

# Model reduction, realization and Hankel theory for nonlinear systems

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In the theory of continuous time linear systems, the system Hankel operator plays an important role in a number of problems. For example, when viewed as mapping from past inputs to future outputs, it plays a direct role in the abstract definition of state. It also plays a central role in minimality theory, in model reduction problems, in realization theory, and related to these, in linear identification methods. Specifically, the Hankel operator supplies a set of similarity invariants, the so called Hankel singular values, which can be used to quantify the importance of each state in the corresponding input-output system. The Hankel operator can also be factored into the composition of an observability and controllability operator, from which Gramian matrices can be defined and the notion of a balanced realization follows, first introduced in [2], and further studied by many authors, e.g., [5]. The Hankel singular values are most easily computed in a state-space setting using the product of the Gramian matrices, though intrinsically they depend only on the given input-output mapping. The linear Hankel theory is rather complete and the relations between and interpretations in the state-space and input-output settings are fully understood.

The continuous time nonlinear extension of the linear theory is the topic of this presentation. A brief overview will be given about previous results on the controllability and observability function and their relation with minimality, e.g., [3]. Furthermore, the relation with the Hankel operator will be considered and a combination of state-space and input-output thinking results in the so-called axis-singular value functions that correspond to an input-normal/output-diagonal representation, e.g., [1]. In these developments we rely heavily on the concept of a nonlinear Hilbert adjoint as presented in [4]. This is a main ingredient for the Hankel singular value analysis that characterizes the axis-singular value functions. Based on this, a nonlinear state-space system is brought in balanced form. This state-space realization forms a basis for a new balanced model reduction scheme for nonlinear systems.

## References

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