Tracking for collision avoidance applications

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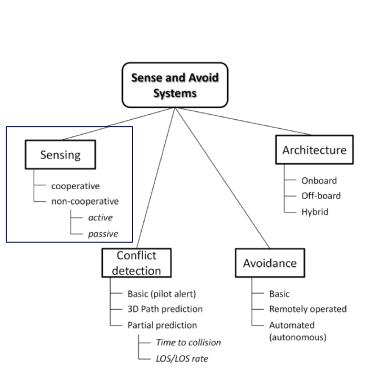


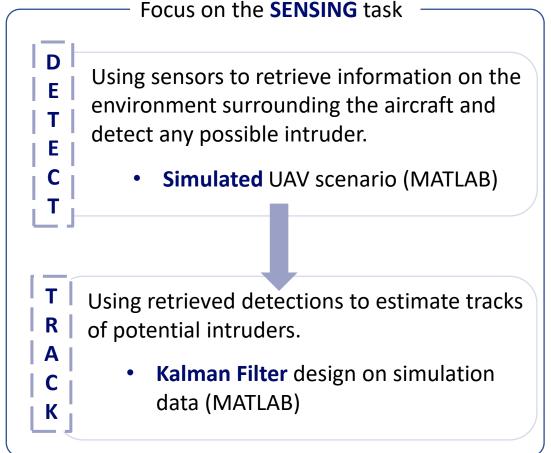
Concepts recap





Sensing the environment around the aircraft and **avoiding** any possible collision with other aircrafts/obstacles (moving or fixed).





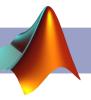
Requirements





Steps to develop today's applications

Install MATLAB software

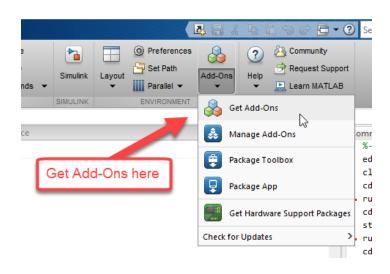


New R2024a version suggested

Install needed add-ons



- UAV Toolbox
- Radar Toolbox
- Sensor Fusion and Tracking toolbox
- Mapping Toolbox



Overview





Sensing

— cooperative
— non-cooperative
— active
— passive

SIMULATION

The detection task will be covered by a non-cooperative, active **RADAR** sensor mounted onboard an ownship UAV (**ego**), detecting an intruder UAV (**target**).

Simulation goals:

- Generate data for tracking exercise
- Gain confidence with the UAV toolbox



YOUR EXERCISE

On data retrieved with simulation:

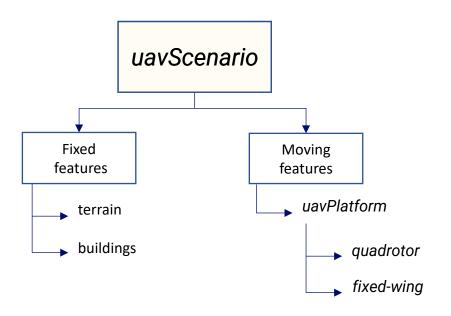
- Investigate accuracy of radar-retrieved data with respect to truth
- Generate a tracker based on the Nearly-Constant Velocity Extended Kalman Filter model

Simulation – uavScenario



object

Simulation scenario definition – scene object



uavScenario

- UpdateRate
 Frequency with which the scene is updated (Hz)
- ReferenceLocation scenario origin in geodetic coordinates [latitude (°), longitude (°),altitude_{aboveWGS84} (m)]
- StopTime
 Time at which simulation is stopped
 (s)

MATLAB function

uavScenario

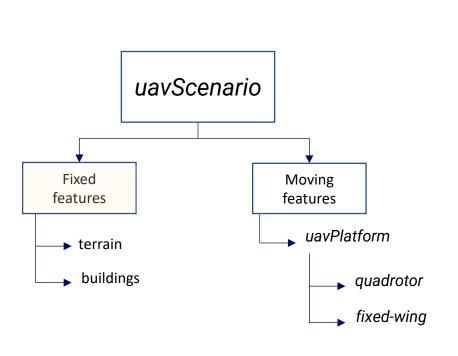
Leading to the definition of a generic scene object with ENU or NED reference (inertial) frames on which features can be added.

Simulation – fixed features



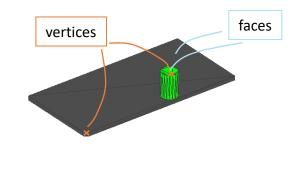


Simulation scenario definition – fixed features



___ Fixed features

Terrain and buildings can be generated or uploaded. In both cases they are represented by **meshes** in the scene.



