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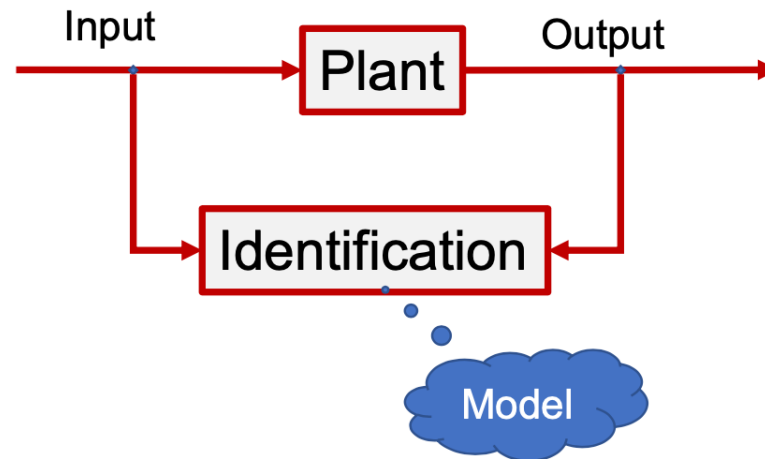
# *Apprentissage de modèles dynamiques*

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*Learning flexible continuous-time models  
of linear dynamical systems*

Hugues GARNIER

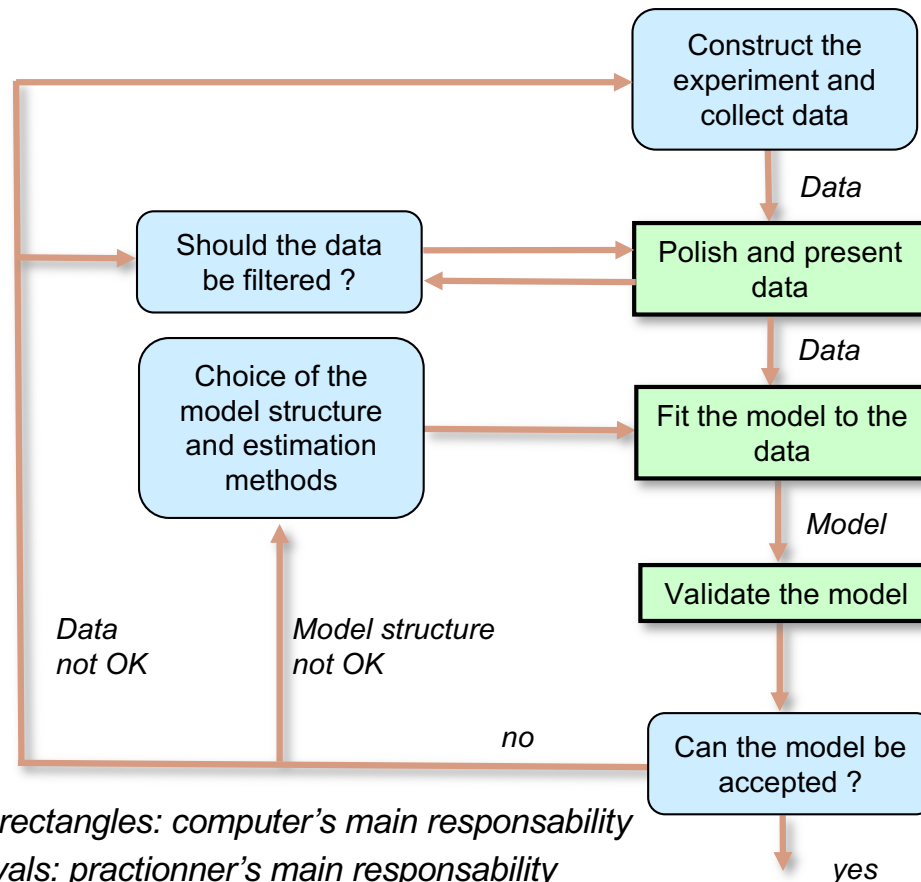
# Aim of this lecture



- ✓ To provide an introduction
  - theory of direct time-domain methods for *continuous-time* parametric linear black-box model identification
- ✓ The key computational method, we refer to, is
  - *Optimal Instrumental Variable (IV)* method

# The system identification procedure

## System Identification: an *iterative procedure*



Green rectangles: computer's main responsibility  
Blue ovals: practionner's main responsibility  
Adapted from Ljung 1999

*The practionner has to make many choices:*

- ✓ well-planned data acquisition
  - ✓ Sampling period, type of input, ...
- ✓ data-preprocessing
  - ✓ Filtering, detrending ...
- ✓ type of models to be estimated:
  - ✓ linear or non linear
  - ✓ **continuous or discrete-time**
- ✓ estimation methods
  - ✓ **PEM or IV**

***These choices will impact the SYSID procedure and require active participation of a specifically trained practitioner !***

# Continuous-time (CT) models of linear systems

- ✓ A model that describes the relationship between time continuous I/O signals is called a *continuous-time model*

- *Differential equation / polynomial / transfer function model*

$$\frac{d^n y(t)}{dt^n} + a_1 \frac{d^{n-1} y(t)}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_n y(t) = b_0 \frac{d^m u(t)}{dt^m} + b_1 \frac{d^{m-1} u(t)}{dt^{m-1}} + \dots + b_m u(t)$$

$$A(p)y(t) = B(p)u(t) \quad pu(t) = \frac{du(t)}{dt} \text{ differentiation operator} \quad \begin{aligned} A(p) &= p^n + a_1 p^{n-1} + \dots + a_n \\ B(p) &= b_0 p^m + b_1 p^{m-1} + \dots + b_m \end{aligned}$$

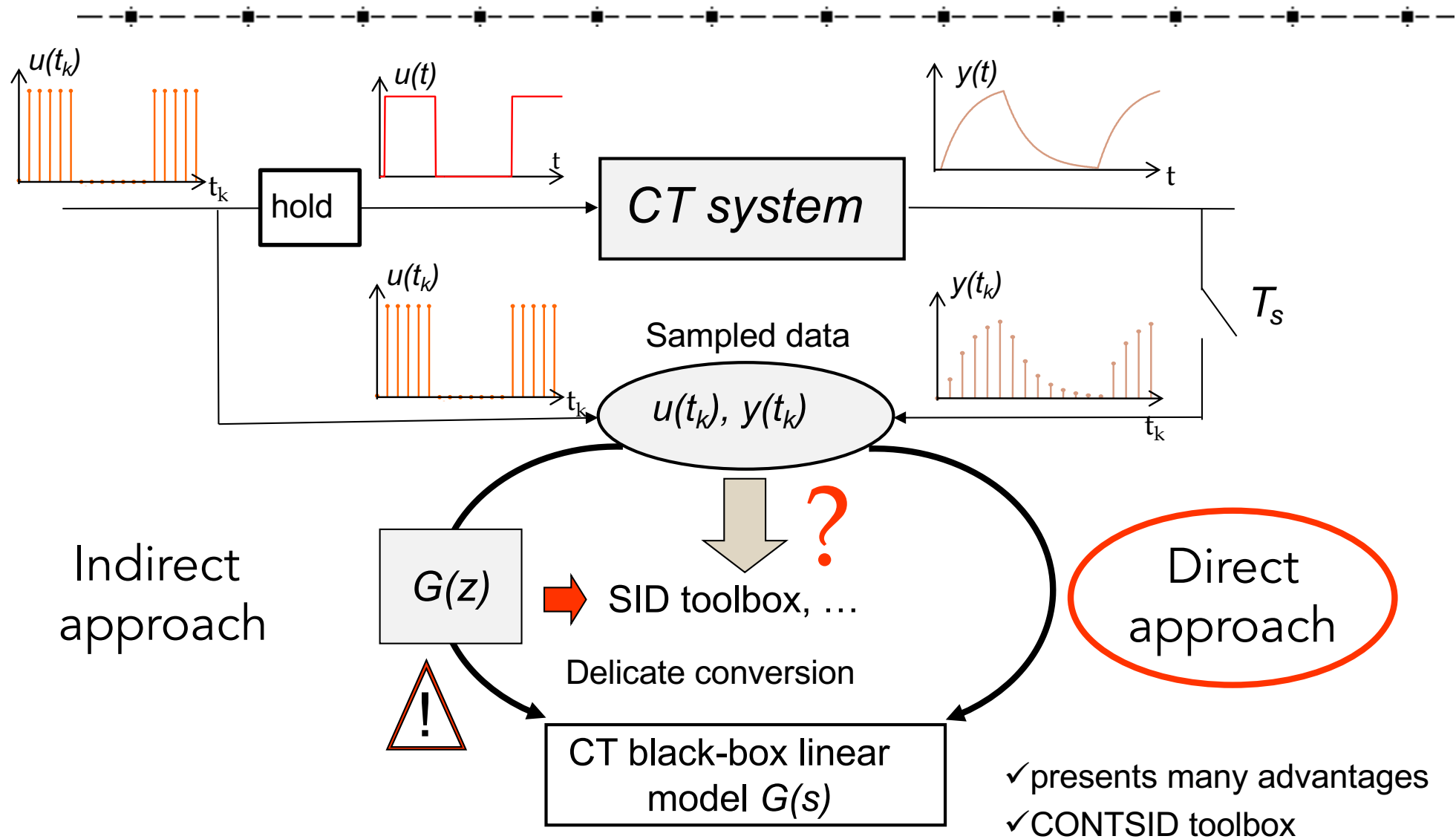
$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{B(s)}{A(s)} \quad s: \text{Laplace variable}$$

- *State-space model*

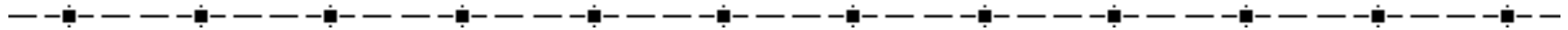
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \\ y(t) = Cx(t) + Du(t) \end{cases}$$

$$G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1} B + D$$

# Main approaches to identify a black-box CT linear models from time-domain sampled data ?



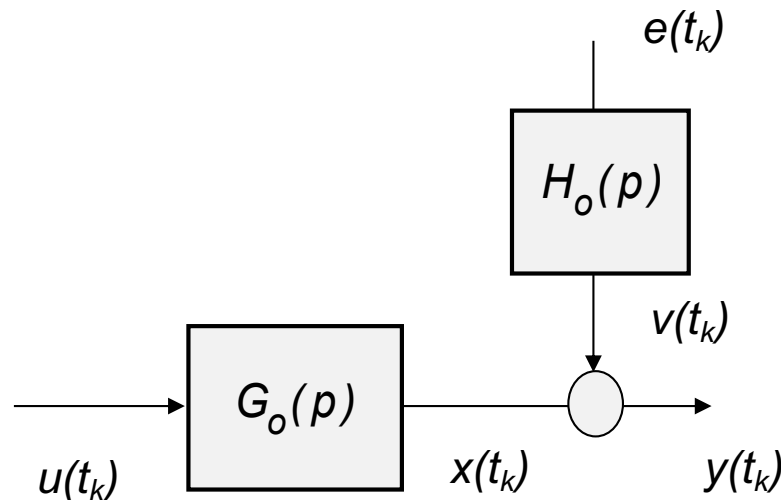
## The myth of the true data-generating system



- ✓ The mathematical model that will be identified from finite sampled data will be an **approximation** to the real system
- ✓ It is inexact and the data is never generated in practice from a system which “belongs to the model class”
- ✓ Nevertheless we shall find it convenient to assume such a **true data-generating system** to assist in deriving theoretical results
- ✓ But we do not believe that it truly captures the behavior of the physical system

# True data-generating linear system

- ✓ Assumptions about the true system:  $S = \{G_o(p); H_o(p)\}$



$$y(t_k) = G_o(p)u(t_k) + H_o(p)e(t_k)$$

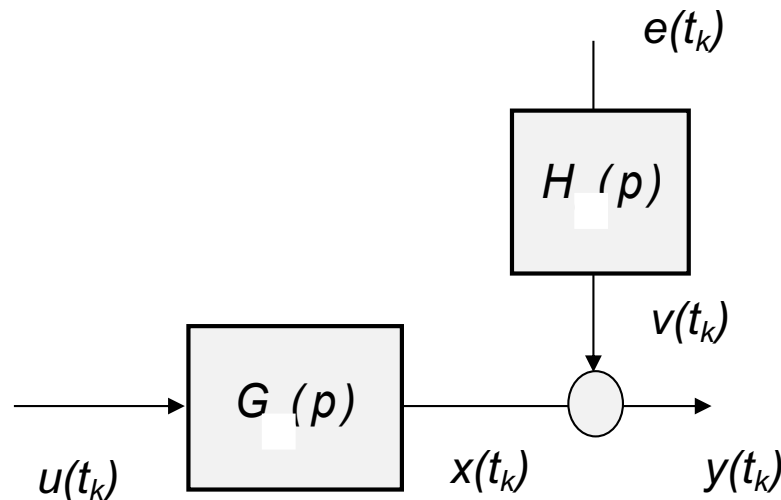
$$p = \frac{d}{dt} \text{ differentiation operator}$$

- ✓ The measured output  $y(t_k)$  is assumed to be made up of two distinct contributions:
- $G_o(p)u(t_k)$ : dependent of the choice of the input signal  $u(t)$
  - the measurement noise  $v(t_k)=H_o(p)e(t_k)$ : independent of the input signal  $u(t)$

# The chosen model structure to capture the dynamics of the linear system

✓ Assumptions about the model class:

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ \left( G(p, \theta) ; H(p, \theta) \right), \theta \in \mathbb{R}^{n_\theta} \right\}$$



$$y(t_k) = G(p)u(t_k) + H(p)e(t_k)$$

$$p = \frac{d}{dt} \text{ differentiation operator}$$

✓ The model structure is assumed *a priori* known. 2 cases can be distinguished

$$S \in \mathcal{M}$$

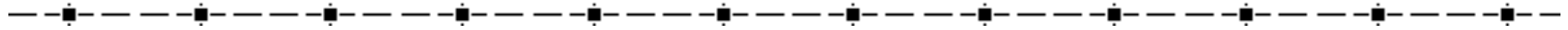
♦ Model form and order for  $G$  and  $H$  identical to  $G_o$  and  $H_o$

$$S \notin \mathcal{M}, G \in \mathcal{G}_o$$

♦ Model form and order for  $G$  identical to  $G_o$  but  $H$  different to  $H_o$



# Black-box continuous-time model structures



✓ Model structure:  $M = \left\{ \left( G(p, \theta) ; H(p, \theta) \right), \theta \in R^{n_\theta} \right\}$

