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A Component-Based Coding-Decoding Approach to Set-Membership Filtering for Time-Varying Systems Under Constrained Bit Rate \star

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Abstract

This paper is concerned with the set-membership filtering (SMF) problem for a class of discrete time-varying systems with unknown-but-bounded noises under bit rate constraints. The communication between sensor nodes and filters is implemented through a wireless digital communication network with limited bandwidth. A bit rate constraint is first established to quantify the extent to which the network is constrained. A component-based coding-decoding procedure is proposed that enables individual decoder to decode messages from different components scattering in different physical locations. Based on this procedure, a decoded-measurement-based recursive SMF scheme with a predictioncorrection structure is put forward. The desired parameters of the set-membership filter can be calculated recursively by the proposed recursive SMF scheme. Furthermore, the co-design issue of the bit rate allocation protocol and the filter gain is converted into the mixed-integer nonlinear programming problem that is solved by means of the particle swarm optimization and the recursive filtering algorithms. Finally, numerical simulations on two scenarios are conducted to validate the effectiveness of the proposed SMF approach.

Key words: Constrained bit rate; component-based coding-decoding; set-membership filtering; co-design problem.

1 Introduction

The aim of the filtering problem is to extract the actual target state information from a series of observations that might be corrupted by various kinds of noises. For decades, the filtering problem has always been one of the most popular research topics in the communities of control and signal processing [2,5,10,12,13,29,38,44,45, 47,50,52]. In general, there are three categories of filtering schemes according to the types of the noises acting on the concerned systems [22, 32, 34, 36, 41, 46, 49, 56]. The first category is featured by the Kalman filter algorithm which is believed to be a reliable filtering method for systems subject to Gaussian noises. The second category comprises the H_∞ filtering methods that are suitable for systems under energy-bounded noises and the main idea is to ensure given disturbance attenuation levels. The last category corresponds to the so-called setmembership filtering (SMF) scheme which is applicable to systems with unknown-but-bounded noises where a set of state estimates is provided to contain all possible actual states.

In the SMF schemes, estimation errors are guaranteed to fall into the obtained ellipsoidal set with 100% confidence. Since its first development in 1960s [3,31,42], the SMF has proven to be of great engineering importance for systems operating under unpredictable environmental changes, e.g. the networked control systems. As a result, a great number of researchers have devoted themselves to the study of the SMF problem for networked control systems and fruitful results have been reported in the literature [7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 40, 55]. For instance, the set-membership state estimation problem has been investigated in [21] for a class of discrete time-varying nonlinear systems with uniform quantization effects under the maximum-error-first protocol. The SMF issues have been addressed in [7,9,16,55] for time-varying systems under different transmission scheduling protocols in order to reduce the communication frequency.

Note that most existing results on the SMF problems of networked systems have been concerned with the ana-

^{*} This work was supported in part by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (62121004, 62206063, 62141606 and 61933007), the Local Innovative and Research Teams Project of Guangdong Special Support Program of China (2019BT02X353), the Guangdong Basic and Applied Basic Research Foundation of China (2021A1515110765), the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (2022M710825 and 2022T150146), the Royal Society of the UK, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany.

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log communication where the measurements are transmitted via the form of analog signals which take continuous values with infinite precision. With the rapid development of modern control equipments and network technologies, the analog communication has been quickly replaced by the digital communication which is capable of meeting the needs for reliable, secure and realtime communication. In wireless digital communication, sensors are often subject to sampling, quantization, and coding before transmission [6, 27, 28, 54]. Although sampling and quantization of sensor signals have already received considerable attention in networked control systems, the coding-decoding procedure (CDP) has not received much attention and this is particularly true for the SMF issues.

The CDP is designed to implement the conversion between numeric data and codewords consisting of 0 and 1, where the coding intends to map numeric data to specific codewords, while the decoding aims at restoring the codewords to the original numerical data as accurately as possible according to certain rules. In recent years, the coding-decoding communication scheme has drawn much research attention due to its irreplaceable role in the digital communication [14, 17, 20, 23, 39, 51, 53]. It should be pointed out that in most relevant literature on coding-decoding communication, a common assumption is that parameters of the CDP maintain the same for all system states/outputs of interest. Unfortunately, such an assumption is not always reasonable as different components of the state/output vector may have different requirements for data resolution in practice. For instance, the alphabet of a larger size is more suitable for components requiring high-accuracy data.

Although the component-based CDP (CBCDP) is more practical for networked systems, its wide application in practice still confronts several challenges. In the existing CDPs, a decoder only needs to decode the information from the corresponding coder. Comparatively, in the case of the CBCDP, the decoder is required to receive and decode messages from different sensors. Consequently, it is required that the CBCDP should endow the decoder with the ability to decode the codewords from different coders. However, up to now, the SMF issue under CBCDP has not been properly examined yet. Therefore, it is the primary motivation of this paper to study the SMF problem with the CBCDP.

In digital communication networks, the bit rate is defined as the number of bits transmitted over a digital communication network per second, and is a critical measure for characterizing the network bandwidth. For a typical network system with multiple nodes, although the total bit rate of the network is large, each node is usually allocated with only a small portion of the total bite rate, and this leads to the inevitable bit rate constraints. Consequently, the side-effect of limited bit rate has become a critical issue and has attracted much research interest in the field of networked systems. Initial research on this issue has focused on finding out how the constrained bit rate affects the system dynamics [26]. For example, the connections between the minimum bit rate (that ensures system stability) and the unstable eigenvalue (of the open-loop system), known as the data rate theorem, have been uncovered in [24, 25, 37, 43] for various systems. However, little attention has been paid to quantitatively model the degree of network constraint, not to mention the case where the impact from the network constraints on the SMF performance is quantitatively analyzed. This constitutes the second motivation of our present investigation.

