A-POSTERIORI SNAPSHOT LOCATION FOR POD IN OPTIMAL CONTROL OF LINEAR PARABOLIC EQUATIONS*

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Abstract. In this paper we study the approximation of an optimal control problem for linear parabolic PDEs with model order reduction based on Proper Orthogonal Decomposition (POD-MOR). POD-MOR is a Galerkin approach where the basis functions are obtained upon information contained in time snapshots of the parabolic PDE related to given input data. In the present work we show that for POD-MOR in optimal control of parabolic equations it is important to have knowledge about the controlled system at the right time instances. We propose to determine the time instances (snapshot locations) by an a-posteriori error control concept. This method is based on a reformulation of the optimality system of the underlying optimal control problem as a second order in time and fourth order in space elliptic system which is approximated by a space-time finite element method. Finally, we present numerical tests to illustrate our approach and to show the effectiveness of the method in comparison to existing approaches.

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification. 49J20, 65N12, 78M34.

30 August 2016.

1. INTRODUCTION

Optimization with PDE constraints is nowadays a well-studied topic motivated by its relevance in industrial applications. We are interested in the numerical approximation of such optimization problems in an efficient and reliable way using surrogate models obtained with POD-MOR. The surrogate models are built upon *snapshots* of the system to provide information about the underlying problem. This stage is usually called the offline stage. For the snapshot POD approach we refer the reader to [28].

Several works focus their attention on the choice of the snapshots, in order to approximate either dynamical systems or optimal control problems by suitable surrogate models. In [19], it is proposed to optimize the choice of the time instances such that the error between POD and the trajectory of the dynamical system is minimized. A recent approach proposes to choose the snapshots by an a-posteriori error estimator in order to equidistribute the state error on the time grid related to the snapshot locations (see [13]). We also mention an adaptive method, proposed in [25], where the aim is to reduce expensive offline costs selecting the snapshots according

Keywords and phrases: Optimal Control, Model Order Reduction, Proper Orthogonal Decomposition, Optimal Snapshot Location

^{*} We would like to thank Z J. Zhou from Shandong Normal University, China for providing the data and code of the space-time approximation in [7]. First author also acknowledges the support of US Department of Energy (grant number DE-SC0009324).

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to an adaptive time-stepping algorithm using time error-control. For further references we refer the interested reader to [25].

In optimal control problems the reduced model is usually built upon a forecast on the control. This approach does not guarantee a proper construction of the surrogate model since we do not know how far away the optimal solution is from the reference control. More sophisticated approaches select snapshots by solving an optimization problem in order to improve the selection of the snapshots according to the desired controlled dynamics. For this purpose optimality system for POD (OS-POD) is introduced in [18]. In OS-POD, the computation of the basis functions is performed by means of the solution of an enlarged optimal control problem which involves the full problem, the reduced equation and the eigenvalue problem for the POD modes.

The reduction of optimal control problems with particular focus on adaptive adjustments of the surrogate models can be found in [1, 4]. We should also mention another adaptive method for feedback control problems by means of the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation, introduced in [2].

Recently, an a-posteriori error estimator was introduced in [14,30] for optimal control problems. In these works the error between the unknown optimal and the computed POD suboptimal control is estimated for linear and nonlinear problems, and it is shown that increasing the number of basis functions leads to the desired convergence. OS-POD and a-posteriori error estimation is combined in [32].

All these works have in common that they compute basis functions for optimal control problems. In our paper we address the question of an efficient and suitable selection of snapshot locations by means of an a-posteriori error control approach proposed in [7]. We rewrite the optimality conditions as a second order in time and fourth order in space elliptic equation for the adjoint variable and we generalize this approach to control constraints. In particular, a time adaptive concept is used to build the snapshot grid which should be used to construct the POD surrogate model for the approximate solution of the optimal control problem. Here the novelty for the reduced control problem is twofold: we directly obtain snapshots related to an approximation of the optimal control and, at the same time, we get information about the time grid.

We have proposed a similar approach based on a reformulation of the optimality system with respect to the state variable in [3]. Now, we focus our approach on the adjoint variable and generalize the idea presented in [7] to time dependent control intensities with control shape functions including control constraints. Furthermore, we certify our approach by means of several error bounds for the state, adjoint state and control variable.

The outline of this paper is as follows. In Section 2 we present the optimal control problem together with the optimality conditions. In Section 3 we recall the main results of [7]. Proper Orthogonal Decomposition and its application to optimal control problems is presented in Section 4. The focus of Section 5 lies in investigating our snapshot location strategy. Finally, numerical tests are discussed in Section 6 and conclusions are driven in Section 7.

2. Optimal Control Problem

In this section we describe the optimal control problem. The governing equation is given by a linear parabolic PDE:

where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^q, q \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ is an open bounded domain with smooth boundary, T > 0, $\Omega_T := \Omega \times (0, T]$ is the space-time cylinder, $\Sigma_T := \partial \Omega \times (0, T]$, and the state is denoted by $y : \Omega_T \to \mathbb{R}$. As control space we use $(L^2(0, T; \mathbb{R}^m), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_U)$, where $\langle u, v \rangle_U := \sum_{i=1}^m \langle u_i, v_i \rangle_{L^2(0,T)}$, and define the control operator as $\mathcal{B} : U \to L^2(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega))$, $(\mathcal{B}u)(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m u_i(t)\chi_i$, where $\chi_i \in H^{-1}(\Omega)(1 \le i \le m)$ denote specified control actions. Thus \mathcal{B} is linear and bounded. For the control variable we require

$$u \in U_{ad} := \{ u \in U \mid u_a(t) \le u(t) \le u_b(t) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m \text{ a.e. in } [0,T] \} \subset L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R}^m)$$

with $u_a, u_b \in L^{\infty}(0, T; \mathbb{R}^m), u_a(t) \leq u_b(t)$ almost everywhere in (0, T). It is well-known (see [20], for example) that for a given initial condition $y_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ and a forcing term $f \in L^2(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega))$ the equation (1) admits a unique solution $y = y(u) \in W(0, T)$, where

$$W(0,T) := \left\{ v \in L^2\left(0,T; H^1_0(\Omega)\right), \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \in L^2\left(0,T; H^{-1}(\Omega)\right) \right\}.$$

If $y_0 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$, higher regularity results can be derived according to [5]. We also note that the unconstrained case is related to $u_a \equiv -\infty, u_b \equiv +\infty$.

The weak formulation of (1) is given by: find $y \in W(0,T)$ with $y(0) = y_0$ and

$$\int_{\Omega} y_t(t)vdx + \int_{\Omega} \nabla y(t) \cdot \nabla vdx = \int_{\Omega} (f + \mathcal{B}u)(t)vdx \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$
(2)

The cost functional we want to minimize is given by

$$J(y,u) := \frac{1}{2} \|y - y_d\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|u\|_U^2,$$
(3)

where $y_d \in L^2(\Omega_T)$ is the desired state and the regularization parameter α is a real positive constant. The optimal control problem then reads

$$\min_{u \in U_{ad}} \hat{J}(u) := J(y(u), u), \text{ where } y(u) \text{ satisfies (1).}$$
(4)

Note that U_{ad} is a non-empty, bounded, convex and closed subset of $L^{\infty}(0,T;\mathbb{R}^m)$. Hence, it is easy to argue that (4) admits a unique solution $u \in U$ with associated state $y(u) \in W(0,T)$, see e.g. [20].

The first order optimality system of the optimal control problem (4) is given by the state equation (1), together with the adjoint equation

and the variational inequality

$$\alpha u + \mathcal{B}^* p, v - u \rangle_U \ge 0 \quad \text{for all } v \in U_{ad}, \tag{6}$$

where $\mathcal{B}^*: L^2(0,T; H^{-1}(\Omega))^* \to U^*$ is the dual operator of \mathcal{B} . In (6) we have identified $L^2(0,T; H^{-1}(\Omega))^*$ with $L^2(0,T; H_0^1(\Omega))$ and U^* with U, where we use that Hilbert spaces are reflexive. The variational inequality (6) is equivalent to the projection formula

$$u(t) = \mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\alpha} (\mathcal{B}^* p)(t) \right\} \text{ for almost all } t \in [0, T],$$
(7)

where $\mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}: U \to U_{ad}$ denotes the orthogonal projection onto U_{ad} . It follows from the reflexivity of the involved spaces that the action of the adjoint operator \mathcal{B}^* is given as

$$(\mathcal{B}^*v)(t) = \left(\langle \chi_1, v \rangle_{H^{-1}, H^1_0}, \dots, \langle \chi_m, v \rangle_{H^{-1}, H^1_0}\right)$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}\left\{-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p\right\}_i = \max\left\{u_a, \min\{u_b, -\frac{1}{\alpha}\langle\chi_i, p\rangle_{H^{-1}, H_0^1}\}\right\}.$$

Since our domain is smooth, the regularities of the optimal state, the optimal control and the associated adjoint state are limited through the regularities of the initial state y_0 , the right hand side f, the control $\mathcal{B}u$

and the desired state y_d .

