

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Department of Land Surveying and Geo-informatics

LSGI3322 Satellite Positioning Systems GPS Positioning Project

(Final Phase – Calculating GPS Receiver Position)

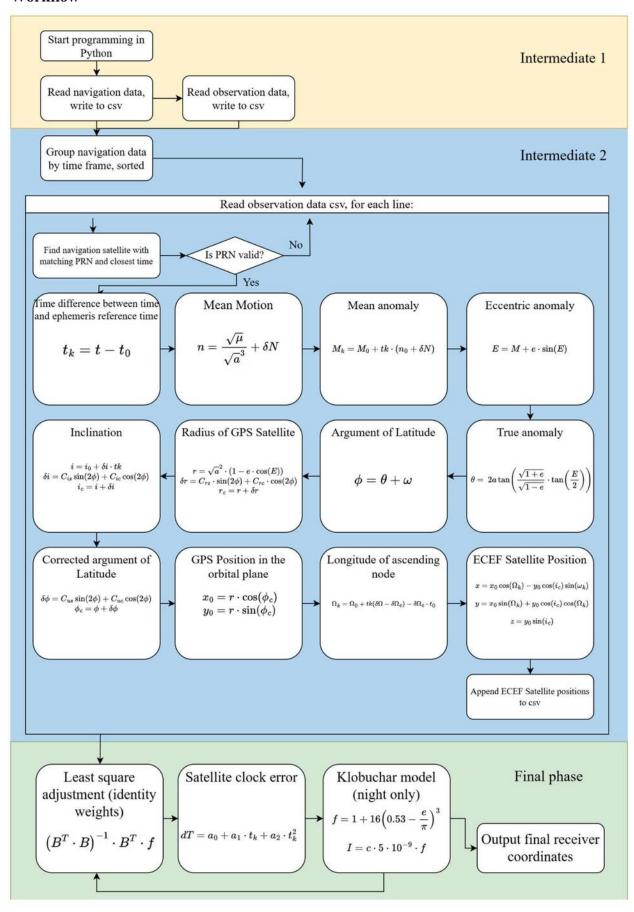
Subject Lecturer: Prof. George Liu



Final Objective

Python is chosen in the development of my computer program (the Program). Given the navigation and observation data files, calculate the GPS receiver position.

Workflow



Modifications to Intermediate 2

1. Calculation of the satellite clock error

```
def satellite_clock_error(a0, a1, a2, tk) -> float:
return Consts.c * (a0 + a1 * tk + a2 * tk * tk)
```

The summation of terms of satellite clock offset, drift, and drift rate, with respect to the time difference. Then the time is converted the distance light has travelled in the interval.

2. Adjust the satellite positions with earth's rotation speed

```
def correct_earth_rotation(pos: tuple[float, float, float], time_transmission) -> tuple[float, float]:
    # Rotated angle ωτ (rad) = rotation speed Ω_e (rad/s) * time (s)
    rotated_angle = Consts.omega_e * time_transmission
    x, y, z = pos
    new_x = x * cos(rotated_angle) + y * sin(rotated_angle)
    new_y = x * -sin(rotated_angle) + y * cos(rotated_angle)
    return new_x, new_y, z
```

The x, y, z offsets in ECEF system, the earth has rotated within the time difference.

- 3. No longer write intermediate satellite positions to csv
- 4. Requires numpy library installed

Module structure review

main.py	main script for running the Python program	
core.py	data structures for NavData and ObsData	
consts.py	define constants	
helper_fn.py	helper functions related to RINEX file formats	
math_fn.py	helper functions related to math	
util.py	miscellaneous helper functions related to data type manipulation (group by duplicates, list iterator, find first)	