✓ General parametrization

*Time-delay assumed known in the beginning*

$$G(p, \theta) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)} e^{-\tau p} \quad H(p, \theta) = \frac{C(p, \theta)}{D(p, \theta)}$$

$$\theta^T = \left[ a_1 \quad \dots \quad a_n \quad b_0 \quad \dots \quad d_1 \quad \dots \right]$$

$$A(p, \theta) = p^n + a_1 p^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$$

$$B(p, \theta) = b_0 p^m + b_1 p^{m-1} + \dots + b_m$$

$$C(p, \theta) = p^{n_c} + c_1 p^{n_c-1} + \dots + c_{n_c}$$

$$D(p, \theta) = p^{n_d} + d_1 p^{n_d-1} + \dots + d_{n_d}$$

## Main black-box CT model structures

✓ Main model structures used in practice:  $\mathcal{M} = \left\{ \left( G(p, \theta) ; H(p, \theta) \right), \theta \in R^{n_\theta} \right\}$

CARX	$G(p, \theta) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)} e^{-\tau p}$	$H(p, \theta) = \frac{1}{A(p, \theta)}$
COE	$G(p, \theta) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)} e^{-\tau p}$	$H(p, \theta) = 1$
CBJ	$G(p, \theta) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)} e^{-\tau p}$	$H(p, \theta) = \frac{C(p, \theta)}{D(p, \theta)}$
hybrid CBJ	$G(p, \theta) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)} e^{-\tau p}$	$H(q, \theta) = \frac{C(q, \theta)}{D(q, \theta)}$

## Distinction between model structures

- ✓ CARX model can be written in linear regression form

$$A(p, \theta)y(t_k) = B(p, \theta)u(t_k) + e(t_k)$$

$$y^{(n)}(t_k) = \varphi^T(t_k)\theta + e(t_k)$$

- ☹ The model is not very realistic in practice  
⇒ There are common denominators in  $G$  and  $H$
  - ☺ The model is a linear function in  $\theta$   
⇒ Important computational advantages
- ✓ COE and CBJ models have an independent parametrization of  $G(p, \theta)$  and  $H(p, \theta)$

$$y(t_k) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)}u(t_k) + e(t_k)$$

$$y(t_k) = \frac{B(p, \theta)}{A(p, \theta)}u(t_k) + \frac{C(p, \theta)}{D(p, \theta)}e(t_k)$$

- ☹ Models are no longer linear-in-the-parameters
- ☺ There are no common parameters in  $G$  and  $H$   
⇒ Advantages for independent identification of  $G$  and  $H$  and models more realistic in practice

# Parameter estimation objective and assumptions

## ✓ Objective:

- Find the best parametric models  $G(p, \theta)$  and  $H(p, \theta)$   $M = \left\{ \left( G(p, \theta) ; H(p, \theta) \right), \theta \in R^{n_\theta} \right\}$  for the unknown transfer functions  $G_o(p)$  and  $H_o(p)$  using a set of measured data  $u(t_k)$  and  $y(t_k)$

## ✓ In the beginning, we will make the following assumption:

$$\exists \theta_o \text{ such that } G(p, \theta_o) = G_o(p) \text{ and } H(p, \theta_o) = H_o(p) \\ \text{i.e.}$$

$$S \in M$$

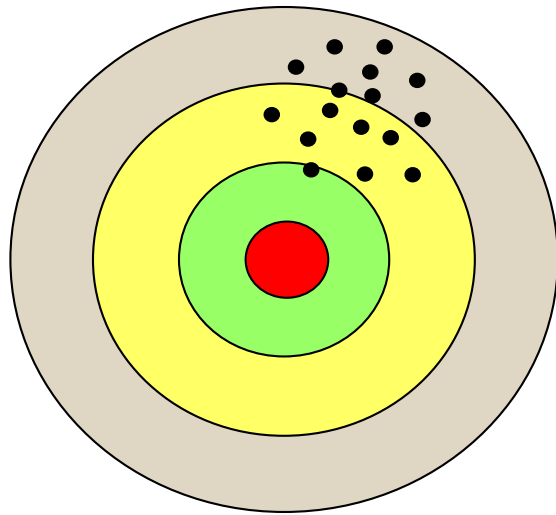
## ✓ The objective can therefore be restated as follows:

- Find an estimate of the unknown parameter vector  $\theta_o$  using a set of  $N$  samples of the input and output data:

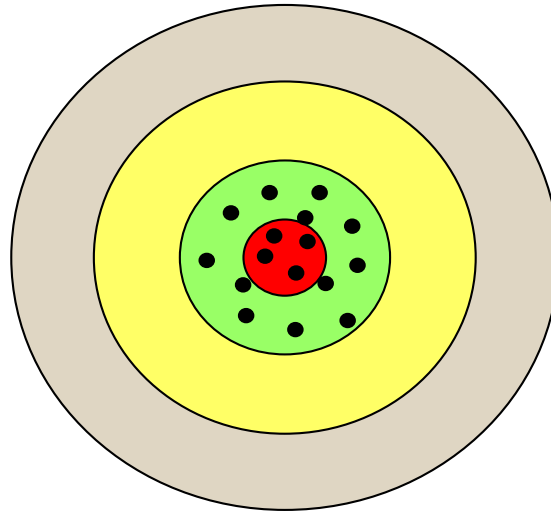
$$Z^N = \{ u(t_k), y(t_k) \mid k = 1 \dots N \}$$

generated by the true system, i.e.  $y(t_k) = G_o(p)u(t_k) + H_o(p)e(t_k)$

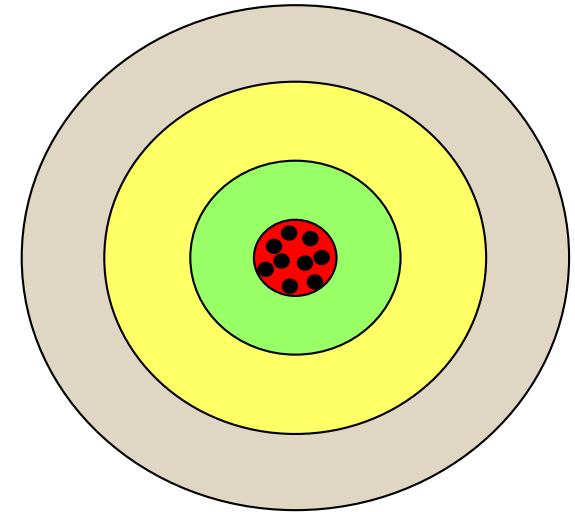
# Illustration of bias-variance trade-off for estimators



*Estimator A*



*Estimator B*



*Estimator C*

Center of the dartboard target (in red) represents  $\theta_o$

- **Estimator A:** biased (average value of the estimates are not in the center of the target)
- **Estimator B:** unbiased but quite large fluctuations around the mean value – large variance
- **Estimator C:** unbiased and small variance

# Issue in CT model identification: time-derivative measurement problem

- ✓ *DT* model identification - **difference** equation model

$$y(k) + a_1 y(k-1) + \dots + a_{n_a} y(k-n_a) = b_1 u(k-1) + \dots + b_{n_b} u(k-n_b-1)$$

- ✓ *CT* model identification - **differential** equation model

Unlike the *DT* model, where only sampled input and output data appear, the *CT* differential equation (DE) model contains I/O **time-derivatives**

$$\frac{d^n y(t)}{dt^n} + a_1 \frac{d^{n-1} y(t)}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_n y(t) = b_0 \frac{d^m u(t)}{dt^m} + b_1 \frac{d^{m-1} u(t)}{dt^{m-1}} + \dots + b_m u(t)$$

Not measured in most  
practical cases

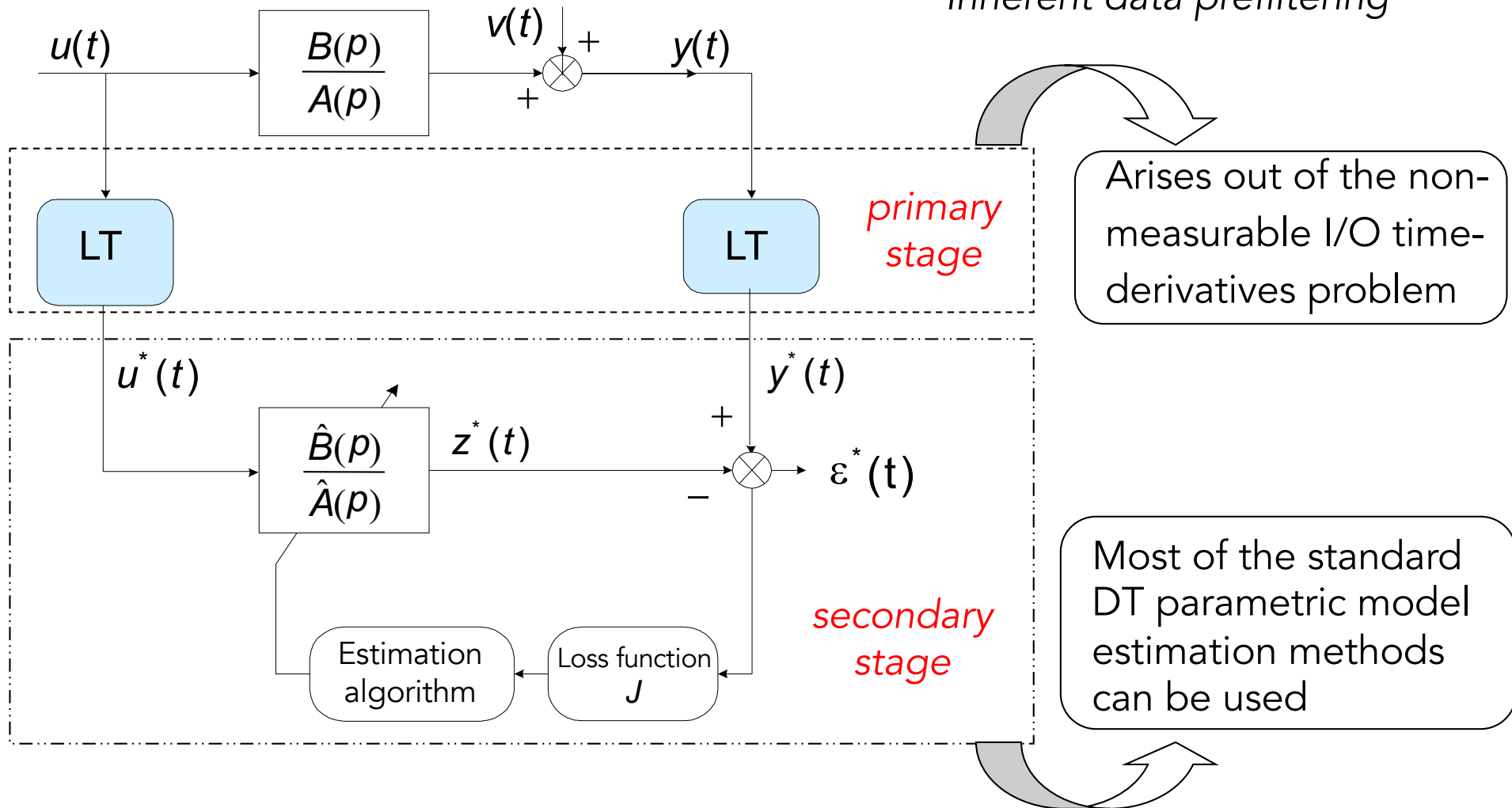
Well-known approach to handle the time-derivative problem:

Apply a **linear transform** to both I/O data can be seen as a **data prefiltering** strategy

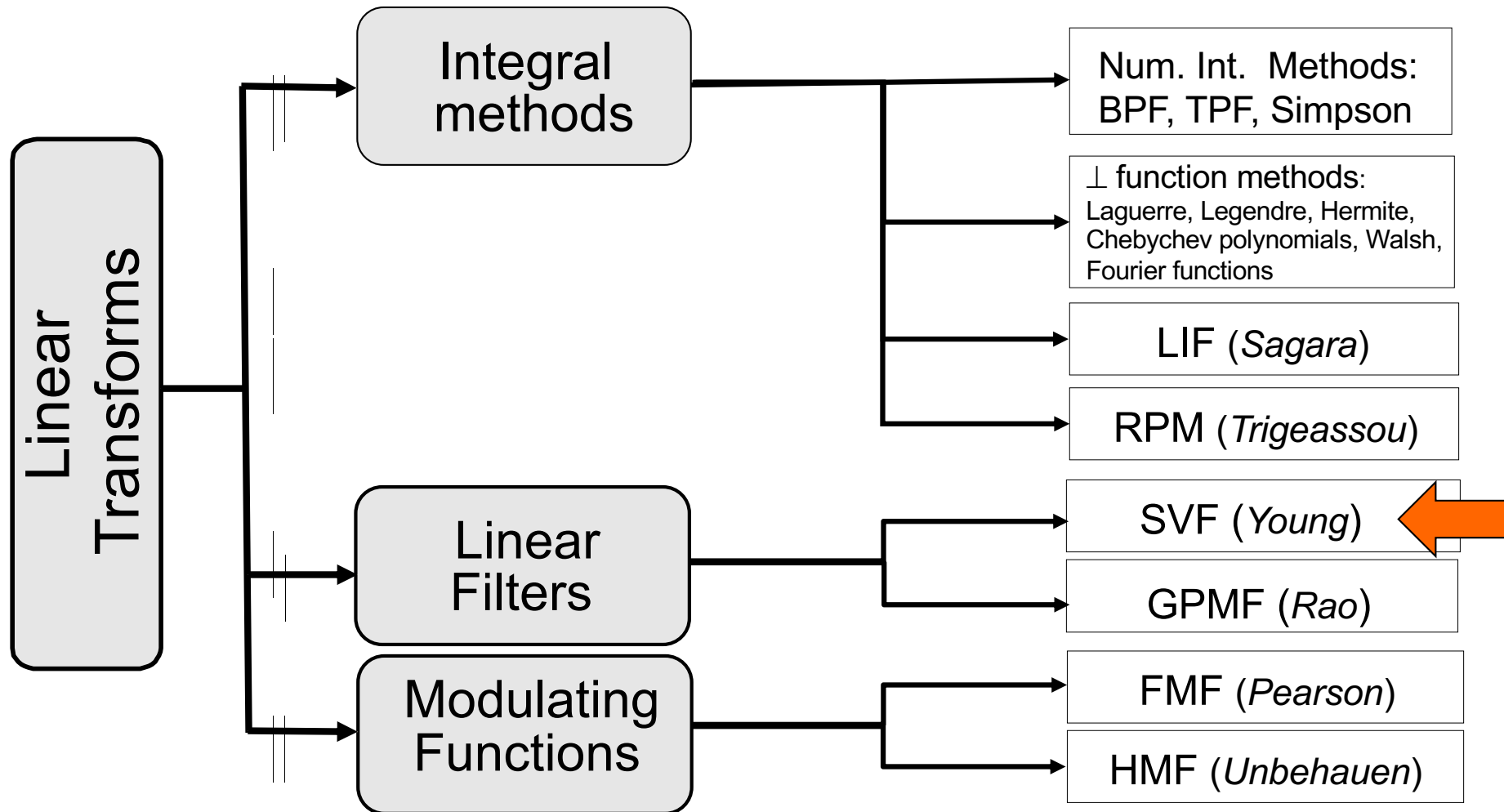
# Two-stage approach for direct CT model identification

