# TSSL Lab 2 - Structural model, Kalman filtering and EM

We will continue to work with the Global Mean Sea Level (GMSL) data that we got acquainted with in lab 1. The data is taken from <a href="https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/sea-level/">https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/sea-level/</a> and is available on LISAM in the file <a href="sea-level">sea-level</a>. csv.

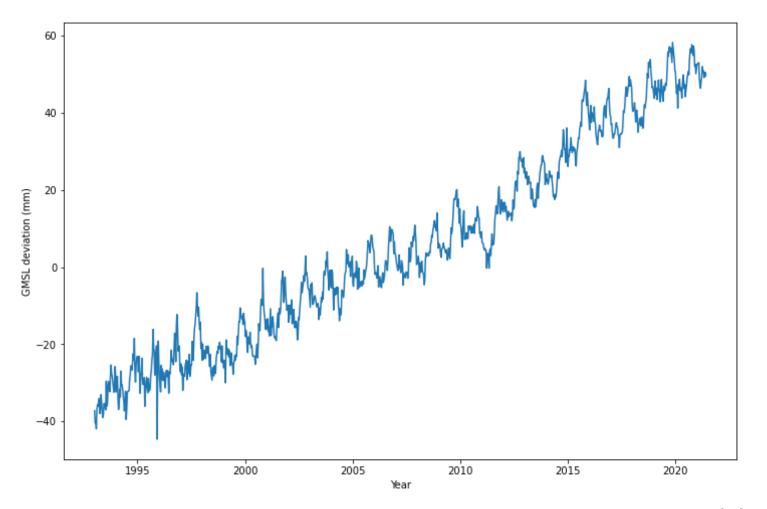
In this lab we will analyse this data using a structural time series model. We will first set up a model and implement a Kalman filter to infer the latet states of the model, as well doing long-term prediction. We will then implement a disturbance smoother and an expectation maximization algorithm to tune the parameters of the model.

We load a few packages that are useful for solving this lab assignment.

```
In [1]: import pandas # Loading data / handling data frames
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.rcParams["figure.figsize"] = (12,8) # Increase default size of plots
```

### 2.1 Setting up a structural state space model

We start by loading and plotting data to reming ourselves what it looks like.



In this lab we will use a structural time series model to analys this data set. Specifically, we assume that the data  $\{y_t\}_{t\geq 1}$  is generated by

$$y_t = \mu_t + \gamma_t + \varepsilon_t \tag{1}$$

where  $\mu_t$  is a trend component,  $\gamma_t$  is a seasonal component, and  $\varepsilon_t$  is an observation noise. The model is expressed using a state space representation,

$$egin{aligned} lpha_{t+1} &= Tlpha_t + R\eta_t, & \eta_t \sim N(0,Q), \ y_t &= Zlpha_t + arepsilon_t, & arepsilon_t \sim N(0,\sigma_arepsilon^2). \end{aligned}$$

$$g_t = Z lpha_t + arepsilon_t, \qquad arepsilon_t \sim N(0, \sigma_arepsilon^2).$$

**Q0**: Let  $d = \dim(\alpha_t)$  denote the *state dimension* and  $d_{\eta} = \dim(\eta_t)$  denote the dimension of the state noise. Then, what are the dimensions of the matrices T, R, and Z of the state space model?

#### A:

T : d X d R : d X dn

z:1Xd

Q1: Create the state space matrices  $T_{[\mu]}$ ,  $R_{[\mu]}$ , and  $Z_{[\mu]}$  corresponding to the trend component  $\mu_t$ . We assume a local linear trend (that is, of order k=2).

Hint: Use **2-dimensional** numpy . ndarray s of the correct sizes to represent all the matrices.

```
In [4]: T_mu = np.array([[2,-1],[1,0]])
    R_mu = np.array([[1],[0]])
    Z_mu = R_mu.transpose()
```

**Q2:** There is a yearly seasonal pattern present in the data. What should we set the periodicity s of the seasonal component to, to capture this pattern?

Hint: Count the average number of observations per (whole) year and round to the closest integer.

```
In [5]: #no_of_obs = data["Year"].astype(int).value_counts()
    #s = round(np.mean(no_of_obs))
    year = data.Year.round().unique()
    s = np.mean(np.array([(((data.Year.round() == year[i]).sum())) for i in range(len(year))])).round()
    print(f"Average number of observations per (whole) year and round to the closest integer is {s}")
```

Average number of observations per (whole) year and round to the closest integer is 36.0

**Q3:** What is the *state dimension* of a seasonal component with periodicity *s*? That is, how many states are needed in the corresponding state space representation?

**A:** A s period state space model has s-1 states

**Q4:** Create the state space matrices  $T_{[\gamma]}$ ,  $R_{[\gamma]}$ , and  $Z_{[\gamma]}$  corresponding to the seasonal component  $\gamma_t$ .

