

## Homework 6

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The state of a body falling vertically through the atmosphere is  $\underline{x} = [x \ \dot{x} \ \beta]^T$ , where  $x$  is its height above the Earth's surface and  $\beta$  its ballistic coefficient. The ballistic coefficient is included as a state because it is not well known, so it must be estimated. Use EKF for continuous time models and discrete observations.

The state equations are

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \dot{x} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{d\dot{x}}{dt} = d - g \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{d\beta}{dt} = \xi(t) \quad (3)$$

where  $g = 9.8 \text{ [m/s}^2\text{]}$  is acceleration due to gravity,  $\xi(t)$  is the zero-mean white noise of intensity  $1000 \text{ [g}^2\text{/(m}^2\text{s}^6\text{)]}$ , and the drag is given by

$$d = \frac{\rho \dot{x}^2}{2\beta} \quad (4)$$

Units are provided in the rectangular brackets, however the problem is defined so that you do not need to worry about them.

Atmospheric density is

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-x/c} \quad (5)$$

with  $\rho_0 = 1220 \text{ [g/m}^3\text{]}$  being the density at sea level and  $c = 10263 \text{ [m]}$  a decay constant.

Suppose range measurements are taken every second ( $T=1 \text{ [s]}$ ) as in the figure (see the next page). Thus,

$$z_k = \sqrt{r_1^2 + (x_k - r_2)^2} + v_k \quad (6)$$

with  $r_1 = 1000 \text{ [m]}$ ,  $r_2 = 500 \text{ [m]}$ ,  $x_k = x(kT)$  and  $v_k \sim N(0, \sigma_r^2)$ ,  $\sigma_r^2 = 5 \text{ [m}^2\text{]}$ .

**(a)** Write down the prediction step of EKF; **(b)** Write down the update step of EKF; **(c)** Assume that at  $t = 0$ ,  $E\{x(0)\} = 10000 \text{ [m]}$ ,  $\text{var}\{x(0)\} = 50 \text{ [m}^2\text{]}$ ,  $E\{\dot{x}(0)\} = -500 \text{ [m/s]}$ ,  $\text{var}\{\dot{x}(0)\} = 200 \text{ [m}^2\text{/s}^2\text{]}$ ,  $E\{\beta(0)\} = 6 \times 10^7 \text{ [g/ms}^2\text{]}$ ,  $\text{var}(\beta(0)) = 2 \times 10^{12} \text{ [g}^2\text{/m}^2\text{s}^4\text{]}$  and that the measured data are taken every second beginning at  $t_1 = 1 \text{ [s]}$ , and are given in meters by

$$z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{10} = 9055, 8560, 7963, 7467, 7000, 6378, 5885, 5400, 4928, 4503 \quad (7)$$

Plot the  $x_m(k) = \sqrt{z_k^2 - r_1^2} + r_2$  and the EKF estimates for  $x(t)$  on the same diagram. On separate diagrams, plot the velocity ( $\dot{x}$ ) and the ballistic coefficient ( $\beta$ ) estimates.

**ANS:**

For equation 1, I can rewrite as:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \frac{\rho_0 e^{-x/c} \dot{x}^2}{2\beta} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -g \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \xi(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

In Extend Kalman Filter, equation 1 could refer to:

$$dx = f(x, t)dt + b(t)dw + u \quad (9)$$

then, for computing, I could set:

$$f(x, t) = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \frac{\rho_0 e^{-x/c} \dot{x}^2}{2\beta} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -g \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Because  $\xi(t)$  is the zero-mean white noise of intensity 1000 [ $g^2/(m^2 s^6)$ ], matrix  $b(t)$  could set as:

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{1000} \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

And, equation 2 can refer to the equation in discrete observation step:

$$\underline{y}(t_k) = \underline{h}_k(\underline{x}(t_k)) + \underline{v}(t_k) \quad (12)$$

**a. In the prediction step of EKF:**

I use following equations and compute with MATLAB ode45 function for continuous time model:

$$\dot{\underline{\hat{x}}}(t) = f(\underline{\hat{x}}, t) + u, t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}] \quad (13)$$

$$\underline{\dot{A}}(t) = \frac{\partial f(\underline{\hat{x}}, t)}{\partial \underline{\hat{x}}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\rho_0 e^{-x/c} \dot{x}^2}{2\beta c} & \frac{\rho_0 e^{-x/c} \dot{x}}{\beta} & -\frac{\rho_0 e^{-x/c} \dot{x}^2}{2\beta^2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

$$\dot{\underline{P}}(t) = \underline{A}(t)P(t) + P(t)\underline{A}^T(t) + \underline{b}\underline{b}^T(t), t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}] \quad (15)$$

