

## Linear Dynamical Systems - Summary

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# 1 Mathematical Tools

## 1.1 Completing The Square

### Lemma 1.1 (Completing the Square (scalars))

To complete the square for a quadratic equation of the form

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0,$$

we can rewrite it as

$$a(x + d)^2 + e = 0,$$

where

$$d = \frac{b}{2a} \quad \text{and} \quad e = c - \frac{b^2}{4a}.$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 + bx + c = 0 & \rightarrow x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a} = 0 & \rightarrow x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x = -\frac{c}{a} & \rightarrow \\ x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = -\frac{c}{a} + \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 & \rightarrow \left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4a^2} - \frac{c}{a} & \rightarrow \left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2} & \rightarrow \\ a\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = a\left(\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}\right) & \rightarrow a\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a} & \rightarrow a\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 + c - \frac{b^2}{4a} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

### Lemma 1.2 (Completing the Square for Quadratic Forms)

Given a quadratic form  $x^T Ax + b^T x + c$ , where  $A$  is a symmetric positive definite matrix,  $b$  is a vector, and  $c$  is a scalar, the expression can be completed to a perfect square as follows:

$$x^T Ax + b^T x + c = (x + A^{-1}b/2)^T A(x + A^{-1}b/2) + c - \frac{1}{4}b^T A^{-1}b$$

## 1.2 The Z-transform

The Z-transform converts a discrete-time signal, which is a sequence of real or complex numbers, into a complex frequency domain representation.

The Z-transform of a discrete-time signal  $x[k]$  is defined as:

$$X(z) = \mathcal{Z}\{x[k]\} = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]z^{-k},$$

where  $z$  is a complex variable. The Z-transform is particularly useful for analyzing linear time-invariant (LTI) systems.

### 1.2.1 Properties of the Z-transform

1. **Linearity:**

$$\mathcal{Z}\{ax[k] + by[k]\} = aX(z) + bY(z).$$

2. **Time Shifting:**

$$\mathcal{Z}\{x[k - n]\} = z^{-n}X(z).$$

3. **Convolution:**

$$\mathcal{Z}\{x[k] * y[k]\} = X(z)Y(z).$$

4. **Initial Value Theorem:**

$$x[0] = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} X(z).$$

5. **Final Value Theorem:**

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x[k] = \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} (1 - z^{-1})X(z),$$

provided the limits exist.

### 1.2.2 Differences Between Z-transform and Laplace Transform

1. **Domain:** The Z-transform is used for discrete-time signals, while the Laplace transform is used for continuous-time signals.

2. **Definition:** The Z-transform is defined as a summation:

$$X(z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]z^{-k},$$

while the Laplace transform is defined as an integral:

$$X(s) = \int_0^{\infty} x(t)e^{-st} dt.$$

3. **Complex Variable:** The Z-transform uses the complex variable  $z$ , typically represented as  $z = e^{sT}$  where  $T$  is the sampling period. The Laplace transform uses the complex variable  $s$ .

4. **Application:** The Z-transform is applied to discrete-time systems and signals, making it useful for digital signal processing and discrete control systems. The Laplace transform is applied to continuous-time systems and signals, making it useful for analog signal processing and continuous control systems.

### 1.3 UDL and LDU Factorizations

#### Lemma 1.3 (UDL Decomposition)

If  $A$  and  $D$  are square matrices, and  $D$  is invertible, we can write:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & BD^{-1} \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_D & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ D^{-1}C & I \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\Delta_D = A - BD^{-1}C$  is the *Schur complement* of the matrix.

#### Example 1.1 (UDL Decomposition Example)

Consider the scalars:

$$A = 8, \quad B = 6, \quad C = 4, \quad D = 2.$$

Since  $D$  is invertible, we apply the UDL decomposition:

$$\Delta_D = A - BD^{-1}C = 8 - 6 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 = 8 - 12 = -4.$$

Thus, the decomposition is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & 6 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 1.4 Least Squares

