

2. Self-optimizing control Theory

Sigurd Skogestad

Outline

Skogestad procedure for control structure design:

I. Top Down

- Step S1: Define operational objective (cost) and constraints
- Step S2: Identify degrees of freedom and optimize operation for disturbances
- Step S3: Implementation of optimal operation
 - Control active constraints
 - Control self-optimizing variables for unconstrained, $c=Hy$
- Step S4: Where set the production rate? (Inventory control)

II. Bottom Up

- Step S5: Regulatory control: What more to control (secondary CV's)?
- Step S6: Supervisory control
- Step S7: Real-time optimization

Step S3: Implementation of optimal operation

- Optimal operation for given d^* :

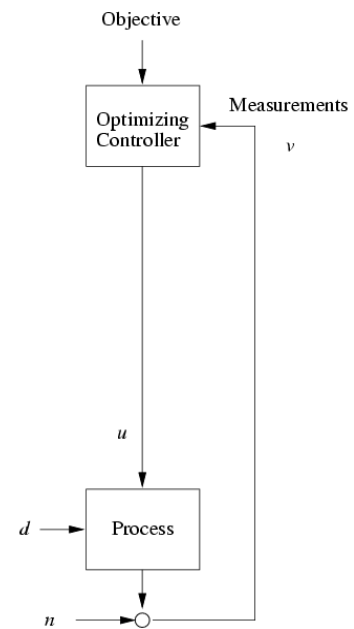
$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_u J(u, x, d) & \\ \text{subject to:} & \\ \text{Model equations:} & f(u, x, d) = 0 \\ \text{Operational constraints:} & g(u, x, d) < 0 \end{array} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \min_u J(u, x, d) \\ \text{subject to:} \\ \text{Model equations:} \\ \text{Operational constraints:} \end{array}} \right\} \rightarrow u_{opt}(d)$$

Problem: Usually cannot keep u_{opt} constant because disturbances d change

How should we adjust the degrees of freedom (u)?

What should we control?

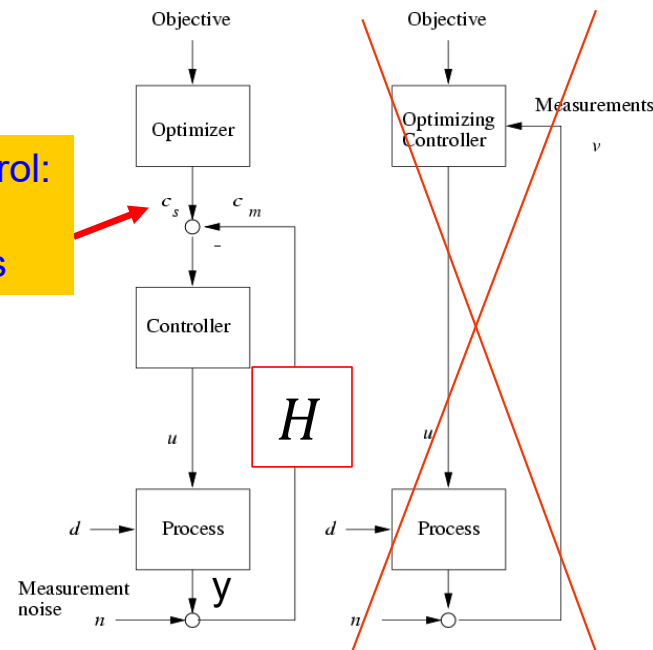
“Optimizing Control”



“Self-Optimizing Control”

Self-optimizing control:
Constant setpoints
give acceptable loss

What should we control?
(What is c ? What is H ?)



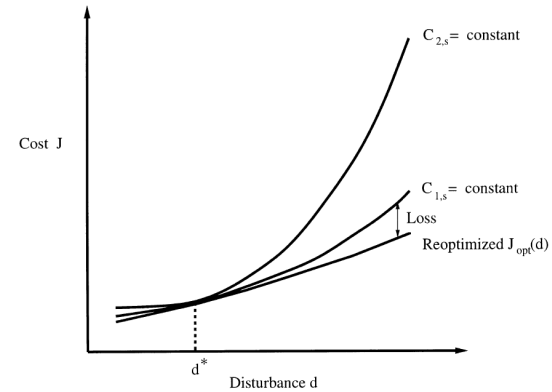
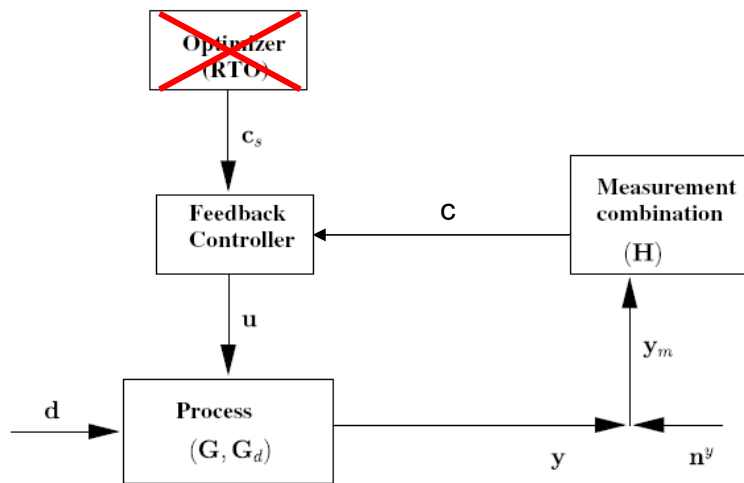
$$c = Hy$$

H : Nonsquare matrix

- Usually selection matrix of 0's and some 1's (measurement selection)
- Can also be full matrix (measurement combinations)

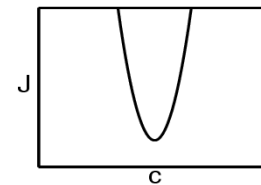
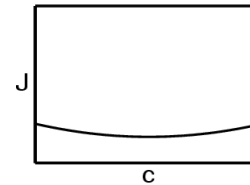
Self-optimizing control

Self-optimizing control is when we can achieve an *acceptable loss* with *constant setpoint* values for the controlled variables



