

# Single module identification – local direct method

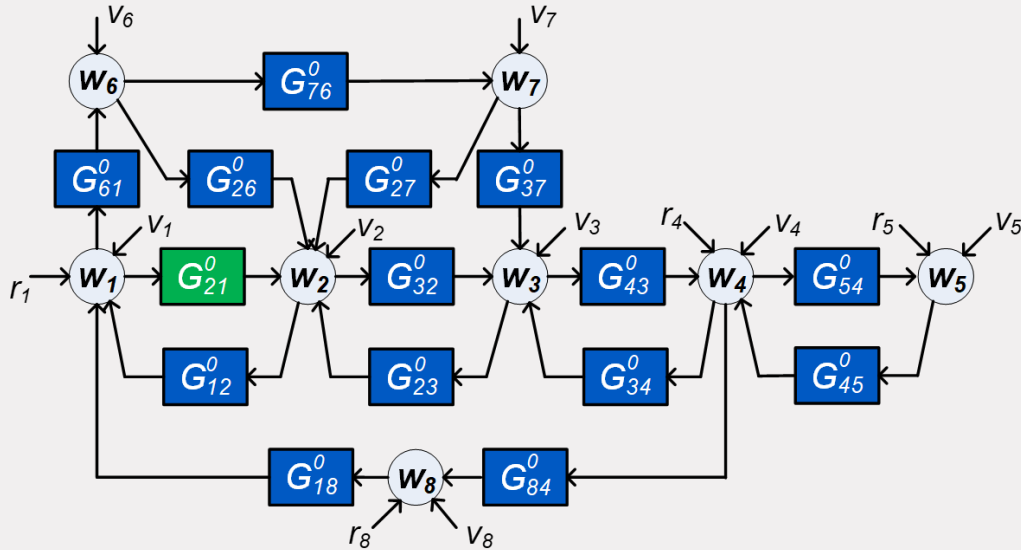
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Doctoral School Lyon, France, 11-12 April 2024

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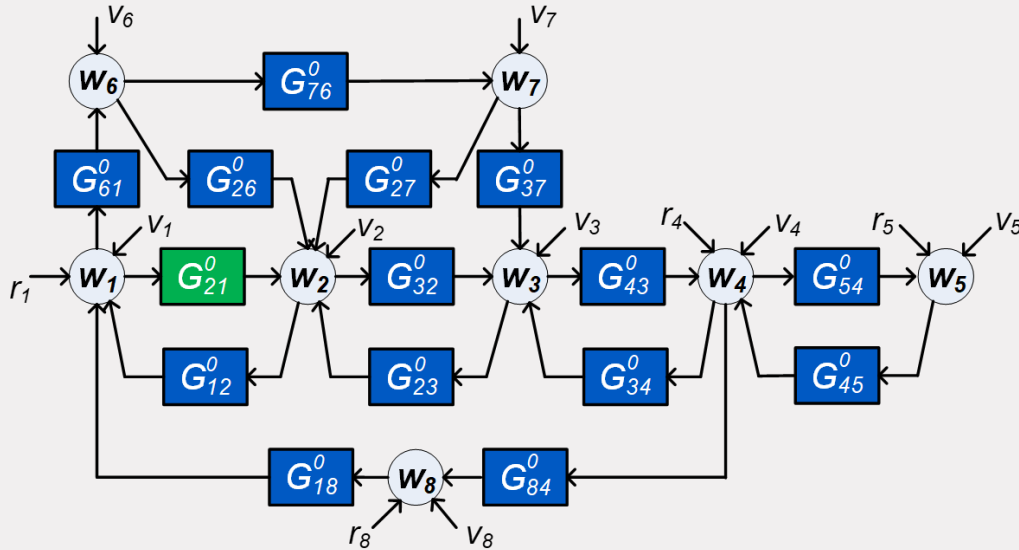
# Single module identification



For a network with  
known topology:

- Identify  $G_{21}^0$  on the basis of measured signals
- Which signals to measure? Preference for local measurements
- When is there enough excitation / data informativity?

# Single module identification



Different types of methods:

**Indirect methods** [1,2,3]

- Rely on mappings  $r \rightarrow w$  and on sufficient excitation signals  $r$

**Direct methods** [1,2,4]

- Rely on mappings  $w \rightarrow w$  and use excitation from both  $r$  and  $v$  signals

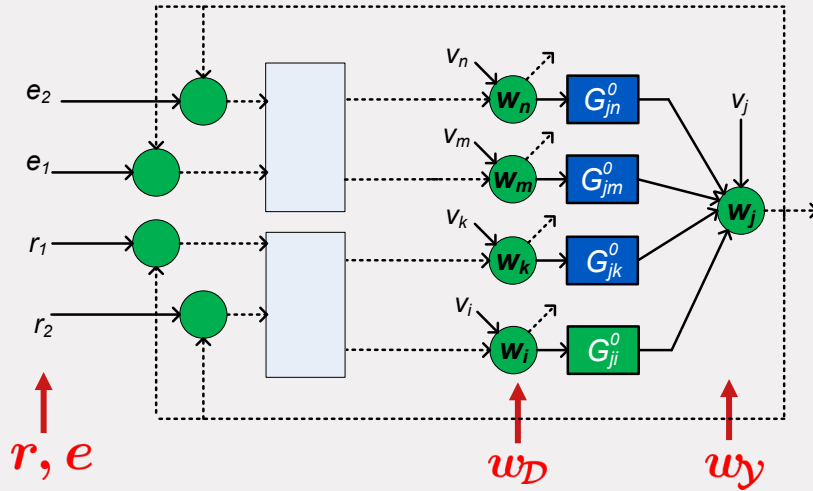
[1] PvdH et al., Automatica, 2013.

[2] A.G. Dankers et al., IEEE-TAC, 2016.

[3] M. Gevers et al., SYSID 2018.

[4] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., IEEE-TAC, 2021.

# Local direct method



$$\varepsilon(t, \theta) = \bar{H}(q, \theta)^{-1} [w_y(t) - \bar{G}(q, \theta) w_D(t)]$$

- Estimate transfer  $w_D \rightarrow w_y$  and model the disturbance process on the output.
- consistent estimate and ML properties

## Additional problem:

- If:
- $v$  signals are correlated, i.e.  $\Phi_v(\omega)$  non-diagonal, or
  - some in-neighbors of  $w_y$  are not included in  $w_D$

then **confounding variables** can occur, destroying the consistency results

# Single module identification

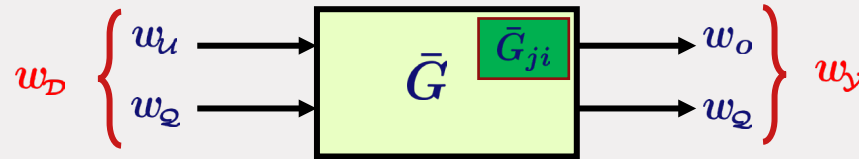
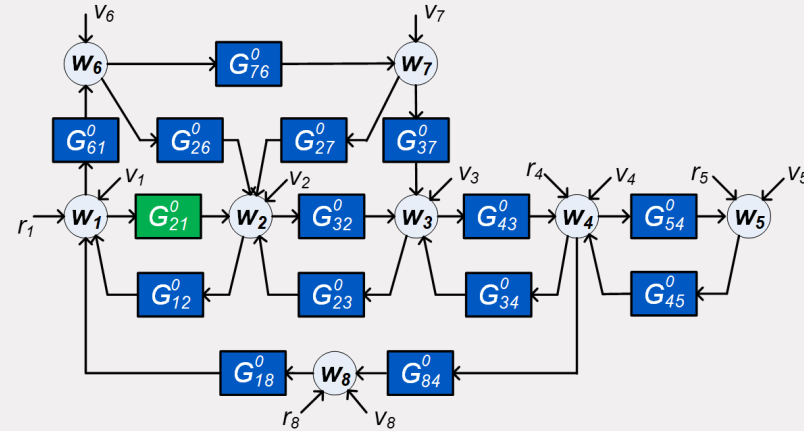
## Local direct method:

(consistency and minimum variance properties)

## Select a subnetwork:

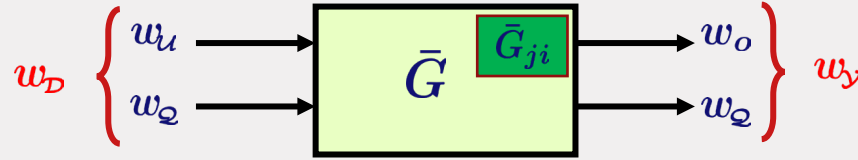
- Predicted outputs:  $w_y$
- Predictor inputs:  $w_D$

such that prediction error minimization leads to an accurate estimate of  $G_{21}^0$



**Note:** same node signals can appear in input and output

# Single module identification



Conditions for arriving at an accurate (consistent) model estimate:

1. Module invariance:  $\bar{G}_{ji} = G_{ji}^0$  when removing discarded nodes (immersion)
2. **Handling of confounding variables**
3. Data-informativity
4. *Technical condition on presence of delays (avoiding algebraic loops)*

# Confounding variables

# Single module identification - confounding variables

## Confounding variables <sup>[1][2]</sup>:

Unmeasured signal that has (unmeasured) paths to both the input and output of an estimation problem.

