

# Second dose of probability

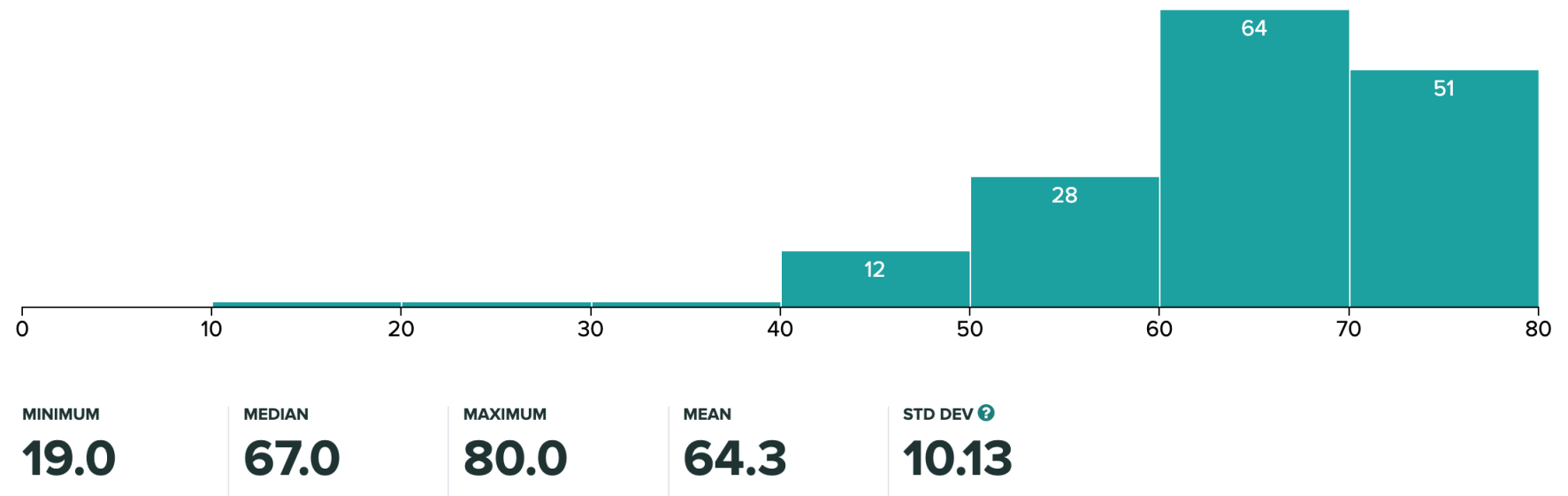
ROB 501

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- Slightly in-depth look at probability
  - Kalman filter peek
- (if time) Gaussian random variables
  - MVE another look (interpretation based on conditional probability using Schur complements)

# Announcements

- Exams are graded.
- Statistics:



2a and 5d were the “hardest” (least # of correct answers) questions.

# Announcements

- Extra credit for the exam. There will be a problem in the next problem set that allows you:
  - To pick up to 4 problems among the T/F part (first 5\*4 questions) that you *missed* in the exam and submit the solution of them **including reasons**. Each solution with correct reasons will add +1 points to your exam score.
    - If you have less than 4 mistakes in the exam, mention that in the solutions too and we will take it into account

# Announcements

- Wednesday lecture will be rescheduled for Thu or Fri (modulo availability of a room) due to additional travel...

Not Ex:  $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}\}$

Let  $\Omega = \{1, 2\}$

Not Ex: Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 2\}\} \rightarrow$  not closed wrt. set complement  
 $\{1\}^c = \Omega \setminus \{1\} = \{2\} \notin \mathcal{F}$

## Probability: A Second Dose in ROB 501

### 1 Probability Spaces

Ex:  $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{1, 2\}\}$  is a sigma algebra