The numerical approximation of the optimality system (1)-(5)-(6) with a standard Finite Element Method (FEM) in the spatial variable leads to a high-dimensional system of ordinary differential equations:

$$\begin{array}{rclcrcrcrc}
 & M\dot{y}^{N} - Ay^{N} &=& f^{N} + \mathcal{B}^{N}u, & y^{N}(0) &=& y_{0}^{N}, \\
 & -M\dot{p}^{N} - Ap^{N} &=& y^{N} - y_{d}^{N}, & p^{N}(T) &=& 0, \\
 & \kappa u + (\mathcal{B}^{*})^{N}p^{N}, v - u\rangle_{\mathcal{U}} &>& 0.
\end{array}$$
(8)

 $\langle \alpha u + (\mathcal{B}^*)^N p^N, v - u \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} \geq 0.$ J Here $y^N, p^N : [0, T] \to \mathbb{R}^N$ are the semi-discrete state and adjoint, respectively, \dot{y}^N, \dot{p}^N are the time derivatives, $M \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ denotes the mass matrix and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ the stiffness matrix. Note that the dimension N of each equation in the semi-discrete system (8) is related to the number of element nodes chosen in the FEM approach.

3. Space-Time approximation

In this section, we consider the reformulation of the optimality system (1)-(5)-(6) as an elliptic equation of fourth order in space and second order in time for the adjoint variable p. This is carried out for the unconstrained control problem in [7] and generalized to control constrained optimal control problems in [21]. Following these works, we include control constraints. Here, we aim to derive an a-posteriori error estimate for the time discretization as suggested in [7], which then turns out to be the basis for our model reduction approach to solve (4).

$$H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T) := \{ v \in H^{2,1}(\Omega_T) : v(T) = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \},\$$

where

$$H^{2,1}(\Omega_T) = L^2(0,T; H^2(\Omega)) \cap H^1_0(\Omega)) \cap H^1(0,T; L^2(\Omega))$$

is equipped with the norm

$$\|w\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2 := \left(\|w\|_{L^2(0,T;H^2(\Omega))}^2 + \|w\|_{H^1(0,T;L^2(\Omega))}^2\right).$$

Under the assumptions $y_0 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$, $\chi_i \in L^2(\Omega)$ for i = 1, ..., m and $y_d \in H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$, the regularity of $y, p \in H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$ is ensured, see [5] for the details. Then, the first order optimality conditions (1)-(5)-(6) can be transformed into an initial boundary value problem for p in space-time:

$$-p_{tt} + \Delta^2 p - \mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p \right) = -(y_d)_t + \Delta y_d \quad \text{in } \Omega_T,$$

$$p(\cdot, T) = 0 \qquad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$p = 0 \qquad \text{on } \Sigma_T,$$

$$\Delta p = y_d \qquad \text{on } \Sigma_T,$$

$$(p_t + \Delta p) (0) = y_d(0) - y_0 \qquad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$(9)$$

where, without loss of generality, we have set $f \equiv 0$. We note that the quantity

$$\mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}}\left(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p\right)$$

is nondifferentiable and nonlinear in p and thus (9) becomes a semilinear second order in time and fourth order in space elliptic problem with a monotone nonlinearity. Existence of a unique weak solution for (9) can be proved analogously to [21] and follows from the fact that the optimal control problem (4) in the case of control constraints with closed and convex $U_{ad} \subset U$ admits a unique solution.

In order to provide the weak formulation of (9), we define the operator A_0 and the linear form L_0 as

$$A_0: H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T) \times H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T) \to \mathbb{R}, \qquad L_0: H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T) \to \mathbb{R},$$

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$$\begin{aligned} A_0(v,w) &:= \int_{\Omega_T} \left(v_t w_t - \mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* v \right) w \right) + \int_{\Omega_T} \Delta v \Delta w + \int_{\Omega} \nabla v(0) \nabla w(0), \\ L_0(v) &:= \int_{\Omega_T} \langle -\frac{\partial y_d}{\partial t} + \Delta y_d, v \rangle_{H^{-1}(\Omega) \times H^1_0(\Omega)} - \int_{\Omega} (y_d(0) - y_0) v(0) + \int_{\Sigma_T} y_d \nabla v \cdot \hat{n}, \end{aligned}$$

where \hat{n} denotes the outer normal to the boundary $\partial\Omega$. The weak formulation of equation (9) for given $y_d \in H^{2,1}(\Omega_T), y_0 \in H^1_0(\Omega)$, reads:

find
$$p \in H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$$
 with $A_0(p,v) = L_0(v) \quad \forall v \in H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T).$ (10)

It follows from the monotonicity of the orthogonal projection that (10) admits a unique solution p, compare e.g. [10, Th. 1.25]. We put our attention on the semi-discrete approximation of (9) and investigate a-priori and a-posteriori error estimates for the time discrete problem, where the space is kept continuous. Let us consider the time discretization $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \ldots < t_n = T$ with $\Delta t_j = t_j - t_{j-1}$ and $\Delta t := \max_j \Delta t_j$. Let $I_j := [t_{j-1}, t_j]$. We define the time discrete space

$$V_t^k := \left\{ v \in H^{2,1}(\Omega_T) : \ v(\cdot)|_{I_j} \in P_1(I_j) \right\}, \qquad \bar{V}_t^k := V_t^k \cap H^{2,1}_0(\Omega_T),$$

where the notation $P_1(I_j)$ stands for the polynomials of first order on the interval I_j . Then, we consider the semi-discrete problem:

find
$$p_k \in \bar{V}_t^k$$
 with $A_0(p_k, v_k) = L_0(v_k), \quad \forall v_k \in \bar{V}_t^k.$ (11)

Using the arguments of e.g. [10, Th. 1.25] one can show that problem (11) admits a unique solution $p_k \in \bar{V}_t^k$. We note that with (10) and (11) we have the Galerkin orthogonality

$$A_0(p, v_k) - A_0(p_k, v_k) = 0 \quad \forall v_k \in \bar{V}_t^k.$$

$$\tag{12}$$

Thus, for $v \in H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$ it holds true

$$A_0(p,v) - A_0(p_k,v) = A_0(p,v-v_k) - A_0(p_k,v-v_k) \quad \forall v_k \in \bar{V}_k^k.$$

The following Theorem states a temporal residual type a-posteriori error estimate for p, which transfers the estimation of [7, Theorem 3.5] to the control constrained optimal control problem (4):

Theorem 3.1. Let $p \in H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$ and $p_k \in \overline{V}_t^k$ denote the solutions to (10) and (11), respectively. Then we obtain

$$\|p - p_k\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2 \le C_1 \eta^2,\tag{13}$$

where $C_1 > 0$ and

$$\eta^{2} = \sum_{j} \Delta t_{j}^{2} \int_{I_{j}} \left\| -\frac{\partial y_{d}}{\partial t} + \Delta y_{d} + \frac{\partial^{2} p_{k}}{\partial t^{2}} + \mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^{*} p_{k} \right) - \Delta^{2} p_{k} \right\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)}^{2} + \sum_{j} \int_{I_{j}} \left\| y_{d} - \Delta p_{k} \right\|_{L^{2}(\partial\Omega)}^{2}.$$

Proof. We start the proof showing a consequence of the monotonicity of the projector operator $-\mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}\{-\mathcal{B}^*p\}$. We find that

$$\left\langle -\mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}\left\{-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p_1\right\} + \mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}\left\{-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p_2\right\}, \mathcal{B}^*p_1 - \mathcal{B}^*p_2\right\rangle_U \ge 0, \quad \forall p_1, p_2 \in H^{2,1}_0(\Omega_T),$$

and hence

$$\int_{\Omega_T} \left(-\mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p_1 \right\} + \mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p_2 \right\} \right) (p_1 - p_2) \ge 0.$$
(14)

