

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING  
EXAMINATIONS 2008

MSc and EEE PART IV: MEng and ACGI

Corrected Copy

**ESTIMATION AND FAULT DETECTION**

Wednesday, 21 May 10:00 am

Time allowed: 3:00 hours

**There are SIX questions on this paper.**

**Answer FOUR questions.**

*All questions carry equal marks*

**Any special instructions for invigilators and information for candidates are on page 1.**

Examiners responsible      First Marker(s) :      R.B. Vinter

Second Marker(s) :      D. Angeli

**Information for candidates:**

*Some formulae relevant to the questions.*

The normal  $N(m, \sigma^2)$  density:

$$p(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

System equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x_k &= Fx_{k-1} + u_k^s + w_k \\y_k &= Hx_k + u_k^o + v_k .\end{aligned}$$

Here,  $w_k$  and  $v_k$  are white noise sequences with covariances  $Q^s$  and  $Q^o$  respectively.

The Kalman filter equations are

$$\begin{aligned}P_{k|k-1} &= FP_{k-1}F^T + Q^s \\P_k &= P_{k|k-1} - P_{k|k-1}H^T(HP_{k|k-1}H^T + Q^o)^{-1}HP_{k|k-1}, \\K_k &= P_{k|k-1}H^T(HP_{k|k-1}H^T + Q^o)^{-1}, \\\hat{x}_k &= \hat{x}_{k|k-1} + K_k(y_k - \hat{y}_{k|k-1}), \\\text{in which } \hat{x}_{k|k-1} &= F\hat{x}_{k-1} + u_k^s \text{ and } \hat{y}_{k|k-1} = H\hat{x}_{k|k-1} + u_k^o\end{aligned}$$

1. Consider a stationary zero mean continuous 2-vector stochastic process  $x(t) = [x^1(t), x^2(t)]^T$ , governed by the stochastic differential equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x^1(t) \\ x^2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\alpha_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -\alpha_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x^1(t) \\ x^2(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} w(t)$$

in which  $w(t)$  is a stationary scalar white noise process with unit variance; i.e.  $E[w(t)w(s)] = \delta(t-s)$ .  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are positive constants.

The discrete time process  $x_k = [x_k^1, x_k^2]^T$  is obtained by sampling the continuous time process at times  $\dots, -2h, -h, 0, h, 2h, \dots$ ; thus

$$x_k = x(kh).$$

( $h$ , the sampling period, is a given positive constant.)

- (a):) Show that  $x_k$  satisfies a stochastic difference equation of the form

$$x_k = Fx_{k-1} + v_k,$$

in which  $v_k$  is a 2-vector white noise process with covariance  $Q$ . Evaluate  $F$  and  $Q$ . [8]

- (b): Show that covariance  $R$  of  $x_k$

$$R := \text{cov}\{x_k\} (= E[x_k x_k^T]).$$

satisfies the Lyapunov Equation

$$R = FRF^T + Q$$

Solve the Lyapunov equation for  $R$ . [4]

Why is  $R$  independent of  $h$ ? [4]

- (c): Show that, in the case when  $\alpha_1/\alpha_2 > 100$  then the correlation coefficient [2]

$$|\rho(x_k^1, x_k^2)| \leq 0.1$$

where  $\rho(x_k^1, x_k^2)$  is the correlation coefficient of  $x_k^1$  and  $x_k^2$ ,

$$\rho(x_k^1, x_k^2) = \frac{E[x_k^1 x_k^2]}{(E(x_k^1)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (E(x_k^2)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \quad [2]$$

(This illustrates the fact that, if the time constants associated with the scalar processes  $x_k^1$  and  $x_k^2$  differ by an order of magnitude, then these processes are almost uncorrelated, even if they are generated by the same noise process.)

2. Denote the temperature of a reactor by  $x$ . A noisy measurement  $y$  is taken of  $x$ , using a thermometer. The thermometer is sometimes faulty; when it is faulty it introduces a bias of 1 unit in the measurement.

