

# Data-driven modelling in dynamic networks

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European Research Council

**TU/e** Technische Universiteit  
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**Where innovation starts**





# Introduction – dynamic networks

## Drivers for **data-processing / data-analytics**

Providing the tools for **online**

- Model estimation / calibration / adaptation

to accurately perform online model-based **X**:

- Monitoring
- Diagnosis and fault detection
- Control and optimization
- Predictive maintenance
- Controller reconfiguration
- .....

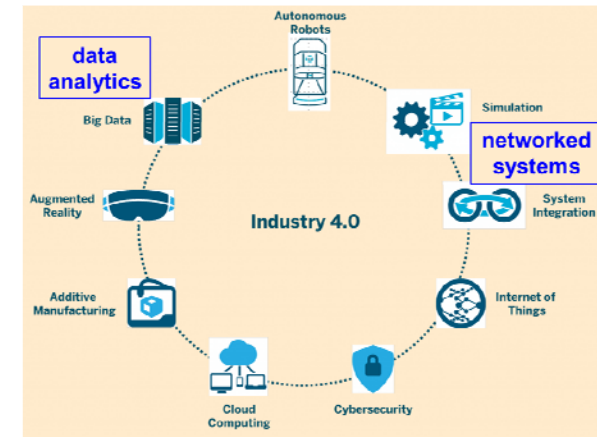


Turn large amounts of (relatively inexpensive) data into process/economic value

# Industry 4.0 – process operations aspects

## From isolated (statically) optimized units to

- integrated chains/networks of production units,
- fully automated, high level of sensing/actuation,
- data and product flows across classical (company) borders (suppliers, customers, energy grid)
- modular build-up
- continuously monitored for control, optimization, (predictive) maintenance, analysis, .....
- adapting to changing circumstances (process and market conditions), and learning
- economically optimized
- supervised by new-generation HMI technology and operators



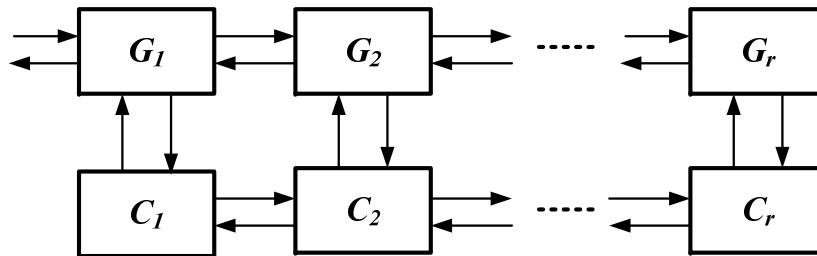
[Boston Consulting Group report: “Industry 4.0, The Future of Production & Growth in Manufacturing Industries“, 2015]



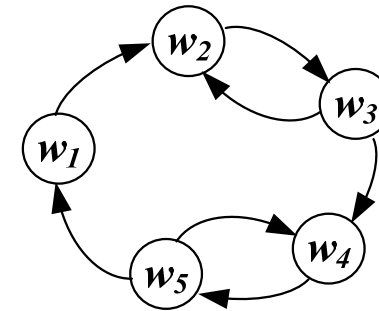
# Introduction – dynamic networks

Dynamical systems are considered to have a more complex structure:

distributed control system (1d-cascade)



dynamic network



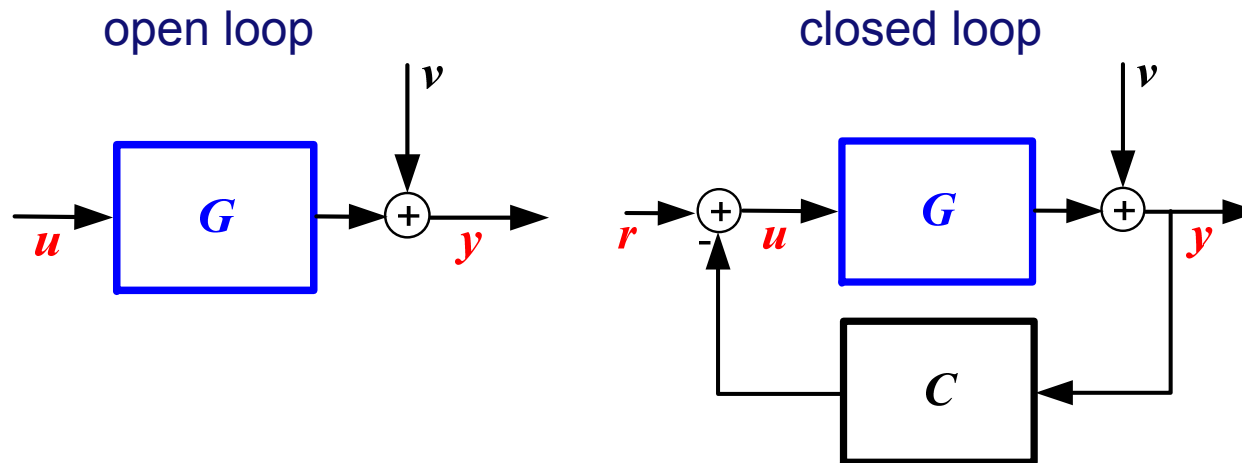
(distributed MPC, multi-agent systems, biological networks, smart grids,.....)

For on-line monitoring / control / diagnosis it is attractive to be able to **identify**

- (changing) dynamics of modules in the network
- (changing) interconnection structure

# Introduction - identification

The classical (multivariable) identification problems: [Ljung (1999)]

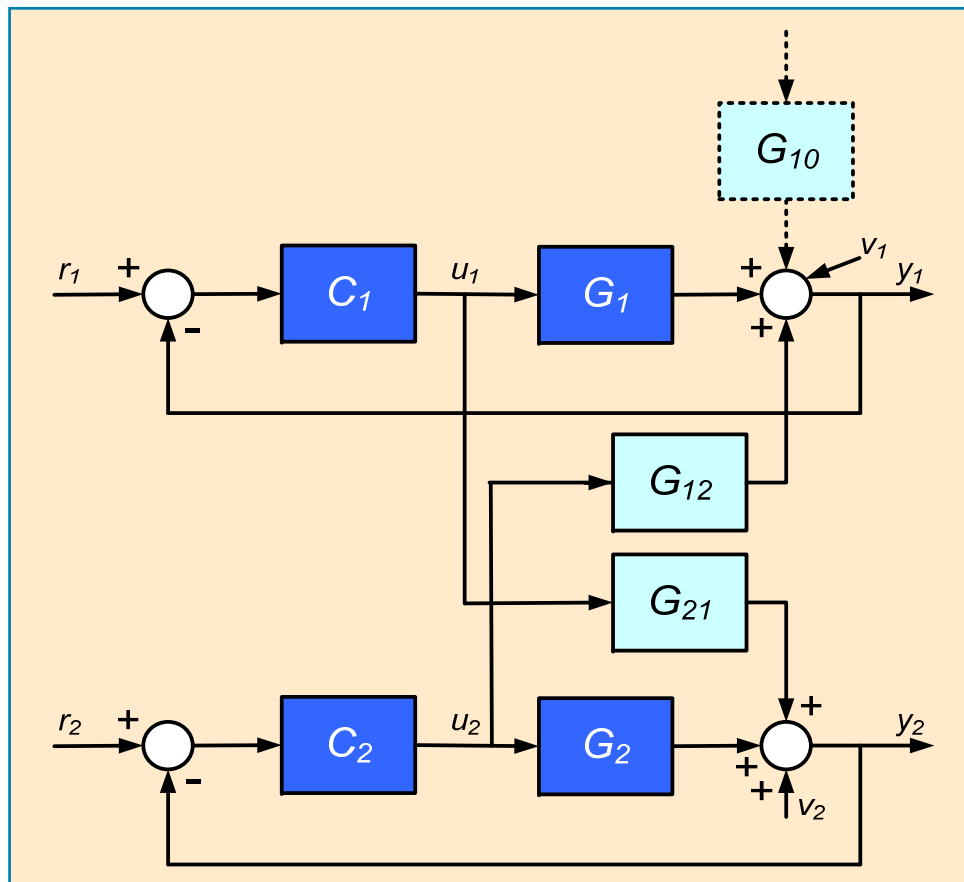


Identify a plant model  $\hat{G}$  on the basis of measured signals  $u$ ,  $y$  (and possibly  $r$ )

- We have to move from fixed and known configuration to deal with and exploit *structure* in the problem.

# Introduction - identification

Example decentralized MPC; 2 interconnected MPC loops



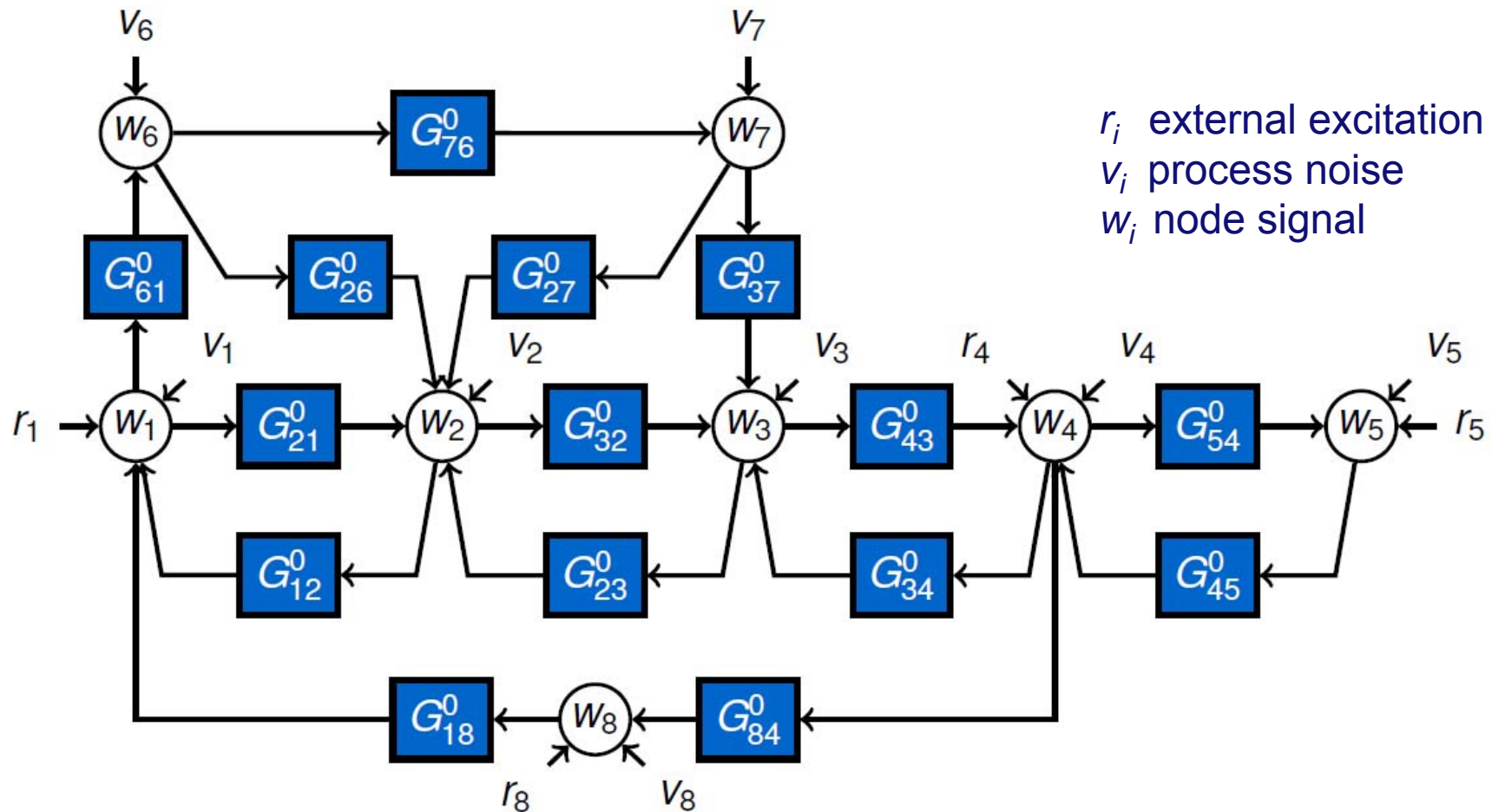
Target:  
Identify interaction dynamics

$G_{21}, G_{12}$

Addressed by  
Gudi & Rawlings (2006)  
for the situation  $G_{12} = 0$   
(no cycles)



