

# Combinatorial Characterization for Global Identifiability of Separable Networks with Partial Excitation and Measurement

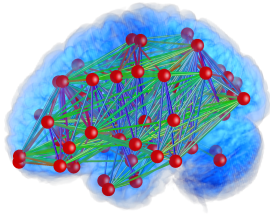
Antoine Legat and Julien M. Hendrickx

Excitations

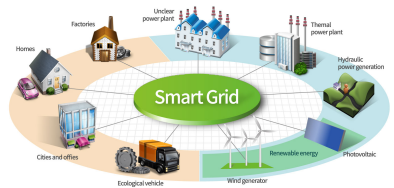
Measurements



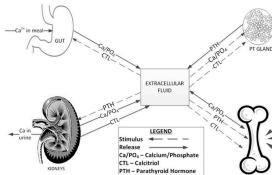
# Neuroscience [Chiêm et al. 2021]



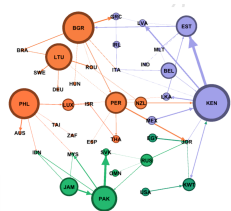
# Power grids



# Physiological models [Christie et al. 2014]



# Stock market [Shahzad et al. 2018]



Excitations



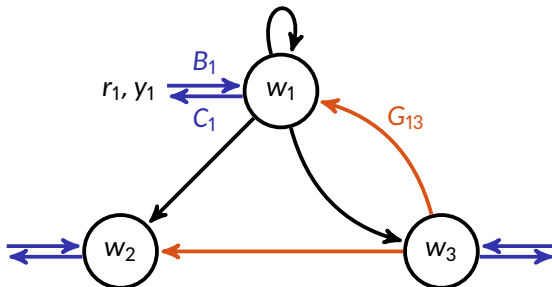
Measurements

# Model

$$\text{state} \leftarrow w = G w + B r \longrightarrow \text{excitation}$$

$$\text{measure} \leftarrow y = C w$$

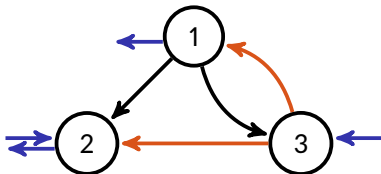
From given excitations  $r$  at  $B$  and measurements  $y$  at  $C$ ,  
can we recover the unknown transfer fcts  $G_{ij}$  ?



state  $\leftarrow w = G w + B r \rightarrow$  excitation

measure  $\leftarrow y = C w$

From given excitations  $r$  at  $B$  and measurements  $y$  at  $C$ ,  
can we recover the unknown transfer fcts  $G_{ij}$  ?



Framework: Not all nodes are excited/measured

Handle known transfer functions

No use of noise. But reformulation at [Shi, Cheng, Van den Hof 2019]

Single frequency - scalar case

Assumptions: Network topology is known

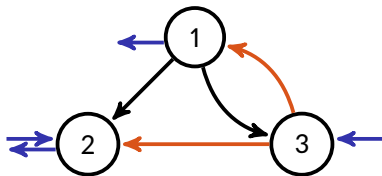
Global transfer matrix  $C \underbrace{(I - G)^{-1}}_{T(G)} B$  is known

## Example

$$\text{state} \longleftarrow w = G w + B r \longrightarrow \text{excitation}$$

$$\text{measure} \longleftarrow y = C w$$

From given excitations  $r$  at  $B$  and measurements  $y$  at  $C$ ,  
can we recover the unknown transfer fcts  $G_{ij}$  ?



$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} & 0 & G_{23} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

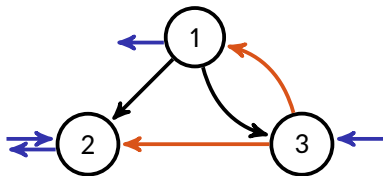
$$T \triangleq (I - G)^{-1} = \frac{1}{1 - G_{13}G_{31}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} + G_{31}G_{23} & 1 & G_{23} + G_{13}G_{21} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example

$$\text{state} \longleftarrow w = G w + B r \longrightarrow \text{excitation}$$

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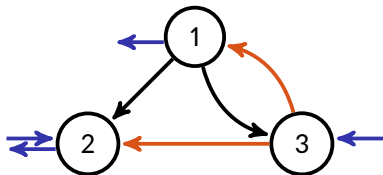
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$$C^T B = \frac{1}{1 - G_{13}G_{31}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} + G_{31}G_{23} & 1 & G_{23} + G_{13}G_{21} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example



The question is:

$$\text{From } \mathbf{CTB} = \frac{1}{1 - G_{13}G_{31}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} + G_{31}G_{23} & 1 & G_{23} + G_{13}G_{21} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

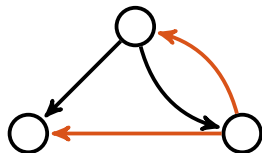
can we uniquely recover  $G_{13}$  and  $G_{23}$ ?

