

# Solution to Brockett's problem on finite-dimensional estimation algebras of maximal rank in nonlinear filtering

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## Abstract

The Kalman-Bucy filter is widely used in modern industry. Despite its usefulness, however, the Kalman-Bucy filter is not perfect. One of the weakness is that it needs a Gaussian assumption for the initial data. The other weakness is that it requires the drift term  $f(x)$  be a linear function. Brockett [Br], Brockett and Clark [Br-Cl], and Mitter [Mi] proposed independently using a Lie algebraic method to solve Duncan-Mortensen-Zakai equation for nonlinear filtering. This method requires only  $n$  sufficient statistics, where  $n$  is the state space dimension, and it allows the initial condition be modeled by an arbitrary distribution. The idea was worked out in detail by Tam-Wong-Yau [TWY] and Yau [Ya 1] [Ya 2]. However, in the Lie algebraic method, one has to know explicitly the structure of the estimation algebra. In 1983, Brockett proposed to classify all finite dimensional filters. In this paper, we report the recent results on classification of finite dimensional maximal rank estimation algebras with arbitrary state space dimension.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In 1961, Kalman and Bucy published a historically important mathematics paper on filtering. Since then, the Kalman-Bucy filtering has proved useful in many areas such as navigational and guidance systems, radar tracking, solar mapping, and satellite orbit determination. Despite its usefulness, however, the Kalman-Bucy filter is not perfect. One of its weaknesses is that it needs Gaussian assumption for the initial data. The situation is much more complex when the statistics of the initial condition are modeled by an arbitrary distribution. Indeed, the filtering question becomes one of nonlinear filtering, an area in which few results have been obtained.

In the 1960s Duncan [Du], Mortensen [Mo], and Zakai [Za] independently derived the so-called DMZ equation for the nonlinear filtering problem, which the unnormalized conditional probability density of the state  $x(t)$ , given the observation  $\{y(s) : 0 \leq s \leq t\}$ , has to satisfy. The Kalman-Bucy filter can be deduced immediately from the DMZ equation. Unfortunately, since the DMZ equation is a stochastic differential equation, there is no easy way to derive a recursive algorithm for solving this equation.

The idea of using estimation algebras to construct finite-dimensional nonlinear filters was first proposed by Brockett and Clark [Br-Cl], Brockett [Br], and Mitter [Mi]. The motivation came from the Wei-Norman approach [We-No] of using Lie algebraic ideas to solve a linear time-varying differential equation. The advantage of this approach is that as long as the estimation algebra is finite dimensional, we will get a finite-dimensional recursive filter; there is no need to make any assumption in the initial data. Moreover, the approach applies well to nonlinear dynamical systems. This approach has been worked out in detail in [T-W-Y] and especially in the so-called Yau filtering system described in [Ch] (cf. [Ya 1] and [Ya 2]). In [Ya 2], it was shown that only  $n$  sufficient statistics are needed to solve the DMZ equation explicitly (see section 2 below). For a linear filtering system, it is quite easy to see that the corresponding estimation algebra is finite dimensional. So we can apply the Wei-Norman approach to construct a finite-dimensional recursive filter with arbitrary initial data. However, in the Wei-Norman approach, one has to know explicitly the basis as vector space of the estimation algebra in order to reduce the DMZ equation to a finite system of ordinary differential equations, Kolmogorov equation, and several first-order linear partial differential equation. Classically, one knows the explicit basis for the estimation algebra only in the case that the linear system is controllable and observable.

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In [Ch-Ya] Chiou and Yau introduced the concept of an estimation algebra of maximal rank. They were able to classify all finite dimensional estimation algebras of maximal rank with state space dimension  $n = 2$ . In [C-Y-L1] and [C-Y-L2], Chen, Leung and Yau classified all finite-dimensional estimation algebras of maximal rank with state space dimension  $n = 3, 4$  respectively. Recently Hu and Yau [Hu-Ya] have succeeded in classifying all finite dimensional estimation algebras of maximal rank with state space dimension  $n \leq 5$ . The novelty of their theorem is that there is no a priori assumption on the drift term of the nonlinear filtering system. On the other hand, if the drift term has a potential function (i.e. the drift term is a gradient vector field), the corresponding estimation algebra is called exact. In [T-W-Y] and [D-T-W-Y], Dong, Tam, Wong and Yau classified all finite dimensional exact estimation algebras of maximal rank with arbitrary state space dimension. In this paper, we would like to report the result of the classification of finite dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank with arbitrary state space dimension without any assumption on the drift term.

