Point source identification in non-linear advection-diffusion-reaction systems

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Problem formulation and identification algorithm

- Forward-adjoint iteration
- Derivative-free search
- Initial guess

2 Adaptive measurement placement

- Geometrical approach
- Sensitivity approach
- Level set approach

Numerical results

- Source detection with adaptive measurement placement
- Recovering unknown number of sources
- Time-dependent source identification

Conclusions and future work

Motivation

Problem: Identify the locations and intensities of point sources in a chemical system from sparse measurements of concentrations of the species

- Detection of pollutant (hazardous substance) release
- Environmental (atmospheric, marine) and security applications
- Wind and current propagation requires advection modeling
- Dozens of non-linearly reacting chemical species
- Placement of sensors, measurement strategies



Source: http://kaunewsbriefs.blogspot.com, http://crag.org/our-work/water-quality-wetlands/

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Forward model

• Parabolic system with *n* species $\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}, t) = (u_1(\boldsymbol{x}, t), \dots, u_n(\boldsymbol{x}, t))^T$

$$\boldsymbol{u}_t = \boldsymbol{D} \Delta \boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{w} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} \boldsymbol{u} + \boldsymbol{R}(\boldsymbol{u}) \boldsymbol{u} + \boldsymbol{f}, \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \Omega, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

$$\boldsymbol{u}|_{\Gamma_D} = \boldsymbol{u}_D, \quad \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial \nu}\Big|_{\Gamma_N} = \boldsymbol{\psi}, \quad \partial \Omega = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_N, \quad \boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}, 0) = 0$$

- Diffusion and advection terms are linear
- Non-linearity is in the reaction term

$$\boldsymbol{R}(\boldsymbol{u})\boldsymbol{u} = \boldsymbol{L}\boldsymbol{u} + \boldsymbol{Q}(\boldsymbol{u})\boldsymbol{u},$$

- Numerical results are for *R(u)* quadratic in *u* (*Q(u)* linear in *u*), but stronger non-linearities are possible
- Source term is of the form

$$f_k(\boldsymbol{x},t) = \sum_{j=l_k+1}^{l_{k+1}} a_j h_j(t) \delta(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}^j), \quad k = 1, \ldots, n,$$

point-like in space and either point-like $h_j(t) = \delta(t - \tau_j)$, or step-like $h_j(t) = H(t - \tau_j^{(1)}) - H(t - \tau_j^{(2)})$ in time

Forward problem: existence and uniqueness

- Constructive proofs of existence and uniqueness rely on fixed-point iteration
- Proofs for systems of equations require many technicalities
- Typical result for a scalar elliptic equation

$$Au + R(u) + f(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega,$$
 (1)

under conditions on the reaction term

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{R}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} + \kappa > \boldsymbol{0}, \quad (\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{u}) \in \overline{\Omega} \times [\boldsymbol{m}, \boldsymbol{M}], \quad \kappa, \boldsymbol{m}, \boldsymbol{M} > \boldsymbol{0}.$$

The iteration

$$(A - \kappa)u^{q+1} = -(R(u^q) + f(\mathbf{x}) + \kappa u^q), \quad q = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

has a unique fixed point that is the solution of (1)

- Proof relies on regularity of solutions of elliptic equations, which may be problematic if point sources are present
- Here we assume that $\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x},t) = \lim_{q \to \infty} \boldsymbol{u}^q(\boldsymbol{x},t)$, where

$$\boldsymbol{u}_{t}^{q+1} = \left(\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} - \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L} + \boldsymbol{Q}(\boldsymbol{u}^{q})\right)\boldsymbol{u}^{q+1} + \boldsymbol{f}, \quad \boldsymbol{q} = 0, 1, \dots$$



