

BATCH LEAST SQUARES DIFFERENTIAL CORRECTION OF A GEOCENTRIC ORBIT

PART 1 - TEST CASE SPECIFICATION WORKSHEET

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This worksheet defines a test case for the GDC worksheet. GDC implements the equations of weighted batch least squares differential correction (DC) of a geocentric orbit.

The test case employs 48 radar (type 3) observations of the hyperbolic Earth 1 flyby trajectory of the Galileo spacecraft, which occurred on 1990 December 8. Of these observations, 31 are from the Millstone Hill radar in Massachusetts and 17 are from the ALTAIR radar on Kwajalein atoll in the Marshall Islands [1].

Here now is an outline of the steps we will follow in this worksheet:

1. Specify the observations and the weight matrix, W.
2. Specify the observers' coordinates and calculate the observer's ECI equatorial position and velocity at each observation time.
3. Calculate the N-by-1 "observed" measurements vector, Y.
4. Specify the initial estimate of state, X_o.
5. Write test case specification values to disk for use by worksheet GDC.

(To create other test cases for GDC, simply duplicate this worksheet, rename as "GD2", "GD3", etc., and modify as desired.)

As a preliminary, we define some constants that we will need and set the Mathcad worksheet ORIGIN to 1 so that subscripts start at unity rather than at zero.

$$DegPerRad := \frac{180}{\pi}$$

ORIGIN $\equiv 1$

$$a_e := 6378.135$$

Earth's mean equatorial radius in km:

1. Specify the observations and the weight matrix, W.

Specify time (**t**), azimuth or right ascension (**AZRA**), and elevation or declination (**ELDEC**) for observations 1 through n. Note that time is reckoned in days since January 0.0 UTC of the year of the observations, and that **RA** and **DEC** are referred to the true equator and mean equinox of date.

$$Obs := \text{READPRN}("GALE1OBS.TXT")$$

(Retrieve observations matrix from text file GALE1OBS.)

