



NTNU

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

# **SINDy – a survey of methods and their properties**

Daide Murari

Trial lecture  
September 25, 2024

# Data-driven discovery of dynamical systems

We want to find the differential equation  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = X(\mathbf{x}(t))$ ,  $X : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , generating the trajectory in the movie.

# Data-driven discovery of dynamical systems

We want to find the differential equation  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = X(\mathbf{x}(t))$ ,  $X : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , generating the trajectory in the movie.

## Outline of the procedure

We define

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_x} \lambda_i f_i(x, y) \\ \dot{y} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_y} \mu_j g_j(x, y), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

for a set of functions  $f_i, g_j : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and look for a *good* set of coefficients  $\lambda_i, \mu_j$  making (1) an accurate approximation of  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = X(\mathbf{x}(t))$ .

# Sparse Identification of Nonlinear Dynamics (SINDy)

## Motivation behind SINDy

The right-hand side of most differential equations is made of the sum of a few functions, so the coefficients  $\lambda_i, \mu_j$  in the linear combination should be, in large part, set to zero.

# Sparse Identification of Nonlinear Dynamics (SINDy)

## Motivation behind SINDy

The right-hand side of most differential equations is made of the sum of a few functions, so the coefficients  $\lambda_i, \mu_j$  in the linear combination should be, in large part, set to zero.

Some examples:

- ▶ Simple pendulum:  $\dot{x} = y, \dot{y} = -g/L \sin(x),$
- ▶ Lorenz:  $\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x), \dot{y} = x(\rho - z) - y, \dot{z} = xy - \beta z,$
- ▶ Free rigid body:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x_3/l_3 & -x_2/l_2 \\ -x_3/l_3 & 0 & x_1/l_1 \\ x_2/l_2 & -x_1/l_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

# Sparse Identification of Nonlinear Dynamics (SINDy)

The algorithm to approximate  $X : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

1. Build the data and derivative matrices

$$U = [\mathbf{x}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}(t_m)]^\top, \quad U_p = [\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_m)]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

# Sparse Identification of Nonlinear Dynamics (SINDy)

The algorithm to approximate  $X : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

1. Build the data and derivative matrices

$$U = [\mathbf{x}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}(t_m)]^\top, \quad U_p = [\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_m)]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

2. Choose  $f_1, \dots, f_N : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that are likely to appear in  $X$ , and define the matrix  $\Theta(U) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$  with entries

$$\Theta(U)_{i,j} = f_j(\mathbf{x}(t_i)), \quad i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, N.$$

# Sparse Identification of Nonlinear Dynamics (SINDy)

The algorithm to approximate  $X : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

1. Build the data and derivative matrices

$$U = [\mathbf{x}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}(t_m)]^\top, \quad U_p = [\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_1) \ \cdots \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_m)]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

2. Choose  $f_1, \dots, f_N : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that are likely to appear in  $X$ , and define the matrix  $\Theta(U) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$  with entries

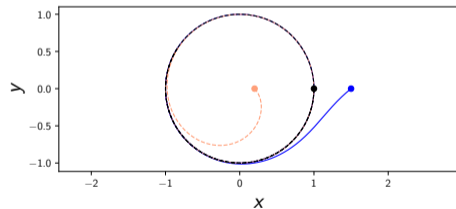
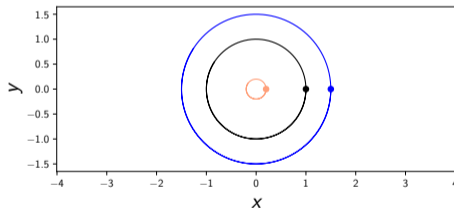
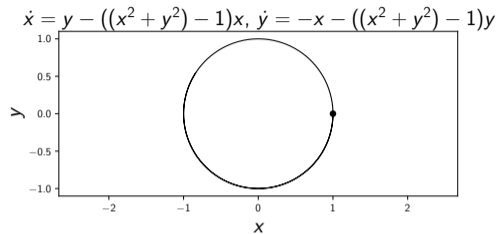
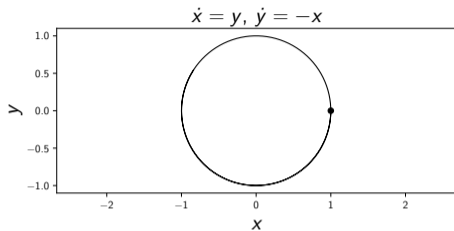
$$\Theta(U)_{i,j} = f_j(\mathbf{x}(t_i)), \quad i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, N.$$

