

# State Space Representations

David N. DeJong  
University of Pittsburgh

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# Notation

$s_t$ : state variables

$y_t$ : observed variables

$Y_t$ :  $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^t$

Note: variables are expressed in levels (detrended when appropriate)

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RBC Model  
Generic Linear State  
Space Representation

The Kalman Filter

# State Space Representations

State-transition equation:

$$s_t = \gamma(s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1}, v_t)$$

Associated density:

$$f(s_t | s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1})$$

Measurement equation:

$$y_t = \delta(s_t, Y_{t-1}, u_t)$$

Associated density:

$$f(y_t | s_t, Y_{t-1})$$

Initialization:

$$f(s_0)$$

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# Likelihood Evaluation and Filtering

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- ▶ **Filtering objective:** construct  $f(s_t | Y_t)$ , which can then be used to approximate  $E_t(h(s_t) | Y_t)$ .
- ▶ **Likelihood evaluation** obtains as a by-product of the filtering process.

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- From Bayes' theorem,  $f(s_t|Y_t)$  is given by

$$f(s_t|Y_t) = \frac{f(y_t, s_t|Y_{t-1})}{f(y_t|Y_{t-1})} = \frac{f(y_t|s_t, Y_{t-1}) f(s_t|Y_{t-1})}{f(y_t|Y_{t-1})},$$

- where  $f(s_t|Y_{t-1})$  is given by

$$f(s_t|Y_{t-1}) = \int f(s_t|s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1}) f(s_{t-1}|Y_{t-1}) ds_{t-1},$$

- and  $f(y_t|Y_{t-1})$  is given by

$$f(y_t|Y_{t-1}) = \int f(y_t|s_t, Y_{t-1}) f(s_t|Y_{t-1}) ds_t.$$

# Schematic of the Filtering Process

Taking  $f(s_{t-1}|Y_{t-1})$  as given, initialized with  $f(s_0|Y_0) \equiv f(s_0)$ , filtering and likelihood evaluation proceed recursively:

- Prediction:  $f(s_{t-1}|Y_{t-1})$  combines with  $f(s_t|s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1})$  to yield

$$f(s_t|Y_{t-1}) = \int f(s_t|s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1}) f(s_{t-1}|Y_{t-1}) ds_{t-1} \rightarrow (4)$$

- Forecasting:  $f(s_t|Y_{t-1})$  combines with  $f(y_t|s_t, Y_{t-1})$  to yield

$$f(y_t|Y_{t-1}) = \int f(y_t|s_t, Y_{t-1}) f(s_t|Y_{t-1}) ds_t. \rightarrow (5)$$

- Updating: Bayes' Rule yields

$$f(s_t|Y_t) = \frac{f(y_t|s_t, Y_{t-1}) f(s_t|Y_{t-1})}{f(y_t|Y_{t-1})} \rightarrow (3)$$

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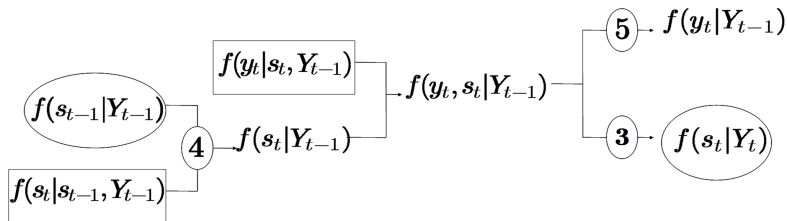
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# One-Tree Model

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Recall that with  $p_t$  representing  $\frac{p_t}{e^{gt}}$ , etc., the model is

$$p_t = \beta e^{(1-\gamma)g} E_t \left[ \left( \frac{c_{t+1}}{c_t} \right)^{-\gamma} (d_{t+1} + p_{t+1}) \right] \quad (1)$$

$$c_t = d_t + q_t \quad (2)$$

$$d_t = \bar{d} e^{\omega_{dt}}, \quad \omega_{dt} = \rho_d \omega_{dt-1} + \varepsilon_{dt}, \quad (3)$$

$$q_t = \bar{q} e^{\omega_{qt}}, \quad \omega_{qt} = \rho_q \omega_{qt-1} + \varepsilon_{qt}. \quad (4)$$

State:  $s_t = [d_t \quad q_t]'$

Shocks:  $v_t = [\varepsilon_{dt} \quad \varepsilon_{qt}]'$

Controls:  $c_t = [c_t \quad p_t]'$



# One-Tree Model, cont.

- ▶ State-transition equations:

$$\ln d_t = (1 - \rho_d) \ln \bar{d} + \rho_d \ln d_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{dt},$$

$$\ln q_t = (1 - \rho_q) \ln \bar{q} + \rho_q \ln q_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{qt},$$

$$v_t \equiv [\varepsilon_{dt} \quad \varepsilon_{qt}]' \sim iidN(0, \Sigma_v).$$

- ▶ Thus the state-transition density  $f(s_t | s_{t-1}, Y_{t-1})$  is  $N(0, \Sigma_v)$ .
- ▶ Measurement equations:

$$c_t = d_t + q_t + u_{ct}$$

$$p_t = p(d_t, q_t) + u_{pt}$$

$$d_t = d_t,$$

$$u_t \equiv [u_{ct} \quad u_{pt}]' \sim iidN(0, \Sigma_u).$$

- ▶ Note that the measurement density  $f(y_t | s_t, Y_{t-1})$  is partially degenerate.

