

Winter 2020 Math 106  
Topics in Applied Mathematics  
Data-driven Uncertainty Quantification

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Data Assimilation  
Lecture 17: Kalman Filter

## 17.1 Data Assimilation

$k$ : index for time  $t = k\Delta t$  for a time interval  $\Delta t$ .

- ▶ a system of interest with uncertainty

$$u_k = f(u_{k-1}) + \sigma_d \xi_{k-1}$$

$$\xi_k \sim N(0, \sigma_d^2)$$

- ▶ observations available uniformly in time

$$v_k = g(u_k) + \epsilon_k$$

$\epsilon_k \sim N(0, \sigma_0^2)$  observation error

**Notation.**  $u_{1:k} = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$ ,  $v_{1:k} = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ .

**Goal of data assimilation.** At  $t = k\Delta t$ , we want to estimate  $u_k$  using  $v_{1:k}$ .

$$p(u_k | v_{1:k}) = \frac{p(v_k | u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1})}{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1})}$$

## 17.1 Data Assimilation

$$p(u_k | v_{1:k}) = \frac{p(v_k | u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1})}{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1})}$$

**Derivation.**

$$\begin{aligned} p(u_k | v_{1:k}) &= \frac{p(v_{1:k} | u_k) p(u_k)}{p(v_{1:k})} \\ &= \frac{p(v_k, v_{1:k-1} | u_k) p(u_k)}{p(v_{1:k})} \\ &= \frac{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1}, u_k) p(v_{1:k-1} | u_k) p(u_k)}{p(v_{1:k})} \\ &= \frac{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1}, u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1}) p(v_{1:k-1}) p(u_k)}{p(v_{1:k}) p(u_k)} \\ &= \frac{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1}, u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1}) p(v_{1:k-1})}{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1}) p(v_{1:k-1})} \\ &= \frac{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1}, u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1})}{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1})} = \frac{p(v_k | u_k) p(u_k | v_{1:k-1})}{p(v_k | v_{1:k-1})} \end{aligned}$$

## 17.1 Data Assimilation

- ▶  $p(u_k|v_{1:k-1})$ : prior density of  $u_k$ . This is calculated from the previous step posterior density  $p(u_{k-1}|v_{1:k-1})$  using one of the methods to propagate uncertainty (MC, gPC, perturbation, etc).
- ▶  $p(v_k|u_k)$ : likelihood of  $v_k$ . Under the Gaussian assumption of the observation error, we have

$$p(v_k|u_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_o^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(v_k - g(u_k))^2}{2\sigma_o^2}\right)$$

- ▶  $p(v_k|v_{1:k-1})$ : normalization constant.

## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Example.** Scalar linear system  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$u_k = au_{k-1} + \xi_{k-1}, \quad \xi_{k-1} \sim N(0, \sigma_d^2)$$

$$v_k = u_k + \epsilon_k, \quad \epsilon_k \sim N(0, \sigma_o^2)$$

- ▶ Assume that  $u_{k-1}|v_{1:k-1}$  is Gaussian with mean  $m_{k-1}$  and variance  $C_{k-1}^2$ , which are the mean and variance of the previous step posterior density  $p(u_{k-1}|v_{1:k-1})$ .
- ▶ Then  $p(u_k|v_{1:k-1})$  is also Gaussian with mean  $\tilde{m}_k$  and variance  $\tilde{C}_k^2$

$$\tilde{m}_k = am_{k-1}$$

$$\tilde{C}_k^2 = a^2 C_{k-1}^2 + \sigma_d^2$$

## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Example.** Scalar linear system  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$u_k = au_{k-1} + \xi_{k-1}, \quad \xi_{k-1} \sim N(0, \sigma_d^2)$$

$$v_k = u_k + \epsilon_k, \quad \epsilon_k \sim N(0, \sigma_o^2)$$

- The posterior  $p(u_k | v_{1:k})$  is also Gaussian with mean  $m_k$  and variance  $C_k^2$

$$m_k = \frac{\tilde{m}_k \sigma_o^2 + v_k \tilde{C}_k^2}{\tilde{C}_k^2 + \sigma_o^2}$$

$$C_k^2 = \frac{\tilde{C}_k^2 \sigma_o^2}{\tilde{C}_k^2 + \sigma_o^2}$$

**Idea of Proof.** Match

$$-\frac{(u_k - \tilde{m}_{k-1})^2}{2\tilde{C}_k^2} - \frac{(v_k - u_k)^2}{2\sigma_o^2} = -\frac{(u_k - m_k)^2}{2C_k^2}$$

## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Example.** Scalar linear system  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$u_k = au_{k-1} + \xi_{k-1}, \quad \xi_{k-1} \sim N(0, \sigma_d^2)$$

$$v_k = u_k + \epsilon_k, \quad \epsilon_k \sim N(0, \sigma_o^2)$$

- For consistency with another formula we will discuss later, the mean and variance the following representation

$$m_k = \tilde{m}_k + K(v_k - \tilde{m}_k)$$

$$C_k^2 = (1 - K)\tilde{C}_k^2$$

where  $K = \frac{\tilde{C}_k^2}{\tilde{C}_k^2 + \sigma_o^2}$  is called "Kalman gain".

## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Kalman filter for a d-dimensional linear system.** For  $u \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$u_k = Au_{k-1} + \xi_{k-1}, \quad \xi \sim N(0, \Sigma)$$

$$v_k = Hu_k + \epsilon_k, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, \Gamma)$$

where  $\Sigma$  and  $\Gamma$  are symmetric positive definite matrices.

- The prior mean  $\tilde{m}_k$  and covariance  $\tilde{C}_k$  are given by

$$\tilde{m}_k = Am_{k-1}$$

$$\tilde{C}_k^2 = AC_{k-1}^2A^T + \Sigma$$

where  $m_{k-1}$  and  $C_{k-1}$  are the mean and covariance of the previous step posterior distribution  $p(u_{k-1}|v_{1:k-1})$ .



## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Kalman filter for a d-dimensional linear system.** For  $u \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$u_k = Au_{k-1} + \xi_{k-1}, \quad \xi \sim N(0, \Sigma)$$

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where  $\Sigma$  and  $\Gamma$  are symmetric positive definite matrices.

- The posterior mean  $m_k$  and covariance  $C_k^2$  are given by

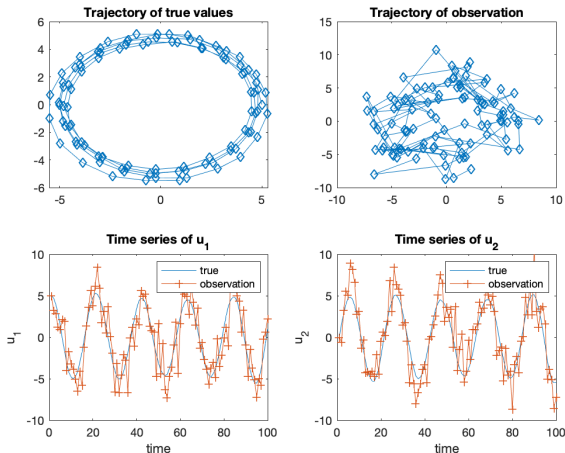
$$\begin{aligned} m_k &= \tilde{m}_k + K_k(v_k - H\tilde{m}_k) \\ C_k^2 &= (1 - K_kH)\tilde{C}_k^2 \\ K_k &= \tilde{C}_k^2 H^T (H\tilde{C}_k^2 H^T + \Gamma)^{-1} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $K$  is the **Kalman gain matrix**.

## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Example.**  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$  with  $\theta = 0.3$ .  $\Sigma = \sigma^2 I_2$ .  
 $\Gamma = \sigma_o^2 I_2$ .

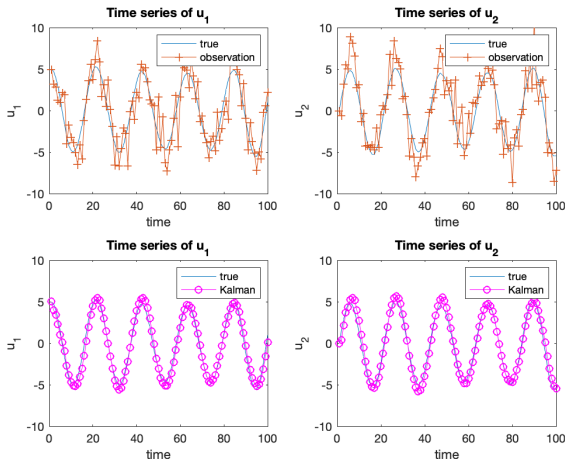
**True and noisy observation values.**



## 17.2 Kalman Filter

**Example.**  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$  with  $\theta = 0.3$ .  $\Sigma = \sigma^2 I_2$ .  
 $\Gamma = \sigma_o^2 I_2$ .

**Kalman filtering result.**



## 17.3 Continuous Time Model

**Example.** One of your homework problem (with different notations)

$$du - \gamma u dt + \sigma dw \quad (2)$$

- It is straightforward to derive an equation for the mean

$$\frac{dE[u]}{dt} = -\gamma E[u] \Rightarrow E[u] = u_0 e^{-\gamma t}$$

- But not straightforward for the variance. Let  $u = E[u] + \tilde{u}$ .  
Then

$$\frac{d\tilde{u}}{dt} = -\gamma \tilde{u} + \sigma dw$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d\text{Var}(u)}{dt} &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{dE[\tilde{u}^2]}{dt} = E\left[\tilde{u} \frac{d\tilde{u}}{dt}\right] \\ &= E\left[-\gamma \tilde{u}^2 dt + \sigma \tilde{u} dw\right] ?? \end{aligned}$$

## 17.3 Continuous Time Model

**Example.** One of your homework problem (with different notations)

$$du - \gamma u dt + \sigma dw \quad (2)$$

**Another approach using integrating factors and white noise.**

- ▶ The solution to (2) is given by

$$u(t) = u_0 e^{-\gamma t} + \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\gamma(t-s)} dw(s).$$

- ▶ Note that  $E[u] = u_0 e^{-\gamma t}$  and  $\tilde{u} = \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\gamma(t-s)} dw(s)$ .
- ▶  $\text{Var}(u(t)) = E[\tilde{u}(t)^2]$

$$= E \left[ \sigma^2 e^{-2\gamma t} \int_0^t \int_0^t e^{\gamma(t'+s')} v(t') v(s') dt' ds' \right]$$

where  $v(t')$  is the white noise of  $w(t')$ .

## 17.3 Continuous Time Model

**Example.** One of your homework problem (with different notations)

$$du - \gamma u dt + \sigma dw \quad (2)$$

**Another approach using integrating factors and white noise.**

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sigma^2 e^{-2\gamma t} \int_0^t \int_0^t e^{\gamma(t'+s')} E[v(t')v(s')] dt' ds' \\ &= \sigma^2 e^{-2\gamma t} \int_0^t \int_0^t e^{\gamma(t'+s')} \delta(t' - s') dt' ds' \\ &= \sigma^2 e^{-2\gamma t} \int_0^t e^{2\gamma t'} dt' \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{2\gamma} (1 - e^{-2\gamma t}) \end{aligned}$$

## 17.3 Continuous Time Model

**Example.** One of your homework problem (with different notations)

$$du - \gamma u dt + \sigma dw \quad (2)$$

Therefore, we have

$$m(t) = E[u(t)] = u_0 e^{-\gamma t}$$

$$C^2(t) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2\gamma} (1 - e^{-2\gamma t})$$

**Exercise.** We assumed that  $u_0$  is a fixed value (not random). What are the mean and variance of  $u(t)$  for  $u_0 \sim N(m_0, \sigma_0^2)$  where  $m_0$  and  $\sigma_0^2$  are fixed constants?