

# Asymptotic Mean Ergodicity of Average Consensus Estimators

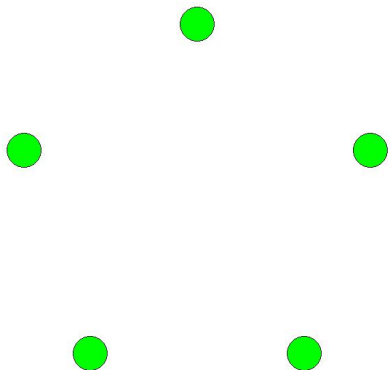
Bryan Van Scoy, Randy A. Freeman, Kevin M. Lynch

Northwestern University

June 6, 2014

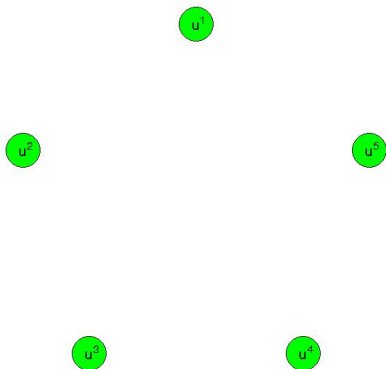
# What is average consensus?

- Group of  $n$  agents
- Each agent has a local input  $u^i$
- Communication with neighbors represented by directed graph
- Want all agents to be able to calculate the average of all the inputs,  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n u^i$



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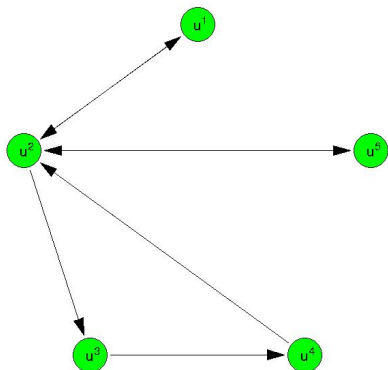


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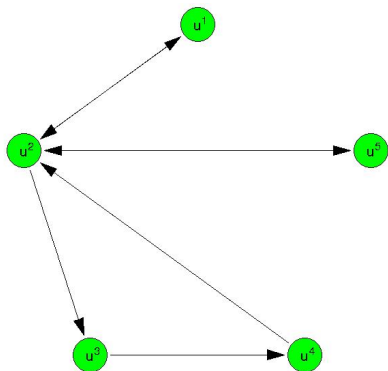
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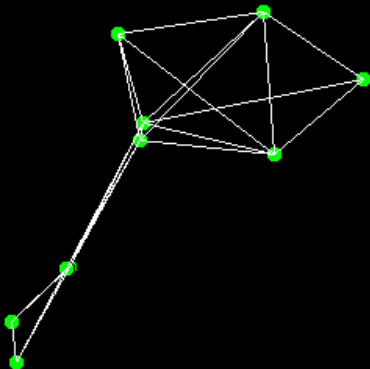


# Why average consensus?

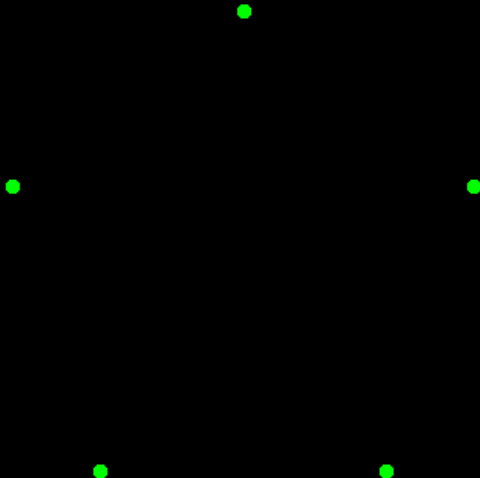
Average consensus is a key building block in many distributed algorithms such as the following:

- Formation control
- Distributed Kalman filtering
- Distributed sensor fusion

# Why random switching graphs?



# Why random switching graphs?





# Assumptions

The graph Laplacian at time  $k$  is  $L_k \equiv D_k - A_k$  where  $D_k$  is the degree matrix and  $A_k$  is the adjacency matrix of the graph.

