# MC2019 Part 2 Optimal control for stochastic systems.

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# Optimal control for stochastic systems.

In this lecture, we will learn:

- Feedforward and feedback control
- Trial-by-trial variability
- Signal-dependent noise
- Dynamic programming
- Bellman's optimality equation
- Linear-quadratic-Gaussian (LQG) control
- Optimal feedback control (OFC) model
- Human psychophysics

# Straight paths and bell-shaped velocity in reaching.







#### Morasso (1981) Exp Brain Res

# Power laws for curved movements.



#### Lacquaniti et al. (1983) Acta Psychologica

#### Fitts' law for movement duration in rapid pointing movements.



$$t_f = a + b \log_2 \frac{2D}{W}$$

Fitts (1954) J Exp Psychol

# "Main sequence" for saccadic movements



Bahill et al. (1975) Math Biosci

### Optimality principle: how a unique trajectory is chosen.



<u>Snell's law</u>

$$\frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{1/n_1}{1/n_2}$$

Fermat's principle of least time  $T\left[s\left(\cdot\right)\right] = \int_{0}^{T} dt = \int_{P}^{Q} \frac{ds}{v(s)} = \frac{1}{c} \int_{P}^{Q} n(s) ds$   $\delta T\left[s\left(\cdot\right)\right] = \frac{1}{c} \delta \int_{P}^{Q} n(s) ds = 0$ 

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snell%27s\_law

Feedforward and feedback control.

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k$$

Feedforward control as a function of time step:

$$\mathbf{u}_{k}=\mathbf{u}_{k}\left(k\right)$$

Feedback control as a function of state:

$$\mathbf{u}_{k}=\mathbf{u}_{k}\left(\mathbf{x}_{k}\right)$$

For a deterministic system, feedforward and feedback control are equivalent. On the other hand, for a stochastic system, feedforward and feedback control are **NOT** equivalent.

# Signal-dependent noise: trial-by-trial variability.



van Beers et al. (2004) J Neurophysiol; Schmidt et al. (1979) Psychol Rev; Jones et al. (2002) J Neurophysiol Minimum-variance control predicts smooth trajectory.

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_n\left(1 + \boldsymbol{\xi}_n\right)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{n} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_{n-1}\left(1 + \xi_{n-1}\right)$$
$$= \mathbf{A}^{2}\mathbf{x}_{n-2} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_{n-2}\left(1 + \xi_{n-2}\right) + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_{n-1}\left(1 + \xi_{n-1}\right)$$
$$= \cdots$$

$$=\mathbf{A}^{n}\mathbf{x}_{0}+\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\mathbf{A}^{n-k-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_{k}\left(1+\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}\right)$$

$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{x}_{n}] = \mathbf{A}^{n} \mathbf{x}_{0} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-k-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k}$$
$$\mathbf{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_{n}] = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-k-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} \mathbf{u}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} (\mathbf{A}^{n-k-1})^{\mathrm{T}}$$

#### Harris & Wolpert (1998) Nature

### Minimum-variance control predicts smooth trajectory.

Minimize the variance of final position (quadratic with respect to **u**)

$$\sum_{t=t_f}^{t_f+T} \operatorname{Cov}\left[\mathbf{x}_n\right]_{11} = \sum_{n=t_f}^{t_f+T} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-k-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{u}_k^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \left(\mathbf{A}^{n-k-1}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}\right]_{11}$$

under constraints (*T*+1 constraints with respect to **u**)

$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{x}_n] = \mathbf{A}^n \mathbf{x}_0 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-k-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{x}_f \quad \left(t_f \le t \le +T\right)$$

This problem can be solved with quadratic programming (quadprog command).