LT : Linear Transforms

*Inherent data prefiltering*



# Main linear transforms developed for the primary stage



H. Garnier, M. Mensler, A. Richard, *Continuous-time model identification from sampled data: implementation issues and performance evaluation*. IJC, 76(13), 2003

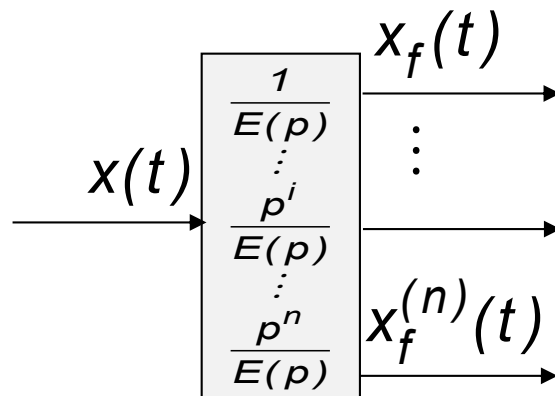


# Traditional State Variable Filtering (SVF) method

$$y^{(n)}(t) + a_1 y^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_n y(t) = b_0 u^{(m)}(t) + \dots + b_m u(t)$$

Apply a stable SVF filter  $L(p)=1/E(p)$  on both sides, the prefiltered DE model obeys exactly (except for a possible transient)

$$y_f^{(n)}(t) + a_1 y_f^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_n y_f(t) = b_0 u_f^{(m)}(t) + \dots + b_m u_f(t)$$



Bank of SVF filters

How to choose  $L(p)=1/E(p)$  ?

$$E(p) = (p + \lambda)^n$$

*The filtered time-derivatives can then be exploited to estimate the parameters of the differential equation model*

# Bode plot of SVF filters

- ✓ The outputs of the SVF filter bank will provide a smoothed estimate of the I/O time-derivatives in the frequency band of interest

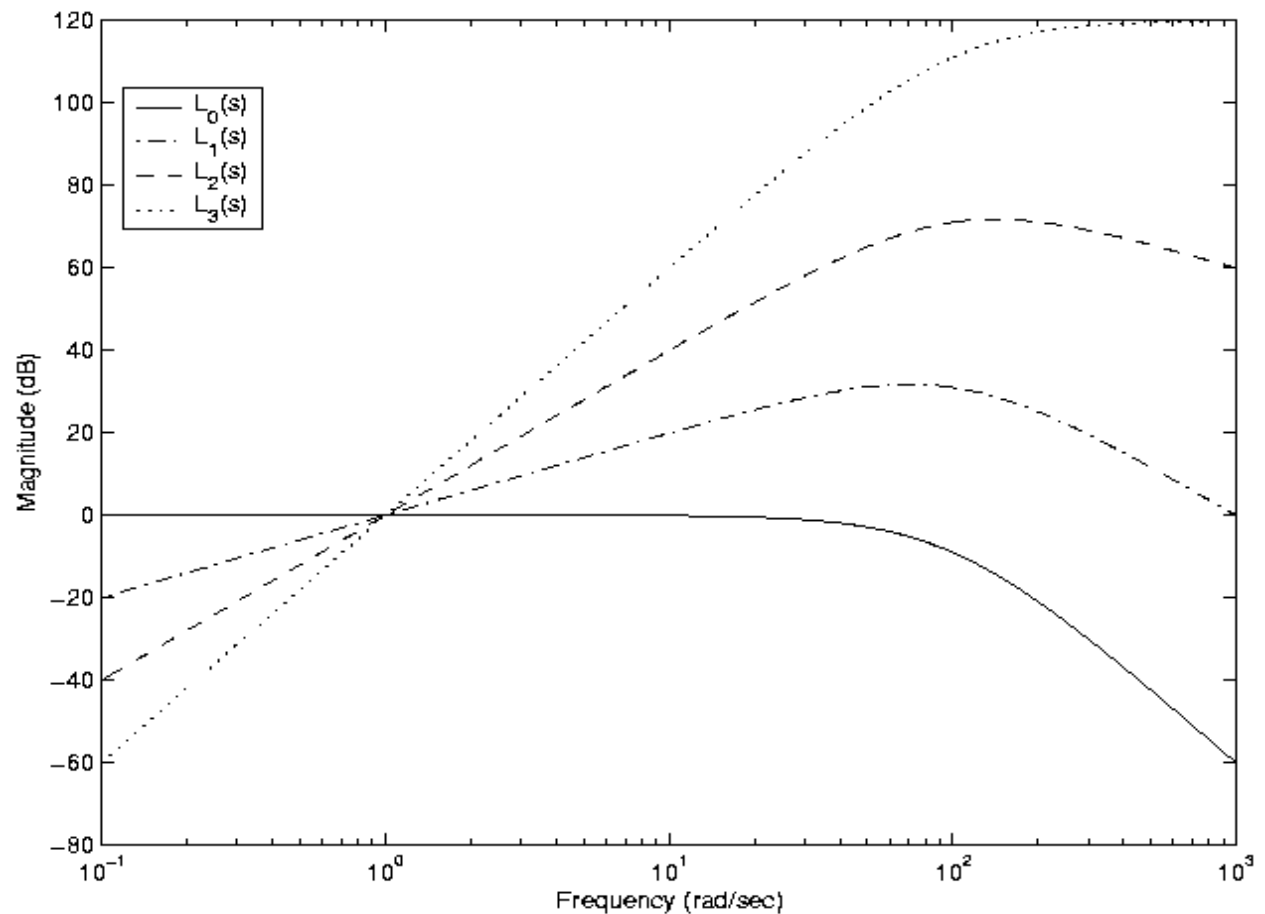
$$L_i(s) = \frac{s^i}{E(s)} = \frac{s^i}{(s + \lambda)^n}$$

$$L_0(s) = \frac{1}{(s + \lambda)^3}$$

$$L_1(s) = \frac{s}{(s + \lambda)^3}$$

$$L_2(s) = \frac{s^2}{(s + \lambda)^3}$$

$$L_3(s) = \frac{s^3}{(s + \lambda)^3}$$



## Simple least squares-based SVF estimator

- ✓ At  $t=t_k$ , the prefiltered DE model can be rewritten in linear regression form

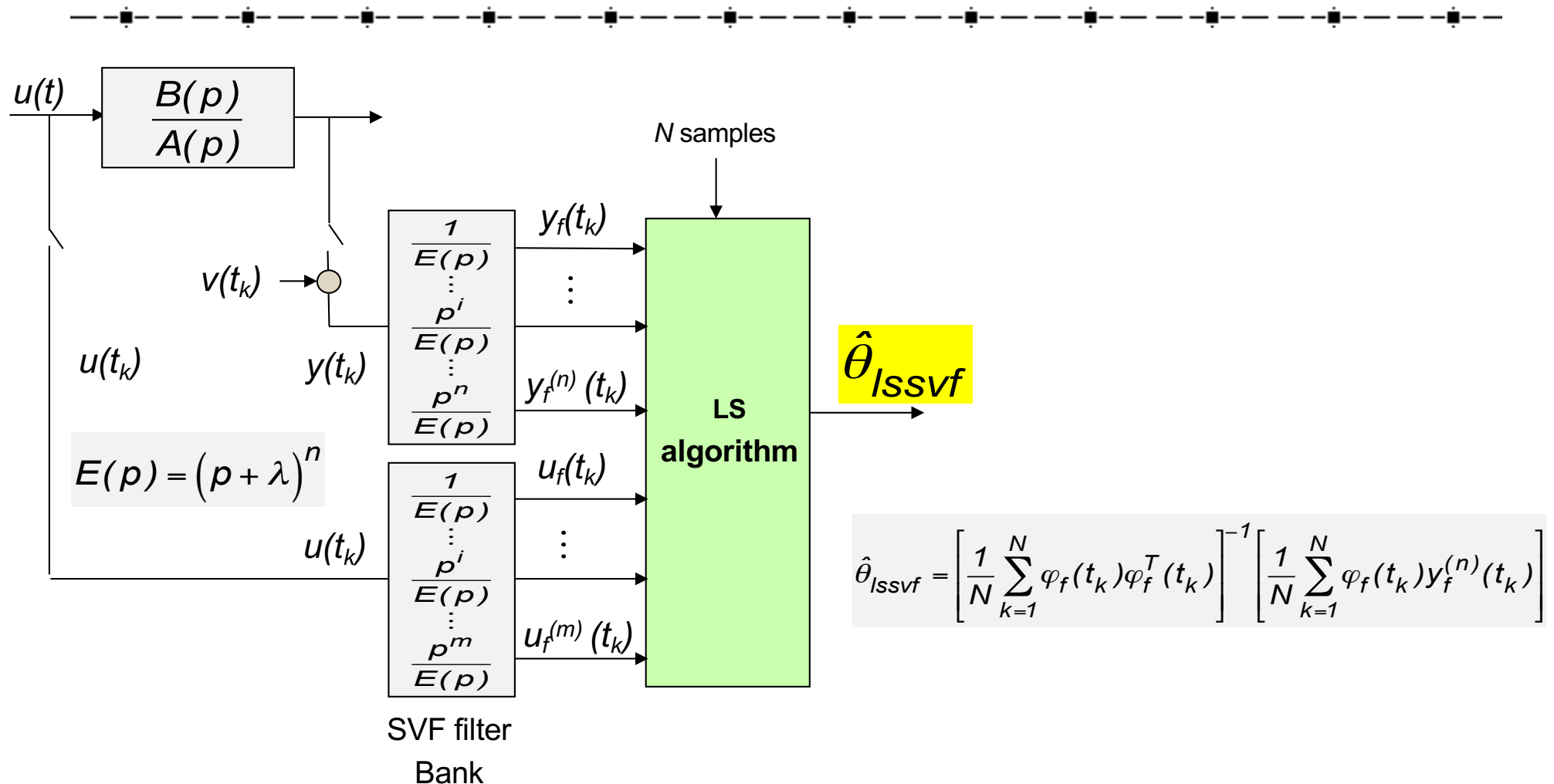
$$\begin{aligned}
 y_f^{(n)}(t_k) &= \varphi_f^T(t_k) \theta + \varepsilon(t_k) \\
 \varphi_f^T(t_k) &= \begin{bmatrix} -y_f^{(n-1)}(t_k) & \cdots & -y_f(t_k) & u_f^{(m)}(t_k) & \cdots & u_f(t_k) \end{bmatrix} \\
 \theta &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & \cdots & a_n & b_0 & \cdots & b_m \end{bmatrix}^T
 \end{aligned}$$

- ✓ From  $N$  samples observed at  $t_1, \dots, t_N$ , the LS-based SVF parameter estimates are computed as

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \arg \min_{\theta} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \left( y_f^{(n)}(t_k) - \varphi_f^T(t_k) \theta \right)^2 \right)$$

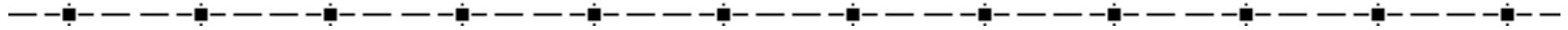
$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) y_f^{(n)}(t_k) \right]$$

# Simple LS-based SVF estimator



*This simple LS-based SVF estimator represents the simplest archetype of CT model identification from sampled data*

## LSSVF method - Example



- ✓ Consider a second-order system

$$y^{(2)}(t) + a_1 y^{(1)}(t) + a_2 y(t) = b_0 u(t) + e(t)$$

$$(p^2 + a_1 p + a_2) y(t) = b_0 u(t) + e(t)$$

- ✓ Apply a second-order SVF filter  $L(p) = 1/(p+\lambda)^2$

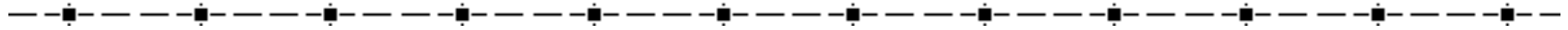
$$\left( \frac{p^2}{(p+\lambda)^2} + a_1 \frac{p}{(p+\lambda)^2} + a_2 \frac{1}{(p+\lambda)^2} \right) y(t) = \left( b_0 \frac{1}{(p+\lambda)^2} \right) u(t) + \frac{1}{(p+\lambda)^2} e(t)$$

$$y_f^{(2)}(t) + a_1 y_f^{(1)}(t) + a_2 y_f(t) = b_0 u_f(t) + e_f(t)$$

- ✓ At  $t=t_k$

$$y_f^{(2)}(t_k) = \begin{bmatrix} -y_f^{(1)}(t_k) & -y_f(t_k) & u_f(t_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_0 \end{bmatrix} + e_f(t_k)$$

# LSSVF method - Example



✓ At  $t=t_k$

$$y_f^{(2)}(t_k) = \begin{bmatrix} -y_f^{(1)}(t_k) & -y_f(t_k) & u_f(t_k) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_0 \end{bmatrix} + e_f(t_k)$$

✓ For  $t=t_1, \dots, t_N$ , we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_f^{(2)}(t_1) \\ y_f^{(2)}(t_2) \\ \vdots \\ y_f^{(2)}(t_N) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -y_f^{(1)}(t_1) & -y_f(t_1) & u_f(t_1) \\ -y_f^{(1)}(t_2) & -y_f(t_2) & u_f(t_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -y_f^{(1)}(t_N) & -y_f(t_N) & u_f(t_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_f(t_1) \\ e_f(t_2) \\ \vdots \\ e_f(t_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Y_N = \Phi_N \theta + E_N$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \left[ \Phi_N^T \Phi_N \right]^{-1} \Phi_N^T Y_N$$

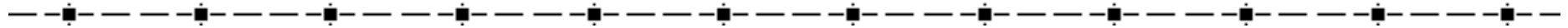
## LS-based SVF estimator – Implementation aspects

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \left[ \Phi_N^T \Phi_N \right]^{-1} \Phi_N^T Y_N = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) y_f^{(n)}(t_k) \right]$$