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Model
3. Identifiability
4. Algebraic characterization
  - ▶ Local identifiability
  - ▶ Decoupled identifiability
  - ▶ Separable networks
5. Combinatorial characterization
6. Conclusion



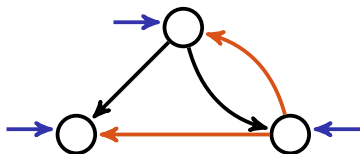
# Identifiability



Network *identifiable* if the unknown transfer fcts can be recovered.

Does  $\underbrace{CTB}_{\text{known}} = C(I - G)^{-1}B$  admit a unique solution  $G$ ?

## State of the Art



Network *identifiable* if the unknown transfer fcts can be recovered.

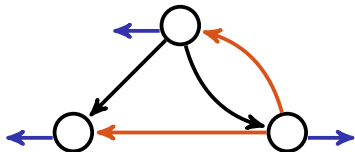
Does  $\underbrace{CT\cancel{B}}_{\text{known}} = C(I - G)^{-1}\cancel{B}$  admit a unique solution  $G$ ?

**All nodes excited:** Necessary and sufficient path-based condition  
i.e.  $B = I$

[Hendrickx, Gevers, Bazanella 2017]

Algo allocating measurements in the graph

[Cheng, Shi, Van den Hof 2019]



Network *identifiable* if the unknown transfer fcts can be recovered.

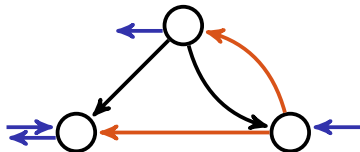
Does  $\underbrace{C T B}_{\text{known}} = C (I - G)^{-1} B$  admit a unique solution  $G$  ?

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 i.e.  $B = I$  [Hendrickx, Gevers, Bazanella 2017]

Also allocating measurements in the graph

[Cheng, Shi, Van den Hof 2019]

All nodes measured: Dual results  
 i.e.  $C = I$



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All nodes measured: Dual results  
 i.e.  $C = I$

**General case:** Our approach: we linearize

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## From the definition of global identifiability...

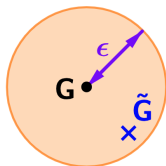
**Definition:** Network globally identifiable at  $G$  if for all  $\tilde{G}$ :

$$C T(\tilde{G}) B = C T(G) B \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$

... we introduce *local* identifiability

**Definition:** Network *locally* identifiable at  $G$  if for all  $\tilde{G}$  on an  $\epsilon$ -ball:

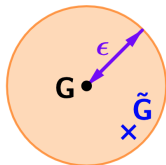
$$CT(\tilde{G})B = CT(G)B \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



## Local identifiability is necessary

**Definition:** Network *locally* identifiable at  $G$  if for all  $\tilde{G}$  on an  $\epsilon$ -ball:

$$C T(\tilde{G}) B = C T(G) B \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



- ▶ Necessary for global identifiability
- ▶ No counter-example to sufficiency known



## Local identifiability is generic

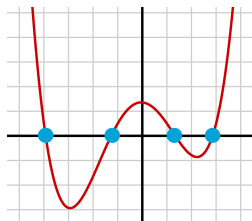
### Proposition 1 (CDC 2020)

Local identifiability is a generic property. It holds:

- ▶ either for almost all parameters  $G_{ij}$ ;
- ▶ or for no parameters  $G_{ij}$ .

Unformally, it does almost only depend on the graph topology.

Example: the nonzeroness of a polynomial is generic

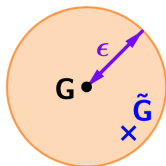


When all nodes are excited/measured, **global** identifiability is also a generic property.

