

Chapter 5 Optimal Estimation

Part 2 5.2 Covariance Propagation and Optimal Estimation



Outline

- 5.2 Random Variables, Processes and Transformation
 - 5.2.1 Variance of Continuous Integration and Averaging Processes
 - 5.2.2 Stochastic Integration
 - 5.2.3 Optimal Estimation
 - Summary



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State Estimation

- Henceforth, reinterpret our "transformations" of uncertainty to cover recursive relationships.
- Our goal is a set of recursive algorithms to track the state x, and its uncertainty P, of a dynamical system.
- Define:
 - \mathbf{x}_{k} : state estimate at time k
 - $-P_k$: (state) covariance estimate at time k
 - $-z_k$: measurement at time k
 - $-R_k$: (measurement) covariance estimate at time k



5.2.1.2 Recursive Integration

 Recall the result for a sum of iid RVs and reinterpret the "summing" as integration as it occurs in dead reckoning. In our new notation:

$$\sigma_x^2 = n\sigma_z^2$$

The summing process can be written:

$$\hat{x}_{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{k} z_{i} = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} z_{i} + z_{k} = \hat{x}_{k-1} + z_{k}$$

 Its covariance can be written recursively as:

 $\sigma_{k}^{2} = \sum_{k=1}^{k} \sigma_{z}^{2} = \sum_{k=1}^{k-1} \sigma_{z}^{2} + \sigma_{z}^{2} = \sigma_{k-1}^{2} + \sigma_{z}^{2}$

i = 1

Variance grows linearly wrt time.

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i = 1

5.2.1.3 Variance of a Continuous Summing Process



5.2.1.4 Recursive Averaging

• The averaging process can be written as: $\hat{x}_k =$

$$\hat{x}_{k} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} z_{i} = \frac{1}{k} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} z_{i} + z_{k} \right) = \frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{k-1}{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} z_{i} + z_{k} \right)$$

Isolate the last estimate:

$$\hat{x}_{k} = \frac{1}{k} [(k-1)\hat{x}_{k-1} + z_{k}] = \frac{1}{k} [(k-1)\hat{x}_{k-1} + \hat{x}_{k-1} + z_{k} - \hat{x}_{k-1}]$$

- Simplifies to the recursive form: $\hat{x}_k = \hat{x}_{k-1} + \frac{l}{k}(z_k - \hat{x}_{k-1})$
- Define the "Kalman Gain" K=1/k: $\hat{x}_{k} = \hat{x}_{k-1} + K(z_{k} - x_{k-1})$

5.2.1.4 Recursive Averaging

• Recall the result for an average of iid RVs. For k measurements:

• Note that:

$$\sigma_k^2 = \frac{\sigma_z^2}{k} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma_k^2} = \frac{k}{\sigma_z^2} = \frac{k-1}{\sigma_z^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_z^2}$$

Which means:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_k^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{k-1}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_z^2}$$

 So, variances add by reciprocals, just like conductances in electric circuits.

 $\sigma_k^2 = \frac{l}{k^2} \sum_{k=1}^{k} \sigma_z^2 = \frac{l}{k} \sigma_z^2$

i = 1

5.2.1.4 Recursive Averaging

- Now because: $\sigma_k^2 = \frac{\sigma_z^2}{k}$ $\sigma_{k-1}^2 = \frac{\sigma_z^2}{k-1}$
- Substitute to get:

$$\frac{\sigma_k^2}{\sigma_{k-1}^2} = \frac{k-l}{k} \Rightarrow \sigma_k^2 = \left(\frac{k-l}{k}\right)\sigma_{k-1}^2 = \left(1-\frac{l}{k}\right)\sigma_{k-1}^2 \qquad \text{Typos}$$
In book
Here

 Substituting the Kalman gain (and adding 1 to k):

$$\sigma_{k+1}^2 = (1-K)\sigma_k^2$$



5.2.1.3 Variance of a Continuous Averaging Process



5.2.1.5 Measuring "Stability"

- Refers to changes in effective (average) bias and scale errors.
 - Often quoted as change in bias or scale as a function of temperature

Somehow, bias <u>instability</u> means the same as bias <u>stability</u> in this context.





