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On Fixed-Time Interval Estimation of Discrete-Time Nonlinear Time-Varying Systems With Disturbances

Thach Ngoc Dinh¹, Frederic Mazenc², Zhenhua Wang³ and Tarek Raïssi¹

Abstract—The aim of this paper is to cope with estimation issues of discrete-time nonlinear time-varying systems with input and output. Inspired by [12], a new design technique of fixed-time observers is proposed. It relies on the use of past values of the output and the theory of the monotone systems to construct dead bit observer or fixed-time interval estimator depending on the absence or the presence of uncertainties. Finally, simulations are conducted to verify the effectiveness of the proposed schemes.

I. INTRODUCTION

It is known that state estimation is important in control theory and applications. Various state estimation methods are available in the literature [8], [1]. To improve the accuracy, many robust methods have been proposed to attenuate the effect of ubiquitous uncertainties. Kalman filtering and H_∞ observer/filter design are two commonly used robust estimation techniques. The uncertainties in Kalman filtering are assumed to be Gaussian noises while the H_∞ design methods assume that the uncertainties are energy-bounded. Note that both Gaussian noise assumption and energy-bounded assumption are impractical. A general and practical assumption is that the uncertainties are unknown but bounded by known bounds. With this assumption, interval estimation has attracted much attention in the past decades [7], [14].

In the literature, there are mainly two kinds of interval estimation methods: one is interval estimation based on geometrical sets and the other uses interval observers. Compared with the interval estimation methods based on geometrical sets, the interval observer is easy to implement with high computation efficiency. The basic idea of interval observer designs is to construct stable and cooperative error dynamics. However, it is non-trivial to construct such an error system. To deal with this difficulty, coordinate transformation-based interval observer design methods have been proposed to relax the design conditions [11], [5]. Although the coordinate transformation-based methods can relax design conditions and broaden application scope, the interval estimation results may be very conservative. Different to the coordinate transformation-based methods, [16] proposes a new interval observer with more degrees of design freedom and presented

a robust design. The result proposed in [16] can be optimized to improve estimation accuracy.

Note that the aforementioned methods only consider the stability and robustness of the interval estimation. In some situations, we are interested in achieving some transient performance, e.g., guaranteeing the fixed-time convergence of the estimation error. A fixed-time observer was first proposed and designed in [6]. Following this pioneering work, some works have been done on fixed-time observer design [9], [13], [15]. However, most existing results on fixed-time observer focus on continuous-time systems. To the best of our knowledge, only [17], [3], [4] consider fixed-time observer for discrete-time systems, but they do not design the interval estimation or do not study the time-varying context. In this paper, based on formulas incorporating past values of the input and the output of the studied plant, two goals can be achieved. In the absence of unknown uncertainties and after a fixed time, the exact values of the solutions are obtained. Next when unknown disturbances are present and are upper and lower bounded by known constant vectors, after a fixed time, the formulas we exhibit provide upper and lower bounds for each component of the solutions, as interval observers do.

The paper is organized as follows. Preliminaries and problem setup are introduced in Section II. Dead bit estimation of the solutions in the absence of uncertainties are given in Section III. Intervals for the solutions in the presence of uncertainties are designed in Section IV. An example illustrates the main results in Section V. Concluding remarks are given in Section VI.

II. PRELIMINARIES AND PROBLEM SETUP

A. Basic notations, definitions and properties

A matrix $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is called Schur stable if the norm of all its eigenvalues is smaller than one. The identity matrix of any dimension is denoted by I . The Euclidean norm of a vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is denoted by $|x|$. Inequalities must be understood *component-wise*, i.e., for $x_a = [x_{a,1}, \dots, x_{a,n}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $x_b = [x_{b,1}, \dots, x_{b,n}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x_a \leq x_b$ if and only if, for all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $x_{a,i} \leq x_{b,i}$. For a square matrix $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, the determinant of Q is denoted $\det(Q)$ and we define Q^+ , $Q^- \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ by $Q^+ = \max(Q, 0)$ and $Q^- = Q^+ - Q$.