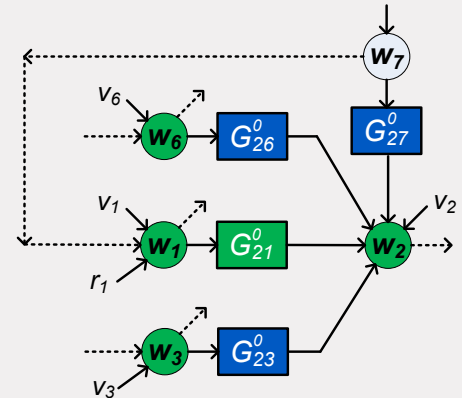
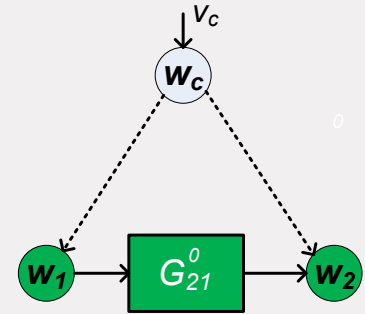
In networks they can appear in two different ways:

### Direct:

- If disturbances on inputs and outputs are correlated.

### Indirect:

- If non-measured in-neighbors of an output affect signals in the inputs.



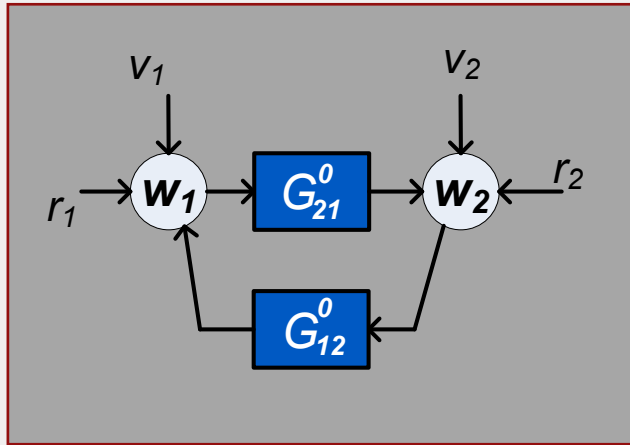
[1] J. Pearl, *Stat. Surveys*, 3, 96-146, 2009

[2] A.G. Dankers et al., *Proc. IFAC World Congress*, 2017.

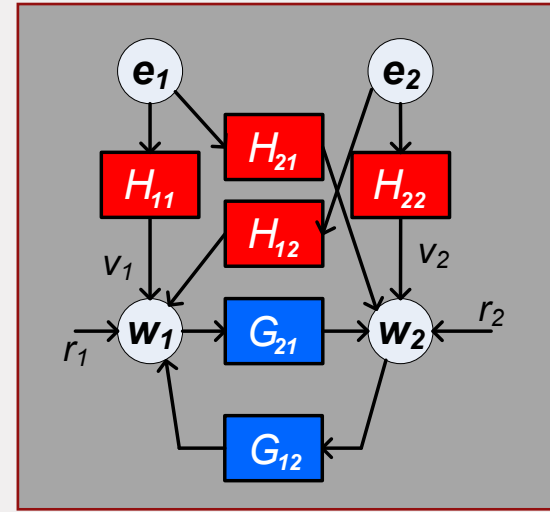


# Confounding variables

- Direct confounding variable:



$v_1, v_2$   
correlated

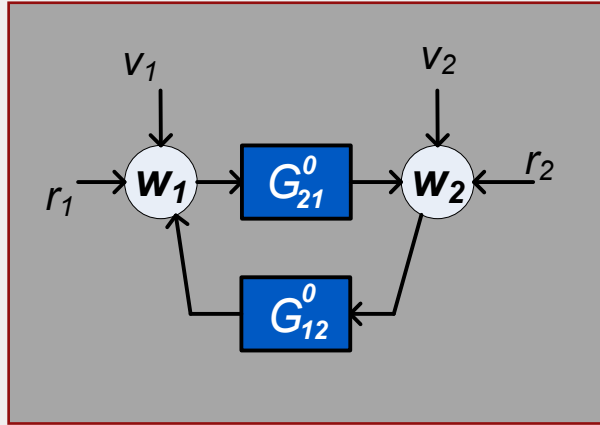


Typically not treated in direct methods of closed-loop identification

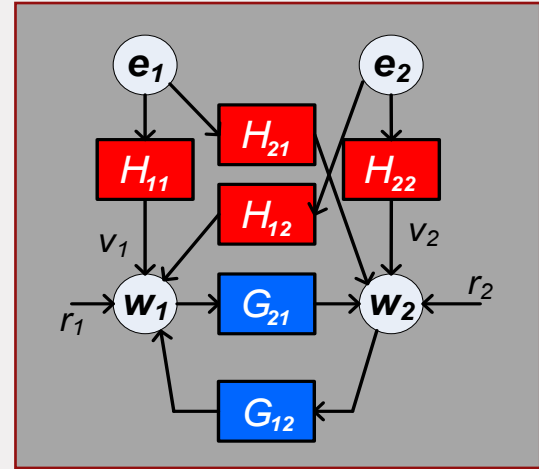
 loss of consistency

# Confounding variables

- Direct confounding variable:



$v_1, v_2$   
correlated



Multivariate noise model: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G_{21} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} w_1 + \begin{bmatrix} H_{22} & H_{21} \\ \tilde{H}_{12} & \tilde{H}_{11} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_2 \\ e_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Predict both  $w_1$  and  $w_2$   **Adding predicted outputs** <sup>[1],[2]</sup>

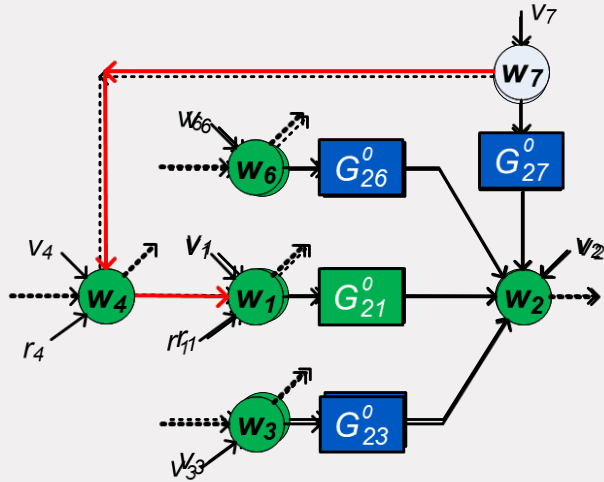
**Becomes a multi output local identification problem.**

[1] P.M.J. Van den Hof et al. , CDC 2019.

[2] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., IEEE-TAC, 2021.

# Confounding variables

- Indirect confounding variable:



Non-measurable  $w_7$  is a confounding variable

Two possible solutions:

1. Include  $w_4$   $\Rightarrow$  add predictor input

$$w_D = \{w_1, w_3, w_4, w_6\} \quad w_y = \{w_2\}$$

2. Predict  $w_1$  too  $\Rightarrow$  add predictor output

$$w_D = \{w_1, w_3, w_6\} \quad w_y = \{w_1, w_2\}$$

- There are degrees of freedom in choosing the predictor model

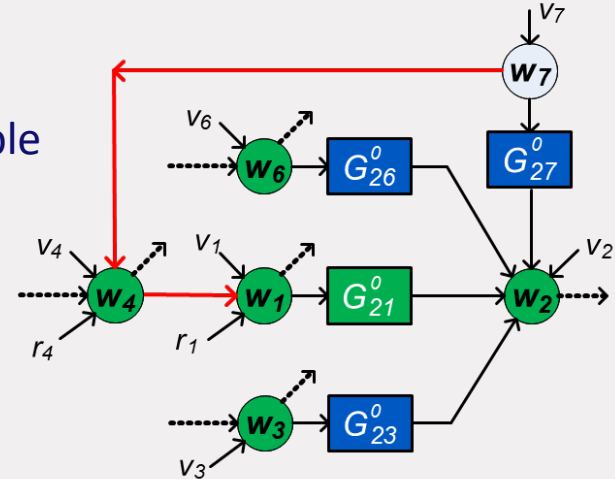
# Handling confounding variables in local module identification

“Blocking” confounding variables by adding predictor inputs

By adding  $w_4$  as predictor input, new confounding variable for  $w_4 \rightarrow w_2$ .

Does this help?

