

A new set of sigma/Quadrature  
points for a Gaussian PDF that can  
capture all 4th and 6th moments  
"exactly"

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## From the basics

Consider a discrete dynamic system with noise

$$x_{k+1} = f(x_k, k) + \nu_k$$

The PDF of this dynamic system propagates according to the **Chapman Kolmogorov Equation**.

$$P(x_{k+1}) = \int P(x_{k+1}|x_k)P(x_k)dx_k$$

- $P(x_k)$  in the CKE need not be gaussian at all times even though the initial condition was gaussian.
- It would be gaussian at all time only when system is linear and the noise is also gaussian. In this case it is very easy to **solve this equation analytically**.

Incase the the system in nonlinear and noise is gaussian, the CKE would be

$$P(x_{k+1}) = \int N(x_{k+1}|x_k)P(x_k)dx_k$$

## Extended Kalman Filter

$P(x_k)$  is not always gaussian and there is no analytical solution to this equation. Hence the EKF emerged that can provide an **analytical solution** to this CKE by considering the following **two approximations**

- $P(x_k)$  is replaced by an equivalent gaussian PDF that has the same first two moments as the original PDF  $P(x_k)$ .
- $f(x_k, k)$  is linearized in  $N(x_{k+1}|x_k)$ .

- The EKF works well for systems in which the linearized dynamics is a good approximation to the non-linear system.- **Higher order terms in Taylor series are negligible.**
- If the nonlinearity is too strong the EKF would diverge.
- Above that during the linearization process the computation of the jacobian is **computationally expensive.**
- The EKF **disregards the actual state PDF** and propagates only the first two moments of the state PDF. The linearized dynamics are used in the propagation of the first two moments.

Propagation of mean

$$\mu_{k+1} = f(\mu_k)$$

Propagation of Covariance

$$P_{k+1} = AP_kA^T + Q_k$$

Where A is the jacobian of the system.

$$A = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}|_{\mu_k}$$

## Linear Regression Kalman Filter - LRKF

- The LRKF also uses linearized dynamics but the linearization is not done using the Taylor series (hence evaluating Jacobian) but by a method called **statistical linearization**.
- Firstly sample points are chosen about the current mean at time  $k$  such that the mean of the samples and covariance of the samples **match** the current mean and current covariance.
- Each point is propagated using the **nonlinear dynamics** of the system to time step  $k + 1$ .

- Now between the current sample points at time  $k$  and the corresponding propagated points at time  $k + 1$  a **linear model is fit** which gives rise to the linearized dynamics of the system at time  $k$ .
- Now this linearized dynamics is used to compute the mean and covariance at time step  $k + 1$ .



The sample points at time  $k$  are

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N X^i$$
$$P_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N (X^i - \mu_k)(X^i - \mu_k)^T$$

And now each sample point is individually propagated using nonlinear dynamics

$$Y^i = f(X^i)$$

Now trying to fit a linear model between the points  $(Y^i, X^i)$

$$Y = AX + B$$

This is standard linear fit procedure by minimizing the least square error

$$e_i = Y^i - AX^i - B$$
$$E = (e_i)^T (e_i)$$

The mean and covariance at time  $k + 1$  can be found from the Kalman filter propagation equations

$$\mu_{k+1} = A\mu_k$$
$$P_{k+1} = AP_kA^T + Q_k$$

## Unscented Kalman Filter- Unscented Transform

- The UKF works in the same ways as the LRKF but the samples are chosen in a **determined** way such that they always match the mean and covariance or higher moments at the current step.
- The points are propagated using the **nonlinear dynamics**. The mean and covariance at time step  $k + 1$  are calculated from these propagated points.
- The **first approximation** the UKF does to the CKE is that it replaces the current state PDF with a gaussian PDF with same first two moments.

- There is **no linearizations involved**, instead the integral is itself evaluated approximately using quadrature points of the gaussian weighting function-**second approximation**.
- The UKF like the EKF only keeps track of the first two moments of the state PDF.
- We can still improve the **second approximation** by better evaluating the integrals.

