

# Christian Grussler

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## ACADEMIC DEGREES

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- FEBRUARY 2017 **Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering**  
Department of Automatic Control, Lund University, Sweden
- FEBRUARY 2012 **Master of Science in Engineering, Engineering Mathematics**  
Faculty of Engineering, Lund University, Sweden
- DECEMBER 2011 **Diplom-Technomathematiker/Diploma in Industrial Mathematics**  
Department of Mathematics, University of Kaiserslautern, Germany

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- FROM DEC 2021 **Assistant Professor**, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology  
A Jane and Larry Sherman Fellow (From March 2022)
- JAN 2020 – JAN 2021 **Postdoctoral Scholar**, Department of Computer Sciences and Electrical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley  
Research towards a systems-based approach of *online optimization/learning* through *total positivity*.  
Reduced working hours due to childcare during COVID-19 from March 2020.  
Afterwards: Stay at home father until Dec 2021.
- JAN 2018 – JAN 2020 **Research Associate**, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge  
Research in the areas of *totally positive systems* & *scalable midrange statistics*.  
Parental leave: 2019-11-21 – 2019-12-05  
Reduced work for childcare (50 %): 2019-12-06 – 2020-01-04
- MAR 2017 – DEC 2017 **Postdoc**, Department of Automatic Control, Lund University  
Research in *low-rank optimization* and *positive systems theory*.
- JAN 2012 – FEB 2017 **Doctoral student**, Department of Automatic Control, Lund University  
Research in *model order reduction*, *positive systems* & *low-rank optimization*.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Currently, I am interested in the development of systems theory that intersects with algorithmic developments in learning and optimization. I have been broadly interested in topics including:

- monotone & positive systems
- model order reduction
- system identification
- low-rank optimization
- manifold optimization
- online optimization

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching training:

| Course   | Institute       | Year | Publication |
|--|-----------------|------|-------------|
| <i>Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education</i> | Lund University | 2013 | O1.         |
| <i>Communicating Science</i>                                     | Lund University | 2013 | O2.         |

### Teaching assistant in undergraduate level courses:

| Course   | Institute                    | Language          |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Mathematical Methods</i>  | University of Cambridge      | English           |
| <i>Basic Course in Control</i>   | Lund University              | Swedish & English |
| <i>Control Theory</i>  | Lund University              | Swedish           |
| <i>Systems Engineering &amp; Process Control</i>   | Lund University              | Swedish           |
| <i>International Project Course in Control</i>   | Lund University              | Swedish & English |
| <i>Nonlinear Control &amp; Servo Systems</i>   | Lund University              | Swedish & English |
| <i>Praktische Mathematik Numerik</i><br><i>(Numerical Linear Algebra &amp; Analysis)</i> | University of Kaiserslautern | German            |

*Course responsibilities included:* laboratory & tutorial sessions, exam preparation, student paper grading.

## PUBLIC PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Journal reviewer for:

- IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control
- IEEE Control Systems Letters (L-CSS)
- IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering

- Automatica
- SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization
- Mathematics of Control, Signals and Systems
- IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems
- SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications
- Linear Algebra and its Applications
- Algorithms

#### Conference reviewer for:

- IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)
- IEEE American Control Conference (ACC)
- European Control Conference (ECC)
- IFAC World Congress
- IEEE Indian Control Conference (ICC)

#### Conference co-chair for:

- IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)
- European Control Conference (ECC)

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Theses

- T1. C. Grussler (2012). "Model Reduction of Positive Systems". MA thesis. Lund Institute of Technology, Lund University
- T2. C. Grussler (2017). "Rank Reduction with Convex Constraints". PhD thesis. Department of Automatic Control, Lund Institute of Technology, Lund University