Based on the above discussions, it can be concluded that the SMF problem for networked systems with constrained bit rate remains open due to the following three main challenges: 1) how to construct a mathematical model accounting for not only the bandwidth limits of the entire network but also the bandwidth allocation for each node? 2) how to develop a CBCDP to fit the need of real networks? and 3) how to design the filter parameters according to certain SMF performance requirements? These identified challenges motivate us to find satisfactory answers.

In this paper, we endeavor to deal with the SMF problem for discrete time-varying systems with constrained bit rate. The primary contributions are summarized from the following four aspects.

- (1) For the SMF problem with limited communication bandwidth, a bit rate constraint model is, for the first time, introduced to characterize the bandwidth allocation of the network.
- (2) A component-based coding-decoding scheme is developed to enable each node to decode information from different nodes.
- (3) The SMF problem is investigated for the discrete time-varying systems with a component-based coding-decoding strategy and the desired parameters of the set-membership filter are obtained by solving a mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINP) problem with the bit rate as a co-design parameter.

Notation: In this paper, \mathbb{R}^n and $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ stand for n dimensional Euclidean space and the set of $n \times m$ real matrices, respectively. \mathbb{N} , \mathbb{N}^+ , and \mathbb{R} denote the sets of non-negative integers, positive integers, and real numbers, respectively. diag_N{ A_i } and $\operatorname{col}_N(e_i)$ denote diagonal block matrix diag_N{ A_1, A_2, \dots, A_N } and column vector $[e_1^T, e_2^T, \dots, e_N^T]^T$, separately. $M \oplus N$ represents the elementwise sum of the sets M and N. The notation X > Y ($X \ge Y$) denotes that X - Y is positive definite (semi- positive definite), where X and Y are symmetric matrices. For any $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$, z^T and $||z||_2$ are its transpose and its Euclidean norm.

2 Problem Formulation and Preliminaries

2.1 System description

Consider the following discrete time-varying system:

$$x_{k+1} = A_k x_k + B_k w_k \tag{1}$$

where $x_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$ is the state vector of the plant, $w_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_w}$ refers to the process disturbance signal, $A_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_x}$ and $B_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times n_w}$ are time-varying matrices. Before proceeding further, we introduce the following assumption.

Assumption 1 The initial state x_0 satisfies the following condition:

$$x_0 \in \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{0|0}, P_{0|0}) \triangleq \{ x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x} : (x - \hat{x}_{0|0})^T P_{0|0}^{-1} (x - \hat{x}_{0|0}) \le 1 \}$$
 (2)

where $\hat{x}_{0|0}$ is the estimation of the initial state and $\mathcal{E}(b, Q)$ represents an ellipsoidal set with the center b and the shape matrix Q > 0.

Without loss of generality, we assume that the sensors measuring the system states are divided into n_y sensor nodes according to their spatial distribution. In this case, the measurements are described as

$$\begin{cases} y_{1,k} = C_{1,k} x_k + D_{1,k} v_k \\ y_{2,k} = C_{2,k} x_k + D_{2,k} v_k \\ \vdots \\ y_{n_y,k} = C_{n_y,k} x_k + D_{n_y,k} v_k \end{cases}$$
(3)

where $y_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}$ $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+ \triangleq \{1, 2, \cdots, n_y\})$ means the one-dimensional measurement output of sensor $i, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_v}$ refers to the measurement noises, $C_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n_x}$ and $D_{i,k} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n_v}$ are time-varying matrices.

Assumption 2 The process noise w_k and the measurement noise v_k are unknown but confined to the following ellipsoidal sets:

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{W}_k \in \mathcal{E}(0, W_k) \triangleq \{ w_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_w} : w_k^T W_k^{-1} w_k \le 1 \} \\ \mathcal{V}_k \in \mathcal{E}(0, V_k) \triangleq \{ v_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_v} : v_k^T V_k^{-1} v_k \le 1 \} \end{cases}$$
(4)

where W_k and V_k are known positive definite matrices with appropriate dimensions.

2.2 The description of bit rate

In this paper, the information is transmitted via the noise-free wireless digital communication network under constrained bit rate. The bit rate of the whole network is usually limited due to resource constraints on the underlying hardware and network environment. Accordingly, only a fraction of the total bit rate is allocated to each node according to certain allocation rules. The model of bit rate constraint can be expressed as follows:

$$R_s \ge \sum_{i=1}^{n_y} R_i \tag{5}$$

where $R_s \in \mathbb{N}^+$ represents the total available bit rate determined by the network device and $R_i \in \mathbb{N}$ denotes the allocated bit rate of sensor node *i*.

Remark 1 In a typical networked system, the media access control (MAC) protocol accounts for the allocation of communication bandwidths and plays a critical role in the operation of the entire network. The design principle of MAC is to allocate the communication resources among network nodes in a fair and efficient manner. Based on the way that network resources are allocated among nodes, MAC protocols can be categorized into two types: the competition-based MAC and allocationbased MAC protocols [33, 48]. It has been evidenced that, compared with the competition-based MAC protocols, the allocation-based MAC protocols (which allocate each node's available bandwidth according to a specific rule) are more effective in reducing packet collision in large-scale networks [1,30]. Therefore, in this paper, we consider the case that the available bit rate for each node is allocated by a allocation protocol satisfying (5).

2.3 CBCDP under constrained bit rate

To comply with the digital communication fashion, a coding-decoding strategy subject to constrained bit rate condition (5) is presented in this subsection. By using a coder, the measurement of each accessible node is coded as a string of binary codes selected from the alphabet \mathbb{A}^{R_i} of size 2^{R_i} .

In practice, different components of the state/output vector may have different data resolution requirements. As such, a CBCDP is designed in this paper.

1) Coding procedure of sensor node i.