# Algebraic characterization

**Definition:** Network *locally* identifiable at  $G$  if for all  $\tilde{G}$  on an  $\epsilon$ -ball:

$$CT(\tilde{G})B = CT(G)B \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



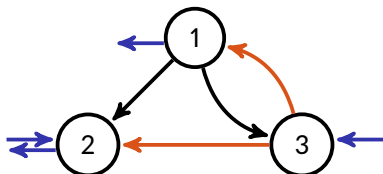
- ▶ Necessary for global identifiability
- ▶ No counter-example to sufficiency known

## Theorem 1 (CDC 2020)

$G$  generically locally identif  $\Leftrightarrow$   $CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$   $\Leftrightarrow$   $K$  is full-rank generically  $\forall \Delta$ , generically

where  $K \triangleq (B^T T^T \otimes CT)I_{G\Delta}$   $I_{G\Delta}$  selects the columns corresponding to unknown transfer functions

## Example

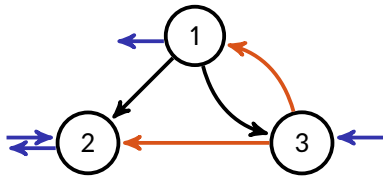


$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} & 0 & G_{23} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T \triangleq (I - G)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\underbrace{1 - G_{13}G_{31}}_{\triangleq D}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} + G_{31}G_{23} & 1 & G_{23} + G_{13}G_{21} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Theorem 1 (CDC 2020)

$G$  generically locally identif  $\Leftrightarrow$   $CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$   $\Leftrightarrow$   $K$  is full-rank generically  
 $\forall \Delta$ , generically



$$K \triangleq (B^T T^T \otimes CT) I_{G^\Delta} = \frac{1}{D^2}$$

|                   | $G_{13}$                | $G_{23}$ |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 2 $\rightarrow$ 1 | 0                       | 0        |
| 2 $\rightarrow$ 2 | 0                       | 0        |
| 3 $\rightarrow$ 1 | 1                       | 0        |
| 3 $\rightarrow$ 2 | $G_{21} + G_{23}G_{31}$ | 1        |

### Theorem 1 (CDC 2020)

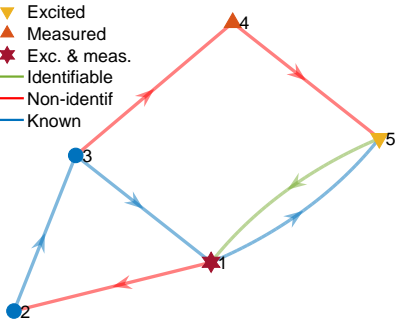
$G$  generically locally identif  $\iff$   $CT\Delta TB = 0 \implies \Delta = 0$   $\iff$   $K$  is full-rank generically  
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## Theorem 1 (CDC 2020)

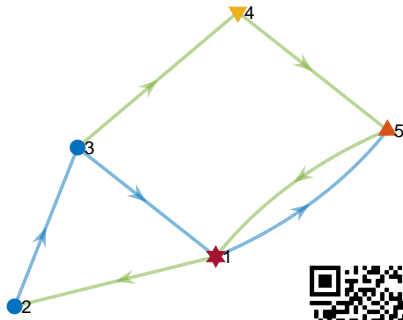
$G$  generically locally identif  $\Leftrightarrow$   $\boxed{CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0}$   $\Leftrightarrow$   $K$  is full-rank generically  $\forall \Delta$ , generically

→ Probability-1 algorithm: randomized, proba 0 of inaccuracy

- ▼ Excited
- ▲ Measured
- ★ Exc. & meas.
- Identifiable
- Non-identif
- Known



(a)



(b)



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## What we have so far

Global identifiability

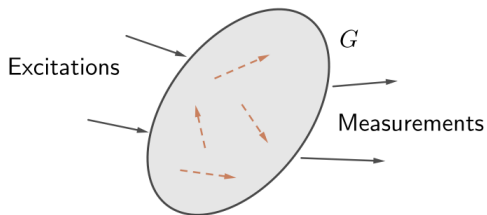
$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$C\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$