Good

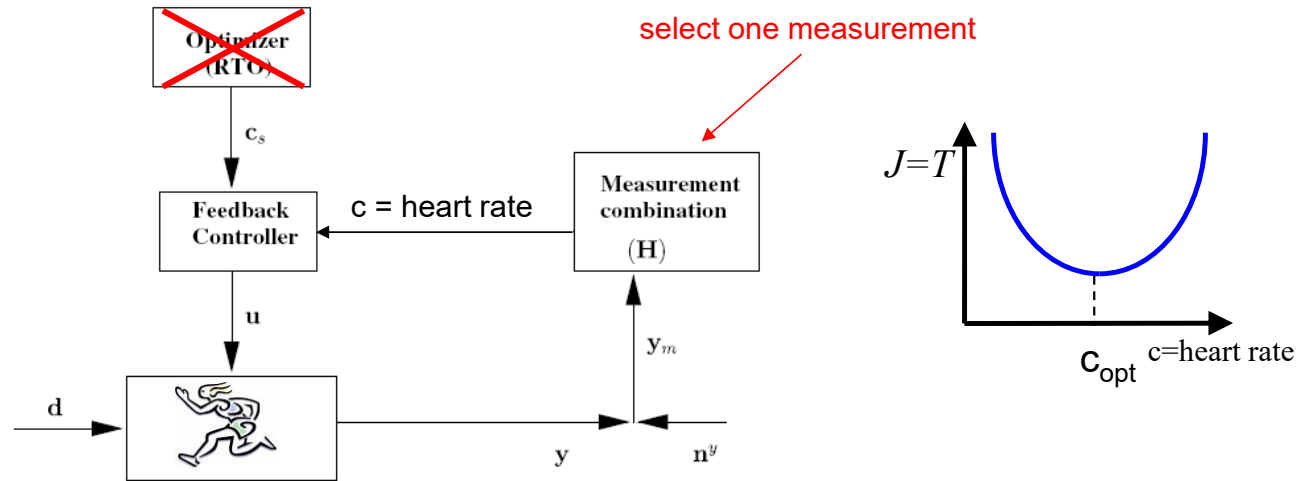
BAD



(b) Flat optimum: Implementation easy

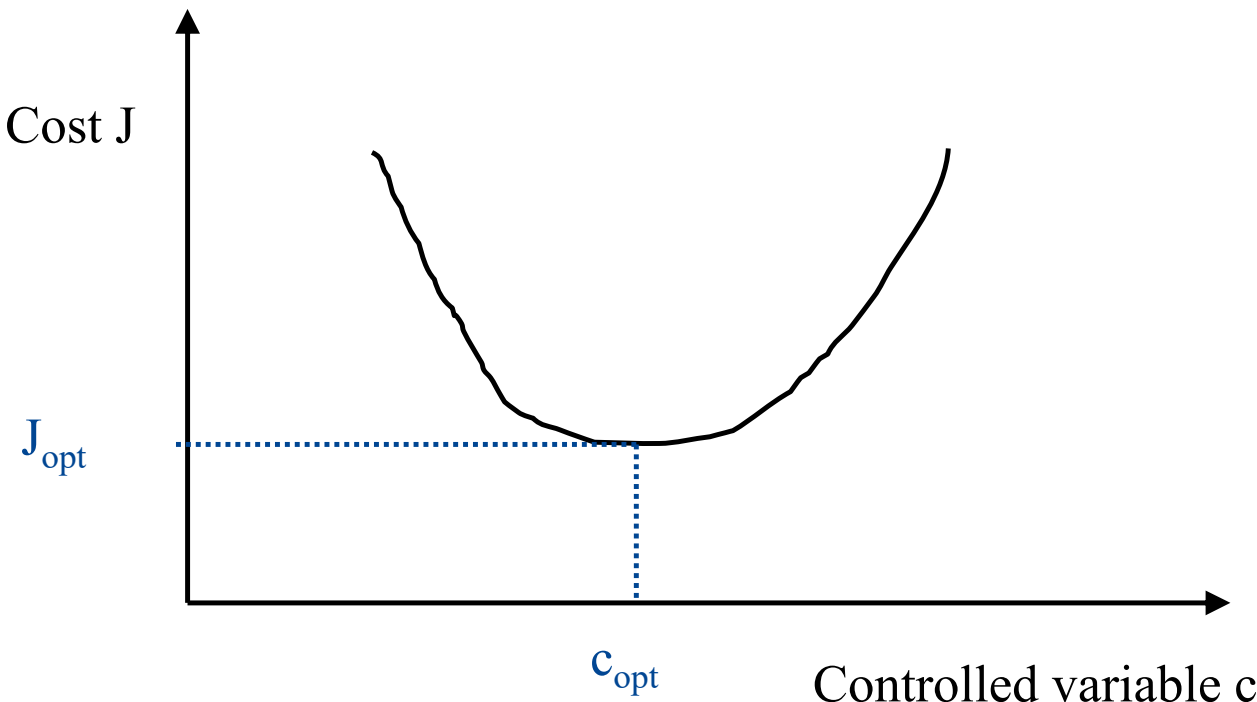
(c) Sharp optimum: Sensitive to implementation errors

Recap: marathon runner



- CV = heart rate is good “self-optimizing” variable
- Simple and robust implementation
- Disturbances are indirectly handled by keeping a constant heart rate
- May have infrequent adjustment of setpoint (c_s)