Yes. Since we do not need an accurate model of  $G_{24}$

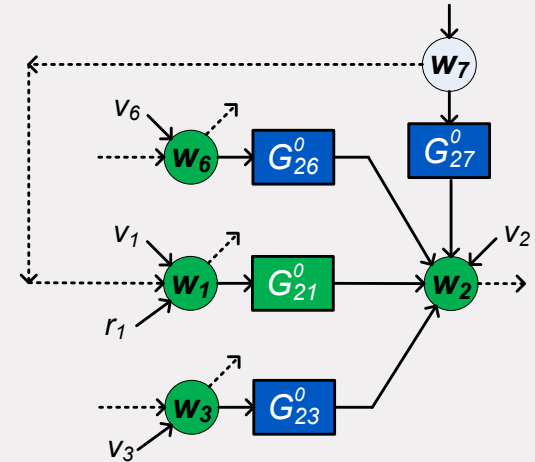
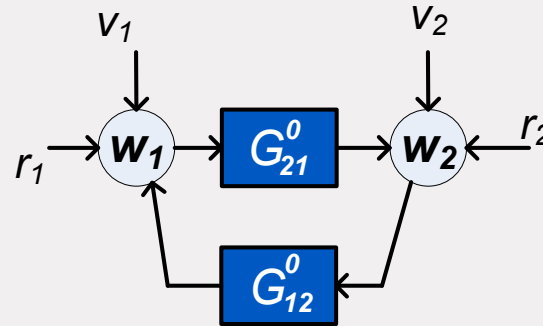


# Handling confounding variables in local module identification

## Confounding variables and closed-loop mechanisms

**In closed-loop case**  
(when predicting only  $w_2$ ):

- Correlation between  $w_1$  and  $v_2$  is no problem, as long as it passes through  $w_2$ .
- Correlation between  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  is a problem.



# Algorithm for dealing with confounding variables

For estimating target module  $G_{ji}$

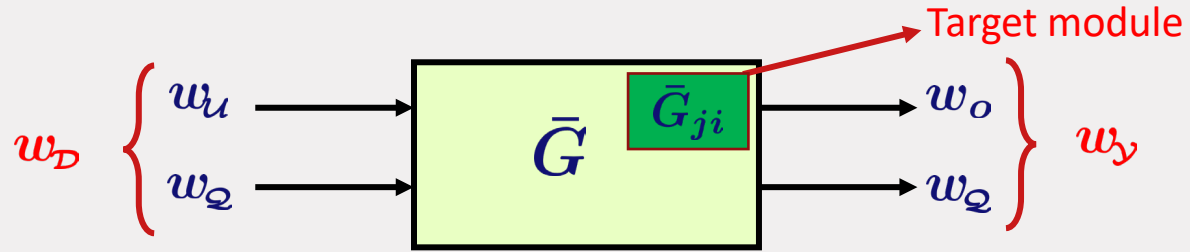
1. Select input  $w_i$  and output  $w_j$
2. Add inputs to satisfy the parallel path and loop condition
3. Check on direct confounding variables  $\rightarrow$  add output and return to step 2
4. Check on indirect confounding variables
  - a) Add output and return to step 2, **OR**
  - b) Add input

Algorithm always reaches a convergence point where conditions are satisfied.

**The choice options lead to different end-results for signals to be included**  
 **$\rightarrow$  different predictor models**  
that all can reach consistency of  $\hat{G}_{ji}$

# Local direct method

General setup:



**Different algorithms** for satisfying the 2 conditions (module invariance and conf. var.):

- Full input case: include all in-neighbors of  $w_y$ <sup>[1]</sup>
- Minimum input: maximize number of outputs<sup>[2]</sup>
- User selection case (inputs first) : dedicated choice based on measurable nodes<sup>[2]</sup>
- User selection case (outputs first) : dedicated choice based on measurable nodes<sup>[3]</sup>

[1] A.G. Dankers et al., TAC 2016.

[2] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., TAC 2021.

[3] S. Shi et al., IFAC 2023.

# Local direct method – Explanation of algorithms

## All nodes are measurable:

**Full input case:** For every (added) output, include all in-neighbors as inputs

**Minimum input case:** Every (added) input is copied to the output in case of a confounding variable

## Preselected set of measured nodes (satisfying PPL test):

**User selection (inputs first):** For every (added) output, include all in-neighbors *in the immersed network* as inputs

**User selection (outputs first):** All signals that have a (sequence of linked) confounding variable(s) to the target output are included in the output. All in-neighbors *in the immersed network* are included as inputs

[1] A.G. Dankers et al., TAC 2016.

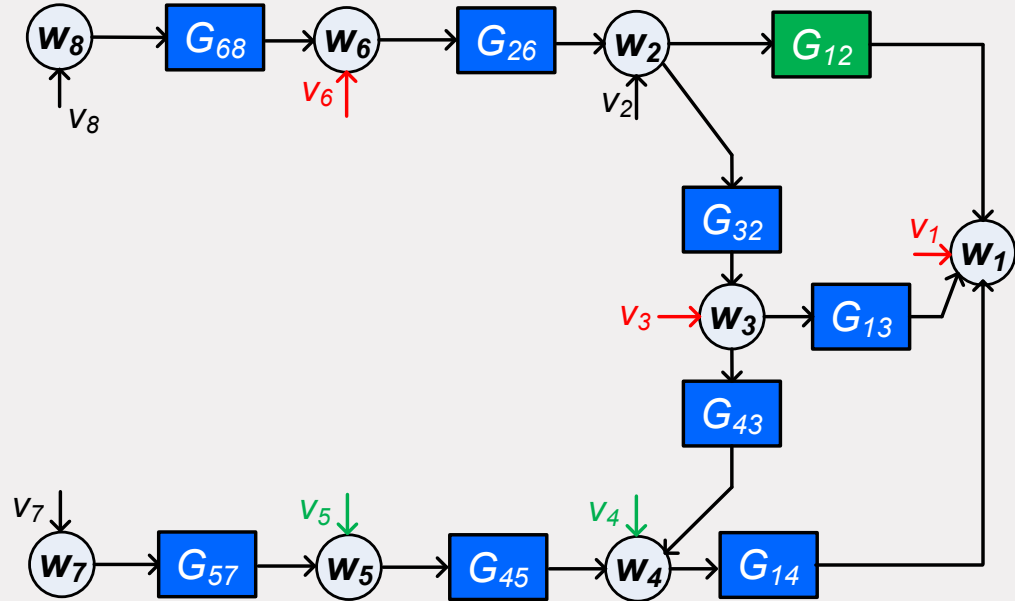
[2] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., TAC 2021.

[3] S. Shi et al., IFAC 2023.



# Different strategies – direct method

- Full input case
- User selection case (inputs first)
- Minimum input case



Network with  $v_1$  correlated with  $v_3$  and  $v_6$ .  
 $v_4$  correlated with  $v_5$ .

# Full input case

We include all in-neighbors of the predicted outputs as predictor inputs

Maximum use of information in signals

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 4\} \quad w_y = \{1\}$$

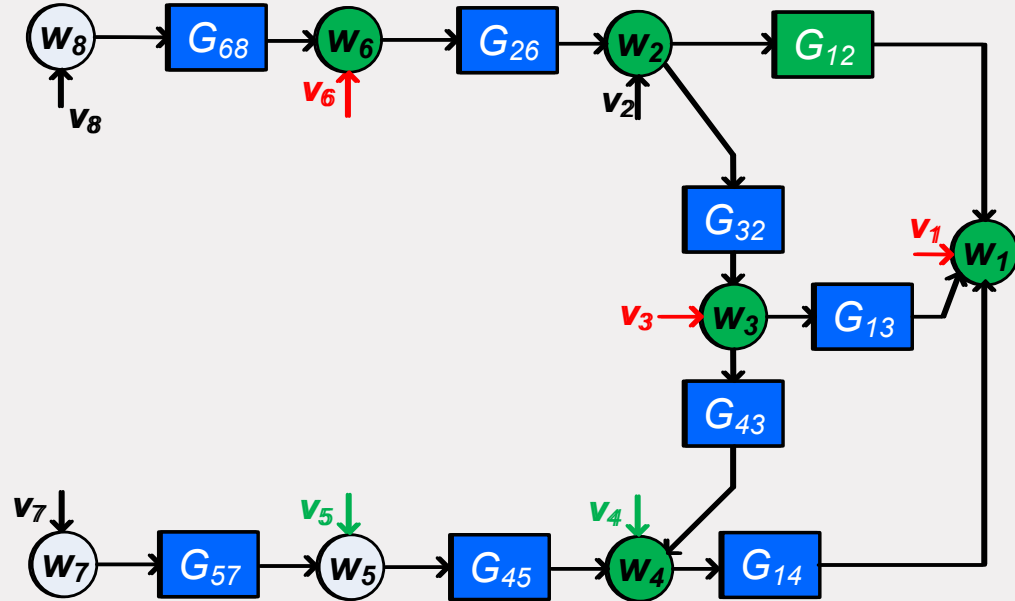
Handling direct confounding variable:

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 4\} \quad w_y = \{1, 3\}$$

Handling indirect confounding variable:

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 4, 6\} \quad w_y = \{1, 3\}$$