MATLAB function

addMesh

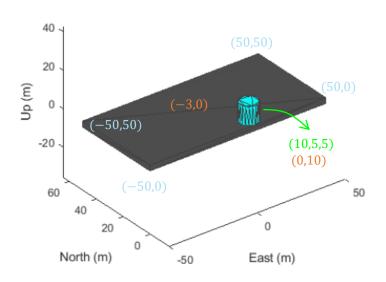
Used for defining both terrain and buildings meshes

Simulation – fixed features





Simulation scenario definition – fixed features



Terrain is a polygon defined by:

- Extension in North-East plane with corner points (x_E, x_N)
- Extension in Up direction with lower and upper limits $(x_{U,min}, x_{U,max})$

Buildings are cylinders defined by:

- Center corrdinates in North-East plane with radius in meters $(x_{C.E.}, x_{C.N.}, r)$
- Extension in Up direction with lower and upper limits $(x_{U,min}, x_{U,max})$

Fixed features

Terrain and buildings can be generated or uploaded. In both cases they are represented by **meshes** in the scene.

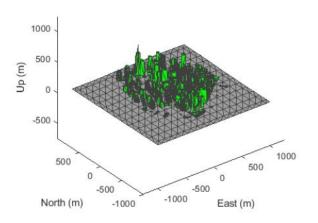
 Generation of terrain and buildings can be achieved by using simple extruded polygons placed in the scene.

Simulation – fixed features





Simulation scenario definition – fixed features



Terrain is defined by:

- Considering a reference location in terms of geodetic coordinates of the scene origin (latitude(°),longitude(°),altitude_{aboveWGS84}(m)).
- Defining upper and lower bounds for terrain extension in North-East plane.

Buildings are added by

- Uploading .osm file exported from Open Street Map.
- Defining upper and lower bounds for buildings extension in North-East plane.

Fixed features

Terrain and buildings can be generated or uploaded. In both cases they are represented by **meshes** in the scene.

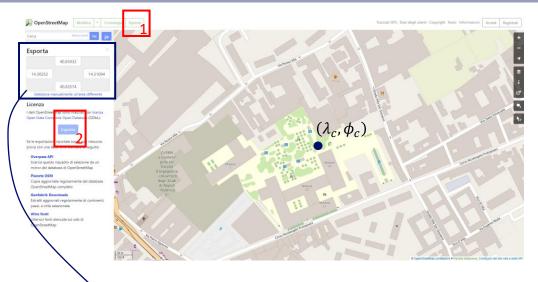
- Generation of terrain and buildings can be achieved by using simple extruded polygons placed in the scene.
- Uploading of terrain data can be achieved by exploiting available Matlab Digital Terrain model dataset (gmted2010).

Uploading of buildings data can be achieved by using Open Street Map data (uploading .osm file)

Simulation —buildings .osm file







Steps to download .osm file

- 1. Open https://www.openstreetmap.org/,
- 2. Navigate/search the location of interest,
- 3. Export the .osm file of that location.

TAKE NOTE OF THESE VALUES!



Latitude (λ) and longitude (φ) minimum and maximum values of the location of interest. These are used for defining:

Scene reference location center

$$\lambda_c = \frac{\lambda_{min} + \lambda_{max}}{2}$$
 , $\phi_c = \frac{\phi_{min} + \phi_{max}}{2}$

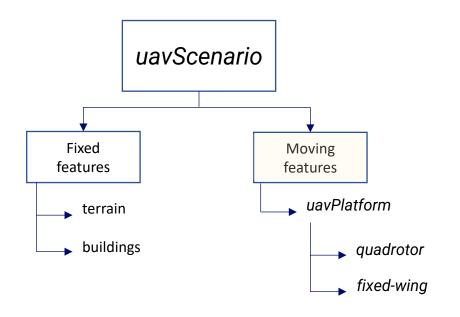
Altitude above WGS84 ellipsoid can be computed with MATLAB functions starting from the knowledge of (λ_c, ϕ_c) .

Scene upper and lower bounds in North-East plane which can be computed by considering the $(\lambda_{min}, \phi_{min})$ and $(\lambda_{max}, \phi_{max})$ points.





