

EE365: Linear Quadratic Stochastic Control

Continuous state Markov decision process

Affine and quadratic functions

Linear quadratic Markov decision process

Linear quadratic regulator

Linear quadratic trading

Outline

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Continuous state Markov decision problem

- ▶ dynamics: $x_{t+1} = f_t(x_t, u_t, w_t)$
- ▶ x_0, w_0, w_1, \dots independent
- ▶ stage cost: $g_t(x_t, u_t, w_t)$
- ▶ (state feedback) policy: $u_t = \mu_t(x_t)$
- ▶ choose policy to minimize

$$J = \mathbf{E} \left(\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} g_t(x_t, u_t, w_t) + g_T(x_T) \right)$$

- ▶ we consider the case $\mathcal{X} = \mathbf{R}^n, \mathcal{U} = \mathbf{R}^m$

Continuous state Markov decision problem

- ▶ many (mostly mathematical) pathologies can occur in this case
 - ▶ but not in the special case we'll consider
- ▶ a basic issue: how do you even *represent* the functions f_t , g_t , and μ_t ?
 - ▶ for n and m very small (say, 2 or 3) we can use *gridding*
 - ▶ we can give the coefficients in some (dense) basis of functions
 - ▶ most generally, we assume we have a method to compute function values, given the arguments
 - ▶ exponential growth that occurs in gridding is called *curse of dimensionality*

Continuous state Markov decision problem: Dynamic programming

▶ set $V_T(x) = g_T(x)$

▶ for $t = T - 1, \dots, 0$,

$$\mu_t(x) \in \operatorname{argmin}_u \mathbf{E} (g_t(x, u, w_t) + V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, w_t)))$$

$$V_t(x) = \mathbf{E} (g_t(x, \mu_t(x), w_t) + V_{t+1}(f_t(x, \mu_t(x), w_t)))$$

▶ this gives value functions and optimal policy, **in principle only**

▶ but you can't in general represent, much less compute, V_t or μ_t

Continuous state Markov decision problem: Dynamic programming

for DP to be tractable, f_t and g_t need to have special form for which we can

- ▶ represent V_t , μ_t in some tractable way
- ▶ carry out expectation and minimization in DP recursion

one of the few situations where this holds: **linear quadratic problems**

- ▶ f_t is an affine function of x_t , u_t ('linear dynamical system')
- ▶ g_t are convex quadratic functions of x_t , u_t

Linear quadratic problems

for linear quadratic problems

- ▶ value functions V_t^* are quadratic
- ▶ hence representable by their coefficients
- ▶ we can carry out the expectation and the minimization in DP recursion explicitly **using linear algebra**
- ▶ optimal policy functions are affine: $\mu_t^*(x) = K_t x + l_t$
- ▶ we can compute the coefficients K_t and l_t explicitly

in other words:

we can solve linear quadratic stochastic control problems in practice

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Affine functions

- ▶ $f : \mathbf{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^q$ is affine if it has the form

$$f(x) = Ax + b$$

i.e., it is a linear function plus a constant

- ▶ a linear function is special case, with $b = 0$
- ▶ affine functions closed under sum, scalar multiplication, composition (with explicit formulas for coefficients in each case)

Quadratic function

- ▶ $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is quadratic if it has the form

$$f(x) = (1/2)x^T P x + q^T x + (1/2)r$$

with $P = P^T \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ (the 1/2 on r is for convenience)

- ▶ often write as quadratic form in $(x, 1)$:

$$f(x) = (1/2) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} P & q \\ q^T & r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ special cases:

- ▶ quadratic form: $q = 0, r = 0$

- ▶ affine (linear) function: $P = 0$ ($P = 0, r = 0$)

- ▶ constant: $P = 0, q = 0$

- ▶ uniqueness: $f(x) = \tilde{f}(x) \iff P = \tilde{P}, q = \tilde{q}, r = \tilde{r}$