Direct identification  $w_D \rightarrow w_y$

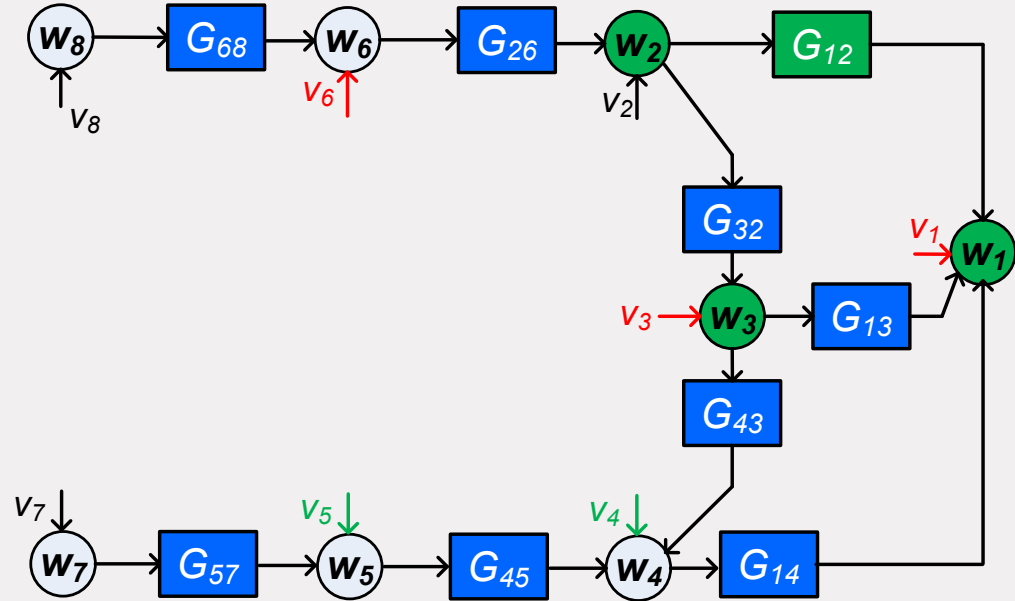


# Minimum input case

- Select signals to satisfy the parallel path and loop condition
- Handle all confounding variables by including signals in output

$$w_D = \{2, 3\} \quad w_y = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

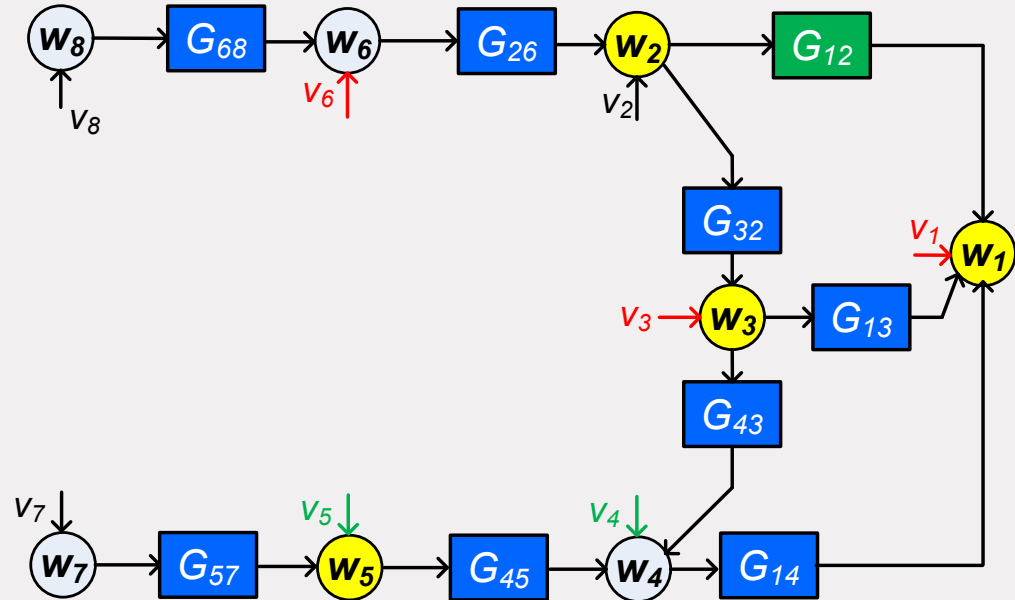
Direct identification  $w_D \rightarrow w_y$



# User selection case

- The user does not have access to all node signals
- Four node signals can be measured
- Parallel path and loop condition is satisfied
- Start with:

$$w_D = \{2, 3\} \quad w_y = \{1\}$$



# User selection case (inputs first)

$$w_D = \{2, 3\} \quad w_y = \{1\}$$

Adding input from immersed network:

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 5\} \quad w_y = \{1\}$$

Handling direct confounding variable:

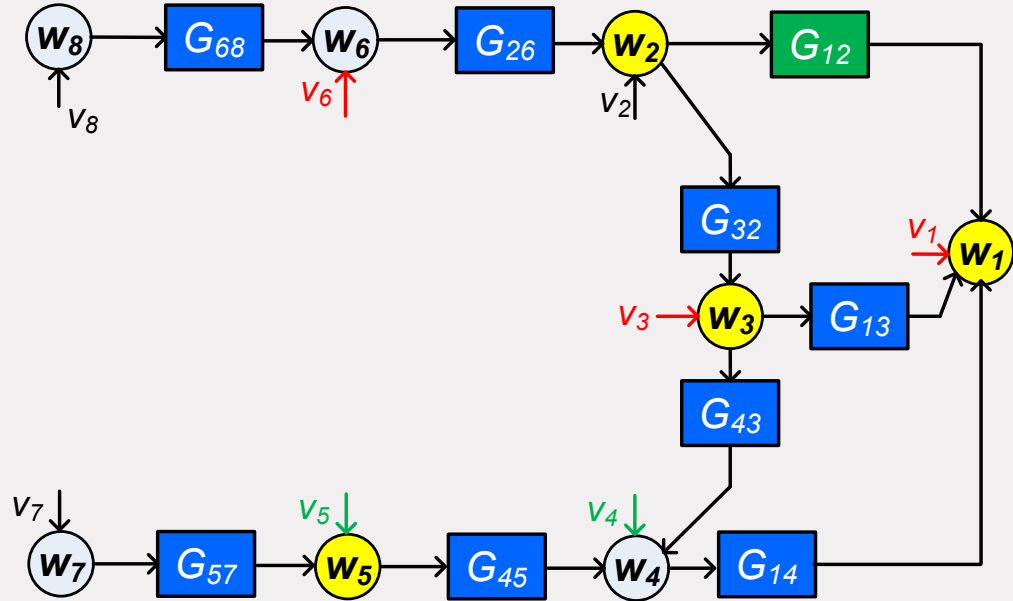
$$w_D = \{2, 3, 5\} \quad w_y = \{1, 3\}$$

Indirect confounding variables:  $v_6$ :

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 5\} \quad w_y = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Confounding variable on  $w_5$  induced by  $(v_4, v_5)$  is OK as it can be moved to set  $\mathcal{B}$

**Direct identification**  $w_D \rightarrow w_y$



# User selection case (outputs first)

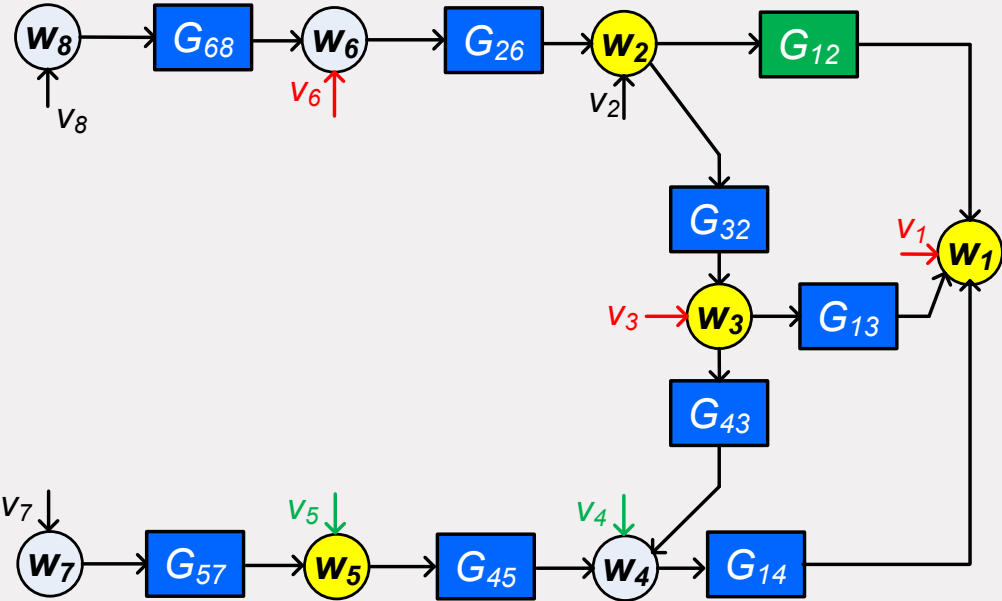
Select as outputs those node signals with confounding variables with the target output node:

$$w_y = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$$

Add appropriate inputs to each of these output nodes:

$$w_D = \{2, 3, 5\} \quad w_y = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$$

Direct identification  $w_D \rightarrow w_y$



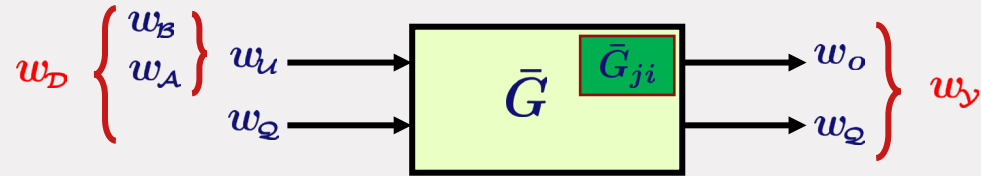
# Different strategies for same network and target module

Same network with different identification setups that lead to **consistent estimate of the target module** with **Maximum likelihood properties** based on the strategy used.