#### Harris & Wolpert (1998) Nature

### Minimum-variance control predicts smooth trajectory.





# Matlab code for the minimum-variance model.

```
t1 = 224/1000; % time const of eye dynamics
t2 = 13/1000; % another time const of eye dynamics
tm = 10/1000;
dt = 1/1000:
                % simulation time step
tf = 50/1000; % movement duration
tp = 20/1000; % post-movement duration
K = tf/dt;
L = tp/dt;
x0 = [0; 0; 0]; % initial state
xf = [10; 0; 0]; % final state
Ac = [0 \ 1 \ 0; \ldots]
   0 0 1; ...
    -1/(t1*t2*tm) -1/(t1*t2)-1/(t1*tm)-1/(t2*tm) -1/t1-1/t2-
1/tm];
Bc = [0; 0; 1];
A = expm(Ac*dt);
B = inv(Ac) * (eye(3) - expm(Ac*dt)) * Bc;
O = zeros(K+L);
% calculation of O
for ell=0:K+L-1
    if ell<K
       for k=K:K+L-1
           tmpO = A^{(k-ell-1)} * B * B' * A'^{(k-ell-1)};
           Q(ell+1, ell+1) = Q(ell+1, ell+1) + tmpQ(1,1);
       end
    else
        for k=ell+1:K+L-1
           tmpO = A^{(k-ell-1)*B*B'*A'^{(k-ell-1)};}
           Q(ell+1, ell+1) = Q(ell, ell) + tmpQ(1,1);
        end
    end
End
```

```
% calculation of C
C = [];
for p=1:L+1
    Ctmp = [];
    for q=1:K+L
        if K-1-(q-1)+(p-1)>0
            Ctmp = [Ctmp A^{(K-1-(q-1)+(p-1))*B];
        elseif K-1-(q-1)+(p-1) == 0
            Ctmp = [Ctmp B];
        else
            Ctmp = [Ctmp zeros(3,1)];
        end
    end
    C = [C; Ctmp];
end
% calculation of d
d = [];
for ell=0:L
    d = [d; xf-A^{(K+ell)} x0];
end
% solution by guadratic programming
u = quadprog(0, [], [], [], C, d);
% forward solution
x = zeros(3, K+L);
x(:,1) = x0;
for k=1:K+L-1
    x(:, k+1) = A^*x(:, k) + B^*u(k);
end
figure(1);
subplot(211); hold on; plot(x(1,:), 'k', 'linewidth', 2);
set(gca, 'plotboxaspectratio', [1.5 1 1]);
xlabel('time (ms)'); ylabel('eye position (deg)');
subplot(212); hold on; plot(x(2,:), 'k', 'linewidth', 2)
```

set(qca, 'plotboxaspectratio', [1.5 1 1]);

xlabel('time (ms)'); ylabel('eye velocity (deg/s)');

#### Harris & Wolpert (1998) Nature

# Matlab code for the minimum-variance model.



#### Harris & Wolpert (1998) Nature

#### Minimum-time control predicts Fitts' law and main sequence.



Faster, but less accurate



Unique movement time can be determined



More precise, but slower

$$S_{\text{MT}}\left[t_{f}, \{\mathbf{u}\}\right] = t_{f} \quad \text{minimization of movement time} \\ + \lambda \left[V_{f} - \frac{1}{t_{p}} \int_{t_{f}}^{t_{f}+t_{p}} dt \, \operatorname{Var}\left[\mathbf{x}(t)\right]\right] \quad \text{final variance constraint} \\ + \int_{t_{f}}^{t_{f}+t_{p}} dt \, \boldsymbol{\mu}^{\mathrm{T}}(t) \left[\mathbf{x}_{f} - \operatorname{E}\left[\mathbf{x}(t)\right]\right] \quad \text{final position constraint}$$

Tanaka et al. (2006) J Neurophysiol

#### Minimum-time control predicts Fitts' law and main sequence.



#### Tanaka et al. (2006) J Neurophysiol

Optimal control: Bellman's optimality equation.

Deterministic (i.e., noiseless) dynamics:

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k$$

Cost function:

$$J(\mathbf{u}_{0}, \mathbf{u}_{1}, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}; \mathbf{x}_{0}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N}$$
  
Error during Control cost Endpoint error movement

Find control signals  $\{\mathbf{u}_0, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}$  that minimize the cost function.

Optimal control: Pontryagin's minimum principle.