→ *Graph interpretation?*



## Interpretation on a larger network

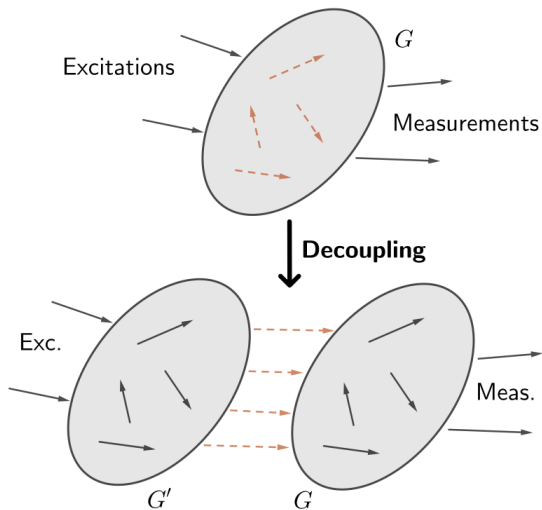
Global identifiability

$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$





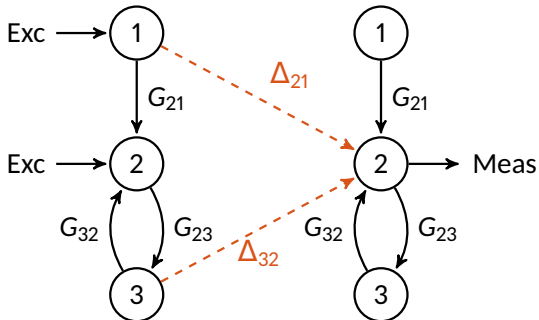
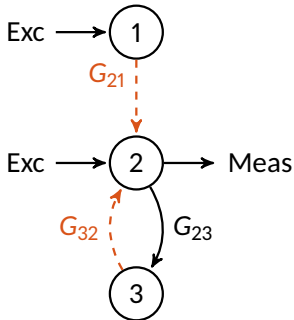
Global identifiability

$$CT\tilde{B} = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Global identifiability

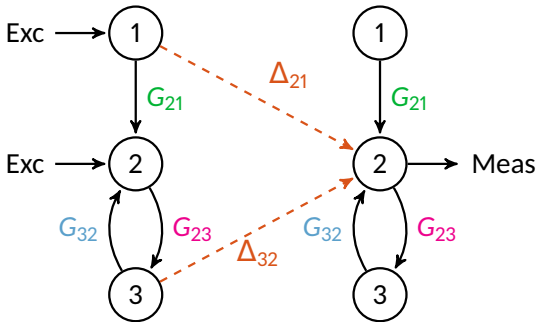
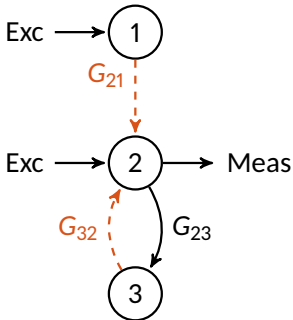
$$CT\tilde{B} = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$

Same transfer functions  
in the two copies



# Decoupled identifiability

Global identifiability

$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



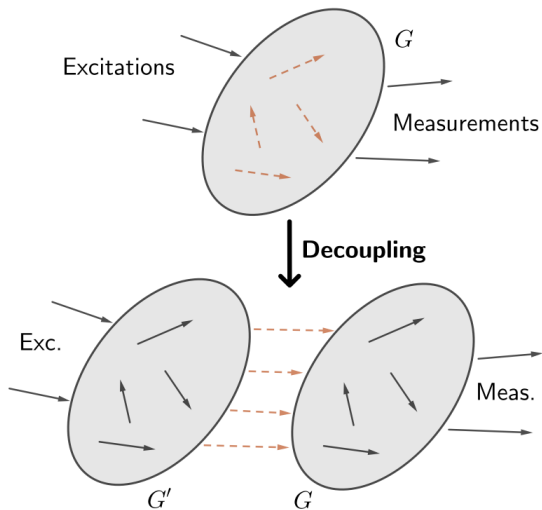
Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Decoupled identifiability

$$CT\Delta T'B = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



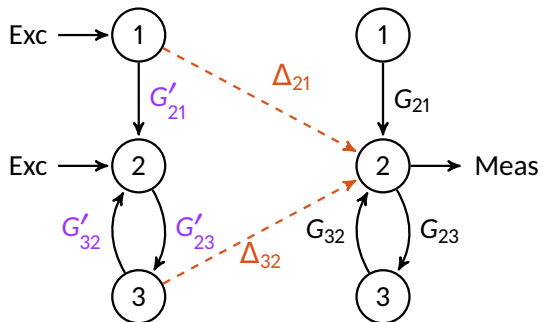
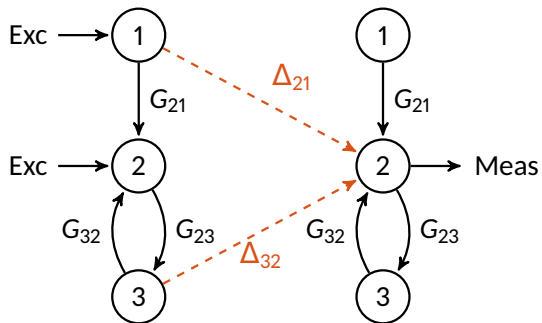
Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Decoupled identifiability