Full input case	Minimum input case	User selection case (inputs)	User selection case (outputs)
$\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_3 \\ w_4 \\ w_6 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_3 \\ w_5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_3 \\ w_5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \\ w_5 \end{bmatrix}$

Data informativity conditions might be different (see later)

# Structural conditions for consistency of target $G_{ji}$



## 1) PPL condition

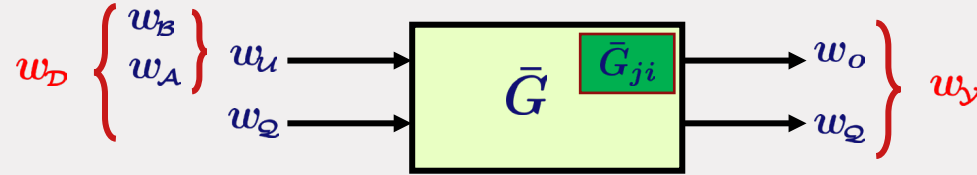
## 2) Confounding variable conditions:

- $i \in Q \cup A; j \in Y$
- No confounding variables between  $w_A$  and  $w_Y$
- No confounding variables between  $w_A$  and  $w_B$
- No unmeasured paths from  $\{i, j\}$  to  $w_B$

These conditions can always be satisfied by appropriate choices of  $w_A, w_B, w_Q$  and influence the selection of the predictor model



# Structural conditions for consistency of target $G_{ji}$



## 1) PPL condition

## 2) Confounding variable conditions:

- $i \in Q \cup A; j \in \mathcal{Y}$
- No confounding variables between  $w_A$  and  $w_y$
- No confounding variables between  $w_A$  and  $w_B$
- No unmeasured paths from  $\{i, j\}$  to  $w_B$

Confounding variables between  $w_B$  and  $w_y$  do not hurt.

# Analysis – from network to predictor model

# Theory for single module direct method (MIMO)

Separate the node variables of the network into

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} w_Q \\ w_o \\ w_u \\ w_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{nodes that appear in input and output} \\ \text{output of target module, if not present in } w_Q \\ \text{nodes that appear only in the input} \\ \text{unmeasured nodes} \end{bmatrix}$$

and write the network equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} w_Q \\ w_o \\ w_u \\ w_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G_{QQ} & G_{Qo} & G_{Qu} & G_{Qz} \\ G_{oQ} & G_{oo} & G_{ou} & G_{oz} \\ G_{uQ} & G_{uo} & G_{uu} & G_{uz} \\ G_{zQ} & G_{zo} & G_{zu} & G_{zz} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_Q \\ w_o \\ w_u \\ w_z \end{bmatrix} + R(q)r + \begin{bmatrix} H_{QQ} & H_{Qo} & H_{Qu} & H_{Qz} \\ H_{oQ} & H_{oo} & H_{ou} & H_{oz} \\ H_{uQ} & H_{uo} & H_{uu} & H_{uz} \\ H_{zQ} & H_{zo} & H_{zu} & H_{zz} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_Q \\ e_o \\ e_u \\ e_z \end{bmatrix}$$

Then remove node variables  $w_z$  from the equations through immersion

# Theory for single module direct method (MIMO)

Upon immersing node variables  $w_z$  there exists a system transform into the equivalent network representation

$$w_y \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_o \\ w_u \end{bmatrix}}_{w_m} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{G} & 0 \\ \bar{G}_{u0} & \bar{G}_{u1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{G}_m} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_o \\ w_u \end{bmatrix}}_{w_m} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{H} & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{H}_{u1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{H}_m} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \xi_o \\ \xi_u \end{bmatrix}}_{\xi_m}$$

with  $\xi_m$  a white noise process,  $\bar{H}_m$  square, monic, stable and stably invertible.  
 I.e. the number of noise sources is reduced to match  $\dim(w_m)$ .

Under the conditions on the confounding variables, the disturbances on  $w_y$  and  $w_u$  can be decoupled  $\rightarrow \bar{H}_m$  becomes block-diagonal.

# Theory for single module direct method (MIMO)

$$w_y \begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_o \\ w_u \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{G} & 0 \\ \bar{G}_{uD} & \bar{G}_{uo} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{G}_m} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_u \\ w_o \end{bmatrix}}_{w_m} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{H} & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{H}_{uu} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{H}_m} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \xi_2 \\ \xi_o \\ \xi_u \end{bmatrix}}_{\xi_m}$$

Upper part of the equation leads to:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_o \end{bmatrix}}_{w_y} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{G}_{22} & \bar{G}_{2u} \\ \bar{G}_{o2} & \bar{G}_{ou} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{G}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_u \end{bmatrix}}_{w_D} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{H}_{22} & \bar{H}_{2o} \\ \bar{H}_{o2} & \bar{H}_{oo} \end{bmatrix}}_{\bar{H}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \xi_2 \\ \xi_o \end{bmatrix}}_{\xi}$$

to be used for identification

# Completing the predictor model with excitation signals

# Local direct method

## Incorporating the role of external signals:

Original (full) network model:  $w(t) = G(q)w(t) + \underbrace{u(t)}_{R(q)r(t)} + H(q)e(t);$

Predictor model (subset of nodes):

$$w_y(t) = \bar{G}(q)w_D(t) + \bar{J}(q)u_K(t) + \bar{S}u_P(t) + \bar{H}(q)\xi_y(t)$$

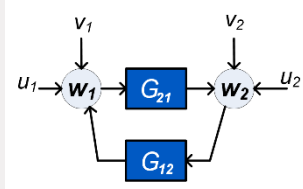
Effect of  $u$  on  $w_y$  can appear in three different ways:

1. Incorporated in input  $w_D$
2. With a dynamic term  $\bar{J}(q)$
3. With a constant unit-term in  $\bar{S}$  (binary matrix)

# Local direct method

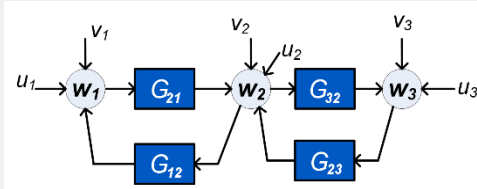
Examples for different roles of  $u$ :

$$w_y(t) = \bar{G}(q)w_D(t) + \bar{J}(q)u_K(t) + \bar{S}u_P(t) + \bar{H}(q)\xi(t)$$



$$w_2 = G_{21}(q)w_1 + u_2 + v_2$$

$$u_P = u_2 \quad u_K = \emptyset$$



$$w_2 = \frac{1}{1 + G_{32}G_{23}} [G_{21}w_1 + u_2 + v_2 + G_{23}(u_3 + v_3)]$$

$$u_P = \emptyset \quad u_K = \{u_2, u_3\}$$

Dynamic term  $\bar{J}(q)$  can be left unmodelled  $\rightarrow$  higher level of "disturbances"

**Alternative:** estimate the term with measured input  $u_K(t)$



# Local direct method – predictor model

Based on:

$$w_y(t) = \bar{G}(q)w_D(t) + \bar{J}(q)u_K(t) + \bar{S}u_P(t) + \bar{H}(q)\xi_y(t)$$

we construct the (parametrized) prediction error:

$$\varepsilon(t, \theta) = \bar{H}(q, \theta)^{-1} [w_y(t) - \bar{G}(q, \theta)w_D(t) - \bar{J}(q, \theta)u_K(t) - \bar{S}u_P(t)]$$

Quadratic identification criterion:  $\hat{\theta}_N := \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \varepsilon(t, \theta)^T Q \varepsilon(t, \theta) \quad Q > 0$

Characteristic of 'direct' method: no postprocessing of estimate required.

The target module  $G_{ji}$  is directly estimated as one of the modules in  $\bar{G}(q)$ .

# Local direct method

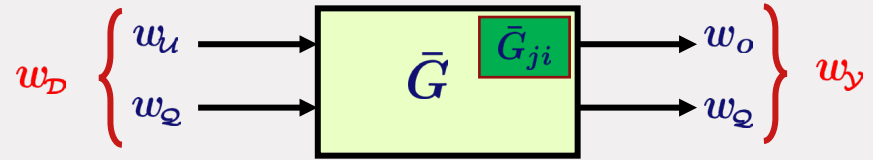
## Determining the different roles of excitation signals:

Given  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ , the sets  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  are determined through **graphical conditions**<sup>[1,2,3]</sup>:

- For  $l \in \mathcal{Q}$ ,  $u_l \in u_{\mathcal{P}}$  if all loops around  $w_l$  pass through a node in  $w_{\mathcal{D}}$
- $u_o \in u_{\mathcal{P}}$  if all loops around  $w_o$  pass through a node in  $w_{\mathcal{D}}$  and all paths from  $w_o$  to  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  pass through a node in  $w_{\mathcal{U}}$ .
- $u_y \in u_{\mathcal{K}}$  if  $u_y \notin u_{\mathcal{P}}$
- For  $l \notin \{\mathcal{Y} \cup \mathcal{D}\}$ ,  $u_l \in u_{\mathcal{K}}$  if  $w_l$  has a direct or unmeasured path to  $w_y$

[1] Simple case where set  $\mathcal{B} = \emptyset$   
[2] Ramaswamy, PhD thesis 2022;  
[3] VdH et al, IFAC 2023.