Calculus of quadratic functions

- ▶ quadratic functions on \mathbf{R}^n form a vector space of dimension

$$\frac{n(n+1)}{2} + n + 1$$

- ▶ *i.e.*, they are closed under addition, scalar multiplication

Composition of quadratic and affine functions

▶ suppose

▶ $f(z) = (1/2)z^T Pz + q^T z + (1/2)r$ is quadratic function on \mathbf{R}^m

▶ $g(x) = Ax + b$ is affine function from \mathbf{R}^n into \mathbf{R}^m

▶ then composition $h(x) = (f \circ g)(x) = f(Ax + b)$ is quadratic

▶ write $h(x)$ as

$$(1/2) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \left(\begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} P & q \\ q^T & r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

▶ so matrix multiplication gives us the coefficient matrix of h

Convexity and nonnegativity of a quadratic function

- ▶ f is convex (graph does not curve down) if and only if $P \geq 0$ (matrix inequality)
- ▶ f is strictly convex (graph curves up) if and only if $P > 0$ (matrix inequality)
- ▶ f is nonnegative (i.e., $f(x) \geq 0$ for all x) if and only if

$$\begin{bmatrix} P & q \\ q^T & r \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

- ▶ $f(x) > 0$ if and only if matrix inequality is strict
- ▶ nonnegative \Rightarrow convex

Checking convexity and nonnegativity

- ▶ we can check convexity or nonnegativity in $O(n^3)$ operations by eigenvalue decomposition, Cholesky factorization, ...
- ▶ composition with affine function preserves convexity, nonnegativity:

$$f \text{ convex, } g \text{ affine} \implies f \circ g \text{ convex}$$

- ▶ linear combination of convex quadratics, with nonnegative coefficients, is convex quadratic
- ▶ if $f(x, w)$ is convex quadratic in x for each w (a random variable) then

$$g(x) = \mathbf{E}_w f(x, w)$$

is convex quadratic (*i.e.*, convex quadratics closed under expectation)

Minimizing a quadratic

- ▶ if f is not convex, then $\min_x f(x) = -\infty$
- ▶ otherwise, x minimizes f if and only if $\nabla f(x) = Px + q = 0$
- ▶ for $q \notin \text{range}(P)$, $\min_x f(x) = -\infty$
- ▶ for $P > 0$, unique minimizer is $x = -P^{-1}q$
- ▶ minimum value is

$$\min_x f(x) = -(1/2)q^T P^{-1}q + (1/2)r$$

(a concave quadratic function of q)

- ▶ for case $P \geq 0$, $q \in \text{range}(P)$, replace P^{-1} with P^\dagger

Partial minimization of a quadratic

- ▶ suppose f is a quadratic function of (x, u) , convex in u
- ▶ then the partial minimization function

$$g(x) = \min_u f(x, u)$$

is a quadratic function of x ; if f is convex, so is g

- ▶ the minimizer $\operatorname{argmin}_u f(x, u)$ is an affine function of x
- ▶ minimizing a convex quadratic function over some variables yields a convex quadratic function of the remaining ones
- ▶ *i.e.*, convex quadratics closed under partial minimization

Partial minimization of a quadratic

- ▶ let's take

$$f(x, u) = (1/2) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} P_{xx} & P_{xu} & q_x \\ P_{ux} & P_{uu} & q_u \\ q_x^T & q_u^T & r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

with $P_{uu} > 0$, $P_{ux} = P_{xu}^T$

- ▶ minimizer of f over u satisfies

$$0 = \nabla_u f(x, u) = P_{uu} u + P_{ux} x + q_u$$

so $u = -P_{uu}^{-1}(P_{ux} x + q_u)$ is an affine function of x

Partial minimization of a quadratic

- ▶ substituting u into expression for f gives

$$g(x) = (1/2) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} P_{xx} - P_{xu} P_{uu}^{-1} P_{ux} & q_x - P_{xu} P_{uu}^{-1} q_u \\ q_x^T - q_u^T P_{uu}^{-1} P_{ux} & r - q_u P_{uu}^{-1} q_u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ $P_{xx} - P_{xu} P_{uu}^{-1} P_{ux}$ is the Schur complement of P w.r.t. u
- ▶ $P_{xx} - P_{xu} P_{uu}^{-1} P_{ux} \geq 0$ if $P \geq 0$
- ▶ or simpler: g is composition of f with affine function $x \mapsto (x, u)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ -P_{uu}^{-1} P_{ux} \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -P_{uu}^{-1} q_u \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ we already know how to form composition quadratic (affine)
- ▶ and the result is convex