Fig. 1. The bits allocation of sensor node i

In the coding procedure, the node label i (the simplified IP address) and the measurement data $y_{i,k}$ are introduced into the codeword, respectively. As such, each sensor node's available bits are divided into two parts

defined by header β_{i1} and data code β_{i2} at each coding instant k. The number of bits allocated to code the header part β_{i1} is defined as:

$$R_{i,p} = \lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil \tag{6}$$

where n_y is the number of sensor nodes measuring the system state, and $\lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil$ is the minimum integer greater than or equal to $\log_2 n_y$, which denotes the minimum number of bits required to represent the integer n_y by binary coding. An integer s_0^i is determined by binary encoding with $\lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil$ bits, which is also the first element of the codeword $\mathcal{Y}_{i,k}^{R_i}$ to be defined later. Noting that once n_y is determined, the number of bits used to describe the first part of each node stays the same, which suggests that

$$R_{1,p} = R_{2,p} = \dots = R_{n_y,p} \triangleq R_p = \lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil.$$
(7)

Remark 2 In contrast to the existing coding methods [23, 39, 53], we spent R_p bits to code the labels of the nodes. With this procedure, although the resolution of the transmitted data degrades, the effectiveness of the decoding procedure is guaranteed with the specific requirement that the decoder is able to decode messages from different nodes.

In view of (6) and (7), the number of available bits for the data code part β_{i2} is given as

$$R_{i,d} = R_i - R_p = R_i - \lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil \tag{8}$$

which determines the maximum number of quantization levels.

The following uniform quantizer is introduced in this paper to facilitate the CBCDP. For the quantizer of sensor node *i*, given a scaling parameter $b_i > 0$, the quantization region is identified subsequently by $\mathcal{B}_{b_i} = \{y_i \in \mathbb{R} : |y_i| \leq b_i\}$. By choosing an integer q_i as the quantization level, the \mathcal{B}_{b_i} will be partitioned into q_i intervals $I_{s_1^i}^i(b_i)$, with $s_1^i \in \{1, 2, \dots, q_i\}$ and

$$I_1^i(b_i) \triangleq \left\{ y_i \mid -b_i \leq y_i < -b_i + \frac{2b_i}{q_i} \right\}$$

$$I_2^i(b_i) \triangleq \left\{ y_i \mid -b_i + \frac{2b_i}{q_i} \leq y_i < -b_i + \frac{4b_i}{q_i} \right\}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$I_{q_i}^i(b_i) \triangleq \left\{ y_i \mid b_i - \frac{2b_i}{q_i} \leq y_i \leq b_i \right\}.$$
(9)

Algorithm 1 Coding procedure of sensor *i*

- ▶ **Step 1.** Given measurement $y_{i,k}$, allocated bit rate R_i , the number of sensors n_y , and the scaling parameter b_i .
- Step 2. Calculate the value of $R_{i,p}$ from equation (7).
- Step 3. Calculate the value of $R_{i,d}$ from equation (8).
- Step 4. Obtain the first component s_0^i of the codeword by using the node label.
- ▶ Step 5. Calculate the largest number of quantization levels q_{im} based on equation (10).
- ▶ **Step 6.** Obtain an integer s_1^i such that $y_{i,k} \in I_{s_i^i}^i(b_i)$.
- ▶ **Step 7.** Obtain and output the codeword $\mathcal{Y}_{i,k}^{R_i}$ with the form of $[s_0^i, s_1^i]$.

For the uniform quantizers described above, in order to ensure that the information corresponding to each interval is uniquely coded, the maximum number of quantization levels is defined as:

$$q_{im} = 2^{R_{i,d}} = 2^{R_i - R_p}.$$
 (10)

Then, for each \mathcal{B}_{b_i} , the center of the interval $I^i_{s_1^i}(b_i)$ is denoted by

$$\hbar^{i}_{b_{i}}(s_{1}^{i}) \triangleq -b_{i} + \left[\left(\left(2s_{1}^{i} - 1 \right) b_{i} \right) / 2^{R_{i,d}} \right].$$
(11)

Hence, for any $y_i \in \mathcal{B}_{b_i}$, there exists a certain integer $s_1^i \in \{1, 2, \cdots, q_i\}$ such that $y_i \in I_{s_1^i}^i$, which satisfies the following inequality:

$$|y_i - \hbar^i_{b_i}(s_1^i)| \le \frac{b_i}{2^{R_{i,d}}}.$$
(12)

The integer s_1^i is the remaining fraction of the codeword in the coding procedure.

In summary, for $y_{i,k} \in I^i_{s_1^i}(b_i) \subset \mathcal{B}_{b_i}$, the following codeword is generated

$$\mathcal{Y}_{i,k}^{R_i} = \begin{bmatrix} s_0^i, \ s_1^i \end{bmatrix} \tag{13}$$

where s_0^i refers to the sensor node label and s_1^i represents the data measured by sensor node *i*. The detailed coding procedure is presented in Algorithm 1.

2) Decoding procedure.

For any codeword $\mathcal{Y}_{x,k}^{R_x} = [s_0^x, s_1^x]$ received from a sensor node, the node label l_s is firstly extracted by the follow-

ing procedure:

$$l_s \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} s_0^x & s_1^x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{14}$$

When the first component of $\mathcal{Y}_{l_s,k}^{R_{l_s}}$ is identified, the data part can be decoded by using the corresponding alphabet $\mathbb{A}^{R_{l_s}}$ embedded in the decoder. In addition, the output of the decoder is defined as

$$\breve{y}_{i,k} = \hbar_{b_{l_s}}^{l_s}(s_1^{l_s}) = -b_{l_s} + \left[\left(\left(2s_1^{l_s} - 1 \right) b_{l_s} \right) / 2^{R_{l_s}} \right].$$
(15)

The decoding procedure is shown in detail in Algorithm 2.