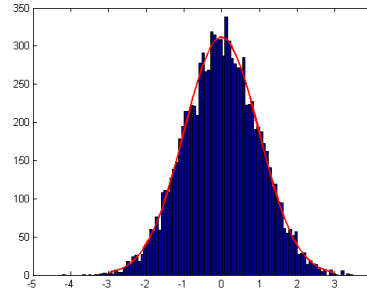
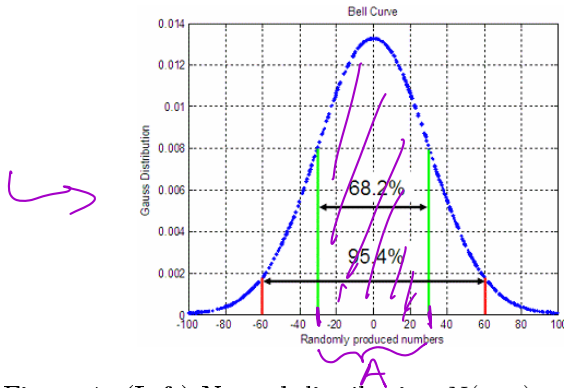


Figure 1: (Left) Normal distribution  $N(\mu, \sigma)$  with  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 30$ . (Right) How do you determine the density? You have to collect data! The figure shows a “fit” of a normal distribution to data.

**Def.**  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  is called a probability space.

- $\Omega$  is the sample space. Think of it as the domain of a random variable  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  or random vector  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .

- $A \subset \Omega$  is an event.

- $\mathcal{F}$  is the collection of allowed events<sup>1</sup>. It must at least contain  $\emptyset$  and  $\Omega$ . It is closed w.r.t. countable unions and intersections, and set complement.

- $P : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a probability measure. It has to satisfy a few basic operations

–  $P(\emptyset) = 0$  and  $P(\Omega) = 1$ .

– For each  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$

– If the sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are disjoint (i.e.,  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  for  $i \neq j$ ), then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

- Example event  $A := \{\omega \in \Omega \mid |\omega - \mu| \leq \sigma\} \Rightarrow P(A) = 0.682$

<sup>1</sup>Though it is too deep for ROB 501, there are subsets of the reals, for example, that are so complicated one cannot define a reasonable notion of probability that agrees with how we would want to define the probability of an interval, such as  $[a, b]$ .

$$\{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \leq x\} \subset \Omega$$

$\in \mathcal{F}$

$X$  is a measurable function from  $\Omega$  to  $\mathbb{R}$

**Def.**  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a random variable if  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ , the set  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \leq x\} \in \mathcal{F}$ . This just means that such sets can be assigned probabilities.

**Remarks:**

• Shorthand notation  $\{X \leq x\} := \{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \leq x\}$

• Because  $\mathcal{F}$  is closed under set complements, (countable) unions, and (countable) intersections, we can also assign probabilities to

→ a)  $\{X > x\} = \sim \{X \leq x\} = \{X \leq x\}^c$  (set complement)

b)  $\{x < X \leq y\} = \{X \leq y\} \cap \{X > x\}$

**Def.**  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous random variable if there exists a density  $f : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that,

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad P(\{X \leq x\}) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(\bar{x}) d\bar{x} \quad (\bar{x} \text{ dummy variable in the integral})$$

**Remarks:**

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f(x) dx &= P(a < X \leq b) = P(a \leq X \leq b) \\ &= P(\{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \in [a, b]\}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet \text{ mean: } \mu := \mathcal{E}\{X\} := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx$$

$$\bullet \text{ Variance: } \sigma^2 := \mathcal{E}\{(X - \mu)^2\} := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx$$

$$\bullet \text{ Standard Deviation } \sigma := \sqrt{\sigma^2} \text{ (Std. Dev.)}$$

### 3 Random Vectors

**Def.** Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  be a probability space. A function  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is called

a random vector if each component of  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_p \end{bmatrix}$  is a random variable, that

is,  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq p$ ,  $X_i : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a random variable.

