Intelligent distributed systems

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2022/2023



Outline

- Unscented Kalman Filter
- Particle Filters
- Interactive Multiple Models
 - Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian Estimator
 - IMM

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- 2 Particle Filters
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Another approach in this cases is the *Unscented Kalman Filter* (UKF), an extension of the Kalman filter that reduces the linearisation errors of the EKF. The use of the UKF can provide significant improvement over the EKF.

Propagation of means

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Assume that both the measurement quantities are affected by the noises η_r and η_θ that are generated by two *wide-sense stationary* and *independent processes* with symmetric pdfs and such that $\mu_{\eta_r} = \mu_{\eta_\theta} = 0$ and variances $\sigma_{n_\theta}^2$ and $\sigma_{n_\theta}^2$, i.e. $p_m = [r_m, \theta_m]^T = [r + \eta_r, \theta + \eta_\theta]^T$.

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coordinates $z = [x, y]^T$, therefore

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} r_m \cos(\theta_m) \\ r_m \sin(\theta_m) \end{bmatrix} = h(p_m)$$

Propagation of means

Let us compute a first order approximation:

$$\mu_z = \mathsf{E}\left\{h(p_m)\right\} \approx \mathsf{E}\left\{h(\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}) + \left.\frac{\partial h(p_m)}{\partial p_m}\right|_{\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}} (p_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\})\right\}$$

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Since $\mathsf{E}\left\{p_{m}\right\}=p$, we have

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Suppose $p = [1, \pi/2]^T$, we have $\mu_z = [0, 1]$.

Propagation of means

However, if we consider

$$\mu_x = \mathsf{E}\left\{x_m\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\cos\theta_m\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{(r+\eta_r)(\cos\theta\cos\eta_\theta - \sin\theta\sin\eta_\theta)\right\}$$

that, assuming independence of the noises and symmetry of the pdfs and the point $p = [r, \theta]^T = [1, \pi/2]^T$, we have

$$\mu_x = r \cos \theta \mathsf{E} \left\{ \cos \eta_\theta \right\} = 0$$

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If we consider

$$\mu_y = \mathsf{E}\left\{y_m\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\sin\theta_m\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{(r+\eta_r)(\sin\theta\cos\eta_\theta - \cos\theta\sin\eta_\theta)\right\}$$

that assuming independence of the noises and symmetry of the pdfs and the point $p=[r,\theta]^T=[1,\pi/2]^T$, we have

$$\mu_y = r \sin \theta \mathsf{E} \left\{ \cos \eta_\theta \right\} = \mathsf{E} \left\{ \cos \eta_\theta \right\}$$

Propagation of means

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Notice that, while with the *first order approximation* we had $\mu_z = [0,1]$, now instead of 1 we have a number that is equal to 1 *only if* $\eta_{\theta}^* = 0$, while a value that is < 1, $\forall \eta_{\theta}^* > 0$.

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Hence, the first order approximation $\mu_z = [0, 1]$ is incorrect!

Propagation of means

Let us see what happens if we expand up to the second order.

$$\begin{split} \mu_z &= \mathsf{E}\left\{h(p_m)\right\} \approx \mathsf{E}\left\{h(\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}) + \frac{\partial h(p_m)}{\partial p_m} \bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}} \left(p_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}\right)\right\} + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial r_m^2} \bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}} \left(r_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\right\}\right)^2\right\} + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial \theta_m^2} \bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}} \left(\theta_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{\theta_m\right\}\right)^2\right\} + \\ &+ \mathsf{E}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial r_m \partial \theta_m} \bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\left\{p_m\right\}} \left(r_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\right\}\right) \left(\theta_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{\theta_m\right\}\right)\right\} \end{split}$$

Propagation of means

We notice that:

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial r_m^2}\bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\{p_m\}}\left(r_m-\mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\right\}\right)^2\right\} = \begin{bmatrix}0\\0\end{bmatrix}$$

Propagation of means

We notice that:

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\left.\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial r_m^2}\right|_{\mathsf{E}\{p_m\}}(r_m-\mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\right\})^2\right\} = \begin{bmatrix}0\\0\end{bmatrix}$$

Then:

$$\mathsf{E}\left\{\left.\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial r_m \partial \theta_m}\right|_{\mathsf{E}\{p_m\}} (r_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m\right\})(\theta_m - \mathsf{E}\left\{\theta_m\right\})\right\} = \begin{bmatrix}0\\0\end{bmatrix}$$

since the two rvs are uncorrelated.

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since the two rvs are uncorrelated.

Finally:

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\left.\frac{\partial^2 h(p_m)}{\partial \theta_m^2}\right|_{\mathsf{E}\{p_m\}}(\theta_m-\mathsf{E}\left\{\theta_m\right\})^2\right\} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{\eta_\theta}^2\begin{bmatrix}0\\-1\end{bmatrix}$$

Propagation of means

From this result it follows that the second order approximation

$$\mu_z = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{\eta_\theta}^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Hence, while $\mu_x = \mathsf{E}\{x_m\} = 0$, we have

$$\mu_y = \mathsf{E}\left\{y_m\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\eta_\theta\right\} \approx 1 - \frac{\sigma_{\eta_\theta}^2}{2}$$

where the approximation is up to the second order.

Propagation of means

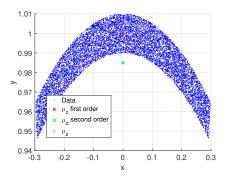


Figure: Approximation of the means for the previous example (with $\eta_r \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.01, 0.01)$ metres and $\eta_\theta \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.4, 0.4)$ radians) for the *first order* Taylor, *second order* Taylor and the solution using a Monte Carlo approach (i.e. *Type B evaluation*).