- ✓ Do not compute the normal equation solution above, but use instead numerically stable and computationally efficient algorithms for computing the LS-based SVF estimates :
  - SVD – Singular Value Decomposition (*pinv* in Matlab)
    - $\Theta = \text{pinv}(\Phi) * Y$  computes the solution to  $Y = \Phi \Theta$
  - QR factorization (matrix division `\` in Matlab)
    - $\Theta = \Phi \backslash Y$  computes also the solution to  $Y = \Phi \Theta$
- ✓ Recommended implementation of the LSSVF solution in Matlab

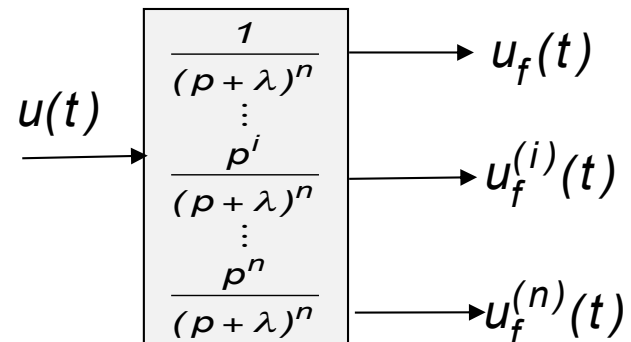
$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \Phi_N \backslash Y_N$$

# SVF-based estimators – Implementation aspects



## ✓ Roles of the SVF filters

- Reconstruct the time-derivatives in the bandwidth of interest
- Improve the statistical efficiency of the estimates (filter out the high-frequency noise)



## ✓ User parameters of the SVF filter

- Filter order: should be chosen larger or equal than the system order  $n$ 
  - Simplest choice: minimal-order SVF,  $L(s) = 1/(s + \lambda)^n$
  - Note that so called minimal-order GPMF where  $L(s) = 1/(s + \lambda)^{n+1}$  is often more robust against the noise than basic SVF (see *lsgpmf* in *CONTSID*)
- Cut-off frequency  $\lambda$  of the SVF filter  $L(s) = 1/(s + \lambda)^n$ , chosen in order to emphasize the frequency band of interest



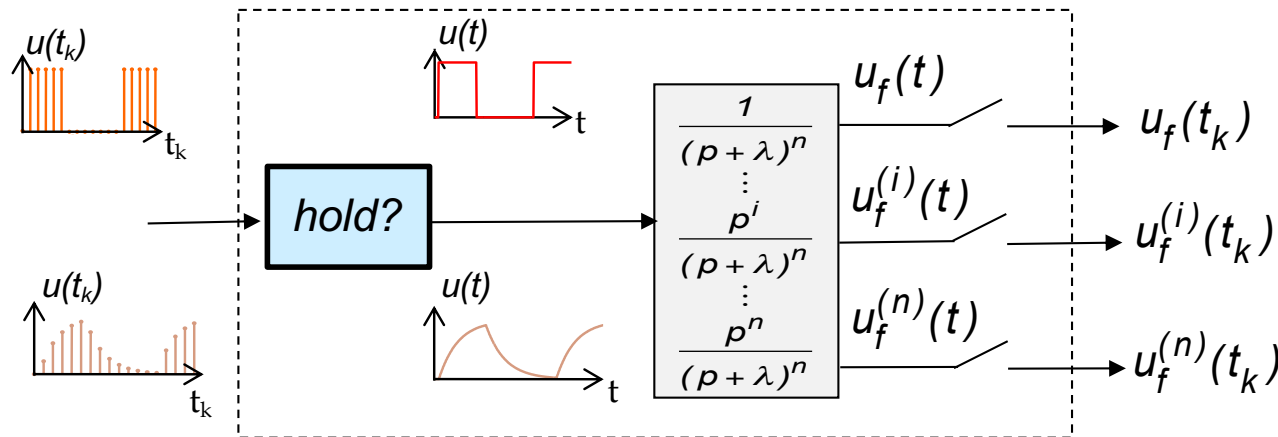
# SVF-based estimators – Implementation aspects

- ✓ Digital implementation of the CT SVF filtering operations
  - The computation of the LSSVF parameter estimates requires the value of prefiltered signals at the time-instants  $t_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, N$

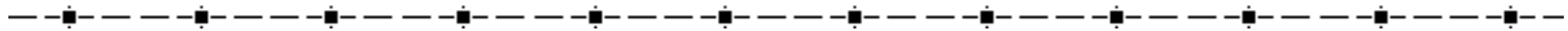
$$\begin{bmatrix} y_f^{(2)}(t_1) \\ y_f^{(2)}(t_2) \\ \vdots \\ y_f^{(2)}(t_N) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -y_f^{(1)}(t_1) & -y_f(t_1) & u_f(t_1) \\ -y_f^{(1)}(t_2) & -y_f(t_2) & u_f(t_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -y_f^{(1)}(t_N) & -y_f(t_N) & u_f(t_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_f(t_1) \\ e_f(t_2) \\ \vdots \\ e_f(t_N) \end{bmatrix} \quad Y_N = \Phi_N \theta + E_N$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \Phi_N \setminus Y_N$$

- The digital implementation method has to be selected carefully according to the assumption about the filter input intersample behavior: *choice of the hold block*



# Digital implementation of the CT SVF filtering operations



- If the filter input intersample behavior is known (e.g. piecewise constant or piecewise linear) or if the input takes a particular form (e.g. a sine or sum of sines):
  - an exact solution to the filtering operation at specified time-instants can be obtained
- If the filter input intersample behavior is not known:
  - approximate solution to the filtering operation can be obtained only
    - approximation errors depend on  $T_s$  and fast sampling is often preferred in CT model identification
    - *Fast sampling is however not required for all CT methods, e.g. SRIVC (see later on)*
- One efficient approach is implemented in the Matlab *lsim* routine
  - where the state-space representation of the SVF filter bank is discretized assuming the best *zoh* or *foh* assumption for the input intersample behavior

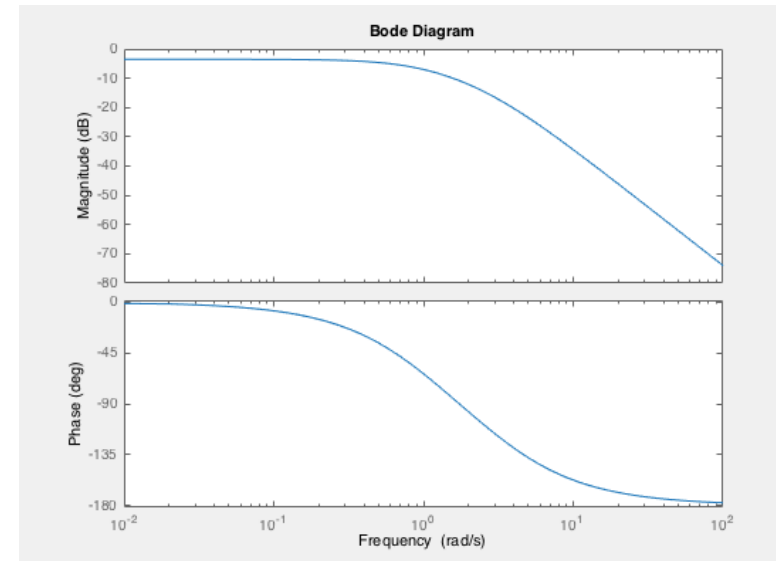
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = A_c x(t) + B_c u(t) \\ y(t) = Cx(t) \end{cases} \xrightarrow[T_s]{\text{hold}} \begin{cases} x(t_{k+1}) = F_d x(t_k) + G_d u(t_k) \\ y(t_k) = Cx(t_k) \end{cases}$$

# LSSVF implementation in Matlab – 2<sup>nd</sup>-order example

- ✓ Simple second-order COE model

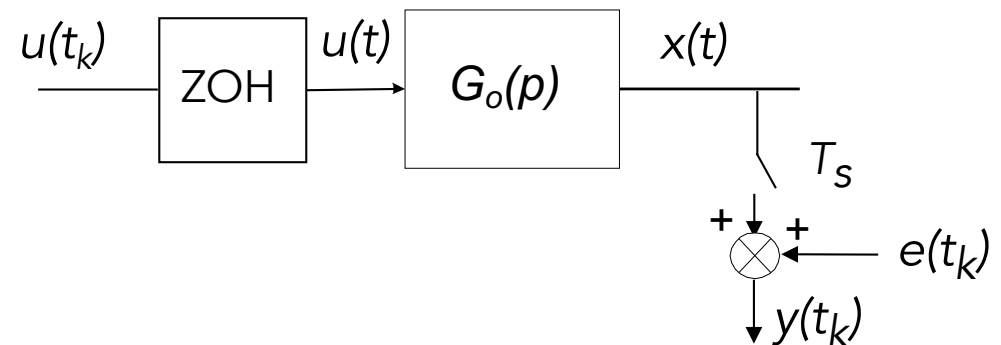
$$\begin{cases} x(t) = G_o(p)u(t) \\ y(t_k) = x(t_k) + e(t_k) \end{cases}$$

$$G_o(p) = \frac{2}{(p+3)(p+1)} = \frac{2}{p^2 + 4p + 3}$$



- ✓ Simulations conditions

- $u(t)$ : PRBS
- $T_s = 10 \text{ ms}$
- $N = 1500$
- 2 output measurement situations
  - Noise-free
  - $e(t_k)$ : white Gaussian noise,  $\sigma_e = 0.2$

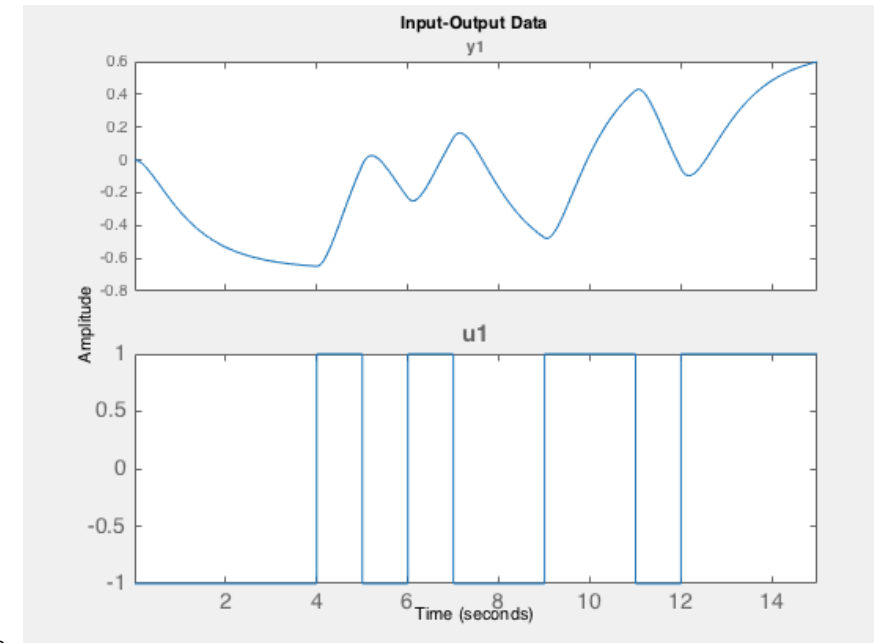


# LSSVF estimator - Matlab implementation – Noise-free case

```

B=2; % B(p)=2
A=[1 4 3]; % A(p)=p^2+4p+3 – True system
Ts=0.01;
u=prbs(4,100); % PRBS input from the CONTSID
N=1500;
t=(0:N-1)*Ts;
x=lsim(B,A,u,t); % simulation of the noise-free output data
data0=iddata(x,u,Ts);idplot(data0);
% Primary stage - SVF filtering
lambda=3; % l: SVF filter cut-off frequency
den_L=[1 2*lambda lambda^2]; % denominator of the SVF filter
num_L0=1; % numerator of L0(p)=1/(p+λ)^2
num_L1=[1 0]; % numerator of L1(p)=p/(p+λ)^2
num_L2=[1 0 0]; % numerator of L2(p)=p^2/(p+λ)^2
xf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,x,t); % Computation of the SVF filter bank outputs
xf1=lsim(num_L1,den_L,x,t);
xf2=lsim(num_L2,den_L,x,t);
uf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,u,t);
% Secondary stage - LS estimates
Phi_N=[-xf1 -xf0 uf0]; % Regression matrix
Y_N=xf2; % Output vector
theta_lssvf=Phi_N\Y_N % LSSVF estimates
theta_lssvf' % see also the LSSVF routine in the CONTSID toolbox
3.9997 2.9998 1.9999 % Mlssvf=lssvf(data0,[2 1 0],lambda)

```



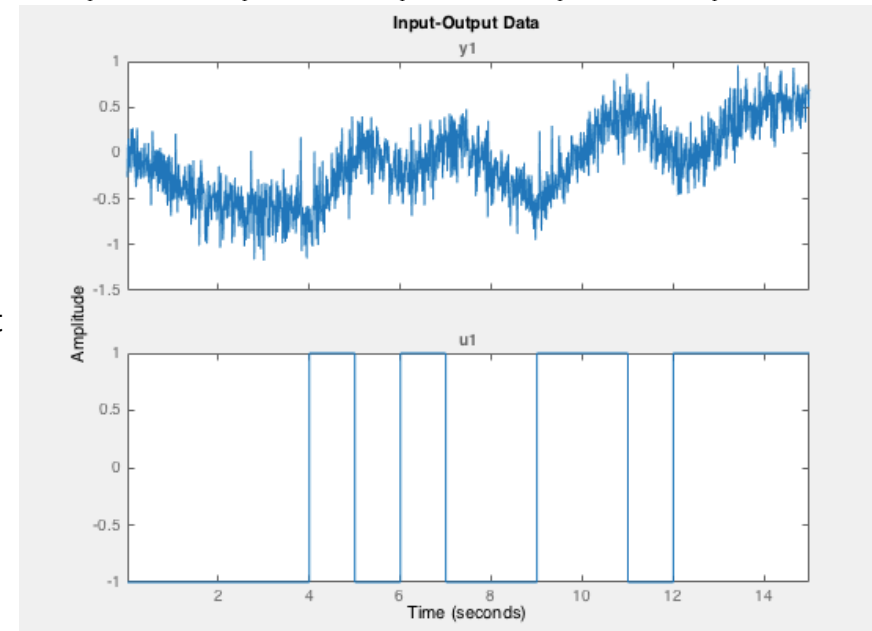
## LSSVF estimator - Matlab implementation – Noisy case

```

B=2; % B(p)=2
A=[1 4 3]; % A(p)=p^2+4p+3 – True system
u=prbs(4,100); % PRBS input from the CONTSID
N=1500; Ts=0.01;
t=(0:N-1)*Ts;
x=lsim(B,A,u,t); % simulation of the noise-free output
y=x+0.2*randn(N,1); % white noise added to the noise free output
data=iddata(y,u,Ts);idplot(data);
% Primary stage - SVF filtering
lambda=3; % l: SVF filter cut-off frequency
den_L=[1 2*lambda lambda^2]; % denominator of the SVF filter
num_L0=1; % numerator of L0(p)=1/(p+λ)^2
num_L1=[1 0]; % numerator of L1(p)=p/(p+λ)^2
num_L2=[1 0 0]; % numerator of L2(p)=p^2/(p+λ)^2
yf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,y,t); % Computation of the SVF filter bank outputs
yf1=lsim(num_L1,den_L,y,t);
yf2=lsim(num_L2,den_L,y,t);
uf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,u,t);
% Secondary stage - LS estimates
Phi_N=[-yf1 -yf0 uf0]; % Regression matrix
Y_N=yf2; % Output vector
theta_lssvf=Phi_N\Y_N % LSSVF estimates
theta_lssvf' % see also the LSSVF routine in the CONTSID toolbox
3.2542 2.6889 1.6865 % Mlssvf=lssvf(data,[2 1 0],lambda)

