

An Optimal Kalman-Consensus Filter for Distributed Implementation over Dynamic Communication Network

Matthew Howard and Zhihua Qu

University of Central Florida

August 8, 2021

Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)
- 5 Illustrative Example
- 6 Conclusions

An Application Scenario: Mosaic Warfare

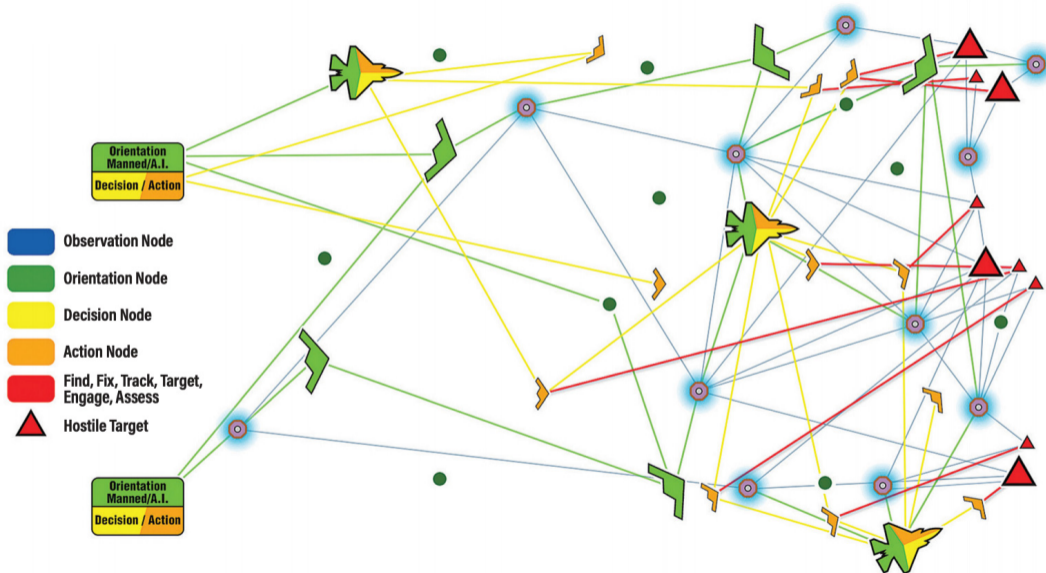


Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)
- 5 Illustrative Example
- 6 Conclusions

Target

- Linear stochastic system:

$$x_k = \Phi_{k-1}x_{k-1} + B_{k-1}u_{k-1} + G_{k-1}w_{k-1}$$

with state $x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and input $u_k \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

- Observation:

$$z_k = H_k x_k + v_k$$

or, for $i = 1, \dots, N$,

$$z_{i,k} = H_{i,k} x_k + v_{i,k}$$

- iid stochastic processes:

$$\begin{aligned} E\{w_k\} &= 0, & E\{w_k w_{\kappa}^T\} &= Q_k \delta(k, \kappa) \\ E\{v_k\} &= 0, & E\{v_k v_{\kappa}^T\} &= R_k \delta(k, \kappa), & E\{v_k w_{\kappa}^T\} &= 0; \\ E\{v_{i,k}\} &= 0; & E\{v_{i,k} v_{j,\kappa}^T\} &= R_{i,k} \delta(k, \kappa) \delta(i, j), & E\{v_{i,k} w_{i,\kappa}^T\} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Kalman Filter (KF)

It follows from R. Kalman [4] that, letting

$$P_k^+ = E\{(x_k - \hat{x}_k)(x_k - \hat{x}_k)^T\},$$

then $\text{tr}(P_k^+)$ is minimized by using

- Propagation:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}_k^- &= \Phi_{k-1}\hat{x}_{k-1}^+ + B_{k-1}u_{k-1} \\ P_k^- &= \Phi_{k-1}P_{k-1}^+\Phi_{k-1}^T + G_{k-1}Q_{k-1}G_{k-1}^T\end{aligned}$$

- Update:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}_k^+ &= \hat{x}_k^- + K_k(z_k - H_k\hat{x}_k^-) \\ P_k^+ &= (I - K_kH_k)P_k^-(I - K_kH_k)^T + K_kR_kK_k^T \\ K_k &= P_k^-H_k^T(H_kP_k^-H_k^T + R_k)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Convergence of KF

- The system of $x_k = \Phi_{k-1}x_{k-1}$ and $z_k = H_k x_k$ is observable if

$$\mathcal{O} = [H_k \quad H_k \Phi_k \quad H_k \Phi_k^2 \quad \dots \quad H_k \Phi_k^{n-1}]^T$$

is of full rank.