Propagation of covariances

Let us try to compute the covariance of z, i.e.

$$C\{z\} = E\{(z - \mu_z)(z - \mu_z)^T\}$$

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$$C\{z\} = E\{(z - \mu_z)(z - \mu_z)^T\}$$

If we resort to the *first order approximation*, we have:

$$C\{z\} \approx HC\{p_m\}H^T$$

where

$$H = \frac{\partial h(p_m)}{\partial p_m} \bigg|_{\mathsf{E}\{p_m\}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1\\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Propagation of covariances

Notice that

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{C}\left\{p_{m}\right\} &= \mathsf{E}\left\{(p_{m} - \mathsf{E}\left\{p_{m}\right\})(p_{m} - \mathsf{E}\left\{p_{m}\right\})^{T}\right\} = \\ &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix}\eta_{r}\\\eta_{\theta}\end{bmatrix}\left[\eta_{r} \quad \eta_{\theta}\right]\right\} = \begin{bmatrix}\sigma_{r}^{2} & 0\\0 & \sigma_{\theta}^{2}\end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

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which leads to

$$\mathsf{C}\left\{z\right\} \approx H\mathsf{C}\left\{p_{m}\right\}H^{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{\theta}^{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{r}^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e., an approximated description of the covariance.

Propagation of covariances

Instead, if we make use of the approximation *up to the second order*, we have

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{C}\left\{z\right\} &= \mathsf{E}\left\{(z-\mu_z)(z-\mu_z)^T\right\} = \\ &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} r_m\cos\theta_m \\ r_m\sin\theta_m - \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix} \left[r_m\cos\theta_m & r_m\sin\theta_m - \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right) \right]\right\} = \\ &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} r_m^2\cos\theta_m^2 & r_m^2\cos\theta_m\sin\theta_m - r_m\cos\theta_m \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right) \\ r_m^2\cos\theta_m\sin\theta_m - r_m\cos\theta_m \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right) & r_m^2\sin\theta_m^2 + \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right)^2 - 2r_m\sin\theta_m \left(1-\frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}\right\} \end{split}$$

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Propagation of covariances

We now notice that if $\eta_r \sim \mathcal{U}(-r^*, r^*)$ with variance σ_r^2 , $\eta_\theta \sim \mathcal{U}(-\eta_\theta^*, \eta_\theta^*)$ with variance σ_{θ}^2 and $p = [r, \theta]^T = [1, \pi/2]$, we have $\mathsf{E}\left\{r_m^2\cos\theta_m^2\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{r_m^2\right\} \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\theta_m^2\right\}$ $\mathsf{E}\{r_m^2\} = \mathsf{E}\{r^2\} + \mathsf{E}\{\eta_r^2\} + 2r\mathsf{E}\{\eta_r\} = 1 + \sigma_r^2$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\theta_{m}^{2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2\theta_{m}\right\})$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\sin\theta_m^2\right\} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2\theta_m\right\})$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2\theta_{m}\right\} = -\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2\eta_{\theta}\right\}$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2n_{\theta}\right\} \approx 1 - 2\sigma_{\theta}^2$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\theta_{m}\right\}=0$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\sin\theta_{m}\right\} = \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\eta_{\theta}\right\} \approx 1 - \frac{\sigma_{\theta}^{2}}{2}$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\theta_{m}\sin\theta_{m}\right\} = -\sin_{\theta}^{2}\mathsf{E}\left\{\cos\eta_{\theta}\sin\eta_{\theta}\right\} = 0$

Propagation of covariances

Substituting

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{C} \left\{ z \right\} &= \mathsf{E} \left\{ (z - \mu_z) (z - \mu_z)^T \right\} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (1 + \sigma_r^2) \sigma_\theta^2 & 0 \\ 0 & (1 + \sigma_r^2) (1 + \sigma_\theta^2) - \left(1 - \frac{\sigma_\theta^2}{2}\right)^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

Propagation of covariances

Instead, if we make use of the *analytic solution* with no approximation (which *is only valid* for uniform pdfs), we have

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{C}\left\{z\right\} &= \mathsf{E}\left\{(z-\mu_z)(z-\mu_z)^T\right\} = \\ &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} r_m\cos\theta_m \\ r_m\sin\theta_m - \frac{\sin\eta_\theta^*}{\eta_\theta^*} \end{bmatrix} \left[r_m\cos\theta_m & r_m\sin\theta_m - \frac{\sin\eta_\theta^*}{\eta_\theta^*} \right]\right\} = \\ &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} r_m^2\cos\theta_m^2 & r_m^2\cos\theta_m\sin\theta_m - r_m\cos\theta_m \frac{\sin\eta_\theta^*}{\eta_\theta^*} \\ r_m^2\cos\theta_m\sin\theta_m - r_m\cos\theta_m \frac{\sin\eta_\theta^*}{\eta_\theta^*} & r_m^2\sin\theta_m^2 + \frac{\sin\eta_\theta^{*2}}{\eta_\theta^{*2}} - 2r_m\sin\theta_m^{*2} \end{bmatrix}\right\} \end{split}$$

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Propagation of covariances

With respect to the previous case we only have the following differences

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos 2\eta_{\theta}\right\} &= \frac{\sin 2\eta_{\theta}^{*}}{2\eta_{\theta}^{*}} \\ \mathsf{E}\left\{\sin \theta_{m}\right\} &= \mathsf{E}\left\{\cos \eta_{\theta}\right\} = \frac{\sin \eta_{\theta}^{*}}{\eta_{\theta}^{*}} \end{split}$$

Propagation of covariances

Hence, substituting we have

$$C\{z\} = E\{(z - \mu_z)(z - \mu_z)^T\} =$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sigma_r^2)(1 - \frac{\sin 2\eta_\theta^*}{2\eta_\theta^*}) & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sigma_r^2)(1 + \frac{\sin 2\eta_\theta^*}{2\eta_\theta^*}) - \frac{\sin \eta_\theta^{*2}}{\eta_\theta^{*2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Propagation of covariances

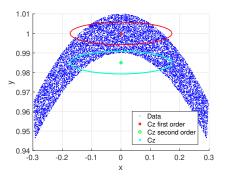


Figure: Approximation of the covariances for the previous example (with $\eta_r \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.01, 0.01)$ metres and $\eta_\theta \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.4, 0.4)$ radians) for the *first order* Taylor, *second order* Taylor and the *analytic* solution using a Monte Carlo approach (i.e. *Type B evaluation*).