Hint: Use **2-dimensional** numpy.ndarray s of the correct sizes to represent all the matrices.

```
In [6]: #T_gamma=np.zeros(shape=(s-1,s-1))
    #T_gamma[0,]=-np.ones(s-1)
    #T_gamma[1:,0:s-2] = np.eye(s-2)

T_gamma = np.eye(int(s-2))
    #adding top -1
    side = (np.array(np.repeat(0,[int(s-2)],axis = 0)))
    T_gamma = np.insert(T_gamma,int(s-2),side,1)
    top = (np.array(np.repeat(-1,[int(s-1)],axis = 0)))
    T_gamma = np.insert(T_gamma,0,top,0)

R_gamma = np.repeat([1,0],[1,int(s-2)],axis = 0).reshape(int(s-1),1)

Z_gamma = R_gamma.transpose()
```

**Q5:** Using the matrices that you have constructed above, create the state space matrices for the complete structural time series model. Print out the shapes of the resulting system matrices and check that they correspond to what you expect (cf **Q0**).

Hint: Use scipy.linalg.block\_diag and numpy.concatenate.

```
In [7]: from scipy.linalg import block_diag

T = block_diag(T_mu, T_gamma)
R = block_diag(R_mu, R_gamma)
Z = np.concatenate((Z_mu,Z_gamma),axis = 1)

In [8]: print(f"TShape : {T.shape}")
print(f"RShape : {R.shape}")
print(f"ZShape : {Z.shape}")

TShape : (37, 37)
RShape : (37, 2)
ZShape : (1, 37)
```

Looking at above shape we can say that they corresponds to Q0 as dimensions are same as expected.

We also need to specify the variances of the process noise  $\eta_t$  and measurement noise  $\varepsilon_t$ . Below, we will estimate (two of) these variances from data, but for now we set them arbitrarily to get an initial model to work with.

```
In [9]: # Some arbitrary noise values for now
sigma_trend = 0.01
```

```
sigma_seas = 1
sigma_eps = 1
Q = np.array([[sigma_trend**2, 0.], [0., sigma_seas**2]]) # Process noise covariance matrix
```

Finally, to complete the model we need to specify the distribution of the initial state. This encodes our *a priori* belief about the actual values of the trend and seasonality, i.e., before observing any data.

**Q6:** Set up the mean vector of the initial state  $a_1 = \mathbb{E}[\alpha_1]$  such that:

- The trend component starts at the first observation,  $\mathbb{E}[\mu_1] = y_1$ ,
- The slope of the trend is *a priori* zero in expectation,  $\mathbb{E}[\mu_1 \mu_0] = 0$ ,
- The initial mean of all states related to the seasonal component are zero.

Also, create an initial state covariance matrix  $P_1 = \text{Cov}(\alpha_1)$  as an identity matrix of the correct dimension, multiplied with a large value (say, 100) to represent our uncertainty about the initial state.

```
In [10]: al = np.zeros((T.shape[0],1))
al[0]= y[0]
al[1] = y[0]#exp of m1-m0 = 0

Pl = np.identity(T.shape[0])*100
```

We have now defined all the matrices etc. that make up the structural state space model. For convenience, we can create an object of the class LGSS available in the module tssltools lab2 as a container for these quantities.

### 2.2 Kalman filtering for the structural model

T, R, Q, Z, H, a1, P1 = model.get params()

Now we have the data and a model available. Next, we will turn our attention to the inference problem, which is a central task when analysing time series data using the state space framework.

State inference is the problem of estimating the unknown (latent) state variables given the data. For the time being we assume that the *model* parameters are completely specified, according to above, and only consider how to estimate the states using the Kalman filter.

In the questions below we will treat the first n=800 time steps as training data and the remaining m observations as validation data.

```
In [12]: n = 800
m = ndata-n
```

Q7: Complete the Kalman filter implementation below. The function should be able to handle missing observations, which are encoded as "not a number", i.e. y[t] = np.nan for certain time steps t.