## Assumptions

- $E[L_k]$  balanced and connected
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## Note

We do not require  $L_k$  to be balanced or connected at every time step.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Average Consensus Estimators
  - Initial condition estimator
  - P estimator
  - PI estimator
- 3 Polynomial Linear Protocol
  - Definition and Examples
  - Separated System
- 4 Asymptotic Mean Ergodicity and Main Theorem
- 5 Conclusions

## Initial Condition Estimator

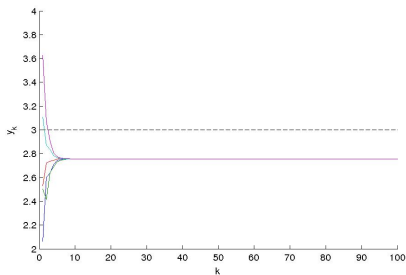
Consider the well-known distributed algorithm

$$x_{k+1}^i = x_k^i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} a_{ij} (x_k^i - x_k^j) \quad (\text{agent } i)$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - L_k x_k \quad (\text{vectorized})$$

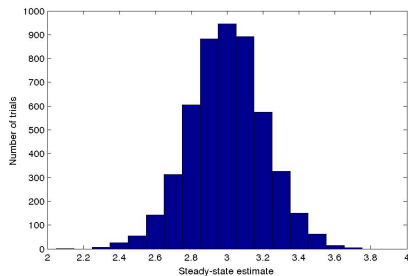
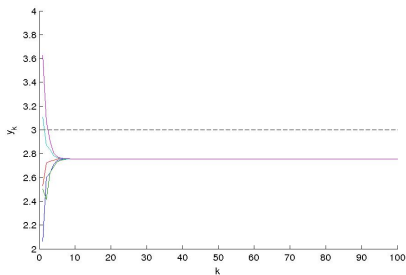
where  $x_k$  is the state and  $L_k$  is the graph Laplacian at time  $k$ , and  $x_0 = u$  is the input.

## Simulation



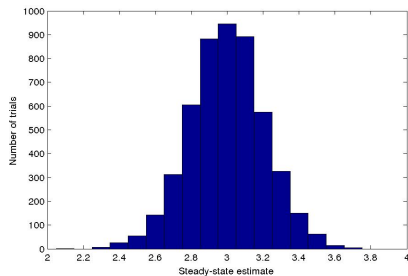
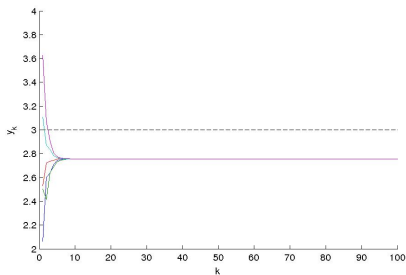
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- Estimate converges to a random variable whose mean is the correct average (Li and Zhang, 2010).
- Average could be approximated by averaging multiple trials.
- This is inefficient...

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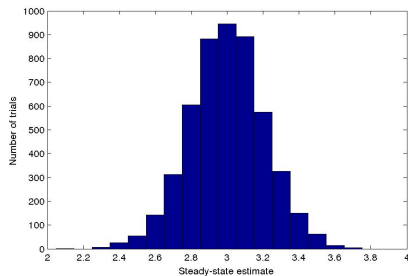
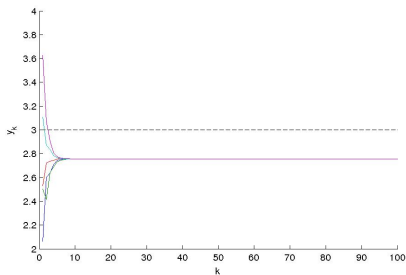
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## P Estimator

The P estimator equations are

$$x_{k+1} = (1 - \gamma)x_k - k_p L_k y_k$$

$$y_k = x_k + u$$

where  $x_k$  is the internal state and  $y_k$  is the output at time  $k$ , and  $\gamma$  and  $k_p$  are system parameters.