For initial guess of  $\underline{\hat{x}}_0$ , I use expected value provided in (c) part:

$$\underline{\hat{x}}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} E\{x(0)\} \\ E\{\dot{x}(0)\} \\ E\{\beta(0)\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10000 \\ -500 \\ 6 \times 10^7 \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

For initial guess of  $\underline{\hat{P}}_0$ , I use variance value provided in (c) part:

$$\underline{\hat{P}}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \text{var}\{x(0)\} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & \text{var}\{\dot{x}(0)\} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & \text{var}\{\beta(0)\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 50 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 200 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \times 10^{12} \end{bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

In my computing, the covriance element of  $\hat{\underline{P}}_0$  are set to zero for simplified. After doing ode45 function, ode45 function will return two sequence of the result (time and array of  $\hat{\underline{x}}(t_{k+1}), \underline{P}(t_{k+1})$  ), and I will assign the last array in the sequence as the prediction of EKF:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\underline{x}}_{k+1}(-) &= \hat{\underline{x}}(t_{k+1}) \\ \hat{\underline{P}}_{k+1}(-) &= \hat{\underline{P}}(t_{k+1})\end{aligned}\tag{18}$$

**b. In the prediction step of EKF:**

First, I use  $\hat{\underline{x}}(t_{k+1})$  to update  $\underline{H}_{k+1}$ :

$$\underline{H}_{k+1} = \frac{\partial h_{k+1}(x_{k+1}(-))}{\partial x_{k+1}} = \frac{(x_k - r_2)}{\sqrt{r_1^2 + (x_k - r_2)^2}}\tag{19}$$

Then, I use the new  $\underline{H}_{k+1}$  to compute the new kalman filter gain:

$$\underline{H}_{k+1} = \underline{P}_{K+1}(-)\underline{H}_{k+1}^T(\underline{H}_{k+1}\underline{P}_{K+1}(-)\underline{H}_{k+1}^T + \underline{R}_{k+1})^{-1}\tag{20}$$

with new  $\underline{H}_{k+1}$  and  $\underline{K}_k + 1$ , I can update  $\hat{\underline{x}}_{k+1}$  and  $\underline{P}_{k+1}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\underline{x}}_{k+1} &= \hat{\underline{x}}_{k+1}(-) + \underline{K}_{k+1}(y_{k+1} - \underline{h}_{k+1}(\hat{\underline{x}}_{k+1}(-))) \\ \underline{P}_{k+1} &= (I - \underline{K}_{k+1}\underline{H}_{k+1})\underline{P}_{k+1}(-)\end{aligned}\tag{21}$$

After updating, do another extend kalman filter with next measurement  $z_k$ .

**c.**

First, I use  $x_m(k) = \sqrt{z_k^2 - r_1^2} + r_2$  with  $z_k$  to get the sequence of  $x_m$ . In all figures, I also add cumulating results of  $x(t)$  from ode45 (as green line). The following is the diagram of  $x_m$  and  $Ex(t_k)$ :