Summary

convex quadratics are closed under

- ▶ addition
- ▶ expectation
- ▶ pre-composition with an affine function
- ▶ partial minimization

in each case, we can explicitly compute the coefficients of the result using linear algebra

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(Random) linear dynamical system

- ▶ dynamics $x_{t+1} = f_t(x_t, u_t, w_t) = A_t(w_t)x_t + B_t(w_t)u_t + c_t(w_t)$
- ▶ for each w_t , f_t is affine in (x_t, u_t)
- ▶ x_0, w_0, w_1, \dots are independent
- ▶ $A_t(w_t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ is dynamics matrix
- ▶ $B_t(w_t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times m}$ is input matrix
- ▶ $c_t(w_t) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is offset

Linear quadratic stochastic control problem

- ▶ stage cost $g_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{w}_t)$ is convex quadratic in $(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$ for each \mathbf{w}_t
- ▶ choose policy $\mathbf{u}_t = \boldsymbol{\mu}_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$ to minimize objective

$$J = \mathbf{E} \left(\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} g_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{w}_t) + g_T(\mathbf{x}_T) \right)$$

Dynamic programming

▶ set $V_T(x) = g_T(x)$

▶ for $t = T - 1, \dots, 0$,

$$\mu_t(x) \in \operatorname{argmin}_u \mathbf{E} (g_t(x, u, w_t) + V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, w_t)))$$

$$V_t(x) = \mathbf{E} (g_t(x, \mu_t(x), w_t) + V_{t+1}(f_t(x, \mu_t(x), w_t)))$$

▶ all V_t are convex quadratic, and all μ_t are affine

▶ this gives value functions and optimal policy, **explicitly**

Dynamic programming

we show V_t are convex quadratic by (backward) induction

- ▶ suppose V_T, \dots, V_{t+1} are convex quadratic
- ▶ since f_t is affine in (x, u) , $V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, w_t))$ is convex quadratic
- ▶ so $g_t(x, u, w_t) + V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, w_t))$ is convex quadratic
- ▶ and so is its expectation over w_t
- ▶ partial minimization over u leaves convex quadratic of x , which is $V_t(x)$
- ▶ argmin is affine function of x , so optimal policy is affine

Linear equality constraints

- ▶ can add (deterministic) linear equality constraints on x_t, u_t into g_t, g_T :

$$g_t(x, u, w) = g_t^{\text{quad}}(x, u, w) + \begin{cases} 0 & F_t x + G_t u = h_t \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ everything still works:
 - ▶ V_t is convex quadratic, possibly with equality constraints
 - ▶ μ_t is affine
- ▶ reason: minimizing a convex quadratic over some variables, subject to equality constraints, yields a convex quadratic in remaining variables

Infinite horizon linear quadratic problems

- ▶ consider average stage cost problems (others are similar) with time-invariant dynamics and stage costs
- ▶ same as for finite state case: use value iteration
- ▶ set $V_0(x) = 0$; for $k = 0, 1, \dots$,

$$\mu_{k+1}(x) = \operatorname{argmin}_u \mathbf{E} (g(x, u, w_t) + V_k(f(x, u, w_t)))$$

$$V_{k+1}(x) = \mathbf{E} (g(x, \mu_{k+1}(x), w_t) + V_k(f(x, \mu_{k+1}(x), w_t)))$$