```

$$S \notin M, G \in G_o$$



## Basic LSSVF estimator – Statistical analysis

- ✓ Assume the data-generating system is described as

$$S: y^{(n)}(t_k) = \varphi^T(t_k)\theta_o + v(t_k)$$

where  $\theta_o$  is the true parameter vector

- ✓ Assume that  $v(t_k)$  is a stationary stochastic process **independent of  $u(t_k)$** . After the SVF filtering, the data-generating system can be rewritten as

$$y_f^{(n)}(t_k) = \varphi_f^T(t_k)\theta_o + v_f(t_k)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) y_f^{(n)}(t_k) \right]$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \theta_o + \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) v_f(t_k) \right]$$

## Basic LSSVF estimator – Statistical analysis

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} = \theta_o + \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \varphi_f(t_k) v_f(t_k) \right]$$

- ✓ Under weak conditions, the normalized sums tend to the corresponding expected values as  $N$  tends to infinity. Hence

$$\hat{\theta}_{lssvf} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \theta_o \quad \text{if} \begin{cases} \bar{E} \left\{ \varphi_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right\} \text{ is nonsingular} \\ \bar{E} \left\{ \varphi_f(t_k) v_f(t_k) \right\} = 0 \end{cases}$$

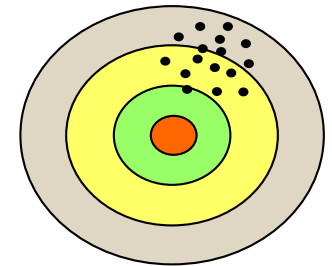
- The first condition is satisfied in most cases
- The second condition is never satisfied

- ✓ **LSSVF** estimates are ***always biased*** because of the correlation between the regression vector  $\varphi_f(t_k)$  and the noise  $v_f(t_k)$
- even if  $v(t_k)$  is white noise,  $v_f(t_k)$  becomes colored due to the SVF filtering

## Simple LSSVF estimator – Conclusions

- ✓ Simple LSSVF method has some attractive properties
  - Simple, analytical solution easy to compute, low computational complexity
- ✓ Main shortcomings
  - *always biased* in noisy output measurement situations

$$\bar{E}\{\hat{\theta}_{lssvf}\} \neq \theta_o \quad \text{since} \quad \bar{E}\{\varphi_f(t_k)v_f(t_k)\} \neq 0$$



- *quite sensitive* to the SVF filter cut-off frequency

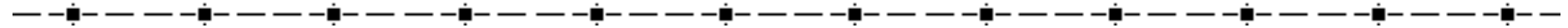
$$L(p) = \frac{1}{(p + \lambda)^n}$$

- Motivation for studying more advanced methods

*We can do better !*

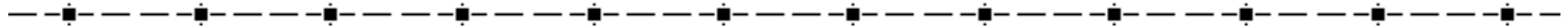


# Traditional solutions to get optimal estimates



- ✓ *Maximum Likelihood Method* (ML)
  - If the disturbances on the system are Gaussian, the ML method coincides with the *Prediction Error Method* (PEM)
  
- ✓ *Instrumental Variable Method* (IV)

# Prediction Error Method (PEM)

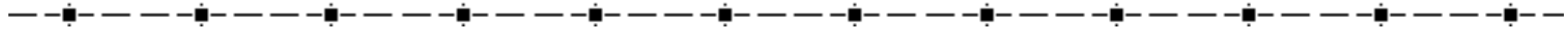


- ✓ Main idea: *model the noise* !
- ✓ General approach applicable to a wide range of model structures: OE, BJ, ...
- ✓ Conditions to obtain optimal PEM estimates are well-established

$$\hat{\theta}_{pem} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{k=1}^N \varepsilon^2(t_k, \theta) = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{k=1}^N \|y(t_k) - \hat{y}(t_k, \theta)\|^2$$

- ✓ If assumptions about the noise valid: delivers optimal estimates
- ✓ Involves often solving a non-convex optimization problem
  - relies on iterative nonlinear optimization (*computationally quite demanding*)
    - Examples: gradient descent, Levenberg-Marquardt, ... See *TFEST* in the SID toolbox
  - special care required for the initialization of the iterative search
    - may be trapped in false solutions that correspond to local minima

# Instrumental Variable (IV) method

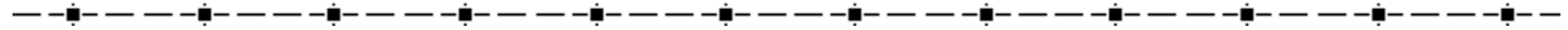


- ✓ Main idea: *model the noise !*
- ✓ General approach applicable to a wide range of model structures: OE, BJ, ...
- ✓ Conditions to obtain optimal IV estimates are well-established

$$\hat{\theta}_{iv}^{opt} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{k=1}^N \left\| z_f^{opt}(t_k) L^{opt}(p) \left( y(t_k) - \varphi^T(t_k) \theta \right) \right\|_Q^2$$

- Need to specify the *instrument*  $z_f$  and the *prefilter*  $L(p)$
- ✓ If the assumptions about the noise are valid: delivers *optimal* estimates
- ✓ If the assumptions about the noise are not valid: delivers *unbiased* estimates
- ✓ Based on (pseudo) linear regression
  - *do not rely on nonlinear optimization : less risk to be trapped in false solutions*
  - *low computational complexity (comparable to the LS method)*

# Solution of the Instrumental Variable (IV) method



- ✓ **Recap:** LSSVF estimates always biased because of the correlation between the regression vector  $\varphi_f(t_k)$  and the noise  $v_f(t_k)$
- ✓ **Main idea of IV:** introduce a vector  $z_f(t_k)$  called *instrument* or *instrumental variable* which components are uncorrelated with  $v_f(t_k)$

$$E\{z_f(t_k)v_f(t_k)\} = 0$$

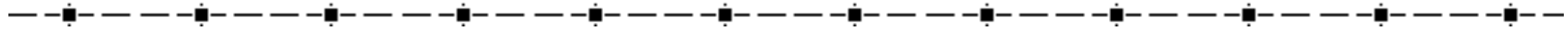
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k)v_f(t_k) = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad v_f(t_k) = y_f^{(n)}(t_k) - \varphi_f^T(t_k)\theta$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{iv} = \text{sol}_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k) \left( y_f^{(n)}(t_k) - \varphi_f^T(t_k)\theta \right) = 0$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{iv} = \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k) y_f^{(n)}(t_k) \right]$$

- How should the instrument  $z_f(t_k)$  be chosen ?

## Basic two step IV-based SVF estimator



✓ The instrument must be chosen so that it is:

- not correlated with the measurement noise  $E\{z_f(t_k)v_f(t_k)\} = 0$
- sufficiently correlated with the filtered regression vector  $E\{z_f(t_k)\varphi_f^T(t_k)\} \neq 0$

$$\varphi_f^T(t_k) = L(p) \begin{bmatrix} -y^{(n-1)}(t_k) & \cdots & -y(t_k) & u^{(m)}(t_k) & \cdots & u(t_k) \end{bmatrix} \quad L(p) = \frac{1}{(p + \lambda)^n}$$

✓ In the basic two-step IVSVF estimator, the instrument is built as

$$z_f^T(t_k) = L(p) \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{x}^{(n-1)}(t_k) & \cdots & -\hat{x}(t_k) & u^{(m)}(t_k) & \cdots & u(t_k) \end{bmatrix}$$

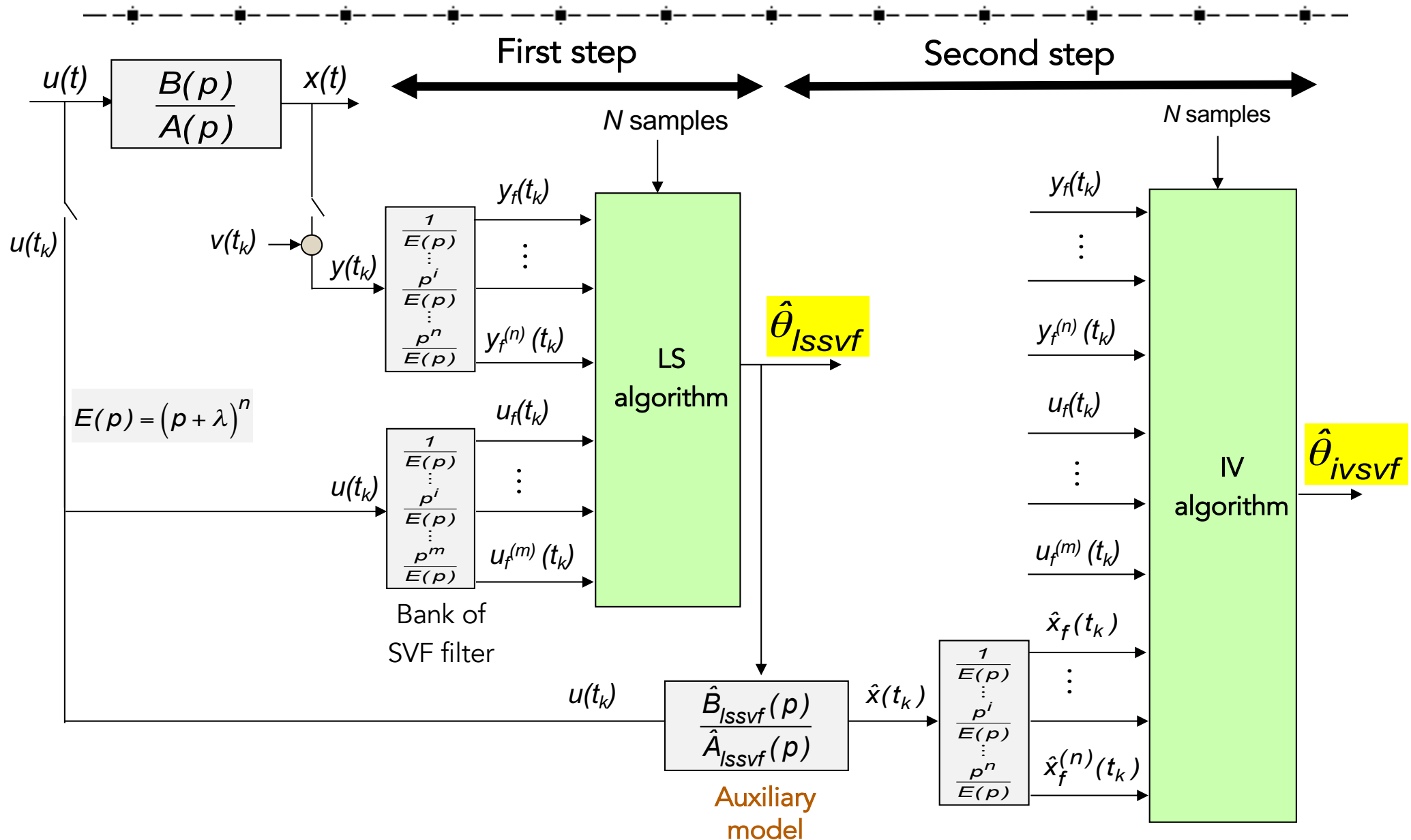
$$\hat{x}(t_k) = G(p, \hat{\theta}_{lssvf})u(t_k)$$

is the estimated noise-free output calculated from an *a priori* LSSVF estimate

✓ The basic **IV-based SVF** estimator can then be computed from

$$\hat{\theta}_{ivsvf} = \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k) \varphi_f^T(t_k) \right]^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k) y_f^{(n)}(t_k) \right]$$

# Two-step IV-based SVF estimator - Summary



## IVSVF estimator - Matlab implementation – Noisy case

```

B=2; % B(p)=2
A=[1 4 3]; % A(p)=p^2+4p+3 – True system
u=prbs(4,100); % PRBS input from the CONTSID
N=1500; Ts=0.01;
t=(0:N-1)*Ts;
x=lsim(B,A,u,t); % simulation of the noise-free output
y=x+0.2*randn(N,1); % white Gaussian noise added
data=iddata(y,u,Ts);idplot(data);

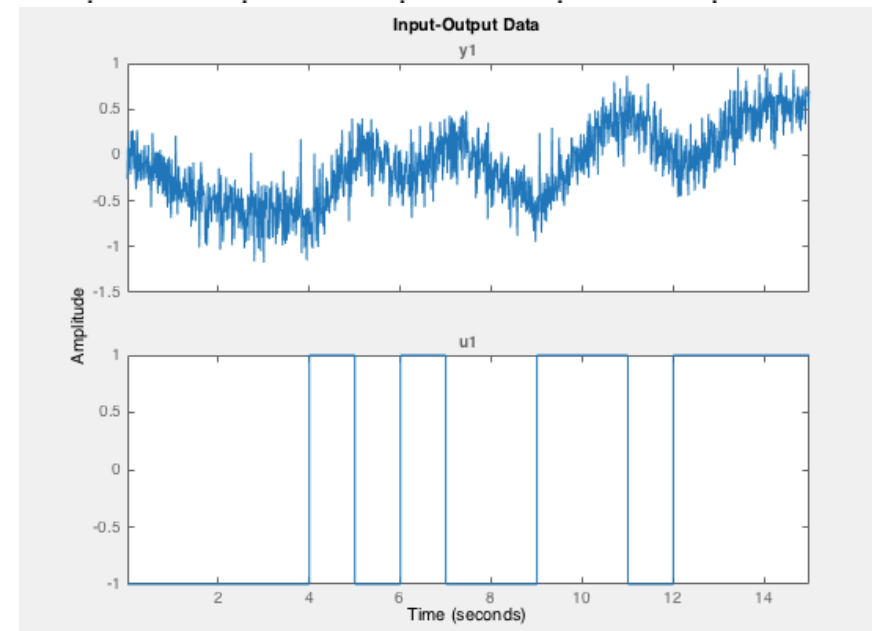
```