- Under observability, the Discrete-Time Algebraic Riccati Equation (DARE)

$$P_k^- = \Phi_{k-1} P_{k-1}^- \Phi_{k-1}^T - \Phi_{k-1} P_{k-1}^- H_{k-1}^T \left(H_{k-1} P_{k-1}^- H_{k-1}^T + R_{k-1} \right)^{-1} H_{k-1} P_{k-1}^- \Phi_{k-1}^T + G_{k-1} Q_{k-1} G_{k-1}^T$$

has at least one P.S.D. solution, and the Kalman filter is asymptotically convergent as $\hat{x}_k^+ \rightarrow E\{x_k\}$.

Kalman-Consensus Filter (KCF)

It follows from R. Olfati-Saber [5] that a KCF can be used to cooperatively track a target:

- propagation:

$$\hat{x}_{i,k}^- = \Phi_{k-1} \hat{x}_{i,k-1}^+ + B_{k-1} u_{k-1}$$
$$P_{ij,k}^- = \Phi_{k-1} P_{ij,k-1}^+ \Phi_{k-1}^T + G_{k-1} Q_{k-1} G_{k-1}^T$$

- Update:

$$\hat{x}_{i,k}^+ = \hat{x}_{i,k}^- + K_{i,k} (z_{i,k} - H_{i,k} \hat{x}_{i,k}^-) + M_{i,k} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (\hat{x}_{j,k}^- - \hat{x}_{i,k}^-)$$
$$P_{ij,k}^+ = F_{i,k} P_{ij,k}^- F_{j,k}^T - F_{i,k} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{N}_j} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{is,k}^-) M_{j,k}^T - M_{i,k} \sum_{r \in \mathcal{N}_i} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{rj,k}^-) F_{j,k}^T$$
$$+ M_{i,k} \sum_{r \in \mathcal{N}_i} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{N}_j} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{is,k}^- - P_{rj,k}^- + P_{rs,k}^-) M_{j,k}^T + K_{i,k} R_{ij,k} K_{j,k}^T$$

where $F_{i,k} = I - K_{i,k} H_{i,k}$

KCF Gains and Unsolved Issues

- $K_{i,k}$ can be chosen to minimize $\text{tr}((\cdot) P_{ii}^-)$ as does in KF, that is,

$$K_{i,k} = \left[P_{ii,k}^- H_{i,k}^T - M_{i,k} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (P_{ii,k}^- - P_{ij,k}^-) H_{i,k}^T \right] (H_{i,k} P_{ii,k}^- H_{i,k}^T + R_{ii,k})^{-1}$$

- $M_{i,k}$ impacts both consensus and stability, and the choice in [5] is

$$M_{i,k} = \epsilon \frac{P_{ii,k}^-}{1 + \|P_{ii,k}^-\|}, \quad \epsilon > 0.$$

- Issue #1: KCF requires full knowledge of covariance matrix $P_k^- = [P_{ij,k}^-]$. How do we compute P_k^- ? Approximate approaches in literature:
 - 1 Ignore the cross-covariance - leading to inconsistent estimators
 - 2 Over estimate the cross-covariances - leading to overly pessimistic estimators
- Issue #2: How to optimize the choice of $M_{i,k}$? How to analyze the resulting convergence?
- Issue #3: Existing KCF requires a constant undirected graph. What happens if the topology is directed and changing?

Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)
- 5 Illustrative Example
- 6 Conclusions

Sensing/Communication Topology

- Directed graph $\mathcal{G}_k = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E}_k)$ where

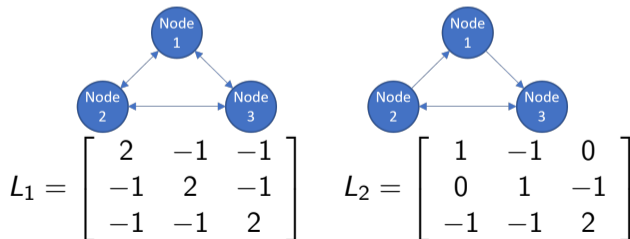
$$\mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, \dots, N_m\}, \quad \mathcal{E}_k \subseteq \{(i, j) | i, j \in \mathcal{N} \text{ and } i \neq j\}.$$

- Laplacian matrix

$$L_k = D_k - A_k$$

where D_k is the degree matrix and A_k is the adjacency matrix.

Examples:



Distributed Estimation of Laplacian

- If a diagraph is strongly connected, then its Laplacian is irreducible [6] and can be represented by

$$L_k = \sum_{p=1}^{N_m} \lambda_p(L_k) v_p(L_k) v_p^T(L_k)$$

where $\lambda_p(\cdot)$ and $v_p(\cdot)$ are the p th eigenvalues and right eigenvectors, respectively

- Define $Q_k \triangleq (L_k + I)^{-1}$ as an invertible and irreducible matrix, then

$$\hat{Q}_{i,k}(l+1) = \hat{Q}_{i,k}(l) - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_{i,k}|} \mathcal{P}_{i,k} \left(|\mathcal{N}_{i,k}| \hat{Q}_{i,k}(l) - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i,k}} \hat{Q}_{j,k}(l) \right)$$

can be distributively calculated over $t \in ((k-1)T, kT)T$ [1] where

$$\mathcal{P}_{i,k} = I_n - \frac{1}{[L_k + I]_{i*} [L_k + I]_{i*}^T} [L_k + I]_{i*}^T [L_k + I]_{i*}$$

- With $\hat{Q}_{i,k}$ known, the Laplacian can be re-created using

$$\hat{L}_{i,k} = \sum_{p=1}^{N_m} \left[\frac{1}{\lambda_p(\hat{Q}_{i,k})} - 1 \right] v_p(\hat{Q}_{i,k}) v_p^T(\hat{Q}_{i,k})$$

from which the estimated set of in-neighbors of node i can be found via

$$\hat{\mathcal{N}}_{i,k} = \{j | [\hat{L}_{i,k}]_{ij} = -1\}$$

- Convergence in a finite number of steps [1]
- $\hat{\mathcal{N}}_{i,k}$ can be calculated during the higher rate propagation phase

Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)**
- 5 Illustrative Example
- 6 Conclusions

It follows from Howard and Qu [2] that DOKCF admits time-varying digraphs, enables distributed computation of P_k^- , provides optimal choice of $M_{ij,k}$, and ensures convergence:

- propagation:

$$\hat{x}_{i,k}^- = \Phi_{k-1} \hat{x}_{i,k-1}^+ + B_{k-1} u_{k-1}$$

$$P_{ij,k}^- = \Phi_{k-1} P_{ij,k-1}^+ \Phi_{k-1}^T + G_{k-1} Q_{k-1} G_{k-1}^T$$

- update:

$$\hat{x}_{i,k}^+ = \hat{x}_{i,k}^- + K_{i,k} (z_{i,k} - H_{i,k} \hat{x}_{i,k}^-) + \sum_{j \in N_{i,k}} M_{ij,k} (\hat{x}_{j,k}^- - \hat{x}_{i,k}^-)$$

$$P_{ij,k}^+ = F_{i,k} P_{ij,k}^- F_{j,k}^T - F_{i,k} \sum_{s \in N_j} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{is,k}^-) M_{js,k}^T - \sum_{r \in N_i} M_{ir,k} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{rj,k}^-) F_{j,k}^T$$

$$+ \sum_{r \in N_i} \sum_{s \in N_j} M_{ir,k} (P_{ij,k}^- - P_{is,k}^- - P_{rj,k}^- + P_{rs,k}^-) M_{js,k}^T + K_{i,k} R_{ij,k} K_{j,k}^T$$