- ▶ can be carried out concretely, since V_k is quadratic, μ_k is affine

Optimal steady-state policy

- ▶ $\mu_k \rightarrow \mu^*$ (ITAP), a.k.a. steady-state policy $\mu^*(x) = K^*x + l^*$
- ▶ K^* (l^*) called (steady-state, average cost) optimal gain matrix (offset)
- ▶ $V_k(x) - V_k(x') \rightarrow V^{\text{rel}}(x)$, relative value function (ITAP)
 - ▶ x' is (arbitrary) reference state
 - ▶ V^{rel} defined only up to a constant
- ▶ $V_{k+1}(x) - V_k(x) \rightarrow J^*$, the optimal average cost, for any x

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▶ $x_{t+1} = A_t x_t + B_t u_t + w_t$

▶ $\mathbf{E} w_t = 0, \mathbf{E} w_t w_t^T = W_t$

▶ stage cost is (convex quadratic)

$$(1/2)(x_t^T Q_t x_t + u_t^T R_t u_t)$$

with $Q_t \geq 0, R_t > 0$

▶ terminal cost $(1/2)x_T^T Q_T x_T, Q_T \geq 0$

▶ variation: terminal constraint $x_T = 0$

Linear quadratic regulator: DP

- ▶ value functions are quadratic plus constant (linear terms are zero):

$$V_t(x) = (1/2)(x^T P_t x + r_t)$$

- ▶ $P_T = Q_T, r_T = 0$
- ▶ optimal expected tail cost:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, w_t)) \\ &= (1/2)(r_{t+1} + \mathbf{E}(A_t x + B_t u + w_t)^T P_{t+1} (A_t x + B_t u + w_t)) \\ &= (1/2)(r_{t+1} + (A_t x + B_t u)^T P_{t+1} (A_t x + B_t u) + \mathbf{Tr}(P_{t+1} W_t)) \end{aligned}$$

using $\mathbf{E} w_t = 0$ and

$$\mathbf{E} w_t^T P_{t+1} w_t = \mathbf{E} \mathbf{Tr}(P_{t+1} w_t w_t^T) = \mathbf{Tr}(P_{t+1} W_t)$$

Linear quadratic regulator: DP

- ▶ minimize over u to get optimal policy:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_t(x) &= \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(u^T R_t u + u^T B_t^T P_{t+1} B_t u + 2(B_t^T P_{t+1} A_t x)^T u \right) \\ &= - \left(R_t + B_t^T P_{t+1} B_t \right)^{-1} B_t^T P_{t+1} A_t x \\ &= K_t x\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ optimal policy is linear (as opposed to affine)
- ▶ using $u = K_t x$ we then have

$$V_t(x) = (1/2)(r_{t+1} + \mathbf{Tr}(P_{t+1} W_t)) + x^T (Q_t + K_t^T R_t K_t)x + x^T (A_t + B_t K_t)^T P_{t+1} (A_t + B_t K_t)x$$

- ▶ so coefficients of V_t are

$$\begin{aligned}P_t &= Q_t + K_t^T R_t K_t + (A_t + B_t K_t)^T P_{t+1} (A_t + B_t K_t), \\ r_t &= r_{t+1} + \mathbf{Tr}(P_{t+1} W_t)\end{aligned}$$

