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# Sensors and State Estimation

## (additional notes)

UAVs  
MEAer - Spring Semester – 2020/2021

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# Accelerometers – basic principle

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- $h$  Inertial height of casing
- $h_1 = h + \delta$  Inertial height of proof mass
- $\delta$  Relative displacement

$$m\ddot{h}_1 = -k\delta(h_1 - h) - \beta(\dot{h}_1 - \dot{h}) - mg$$

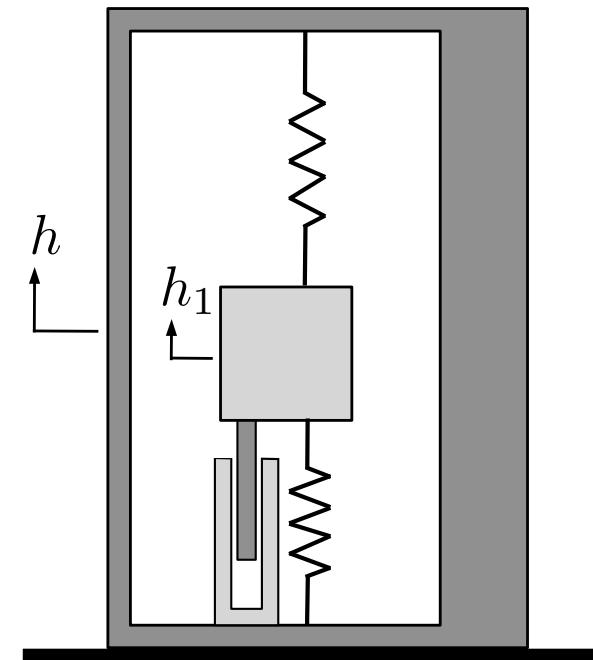
– change of variables

$$\delta = h_1 - h$$

$$z = -h$$

$$m(\ddot{h} + \ddot{\delta}) = -k\delta - \beta\dot{\delta} - mg$$

$$m\ddot{\delta} + \beta\dot{\delta} + k\delta = m(\ddot{z} - g)$$



How smartphone knows up from down (accelerometer)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZVgKu6v808>

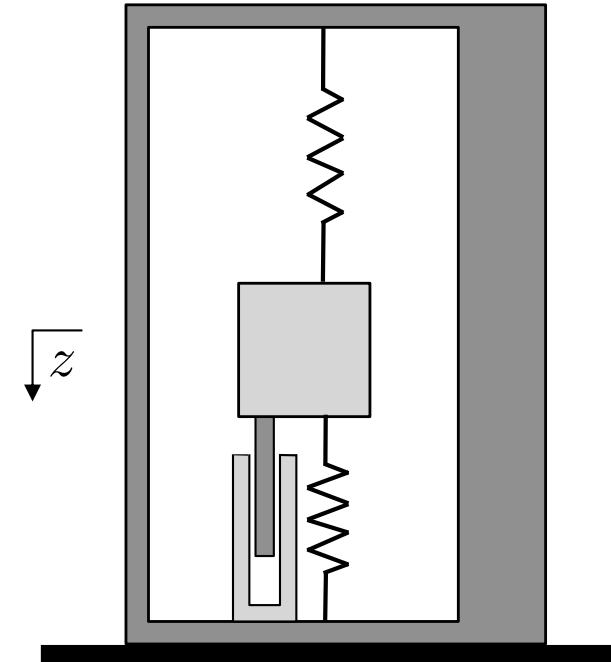
# Accelerometers – basic principle

$$m\ddot{\delta} + \beta\dot{\delta} + k\delta = m\ddot{z} - mg$$

$$D(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + \frac{\beta}{m}s + \frac{k}{m}} (A_z(s) - g\frac{1}{s})$$

- Within the low frequency range

$$\delta \approx \frac{m}{\beta}(\ddot{z} - g)$$



- 3-axis accelerometers attached to the vehicle  
(body-fixed frame {B})

$$\delta \propto R^T(\ddot{p} - ge_3) = (S(\omega)v + \dot{v}) - gR^Te_3$$



# Accelerometers – basic principle

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- 3-axis accelerometers attached to the vehicle (body-fixed frame {B})

$$\delta \propto R^T(\ddot{p} - ge_3) = (S(\omega)v + \dot{v}) - gR^Te_3$$



- Near the hover condition

$$\delta \propto -gR^Te_3 = -g \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \sin \phi \\ \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

Accelerometers are typically used for attitude estimation in combination with other sensors.