Algorithm 2 Decoding procedure

- ▶ Step 1. If there is a codeword $\mathcal{Y}_{j,k}^{R_j}$, $j = 1, 2, \cdots, n_y$, then go to the next step, else go to Step 6.
- ▶ Step 2. Extract the node label l_s via equation (14).
- ▶ Step 3. Obtain the parameters b_{l_s} and $q_{l_{sm}}$ by looking up the corresponding code alphabet.
- Step 4. Obtain the decoded measurement $\breve{y}_{j,k}$ by (15).
- Step 5. If there is another codeword $\mathcal{Y}_{j,k}^{R_j}$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n_y$, then go to Step 2, else go to Step 6.
- ► *Step 6.* Stop.

2.4 Decoded-measurement-based SMF

Denoting $C_k \triangleq \operatorname{col}_{n_y}(C_{i,k}), D_k \triangleq \operatorname{col}_{n_y}(D_{i,k})$ and $y_k \triangleq \operatorname{col}_{n_y}(y_{i,k})$, the measurement (3) of time-varying system (1) is rearranged as:

$$y_k = C_k x_k + D_k v_k. \tag{16}$$

Based on the CBCDP proposed in subsection 2.3, the remote filter is capable of receiving measurements with the following form at time instant k from n_y sensor nodes:

$$\breve{y}_{k} = \begin{bmatrix}
-b_{1} + \left[\left(\left(2s_{1}^{1} - 1\right)b_{1}\right)/2^{R_{1,d}}\right] \\
-b_{2} + \left[\left(\left(2s_{1}^{2} - 1\right)b_{2}\right)/2^{R_{2,d}}\right] \\
\vdots \\
-b_{n_{y}} + \left[\left(\left(2s_{1}^{n_{y}} - 1\right)b_{n_{y}}\right)/2^{R_{n_{y},d}}\right]
\end{bmatrix}.$$
(17)



Fig. 2. Schematic of filtering problem subject to CBCDP

Let $d_{i,k} \triangleq \check{y}_{i,k} - y_{i,k}$ be the decoding error of sensor node i and $d_k \triangleq \check{y}_k - y_k = \operatorname{col}_{n_y}(d_{i,k})$. It follows from (12) and (17) that

$$d_{i,k}^T d_{i,k} \le \frac{b_i^2}{(2^{R_i - \lceil \log_2 n_y \rceil})^2} \triangleq \bar{d}_{i,k} \tag{18}$$

$$d_{k}^{T}d_{k} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n_{y}} \frac{b_{i}^{2}}{\left(2^{R_{i} - \lceil \log_{2} n_{y} \rceil}\right)^{2}}$$
(19)

and
$$d_k \in \mathcal{E}(0, \bar{d}_k)$$
 with $\bar{d}_k = \text{diag}\{\bar{d}_{1,k}, \bar{d}_{2,k}, \cdots, \bar{d}_{n_y,k}\}$.

In this paper, the set-membership filtering for timevarying system (1) with constrained bit rate condition (5) is investigated by using decoded measurements. The schematic structure is shown in Fig. 2.

The two main objectives of this article are stated as follows.

(1) For the time-varying system (1), let the set of bit rate $R_i \in \mathbb{N}^+$ $(i = 1, 2, \dots, n_y)$ be given. Our first objective is to design a recursive SMF scheme with predictioncorrection structure that employs the decoded measurement such that the target state x_k lies in

$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k|k}^{*}, P_{k|k}^{*}) = \{x_{k} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{x}} : (x_{k} - \hat{x}_{k|k}^{*})^{T} (P_{k|k}^{*})^{-1} (x_{k} - \hat{x}_{k|k}^{*}) \leq 1\}$$
(20)

with $\hat{x}_{k|k}^*$ and $P_{k|k}^*$ are two parameters to be designed.

(2) An optimization problem is to be investigated to minimize $P_{k|k}$ in the sense of matrix trace at each time instant where the available bit rate of each node is designable.

3 Main Results

Based on the established CBCDP under the constrained bit rate, in this section, a decoded-measurement-based set-membership filter is first designed to estimate the ellipsoid of the system state. Subsequently, the filter parameters and the bit rate allocation protocol are recursively obtained by solving an optimization problem. Before proceeding further, the following lemma is recalled to facilitate the derivation of our main results.

Lemma 1 For an ellipsoid $z \in \mathcal{E}(b, Q)$, the affine transformation $z \mapsto Bz + c$ with known matrices B and vectors c is also an ellipsoid and satisfies

$$Bz + c \in B\mathcal{E}(b, Q) + c = \mathcal{E}(Bb + c, BQB^T).$$

Lemma 2 The elementwise sum of given ellipsoids $\mathcal{E}(b_i, Q_i)$ $(i = 1, 2, \dots, m)$ can be enveloped by a bounded ellipsoid

$$\mathcal{E}(b_1, Q_1) \oplus \mathcal{E}(b_2, Q_2) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{E}(b_m, Q_m) \subseteq \mathcal{E}(b, Q).$$

with the center $b = \sum_{i=1}^{m} b_i$ and the shape matrix

$$Q = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_i\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_i^{-1} Q_i\right) \quad \forall \alpha_i > 0.$$

3.1 Design of decoded-measurement-based SMF

In the following theorem, a decoded-measurement-based recursive SMF which features a prediction correction structure, is proposed to estimate the ellipsoid of the system state.