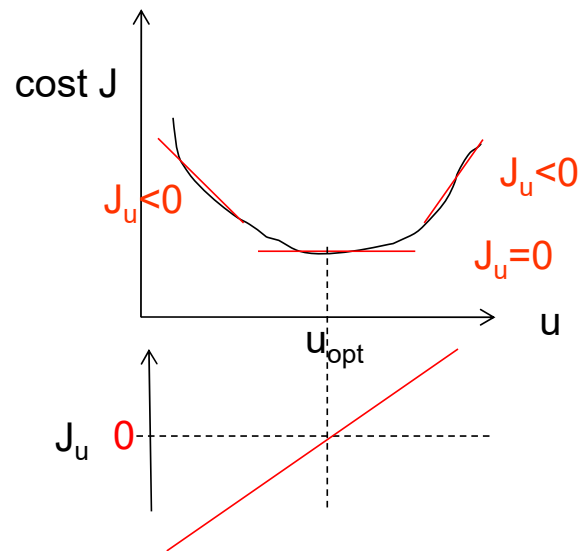
Optimal operation



The ideal “self-optimizing” variable is the gradient, J_u

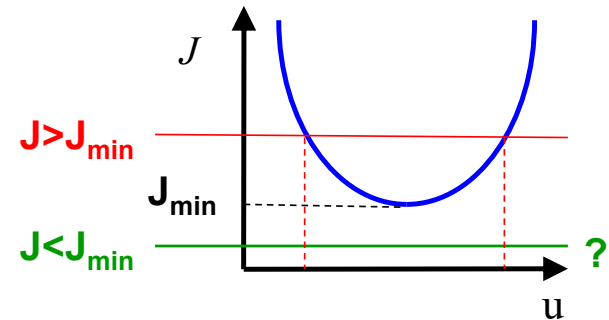
$$c = \Delta J / \Delta u = J_u$$

- Keep gradient at zero for all disturbances ($c = J_u = 0$)
- Problem: Usually no measurement of gradient



*I.J. Halvorsen, S. Skogestad, Indirect on-line optimization through setpoint control, in: AIChE 1997 Annual Meeting, Los Angeles; paper 194h.

*I.J. Halvorsen, S. Skogestad, J.C. Morud, V. Alstad, Optimal selection of controlled variables, Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research 42 (14) (2003) 3273–3284



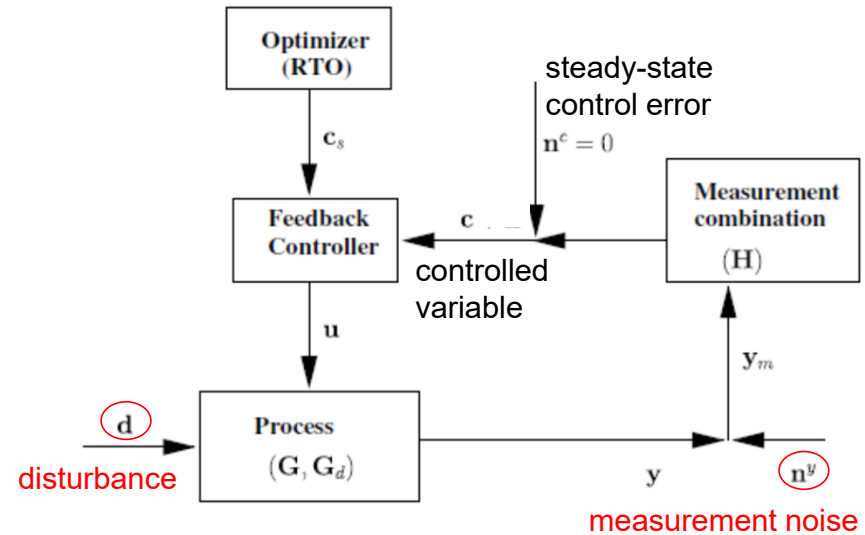
Unconstrained optimum: **NEVER** try to control a variable that reaches max or min at the optimum

- In particular, never try to control directly the cost J
- Assume we want to minimize J (e.g., $J = V = \text{energy}$) - and we make the stupid choice of selecting $CV = V = J$
 - **Then setting $J < J_{\min}$: Gives infeasible operation (cannot meet constraints)**
 - **and setting $J > J_{\min}$: Forces us to be nonoptimal (two steady states: may require strange operation)**

Measurements or measurement combinations

Ideally: $c = J_u$

In practice: $c = Hy$



- Single measurements:

$$c = Hy \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

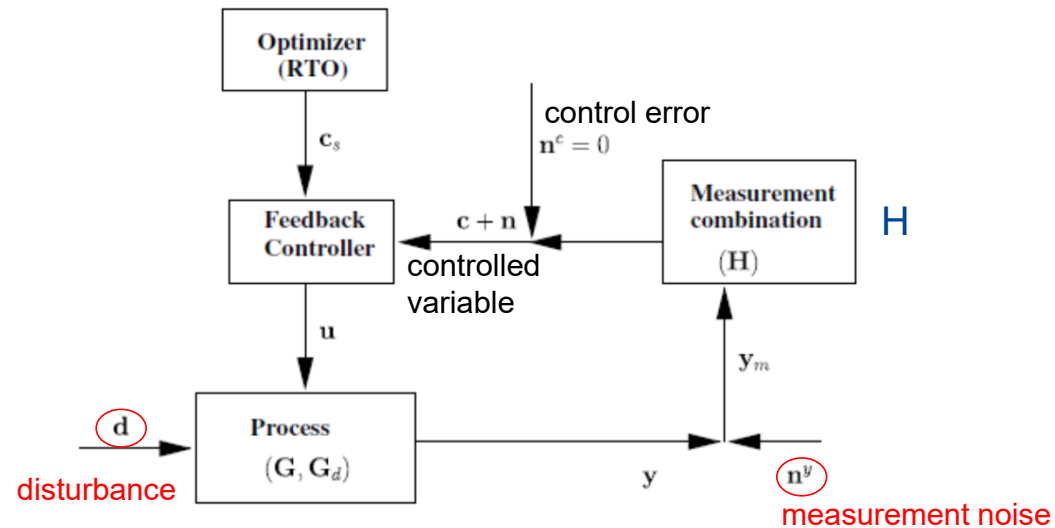
- Combinations of measurements:

$$c = Hy \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} & h_{14} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} & h_{24} \end{bmatrix}$$

Optimal measurement combination

$$\Delta c = h_1 \Delta y_1 + h_2 \Delta y_2 + \dots = H \Delta y$$

- Candidate measurements (y): Include also inputs u



No measurement noise ($n^y=0$)

Nullspace method

Theorem

Given a sufficient number of measurements ($n_y \geq n_u + n_d$) and no measurement noise, select \mathbf{H} such that

$$\mathbf{HF} = 0$$

where

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^{opt}}{\partial \mathbf{d}}$$

Controlling $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{Hy}$ to zero yields locally zero loss from optimal operation.