Hint: The Kalman filter involves a lot of matrix-matrix and matrix-vector multiplications. It turns out to be convient to store sequences of vectors (such as the predicted and filtered state estimates) as (d,1,n) arrays, instead of (d,n) or (n,d) arrays. In this way the matrix multiplications will result in 2d-arrays of the correct shapes without having to use a lot of explicit reshape. However, clearly, this is just a matter of coding style preferences!

```
In [13]: from tssltools_lab2 import kfs_res

def kalman_filter(y, model: LGSS):
    """Kalman filter for LGSS model with one-dimensional observation.

::param y: (n,) array of observations. May contain nan, which encodes missing observations.
::param model: LGSS object with the model specification.

::return kfs_res: Container class with member variables,
    alpha_pred: (d,1,n) array of predicted state means. alpha_hat t|t-1
    P_pred: (d,d,n) array of filtered state covariances. predict t|t-1
    alpha_filt: (d,d,n) array of filtered state covariances. predict t-1|t-1
    P_filt: (d,d,n) array of filtered state covariances. predict t-1|t-1
    y_pred: (n,) array of means of p(y_t | y_{1:t-1})    y_hat t|t-1
    F_pred: (n,) array of variances of p(y_t | y_{1:t-1})    F t|t-1

n = len(y)
d = model.d # State dimension
```

```
alpha pred = np.zeros((d, 1, n))
P \text{ pred} = np.zeros((d, d, n))
alpha filt = np.zeros((d, 1, n))
P filt = np.zeros((d, d, n))
y pred = np.zeros(n)
F pred = np.zeros(n)
T, R, Q, Z, H, a1, P1 = model.get params() # Get all model parameters (for brevity)
for t in range(n):
    # Time update (predict)
    # ADD CODE HERE
    #predict alpha t in lecture 5 slide 15
    # for alpha hat 1|0 = a1 and p1|0 = p1
    if t == 0:
        alpha pred[:,:,t] = al
        P \text{ pred}[:,:,t] = P1
    if t != 0 :
        alpha pred[:,:,t] = T@alpha filt[:,:,t-1]
        \#P pred[:,:,t] = T.dot(P filt[:,:,t-1].dot(T.transpose())) + R.dot(Q.dot(R.transpose()))
        P \text{ pred}[:,:,t] = T@P \text{ filt}[:,:,t-1]@(T.transpose()) + R@Q@(R.transpose())
    # Compute prediction of current output
    # ADD CODE HERE
    #predict yt in lecture 5 slide 15
    y pred[t] = Z@alpha pred[:,:,t]
    F \text{ pred[t]} = Z@P \text{ pred[:,:,t]@(Z.transpose())} + H
    # Measurement update (correct)
    # ADD CODE HERE
    \#check if y[t] is missing , if nan then alpha filt[:,:,t] = alpha pred[:,:,t] and P filt[:,:,t] = P pred[:,:,
    #else calculate using kalman gain as in slides
    if np.isnan(y[t]):
        alpha filt[:,:,t] = alpha pred[:,:,t].copy()
        P filt[:,:,t] = P pred[:,:,t].copy()
    else:
        K = P \text{ pred}[:,:,t]@(Z.transpose())*(1/F \text{ pred}[t])
        alpha filt[:,:,t] = alpha pred[:,:,t] + (K*((y[t] - y pred[t])))
```

```
I = np.identity(d)
P_filt[:,:,t] = (I-(K@Z))@P_pred[:,:,t]

kf = kfs_res(alpha_pred, P_pred, alpha_filt, P_filt, y_pred, F_pred)
return kf
```

```
In [14]: # for reference only
    g = np.zeros((3,1,5))
    g[:,:,0] = 1

T, R, Q, Z, H, al, Pl = model.get_params()
T.shape
    alpha_filt = np.zeros((37, 1, 800))
T.dot(alpha_filt[:,:,1])
T
```

**Q8:** Use the Kalman filter to infer the states of the structural time series applied to the sealevel data. Run the filter on the training data (i.e., first n=800 time steps), followed by a long-range prediction of  $y_t$  for the remaining time points.

Generate a plot which shows:

- 1. The data  $y_{1:n+m}$ ,
- 2. The one-step predictions  $\hat{y}_{t|t-1} \pm 1$  standard deviation for the training data, i.e.,  $t=1,\ldots,n$ ,
- 3. The long-range predictions  $\hat{y}_{t|n}\pm 1$  standard deviation for the validation data, i.e.,  $t=n+1,\ldots,n+m$ ,
- 4. A vertical line indicating the switch between training and validation data, using plt.axvline(x=u[n]).

Hint: It is enough to call the kalman\_filter function once. Make use of the missing data functionality!

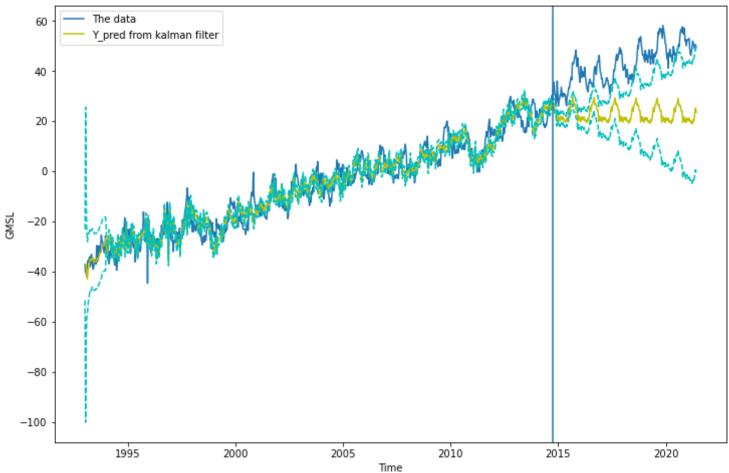
```
kalman = kalman_filter(train_val,model)
sd = np.sqrt(kalman.F_pred)
plt.plot(u,y, label = "The data")

plt.plot(u,kalman.y_pred,'y', label = "Y_pred from kalman filter")
plt.plot(u,kalman.y_pred+sd,'c--')
plt.plot(u,kalman.y_pred-sd,'c--')

plt.axvline(x=u[n])
plt.xlabel("Time")
plt.ylabel("GMSL")
plt.title("Kalman Filter")
plt.legend()
```

