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From dissipativity theory to compositional synthesis of symbolic models

Abdalla Swikir, Antoine Girard, and Majid Zamani

Abstract—In this work, we introduce a compositional framework for the construction of finite abstractions (a.k.a. symbolic models) of interconnected discrete-time control systems. The compositional scheme is based on the joint dissipativity-type properties of discrete-time control subsystems and their finite abstractions. In the first part of the paper, we use a notion of so-called storage function as a relation between each subsystem and its finite abstraction to construct compositionally a notion of so-called simulation function as a relation between interconnected finite abstractions and that of control systems.

The derived simulation function is used to quantify the error between the output behavior of the overall interconnected concrete system and that of its finite abstraction. In the second part of the paper, we propose a technique to construct finite abstractions together with their corresponding storage functions for a class of discrete-time control systems under some incremental passivity property. We show that if a discrete-time control system is so-called incrementally passivable, then one can construct its finite abstraction by a suitable quantization of the input and state sets together with the corresponding storage function. Finally, the proposed results are illustrated by constructing a finite abstraction of a network of linear discrete-time control systems and its corresponding simulation function in a compositional way. The compositional conditions in this example do not impose any restriction on the gains or the number of the subsystems which, in particular, elucidates the effectiveness of dissipativity-type compositional reasoning for networks of systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the recent years, symbolic models were introduced as a method to reduce the complexity of controller synthesis in particular for enforcing complex logical properties. Symbolic models (a.k.a. finite abstractions) are abstract descriptions of the continuous-space control systems in which each discrete state corresponds to a collection of continuous states of the original system. Since symbolic models are finite, algorithmic approaches from computer science are applicable to synthesize controllers enforcing some complex properties including those expressed as linear temporal logic formulae.

Large-scale interconnected control systems, e.g., biological networks, power networks, and manufacturing systems, are intrinsically difficult to analyze and control and it is very challenging to design a controller to achieve some complex logical specifications over those interconnected systems. An appropriate technique to overcome this challenge is to first treat every subsystem individually and build an abstraction that approximates the behaviors of the corresponding concrete subsystem. Thereafter, one can establish a compositional framework to construct abstractions of the network of control subsystems and use them as a replacement in the controller design process. Recently, there have been several results on the compositional construction of finite abstractions of networks of linear and nonlinear control systems in [1], [2]. Recent work on the compositional construction of infinite abstractions of interconnected nonlinear control systems can be found in [3], [4]. The results in [1]–[4] use the small-gain type conditions to facilitate the compositional construction of (in)finite abstractions. However, those small-gain type conditions depend essentially on the size of the network graph and can be violated as the number of subsystems increases [5]. The recent results in [6] propose a compositional framework for the construction of infinite abstractions of networks of continuous-time control systems using dissipativity theory [7]. The proposed compositionality conditions in [6] can enjoy specific interconnection topologies and provide scale-free compositional abstractions for large-scale control systems.

In this work, we introduce a compositional approach for the construction of finite abstractions of interconnected discrete-time control systems using techniques from dissipativity theory [7]. First, we introduce a notion of so-called storage function inspired by the one introduced in [6] and use it to quantify the joint dissipativity-type properties of discrete-time control subsystems and their finite abstractions. Given storage functions between subsystems and their finite abstractions, we drive compositional conditions under which one can construct a so-called simulation function, similar to the one introduced in [8], as a relation between the interconnected abstractions and the concrete network of control subsystems. The existence of such a simulation function ensures that the output behavior of the concrete system is quantitatively approximated by the corresponding one of its finite abstraction. In addition, we provide a procedure for the construction of finite abstractions together with their corresponding storage functions for a class of discrete-time control systems satisfying some incremental passivity property. Finally, we demonstrate the effectiveness of our results on an interconnected discrete-time linear control system in which the compositionality condition is always satisfied independently of the number of subsystems.