The control signals  $\{\mathbf{u}_0, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}$  are optimized as a whole.

### Optimal control: Bellman's optimality equation.



(cost at state  $\mathbf{x}_n$  at step n) = (cost of moving  $\mathbf{x}_n$  to  $\mathbf{x}_{n+1}$ ) + (cost at state  $\mathbf{x}_{n+1}$  at step n + 1)

### Optimal control: Bellman's optimality equation.

$$V_n(\mathbf{x}_n) = \min_{\{\mathbf{u}_n, \mathbf{u}_{n+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=n}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{Q}_N \mathbf{x}_N \right]$$

$$V_{n}(\mathbf{x}_{n}) = \min_{\{\mathbf{u}_{n},\mathbf{u}_{n+1},\cdots,\mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=n}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N} \right]$$
  
$$= \min_{\mathbf{u}_{n}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_{n}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{n} \mathbf{x}_{n} + \mathbf{u}_{n}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{n}) + \min_{\{\mathbf{u}_{n+1},\cdots,\mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=n+1}^{N-1} (\mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N} \right] \right]$$
  
$$= \min_{\mathbf{u}_{n}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_{n}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{n} \mathbf{x}_{n} + \mathbf{u}_{n}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{n}) + V_{n+1} (\mathbf{x}_{n+1}) \right]$$

$$V_n(\mathbf{x}_n) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_n} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{x}_n^T \mathbf{Q}_n \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{u}_n^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_n \right) + V_{n+1}(\mathbf{x}_{n+1}) \right]$$

### Solvable example: Linear-Quadratic-Regulator control.

Assume that the cost-to-go function has a quadratic form:

$$V_{k+1}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{x}_{k+1}$$

Substituting this into the Bellman equation gives

$$V_{k}(\mathbf{x}) = \min_{u} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} \right]$$
$$= \min_{u} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right)^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) \right]$$

Then, by minimizing with respect to **u**,

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{B}^{T} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{A}^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{B}^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} \right) \right]$$
$$= \left( \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{B} \right) \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{B}^{T} \mathbf{S}_{k+1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k}$$

A feedback control law is obtained:

$$\mathbf{u}_{k} = -\left(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{B}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{k} = -\mathbf{L}_{k}\mathbf{x}_{k}$$

### Solvable example: Linear-Quadratic-Regulator control.

Substituting the control law

$$\mathbf{u}_{k} = -\left(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{B}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{k} = -\mathbf{L}_{k}\mathbf{x}_{k}$$

into the Bellman equation gives

$$V_k\left(\mathbf{x}_k\right) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{S}_k \mathbf{x}_k = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_k^T \left[ \mathbf{Q}_k + \mathbf{A} \left( \mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{-1} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A} \right] \mathbf{x}_k$$

Therefore a backward recursive equation for the matrix S is obtained.

$$\mathbf{S}_{k} = \mathbf{Q}_{k} + \mathbf{A}^{T} \left( \mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{-1} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{T} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}$$

Solvable example: Linear-Quadratic-Regulator control.

Backward recursion equation for the matrix S:

$$\mathbf{S}_{k} = \mathbf{Q}_{k} + \mathbf{A}^{T} \left( \mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{-1} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{T} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}$$

with the terminal condition  $\mathbf{S}_N = \mathbf{Q}_N$ 

Feedback control law:

where 
$$\mathbf{L}_{k} = -\mathbf{L}_{k}\mathbf{X}_{k}$$
  
where  $\mathbf{L}_{k} = \left(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{B}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}\mathbf{A}$ 

Therefore, once the matrices  $\{\mathbf{S}_0, ..., \mathbf{S}_N\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{L}_0, ..., \mathbf{L}_{N-1}\}$  are obtained, the optimal feedback control signals  $\{\mathbf{u}_0, ..., \mathbf{u}_{N-1}\}$  can be computed.