For easier notation, we set $N(p) := -\mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p \right\}$. Let $e^p := p - p_k$ and let $\pi_k e^p$ denote the standard Lagrange type temporal interpolation of e^p . Using the inequality

$$\|v\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2 \le C\left(\|\frac{\partial v}{\partial t}\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 + \|\Delta v\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2\right)$$

for $v \in H_0^{2,1}(\Omega_T)$ and C > 0 from [7, Lemma 2.5], the monotonicity (14) and the Galerkin orthogonality (12), we can estimate:

$$\begin{split} c\|p-p_k\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2 \\ &\leq \left\|\frac{\partial(p-p_k)}{\partial t}\right\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 + \|\Delta(p-p_k)\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 \\ &\leq \left\|\frac{\partial(p-p_k)}{\partial t}\right\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 + \|\Delta(p-p_k)\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}^2 + \int_{\Omega_T} (N(p)-N(p_k))(p-p_k) \\ &= \int_{\Omega_T} \frac{\partial(p-p_k)}{\partial t} \frac{\partial e^p}{\partial t} + \int_{\Omega_T} \Delta(p-p_k)\Delta e^p + \int_{\Omega_T} (N(p)-N(p_k))e^p \\ &= \int_{\Omega_T} \frac{\partial(p-p_k)}{\partial t} \frac{\partial(e^p-\pi_k e^p)}{\partial t} + \int_{\Omega_T} \Delta(p-p_k)\Delta(e^p-\pi_k e^p) + \int_{\Omega_T} (N(p)-N(p_k))(e^p-\pi_k e^p) \\ &= \int_{\Omega_T} (-\frac{\partial y_d}{\partial t} + \Delta y_d)(e^p-\pi_k e^p) + \int_{\Sigma_T} y_d \nabla(e^p-\pi_k e^p) \cdot \hat{n} - \int_{\Omega_T} \frac{\partial p_k}{\partial t} \frac{\partial(e^p-\pi_k e^p)}{\partial t} \\ &- \int_{\Omega_T} \Delta p_k \Delta(e^p-\pi_k e^p) - \int_{\Omega_T} N(p_k)(e^p-\pi_k e^p) \end{split}$$

Integration by parts on each time interval and Green's formula lead to

$$c\|p - p_k\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2$$

$$\leq \sum_j \int_{I_j} \int_{\Omega} (-\frac{\partial y_d}{\partial t} + \Delta y_d + \frac{\partial^2 p_k}{\partial t^2} - \Delta^2 p_k - N(p_k))(e^p - \pi_k e^p) + \sum_j \int_{I_j} \int_{\partial \Omega} (y_d - \Delta p_k) \nabla (e^p - \pi_k e^p) \cdot \hat{n}.$$

Utilizing error estimates of the Lagrange interpolation π_k , the trace inequality and Young's inequality, we find

$$\begin{split} \|p - p_k\|_{H^{2,1}(\Omega_T)}^2 \\ &\leq C_1 \sum_j \Delta t_j^2 \int_{I_j} \left\| -\frac{\partial y_d}{\partial t} + \Delta y_d + \frac{\partial^2 p_k}{\partial t^2} - \Delta^2 p_k + \mathcal{BP}_{U_{ad}} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p_k \right\} \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ &+ C_1 \sum_j \int_{I_j} \|y_d - \Delta p_k\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)}^2. \end{split}$$

Theorem 3.1 provides a tool to refine the time grid by means of the residual of the system (9). Due to (7), the time instances of this grid may be regarded as ideal snapshot locations for POD-MOR applied to problem (4).

4. POD FOR OPTIMAL CONTROL PROBLEMS

In this section, we recall the POD method which we use in order to replace the original problem (4) by a surrogate model. The main interest when applying the POD method is to reduce computation times and storage capacity while retaining a satisfying approximation quality. This is possible due to the key fact that POD basis functions (unlike typical finite element ansatz functions) contain information about the underlying model, since the POD modes are derived from snapshots of a solution data set. For this reason it is important to use rich snapshot ensembles reflecting the dynamics of the modeled system. Usually, we are able to improve the accuracy of a POD suboptimal solution by enlarging the number of utilized POD basis functions or enriching the snapshot ensemble, for instance. The snapshot form of POD proposed by Sirovich in [28] works in the continuous version as follows.

Let us suppose that the continuous solution y(t) of (1) and p(t) of (5) belongs to a real separable Hilbert space V, where $V = H_0^1(\Omega)$ or $L^2(\Omega)$, equipped with its inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and associated norm $\|\cdot\|^2 = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. We set $\mathcal{V} := \operatorname{span}\{z^k(t) \mid t \in [0,T] \text{ and } 1 \leq k \leq 3\} \subseteq V$, where $z^1(t) := y(t), z^2(t) := p(t), z^3(t) := \dot{p}(t)$. Note that the initial condition $y(0) = y_0$ is included in \mathcal{V} . The aim is to determine a POD basis $\{\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_\ell\} \subset V$ of rank $\ell \in \{1, \ldots, d\}$ with $d = \dim(\mathcal{V}) \leq \infty$, by solving the following constrained minimization problem:

$$\min_{\psi_1,\dots,\psi_\ell} \sum_{k=1}^3 \int_0^T \left\| z^k(t) - \sum_{i=1}^\ell \langle z^k(t), \psi_i \rangle \psi_i \right\|^2 dt \quad \text{s.t. } \langle \psi_j, \psi_i \rangle = \delta_{ij} \quad \text{for } 1 \le i, j \le \ell,$$
(15)

where δ_{ij} denotes the Kronecker symbol, i.e. $\delta_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j$ and $\delta_{ii} = 1$.

It is well-known (see [8]) that a solution to problem (15) is given by the first ℓ eigenvectors $\{\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_\ell\}$ corresponding to the ℓ largest eigenvalues $\lambda_i > 0$ of the self-adjoint linear operator $\mathcal{R} : V \to V$, i.e. $\mathcal{R}\psi_i = \lambda_i\psi_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, \ell$, where \mathcal{R} is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{R}\psi = \sum_{k=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \langle z^{k}(t), \psi \rangle \ z^{k}(t) dt \quad \text{for } \psi \in V.$$

Moreover, we can quantify the POD approximation error by the neglected eigenvalues (more details in [8]) as follows:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{3} \int_{0}^{T} \left\| z^{k}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \langle z^{k}(t), \psi_{i} \rangle \psi_{i} \right\|^{2} dt = \sum_{i=\ell+1}^{d} \lambda_{i}.$$
(16)

Let us assume that we have computed POD basis functions $\{\psi_i\}_{i=1}^{\ell}$. Then, we define the POD Galerkin ansatz of order ℓ for the state y as:

$$y^{\ell}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} w_i(t)\psi_i,$$
(17)

where $y^{\ell} \in V^{\ell} := \operatorname{span}\{\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_{\ell}\}$ and the unknown coefficients are denoted by $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^{\ell}$. If we plug this ansatz into the weak formulation of the state equation (2) and use V^{ℓ} as the test space, we get the following reduced order model for (2) of low dimension:

$$\int_{\Omega} y_t^{\ell}(t)\psi dx + \int_{\Omega} \nabla y^{\ell}(t) \cdot \nabla \psi dx = \int_{\Omega} (f + \mathcal{B}u)(t)\psi dx \quad \forall \psi \in V^{\ell} \text{ and } t \in (0, T] \text{ a.e.,}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} y^{\ell}(0)\psi dx = \int_{\Omega} y_0\psi dx \qquad (18)$$

Choosing $\psi = \psi_i$ for $i = 1, ..., \ell$ and utilizing (17), we infer from (18) that the coefficients $(w_1(t), ..., w_\ell(t)) =: w(t)$ satisfy

 $M^\ell \dot w(t) + A^\ell w(t) = F^\ell(t) \quad \text{a.e. in}(0,T], \quad M^\ell w(0) = y_0^\ell,$

where $(M^{\ell})_{ij} = \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \psi_i dx$, $(A^{\ell})_{ij} = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \psi_j \cdot \nabla \psi_i dx$, $(F^{\ell}(t))_j = \int_{\Omega} (f + \mathcal{B}u)(t)\psi_j dx$ and $(y_0^{\ell})_j = \int_{\Omega} y_0 \psi_j dx$. Note that M^{ℓ} is the identity matrix, if we choose as inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle := \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)}$. The reduced order model surrogate (ROM) for the optimal control problem is given by

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$$\min_{u \in U_{ad}} \hat{J}^{\ell}(u) \text{ s.t. } y^{\ell}(u) \text{ satisfies (18)},$$
(19)

where \hat{J}^{ℓ} is the reduced cost functional, i.e. $\hat{J}^{\ell}(u) := \hat{J}(y^{\ell}(u), u)$. We recall that the discretization of the optimal solution \bar{u}^{ℓ} to (19) is determined by the relation between the adjoint state and control and refer to [9] for more details about the variational discretization concept.

