

# Application of Kalman Filters (Stochastic Observers)

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# Application of Kalman Filters

- **Definitions, Equations and Block Diagrams**
- Target Tracking Example 2<sup>nd</sup> order
- Extended Kalman Filter
- Smoothing
- Code Examples/demos

Based on a presentation made Jan 26, 2011  
and snippets from a text in progress

# Kalman filter

The **Kalman filter** is a recursive filter that estimates the state of a linear system (or linearized system) in the presence of both measurement noise and state noise.

- Used extensively during Apollo program
- Linear-Quadratic-Gaussian Controller
  - Similar to combining the Luenbeger Observer with state variable feedback, the KF can be combined with the Linear Quadratic Regulator (optimal control problem) in order to find state (time varying) feedback gains

# Kalman filter

- Used for linear time invariant model with state and measurement noise
- There are continuous time and discrete time formulations. Use **discrete time formulation** – easier to understand for a brief presentation
- The Kalman Filter is a stochastic observer and “***Plays to the Model***” as do all observers

# Kalman filter

The Kalman filter is a **minimum mean square error (MMSE)** estimator. I.e. it minimizes the mean squared error of the trace of P the covariance matrix.

Minimizes the square of difference between actual and estimated states

Kalman filter which is a minimum variance unbiased estimator of the states for the case of Gaussian noise. Gaussian noise is the worst case noise.

In this case the error covariance is Gaussian and estimate is the conditional mean. It is the best MSE estimator.

$$\text{Kalman Filter} \Rightarrow \min ||P|| : P = \text{cov}(\tilde{y} = y - \hat{y}) = E[\tilde{y}] = 0$$

If the Gaussian noise assumption for the noises is removed, the Kalman filter gives the best linear estimate of the state (minimum variance). Better ones are not linear estimates of state.

# Kalman filter

In Summary:

The Kalman filter is the best (minimum variance estimator) linear

filter for any distribution and is the **best possible estimator if the plant, measurement noise and initial states are Gaussian.**

references: [Goodwin and Sin], [Sage and Melsa]

# Normal Estimation Problem

## Stochastic Plant & Measurement Noise

plant:  $y(k) = \phi y(k-1) + \psi w(k-1)$

measurement:  $z(k) = h y(k) + v(k)$

$y$ : n-vector

$\phi$ : n by n state transition matrix

$z$ : m-vector

$\psi$ : n by r input/state transition matrix

$w$ : r-vector

$h$ : m by n measurement matrix

$v$ : m-vector

statistics:

$w$ :  $N(\bar{w}, Q_w)$  is white, stationary and

$Q_w \geq 0$  (positive semidefinite);  $\bar{w} = E[w(k)]$ ,

$$Q_w \delta(k-j) = E[w(k)w'(j)] - \bar{w}\bar{w}^T$$

$v$ :  $N(\bar{v}, R)$  is white, stationary and

$R > 0$  (positive definite  $\bar{v} = E[v(k)]$ ,

$$R \delta(k-j) = E[v(k)v'(j)] - \bar{v}\bar{v}^T$$

$\{w, v\}$  are statistically independent.

# Discrete Time Kalman Filter Equations

## Predictor-Corrector Form

Kalman Filter  $\Rightarrow \min ||P|| : P = \text{cov}(\tilde{y} = y - \hat{y}) = E[\tilde{y}] = 0$

Kalman Filter Equations for Linear Time Invariant System with Stationary Noise

*prediction:*  $\hat{y}(k+1|k) = \varphi \hat{y}(k|k) + \psi \bar{w}$

*correction:*  $\hat{y}(k+1|k+1) = \hat{y}(k+1|k) + K(k+1) [z(k+1) - h \hat{y}(k+1|k) - \bar{v}]$

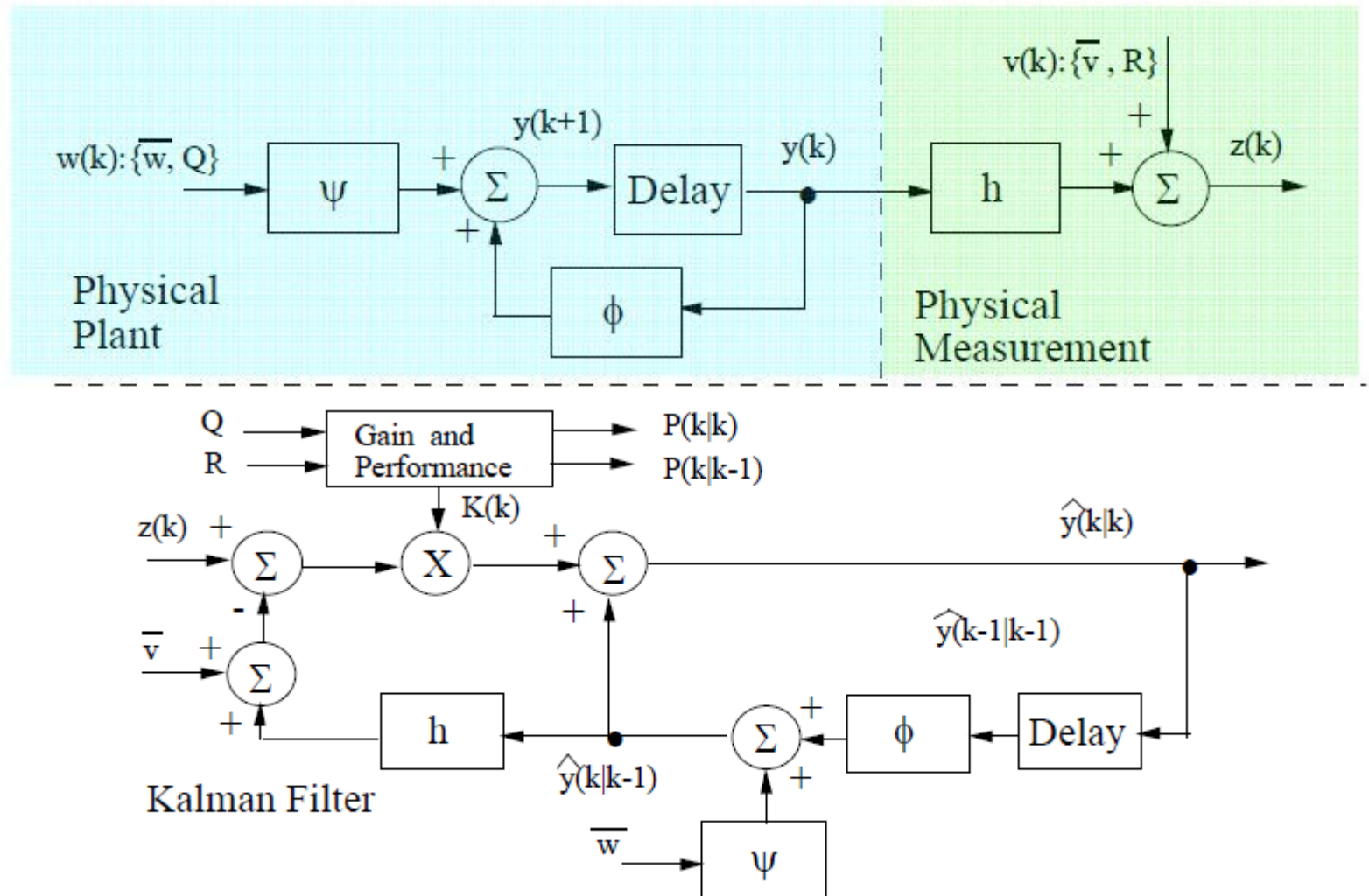
*predicted covariance:*  $P(k+1|k) = \varphi P(k|k) \varphi' + Q ; Q = \psi Q_w \psi'$

*filter gain:*  $K(k+1) = P(k+1|k) h' [h P(k+1|k) h' + R]^{-1}$

*updated covariance:*  $P(k+1|k+1) = [I - K(k+1) h] P(k+1|k)$



# Block Diagram: Physical Plant, measurement and Kalman Filter



# Conditions for Existence of Kalman Filter

**If** Time-invariant system:  $\{\phi, h, \psi\}$  are constants,  
Stationary noises:  $\{Q, R\}$  are constants, and  
Eigenvalues of the system are stabilizable and detectable;  
**then**  $P(k|k)$  and  $P(k|k-1)$  converge to steady state values (as time  $\rightarrow$  infinity)  
**If** the pair  $[\phi, h]$  is completely observable, and  
the pair  $[\phi, D]$  is completely controllable, where  $Q = DD'$   
**Then** solution of the Riccati equation converges to  $P_p > 0$

## Interpretation [**Bar-Shalom**]

- Observability guarantees a "steady flow" of information about each component, thus preventing the uncertainty from becoming unbounded.
- Controllability guarantees that process noise enters each state component and prevents the covariance of the state estimate from converging to zero.
- The observability condition yields the existence of the steady state solution and the controllability causes it to be positive definite.

# System Model – estimate states $x[k]$ from measurements $z[k+1]$

Consider a linear time invariant discrete-time system subjected to a random vector noise,  $w$ .