Proof: Given $\partial \mathbf{y}^{opt} = \mathbf{F} \partial \mathbf{d}$, and $c = \mathbf{Hy}$:

$$\partial c^{opt} = \mathbf{H} \partial \mathbf{y}^{opt} = \mathbf{HF} \partial \mathbf{d}$$

To make $\partial c^{opt} = 0$ for any $\partial \mathbf{d}$, we must have $\mathbf{HF} = 0$.

Nullspace method gives $J_u=0$

Proof:

$$J_u = J_{uu}\Delta u + J_{ud}\Delta d = [J_{uu} \ J_{ud}] \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u \\ \Delta d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Delta y = [G^y \ G_d^y] \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u \\ \Delta d \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{G}_y \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u \\ \Delta d \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u \\ \Delta d \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{G}_y^+ \Delta y$$

Formula for F :

$$J_u^{opt} = J_{uu}\Delta u^{opt} + J_{ud}\Delta d = 0 \rightarrow \Delta u^{opt} = -J_{uu}^{-1}J_{ud}\Delta d$$

$$\Delta y^{opt} = \tilde{G}_y \begin{bmatrix} \Delta u^{opt} \\ \Delta d \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{G}_y \begin{bmatrix} -J_{uu}^{-1}J_{ud} \\ I \end{bmatrix} \Delta d$$

$$\rightarrow F = \tilde{G}_y \begin{bmatrix} -J_{uu}^{-1}J_{ud} \\ I \end{bmatrix}$$

Let $H = [J_{uu} \ J_{ud}]\tilde{G}_y^+$. We can verify that $HF = 0$. Therefore, $J_u = [J_{uu} \ J_{ud}]\tilde{G}_y^+ \Delta y = H\Delta y = \Delta c$, and thus controlling c ($\Delta c = 0$) leads to $J_u = 0$.

- Proof. Appendix B in: Jäschke and Skogestad, "NCO tracking and self-optimizing control in the context of real-time optimization", *Journal of Process Control*, 1407-1416 (2011)

Nullspace method (HF=0) gives $J_u=0$

Proof (constant d):

$$J_u(u, d) = \underbrace{J_u(u_{opt}(d), d)}_{=0} + J_{uu} \cdot (u - u_{opt})$$

$$u - u_{opt} = (HG^y)^{-1}(c - c_{opt})$$

$$\text{Here: } c - c_{opt} = \Delta c - \Delta c_{opt}$$

where we have introduced deviation variables around a nominal optimal point (c^*, d^*) (where $c^* = c_{opt}(d^*)$)

Assume perfect control of c (no noise): $\Delta c = 0$

$$\text{Optimal change: } \Delta c_{opt} = H\Delta y_{opt} = HF\Delta d$$

$$\text{Gives: } J_u = -J_{uu}(HG^y)^{-1}HF\Delta d$$

$\Rightarrow HF = 0$ gives $J_u = 0$ for any disturbance Δd

Example. Nullspace Method for Marathon runner

u = power, d = slope [degrees]

y_1 = hr [beat/min], y_2 = v [m/s]

$$F = dy_{\text{opt}}/dd = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 \\ -0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = [h_1 \ h_2]$$

$$\mathbf{HF} = \mathbf{0} \rightarrow h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 = 0.25 h_1 - 0.2 h_2 = 0$$

$$\text{Choose } h_1 = 1 \rightarrow h_2 = 0.25/0.2 = 1.25$$

Conclusion: $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{hr} + 1.25 \mathbf{v}$

Control $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{constant} \rightarrow$ hr increases when v decreases (OK uphill!)

Marathon runner: Exact local method

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 \\ -0.2 \end{bmatrix}, W_d = 1, W_{ny} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, G^y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Y = [FW_d \quad W_{ny}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 & 1 & 0 \\ -0.2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = G^{yT} (Y Y^T)^{-1} \rightarrow H = [0.989 \quad 1.009]$$

Normalized H1 = D*H = [1 1.02]

Conclusion: **c = hr + 1.02 v**

- Before (nullspace method): **c = hr + 1.25 v**
- Note: Gives same as nullspace when W_{ny} is small

Extension: "Exact local method" (with measurement noise)

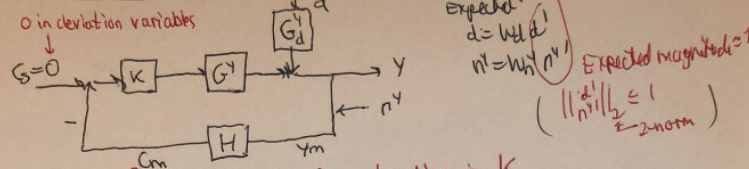
$$\min_H \left\| J_{uu}^{1/2} (HG^y)^{-1} H \underbrace{[FW_d \quad W_{ny}]}_Y \right\|_F$$

- General analytical solution ("full" H):

$$H = G^y T (Y Y^T)^{-1}$$

- No disturbances ($W_d = []$) + same noise for all measurements ($W_{ny} = Y = I$):
Optimal is $H = G^y T$ ("control sensitive measurements")
 - Proof: Use analytic expression
- No noise ($W_{ny} = 0$): Cannot use analytic expression, but optimal is clearly
 $HF = 0$ (Nullspace method)
 - Assumes enough measurements: $\#y \geq \#u + \#d$
 - If "extra" measurements ($>$) then solution is not unique

Optimal self-optimizing measurement combination, H



Question: What to control, $C = Hy$. What is best H ?
 $C_m = 0$ at steady with integral action in K .