In order to solve the reduced optimal control problem (19), we consider the well-known first order optimality condition given by the variational inequality

$$\langle \nabla \hat{J}^{\ell}(\bar{u}^{\ell}), u - \bar{u}^{\ell} \rangle_U \ge 0 \quad \forall u \in U_{ad},$$

which is sufficient since the underlying problem is convex.

The first order optimality conditions of (19) also deliver that the adjoint POD scheme for the approximation of p is given by: find $p^{\ell}(t) \in V^{\ell}$ with $p^{\ell}(T) = 0$ satisfying

$$-\int_{\Omega} p_t^{\ell}(t)\psi dx + \int_{\Omega} \nabla p^{\ell}(t) \cdot \nabla \psi dx = \int_{\Omega} (y^{\ell} - y_d)(t)\psi dx \quad \forall \psi \in V^{\ell} \text{ and } t \in (0,T) \text{ a.e.}$$
(20)

5. The snapshot location strategy

In Section 4, the POD method in the continuous framework is recalled, where the POD basis functions are computed in such a way that the error between the trajectories y(t) of (1) and p(t) of (5) and its POD Galerkin approximation is minimized in (15). In practice, we do not have the whole solution trajectories $\{z^k(t)\}_{t\in[0,T]}, 1 \le k \le 4$ at hand. But we have snapshots available, which are the solutions $\{y(t_j)\}_{j=0}^n$ to (1) and the solutions $\{p(t_j)\}_{j=0}^n$ to (5) at times $\{t_j\}_{j=0}^n$. This motivates to replace the time integration in (15) by an appropriate quadrature rule based on t_0, \ldots, t_n , i.e. $\int_0^T g(t)dt \approx \sum_{j=0}^n \alpha_j g(t_j)$ for $g \in C^0([0,T])$ with quadrature weights $\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_n \in \mathbb{R}$. We later choose the weights for the trapezoidal rule, compare (25). In the present work, we neglect the error introduced by quadrature weights.

The minimization problem related to (15) then becomes

$$\min \sum_{k=1}^{3} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \beta_j \left\| z^k(t_j) - \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \langle z^k(t_j), \psi_i \rangle \psi_i \right\|^2, \text{ s.t. } \langle \psi_j, \psi_i \rangle = \delta_{ij} \quad \text{ for } 1 \le i, j \le \ell$$

and obviously constitutes a strong dependence of the POD basis functions on the chosen snapshot locations t_0, \ldots, t_n . The related snapshots shall have the property to capture the main features of the dynamics of the truth solution as good as possible. Here it is important to select suitable time instances at which characteristic dynamical properties of the optimal state are located. A natural question is:

How to pick time instances that represent good locations for snapshots in POD-MOR for (19)?

Moreover, we face some difficulties since the reduction of optimal control problems is usually initialized with snapshots computed from a given input control $u_{\circ} \in U_{ad}$. This problem is usually addressed in the offline stage for POD, which is the phase needed for snapshot generation, POD basis computation and building the reduced order model. Mostly, we do not have any information about the optimal control, such that in POD-MOR the input control u_{\circ} is often chosen as $u_{\circ} \equiv 0$. This circumstance raises the question about the quality of the POD basis and the quality of the POD suboptimal solution. The a-posteriori error estimator (13) in Section 3 motivates a suitable location of time instances for the POD adjoint state and at the same time we get an approximation of the optimal control which can be used as an input control u_{\circ} in order to generate the snapshots.

The use, in the offline-stage, of a time adaptive mesh refinement process allows to overcome the choice of an input control u_{\circ} and the choice of the snapshot locations by solving equation (9). Then, we take advantage of the a-posteriori error estimation presented in Theorem 3.1. Equation (9) provides the optimal adjoint state associated with (4), which does not require the explicit knowledge of a control input u_{\circ} . We note that the

ellipticity of equation (9) play a crucial role in this approach. The same approach would not work, if one solves the optimality conditions directly. The numerical approximation of p provides important information about the control input. In fact, thanks to the variational inequality (6) we are first able to build an approximate control u and finally compute the associated state y(u). In this way our snapshot set will contain information about the state corresponding to an approximation of the optimal control. Thanks to this numerical approximation of the optimal control problem we can build the snapshot matrix and compute the POD basis functions where the number ℓ is chosen such that $\sum_{i=\ell+1}^{d} \lambda_i \approx 0$.

The approximation of equation (9) is very useful in model order reduction since we overcome the choice of the initial input control to generate the snapshot set. Moreover, we also gain information about a temporal grid, which allows us to better resolve p with respect to time. The a-posteriori error estimation (13) guarantees that the finite element approximation of (9) in the time variable is below a certain tolerance. Therefore, the reduced optimal control problem (19) is set up and solved on the resulting adaptive time grid. Now the question is:

How good is the quality of the computed time grid in terms of the error between the optimal solution and the POD surrogate solution?

5.1. Error Analysis for the adjoint variable

Let us motivate our approach by analyzing the error $\|p(u) - p_k^{\ell}(u_k^{\ell})\|_{L^2(0,T,V)}$ between the optimal adjoint solution p(u) of (5) associated with the optimal control u for (4), i.e. $u = \mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p)$ and the POD reduced approximation $p_k^{\ell}(u_k^{\ell})$, which is the time discrete solution to the POD-ROM for (5) associated with the time discrete optimal control u_k^{ℓ} for (19), i.e. $y = y(u_k^{\ell})$ in (5). We denote by V the space $V = H_0^1(\Omega)$ and by H the space $L^2(\Omega)$. By the triangular inequality we get the following estimates for the $L^2(0,T;V)$ -norm:

$$\|p(u) - p_k^{\ell}(u_k^{\ell})\| \le \underbrace{\|p(u) - p_k(u_k)\|}_{(21.1)} + \underbrace{\|p_k(u_k) - \mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_k(u_k)\|}_{(21.2)} + \underbrace{\|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_k(u_k) - \mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_k(u_k^{\ell})\|}_{(21.3)} + \underbrace{\|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_k(u_k^{\ell}) - p_k^{\ell}(u_k^{\ell})\|}_{(21.4)}$$
(21)

where $p_k(u_k)$ is the time discrete adjoint solution of (11) associated with the control $u_k = \mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}}(-\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*p_k)$ and $p_k(u_k^\ell)$ is the time discrete adjoint solution to (5) with respect to the suboptimal control u_k^ℓ , i.e. $y = y(u_k^\ell)$ in (5). By $\mathcal{P}^\ell: V \to V^\ell$ we denote the orthogonal POD projection operator as follows:

$$\mathcal{P}^{\ell} y := \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \langle y, \psi_i \rangle_V \psi_i \quad \text{ for } y \in V.$$

The term (21.1) can be estimated by (13) and concerns the snapshot generation. Thus, we can decide on a certain tolerance in order to have a prescribed error. The second term (21.2) in (21) is the POD projection error and can be estimated by the sum of the neglected eigenvalues. Then, we note that the third term (21.3) can be estimated as follows:

$$\|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_{k}(u_{k}) - \mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell})\| \leq \|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}\| \|p_{k}(u_{k}) - p_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell})\| \leq C_{2}\|u_{k} - u_{k}^{\ell}\|_{U},$$
(22)

where $\|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}\| \leq 1$ and $C_2 > 0$ is the constant referring to the Lipschitz continuity of p_k independent of k as in [22].