# Rate gyros – basic principle

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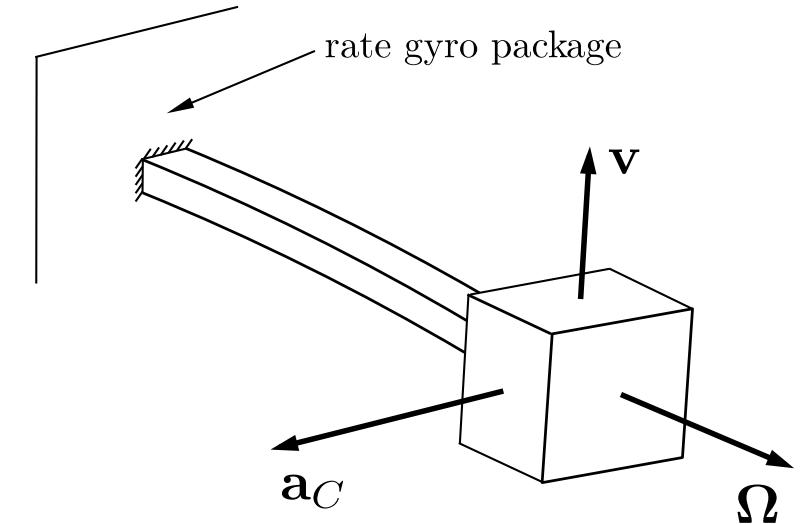
- Proof mass with position  $p$  and actuated vibration velocity  $v$
- Angular velocity to be measured from resulting Coriolis acceleration

$$p_1 = R^T p$$

$$\dot{p}_1 = -S(\omega)p_1 + R^T \dot{p}$$

$$\ddot{p}_1 = -S(\dot{\omega})p_1 - 2S(\omega)\dot{p}_1 - S(\omega)^2 p_1 + R^T \ddot{p}$$

$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \Omega \end{bmatrix} \quad \dot{p}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



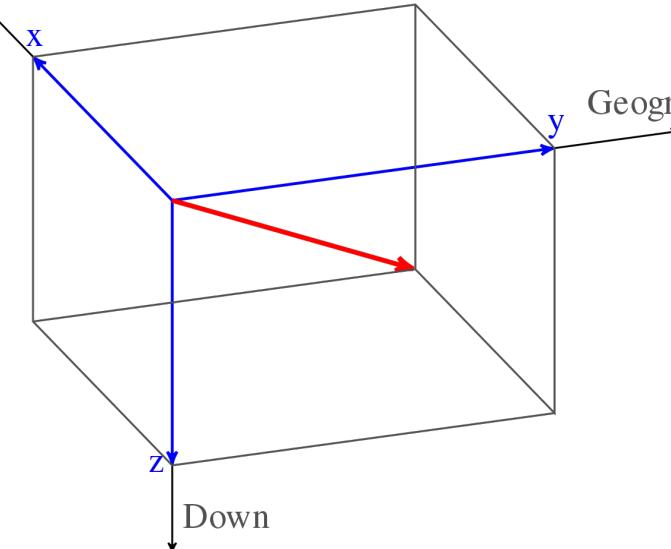
$$\ddot{p}_1 = - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2\Omega v_x \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \Omega^2 y_1 \end{bmatrix} + R^T \ddot{p}$$



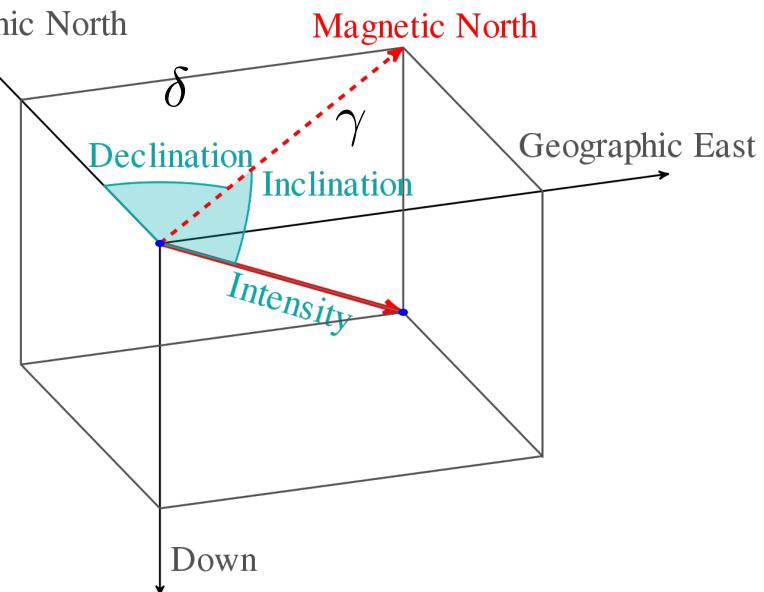
Proportional to the angular velocity  
that we would like to measure

# Magnetometers

Geographic North



Geographic North



- Available data:  ${}^I m_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \delta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \gamma \end{bmatrix}$ ,  ${}^B m_0 = {}^I R {}^B m_0$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\theta$   
Depends on location  
Provided by 3-axis magnetometer  
Estimated using other sensors
- Unknown:  $\psi$