3. Solve

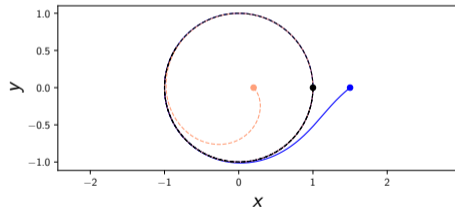
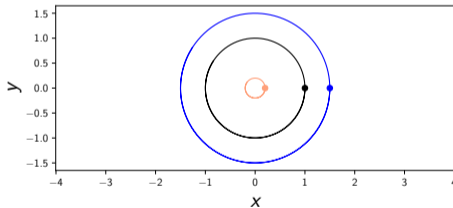
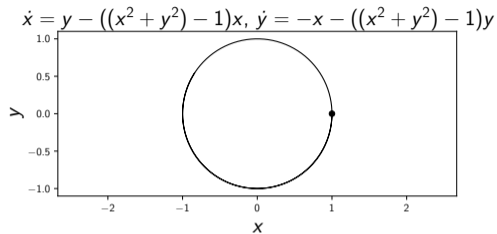
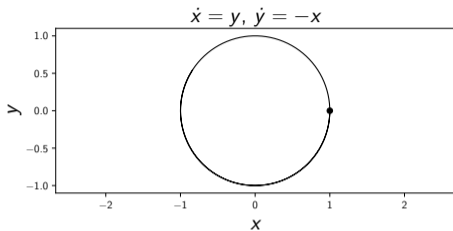
$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1, \quad \lambda > 0.$$



# Building the data matrix



# Building the data matrix



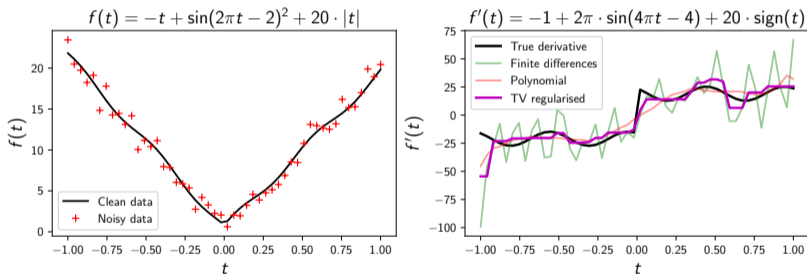
- ▶ The data matrix  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  collects the snapshots of some observed trajectories at different time instants  $t_1, \dots, t_m$ .

## Building the derivative matrix

- ▶ We generally do not know the exact values of  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_i)$ , i.e., of  $X(\mathbf{x}(t_i))$ , so we need to approximate them to assemble  $U_p \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ .

## Building the derivative matrix

- ▶ We generally do not know the exact values of  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_i)$ , i.e., of  $X(\mathbf{x}(t_i))$ , so we need to approximate them to assemble  $U_p \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ .
- ▶ Approximating the derivatives is a delicate step that could amplify the noise present in the trajectory data.



**Figure:** Results obtained with the PySINDy<sup>1</sup> library.

<sup>1</sup>Alan A Kaptanoglu et al. "PySINDy: A comprehensive Python package for robust sparse system identification". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2111.08481* (2021).

## Total Variation Regularised Derivative

- ▶ Let  $[t_1, t_m] \ni t \mapsto x(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  be a signal with derivative  $u(t)$ .
- ▶ Consider a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  made of noisy entries  $s_i = x(t_i) + \delta_i$ .

## Total Variation Regularised Derivative

- ▶ Let  $[t_1, t_m] \ni t \mapsto x(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  be a signal with derivative  $u(t)$ .
- ▶ Consider a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  made of noisy entries  $s_i = x(t_i) + \delta_i$ .
- ▶ The TV regularised derivative based on  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is defined as

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^m} F(\mathbf{u}) := \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} - (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{s}_1)\|_2^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}\|_1.$$

The matrix  $A$  contains quadrature weights, so

$$(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u})_i \approx \int_{t_1}^{t_i} u(t) dt,$$

while  $D$  is a finite differences matrix of the first order, so

$$(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u})_i \approx \dot{u}(t_i).$$

## Building a library of candidate functions

- ▶ Many dynamical systems are well approximated by polynomial differential equations.
- ▶ Multivariate polynomials are usually the first reasonable set of functions one can test in the dictionary of candidate functions.