Theorem 1 Consider the bit rate condition (5) and the CBCDP described in Algorithms 1 and 2. Suppose that the system state x_k lies in the ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k|k}^*, P_{k|k}^*)$ and the positive integers R_s , R_i $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+)$ be given. The system state x_{k+1} obtained by (1) with decoded measurements \breve{y}_k is enclosed in the ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}, P_{k+1|k+1})$ with the following parameters:

$$\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1|k} + K_{k+1}\bar{e}_{k+1}
P_{k+1|k+1} = \prod_{k+1} (I - K_{k+1}C_{k+1})P_{k+1|k}$$
(21)

where

$$\bar{e}_{k+1} = \bar{y}_{k+1} - C_{k+1}\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, \ \hat{x}_{k+1|k} = A_k\hat{x}_{k|k}^*$$

$$P_{k+1|k} = (1 - \lambda_k)^{-1}A_kP_{k|k}A_k^T + \lambda_k^{-1}B_kW_kB_k^T$$

$$\Xi_{k+1} = \mu_{k+1}^{-1}\breve{D}_{k+1} + C_{k+1}P_{k+1|k}C_{k+1}^T$$

$$\Pi_{k+1} = 1 + \mu_{k+1} - \bar{e}_{k+1}^T\Xi_{k+1}^{-1}\bar{e}_{k+1}$$

$$K_{k+1} = P_{k+1|k}C_{k+1}^T\Xi_{k+1}^{-1}$$
(22)

with any $\mu_{k+1} > 0$ and $\lambda_k \in (0, 1)$.

Proof: First, it follows from Lemma 1, Lemma 2 and system dynamics (1) that

 $x_{k+1} = A_k x_k + B_k w_k$

$$\in \mathcal{E}(A_k \hat{x}_{k|k}, A_k P_{k|k} A_k^T) \oplus \mathcal{E}(0, B_k W_k B_k^T)$$

$$\subseteq \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, \Phi(P_{k|k}, W_k, \lambda_k))$$
(23)

with

$$\Phi(P_{k|k}, W_k, \lambda_k) = (1 - \lambda_k)^{-1} A_k P_{k|k} A_k^T + \lambda_k^{-1} B_k W_k B_k^T.$$

Therefore, it can be concluded that

$$x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, P_{k+1|k}).$$
 (24)

Next, the decoded measurement \check{y}_{k+1} is applied to establish the parameters for the ellipsoid in (24). One can obtain from (3) and (17) that

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{y}_{k+1} - C_{k+1} x_{k+1} \\
= y_{k+1} + d_{k+1} - C_{k+1} x_{k+1} \\
= D_{k+1} v_{k+1} + d_{k+1} = \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1} \bar{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1} \in \mathcal{E}(0, \hat{D}_{k+1}) \quad (25)
\end{aligned}$$

with $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1} = [I_{n_y}, D_{k+1}], \ \bar{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1} = [d_{k+1}^T, v_{k+1}^T]^T$, and $\hat{D}_{k+1} = \text{diag}\{\bar{d}_{k+1}, V_{k+1}\}$. Then, all possible values of x_{k+1} that are compatible with the decoded measurements could be constrained to the set

$$\mathcal{X}_{k+1} = \left\{ x_{k+1} | C_{k+1} x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{E}(\breve{y}_{k+1}, \breve{D}_{k+1}) \right\}$$
(26)

with $\check{D}_{k+1} = \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1} \hat{D}_{k+1} \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{k+1}^T$. It is obvious that $x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, P_{k+1|k}) \cap \mathcal{X}_{k+1}$. Thus, the design of the setmembership filter for the system state x_{k+1} turns into the determination of $\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}$ and $P_{k+1|k+1}$ in the following set

$$\mathcal{U}_{set}(x_{k+1}) \\ \triangleq \left\{ x_{k+1} | x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, P_{k+1|k}), x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{X}_{k+1} \right\} \\ \subseteq \mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}, P_{k+1|k+1})$$
(27)

where $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}, P_{k+1|k+1})$ is the outer approximations of $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k}, P_{k+1|k}) \cap \mathcal{X}_{k+1}$. To solve the parameters mentioned above, we build the following auxiliary set

$$\mathcal{A}_{set}(x_{k+1}) \triangleq \left\{ x_{k+1} \mid \left(x_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k+1|k} \right)^T P_{k+1|k}^{-1} \left(x_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k+1|k} \right) \right. \\ \left. + \mu_{k+1} \left(C_{k+1} x_{k+1} - \breve{y}_{k+1} \right)^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} \right. \\ \left. \times \left(C_{k+1} x_{k+1} - \breve{y}_{k+1} \right) \le 1 + \mu_{k+1} \right\}$$
(28)

for any $\mu_{k+1} \geq 0$. It follows from the results of [31] that $\mathcal{U}_{set}(x_{k+1}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{set}(x_{k+1})$. Furthermore, $\mathcal{A}_{set}(x_{k+1})$ satisfies the following form:

$$\mathcal{A}_{set}(x_{k+1}) \subseteq \mathcal{E}(\hat{m}_{k+1}, \hat{S}_{k+1}) \tag{29}$$

where \hat{m}_{k+1} represents the midpoint with the form:

$$\hat{m}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1|k} + \mu_{k+1} \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1}^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} \bar{e}_{k+1} \qquad (30)$$

and \hat{S}_{k+1} refers to the shape matrix with the form:

$$\hat{S}_{k+1} = \gamma_{k+1}^2 \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1} \tag{31}$$

with

$$\mathcal{R}_{k+1} = P_{k+1|k}^{-1} + \mu_{k+1} C_{k+1}^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1}$$

$$\gamma_{k+1}^2 = -\mu_{k+1} \breve{y}_{k+1}^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} \breve{y}_{k+1}$$

$$-\hat{x}_{k+1|k}^T P_{k+1|k}^{-1} \hat{x}_{k+1|k}$$

$$+ \varpi_{k+1}^T \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1} \varpi_{k+1} + 1 + \mu_{k+1}$$

$$\varpi_{k+1} = P_{k+1|k}^{-1} \hat{x}_{k+1|k} + \mu_{k+1} C_{k+1}^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} \breve{y}_{k+1}. \quad (32)$$