II. NOTATION AND PRELIMINARIES

A. Notation

We denote by \( \mathbb{R} \), \( \mathbb{Z} \), and \( \mathbb{N} \) the set of real numbers, integers, and non-negative integers, respectively. These symbols are annotated with subscripts to restrict them in the obvious way, e.g., \( \mathbb{R}_{>0} \) denotes the positive real numbers. We denote the closed, open and half-open intervals in \( \mathbb{R} \) by \([a,b]\), \((a,b]\), \([a,b)\), and \((a,b)\), respectively. For \( a, b \in \mathbb{N} \) and \( a \leq b \), we use \([a:b]\), \((a:b]\), \([a:b)\), and \((a:b)\) to denote the corresponding intervals in \( \mathbb{N} \). Given \( N \in \mathbb{N}_{>1} \), vectors \( \nu_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i} \), \( n_i \in \mathbb{N}_{>1} \), and \( i \in [1:N] \), we use \( \nu = [\nu_1; \ldots; \nu_N] \) to denote the vector.
in $\mathbb{R}^N$ with $N = \sum n_i$ consisting of the concatenation of vectors $n_i$. Note that given any $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\nu \geq 0$ if $\nu_i \geq 0$ for any $i \in [1;n]$. We denote by $\text{diag}(M_1, \ldots, M_n)$ the block diagonal matrix with diagonal matrices $M_1, \ldots, M_n$. We denote the identity and zero matrices in $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ by $I_n$ and $0_n$, respectively. Given a function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, the supremum of $f$ is denoted by $\|f\|_\infty$; we recall that $\|f\|_\infty := \sup(\|f(k)\|, k \geq 0)$, where $\|\|$ denote the infinity norm. Given a function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\pi \in \mathbb{N}$, we use $f \equiv \pi$ to denote that $f(x) = \pi$ for all $x \in \mathbb{N}$. If $\pi$ is the zero vector, we simply write $f \equiv 0$. Given a set $A$ and matrix $P$ of appropriate dimension, $PA := \{Pa | a \in A\}$. The identity map on a set $A$ denoted by $1_A$. The closed ball centered at $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with radius $\epsilon$ is defined by $B_2(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n | \|x - y\| \leq \epsilon\}$. For any set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ of the form of finite union of boxes, e.g., $A = \bigcup_{j=1}^M A_j$ for some $M \in \mathbb{N}$, where $A_j = \prod_{i=1}^n [c_i^j, d_i^j] \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with $c_i^j < d_i^j$, and positive constant $\eta \leq \text{span}(A)$, where $\text{span}(A) = \min_{j=1, \ldots, M} |A_j|$, and $|A_j| = \min(\{d_1 - c_1, \ldots, d_n - c_n\})$, define $|A| = \{a \in A | a_i = k_i, i = 1, \ldots, n\}$. The set $|A|$ will be used as a finite approximation of the set $A$ with precision $\eta$. Note that $|A| \neq \emptyset$ for any $\eta \leq \text{span}(A)$.

We denote by $|\cdot|$ the cardinality of a given set and by $\emptyset$ the empty set. We use notations $\mathcal{K}$, $\kappa_\infty$, and $\kappa \mathcal{L}$ to denote the different classes of comparison functions, as follows: $\mathcal{K} = \{\alpha : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ | \alpha\}$ is continuous, strictly increasing, and $\alpha(0) = 0$; $\kappa_\infty = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{K} | \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(r) = \infty\}$; a function $\beta : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$ is a $\mathcal{L}$ function if, for each fixed $k$, the function $\beta_k(\cdot)$ is a $\mathcal{L}$ function, and for each fixed $r \neq 0$ the function $\beta(r, \cdot)$ is decreasing and $\beta(r, k) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

**B. Discrete-time control systems**

In this paper we study discrete-time control systems of the following form.

**Definition 1:** A discrete-time control system $\Sigma$ is defined by the tuple

$$\Sigma = (X, U, W, U, W, f, Y_1, Y_2, h_1, h_2),$$

where $X, U, W, Y_1$, and $Y_2$ are the state set, external input set, internal input set, external output set, and internal output set, respectively, and are assumed to be subsets of normed vector spaces with appropriate finite dimensions. Sets $U$ and $W$ denote the set of all bounded input functions $\nu : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow U$ and $\omega : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow W$, respectively. The set-valued map $f : X \times U \times W \Rightarrow X$ is called the transition function [9], $h_1 : X \rightarrow Y_1$ is the external output map, and $h_2 : X \rightarrow Y_2$ is the internal output map. The discrete-time control system $\Sigma$ is described by difference inclusions of the form

$$\Sigma : \begin{cases} x(k+1) = f(x(k), \nu(k), \omega(k)) \\ y_1(k) = h_1(x(k)) \\ y_2(k) = h_2(x(k)), \end{cases}$$

where $x : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$, $y_1 : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Y_1$, $y_2 : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Y_2$, $\nu \in U$, and $\omega \in W$ are the state signal, external output signal, internal output signal, external input signal, and internal input signal, respectively.

System $\Sigma = (X, U, W, U, W, f, Y_1, Y_2, h_1, h_2)$ is called deterministic if $|f(x, u, w)| \leq 1$ for all $x \in X$, for all $u \in U$, and $w \in W$, and non-deterministic otherwise. System $\Sigma$ is called blocking if $\exists x \in X, \forall u \in U, \forall w \in W$ such that $|f(x, u, w)| = 0$ and non-blocking if $|f(x, u, w)| \neq 0 \forall x \in X, \exists u \in U, \exists w \in W$. In this paper, we only deal with non-blocking systems. System $\Sigma$ is called finite if $X, U, W$ are finite sets and infinite otherwise.