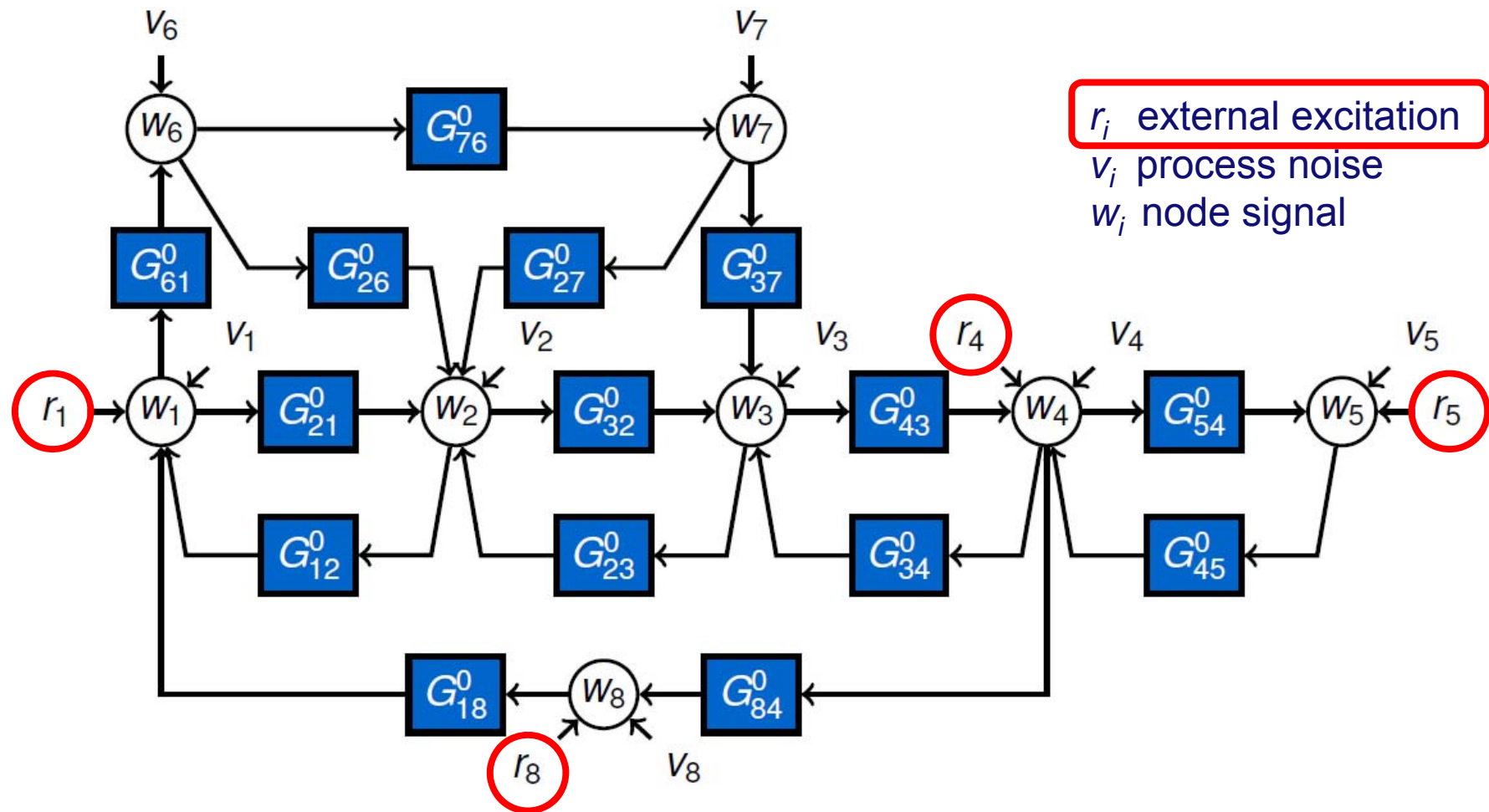
# Introduction – Dynamic network identification



Some modules may be known (e.g. controllers)

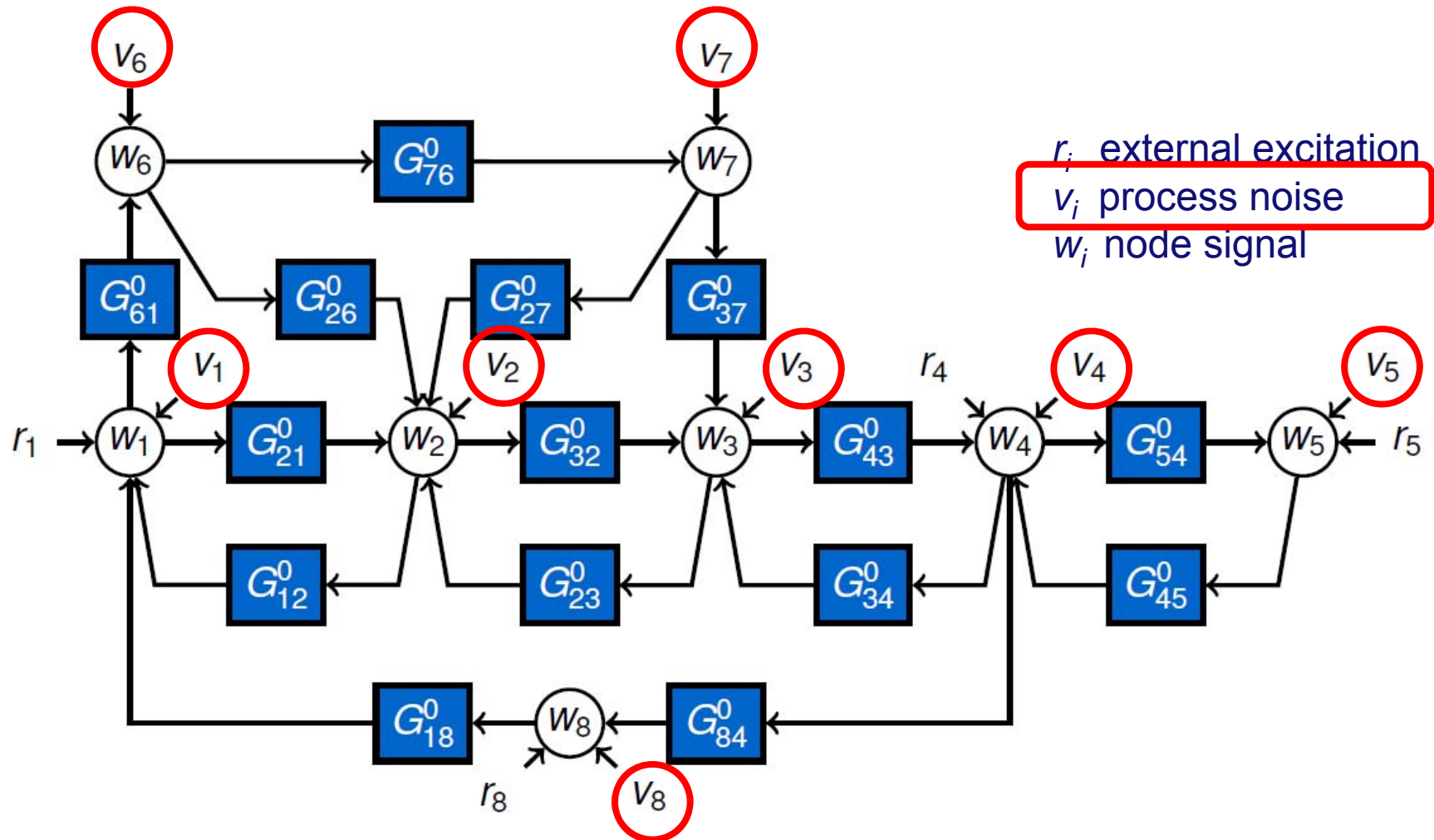


# Introduction – Dynamic network identification



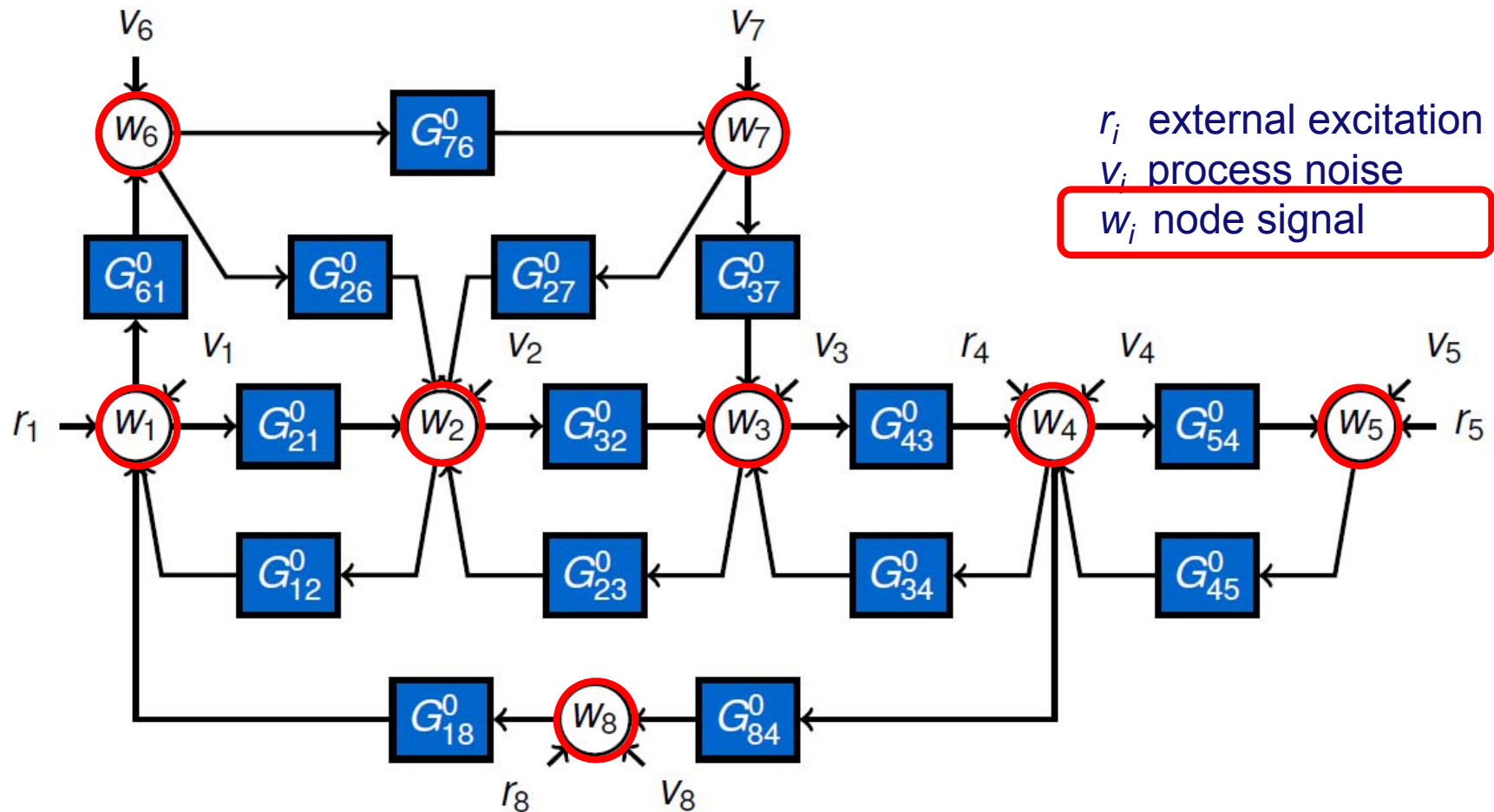
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# Introduction – Dynamic network identification



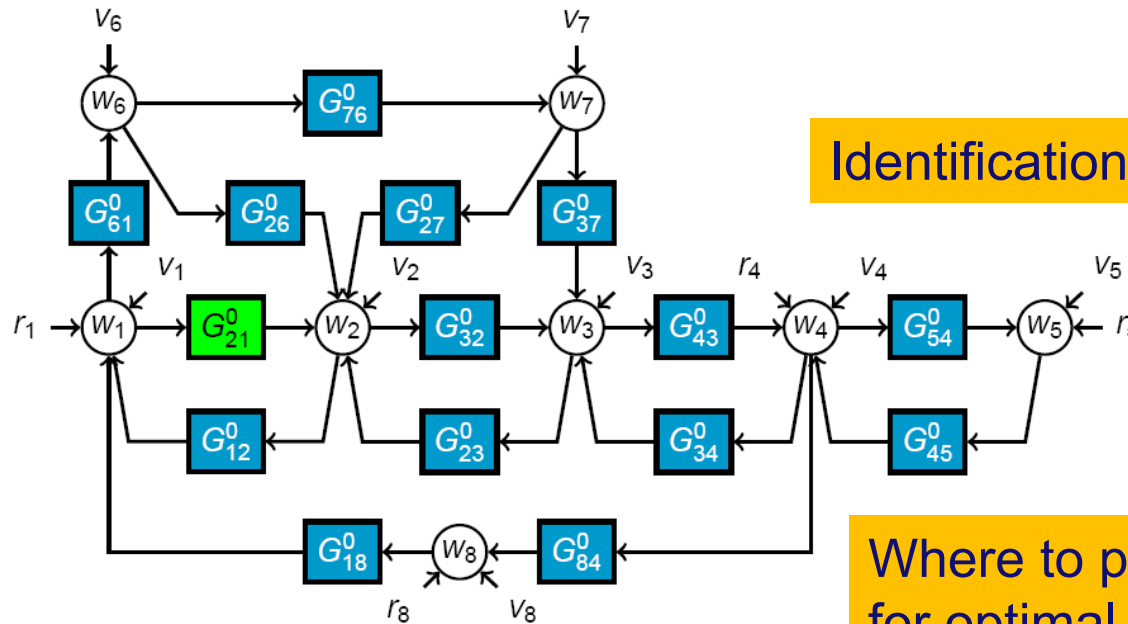
Some modules may be known (e.g. controllers)

# Introduction – Dynamic network identification



Some modules may be known (e.g. controllers)

# Introduction – relevant identification questions



Identification of a single (local) module?

Where to place sensors and actuators for optimal accuracy?

How to utilize known structure/topology and known modules?