## 2 THE LIE ALGEBRAIC METHOD IN DMZ EQUATION

The filtering problem considered here is based on the following signal observation model:

$$\begin{cases} dx(t) = f(x(t))dt + g(x(t))dv(t) & x(0) = x_0 \\ dy(t) = h(x(t))dt + dw(t) & y(0) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

in which  $x, v, y$ , and  $w$  are, respectively,  $R^n$ ,  $R^p$ ,  $R^m$ , and  $R^m$  valued processes, and  $v$  and  $w$  have components that are independent, standard Brownian processes. We further assume that  $n = p$ ,  $f$ ,  $h$  and  $C^\infty$  smooth and that  $g$  is an orthogonal matrix. We will refer to  $x(t)$  as the state of the system at time  $t$  and  $y(t)$  as the observation at time  $t$ .

Let  $\rho(t, x)$  denote the conditional probability density of the state given the observation  $\{y(s) : 0 \leq s \leq t\}$ . It is well known that  $\rho(t, x)$  is given by normalizing a function  $\sigma(t, x)$  that satisfies the following Duncan-Mortensen-Zakai equation:

$$\begin{cases} d\sigma(t, x) = L_0\sigma(t, x)dt + \sum_{i=1}^m L_i\sigma(t, x)dy_i(t) \\ \sigma(0, x) = \sigma_0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where

$$L_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} - \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m h_i^2$$

and for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $L_i$  is the zero-degree differential operator of multiplication by  $h_i$ , the  $i$ -th component of  $h$ .  $\sigma_0$  is the probability density of the initial

point,  $x_0$ . Equation (2) is a stochastic partial differential equation. In real applications, we are interested in constructing robust state estimators from observed sample paths with some property of robustness. Using the transformation,

$$\xi(t, x) = e^{-\sum_{i=1}^m h_i(x)y_i(t)} \sigma(t, x),$$

we reduce (2) to the following time-varying partial differential equation, which is called the robust DMZ equation:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t}(t, x) = L_0\xi(t, x) + \sum_{i=1}^m y_i(t)[L_0, L_i]\xi(t, x) \\ \quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m y_i(t)y_j(t)[[L_0, L_i], L_j]\xi(t, x) \\ \xi(0, x) = \sigma_0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  is the Lie bracket as described by the following definition.

**Definition:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are differential operators, the Lie bracket of  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $[X, Y]$ , is defined by

$$[X, Y]\phi = X(Y\phi) - Y(X\phi)$$

for any  $C^\infty$  function  $\phi$ .

The objective of constructing a robust finite-dimensional filter to (1) is equivalent to finding a smooth manifold  $M$  and computing  $C^\infty$  vector fields  $\mu_i$  on  $M$  and  $C^\infty$  functions  $\nu$  on  $M \times R \times R^n$  and  $\omega_i$  on  $R^m$ , such that  $\xi(t, x)$  can be represented in the form

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dz}{dt}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^k \mu_i(z(t))\omega_i(y(t)), \quad z(0) \in M \\ \xi(t, x) = \nu(z(t), t, x). \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Following [Ch-Mi], we say that system (1) has a robust universal finite-dimensional filter if for each initial probability density  $\sigma_0$  there exists a  $z_0$  such that (4) holds if  $z(0) = z_0$ , and  $\mu_i, \omega_i$  are independent of  $\sigma_0$ .

The Wei-Norman approach [We-No] of using Lie algebraic ideas to solve time-varying linear differential equations is roughly as follows. Consider the equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}X(t) = A(t)X(t) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^m a_i(t)A_iX(t) \\ X(0) = X_0 \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where  $X$  and  $A_i$ 's are  $n \times n$  matrices and  $a_i$ 's are scalar-valued functions. Let  $B_1, \dots, B_\ell$  be a basis of the Lie algebra generated by  $A_1, \dots, A_m$ . Then the Wei-Norman theorem states that locally in  $t$ ,  $X(t)$  has a representation of the form

$$X(t) = e^{b_1(t)B_1} \dots e^{b_\ell(t)B_\ell} X_0, \quad (6)$$

where  $b_i$ 's satisfy an ordinary differential equation of the form

$$\frac{db_i}{dt} = c_i(b_1, \dots, b_\ell), \quad b_i(0) = 0$$

for all  $i$ . The functions  $c_i$  in the above equation are determined by the structure constants of the Lie algebra (generated by the  $A_i$ 's) relative to the basis  $\{B_1, \dots, B_\ell\}$ .

