

Propagation of Uncertainty in Dynamic Systems

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Optimal Control and Estimation MAE 546
Princeton University, 2015

- Propagation of the mean and variance in linear, time-varying discrete-time systems
- Markov processes and the transition function property
- White and colored noise inputs
- Sampled-data representation of continuous-time systems
- Propagation of the mean and variance in continuous-time systems

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<http://www.princeton.edu/~stengel/MAE546.html>
<http://www.princeton.edu/~stengel/OptConEst.html>

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Uncertain Linear, Time-Varying (LTV) Dynamic Model

- Discrete-time LTV model with known coefficients

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{x}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} + \Lambda_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1}$$

- Initial condition and disturbance inputs are not known precisely
- All random variables are Gaussian, i.e., they are fully described by means and covariances

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Disturbance Input of the LTV Dynamic Model

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{x}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} + \Lambda_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1}$$

Disturbance input ('process noise') is a white-noise sequence

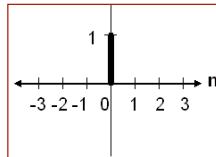
$$E(\mathbf{w}_k) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$E(\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_k^T) = \mathbf{Q}'_k; \quad E(\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_{k-l}^T) = \mathbf{0}, \quad l = \text{any non-zero integer}$$

or

$$E(\mathbf{w}_j \mathbf{w}_k^T) = \mathbf{Q}'_k \delta_{jk}$$

$$\delta_{jk} \triangleq \text{Kronecker delta function} = \begin{cases} 1, & j = k \\ 0, & j \neq k \end{cases}$$



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Initial Condition and Control of the LTV Dynamic Model

Initial condition described by mean and covariance

$$E(\mathbf{x}_0) = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_0 \triangleq \mathbf{m}_o; \quad E[(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_o)(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_o)^T] = \mathbf{P}_0$$

$$\dim(\mathbf{x}_o) = n \times 1$$

Control input is known precisely

$$E[\mathbf{u}_k] = \bar{\mathbf{u}}_k = \mathbf{u}_k; \quad E[(\mathbf{u}_k - \bar{\mathbf{u}}_k)(\mathbf{u}_k - \bar{\mathbf{u}}_k)^T] = \mathbf{U}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\dim(\mathbf{u}_k) = m \times 1$$

Cross-covariances are zero

$$E[(\mathbf{x}_k - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_k) \mathbf{w}_k^T] = \mathbf{M}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

$$E[(\mathbf{x}_k - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_k) \mathbf{u}_k^T] = \mathbf{0}$$

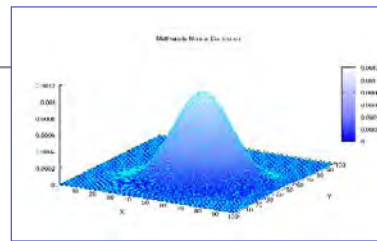
$$E[\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{u}_k^T] = \mathbf{0}$$

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Probability Density Function of the LTV Dynamic Model

Initial probability density function depends only on the mean and covariance of the Gaussian distribution

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\mathbf{P}_0|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_0)^T \mathbf{P}_0^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_0)}$$



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Expected Value of the State

First moment of \mathbf{x}

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{x}_k) &= E(\Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{x}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} + \Lambda_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1}) \\ \bar{\mathbf{x}}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \bar{\mathbf{u}}_{k-1} + \Lambda_{k-1} (0) \\ \mathbf{m}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

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Expected Value of the State Covariance

Second central moment of \mathbf{x}

$$E\left[(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{m}_k)(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{m}_k)^T\right] \triangleq \mathbf{P}_k$$

$$= E\left\{\left[\Phi_{k-1}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} - \mathbf{m}_{k-1}) + \Gamma_{k-1}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1} - \bar{\mathbf{u}}_{k-1}) + \Lambda_{k-1}\mathbf{w}_{k-1}\right]\left[\Phi_{k-1}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} - \mathbf{m}_{k-1}) + \Gamma_{k-1}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1} - \bar{\mathbf{u}}_{k-1}) + \Lambda_{k-1}\mathbf{w}_{k-1}\right]^T\right\}$$