In order to control the quantity $||u_k - u_k^\ell||_U \le ||u_k - u||_U + ||u - u_k^\ell||_U$ we make use of the a-posteriori error estimation of [30], which provides an upper bound for the error between the (unknown) optimal control and

any arbitrary control u_p (here $u_p = u_k$ and $u_p = u_k^{\ell}$) by

$$\|u-u_p\|_U \le \frac{1}{\alpha} \|\zeta_p\|_U,$$

where α is the regularization parameter in the cost functional and $\zeta_p \in L^2(0,T;\mathbb{R}^m)$ is chosen such that

$$\langle \alpha u_p - \mathcal{B}^* p(u_p) + \zeta_p, u - u_p \rangle_U \ge 0 \quad \forall u \in U_{ad}$$

is satisfied. Finally, last term (21.4) can be estimated according to [12] and involves the sum of the eigenvalues not considered, the first derivative of the time discrete adjoint variable and the difference between the state and the POD state:

$$\|\mathcal{P}^{\ell}p_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell}) - p_{k}^{\ell}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|^{2} \leq C_{3}\left(\sum_{i=\ell+1}^{d}\lambda_{i}^{k} + \|\dot{p}_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell}) - \mathcal{P}^{\ell}\dot{p}_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|_{L^{2}(0,T,V')}^{2} + \|y_{k}(u_{k}^{\ell}) - y_{k}^{\ell}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|_{L^{2}(0,T,H)}^{2}\right), \quad (23)$$

for a constant $C_3 > 0$. We note that the sum of the neglected eigenvalues is sufficiently small provided that ℓ is large enough. Furthermore, error estimation (23) depends on the time derivative \dot{p}_k . To avoid this dependence, we include time derivative information concerning the adjoint variable into the snapshot set, see [17].

To summarize, the error estimation reads:

$$\|p(u) - p_k^{\ell}(u_k^{\ell})\|_{L^2(0,T,V)} \le \sqrt{C_1}\eta + \frac{C_2}{\alpha} (\|\zeta_k\|_U + \|\zeta_k^{\ell}\|_U) + \sqrt{C_3 \left(\sum_{i=\ell+1}^d \lambda_i^k + \|y_k - y_k^{\ell}\|_{L^2(0,T,H)}^2\right)}.$$
 (24)

Finally, we note that estimation (23) involves the state variable which is estimated in the following Section 5.2.

5.2. Error Analysis for the state variable

In this section we address the problem of the certification of the quality for POD approximation for the state variable. It may happen that the time grid selected for the adjoint p will not be accurate enough for the state variable y. Therefore a further refinement of the time grid might be useful in order to reduce the error between the POD state and the true state below a given threshold. This is not guarenteed if we use the time grid, which results from the use of the estimate (13). Here, we consider the error between the full solution $y(u_k^\ell)$ corresponding to the suboptimal control u_k^ℓ and the time discrete POD solution $y_k^\ell(u_k^\ell)$, where we assume to have the same temporal grid for snapshots and the solution of our POD reduced order problem. In this situation, the following estimate is proved in [17]:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n} \beta_{j} \|y(t_{j}; u_{k}^{\ell}) - y_{j}^{\ell}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|_{H}^{2} \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(\Delta t_{j}^{2} C_{y}((1+c_{p}^{2})\|y_{tt}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|_{L^{2}(I_{j},H)}^{2} + \|y_{t}(u_{k}^{\ell})\|_{L^{2}(I_{j};V)}) \right)$$
(25a)

$$+\sum_{j=1}^{n} C_{y} \left(\sum_{i=\ell+1}^{d} \left(|\langle \psi_{i}, y_{0} \rangle_{V}|^{2} + \lambda_{i} \right) \right)$$
(25b)

$$+\sum_{j=1}^{n}\sum_{i=\ell+1}^{d}C_{y}\frac{\lambda_{i}}{\Delta t_{j}^{2}}$$
(25c)

where $C_y > 0$ is a constant depending on T, but independent of the time grid $\{t_j\}_{j=0}^n$. We note that $y(t_j; u_k^\ell)$ is the continuous solution of (1) at given time instances related to the suboptimal control u_k^{ℓ} . The temporal step size in the subinterval $[t_{j-1}, t_j]$ is denoted by Δt_j . The positive weights β_j are given by

$$\beta_0 = \frac{\Delta t_1}{2}, \quad \beta_j = \frac{\Delta t_j + \Delta t_{j+1}}{2} \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, n-1, \text{ and } \beta_n = \frac{\Delta t_n}{2}.$$

The constant c_p is an upper bound of the projection operator. A similar estimate can be carried out for the V-norm. We refer the interested reader to [17].

Estimate (25) provides now a recipe for further refinement of the time grid in order to approximate the state y within a prescribed tolerance. One option here consists in equidistributing the error contributions of the term (25a), while the number of modes has to be adapted to the time grid size according to the term (25c). Finally, the number ℓ of modes should be chosen such that the term in (25b) remains within the prescribed tolerance.

5.3. The algorithm

The a-posteriori error control concept for (9) now offers the possibility to select snapshot locations by a time adaptive procedure. For this purpose, (9) is solved adaptively in time, where the spatial resolution (Δx in Algorithm 1) is chosen to be very coarse in order to keep the computational costs low. This is possible due to the fact that spatial and temporal discretization decouple when using the solution technique of [7] as we will see in Section 6, compare Figure 3. The resulting time grid points now serve as snapshot locations, on which our POD reduced order model for the optimization is based. The snapshots are now obtained from a simulation of (1) with high spatial resolution h, which is used in (5) to obtain highly resolved snapshots of p, which are accomplished with time finite differences of those adjoint snapshots. The right-hand side u in the simulation of (1) is obtained from (6) with p from (5) computed with spatially coarse resolution Δx . The certification of the state variable is then performed according to (25) as a post-processing procedure. This strategy might not deliver the optimal time instances, but it is a practical and efficient strategy, which turns out to deliver good approximation results (compare Section 6) at low costs.

The algorithm is summarized below in Algorithm 1.

Algorithm 1 Adaptive snapshot selection for optimal control problems.

Require: coarse spatial grid size Δx , fine spatial grid size h, maximal number of degrees of freedom (dof) for the adaptive time discretization, T > 0.

- 1: Solve (9) adaptively w.r.t. time with spatial resolution Δx and obtain the time grid \mathcal{T} with solution $p_{\Delta x}$.
- 2: Set $u_{\Delta x} = \mathcal{P}_{U_{ad}} \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} \mathcal{B}^* p_{\Delta x} \right)$. 3: Solve (1) on \mathcal{T} with spatial resolution Δx corresponding to the control $u_{\Delta x}$.
- 4: Refine the time interval \mathcal{T} according to (25) and construct the time grid \mathcal{T}_{new} .
- 5: Generate state and adjoint snapshots by solving (1) with r.h.s. $u_{\Delta x}$ and (5), respectively, on \mathcal{T}_{new} with spatial resolution h. Generate time derivative adjoint snapshots with time finite differences on those adjoint snapshots.
- 6: Compute a POD basis of order ℓ and build the POD reduced order model (19) based on the state, adjoint state and time derivative adjoint state snapshots.
- 7: Solve (19) with the time grid \mathcal{T}_{new}

6. Numerical Tests

In our numerical computations we use a one-dimensional spatial domain and a finite element discretization in space by means of conformal piecewise linear polynomials. We use the implicit Euler method for time integration. The solution of the optimal control problem (19) is done by a gradient method with stopping criteria $\|\hat{J}'(u^k)\| \leq \tau_r \|\hat{J}'(u^k)\|_U + \tau_a$ and an Armijo linesearch. In the following numerical examples, we apply Algorithm 1 in order to validate this strategy by numerical results.

The numerical tests illustrate that utilizing a time adaptive grid for snapshot location and for solving the POD reduced order optimal control problem delivers more accurate approximation results than utilizing a uniform time grid. We show three different numerical tests. The first example presents a steep gradient at the end of the time interval in the adjoint variable. In the second example the adjoint state develops an interior layer in the middle of the time interval and finally we introduce control contraints in the third example. Moreover we also show the benefits of the post processing for the state variable (step 4 in Algorithm 1) to achieve more accurate approximation results for both state and adjoint state.

All coding is done in MATLAB R2015a and the computations are performed on a 2.50GHz computer.