## Building a library of candidate functions

- ▶ Many dynamical systems are well approximated by polynomial differential equations.
- ▶ Multivariate polynomials are usually the first reasonable set of functions one can test in the dictionary of candidate functions.
- ▶ For example, if we consider polynomials up to degree 2 for a system in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we would have

$$\Theta(U) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x(t_1) & y(t_1) & x(t_1)^2 & x(t_1)y(t_1) & y(t_1)^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x(t_m) & y(t_m) & x(t_m)^2 & x(t_m)y(t_m) & y(t_m)^2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 6}.$$



## Building a library of candidate functions

- ▶ Many dynamical systems are well approximated by polynomial differential equations.
- ▶ Multivariate polynomials are usually the first reasonable set of functions one can test in the dictionary of candidate functions.
- ▶ For example, if we consider polynomials up to degree 2 for a system in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we would have

$$\Theta(U) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x(t_1) & y(t_1) & x(t_1)^2 & x(t_1)y(t_1) & y(t_1)^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x(t_m) & y(t_m) & x(t_m)^2 & x(t_m)y(t_m) & y(t_m)^2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 6}.$$

- ▶ Another common set of functions are trigonometric functions, for example in the pendulum  $\ddot{x} = -g/L \sin(x)$ . Thus, one can augment the polynomial dictionary with functions like  $\sin(kx)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

## Least squares with sparsity promotion

- ▶ We now need to find how to linearly combine the columns of  $\Theta(U)$  to recover  $U_p$ , with a sparse set of coefficients.

## Least squares with sparsity promotion

- ▶ We now need to find how to linearly combine the columns of  $\Theta(U)$  to recover  $U_p$ , with a sparse set of coefficients.
- ▶ A first strategy to do so is  $\ell^1$  regularisation, leading to the (convex) unconstrained minimisation problem

$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1, \quad \lambda > 0,$$

or, equivalently, to the inequality-constrained problem

$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2, \quad \text{s.t. } \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1 < \text{tol.}$$

## Least squares with sparsity promotion

- ▶ We now need to find how to linearly combine the columns of  $\Theta(U)$  to recover  $U_p$ , with a sparse set of coefficients.
- ▶ A first strategy to do so is  $\ell^1$  regularisation, leading to the (convex) unconstrained minimisation problem

$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1, \quad \lambda > 0,$$

or, equivalently, to the inequality-constrained problem

$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2, \quad \text{s.t. } \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1 < \text{tol.}$$

- ▶ This method can be expensive, especially for high-dimensional datasets.

## The sequential thresholded least squares method

- ▶ The alternative approach recommended in the original paper<sup>2</sup> is the *Sequential Thresholded Least Squares method* (STLS).

---

<sup>2</sup>Steven L Brunton, Joshua L Proctor, and J Nathan Kutz. "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems". In: *Proceedings of the national academy of sciences* 113.15 (2016), pp. 3932–3937.

# The sequential thresholded least squares method

- ▶ The alternative approach recommended in the original paper<sup>2</sup> is the *Sequential Thresholded Least Squares method* (STLS).

## Sequential thresholded least squares method

1. Solve the least squares problem

$$\Sigma^0 := \arg \min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2.$$

# The sequential thresholded least squares method

- ▶ The alternative approach recommended in the original paper<sup>2</sup> is the *Sequential Thresholded Least Squares method* (STLS).

## Sequential thresholded least squares method

1. Solve the least squares problem

$$\Sigma^0 := \arg \min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2.$$

2. For  $k = 1, \dots, K$  solve the constrained least squares problem

$$\Sigma^k := \arg \min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \Sigma_{i,j} = 0 \text{ whenever } \left| \Sigma_{i,j}^{k-1} \right| < \lambda.$$

<sup>2</sup>Brunton, Proctor, and Kutz, "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems".