Steady-state: Economic loss L for given d is caused by $u \neq u_{opt}(d)$
 Taylor expansion of loss around optimum:

$$L = J(u, d) - J(u_{opt}(d), d) = \int_0^1 (u - u_{opt})^T J_{uu} (u - u_{opt}) + \text{higher-order (neglected)}$$

$\nabla_u J = \frac{dJ}{du} = 0$ at optimum
 $J_{uu} = \frac{d^2 J}{du^2}$ Hessian of J

Here: $C - C_{opt} = H(y - y_{opt}) = H G^y (u - u_{opt})$
 $\Rightarrow (u - u_{opt}) = (H G^y)^{-1} (C - C_{opt})$
 So get $L = \frac{1}{2} Z^T Z$ where $Z = J_{uu}^{1/2} (u - u_{opt}) = J_{uu}^{1/2} (H G^y)^{-1} (C - C_{opt})$

L depends on d and n^y ($\hat{x} \neq 0$ otherwise)

1. Disturbances change y_{opt} (and y_{opt} and C_{opt}):
 Optimal sensitivity $F = \frac{dy_{opt}}{dd} \Rightarrow y_{opt} = Fd \Rightarrow C_{opt} = HFd = HF W_d d^1$

Note: $HF=0 \rightarrow C_{opt}=0$ (Nullspace method)

2. Noise makes $C \neq 0$:
 $C_m = 0 \Rightarrow C_m = H y_m = H(y + n^y) = 0 \Rightarrow C = Hy = -H n^y = -H W_n^y n^1$
 Change from $-$ to $+$ because sign of n^y does not matter.

So get: $Z = J_{uu}^{1/2} (H G^y)^{-1} H [F W_d \quad W_n^y] \begin{bmatrix} d^1 \\ n^1 \end{bmatrix}$ (*)

Average loss for $N(\begin{bmatrix} d^1 \\ n^1 \end{bmatrix}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is $L_{avg} = \frac{1}{2} \|M\|_F^2$
 Worst-case loss for $\|n^1\|_2 \leq 1$ is $L_{wc} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\sigma}(M)^2$, $\bar{\sigma}$ = singular value
 $F = \text{Frobenius norm} = \sum_{i,j} M_{ij}^2$
 $\|n^1\|_2 \leq 1$ is 2-norm of vector

Both cases: Analytical formula for optimal H is $H^T = (Y Y^T)^{-1} G^y$
 exact local method

special case with no noise, $W_n = 0$ get $L=0$ with $HF=0$
 nullspace method

Obtaining F

F is defined as the gain matrix from the disturbances to the optimal measurements $\rightarrow \Delta y^{opt} = F \Delta d$

Brute force method:

- For every disturbance d_i , $i = 1, \dots, n_d$:
 - Perturb the system with $\hat{d}_i = d_i + \Delta d_i$, Δd_i small
 - Reoptimize the system \rightarrow obtain change in measurements $\Delta y^{opt,i}$
 - Obtain i -th column of F : $F_i = \Delta y^{opt,i} / \Delta d_i$
- Return F

Linearization method for F

F can also be obtained through a linearized state-space model:

$$\Delta y = G^y \Delta u + G_d^y \Delta d$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_u(u^* + \Delta u, d^* + \Delta d) &\approx J_u^* + J_{uu} \Delta u + J_{ud} \Delta d = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \Delta u^{opt} &= -J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud} \Delta d \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta y^{opt} = G^y \Delta u^{opt} + G_d^y \Delta d = (-G^y J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud} + G_d^y) \Delta d$$

$$F = -G^y J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud} + G_d^y$$

Toy Example.

$$J = (u - d)^2$$

$n_u = 1$ unconstrained degrees of freedom

$$u_{\text{opt}} = d$$

Alternative measurements:

$$y_1 = 0.1(u - d)$$

$$y_2 = 20u$$

$$y_3 = 10u - 5d$$

$$y_4 = u$$

Scaled such that:

$$|d| \leq 1, |n_i| \leq 1, \text{ i.e. all } y_i\text{'s are } \pm 1$$

Nominal operating point:

$$d = 0 \Rightarrow u_{\text{opt}} = 0, y_{\text{opt}} = 0$$

What variable c should we control?

Single measurements

$$L_{wc} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\sigma} (M)^2$$

$$M = J_{uu}^{-1/2} (HG^y)^{-1} H Y,$$

$$Y = [FW_d \ W_{ny}], F = -G^y J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud} + G_d^y$$

. Exact evaluation of loss:

$$L_{wc,1} = 100$$

$$L_{wc,2} = 1.0025$$

$$L_{wc,3} = 0.26$$

$$L_{wc,4} = 2$$

Here: $W_d = 1, W_{ny} = 1, J_{uu} = 2, J_{ud} = -2,$

For y_1 : $HG^y = 0.1, HG_d^y = -0.1, F = 0, HY = [0 \ 1], M = \sqrt{2} \cdot 10 \cdot [0 \ 1], L_{wc} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\sigma} (M)^2 = 100$

For y_2 : $HG^y = 20, HG_d^y = 0, F = 20, HY = [20 \ 1], M = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{1}{20} \cdot [20 \ 1], L_{wc} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\sigma} (M)^2 = 1.0025$

For y_3 : $HG^y = 10, HG_d^y = -5, F = -15, HY = [5 \ 1], M = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{1}{10} \cdot [5 \ 1], L_{wc} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\sigma} (M)^2 = 0.26$

Reference: I. J. Halvorsen, S. Skogestad, J. Morud and V. Alstad, "Optimal selection of controlled variables", *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*, 42 (14), 3273-3284 (2003).