# Consistency result



$G_{ji}(q, \hat{\theta}_N)$  is a **consistent estimate** of  $G_{ji}^0$ , if

- $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{M}$
- Structural conditions on the predictor model are satisfied
  - Parallel path and loop (PPL) condition
  - Confounding variable conditions
- Data set is informative with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$
- A technical condition on presence of delays is satisfied

According to PEM/ML theory, the estimator can achieve the CRLB

[1] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., IEEE-TAC, 2021.

[2] VdH et al., CDC-2020.

# Data-informativity

# Data informativity (classical definition)

$$w_y(t) = \bar{G}(q, \theta)w_D(t) + \bar{H}(q, \theta)\xi_y(t) + \bar{J}(q, \theta)u_K(t) + \bar{S}u_P(t)$$

Predictor model:  $\hat{w}_y(t, \theta) = W(q, \theta)z(t)$

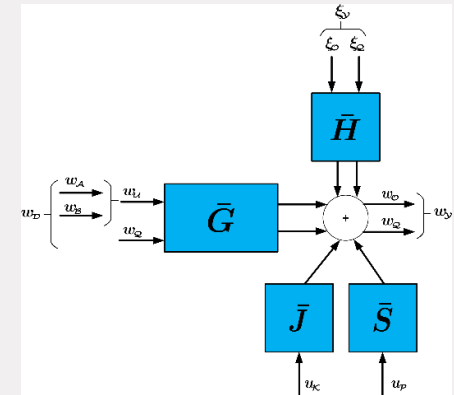
for a model set  $\mathcal{M} := (\bar{G}(q, \theta), \bar{H}(q, \theta), \bar{J}(q, \theta))_{\theta \in \Theta}$  with  $z(t) := \begin{bmatrix} w_D(t) \\ \xi_y(t) \\ u_K(t) \end{bmatrix}$

Then a quasi-stationary **data** sequence  $\{z(t)\}_{t=0, \dots}$  is **informative** with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$  if for any two models in  $\mathcal{M}$  :

$$\bar{\mathbb{E}}[(W_1(q) - W_2(q))z(t)]^2 = 0 \implies W_1(e^{i\omega}) \equiv W_2(e^{i\omega})$$

A sufficient condition for this is that  $z$  is persistently exciting:

$$\Phi_z(\omega) > 0 \text{ for almost all } \omega$$



# Single module identification – data-informativity

Predictor model equation:

$$w_y(t) = \bar{G}(q, \theta)w_D(t) + \bar{H}(q, \theta)\xi_y(t) + \bar{J}(q, \theta)u_\kappa(t) + \bar{S}u_p(t)$$

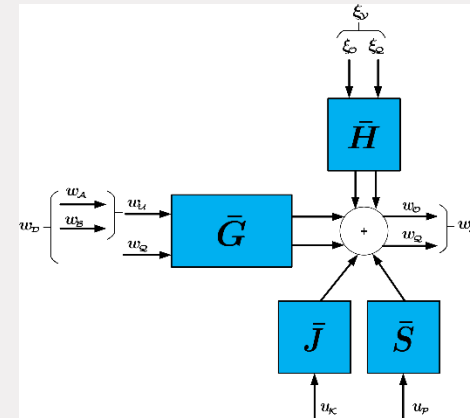
Typical data-informativity condition:

$\kappa$  persistently exciting

$$\Phi_\kappa(\omega) > 0 \text{ for almost all } \omega$$

$$\kappa(t) := \begin{bmatrix} w_D(t) \\ \xi_y(t) \\ u_\kappa(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

inputs of the predictor model



Rank-based condition can generically be satisfied based on a graph-based condition

[1] L. Ljung, 1989.

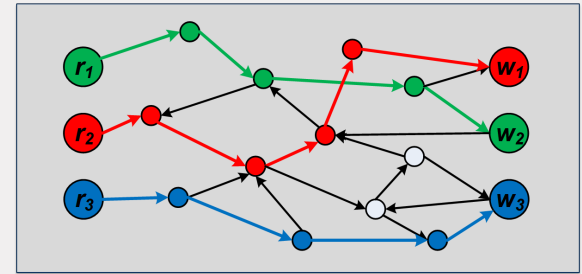
[2] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., IEEE-TAC, 2021; VdH and Ramaswamy, CDC 2020.

[3] X.Bombois et al., Automatica, 2023.

# Data informativity (path-based condition)

A signal  $w(t) = F(q)r(t)$  with  $r$  persistently exciting, is persistently exciting iff  $F$  has **full row rank**.

This condition can be verified in a generic sense, by considering the **generic rank** of  $F$  [1],[2]



$$b_{\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}} = 3$$

linking to the maximum number of **vertex disjoint paths** between inputs and outputs

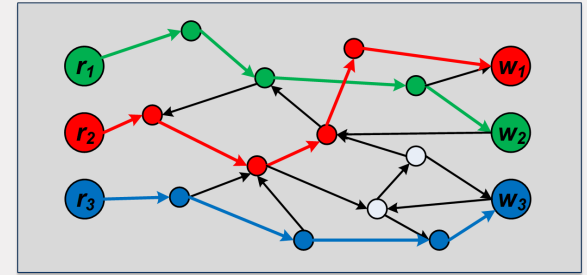
$F$  has generic full row rank if the number of vertex disjoint paths  $b_{\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}}$  satisfies  $b_{\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}} = \dim(w)$

[1] Van der Woude, 1991

[2] Hendrickx, Gevers & Bazanella, CDC 2017, TAC 2019.

# Data informativity (path-based condition)

For persistence of excitation of  $\kappa$  this implies:



$\kappa$  persistently exciting holds **generically** if there are  $\dim(\kappa)$  **vertex disjoint paths** between external signals  $\{u, e\}$  and  $\kappa = \begin{bmatrix} w_D \\ \xi_y \\ u_\kappa \end{bmatrix}$

and since  $\{\xi_y, u_\kappa\}$  are external signals too, this is equivalent to:

$\dim(w_D)$  vertex disjoint paths between  $\{u, e\} \setminus \{\xi_y, u_\kappa\}$  and  $w_D$



# Data informativity (path-based condition)

$dim(w_D)$  vertex disjoint paths between  $\{u, e\} \setminus \{\xi, u_K\}$  and  $w_D$

Excitation is provided by all external signals  $\{u, e\}$  except for

- $\xi$ : the white noise signals  $e$  that have a path to an output node or to a node that has a confounding variable with an output node
- $u_K$ : the excitation signals  $u$  that affect an output through unknown dynamics

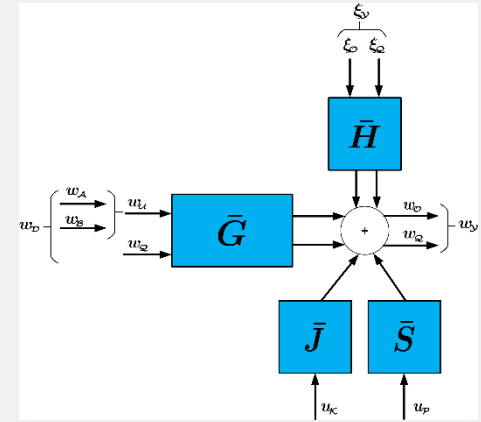
# Data informativity (path-based condition)

Specific result for networks with **full rank disturbances**:

Every node signal in  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  requires an excitation in  $u_{\mathcal{P}}$  having a 1-transfer to  $w_{\mathcal{Y}}$

$$w_{\mathcal{Y}}(t) = \bar{G}(q, \theta)w_{\mathcal{D}}(t) + \bar{H}(q, \theta)\xi_{\mathcal{D}}(t) + \bar{J}(q, \theta)u_{\mathcal{K}}(t) + \bar{S}u_{\mathcal{P}}(t)$$

- For every node in  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  we need a  $u$ -excitation
- More expensive experiments with growing # outputs
- A node  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  whose excitation appears in  $u_{\mathcal{K}}$  can never be sufficiently excited