Detailed workflow and corresponding Python code

Workflow	Formula / Constant	Python Code
Define the necessary constants for the upcoming formulas for orbit calculation.	$c = 299792458 m/s$ $g = 9.80665 m/s^2$ $G = 6.6725 * 10^{11} m^3/kg s^2$ $M = 5.972 * 10^{24} kg$ $\mu = 3.986004418 * 10^{14} m^3/s^2$ $\delta\Omega = 7.2921151467 * 10^{-5} rad/s$	class Consts: c = 299792458 # Speed of light (m/s) g = 9.88665 # Acceleration of earth's gravity (m/s^2) G = 6.67259e-11 # Universal gravitational constant (m^3/kg s^2) M = 5.972e24 # Mass of the Earth (kg) mu = 3.986084418e14 # Standard gravitational parameter (µ = 6 * M) (m^3/s^2) omega_e = 7.2921151467e-5 # Earth rotation rate (rad/s)

```
Time difference
                               t_k = t - t_0
                                                                           ef time_diff_k(t: float, t0: float) -> float:
between time and
ephemeris reference
                                                                               if tk > Consts.half_week:
                                                                                   tk -= 2 * Consts.half_week
time, then
                                                                               elif tk < - Consts.half_week:</pre>
normalized within
                                                                                    tk += 2 * Consts.half_week
[-3.5 \text{ day}, +3.5 \text{ day}]
range
                              n = \frac{\sqrt{u}}{\left(\sqrt{a}\right)^3} + \delta n
Mean motion (n)
                                                                           def mean_motion(sqrt_a: float, delta_n: float) -> float:
                                                                               return sqrt(Consts.mu) / sqrt_a ** 3 + delta_n
Mean anomaly (M)
                               M_k = M_0 + t_k(n_0 + \delta n)
                                                                           lef mean_anomaly(m0: float, n: float, tk: float) -> float:
                               E_k = M_k + e \sin(E_k)
Eccentric anomaly
                                                                           def ecc_anomaly(m: float, ecc: float) -> float:
(E)
                               \theta_k = 2 * atan \left( \frac{sqrt(1+e)}{sqrt(1-e)} tan \left( \frac{E}{2} \right) \right)
True anomaly (\theta)
                                                                            def true_anomaly(E: float, ecc: float) -> float:
Argument of
                               \varphi_k = \theta_k + \omega
                                                                            def argument_of_latitude(theta: float, omega: float) -> float:
latitude
                               r = a(1 - e\cos E_k) + \delta r_k
Orbit radius of the
                               \delta r_k = C_{rs} \sin(2\varphi_k) + C_{ic} \cos(2\varphi_k)
satellite position (r)
                                                                               delta_r = crs * sin(2 * phi) + crc * cos(2 * phi)
                               r_c = r_k + \delta r_k
                               i_k = i_0 + \delta i + \delta i_k * t_k
\delta i_k = C_{is} \sin(2\varphi_k) + C_{ic} \cos(2\varphi_k)
Inclination (i)
                                                                          def inclination(i0, d_i, tk, cis, cic, phi) -> float:
                                                                               i = i0 + d_i * tk
                               i_c = i_k + \delta i_k
                                                                               delta_i = cis * sin(2 * phi) + cic * cos(2 * phi)
                                                                               return i + delta_i
                               \delta \varphi_k = C_{us} \sin(2\varphi_k) + C_{uc} \cos(2\varphi_k)
Corrected
                                                                           def argument_of_latitude_corrected(cus, cuc, phi) -> float:
                               \varphi_c = \varphi_k + \delta \varphi_k
                                                                               delta_phi = cus * sin(2 * phi) + cuc * cos(2 * phi)
Argument of
                                                                               return phi + delta_phi
latitude
GPS Position in
                               x_0 = r_c \cos(\varphi_c)
                                                                           def gps_position_orbital_plane(r, phi_c) -> tuple[float, float]:
orbital plane
                               y_0 = r_c \sin(\varphi_c)
Longitude of
                               \Omega_k = \Omega_0 + t_k (\delta \Omega - \delta \Omega_e)
                                                                           ef longitude_of_ascending_node(omega_0, d_omega, tk, t0) -> float:
                                                    -\delta\Omega_e * t_0
ascending node
```

```
Earth-
centered
                       = x_0 \cos(\Omega_k)
Earth-fixed
                       -y_0\cos(i_c)\sin(\Omega_k)
(ECEF)
frame in
                       = x_0 \sin(\Omega_k)
orbital
                       + y_0 \cos(i_c) \cos(\Omega_k)
terrestrial
                       z = y_0 \sin(i_c)
coordinate
system
Satellite
                       dT = c * a_0 + a_1 * t_k + a_2 * t_k^2
                                                                                def satellite_clock_error(a0, a1, a2, tk) -> float:
clock error
(dT)
                       \omega \tau = \Omega_e - t_k
Earth
                       [\cos(\omega \tau) \quad \sin(\omega \tau) \quad 0]X
rotational
adjustment
                         -\sin(\omega\tau) \cos(\omega\tau) = 0 \mid Y
                          0 ____
                                                   0
Geometric
                       \rho = \sqrt{\delta x^2 + \delta y^2 + \delta z^2}
                                                                                    return np.sqrt((base_pos[0] - gps_pos_list[:, 0]) ** 2 +
(base_pos[1] - gps_pos_list[:, 1]) ** 2 +
distance in
                                                                                                    (base_pos[2] - gps_pos_list[:, 2]) ** 2)
3D space
(p)
Design
                                                                     1
matrix for
                                                                                   Froms, _ - gys_pos_list.snape

b = np.empty((rows, 4), dtype=float)

b[:, 0] = (base_pos[0] - gps_pos_list[:, 0]) / rho

b[:, 1] = (base_pos[1] - gps_pos_list[:, 1]) / rho

b[:, 2] = (base_pos[2] - gps_pos_list[:, 2]) / rho
least square
adjustment
S
Conversion
from ECEF
to WGS84
```

```
Satellite
                          \begin{bmatrix} E \\ N \\ U \end{bmatrix} = R_N(90^o - \phi 0)R_Z(90 + \lambda 0) \begin{bmatrix} \Lambda - \Lambda_{p0} \\ Y - Y_{p0} \\ Z - Z_{p0} \end{bmatrix}
                                                                                          ef gps_satellites_in_enu(base_pos_xyz: np.array,
                         positions in
ENU
system
relative to
the
tentative
receiver
location
                                                                                             sin_phi, cos_phi, sin_lam, cos_lam = sin(phi), cos(phi), sin(lam), cos(lam)
                                                                                            (gps_pos_list[:, 1] - y) * cos_lam)
gps_sat_enu[:, 1] = ((gps_pos_list[:, 0] - x) * -sin_phi * cos_lam +
                                                                                                                     (gps_pos_list[:, 1] - y) * -sin_phi * sin_lam + (gps_pos_list[:, 2] - z) * cos_phi)
                                                                                                                      (gps_pos_list[:, 1] - y) * cos_phi * sin_lam + (gps_pos_list[:, 2] - z) * sin_phi)
Elevation
                         elev = atan2(U, \sqrt{E^2 + N^2})
angle of
satellites
relative to
the receiver
                        f = 1 + 16\left(0.53 - \frac{e\overline{lev}}{\pi}\right)^{2}
I = c * f * 5 * 10^{-9}
Klobuchar
model for
                                                                                             gps_pos_list: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
# This is a coarse Klobuchar adjustments, which does not account for the time of the day
night
(Klobuchar
coefficients
and time of
day not
needed)
```