Linear quadratic regulator: Riccati recursion

▶ set $P_T = Q_T$

▶ for $t = T - 1, \dots, 0$

$$K_t = -(R_t + B_t^T P_{t+1} B_t)^{-1} B_t^T P_{t+1} A_t$$

$$P_t = Q_t + K_t^T R_t K_t + (A_t + B_t K_t)^T P_{t+1} (A_t + B_t K_t)$$

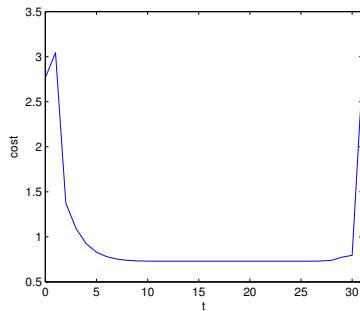
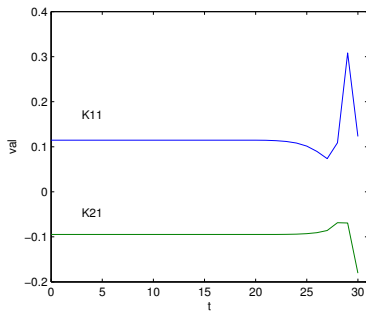
- ▶ called Riccati recursion; gives optimal policies, which are linear functions
- ▶ **surprise:** optimal policy does not depend on the disturbance distribution (provided it is zero mean)
- ▶ $J^* = (1/2)(\text{Tr}(P_0 X_0) + \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \text{Tr}(P_{t+1} W_t))$, where $X_0 = \mathbf{E}(x_0 x_0^T)$

Linear quadratic regulator: Example

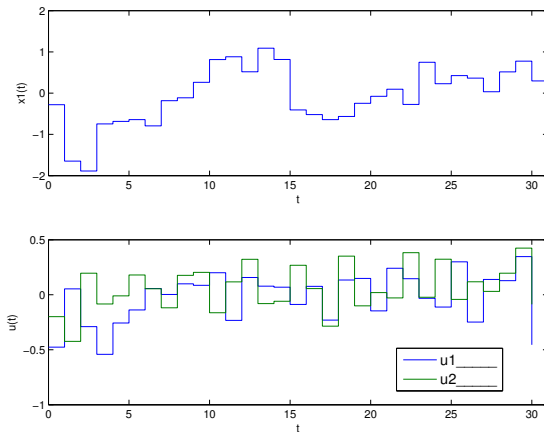
- ▶ $n = 5$ states, $m = 2$ inputs, horizon $T = 31$
- ▶ A, B chosen randomly; A scaled so $\max_i |\lambda_i(A)| = 1$
- ▶ $Q_t = I, R_t = I, t = 0, \dots, T - 1, Q_T = 5I$
- ▶ $x_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, X_0), X_0 = I$
- ▶ $w_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, W), W = 0.1I$

Linear quadratic regulator: Example

left: $(K_t)_{11}$, $(K_t)_{21}$ vs. t ; right: $\mathbf{E} J_t$ vs. t



Linear quadratic regulator: Sample trajectory



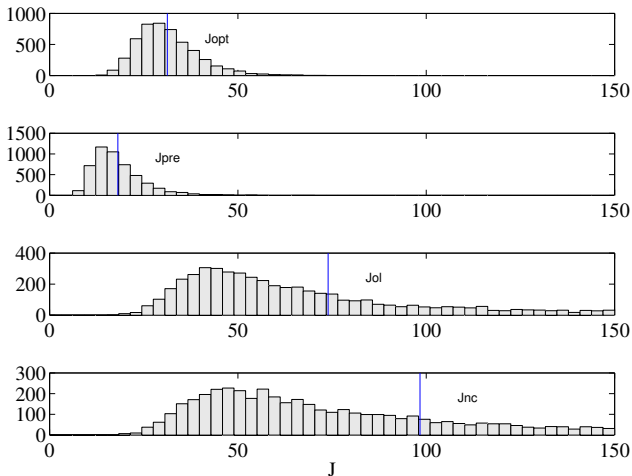
Linear quadratic regulator: Cost comparison

compare cost for

- ▶ optimal policy, J^*
- ▶ prescient policy, J^{pre} : $w_0 \dots, w_T$ known in advance
- ▶ open loop policy, J^{ol} : choose u_0, \dots, u_T with knowledge of x_0 only
- ▶ no control (1-step greedy), J^{nc} : $u_0, \dots, u_T = 0$