# Magnetometers

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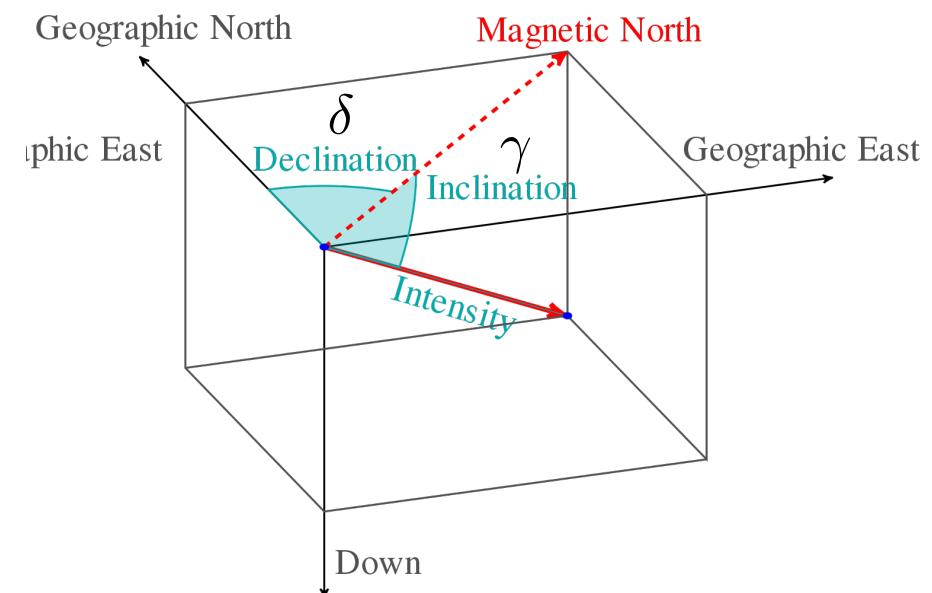
- Available data:  ${}^I m_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \delta \cos \gamma \\ \sin \gamma \end{bmatrix}, {}^B m_0 = {}^I R^B m_0, \phi, \theta$
- Unknown:  $\psi$

$${}^B m_0 = {}^I R^B m_0 = R_x(-\phi)R_y(-\theta)R_z(-\psi){}^I m_0$$

$$R_y(\theta)R_x(\phi){}^B m_0 = R_z(-\psi){}^I m_0$$

$${}^{B_1} m_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-\psi + \delta) \cos \gamma \\ \sin(-\psi + \delta) \cos \gamma \\ \sin \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(\psi - \delta) = \text{atan2}(-{}^{B_1} m_y, {}^{B_1} m_x)$$



# Kalman Filter

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- State observer for

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$y = Cy + n$$

- the disturbance  $w$  and the measurement noise  $n$  are zero-mean white noise stochastic processes with covariance matrices

$$E[w(t)w(\tau)^T] = \delta(t - \tau)W$$

$$E[n(t)n(\tau)^T] = \delta(t - \tau)N$$

- Kalman filter design provides state estimate that minimizes

$$J = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} E[\tilde{x}(t)^T \tilde{x}(t)]$$

- Estimation error  $\tilde{x}(t) = x(t) - \hat{x}(t)$

# Kalman Filter

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- Kalman filter design provides state estimate that minimizes

$$J = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} E[\tilde{x}(t)^T \tilde{x}(t)] = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \text{tr}[\Sigma(t)]$$

- Error covariance  $\Sigma(t) = E[\tilde{x}(t)\tilde{x}(t)^T]$
- Solution takes the form a state observer

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu - L(y - C\hat{x})$$

- The gain  $L$  is given by  $L = \Sigma_\infty C^T N^{-1}$   
where  $\Sigma_\infty$  is the steady-state error covariance, given by the solution of

$$(A - LC)\Sigma_\infty + \Sigma_\infty(A^T - C^T L^T) + W + LN L^T = 0$$

# Kalman Filter

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- Kalman filter design provides state estimate that minimizes

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# Duality between LQR and Kalman Filter

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## LQR design

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

$$u = -Kx$$

$$\dot{x} = (A - BK)x$$

$$J = \int_0^{+\infty} (x^T Q x + u^T R u) dt$$

$$Q \geq 0, R > 0$$

$(A, B)$  Stabilizable

$$K = R^{-1} B^T P$$

$$PA + A^T P + Q - PBR^{-1}B^T P = 0$$

## Kalman filter design

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$y = Cx + n$$

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu + L(y - C\hat{x})$$

$$\dot{\tilde{x}} = (A - LC)\tilde{x} + w + Ln$$

$$J = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} E[\|\tilde{x}(t)\|^2]$$

$$W \geq 0, N > 0$$

$(A, C)$  Detectable

$$L = \Sigma C^T N^{-1}$$

$$\Sigma A^T + A\Sigma + W - \Sigma C^T N^{-1} C\Sigma = 0$$

# Kalman Filter

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- Kalman filter design provides state estimate that minimizes

$$J = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} E[\tilde{x}(t)^T \tilde{x}(t)] = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \text{tr}[\Sigma(t)]$$

- Error covariance  $\Sigma(t) = E[\tilde{x}(t)\tilde{x}(t)^T]$
- Solution takes the form of a state observer

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu - L(y - C\hat{x})$$

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$$(A - LC)\Sigma_\infty + \Sigma_\infty(A^T - C^T L^T) + W + LN L^T = 0$$

