

# Optimal and Robust Sensor Fusion

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**Abstract**—Abstract text to be done

**Index Terms**—Complementary Filters, Sensor Fusion, H-  
 Infinity Synthesis

## I. INTRODUCTION

Section II Section III Section IV Section V

## II. OPTIMAL SUPER SENSOR NOISE: $\mathcal{H}_2$ SYNTHESIS

### A. Sensor Model

Let's consider a sensor measuring a physical quantity  $x$  (Figure 1). The sensor has an internal dynamics which is here modelled with a Linear Time Invariant (LTI) system transfer function  $G_i(s)$ .

The noise of sensor can be described by the Power Spectral Density (PSD)  $\Phi_{\tilde{n}_i}(\omega)$ .

This is approximated by shaping a white noise with unitary PSD  $\tilde{n}_i$  (2) with a LTI transfer function  $N_i(s)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{\tilde{n}_i}(\omega) &= |N_i(j\omega)|^2 \Phi_{\tilde{n}_i}(\omega) \\ &= |N_i(j\omega)|^2\end{aligned}\quad (1)$$

$$\Phi_{\tilde{n}_i}(\omega) = 1 \quad (2)$$

The output of the sensor  $v_i$ :

$$v_i = (G_i)x + (G_i N_i)\tilde{n}_i \quad (3)$$

In order to obtain an estimate  $\hat{x}_i$  of  $x$ , a model  $\hat{G}_i$  of the (true) sensor dynamics  $G_i$  is inverted and applied at the output (Figure 1):

$$\hat{x}_i = (\hat{G}_i^{-1}G_i)x + (\hat{G}_i^{-1}G_i N_i)\tilde{n}_i \quad (4)$$

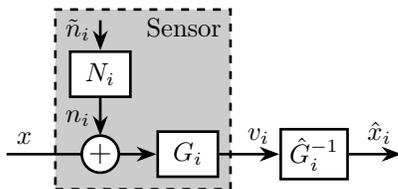


Fig. 1. Sensor Model

### B. Sensor Fusion Architecture

Let's now consider two sensors measuring the same physical quantity  $x$  but with different dynamics ( $G_1, G_2$ ) and noise characteristics ( $N_1, N_2$ ) (Figure 2).

The noise sources  $\tilde{n}_1$  and  $\tilde{n}_2$  are considered to be uncorrelated.

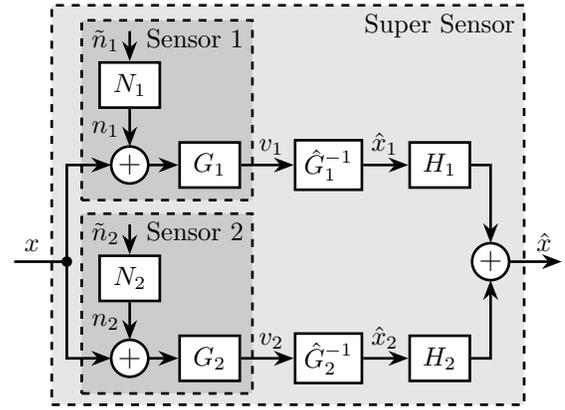


Fig. 2. Sensor Fusion Architecture with sensor noise

The output of both sensors ( $v_1, v_2$ ) are then passed through the inverse of the sensor model to obtained two estimates ( $\hat{x}_1, \hat{x}_2$ ) of  $x$ . These two estimates are then filtered out by two filters  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  and summed to gives the super sensor estimate  $\hat{x}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} &= (H_1 \hat{G}_1^{-1} G_1 + H_2 \hat{G}_2^{-1} G_2)x \\ &\quad + (H_1 \hat{G}_1^{-1} G_1 N_1)\tilde{n}_1 + (H_2 \hat{G}_2^{-1} G_2 N_2)\tilde{n}_2\end{aligned}\quad (5)$$