**Remark 1:** If $\Sigma$ does not have internal inputs and outputs, Definition 1 reduces to the tuple $\Sigma = (X, U, U, f, Y, h)$ and the set-valued map $f$ becomes $f : X \times U \Rightarrow X$. Correspondingly, (2) reduces to:

$$\Sigma : \begin{cases} x(k+1) = f(x(k), \nu(k)) \\ y(k) = h(x(k)). \end{cases}$$

**C. Storage and Simulation functions**

First, we define a notion of so-called storage function, inspired by Definition 3.1 in [6], which quantifies the error between systems $\Sigma$ and $\Sigma'$ both with internal and external inputs and outputs.

**Definition 2:** Consider systems

$$\Sigma = (X, U, W, U, W, f, Y_1, Y_2, h_1, h_2),$$

and

$$\hat{\Sigma} = (\hat{X}, \hat{U}, \hat{W}, \hat{U}, f, \hat{Y}_1, \hat{Y}_2, \hat{h}_1, \hat{h}_2),$$

where $\hat{Y}_1 \subseteq Y_1$. A continuous function $\mathcal{S} : X \times \hat{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is called a storage function from $\Sigma$ to $\hat{\Sigma}$ if $\forall x \in X$ and $\forall \hat{x} \in \hat{X}$ one has

$$\alpha(\|h_1(x) - \hat{h}_1(\hat{x})\|) \leq \mathcal{S}(x, \hat{x}),$$

and $\forall x \in X, \forall \hat{x} \in \hat{X}, \forall u \in \hat{U}, \forall u \in U, \forall w \in W, \forall w \in \hat{W}, \forall x \in f(x, u, w), \exists \hat{x} \in f(\hat{x}, \hat{u}, \hat{w})$ such that one gets

$$\Sigma(x_d, \hat{x}_d) - \mathcal{S}(x, \hat{x}) \leq -\sigma(S(x, \hat{x})) + \rho_{ext}(\|\hat{u}\|) + \epsilon, \tag{5}$$

for some $\alpha, \sigma, \epsilon \in \kappa \infty, \rho_{ext} \subset \kappa \infty \cup \{{0}\}$, some matrices $W, \hat{W}$ of appropriate dimensions, some symmetric matrix $X$ of appropriate dimension with conformal block partitions $X_{ij}, i, j \in [1; 2]$, and some $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Here, system $\Sigma$ is called an abstraction of $\hat{\Sigma}$.

Note that $\Sigma$ may be finite or infinite depending on cardinalities of sets $X, U, W$. Now, we define a notion of so-called simulation function, inspired by Definition 1 in [8], which quantifies the error between systems $\Sigma$ and $\Sigma'$ both without internal inputs and outputs.

**Definition 3:** Consider systems $\Sigma = (X, U, U, f, Y, h)$ and $\hat{\Sigma} = (\hat{X}, \hat{U}, U, f, \hat{Y}, \hat{h})$. A continuous function $\mathcal{V} : X \times \hat{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is called a simulation function from $\Sigma$ to $\hat{\Sigma}$ if $\forall x \in X$ and $\forall \hat{x} \in \hat{X}$ one has

$$\alpha(\|h(x) - \hat{h}(\hat{x})\|) \leq \mathcal{V}(x, \hat{x}),$$

and $\forall x \in X, \forall \hat{x} \in \hat{X}, \forall u \in \hat{U}, \exists u \in U, \exists x_d \in f(x, u), \exists \hat{x}_d \in f(\hat{x}, \hat{u})$ such that one gets

$$V(x_d, \hat{x}_d) - \mathcal{V}(x, \hat{x}) \leq -\sigma(V(x, \hat{x})) + \rho_{ext}(\|\hat{u}\|) + \epsilon, \tag{7}$$

for some $\alpha, \sigma, \epsilon \in \kappa \infty, \rho_{ext} \subset \kappa \infty \cup \{{0}\}$, and some $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}_+$. We say that a system $\Sigma$ is approximately alternatingly simulated by a system $\Sigma$ or a system $\Sigma$ approximately alternatingly simulates a system $\Sigma$, denoted by $\Sigma \leq_{AS} \Sigma$. 

if there exists a simulation function from $\tilde{\Sigma}$ to $\Sigma$ as in Definition 3.

In general the notions of storage functions in Definition 2 and simulation functions in Definition 3 are not comparable. The former is established for systems with internal inputs and outputs while the latter is established only for systems without internal inputs and outputs. One can simply verify that both notions coincide for systems without internal inputs and outputs.

Before we provide our first main result, we recall Lemma B.1 in [10] which is used later to show some of the results.

Lemma 1: For any function $\sigma \in K_\infty$, there exists a function $\hat{\sigma} \in K_\infty$ satisfying $\sigma(s) \leq \hat{\sigma}(s)$ for all $s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, and $I_d - \hat{\sigma} \in K$.

The next theorem shows the importance of the existence of a simulation function.