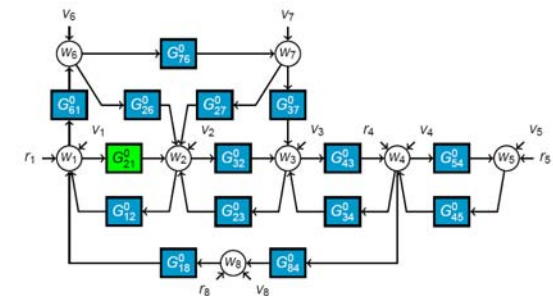
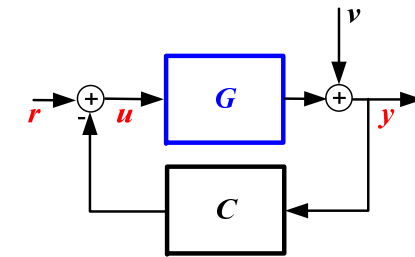
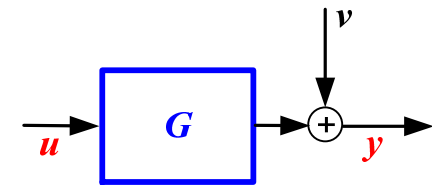
Can we identify the topology?

Is the full network identifiable?

# Contents

## Towards dynamic network identification

- **Basic identification tools: direct and projection**
  - From closed-loop to dynamic networks
- **Single module identification - consistency**
  - full MISO models
  - predictor input selection
- **Example of decentralized control**
- **Additional results and discussion**



# Methods for closed-loop identification

## 1. Direct method

Relying on full-order noise modelling;  
Prediction error

$$\varepsilon(t, \theta) = H(\theta)^{-1} [y(t) - G(\theta)u(t)]$$

Using only signals  $u$  and  $y$ , discarding  $r$

$$\hat{\theta}_N = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N \varepsilon(t, \theta)^2$$

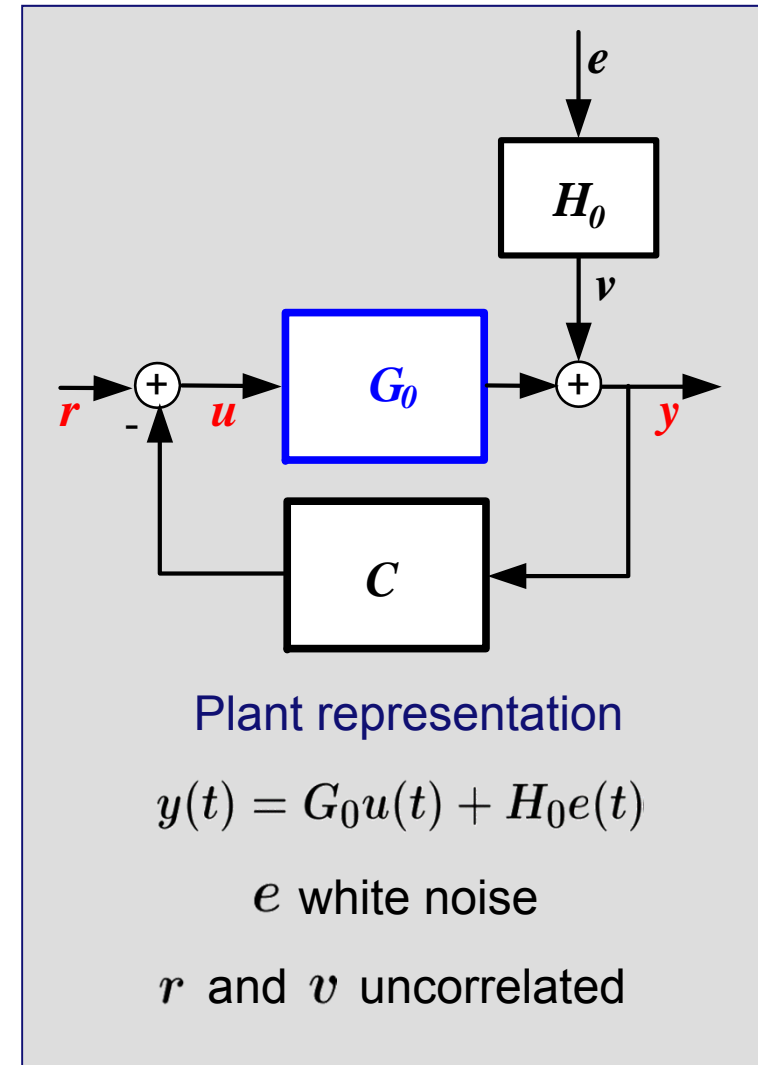
## 2. Projection/two-stage/IV method

Relying on measured external excitation  $r$

$$\varepsilon(t, \theta) = H(\rho)^{-1} [y(t) - G(\theta)u^r(t)]$$

with  $u^r$  the signal  $u$  projected onto  $r$

Similar least squares criterion.



# Methods for closed-loop identification

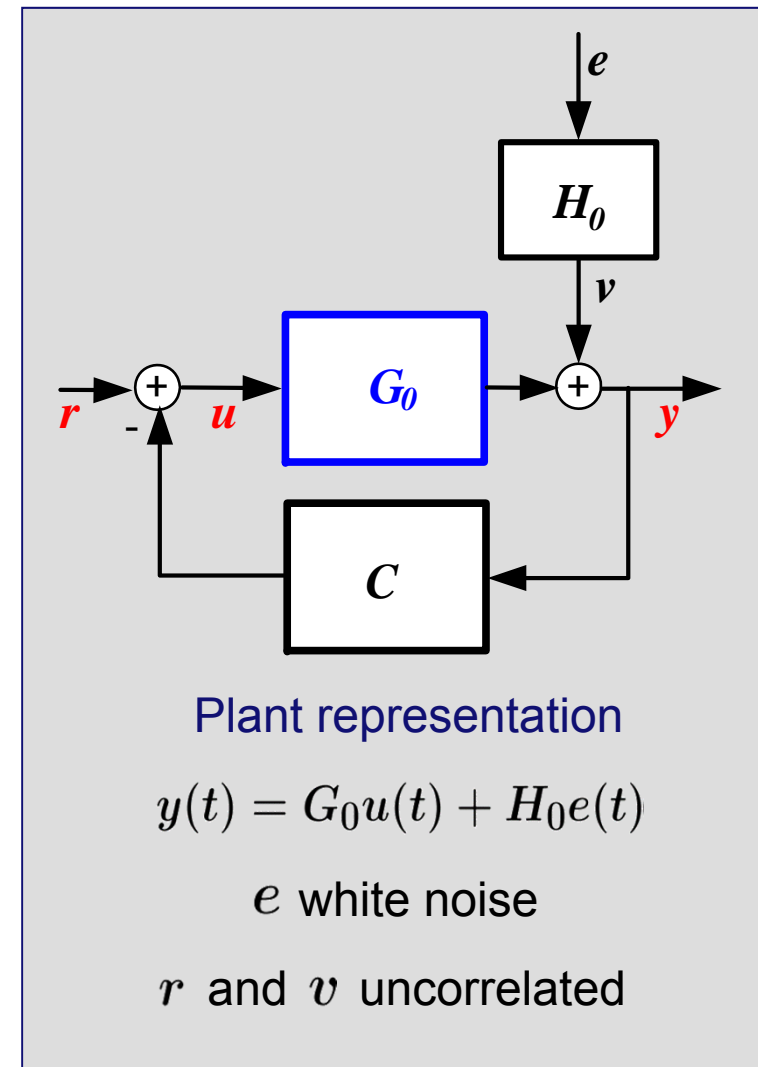
## 1. Direct method [Ljung, 1987]

Consistent estimate of  $\{G_0, H_0\}$   
provided that  $u$  is sufficiently exciting

## 2. Projection/two-stage/IV method

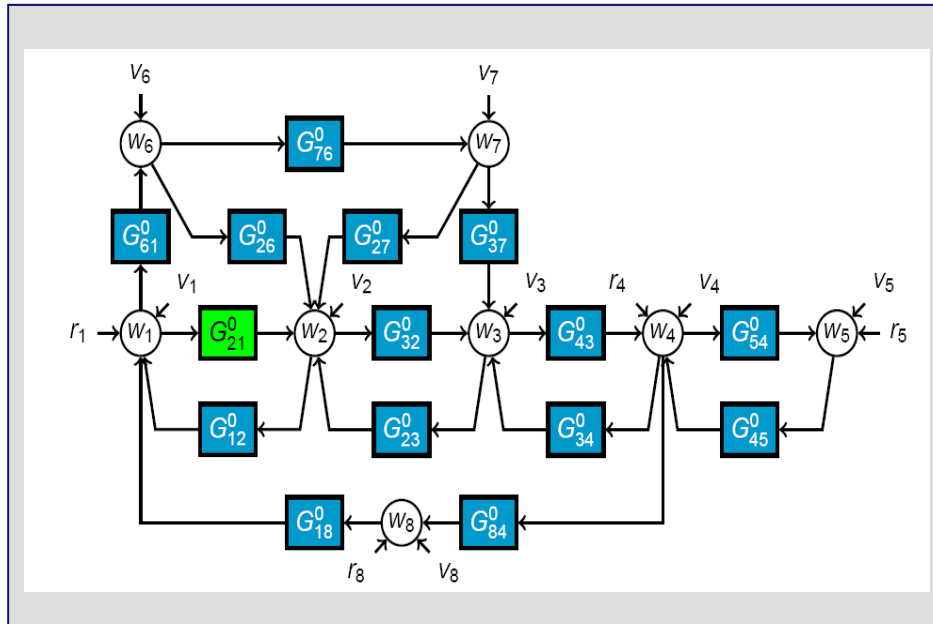
[Van den Hof & Schrama, 1993]

Consistent estimate of  $G_0$   
provided that  $u^T$  is sufficiently exciting





# Network Setup



## Assumptions:

- Total of  $L$  nodes
- Network is well-posed  
 $I - G^0$  causally invertible
- Stable (all signals bounded)
- All  $w_m, m = 1, \dots, L$ , measured, as well as all present  $r_m$
- Modules may be unstable

$$\begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_L \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & G^0_{12} & \cdots & G^0_{1L} \\ G^0_{21} & 0 & \cdots & G^0_{2L} \\ \vdots & \cdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ G^0_{L1} & G^0_{L2} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{G^0} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_L \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ \vdots \\ r_L \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_L \end{bmatrix}$$

# Identifying a module

## Options for identifying a module:

- Identify the **full MIMO system**:

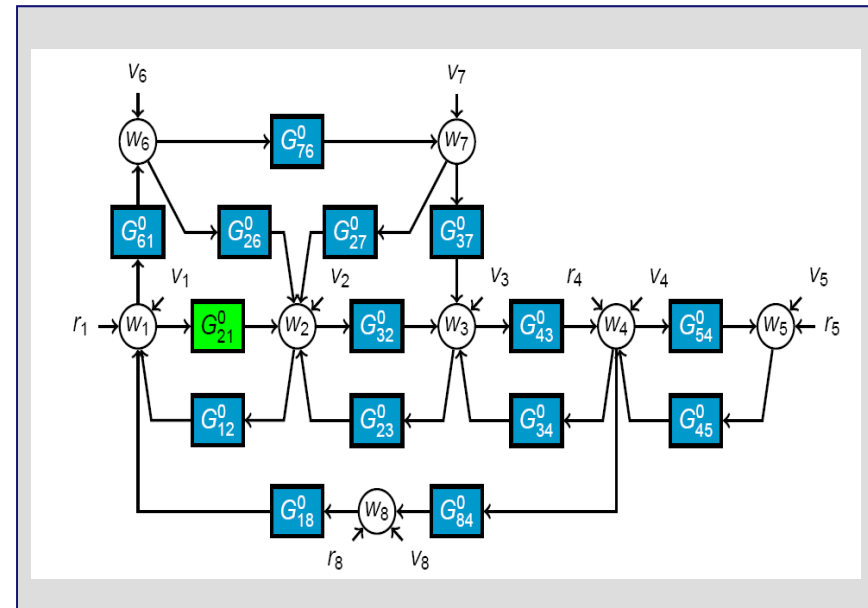
$$\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{G}^0)^{-1}[\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{v}]$$

from measured  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$ .

Global approach with “standard” tools

- Identify a **local (set of) module(s)** from a (sub)set of measured  $\mathbf{r}_k$  and  $\mathbf{w}_\ell$

Local approach with “new” tools and structural conditions



# Identifying a module

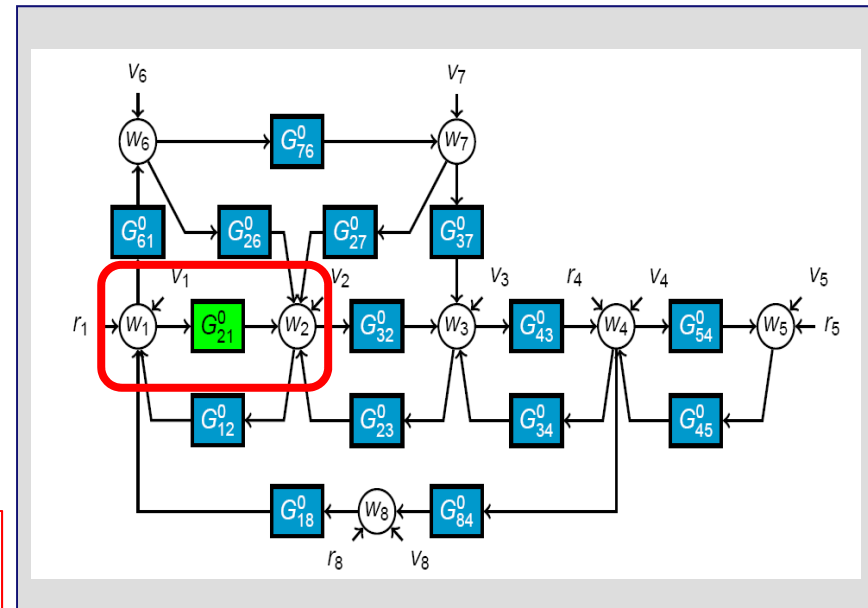
How to identify a module:

Suppose we are interested in  $G_{21}^0$

Can it be identified from measured input  $w_1$  and output  $w_2$ ?