Bias is unrelated to noise amplitude

This gyro has about 0.4 deg/sec peak-to-peak variation.

Average <u>bias</u> is < 20 deg/hr.

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From <u>http://www.xbow.com</u> Mobile Robotics - Prof Alonzo Kelly, CMU RI

Allan Variance (Measure of Bias Stability)

- Average all measurements over some time period Δt .
- Asks how much the average (over Δt) can change over a period of time Δt .
- Take difference in average in successive bins. Square it.
- Add up at least 9 of these and divide by 2(n-1)

$$AVAR^{2}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2 \cdot (n-1)} \sum_{i} \left(y(\tau)_{i+1} - y(\tau)_{i} \right)^{2},$$

Intuitively:
Variance in the Bias
For given level of averaging

What is the 2 for?



Allan Variance



• Compute the difference in average of successive bins.



Allan Variance

- Variance drops initially as ∆t increases (effect of averaging).
 - Sensor noise
 dominates for small
 ∆t (does not average out).
 - Rate random walk dominates for large ∆t (bias really is changing).



Inertial sensor manufacturers quote the minimum (equals best achievable result with active bias estimation and fully modeled sensor)

Allan Deviation Graph



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So What?: Recursive Form

- Recursive processes are also of the form $y = f(x_1, x_2)$.
- Let y mean the new value x_{i+1} of some state variables that we are trying to estimate.
- Let x₁ mean the last estimate of state x_i.
- Let x₂ mean the inputs u_i that are required compute the state.



5.2.2.1 Discrete Stochastic Integration

Recall our result for covariance of a partitioned state vector:

$$\Sigma_{y} = J_{1}\Sigma_{11}J_{1}^{T} + J_{2}\Sigma_{22}J_{2}^{T}$$

• In our new notation, this becomes: $\Sigma_{i+1} = J_x \Sigma_i J_x^T + J_u \Sigma_u J_u^T$



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In a more standard notation:





5.2.2.2 Example: Dead Reckoning

(With Odometer Error Only)







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Update:

5.2.2.2 Example: Dead Reckoning (Jacobian)

Linearize:
$$\underline{x}_{i+1} = \underline{f}(\underline{x}_i, \underline{u}_i) = \begin{bmatrix} x_i + l_i \cos(\psi_i) \\ y_i + l_i \sin(\psi_i) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} lc_i \\ ls_i \end{bmatrix}$$



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5.2.2.2 Example: Dead Reckoning

(Input Uncertainty)

• The uncertainty in the current position and measurements is:



5.2.2.2 Example: Dead Reckoning (Answer)



5.2.2.3.1 Variance of a Continuous Random Walk

- Recall that for n summed iid random variables: $\sigma_v^2 = n\sigma_x^2$
- Suppose the x'es were velocities at time 1,2...n. Then: $\sigma_y^2 = \frac{\sigma_x^2 t}{\Lambda t}$ $n = \frac{t}{\Lambda t}$ Constant
- But this means that $\sigma_v^2 \to \infty$ as $\Delta t \to 0 \parallel \parallel$
- That cannot be right; it would require infinite power.
- What is more realistic is variance that grows linearly wrt time:

$$\sigma_x^2(t) = \dot{\sigma}_z^2 \cdot t$$

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5.2.2.3.2 Integrating Stochastic Differential Equations

 Lets reinterpret our perturbative differential equation so mean a DE driven by random noise.

 $\delta \underline{\dot{x}}(t) = F(t)\delta \underline{x}(t) + G(t)\delta \underline{u}(t)$ Noise

- Define the covariances: $Exp(\delta \underline{x}(t)\delta \underline{x}(t)^{T}) = P(t)$ $Exp(\delta \underline{u}(t)\delta \underline{u}(\tau)^{T}) = Q(t)\delta(t-\tau)$ White noise is uncorrelated in time.
- We might be tempted to solve this using the vector convolution integral:
 t

$$\delta \underline{x}(t) = \Phi(t, t_0) \delta \underline{x}(t_0) + \int \Gamma(t, \tau) \delta \underline{u}(\tau) d\tau \leq$$

to

integral **does**

not converge

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 $\Gamma(t,\tau) = \Phi(t,\tau)G(\tau)$

Motivation for Stochastic Calculus

- An integral is a limit of a sum of products.
- The limit exists when the wiggles go away when you zoom in on a function:



- For a white random signal, autocorrelation is zero, and the wiggles never go away at any zoom level.
- The integral or derivative of a white signal is meaningless.
 - So what is "stochastic calculus"?