Theorem 1: Consider systems $\Sigma = (X, Y, U, f, \Sigma, h)$ and $\hat{\Sigma} = (X, \hat{U}, \hat{f}, \hat{Y}, \hat{h})$. Suppose $V$ is a simulation function from $\Sigma$ to $\hat{\Sigma}$ then exist a constant $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, functions $\gamma_{ext} \in K_\infty \cup \{0\}$ and $\lambda \in K_\infty$, where $\lambda(s) < s$ for all $s \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and $I_d - \hat{\sigma} \in K$.

Remark 2: Assume that $\exists \omega \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ such that $||\mu||_\infty \leq \omega$ for all $\mu \in U$. Then Theorem 1 implies that the relation $R \subseteq X \times X$ defined by $R = \{(x, \hat{x}) \in X \times X | V(x, \hat{x}) \leq \gamma_{ext}(v) \}$ is an $\varepsilon$-approximate alternating simulation relation, defined in [11], from $\Sigma$ to $\Sigma$ with $\varepsilon = \alpha^{-1}(\gamma_{ext}(v) + \varphi)$.

III. COMPOSITIONALITY RESULT

In this section, we analyze networks of discrete-time control systems and show how to construct a simulation function from a network of their abstractions to the concrete network by using storage functions of the subsystems. The definition of the network of discrete-time control systems is based on the notion of interconnected systems described in [7].

A. Interconnected systems

Here, we define the interconnected discrete-time control system as the following.

Definition 4: Consider $N \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}$ discrete-time control subsystems $\Sigma_i = (X_i, U_i, W_i, U_i, W_i, f_i, Y_i, \Sigma_i, h_i)$, $i \in [1, N]$, and a static matrix $M$ of an appropriate dimension defining the coupling of these subsystems, where $M \prod_{i=1}^{N} W_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \prod_{i=1}^{N} W_i$. The interconnected discrete-time control system $\Sigma = (X, U, f, \Sigma, h)$, denoted by $\Sigma = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \Sigma_i$, satisfies $X = \prod_{i=1}^{N} X_i$, $U = \prod_{i=1}^{N} U_i$, $Y = \prod_{i=1}^{N} Y_i$, and maps

$$f(x, u) := \{x_1^i, \ldots, x_N^i | x_i \in f_i(x_i, u_i) \forall i \in [1, N],$$

$$h(x) := \{h_1(x_1), \ldots, h_N(x_N)\},$$

where $u = [u_1; \ldots; u_N]$, $x = [x_1; \ldots; x_N]$ and with the internal variables constrained by

$$[w_1; \ldots; w_N] = M[h_2(x_1); \ldots; h_N(x_N)].$$

B. Composing simulation functions from storage functions

We assume that we are given $N$ control subsystems $\Sigma_i = (X_i, U_i, W_i, U_i, W_i, f_i, Y_i, \Sigma_i, h_i)$ together with their abstractions $\hat{\Sigma}_i = (X_i, \hat{U}_i, \hat{W}_i, \hat{U}_i, \hat{W}_i, \hat{f}_i, \hat{Y}_i, \hat{\Sigma}_i, \hat{h}_i)$, and storage functions $\hat{\Sigma}_i$ from $\Sigma_i$ to $\Sigma_i$. We use $\alpha_i, \varphi_i, \rho_{ext}, \Sigma_i, \hat{H}_i, W_i, \hat{W}_i, X_i, X_i^{11}, X_i^{12}, X_i^{21}, X_i^{22}$, and $\epsilon_i$ to denote the corresponding functions, matrices, and their corresponding conformal block partitions, and constants appearing in Definition 2.

The next theorem provides a compositional approach on the construction of abstractions of networks of control subsystems and that of the corresponding simulation function.

Theorem 2: Consider the interconnected control system $\Sigma = \Sigma(X_i, \ldots, \Sigma_N)$ induced by $N \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}$ control subsystems $\Sigma_i$ and coupling matrix $M$. Suppose each control

1Here, $I_d \in K_\infty$ denotes the identity function.

2This condition is required to have a well-defined interconnection.
subsystem $\Sigma_i$ admits an abstraction $\hat{\Sigma}_i$ with the corresponding storage function $S_i$. If there exist $\mu_i \geq 0$, $i \in [1; N]$, and matrix $M$ of appropriate dimension such that the matrix (in)equality and inclusion

$$\begin{bmatrix} WM \; I_q \end{bmatrix}^T X(\mu_1 X_1, \ldots, \mu_N X_N) \begin{bmatrix} WM \; I_q \end{bmatrix} \leq 0,$$  \quad (12)

$$WMH = \hat{W} \hat{M},$$  \quad (13)

$$\hat{M} \prod_{i=1}^N \hat{W}_i \subseteq \prod_{i=1}^N \hat{W}_i,$$  \quad (14)

are satisfied, where

$$W := \text{diag}(W_1, \ldots, W_N), \hat{W} := \text{diag}(\hat{W}_1, \ldots, \hat{W}_N),$$