Toy Example. Exact local method. Combine all measurements

$$J = (u - d)^2$$

$$n_u = 1 \text{ unconstrained degrees of freedom}$$

$$u_{\text{opt}} = d$$

Alternative measurements:

$$y_1 = 0.1(u - d)$$

$$y_2 = 20u$$

$$y_3 = 10u - 5d$$

$$y_4 = u$$

Scaled such that:

$$|d| \leq 1, |n_i| \leq 1, \text{ i.e. all } y_i \text{'s are } \pm 1$$

Nominal operating point:

$$d = 0 \Rightarrow u_{\text{opt}} = 0, y_{\text{opt}} = 0$$

What variable c should we control?

$$Y = [FW_d \ W_{ny}],$$

$$F = -G^y J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud} + G_d^y$$

$$H = (Y Y^T)^{-1} G^y$$

Here: $W_d = 1, W_{ny} = I (4 \times 4), J_{uu} = 2, J_{ud} = -2,$
 $G^y = [0.1 \ 20 \ 10 \ 1]', G_d^y = [-0.1 \ 0 \ -5 \ 0]',$

$$F = [0 \ 20 \ 5 \ 1]',$$

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 20 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(Y Y^T)^{-1} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0000 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.0632 & -0.2342 & -0.0468 \\ 0 & -0.2342 & 0.9415 & -0.0117 \\ 0 & -0.0468 & -0.0117 & 0.9977 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = (Y Y^T)^{-1} G^y = [0.1000 \ -1.1241 \ 4.7190 \ -0.0562]$$

Normalized to have 2-norm = 1.

$$H = [0.0206 \ -0.2317 \ 0.9725 \ -0.0116]$$

Toy Example: Nullspace method (not unique)

$$c = Hy = (h_1 \ h_2 \ h_3 \ h_4) \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{pmatrix} = h_1y_1 + h_2y_2 + h_3y_3 + h_4y_4$$

B1. Nullspace method

Neglect measurement error ($n = 0$):

$$HF = 0$$

Sensitivity matrix

$$\Delta y_{\text{opt}} = F \Delta d; F = (0 \ 20 \ 5 \ 1)^T$$

To find H that satisfies $HF = 0$ must combine at least two measurements:

$$n_y \geq n_u + n_d = 1 + 1 = 2$$

Toy Example. Nullspace method with 2 measurements

C. Optimal combination

Need two measurements. Best combination is

y_2 and y_3 :

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 20 & 0 \\ 10 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}; \sigma = 4.45$$

Optimal sensitivity:

$$y_{\text{opt}} = Fd; F = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Optimal combination:

$$HF = 0 \Rightarrow (h_1 \quad h_2) \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow 20h_1 + 5h_2 = 0$$

Select $h_1 = 1$. Get $h_2 = -20h_1/5 = -4$, so

$$c_{\text{opt}} = y_2 - 4y_3$$

Check: $c = y_2 - 4y_3 = 20u - 40u + 20d = -20(u - d)$

(OK!)

Example where nullspace method «fails»

u= reflux
d=feed rate

$J = (u-d)^2$
y1 = 0.01(u-d) % temperature product (very small gain!)
y2 = u-0.8d % tempereture inside column
uopt = d
y1opt = 0
y2opt = 0.2 d

Nullspace: H0=[1 0] % Not good! Use only y1
Exact local method: H=[1 96] % Use y2 instead

```
F=[0 0.2]'  
Wd=1*eye(1)  
Wn=1*eye(2)  
Gy=[0.01 1]'  
H0=null(F'); H0=H0'/H0(1) % nullspace method  
Y=[F*Wd Wn],  
H1=Gy'*inv(Y*Y')  
H=H1/H1(1) % exact local method
```

Conclusion: GOOD “SELF-OPTIMIZING” CV = c

1. Optimal value c_{opt} is constant (independent of disturbance d):

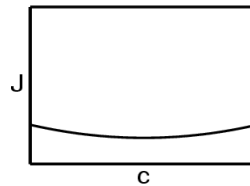
→ Want small optimal sensitivity: $F_c = \frac{\Delta c_{opt}}{\Delta d} = \text{HF}$

2. c is “sensitive” to input u (MV) (to reduce effect of measurement noise)

→ Want large gain $G = HG^y = \frac{\Delta c}{\Delta u}$

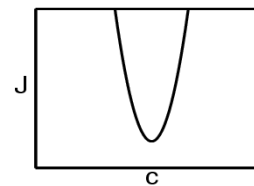
(Equivalently: Optimum should be flat!)

Good



(b) Flat optimum: Implementation easy

BAD



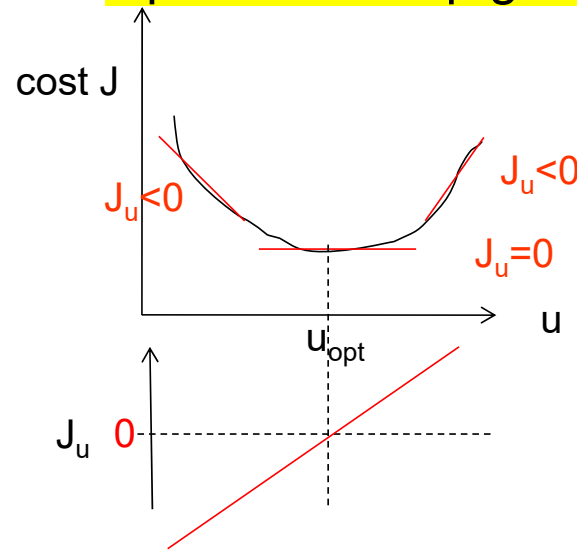
(c) Sharp optimum: Sensitive to implementation errors

New 2024: Optimal steady-state operation using gradient estimate

$$\min_u J(u,d)$$

$$\text{s.t. } g(u,d) \geq 0 \text{ (constraints)}$$

- J = economic cost [\$/s]
- Unconstrained case: Optimal to keep gradient $J_u = \partial J / \partial u = 0$



- Constrained case: KKT-conditions:

$$g_A = 0,$$
$$L_u = J_u + \lambda^T g_u = 0$$

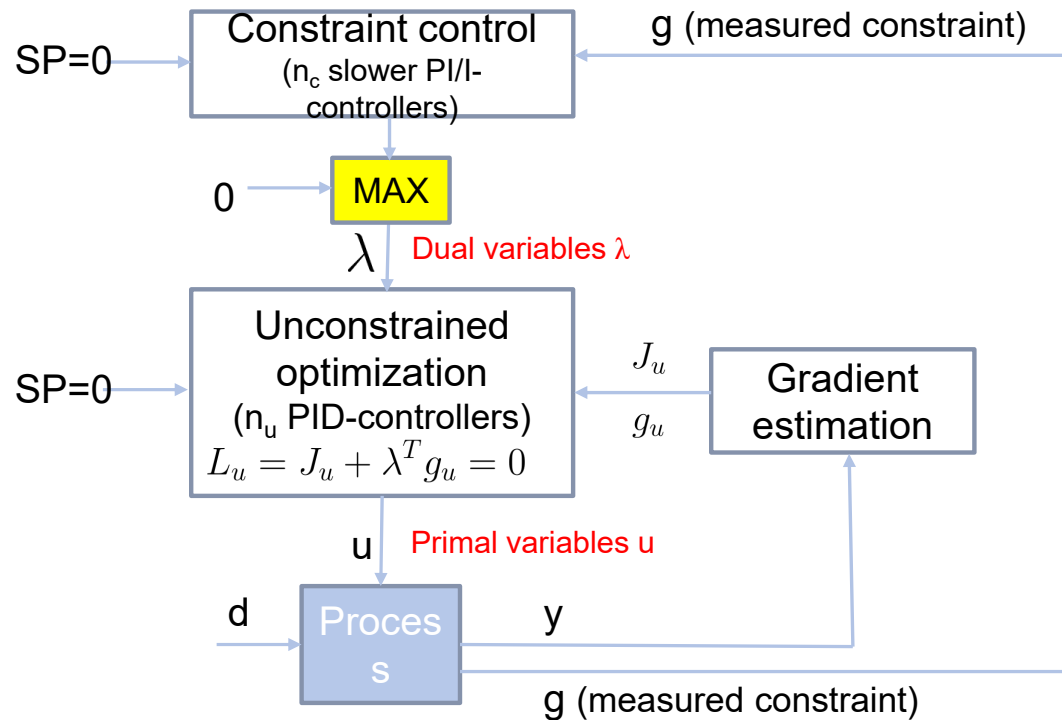
Want tight control of active constraints for economic reasons

- Active constraint: $g_A=0$
 - Tight control of g_A minimizes «back-off»
-
- How can we identify and control active constraints?
 - How can we switch constraints?
 - How do find the correct gradient when the constraints change?

I. Primal-dual control based on KKT conditions: Feedback solution that automatically tracks active constraints by adjusting Lagrange multipliers (= shadow prices = dual variables) λ

$$L_u = J_u + \lambda^T g_u = 0$$

$$\text{Inequality constraints: } \lambda \geq 0$$

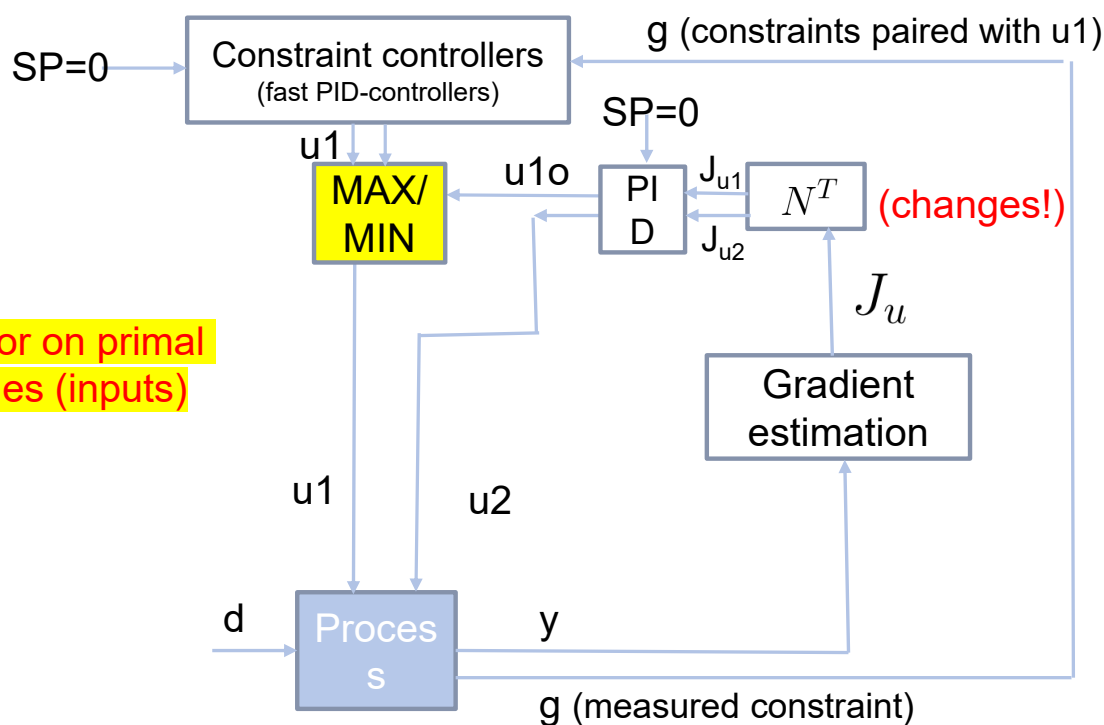


Primal-dual feedback control.

- Makes use of «dual decomposition» of KKT conditions
- Selector on dual variables λ
- Problem: Constraint control using dual variables is on slow time scale

- D. Krishnamoorthy, A distributed feedback-based online process optimization framework for optimal resource sharing, *J. Process Control* 97 (2021) 72–83,
- R. Dirza and S. Skogestad . Primal–dual feedback-optimizing control with override for real-time optimization. *J. Process Control*, Vol. 138 (2024), 103208.

II. Region-based feedback solution with «direct» constraint control (for case with more inputs than constraints)



Selector on primal variables (inputs)

$$\text{KKT: } L_u = J_u + \lambda^T g_u = 0$$

$$\text{Introduce } N: N^T g_u = 0$$

Control

1. Reduced gradient $N^T J_u = 0$
 - «self-optimizing variables»
2. Active constraints $g_A = 0$.

- Jaschke and Skogestad, «Optimal controlled variables for polynomial systems». S., J. Process Control, 2012
- D. Krishnamoorthy and S. Skogestad, «Online Process Optimization with Active Constraint Set Changes using Simple Control Structure», I&EC Res., 2019
- Bernardino and Skogestad, Decentralized control using selectors for optimal steady-state operation with changing active constraints, J. Process Control, Vol. 137, 2024

Static gradient estimation: Very simple and works well!