One could look at the UKF in the following perspective, starting from CKE

$$P(x_{k+1}) = \int N(x_{k+1}|x_k)P(x_k)dx_k$$

Replacing the state PDF with gaussian pdf with equivalent mean  $\mu_k$  and covariance  $P_k$ .

$$P(x_{k+1}) = \int N(x_{k+1}|x_k)N(x_k)dx_k$$

Calculating the mean of  $P(x_{k+1})$  by integrating on both side wrt  $x_{k+1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{k+1} &= \int \int N(x_{k+1} - f(x_k)|Q_k)dx_{k+1}N(x_k)dx_k \\ &= \int f(x_k)N(x_k)dx_k\end{aligned}$$

The covariance can be calculated from the second raw moment

$$\begin{aligned} E[x_{k+1}x_{k+1}^T] &= \int \int x_{k+1}x_{k+1}^T N(x_{k+1} - f(x_k)|Q_k)dx_{k+1}N(x_k)dx_k \\ &= \int (f(x_k)f(x_k)^T + Q_k)N(x_k)dx_k \end{aligned}$$

By parallel axis theorem for moments the covariance is calculated as

$$P_k = E[x_{k+1}x_{k+1}^T] - \mu_{k+1}\mu_{k+1}^T$$

- Thus by evaluating two integrals we get the mean and covariance.
- The second raw moment and the mean need to be evaluated accurate enough or else the parallel axis theorem for moments might render the **covariance to be positive semi definite**.

For example in a 1D case, the integrals would be

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{k+1} &= \int f(x_k) N(x_k) dx_k \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N w^i f(x_k^i) \\ E[x_{k+1}^2] &= \int (f(x_k)^2 + Q_k) N(x_k) dx_k \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N w^i f(x_k^i)^2 + Q_k \sum_{i=1}^N w^i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N w^i f(x_k^i)^2 + Q_k\end{aligned}$$

The covariance is

$$\begin{aligned} P_k &= E[x_{k+1}^2] - \mu_{k+1}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N w^i (f(x_k^i) - \mu_{k+1})^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the UKF boils down to just evaluating the integrals involving gaussian kernel using the quadrature points.



## Unscented Transform-Integration using Quadrature points for Gaussian Kernel

- This section shows the derivation of a new set of quadrature points that can exactly match all the first four and even six moments of the gaussian weighting function for any dimension.
- The main **draw back** of the  $2n + 1$ ,  $4n + 1$  or even the  $6n + 1$  sigma points is that they cannot capture the 4th moment or any higher order even moment exactly. It is illustrated that **we need to search in additional directions** to satisfy higher order moments.
- An example is presented that evidently shows that these methods cannot capture the 4th moment of the gaussian weighting function.

**An Example illustrating the fact that the  $2n + 1$ ,  $4n + 1$  and  $6n + 1$  set of sigma points cannot satisfy the 4th moment**

- All these set of sigma points tend to pick symmetric points on the principle axis of the  $\sigma$  contours.
- Their distances from the mean and the corresponding weights are chosen in a heuristic manner such that they satisfy the covariances.
- The main motive is that we have a gaussian pdf and we want to discretize it such that the discrete pdf can capture the moments of the continuous gaussian pdf.

For example consider a 2D system. The square root of the covariance matrix  $P$  is defined as

$$\sqrt{P} = AA^T$$

where  $A$  is the matrix square root. Let

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} \\ P_{12} & P_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

if  $A$  is considered to be the principle square root of the symmetric matrix  $P$  then  $A$  is also symmetric.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{11} = \sigma_{11}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2$$

$$P_{12} = \sigma_{11}\sigma_{12} + \sigma_{12}\sigma_{22}$$

$$P_{22} = \sigma_{12}^2 + \sigma_{22}^2$$

The principle axis of the  $1\sigma$  contour are columns of A  
i.e.

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Now for example the  $4n + 1$  set of sigma points for the 2D case has 1 point on the mean, 4 points on the principle axis of  $r_1\sigma$  contour and the rest 4 points on the principle axis of another  $r_2\sigma$  contour.
- The mean is considered as the origin as once the points are found they can be translated by the given mean vector.
- The points that lie on the same contour have the same weights. So now there are only 3 weights:  $w_0$  for the mean,  $w_1$  for the 4  $r_1\sigma$  contour points and  $w_2$  for the 4  $r_2\sigma$  contour points.

The points are

$$(0, 0)$$

$$(r_1\sigma_{11}, r_1\sigma_{12})$$

$$(-r_1\sigma_{11}, -r_1\sigma_{12})$$

$$(r_1\sigma_{12}, r_1\sigma_{22})$$

$$(-r_1\sigma_{12}, -r_1\sigma_{22})$$

$$(r_2\sigma_{11}, r_2\sigma_{12})$$

$$(-r_2\sigma_{11}, -r_2\sigma_{12})$$

$$(r_2\sigma_{12}, r_2\sigma_{22})$$

$$(-r_2\sigma_{12}, -r_2\sigma_{22})$$

Visually they look like

4np1pts.jpg



- There are two sets of points on each sigma contour. This is just to illustrate the difference between the points derived from principle square root and cholesky decomposition of  $P$ .
- Cholesky decomposition results in points that lie on the ellipse/ contour but not on the principle axis.