The extension of the Wei-Norman approach to the non-linear filtering problem is much more complicated. Instead of an ordinary differential equation, we have to solve the robust DMZ equation, which is a time-varying partial differential equation. For this purpose, we introduce the concept of the estimation algebra of (1) and examine its algebraic structure.

**Definition:** The estimation algebra  $E$  of a filtering problem (1) is defined to be the Lie algebra generated by  $\{L_0, L_1, \dots, L_m\}$ .  $E$  is an estimation algebra of maximal rank if for any  $i$ , there is a constant  $c_i$  such that  $x_i + c_i$  is in  $E$ .

**Remark 2.1:** If  $h(x)$  in (1) is of the form  $Hx + K$ , where  $H$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix of maximal rank,  $m \geq n$ , and  $K$  is an  $m \times 1$  matrix, then the estimation algebra  $E$  is of maximal rank.

The following theorem was announced in [Ya1] and proved in detail in [Ya2], which includes Kalman-Bucy filtering system as a special case.

**Theorem 2.2:** [Ya2]. *Let  $E$  be an estimation algebra of (1) satisfying  $\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} = c_{ij}$ , where  $c_{ij}$ 's are constants for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Suppose that  $E$  is a finite-dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank. Then  $E$  has a basis of the form  $1, x_1, \dots, x_n, D_1, \dots, D_n$ , and  $L_0$ , where  $D_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} - f_i$ , and  $\eta := \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_i} + \sum_{i=1}^n f_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m h_i^2$  is a degree two polynomial  $\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}x_i x_j + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i x_i + d$ . The robust DMZ equation (3) has a solution for all  $t \geq 0$  of the form*

$$\xi(t, x) = e^{T(t)} e^{r_n(t)x_n} \dots e^{r_1(t)x_1} e^{s_n(t)D_n} \dots e^{s_1(t)D_1} e^{tL_0} \sigma_0, \quad (7)$$

where  $T(t), r_1(t), \dots, r_n(t), s_1(t), \dots, s_n(t)$  satisfies the following ordinary differential equations: For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$\frac{dr_i(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n s_j(t)(a_{ij} + a_{ji}) \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{ds_i(t)}{dt} = r_i(t) + \sum_{j=1}^n s_j(t)c_{ji} + \sum_{k=1}^m h_{ki}y_k(t) \quad (9)$$

where  $h_k(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n h_{kj}x_j + e_k$ , for  $1 \leq k \leq m$ ,  $h_{kj}$  and  $e_k$  are constant; and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dT}{dt}(t) = & -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n r_i^2(t) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i^2(t) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij}^2 - a_{ii} \right) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^n r_i(t) - \sum_{j=2}^n \sum_{i=1}^j s_j(t)c_{ij} - \sum_{i,j=1}^n s_i(t)r_j(t)c_{ij} \\ & + \sum_{i \leq i < k \leq n} s_i(t)s_k(t) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij}c_{jk} + \frac{1}{2}(a_{ik} + a_{ki}) \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i(t)b_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m y_i(t)y_j(t) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n h_{ik}h_{jk} \right) \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 2.3:** In view of (10),  $T(t)$  can be expressed explicitly in terms of  $r_i(t)$  and  $s_i(t)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . thus, the characterization given in (7) requires  $2n$  sufficient statistics. In fact, by inspecting (8) and (9), one easily sees that the characterization in (7) really requires  $n$  sufficient statistics, the same complexity as the classical Kalman-Bucy filter with Gaussian initial condition.

### 3 QUADRATIC STRUCTURE OF EXTIMTION ALGEBRA AND CONSTANT STRUCTURE OF WONG MATRIX

Chen and Yau [Ch-Ya1] made important progress in the program of classification of finite-dimensional estimation algebras of maximal rank. They study the quadratic forms in  $E$  and show that the  $\Omega$ -matrix is linear in the sense that all  $\omega_{ij}$  are degree one polynomials.

