



Data Reconciliation

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Lesson 7 of "Process Systems Engineering" – Master Degree in Chemical Engineering – Politecnico di Milano



Hierarchical approach to process optimization



Online data collection



Process





Classical reconciliation of measures





Classical reconciliation of measures









Coaptation





Model identification





Introduction

- The **Data Reconciliation** methodology can be divided into **three distinct phases** (Romagnoli e Sanchez, 2000):
 - Classification of process variables and decomposition of the problem;
 - Detection, identification and estimation of gross errors;
 - Estimation of process variables not measured or not measurable.





- Because of costs, convenience, and technical reasons, not all the process variables are measured.
- By assuming that the process is working in steady-state conditions, some unmeasured variables can be **estimated** using other measured variables and calculations based on mass and energy balances.
- The estimation of **not measured variables** depends on the **process layout** and on the in-the-field **instrumentation**.
- In general, the process instrumentation is incomplete (it does not measure all the process variables).

The **unmeasured** variables can be divided into:

- Predictable variables (determinable)
- Unpredictable variables (undeterminable)



- Furthemore, **measures** can be classified into:
 - redundant
 - nonredundant
- A measure is **redundant** if it remains **determinable** when the observation is removed.
- The classification of the variables is an essential tool to design and revamp monitoring systems.
- A robust classification of variables leads to significant savings linked to the selection of instrumentation for field installation.
- An incorrect classification of variables leads to the introduction of unnecessary instrumentation involving higher investment costs.



- An **unmeasured** variable is **determinable** if it can be calculated using the available measures and balance equations.
- An **unmeasured** variable is **indeterminable** if it cannot be calculated using the available measures and balance equations.

- A measured process variable is redundant (overdetermined) if it can also be calculated using the remaining measures and balance equations.
- A measured process variable is nonredundant if it cannot be calculated using the remaining measures and balance equations.





- Once the variables are classified, we have a significant amount of information concerning the process topology.
- It is now possible to solve the following problems:
 - Select the set of measured variables which must be corrected (reconciled)
 in order to increase the accuracy of the measured and unmeasured
 process variables.
 - Select the minimum number of measures so that

all the unmeasured variables can be determined.





Process model

- The **process model** is a mathematical formulation that describes its behaviour under either **STEADY STATE** or **DYNAMIC** conditions.
- The process model is used at several levels:
 - To infer unmeasurable parameters
 - To reconcile measures
 - To identify measures affected by gross errors
 - To determine the optimal control action
 - Model based control (for example: Model Predictive control)
 - Feedforward control
 - For process optimization
 - For process supervision
- The process can be described by either linear or nonlinear models: ARX, NARX, ARMAX, NARMAX, Laplace transforms, Regressions, Artificial neural networks (ANN), deterministic and phenomenological models (First Principles), ...



Process model

- The detail of the process model must be related to the requested description.
 We can distinguish between:
 - Stationary and dynamic model
 - Linear or nonlinear model
 - Robust or efficient model
 - Simplified or detailed model
- In the most complex situation the model is detailed, nonlinear and dynamic. We
 must write, for the equipment and the streams of the process, the material,
 energy, and momentum balances. The resulting system will contain differential
 algebraic equations and possibly partial differential. There are suitable
 numerical routines to integrate these systems.

Even the use of modern computers, with extremely fast CPUs, requires a good amount of time for simulation (*e.g.*, model predictive control, optimization), which can be greater than the maximum acceptable time (horizon control). In this case it is recommended to adopt/implement more simplified models to reduce the CPU time (*e.g.*, ARX or ANN models).



Solution methodology

Equation oriented

This approach is based on material and energy balances applied to the connections of the plant, used as equality constraints to be satisfied by finding the minimum. The output variables of the procedure correspond to the input ones. The difference between calculated and measured values is due to a measurement error. To estimate the degrees of freedom of the plant, we must have new and different measures as accurate as possible, distributed through the process.

Black box

We have a process simulator that calculates the output variables to be reconciled respect to the given input variables. The output variables are: streams and/or compositions unknown and non measurable process parameters. The simulation program is called iteratively by a non-linear regression routine which determines the degrees of freedom in order to minimize the *distance* between the measured and the calculated values.



Redundancy

- Romagnoli and Sanchez (2000) define a system as being redundant when the whole collection of data/information available exceeds the minimum required amount for a univocal determination of the independent variables that describe the selected model.
- Since the data are obtained from process measurements affected by probabilistic fluctuations, redundant data are generally inconsistent thus every data subset provides different results from other subsets.
- In order to obtain a consistent solution to the problem of determining the measures, it is therefore necessary to introduce an additional criterion.