Simulation scenario definition – moving features



Moving features

UAV platforms added to the scenario are also represented by meshes.

quadrotor mesh



fixed-wing mesh

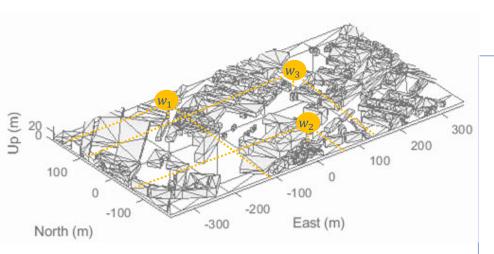


Their motion on the scenario is defined in terms of waypoint trajectories with respect to one of the scene intertial reference frames (ENU or NED).





Simulation scenario definition – moving features trajectories



If the trajectory reference frame is of type ENU and we want the trajectory to be made of three waypoints, then we need to define:

Waypoints	Times of arrival
$w_1 = [x_{E1}, x_{N1}, x_{U1}]$	t_1
$w_2 = [x_{E2}, x_{N2}, x_{U2}]$	t_2
$W_3 = [x_{E3}, x_{N3}, x_{U3}]$	t_3

Orientation can be either:

- Defined by a set of three quaternions or rotation matrices,
- · Not specified

Moving features

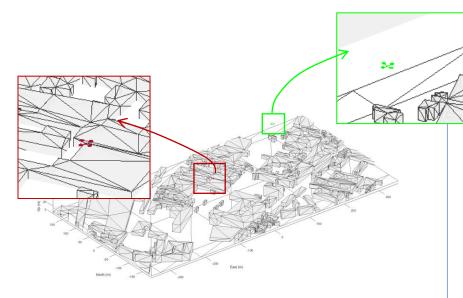
Waypoint trajectories are defined based on:

- Waypoints
 Points in the scene through which platform must pass,
- Times of arrival
 Times at which the plafrom passes through each waypoint,
- Orientation
 Platform orientation (attitude of body frame with respect to local frame) at each waypoint passage





Simulation scenario definition – moving features trajectories



Basic idea:

simulating an encounter between egoUAV and intruder

Moving features

In our simulation we will define two quadrotor platforms moving with respect to a ENU reference frame.

egoUAV 🤐

Equipped with onboard radar.

targetUAV

Intruder, target of tracking application.

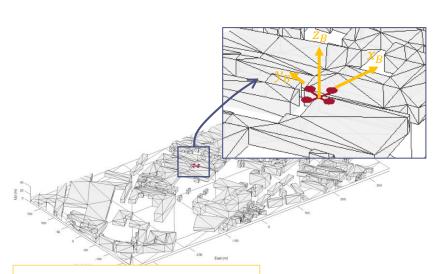
MATLAB functions

- waypointTrajectory
- uavPlatform
- updateMesh





Simulation scenario definition – moving features notes on orientation



Moving features

In our simulation the orientation is defined based on:

- 'X' notation for the body reference frame, with the x-axis (forward) in the direction of motion,
- Forward(x)-Left(y)-Up(z) body reference frame,
- Pitch and roll angles autonomously defined as to have the body z-axis in the direction of the net acceleration (Autobank property).

MATLAB functions

At each scenario time update retrieve platform motion information:

read

Position in scene

 (x_E, x_N, x_U) , m

• Velocity in scene

 (v_E, v_N, v_U) , m/s

Acceleration in scene

 (a_E, a_N, a_U) , m/s²

• Orientation quaternion

 (q_w, q_x, q_y, q_z)

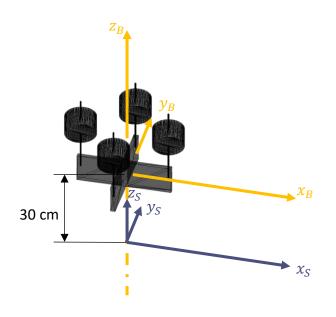
Angular velocity

 $(\omega_E, \omega_N, \omega_U)$, rad/s

Simulation – Radar sensor







In our simulation the radar is:

- Mounted 30 cm below the origin of body frame,
 Mounting location in BRF: (0, 0, -0.3), meters
- Oriented as the egoUAV body frame, Mounting angles: (0, 0, 0), degrees

radar sensor

A radar sensor can be simulated to be rigidly attached to the egoUAV platform by defining:

- Mounting parameters
 Location and orientation with respect to the platform body frame
- Operating properties
 Field of view, resolutions, operating frequency, output measures format

The rotation matrix from sensor to body reference frame is identical

$$R_B^S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Simulation — Radar sensor





Echoflight MESA radar – Electronically scanning metamaterial radar



https://www.echodyne.com/defense/uav-radar/

Field of view 120° azimuth x 80° elevation

Angular resolution 2° azimuth x 6° elevation

Frequency K-band. 24.45 - 24.65 GHz (multichannel)

Size 20.3 cm x 16.3 cm x 4 cm

Data output R/Vmaps: 40 MB/s

Detections: 1 MB/s Measurements: 1 MB/s radar sensor

A radar sensor can be simulated to be rigidly attached to the egoUAV platform by defining:

- Mounting parameters
 Location and orientation with respect to the platform body frame
- Operating properties
 Field of view, resolutions, operating frequency, output measures format

MATLAB functions

- radarDataGenerator
- helperRadarAdaptor

Radar Data Generator initializes radar sensor with user-defined properties.