### % First step – LSSVF estimation

```

lambda=3; % l: SVF filter cut-off frequency
den_L=[1 2*lambda lambda^2]; % denominator of the SVF filter
num_L0=1; % numerator of L0(p)=1/(p+λ)^2
num_L1=[1 0]; % numerator of L1(p) = p/(p+λ)^2
num_L2=[1 0 0]; % numerator of L2(p) = p^2/(p+λ)^2
yf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,y,t); % Computation of the SVF filter bank outputs
yf1=lsim(num_L1,den_L,y,t);
yf2=lsim(num_L2,den_L,y,t);
uf0=lsim(num_L0,den_L,u,t);
Phi_N=[-yf1 -yf0 uf0]; % Regression matrix
Y_N=yf2; % Output vector
theta_lssvf=Phi_N\Y_N % LSSVF estimates
theta_lssvf' % see also the LSSVF routine in the CONTSID toolbox
3.2542 2.6889 1.6865 % Mlssvf=lssvf(data,[2 1 0],lambda)

```



## IVSVF estimator - Matlab implementation – Noisy case

### % Second step – IVSVF estimation

% Construction of the auxiliary model

Blssvf=theta\_lssvf(3)'; % Auxiliary model

Alssvf=[1 theta\_lssvf(1:2)'];

% Simulation of the auxiliary model output

xest=lsim(Blssvf,Alssvf,u,t);

% Computation of the SVF filter bank outputs for the auxiliary model

xestf0=lsim(num\_L0,den\_L,xest,t); % filtered auxiliary model output

xestf1=lsim(num\_L1,den\_L,xest,t); % 1st-order time-derivative of the filtered auxiliary model output

% Construction of the IV matrix

Z\_N=[-xestf1 -xestf0 uf0]; % Instrumental variable matrix

% IVSVF estimates

theta\_ivsvf=(Z\_N'\*Phi\_N)\Z\_N'\*Y\_N; % IVSVF solution

theta\_ivsvf'

**3.9454 2.9977 1.9685**

% see also the ivsvf routine in the CONTSID toolbox

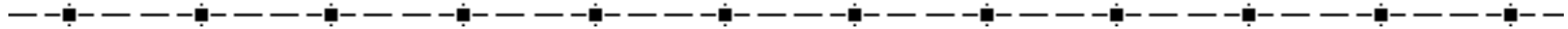
% Mivsvf=ivsvf(data,[2 1 0],lambda)

*% The estimation error has clearly been reduced*

*% Run several times your program to get a feel for the bias reduction (which can vary depending on the noise realization) or even better run a Monte Carlo simulation*



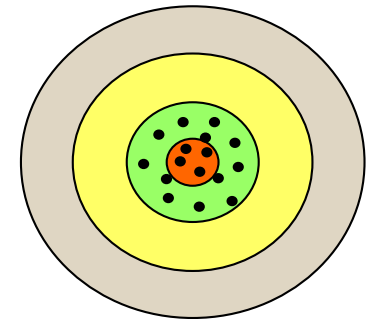
# Basic IVSVF estimator – Conclusions



- ✓ Some attractive properties
  - simple
  - analytical solution
  - low computational complexity
  - unbiased estimates in output measurement noise situations

$$S \notin M, G \in G_o$$

- ✓ But IVSVF estimates
  - the method is not iterative, it has two steps only
  - quite sensitive to the choice of the SVF filter
  - not minimum variance



- ✓ Motivation for studying more advanced IV methods

*We can still do better !*

*How to choose the instrument to get optimal estimates ?*

## Extended Instrumental Variable

✓ To improve the basic IV estimate accuracy, some extensions are introduced

- operate a prefiltering by  $L(\rho)$  on both I/O data
- enlarge the instrument vector  $\mathbf{z}(t_k)$  such that  $n_z \geq n_\theta$   $\rho = q$  or  $\rho = p$

✓ The so-called **extended IV estimate** is then given (Söderström & Stoica 1983)

$$\hat{\theta}_{xiv} = \arg \min_{\theta} \left\| \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N L(\rho) \mathbf{z}(t_k) L(\rho) \varphi^T(t_k) \right)}_{R_N} \theta - \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N L(\rho) \mathbf{z}(t_k) L(\rho) y(t_k) \right)}_{r_N} \right\|_Q^2$$

- $L(\rho)$  is a stable prefilter,  $Q$  a positive definite weighting matrix  $\|x\|_Q^2 = x^T Q x$

✓ It is the weighted LS solution of an overdetermined system of linear equations

$$\hat{\theta}_{xiv} = \left( R_N^T Q R_N \right)^{-1} \left( R_N^T Q r_N \right)$$

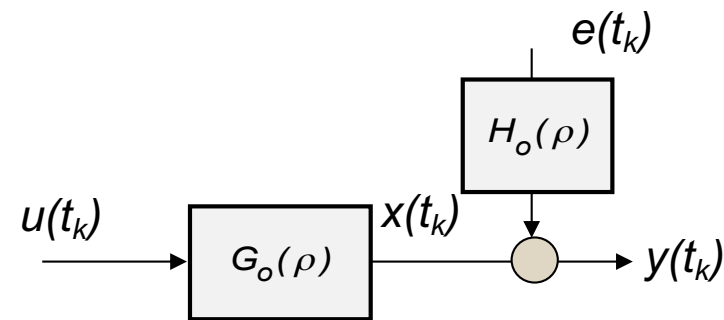
- This solution is then well suited for the consistency analysis of the IV estimators

# Optimal IV – General results

- ✓ Data-generating system ( $\rho=p$  or  $\rho=q$ )

$$y(t_k) = \frac{B_o(\rho)}{A_o(\rho)} u(t_k) + H_o(\rho) e(t_k)$$

$$y(t_k) = \varphi^T(t_k) \theta_o + v(t_k)$$



- ✓ IV estimates are **consistent** if

$$\begin{cases} \bar{E} \{ L(\rho) z(t_k) L(\rho) v(t_k) \} = 0 \\ \bar{E} \{ L(\rho) z(t_k) L(\rho) \varphi^T(t_k) \} \text{ is nonsingular} \end{cases}$$

- ✓ IV estimates are **optimal** if  
(Söderström and Stoica 1983)

$$Q = I \quad n_z = n_{\theta_o}$$

$$L^{opt}(\rho) = \frac{1}{H_o(\rho) A_o(\rho)}$$

$$z^{opt}(t_k) = \varphi_o(t_k) : \text{noise-free version of } \varphi(t_k)$$

- ✓ IV estimates are asymptotically **Gaussian distributed**

$$\sqrt{N}(\hat{\theta}_{iv} - \theta_o) \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{dist} N(0, P_{iv})$$

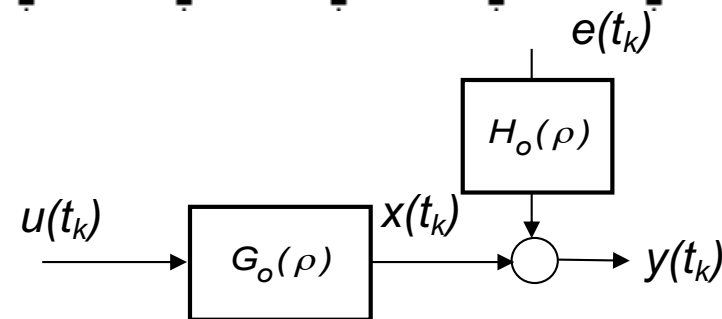
$$P_{iv} = \sigma_e^2 \bar{E} \left\{ \left( L(\rho) z(t_k) \right) \left( L(\rho) z(t_k) \right)^T \right\}$$

# Optimal IV – General results

- ✓ Data-generating system ( $\rho=p$  or  $\rho=q$ )

$$y(t_k) = \frac{B_o(\rho)}{A_o(\rho)} u(t_k) + H_o(\rho) e(t_k)$$

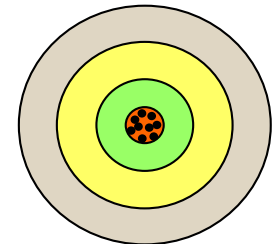
$$y(t_k) = \varphi^T(t_k) \theta_o + v(t_k)$$



- ✓ **Optimal accuracy** if (Söderström & Stoica 1983. See also Young 1976. Optimal IV derives from the ML equations. See the following recent paper  
P.C. Young, Refined instrumental variable estimation: ML optimization of a unified BJ model, Automatica, 2015)

$$L^{opt}(\rho) = \frac{1}{H_o(\rho)A_o(\rho)}$$

$$z_f^{opt}(t_k) = L^{opt}(\rho)\varphi_o(t_k) \quad \varphi_o(t_k): \text{noise-free version of } \varphi(t_k)$$



- ✓ **Inherent filtering**: a distinguishing feature of optimal IV
- Interesting for CT model identification, the filtering
    - ensures minimum variance estimates
    - provides a convenient way for generating the time-derivatives
      - can be **automatically (and optimally) chosen**

# Implementation of the optimal IV solution

## ✓ Usual dilemma met with accuracy optimization

- requires the knowledge of the true plant and noise models !!
- $\varphi_o(t_k)$ : noise-free version of  $\varphi(t_k)$

requires the knowledge of the noise-free output  $x(t_k)$

$$\begin{cases} z_f^{opt}(t_k) = L^{opt}(\rho) \varphi_o(t_k) \\ L^{opt}(\rho) = \frac{1}{H_o(\rho) A_o(\rho)} \end{cases}$$

## ✓ Two different main implementations have been suggested

### ▪ Multistep procedure (Söderström & Stoica 1983)

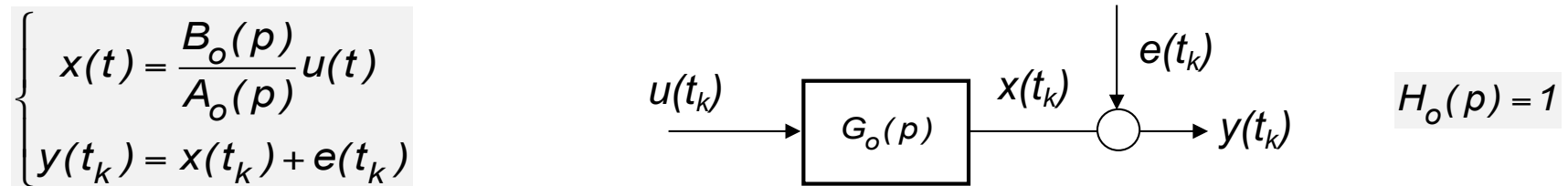
- Example: IV4 (4 steps) routine in the SID toolbox
  - assumes a (rather peculiar) ARARX model structure
  - may be quite unreliable in practice (see later on)

### ▪ Iterative (or refined) procedure (Young 1976, 1984)

- Example: TFSRIVC routine in the CONTSID toolbox
  - assumes a COE model structure
  - is particularly reliable in practice

# Iterative implementation of optimal IV: TFSRIVC for COE models

- ✓ Data-generating system: a CT output error (COE) model



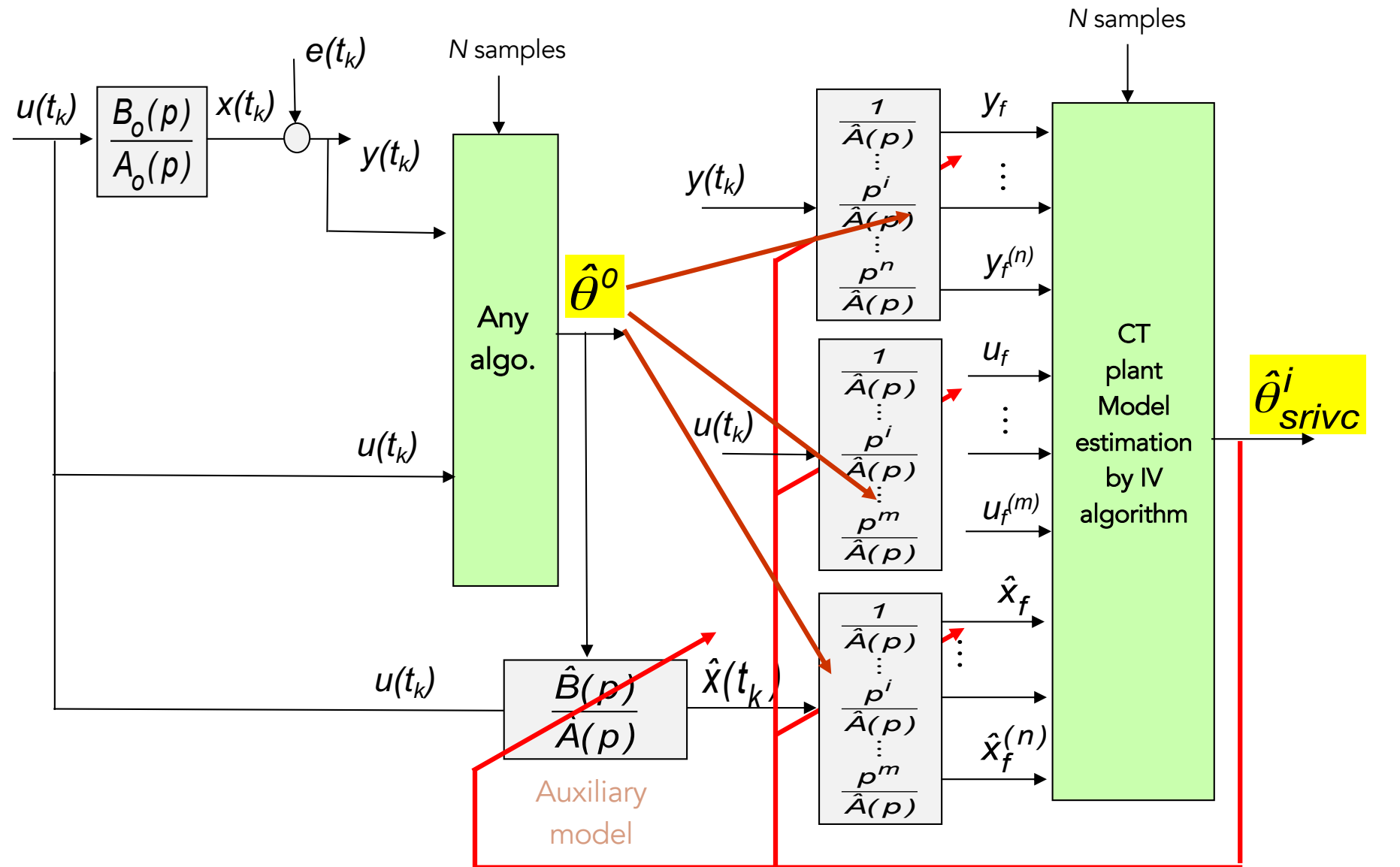
- ✓ Optimal choice for the instrument and filter

$$\begin{cases} z_f^{opt}(t_k) = L^{opt}(p) \varphi_o(t_k) \\ L^{opt}(p) = \frac{1}{A_o(p)} \end{cases} \quad \varphi_o^T(t_k) = \begin{bmatrix} -x^{(n-1)}(t_k) & \cdots & -x(t_k) & u^{(m)}(t_k) & \cdots & u(t_k) \end{bmatrix}$$