where $F_{i,k} = I - K_{i,k} H_{i,k}$

Optimal Kalman and Consensus Gains

- Minimizing $\text{tr}(P_{ii,k})^+$ with respect to $K_{i,k}$ yields

$$K_{i,k} = \left[P_{ii,k}^- - \sum_{j \in N_{i,k}} M_{ij,k} (P_{ii,k}^- - (P_{ij,k}^-)^T) \right] H_{i,k}^T \left(H_{i,k} P_{ii,k}^- H_{i,k}^T + R_{ii,k} \right)^{-1}$$

- As $R_{jj,k}$ increases, $P_{j,k}^+$ increases while $K_{j,k}$ monotonely decreases, and \hat{x}_j becomes worse. Accordingly, the corresponding weighting matrix in DOKCF should be decreased. That is,

$$M_{ij,k} = \alpha_{i,k} \Phi_{k-1}^T \sqrt{R_{i,k}^{-1} R_{j,k}^{-1}}$$

where $\alpha_{i,k}$ is optimized by again minimizing $\text{tr}(P_{ii,k})^+$:

$$\alpha_{i,k} = - \frac{\text{tr}(\Psi_{i4})}{\text{tr}(\Psi_{i5})}$$

where Ψ_{i4} and Ψ_{i5} are quantities defined in [2]

- Define the system error as $e_{i,k} = E \left\{ e_{i,k}^+ \right\}$ such that

$$e_{i,k} = F_{i,k} \Phi_{k-1} e_{i,k-1} + \nu_{i,k-1}$$

where $F_{i,k} = I - K_{i,k} H_{i,k}$ and

$$\nu_{i,k-1} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i,k}} M_{ij,k} \Phi_{k-1} \left(e_{j,k-1}^+ - e_{i,k-1}^+ \right)$$

- If there exists a storage function for a dynamic subsystem defined by $e_{i,k} = \mathcal{F}_i(e_{i,k-1}, \nu_{i,k-1})$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V_i &\triangleq V_i(e_{i,k}) - V_i(e_{i,k-1}) \\ &\leq e_{i,k-1}^T \nu_{i,k-1} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_i \|\nu_{i,k-1}\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

then the subsystem is considered *input-feedforward passivity short (PS)* [7, 3]

- Following from cooperative control theory [1] with an appropriate storage function of

$$V_i = \frac{1}{2} e_{i,k}^T e_{i,k}$$

the DOKCF is shown to be *input-feedforward passivity short (PS)* from input $\nu_{i,k-1}$ to output $e_{i,k}$

- To ensure *input-feedforward passivity short (PS)*,

$$\alpha_{i,k} \leq \bar{\alpha}$$

- The DOKCF is, therefore, concluded to be asymptotically stable such that $e_{i,k} \rightarrow 0$
- Details of the proof can be found in [2]

- Recall the global P_k^- needed for optimal and consistent implementation
- Covariance equation do not rely on real-time measurements
- As such, if measurement models $(H_{i,k}, R_{i,k})$ are known throughout, P_k^- can be calculated by each node
- Simplification can be achieved to reduce N_m^2 covariance computations:
 - Through the covariance definition, P_k^- is symmetry and only one triangle is required $(N_m + \sum_{l=1}^{N_m-1} l)$
 - Rows of P_k^- can be shared between neighbors, neighbors' neighbors, etc.
 - Converges to (N_m) , or the same as a complete digraph

Distributed Implementation II

Initialization Phase:

- Set all initial conditions (ie. $P_{ii,0}^- = I$ and $P_{ij,0}^- = 0$)
- Share $(H_{i,k}, R_{i,k})$

Execution Phase:

- Propagate state, covariances, cross-covariances
- Network topology estimation
- Share information with neighbors
- Update state and remaining covariances & cross-covariances

