_+, t \in (\theta_j, \theta_{j+1}] \text{ (optim. alloc. in } (t, \theta_{j+1}])$ Artificial bound on packet size:  $\psi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq \min\{\bar{p}(t), \Phi^{\tau_l}(t)\}$ 

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation  $\Phi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq [[\mathcal{P}_j - R_j(t - \theta_j)]]_+, t \in (\theta_j, \theta_{j+1}] \text{ (optim. alloc. in } (t, \theta_{j+1}])$ Artificial bound on packet size:  $\psi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq \min\{\bar{p}(t), \Phi^{\tau_l}(t)\}$ 

If  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t_k) \leq 0$  and  $p_k \leq \psi^{\tau_l}(t_k)$ If data capacity was "sufficient" at  $t_k$  and  $p_k$  respects artificial bound

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![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation  $\Phi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq [[\mathcal{P}_j - R_j(t - \theta_j)]]_+, t \in (\theta_j, \theta_{j+1}] \text{ (optim. alloc. in } (t, \theta_{j+1}])$ Artificial bound on packet size:  $\psi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq \min\{\bar{p}(t), \Phi^{\tau_l}(t)\}$ 

If 
$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t_k) \leq 0$$
 and  $p_k \leq \psi^{\tau_l}(t_k)$  then  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(r_k) \leq 0$   
If data capacity was "sufficient" at  $t_k$  and  $p_k$   
respects artificial bound then data capacity is  
"sufficient" at  $r_k$ 

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![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

Transmission policy should be in tune with the optimal allocation  $\Phi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq [[\mathcal{P}_j - R_j(t - \theta_j)]]_+, t \in (\theta_j, \theta_{j+1}] \text{ (optim. alloc. in } (t, \theta_{j+1}])$ Artificial bound on packet size:  $\psi^{\tau_l}(t) \triangleq \min\{\bar{p}(t), \Phi^{\tau_l}(t)\}$ 

If  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t_k) \leq 0$  and  $p_k \leq \psi^{\tau_l}(t_k)$  then  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(r_k) \leq 0$ If data capacity was "sufficient" at  $t_k$  and  $p_k$  respects artificial bound then data capacity is "sufficient" at  $r_k$ 

But  $\psi^{\tau_l}(t)$  can be 0 when  $\bar{p}(t) > 0$ (artificial blackouts)

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$$t_{k+1} = \min \left\{ t \ge \tilde{r}_k : \psi^{\tau_l}(t) \ge 1 \land \\ \left( \max\{\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t^+), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t^+)\} \ge 1 \\ \lor \max\{\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t^+)\} \ge 0 \right) \right\},$$

$$t_{k+1} = \min\left\{t \ge \tilde{r}_k: \ \psi^{\tau_l}(t) \ge 1 \land \\ \left(\max\{\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t^+), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t^+)\} \ge 1 \\ \lor \max\{\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t^+)\} \ge 0\right)\right\},$$

$$p_k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \cap [\underline{p_k}, \psi^{\tau_l}(t_k)]$$
  
$$\underline{p_k} \triangleq \min\{p \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} : \bar{h}_{ch}(T_M(p), h_{pf}(t_k), \epsilon(t_k), p) \le 1\}.$$

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$$t_{k+1} = \min \left\{ t \ge \tilde{r}_k : \psi^{\tau_l}(t) \ge 1 \land \\ \left( \max\{ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t^+), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t^+) \} \ge 1 \\ \lor \max\{ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t), \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t^+) \} \ge 0 \right) \right\},$$

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 $\tilde{r}_k = \min\{t \ge r_k : \psi^{\tau_l}(t) \ge 1 \ \lor \ \bar{p}(t) = 0\}.$ 

#### Theorem

#### If

- $R(t) \ge \frac{(p+2)}{T_M(p)}, \ \forall p \in \{1, \dots, p^{Max}\}, \ \forall t$
- $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1(t_0) \leq 1$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_2(t_0) \leq 1$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_3(t_0) \leq 0$  (initial feasibility)

• Conditions on blackout lengths

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- Conditions on blackout lengths

#### Then

- $\{t_k\}, \{p_k\}, \{\tilde{r}_k\}$  well defined
- inter-transmission times have uniform positive lower bound
- $V(x(t)) \leq V_d(t_0)e^{-\beta(t-t_0)}$  for  $t \geq t_0$  (origin is exponentially stable)

# Simulation results: 2D linear system

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

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• Fusion of event-triggered control and information-theoretic control

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- Definition and computation of data capacity under full channel information

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#### Future work:

- Address conservatism in the design
- Stochastic model of channel evolution
- Impact of the available information pattern at the encoder