State Estimation of Linear and Nonlinear Dynamic Systems

Part III: Nonlinear Systems: Extended Kalman Filter (EKF) and Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF)

James B. Rawlings and Fernando V. Lima

Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering University of Wisconsin–Madison

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Nonlinear Dynamic Systems

• For the nonlinear model with Gaussian noise

$$x(k+1) = F(x, u) + G(x, u)w$$
$$y(k) = h(x) + v$$

$$w \sim N(0,Q)$$
 $v \sim N(0,R)$ $x(0) \sim N(\overline{x}_0,Q_0)$

• Consider the linearization at every k

$$\overline{A}(k) = \frac{\partial F(x, u)}{\partial x} \Big|_{\widehat{x}(k), u(k)} \quad \overline{C}(k) = \frac{\partial h(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{\widehat{x}(k), u(k)}$$
$$\overline{G}(k) = G(\widehat{x}(k), u(k))$$
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Extended Kalman Filter (EKF) Recursion

Forecast

$$\widehat{x}^{-}(k+1) = F(\widehat{x}, u)$$

$$P^{-}(k+1) = \overline{A}(k)P(k)\overline{A}'(k) + \overline{G}(k)Q\overline{G}'(k)$$

$$\widehat{x}^{-}(0) = \overline{x}_{0} \qquad P^{-}(0) = Q_{0}$$

Correction

$$\widehat{x}(k) = \widehat{x}^{-}(k) + L(k)(y(k) - h(\widehat{x}^{-}(k)))$$
$$L(k) = P^{-}(k)\overline{C}'(k)(\overline{C}(k)P^{-}(k)\overline{C}'(k) + R)^{-1}$$
$$P(k) = P^{-}(k) - L(k)\overline{C}(k)P^{-}(k)$$

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Extended Kalman Filter — Remarks

- EKF has a similar recursion in structure to the KF with
 - Mean propagation through the full nonlinear model
 - Covariance propagation through the linearized model
- Resulting error from linearization may cause filter divergence



EKF Results



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Clipped EKF Results



Clipping of States: $c_j < 0 \rightarrow c_j = 0, j = A, B, C$

Constrained MHE Results



State Constraints: $c_j \ge 0$, j = A, B, C

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Extended Kalman Filter — Assessment

The extended Kalman filter is probably the most widely used estimation algorithm for nonlinear systems.

However, more than 35 years of experience in the estimation community has shown that it is difficult to implement, difficult to tune, and only reliable for systems that are almost linear on the time scale of the updates.

Many of these difficulties arise from its use of linearization.

Julier and Uhlmann (2004).

Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF)



• Given \hat{x} and P, choose sample points, z^i , and weights, w^i , such that

$$\widehat{x} = \sum_{i} w^{i} z^{i}$$
 $P = \sum_{i} w^{i} (z^{i} - \widehat{x}) (z^{i} - \widehat{x})^{\prime}$

• Similarly, given $w \sim N(0, Q)$ and $v \sim N(0, R)$, choose sample points n^i for w and m^i for v.



• Propagate sigma points with the nonlinear model

$$z_{k+1}^i = F(z_k^i, u_k) + G(z_k^i, u_k) n_k^i$$
 all i

• From these compute the forecast

$$\widehat{x}_{k+1}^{-} = \sum_{i} w^{i} z_{k+1}^{i} \qquad P_{k+1}^{-} = \sum_{i} w^{i} (z_{k+1}^{i} - \widehat{x}_{k+1}^{-}) (z_{k+1}^{i} - \widehat{x}_{k+1}^{-})'$$
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UKF Measurement Update



• Measurement forecast:

$$\eta_{k+1}^{i} = h(z_{k+1}^{i}) + m_{k}^{i}, \qquad \widehat{y}_{k+1}^{-} = \sum_{i} w^{i} \eta_{k+1}^{i}$$

• Output error: $\mathscr{Y} := y - \widehat{y}^-$

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UKF Recursion

• First rewrite the Kalman filter update

$$\widehat{x} = \widehat{x}^{-} + L(y - \widehat{y}^{-})$$

$$L = \underbrace{\mathcal{E}((x - \widehat{x}^{-})\mathscr{Y}')}_{P^{-}C'} \underbrace{\mathcal{E}(\mathscr{Y}\mathscr{Y}')^{-1}}_{(CP^{-}C'+R)^{-1}}$$

$$P = P^{-} - L \underbrace{\mathcal{E}((x - \widehat{x}^{-})\mathscr{Y}')'}_{CP^{-}}$$

• Approximate the two expectations with the sigma point samples

$$\mathcal{E}((x-\widehat{x}^{-})\mathscr{Y}') pprox \sum_{i} w^{i}(z^{i}-\widehat{x}^{-})(\eta^{i}-\widehat{y}^{-})'$$

 $\mathcal{E}(\mathscr{Y}\mathscr{Y}') pprox \sum_{i} w^{i}(\eta^{i}-\widehat{y}^{-})(\eta^{i}-\widehat{y}^{-})'$

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UKF Assessment

- Does not linearize at a single point. Samples the nonlinearity at several places (2*n*).
- Computationally efficient.
- Does not require even the Jacobian $\partial F(x, u)/\partial x$ of the model.
- Has been tested on simulation examples, including process control examples (exothermic CSTR, pH). (Romanenko and Castro, 2004; Romanenko et al., 2004).

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UKF Assessment (cont'd)

- Attractive alternative if the EKF gives convergence problems or proves difficult to tune.
- Recently published work incorporates constraints in the UKF formulation (Vachhani et al., 2006)
 - Performance not yet compared to other nonlinear and constrained approaches such as
 - ★ Moving Horizon Estimation (optimization based)
 - * Particle Filtering (sampling based)

Conclusions

Here we have learned ...

- State estimation approaches for unconstrained nonlinear systems
 - Extended Kalman Filter
 - ★ Example showed EKF divergence
 - Unscented Kalman Filter
 - ★ Attractive alternative if the EKF fails
 - * Incorporation of constraints is under development

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Further Reading

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