Redundancy

Redundancy of the system

In case of Black Box approach we define the **redundancy** as the difference between the number of measured variables and the number of degrees of freedom:

Redundancy = # measured variables – # dof = NY – NPAR

The **system** describing numerically the reconciliation problem is **OVERDETERMINED**. There are more equations than unknowns.

$$\begin{cases} y_{exper}(1) - y_{calc}^{1}(x_{1}, x_{2}, \dots, x_{NPAR}) = 0\\ y_{exper}(2) - y_{calc}^{2}(x_{1}, x_{2}, \dots, x_{NPAR}) = 0\\ \dots\\ y_{exper}(NY) - y_{calc}^{NY}(x_{1}, x_{2}, \dots, x_{NPAR}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

The **overdetermination** of the system leads to the impossibility of completely satisfying it. Conversely, it is possible to minimize the sum of squares of the equations by solving a minimization problem with a non-linear regression in the parameters, \mathbf{x} .



Object function

□ The reconciliation procedure has to **minimize** the following **objective function**:

$$\underset{\mathbf{x}}{Min} f = \sum_{i=1}^{NY} \frac{\left[y_{exper}(i) - y_i^{calc}(\mathbf{x}) \right]^2}{s^2(i)}$$

By introducing the incidence matrix M_{I} , it is possible to check if a *dof* does NOT affect any measure (column-wise) or if a measure is NOT affected by any *dof* (row-wise).

If two columns are linearly dependent then there is a high functional dependency between those degrees of freedom.





Solution of the reconciliation problem

- The Reconciliation problem can be solved if we have:
 - Positive redundancy
 - Independent degrees of freedom
 - A robust numerical algorithm especially if we work online







Solution of the reconciliation problem

- The **basic assumptions** are as follows:
 - The process model is able to properly represent the system under consideration (model validation);
 - 2. The **measures** are subject to an ε error that is **normally distributed** with average equal to zero and variance σ known (or that can be computed);
 - 3. The measures come from a **stationary process**.
- The failure of Reconciliation (once hypothesis 1 is verified) is due to points 2 and 3.
 There may be measures affected by gross error that have a non-zero averaged error ε:

$$E(\varepsilon) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \varepsilon p(\varepsilon) d\varepsilon = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) d\varepsilon \neq 0$$

 Possible causes of gross errors are: unreliable instruments, non-homogeneous conditions around the instrument, process instability, accidents, transcription errors, communication failures, non-stationary conditions.



Statistical analysis

- To perform the Data Reconciliation procedure we must start from the averaged measured values (measured in the field at a given time when the process is mildly stationary).
- At this regard, we have the expected value $\mu(i)$ and variance $\sigma(i)$ of the measure. •
- It is possible to distinguish between efficient and robust estimators:
 - **ROBUST** estimators •
 - For $\mu(i)$ we use the Median: it is the central value of the population in ascending order. In the case of an even number of terms we do the arithmetic mean of the two central values.
 - For $\sigma(i)$ we use the MAD (Median Absolute Deviation) $MAD(i) = 1.4826 * Median(|y_{exper}(i,k)-Median(y_{exper}(i,k)|)$
 - **EFFICIENT** estimators ٠
 - Arithmetic mean: $y_s(i) = \sum_{k=1}^{NS} y_{exper}(i,k)/NS$ Standard deviation or mean square deviation: $\sigma(i) = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{NS} \frac{\left[y_{exper}(i,k) y_s(i)\right]^2}{NS 1}}$





Model identification

- Once we have defined NY = number of measures and NPAR = number of degrees of freedom (parameters) it is possible to distinguish the following cases:
- NPAR > NY (NEGATIVE redundancy)



For instance: the proposed model $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ comprises three parameters (NPAR = 3) whilst the experimental points are just two. There is an infinite number of parabolas that match exactly the experimental data. It is not possible to identify any Gross Errors.



Model identification

NPAR = NY (NO redundancy)



In this case, there is only one curve passing through the NY points. It is worth observing that, in this case, the model is a straight line (y = ax + b) depending on two parameters.

We have: NPAR = 2 and NY = 2. The redundancy is zero and it is NOT possible to detect any Gross Errors.



Model identification

□ NPAR < NY (POSITIVE redundancy)



In this case, the proposed model is still a straight line (NPAR = 2) while the number of experimental points is seven: NY = 7. There is NOT a model that simultaneously satisfies all the experimental data. It is then necessary/advisable to minimize the error by minimizing the distance between the model and the measured data. We can also detect NGE potential gross errors: NGE = NY – NPAR = R = Redundancy

N.B.: if we identify a gross error it is possible to eliminate it or compensate it with the value that has been just reconciled. In this case we do not decrease the redundancy.