Applying the matrix inverse lemma, it is readily seen that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1} &= P_{k+1|k} - P_{k+1|k} C_{k+1}^T \Xi_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1} P_{k+1|k} \\ &= (I - P_{k+1|k} C_{k+1}^T \Xi_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1}) P_{k+1|k} \\ &= (I - K_{k+1} C_{k+1}) P_{k+1|k} \end{aligned} (33) \\ \Xi_{k+1}^{-1} &= \mu_{k+1} \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} - \mu_{k+1}^2 \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1} \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1} C_{k+1}^T \breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}. \end{aligned} (34)$$

In view of the above discussions, one has

$$K_{k+1}^{-1} = P_{k+1|k}C_{k+1}\Xi_{k+1}^{-1}$$

$$= \mu_{k+1}P_{k+1|k}C_{k+1}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}$$

$$- \mu_{k+1}^{2}P_{k+1|k}C_{k+1}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}C_{k+1}\mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1}C_{k+1}^{T}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}$$

$$= \mu_{k+1}P_{k+1|k}(\mathcal{R}_{k+1} - \mu_{k+1}C_{k+1}^{T}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}C_{k+1})$$

$$\times \mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1}C_{k+1}^{T}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}$$

$$= \mu_{k+1}\mathcal{R}_{k+1}^{-1}C_{k+1}^{T}\breve{D}_{k+1}^{-1}$$
(35)

which means that the midpoint satisfies

$$\hat{m}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1|k} + K_{k+1}^{-1} \bar{e}_{k+1} \triangleq \hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}.$$
 (36)

Moreover, the parameter γ_{k+1} can be rewritten in a similar way to the result of [31] as

$$\gamma_{k+1} = \sqrt{1 + \mu_{k+1} - \bar{e}_{k+1}^T \Xi_{k+1}^{-1} \bar{e}_{k+1}}.$$
 (37)

By integrating what are described in (28)-(37), we can obtain the required ellipsoid (21), and the proof is thus complete.

Remark 3 In Theorem 1, a decoded-measurementbased recursive SMF with prediction step (24) and correction step (26) is provided to estimate the system state subject to the CBCDP. It should be noted that all the key elements leading to the complexity in filter design have been covered in Theorem 1 which include 1) timevarying parameters of the system; 2) the allocated bit rate of each sensor node; and 3) the parameters related to the component-based coding-decoding strategy. In the following sections, we will further explore the co-design issue of the bit rate allocation protocol and the filter parameter to improve the SMF performance.

3.2 Co-design of decoded-measurement-based setmembership filter and bit rate allocation protocol

It can be found from Theorem 1 that the set of the allocated bit rate R_i $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+)$ plays a vital role in (21). On the other hand, the available bit rates are designable parameters assigned by the MAC protocol in response to the required performance. Therefore, the co-design issue of the bit rate allocation protocol and filter parameters will be the emphasis of the remainder of this paper. The following minimization problem subject to variable R_i $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+)$ is proposed to deal with the co-design issue.

OP: The optimization problem is to minimize the ellipsoid constraint P_k (in the sense of the matrix trace) for the most accurate filtering performance under bit rate constraint condition (5) with known total available bit rate R_s and variable allocated bit rate R_i . Such a problem is addressed in Theorem 2.

Theorem 2 Consider bit rate condition (5), system (1), and the CBCDP described in Algorithms 1 and 2. Suppose that the system state x_k lies in the ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k|k}^*, P_{k|k}^*)$ and the positive integers R_s be given. The system state x_{k+1} obtained by (1) is enclosed in the ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(\hat{x}_{k+1|k+1}, P_{k+1|k+1})$ with the parameters described in (21), where positive integers R_i $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+)$ are the solution to the following OP:

$$\min_{P_{k+1},K_{k+1},\vec{K}_{k+1}} Trace\{P_{k+1}\}$$

$$s.t. (5), (21)$$

$$0 \le R_{i,k+1} \le R_s$$

$$R_{i,k+1} \in \mathbb{N}, \ i = 1, 2, \cdots, n_y$$
(38)

where $\vec{R}_{k+1} = \{R_{1,k+1}, R_{2,k+1}, \cdots, R_{n_y,k+1}\}.$

Note that the presented co-design problem in Theorem 2 is an MINP problem which is difficult to be solved due to the integer constraints of R_i and the nonlinear term in equality constraints (21).



Fig. 3. Flowchart of the PSO-Assisted co-design algorithm

To cope with such an MINP problem, an algorithm that combines the PSO and Kalman-like recursive filtering algorithm is presented in the following stage. For the optimization problem (38) with constraints, we first introduce a penalty function that transforms (38) into the following form:

$$\min_{\substack{P_{k+1}, K_{k+1}, \vec{R}_{k+1} \\ s.t.}} \operatorname{Trace}\{P_{k+1}\} + f_p(R)$$

$$s.t. \quad (21) \qquad (39)$$

$$R_{i,k+1} \in \mathbb{N}, \ i = 1, 2, \cdots, n_y$$

where $f_p(R) = \max \{0, \sum_{i=1}^{n_y} R_{i,k+1} - R_s\}$ is the penalty function with $R = [R_{1,k+1}, R_{2,k+1}, \cdots, R_{n_y,k+1}]$. The fitness function of PSO is defined as $\operatorname{Trace}\{P_{k+1}\} + f_p(R)$.