### 1.4.1 Definition

#### Definition 1.1 (Least Squares Problem)

For a set of linear equations

$$y = Hx,$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the unknown state vector,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the measurements vector and  $H \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , The least squares solution  $\hat{x}^o$  is defined as

$$\hat{x}^o = \underset{\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\operatorname{argmin}} J(\hat{x}) = \underset{\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|y - H\hat{x}\|^2 = \underset{\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\operatorname{argmin}} (y - H\hat{x})^T (y - H\hat{x}).$$

#### Lemma 1.4

A solution  $\hat{x}$  is optimal, i.e.,  $J(\hat{x}) \leq J(x)$  for all  $x$  if the normal equations

$$H^* H \hat{x} = H^* y$$

are satisfied. The optimal objective is

$$J(\hat{x}) = \|y\|^2 - \|H\hat{x}\|^2.$$

#### Remark 1.1

The optimal estimate satisfies the orthogonality principle:  $\|y\|^2 = \|y - H\hat{x}\|^2 + \|H\hat{x}\|^2$

### 1.4.2 Stochastic Least Squares

#### Definition 1.2 (Stochastic Least Squares)

Given two random vectors  $X$  and  $Y$  with a probability density function  $f_{X,Y}$ , the objective is to construct an estimator for  $X$  given  $Y$ , denoted by  $\hat{X}(Y)$ .

The error  $\Delta = X - \hat{X}(Y)$  is a random variable on its own, so we study the mean squared error (MSE):

$$MSE = \mathbb{E}[(X - \hat{X}(Y))^T (X - \hat{X}(Y))].$$

#### Lemma 1.5

The estimator that minimizes the MSE is the conditional expectation:

$$\hat{X} = \mathbb{E}[X|Y].$$

In other words, for any  $g : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}[(X - g(Y))^T (X - g(Y))] \geq \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X|Y])^T (X - \mathbb{E}[X|Y])].$$

#### Definition 1.3 (Linear Least Mean Square Estimator (LLMSE))

A linear estimator takes the form  $\hat{X} = KY$ , where  $K$  is a matrix to be optimized.

The error covariance matrix of a linear estimator  $K$  is defined as:

$$P(K) = \mathbb{E}[(X - KY)(X - KY)^T].$$

We say  $K_0$  is a linear least mean square estimator (LLMSE) if:

$$P(K) \succeq P(K_0)$$

for any  $K$ . Alternatively, this can be written as:

$$a^T P(K) a \geq a^T P(K_0) a,$$

for all  $K$  and vectors  $a$ .

#### Claim 1.1

The LLMSE is optimal if  $(X, Y)$  are jointly Gaussian.

**Theorem 1.1**

Any LLMSE  $K_0$  satisfies the normal equations:

$$K_0 R_Y = R_{XY},$$

where  $R_Y = \mathbb{E}[YY^T]$  is the covariance of the measurements, and  $R_{XY}$  is the covariance between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

If  $R_Y$  is invertible, we obtain the well-known estimator:

$$\hat{X} = R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} Y,$$

with the estimation error covariance:

$$P(K_0) = R_X - R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} R_{YX}.$$

**Remark 1.2**

We can gain some intuition on the proposed solution by writing the covariance matrix using a UDL factorization:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_X & R_{XY} \\ R_{YX} & R_Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_X - R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} R_{YX} & 0 \\ 0 & R_Y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ R_Y^{-1} R_{YX} & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

**1. Starting Point:**

- We start with the joint covariance matrix of  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_X & R_{XY} \\ R_{YX} & R_Y \end{pmatrix}.$$

**2. UDL Factorization:**

- We apply the UDL factorization:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_X & R_{XY} \\ R_{YX} & R_Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_X - R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} R_{YX} & 0 \\ 0 & R_Y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ R_Y^{-1} R_{YX} & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

**3. Explanation of Terms:**

- $R_X - R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} R_{YX}$ : This term represents the optimal error variance.
- The matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} I & R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$  projects the variable  $X$  onto the linear space spanned by  $Y$ .

**4. Optimal Error Variance:**

- The first element of the diagonal matrix is the optimal error variance:

$$R_X - R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} R_{YX}.$$

- Since this term appears in the factorization, it confirms that the estimator minimizes the estimation error.

**5. Estimation:**

- We can express the relationship between  $X$  and  $\tilde{X}$  using the projection matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{X} \\ Y \end{pmatrix}.$$

- This equation shows that  $\hat{X}$  is the projection of  $X$  onto the space spanned by  $Y$ .