Definition 1: For any undriven response as follows

$$x(k+1) = M(k)x(k), \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (1)$$

the discrete-time state transition matrix is a term which relates the state of (1) at time k to the state at an earlier

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time $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$x(k) = \Phi_M(k, \ell)x(\ell), \quad k \geq \ell, \quad (2)$$

where

$$\Phi_M(k, \ell) = \begin{cases} M(k-1)M(k-2) \cdots M(\ell), & k > \ell \geq 0, \\ I, & k = \ell. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Remark 1: When $M(k-1)$, $M(k-2)$, \dots , $M(\ell)$ are all invertible, then

- $\Phi_M(k, \ell)$ is nonsingular and

$$\Phi_M^{-1}(k, \ell) = \begin{cases} M^{-1}(\ell)M^{-1}(\ell+1) \cdots M^{-1}(k-1), & k > \ell \geq 0, \\ I, & k = \ell. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Then, one can define $\Phi_M(\ell, k)$ when $\ell < k$ by

$$\Phi_M(\ell, k) = \Phi_M^{-1}(k, \ell). \quad (5)$$

- For all k, ℓ, m in \mathbb{N} , the next well-known property of the discrete-time state transition matrix can be easily deduced and will be frequently used throughout the paper

$$\Phi_M(k, m)\Phi_M(m, \ell) = \Phi_M(k, \ell). \quad (6)$$

B. Family of studied systems

Consider the following discrete-time nonlinear time-varying system:

$$\begin{cases} x(k+1) = A(k)x(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) + d(k) \\ y(k) = C(k)x(k) + v(k) \end{cases} \quad k \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (7)$$

where $x(k) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the state, β is a nonlinear function, $A(k) : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $C(k) : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{q \times n}$, $y(k) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ is the output, $u(k) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is an input, and $d : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $v : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$ are respectively additive disturbances and measurement noises.

Goal and Method. In this note, two objectives are simultaneously achieved for the discrete-time system (7): (i) a dead bit of the state when the functions d and v are known and (ii) a fixed-time interval estimation when the functions d and v are unknown but bounded by known values. It is worth highlighting that the design of two bounds (i.e., the interval) for the solutions in fixed time can be done without requesting an appropriate knowledge of the interval of the initial conditions and a direct or indirect notion of nonnegative and cooperative system like in many other works on interval observer designs of discrete-time systems [2], [10].

The following assumptions are introduced:

Assumption 1: For all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the pair $(A(k), C(k))$ is observable and $A(k)$ is invertible. Furthermore, there exists $L(k) : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$ such that the matrix $H(k) = A(k) + L(k)C(k)$ is both Schur stable and invertible.

Assumption 2: There are known constant vectors $\underline{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\bar{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\underline{v} \in \mathbb{R}^q$, $\bar{v} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ such that for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the inequalities

$$\underline{d} \leq d(k) \leq \bar{d} \quad (8)$$

$$\underline{v} \leq v(k) \leq \bar{v} \quad (9)$$

are satisfied.

Discussion of the Assumptions:

- The fact that for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the pair $(A(k), C(k))$ observable implies that there is a matrix $L(k) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$ such that the matrix

$$H(k) = A(k) + L(k)C(k) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \quad (10)$$

Schur stable is rather standard in the context of the design of observers [5].

- Assuming that $A(k)$ is invertible is not restrictive at all because when $(A(k), C(k))$ is observable and $A(k)$ is not invertible, we can always decompose $A(k)x + \beta(k, u(k), y(k))$ in an alternative way so that the new matrix $A(k)$ is invertible. Similarly, assuming that $H(k)$ is invertible is reasonable because we can always choose $L(k)$ so that $H(k)$ is both Schur stable and invertible.
- Assumption 2 is realistic: it is frequently satisfied in practice. It can be relaxed by allowing the bounds to depend on time k but for the sake of the simplicity, we restrict ourselves to the case where they are constant.

III. DEAD BIT ESTIMATION OF THE STATE

The technique proposed in this section allows a dead bit estimation of the state, but it can be applied only when the functions d and v are known. Let us state and prove the following result:

Theorem 1: Let the system (7) satisfy Assumptions 1. Let $L(k) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$ and $h \in \mathbb{N}$, $h \geq 1$ be such that the matrix $\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)$ is invertible for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, where $\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)$ and $\Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)$ defined in (4) are the inverses of discrete-time transition matrices $\Phi_H(k, k-h)$ and $\Phi_A(k, k-h)$, respectively. Then, for a given input $u(k)$, any solution $x(k)$ of the system (7) which exists over \mathbb{N} satisfies, for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) = & -E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1) \beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1) [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & \quad - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & - E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1) d(\ell) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1) (d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)), \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

with

$$E_h(k) = (\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h))^{-1}. \quad (12)$$