$$H := \text{diag}(H_1, \ldots, H_N),$$

$$X(\mu_1 X_1, \ldots, \mu_N X_N) := \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 X_1^{11} & \mu_1 X_1^{12} & \cdots & \mu_1 X_1^{1N} \\ \mu_1 X_1^{21} & \mu_1 X_1^{22} & \cdots & \mu_1 X_1^{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_1 X_1^{N1} & \mu_1 X_1^{N2} & \cdots & \mu_1 X_1^{NN} \\ \mu_2 X_2^{11} & \mu_2 X_2^{12} & \cdots & \mu_2 X_2^{1N} \\ \mu_2 X_2^{21} & \mu_2 X_2^{22} & \cdots & \mu_2 X_2^{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_2 X_2^{N1} & \mu_2 X_2^{N2} & \cdots & \mu_2 X_2^{NN} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_N X_N^{11} & \mu_N X_N^{12} & \cdots & \mu_N X_N^{1N} \\ \mu_N X_N^{21} & \mu_N X_N^{22} & \cdots & \mu_N X_N^{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_N X_N^{N1} & \mu_N X_N^{N2} & \cdots & \mu_N X_N^{NN} \end{bmatrix},$$  \quad (16)

and $q$ is the number of rows in $H$, then

$$V(x, \hat{x}) := \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i)$$

is a simulation function from $\hat{\Sigma} = \{\hat{\Sigma}_1, \ldots, \hat{\Sigma}_N\}$, with the coupling matrix $\hat{M}$, to $\Sigma$.

**Proof:** First we show that inequality (6) holds for some $\mathcal{K}_\infty$ function $\alpha$. For any $x = [x_1; \ldots; x_N] \in \mathbb{X}$ and $\hat{x} = [\hat{x}_1; \ldots; \hat{x}_N] \in \mathbb{X}$, one gets:

$$\|h(x) - \hat{h}(\hat{x})\| = \|h_1(x_1); \ldots; h_1(x_N) - \hat{h}_1(\hat{x}_1); \ldots; \hat{h}_1(\hat{x}_N)\|$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \|h_i(x_i) - \hat{h}_i(\hat{x}_i)\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i^{-1}(S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i))$$

$$\leq \alpha(V(x, \hat{x})),$$

where $\alpha$ is a $\mathcal{K}_\infty$ function defined as

$$\alpha(s) = \max_{s \geq 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i^{-1}(s_i) \right\} \|T \bar{s} = s\|,$$

where $\bar{s} = [s_1; \ldots; s_N] \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\mu = [\mu_1; \ldots; \mu_N]$. By defining the $\mathcal{K}_\infty$ function $\alpha(s) = \alpha^{-1}(s)$, $\forall s \in \mathbb{R}^N$, one obtains

$$\alpha(\|h(x) - \hat{h}(\hat{x})\|) \leq V(x, \hat{x}),$$

satisfying inequality (6). Now we show that inequality (7) holds as well. Consider any $x = [x_1; \ldots; x_N] \in \mathbb{X}$, $\hat{x} = [\hat{x}_1; \ldots; \hat{x}_N] \in \mathbb{X}$, and $\hat{u} = [\hat{u}_1; \ldots; \hat{u}_N] \in \hat{U}$. For any $i \in [1; N]$, there exists $u_i \in \hat{U}_i$, consequently, a vector $u = [u_1; \ldots; u_N] \in \hat{U}$ such that for any $x_d \in f(x, u)$ there exists $\hat{x}_d \in f(\hat{x}, \hat{u})$ satisfying (5) for each pair of subsystems $\Sigma_i$ and $\hat{\Sigma}_i$ with the internal inputs given by $[\hat{w}_1; \ldots; \hat{W}_N] = M[h_21(x_1); \ldots; h_2N(x_N)]$ and $[\hat{\omega}_1; \ldots; \hat{\omega}_N] = M[h_21(\hat{x}_1); \ldots; h_2N(\hat{x}_N)]$. We derive the following inequality

$$V(x_d, \hat{x}_d) - V(x, \hat{x})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i (S_i(x_d_i, \hat{x}_d_i) - S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i))$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i (-\sigma_i(S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i)) + \rho_{\text{ext}}(\|\hat{u}_i\|) +$$

$$\left[ W_i \hat{w}_i - \hat{W}_i \hat{w}_i \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_21(x_1) - H_1 \hat{h}_21(\hat{x}_1) \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_22(x_1) - H_1 \hat{h}_22(\hat{x}_1) \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_2N(x_N) - H_N \hat{h}_2N(\hat{x}_N) \right]$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i (-\sigma_i(S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i)) + \rho_{\text{ext}}(\|\hat{u}_i\|) + \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i \epsilon_i$$