**6. Projection Interpretation:**

- This can be viewed as a Gram-Schmidt process to project the variable  $X$  onto the linear space spanned by  $Y$  with the inner product  $\langle X, Y \rangle = \mathbb{E}[XY^T]$ . Thus, we will sometimes write it as:

$$\hat{X} = \langle X, Y \rangle \langle Y, Y \rangle^{-1} Y = \langle X, Y \rangle \|Y\|^{-2} Y.$$

By using the UDL factorization and interpreting the projection, we understand how the LLMSE minimizes the estimation error variance.

### Theorem 1.2 (Sum of Predictions)

Given two independent samples  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ , the optimal predictor for  $X$  based on  $Y = (Y_1, Y_2)$  is the sum of the predictors based on  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  separately. Mathematically, if the samples  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are independent, then:

$$\hat{X}|_{Y_1, Y_2} = \hat{X}|_{Y_1} + \hat{X}|_{Y_2} \iff \langle Y_1, Y_2 \rangle = 0.$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{X}|_{Y_1, Y_2} &= R_{XY} R_Y^{-1} Y \\ &= R_{XY} \begin{pmatrix} R_{Y_1} & R_{Y_1 Y_2} \\ R_{Y_2 Y_1} & R_{Y_2} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= R_{XY} \begin{pmatrix} R_{Y_1} & 0 \\ 0 & R_{Y_2} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{independence of } Y_1 \text{ and } Y_2) \\ &= R_{XY} \begin{pmatrix} R_{Y_1}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & R_{Y_2}^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= R_{XY} \begin{pmatrix} R_{Y_1}^{-1} Y_1 \\ R_{Y_2}^{-1} Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (R_{XY_1} \quad R_{XY_2}) \begin{pmatrix} R_{Y_1}^{-1} Y_1 \\ R_{Y_2}^{-1} Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= R_{XY_1} R_{Y_1}^{-1} Y_1 + R_{XY_2} R_{Y_2}^{-1} Y_2 \\ &= \hat{X}|_{Y_1} + \hat{X}|_{Y_2} \end{aligned}$$

□

## 2 The Shortest Path Problem

### Definition 2.1 (The Shortest Path Problem)

Given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ , each edge in the graph has a cost  $a_{ij}^t$ , where  $i$  is the outgoing node,  $j$  is the node to which the edge is connected, and  $t \in \{0, \dots, N+1\}$  refers to the time. We adopt the convention that no edge implies an infinite cost  $a_{ij}^t = \infty$ .

The objective is to minimize the cumulative cost on a path from the source node  $S_0 = S$  to the terminal node  $S_{N+1} = T$ . Formally, we aim to solve the optimization

$$J^* = \min_{\{n_i \in \mathcal{S}_i\}_{i=0}^{N+1}} \sum_{t=0}^N a_{n_t, n_{t+1}}^t. \quad (2.1)$$

### Definition 2.2 (Cost-to-Go Function)

We define  $J_k(i)$  as the cost-to-go function corresponding to the minimal cost from time  $k$  until the end when starting at node  $i$ . Formally, for  $k = 0, \dots, N$ , define

$$J_k(i) = \min_{\{n_j \in \mathcal{S}_j | j=k+1, \dots, N, n_k=i\}} \sum_{j=k}^N a_{n_j, n_{j+1}}^j, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{S}_k. \quad (2.2)$$

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#### Algorithm 1: Dynamic Programming Solution for the Shortest Path Problem (Cost-to-Go)

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**Input:** Cost matrix  $a_{ij}^t$  and nodes  $\mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_{N+1}$

**Output:** Cost-to-go functions  $J_k(i)$

Initialize  $J_N(i) = a_{iT}^N$  ;