## STLS convergence properties<sup>3</sup>

$$F(\Sigma) = \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda^2 \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_0. \quad (2)$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Linan Zhang and Hayden Schaeffer. "On the convergence of the SINDy algorithm". In: *Multiscale Modeling & Simulation* 17.3 (2019), pp. 948–972.



# STLS convergence properties<sup>3</sup>

$$F(\Sigma) = \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda^2 \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_0. \quad (2)$$

## Convergence theorem

Suppose that  $\|\Theta(U)\|_2 = 1$ .

1. The STLS iterates  $\{\Sigma^k\}$  converge to a fixed point in at most  $N \cdot d$  steps.

## STLS convergence properties<sup>3</sup>

$$F(\Sigma) = \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda^2 \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_0. \quad (2)$$

### Convergence theorem

Suppose that  $\|\Theta(U)\|_2 = 1$ .

1. The STLS iterates  $\{\Sigma^k\}$  converge to a fixed point in at most  $N \cdot d$  steps.
2. A fixed point of the STLS method is a local minimiser of (2).

## STLS convergence properties<sup>3</sup>

$$F(\Sigma) = \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda^2 \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_0. \quad (2)$$

### Convergence theorem

Suppose that  $\|\Theta(U)\|_2 = 1$ .

1. The STLS iterates  $\{\Sigma^k\}$  converge to a fixed point in at most  $N \cdot d$  steps.
2. A fixed point of the STLS method is a local minimiser of (2).
3. A global minimiser of (2) is a fixed point of the scheme.

## STLS convergence properties<sup>3</sup>

$$F(\Sigma) = \|U_p - \Theta(U)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda^2 \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_0. \quad (2)$$

### Convergence theorem

Suppose that  $\|\Theta(U)\|_2 = 1$ .

1. The STLS iterates  $\{\Sigma^k\}$  converge to a fixed point in at most  $N \cdot d$  steps.
2. A fixed point of the STLS method is a local minimiser of (2).
3. A global minimiser of (2) is a fixed point of the scheme.
4. The iterates  $\{\Sigma^k\}$  strictly decrease (2) unless stationary.

<sup>3</sup>Zhang and Schaeffer, "On the convergence of the SINDy algorithm".

## Example: Simple harmonic oscillator

The target equations are

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = y(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) = -0.5x(t). \end{cases}$$

Result obtained with **LASSO**, fixing  $\lambda = 10^{-3}$  and exact derivatives  $\dot{x}(t_i)$ :

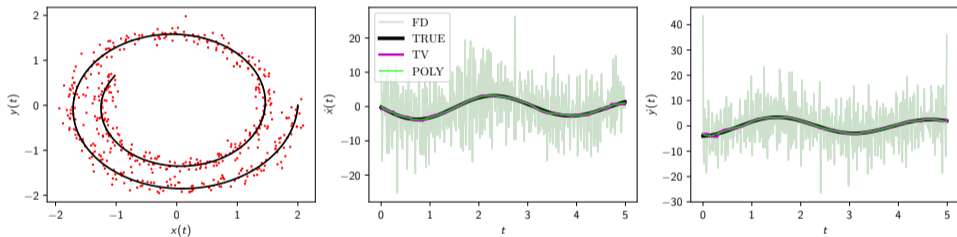
$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ x \\ y \\ x^2 \\ xy \\ y^2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4996 \\ 0.9991 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot$$

Result obtained with **STLS**, fixing  $\lambda = 0.05$  and exact derivatives  $\dot{x}(t_i)$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ x \\ y \\ x^2 \\ xy \\ y^2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.5 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot$$

## Example with noisy data

Target differential equations: 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -0.1x + 2y \\ \dot{y} = -2x - 0.1y \end{cases}$$



**Figure:** Gaussian noise with  $\sigma = 0.1$ . STLS algorithm with  $\lambda = 0.05$ .

$$\text{POLY: } \begin{cases} \dot{x} = -0.082x + 1.975y \\ \dot{y} = -1.972x - 0.110y \end{cases}, \quad \text{TV: } \begin{cases} \dot{x} = -0.092x + 1.974y \\ \dot{y} = -1.981x - 0.107y. \end{cases}$$

## Constraining the coefficients

- ▶ Suppose we know we are dealing with a planar Hamiltonian system of the form

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -V'(x), \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where we do not know the potential energy  $V : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- ▶ Then we could constrain the optimisation problem further, for example saying that there is no term in  $y$  in the second equation.