GPS Receiver positioning

According to Liu (2025), the formula for pseudorange measurement can be expressed as below:

$$P = \rho + d\rho + c(dt - dT) + I + T + e_{mp} + n_p$$

Since we assume each satellite has the same weight, the P is an identity matrix and is omitted from the calculation.

$$P \approx \rho + c(dt - dT) + I$$

The procedure for least square adjustments are described as below:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{x_0 - x}{\rho} & \frac{y_0 - y}{\rho} & \frac{z_0 - z}{\rho} & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} c1 - \rho + dT \\ \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$adjustments = (B^T * P * B)^{-1} * B^T * P * f \approx (B^T * B)^{-1} * B^T * f$$

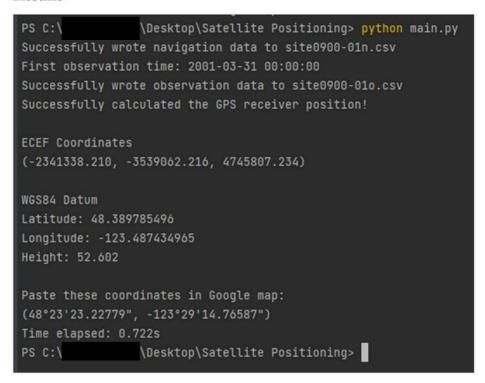
```
def least_square_adjustment(gps_pos_list: np.ndarray,
                          obs list
   num_sats = 4 # Minimum satellites required
   total_sats, _ = gps_pos_list.shape
   rx_clock_dist_prev = 0.0
      rx_clock_error = math_fn.transmission_sec(adjustments[3])
          x, y, z, sat_clock_err = calculate_gps_position(nav_list[i], obs_list[i], rx_clock_error)
          gps_pos_list[i, 2] = z
          sat_clock_err_list[i] = sat_clock_err
      rho = math_fn.geometric_distance(approx_pos, gps_pos_list[:num_sats])
      b = math_fn.design_matrix(approx_pos, gps_pos_list[:num_sats], rho)
      f = c1_list[:num_sats] - rho + sat_clock_err_list[:num_sats]
           f += iono_adjustments
      adjustments = np.linalg.inv(b.T @ b) @ b.T @ f
      rx_clock_dist_adjusted = adjustments[3] - rx_clock_dist_prev
      num_sats *= 4
          num_sats = total_sats
          base_pos = approx_pos[0], approx_pos[1], approx_pos[2]
          base_pos_wqs = math_fn.xyz_to_phi_lambda_h(base_pos)
          iono_adjustments = math_fn.klobuchar_adjustment(base_pos,
                                                            base_pos_wgs,
                                                            gps_pos_list)
          total reached += 1
  x, y, z = approx_pos[0], approx_pos[1], approx_pos[2]
  phi, lam, h = math_fn.xyz_to_phi_lambda_h((x, y, z))
```