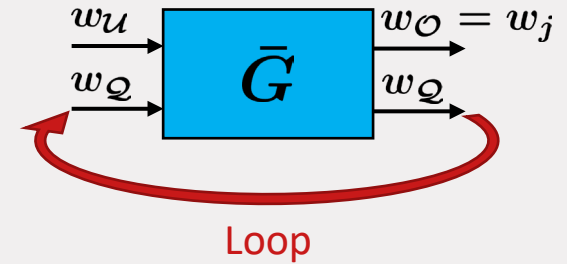
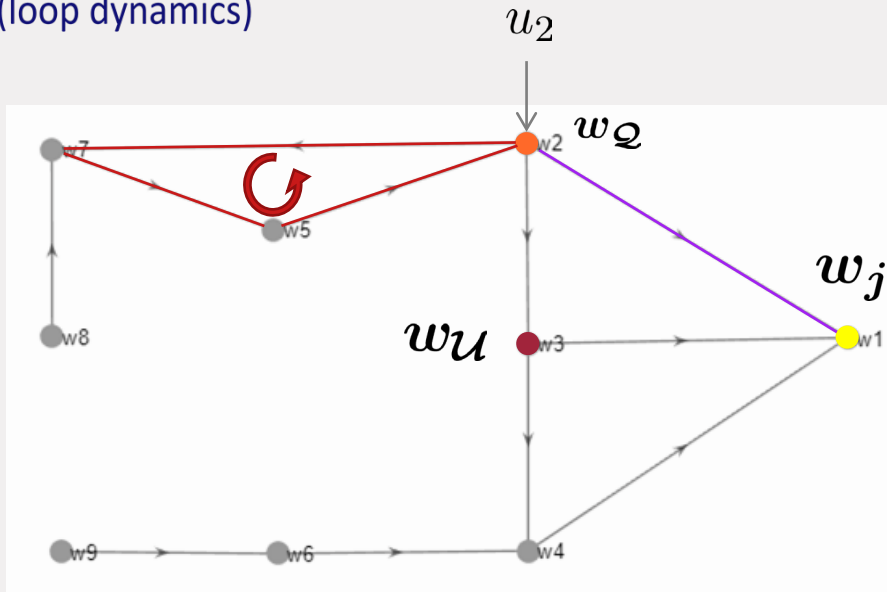


# Data-informativity - Example

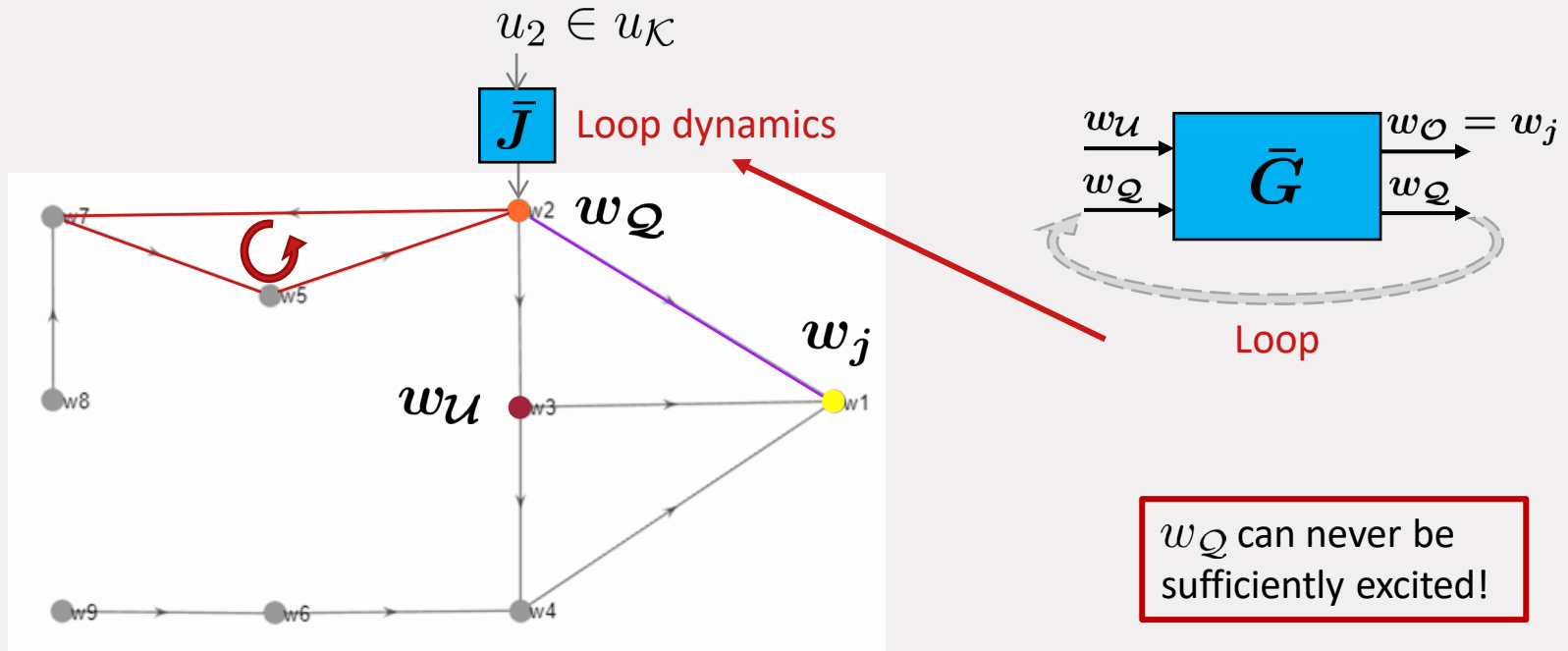
Target module:  $G_{12}$

Because of confounding variable between  $w_2$  and  $w_1$ , predictor model is  $(w_2, w_3) \rightarrow (w_1, w_2)$

An excitation  $u_2$  on  $w_2$  will affect  $w_2$  through an unknown dynamic transfer function (loop dynamics)



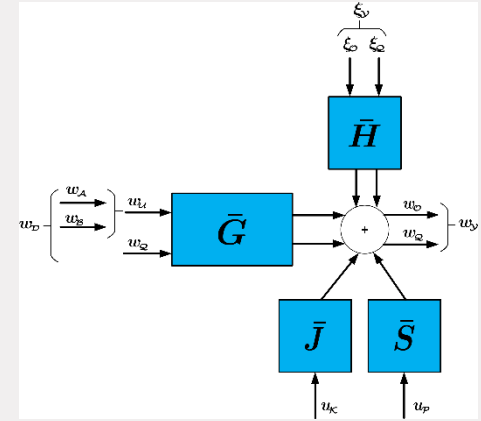
# Data-informativity - Example



# Data informativity (path-based condition)

## Observations:

- Since  $w_{\Omega}$  is an output, unmeasured disturbances on  $w_{\Omega}$  are modelled through a noise model. Their white noise sources are not available anymore more for excitation of  $\bar{G}$ .
- Data-informativity **cannot** always be guaranteed by providing a sufficient number of external excitation signals.
- (Additional) structural conditions on the predictor model need to be satisfied



# Data informativity (path-based condition)

Specific result for networks with **full rank disturbances**:

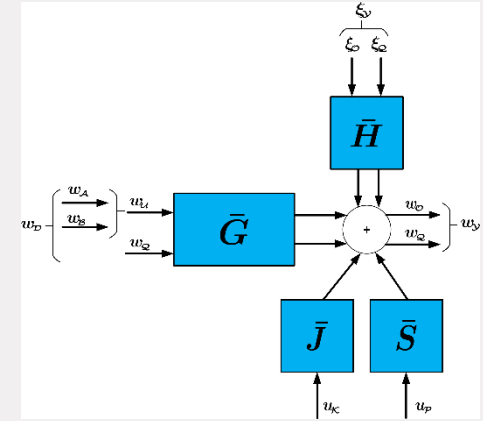
Every node signal in  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  requires an excitation in  $u_{\mathcal{P}}$  having a 1-transfer to  $w_{\mathcal{Y}}$

$$w_{\mathcal{Y}}(t) = \bar{G}(q, \theta)w_{\mathcal{D}}(t) + \bar{H}(q, \theta)\xi_{\mathcal{Y}}(t) + \bar{J}(q, \theta)u_{\mathcal{K}}(t) + \bar{S}u_{\mathcal{P}}(t)$$

Additional condition for a node  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  to be effectively “excitable”:

Every loop around a node in  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  should be blocked by a node in  $w_{\mathcal{D}}$ .