6.1. Test 1: Solution with steep gradient towards final time

The data for this test example is inspired from Example 5.3 in [7], with the following choices: $\Omega = (0, 1)$ and [0, T] = [0, 1]. We set $U_{ad} = L^{\infty}(0, T; \mathbb{R}^m)$. The example is built in such a way that the exact optimal solution (\bar{y}, \bar{u}) of problem (4) with associated optimal adjoint state \bar{p} is known:

$$\bar{y}(x,t) = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi t), \quad \bar{p}(x,t) = x(x-1)\left(t - \frac{e^{(t-1)/\varepsilon} - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}{1 - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}\right), \quad \bar{u}(t) = -\frac{1}{\alpha}\mathcal{B}^*\bar{p}(x,t) = -t + \frac{e^{(t-1)/\varepsilon} - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}{1 - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}$$

with m = 1 and the control shape function $\chi(x) = x(x-1)$ for the operator \mathcal{B} . This leads to the right hand side

$$f(x,t) = \pi \sin(\pi x)(\cos(\pi t) + \pi \sin(\pi t)) + x(x-1)\left(t - \frac{e^{(t-1)/\varepsilon} - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}{1 - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}\right)$$

the desired state

$$y_d(x,t) = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi t) + x(x-1)\left(1 - \frac{e^{(t-1)/\varepsilon} \cdot 1/\varepsilon}{1 - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}\right) + 2\left(t - \frac{e^{(t-1)/\varepsilon} - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}{1 - e^{-1/\varepsilon}}\right)$$

and the initial condition $y_0(x) = 0$. We choose the regularization parameter to be $\alpha = 1/30$. For small values of ε (we use $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$), the adjoint state \bar{p} develops a layer towards t = 1, which can be seen in the left plots of Figure 1 and Figure 2.



FIGURE 1. Test 1: Analytical optimal adjoint state \bar{p} (left), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/20$ (middle), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=21 (right).

In this test run we focus on the influence of the time grid to approximate of the POD solution. Therefore, we compare the use of two different types of time grids: an equidistant time grid characterized by the time increment $\Delta t = 1/n$ and a non-equidistant (adaptive) time grid characterized by n+1 degrees of freedom (dof).



FIGURE 2. Test 1: Contour lines of the analytical optimal adjoint state \bar{p} (left), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/20$ (middle), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=21 (right).

We build the POD-ROM from the uncontrolled problem; we create the snapshot ensemble by determining the associated state $y(u_{\circ})$ and adjoint state $p(u_{\circ})$ corresponding to the control function $u_{\circ} \equiv 0$ and we also include the initial condition y_0 and the time derivatives of the adjoint $p_t(u_{\circ})$ into our snapshot set, which is accomplished with time finite differences of the adjoint snapshots. We use $\ell = 1$ POD basis function. Although we would also have the possibility to use suboptimal snapshots corresponding to an approximation $u_{\Delta x}$ of the optimal control, here, we want to emphasize the importance of the time grid. Nevertheless in this example, the quality of the POD solution does not really differ, if we consider suboptimal or uncontrolled snapshots. First, we leave out the post-processing step 4 of Algorithm 1 and discuss the inclusion of this part later.

Figure 3 visualizes the space-time mesh of the numerical solution of (9) utilizing the temporal residual type a-posteriori error estimate (13). The first grid in Figure 3 corresponds to the choice of dof=21 and $\Delta x = 1/100$, whereas the grid in the middle refers to using dof = 21 and $\Delta x = 1/5$. Both choices for spatial discretization lead to the exact same time grid, which displays fine time steps towards the end of the time horizon (where the layer in the optimal adjoint state is located), whereas at the beginning and in the middle of the time interval the time steps are larger. This clearly indicates that the resulting time adaptive grid is very insensitive against changes in the spatial resolution. For the sake of completeness, the equidistant grid with the same number of degrees of freedom is shown in the right plot of Figure 3.

Since the generation of the time adaptive grid as well as the approximation of the optimal solution is done in the offline computation part of POD-MOR, this process shall be performed quickly, which is why we pick $\Delta x = 1/5$ for step 1 in Algorithm 1.



FIGURE 3. Test 1: Adaptive space-time grids with dof = 21 according to the strategy in [7] and $\Delta x = 1/100$ (left) and $\Delta x = 1/5$ (middle), respectively, and the equidistant grid with $\Delta t = 1/20$ (right)

Figures 1 and 2 (middle and right plots) show the surface and contour lines of the POD adjoint state utilizing an equidistant time grid and utilizing the time adaptive grid, respectively. The analytical control intensity $\bar{u}(t)$,



FIGURE 4. Test 1: Analytical optimal control \bar{u} (top left), approximation $u_{\Delta x}$ of the optimal control gained by step 1 of Algorithm 1 (top right); POD control utilizing a uniform time grid with $\Delta t = 1/20$ (bottom left), POD control utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=21 (bottom right)

the approximation $u_{\Delta x}$ of the optimal control computed in step 1 of Algorithm 1 as well as the POD controls utilizing a uniform and time adaptive grid, respectively, are shown in Figure 4.

Table 1 summarizes the approximation quality of the POD solution depending on different time discretizations. The fineness of the time discretization (characterized by Δt and dof, respectively) is chosen in such a way that the results of uniform and adaptive temporal discretization are comparable. The absolute errors between the analytical optimal state \bar{y} and the POD solution y^{ℓ} , defined by $\varepsilon_{abs}^y := \|\bar{y} - y^{\ell}\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}$, are listed in columns 2 and 6; same applies for the errors in the control $\varepsilon_{abs}^u := \|\bar{u} - u^{\ell}\|_{\mathcal{U}}$ (columns 3 and 7) and adjoint state $\varepsilon_{abs}^p := \|\bar{p} - p^{\ell}\|_{L^2(\Omega_T)}$ (columns 4 and 8). If we compare the results, we note that we gain one order of accuracy for the adjoint and control variable with the time adaptive grid. In order to achieve an accuracy in the control variable of order 10^{-2} utilizing an equidistant time grid, we need about n = 10000 time steps (not listed in Table 1). This emphasizes that using an appropriate (non-equidistant) time grid for the adjoint variable is of particular importance in order to efficiently achieve POD controls of good quality.

Δt	$\varepsilon^y_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^p_{ m abs}$	dof	$\varepsilon^y_{ m abs}$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^{u}$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^p$
1/20	$1.5120 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.9837 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$3.6247 \cdot 10^{-02}$	21	$5.1874 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$5.3428 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$9.6343 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/42	$1.1186 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.1071 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$3.8490 \cdot 10^{-02}$	43	$5.1634 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.4868 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$4.3611 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/61	$1.0774 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.1447 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$3.9173 \cdot 10^{-02}$	62	$5.1599 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.3275 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$4.0691 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/114	$1.1157 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.1846 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$3.9893 \cdot 10^{-02}$	115	$5.1568 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.3027 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$4.0340 \cdot 10^{-03}$

TABLE 1. Test 1: Absolute errors between the analytical optimal solution and the POD solution depending on the time discretization (equidistant: columns 1-4, adaptive: columns 5-8)

Table 2 contains the evaluations of each term in (24). The value η_p^i (η_p^b) refers to the first (second) part in (13). For this test example, we note that the term η_p^i influences the estimation. However, we observe that the better the semi-discrete adjoint state $p_{\Delta x}$ from step 1 of Algorithm 1 is, the better will be the POD adjoint

solution. Since all summands of (24) can be estimated, Table 2 allows us to control the approximation of the POD adjoint state. The estimation (25) concerning the state variable will be investigated later on.

dof	$\varepsilon^p_{ m abs}$	η_p^i	η_p^b	$\ \zeta_k\ _U + \ \zeta_k^\ell\ _U$	$\sum_{i=\ell+1}^d \lambda_i$
21	$9.6343 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$4.9518 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$4.8031 \cdot 10^{-04}$	$1.6033 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$3.3938 \cdot 10^{-04}$
43	$4.3611 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$1.1976 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$5.0087 \cdot 10^{-05}$	$1.9200 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.9454 \cdot 10^{-04}$
62	$4.0691 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$7.2852 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.9835 \cdot 10^{-05}$	$1.9707 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.9212 \cdot 10^{-04}$
115	$4.0340 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$3.4966 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$1.4845 \cdot 10^{-05}$	$2.0191 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.9090 \cdot 10^{-04}$

TABLE 2. Test 1: Evaluation of each summand of the error estimation 24

Moreover, a comparison of the value of the cost functional is given in Table 3. The aim of the optimization problem (4) is to minimize the quantity of interest J(y, u). The analytical value of the cost functional at the optimal solution is $J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) \approx 8.3988 \cdot 10^{+01}$. Table 3 clearly points out that the use of a time adaptive grid is fundamental for solving the optimal control problem (4). The huge differences in the values of the cost functional is due to the great increase of the desired state y_d at the end of the time interval (see Figure 5). Small time steps at the end of the time interval, as it is the case in the time adaptive grid, lead to much more accurate results.

