

L9.1: An introduction to particle filtering

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- · Gaussian filtering is a useful technique to perform nonlinear filtering.
- · Limitations: Gaussian filtering methods do not perform well when
 - the models are highly nonlinear,
 - when the posterior distribution is significantly non-Gaussian, e.g., a multimodal density.
- For such problems we need a different type of approximation to the posterior density!

Basic idea

· Use a non-parametric representation

$$\underline{p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})} \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \underline{w_k^{(i)}} \delta(\mathbf{x}_k - \underline{\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}})$$

P(- 1) ...)

where $\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}$ are particles and $w_{k}^{(i)}$ are associated weights.

- · Filtering is (essentially) performed by
 - 1. propagating $\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)} \to \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}$ over time,
 - 2. updating the weights, $w_k^{(i)}$.
- Basic version: $\underline{\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}} \sim \underline{p(\mathbf{x}_{k}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}, \underline{w_{k}^{(i)}} \propto \underline{w_{k-1}^{(i)}}\underline{p(\mathbf{y}_{k}|\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)})}.$

After this lecture you should be able to

- explain the concepts of Monte Carlo sampling and importance sampling,
- · describe what particle degeneracy is and why resampling is useful,
- and implement a particle filter.



L9.2: Monte Carlo (MC) approximations and Importance Sampling (IS)

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Monte Carlo approximations

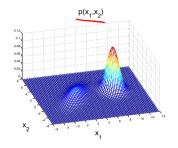
Two perspectives on Monte Carlo approximation

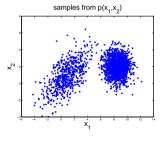
Given independent samples $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)} \sim p(\mathbf{x})$ we can approximate

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$

$$\underline{p}(\mathbf{x}) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \underline{\delta}(\mathbf{x} - \underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(i)})$$
(2)

$$\underline{p(\mathbf{x})} \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \underline{\delta}(\mathbf{x} - \underline{\mathbf{x}^{(i)}})$$
 (2)





Remarks on Monte Carlo approximations:

- non-parametric approximation to $p(\mathbf{x})$.
- approximate all kinds of densities, $p(\mathbf{x})$. Very flexible!
- · does not suffer from the *curse of dimensionality*, e.g.,

$$\operatorname{Cov}(\widehat{\mathbf{A}}) = \operatorname{Cov}\left(\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\mathbf{x}^{(i)}\right) = \frac{1}{N}\operatorname{Cov}(\mathbf{x})$$
 independently on $\dim(\mathbf{x})$!

• Weakness: it is often difficult to generate samples from $p(\mathbf{x})$.

Importance sampling

What can we do when it is difficult to sample from $p(\mathbf{x})$?

Importance sampling

• Generate samples, $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}$, from a proposal density $q(\mathbf{x})$:

$$\mathbb{E}_{(x)}[\underline{g(x)}] = \int J(x) \cdot \frac{P(x)}{q(x)} \underline{f(x)} \underline{A} \times \underline{a} + \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_{i-1}} J(x^{(i)}) \cdot \frac{P(x^{(i)})}{q(x^{(i)})}$$

$$\times \sum_{i=1}^{y_{i}} \frac{P(x^{(i)})}{q(x^{(i)})} \cdot g(x^{(i)})$$

where

Importance sampling approximation to p(x)

· Generate samples, $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}$, from $q(\mathbf{x})$ and set

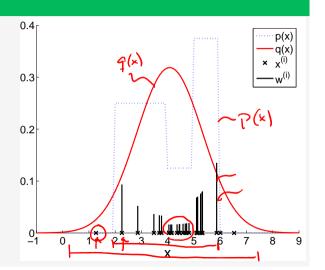
$$\underline{p(\mathbf{x})} \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \underline{w}^{(i)} \underline{\delta}(\mathbf{x} - \underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(i)})$$

$$\underline{w}^{(i)} = \frac{\tilde{w}^{(i)}}{\sum_{n=1}^{N} \tilde{w}^{(n)}} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{w}^{(i)} = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})}{q(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})}.$$

- · Importance sampling is a flexible and powerful tool.
- It can perform very well as long as:
 - 1. it is easy to sample from $q(\mathbf{x})$,
 - 2. the support of $q(\mathbf{x})$ contains the support of $p(\mathbf{x})$,
 - 3. $q(\mathbf{x})$ is "similar" to $p(\mathbf{x})$.

Example – Importance sampling

• Approximate p(x) using N independent samples from $q(x) = \mathcal{N}(x; 4, 1.5^2)$.





L9.3: Sequential Importance Sampling (SIS)

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- Objective: to recursively and accurately approximate the filtering density, $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})$.
- · Assumption: both the motion and measurement models

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1})$$
 and $p(\mathbf{y}_k|\mathbf{x}_k)$

can be easily evaluated point-wise.