Suppose the sensor dynamical model  $\hat{G}_i$  is perfect:

$$\hat{G}_i = G_i \quad (6)$$

We considered here complementary filters:

$$H_1(s) + H_2(s) = 1 \quad (7)$$

In such case, the super sensor estimate  $\hat{x}$  is equal to  $x$  plus the noise of the individual sensors filtered out by the complementary filters:

$$\hat{x} = x + (H_1 N_1)\tilde{n}_1 + (H_2 N_2)\tilde{n}_2 \quad (8)$$

### C. Super Sensor Noise

Let's note  $n$  the super sensor noise.

$$n = (H_1 N_1) \tilde{n}_1 + (H_2 N_2) \tilde{n}_2 \quad (9)$$

As the noise of both sensors are considered to be uncorrelated, the PSD of the super sensor noise is computed as follow:

$$\Phi_n(\omega) = |H_1 N_1|^2 + |H_2 N_2|^2 \quad (10)$$

It is clear that the PSD of the super sensor depends on the norm of the complementary filters.

### D. $\mathcal{H}_2$ Synthesis of Complementary Filters

The goal is to design  $H_1(s)$  and  $H_2(s)$  such that the effect of the noise sources  $\tilde{n}_1$  and  $\tilde{n}_2$  has the smallest possible effect on the noise  $n$  of the estimation  $\hat{x}$ .

And the goal is the minimize the Root Mean Square (RMS) value of  $n$ :

$$\sigma_n = \sqrt{\int_0^\infty \Phi_{\tilde{n}}(\omega) d\omega} = \left\| \begin{matrix} H_1 N_1 \\ H_2 N_2 \end{matrix} \right\|_2 \quad (11)$$

Thus, the goal is to design  $H_1(s)$  and  $H_2(s)$  such that  $H_1(s) + H_2(s) = 1$  and such that  $\left\| \begin{matrix} H_1 N_1 \\ H_2 N_2 \end{matrix} \right\|_2$  is minimized.

$$\begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} N_1 & N_1 \\ 0 & N_2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ u \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

The  $\mathcal{H}_2$  synthesis of the complementary filters thus minimized the RMS value of the super sensor noise.

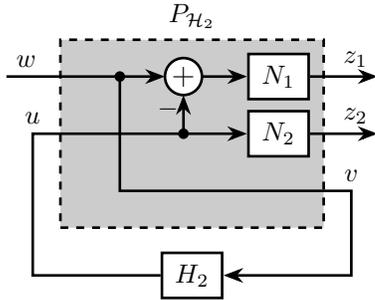


Fig. 3. Generalized plant  $P_{\mathcal{H}_2}$  used for the  $\mathcal{H}_2$  synthesis of complementary filters

### E. Example

### F. Robustness Problem

## III. ROBUST SENSOR FUSION: $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ SYNTHESIS

### A. Representation of Sensor Dynamical Uncertainty

Suppose that the sensor dynamics  $G_i(s)$  can be modelled by a nominal d

$$G_i(s) \equiv \hat{G}_i(s) (1 + w_i(s) \Delta_i(s)); \quad |\Delta_i(j\omega)| < 1 \forall \omega \quad (13)$$

### B. Sensor Fusion Architecture

$$\hat{x} = \left( H_1 \hat{G}_1^{-1} \hat{G}_1 (1 + w_1 \Delta_1) + H_2 \hat{G}_2^{-1} \hat{G}_2 (1 + w_2 \Delta_2) \right) x \quad (14)$$

with  $\Delta_i$  is any transfer function satisfying  $\|\Delta_i\|_\infty < 1$ .

Suppose the model inversion is equal to the nominal model:

$$\hat{G}_i = G_i \quad (15)$$

$$\hat{x} = (1 + H_1 w_1 \Delta_1 + H_2 w_2 \Delta_2) x \quad (16)$$

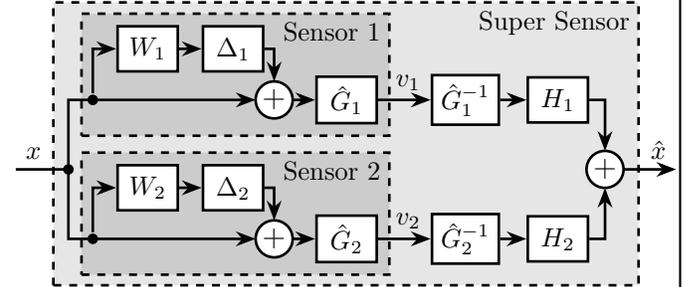


Fig. 4. Sensor Fusion Architecture with sensor model uncertainty

### C. Super Sensor Dynamical Uncertainty

The uncertainty set of the transfer function from  $\hat{x}$  to  $x$  at frequency  $\omega$  is bounded in the complex plane by a circle centered on 1 and with a radius equal to  $|w_1(j\omega)H_1(j\omega)| + |w_2(j\omega)H_2(j\omega)|$ .