Adjoint problem

The formal adjoint is

$$-\boldsymbol{v}_t = \boldsymbol{D} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{w} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} \boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{L}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{Q}^{\mathsf{T}} (\boldsymbol{u}) \boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{g}.$$

runs backwards in time from t = T to t = 0

• Forward and adjoint solutions satisfy the adjoint relation

$$\langle \boldsymbol{f}, \boldsymbol{v} \rangle_{\Omega,T} + \boldsymbol{c}(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v}) = \langle \boldsymbol{g}, \boldsymbol{u} \rangle_{\Omega,T},$$

where the correction term is

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{c}(\boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{v}) &= -\langle \boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{v} \rangle_{\Omega} \big|_{t=0}^{t=T} + \langle \boldsymbol{v},\boldsymbol{D}\nu \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{u} \rangle_{\partial\Omega,T} - \langle \boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{D}\nu \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{v} \rangle_{\partial\Omega,T} \\ &- \langle \boldsymbol{u},(\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{w})\boldsymbol{v} \rangle_{\Omega,T} + \langle \boldsymbol{u},(\nu \cdot \boldsymbol{w})\boldsymbol{v} \rangle_{\partial\Omega,T} \,. \end{aligned}$$

• Choose boundary and initial conditions for v to get c(u, v) = 0

• Solve N_m adjoint systems, one for each measurement $g^{(i)}$, $i = 1, ..., N_m$

Instantaneous:
$$g_j^{(i)}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \delta_{j,m_i}\delta(t - \theta_i)\delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}^i), \quad j = 1, ..., n,$$

Time-integrated: $g_j^{(i)}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \delta_{j,m_i}\delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}^i), \quad j = 1, ..., n.$

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Source identification

• The adjoint relation for point sources and sparse measurements is

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{j=l_{k}+1}^{l_{k+1}} a_{j} \int_{0}^{T} h_{j}(t) v_{k}^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{y}^{j}, t) dt = d_{i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_{m}$$
(2)

- Unknown intensities a_j and spatial locations y^j, also temporal locations τ_j
- Measured data is

$$d_i = \left\langle \boldsymbol{g}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{u} \right\rangle_{\Omega, T}$$

• In matrix-vector form (2) for $\mathbf{s}^{j} = (\mathbf{y}^{j}, \tau_{j})$ becomes

$$\boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{a} = \boldsymbol{d} \tag{3}$$

- Source identification: for measured *d* find *s*, *a* that solves (3)
- Linear case ($Q(u) \equiv 0$): adjoint solutions $v^{(i)}$ do not depend on (unknown) u, so (3) is a system of non-linear algebraic equations
- Non-linear case: V in (3) implicitly depends on u

Linear problem

Optimization formulation

$$\underset{\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{s}}{\text{minimize}} \| \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{a} - \boldsymbol{d} \|$$
 (4)

 Possible approach: discretize s on a grid, allow for sources at every grid point, search for sparse solutions

minimize
$$\|\widetilde{\boldsymbol{a}}\|_0$$
 (5)
s.t. $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}}\widetilde{\boldsymbol{a}} = \boldsymbol{d}$

- Standard compressed sensing approach: replace 0-norm in (5) with L₁ norm
- L₁ relaxation of (5) only works under some additional assumptions on V (e.g. restricted isometry property, etc.)
- Heat operator does not satisfy RIP (Li, Osher, Tsai, 2011), application to parabolic problems requires some modifications
- Alternatively, eliminate the intensities

$$\boldsymbol{a} = \left(\boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{d}$$

• Use the 2-norm in (4), solve the optimization problem

$$\operatorname{maximize}_{\boldsymbol{S}} \boldsymbol{d}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \left(\boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{d}$$

Non-linear problem: forward-adjoint iteration

- How to resolve the implicit dependency of V on u?
- Run the forward and the adjoint iterations concurrently

Forward-Adjoint iteration:

Obtain an initial guess u⁰ from

$$oldsymbol{u}_t^0 = (oldsymbol{D}oldsymbol{\Delta} - oldsymbol{w}\cdotoldsymbol{
abla} + oldsymbol{L})oldsymbol{u}^0$$