· A common example is

$$\mathbf{x}_k = f(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}, \quad \mathbf{q}_{k-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q}_{k-1})$$

 $\mathbf{y}_k = h(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{r}_k \quad \mathbf{r}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{R}_k),$

where, e.g., $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_k; f(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}), \mathbf{Q}_{k-1})$ is generally easy to evaluate for any values of \mathbf{x}_k and \mathbf{x}_{k-1} .

- Particle filters are also known as sequential importance resampling or sequential Monte Carlo.
- The basis of these methods is an algorithm called sequential importance sampling (SIS).

Standard SIS algorithm

- For i = 1, ..., N and at each time k:
 - Draw $\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)} \sim q(\mathbf{x}_{k}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)},\mathbf{y}_{k})$. Compute weights

$$\underline{w_k^{(i)}} \propto \underline{w_{k-1}^{(i)}} \frac{\underline{p}(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}) \underline{p}(\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}{\underline{q}(\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}_k)}$$

- Normalize the weights.
- · We then approximate $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) \approx \sum_{i=1}^N w_k^{(i)} \delta(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_b^{(i)}).$

• Assuming that we describe our posterior using the following approximation $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) \approx \sum_{i=1}^N w_k^{(i)} \delta(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)})$. What is then the MMSE estimate of \mathbf{x}_k ?

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k} = \sum_{i}^{N} w_{k}^{(i)} \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k} = \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(j)}, \text{ where } j = \arg\max_{i} w_{k}^{(i)}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i}^{N} \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \omega_{k}^{(i)} \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \omega_{k}^{(i)} \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}$$

• It is not possible to calculate a MMSE estimate from this approximation.

Derivation - Basic strategy

Recursively at time k = 1, 2, ...

1. Draw particles

$$\mathbf{x}_{0:k}^{(i)} \sim q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})$$

2. Update weights

$$w_k^{(i)} \propto \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})}$$

Comments on drawing particles:

· Let us assume that

$$q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) = q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k)q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k-1}).$$

- we generate $\underline{\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}} \sim q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k-1})$ at time k-1,
- it is sufficient to generate $\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} \sim q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)},\mathbf{y}_k)$ and append that to $\mathbf{x}_{1:k-1}^{(i)}$!

• It remains to derive the expression for the weights:
$$w_k^{(i)} \propto \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})} \approx \varrho(\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{$$

$$\propto \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_{k}|\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)})p(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)},\mathbf{y}_{k})} \underbrace{\frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k-1})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{0:k-1}^{(i)}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k-1})}}_{\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})p(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}$$

· We have thus derived the SIS algorithm:

Standard SIS algorithm

- For i = 1, ..., N and at each time k:
 - Draw $\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} \sim q(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}_k)$.
 - Compute weights

$$W_k^{(i)} \propto W_{k-1}^{(i)} \frac{\rho(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}) \rho(\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}{q(\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}_k)}.$$

- Normalize the weights.

· A simple choice of importance density is

$$q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k) = p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1})$$

for which
$$w_k^{(i)} \propto w_{k-1}^{(i)} p(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)})$$
.

Example - Nonlinear filter benchmark

• The following is a common benchmark for nonlinear filters

$$x_k = \frac{x_{k-1}}{2} + \frac{25x_{k-1}}{1 + x_{k-1}^2} + 8\cos(1.2k) + q_{k-1}$$
$$y_k = \frac{x_k^2}{20} + r_k$$

where $q_{k-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 10)$ and $r_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

• Let us see how the above filter performs on this challenging problem!



L9.4: Sequential Importance Resampling (SIR)

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- One can show that all SIS filters suffer from degeneracy:
 after a few time steps all but one particle will have negligible weight.
- · Consequences of degeneracy:
 - the filter believes that it knows \mathbf{x}_k exactly,
 - we obtain very poor state estimates,
 - most of our calculations are wasted on insignificant particles.

These are very serious drawbacks!

A key technique to improve performance is resampling.

• Challenge: we have $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) \approx \sum_{i=1}^N w_k^{(i)} \delta(\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)})$ where most weights $\underline{w_k^{(i)}}$ are very small.

Idea: use Monte Carlo sampling

• Generate independent samples $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{k}^{(1)}, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{k}^{(N)}$ from $\underline{p}(\mathbf{x}_{k}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})$ and set

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N} \delta(\mathbf{x}_k - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_k^{(i)}).$$

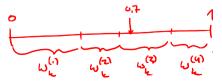
- · After resampling we get
 - equal weights (they are all 1/N),
 - multiple copies of high probability particles.

Resampling algorithm

1) Draw N samples with replacement from $\mathbf{x}_k^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}_k^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k^{(N)}$, where the probability of selecting $\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}$ is $\underline{w}_k^{(i)}$.