Model  $x$  as a normal random variable ( $x \sim N(0, \sigma_x^2)$ ). Assume that  $y$  is governed by the equation

$$y = x + n + b,$$

in which the noise term  $n$  is a normal random variable ( $n \sim N(0, \sigma_n^2)$ ) and the bias term  $b$  is a discrete random variable taking values 0 or 1, with probabilities

$$P[b = 0] = (1 - P) \quad \text{and} \quad P[b = 1] = P.$$

Here,  $\sigma_x^2$ ,  $\sigma_n^2$  and  $P$ ,  $0 < P < 1$ , are given positive constants. It is assumed that  $x$  and  $n$  and  $b$  are independent.

- (a): Show that the linear least squares estimate  $\hat{x}_L$  of  $x$  given  $y$  is of the form

$$\hat{x}_L = K(y - \alpha),$$

and evaluate the constants  $K$  and  $\alpha$ .

[8]

- (b): Show that the nonlinear least squares estimate  $x_N$  of  $x$  given  $y$  is of the form

$$\hat{x}_{NL} = K_1(y - \alpha(y)),$$

for some constant  $K_1$ , where

$$\alpha(y) = \frac{P \times N(1, \sigma_x^2 + \sigma_n^2)(y)}{(1 - P) \times N(0, \sigma_x^2 + \sigma_n^2)(y) + P \times N(1, \sigma_x^2 + \sigma_n^2)(y)}$$

and evaluate the constant  $K_1$ .

[10]

Briefly comment on why  $\hat{x}_{NL}$  and  $\hat{x}_N$  differ.

[2]

*Hint: Use Bayes' rules to show that  $\alpha(y) = P[b = 1 | y]$ . Then note that  $p(x | y)$  is a weighted sum of normal random variables given by*

$$p(x | y) = p(x | y, b = 0)p(b = 0) + p(x | y, b = 1)p(b = 1)$$

4. Denote by  $x_k$  the  $n$ -dimensional state of a deterministic system, with random initial state  $x_0$ . Noisy measurements  $y_k$  of the state are taken at times  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Assume that the evolution of the state and the measurement process are modelled by the equations

$$\begin{cases} x_k = Fx_{k-1} \\ y_k = Hx_k + v_k. \end{cases}$$

Here,  $F$  and  $H$  are given  $n \times n$  and  $r \times n$  dimensional matrices.  $\{v_k\}$  is Gaussian white noise sequence, with covariance the given  $k \times k$  matrix  $Q$ .  $x_0$  is a normal random variable ( $x_0 \sim N(\hat{x}_{0|0}, P_{0|0})$ ) for a given  $n$ -vector  $\hat{x}_{0|0}$  and given  $n \times n$  matrix  $P_{0|0}$ . It is assumed that  $x_0$  and  $\{v_k\}$  are independent.

A recursive filter is required, to estimate the value of the *initial* state  $x_0$ , based on measurement values  $y_{0:k} := \{y_1, \dots, y_k\}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Define the conditional means and covariances of  $x_0$  given measurements up to time  $k$ :

$$\hat{x}_{0|k} = E[x_0 | y_{1:k}] \quad \text{and} \quad P_{0|k} = \text{cov}\{x_0 | y_{1:k}\}.$$

- (a): Show that

$$p(y_k | y_{1:k-1}, x_0) = N(HF^k x_0, Q)(y_k).$$

[4]

- (b): Using Bayes' rule in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0 | y_{1:k}) \\ = \log p(y_k | y_{1:k-1}, x_0) + \log p(x_0 | y_{1:k-1}) - \log p(y_k | y_{1:k-1}) \end{aligned}$$

derive the recursive equations for  $P_{0|k}$  and  $\hat{x}_{0|k}$ :

$$P_{0|k}^{-1} = P_{0|k-1}^{-1} + (F^k)^T H^T Q^{-1} H F^k$$

and

$$P_{0|k}^{-1} \hat{x}_{0|k} = P_{0|k-1}^{-1} \hat{x}_{0|k-1} + (F^k)^T H^T Q^{-1} y_k.$$

[6]

[7]