Denote $\mathbf{v}_i = [\mathbf{v}_{i,1}, \mathbf{v}_{i,2}, \cdots, \mathbf{v}_{i,n_y}]$ and $\mathbf{R}_i = [\mathbf{R}_{i,1}, \mathbf{R}_{i,2}, \cdots, \mathbf{R}_{i,n_y}]$ as the velocity and the position of the particle i, respectively. The velocity and the position updating equations of particle i are given as follows:

$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t+1) = \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \mathbf{c}_{1}\mathbf{r}_{1}\left(\mathbf{p}_{i}(t) - \mathbf{R}_{i}(t)\right) + \mathbf{c}_{2}\mathbf{r}_{2}\left(g_{b}(t) - \mathbf{R}_{i}(t)\right)$$
(40)

$$\mathbf{R}_{i}(t+1) = \mathbf{R}_{i}(t) + \mathbf{v}_{i}(t+1) \tag{41}$$

where t is the iteration number, \mathbf{p}_i represents the historical individual best position (p_b) for particle *i*, and g_b bespeaks the historical global best position for the entire swarm, \mathbf{c}_1 and \mathbf{c}_2 refer to the cognitive acceleration coefficient and the social acceleration coefficient, separately, \mathbf{w} denotes the inertia weight. Keeping in mind that the PSO algorithm in this paper is designed to solve the MINP problem with integer variables R_i , the initial position and velocity of the particle, as well as the parameters \mathbf{c}_1 , \mathbf{c}_2 and \mathbf{w} are all selected as integers in the algorithm. Moreover, \mathbf{r}_1 and \mathbf{r}_2 are two integers that are chosen randomly from 1 or 2.

From the flowchart depicted in Fig. 3, it can be seen that the first step is to initialize the parameters of the PSO algorithm, including N_S , N_I , c_1 , c_2 , w, along with the velocity \mathbf{V}_i , the position \mathbf{R}_i and the initial \mathbf{p}_i of each particle. The second step is to evaluate each particle's fitness function $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R}_i)$ by computing the equations (21). If the equations (21) is infeasible, the value of the fitness will be artificially assigned a sufficiently large value $(10^4 \text{ in this paper})$ to mitigate the influence of the relevant particles on the particle swarm. The third step is to update the q_b by choosing the smaller one between $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R}_i)$ and $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{p}_i)$ and to update the q_b by choosing the minimum fitness value in the swarm. The fourth step is to update the velocity and the position of each particle by the given updating equations (40) and (41). Each iteration repeats the process from the second step to the fourth step until the maximum number of iterations is reached. Then, select the g_b as the parameters of bit rate allocation protocol. At last, based on the selected bit rate protocol, parameters of the set-membership filter are produced by computing the equations (21).

Remark 4 As a matter of fact, the bit rate allocation protocol is a problem-dependent parameter that can be designed according to different application requirements. On the other hand, it can be readily observed from Theo-rem 1 that the parameters R_i $(i \in \mathbb{N}_{n_y}^+)$ play a significant role in the design of the set-membership filter. Therefore, Theorem 2 investigates the co-design problem of the bit rate allocation protocol and the filter parameters. Such a co-design problem is further transformed into an MINP problem that can be well solved by combining the PSO algorithm and the Kalman-like recursive filtering algorithm. The complexity of PSO-Assisted co-design algorithm is $\mathbf{N}_S \mathbf{N}_I \mathcal{O}((1+n_x+n_w+n_v+n_y))$, which is determined by the PSO algorithm and the Kalman-like recursive filtering algorithm. Fortunately, with the increase in computer computing power and the accelerated development of PSO technology, the problems of the computational burden and the local extremes of the algorithm in online mode are promising to be well solved.

Remark 5 In this paper, the SMF problem is investigated for discrete time-varying systems with constrained bit rate. The bandwidth limitation of the communication network is characterized by introducing a bit rate constraint model (5). A CBCDP is proposed to meet the requirements of the decoder for decoding messages from different components, and a design method is later proposed in Theorem 1 to compute the decoded-measurement-based set-membership filter. In order to further reduce the filtering error, a co-design procedure of the bit rate protocol and filter parameters is presented in Theorem 2.

Remark 6 This paper represents the first attempt to investigate the SMF problems for time-varying systems with unknown-but-bounded noises and CBCDP within a digital communication network framework. Compared to the existing literature, the main novelties of our current results lie in 1) the established bit rate condition, which relies on the bandwidth allocation protocol, is new in the sense of characterizing the bandwidth limit of the communication network for the addressed SMF problem; 2) the proposed component-based coding-decoding strategy is new, which makes it possible for the filter to decode information from each sensor; and 3) the design algorithms for the set-membership filter parameters are new through solving an MINP problem with the bit rate as a co-design parameter.

Remark 7 From the methodological viewpoint, we would like to clarify that a) the proposed coding method is new in that R_p bits are utilized to code the labels of the nodes in the component-based coding-decoding scheme; b) the proposed decoding method is new in that specific requirements on the decoding procedure can be guaranteed so that the decoder is able to decode messages from different nodes; and c) the co-design method is new for the interdisciplinary problem crossing communication and filtering areas.

4 Numerical Example

In this section, two numerical examples are provided to demonstrate the validity of the proposed setmembership filtering scheme for systems (1) subject to CBCDP and bit rate constraints.

The time-varying system (1) is considered in this section with the following parameters:

$$A_{k} = 0.1 \begin{bmatrix} A_{11,k} & -0.1 & A_{13,k} \\ 0.42 & A_{22,k} & 0.25 \\ -0.2 & A_{32,k} & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}, B_{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.9 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$A_{11,k} = 0.85 + \sin(0.5k)$$
$$A_{13,k} = -0.1 + 4\sin(0.5k)$$
$$A_{22,k} = 0.7 + \sin(0.4k)$$
$$A_{32,k} = -0.2 + 2\cos(0.4k).$$

The sensors of this system is categorized into 2 sensor

nodes and its measurement model is given below.

$$\begin{cases} y_{1,k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 + 0.2\sin(0.3k) & 0.21 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix} x_k \\ + & (0.3 + 0.1\sin(0.3k))v_k \\ y_{2,k} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.09 & 0.3 & 0.3 + 0.1\cos(0.4k) \end{bmatrix} x_k \\ + & (0.4 + 0.2\sin(0.4k))v_k. \end{cases}$$

The noises are selected to be $w_k = 0.6 \sin(0.3k)$ and $v_k = 0.1 \sin(0.2k)$. Then, W and V can be chosen as 0.36 and 0.01, respectively. It can then be readily verified that w_k and v_k belong to the set of ellipsoids defined in (4). Let the initial state of system and filter be $x_0 = [2, -2, -2], \hat{x}_0 = [0, 0, 0]$. The initial constraint is set to be $P_0 = \text{diag}\{16, 16, 16\}$. Then, it can also be verified that the provided initial conditions satisfy Assumption 1. The parameter λ is set as [9], μ is set to be $\mu = 30$.