Typically bias will occur due to “neglecting” the rest of the network



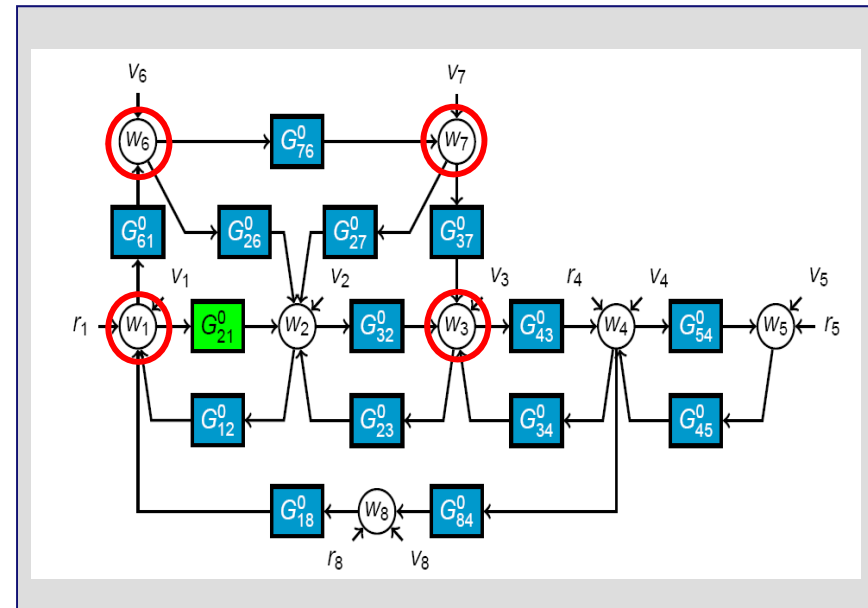
- Non-modelled disturbances on  $w_2$  can create problems
- The observed transfer between  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  is not necessarily  $G_{21}^0$

# Identifying a module

## How to identify a module:

### Two approaches for finding $G_{21}^0$

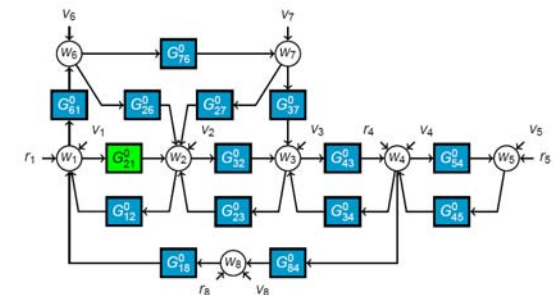
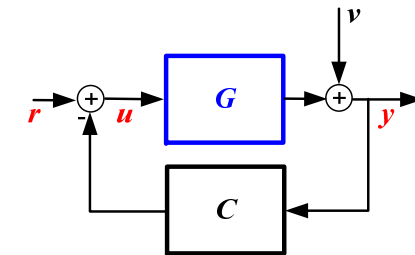
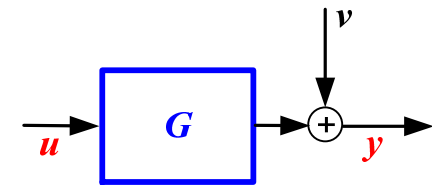
- **Full MISO approach:**  
Include all node signals that directly map into  $w_2$  in an input vector, and identify a MISO model
- **Predictor input selection:**  
Formulate conditions for checking the sufficiency of set of nodes to include as inputs in a MISO model



# Contents

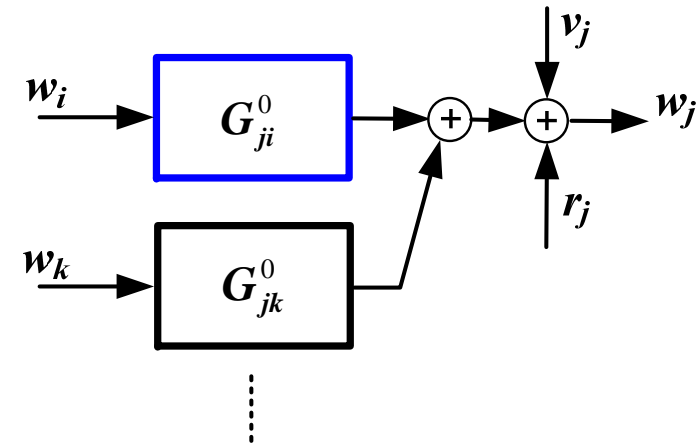
## Towards dynamic network identification

- **Basic identification tools: direct and projection**
  - From closed-loop to dynamic networks
- **Single module identification - consistency**
  - full MISO models
  - predictor input selection
- **Example of decentralized control**
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# Full MISO models – Direct method

- Module of interest:  $G_{ji}^0$
- Separate the modules  $G_{jk}^0$  into
  - known** modules:  $G_{jk}^0, k \in \mathcal{K}_j$
  - and **unknown** modules:  $G_{jk}^0, k \in \mathcal{U}_j$



- Determine:  $\bar{w}_j(t) = w_j(t) - r_j(t) - \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_j} G_{jk}^0(q)w_k(t)$
- Prediction error:  $\varepsilon(t, \theta) = H_j(\theta)^{-1}[\bar{w}_j(t) - \sum_{k \in \mathcal{U}_j} G_{jk}(\theta)w_k(t)]$

➔ Simultaneous identification of  $G_{jk}^0, k \in \mathcal{U}_j$  and  $H_j^0$

➔ Consistent estimates if  $\{w_k\}_{k \in \mathcal{U}_j}$  sufficiently exciting, and  $\Phi_v(\omega)$  diagonal

[P.M.J. Van den Hof et al., *Automatica*, October 2013]

# Network Identification – Projection method

## Algorithm:

- Find an  $r_m$  with a path to  $w_i$  such that  $w_i^{r_m}$  is present

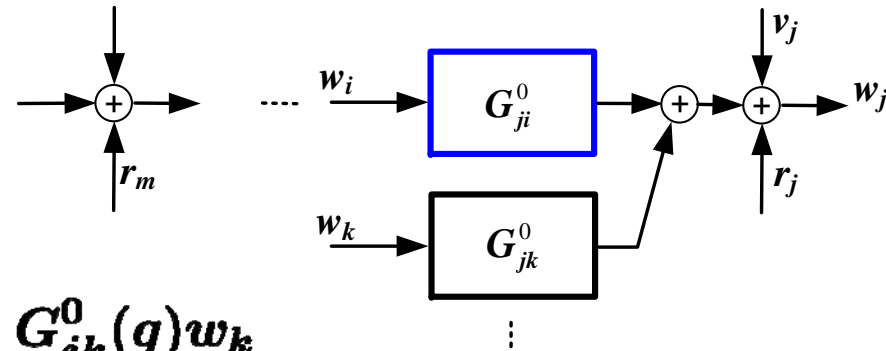
- Construct:

$$\bar{w}_j = w_j - r_j - \underbrace{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_j} G_{jk}^0(q) w_k}_{\text{known terms}}$$

known terms

- Prediction error:  $\varepsilon(t, \theta) = H_j(\rho)^{-1} [\bar{w}_j - \sum_{k \in \mathcal{U}_{i_s}} G_{jk}(\theta) w_k^{r_m}]$

where all inputs  $k \in \mathcal{U}_{i_s} \subset \mathcal{U}_j$  are considered that are correlated to  $r_m$



Consistent identification of  $G_{jk}^0$ ,  $k \in \mathcal{U}_{i_s}$  provided that  $\{w_k^{r_m}\}_{k \in \mathcal{U}_{i_s}}$  sufficiently exciting

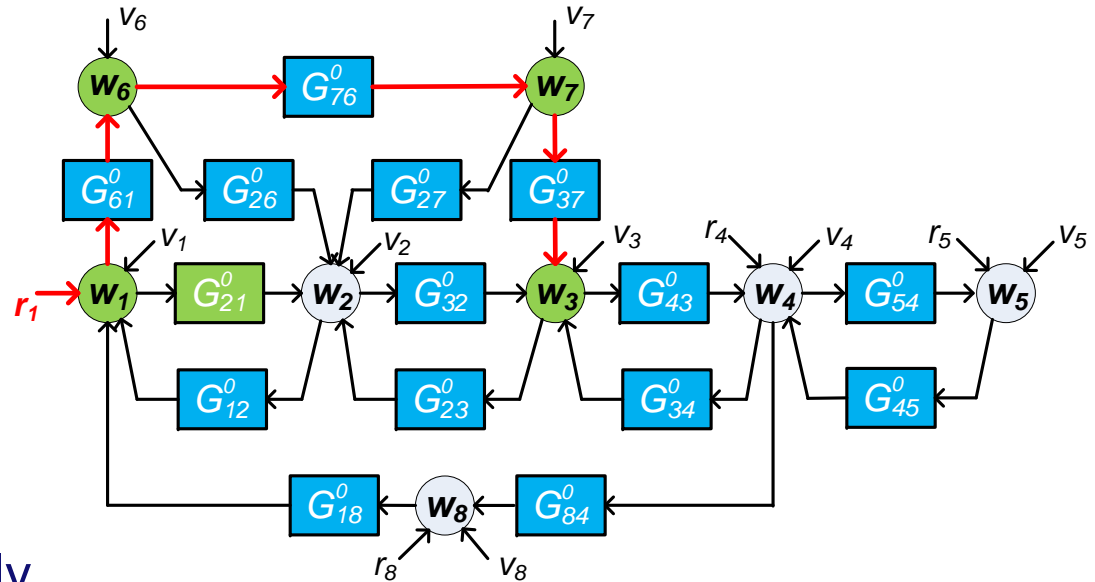
- This extends to multiple signals  $r_m$



# Network Identification – Two-stage method

## Example

- External signal  $r_1$
- Input nodes to  $w_2$  that are correlated with  $r_1$  :  $w_1, w_6, w_7, w_3$
- So 4 input, 1 output problem
- Projected inputs will generally not be sufficiently exciting (we need 4 independent sources)
- Include  $r_4, r_5$  and  $r_8$  as external signals
- Input nodes remain the same as for direct method



# Network Identification – Full MISO models

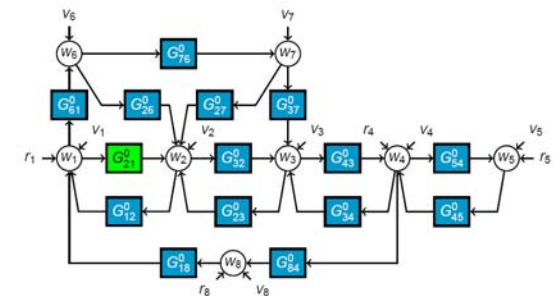
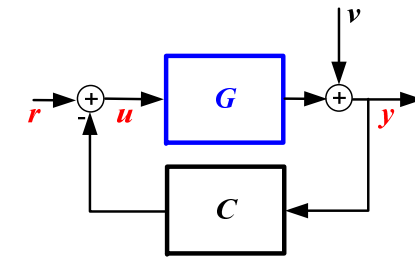
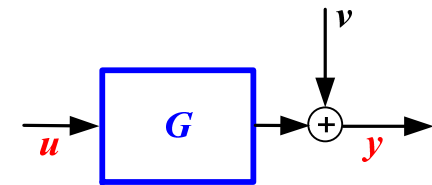
## Observations:

- Consistent identification of single transfers is possible, dependent on network topology and reference excitation
- Choice between estimating accurate noise models (direct method) and utilizing reference excitation (projection method)
- Excitation conditions on (projected) input signals can be limiting
- Network topology conditions on  $r_m$  can simply be checked by tools from graph theory

