

CARTESIAN DECOMPOSITION OF LINEAR CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS

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Reachability problem

We consider systems with linear dynamics, i.e., a trajectory evolves according to ordinary differential equations of the form

$$\dot{x} = Ax$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

Given a set of initial states $\mathcal{X}(0)$, we want to compute the set of reachable states $\mathcal{X}(t)$ up to some time bound T . The solution is given analytically as

$$\mathcal{X}(t) = e^{At}\mathcal{X}(0).$$

The computation is exponential in the number of variables.

Approach

We decompose \mathcal{X} into subsystems \mathcal{Y} and \mathcal{Z} as follows. Separate the variables into two blocks

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

where $y \in \mathbb{R}^k$ and $z \in \mathbb{R}^l$ with $n = k+l$. This induces a decomposition of A into four blocks:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

The initial states and the dynamics are decomposed to the respective projections of \mathcal{X} to \mathcal{Y} and \mathcal{Z} :

$$\mathcal{Y}(0) := (I_k \ 0) \mathcal{X}(0)$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(0) := (0 \ I_l) \mathcal{X}(0)$$

$$\dot{\mathcal{Y}} := A_{11}\mathcal{Y} + A_{12}\mathcal{Z}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathcal{Z}} := A_{21}\mathcal{Y}(t) + A_{22}\mathcal{Z}$$

We define our abstraction $\hat{\mathcal{X}}$ as the Cartesian composition of \mathcal{Y} and \mathcal{Z} :

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}}(t) := \mathcal{Y}(t) \times \mathcal{Z}(t)$$

Example (general case)

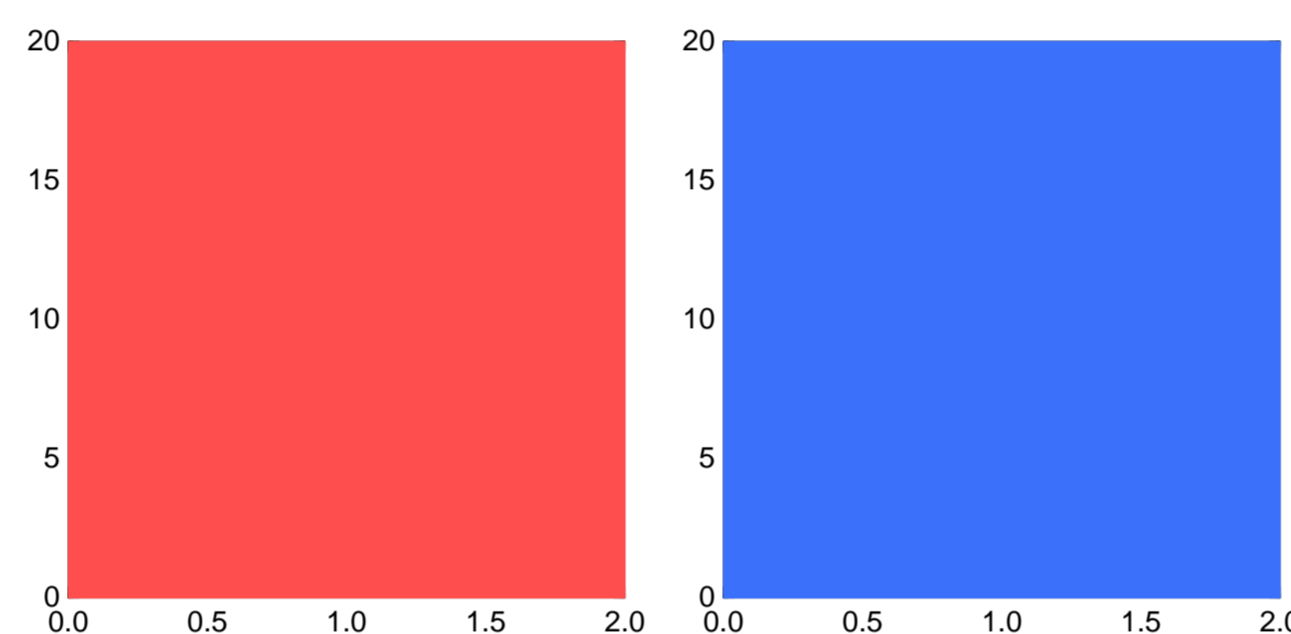
Consider the following system.