dynamics: 
$$x[k+1] = A x[k] + B w[k]$$

$x$ :  $n$ -state vector

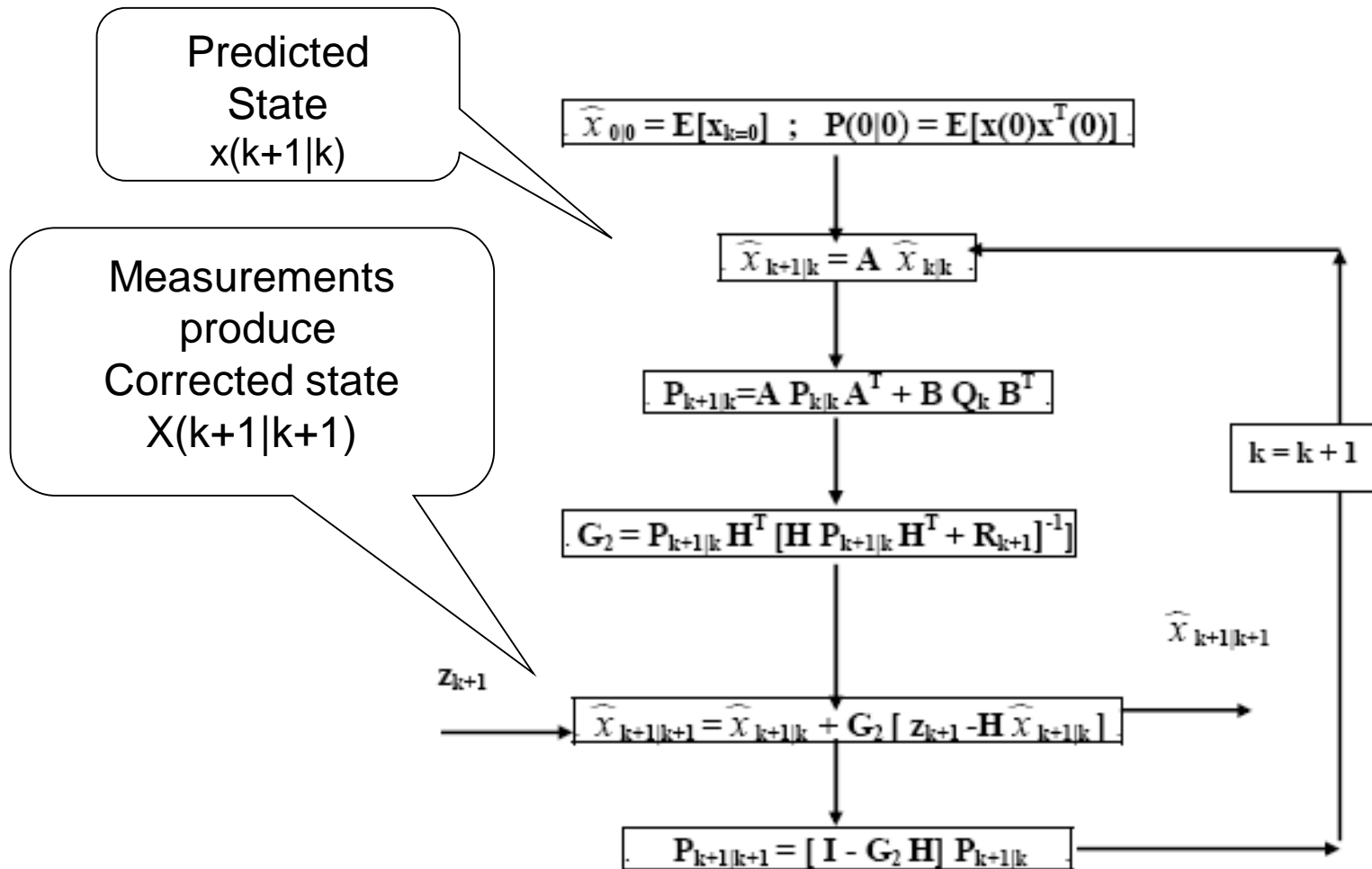
$w$ :  $p$ -random vector

measurement: 
$$z[k+1] = H x[k+1] + n[k+1]$$

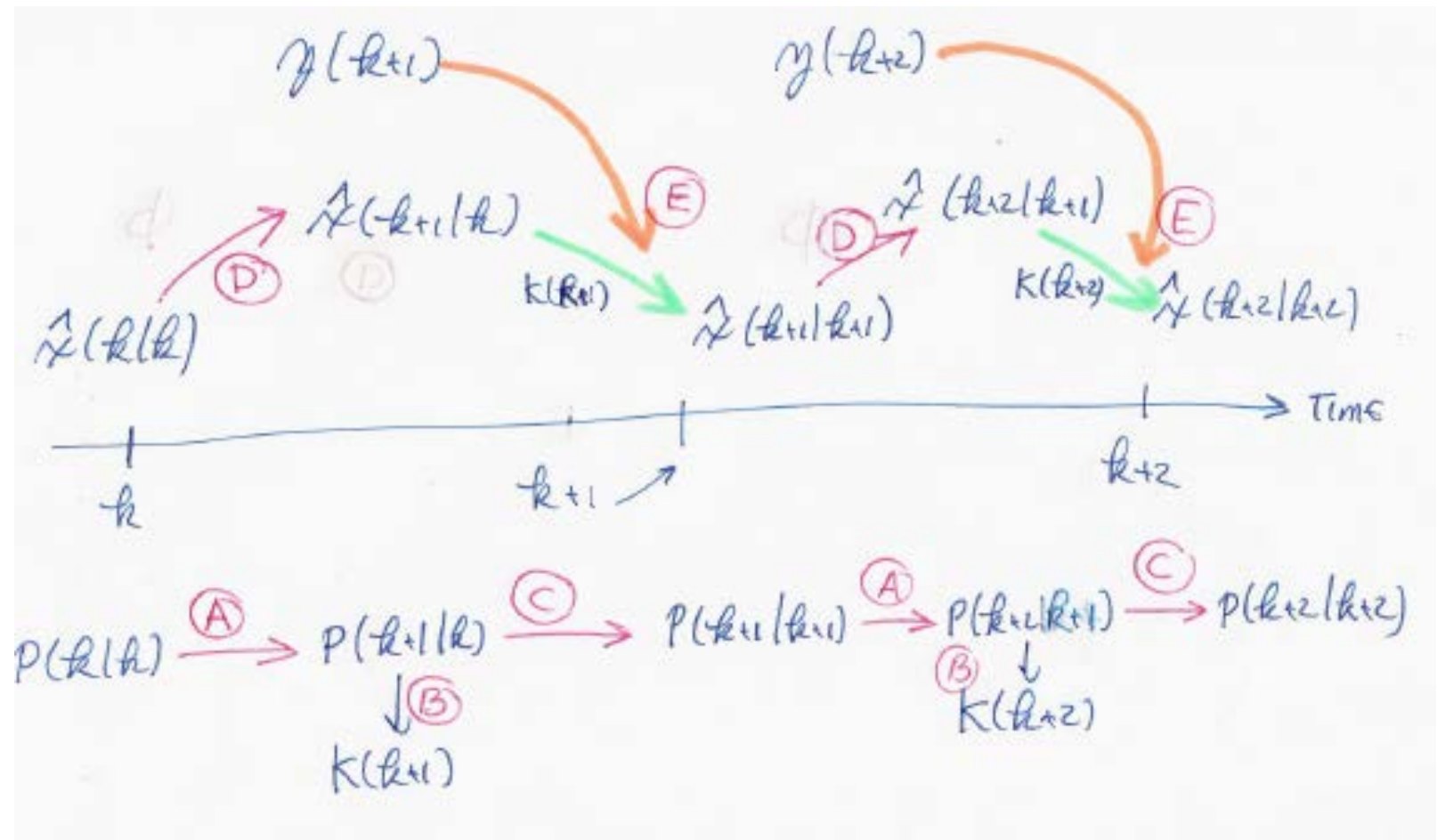
$z, n$ :  $q$ -vectors

If the random vectors are zero mean and uncorrelated, the input random vector has covariance  $E[ww^T] = Q[k]$  and the measurement random vector has covariance  $E[nn^T] = R[k]$

# Predictor-Corrector Kalman Filter Recursive State and Performance

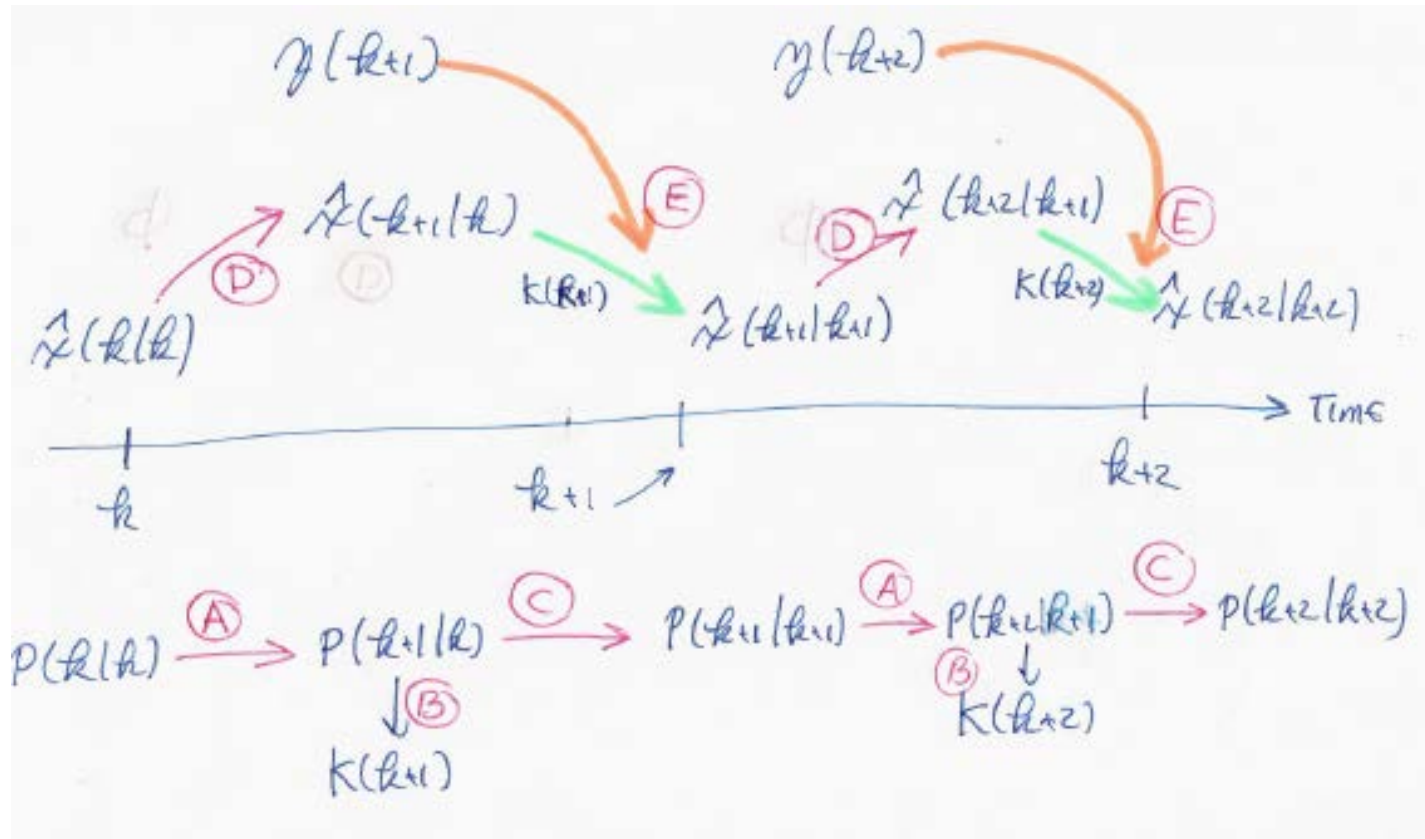


# Graphic of Updates State and Covariance



# Discussion

## Missing one or more measurements



If we miss a measurement we can still predict, however the covariance value will increase. This is called **coasting**, similar to deterministic observer if measurement is lost and residual set to zero to let observer dynamics perform estimate.

# Some Comments on Kalman filter

- *If  $\{w_k\}$  and  $\{n_k\}$  are zero mean, uncorrelated, and white, then the KF is the best linear solution to minimizing the variance of the state error*
- Computes *predicted state estimate* and corresponding covariance (performance measure)
- After measurements, computes *corrected state estimate* and corresponding covariance
- For Gaussian noise - the square root of covariance = standard deviation of each state.
- Performance measure is not reflective of actual data presented to algorithm. Performance is based on propagation of mean and variance.
- Under certain conditions the gains and performance reach steady state values. You do not need to compute each iteration.

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# Kalman Filter as Target Tracker

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(k+1) \\ \mathbf{v}(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & T \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(k) \\ \mathbf{v}(k) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} T^2/2 \\ T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}[k]$$

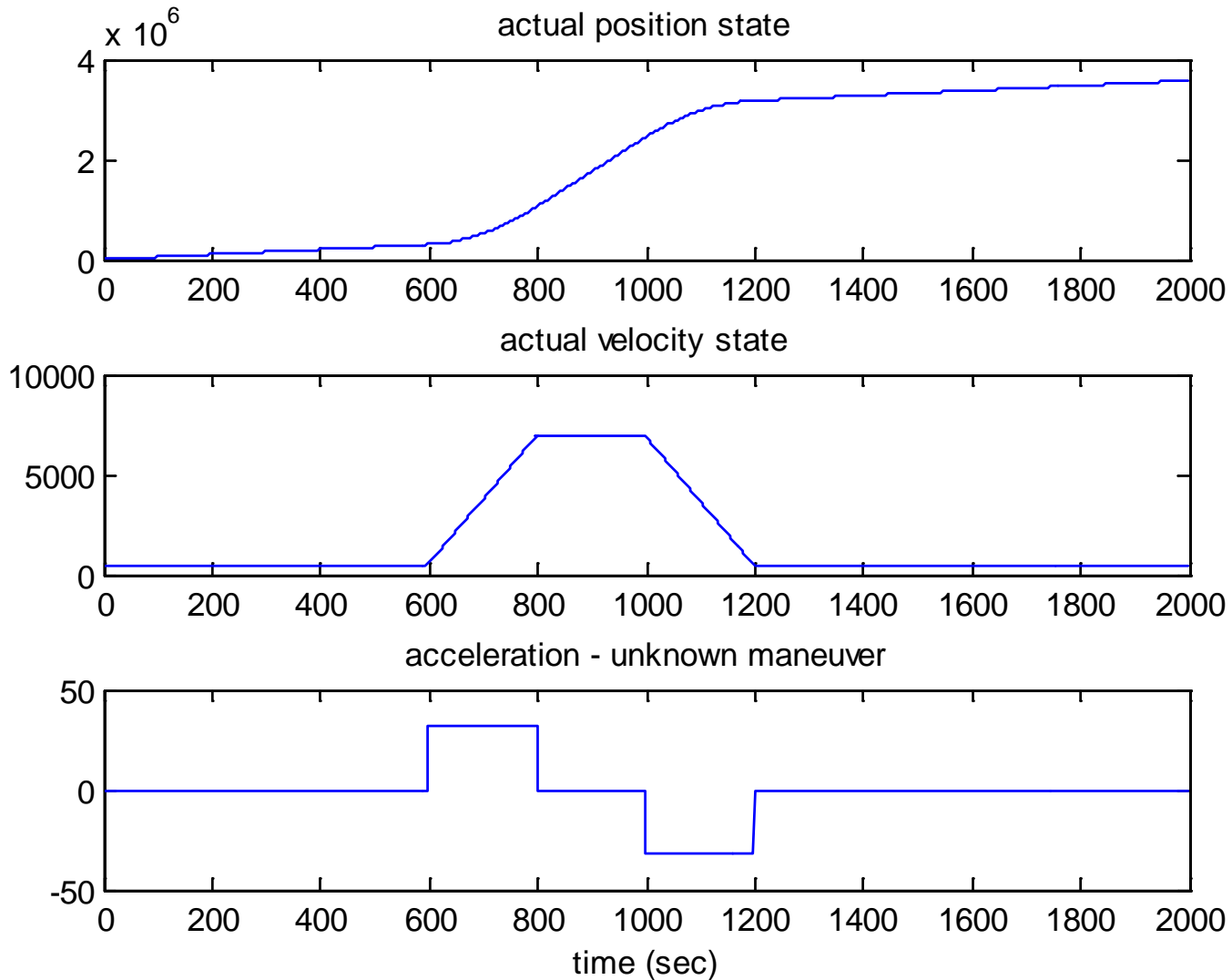
$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(k) \\ \mathbf{v}(k) \end{bmatrix} + n[k]$$

- One dimensional kinematic model
- Unknown input waveform  $w[k]$  has variance of 32.2 ft/sec<sup>2</sup> based on 1 g maneuver for acceleration
- Measurement noise variance 100<sup>2</sup>
- $w[k]$  and  $n[k]$  are uncorrelated

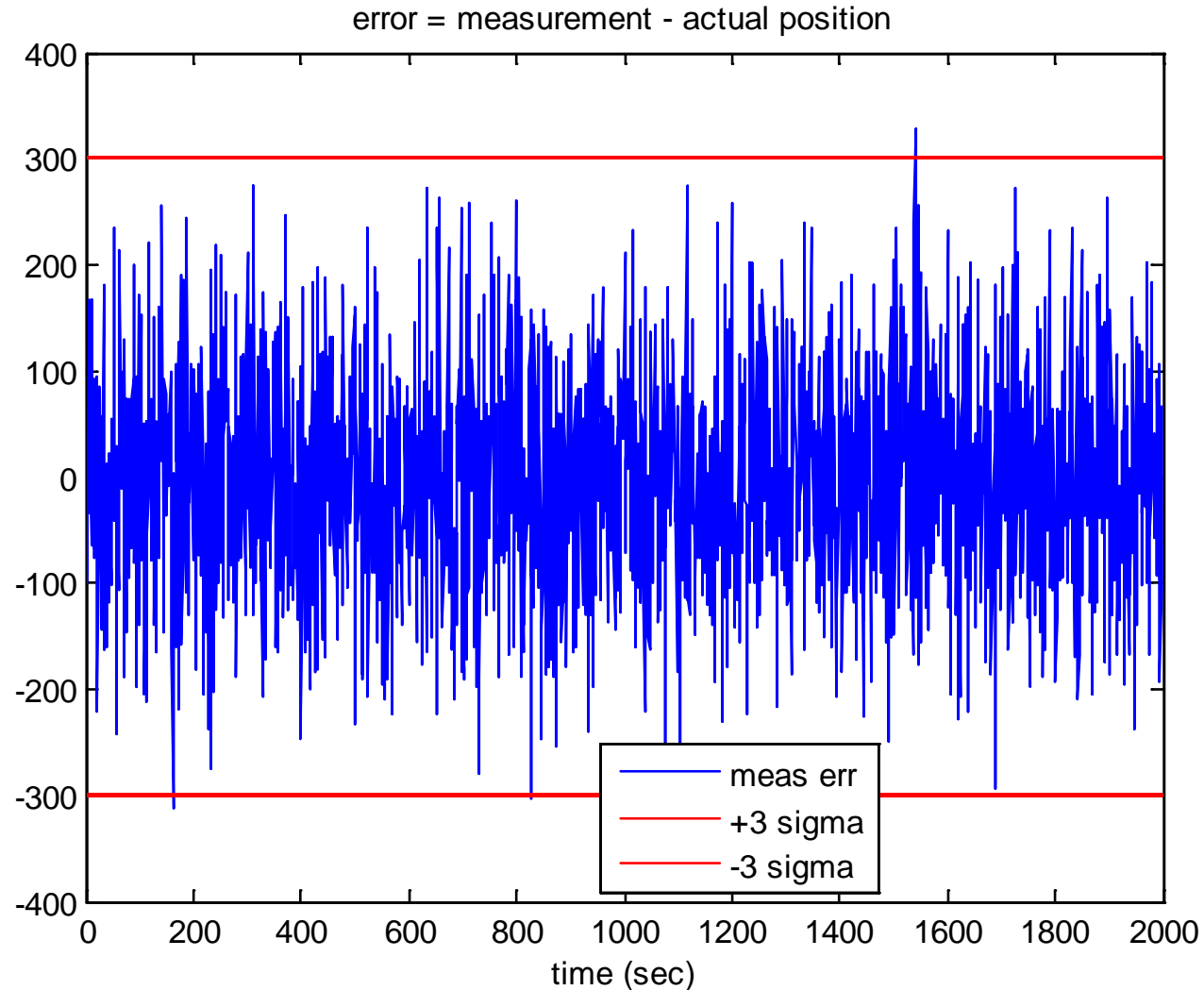
# For Demonstration of target tracking

- Generate ground truth signals using an input that has known variance (this is deterministic but unknown – such as an aircraft maneuver)
- Add measurement noise to obtain  $\{z[k]\}$
- Use  $\{z[k]\}$  to estimate position and velocity state
- Compare results to ground truth