### Refereed papers in professional journals

#### Published:

- J1. C. Grussler, A. Rantzer, and P. Giselsson (2018). "Low-Rank Optimization With Convex Constraints". In: *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control* 63.11, pp. 4000–4007
- J2. C. Grussler and P. Giselsson (2018). "Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations". In: *SIAM Journal on Optimization* 28.4, pp. 3057–3078
- J3. C. Mostajeran, C. Grussler, and R. Sepulchre (2020). "Geometric Matrix Midranges". In: *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications* 41.3, pp. 1347–1368
- J4. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2021). "On Second-Order Cone Positive Systems". In: *SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization* 59.4, pp. 2717–2739
- J5. C. Grussler and P. Giselsson (2021). "Efficient Proximal Mapping Computation for Unitarily Invariant Low-Rank Inducing Norms". In: *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, pp. 1573–2878

- J6. **C. Grussler** and R. Sepulchre (2022). "Variation diminishing linear time-invariant systems". In: *Automatica* 136, p. 109985. ISSN: 0005-1098
- J7. **C. Grussler**, T. Damm, and R. Sepulchre (2021). "Balanced truncation of  $k$ -positive systems". In: *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, pp. 1–1
- J8. **C. Grussler** and A. Rantzer (2022). "On the similarity to nonnegative and Metzler Hessenberg forms". In: *Special Matrices* 10.1, pp. 1–8

*Submitted:*

- J9. **C. Grussler**, T. Burghi, and S. Sojoudi (2021). *Internally Hankel  $k$ -positive systems*. Submitted to SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization. eprint: [arXiv:2103.06962](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.06962)

### Refereed papers in conference proceedings

- C1. **C. Grussler** and T. Damm (2012). "A symmetry approach for balanced truncation of positive linear systems". In: *51st IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Maui, HI, USA, pp. 4308–4313
- C2. **C. Grussler** and A. Rantzer (2014). "Modified balanced truncation preserving ellipsoidal cone-invariance". In: *53rd IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Los Angeles, CA, USA, pp. 2365–2370
- C3. **C. Grussler** and A. Rantzer (2015). "On optimal low-rank approximation of non-negative matrices". In: *54th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Osaka, Japan, pp. 5278–5283
- C4. **C. Grussler**, A. Zare, M. R. Jovanović, and A. Rantzer (2016). "The Use of the  $r^*$  Heuristic in Covariance Completion Problems". In: *55th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Las Vegas, NV, USA, pp. 1978–1983
- C5. **C. Grussler** and P. Giselsson (2017). "Local Convergence of Proximal Splitting Methods for Rank Constrained Problems". In: *56th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Melbourne, VIC, Australia, pp. 702–708
- C6. **C. Grussler**, J. Umenberger, and I. R. Manchester (2017). "Identification of externally positive systems". In: *56th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*. Melbourne, VIC, Australia, pp. 6549–6554
- C7. **C. Grussler** and P. Giselsson (2019). "Optimality Interpretations for Atomic Norms". In: *18th European Control Conference (ECC)*. Naples, Italy, pp. 1473–1477
- C8. **C. Grussler** and R. Sepulchre (2019). "Strongly unimodal systems". In: *18th European Control Conference (ECC)*. Naples, Italy, pp. 3273–3278
- C9. C. Mostajeran, **C. Grussler**, and R. Sepulchre (2019). "Affine-Invariant Midrange Statistics". In: *Geometric Science of Information – 4th International Conference*. Ed. by F. Nielsen and F. Barbaresco. Toulouse, France: Springer International Publishing, pp. 494–501
- C10. **C. Grussler** and R. Sepulchre (2020). "Variation diminishing Hankel operators". In: *59th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, pp. 4529–4534

### Other publications

- O1. F. Nada, **C. Grussler**, U. Mirza, H. Sina, and L. Wang (2013). "Communication between Educational and Industrial Enterprises: Industrial PhD Students, the Missing Link". In: *Lund University* (2013: Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education)

- O2. C. Grussler (2013). "Positive systems – the future of control theory?" In: *Lund University* (2013: Communication Science – Popular Science Article)