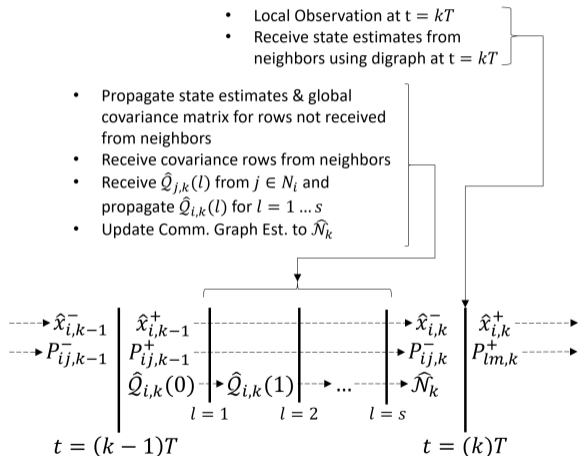


Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)
- 5 Illustrative Example**
- 6 Conclusions

- A simple time-varying example was formulated
- Time-varying system model with $u_k = 0$

$$\Phi_k = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 + 0.025 \sin(0.3k) & -0.015 \\ 0.015 & 1.0 + 0.05 \sin(0.5k) \end{bmatrix}$$

- The process and measurement noises defined as

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_i = 5e^i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

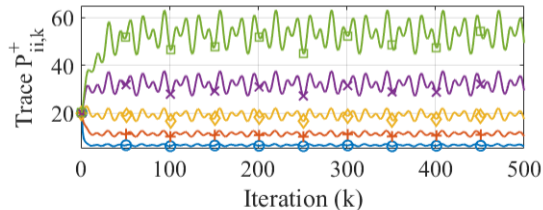
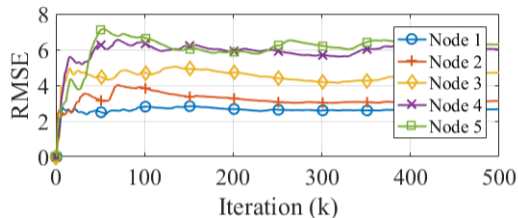
- Measurement noises greater for higher indices

Kalman Filter Baseline

- Root Mean Squared Error used to quantify the accuracy of the estimator

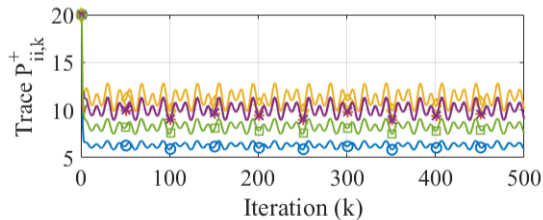
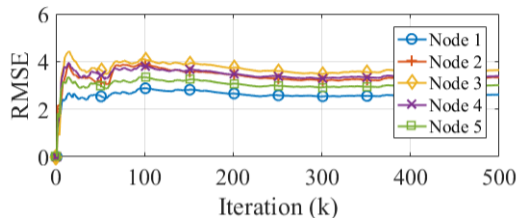
$$RMSE_k = \sqrt{\frac{1}{k} \sum_{s=1}^k (x_s - \hat{x}_s^+)^T (x_s - \hat{x}_s^+)}$$

- RMSE of the state estimate shows appropriate trend
- Covariances show convergence to a steady-state with oscillation based on time-varying Φ_k
- Results used as a baseline for comparison



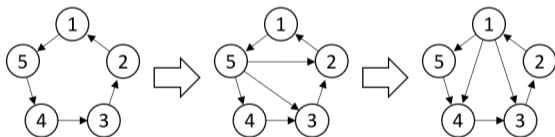
DOKCF with Static Topology

- The DOKCF is simulated using a simple fixed ring network topology
- The RMSE's are better clustered together, as compared to the KF, with:
 - High measurement noise systems decreasing
 - Low measurement noise systems roughly unaffected