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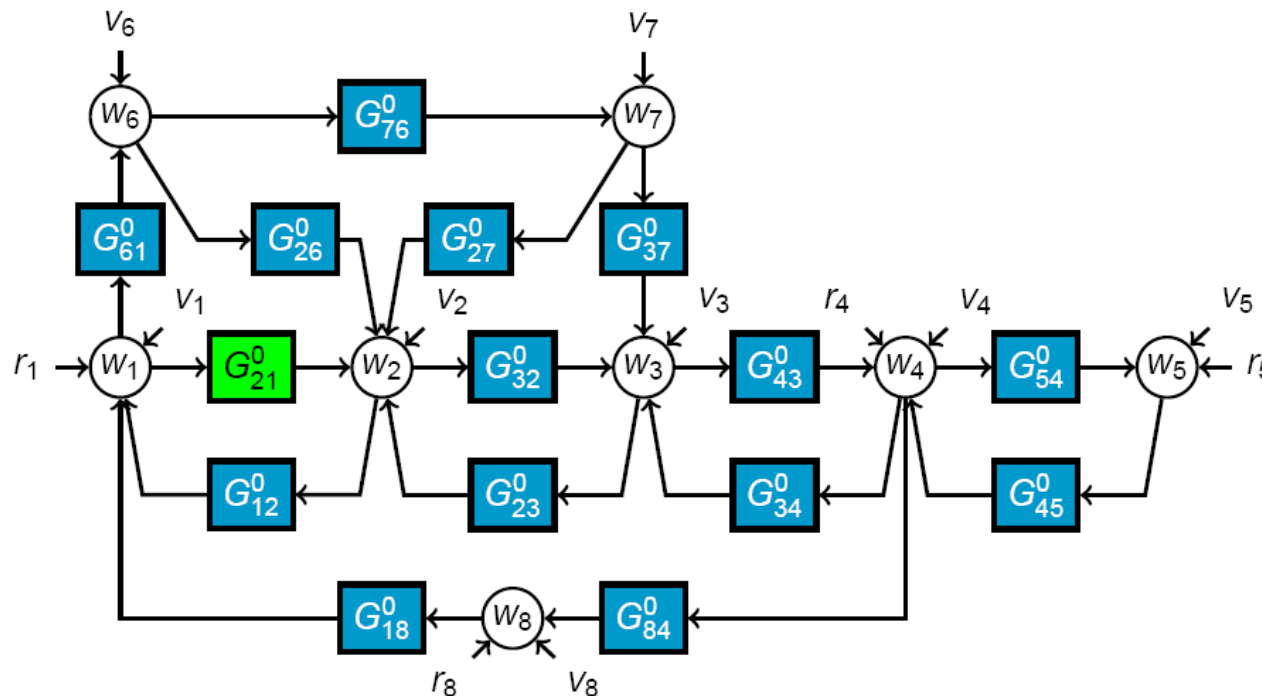
# Predictor input selection

- So far: predictor input choice not very flexible
- What if some signals are hard (expensive) to measure?
- What if we would like to have flexibility in placing sensors?
- Can we formulate (more relaxed) conditions on nodes to be measured, for allowing a consistent module estimate?

# Predictor input selection

There are two basic mechanisms that “deteriorate” the transfer  $G_{ji}^0$  when nodes are removed:

1. Parallel paths
2. Loops around  $w_j$



To maintain  $G_{ji}^0$  these should be “blocked” by measured nodes (predictor inputs)

# Predictor input selection: condition 1 and 2

**Objective:** obtain an estimate of  $G_{ji}^0$

**Consistent** estimates of  $G_{ji}^0$  are possible if:

1.  $w_i$  is included as predictor input
2. Each **parallel path** from  $w_i \rightarrow w_j$  passes through a node chosen as predictor input
3. Each **loop** from  $w_j \rightarrow w_j$  passes through a node chosen as predictor input





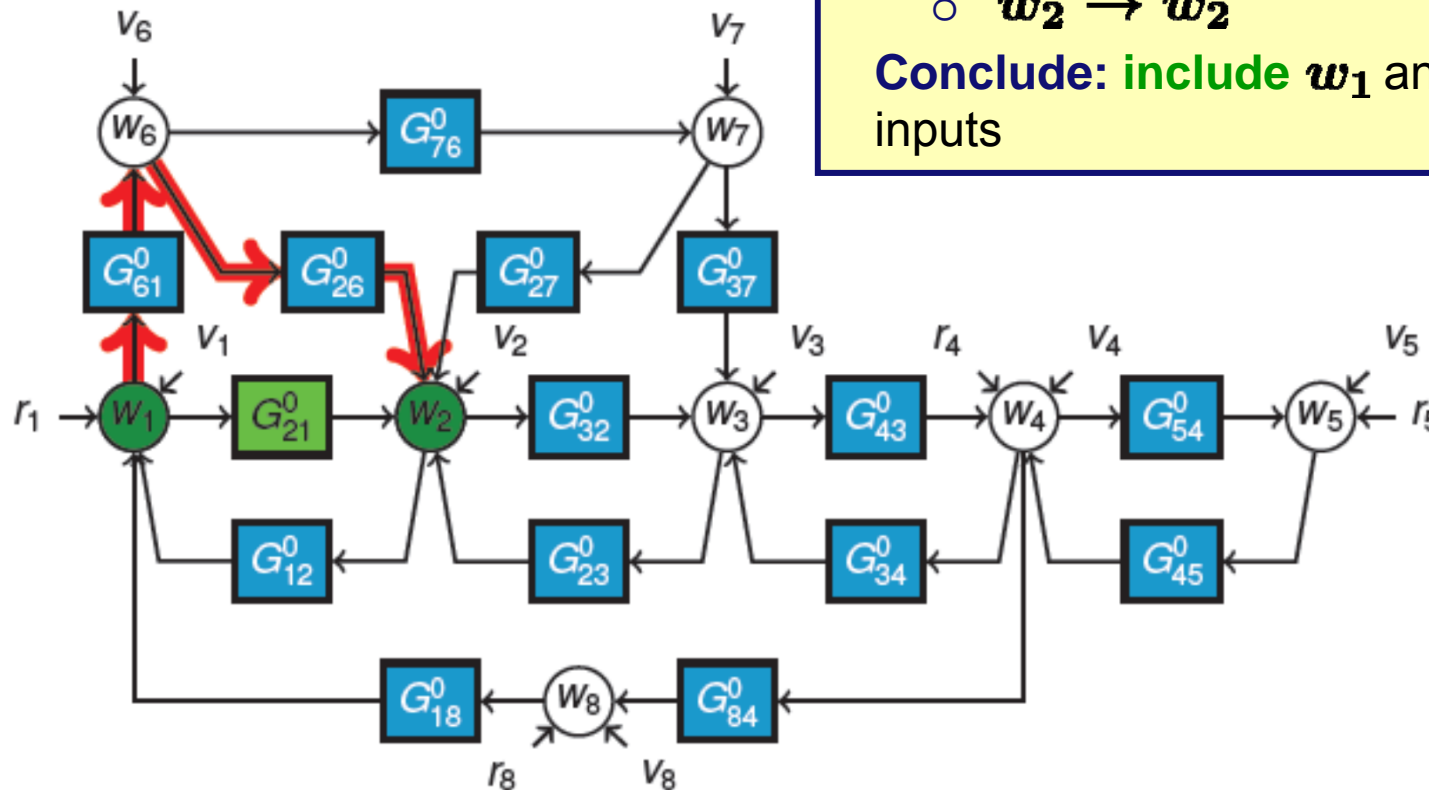
# Example with predictor input conditions

**Objective:** Estimate  $G_{21}^0$ .

**Conditions:** Include variable on every path

- $w_1 \rightarrow w_2$
- $w_2 \rightarrow w_2$

**Conclude:** include  $w_1$  and ... as predictor inputs



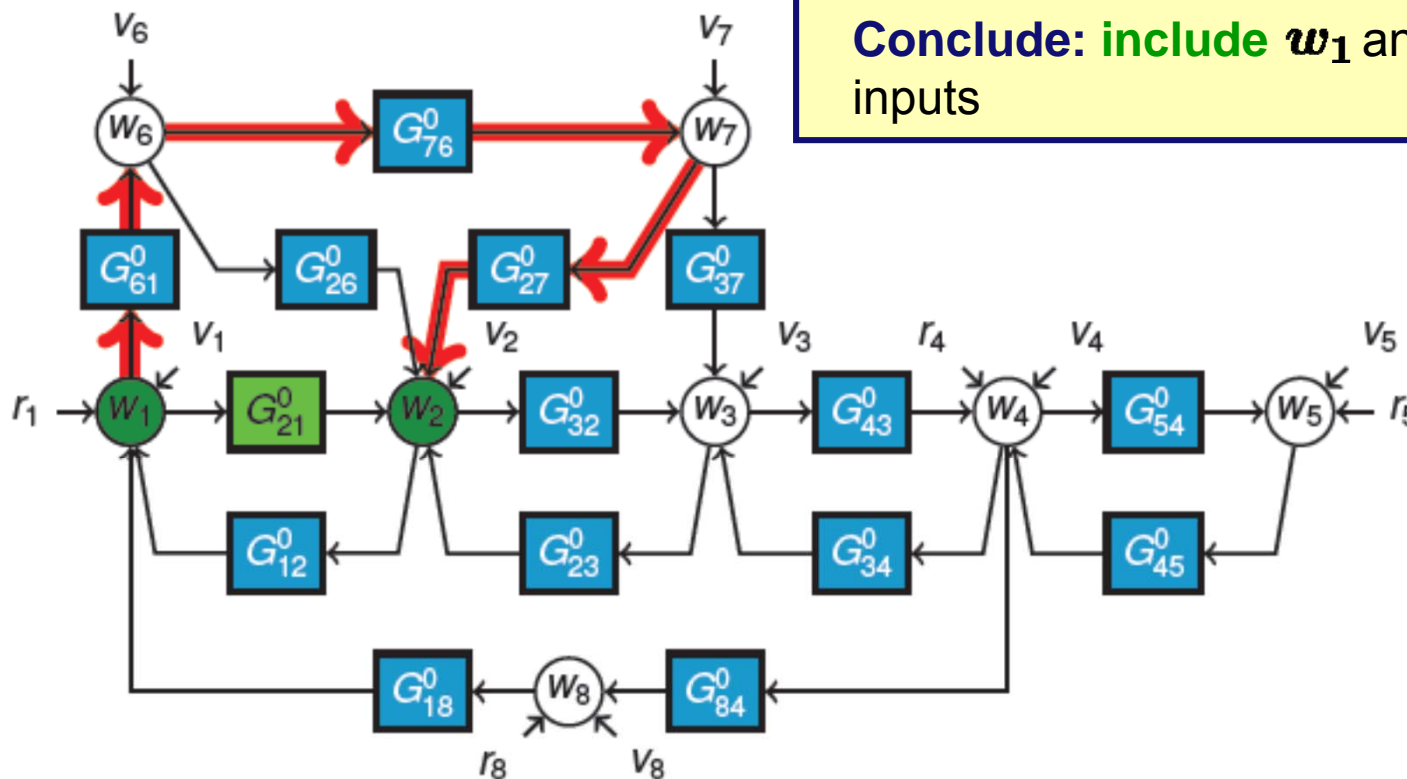
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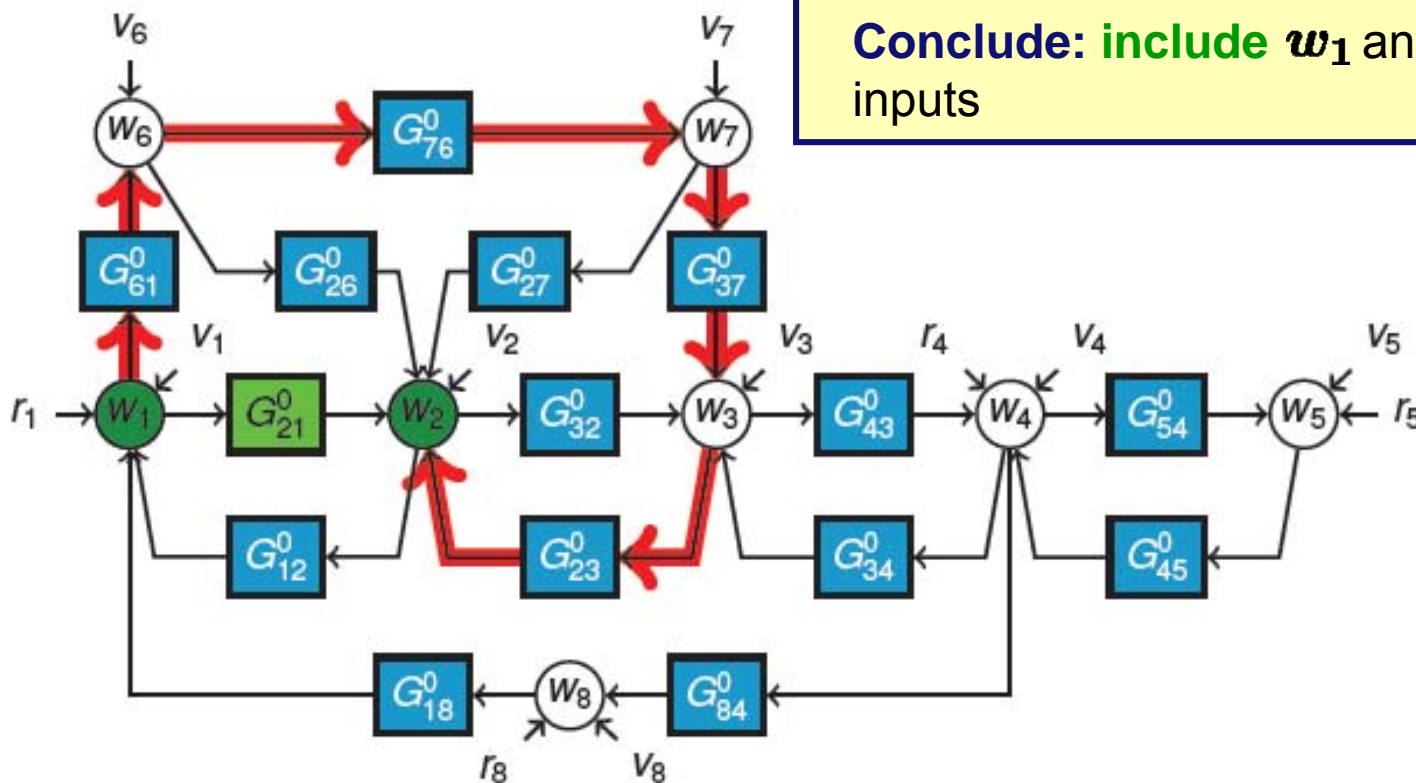
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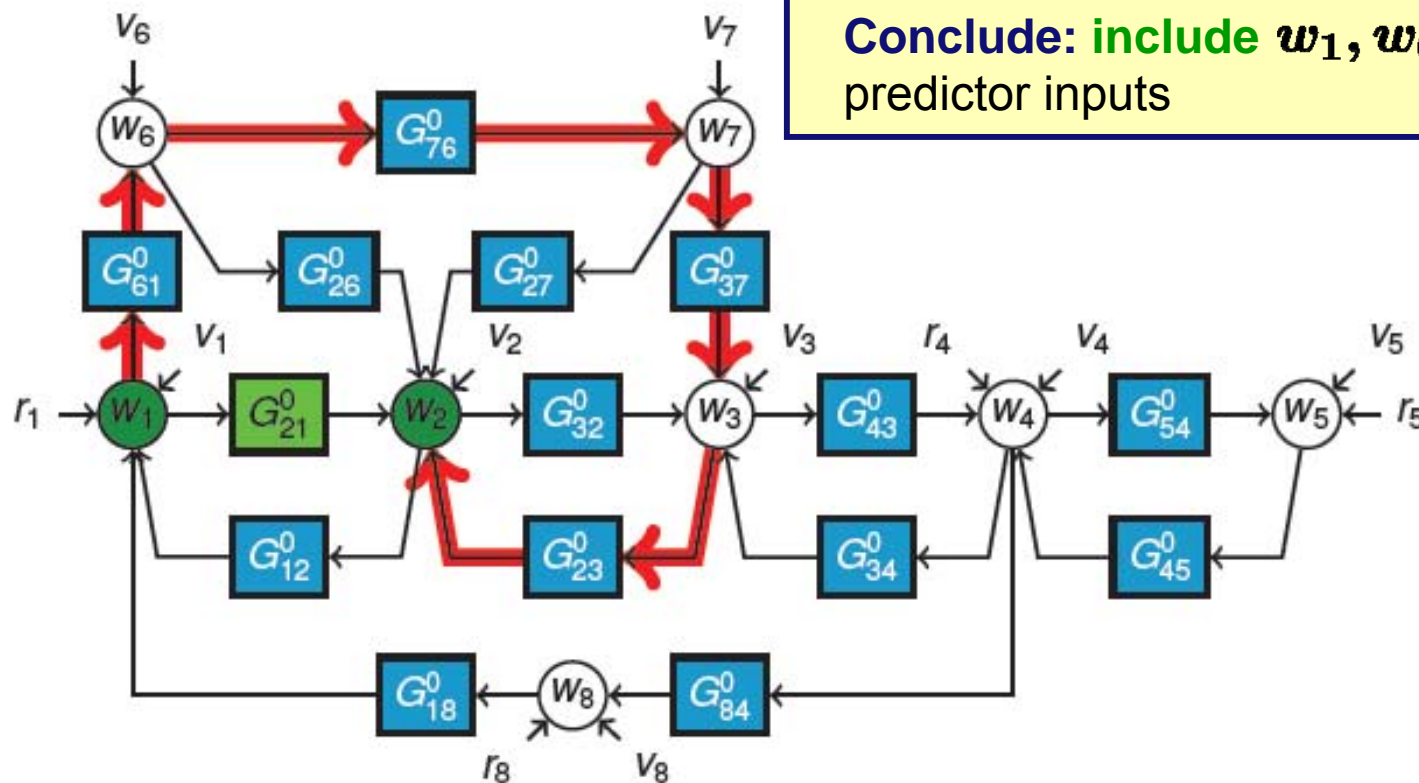
# Example with predictor input conditions