For $q = 1, 2, \dots$ do

2 Solve for the current adjoint solution iterate

$$-\boldsymbol{v}_t^{(i),q} = (\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} + \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L}^T + \boldsymbol{Q}^T(\boldsymbol{u}^{q-1}))\boldsymbol{v}^{(i),q} + \boldsymbol{g}^{(i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_m$$



Solve the optimization problem for the source location iterate

$$\boldsymbol{s}^q = \operatorname{argmax} \, \boldsymbol{d}^{ op} \, \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \left(\boldsymbol{V}^{ op}(\boldsymbol{s}) \, \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s})
ight)^{-1} \, \boldsymbol{V}^{ op}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{d}$$

and compute the source term iterate f^q .



$$\boldsymbol{u}_{t}^{q} = (\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} - \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L} + \boldsymbol{Q}(\boldsymbol{u}^{q-1}))\boldsymbol{u}^{q} + \boldsymbol{f}^{q}$$

Forward-adjoint iteration

- Mimics the behavior of the fixed point iteration for forward problem
- Convergence analysis complicated by the coupling to a non-linear optimization problem in step 3
- What method to use to solve the optimization problem in step 3?
- The most computationally expensive part is the solution of multiple adjoint problems in step 2
- Optimization in step 3 is cheap in comparison, derivative-free search methods can be employed
- Convergence of optimization in step 3 can provide the stopping criterion for the forward-adjoint iteration
- Premature termination of the forward-adjoint iteration yields an accurate estimate for *s* (less accurate for *a*) and saves computational effort
- How to choose an initial guess for *s*?

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Derivative-free search

Derivative-free search: Proceeds by exploring the slices of the objective along the location parameters or one particular source at a time. No differentiation of V is needed. Somewhat more global than derivative-based approaches.

Choose an initial guess for s.

For $p = 1, 2, \dots$ do

For $j = 1, \ldots, N_s$ do

2 Freeze all the components s^k of s for $k \neq j$ and compute the objective

$$J(\boldsymbol{s}) = \boldsymbol{d}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \left(\boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{V}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{V}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \boldsymbol{d}$$

for all possible values of $\mathbf{s}^{i} \in \Omega \times [0, T]$.

Update the location of the jth source

$$oldsymbol{s}^{j} = \operatorname*{argmax}_{oldsymbol{r}\in\Omega imes[0,T]} J(oldsymbol{s}^{1},\ldots,oldsymbol{s}^{j-1},oldsymbol{r},oldsymbol{s}^{j+1},\ldots,oldsymbol{s}^{N_{s}}).$$

If for all $j = 1, ..., N_s$ the changes in step 3 are small compared to iteration p - 1 then stop.



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Initial guess for source locations

Initial guess for s: provides a systematic way of obtaining an initial guess. Works good in practice. Prior information may be used instead if available.

(1) Given the initial guess u^0 from step 1 of the forward-adjoint iteration solve

$$-\boldsymbol{v}_t^{(i)} = (\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} + \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L}^T + \boldsymbol{Q}^T(\boldsymbol{u}^0))\boldsymbol{v}^{(i)} + \boldsymbol{g}^{(i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_m$$

and assemble V assuming that there is only one source present. Thus V has only one column and depends on s^1 only and so does the objective J.

Compute the estimate of the first source location as

$$s^1 = \operatorname*{argmax}_{r \in \Omega \times [0,T]} J(r)$$

For $k = 2, ..., N_s$ do

- Assemble V assuming that there are k sources present. Freeze the locations of previously determined sources sⁱ, j = 1,..., k 1 so that J only depends on s^k.
- Output the estimate of the kth source location as

$$\boldsymbol{s}^{k} = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{r} \in \Omega \times [0,T]} \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{s}^{1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{s}^{k-1}, \boldsymbol{r})$$