Case-study

On-line data reconciliation of an incineration plant



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Waste to energy plant with DeNOx catalytic section





• Specifications required

- Evaluate the **consistent value** of the **measurements** from the field
- Identify measurements affected by gross error
- Real-time knowledge of the characteristics of the incoming waste in terms of elemental composition and heat of combustion
- Estimation of the inlet streams unmeasurable or not available:
 - Air leakages
 - Methane flowrate in the postcombustion chamber
- Evaluation of the operating parameters:
 - Bag filter efficiency
 - Catalyst efficiency
 - Heat exchangers fouling factor





Problem definition

Objective function:

Measures to be reconciled: 24

T gas postcomb. T out gas radiative zone T out gas preheater Gas out washing column T gas stack NOx entering DeNOx HCl to the stack Soot to the stack

CO out postcomb. T out gas superheater T air combustion T out gas heater T in gas DeNOx NOx exiting DeNOx SO2 to the stack O2 to the stack

$$\underset{\mathbf{x}}{Min} f = \sum_{i=1}^{NY} \frac{\left[y_{exper}(i) - y_i^{calc}(\mathbf{x}) \right]^2}{s^2(i)}$$

Т

O2 out postcomb. out gas economizer Gas entering washing column Tout gas heat exchanger gas-gas T out gas DeNOx Ammonia flow rate CO to the stack Steam flowrate

Degrees of freedom (parameters of reconciliation): 23

Waste flow rate S fraction in the waste Kiln air leakage Losses in the boiler Corr. fact. economiz. Acid wash efficiency Corr. fact. exch. gas-gas Catalyst efficiency DeNOx Ash fraction in the waste N fraction in the waste Bypass gas fraction in the furnace Corr. heat exch. coeff. rad. zone Corr. fact. Preheater Basic wash efficiency Preheater air flow rate Air leakages after postcombust. Cl fraction in the waste C fraction in the waste Methane flow rate afterburner Corr. heat exch. coeff. superheater Bag filter efficiency Corr. fact. Steam heater Methane flow rate burner DeNOx



Problem solution

- We need a nonlinear regression routine to minimize the objective function.
- We must have a detailed model of the process that simulates the measurements (*i.e.* calculates the reconciled values of the acquired measurements) whenever the regression routine suggests a new vector of degrees of freedom.
- If the reconciliation procedure is NOT able to minimize the objective function to the required precision it means that the material, energy, and momentum balances describing the process "do not close". In this case we can assume the presence of a gross error and remove the measure respect to which there is the larger deviation (or better replace the measured value with the estimated one). The procedure continues until we reach the required accuracy. If the assumed replaced measurement affected by gross error does NOT make the procedure successful, we reintroduce the original removed measure and eliminate the next one featuring the greatest deviation. In this case study the redundancy is equal to one, consequently it is possible to identify just one gross error.



□ The results...



Potere calorifico	25/11/98 15.15.14 2712.04 kcal/kg		
	2794.01	_^ <u>1</u> M	









□ The results...

Riconciliazione.ris - Blocco note		_ 🗆 ×
		- *
DEMO CYCOM Plus : PROCEDURA DI RICONCILIAZION	E – RIEPILOGO	
Impianto Rifiuti Solidi Urbani 18-May-01		-
		-
Funzione obiettivo MAX errore	1298.264000 4.989020E-02	
Valori finali dei gradi di liberta` attivati		
Portata di rifiuto [kg/h]	5307.524000	
Fraz.massiva H2O nella corrente entrante:	1.338146E-01	
Fraz.massiva C1 nella corrente entrante:	4.894615E-04	
Fraz.massiva S nella corrente entrante:	1.582423E-04	
Fraz.massiva N nella corrente entrante:	7.860772E-04	
Portata aria tenute forno [kg/h]	17069.880000	
Frazione di by-pass fumi forno	4.302227E-02	
Dispersioni termiche caldaia [% duty]:	2.801692E-01	
Fat. correttivo emissiv. gas zona radiante :	1.349454	
Fat. correttivo scambio termico surriscal. :	1.066711	
Fat. correttivo scambio termico economiz. :	5.813368E-01	
Fat. correttivo scambio termico preriscal. :	4.862194E-01	
Efficienza termica colonna di lavag.basico :	5.000000E-01	
Fat. corret. scambio termico risc. a vapore:	3.835258E-01	
Fat. corret. scambio termico scam. gas-gas :	7.480029E-01	
portata aria preriscaldatore 🕺 🥇 :	15341.030000	
portata CH4 bruciatore di supporto DENOX:	164.789700	
Efficienza catalizzatore DENOX	1.051901	



The results...

Riconciliazione.	ris - Blocco note			<u> </u>
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COMPOSIZIONE	E DELLA STREAM RICON	CILIATA:		
percentuale	di C	:	3.431565E-01	
percentuale	di H	:	3.094497E-02	
percentuale	di 0	:	1.405572E-01	
percentuale	di N	:	7.860772E-04	
percentuale	di S	:	1.582423E-04	
percentuale	di C1	:	4.894615E-04	
percentuale	di H20	:	1.338146E-01	
percentuale	di inerti	:	3.500929E-01	
potere calor	'ifico [kcal/kg]	:	3160.306000	
RIEPILOGO MI	ISURE RICONCILIATE/D	ATI DI INPUT:		
	_ ·			
misura	val. sperim.	val. calcol.	errore %	(1-100)
TIC1-10	1037 72500	1010 50000	2 66	
011-2	3 16731	3 04540	2.00	
ATC1-1	10 56437	10 28607	2 66	
TI1-2	480 27860	480 31060	2.00	
TI1-3	315 97500	316 26150	00	
TT1-4	240 67990	244 81750	1 70	
TIC1-7	213 67680	244.01790	1.70 45	
TI1-6	185 37700	180 22080	2 82	
FT1-14	47122 66000	100.22900 17110 61000	86	
TT1-Q	64 20510	62 70272	2 36	
TT2-01	115 75740	115 60440	13	
TI2-03	260-80000	250.40330	L 07	
TT2-08	293-80380	301,23770	2.50	
AT2-01	202-84270	192.96910	4.00	
AT2-02	18_03670	18-05212	_ 08	
AT1-4	1_00000	_00801	_11	
AI1-5	5_03523	5_01237	. 46	
FIC1-11	18-50559	18-49897	_ AL	
۲.				



From data reconciliation to on-line optimization





Reconciliation and optimization

Reliable process data are the key to the efficient operation of chemical plants.

... it must be noted that errors in process data or inaccurate and unreliable methods of resolving these errors, can easily exceed or mask actual changes in process performance.

Romagnoli and Sanchez, 2000

 The incorrect knowledge of the operating conditions of the analyzed process leads to an erroneous representation and scope for improvement of it.





Reconciliation and optimization

- Think of a Ferrari that runs at 320 km/h:
 - If the uncertainty in measuring the lap time is 1 millisecond then we have a spatial uncertainty of 9 cm;
 - If the uncertainty in measuring the lap time is 1 second then we have a spatial uncertainty of 90 m.







Reconciliation and optimization

2006 Mona	co Grand	Prix	Migliori ter	npi sul giro	
# Nome	Cognome	Team	Tempo	Velocità media [km/h]	differenza %
1 Michael	Schumacher	Ferrari	01:15.1	160.014	
2 Kimi	Räikkönen	McLaren-Mercedes	01:15.3	159.628	0.241229
3 Fernando	Alonso	Renault	01:15.7	158.898	0.697439
4 Mark	Webber	Williams-Cosworth	01:15.7	158.879	0.709313
5 Giancarlo	Fisichella	Renault	01:15.9	158.379	1.021786
6 Juan Pablo	Montoya	McLaren-Mercedes	01:16.0	158.193	1.138025
7 Felipe	Massa	Ferrari	01:16.6	156.946	1.917332
8 Jarno	Trulli	Toyota	01:17.2	155.791	2.639144
9 Nico	Rosberg	Williams-Cosworth	01:17.2	155.696	2.698514
10 Jenson	Button	Honda	01:17.3	155.549	2.790381
11 Nick	Heidfeld	Sauber-BMW	01:17.3	155.511	2.814129
12 Rubens	Barrichello	Honda	01:17.3	155.509	2.815379
13 Tiago	Monteiro	MF1-Toyota	01:17.3	155.491	2.826628
14 Scott	Speed	STR-Cosworth	01:17.5	155.186	3.017236
15 Ralf	Schumacher	Toyota	01:17.5	155.068	3.090980
16 Christijan	Albers	MF1-Toyota	01:17.6	154.942	3.169723
17 Vitantonio	Liuzzi	STR-Cosworth	01:17.7	154.828	3.240966
18 Jacques	Villeneuve	Sauber-BMW	01:17.8	154.615	3.374080
19 David	Coulthard	Red Bull Racing	01:17.8	154.452	3.475946
20 Christian	Klien	Red Bull Racing	01:17.9	154.292	3.575937
21 Takuma	Sato	Super Aguri-Honda	01:18.8	152.602	4.632095
22 Franck	Montagny	Super Aguri-Honda	01:19.1	152.002	5.007062





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