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} -12 & 3 \\ 2 & -0.4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$4 \leq \mathcal{Y}(0) \leq 5, \quad 2 \leq \mathcal{Z}(0) \leq 3, \quad T = 2$$

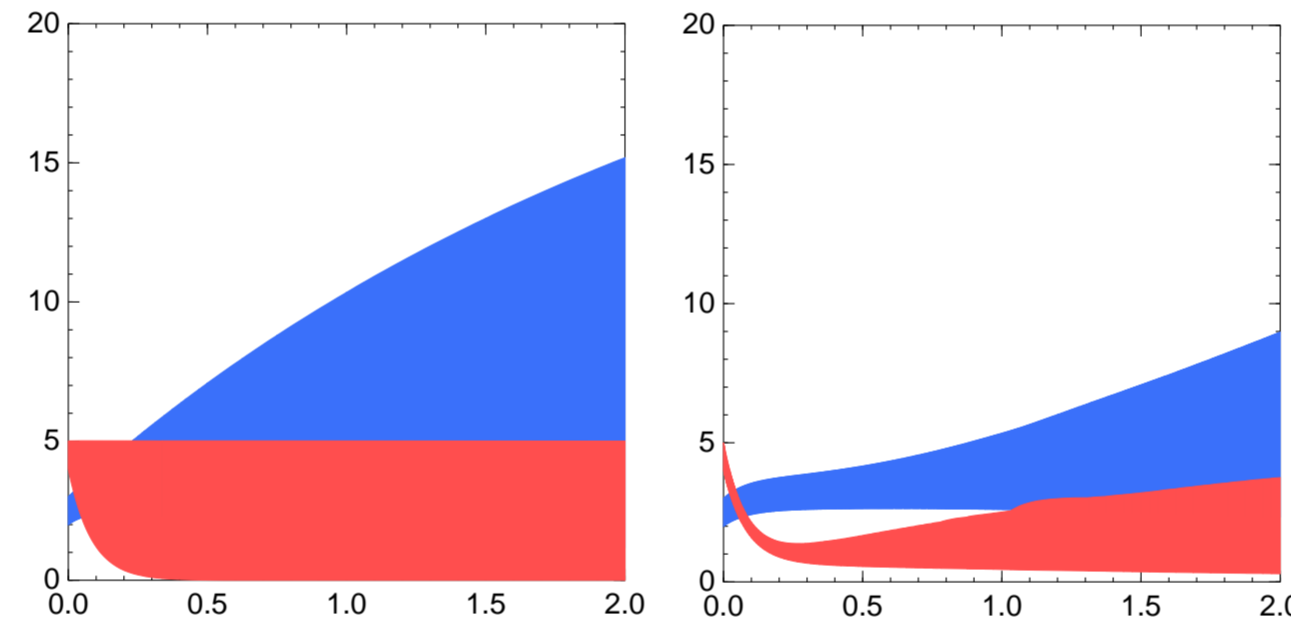
with the following initial abstractions:

$$0 \leq \hat{\mathcal{Y}}_0(t) \leq 20 \quad 0 \leq \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_0(t) \leq 20$$