Out[15]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x21418675280>





**Q9:** Based on the output of the Kalman filter, compute the training data log-likelihood  $\log p(y_{1:n})$ .

```
In [16]: def log_liklihood(F_pred, y, y_pred):
    #slide 16 lecture 6
    l_theta = -1/2 * sum(np.log(abs(F_pred)) + ((y-y_pred).transpose()*(1/F_pred)*(y-y_pred)))
    return(l_theta)
log_liklihood(kalman.F_pred[:n],y[:n],kalman.y_pred[:n])
```

Out[16]: -3191.3792537653303

### 2.3 Identifying the noise variances using the EM algorithm

So far we have used fixed model parameters when running the filter. In this section we will see how the model parameters can be learnt from data using the EM algorithm. Specifically, we will try to learn the variance of the state noise affecting the seasonal component as well as the variance of the observation noise.

$$\theta = (\sigma_{\gamma}^2, \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2). \tag{4}$$

For brevity, the variance of the trend component  $\sigma_\mu^2$  is fixed to the value  $\sigma_\mu^2=0.01^2$  as above. (See Appendix A below for an explanation.)

Recall that we consider  $y_{1:n}$  as the training data, i.e., we will estimate  $\theta$  using only the first n=800 observations.

Q10: Which optimization problem is it that the EM algorithm is designed to solve? Complete the line below!

A: 
$$\hat{ heta} = rg \max_{ heta} \log p_{ heta}(lpha_{1:n}, y_{1:n} | y_{1:n}, heta)$$

Q11: Write down the updating equations on closed form for the M-step in the EM algorithm.

Hint: Look at Exercise Session 2

**A** If we take 
$$\hat{\eta}_{t|n}\hat{\eta}_{t|n}^T + Var[\eta_t|y_{1:n}] = egin{bmatrix} a & b \ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 = rac{\sum_{t=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{t|n}^2 + Var(\epsilon_t|y_{1:n})}{n}$$

$$Q = rac{\sum_{t=1}^{n} egin{bmatrix} a & b \ c & d \end{bmatrix}}{n}$$

$$\sigma_{\gamma}^2 = rac{\sum_{t=1}^n d}{n}$$

To implement the EM algorithm we need to solve a *smoothing problem*. The Kalman filter that we implemented above is based only on a forward propagation of information. The *smoother* complements the forward filter with a backward pass to compute refined state estimates. Specifically, the smoothed state estimates comprise the mean and covariances of

$$p(\alpha_t \mid y_{1:n}), \qquad t = 1, \dots, n \tag{5}$$

Furthermore, when implementing the EM algorithm it is convenient to work with the (closely related) smoothed estimates of the disturbances, i.e., the state and measurement noise.

$$p(\eta_t \mid y_{1:n}), \qquad t = 1, \dots, n-1$$
 (6)

$$p(\varepsilon_t \mid y_{1:n}), \qquad t = 1, \dots, n$$
 (7)

An implementation of a state and disturbance smoother is available in the tssttoots\_lab2 module. You may use this when implementing the EM algorithm below.

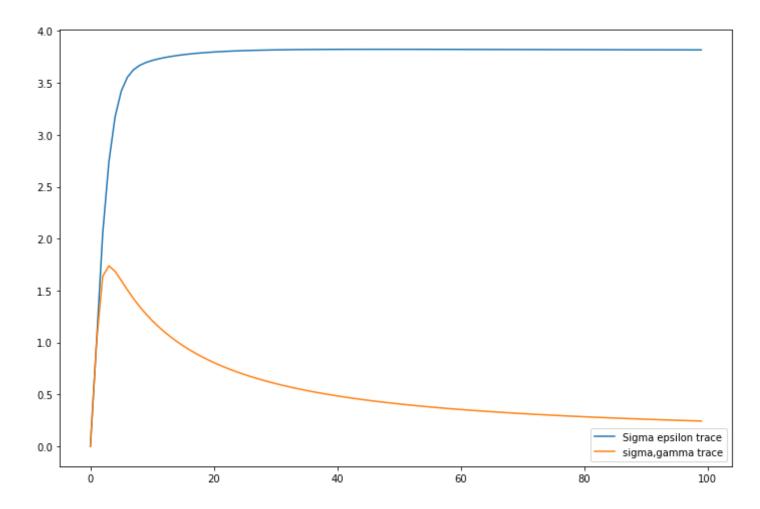
```
In [17]: from tssltools lab2 import kalman smoother
          help(kalman smoother)
         Help on function kalman smoother in module tssltools lab2:
         kalman_smoother(y, model: tssltools_lab2.LGSS, kf: tssltools_lab2.kfs_res)
             Kalman (state and disturbance) smoother for LGSS model with one-dimensional observation.
             :param y: (n,) array of observations. May contain nan, which encodes missing observations.
             :param model: LGSS object with the model specification.
             :parma kf: kfs res object with result from a Kalman filter foward pass.
             return kfs res: Container class. The original Kalman filter result is augmented with the following member variab
         les.
                 alpha sm: (d,1,n) array of smoothed state means.
                 V: (d,d,n) array of smoothed state covariances.
                 eps hat: (n,) array of smoothed means of observation disturbances.
                 eps var: (n,) array of smoothed variances of observation disturbances.
                 eta hat: (deta,1,n) array of smoothed means of state disturbances.
                 eta cov: (deta,deta,n) array of smoothed covariances of state disturbances.
```

Q12: Implement an EM algorithm by completing the code below. Run the algorithm for 100 iterations and plot the traces of the parameter estimates, i.e., the values  $\theta_r$ , for  $r=0,\ldots,100$ .