$$CT\Delta T'B = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



# Decoupled network

Global identifiability

$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$

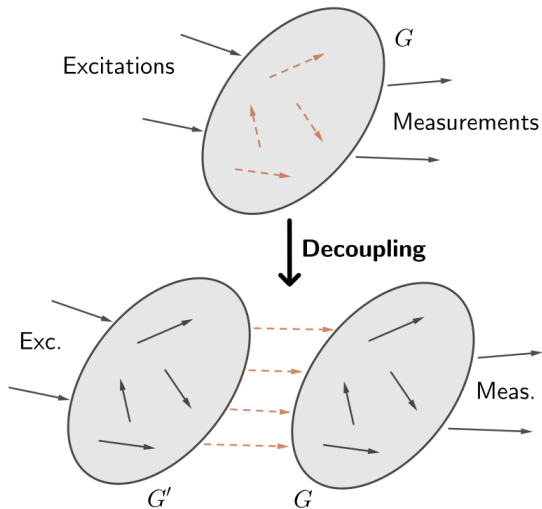


Decoupled identifiability

$$CT\Delta T'B = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Global identifiability of the decoupled network



# Necessary... and sufficient?

Global identifiability

$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$

↓ ↑?

Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$

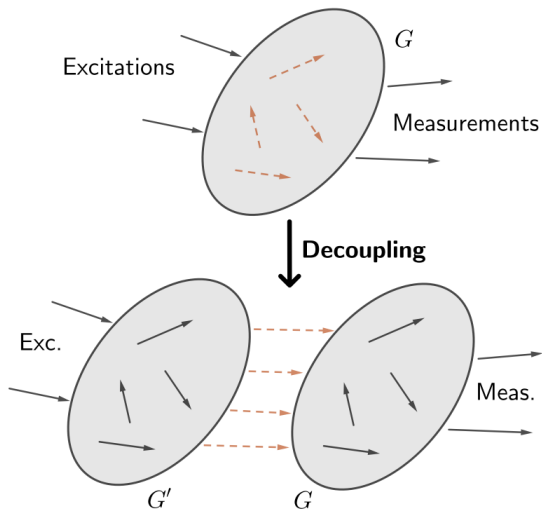
↓ ↑?

Decoupled identifiability

$$CT\Delta T'B = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$

No counter-example known

[github.com/alegat/identifiable](https://github.com/alegat/identifiable)



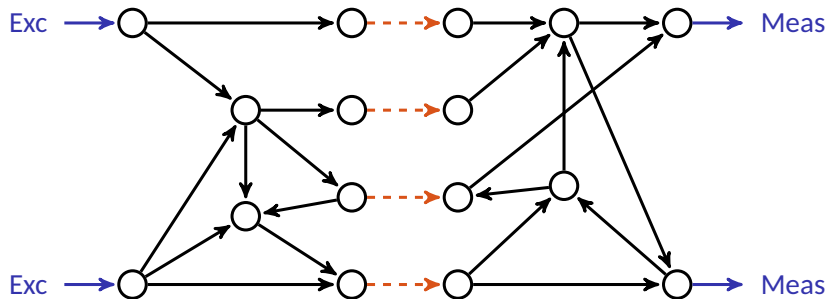
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  - ▶ **Separable networks**
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## Separable networks

Generalization of the decoupled network:

Excited and measured subgraphs can now have different topologies



### Proposition 2

On separable networks, local identifiability  $\Leftrightarrow$  global identifiability

$\Rightarrow$  Global identifiability can be studied via rank  $K$



## Other network topologies

The decoupled network is a particular case of separable network, where the excited and measured subgraph have same topology

⇒ Conditions derived for separable networks apply to decoupled identifiability

### Reminder

Global Identifiability ⇒ Local Identifiability ⇒ Decoupled Identif

⇒ *Necessary* conditions derived for separable networks apply to global identifiability of *any* network topology