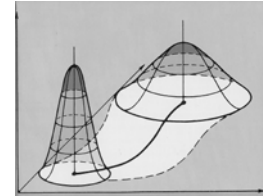
With negligible cross-covariance

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} E\left[(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} - \mathbf{m}_{k-1})(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} - \mathbf{m}_{k-1})^T\right] \Phi_{k-1}^T + \Lambda_{k-1} E(\mathbf{w}_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1}^T) \Lambda_{k-1}^T \\ &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \Lambda_{k-1} \mathbf{Q}_{k-1} \Lambda_{k-1}^T \\ &\triangleq \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{k-1} \triangleq \Lambda_{k-1} \mathbf{Q}_{k-1} \Lambda_{k-1}^T$$

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Conditional Probability Density Function of the State



$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\mathbf{P}_k|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{m}_k)^T \mathbf{P}_k^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{m}_k)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{m}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{P}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}\end{aligned}$$

The density function is conditioned on the prior state

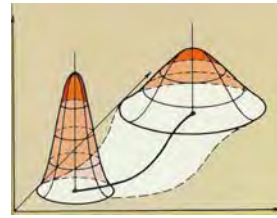
$$\begin{aligned}\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) &= \\ \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}[\mathbf{x}_k - (\Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1})]^T (\Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1})^{-1} [\mathbf{x}_k - (\Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1})]}\end{aligned}$$

... and propagation is a Markov process

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k) = \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) = \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{ if } \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) = 1$$

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Gauss-Markov Sequence



$$\mathbf{m}_k = \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \Gamma_{k-1} \mathbf{u}_{k-1}$$

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

- The mean and covariance are completely specified by the prior probability distribution
- The random sequence
 - has the transition function property
 - is a Gauss-Markov sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k) &= \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) = \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{x}_{k-2}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-2}) = \dots \\ &= \left[\prod_{i=1}^k \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{x}_{i-1}) \right] \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_0) \end{aligned}$$

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Probability Mass and Density Functions

The random sequence

has the transition function property

is a Gauss-Markov sequence

Probability Mass Function

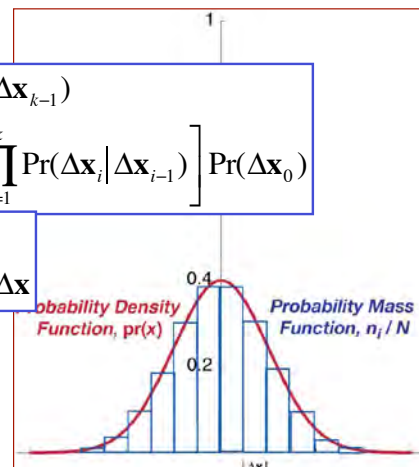
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k) &= \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \\ &= \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-2}) \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-2}) = \left[\prod_{i=1}^k \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_i | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{i-1}) \right] \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k) \approx \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k) \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \approx \text{pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

Probability Density Function

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\Delta \mathbf{x} \rightarrow 0} \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k) &= \lim_{\Delta \mathbf{x} \rightarrow 0} \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_k | \Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{Pr}(\Delta \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \\ \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k) &= \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$



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Sampled-Data Representation of Continuous-Time Systems

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Sampled-Data Representation of Continuous-Time Systems

Continuous-time LTV model with known coefficients

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \mathbf{F}(t)\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{G}(t)\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{L}(t)\mathbf{w}(t), \quad \mathbf{x}(t_o) \text{ given}$$
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}(t_o) + \int_{t_o}^t [\mathbf{F}(\tau)\mathbf{x}(\tau) + \mathbf{G}(\tau)\mathbf{u}(\tau) + \mathbf{L}(\tau)\mathbf{w}(\tau)] d\tau$$

Incremental solution

$$\mathbf{x}(t_k) = \mathbf{x}(t_{k-1}) + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} [\mathbf{F}\mathbf{x}(\tau) + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{u}(\tau) + \mathbf{L}\mathbf{w}(\tau)] d\tau$$
$$= \Phi(t_k, t_{k-1})\mathbf{x}(t_{k-1}) + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) [\mathbf{G}(\tau)\mathbf{u}(\tau) + \mathbf{L}(\tau)\mathbf{w}(\tau)] d\tau$$