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$$\left(\frac{1-\varphi}{\varphi}\right) \frac{c_t}{l_t} = (1-\alpha)z_t \left(\frac{k_t}{n_t}\right)^\alpha \quad (5)$$

$$c_t^\kappa l_t^\lambda = \beta E_t \{*\} \quad (6)$$

$$y_t = z_t k_t^\alpha n_t^{1-\alpha} \quad (7)$$

$$y_t = c_t + i_t \quad (8)$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{g}{1-\alpha}\right) k_{t+1} = i_t + (1-\delta)k_t \quad (9)$$

$$1 = n_t + l_t \quad (10)$$

$$\log z_t = (1-\rho) \log(z_0) + \rho \log z_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \quad (11)$$

where  $\kappa = \varphi(1-\phi) - 1$  and  $\lambda = (1-\varphi)(1-\phi)$ .

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$$\{*\} = \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{g}{1-\alpha}\right)^\kappa c_{t+1}^\kappa l_{t+1}^\lambda \left[ \alpha z_{t+1} \left(\frac{n_{t+1}}{k_{t+1}}\right)^{1-\alpha} + (1-\delta) \right] \right\}$$

A policy function  $c(k, z)$  can be obtained by combining (5), (6) and (10) to eliminate  $(l, n)$ . Given  $c(k, z)$ , policy functions for  $(l, n, y, i)$  obtain from simple algebra. The state-transition equations are then



$$\begin{aligned}\left(1 + \frac{g}{1 - \alpha}\right) k_{t+1} &= i(k_t, z_t) + (1 - \delta)k_t \\ \log z_t &= (1 - \rho) \log(z_0) + \rho \log z_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t.\end{aligned}$$

- Note that the transition density is partially degenerate.

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Observation equations:

$$y_t = z_t k_t^\alpha n(k_t, z_t)^{1-\alpha} + u_{yt}$$

$$c_t = c(k_t, z_t) + u_{ct}$$

$$i_t = i(k_t, z_t) + u_{it}$$

$$n_t = n(k_t, z_t) + u_{nt},$$

$$u_t \sim N(0, \Sigma_u).$$

# Generic Linear State Space Rep.

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- State-transition equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x_t &= Fx_{t-1} + e_t, \\e_t &= Gv_t, \\E(e_te_t') &= GE(v_tv_t')G' = Q.\end{aligned}$$

- Measurement equations:

$$X_t = H'x_t + u_t, \quad Eu_tu_t' = \Sigma_u$$

- Note:  $x_t$  in general contains state variables  $s_t$  and control variables;  $X_t$  is directly analogous to  $y_t$ .

# The Kalman Filter.

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Likelihood evaluation and filtering is achieved in the linear-normal case via the Kalman filter. Given linearity/normality, targeted densities are fully characterized by means and covariance matrices.

## Notation:

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t|t-j} &= E[x_t | \{X_1, \dots, X_{t-j}\}], \\P_{t|t-j} &= E[(x_t - x_{t|t-j})(x_t - x_{t|t-j})'] , \\j &= 0, 1.\end{aligned}$$

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## Background I: Linear Projections

$$\begin{aligned} P \left( \underbrace{x}_{n \times 1} \mid \underbrace{X}_{m \times 1} \right) &= \underbrace{a}_{n \times m}' \underbrace{X}_{m \times 1} \\ &= E[x|X] \text{ given lin/norm,} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$a = \arg \min E \left[ (x - a'X)^2 \right]$$



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FONC for  $a$  (Normal Equations/Orthogonality Conditions):

$$E[(x - a'X)X'] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow E(xX') = a'E(XX')$$

$$\rightarrow a' = (ExX')(E(XX'))^{-1}$$

$$\rightarrow \hat{x} = (ExX')(E(XX'))^{-1}x$$

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## Background II: Updating

$$P(x | \{X_t, X_{t-1}, \dots\}) = \underbrace{P(x | \{X_{t-1}, \dots\})}_{\text{old forecast}} +$$

$$P \left( \underbrace{x - P(x | \{X_{t-1}, \dots\})}_{\text{forecast error}} \mid \underbrace{X_t - P(X_t | \{X_{t-1}, \dots\})}_{\text{new information}} \right)$$

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## Kalman Filter I: Initialization ( $f(s_0)$ )

Unconditional mean:

$$\begin{aligned}Ex_t &= FEx_{t-1} = FEx_t \\&\rightarrow (I - F) Ex_t = 0 \\&\rightarrow Ex_t \equiv x_{1|0} = 0\end{aligned}$$