For the coding procedure outlined in Algorithm 1, the scaling parameters are selected to be $b_1 = 0.8$ and $b_2 = 0.5$. In the following, two cases are given to prove the validity of the set-membership filter design method proposed in this paper.

Case 1: Filtering effects of Theorem 1 and Theorem 2.

This case illustrates the effects of Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 on designing the set-membership filter, including the effects on the upper bound and the effects on the filtering error. The total bit rate is assumed to be $R_s = 16$ bps. The available bit rate of each sensor node is allocated as $R_1 = 3$ and $R_2 = 13$ in Theorem 1. In Theorem 2, the available bit rate is determined by solving (39) and the detailed parameters are shown in Table 1.

Table 1The bit rate allocation of node 1 and node 2

k	1	 7	 13	 19	 21	 30
R_1	9	 8	 9	 8	 6	 8
R_2	7	 8	 7	 8	 7	 8

The simulation results are depicted in Figs. 4-9, where Figs. 4-6 depict the trajectories of system states and their estimates under Theorem 1 and Theorem 2; Figs. 7-9 plot their upper bounds and lower bounds under Theorem 1 and Theorem 2. From Figs. 4-6, we observe that the state trajectories of the filter obtained by solving the Theorem 2 are more close to the trajectories of the true state in most of the time. It can be readily observed from Figs. 7-9 that by applying Theorem 2, one can obtain smaller bounds in most of the time compared to Theorem 1. The simulation results confirm the following two aspects: 1) the SMF performance can be satisfied by solving Theorem 1 and Theorem 2; and 2) a better filtering performance can be obtained through the proposed co-design problem (Theorem 2).



Fig. 4. The trajectories of $x_{1,k}$ and $\hat{x}_{1,k}$ subject to Theorem



Fig. 5. The trajectories of $x_{2,k}$ and $\hat{x}_{2,k}$ subject to Theorem



Fig. 6. The trajectories of $x_{3,k}$ and $\hat{x}_{3,k}$ subject to Theorem 1 and Theorem 2



Fig. 7. The upper and lower bounds of state $\hat{x}_{1,k}$ subject to



Fig. 8. The upper and lower bounds of state $\hat{x}_{2,k}$ subject to Theorem 1 and Theorem 2

Case 2: Effect of total available bit rate R_s on filtering performance.

This case is intended to clarify the effect of the total available bit rate on the design of the set-membership filter. First, four simulations are carried out with total bit rates of $R_s = 8$ bps, $R_s = 16$ bps, $R_s = 32$ bps, and $R_s = 64$ bps, respectively. The average filtering error \bar{e}_k under different available bit rate R_s are shown in Fig. 10, where $\bar{e}_k = || e_k ||_2 / n$, and n is the simulation run length (n = 30 in this paper). Two observations can be obtained from Fig. 10: 1) as the available bit rate increases, the filtering error becomes smaller; 2) when the bit rate increases to a certain level, its effect on the filtering error becomes smaller.

Next, two simulations are conducted with $R_s = 8$ bps and $R_s = 16$ bps, respectively. The available bit rate of each sensor node is allocated by an average allocation protocol, i.e., $R_1 = R_2 = \frac{R_s}{2} = 4$ bps in case $R_s = 8$



Fig. 9. The upper and lower bounds of state $\hat{x}_{3,k}$ subject to Theorem 1 and Theorem 2



Fig. 10. The average filtering errors \bar{e}_k with $R_s = 8$ bps, $R_s = 16$ bps, $R_s = 32$ bps, and $R_s = 64$ bps

bps and $R_1 = R_2 = \frac{R_s}{2} = 8$ bps in case $R_s = 16$ bps. The corresponding simulation results are shown in Figs. 11-13, which depict the filtering errors and their upper bounds under different available bit rate. It can be readily seen from Figs. 11-13 that one can obtain lower upper bounds and lower filtering errors in most of the time under the condition $R_s = 16$ bps. This is reasonable because a higher bit rate allows us to provide more quantization levels in the design of the coding procedure, which will result in lower decoding errors. As a result, the measurements can be restored more completely at the receiver for filter design, thereby improving the filtering performance.

5 Conclusions

In this paper, we have investigated the SMF problem for a discrete time-varying system with constrained bit rate. A bit rate constraint has been introduced to characterize the limits of the network bandwidth and the allocation of each node. A CBCDP procedure has been proposed to guarantee the uniqueness of the coding-decoding procedure. After establishing the CBCDP under the constrained bit rate condition, a decoded-measurementsbased recursive filter has been developed to estimate the plant subject to the unknown-but-bounded noises. The design issue of the filter has been addressed by solving an OP, which is an MINP problem with the bit rate as a co-design parameter. The effectiveness of the proposed



Fig. 11. The filtering errors $||e_{1,k}||_2$ and the upper bounds subject to different bit rate



Fig. 12. The filtering errors $||e_{2,k}||_2$ and the upper bounds subject to different bit rate

filter design scheme has been illustrated through two numerical cases. Finally, we may extend the results of this paper to other kinds of filtering problems (e.g. moving horizon estimation [8, 35]), and this gives us future research topics.

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Fig. 13. The filtering errors $||e_{3,k}||_2$ and the upper bounds subject to different bit rate

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