## Constraining the coefficients

- ▶ Suppose we know we are dealing with a planar Hamiltonian system of the form

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -V'(x), \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where we do not know the potential energy  $V : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- ▶ Then we could constrain the optimisation problem further, for example saying that there is no term in  $y$  in the second equation.
- ▶ The same might occur when we know part of the terms on the right-hand side, conservation laws, or symmetries in the equations.



## Constraining the coefficients

- ▶ Suppose we know we are dealing with a planar Hamiltonian system of the form

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -V'(x), \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where we do not know the potential energy  $V : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- ▶ Then we could constrain the optimisation problem further, for example saying that there is no term in  $y$  in the second equation.
- ▶ The same might occur when we know part of the terms on the right-hand side, conservation laws, or symmetries in the equations.
- ▶ To see how to impose the structure in (3), we first rewrite the SINDy method in vector form.

## Vector version of SINDy

- ▶ We use the `vec` operator, which stacks the columns of a matrix into a single column vector:

$$\text{vec}([\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k]) = [\mathbf{a}_1^\top \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k^\top]^\top.$$

## Vector version of SINDy

- ▶ We use the  $\text{vec}$  operator, which stacks the columns of a matrix into a single column vector:

$$\text{vec}([\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k]) = [\mathbf{a}_1^\top \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k^\top]^\top.$$

This operator also satisfies  $\text{vec}(ABC) = (C^\top \otimes A)\text{vec}(B)$ , and hence

$$\text{vec}(\Theta(U)\Sigma) = (I_d \otimes \Theta(U))\text{vec}(\Sigma) =: \tilde{\Theta}(U)\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \cdot d}.$$

More explicitly,  $\tilde{\Theta}(U)$  is of the form

$$\tilde{\Theta}(U) = \begin{bmatrix} \Theta(U) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \Theta(U) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \Theta(U) \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Vector version of SINDy

- ▶ We use the  $\text{vec}$  operator, which stacks the columns of a matrix into a single column vector:

$$\text{vec}([\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k]) = [\mathbf{a}_1^\top \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_k^\top]^\top.$$

This operator also satisfies  $\text{vec}(ABC) = (C^\top \otimes A)\text{vec}(B)$ . So,

$$\text{vec}(\Theta(U)\Sigma) = (I_d \otimes \Theta(U))\text{vec}(\Sigma) =: \tilde{\Theta}(U)\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \cdot d}.$$

- ▶ Since  $\|A\|_F = \|\text{vec}(A)\|_2$ , the LASSO formulation can be rewritten as

$$\text{Find } \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \cdot d}} \left\| \tilde{\Theta}(U)\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \mathbf{u}_p \right\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\sigma}\|_1,$$

where  $\mathbf{u}_p := \text{vec}(U_p)$ .

# The constrained STLS algorithm<sup>4</sup>

- ▶ With the vector notation, one of the STLS iterates is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^k &:= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \cdot d}} \left\| \tilde{\Theta}(U) \boldsymbol{\sigma} - \mathbf{u}_p \right\|_2^2 \\ &\text{s.t. } C^k \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{d}^k, \quad C^k \in \mathbb{R}^{r_k \times N \cdot d}, \end{aligned}$$

which admits a unique solution if

$$\text{rank}(C^k) = r_k, \text{ and } \text{rank} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Theta}(U) \\ C^k \end{bmatrix} \right) = N \cdot d.$$

---

<sup>4</sup>Jean-Christophe Loiseau and Steven L Brunton. "Constrained sparse Galerkin regression". In: *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* 838 (2018), pp. 42–67.