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Unconditional VCV:

$$\begin{aligned} E \left( x_{1|0} x'_{1|0} \right) &\equiv P_{1|0} \\ &= E \left[ (F x_{t-1} + e_t) (F x_{t-1} + e_t)' \right] \\ &= F \left( E \left( x_{t-1} x'_{t-1} \right) \right) F' + E \left( e_t e'_t \right) \\ &= F P_{1|0} F' + Q \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\text{vec}(P_{1|0}) = (I - F \otimes F')^{-1} \text{vec}(Q)$$

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## Kalman Filter II: Forecasting ( $f(y_t | Y_{t-1})$ )

Given  $(x_{t|t-1}, P_{t|t-1})$  (initially  $(x_{1|0}, P_{1|0})$ ):



$$x_{t|t-1} = H' x_{t|t-1}$$

► MSE:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_{t|t-1} &= E \left[ (H' (x_t - x_{t|t-1}) + u_t) (H' (x_t - x_{t|t-1}) + u_t)' \right] \\ &= E \left[ H' (x_t - x_{t|t-1}) (x_t - x_{t|t-1})' H + u_t u_t' \right] \\ &= H' P_{t|t-1} H + \Sigma_u\end{aligned}$$

## Kalman Filter III: Updating ( $f(s_t|Y_t)$ )

- Using the updating equation from Background II:

$$x_{t|t} = x_{t|t-1} + E[(x_t - x_{t|t-1}) | (X_t - X_{t|t-1})]$$

- Using the Normal Equations from Background I:

$$E[(x_t - x_{t|t-1}) | (X_t - X_{t|t-1})] = E(x_t - x_{t|t-1}) (X_t - X_{t|t-1})' \times \\ \left( E(X_t - X_{t|t-1}) (X_t - X_{t|t-1})' \right)^{-1} E(X_t - X_{t|t-1})$$

# The Kalman Filter, cont.

## Kalman Filter III: Updating ( $f(s_t|Y_t)$ )

► Thus

$$x_{t|t} = x_{t|t-1} + P_{t|t-1} H \Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1} \times \\ (X_t - H' x_{t|t-1})$$

► MSE:

$$\begin{aligned} P_{t|t} &= E \left[ (x_t - x_{t|t}) (x_t - x_{t|t})' \right] \\ &= E \left[ (x_t - x_{t|t-1}) (x_t - x_{t|t-1})' \right] - \\ &\quad E (x_t - x_{t|t-1}) (X_t - X_{t|t-1})' \times \\ &\quad \left( E (X_t - X_{t|t-1}) (X_t - X_{t|t-1})' \right)^{-1} \times \\ &\quad E (X_t - X_{t|t-1}) (x_t - x_{t|t-1})' \\ &= P_{t|t-1} - P_{t|t-1} H \Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1} H' P_{t|t-1} \end{aligned}$$

# The Kalman Filter, cont.

## Kalman Filter IV: Prediction ( $f(s_{t+1}|Y_t)$ )

- ▶ Plugging  $x_{t|t}$  into the state equation:

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1|t} &= Fx_{t|t} \\&= Fx_{t|t-1} + FP_{t|t-1}H\Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1} \times \\&\quad (X_t - H'x_{t|t-1})\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ MSE:

$$\begin{aligned}P_{t+1|t} &= E[(x_{t+1} - x_{t+1|t})(x_{t+1} - x_{t+1|t})'] \\&= E[(Fx_t + e_{t+1} - Fx_{t|t})(Fx_t + e_{t+1} - Fx_{t|t})'] \\&= FE[(x_t - x_{t|t})(x_t - x_{t|t})']F' + E(e_{t+1}e_{t+1}') \\&= FP_{t|t}F' + Q\end{aligned}$$



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## Summary (means and covariances)

- Initialization:

$$x_{1|0} = 0, \text{vec}(P_{1|0}) = (I - F \otimes F')^{-1} \text{vec}(Q)$$

- Forecasting:  $X_{t|t-1} = H'x_{t|t-1}, H'P_{t|t-1}H + \Sigma_u$

- Updating:

$$x_{t|t} = x_{t|t-1} + P_{t|t-1}H\Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1} \times \\ (X_t - H'x_{t|t-1}),$$

$$P_{t|t} = P_{t|t-1} - P_{t|t-1}H\Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1}H'P_{t|t-1}$$

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## ► Prediction:

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1|t} &= Fx_{t|t} \\&= Fx_{t|t-1} + FP_{t|t-1}H\Omega_{t|t-1}^{-1} \times \\&\quad (X_t - H'x_{t|t-1}), \\P_{t+1|t} &= FP_{t|t}F' + Q\end{aligned}$$

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## Code:

► `kalman.prc`

$(\Sigma_u = 0)$

► `kalmanm.prc`

$(\Sigma_u \neq 0)$

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## Exercise:

Consider the  $AR(p)$  representation for a generic variable  $y_t$ :

$$y_t = \rho_1 y_{t-1} + \rho_2 y_{t-2} + \dots + \rho_p y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t.$$

- ▶ Map this into the form of a state-space representation.
- ▶ Generate artificial data using the model as a DGP.
- ▶ Show that OLS estimates and ML estimates of  $\rho(L)$  coincide.