Deterministic Statistics

- The statistics of a distribution of a random variables are deterministic quantities.
- i.e. s has a time derivative because s is not random.



Individual random walk signal



Variance of a zillion random walk signals

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• We will write differential equations for the statistics, not the random signals.

5.2.2.3.2 Integrating Stochastic Differential Equations

 Recall: we cannot integrate the following because it fails the Reimann condition.

$$\delta \underline{x}(t) = \Phi(t, t_0) \delta \underline{x}(t_0) + \int \Gamma(t, \tau) \delta \underline{u}(\tau) d\tau$$

Trick: Introduce a differential random walk
process:
$$d\beta(\tau) = \delta \underline{u}(\tau) d\tau$$

• Now, integrate the following:

$$\delta \underline{x}(t) = \Phi(t, t_0) \delta \underline{x}(t_0) + \int \Gamma(t, \tau) d\underline{\beta}(\tau)$$

t_o

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5.2.2.3.2 Integrating Stochastic Differential Equations

• The integral of (squared expectation) of the last result is:



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5.2.2.3.4 Linear Variance Equation

- We can differentiate the last result to find the differential equation that is satisfied by:
 - The covariance matrix of a dynamical system
 - Driven by white noise

$$\dot{P}(t) = F(t)P(t) + P(t)F(t)^{T} + G(t)Q(t)G(t)^{T}$$
This term usually
leads to unbounded
growth

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5.2.3.1 Maximum Likelihood Estimation

- Consider the problem of optimally estimating state from a series of measurements:
 - Let $\underline{x} \in \Re^n$ denote the state and $\underline{z} \in \Re^m$ denote the measurements.
 - Measurements relate to the state by a measurement matrix:

 $\underline{z} = H\underline{x} + \underline{v} \quad where \quad \underline{v} \sim N(0, R)$

The measurements are assumed to be corrupted by a noise vector of covariance:

$$R = \mathsf{Exp}(\underline{v} \ \underline{v}^T)$$

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5.2.3.1 Maximum Likelihood Estimation

- The innovation $\underline{z} H\underline{x}$ (= \underline{v}) is Gaussian by assumption, so...
- The probability of getting a measurement \underline{z} when the true state is \underline{x} is: $p(\underline{z}|\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{m/2} |R|^{1/2}} exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\underline{z} - \mathrm{H}\underline{x})R^{-1}(\underline{z} - \mathrm{H}\underline{x})^T\right]$
- This exponential will be maximized when the form in the exponent (without negative sign) is minimized:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} \left(\frac{l}{2} (\underline{\mathbf{z}} - \mathbf{H}\underline{\mathbf{x}}) R^{-l} (\underline{\mathbf{z}} - \mathbf{H}\underline{\mathbf{x}})^T \right)$$

• If the system is overdetermined, the solution is simply the weighted left pseudoinverse:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^* = \left(\boldsymbol{H}^T \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \boldsymbol{H}\right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{H}^T \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \boldsymbol{z}$$

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5.2.3.1.1 Covariance of the MLE Estimate

• The weighted left pseudoinverse is just a function that maps \underline{z} onto $\underline{\hat{x}}^*$, so lets define its Jacobian:

$$J_z = \left(H^T R^{-1} H\right)^{-1} H^T R^{-1}$$

• Therefore the covariance of the MLE result is:

$$\Sigma_{xx} = J_{z}\Sigma_{zz}J_{z}^{T} = (H^{T}R^{-1}H)^{-1}H^{T}R^{-1}RR^{-1}H(H^{T}R^{-1}H)^{-1}$$
$$\Sigma_{xx} = J_{z}\Sigma_{zz}J_{z}^{T} = (H^{T}R^{-1}H)^{-1}H^{T}R^{-1}H(H^{T}R^{-1}H)^{-1}$$