# Ground Truth Target tracks



# Error = Position Measurement - Actual Position



# Code Segment

## 2<sup>nd</sup> order Target Tracker

### Initialize

```
%% initialize P(k|k) and P(K+1|k)
PCINIT = 1e6*eye(order); % this is
p(0|0)
PC = PCINIT;
PP = FI*PC*FI' + QA; % P(1|0); %
use KF equation

xpinit = [0;0;0]; % initial guess
xpinit = x_ic;
xp = xpinit;
xphst = xp;
```

### Predictor Corrector Form

```
for i = 1:n
    K = PP*MA'*inv(MA*PP*MA' + R);
    khst = [khst,K]; % store
    xc = xp + K*(xm(i) - MA*xp);
    xfhst = [xfhst,xc]; % store
    PC = (eye(order)-K*MA)*PP;
    PCkhst = [PCkhst,PC]; % store
    xp = FI*xc;
    xphst = [xphst,xp]; % store
    PP = FI*PC*FI' + QA;
    PPkhst = [PPkhst, PP]; %store
end
```

# Simulation Results: 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Target Tracker Steady State Values

PC =

1.0e+003 \*  
5.4941    2.1614  
2.1614    2.1171

- Steady state Corrected Covariance Matrix

PP =

1.0e+004 \*  
1.2193    0.4797  
0.4797    0.3154

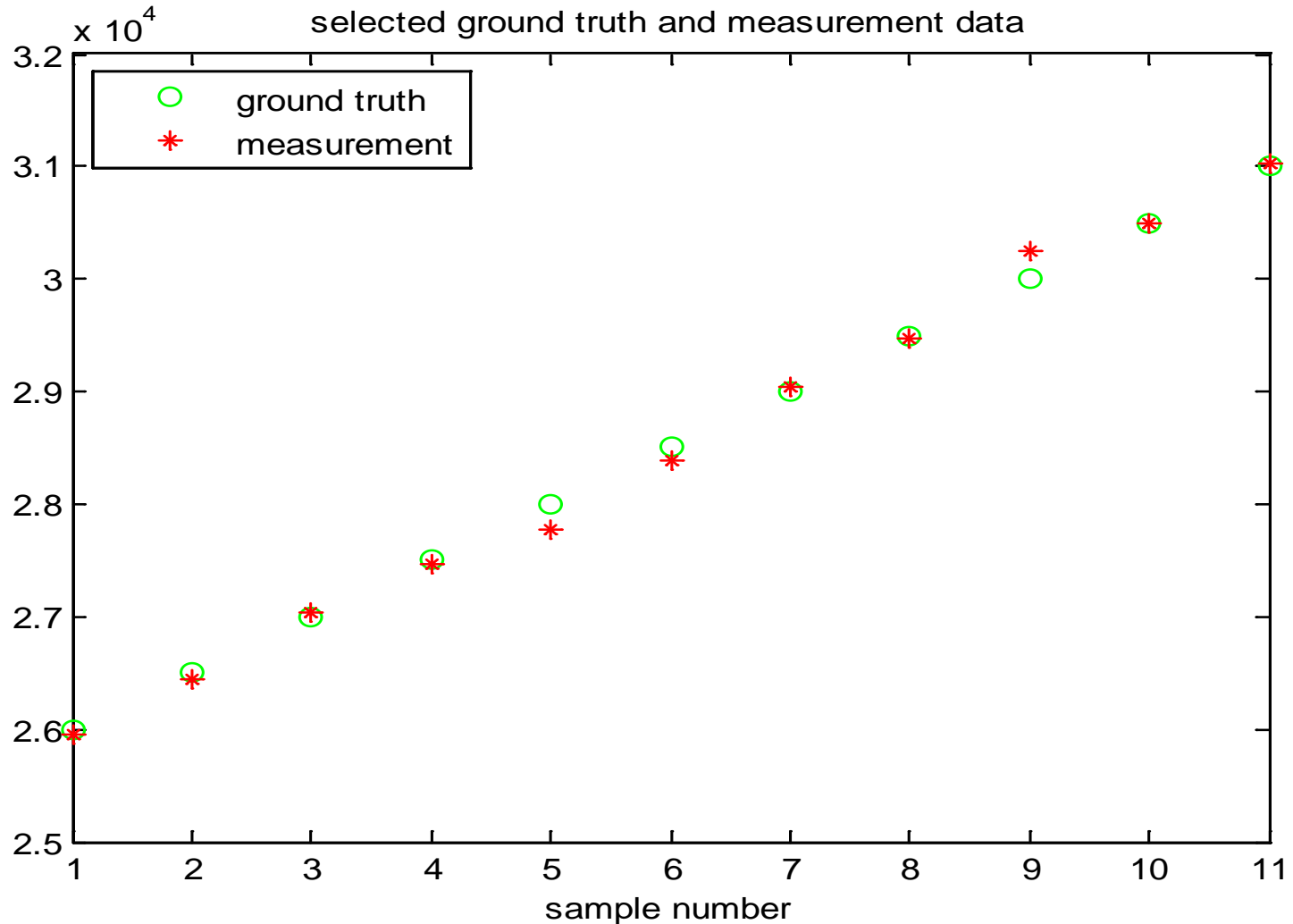
- Steady State Predicted Covariance Matrix PP>PC