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The *mean* and the *variance* are not sufficient to fully describe the pdf in many cases.

Propagation of covariances

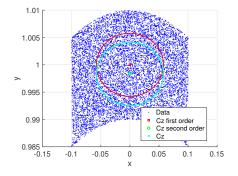


Figure: Approximation of the covariances for the previous example when $\eta_{\theta} \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.1, 0.1)$ radians.

Unscented Transformation

It is in general quite difficult to determine the pdf p(y) of y if y=f(x). However:

- It is easy to compute $y^{(i)} = f(x^{(i)})$, where $x^{(i)}$ is a point extracted from p(x);
- If we collect a set of 2n points $x^{(i)}$ (where n is the dimension of x), generating $y^{(i)}=f(x^{(i)}), \ i=1,\ldots,2n,$ such that from $y^{(i)}$ it is possible to approximate p(y), then the problem turns out to be feasible;
- Such points $x^{(i)}$ are called sigma-points.

Unscented Transformation

More precisely:

- Suppose we know $\mathsf{E}\left\{x\right\} = \mu_x$ and $\mathsf{C}\left\{x\right\} = P_x$;
- We derive the 2n sigma-points $x^{(i)}$ such that the their sample mean and sample covariance matrix are μ_x and P_x ;
- We then derive $y^{(i)} = f(x^{(i)}), i = 1, ..., 2n$;
- The sample mean $\hat{\mu}_y$ and sample covariance matrix \hat{P}_y will then be, with a reasonable approximation, the actual μ_y and P_y of p(y).

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The described algorithm is called the unscented transformation.

Unscented Transformation

One way to generate the 2n sigma-points is the following:

- We denote with $\sqrt{nP_x}$ the square root of nP_x such that $\sqrt{nP_x}^T\sqrt{nP_x}=nP_x$ (this can be obtained with the *Cholesky decomposition*);
- We denote with $(\sqrt{nP_x})_i$ the *i*-th row of $\sqrt{nP_x}$;
- The sigma-points are then possibly given by

$$x^{(i)} = \mu_x + \tilde{x}^{(i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 2n$$
$$\tilde{x}^{(i)} = \left(\sqrt{nP_x}\right)_i^T, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$
$$\tilde{x}^{(i+n)} = -\left(\sqrt{nP_x}\right)_i^T, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Unscented Transformation

Given the sigma-points, is then possible to estimate the mean $\hat{\mu}_y$ and covariance matrix \hat{P}_y of the actual μ_y and P_y as follows:

•
$$\hat{\mu}_y = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} y^{(i)} = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} f(x^{(i)});$$

•
$$\hat{P}_y = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (y^{(i)} - \hat{\mu}_y) (y^{(i)} - \hat{\mu}_y)^T = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (f(x^{(i)}) - \hat{\mu}_y) (f(x^{(i)}) - \hat{\mu}_y)^T.$$

Unscented Transformation

The main advantages of the unscented transformation are the following:

- There is no need to linearise the functions (as it happens, e.g., in the EKF);
- The approximation given by $\hat{\mu}_y$ is correct up to the second order of the Taylor expansion (not the first, as in the classic linearisation). To prove this, it is sufficient to compute the Taylor expansion of $\hat{\mu}_y$ around μ_x and then noticing that by the peculiar choice of the sigma-points (i.e., $\tilde{x}^{(i)} = -\tilde{x}^{(i+n)}$), the odd terms of the expansion cancels out;
- Instead, for the approximation given by \hat{P}_y , the order is the same as for the linearised version. Nonetheless, there is some level of knowledge of higher order terms (e.g., at least the sign is estimated correctly), hence a higher degree of approximation is obtained.

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Therefore, given the following system definition

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} = f_k(x_k, u_k) + \nu_k \\ z_k = h_k(x_k) + \varepsilon_k \end{cases}$$

where ν_k and ε_k are two zero-mean uncertainties generated by a white stochastic process, with covariance matrices Q_k and R_k , respectively.

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where ν_k and ε_k are two zero-mean uncertainties generated by a white stochastic process, with covariance matrices Q_k and R_k , respectively. Notice that the system can be time-varying, but the noises are at the moment considered as *additive* (e.g., a system that is affine in the *uncertainties*).

Initialisation step:

•

$$\hat{x}_0 = \mathsf{E}\{x_0\} \text{ and } P_0 = \mathsf{E}\{(x_0 - \hat{x}_0)(x_0 - \hat{x}_0)^T\}.$$

Prediction step: Given \hat{x}_{k-1} and P_{k-1} , compute

• Sigma-points:

$$\hat{x}_{k-1}^{(i)} = \hat{x}_{k-1} + \tilde{x}^{(i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(i)} = \left(\sqrt{nP_{k-1}}\right)_{i}^{T}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(i+n)} = -\left(\sqrt{nP_{k-1}}\right)_{i}^{T}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

• Transform the sigma-points according to the system dynamics, i.e.

$$\hat{x}_k^{(i)} = f_k(\hat{x}_{k-1}^{(i)}, u_k).$$

Prediction step:

• Compute the *predicted* estimates

$$\hat{x}_k^- = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \hat{x}_k^{(i)}.$$

Estimate the predicted covariance matrix of the estimation error

$$\hat{P}_k^- = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (\hat{x}_k^{(i)} - \hat{x}_k^-) (\hat{x}_k^{(i)} - \hat{x}_k^-)^T + Q_{k-1}.$$

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Measurement update step:

• Sigma-points:

$$\hat{x}_{k}^{(i)} = \hat{x}_{k}^{-} + \tilde{x}^{(i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(i)} = \left(\sqrt{nP_{k}^{-}}\right)_{i}^{T}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\tilde{x}^{(i+n)} = -\left(\sqrt{nP_{k}^{-}}\right)_{i}^{T}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

This step can use the same sigma-points of the prediction to save computation time, at the price of a reduced performance.