**Definition:** Let  $Q$  be the space of quadratic forms in  $n$  variables, namely, real vector space spanned by  $x_i x_j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ . Let  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T$ . For any quadratic form  $p \in Q$ , there exists a symmetric matrix  $A$  such that  $p(x) = X^T A X$ . The rank of the quadratic form  $p$  is denoted by  $r(p)$  and is defined to be the rank of the matrix  $A$ . A fundamental quadratic form of the estimation algebra  $E$  is an element  $p_0 \in E \cap Q$  with the greatest positive rank, that is,  $r(p_0) \geq r(p)$  for any  $p \in E \cap Q$ . The maximal rank of quadratic forms in the estimation algebra  $E$  is defined to be  $k = r(p_0)$  and is called the quadratic rank of  $E$ .

After an orthogonal transformation,  $p_0$  can be written as

$$p_0(x) = c_1 x_1^2 + c_2 x_2^2 + \dots + c_k x_k^2, \quad c_i \neq 0, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n.$$

From  $p_0(x)$ , we can construct a sequence of quadratic forms in  $E \cap Q$  as follows:

$$q_0(x) = p_0(x)$$

$$q_j(x) = [[L_0, q_{j-1}], q_0] = \sum_{i=1}^k 4^j c_i^{j+1} x_i^2.$$

In view of the inertibility of the Vandermonde matrix, we can assume that

$$p_0(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_k^2 \in E. \quad (11)$$

**Lemma 3.1:** (Chen and Yau) [Ch-Ya 1]. *If  $p$  is a quadratic form in the estimation algebra  $E$  of (1), then  $p$  is independent of  $x_j$  for  $j \geq k$ , where  $k = r(p_0)$  is the quadratic rank of  $E$ . In other words,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j} = 0$  for  $k+1 \leq j \leq n$ .*

Let  $p_1 \in E \cap Q$  be an element with least positive rank, that is,  $0 < r(p_1) \leq r(q)$  for any nonzero  $q \in E \cap Q$ . After an orthogonal transform that fixes  $x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n$  variables (i.e. an orthogonal transform on  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$ ), and the Vandermonde matrix procedure as above, we can assume

$$p_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{k_1} x_i^2 \in E, \quad 1 \leq k_1 \leq k. \quad (12)$$

Notice that the orthogonal transform on  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  leaves  $p_0$  invariant. In summary, we deduce that  $p_0 = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i^2$  has the greatest positive rank and  $p_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{k_1} x_i^2$  has the least positive rank. Define

$$S_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, k_1\} \subseteq S = \{1, 2, \dots, k\} \quad (13)$$

and  $Q_1 =$  real vector space spanned by  $\{x_i x_j : k_1 + 1 \leq i \leq j \leq k\} \subseteq Q$ . If  $k_1 < k$ , then  $Q_1 \cap E$  and is a nontrivial space, since  $p - p_0 \in E \cap Q$ . In a similar procedure as above, there exist  $k_2 > k_1$  and

$$p_2 = \sum_{i=k_1+1}^{k_2} x_i^2 \in E \cap Q \quad (14)$$

with the least positive rank in  $E \cap Q$ . By induction, we can construct a series of  $S_i, Q_i$  and  $p_i$  such that

$$S_i = \{k_{i-1}+1, \dots, k_i\}, \quad k_0 = 0 < k_1 < \cdots < k_i < \cdots \leq k \quad (15)$$

$$Q_i = \text{real vector space spanned by } \{x_i x_j : k_i + 1 \leq \ell \leq j \leq k\} \quad (16)$$

$$p_i = \sum_{j=k_{i-1}+1}^{k_i} x_j^2 = \sum_{j \in S_i} x_j^2, \quad i > 0 \quad (17)$$

and  $p_i$  has the least positive rank in  $E \cap Q_{i-1}$ , for  $i > 0$ .