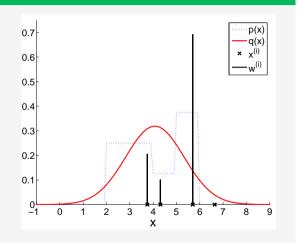
2) Replace the old sample set with the new one and set all weights to 1/N.

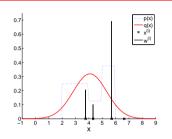
- · A few remarks:
 - We use $\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}$ and $w_k^{(i)}$ to denote the particles and their weights also after resampling.
 - We can use samples from the uniform distribution, unif[0, 1], to draw samples from the discrete distribution $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})$.



Self-assessment – Resampling

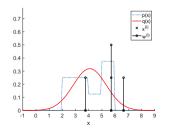
- Perform resampling on the density to the right and illustrate the result.
- Assume that the numbers 0.65, 0.03, 0.84 and 0.93 are drawn from unif[0,1].

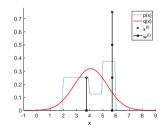


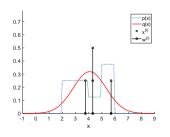


- Perform resampling on the density to the right and illustrate the result.
- Assume that the numbers 0.65, 0.03, 0.84 and 0.93 are drawn from unif[0, 1].

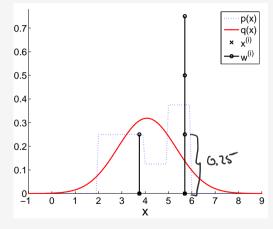
• Choose the figure below that illustrates the resampled particles:





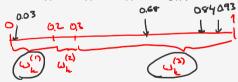


Self-assessment - Solution



 If particles where ordered in ascending order,

$$x^{(1)} < \cdots < x^{(4)}$$
, resampling gives $x^{(1)} = 3.8$ and $x^{(2)} = x^{(3)} = x^{(4)} = 5.7$



- Resampling costs some calculations and introduces some errors, but improves performance immensely over time.
- · An estimate for the effective number of particles is

$$N_{eff} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(w_k^{(i)}\right)^2}.$$

• Many algorithms only resample when N_{eff} is below some threshold, e.g., N/4.



L9.5: Choice of importance distribution

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Signal Processing Group Department of Electrical Engineering Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden • A carefully selected importance distribution, $q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k)$, can slow down the degeneracy and improve performance.

Intuition: if most particles are placed in "high probability regions" there is less need to get rid of useless particles.

Optimal importance density

· The optimal importance density is

$$q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k) = p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k).$$

• Unfortunately, in most nonlinear settings, $p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}, \mathbf{y}_k)$, is difficult to both draw samples from and to evaluate.

- We can approximate $p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k)$ using, e.g., <u>linearization</u>.
- The most common choice is still, $q(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1},\mathbf{y}_k) = \underline{p(\mathbf{x}_k|\mathbf{x}_{k-1})}$, and the bootstrap algorithm.

The bootstrap PF

At each time k:

- Draw $\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)} \sim \underline{p(\mathbf{x}_{k}|\mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{(i)})}$, for $i = 1, \dots, N$.
- Calculate $w_k^{(i)} \propto \underline{w_{k-1}^{(i)} p(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)})}$ and normalize to 1.
- Resample.
- Note: if we resample at every time step, we get $w_k^{(i)} \propto p(\mathbf{y}_k | \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)})$ since $w_{k-1}^{(i)} = 1/N \ \forall i$ after resampling.
- Note 2: the Auxiliary PF (APF) is variation of the SIR algorithm that makes use of \mathbf{y}_k .

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- Particle filters (PFs) can handle highly nonlinear and non-Gaussian systems.
- Particle filters are asymptotically exact as you increase N.
- The complexity is roughly O(N) but the gain in performance flattens out as you increase N.
- Unfortunately, PFs suffer from the curse of dimensionality and are intractable in higher dimensions.

• The output from a PF is an approximation

m a PF is an approximation
$$p(\mathbf{x}_{k}|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_{k}^{(i)} \delta(\mathbf{x}_{k} - \mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)})$$

$$P_{r}(\mathbf{x}_{k} = \mathbf{x}'|\mathbf{y}_{1:k})^{2}$$

$$o \text{ otherwise.}$$

which implies that

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_k)\big|\mathbf{y}_{1:k}\right] \approx \sum_{i=1}^N w_k^{(i)}\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}).$$



L9.6: Rao-Blackwellized Particle Filter

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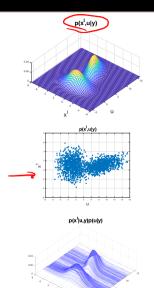
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THE RAO-BLACKWELLIZED PARTICLE FILTERS