Measurement placement



- Measurement placement aspects:
 - Initial, before measuring anything
 - Adding more measurements adaptively based on existing data
- Case of one source: in the presence of diffusion three measurements anywhere are enough, but more stable if measured nearby
- Initial placement should aim for coverage uniform sampling of the whole domain
- Adding measurements adaptively based on current estimates of source locations should aim for
 - Refinement: adding measurements near discovered sources
 - Separation: adding measurements between discovered sources

Measurements and advection

When refining, advection should be taken into account:



Imaging functional $J(y^1)$ for one time-independent source (yellow \times) and three measurements (yellow \bigcirc). The "wind" blows from right to left. Estimated source location (from noiseless data) is black \Box .



Geometrical adaptive measurement placement

Spatial adaptive measurement placement in case of time-independent sources:

- Start with an existing estimate of source locations y.
- Choose a trust radius ρ_T (e.g. based on noise level) and a reference simplex *T* with vertices \mathbf{T}^k , k = 1, ..., d + 1. The orientation of the reference simplex is such that one vertex lies upwind and *d* vertices lie downwind from its center.

For $j = 1, \ldots, N_s$ do

Place the center of the reference simplex at y^j.

For k = 1, ..., d + 1 do

I Place a new measurement in the direction of the vertex T^k at a distance

$$\rho = \min\left(\rho_{\mathcal{T}}, \kappa_{\Omega} \operatorname{dist}\left(\boldsymbol{y}^{j}, \partial \Omega\right), \kappa_{\boldsymbol{y}} \operatorname{dist}\left(\boldsymbol{y}^{j}, \left\{\boldsymbol{y}^{i} \mid i \neq j\right\}\right)\right)$$

away from \mathbf{y}^{i} , where $\kappa_{\Omega}, \kappa_{\mathbf{y}} \in (0, 1)$ determine proximity to $\partial \Omega$ and other sources.

For i = 1, ..., j - 1 do

Solution Place a new measurement between y^i and y^i .

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Geometrical measurement placement: example

Example with $N_s = 2$ sources and $N_m = 6$ initial measurements.



Separation measurement: in between the source estimates is red O.

Analytical approach: sensitivity analysis

- Geometrical adaptive measurement placement assumes additional measurements are cheap (thus redundancy)
- Sensitivity argument can be used to search for an optimal position of one extra measurement
- Compute the sensitivity using the algorithm:

① For a trial measurement $z \in \Omega$ solve

$$-\boldsymbol{v}_t^{\boldsymbol{z}} = (\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} + \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L}^T + \boldsymbol{Q}^T(\boldsymbol{u}^q))\boldsymbol{v}^{\boldsymbol{z}} + \boldsymbol{g}^{\boldsymbol{z}},$$

linearized around the last estimate u^q of the forward-adjoint iteration.

• "Measure" $d^{z} = \langle \boldsymbol{g}^{z}, \boldsymbol{u}^{q} \rangle$ and perturb it to obtain

$$\widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{V} \\ \boldsymbol{v}^{\boldsymbol{z}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \widetilde{\boldsymbol{d}} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{d} \\ \boldsymbol{d}^{\boldsymbol{z}} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^{\boldsymbol{z}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \widetilde{\boldsymbol{J}}(\boldsymbol{s}) = \widetilde{\boldsymbol{d}}^{\mathsf{T}} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \left(\widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right)^{-1} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{V}}^{\mathsf{T}}(\boldsymbol{s}) \widetilde{\boldsymbol{d}}$$

Solve for the perturbed source estimate s
 š = argmax *J*(*s*)
 Compute the sensitivity σ(*z*) = ||*s*^q - *š*||

- Place a new measurement where σ(z) has maximum
- Computationally expensive

Alternative analytical approach: level sets

- Combines the geometrical reasoning of the first approach with the analytical structure of the sensitivity approach
- No repeated inversion required

Level set adaptive measurement placement algorithm:

) For a trial measurement
$$oldsymbol{z}\in\Omega$$
 solve

$$-\boldsymbol{v}_t^{\boldsymbol{z}} = (\boldsymbol{D}\boldsymbol{\Delta} + \boldsymbol{w}\cdot\boldsymbol{\nabla} + \boldsymbol{L}^T + \boldsymbol{Q}^T(\boldsymbol{u}^q))\boldsymbol{v}^{\boldsymbol{z}} + \boldsymbol{g}^{\boldsymbol{z}},$$

linearized around the last estimate \boldsymbol{u}^q of the forward-adjoint iteration.