DOKCF with Switching Topology I

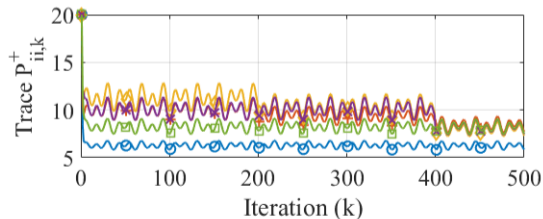
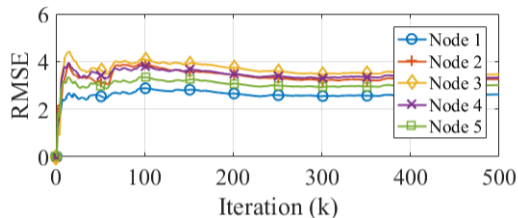
- A switching communication network is introduced with three different topologies
 - Starts with same ring network as before
 - First switch connects system with worst measurement noise, node 5, to nodes 2 and 3
 - Second switch reverts back to ring network but with lowest noise system connected to nodes 3 and 4



- Switching occurs at time steps $k = 200$ and $k = 400$

DOKCF with Switching Topology II

- Simulation shows the filters remain stable through the instantaneous topology switches
- RMSE shows consensus has converged and network switching has little effect
- Covariance, however, is impacted based on network topology
 - At $k = 200$, Node 3 shows improvement despite being connected to 5 (worse measurement noise)
 - At $k = 400$, Nodes 2, 3, and 4 decrease due to the distribution of node 1 accurate estimate



DOKCF with Switching Topology for LTI System

- Time-varying perturbations are turned off, forced $k = 0$ in Φ_k , to better see covariance impacts
- Shows filters achieve steady-state covariances between network switches
- Same covariance trend observed at network switches

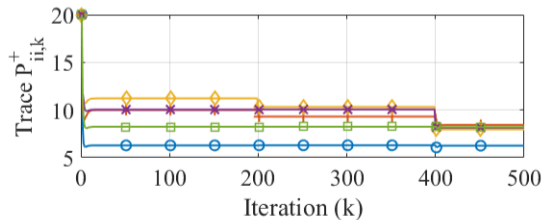
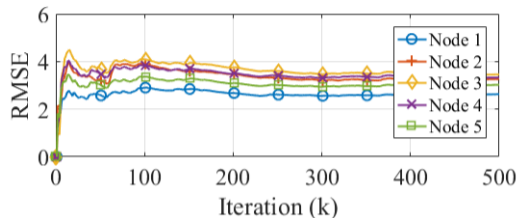


Table of Contents

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Background
 - Kalman Filter
 - Kalman-Consensus Filter
- 3 Network Topology Models and Estimation
- 4 Distributed Optimal KCF (DOKCF)
- 5 Illustrative Example
- 6 Conclusions

- Improvements of DOKCF over KCF:
 - Optimized matrices in weighted consensus for better accuracy
 - Dynamic sensing/communication networks
 - Stability ensured for directed network
 - Distributed computation of P_k^-
- Further research needed to
 - Extend DOKCF to nonlinear systems with nonlinear measurements
 - Stability analysis for switching topology and for nonlinear systems
 - Optimizing network topology

References

- [1] A. Gusrialdi and Z. Qu.
Distributed estimation of all the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of matrices associated with strongly connected digraphs.
IEEE Control Systems Letters, 1(2):328–333, 2017.
- [2] M. D. Howard and Z. Qu.
An optimal Kalman-consensus filter for distributed implementation over a dynamic communication network.
IEEE Access, 9:66696–66706, 2021.
- [3] Y. Joo, R. Harvey, and Z. Qu.
Preserving and achieving passivity-short property through discretization.
IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control, 65(10):4265–4272, 2020.
- [4] R. Kalman.
A new approach to linear filtering and prediction problems.
Transactions of the ASME, Journal of Basic Engineering, 82D:35–45, 1960.
- [5] R. Olfati-Saber.
Kalman-consensus filter : Optimality, stability, and performance.
In *Proceedings of the 48th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) held jointly with 2009 28th Chinese Control Conference*, pages 7036–7042, 2009.
- [6] Z. Qu.
Cooperative Control of Dynamical Systems.
Springer-Verlag London, 2009.
- [7] J. Willems.
Dissipative dynamical systems part i: General theory.
Arch. Rational Mech. Anal., 45(5):321–351, 1972.