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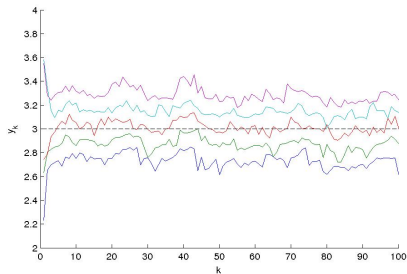
### Special case

For  $\gamma = 0$  and  $k_p = 1$ , we have

$$y_{k+1} = y_k - L_k y_k$$

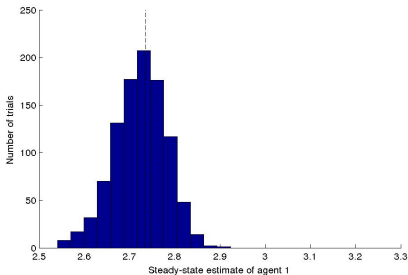
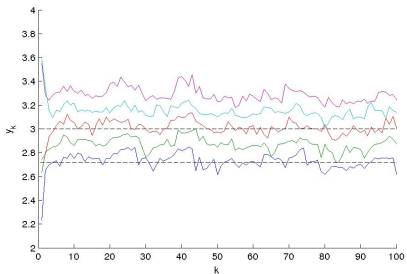
where  $y_0 = x_0 + u$ .

## P Estimator ( $\gamma \neq 0$ )



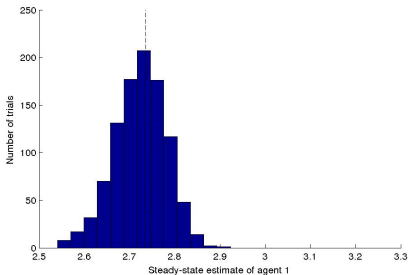
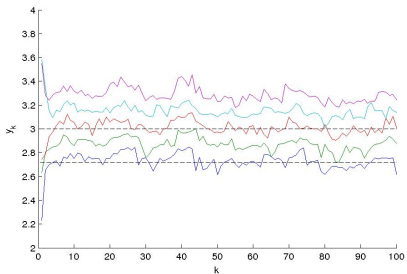
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$$\nu_{k+1} = (1 - \gamma)\nu_k + \gamma u - k_p L_k \nu_k + k_I L_k \eta_k$$

$$\eta_{k+1} = \eta_k - k_I L_k \nu_k$$

$$y_k = \nu_k$$

where  $\nu_k$  and  $\eta_k$  are the internal states at time  $k$  and  $\gamma$ ,  $k_p$ , and  $k_I$  are system parameters.

- Convex combination of input and previous state.
- Proportional error term.
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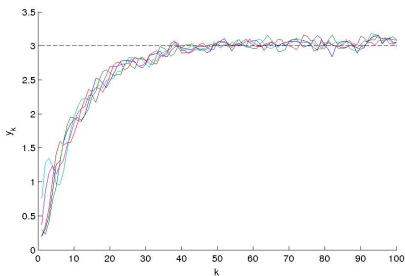
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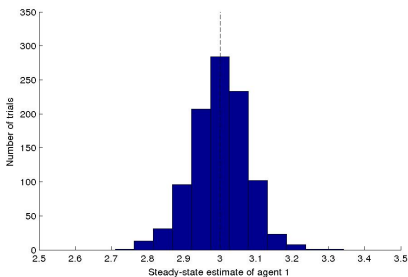
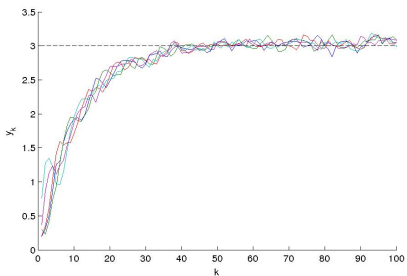
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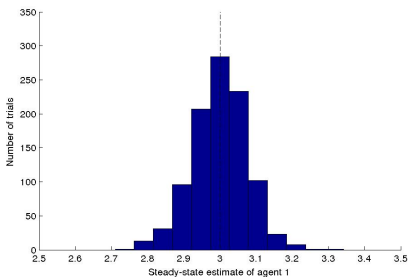
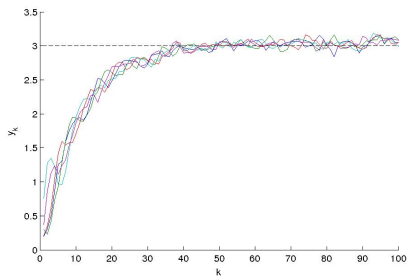
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Time average = Statistical average (ergodicity)