Proof: The matrices $A(k)$ and $H(k)$ are invertible for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$. It follows that $\Phi_A(k, k-h)$ and $\Phi_H(k, k-h)$ are invertible for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $h \geq 1$ (see Remark 1). From

the definition of the output y and the definition of $H(k)$, we deduce that the system (7) admits two representations:

$$x(k+1) = A(k)x(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) + d(k), \quad (13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x(k+1) &= H(k)x(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) \\ &\quad - L(k)y(k) + d(k) + L(k)v(k). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

By combining all equations of these two systems between two values $m_1 \in \mathbb{N}$, $m_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m_1 \geq m_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x(m_1) &= \Phi_A(m_1, m_2)x(m_2) + \sum_{\ell=m_2}^{m_1-1} \Phi_A(m_1, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) + d(\ell)], \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x(m_1) &= \Phi_H(m_1, m_2)x(m_2) + \sum_{\ell=m_2}^{m_1-1} \Phi_H(m_1, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell) + d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)]. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Now, consider a value $k \geq h$. Then selecting $m_2 = k - h$ and $m_1 = k$, the equalities (15)-(16) give

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) &= \Phi_A(k, k-h)x(k-h) + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) + d(\ell)], \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) &= \Phi_H(k, k-h)x(k-h) + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell) + d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)]. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Bearing in mind the properties (5)-(6) of the state transition matrices, we obtain immediately:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h))x(k) \\ &= - \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) + d(\ell)] \\ &\quad + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell) \\ &\quad \quad \quad + d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)]. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Since $\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)$ is assumed to be invertible, we deduce that (11) is satisfied. ■

Remark 2: Because the pair $(A(k), C(k))$ is observable for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, there are matrices $L(k)$, $L(k-1) \dots$, $L(k-h)$ and $h_* \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $h \in \mathbb{N}$, $h \geq h_*$, $|\Phi_H(h, k-h)| |\Phi_A^{-1}(h, k-h)| < 1$. Consequently the fact that $\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)$ invertible is not restrictive.

The formula (11) may contain many terms because h may be large and thus many values have to be stored. To overcome this drawback, we propose an alternative solution which is based on dynamic extensions.

Theorem 2: Let the system (7) and $L(k)$ satisfy the Assumption 1, let h be defined as in Theorem 1 and let u be a given input. Consider the dynamic extensions

$$\hat{x}(k+1) = A(k)\hat{x}(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) + d(k) \quad (20)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} x_*(k+1) &= H(k)x_*(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) \\ &\quad - L(k)y(k) + d(k) + L(k)v(k). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Consider a solution $x(k)$ of (7) defined over \mathbb{N} . Then, for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) &= E_h(k) [\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)x_*(k) - x_*(k-h) \\ &\quad - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)\hat{x}(k) + \hat{x}(k-h)]. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Remark 3: Notice that (21) is a classical observer for the system (7) when disturbances are known. Moreover, it is always possible to choose a decomposition of $\beta(k, u(k), y(k))$ and a gain $L(k)$ so that the corresponding matrices $A(k)$ and $H(k)$ are Schur stable, thus (20) and (21) are stable.

Proof: Consider a solution $(\hat{x}(k), x_*(k))$ of (20)-(21) associated with the solution $x(k)$ defined over \mathbb{N} . Then, arguing as we did in the proof of Theorem 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x}(k) &= \Phi_A(k, k-h)\hat{x}(k-h) + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) + d(\ell)], \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_*(k) &= \Phi_H(k, k-h)x_*(k-h) + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \times \\ &\quad \times [\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell) + d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)]. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

From properties (5)-(6), it follows that for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) + d(\ell)] \\ &= \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)\hat{x}(k) - \hat{x}(k-h), \quad (25) \\ &\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ &\quad \quad \quad - L(\ell)y(\ell) + d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)] \\ &= \Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)x_*(k) - x_*(k-h). \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Combining (11), (25) and (26), we obtain, for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} E_h^{-1}(k)x(k) &= \Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)x_*(k) - x_*(k-h) \\ &\quad - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)\hat{x}(k) + \hat{x}(k-h). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

This allows us to conclude. ■

IV. FIXED-TIME INTERVAL ESTIMATION

Theorems 1 and 2 give in fixed time the exact value of any solution $x(k)$ of (7). However, these estimations cannot be used when the disturbances d and v are unknown. The second objective of the present note is to overcome this limitation by assuming only that bounds \underline{d} , \bar{d} and \underline{v} , \bar{v} are known.