K =

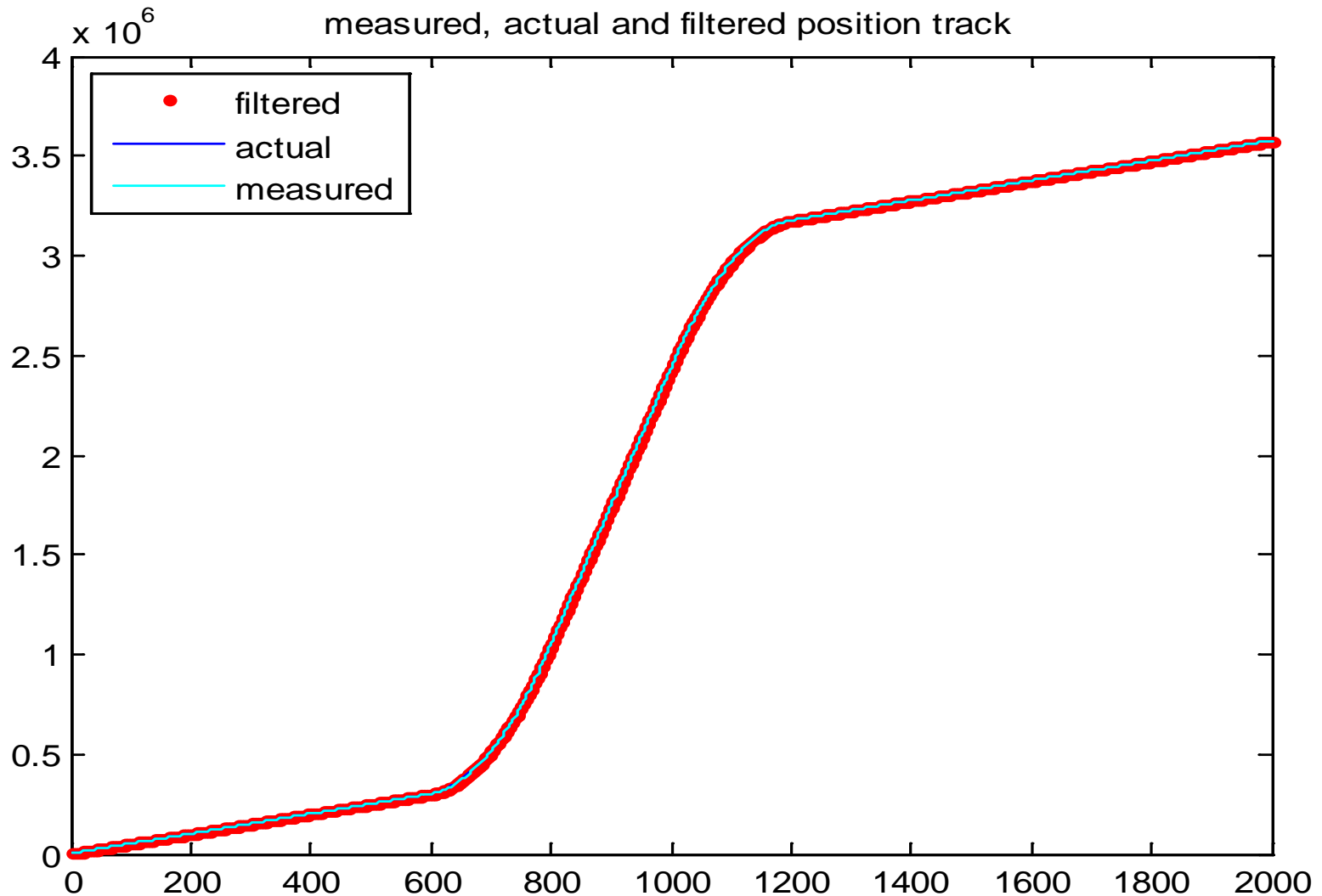
0.5494  
0.2161

- Steady State Kalman gains

# Measurement and Ground Truth Discrete Time Points

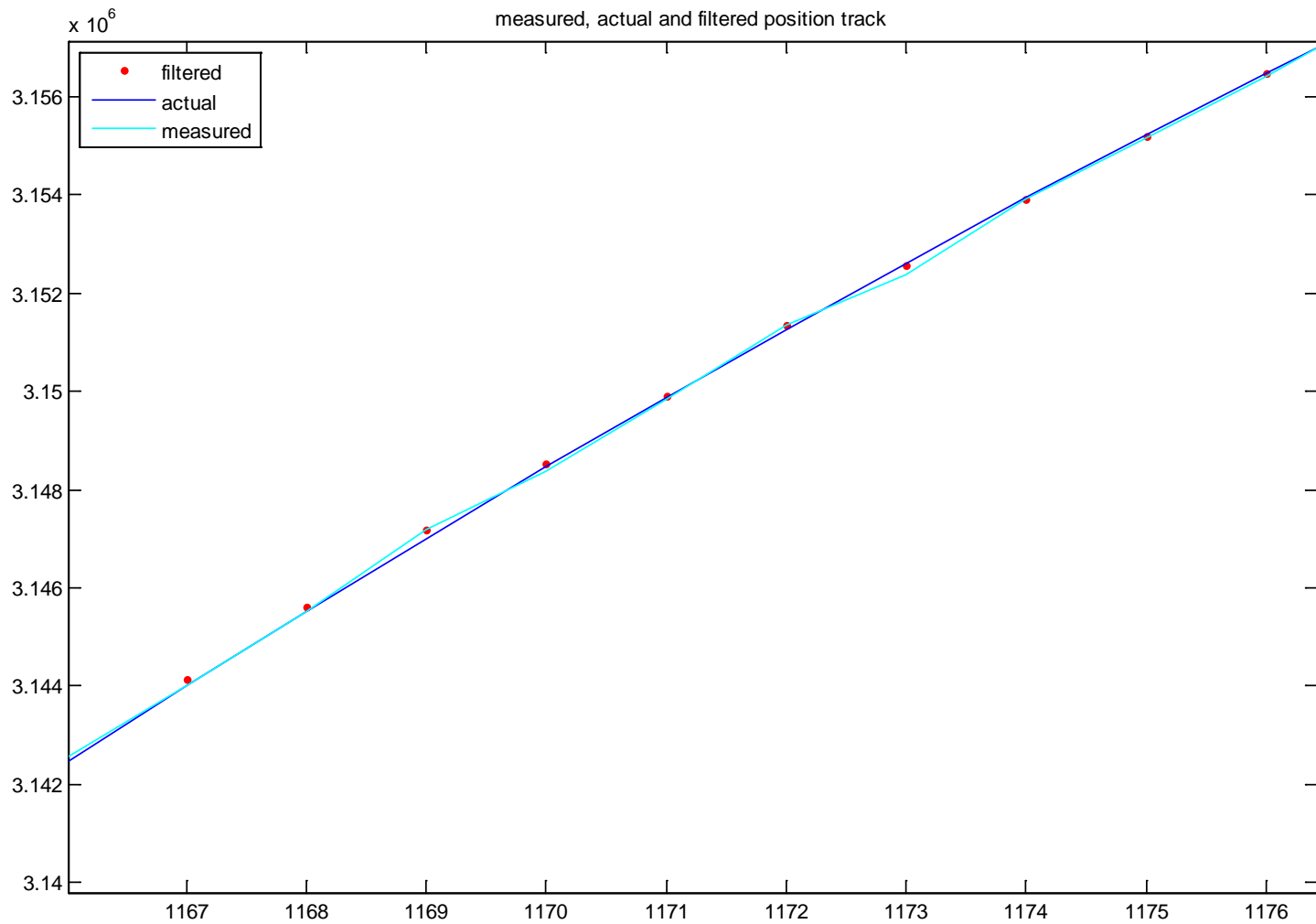


# Result of filtering: Position

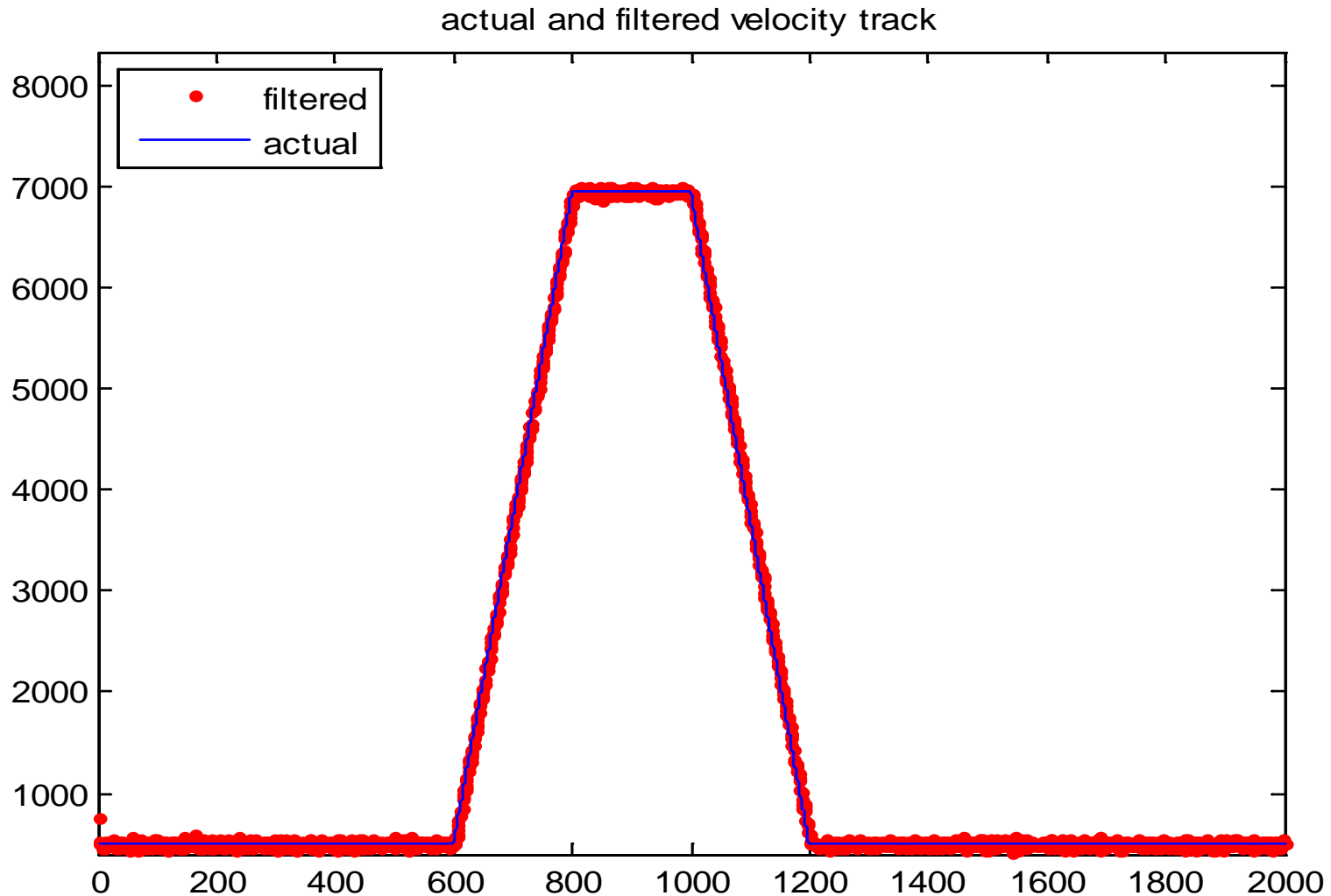




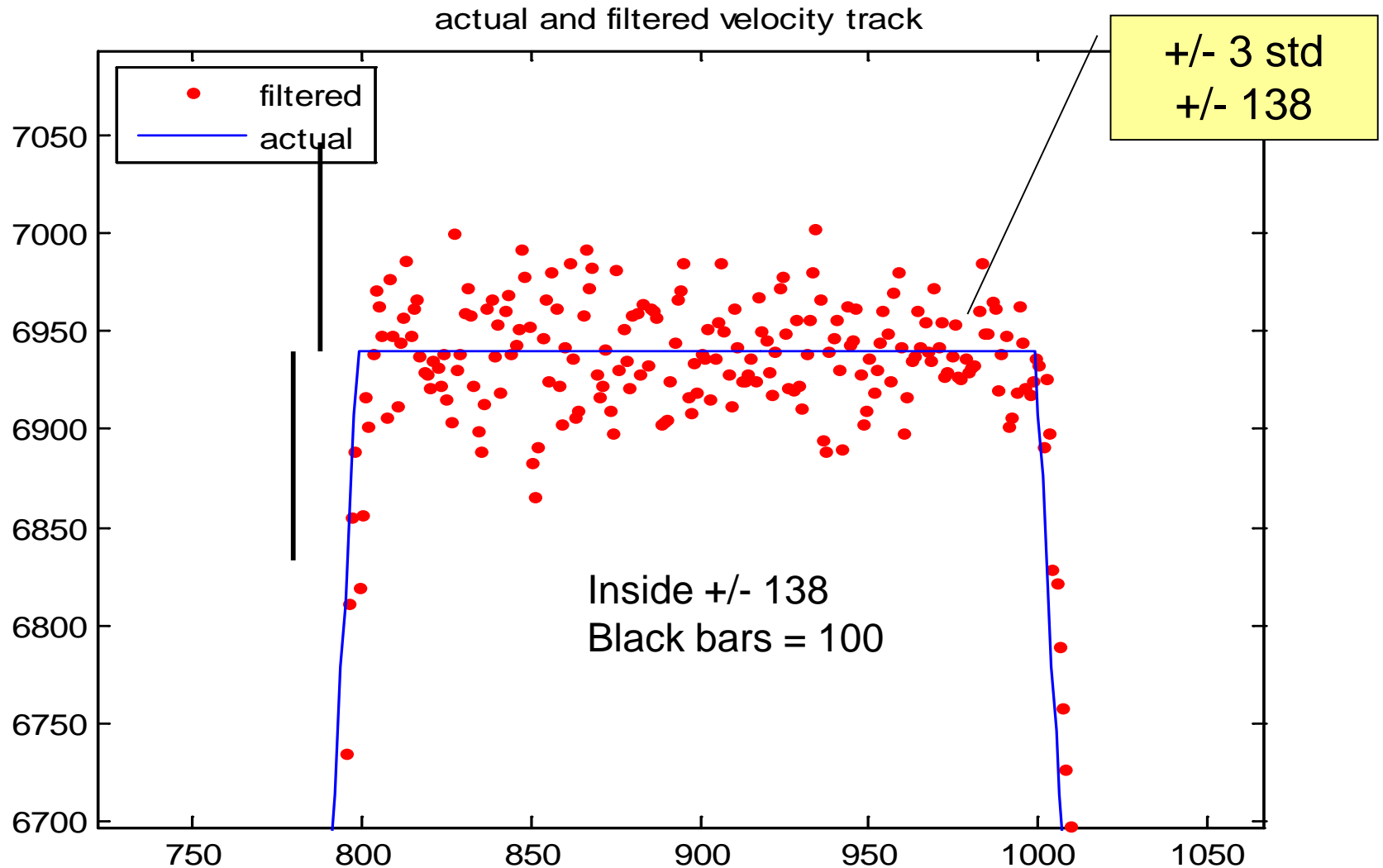
# Result of filtering: Position



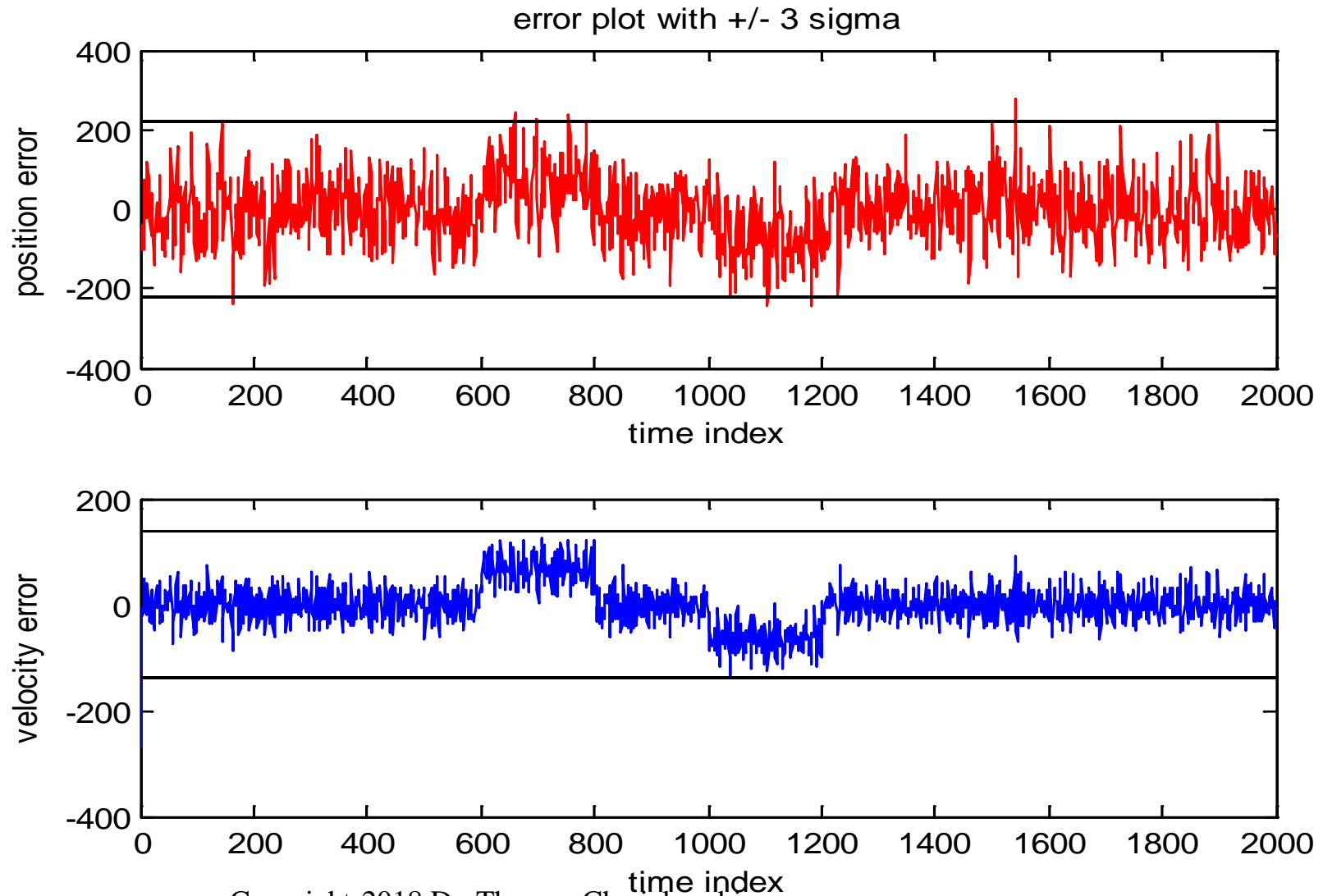
# Result of Filtering: Velocity



# Constant velocity portion estimate is better than WC KF



$$\text{Error} = \text{actual} - \text{estimated}$$



# The statistics

- The unknown input waveform  $w[k]$  was characterized by a variance of  $32.2\text{ft/sec}^2$  – maneuver noise
- Measurement noise had variance of  $100^2$  or  $\pm 300$  (3 standard deviations)
- Error of corrected position state had variance of 5491 or  $\pm 222$  (3 standard deviations)
- Error of corrected velocity state had variance of 2117 or  $\pm 138$  (3 standard deviations)
- Take away – state estimates improve better with KF

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# Extended Kalman Filter

- Allows the KF to be applied to a **non-linear** system
  - $x_k = f_{k-1}[x_{k-1}, u_{k-1}, w_{k-1}]$
  - $y_k = h_k[x_k, v_k]$
- Taylor series expansion about state  $\hat{x}_{k-1}^+$  and  $w_{k-1} = 0$
- Allows use of linear state space equation and linear measurement equation
- EKF is most widely applied state estimation algorithm for non linear systems
- **EKF can give unreliable results if non linearity is severe.**

# Parameter Estimation via EKF

- Consider nonlinear discrete time system where  $p$  is an unknown parameter
- We want to estimate the constant  $p$  (and the state)
- Augmented state, sometimes don't need all states,  $x_k$
- Parameter dynamics are constant (plus noise)

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{F}_k(\mathbf{p}) + \mathbf{G}_k(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{L}_k(\mathbf{p})$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{v}_k$$

$$\mathbf{x}'_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_{k+1} = \mathbf{p}_k + \mathbf{w}_{pk}$$



# Parameter Estimation via EKF

Using augmented states form new system model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} \\ \mathbf{p}_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_k(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{G}_k(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{L}_k(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{w}_k \\ \mathbf{p}_k + \mathbf{w}_{pk} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}_k & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k \\ \mathbf{p}_k \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{v}_k$$

EKF used to estimate augmented state.

Note in this case we do not necessarily reach steady state.

# Parameter Estimation via EKF

1<sup>st</sup> order system with “p” unknown

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{p}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{w}_k$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{v}_k$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} \\ \mathbf{p}_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{w}_k \\ \mathbf{p}_k + \mathbf{w}_{pk} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k \\ \mathbf{p}_k \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{v}_k$$

Nonlinear augmented formulation (2<sup>nd</sup> order)

Linearized matrices for use with KF (state and noise matrix)

$$\mathbf{F}_{k-1} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \end{array} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{pk} & \mathbf{xk} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