# Kalman filter - example

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- Roll angle estimation for an aircraft (fixed-wing)
  - Assumption: coordinated turn maneuver, no wind, no sideslip

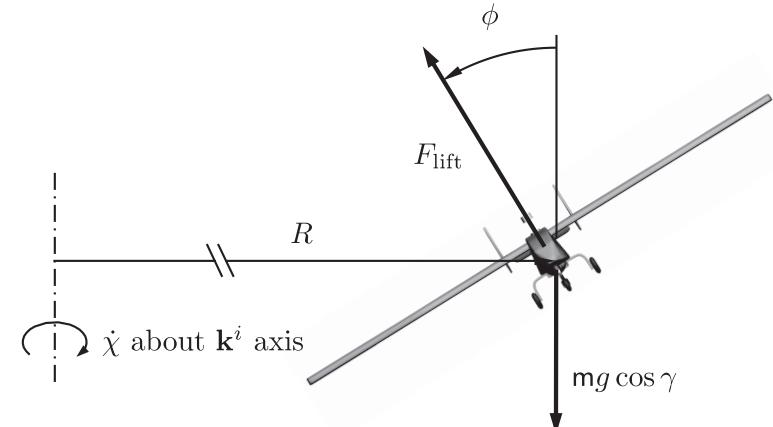
$$F_{lift} \cos \phi = mg$$

$$F_{lift} \sin \phi = mV^2/R = mV\dot{\psi}$$

$$\tan \phi = \frac{V\dot{\psi}}{g}$$

$$\dot{\psi} = \frac{g}{V} \tan \phi$$

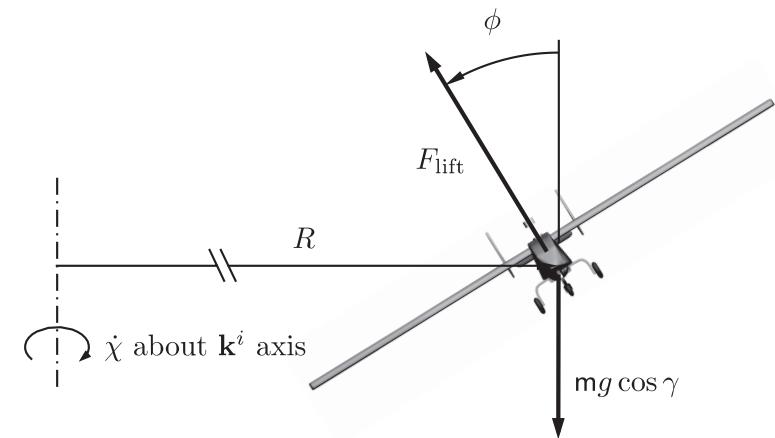
- Sensors: rate gyros  
(maybe not enough ...)



# Kalman filter - example

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- Roll angle estimation for an aircraft
  - Assumption: coordinated turn maneuver, no wind, no sideslip
  - Sensors: rate gyros
  - Roll rate measurement
  - $p_m \approx \dot{\phi} + b_p + n_p$
  - Yaw rate measurement
  - $r_m \approx \frac{g}{V}\phi + b_r + n_r$
  - Bias terms in both measurements



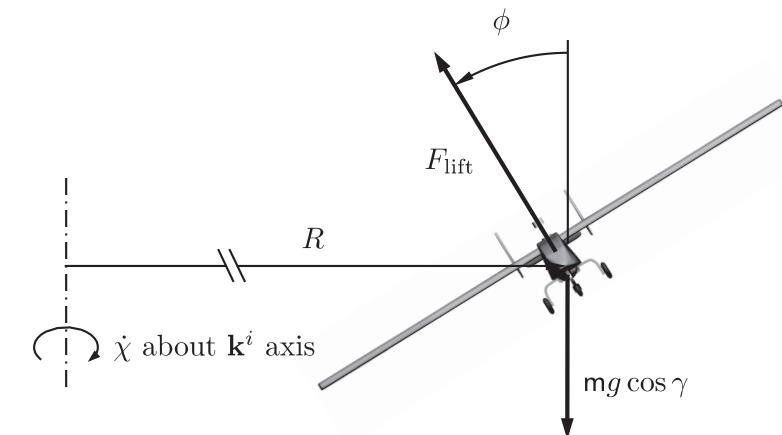
# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup
  - Estimate roll angle and bias terms
 
$$\hat{\phi}(t) = ? \quad \hat{b}_p(t) = ? \quad \hat{b}_r(t) = ?$$
  - Available measurements
 
$$p_m = \dot{\phi} + b_p + n_p$$

$$r_m = \frac{g}{V}\phi + b_r + n_r$$
  - How does this fit the state space description for Kalman filter design?