Linear quadratic regulator: Cost comparison

total stage cost histograms, $N = 5000$ Monte Carlo simulations



Steady-state linear quadratic regulator

- ▶ average cost case, all data time-invariant
- ▶ use Riccati recursion to find steady-state (average cost) optimal policy:

$$\begin{aligned}K_{k+1} &= -(R + B^T P_k B)^{-1} B^T P_k A \\P_{k+1} &= Q + K_{k+1}^T R K_{k+1} + (A + B K_{k+1})^T P_k (A + B K_{k+1})\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ $K_k \rightarrow K^*$, steady-state (average cost) optimal gain: $\mu^*(x) = K^* x$
- ▶ $(1/2) x^T P_k x \rightarrow V^{\text{rel}}(x)$ with reference state $x' = 0$
- ▶ $(1/2) \text{Tr}(P_k W) \rightarrow J^*$, optimal average stage cost

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Linear quadratic trading: Dynamics

- ▶ $x_{t+1} = f_t(x_t, u_t, \rho_t) = \mathbf{diag}(\rho_t)(x_t + u_t)$
- ▶ $x_t \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is dollar amount of holding in n assets
- ▶ $(x_t)_i < 0$ means short position in asset i in period t
- ▶ $u_t \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is dollar amount of each asset bought at beginning of period t
- ▶ $(u_t)_i < 0$ means asset i is sold in period t
- ▶ $x_t^+ = x_t + u_t$ is post-trade portfolio
- ▶ $\rho_t \in \mathbf{R}_{++}^n$ is (random) return of assets over period $(t, t + 1]$
- ▶ returns independent, with $\mathbf{E} \rho_t = \bar{\rho}_t$, $\mathbf{E} \rho_t \rho_t^T = \Sigma_t$

Linear quadratic trading: Stage cost

stage cost for $t = 0, \dots, T - 1$ is (convex quadratic)

$$g_t(x, u) = \mathbf{1}^T u + (1/2)(\kappa_t^T u^2 + \gamma(x + u)^T Q_t(x + u))$$

with $Q_t > 0$

- ▶ first term is gross cash in
- ▶ second term is quadratic transaction cost (square is elementwise; $\kappa_t > 0$)
- ▶ third term is risk (variance of post-trade portfolio for $Q_t = \Sigma_t - \bar{p}_t \bar{p}_t^T$)
- ▶ $\gamma > 0$ is risk aversion parameter
- ▶ minimizing total stage cost equivalent to maximizing (risk-penalized) net cash taken from portfolio

Linear quadratic trading: Terminal cost

- ▶ terminal cost: $g_T(x) = -\mathbf{1}^T x + (1/2)\kappa_T^T x^2$, $\kappa_T > 0$
- ▶ this is net cash in if we close out (liquidate) final positions, with quadratic transaction cost

Linear quadratic trading: DP

- ▶ value functions quadratic (including linear and constant terms):

$$V_t(x) = (1/2)(x^T P_t x + 2q_t^T x + r_t)$$

- ▶ we'll need formula

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{diag}(\rho_t)P \mathbf{diag}(\rho_t)) = P \circ \Sigma_t$$

where \circ is Hadamard (element-wise) product

- ▶ optimal expected tail cost

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} V_{t+1}(f_t(x, u, \rho_t)) &= \mathbf{E} V_{t+1}(\mathbf{diag}(\rho_t)x^+) \\ &= (1/2)((x^+)^T P_{t+1} \circ \Sigma_t x^+ + 2q_{t+1}^T \mathbf{diag}(\bar{\rho}_t)x^+ + r_{t+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Linear quadratic trading: DP

- ▶ $P_T = \text{diag}(\kappa_T)$, $q_T = -\mathbf{1}$, $r_T = 0$
- ▶ recall $V_t(x) = \min_u \mathbf{E}(g_t(x, u) + V_{t+1}(\text{diag}(\rho_t)(x + u)))$
- ▶ for $t = T - 1, \dots, 0$ we minimize over u to get optimal policy:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_t(x) &= \operatorname{argmin}_u \left(u^T (S_{t+1} + \text{diag}(\kappa_t)) u + 2(S_{t+1}x + s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1})^T u \right) \\ &= -(S_{t+1} + \text{diag}(\kappa_t))^{-1} (S_{t+1}x + s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1}) \\ &= K_t x + l_t\end{aligned}$$

where

$$S_{t+1} = P_{t+1} \circ \Sigma_t + \gamma Q_t, \quad s_{t+1} = \bar{\rho}_t \circ q_{t+1}$$