Using conditions (12), (13), and the definition of matrices $W$, $\hat{W}$, $H$ and $X$ in (15) and (16), the inequality (17) can be rewritten as

$$V(x_d, \hat{x}_d) - V(x, \hat{x})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i (-\sigma_i(S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i)) + \rho_{\text{ext}}(\|\hat{u}_i\|) + \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i \epsilon_i$$

$$+ \left[ W_i \hat{w}_i - \hat{W}_i \hat{w}_i \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_21(x_1) - H_1 \hat{h}_21(\hat{x}_1) \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_22(x_1) - H_1 \hat{h}_22(\hat{x}_1) \right]$$

$$+ \left[ h_2N(x_N) - H_N \hat{h}_2N(\hat{x}_N) \right]$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i (-\sigma_i(S_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i)) + \rho_{\text{ext}}(\|\hat{u}_i\|) + \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i \epsilon_i$$

Remark that condition (14) ensures that the interconnection
\( \hat{\Sigma} = \hat{\Sigma}(\hat{\Sigma}_1, \ldots, \hat{\Sigma}_N) \) is well-defined. By defining
\[
\sigma(s) := \min_{s \geq 0} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mu_i \sigma_i(s_i) | \mu^T \hat{s} = \hat{s} \right\},
\]
\[
\rho_{\text{ext}}(s) := \max_{s \geq 0} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mu_i \rho_{\text{ext}}(s_i) | ||s|| = s \right\},
\]
where \( \sigma \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \) and \( \rho_{\text{ext}} \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \cup \{0\} \), we readily have
\[
V(x_d, \hat{x}_d) - V(x, \hat{x}) \leq -\sigma(V(x, \hat{x})) + \rho_{\text{ext}}(||\hat{u}||) + \varepsilon,
\]
which satisfies inequality (7). Hence, \( V \) is a simulation function from \( \hat{\Sigma} \) to \( \Sigma \).

### IV. Construction of Symbolic Models

In the previous sections, \( \Sigma \) and \( \hat{\Sigma} \) were considered as general discrete-time control systems, deterministic or non-deterministic, finite or infinite, that can be related to each other through a storage function or a simulation function when \( \Sigma \) and \( \hat{\Sigma} \) are networks of control subsystems. In this section, we consider \( \Sigma \) as an infinite, deterministic, control system and \( \hat{\Sigma} \) as its finite abstraction. In addition, the storage function from \( \hat{\Sigma} \) to \( \Sigma \) is established under the assumption that the original discrete-time control system \( \Sigma \) is so-called incrementally passivable.

In order to show our next main result we introduce the following definition.

**Definition 5:** Control system
\[
\Sigma = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{U}, f, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}_2, 1_{\mathcal{X}}, h_2),
\]
is called incrementally passivable if there exist functions \( \mathcal{H} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{U} \) and \( \mathcal{G} : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) such that for any \( x, x' \in \mathcal{X}, \forall u \in \mathcal{U}, \forall w, w' \in \mathcal{W}, \) the inequalities:
\[
\alpha(||x - x'||) \leq \mathcal{G}(x, x'),
\]
and
\[
\mathcal{G}(f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + u, w), f(x', \mathcal{H}(x') + u, w')) - \mathcal{G}(x, x') \leq -\hat{\kappa}(x, x') + \left[ \begin{array}{c} w - w' \\ h_2(x' - h_2(x')) \end{array} \right] \mathcal{X} := \left[ \begin{array}{cc} X^{11} & X^{12} \\ X^{21} & X^{22} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} w - w' \\ h_2(x' - h_2(x')) \end{array} \right],
\]
hold for some \( \alpha, \hat{\kappa} \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \), and matrix \( \mathcal{X} \) of appropriate dimension.

**Remark 3:** Note that any stabilizable linear control system is incrementally passivable as in Definition 5. Moreover, any incrementally input-to-state stabilizable control system as in Definition 6 with \( \rho_{\text{int}}(r) = cr^2 \), for some \( c \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \) and any \( r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \), is also incrementally passivable.

**Definition 6:** Control system
\[
\Sigma = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{U}, f, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}_2, 1_{\mathcal{X}}, h_2)
\]
is called incrementally input-to-state stabilizable with respect to the internal input if there exist functions \( \mathcal{H} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{U} \) and \( \mathcal{V} : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) such that for any \( x, x' \in \mathcal{X}, \forall u \in \mathcal{U}, \forall w, w' \in \mathcal{W}, \) the inequalities:
\[
\alpha(||x - x'||) \leq \mathcal{V}(x, x') \leq \overline{\alpha}(||x - x'||),
\]
and
\[
\dot{\mathcal{V}}(f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + u, w), f(x', \mathcal{H}(x') + u, w')) - \mathcal{V}(x, x') \leq -\hat{\kappa}(\mathcal{V}(x, x') + \rho_{\text{int}}(||w - w'||),
\]
hold for some \( \alpha, \overline{\alpha}, \hat{\kappa} \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \), and \( \rho_{\text{int}} \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \).

We refer interested readers to [12] for detailed information on incremental stability of discrete-time control systems.

