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## How to determine covariance matrix $Q$ and $R$ in Kalman-filter

I am implementing getting orientation from smartphone. I want to use Kalman filter and should determine process noise covariance matrix  $Q$  and measurement noise covariance matrix  $R$ . (newbie to Kalman filter)

I don't have any idea how to determine  $Q$ . What I think about  $R$  is as follows:

state vector : quaternion from (accelerometer + gyroscope)

(1) My phone is stand still. I get covaraince matrix from Matlab

$1.0e-04 *$

0.0000	0.0005	0.0035	-0.0000
0.0005	0.0063	0.0411	-0.0002
0.0035	0.0411	0.2881	-0.0014

-0.0000 -0.0002 -0.0014 0.0000

(2) My phone had been moved for 5 seconds.

covariance matrix is

0.0417	-0.0533	-0.0008	-0.0014
-0.0533	0.0784	0.0015	0.0018

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-0.0008    0.0015    0.0001    0.0001
-0.0014    0.0018    0.0001    0.0001
```

Is there anyone to help?

(added)

Details are omitted.

## case 1: Kalman Filter

The row data from my phone is  $p, q, r$  (angular velocity). I omit the conversion equation between angular velocity and quaternion.

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + w_k$$

$$z_k = Hx_k + \nu_k$$

$Q$  : covariance matrix for  $w_k$

$R$  : covariance matrix for  $\nu_k$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \dot{q}_3 \\ \dot{q}_4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -p & -q & -r \\ p & 0 & r & -q \\ q & -r & 0 & p \\ r & q & -p & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \\ q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \\ q_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{x_{k+1}} = \underbrace{\left( I + \Delta t \cdot \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -p & -q & -r \\ p & 0 & r & -q \\ q & -r & 0 & p \\ r & q & -p & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \\ q_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{x_k}$$

$$H = I$$

My guess for covariance matrix is as follows: (but I don't know how to infer..)

$$Q = 0.001I, \quad R = 10I.$$

## case 2: Extended Kalman Filter

$$x_{k+1} = f(x_k) + w_k$$

$$z_k = h(x_k) + \nu_k$$

$Q$  : covariance matrix for  $w_k$

$R$  : covariance matrix for  $\nu_k$

$$A = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x_k}, \quad H = \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} \right|_{x_k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{\varphi} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \sin \phi \tan \theta & \cos \phi \tan \theta \\ 0 & \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ 0 & \sin \phi \sec \theta & \cos \phi \sec \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \\ r \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} p + q \sin \phi \tan \theta + r \cos \phi \tan \theta \\ q \cos \phi - r \sin \phi \\ q \sin \phi \sec \theta + r \cos \phi \sec \theta \end{bmatrix} \\ &= f(x) + w \end{aligned}$$

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi \\ \theta \\ \varphi \end{bmatrix} + \nu = Hx + \nu$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \varphi} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \varphi} \\ \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \varphi} \end{bmatrix}$$

(I emphasize that details are omitted.) In this case, also I don't know how to infer  $Q, R$ .

kalman-filters

sensor

edited Jan 1 '15 at 12:20

asked Dec 24 '14 at 16:16

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The direct use of a quaternion in a Kalman Filter is bad news - a quaternion is not a vector and the "states" are not independent, which essentially destroys the assumptions of the filter. Accordingly, the covariance is meaningless. – [Damien](#) Dec 27 '14 at 1:07

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Instead, formulate the filter in terms of *error states*, or if you insist on using direct attitude terms, use an [Extended Kalman Filter](#) with [Euler Angles](#). There's some serious maths here, but textbooks from [Groves](#) and [Farrell](#) are quite useful. – [Damien](#) Dec 27 '14 at 1:10

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Thank for your comment. Actually, eve with that, how to determine  $Q$  and  $R$ ? – [jakeoung](#) Dec 27 '14 at 7:06

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You will need to post your process and measurement model (as *L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X*, not code) before I can make an informed comment. – [Damien](#) Dec 27 '14 at 11:35

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Okay, I've added equations. – [jakeoung](#) Dec 27 '14 at 12:56

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