- The mean and all **higher order odd moments** are automatically satisfied as the points are chosen to be **symmetric**.

The covariance equations i.e. the second moments are

$$E[x_1^2] = \sum w_i x_{1i}^2 = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 2w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{11}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2) = P_{11}$$

$$E[x_1 x_2] = \sum w_i x_{1i} x_{2i} = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 2w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{11}\sigma_{12} + \sigma_{12}\sigma_{22}) = P_{12}$$

$$E[x_2^2] = \sum w_i x_{2i}^2 = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 2w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{12}^2 + \sigma_{22}^2) = P_{22}$$

- It can be seen that by choosing points on the sigma contours the 3 equations for a 2D case collapse into just solving one equations i.e.

$$2w_1 r_1^2 + 2w_2 r_2^2 = 1$$

Now looking at the 4th moment.

$$E[x_1^4] = \sum w_i x_{1i}^4 = (2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4)(\sigma_{11}^4 + \sigma_{12}^4) \equiv 3P_{11}^2$$

$$E[x_1^3 x_2] = \sum w_i x_{1i}^3 x_{2i} = (2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4)(\sigma_{11}^3 \sigma_{12} + \sigma_{12}^3 \sigma_{22}) \equiv 3P_{11} P_{12}$$

$$E[x_1^2 x_2^2] = \sum w_i x_{1i}^2 x_{2i}^2 = (2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4)(\sigma_{11}^2 \sigma_{12}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2 \sigma_{22}^2) \equiv P_{11} P_{22} + 2P_{12}^2$$

$$E[x_1 x_2^3] = \sum w_i x_{1i} x_{2i}^3 = (2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4)(\sigma_{11} \sigma_{12}^3 + \sigma_{12} \sigma_{22}^3) \equiv 3P_{22} P_{12}$$

$$E[x_2^4] = \sum w_i x_{2i}^4 = (2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4)(\sigma_{12}^4 + \sigma_{22}^4) \equiv 3P_{22}^2$$

• Here we have 5 equations which seem to have the same left hand side of variables  $2w_1 r_1^4 + 2w_2 r_2^4$  but different right hand side of constant values.

• These are like **parallel curves** that do not intersect and cannot be solved for. It does not matter how many points we take on the principle axis or in general sigma contour formed from  $\sqrt{P}$ , we always end up in the above structure.

**Searching for Quadrature points on principle axis and conjugate axis that can satisfy the 4th moment ” ‘exactly”**

Again for a 2D case, the axis are chosen as  
Principle axis:

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Conjugate axis:

$$\sigma_3 = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2$$

$$\sigma_4 = \sigma_1 - \sigma_2$$

The points are therefore

$$(0, 0)$$

$$(r_1\sigma_{11}, r_1\sigma_{12})$$

$$(-r_1\sigma_{11}, -r_1\sigma_{12})$$

$$(r_1\sigma_{12}, r_1\sigma_{22})$$

$$(-r_1\sigma_{12}, -r_1\sigma_{22})$$

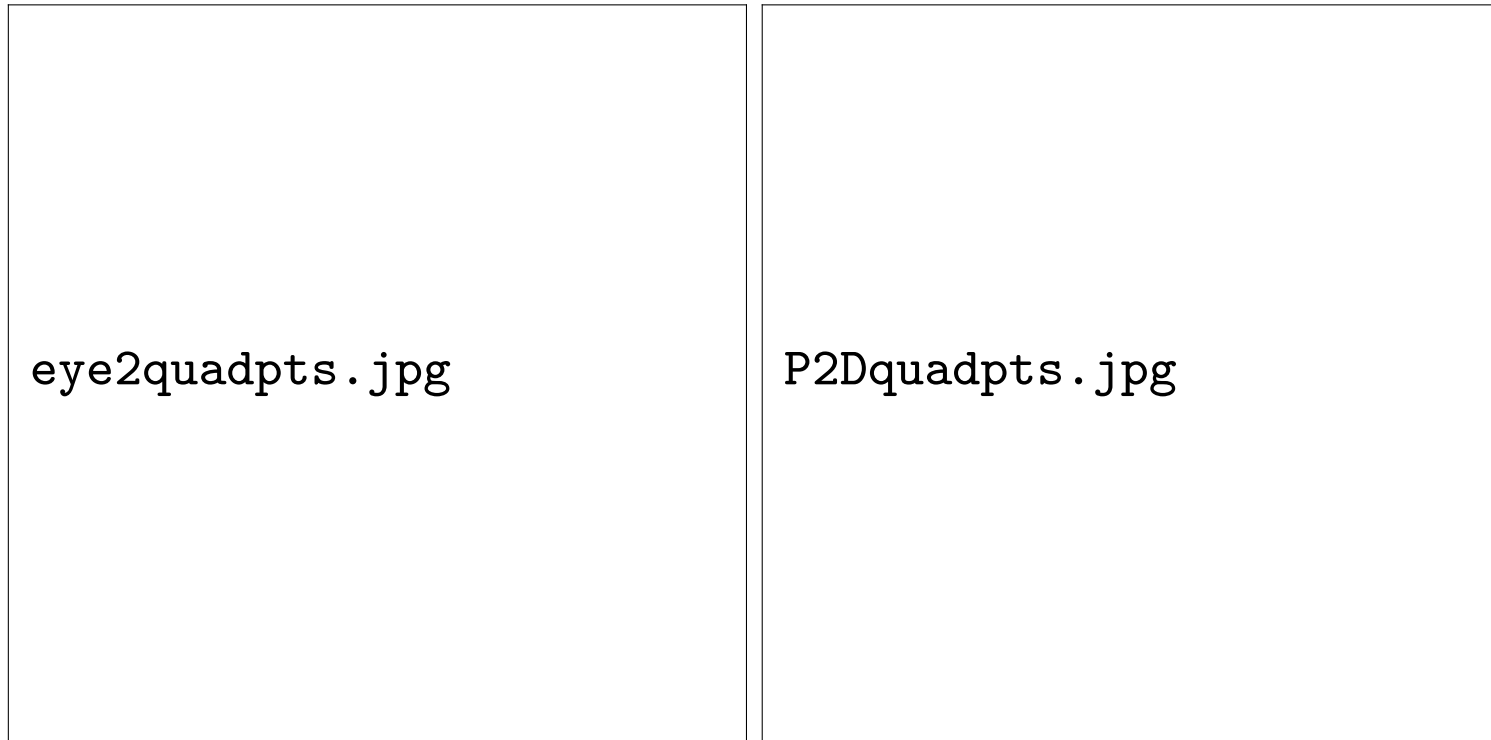
$$(r_2(\sigma_{11} + \sigma_{12}), r_2(\sigma_{12} + \sigma_{22}))$$

$$(-r_2(\sigma_{11} + \sigma_{12}), -r_2(\sigma_{12} + \sigma_{22}))$$

$$(r_2(\sigma_{11} - \sigma_{12}), r_2(\sigma_{12} - \sigma_{22}))$$

$$(-r_2(\sigma_{11} - \sigma_{12}), -r_2(\sigma_{12} - \sigma_{22}))$$

Visually they look like



(a) Identity Cov and (b)  $[4, 2; 2, 3]$  Cov

## Isserlis Theorem:

Any arbitrary moment of a Gaussian PDF is given by

$$E[x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_{2n}] = \sum \prod E[x_i x_j]$$

for example the fourth moment is

$$E[x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4] = E[x_1 x_2] E[x_3 x_4] + E[x_1 x_3] E[x_4 x_5] + E[x_1 x_4] E[x_2 x_3]$$

Therefore any order moment higher than 2 is dependent on the entries of the covariance matrix

The 2nd moment equations are

$$E[x_1^2] = \sum w_i x_{1i}^2 = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 4w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{11}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2) = P_{11}$$

$$E[x_1 x_2] = \sum w_i x_{1i} x_{2i} = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 4w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{11}\sigma_{12} + \sigma_{12}\sigma_{22}) = P_{12}$$

$$E[x_2^2] = \sum w_i x_{2i}^2 = (2w_1 r_1^2 + 4w_2 r_2^2)(\sigma_{12}^2 + \sigma_{22}^2) = P_{22}$$