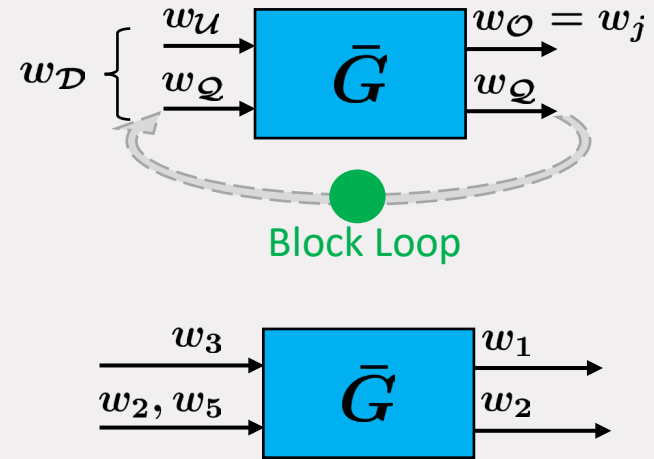
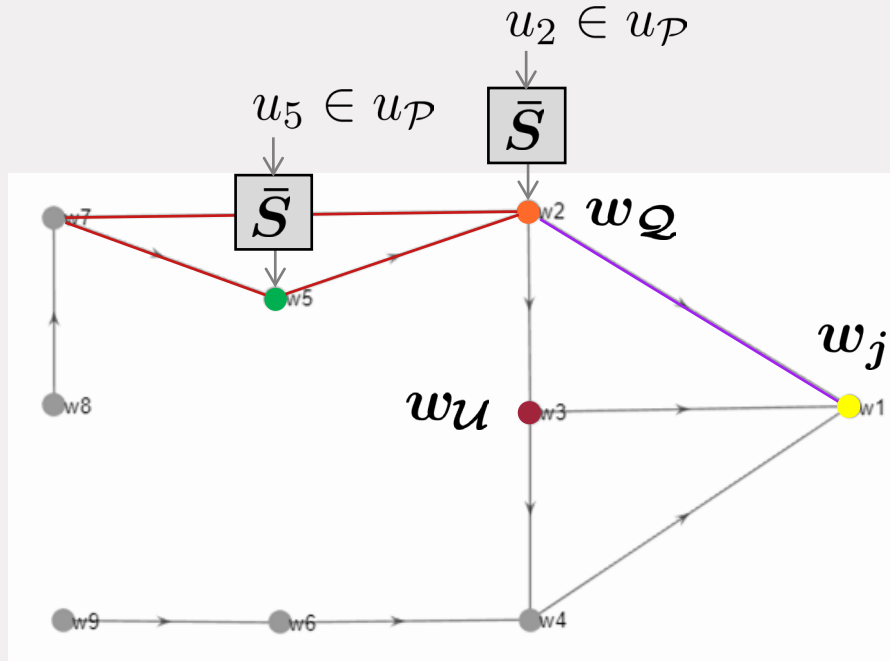
This additional graph-based condition needs to be integrated in the predictor model algorithms



# Data-informativity - Example

Every loop around a node in  $w_{\mathcal{Q}}$  should be blocked by a node in  $w_{\mathcal{D}}$

→ add  $w_5$  to  $w_{\mathcal{D}}$



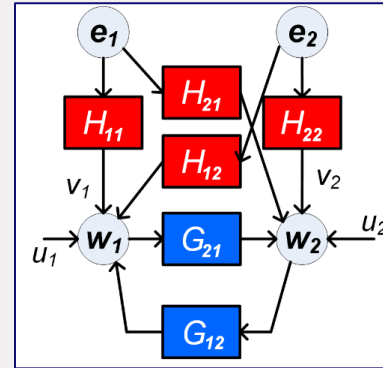
$w_2$ ,  $w_3$  and  $w_5$  need excitation,  
and  $u_2$  and  $u_5$  can be used for that

# 2-node example

**Target:** identify  $G_{21}$  with direct method

Predictor model:  $\underbrace{\{w_1\}}_{w_D} \rightarrow \underbrace{\{w_1, w_2\}}_{w_Y}$

$w_Q = \{w_1\}$     $w_U = \emptyset$



**Step 1:**

Both  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  contribute to  $w_U$   $\rightarrow$  data informativity condition is **not satisfied**

**Step 2:**      Change predictor model to:  $\underbrace{\{w_1, w_2\}}_{w_D} \rightarrow \underbrace{\{w_1, w_2\}}_{w_Y}$

Both  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  contribute to  $w_P$   $\rightarrow$  data informativity condition is **satisfied**

Both  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  need to be present, while an indirect method requires only  $u_1$ !



# Data informativity - summary

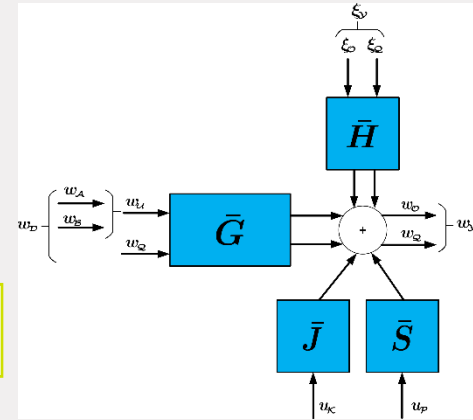
$$\Phi_{\kappa}(\omega) > 0 \text{ for almost all } \omega$$

$$\kappa(t) := \begin{bmatrix} w_D(t) \\ \xi_Y(t) \\ u_{\kappa}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$\dim(w_D)$  vertex disjoint paths between  $\{u, e\} \setminus \{\xi_Y, u_{\kappa}\}$  and  $w_D$

- Disturbances  $\xi_Y$  can not be used for exciting  $w_D$   
They are used for exciting the noise model
- For every signal in  $w_Q$  we need an  $u$ -excitation
- More “expensive” experiments with growing # outputs
- Additional structural condition:

Every loop around a node in  $w_Q$  should be blocked by a node in  $w_D$ .



# Data informativity - extension

So far, data-informativity conditions have been based on consistent estimation of the full predictor model, i.e. all entries in  $\bar{G}$

It appears that the conditions can be further relaxed when focusing on the target module only!

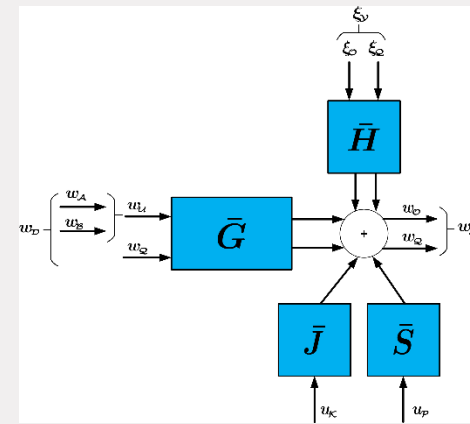
I.e., rather than requiring:

$$\mathbb{E}[(W^{(1)}(q) - W^{(2)}(q))z(t)]^2 = 0 \implies W^{(1)}(e^{i\omega}) \equiv W^{(2)}(e^{i\omega})$$

we can require:

$$\mathbb{E}[(W^{(1)}(q) - W^{(2)}(q))z(t)]^2 = 0 \implies G_{ji}^{(1)}(e^{i\omega}) \equiv G_{ji}^{(2)}(e^{i\omega})$$

These single module DI conditions are also implemented in the app/toolbox.



# Algebraic loop condition

# Algebraic loop condition

Well known in a standard closed-loop problem with the direct method:  
 $G(q)C(q)$  should be strictly proper, in the system and in the parametrized model.

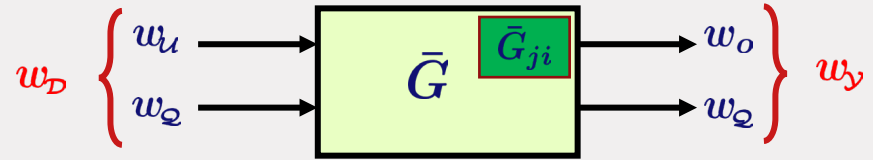
In the **local direct method** for networks this becomes:

The following paths should have at least a delay:

- 1) All paths/loops from  $w_{y \cup \mathcal{B}}$  to  $w_y$  in the original network and in the parametrized model;
- 2) For every  $w_k \in w_{\mathcal{A}}$ , all paths from  $w_{y \cup \mathcal{B}}$  to  $w_k$  in the original network, or all paths from  $w_k$  to  $w_y$  in the parametrized model.

# Summary

# Consistency result



$G_{ji}(q, \hat{\theta}_N)$  is a **consistent estimate** of  $G_{ji}^0$ , if

- $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{M}$
- Structural conditions on the predictor model are satisfied
  - Parallel path and loop (PPL) condition
  - Confounding variable conditions
- Data set is informative with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$
- A technical condition on presence of delays is satisfied

According to PEM/ML theory, the estimator can achieve the CRLB

[1] K.R. Ramaswamy et al., IEEE-TAC, 2021.

[2] VdH et al., CDC-2020.

# Summary local direct method for single module ID

- Flexible algorithm for selecting measured signals in a predictor model
- that leads to consistent (and minimum variance) module estimates
- Verifiable conditions on the network topology (assumed a priori known)
- Path-based conditions also for (generic) data informativity
- For the actual identification algorithm: preferably regularized techniques
- Extensions:
  - effective use of  $u$ -signals can further relax the conditions for signal selection<sup>[1]</sup>
  - include topology estimation as a first step<sup>[2]</sup>

[1] Ramaswamy, VdH, Dankers, CDC 2019.

[2] Rajagopal et al., CDC 2021.

# Identifiability and data informativity

- For a **particular** identification method:  
Consistency conditions include aspects of data-informativity and underlying conditions of identifiability (implicitly)
- Current consistency conditions can be split in (a) identifiability conditions and (b) data informativity conditions
- Network identifiability is **identification method - independent**  
Reflects choice of predictor model:
  - presence and location of excitation and disturbance signals
  - parametrized model set (fixed modules and disturbance correlations)