**for**  $k = N-1, \dots, 0$  **do**

**for**  $i \in \mathcal{S}_k$  **do**

$J_k(i) = \min_{j \in \mathcal{S}_{k+1}} [a_{ij}^k + J_{k+1}(j)]$

**end**

**end**

---

### Definition 2.3 (Cost-to-Arrive Function)

We define  $J_{N-k}(j)$  as the cost-to-arrive function corresponding to the minimal cost from time 1 until time  $k$  when arriving at node  $j$ . Formally, for  $k = 0, \dots, N$ , define

$$J_{N-k}(j) = \min_{\{n_i \in \mathcal{S}_i | i=1, \dots, k-1, n_k=j\}} \sum_{i=1}^k a_{n_{i-1}, n_i}^i, \quad \forall j \in \mathcal{S}_k. \quad (2.3)$$

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#### Algorithm 2: Forward Algorithm for the Shortest Path Problem (Cost-to-Arrive)

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**Input:** Cost matrix  $a_{ij}^t$  and nodes  $\mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_{N+1}$

**Output:** Cost-to-arrive functions  $J_{N-k}(j)$

Initialize  $J_N(j) = a_{s_j}^0, \forall j \in \mathcal{S}_1$  ;

**for**  $k = 1, \dots, N$  **do**

**for**  $j \in \mathcal{S}_{N-k+1}$  **do**

$J_k(j) = \min_{i \in \mathcal{S}_{N-k}} [a_{ij}^{N-k} + J_{k+1}(i)]$

**end**

**end**

---



### 3 Markov Decision Processes (MDPs)

#### Definition 3.1 (MDP)

An MDP is defined by the following elements:

1. The state at time  $k$  is  $x_k$  and takes values in the set  $\mathcal{S}_k$ .
2. The action at time  $k$  is  $u_k$  and takes values from  $\mathcal{U}_k$ .
3. The disturbance at time  $k$  is  $w_k$  and takes values from  $\mathcal{W}_k$ .
4. A dynamical system is given by the function

$$x_{k+1} = f_k(x_k, u_k, w_k), \quad k = 0, \dots, N-1. \quad (3.1)$$

5. The probabilistic law of the disturbance random variable  $w_k$  is characterized by  $P_{W_k}(\cdot|x_k, u_k)$  conditioned on the state  $x_k$  and the action  $u_k$ .
6. A cost function  $g_k : \mathcal{S}_k \times \mathcal{U}_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

The cost over a horizon  $N$  is

$$S_\pi(x_0) = \mathbb{E}[g_N(x_N) + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} g_k(x_k, u_k)], \quad (3.2)$$

where  $g_N(\cdot)$  is the terminal cost.

#### Definition 3.2 (History-dependent policy)

A history-dependent policy is defined by a sequence of functions:

$$\mu_k : \mathcal{S}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{S}_k \times \mathcal{U}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{U}_{k-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_k, \quad (3.3)$$

such that  $u_k = \mu_k(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, u_1, \dots, u_{k-1})$ .

#### Definition 3.3 (Markovian policy)

A Markovian policy is defined by a sequence of functions:

$$\mu_k : \mathcal{S}_k \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_k, \quad (3.4)$$

such that  $u_k = \mu_k(x_k)$ .

#### Remark 3.1 (The Markov property)

We defined the dynamical system using a deterministic function  $f_k(\cdot)$ .

Equivalently, we could describe the evolution with the conditional probability

$$P_k(x_{k+1}|x_k, u_k) = P_s^u(s') \quad (3.5)$$

In particular, we assume that the new state conditioned on the current state and action is not affected by the past. Formally, we assume the Markov chain induced from

$$P(x_{k+1}|x_1, \dots, x_k, u_1, \dots, u_k) = P_k(x_{k+1}|x_k, u_k). \quad (3.6)$$

The MDP described above is called fully observable since the actions depend directly on the state. We will later encounter partially observable MDP where only a noisy version of the state is available to the controller.

## 4 Linear Systems

### Definition 4.1 (Linear System)

A linear system is given by

$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t, \quad t = 0, 1, \dots \quad (4.1)$$

with some initial state  $x_0$ .

- $x_t \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state vector.
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is the state-transition matrix.

### Lemma 4.1 (State and Decoupling in Linear Systems)

Given a diagonalizable matrix  $A = TDT^{-1}$ , the state at time  $t$  in a linear system is

$$x_t = TD^tT^{-1}x_0. \quad (4.2)$$

By defining a new state  $z_t = T^{-1}x_t$ , we have

$$z_t = D^tz_0, \quad (4.3)$$

indicating that the states are decoupled, with each entry of  $z_t$  depending only on the corresponding entry of  $z_0$ .