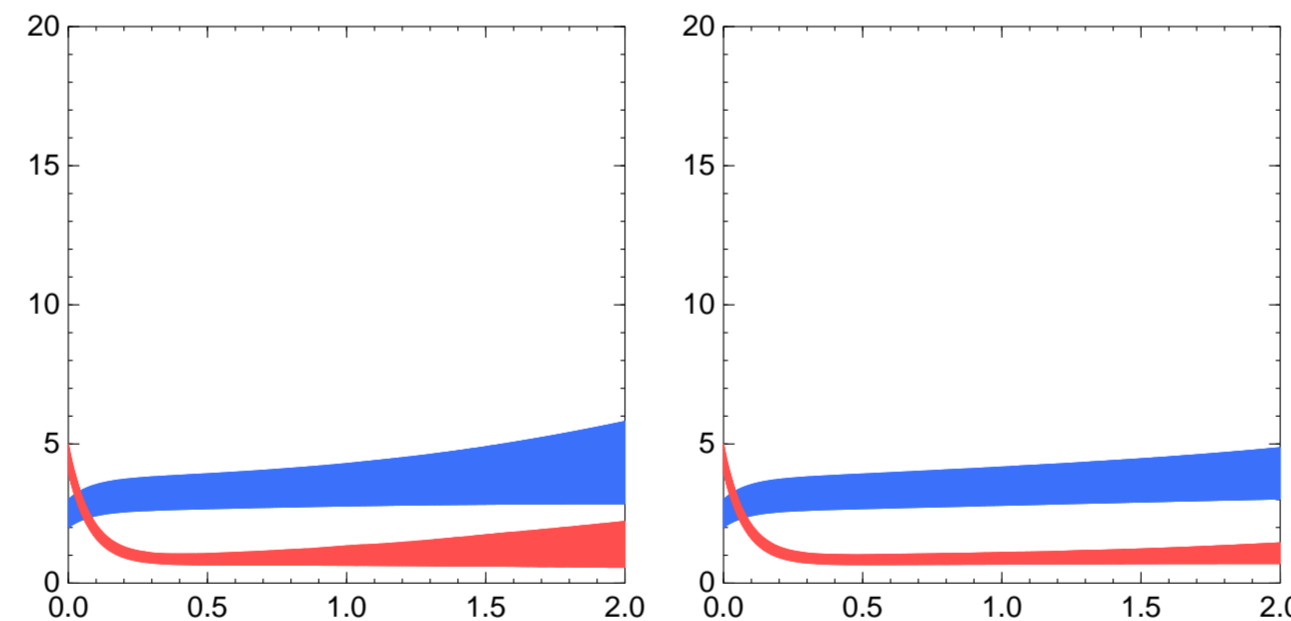
1st abstraction

2nd abstraction



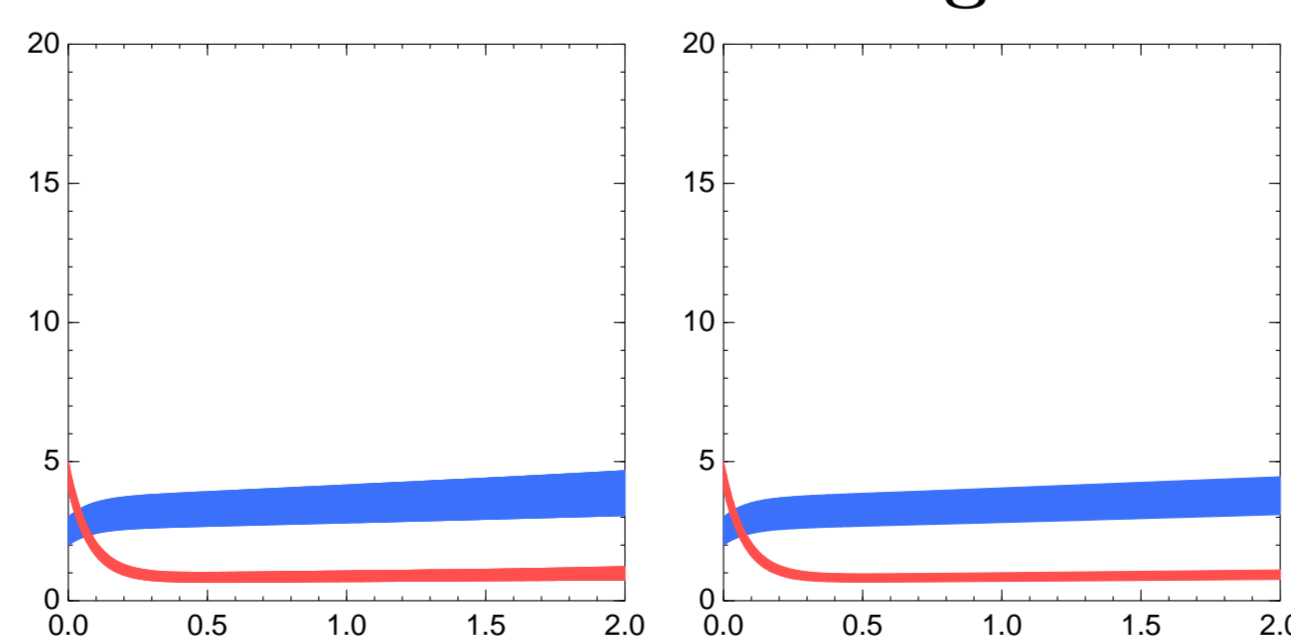
3rd abstraction

4th abstraction



5th abstraction

Original



Approximation

The abstraction overapproximates the original system, i.e.,

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}}(t) \supseteq \mathcal{X}(t).$$

Equality holds if $\mathcal{X}(0) = \mathcal{Y}(0) \times \mathcal{Z}(0)$.

Different cases

General matrix

Assume initial abstractions $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_0(t), \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_0(t)$. Iteratively refine the abstractions:

$$\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_k = A_{11}\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_k + A_{12}\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_{k-1}(t)$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_k = A_{21}\hat{\mathcal{Y}}_{k-1}(t) + A_{22}\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_k$$

- ⊗ No transformation of initial states
- ⊗ Initial abstraction
- ⊗ Iteration
- ⊗ Errors accumulate

Block-triangular matrix

Assume $A_{21} = 0$.

Subsystem \mathcal{Z} can be analyzed independently. The results need to be propagated to \mathcal{Y} .

Every matrix can be transformed to real Schur form with 2×2 sub-blocks B_j by coordinate transformation:

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & \cdots & \cdot \\ 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & B_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- ⊗ Transformation numerically stable
- ⊗ Transformation of initial states
- ⊗ Not parallelizable
- ⊗ Errors accumulate

Block-diagonal matrix

Assume $A_{12} = A_{21} = 0$.

The subsystems are independent.

Every matrix can be transformed to real Jordan form with sub-blocks B_j by coordinate transformation:

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & B_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- ⊗ Parallelizable
- ⊗ Errors do not accumulate
- ⊗ Transformation of initial states
- ⊗ Transformation numerically instable