## CONFERENCES

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### Invited Workshop Talks

- W1. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. LCCC Focus Period Workshop on Large-Scale and Distributed Optimization, Lund, Sweden
- W2. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2019). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Workshop on Low-Rank Models and Applications (LRMA), Mons, Belgium
- W3. C. Grussler and R. Sepulchre (2020). *The variation diminishing property*. Workshop on Control Across Scales, Cambridge, United Kingdom
- W4. C. Grussler and R. Sepulchre (2020). *Variation diminishing in AI and Control*. Workshop on Control Across Scales, Cambridge, United Kingdom

### Contributed Talks

- C1. C. Grussler and T. Damm (2012). *Symmetric Positivity Preserving Balanced Truncation*. 83rd Annual Meeting of the International Association of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics (GAMM), Darmstadt, Germany
- C2. C. Grussler and T. Damm (2012). *A Symmetry Approach for Balanced Truncation of Positive Linear Systems*. 51st IEEE Conference on Decision and Control, Maui, HI, USA
- C3. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2014). *Modified balanced truncation preserving ellipsoidal cone-invariance*. 53rd IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), Los Angeles, CA, USA
- C4. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2015). *On optimal low-rank approximation of non-negative matrices*. 54th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control, Osaka, Japan
- C5. C. Grussler, A. Zare, M. R. Jovanović, and A. Rantzer (2016). *The Use of the  $r^*$  Heuristic in Covariance Completion Problems*. 55th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), Las Vegas, NV, USA
- C6. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Southern California Control Workshop, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA
- C7. C. Grussler and P. Giselsson (2017). *Local Convergence of Proximal Splitting Methods for Rank Constrained Problems*. 56th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- C8. C. Grussler, J. Umenberger, and I. R. Manchester (2017). *Identification of externally positive systems*. 56th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- C9. C. Grussler and R. Sepulchre (2019). *Strongly unimodal systems*. 18th European Control Conference (ECC), Naples, Italy
- C10. C. Grussler and P. Giselsson (2019). *Optimality Interpretations for Atomic Norms*. 18th European Control Conference (ECC), Naples, Italy
- C11. C. Mostajeran, C. Grussler, and R. Sepulchre (2019). *Affine-Invariant Midrange Statistics*. Geometric Science of Information – 4th International Conference, Toulouse, France

- C12. C. Grussler and R. Sepulchre (2020). *Variation diminishing Hankel operators*. Virtual 59th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)

### Contributed Posters

- P1. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2014). *Balanced truncation preserving ellipsoidal cone-invariance*. Reglermöte, Linköping, Sweden
- P2. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2015). *On optimal low-rank approximation of non-negative matrices*. Workshop on Low-rank Optimization and Applications, Bonn, Germany
- P3. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2015). *On optimal low-rank approximation of non-negative matrices*. IMA Workshop on Optimization and Parsimonious Modelling, Minneapolis, USA
- P4. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2016). *Low-rank approximation with convex constraints*. Reglermöte, Stockholm, Sweden

### NOTES

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#### Invited Seminar Talks

- S1. C. Grussler and A. Rantzer (2016). *On optimal low-rank approximation of non-negative matrices*. Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, University of Minnesota, USA
- S2. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Viterbi School of Engineering, CommNet Seminar, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA
- S3. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Electrical & Computer Engineering Department, University of California, Los Angeles, USA
- S4. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA
- S5. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, University of Washington, USA
- S6. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, University of California, Irvine, USA
- S7. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Department of Electrical Engineering, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
- S8. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Department of Automatic Control, Linköping University, Sweden
- S9. C. Grussler, P. Giselsson, and A. Rantzer (2017). *Low-Rank Inducing Norms with Optimality Interpretations*. Engineering Department, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom
- S10. C. Grussler and R. Sepulchre (2020). *Variation Diminishing Systems*. KL-Regelungstechnik-Webinar, TU Kaiserslautern, Germany

#### Software Packages

- R1. C. Grussler (2018). *LRINorm – A MATLAB package for rank constrained optimization by low-rank inducing norms and non-convex proximal splitting methods*. <https://github.com/LowRankOpt/>

LRINorm

- R2. C. Grussler (2018). *LRIPy – A Python package for rank constrained optimization by low-rank inducing norms and non-convex proximal splitting methods*. <https://github.com/LowRankOpt/LRIPy>