

The inverse problem

Geir Evensen and Laurent Bertino

Hydro Research Centre, Bergen, Norway,

Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center, Bergen, Norway

Model equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} &= g(\psi), \\ \psi|_{t_0} &= \Psi_0,\end{aligned}$$

(1)

⇒ Well-posed problem with unique deterministic solution.

- $\psi(x, t)$ is model state vector.

Model equations and measurements

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} &= g(\psi), \\ \psi|_{t_0} &= \Psi_0, \\ \mathcal{M}\psi &= d.\end{aligned}$$

⇒ Over-determined problem with no solution.

Example of direct measurement of $\psi(t)$:

$$\psi(t_i) = \mathcal{M}_i\psi = \int \delta(t - t_i)\psi(t)dt.$$

Allow for errors

Assume stochastic errors $q(x, t)$, $a(x)$ and ϵ :

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = g(\psi) + \mathbf{q},$$

$$\psi|_{t_0} = \Psi_0 + \mathbf{a},$$

$$\mathcal{M}\psi^t = d + \epsilon.$$

\implies Infinitively many solutions.

- Must specify statistics for error terms!
- Least squares problem.
- Find estimate for ψ which “minimizes” errors.

State estimation

“Find an estimate of the state given a dynamical model and measurements.”

- Standard data assimilation problem.
- Minimize errors in model and measurements.
- Solved by e.g. adjoint, representer or Kalman filter methods.

Simple example

Given the model

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\psi}{dt} &= 1, \\ \psi(0) &= 0, \\ \psi(1) &= 2,\end{aligned}$$

- Overdetermined.
- No solution.

Allowing for errors

Relax model and conditions

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = 1 + q,$$

$$\psi(0) = 0 + a,$$

$$\psi(1) = 2 + b.$$

- Underdetermined.
- Infinitively many solutions.

Statistical assumption

Statistical null hypothesis, \mathcal{H}_0 :

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{q(t)} &= 0, & \overline{q(t_1)q(t_2)} &= C_0\delta(t_1 - t_2), & \overline{q(t)a} &= 0, \\ \overline{a} &= 0, & \overline{a^2} &= C_0, & \overline{ab} &= 0, \\ \overline{b} &= 0, & \overline{b^2} &= C_0, & \overline{q(t)b} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Makes it possible to seek a solution which:

- is close to the conditions,
- almost satisfies the model,

by minimizing error terms.

Penalty function

- Define penalty function

$$\mathcal{J}[\psi] = W_0 \int_0^1 \left(\frac{d\psi}{dt} - 1 \right)^2 dt + W_0 (\psi(0) - 0)^2 + W_0 (\psi(1) - 2)^2$$

with $W_0 = C_0^{-1}$.

- Then ψ is an extremum if

$$\delta \mathcal{J}[\psi] = \mathcal{J}[\psi + \delta\psi] - \mathcal{J}[\psi] = \mathcal{O}(\delta\psi^2)$$

when $\delta\psi \rightarrow 0$.

Variation of penalty function

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{J}[\psi + \delta\psi] &= W_0 \int_0^1 \left(\frac{d\psi}{dt} - 1 + \frac{d\delta\psi}{dt} \right)^2 dt \\ &\quad + W_0 (\psi(0) - 0 + \delta\psi(0))^2 + W_0 (\psi(1) - 2 + \delta\psi(1))^2\end{aligned}$$

and we must have

$$\int_0^1 \frac{d\delta\psi}{dt} \left(\frac{d\psi}{dt} - 1 \right) dt + \delta\psi(0) (\psi(0) - 0) + \delta\psi(1) (\psi(1) - 2) = 0,$$

From integration by part we get

$$\delta\psi \left(\frac{d\psi}{dt} - 1 \right) \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \delta\psi \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2} dt + \delta\psi(0) (\psi(0) - 0) + \delta\psi(1) (\psi(1) - 2) = 0.$$

Minimum of penalty function

This gives the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\psi(0) \left(-\frac{d\psi}{dt} + 1 + \psi \right) \Big|_{t=0} &= 0, \\ \delta\psi(1) \left(\frac{d\psi}{dt} - 1 + \psi - 2 \right) \Big|_{t=1} &= 0, \\ \int_0^1 \delta\psi \left(\frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2} \right) dt &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

or since $\delta\psi$ is arbitrary....

