

# Kalman Filters

Colin Shaw

04.27.2017

## 1. Introduction

- a. Welcome to Computer Science Club
- b. Thank you to RevUnit for sponsoring

## 2. What are Kalman filters used for?

- a. General time series analysis
  - i. Econometrics
- b. Motion planning
  - i. Guidance
  - ii. Navigation
  - iii. Apollo lander and nuclear missiles
- c. Sensor fusion
  - i. Lidar
  - ii. Radar

## 3. How Kalman filters fit in the larger world

- a. Measurement
  - i. Measuring the world around you
  - ii. Coordinates relative to you
  - iii. Examples
    - 1. Kalman filters
      - a. Plain (linear) Kalman filters
      - b. Extended Kalman filters
      - c. Unscented Kalman filters
    - 2. Double Exponential Smoothing
    - 3. Recursive Total Least Squares
- b. Localization
  - i. Measuring your position in the world
  - ii. Your position in larger map coordinates
  - iii. Examples
    - 1. Particle filters
    - 2. Histogram filters
- c. Both measurement *and* localization
  - i. Simultaneous Localization and Measurement (SLAM)

#### **4. Torrid history of the introduction of the Kalman filter**

- a. Rudolph Emil Kalman's 1960 paper
  - i. Hidden model was looked at with great skepticism
  - ii. Not met with open arms in the community
  - iii. EE journals would not publish it (ended up in ME)
- b. Unscented Kalman filters
  - i. Met with skepticism
  - ii. Again hard to publish

#### **5. What type of process is a Kalman filter?**

- a. Linear quadratic estimator
  - i. Linear system
  - ii. RMSE can be minimized by minimizing quadratic
- b. Bayesian estimator
  - i. Prior
  - ii. Distribution
  - iii. Posterior
  - iv. Conjugate priors
- c. Markov process
  - i. Future probabilities determined by most recent state

#### **6. How are we presenting Kalman filters here?**

- a. Developing intuition about a basic motion model
- b. Look at what we need to use the motion model
- c. Discuss noisy process and measurements
- d. Jump to talking about probability distributions
- e. Show the full set of Kalman filter equations
- f. Walk through a Kalman filter code example
- g. Discuss more complex motion models and sensor fusion
- h. Discuss deviation from a linear model

#### **7. Intuition regarding the motion model**

- a. Draw measurements at time  $t = 0, 1, 2$
- b. Infer measurement at time  $t = 3$
- c. How do we know where the next point is?
  - i. Mental model is more than the measurements
  - ii. It has implied velocity
- d. How do we correct for errors
  - i. Error is the actual minus predicted (residual)
  - ii. Apply scaled residual to update model

## 8. More formality to the motion model

- a. Vector of position  $x$  and velocity  $v$  (or  $\dot{x}$ )

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

- b. State updates occur with a state transition function

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- c. We can only observe measurables, so there is a measurement function  $\mathbf{H}$

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- d. The errors can be assumed to be *acceleration* noise

- i. There is a force causing the change in velocity
- ii. There is an acceleration associated with the force
- iii. This noise is distributed  $N(0, \sigma_a^2)$

## 9. Adding the notion of noise

- a. What if we had noisy measurements only
- i. For each  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  we assume position error is distributed  $N(0, \sigma_x^2)$
  - ii. What does this give us?
    1. The standard deviation at these positions
    2. In effect, nothing
  - iii. We need more information to be able to refine estimates of uncertainty
    1. Think about the Bayesian estimation notion of the problem
    2. We can use a prior and a new distribution to compute a posterior

## 10. Brief probability distribution review

- a. Gaussian.ipynb
- b. What is a normal distributed random variable
- i. Mean
  - ii. Standard deviation
- c. Adding normally distributed random variables
- i. Analytical result
    1.  $\mu = \mu_1 + \mu_2$
    2.  $\sigma^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2$
  - ii. Pointwise addition
  - iii. Convolution (ConvolutionAddition.ipynb)
- d. Multiplying Gaussians
- i. Analytical result
    1.  $\mu = \mu_1 \sigma_2^2 + \mu_2 \sigma_1^2 / \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2$  (normalized weighted average)
    2.  $\sigma^2 = \sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2 / \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2$  (parallel sum)
  - ii. PDF demonstration

## 11. Kalman filter model

### a. Prediction

#### i. Predicted State Estimate

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k|k-1} = \mathbf{F}_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k-1|k-1} + \mathbf{B}_k \mathbf{u}_k$$

#### ii. Predicted Estimate Covariance

$$\mathbf{P}_{k|k-1} = \mathbf{F}_k \mathbf{P}_{k-1|k-1} \mathbf{F}_k^T + \mathbf{Q}_k$$

### b. Measurement

#### i. Innovation Residual

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

#### ii. Innovation Covariance

$$\mathbf{S}_k = \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_{k|k-1} \mathbf{H}_k^T + \mathbf{R}_k$$

#### iii. Optimal Kalman Gain

$$\mathbf{K}_k = \mathbf{P}_{k|k-1} \mathbf{H}_k^T \mathbf{S}_k^{-1}$$

#### iv. Updated State Estimate

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k|k} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k|k-1} + \mathbf{K}_k \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_k$$

#### v. Updated Covariance Estimate

$$\mathbf{P}_{k|k} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_k \mathbf{H}_k) \mathbf{P}_{k|k-1}$$

## 12. Intuition about what the Kalman filter is doing

### a. PositionVelocity.ipynb

### b. Steps

- i. Initial position estimate (poor velocity knowledge)
- ii. Project to arbitrary velocity distribution
- iii. New measurement (decent position, poor velocity knowledge)
- iv. Posterior distribution now has much better position and velocity
- v. Repeat

### c. Basic idea

- i. Additive noise (both prediction and measurement)
- ii. Multiplicative refinement in the Kalman gain calculation

### 13. Measuring error

- a. Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)
  - i. How to compute

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

- ii. Is not normalized
  - iii. Depends on knowing ground truth
- b. Normalized Innovation Squared (NIS)
  - i. ChiSquared.ipynb
  - ii. How to compute

$$\text{NIS}_k = \tilde{y}_k^T S_k^{-1} \tilde{y}_k$$

- iii. Is normalized
  - iv. Does not depend on ground truth

### 14. Kalman filter code example

- a. KalmanFilter.ipynb
- b. Numpy for matrix arithmetic
- c. Steps
  - i. Initialize state and covariance
  - ii. Compute state prediction
  - iii. Update with measurement
  - iv. Repeat
- d. Error estimation

### 15. More complex motion models

- a. Sensor fusion
  - i. Merge two (or more) types of measurements
  - ii. Get better results than any provide alone
- b. Example
  - i. Radar
    - 1. Radius (inaccurate)
    - 2. Radial velocity (accurate)
    - 3. Angle (inaccurate)
  - ii. Lidar
    - 1. Radius (accurate)
    - 2. Angle (accurate)
- c. Measurement and state transfer function in general could be nonlinear

## 16. Deviation from the linear Kalman filter model

- a. GaussianTransformation.ipynb
- b. Extended Kalman filters
  - i. Linearize the nonlinear mappings
  - ii. Jacobian evaluation instead of matrix-vector multiplication
  - iii. Can be expensive to compute
  - iv. Not so good results in difficult cases
    - 1. Very nonlinear functions
    - 2. Non-normal distributions
- c. Unscented Kalman filters
  - i. Sample sigma points
  - ii. Map sigma points
  - iii. Estimator of distribution without knowing specifics
  - iv. Relatively inexpensive to compute
  - v. More stable results in most cases