• Transform the *sigma-points* according to the system measurement function, i.e.

$$\hat{z}_k^{(i)} = h_k(\hat{x}_k^{(i)}).$$

Measurement update step:

• Compute the *output* mean

$$\hat{z}_k = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \hat{z}_k^{(i)}.$$

Estimate the innovation covariance matrix

$$\hat{S}_z = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (\hat{z}_k^{(i)} - \hat{z}_k) (\hat{z}_k^{(i)} - \hat{z}_k)^T + R_k.$$

Estimate the innovation and state cross-covariance matrix

$$\hat{P}_{x,z} = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (\hat{x}_k^{(i)} - \hat{x}_k^-) (\hat{z}_k^{(i)} - \hat{z}_k)^T.$$

Measurement update step:

Compute the UKF gain

$$W_k = \hat{P}_{x,z} \hat{S}_z^{-1}.$$

Update the estimates

$$\hat{x}_k = \hat{x}_k^- + W_k(z_k - \hat{z}_k).$$

• Update the estimation error covariance matrix

$$P_k = P_k^- - W_k \hat{S}_z W_k^T.$$

Then, starts over.

Remark

If the uncertainties are not additive, i.e.

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} = f_k(x_k, u_k, \nu_k) \\ z_k = h_k(x_k, \varepsilon_k) \end{cases}$$

the problem can be solved by adding the uncertainties in the augmented state, i.e.

$$q_k = \begin{bmatrix} x_k \\ \nu_k \\ \varepsilon_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

Remark

In such a case, we have

$$\hat{q}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} E\{x_0\} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$P_0 = \begin{bmatrix} E\{(x_0 - E\{x_0\})(x_0 - E\{x_0\})^T\} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & Q_0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & R_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Details can be found in S. Julier and J. Uhlmann, 'Unscented filtering and nonlinear estimation", Proceedings of the IEEE, 92(3), pp. 401-422 (March 2004).

Remark

There are other possible unscented transformation that can be applied. The most popular are the generalised unscented transformation (using 2n+1 points, an additional tuning parameter κ and generic weights of the sigma-points instead of 1/2n), the simplex unscented transformation (which minimises the number of sigma-points to n+1) and the spherical unscented transformation (developed with the goal of rearranging the sigma-points of the simplex algorithm in order to obtain better numerical stability).

Remark

UKF can be "easily" distributed among several robots using similar steps as for the EKF.

The interested reader may have a look at:

Wenling Li and Yingmin Jia, Consensus-Based Distributed Multiple Model UKF for Jump Markov Nonlinear Systems, IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control, Vol. 57, No. 1, January 2012.

Outline

- Unscented Kalman Filter
- Particle Filters
- Interactive Multiple Models
 - Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian Estimator
 - $\mid \mid \mid \mid \mid \mid \mid \mid$

Particle filters are a kind of *brute force* approaches developed in 40s, but actually applied from the 80s due to their relatively high computational burden.

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The idea behind the *particle filter* is the same of the *frequentist* definition of probabilities: when a problem becomes too complicated, with many possible outcomes, it is impossible to give an analytic description, however an estimate of the probability may be given by *observation*.

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The idea behind the *particle filter* is the same of the *frequentist* definition of probabilities: when a problem becomes too complicated, with many possible outcomes, it is impossible to give an analytic description, however an estimate of the probability may be given by *observation*. We saw that UKF can be used when the EKF is a too harsh

approximation. Nevertheless, both UKF and EKF need tuning. When the nonlinearities become too severe or the system is hard to be modelled, that is when the *Particle filter* comes into play.

We recall here the recursive Bayesian filter steps:

 The first computes the <u>new</u> estimate given all the previous measurements. In doing so, it makes use of the <u>system dynamics</u>, i.e.

$$p(x(k)|Z^{k-1}) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x(k)|x(k-1))p(x(k-1)|Z^{k-1})dx(k-1).$$

This step is called *prediction*: it predicts the next value x(k) given the previous knowledge x(k-1);

 The second refines the prior with the new set of measurements (i.e. the new gained knowledge) using the likelihood function, i.e.

$$p(x(k)|Z^k) = \frac{p(z(k)|x(k))p(x(k)|Z^{k-1})}{p(z(k)|Z^{k-1})}.$$

Since this second step updates the prediction with new knowledge, it is called *update*.

For the denominator of the Bayes equation (i.e., the normalisation factor), we consider the *Total Probability Law* and the Markovian property, thus having

$$p(z(k)|Z^{k-1}) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(z(k)|x(k))p(x(k)|Z^{k-1})dx(k),$$

that is, as usual, the integral of the numerator (normalisation).

Linear system with Gaussian uncertainties

From the definition of the dynamic systems

$$x(k+1) = Ax(k) + \nu(k),$$

we have immediately that

$$V\left\{x(k+1)\right\} = AP_kA^T + Q,$$

hence $\Sigma=Q$ i.e., the covariance matrix of the r.v. x(k+1) given the model!

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Notice how the uncertainty inevitably increases in the *prediction* step since AP_kA^T and Q are both p.d.