Δt	$J(y^\ell, u)$	dof	$J(y^\ell, u)$
1/20	$4.1652 \cdot 10^{+04}$	21	$8.7960 \cdot 10^{+01}$
1/42	$1.9834 \cdot 10^{+04}$	43	$8.4252 \cdot 10^{+01}$
1/61	$1.3656 \cdot 10^{+04}$	62	$8.4102 \cdot 10^{+01}$
1/114	$7.3078 \cdot 10^{+03}$	115	$8.4034 \cdot 10^{+01}$
1/40000	$8.5692 \cdot 10^{+01}$	-	-

TABLE 3. Test 1: Value of the cost functional at the POD solution utilizing uniform and adaptive time discretization, respectively, analytical value: $J \approx 8.3988 \cdot 10^{+01}$

Now, let us discuss the inclusion of step 4 in Algorithm 1. Since we went for an adaptive time grid regarding the adjoint variable, we cannot in general expect that the resulting time grid is a good time grid for the state variable. Table 1 confirms that utilizing a uniform time grid leads to better approximation results in the state variable than using the time adaptive grid. In order to improve also the approximation quality in the state variable, we incorporate the error estimation (25) from [17] in a post-processing step after producing the time grid with the strategy of [7] and before starting the POD solution process. Define

$$\eta_{\text{POD}_{j}} := \Delta t_{j}^{2} \left(\int_{I_{j}} (\|y_{tt}^{k}\|_{H}^{2} + \|y_{t}^{k}\|_{V}^{2}) \right)$$

where $y_t^k \approx y_t(t_k)$ and $y_{tt}^k \approx y_{tt}(t_k)$ are computed via finite difference approximation. We perform bisection on those time intervals I_j , where the quantity η_{POD_j} has its maximum value and repeat this N_{refine} times. This results in the time grid \mathcal{T}_{new} . The improvement in the approximation quality in the state variable can be seen in Table 4. The more additional time instances we include according to (25), the better the approximation results get with respect to the state. Moreover, also the approximation quality in the control and adjoint state is improved.

We note that the sum of the neglected eigenvalues $\sum_{i=2}^{d} \lambda_i$ is approximately zero and the second largest eigenvalue of the correlation matrix is of order 10^{-10} , which makes the use of additional POD basis functions



FIGURE 5. Test 1: Analytical optimal state \bar{y} (top left), desired state y_d (top right); POD state y^{ℓ} utilizing a uniform time grid with $\Delta t = 1/20$ (bottom left), POD state y^{ℓ} utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof = 21 (bottom right)

$N_{\rm refine}$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^y$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^{u}$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^p$
0	$5.1874 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$5.3428 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$9.6343 \cdot 10^{-03}$
5	$4.0058 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.1145 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$3.6378 \cdot 10^{-03}$
10	$3.0909 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.8396 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$3.0895 \cdot 10^{-03}$
20	$2.4759 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.7104 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.8210 \cdot 10^{-03}$
30	$2.3028 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.6971 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$2.7906 \cdot 10^{-03}$

TABLE 4. Test 1: Improvement of approximation quality concerning the state variable. The initial time grid \mathcal{T} is computed with dof=43

redundant. Likewise, in this particular example the choice of richer snapshots (even the optimal snapshots) does not bring significant improvements in the approximation quality of the POD solutions. So, this example shows that solely the use of an appropriate adaptive time mesh efficiently improves the accuracy of the POD solution.

6.2. Test 2: Solution with steep gradient in the middle of the time interval

Let $\Omega = (0, 1)$ be the spatial domain and [0, T] = [0, 1] be the time interval. We choose $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$ and $\alpha = 1$. To begin with, we consider an unconstrained optimal control problem and investigate the inclusion of control constraints separately in Test 3. We build the example in such a way that the analytical solution (\bar{y}, \bar{u}) of (4) is given by:

$$\bar{y}(x,t) = x^3(x-1)t, \quad \bar{p}(x,t) = \sin(\pi x)\operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{t-0.5}{\varepsilon}\right)(t-1),$$

$$\bar{u}_1(t) = \bar{u}_2(t) = -\operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{t-0.5}{\varepsilon}\right)(t-1)\left(\frac{32}{\pi^3} - \frac{8}{\pi^2}\right),$$
$$\bar{\chi}_1(x) = \max(0, 1 - 16(x - 0.25)^2), \quad \bar{\chi}_2(x) = \max(0, 1 - 16(x - 0.75)^2)$$

The desired state and the forcing term are chosen accordingly. Due to the arcus-tangens term and the small value for ε , the adjoint state exhibits an interior layer with steep gradient at t = 0.5, which can be seen in the left panel of Figure 6 and 7. The shape functions χ_1 and χ_2 are shown in Figure 8 on the left side. Like in Test 1, we study the use of two different time grids: an equidistant time discretization and the time adaptive grid computed in step 1 of Algorithm 1 (see Figure 9). Once again, we note that spatial and temporal discretization decouple when computing the time adaptive grid utilizing the a-posteriori estimation (13), which enables us to use a large spatial resolution Δx for solving the elliptic system and to keep the offline costs low.



FIGURE 6. Test 2: Analytical optimal adjoint state \bar{p} (left), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right)



FIGURE 7. Test 2: Contour lines of the analytical optimal adjoint state \bar{p} (left), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle), POD adjoint solution p^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right)

As snaphots, we choose state and adjoint snapshots as well as time derivative adjoint snapshots corresponding to $u_{\circ} = 0$ and we also include the initial condition y_0 into our snapshot set. The middle and right plots of Figures 6 and 7 show the surface and contour lines of the POD adjoint solution utilizing an equidistant time grid (with $\Delta t = 1/40$) and utilizing the adaptive time grid (with dof = 41), respectively. Clearly, the equidistant



FIGURE 8. Test 2: Shape functions $\chi_1(x)$ and $\chi_2(x)$ (left), decay of the eigenvalues on semilog scale (middle) and first POD basis function ψ_1 (right) utilizing uniform time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$



FIGURE 9. Test 2: Adaptive space-time grids with dof = 41 according to the strategy in [7] and $\Delta x = 1/100$ (left) and $\Delta x = 1/5$ (middle), respectively, and the equidistant grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (right)

time grid fails to capture the interior layer at t = 1/2 satisfactorily, whereas the POD adjoint state utilizing the adaptive time grid approximates the interior layer well.

Unlike Test Example 6.1, the adaptive time grid is also a suitable time grid for the state variable in this numerical test example. This can be seen visually when comparing the results for the POD state utilizing uniform discretization and utilizing the adaptive time grid with the analytical optimal state, Figures 10 and 11.



FIGURE 10. Test 6.2: Analytical optimal state \bar{y} (left), POD solution y^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle), POD solution y^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right)

Table 5 summarizes the absolute errors between the analytical optimal solution and the POD solution for the state, control and adjoint state for all test runs with an equidistant and adaptive time grid, respectively. If we compare the results of the numerical approximation, we note that the use of an adaptive time grid heavily



FIGURE 11. Test 6.2: Contour lines of the analytical optimal state \bar{y} (left), POD solution y^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle), POD solution y^{ℓ} with $\ell = 4$ utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right)

improves the quality of the POD solution with respect to an equidistant grid. In fact, we get an improvement up to order four.

Δt	$\varepsilon^y_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^u_{\rm abs}$	$\varepsilon_{\rm abs}^p$	dof	$\varepsilon^y_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon_{\rm abs}^p$
1/20	$5.0767 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$7.8419 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$3.5413 \cdot 10^{+01}$	21	$4.0346 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$5.4053 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.4409 \cdot 10^{+00}$
1/40	$2.6242 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$4.1058 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.8542 \cdot 10^{+01}$	41	$2.2178 \cdot 10^{-04}$	$5.3471 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$1.3186 \cdot 10^{-02}$
1/68	$1.5603 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.4503 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.1065 \cdot 10^{+01}$	69	$9.7031 \cdot 10^{-05}$	$4.5702 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$4.2670 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/134	$7.8741 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.2386 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$5.5938 \cdot 10^{+00}$	135	$8.5577 \cdot 10^{-05}$	$4.4901 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$2.3507 \cdot 10^{-03}$

TABLE 5. Test 6.2: Absolute errors between the analytical optimal solution and the POD solution with $\ell = 4$ depending on the time discretization (equidistant: columns 1-4, adaptive: columns 5-8)

The exact optimal control intensities $\bar{u}_1(t)$ and $\bar{u}_2(t)$ as well as the POD solutions utilizing uniform and adaptive temporal discretization are illustrated in Figure 12.

