

3/26: Estimation via Least-Squares

Announcements:

- HW3 due today (3/26)
- HW4 → after SB
- milestone feedback ~ tomorrow

Last time:

- state estimation problem

Today:

- solution via least-squares

e.g. (pose estimation)

$x_t = [P_t, R_t, v_t, w_t]^T$
 $\in \mathbb{R}^3 \in \text{SO}(3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \in \mathbb{R}^3$
 $y_t = [z^1, \dots, z^N]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$
 dynamics: $p(x_{t+1} | x_t, u_t)$ "predict using GT state"
 measurement: $p(y_{t+1} | x_{t+1})$
 "put cube into GT state"
 $\hat{x}_{0:T} = \arg \max_{x_{0:T}} p(x_{0:T} | u_{0:T-1}, y_{1:T})$
 MAP estimation
 ↳ unconstrained NLP

Recall!

i) Conditional independence

$X \perp Y | Z$ "X conditionally ind. of Y, given Z"

$p(x, y | z) = p(x | z) p(y | z)$

$p(x | y, z) = \frac{p(x, y | z)}{p(y | z)}$ [cond. prob]

$= \frac{p(x | z) p(y | z)}{p(y | z)} = p(x | z)$

"Y gives no information about X, given Z"

ii) Bayes' rule

$p(x | y) = \frac{p(y | x) p(x)}{p(y)}$ not a function of x

$\arg \max_x p(x | y) = \arg \max_x p(y | x) p(x)$

$\arg \max_{x_{0:T}} p(x_{0:T} | u_{0:T-1}, y_{1:T})$
 $= \arg \min_{x_{0:T}} -\log p(x_{0:T} | u_{0:T-1}, y_{1:T})$
 $= \arg \min_{x_{0:T}} -\log p(x_0) + \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} -\log p(x_{t+1} | x_t, u_t) - \log p(y_{t+1} | x_{t+1})$

Important special case:

$x_{t+1} = f(x_t, u_t) + w_t \quad w_t \sim \mathcal{W}(0, Q)$



$y_{t+1} = g(x_{t+1}) + v_{t+1} \quad v_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{W}(0, R)$

under this model:

$p(x_{t+1} | x_t, u_t) = \mathcal{W}(f(x_t, u_t), Q)$

$p(y_{t+1} | x_{t+1}) = \mathcal{W}(g(x_{t+1}), R)$

$\mathcal{W}(x | \mu, \Sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)\right)$

$\log p(x | \mu, \Sigma) = \log \eta - \frac{1}{2} (x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)$

$(\Sigma^{-1/2} \cdot \Sigma^{-1/2}) = \Sigma^{-1}$ cholesky decomp / matrix square root

$\log p(x | \mu, \Sigma) = \log \eta - \frac{1}{2} \|\Sigma^{-1/2} (x-\mu)\|^2$

If we choose a prior $p(x_0) = \mathcal{W}(\mu_0, \Sigma_0)$

$-\log p(x_{0:T} | u_{0:T-1}, y_{1:T}) = \|\Sigma_0^{-1/2} (x_0 - \mu_0)\|^2$
 $+ \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \|\mathcal{Q}^{-1/2} (x_{t+1} - f(x_t, u_t))\|^2$
 $+ \|\mathcal{R}^{-1/2} (y_{t+1} - g(x_{t+1}))\|^2$

$\arg \max p(x_{0:T} | h_T) = \sum_{i=1}^N \|r_i(x)\|^2$ (nonlinear LS)

Recall: Gauss-Newton

$x^{(k+1)} \quad J(x^{(k)})^T J(x^{(k)}) \delta x^{(k)} = -J(x^{(k)})^T r(x^{(k)})$

$x^{(k+1)} \leftarrow x^{(k)} + \delta x^{(k)}$

Fun fact: one iteration of GN = EKS

Important point: does this converge?
is it unique?

↳ observability "is the estimation problem well-posed?"

e.g. (pose estimation)



If J doesn't have full column rank
∃ multiple δx that solve the normal equations.