3	369	1990	342	20	31	12.902	100.117	9.138	3412.5	-9.70518	1	
3	369	1990	342	20	31	29.762	103.054	9.951	3252.568	-9.2552	2	
3	369	1990	342	20	31	41.192	105.219	10.479	3148.74	-8.90687	3	
3	369	1990	342	20	31	57.391	108.542	11.186	3008.883	-8.34606	4	
3	369	1990	342	20	32	11.491	111.697	11.792	2895.064	-7.7869	5	
3	369	1990	342	20	32	26.761	115.416	12.429	2781.286	-7.10057	6	
3	369	1990	342	20	32	43.16	119.754	13.066	2671.565	-6.26255	7	
3	369	1990	342	20	32	57.56	123.868	13.569	2587.223	-5.43778	8	
3	369	1990	342	20	33	12.91	128.551	14.018	2511.078	-4.46865	9	
3	369	1990	342	20	33	28.16	133.474	14.354	2450.825	-3.4203	10	
3	369	1990	342	20	33	42.435	138.287	14.55	2409.406	-2.37356	11	
3	369	1990	342	20	33	57.133	143.389	14.613	2382.749	-1.24667	12	
3	369	1990	342	20	34	12.233	148.711	14.523	2372.858	-0.0606	13	
3	369	1990	342	20	34	27.259	154.001	14.278	2380.845	1.1219	14	
3	369	1990	342	20	34	45.06	160.143	13.79	2413.065	2.48885	15	
3	369	1990	342	20	34	56.91	164.101	13.364	2447.755	3.35996	16	
3	369	1990	342	20	35	12.959	169.24	12.684	2510.719	4.47111	17	
3	369	1990	342	20	35	27.709	173.686	11.967	2583.702	5.41052	18	
3	369	1990	342	20	35	42.809	177.947	11.185	2672.11	6.28377	19	
3	369	1990	342	20	35	55.56	181.301	10.496	2756.547	6.95007	20	
3	369	1990	342	20	36	11.861	185.269	9.601	2876.161	7.70962	21	
3	369	1990	342	20	36	26.887	188.615	8.773	2996.711	8.32301	22	
3	369	1990	342	20	36	42.986	191.89	7.898	3135.439	8.89598	23	
3	369	1990	342	20	36	57.187	194.539	7.134	3264.959	9.33582	24	
Obs =	3	369	1990	342	20	37	12.263	197.117	6.554	3408.853	9.74371	25
	3	369	1990	342	20	37	27.65	199.524	5.764	3561.621	10.10375	26
3	369	1990	342	20	37	50.158	202.683	4.673	3794.18	10.54442	27	
3	369	1990	342	20	37	59.999	203.947	4.309	3898.753	10.70907	28	
3	369	1990	342	20	38	13.808	205.604	3.756	4048.095	10.9149	29	
3	369	1990	342	20	38	42.231	208.651	2.556	4363.482	11.26064	30	
3	369	1990	342	20	39	14.157	211.609	1.336	4727.887	11.55098	31	
3	334	1990	342	20	56	57.36	116.692	4.0863	14962.12	7.06205	32	
3	334	1990	342	20	57	31.063	117.363	5.1005	15202.15	7.18192	33	
3	334	1990	342	20	58	38.418	118.687	7.0034	15693.46	7.40212	34	
3	334	1990	342	20	59	48.026	119.964	8.8774	16215.9	7.60521	35	
3	334	1990	342	21	5	59.927	126.016	17.0369	19200.38	8.36744	36	
3	334	1990	342	21	9	12.433	128.699	20.3043	20836.15	8.61438	37	
3	334	1990	342	21	12	14.951	130.993	22.9759	22425.13	8.78941	38	
3	334	1990	342	21	15	33.913	133.411	25.5149	24188.78	8.93239	39	
3	334	1990	342	21	18	24.315	135.32	27.4562	25719.2	9.02612	40	
3	334	1990	342	21	22	30.877	137.872	29.7652	27957.86	9.12737	41	
3	334	1990	342	21	25	43.388	139.772	31.3856	29720.82	9.18587	42	
3	334	1990	342	21	29	38.381	142.071	33.1927	31890.69	9.23974	43	
3	334	1990	342	21	34	23.095	144.641	34.9984	34523.8	9.28632	44	
3	334	1990	342	21	38	33.315	146.874	36.4518	36851.26	9.31554	45	
3	334	1990	342	21	41	44.34	148.506	37.4251	38632.44	9.33247	46	
3	334	1990	342	21	43	45.381	149.548	37.9752	39762.59	9.34135	47	
3	334	1990	342	21	45	46.579	150.52	38.5321	40895.21	9.34892	48	

$$n := \text{rows}(Obs)$$

$$n = 48$$

Note that there are 48 radar (type 3) obs consisting of Az, El, Range, and Range Rate measurements. Thus N, the total number of measurements, is $N = 4 \times 48 = 192$.

We define and then invoke the procedural functions **Time**, **AzRA**, and **ElDec** to extract and convert the **t**, **AZRA**, and **ELDEC** observation vectors, respectively, for n observations.

$$\begin{aligned} Time(k) := & \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} t_i \leftarrow Obs_{i,4} + \frac{Obs_{i,5}}{24} + \frac{Obs_{i,6}}{1440} + \frac{Obs_{i,7}}{86400} \\ t \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

$t := Time(n)$ Times are in days since 1996 January 0.0 UTC.

$$\begin{aligned} AzRA(k) := & \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} AZRA_i \leftarrow \frac{Obs_{i,8}}{DegPerRad} \\ AZRA \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

$AZRA := AzRA(n)$
Azimuths and R.A.s are in radians.

$$\begin{aligned} ElDec(k) := & \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} ELDEC_i \leftarrow \frac{Obs_{i,9}}{DegPerRad} \\ ELDEC \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

$ELDEC := ElDec(n)$
Elevations and Declinations are in radians.