### Remark 4.1

Since the eigenvalues of real matrices may be complex, we have

$$\lambda = a + ib = re^{i\theta} \rightarrow \lambda^t = r^te^{it\theta} (e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta).$$

As we increase  $t$ , the magnitude of  $e^{it\theta}$  is clearly unchanged. However, the length of  $r$  determines whether it converges to zero, oscillates, or blows up.

### Definition 4.2 (Stable System)

A system  $A$  is stable if all of its eigenvalues have magnitude smaller than 1, i.e.,  $r < 1$ .

## 5 Linear Systems with Control

### Definition 5.1 (Linear System with Control)

A linear system with control is given by

$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t, \quad t \geq 0, \quad x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (5.1)$$

where we added:

- $u_t \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the control signal (action).
- $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  is the control matrix.

### Definition 5.2 (State-feedback controller)

A controller (policy) is defined by a sequence of mappings  $\mu_t : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  for  $t = 0, 1, \dots, N$  such that  $u_t = \mu_t(x_t)$ .

### Definition 5.3 (State-Feedback, Time-Invariant, Linear Controller)

A state-feedback, time-invariant, linear controller is any mapping of the form

$$u_t = -Kx_t.$$

### Definition 5.4 (Closed-Loop Matrix)

The matrix  $A_K = A - BK$  is called the closed-loop matrix of the system  $A, I.H.T$  -

$$x_{t+1} = A_K x_t = (A - BK)x_t = Ax_t + B(-Kx_t) = Ax_t + Bu_t$$

### Definition 5.5 (Controllability)

The pair  $(A, B)$  is controllable if the system can reach any  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$  from any initial state  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  at some finite time.

### Lemma 5.1 (Controllability Matrix)

A pair  $(A, B)$  is controllable if and only if the controllability matrix

$$C \triangleq [B \quad AB \quad \dots \quad A^{n-1}B]$$

has  $\text{rank}(C) = n$ .

### Lemma 5.2 (Poles Placement in Controllable System)

Controllability implies that we can choose the eigenvalues (poles) of  $A - BK$  arbitrarily.

## 6 The Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR)

### Definition 6.1 (The LQR problem)

For the linear model in (20), find a controller that minimizes

$$J_N(u^N) = \sum_{i=0}^N [x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i] + x_{N+1}^T Q_f x_{N+1},$$

where  $u^N \triangleq u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{N-1}$ , and

1.  $Q, Q_f \succeq 0$  are state weights
2.  $R \succ 0$  is the input/action/control weight.

### Lemma 6.1 (LQR matrix formulation)

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ B & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ AB & B & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A^{N-1}B & A^{N-2}B & \cdots & B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} I \\ A \\ \vdots \\ A^N \end{bmatrix} x_0$$

The matrices above can be written in short as  $x = Gu + Hx_0$ .

### Lemma 6.2 (LQR Closed-Form Solution)

The optimal control input  $\mathbf{u}$  that minimizes the cost function  $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}$  can be achieved with

$$\mathbf{u} = -(I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0.$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} (G\mathbf{u} + Hx_0)^T (G\mathbf{u} + Hx_0) + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T G^T G \mathbf{u} + 2x_0^T H^T G \mathbf{u} + x_0^T H^T H x_0 + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [\mathbf{u}^T (I + G^T G) \mathbf{u} + 2x_0^T H^T G \mathbf{u} + x_0^T H^T H x_0] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [(\mathbf{u} + (I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0)^T (I + G^T G) (\mathbf{u} + (I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0) \\ &\quad - x_0^T H^T G (I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0 + x_0^T H^T H x_0] \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{u}} [(\mathbf{u} + (I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0)^T (I + G^T G) (\mathbf{u} + (I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0) \\ &\quad + x_0^T H^T (I - G(I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T) H x_0] \\ &= x_0^T H^T (I - G(I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T) H x_0 \\ &= x_0^T H^T (I + G G^T)^{-1} H x_0, \end{aligned}$$

where the optimal control input is

$$\mathbf{u} = -(I + G^T G)^{-1} G^T H x_0.$$

□

### Remark 6.1

This solution is the optimal solution. However, it is not efficient since we should compute the inverse of  $I + G G^T$  that grows linearly with  $N$ , i.e.,  $O(N^3)$  computations.