## Summary

Global identifiability

$$C\tilde{T}B = CTB \Rightarrow \tilde{G} = G$$



Local identifiability

$$CT\Delta TB = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Decoupled identifiability

$$CT\Delta T'B = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta = 0$$



Global identifiability  
of the decoupled network



Separable networks  
(for which global ⇔ local)

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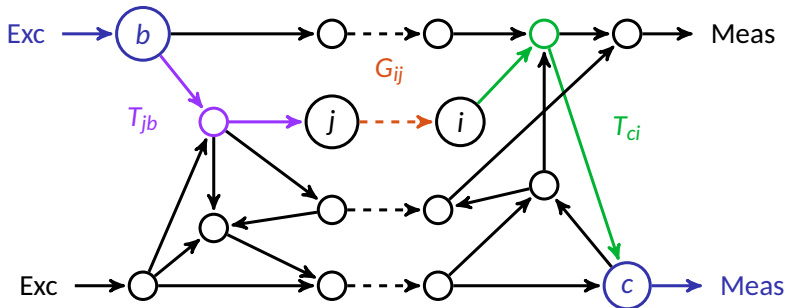
# Framework

- ▶ *Global* identifiability on *separable* networks
  - ⇒ Applies on decoupled identifiability of all networks
- ▶ Identifiability of the *whole* network
- ▶ We assume: # unknowns = # excitations  $\times$  # measurements
  - ⇒ Matrix  $K$  is now square, and:  $K$  full-rank  $\Leftrightarrow \det K \neq 0$

## Theorem 2

A separable network is globally identifiable generically  $\iff \det K \neq 0$  generically

$$K = (B^T T^T \otimes CT) I_{G^\Delta} = \begin{array}{c|ccc} & \dots & \text{unknown } G_{ij} & \dots \\ \hline \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{exc } b \rightarrow \text{meas } c & \dots & T_{jb} T_{ci} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{array}$$



## Theorem 2

A separable network is globally identifiable generically  $\Leftrightarrow \det K \neq 0$  generically

$$K = (B^T T^T \otimes CT) I_{G^\Delta} = \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} & & & \dots & \text{unknown } G_{ij} & \dots \\ & & & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{exc } b \rightarrow \text{meas } c & & & \dots & T_{jb} T_{ci} & \dots \\ & & & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{array}$$

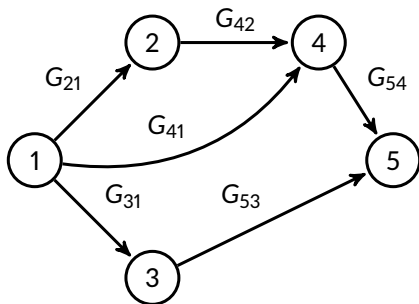
$$\det K = \sum_{\text{assignments } \sigma} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_{G_{ij}} T_{jb} T_{ci} \quad (\text{Leibniz})$$

$$= aei + bfg + cdh - ceg - afh - bdi$$

## Lemma 1

The entries of  $T(G) = (I - G)^{-1}$  are

$$T_{ji} = \sum_{\substack{\text{all paths} \\ i \rightarrow j}} G_{j*} \dots G_{*i}$$



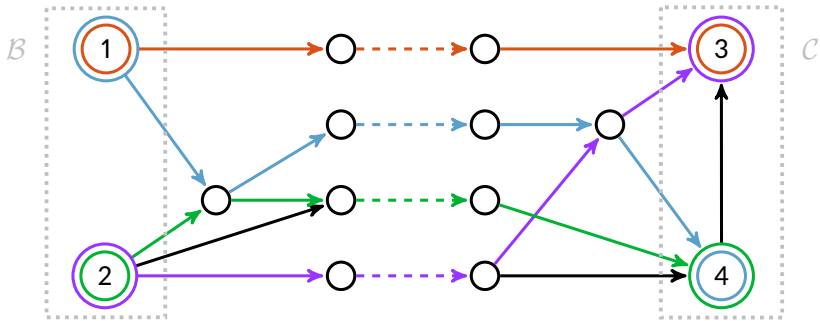
$$T_{51} = G_{54}G_{42}G_{21} + G_{54}G_{41} + G_{53}G_{31}$$

Take a collection of paths that link an excitation and a measurement to each unknown edge, bijectively.