In this section, we consider the case where Assumptions 1 and 2 are satisfied and the matrix $L(k)$ is selected as described in (10). Next, we introduce the following matrices

$$F_h(k) = -E_h(k)\Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h), \quad (28)$$

$$G_h(k) = E_h(k)\Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h). \quad (29)$$

and the vectors

$$\begin{aligned} d_L(k) = & \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \right. \\ & \left. + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^+ \bar{d} \\ & - \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \right. \\ & \left. + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^- d, \quad (30) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d_S(k) = & \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \right. \\ & \left. + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^+ \underline{d} \\ & - \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) \right. \\ & \left. + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^- \bar{d}, \quad (31) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_L(k) = & \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^+ \bar{v} \\ & - \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^- v, \quad (32) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_S(k) = & \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^+ v \\ & - \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^- \bar{v}. \quad (33) \end{aligned}$$

We are ready to state and prove the following result:

Theorem 3: Let the system (7) satisfy Assumptions 1 and 2 and let $L(k)$ and $h \in \mathbb{N}$, $h \geq 1$ be such that $E_h(k)$ given in (12) is well-defined. Let u be a given input and consider a solution $x(k)$ of the system (7) defined over \mathbb{N} . Then, for all integer $k \geq h$, the inequalities

$$\underline{x}(k) \leq x(k) \leq \bar{x}(k). \quad (34)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}(k) = & -E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & + d_L(k) + v_L(k), \quad (35) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}(k) = & -E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & + d_S(k) + v_S(k), \quad (36) \end{aligned}$$

hold.

Proof: From (11), we have

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) = & -E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & - E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)d(\ell) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)(d(\ell) + L(\ell)v(\ell)). \quad (37) \end{aligned}$$

From (37) and the definition of $F_h(k)$ and $G_h(k)$ in (28)-(29), it follows that, for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} x(k) = & -E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & + E_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & + \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} (F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1))d(\ell) \\ & + G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)Lv(\ell). \quad (38) \end{aligned}$$

From Assumption 2, we deduce that, for all $k \geq h$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^+ \underline{d} \\ & - \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^- \bar{d} \\ & \leq \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} (F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1)) d(\ell) \\ & \leq \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^+ \bar{d} \\ & - \left(\sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1) \right)^- \underline{d}, \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^+ \underline{v} \\ & - \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^- \bar{v} \\ & \leq G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)Lv(\ell) \\ & \leq \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^+ \bar{v} \\ & - \left(G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)L \right)^- \underline{v}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & d_S(k) \\ & \leq \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} (F_h(k)\Phi_A(k, \ell+1) + G_h(k)\Phi_H(k, \ell+1)) d(\ell) \\ & \leq d_L(k), \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

$$v_S(k) \leq G_h(k) \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)Lv(\ell) \leq v_L(k), \quad (40)$$

with $d_L(k)$, $d_S(k)$, $v_L(k)$, $v_S(k)$ are the vectors defined in (30), (31), (32), (33).

From (38), (39) and (40), we can conclude. \blacksquare

The motivations of Theorem 2 also motivate the following result:

Theorem 4: Let the system (7) satisfy the conditions in Theorem 3. Let $u(k)$ be a given input and consider a solution of (7) defined over \mathbb{N} . Let us introduce dynamic extensions:

$$z_a(k+1) = A(k)z_a(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)), \quad (41)$$

$$z_h(k+1) = H(k)z_h(k) + \beta(k, u(k), y(k)) - L(k)y(k), \quad (42)$$

Then, for all $k \geq h$, the following inequalities are satisfied:

$$\underline{\Upsilon}(Z_k) \leq x(k) \leq \bar{\Upsilon}(Z_k), \quad (43)$$

with $Z = (z_a, z_h)$ and the bounds $\bar{\Upsilon}$, $\underline{\Upsilon}$ are an estimated interval for the system (7) given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Upsilon}(Z_k) &= E_h(k)[z_a(k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)z_a(k) \\ &+ \Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)z_h(k) - z_h(k-h)] + d_L(k) + v_L(k), \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\Upsilon}(Z_k) &= E_h(k)[z_a(k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)z_a(k) \\ &+ \Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)z_h(k) - z_h(k-h)] + d_S(k) + v_S(k), \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

where $d_L(k)$, $d_S(k)$, $v_L(k)$, $v_S(k)$ are the vectors defined in (30), (31), (32), (33).