**Consequence:**  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , the set  $\{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \leq x\} \in \mathcal{F}$  (i.e., it is an allowed event), where the inequality is understood pointwise, that is,

$$\{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) \leq x\} := \{\omega \in \Omega \mid \begin{bmatrix} X_1(\omega) \\ X_2(\omega) \\ \vdots \\ X_p(\omega) \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{bmatrix}\} = \bigcap_{i=1}^p \{\omega \in \Omega \mid \underline{X_i(\omega) \leq x_i}\}$$

**Def.**  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is a continuous random vector if there exists a density  $f : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that,

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^p, \quad P(\{X \leq x\}) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_p} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_2} \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} f_X(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \dots, \bar{x}_p) d\bar{x}_1 d\bar{x}_2 \dots d\bar{x}_p$$

Ex: Multivariate Gaussian <sup>vector</sup> is a continuous random vector

## 4 Moments

expectations of  $g(X)$   
where  $g$  is a monomial

**Def.** Suppose  $g: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\underline{E\{g(X)\}} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} \underline{g(x)} f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x_1, \dots, x_p) f_X(x_1, \dots, x_p) dx_1 \dots dx_p$$

**Mean or Expected Value**

1<sup>st</sup> order moment

$$\underline{\mu} = \underline{E\{X\}} = E\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_p \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} E\{X_1\} \\ \vdots \\ E\{X_p\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_p \end{bmatrix}$$

$E\{XX^T\}$

**Covariance Matrices**

2<sup>nd</sup> order moment

(sometimes this is called central moment)

$$\Sigma := \text{cov}(X) = \text{cov}(X, X) = E\{\underline{(X - \mu)(X - \mu)^T}\}$$

where

$$(X - \mu) \text{ is } p \times 1, (X - \mu)^T \text{ is } 1 \times p, (X - \mu)(X - \mu)^T \text{ is } p \times p$$

**Exercise** cov(X) is positive semidefinite

take  $\underline{v} \in \mathbb{R}^p$

$$\begin{aligned} v^T \Sigma v &= v^T E\{(X - \mu)(X - \mu)^T\} v \\ &= E\{v^T (X - \mu)(X - \mu)^T v\} \\ &= E\left\{ \left[ (X - \mu)^T v \right]^T \left[ (X - \mu)^T v \right] \right\} \\ &= E\left\{ \underbrace{\| (X - \mu)^T v \|_2^2}_g \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$g: \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$g(x) = \|(X - \mu)^T v\|_2^2$   
 $\Sigma$  is pos.

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{\| (X - \mu)^T v \|_2^2}_{\geq 0} \underbrace{f_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p)}_{\geq 0} dx_1 \dots dx_p \geq 0$$



## 5 Marginal Densities, Independence, and Correlation

Suppose the random vector  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is partitioned into two components  $X_1 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $X_2 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , with  $p = n + m$ , so that,

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Notation:** We denote the density of  $X$  by

$$f_X(x) = f_{\begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix}}(x_1, x_2) = f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2)$$

and it is called the joint density of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . As before, we can define the mean and covariance.

- Mean is  $\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{E}\{X\} = E\left\{\begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix}\right\} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{E}\{X_1\} \\ \mathcal{E}\{X_2\} \end{bmatrix}$
- Covariance is

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma &= \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} X_1 - \mu_1 \\ X_2 - \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1 - \mu_1 \\ X_2 - \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}^\top\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} X_1 - \mu_1 \\ X_2 - \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (X_1 - \mu_1)^\top & (X_2 - \mu_2)^\top \end{bmatrix}\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{E}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} (X_1 - \mu_1)(X_1 - \mu_1)^\top & (X_1 - \mu_1)(X_2 - \mu_2)^\top \\ (X_2 - \mu_2)(X_1 - \mu_1)^\top & (X_2 - \mu_2)(X_2 - \mu_2)^\top \end{bmatrix}\right\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Sigma_{12} = \Sigma_{21}^\top = \text{cov}(X_1, X_2) = \mathcal{E}\{(X_1 - \mu_1)(X_2 - \mu_2)^\top\}$  is also called the correlation of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

Def.  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are uncorrelated if  $\text{cov}(X_1, X_2) = 0$

$$f_{X_1}(x_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) dx_2$$

if  $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

If  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+p}$  is a continuous random vector, then its components

$$X_1 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{and} \quad X_2 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

are also continuous random vectors and have densities,  $f_{X_1}(x_1)$  and  $f_{X_2}(x_2)$ . These densities are given a special name.