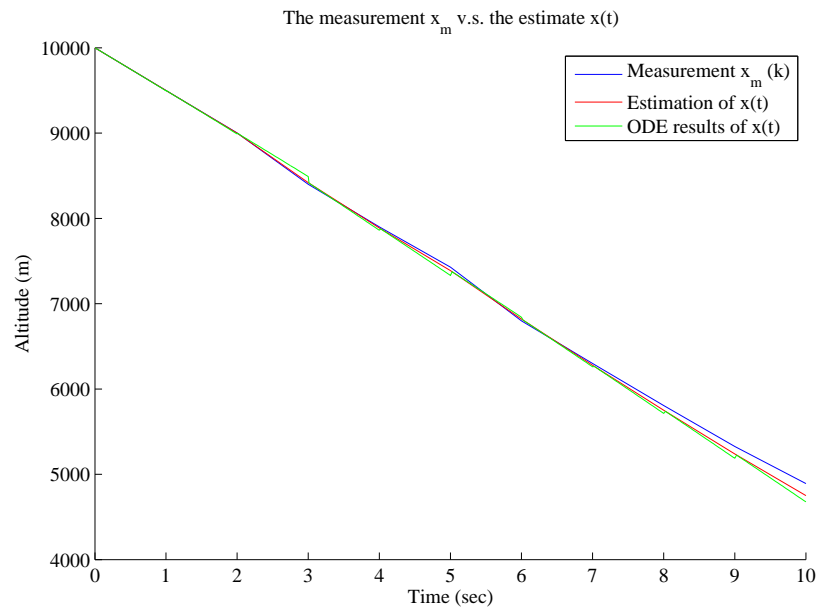


Figure 1: The measurement  $x_m$  and the EKF estimate  $x(t)$ .

The following is the diagram for the velocity  $\dot{x}(t)$ :

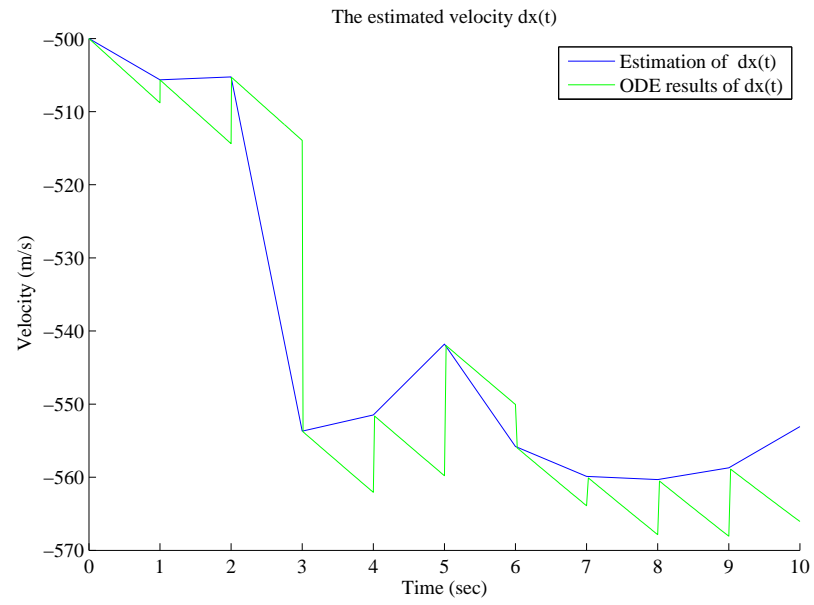


Figure 2: The EKF estimate  $\dot{x}(t)$ .

The following is the diagram for the ballistic coefficient  $\beta(t)$ :

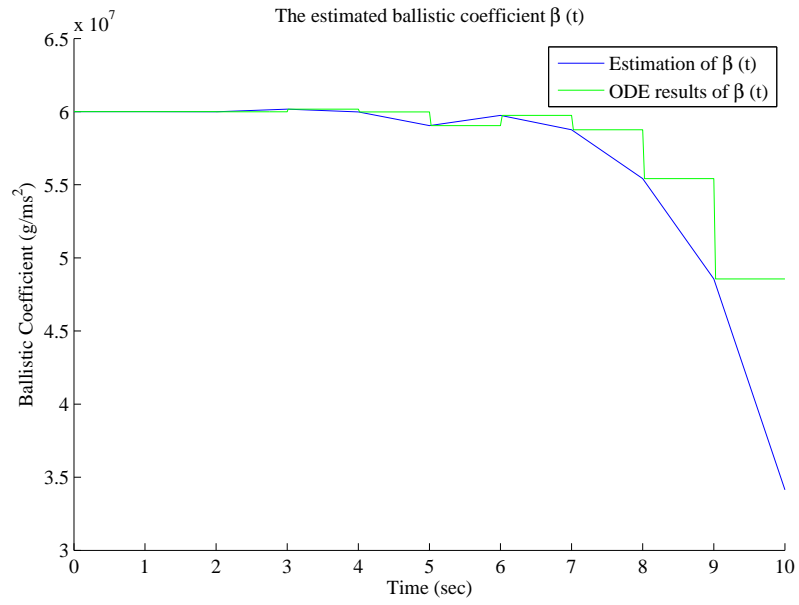


Figure 3: The EKF estimate  $\beta(t)$ .