We will also need to specify **OBTYPE** in order to have the observation type for each observation, and will need to extract and convert **RANGE** (range) and **RANGER** (range rate) for each type 3 observation.

$$\begin{aligned} ObType(k) := & \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} Type_i \leftarrow Obs_{i,1} \\ Type \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

$$OBTYPE := ObType(n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Range(k) := & \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} RANGE_i \leftarrow \frac{Obs_{i,10}}{a_e} \\ RANGE \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

$$RangeRt(k) := \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| \begin{array}{l} RANGER_i \leftarrow \frac{Obs_{i,11} \cdot 60}{a_e} \\ RANGER \end{array} \right\| \end{array} \right\|$$

$RANGE := Range(n)$ $RANGER := RangeRt(n)$

Ranges are in E.R.

Range Rates are in E.R./min.

Count and output N, the number of measurements in the n observations:

```

Count(k) := || j ← 0           N := Count(n)
             || for i ∈ 1 .. k
             |||| if OBTYPEi = 5 | N = 192
             |||| j ← j + 2 |
             |||| if OBTYPEi = 3 | WRITEPRN("NMEAS.prn", N) = [ 192 ]
             |||| j ← j + 4 |
             ||| j
WEIGHT(k) := || for i ∈ 1 .. k
             ||| for j ∈ 1 .. k
             |||| if i = j | Wi,j ← 1
             |||| else | Wi,j ← 0
             ||| W
W := WEIGHT(N)

```

2. Input the observers' geographical coordinates. Use Newcomb's equation for the right ascension of Greenwich, as a function of time elapsed since January 0.0 UTC of the year of interest, to calculate the observer's ECI position at each observation time. Note that θ_{GO} is for 1990 January 0.0 UTC.

 $Sensor := READPRN("SENSORS.TXT")$ $NSen := \text{rows}(Sensor)$ $NSen = 2$

$$\theta_G(days) := \text{mod}\left(\frac{99.39796}{\text{DegPerRad}} + \frac{360.98564735}{\text{DegPerRad}} \cdot days, 2 \cdot \pi\right)$$

We need in **SENPOS** the Earth constant e_e , defined in terms of the Earth constant f.

$$f := \frac{1}{298.26}$$

Earth's polar vs. equatorial flattening factor.

$$e_e := \sqrt{2 \cdot f - f^2}$$

Eccentricity of Earth's meridional reference ellipse.

```

SENPOS(k) := | for i ∈ 1 .. k
                |   for j ∈ 1 .. NSen
                |     if Sensorj, 1 = Obsi, 2
                |       Sensorj, 2
                |       φ ←  $\frac{\text{Sensor}_{j, 2}}{\text{DegPerRad}}$ 
                |       Sensorj, 3
                |       λ ←  $\frac{\text{Sensor}_{j, 3}}{\text{DegPerRad}}$ 
                |       H ← Sensorj, 4
                |
                |       θ ← θG(ti) + λ
                |
                |       G1 ←  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - e_e^2 \cdot \sin(\phi)^2}} + \frac{H}{a_e}$ 
                |
                |       G2 ←  $\frac{1 - e_e^2}{\sqrt{1 - e_e^2 \cdot \sin(\phi)^2}} + \frac{H}{a_e}$ 
                |
                |       R(i) ←  $\begin{bmatrix} G_1 \cdot \cos(\phi) \cdot \cos(\theta) \\ G_1 \cdot \cos(\phi) \cdot \sin(\theta) \\ G_2 \cdot \sin(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$ 
                |
                |   -R

```

$$R := SENPOS(n)$$

$$R^T = \begin{bmatrix} -0.50869258 & 0.53334322 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.50934792 & 0.5327174 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.50979175 & 0.53229268 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51042017 & 0.53169012 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51096658 & 0.53116503 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51155771 & 0.53059574 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51219185 & 0.52998362 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51274809 & 0.52944549 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.5133404 & 0.52887122 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51392821 & 0.52830003 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51447786 & 0.52776477 & -0.67361589 \\ -0.51504322 & 0.52721306 & -0.67361589 \\ & & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

(Show R-transpose.) to avoided forcing worksheet from Page to Draft mode.)