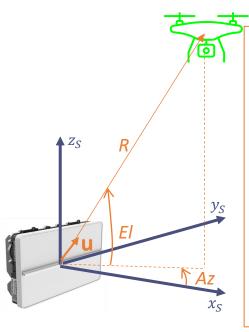
helperRadarAdaptor function is needed to simulate the mounting of the radar sensor onboard the UAV platform.

Simulation – Radar sensor output





Echoflight MESA radar – simulated output measures format



Spherical target coordinates in sensor frame:

- Range (R, m),
 distance between sensor
 and target.
- Azimuth (Az, °), angle between boresight (x_s) and **u** projection on x_s , y_s plane.
- Elevation (El, °),
 angle between u and its
 projection on x_s, y_s plane.

radar sensor

A radar sensor can be simulated to be rigidly attached to the egoUAV platform by defining:

- Mounting parameters
 Location and orientation with respect to the platform body frame
- Operating properties
 Field of view, resolutions, operating frequency,
 output measures format

MATLAB functions

GetRadarDet

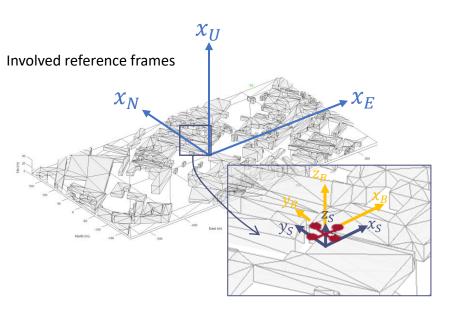
Function used to overcome MATLAB toolbox limits and achieve spherical detections expressed in sensor reference frame (emulating truth).

Simulation setup





Parameters for simulation setup



Simulation overview

- E-N-U oriented scenario
- Duration 25 s
- Update frequency (100 H)z
- Two quadrotors (ego VS target) during encounter

Simulation Sensors

- INS sensor onboard each quadrotor
 - retrieve truth during flight at **100 Hz**
- Radar sensor
 - retrieve target R,Az,El at 100 Hz
 - monitoring a fixed FOV of [66°,30°]

MATLAB functions

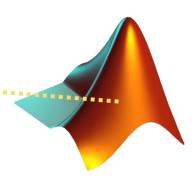
setup advance updatsensors

Simulation









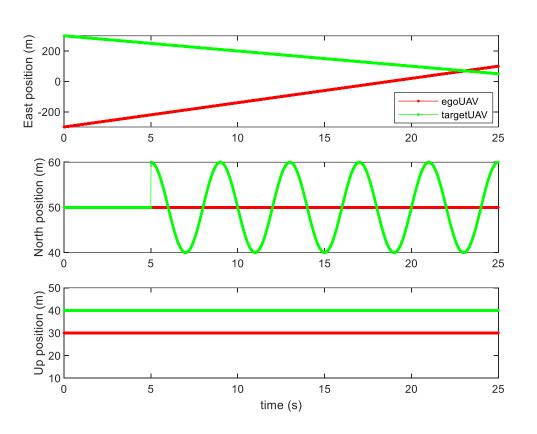
Simulation output - truth

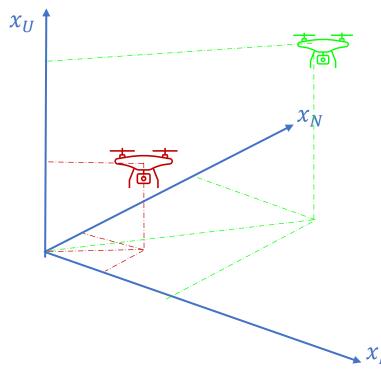




Truth data is retrieved in terms of absolute position of target and ownship platforms in scene (ENU) reference frame with a frequency of 100 Hz.

Data cover the whole encounter duration.