*Note:* When running the Kalman filter as part of the EM loop you should only filter the *training data* (i.e. excluding the prediction for validation data).

```
In [18]: num_iter = 100 
 sigma_mue = 0.01
```

```
sigma epsilon store = np.zeros(shape = (num iter,1))
                             sigma gamma store = np.zeros(shape = (num iter,1))
                             sigma epsilon = 1
                             sigma gamma = 1
                             log liklihood = np.zeros(shape = (num iter,1))
                             for r in range(1, num iter):
                                         # E-step
                                         sigma epsilon store[r] = sigma epsilon
                                         sigma gamma store[r] = sigma gamma
                                         Q = np.array([[sigma mue**2 , 0],[0,sigma gamma**2]])
                                         model = LGSS(T,R,Q,Z,sigma epsilon**2,a1,P1)
                                         kalman = kalman filter(y[:n], model)
                                           #slide 16 lecture 6 log liklihood
                                         \log \left[ \frac{1}{2} \right] = (-1/2 * sum(np.log(abs(kalman.F_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred).transpose()*(1/kalman.F_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred).transpose()*(1/kalman.y_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred).transpose()*(1/kalman.y_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred).transpose()*(1/kalman.y_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred)) + ((y[:n]-kalman.y_pred))
                                         smoother = kalman smoother(y[:n], model, kalman)
                                         # M-step
                                         sigma epsilon = np.sqrt(sum(smoother.eps hat**2 + smoother.eps var) / n)
                                         A = np.zeros(shape = (2,2))
                                         for t in range(n):
                                                    A += smoother.eta hat[:,:,t]@smoother.eta hat[:,:,t].T + smoother.eta cov[:,:,t]
                                         sigma gamma = np.sqrt(A[1,1]/n)
                             plt.plot(sigma epsilon store, label = "Sigma epsilon trace")
In [19]:
                             plt.plot(sigma gamma store, label = "sigma,gamma trace")
                             plt.legend()
```



## 2.4 Further analysing the data

We will now fix the model according to the final output from the EM algorithm and further analyse the data using this model.

**Q13:** Rerun the Kalman filter to compute a *long range prediction for the validation data points,* analogously to **Q8** (you can copy-paste code from that question). That is, generate a plot which shows:

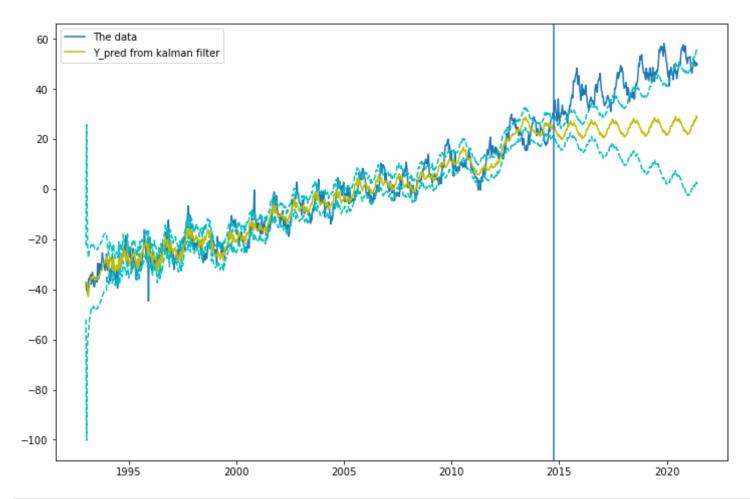
- 1. The data  $y_{1:n+m}$ ,
- 2. The one-step predictions  $\hat{y}_{t|t-1}\pm 1$  standard deviation for the training data, i.e.,  $t=1,\dots,n$ ,

- 3. The long-range predictions  $\hat{y}_{t|n}\pm 1$  standard deviation for the validation data, i.e.,  $t=n+1,\ldots,n+m$ ,
- 4. A vertical line indicating the switch between training and validation data, using plt.axvline(x=u[n]).