Calculate ECI velocities (we only need for type 3 observations containing range rate measurements, but we will do for all observations).

$$\theta_{dot} := \frac{360.98561229}{DegPerRad \cdot 1440}$$

Earth's rotation rate in rad/min,
relative to the fixed equinox.

$$SENVEL(k, R) := \left\| \begin{array}{l} \text{for } i \in 1..k \\ \quad \left\| V^{(i)} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} -\theta_{dot} \cdot R_{2,i} \\ \theta_{dot} \cdot R_{1,i} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\| \\ \quad \left\| V \right\| \end{array} \right\|$$

$$V := SENVEL(n, R)$$

There are 48 columns in V.

$$V^T = \begin{bmatrix} -0.00233352 & -0.00222567 & 0 \\ -0.00233078 & -0.00222853 & 0 \\ -0.00232892 & -0.00223048 & 0 \\ -0.00232629 & -0.00223323 & 0 \\ -0.00232399 & -0.00223562 & 0 \\ -0.0023215 & -0.0022382 & 0 \\ -0.00231882 & -0.00224098 & 0 \\ -0.00231647 & -0.00224341 & 0 \\ -0.00231395 & -0.002246 & 0 \\ -0.00231145 & -0.00224857 & 0 \\ -0.00230911 & -0.00225098 & 0 \\ -0.0023067 & -0.00225345 & 0 \\ \vdots & & \end{bmatrix}$$

(Show V-transpose.) to
avoided forcing
worksheet from Page to
Draft mode.)

When we have type 3 observations, we need to calculate and write to disk for use by GDC the **SEZ** matrices, i.e., the topocentric-to-ECI transformation matrices for the type 3 obs. Otherwise, we would need to pass the observers' coordinates to GDC for **SEZ** matrix calculations there. (For algorithmic simplicity, we will calculate **SEZ** matrices for all of the observations.)

$$SEZ(\phi, \theta) := \begin{bmatrix} \sin(\phi) \cdot \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \cdot \cos(\phi) \\ \sin(\phi) \cdot \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \cdot \cos(\phi) \\ -\cos(\phi) & 0 & \sin(\phi) \end{bmatrix}$$

```

SEZCalc(k) := for i ∈ 1 .. k
    for j ∈ 1 .. NSen
        if Sensorj,1 = Obsi,2
            φ ← Sensorj,2
            φ ← φ / DegPerRad
            λ ← Sensorj,3
            λ ← λ / DegPerRad
            θ ← θG(ti) + λ
            M ← SEZ(φ, θ)
            if i = 1
                Table ← M
            else
                Table ← stack(Table, M)
    Table

```

WRITEPRN("SEZMATS.prn", SEZCalc(n)) =

0.46732561	0.72363181	0.50790135
-0.48997165	0.69018621	-0.53251364
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.46792765	0.72278271	0.50855566
-0.48939673	0.69107536	-0.5318888
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.4683354	0.72220646	0.50899881
-0.48900655	0.69167755	-0.53146474
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.46891271	0.72138891	0.50962625
-0.48845298	0.69253017	-0.53086311
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.46941468	0.72067648	0.5101718
-0.4879706	0.69327153	-0.53033884
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.46995775	0.71990407	0.51076202
-0.4874476	0.69407358	-0.52977043
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.47054032	0.71907356	0.51139517
-0.48688526	0.69493397	-0.52915927
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
0.47105132	0.71834344	0.51195054
-0.48639089	0.69568866	-0.52862198
-0.73589031	0	0.67710077
		:

There are 144 rows in SEZMATS.

3. Calculate the N-by-1 observed measurements vector, Y.

```

YVALUES(k) := || N ← 0
                for i ∈ 1 .. k
                    if OBTYPEi = 5
                        || j ← N + 1
                        || Yj ← cos(ELDECi) • AZRAi
                        || Yj+1 ← ELDECi
                        || N ← N + 2
                    if OBTYPEi = 3
                        || j ← N + 1
                        || Yj ← RANGEi
                        || Yj+1 ← cos(ELDECi) • AZRAi
                        || Yj+2 ← ELDECi
                        || Yj+3 ← RANGERi
                        || N ← N + 4
                Y
    
```

$Y := YVALUES(n)$

(Note that function **YVALUES** converts n observations to N measurements.)