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Linear system with Gaussian uncertainties

To summarise, assuming that
$$\mathsf{E}\left\{\nu(k)\nu(j)\right\} = Q(k)\delta_{k,j},$$
 $\nu(k) \sim \mathcal{N}(0,Q(k)), \; \mathsf{E}\left\{\varepsilon(k)\varepsilon(j)\right\} = R(k)\delta_{k,j}, \; \varepsilon(k) \sim \mathcal{N}(0,R(k)),$ $\mathsf{E}\left\{\nu(k)\varepsilon(j)\right\} = 0, \; \forall i,j, \; \mathsf{and}$
$$x(k+1) = A(k)x(k) + B(k)u(k) + G(k)\nu(k),$$

$$z(k) = H(k)x(k) + F(k)\varepsilon(k),$$

we have

$$p(x(k)|Z^{k}) = \mathcal{N}(\hat{x}(k), P(k)),$$

$$p(x(k+1)|x(k)) = \mathcal{N}(A(k)\hat{x}(k) + B(k)u(k), G(k)Q(k)G(k)^{T}),$$

$$p(z(k+1)|x(k+1)) = \mathcal{N}(H(k+1)\hat{x}(k+1), R(k+1)),$$

$$p(x(k+1)|Z^{k+1}) = \mathcal{N}(\hat{x}(k+1), P(k+1)).$$

In practice the *particle filter* represents a numerical implementation of a *Bayesian estimator*, considering a generic nonlinear system:

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} = f_k(x_k, u_k, \nu_k) \\ z_k = h_k(x_k, \varepsilon_k) \end{cases}$$

where ν_k and ε_k are assumed to be *independent* and *white*.

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The main objective of the *particle filter* is to approximate numerically $p(x(k+1)|Z^{k+1})$ using all the measurements up to time k+1 in a recursive way.

Notice that we assume that the first measurement is available at time k=1, hence the filter is initialised trivially assuming $p(x_0)=p(x_0|Z^0)$, i.e., a prior.

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Hence, they can be multimodal!

Notice that in this case, assuming as the *best* estimate the *mean* can be a very poor choice (e.g., image a multimodal pdf symmetric with respect to the mean).

Initialisation step:

• At the beginning, a given number of n state vectors (i.e., *particles*) $x_0^{(i)}$, $i=1,\ldots,n$, are randomly generated from $p(x_0)$, which is assumed to be known.

Prediction step:

The particles are then propagated following the system dynamics, i.e.

$$x_{k+1}^{(i),-} = f_k(x_k^{(i)}, u_k, \nu_k),$$

where ν_k is randomly generated form the known pdf $p(\nu_k)$.

Measurement step: given $z_k = h_k(x_k, \varepsilon_k)$

- When the measurement z_{k+1} is available, the *conditional relative likelihood* is computed for each particle $x_{k+1}^{(i),-}$, that is we *numerically* evaluate $p(z_{k+1}|x_{k+1}^{(i),-})$.
- In practice, given the sensor readings z^* , we compute numerically

$$\lambda_i = \Pr\left[z_{k+1} = z^\star | x_{k+1} = x_{k+1}^{(i),-}\right] \approx \Pr\left[\varepsilon_k = z^\star - h_k(x_{k+1}^{(i),-})\right],$$

that is the probability that the i-th particle is correct given z_{k+1} .

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Measurement step:

• The probabilities are then normalised, i.e.

$$\lambda_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}.$$

- The particles are then *resampled* using λ_i . This resampling can be done in several ways. For example, for the *i*-th sample:
 - Generate a random number $y \sim \mathcal{U}(0,1)$. If $\sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \lambda_i < y$, but $\sum_{i=1}^{j} \lambda_i \geq y$, then $x_{k+1}^{(i)} = x_{k+1}^{(j),-}$ with probability π_j .
 - This resampling can be shown to converge towards the actual $p(x_{k+1}|Z^{k+1})$ when $n \to +\infty$.

Measurement step:

• After the resampling, it is then possible to have an estimate, e.g. the conditional mean $\mathsf{E}\left\{x_{k+1}|Z^{k+1}\right\}$, with the caveat mentioned previously for multimodal pdfs.

Example (Particle relative likelihood)

Consider $z_{k+1}=h_k(x_k)+\varepsilon_k$, where $z_{k+1}\in\mathbb{R}^m$, $\varepsilon_k\sim\mathcal{N}(0,R_k)$ and z^\star is the actual sensor reading.

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We have immediately that:

$$\lambda_i \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi R_k|}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(z^* - h(x_{k+1}^{(j),-}))^T R_k^{-1}(z^* - h(x_{k+1}^{(j),-}))}.$$

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Notice that on the righthand side we do not have a probability (we missed the integral), but it is proportional to the probability.

This is the reason why we are normalising the probabilities.

Some additional comments:

- The particle filter suffers of sample impoverishment.
 - This is induced by the fact that the predicted pdf $p(x_{k+1}^{(j),-}|Z^k)$ is resampled over the relative likelihood $p(z_{k+1}|x_{k+1}^{(i),-})$, so it is expected that a large faction of the a-priori particles will have low likelihood probability. This will happen sooner or later.
 - The problem becomes even harsher if there are *modelling errors* in the output models.
 - Solution: roughening, prior editing, regularisation, Markov Chain Monte Carlo resampling, auxiliary particle filtering.

- Some solutions exist combining particle filtering with EKF or UKF, i.e.:
 - Each particle is updated at the measurement time using the EKF or the UKF:
 - Resampling is then performed using the measurement;
 - This is like running multiple KF, EKF or UKF Kalman filters (one for each particle) and then adding a resampling step after each measurement.

Remark

Particle filtering goes by many names: sequential importance sampling, bootstrap filtering, condensation algorithm, interacting particle approximations, Monte Carlo filtering, sequential Monte Carlo filtering, survival of the fittest.

Remark

If the system is generic, EKF works fine, UKF even better and particle filters even better. The increasing performance is paid with an increasing computation time.

If the system is linear and Gaussian, KF is the best (EKF is the same of the KF), while UKF and particle filters works as the KF but with an increasing computational load.

Remark

Particle filtering can be hardly distributed on several robots, due to the large amount of computations, hence communications, needed for the executions on several robots.

Nonetheless, once the estimate is available in one robot, it is just a matter of computing an, e.g., WLS among the estimates.