Proof: For a solution $x(k)$ of (7) defined over \mathbb{N} , we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_a(k) &= \Phi_A(k, k-h)z_a(k-h) \\ &+ \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)), \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

$$\begin{aligned} z_h(k) &= \Phi_H(k, k-h)z_h(k-h) \\ &+ \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell)]. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

These equalities can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} & - \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_A(k-h, \ell+1)\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) \\ & = z_a(k-h) - \Phi_A^{-1}(k, k-h)z_a(k), \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\ell=k-h}^{k-1} \Phi_H(k-h, \ell+1)[\beta(\ell, u(\ell), y(\ell)) - L(\ell)y(\ell)] \\ & = \Phi_H^{-1}(k, k-h)z_h(k) - z_h(k-h). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Theorem 3 ensures that the inequalities (34) hold. Then from these inequalities and the equalities (46) and (47), we deduce that the inequalities (43) are satisfied. \blacksquare

V. AN EXAMPLE

In this section, we consider the system borrowed from [18] which is of the form (7) with $C = [-0.5 \ 1.5 \ 0]$,

$$A(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2e^{-\frac{k}{100}} & 0.6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & \sin(k) \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\beta(u(k), y(k)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \sin(0.2k) \\ 1.8 \sin(0.2k) \\ 0.3 \sin(0.2k) \end{bmatrix},$$

$$d(k) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \sin(2k) \\ \frac{1}{4} \sin(2k) \\ \frac{1}{4} \sin(2k) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v(k) = 0.3 \cos(k).$$

We choose $L(k) = [\frac{1}{4} \ 0 \ 0]^T$. When $h = \{3; 4\}$, one can check by Matlab that $\det(A(k))$ and $\det(A(k) + L(k)C(k))$ are different from 0 for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$. That means that the matrices $A(k)$ and $H(k)$ are invertible for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, all assumptions are satisfied for $h = \{3; 4\}$.

We apply Theorem 2 and select the initial values $x_1(0) = 1$, $x_2(0) = -1$ and $x_3(0) = 2$. Then, for the value of the delay $h = 3$, we implement the dead bit estimation of the state x given by (22). The simulation result is plotted in Fig. 1.

Finally, we implement the dynamic extensions x_a and x_h given by (41)-(42), and the upper and lower bounds given by (44)-(45). Fig. 2 illustrates one example where $h = 4$ with the same initial values and input. We choose the known bounds of disturbances $\bar{d} = [\frac{1}{4} \ \frac{1}{4} \ \frac{1}{4}]^T$, $\underline{d} = -\bar{d}$, $\bar{v} = 0.3$ and $\underline{v} = -0.3$.

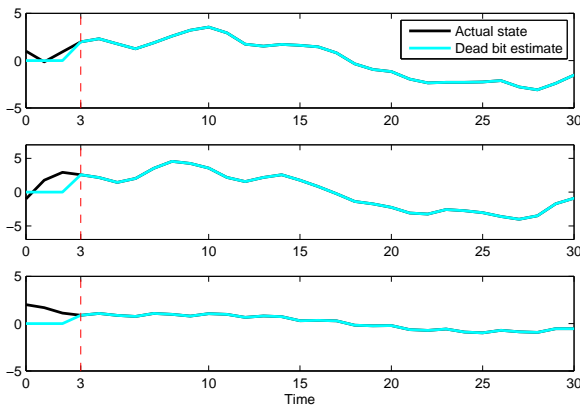


Fig. 1. Real state and dead bit estimate for $h = 3$.

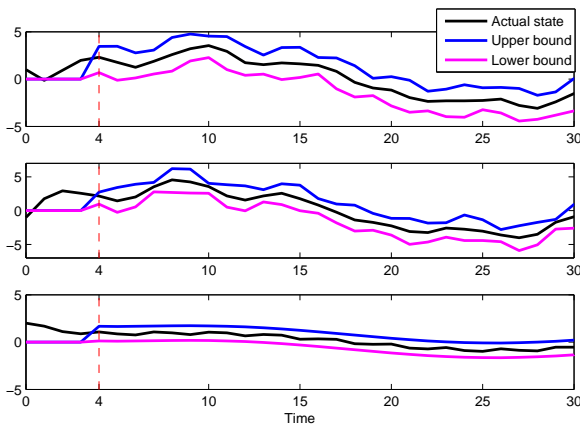


Fig. 2. Fixed-time interval estimation with upper and lower bounds for $h = 4$.

VI. CONCLUSION

Based on the use of past values of the input and the output of the studied system, a new technique of design of fixed-time observers for a family of discrete-time nonlinear time-varying systems is presented. The disturbances on the state

as well as on the measurement are both taken into account. It is worth highlighting that neither information on the bound of the initial conditions nor direct or indirect notion of nonnegative and cooperative system are needed in our development. We provide exact values of the solutions in the absence of uncertainties and intervals when the uncertainties are present after a fixed time. Finally, an illustrative example highlights the efficiency of our methodology.

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