### Deterministic and stochastic optimal control.

Deterministic Optimal Control

$$J(\mathbf{u}_{0}, \mathbf{u}_{1}, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}; \mathbf{x}_{0}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N}$$
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} \\ \mathbf{y}_{k} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x}_{k} \end{cases}$$

Stochastic Optimal Control

$$J(\mathbf{u}_{0},\mathbf{u}_{1},\cdots,\mathbf{u}_{N-1};\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{0}) = \mathbf{E} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N} \right]_{\mathbf{w},\mathbf{v}}$$
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{w}_{k} \\ \mathbf{y}_{k} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{v}_{k} \end{cases}$$

#### Stochastic optimal control combines Kalman filter and feedback control.

Stochastic Optimal Control

$$J(\mathbf{u}_{0},\mathbf{u}_{1},\cdots,\mathbf{u}_{N-1};\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{0}) = \mathbf{E} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( \mathbf{x}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{k} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{u}_{k}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_{k} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_{N}^{T} \mathbf{Q}_{N} \mathbf{x}_{N} \end{bmatrix}_{\mathbf{w},\mathbf{v}} \\ \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{w}_{k} \\ \mathbf{y}_{k} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x}_{k} + \mathbf{v}_{k} \end{cases}$$

Optimal state estimation<br/>(Kalman Filter) $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{K}_k (\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{C}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k)$ Feedback controller $\mathbf{u}_k = -\mathbf{L}_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}_k$ 

### Optimal feedback control as a model of motor control.

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{u}_k \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k$$
$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_k + \boldsymbol{\omega}_k$$

$$J(\mathbf{u}_0, \mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{N-1}; \hat{\mathbf{x}}_0, \Sigma_0) = \mathbf{E} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( \mathbf{x}_k^T \mathbf{Q}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u}_k \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_N^T \mathbf{Q}_N \mathbf{x}_N \right]_{\varepsilon, \mathbf{\omega}}$$

Todorov & Jordan (2002) Nature Neurosci

### Optimal feedback control as a model of motor control.

Kalman filter:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_{k} + \mathbf{K}_{k}\left(\mathbf{y}_{k} - \mathbf{H}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k}\right)$$
$$\mathbf{K}_{k} = \mathbf{A}\Sigma_{k}^{\mathbf{e}}\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{T}}\left(\mathbf{H}\Sigma_{k}^{\mathbf{e}}\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{\Omega}^{\omega}\right)^{-1}$$
$$\Sigma_{k+1}^{\mathbf{e}} = \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{K}_{k}\mathbf{H}\right)\Sigma_{k}^{\mathbf{e}}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{L}_{k}\Sigma_{k}^{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{L}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{C}^{\mathrm{T}}; \quad \Sigma_{1}^{\mathbf{e}} = \Sigma_{1}$$
$$\Sigma_{k+1}^{\hat{\mathbf{x}}} = \mathbf{K}_{k}\mathbf{H}\Sigma_{k}^{\mathbf{e}}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} + \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{L}_{k}\right)\Sigma_{k}^{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}\left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{L}_{k}\right)^{T}; \quad \Sigma_{1}^{\hat{\mathbf{x}}} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{T}$$

Feedback control:

$$\mathbf{u}_k = -\mathbf{L}_k \hat{\mathbf{x}}_k$$

$$\mathbf{L}_{k} = \left(\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{C}^{\mathrm{T}}\left(\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{e}}\right)\mathbf{C}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{A}$$
$$\mathbf{S}_{k}^{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}_{k} + \mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{x}}\left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{L}_{k}\right); \quad \mathbf{S}_{N}^{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}_{N}$$
$$\mathbf{S}_{k}^{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{L}_{k} + \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{K}_{k}\mathbf{H}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{S}_{k+1}^{\mathbf{e}}\left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{K}_{k}\mathbf{H}\right); \quad \mathbf{S}_{N}^{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{0}$$

#### Todorov & Jordan (2002) Nature Neurosci; Todorov (2005) Neural Comput

#### Computational neuroanatomy for motor control.



Shadmehr & Krakauer (2008); Haar & Donchin (2019)