Now, we construct a finite abstraction \( \tilde{\Sigma} \) of an incrementally passivable control system \( \Sigma \).

**Definition 7:** Given an incrementally passivable control system \( \Sigma = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{U}, f, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}_2, 1_{\mathcal{X}}, h_2) \), where \( \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W} \) are assumed to be finite unions of boxes, one can construct a finite system
\[
\tilde{\Sigma} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{U}, f, \mathcal{Y}_1, \mathcal{Y}_2, \mathcal{h}_1, \mathcal{h}_2),
\]
where:
- \( \mathcal{X} = [\mathcal{X}]_\eta \), where \( 0 < \eta \leq \text{span}(\mathcal{X}) \) is a state set quantization parameter;
- \( \mathcal{U} = [\mathcal{U}]_{\mu_1} \), where \( 0 < \mu_1 \leq \text{span}(\mathcal{U}) \) is the external input set quantization parameter;
- \( \hat{x}_d \in f(\hat{x}, \hat{u}, \hat{w}) \) iff \( ||\hat{x}_d - f(\hat{x}, \mathcal{H}(\hat{x}) + \hat{u}, \hat{w})|| \leq \eta/2; \)
- \( \mathcal{Y}_1 = \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}_2 = \{h_2(\hat{x})|\hat{x} \in \mathcal{X}\}, \mathcal{h}_1 = 1_{\mathcal{X}} \) and \( \mathcal{h}_2 = h_2; \)
- \( \mathcal{W} \) is an appropriate finite internal input set satisfying condition (14) in the compositional setting (cf. the example section).

Now, we present one of the main results of the paper establishing the relation between \( \Sigma \) and \( \tilde{\Sigma} \), introduced above, via the notion of storage function.

**Theorem 3:** Let \( \Sigma \) be an incrementally passivable control system as in Definition 5 and \( \tilde{\Sigma} \) be a finite system as in Definition 7. Assume that there exists a function \( \gamma \in \mathcal{K}_\infty \) such that for any \( x, x', x'' \in \mathcal{X} \) one has
\[
\mathcal{G}(x, x') - \mathcal{G}(x, x'') \leq \gamma(||x' - x''||),
\]
for \( \mathcal{G} \) as in Definition 5. Then \( \mathcal{G} \) is a storage function from \( \tilde{\Sigma} \) to \( \Sigma \).

**Proof:** Since system \( \Sigma \) is incrementally passivable, from (18), \( \forall x \in \mathcal{X} \) and \( \forall \hat{x} \in \mathcal{X} \), we have
\[
\alpha(||x - \hat{x}||) = \alpha(||h_1(x) - \hat{h}_1(\hat{x})||) \leq \mathcal{G}(x, \hat{x}),
\]
satisfying (4) with \( \alpha(s) := \alpha(s) \) \( \forall s \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \). Now from (23), \( \forall x \in \mathcal{X}, \forall \hat{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \forall u \in \mathcal{U}, \forall w \in \mathcal{W}, \forall \hat{w} \in \mathcal{W}, \) we have
\[
\mathcal{G}(f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + \hat{u}, \hat{w}), f(x', \mathcal{H}(x') + \hat{u}, \hat{w})) \leq \gamma(||\hat{x}_d - f(\hat{x}, \mathcal{H}(\hat{x}) + \hat{u}, \hat{w})||),
\]
for any \( \hat{x}_d \in f(\hat{x}, \hat{u}, \hat{w}) \). Now, from Definition 7, the above inequality reduces to
\[
\mathcal{G}(f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + \hat{u}, \hat{w}), f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + \hat{u}, \hat{w})) \leq \gamma(||\hat{x}_d - f(\hat{x}, \mathcal{H}(\hat{x}) + \hat{u}, \hat{w})||)
\]
Note that by (19) and since \( \mathcal{h}_2 = h_2 \), we get
\[
\mathcal{G}(f(x, \mathcal{H}(x) + \hat{u}, \hat{w}), f(\hat{x}, \mathcal{H}(\hat{x} + \hat{u}, \hat{w}))) \leq \gamma(||\hat{x}_d - f(\hat{x}, \mathcal{H}(\hat{x} + \hat{u}, \hat{w})) + \gamma(\eta/2).
It follows that for all $x \in \mathbf{R}, \forall \hat{x} \in \hat{\mathbf{R}}, \forall \hat{v} \in \hat{\mathbf{R}}$, and $w \in \mathbf{W}$, one obtains
\[
G(f(x, H(x) + \hat{u}, w), \hat{x}) - G(\hat{x}, \hat{x}) \leq -\hat{k}(G(f(x, x)) + \gamma(u/2),
\]
for any $\hat{x}_d \in \hat{f}(\hat{x}, \hat{u}, \hat{w})$, satisfying (5) with $\varepsilon = \gamma(u/2)$, $u = H(x) + \hat{u}$, $\sigma = \hat{k}$, $\rho_{ext} \equiv 0$, $\mathbf{W}$, $\hat{\mathbf{W}}$, $H$ are identity matrices of appropriate dimensions. Hence, $G$ is a storage function from $\Sigma$ to $\Sigma$.