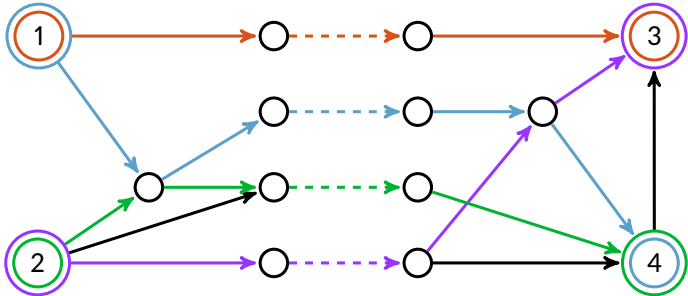
A monomial  $\mu$  is the product of all transfer functions of these paths

(where edges taken  $n$  times by the paths are to the power  $n$  in  $\mu$ )

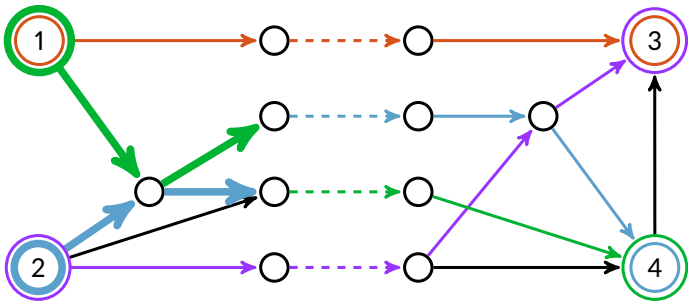
$$\mu \triangleq G_{\dots} G_{\dots} \cdot G_{\dots} G_{\dots} \cdot G_{\dots} G_{\dots} \cdot G_{\dots} G_{\dots}$$







Two different collections of paths using the same transfer functions  
 $\Rightarrow$  Same monomial  $\mu$ , but different sign in expression of  $\det K$



After algebra, we obtain

$$\det K = \sum_{\mu \in M} r(\mu) \mu$$

where

$$\mu = \prod_{\text{all unknown edges } \alpha} G_{\text{measurement}, * \dots} \cdot G_{*, \alpha} \cdot G_{\alpha, * \dots} \cdot G_{*, \text{excitation}}$$

and the repetition  $r(\mu)$  accounts for the sign of term  $\mu$  in the expression of  $\det K$ .

### Theorem 3

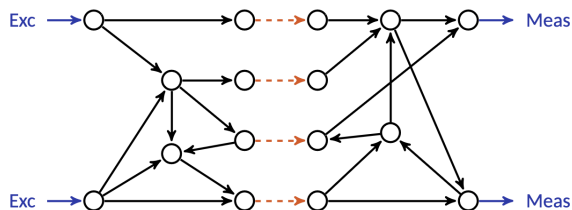
A separable network is generically globally identifiable  $\Leftrightarrow$  there is at least one monomial  $\mu \in M$  such that its repetition  $r(\mu) \neq 0$

## Future perspectives

- ▶ Path-based condition from our combinatorial characterization
- ▶ Algorithm for the synthesis problem
- ▶ Gap between local and global identifiability
- ▶ Gap between decoupled and local identifiability
- ▶ Path-based condition for single edge identifiability

## Take-home message

- ▶ For identifiability: Global  $\Rightarrow$  Local  $\Rightarrow$  Decoupled
- ▶ Introduced *Separable networks*, for which Global  $\Leftrightarrow$  Local



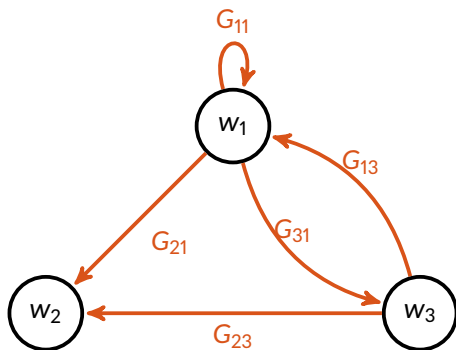
- ▶ Necessary conditions derived on separable networks apply on networks of any topology, through the decoupled network
- ▶ Combinatorial *necessary and sufficient characterization*
- ▶ Further work:
  - ▶ Path-based condition from our combinatorial characterization
  - ▶ Algorithm for the synthesis problem