### Definition 6.2 (Cost-to-Go Function)

The cost-to-go function (Value-function) is defined as

$$V_t(z) = \min_{u_t, u_{t+1}, \dots, u_{N-1}} \left[ \sum_{i=t}^{N-1} (x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i) + x_N^T Q_f x_N \right]$$

for  $x_t = z$ .

**Theorem 6.1 (Properties of the Value Function)**

The value function satisfies the following properties.

1.  $V_t(z)$  is a quadratic function (of the variable  $z$ ).  
That is, we can write  $V_t(z) = z^T P_t z$  with some  $P_t \succeq 0$ .
2. The optimal controller  $u_t$  is given by

$$u_t = -(R + B^T P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{t+1} A x_t.$$

3. The sequence  $P_t$  can be computed recursively with

$$P_t = \begin{cases} Q_f & t = N \\ Q + A^T P_{t+1} A - A^T P_{t+1} B (R + B^T P_{t+1} B)^{-1} B^T P_{t+1} A & t < N. \end{cases}$$

Note that we can compute  $P_t$  and  $K_t$  offline prior to the control.  
(Tools used in the proof - completion of the square, induction.)

**Definition 6.3 (Stabilizability)**

The pair  $(A, B)$  is stabilizable if

$$\exists K \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : \rho(A - BK) < 1,$$

where  $\rho(A - BK)$  denotes the spectral radius of  $A - BK$ , i.e., the largest absolute value of its eigenvalues.

An equivalent characterization of stabilizability is

$$\nexists(x, \lambda) \text{ s.t. } xA = \lambda x \wedge |\lambda| \geq 1 \wedge xB = 0.$$

In other words, we can control the unstable modes.

If we want  $J^*(x_0) < \infty$  for all  $x_0$ , a necessary and sufficient condition is that of stabilizability.

## 7 State-space models as mappings

### Definition 7.1 (Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) System)

A discrete-time linear time-invariant (LTI) system is represented by the difference equation:

$$y_k + a_1 y_{k-1} + a_2 y_{k-2} + \cdots + a_n y_{k-n} = b_0 u_k + b_1 u_{k-1} + b_2 u_{k-2} + \cdots + b_{n-1} u_{k-n+1}.$$

The inputs are the  $u_i$  while the outputs are the  $y_i$ .

### Example 7.1 (Moving average)

This system outputs the average of the current and past input values.

If  $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_n = 0$ , the equation simplifies to:

$$y_k = b_0 u_k + b_1 u_{k-1} + b_2 u_{k-2} + \cdots + b_{n-1} u_{k-n+1}.$$

This form indicates that the output  $y_k$  is a weighted sum of the current and previous inputs, hence the term "moving average."

### Example 7.2 (Auto-regressive)

This system models the output as a function of its previous values.

If  $b_1 = b_2 = \cdots = b_n = 0$ , the equation simplifies to:

$$y_k + a_1 y_{k-1} + a_2 y_{k-2} + \cdots + a_n y_{k-n} = b_0 u_k.$$

This form indicates that the output  $y_k$  depends on its past values and the current input, making it "auto-regressive."

### Example 7.3 (ARMA (Auto-regressive Moving Average))

This system combines both auto-regressive and moving average models. Sometimes used as ARMA( $i, j$ ) to include the order, it captures dependencies on both past outputs and past inputs:

$$y_k + a_1 y_{k-1} + a_2 y_{k-2} + \cdots + a_n y_{k-n} = b_0 u_k + b_1 u_{k-1} + b_2 u_{k-2} + \cdots + b_{n-1} u_{k-n+1}.$$

Here, the output  $y_k$  is influenced by both its previous values (auto-regressive part) and previous inputs (moving average part).