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu + w \\ y &= Cx + n \\ \dot{\hat{x}} &= A\hat{x} + Bu + L(y - C\hat{x})\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}E[w(t)w(\tau)^T] &= \delta(t - \tau)W \\ E[n(t)n(\tau)^T] &= \delta(t - \tau)N\end{aligned}$$

# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup

- Estimate roll angle and bias terms

$$\hat{\phi}(t) = ? \quad \hat{b}_p(t) = ? \quad \hat{b}_r(t) = ?$$

- Starting point for model description

$$\dot{\phi} = p \quad p_m = \dot{\phi} + b_p + n_p$$

$$r_m = \frac{g}{V} \phi + b_r + n_r$$

- Identify state, input, and output for state-space description

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$y = Cx + n$$

Try       $x = \begin{bmatrix} \phi \\ b_p \\ b_r \end{bmatrix}$

$$y = r_m$$

# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup
  - Identify state, input, and output for state-space description

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu + w \\ y &= Cx + n\end{aligned}$$

Try  $x = [\phi \ b_p \ b_r]'$   $y = r_m$

- Resulting equations

$$\dot{\phi} = p_m - b_p - n_p$$

$$y = r_m = \frac{g}{V} \phi + b_r + n_r$$

$$\dot{b}_p = n_1$$

$$\dot{b}_r = n_2$$

- Remaining questions

$$A = ? \quad B = ? \quad C = ?$$

$$u = ? \quad w \sim ? \quad n \sim ?$$

- Is the system observable?  
Check pair (A,C).

# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup
  - Identify state, input, and output for state-space description

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu + w \\ y &= Cx + n\end{aligned}$$

Try  $x = [\phi \ b_p \ b_r]'$   $y = r_m$

- Resulting equations

$$\dot{\phi} = p_m - b_p - n_p$$

$$y = r_m = \frac{g}{V} \phi + b_r + n_r$$

$$\dot{b}_p = n_1$$

$$\dot{b}_r = n_2$$

- Remaining questions

$$A = ? \quad B = ? \quad C = ?$$

$$u = ? \quad w \sim ? \quad n \sim ?$$

- Is the system observable?

No.

Additional sensor is needed.

# Kalman filter - example

---

- Roll angle estimation for an aircraft (fixed-wing)
  - Assumption: coordinated turn maneuver, no wind, no sideslip

$$F_{lift} \cos \phi = mg$$

$$F_{lift} \sin \phi = mV^2/R = mV\dot{\psi}$$

- Accelerometer measures

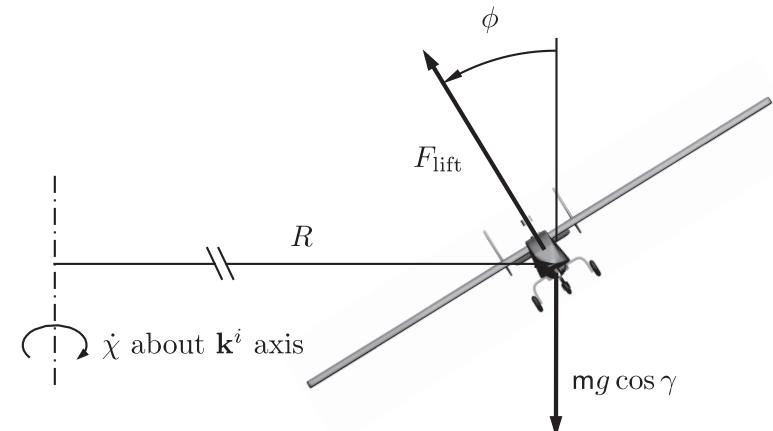
$$a_m = R^T(\ddot{p} - ge_3) + n_a$$

Neglecting  $\ddot{p}$  and noise

$$a_m = -R^T ge_3 = -g \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sin \phi \\ \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

In fact,

$$a_m = -\frac{1}{m} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ F_{lift} \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{g^2 + (V\dot{\psi})^2} \end{bmatrix} = -g \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \phi} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup (rate gyros + accelerometers)
  - Identify state, input, and output for state-space description

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu + w \\ y &= Cx + n\end{aligned}$$

Try  $x = [\phi \ p \ b_p \ b_r]'$   $y = [r_m \ p_m \ \phi_m]'$

- Resulting equations

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{p} \\ \dot{b}_p \\ \dot{b}_r \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} p \\ w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ y &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{g}{V}\phi + b_r + n_r \\ p + b_p + n_p \\ \phi + n_\phi \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

- Remaining questions

$$\begin{aligned}A &=? & B &=? & C &=? \\ u &=? & w &\sim ? & n &\sim ?\end{aligned}$$

- Is the system observable?  
Yes!