## Back to planar Hamiltonian systems...

- ▶ Say that we want to discover  $\ddot{x} = -V'(x)$  with  $V(x) = x^2/4$ . We can then include prior information as  $\tilde{C}\sigma = \tilde{d}$  where

$$\tilde{C} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tilde{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \\ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & x & y & 1 & x & y \end{array} \end{array}$$

## Back to planar Hamiltonian systems...

- ▶ Say that we want to discover  $\ddot{x} = -V'(x)$  with  $V(x) = x^2/4$ . We can then include prior information as  $\tilde{C}\sigma = \tilde{d}$  where

$$\tilde{C} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & x & y & 1 & x & y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tilde{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{array}$$

- ▶ At each step, we can then solve

$$\sigma^k := \arg \min_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \cdot d}} \left\| \tilde{\Theta}(U)\sigma - \mathbf{u}_p \right\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} C^k \\ \tilde{C} \end{bmatrix} \sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}^k \\ \tilde{d} \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Constraining the model in the presence of noise

We now perturb the exact derivatives  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_i)$  to  $\mathbf{v}_i = \dot{\mathbf{x}}(t_i) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$  with  $\varepsilon_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, d$ , and see how the reconstructed models are.

The target equations are  $\dot{x} = y$ ,  $\dot{y} = -0.5x$ .



## Constraining the model in the presence of noise

We now perturb the exact derivatives  $\dot{x}(t_i)$  to  $\mathbf{v}_i = \dot{x}(t_i) + \varepsilon$  with  $\varepsilon_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, d$ , and see how the reconstructed models are.

The target equations are  $\dot{x} = y$ ,  $\dot{y} = -0.5x$ .

The **orange** matrices are obtained with constrained models, while the **blue** ones are unconstrained:

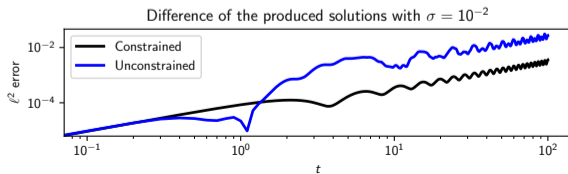
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \sigma = 10^{-3} \\
 \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ x \\ y \\ x^2 \\ xy \\ y^2 \\ \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.500 \\ 1.000 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \sigma = 10^{-3} \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.500 \\ 1.000 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \sigma = 10^{-2} \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.500 \\ 1.000 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \sigma = 10^{-2} \\
 \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0.112 \\ 0 & -0.500 \\ 1.000 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.112 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.223 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

# Analysis of the recovered dynamics

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.112 \\ 0 & -0.500 \\ 1.000 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.112 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.223 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} 1 \\ x \\ y \\ x^2 \\ xy \\ y^2 \end{matrix} \implies \begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -0.5x + c(1 - x^2 - 2y^2), \quad c \approx 0.112. \end{cases}$$

The additional term vanishes on the energy level set of the initial condition  $\mathbf{x}_0 = [1, 0]$ , which is the ellipse

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : H(x, y) = y^2/2 + x^2/4 = 1/4\}.$$



## SINDy for discrete dynamical systems

- ▶ What if we want to approximate a map  $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  defining the discrete dynamics  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = F(\mathbf{x}_k)$ ?

## SINDy for discrete dynamical systems

- ▶ What if we want to approximate a map  $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  defining the discrete dynamics  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = F(\mathbf{x}_k)$ ?
- ▶ In this case, we do not need the derivative matrix  $U_p$ , but we work with the dataset

$$U_l = [\mathbf{x}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}_m]^\top, \quad U_r = [\mathbf{x}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}_{m+1}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

## SINDy for discrete dynamical systems

- ▶ What if we want to approximate a map  $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  defining the discrete dynamics  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = F(\mathbf{x}_k)$ ?
- ▶ In this case, we do not need the derivative matrix  $U_p$ , but we work with the dataset

$$U_l = [\mathbf{x}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}_m]^\top, \quad U_r = [\mathbf{x}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}_{m+1}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

- ▶ We can still apply the same procedure as SINDy for continuous systems, but to these new data matrices:

$$\min_{\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}} \|U_r - \Theta(U_l)\Sigma\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\text{vec}(\Sigma)\|_1, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

# SINDy for parametric differential equations

- ▶ What we have seen up to now extends to dynamical systems that depend on a parameter  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .

- ▶ We can rewrite

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = X(\mathbf{x}, \mu)$$

as

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = X(\mathbf{x}, \mu) \\ \dot{\mu} = 0. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- ▶ SINDy can then be applied to (4) using the new state variable

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mu \end{bmatrix}.$$

# SINDy for non-autonomous differential equations

- ▶ A similar reasoning applies to explicitly time-dependent differential equations.