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- · Background:
 - particle filters are intractable in high dimensions.
 - many systems are linear in some dimensions.
- Idea 1: "combine a particle filter for the nonlinear states with a Kalman filter for the linear states".
- Idea 2: If $\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k^l \\ \mathbf{u}_k \end{bmatrix}$ where $\underline{\mathbf{x}_k^l}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{u}_k}$ are the linear and nonlinear states:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{l}, \mathbf{u}_{1:k} | \mathbf{y}_{1:k}) = \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} | \mathbf{u}_{0:k}, \mathbf{y}_{1:k})}_{\text{Saussian}} p(\mathbf{u}_{0:k} | \mathbf{y}_{1:k})$$



• Assuming we have $\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k^l \\ \mathbf{u}_k \end{bmatrix}$, Rao-Blackwellized particle filters are often used for models on the form

$$\mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} = f_{k-1}^{l}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1}) + \mathbf{A}_{k-1}^{l}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1}) \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{l} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{k} = f_{k-1}^{u}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1}) + \mathbf{A}_{k-1}^{u}(\mathbf{u}_{k-1}) \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{l} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{u}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_{k} = h_{k}(\mathbf{u}_{k}) + \mathbf{H}_{k}(\mathbf{u}_{k}) \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} + \mathbf{r}_{k}$$

where all the noises are Gaussian.

Bearing only tracking

• Bearing only tracking with a constant velocity motion in 2D. What is \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} , \mathbf{u}_{k}^{l} and \mathbf{y}_{k} in this example?

- \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} : position, \mathbf{u}_{k}^{l} : velocity, \mathbf{y}_{k} : bearing to target
- \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} : velocity, \mathbf{u}_{k}^{l} : position, \mathbf{y}_{k} : bearing to target
- \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} : velocity, \mathbf{u}_{k}^{l} : bearing to target, \mathbf{y}_{k} : position
- \mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} : position, \mathbf{u}_{k}^{l} : bearing to target, \mathbf{y}_{k} : bearing to target

Bearing only tracking – system models

Let us denote our state vector $\mathbf{x}_k = [x_k^1, x_k^2, \dot{x}_k^1, \dot{x}_k^2]^T$, the system models can then be written as:

when be written as:
$$\mathbf{x}_{k}^{l} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_{k}^{1} \\ \dot{x}_{k}^{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_{k-1}^{1} \\ \dot{x}_{k-1}^{2} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l} = \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^{l} - \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_{k} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_{k}^{1} \\ x_{k}^{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_{k-1}^{1} \\ x_{k-1}^{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}} + T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_{k-1}^{1} \\ \dot{x}_{k-1}^{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l} = \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^{l}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_{k} = \underbrace{\mathtt{atan}_{2}(x_{k}^{2}, x_{k}^{1})}_{\mathbf{q}_{k}^{l}} + \mathbf{r}_{k}$$

where
$$\mathbf{r}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_r^2)$$
 and $\mathbf{q}_k = \left[egin{array}{c} \mathbf{q}_k^u \\ \mathbf{q}_k^l \end{array} \right] \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0}, \left[egin{array}{c} \frac{\mathcal{T}^2}{2} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathcal{T} \mathbf{I} \end{array} \right] \left[egin{array}{c} \sigma_q^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_q^2 \end{array} \right] \left[egin{array}{c} \frac{\mathcal{T}^2}{2} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathcal{T} \mathbf{I} \end{array} \right]^T \right)$

 One recursion of the Rao-Blackwellized particle filter contains five steps:

Note:

- Step 2) makes use of the motion model for \mathbf{u}_k to update \mathbf{x}_{k-1}^l .
- The linear states are marginalized from step 1) and 4), similarly to how we normally handle noise.

Bearing only tracking – system models

Let us denote our state vector $\mathbf{x}_k = [x_k^1, x_k^2, \dot{x}_k^1, \dot{x}_k^2]^T$, the system models can then be written as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_k^1 \\ \dot{x}_k^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_{k-1}^1 \\ \dot{x}_{k-1}^2 \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^l$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_k^1 \\ x_k^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{k-1}^1 \\ x_{k-1}^2 \end{bmatrix} + T \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_{k-1}^1 \\ \dot{x}_{k-1}^2 \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}^u$$

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \operatorname{atan}_2(x_k^2, x_k^1) + \mathbf{r}_k$$

where
$$\mathbf{r}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (\frac{\pi}{180})^2) \otimes \mathbf{q}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_k^u \\ \mathbf{q}_k^l \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{T^2}{2} \mathbf{I} \\ T\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & 0 \\ 0 & \underline{\mathbf{1}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{T^2}{2} \mathbf{I} \\ T\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}^T \right)$$

Concluding remarks:

- Rao-Blackwellized particle filters are useful to reduce the number of particles.
- These filters enable us to handle higher dimensions than normal PFs.
- They are particularly useful if Kalman gains and posterior covariances are independent of the nonlinear states
 - \Rightarrow sufficient to compute them one time in each recursion.