**Objective:** Estimate  $G_{21}^0$ .

**Conditions:** Include variable on every path

- $w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \rightarrow$  Include  $w_6$  in predictor
- $w_2 \rightarrow w_2$

**Conclude:** include  $w_1, w_6$  and ... as predictor inputs



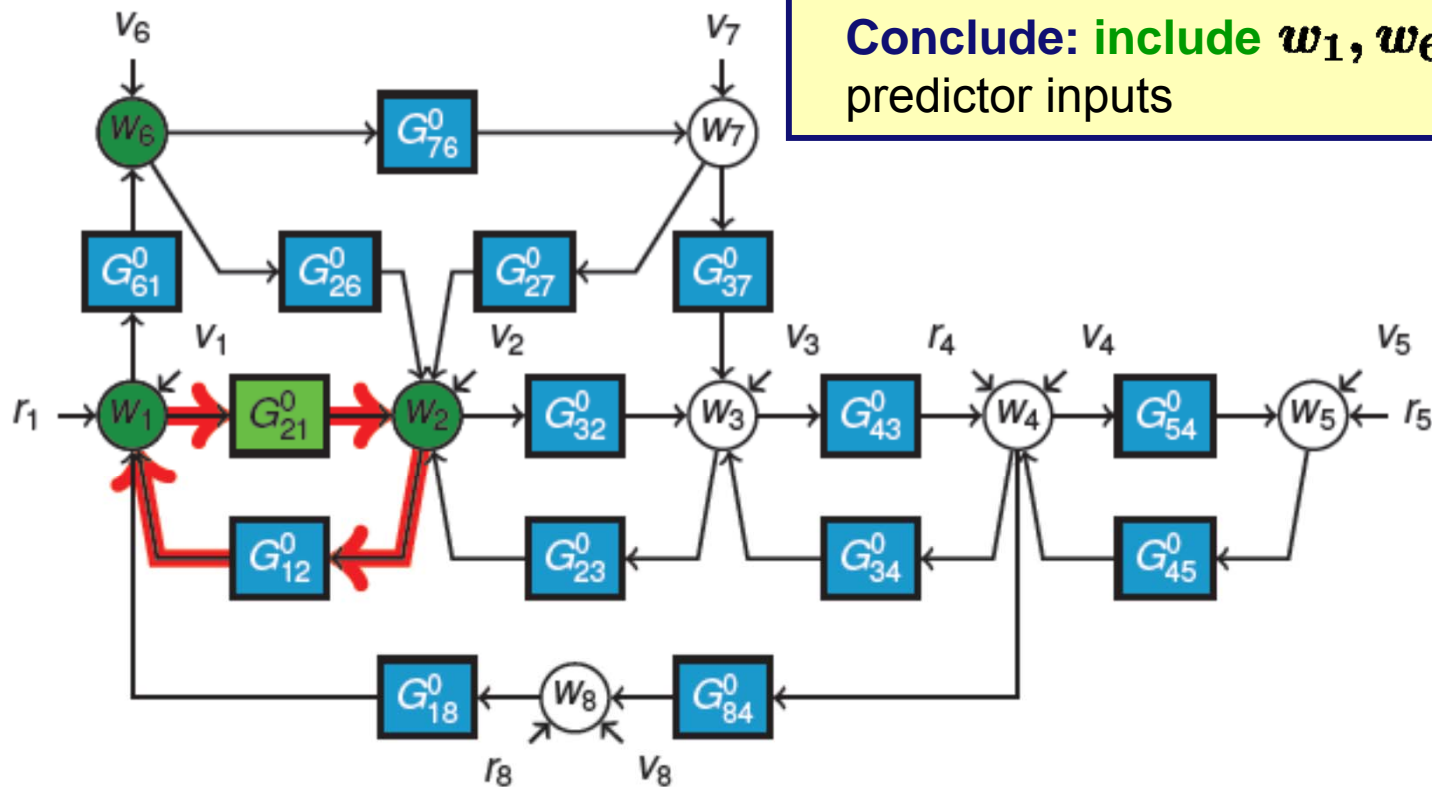
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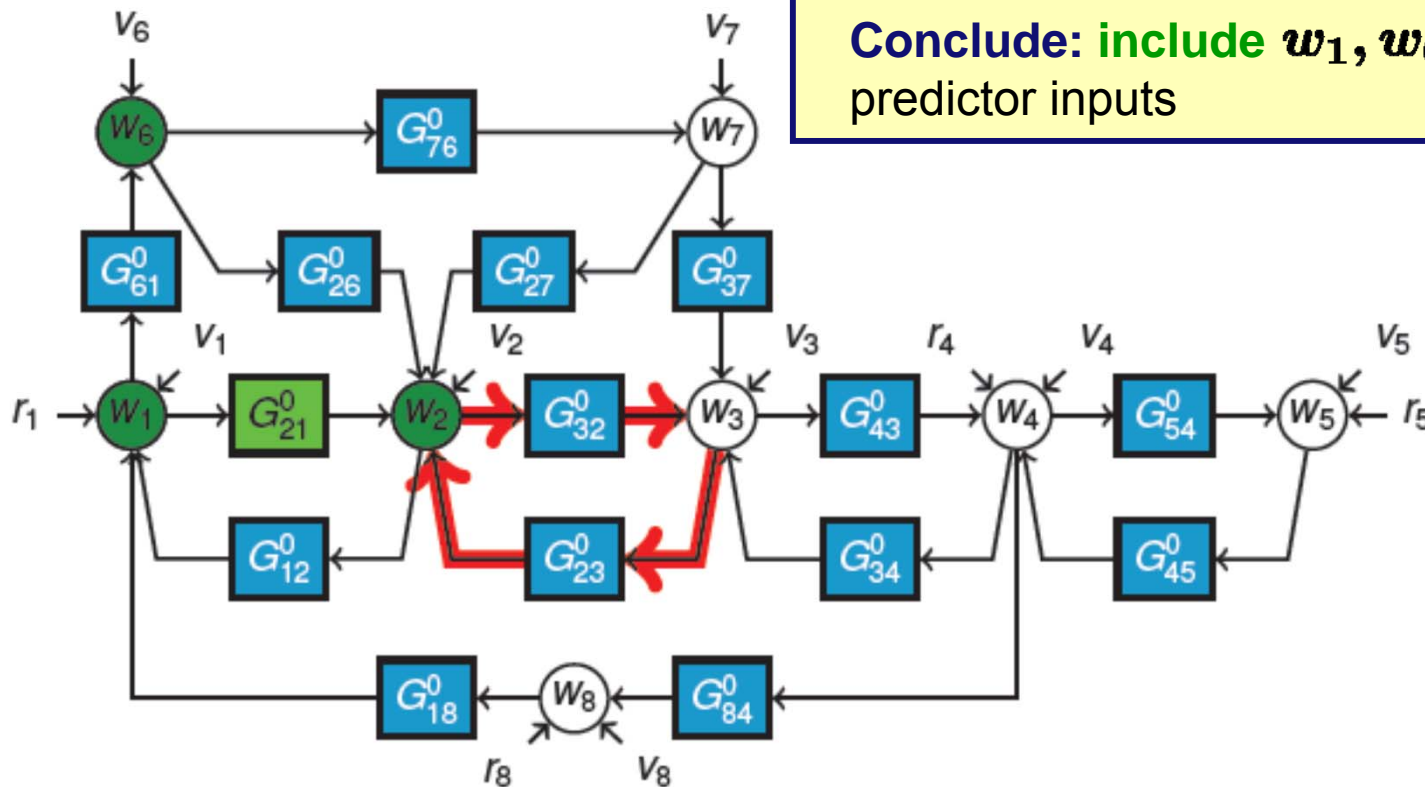
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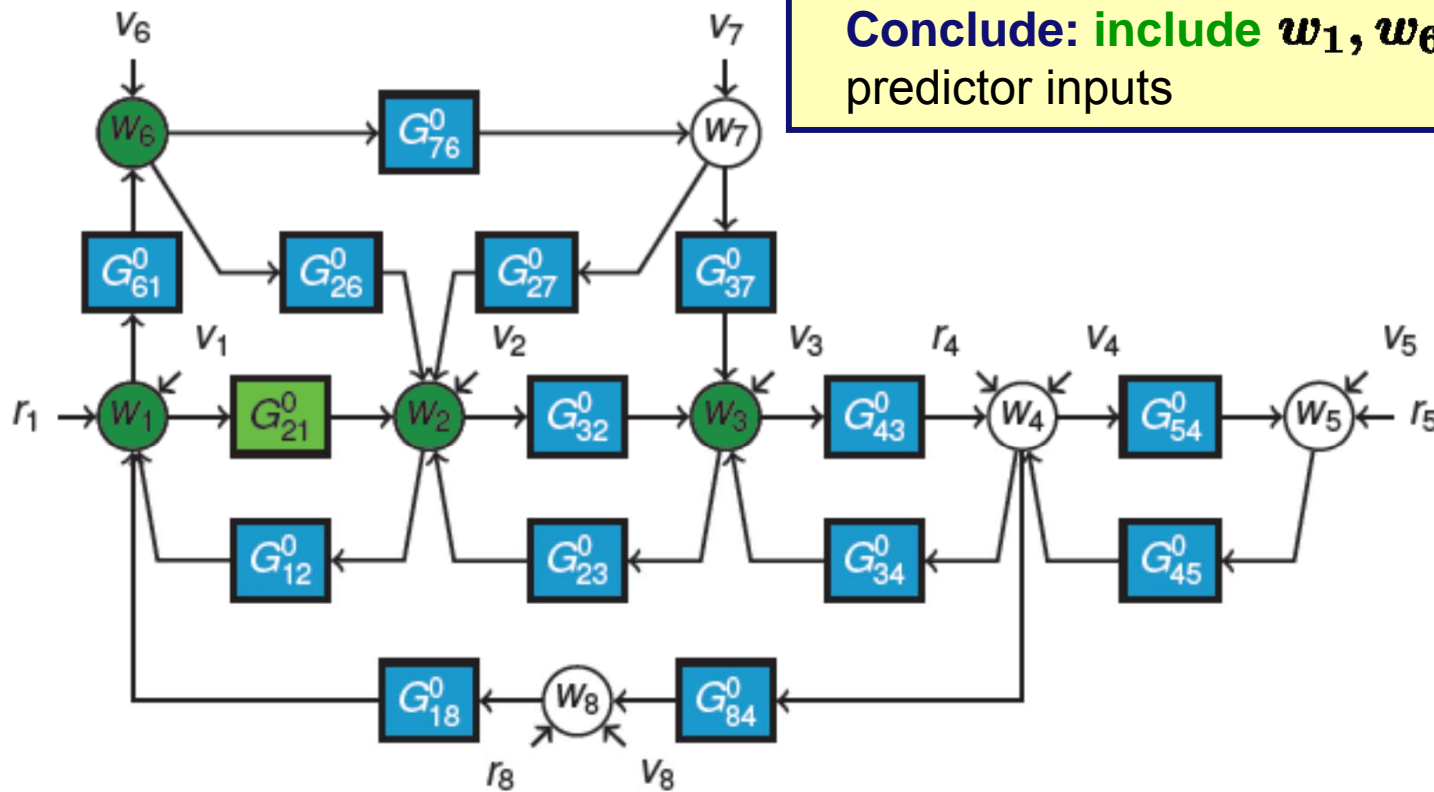
# Example with predictor input conditions