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Descriptions of Random Variables

$$E(\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{m}_o; \quad E[(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_o)(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_o)^T] = \mathbf{P}_0$$

$$E[\mathbf{w}(t)] = \mathbf{0}$$

$$E[\mathbf{w}(t)\mathbf{w}^T(\tau)] = \mathbf{Q}'\delta(t - \tau)$$

$$E[\mathbf{u}(t)] = \mathbf{u}(t); \quad E\left\{[\mathbf{u}(t) - \bar{\mathbf{u}}(t)][\mathbf{u}(t) - \bar{\mathbf{u}}(t)]^T\right\} = \mathbf{0}$$

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Mean Value and Covariance Solutions

Mean value propagation from t_{k-1} to t_k

$$\mathbf{m}_k = \Phi_k \mathbf{m}_{k-1} + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{G}(\tau) \mathbf{u}(\tau) d\tau$$

Covariance propagation

Double integration over time (τ and α)

$$\mathbf{P}_k = \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + E \left\{ \left[\int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{L}(\tau) \mathbf{w}(\tau) d\tau \right] \left[\int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \alpha) \mathbf{L}(\alpha) \mathbf{w}(\alpha) d\alpha \right]^T \right\}$$

$$= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{L}(\tau) E[\mathbf{w}(\tau) \mathbf{w}^T(\alpha)] \mathbf{L}^T(\alpha) \Phi^T(t_k, \alpha) d\tau d\alpha$$

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Covariance Propagation

$$E[\mathbf{w}(\tau)\mathbf{w}^T(\alpha)] = \mathbf{Q}'_C \delta(\tau - \alpha)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}_k &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{L}(\tau) \mathbf{Q}'_C \delta(\tau - \alpha) \mathbf{L}^T(\alpha) \Phi^T(t_k, \alpha) d\tau d\alpha \\ &= \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{L}(\tau) \mathbf{Q}'_C \mathbf{L}^T(\tau) \Phi^T(t_k, \tau) d\tau \\ &\triangleq \Phi_{k-1} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

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Relationship Between Discrete- and Continuous-Time Disturbance Models

$$\mathbf{Q}_{k-1} = \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi(t_k, \tau) \mathbf{L}(\tau) \mathbf{Q}'_C \mathbf{L}^T(\tau) \Phi^T(t_k, \tau) d\tau$$

\mathbf{Q}_{k-1} : **Covariance matrix** ($n \times n$)

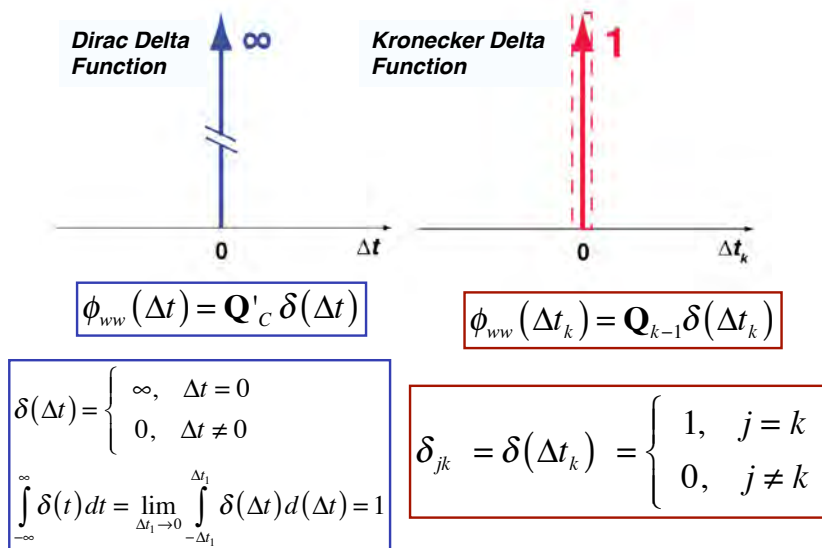
\mathbf{Q}'_C : **Spectral density matrix** ($s \times s$)