• Which simplifies to:

$$\Sigma_{xx} = \left(H^T R^{-1} H\right)^{-1}$$

Equation 5.80

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• Note that this expression appears in the pseudoinverse:

$$\hat{\underline{\mathbf{x}}}^* = \left(\boldsymbol{H}^T \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \boldsymbol{H}\right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{H}^T \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\underline{z}} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{xx} \boldsymbol{H}^T \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\underline{z}}$$

5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Scalar

- Suppose:
 - Present state estimate χ has variance σ_{χ}^2
 - Measurement z has variance σ_z^2
 - Want to get new state estimate x' and its variance $\sigma_{x'}^2$
- The trick to derive a Kalman filter is to pretend the present estimate comes in as a measurement with the same covariance.
- The measurement relationship for (both) measurements is: []

$$\begin{bmatrix} z \\ x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x$$

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5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Scalar

• That means the associated measurement and covariance matrices are:

$$H' = \begin{bmatrix} I & I \end{bmatrix}^T \qquad R' = diag \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_z^2 & \sigma_x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

• So, the weighted least squares solution is:

$$x' = (H'^{T}R'^{-1}H')^{-1}H'^{T}R'^{-1}\underline{z} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_{z}^{2}} & 0 \\ \sigma_{z}^{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sigma_{x}^{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sigma_{z}^{2} & 0 \\ \sigma_{z}^{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sigma_{x}^{2}} \end{bmatrix} \underline{z}$$

5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Scalar

• This simplifies to:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \left(\left[\frac{1}{\sigma_z^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_x^2} \right] \right)^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma_z^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_x^2} \right] \quad \text{Equation 5.8.1}$$

- And, the uncertainty in the new estimate is (from Equation 5.80): $\sigma_{x'}^{2} = (H'^{T}R'^{-1}H')^{-1} = \left(\left[\frac{1}{\sigma_{z}^{2}} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{x}^{2}}\right]\right)^{-1}$
- Which is the same as saying the new information is the sum of that of the measurement and state:

$$\frac{l}{\sigma_{x'}^2} = \frac{l}{\sigma_z^2} + \frac{l}{\sigma_x^2}$$

Equation 5.8.3

5.2.3.3 Example: Estimating Temperature from Two Sensors

- An ocean-going robot has to measure water temperature using two sensors.
- One of the measurements is $z_1 = 4$ with variance $\sigma_{z_1}^2 = 2^2$. Therefore $p(x|z_1)$ is as shown:



5.2.3.3 Example: Estimating Temperature from Two Sensors Suppose the other measurement is z₂ = 6 with

variance $\sigma_{z_2}^2 = (1.5)^2$. Therefore $p(x|z_2)$ is as shown:



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5.2.3.3 Example: Estimating Temperature from Two Sensors Application of Eqns 5.81 and 5.83 gives:

$$x' = 5.28$$
 $\sigma_{x'}^2 = (1.2)^2$

• The result is denoted graphically as follows:



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5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Vector

- Suppose:
 - Present state estimate \underline{x} has variance \underline{P}
 - Measurement \underline{z} has variance \underline{R}
 - Want to get new state estimate \underline{x}' and its variance P'
- The measurement relationship for (both) measurements is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{X} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{H}' \mathbf{X}'$$



5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Vector

• That means the associated measurement and covariance matrices are:

$$-H' = [H \ I]^T \qquad R' = diag([R \ P))$$

- Having any measurement means the system is overdetermined.
- So, the weighted least squares solution is:

$$\mathbf{x}' = (\mathbf{H}'^{T}\mathbf{R}'^{-1}\mathbf{H}')^{-1}\mathbf{H}'^{T}\mathbf{R}'^{-1}\underline{z}$$
$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = \left(\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{H}\\I\end{bmatrix}^{T}\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{R} & 0\\0 & P\end{bmatrix}^{-1}\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{H}\\I\end{bmatrix}^{-1}\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{H}\\I\end{bmatrix}^{T}\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{R} & 0\\0 & P\end{bmatrix}^{-1}\underline{z}$$

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5.2.3.2 Recursive Estimation of a Random Vector

Invert the covariance matrix on the right:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & P^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & P^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \underline{z}$$

• Simplify the quadratic form on left:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = (H^T R^{-1} \mathbf{H} + P^{-1})^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}^T R^{-1} & P^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{z}} \\ \underline{\mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Multiply out the product on right:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = (H^T R^{-1} \mathbf{H} + P^{-1})^{-1} (P^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{H}^T R^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{z}})$$

• This looks like an inverse covariance weighted average.