### Definition 7.2 (Transfer Function $H(z)$ )

The transfer function  $H(z)$  of a discrete-time linear time-invariant (LTI) system represents the relationship between the Z-transform of the output  $Y(z)$  and the Z-transform of the input  $U(z)$ . It provides a way to analyze the system's behavior in the frequency domain and is defined as:

$$H(z) = \frac{Y(z)}{U(z)}.$$

For an LTI system, this can be expressed as:

$$H(z) = \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + b_2 z^{-2} + \cdots + b_{n-1} z^{-n+1}}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2} + \cdots + a_n z^{-n}}.$$

## 7.1 Controllable Canonical Form

### Definition 7.3 (Controllable Canonical Form)

For the discrete-time transfer function  $H(z)$ , the state-space representation in controllable canonical form is given by the equations:

$$\dot{x}(t) = A_c x(t) + B_c u(t),$$

$$y(t) = C_c x(t) + D_c u(t),$$

where the state vector  $x(t)$  and input  $u(t)$  are defined as:

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ z_{n-1}(t) \\ z_n(t) \end{bmatrix}, \quad u(t) = z_n(t),$$

and the matrices are defined as follows:

$$A_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ -a_n & -a_{n-1} & -a_{n-2} & \cdots & -a_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$C_c = [b_{n-1} \quad b_{n-2} \quad \cdots \quad b_1 \quad b_0], \quad D_c = 0.$$

Add the proof of the controllable canonical form + observable canonical form + Jordan canonical form.

## 8 The Asymptotic Observer

### Definition 8.1 (Linear System State Estimation)

The setting is given by a linear system:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i+1} &= Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad x_0 \\ y_i &= Cx_i \end{aligned}$$

where:

1.  $x_i$  is the state sequence.
2.  $u_i$  is the control sequence (which is available to us).
3.  $y_i$  is the measurement process that we observe.

The objective is to estimate the states.

### Claim 8.1

The optimal closed-loop estimate for a linear system is of the form

$$\hat{x}_{i+1} = A\hat{x}_i + Bu_i + K(y_i - C\hat{x}_i), \quad \hat{x}_0.$$

### Claim 8.2 (Dynamics of the Estimation Error)

The estimation error  $\tilde{x}_i \triangleq x_i - \hat{x}_i$  evolves according to

$$\tilde{x}_i = (A - KC)^i \tilde{x}_0.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$\tilde{x}_{i+1} = x_{i+1} - \hat{x}_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i - A\hat{x}_i - Bu_i - K(y_i - C\hat{x}_i) = A\tilde{x}_i - KC\tilde{x}_i = (A - KC)\tilde{x}_i.$$

By induction, we conclude the claim. □

### Definition 8.2 (Observability)

A discrete-time system is said to be observable if, for any initial state  $x_0$ , the state  $x_k$  can be determined from the output  $y_k$  over a finite time interval  $k = 0, 1, \dots, N$ .

### Lemma 8.1

The discrete-time system is observable if and only if the observability matrix  $\mathcal{O}$  defined by:

$$\mathcal{O} = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

has full rank, i.e.,

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{O}) = n.$$



## 9 Kalman Filter

### Definition 9.1 (Kalman Filter State Space)

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i+1} &= Fx_i + Gw_i \\ y_i &= Hx_i + v_i \end{aligned} \quad (9.1)$$

where:

- $x_{i+1}$  is the state vector at time  $i + 1$ ,
- $x_i$  is the state vector at time  $i$ ,
- $y_i$  is the measurement vector at time  $i$ ,
- $w_i$  is the process noise (zero mean, uncorrelated),
- $v_i$  is the measurement noise (zero mean, uncorrelated).

### Definition 9.2 (Estimator)

An estimator is a sequence of mappings

$$\pi_i = \mathcal{Y}^i \rightarrow \mathcal{X}, \quad i \geq 0$$

such that  $\hat{x}_{i|i} = \pi_i(y^i)$ . The corresponding error of an estimator is  $\tilde{x}_{i|i} \triangleq x_i - \hat{x}_{i|i}$ .

### Definition 9.3 (Predictor)

A predictor is a sequence of mappings

$$\pi_i = \mathcal{Y}^{i-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}, \quad i \geq 0$$

such that  $\hat{x}_{i|i-1} = \pi_i(y^{i-1})$ . The corresponding error of a predictor is  $\tilde{x}_{i|i-1} \triangleq x_i - \hat{x}_{i|i-1}$ .