- ✓ Requires the knowledge of the true plant model and noise-free output
- ✓ Solution (P.C. Young)
  - use of an **iterative procedure** where the instrument and prefilter are iteratively adapted until they converge on their optimal value

$$\hat{\theta}_{srivc}^{i+1} = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k, \hat{\theta}^i) \varphi_f^T(t_k, \hat{\theta}^i) \right]^{-1} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k, \hat{\theta}^i) y_f^{(n)}(t_k, \hat{\theta}^i) \right]$$

# Optimal TFSRIVC method for COE models



The learning rate is usual very fast

47 Convergence occurs in about 4 to 5 iterations H. Garnier

# TFSRIVC parametric error covariance matrix estimate

- ✓ Good empirical estimates of the uncertainty in the TFSRIVC parameter estimates
  - Provided by the parametric error covariance matrix estimate

$$P_{\hat{\theta}_{srivc}} = E \left\{ \left( \hat{\theta}_{srivc} - \theta_o \right) \left( \hat{\theta}_{srivc} - \theta_o \right)^T \right\} \geq J^{-1} \quad J : \text{Fischer Inf. Matrix}$$

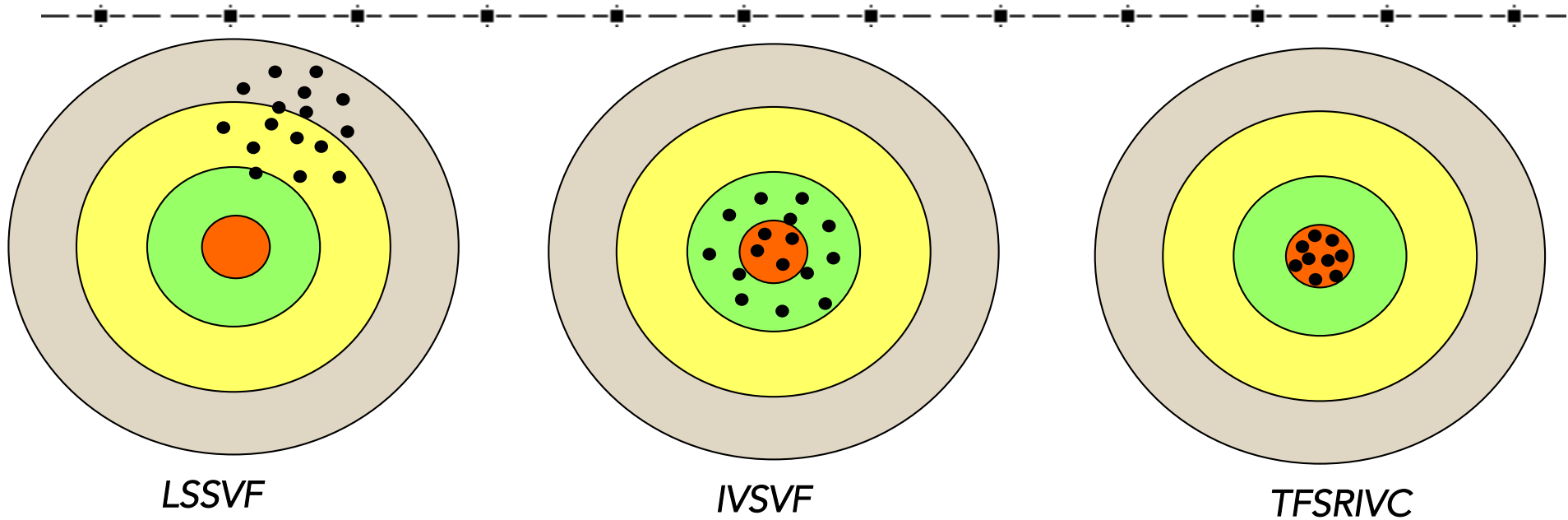
$$\hat{P}_{srivc} = \frac{\sigma_{\hat{e}}^2}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N z_f(t_k, \hat{\theta}_{srivc}) z_f^T(t_k, \hat{\theta}_{srivc}) \right]^{-1}$$

where  $\hat{e} = y(t_k) - \hat{y}(t_k, \hat{\theta}_{srivc})$

- even for small sample size  $N$
- can be used in the procedure to select the best model structure  
(see *YIC criterion later*)



To sum up

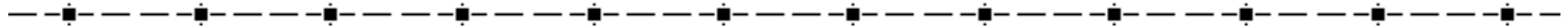


- *Simple LSSVF*: always biased
- *Two-step IVSVF*: unbiased *but* not minimum variance
- *Iterative TFSRIVC*: optimal (*unbiased & minimum variance*) for COE models  
unbiased with low (*but not minimum*) variance when the additive noise is colored

*The TFSRIVC algorithm provides a reliable and robust approach to CT model identification*

*It is recommended for day-to-day use*

## Instrumental variable: take-home messages

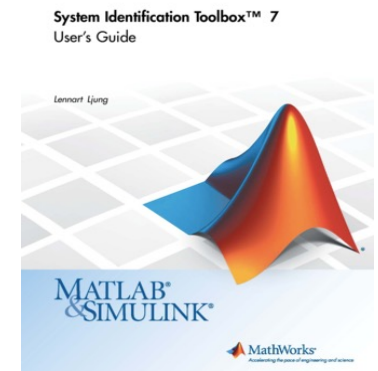


- ✓ Include inherent (*possibly optimal*) data prefiltering
- ✓ Conditions to obtain optimal IV estimates are well-established
- ✓ Provide consistent estimates even for an imperfect noise structure  $S \notin \mathcal{M}, G \in \mathcal{G}_0$ 
  - Choice of the instrument and prefilters influences the variance only, while the consistency properties are secured
- ✓ Implementation of the optimal IV solution
  - **Iterative** algorithms: much more preferable than **multistep** algorithms
- ✓ Offer similar good performance as PEM methods in general
- ✓ **Iterative** IV implementations present one major advantage over PEM
  - are much less sensitive to the initialization stage

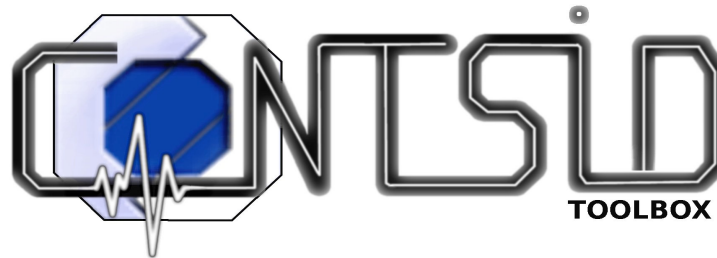
## Software aspects

### ✓ Several actively maintained toolboxes are available

- Comprehensive Mathworks SID toolbox (*L. Ljung*)
- FDIDENT toolbox (*I. Kollar, J. Schoukens*)
- UNIT toolbox (*B. Ninness*)
- CAPTAIN toolbox (*P. Young*)



### ✓ No software entirely dedicated to direct CT approaches



- first released in 1999

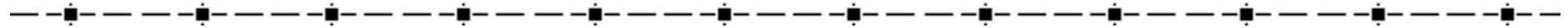
# CONtinuous-Time System IDentification

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## Key features

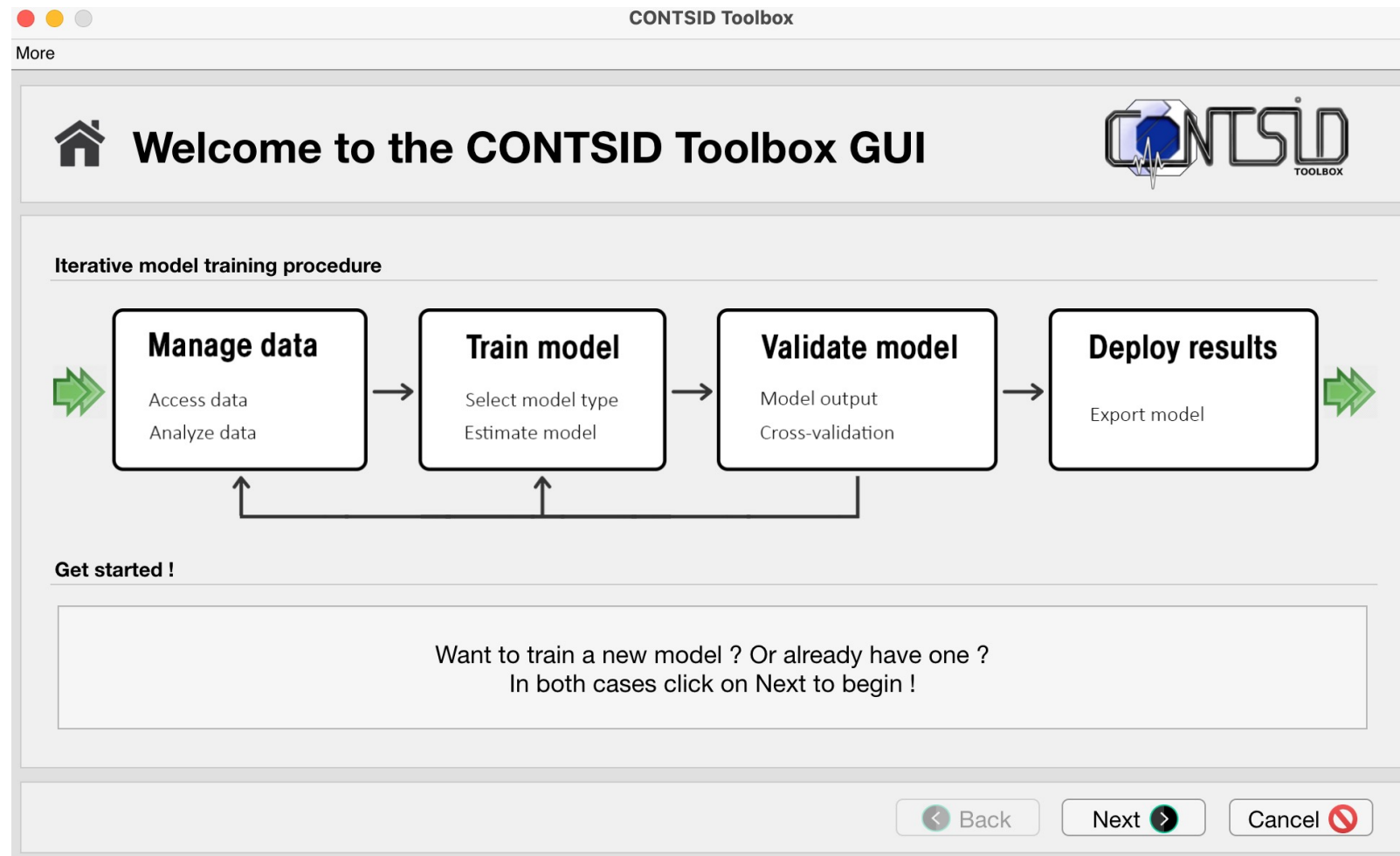
- ✓ Supports *direct CT identification* approaches
  - **Basic linear black-box** models
    - Transfer function and state-space models
    - regularly and irregularly sampled data
    - Time-domain or frequency domain data
  - **More advanced black-box** models
    - *On-line, errors-in-variables* and *closed-loop* situations
    - Nonlinear systems: *block-structured*, *LPV* or *LTV* models
- ✓ May be seen as an add-on to the Matlab System Identification toolbox
  - Uses the same syntax, data and model objects  
`M=tfsrirc(data,np,nz)`
- ✓ P-coded version freely available from: [www.cran.univ-lorraine.fr/contsid](http://www.cran.univ-lorraine.fr/contsid)

## Main features of the latest version 7.4



- ✓ Core of the routines mainly based on **iterative optimal IV: SRIVC**
  - CONTSID includes also a few PEM and subspace-based methods
- ✓ *SRIVC-based parameter estimation schemes for more advanced identification*
  - *simple process models: PROCSRIVC*
  - *Transfer function + delay models: TFSRIVC*
  - *Transfer function + delay + noise models: TFRIVC*
  - *Time Varying Parameter models: recursive RSRIVC*
  - *Closed-loop identification: CLSRIVC*
  - *LPV models: LPVSRIVC*
  - *Hammerstein models: HSRIVC, ...*
- ✓ Includes a new flexible **GUI** and many **demos** to illustrate its use and the recent developments