**Lemma 3.2:** (Chen and Yau) [Ch-Ya 1]. *If  $p \in E \cap Q$ , then there exists a constant  $\lambda$  such that*

$$p(0, \dots, 0, x_{k_{i-1}+1}, \dots, x_{k_i}, 0, \dots, 0) = \lambda p_i, \quad \text{for } i > 0$$

**Lemma 3.3:** (Chen and Yau) [Ch-Ya 1]. *If  $p \in E \cap Q$ , then*

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_{k_{i-1}+1}, 0, \dots, 0, x_{k_i+1}, \dots, x_n) \in E \quad \text{for } i > 0.$$

**Lemma 3.4:** (Chen and Yau) [Ch-Ya 1]. *Let  $p = \sum_{i \in S_{\ell_1}} 2a_{ij} x_i x_j \in E$ , where  $a_{ij} \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $\ell_1 < \ell_2$ . Then  $|S_{\ell_1}| = |S_{\ell_2}|$  and  $A = (a_{ij}) = bT$  where  $b$  is a constant and  $T$  is an orthogonal matrix.*

The following theorem is the main result of Chen and Yau in [Ch-Ya 1].

**Theorem 3.5:** [Chen-Yau]. *If  $E$  is a finite-dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank, then all the entries  $\omega_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$  of  $\Omega$  are degree one polynomials. Let  $k$  be the quadratic rank of  $E$ . Then there exists an orthogonal change of coordinates such that  $\omega_{ij}$  are constants for  $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ ,  $\omega_{ij}$  be degree one polynomials in  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  or  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ; and  $\omega_{ij}$  are degree one polynomials in  $x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n$  for  $k+1 \leq i, j \leq n$ .*

Let  $\Omega = (\omega_{ij})$ , where  $\omega_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$ , be the matrix introduced by Wong [Wo]. For finite dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank, it is easy to see that  $\omega_{ij}$  is in  $E$ . In view of Occone's theorem,  $\omega_{ij}$  is a polynomial of degree 2. Let  $\omega_{ij}^{(2)}, \omega_{ij}^{(1)}$  and  $\omega_{ij}^{(0)}$  be the homogeneous part of degree 2, 1 and 0 of  $\omega_{ij}$  respectively.

**Lemma 3.6:** ([Ch-Ya 1]). *Suppose that  $E$  is a finite dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank. Then*

$$(i) \ \omega_{ij}^{(2)} \text{ depends only on } x_1, \dots, x_k \text{ for } i \leq k \text{ or } j \leq k$$

$$(ii) \ \omega_{ij}^{(2)} = 0, \ \forall k+1 \leq i, j \leq n$$

$$(iii) \ \frac{\partial \omega_{ij}^{(2)}}{\partial x_\ell} + \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}^{(2)}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \omega_{\ell i}^{(2)}}{\partial x_j} = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq i, j, \ell \leq n$$

$$(iv) \ \frac{\partial \omega_{ij}^{(1)}}{\partial x_\ell} + \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}^{(1)}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \omega_{\ell i}^{(1)}}{\partial x_j} = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq i, j, \ell \leq n.$$

The following lemma was observed in [Ya 2].

**Lemma 3.7:** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional estimation algebra with maximal rank. Then  $\langle 1, x_1, \dots, x_n, D_1, \dots, D_n, L_0 \rangle \subseteq E$ .*

In [WYH], a weak Hessian non-decomposition theorem was proved.

**Theorem 3.8:** [WYH]. Let  $\eta_4(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a homogeneous polynomial of degree 4 in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Let  $H(\eta_4) = \left( \frac{\partial^2 \eta_4}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  be the Hessian matrix of  $\eta_4$ . Then  $H(\eta_4)$  cannot be decomposed as  $\Delta \Delta^T$  where  $\Delta = (\beta_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  is an anti-symmetric matrix with entries in homogeneous polynomial of degree one satisfying the cyclic relation

$$\frac{\partial \beta_{ij}}{\partial x_\ell} + \frac{\partial \beta_{\ell i}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \beta_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0 \text{ for all } 1 \leq i, j, \ell \leq n$$

unless  $\eta_4$  and  $\Delta$  are trivial, i.e.  $H(\eta_4) = \Delta \Delta^T$  implies  $\Delta = 0$ .

As a consequence of Theorem 3.8 and Theorem 3.5, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.9:** Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank,  $k$  be the maximal rank of quadratic forms in  $E$  and  $n$  be the dimension of the state space. Then  $\omega_{ij}$  are constants for  $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ , or  $k+1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ;  $\omega_{ij}$  are degree one polynomials in  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $k+1 \leq j \leq n$  or  $k+1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ .

#### 4 CLASSIFICATION THEOREM

In view of the theory developed in section 3 above, Yau and Hu [Ya-Hu] have proved the following propositions.

**Proposition 4.1:** If  $x_{k_{p-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_p}^2$  is a basic quadratic form in  $E$  (cf. (17)) and  $\frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell \leq n$ ,  $k_{p-1}+1 \leq i, j \leq k_p$  and  $i \neq j$ , the  $\frac{\partial \omega_{i\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all  $k_{p-1}+1 \leq i \leq k_p$ .

**Proposition 4.2:** Let  $x_{k_{p-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_r}^2$  and  $x_{k_{s-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_s}^2$  be the basic forms in  $E$  (cf. (17)) where  $k_{r-1} < k_r \leq k_{s-1} < k_s$ . Let  $\xi_{ij} = \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} D_\ell$ . Suppose  $\sum_{j=k_{s-1}+1}^{k_s} \xi_{pj} \xi_{qj} = 0$  for all  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq p, q \leq k_r$ ,  $p \neq q$ . Then  $\frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell \leq n$ ,  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq i \leq k_r$ , and  $k_{s-1}+1 \leq j \leq k_s$ .

**Proposition 4.3:**  $x_{k_{r-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_r}^2$  and  $x_{k_{s-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_s}^2$  be the basic quadratic forms in  $E$  (cf. (17)), where  $k_{r-1} < k_r \leq k_{s-1} < k_s$ . Let  $\xi_{ij} = \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} D_\ell$ . Then  $\sum_{j=k_{s-1}+1}^{k_s} \xi_{pj} \xi_{qj} = 0$  for all  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq p, q \leq$

$k_r$ ,  $p \neq q$  if and only if  $\sum_{j=k_{s-1}+1}^{k_s} a_{j\ell_1}^p a_{j\ell_2}^q = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell_1, \ell_2 \leq n$ ,  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq p, q \leq k_r$ ,  $p \neq q$ , where  $a_{j\ell_1}^p = \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell_1}}{\partial x_p}$

**Proposition 4.4:** Let  $x_{k_{r-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_r}^2$  and  $x_{k_{s-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_s}^2$  be the basic quadratic forms in  $E$  (cf. (17)) where  $k_{r-1} < k_r \leq k_{s-1} < k_s$ . Assume that  $Q_\ell = \sum_{i=k_{r-1}+1}^{k_r} \sum_{j=k_{s-1}+1}^{k_s} a_{j\ell}^i x_i x_j \in E$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell \leq n$ , where  $a_{j\ell}^i = \frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i}$ . Then  $\sum_{j=k_{s-1}+1}^{k_s} a_{j\ell_1}^p a_{j\ell_2}^q = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell_1, \ell_2 \leq n$ ,  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq p, q \leq k_r$ .

**Proposition 4.5:** Let  $x_{k_{r-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_r}^2$  and  $x_{k_{s-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_s}^2$  be the basic quadratic forms in  $E$  (cf. (17)) where  $k_{r-1} < k_r \leq k_{s-1} < k_s$ . Then  $\frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell \leq n$ ,  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq i \leq k_r$  and  $k_{s-1}+1 \leq j \leq k_s$ .

**Proposition 4.6:** Let  $x_{k_{r-1}+1}^2 + \dots + x_{k_r}^2$  be a basic quadratic form in  $E$  (cf. (17)). Then  $\frac{\partial \omega_{j\ell}}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all  $k+1 \leq \ell \leq n$ ,  $k_{r-1}+1 \leq i, j \leq k_r$  and  $i \neq j$ .

Theorem 3.9 together with Proposition 4.1 to Proposition 4.6 imply the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.7:** Suppose that  $E$  is a finite-dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank. Then  $\Omega = (\omega_{ij})$  is a matrix with constant coefficients.

The following is the classification theorem of finite dimensional estimation algebra of maximal rank, which is a solution to the Brockett problem mentioned above. It follows from Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 4.7.

**Theorem 4.8:** Suppose that the state space of the filtering system (2.1) is of dimension  $n$ . If  $E$  is the finite-dimensional estimation algebra with maximal rank, then  $E$  is a real vector space of dimension  $2n+2$  with basis given by  $1, x_1, \dots, x_n, D_1, \dots, D_n$  and  $L_0$ .

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