- 2 Select the confidence signal level ϵ that can be measured stably
 - Define the indicator functions of
 e-level sets

$$\chi_{\boldsymbol{z}}^{\epsilon}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \begin{cases} 1, \quad \boldsymbol{v}^{\boldsymbol{z}}(\boldsymbol{x}) \geq \epsilon \\ 0, \quad \boldsymbol{v}^{\boldsymbol{z}}(\boldsymbol{x}) < \epsilon \end{cases}, \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \Omega$$

Compute the set

$$S_{z}^{\epsilon} = \{ \pmb{x} \in \Omega \mid \sum_{j} \chi_{j}^{\epsilon}(\pmb{x}) + \chi_{z}^{\epsilon}(\pmb{x}) \geq 2 \}$$



Level sets: example

Single source \times with three upwind measurements \bigcirc . Left: sum of level set functions. Right: level set optimization objective for adaptive measurement placement. Source estimate $y^{(q)}$ is \Box , new measurement location z^* is \bigtriangledown .



Numerical results

Three component chemical system

- We consider a simple, but somewhat realistic chemical system
- Three species (NO, NO₂, O₃) based on Chapman's cycle

$$egin{array}{ccc} NO+O_3 & \stackrel{k_1}{\longrightarrow} & NO_2 \ NO_2 & \stackrel{k_2}{\longrightarrow} & NO+O_3 \end{array}$$

- Reaction rates are k₁ = 1000, k₂ = 2000, diffusion coefficients of order one, highly non-linear stiff system
- Source emits NO₂, concentrations of NO are measured
- Advection \boldsymbol{w} is modeled via advection potential ϕ

$$\mathbf{w} =
abla \phi, \quad \Delta \phi = \mathbf{0}, \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

 A preferred advection direction w₀ is enforced via Neumann condition on the outer boundary

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu} = \boldsymbol{W}_0 \cdot \nu$$

Non-penetrating boundary conditions are enforced on obstacle boundaries

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu} = 0$$

Numerical examples: setup

- Examples in 2D, but the method works in 3D without any modifications
- Finite difference solver in space
- Exponential integrator in time

$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_{t} = \boldsymbol{E}(t)\boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}(t)$$
$$\boldsymbol{\xi}^{(k+1)} = \exp\left(\boldsymbol{E}^{(k)}\boldsymbol{h}_{k}\right)\left(\left(\boldsymbol{E}^{(k)}\right)^{-1}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{(k)} + \boldsymbol{\xi}^{(k)}\right) - \left(\boldsymbol{E}^{(k)}\right)^{-1}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{(k)}$$

- Action of matrix exponential computed with an efficient algorithm (Al-Mohy, Higham, SISC'2011)
- Adaptive time-stepping for time-dependent source case
- Noise model

$$\boldsymbol{d}^* = (\boldsymbol{I} + \sigma \boldsymbol{N}) \boldsymbol{d}, \quad \boldsymbol{N} = \operatorname{diag} (X_1, \dots, X_{N_m}),$$

with zero-mean Gaussian X_j , noise level σ

- Different grids for data simulation and inversion to avoid inverse crime
- Systematic errors even in the absence of noise ($\sigma = 0$)



Two sources: initial recovery

Identifying $N_s = 2$ sources with $N_m = 6$ measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution $(\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{y}^2)$. True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar . Left: $J(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}^2)$; right: $J(\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{r}), \mathbf{r} \in \Omega$.