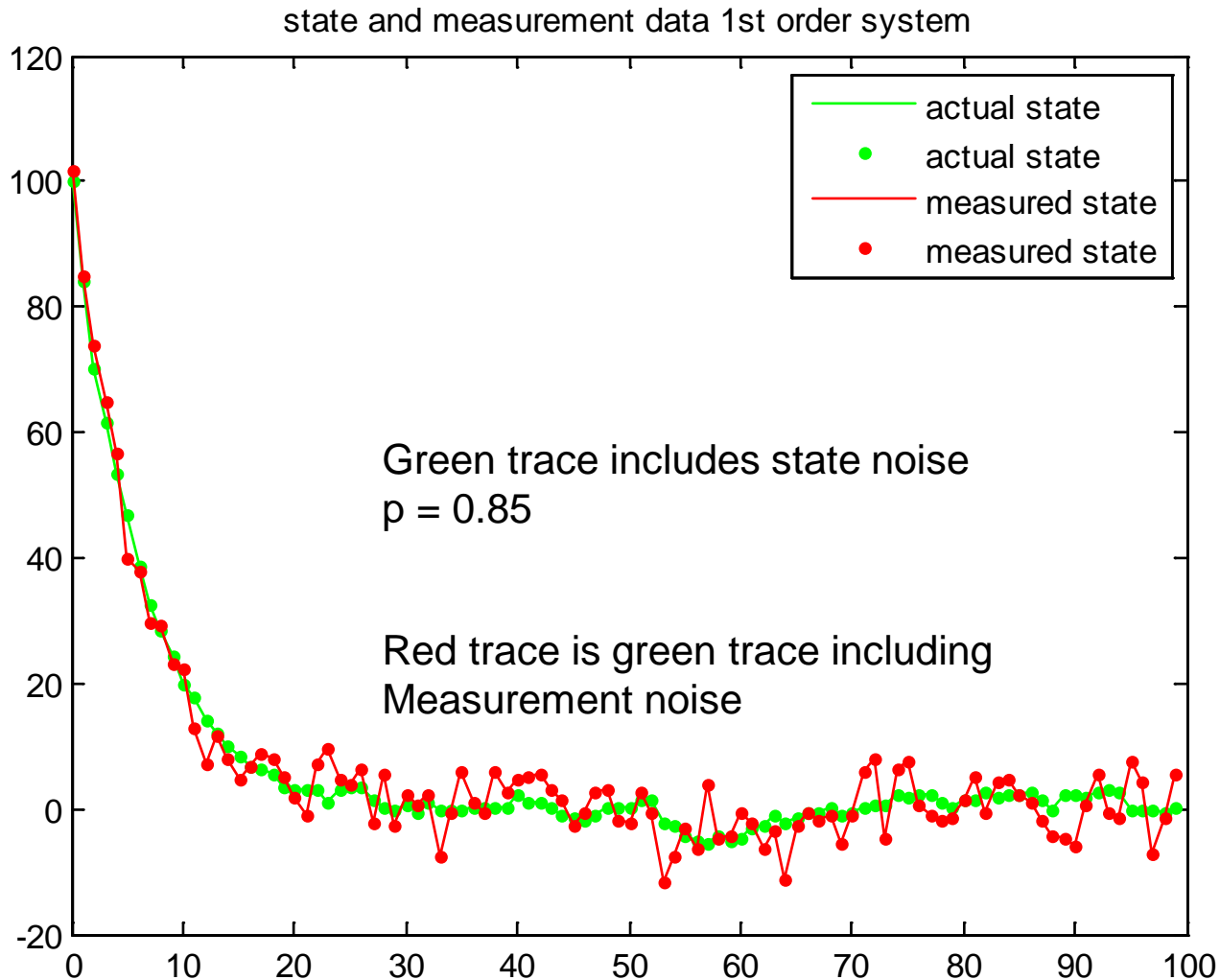
$$\mathbf{L}_{k-1} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \mathbf{w}} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \mathbf{w}_p} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \mathbf{w}} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \mathbf{w}_p} \end{array} \right]_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example

## Parameter Estimation via EKF

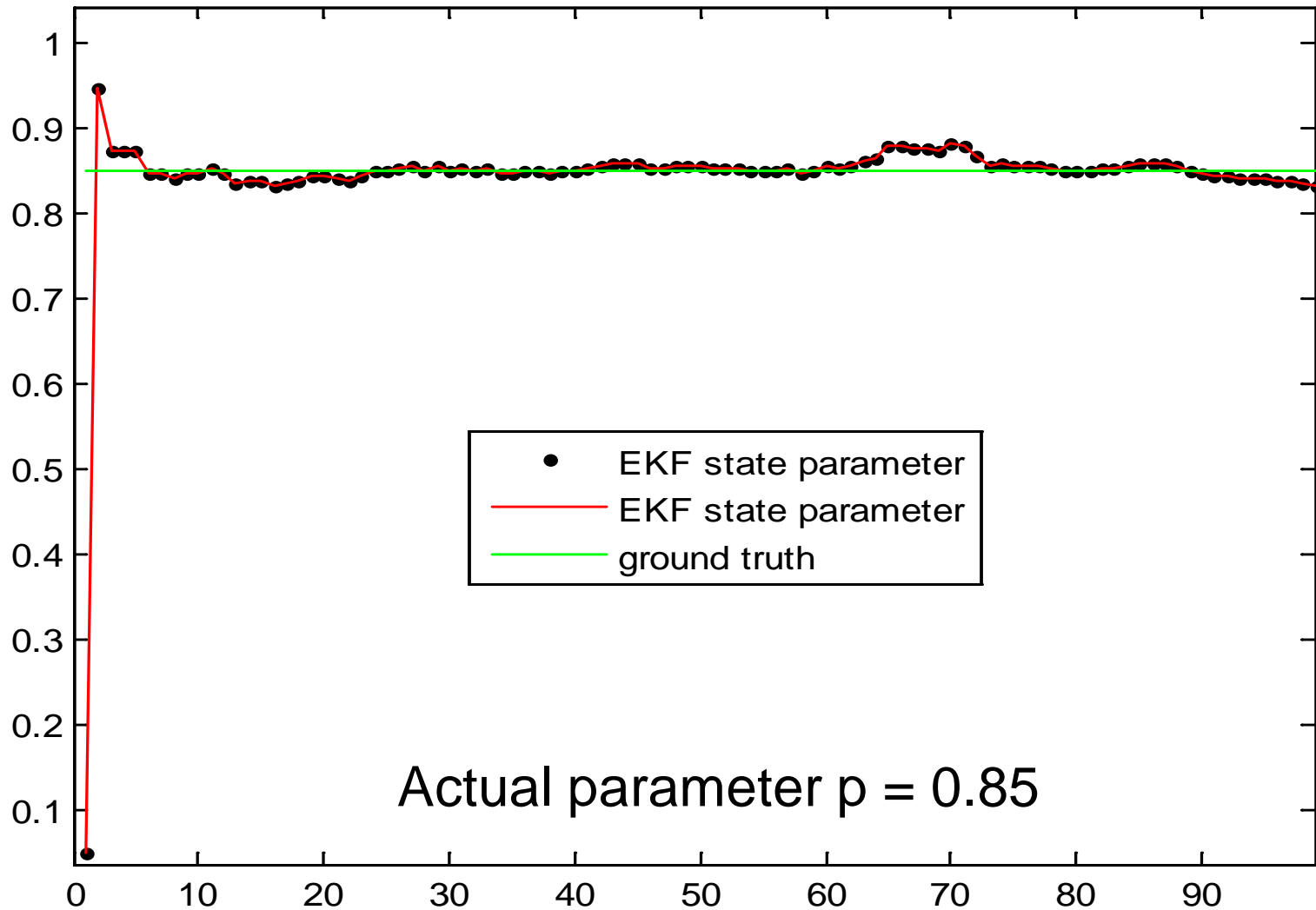
- | System with “p” unknown
  - Ground truth  $p = 0.85$
- | Measurement noise statistics
  - Gaussian: mean = 0; variance =  $4^2$
- | State noise statistics
  - Gaussian: mean = 0; variance =  $1^2$