Outline

- Unscented Kalman Filter
- Particle Filters
- 3 Interactive Multiple Models
 - Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian Estimator
 - IMM

Suppose we have a linear Gauss-Markov system as

$$x_{k+1} = A_i x_k + B_i u_k + G_i \nu_k,$$

$$z_k = H x_k + F_i \varepsilon_k,$$

where ν_k and ε_k are zero-mean, independent random stochastic processes.

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How can we come up with a good estimate of \hat{x}_k ?

As we did for the particle filter resampling, we may use the *evidence from the data*: the *likelihood*!

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Let us recall the Bayes example: is Joe sick?

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Joe carries out a set of health tests and it turns out that he results positive to a test about a very rare and bad disease affecting 0.1% of the population.

The test *correctly* identifies 99% of the population having the disease and only 1% *wrongly* identifies persons who don't have the disease. So, what is the probability that Joe actually has the disease?

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Let us define the event "Joe has the disease" with J, and with T "The test is positive".

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Plugging all the numbers, there are good news for Joe, since we have:

$$\Pr[J|T] = \frac{\Pr[T|J]\Pr[J]}{\Pr[T|J]\Pr[J] + \Pr\left[T|\overline{J}\right]\Pr\left[\overline{J}\right]} = 9\%,$$

which is quite below the 99%!

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which is quite below the 99%!

This is an example of a generative classifier!

Indeed, we can generalise the previous example: assuming that x is an n-dimensional vector of *features* of generic type (i.e., the test is positive or not) and y a set of possible *classes* (i.e., Joe is sick or not), we may write:

$$\Pr[y = c | x] = \frac{\Pr[x | y = c] \Pr[y = c]}{\sum_{\overline{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \Pr[x | y = \overline{c}] \Pr[y = \overline{c}]},$$

where C is the set of the possible classes.

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So, a *generative classifier* specifies how to generate the data using the *likelihood* p(x|y=c) and the *prior* p(y=c).

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So, a *generative classifier* specifies how to generate the data using the *likelihood* p(x|y=c) and the *prior* p(y=c).

Alternatively, we could fit directly the *posterior* p(y=c|x), thus adopting a *discriminative classifier*.

Since, in our problem, we have a discrete set of possible system dynamics, hence a set of possible classes $\mathcal C$ (where $y\in \mathcal C$), we will focus on how to use the likelihood p(x|y=c), expressing which kind of sensor measurements are we expecting from each model, to determine the class $c\in \mathcal C$.

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In practice, this is the way you teach a child what is a *cat*: you would say "Look, that is cat", not "Look that is not a cat" when you have in front a bird!

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This is similar to binary classification. Indeed, the problem turns to learn a function f(x) such that f(x)=1 iff x is an example of the class (or concept $c\in\mathcal{C}$), otherwise f(x)=0. To account for uncertainties in the data, we resort to the probabilistic description of the problem.

Example (K. Murphy - A Probabilistic Approach to Machine Learning)
Let us consider the *number game* (Tenenbaum, J., *A Bayesian framework for concept learning*. Ph.D. thesis, MIT, 1999).

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Example (K. Murphy - A Probabilistic Approach to Machine Learning)

Let us consider the *number game* (Tenenbaum, J., *A Bayesian framework for concept learning*. Ph.D. thesis, MIT, 1999).

We define simple arithmetical classes C, such as "prime number" or "a number between 20 and 43".

Then, a set of numbers from a class $c \in \mathcal{C}$ are defined, i.e.,

 $D=\{x_1,\ldots,x_n\}$. We have to determine if a new number \bar{x} belongs to c, i.e. to classify \bar{x} .

Example (Continued)

Suppose, that all numbers are integers between $1\ \mathrm{and}\ 100.$

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Now suppose that $D = \{16\}$. What other number belongs to the class?

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More precisely, $\forall \bar{x} \in [1, 100]$, we can define the pmf $p(\bar{x}|D)$, which is called the *posterior predictive distribution*.

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What happens if $D = \{16, 8, 2, 64\}$? Now you may conclude that either the class is *powers of two* or *even numbers* are good.

Example (Continued)

Both hypotheses are correct and define the *space of hypotheses* $\mathcal H$ that are consistent with D, which is technically called *version space*. How to decide?

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Most probably, you have decided for *powers of two* because it seems to be more appropriate. There is actually a *Bayesian explanation* for this.

Example (Continued)

Both hypotheses are correct and define the *space of hypotheses* $\mathcal H$ that are consistent with D, which is technically called *version space*. How to decide?

Most probably, you have decided for *powers of two* because it seems to be more appropriate. There is actually a *Bayesian explanation* for this. Let us define $\mathcal{H} = \{h_2, h_e\}$. The key intuition is that *we want to avoid suspicious coincidences*. If the true concept was even numbers, how come we only saw numbers that happened to be powers of two?

Example (Continued)

More precisely, let us assume that the elements in D are sampled uniformly at random from the class c. Tenenbaum calls this the strong sampling assumption.

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We have immediately, due to the independency assumption of the sampling, that $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}$ and for m randomly selected numbers

$$p(D|h) = \left(\frac{1}{\#h}\right)^m,$$

where #h are the number of elements verifying h.

Example (Continued)

This probability embodies the *size principle*, which means that *the model* should favour the simplest (smallest) hypothesis consistent with the data.

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So, let us consider $D=\{16\}$. We have $p(D|h_2)=\frac{1}{6}$, while $p(D|h_e)=\frac{1}{50}$, so h_2 has a higher *likelihood* that h_e .

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This becomes more evident when $D=\{16,8,2,64\}$, since $p(D|h_2)=\frac{1}{6^4}$, while $p(D|h_e)=\frac{1}{50^4}$. Hence, h_2 has a *likelihood ratio* of 5000:1 with respect to $h_e:$ this is exactly the explanation of the impression we had.