**Objective:** Estimate  $G_{21}^0$ .

**Conditions:** Include variable on every path

- $w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \Rightarrow$  Include  $w_6$  in predictor
- $w_2 \rightarrow w_2 \Rightarrow$  Include  $w_3$  in predictor

**Conclude:** include  $w_1, w_6$  and  $w_3$  as predictor inputs





# Predictor input selection

## Result

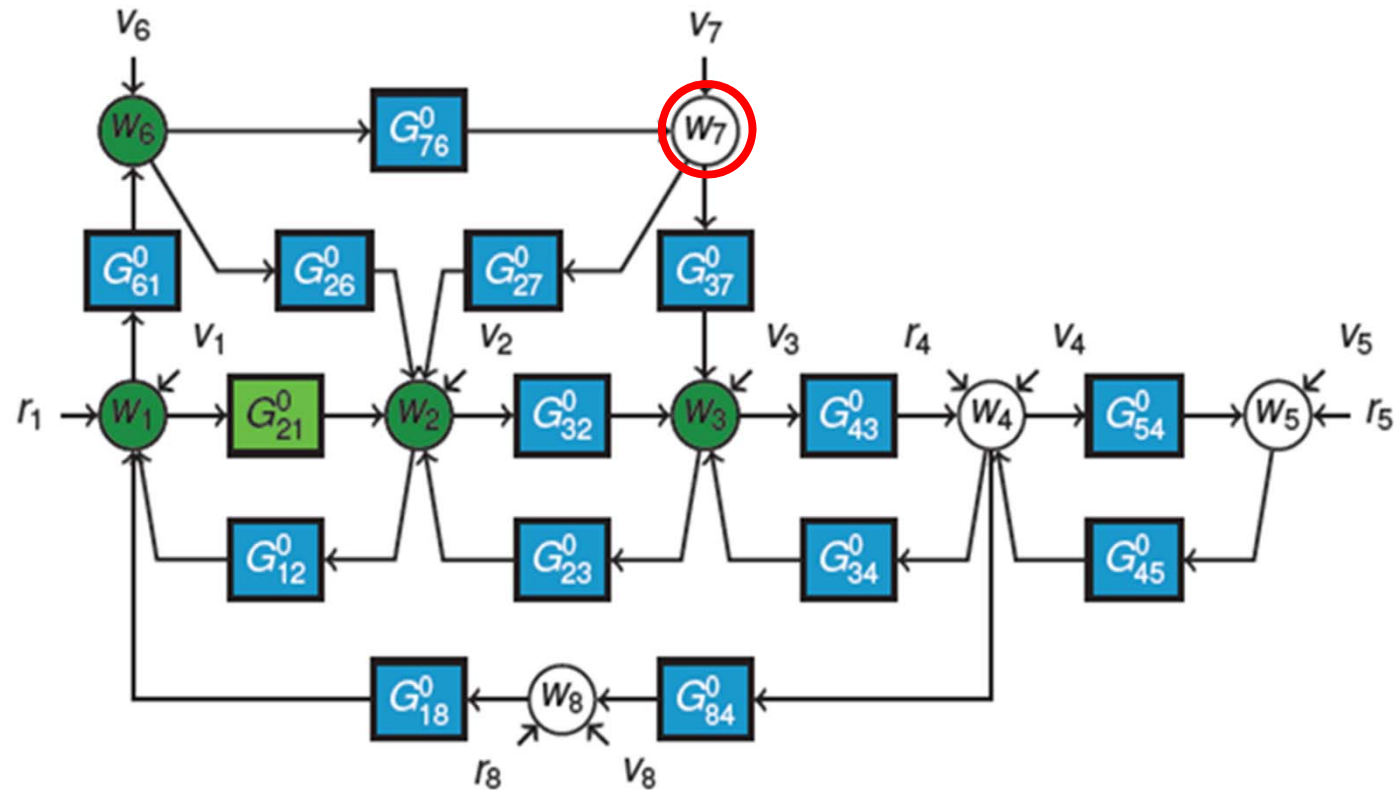
The consistency results of both **direct** and **projection** method remain valid if

- the set  $\mathcal{D}_j$  of predictor inputs satisfies the formulated conditions
- For the **direct** method: there are no **confounding variables**
- For the **projection** method: no excitation signal used for projection, has a path to  $w_j$  that does not pass through a node in  $\mathcal{D}_j$

In the “full” MISO case: consistent estimates of all  $G_{jk}^0$ ,  $k \in \mathcal{U}_j$

In the “selected” predictor input case: consistent estimates of  $G_{ji}^0$

# Predictor input selection



For **direct** method:  $w_7$  is a *confounding variable* and needs to be included

For **projection** method: no problems

# Immersed network

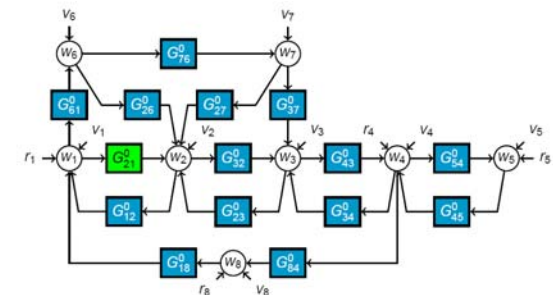
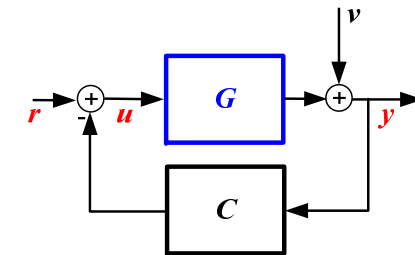
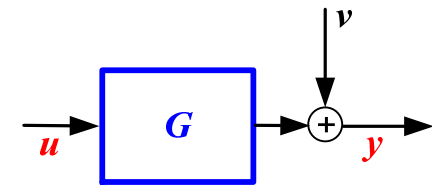
- The two conditions (**parallel paths and loops** on output) result from an analysis of the so-called **immersed network**
- The **immersed network** is constructed on the basis of a reduced number of node variables only, and leaves present node signals **invariant**
- Whether dynamics in the **immersed network** is invariant can be verified with the graph theory/tools of **separating sets**.

[A. Dankers, P.M.J. Van den Hof, P.S.C. Heuberger and X. Bombois. Identification of dynamic models in complex networks with predictor error methods - predictor input selection. IEEE Trans. Automatic Control, april 2016.]

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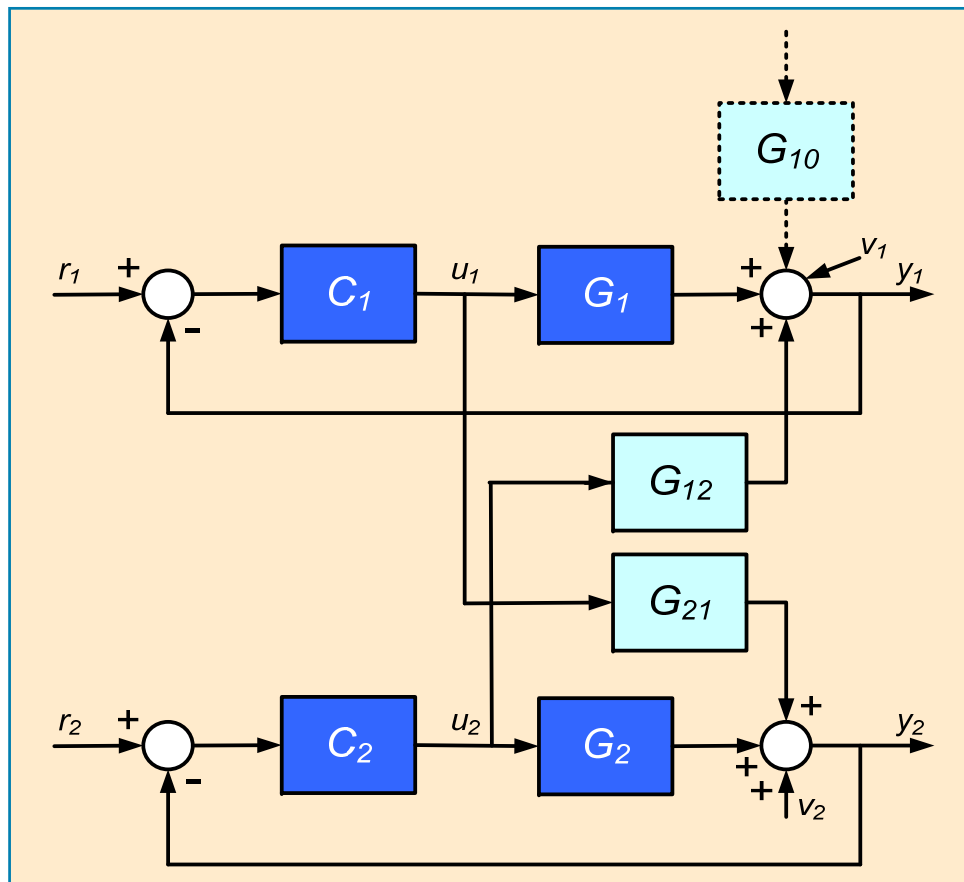
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# Example Decentralized MPC

Example decentralized MPC; 2 interconnected MPC loops



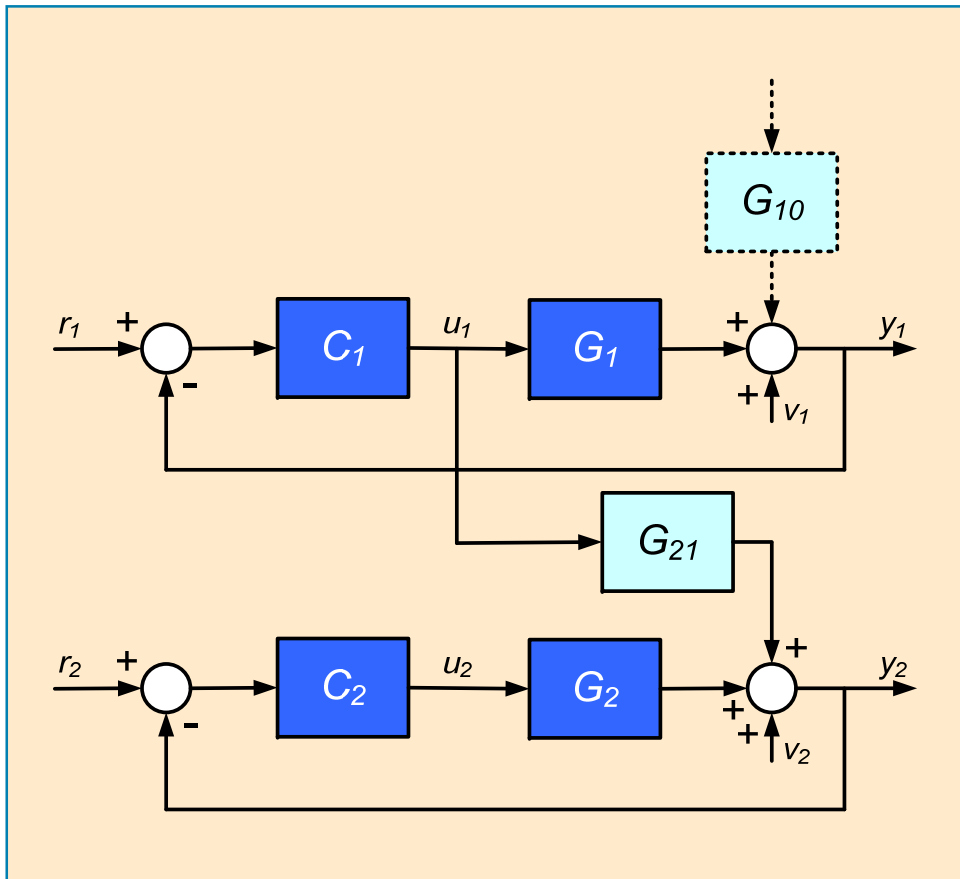
Target:  
Identify interaction dynamics

$G_{21}, G_{12}$

Addressed by  
Gudi & Rawlings (2006)  
for the situation  $G_{12} = 0$   
(no cycles)

