

## Problem Set 1

1. In the scalar example of section 1.6, show that the analysis error is uncorrelated with the observation increment, i.e.

$$\langle \epsilon^a (\epsilon^{\text{obs}} - \epsilon^b) \rangle = 0.$$

2. In the simple scalar example, suppose that the observation and background errors are now biased, i.e.

$$\langle \epsilon^{\text{obs}} \rangle = b^{\text{obs}}, \quad \langle \epsilon^b \rangle = b^b.$$

Construct new variables that are unbiased:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}^{\text{obs}} &= x^{\text{obs}} - b^{\text{obs}} \\ \tilde{x}^b &= x^b - b^b. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

- (a) Form the analysis equation in terms of errors.  
 (b) Show that  $\langle x^a - x^t \rangle = 0$ .  
 (c) Find  $W$  that minimizes  $\langle (\epsilon^a)^2 \rangle$ .
3. a) Consider a Gaussian variable,  $x$ , with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Let  $y = ax + b$ . What is the pd.f. of  $y$ ?  
 b) Show that the linear transformation of a normally distributed vector is also normally distributed. That is, show that for a given normally distributed vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , with mean  $\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$  and covariance  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{x}}$ , the linear transformation

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$$

produces a normally distributed vector  $\mathbf{y}$  with mean  $\mu_{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A}\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{b}$  and covariance  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{A}^T$ .

4. Consider the following three distributions:

1) Uniform:

$$p_x(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}, & \text{if } -\sqrt{3} \leq x \leq \sqrt{3} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

2) Triangular:

$$p_x(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{(\sqrt{6}+x)}{6}, & \text{if } -\sqrt{6} \leq x \leq 0 \\ \frac{(\sqrt{6}-x)}{6}, & \text{if } 0 < x \leq \sqrt{6} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{3}$$

3) Gaussian, where  $x$  is  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ :

$$p_x(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{x^2}{2}\right\} \quad (4)$$

a) Plot these curves for  $x=-4.0:0.1:4.0$  .

```
x=-4.0:.1:4.0;
plot(x,uniform(x),x,triang(x),x,gauss(0,1,x))
```

The script names should end in ".m". As an example, here is gauss.m

```
function y=gauss(mean,sig,x)
n=size(x,2);
y=zeros(1,n);
y=(1/sqrt(2*pi*sig)).*exp(-0.5.*((x-mean)/sig).^2);
```

Note that a dot before an operator indicates a matrix operation.

b) What is the mean and variance for each distribution? Calculate this by hand, not numerically.

c) The MATLAB function RAND(n,1) generates n samples from a uniformly distributed r.v. in the interval (0,1). Using this, generate n samples of the uniform p.d.f. in (1). Plot the sample p.d.f. for a number of different n's. What is a value of n that will produce a good description of the true p.d.f.? Use hist(y,x) to produce a histogram of function y over the x-grid.

d) Repeat part (c) except for the normal distribution using the MATLAB function RANDN.

5. Consider the bivariate Gaussian p.d.f.:

$$p_{xy}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{1-\rho^2}\sigma_x\sigma_y} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}\left[\frac{(x-\mu_x)^2}{\sigma_x^2} - 2\rho\frac{(x-\mu_x)(y-\mu_y)}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} + \frac{(y-\mu_y)^2}{\sigma_y^2}\right]\right\}.$$

a) Show that the marginal densities  $p_x(x)$  and  $p_y(y)$  are Gaussian. It is sufficient to show that  $p_x(x)$  is Gaussian and note the symmetric roles of  $x$  and  $y$  in the definition of  $p_{xy}(x, y)$ .

b) Show that the conditional p.d.f. of  $p_{x|y}(x|y)$  is  $\mathcal{N}(\mu_{x|y}, \sigma_{x|y}^2)$  where  $\mu_{x|y} = \mu_x + \rho\sigma_x(y - \mu_y)/\sigma_y$  and  $\sigma_{x|y}^2 = \sigma_x^2(1 - \rho^2)$ .