Furthermore, compute the training data log-likelihood  $\log p(y_{1:n})$  using the estimated model (cf. **Q9**).

```
sigma gamma store[99]
In [20]:
Out[20]: array([0.24358341])
In [21]: train val = y.copy()
          train val[n:] = np.nan
          Q = np.array([[sigma_mue**2 , 0.],[0.,float(sigma_gamma_store[99])**2]]) #last sigma_gamma is stored in this from em
          model 2 = LGSS(T,R,Q,Z,float(sigma epsilon store[99])**2,a1,P1)
          kalman 2 = kalman filter(train val, model 2)
          sd 2 = np.sqrt(kalman 2.F pred)
          plt.plot(u,v, label = "The data")
          plt.plot(u,kalman 2.y pred,'y', label = "Y pred from kalman filter")
          plt.plot(u,kalman 2.y pred+sd 2,'c--')
          plt.plot(u,kalman 2.y pred-sd 2,'c--')
          plt.axvline(x=u[n])
          plt.legend()
          np.argmax(log liklihood)
```

Out[21]: 99



In [22]: logLikLi = (-1/2)\*(np.sum(np.log(np.abs(kalman\_2.F\_pred[:801,])) + (y[:801,] - kalman\_2.y\_pred[:801,])\*\*2 / kalman\_2.print(f"Log-Likelihood for Training Data is {logLikLi}")

Log-Likelihood for Training Data is -1601.729068475399

Note that we can view the model for the data  $y_t$  as being comprised of an underlying "signal",  $s_t=\mu_t+\gamma_t$  plus observation noise  $arepsilon_t$ 

$$y_t = s_t + \varepsilon_t \tag{8}$$

We can obtain refined, *smoothed*, estimates of this signal by conditioning on all the training data  $y_{1:n}$ .

**Q14:** Run a Kalman smoother to compute smoothed estimates of the signal,  $\mathbb{E}[s_t|y_{1:n}]$ , conditionally on all the *training data*. Then, similarly to

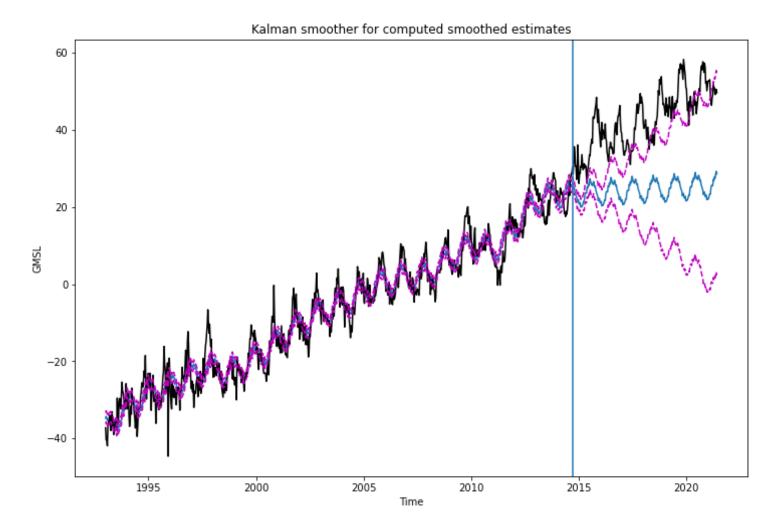
above, plot the following:

- 1. The data  $y_{1:n+m}$ ,
- 2. The smoothed estimates  $\mathbb{E}[s_t|y_{1:n}]\pm 1$  standard deviation for the training data, i.e.,  $t=1,\dots,n$ ,
- 3. The predictions  $\mathbb{E}[s_t|y_{1:n}]\pm 1$  standard deviation for the validation data, i.e.,  $t=n+1,\ldots,n+m$ ,
- 4. A vertical line indicating the switch between training and validation data, using plt.axvline(x=u[n]).

*Hint:* Express  $s_t$  in terms of  $\alpha_t$ . Based on this expression, compute the smoothed mean and variance of  $s_t$  based on the smoothed mean and covariance of  $\alpha_t$ .

```
smoothened = kalman smoother(train val, model 2, kalman 2)
In [23]:
          T,R,Q,Z,H,a1,p1 = model 2.get params()
          #expected st = np.sqrt()
          expected st = [Z@smoothened.alpha sm[:,:,t]  for t in range(n+m)]
          expected st = np.array(expected st).reshape(n+m,1)
          sd st = [(Z@smoothened.V[:,:,t]@Z.T) for t in range(n+m)]
          sd st = np.array(sd st).reshape(n+m,1)
          #from pandas.core.common import flatten
          #expected st = list(flatten(expected st))
          #sd st = list(flatten(sd st))
          plt.plot(u,expected st)
          plt.plot(u,y,'k-')
          plt.plot(u,(expected st + np.sqrt(sd st)), 'm--')
          plt.plot(u,(expected st - np.sqrt(sd st)), 'm--')
          plt.axvline(x = u[n])
          plt.xlabel("Time")
          plt.ylabel("GMSL")
          plt.title("Kalman smoother for computed smoothed estimates")
```

Out[23]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Kalman smoother for computed smoothed estimates')



Q15: Explain, using a few sentences, the qualitative differences (or similarities) between the Kalman filter predictions plotted in Q13 and the smoothed signal estimates plotted in Q14 for,

- 1. Training data points,  $t \leq n$
- 2. Validation data points, t>n

A: In the beginning there is less variance in smoothed signal estimates plot compared to kalman filter prediction plot.

In Kalman filter, the recursive state estimation moves forward through the data and in Kalman smoothing the recursive state estimation moves backward through the data.

In Kalman filter, the prediction at the current observation using all prior observations followed by update/filtering using the actual current observation whereas in Kalman Smoother, prediction is smoother as it is using future values to correct error in filtering prediction.