V. Example

Consider a linear control system $\Sigma$ described by
\[
\Sigma: \begin{cases}
x(k + 1) = Ax(k) + \nu(k), \\
y(k) = x(k),
\end{cases}
\]
where $A = e^{-L\tau}$ for some matrix $L \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ and constant $\tau \in \mathbf{R}_{>0}$. Assume $L$ is the Laplacian matrix [13] of an undirected graph.

We partition $x(k)$ as $x(k) = [x_1(k); \ldots; x_N(k)]$ and $\nu(k)$ as $\nu(k) = [\nu_1(k); \ldots; \nu_N(k)]$ where $x_i(k)$ and $\nu_i(k)$ are both taking values in $\mathbf{R}^n$, $\forall i \in [1; N]$. Now, by introducing $\Sigma_i$ described by
\[
\Sigma_i: \begin{cases}
x_i(k + 1) = x_i(k) + \omega_i(k) + \nu_i(k), \\
y_i(k) = x_i(k),
\end{cases}
\]
one can readily verify that $\Sigma = \tilde{\Sigma}(\Sigma_1, \ldots, \Sigma_N)$ where the coupling matrix $M$ is given by $M = A - I_N$.

Consider systems $\tilde{\Sigma}_i$ constructed as in Definition 7. One can readily verify that, for any $i \in [1; N]$, conditions (18) and (19) are satisfied with $G_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i) = (x_i - \hat{x}_i)^T (x_i - \hat{x}_i)$, $\alpha_i(r) = r^2$, $\hat{\kappa}_i(r) = \lambda r$, $\rho_{ext}(r) = 0$, $\forall r \in \mathbf{R}_{>0}$, $H_i(x_i) = -\lambda x_i$, $\forall \lambda \in (0, 0.5]$, and
\[
X_i = \begin{bmatrix}
I_n \\
(1 - \lambda)I_n & 0_n
\end{bmatrix}.
\]
Hence, $G_i(x_i, \hat{x}_i) = (x_i - \hat{x}_i)^T (x_i - \hat{x}_i)$ is a storage function from $\Sigma_i$ to $\Sigma_i$.

Now, we look at $\hat{\Sigma} = \tilde{\Sigma}(\hat{\Sigma}_1, \ldots, \hat{\Sigma}_N)$ with a coupling matrix $\hat{M}$ satisfying condition (13) as follows:
\[
A - I_n = \hat{M}.
\]
Choosing $\mu_1 = \ldots = \mu_N = 1$ and using $X_i$ in (24), matrix $X$ in (16) reduces to
\[
X = \begin{bmatrix}
I_n \\
(1 - \lambda)I_n & 0_n
\end{bmatrix},
\]
and condition (12) reduces to
\[
A - I_n^T X (A - I_n) = (A - I_n) (A - I_n + 2(1 - \lambda)I_n) \leq 0,
\]
which always holds without any restrictions on the number of the subsystems. In order to show the above inequality, we used $A^T A \geq 0$, $A - I_n \geq 0$, and $2(1 - \lambda)I_n + A - I_n \geq 0$. Note that by choosing finite internal input sets $\hat{W}_i$ of $\hat{\Sigma}_i$ in such a way that $\prod_{i=1}^N \hat{W}_i = (A - I_n) \prod_{i=1}^N \hat{X}_i$, condition (14) is satisfied.

Now, one can verify that $V(x, \hat{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \hat{x}_i)^T (x_i - \hat{x}_i)$ is a simulation function from $\Sigma$ to $\Sigma$ satisfying conditions (6) and (7) with $\alpha(r) = r^2$, $\sigma(r) = \lambda r$, $\rho_{ext}(r) = 0$, $\forall r \in \mathbf{R}_{>0}$, $\varepsilon = \sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_i(\eta_i/2)$, where $\eta_i$ is the state set quantization parameter of abstraction $\hat{\Sigma}_i$ and $\gamma_i$ is the $K_i$ function satisfying (23) for $G_i$.

VI. Conclusion

In this paper, we proposed a compositional framework for the construction of finite abstractions (a.k.a. symbolic models) of interconnected discrete-time control systems. First, we used a notion of so-called storage functions in order to construct compositionally a notion of so-called simulation functions that is used to quantify the error between the output behavior of the overall interconnected concrete system and the one of its finite abstraction. Furthermore, we provided an approach to construct finite abstractions together with their corresponding storage functions for a class of discrete-time control systems under some incremental passivity property. Finally, we demonstrated the effectiveness of the proposed results by constructing a finite abstraction of a network of linear discrete-time control systems and its corresponding simulation function in a compositional fashion and independently of the number of subsystems.

References