- ▶ using $u = K_t x + l_t$ we then have

$$V_t(x) = (1/2) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} S_{t+1}(I + K_t) & s_{t+1} + S_{t+1}l_t \\ s_{t+1}^T + l_t^T S_{t+1} & r_{t+1} + (s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1})^T l_t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear quadratic trading: Value iteration

- ▶ set $P_T = \mathbf{diag}(\kappa_T)$, $q_T = -\mathbf{1}$, $r_T = 0$
- ▶ for $t = T - 1, \dots, 0$

$$\begin{aligned}K_t &= -(S_{t+1} + \mathbf{diag}(\kappa_t))^{-1} S_{t+1} \\l_t &= -(S_{t+1} + \mathbf{diag}(\kappa_t))^{-1} (s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1}) \\P_t &= S_{t+1} (I + K_t) \\q_t &= s_{t+1} + S_{t+1} l_t \\r_t &= r_{t+1} + (s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1})^T l_t\end{aligned}$$

where

$$S_{t+1} = P_{t+1} \circ \Sigma_t + \gamma Q_t, \quad s_{t+1} = \bar{\rho}_t \circ q_{t+1}$$

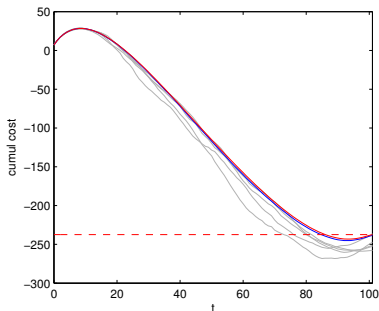
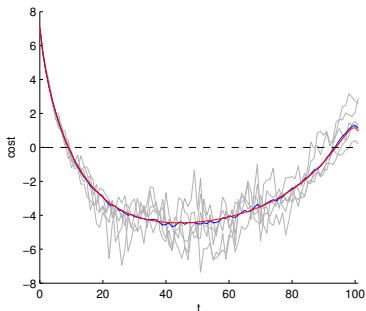
- ▶ optimal policy: $\mu_t^*(x) = K_t x + l_t$
- ▶ can write as $\mu_t^*(x) = K_t(x - x_t^{\text{tar}})$, $x_t^{\text{tar}} = -K_t^{-1} l_t = -S_{t+1}^{-1} (s_{t+1} + \mathbf{1})$
- ▶ $J^* = \mathbf{E} V_0(x_0)$

Linear quadratic trading: Numerical instance

- ▶ $n = 30$ assets over $T = 100$ time-steps
- ▶ initial portfolio $x_0 = 0$
- ▶ $\bar{\rho}_t = \bar{\rho}$, $\Sigma_t = \Sigma$ for $t = 0, \dots, T - 1$
- ▶ $Q_t = \Sigma - \bar{\rho}\bar{\rho}^T$ for $t = 0, \dots, T - 1$
- ▶ asset returns log-normal, expected returns range over $\pm 3\%$ per period
- ▶ asset return standard deviations range from 0.4% to 9.8%
- ▶ asset correlations range from -0.3 to 0.8

Linear quadratic trading: Numerical instance

- ▶ ran $N = 100$ Monte Carlo simulations
- ▶ $J^* = V_0(x_0) = -237.5$ (Monte Carlo estimate: -238.4)
- ▶ *left*: stage cost; *right*: cumulative stage cost
- ▶ exact (red), MC estimate (blue), and samples (gray); J^* red dashed



Linear quadratic trading: Numerical instance

we define $x_{T+1} = 0$, *i.e.*, we close out the position during period T