# Simulation: Data Creation and Ground Truth

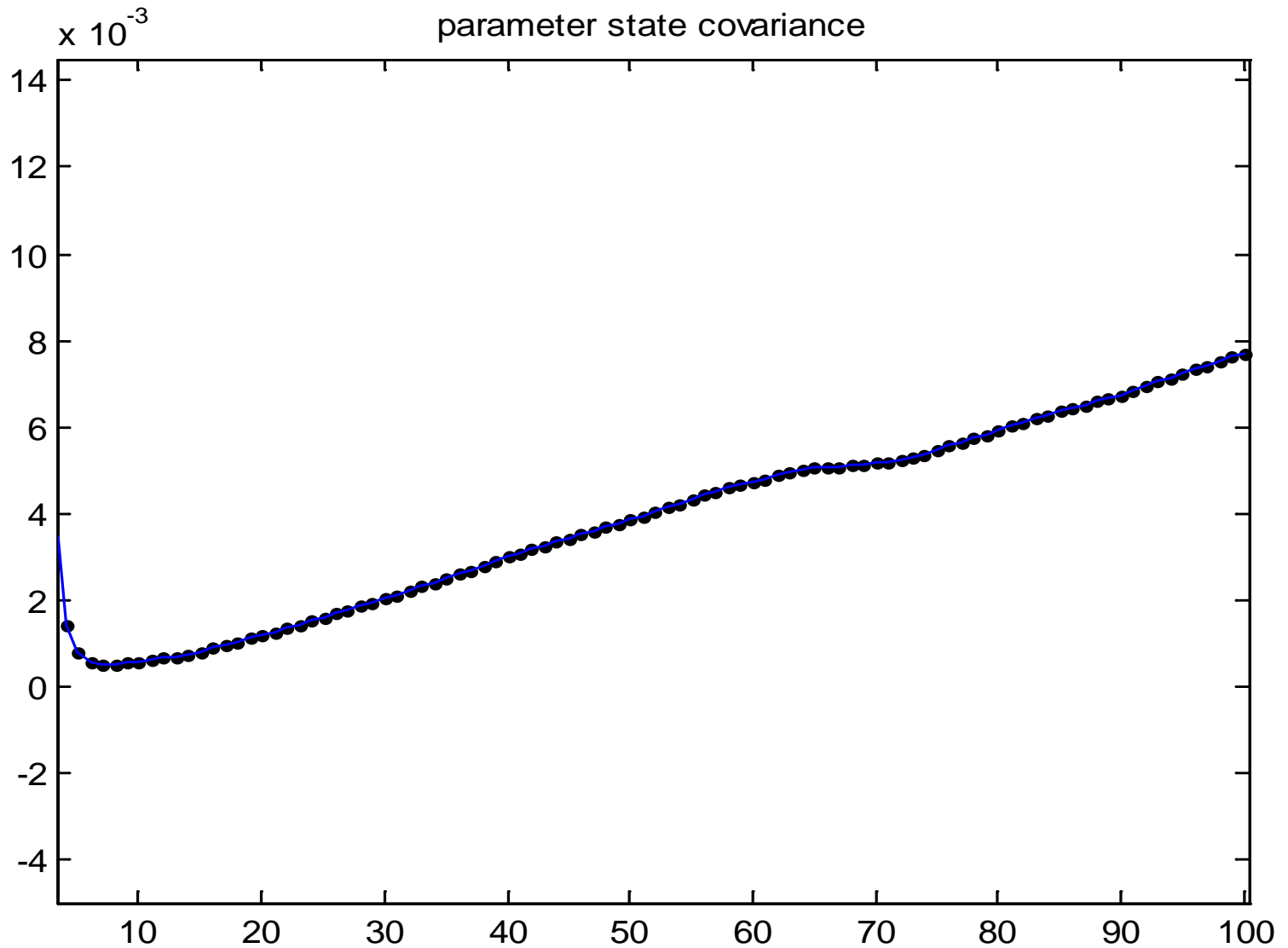


# Estimated parameter “p”

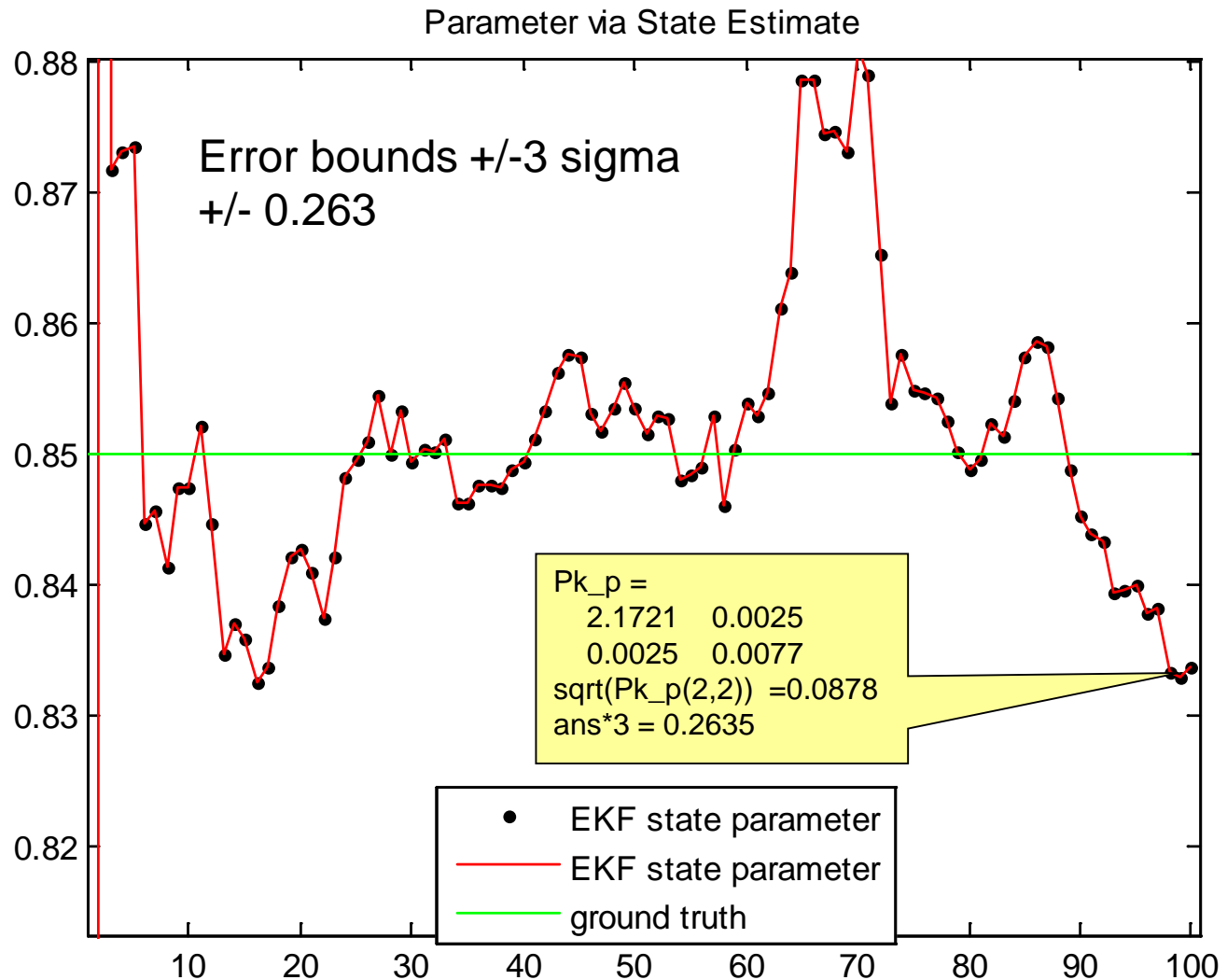
Parameter via State Estimate



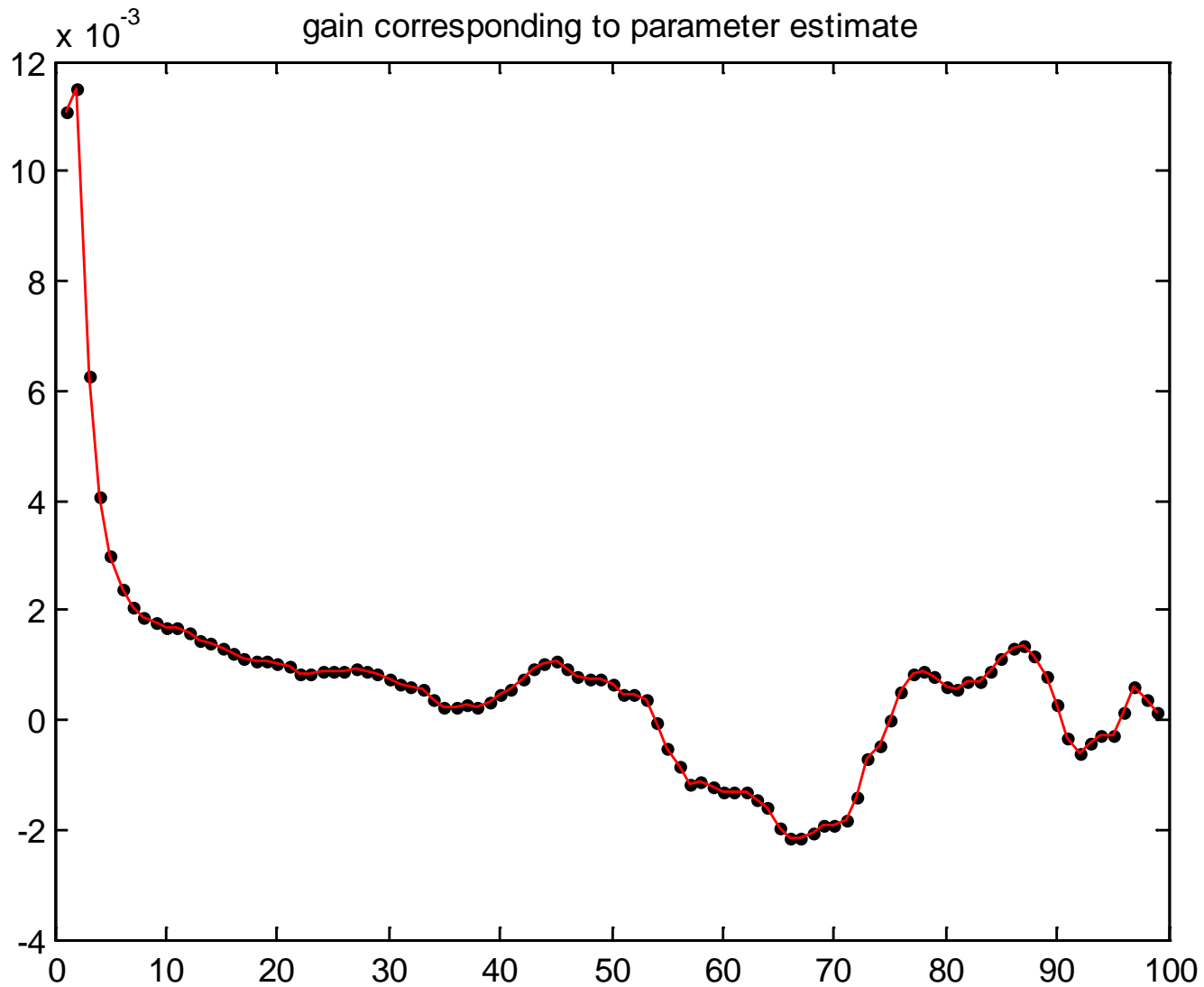
# Covariance for parameter “p”



# Trajectory for state “p”

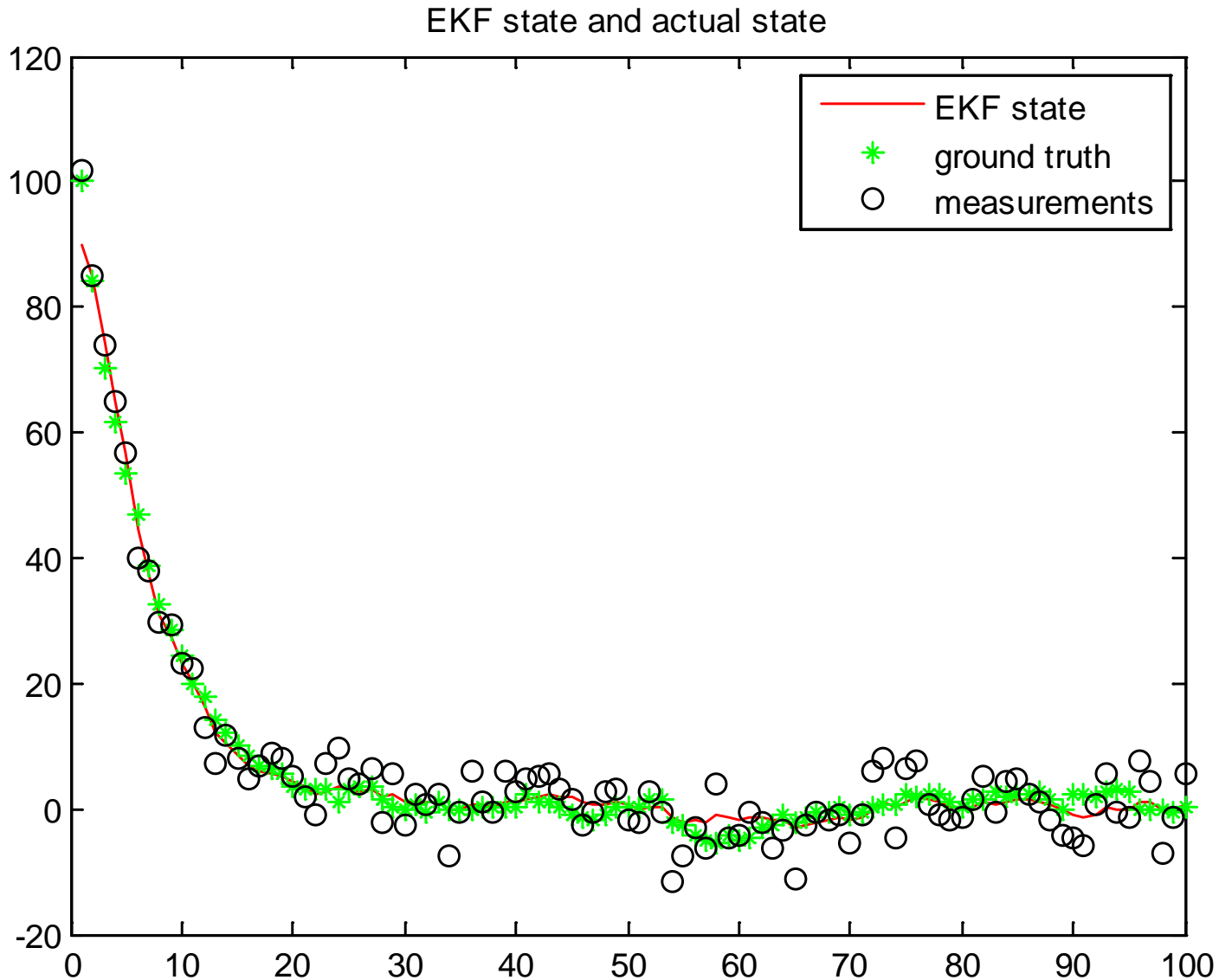


# Gain for Parameter estimate

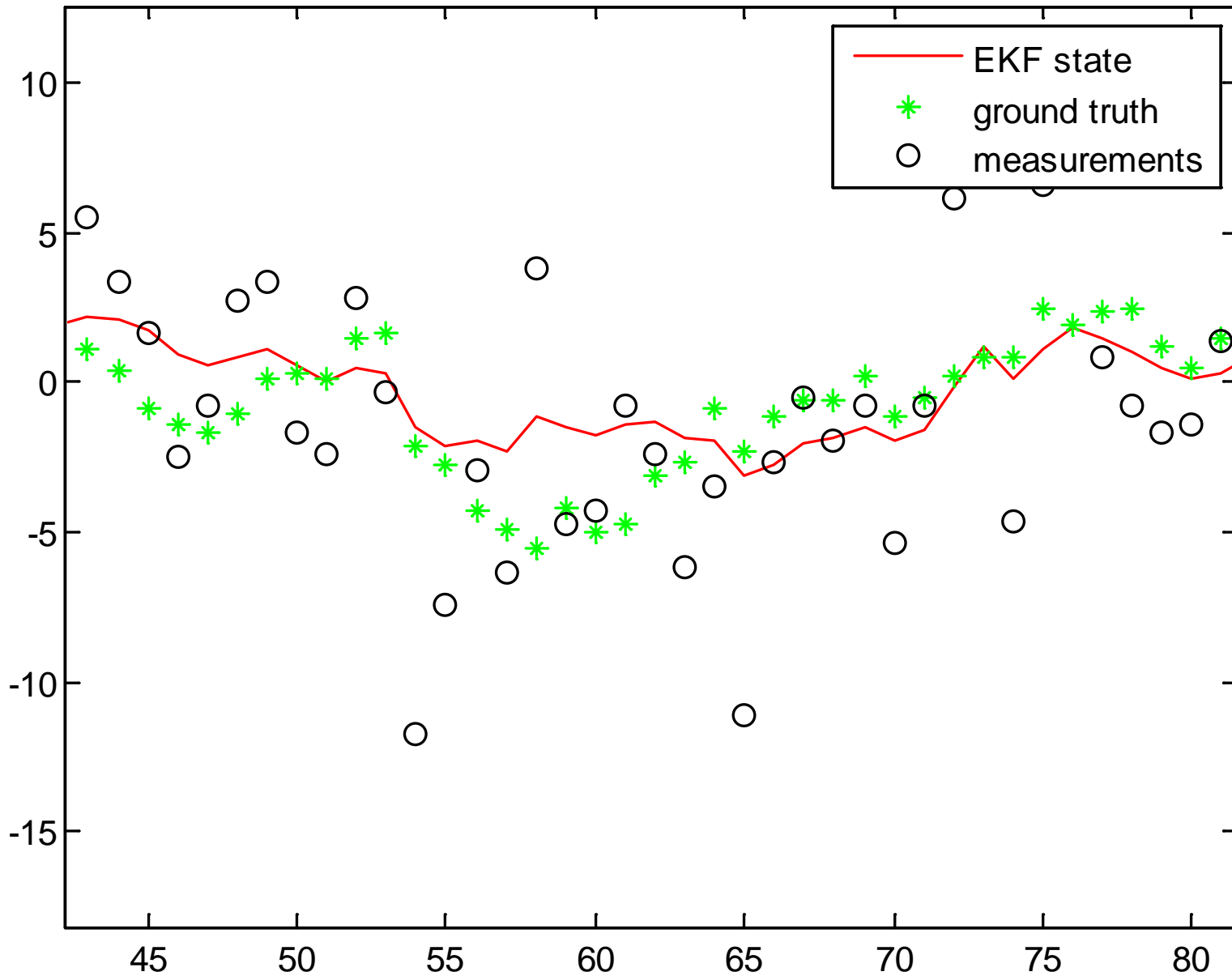




# Estimated state $x$ (based on est. of 'p')



EKF state and actual state



# EKF Summary

- The Extended Kalman Filter can be used to simultaneously estimate unknown parameter(s) and estimate the state of the system
- Contrasting to the Alpha-Beta or Alpha-Beta-Gamma Target tracker (which can use steady state values), the EKF exhibits time varying gains for both the state and parameter estimate. The covariance gives the error variance.

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# Smoothing

In smoothing we wish to improve the estimate of the state  $x[t_1]$  given the measurements/observations:  $Z[t_2] = \{z[t], t_0 \leq t \leq t_2\}$  and  $t_2 > t_1$ . Estimate the state at a time prior to the current time wrt observation sequence. More info to help refine state estimate.

- Fixed-interval smoothing:
  - Observation interval is fixed  $t_2$  is constant and  $t_1$  is varied from  $t_0$  to  $t_2$
- Fixed-point smoothing:
  - Time of estimate  $t_1$  is fixed and  $t_2 \geq t_1$ . Refine a single point
- Fixed-lag smoothing:
  - Difference between  $t_2$  and  $t_1 = T$  is fixed,  $t_2 = t_1 + T$

# Track Smoothing

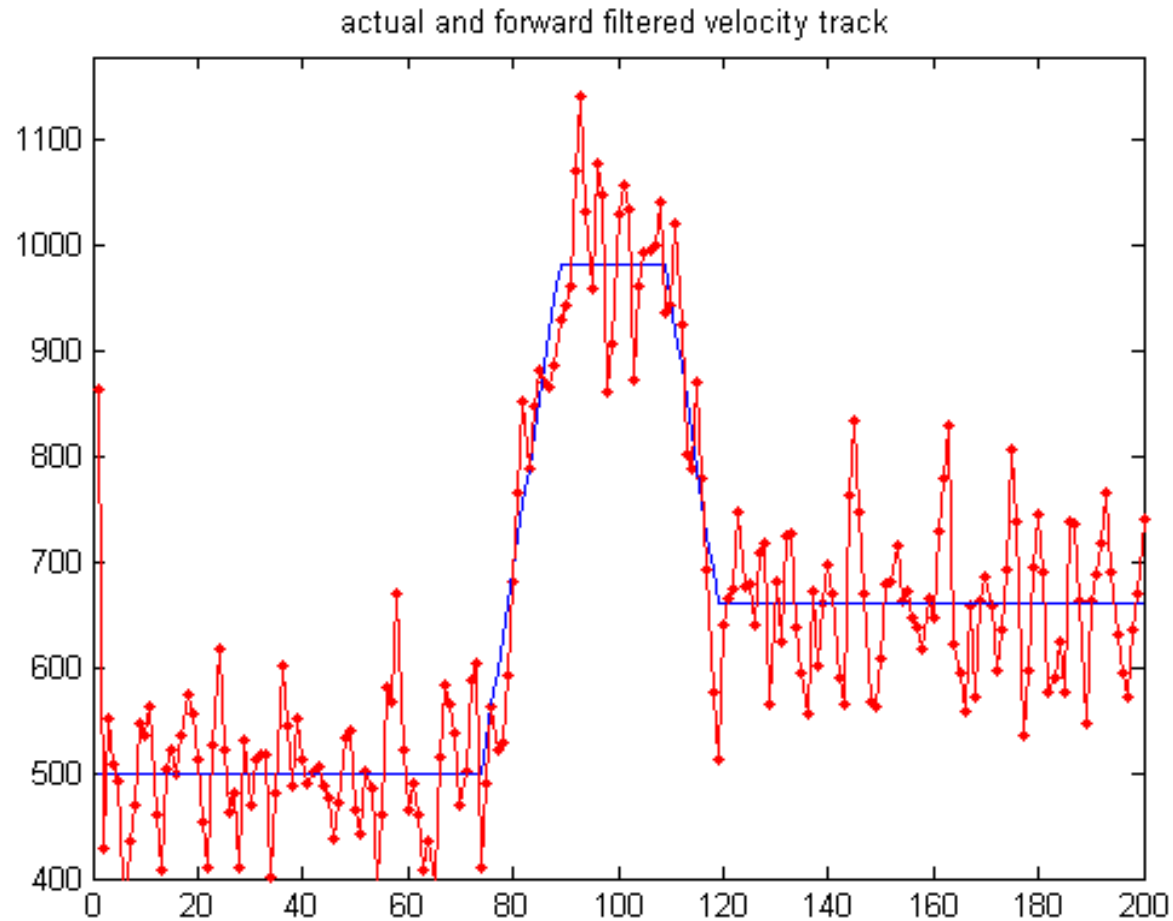
- Track smoothing requires state estimates based on all the measurements rather than only the data up to the given time as in the tracking process. Similar to a fixed point smoother.
- Track smoothing is achieved by the optimal combination of two independent tracking filters: a forward in time tracker (real time) and a backwards in time prediction tracker (after the fact).
- The combination coefficients and the smoother performance are presented in closed form and are dependent on the Tracking Index