**Def.**  $f_{X_1}(x_1)$  and  $f_{X_2}(x_2)$  are called the marginal densities of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

**Fact:** In general the marginal densities are a nightmare to compute.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_1}(x_1) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) dx_2 \\ &:= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1 X_2}(\underbrace{\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n}_{x_1}, \underbrace{\bar{x}_{n+1}, \dots, \bar{x}_{n+m}}_{x_2}) \underbrace{d\bar{x}_{n+1} \cdots d\bar{x}_{n+m}}_{dx_2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_2}(x_2) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) dx_1 \\ &:= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1 X_2}(\underbrace{\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n}_{x_1}, \underbrace{\bar{x}_{n+1}, \dots, \bar{x}_{n+m}}_{x_2}) \underbrace{d\bar{x}_1 \cdots d\bar{x}_n}_{dx_1} \end{aligned}$$

For Normal Random Vectors, however, we can read them directly from the joint density! We will not be doing any iterated integrals.

**Def.**  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent random vectors if their joint density factors

$$f_X(x) = f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) = f_{X_1}(x_1) f_{X_2}(x_2).$$

**Def.**  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are uncorrelated if their “cross covariance” or “correlation” is zero

$$\text{cov}(X_1, X_2) := \mathcal{E}\{(X_1 - \mu_1)(X_2 - \mu_2)^\top\} = 0_{n \times m}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_1 f_{X_1}(x_1) dx_1 - \mu_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X_1}(x_1) dx_1$$

$\mu_1 - \mu_1 = 0$

Proof of fact for the scalar case: (where  $x_1, x_2$  are scalar random variables)

$$\mathcal{E}\{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2) \underbrace{f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2)}_{\text{by ind.} \approx f_{X_1}(x_1) f_{X_2}(x_2)} dx_1 dx_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x_1 - \mu_1) f_{X_1}(x_1) dx_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x_2 - \mu_2) f_{X_2}(x_2) dx_2 = 0$$

independent  $\Rightarrow$  uncorrelated  
 ~~$\Leftarrow$~~

**Fact:** If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent, then they are also uncorrelated. **The converse is in general false.**

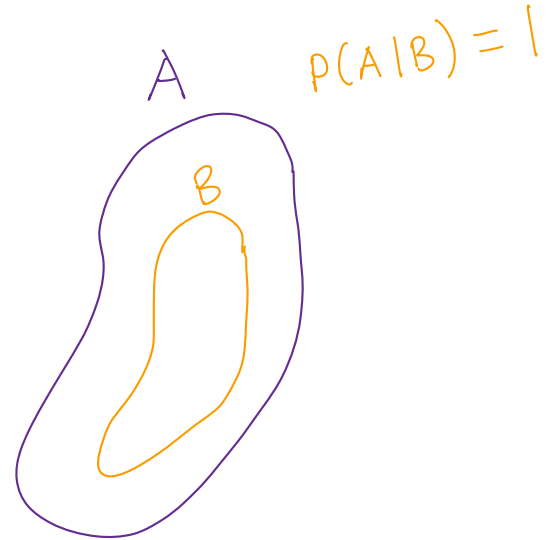
\* For Gaussian random vectors, there is an exception in that they are uncorrelated iff they are independent.

## 6 Conditioning

**Def.** For two events  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}, P(B) > 0$

$$P(A | B) := \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

is the conditional probability of  $A$  given  $B$ .



### Remarks:

- Suppose  $P(A)$  is our current estimate of the probability that our robot is near a certain location and  $B$  is a measurement of the robot's location, with confidence in the measurement being  $P(B)$ . The conditional probability of  $A$  given  $B$  occurred is how we "fuse" the two pieces of information

$$P(A | B) := \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

•

$$\underline{B \subset A}, P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)}{P(B)} = 1$$

•

$$A \subset B, P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)}{P(B)} \geq P(A)$$

$\in (0, 1]$

Consider again our partitioned random vector  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix}$

**Def.** The conditional density of  $X_1$  given  $X_2 = x_2$  is

$$f_{X_1|X_2}(x_1 | x_2) = \frac{f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2)}{f_{X_2}(x_2)}.$$