Statistical average = Average of inputs (correctness).

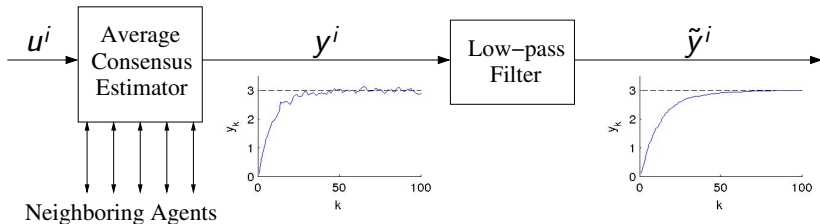
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# Estimator Properties

Estimator	Ergodic	Correct	
P, $\gamma = 0$	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>	
P, $\gamma \neq 0$	Yes	No	
PI	Yes	Yes	

<sup>1</sup> If the expectation of the initial state is zero.

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- **Strategy:** Do analysis for a general estimator and apply results to the P and PI estimators



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## Polynomial Linear Protocol

A polynomial linear protocol (Freeman, Nelson, and Lynch, 2010) of degree  $\ell$  is the collection  $\Sigma(L) = [A(L), B(L), C(L), D(L)]$  where

$$A(L) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} L^i \otimes A_i$$

$$B(L) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} L^i \otimes B_i$$

$$C(L) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} L^i \otimes C_i$$

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are polynomials in  $L$  which describe the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= A(L)x_k + B(L)u_k \\ y_k &= C(L)x_k + D(L)u_k. \end{aligned}$$

## Examples

### Example 1 (P Estimator)

The P estimator is a polynomial linear protocol of degree one with parameters  $\gamma$  and  $k_p$  where

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A(L) & B(L) \\ \hline C(L) & D(L) \end{array} \right] = I \otimes \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} 1 - \gamma & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] + L \otimes \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} -k_p & -k_p \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

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### Example 2 (PI Estimator)

The PI estimator is a polynomial linear protocol of degree one with parameters  $\gamma$ ,  $k_p$ , and  $k_I$  where

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## Objective

### Objective

Want conditions under which the output process  $y_k$  of a polynomial linear protocol  $\Sigma(L_k)$  is

- 1 Asymptotically mean ergodic
- 2 Correct (i.e., the expectation converges to the average of the inputs)

Then the low-pass filtered output converges to the average of the inputs.

## Correctness

- A polynomial linear protocol  $\Sigma(L_k)$  of degree one is correct if and only if  $\Sigma(E[L_k])$  converges to the average of the inputs.
- This has been characterized (Freeman, Nelson, and Lynch, 2010).
- A necessary condition is  $A_0$  must have an eigenvalue at one.

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## Solution

The state corresponding to the eigenvalue at one must be unobservable.

## Separated System

### Definition 3 (Reduced Laplacian)

The reduced Laplacian  $\hat{L}$  is defined as  $\hat{L} := S^T L S$  where  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} v & S \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is orthogonal and  $v = \mathbf{1}_n / \sqrt{n}$ .