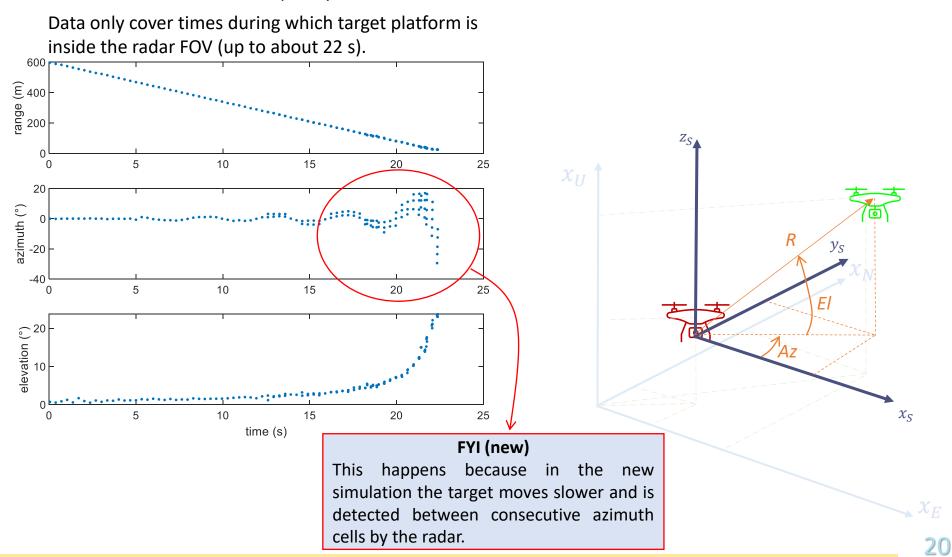




Simulation output - radar



Radar-retrieved data consists of range, azimuth and elevation of target platform with respect to ownship in **sensor reference frame** at a frequency of **100 Hz**







How has the radar performed during the encounter?

Sensor accuracy can be estimated by comparing measures with truth

 $[R, Az, El]^{SRF}$

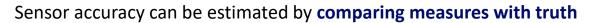
To make comaprison possible we have to:

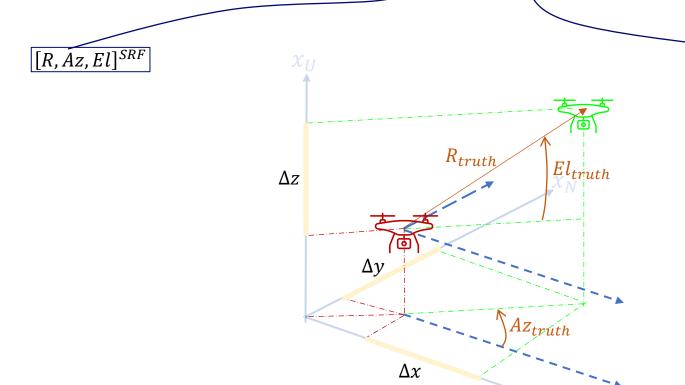
- Transform absolute cartesian truth in $[R_{truth}, Az_{truth}, El_{truth}]$
- Transform measured [R, Az, El] from SRF to ENU





How has the radar performed during the encounter?





$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{tgt}, y_{tgt}, z_{tgt} \end{bmatrix}^{ENU}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{ego}, y_{ego}, z_{ego} \end{bmatrix}^{ENU}$$

Must be transformed in range, azimuth, elevation by considering relative position of target with respect to ownship

$$\begin{array}{lll} \Delta x = & x_{tgt} - x_{ego}, \\ \Delta y = & y_{tgt} - y_{ego}, \\ \Delta z = & z_{tgt} - z_{ego}, \end{array}$$

$$R_{truth} = \sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2 + \Delta z^2}$$

$$Az_{truth} = atan2 \left(\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}\right)$$

$$El_{truth} = asin \left(\frac{\Delta z}{R}\right)$$





How has the radar performed during the encounter?

Sensor accuracy can be estimated by **comparing measures with truth**

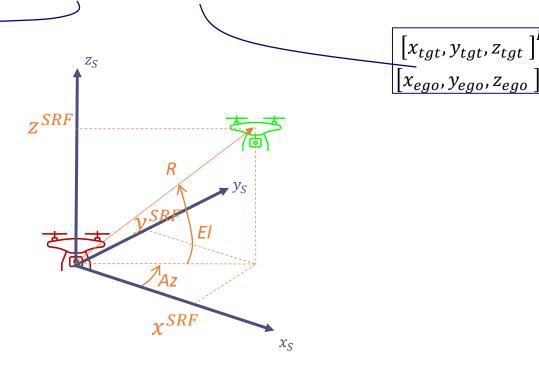


Must be transformed in ENU by:

Computing cartesian measures in SRF

$$x^{SRF} = Rcos(el) cos(az)$$

 $y^{SRF} = Rcos(el) sin(az)$
 $z^{SRF} = Rsin(el)$







How has the radar performed during the encounter?