Sometimes we simply write  $f(x_1 | x_2)$

### Remarks on Conditional Random Vectors:

- **Very important:**  $X_1$  given  $X_2 = x_2^*$  is (still) a random vector. It's density is  $f_{X_1|X_2}(x_1 | x_2)$

- **Conditional Mean:**

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2} &:= \mathcal{E}\{X_1 | X_2 = x_2\} \\ &:= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{x_1 f_{X_1|X_2}(x_1 | x_2)}_{\text{green oval}} dx_1 \end{aligned}$$

$\mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2}$  is a function of  $x_2$ . Think of it as a function of the value read by your sensor!

- **Conditional Covariance:**

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{X_1|X_2=x_2} &:= \mathcal{E}\{(\underbrace{X_1 - \mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2}}_{\text{green bracket}})(\underbrace{X_1 - \mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2}}_{\text{green bracket}})^\top | \underbrace{X_2 = x_2}_{\text{green underline}}\} \\ &:= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (X_1 - \mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2})(X_1 - \mu_{X_1|X_2=x_2})^\top f_{X_1|X_2}(x_1 | x_2) dx_1 \end{aligned}$$

$\Sigma_{X_1|X_2=x_2}$  is a function of  $x_2$ . Think of it as a function of the value read by your sensor!

# Peek at the KF (Kalman Filter)

## Model

$$\begin{cases} x_{k+1} = A_k x_k + G_k w_k, & x_0 \text{ initial condition} \\ y_k = C_k x_k + v_k \end{cases}$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . Moreover, the random vectors  $x_0$ , and, for  $k \geq 0$ ,  $w_k$ ,  $v_k$  are all independent Gaussian (normal) random vectors.

## Definition of Terms:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{matrix} x_k \\ y_k \\ y_0, \dots, y_k \end{matrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \hat{x}_{k|k} := \mathcal{E}\{x_k | y_0, \dots, y_k\} \leftarrow \text{conditional mean at time } k \\ P_{k|k} := \mathcal{E}\{(x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k})(x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k})^\top | y_0, \dots, y_k\} \leftarrow \text{conditional cov at time } k \\ \hat{x}_{k+1|k} := \mathcal{E}\{x_{k+1} | y_0, \dots, y_k\} \\ P_{k+1|k} := \mathcal{E}\{(x_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k+1|k})(x_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k+1|k})^\top | y_0, \dots, y_k\} \end{cases}$$

**Initial Conditions:**  $\hat{x}_{0|-1} := \bar{x}_0 = \mathcal{E}\{x_0\}$ , and  $P_{0|-1} := P_0 = \text{cov}(x_0)$

For  $k \geq 0$

## Measurement Update Step:

$$\begin{aligned} K_k &= P_{k|k-1} C_k^\top (C_k P_{k|k-1} C_k^\top + Q_k)^{-1} \\ &\quad \text{(Kalman Gain)} \\ \hat{x}_{k|k} &= \hat{x}_{k|k-1} + K_k (y_k - C_k \hat{x}_{k|k-1}) \\ P_{k|k} &= P_{k|k-1} - K_k C_k P_{k|k-1} \end{aligned}$$

## Time Update or Prediction Step:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x}_{k+1|k} &= A_k \hat{x}_{k|k} \\ P_{k+1|k} &= A_k P_{k|k} A_k^\top + G_k R_k G_k^\top \end{aligned}$$

**End of For Loop** (Just stated this way to emphasize the recursive nature of the filter)

## Recursion in Kalman Filter

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{matrix} x_k \\ y_k \\ y_0, \dots, y_k \end{matrix}$$

We want to compute

$$\hat{x}_{k|k} = E\{\hat{x}_k | y_0, y_1, \dots, y_k\}$$

$X | \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}$  (in Kalman filter to compute  $\hat{x}_{k|k}$ , we need to understand the distribution of random vector  $X | \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}$ )

Moreover,

→ for recursive computation, we will try to express

$$\underbrace{X | \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{and } Y} \text{ using } \underbrace{X | Z}_{\text{(which is } \hat{x}_{k|k-1})}$$