The least squares approach first starts with an approximate position and no receiver clock error. After calculating the GPS satellite positions and their clock errors, we can obtain the design matrix and the error function. Then applying the least squares matrix formula and solve for the adjustments for the approximated position and the receiver clock error. In the last iteration, also account for the ionospheric delay from the Klobuchar model.

How to run

run python main.py in the terminal in the same working directory as the python files. This program requires at least Python 3.7 to run. Ensure that site0900.01n and site0900.01o are also in the working directory, and the numpy library is installed.

Results

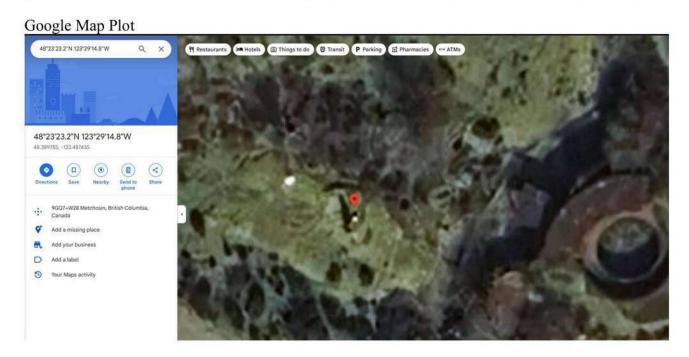


The Program should write the navigation and observation data csv to files, and calculate the coordinates as shown in the console, with sub-second performance.

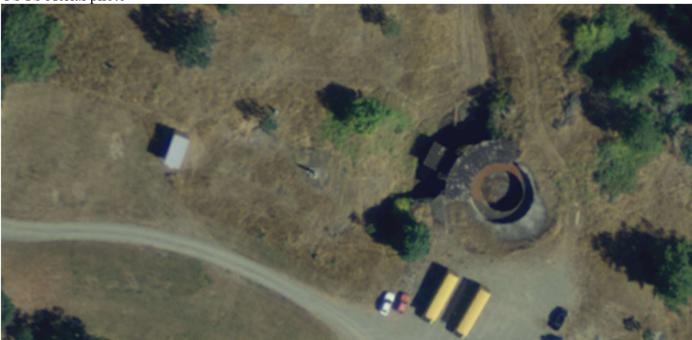
Information of the calculated location

9GQ7+W28 Metchosin, British Columbia, Canada

```
ECEF WGS84 (-2341388.210, -3539062.216, 4745807.234) (48 °23'23.22779", -123°29'14.76587", 52.602)
```



USGS Aerial photo



Improvements made

Instead of iteratively use all the satellites for least-squares adjustments, only 4 are used initially, and as the accuracy increases, more satellites are used. This approach has saved the computation time for matrix multiplications and yields the same results.

Here are the steps of this gradual approach:

- start with 4 satellites
- assume ionospheric delay is 0
- adjust the approximate location and receiver clock error with the least square solutions
- multiply the satellite count by 4, within the total satellite count
- use all the satellites if the improved accuracy of the receiver clock error is less than 1 meter
- recalculate, if all the satellite is used, calculate one last time with the Klobuchar model.

Improvements that can be made

1. Error modeling

The Program only models 3 errors: satellite clock error, receiver clock error, and ionospheric delay. The ionospheric delay uses the simplified version of the Klobuchar model, which does not account for the time of the day. Although some calculation steps are omitted, the performance is at the cost of less vigorous adjustments applied to the ionospheric delay. It is also possible to apply dual frequency adjustments to cancel the ionospheric delay, or use the other models such as the Hopfield Model for mitigating the tropospheric delay. Due to the complexity of the algorithms, only the Klobuchar model is implemented, and only considering the night model.

2. Weight matrix

The Program can also give more weights to different satellites to enhance the least squares calculation, for example give more weight to the satellites with larger elevation angle.