# Kalman filter - example

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- Kalman filter setup (2nd alternative)
  - Identify state, input, and output for state-space description

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bu + w \\ y &= Cx + n\end{aligned}$$

Try  $x = [\phi \ p \ b_p \ b_r]'$   $y = [r_m \ p_m \ \phi_m]'$

- Resulting equations

Same as before,  
but using dynamic model for  
time evolution of  $\dot{\phi}$

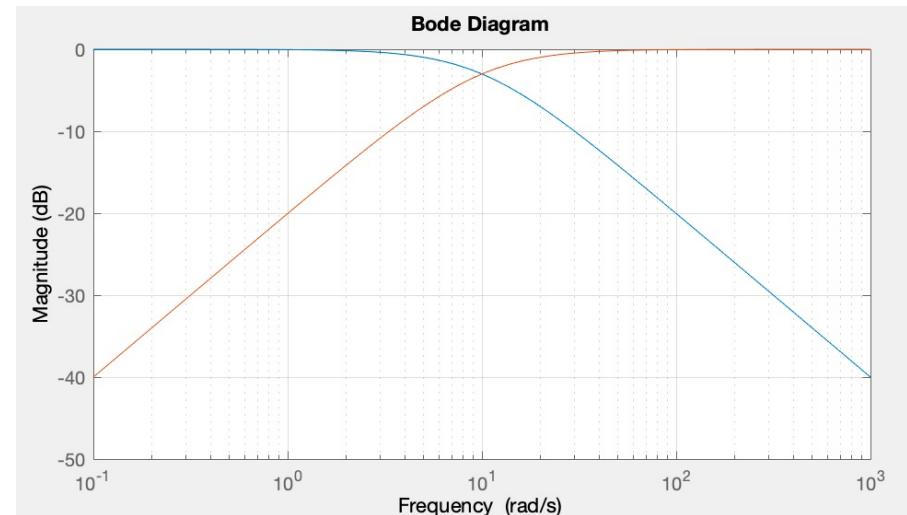
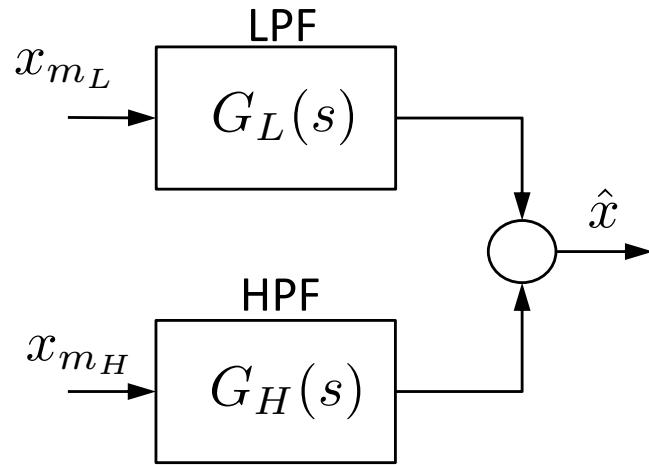
- Remaining questions

$A = ?$     $B = ?$     $C = ?$   
 $u = ?$     $w \sim ?$     $n \sim ?$

# Complementary filters

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- Context:
  - Different sensors provide reliable measurements over different (complementary) frequency ranges.
- Strategy (for a simple example):



$$G_L(s) = \frac{l}{s + l}$$

$$G_H(s) = \frac{s}{s + l}$$

$$G_L(s) + G_H(s) = 1$$

# Complementary filters

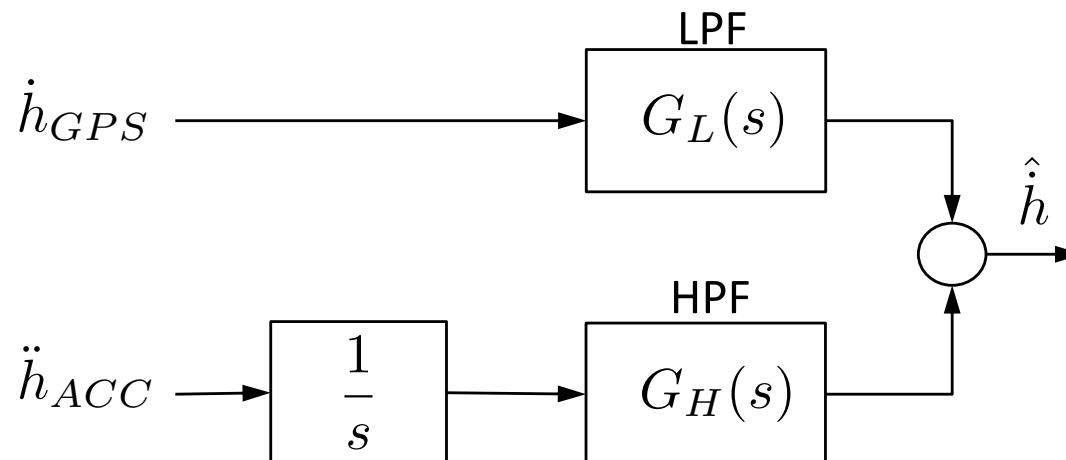
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- Example: altitude rate estimation
  - low frequency from GPS receiver
  - high frequency integration of acceleration along the inertial z-direction