- ▶ We can rewrite

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = X(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

as

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = X(\mathbf{x}, t) \\ \dot{t} = 1. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

- ▶ SINDy can then be applied to (5) using the new state variable

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ t \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Some limitations and extensions of SINDy



## Curse of dimensionality<sup>5</sup>

As the dimension  $d$  grows, the set of basis functions one has to consider will grow quickly. For example  $\dim(\mathbb{P}_k^d) = \binom{k+d}{d}$ , which for  $d = 6$  and  $k = 5$  is already 462.

---

<sup>5</sup>Kathleen Champion et al. "Data-driven discovery of coordinates and governing equations". In: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116.45 (2019), pp. 22445–22451; Brunton, Proctor, and Kutz, "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems".

## Curse of dimensionality<sup>5</sup>

As the dimension  $d$  grows, the set of basis functions one has to consider will grow quickly. For example  $\dim(\mathbb{P}_k^d) = \binom{k+d}{d}$ , which for  $d = 6$  and  $k = 5$  is already 462.

A common solution to this problem is to start with a truncated SVD:

$$U^T \approx \Psi_r \Sigma_r V_r^T \implies \mathbf{x} \approx \Psi_r \mathbf{a}, \quad \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^r.$$

Then, one can apply the SINDy algorithm in the variable  $\mathbf{a}$ , and  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) \approx \Psi_r \dot{\mathbf{a}}(t)$ .

---

<sup>5</sup>Champion et al., "Data-driven discovery of coordinates and governing equations"; Brunton, Proctor, and Kutz, "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems".



## Approximating the derivatives

The SINDy algorithm depends on having an accurate approximation of the exact derivative matrix  $U_p$ .

## Approximating the derivatives

The SINDy algorithm depends on having an accurate approximation of the exact derivative matrix  $U_p$ .

A solution<sup>6</sup> can be to work with the integral version of the differential equation:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}(0) = \int_0^t \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{x}(t)) dt.$$

We can then proceed similarly to the SINDy algorithm and write

$$x_i(t_m) - x_i(0) \approx \sum_{j=1}^N \Sigma_{i,j} d_j(t_m), \quad d_j(t_m) \approx \int_0^{t_m} f_j(\mathbf{x}(t)) dt.$$

---

<sup>6</sup>Schaeffer and McCalla, "Sparse model selection via integral terms".

# References

-  Brunton, Steven L, Joshua L Proctor, and J Nathan Kutz. "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems". In: *Proceedings of the national academy of sciences* 113.15 (2016), pp. 3932–3937.
-  Champion, Kathleen et al. "Data-driven discovery of coordinates and governing equations". In: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116.45 (2019), pp. 22445–22451.
-  Kaptanoglu, Alan A et al. "PySINDy: A comprehensive Python package for robust sparse system identification". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2111.08481* (2021).
-  Loiseau, Jean-Christophe and Steven L Brunton. "Constrained sparse Galerkin regression". In: *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* 838 (2018), pp. 42–67.
-  Schaeffer, Hayden and Scott G McCalla. "Sparse model selection via integral terms". In: *Physical Review E* 96.2 (2017), p. 023302.
-  Zhang, Linan and Hayden Schaeffer. "On the convergence of the SINDy algorithm". In: *Multiscale Modeling & Simulation* 17.3 (2019), pp. 948–972.

THANK YOU FOR  
THE ATTENTION

## Limitation: Knowledge of the terms to include in the dictionary

The quality of the recovered system depends on our knowledge of what basis functions to include in  $\Theta(U)$ , which can generally not be inferred just based on data.

## Limitation: Knowledge of the terms to include in the dictionary

The quality of the recovered system depends on our knowledge of what basis functions to include in  $\Theta(U)$ , which can generally not be inferred just based on data.