- (c): Suppose that  $n = r = 1$  (scalar state and observations). Suppose further that  $P_{0|0} = 1$ ,  $F = \sqrt{0.5}$  and  $Q = 1$ . Determine the limiting error covariance,  $P_{0|\infty}$ :

$$P_{0|\infty} := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} P_{0|k}.$$

[4]

5. Let  $X$  be a random variable with first and second moments

$$E[X] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad E[X^2] = \sigma^2 \quad (1)$$

(for some known constant  $\sigma^2$ .) A noisy ‘nonlinear’ measurement  $Y$  is taken of  $X$ . Assume that  $Y$  is a random variable satisfying the equation

$$Y = h(X) + V,$$

in which the noise term  $V$  is a zero mean random variable with known variance  $\sigma_n^2$  and  $h(x)$  is the cubic nonlinearity

$$h(x) = x^3.$$

Construct a linear estimator for  $X$  given  $Y$  of the form

$$\hat{X} = KY$$

using the following method:

**Step 1.**

Assume that, for purposes of constructing the filter,  $X$  has a discrete distribution

$$p_X(x) = \alpha\delta(x + \sigma) + (1 - 2\alpha)\delta(x) + \alpha\delta(x - \sigma),$$

for some  $\alpha$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ; otherwise expressed,  $X$  is assumed to be a discrete random variable taking values  $-\sigma$ ,  $0$  or  $\sigma$ , with probability weights  $\alpha$ ,  $(1 - 2\alpha)$  and  $\alpha$  respectively. Determine the value of  $\alpha$  such that  $X$  has the correct first two moments (see (1)). [4]

**Step 2.**

Calculate  $E[XY]$  and  $E[Y^2]$ , using the probability distribution for  $X$  that you have just calculated. Choose the filter gain  $K$  to be the gain of the linear least squares estimator of  $X$  given  $Y$ . [10]

(This estimate is a version of the widely used ‘unscented Kalman filter’)

An alternative approach to constructing a linear estimator (the ‘extended Kalman filter’) is to assume  $x$  is a Gaussian random variable and to approximate the nonlinear function  $h(x)$  by the linear function  $h(E[X]) + h_x(x - E[X])$ , taking the correct value and slope at  $x = E[X]$ . Show that this gives an estimate:

$$\hat{x}_{EKS} = K_{EKS}Y$$

where [4]

$$H = h_x(E[X]) \quad \text{and} \quad K_{EKS} = \frac{\sigma^2 H}{H\sigma^2 H + \sigma_n^2}.$$

Why can we expect that the unscented Kalman filter performs far better than the extended Kalman filter in the case (1)? [2]

6. Consider the stationary, zero mean, Gaussian process  $y_k$  that satisfies the difference equation

$$y_k + 0.5y_{k-1} = e_k + de_{k-1} ,$$

in which  $e_k$  is a Gaussian white noise process with unit variance.  $d$  is a constant.

- (a): Calculate the variance  $r_d(0)$  of  $y_k$ :

$$r_d(0) = E[y_k^2]$$

(it will depend on the constant  $d$ ).

[10]

- (b): Now suppose that the value of  $d$  depends on whether a fault has occurred. We consider two hypotheses:

( $H_0$ ): (a fault has not occurred)  $d = 0$

( $H_1$ ): (a fault has occurred)  $d = 2$ .

Write  $P_i[A]$ ,  $i = 0, 1$ , for the probability of the event  $A$  under hypotheses ( $H_0$ ) and ( $H_1$ ) respectively.

For a single value of  $k$ , a perfect measurement of  $z = y_k$  is taken. Design a Neyman Pearson-type decision rule  $\delta(z)$  that takes values 0 (no fault) and 1 (fault), and which maximizes the power of test, namely

$$P_1[\delta(z) = 1]$$

(the probability that the rule will detect a fault if it has occurred) at the 0.05 significance level, i.e. under the following constraint on the probability of a false alarm:

$$P_0[\delta(z) = 1] = 0.05 .$$

[6]

Determine the power of the test.

[4]

You may use the following data about a normal random  $x \sim N(0, 1)$ :

$c$	:	0.039	0.01	1.28	3.84
$P[x^2 \geq c]$	:	0.95	0.74	0.26	0.05