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5.2.3.4.1 Efficient State Update

- Apply the Matrix Inversion Lemma which states: $\left[H^{T}R^{-1}H + P^{-1}\right]^{-1} = P - \left[PH^{T}\left[HPH^{T} + R\right]^{-1}\right]HP \quad \text{Equation A}$
- Substituting:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = (P - PH^T S^{-1} HP)(P^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{x}} + H^T R^{-1} \underline{\mathbf{z}})$$

- Where we define the innovation covariance: $S = [HPH^{T} + R]$
- Define the Kalman Gain: $K = PH^{T}S^{-1} = PH^{T}[HPH^{T} + R]^{-1}$
- Which gives the famous result:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = \underline{\mathbf{x}} + K(\underline{\mathbf{z}} - H\underline{\mathbf{x}})$$

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Information Weighted Average

• Once again, the result is:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = \underline{\mathbf{x}} + K(\underline{\mathbf{z}} - H\underline{\mathbf{x}})$$

• Multiply that by PP^{-1} to get:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = P[P^{-1}\underline{\mathbf{x}} + H^T S^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{z}} - H\underline{\mathbf{x}})]$$

 So, the Kalman Filter is computing an information weighted average of the prior state and the innovation.

5.2.3.4.2 Covariance Update

- Recall the MLE covariance:
- Consider again:

$$\Sigma_{xx} = \left(H^T R^{-1} H\right)^{-1}$$

Equation 5.80

Equation 5.85

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• So, the first part in brackets is just: $P' = (H^T R^{-1} H + P^{-1})^{-1}$

• Substitute the Kalman Gain into Equation A: $[H^{T}R^{-1}H + P^{-1}]^{-1} = P - PH^{T}[HPH^{T} + R]^{-1}HP = P - KHP$

 $\underline{\mathbf{x}}' = \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & P^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H} \\ I \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} R^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & P^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \underline{z}$

 $[H^T \quad R^{-1} \quad H]^{-1}$

• To get, the final form of covariance update:

$$P' = (I - KH)P$$

5.2.3.4.3 Covariance Update for Direct Measurements

• When H=I the sensor measures the state directly,

So...
$$\underline{x}' = (R^{-1} + P^{-1})^{-1} (P^{-1} \underline{x} + R^{-1} \underline{z})$$

$$P' = (R^{-1} + P^{-1})^{-1} \implies (P')^{-1} = (R^{-1} + P^{-1})$$

• Suppose: $P_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$

• Consider the sequence of measurements:

$$R_{1} = diag \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_{2} = diag \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$R_{3} = diag \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_{4} = diag \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix}$$
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5.2.3.4.3 Covariance Update for Direct Measurements

 Regardless of the measurements themselves (linear case), the covariance evolves as follows:





5.2.3.5 Nonlinear Optimal Estimation

When the measurements are related to the state nonlinearly:

$$\underline{z} = h(\underline{x}) + \underline{v} \qquad \qquad R = Exp(\underline{v}\underline{v}^{T})$$

• We simply use nonlinear weighted least squares. That means, we simply make one substitution:

$$H = \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{x}} [h(\underline{x})] \Big|_{\underline{x}}$$

- Whereupon the Kalman Filter becomes the Extended Kalman filter.
 - Which is no longer optimal, but is nonetheless super useful
 - Easily the estimation equivalent of PID control.
 - KF is just a special case of EKF.

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Summary

- Compounding (adding) noisy measurements leads to a result with more noise.
- Merging (filtering) noisy redundant measurements leads to a result with less noise.
- Kalman Filters are just recursive weighted least squares estimators.
 - That and matrix inversion Lemma is all it takes to derive it.
 - We will shortly see that they are applicable to dynamical systems.