From these 3 equations we are only left to solve the equation

$$2w_1 r_1^2 + 4w_2 r_2^2 = 1$$

Now if we consider the 5- 4th order moment equations we are only left to solve the 2 equations

$$2w_1 r_1^4 + 4w_2 r_2^4 = 3$$

$$4w_2 r_2^4 = 1$$



Now if we apply the same procedure to n-dimensional system we can generalise the set of equations. In summary

$$2w_1r_1^2 + 2^n w_2 r_2^2 = 1$$

$$2w_1r_1^4 + 2^n w_2 r_2^4 = 3$$

$$2^n w_2 r_2^4 = 1$$

$$w_0 = 1 - 2nw_1 - 2^n w_2$$

equations have to be solved for  $w_1, r_1, w_2, r_2$ . In total there are  $2n + 2^n + 1$  points. 1 point of weight  $w_0$  on the mean,  $2n$  points of weight  $w_1$  lie on the principle axis on the  $r1\sqrt{P}$  contour, rest  $2^n$  points lie on the conjugate axis symmetrically.

## Results of integration compared to Gauss Hermite integration for 3D system

Here in this section the new set of quadrature points for 3D case are put to test, **compared to gauss hermite integration**. As the new set of points are only **good till fourth moment** we would consider the integration of **polynomials till degree 4**.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F = x_1^4 + x_2^4 + x_3^4 + x_1^3 x_2 + x_1^2 x_2^2 + \\ + x_3^2 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3^2 + x_1^3 x_3 + x_2^3 x_3 + x_3^3 x_2$$

No. of pts	$2^3 = 8$	$3^3 = 27$	$4^3 = 64$	$10^3 = 1000$ (Truth)
GH	1056.95571	1797.9999999	1798.00	1798.00
% error wrt Truth	41.2149211	4.299e-013	3.03502e-013	0

	No. of pts	Integration result	% error wrt Truth
NM	15	1797.99999998858	6.355208041935254e-010

## Quadrature points to capture the 6th moment exactly

- To capture the 6th order moments exactly extra points are taken on different set of axis.
- For example consider the 3D case. There are 3 principle axis  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$ . Additional axis that are **constructed from these axis** are

The principle axis have 6 points

$$(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3)$$

The conjugate axis have 8 points

$$\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_1 - \sigma_2 + \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 - \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_1 - \sigma_2 - \sigma_3$$

The new axis lie in each of the orthogonal planes, pass through the origin and are  $45^\circ$  to each axis in that plane. There are 12 pts on these axis

$$\sigma_1 + \sigma_2$$

$$\sigma_1 - \sigma_2$$

$$\sigma_1 + \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_1 - \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_2 + \sigma_3$$

$$\sigma_2 - \sigma_3$$

In total there are  $6 + 8 + 12 = 26$  quadrature points to capture all the 6th order and lower moments.

3d6thmomentpts.jpg

2dcorr6thmomentpts.jpg

2d\_weird\_case2.jpg



For a general n- Dimensional system the equations to be solved a

$$\begin{aligned}
 2r_1^2w_1 + 2^n r_2^2w_2 + 4(n-1)r_3^2w_3 &= 1 \\
 2r_1^4w_1 + 2^n r_2^4w_2 + 4(n-1)r_3^4w_3 &= 3 \\
 2^n r_2^4w_2 + 4r_3^4w_3 &= 1 \\
 2r_1^6w_1 + 2^n r_2^6w_2 + 4(n-1)r_3^6w_3 &= 15 \\
 2^n r_2^6w_2 + 4r_3^6w_3 &= 3 \\
 2^n r_2^6w_2 &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

There are in total  $2n + 2^n + 2n(n-1)$  points.

## Results of integration compared to Gauss Hermite integration for 4D system

Here in this section the new set of quadrature points to capture the 6th moment also for **4D case** are put to test, compared to **gauss hermite quadrature points**. As the new set of points are only **good till sixth order moment** we would consider the integration of polynomials till **degree 6**.

The covariance of the gaussian Kernel

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 16 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 & 25 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F = x_1^6 + x_2^6 + x_3^6 + x_4^6 + x_1^4 + x_2^4 + x_3^4 + x_4^4 + x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3^2 + x_1^3 x_3 + x_1^2 x_2^4 + x_3^4 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3^4 + x_1^3 x_3 + x_2^3 x_3 + x_3^3 x_2$$

No. of pts	$2^4 = 16$	$3^4 = 81$	$4^4 = 256$	$5^4 = 64$	$20^4 = 160000$
GH	84462.6354	293311.8446	375417.9999	375417.9999	375417.9999
% error	77.5017	21.8705	9.0702e-012	8.9152e-012	0

	No. of pts	Integration result	% error wrt Truth
NM	49	3.754206e+005	7.112483626542660e-004