# Table defining maneuver waveform

**Table VI-a: Simulation Characteristics**

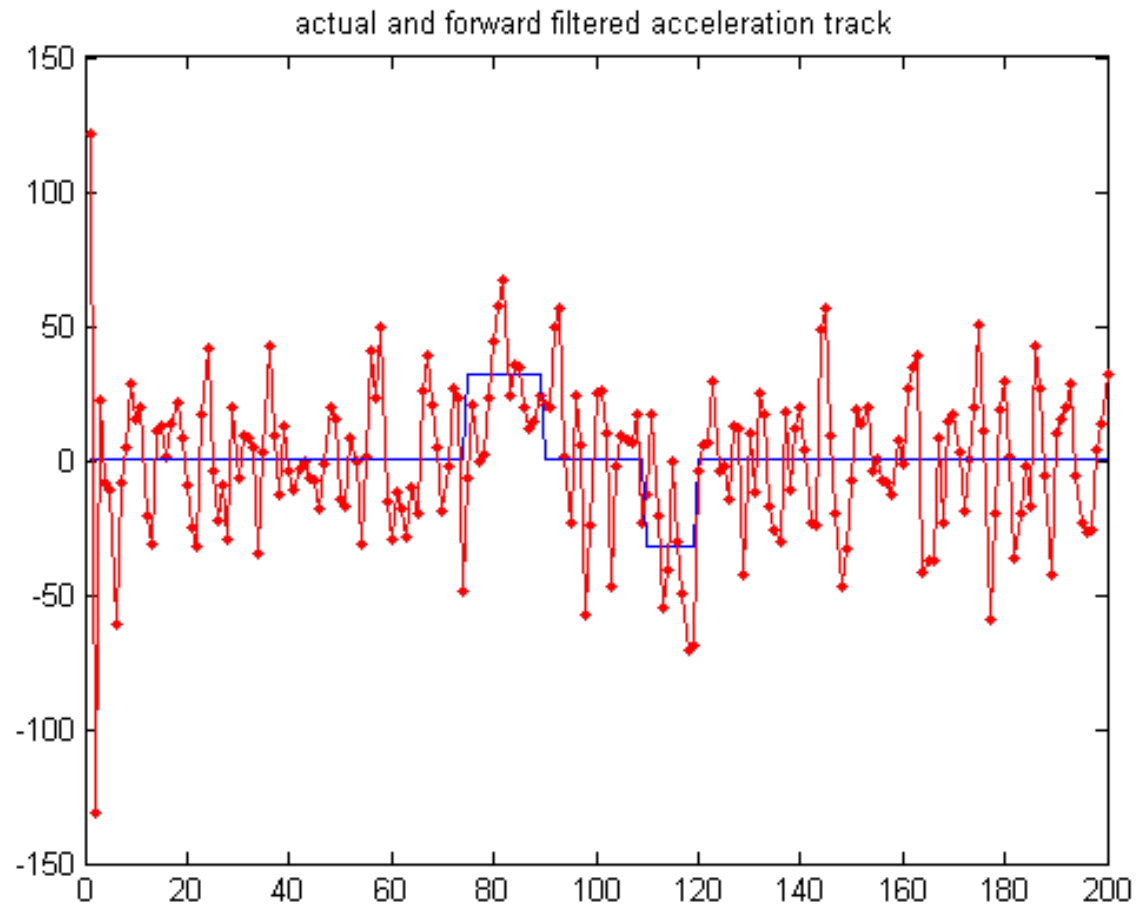
time(sec)	maneuver
0	$v_0 = 500$ ft/sec
75	apply +1.0 g acceleration
90	remove the 1.0 g acceleration
110	apply -1.0 g acceleration
120	remove the -1.0 g acceleration
track period, T:	
1 sec.	
measurement noise, $\sigma_n$ :	
100 feet	
maneuver noise, $\sigma_w$ :	
1 g (32.2 ft/sec <sup>2</sup> )	