While predicting validation data points, all future values are Nan. Hence both predictions with kalman filter and kalman smoother are similar as both access to the same data points which is the past values.

We can shed additional light on the properties of the process under study by further decomposing the signal into its trend and seasonal components.

Q16: Using the results of the state smoother, compute and plot the *smoothed estimates* of the two signal components, i.e.:

```
1. Trend: \hat{\mu}_{t|n} = \mathbb{E}[\mu_t|y_{1:n}] for t=1,\ldots,n
```

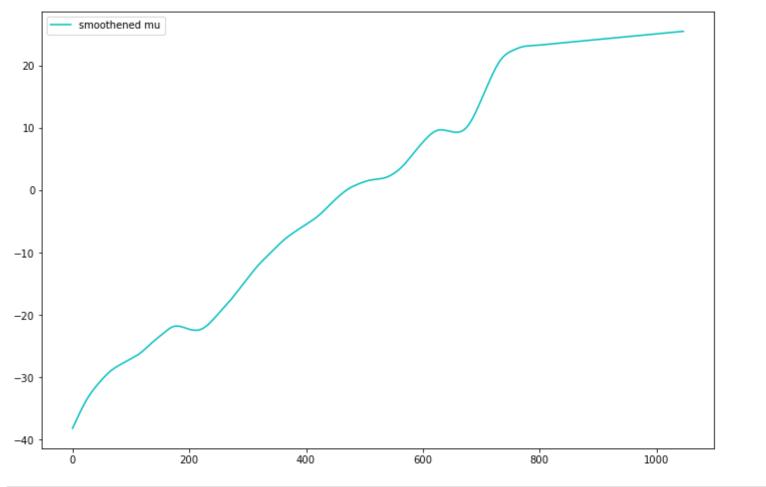
2. Seasonal:  $\hat{\gamma}_{t|n} = \mathbb{E}[\gamma_t|y_{1:n}]$  for  $t=1,\dots,n$ 

(You don't have to include confidence intervals here if don't want to, for brevity.)

```
In [29]: smoothened_mu_hat = np.array([Z_mu.dot(smoothened.alpha_sm[0:2,:,t])[0][0] for t in range(len(y))])
    smoothened_gamma_hat = np.array([Z_gamma.dot(smoothened.alpha_sm[2:,:,t])[0][0] for t in range(len(y))])
    plt.plot(smoothened_mu_hat, 'c-', label = "smoothened mu")

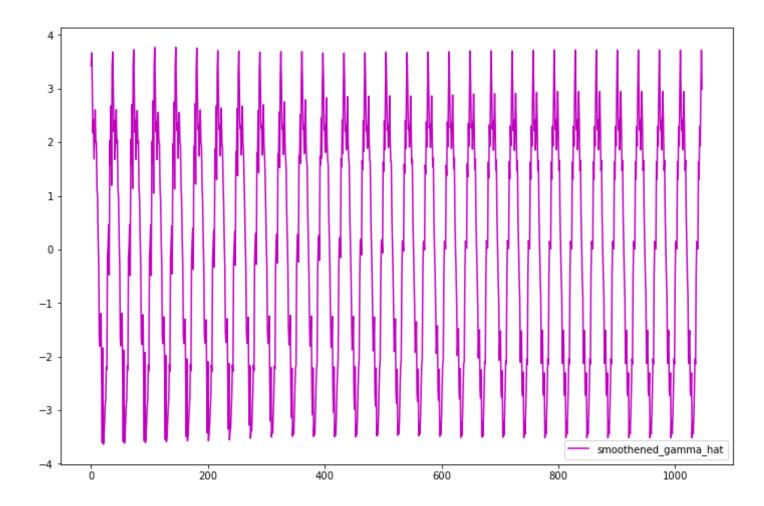
plt.legend()
```

Out[29]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x2141e4c45e0>



In [30]: plt.plot(smoothened\_gamma\_hat,'m-', label = "smoothened\_gamma\_hat")
plt.legend()

Out[30]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x2141e4640d0>



## 2.5 Missing data

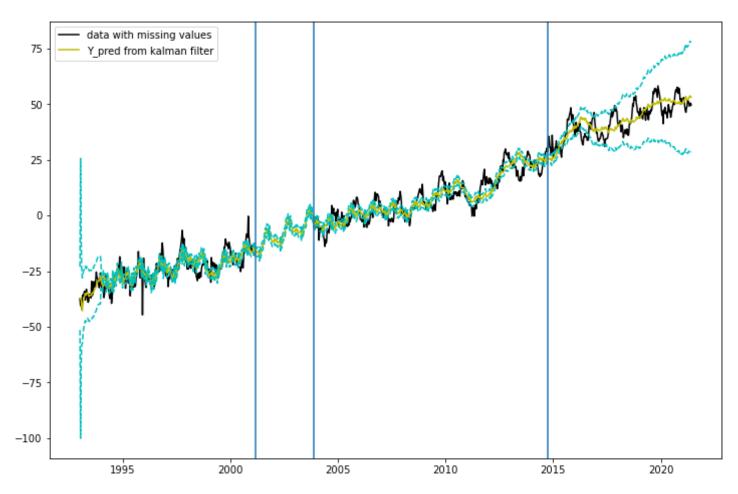
We conclude this section by illustrating one of the key merits of the state space approach to time series analysis, namely the simplicity of handling missing data. To this end we will assume that a chunk of observations in the middle of the training data is missing.