Euler-Lagrange equation

The Euler–Lagrange equation

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} - \psi = 1 \quad \text{for } t = 0,$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} + \psi = 3 \quad \text{for } t = 1,$$

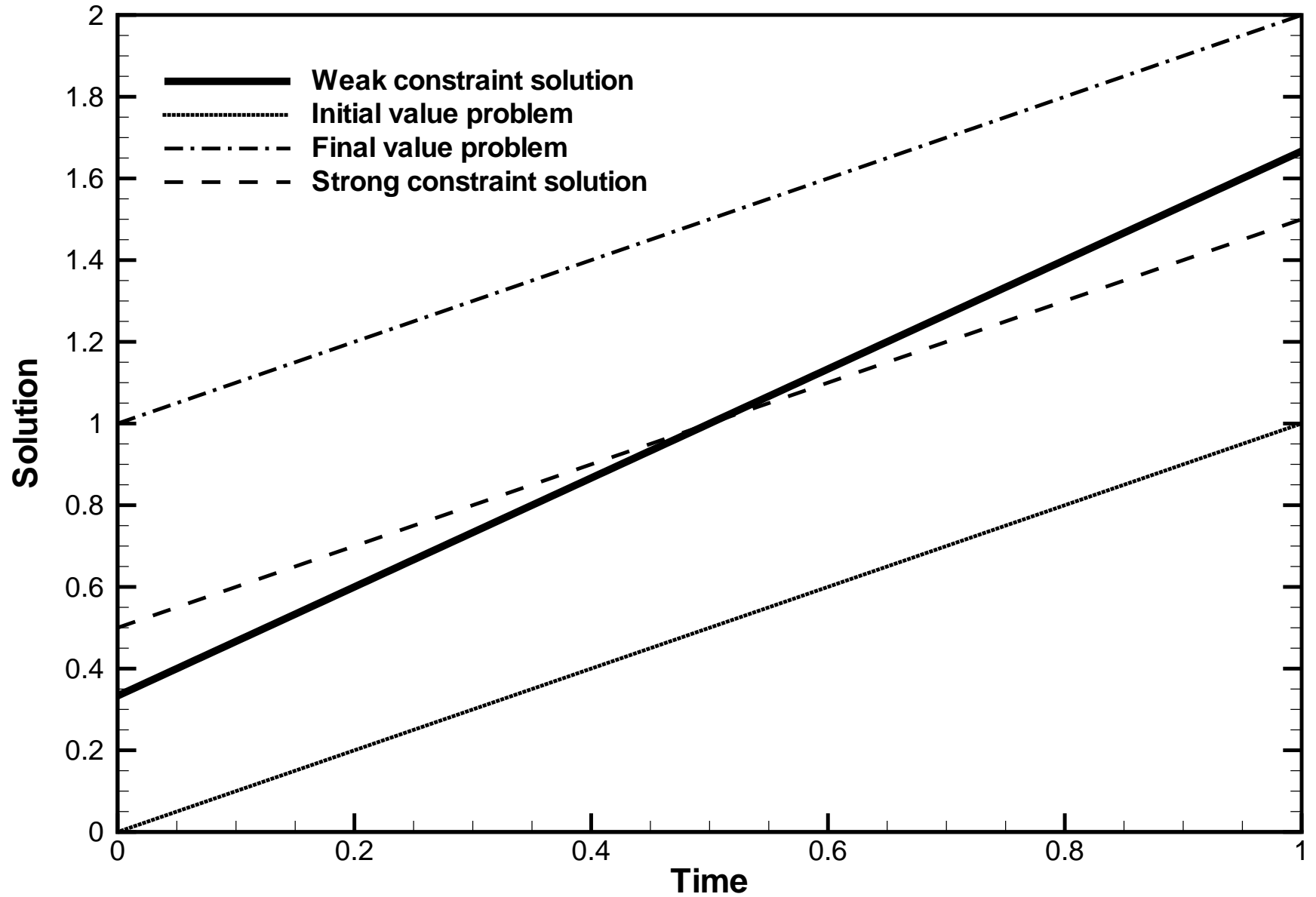
$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2} = 0.$$

- Elliptic boundary value problem in time.
- It has a unique solution.

$$\psi = c_1 t + c_2,$$

with $c_1 = 4/3$ and $c_2 = 1/3$.

Results



Summary

- Additional data makes problem over determined
- Allowing for errors gives variational inverse problem
- Weighed least squares solution
- Solution almost satisfy dynamics and data