### Matlab code: optimal feedback control model.

#### for iter = 1:MaxIter

```
% initialize covariances
SiE = S1;
SiX = x1*x1';
SiXE = zeros(szX,szX);
% forward pass - recompute Kalman filter
for k = 1:N-1
% compute Kalman gain
temp = SiE + SiX + SiXE + SiXE';
if size(D,2)==1,
DSiD = diag(diag(temp).*D.^2);
else
```

```
DSiD = zeros(szY,szY);
for i=1:szD
    DSiD = DSiD + D(:,:,i)*temp*D(:,:,i)';
end;
```

```
end;
```

K(:,:,k) = A\*SiE\*H'\*pinv(H\*SiE\*H'+D0\*D0'+DSiD);

```
% compute new SiE
```

for i=1:szC
 newE = newE + B\*C(:,:,i)\*LSiL\*C(:,:,i)'\*B';
end;

```
end;
```

#### % update SiX, SiE, SiXE

```
SiX = E0*E0' + K(:,:,k)*H*SiE*A' + (A-B*L(:,:,k))*SiX*(A-B*L(:,:,k))' + ...
(A-B*L(:,:,k))*SiXE*H'*K(:,:,k)' + K(:,:,k)*H*SiXE'*(A-B*L(:,:,k))';
SiE = newE;
SiXE = (A-B*L(:,:,k))*SiXE*(A-K(:,:,k)*H)' - E0*E0';
end:
```

#### *c.....*,

% initialize optimal cost-to-go function Sx = Q(:,:,N); Se = zeros(szX,szX); Cost(iter) = 0;

 $\$  backward pass - recompute control policy for k=N-1:-1:1

```
% update Cost
Cost(iter) = Cost(iter) + trace(Sx*CO*CO') + ...
trace(Se*(K(:,:,k)*DO*DO'*K(:,:,k)' + EO*EO' + CO*CO'));
% Controller
```

```
temp = R + B'*Sx*B;
BSxeB = B'*(Sx+Se)*B;
if size(C,2)==1,
    temp = temp + diag(diag(BSxeB).*C.^2);
else
    for i=1:size(C,3)
        temp = temp + C(:,:,i)'*BSxeB*C(:,:,i);
    end;
end;
L(:,:,k) = pinv(temp)*B'*Sx*A;
```

```
% compute new Se
```

```
newE = A'*Sx*B*L(:,:,k) + (A-K(:,:,k)*H)'*Se*(A-K(:,:,k)*H);
```

```
% update Sx and Se
```

```
Sx = Q(:,:,k) + A'*Sx*(A-B*L(:,:,k));
KSeK = K(:,:,k)'*Se*K(:,:,k);
if size(D,2) ==1,
Sx = Sx + diag(diag(KSeK).*D.^2);
else
for i=1:szD
Sx = Sx + D(:,:,i)'*KSeK*D(:,:,i);
end;
end;
Se = newE;
end;
```

```
% adjust cost
Cost(iter) = Cost(iter) + X1'*Sx*X1 + trace((Se+Sx)*S1);
```

```
% progress bar
if ~rem(iter,10),
    fprintf('.');
end;
```

% check convergence of Cost if (Niter>0 & iter>=Niter) | ... (Niter==0 & iter>1 & abs(Cost(iter-1)-Cost(iter))<Eps) | ... (Niter==0 & iter>20 & sum(diff(dist(iter-10:iter))>0)>3), break; end; end;

#### Todorov & Jordan (2002) Nature Neurosci; Todorov (2005) Neural Comput

#### Matlab code: optimal feedback control model.



Todorov & Jordan (2002) Nature Neurosci; Todorov (2005) Neural Comput

### Infinite-horizon optimal feedback control.

Stochastic dynamics with signal- and state-dependent noises:

$$d\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u})dt + \mathbf{F}\mathbf{x}d\beta + \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{u}d\gamma + \mathbf{G}d\omega,$$
$$d\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}dt + \mathbf{D}d\xi$$

Infinite-horizon cost:

$$J = J_1 + J_2 = \lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{E} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{U} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \right] + \mathbf{E} \left[ \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \left( \mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} \right) dt \right]$$

$$d\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u})dt + \mathbf{K}(d\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{C}\hat{\mathbf{x}}dt),$$
$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{L}\hat{\mathbf{x}}.$$

In infinite-horizon optimal feedback control, the Kalman gain  $(\mathbf{K})$  and the feedback gain  $(\mathbf{L})$  are time invariant.