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Performing the change of variable  $\tilde{x}_k = (Q \otimes I)^T x_k$ , the separated system  $\tilde{\Sigma}(L)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{A}(L) &= \begin{bmatrix} A_0 & (v \otimes I)^T A(L)(S \otimes I) \\ 0 & A(\hat{L}) \end{bmatrix} & \tilde{B}(L) &= \begin{bmatrix} (v \otimes I)^T B(L) \\ (S \otimes I)^T B(L) \end{bmatrix} \\ \tilde{C}(L) &= \begin{bmatrix} v \otimes C_0 & C(L)(S \otimes I) \end{bmatrix} & \tilde{D}(L) &= D(L). \end{aligned}$$

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### Definition 4 (Asymptotically Wide-Sense Stationary)

The process  $X_k$  is asymptotically wide-sense stationary if and only if the mean and covariance of the steady-state process do not change with time; that is, the limits

$$m_X \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E[X_n] \quad \text{and} \quad C_X(k) \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{COV}[X_{k+n}, X_n]$$

exist and are finite where  $m_X$  is the mean and  $C_X(k)$  is the covariance of the steady-state process.



## Theorem 5 (Asymptotic Mean Ergodicity)

Let  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  be a single-sided asymptotically wide-sense stationary discrete-time random process with limiting mean  $m_X$  and limiting covariance  $C_X(k)$ . The process is asymptotically mean ergodic, that is,

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{k=0}^{T-1} X_{k+n} = m_X$$

in the mean square sense if and only if

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{k=-(T-1)}^{T-1} \left(1 - \frac{|k|}{T}\right) C_X(k) = 0$$

(similar to a result in (Leon-Garcia, 2008)).

## Corollary 6

*An asymptotically wide-sense stationary random process  $X_k$  with steady-state covariance given by*

$$C_X(k) = \lambda^{|k|}$$

*is asymptotically mean ergodic if and only if  $|\lambda| \leq 1$  and  $\lambda \neq 1$ .*

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*An asymptotically wide-sense stationary random process  $X_k$  with steady-state covariance given by*

$$C_X(k) = CA^{|k|}B$$

*where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is convergent,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$ , and any eigenvalue of  $A$  at one is either uncontrollable through  $B$  or unobservable through  $C$ , is asymptotically mean ergodic.*

## Main Theorem

### Theorem 8 (Asymptotically Mean Ergodic)

Consider the time-varying polynomial linear protocol  $\Sigma(L_k)$  of degree  $\ell$  based on the time-varying Laplacian  $L_k$  where  $E[L_k]$  is balanced and connected, and  $L_k$  are i.i.d. and independent of the initial state for all  $k$ . The output process due to a constant input is asymptotically mean ergodic if the following hold:

- 1  $A_0$  is convergent,
- 2 any eigenvalues of  $A_0$  at one are unobservable through  $C_0$ ,
- 3  $\rho(E[A(\hat{L}_k)]) < 1$ , and
- 4  $C_i = D_i = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ .

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Case 1:  $\gamma = 0$

- ✓  $A_0$  is convergent
- ✗ any eigenvalues of  $A_0$  at one are unobservable through  $C_0$
- ✓  $\rho(E[A(\hat{L}_k)]) < 1$  (for appropriate  $k_p$ )
- ✓  $C_i = D_i = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$
- ✓ Correct (if the expectation of the initial state is zero)

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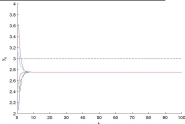
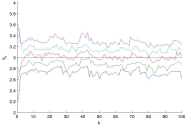
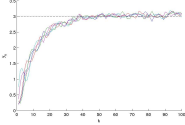
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# Estimator Properties

Estimator	Ergodic	Correct	
$P, \gamma = 0$	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>	
$P, \gamma \neq 0$	Yes	No	
PI	Yes	Yes	

<sup>1</sup> If the expectation of the initial state is zero.



## Summary

- Defined asymptotic mean ergodicity and gave an ergodic theorem.
- Characterized the asymptotic mean ergodicity property for polynomial linear protocols.
- Applied results to the P and PI estimators to explain behavior over i.i.d. random graphs.

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