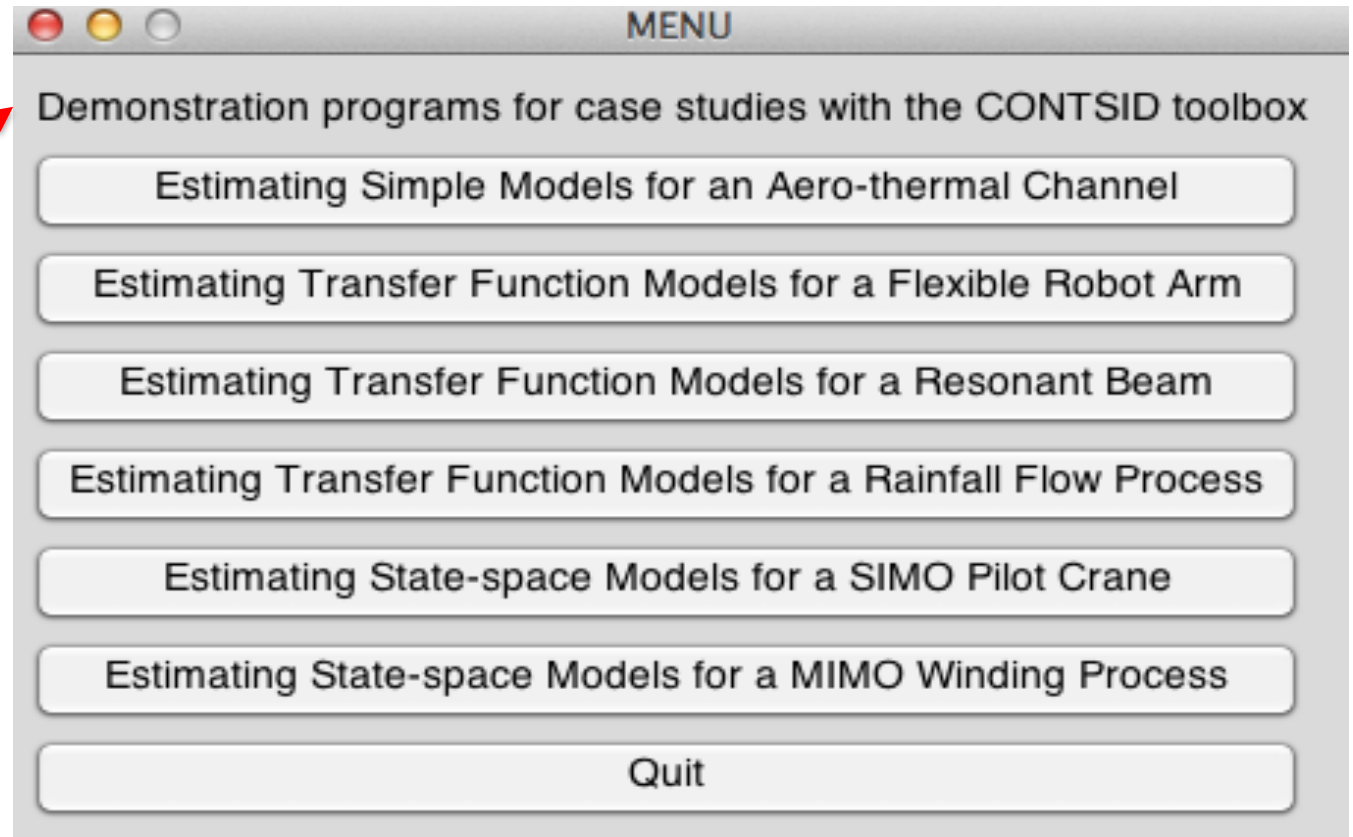
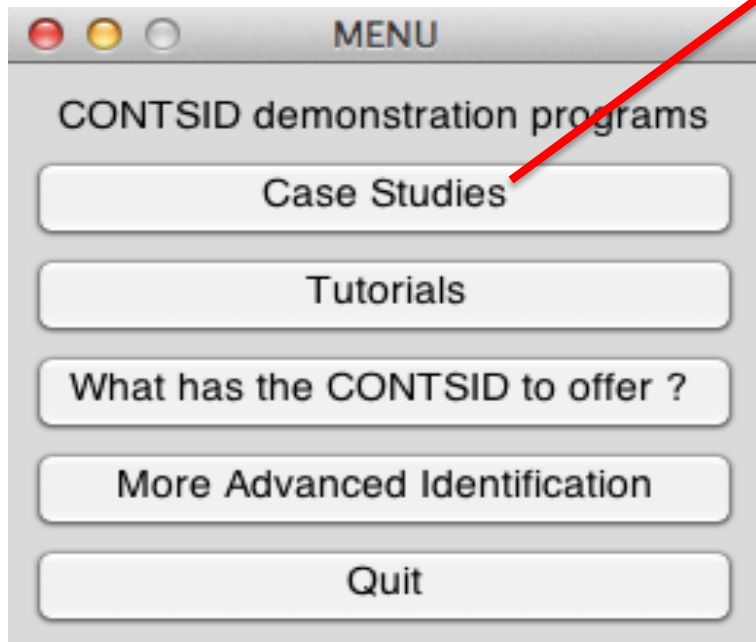
# CONTSID graphical user interface



- Allows the user to easily apply the iterative process of system identification

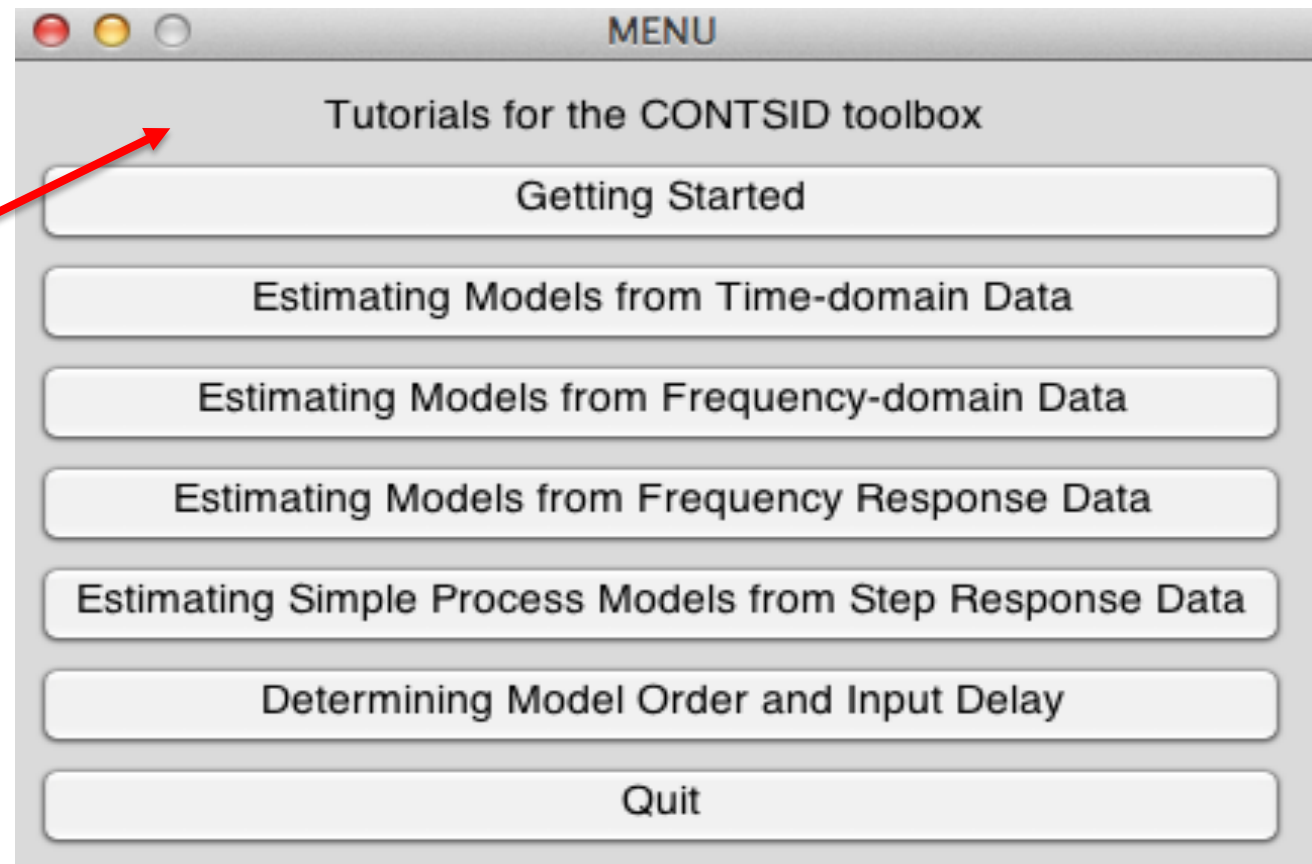
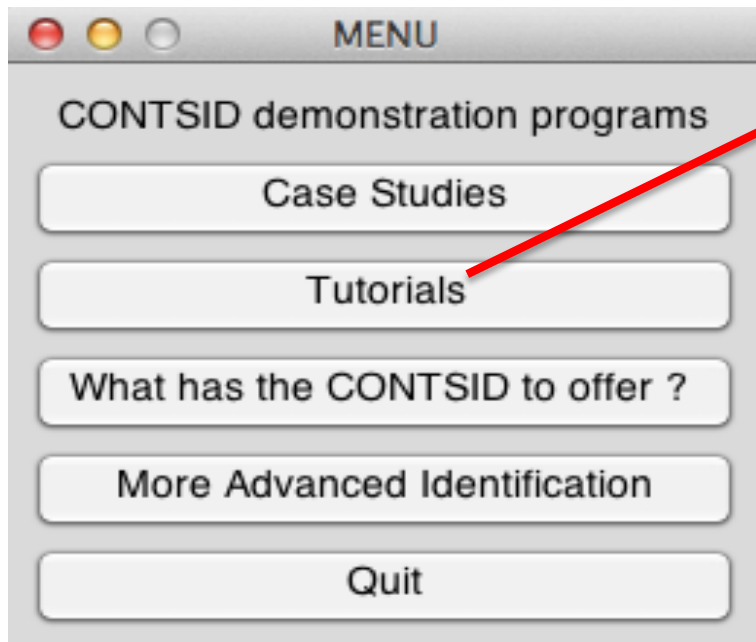
# CONTSID toolbox – Demonstration programs

>>contsid\_demo



# CONTSID toolbox – Demonstration programs

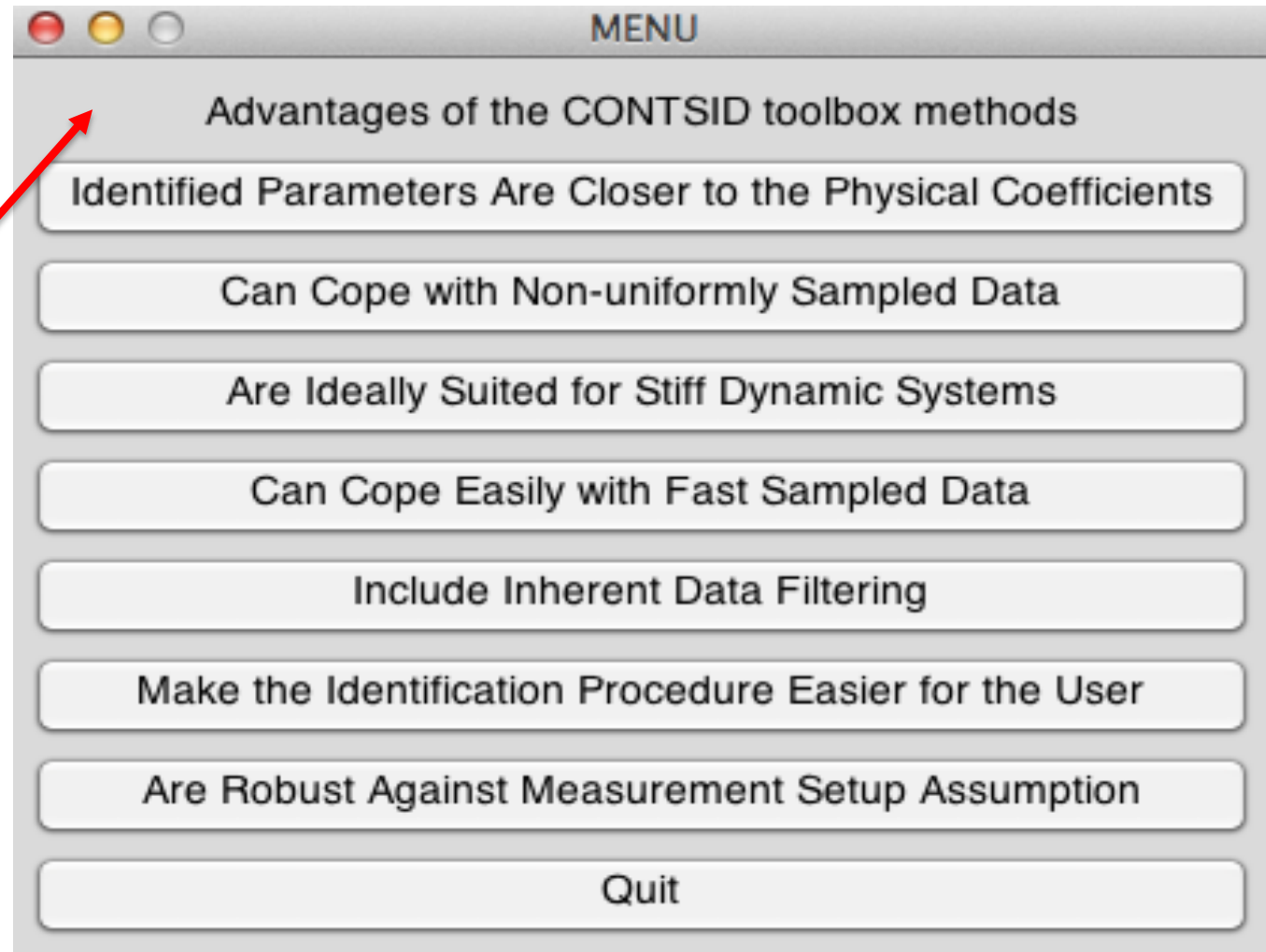
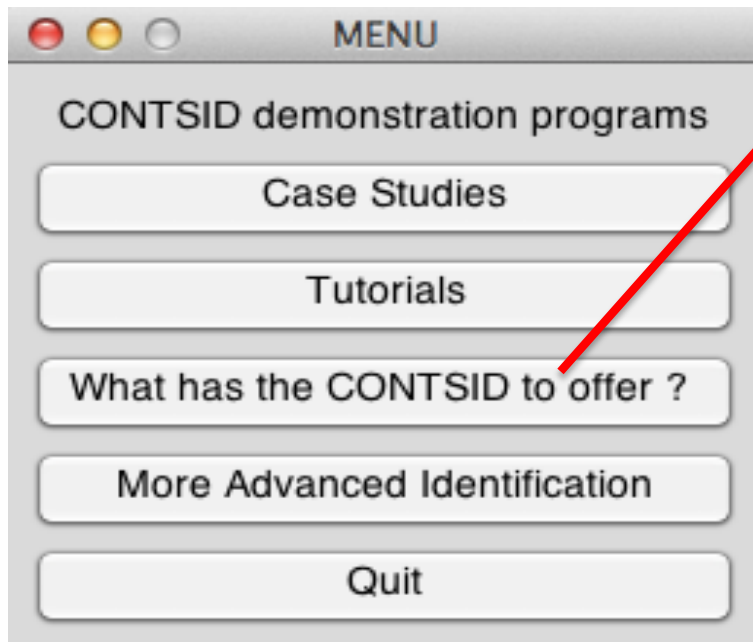
>>contsid\_demo





# CONTSID toolbox – Demonstration programs

>>contsid\_demo



# CONTSID toolbox – Demonstration programs

>>contsid\_demo