Example (Continued)

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We can now apply the Bayes theorem

$$p(h|D) = \frac{p(D|h)p(h)}{\sum_{\bar{h}\in\mathcal{H}} p(D|\bar{h})p(\bar{h})} = \frac{\frac{\mathbb{I}(D\in h)}{\#h^m}p(h)}{\sum_{\bar{h}\in\mathcal{H}} \frac{\mathbb{I}(D\in \bar{h})}{\#\bar{h}^m}p(\bar{h})}.$$

where $\mathbb{I}(D \in h)$ is an *indicator function*, i.e., a function returning 1 iff all the elements in D verifies h.

Example (Continued)

Now we can compute the correct hypothesis using a MAP estimator, i.e.

$$h^* = \arg \max_{h \in \mathcal{H}} p(D|h)p(h).$$

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Moreover, if the set of hypothesis \mathcal{H} , we will *converge* to the true hypothesis (i.e., the MAP and the MI are *consistent*) when *the amount of data tends towards infinity*.

This concept has been discovered several times with, e.g., Type A analysis, Law of Large Numbers, sample mean and covariance, etc.

Example (Continued)

Lets go back to our *posterior predictive distribution* $p(\bar{x}|D)$. We simply adopt here the *scientific method*: we determine *if our hypothesis verifies* the observations and to what extent.

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Lets go back to our *posterior predictive distribution* $p(\bar{x}|D)$. We simply adopt here the *scientific method*: we determine *if our hypothesis verifies the observations* and to what extent.

This always happens when we have multiple hypothesis verifying the data. In such a case we may use a *Bayes model averaging*

$$p(\bar{x} = c|D) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} p(y = c|\bar{x}, h)p(h|D).$$

Let us go back to our linear Gauss-Markov system

$$x_{k+1} = A_i x_k + B_i u_k + G_i \nu_k,$$

$$z_k = H x_k + F_i \varepsilon_k,$$

where ν_k and ε_k are zero-mean, independent random stochastic processes.

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where ν_k and ε_k are zero-mean, independent random stochastic processes. We identify each model with $M_i = \{A_i, B_i, G_i, F_i\}$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$. To identify the correct model, we use the *Bayesian approach* just discussed: we start with a *prior* identifying the correct model, and we determine the *posterior* given the *likelihood*.

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By denoting the *prior* information with Z^0 , we have that

$$\Pr\left[M_i|Z^0\right] = \lambda_{0,i},$$

with

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{0,i} = 1.$$

Static Multiple Model

If the model does not change in time, i.e., static multiple model, it is possible to compute $\lambda_{k,i}$ noticing that

$$\lambda_{k,i} = \Pr\left[M_i|Z^k\right] = \Pr\left[M_i|z_k,Z^{k-1}\right]$$

and then applying the Bayes theorem

$$\lambda_{k,i} = \Pr\left[M_i|z_k,Z^{k-1}\right] = \frac{p(z_k|Z^{k-1},M_i)\Pr\left[M_i|Z^{k-1}\right]}{p(z_k|Z^{k-1})}.$$

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Finally, applying the *Total Probability Law* at the denominator and recalling the definition of $\lambda_{k,i}$, we have $foralli=1,\ldots,n$

$$\lambda_{k,i} = \frac{p(z_k|Z^{k-1}, M_i)\lambda_{k-1,i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} p(z_k|Z^{k-1}, M_j)\lambda_{k-1,j}}$$

Static Multiple Model

We then recognise that the *likelihood*

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In general, we can assume

$$p(\eta_{k,i}) = \mathcal{N}(0, R_{k,i}),$$

which turns out to be an approximated solution in the general case. Moreover, we can have a value $\Lambda_{k,i}$ for the likelihood that is proportional to the actual value by computing, as done for the *particle filter*, i.e.

$$\Lambda_{k,i} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi R_{k,i}|}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(z_k - Hx_k^i)^T R_{k,i}^{-1}(z_k - Hx_k^i)}.$$

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Static Multiple Model

Hence, $\Lambda_{k,i}$ should be normalised as in the *particle filter* case. However, recalling that

$$\lambda_{k,i} = \frac{p(z_k|Z^{k-1}, M_i)\lambda_{k-1,i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} p(z_k|Z^{k-1}, M_j)\lambda_{k-1,j}}$$

we have by design that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{k,i} = 1, \ \forall k > 0$$

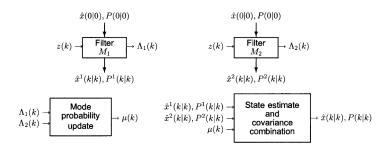


Figure: Static Multiple Models (courtesy of Yaakov Bar-Shalom, X. Rong Li, Thiagalingam Kirubarajan, *Estimation with Applications to Tracking and Navigation*, John Wiley Sons - 2001).

Static Multiple Model

Notice that each system runs independently to each other, so we have n different estimates, namely \hat{x}_k^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$, i.e., mode-conditioned estimates.

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If we are interested in one single estimate, we may have the estimate at time k given by the *Bayes model averaging* presented previously, i.e.

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$$\hat{x}_k = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_{k,i} \hat{x}_k^i.$$

The corresponding covariance matrix of the estimation error is given by

$$P_{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{k,i} \left[P_{k}^{i} + (\hat{x}_{k}^{i} - \hat{x}_{k})(\hat{x}_{k}^{i} - \hat{x}_{k})^{T} \right],$$

which is similar to the *particle filter* sample covariance matrix estimation.

Static Multiple Model

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The filter can be either the KF, EKF or UKF.

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The model converges to the correct mode providing that: 1. the initial model is included in the n models; 2. the same model remains active for the entire estimation period.

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Remark

If the initial model is not included in the n models, than the probabilities converge towards the nearest model.

Outline

- Unscented Kalman Filter
- Particle Filters
- 3 Interactive Multiple Models
 - Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian Estimator
 - IMM

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian

If the model is not static but switches among multiple modes, i.e., $M_{k,i}$, then previous approach cannot be used.

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We first assume that the models switchings is *Markovian*, i.e.

$$\Pr\left[M_{i,k}|M_{J,k-1}\right] = \Pr\left[M_{i,k}|M_{j,k}\right] = p_{ij}$$

where J is the sequence of past models the system had up to time k-1.