$$\dot{h}_{GPS}$$

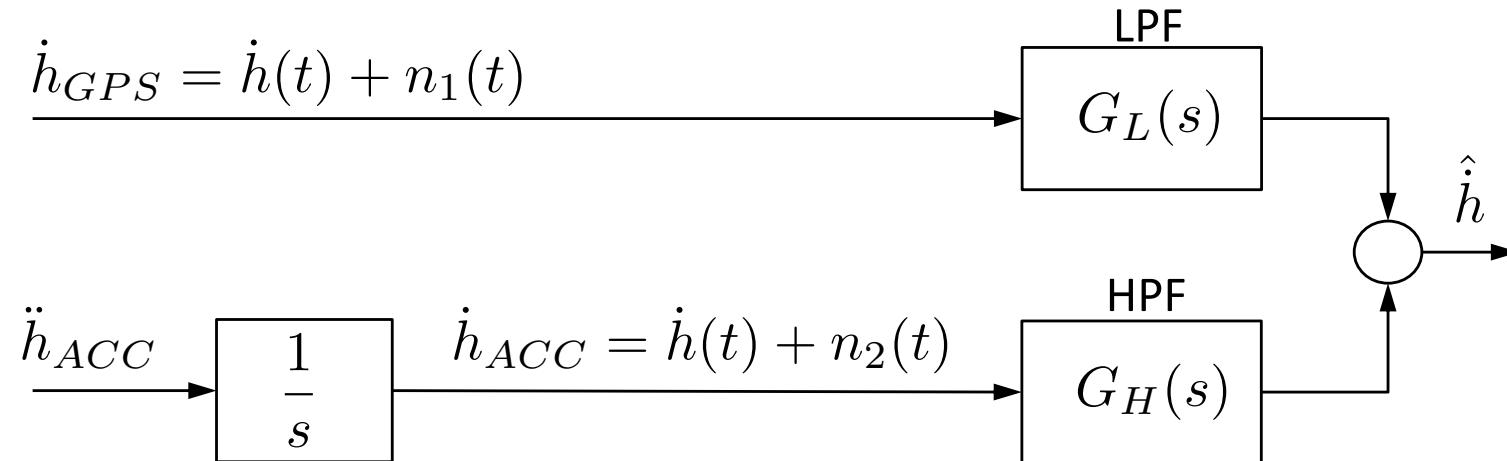
$$a_m = R(\ddot{p} - g e_3)$$

$$\ddot{h}_{ACC} = -e_3^T R_X(\hat{\phi}) R_Y(\hat{\theta}) a_m - g$$



# Complementary filters

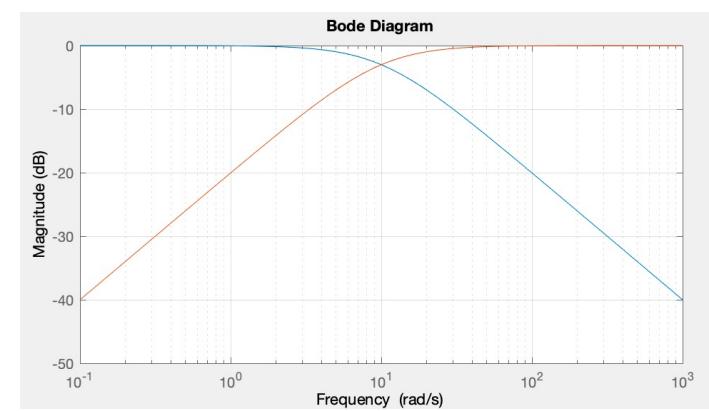
- Example: altitude rate estimation



$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H}(s) &= \frac{l}{s+l} \dot{H}_1(s) + \frac{s}{s+l} \dot{H}_2(s) \\ &= \dot{H}(s) + \frac{l}{s+l} N_1(s) + \frac{s}{s+l} N_2(s)\end{aligned}$$

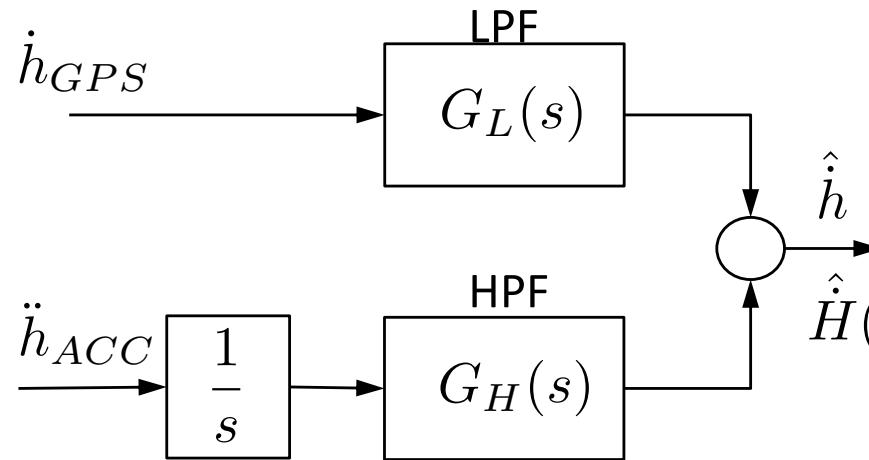
↓      ↓      ↓

Keeps Attenuation Attenuation in the low  
whole in the high frequencies frequencies



# Complementary filters and Kalman filters

- Is there a connection?



$$\hat{H}(s) = \frac{l}{s+l} \dot{H}_{GPS}(s) + \frac{s}{s+l} \frac{\ddot{H}_{ACC}}{s}(s)$$

– Yes!