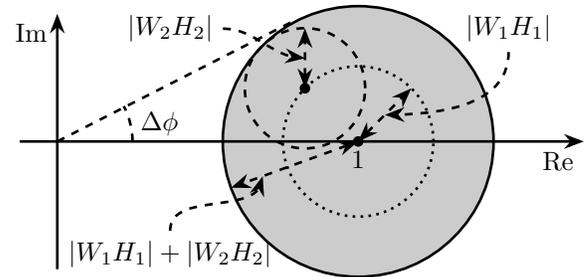


Fig. 5. Super Sensor model uncertainty displayed in the complex plane

### D. $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ Synthesis of Complementary Filters

In order to minimize the super sensor dynamical uncertainty

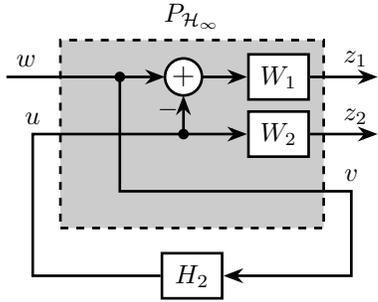


Fig. 6. Generalized plant  $P_{\mathcal{H}_\infty}$  used for the  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synthesis of complementary filters

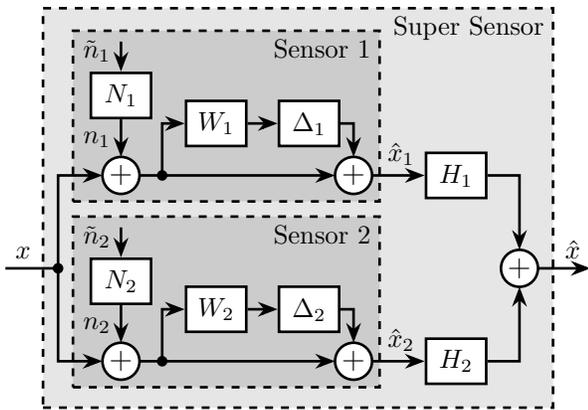


Fig. 7. Super Sensor Fusion with both sensor noise and sensor model uncertainty

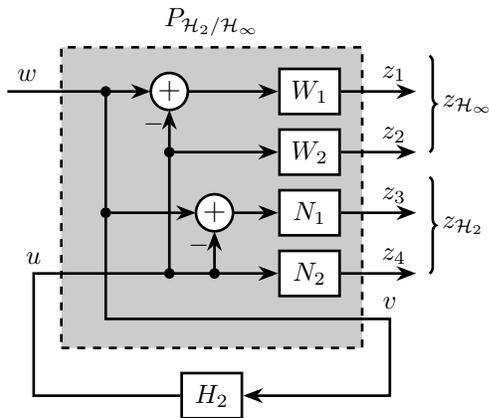


Fig. 8. Generalized plant  $P_{\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty}$  used for the mixed  $\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty$  synthesis of complementary filters

### E. Example

## IV. OPTIMAL AND ROBUST SENSOR FUSION: MIXED $\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty$ SYNTHESIS

### A. Sensor Fusion Architecture

### B. Synthesis Objective

### C. Mixed $\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty$ Synthesis

### D. Example

## V. EXPERIMENTAL VALIDATION

### A. Experimental Setup

### B. Sensor Noise and Dynamical Uncertainty

### C. Mixed $\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty$ Synthesis

### D. Super Sensor Noise and Dynamical Uncertainty

## VI. CONCLUSION

## VII. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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