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How to solve this problem?

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian

An approximated solution can be found using the *Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian*: in practice we *fuse the past history at each step*.

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An approximated solution can be found using the *Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian*: in practice we *fuse the past history at each step*. In particular, with the *Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian of first order* (GPB1), we condensate the n mode estimates \hat{x}_k^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$ into one single estimate \hat{x}_k (and associated covariance matrix P_k).

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian

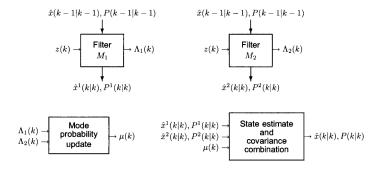


Figure: Gaussian Pseudo-Bayesian of first order (courtesy of Yaakov Bar-Shalom, X. Rong Li, Thiagalingam Kirubarajan, *Estimation with Applications to Tracking and Navigation*, John Wiley Sons - 2001).

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian: First order

To carry out the *history annihilation* we resort to this approximation:

$$\begin{split} p(x_k|Z^k) &= \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_k|M_{k,i},Z^k) \mathsf{Pr}\left[M_{k,i}|Z^k\right] = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_k|M_{k,i},z_k,Z^{k-1}) \lambda_{k,i} \approx \\ &\approx \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_k|M_{k,i},z_k,\hat{x}_{k-1},P_{k-1}) \lambda_{k,i}. \end{split}$$

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian: First order

Mode matching filter step:

- Given \hat{x}_{k-1} and P_{k-1} , we first compute \hat{x}_k^i and P_k^i , $\forall i=1,\ldots,n$, using the usual KF, EKF or UKF steps;
- Similarly, we compute the likelihood as in the static mode case, i.e.

$$\Lambda_{k,i} = p(z_k | M_{k,i}, Z^{k-1}) = p(z_k | M_{k,i}, \hat{x}_{k-1}, P_{k-1}).$$

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian: First order

Mode probability update step:

• The mode probability is given by

$$\begin{split} \lambda_{k,i} &= \Pr\left[M_{k,i}|Z^k\right] = \Pr\left[M_{k,i}|z_k,Z^{k-1}\right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{a}p(z_k|M_{k,i},Z^{k-1})\Pr\left[M_{k,i}|Z^{k-1}\right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{a}\Lambda_{k,i}\sum_{j=1}^n\Pr\left[M_{k,i}|M_{k-1,j}Z^{k-1}\right]\Pr\left[M_{k-1,j}|Z^{k-1}\right] = \\ &= \frac{1}{a}\Lambda_{k,i}\sum_{j=1}^np_{ji}\lambda_{k-1,j}. \end{split}$$

where, a is a normalisation constant, that is obviously given by

$$a = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \Lambda_{k,i} \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{ji} \lambda_{k-1,j}.$$

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian: First order

State and covariance estimation step:

• Again we make use of the Bayes model averaging, i.e.

$$\hat{x}_{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{k,i} \hat{x}_{k}^{i},$$

$$P_{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{k,i} \left[P_{k}^{i} + (\hat{x}_{k}^{i} - \hat{x}_{k})(\hat{x}_{k}^{i} - \hat{x}_{k})^{T} \right].$$

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In the Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian of second order (GPB2), we maintain the n mode estimates \hat{x}_{k-1}^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$.

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In the Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian of second order (GPB2), we maintain the n mode estimates \hat{x}_{k-1}^i , $i=1,\dots,n$.

Then all the filters starts over from each of the n estimates \hat{x}_{k-1}^i , thus obtaining $\hat{x}_k^{i,j}$, $i,j=1,\ldots,n$. This way we have n^2 estimates and n^2 likelihood probabilities $\Lambda_{i,j,k}$.

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Interactive Multiple Models

Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian

In the Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian of second order (GPB2), we maintain the n mode estimates \hat{x}_{k-1}^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$.

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We then condensate the estimates executed on the same j-th filter into one single estimate, to have back n estimates \hat{x}_k^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$, for the next step.

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We then condensate the estimates executed on the same j-th filter into one single estimate, to have back n estimates \hat{x}_k^i , $i=1,\ldots,n$, for the next step.

At each time step we can still obtain a single estimate \hat{x}_k (and associated covariance matrix P_k), as we did for the *static mode*, but this estimate is **not** used for the next step.

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Generalised Pseudo-Bayesian

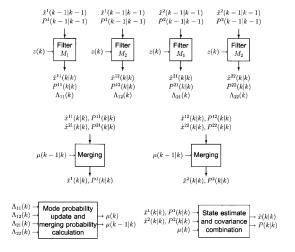


Figure: Gaussian Pseudo-Bayesian of second order (courtesy of Yaakov

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An additional solution is given by the *interactive multiple models* (IMM) filter.

The main difference is given by the estimates adopted by each filter at each iteration: it is not a unified estimate (as in GPB1), it is not the output of each filter (as in GPB2), but rather is a *mixture of the two*.

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The mixture assumes the form of a *Gaussian mixture model* that is then approximated via *moment matching* (i.e., extracting mean and covariance matrix) to a single Gaussian.

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IMM

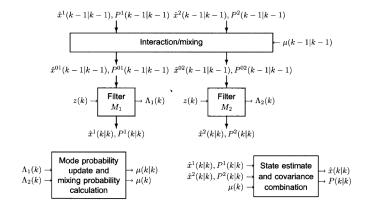


Figure: Interactive Multiple Models (courtesy of Yaakov Bar-Shalom, X. Rong Li, Thiagalingam Kirubarajan, *Estimation with Applications to Tracking and Navigation*, John Wiley Sons - 2001).

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Remark

The method can be applied to nonlinear systems using linearisation (i.e., EKF) or adopting more complicated schemes (i.e., UKF).

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All the previous solutions can actually be applied to a distributed system suing linear consensus theory.

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