**Q17:** Let the values  $y_t$  for  $300 < t \le 400$  be missing. Modify the data and rerun the Kalman filter and smoother. Plot,

- 1. The Kalman filter predictions, analogously to Q8
- 2. The Kalman smoother predictions, analogously to Q13

Comment on the qualitative differences between the filter and smoother estimates and explain what you see (in a couple of sentences).

Out[34]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x2141c55b520>



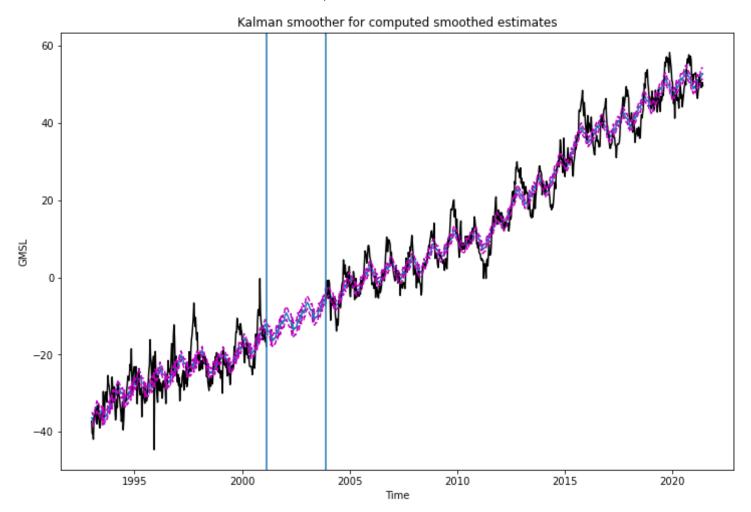
```
In [36]: smooth_missed = kalman_smoother(train_val, model_2, kalman_miss)
#sd_missed_smooth = np.sqrt(smooth_missed.F_pred)

expected_st = [Z@smooth_missed.alpha_sm[:,:,t] for t in range(n+m)]
expected_st = np.array(expected_st).reshape(n+m,1)
sd_st = [(Z@smooth_missed.V[:,:,t]@Z.T) for t in range(n+m)]
sd_st = np.array(sd_st).reshape(n+m,1)

plt.plot(u,expected_st)
plt.plot(u,train_val,'k-')
plt.plot(u,(expected_st + np.sqrt(sd_st)), 'm--')
plt.plot(u,(expected_st - np.sqrt(sd_st)), 'm--')
```

```
plt.axvline(x = u[300])
plt.axvline(x = u[400])
plt.xlabel("Time")
plt.ylabel("GMSL")
plt.title("Kalman smoother for computed smoothed estimates")
```

Out[36]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Kalman smoother for computed smoothed estimates')



The variance is less till the end in kalman smoother compared to kalman filter for missing data.

### Appendix A. Why didn't we learn the trend noise variance as well?

In the assignment above we have fixed  $\sigma_{\mu}$  to a small value. Conceptually it would have been straightforward to learn also this parameter with the EM algorithm. However, unfortunately, the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\sigma_{\mu}$  often ends up being too large to result in accurate *long term* predictions. The reason for this issue is that the structural model

$$y_t = \mu_t + \gamma_t + \varepsilon_t \tag{9}$$

is not a perfect description of reality. As a consequence, when learning the parameters the mismatch between the model and the data is compensated for by increasing the noise variances. This results in a trend component which does not only capture the long term trends of the data, but also seemingly random variations due to a model misspecification, possibly resulting in poor *long range predictions*.

Kitagawa (Introduction to Time Series Modeling, CRC Press, 2010, Section 12.3) discusses this issue and proposes two solutions. The first is a simple and pragmatic one: simply fix  $\sigma_{\mu}^2$  to a value smaller than the maximum likelihood estimate. This is the approach we have taken in this assignment. The issue is of course that in practice it is hard to know what value to pick, which boild down to manual trial and error (or, if you are lucky, the designer of the lab assignment will tell you which value to use!).

The second, more principled, solution proposed by Kitagawa is to augment the model with a stationary AR component as well. That is, we model

$$y_t = \mu_t + \gamma_t + \nu_t + \varepsilon_t \tag{10}$$

where  $\nu_t \sim \text{AR}(p)$ . By doing so, the stationary AR component can compensate for the discrepancies between the original structural model and the "true data generating process". It is straightforward to include this new component in the state space representation (how?) and to run the Kalman filter and smoother on the resulting model. Indeed, this is one of the beauties with working with the state space representation of time series data! However, the M-step of the EM algorithm becomes a bit more involved if we want to use the method to estimate also the AR coefficients of the  $\nu$ -component, which is beyond the scope of this lab assignment.

In [ ]: