

Reinforcement and Online Learning

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Week Two and Three: State-Space Models and Kalman Filter

9, 15, 16 February 2021

Plan: Tuesday 9 Feb 2021

Approximate

- Quick review RLS, Coursework (15 Minutes)
- Discussion with UG cohort [Cameras ON, recording OFF] (15 minutes)
- Work on coursework on your own (45 minutes)
- Any clarifications on coursework (15 minutes)
- Start on State-Space models and what is coming next (30 minutes)

State Space Models

- We will look at systems that are dynamic in time
 - Flight of an aircraft governed by laws of motion
 - Chemical plant governed by laws of reactions
 - Parameters of a model being estimated by stochastic gradient descent
 - A robot following a path
- In these we can usually identify
 - A dynamics determined by knowledge of the system
 - Noise in the dynamics that
 - A control input we exert
- The above are defined on the *state* of a system
- We can make observations from the system
 - Observations are functions of the state
 - There will be observation noise / instrument noise

Some Preliminaries

Linear Algebra and Multi-variate Gaussian Densities

- $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{C})$
- \mathbf{x} is vector, dimension p
- \mathbf{m} is mean, vector $\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{R}^p$, estimated as:

$$\hat{\mathbf{m}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{x}_n$$

- \mathbf{C} is covariance matrix $\mathbf{C} \in \mathcal{R}^{p \times p}$, estimated as:

$$\hat{\mathbf{C}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m})(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{m})^t$$

- $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$ is a linear transform of \mathbf{x}
- \mathbf{y} has probability distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{A}\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^t)$
- Suppose we add Gaussian noise: $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q})$ $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}$ has distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{Q})$

Preliminaries (cont'd)

- Partitioned matrices – just like numbers, we can have matrices, but the dimensions must agree. Example

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$$

will work if... if A is $m \times n$, B is $m \times l$, C is $p \times n$ and D is $p \times l$

- We can do matrix calculations with such partitioned matrices (as long as the dimensions match up!)

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } Y = \begin{bmatrix} P & Q \\ R & S \end{bmatrix} \quad XY = \begin{bmatrix} AP + BR & AQ + BS \\ CP + DR & CQ + DS \end{bmatrix}$$

- For a covariance matrix:

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} P & Q \\ Q^t & R \end{bmatrix}$$

- We will see this in joint Gaussian distributions:

$$p\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & C \\ C^t & B \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

- Example: five variables $\{x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, y_3\}$, jointly Gaussian in five dimensions. There may be relationships between them, inducing conditional probabilities.
- Conditionals:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a}, A) \\ \mathbf{y} &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, B) \\ \mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y} &\sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{a} + CB^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}), A - CB^{-1}C^t\right) \\ \mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x} &\sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{b} + C^tA^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}), B - C^tA^{-1}C\right)\end{aligned}$$

- Compare and check if the above is same as in Bishop: PRML.

- Quick review of State Space Models
- Walk through Derivation of Kalman Filter

State Space Models: State Dynamics

- State dynamics (Control, System Identification literature):

$$\mathbf{x}_n = F_n \mathbf{x}_{n-1} + B_n \mathbf{u}_n + \mathbf{w}_n$$

- The state \mathbf{x} makes a transition from \mathbf{x}_{n-1} to \mathbf{x}_n , under control of command \mathbf{u}_n and disturbed by noise \mathbf{w}_n
- This is a linear system because the transition happens by a matrix multiplication and additive control.
- The transitions (F_n) and gain on the control B_n can be time-varying or constant: F and B
- The noise is zero mean Gaussian with covariance matrix Q : $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, Q)$
- Sometimes it is convenient to write (statistics literature):

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) = \mathcal{N}(F_n \mathbf{x}_{n-1} + B_n \mathbf{u}_n, Q)$$

State Space Models: Observations

- System output (seen by an observer) is a function of state

$$\mathbf{z}_n = H_n \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{v}_n$$

- Again, H_n could be constant H
- \mathbf{v}_n is measurement noise / observation noise
- $\mathbf{v}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, R)$
- One could also write (statistics literature):

$$p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) = \mathcal{N}(H_n \mathbf{x}_n, R)$$

State Space Models

Note the matrix dimensions

Dynamical System



Observations



One dimensional observations



State Space Models

- We have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_n &= F \mathbf{x}_{n-1} + B \mathbf{u}_n + \mathbf{w}_n \\ \mathbf{z}_n &= H \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{v}_n\end{aligned}$$

With the two noise processes, $\mathbf{w}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, Q)$ and $\mathbf{v}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, R)$, zero mean Gaussian.

- Here \mathbf{z}_n are observations.
- Our job is to estimate the state \mathbf{x} , and an uncertainty P , on it based on the observations and knowledge of the dynamics
- We do linear transform of state and the noise is all Gaussian \rightarrow the distribution over state \mathbf{x} is going to be Gaussian.
- We will propagate

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1} \\ P_{n-1|n-1} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ P_{n|n-1} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n} \\ P_{n|n} \end{array} \right\}$$

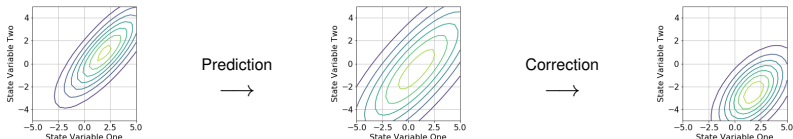
State Space Models (cont'd)

- We had:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1} \\ \mathbf{P}_{n-1|n-1} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ \mathbf{P}_{n|n-1} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n} \\ \mathbf{P}_{n|n} \end{array} \right\}$$

- It is important to understand this as updating Gaussian density in two stages between time $n-1$ and n :
 - A prediction step from knowledge of dynamics
 - A correction step from the new data
- It is also important to understand that with linear models and Gaussian noise, the uncertainty over the estimated state is Gaussian:
 - Recall Lab One in COMP6245

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}\Sigma\mathbf{A}^t)$$



- When we do not have linear functions and Gaussian noise:
 - Approximation: Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)
 - Non-Parametric: Sequential Monte Carlo aka Particle Filter

Kalman Filter: Prediction Step

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1} \\ P_{n-1|n-1} \end{Bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{Bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ P_{n|n-1} \end{Bmatrix}$$

- Knowledge of dynamics helps us predict state and uncertainty on state:

$$\mathbf{x}_n = F \mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \mathbf{w}_n$$

- We are multiplying the state by a matrix (linear) and adding Gaussian noise:

$$\mathcal{N}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1}, P_{n-1|n-1}) \longrightarrow \text{becomes} \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}(F \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1}, F P_{n-1|n-1} F^t + Q)$$

- Alternate way of writing the prediction step:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} &= F \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1} \\ P_{n|n-1} &= F P_{n-1|n-1} F^t + Q \end{aligned}$$

- We can predict the observation at next step:

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}_n = H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}$$

- We make a prediction error, aka *innovation*:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n = \mathbf{z}_n - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}$$

Kalman Filter: Posterior Update

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ P_{n|n-1} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n} \\ P_{n|n} \end{array} \right\}$$

- First the results (important), then the formal derivation (for completeness)
- Innovation/ error $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n$ is a random vector – same dimension as observation \mathbf{z}_n .
- Covariance of innovation:

$$S_n = H P_{n|n-1} H^t + R$$

- We have a term *Kalman gain*

$$K_n = P_{n|n-1} H S_n^{-1}$$

- Updates for posterior state:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + K_n \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n$$

- Note the structure: New = Old + Gain \times Error
- Updates of uncertainty:

$$P_{n|n} = (I - K_n H) P_{n|n-1}$$

Derivation: $P_{n|n}$

Minimising the Mean Squared Error

- $P_{n|n}$ is uncertainty on the state estimate
- That is: $\text{Cov}(\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n})$
- In the space of \mathbf{x} , we want to have a Gaussian distribution with mean at $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n}$ and covariance matrix $P_{n|n}$.
- $P_{n|n-1} = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1})$
- Similarly, Innovation covariance: $S_n = \text{Cov}(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n)$
- A few steps of substitution:

$$\begin{aligned}P_{n|n} &= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n}] \\&= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_n - (\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + K_n \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n)] \\&= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_n - (\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + K_n (\mathbf{z}_n - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}))] \\&= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_n - (\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + K_n (H \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{v}_n - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}))] \\&= \text{Cov}[(I - K_n H)(\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}) - K_n \mathbf{v}_n] \\&= \text{Cov}[(I - K_n H)(\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1})] + \text{Cov}[K_n \mathbf{v}_n] \\&= (I - K_n H) \text{Cov}[(\mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1})] (I - K_n H)^t + K_n \text{Cov}[\mathbf{v}_n] K_n^t \\&= (I - K_n H) P_{n|n-1} (I - K_n H)^t + K_n R K_n^t\end{aligned}$$

Derivation: K_n

- Expected error in the posterior state estimate:

$$E \left[||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{n|n}||^2 \right]$$

- To minimize this, we minimize the trace of the error covariance matrix: $P_{n|n}$
- We already have an expression for $P_{n|n}$:

$$\begin{aligned} P_{n|n} &= (I - K_n H) P_{n|n-1} (I - K_n H)^t + K_n R K_n^t \\ &= P_{n|n-1} - K_n H P_{n|n-1} - P_{n|n-1} H^t K_n^t + K_n (H P_{n|n-1} H^t + R) K_n^t \\ &= P_{n|n-1} - K_n H P_{n|n-1} - P_{n|n-1} H^t K_n^t + K_n S_n K_n^t \end{aligned}$$

- We have an expression for $P_{n|n}$ with the Kalman gain K_n as unknown.
- Our task is to maximize the trace of $P_{n|n}$ with respect to K_n .

Derivation: K_n (cont'd)

- $P_{n|n} = P_{n|n-1} - K_n H P_{n|n-1} - P_{n|n-1} H^t K_n^t + K_n S_n K_n^t$
- Differentiate trace of $P_{n|n}$ with respect to K_n , set to zero and solve:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \text{tr}(P_{n|n-1})}{\partial K_n} &= -2(H P_{n|n-1})^t + 2 K_n S_n \\ &= \mathbf{0}\end{aligned}$$

- This gives

$$K_n = P_{n|n-1} H^t S_n^{-1}$$

- We can simplify the expression for $P_{n|n}$.
- Substituting for K_n cancels the last two terms:

$$\begin{aligned}P_{n|n} &= P_{n|n-1} - K_n H P_{n|n-1} - P_{n|n-1} H^t K_n^t + K_n S_n K_n^t \\ &= P_{n|n-1} - K_n H P_{n|n-1} \\ &= (I - K_n H) P_{n|n-1}\end{aligned}$$

- Bayesian Derivation of Kalman Filter
- Estimating parameters of an Autoregressive Time Series
- Work on Assignment Two: Kalman Filtering

Derivation: Bayesian

Important: Sequential Monte Carlo builds on this!

- We start with a Markov Process: $p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) = p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{x}_{n-1})$
- Observation depends on current state only (not on history):

$$p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) = p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_{n-1})$$

- Joint distribution (over states and observations)

$$p(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{z}_0, \mathbf{z}_1 \dots \mathbf{z}_n) = p(\mathbf{x}_0) \prod_{i=1}^n p(\mathbf{z}_i | \mathbf{x}_i) p(\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{x}_{i-1})$$

- Define a symbol for past observations $\mathbf{Z}_t = \{\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_t\}$
- Distribution over state at n is an integral over the distribution at $n-1$, multiplied by the transition probability:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_n) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_{n-1} | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{n-1}$$

- At time n , we apply Bayes' rule:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_n) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1})}{p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1})}$$

- Denominator is integral over numerator:

Kalman Filter: Bayesian Derivation

- Bayes rule at time n

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_n) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1})}{p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1})}$$

- Do we know these probabilities? All of them Gaussian!

Transition	$p(\mathbf{x}_n \mathbf{x}_{n-1})$	$\mathcal{N}(F \mathbf{x}_{n-1}, Q)$
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Observation	$p(\mathbf{z}_n \mathbf{x}_n)$	$\mathcal{N}(H \mathbf{x}_n, R)$
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Posterior at $(n-1)$	$p(\mathbf{x}_{n-1} \mathbf{Z}_{n-1})$	$\mathcal{N}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1 n-1}, P_{n-1 n-1})$
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- Gives us a view as a model that makes transitions (stochastic) and generates observations (also stochastic), as we move in time.
- Sample transitions from probability density $\mathcal{N}(F \mathbf{x}_{n-1}, Q)$
- Sampe observations from probability density $\mathcal{N}(H \mathbf{x}_n, R)$
- At time $n-1$:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{n-1} | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1} | \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1}, P_{n-1|n-1})$$

- Let's predict and correct from here....

Bayesian Derivation (cont'd)

- Predicting from time $n - 1$ to time n :

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1}) &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}, P_{n|n-1}) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(A\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n-1|n-1}, AP_{n-1|n-1}A^t + Q) \end{aligned}$$

- Now we are at time n . Joint distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1}) &= p(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{Z}_{n-1}) \\ &= \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_n \\ \mathbf{z}_n \end{bmatrix} \mid \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ H\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} P_{n|n-1} & P_{n|n-1}H^t \\ HP_{n|n-1} & HP_{n|n-1}H^t + R \end{bmatrix}\right) \end{aligned}$$

- The conditional we need is

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{z}_n) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n}, P_{n|n})$$

- We can write this out immediately (next page)!

Bayesian Derivation (cont'd)

- What we have

$$p(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{z}_n | Z_{n-1}) = \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_n \\ \mathbf{z}_n \end{bmatrix} \mid \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \\ H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} P_{n|n-1} & P_{n|n-1} H^t \\ H P_{n|n-1} & H P_{n|n-1} H^t + R \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

- What we know:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & C \\ C^t & B \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a} + C B^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}), A - C B^{-1} C^t)$$

- Apply the relationship to find: $p(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{z}_n) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n}, P_{n|n})$
- Hence we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n} &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + P_{n|n-1} H^t (H P_{n|n-1} H^t + R)^{-1} (\mathbf{z}_n - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}) \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1} + K_n (\mathbf{z}_n - H \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n|n-1}) \\ P_{n|n} &= P_{n|n-1} - P_{n|n-1} H^t (H P_{n|n-1} H^t + R)^{-1} H P_{n|n-1} \\ &= (I - K_n H) P_{n|n-1} \end{aligned}$$