Back-up slides

# Model

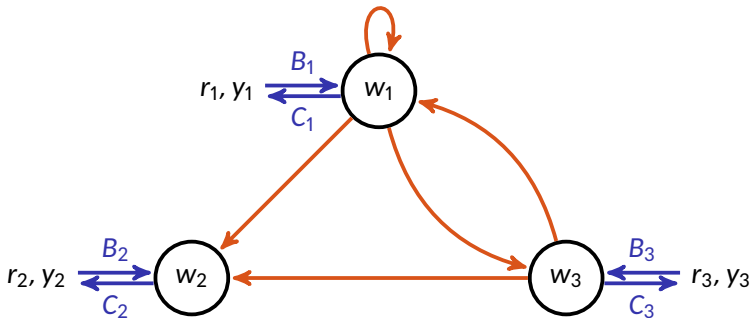
$$\text{state} \leftarrow w_i(t) = \sum G_{ij}(q) w_j(t)$$

$q$  is the shift operator, i.e.  $q^{-1}w(t) = w(t-1)$



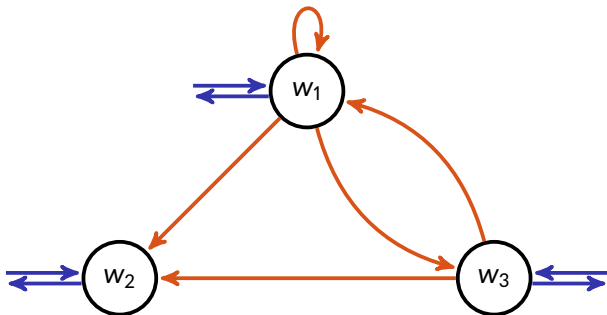
state  $\leftarrow w_i(t) = \sum G_{ij}(q) w_j(t) + B_i r_i(t) \rightarrow$  excitation

measure  $\leftarrow y_i(t) = C_i w_i(t) \quad B_i, C_i \in \{0, 1\}$



$$\text{state} \leftarrow w = G w + B r \rightarrow \text{excitation}$$
$$\text{measure} \leftarrow y = C w$$

Which nodes to excite/measure to recover the transfer functions?  
i.e. how to choose  $B, C$  to accurately recover  $G$ ?



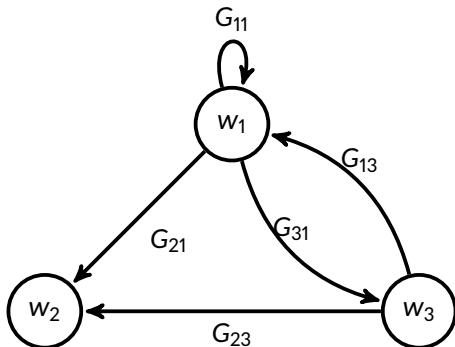
Transfer functions that can be recovered are *identifiable*



*Network topology* is defined by the nonzero entries of  $G$ , and is assumed to be known (often the case).

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} G_{11} & 0 & G_{13} \\ G_{21} & 0 & G_{23} \\ G_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Theorem:** *Identifiability* is a generic property of *network topology*: it only depends\* on the structure of  $G$ , but not on its parameters  $G_{ij}$ .



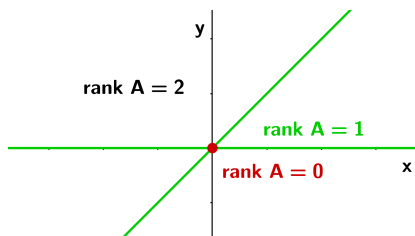
## Genericity

- ▶ A generic property holds everywhere except possibly on a *lower-dimensional set*.
- ▶ A lower-dimensional set has *Lebesgue-measure zero*  
→ 0-probability of falling in this set when sampling randomly

**Example:** The matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x - y \end{bmatrix}$$

has generic rank 2. Its rank drops on  $\{x = 0\} \cup \{x = y\}$ .



## Identifiability is generic – example

Global input-output transfer function:

$$CTB \triangleq C(I - G)^{-1}B = \begin{pmatrix} G_{42}G_{21} + G_{43}G_{31} & G_{42} & G_{43} & 1 & 0 \\ G_{52}G_{21} + G_{53}G_{31} & G_{52} & G_{53} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Rightarrow G_{42}, G_{43}, G_{52}, G_{53} \text{ identif, and } \begin{pmatrix} G_{42} & G_{43} \\ G_{52} & G_{53} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} G_{21} \\ G_{31} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_{41} \\ T_{51} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow G_{21}, G_{31}$  identifiable except when  $G_{42}G_{53} + G_{43}G_{52} = 0$ .