Another point of comparison is the evaluation of the cost functional. Since the exact optimal solution is known analytically, we can compute the exact value of the cost functional, which is $J(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) = 1.0085 \cdot 10^{+03}$. As expected, utilizing an adaptive time grid enables us to approximate this value of the cost functional quite well when using dof=135, see Table 6. In contrast, the use of a very fine temporal discretization with $\Delta t = 1/10000$ is still worse than the results with the adaptive time grid and dof ≥ 41 . Again, this emphasizes the importance of a suitable time grid.

Δt	$J(y^\ell, u)$	dof	$J(y^\ell, u)$
1/20	$3.1225 \cdot 10^{+05}$	21	$1.9553 \cdot 10^{+04}$
1/40	$1.5619 \cdot 10^{+05}$	41	$1.0274 \cdot 10^{+03}$
1/68	$9.1901 \cdot 10^{+04}$	69	$1.0065 \cdot 10^{+03}$
1/134	$4.6655 \cdot 10^{+04}$	135	$1.0082 \cdot 10^{+03}$
1/10000	$1.0350 \cdot 10^{+03}$	-	_

TABLE 6. Test 2: Value of the cost functional with $\ell = 4$, true value $J \approx 1.0085 \cdot 10^{+03}$

Now, we like to investigate which influence the number ℓ of utilized POD basis functions has on the approximation quality of the POD solution. First, we have a look at the decay of the eigenvalues, which is displayed



FIGURE 12. Test 2: Analytical control intensities $\bar{u}_1(t)$ (top left) and $\bar{u}_2(t)$ (bottom left), POD control utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle) and $\ell = 4$, POD control utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right) and $\ell = 4$

in Figure 8, middle. The eigenvalues stagnate nearby the order of machine precision, which is why the use of more than $\ell = 4$ POD basis functions will not lead to better POD approximation results. The first POD basis function ψ_1 can be seen in the right plot of Figure 8. For the use of only $\ell = 1$ POD basis function, the absolute error between the analytical solution and the POD solution in the state, control and adjoint state for uniform as well as for adaptive time discretization are summarized in Table 7. Let us compare the results in this Table 7 where $\ell = 1$ POD basis function is used with the results in Table 5 where $\ell = 4$ POD basis function leads to similar approximation results like when using $\ell = 4$ POD modes. On the contrary, in the case of the adaptive time discretization leads to better approximation results with respect to the state variable than using $\ell = 1$ POD basis. The approximation results concerning the control and adjoint state differ only slightly when increasing the number of utilized POD basis functions. Nevertheless, also for the use of only $\ell = 1$ POD mode, the use of the time adaptive grid leads to an improvement of the absolute errors of up to four decimal points in comparison to using a uniform time grid.

Δt	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^y$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^p_{ m abs}$	dof	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^y$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon_{\rm abs}^p$
1/20	$5.0631 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$7.8420 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$3.5413 \cdot 10^{+01}$	21	$4.5255 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$5.4054 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.4409 \cdot 10^{+00}$
1/40	$2.6230 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$4.1059 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.8542 \cdot 10^{+01}$	41	$2.0721 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$5.3475 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$1.3186 \cdot 10^{-02}$
1/68	$1.5684 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.4503 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.1065 \cdot 10^{+01}$	69	$2.0713 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$4.5706 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$4.2670 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/134	$8.1129 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.2386 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$5.5938 \cdot 10^{+00}$	135	$2.0664 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$4.4905 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$2.3507 \cdot 10^{-03}$

TABLE 7. Test 2: Absolute errors between the analytical optimal solution and the POD solution with $\ell = 1$ depending on the time discretization (equidistant: columns 1-4, adaptive: columns 5-8)

6.3. Test 3: Control constrained problem

In this test we add control constraints to the previous example. We set $u_{1,a}(t) \leq u_1(t) \leq u_{1,b}(t)$ and $u_{2,a}(t) \leq u_2(t) \leq u_{2,b}(t)$ for the time dependent control intensities $u_1(t)$ and $u_2(t)$. The analytical value range

for both controls is $u_1(t), u_2(t) \in [-0.3479, 0.1700]$ for $t \in [0, 1]$. For each control intensity we choose different upper and lower bounds: we set $u_{1,a}(t) = -100$ (i.e. no restriction), $u_{1,b} = 0.1$ and $u_{2,a}(t) = -0.2$, $u_{2,b}(t) = 0$. For the solution of problem (19) we use a projected gradient method.

The solution of the nonlinear, nonsmooth equation (9) can be done by a semi-smooth Newton method or by a Newton method utilizing a regularization of the projection formula, see [21]. In our numerical tests we compute the approximate solution to (19) with a fixed point iteration and initialize the method with the adjoint state corresponding to the control unconstrained optimal control problem. In this way, only two iterations are needed for convergence. Convergence of the fixed point iteration can be argued for large enough values of α , see [11].

The analytical optimal solutions \bar{u}_1 and \bar{u}_2 are shown in the left plots in Figure 13. For POD basis computation, we use state, adjoint and time derivative adjoint snapshots corresponding to the reference control $u_{\circ} = 0$ and we also include the initial condition y_0 into our snapshot set. The plots in the middle and on the right in Figure 13 refer to the POD controls using a uniform and an adaptive temporal discretization, respectively. Once again, we note that utilizing an adaptive time grid leads to far better results than using a uniform temporal grid. The numerical results in Table 8 confirm this observation. We observe that the inclusion of box constraints on the control functions lead in general to better approximation results, compare Table 5 with Table 8. This is due to the fact that on the active sets the error between the analytical optimal controls and the POD solutions vanishes.



FIGURE 13. Test 3: Inclusion of box constraints for the control intensities: Analytical control intensities $\bar{u}_1(t)$ (top left) and $\bar{u}_2(t)$ (bottom left), POD control utilizing an equidistant time grid with $\Delta t = 1/40$ (middle) and $\ell = 4$, POD control utilizing an adaptive time grid with dof=41 (right) and $\ell = 4$

7. Conclusion

In this paper we investigated the problem of snapshot location in optimal control problems. We showed that the numerical POD solution is much more accurate if we use an adaptive time grid, especially when the solution of the problem presents steep gradients. The time grid was computed by means of an a-posteriori error estimation strategy of space-time approximation of a second order in time and fourth order in space elliptic equation which describes the optimal control problem and has the advantage that it is independent of

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Δt	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^y$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$\varepsilon^p_{ m abs}$	dof	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^y$	$\varepsilon^u_{ m abs}$	$arepsilon_{ m abs}^p$
1/20	$2.8601 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$5.7201 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$3.5430 \cdot 10^{+01}$	21	$2.2714 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$3.9586 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.4423 \cdot 10^{+00}$
1/40	$1.4802 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$2.9955 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.8551 \cdot 10^{+01}$	41	$2.9482 \cdot 10^{-04}$	$4.4969 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$1.3183 \cdot 10^{-02}$
1/68	$8.8124 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$1.7882 \cdot 10^{+00}$	$1.1071 \cdot 10^{+01}$	69	$2.1247 \cdot 10^{-04}$	$3.2811 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$4.2629 \cdot 10^{-03}$
1/134	$4.4570 \cdot 10^{-02}$	$9.0470 \cdot 10^{-01}$	$5.5965 \cdot 10^{+00}$	135	$2.1330 \cdot 10^{-04}$	$3.1321 \cdot 10^{-03}$	$2.3474 \cdot 10^{-03}$

TABLE 8. Test 3: Inclusion of box constraints for the control intensities: Absolute errors between the analytical optimal solution and the POD solution with $\ell = 4$ depending on the time discretization (equidistant: columns 1-4, adaptive: columns 5-8)

an input control function. Furthermore, a coarse approximation with respect to space of the latter equation gives information on the snapshots one can use to build the surrogate model. Finally, we provided a certification of our surrogate model by means of an a-posteriori error estimation for the error between the optimal solution and the POD solution.

For future work, we are interested in transferring our approach to optimal control problems subject to nonlinear parabolic equations.

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