For small Δt

$$\mathbf{Q}_{k-1} \approx \mathbf{L}(t_{k-1}) \mathbf{Q}'_C(t_{k-1}) \mathbf{L}^T(t_{k-1}) \Delta t$$

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Autocovariance Functions for Continuous-and Discrete-Time White Noise



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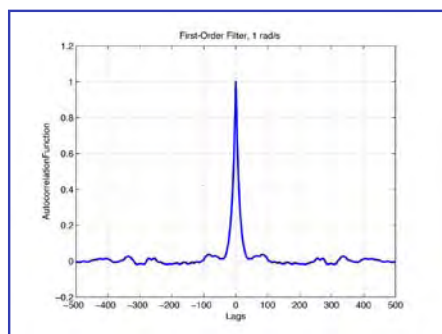
Colored Noise, Variance, Spectral Density Matrices

- Spreading of the autocovariance function is accompanied by

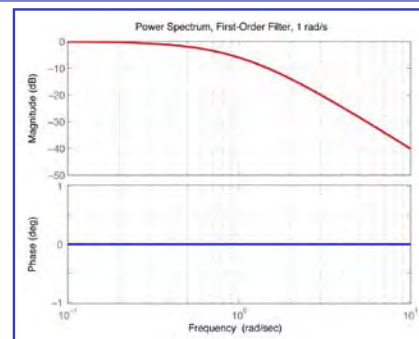
- Finite variance $\phi_{xx}(\tau)$
- Low-pass filtering of the power spectral density

$$\Phi_{xx}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi_{xx}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau$$

Autocovariance Function



Power Spectral Density Function



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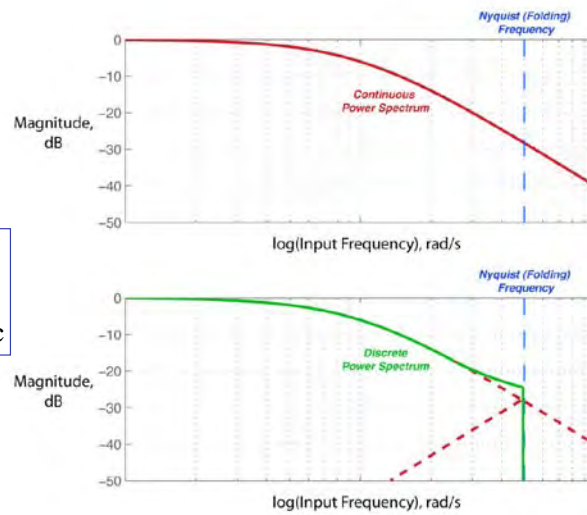
Spectral Density Matrices

- Dynamic systems subject all white-noise inputs to low-pass filtering
- Nyquist (or folding) frequency

$$\omega_{Nyquist} = \frac{1}{2} \omega_{Sampling} = \frac{\pi}{T}$$

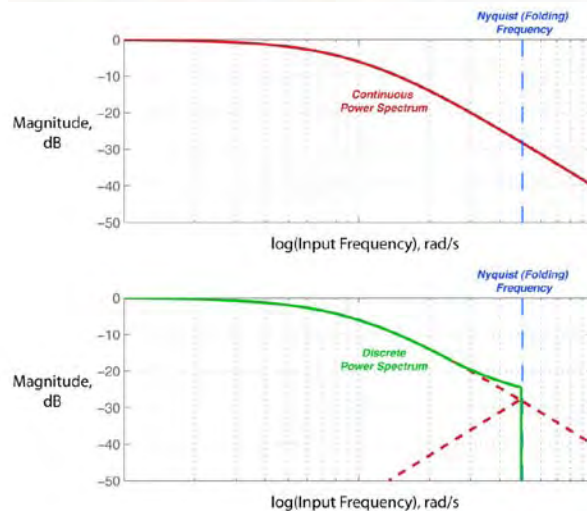
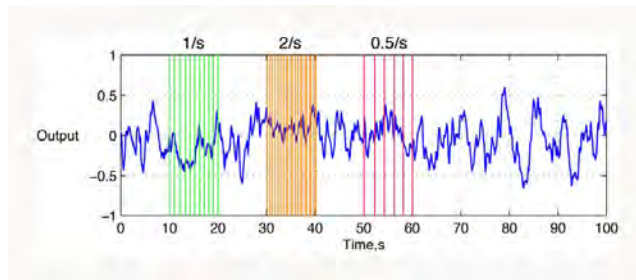
T = Sampling interval, sec