Two sources: adaptively added measurements

Identifying $N_s = 2$ sources with $N_m = 13$ measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution (y^1, y^2) . True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar . Left: $J(r, y^2)$; right: $J(y^1, r), r \in \Omega$.



Three sources: initial recovery

Identifying $N_s = 3$ sources with $N_m = 9$ measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution $(\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{y}^2, \mathbf{y}^3)$. True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar .



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Three sources: adaptively added measurements

Identifying $N_s = 3$ sources with $N_m = 21$ measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution $(\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{y}^2, \mathbf{y}^3)$. True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar .



Adaptive vs. prior placement of measurements











Comparing identification of $N_s = 2$ sources (5% noise). **Top row:** $N_m = 6$ and adaptively added measurements for a total of $N_m = 13$.

Bottom row: uniform distribution of $N_m = 13$ measurements for maximum prior coverage.



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Adaptive vs. prior placement of measurements

Identification of $N_s = 2$ sources with $N_m = 6 + 7$ adaptively placed measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution $(\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{y}^2)$. True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar .



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Unknown number of sources

Determining an unknown number of sources:

For $N_s^* = 1, 2, ...$ Recover N_s^* sources If any $a_i < 0$ then let $N_s = N_s^* - 1$ and quit 0.9 0.9 0.9 0,0 0,0 0 0 0 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.7 0.7 0.7 0 0 0 0 0 0 0.6 0.6 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0.5 0 0 0 0.5 0 0 0.5 0 0.4 0.4 0 0 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0.1 0.1 0.2 0.6 0.8 0.2 0.6 0.8 1.5 0.5 1 1.5 2.5 2.5 2.6 27 3.1 3.2 v 10⁻¹ v 10 v 10[°] Identifying $N_s^* = 1$ (left) and $N_s^* = 2$ (middle and right) sources from $N_m = 20$ fixed measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional J around the solution

 $(y^1, \dots, y^{N_s^*})$. True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \Box , initial guess \bigstar .

Unknown number of sources

Identifying $N_s^* = N_s = 3$ sources from $N_m = 20$ fixed measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution (y^1, y^2, y^3). True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \Box , initial guess \bigstar .



Possible appearances of spurious sources when $N_s^* > N_s$:

- Small negative intensity (best case possible, easy to detect)
- Large negative intensity next to a true source (cancellation of intensities)
- Small positive intensity (may be hard depending on the intensities of true sources)



Unknown number of sources

Identifying $N_s^* = 4$ sources from $N_m = 20$ fixed measurements, 5% noise. Slices of the optimization functional *J* around the solution (y^1, y^2, y^3, y^4). True sources \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated sources \square , initial guess \bigstar .



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Time-dependent source: 1D

Identifying a source $f(x, t) = a\delta(t - \tau)\delta(x - y)$ in 1D scalar non-linear equation from $N_m = 6$ measurements, three measurements at two time instants $\theta = 0.1, 0.15$, T = 0.2, 1% noise. Reduced stability compared to time-independent sources and time-integrated measurements. True source \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated source Π.



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Time-dependent source: 2D

Both source and measurements are point in space and time. Identification of a single source from $N_m = 6$ measurements, two groups of three at times $\theta = 0.015$, 0.020, T = 0.03. Adaptive time stepping to resolve the source/measurement singularity, reduced non-linearity for stability. Spatial locations: true source \times , measurements \bigcirc , estimated source \square . Slices of $J(\mathbf{y}, t)$, $\mathbf{y} \in \Omega$ at three time instants.



Conclusions and future work

Conclusions:

- Method for identification of point sources in non-linear parabolic systems from sparse measurements
- Strategy for adaptive measurement placement
- Identifying unknown numbers of sources
- Numerical evidence of good performance

Future work:

- Convergence analysis
- Partial knowledge of the domain and obstacles
- Sensitivity with respect to system parameters (diffusion coefficients, reaction rates, advection term)

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