Lucas Ferreira Bernardino

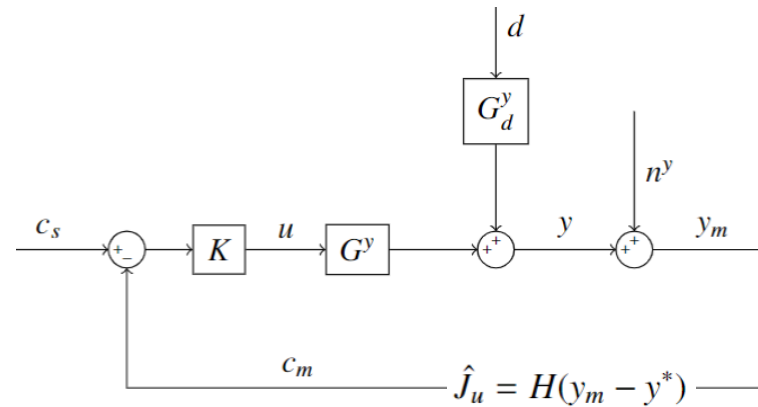
Optimal operation with changing control objectives

Doctoral thesis
for the degree of Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering

Trondheim, May 2024

Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Faculty of Natural Sciences
Department of Chemical Engineering

NTNU
Innovation and Creativity



From «exact local method» of self-optimizing control:

$$H^J = J_{uu} \left[G^{yT} (\tilde{F} \tilde{F}^T)^{-1} G^y \right]^{-1} G^{yT} (\tilde{F} \tilde{F}^T)^{-1}$$

where $\tilde{F} = [F W_d \quad W_{n^y}]$ and $F = \frac{dy^{opt}}{dd} = G_d^y - G^y J_{uu}^{-1} J_{ud}$.

Computers and Chemical Engineering 189 (2024) 108615

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Computers and Chemical Engineering

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cace



Optimal measurement-based cost gradient estimate for feedback real-time optimization

Lucas Ferreira Bernardino, Sigurd Skogestad*

Department of Chemical Engineering, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim, Norway

- Bernardino and Skogestad, Optimal measurement-based cost gradient estimate for real-time optimization, Comp. Chem. Engng., 2024

III. Region-based MPC with switching of cost function (for general case)

Standard MPC with fixed CVs: Not optimal

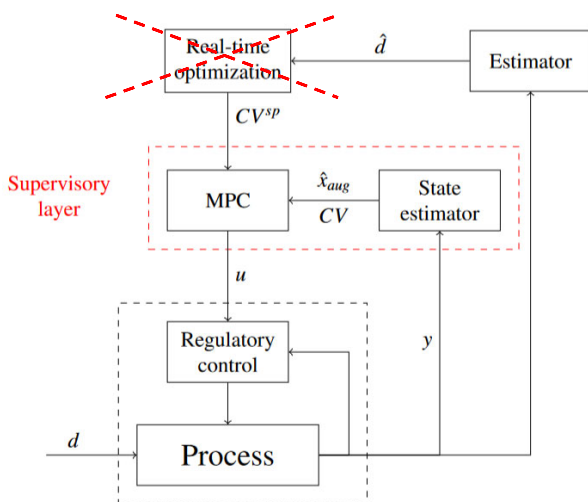


Figure 1: Typical hierarchical control structure with standard setpoint-tracking MPC in the supervisory layer. The cost function for the RTO layer is J^{ec} and the cost function for the MPC layer is J^{MPC} . With no RTO layer (and thus constant setpoints CV^{sp}), this structure is not economically optimal when there are changes in the active constraints. For smaller applications, the state estimator may be used also as the RTO estimator.

$$J^{MPC} = \sum_{k=1}^N \|CV_k - CV^{sp}\|_Q^2 + \|\Delta u_k\|_R^2$$

Proposed: With changing cost (switched CVs)

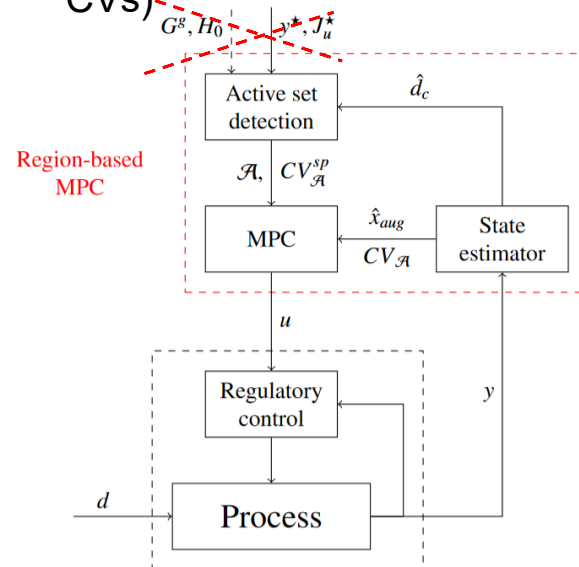


Figure 2: Proposed region-based MPC structure with active set detection and change in controlled variables. The possible updates from an upper RTO layer (y^* , J_u^* etc.) are not considered in the present work. Even with no RTO layer (and thus with constant setpoints $CV_{\mathcal{A}}^{sp}$, see (14) and (15), in each active constraint region), this structure is potentially economically optimal when there are changes in the active constraints.

$$J_{\mathcal{A}}^{MPC} = \sum_{k=1}^N \|CV_{\mathcal{A}} - CV_{\mathcal{A}}^{sp}\|_{Q_{\mathcal{A}}}^2 + \|\Delta u_k\|_{R_{\mathcal{A}}}^2 \quad CV_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{\mathcal{A}} \\ c_{\mathcal{A}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{\mathcal{A}} \\ N_{\mathcal{A}}^T H_0 y \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

$$H_0 = \begin{bmatrix} J_{uu} & J_{ud} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} G^y & G_u^y \end{bmatrix}^{\dagger}$$

- Bernardino and Skogestad, Optimal switching of MPC cost function for changing active constraints. J. Proc. Control, 2024