

Appendix The smoothness condition for a Vold-Kalman filter

Howell (2001) defines the smoothness condition as follows:

To be smooth over an interval (α, β) , a function $x(t)$ must satisfy two conditions:

- $x(t)$ must be differentiable (and hence continuous) everywhere on (α, β) , and
- $x'(t)$ must also be a continuous function on (α, β)

This requires further definition of the terms continuous and differentiable (Howell, 2001):

A function $x(t)$ is continuous at a point t_0 if $x(t_0)$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x(t)$ both exist and $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x(t) = x(t_0)$.

A function $x(t)$ is differentiable at a point t if and only if $\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t + \Delta t) - x(t)}{\Delta t}$ exist. If $x(t)$ is differentiable at every point in a given interval (α, β) , then $x(t)$ is said to be differentiable on the interval (α, β) .

These concepts can now be applied to the structural equation for a 2-pole filter as given by Tuma at equation (2.3) in chapter 2,

$$x(n) - 2x(n+1) + x(n+2) = \varepsilon(n)$$

Illustration:

For a 2-pole Vold-Kalman filter, the sequence as filtered according to the structural equation may be written as $x(n) = 2x(n+1) - x(n+2) + \varepsilon(n)$ (equation

(2.4) in chapter 2). If adjusting it to be continuous form, it becomes $x(t) = 2x(t + \Delta t) - x(t + 2\Delta t) + \varepsilon(t)$. Since $\varepsilon(t)$ is the error which is minimized by global solution of the data and structural equations (Tuma, 2005), it may be neglected for the purposes of the illustration, and the equation becomes $x(t) = 2x(t + \Delta t) - x(t + 2\Delta t)$.

From the above, smoothness now requires that $x(t)$ must be differentiable (and hence continuous) everywhere on certain interval (α, β) and $x'(t)$ must also be a continuous function on (α, β) .

Differentiability

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t + \Delta t) - x(t)}{\Delta t} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{2x(t + \Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t + \Delta t + 2\Delta t) - 2x(t + \Delta t) + x(t + 2\Delta t)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{0} = 1$$

The limit will always exist. Thus, this function is differentiable (and hence continuous).

Continuity of $x'(t)$

Since $x(t)$ is differentiable, then $x'(t) = 2x'(t + \Delta t) - x'(t + 2\Delta t)$, thus

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} 2x'(t + \Delta t) - x'(t + 2\Delta t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} 2x'(t + \Delta t) - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t + 2\Delta t)$$

\Rightarrow

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \left[\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} 2 \frac{x(t + \Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t + \Delta t)}{\Delta t} \right] - \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \left[\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t + 2\Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t + 2\Delta t)}{\Delta t} \right]$$

Swap the limits and notice that $x(t)$ is differentiable and hence continuous,

then $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x(t) = x(t_0)$, thus,



$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} 2 \frac{x(t + \Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t + \Delta t)}{\Delta t} \right] - \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{x(t + 2\Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t + 2\Delta t)}{\Delta t} \right]$$

\Rightarrow

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} 2 \frac{x(t_0 + \Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t_0 + \Delta t)}{\Delta t} - \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t_0 + 2\Delta t + \Delta t) - x(t_0 + 2\Delta t)}{\Delta t}$$

\Rightarrow

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} x'(t) = 2x'(t_0 + \Delta t) - x'(t_0 + 2\Delta t) = x'(t_0)$$

So $x'(t)$ is continuous.

From the above the filtered signal from 2-pole Vold-Kalman filter is continuous and smooth. Similar procedures may be applied to 1 and 3 pole filters.

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