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$x = \dot{h} \quad u = \ddot{h}_{ACC}$$

$$y = Cx + n$$

$$\hat{x} = \dot{\hat{h}} \quad \hat{y} = \dot{h}_{GPS}$$

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu + L(y - C\hat{x})$$

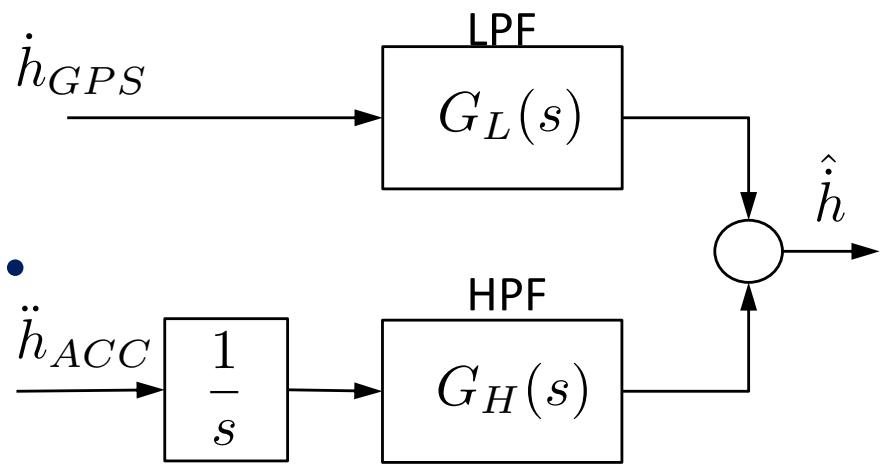
– Check the connection between

$$\hat{Y}(s) = [C(sI - A + LC)^{-1}L] Y(s) + [C(sI - A + LC)^{-1}B] U(s)$$

# Complementary filters and Kalman filters

- Is there a connection?

Complementary filter



- 

Kalman filter

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$y = Cx + n$$

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu + L(y - C\hat{x})$$

with

$$x = \dot{h} \quad u = \ddot{h}_{ACC}$$

$$\hat{x} = \hat{h} \quad \hat{y} = \dot{h}_{GPS}$$

- Yes! Check the connection between

$$\hat{H}(s) = \frac{l}{s+l} \dot{H}_{GPS}(s) + \frac{s}{s+l} \frac{\ddot{H}_{ACC}}{s}(s)$$

and

$$\hat{Y}(s) = [C(sI - A + LC)^{-1}L] Y(s) + [C(sI - A + LC)^{-1}B] U(s)$$

# Complementary filters and Kalman filters

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- Also applies to more evolved cases
  - State observer for roll angle and roll rate bias estimation

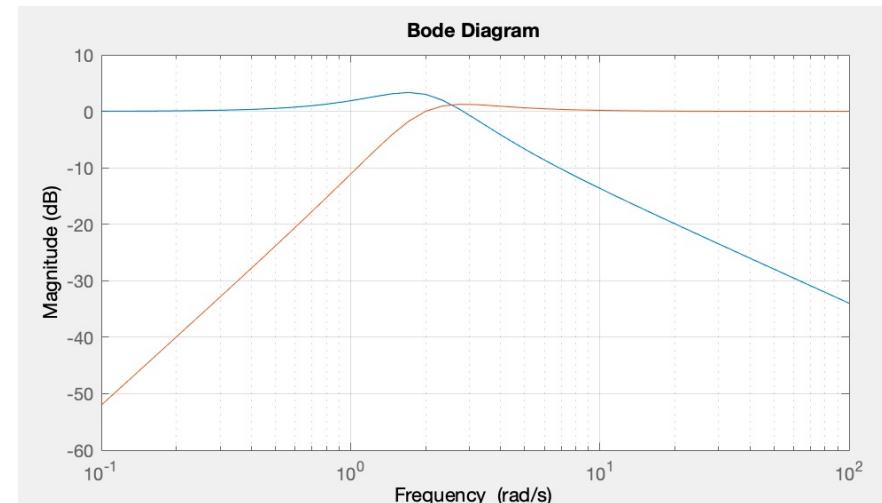
$$x = [\phi \ b_p]' \quad u = p_m$$

$$\hat{x} = [\hat{\phi} \ \hat{b}_p]' \quad \hat{y} = \hat{\phi}$$

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu + w$$

$$y = Cx + n$$

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = A\hat{x} + Bu + L(y - C\hat{x})$$



$$\hat{\Phi}(s) = \frac{l_1 s + l_2}{s^2 + l_1 s + l_2} \Phi_m(s) + \frac{s}{s^2 + l_1 s + l_2} P_m(s)$$

$$= G_L(s)\Phi_m(s) + G_H(s)\frac{P_m(s)}{s} \qquad \qquad G_L(s) + G_H(s) = 1$$