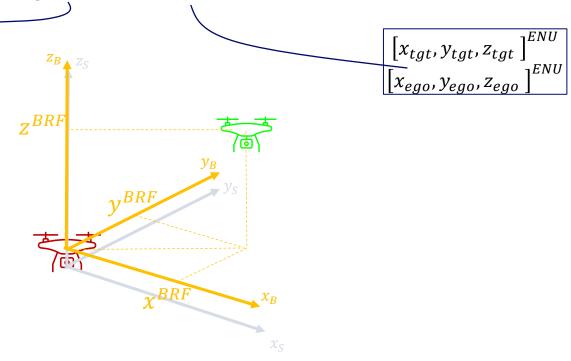
Sensor accuracy can be estimated by comparing measures with truth



Must be transformed in ENU by:

- Computing cartesian measures in SRF
- Transforming cartesian measures from SRF to BRF accounting for sensor mounting orientation and location

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}^{BRF} = R_S^B \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}^{SRF} - \begin{bmatrix} x_M \\ y_M \\ z_M \end{bmatrix}$$







How has the radar performed during the encounter?

Sensor accuracy can be estimated by comparing measures with truth

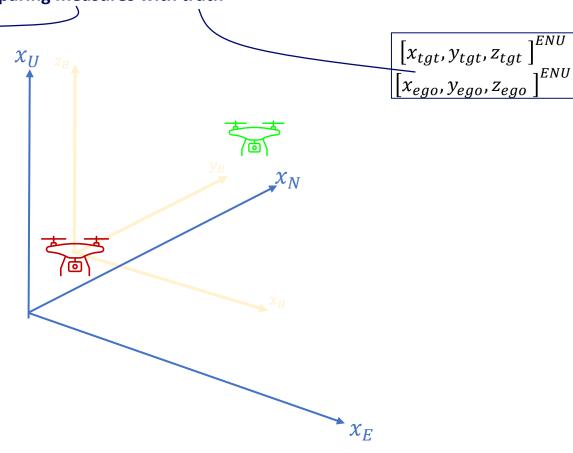


Must be transformed in ENU by:

- Computing cartesian measures in SRF
- Transforming cartesian measures from SRF to BRF accounting for sensor mounting orientation and location
- Transforming cartesian measures from BRF to ENU by accounting for ownship attitude

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}^{ENU} = R_B^E \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}^{BRF}$$

These can be transformed in $[R, Az, El]^{ENU}$



Radar accuracy – exercise



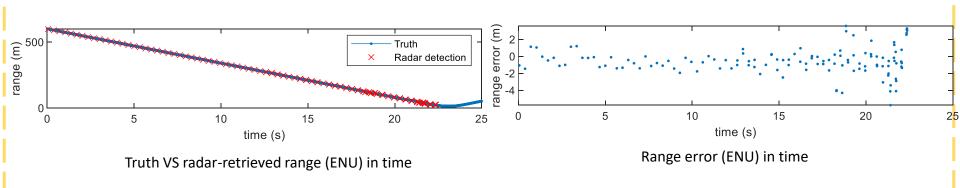


Inspect simulation data.

Plot truth and measured quantities with respect to time

Write a MATLAB code to retrieve radar **accuracy** in range (σ_R) , azimtuh (σ_{az}) and elevation (σ_{el}) .

- Truth data must be expressed in terms of range, azimuth, elevation.
- Radar data retrieved in SRF must be transformed in ENU.
- Range, azimuth and elevation errors (measured-truth) must be computed accounting for different acquisition frequency.
- Error standard deviation must be computed.







Estimate track of the target UAV by exploiting radar-retrieved measures using **Constant Velocity Extended Kalman filters (EKF).**

state,
$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

measures,
$$\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$$

MODEL

Assumption: target moves with constant velocity

State update model – Representing state transition (**PREDICTION**) from time k to time k+1Continuous form exploiting (linear) dynamic model.

$$x_{k+1} = f(x_k, t) + w_k$$
LINEAR

Measurement model – Representing the relationship between observation (measure) and state which Continuous form will be used for state update (FILTERING).