### Definition 9.4 (Kalman Filter Covariance Matrix)

Formally, the following covariance matrix describes the model:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} w_i \\ v_i \\ x_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_j^* & v_j^* & x_0^* & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & S \\ S^* & R \end{pmatrix} \delta_{ij} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Pi_0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (9.2)$$

where  $\begin{pmatrix} Q & S \\ S^* & R \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\Pi_0$  are positive semidefinite matrices and  $\delta_{ij}$  equals 1 if  $i = j$  and is zero otherwise. Note that  $w_i$  is uncorrelated as a process over time but its coordinates at a fixed time can be correlated via  $Q$ .

**Markings:**

- $P_i$  - The error covariance matrix at time  $i$

$$P_i \triangleq (x_i - \hat{x}_i)(x_i - \hat{x}_i)^T \quad (9.3)$$

- $R_{e,i}$  - The covariance of the innovation (or residual) at time  $i$

$$R_{e,i} \triangleq HP_iH^* + R \quad (9.4)$$

- $K_{p,i}$  - The optimal Kalman gain at time  $i$

$$K_{p,i} \triangleq (FP_iH^* + GS)R_{e,i}^{-1} \quad (9.5)$$

## Kalman Filter Optimality

We suggest the following predictor who use the innovation  $y_i - H\hat{x}_{i|i-1}$  to update the state estimate:

$$\hat{x}_{i+1|i} = F\hat{x}_{i|i-1} + K_{p,i}(y_i - H\hat{x}_{i|i-1}) \quad (9.6)$$

### Lemma 9.1

$$\tilde{x}_{i+1} = (F - K_{p,i}H)\tilde{x}_i + (G - K_{p,i}) \begin{pmatrix} w_i \\ v_i \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9.7)$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}_{i+1} &= x_{i+1} - \hat{x}_{i+1|i} \\ &= (Fx_i + Gw_i) - (F\hat{x}_i + K_{p,i}(y_i - H\hat{x}_i)) \\ &= Fx_i + Gw_i - F\hat{x}_i - K_{p,i}(Hx_i + v_i - H\hat{x}_i) \\ &= Fx_i + Gw_i - F\hat{x}_i - K_{p,i}Hx_i - K_{p,i}v_i + K_{p,i}H\hat{x}_i \\ &= Fx_i - F\hat{x}_i - K_{p,i}Hx_i + K_{p,i}H\hat{x}_i + Gw_i - K_{p,i}v_i \\ &= (F - K_{p,i}H)(x_i - \hat{x}_i) + Gw_i - K_{p,i}v_i \\ &= (F - K_{p,i}H)\tilde{x}_i + Gw_i - K_{p,i}v_i. \end{aligned}$$

□

### Theorem 9.1

For the previous model and predictor, if the error covariance matrix at time  $i$  is  $P_i$ , the matrix  $K_i$  that minimizes  $P_{i+1}$  is given by

$$K_{p,i} \triangleq (FP_iH^* + GS)R_{e,i}^{-1}$$

The proof uses lemma 9.6 and UDL decomposition.

### Definition 9.5 (The Innovations Process)

The innovations process  $\{e_i\}$  is given by

$$e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_{i|i-1} = y_i - \mathbb{E}[Hx_i + v_i | y^{i-1}] = Hx_i + v_i - H\hat{x}_i = H(x_i - \hat{x}_i) + v_i = H\tilde{x}_i + v_i.$$

### Theorem 9.2

The innovations process  $\{e_i\}$  is white. That is, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[e_i e_j^T] = R_{e,i} \delta_{ij}.$$

### Lemma 9.2

For  $j < i$ , the recursion can be evolved as

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}_i &= (F - K_{p,i-1}H)\tilde{x}_{i-1} + (G - K_{p,i-1}) \begin{pmatrix} w_{i-1} \\ v_{i-1} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \dots \\ &= \phi_p(i, j)\tilde{x}_j + \xi_i(j), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_p(i, j) &= \prod_{k=j}^{i-1} (F - K_{p,k}H), \\ \xi_i(j) &= \sum_{k=j}^{i-1} \phi_p(i, k+1)(Gw_k - K_{p,k}v_k). \end{aligned}$$