- Signals above this frequency fold and corrupt lower-frequency sampled signals (aliasing)



Caveat: Covariance and Spectra capture “stochastic equilibrium” effects but not transient effects

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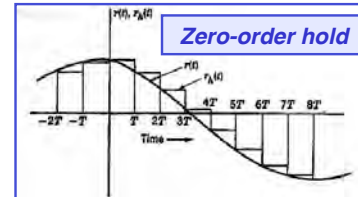
Frequency Folding (Aliasing)

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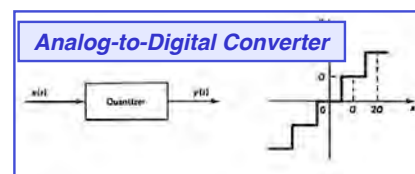
Quantization, Zero-Order Hold, and Inter-sample Ripple



- Digital control subject to zero-order hold in D/A
- Sampled signal misses inter-sample transient response
- *Effective delay* of sampled signal



- Continuous signal sampled with finite precision in A/D



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Next Time:
Kalman Filter for
Discrete-Time Systems

Supplemental Material

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Colored Noise Disturbance

- Disturbance may not be “white” noise
 - Power may vary with frequency
- Mean
- Covariance
- Correlation with adjacent signal
- Linear model for disturbance propagation
 - Driven by white noise sequence

$$E(\mathbf{w}_k) = \mathbf{0}$$

$\dim(\mathbf{w}_k) = s \times 1$

$$E(\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_k^T) = \mathbf{W}_k$$

$$E(\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_{k-1}^T) = \mathbf{V}_k$$

$$\mathbf{w}_k = \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{k-1}$$

$$E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_k) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_j \boldsymbol{\eta}_k^T) = \mathbf{Q}_{\boldsymbol{\eta}_k} \delta_{jk}$$

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Calculation of Disturbance Process Parameters

Autocovariance of scalar Markov process

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{xx}(1) &= E(x_i x_{i+1}) = bE(x_i^2) = b\sigma_x^2 \\ \phi_{xx}(k) &= b^{|k|}\sigma_x^2 = b^{|k|}\sigma_u^2\end{aligned}$$

Autocovariance of vector Markov process

$$\begin{aligned}E(\mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_{k-1}^T) &= E[(\mathbf{A}_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{k-1}) \mathbf{w}_{k-1}^T] \\ &= \mathbf{A}_{k-1} E(\mathbf{w}_{k-1} \mathbf{w}_{k-1}^T) \\ &= \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \mathbf{W}_{k-1} \\ &\triangleq \mathbf{V}_k\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the state transition matrix of the noise model is

$$\mathbf{A}_{k-1} = \mathbf{V}_k \mathbf{W}_{k-1}^{-1}$$

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Propagating the Disturbance

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \mathbf{W}_{k-1} \mathbf{A}_{k-1}^T + \mathbf{Q}_{\boldsymbol{\eta}_k}$$

- System state vector is augmented to include the disturbance

$$\mathbf{x}'_k \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m}_k \\ \mathbf{w}_k \end{bmatrix}, \quad \dim(\mathbf{x}'_k) = (n + s) \times 1$$

- Augmented equation for the mean

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m}_k \\ \mathbf{w}_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{k-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{w}_{k-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{k-1} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{I}_s \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{k-1}$$

- Augmented covariance equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_k & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{W}_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{k-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_{k-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{W}_{k-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{k-1} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_{k-1} \end{bmatrix}^T + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{I}_s \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_{\boldsymbol{\eta}_{k-1}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I}_s \end{bmatrix}$$

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