$$oldsymbol{z}_k = h(oldsymbol{x}_k, t) + oldsymbol{v}_k$$
 NON-LINEAR

$$R = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \longrightarrow h_1$$

$$Az = atan2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) \longrightarrow h_2$$

$$El = asin\left(\frac{z}{R}\right) \longrightarrow h_3$$



MODEL

$$\boldsymbol{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$$

State/covariance prediction

$$\widehat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} = \Phi \widehat{\mathbf{x}}_k$$

$$\widehat{P}_{k+1} = \Phi \widehat{P}_k \Phi^T + Q$$

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} F & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & F & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F \end{bmatrix} \qquad F = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & T \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} Q_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_z \end{bmatrix} Q_i = q_i \begin{bmatrix} T^3/3 & T^2/2 \\ T^2/2 & T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{x}^{2} & \sigma_{x\dot{x}} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{x\dot{y}} & \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{x\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{x}x} & \sigma_{\dot{x}}^{2} & \sigma_{\dot{x}y} & \sigma_{\dot{x}\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{x}z} & \sigma_{\dot{x}\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{y\dot{x}} & \sigma_{y}^{2} & \sigma_{y\dot{y}} & \sigma_{yz} & \sigma_{y\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{y}x} & \sigma_{\dot{y}\dot{x}} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{\dot{y}}^{2} & \sigma_{\dot{y}z} & \sigma_{\dot{y}\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{z\dot{x}} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{z\dot{y}} & \sigma_{z}^{2} & \sigma_{z\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{z}x} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{x}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}y} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}z} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{z}} \end{bmatrix}$$

State transition matrix
T: filter sampling time

Process noise matrix q: scale factor

State covariance matrix

Must be initialized

Tuning parameters





MODEL

$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$$

State filtering (correction)

$$K_{k+1} = \hat{P}_{k+1} H [H \hat{P}_{k+1} H^T + R]^{-1}$$

$$P_{k+1} = (I - K_{k+1} H) \hat{P}_{k+1}$$

$$x_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k+1} + K_{k+1} (z_{k+1} - \hat{z}_{k+1})$$

$$H = \frac{\partial h(x)}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial x_6} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial h_3}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial h_3}{\partial x_6} \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobian of measurement with respect to state

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_R^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{az}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{el}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Measurement covariance matrix

With estimated measurement accuracy from previous exercise





MODEL

$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$$

State/covariance initialization

State can be intitialized by using first radar measure

$$\mathbf{x_0} = [R_1 cos(az_1) cos(el_1), 0, R_1 sin(az_1) cos(el_1), 0, R_1 sin(el_1), 0]$$

State covariance **position elements** can be initialized by computing:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{x}^{2} & \sigma_{x\dot{x}} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{x\dot{y}} & \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{x\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{x}x} & \sigma_{\dot{x}}^{2} & \sigma_{\dot{x}y} & \sigma_{\dot{x}\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{x}z} & \sigma_{\dot{x}\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{y\dot{x}} & \sigma_{y\dot{x}} & \sigma_{y\dot{y}} & \sigma_{yz} & \sigma_{y\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{y}x} & \sigma_{\dot{y}\dot{x}} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{\dot{y}}^{2} & \sigma_{\dot{y}z} & \sigma_{\dot{y}\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{z\dot{x}} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{z\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}z} & \sigma_{z\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{z}x} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{x}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}y} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}z} & \sigma_{\dot{z}} \\ \sigma_{\dot{z}x} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{x}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}y} & \sigma_{\dot{z}\dot{y}} & \sigma_{\dot{z}z} & \sigma_{\dot{z}}^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial R} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial Az} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial El} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial R} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial Az} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial El} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial R} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial Az} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial El} \end{bmatrix}$$
In the spect to measure with respect to

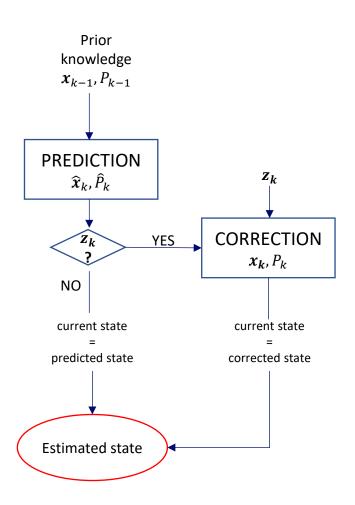
$$\begin{split} &\sigma_{x}^{2} = [\cos(el)\cos(az)]^{2}\sigma_{R}^{2} + [\text{R}\cos(el)\sin(az)]^{2}\sigma_{az}^{2} + [\text{R}\cos(az)\sin(el)]^{2}\sigma_{el}^{2} \\ &\sigma_{xy} = \sin(az)\cos(az)\cos(el)^{2}\sigma_{R}^{2} - R^{2}\sin(az)\cos(az)\cos(el)^{2}\sigma_{az}^{2} + R^{2}\sin(az)\cos(az)\sin(el)^{2}\sigma_{el}^{2} \\ &\sigma_{xz} = -\cos(az)\cos(el)\sin(el)\sigma_{R}^{2} + R^{2}\cos(az)\cos(el)\sin(el)\sigma_{el}^{2} \\ &\sigma_{y}^{2} = [\sin(az)\cos(el)]^{2}\sigma_{R}^{2} + [\text{R}\cos(az)\cos(el)]^{2}\sigma_{az}^{2} + [\text{R}\sin(az)\sin(el)]^{2}\sigma_{el}^{2} \\ &\sigma_{yz} = -\sin(az)\cos(el)\sin(el)\sigma_{R}^{2} + R^{2}\sin(az)\cos(el)\sin(el)\sigma_{el}^{2} \\ &\sigma_{z}^{2} = \sin(el)^{2}\sigma_{R}^{2} + [\text{R}\cos(el)]^{2}\sigma_{el}^{2} \end{split}$$