A solution<sup>1</sup> could be to use general enough parametric models like Neural ODEs

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathcal{N}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}(t)), \theta \in \mathbb{R}^p,$$

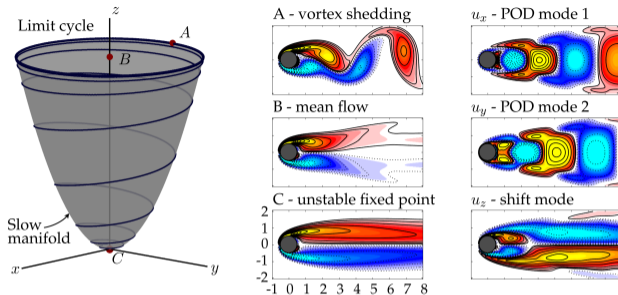
to get a first approximation of the right-hand side. We could then do sparse regression over this approximate model to get a more interpretable approximation, as in SINDy.

---

<sup>1</sup>Christopher Rackauckas et al. "Universal differential equations for scientific machine learning"



# Example in higher dimensions<sup>1</sup>



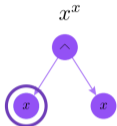
**Figure:** Low-rank dynamics underlying the periodic vortex shedding behind a circular cylinder at low Reynolds number,  $Re = 100$ .

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \mu x - \omega y + Axz \\ \dot{y} = \omega x + \mu y + Ayz \\ \dot{z} = -\lambda(z - x^2 - y^2). \end{cases}$$

<sup>1</sup> Brunton, Proctor, and Kutz, "Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems".

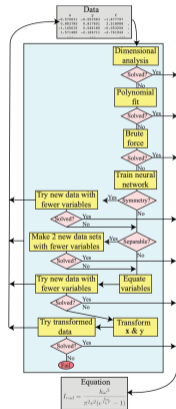
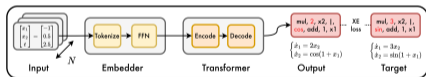
# Some alternative methods to SINDy

- ▶ Symbolic regression with evolutionary algorithms<sup>1</sup>.



- ▶ Hybrid approaches, like AI Feynman<sup>3</sup>.

- ▶ Symbolic regression with transformers<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>1</sup> Miles Cranmer. "Interpretable machine learning for science with PySR and SymbolicRegression. jl".

<sup>2</sup> Stéphane d'Ascoli et al. "Odeformer: Symbolic regression of dynamical systems with transformers".

<sup>3</sup> Silviu-Marian Udrescu and Max Tegmark. "AI Feynman: A physics-inspired method for symbolic regression".

## PDE-FIND<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Similarly to SINDy, we could discover the right-hand side of the PDE

$$\partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, t) = \mathcal{N}(u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}} u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} u, \dots), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

## PDE-FIND<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Similarly to SINDy, we could discover the right-hand side of the PDE

$$\partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, t) = \mathcal{N}(u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}} u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} u, \dots), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

- ▶ This time, the dataset is a vector  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \cdot N}$  where

$$\mathbf{u} = \text{vec}(U), \quad U_{n,m} \approx u(\mathbf{x}_n, t_m), \quad n = 1, \dots, N, \quad m = 1, \dots, M,$$

for a spatio-temporal grid  $\{(\mathbf{x}_n, t_m)\}$  of  $\Omega \times [0, T]$ ,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

---

<sup>1</sup> Samuel H Rudy et al. "Data-driven discovery of partial differential equations".

## PDE-FIND<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Similarly to SINDy, we could discover the right-hand side of the PDE

$$\partial_t u(\mathbf{x}, t) = \mathcal{N}(u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}} u, \partial_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} u, \dots), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

- ▶ This time, the dataset is a vector  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \cdot N}$  where

$$\mathbf{u} = \text{vec}(U), \quad U_{n,m} \approx u(\mathbf{x}_n, t_m), \quad n = 1, \dots, N, \quad m = 1, \dots, M,$$

for a spatio-temporal grid  $\{(\mathbf{x}_n, t_m)\}$  of  $\Omega \times [0, T]$ ,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

- ▶ The candidate matrix becomes

$$\Theta(\mathbf{u}) = [1 \quad \mathbf{u} \quad \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{x}} \quad \mathbf{u} \odot \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{x}} \quad \dots] \in \mathbb{R}^{N \cdot M \times K}$$

and we have to deal with a sparse regression of the form

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^K} \|\mathbf{u}_t - \Theta(\mathbf{u})\boldsymbol{\sigma}\|_2^2 + \lambda R(\boldsymbol{\sigma}).$$

<sup>1</sup>Samuel H Rudy et al. "Data-driven discovery of partial differential equations".