$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 0.53503101 \\ 1.72519487 \\ 0.15948819 \\ -0.09129797 \\ 0.50995597 \\ 1.77157281 \\ 0.17367771 \\ -0.08706495 \\ 0.49367723 \\ 1.80578953 \\ 0.18289305 \\ -0.08378816 \\ 0.47174966 \\ 1.85842629 \\ 0.19523253 \\ -0.07851254 \\ 0.45390447 \\ 1.90833845 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$

(Click on column vector and scroll down to see all entries.)

4. Specify the initial estimate of state, X_o . We will start with the ECI equatorial values of position and velocity from NASA's nominal elements.

$$r := \begin{bmatrix} 5265.5 \\ -4033.2 \\ 3129.0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{a_e}$$

$$v := \begin{bmatrix} -5.1968 \\ -11.2994 \\ -5.8342 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{60}{a_e}$$

$$X_o := \text{stack}(r, v)$$

$$\text{Epoch} := 342 + \frac{20}{24} + \frac{34}{1440} + \frac{34.006}{86400}$$

$$X_o = \begin{bmatrix} 0.82555481 \\ -0.63234786 \\ 0.49058228 \\ -0.04888702 \\ -0.10629502 \\ -0.05488313 \end{bmatrix}$$

(Note that the epoch of this state vector is the nominal burnout time specified by NASA, and that the units are E.R. for position and E.R. per minute for velocity.)

5. Write test case specification values to disk for use by worksheet GDC.

`WRITEPRN ("NOBS.prn", n) = [48]`

Number of observations.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 342.85501044 \\ 342.85520558 \\ 342.85533787 \\ 342.85552536 \\ 342.85568855 \\ 342.85586529 \\ 342.85605509 \\ 342.85622176 \\ 342.85639942 \\ 342.85657593 \\ 342.85674115 \\ 342.85691126 \\ 342.85708603 \\ 342.85725994 \\ 342.85746597 \\ 342.85760313 \\ 342.85778888 \\ 342.85795959 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation times.

`WRITEPRN ("TVALS.prn", t) =`

WRITERPRN("OBTYPES.prn", *OBTYPE*) =

Observation types.

(Number of measurements was written out at end of Step 1.)

Number of measurements, N.

WRITERPN ("WEIGHTS.prn", *W*) =

Values of R.

WRITERPRN(“RVALS.prn”,*R*) =
$$\begin{bmatrix} -0.50869258 & -0.50934792 & -0.50979175 \\ 0.53334322 & 0.5327174 & 0.53229268 \\ -0.67361589 & -0.67361589 & -0.67361589 \end{bmatrix} \dots$$

Values of \mathbf{V} .

WRITERPRN ("VVALS.prn", V) = $\begin{bmatrix} -0.00233352 & -0.00233078 & -0.00232892 \\ -0.00222567 & -0.00222853 & -0.00223048 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \dots$

(**SEZ** matrices were written out at the end of Step 2.)

Array of **SEZ** matrices for type 3 obs.

WRITEPRN (“YVALS.prn”, Y) =

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.53503101 \\ 1.72519487 \\ 0.15948819 \\ -0.09129797 \\ 0.50995597 \\ 1.77157281 \\ 0.17367771 \\ -0.08706495 \\ 0.49367723 \\ 1.80578953 \\ 0.18289305 \\ -0.08378816 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Values of Y .

WRITEPRN (“STATE.prn”, X_o) =

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.82555481 \\ -0.63234786 \\ 0.49058228 \\ -0.04888702 \\ -0.10629502 \\ -0.05488313 \end{bmatrix}$$

State vector
(corrected by GDC).

WRITEPRN (“EPOCH.prn”, $Epoch$) = [342.85733803]

Epoch of state vector.

WRITEPRN (“RMS.prn”, [0 0]) = [0 0]

RMS history for state corrections by GDC (one entry for each iteration).

REFERENCE

- [1] Mansfield, Roger L., "Algorithms for Reducing Radar Observations of a Hyperbolic Near Earth Flyby" *Journal of the Astronautical Sciences* (April-June 1993), pp. 249-259.

(See Mathcad worksheet GDC for additional references.)