Kalman filter flow chart

state,
$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

measure, $\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$

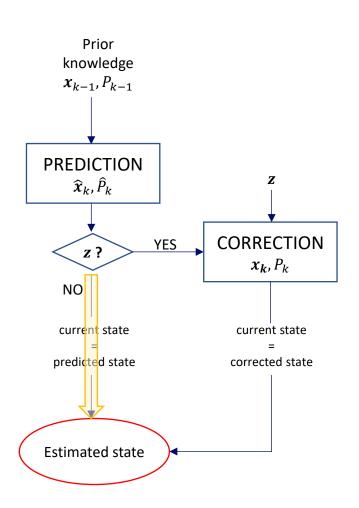


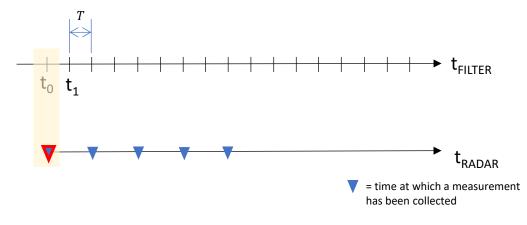


Kalman filter flow chart

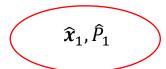
state,
$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

measure, $\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$





- Filter is initialized at first available radar measure.
- $x_0, P_0 \rightarrow$ prediction \rightarrow $\widehat{x}_1, \widehat{P}_1$
- No available measure at t₁, the estimated state is

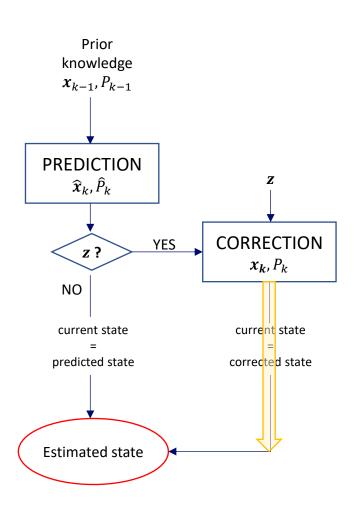


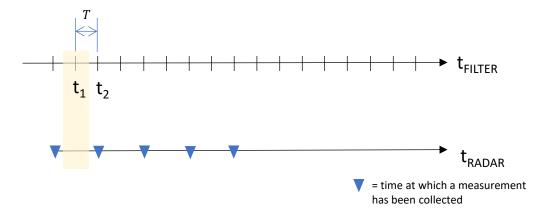


Kalman filter flow chart

state,
$$\mathbf{x} = [x, \dot{x}, y, \dot{y}, z, \dot{z}]^{ENU}$$

measure, $\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$





- $\widehat{x}_1, \widehat{P}_1 \rightarrow \text{prediction} \rightarrow \widehat{x}_2, \widehat{P}_2$
 - Available radar measure at t_2 $\widehat{x}_2, \widehat{P}_2 \rightarrow \text{correction } \rightarrow \underbrace{x_2, P_2}$ Estimated state

Tracking exercise





Develop **EKF** tracking filter to estimate target state during encounter.

- Nadar data should be expressed as $\mathbf{z} = [R, Az, El]^{ENU}$
- > Set filter sampling time equal to simulation sampling time
- Initialize filter (x_0, P_0) using first available radar measure
- Take into account the different frequency between filter time and radar measures time How can you check for radar measure at each filter time step?
- Inspect filter output on state and state covariance

Evaluate tracking performance by comparing truth and filter-estimated data.