# Forward Velocity Track





# Forward Acceleration Track



# Forward Statistics

## Prediction and Correction

$$T = 1$$

$$R = 10000 = 100^2 \sigma_n^2$$

$$\omega_n = 1.0368e+003 = 32.2^2 \sigma_{\omega}^2$$

$$K =$$

0.7460

0.4921

0.1623

$$PC =$$

$$1.0e+003 *$$

7.4600    4.9206    1.6228

4.9206    6.4657    3.1943

1.6228    3.1943    2.1070

$$PP =$$

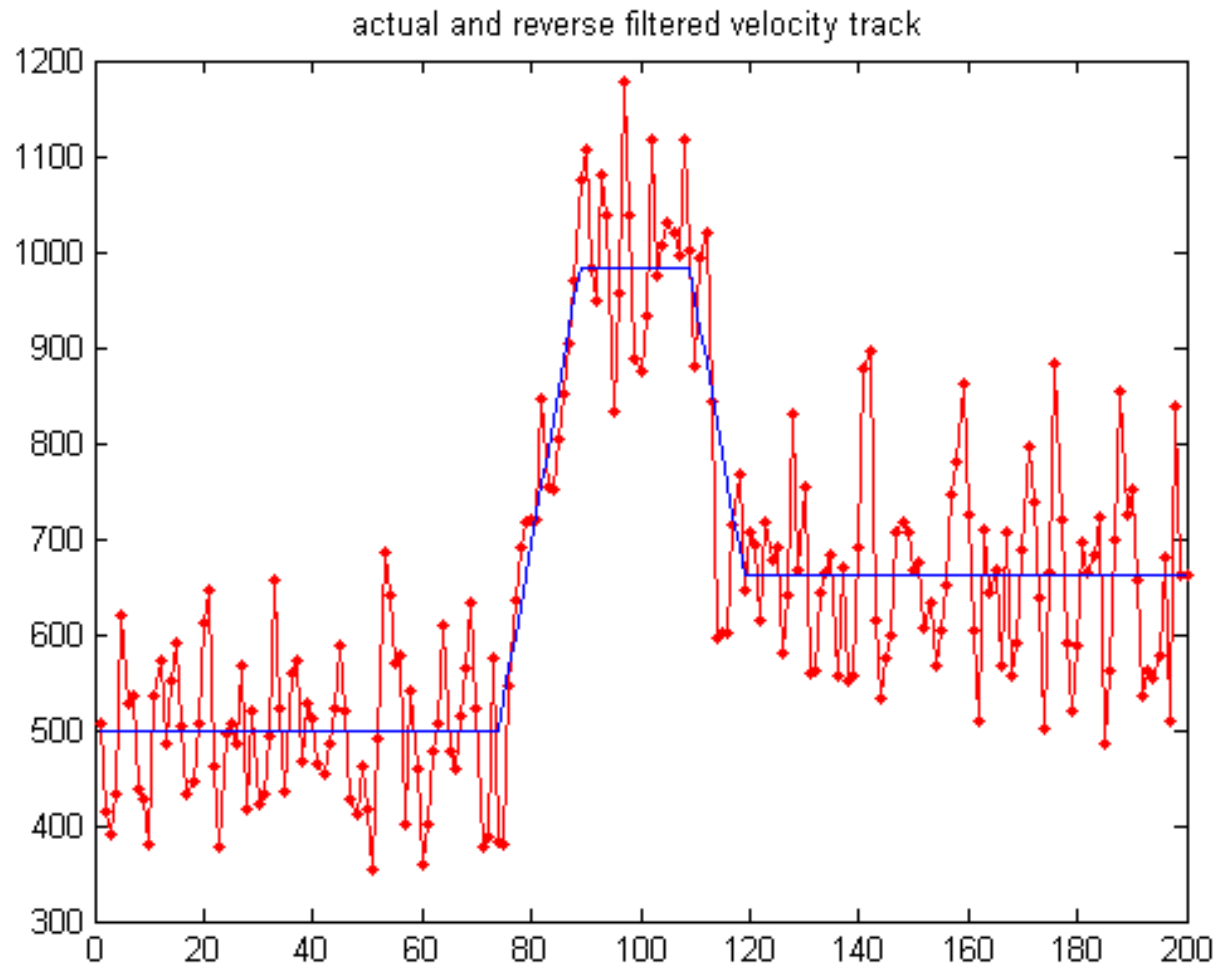
$$1.0e+004 *$$

2.9370    1.9373    0.6389

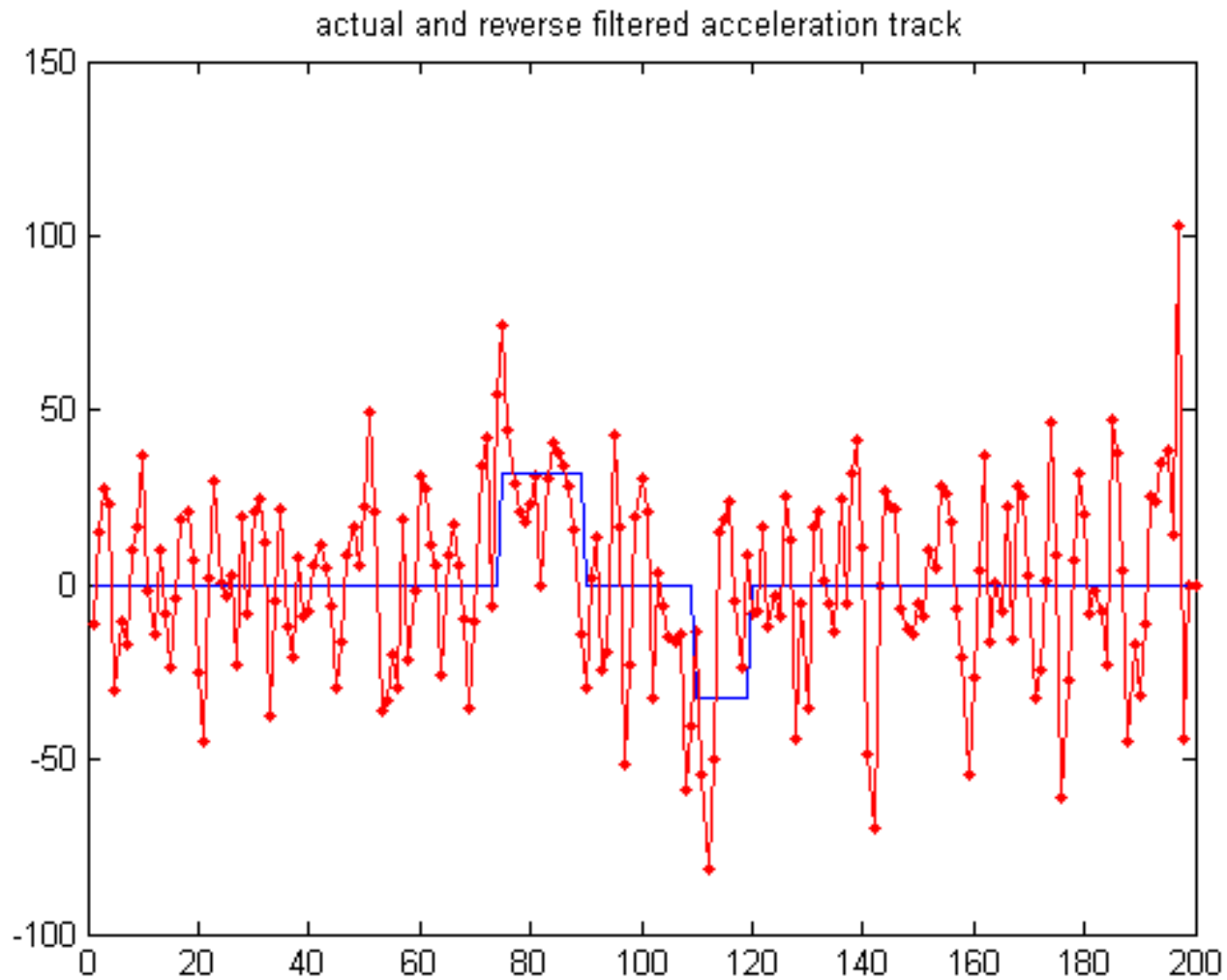
1.9373    1.5998    0.6338

0.6389    0.6338    0.3144

# Reverse Velocity Track



# Reverse Acceleration Track



# Reverse Statistics

## Prediction only

$$T = 1$$

$$R = 10000 = 100^2 \sigma_n^2$$

$$\omega_n = 1.0368e+003 = 32.2^2$$
$$\sigma_{\omega}^2$$

$$PPr =$$

$$1.0e+004 *$$

$$2.9370 \quad -1.9373 \quad 0.6389$$

$$-1.9373 \quad 1.5998 \quad -0.6338$$

$$0.6389 \quad -0.6338 \quad 0.4181$$

$$Kpr =$$

$$1.3192$$

$$-0.6543$$

$$0.1623$$

# Combiner Statistics

PS3 = smoother performance  
formula

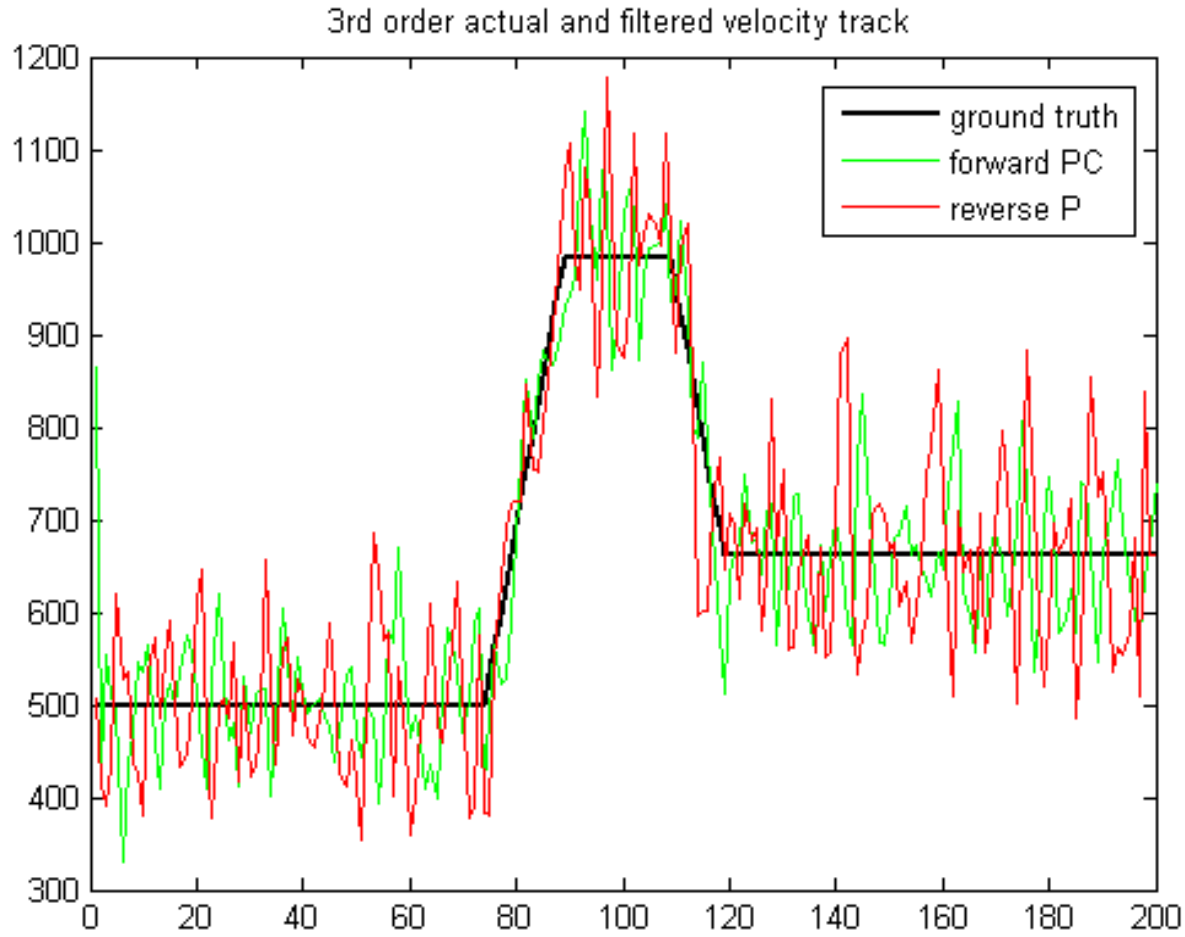
1.0e+003 \*

2.2814	0	-0.4963
0	0.6174	0.2423
-0.4963	0.2423	0.4845

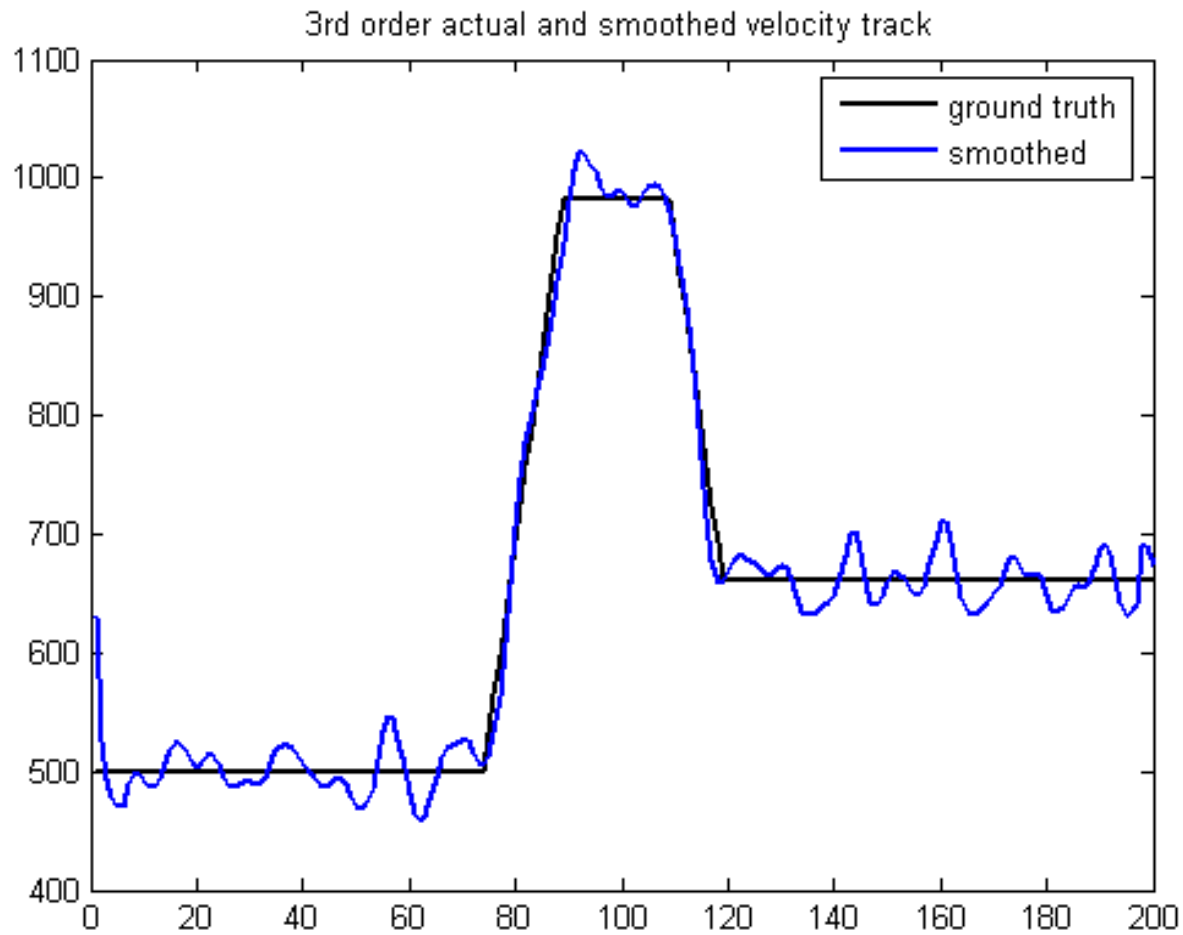
combiner matrix

0.6141	-0.4673	0
-0.2281	0.5000	-0.4673
-0.0496	-0.2281	0.6141

# Overlay Forward and Reverse Velocity Tracks

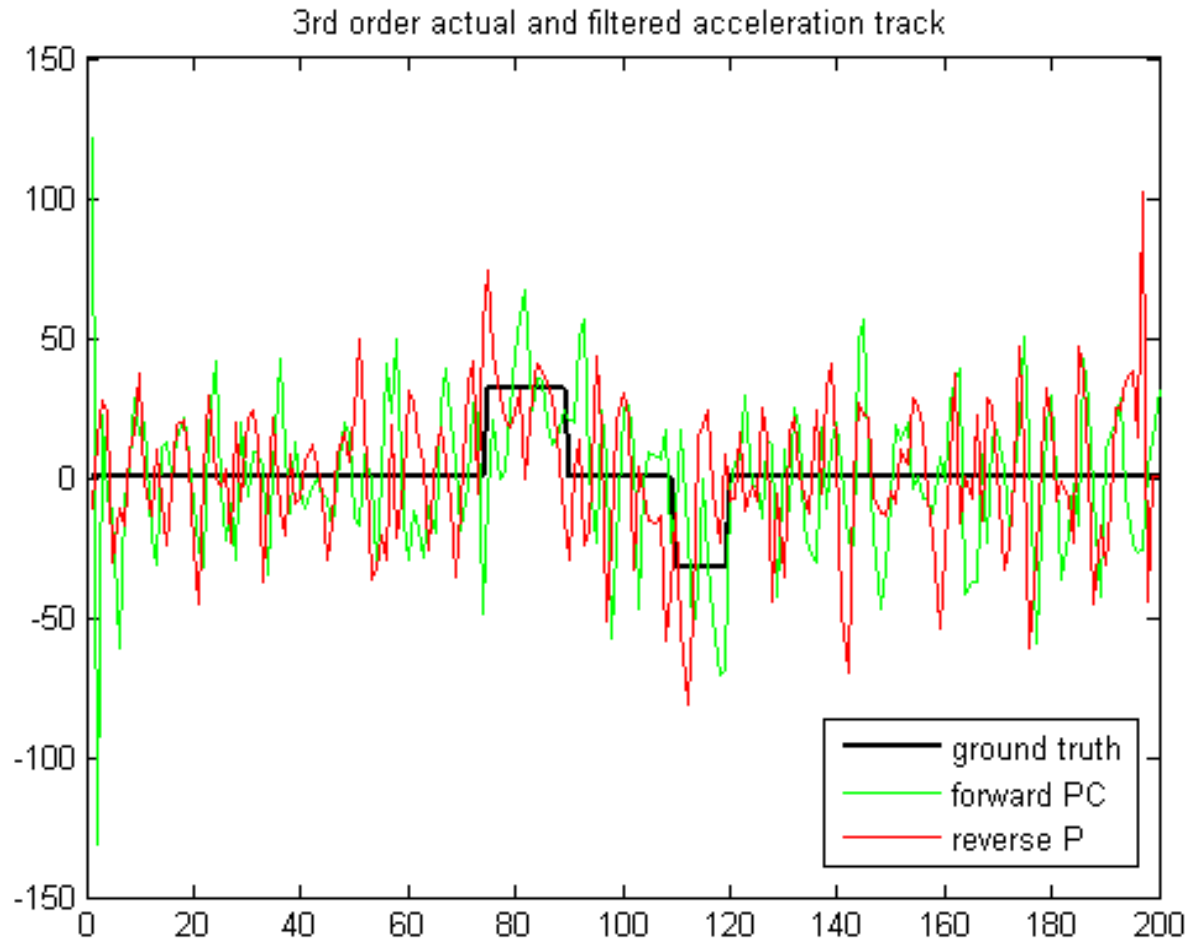


# Smoothed Velocity Track

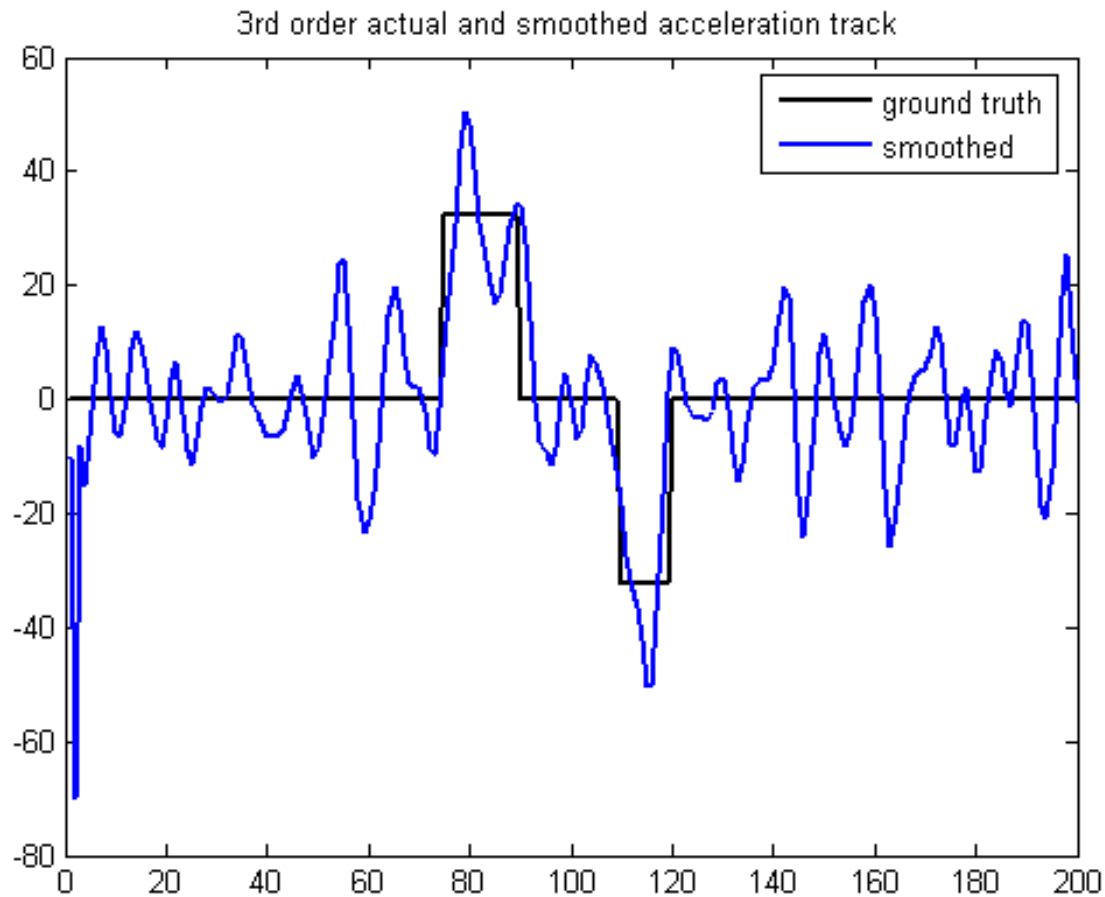




# Overlay Forward and Reverse Acceleration Tracks



# Smoothed Acceleration Track



# Performance Summary

**Table VII-a** 3<sup>rd</sup> order Tracking/Smoothing Parameters:

Tracking Index:	$\Lambda = 0.3220$
Tracking/Prediction parameters:	
$\alpha = 0.7460$	$\alpha_p = 1.3193$
$\beta = 0.4921$	$\beta_p = 0.6544$
$\gamma = 0.3246$	$\gamma_p = 0.3246$
Smoothing combination gain matrix:	
$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6141 & -0.4673 & 0 \\ -0.2281 & 0.5000 & -0.4673 \\ -0.0496 & -0.2282 & 0.6141 \end{bmatrix}$	

**Table VII-b**  $\alpha$ - $\beta$ - $\gamma$  Performance Summary

	Filter	Predictor-r	Smoother
$\sigma_{\tilde{x}}^2$	7,460	29,370	2,281
$\sigma_{\tilde{xv}}^2$	4,921	-19,374	0
$\sigma_{\tilde{v}}^2$	6,467	16,001	618
$\sigma_{\tilde{xa}}^2$	1,623	6,390	-496
$\sigma_{\tilde{va}}^2$	3,195	-6,339	242
$\sigma_{\tilde{a}}^2$	2,107	4,182	485

# Application of Kalman Filters

- **Definitions, Equations and Block Diagrams**
- **Target Tracking Example 2<sup>nd</sup> order**
- **Extended Kalman Filter**
- **Smoothing**
- **Code Examples/demos**

# END

End of deck