Phillis (1985) IEEE Trans Auto Contr; Qian et al. (2013) Neural Comput

### Bimanual coordination explained by OFC model.



### Motor adaptation as reoptimization.



Field uncertainty









Izawa et al. (2008) J Neurosci

### Movement as a real-time decision making process.



$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}dt + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}dt + \mathbf{B}\sum_{i}\mathbf{C}_{i}\mathbf{u}\,\eta_{i}$$

$$J = \int_0^\infty \left( \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} \right) dt$$

 $\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}$ 

Algebraic Riccatti equation:

$$0 = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{P}$$
$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^T\mathbf{P}$$

The Riccatti equation for the optimal feedback gain requires explicit knowledge of the forward model (the matrices **A** and **B**)!

Algebraic Riccatti equation:

$$0 = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{P}$$

Iterative solution to the Riccatti equation:

$$0 = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K}_k)^T \mathbf{P}_k + \mathbf{P}_k (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K}_k) + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{K}_k \mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}_k$$
$$\mathbf{K}_{k+1} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P}_k$$

1) A – BK is Hurwitz.  
2) 
$$P^* \leq P_{k+1} \leq P_k$$
  
3)  $K_k \rightarrow K^*$  and  $P_k \rightarrow P^*$ 

Algebraic Riccatti equation:

$$0 = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{P}$$

Iterative solution to the Riccatti equation:

$$0 = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K}_k)^T \mathbf{P}_k + \mathbf{P}_k (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{K}_k) - \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{K}_k \mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}_k$$
$$\mathbf{K}_{k+1} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{P}_k$$

1) A – BK is Hurwitz.  
2) 
$$P^* \leq P_{k+1} \leq P_k$$
  
3)  $K_k \rightarrow K^*$  and  $P_k \rightarrow P^*$ 

Problem: In determining optimal policy, the system matrices need to be known:

$$0 = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{P}$$

How can optimal policy be derived without assuming the direct knowledge of the system matrices?

Solution: Note that

$$0 = \mathbf{x}^{T} \left[ \mathbf{A}^{T} \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{P} \right] \mathbf{x} dt$$
$$= d \left( \mathbf{x}^{T} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x} \right) + \mathbf{x}^{T} \left[ \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{K}^{T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K} \right] \mathbf{x} dt$$

Therefore, the knowledge of  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B})$  is replaced with the knowledge of  $d\mathbf{x}$ .

By integrating over an infinitesimal interval:

$$0 = d\left(\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}\right) + \mathbf{x}^{T}\left[\mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{K}^{T}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}\right]\mathbf{x}dt$$

By integrating over an infinitesimal interval:

$$\mathbf{x}^{T}(t+\delta t)\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}(t+\delta t)-\mathbf{x}^{T}(t)\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}(t)=-\int_{t}^{t+\delta t}\mathbf{x}^{T}\left[\mathbf{Q}+\mathbf{K}^{T}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}\right]\mathbf{x}dt$$

Therefore, without knowing the system dynamics, the matrices **P** and **K** are determined.







# Summary

- Feedforward and feedback control differ in stochastic dynamics.
- Signal-dependent control noise contributes to trial-bytrial motor variability.
- Movement accuracy under signal-dependent noise models human movements.
- Optimal feedback control (OFC) integrates state estimation and motor control in a single computational framework.
- A number of psychophysical experiments can be explained by the OFC model.

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- Write a Matlab code of the minimum-variance model for a trajectory with given initial and final positions.
- Write a Matlab code of the optimal feedback control for a trajectory with given initial and final positions.
- Investigate how the minimum-variance model and the optimal feedback model differ.