# Example decentralized control

Case of Gudi & Rawlings (2006):



**Target:**

Identify interaction dynamics  $G_{21}$

$$u_2 = R_2^i r_2 - R_2^i G_{21} u_1 - R_2^i v_2$$

$$y_2 = S_2^0 G_2 C_2 r_2 + S_2^0 G_{21} u_1 + S_2^0 v_2$$

**Options:**

1. Identify from  $(r_2, u_1) \rightarrow u_2$  and find  $G_{21}$  by taking the quotient of the two models

2. a) Identify  $R_2^i$  from  $r_2 \rightarrow u_2$

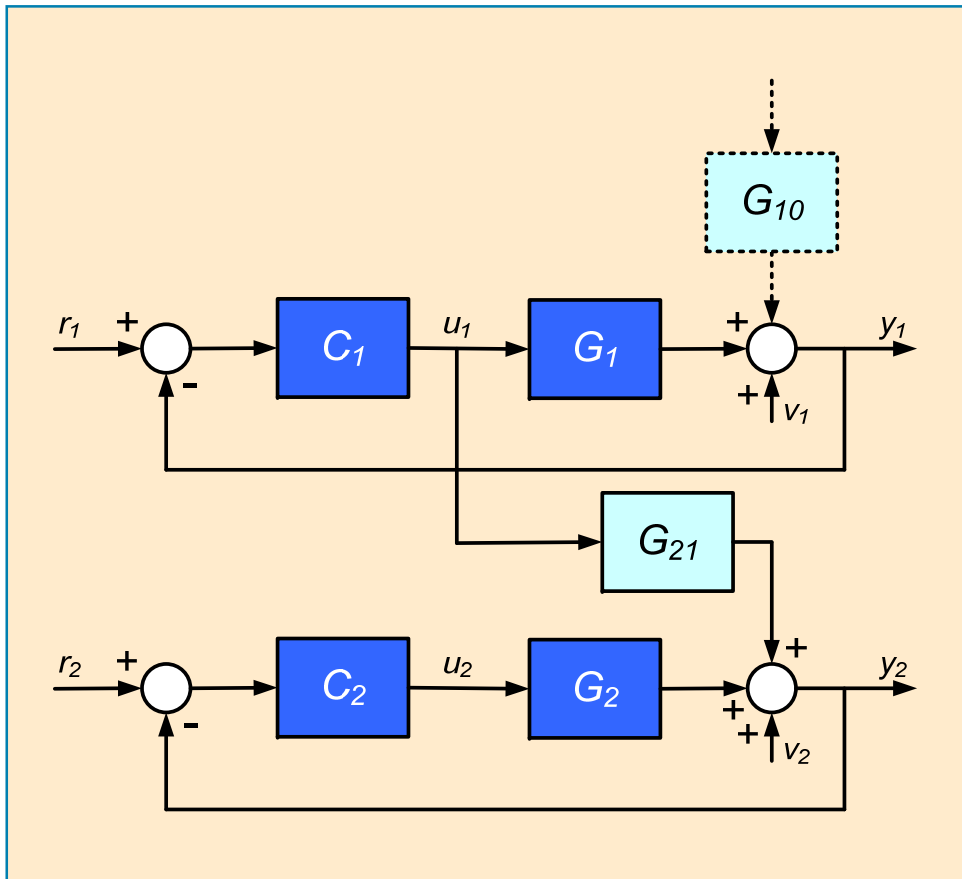
$$\text{Simulate: } u_f = (R_2^i)^{-1} u_2$$

b) Identify  $G_{21}$  from  $u_1 \rightarrow u_f$

Excitation through dither signals on  $r_2$  and  $u_1$

# Example decentralized control

According to **network results** (input selection):



$$y_2 = G_{21}u_1 + G_2u_2 + v_2$$

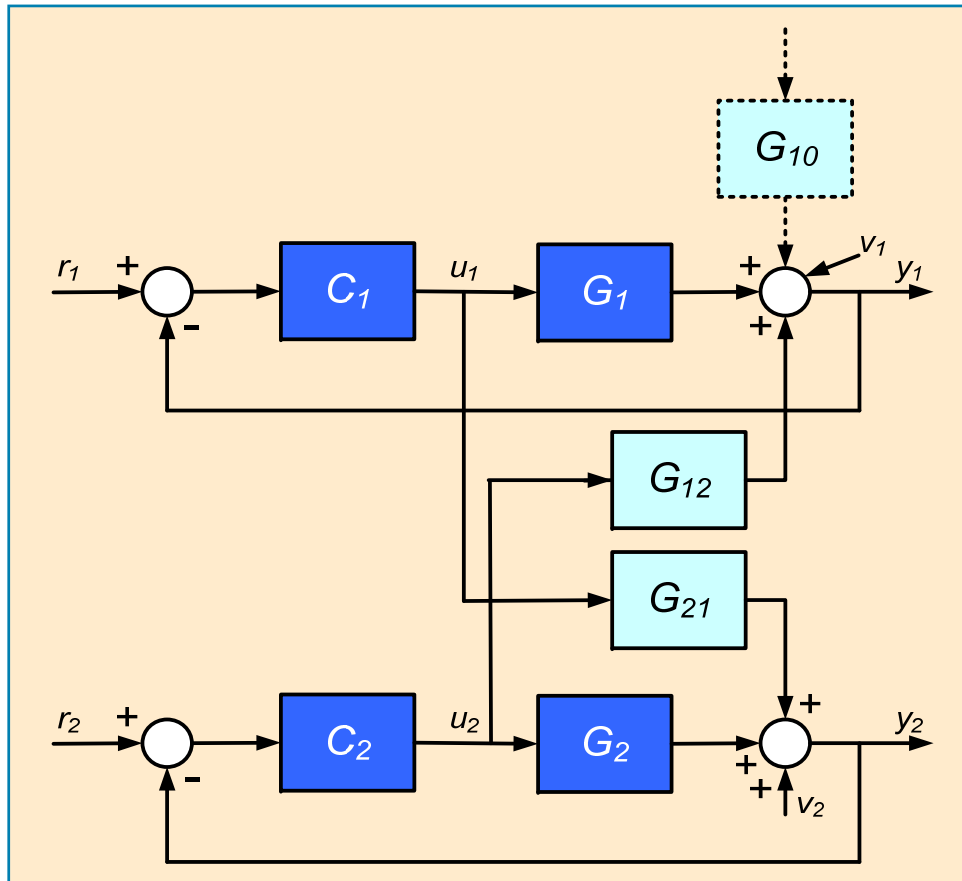
Estimate 2-input 1-output model:  
 $(u_1, u_2) \rightarrow y_2$

provides consistent estimate of  $G_{21}$  through both direct and projection method

- Excitation properties of signals remain important:
- Direct method utilizes excitation through noise signals  $v_1, v_2$

# Example decentralized control

The more general situation (cyclic connection):



$$y_1 = G_1 u_1 + G_{12} u_2 + v_1$$

$$y_2 = G_{21} u_1 + G_2 u_2 + v_2$$

Estimate 2-input 1-output models:

$$(u_1, u_2) \rightarrow y_1$$

$$(u_1, u_2) \rightarrow y_2$$

provides consistent estimates of

$$G_{21}, G_{12}$$

together with  $G_1, G_2$

If plant models  $G_1, G_2$  are *known* the situation simplifies

Direct method and projection-IV method can handle nonlinear  $C_i$



# Example decentralized control

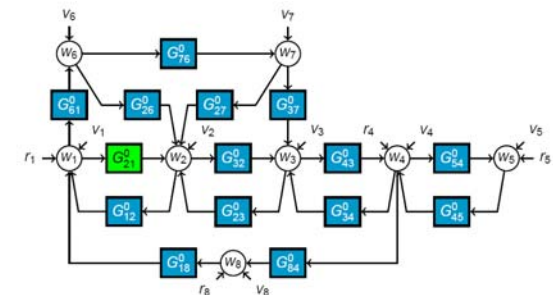
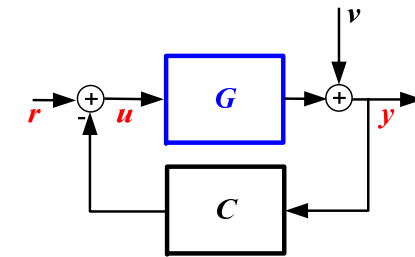
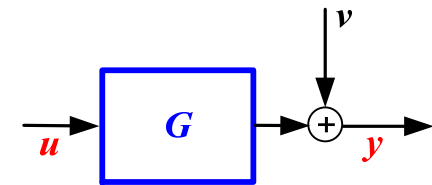
## Observation

Network identification results provide a formal way to handle these structured identification problems.

# Contents

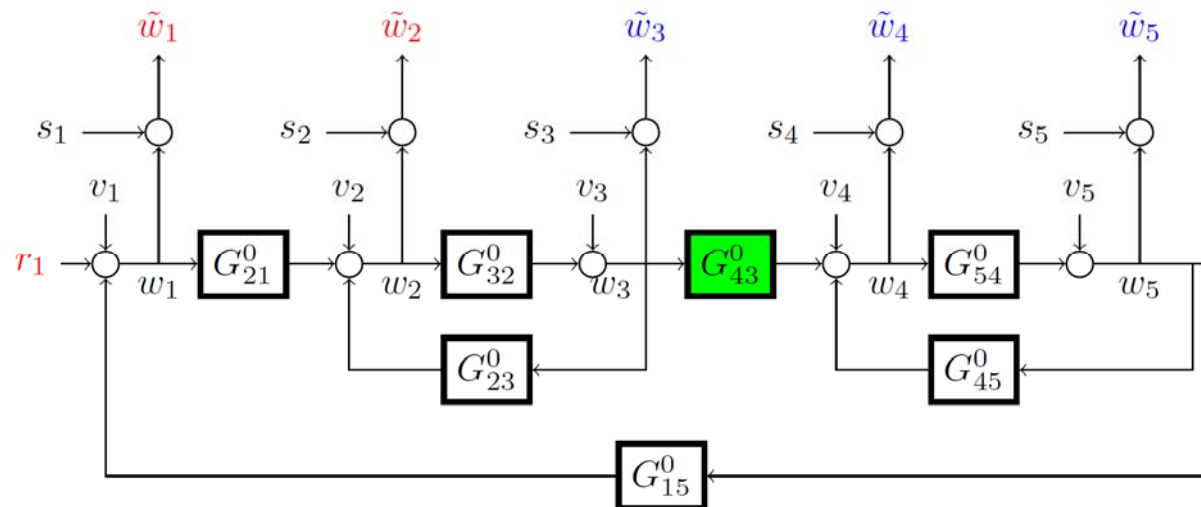
## Towards dynamic network identification

- **Basic identification tools: direct and projection**
  - From closed-loop to dynamic networks
- **Single module identification - consistency**
  - full MISO models
  - predictor input selection
- **Example of decentralized control**
- **Additional results and discussion**



# Sensor noise – the errors-in-variables problem

What if node variables are measured with (sensor) noise?



- Classical (tough) problem in open-loop identification
- *More simple* in dynamic networks due to the presence of multiple (correlated) node signals

# Network identifiability

## Question

Can network models of a full network be distinguished from each other?

Consider:  $\mathbf{T}(q) = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{G}(q))^{-1} [\mathbf{H}(q) \quad \mathbf{R}(q)]$

mapping:  $\begin{pmatrix} e \\ r \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow w$

For identifiability of a model set, different network models should lead to different  $\mathbf{T}$ 's

This puts conditions on:

- The presence of excitation signals and process noise
- The number of modules that can be parametrized

# Discussion / Wrap-up

- So far: focus on (local) **consistency** results in networks with **known structure** and **linear dynamics**
- Many additional questions/topics remain:
  - Variance** of estimates, influenced by
    - Additional (output) measurements
    - Excitation properties

[See e.g. work of H. Hjalmarsson, B. Wahlberg, N. Everitt, B. Günes, M. Gevers, A. Bazanella]

- Optimal sensor and actuator locations – experiment design
- Algorithms for application to large-scale systems

# Discussion / Wrap-up

- **Identification of the structure/topology** addressed in the literature, in particular forms:
  - Tree-like structures (no loops)
  - Nonparametric methods (Wiener filter)
  - Mostly networks **without external excitation** and uncorrelated (white) process noises on every nodesee e.g. Materassi, Innocenti (TAC-2010), Chiuso and Pillonetto (Automatica, 2012)
- **Sparse identification** methods can be used in an identification setting to identify the topology (non-zero transfers)
- New identifiability concepts apply to the unique determination of a network topology  
see e.g. Goncalves & Warnick (TAC-2008), Weerts et al. (SYSID-2015).
- Connection with decentralized/distributed control

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Mehdi Mansoori



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