3. I/O Tasks

Furthermore, the Program can be customized whether to write the intermediate results to the csv files.

4. Multiprocessing

The Program can leverage more CPU for computational power, especially to process more than 20000 entries.

Appendix – Source code excerpt for orbit calculation (4 pages)

```
def calculate_gps_position(nav_data: NavData,
                           obs_data: ObsData,
                           rx_clock_error=0.0) -> tuple[float, float, float, float]:
   transmission_sec = math_fn.transmission_sec(obs_data.c1)
                                                           nav_data.sv_clock_drift,
   n = math_fn.mean_motion(nav_data.sqrt_a, nav_data.delta_n)
   M = math_fn.mean_anomaly(nav_data.m0, n, tk)
   E = math_fn.ecc_anomaly(M, nav_data.ecc)
   theta = math_fn.true_anomaly(E, nav_data.ecc)
   phi = math_fn.argument_of_latitude(theta, nav_data.omega)
   r = math_fn.orbit_radius(nav_data.sqrt_a, nav_data.ecc, E,
                             nav_data.crs, nav_data.crc, phi)
   i = math_fn.inclination(nav_data.i0, nav_data.d_i, tk,
                            nav_data.cis, nav_data.cic, phi)
   phi_c = math_fn.argument_of_latitude_corrected(nav_data.cus, nav_data.cuc, phi)
   x0, y0 = math_fn.gps_position_orbital_plane(r, phi_c)
   omega_k = math_fn.longitude_of_ascending_node(nav_data.omega_0, nav_data.d_omega, tk, nav_data.t0)
   pos = math_fn.gps_position_ecef(x0, y0, omega_k, i)
```

Calculation workflow function

```
lef process_gps_position(nav_data_list: list[NavData], obs_file, number_of_obs: int):
   grouped_nav_data_list, nav_slice_list = group_by_duplicates(iter(nav_data_list),
  nav_time_gen = (nav_data.time() for nav_data in grouped_nav_data_list)
   time_map = [(t, s) for t, s in zip(nav_time_gen, nav_slice_list)]
  gps_pos_list = np.empty((number_of_obs, 3), dtype=float)
   sat_clock_err_list = np.empty(number_of_obs, dtype=float)
      obs_data = ObsData.from_csv_row(obs_row)
      obs_time = obs_data.time()
      time_map.sort(key=lambda item: abs(item[0] - obs_time))
      match_nav_data = None
          match_nav_data = find_first(list_iter(nav_data_list, s), lambda nav_data: nav_data.prn == obs_data.prn)
       if match_nav_data is None:
       x, y, z, sat_clock_err = calculate_gps_position(match_nav_data, obs_data)
       gps_pos_list[index, 0] = x
       gps_pos_list[index, 1] = y
       gps_pos_list[index, 2] = z
       obs_list[index] = obs_data
       c1_list[index] = obs_data.c1
       sat_clock_err_list[index] = sat_clock_err
   ecef_pos, wgs84_pos = least_square_adjustment(gps_pos_list, nav_list, obs_list, c1_list, sat_clock_err_list)
   pretty_print_results(ecef_pos, wgs84_pos)
```

The function that processes the GPS Positions

```
def group_by_duplicates(iterator, equals_fn):
    result_list = []
    result_slices = []
   start_idx = 0
   result_list.append(first_item) # Always append the first item
   prev_item = first_item # Set prev_item to the first item
       if not equals_fn(item, prev_item):
           result_slices.append(slice(start_idx, i))
           result_list.append(item)
           prev_item = item
   result_slices.append(slice(start_idx, len(result_list)))
   return result_list, result_slices
def list_iter(ref_list, slice_obj):
    return (ref_list[index] for index in range(slice_obj.start, slice_obj.stop))
def find_first(iterable, predicate):
   for item in iterable:
       if predicate(item):
```

```
gdef pretty_format_degree(deg) -> str:
    positive = deg >= 0
    sign = '' if positive else '-'
    deg = abs(deg)
    degrees = int(deg)
    minutes = int((deg - degrees) * 60)
    seconds = ((deg - degrees) * 60 - minutes) * 60

return f"{sign}{degrees}°{minutes}'{seconds:.5f}\""
```

Utility functions used

```
def main():
    read_nav()
    read_obs()

with open(OBS_CSV_FILE, newline='') as obs_file:
    obs_file = csv.reader(obs_file)
    next(obs_file) # exclude header from csv
    process_gps_position(obs_file)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

Updated main function

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